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**Shankland Wins
U.S. Championship!**



**Paikidze Wins
U.S. Women's Championship!**



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Chess Life KIDS (USPS 023-567, ISSN: 1932-5894) is published in February, April, June, August, October, and December of every year by US Chess, 137 Obrien Drive, Crossville, Tennessee 38555. Periodical postage paid at Crossville, Tennessee, