

Chess Life

AUGUST 2012

Relentless

*Nakamura wins his 3rd U.S. Championship;
Krush snags her 4th Women's title*



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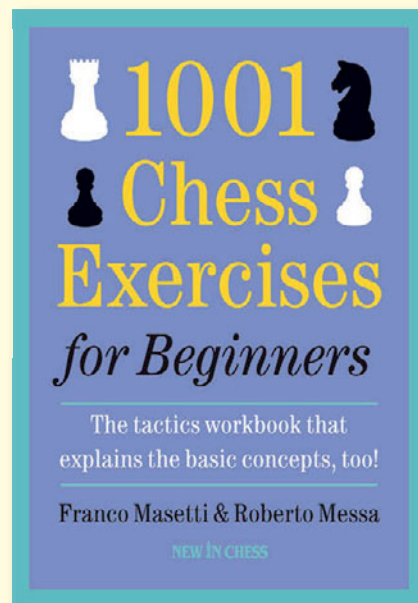
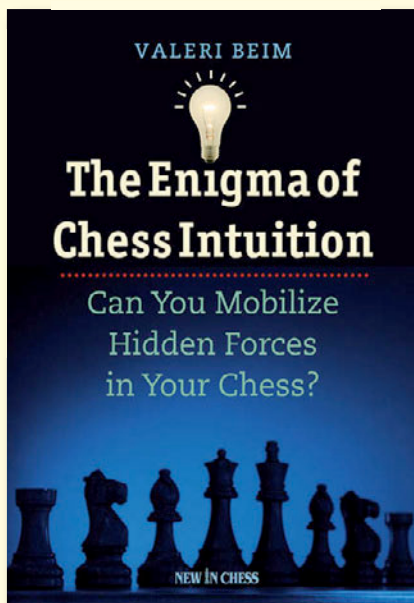
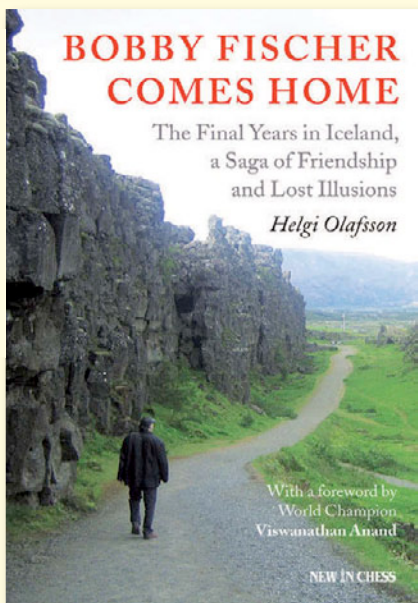
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In 7 sections:

Open: \$2000-1000-500-300, clear or tiebreak 1st \$100 bonus, top Under 2300/Unr \$1200-600. FIDE rated, 120 Grand Prix Pts (enhanced).

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Top 6 sections entry fee: 3-day \$108, 2-day \$107 mailed by 8/15, all \$105 at chesstour.com by 8/21, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 (entry only, no questions) by 8/21, \$120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site, or online until 2 hours before game..

Under 1000 Section entry fee: all \$60 less than above.

Re-entry (except Open): \$60.

Special 1 yr USCF dues with magazine if paid with entry. Online at chesstour.com, Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. At site, see TLA. USCF mem. 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.

20th annual Midwest Class Championships

October 12-14 or 13-14, 2012 - Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel

\$20,000 PROJECTED PRIZES, \$16,000 MINIMUM GUARANTEED

5-SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d5). **Class E Section**, Oct 13-14 only, all G/75, d5.

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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.

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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 \$108, 2-day \$107 mailed by 10/3, all \$106 online (chesstour.com or entry.cc) by 10/9, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 (entry only, no questions) by 10/9, \$120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site.

Class E entry fee: All \$50 less than above.

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Advance entry fee \$5 less to ICA members; join/renew at il-chess.org.

Re-entry: \$50 (not available to go from Master to Master).

3-day schedule: Reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rounds 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

Class E schedule: Reg. Ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 1:30.

Half point byes OK all, Master must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3.

All: Bring board, clock, set if possible- none supplied. Unofficial web ratings usually used if otherwise unrated.

Hotel rates: \$103-103-103-103, 800-937-8461, 847-777-6500, reserve by 9/28 or rate may increase.

Entry: Continental Chess Assn, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. Optional entry form: www.entryblank.com. \$15 charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. JGP.

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- 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)



*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

Editor's Letter

As regular readers have no doubt noticed by now, *Chess Life* is now in full color. To take advantage of this significant change we have added three departments: “**Faces Across the Board**” will look at three class-level players each month who have a chess achievement of note. It can be found as part of our “First Moves” section; write to facesacrosstheboard@uschess.org if you wish to be featured. “**Knight's Tour**” is just before the “Tournament Life” section and will feature one or more of the events in that month's listings, giving a little background information about the event(s) including travel tips. “**My Best Move**” is on the last page of the magazine and will profile a chess, business, or celebrity persona and ask them to describe either their literal best move (“This is the move that sealed the win in my first U.S. Championship”) or figuratively (“Becoming a mom gave me the peace I needed to give a renewed focus to my chess”). I hope you enjoy. As always, your feedback is welcomed; write us at letters@uschess.org.

~Daniel Lucas, Editor

CHESS LIFE ONLINE PREVIEW: AUGUST

Americans in Istanbul

The biennial Olympiad is both a thrilling chess competition and an international gathering of players and chess world movers and shakers. The **World Chess Olympiad 2012** begins on August 27 in Istanbul, Turkey. Players on the open team include new U.S. Champ Hikaru Nakamura, Gata Kamsky, Alexander Onischuk, Varuzhan Akobian and Ray Robson. Reigning U.S. Women's Champion Irina Krush, Anna Zatonskih, Rusa Goletiani, Sabina Foisor, and Tatev Abrahamyan form the women's squad. Award-winning journalist FM Mike Klein's reportage will give you an inside look into the player's thoughts on the games and the exciting host city. Also this month:

- Look for continuing coverage of the U.S. Open in Vancouver, Washington on uschess.org/clo and find standings and pairings on www.uschess.org/tournaments/2012/usopen/
- Grand Prix events covered on *CLO* this month include the Atlantic Open, held from August 24-26 in Washington D.C.
- IM Greg Shahade's controversial editorials range from thoughts on draws & openings to world championship format. Login and join the conversation on our forums, and on facebook.com/uschess and twitter.com/uschess.

Follow *Chess Life* and *Chess Life Online* on Facebook! Get regular updates as part of your newsfeed, post comments, and easily communicate directly with the editorial staff.



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Al Lawrence

The “**U.S. Amateur East**” author is a former executive director of USCF and the World Chess Hall of Fame. He now serves as director of the Texas Tech University chess program. His latest book, with GM Lev Alburt, is *Chess for the Gifted and Busy*.

Dr. Alexey Root, WIM

Our “**Looks at Books**” reviewer is the author of five books, including her latest *The Living Chess Game: Fine Arts Activities for Kids 9-14* (Libraries Unlimited, Santa Barbara, California; 2011). She also teaches college credit courses, available worldwide via UT Dallas eLearning, about chess in education.

GM Ian Rogers

The “**World Championship**” globe-trotting reporter is a frequent contributor to *Chess Life* covering international events.

Chess Life

AUGUST

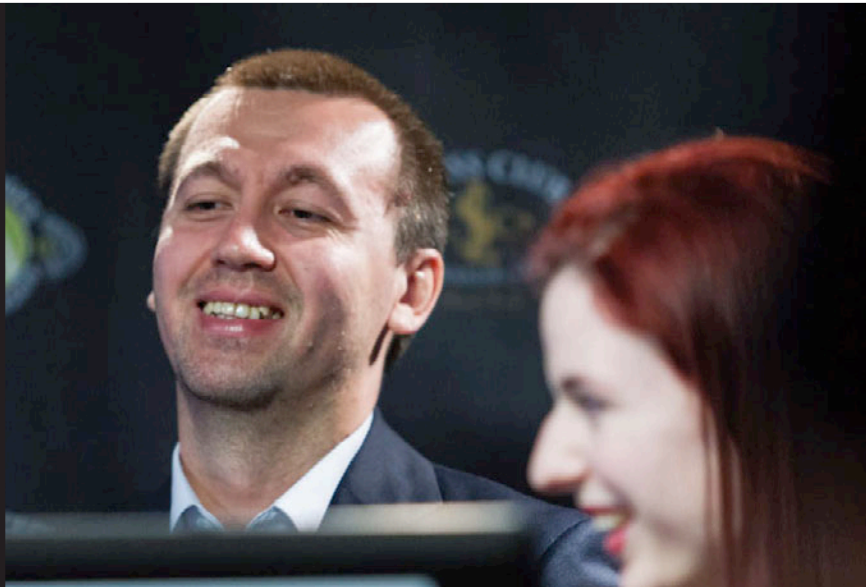
U.S. Championship scenes. **Top:** GM Gata Kamsky talks to *CLO* editor Jennifer Shahade in the interview room. **Bottom left:** New U.S. champions IM Irina Krush and GM Hikaru Nakamura receive kudos from USCF President Ruth Haring. **Bottom right:** The women's event competitors at the opening ceremony.

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ON THE COVER The U.S. Championship is our premiere event each year and our coverage this month reflects this. Beginning on page 16 we have 12 pages of games, photos, and analysis featuring our champions Hikaru Nakamura and Irina Krush. Cover photo by Studio314 Photography. Photos this page courtesy of Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis.

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SENIORS CHESS

I read with interest the letter from “Flying Rook” on the benefits of chess playing by seniors (“Counterplay,” May 2012). Since June 2011, I have coordinated a chess program for seniors in Ellington, Connecticut through the auspices of the Ellington Senior Center.

We are called the Ellington Chess Mates and we meet weekly for two hours to exercise our brains over the chessboard. Novices to the game have learned how to play while chess “veterans” have reconnected with the game after many years of dormancy. The response from the community has been very positive and we have a group of eight-10 regulars that have rediscovered the joy of victory and the pain of defeat on the chessboard. In the process, we are doing something good for our brains, meeting new friends, and having a good time.

Alex Cardoni
Ellington, Connecticut

PANDOLFINI

I was delighted to see the article on Bruce Pandolfini in the May issue (“Chess Educator of the Year”). He is a gifted educator/communicator, as well as a talented master. In fact, if it hadn’t been for Mr. Pandolfini, I might well have given up on chess books as a form of instruction.

When I finally got out of school (decades ago) and could afford “luxury purchases” such as chess books, I was greatly disillusioned: The vast majority of chess books appeared to be little more than sparsely annotated, self-indulgent game compilations that I could only assume the master-level authors had undertaken in an undisguised effort to gain some extra coin. After several disappointing purchases (had to buy before you can read back then) I realized that an author’s chess prowess was meaningless if he couldn’t effectively teach/communicate. And though I admired their over-the-board prowess, the vast majority of grandmaster authors didn’t seem to be able to write their way out of a pawn-lined paper bag.

Then I found one of Mr. Pandolfini’s books! At last! Someone who not only had talent, but could organize material into logical topics and break down information into a systemic presentation! It restored my faith in chess as a science as well as an art! Chess literature has improved (somewhat) over the years, but even today, few come close to the effectiveness of Bruce Pandolfini. (In fact, just this month I purchased a DVD from USCF Sales by a supposedly

reputable grandmaster, only to be subjected to a rambling, obviously unscripted series of “lectures” that, as a professional technical communicator, made me wince.)

Caveat emptor, indeed.

These days, I teach (entry and intermediate) chess on the side and the two authors I most commonly recommend are Fred Reinfeld and Bruce Pandolfini. I view Pandolfini as one of the most important, yet under-recognized forces in the chess world over the past several decades—and I very much appreciated and enjoyed the article.

Douglas Holzworthi
Raleigh, North Carolina

GAGA OVER GLIGORIC

While Philidor was a popular light-opera composer of his day, it is difficult to find his music now—though I’ve heard a composition by someone else in his large family. Through the decades various musicians were known as strong chess amateurs, like Sergei Prokofiev. The brain centers for musical and chess aptitude are thought to be adjacent.

Now there is a totally new phenomenon: in his ninth decade of life, a super-grandmaster and Serbian national hero has become a composer of popular music. Svetozar Gligoric’s CD, “How I Survived the 20th Century,” is eclectic in pop styles from blues to rap and is international, partly in English. It is accompanied by a booklet in Serbo-Croatian elucidating its 17

songs, including one about Bobby Fischer.

One may be about the incident when Gliga risked his life to take out a Nazi gunnest in World War II. Here is ordering info from a familiar source: <http://bit.ly/M4VeeM>

IM Anthony Saidy
via e-mail

A PILGRIMAGE

I very much enjoyed the cover story on the Reykjavik Chess Festival (May 2012). I enjoyed both the chess and the travel slant, since my wife and I are going to Iceland this summer.

Just as the American contingent had done, I plan to make a pilgrimage to Bobby Fischer’s grave outside of Selfoss. I also want to see the site of the 1972 World Championship. However, no matter how much web surfing I do, I cannot find the location. Do you or any other USCF staffers know where in Reykjavik the match was held?

As they say in Iceland, *takk fyrir* (thank you).

Mark Siwek
via e-mail

Gunnar Bjornsson, president of the Icelandic Chess Federation, responds:

The playing venue is Laugardalshöll.
<http://bit.ly/MkeBTh>.

Send your letters to letters@uschess.org. If *Chess Life* publishes your letter, you will be sent a copy of *Test, Evaluate and Improve Your Chess* (see ad below).

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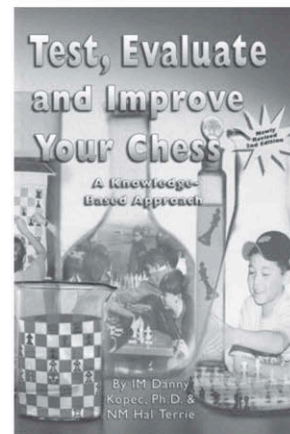
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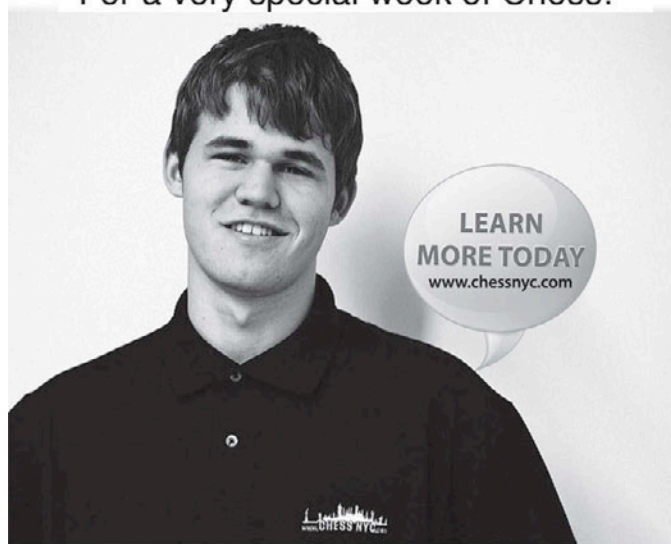
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ICCF-US Announces
20th US Correspondence
Chess Championship

The 20th US Correspondence Chess Championship is scheduled to start October 1, 2012. It is open to all US citizens or residents with an established rating of 2000 or higher. This includes OTB ratings as well as USCF, CCLA, or ICCF ratings. Play in this Semifinal will be in seven player sections, play by ICCF server, with section winners qualifying for the Final. Entry fee is \$20, no additional fee for the Final. The USCCC Champion will qualify for a World Correspondence Chess Championship Prelim or Semi. Players can send entries or questions to ICCF-US Secretary Corky Schakel, schakels@com.cast.net. Entries should be submitted by September 1, 2012.

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USCF's 9th ANNUAL

\$700 FIRST PRIZE

(Seven-player sections, one game with each of six opponents.)

(plus title of USCF's Electronic Knights Champion and plaque)

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1st-place winner receives a John W. Collins certificate.

ENTRY FEE: \$7.

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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.



Mag-nificent!

GM Magnus Carlsen will teach American chess kids in New York City this month

By GM ROBERT HESS

A modern Renaissance man, Magnus Carlsen has been called the “Mozart of Chess,” yet his skills go well beyond the chessboard. Not only does he model for G-Star Raw and have a passion for soccer, but he also has new-found dominance in Rock-paper-scissors (he defeated ‘Grandmaster’ Stephen Colbert on *The Colbert Report*). And now, he’s coming to New York to try his hand at teaching some of the country’s talented youths in the upcoming Chess NYC camp from August 20-24.

“I’m really excited to coach,” said Carlsen during an interview in April at Le Parker Meridien Hotel in Manhattan.

“I am really looking forward to the camp this summer. There are many talented kids who just love the game of chess,” Carlsen said. His enthusiasm was heightened after a visit to IS 318, the high school national championship team, during which he played several thrilling blitz games, including one against Justus Williams, whom Magnus considered his toughest opponent (*See July 2012 Chess Life*).

Magnus will be returning to New York this summer thanks to Chess NYC. United States chess will have the chance to study the games of the world’s top-rated player with the man himself. The camp’s mission is to introduce a great chess player to players of all levels and ages who want to attend.

“I have not formally taught at a chess camp before,” said Carlsen, “but after getting a feel of the Chess NYC program, I think this is a great opportunity.”

This event will not only be a special occasion for the chess community, but also for Carlsen who is enthusiastic about his trip to the United States. He embraces the opportunity to teach kids who not only love the game, but also play to an exceptional level as Carlsen witnessed in his visit to IS 318.

The camp will feature top-level instruction everyday both from Magnus and several prominent local instructors such as reigning U.S. women’s champion IM Irina Krush, former U.S. champion and noted author GM Lev Albur, GM Tamaz Gelashvili, and GM Rashad Babaev. All lessons will be Magnus-themed—the “Magnus Curriculum”—which will include his games, his tactics, and his ideas.

“Our interest in Magnus Carlsen started when he first visited the Chess NYC shop. He was amusing and great to talk to. We chose Magnus not only for his extraordinary talent, but also for his tremendous personality,” said Chess NYC co-director Michael Propper. “You don’t just meet Magnus the great chess player. At our camp, you have a chance to get to know the world-class player.”

The camp is expected to have anywhere between 300 to 500 participants, so don’t miss out on this exciting event. Let the games begin!

CHEQUERED HISTORY

Thanks to Indian grandmaster Viswanathan Anand's victory at the World Chess Championship (see our report on page 36), a new passion is emerging on the subcontinent for the nation's oldest game, as **Kamala Thiagarajan** reports:

IT IS A DECADES-OLD SCENE common to every hamlet, town and city in India—a dusty playground at midday, chock full of schoolchildren armed with cricket bats and rubber balls, sweating bullets, but playing earnestly, despite the searing heat. Yet these days, there's more to it than that. On street corners and in school corridors, a new breed of Indian sports is emerging—the chess fan, for whom strategy and skill holds the thrill. Though chess originated in India in the sixth century CE, its native country gradually lost touch with the game.

Several centuries later, however, the world championship match between Bobby Fischer and Boris Spassky at Reykjavik in 1972 created a new generation of Indian chess enthusiasts. Today, reigning World Chess Champion Viswanathan Anand's success (for the fifth time) is responsible for another wave of interest in chess.

Vibhas Pande is a former air force pilot who has been an avid chess player for the past 36 years. Pande now challenges players around the world, playing online whenever time permits. He says the Internet has made the nuances of the game more accessible in India, providing exposure to chess at an international level.

"Chess is a growing sport in India," he says. "And the Internet has improved education about the game. Today, game databases are available on the 'Net' for study and analysis. After Anand's success we have more players turning grandmasters and international masters than ever before."

Augusto Pinto, chess player and former vice-president of the Goa State Chess Association, concurs: "There is little doubt that chess has grown enormously. Until the mid-'70s there was just one [Indian] IM, namely Manuel Aaron. Look at the number of GMs and other titled players now, not to mention a certain world champion! Yes, chess certainly has a strong grassroots presence, especially in the states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Bengal. For its size, the progress of Goa has been remarkable too."

In recent years, Goa, the smallest Indian state, famous for its sun, surf and sands, has turned out a remarkable number of child chess prodigies who are making waves in chess circles across the world. Among them is the now 13-year-old Ivana Furtado, who was exposed to chess at the age of three by following her eight-year-old brother's tournament progress. "She picked up some very basic tips this way and at the age of five, she expressed her desire to play," says Eli Furtado, her father. Ivana went on to win innumerable age-group state championships, before twice taking out the World Youth Chess Championship.

High-profile Indian chess success stories have brought about a subtle yet significant change in the psyche of many Indian parents, who now look to chess as an acceptable career option for their children. Considering the conservative nature of the average Indian, who veers towards government jobs and the traditional money spinners like engineering and IT, this has been a remarkable development.

CHILDREN AND CHESS

TODAY, INDIA'S BURGEONING ECONOMIC GROWTH has also resulted in better chess infrastructure in universities and schools. "The chess scene is quite upbeat now," says Roomy Naqvy, assistant professor of English at Jamia Millia University, New Delhi. Naqvy began playing chess as a student, captaining his university team in 1990. He recalls sitting by the kerb near college playing—and winning—four different games simultaneously, yet couldn't even contemplate making money from chess then.

Thanks to the All India Chess Federation (AICF), it's a different picture now. The AICF has created infrastructure across the country, engaged quality coaches such as Maxim Sorokin and Evgeny Vladimirov (who coached Garry Kasparov), arranged tournaments and groomed champions.

"By the time Anand came on the scene, the AICF was a reasonably efficient chess administration and had gradually started organizing more tournaments where, slowly, young players of a fairly good merit were emerging," Pinto explains. "When Anand started out, the youngest age group was the under-15 [sub-juniors], but later, younger age-group tournaments were started. This began throwing up more players into the cauldron of the chess fraternity."

It's an approach that is steadily seeing India succeed the Soviet Union and Russia as the world's chess powerhouse.

FACES ACROSS THE BOARD

By **AL LAWRENCE**



KEN THOMAS

NEW JERSEY

Mega-Director

More fortunate than two of his six siblings, Ken survived childhood in Oklahoma's pestilential 1930s dust bowl. Enlisting in the Army, he knew only what

Fred Reinfeld had squeezed into *Chess in a Nutshell*. Ken since studied with a grandmaster, founded numerous clubs, and directed more than 1,000 USCF events—along with disarming a malfunctioning nuclear warhead in Holland. The 2012 U.S. Amateur East "is probably my last national, but I'll continue to run club tournaments."



AKSHITA GORTI

VIRGINIA

North American Youth Girls' Gold Medalist U8 & U10

Diminutive Akshita plays nearly eye-level with the pieces but can pounce on her opponent from a great height. Only nine, with an 1800-and-climbing rating, she studies chess 20 hours a week and is on the road with her family to two or three tourneys a month. She also works in tennis, swimming, and Indian classical dance. Goals? "I want to play in the U.S. women's championship!"



DELL BETTON

MISSOURI

Put the "Fine" in Finegold

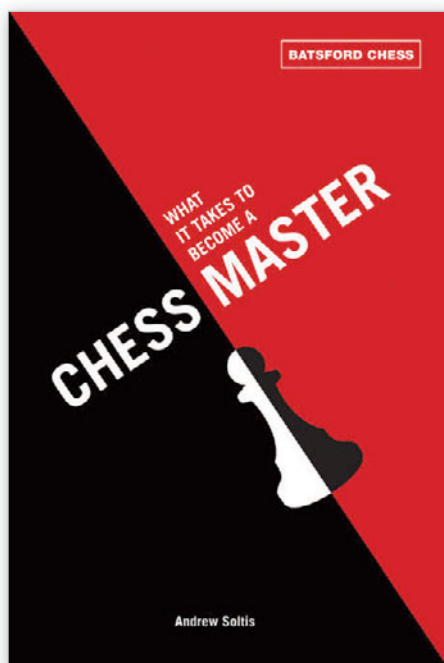
Dell is a member of the flabbergasting Saint Louis Chess Club, where he puts even resident grandmas-

ter Ben Finegold in time pressure, if not over the board. Dell is a parking enforcement officer who once ticketed Ben's anonymous car and still takes a good-natured teasing from the popular grandmaster. "I've been hearing about it for three years," Dell laughed.

A Fairly Decent Chess Player?

Read GM Soltis' latest book to find out for certain.

By **DR. ALEXEY ROOT, WIM**



What It Takes to Become a Chess Master by Andrew Soltis, 208 pages, Batsford (2012), \$19.95 from uscfsales.com (B0111BT)

Most chess players think that those rated within a couple hundred points of them are “fairly decent chess players.” Grandmaster Andrew Soltis quotes expert (and former USCF official) Ed Edmondson, “It depends on your point of view. The top players quite rightly consider me [Edmondson] a ‘weakie’—even though I have an expert rating and am in the top 10 percent.” The cover of *What It Takes to Become a Chess Master* describes its ideal reader as a “fairly decent chess player.”

Though inactive and near my 2000 floor, I was 2265 USCF two decades ago. Frustrated with my 50% score on the end-of-

chapter quizzes in *What It Takes to Become a Chess Master*, I asked my husband, International Master Doug Root, to take a quiz. He did not read the related “Little Tactics” chapter. One of the quiz’s four questions was “How does White improve his position?” with White to play, from Botvinnik-Tal, World Championship 1961.



Doug liked 1. h4 and if 1. ... h6 then 2. h5. He also gave the line of 1. h4 h5 2. Nc4 where the black pawn on h5 is a target. Soltis gave the game continuation, 1. Ne6, after which it took Botvinnik 29 more moves to win. Fritz 6 likes 1. 0-0 and 1. Ne6 equally well. 1. h4 ranked not quite as well but was still playable.

I then asked Doug to try a diagram from Chandler-McNab (British Championship, 1988), which is one of 15 questions in the “Habits” chapter’s quiz. Soltis asks, “How can White prove he has more than equality?” White to play. (See diagram top of next column). Doug liked 1. Bg5, which Fritz 6 ranks as 7/100ths of a pawn below the game continuation (also Soltis’ answer) of 1. Ra3 with the idea of 2. Rb3, targeting Black’s b7-pawn. Remembering the “Habits” chapter’s instruction on finding a target, I had chosen 1. f3 with the idea of 2. Na4 and 3. Nc5. Like Chandler’s rook lift, my plan also targeted b7 but less efficiently.



Fritz 6 prefers 1. Bxe6 slightly to 1. Ra3.

The Chandler-McNab position is at the end of an opening. Several different moves are good that early in a game. As Doug mentioned, masters have different styles. Doug’s other three quiz answers matched the answer key.

Like the quizzes, the chapters have many diagrams. So a set and a board are not necessary. Within each chapter, Soltis offers explanations about why certain plans work. Here’s an example, from the aforementioned section about targets in the “Habits” chapter: “Chess can be a simple game if we forget about positional subtleties and just look for targets. A few pages ago we saw how a plan was just a matter of figuring out how White could get his pieces to attack g7. In the same way, an initiative can be nothing more than a series of threats to different targets.”

Soltis writes, “When two 1700 players meet over the board, one will typically self-destruct.” If that quote describes your games, then you don’t need this book. Soltis adds, “Many players reach 1900 by not blundering.” When avoiding blunders is no longer enough to win, or when your local master describes you as a “fairly decent chess player,” then consider buying *What It Takes to Become a Chess Master*. ♔



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: WGM JENNIFER SHAHADE

Jennifer Shahade has been the editor of *Chess Life Online* since 2006. She produces and edits content for uschess.org/clo including tournament reports, U.S. Chess Scoop videos and human interest features. Jennifer is a two-time U.S. women's chess champion also well known as a writer and commentator. Her most recent book, *Play Like a Girl!* is filled with tactics by top women players and aims to inspire more girls to take up the game, a goal that is also dear to the USCF.

USCF Online Play

You can now register online for USCF correspondence chess at <http://chessserver.rmrdevelopment.com/>. Simply click on the "Register Now" link when you get to the website. It's free for current USCF members. You will need your USCF ID number and pin number (available on your *Chess Life* mailing label) but if you don't have yours offhand, we explain how you can obtain that info when you are registering.

We are in beta mode because we are still adding features to correspondence chess. Please let us know if you have comments or suggestions.

We will soon be launching live online and league chess so stay tuned for a lot more coming in the near future!



WORLD CHAMPION ANATOLY KARPOV MEETS WITH USCF PRESIDENT RUTH HARING IN LAS VEGAS

Legendary Russian World Champion GM Anatoly Karpov was warmly received by an enthusiastic crowd in his return to Las Vegas in 2012 as the special guest of the USCF at the National Open. He gave a simultaneous exhibition and was celebrity host at the International Youth Championship. USCF President Ruth Haring introduced him at the opening ceremony to an appreciative audience at one of the strongest National Opens ever held.

World Champion Karpov and USCF President Haring held meetings where they discussed Karpov chess academies worldwide, exchanged ideas on how to promote women's participation in chess and to promote chess by infusing chess personalities into popular culture.

Karpov and Haring also discussed several deeply disturbing issues plaguing world chess such as the Turkish ban on arbiters from certain countries at the upcoming chess Olympiad in Istanbul, and FIDE rules improvements which would benefit the worldwide chess community.

USCF Annual Report

The USCF Annual Report, officially called the *Delegates' Call*, is now available on uschess.org under the "Chess Life Magazine" link. This PDF includes reports from the USCF executive director, President, VP of finance, and committee chairs.

Going Out With A Whimper

Sometimes opening analysis takes you where you don't want to go

By GM ANDY SOLTIS

MANY MOONS AGO A SMART MAN WITH the foolish dream of making a lot of money from chess books asked me to go on a fool's errand.

I was supposed to write long chapters on every variation of the Four Knights Game (1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bb5)—including the one that runs 4. ... Nd4 5. Nxd4 exd4 6. e5.

That was more than foolish. "It's a drawing variation," I said. Virtually every master game on record ended in a handshake soon after 6. ... dxc3 7. exf6 Qxf6 8. dxc3 Qe5+ 9. Qe2 Qxe2+.

That was then and now is ... well, a time when even grandmasters play to win after 5. Nxd4. Nigel Short-Vladimir Kramnik, London 2011 went 8. ... Bc5!? (instead of 8. ... Qe5+) and then 9. Qe2+ Qe6 10. 0-0 0-0 and then 11. Qf3 d6 12. Bg5 Qf5! 13. Be7?.



It looks like White has trapped the rook at f8. But he overlooked 13. ... Qxf3 14. gxf3 a6!. Then on 15. Bxf8 axb5! 16. Be7 f6, his bishop is trapped and he ends up behind in material.

So, White tried 15. Ba4 but was lost soon after 15. ... b5 16. b4 Re8 17. Rfe1 Bb6 18. Bb3 Bb7 19. Kg2 d5.

"Drawing variation" is an epithet we use to dismiss an opening line in which neither side takes risks. But some variations with the most placid reputations have been revived simply because they are relatively *under-analyzed*.

The Exchange Variation of the French Defense (1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5), for

example, is respectable today for the first time since Paul Morphy's time because the alternatives, 3. e5, 3. Nc3 and 3. Nd2, etc., have been analyzed past move 30.

The irony here is that the true drawing variations of today are the ones that are so tactical that they can be analyzed out to the end—and the end is a repetition of moves.

A generation ago, no one would dare call the Poisoned Pawn Variation of the Najdorf Sicilian drawish. After 1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. Bg5 e6 7. f4 Qb6 8. Qd2 Qxb2 9. Rb1 Qa3 the main line of 10. f5 Nc6 11. fxe6 fxe6 12. Nxc6 bxc6 and then 13. e5 dxe5 14. Bxf6 gxf6 15. Ne4 Qxa2 16. Rd1 yielded dozens of quick wins and a forest's worth of published analysis.

But after Black found a defense, 16. ... Be7 17. Be2 0-0 18. 0-0 Ra7!, the tactical energy started to evaporate. A key position, believe it or not, arises after 19. Rf3 Kh8 20. Rg3 Rd7 21. Qh6 Rf7.



White's only way to keep his attack going is 22. Qh5. But Black found 22. ... Rxd1+ 23. Bxd1 Qa5! 24. Kf1 Qd8! in a 1992 postal game. It ended in perpetual check after 25. Qxf7 Qxd1+ 26. Kf2 Qxc2+ 27. Ke3 Bc5+ 28. Nxc5 Qxc5+. No one has improved on White's play since and the poison of the Poisoned Pawn seems detoxified.

Computers helped bury this line. But you can't blame machines for what happened to the Muzio Gambit (1. e4 e5 2. f4 exf4 3. Nf3 g5 4. Bc4 g4 5. 0-0!?) gxf3). A century ago this was worked out to a draw by repetition at move 14.

Another ancient weapon, the Rice Gambit (1. e4 e5 2. f4 exf4 3. Nf3 g5 4. h4 g4 5. Ne5 Nf6 6. Bc4 d5 7. exd5 Bd6 8. 0-0?! Bxe5 9. Re1) was found—in joint analysis by Jose Capablanca, Amos Burn and Edward Lasker no less—to draw by repetition at move 22.

It took decades of experience to take the sting out of a modern gambit, the Belgrade (1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. d4 exd4 5. Nd5 Nxe4). First, masters had to find that best play is 6. Qe2 f5 7. Ng5 d3!. Then they explored 8. cxd3 Nd4 9. Qh5+! g6 10. Qh4 c6! 11. dxe4 cxd5 12. exd5.

Now on 12. ... Qa5+ White has the remarkable 13. Kd1! Qxd5 14. Bc4! Qxc4 15. Re1+ Be7 16. Rxe7+! Kxe7 17. Ne4+:



But Black can defend with 17. ... Ke6! 18. Qf6+ Kd5 19. Nc3+ Kc5 and 20. b4+! Kxb4 21. Qd6+ Ka5! 22. Qa3+ Kb6 23. Qd6+ Ka5, Draw. Nowadays if anyone tries to win with the Belgrade it is Black, with improvements like 12. ... Bg7.

A second kind of modern drawing variation occurs when the players repeat a position out of fear. One case arises in the Richter-Rauzer Sicilian, 1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 d6 6. Bg5 when Black tries 6. ... Qb6.

After the surprising 7. Be3!?, White threatens 8. Nxc6 Qxc6 9. Bb5. Theory says 7. ... Qxb2! is best and so is 8. Ndb5!, with a new threat (9. Rb1).

Several games ended after 8. ... Qb4 9. Bd2! Nxe4??? 10. a3! and wins. Instead, Black has 8. ... Qb4 9. Bd2 Qc5, after

2012 Aeroflot Open

America's Ray Robson was among 80 international grandmasters who competed in the annual Aeroflot Open's top section earlier this year in Moscow. Mateusz Bartel of Poland took first place on tiebreaking points in the nine-round Swiss system event. This month's quiz features six positions from the tournament. In each one you are asked to find the fastest winning line of play. This will usually mean the forced win of a decisive amount of material, such as a rook or minor piece. For solutions, see page 71.

Problem I
GM Markus Ragger
GM Sethuraman Sethuraman



WHITE TO PLAY

Problem II
GM Alexey Aleksandrov
GM Bayarsaikhan Gundavaa



WHITE TO PLAY

Problem III
GM Alojzije Jankovic
GM Chanda Sandipan



BLACK TO PLAY

Problem IV
GM Ivan Popov
IM Marani Venkatesh



WHITE TO PLAY

Problem V
GM Parmarjan Negi
GM Anton Shomoev



BLACK TO PLAY

Problem VI
GM Sergei Zhigalko
GM Sanand Sjugirov



WHITE TO PLAY

which White is usually scared out of 10. Nc7+ Kd8 11. Nxa8 Ng4! 12. Qe2 Nd4.

Once you get through all that, it makes sense that games with the once-sharp 7. Be3 now end with 7. ... Qxb2 8. Ndb5 Qb4 9. Bd2 Qc5 10. Be3 Qb4 11. Bd2 Qc5, Draw.

In some drawing lines Black is calling White's bluff. For instance, in the King's Indian Defense's Saemisch Variation 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. f3, he can try 5. ... 0-0 6. Be3 e5 7. d5 and 7. ... Nh5 8. Qd2! Qh4+!?

"Do you know the latest analysis of David Bronstein's queen sacrifice?" he is asking—that is, 9. g3 Nxf3! 10. Qf2! Nxf1 11. Qxh4 Nxe3.

If the answer is no, the safe reply is 9. Bf2. Dozens of games have ended with 9. ... Qf4! 10. Be3! Qh4+! 11. Bf2, Draw.

Going back to the Najdorf Sicilian, a popular line begins with 6. Be3 rather than 6. Bg5, Black often replies 6. ... Ng4, because the "Kasparov Dragon," 7. Bg5 h6! 8. Bh4 g5!, offers him good chances.

That's why White often chickens out with 7. Bc1—and why Black replies 7. ... Nf6 and the game ends with 8. Be3! Ng4! 9. Bc1 Nf6, Draw.

In some drawing lines it looks like the players go to ludicrous lengths to make a plausible repetition. Take 1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 dxc4 5. a4 Bf5 and now 6. Nh4!?

The attacked bishop doesn't seem to have a good square since 6. ... Bd7 or 6.

... Be6 blocks his other pieces, while 6. ... Bg4 favors White a bit after 7. h3 Bh5 8. g4! Bg6 9. Nxf6.

The right move, all the smart people say, is 6. ... Bc8!. The point is White gets nothing out of 7. e3 because of 7. ... e5! 8. dxe5. Thanks to the d-file being open (no ... Bd7), 8. ... Qxd1+! is a good ending for Black.

So games (logically) end with 7. Nf3! and then 7. ... Bf5! 8. Nh4 Bc8, Draw.

As opening theory evolves, we're finding more and more cases in which the theoretically best moves lead—seemingly by force—to a draw. One of my favorites runs 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 d6 3. Nc3 Nc6!? and then 4. g3 e5 5. d5 Nd4. White has nothing better than 6. e3 and then 6. ... Bg4.



Now 7. f3? Nxf3+! 8. Nxf3 e4 isn't pleasant to play and 7. Nge2??? is a helpmate. That leaves 7. Qa4+! Bd7! and then 8. Qd1! Bg4! 9. Qa4+! Bd7!, Draw.

Nine moves? Yes, these "forced draws" are getting shorter.

In the Modern Defense, 1. d4 g6 2. c4 Bg7 3. e4 d6 4. Nc3 c6, one of White's most ambitious lines is 5. f4. But 5. ... Qb6 puts the center under fire and White may not like 6. Nf3 Bg4 7. d5.

So, his solution is 6. Be3 Qxb2 7. Na4 and he can rest up for the next round (7. ... Qa3 8. Bc1 Qb4+ 9. Bd2 Qa3).

If Black prefers 4. ... Nc6 to 4. ... c6 he is walking into a main line that goes 5. d5 Nd4 6. Be3 c5 7. Nge2 Qb6. But if White is the lower-rated player he hands his opponent a problem with 8. Nxd4! cxd4 9. Na4.

Black can choose between an unsound queen sacrifice 9. ... dxe3!?, the blunder 9. ... Qb4+?? 10. Bd2 and 9. ... Qa5+—which is a forced draw after 10. b4! Qxb4+ 11. Bd2 Qa3 12. Bc1.

So if chess is ever solved by a computer, it probably won't be with a bang—analysis that shows White wins by force. It'll be a whimper—a draw by repetition. ♠

Chess Life's look may have changed, but the same files are still available for you on uschess.org: Click on the Chess Life Magazine link in the left column and you will find our online viewer for the magazine, a PDF download of this and archived issues, and .pgn game files for this and archived issues.

See Soltis' latest book, What It Takes to Become a Chess Master, reviewed on page 10.

The Best Way To Refute A Sacrifice Is To Accept It

If your opponent makes a dashing sacrifice, and you don't see a clear win for him, snatch the piece off the board.

By **BRUCE PANDOLFINI**

JOSEPH HENRY BLACKBURNE (1841-1924), also known as “The Black Death,” was a top British player and a wonderful exhibitor and gambiteer. A number of his sacrifices have found their way into the lore of chess. But he didn't always sacrifice soundly, and some of his sacs may have been influenced by a bit too much whisky. It's one thing to have a few when playing the white pieces (though we don't recommend it) and quite another if you have the black pieces, as Blackburne had in his game against Alexander Wittek (White) played in Vienna in 1882. With or without whisky, the game began:

French Defense, Exchange Variation (C01)

Alexander Wittek

Joseph Henry Blackburne

Vienna, June 1882

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. exd5 exd5 5. Nf3 Bd6 6. Bd3 O-O 7. O-O Nc6 8. a3 Bg4 9. Be3 Qd7 10. Re1 Rae8 11. Be2 Qf5



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.**

12. h3 **Par Score 5**

White wants Black to declare his intentions with the bishop. A key moment is reached. Will Black take the f3-knight or retreat to h5?

12. ... **Bxh3**

Black does neither! Instead he sacrifices the bishop for attack, which is right up Blackburne's alley. But does it work?*

13. gxh3 **Par Score 5**

White doesn't have much choice. The best way to refute a sacrifice is to accept it. Somebody once said that.

13. ... **Rxe3**

One sacrifice leads to another. Black “sacs the Exchange” (though afterward he'll really be down a rook, not the Exchange) to make g3 available to the queen.**

14. fxe3 **Par Score 5**

Once again, White is left with little choice.

14. ... **Qxh3**

The threat is 15. ... Ng4, to be followed by 16. ... Bh2+ 17. Kh1 Nf2 mate (or 17. ... Bg3+ 18. Kg1 Bf2 mate). Add *1 bonus point* if you saw the threat.**

15. Bf1 **Par Score 5**

White attacks the queen, gaining time to reposition for defense.

15. ... **Qg3+**

16. Bg2 **Par Score 5**

The bishop shields the king and opens the second rank for resistance by the heavy pieces. It's hard to say just what it

was Blackburne overlooked when he started this sacrificial melee.

16. ... **Ne4**

Black rejected 16. ... Ng4 because of 17. Re2. Accept *1 bonus point* if you considered 16. ... Ng4 and realized that 17. Ne2? wouldn't have worked because of 17. ... Qf2+ 18. Kh1 Nxe3.**

17. Re2 **Par Score 5**

Accept only *2 points part credit* if you captured 17. Nxe4. True, this removes an attacker, but 17. ... dxe4 dislodges White's knight from its strong defensive post at f3.

17. ... **f5**

A rook down, Blackburne can't stop to count pawns. The idea is to get the rook into the game.**

18. Nxd5 **Par Score 5**

White collects a pawn while stopping ... Rf8-f6.

18. ... **f4**

Black forces open the f-file but not enough to dent White's defenses.**

19. exf4 **Par Score 5**

This meets Black halfway, since White gets the open e-file.

19. ... **Nf6**

There's no time to play 19. ... Bxf4, as the e4-knight is en prise.**

20. c4 **Par Score 5**

Receive only *2 points part credit* for 20. Nxf6+ Rxf6, activating Black's rook. The text calmly holds the knight at d5, awaiting events.

20. ... **Nh5**

Black focuses on the f4-pawn. If instead 20. ... Nxd5 21. cxd5 Ne7, then 22. Qe1 (*1 bonus point*) forces a queen trade.**

ABCs of Chess

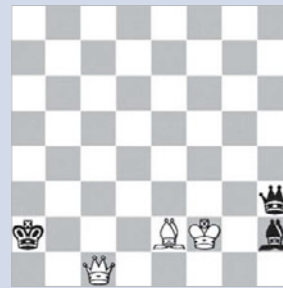
These problems are all related to key positions in this month's game. In each case, Black is to move. The answers can be found in Solutions on page 71.

August Exercise: From the very beginning of learning chess we meet principles we don't immediately understand. We tend to follow them blindly, at least for awhile, even the less reliable ones. Regardless how strong or weak a principle seems, make a big list of every single one you can recall. Then examine each of them critically, trying to think of limitations and situations where the opposite seems to apply. For each one you discover doesn't hold absolutely, cross it off your list. "There is no rule without an exception."

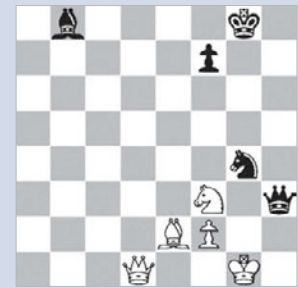
Problem I
Mating net



Problem II
Mating net



Problem III
Mating net



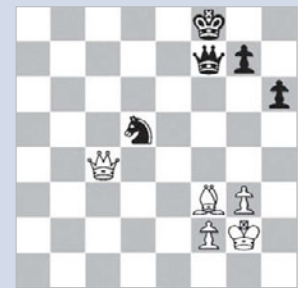
Problem IV
Double attack



Problem V
Mating net



Problem VI
Discovery



21. Qe1 **Par Score 5**

This move has been in the air ever since 17. Re2 cleared the e1-square. Black's queen gets pushed back and White takes control of e8.

21. ... Qg4

Another idea was 21. ... Qg6, preventing entry at e8, though exposing the queen to potential harassment.**

22. Re8 **Par Score 5**

This will trade off Black's rook, and maybe even queens, if White opts for 23. Qe6+.

22. ... Nxd4

Desperation! The one point in its favor is that it stops 23. Qe6+.**

23. Rxf8+ **Par Score 5**

Accept *full credit* for 23. Nxd4.

23. ... Kxf8

24. Nxd4 **Par Score 5**

Blackburne is down a rook and a minor piece. But he can still issue threats so he plays on.

24. ... Bc5

25. Qf2 **Par Score 5**

White guards the knight, breaks the absolute pin (yes, there's still a relative one), and plans to take over the e-file.

25. ... Kg8

Black sidesteps 26. Ne6+ Qxe6 27. Qxc5. But moving the king to g8 makes no difference on the grand scheme of things. Black is still lost.**

26. b4 **Par Score 5**

Add *1 bonus point* if you had this in mind when playing 25. Qf2.

26. ... Bxd4

Black forks queen and rook. Too bad it's White's move and the bishop can be removed. Yes, Black could resign. That would have saved us some space.**

27. Qxd4 **Par Score 5**

27. ... c6

28. Re1 **Par Score 5**

Full credit if you instead moved the knight to a safe square.

28. ... cxd5

This must have been Blackburne's way of resigning. It's really as good as many of the other ways.**

29. Qxd5+ **Par Score 5**

The end is near. Maybe we can resign for him.

29. ... Kf8

30. Qd6+ **Par Score 5**

The right queen check. Wittek takes control of both e7 and the sixth rank. I suspect one or two wrong queen checks would have worked in the end also.

30. ... Kf7


31. Re7+ **Black resigned.**

Black finally does resign, with it being mate at d8 next move. It's time for a soft drink. ♚

Chess Life's look may have changed, but the same files are still available for you on uschess.org: Click on the Chess Life Magazine link in the left column and you will find our online viewer for the magazine, a PDF download of this and archived issues, and pgn game files for this and archived issues.

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

A man in a light blue button-down shirt is looking down at a chessboard. The background is dark with logos for the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis and the U.S. Women's Championship.

Chess Club and Scholastic Center
of Saint Louis

The logo for the U.S. Women's Championship 2012, featuring a queen chess piece in the center of a circular emblem with the text "U.S. WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP" and "2012" around it.

U.S. WOMEN'S
CHAMPIONSHIP
2012

Two Weeks of

Sports movies insist on an underdog for drama. But at the 2012 U.S. Championship and U.S. Women's Championship, the top four players produced the kind of tension that even a screenwriter could appreciate. The two weeks of theater, held from May 7-20 at the Chess

Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, ended with GM Hikaru Nakamura overcoming the late points lead of GM Gata Kamsky to win his third title. IM Irina Krush, only seconds away from an extension of the tiebreaker with IM Anna Zatonskih, slipped past her rival in a messy affair to capture the women's



For Hikaru Nakamura,
title number 3; number 4
for Irina Krush

of Theater

By **FM MIKE KLEIN**

crown for the fourth time.

Trailing by a half-point entering the penultimate round, Nakamura had the unenviable task of playing black against the back-to-back champion Kamsky. In winning the last two championships and going undefeated in the early rounds in 2012,

Kamsky set the mark of 52 consecutive games in the U.S. championship without a loss, the second-longest ever (GM Alex Onischuk reached 49 games in 2010, but GM Sammy Reshevsky remains nearly untouchable at 82 straight unbeaten games in a row). After GM Gregory Kaidanov derailed the streak in round four, Kamsky

recovered with 4½ out of the next 5 to momentarily overtake his top-seeded rival. He needed only a draw to retain the lead, while a win would guarantee him first place with a round to spare. At stake was history—a third consecutive title has not been accomplished since GM Walter Browne won a trio in the mid 1970s (Reshevsky and Bobby Fischer have also done it, with Fischer winning four in a row twice and Reshevsky winning five in a row at the tournament's inception).

Kamsky and Nakamura had played five times previously, all draws. For this meeting, the organizers separated the game from the other ten players by placing the table on the opposite side of the room (the women had a rest day, opening up their half of the playing hall). “Basically people want to see blood, that’s the reality,” Nakamura said. In their last encounter, at this year’s Tata Steel tournament, Nakamura had black as well and chose the Sicilian Dragon. He won a pawn and pressed for the win, but missed some chances and settled for a draw.

For this meeting Nakamura chose a favorite shirt—a polo with a gleaming red Canadian maple leaf that occupied one entire half. He arrived clean-shaven and eager. Nakamura repeated the Sicilian, but instead chose the Najdorf. Kamsky picked the continuation 6. a4, which he has played in about one out of every four games recently. But he became noticeably more methodical after Nakamura’s 11. ... Na5 (he spent 30 minutes before finding a reply). As the game continued, Kamsky sighed heavily on several occasions and covered his face with both hands. He removed them to find the same problems as before the blinding. In a sign of confidence, Nakamura paced away from the board for much of the game. When on move, he often looked quizzically at the board, as if to suggest he could not find resources for his opponent. After the exchange of bishop for knight, Nakamura got the imbalance he needed and a strong initiative on the c-file. Like at Wijk aan Zee, his pressure netted a pawn, but unlike the previous game, he was able to convert. Kamsky played on out of inertia but could not find a meaningful answer as Nakamura pushed his passed pawn down the runway in consecutive moves.

Sicilian Defense, Najdorf Variation (B90)

GM Gata Kamsky (2741)

GM Hikaru Nakamura (2775)

2012 U.S. Championship (10)

Notes by IM Daniel Ludwig

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. a4

This move is not considered a critical

test against the Najdorf, but Kamsky has a lot of faith in this line and has used it against some of the best Najdorf players in the world.

6. ... e5 7. Nf3 Be7 8. Bc4 0-0 9. 0-0 Be6 10. Bb3 Nc6

This is a drawback of the early 6. a4 variation. Black plays his knight to c6 because a5 is important to prevent and the b4-square is weakened. In these structures, ideally White waits until Black plays ... Nbd7 before playing a2-a4 so that a4-a5 is easier to play and ... Nb4 is also impossible.

11. Bg5

Thus far both sides have developed naturally, and White is undergoing the usual plan of weakening the d5-square. However, in less than ten moves White’s position will be passive and clearly worse.

11. ... Na5!

Everything in this position revolves around White’s ability to play Nd5. This move undermines White’s plan, and it also prepares ideas on the ‘b’ and ‘c’ files.

12. Bxf6 Bxf6



13. Bd5?

This is one of the game’s key positions. This move looks nice, but it is little more than a moral victory. The bishop on d5 does not restrict any of Black’s play. Instead it limits White’s ideas on the d-file and the bishop occupies the key square for a knight. The most consistent idea is 13. Nd5 Nxb3 14. cxb3 Rc8 15. Qd3. It is easy to understand why Kamsky avoided this, though objectively this position is clearly better than what he received. This position may not be aesthetically pleasing for White, but on the plus side, at some point Black must trade his good bishop to try and make progress. The move 13. Ba2 deserves some consideration because it leaves the d5-square free without damaging the queenside pawn structure. 13. ... Rc8 14. Nd5 Nc4 15. b3 Bxd5 (15. ... Nb6 16. Nxf6+ Qxf6 17. Qxd6) 16. Qxd5 Both sides have bad bishops here, but White’s position is prob-

ably slightly better due to the backwards d6-pawn.

13. ... Rc8 14. Nd2 Qc7 15. Re1 Bg5!

This not only activates the bad bishop, it restricts White’s key maneuver, Nd2-f1-e3-d5. Now White’s position is already unpleasant.

16. Nf1 Qb6 17. Rb1 Nc4 18. Qe2 Bh6

Nakamura later questioned this move, but it is quite acceptable, as are many other moves. Kamsky was quickly plummeting into time pressure as he was unable to come up with a long-term plan. In situations like this, sometimes patient moves like ... Bh6 can be the best because they force the opponent to find something useful while low on time.

19. h4 Qb4 20. g3 Rc7 21. Kg2 Nb6 22. Bb3!

Black is going to win a pawn, and there are many ways White can choose to give one up. Objectively, Bb3 was the best choice. This move changes the nature of the position, and allows White some extra activity.

22. ... Bxb3 23. cxb3 Qxb3 24. a5 Na4



Better is 24. ... Nc4 when the knight is on a central square defending d6 and threatening a5.

25. Nh2?

After 25. Nd5! Rc2 26. Qd1 Nxb2 27. Ne7+ Kh8 28. Qxd6 this position is unclear, but likely equal with best play. White’s queenside has disintegrated, but now the black pieces are clumsy, not White’s.

25. ... g6!

This move avoids a long and relatively forced variation that leads to an endgame that is possibly holding for White. The move 25. ... g6 keeps the tension in the position, and also forces White to make more critical decisions with little time. 25. ... Nxc3 26. bxc3 Qxc3 27. Ng4 Qxa5 (27. ... Qd2 28. Qf3 Rc3 29. Qd1) 28. Red1 Qc5 29. Nxb6+ gxh6 30. Rdc1 Qxc1 31. Rxc1 Rxc1 32. Qg4+ Kh8 33. Qd7 Rcc8 34. Qxb7 Ra8 35. Qe7 f6 36. Qxd6 a5 37. Qa3 The black king is slightly

exposed, so it is difficult to make progress.

26. Ng4 Bg7 27. Nd5 Rc2 28. Qe3

White's best defense is 28. Qd1 Nxb2 29. Ne7+ Kh8 30. Qxd6.

28. ... Nc5 29. h5 Qxe3 30. Ngxe3 Rd2 31. Nc4 Rd4 32. Nxd6 Rd8 33. b4

No better is 33. Rec1 Nxe4 34. Nxe4 Rxe4 35. Rc5.

33. ... Nd3 34. Nxb7 Nxe1+ 35. Rxe1 Ra8 36. f3

Despite being down the Exchange, Kamsky still has good drawing chances. But White must retain activity, even at the cost of a pawn. 36. Nc5 Bf8 37. Rc1.

36. ... Bf8 37. Rc1 Bxb4 38. Rc7

White could also have taken 38. hxg6 before playing Rc7. The advantage of waiting is that the move h5-h6 can lock up the black king in some variations, and after ... gxh5 White now has the f5-square for the knight.

38. ... gxh5 39. Kh3 Kg7 40. Kh4?

The dreaded 40th move strikes again. Now Black is winning thanks to the pin on the seventh rank. 40. Nxb4 Rxb4 41. Nd6 Now Black has a tough choice of either losing the f7- or a6-pawn. In either case White should have good drawing chances.

40. ... Ra7! 41. Kxh5



41. ... Rxd5!

Nakamura correctly removes White's best piece and simplifies into a clear win.

42. exd5 Bxa5 43. Re7

Also losing is 43. d6!? Bxc7 44. dxc7 Ra8 45. Nd6 a5 46. c8=Q Rxc8 47. Nxc8 a4 48. Nd6 a3 49. Nf5+ Kf6 50. Ne3 a2 51. Nc2 Ke6 52. Kh6 Kd6! (Amazingly the black king has more than enough time to march all the way to c3 before White can generate a passed pawn.) 53. Kxh7 Kc5 54. Kg7 Kc4 55. Kxf7 Kc3 56. Na1 Kb2. Immediately losing is 43. Rc5?? Bb6.

43. ... Bb6 44. d6 a5 45. Kg5

45. Nd8 There are some tricks here, but

Four-time U.S. Women's Champion IM Irina Krush



Nakamura figured everything out. 45. ... Kf8! (45. ... a4 46. Nc6!) 46. Rxa7 Bxa7 47. Nc6 Bb6 Knights are terrible defenders against rook pawns, and Black will eventually walk the king towards the queenside. For example 48. Nxe5 a4 49. Nc4 Bc5 50. d7 Ke7 51. Kh6 Kxd7 52. Kxh7 Ke6 53. Kg7 Kd5 and Black wins.

45. ... a4 46. Kf5 a3 47. Nd8 a2 48. Ne6+ Kh6 49. Ng5 a1=Q 50. Nxf7+ Kg7, White resigned.

With no more good checks available, White resigned.

Nakamura shook Kamsky's hand and offered his first glimpse of satisfaction with a wry smile to his second, Kris Littlejohn. Kamsky, who always comes to the press room to offer his post-game commentary (he did after the loss to Kaidanov too), instead stayed upstairs. The sight of a lugubrious Kamsky in public is a rarity. He walked toward the arbiter's table, turned his back to the crowd, and looked vulnerable, pinching his nose at his tear

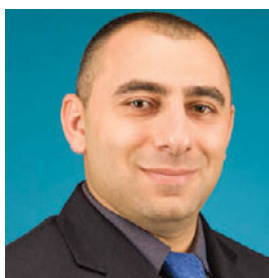
ducts while standing motionless with his head down.

"A lot of moves Gata played in this game surprised me," Nakamura said. "I wasn't really sure what was going on. I was trying to keep the position complicated." Nakamura claimed that he did not have all the variations worked out, but he was sure he was not losing at any point. "Optically the knights are very strong, but at the same time, they don't have any squares." He said that he was unlucky in several previous contests where he was held to a draw, and that the tournament perhaps owed him a bit of fortune. "I've been pressing pretty much every game. Yury [Shulman] defends like a genius. To get a break today when I thought I was drawing ..."

The frustration of not overcoming stingy defense must have been fresh on Nakamura's conscience, as the previous day he came up just short of beating GM Alex Lenderman in the longest game of the



GM Alexander Onischuk



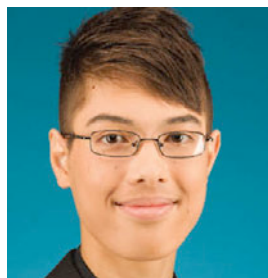
GM Varuzhan Akobian



GM Aleksandr Lenderman



GM Yury Shulman



GM Ray Robson

championship. After 121 moves, and coming strangely to within ten moves of the 50-move rule in a crowded middlegame, Nakamura found an opening but Lenderman deftly pitched a few pawns to stifle Nakamura's lone bishop. The game was the sixth longest in U.S. championship history.

"I really didn't want to play another six-hour game today," Nakamura said. He shortchanged himself—the game with Lenderman was on the precipice of lasting seven hours. "I just had to move on. You can't dwell on it."

Nakamura's return to the championship followed a one-year hiatus. A resident of St. Louis, he spectated at nearly every round last year and said later that he regretted the decision to sit out. "Although I've played in tournaments throughout the world, the U.S. championship definitely tops the list," he said at the closing ceremony. Now removed from the tutelage of GM Garry Kasparov, who helped convince him to skip the 2011 event, Nakamura played confident, uncompromising chess throughout the 11 rounds. In most games, he forced the action, even when playing black. "When I start going into deep thinks, it's usually because I'm second-guessing myself," he said. "I just thought my positions were so easy to play. I didn't need to spend time."

The decision to play was fraught with the same risks as last year. Nakamura needed to score 7½/11 just to maintain his FIDE rating, which was at a peak coming into the tournament. By scoring an undefeated 8½, Nakamura won the title by a full point and gained almost eight points to achieve a post-rating of 2783, just two points short of tying Fischer's all-time American record (there was also the \$40,000 payday). Despite the lofty number, Nakamura stated repeatedly that this was not his goal entering the tournament. "If I was focusing on rating, I probably would have done something suicidal." With GM Viswanathan Anand just barely defending his world championship, Nakamura also eclipsed Anand on the live ratings list. At the time of writing, Nakamura entered the vaunted top five in the world for the first time ever.

The U.S. Women's Championship pro-

duced arguably more tension and intrigue. Top-ranked IMs Zatonskih and Krush followed their uneventful round seven draw with two wins apiece against other players in the final two rounds. The sprint finish left them both sitting on an undefeated 7/9 and a meeting in the final-day tiebreaker.

Though both women have openly stated that they have put their contemptuous 2008 tiebreaker behind them, this would be the first time since then that they have faced off in another one-on-one tiebreaker for the title (combined the duo have won the last six titles, three each). Unlike that game, which ended with Krush flagging after a chaotic and uncivil finish, the twin 25-minute games would offer a five-second delay from move one to alleviate any replay of the all-out scramble. Pundits predicted Zatonskih's nerves would hold up better, but she was not pleased with her play all tournament and Krush exuded more confidence throughout the event. Krush said her plan of studying the night before and resting each morning of the tournament was meant to preserve the "nervous energy" required to play her best chess. Counting games of all time-controls, the two ladies have gone head-to-head more than 20 times, with greater than two-thirds of the games producing a winner.

In game one, Krush offered the first wrinkle with 1. ... g6. She said she prepared by following a game Zatonskih played in 2005 in which Black got a comfortable game. Asked afterward about her knowledge of the opening, she said, "The Modern? Is that what it's called? I don't really play this stuff." Later, she oscillated her queen between b6 and c7, which turned out to be a clever psychological play. Though Zatonskih had no advantage and she probably knew it, a player in her situation is compelled to play on and not waste her one game with white.

Zatonskih decided to avoid a repetition, but used up more than half her time before she entertained a dubious plan of advancing her kingside pawns. Eventually she ceded both the time advantage and attack to Krush. The move 24. ... Ne4 came as a blow to Zatonskih. "I'm 100 percent sure she missed it,"

Krush said. "I knew I took over the initiative." With twin rooks on the second rank and a queen leering ominously on f3, Zatonskih allowed her time to run out instead of seeing which checkmate Krush would choose. Krush pointed out that she can sacrifice her queen on g3 and mate with the rook tandem. "It's a beautiful mating idea. Otherwise I'll take the h3-pawn, I'll take the g4-pawn and I'll denude the king."

Caro Kann Defense (B15)

IM Anna Zatonskih (2510)

IM Irina Krush (2457)

2012 U.S. Championship (Playoff, 1)

Notes by Krush

We drew colors for this game about fifteen minutes prior to its start. I was happy to start with black, because I felt that our black preparation was quite original and even quite likely to appear on the board. If things go well for Black in the first game, they acquire a tangible psychological advantage for the second game (even if the score is tied.) It's hard for White not to feel some pressure to make something of their color, and that puts them in danger of overpressing. So given all this, drawing black was a considerable piece of good luck.

1. d4 g6

I had a successful outing with this move in a must-win situation with Camilla the previous day. However, as I'm not a 1. ... g6 player, it was safe to assume that not a lot of attention would be paid to this possibility. Moreover, it'd be impossible to guess the logic behind it, so honestly a person could sit and prepare for 1. ... g6 all day, and they'd still have no idea what I'm going for.

2. e4

Camilla, being a pure 1. d4 player, went for 2. Nf3, trying to steer the game into regular g3 King's Indian Defense (KID) positions. Anna also plays g3 against the KID, but the big difference is that for most of her life, Anna was a 1. e4 player. Given something not too principled like the Modern, where it'd be hard to imagine there is anything particularly



GM Robert Hess



GM Gregory Kaidanov



GM Alejandro Ramirez



GM Yasser Seirawan



GM Alexander Stripunsky

dangerous lying in store, and knowing that the g3 idea didn't work out well for Camilla, it was not surprising she'd choose to steer the game into e4 waters.

2. ... Bg7 3. Nf3 c6 4. Nc3 d5



So this hybrid Modern/Caro idea was the plan for the day. White has to show a lot of precision to get an advantage, and in rapid games precision is nearly impossible to achieve. Incidentally, I used this line in the Women's Rapid and Blitz World Championship in Batumi a week later, and won nearly all my games from this position. The one game I lost in blitz had nothing to do with the opening.

5. h3

5. e5 is also possible.

5. ... Nf6 6. Bd3

Again, 6. e5 is more critical.

6. ... dxe4 7. Nxe4 Nxe4 8. Bxe4 O-O 9. O-O Nd7 10. c3 e5

Anna once reached this position against a German amateur some years ago, and here she varies with 11. Bc2 (instead of 11. Bg5). This was a logical improvement, since the bishop belongs on this square anyway, while we don't yet know the best squares for White's other pieces. I remember my computer pointing out 11. Bc2 as its top move, and briefly looking at it, but I had no concrete recollections of what I'd looked at, and was playing on my own from this point.

11. Bc2 exd4 12. Nxd4

The capture on d4 was normal, but after it, it's actually unclear which path to take to clear equality.

12. ... Qb6

Putting some pressure on b2 to make it difficult for the Bc1 to develop.

13. Nb3

Instinctively, I was happy to see this move, as I didn't think it could be optimal to start taking pieces out of the center. Of course, it has its logic—now the bishop can be developed. The computer suggested 13. a4 with the point that on the natural a5 White can now play 14. Be3 and on 14. ... Qxb2 15. Qd2. Now we see the point behind 13. a4—the queen doesn't have a retreat to a3. But it's hard to come up with such deep positional tactical ideas in a rapid game.

13. ... Qc7

There was nothing more for the queen to do on b6.

14. Re1 Nf6 15. Qf3 Be6

One thing I understood about this position was that it was problematic to develop the bishop on c8. The knight retreat to b3 gave him the e6 square.

16. Bf4 Qb6 17. Be3 Qc7 18. Bf4 Qb6

Anna had quite a bit less time here, and I thought the game was pretty even by this point, so a three-fold repetition would have been a reasonable decision on her part. But I wasn't surprised she found a way to play on—as I said in the beginning, it's psychologically difficult to give up the white pieces in a match of just two games.

19. g4



The strong players watching apparently didn't approve of this move, but

when Anna played it, it seemed logical to me. White secures the g3-square for her queen (taking away h5).

19. ... a5

I also could have inserted 19. ... Bd5 immediately: 20. Qg3 Rac8 21. Be5 Ne8 22. Bxg7 Nxd7.

20. Bd6 Rfe8 21. Qg3 a4 22. Bc7

Black breaks through after 22. Nc5 Qxb2 23. Nxe6 Rxe6.

22. ... Qa7 23. Nd4 Bd5

This was the position I was going for when I played 19. ... a5. The queen is fine on a7, and the bishop has a great outpost on d5—remember how it looked on c8 a few moves ago. Black's position is already preferable.

24. Be5



Essentially, this tactical oversight decided the game—not in an objective sense, but in a “turning point” kind of sense. White could certainly have defended better afterwards, but Black's initiative combined with a pawn advantage and a big-time advantage was too much to overcome.

24. ... Ne4 25. Bxe4

25. Rxe4 Bxe4 26. Bxg7 Kxg7 and Black is up an Exchange.

25. ... Bxe5 26. Qf3 Bxd4 27. Bxd5 cxd5 28. cxd4 Qxd4 29. Red1 Qxb2 30. Qxd5 Re2

Trying to make some active moves.

31. Rdb1 Qf6 32. Rf1 Rd8

Bringing the last piece into the game.



IM Anna Zatonskih



IM Rusudan Goletiani



WFM Alena Kats



WIM Viktoria Ni



WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor

33. Qxb7 Rdd2 34. Qa7



Here there are different ways to win, but 34. ... Qf3 followed by the queen sacrifice on g3 and the double-rook mate was very appealing to me once I saw it.

34. ... Qf3 35. Rae1, White lost on time.

White's flag fell, so we didn't get to see ... Qg3 on the board (if White doesn't take the queen, then h3 and g4 fall with check). This game came together very nicely for me on the board, but it was won much more by the thinking that went into it rather than any particular moves. I want to thank my coach for the heart he put into my preparation. I am pretty sure that was the difference between first and second place for me.

As has become customary at the women's event, after game one of a rapid tiebreak, a curious spectacle unfolds. The two combatants rush to their "corners" for advice. With the U.S. Championship completed the previous day, the services of a dozen grandmasters were available. Krush enlisted a 13th, as her much-lauded coach GM Giorgi Kacheishvili flew out to St. Louis to assist for the weekend. For the 15-minute break, Krush and her mentor took a walk outside while Zatonskih commiserated with Onischuk upstairs. Neither player sees the divisions that form as unfriendly; the services of capable seconds just across the playing hall do not denote any ill-will in their view. "It's just friends helping others," Krush said. "It's not in any way unpleasant for me. This is not a vicious partisan thing. Everyone who rooted for Anna today can still be my friend."

Krush said Kacheishvili's prediction

proved correct in the first game. He estimated that Zatonskih would avoid the critical variations that arise after 1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nc3 c6 4. h3 d5 5. Nf3 Nf6 6. e5 Ne4 7. Nxe4 dxe4 8. Ng5. "Giorgi spent a lot of time on it and told me what I needed to know. It's not her style and it's a rapid game." Instead, Zatonskih did not advance her e-pawn and played more restrained, but failed to pose any problems for her opponent.

After the short respite spent plotting with seconds and coaches, the women reconvened for the second tiebreak game. Krush said the initial win did not alter her planning. "I was not changing strategies. I was playing 1. c4. I thought about going back to 1. d4. Even if she's got something prepared for (1. c4), it was probably for equalizing. She probably didn't expect to have to play for a win."

In the second contest Zatonskih played with more celerity. A strong attack brewed on Krush's king and she labored to find a way to avoid a checkmate in the middlegame. Ironically, her second rank became pitted with weaknesses this time around. Facing immense pressure, Krush played 23. Ng5 while Zatonskih was away from the table, hurriedly taking a bathroom break. Krush immediately saw the *Zwischenzug* 23. ... Qxf1+ won a rook for Black. She looked down, then across the room, awaiting her fate. Zatonskih arrived back at the board but paused for a few minutes. "I just thought maybe she's savoring the moment," Krush reasoned. Amazingly, Zatonskih did not find the one-mover. She played 23. ... Bxc2 instead, simply trading queens. Krush's eyes got large and she sat straight up again, bolstered by her good fortune. Later, Krush said she "probably would have resigned" if Zatonskih had found the right move.

Grandmasters in the lounge watching on television screens thought the oversight was verisimilitude. One came out to view the game in person to be sure. Krush needed a few moments to process the change of events and reconnoiter the position. "I wasn't coming to grips with [the missed tactic]. What I was coming to grips with is that my position was still horrible. You get such a present, but you

are still totally lost." Little did she know that another gift-wrapped rook was in the offing later.

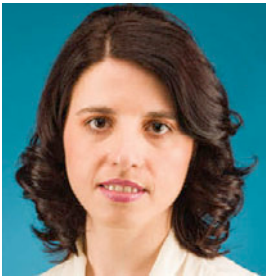
She soon made a defensive Exchange sacrifice to avoid immediate annihilation, and shunned trades to keep some volatility in the position. Krush's defensive determination took her down to one second twice. Her normal routine is to languidly depress the clock so gracefully that you cannot hear the stroke, almost in slow motion. But here she rapidly swung her hand to the left to pounce, lest she repeat the mistakes of 2008. "One of the moves was really scary. I saw the one and then I saw the six."

Eventually Zatonskih also joined her in massive time pressure—the struggle to find the win brought her down to fewer than five seconds at one point. Then, as the win grew close, disaster struck. Zatonskih simply left her rook *en prise* to a backward knight capture. Krush grabbed the piece, the gift and the title. She ran downstairs and outside, shrieking and sobbing slightly, and jumped into the embrace of the first friend in sight—Kamsky. "Gata was one of my biggest supporters—I could see how much he rooted for me throughout this tournament."

This was Krush's first title that she won through a playoff. She did not mind that the final game was full of blunders. Instead, her remarks were proudful of the tenacious defense that allowed the fortune. "The only reason I got lucky in the end is that I put myself in a position to get lucky. I kept things together long enough. When you are given a huge present after a huge amount of suffering, you don't begrudge the present.

"When you get a little lucky at the end, your happiness is magnified. This is the [title] that made me the happiest. You want to win without having to go to a playoff in a more stress-free way. You're always aiming to avoid the tension and the drama at the end. What the fans want to see you do not want. Maybe I got a few gray hairs. Your happiness is proportional to the amount of stress and difficulty you had to get there."

The excitement that permeated the final day turned bystanders into fans. The security guard that wandered the



WIM Iryna Zenyuk



FM Alisa Melekhina



WGM Camilla Baginskaite



WGM Tatev Abrahamyan

The photos over the previous four pages are placed in their finishing order. See the crosstables on pages 26 and 27.

spectators for contraband sneaked upstairs to watch during his breaks. “I don’t play chess but I was really excited,” he said. “I got really nervous. When I come back for the Karpov match (versus Seirawan) I’m going to join the club. I have to learn now.”

Both champions got there through fast starts. Nakamura’s tournament began with the standard format for round-robin tournaments. Starting with a win as white against GM Robert Hess, he proceeded to draw as black and win as white for the first six rounds. The second half of the tournament was nearly the inverse, as he could only muster draws as white but won as black, until that streak ended with a final-round win as white (against GM Yasser Seirawan, which put the tournament out of reach for Kamsky). Despite the early results suggesting otherwise, Nakamura took the initiative even as black and thought himself better in the early contests that petered out into draws.

He explained his strategy: “With black, you sort of have to change your style if you’re trying to win. You have to make your opponent uncomfortable.” He was able to do so on both sides of the board, starting with the surprise Evans Gambit in round one against Hess. “I just felt like trying something new,” Nakamura said of the choice. “Lately I’ve been looking at some ancient games from a few hundred years before I was born. I thought, ‘If someone like Nigel Short can play it, why can’t I?’”

The game became a prelude to superior preparation by Nakamura throughout the event. He was quick to credit his longtime second, Kris Littlejohn, who was at his side for the entire championship. Hess, whose aversion to studying opening theory is well-known, tried the simplification 9. ... Ba3 to give back the pawn and free his queenside. Hess said he considered a more standard move like 9. ... b6, but wanted to play a more off-beat move to get Nakamura out of his preparation. “If it was later in the tournament, I would have played that game a lot differently,” Hess said. “I lost because he completely outplayed me. Part of being rusty is second-guessing your move choice.” Hess just finished his first year

at Yale University and only played in two tournaments during his freshman year.

GM Alejandro Ramirez, the only championship rookie, faced Nakamura in round two. After having his attack repulsed, Ramirez’s pieces took up defensive fortifications until the champion broke through on the d-file. Ramirez ditched the Exchange to escape with a draw, as Nakamura’s king could not find shelter from the dark-square attack. Later in the post-mortem, Nakamura found a win, and as became a pattern, was very open about his disappointment in only obtaining a half-point.

Round three offered some chessic fireworks. GM Ray Robson, formerly the youngest-ever U.S. championship player (and youngest in 2012 as well) did not shy away from Nakamura’s notoriety as an attacker. Robson played the Sicilian Dragon and soon faced a four-pawn phalanx. He picked them off one-by-one but had to give a little material back to fend off the pressure and trade queens. But the chaos continued. Both players had knights reach the other side of the board. Nakamura engaged his rooks while Robson focused on promoting the most advanced of his tripled e-pawns. Both players got their wish, but Robson’s extra queen was not enough to win, as Nakamura deftly hid his king long enough for the rooks to win. Nakamura won the second-place best game prize of \$1,000 for his willingness to walk the plank.

Sicilian Defense, Dragon Variation, Yugoslav Attack (B76)

GM Hikaru Nakamura (2775)

GM Ray Robson (2614)

2012 U.S. Championship (3)

Notes by GM Ray Robson

Facing Hikaru for the first time ever was bound to be interesting and exciting for me, as he has been a player I have looked up to since I was young. I had had a bad start with $\frac{1}{2}$, so I was hoping to start my comeback with a decent result in this game.

1. e4

This was the first small surprise. Nakamura had already played 1. e4 in his first

round, but nowadays he usually chooses not to advance his king’s pawn on the first move. I was actually more worried about e4 as I felt I didn’t have any solid lines to rely on in this game.

1. ... c5

Besides the Sicilian I sometimes play the French, but I decided to go with the opening which I have played more often.

2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6

The Dragon. Perhaps it seems strange to play such a sharp opening against a dangerous opponent like Hikaru, but I thought I actually had more chances of getting a decent position with this than with the Scheveningen or Classical Sicilian (the other two lines I have played), since I didn’t feel well enough prepared there.

6. Be3 Bg7 7. f3 Nc6 8. Qd2 0-0 9. g4

A small surprise. This move seems to have experienced a revival at the top level lately. White simply wants to delay castling and continue with h2-h4, so Black cannot continue normally. 9. g4 also has the benefit of preventing ... d6-d5 due to g4-g5.

9. ... Be6

The other main line is 9. ... Nxd4 followed by 10. ... Be6, but releasing the tension favors White. For example, White cannot continue with 10. h4 here because of 10. ... d5!

10. Nxe6

This is an obvious move, but for a long time it wasn’t considered a very good one. It was thought that the pawn on e6 wasn’t really such a big weakness, and that it helped control the center. Recently some resources have been found for White, and now 9. g4 is usually played in connection with 10. Nxe6. 10. h4 d5 should be good for Black. The old main line was 10. 0-0-0 Nxd4 11. Bxd4 Qa5, which is considered fine for Black.

10. ... fxe6 11. 0-0-0 Ne5 12. Be2 Qc8

I had actually already had this position against Bartosz Socko at the Aeroflot Open. He decided to play Bh6, and even-

tually won after mistakes by both sides. Hikaru's choice is more critical. 12. ... Rc8 is another logical move, but after 13. Nb5!, with ideas of Nxa7 and Nd4, White has been doing well.

13. h4 Nfd7

Black may or may not want to take the f3-pawn. The main idea is just stopping Bh6. 13. ... Nc4 14. Bxc4 Qxc4 15. Bh6 is slightly better for White.

14. f4

14. h5 was still possible, since 14. ... Nxf3!? (14. ... Nc4 is also possible, and after 15. Bxc4 Qxc4 16. hxc6 hxc6 the position isn't completely clear, since Black can often run with his king to the center if necessary.) 15. Nd5! is a nice blow. I had thought this was better for White, but Black seems to get a reasonable position in any case. 15. ... Nxd2 (15. ... exd5 16. Qxd5+ Rf7 [16. ... Kh8? 17. hxc6 Nf6 18. Rxd7+ Nxd7 19. Qh5 and Black gets mated or loses too many pieces.] 17. Bxf3 when White is a little better) 16. Nxe7+ Kf7 17. Nxc8 Raxc8 18. Rxd2 Ke7 Black shouldn't really have problems due to his dark-square control. A sample is 19. hxc6 hxc6 20. Bg5+ Bf6 21. Rh7+ Rf7 22. Bxf6+ Kxf6 23. g5+ Ke7 24. Rxf7+ Kxf7 25. Rxd6 Ne5 and Black has good compensation.

14. ... Nc4 15. Bxc4 Qxc4 16. e5



I knew I had seen this position before, but unfortunately I didn't remember the right way.

16. ... Nb6

16. ... Rad8 is probably the best move, when the position is still unclear.

17. h5

Now White gets a big and easy attack.

17. ... dxe5 18. hxc6 hxc6 19. Qh2 Rxf4

Unfortunately the only move. 19. ... exf4 20. Bd4 is simply crushing for White.

20. Bxf4

20. Kb1 Nd5 is good for Black.

20. ... Qxf4+ 21. Kb1

I had actually completely missed this when I took on f4. For some reason I thought he was forced to exchange queens.

21. ... Qxh2 22. Rxd2 Rf8

Still, the position isn't as bad as it looks for Black. I am quickly getting some counterplay with ... Rf4, and if I eventually activate my bishop with ... e5-e4 I will have counterplay. Also, the tripled pawns aren't as bad as they seem, since after White takes one of them they will only be doubled.

23. Ne4

The computer recommends the interesting 23. b3 Rf4 24. Ne2, with the idea of 24. ... Rxd2 25. Rd8+ Kf7 26. Rb8 when the knight on e2 is doing a good job preventing Black from getting counterplay.

23. ... Rf4 24. Ng5

It made more sense to go to c5 and take the b7-pawn. The pawn on e6 isn't completely useless, but the one on b7 looks much tastier. 24. Nc5 Rxd4 25. Nxb7 and White has good winning chances.

24. ... Rxd4 25. Nxe6 Bf6

I wasn't sure whether or not I should be afraid of Nxd7. The bishop could be a strong piece in the future, though, so I think 25. ... Bf6 makes sense.

26. b3

Now White just wants to play c2-c4, when my knight will have major issues. Therefore, ...

26. ... Nc8 27. c4

27. Rd8+ Kf7 28. Nc5 Nd6 29. Rh7+ Bg7 doesn't give White anything. 27. Rf2!? was an interesting try to prevent Black's knight from getting into the game. After 27. ... b6 (27. ... Nd6? 28. Rxd6) 28. c4 Kf7 29. Nc7 e4 Black still has good chances of saving the game.

27. ... Nd6 28. c5 Nb5 29. Rd7

I was in time trouble at this point, so Hikaru was playing quite quickly. I should mention that Hikaru played the whole game while hardly consuming any time.

29. ... Kf7

I had thought this was a mistake, but now I think that 37. ... Re1+ was the decisive error. The move 29. ... e4! was probably also good enough to hold. 30. Rxb7 Rg1+ 31. Kc2 Ra1! This is the whole point. Now 32. Rxb5 looks critical, which leads to an amazing line. After 32. ... Rxa2+ 33. Kc1 Rxd2 34. c6 e3 35. c7 (35. Nf4 leads to a draw after 35. ... Rh1+ 36. Kc2 Rh2+, since 37. Kd3 allows 37. ... Rd2+ 38. Kxe3 Rc2, when Black is

slightly better.) 35. ... Rh1+ 36. Kc2 e2 37. c8=Q+ Kh7 38. Nf8+ Kg7 (38. ... Kh6?? fails to 39. Qe8 Rg1 40. Qf7) 39. Ne6+ (39. Qe8 now Black can escape to h8, and after 39. ... e1=Q 40. Qxc6+ Kh8 41. Rh5+ Rxd5 42. Qxd5+ Kg7 he actually wins.) 39. ... Kh7 40. Re5 (40. Rb8 Rc1+ [40. ... e1=Q?? 41. Qg8+ Kh6 42. Qh8+! Bxd8 43. Rxd8 mate] 41. Kxc1 e1=Q+ 42. Kc2 Qe2+ with a perpetual.) 40. ... Bxe5 41. Qf8 (41. Ng5+ Kg7 42. Nf3 [42. Qb7 e1=Q 43. Qxe7+ Kh6 44. Nf7+ Kh7 45. Nxe5+ Kh6 46. Nf7+ Kg7 is just a draw.] 42. ... e1=Q [42. ... e1=N+!?] 43. Nxe1 Rxe1 44. Qd7 Bd6 45. Qxa7 Re4 and it will end as a draw.) 41. ... Bf6 42. Qf7+ Kh6 43. Nf8 e1=N+ Somehow Black makes every move with check, and so he can survive. 44. Kd2 Nf3+ 45. Ke2 Nh4 and Black guards g6 while protecting the rook from Qh7+; 29. ... Rg1+ could transpose to the 29. ... e4 line shown above after 30. Kc2 Na3+ 31. Kb2 Nb5 32. Rxb7 e4+.

30. Rxb7

The following sequence of moves seems forced.

30. ... Rg1+ 31. Kc2 Na3+ 32. Kb2 Nb1 33. Nd8+ Ke8 34. Nc6 e4+ 35. Kc2 Na3+ 36. Kd2 Nb1+ 37. Ke3



37. ... Re1+?

This check only helps White's position. The right move was 37. ... Nc3!, when Black's pieces are all coordinating well. The knight does several things well here. First of all, it discourages any immediate captures on e7 due to ... Nd5+ forks. Also, after the black rook gives a few checks, the knight will either help support the advance of the pawn to e2 or go back to d5, where it supports e7 and prepares an e4-e3 advance. 38. Rxa7 (38. Rh7? Rg3+ 39. Kf2 Rf3+ 40. Kg1 Nd5 shows the great activity of the black pieces. Black may already start playing to win here.) 38. ... Rd1 39. Kf2 Rd3!? White should probably just force a draw here. 40. Rh7 (40. Kf1 Rd1+ 41. Kg2 Nd5 could be dangerous for White.) 40. ... e3+ 41. Kg2 e2 42. Rhxe7+ Bxe7 43. Rxe7+ Kf8 44. Kf2 Rh3 (44. ... Rd1 45. Rxe2 Nxe2 46. Kxe2 is also

a simple draw.) 45. Ke1 Nxa2 46. Rxe2 Nc1 47. Rf2+ Ke8 and all the pawns come off the board.

38. Kf2 Rc1 39. Rh7 Rc2+ 40. Kg3?

Hikaru played this practically instantly, but this could have thrown the win away. Instead, 40. Ke3 was the right move. After 40. ... Nc3 41. Ne5! Black is completely lost. 41. ... Nd1+ 42. Kf4 Rf2+ 43. Kg4 Ne3+ 44. Kh3 and White wins.

40. ... Rc3+?

Unfortunately I was playing on the increment here, and at the last second I made this stupid move. 40. ... Nc3! The key point is that 41. Nxe7 isn't a threat due to 41. ... Be5+, and so I can just bring my knight back into play. 41. Rhxe7+ Probably best; (41. Rxa7 Nd5 Here Black is not in any danger, and so White should try to find a draw; 41. Nxe7?? Be5+ 42. Kg4 Rg2+ 43. Kh4 Rh2+ 44. Kg5 Rxh7) 41. ... Bxe7 42. Rxe7+ Kf8 43. Rxa7 Ne2+ (43. ... Nxa2 should also draw, but 43. ... Ne2+ is simpler.) 44. Kg4 Rc3! Black has enough counterplay to draw, for instance: 45. Ne5 Rg3+ 46. Kh4 g5+ 47. Kh5 Nf4+ 48. Kh6 e3 49. Ra4 e2 50. Re4 Rg1 51. Nf3 Rf1 52. Kxg5 Rxf3 53. c6 Nd5 54. Rxe2 and the game should be drawn.

41. Kg4

Now I realized that I was completely lost. I couldn't find any reasonable moves, but I didn't want to resign and so played ...

41. ... e3 42. Nxe7 e2

Here I was expecting a normal continuation like Rb8+, when White will stop the pawn on e2 and win easily. When I saw Hikaru hovering his hand above the knight I got excited, and then he played it!

43. Nd5!!

Two exclams just for the idea. 43. Rb8+ Kd7 44. Nxe6+ Kc6 45. Re8 and White wins was the mundane way to go.

43. ... Rg3+ 44. Kf4 Bg5+

I had seen that 44. ... Be5+ would lose to 45. Kxe5 followed by 45. ... Re3+ 46. Kd6, but I didn't believe that it could work with the bishop on the board.

45. Ke5 e1=Q+ 46. Kd6

A great position. Black has an extra queen, but is completely lost against the threats of Rh8+ and Rb8+. It's funny because the position looks like a study, but isn't. Unfortunately I had to be on the wrong side. (Nakamura said part of his training with Kasparov involved studies, so this position should have made him right at home.—M.K.)

46. ... Bf4+

... or 46. ... Rf3 47. Rb8+ Bd8 48. Nc7+ and Black gets mated. 46. ... Be7+ would be best if Black had a few more pieces, but here after 47. Rhxe7+ Qxe7+ 48. Rxe7+ Black is in a completely lost ending.

47. Nxf4 Rd3+

... or 47. ... Qd2+ 48. Nd5 and the knight comes back and guards everything.

48. Nxd3 Qg3+ 49. Ne5, Black resigned.

Round four produced a drawn opposite-colored bishop against Onischuk, who was never able to seriously contend for the title, despite some good fortune in his opening game. Facing GM Alex Stripunsky as black, Onischuk registered an 11-move win after his opponent abruptly hung a piece. With a black queen on g5 and White's queen's bishop at home, Stripunsky played the discovered attack 11. d3. "I had mixed feelings," Onischuk said. "At first I thought I was losing because I could not take on c1 for some reason." White resigned instead of waiting for the free bishop to be captured. The game became tied for the third-shortest decisive game in U.S. championship history (IM Kamran Shirazi's five-move debacle to IM Jack Peters in 1984 remains the ignominious standard-bearer). Onischuk said he felt sympathy for his friend—the two are close enough that they went to dinner the previous night even after the pairings were announced. Onischuk went on a walk with Stripunsky after the game to try to ameliorate his friend's despair. Stripunsky partially recovered but faltered late to finish tied for last.

The next round Nakamura scored a pivotal win against the co-leader GM Gregory Kaidanov. Besides the win against Kamsky, Kaidanov had one other win and two draws to share first after four rounds with 3/4. Playing in his 18th consecutive championship and still seeking his first title, Kaidanov got a passive position and shuffled his knight back and forth for much of the middlegame. Nakamura broke through with another king march. This time his king made it all the way to the eighth rank. Kaidanov's pieces were paralyzed and he resigned.

Several times during the game, Nakamura could be seen wincing and putting his hand on his chest. After complaining to the arbiters of chest pains, Nakamura was advised to seek immediate treatment, but he insisted on finishing the game without offering a draw. As soon as it ended, he asked Littlejohn to take him to the hospital. After a long night waiting in the emergency room, Nakamura said he was fit to continue without any seri-

ous problems. "I felt bad all game," Nakamura said. "But ultimately I thought, 'Chess is my living. If I'm going to die, I might as well do it playing chess.'" This is the second year in a row that the champion had health issues. In a different tournament situation, last year Kamsky chose to make a quick draw and left the playing hall for medical reasons, but he was also able to continue without issue. "That's the nature of any competitive thing," Nakamura said. "Even when you're not feeling your best, you have to go out there and compete."

On little rest, Nakamura allowed Kamsky to catch up after drawing round six against GM Varuzhan Akobian and round seven against GM Yury Shulman. Nakamura has still never defeated Shulman at the U.S. championship (his lone win was in Las Vegas), but it is not for a lack of trying. He played 101 moves, all the way to king versus king.

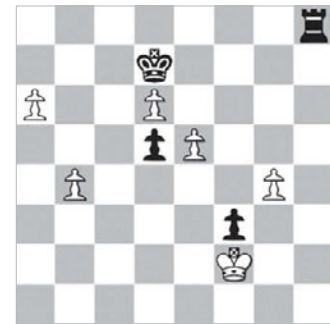
The champion then won by a tempo against Stripunsky. The obscure ending of five passed pawns versus a rook captivated the competitors—more than half the grandmasters joined in watching the post-mortem between the players. "White's winning, no Black's winning, no White's winning," Seirawan said.

Who's winning?

GM Alexander Stripunsky (2562)

GM Hikaru Nakamura (2775)

2012 U.S. Championship (8)



63. b5 Rb8!

63. ... Ra8? stops the pawns but fails to improve Black's chances of liquidating them. The text counterintuitively allows the pawns to each advance one rank farther, but this allows the black king to help.

64. g5

No better is 64. a7 Ra8 65. b6 Kc6 66. e6 Kxb6 67. d7 Kc7 68. Kxf3 Kd6.

64. ... Rxb5 65. g6

An immediate kind advance does not help.

65. ... Rb8 66. a7 Ra8 67. g7 Ke6 68. Kxf3 Kxe5 69. d7

... with the strange spectacle of three passed pawns helpless against a well-placed rook that keeps them from graduating.

69. ... Kd6 70. Kf4 Kxd7 71. Ke5 Kc6, White resigned.

Near misses like this kept Stripunsky from recovering from his opening round blunder, and from bettering his lifetime score against Nakamura. He has now lost three consecutive games as white to Nakamura in U.S. championship play.

Kamsky's ascent to the lead culminated in round nine, when Nakamura had his second 100-mover against Lenderman. In that game, from moves 52-91 pieces roamed the board somewhat aimlessly without pawns advancing or any captures occurring. The eventual draw, coupled with Kamsky's blistering onslaught against Seirawan, meant the two would battle in round ten with Nakamura trailing for the

first time all event.

Kamsky won the best game prize of \$1,500, even though he needed almost no time for the salient moves. In fact, coupled with the 30-second increment from move one, Kamsky had more time than he began with after 20 moves. His first meaningful pause was on move 26, when the game was already won and the clock read 1:28-0:01. "That's not even long," Kamsky said. "I have had preparation go up to 40 moves." Both players claimed analyzing the exact variation before, but Kamsky's recall was better (he prepared against the variation for his 2009 match against GM Veselin Topalov). "I remember I spent like a week on this line," Kamsky said. Eight hours a day with trainers. Chess is like this. You can analyze for years ... the chance that you will go for this one ..."

"I have the strongest impression that I'd looked at this sometime myself," Seirawan said. "I don't mind losing. Losing is a part of chess. But I'd like to learn something."

Losin' and learnin'

GM Gata Kamsky (2741)
GM Yasser Seirawan (2643)
2012 U.S. Championship (9)



21. Ne5 Bxc5?

21. ... Rad8 22. b4 and then Black attempts to open the queenside is the main line according to Kamsky.

22. Bxb6

Like all the other moves, played nearly

2012 U.S. Women's Championship

	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Score
IM Anna Zatonskih	2510	x	½	1	½	½	1	1	½	1	1	7
IM IRINA KRUSH, CHAMPION	2457	½	x	½	1	1	1	½	½	1	1	7
IM Rusudan Goletiani	2333	0	½	x	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	5½
WIM Viktorija Ni	2228	½	0	1	x	½	½	0	1	½	1	5
WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor	2364	½	0	1	½	x	0	0	1	½	1	4½
WGM Tatev Abrahamyan	2329	0	0	0	½	1	x	0	1	1	1	4½
WIM Iryna Zenyuk	2224	0	½	0	1	1	1	x	½	0	½	4½
FM Alisa Melekhina	2242	½	½	0	0	0	0	½	x	1	1	3½
WGM Camilla Baginskaite	2358	0	0	0	½	½	0	1	0	x	0	2
WFM Alena Kats	2137	0	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	1	x	1½

2012 U.S. Championship

	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Score
GM HIKARU NAKAMURA, CHAMPION	2775	x	1	½	½	½	½	1	1	1	½	1	1	8½
GM Gata Kamsky	2741	0	x	1	1	1	½	½	½	0	1	1	1	7½
GM Alexander Onischuk	2660	½	0	x	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	1	6½
GM Varuzhan Akobian	2625	½	0	½	x	½	½	0	1	1	1	1	0	6
GM Aleksandr Lenderman	2587	½	0	½	½	x	½	1	½	½	1	½	½	6
GM Yury Shulman	2571	½	½	½	½	½	x	½	½	½	½	1	½	6
GM Ray Robson	2614	0	½	½	1	0	½	x	1	½	1	0	½	5½
GM Robert L. Hess	2635	0	½	0	0	½	½	0	x	1	½	1	1	5
GM Gregory S. Kaidanov	2594	0	1	0	0	½	½	½	0	x	0	½	1	4
GM Alejandro Ramirez	2593	½	0	½	0	0	½	0	½	1	x	0	1	4
GM Yasser Seirawan	2643	0	0	½	0	½	0	1	0	½	1	x	0	3½
GM Alexander Stripunsky	2562	0	0	0	1	½	½	½	0	0	0	1	x	3½

“Basically, people want to see blood.”

~NAKAMURA

instantly. Seirawan went into a deep think. “If Gata hadn’t played so fast, maybe I would’ve woken up,” Seirawan said. As he informed after the game, he analyzed 21. ... Bxc5 before and knew it was a mistake, but forgot why. “I got the feeling I could not take the pawn,” he said, but the feeling came too late.

22. ... gxf6 23. Rd7!

Attempting to deflect the knight away from its post.

23. ... Qxd7

23. ... Nxd7 leads to immediate capitulation after 24. Qd2 Kh7 (24. ... Nf6 25. Qxh6+ Nh7 26. Qg7 mate) 25. Ng4! Qe5 26. Qxh6+ Kg8 27. Nf6 mate.

24. Nxd7 Nxd7 25. Qd2

... and White wins the knight. Black’s position is too eviscerated to hope for a fortress, and Kamsky makes quick work.

25. ... Kh7 26. b4 Rad8 27. bxc5 Nf6 28. Qf4 Ne8 29. Qe4+ Kh8 30. Qxb7 Ng7 31. Qxa7 Rc8 32. Rd1 Nf5 33. Rd7 Kg7 34. a4 Kf6 35. a5, Black resigned.

Kamsky’s game was the first to finish. At a little more than two hours, he had a workday five hours shorter than Nakamura, his next opponent. The theoretical preparation advantage grew larger after Nakamura’s marathon draw with Lenderman ended. The champion said he wanted to get his mind off the emotional swings of the game and so he went out for a few drinks and did little preparation for the Kamsky game.

“I’m not used to having my head handed to me,” Seirawan said. The win put Kamsky on 7/9, one-half point ahead of Nakamura going into their tenth round meeting. After Nakamura won the matchup, he iced the victory by playing 2. f4 against Seirawan in round 11. Seirawan said he had never faced it before and again labored to counter the opening. With his clock running on fumes, he did not make it out of the middlegame as Nakamura’s long diagonal attack was too much to bear.

The defeats for Seirawan were a triple whammy. Besides finishing tied for last, he lost 22 ELO points, 23 USCF points,

and the guarantee of a spot on the 2012 U.S. Olympiad team in Istanbul. According to USCF Executive Director Bill Hall, after all ratings and under-21 bonus points were calculated, the five players receiving invitations will be Nakamura, Kamsky, Onischuk, Akobian and Hess.

In the U.S. Women’s Championship, Krush also got off to a fast start. Unlike last year, when finishing in the top four amongst eight players allowed a woman to advance to the semifinals, this year a ten-player round-robin meant that round one counted as much as round nine. She followed Nakamura’s lead—alternating white wins and black draws through the first five rounds.

She then drew fellow IM Rusudan Goleitiani in round six to set up the encounter with Zatonskih in round seven. Goleitiani recovered from a disastrous 2011 championship to finish in a satisfactory clear third.

Playing black, Krush drew Zatonskih easily in round seven, keeping them equal, where they finished after both won their final two games. Krush had more favorable pairings in the last two rounds, but in round eight she needed help from tournament newcomer WFM Alena Kats, who allowed a late fork. “It looked like I had an advantageous tournament position, but I played horribly,” Krush said. She then needed to win in round nine as black; fortunately Kacheishvili flew to St. Louis the day before.

High-schooler Kats finished last but represents some new blood in the event. Her only win, against WGM Camilla Baginskaite, netted Kats the best game prize of \$1,000 for the Women’s Championship. Another notable performance came from graduate student WIM Iryna Zenyuk, who after many years of competing achieved her first even score at the event. WIM Viktorija Ni, who gave birth during last year’s event to her and Shulman’s first child, finished fourth in her first championship. Shulman went undefeated in 2012 with one win and ten draws, but will be left off the Olympiad team. He joked that shortly after becoming parents he lost 50 FIDE rating points while his wife gained 50 (Ni played in the 2011 Chicago Open less than one month after becoming a mother; she is currently

at her peak rating).

According to Hall, the squad for the U.S. Women’s Olympiad team will be Krush, Zatonskih, Goleitiani, and WGMs Sabina Foisor and Tatev Abrahamyan. Baginskaite, like Seirawan, fell out due to her underperformance at the championship, which is the final tournament for qualification purposes.

As has become the yearly routine, Hall announced at the closing ceremony that the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis will host the U.S. Championship and U.S. Women’s Championship again in 2013. It will be the fifth year in a row for both events. Players have yet to voice any grievances with the location or the conditions. Chief Arbiter Chris Bird capably ran a smooth event without issue. Assistant Arbiter and Club Director Tony Rich assures happy competitors by making the same sort of phatic offer at the players’ meeting every year. “If it is something complicated, like you want a giraffe or a pony, I’ll work on that,” Rich said.

Krush wanted to win the Championship for those close to her. “I wanted to win today for these people, for the people who love me. I wanted to make them happy.”

She pondered a sense of fortuitous fatalism. Kacheishvili decided to come to St. Louis only after round eight, when Krush had one round to go to keep pace with Zatonskih. “Whenever you need to win as black it’s a huge challenge. I had to play something I don’t normally play. Would I have the knowledge to play this? Would I have the confidence?” She said she got both from her coach. “Everything aligned for it to work. I got a non-stop flight for him cheaper than my flight I booked months ago. That was a piece of luck.” Krush pointed out the day Kacheishvili arrived, May 18, was St. Irene day according to the Julian calendar.

“When he came here I became much calmer. He took on such a load in terms of preparation. Giorgi is so dedicated and puts so much of his heart into his students. I don’t feel like I could have won without his help.” While coaching scholastic students the previous weekend at the elementary nationals, Kacheishvili passed up on a steak dinner one night to go back to his hotel room to help prepare Krush by phone. “His friend was just flabbergasted.

“I promised him three steak dinners, but in fact I would take him to an infinite number. He can eat steak forever, as long as I have the money.” Krush will take her purse back to Brooklyn \$18,000 heavier, good enough for one porterhouse every day of the year at Peter Luger Steak House. ♣

Read more of our U.S. Championship reporting on Chess Life Online at uschess.org. Download .png files for this issue at the Chess Life magazine link.

French GM Gabriel Sargissian took clear first at the 2012 Chicago Open. For a tournament report, see the May archives of *Chess Life Online* at uschess.org.



MIDLANDS

Middle

A focus on top-level middlegame play at the Chicago Open

By JAMAAL ABDUL-ALIM

For much of the first half of his round five game against GM Yury Shulman at the 2012 Chicago Open, IM Daniel Ludwig says the situation didn't involve much in the way of complications.

But as the middle game got underway, Ludwig says he saw a need to dismiss his preference for pretty positions, abandon his conservative style of play and embark upon a series of "counterintuitive" moves in order to score a victory.

"Thanks to an extra pawn, for twenty-eight moves my game was very simple: Put pieces on certain squares and encourage certain exchanges," Ludwig told *Chess Life* in reference to his game against GM Shulman.

"However," Ludwig continued. "I reached a stage where I knew that if I did not seize an opportunity and take some chances, I would probably be left with nothing."

That risk-taking mentality is ultimately what enabled Ludwig to score 6½ out of 9 points for a joint second-eighth place with six grandmasters at the Chicago Open.

It also enabled Ludwig to earn a grandmaster norm and collect a \$2,000 prize for being the top Under 2500 player in the Open section.

The fact that some of Ludwig's most counterintuitive yet critical moves took place during the middle game is not by mere happenstance.

Without being informed that the focus of this article would be about the importance of middlegame play, Ludwig and several grandmasters who also scored 6½ points in the 2012 Chicago Open told *Chess Life* that the middle game is when players are

often presented with the most crucial opportunities to seize the initiative, take risks and outmaneuver their opponents.

"I like to get out of theory as quickly as possible and get to unknown territory," GM Robert Hess said. "Positions that require calculation and maneuvering are much more fun than replaying a long series of moves.

"That being said, the middlegame is by far my favorite aspect of chess," Hess continued. "I aim to outplay my opponents, not out-prepare them."

GM Tamaz Gelashvili said the middlegame is the part of the game in which players spend most of their time thinking.

"In the middle game we have to think of our plan for the future battle ... where to put each piece, which piece to exchange and which to keep in order to reach an endgame which will favor us," Gelashvili said.

"If we got a temporary advantage from the opening, we have to play very actively in order to transpose it to some kind of permanent advantage," Gelashvili said, drawing a distinction between temporary advantages, such as advantages in development, versus permanent advantages, such as extra material.

"But if we give time to our opponent to regroup his pieces, we will lose our advantage," Gelashvili said. "That's why the middlegame is so difficult to play. A wrong plan or just a waste of time—making useless moves—can cost us a game."

GM Alejandro Ramirez played a game in which both players' queens were off the board by move seven, creating what he

described as an "unusual position" as they transitioned into the middlegame.

"Queen-less middle games are some of the rarest but most interesting types of games in my opinion," Ramirez said, expounding upon the novelty of the beginning of his round nine game against GM Victor Mikhalevski.

IM Ludwig says middlegames are when players must recognize when it is necessary to modify their plans if they want it to result in more than just a draw.

"Often, after the conclusion of the opening, the position seems to indicate a particular plan and playing style," Ludwig said. "However, slight changes in the position can demand completely different plans.

"Sometimes one plan is all it takes to win, but usually winning requires dynamic play that fluidly adapts to small changes."

Such an approach is what Ludwig expounds upon in annotating his round five game. The rest of the annotated games also focus primarily on some of the more dynamic and important decisions that IM Ludwig and several grandmasters made during their middlegames at the Chicago Open, from how Hess "enticed" his opponent to capture his rook as Hess worked to achieve a more stifling position that made him "extremely happy," to the role that Ramirez decided that his king should play to "patch things up" in his queen-less middlegame.

Hess offers criticisms of what various chess engines suggested about winning odds at various stages in his game, and Ludwig uses "!" to describe a castling move that his research indicates has only been played five times.

game Play

Nimzo-Indian Defense, Classical Variation (E32)

IM Daniel Ludwig (2529)

GM Yury Shulman (2656)

21st Chicago Open (5), 05.26.2012

Notes by Robert Hess and Ludwig

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Qc2 O-O 5. a3 Bxc3 6. Qxc3 b6 7. Bg5 c5

This is the Rozentalis Variation, not so popular but not to be underestimated. White has to be precise with piece placement and timing.

8. dxc5 bxc5 9. e3 d6 10. 0-0-0!

This move has only been played five times before, but two of those games were by Kasparov. I wanted to avoid the standard positions after 10. Bd3 and kingside castling. Black is scoring well in these positions, so I wanted to avoid well-known territory and test my opponent with a more obscure move.

10. ... Nbd7?!



This move is playable, but Black has no reason to give up a pawn. 10. ... Ne4 11. Qd3! Nxf2 (The continuation 11. ... Nxc5 12. h4 f5 13. hxg5 Qxg5 14. Qxd6 gives White the initiative) 12. Bxd8 Nxd3+ 13. Bxd3 Rxd8 14. Be4 d5 15. cxd5 Bb7 16. Ne2 exd5 17. Nc3 Nc6 18. Bxd5 Na5 19. Bxb7 Nxb7 led to a draw in Garry Kasparov-Jan Timman, 1998.

11. Rxd6! Qc7 12. Rd1 Ne4 13. Qc2

This position demonstrates the virtue of playing 10. 0-0-0 instead of 10. Rd1. After 10. Rd1 Nbd7 11. Rxd6 Qc7 12. Rd1 Ne4 13. Qc2 Qa5+! gives Black the advantage.

13. ... Nxc5 14. h4

This nice motif regaining the piece, seizes kingside space and also creates future possibilities against Black's king.

14. ... Ne4

Though it takes another tempo, Black is wise to keep the h-file closed.

15. Qxe4 Bb7 16. Qc2

This is a critical position. Both sides have flexible positions with lots of decent plans. White lags in development so Black

can consider a queenside attack. Doubling on the b-file seems the most threatening to White, but White should have no problems defending.

16. ... Ne5

I like this move. It restricts the logical moves Nf3 and Bd3, while prepares to control the d-file.

17. Ne2



This position is really safe for White, so I had the luxury of putting my pieces exactly where I want them. White's dream setup is Qc3, Rd2, Nf4, Be2-d1-c2.

17. ... Rad8 18. Rxd8 Rxd8 19. Nf4

Though I temporarily conceded the open file, there are too few pieces on the board to cause me any problems.

19. ... Bc6 20. Be2 Rb8

Black cannot exchange the last pair of rooks, otherwise White can start the b2-b4 advance, utilizing the extra pawn without king safety issues.

21. Rd1 Qa5 22. Qd2 Qb6 23. Qc3 Qc7

Thanks to Black's inability to trade heavy pieces, White begins to control the entire board.

24. Rd2 Ba4 25. Bd1 Bxd1 26. Rxd1 h6

This is another key moment. I developed exactly as I wanted and secured some favorable trades. Thus far I have been reacting to Black's play, now I have to come up with my own plan while Black waits.

27. Nh5?

Thanks to the threat of f4, this move does provoke a weakness, but I wish I had instead played 27. g4. This move is more direct and doesn't take as long.

27. ... f6 28. Nf4 Qc6

(see diagram top of next column)

Despite weakening the light squares on the kingside, ... f7-f6 allows Black to improve the position of the queen. Here I was really upset with myself for not playing 27. g4. It was difficult to block out this mistake and focus on the current



position. Now Black has ideas like ... Qa4 and ... Qa6. I immediately started to think about 29. Qc2, but I knew my advantage would quickly deteriorate.

29. Qa5!

One of my biggest weaknesses has been lack of killer instinct. In general, I possess a classical and conservative style, and I enjoying constructing aesthetically pleasing positions. Unfortunately, often my position will look pretty, but I won't do anything with it. I knew that if I played it safe, this would be just yet another game where I got a pretty position, but only a draw to show for it. If I do not find a way to trade either queens or rooks off the board, my extra pawn will be worthless. I played Qa5 after nearly 30 minutes of calculations. I feel as though I could have easily spent thirty more minutes calculating, but at some point I just have to trust my intuition.

29. ... Nxc4

This is the critical test, but Black has many moves here; one key variation is 29. ... Qe4 30. Rd8+ Rxd8 31. Qxd8+ Kh7 32. b3! and everything is holding together perfectly for White.

30. Qxa7 Qb5

Ideas like 30. ... Rb7 always fail to 31. Qa8+ Kh7 32. Rd8.

31. b4!



When I first saw this move, I thought "no way," but amazingly it is the black king that is in danger, not White's! This counter intuitive move closes the lines just long enough for White to get to the black king first. 31. Rd7? looks good at first, but fails due to 31.

... Qxb2+ 32. Kd1 Qb1+ 33. Ke2 Qc2+ 34. Kf3 Ne5+ 35. Kg3 Nxd7 36. Qxd7 e5.

31. ... Ne5

If 31. ... cxb4 then 32. Rd7 is decisive. 31. ... Rb7 32. Rd8+ Kh7 33. Qa8 wins like before. 31. ... Nxa3 32. Qxa3 Qc4+ 33. Kd2 Rd8+ 34. Ke1 Rxd1+ 35. Kxd1 Qf1+ 36. Kd2 Qxf2+ 37. Ne2 cxb4 38. Qa8+ Kf7 39. g3 leaves White with enough pawns on the kingside to win easily. Finally, 31. ... Nxe3 32. fxe3 Qc4+ (or 32. ... cxb4 33. Rd7! winning) 33. Kb2 is decisive.

32. Nxe6!

The loose rook on b8 lets White get away with more tricks.

32. ... Rb7

If 32. ... Qc4+ 33. Kd2! (32. Ne6 is also playing defense preventing ... Rd8+) 33. ... Qxe6 34. Qxb8+ White collects material and the king walks to safety on e1.

33. Qxc5

Now that I have achieved a winning position in the complications due to the extra pawns, it is time to convert back into a simple position without concerns for my safety.

33. ... Qa6 34. Qc8+ Kh7 35. Nf8+ Kg8 36. Nd7+ Kh7 37. Qc2+ g6 38. Nxe5 Qxa3+ 39. Qb2 Rc7+ 40. Kb1 Qa4 41. Rc1 Rxc1+ 42. Kxc1 fxe5 43. h5!

This move exposes the black king which makes my task much easier.

43. ... e4 44. hxg6+ Kxg6 45. Kd2 Qd7+ 46. Qd4 Qc6 47. b5 Qxb5 48. Qxe4+

... and White went on to win 23 moves later.

Ruy Lopez, Berlin Defense (C65)

GM Joshua Friedel (2566)

GM Robert Hess (2703)

21st Chicago Open (3), 05.25.2012

Notes by Hess

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 Nf6 4. d3

Josh chooses to avoid the main line Berlin Defense (4. 0-0 Nxe4 5. d4 Nd6 6. Bxc6 dxc6 7. dxe5 Nf5 8. Qxd8+ Kxd8 and instead opts for a closed position, where maneuvering is key).

4. ... d6 5. 0-0 Bd7 6. c3 Be7 7. Re1 0-0 8. Ba4 Re8 9. Nbd2 Bf8 10. Nf1 h6 11. Ng3 Ne7 12. Bb3 Ng6 13. h3 c5 14. d4

Neither side has any problems. The position is equal.

14. ... Qc7 15. d5

(see diagram top of next column)

This move closes the center of the board



for good. White will now try to create play on the kingside, Black on the queenside.

15. ... b5 16. Bc2 Reb8 17. a4 c4

Following White's decision to fight on the queenside, Black frees the c5-square for the f6-knight.

18. Nh2 b4 19. Qf3 Nh4 20. Qe2 b3?!

Josh and I agreed that this move was probably not best. Black should have kept the tension on the queenside instead of aiming for the a-pawn (20. ... bxc3 21. bxc3 Ng6 22. Qf3 Rb7).

21. Bd1 Rb6 22. Be3 Ng6!



A great practical decision. White certainly is enticed to take the rook on b6. In retrospect, I was upset that I had placed my knight on h4 to begin with. Bxb6 was never actually hanging (with the loose knight on f6, ... gxh6 would net White a pawn) because of the intermediate move ... Nh4. In that continuation at move 19 (19. ... b3 20. Bd1 Rb6 21. Be3), then 21. ... Ra6 would have been an option for Black! (Not 22. ... Ra6?? 23. Bxb3 as the c4-pawn is pinned. If forced to play 22. ... Rb7 then the whole idea behind 20. ... b3 is wrong.)

23. Bxb6

This move seems natural to "win" the Exchange. Here, however, it was better to delay the capture. It is not that the bishop on e3 was amazing, but rather the closed position currently favored White. Opening the a-file gives Black a ton of initiative. If Black can successfully improve his minor pieces, then the game turns in his favor. 23. Qf1! Rb7 (23. ... Nf4 24. Bxb6 axb6 25.

Be2 Qc8 [25. ... Nxe2+ 26. Qxe2 Bxa4 27. Ng4 Nd7 28. Nh5 is great for White] 26. h4 [26. Bxc4 Nxb3 27. Qxb3 Bxb3 28. Qf3 Qxc4 looks nice for Black, despite the engine suggesting a slight edge for White.] 26. ... Nxe2+ 27. Qxe2 Bxa4 28. Nh1 b5 is very unclear. The computer slightly favors White, but then again it loves material.) 24. Be2 Rc8 25. Nf3 Nf4 26. Nd2 Nxe2+ 27. Qxe2 with pressure for White, due to Black's overextended c4-pawn.

23. ... axb6 24. Qe3 b5 25. a5

25. Nh5 Nxb5 26. Bxb5 bxa4 27. Bxg6 fxg6 28. Ra3 Be7 leaves White with a slight edge according to the engines, but this evaluation is unrealistic. White has no active plan, and Black has two great bishops.

25. ... Rxa5 26. Rxa5 Qxa5 27. Be2 Nf4 28. Bf1 Bc8

During the game I was extremely happy about this position. White is reduced to the role of a spectator, waiting for Black to maneuver his pieces as he sees fit. The plan is simple: bring the f6-knight to c5 (and from there either a4 or d3), the f8-bishop to the g1-a7 diagonal, and then play on either side of the board. White can do nothing but shuffle pieces!

29. Rb1



29. Qc1 Ba6 30. Qa1 Qb6 31. Qa3 Nd7 32. Ra1 Nc5 33. Qa5 Qxa5 34. Rxa5 Somehow this position is given = (0.00) by my engine. This evaluation is ridiculous. By no means does this position provide equal chances for both sides. Black has all the active play and can advance on both sides of the board. To improve your game, try playing a position like this with both colors. It is not easy and full of strategy, but will surely strengthen your planning/understanding of material imbalances.

29. ... Nd7 30. Qc1 Nc5 31. Ra1 Qb6 32. Qe3 Be7 33. Nf3 Bd8 34. Kh2 Kh7

Played to avoid any issues on the back rank.

35. Be2 Bd7 36. Bf1 Na4 37. Qd2 Qc5 38. Rd1 Ba5 39. Rc1 Bb6

Played in time trouble. Likely better was 39. ... Qb6 40. Kg1 b4 41. cxb4 Bxb4 42.

Qe3 Bc5 43. Qd2 c3 44. bxc3 b2 45. Rb1 Ba3 46. Ne2 Nxe2+ 47. Bxe2 Qa5 48. c4 Qc3 however, with the seconds winding down, I made a much safer choice as I did not have ample time to calculate this variation (or others) until the end; or 39. ... b4 40. cxb4 Bxb4 41. Rxc4 Bxd2 42. Rxc5 dxc5 43. Nxd2 Nxb2 44. Nxb3 c4 45. Nc1 Kg6 Black has decent winning chances, but White probably can hold.

40. Nh1 Qc8

40. ... f5 41. exf5 Bxf5 was easily winning. Unfortunately, it was move 40 and I just wanted to make time control before proceeding.

41. Ng3 Qc5

Hoping Josh would repeat the position so I could play ... f5.

42. Kg1 Ba5 43. Kh2 Qb6 44. Rb1



44. ... Qa7

Not a bad move by any means, but missing a fantastic continuation. 44. ... Bxc3!! 45. bxc3 b4 46. cxb4 (46. Bxc4 bxc3 47. Qe1 b2) 46. ... c3 47. Qc1 Qxb4 48. Ne1 b2 49. Qd1 Nc5 50. Nd3 Nfxd3 51. Bxd3 Nxd3 52. Qxd3 Qd4 was easily winning. I can't blame this on anything but being careful and lack of calculation. I did not even bother looking for forced variations, instead relying on my instincts. The position is great for Black, but sometimes missing these opportunities can come back to hurt you. Thankfully not in this game!

45. Ra1 Bb6 46. Kg1 Qc7

Redirecting the queen to the kingside!! White cannot manage all his minor pieces, as a breakthrough is inevitable. The once passive bishop on f8 (look back to move 16) is now a monster on the diagonal.

47. Kh2 Nc5 48. Ne1 Qd8 49. Qd1 Na4 50. Qd2 Qf6 51. Rxa4

Desperation. But losing immediately.

51. ... bxa4 52. Bxc4 h5 53. Nf1 Qg6 54. g3 Nxb3, White resigned.

Josh resigned here, as he is down a pawn and more material will soon be lost

(not to mention that the queenside pawns are dangerous). I felt that I played a nice game with few mistakes, offering my opponent few chances to gain an edge. Exchange sacrifices are my favorite, and I was glad to employ one in this game.

English Opening (A11)

GM Victor Mikhalevski (2623)

GM Alejandro Ramirez (2657)

21st Chicago Open (9), 05.28.2012

Notes by Ramirez

1. c4 c6 2. Nf3 d5 3. g3 Bg4

Black doesn't want to commit his knight to f6 just yet, which is the most common alternative.

4. Ne5

This move is not supposed to be good. Although the knight jumps to e5 with a tempo, the knight itself is vulnerable, as will soon become apparent.

4. ... Bf5 5. cxd5

Other tries are 5. Bg2 e6 6. cxd5 exd5 7. d4 Nd7 and 5. Qb3 Nd7 6. Nxd7 Qxd7 7. cxd5 Be4 (Not 7. ... cxd5 8. e4 Qc8 9. Nc3 and White definitely is better.)

5. ... Qxd5

I remember that when I was playing this game, we had already used a fair amount of time to get to this position. Some games had finished before we reached this point! There are dangers for both players.

6. Qb3

6. Nf3 already loses. A 2400 fell for this a few months ago, weirdly enough: 6. ... Bxb1 7. Rxb1 Qxa2 8. Qc2 White would have interesting compensation if not for the next move, 8. ... Na6. And after ... Nb4 and ... Nf6, White won't be able to defend his trapped rook on b1. 6. d4 is messy, but I won't get into it.

6. ... Qxb3 7. axb3



Only seven moves have passed, but the position is quite interesting. Black has a lot of possibilities in this unusual position. Queen-less middlegames are some of the

rarest but most interesting types of games in my opinion. White threatens to put strong pressure on the queenside with his powerful bishop on g2, and then by pushing the b-pawn, also getting rid of his weakness on the b-file. Black has, for the moment, the superior pawn structure. There are many alternatives here.

7. ... Na6

Creating dangers right away. I did not expect my opponent's reply.

8. Bg2

8. d3 Nb4 (8. ... f6 9. Nc4 [9. Bg2 is apparently very strong, which I missed during the game.] 9. ... Nb4 10. Nba3 e5 11. Bg2 Be6 was more along the lines of what I was expecting. The game is unclear.) 9. Ra4 e6 10. Bd2.

8. ... Nc5

This move is easy to overlook, as it seemed like the knight should have gone to b4, where it blockades and it seems most natural. However, tactics prevail in this position, and the pawn on b3 is surprisingly defenseless.

9. 0-0 Nxb3 10. Ra3 Nd4

10. ... Nxc1 11. Rxc1 gives White too much compensation. Black already has to tread lightly to avoid losing. 10. ... Bxb1 11. Rxb3 is already lost for Black, as he cannot keep his queenside alive.

11. Nc3



11. ... f6

A key move. Without this White would have sufficient play. 11. ... e6 12. Ra4 and the knight lacks good retreats.

12. Nc4

12. Nf3 e5 13. Ra4 Nxf3+ 14. Bxf3 a6 leaves White struggling for being down a pawn. He has some initiative with his development advantage, but Black is only a few moves away from developing all his pieces.

12. ... e5 13. Ra2 a6

13. ... Be6 14. d3 Bb4 was more exact.

14. d3 0-0-0

In queen-less middlegames, the king itself can sometimes help in defense of weak squares. Since in this position there are a lot of weaknesses on the dark squares in the queenside, it seemed wise to send the king over there to patch things up. Normal development does not help White, he must act now.

15. f4 Bc5 16. Kh1

Black has no problems after 16. Be3 Be6.

16. ... Be6 17. fxe5



A critical moment in the game. I played the next move knowing that I was betting mostly on practical chances more than practical value. White still retains compensation for the pawn, and I didn't want him the opportunity of getting a comfortable position. Long story short, I played my next move because my opponent had less than a minute left!

17. ... b5

The start of complications which were impossible to calculate with the time we had remaining. 17. ... fxe5 18. Ne4 Be7 19. Ng5 Bxg5 20. Bxg5 Nf6 21. Bxf6 gxf6 22. Rxf6 Bxc4 23. dxc4 Nxe2 was still better for Black with an extra pawn, but White has strong files and a blockade on my passed pawn. The position is not so easy.

18. Ne4

18. e3 was an important intermezzo. I missed this as a resource during the game—or rather I missed how strong it was. 18. ... Nb3 (White has excellent play after 18. ... bxc4 19. exd4 Bxd4 20. Rxa6 cxd3 21. Rxc6+ Kd7 22. Rd1) 19. Rxa6 bxc4 20. Rxc6+ Kd7 At first I thought this

was just better for Black, but I missed that White could follow up with: 21. d4 And though Black has an extra piece, the pawns are marching. The position is still extremely complicated.

18. Rxa6 bxc4 19. e3 Kb7 20. exd4 Kxa6 21. dxc5 Kb7 was another alternative. Again with complex play, it seems like White has a lot of initiative.

18. ... Be7 19. e3 Nc2

19. ... Ne2 I was worried my knight would find itself trapped after: 20. Ned6+ Bxd6 21. Nxd6+ Rxd6 22. exd6 Bxa2 23. Bd2 but simple counting reveals that after 23. ... Bd5 24. Re1 Bxg2+ 25. Kxg2 Nh6 26. Rxe2 Kd7 Black is up a solid pawn. White does have strong chances to draw though.

20. Ncd6+

20. Rxa6 bxc4 21. Rxc6+ Kd7 22. exf6 Nxf6 is not so dangerous. White will have three pawns for the piece, but the piece should weigh more.

20. ... Bxd6 21. Rxa6 Kb7



Also effective is 21. ... Nb4 22. Nxd6+ Rxd6 23. Ra8+ Kb7 24. Ra5 Rd5 25. Bxd5 Nxd5.

22. Ng5

A bad mistake due to time trouble. Now Black has several winning moves, I chose the simplest in time trouble. 22. exd6 Kxa6 23. Nc5+ Kb6 24. Nxe6 Rxd6 25. Nxc7 Ne7 leaves Black up an Exchange. As usual, White has some compensation but I doubt it is enough in this position.

The continuation I expected was 22. Nc5+. 22. ... Bxc5 23. Rxc6 Bd5 (23. ... Bb4 24. Rxe6+ Ka7 looks scary, but Black is still up a piece somehow. White should

be OK at least though.) 24. Rxc5 Bxg2+ 25. Kxg2 Na1 is a sad necessity. White is better if they find the super computer move 26. e4!, otherwise the position is unclear.

22. ... Bd7 23. Nf7

23. Ra2 fxg5 24. exd6 Nf6 is technically better than what was played in the game, but White did not plan for this when playing Ng5.

23. ... Kxa6 24. exd6 Nh6 25. Nxh8 Rxh8 26. Bd2



The dust has almost settled. White's aggressive pieces have been eliminated and Black is up a piece. The last hope is to trap the stranded knight on c2, but I give him no chance.

26. ... Nf5 27. e4 Nfd4

27. ... Nxd6 28. Rc1 Nd4 29. Be3 is strangely scary. Black must be careful.

28. e5 fxe5 29. Rf7 Rd8

A dash of accuracy. White plays on in time trouble inertia, but the game has been decided.

30. Bg5 Be6 31. Rxc7 Rxd6 32. Rxh7 Ne1 33. Be4 Bd5 34. Be7 Rd7 35. Bxd5 Rxd5 36. g4 Nxd3 37. h4 Nf2+ 38. Kg2 Nxg4 39. Kh3 Nf2+ 40. Kg3 Ne4+ 41. Kg4 Rd7 42. Rf7 Nd6 43. Rf6 Rxe7 44. Rxd6 Rg7+ 45. Kh3 Rh7 46. Rf6 e4, White resigned.

A wild, wild queen-less middlegame. The tactics are unusual, as in a position with queens most checks would be lethal. In this game though, the king fended for himself on several occasions, and ended up victorious. ♠

Read more about the Chicago Open on Chess Life Online, [May archives, uschess.org](http://www.uschess.org).

At A Glance

21st Chicago Open

Date: May 24-28, 2012 | **Location:** Westin Chicago North Shore Hotel, Wheeling, Illinois | **Top Finishers:** *Open*, 1st, 7: Gabriel Sargissian; 2nd-8th, 61/2: Robert L. Hess, Tamaz Gelashvili, Alejandro Ramirez, Milos Perunovic, Nikola Mitkov, Mesgen Amanov, Daniel J. Ludwig; *Under 2300*, 1st, 6: Kevin Wasiluk; 2nd-4th, 51/2: William J. Aramil, Tenzing W. Shaw, Davis M. Whaley; *Under 2100*, 1st, 61/2: David Amate Petty; 2nd-3rd, 6: Mark Plotkin, Eldon Nakagawa; *Under 1900*, 1st-2nd, 6: Robert Hill, Juan Hernandez III; *Under 1700*, 1st, 7: Jeremy L. Ashley; 2nd-4th, 6: Sherwin S. Duke, Jason J. Clark, Siddharth Patel; *Under 1500*, 1st, 61/2: Talhah T. Chaudhry; 2nd-3rd, 6: David Vogel, Novica Kecojevic; *Under 1300*, 1st, 61/2: Walter Bourdaghs; 2nd, 6: Mark Ferguson; *Under 1100*, 1st, 61/2: Mark Reed; 2nd-3rd, 6: Ross Steinberg, Danny Feng; *Under 900*, 1st, 7: Segun Ryan Kamara; 2nd-4th, 6: Jim Alop, Lorenzo M. Sampson, Goran Cejvan. | **Chief Tournament Director:** William Goichberg

Youth Triumphant

13-Year-Old Michael Lim is 2012 U.S. Amateur Champ

By AL LAWRENCE



Competing in the U.S. Amateur East, or one of its sibling regionals, is a great way to get to play future champs. For Michael Lim's opponents, that was the bright side at the Memorial Day event in Somerset, New Jersey.

The 13-year-old youth champion entered as the sixth seed of 40 players but confi-

dently fought off both new and old guard, including a troop of former champions, to win the 2012 title. Lim won five straight and then drew fellow New Jerseyan Michael Goeller in the final round. Goeller took second place on tiebreaks over top-seeded former champ Sandi Hutama, New Jersey (NJ), who this year had to settle for the third-place trophy.

Kimberly Ding (NJ) and Michael Yen (NJ), as well as Hanon Russell, Connecticut (CT), another former U.S. amateur champion—who fought his way back after a tough first day—tied for 4-6 with 4½ points. Vinko Rutar, Pennsylvania (PA), became Senior champion by scoring 4 points. Jeffrey La Comb, New York (NY), won the Under 2000 prize with 4 points; Walter De Jong (NY), was best Under 1900 with 4 points. Also at 4 points, Maryia Oreshko (NJ), and Alex Wlezien (PA), shared the top Under-16 honors. Alan Gu (NJ), was best Under-13.

Fred Ivens (NJ), produced the tournament's only perfect 6-0 score to win the 44-player Under 1800 section. Joseph Holmok (NJ), Elizabeth Lakata (PA), and Leon Wu (NJ), were a distant second-fourth

with 4½ points. A half-point back, Mike McCaffery (NJ), was 5th. Andy Lindstrom (NJ), was best Under 1600; Joseph Prentice (NJ), won best Under 1500;

Michael Polito (NJ), was top Senior with 3½. Jason Yan (NJ), was top Under Age 16, and Edwin Jin (NY), best Under Age 13.

Zehao Shen (NJ) and Nelson Lin (NJ) drew each other and won the rest of their games to become co-champions in the 26-player Under-1400 section. Ashley Jiang (NJ) and Marko Van (NJ) tied for third-fourth. Stan Rydz (NJ) took fifth. Steven Danko (NY), was best Senior. Ryan Feng (NY), took best Under Age 13. Jonathan Chin (NJ), was top Under 1200; Husband John Cook (NJ), was top Under 1100 and his wife Ellexis Cook (NJ) was top Under 1000. Sarah Yen (NJ) won the Under 900 prize, and Claire Cao (PA), was top Under 800.

Despite his youth, the new Amateur East champion navigated with a deft positional touch. In round five, Vinko Rutar, an experienced over-the-board warrior who has come very close to winning the title in past years, rolled out a strategically tricky version of the English.

THE U.S. AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP'S RICH TRADITION

The tournament for chess lovers deserves a bit more affection in return

The chess pro is as rare as the two-bishop sacrifice. Almost all of us USCF members are *amateurs*. Most often, we dwell on how that "title" pegs us as duffers who hang pieces and double our pawns. So it's hackneyed but helpful to recall that, derivationally, the word *amateur* hardly means *bumbler*. It means a true *lover* of a pursuit, as in the Spanish *amante*. Amateurs, regardless of their choice of passions—from archaeology and astronomy to world history and zoology—have contributed meaningfully to fields we think of as highly technical, and chess is no exception. And amateurs make up the admiring base that makes it possible for those wizards at the peak to practice their magic.

The prestigious title of "U.S. Amateur" has a rich tradition, but nowadays, its regional winners are no longer offered a playoff, and the event often hasn't rated

a *Chess Life* story.

The tournament goes back to the war year of 1942 and has been held every single year since then. You can't say that about the U.S. Championship or the National Open. At least one winner of the U.S. Amateur, Charles Weldon, in 1970, was featured on the cover of *Chess Life*. Then in 1992, when USCF "regionalized" a number of championships, the Amateur was divided into East and West branches. In 1994, a North and a South version were added as well, and a playoff was organized.

USCF trivia buffs should note that between that year and 1999 were crowned the only playoff National Amateur champions. Drilling down deeper into esoteria subterranea, you see that only the South failed to win during the six playoff years, and the East won more than any of the others. Here's the list:

English Opening (A14)

Vinko Rutar (2113)

Michael Lim (2055)

U.S. Amateur East (5), May 28, 2012;

Notes by Lim

1. c4 c6 2. b3 Nf6 3. Bb2 e6 4. g3 d5 5. Nf3
 Be7 6. Bg2 0-0 7. 0-0 b6 8. Ne5 Qc7 9. d3 Bb7
 10. Nd2 c5 11. cxd5 Nxd5 12. Nef3 Nc6

Instead, 12. ... Bf6 13. Bxf6 Nxf6, trading off the bishop, would be great in this position because he loses control of the e5- square.

13. Ne4 Rac8

13. ... f5 14. Ned2—the knight needed to be removed because it blocked key squares of my bishop.

14. Rc1 Rfd8

Again, 14. ... f5 would be good.

15. Qc2 h6 16. Qb1 Qb8 17. Qa1 Bf8 18. Rfd1 Nde7

Threatening to go Nf5-d6 and open up the h1-a8 diagonal.

19. e3 Nb4 20. Ne1 Qa8 21. f3 Ba6

21. ... Nf5 22. Kf2 a5 is another plan that would get my queen into the game.

22. Bf1 Nf5 23. Kf2 Rd7 24. a3 Nc6 25. Ng2 Rcd8 26. Nf4 Qb8 27. g4 Nd6

27. ... Nxe3 28. Kxe3 Nd4 might not get material back right away, but there is good compensation for the piece. (After 28. ... Nd4, White can't answer all of Black's threats and his position falls apart in a few moves.—AL)

28. Ng3 Ne8 29. Qb1 Bd6 30. Nfh5 Be5 31. d4 cxd4



32. Bxa6

White wouldn't be down material, but Black has a better position after 32. exd4 Bxg3+ 33. Nxc3 Bxf1 34. Rxc6 Bb5.

32. ... dxe3+ 33. Ke1 Rxd1+ 34. Rxd1 Rxd1+ 35. Kxd1 Qd6+ 36. Qd3 Bxb2

It's a win from here. I am going to get another pawn on a3 and then trade off pieces.

37. Ke2 Qxd3+

(37. ... Nd4+, followed by 38. ... g6, looks like an immediate kill.—AL)

38. Bxd3 Bxa3 39. Kxe3 Bc1+ 40. Kf2 Nd6 41. Ne4 Nxe4+ 42. Bxe4 Nd4 43. b4 Bd2 44. h4 Bxb4 45. g5 hxg5 46. hxg5 Bd2 47. f4 b5 48. g6 f5 49. Bd3 Kf8 50. Ng3 Bxf4 51. Ne2 Nxe2 52. Kxe2 b4 53. Kf3 Bc1 54. Ke2 Ke7 55. Kd1 Bb2 56. Kc2 Bd4 57. Kb3 a5 58. Kc4 Bc3 59. Kb3 Kf6 60. Ka4 e5 61. Kxa5 e4 62. Bb1 Kxg6, White resigned. ♠

See full winner's list at www.entryfeesrus.com
 For a U.S. Amateur West crosstable, go to: http://bit.ly/us_amateur_west.
 For a U.S. Amateur South crosstable, go to: http://bit.ly/us_amateur_south.

NATIONAL AMATEUR PLAYOFF CHAMPIONS

Beginning in 2000, there have been no playoffs. Make no mistake: All winners of each branch of the U.S. Amateur have been duly recorded in the USCF Yearbook and are thus a part of our celebrated heritage. That document is available in PDF format online at uschess.org, and is a feast for any U.S. chess-history buff.

Those of you who have been around for a while will undoubtedly have crossed pawns with some of the champions on the list of Amateur winners below. (After 1989, those on the list are winners of the U.S. Amateur East.) There's a USCF president (1958), a father of a U.S. woman's champion (1968), the son of a renowned tournament director and world championship arbiter (1983), brother and sister (2010 and 2011), and one of the most important chess publishers in the world (2008). And **one name appears twice on the list, with 29 years separating the entries**. Was it father and son, perhaps, or even grandson? No—that rare redux belongs to the late Edgar McCormick, a true lover of chess, who won for the first time when Kennedy was president and died as the reigning amateur chess champion in 1990.—A.L.

1942 E.S. Jackson, Jr.	1971 Clarence Kalenian	Kosinski, John Demos	2003 Stephen Hrop
1943 Ariel Mengarini	1972 Edward Vano	1985 Michael Shvartsman, Carl Magnuson	2004 Evan D. Ju
1944 E. S. Jackson, Jr.	1973 Paul Jacklyn, Robert Szendroi	1986 Eddie Falcon	2005 Daniel Yeager
1945 Paul Ellis	1974 Bruce Rind	1987 Ilan Kreitner	2006 Mark Heimann, Alec Getz
1955 Clinton Parmelee	1975 Frank Metz, Tom Nelson	1988 Gregory Kotlyar	2007 David Grasso, Alisa Melekhina, Andrew Shvartsman,
1956 John Hudson	1976 Laszlo Ficso	1989 Robert Kender	2008 Hanon Russell
1957 Harry Lyman	1977 Thomas Sweeney, Dave Reynolds	1990 Edgar McCormick	2009 Sandi Hutama
1958 Erich Marchand	1978 Alan Piper	1991 Dave Collins	2010 Andrew Ding
1959 L.R. Chauvenet	1979 Milton Danon	1992 Dean Ippolito	2011 Leonard Chipkin, Kimberly Ding
1960 Raoul Benedicto	1980 Robert O'Donnell	1993 Dennis Dawley	2012 Michael Lim
1961 Edgar McCormick	1981 John Tomas	1994 Steve Anderson	
1962 Max Cohen, Ben Greenwald	1982 Steven Jacobi, Thomas Crispin	1995 Jason Cohen (tied in playoff)	
1963 Kenneth Clayton	1983 Donald Connors, Jr., John Jarecki	1996 Steven Minsky (won playoff);	
1964 Michael Hailparn	1984 Mark Pinto, Daniel Pillone, Harlan Lee, Jeffrey Ivins, Michael Knighton, Randall Hough, Mark Schlagenhaut, Floyd Boudreaux, Tomasz	1997 Matthew Traldi	
1965 Frank Street		1998 Omar Aguilar	
1966 Thomas Lux		1999 Peter Irwin (won playoff)	
1967 Ronald Lohrman		2000 Thomas Bartell	
1968 Stephen Jones, Michael Shahade		2001 Lev Milman	
1969 Kimball Nedved		2002 Steven Anderson	
1970 Charles Weldon			

2012 U.S. Amateur West and South Champions
WEST: Anthony Conyers II, Amrit Gupta, Rohan Mittal
SOUTH: George Woodbury

The Winner

Anand edges Gelfand to



Takes It All

retain World Championship title

By GM IAN ROGERS



PHOTOS: CATHY ROGERS

Viswanathan Anand returned home to India to a hero's welcome after retaining the world championship title against Boris Gelfand. Anand was congratulated by the Indian prime minister, Manmohan Singh, offered a gift of \$360,000 by the government of Tamil Nadu and greeted on his arrival home in Chennai by a huge crowd.

A day earlier Anand had received two trophies, a painting, a giant world champion's wreath at the closing ceremony— plus of course the \$1.4 million winner's purse—as well as meeting Russian President Vladimir Putin and going to dinner with the Indian Ambassador to Russia.

Barely remembered was the fact that Anand has beaten Gelfand by the narrowest of margins after the main match had finished 6-6 and a series of dramatic tiebreakers were played which could have gone either way.

Just a few key moves separated the players—uncharacteristic time trouble mistakes by the Israeli challenger in simplified positions. “Call it luck, call it destiny,” said Gelfand. Anand could only say “I won because I won.” Neither player suggested that Anand had played better chess throughout the match. Though many commentators believed that this showed that Anand was out of form, Gelfand disagreed, saying, “I didn't let Vishy play the way he would like. If you let him get certain positions, he is unbeatable.”

But when the chips were down, the Indian world champion came through—he had won ugly but he had won nonetheless. “This is sport,” said Gelfand. “Somebody has to win.”

CHESS COMES HOME TO MOSCOW

When Anand and Gelfand sat down to play their first world championship game in Moscow, it had been 27 years since the Russian capital had hosted a world title match.

Between 1948 and 1969 every title match was in Moscow; logical since every titleholder and every challenger in that period was from the Soviet Union. Some were Latvian, some Armenian but it mattered little—the match had to be played at the center of the Soviet empire.

The arrival of American Bobby Fischer and defector Viktor Korchnoi were temporary interruptions, but by 1985 the world title contest was back in Moscow. Indeed, the Hall of Columns witnessed two title matches in 1985: an unfinished five month epic contest between challenger Garry Kasparov and World Champion Anatoly Karpov, and the rematch won by Kasparov.

When communism ended and the USSR broke up, chess' favored status diminished and, though Russian cities Leningrad (now Saint Petersburg) and Elista hosted matches, 1985 was the last time Moscow had seen a world title match until now.

It took a \$2.55 million offer from freight forwarding billionaire Andrey Filatov to bring the 2012 match back to the Russian capital and even then Filatov's bid only narrowly beat a bid by Anand's home town Chennai.

As Russian Deputy Prime Minister Arkady Dvorkovich explained, “For the Russian Chess Federation, the fact that it is organizing the World Championship match is confirmation that Russia is a leading chess nation—holding the match independently of the participants’ citizenship is important.”

The clear message was that chess was returning to its rightful home, Moscow.

In 2012, instead of Karpov and Kasparov battling it out in the Hall of Columns, the home of the Soviet Union’s Communist Party Congresses, in 2012 it was an Indian and an Israeli fighting for world supremacy at the home of Russian art, the Tretyakov Gallery.

Instead of the 1985 prize fund of 72,000 roubles, Anand, 42, and Gelfand, 43, were playing for U.S. \$2.55 million. Just as importantly, the match was not only brilliantly organized—setting new standards for Internet transmission—but scrupulously fair to both contenders.

When Kasparov and Karpov competed for the crown in 1985, Mikhail Gorbachev had just become leader of the USSR and his reforms set the stage for the dissolution of the Soviet Union six years later.

By 2012, Mikhail Gorbachev has become an elder statesman, signing autographs at the opening ceremony while present as patron of FIDE’s Chess in Schools project.

As well as Gorbachev and Dvorkovich, the opening ceremony featured other Russian political heavyweights, while Karpov was another guest at the opening ceremony, held in the magnificent Vruble Hall at the Tretyakov Gallery. Karpov gave plenty of interviews talking about the good old days, but the man with whom he is forever twinned and who took his title in 1985, Kasparov, was not. (Kasparov would attend later, enjoying a cameo as a commentator and giving a typically forthright press conference.)

At the opening press conference Gelfand expressed his hope that the players could produce games worthy of the works of art at the Tretyakov. The course of the match, at least in the early games, was more or less the exact opposite to fine art—tough, precise chess with few opportunities for either player. The underdog Gelfand quickly showed that he came to the title match very well prepared and, apart from giving a single chance to Anand in the third game, Gelfand looked rock solid.

The crowds at the Tretyakov had seen six games ending in six draws. All games finished in under 40 moves, four in less than 30 moves. All but one game had followed Black’s home preparation for many moves, and the player with the white pieces had been unable to find a suitable counter, leading to an incident-free draw.

(see game top of next column)

A missed chance

GM Viswanathan Anand (FIDE 2791, IND)

GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2727, ISR)

World Championship, Moscow (3)



The key moment in game 3.

34. Rc7?!

After the game Anand was kicking himself for not playing 34. d7! Rcc2 35. Rc4!! when, amazingly, White can avoid checkmate and prevail e.g. 35. ... Rb2+ (35. ... Rxc4 36. bxc4 is a slow death.) 36. Kc1 Rxa2 37. Rc8 Rf2 and now Anand at first thought he could win with the spectacular 38. Rg8+ Kf6 39. Re2!???, forgetting about 39. ... Rf1+! and checkmate next move. Later Anand realized that the right path to victory was 38. Re6+! Kg7 (38. ... Kh5 39. g4+ fxg4 40. Rc5+ is similar.) 39. Rg8+ Kf7 40. Rf6+! and the pawn queens with check.

34. ... Re8! 35. Rh1?!

Anand woke up to the strength of 34. d7 and 35. Rc4 as soon as his hand left the rook on h1—otherwise he could have attempted to repeat moves via 35. Re7!.

35. ... Ree2! 36. d7 Rb2+ 37. Kc1 Rxa2, Draw agreed.

Just in time—because of the mate threat, White cannot avoid the draw.

Then suddenly, after the six draws, the World Championship match exploded into life.

While the sixth game was being played (and drawn) Kasparov stated “Gelfand’s chances are improving with each draw; both can stumble but the chances of Vishy stumbling are higher” and his words proved prescient as Gelfand comprehensively outplayed Anand to win the seventh game.

“Unfortunately he hit on an area where we had been a bit careless,” admitted Anand. “In a match where there were so few chances for me it was a really incredibly heavy blow to lose game seven. I can’t remember suffering so much; I couldn’t sleep. I really thought I’d blown the match.”

This was Gelfand’s first classical win against Anand for almost two decades—overcoming the psychological factor which Kasparov had said was the biggest obstacle to Gelfand winning the match.

Boris breaks through

GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2727, ISR)

GM Viswanathan Anand (FIDE 2791, IND)

World Championship, Moscow (7)



With Black badly tied up, Gelfand now finds a liquidation which enables him to invade with both knights.

26. Bxe4! dxe4 27. Nd2 f5 28. Nc4 Nf6 29. Nc5 Nd5 30. Ra7 Nb4 31. Ne5 Nc2

A last throw of the dice by Anand, sacrificing the ill-fated bishop.

32. Nc6 Rxb2 33. Rc7 Rb1+ 34. Kh2 e3 35. Rxc8+ Kh7 36. Rc7+ Kh8 37. Ne5! e2



38. Nxe6!, Black resigned.

Avoiding Anand’s final trap—38. Ng6+ Kg8 39. Nxe6 Rh1+ 40. Kxh1 e1=Q+ 41. Kh2 Qxe6 and Black turns the tables. Now, however, Ng6+ and Rg7 mate is only avoidable at ruinous cost.

A strategic masterpiece by Gelfand.

Then, a day later, when Gelfand’s success was front page news for many Israeli newspapers and the pundits were counting down Anand’s days as world champion, the 42-year-old Indian struck back by winning the shortest game in world championship history (forfeits excluded).

Gelfand lost in only 17 moves and 110 minutes after falling into an Anand trap in a double-edged position.

King’s Indian Defense (E60)

GM Viswanathan Anand (FIDE 2791, IND)

GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2727, ISR)

World Championship, Moscow (8)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. f3 c5



Viswanathan Anand

Age: 42

Ranking: World number 4 (2791)

Country: India

Residence: Chennai with wife Aruna and child Akhil (1-year-old)

World Championship record:
Challenger 1995, 1998 winner
2000, 2007, 2008, 2010

Awarded grandmaster title:
1988 (India's first).

Quote: "My nerves held out better and I hung on for dear life."

Boris Gelfand

Age: 43

Ranking: World number 20 (2727)

Country: Israel

Residence: Rishon LeZion with wife Maya and children Avital (5-year-old) and Avner (1-year-old)

World Championship Candidates qualifying record:
quarter-finalist 1993, semi-finalist 1996,
winner 2011

Awarded grandmaster title:
1989

Quote: "This is sport—somebody has to win. It was luck, destiny, whatever you say."

Varying from game three's 3. ... d5. "When you have two good options, why not use both of them," said Gelfand.

4. d5 d6 5. e4 Bg7 6. Ne2 0-0 7. Nec3 Nh5!?

Original and provocative play. "I felt that 7. Nec3 was against chess principles, so I had to exploit it," said Gelfand.

8. Bg5!/? Bf6

"Perhaps Leko's move 8. ... f5! is best," said Gelfand. Then Black threatens 9. ... f4 followed by ... Nb8-d7-e5 with total control over the dark squares.

9. Bxf6!/?

9. Be3 Be5 10. Qd2 was far more logical, after which White can still hope for an edge.

9. ... exf6! 10. Qd2

After 10. g4 Nf4! 11. Qd2 g5 12. h4 Nd7 13. Qh2 h5! Black is doing fine, e.g. 14. hxg5 fxg5 15. gxh5 Ne5 16. Nd2 Qf6 when White's extra pawn on h5 is worth little but Black's control over the dark squares is awesome.

10. ... f5 11. exf5! Bxf5 12. g4 Re8+

The first step on the path to ruin. Gelfand had two other lines which were completely playable—12. ... Qh4+ 13. Kd1 Bxb1 14. Rxb1 Nf6 and; 12. ... Bxb1 13. Rxb1 Nf6 but he wanted more ...

13. Kd1! Bxb1 14. Rxb1

(see diagram top of next column)

14. ... Qf6?



After nine minutes thought, a major tactical error, caused in part by being entranced by the variation 15. Kc2 Nf4 (15. ... Qxf3? 16. Be2 is the trap that Gelfand did see.) 16. Ne4 Rxe4! 17. fxe4 Nd7 when Black has two wonderfully placed knights for his Exchange sacrifice.

Having assessed this position, Gelfand forgot something much simpler.

“However if I have to play 14. ... Ng7 then the whole concept of Black’s play is unfortunate,” said Gelfand, and indeed after 15. Kc2 with Bd3 and h2-h4 to follow, White stands well.

15. gxh5!

Anand took only two minutes to check his calculations before springing the trap shut.

15. ... Qxf3+ 16. Kc2 Qxh1 17. Qf2! Black resigned.

In his original calculations (when playing 12. ... Re8+) Gelfand had dismissed 15. gxh5 because he saw only 17. Qf4, well met by 17. ... Qg1. Now, however, Black’s queen is firmly trapped and after 17. Qf2 Nc6 (17. ... Na6 18. a3!) 18. dxc6 Qxc6 19. Bg2 White dominates the board, so Gelfand preferred to resign.

RACE TO THE FINISH LINE

After the drama of Anand’s record-breaking miniature victory in game eight, most expected Anand to cruise to victory after such a huge psychological blow for Gelfand. However if there was a question mark over Gelfand’s mental resilience, it was removed by the ninth game, which Anand barely survived after being forced to give up his queen early in the game. “Before the match I had decided to play without paying attention to the score, until game 10 at least,” said Gelfand.

Two more draws took the score to 5½-5½ with one more game in regulation time to play.

In the twelfth and final game, Anand threw everything at Gelfand, with an opening pawn sacrifice described by Gelfand as brilliant. Yet the Israeli’s reaction was equally sensational. After thinking for almost 40 minutes on a single move, Gelfand found a counter-sacrifice which was later described as the greatest single move of the match. “For Boris to have the confidence to play that move, even though he knew it was our preparation, was very brave,” said Anand’s second Rustam Kasimdzhanov.”

“I was fully concentrated and my head was working well,” said Gelfand. “I realized that I had to play this move to change the course of the game.”

A move worthy of a championship

GM Viswanathan Anand (FIDE 2791, IND)
GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2727, ISR)
World Championship, Moscow (12)



10. ... c4!!

The move White thought he was preventing with his last move, 10. Nbd2. “Boris reacted well,” said Anand. “10. ... c4 showed that he was very alert.” A more greedy player might have gone for 10. ... Qd5 11. 0-0 Qd4 12. Rb1 Qxh4 with two extra pawns but difficult times ahead after 13. Re1 f6 14. Ne4, threatening 15. Nd6+! followed by 16. Re4.

Instead the game continued ...

11. Nxc4 Ba6 12. Qf3 Qd5! 13. Qxd5 cxd5 14. Nxe5 f6 15. Nf3 e5

... and Black had no problems in the resulting queenless middlegame.

The action-packed twelfth game ended in a draw, meaning that rapid tiebreakers were now required to decide the world title.

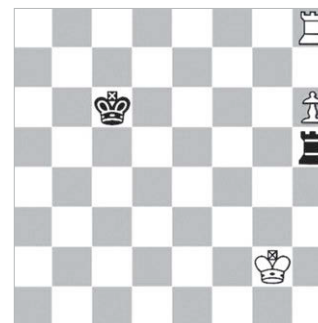
On May 30 the playing hall at the Tretyakov Gallery was filled, with the overflow watching on giant screens inside and outside the historic art gallery. The press room also could barely hold the extra numbers, with hundreds of reporters from around the world hanging on every move. (400 journalists were accredited for the match.)

Anand and Gelfand played four games at a time limit of 25 minutes plus 10 seconds per move per player. Despite plenty of chances, Gelfand was unable to break through Anand’s defenses in any of the four games and, showing both speed and coolness under pressure, Anand triumphed 2½-1½ to retain the world title and take the winner’s purse of \$1.4 million. Gelfand received \$1.15 million as compensation for the shattering of his life-long dream.

The moment that Gelfand will regret most, came in the third playoff game.

Regrets

GM Boris Gelfand (FIDE 2727, ISR)
GM Viswanathan Anand (FIDE 2791, IND)
World Championship, Moscow (3rd playoff)



61. Rh7?

An extraordinary mistake, played at blitz speed even though Gelfand had 45 seconds on the clock. The obvious 61. Kg3 wins—“I would play this in 999 games out of 1,000,” said Gelfand—but both players were under the misapprehension that then Black could achieve the famed Vancura position by playing 61. ... Kb7 62. Kg4 Rc5 followed by ... Rc6.

With one extra move—if the black rook was on c6 rather than c5, this position would indeed be the Vancura draw, but here White has time for the simple 63. Rf8 with an easy win.

Unfortunately for Gelfand, with Anand playing quickly and confidently and apparently headed directly for the feared Vancura draw, Gelfand was convinced by his opponent’s body language to prevent 61. ... Kb7—and to pull back to even in tiebreaker games.

61. ... Kd6 62. Kg3 Ke6 63. Kg4 Rh1, Draw agreed.

“I am just relieved and just happy to still be world champion,” said Anand. “This match has been so tense. It has only been three weeks here in Moscow but I feel as if I have spent months here.”

Gelfand was gracious in defeat, saying “I played against a great master who was absolutely capable of handling some of the new things thrown at him by my team.”

“It wasn’t pre-planned. I just started playing fast, like the old days,” said Anand. The sparkle which Kasparov had noted was missing from Anand’s eyes in recent times seemed to be back and when asked about possible retirement Anand hit back with “Why now?” ♣

World Chess Championship Match 2012

	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Points	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
Viswanathan Anand (India)	2791	½	½	½	½	½	½	0	1	½	½	½	½	6	½	1	½	½	8½
Boris Gelfand (Israel)	2727	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	0	½	½	½	½	6	½	0	½	½	7½

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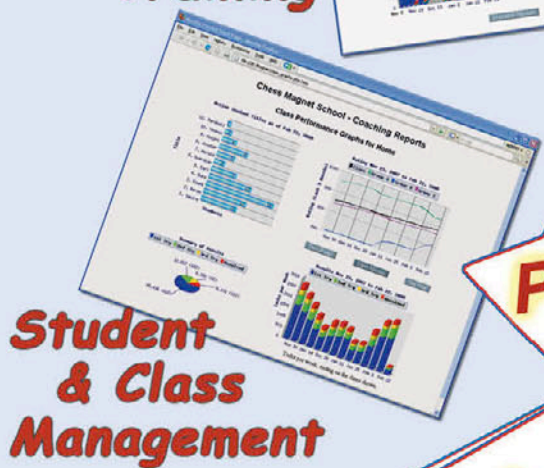
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Ready for the Challenge

A tactical blow may be decisive, or it may require creative and accurate followup play.

By **GM LEV ALBERT**

THE WINNER OF THIS MONTH'S AWARD, Brian Benson, was playing confidently and ambitiously, against a higher-rated opponent. His further brilliant moves well justified his confidence, and his ambitions. Writes Brian (*my future comments are in italics*):

FM Jim Dean reviewed this game with me (he plays the similar f4!? move; depending on move orders that move can be played on moves 10-13). Note that one does not randomly choose to play f4 in these moments but does it knowing theme, positional ideas and how to attack the king. Certain ground rules of White having the bishop pair makes this line a likely key lesson for both sides of the board. A miniature can arise when you follow practical chess principles which may lead to forcing moves when executed properly. On with the game.

Nimzo-Indian Defense, Saemisch Variation (E26)

Brian Benson (1787)

Bradford Drake (2069)

Athenaeum Afternoon of Chess, Indianapolis, IN

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. a3

This is the Saemisch Variation of the Nimzo-Indian Defense.

4. ... Bxc3+



I like the sharp continuation of 4. a3 as it makes Black part with his bishop pair. I remember a position from GM Roman Dzindzichashvili's video where 4. e3 and 8. a3 are played in reverse order. There lies the trap, mostly unknown to those playing Nimzo with black.

5. bxc3 c5 6. e3 Qa5*

I put an asterisk by this move because I couldn't tell if "?!" was appropriate. I saw this move in several Nimzo Indian Saemisch or Leningrad variations, usually around move eight, I believe. But here I felt my opponent was attempting to transpose to a pet line or variation he could outwit me in. I did a natural thing: stuck to my positional formation (I was set for the idea of Bd3, Nge2).

Well, 6. ... Qa5 is a dubious move. In particular, the inclusion of moves 6. ... Qa5 and 7. Bd2 makes any capture on d4 in the future less attractive for Black, as White would recapture with cxd4, attacking the black queen. As we'll see, Black will soon remove his queen, indicating a loss of valuable opening time.

7. Bd2



7. ... 0-0 8. Bd3 Nc6

All natural moves from known theory of Nimzo play.

9. Ne2 d6 10. 0-0 e5

Now I feel we are out of the opening: both sides are castled and I am ready to plant my final minor piece for middlegame deployment and activity.

11. Ng3 Qc7



To witness my opponent move his queen again without developing his bishop gave me a certain amount of confidence to look for the practical move.

Ironically, it's not even clear where this queen is better placed—on its new home, c7, or on its square of origin, d8. For instance, the black queen being on d8 would make the soon to occur—on the 15th move—Exchange sacrifice completely impractical).

12. d5 Ne7

In a similar position Black often plays ... Na5, then ... b6 and ... Ba6, aiming at the weak c4-pawn. Here, however—after the above-mentioned loss of time for useless queen moves—this plan would be very risky for Black.

13. f4!?

Now for the thematic f4!?

13. ... exf4

(see diagram top of next column)



14. Rxf4

Also strong is the “positional” 14. exf4 with advantage for White. If 14. ... Ng6, then 15. Nf5. But Brian’s 14. Rxf4, perhaps already contemplating the Exchange sacrifice, is also very tempting!

14. ... Ng6

Black has played positionally sound; but when I went over this game it took my Rybka 4 a minute or so to sit idle before playing Rxf6. Intuition and creativity was all I had at this point. It just seemed in the spirit of the attack!

I fully agree!

15. Rxf6! gxf6



I like the sacrifice! I also like White’s next move, 16. Nh5, albeit I’d also consider another attacking option, 16. Qh5.

16. Nh5 f5

16. ... Qe7 followed by 17. Qf3 f5



18. Bxf5 Bxf5 19. Qxf5 Qe5 20. e4 is roughly equal. For an Exchange, White has a pawn and an active bishop along the c1-h6 diagonal.

After Benson’s analysis for 17. ... f5

I’d recommend 18. e4! (the same idea Brian used in the game) and if 18. ... fxe4, 19. Nf6+ Kg7 20. Bxe4 (see diagram below), avoiding a queen trade (20. ... Qxf6? 21. Bh6+, winning).



17. e4



17. ... fxe4?

This natural looking move leads to a shot out of left field that shows the king is always the main theme, not recapturing pieces.

18. Nf6+ Kg7

Oddly I know a master, Bernard Parham, who dedicated a vast amount of knowledge and theory in the late ’80s ’til present to this move early out of the opening: 1. e4 e5 2. Qh5!?. Although I don’t play that opening, the move itself to an anchor square (or quiet move) can be a focal point when Black’s position is not defended

GM Hikaru Nakamura played 2. Qh5 (after 1. e4 e5) with some success; he even played 2. Qh5 after 1. e4 c5 and 1. e4 e6, too.

19. Qh5!!



19. ... exd3?

Mate cannot be stopped as bishop and queen roam along the c1-h6 diagonal.

All other moves also lose, e.g., 19. ... Rh8 20. Bh6+ Kxf6 21. Qg5 checkmate, or 19. ... Kxf6 20. Bg5+ Ke5 21. Bd8+ (21. Be4!?) f5, the last line being Black’s best practical chance.

20. Rf1

I saw other mating nets but this still seem to be the safest.

21. ... Bf5 21. Rxf5, Black resigned.



I feel the move 4. a3 with the idea of Bd3, Nge2, 0-0, Ng3 with f4 (or f3 with idea of e4) is a good line, with initiative for White and a sound middlegame approach.

Brian knew his opening and knew what to do in the early middlegame. When an opportunity knocked, he was ready, both for the sacrifice and for an excellent follow-up play (17. e4; 18. Nf6+ and 19. Qh5). The old adage “it’s easier to attack than to defend” proved correct one more time, even against a higher-rated player, or an expert. ♣

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GM Albur will select the “most instructive” game and CL will award an autographed copy of Lev’s newest book, *Fresh Look at Chess* (by Lev Albur and Al Lawrence) to the person submitting the most instructive game and annotations.

NOTE: *Please 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.*

Rookin' the Books

The book on rook draws

By **GM PAL BENKO**

OUR FAITHFUL READERS HAVE SENT us some noteworthy and frequently-arising rook endings. They are useful to study.

New Method!?

Irving Bizar

Erik D. Osbun

10th U.S. Corr. Chess Ch. Prelim., 1990



“Some authors think this is a draw. Black shows a new way.” (Osbun).

Let's see it. In rook endings, three pawns against four on the same side of the board is, theoretically, a draw. I've written before that “the double f-pawns make the defense easier because any pawn-break will be less meaningful.” This is similar to the diagrammed position. Of course, one may always choose to defend via an inferior method and lose as happens here.

35. ... Rb5 36. Kg2

The accurate alternative is 36. h3! Rg5+ 37. Kh2.

36. ... Rg5+ 37. Kf1(?)

The proper setup is 37. Kh1 and 38. h3!.

37. ... Kh7

Black's intention is to play ... e6-e5 and f7-f5-f4 with the king heading toward the h-pawn.

38. Rb4 Kg6 39. Ra4 Kh5 40. Rb4 f5 41. f4?

A strategic mistake, assuring Black the opportunity to create a passed pawn after playing ... g5 (without trading the h-

pawns). The cautious 41. Ra4 Rg6 41. Rb4 e5 42. Rb5 Re6 43. Kg2 would hold.

41. ... Rg6 42. f3(?)

White makes his situation even worse. Either 42. h3 or 42. Rb3 are better defenses.

42. ... Kh4 43. Rb2 Rf6

43. ... Kh3!?

44. Rb7(?) g5 45. fxg5 Kxg5 46. Rb4

A bit better is 46. Kg2.

46. ... e5 47. Kg2 Rd6 48. Rb5(?)

White, not feeling the danger, actually helps the enemy.

48. ... Kf4 49. Rb4+ e4 50. fxe4 fxe4



The position would be a draw if there were no h-pawns. At this point, the Bourzutschky-Konoval program shows a loss for White in 16 moves. It is true, however, that theory and practice are different.

51. Rb2 Rg6+?

Black's winning move is 51. ... h5!.

52. Kf1! h5 53. Rf2+?

Cutting off the black king with 53. Rb3 is better.

53. ... Ke3! 54. Rf5 h4! 55. Rh5 Rg4?

The winning line is 55. ... Rf6+ 56. Kg2 Ke2 57. Rxh4 Rg6+ 58. Kh3 e3 wins.

56. Rh8!

56. Rh7? A surprising mutual *Zugzwang*

has come up. The one to move next faces a less optimal result.

56. ... Kf3 57. Re8? e3? 58. Re7 Re4 59. Rg7 Ra4 60. Rf7+! Ke4 61. Re7+?

The final mistake; 61. h3! still draws.

61. ... Kd3! 62. Rd7+ Rd4 63. Ra7 Rf4+ 64. Ke1 Rb4 65. Rd7+ Ke4 66. h3 Rb1+! 67. Ke2 Rb2+! 68. Ke1 Kf3 69. Rf7+ Kg2, White resigned.

Good technique

Erik D. Osbun

Louis B. Owen

7th U.S. Corr. Chess Ch. Prelim., 2012



Black's position, since it is spread out, is difficult to hold.

40. Rb7+ Kf6 41. Kh2 e5?

This just makes the defense of the isolated pawn much more difficult. Either 41. ... g5 or 41. ... h5 were better, trading as many pawns as possible as White's pawns advance.

42. Rb6+ Kf7 43. g4 Ra1 44. h4 Rc1

Black is unable to stop White's skillful scheme. A break is in the works. In case of 44. ... g6 45. Rb7+ Kf6 (45. ... Kg8 46. Rb5) 46. Rh7 followed either by h4-h5 or by Rxh6 wins.

45. h5 Ra1 46. Rg6 Rb1 47. g5 hxg5 48. Rxg5 Kf6 49. Rg6+ Kf7 50. Kh3

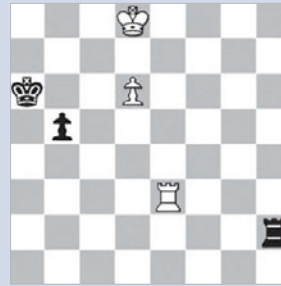
Now the White king's route into Black's position has been paved.

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 71.

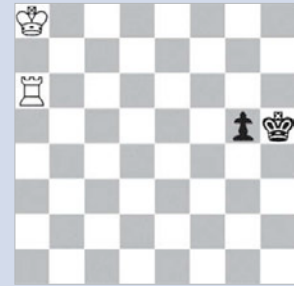
Please e-mail submissions for Benko's Bafflers to:
pbenko@uschess.org

Problem I: P. Benko, 1990



WHITE TO PLAY AND WIN

Problem II: P. Benko, 1987



WHITE TO PLAY AND WIN

50. ... Rh1+ 51. Kg4 Rh2 52. Ra6 Rh1 53. Kg5 Rh3 54. Ra7+ Kf8

Somewhat better is 54. ... Kg8, but after: 55. Kg4 Rh1 56. Ra5 Rg1+ 57. Kf5 also wins thereby creating a strong e4 passed pawn.

55. Kg4 Rh1 56. Ra5 Rg1+ 57. Kf5 Rg3 58. Ke6 g6

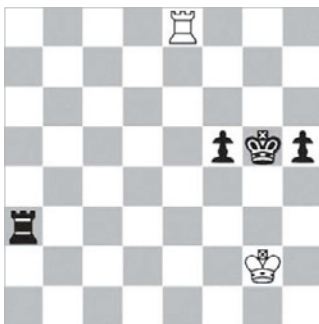
58. ... Kg8 59. Ra8+ Kh7 55. Rf8 wins.

59. Kf6 Rxf3+ 60. Kxg6, Black resigned.

Let's see some examples from recent tournaments. The next one is from the Chinese Championship.

Hard to defend

Qi Guo
 Ju Wenjun
 CHN Ch., 2012



Usually bishop and rook pawns do not win in rook endings by theory, but the defense is not easy. The proper defensive methods can only be described in general terms; even the late Bobby Fischer once told me, "We should study this kind of ending because it is not clear to me."

44. Rb8

This is the most ideal place for the rook so as to be able to disturb the black king from two directions.

44. ... Kg4 45. Rg8+

He can't push the white king down to the first rank—this would equal a loss.

45. ... Kf4 46. Rb8 Re3 47. Rb4+ Re4 48. Rb8 Re2+ 49. Kh3! Kf3 50. Rb5?

A mistake. The only move that keeps the balance was 50. Rh8! Re1 51. Kh2 Kg4 52. Rg8+ etc.

50. ... Kf4?

Black did not see that 50. ... Re3! was winning (51. Rxf5+ Ke4+! wins) and since after 51. Kh2 Kg4 the white king becomes completely passive. (51. Rb2 f4 etc.)

51. Ra5 Re5!? 52. Ra4+

The last error. White will not get another chance to escape. The right defense was 52. Ra1! and after 52. ... Kf3 53. Rf1+ Ke2 54. Rf4 Ke3 55. Kg3.

52. ... Kf3 53. Ra3+

Too late now is 53. Ra1 because of 53. ... Kf2 54. Ra2+ Re2.

53. ... Re3 54. Ra5 f4 55. Rxh5 Kf2+

One pawn less—but the f-pawn is now impossible to stop.

56. Kh2 f3 57. Ra5 Kf1!

The winning move, enjoying the benefit of the well placed e3-rook.

58. Ra1+ Re1 59. Ra3 f2 60. Ra2 Re8 61. Ra1+ Ke2 62. Ra2+ Kf3 63. Ra3+ Re3, White resigned.

We can see that even top players can make elementary mistakes, like in the following endgame from the European Championship.

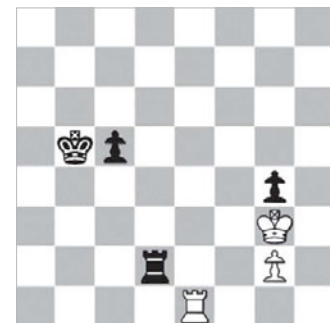
Motifs

Hrant Melkumyan
 Dmitry Andreikin
 13th EICC Plovdiv BUL, 2012

(see diagram top of next column)

62. Rb1+

If 62. Kxg4 Rxg2+ 63. Kf3 Rb2, now the white king is unable to get in front of the c-pawn therefore Black wins.



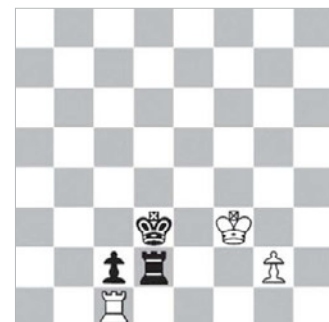
62. ... Kc4 63. Rc1+ Kd4?

A big mistake since it eliminates the opportunity to play ... Rd4. Either 63. ... Kb4 or Kd5 were winning.

64. Rg1 c4 65. Kxg4 c3 66. Kf3?

Simply 66. g3! holds the draw. Then 66. ... c2 67. Rc1 Kc3 68. Kf5!. (68. Kh5?) 68. ... Rd1 69. Rxc2+ Kxc2 70. g4 Kd3 71. g5.

66. ... c2 67. Rc1 Kd3?



Now it was Black's turn to go awry. 67. ... Kc3! 68. g4 Rd4! is a well-known motif that would have won by cutting off the white king. For example, 69. Kg3 Kd2 70. Ra1 c1=Q 71. Rxc1 Kxc1 72. Kh4 Kd2 73. Kg5 Ke3 74. Kf5 Rf4+ 75. Kg5 Kf3 wins.

68. g4 Rd1 69. Rxc2 Kxc2 70. Ke4! Rg1 71. Kf5 Kd3 72. g5 Kd4 73. g6 Kd5 74. Kf6 Kd6 75. g7 Kd7 76. Kf7 Rxg7+ 77. Kxg7, Draw.

Similar motifs can be seen in the Bafflers above. ♠

Southern California Open

September 1-3



Play in Sunny San Diego

By **CHUCK ENSEY**, Vice President, San Diego Chess Club

In the past the Southern California Open has varied its location to try to attract new players from the vast sprawling suburbs of Los Angeles to the large San Diego county area and all points in between. The Los Angeles airport area hosted 7 of the last 16 events due to the cheaper deals available for ballrooms there because of the many under-booked hotels there.

The 1999 event at the LAX Windham was a high-water mark in terms of attendance with 251 players drawn to the large (at the time) \$16,000 prize fund, but there were other years like 2000, 2007 and 2010 when attendance was only in the 120 range. The 2004 event at the Burbank Hilton drew 152 players with a \$20,000 prize fund (50% guaranteed).

Big prizes are helpful, but don't always work out, for instance in 2006 the San Diego club hosted a \$25,000 fully guaranteed event halfway between San Diego and Los Angeles at the Pechanga Resort and Casino in Temecula, but only 132 players showed up. Some blamed it on the expensive hotel rooms, others on the fact that nearly everyone had to drive a bit to get there.

In 2009 the rotation had moved back to San Diego and a new location in Mission Valley was attempted with only moderate success, 131 players with a \$20,000 prize (60% guaranteed). In 2011, a repeat performance drew 181 players, probably due to a fully guaranteed prize fund of \$20,000 and to the addition of an optional two-day schedule.



DRAWING PLAYERS

It is always hard to determine exactly what draws players—is it the location, the prize fund, the playing schedule, the familiar territory, the state of the economy? Most likely it is a combination of all these factors. We now think we have hit on a winning formula by keeping this event at the same great location with a large guaranteed prize fund of \$20,000 and the option of a two or three day schedule. The entry fee is still a modest \$100, which will only cover the prize fund if we have over 200 players. The 2013 event is also already locked in at the San Diego Crowne Plaza hotel. The three-year run in San Diego came about due to the lack of event organizers in Los Angeles after the death of John Hillery. His shoes are proving to be very hard to fill. It takes a lot of time and effort to organize events and the risks are great while the rewards are few, if any, and sometimes all you get are complaints about various minor matters. I hope Bill Goichberg is grooming a successor, where would the state of U.S. chess be without someone with his energy?

The San Diego Chess Club is hopeful that the more stable environment now in effect will allow this event to grow back to the glory days of 250 players or more. We are doing everything we can think of, now it is up to you, the chess player, to support this event! ♠

"Knight's Tour" is devoted to chess tournaments and travel. Details about this event are in the "Tournament Life" section which begins on page 50.

VISITING SAN DIEGO

California's second largest city and the U.S.' eighth largest, San Diego boasts a citywide population of nearly 1.3 million residents and more than 3 million residents countywide. Within its borders, San Diego County encompasses 18 incorporated cities and numerous other charming neighborhoods and communities, including downtown's historic Gaslamp Quarter, Little Italy, Coronado, La Jolla, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Escondido, La Mesa, Hillcrest, Barrio Logan and Chula Vista just to name a few. San Diego is renowned for its idyllic climate, 70 miles of pristine beaches and a dazzling array of attractions including the world-famous San Diego Zoo and San Diego Zoo Safari Park, SeaWorld San Diego and LEGOLAND California. San Diego offers an expansive variety of things to see and do, appealing to guests of all ages from around the world. Along the west, 70 miles of Pacific Ocean coastline not only supports year-round outdoor recreation, such as surfing, boating, sailing and swimming, but also important scientific research at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. To the south, it's a whole different country, Mexico, featuring its own cultural offerings in various towns along the border and coastline. San Diego's arts and culture and culinary arts are booming. Balboa Park, the largest urban cultural park in the U.S., is home to 15 museums, numerous art galleries, beautiful gardens, and the Tony Award-winning The Globe Theatres. San Diego County also features 92 golf courses, beachfront resorts and luxury spas, gaming, a dynamic downtown district, annual special events and unique holiday offerings, multicultural festivals and celebrations, colorful neighborhoods and communities, a rich military history and much more.

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A \$3 affiliate commission will apply to all memberships submitted by affiliates.



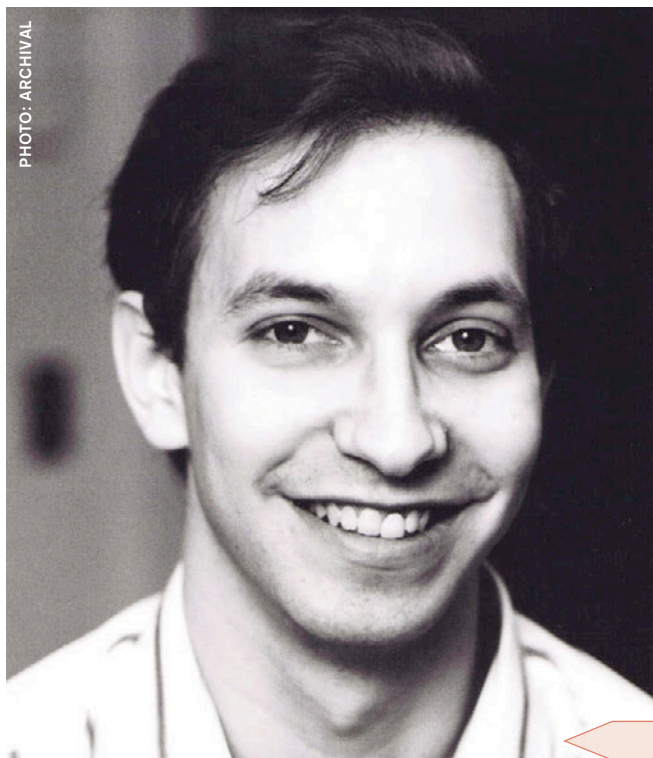
(1) 13 and under at expiration. (2) 16 and under at expiration. (3) 25 and under at expiration. (4) New sustaining memberships will not be allowed after 11/30/08. (5) 65 and over. (6) Parents and children younger than 25 at expiration living in one household with one address. (7) All younger than 25 at expiration living in one household. Both Family Plans include one monthly *Chess Life*. (8) Life and sustaining members have the option of choosing either Premium or Regular benefits. This selection may be changed at any time. USCF intends to contact these members approximately every three years to ask for confirmation of this choice. (9) Age restrictions apply. (10) Includes Life Membership, a special membership card, and recognition on a Benefactor page of our website and periodically in *Chess Life*. (\$25 foreign surcharge applies for magazine (not applicable to Canada or Mexico).

2012 Trophies Plus Grand Prix Summary

Trophies Plus awards \$12,500 in cash prizes in the 2012 Grand Prix!

2012 TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX STANDINGS

The following point totals reflect all rated event information as of June 20 for the 2012 Grand Prix. All Grand Prix updates are unofficial and subject to change during the year or until year-end tabulation is complete.



OVERALL STANDINGS

	NAME	STATE	PTS.
1	GM Mikheil Kekelidze	NY	212.69
2	GM Tamaz Gelashvili	NY	199.61
3	GM Alexander Ivanov	MA	156.33
4	GM Sergey Kudrin	CT	140.10
5	IM Enrico Sevillano	CA	136.83
6	IM Justin Sarkar	NY	93.33
7	GM Sam Shankland	CA	82.13
8	GM Aleksandr Lenderman	NY	67.41
9	FM John Daniel Bryant	MO	63.88
10	GM Timur Gareev	TX	63.00
11	GM Melikset Khachiyani	CA	52.60
12	GM Eugene Perelshteyn	MA	52.11
13	IM Jay Richard Bonin	NY	47.08
14	GM Alexander Stripunsky	NJ	44.46
15	GM Joel Benjamin	NJ	43.00

Ties for first in the Long Island Open and the 2nd annual New Yorker Open helped GM JOEL BENJAMIN (above in the early 1980s) make the Grand Prix list. See more about Benjamin on page 72.

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

Trophies Plus:

IT'S NOT JUST A TROPHY.

IT'S THE BEGINNING OF A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT.

Proud sponsor of USCF National Scholastic
tournament awards since 1999.

Proud sponsor of the USCF 2007-2012 All-America Team.



315 W. 1st St., Templeton, Iowa 51463 | 800.397.9993 | www.trophiesplus.com

2012 CHESSMAGNETSCHOOL.COM JUNIOR GRAND PRIX TOP OVERALL STANDINGS

Name	State	Pts.	Name	State	Pts.
PAPAGEORGIU, EFTHYMIOS PHILIP	NV	6796	DASARI, SRIHITHA	GA	3625
HOFFMAN, EVAN	CA-S	5430	TIEN, AEDAN	WA	3616
TAYLOR-BRILL, SETH	NC	5424	CAO-DAO, VIVIAN	VA	3601
ELBIEH, ERIK M	MA	4570	ZHANG, BENJAMIN K	WA	3592
ABE, MAHIRO	NY	4570	DER MANUELIAN, HAIK OLIVER	NJ	3590
BALACHANDRAN, NITHIK	GA	4550	MADDEN, KERRIGAN	CA-S	3574
TANENBAUM, ZACHARY CHEN	CT	4534	JACOBSON, BRANDON	NJ	3535
CHANDRA, DHARUV	TN	4388	BALA, SHASHANK	IL	3500
ALVARADO, OSCAR	CA-S	4282	KROUPA, AARON JOSEPH	WI	3500
PATEL, ADVAIT	WV	4236	GAVIN, MIRO	PA	3500
KAMARA, ABUBAKARR	DE	4200	PARK, SEEHYUN (SALLY)	TN	3490
YU, JENNIFER R	VA	4159	HAUGH-EWALD, MAX	IL	3488
VALDES, ROBERTO L	FL	4150	BECKER, SCOTT	VA	3483
RODRIGUEZ, OMAR ISAAH	FL	4124	GANESH, VIKRAM	CA-N	3475
TORRAS, TESEO L	NY	4015	DELGADO, GILBERT	CA-S	3434
SHI, JEFFREY	NY	3874	HINTON, JAMES WADE, II	MS	3408
BUZEK, JAN	WA	3821	TORRES, JUSTIN HUNTER	VA	3352
ULRICH, ANNE E	WI	3802	GETZ, NATE	WA	3342
BALLESTEROS, ADRIAN	CA-S	3769	MCGREEN, MAYA	NY	3339
HEUBLUM, JACK E	NY	3653	SINGH, ADITYA	WA	3338

ChessMagnetSchool.com is the sponsor of the 2012 Junior Grand Prix (JGP). Official standings for events received and processed by July 4, 2012 are unofficial and subject to change during the year or until year-end tabulation is complete. 2012 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.

USCF SALES

Coming in September!
The USCF Sales
2012 Back to School Catalog
Don't Miss It!





USCF National Events

Note: Tournament memberships not valid for National events

SEE TLA IN THIS ISSUE FOR DETAILS

- 2012 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior Open Championship** August 4-7 • Vancouver, Washington
- 113th annual (2012) U.S. Open** August 4-12, 7-12 or 9-12 • Vancouver, Washington
- 2012 Women's U.S. Open** August 8-12 • Vancouver, Washington
- 2012 U.S. Blind Chess Championship**—USCF & U.S. Braille Chess Association (USBCA) are sponsoring this USCF National event August 24-25 • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 2012 U.S. Masters Championship** August 30-September 3 • Greensboro, North Carolina
- 2012 U.S. Class Championships** September 21-23 or 22-23 • Houston, Texas

FUTURE EVENTS *(Watch for details)*

- 2012 U.S. Action Game/30** October 27 • Pleasanton, California
- 2012 U.S. Game/60** October 28 • Pleasanton, California
- 2012 K-12 Grade Championship** November 30-December 2 • Orlando, Florida
- 2013 SuperNationals V** April 5-7 • Nashville, Tennessee
- 2013 All-Girls National Championships** April 26-28 • Chicago, Illinois
- 2013 U.S. Senior Open** May 28-June 2 • Tarrytown, New York
- 2013 U.S. Junior Open** May 31-June 2 • Tarrytown, New York
- 114th annual (2013) U.S. Open** July 27-August 4 • Madison, Wisconsin
- 2013 K-12 Grade Championship** December 13-15 • Lake Buena Vista, Florida
- 2014 National High School (K-12) Championship** April 4-6 • San Diego, California
- 2014 National Junior High (K-9) Championship** April 25-27 • Atlanta, Georgia
- 2014 National Elementary (K-6) Championship** May 9-11 • Dallas, Texas
- 115th annual (2014) U.S. Open** July 26-August 3 • St. Louis, Missouri
- 2014 K-12 Grade Championship** December 12-14 • Orlando, Florida
- 2015 National High School (K-12) Championship** April 10-12 • Columbus, Ohio
- 2015 National Junior High (K-9) Championship** April 24-26 • Louisville, Kentucky
- 2015 National Elementary (K-6) Championship** May 8-10 • Nashville, Tennessee
- 116th annual (2015) U.S. Open** August 1-9 • Phoenix, Arizona
- 2015 K-12 Grade Championship** December 4-6 • Orlando, Florida
- 2016 National Junior High (K-9) Championship** April 15-17 • Indianapolis, Indiana
- 2016 National Elementary (K-6) Championship** May 6-8 • Nashville, Tennessee
- 117th annual (2016) U.S. Open** July 30-August 7 • Indianapolis, Indiana
- 2016 K-12 Grade Championship** December 16-18 • Nashville, Tennessee
- 2017 SuperNationals VI** TBA • Nashville, Tennessee
- 2021 SuperNationals VI** TBA • Nashville, Tennessee

Bids

Note: Organizers previously awarded options for USCF National Events must still submit proposals (including sample budgets) for their events.

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.

NOW PAST DEADLINE OF JULY 1, 2011:

2012 National Youth Action (NYA)

DEADLINE JULY 1, 2012:

- 2013 U.S. Amateur Team Championship (North, South, West)**
- 2013 U.S. Amateur (East, North, South, West)**
- 2013 U.S. Junior Chess Congress**
- 2013 U.S. Class Championship**
- 2013 U.S. Cadet**
- 2013 National Youth Action (NYA)**
- 2013 National Open**
- 2013 U.S. Game 10 Championship**
- 2013 U.S. Game/15 Championship**
- 2013 U.S. Game 60 Championship**
- 2013 U.S. Action G/30 Championship**
- 2013 U.S. Masters Championship**
- 2013 U.S. Junior Closed**

DEADLINE JULY 1, 2013:

- 2014 U.S. Senior Open**
- 2014 U.S. Junior Closed**

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 tla deadline schedule, formatting help and Grand Prix information see April 2012 Chess Life pg. 50 and 51 or check www.uschess.org/go/tlainfo. 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. 4-7, WASHINGTON
2012 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior Open Championship
6SS, G/90+30 seconds. Hilton Vancouver Washington (see U.S. Open). Open to all females born after 8/4/1991 not 7/30/90. Must be US resident to qualify for Scholarship money. **EF:** Free if playing in U.S. Open (must play in 6-Day or 4-Day Schedule), otherwise \$50 mailed by 7/29 not 7/24 or on line by 7/29 not 7/27. \$60 at site. **Prizes:** 1st Place: \$500 Scholarship and Plaque; 2nd Place: \$350 Scholarship and Plaque; 3rd Place: \$150 Scholarship and Plaque; Plaques to Top A, B, C, D, E, Unr. **Registration ends** Sat 6pm not 6:30 pm, Rds. Sat 7 pm, Sun/Mon 12 noon & 7 pm, Tue 11 am. **Ent:** USCF (Girls Junior Open), PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557. **Online entry:** <https://secure.uschess.org/webstore/tournaments.php?wkevent=2012GirlsJrOpen>. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!
AUG. 4-12, 7-12 OR 9-12, WASHINGTON
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 300
113th annual U.S. Open

Includes traditional one game per day schedule (9 days), also 6-day slow time control option, and 4-day option requiring only 3 nights hotel stay for most players. 9SS, 40/2, SD/1, D5 (4 day option, Rds. 1-6, G/60, D5). Hilton Vancouver Washington, 301 W. 6th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660. Self Parking \$13.00, valet \$17.00 per night. **HR:** \$110 single/quad, 360-993-4500, reserve by July 12 or rate may increase. **OVERFLOW HOTEL:** Red Lion Hotel Vancouver (at the Quay), 100 Columbia St., Vancouver, WA 98660. \$109.00 Single, Double, Triple, Quad. 877-423-7115 or 360-694-8341. \$50,000 in prizes based on 500 paid entries, else proportional, \$40,000 (80% of each prize) minimum guaranteed. A one section tournament with Class prizes. Top US player not otherwise qualified qualifies for 2013 US Championship. **Choice of three schedules: Traditional:** 40/2, SD/1, D5. One round daily at 7 pm, except Rd 9, 3 pm 8/12. **6-Day Option:** 7 pm 8/7, 12 noon & 7 pm 8/10, 7 pm 8/11, 3 pm 8/12. **4-Day Option:** 1 pm, 4 & 7 pm 8/9; 10 am, 1 pm, 3:30 pm & 7 pm 8/10, 7 pm 8/11, 3 pm 8/12. **All schedules merge** after Round 6 & compete for same prizes. **Projected prizes:** Top places \$8000-4000-2000-1500-1000-700-500-400, clear winner or playoff \$200 bonus. If tie for first, top two on tiebreak play speed game (White 5 minutes, Black 3 minutes and gets draw odds, 5 second delay) for bonus and title. **Class Prizes:** Top Master (2200-2399) \$2400-1200-600-300, Expert (2000-2199) \$2400-1200-600-300, Class A (1800-1999) \$2400-1200-600-300, Class B (1600-1799) \$2400-1200-600-300, Class C (1400-1599) \$2000-1000-500-300, Class D (1200-1399) \$1500-700-400-200, Class E or below (under 1200) \$1200-600-400-200, Unrated \$700-400-200. **Special prizes** for Life Titles: Top Life Senior Master Under 2500: \$600. Top Life Master, (or Original Life Master) Under 2300: \$600. Top Candidate Master (or higher title) Under 2100: \$500. Top First Category (or higher title) Under 1900: \$500. Top Second Category (or higher title) Under 1700: \$500. Top Third Category (or higher) Under 1500: \$400. Top Fourth Category (or higher) Under 1300: \$300. **Life Titles** must be established by August 1, 2012. **Special life title prizes** will be calculated and awarded August 24, 2012. **Half Point Byes:** must commit before Round 4; up to 3 byes allowed for 2000/upt, 2 byes for 1400-1999, one bye for Under 1400/Unr. Limit 1 bye in last two rounds. Zero point byes are always available in any round. **Entry Fee:** Online, \$145 by 6/17, \$165 by 7/29, \$185 after 7/29. By mail, \$147 postmarked by 6/17, \$167 postmarked by 7/29; do not mail after 7/29! By phone, \$150 by 6/17, \$170 by 7/29, \$185 after. No phone entries after 8/2 (close of business at the Office)! **At site, all \$190; GMs free.** All entries must be made at least 2 hours prior to your first game. **Current USCF membership** required. **August official ratings** used; unofficial ratings used if otherwise unrated. **CCA ratings** used if above USCF. **Foreign player ratings:** usually 100 points added to FIDE or FQE, 200+ added to most foreign national ratings, no points added to CFC. **Highest of multiple ratings** generally used. **Entries:** USCF, ATTN: 2012 U.S. Open, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557. **Online entry:** <https://secure2.uschess.org/webstore/tournament.php?wkevent=2012USOPEN>. **Phone entry:** 800-903-8723. **FIDE rated, No cell phones.** Bring a clock -- none supplied. **Sets/boards** supplied for tournament but not for skilltes. Many meetings, workshops and seminars, including: **USCF Committee Meetings** 8/8-10. **USCF Awards Luncheon** 8/11 noon, **USCF Delegates Meeting** 8/11-12. Many side events and other championships, including: **Women's US Open** (see separate TLA for the Women's event), **U.S. Open Blitz Championship** 7:55 Double, 12noon 8/11; **Weekend Swiss** 5SS G/60, 10-1-3:30 Sat 8/4, 10 & 1 Sun 8/5; **U.S. Open Squads** (see separate TLA for the Scholastic event); **U.S. Open Schols** G/30 12-1:30-3:00 Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri; **U.S. Open G/15 Championship** 12-1-2-3-4 Wed 8/8; **U.S. Open Bughouse** Sun. 7:00 pm 8/6. **16th Annual Golf Tournament for the U.S. Open Chess Players,** (see tournament website for details). **U.S. Open Tennis Tournament** (see tournament website for details). In addition, three other championships will also take place: **the 2012**

Denker Tournament of HS Champions, the 2012 Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions, and the 2012 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior Open (see separate TLA for the Girls event). **Please check the U.S. Open website often for updates, new information and corrections!** www.uschess.org/tournaments/2012/usopen/. **FIDE. Chess Magnet School JGP for U.S. Open.**

AUG. 8-12, WASHINGTON
2012 Women's U.S. Open
5SS, Game 90+ 30 Seconds. Hilton Vancouver Washington, 301 W 6th St., Vancouver, WA 98660. Self Parking \$13.00, valet \$17.00 per night. **HR:** \$110 single/quad, 360-993-4500, reserve by July 12 or rate may increase. \$2000 Guaranteed. **EF:** \$50. One section with class prizes. **Prizes:** \$500 (+ trophy), \$300, 2000. **Class Prizes:** U2000, U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200: \$200 each. **Rounds:** 8/8 to 8/11, 11:00 AM, 8/12, 10:00 AM. **Half point byes:** Limit 1, must commit before Round 2. **Entry Fee:** Online, \$50 by August 7th. By mail, \$50 postmarked by 7/29; do not mail after 7/29! By phone, \$50 by 8/7. **No phone entries after 8/7** (close of business at the Office)! **At site, all \$50.** **Registration** at site closes August 8 at 10:00 AM. **August official ratings** used; unofficial ratings used if otherwise unrated. **CCA ratings** used if above USCF. **Foreign player ratings:** usually 100 points added to FIDE or FQE, 200+ added to most foreign national ratings, no points added to CFC. **Highest of multiple ratings** generally used. **Entries:** USCF, ATTN: 2012 U.S. Women's Open, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557. **Online entry:** www.uschess.org/tournaments/2012/womens/. **Phone entry:** 800-903-8723. **No cell phones.** Bring a clock -- none supplied. **Sets/boards** supplied for tournament but not for skilltes. **Please see the US Open TLA for side events, committee meetings, delegate meetings and other events held during the Open. Please check the U.S. Open website often for updates, new information and corrections! www.uschess.org/tournaments/2012/womens/. **Chess Magnet School JGP.****

AUG. 24-25, PENNSYLVANIA
2012 U.S. Blind Chess Championship
USCF & U.S. Braille Chess Association (USBCA) are sponsoring this USCF National event. 4 SS or 4 RR (depends on # of players), G/135. Holiday Inn Express Hotel, 5311 Campbells Run Road (near airport), Pitts-burgh, 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:** \$1,400 GTD: 1st: \$400, 2nd: \$300, 3rd: \$200, 4th: \$100. **Best player** U1400, \$100. **Class E (1000-1199), \$100. Class F (800-999), \$100. Best Unrated players. NOTE:** All players must be classified as Legally Blind and bring proof. You must also be a current member of the USCF for \$18 a year. You can join the USCF at the event! **HR:** \$99 net; code: USB. **Contact:** Rick Varchetto, richard521@sudden-link.net. Phone: (h) 304-636-4034, (c) 304-614-4034 or Joan DuBois, tla@uschess.org, (c) 931-200-3412. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 30-SEPT. 3, NORTH CAROLINA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 200 (ENHANCED)
2012 U.S. Masters Championship
9-SS 40/90, SD/30 (corrected from SD/60 to comply with FIDE regulations), inc. 30. Embassy Suites Airport, 204 Centrepoint Dr., Greensboro, NC 27409, (336) 668-4535, mention Group Name, "North Carolina Chess Association" for discounted hotel rate. **GM and IM norms** may be possible! \$17000 in prizes UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED! \$5000-3000-1750-1250-1000-750-500-350-250-150 U2450 1500-1000-500. **EF:** \$150 if received by August 15 \$200 later or on site. **GM's and foreign IM's Free.** **No money** taken out of winnings to reimburse for EF. **This tournament is open** only to players who have ratings over 2200, those who have ever been so rated, all foreign FIDE-rated players, and juniors (under age 21) rated over 2000. **RDS.:** Aug 30 7:30PM then 11-7:30, 11-7:30, 11-7:30, 11-7:30, 11-7:30. **HR:** \$99 All rooms are suite style. Free made to order breakfast daily, free manager's reception nightly, and free airport shuttle available for all guests. **Advance Entry Send checks to:** Walter High, 105 North Crabtree Knoll, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. **Make checks payable to:** NCCA. On site entry will be available on August 30 from 2-7PM. **BYES:** A maximum of two byes allowed. **Byes** must be requested before the start of round 2. **No last round byes.** **INFO:** Gary Newsom, garynewsom@queenchess.com or Walter High whigh@nc.rr.com. **More info including pre-entry lists may be available at:** nchess.org. **FIDE rated. No smoking. No computers.** **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 21-23 OR 22-23, TEXAS
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 50 (ENHANCED)
2012 U.S. Class Championships
5SS, G/120, d5 (2-Day Option, Rd 1, G/60, d5), \$11,000 b/200 full paid entries, 70% Guaranteed. Junior entries in Class C and D, all Class E, and Unrated Section count as 2/3. **Free entry** for GMs. **Free entry** for IMs, deducted from winnings. **July Rating Supplement** used. **Houston Marriott** South at Hobby Airport, 9100 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX 77017, <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/houhh-houston-hobby-airport-marriott/>. **Free parking!** \$87 HR! 713-943-7979, Group Code: CHESS. **8 Sections,** Rated players may play up one class only. **MASTER (2200/upt), FIDE Rated,** \$1,250-650-400 (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 postmarked or on line by 9/14, \$85 after. **Special EF:** \$45 by 9/14 (\$55 after) for all players in Class E, Unrated Section, and Juniors U18 in Class C or D. **3-Day Schedule:** Registration Fri (10/1) 5-7pm. Rds. Fri 8pm, Sat 1pm & 6:30pm, Sun 9:30am & 2:30pm. **2-Day Schedule:** Registration Sat (10/2) 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 2, 2 sections, Open and U1800 (uses Regular USCF ratings), \$10 EF on site, 75% returned in prizes; **SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENT,** 5SS, G/30, d5, One day only, Sat 10/2, \$20 by 9/24, \$25 after. **Sections:** K-3, K-6, K-9, K-12. **Prizes:** Trophies to top 15 individuals and plaques to top 3 teams in each division, top four players from one school count for team score, minimum of two. **Scholastic players** will receive a commemorative medal. **ENTRIES:** Check payable to Francisco L. Guadalupe and mail to 305 Willow Pointe Dr., League City, TX 77573. On line: www.active.com/more-sports-tournament/houston-tx/us-class-chess-championships-2012/. **Tournament website link** at <http://main.uschess.org/content/view/10014/95>. **Info:** figuadalupe@aol.com. Phone Entries (713) 530-7820. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Grand Prix

AUG. 4-5, WASHINGTON
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6
2012 U.S. Open Weekend Swiss
5-SS, G/60. **\$51,000 guaranteed prizes.** \$200-100-50, U2200/Unr \$160, U1800 \$140, U1600 \$120, U1400 \$100, U1200 \$80, Unr \$50. **Entry fee:** \$40, Unr free if paying USCF dues. **On-Site Registration:** 8:30-9:30am 8/4. **Rds.:** Sat 10-1-3:30, Sun 10-1. **See U.S. Open Side Events display** **ad** for more details on all 2012 U.S. Open Side Events.

A Heritage Event!
AUG. 4-12, 7-12 OR 9-12, WASHINGTON
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 300
113th annual U.S. Open
See Nationals.

A Heritage Event!
AUG. 9-12, 10-12 OR 11-12, MASSACHUSETTS
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 120 (ENHANCED)
42nd annual Continental Open
6SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, Rds 1-3 G/50). **Host Hotel** at Cedar Lake, 366 Main St (Rt 20 West), Sturbridge, MA 01566 (I-84 Exit 3, near I-90). **Free parking.** Experience early 19th century America at OldSturbridge 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 tie-break win \$100 bonus, top U2400/Unr \$1800-1000. **FIDE. Under 2200:** \$2000-1000-600-400-200. **Under 2000:** \$2000-1000-600-400-200. **Under 1800:** \$2000-1000-600-400-200. **Under 1600:** \$1800-900-500-400-200. **Under 1400:** \$1500-800-400-300-200. **Under 1100:** \$700-400-250-150-100. **Unrated** may enter any section, with prize limit U2000 \$1000, U1800 \$800, U1600 \$600, U1400 \$400, U1100 \$250; balance goes to next player(s) in line. **Top 6 sections EF:** 4-day \$149, 3-day \$148, 2-day \$147 mailed by 7/31, all \$149 online at chesstour.com by 8/6, \$155 phoned by 8/6 (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 1100 Section & unrated in Under 1400:**

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!

HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY

presents:

The 2012 U.S. Masters Chess Championship

Aug. 30 – Sept. 3 in Greensboro, NC

Embassy Suites Airport Hotel, 204 Centreport Dr., Greensboro, NC 27409 (336-668-4535)

\$17,000 prize fund unconditionally guaranteed!

Prizes: \$5,000, \$3,000, \$1750, \$1,250, \$1,000, \$750, \$500, \$350, \$250, \$150;
U2450: \$1,500, \$1,000, \$500; no return of prize winnings for entry fee!!!

9 SS; 40/90 SD 30/inc. 30; GM/IM norms possible; FIDE rated, 200 GP points

Entry: free to All GMs and foreign IMs; \$150 by Aug. 15th; \$200 late or on site

Restriction: must have had 2200 rating previously in chess career; also open to all foreign FIDE-rated players and Juniors (under age 21) who are rated 2000 or higher.

Hotel: \$99 chess rate (mention NCCA). All rooms suite style, full cooked-to-order breakfast for each person in room daily, manager's reception nightly, free airport shuttle. Call: 336-668-4535.

Full information:<http://www.ncchess.org>; Advanced entries to: **Walter High**, 105 N. Crabtree Knoll, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. Questions: wmhigh@nc.rr.com(919) 619-3541.



High Point University presents:

The 2012 North Carolina Open

Aug. 31 – Sept. 2 at the same Embassy Suites

\$13,000 prize fund unconditionally guaranteed!

4 sections: Open, U2000, U1700, U1400, each with 3 class prizes!

Prizes in each section: \$1,000, \$500, \$300, \$250, \$150, \$125, \$125, \$100, \$100, \$100; Class prizes: \$250, \$150, \$100 for U2200, U1850, U1550, U1200

5 SS; 35/90/d5; SD60/d5; Open section is FIDE rated; 60 GP points

Entry: \$65 by Aug. 15th, \$75 late or on site. **Hotel:** see US Masters above. **Schedule:** 2-day or 3-day.

Full information:<http://www.ncchess.org>; Advanced entries to: **Walter High**, 105 N. Crabtree Knoll, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. Questions: wmhigh@nc.rr.com(919) 619-3541.

all \$60 less. **All:** Advance EF \$5 less to MACA members; may join/renew at masschess.org. 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:** \$89-89-99, 800-582-3232, 508-347-7393, request chess rate, reserve by 7/26 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.chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 11, WASHINGTON

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 2012 U.S. Open Blitz Championship (OC)

7-SS (double round, 14 games), 1 section, G/5. Quick rated, higher of regular or quick rating. **Entry fee:** \$40, free to Unrated if paying USCF dues. **Registration:** 9am-11:30am, first round begins at noon. **\$2000 guaranteed prizes!** \$5400-200-150, Expert \$200-100, U2000 \$200-100, U1800 \$180-90, U1600/Unr \$140-70, U1400 \$100, U200 \$70. **See U.S. Open Side Events display ad for more details on 2012 U.S. Open Side Events.**

A Heritage Event!

AUG. 16, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20 (ENHANCED)

August New Yorker Masters Special Edition of USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament!

4-SS, G/25 + d5 or G/30 + d/0. Chess Center of New York at the historic New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, NYC (845-569-9969, Thursdays: 212-971-0101). 2 sections. **Masters**, open to players currently or formerly over 2199 USCF or FIDE, or any player scoring 21/2 or more points in any "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Action tournament since Jan. 2011. **\$1,500 Guaranteed Prizes!** \$400-200-100, top U2400 \$150. **Under 2200:** \$200-100, top U1800 \$100. **NEW!! Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes:** best male/female 2-player team combined score in either section: \$150-100 (teammates' average rating must be Under 2200; teammates may play in different sections, teammate pairings avoided but possible, teams must declare by 8:15). **Choice of 2 schedules! 7:00 Schedule,** rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **7:30 schedule,** rd. 1 (G/15 + td/3) at 7:30 pm, score carries over into round 2 of 7:00 schedule at 8:15 pm. **EF:** Masters Section \$40, Under 2200 Section \$30, \$5 less to anyone who played in 4 or more "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Action tournaments since Jan. 2011. **GMs** free (\$25 from prize), specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners **Free!** Limit 2 byes (limit one bye towards class prize), must commit by 8:15 pm. **Re-entry:** half-price. **Reg.** ends 20 min. before game. **CCA ratings** may be used. Help with NYC street parking: www.primospot.com. Info: **www.chesscenter.cc.**

AUG. 16, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)

Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!

4-SS, G/25d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$40, members \$20, GMs and IMs free (no deduction from prize). **(\$530 b/\$32 first two prizes guaranteed)** \$200-100-50, U2200 \$95, U2000 \$85. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available, request at entry. **www.marshallchessclub.org.**

A State Championship Event!

AUG. 17-19, ARKANSAS

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

Arkansas State Championship

Little Rock Convention Center (Downtown Little Rock), FULTON ROOM, 6 SS, 2 Open Schedules. **Schedule 1:** Reg. Fri. 6:00-6:50 PM. G/120. Rds: Fri 7 PM, Sat 9:30, 2:30, 7:00, Sun 9:00 & 2:00. **Schedule 2:** Reg. Sat. 8:00-9:00 AM. Rds 1 & 2 are G/60. Rd 1-9:30; Rd 2-11:40, merge rd 3 - G/120. **EF:** \$45 in advance, otherwise \$50. 1/2 point bye is available if asked for at registration. **\$b/50 entries:** 1st place: \$400. 2nd: \$250; A \$200. B, C, D each \$200. \$50. E \$100; Unr \$100. Upset prize of \$50. Plaques for winners (must be AR resident). USCF & ACA req'd. OSA, (b/50, but if less, prize money prorated based on percentage, ex: 45 would be 10% less payment) MUST BE 4 in a class else \$50 prize. **Room rates** at the American's Best Value Inn located at 3100 main St. in North Little Rock will be

discounted at only \$42.95 per night for a single room and only \$52.95 per night for double for chess tournament participants. **For more info contact:** Tony Davis, President of Urban Knights chess club at 501-744-4911, chessmasterguard@yahoo.com. NS, NC, W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 50 (ENHANCED)

4th annual Central California Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d/5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d/5). Radisson Hotel, 2233 Ventura St., Fresno, CA 93710. Free parking, free airport shuttle. Cosponsored by Fresno Chess Club. **\$10,000** based on 125 paid entries (re-entries & \$60 less EF count half), minimum \$7,000 (70% of each prize) guaranteed. In 4 sections: **Open:** \$1500-700-400-300, clear or tie-break 1st \$100, top U2200 \$600, U2100 \$500. **FIDE. Under 2000:** \$1200-600-400-200, top U1800 \$500. **Under 1700:** \$1000-500-300-200, top U1500 \$400. **Under 1400:** \$300-200-100, trophies to top U1200, U1000, U800, U600. **Unrated** may enter any section, with prize limits: U1400 \$150, U1700 \$500. Balance goes to next player(s) in line. **Top 3 sections EF:** 3-day \$118, 2-day \$117 mailed by 8/8, all \$115 online at chesstour.com by 8/14, \$120 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/14 (entry only, no questions), \$130 at site, or online until 2 hours before your first game. **Under 1400 Section EF:** all \$60 less than above. **Mailed EF \$15 less** to Fresno Chess Club members. **GMs, IMs & WGMs 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 if eligible for class prizes; must commit before rd 2. **HR:** \$89-89, 800-333-3333 (note correction, 559-268-1000, request chess rate, reserve by 8/3 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:** chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, INDIANA

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 80 (ENHANCED) 7th annual Indianapolis Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d/5), Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport, 2051 S. High School Rd (off I-465 & Airport Expwy), Indianapolis, IN 46241. Free parking, free airport shuttle, free wireless, indoor pool, game room, fitness center. **\$16,000** based on 200 paid entries (re-entries & \$50 off entries count half), \$12,000 (75% each prize) minimum guaranteed. In 5 sections: **Open:** \$2000-1000-600-300, clear or tiebreak winner \$100 bonus, top Under 2300/Unr \$800, Under 2200/Unr \$700. **FIDE. Under 2100:** \$1400-700-400-200, top Under 1900 (no unr) \$500. **Under 1800:** \$1400-700-400-200, top Under 1600 (no unr) \$500. **Under 1500:** \$1200-600-300-200, top Under 1300 (no unr) \$400. **Under 1200:** \$700-400-200-100, trophies to top Under 1000, Under 800, Under 600, Unrated. **Unrated** may not win over \$150 in U1200, \$300 U1500, or \$500 U1800. **Top 4 sections EF:** 3-day \$108, 2-day \$107 if check mailed by 8/8, all \$105 online at chesstour.com by 8/14, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/14 (entry only, no questions), \$120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site. **GMs, IMs or WGMs free;** \$100 deducted from prize. **Under 1200 Section EF:** all \$50 less than above. **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 6:30 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. **All:** Half point byes OK all, limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR (note correction):** \$89-89, 1-800-227-6963, 317-236-7495; reserve by 8/3 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, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)

11th annual Manhattan Open

NOTE 2-DAY, U900 & U700 SCHEDULE CHANGES. 6SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-3 G/50, d/5). Under 900 and Under 700 Sections play 8/18-19 only, G/50, d/5. New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave at 34th St.

across from Penn Station, New York 10001. **\$35,000 guaranteed prizes.** Open & U2300 Sections are FIDE rated, except G/50 games. In 10 sections: **Open:** \$2500-1500-1000-700-500-400, clear or tiebreak first \$200 bonus, top Under 2500/Unr \$1200. **Under 2300, Under 2100, Under 1900, Under 1700:** each \$1500-1000-700-500-400-300. **Under 1500, Under 1300:** each \$1200-800-600-500-400-300. **Under 1100:** \$700-400-300-200-100-100. **Under 900:** Trophies to first 10, top Unrated. **Under 700:** Trophies to first 10, top Under 500, Under 300, Unrated. **Prize limits:** 1) If any post-event rating posted at uschess.org 8/13/11-8/13/12 is more than 30 points over section maximum, prize limit \$800. 2) Unrated (0-3 lifetime games rated) cannot win over \$200 in U1100, \$400 U1300, \$600 U1500, \$800 U1700 or \$1000 U1900. 3) Balance of limited prize goes to next player(s) in line. **Top 7 sections EF:** 3-day \$163, 2-day \$162 if check mailed by 8/8, all \$165 online at chesstour.com by 8/13, \$170 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/13, \$180 at site. **Under 1100 Section EF:** 3-day \$83, 2-day \$82 if check mailed by 8/8, all \$85 online at chesstour.com by 8/13, \$90 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/13, \$100 at site. **Under 900 or Under 700 Section EF:** 3-day \$33, 2-day \$32 if check mailed by 8/8, all \$35 online at chesstour.com by 8/13, \$40 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/13, \$50 at site. **No phone entry** after 8/13. **Online late entry is available** between 8/14 and two hours before round 1, with same fee as site. **Unofficial uschess.org ratings** usually used if otherwise unrated. **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:** \$80, no re-entry from Open Section to Open Section. **3-day schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 11 am, rds Fri 12 & 7, 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. **3-day & 2-day merge & compete** for same prizes. **Under 900 & Under 700 schedule:** Reg. ends Sat. 9 am, rds 10, 12:45, 3:15 each day. **Byes:** all; limit 2, Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **Bring sets, boards, clocks** if possible- none supplied. **HR:** \$175-175-195-210 (rates for 3 or 4 in room are for 2 beds), 1-800-764-4680, 212-971-0101, 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 play ratings:** see www.chesstour.com/foreignratings.htm. **US player ratings:** August official ratings used; FIDE ratings not used. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. **Questions:** 845-496-9658, www.chesstour.com. \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, SOUTH CAROLINA

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

Columbia Open

Hilton Garden Inn, 434 Columbiana Dr., Columbia, SC 29212. **\$3600 b/65.** 5SS, G120/d5 (2 day Rd 1 G90/d5). **In 4 Sections:** **Open:** \$500-250-175. Top U2200 \$125. **U2000: U1600: U1200:** \$400-200-150 **Top U1800: U1400: U1000 \$100. All: EF:** \$59 by Aug. 9. \$75 after. Free entry to 2200+ (deduct \$59 from prizes). \$25 Re-entry. **Mem. Reg'd:** SCCA \$10. OSA. 1 half pt bye available. Must declare before rd 3. **Ent:** Daniel M. Smith, 407 White Falls Dr., Columbia, SC 29212, www.columbiachess.com. **INFO:** Daniel M. Smith, Bob Halliday daniel@columbiachess.com, bob@columbiachess.com. **3 Day: Reg Ends 7:15 pm** Fri Rd1 8pm, Rd2 Sat 2 & 7 pm Sun 9am 2pm **2 Day Reg Ends 9:15 am** Sat Rd1 10am merge with 3 Day. **HR:** \$89 803 407-6640. Reserve by Aug. 1. Mention Columbia Open Chess Tournament. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 18, NEW JERSEY

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)

Luzviminda Machan 3 Open

4-SS, G/45. Once a month. **EF:** \$40, members \$30, GMs free (\$25 deducted from prize). **\$b/200-150-100-50.** Prizes to U2200, U1800, U1400, and U1000 (Trophies). **Reg.:** 1pm-1:30pm. **Rds.:** 1:30pm, 3:15pm, 5pm, 6:45pm. One bye available, commit at least 15min prior the game. 1531 Irving St., Rahway, NJ 07065. (732)499-0118/(760)583-8429. **NOTE:** Chess Mates Summer Camps (June 25-September 7). Please visit www.chessmatesnj.com for details.

AUG. 18, TENNESSEE

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

Mike Barton Memorial 2

2 sections: Open and U1200 Scholastic. 4SS, G/60. **New Site:** Holiday Inn Express, 7784 Wolf Trail Cove, Germantown, TN 38138 NOT Greater Memphis Chess Center, 5796 Shelby Oaks Drive Suite 111, Memphis, TN 38134. **EF:** Open \$30, \$25 for members. **U1200 Scholastic:** \$20, \$15 for members. **Open Prizes:** \$300, \$200, \$100, Top U1800 and U1600: \$50

PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS HEALTH AND BENEFITS FUND

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%.

Illinois Open State Championships

September 1 – 3, 2012

\$8,500 Guaranteed Prize Fund

6R-SS in 3 Sections

\$64 Early Bird Entry Fee by 8/4

<http://www.nachess.org/ilopen2012>

each. **U1200 scholastic Prizes:** Gift certificates from chess central for top 3: \$125, \$75, \$50. **Rounds (G/60):** 10-1-3-5. Onsite Registration 08/18: 7:30-9:30am. **Entries:** Memphis Chess Club Inc., PO Box 17864, Memphis, TN 38187-0864. **TD:** Gary Pylant, gpylant@gmail.com, (901) 359-8616. www.memphischess.com.

AUG. 18, TENNESSEE
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 2
20th Battle of Murfreesboro
 5-SS, rd.1 G/25d5, rd.2 G/55d5, rds.3, 4, 5 G/70d5. Grace Lutheran Church, 811 E. Clark Blvd., Murfreesboro, TN. **EF:** \$25 by 8/16, \$30 at site. **\$\$** (1160, 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. Free lunch for all participating players. **Ent:** Rutherford County Chess Club, P.O. Box 1593, Murfreesboro, TN 37133. <http://rccc.us/> (with map to site), rccc@rccc.us 615-895-7989 NS. NC. **W. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 18, VIRGINIA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)
Sterling Chess August Open and RBO
 Hilton Inn & Suites Duques, 22700 Holiday Park Dr., Sterling, VA 20166. **Three sections: Open** 4SS, G/61T/D5, **\$650 Gtd.**, 325/200/125. **U1600** 4SS, G/61T/D5, **\$25 Gtd.** for winner, medal for second. **U900** 4SS, G/25T/D5, trophy for first, medal for second. **Rds.:** Open and U1600 11:15, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00. U900 10:30, 12:00, 1:15, 2:30. Doors open 9:45. **EF:** Open \$45, U1600 \$25, U900 \$20. Unrateds free. **Entries limited:** Register online at www.meetup.com/sterling-chess-tournaments. Pay on website. **HR:** 79/89. Call 703-537-7800 and mention Sterling Chess. **Bye:** Half-point, any round. **Prizes:** with more than one bye are not eligible for prizes. **Info:** news@serranoassociates.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP for top two sections.**

AUG. 18, VIRGINIA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10
Tracy Callis Jr. 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 guaranteed \$150-\$125. If Hexagonals, each guaranteed \$125-\$100. If Quads, each guaranteed \$125. **ENTRY FEE:** If received by Aug 17, \$30.00 At site, \$40.00. **REGISTRATION:** 6-9 pm on 8/17; 8:30-9:30 am on 8/20. **ROUNDS:** 10-2:30-6:30. **BYES:** One only per player; must request in advance. **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! A VCF Cup Event.**

AUG. 18-19, MICHIGAN
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 2
2012 U.P. Open
Location: Masonic Building, 128 W. Washington St., Marquette, MI (parking and entrance in rear of building). 5SS/G 2 hr (no time delay). **Entry Fee:** \$30 (\$20 for juniors 19 or under). **Prizes:** \$250 (GTD) first place, \$125 (GTD) second, others based on entries. Trophy to top UP resident. **Reg.:** 9-9:30 Sat. **Rounds:** 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. Results will be sent to USCF via US Mail. **Info and early entries:** Robert John, 315 E. Prospect St., Marquette, MI 49855, 906-228-8126, rjjr@char-termi.net. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 21, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)
Marshall Masters!
 4-SS, G/25d5. 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. **\$\$\$250-150-100.** 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. www.marshallchessclub.org.

AUG. 23, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)
Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!
 4-SS, G/25d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$40, members \$20, GMs and IM's free (no deduction from prize!). **(\$530 b/32 first two prizes guaranteed)** \$200-100-50, U2200 \$95, U2000 \$85. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

A Heritage Event!
AUG. 23, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)
The Original "4 Rated Games Tonight" Now At The New Yorker Hotel-USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament!
 4-SS, G/25 + d/5 or G/30 + d/0. Chess Center at the historic New Yorker Hotel!, 481 8th Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, NYC: 845-569-9969, Thursdays: 212-971-0101 (www.chesscenter.cc). **EF:** \$30, GMs \$25 from prize. **Good Customer Loyalty Discounts:** \$5 less to those who played in at least 4 "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Actions since Jan. 2011, \$10 less to those who played in at least 10 4RTGs since 1987— **Thank You So Much For Your Support Of This Tournament These Past 25 Years!** Specified Greater NY Scholastic Prizewinners Free! **\$700 Guaranteed:** 200-110-50, Top U2200/Unr \$100, U2000 \$90. **NEW!! \$150 Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes!** Best male/female 2-player team combined score: \$100-50 (teammates' average rating must be Under 2200; teammate pairings avoided but possible, teams must declare by 8:15). **Choice of 2 schedules!** **7:00 Schedule,** rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **7:30 schedule,** rd. 1 only is Quick-rated (G/15 + td/3) at 7:30 pm, score carries over into round 2 of 7:00 schedule at 8:15 pm. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. Help with NYC street parking; www.primospot.com.

A Heritage Event!
AUG. 24-26 OR 25-26, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 120 (ENHANCED)
44th annual Atlantic Open
 5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d5). Washington Westin Hotel, 1400 M St. NW at Thomas Circle, Washington, DC 20005. **\$\$\$ 20,000 guaranteed prizes.** 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 \$150 in U1000, \$300 U1300, \$500 U1500, \$700 U1700, or \$900 U1900. If any post-event rating posted at uschess.org 8/21/11-8/21/12 is more than 30 points over section maximum, prize limit \$700. **Top 6 sections EF:** 3-day \$108, 2-day \$107 if check mailed by 8/15, all \$105 online at chessstour.com by 8/21, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/21 (entry only, no questions), \$120 at site, or online until 2 hours before your first game. **Under 1000 Section EF:** All \$60 less than above. 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. **Alt:** Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **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 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 8/10 or rate may increase. Regular rate at this luxury hotel is about \$200! **Car rental:** 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633, or reserve car online through chessstour.com. **Parking:** Valet parking \$10/day to 2 am or \$20/day overnight; garage has limited space. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** www.chessstour.com, Director@ChessUS, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chessstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 25-26, CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6
LACC - August Open
 Open (6SS, G/61), 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd fl. **2 Sections:** U2300/U1800. **EF:** \$70 at the door (\$65 if notified by 8/24); \$60 LACC members (\$55 if notified by 8/24); Siblings \$15 off, \$40 new LACC members. Free new LACC Life member! 20% off EF for each friend you bring in. **Reg.:** Sat 10-11:30 am. **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 & Gift Cards (b/45, \$1,000 Guaranteed). 1st-3rd \$300-200-100-100; U1800: \$200-100-50; U1600: \$150-100; U1400: \$100-50; U1200/unrated: \$75. **Ent:** LACC, Box 251774, LA, CA 90025. **Info:** Mick Bighamian: Cell (310) 795-5710; Rick@LACChessClub.com or www.LACChessClub.com. **Parking:** Free street & BoA Parking; or building basement (\$5). **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!
AUG. 25-26, IOWA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)
58th Iowa Open Championship (USCF and FIDE rated)
 5-SS, G/90 I30 (Some clocks available). IASCA Super GP Qualifier. Clarion Highlander Convention Center, I-80 NE side of Exit 246, Iowa City, IA 52245. **Rds.:** 10-2:30-7:30, 9-2. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:30. **Prizes:** \$1200 b/35 Gtd 1&2 320 + T200-125 U2000, U1800, U1600 125/60 each. **EF:** \$49 pstmcd 8/20, \$55 on site, IM & GM free EF deducted from any prize, Jrs. & Sr. \$10 off, \$10 off Out of state residents, IASCA membership req (\$15 reg, \$10 Jr.) or OSA. **Tournament Director:** Bill Broich. **Ent:** IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245, Ph# 319.321.5435, mcapron243@mchsi.com or broich01@yahoo.com. **Hotel:** 319-354-2000, \$89.99 ask for chess block, www.clarionhighlander.com. **USCF - August 2012 Rating List** will be used for pairing purposes. FIDE rules will be used. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 25-26, TEXAS
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20 (ENHANCED)
2012 DCC Fide Open I
 5SS, G/90 with 30 sec inc. Dallas Chess Club, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr. #C, Richardson, TX 75080. Two sections: Open and Reserve. *Open Section* \$750G. This section is FIDE rated but uses USCF Rules. \$500-\$250. **EF:** \$75, Senior/Hcap/Additional Family Member \$50, plus \$5 non-DCC membership fee if applicable. Small appearance fee to the First two GM/IM who apply. GM/IM must play all rounds to get appearance fee. *Reserve section:* Open to players rated below 1800 USCF. This section is not FIDE Rated but is USCF rated. **EF:** For U1800: \$30 plus \$5 non Dallas Chess Club membership fee if applicable. The U1800 gives back 10% in prizes and if there is a clear winner, then that winner receives free entry to next DCC Fide Open. **Both: Registration:** 9:45-10:15 am. **Rds.:** Sat 10:45-3:10-7:16, Sun 10:45-3:10. One Bye allowed if requested before rd 2, withdrawals and zero point last round byes are not eligible for prizes. **Ent:** Dallas Chess Club, see address above. **Info:** 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com. NS. NC. **FIDE. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 30, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)
Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!
 4-SS, G/25d5. Marshall CC, 23 W 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$40, members \$20, GMs and IM's free (no deduction from prize!). **(\$530 b/32 first two prizes guaranteed)** \$200-100-50, U2200 \$95, U2000 \$85. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

A Heritage Event!
AUG. 30, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)
The Original "4 Rated Games Tonight" Now At The New Yorker Hotel- USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament!
 4-SS, G/25 + d/5 or G/30 + d/0, Chess Center at the historic New Yorker Hotel!, 481 8th Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, NYC: 845-569-9969, Thursdays: 212-971-0101 (www.chesscenter.cc). **EF:** \$30, GMs \$25 from prize. **Good Customer Loyalty Discounts:** \$5 less to those who played in at least 4 "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Actions since Jan. 2011, \$10 less to those who played in at least 10 4RTGs since 1987— **Thank You So Much For Your Support Of This Tournament These Past 25 Years!** Specified Greater NY Scholastic Prizewinners Free! **\$700 Guaranteed:** 200-110-50, Top U2200/Unr \$100, U2000 \$90. **NEW!! \$150 Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes!** Best male/female 2-player team combined score: \$100-50 (teammates' average rating must be Under 2200; teammate pairings avoided but possible, teams must declare by 8:15). **Choice of 2 schedules!** **7:00 Schedule,** rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **7:30 schedule,** rd. 1 only is Quick-rated (G/15 + td/3) at 7:30 pm, score carries over into round 2 of 7:00 schedule at 8:15 pm. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. Help with NYC street parking; www.primospot.com.

AUG. 30-SEPT. 3, NORTH CAROLINA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 200 (ENHANCED)
2012 U.S. Masters Championship
 See Nationals.

A State Championship Event!
A Heritage Event!
AUG. 31-SEPT. 1, TENNESSEE
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15
2012 Tennessee Open Championship

HARTFORD OPEN & NEW ENGLAND SENIOR

Sept 14-16 or 15-16, Windsor Locks CT

\$10,000 PROJECTED PRIZES, \$7,500 MINIMUM

5 rounds, \$89 rooms, free parking, free airport shuttle, 40 GPP

Open Section: \$1000-500-300-200, U2210 \$400-200. FIDE.

Under 2110 Section: \$800-400-200-100, top U1910 \$400-200.

Under 1810 Section: \$800-400-200-100, top U1610 \$400-200.

Under 1510 Section: \$700-400-200-100, top U1310 \$300-150.

Under 1210 Section: \$200-100, trophy to top 5, 1st U1000, Unr.

Senior (open to all age 50/up): \$300-150-100, U2010 \$180, U1810 \$170, U1610/Unr \$150, trophy to top New England player.

Unrated prize limit: \$100 in U1210, \$300 in U1510.

Also scholastics: K-8 U1000 Saturday, K-5 U800 Sunday.

FULL DETAILS: see "Grand Prix" in this issue or chesstour.com.

5SS, G/120. Tennessee Tech University, Roadean University Center, Cookeville, TN. **\$\$\$Gtd. \$3000** Prize fund. **Sections: OPEN \$400-250-200, Exp. \$200-150, Class A \$175-125, Class B \$150-75, Class C+ below \$100-75. NOVICE (U1400) \$225-170-150, Class E \$125-75, Class F+ below \$100-75, UNR \$100-75. EF:** \$50 post marked by 08/24 (\$60 at site) online by 8/29. UNR eligible for UNR prize only, youth and scholastic members for trophy only \$30 (\$40), IM and GM free entry (\$50 taken from prize of 200 or more). On site reg. Fri 5:00-6:00 pm or Sat 7:30-8:30 am, USCF and TCA Dues reg. **OSA Rds.:** Rnd 1 Fri at 7:00 pm or Sat 9:00 am else Sat. 2:00, 7:00, Sun. 9:00, 2:00. **Hotel:** Baymont Inn and Suites, 1151 S. Jefferson Ave., (931) 525-6668. **Info:** Enter on-line at **TNCHES.ORG** or mail to Chris Prosser, 733 Long Hunter Ct., Nashville, TN 37217 or RegionIII@aol.com, 615-426-7105. NS, NC, W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 31-SEPT. 2 OR SEPT. 1-2, NORTH CAROLINA

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 60 (ENHANCED)

2012 North Carolina Open

5SS, 3S/90/d/5, SD/60/d/5; 2-day schedule: Rd. 1G/90/d/5 then merges with 3-day. Embassy Suites Airport, 204 Centreport Dr., Greensboro, NC 27409, (336) 668-4535, mention Group Name, "North Carolina Chess Association" for discounted hotel rate. \$13000 in prizes UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED! In 4 sections, **OPEN:** \$1000-500-300-250-150-125-125-100-100-100. U2200 250-150-100. **U2000:** \$1000-500-300-250-150-125-125-100-100-100 U1850 250-150-100. **U1700:** \$1000-500-300-250-150-125-125-100-100-100 U1550 250-150-100. **U1400:** \$1000-500-300-250-150-125-125-100-100-100 U1200 250-150-100. **EF:** \$65 if received by August 15. \$75 if received later or onsite. **SCHEDULE:** 3-Day registration ends at 7PM on 8/31. Round at 7:30PM. 2-Day registration ends at 9:30AM on 9/1, Round at 10AM. Subsequent rounds are 9/1 at 1:30-7:30 and 9/2 at 10:30-4:30. **HR:** \$99 All rooms are suite style. Free made to order breakfast daily, free manager's reception nightly, and free airport shuttle available for all guests. **ADVANCE ENTRY:** Send checks to Walter High, 105 North Crabtree Knoll, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. **Make checks payable to:** NCCA. **OTHER:** One half-point bye available; your choice of rounds 1-4, no elective byes in round 5. Byes must be requested prior to start of round 1. Open section FIDE rated. **INFO:** Gary Newsom, garynewsom@queencychess.com or Walter High, whigh@nc.ncr.com. More info including pre-entry lists may be available at nccchess.org. No smoking. No computers. **Special Scholastic Tournament:** presented by High Point University! Saturday, September 1 4SS, G/30 D/5 Rounds 10:30-12-2-3:30. In two sections, Open and U800. Trophies to top 10 in each section. USCF rated. **EF:** \$20 in advance \$25 onsite. **Chess Magnet School JGP** for main event.

A State Championship Event!

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3, FLORIDA

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 50

2012 Arnold Denker Florida State Championship

6SS, G/120d5. Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort, 100 North Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32118. **Prize money based on 160 full paid entries, with 70% GTD.** In 6 Sections. **Open:** EF: \$89 by 8/24 \$10 higher at site. Free entry GM,WGM,IM,WIM (\$90 deducted from any prize won). **\$\$:** \$1,500-750-350-200. U/2300 \$500-250-100. **Reg.:** Registration later than 1:30 on Saturday will get 1/2 point bye in round 1. 1/2 point available for any round; max of 2; must commit prior to Rd. 3 pairing. **U/2000:** Open to 1999 & under. **EF:** \$89 prior to 8/24 \$10 higher at site. Reentry \$50 by round 3 (\$35 for U/1200) Reentry counts as 1/2 entry. **\$\$:** \$700-350-200-100-75. 1/2 point for any round; Max of 2; must commit prior to rd 3 pairing. **U/1800:** Open to 1799 & under. **EF:** \$89 prior to 8/24 \$10 higher at site. Reentry \$50 by round 3 (\$35 for U/1200) Reentry counts as 1/2 entry. **\$\$:** \$700-350-200-100-75. 1/2 point for any round; Max of 2; must commit prior to rd 3 pairing. **U/1600:** Open to 1599 & under. **EF:** \$89 prior to 8/24 \$10 higher at site. Reentry \$50 by round 3 (\$35 for U/1200) Reentry counts as 1/2 entry. **\$\$:** \$700-350-200-100-75. 1/2 point for any round; Max of 2; must commit prior to rd 3 pairing. **U/1400:** Open to 1399 & under. **EF:** \$89 prior to 8/24 \$10 higher at site. Reentry \$50 by round 3 (\$35 for U/1200) Reentry counts as 1/2 entry. **\$\$:** \$500-300-200-100-75. 1/2 point for any round; Max of 2; must commit prior to rd 3 pairing. **U/1200:** Open to 1199 & under. **EF:** \$60 prior to 8/24 \$10 higher at site. Reentry \$50 by round 3 (\$35 for U/1200) Reentry counts as 1/2 entry. Unrated player must be under age 16 for this section. **\$\$:** \$400-200-125. U/1000 \$100, U/800 \$75. 1/2 point for any round; Max of 2; must commit prior to rd 3 pairing. FCA annual meeting Sunday 6:45pm, FCA Board of Directors meeting Sunday 6pm. **ALL: Memb. Req'd:** \$20. FCA. USCF. Trophy to top Florida Resident. Unrated limited to \$100. unless in Open Section. **Rds.:** Saturday 2 & 7, Sunday 2 & 7, Monday 9 & 2. **ENT:** C.H.E.S.S. Inc 821 Upland, Port Orange, FL 32127. **SIDE EVENTS: 8/31:** Quick Chess Championship; **9/2:** Blitz Championship; **9/2:** Scholastic Tournament. **INFO:** Steve Lampkin chessschools@aol.com. **HR:** \$109 No resort Fee, self park \$5 386-254-8200 or 866-536-8477 All rooms with Ocean View, Free Internet Access http://tinyurl.com/8xewocg. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

A State Championship Event!

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3, SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 100 (ENHANCED)

134th annual NY State Championship

Out of state welcome. 6SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option except in Open Section, rds 1-3 G/45, d5), 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. **\$\$ 12,000.** In 5 sections. **Open:** \$2000-1000-500-300, top U2300/Unr \$700, U2200/Unr \$600. State title and \$100 bonus to top NYS resident. FIDE. **Under 2100:** \$1000-500-300-150, top Under 1900 \$400. **Under 1800:** \$1000-500-300-150, top Under 1600 \$400. **Under 1500:** \$800-400-200-100, top Under 1300 \$300. **Under 1200:** \$200-100, trophy to first 5, top Under 1000, Under 800, Under 600, Unrated. **Unrated** may not win over \$150 in U1200, \$300 U1500 or \$600 U1800. **All:** 1 year NYSCA membership to NY residents who list name and address on sign up sheet posted at tournament. **Top 3 sections EF:** 4-day \$99, 3-day \$98, 2-day \$97 if check mailed by 8/22, all \$95 online at chesstour.com by 8/29, \$105 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 8/29 (entry only,

no questions), \$120 at site. No mailed credit card entries. **Under 1500 Section EF:** All \$20 less than top 3 sections EF. **Under 1200 Section EF:** All \$50 less than top 3 sections EF. **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, IMs & WGMs free, \$80 deducted from prize. No checks at site, credit cards OK. **3-day schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10:30 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 8/23 or rate may increase. NYSCA meeting 9 am Sun. **Car rental:** 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633, or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Saisbury Mills, NY 12577. **Questions:** www.chesstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. September official USCF ratings used. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3 OR SEPT. 1-3, TEXAS

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 40 (ENHANCED)

78th 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/115, d/5. \$\$ 800-400-200. B \$\$ 600-300-150, U1600 500-250-125. **Novice:** U1400 and Unrated. Rds. 1-7 30/90 SD/1, d/5, rd. 1 of three day is G/115, d/5. \$\$ 500-250-125, E \$\$ 400-200, U1000 \$\$ 300-150 Unrated \$200. All 3: TCA membership required. Other states accepted. **EF:** \$88 if received by 8/22, else \$99. \$80 Junior(U19) if received by 8/22 else \$90 (juniors count as 90% toward base), Senior(over 65)/Handicapped/additional family participant \$52 if receive by 8/22 else \$65 (Senior/Handicap/Additional family participant counts 60% toward base). Add \$5 for CC phone entries; pre-reg requires pre-payment. After 8/29/12 all registration and changes on site only; all changes including withdrawals, \$10 after 8/29/12. **4 day:** Reg. Friday 8/31, 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. 9/1, 9:30-30 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:** \$75/75/75/75, 972-661-3600 or 888-627-8436 reserve by 8/17 and ask for Dallas Chess Club rate. \$75 rate includes full breakfast buffet. 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 9/2 at 9:30 am. **K-12 Scholastic on Saturday, 9/1:** 5-SS, Rds. 1-3 G/30, d/5, rds. 4-5 G/45, d/5, **EF:** \$29 by 8/22, \$43 after; Pre-reg. requires pre-payment. After 8/29/12 all registration and changes on site only; all changes \$10 after 8/29/12. No refunds after 8/29/12, \$10 handling fee for refunds before 8/29/12. Entries do not count toward base in Open, Reserve and Novice. **Registration:** 8:00-8:30 am, Rd. 1 pairings at 9:15 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@dallachess.com, www.dallachess.com. NS. NC. W. FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP** for all but side events.

SEPT. 1-2, COLORADO

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 5

Colorado Open Tournament

(Part of the CO Labor Day Weekend Chess Festival) 5 round Swiss system tournament. **Time Controls:** G/90, inc/30. **Special Guest:** GM Alex Yermolinsky. **Site:** Newly renovated Sheraton Denver Tech Center Hotel, 7007 S. Clinton St., Englewood, CO 80112. Phone: (303) 799-6200. Ask for the **Chess rate (\$61/night)** and reserve your rooms **before August 15th!** **Directions:** Take I-25 to exit 197 for Arapahoe Rd/CO-88. Head east, away from the mountains, on CO-88 E/ Arapahoe Rd. for about 500 feet. Turn right onto S. Clinton St. for 0.4 of a mile. Turn right into the parking lot and the hotel will be on your left. **Open:** Open to all players. **Open Prizes:** \$400-200-125; top U2000: \$175-125. **Under 1800:** Open to all players rated under 1800 and unrateds. **Under 1800 Prizes:** \$325-175-125; top U1600: \$175-125. Unrated Prize Limit: \$175. **Under 1400:** Open to all players rated under 1400 and unrateds. **Under 1400 Prizes:** \$250-175-100; top U1200: \$150-100; top U1000/Unrated: \$75. Unrated Prize Limit: \$100. **Prizes:** \$2,800.00 based on 100 paid entries over 3 sections. 50% of all prizes guaranteed. **Pre-reg EF:** \$45 if received by Friday August 24, 2012; \$33 for Srs (65 & over), Jrs (under 21), and unrated players (no USCF Rating on the USCF Ratings website for September 2012 Supplement). No pre-registrations accepted without full payment. **On-site EF:** \$50 regular; \$37 for seniors (65 & over), juniors (under 21) and unrated players (no USCF Rating on the USCF Ratings website for September 2012 Supplement). **Reg.:** September 1, 2012, 7:30-9:30 AM. Players registering after 9:30 AM shall receive a 1/2 point bye for Rd 1. **Rds.:** Sat. 10-2:30-7; Sun. 9-3:30. **Other Events (all free):** Sun. 7:30 AM Chess Devotional led by CSCA President Paul Covington. Sun. 8:00 AM Lecture / Q & A with GM Alex Yermolinsky. Sun. 2:30 PM CSCA Annual Meeting between Rds 4 & 5. **Ent:** Jerry Maier, 229 Hargrove Ct., Colorado Springs, CO 80919-2213. **Phone:** 719-660-5531. **E-mail:** pmjer77@air.com. COLORADO TOUR EVENT. USCF Membership required. CSCA Membership required. (\$15 regular; \$10 Jr./Sr.). OSA.W. One non-retractable 1/2 point bye may be requested no later than an hour before the start of the third round. Produced and Directed by the Colorado State Chess Association. Additional information at http://www.colorado-chess.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 1-2, MISSOURI

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20

Saint Louis District Championship

5SS, G/120. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs. **EF:** \$60, \$50 for annual members of the club if registered by 8/31. MCA Membership Req'd from \$5. OSA. One Section. **PF:** \$2,525 GTD \$600-\$400-\$200. U2000 \$300-\$200-\$100. U1600 \$225-\$125-\$75. U1200 \$150-\$100-\$50. Top 2 finishers qualify for 2013 Club Championship. **Reg.:** 9-9:45. **Rds.:** 10, 2:15, 6:45. Sunday: 10, 2:30. Two 1/2 point byes available if declared before round 2. MCA Membership required from \$5. OSA. **Ent:** 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at saintlouischessclub.org. **Info:** 314-361-CHESS, info@saintlouischessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A State Championship Event!

SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 30

2012 CalChess Labor Day Championships

6-SS, 30/90, SD/1 (2-day option rounds 1-3 G/55 d/5). Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, Van Ness at Pine, San Francisco. **\$\$\$ 160** paid entries (not counting free or unrated entries). Six Sections: **Master** \$1500-\$750-\$400-\$351, U2400 \$350; **Expert** \$700-\$350-\$250-\$150; **"A"** \$700-\$350-\$250-\$150; **"B"** \$700-\$350-\$250-\$150; **"C"** \$700-\$350-\$250-\$150; **"D/E"** \$700-\$300-\$200-\$151, U1200 \$150. Unrated: Trophy First. Trophy to top finisher (State Champion) in each section. **All, EF:** postmarked by 8/27 \$95. \$105 on site. Unrated \$30 in the D/E section or may play up to the Master section for the regular fee. \$5 discount to CalChess members. USCF

5th annual LOUISVILLE OPEN

Sept 21-23 or 22-23, Holiday Inn Southwest Fair Expo

\$7000 guaranteed prizes, U1300 & scholastic trophies

5 rounds, rooms \$79-89, free parking, free airport shuttle

Open Section: \$1200-600-400-200, clear/tiebreak first \$100 bonus, top U2200/Unr \$400, U2000/Unr \$300. FIDE rated.

U1900 Section: \$800-400-200-100, top U1700 \$300. Unr limit \$300.

U1600 Section: \$700-400-200-100, top U1400 \$300. Unr limit \$300.

U1300 Section: \$200-100, trophy to top 5. Unrated limit \$100.

K-8 Under 1000 Section: Saturday only. Trophies to first 5 players & 3 teams of 3, top U800, U600, U400, Unrated.

K-5 Under 800 Section: Sunday only. Trophies to first 5 players & 3 teams of 3, top U600, U400, U200, Unrated.

FULL DETAILS: see "Grand Prix" in this issue or chesstour.com.

membership, required. May play up one section for additional \$10 GM/IM free entry. **Reg.:** Sat 9/1 8:30-9:30am, Sun 9/6 8:30-9:15am. **RDS.:** Choice of schedules, 3-day, 2-day merge at round 4, all compete for the same prizes. **3-day schedule,** Sat 10:00-4:00; 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 rounds 5, 6 must be requested before round 1). 2012 September Ratings List, CCA mini-mums 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 Koepcke (650)-224-4938. **Ent:** Richard Koepcke, P.O. Box 1432, Mountain View, CA 94042. No Phone entries. Master Section FIDE Rated. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)

34th 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. \$820,000 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 8/29, \$120 at door. No credit cards at door, checks or cash only. Special rate of only \$75 if U1400 or unrated. Special rate for GMs and IMs: \$20 if registered by 8/29, or \$60 late entry at door. Open section will be FIDE rated. Unrated players not eligible for prizes except for place prizes in the Open or the unrated prize in the U1400. Players who forfeit any round are also ineligible for prizes. SCCF membership req'd (\$18 Adult, \$10 Jr) for all So Cal residents. Two byes allowed, but must be requested at least one hour before round, and round 5 & 6 byes must be requested before rd 2 and are irrevocable. **Ent:** SDCC, PO Box 120162, San Diego, CA 92112 or enter online at www.schess.com. For more info call Bruce Baker at (619) 239-7166, email Chuck Ensey at chuncglo@aol.com or see our website at sdchessclub.multiply.com. **SCCF Annual Membership Meeting:** Sunday 3 PM. **Hotel Rates:** Special rate of only \$110 single or double, 619-297-1101, or 1-888-233-9527 if booked by 8/15/12, book ASAP, as rates may 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, 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, and fitness room. NS, NC, W. State Championship Qualifier. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 1-3, ILLINOIS

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 60

2012 Illinois Open State Championship

6R-SS. Open Section (40/90 SD/30 + 30/sec incr). Reserve and Booster Sections (G/90 + 30/sec incr). Doubletree Hotel, 1909 Spring Rd., Oakbrook, IL 60523 - Phone 630-472-6000. **\$850 Guaranteed + \$250 Isaac Braswell Fighting Chess Award in Open Section.** 3 sections: Open, Reserve (U1800), Booster (U1400). Prizes (non-IL players eligible for max 3rd place in Overall Prizes and 2nd place prize for rating bracket prizes): **Open - Overall:** \$1600-1000-300, (2399-2200): \$350-275-200; (2199-2100): \$250-200; (2099-2000): \$200-100; (1999-1900): \$200-100; (1899-1800): \$200-100; **Reserve (U1800) - Overall:** \$750-450-225; (1699-1600): \$250-200-150; (1599-1500): \$150-100; (1499-1400): \$150-100; **Booster (U1400) - Overall:** \$250-125-75; (1299-1200) - \$100-50; (1199-1100): \$100-50. Open & Reserve FIDE Rated. Free Entry for IL FIDE titled players (U100 & above). **EF:** \$64 by 08/04/2012, \$96 by 08/18/2012,

\$128 thereafter and on-site. No checks at site, credit cards ok. Online registration preferred. No phone entries. Re-entry: \$60 with 1/2 pt in first two rds only. Rd 6 bye must commit by end of Rd 2 otherwise zero pt. Players in contention for prizes must play final rd or have 1/2 pt bye committed to by the end of Rd 2 otherwise ineligible for prizes. **Special Rules for Playing Up:** \$10 more if 150 pts or less from cut off of section, \$25 more if 151-300 pts from cut-off, \$50 more if 301+ pts from cut-off (Example: 1620 wants to play in open, 180 pts from cut-off, pay \$25 more to play up). **NOTE:** Playing up fee paid in cash at the door - players to be registered in their normal rating section unless you come to the TD room to request playing up. **Schedule:** 10am and 4pm each day. **Mailed entries:** North American Chess Association, 4957 Oakton St., Suite 113, Skokie, IL 60077. All mailed entries must be received by 8/24/2012. **Questions:** sevan@nchess.org. No Phone Calls. Advance entries and online registration at: http://www.nchess.org/ilopen2012. **Hotel:** \$91/night + tax. Ask for Chess Rate. Boards, Sets, Clocks Provided. Must use organizer provided equipment. Chess vendor onsite. August Rating Supplement. **Special Workshops:** Chess in Education plus TD/Rules Workshop. 1-day Scholastic Event. See website for details on Workshops and Scholastic Event. USCF and ICA mbrshp required for main event. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, MASSACHUSETTS

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)

72nd New England Open

6-SS, 40/120, SD/30, d5 (2-day schedule G/45, d5 in rds. 1-3. No 2-Day Open sect.) Four Points by Sheraton, 99 Erdman Way, Leominster, MA 01453, 978-534-9000. **\$3,000** b/80 fully paid entries (unrated and players in U1500 sect. rated under 1200 count as half), 75% G. 4 sections: **Open:** \$500-250-150, U2200 \$200-100. FIDE rated. **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:** \$69 for 3-day, \$68 for 2-day if postmarked by 8/27 or online by 8/30, \$80 at site. \$30 discount to unrated and to players in U1500 sect. rated under 1200. Free to GMs and IMs. **3-Day Schedule:** Reg. Sat. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Rds. 10-4 Sat., 10-4 Sun., 9-30-3:30 Mon. **2-Day Schedule (U2000 to U1500 Sects. only):** Reg. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Sun., Rds. 10-12-2-4 Sun., 9:30-3:30 Mon. **Byes:** Open: 1-5, others 1-6, limit 2, 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., NH residents: NHCA \$8 adult, \$6 jr. U19, \$10 for memb. with N.H. Chess Journal subscription, OSA. **New England Blitz Championship:** Sun. 9/2, reg. ends at 8:15 p.m., 1st rd. 8:30 p.m., 5-SS (dbl), 75% of EFs returned as prizes. **EF:** \$10 if playing in main tmnt., others \$20. **HR:** \$89-89-89-89, exec. King suite \$139, reserve by 8/16 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. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A State Championship Event!

SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, NEW JERSEY

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 30 (ENHANCED)

2012 New Jersey State Championship

Somerset Holiday Inn (not Hotel Somerset at Bridgewater), 195 Davidson Ave., Somerset, NJ 08873, 732-560-0500. Take exit #10 off I-287, Easton Ave Exit. In 3 Sections: Open Section, Gold U1900, Silver U1600. 6-SS, 40/120, SD/60. **Two Playing Schedules:** 2-day, & 3-day. **Open:** \$500-300-200-100-100. Top Expert & A, \$100 & trophy. All open prizes guaranteed. **Gold U1900:** \$400-300-100, Top B \$100 & trophy, b/35 in section. **Silver U1600:** \$400-300-100, Top D & U1000, \$100 & trophy, b/35 in section. Trophies: NJ Champion, Top 3 in each section, Top Senior over 55, Jr U age 16 & 13. First prize to rated players only. **EF:** \$20. **Ent:** \$76 / lower sections \$66 if mailed by 8/28 or paid online. **Late EF:** at hotel

\$89 cash/ lower sections \$79 cash. Enter via website, entryfeesrus.com. Re-entry allowed, \$40. **3-Day Reg. at hotel:** Sat. 9/01, 9-11am. **Rounds.** Sat. 12-6-30, Sun 11-5-30, Mon. 9-3-30. **2-Day Reg. at hotel:** Sun 9/02, 9-10am, **Rounds** 1-3 (G/60) starts 10:30am then ASAP no breaks. 3-Day and 2-day schedules merge in Round #4. **Two Byes** allowed in Rds 1-5. Hotel Rates \$89. (732) 356-1700. Mention Code "UCF" to receive this special rate and a free Fabulous Breakfast. Other rules: Drop outs can't win a prize and lose all bye points. Class prizes are Guaranteed Minimum. It means the top in class player wins \$100 in class or place prize. The Second in a class does not win. **Ent:** Ken Thomas, 115 West Moore St., Hackettstown, NJ 07840. Make checks payable to NJSCF. **Info:** Ken, acn@goes.com or (908) 619-8621 or entryfeesrus.com. NS, NC, W. FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A State Championship Event!

A Heritage Event!

SEPT. 1-3, OHIO

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 40

68th Ohio Chess Congress

6/SS, 40/120;d5, SD/60;d5. Days Inn, 4742 Brecksville Rd., Richfield, OH. **Prizes: \$7,000 (b/125).** In 4 Sections. **Open:** (FIDE rated) \$1,000-700-400 All Guaranteed, U2200 \$400-\$200, 1st Guaranteed. **U2000:** \$800-500-300. **U1700:** \$750-450-300. **U1400:** \$600-400, U1100 \$200. **EF:** \$80 by Aug 28 then 90A, Free to GM/IM who complete schedule, \$80 deducted from prize. OCA Membership required of all Ohio residents - \$15, \$10 junior. **Online payment:** www.progresswithchess.org. **Reg.:** Saturday 9-11:30 am. **Rds.:** Saturday 12:00 (noon) & 6:30, Sunday 9:30 & 4:00, Monday 9:30 & 4:00. **Byes:** (1/2 point), must commit before start of round 3, limit 2 in rds. 1-5 or 1 rd. 6. **Hotel:** Day's Inn, 330-659-6151, \$72/night, mention chess. **Entries & checks payable to:** Progress with Chess, 12200 Fairhill Rd. E 293, Cleveland, OH 44120. **Info:** 216-321-7000, mdjoelson@progresswithchess.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 1-3, OKLAHOMA

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10

8th Okie Chess Festival

Tulsa Trade Winds Center, 3141 E. Skelly Dr. (51st & Harvard), Tulsa, OK 74105. Three sections: **Open FIDE Round Robin (8-RR)**, **FIDE Open (7-SS)**, **Reserve** open to U1600, 7-SS. Top 2 sections **FIDE rated.** **All:** G/90+30. **EF:** \$60. **Reg.:** Sat 9/1, 9:00-10:15. **Round Robin Qualification:** Open to the top 8 rated players at completion of Registration who wish to play; no byes and players must commit to not withdraw. **Rds.:** 10:30-3, 9-2-7, 9-2. **Byes:** Two 1/2-point byes available in Swiss sections if req by Rd. 3. **Prizes - RR:** 1st \$600, 2nd 250, 3rd 150. **Open (b/30, 75% guaranteed):** 1st \$600, 2nd \$350, A/below: \$250-200. **Reserve (b/26):** 1st \$450, 2nd \$300, C: \$250, D/below \$250. **HR:** \$55-65 (800)685-4564, (918)749-5561. Free wireless. www.tradedewindtulsas.com. **Side Events:** 9/1: Bughouse tourney-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.

SEPT. 2, MARYLAND

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15

Maryland Open State Championship

7SS, G/30 d/5. Rockville Hilton, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. **Prizes Guaranteed:** \$400-\$250-\$100-\$50, U2000 \$90, U1800 \$80, U1600 \$70, U1400 \$60, unrated \$50. **EF:** \$30 by 8/28, \$35 by 8/30, and \$40 at the door. **Schedule:** Reg. ends 10am. **Rds:** 10:30-11:45-1:30-2:45-4:00-5:15-6:30. **More information & online entry at:** http://mdaction.mdchess.com.

SEPT. 6, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)

Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!

4-SS, G/25d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$40, members \$20, GMs and IM's free (no deduction from prize). **(\$530 b/32 first two prizes guaranteed)** \$200-100-50, U2200 \$95, U2000 \$85. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 8-9 OR SEPT. 9, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)

Marshall September Grand Prix!

4-SS, 30/85d5, SD/1d5. 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,** Rds. 12:30-5:30PM each day; **1-day,** (Rds. 1-2 G/25d5) 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). www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 13, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)

Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!

4-SS, G/25d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$40, members \$20, GMs and IM's free (no deduction from prize). **(\$530 b/32 first two prizes guaranteed)** \$200-100-50, U2200 \$95, U2000 \$85. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 14-16 OR 15-16 (SCHOLASTICS SEPT. 15 OR 16), CONNECTICUT

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 40 (ENHANCED)

3rd annual Hartford Open & New England Senior

5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d5). **Under 1210 Section** plays Sept 15-16 only, G/75, d5. **K-8 U1000 Section** plays Saturday only, **K-5 U800 Section** Sunday only, each G/25, d5. **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. **\$\$ 10,000** based on 150 paid entries, \$7,500 (75% each prize) minimum guaranteed. Senior Section, U1210 Section, and re-entries count as 50% entries towards prize fund, scholastic sections entries as 25% entries. In 8 sections. **Open:** \$1000-500-300-200, top Under 1210 \$400-200. **FIDE Under 2110:** \$800-400-200-100, top Under 1910 \$400-200. **Under 1810:** \$800-400-200-100, top Under 1610 \$400-200. **Under 1510:** \$700-400-200-100, top Under 1310 \$300-150. **Under 1210:** \$200-100, trophies to first 5, top U1000, Unr. **New**

9th annual LOS ANGELES OPEN

Oct 5-7 or 6-7, Sheraton Four Points LA Airport

\$15,000 PROJECTED PRIZES, \$10,000 MINIMUM

5 rounds, \$89 rooms, \$5 parking, free airport shuttle. 6 sections:

Open Section: Prizes \$2000-1000-500-300, clear/tiebreak winner \$100 bonus, top U2300/Unr \$500-250. FIDE rated, 80 GPP.

Under 2200 Section: \$1200-600-400-200, top U2000 \$500-250.

Under 1900 Section: \$1200-600-400-200, top U1700 \$500-250.

Under 1600 Section: \$1000-500-300-200, top U1400 \$400-200.

Under 1300 Section: \$500-300-200-150, top U1100 \$200-100

Under 1000 Section: Trophies to top 5, U800, U600, U400, Unr.

Unrated prize limit: \$200 in U1300, \$400 U1600, \$600 U1900.

FULL DETAILS: see "Grand Prix" in this issue or chesstour.com.

England Senior, open to all born before 9/17/62. No residence requirements; trophy to top New England player. \$300-150-100, top Under 2010 \$180, Under 1810 \$170, Under 1610/Unr \$150. **K-8 Under 1000**: Trophies to first 5 players, first 3 teams of 3, top U800, U600, U400, Unrated. **K-5 Under 800**: Trophies to first 5 players, first 3 teams of 3, top U600, U400, U200, Unr. **Unrated** may not win over \$100 in U1210 or \$300 in U1510. **Open, U2110, U1810, U1510 EF**: 3-day \$98, 2-day \$97 mailed by 9/5, all \$95 online at chesstour.com by 9/11, \$100 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 9/11 (entry only, no questions), \$110 at site. **Under 1210 or Senior EF**: 3-day \$48, 2-day \$47 mailed by 9/5, all \$45 online at chesstour.com by 9/11, \$50 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 9/11 (entry only, no questions), \$60 at site. **K-8 U1000 EF**: \$23 mailed by 9/5 or online by 9/11, \$30 at site. **K-5 U800 EF**: \$22 mailed by 9/5 or online by 9/11, \$30 at site. **All**: No checks at site, credit cards OK. Late entry accepted online until 2 hours before first game; same fee as at site. GMs free, \$80 deducted from prize. Mailed EF \$3 less to CSCA or WMCA members. Re-entry \$50; not available in Open Section. Unofficial uschess.org ratings based on 4 or more games 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. **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 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:15. **Under 1210 schedule**: Reg. ends Sat. 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 1:30. **K-8 U1000 schedule**: Reg. ends Sat. 9:30 am, rds. Sat. 10, 11:30, 1, 2:15 & 3:30. Players in this schedule may also enter the 3-day schedule, taking a half-point bye in round 2. **K-5 U800 schedule**: Reg. ends Sun. 10 am, rds. Sun. 10, 11:30, 1, 2:15 & 3:30. **Bye**: all, limit 2; must commit before rd 2. **HR**: \$89-89, 860-627-5311; reserve by 8/31 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 (Director@Chess.US, chesstour.com. 845-496-9658). \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

SEPT. 15-16, CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6

7th Ursula Foster Memorial Open

\$800, 1/2 gtd. 5SS, Rds 1-3 G/90, others G/120. Doctors Medical Center (Cafeteria annex), 1441 Florida Ave., Modesto, CA 95352. **Two Sections**: **Open** \$400-200, **Reserve** U1700 \$200. **EF**: \$35 if rec'd by 9/10, \$40 at site. Cash on site. **FREE** for Females. **Reg.**: 9-9:45 am. **RDS.**: 10-1:30-4:45, 10-2:15. **Byes**: up to 2 req' before rd 2. **Ent**: Donald Tiffin, 128 Palm Ave., Modesto, CA 95350. Email: ultracrema@hotmail.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP**.

SEPT. 15-16, MARYLAND

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10

UMBC Championship

5SS, 20/1 d:5, SD/1 d:5. University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore (in Commons, 3rd floor). **Open**: (All) \$5900:

\$300-200-100 Gtd., Class prizes \$100 ea. to top U2300, U2100, U1900. Top UMBC student awarded trophy & title of 2011-2012 UMBC Chess Champion. Certificates & UMBC Class titles to top UMBC students U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200, & Unr. All prospective members of any UMBC Chess Team for academic year 2012-2013 must play in this section. Free ent. to GMs, \$40 deducted from any prizes. **U1800**: (U1800/Unr) \$880 b/40: \$300-200-100, Class prizes \$100 ea. to top U1600, U1400. No Unr. player may win more than \$200 in this section. See separate TLA for rated beginners tournament held 9/15. **All**: **EF**: \$40 if postmarked by 9/1, \$50 later, \$10 less if under age 20. **Reg.**: 8:30-9:30am Sat., **Rds.**: 10-3-7:30pm Sat, 10-30-3:30pm Sun. **Byes**: Up to three 1/2-pt. byes avail. in Rds. 1-5 if req'd at least 1 hr. before Rd. (before Rd 2 for any Rd. 4-5 bye), but only at most one 1/2-point bye in Rds 4-5. **HR**: La Quinta Inn and Suites, 1734 West Nursery Road, Linthicum, MD 21090, 410-859-2333, Ask for UMBC chess rate. <http://www.lq.com> (From I-95, take Exit 47A onto I-195 towards BWI Airport. Take Exit 2A onto 295 north towards Baltimore; take first exit, bearing right onto West Nursery Road.) **Directions to UMBC**: Take Exit 47B off I-95 & follow signs to UMBC. Park in Lot 9 or 16. **Ent**: Dr. Alan T. Sherman, Dept. of CS&E, UMBC, Attn: Championship, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250. Make out check to UMBC. **For more information**: ChessClub@umbc.edu, (410) 455-8499, www.umbc.edu/chess. **NS, W. Chess Magnet School JGP**.

SEPT. 15-16, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 50 (ENHANCED)

Battle of Lake Erie - War of 1812 FIDE Classic

Old First Ward Community Center, 62 Republic, Buffalo, NY 14204. War of 1812 Summer FIDE Chess Festival Series 2012. **FIDE - Battle of Lake Erie**: 5SS, G/120;d5, FIDE rated. **EF**: \$75. GM, IM, Womens GM, Free Entry. No Checks/ Credit cards, USD Cash onsite. **\$\$\$GTD**: \$1000-500-400-200. U2100 - \$250 and \$175. Early Bird \$60 by September 8, \$75 thereafter USD Cash onsite! One half point Bye available by Round One! FIDE Rated, Canadian FIDE and Foreign Rated \$10 Loyalty Discount. **William Zachary Memorial U1800**: **EF**: 40, Early Bird Fee \$25 by September 8, 2012. **\$\$\$B/24**: \$200-100-50. U1600 - \$70 & \$30, Unrated \$80. Saturday Games Only! Games at 10am, 12:30pm, 3pm and 5:30pm. **Jeff White Memorial U1400**: **EF**: 40, Early Bird Fee \$25 by Sept. 8, 2012. **\$\$\$B/24**: \$100-50-30. U1200 - \$60, Unrated \$50. Saturday Only Games at 10am, 12:30pm, 3pm and 5:30pm. **Armed Forces Memorial U1000**: Teams of 2 players or more. **EF**: 35, \$20 Early Bird by Sept 8, 2012. **Prizes**: Trophies Only, Top 3 Overall, Top U800, Top U600 and Top Unrated. Team Trophy for Top School. Saturday games only, Games start at 11am, 12:30pm, 1:30pm and 2:30pm. **ENT**: The Archangel 8 Chess Academy, 60F Guilford Ln., Buffalo, NY 14221. Early Bird entries to arcangel8chess@yahoo.com. **INFO**: Mc Duffie arcangel8chess@yahoo.com. **HR**: \$109 716-896-2800 Comfort Inn & Suites. www.buffalochess.blogspot.com. **NS. NC. W. Chess Magnet School JGP**.

SEPT. 18, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 15 (ENHANCED)

Marshall Masters!

4-SS, G/25d5. 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. **\$\$\$G250-150-100**. 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. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 20, NEW YORK

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)

Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!

4-SS, G/25d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF**: \$40, members \$20, GMs and IM's free (no deduction from prize!). **(\$530 based on 32 players; first two prizes guaranteed)**: \$200-100-50, U2200 \$95, U2000 \$85. **NEW!** U1700 \$75. **Reg.**: 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.**: 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 21-23 OR 22-23, KENTUCKY

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 60 (ENHANCED)

5th Annual Louisville Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d5). K-8 U1000 Section Saturday only, K-5 U800 Section Sunday only, each G/25, d5. Holiday Inn Southwest Fair Expo, 4110 Dixie Hwy., (I-264, Exit 8B), Louisville, KY 40216. Free parking, free airport shuttle. \$7,000 guaranteed prizes plus U1300 and scholastic trophies. In 6 sections. **Open**: \$1200-600-400-200, 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**: \$200-100, trophies to top 5, unrated limit \$100. **K-8 Under 1000**: Trophies to first 5 players, first 3 teams of 3, top U800, U600, U400, Unrated. **K-5 Under 800**: Trophies to first 5 players, first 3 teams of 3, top U600, U400, U200, Unrated. Scholastic team scores based on top 3 scores from school. **Top 3 Sections EF**: 3-day \$93, 2-day \$92 mailed by 9/12, all \$89 online at chesstour.com by 9/19, \$90 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 9/19 (entry only, no questions), \$100 at site or online until 2 hours before first game. No checks at site, credit cards OK. **Under 1300 Section EF**: all \$50 less than above. GMs, IMs & WGMs free, \$90 deducted from prize. **K-8 U1000 EF**: \$23 mailed by 9/12 or online at chesstour.com by 9/19, \$30 at site or online until 2 hours before first game. **K-5 U800 Section EF**: \$22 mailed by 9/12 or online at chesstour.com by 9/19, \$30 at site or online until 2 hours before first game. 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 at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. Re-entry \$50; not available in Open Section. Unofficial uschess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. **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. **K-8 U1000 schedule**: Reg. ends Sat. 9:30 am, rds. Sat. 10, 11:30, 1, 2:15 & 3:30. **Players in this schedule may also enter the 3-day schedule, taking a half point bye in**

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Thursday October 18th

- **FREE Lecture by IM John Donaldson •**
- **GM (TBA) Simul - \$15! •**
- **Blitz Tourney - \$20 •**

See TLA on page **59**

round 2. K-5 U800 schedule: Reg. ends Sun. 9:30 am, rds. Sun. 10, 11:30, 1, 2:15 & 3:30. Bye: all, Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR:** \$79-89, 502-448-2020, ask for chess rate, reserve by 9/7 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. DirectorATChess.US, chessstour.com, 845-496-9658. \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chessstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP (except scholastics).**

SEPT. 21-23 OR 22-23, TEXAS
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 50 (ENHANCED)
2012 U.S. Class Championships
 See Nationals.

SEPT. 27, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)
Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!
 4-SS, G/25d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$40, members \$20, GMs and IMs free (no deduction from prize). **(\$530 based on 32 players; first two prizes guaranteed.)** \$200-100-50, U2200 \$95, U2000 \$85. **NEW!** U1700 \$75. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

A State Championship Event!
SEPT. 28-30, ALABAMA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 30 (ENHANCED)
2012 Alabama State Championship
 6SS, 30/90 SD/30 t/d5. Early-rd 1/2-pt bye(s) on req. T.C. Almon Rec. Center, 2900 Point Mallard Cir., Decatur, AL 35022. **EF:** \$40 (by 9/22) \$55 on-site. **\$\$\$Gtd:** Championship 450-300-200-125 & A, U1800 150. **\$\$b/30:** Reserve (under 1600) 325-225-150-75 & D 100, U1200 75. Trophies to top Ala. players. **Reg.:** 6-6:45PM. **Rds.:** Fri 7PM Sat 9:15-2-6:30 Sun 8:30-2. **Scholastic:** 5SS, G/30 t/d5. **EF:** \$20 (by 9/22) \$30 on-site. 3 sections U1200, U900, U600. **Trophies:** top 3/section. **Reg.:** Sat 8:30-9:15AM. **Rds.:** Sat 9:45-11:1-2:15-3:30. **Memb. Required:** ACF \$10, other states OK. **Ent:** Gerald Larson, 2909 Gallalee Rd., Huntsville, AL 35801. **Email:** scholastics@alabamachess.org. **Info:** www.alabamachess.org. **NC, NS, W. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 29-30, TEXAS
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20 (ENHANCED)
2012 DCC Fide Open VII
 5SS, G/90 with 30 sec inc. Dallas Chess Club, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr. #C, Richardson, TX 75080. **Two sections:** Open and Reserve. **Open Section** \$575/G. This section is FIDE rated but uses USCF Rules. \$500-\$250. **EF:** \$75, Senior/Hcap/Additional Family Member \$50, plus \$5 non-DCC membership fee if applicable. Small appearance fee to the First two GM/IM who apply. GM/IM must play all rounds to get appearance fee. **Reserve section:** Open to players rated below 1800 USCF. This section is not Fide Rated but is USCF rated. Reserve: Open to USCF U1800. **EF:** \$30 plus \$5 non Dallas Chess Club membership fee if applicable. The Reserve give back 10% in prizes and if there is a clear winner, then that winner receives free

entry to next DCC Fide Open. Both: **Registration:** 9:45 -10:15 am. **Rds.:** Sat 10:45-3:10-7:16, Sun 10:45-3:10. One Bye allowed if requested before rd 2, withdrawals and zero point last round byes are not eligible for prizes. **Ent:** Dallas Chess Club, see address above. **Info:** 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com. NS. NC. FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 30, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)
2nd annual Capital Region Open
 4SS, G/40, d5. Studio of Bridge & Games, 1639 Eastern Pkwy., Schenectady 12309. **\$\$\$1000 guaranteed prizes** and trophies. In 3 sections. **Open:** \$200-100-50, top U2000 \$80-40, U1800/Unr \$70-30. **Under 1600 Section:** \$120-60-30, top U1400 \$70-30, no unrated may win over \$80. **Under 1200 Section:** \$60-40-20, trophies to first, top U1000, U800, U600, Unrated. **Open or U1600 EF:** \$33 online at chessstour.com by 9/28 or mailed by 9/22, \$40 at site. **U1200 EF:** \$16 online at chessstour.com by 9/28 or mailed by 9/22, \$20 at site. **All:** Online late entry available until 2 hours before round 1; same fee as at site. Unofficial us chess.org ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. Special 1 year USCF dues with Chess Life 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. **Late Reg.** at site 9-9:30 am, **rds.:** 10, 12, 2, 4. One half point bye available, must commit before rd 2. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Ent:** Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577 (DirectorATChess.US, www.chessstour.com, 845-496-9658).

A State Championship Event!
SEPT. 30, PENNSYLVANIA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 6
2012 PA State Game/60 Championship
 4SS, G/60d5. Wm. Pitt Union, Univ. of Pitt., 5th & Bigelow, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. 3 Sections, \$5 (695G): **Championship:** EF: \$30 by 9/22, \$40 later. \$200-100, U2000 \$75, U1800 \$50. **Premier:** U1600. EF: \$25 by 9/22, \$35 later. \$90-60, U1400 \$50, U1200 \$40, U1000 \$30; Trophies to Top 2, Top 2 U1400, Top 2 U1200, Top 2 U1000. **Scholastic:** Grades K-12 U900. **EF:** \$15 by 9/22, \$25 later. Trophies to Top 7, 1-3 U600. **All:** Teams of 4 to 7 combined from all sections, Trophies 1st-2nd schools, clubs. PSCF \$5, OSA. **Reg ends 10am. Rds.:** 10:30-1-3:15-5:45. **Ent/Info:** PSCF, c/o Tom Martinak, 25 Freeport St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223, 412-908-0286, martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com. **W. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 4, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)
Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!
 4-SS, G/25d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$40, members \$20, GMs and IMs free (no deduction from prize). **(\$530 based on 32 players; first two prizes guaranteed.)** \$200-100-50, U2200 \$95, U2000 \$85. **NEW!** U1700 \$75. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

A Heritage Event!
OCT. 4, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)
October New Yorker Masters Special Edition Of USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament!
 4-SS, G/25 + d5 or G/30 + d/0. Chess Center of New York at the historic New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, NYC (845-569-9969, Thursdays after 6 pm: 212-971-0101, mention "chess tournament"). 2 sections. **Masters,** open to players currently or formerly over 2199 USCF or FIDE, or any player scoring 2 1/2 or more points in any "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Action tournament since Jan. 2011! \$5 (L100 b/40 total paid, minimum half each prize Gtd): \$400-200-100, top U2400 150. **Under 2200:** \$100-60-40, top U1800 \$50. **NEW!** \$150 Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes Guaranteed (best male/female 2-player team combined score in either section): \$100-50 (teammates' average rating must be under 2200; teammates may play in different sections, teammate pairings avoided but possible, teams must declare by 8:15). **Choice of 2 schedules! 7:00 Schedule,** rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **7:30 schedule,** rd. 1 (G/15 + td/3) at 7:30 pm, score carries over into round 2 of 7:00 schedule at 8:15 pm. **EF:** Masters Section \$40, Under 2200 Section \$30, \$10 less to anyone who played in 10 or more "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Action tournaments since 1987, GMs free (\$25 from prize), "free to the player returning after longest time since last tournament!", specified Greater NY Scholastic Prizewinners Free! Limit 2 byes (limit one bye towards class prize), must commit by 8:15 pm. Re-entry: half-prize. **Reg. ends 20 min.** before game. CCA ratings may be used. Help with NYC parking: www.primospot.com, www.iconparkingsystems.com. "Sponsorship opportunities: We can name one of the 4RGT's after yourself, and you'll see your name listed in us chess.org!" **Info:** www.chesscenter.org.

OCT. 4-8, 5-8, 6-8 OR 6-7, VIRGINIA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)
3rd annual Continental Class Championships
NOTE CORRECTION: PRIZES BASED ON 350 PAID ENTRIES. Master Section, 9SS, Oct 4-8, 40/90, SD/30, inc/30. Expert through Class D Sections, 7SS, Oct 5-8 or 6-8, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (3-day option, rounds 1-2 G/75, d5). Class E Section, 7SS, Oct 6-7, G/40, d5 (Class E does not play on Columbus Day, Monday, Oct 8). **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 \$50,000** based on 350 paid entries (seniors, re-entries, Class D Section, GMs, IMs, WGMs, foreign FIDE rated players in Master count as half entries, Class E Section players count as 1/4 entries), else proportional, except minimum \$30,000 (60% each prize) guaranteed. In 7 sections: **Master:** Open to US players currently or formerly rated at least 2200 USCF or 2100 FIDE, foreign players currently or formerly rated at least 2000 USCF or 1800 FIDE, and invitees. \$5000-2500-1500-1000-700-500-400-300-300, clear or tiebreak first bonus \$200, FIDE Under 2400/Unr \$2000-1000. Minimum prize \$500 to first 5 foreign GMs to enter who play all 9 rounds (no byes), \$300 to first 5 foreign IMs to enter who play all 9 rounds (no byes). GM & IM norms

possible, FIDE rated. Expert, open to USCF 1800-2199. \$3000-1500-1000-700-500-400-300-300. FIDE rated. **Class A,** open to USCF 1600-1999 or unrated. \$3000-1500-1000-700-500-400-300-300. **Class B,** open to USCF 1400-1799 or unrated. \$3000-1500-1000-700-500-400-300-300. **Class C,** open to USCF 1200-1599 or unrated. \$2500-1300-900-600-500-400-300-300. **Class D,** open to USCF under 1400 or unrated. \$1000-700-400-300-200-200-200. **Class E,** open to USCF under 1200 or unrated. \$500-300-200, trophies to first 5, top Under 1000, Under 800, Under 600, Unrated. **Prize limits:** 1) Unrated (0-3 lifetime games rated) cannot win over \$200 in E, \$500 D, \$900 C, \$1200 B or \$1500 A. 2) If any post-event rating posted at us chess.org 10/2/11-10/2/12 is more than 30 points over section maximum, prize limit \$1200. 3) Balance of limited prize goes to next player(s) in line. **Master Section EF:** GMs, IMs, WGMs: free; \$150 deducted from prize (no deduction from minimum prize). Foreign FIDE rated players: \$75 online at chessstour.com by 10/1, \$100 online or at site until 6 pm 10/4. Others: \$225 if check mailed by 9/25 or online by 10/1, \$250 until 6 pm 10/4 online or at site. **Expert through Class C Sections EF:** 4-day \$179, 3-day \$178 if check mailed by 9/25, all \$175 online at chessstour.com by 10/1, \$185 if phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/1 (entry only, no questions), \$200 at site. **Class D EF:** \$4-day \$99, 3-day \$98 if check mailed by 9/25, all \$95 online at chessstour.com by 10/1, \$105 if phoned to 406-896-2038 (entry only, no questions), \$120 at site. **Class E EF:** \$47 if check mailed by 9/25, \$45 online at chessstour.com by 10/1, \$55 if phoned to 406-896-2038 (no questions), \$70 at site. **All:** No phone entry after 10/1. Online late entry (same price as at site) available until 2 hours before rd 1. EF \$100 less to rated seniors 65 or over in Expert through Class C. **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. **Master schedule:** Reg. ends Thu 6 pm, rds. Thu 7 pm, Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30. **4-day Expert through Class D schedule:** Reg. ends Fri 6 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30. **3-day Expert through Class D schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30. **Class E schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 9 am, rds Sat 11, 1:30, 3:30 & 6, Sun 10, 12:30 & 2:30. **Both schedules** in Expert through Class D merge & compete for same prizes. **Byes:** OK all; limit 3 (limit 2 in last 4 rds), must submit before rd 3. **Bring sets, boards, clocks** if possible: none supplied. **HR:** \$95-95-105-115, 703-418-1234, reserve by 9/19 or rate may increase. **Special chess rate valet parking** \$6/day, with or without guest room. **Car rentals:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633 or reserve car online at chessstour.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 or 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:** DirectorATChess.us, 845-496-9658, www.chessstour.com. You may request "lowest possible section" if October rating unknown. \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries will be posted at chessstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 5-7 OR 6-7, CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 80 (ENHANCED)
9th annual Los Angeles Open
 5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d5). U1000 Section plays Oct 6-7 only, with all games G/75, d5. Sheraton Four Points LAX, 9750 Airport Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045. Special parking \$5/day. **\$\$\$1500** based on 200 paid entries (re-entries & U1300 Section count 50%, U1000 Section 25%), \$10,000 (2/3 each prize) minimum guaranteed. In 6 sections. **Open:** \$2000-1000-500-300, clear or tiebreak winner \$100 bonus, top Under 2300/Unr (not a section) \$500-250. FIDE. **Under 2200:** \$1200-600-400-200, top Under 2000 (not a section) \$500-250. **Under 1900:** \$1200-600-400-200, top Under 1700 (not a section) \$500-250. **Under 1600:** \$1000-500-300-200, top Under 1400 (not a section) \$400-200. **Under 1300:** \$500-300-200-150, top Under 1100 (not a section) \$200-100. **Under 1000:** Trophies to top 5, 1st Under 800, Under 600, Under 400, Unr. **Unrated** may not win over \$200 in U1300, \$400 U1600 or \$600 U1900. **Top 4 sections EF:** 3-day \$108, 2-day \$107 mailed by 9/26, all \$105 online at chessstour.com by 10/1, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/1 (entry only, no questions), \$120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site or online until 2 hours before first game. GMs, IMs & WGMs free; \$90 deducted from prize. **U1300 Section EF:** All \$50 less than above. **U1000 Section EF:** \$25 mailed by 9/26 or online by 10/1, \$30 at site or online until 2 hours before first game. **SCCF membership** (\$18, under 18 \$10) req. for rated Southern CA residents. Unofficial us.chess.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 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. **Under 1000 schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 1:30. **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 9/22 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, AWD D657633, or reserve car online through chessstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577 (DirectorATChess.US, chessstour.com, 845-496-9658). \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chessstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 6-7, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)
Marshall October Grand Prix!
 4-SS, 30/85d5, SD/1d5. 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/25d5) 10-11:15AM-12:30-5:30PM Sun; both merge rd. 3. Limit 2 byes, request at entry. NO RE-ENTRY. FIDE

CONTINENTAL CHESS SCHEDULE

Visit www.chessstour.com for late news, results, games, minimum ratings, entries, etc. To be added to our email list, see chesscalendar.com.

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.

- 8/10-12: Continental Open, Sturbridge MA*
- 8/17-19: Indianapolis Open, Indianapolis IN*
- 8/17-19: Manhattan Open, New York NY*
- 8/17-19: Central California Open, Fresno CA*
- 8/24-26: Atlantic Open, Washington DC*
- 9/1-3: New York State Championship, Albany NY*
- 9/14-16: New England Senior, Windsor Locks CT*
- 9/15-16: Hartford Open, Windsor Locks CT*
- 9/21-23: Louisville Open, Louisville KY*
- 9/30: Capital Region Open, Schenectady NY*
- 10/4-8: Continental Class, Arlington VA*
- 10/5-7: Los Angeles Open, Los Angeles CA*
- 10/12-14: Midwest Class, Wheeling IL*
- 10/19-21: Boardwalk Open, Asbury Park NJ*
- 10/24-28: Bahamas International, Nassau, Bahamas*
- 11/2-4: Eastern Team Championship, Stamford CT*
- 11/9-11: Kings Island Open, Mason OH*
- 11/23-25: National Chess Congress, Philadelphia PA*
- 12/26-29: North American Open, Las Vegas NV*
- 12/26-29: Empire City Open, New York NY*
- 1/11-13: Continental Amateur & Masters, Boston MA
- 1/18-21: Golden State Open, Concord CA
- 1/18-21: Liberty Bell Open, Philadelphia PA
- 2/23-24: NY State Scholastics, Saratoga Springs NY
- 3/1-3: Pittsburgh Open, Pittsburgh PA
- 3/8-10: Western Class Championships, Agoura Hills, CA
- 3/15-17: Eastern C class Championships, Sturbridge MA
- 3/15-17: Mid-America Open, Saint Louis MO
- 3/22-24: Southern Class Championships, Orlando FL
- 3/27-31: Philadelphia Open, Philadelphia PA
- 5/24-27: Chicago Open, Wheeling IL
- 7/3-7: World Open, Arlington VA
- 7/18-21: Pacific Coast Open, Agoura Hills CA
- 7/19-21: Chicago Class, Wheeling IL

For later events, see chessstour.com.

(G/30 not FIDE ratable). www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 11, NEW YORK
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 10 (ENHANCED)

Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!
4-SS, G/25d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$40, members \$20, GMs and IM's free (no deduction from prize). **(\$530 based on 32 players; first two prizes guaranteed.)** \$200-100-50, U2200 \$95, U2000 \$85, **NEWI** U1700 \$75. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.:** 7-8:15-9:30-10:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

OCT. 12-14 OR 13-14, FLORIDA
TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20

Orlando Autumn Open & National Chess Day Scholastics
5SS, G/120 (2-day: Rd.1 G/60). International Palms Resort, 6515 International Dr., Orlando, FL 32819. **\$7,000/b130** (Scholastic = 1/2-entry), 70% Guaranteed. **6 Sections: Premier** \$1000-500-300, U2200 \$700. **Under 2100** \$600-300-200. **Under 1900** \$600-300-200. **Under 1700** \$600-300-200. **Under 1500** \$600-300-200. **Scholastic Under 1300:** \$250-150, U1100 \$100, U900 \$100. Rated players may play up one section only. Unrateds limited to \$70 unless place prize in Premier. **EF:** \$75 (Scholastic U1300 \$35) by October 1; \$80 later (Scholastic \$45) and on-site. Re-entry \$40. FCFC memb discount: \$10 (\$5 for Jr/Sr memb). Trophies in Scholastic to top U1300, U1100, and U900. **Reg.:** ends 1 1/2 hr before 1st rd. Rd.1: 7pm Fri (2-day and Scholastic: 10am Sat at G/60). **Rds.:** 2-5: Sat 1 & 6, Sun 9 & 2. 1/2 pt. byes if reg'd before rd. 2 (max 2). **HR:** \$75 (No Resort Fee) (407) 351-3500; (Mention "Chess"); or online <http://tynurl.com/october2012hotel>; Free Shuttle, Parking & Internet. **Ent:** CFCF, c/o Harvey Lerman, 921 N. Thistle Ln., Maitland, FL 32751; or online: <http://2012Autumn.eventbrite.com> by Oct 11. **Info:** 407-629-6946 or www.centraalfchess.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 12-14 OR 13-14, ILLINOIS

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 100 (ENHANCED)
21st Annual Midwest Class Championships
5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d5). **Class E Section** is G/75, d5 and plays Oct 13-14 only. **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 north). 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. In 7 sections; no unrated allowed in Master or Expert. **Master** (2200/up): \$2000-1000-500-300, clear win 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 \$108, 2-day \$107 mailed by 10/3, all \$106 online at chesstour.com by 10/9, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/9 (entry only, no questions), \$120 at site, or online until 2 hours before first game. **Class E EF:** all \$50 less than above. **All:** No checks at site, credit cards OK. Online or mailed EF \$5 less to ICA members; join/renew at ic-chess.org. 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 & 4:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **Class E schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 1:30. **Bye:** all, Master must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR:** \$103-103-103-103, 800-937-8461, 847-777-6500, reserve by 9/28 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, 845-496-9658). \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!
An American Classic!

OCT. 19-21, NEVADA

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)
30th 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. \$26,000 b/275, Gtd. \$16,750-\$2000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-300-200-200 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. \$5 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. \$51,600-800-500-300-200. **"A"** Sec. (1800-1999) EF: \$145, \$51,500-800-500-300-200. **"B"** Sec. (1600-1799) EF: \$144, \$51,400-700-500-300-200. **"C"** Sec. (1400-1599) EF: \$143, \$51,200-600-500-300-200. **"D"** Under Sec. (1399/below) EF: \$142, \$5800-500-400-300-200, (under 1200) - \$300. (Unrated Players) EF: Free + must join USCF or increase membership for 1 additional year to join this tournament (\$46 adults, \$25 juniors). **Prizes:** Top unrated wins 1 yr. USCF membership plus trophy. **Note:** Unrated will be put in "D" Sec. unless requests to play up. **Seniors (65+)** additional prizes \$5200; (Seniors not eligible: provisionally rated, unrated, masters); Club Championship \$5800-400 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.:** (10/18) 5-8 pm, (10/19) 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. (10/17) 7pm Clock Simul (F 40/2, G/1) (Including an analysis of YOUR game. GM Sergey Kudrin \$30 (A great value). Thurs (10/18) 5-7:30 pm FREE 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 10/20 (3-4:30pm) IM John Donaldson Clinic(Game/Position Analysis) - Free. **ENT:** Make checks payable and send to: SANDS REGENCY (address above). **HR:** Room rates are Sunday - Thursday - \$29.00 and Friday & Saturday - \$59.00 Reservation code is: USCHES1017. + 13.5% tax. Reserve by 10/5/12 to guarantee room rates). **INFO:** Jerry Weibel wackyky@aol.com, (775) 747 1405, or website: www.renochess.org/wso (also go here to verify entry). **FIDE. W. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 19-21 OR 20-21, NEW JERSEY

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 80 (ENHANCED)

3rd Annual Boardwalk Open
5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d5). **Under 1200 Section** plays Oct 20-21 only, G/75, d5. **Berkeley Oceanfront Hotel**, 1401 Ocean Ave., Asbury Park, NJ 07712. Free parking (limited space). **Prizes \$15,000** based on 180 paid entries, \$10,000 minimum (2/3 each prize) guaranteed; re-entries & U1200 Section count as half entries. In 5 sections. **Open:** \$2000-1000-500-300, clear or tiebreak winner \$100 bonus, top Under 2300/Unr \$700-350. **FIDE. Under 2100:** \$1200-600-300-200, top U1900 \$600-300. **Under 1800:** \$1200-600-300-200, top U1600 \$500-250. **Under 1500:** \$1000-500-300-200, top U1300 \$400-200. **Under 1200:** \$600-300-200-100, trophies to 1st, top U1000, U800, U600, Unr. **Unrated** may not win over \$150 in U1200, \$300 U1500, or \$500 U1800. **Top 4 sections EF:** 3-day \$108, 2-day \$107 mailed by 10/12, all \$105 online at chesstour.com by 10/16, \$110 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/16 (entry only, no questions), \$120 (no checks, credit cards OK) at site, or online until 2 hours before round 1. GMS free; \$100 deducted from prize. **Under 1200 Section EF:** all \$50 less than above. **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 & 4:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **U1200 schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 1:30. **All:** Half point byes OK all, limit 2. Open must commit before rd 2, others before rd 3. **HR:** \$99-99, 732-776-6700, reserve by 10/5 (earlier is better; chess rooms sold out last year). **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, DirectorATChess.US, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 20-21, TEXAS

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20 (ENHANCED)

Dallas Open
5SS, G/90 with 30 second increment. Dallas Chess Club, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr. Ste C, Richardson, TX 75080. **One Section \$875.00.** Open: This section is FIDE rated but uses USCF Rules. \$5 \$500-\$250-\$125. "X" and U2000 prize(s) will be 40% of "X" and U2000 entry fees respectively. **EF:** \$75, Senior/Hcap/Additional Family Member \$50, plus \$5 non-DCC membership fee if applicable. **Registration:** 9:45-10:15 am. **Rds.:** Sat 10:45-3:10-7:16, Sun 10:45-3:10. One Bye allowed if requested before the end of round 2, withdrawals and last round zero point byes are not eligible for prizes. Highest Finishing Dallas Chess Club member is the Dallas Chess Club Champion. **Ent:** Dallas Chess Club, C/O Barbara Swaford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. **Info:** 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com, www.dallaschess.com NS. NC. FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, BAHAMAS

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)

Bahamas International & Amateur
Wyndham Nassau Resort & Crystal Palace Casino, West Bay Street, Cable Beach, Nassau, Bahamas. \$12,000 guaranteed prizes. USCF rated. International: 9SS, 40/90, SD/30, 30 second increment. \$5G 2000-1200-800-600-500-400, top FIDE under 2400 or unrated \$800-400. Minimum prize \$700 to GMs who complete all games with no byes (limited to first 6 GMs to enter). IM & GM norms possible; FIDE rated. **EF:** GMs, IMs, WGMs free; \$130 EF deduction from prize (GMs who have a \$700 minimum prize will not be reduced to below \$700 by the deduction). **FM:** \$130 mailed by 10/12 or online by 10/22, \$150 at tmt. **FIDE 2200/up** unrated players: \$230 mailed by 10/12 or online by 10/22, \$250 at tmt. **FIDE 2100-2199:** \$330 mailed by 10/12 or online by 10/22, \$350 at tmt. **Others:** \$430 mailed by 10/12 or online by 10/22, \$450 at tmt. **Amateur:** 6SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5, open to under 2200 or unrated. \$5G 1200-600-300-200, top Under 1900 (no unr) \$700-400. **EF:** \$128 mailed by 10/12 or online by 10/22, \$150 at tmt. **Reserve:** 6SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5, open to under 1600 or unrated. \$700-400-200-100, top Under 1300 (no unr) \$350-150; no unrated may win over \$300. **EF:** \$78 mailed by 10/12 or online by 10/22, \$100 at tmt. **All:** No checks at site, credit cards OK. 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. Extra charge for magazine if not US/Canada/Mexico. Special USCF dues for Bahamas residents: see www.chesstour.com/bi12.htm. **Ratings:** FIDE ratings used in International Section, USCF in others; if multiple ratings, usually highest rating used, plus possible adjustment points. No adjustment points added to Bahamas, Jamaica, most Caribbean ratings or CFC, \$50 added to FIDE or FQE, 100/more added to many other countries. **International schedule:** Late reg. ends Wed 6 pm, rds Wed 7, Thu 11 & 6, Fri 11 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. Two half point byes available (must commit before rd 2); norm not possible if taking bye. **Amateur & Reserve schedule:** Late reg. ends Fri 10 am, rds Fri 11 & 6, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **HR:** \$109-109-129 plus \$18 resort fee, 954-903-2800, 242-327-6200, reserve by 10/10 or rate may increase. Resort fee includes bellmen & maid gratuities, pool

& beach amenities, fitness room, admission to cocktail party, use of computers/wifi in lobby, access to Crystal Palace Casino Members Club & free play, resort activities, use of facilities at adjacent Sheraton Hotel, Wyndham coupon value pack, etc. **Bring sets, boards, clocks** if possible- none supplied. **Ent:** Continental Chess, PO Box 243, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. **Questions:** DirectorATChess.US, www.chesstour.com, 845-496-9658. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. Invitations: GoATChess.US (use @ instead of at). **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

NOV. 2-4 OR 3-4, MICHIGAN

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)

Second Annual Fall International Chess Festival Troy, Michigan (suburban Detroit), at the **Metropolitan Hotel**, 5500 Crooks Rd., Troy, MI 48098. **FIVE Rounds Swiss**, November 2-4 or November 3-4: OPEN, Under 1800, Under 1400 Sections. **FOUR Rounds Swiss**, Saturday, November 3: U1000 Section only ONE DAY SECTION! OPEN Section is FIDE rated, 150 Grand Prix Points. Enhanced. \$15,000 Prize Fund Guaranteed, increased from last year! **PRIZES: OPEN Section:** \$2,500, 1,500, 900, 500, 300, 100; Under 2300: \$900, 450; Under 2100 \$700, 400, Under 1900 \$400, 150, Under 1800 Section: \$1,000, 600, 300, 225, Under 1600 \$550, 300, 100. **Under 1400 Section:** \$750, 400, 250, 150, Under 1200 \$425, 200, 100. **Under 1000 Section:** \$150, 100, 75, 25; Under 800 \$75, 50, 25; Under 600 \$75, 50, 25, Under 400 \$75, 50, 25; Unrated: \$75, 50, 25. VERY REASONABLE ENTRY FEES, enter now for discount compared to onsite entry. **To ENTER NOW:** <http://michiganchessfestival.com/register.php>. **Time limits:** Under 1000 Section: G/30. All other sections: 3 day schedule: 40/2 SD 1. 2 Day Schedule: First 2 rounds G/90, last 3 rounds, merge with 3 Day Schedule. **REGISTRATION Online** at: <http://michiganchessfestival.com/register.php>. **ONSITE:** For the 3 day schedule: Friday, November 2, 5:45 p.m. For 2 day and U1000 Saturday November 3, 8:45 a.m. Round times are consistent with typical schedules for five round week-end Swiss tournaments with 2 & 3 hr schedules. **TDs:** Senior TD Jennifer Skidmore, Senior TD Ed Mandell. **HR:** Special Chess rate for Hotel Rooms \$89. Hotel has free Internet, pool, fitness room, restaurant, more! Reserve a room at the Hotel: <http://www.themetroy.com/index.html>. To reach a hotel reservation specialist focused on making reservations for this tournament, call (248) 879-2100. Identify yourself a participant in "Second Annual Fall International Chess Festival." **NOTE:** This excellent rate is available for a limited time, so PLEASE reserve your room at the Hotel promptly! Tournament website, for further information, including entry fees, www.michiganchessfestival.com. Presented by Michigan Chess Festival LLC. **Contact:** Alan Kaufman, info@michiganchessfestival.com, 248 497 6912. An account of last year's tournament appeared in Chess Life online: <http://main.uschess.org/content/view/11474/645/>. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

NOV. 3-4, TEXAS

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 20 (ENHANCED)

2012 DCC Fide Open VIII
5SS, G/90 with 30 sec inc. Dallas Chess Club, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr. #C, Richardson, TX 75080. **Two sections:** Open and Reserve. **Open Section** \$750G. This section is FIDE rated but uses USCF Rules. \$500-\$250. **EF:** \$75, Senior/Hcap/Additional Family Member \$50, plus \$5 non-DCC membership fee if applicable. Small appearance fee to the First two GM/IM who apply. GM/IM must play all rounds to get appearance fee. **Reserve section:** Open to players rated below 1800 USCF. This section is not FIDE Rated but is USCF rated. Reserve: Open to USCF U1800. **EF:** \$30 plus \$5 non Dallas Chess Club membership fee if applicable. The Reserve give back

USCF Membership Rates
Premium (P) and Regular (R)
(U.S., CANADA, MEXICO)

Type	1 yr	2yr	3yr
Adult P	\$46	\$84	\$122
Adult R	\$40	\$72	\$104
Senior (65+)	\$40	\$72	\$104
Young Adult P (U25)*	\$33	\$61	\$88
Young Adult R (U25)*	\$26	\$47	\$67
Youth P (U16)*	\$28	\$51	\$73
Youth R (U16)*	\$22	\$40	\$57
Scholastic P (U13)*	\$24	\$43	\$61
Scholastic R (U13)*	\$17	\$30	\$42

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; a tournament life announcement newsletter 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**

10% in prizes and if there is a clear winner, then that winner receives free entry to next DCC Fide Open. Both: **Registration:** 9:45 -10:15 am. **Rds.:** Sat 10:45-3:10-7:16, Sun 10:45-3:10. One Bye allowed if requested before rd 2, withdrawals and zero point last round byes are not eligible for prizes. **Ent:** Dallas Chess Club, see address above. **Info:** 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com. NS, NC, FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

NOV. 9-11 OR 10-11, CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 30

East Bay Open

5SS, 30/90, SD/1, d/5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/60, d/5). Crowne Plaza, 45 John Glenn Dr., Concord, CA 94520. Free Parking. **Prize:** \$6,000b/110, \$3,950 guaranteed. In 4 sections. **Open:** (1st three Gtd.) \$1000-600-300-200-100, top Under 2200 \$200-100. **Under 2000:** \$500-250-150-100, top Under 1800 \$200-100. **Under 1600:** \$500-250-100-75, top Under 1400 \$150-75. **Under 1200:** \$400-250-100-75, top Under 1000 \$150-75. **Unrated** may only win 50% of any prize except top prizes in Open. **EF:** 3-day \$69, 2-day \$68 mailed by 11/1, 3 day \$79, 2-day \$78 after 11/1. **Unrated** and U13: \$49. Play up \$10. GM/IM Free. **Prize-EF:** 3-day **schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6:45pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 4:30, Sun 10 & 3:30. **2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 1:30 & 4:30, Sun 10 & 3:30. **All:** Half point byes OK all, limit 2, final round bye must commit before rd 1. **HR:** \$84, (877) 276-4600 ext. 3777 Group Code: CHE; reserve by 10/19 or rate may increase. **Ent:** Contra Costa Chess Club, C/O John Treshler, 1508 Haviland Ct., Clayton, CA 94517-1004. **Questions:** www.ccchess.com. NS, NC, W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

NOV. 9-11 OR 10-11, OHIO

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)

21st annual Kings Island Open

5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/75, d5). U1000 Section plays Nov 10-11 only, G/75, d5. At 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 & U1000 Section 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 \$200, U1250 \$400, U1500 \$600, U1700 \$800, U1900 \$1000. Balance goes to next player(s) in line. **Top 6 sections EF:** 3-day \$118, 2-day \$117 mailed by 10/31, all \$115 online at chessstour.com by 11/6, \$120 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 11/6 (entry only, no questions), \$130

at site. **Under 1000 Section EF:** 3-day \$58, 2-day \$57 mailed by 10/31, all \$55 online at chessstour.com by 11/6, \$60 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 11/6 (entry only, no questions), \$70 at site. **All:** No checks at site, credit cards OK. Advance EF \$5 less to OCA members. Online late entry available until 2 hours before first game; same price as at site. Re-entry \$60; not available in Open Section. Unofficial uschess.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 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. **U1000 schedule:** Reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 1:30. **Byes:** OK all; Open must commit by rd 2, others by rd 3. **HR:** \$64-64, 800-727-3050, 513-398-0115, reserve by 10/29 or rate may increase. **Car rental:** Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #D657633, or reserve car online through chessstour.com. Car rental is easiest & cheapest transportation from Cincinnati Airport. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577 (chessstour.com, DirectorAtChess.US, 845-496-9658). Advance entries will be posted at chessstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

An American Classic!

NOV. 22-25 OR 23-25, CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 120 (ENHANCED)

48th Annual American Open

8SS, 40/2, SD/1. Doubletree Hotel Anaheim/Orange County, 100 City Dr., Orange, CA 92868. \$550,000 b/o 500 entries, **\$25,000 guaranteed.** In 6 sections. **Open:** \$5000-2400-1000-300-150, U2400/Unr. \$1000-300-150, U2300/Unr. \$600-180-150. **U2200, U2000, U1800 Each** \$4000-2000-1000-300-150. **U1600** \$3000-1500-700-300-150. **U1400/Unr:** \$2500-1000-500-200-150, U1200 \$1400-400-150 (not a separate section; U1200s also eligible for U1400 prizes), **Unrated:** \$500-200 (**Unrateds** in this section eligible for these prizes only). Plus score bonus (\$2,000 in chess store gift cards) every player who finishes with 4-1/2 points or better who didn't place in the money prize wins a \$20 gift certificate towards chess store - redeemable only onsite. **EF:** \$165 if rec'd by 11/11, \$20 more after, \$50 more for players rated under 2000 playing in Open, U1600 & U1400 save \$10, **Unrateds** save \$65. **All:** \$50 more at door. No checks at door - cash only, credit card accepted for a \$10 fee. SCCF membership \$18 required for So Cal residents. **4-day schedule:** Reg. closes 11am on 11/22, **Rounds** 12:30-7:30, 12:30-7:30, 10:30-5, 10:4-3:30. **3-day schedule:** Reg. closes 9:30am on 11/23, **Rounds,** 11-2:30-5-8pm (G/60 min),

schedules merge in Rd 5 and compete for common prizes. Two byes max with advance notice. CCA minimum ratings and TD discretion used to protect you from improperly rated players. November Rating Supplement used. Lectures and videos. LOW room rates! Five minutes away from Disneyland Theme Park. **HR: Mention AAO for \$92 single or double,** rates may go up after. **Call Doubletree (714) 634-4500.** Don't be shut out; surrounding hotels in the area may be as high as \$199/night; make your reservations early and be sure to ask for the special AAO rates; Doubletree sells out most weekends. Free cookies for guests at check-in. **Cutoff for special hotel rate/offer is Oct 22nd. RESERVE NOW!** Credit card or one night room deposit will be required to hold reservation, may be canceled 72 hours in advance without penalty. Parking only \$7. **Info:** organizing club - Chess Palace 714-899-3421, play@americanopen.org. **Ent:** American Open, 5246 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92845 or www.americanopen.org. NS, W, F. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A Heritage Event!

An American Classic!

NOV. 23-25 OR 24-25, PENNSYLVANIA

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 150 (ENHANCED)

43rd annual National Chess Congress

6SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day option, rds 1-3 G/50, d5). Trophy sections play separate 2-day schedule only, 11/24-25, G/75, d5 (rds 1-2 G/50, d5). Sheraton Hotel Philadelphia City Center, 201 N. 17th St., Philadelphia, PA 19103. \$300,000 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 10. **Under 800:** Trophies to top 10. **Under 600:** Trophies to top 10; unrated age 15/over may not enter Under 600. **Unrated** may not win over \$250 in U1200, \$400 in U1400, \$600 in U1600, \$800 in U1800, or \$1000 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 \$113, 2-day \$112 mailed by 11/14, all \$110 online at chessstour.com by 11/19, \$115 phoned by 11/19 (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:** \$28 mailed by 11/14 or online at chessstour.com by 11/19, \$35 phoned by 11/19 (406-896-2038, no questions), \$40 at tmt. **All:** No checks at site, credit cards OK. Online late entry available until

GOLD AFFILIATES

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www.cajunchess.com

**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
chessstour@aol.com
www.chessstour.com

Dallas Chess Club
200 S. Cottonwood Dr. Suite C
Richardson, TX 75080
972-231-2065
info@dallaschess.com
www.dallaschess.com

Marshall Chess Club
23 W. 10th St.
New York, NY 10011
212-477-3716
admin@marshallchessclub.org
www.marshallchessclub.org

**New Jersey State
Chess Federation**
c/o Roger Inglis, 49 A Mara Rd.
Lake Hiawatha, NJ 07034
973-263-8696, rwi@njchess.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
jejr@houghtaling@bisd.us

San Diego Chess Club
2225 Sixth Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101, 619-239-7166
chucnglo@aol.com
http://sdchessclub.multiply.com

Shore HS Chess League
PO Box 773
Lincroft, NJ 07738
shorehsscchessleague@yahoo.com

Silver Knights Chess
3929 Old Lee Hwy Ste 92D
Fairfax, VA 22030, 703-574-2070
www.silverknightschess.com
chess@silverknightschess.com

**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

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

Indiana State Chess Association
www.indianachess.org

Long Island Chess Nuts (NY)
516-739-3907

Michigan Chess Association
www.michess.org

Monmouth Chess School & Club (NJ)
www.monmouthchess.com

Oklahoma Chess Foundation
www.OKchess.org

Our Lady of Sorrows Academy (AZ)
professor.revesz@gmail.com

Sparta Chess Club (NJ)
www.spartachessclub.org

Success Chess School (CA)
www.successchess.com

Western PA Youth Chess Club (PA)
www.youthchess.net

2 hours before your first game; same fee as at site. Mailed EF \$3 less to PSCF members. **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. **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, 1:15 & 4:30. **Half point byes OK** all rounds; limit 3, Premier must commit before rd 2, others before rd 4. **HR:** \$99-99-99-99, reserve by 11/9 or rate may increase. **Parking** at hotel \$10/day with guest room, \$20 without; garage a block away (1540 Vine) is about \$5/day Sat & Sun, \$18 Fri. **Car rental:** 800-331-1600, use AWD D657633 or reserve car online through chesstour.com. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577 (DirectorAtChess.US, chesstour.com, 845-496-9658). \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries will be posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

An American Classic!

DEC. 26-30, 26-29 OR 27-29, NEVADA

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIZ POINTS: 200 (ENHANCED)

22nd annual North American Open

Open Section, Dec 26-30: 9SS, 40/90, SD/30, inc/30, GM & IM norms possible; EF \$100 more in this section if never FIDE rated 2200/over. **Other sections, Dec 26-29 or 27-29:** 7SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (3-day option, G/75, d5). **Bally's Casino Resort,** 3645 Las Vegas Blvd. S, Las Vegas, NV 89103. **Prizes \$120,000** based on 600 paid entries (seniors, re-entries, GMs & U1250 Section count as half entries), else in proportion; \$90,000 minimum (75% each prize) guaranteed. In 7 sections. **Open:** \$10000-5000-2500-1200-1000-800-700-600-500-500, clear winner or 1st on tiebreak bonus \$300, top FIDE Under 2500/Unr \$2500-1200. **FIDE. Under 2300:** \$7000-4000-2000-1200-900-700-600-500-400-400. **FIDE. Under 2100:** \$7000-4000-2000-1200-900-700-600-500-400-400, no unrated may win over \$2500. **Under 1900:** \$7000-4000-2000-1200-900-700-600-500-400-400, no unrated may win over \$1800. **Under 1700:** \$6000-3000-1500-1000-800-700-600-500-400-400, no unrated may win over \$1300. **Under 1500:** \$6000-3000-1500-1000-800-700-600-500-400-400, no unrated may win over \$900. **Under 1250:** \$3000-1500-1000-800-600-500-400-400-300-300, top Under 1000 (no unr) \$1000-500, no unrated may win over \$500. No separate U1000 section; players under 1000 in U1250 play for both U1250 and U1000 prizes; receive larger if winning both. **Prize limits:** 1) Players with under 26 games played as of 12/12 list may not win over \$1500 U1250 or \$3000 U1500. Games rated too late for 12/12 list not counted. 2) If official rating any month 12/11-11/12 or unofficial post-event rating posted 12/26/11-12/26/12 was more than 30 points over section maximum, prize limit \$2000. 3) Balance of any limited prize goes to next player(s) in line. **Top 6 sections EF:** 5-day \$250, 4-day \$249, 3-day \$248 mailed by 10/15, 5-day \$280, 4-day \$279, 3-day \$278 mailed by 12/15, \$245 online at chesstour.com by 10/15, \$275 online by 12/20, \$300 online until two hours before round 1, \$285 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 12/20 (no questions), \$300 at site. No phone entry after 12/20. **Open Section EF \$100 more if never FIDE rated 2200/over. Under 1250 Section EF:** All \$120 less than above. **Seniors 65/over in U1500/above:** All \$120 less than above. Re-entry \$120; not available in Open Section. GMs \$150 from prize. **All:** No checks at site, credit cards OK. **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. **5-day reg.** ends 12/26 10 am, rds 12/26-28 11 am & 6 pm, 12/29 10 am & 4:30 pm, 12/30 10 am. **4-day reg.** ends 12/26 5 pm, rds 12/26 6 pm, 12/27-28 11 & 6, 12/29 10 am & 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 am & 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 chesstour.com or call 800-331-1600, use AWD #657633. **Ratings:** FIDE used in Open, Dec 2012 official USCF in others. For foreign in U2300 & below, see www.chesstour.com/foreignratings.htm. Highest of multiple ratings usually used. Players who fail to disclose foreign or FIDE ratings may be expelled. **Special rules:** 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** 12/29 10:45 pm. **Ent:** Continental Chess, Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577 (DirectorAtChess.us, www.chesstour.com, 845-496-9658). Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

D/E \$60, U1000/unrated \$40. **Registration:** Send name, USCF ID, and entry fee to Doug Strout, 6000 Camelot Ct, Montgomery, AL 36117.

SEPT. 1, Back-2-School Scholastic

5SS, TC: G/30. UAH – University Center Game Room, 1410 Ben Graves Dr., Huntsville, AL 35816. **EF: \$20;** if mailed by AUG. 25th; **\$30** at site. **Scholastic: 5 Sections – Rated and Not Rated. Trophy:** Top 4; Medals 5th-7th. **Rds.:** 9:15-10:30-12:15-2:30. **Late REG.:** SEP 1st: 8-8:40am. Checks payable to: **Caesar Chess. ENT:** Caesar Chess LLC, 5184 Caldwell Mill Rd., Suite 204 - 202, Birmingham, AL 35244. **Info: CaesarChess@yahoo.com; www.CaesarChess.com or www.AlabamaChess.com.**

SEPT. 28-30, 2012 Alabama State Championship

See Grand Prix.

OCT. 13, National Chess Day Scholastic - A Charity Event!

5SS, TC: G/30. Brookwood Village Mall, 780 Brookwood Village, Birmingham, AL 35209. **Rated:** OPEN (K-12), MIDDLE (K-8), ELEMENTARY (K-4). **EF: \$20. Not Rated:** NOVICE (K-4). **EF: \$10,** if mailed by OCT 6th. **Trophy:** Top 3, Medals 4th – 6th. **Late REG.:** OCT 13th at 8AM. **Rds.:** 9:15-10:30-12:15-2:30. Checks payable to: **Caesar Chess.** All Proceeds goes to Children's of Alabama. **ENT:** Caesar Chess, LLC 5184 Caldwell Mill Road, Suite 204-202, Birmingham, AL 35244. **Info: CaesarChess@yahoo.com; www.CaesarChess.com; www.AlabamaChess.com.**

Arizona

OCT. 5-7 OR 6-7, 9th annual Los Angeles Open (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

NOV. 22-25 OR 23-25, 48th Annual American Open (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

DEC. 26-30, 26-29 OR 27-29, 22nd annual North American Open (NV)

See Grand Prix.

Arkansas

AUG. 17-19, Arkansas State Championship

See Grand Prix.

California, Northern

Capital City C. C. Sundays Chess for Kids

Round Table Pizza, 3005 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento. **FREE CHESS CLASS:** 11am (Kids & Families). **EVENTS:** Quads: (3/RR) &/or Swisses (3 Rds.). T/C: G/30 w/5 Second Delay. **Rds.:** 1pm/Ongoing. **PRIZES:** 1st - Trophy or Inscribed Digital Delay Clock & Chess Medals or Pins for all. **TIE-BREAK: G/7 w/3 Second Delay.** EF: \$15. **REG.:** Site & Noon. **DIRECTOR:** John C. Barnard 209-450-6133. JohnCharlesBarnard@gmail.com, capitalcitychessclub.com.

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 4th annual Central California Open

See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, 2012 CalChess Labor Day Championships

See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 15-16, 7th Ursula Foster Memorial Open

See Grand Prix.

OCT. 5-7 OR 6-7, 9th annual Los Angeles Open (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

NOV. 9-11 OR 10-11, East Bay Open

See Grand Prix.

NOV. 22-25 OR 23-25, 48th Annual American Open (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

DEC. 26-30, 26-29 OR 27-29, 22nd annual North American Open (NV)

See Grand Prix.

California, Southern

THE LOS ANGELES CHESS CLUB

The premier chess club in Southern California with perfect location, affordable membership rates and great refreshments! (310) 795-5710 * www.LAChessClub.com. **Saturdays:** 10AM-10 PM (Novice Class & 3 Tournaments) **Sundays:** 12-6 (Beginner class & 2 Tournaments) - Details on our website. **Tuesdays:** 7:30-9:30 pm (Intermediate/Advance Lecture). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025 * (4 blocks 405 West, SW Santa Monica & Butler * 2nd Floor – above Javan Restaurant) * Group Classes * Tournaments * Private (1:1) Lessons.

Beverly Hills Chess Club

Join the elite group of chess enthusiasts! Curriculum based instruction from ages 3 and above, Privates, Lectures, Blitz, Simuls, Open & Scholastic tournaments, Camps, Adult events, Member-only events and more... Open T, H, F, Sat, Sun (hours vary). 8950 W. Olympic Blvd., #210, Beverly Hills, CA 90211. In the Beverly Hills Plaza (Corner of Lapeer Dr. & Olympic) 310-274-7873, email us at info@bhchessclub.com, website www.bhchessclub.com.

AUG. 4&5, 25&26, LACC - Sat & Sun G/61

6SS, G/61. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd fl. 2 Sections: **Open & U1600.** EF: \$55 (\$35 LACC memb). **Reg.:** 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 2, 4 pm each day. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** Free at BoA and streets (\$5 basement). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 4, 11, 18, 25, LACC - Saturday G/61

3SS, G/61. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd. 2 Sections: **Open & U1600.** EF: \$30 (\$20 memb, \$10 no prizes). **Reg.:** 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 2, 4 pm. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** basement (\$5). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com.

AUG. 4, 11, 25, LACC - LA Masters G/30

3SS, G/30. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd Fl. 4 blks W 405. **EF: \$30** (\$20 memb). **Reg:** 5-6 pm. **Rds.:** 6, 7, 8 pm. **Prizes:** 75% collections. **Parking:** Free at BoA (\$5 basement). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com.

AUG. 4, 11, 25, LACC - Sat Nite Blitz (G/5) (OC)

5DSS, (10 Games). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4 blks W 405. **EF: \$10.** Q-rated. **Reg:** 8-9 pm. **Rds.:** 9, 9:20, 9:40, 10, 10:20. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** Free at BoA (\$5 basement). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com.

AUG. 5, 12, 26, LACC - Every Sunday Chess 4 Jrs.

4 separate events – 3 Sections: K-1, K-3, K-6. 5SS, G/30. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4 blocks W 405. **EF: \$30** (\$20 LACC memb, \$10 off siblings, Free new LACC memb). **Reg:** 12-1 pm. **Rds.:** 1pm & asap. **Prizes:** Trophies (Top 3) & medals; each player receives a prize! **Parking:** Free at BoA and streets or building basement (\$5). Free Pizza & Soda. **Info:** (310) 795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com or Mick@LAChessClub.com.

AUG. 5, 12, 26, LACC - Sunday G/61

3SS, G/61. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 2 Sections: **Open & U1600.** EF: \$30 (\$20 memb, \$10 no prizes). **Reg:** 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 2, 4 pm. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** Free at BoA and streets or basement (\$5). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com.

AUG. 11, SEPT. 9, DEC. 15, Pleasanton Quads at Hilton Hilton, 7050 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588. **Trophies:** Players w/winning record. **Sched:** Check-in 4p. **Games:** 4:30-6:30p. 3xG/30. **EF: \$25.** **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/tacobell12. NS. NC. W.

AUG. 11, SEPT. 9, DEC. 15, Pleasanton SuperSwiss at Hilton 7050 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588. **Prize:** \$1,000 b/44. **Sched:** Reg. 9-9:30. **AssxG/60:** 10-12:30-2:50-5:10. **2 Sects:** u1700, 1700+ . **EF:** \$44 by 8/9. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/superswiss12. NS, NC, W.

AUG. 11, SEPT. 9, DEC. 15, Pleasanton Swiss at Hilton Hilton, 7050 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588. **Trophies:** Players w/winning record & teams. **Sched:** Reg. 9-9:30. **Games:** 10a-2p. **EF: \$33.** **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/tacobell12. NS. NC. W.

AUG. 11-12, LACC - Sat & Sun G/90

4SS, G/90. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025, 2nd fl. **EF: \$55** (\$35 LACC memb). **Reg:** 11-12 pm. **Rds.:** 12, 3 pm each day. **Prizes:** 1/2 collections. **Parking:** Free on Butler (\$5 basement). **Info:** 310/795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 4th annual Central California Open (CA-N) See Grand Prix.

AUG. 19, SEPT. 23, OCT. 7, NOV. 18, DEC. 9, Cupertino Grand Prix Quads

Courtyard Marriott, 10605 N. Wolfe Rd., Cupertino, CA 95014. **Trophies:** Players w/winning record. **Sched:** Check-in 4p. **Games:** 4:30-6:30p. 3xG/30. **EF: \$25.** Big Trophies to top 10 players in Jul-Sep & Oct-Dec events. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/cupertino12. NS. NC. W.

AUG. 19, SEPT. 23, OCT. 7, NOV. 18, DEC. 9, Cupertino Grand Prix Swiss

Courtyard Marriott, 10605 N. Wolfe Rd., Cupertino, CA 95014. **Trophies:** Players w/winning record & teams. **Sched:** Reg. 9-9:30. **Games:** 10a-2p. **EF: \$33.** Big Trophies to top 10 players in Jul-Sep & Oct-Dec events. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/cupertino12. NS. NC. W.

AUG. 25, SEPT. 15, OCT. 20, NOV. 3, DEC. 1, Bay Area Chess4Less Swiss

1639A S. Main St., Milpitas, CA 95035. **Trophies:** Players w/ plus score, teams w/2+ players. **Sched:** Reg. 8:30-9a. **Games:** 9:30a-2p. **EF: \$25,** \$40 onsite. **Info:** BayAreaChess.com/chess4less. NS. NC.

AUG. 25-26, LACC - August Open

See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, 34th Annual Southern California Open

See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 15, OCT. 20, NOV. 3, DEC. 1, Bay Area Chess4Less Quads 1639A S. Main St., Milpitas, CA 95035. **Trophies** for winning record. **Sched:** Check-in by: 3:15p. 3xG/30. **Games:** 3:45-6. **EF:** \$19 by Wed before tourney. **Info/flyer:** BayAreaChess.com/chess4less. NS. NC.

OCT. 5-7 OR 6-7, 9th annual Los Angeles Open

See Grand Prix.

NOV. 22-25 OR 23-25, 48th Annual American Open

See Grand Prix.

DEC. 26-30, 26-29 OR 27-29, 22nd annual North American Open (NV)

See Grand Prix.

Colorado

AUG. 18-19, Monument Open IV

5 Round Swiss System Tournament. **TC:** All rounds: G/90+30 second increment. **Further Information:** www.GentlemensChessClub.com. Phone: (719) 491-1040. Email: GentlemensChessClub@hotmail.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

A State Championship Event!

AUG. 31, Colorado State Quick Chess Championship (QC) & GM Alex Yermolinsky Simul

(Part of the CO Labor Day Weekend Chess Festival) 6 round Swiss system tournament. **Time Controls:** G/10, d/3. **Site:** Newly renovated Sheraton Denver Tech Center Hotel. **Directions:** Details at <http://www.colorado-chess.com>. Open: Open to all players. **Prizes:** Cash prizes based on entries will be paid at the end of the event. **Entry fee:** \$10.00. No discount. Pre-Registrations: Must be received no later than Friday, August 24. No pre-registrations accepted without full payment. **On-site Registration:** August 31, 2012, 6:30-8:00 PM. **Players**

Regional

Alabama

AUG. 11, Chris Bond Memorial Classic 8th Annual

4SS, TC: G/75. **Frazier UMC,** 6000 Atlanta Hwy., Montgomery, AL 36117. **OPEN (\$50 on 25): EF: \$30.** Rds.: 9-11:30-2:30-5. **SCHOLASTIC: EF: \$20,** if mailed by AUG 4th. **Trophy:** Top 3, Medals 4th-6th. **Late REG.:** AUG 11th at 8AM. **Rds.:** 9:15-10:30-12:15-2:30. Checks payable to: **Caesar Chess. ENT:** Caesar Chess, LLC 5184 Caldwell Mill Rd., Suite 204-202, Birmingham, AL 35244. **Info:** CaesarChess@yahoo.com; www.CaesarChess.com; www.AlabamaChess.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 25, Evangel August Open

4SS, G/50, t/d 5. **Evangel Church,** 3975 Vaughn, Montgomery, AL 36106. **Round times:** 9:00, 11:00, 1:30, 3:30. 1 section, **Open:** EF \$25 by August 17, \$30 thereafter. **Prizes (b/20):** 1st \$120, 2nd \$100, Class B/C \$80, Class

registering after 8:00 PM shall receive a 1/2 point bye for round 1. **Rounds:** 8:30 PM, 9 PM, 9:30 PM, 10 PM, 10:30 PM, 11 PM. **Ratings Used:** Quick ratings from the August 2012 Supplement. **Entries:** Jerry Maier, 229 Hargrove Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80919-2213. Make checks payable to Jerry Maier. Phone: 719-660-5531. E-mail: pmj77@aaim.com. Not a Colorado Tour Event. USCF Membership required. CSCA Membership required. (\$15 regular; \$10 Jr./Sr.). OSA. Wheelchair accessible. Two (2) non-retractable 1/2 point byes may be requested no later than the start of the third round. **GM Alex Yermolinsky Simultaneous Exhibition, August 31, 2012** (Part of the CO Labor Day Weekend Chess Festival) **Special Guest:** GM Alex Yermolinsky. **Entry fee:** \$20.00. No discount. **Round:** Simul starts at 6:00 PM. **Colors:** Entrant has choice of color. **Equipment:** Not provided. **Passes:** See website. **Advanced Registration:** Must be received no later than Friday, August 24. **Entries:** Jerry Maier, 229 Hargrove Ct., Colorado Springs, CO 80919-2213. Make checks payable to Jerry Maier. **On-site Registration:** August 31, 2012, 5:00-5:45 PM. Phone: 719-660-5531. E-mail: pmj77@aaim.com. Wheelchair accessible. Produced and Directed by the Colorado State Chess Association. **Additional details at:** <http://www.colorado-chess.com>.

SEPT. 1-2, Colorado Open Tournament
See Grand Prix.

Connecticut

AUG. 9-12, 10-12 OR 11-12, 42nd annual Continental Open (MA)
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 11th annual Manhattan Open (NY)
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 26, 47th NBCC Summer Open!
4SS, G/45, D5. Wickham Park, 1329 West Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06040 (RAIN OR SHINE. Under Wickham pavilion if raining.) In three sections. **OPEN SECTION:** Trophies to Top 3, Top Under-2012. **UNDER 1812 SECTION:** Trophies to Top 2, Top Under-1612. **UNDER 1412 SECTION:** Trophies to Top 2, Top Under-1012, Top Middle-schooler (6-8), Top Elementary-schooler (K-5). Separate trophy for "Biggest Upset" win of the three sections. **EF:** \$35 in advance (includes lunch) or \$50 (cash) on site. **On Site Reg.:** 9:30-9:45AM. **Rds.:** 10, 12, 30, 2, 3, 30. Limit one bye. USCF Membership Required (available onsite). **FREE BBQ LUNCH FOR ALL PLAYERS!** (\$20 for non-players) includes grilled burgers, hot dogs, salads, beans, beverages, etc. Bring sets, boards, clocks if possible. **Wickham Park additional entry fee:** \$5 per car upon arrival, Directions: I-91 to I-84 EAST, Exit 60, Left at end of ramp (Right instead if took I-84 WEST); park entrance is on your right. Park in Lot D, between the tennis and beach volleyball courts (these activities are free). **Ent:** Doug Fiske, 20 Glen Hollow, West Hartford, CT 06117 (checks payable to "New Britain Chess Club" and mailed by Aug. 20th). **Questions:** Derek Meredith (860)250-6040.

SEPT. 14-16 OR 15-16 (Scholastics SEPT. 15 OR 16), 3rd annual Hartford Open & New England Senior
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 29, Newtown Fall Open
CH Booth Library, 25 Main St., Newtown, CT 06470, 100 yds. south of Flagpole on Rte.25. In 2 sections: **Open:** 3SS, G/55, d5. **Prizes:** \$100=1st Guaranteed, more per entries. **Rds.:** 10:15, 12:30, 2:45. **Under 1700/Unr:** 4SS, G/40, d5. **Prizes:** \$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: \$20 if rec'd by 9/27, \$25 at door. **Reg.:** 9:30-10:00 sharp. **Ent:** Glenn

Budzinski, 1 Black Cherry Lane, Sandy Hook, CT 06482. Questions only: licensingagent@yahoo.com. May be limited to 40 players. NS, NC, W.

OCT. 19-21 OR 20-21, 3rd annual Boardwalk Open (NJ)
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 2-4 OR 3-4 (Open), NOV. 3-4 (Booster), 3rd annual Eastern Team Championship
5SS, 40/2, SD/1, d5 (2-day Open option, rds 1-2 G/75, d5; all Booster games are G/75, d5). Sheraton Hotel, 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 2000 (Open Section) or 1400 (Booster Section), 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. **Open EF:** \$280 per team mailed by 10/24 or online at chesstour.com by 10/30, \$320 at site. Mailed entries who do not indicate schedule will be placed in 2-day. **Booster EF:** \$140 per team mailed by 10/24 or online at chesstour.com by 10/30, \$180 at site. **Individuals seeking teams:** post on or see CCA website at caforum.com, or email DirectorAtChess.US and we will post for you. **Open Section (\$8000 guaranteed):** Top teams \$2000-1000-600-400, teams averaging under 1700 \$1000-500, top senior teams (all players age 50/uv) \$400-200, top on each board \$300-150, top alternate \$100. Team prizes apportioned based on number of games played. Plaque to top college team (same school), K-12 team (same school). **Booster Section:** Plaque to top 5 teams, trophy to top 2 scorers each board, top alternate. All players on 1st team win free entry in 2012 National Chess Congress, Nov 23-25 in Philadelphia. Plaque to top college team (same school), K-12 team (same school), K-9 team (same school), K-6 team (same school), K-3 team (same school). **Unofficial uscf.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. **Open 3-day schedule:** Reg ends Fri 6:30 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **Open 2-day schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 4:30. **Booster schedule:** Reg ends Sat 10 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 10 & 1:30. **Bye:** all, limit 2; must commit before rd 2. **HR:** \$94-94 (note correction), 800-408-7640, 203-358-8400; reserve by 10/19 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 (DirectorAtChess.US, chesstour.com, 845-496-9658). \$15 service charge for refunds. Advance entries posted at chesstour.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Delaware

Newark Chess Club
4-SS, G/75. USCF-rated games **EVERY THURSDAY** 7-10 PM. 345 School Bell Rd., Bear, DE 19701. For a full year of weekly games \$22 for in-state players, \$15 out-of-state! www.newarkchessclub.blogspot.com, newarkchess@gmail.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

District of Columbia

AUG. 24-26 OR 25-26, 44th annual Atlantic Open
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 4-8, 5-8, 6-8 OR 6-7, 3rd 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.**

South Florida Chess Club
WEDNESDAY'S 6:30-10:30pm. Rated G/90 Tournaments and skittles. Most tournaments are 4+ rounds Call 561-573-3677 or 954-304-0928 or email southfloridachessclub@gmail.com or visit www.SouthFloridaChessClub.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 25, Clermont Chess Tournament
5SS, G/30. Cagan Crossings Library, 16729 Cagan Oaks Blvd. Off of U.S. Hwy27/S.R. 25. Across Hwy from Lowes; Diagonal across from Walmart. **Entry Fee:** \$10 mailed or brought to Library. \$15 at door. USCF rating and confirmed ID# required for money prize. **Prizes:** 100/50/20 increase by 30/20/10 per 5 entries. 9-4pm. Please bring set and clock if possible. **Contact:** Herb Pilgrim at Library# 352-243-1840 or librarychessclub@yahoo.com.

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3, 2012 Arnold Denker Florida State Championship
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 6, Celebrate National Chess Day at The Weiss School 5th Annual Scholastic
Located at: 4176 Burns Rd., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410. **K-12, 5 Divisions,** 5-SS, G/30. Trophies for Top 10 Players and Top 10 Teams in each Division. ALL NON-TROPHY WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL. **For more info see:** www.palmbeachchessclub.info or call President/TD John Dockery at 561-762-3377.

OCT. 12-14 OR 13-14, Orlando Autumn Open & National Chess Day Scholastics
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 13, Stormont Kings National Chess Day Scholastic & Home-school Tournament, Pool Party & BBQ
5SS, G/30. KENDALL HOTEL & SUITES, 9100 N. KENDALL DR., MIAMI, FL 33173. **Sections:** New Player, Beginner, Intermediate, and Open. **Starts: 9am.** All participants receive a trophy or a medal for participating. USCF (United States Chess Federation) membership is required and can be done when registering for the tournament. Current prices will be posted with on-line registration. Children registering at the door will not play in the first game, they will get a 1/2 point bye which is like a draw. Up to two half point byes may be requested, the last round bye must be done before the second round. No outside food or drinks are allowed. No refunds or credits. Free raffle included in price. You must bring your own tournament regulation chess set, or purchase one for \$30, which comes with the board, pieces, and deluxe bag. All participants and families have access to the Tennis Courts, Shuffleboard, Pool, and Jacuzzi. Complimentary Coffee and Water all day. Children cannot go to the bar side of the restaurant. Don't forget to ask about discounts for first time tournament player and families with three or more children. If it is your first time, ask about the additional document with all the details. **EF:** \$25 by 8/31, \$30 by 10/11, \$35 on-site. These are for the tournament only, USCF and Lunch are extra. Same price to pay online. **Contact Information:** Chris Stormont 786-303-2437, chris@stormontkingschess.com, www.stormontkingschess.com.

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, Bahamas International & Amateur (Bahamas)
See Grand Prix.

Georgia

AUG. 25, North Georgia Chess Center Scholastic Tournament
5-SS, G/30. Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 870 Buford Hwy (Ga Hwy 20), Cumming, GA 30041. **Exit 14 off Ga 400 Next to Lowes On Market Place Blvd.** 678-845-7100, For Directions Only! **Sections: Open and U800. EF:** \$22.00 (NGCC Members) \$24.00 (Online Registration). \$27.00 (Non NGCC Members) \$29.00 (Online Registration). Entry For Late Registration: \$27.00 (Non NGCC Members). \$32.00 (Non NGCC Members). **Reg.:** Sat. 8:30am - 9:30am. **Rounds:** 1st-10am, 2nd-11:30am, 3rd-1pm, 4th-2:30pm, 5th-4pm. **Tnmt. Info:** 770-844-9204, northgachesscenter@gmail.com, northgachesscenter.com.

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, Bahamas International & Amateur (Bahamas)
See Grand Prix.

Idaho

SEPT. 22-23, 2012 Eastern Idaho Open Chess Tournament: NW Chess Grand Prix Event
5SS, G/120 d5. 2 Sections: Open and Reserve (U1400). **Site:** ISU, Student Union Bldg., Salmon River Suites, 1065 S. 8th St., Pocatello, ID. **EF:** USCF mem req., \$30 (U18 & 60+ \$25), by 09/19/12. \$5 more (all) after. **Reg & Ck in:** 7:30-8:30 AM 09/22/12. Those not paid & ck'd in by 8:30 AM may not be paired in 1st rnd. **RNDS.:** 9,2,7,9,2. **1/2 pt byes:** Max 1, Rd 1-4only. 0 pt bye avail rnd 5. Commit by end of rd 2. **Prizes:** \$\$ b/30; **Open:** \$175-85-65; **Reserve:** \$75-50-35. **HR/ENT/INFO:** ICA, % Jay Simonson, 391 Carol Ave., Idaho Falls, ID 83401, 208-206-7667, rooknjay@yahoo.com, www.idahochessassociation.org. NC, NS, W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 6, 2012 Wood River Weekend Progressive
4SS, **Time Control:** G/30 Rd 1, G/45 Rd 2, G/60 Rd 3, G/90 Rd 4. **2 Sections:** Open and Reserve (U1400). **Site:** Wood River High School, 1250 Fox Acres Rd., Halley, ID. USCF mem req., **EF** by 10/3 \$30 (\$25 if 60+ or under 18), K-12 students \$10, \$40 entry for all after 10/03. Email entries OK. **Register & check in:** 8-8:30am 10/06. **Rd. times:** Sat 9am, 10am, 1pm; 3pm. 1/2 pt byes: Max 1, Rds 1-3 only. Commit by end of rd 2. **Prizes:** \$\$ b/15; **Open:** \$100-75-50; **Reserve:** \$75-50-25, Student: trophies 1st-3rd pt. **HR/ENT/INFO:** ICA, **Contact:** Adam Porth, 212 N. 3rd St., Bellevue,

BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL and AMATEUR

October 24-28 or 26-28, 2012

Wyndham Nassau Resort and Crystal Palace Casino
Cable Beach, Nassau, Bahamas

\$12,000 guaranteed prizes - USCF rated

International Section: 9 rounds, Oct 24-28, FIDE rated, GM and IM norms possible. Minimum prize \$700 to GMs who complete all games with no byes (limited to first 6 GMs to enter).

Amateur Section (under 2200): 6 rounds, Oct 26-28.

Reserve Section (under 1600): 6 rounds, Oct 26-28.

FULL DETAILS: see "Grand Prix" in this issue or chesstour.com.

ID 83313. 208-450-9048. aporth1@cox.net, www.idahochechessassociation.org. NC, NS, W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Illinois

North Shore Chess Center

5500 W. Touhy Ave., Suite A, Skokie, IL 60077, 847.423.8626, www.nachess.org/nssc. Multiple monthly chess events: Quick and Regular rated tournaments, FIDE amateur tournaments, simul and lectures by masters. Private & Group lessons for all ages and strengths available. Home of the Chicago Blaze US Chess League team. Contact: Sevan A. Muradian International Arbitrator & International Organizer - sevan@nachess.org.

AUG. 4, North Shore Chess Center
5R-SS, G/30 and G/3 + 2 Blitz. More info – www.nachess.org/events.

AUG. 5, North Shore Chess Center
5R-SS G/24 + 5/sec inc (Quick only). More info – www.nachess.org/events.

AUG. 17-19 or 18-19, 7th annual Indianapolis Open (IN)
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 18-19, North Shore Chess Center - 13th NA Amateur Open
4R-SS, G/90 +30/sec incr. FIDE rated. More info – www.nachess.org/events. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 19, Chicago All Stars
Team up with your friends and play in our new 4-player school & club team tournament; minimum 3 players to form a team. Hilton Hotel, 2855 N. Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook. Presented by Renaissance Knights Chess Foundation. **Sections: Open - 3 rd G/40, d5, K-8, K-6 & K-3 4 rd G/25, d5. Awards:** Trophies top player each board, Medals top 3 teams (Gold, Silver & Bronze). **Reg.:** 12:00-12:30 pm. **Rds.:** 1 at 1:00 pm, rest ASAP. **EF:** \$25 per player by 8/13, \$30 after, \$35 on-site. **Registration/ Info:** www.rknights.org.

A Heritage Event!

AUG. 25, 49th Bradley Summer Open
4 SS, G/80, T/D5. Robert Michel Student Center, 915 N. Elmwood, Peoria, IL 61625. **EF:** \$14 by 8/23, \$17 at site, \$2 disc't ICA memb, \$2 disc't 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, wzm@sbcbglobal.net. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 25, North Shore Chess Center
4R-SS, G/60 +5/sec inc. More info – www.nachess.org/events. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 25-26, 58th Iowa Open Championship (USCF and FIDE rated) (IA)
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 26, North Shore Chess Center
4R-SS, G/45 +5/sec inc. More info – www.nachess.org/events.

SEPT. 1, Labor Day Scholastic Tournament (QC)
DoubleTree Hotel, 1909 Spring Rd., Oakbrook, IL 60523, (630) 472-6020, (630) 472-6000. \$25 Discounted EF USPS by 8/28, \$25 Discounted EF on-line until 8/31, 6 pm, \$30 at door by 11:30 am, \$35 after that. **Rds.:** 12-1-2-3-4. G/25 Delay 0, Open to under 18 years of age, 2 sections: U1200, U700, 10 individual trophies per section (team trophies not available). Participation award to each player. **Bring sets-boards-clocks, none provided.** All rules, regulations, and procedures may be superseded by announcements/postings at the site. **Ent:** Tim Just, 37165 Willow, Gurnee, IL 60031. Info only (847) 773-7706 before 6 PM. E-mail for info only (sorry, e-mail entries not available): registration@chessforlife.com, Checks payable to Chess For Life, LLC, info and PayPal discounted entries until 6 PM 8-31-12: http://chessforlife.com NS, NC, W.

SEPT. 1-3, 2012 Illinois Open State Championship
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 16, 81st Knights Quest
4ss, Game/30. Hilton Hotel, 2855 N. Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook, IL. Presented by Renaissance Knights. **USCF Rated Sections: Open (K-12 & Adults), U1400 (K-12 & Adults), U1000 (K-8) & U600 (K-8).** **Awards:** Top 5 each section, Top 2 teams (except open), medals all others. **Reg.:** 12:00-12:30 pm. **Rds.:** 1 at 1:00 pm, rest ASAP. **EF:** \$30 by 9/10, \$35 after, \$40 on-site. **Registration/Info:** www.rknights.org.

OCT. 5-8, (Columbus Day Weekend!) Susan Polgar World Open for Boys and Girls - over \$100,000 in Webster University Scholarships
Doubletree Hotel – Oakbrook, IL. **Main event – 6R-SS, G/45 + 5/sec delay for all sections: K-3, 4-5, 6-8, 9-12. Side Events:** Puzzle Solving, Bughouse, Blitz, Susan Polgar 25-board simul, 1/2 day chess camp, Friends & Parents tournament, Q&A, book signing, and Lunch with Susan. **For complete information visit: www.polgarworldopen.com.**

OCT. 12-14 OR 13-14, 21st annual Midwest Class Championships
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 13, National Chess Day Celebration at the Skokie Public Library and the North Shore Chess Center (QC)
Join us at the Skokie Public Library from 9am-12pm for open chess, followed by tournament action and games analysis at the North Shore Chess Center with a 5R-SS, G/15, Game-3 + 2 blitz, and Seirawan Chess! International Master Florin Felcean will join us during the festivities. Light food, snacks, and drinks during the event at the North Shore Chess Center. **For more info: www.nachess.org/nssc.**

NOV. 3, National Gaming Day Celebration at the Skokie Public Library and the North Shore Chess Center (QC)
Join us at the Skokie Public Library from 9am-12pm for open chess, followed by tournament action and games analysis at the North Shore Chess Center with a 5R-SS, G/15, Game-3 + 2 blitz, and Seirawan Chess! Light food, snacks, and drinks during the event at the North Shore Chess Center. **For more info – www.nachess.org/nssc.**

NOV. 9-11 OR 10-11, 21st annual Kings Island Open (OH)
See Grand Prix.

Indiana

EVERY SECOND SATURDAY of the Month
4SS, G/61d5. Donatos Pizza, 825 W. 10th St., Indianapolis. **Reg.:** 11-11:30AM, Rd 1, 11:40AM. **\$\$b/20 1st \$200; 2nd \$100; Class (A, B, C, D, E, Unr) \$70 each. Prizes increased if + 20. EF:** \$27 - \$5.00 BD month, - \$5.00 for any state association (except ISCA), OCC Membr.req'd Memb. includes magazine + FIDE Titled Players Free. **Ent:** Donald Urquhart, 501 N. East St. # 802, Indianapolis, IN 46204. **Info:** at 317-634-6259 or e-mail akakarpov@att.net. 3 entries in a class req'd for that class prize to be awarded. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Orange Crush Chess Club FRIDAY NIGHT BLITZ (QC)
Burger King, 410 E. Morris St. (E Morris St and S East St). Show your OCCC card for free upsze. **Reg.:** 6-6:25pm, starts at 6:30pm. **Type:** 3 RR Quad, G/5d2, QC. **EF:** \$8.00, \$\$4-Quad 1st \$25.00. **Ent:** Donald Urquhart, 501 N. East St., #802, Indianapolis, IN 46204. **Info:** Don at 317-634-6259 or email akakarpov@att.net.

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 7th annual Indianapolis Open
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 21-23 OR 22-23, 5th Annual Louisville Open (KY)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 12-14 OR 13-14, 21st annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 9-11 OR 10-11, 21st annual Kings Island Open (OH)
See Grand Prix.

Iowa

A State Championship Event!
AUG. 25, 2012 Iowa Reserve Championship
4-SS, G/75 d5. Clarion Highlander Convention Center, I-80 NE side of Exit 246, Iowa City, IA 52245. 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 pstmkd 8/20, \$35 on site, Jrs & Srs \$5 off. **Out of State \$5 off.** IASCA membership req'd (\$15 Reg, \$10 Jr) or OSA. **ENT: IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245, Ph# 319.321.5435, mcapron243@mchsi.com. Hotel:** 319-354-2000, \$89.99 ask for chess block, www.clarionhighlander.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 25, Rated Beginner Open (RBO)
5-SS, G/30 d5. Clarion Highlander Convention Center, I-80 NE side of Exit 246, Iowa City, IA 52245. Open to U1200 or Unrated. **Rds.:** 10:30-11:40 1:15 then ASAP. **Reg.:** 8:30-10:00. **EF:** \$15 pstmkd 8/20, \$20 on site, Out of State \$5 off. **Prizes:** 1st-5th Trophies, U1000, U800, U600, U400 & UNR

1st & 2nd Place Medals. **ENT: IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245, Ph# 319.321.5435, mcapron243@mchsi.com. Hotel:** 319-354-2000, \$89.99 ask for chess block, www.clarionhighlander.com.

AUG. 25-26, 58th Iowa Open Championship (USCF and FIDE rated)
See Grand Prix.

Kentucky

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 7th annual Indianapolis Open (IN)
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 21-23 OR 22-23, 5th Annual Louisville Open
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 9-11 OR 10-11, 21st annual Kings Island Open (OH)
See Grand Prix.

Maryland

AUG. 17 & 31, Catonsville Friday Knight Quick #147 & #148 (QC)
5SS, G/12, d3. **EF:** \$8, club members \$5. **Reg.:** 7:30pm. **Rds.:** 8, 8:30, 9, 9:30, 10. **\$\$b/24:** 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, josephas2@verizon.net.

AUG. 24-26 OR 25-26, 44th annual Atlantic Open (DC)
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 1, Maryland Quick Championship (QC)
7SS, G/15 d/3. Rockville Hilton, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. **Prizes:** \$225-\$100-\$75, U1800 \$60, U1500 \$50. **EF:** \$20 by 8/28, \$25 by 8/30, \$30 at the door. \$5 less if also playing in Blitz. **Schedule:** Reg ends at 10am. **Rds.:** 10:30-11:15-12:00-1:15-2:00-2:45-3:30. **Ent:** MCA, c/o Michael Regan, 1827 Thornton Ridge Rd., Towson, MD 21204. **More information & online entry:** http://mdquick.mdchess.com.

SEPT. 1, Maryland Blitz Championship (QC)
G/5 d/0, # rounds based on entries. Rockville Hilton, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. **Prizes:** \$225-\$100-\$75, U1800 \$60, U1500 \$50. **EF:** \$20 by 8/28, \$25 by 8/30, \$30 at the door. \$5 less if also playing in Action. **Schedule:** Reg ends at 5:30pm. **Rds.:** start at 6:00pm. **Ent:** MCA, c/o Michael Regan, 1827 Thornton Ridge Rd., Towson, MD 21204. **More information & online entry:** http://mdblitzz.mdchess.com.

SEPT. 2, Maryland Action Championship
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 15, UMBC Rated Beginner's Championship (RBO)
5SS, G/30 d/5. UMBC, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore (in Commons, 3rd floor). Open to U1200/Unr. USCF membership required. Free USCF memb. to anyone scoring at least 3.5 pts. Certificate to anyone completing 5 rds. Top UMBC student awarded trophy & title of 2012-2013 UMBC Amateur Chess Champ. **EF:** \$15 if postmarked by 9/1, \$20 later. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:30am. **Rds.:** 10-11:30-1:30-3:30-4:30-5:30-6:30. 1/2 pt. bye avail. in any rd. if req'd before rd. 1. Held concurrently w/UMBC Champ. 9/15-9/16 (see separate TLA). **Ent:** Dr. Alan T. Sherman, Dept. of CSEE, UMBC, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250 ATTN: Beginners Champ. Cks payable to UMBC. **Dir:** Exit 47B off I95 & follow signs to UMBC. Park in lot 9 or 16. **For more info:** 410-455-8499, ChessClub@umbc.edu, www.umbc.edu/chess. NS, W.

SEPT. 15-16, UMBC Championship
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 4-8, 5-8, 6-8 OR 6-7, 3rd annual Continental Class Championships (VA)
See Grand Prix.

Massachusetts

AUG. 8-SEPT. 5, Avraam Pismenny 75-Year Tribute
5SS, G/110, d/5. Wachusett CC, McKay Campus School, Room C159, Fitchburg State University, 67 Rindge Rd., Fitchburg, MA 01420. **EF:** \$1 per game played; free to Wachusett cc members. **Reg.:** 7-7:10 p.m. **Rds.:** 7:15 p.m. each Wed. **Byes:** 1-4, limit two. **Prizes:** chess books. **Info:** George Mirijanian, 176 Oak Hill Rd., Fitchburg, MA 01420, miriling@aol.com, 978-345-5011. **Website:** www.wachusettchess.org. Online ratings as of Aug. 8 will be used. **W. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

FOREIGN RATING? NOT UNRATED!

If you have no USCF rating, but do have a rating or category from any other country, no matter how many years ago, you are not unrated.

If you have a FIDE rating, you are also not unrated.

Tell the Director of any event you enter about your foreign rating or category or your FIDE rating, so that you can be paired appropriately.

Illinois Open State Championships

September 1 – 3, 2012

\$8,500 Guaranteed Prize Fund

6R-SS in 3 Sections

\$64 Early Bird Entry Fee by 8/4

<http://www.nachess.org/ilopen2012>

AUG. 9-12, 10-12 OR 11-12, 42nd annual Continental Open
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, 72nd New England Open
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 14-16 or 15-16 (Scholastics Sept. 15 or 16), 3rd annual Hartford Open & New England Senior (CT)
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 30, 2nd annual Capital Region Open (NY)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, Bahamas International & Amateur (Bahamas)
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 2-4 OR 3-4 (Open), NOV. 3-4 (Booster), 3rd annual Eastern Team Championship (CT)
See Connecticut.

Michigan

AUG. 18-19, 2012 U.P. Open
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 12-14 OR 13-14, 21st annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 2-4 OR 3-4, Second Annual Fall International Chess Festival
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 9-11 OR 10-11, 21st annual Kings Island Open (OH)
See Grand Prix.

Minnesota

AUG. 17-18, 6th Annual Jackson Open
Super Reserve 4SS System, G/90 + 5 seconds delay. Jackson Public Library, 311 3rd St., Jackson, MN 56143. \$700 Prize Fund Guaranteed. **U2000 Event.** Open to 1999 & under. **EF:** \$25 if registered by Aug. 12, otherwise \$30. USCF membership required. **\$\$GTD:** \$300, 200 and 100. U1400 \$75. 1st Place Trophy. Best upset prize \$25. **Reg.:** Fri. 6:15-6:45 PM. Sat. 8:30-8:45 A.M. **Rds.:** Friday 7:00 PM. Saturday 9:00 A.M. 1:00 PM. and 15 minutes after conclusion of Rd. 3. 1/2 point any round. **ENT:** Sam Smith, 73260 490th Ave., Jackson, MN 56143. Sam Smith at 507-847-4929. John Flores at feoscacchi@msn.com. **INFO:** 507-847-4929. paladinjackson@hotmail.com. www.fiorechess.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 25-26, 58th Iowa Open Championship (USCF and FIDE rated) (IA)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 12-14 OR 13-14, 21st annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)
See Grand Prix.

Missouri

AUG. 25, Larry Evans Memorial
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:** \$2, no prizes – just the satisfaction of playing well. Two ratings-equivalent sections if 18+ players. **Info:** czar8196@gmail.com. **W.**

AUG. 25-26, 58th Iowa Open Championship (USCF and FIDE rated) (IA)
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 1-2, Saint Louis District Championship
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 21-23 OR 22-23, 5th Annual Louisville Open (KY)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 6, 2-on-2 Team Championship
4SS, G/70. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs. **EF:** \$50 for 2 person team, \$40 for 2 person team that are both annual members of club if registered by 10/5. MCA membership req'd from \$5. **PF:** \$750 Unconditionally Guaranteed!! Championship Team-\$300, Top Team U3800-\$200, Top Team U3200-\$150, Top Team U2800-\$100. 1st Place Team Members qualify for 2013 Club Championship. **Reg.:** 9-9:45. **Rds.:** 10, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15. No 1/2 point byes available. Unrated Players will be considered 1200 for prize and pairing purposes. MCA Membership required from \$5. **OSA. Ent:** 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at saintlouischessclub.org. **Info:** 314-361-CHESS, info@saintlouischessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 12-14 OR 13-14, 21st annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 13, U1300 National Chess Day Extravaganza
4SS, G/30. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. **EF:** \$10 or Free if playing in first rated chess tournament. Must be rated Under 1300 or playing in first rated chess tournament to participate. USCF Membership required. **Unconditional** \$2000 USCF Gift Card. 2nd Place \$1000 USCF Gift Card. Top Unrated Player-\$20 Gift Card. All players that participate in round 4 will be entered into a \$20 CCSCSL Gift Card drawing. **Reg.:** 12:00-12:45. **Rounds:** 1, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45. One 1/2 point bye available. **Ent:** 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108,

or online at saintlouischessclub.org. **Info:** 314-361-CHESS info@saintlouischessclub.org.

Montana

AUG. 25-26, John Barto Memorial Open
Held in conjunction with the Montana State Championship (Closed). **5SS, G/120:** Holiday Inn, 22 Last Chance Gulch Ave., Helena, MT 59601. Phone (406) 443-2200. Ask for chess rate. **EF:** \$25 by Aug 24, \$30 at site, Jrs 1/2. **Reg.:** 9-9:40 am. **Rds.:** 10-2:30-7, 9-2. **\$\$:** TBD. **Info and entries:** Murray Strong, 530 State St., Helena, MT 59601, murstrong@aol.com, 406-459-6684, www.montanachess.org. USCF and MCA memberships req'd, OSA, NC. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Nevada

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 4th annual Central California Open (CA-N)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 5-7 OR 6-7, 9th annual Los Angeles Open (CA-S)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 19-21, 30th Annual Sands Regency Reno-Western States Open
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 22-25 OR 23-25, 48th Annual American Open (CA-S)
See Grand Prix.

DEC. 26-30, 26-29 OR 27-29, 22nd annual North American Open
See Grand Prix.

New Jersey

AUG. 12, Cherry Hill August Open
4SS, G/45. Wyndham Hotel, 1111 Route 73, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054. Phone: 1-866-257-5990. Next to NJ Turnpike exit 4, I-295 exit. **Open Section:** Prizes: \$150-\$100-\$75. Best score U1800: \$100. **Under 1600 Section:** Prizes: \$150, \$100, \$75. Best score U1200: \$100. **Scholastic Section:** Trophies for 1,2,3 – medal for all above 50% score. **EF:** \$35 online by 8/9, \$40 at the door. **Schedule:** Registration ends 9:45 Rounds 10am, 12 pm, 2 pm, 4 pm. Online entry at http://cherryhillaugustopen.eventbrite.com. **Contact:** Dov Gorman, dgorman@darsemail.com.

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 11th annual Manhattan Open (NY)
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 18, Central Jersey Chess Tournament
4SS, G/30. All Saints Church, 16 All Saints' Rd., Princeton. 3 rated sections (all K-8): **Open** (above 900), **Reserve** (600-900), **Experienced** (below 600). 2 unrated sections: **K-1, Novice** (2nd-8th). Trophies to 1st-3rd & top school/club team per section. **EF:** \$30 at njchess.com by 8/16,

ACTIVITY MEANS MEMBERS

Free 8-Line Tournament Life Announcements (TLAs)!

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 2012, if no TLA for such an event appeared in 2011, and the TLA is e-mailed by the appropriate deadline. The 8 free lines cannot be applied to longer TLAs.

SPECIAL CATEGORIES QUALIFY FOR FREETLAs! 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:

SENIOR. For age 50 or above, or a higher minimum age.

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 \$33 with paper Chess Life or \$26 with the online version!**

One-year membership with Chess Life:

Only \$46 for Premium Membership, which includes a copy of *Chess Life* every month. **Regular Memberships** are available for \$40 and give online-only access to *Chess Life* and a mailed **Tournament Life Newsletter** (bi-monthly). (Note to affiliates: If you collect a \$46 membership, you may submit it online to USCF for \$43.)



\$40 on-site. **On-site reg** ends 1:15, pre-reg check-in ends 1:30, first round at 2. **Questions:** newjerseychess@gmail.com.

AUG. 18, Hamilton Chess Club Quads

3RR, 40/80 15/30 15/30. Full K. Ray Dwyer 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. 18, Luzviminda Machan 3 Open

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 19, 4th Annual Red Bank Open Championship

4RSS, G/30; d5. The Monmouth Chess School and Club, 51 Monmouth St., Red Bank, NJ, www.monmouthchess.com. **EF:** postmarked by 8/13 \$40/30 current members; \$45/35 on site (cash only). Masters 30 from winnings. **Prizes b/25 pd:** OPEN \$200 100; U2000 \$150; U1750 \$125; U1500 \$100; U1250 75. **Reg.:** 12:45-1:15; **Rds.:** 1:20, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00. **Mail entries to:** Dr. Koblentz, 9 Rimwood Ln., Colts Neck, NJ 07722. Boards and sets provided. Please bring clocks!

AUG. 19, Westfield Quads

3RR, G/40 t/d 5s, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:00 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:15-4:05-5:55 p.m. **Info:** Please present identification on entering the building. Todd Lunna 732-546-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

AUG. 24-26 OR 25-26, 44th annual Atlantic Open (DC)

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 26, 4th Annual Red Bank Scholastic Championship

4RSS, G/25, d5. The Monmouth Chess School and Club, 51 Monmouth St., Red Bank, NJ, www.monmouthchess.com. **Open** to all Grade 8 or below as of May 2012. **EF:** postmarked by 8/20 \$35/30 members; 45/40 on site. **Trophies** to top 5 in each prize group K-8, K-5 and K-2. **Additional prizes:** \$50 in each group (clocks, books, bags, sets, etc). **Reg.:** 12:45-1:15. **Rds.:** 1:20, 2:25, 3:40, 4:45. **Mail entries to:** Dr. Koblentz, 9 Rimwood Ln., Colts Neck, NJ 07722. Boards and sets provided. Please bring clocks!

AUG. 26, Westfield Quads

3RR, G/40 t/d 5s, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:00 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:15-4:05-5:55 p.m. **Info:** Please present identification on entering the building. Todd Lunna 732-546-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

A State Championship Event!

SEPT. 1, 2012 New Jersey K-12 Scholastic

Somerset Holiday Inn (not Hotel Somerset at Bridgewater), 195 Davidson Ave., Somerset Exit #10 off I-287, Easton Ave Exit. 5-SS, G/30. **In 3 Sections:** Hot Shots, K-12 U1400. Check Mates K-8 U1000. Rising stars, K-8 U600. **Early EF:** \$21 if rec'd by 8/28 or paid online via site entryfeesrus.com. **EF:** at hotel \$30 cash 11am-noon, on Sept 1st. Round one 12:30 pm. **Trophies** to top ten in each section. **Special only online deal!** Play in any scholastic section and the **Silver U1600** section of NJ Open 2-Day for \$67 (save \$20). **Ent:** Ken Thomas, 115 West Moore St., Hacktstown, NJ 07840. Make checks payable to NJSCF. **Info:** Ken, acknet@goes.com or (908) 619-8621 or entryfeesrus.com. NC, W.

SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, 2012 New Jersey State Championship

See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 8, Central Jersey Chess Tournament

4SS, G/30. All Saints Church, 16 All Saints Rd., Princeton. **4 rated K-8 sections:** Over 1200, U1200, U900, U600/Unr. 2 unr. sections: Novice (2nd-8th), K-1. **Trophies:** 1st-3rd & top school/club team per section. **EF:** \$30 at njchess.com by 9/6, \$40 on-site. **Reg.:** ends 1:30, Round 1 at 2. **Questions:** newjerseychess@gmail.com.

SEPT. 9, Westfield Quads

3RR, G/40 t/d 5s, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:00 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:15-4:05-5:55 p.m. **Info:** Please present identification on entering the building. Todd Lunna 732-546-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

SEPT. 14-16 OR 15-16 (Scholastics Sept. 15 or 16), 3rd annual Hartford Open & New England Senior (CT)

See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 16, Westfield Quads

3RR, G/40 t/d 5s, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:00 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:15-4:05-5:55 p.m. **Info:** Please present identification on entering the building. Todd Lunna 732-526-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

SEPT. 23, Westfield Fall Scholastic

Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. K-12 Open, Under 1250, Under 750. **Open:** 3 SS, G/40 t/d 5s, 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/25 t/d 5s, 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/25 t/d 5s, 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 September 20, 2012. Make checks payable to: Westfield Chess Club.

SEPT. 30, Westfield Quads

3RR, G/40 t/d 5s, G/45. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. **Prizes:** \$50 to first in each section. **EF:** \$20, \$15 Members. **Reg.:** 1:30-2:00 p.m. **Rds.:** 2:15-4:05-5:55 p.m. **Info:** Please present identification on entering the building. Todd Lunna 732-526-7163, lunnaco@aol.com, www.westfieldchessclub.com.

OCT. 4-8, 5-8, 6-8 OR 6-7, 3rd annual Continental Class Championships (VA)

See Grand Prix.

OCT. 19-21 OR 20-21, 3rd annual Boardwalk Open

See Grand Prix.

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, Bahamas International & Amateur (Bahamas)

See Grand Prix.

NOV. 2-4 OR 3-4 (Open), Nov. 3-4 (Booster), 3rd annual Eastern Team Championship (CT)

See Connecticut.

NOV. 23-25 OR 24-25, 43rd annual National Chess Congress (PA)

See Grand Prix.

New Mexico

A State Championship Event!

SEPT. 22-23, New Mexico Open and 2012 NM State Championship

Rio Rancho Meadowlark Senior Center, 4330 Meadowlark Ln. SE. 87124. Co-Sponsored by the Meadowlark Chess Group and the New Mexico Chess Organization. 5/SS, G/90 + Inc 30 sec. **Rds.:** 9-2-6:30, 8:30-2. **EF:** Open \$40, U1800 \$35, U1400 \$30. Rated U1100 playing in U1400 \$25. **\$\$b/75:** Open \$160-\$80-\$40, Best U1900 \$40, upset \$40. U1800 \$140-\$70-\$35, Best U1600-\$35, Upset \$35. U1400 \$120-\$60-\$30, Best U1100 \$30, Upset \$30, Best U800 \$25. Unrated eligible only for 50% of prize except in Open. **Bye:** one 1/2 pt. request prior Rd 1. Tie breaks for state champion's Individual plaque for best finish by NM resident in Open. **Advance Reg.:** Pay to NMCO, Box 4215, Albuquerque, 87196. To avoid late fee Postmark not later than 9/20. Deadline for **Pay Pal** is 9/21 & must have Valid USCF ID and phone or Email contact else \$10 late fee on Site. **Reg. on site:** cash/check only. Late fee \$10 Sat. 8-8:30. \$5 Family discount after one full price entry. NMCO annual meeting & elections Sun 1:30 pm. **Info:** directions & entry form: nmchess.org. Recommended Motel, SUPER 8, 4100 Barbara Ln. SE 505-896-8888 ask for chess rate. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

NOV. 22-25 OR 23-25, 48th Annual American Open (CA-S)

See Grand Prix.

New York

AUG. 2-30, 2nd Long Island CC August Open

5SS, G/90 (d/5). United Methodist Church, 470 East Meadow Ave., East Meadow, NY 11554. **Open to all. \$(b/22):** \$170-120. Top U-1900, U-1500/unr. \$100 ea. Best upset \$10. Random pairings used (within ea. score grp.) **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.**

AUG. 9-12, 10-12 OR 11-12, 42nd annual Continental Open (MA)

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 16, August New Yorker Masters Special Edition of USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament!

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 16, Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 11th annual Manhattan Open

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 18, Marshall Saturday G/60!

4-SS, G/55d5. 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. www.marshallchessclub.org.

AUG. 18, Syracuse-Minoa Aug Open

4SS. **Rds.:** 1&2 G/60, **Rds.:** 3&4 G/90. Minoa Municipal Bldg., 240 N. Main St., Minoa, NY (Exit Kirkville Rd. E. from I 481, R. at second light). **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. 19, Marshall Open & U1500 Sunday Game/45!

4-SS, G/40d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **Two sections-** you play only those in your section: **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.:** 12-1:45-4:00-5:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

AUG. 20-SEPT. 17, Marshall Monday U1600!

5-SS, G/85d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **EF:** \$50, Members \$30. **(\$675/30):** \$360-180, U1300 \$135. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45. **Rds.:** 7PM each Monday. Limit 2 byes, request by rd. 3. www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

AUG. 21, Marshall Masters!

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 23, Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 23, The Original "4 Rated Games Tonight" Now At The New Yorker Hotel- USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament!

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 24-26 OR 25-26, 44th annual Atlantic Open (DC)

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 25, Marshall Saturday U1400!

4-SS, G/40d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **(\$300 b/20):** \$160-80, U1100 \$60. **EF:** \$40, members \$20. **Reg.:** 12:15-12:45. **Rds.:** 1-2:45-4:30-6:15PM. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

A State Championship Event!

AUG. 25-26, New York State Senior Championship

4-SS, G/120 d/5, open to all born before August 25, 1962. Marshall CC, 23 West 10th St., New York, NY 10011, 212-477-3716. **Entry fee:** \$35. **Prizes \$500/20:** \$200-\$100, 1700-1999 \$70, U1700 \$70, top woman \$60; 1 bye OK, lock in before Rd 2. **Registration:** 11:30-12:15, rounds 12:30-5:30 each day. NYSCA membership required for NYS residents (\$20 printed quarterly *Empire Chess*, \$12 online subscription), other state memberships accepted if out of state resident. Title to top NYS resident. Please bring proof of age.

AUG. 26, Marshall Sunday U2000!

4-SS, G/40d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **(\$300 b/20):** \$160-80, U1700 \$60. **EF:** \$40, members \$20. **Reg.:** 12:15-12:45. **Rds.:** 1-2:45-4:30-6:15PM. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

AUG. 27, 22ND Nassau G/10 (QC)

7SS, G/10. 1st Presbyterian Church, 1st & Main Sts., Mineola. **EF:** \$20 by 8/20, \$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, captihal@optonline.net.

134th annual NY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

6 rounds, Aug 31-Sep 3, Sep 1-3 or 2-3, Albany Marriott

America's oldest annual event - \$12,000 guaranteed

6 round Labor Day weekend Swiss in 5 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 \$2000-1000-500-300, state title and \$100 bonus to top NY resident, top U2300/Unr \$700, U2200/Unr \$600. FIDE, 100 GPP

Under 2100: \$1000-500-300-150, top Under 1900 \$400..

Under 1800: \$1000-500-300-150, top Under 1600 \$400.

Under 1500: \$800-400-200-100, top Under 1300 \$300.

Under 1200: \$200-100, trophy to top 5, 1st Under 1000, Under 800, Under 600, Unrated.

Unrated prize limits: \$150 in U1200, \$300 U1500, \$600 U1800.

FULL DETAILS: see "Grand Prix" in this issue or chesstour.com.

AUG. 29-SEPT. 26, Marshall Wednesday U1400!

5-SS, G/85d5, Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. EF: \$50, members \$30. **(\$450/20):** \$240-120, U1100 \$90. Reg.: 6:15-6:45pm. Rds.: 7 pm each Wednesday. Limit 2 byes, request by Rd 3. www.marshallchessclub.org. Chess Magnet School JGP.

AUG. 29-SEPT. 26, Marshall Wednesday U2000!

5-SS, 30/85d5, SD/1d5, Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. EF: \$50, members \$30. **(\$450/20):** \$240-120, U1700 \$90. Reg.: 6:15-6:45 pm. Rds.: 7 pm each Wednesday. Limit 2 byes, request by Rd 3. www.marshallchessclub.org. Chess Magnet School JGP.

AUG. 30, Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 30, The Original "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Now At The New Yorker Hotel- USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament!

See Grand Prix.

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3, Sept. 1-3 or 2-3, 134th annual NY State Championship!

See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 1, Marshall Saturday G/60!

4-SS, G/55d5, 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. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 2, Marshall Open & U1500 Sunday Game/45!

4-SS, G/40d5, Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. Two sections-you play only those in your section: **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.: 12-1:45-4:00-5:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 3, Labor Day Madness

6-SS, G/25d5, Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. EF: \$45, members \$25. **(\$480/24):** \$200-100, U2000 \$70, U1700 \$60, U1400 \$50. Reg.: 10:15-10:45. Rds.: 11-12:15-1:30-3:00-4:15-5:30. Two byes available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 6, Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!

See Grand Prix.

A Heritage Event!

SEPT. 6, The Original "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Now At The New Yorker Hotel- USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament!

4-SS, G/25 + d/5 or G/30 + d/0, Chess Center at the historic New Yorker Hotel, 481 8th Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, NYC: 845-569-9969 (www.chesscenterco). EF: \$30, GMS \$25 from prize, free to specified Greater NY Scholastic Prizewinners! **Good Customer Loyalty Discounts:** \$5 less to those who played in at least 4 "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Actions since Jan. 2011, \$10 less to those who played in at least 10 4RGTs since 1987— **Thank You So Much For Your Support Of This Tournament These Past 25 Years!** \$4 (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. **NEW!! \$150 GUARANTEED In Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes!** Best male/female 2-player team combined score: \$100-50 (teammates' average rating must be Under 2200; teammate pairings avoided but possible, teams must declare by 8:15). **Choice of 2 schedules! 7:00 Schedule,** rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **7:30 schedule,** rd. 1 only is Quick-rated (G/15 + td/3) at 7:30 pm, score carries over into round 2 of 7:00 schedule at 8:15 pm. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. Help with NYC street parking: www.primospot.com.

SEPT. 6-OCT. 4, 3rd Long Island CC Sept. Open

5SS, G/90 (d/5). United Methodist Church, 470 East Meadow Ave., East Meadow, NY 11554. **Open to all. (\$b/22):** \$170-120. Top U-2000, U-1500/unr. \$100 ea. Best upset \$10. Random pairings used (within ea. score grp.) 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. 8, Marshall Saturday U1800!

4-SS, G/40d5, 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. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 8-9 OR SEPT. 9, Marshall September Grand Prix!

See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 9, Tri-State Chess Championship at Bryant Park

4-SS, G/30 Scholastic and Adults. Bryant Park, Entrance 6th Ave. & West 41 St. **SCHOLASTIC SECTIONS: BEGINNER** U250 & **UNR** Grades K-1 only. Only this section is NOT USCF rated. **NOVICE** Grades K-2 U600. **ELEMEN-**

TARY Grades 2-6 U500. **RESERVE** Grades K-9 U800. **ADVANCED** Grades K-12 U1000. **CHAMPIONSHIP** Grades K-12 U1400 **OPEN** Grades 12/below Minimum Rating 1400. **ADULT SECTIONS: U1800, OPEN, AWARDS:** Trophies to top 15 in Beginner, Novice & Elementary. Top 10 in All others Including Adults. Special **Prizes:** Digital chess clocks to Top Player in each section, all 4-0 scores & Top Unrated in Open Section. **CHRONOS CLOCK TO 1ST PLACE IN EACH ADULT SECTION & SCHOLASTIC OPEN!** High Scorer trophy to all who score 2 points and do not win a trophy otherwise. Engraved medals to all others. **Team Prizes:** Trophies to top 4 teams in each section. (Team score created by adding top 4 scores from same school in same section). **EARLY EF:** \$39 if received (postmarked/received by September 6). **LATE EF:** \$45 Phoned, faxed or online thereafter until September 8, 7pm. **Onsite EF:** \$55. Reg.: 9-9:30. Rds.: All 10-11:30-12:45-2. Late entrants may not be paired for the first round. **Mail Entries:** and make check payable to Tri-State Chess, 1675 York Ave. #2M, N.Y. NY 10128 Phone: (212) 289-5997 Fax: (212) 289-6619 Online Entry: www.TriStateChess.com. **Outdoor Tournament-Rain Date: September 16.**

SEPT. 10-OCT. 1, 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 9/8. **\$\$\$ (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 9/8. **\$\$\$ (L70 b/10) 100, U1200/UR 70. Both:** EF non-memb \$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 captnah@optonline.net. Chess Magnet School JGP.

SEPT. 10-OCT. 15, Marshall FIDE Mondays!

6-SS, G/120d5, Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. Open to all players 1600 or above. EF: \$50, Members \$30. **(\$500 b/24):** \$175-125-100. 2 byes OK, commit before round 4. Reg.: 6:15-6:45. Rds.: 7PM each Monday. FIDE rated. Limit 2 byes, request by rd. 3. www.marshallchessclub.org. Chess Magnet School JGP.

SEPT. 13, Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix!

See Grand Prix.

A Heritage Event!

SEPT. 13, The Original "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Now At The New Yorker Hotel- USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament!

4-SS, G/25 + d/5 or G/30 + d/0, Chess Center at the historic New Yorker

Membership Appreciation Program (MAP)

The MAP program continues in 2012. See details at main.uschess.org/go/MAP. Top standings will appear every two months in Chess Life.

Overall Affiliate Standings

Name	State	Count
CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN	NY	581
PAPERCLIP PAIRINGS	TX	323
BAY AREA CHESS	CA	275
SILVER KNIGHTS CHESS	VA	262
SCHOLASTIC CHESS OF INDIANA	IN	195
LONG ISLAND CHESS NUTS	NY	160
NATIONAL SCHOL CHESS FOUND INC	NY	157
WESTERN PA YOUTH CHESS CLUB	PA	147
TRI-STATE CHESS	NY	140
MARSHALL CHESS CLUB	NY	114

Small State Affiliate Standings

Name	State	Count
MAINE ASSOC OF CHESS COACHES	ME	111
METRO CHESS	DC	40
WELLS MEMORIAL SCHOOL	NH	35
CMC- LLC	RI	34
NEW MEXICO SCHOL CHESS ORG	NM	29
OMAHA CHESS COMMUNITY	NE	28
SIoux EMPIRE CHESS FOUNDATION	SD	18
WEST VIRGINIA SCHL CHESS ASN	WV	15
ST MARYS PARISH SCHOOL CC	ME	9
MESA CHESS CLUB	NM	7

State Chapter Affiliate Standings

Name	State	Count
MICHIGAN CHESS ASSOCIATION	MI	300
PENNSYLVANIA ST CHESS FED	PA	171
MARYLAND CHESS ASSOCIATION	MD	122
TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION INC	TX	93
MINNESOTA ST CHESS ASSN	MN	83
NEW HAMPSHIRE CHESS ASSN	NH	65
MASSACHUSETTS CHESS ASSOC	MA	59
NEW JERSEY ST CHESS FED	NJ	50
WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION	WA	32
OKLAHOMA CHESS ASSOCIATION	OK	31

Adult Membership Standings

Name	State	Count
CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN	NY	429
MARSHALL CHESS CLUB	NY	87
SAN DIEGO CHESS CLUB	CA	52
SCHOLASTIC CHESS OF INDIANA	IN	49
JERSEY SHORE HS CHESS LEAGUE	NJ	48
CHESS CLUB AND SCHOLASTIC CTR	MO	43
MAINE ASSOC OF CHESS COACHES	ME	40
AFTER SCH ACT PARTNERSHIPS	PA	38
ROCHESTER CHESS CENTER	NY	35
DALLAS CHESS CLUB	TX	34

Scholastic and Youth Membership Standings

Name	State	Count
PAPERCLIP PAIRINGS	TX	305
SILVER KNIGHTS CHESS	VA	258
BAY AREA CHESS	CA	248
LONG ISLAND CHESS NUTS	NY	158
NATIONAL SCHOL CHESS FOUND INC	NY	154
CONTINENTAL CHESS ASSN	NY	152
SCHOLASTIC CHESS OF INDIANA	IN	146
WESTERN PA YOUTH CHESS CLUB	PA	144
TRI-STATE CHESS	NY	139
COLUMBIA GRAMMAR SCHOOL	NY	91

Member Standings

Name	State	Count
DOCKERY, JOHN T	FL	34
KRANICH RITTER, TANIA	FL	22
SYGIEL, CHET	KY	20
SMITH, CHARLES A	AL	15
BERRY, FRANK K	OK	13
CHENEY, WILLIAM G	AZ	11
WHITFILL, SAMUEL JONATHAN	TX	9
FUSSELMAN, LEONARD, III, THE	TX	9
DZURICKO, GEORGE J, III	IL	8
FANGMAN, LARRY	NE	8

PCT Gain Standings

State	Dec11	Jun12	PCT	State	Dec11	Jun12	PCT	State	Dec11	Jun12	PCT	State	Dec11	Jun12	PCT
UT	410	488	19.0	AL	641	741	15.6	NV	710	741	4.4	LA	536	547	2.1
WY	34	40	17.6	VA	3043	3284	7.9	MD	2070	2130	2.9				
OK	368	430	16.8	NH	393	420	6.9	HI	139	143	2.9				

Hotel, 481 8th Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, NYC: 845-569-9969 (www.chesscenter.cc). **EF:** \$30, GMs \$25 from prize, free to specified Greater NY Scholastic Prizewinners! **Good Customer Loyalty Discounts:** \$5 less to those who played in at least 4 "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Actions since Jan. 2011, \$10 less to those who played in at least 10 4RGTs since 1987—**Thank You So Much For Your Support Of This Tournament These Past 25 Years!** \$5 (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. **NEW!! \$150 GUARANTEED In Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes!** Best male/female 2-player team combined score: \$100-50 (teammates' average rating must be Under 2200; teammate pairings avoided but possible, teams must declare by 8:15). **Choice of 2 schedules! 7:00 Schedule,** rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **7:30 schedule,** rd. 1 only is Quick-rated (G/15 + td/3) at 7:30 pm, score carries over into round 2 of 7:00 schedule at 8:15 pm. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. Help with NYC street parking: www.primospot.com.

SEPT. 13-OCT. 11, Marshall Thursday Members-Only Swiss 5-SS, G/115d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. Open to MCC members only. **EF:** \$30. **(\$450 b/20):** \$200-100, U2100 \$90, U1800 \$60. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45. **Rds.:** 7PM each Thursday. Limit 2 byes, request by rd. 3. www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 14-16 OR 15-16 (Scholastics Sept. 15 or 16), 3rd annual Hartford Open & New England Senior (CT) See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 15, Marshall Saturday U1600! 4-SS, G/40d5. 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. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 15, Utica Four Seasons - Summer 4SS, Rds. 1-2 G/60; Rds. 3-4 G/90. Mohawk Valley Community College, Exit 31, I-90, bear left, South on E. Genesee, (2.6 miles), left on Memorial Highway (2.3 miles, left Sherman, right into MVCC, Payne Building 3rd Floor). **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. 15-16, Battle of Lake Erie - War of 1812 FIDE Classic See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 15-16 OR 16, Marshall September U2300! 4SS, 30/85d5, SD/1d5. 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/25d5) 10-11:15AM-12:30-5:30 PM Sun; both merge rd.3. Limit 2 byes, request at entry. NO RE-ENTRY. www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 18, Marshall Masters! See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 20, Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix! See Grand Prix.

A Heritage Event!

SEPT. 20, The Original "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Now At The New Yorker Hotel- USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament! 4-SS, G/25 + d/5 or G/30 + d/0. Chess Center at the historic New Yorker Hotel, 481 8th Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, NYC: 845-569-9969, (Thursdays after 6 pm: 212-971-0101, mention "chess tournament", www.chesscenter.cc). **EF:** \$30, GMs \$25 from prize, free to the player returning after longest time since last tournament, free to specified Greater NY Scholastic Prizewinners! **Good Customer Loyalty Discounts:** \$5 less to those who played in at least 4 "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Actions since Jan. 2011, \$10 less to those who played in at least 10 4RGTs since 1987—**Thank You So Much For Your Support Of This Tournament These Past 25 Years!** \$5 (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. **NEW!! \$150 GUARANTEED In Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes!** Best male/female 2-player team combined score: \$100-50 (teammates' average rating must be Under 2200; teammate pairings avoided but possible, teams must declare by 8:15). **Choice of 2 schedules! 7:00 Schedule,** rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **7:30 schedule,** rd. 1 only is Quick-rated (G/15 + td/3) at 7:30 pm, score carries over into round 2 of 7:00 schedule at 8:15 pm. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. Help with NYC parking: www.primospot.com, www.icon-parkingsystems.com. Sponsorship opportunities: We can name one of the 4RGTs after yourself, and you'll see **your name** listed in uschess.org! **Info:** www.chesscenter.cc.

SEPT. 21, Marshall September Friday Quads! 3-RR, G/40d5. Open to all levels; Quads formed by rating. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **EF:** \$25, members \$20. \$50 for each winner. **Reg.:** 5:15-5:45. **Rds.:** 6:7-30-9PM. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 22, Marshall Saturday G/60! 4-SS, G/55d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **(\$540/32):** \$240-120, U2000 \$95, U1700 \$85. **EF:** \$40, members \$20. **Reg.:** 11:15-11:45 am. **Rds.:** 12-2:30-4:45-7. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 23, 41st Binghamton Monthly Tournament 4SS, G/65 d/5. Prizes: \$300 b/26. Open-\$100-\$60-\$30; Reserve-\$50-\$40-\$20 (U1700). Trophies: 1-3 Reserve section. **Advance Entry: EF's Reduced!** Open-\$20 Reserve-\$15 (U1700) \$5 more on site-cash only on site. **Schedule:** Registration on site 8:45-9:15 AM. **Rounds:** 9:30-12Noon-2:30-4:45. **Free** USCF 90-day membership (call for details) **Free** chess set & board to all new players under 18 years of age. **Mail Entry:** checks payable to: "Cordisco's Corner Store", 308 Chengango St., Binghamton, NY 13901 (607) 772-8782, cordiscos@stnyr.com. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 23, Marshall Open & U1500 Sunday Game/45! 4-SS, G/40d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **Two sections** you play only those in your section: **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.:** 12-1:45-4:00-5:45. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 24-OCT. 22, Marshall Monday U1600! 5-SS, G/85d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$50, members \$30. **(\$675/30):** \$250-150-100, U1400 \$100, U1200 \$75. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45pm. Rds. 7 pm each Monday. Limit 2 byes, request by Rd 3. www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 27, Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix! See Grand Prix.

A Heritage Event!

SEPT. 27, The Original "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Now At The New Yorker Hotel- USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament! 4-SS, G/25 + d/5 or G/30 + d/0. Chess Center at the historic New Yorker Hotel, 481 8th Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, NYC: 845-569-9969, (Thursdays after 6 pm: 212-971-0101, mention "chess tournament", www.chesscenter.cc). **EF:** \$30, GMs \$25 from prize, "free to the player returning after longest time since last tournament," free to specified Greater NY Scholastic Prizewinners! **Good Customer Loyalty Discounts:** \$5 less to those who played in at least 4 "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Actions since Jan. 2011, \$10 less to those who played in at least 10 4RGTs since 1987—**Thank You So Much For Your Support Of This Tournament These Past 25 Years!** \$5 (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. **NEW!! \$150 GUARANTEED In Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes!** Best male/female 2-player team combined score: \$100-50 (teammates' average rating must be Under 2200; teammate pairings avoided but possible, teams must declare by 8:15). **Choice of 2 schedules! 7:00 Schedule,** rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **7:30 schedule,** rd. 1 only is Quick-rated (G/15 + td/3) at 7:30 pm, score carries over into round 2 of 7:00 schedule at 8:15 pm. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. Help with NYC parking: www.primospot.com, www.icon-parkingsystems.com. Sponsorship opportunities: We can name one of the 4RGTs after yourself, and you'll see **your name** listed in uschess.org! **Info:** www.chesscenter.cc.

SEPT. 29, Marshall Saturday U400! 4-SS, G/40d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **(\$300 b/20):** \$160-80, U1100 \$60. **EF:** \$40, members \$20. **Reg.:** 12:15-12:45. **Rds.:** 1-2:45-4:30-6:15PM. One bye available, request at entry. www.marshallchessclub.org.

SEPT. 29-30, Marshall September U2100! 4SS, 30/85d5, SD/1d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212 477-3716. **EF:** \$45, Members \$25. **(\$540 b/36):** \$240-120, U1850 \$95, U1600 \$85. **Reg.:** ends 12:15PM. **Rds.:** 2 schedules: **2 day,** Rds. 12:30-5:30 PM each day; **1 day,** (Rds 1-2 G/25;d5) 10-11:15AM-12:30-5:30 PM Sun; both merge rd.3. Limit 2 byes, request at entry. NO RE-ENTRY. www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 30, 2nd annual Capital Region Open See Grand Prix.

OCT. 3-31, Marshall Wednesday U1400! 5-SS, G/85d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$50, members \$30. **(\$450/20):** \$240-120, U1100 \$90. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45pm. **Rds.** 7 pm each Wednesday. Limit 2 byes, request by Rd 3. www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 3-31, Marshall Wednesday U2000! 5-SS, 30/85d5, SD/1d5. Marshall CC, 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. **EF:** \$50, members \$30. **(\$450/20):** \$240-120, U1700 \$90. **Reg.:** 6:15-6:45 pm. **Rds.** 7 pm each Wednesday. Limit 2 byes, request by Rd 3. www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 4, Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix! See Grand Prix.

OCT. 4, October New Yorker Masters Special Edition Of USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament! See Grand Prix.

OCT. 4-8, 5-8, 6-8 OR 6-7, 3rd annual Continental Class Championships (VA) See Grand Prix.

OCT. 6, Marshall Saturday U1800! 4-SS, G/40d5. 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. www.marshallchessclub.org.

OCT. 6-7, Marshall October Grand Prix! See Grand Prix.

OCT. 11, Marshall Thursday Game 30 Grand Prix! See Grand Prix.

A Heritage Event!

OCT. 11, The Original "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Now At The New Yorker Hotel- USCF's Longest-Running Action Tournament! 4-SS, G/25 + d/5 or G/30 + d/0. Chess Center at the historic New Yorker Hotel, 481 8th Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, NYC: 845-569-9969, (Thursdays after 6 pm: 212-971-0101, mention "chess tournament", www.chesscenter.cc). **EF:** \$30, GMs \$25 from prize, "free to the player returning after longest time since last tournament," free to specified Greater NY Scholastic Prizewinners! **Good Customer Loyalty Discounts:** \$5 less to those who played in at least 4 "4 Rated Games Tonight!" Thursday Night Actions since Jan. 2011, \$10 less to those who played in at least 10 4RGTs since 1987—**Thank You So Much For Your Support Of This Tournament These Past 25 Years!** \$5 (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unr \$95, U2000 \$85. **NEW!! \$150 GUARANTEED In Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes!** Best male/female 2-player team combined score: \$100-50 (teammates' average rating must be Under 2200; teammate pairings avoided but possible, teams must declare by 8:15). **Choice of 2 schedules! 7:00 Schedule,** rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. **7:30 schedule,** rd. 1 only is Quick-rated (G/15 + td/3) at 7:30 pm,

score carries over into round 2 of 7:00 schedule at 8:15 pm. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. Help with NYC parking: www.primospot.com, www.icon-parkingsystems.com. Sponsorship opportunities: We can name one of the 4RGTs after yourself, and you'll see **your name** listed in uschess.org! **Info:** www.chesscenter.cc.

OCT. 13, Marshall Saturday U1600! 4-SS, G/40d5. 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. www.marshallchessclub.org.

OCT. 13-14, Marshall October U2300! 4SS, 30/85d5, SD/1d5. 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/25d5) 10-11:15AM-12:30-5:30 PM Sun; both merge rd.3. Limit 2 byes, request at entry. NO RE-ENTRY. www.marshallchessclub.org. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 19-21 OR 20-21, 3rd annual Boardwalk Open (NJ) See Grand Prix.

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, Bahamas International & Amateur (Bahamas) See Grand Prix.

NOV. 2-4 OR 3-4 (Open), NOV. 3-4 (Booster), 3rd annual Eastern Team Championship (CT) See Connecticut.

NOV. 23-25 OR 24-25, 43rd annual National Chess Congress (PA) See Grand Prix.

North Carolina

AUG. 24-26 OR 25-26, 44th annual Atlantic Open (DC) See Grand Prix.

AUG. 30-SEPT. 3, 2012 U.S. Masters Championship See Nationals.

AUG. 31-SEPT. 2 OR SEPT. 1-2, 2012 North Carolina Open See Grand Prix.

OCT. 4-8, 5-8, 6-8 OR 6-7, 3rd annual Continental Class Championships (VA) See Grand Prix.

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, Bahamas International & Amateur (Bahamas) See Grand Prix.

Ohio

AUG. 17, DCC Friday Nite Quick 2012 (OC)

4SS, G/24, td5. Dayton Chess Club, 18 W. 5th St., Dayton, OH. **Rds.:** 7:30/8:30/9:30/10:30. One bye. **Prizes** based on entries. **EF:** \$10 (\$8 DCC mbrs). **Info:** DCC.18W5@sbcglobal.net or 937-461-6283.

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 7th annual Indianapolis Open (IN) See Grand Prix.

AUG. 18, 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/.

AUG. 24, DCC Friday Nite Quick 2012 (OC)

4SS, G/24, td5. Dayton Chess Club, 18 W. 5th St., Dayton, OH. **Rds.:** 7:30/8:30/9:30/10:30. One bye. **Prizes** based on entries. **EF:** \$10 (\$8 DCC mbrs). **Info:** DCC.18W5@sbcglobal.net or 937-461-6283.

AUG. 25, Pawn Storm IX

5SS, G/45, td/5. Dayton Chess Club, 18 W. 5th St., Dayton, OH. **Reg.:** 10-10:45. **Rds.:** 11-1-3-5-7. Two byes-1 if in rd 5. **Prizes (b/25 paid):** Open \$200-101, U1900 \$100, U1600 \$99. **EF:** \$25 to 18 August then \$35; refunded to 2200 or higher who complete their schedule. **Info:** DCC.18W5@sbcglobal.net or 937-461-6283.

AUG. 25, Progress with Chess Monthly Open

4SS, G/30;d5. Mustard Seed Market, 2nd Floor 6025 Kruse Dr., Solon, OH 44139. **EF:** \$20. **3 Sections: Open, (Scholastic) K-12 U1000, K-5 U500.**

ONCE RATED, ALWAYS RATED

You never lose your rating, no matter how long it has been since you last played.

If you return to tournament play after a long absence, please tell the director your approximate rating and year of play.

If you rejoin USCF after many years without being a member, please provide this information to the TD and to USCF as well.

Open pairings may be accelerated at the TD's discretion. **Registration:** 9-9:45 at site. **Rds.:** Open: 10, 11:30, 1, 2:30, Scholastic ASAP. **Prizes:** **Open: \$250 Guaranteed. 1st \$100, 2nd \$50, U-1900 \$50, U-1500 \$50.** **Scholastic Sections:** Trophies to top 5 each section. **Special Offer:** Free healthy box lunch (\$10 value) to all scholastic players! **Info:** www.progresswithchess.org. **Contact:** Mike Joelson 216-321-7000.

AUG. 31, DCC Friday Nite Quick 2012 (QC)
4SS, G/24, td5. Dayton Chess Club, 18 W. 5th St., Dayton, OH. **Rds.:** 7:30/8:30/9:30/10:30. One bye. **Prizes** based on entries. **EF:** \$10 (\$8 DCC mbrs). **Info:** DCC.18W5@sbcglobal.net or 937-461-6283.

SEPT. 1-3, 68th Ohio Chess Congress
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 7, DCC Friday Nite Quick 2012 (QC)
4SS, G/24, td5. Dayton Chess Club, 18 W. 5th St., Dayton, OH. **Rds.:** 7:30/8:30/9:30/10:30. One bye. **Prizes** based on entries. **EF:** \$10 (\$8 DCC mbrs). **Info:** DCC.18W5@sbcglobal.net or 937-461-6283.

SEPT. 8, Toledo Sept Swiss
Open, 4SS, Rnd 1 G/75, Rnds 2-4 G/90. The University of Toledo Health Science Campus, Mulford Library Basement Cafe, 3000 Arlington Ave., Toledo, OH 43614. Can split into 2 sections if enough players. **EF:** \$20 by 9/6, \$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.**

SEPT. 21-23 OR 22-23, 5th Annual Louisville Open (KY)
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 22, Progress with Chess Monthly Open
4SS, G/30;d5. Mustard Seed Market, 2nd Floor 6025 Kruse Dr., Solon, OH 44139. **EF:** \$20. **3 Sections: Open, (Scholastic) K-12 U1000, K-5 U500.** Open pairings may be accelerated at the TD's discretion. **Registration:** 9-9:45 at site. **Rds.:** Open: 10, 11:30, 1, 2:30, Scholastic ASAP. **Prizes:** **Open: \$250 Guaranteed. 1st \$100, 2nd \$50, U-1900 \$50, U-1500 \$50.** **Scholastic Sections:** Trophies to top 5 each section. **Special Offer:** Free healthy box lunch (\$10 value) to all scholastic players! **Info:** www.progresswithchess.org. **Contact:** Mike Joelson 216-321-7000.

OCT. 13, National Chess Day Scholastic Swiss
Cincinnati Scholastic Chess Series season 6 begins on National Chess Day at Sycamore High School, 7400 Cornell Rd., Montgomery (Cincinnati), OH 45426. **4SS, 5 Sections:** K-3 U600, K-6 U900, K-12 U1200, K-12 Open, Non-Rated. (Non-Rated section might be split into multiple sections depending on the number of entries.) **Time control:** K-12 Open G/40, d5; all others G/30, d5. **Other tournaments in series:** Nov 3, 2012 - Fairfield HS; Dec 1, 2012 - Lakota West HS; Jan 12, 2013 - Walnut Hills HS; Feb 2013 - date and site TBD; Mar 2, 2013, Sycamore HS. **Prizes:** Medals to top three in each section at each tournament; trophies to top five in each rated section for the series (best five scores from six tournaments count toward trophies). **Complete information at:** www.chessinnati.com, or contact Doug 513-484-3768, dougdysart@hotmail.com or Alan 513-697-6930, a.hodge195@gmail.com.

OCT. 13, Toledo Oct Swiss
Open, 4SS, Rnd 1 G/75, Rnds 2-4 G/90. The University of Toledo Health Science Campus, Mulford Library Basement Cafe, 3000 Arlington Ave., Toledo, OH 43614. Can split into 2 sections if enough players. **EF:** \$20 by 10/11, \$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.**

OCT. 14-MAR. 3, Columbus Chess League, Season 2
4-board teams (plus 2 alternates), G/75 RR, 2 rounds/month starting 10/14, then first Sunday of each month thru March. Open & Reserve sections (team avg U1600). **EF:** \$80/team + \$40 deposit, trophy prizes. Register to be put on a team, form your own or just sign up for extra rated games. Advance entries only, by 9/30. Full details at www.neilley.com/chess. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

NOV. 9-11 OR 10-11, 21st annual Kings Island Open
See Grand Prix.

Oklahoma

SEPT. 1-3, 8th Okie Chess Festival
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 14, B & N September Quick Open (QC)
All tournaments: 4-SS, G/20/0D. **EF:** \$0 FREE! **Reg.:** 7:00-7:30 (Late players 1/2 pt bye Rd 1). **Round 1** start 7:35, all others ASAP. Limit 20 players. Address: Barnes & Noble Bookstore (Music Dept area), Woodland Plaza, 8620 E. 71 St., Tulsa, OK 74133, 918-250-5034. **Club contact:** Edward J. Boyle, ebjc@aol.com, 918-960-9558, 11103 E. 43rd St., Apt. 1605, Tulsa, OK 74146.

Oregon

NOV. 22-25 OR 23-25, 48th Annual American Open (CA-S)
See Grand Prix.

Pennsylvania

EVERY SATURDAY - Lehigh Valley Super Quads
(NO QUADS ON LVCA GRAND PRIZ DATES LISTED IN *CHESS LIFE*), G/40 Quads, 3-RR. **Reg.:** 1-1:45, **Rds.:** 2 pm, then asap, Site: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 514 3rd Ave, Bethlehem, PA 18018. **EF:** \$10, \$30 for 3-0 score, else \$25 for 1st., Ph: 484-866-3045, Info: bDavis@lehighvalleychess.org, www.lehighvalleychess.org/.

AUG. 10, 2nd Friday of the Month LVCA \$5 100% GTD (QC)
4SS, G/25;d3. St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 140 So. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104. **EF:** \$15, \$10-21 & under/College Student Id, **\$\$200 100% Gtd.**, \$70-\$35, Top U20 \$35, top U16/unrated \$30, Top Junior/College \$30. One 1/2 pt byes if reg.'d after 6:45 pm. **REG.:** Ends 6:45pm, Cash on site only. **RDS.:** 7 pm, then ASAP. **Adv Ent:** By Aug 9. **Check payable:** Bruce Davis, 1208 Linden St., Fl. 1, Bethlehem, PA 18018 or 484-866-3045 or bDavis@lehighvalleychess.org, www.lehighvalleychess.org.

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, 11th annual Manhattan Open (NY)
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 19, 8th Ever Milford G/90 Quads!
3RR, G/90 d/5. Patisserie Fauchere, 403 Broad St., Milford, PA 18337. **EF:** \$25 cash only. **Reg.:** 9:15-45. **Rds.:** 10-1:30-4:45. **Prizes:** \$50. Space limited, email advance entry if possible. **Entry:** Troy Duncan, pikecountychessclub@gmail.com, 570-296-1109. http://pikecountychessclub.wordpress.com.

AUG. 24-25, 2012 U.S. Blind Chess Championship
See Nationals.

AUG. 24-26 OR 25-26, 44th annual Atlantic Open (DC)
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 25, August Super-Swiss
4-SS, G/30. St. Luke's Ev. Luth Church, 417 N. 7th St., Allentown, PA 18102. **EF:** \$15. Two Sections: **OPEN** 1st \$100, **U1700** 1st \$60. **Reg.:** 12-1:15 PM. **Rds.:** 1:30-2:30-3:45-5. No adv. ent. One bye available rds 1-3. **Info:** TD Eric C. Johnson 610-433-6518 or see www.freewebs.com/allentowncenterchessclub.

AUG. 25, 6th Annual Aug LVCA Scholastic K-12 Championship
5-SS, G/30. **EF:** \$30, \$35 CASH ONLY after 8/22/12 AT 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 in Door Prizes. **Rds.:** 1:10 pm then ASAP. **Reg.:** Ends 1 pm. **Site:** Holy Trinity Church, 514 3rd Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18102. **Ent:** Bruce Davis, 1208 Linden St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, Ph. 484-866-3045, Email: bDavis@lehighvalleychess.org. **Info:** www.lehighvalleychess.org/.

A Heritage Event!

AUG. 26, 36th Pittsburgh Summer Open
3SS, G/90, d/5. Pittsburgh Chess Club, 5604 Solway St., Suite 209, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. **EF:** \$28 by 8/22, \$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 St., Suite 209, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. **Make checks payable to:** Pittsburgh Chess Club. NS, NC, W.

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3, SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, 134th annual NY State Championship (NY)
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 1, W. Chester 1st Sat. Quads
Our 23rd year! 3RR, 40/75, sd/30, td/5sec. United Methodist Church, 129 S. High St., West Chester, PA. **EF:** \$20; \$40, \$50 for 3-0. **Reg.:** 9am; **Rds.:** 9:30, 1, 4:30. **Info:** WCCCL1975@gmail.com.

SEPT. 7, 1st Friday of the Month LVCA \$5 100% GTD (QC)
4SS, G/25;d3. St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 140 So. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104. **EF:** \$15, \$10-21 & under/College Student Id, **\$\$200 100% Gtd.**, \$70-\$35, Top U20 \$35, top U16/unrated \$30, Top Junior/College \$30. One 1/2 pt byes if reg.'d after 6:45 pm. **REG.:** Ends 6:45pm, Cash on site only. **RDS.:** 7 pm, then ASAP. **Adv Ent:** By Sep 5. **Check payable:** Bruce Davis, 1208 Linden St., Fl. 1, Bethlehem, PA 18018 or 484-866-3045 or bDavis@lehighvalleychess.org, www.lehighvalleychess.org.

SEPT. 8, MasterMinds CC Summer Quads
Blair Christian Academy, 220 W. Upsal St., Philadelphia, PA. **Quads:** 3RR, 40/75, SD/30 TD/5. **EF:** \$20 Perfect score winner \$50 else \$40. **Rd. 1** 10AM then asap. **Reg. ends** 9:30am. **Info:** Bradley Crable, 215-844-3881, www.mastermindschess.org.

SEPT. 16, 53rd Pittsburgh Chess League
30/90, SD/60d5. Wm Pitt Union, Univ. of Pitt., 5th & Bigelow, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Monthly 4-player team event from Sept. to Apr. **EF:** \$50/team by 9/13. **Rds.:** 2pm. **Ent/Info:** Tom Martinak, 25 Freepoint St., Pittsburgh, PA 15223-2245, martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, www.pitt.edu/~schach/. **W. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 30, 2012 PA State Game/60 Championship
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 4-8, 5-8, 6-8 OR 6-7, 3rd annual Continental Class Championships (VA)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 13, National Chess Day - 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/quad.** **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/allentowncenterchessclub.

OCT. 14, PCL October Quick Quads (QC)
3RR, G/15d3. Wm. Pitt Union, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 5th & Bigelow, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. **EF:** \$10, \$7 juniors. \$20 to 1st/quad. **Reg.:** 11-11:15am. **Rds.:** 11:30am-Noon-12:30pm. **Info:** martinak_tom_m@hotmail.com, 412-908-0286. W.

OCT. 19-21 OR 20-21, 3rd annual Boardwalk Open (NJ)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, Bahamas International & Amateur (Bahamas)
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 2-4 OR 3-4 (Open), NOV. 3-4 (Booster), 3rd annual Eastern Team Championship (CT)
See Connecticut.

NOV. 23-25 OR 24-25, 43rd 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; **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.**

South Carolina

AUG. 17-19 OR 18-19, Columbia Open
See Grand Prix.

Tennessee

AUG. 18, Mike Barton Memorial 2
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 18, 20th Battle of Murfreesboro
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 31-SEPT. 1, 2012 Tennessee Open Championship
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 21-23 OR 22-23, 5th Annual Louisville Open (KY)
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 13, 2012 Cumberland County Fall Open National Chess Day Chess Tournament
Cumberland Co. Community Complex, 1398 Livingston Rd., Crossville, TN 38555. \$420 guaranteed prize fund. **Reg.:** 7:30-8am. **Rds.:** 9, 11, 2, 4:30. In 2 Sections, **Open:** 4SS, G/60, **\$\$:** \$75. 30-X,A,B,C,D/Below. **Amateur:** 4SS, G/60, Open to U1200 & under. **\$\$:** \$75. 30-F,G,H/Below,UNR UNR eligible for unrated prize only. **ALL:** **EF:** \$15 if mailed by 10/8, \$20 at site. **Mem.** Req'd: TCA \$10 TN residents only. **ENT:** Harry D. Sabine, P. O. Box 381, Crossville, TN 38557. **INFO:** www.cumberlandcountychess.org or Susan at 931-261-4024. NS. W.

OCT. 13, 2nd annual National Chess Day Extravaganza (QC)
7SS, G/5. Wolfchase Galleria Memphis, Center Ct., Memphis, TN. **EF:** free.

NO TOURNAMENTS IN YOUR AREA? WHY NOT ORGANIZE ONE?

Do you need to go out of town for tournament play? Would you and others in your area like the convenience of an occasional event closer to home? Organize one!

It's not much work to hold a small tournament, and there is little risk if you use a low-cost site and avoid guaranteed prizes. You might even make a profit! Either a based-on Swiss with projected prizes up to \$500, a Quad format, or a trophy tournament will virtually guarantee taking in more in fees than you pay out in prizes.

The affiliation fee is just \$40 a year. You will receive the annual rating supplement and have access to the TD/Affiliate area of our website.

Remember, you can both run and play in a small event. Many of them wouldn't be held if the organizer/TD couldn't play.

Want to know more? Contact Joan DuBois at joandubois@uschess.org. **We'll be glad to help you be part of the promotion of American chess!**

Medals to top finishers, ribbons to all. Free chess clinic at 11 am. **Reg.:** 12-12:45 pm. **Rd. 1** starts at 1 pm. Face painting and hourly drawings. **Info:** www.shelbycountychess.org or (901) 276-4663.

NOV. 9-11 OR 10-11, 21st annual Kings Island Open (OH)
See Grand Prix.

Texas

AUG. 17, Summer Funn RBO Chess Tourney (RBO)
4 Rd SS, G/30 d5. **Tnmt. Site:** 111 N. Tennessee, McKinney, TX 75-69. **Entry Fee:** \$20 pd by Aug 11th, or \$25. **Ck in:** 8:45am, rd 1 ASAP. **Trophies:** US500, JV500-U1000, or +1000. **Register on-line at McKinneyChess.org or mail Name, Section & Check to:** McKinney Chess, PO Box 2674, McKinney, TX 75070, McKinneyChess@gmail.com, 214-620-0527.

AUG. 18-19, 2012 Texas Senior Chess Championship and Futurity Senior Tournament: Must be 50 or older to enter. 4-SS, G/120 w/5 Sec delay. **Playing Site:** Holiday Inn, 5247 S. General Bruce Dr., (Service road on East side of I-35 just North of Midway exit #297), Temple, TX 76502, (254) 778-5511. **HR:** \$89 if reserved by 8/1. Mention Chess. Free parking. **Seniors:** Gtd. Prizes \$750. Open to all over 50 yrs of age. **Prize fund \$750** - 1st - \$200, 2nd - \$100, 3rd - \$75; U1600 1st - \$100, 2nd - \$50 Age under 65 1st - \$75, Age 65-75 1st - \$75, over 75 1st - \$75 **EF: Seniors** - \$30 in advance, \$40 at site. TCA membership required. **Futurity:** For those under 50 years of age. Futurity Prize fund - 75% of Futurity entries returned. **Two Sections; Open & U1400 Futurity EF:** \$25 if paid in advance, \$30 on site. TCA membership not required. \$5 discount for current Texas Chess Association members. **Reg. for ALL:** 9-9:45. **Rds.:** Sat. 10 am, 3 pm, Sun. 9 am, 2 pm. USCF membership required UNR placed at the discretion of the TD. **Pre-entries for all:** Forrest Marler, 4102 West Adams Ave., #104, Temple, TX 76504-3551. 254-231-7026. fmarler@gmail.com. NS, NC, W. **Chess Magnet School JGP for those born after 12/31/1990.**

AUG. 25, Many Springs Open 46
North Richland Hills Public Library, 9015 Grand Ave., North Richland Hills, TX 76180. 3 Round Swiss, G/60; 5d. **EF:** \$20, 65% of EF returned as prizes. **Registration** on-site 8:45-8:55; on-line: Chess4champs.com. **First Round 9:15AM, Second Round 12:10PM, Third Round 2:30PM.** **Additional information:** Tom Crane at either 817-296-4287, tcrane5000@yahoo.com, or http://www.tarrantcountychessclub.org/.

AUG. 25-26, 2012 DCC Fide Open VI
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3 OR SEPT. 1-3, 78th Annual Southwest Open
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 21-23 OR 22-23, 2012 U.S. Class Championships
See Nationals.

SEPT. 29-30, 2012 DCC Fide Open VII
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 13, National Chess Day - 1st Annual Oktoberfest Chess Tournament
5 SS, G/30 analog; G/25 w/d5 for digital clocks. Sam Houston Elementary School, 301 E. Taft St., Harlingen, TX 78550, (956)427-3110 (phone), (956)427-3114 (fax). **FOUR DIVISIONS WITH 5 ROUNDS OF SWISS-STYLE CHAMPIONSHIP CHESS.** This is an official USCF-rated tournament. USCF rules and regulations will be strictly adhered to. All players must have current memberships in order to play. Participants must provide their own equipment (boards, pieces, pencils, clocks, etc.). **Sections to be played:** Kinder (K-1), K-3, K-5, K-12. Players may play above their division but not below. **Open to the first 600 participants.** First round starts at 9:00 a.m. **EF:** \$14.00. Registrations deadline is Monday, October 8, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. No changes will be allowed on tournament day. Select your classification carefully! **Byes:** First one 1/2 pt. others 0 pts. Absolutely no refunds after 12:00 p.m. on Friday, October 12, 2012. Food and beverages will be sold. **Make checks payable to:** Sam Houston Elementary. **AWARDS:** Medals to kinder players. Individual trophies to top 10 finishers in all sections; Medals from 11th-20th place. Team trophies to top 5 teams in each division. Victor A. Flores - Chief TD, Ed Guetzow - Chief Pairing Director.

OCT. 13, 3rd Annual Scott Watson Memorial Chess Classic
A Major USCF Rated College Scholarship Chess Tournament Lively Youth Center, 909 North O'Connor, Irving, TX 75063. In 8 Sections, **K-3 Primary** U400: 5SS, Game/30, Open to 399 & under. Trophies Top 3 Individuals per Section, Top 3 Teams per Section. **K-3 Primary Open:** 5SS, Game/30, Trophies Top 3 Individuals per Section, Top 3 Teams per Section. **Elementary U600:** 5SS, Game/30, Open to 599 & under. Trophies Top 3 Individuals per Section, Top 3 Teams per Section. **Elementary Open:** 5SS, Game/30, Trophies Top 3 Individuals per Section, Top 3 Teams per Section. **Middle School U700:** 5SS, Game/30, Open to 699 & under. Trophies Top 3 Individuals per Section, Top 3 Teams per Section. **Middle School Open:** 5SS, Game/30, Trophies Top 3 Individuals per Section, Top 3 Teams per Section. **High School Open:** 5SS, Game/30, Prizes: Trophies Top 3 Individuals per Section, Top 3 Teams per Section. \$1,000 Top Finishing Player attending HS within Irving City Limits, \$1,000 Top Finishing Player attending HS outside of Irving City Limits. **Not To Be Rated 4th-8th Grade Open:** 5SS, Game/30, Prizes: Trophies Top 3 Individuals ONLY-No Team Trophies This Section. **ALL:** \$ 25.00 After 10.08.2012 and On-Site. USCF Membership Required for Elementary, Middle School, and High School Sections, Will Be Provided with Paid EF for HS section ONLY. **Reg.:** 10.13.2012, 8-8:30 AM. \$15.00 B/4 10.08.2012, Thereafter and On-Site \$25.00. **Rds.:** Round 1, 9:00 AM, All others ASAP 1/2 Point for any round if requested at registration, HS Section NO 5th Round Byes. **ENT:** Nancy H. Bauer, 1807 Pueblo Pl., Irving, Texas 75061-2243. Register & Pay On-Line at www.Chess4Champs.com. **INFO:** nancybauer223@tx.rr.com, jonessoc@juno.com. NS, NC, W.

OCT. 13, Celebrate National Chess Day in North Texas
Join us for 5 Rounds non-elimination Swiss System Tournament, G/30 d/5. **Tournament Location:** 2860 Virginia Parkway, McKinney, TX 75071. **EF:**

\$25 by Oct 1st, \$35 after; Pre-reg. requires pre-payment. Current USCF membership is required. After Oct 6th, 2012 no refunds and all registration and changes on site only. **Reg.:** 8:15-8:45 am. **Rd. 1** at 9:30 am, rest ASAP with small lunch break. **Sections:** Scholastic K-12 Novice U500, Junior Varsity 500-U1000, or Championship +1000. Trophies to top 5 individuals, Top 3 teams in each section. **Hosted by:** Imagine International Academy of North Texas (www.imagineorthtexas.org) and McKinney Chess. **Register online at:** McKinneyChess.org or mail individual or team registration form and check to McKinney Chess, PO Box 2674, McKinney, TX 75070. Include Student's Name, School, Grade, Section, USCF ID and rating. **Contact:** McKinneyChess@gmail.com for more information.

OCT. 20-21, Dallas Open
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 20-21, Dallas Amateur and Novice
5SS, G/90 with 30 second increment. Dallas CC, 200 S. Cottonwood Dr. Ste C, Richardson, TX 75080. **EF:** \$30 (\$25 Jr/Sr/Hcap), plus \$5 non-DCC mbr fee if applicable. \$5 Prizes based on entries 60 % returned. **Amateur:** Open to U1800. **Novice:** Open to U1400 and unrated. **Reg.:** 9:45-10:15am. **Rds.:** 10:45-3:10-7:16, 10:45-3:10. Two half-point Byes if requested before rd 2 (and if requested before receiving a full point bye). **Ent:** Dallas Chess Club, c/o Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. **Info:** 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com, www.dallaschess.com NS, NC. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

NOV. 3-4, 2012 DCC Fide Open VIII
See Grand Prix.

A State Championship Event!
NOV. 10-11, 16th Annual Texas Collegiate Championships
5SS, G/90, 30 sec inc. Marriott Houston South at Hobby Airport, 9100 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX 77017, \$82 HR valid until 10/26, Reserve early! 713-943-7979, Mention Texas Chess to get \$82 rate. College section open to any college player. Only Texas Colleges can be Texas Collegiate Champs. **\$\$ \$400-\$200-\$100, 1st \$1600-1800 \$100, 1st \$1200-1599 \$100, 1st U1200 \$100, Unrated eligible for U1200 prize. Plaques to top 10 Individuals, Plaques to top 5 Teams (top three players added for team scores, no more than 2 teams per school.)** **EF:** \$49 by 10/29/12, \$69 thereafter. Do not mail after 11/1 as your entry may not be received in time. **Entries to:** Dallas Chess Club, c/o Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. Entry must include Name, USCF ID (or new/pending), grade & school and school location. Incomplete entries will be charged at site entry fee. No refunds after 11/7. Email: info@dallaschess.com 214-632-9000. Do not call after 11/7 as we are traveling. **Reg.:** Fri 11/9 from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm. Reg. Sat. 11/10 at 7:30 am-8:30 am. Sat. registration may require a 1/2 pt. 1st rd. bye. **Rds.:** Sat. rds 9-1:30-6:00. Sun. rds 9-1:30. One 1/2 pt bye available, any round, if requested before end of rd. 2 and if player has not received a full point bye. Fide rated but uses USCF rules. Online registration and team room information on website at www.dallaschess.com. NS, NC, W. **FIDE. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

NOV. 10-11, 16th Annual Texas K-12 Grade Championships
6SS, Rds 1-3 G/45, d5; Rds 4-6 G/60, d5. Marriott Houston South at Hobby Airport, 9100 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX 77017, \$82 HR valid until 10/26, Reserve early! 713-943-7979, Mention Texas Chess to get \$82 rate. **Each grade is Open to TX residents or players attending Texas schools. 13 separate tournaments, one per grade (K-12).** Players must play in their own grade. Trophies to top 10 ind. & top 5 teams (top three players added for team scores, no more than 2 teams per school in each grade.) **ALL:** Sat. rds 9:30-12:00-2:05-4:10. Sun. rds 10-1:15. **ALL: EF:** \$35 if postmarked by 10/29. \$59 thereafter or at site. Do not mail after 11/1 as your entry may not be received in time. **Entries to:** Dallas Chess Club, c/o Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. Entry must include Name, USCF ID (or new/pending), grade & school and school location. Incomplete entries will be charged at site entry fee. No refunds after 11/7. Email: info@dallaschess.com 214-632-9000. Do not call after 11/7 as we are traveling. Reg. Fri 11/9 from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm. **Reg.:** Sat. 11/10 at 7:30 am-8:30 am. Sat. registration may require a 1/2 pt. 1st rd. bye. One 1/2 pt bye available, any round, if requested before end of rd. 2 and if player has not received a full point bye. Online registration and team room information on website at www.dallaschess.com. **Side events:** Unrated Blitz open tournament on 11/9 at 7:35 pm. **EF:** \$15, Trophy prizes. Bughouse Open Tournament Sat. 8:35 pm. **EF:** \$20/team. Trophy prizes. Parent/Child team tourney Sat. 6:35 pm. **EF:** \$10/team. Trophy prizes. Registration for side events online or onsite only. NS, NC, W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

NOV. 22-25 OR 23-25, 48th Annual American Open (CA-S)
See Grand Prix.

Vermont

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3, SEPT. 1-3 OR 2-3, 134th annual NY State Championship (NY)
See Grand Prix.

SEPT. 30, 2nd annual Capital Region Open (NY)
See Grand Prix.

Virginia

Arlington Chess Club's FRIDAY ACTION TOURNAMENT
3SS, G/30. Once a month we run a Friday night event - dates are on the club website: www.arlingtonchessclub.com. Prizes b/entries: 80% returned as prizes. **Reg.:** 7:00-8:15pm. Rd. 1: 8:20. **EF:** \$15 (\$10 for ACC Members), no advance entries, cash only. Arlington Forest United Methodist Church, 4701 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22202. Contact for info only: chrisney2@gmail.com. W, NS.

Arlington Chess Club's FRIDAY LADDER
30/90, SD/1. Most monthly game points: \$50; most total points Jan. to Dec.: \$100. Must join club to play. Yearly dues: \$50 adults, \$40 seniors/U18. Cash or check. **Reg.:** weekly sign-up from 7:00-8:00pm, games start by 8:10, no advance entries. Arlington Forest United Methodist

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Church, 4701 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22203. Contact for info only: chrisney2@gmail.com. W. NS. **Chess Magnet School JGP (if 4 rounds/ games played in that one month).**

AUG. 18, Sterling Chess August Open and RBO
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 18, Tracy Callis Jr. Memorial
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 24-26 OR 25-26, 44th annual Atlantic Open (DC)
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 31, VA State Friday Night Blitz (QC)
Open to all USCF members, not just Virginia residents. Same tournament location as the VA Closed (see TLA). 4 or 5-DBSS 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 6:30 PM. **Ent:** Mail with payment to Mike Hoffpair, ATTN: VA State Blitz, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693. Checks to "VIRGINIA CHESS". **Info:** e-mail mhoffpair@aol.com, 757-846-4805 or www.vachess.org/2012closed.htm. W, NS, NC.

**A State Championship Event!
A Heritage Event!**
SEPT. 1-3, 76th Annual Virginia Closed State Championship
6-SS, 30/90, SD/L. 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 Virginia Closed Chess Tournament. Reserve before 8/10 for \$89 chess rate http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com. **Open to Virginia residents, military stationed in Virginia, and students attending any Virginia school or college (must show valid ID or other proof of Fall 2012 school enrollment).** Annual VCF Business Meeting Sat Sep 1 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 Aug 31, 3-6:00PM and Sat Sep 1, 8:30AM-12:15PM. **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 Aug 30, \$75 thereafter and on site. Re-entry allowed for Rd. 2 only at \$30 with 1/2 pt by. **Ent:** Mail payment to arrive by Aug 30 to Mike Hoffpair, ATTN: VA Closed, 405 Hounds Chase, Yorktown, VA 23693. Checks to "VIRGINIA CHESS". **Info:** mhoffpair@aol.com, 757-846-4805, or www.vachess.org/2012closed.htm. W, NS, NC, FIDE. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 4-8, 5-8, 6-8 OR 6-7, 3rd annual Continental Class Championships
See Grand Prix.

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, Bahamas International & Amateur (Bahamas)
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 2-4 OR 3-4 (Open), NOV. 3-4 (Booster), 3rd annual Eastern Team Championship (CT)
See Connecticut.

NOV. 23-25 OR 24-25, 43rd annual National Chess Congress (PA)
See Grand Prix.

Washington

AUG. 4-5, 2012 U.S. Open Scholastic Tournament
NOTE CHANGES: 5SS, Game 90, d/5 in Championship Sections, Game 30, d/5 in under sections. Hilton Vancouver Washington, 301 W. 6th St., Vancouver, WA 98660. Self Parking \$13.00, valet \$17.00 per night. **HR:** \$110 single/quad, 360-993-4500, reserve by July 12 or rate may increase.

Four sections: High School/Junior High [K-12] Championship Section; [K-12] U1200 Section, Elementary [K-6] Championship Section and [K-6] U1000 Section. Elementary is considered Grade 6 or under, Junior High, grades 7 to 9 and High School grades 10 to 12. Your grade is considered to be the one you are entering in the fall. **Please note:** If the sections are larger than expected, they may be split into multiple sections instead of one. **EF:** \$25 before 7/29, \$35 after or on site. **Prizes:** At least 5 trophies in each grouping: Top Five in the Junior High - High School section receive a trophy. Junior High Players [Gr. 7-9] Grouping; Top Five in the Junior High - High School section receive a trophy. Elementary Players [Gr. 4-6] Grouping; Top Five in the Elementary section receive a trophy. Primary Players [Gr. K-3] Grouping; Top Five in the Elementary section receive a trophy. Under Sections: High School Players Under 1200 [Gr. 10-12]; Top Five in the Junior High - High School section receive a trophy. Junior High Players Under 1200 [Gr. 7-9] Grouping; Top Five in the Junior High - High School section receive a trophy. Elementary Players [Gr. 4-6] Under 100 Grouping; Top Five in the Elementary section receive a trophy. Primary Players [Gr. K-3] Under 1000 Grouping; Top Five in Elementary section receive a trophy. **Rounds:** Please note that the Championship sections play both the 4th and 5th and the Under sections play only on the 4th. Championship Sections: 8/4 at 9:30 AM, 2:30 PM and 7:00 PM, 8/5 at 9:00 AM and 1:30 PM. Awards 8/5 at 5:30 PM. Under sections: 8/4 at 9:30 and 11:00 AM, 1:00, 2:30 and 4:00 PM. **Awards:** 8/4 at 6:00 PM. Half point byes: Limit 1, must commit before Round 2. **Entry Fee:** Online, \$25 by July 29th, \$35 after or on site. By mail, \$25 post-marked by 7/29; do not mail after 7/29! By phone, \$30 by 7/29, \$40 by 8/3. No phone entries after 8/3 (close of business at the Office)! Registration At site closes August 4 at 8:30 AM. Any new or expired player that wants to play in an 'Under' section and does want to purchase a full year's membership needs to email Phil Smith at philsmith@uschess.org in order to get the Early Entry Fee. These players will need to fill out an entry form at the site. All players in the Under sections will get a three month extension to their membership. **August official ratings used. Entries:** USCF, ATTN: 2012 US Open Scholastic, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557. Online entry: www.uschess.org/tournaments/2012/scholastic/. Phone entry: 800-903-8723. **No cell phones.** Bring a clock -- none supplied. Sets/boards supplied for tournament but not for skillies. **Please see the U.S. Open TLA for side events, committee meetings, delegate meetings and other events held during the Open. Please check the U.S. Open Scholastic website often for updates, new information and corrections!** www.uschess.org/tournaments/2012/scholastic/. **Chess Magnet School JGP for U.S. Open Scholastic Championship section.**

AUG. 4-5, 2012 U.S. Open Weekend Swiss
See Grand Prix.

AUG. 4-7, 2012 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior Open Championship
See Nationals.

AUG. 4-12, 7-12 OR 9-12, 113th annual U.S. Open
See Nationals.

AUG. 8-12, 2012 Women's U.S. Open
See Nationals.

AUG. 11, 2012 U.S. Open Blitz Championship (QC)
See Grand Prix.

NOV. 22-25 OR 23-25, 48th Annual American Open (CA-S)
See Grand Prix.

West Virginia

AUG. 19, 20th Annual Parkersburg Homecoming Chess Tournament
4SS, G/60. Parkersburg Municipal Building, 2nd & Market Sts., Parkersburg, WV 26101. **2 Sections:** Open **EF:** \$15 postmarked by 8/14, \$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 Troquois Dr, Marietta, OH 45750, (740)374-0538, pkelly03@spry net.com, NS, NC, WV.

**A State Championship Event!
A Heritage Event!**
SEPT. 1-3, 74th WV State Championship
6 SS, 35/90, SD/60. **Site:** Cedar Lakes Conference Center, 82 FFA Dr., Ripley, WV 25271. **Entry Fee:** \$40 by 8/27, \$50 at site. **Prizes:** \$1000 b/30: \$300-150-100, U1900 \$100-50-25, U1600 \$75-35-25, U1300 \$75-35-25. Trophy to top WVCA member and resident. **Registration Time:** Saturday 8:30-9:30. **Round Times:** Sat 10-4, Sun 9-3, Mon 9-3. **Contact Name:** Charles McCallister. **Email Address:** Charles669@cascable.net. **Other Details:** WVCA membership required for in-state residents (\$10), other state memberships accepted for out-of-state residents. 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. **Advanced entries to: Ripley Chess Club, c/o Ripley Chess Club, PO Box 501, Ripley, WV 25271. Make Checks Payable to:** Charles McCallister. **For information go to:** www.ripleychessclub.blogspot.com. NS, NC. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

Wisconsin

**A State Championship Event!
SEPT. 1-3, Marshall Rohland Memorial/WI Closed Championship**
Madison Marriott West, 1313 John Q. Hammons Dr., Middleton, WI 53562. Open to state residents, past champions and students in WI schools. In 3 Sections, **Premier:** 6SS, 40/2,SD/L, **EF:** \$38 by 8/29, \$45 at site, USCF juniors \$5 less. **\$\$b/30:** \$350-200-150. 'A' \$100, U1800 \$100. Traveling and permanent trophy to winner. \$50 Kittlesy Upset Prize (1 overall). **Rds.:** 12-7; 10-7; 10-3:30. **Reserve:** 6SS, 40/2,SD/L, **Open to 1799** & under. **EF:** \$23 by 8/29, \$30 at site, USCF juniors \$5 less. **\$\$b/30:** \$200-100. Trophy to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 1st 'C', 1st 'D', 1st U1200, 1st Unr, Traveling trophy to 1st. \$50 Kittlesy Upset Prize (1 overall). **Rds.:** 12-7; 10-7; 10-3:30. **Scholastic:** 5SS, G/90, Open to under 1800 & under age 19. **EF:** \$16 by 8/29, \$23 at site. **Prizes:** Trophies to top 3 and 1st HS, 1st MS and 1st Elementary. Medals to scores of 3 or more. **Rds.:** 9/1: 12-3:30-7, 9/2: 10-2. **ALL:** Checks payable to WCA. **Reg.:** 9/1 10:30-11:30am. WCA Membership Mtg 9/2 3:30pm. **ENT:** Guy Hoffman, 1305D Tompkins Dr., Madison, WI 53716 920-279-0701. **INFO:** schachfuhrer@hotmail.com. **HR:** \$89 608-831-2000. Mention Chess. www.wischess.org. NS. NC. W. **Chess Magnet School JGP.**

SEPT. 29-30, Greg Knutson Memorial
5-SS, TC rds 1-3, G/120, rds 4-5, 45/2, SD/L. Union South, 1308 W. Dayton St., Madison, WI 608-263-2600. **Rds.:** 10, 2:30, 7:30; 10, 3:30. **EF:** \$16 if received by 9/27, \$20 at site. **\$\$ \$650 guaranteed:** 1st \$140, 2nd \$120, A \$90, B \$80, C \$70, D \$60, U1200 \$50, unrated \$40. **Entries:** Guy Hoffman, 1305 D Tompkins Dr., Madison, WI 53716-3279, 920-279-0701. **NC. NS. Chess Magnet School JGP.**

OCT. 12-14 OR 13-14, 21st annual Midwest Class Championships (IL)
See Grand Prix.

Foreign

OCT. 24-28 OR 26-28, Bahamas International & Amateur
See Grand Prix.

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PAGE 13 / CHESS TO ENJOY

Problem I. 37. g4! and 38. gxf5 will soon capture the trapped rook.
Problem II. 25. Bxd4 Rxd4 26. Qe5! threatens the rook and queen (26. ... Qxe5 27. Rc8+). **Problem III.** 31. ... Nd1! traps the queen in view of the forks 32. Kxf1 Nxe2+; 32. Qxf1 Ndx3+ and 32. Qd5 Ndx3+. **Problem IV.** 28. Rf8+! Kg7! (Better than 28. ... Qxf8 29. Qxh4+ and mates) and now 29. Qxg2+ Kxf8 30. Rf1+ Ke8 31. Qg6+ won but 29. Qf5! is faster. **Problem V.** Black mates in seven with 31. ... Rxh2+! 32. Kxh2 Be5+ 33. Kh1 Qh6+ 34. Kg1 Bh2+ 35. Kf2 Qd2+ 36. Kf3 Ne5+ 37. Ke4 Qd3 mate. **Problem VI.** 24. Rec1! Rxb5 25. Rxc4! Qxc4 26. Qxc4 Rxc4 27. Ra8+ Bf8 28. Bh6 and mates. No better is 25. ... Rc5 26. dxc5 in view of 26. ... Bxa1 27. cxd6! Qxc4 28. Qxc4 Rxc4 29. d7 and queens.

PAGE 15 / ABCS OF CHESS

Problem I. Mating net: It's over with 1. ... Bxf3+. Mate at h2 can't be stopped. **Problem II.** Mating net: White goes down by 1. ... Qg3+ 2. Kf1 Qg1 mate. **Problem III.** Mating net: The deed is done by 1. ... Bh2+ 2. Nxe2 (2. Kh1 Nxf2 mate) 2. ... Qxe2+ 3. Kf1 Qxf2 mate. **Problem IV.** Double attack: The invasion 1. ... Ne3 wins White's queen because of the mate threat at g2. **Problem V.** Mating net: Let's celebrate 1. ... Bd6+ 2. Kg1 Bxc5+ 3. Qd4 Bxd4 mate. **Problem VI.** Discovery: Black wins the white queen by 1. ... Ne3+.

PAGE 45 / BENKO'S BAFFLERS

Problem I. 1. d7 Kb6 Black's king is restricted after 1. ... b4 2. Re5!. 2. Re5! It cuts off the black king: 2. Ke7? Rh7+ 3. Kd6 Rxd7+ 4. Kxd7 Kc5!. 2. ... Rd2 3. Ke8! Less effective is 3. Ke7? Kc7 4. Rc5+ Kb6 5. Rc2 Rd4. 3. ... Kc7 No better is 3. ... Ka5 4. d8=Q+ Rxd8+ 5. Kxd8 Ka4 6. Kc7 b4 7. Kb6 b3 8. Rb5 Ka3 9. Kc5 b2 10. Kc4 Ka2 11. Ra5+. 4. Re7 Kb6 5. d8=Q+ Rxd8+ 6. Kxd8 Kc5 7. Rb7 b4 8. Kc7 Kc4 9. Kb6 b3 10. Ka5 Kc3 11. Ka4 b2 12. Ka3 wins. **Problem II.** 1. Kb7 Kg4 White gets back in time after 1. ... g4 2. Kc6 g3 3. Kd5 g2 4. Ra1 Kg4 5. Ke4 also. 2. Rf6! It is cut off again but vertically (2. Kc6? Kf3!) 2. ... Kh3 3. Kc6 g4 4. Kd5 g3 5. Ke4 g2 6. Kf3 g1=N+ 7. Kf2 Kh2 8. Rh6+ Nh3+ 9. Kf3 wins.

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.	EF:	Entry fee.	Open:	A section open to all. Often has very strong players, but some eligible for lower sections can play for the learning experience.	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.
\$\$Gtd:	Guaranteed prizes.	Ent:	Where to mail entries.	Quad:	4-player round robin sections; similar strength players.	SS:	Swiss-System pairings (preceded by number of rounds).
\$\$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.	FIDE:	Results submitted to FIDE for possible rating.	RBO:	Rated Beginner's Open.	T/Dx:	Time delay, x = number of seconds.
Bye:	Indicates which rounds players who find it inconvenient to play may take 1/2-point byes instead. For example, Bye 1-3 means 1/2-point byes are available in Rounds 1 through 3.	G/:	Game in. For instance, G/75 means each side has 75 minutes for the entire game.	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.	Unr:	Unrated.
CC:	Chess club.	GPP:	Grand Prix Points available.	Reg:	Registration at site.	W:	Site is accessible to wheelchairs.
		HR:	Hotel rates. For example, 60-65-70-75 means \$60 single, \$65 twin, \$70/3 in room, \$75/4 in room.	RR:	Round robin (preceded by number of rounds).	WEB:	Tournaments that will use a player's online rating.
		JGP:	Junior Grand Prix.				
		Memb. req'd:	Membership required; cost follows. Usually refers to state affiliate.				

MY BEST MOVE

GM JOEL BENJAMIN

THREE-TIME U.S. CHAMPION

I'VE OFTEN BEEN ASKED FOR MY BEST GAME, BUT BEST MOVE IS A different story. In this short space I can only mention a few candidates.

I'm proud I even noticed 17. ... Nf3! against Alexander Ivanov in the 1992 U.S. Championship. While not hard to find, 23. ... Nxc3! gave me my only victory over Gata Kamsky in the particularly contentious 1991 U.S. Championship final. I nearly cracked that c3-pawn in half with that move!

I'm also fond of the simple but aesthetic 32. Qxh6 in my "Mona Lisa" versus Eduard Gufeld in the 1998 U.S. Open. Finally, I'm pleased by the practical solution in a complex position delivered by 41. Bb4! against Petar Popovic in the last round of the 1994 Moscow Olympiad.

Readers can find those positions in any database but my ultimate choice is a position that was almost lost to the annals. It is only known today because I sent it to the combination section of the *Informant* back in 1984. Thus I was able to include it years later in my book *American Grandmaster, Four Decades of Chess Adventures*. I am not aware if any score of the complete game exists.

It's April 1984. I'm a junior at Yale, taking advantage of spring break to play in the New York Open. I need a win in the last round for some big money (sadly, not first prize, as the leader Kevin Spraggett won his game). My opponent is a gangly, shaggy Yugoslavian GM who looks like he might be auditioning to play Jesus on Broadway.

We reached the following position after the first time control:

Bosko Abramovic--Joel Benjamin

New York Open, 1984



With a queen for a rook, I thought I would have no problem converting this



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHESS AND SCHOLASTIC CENTER OF SAINT LOUIS

“My opponent is a gangly, shaggy Yugoslavian GM who looks like he might be auditioning to play Jesus on Broadway.”

into a win. As I looked deeper and deeper, I failed to find a simple solution. The awkward placement of my queen and king on the same rank as his rook seems to give White time to roll his b-pawn through. For instance, 1. ... Bh6? 2. b6 Bxg5 3. Nc6 costs me my advantage, while 1. ... Bd3 2. d6! turns the tables after 2. ... Qf1+ 3. Kh2 Be4 4. Nd5+ Kh8 5. Ne3 or 2. ... Bg7 3. d7 Qf1+ 4. Kh2 Be4 5. Rc2! It turned out 1. ... Kh8 does seem to win: 2. b6 Bxe7 3. Rxe7 Qxd5 4. b7 Qd4+ 5. Kh2 Qb2! but I couldn't work it out.

I expanded my search in desperation and found inspiration:

1. ... Bxg2!! 2. Kxg2 e4

My beautiful bishop is gone but now my queen will run wild. The rest is easy.

3. d6 Qf3+ 4. Kh2 Bg7 5. Nc6 Qe2+ 6. Kh1 e3 7. Re7

7. d7 Qe1+ 8. Kh2 e2 9. Be3 h4 wins.

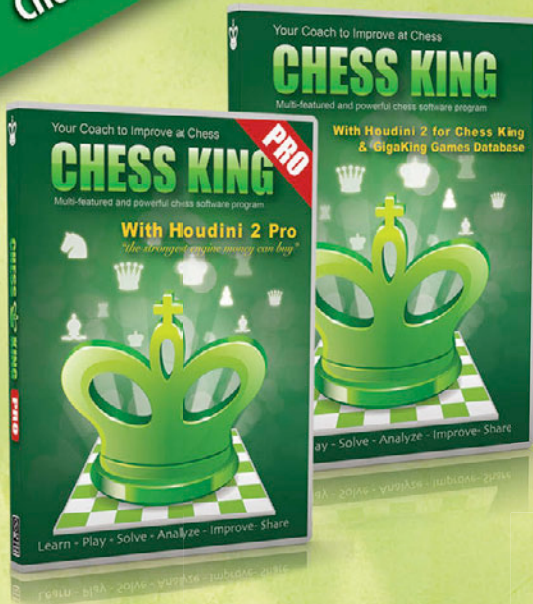
7. ... Qd1+ 8. Kg2 Qd5+ 9. Kf1 Qxb5+ 10. Ke1 Qxc6 11. d7 Qc1+, White resigned. ♠

Above, GM Joel Benjamin at the 2010 U.S. Championship

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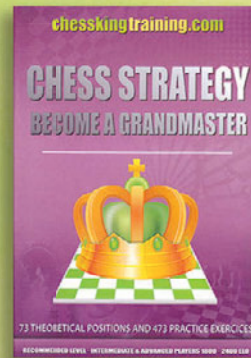
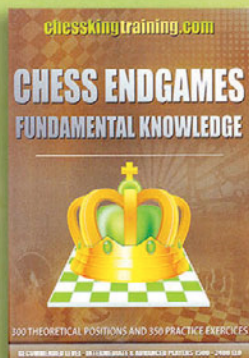
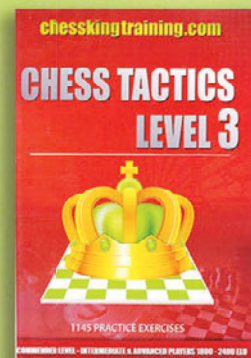
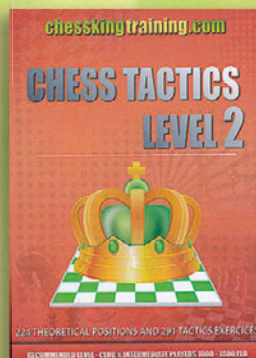
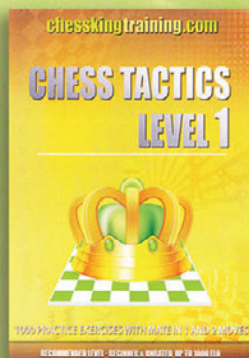
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(option of Oct 6-8, 3 days, with first 2 rounds G/75, d5). 3-day & 4-day merge after rd 2.

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600-500-400-300-300. Unrated limit \$900.

CLASS D (1200-1399/Unr): \$1000-700-400-300-300-200-200-200. Unrated limit \$500.

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\$45 online at chesstour.com by 10/1, \$55 phoned to 406-896-2038 by 10/1, \$70 online until 9 am 10/6 or at site.

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3-day Expert through D schedule: Late reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 2:30 & 6, Sun 11 & 6, Mon 10 & 4:30.

2-day Class E schedule: Late reg. ends Sat 10 am, rds Sat 11, 1:30, 3:30 & 6, Sun 10, 12:30 & 2:30.

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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.

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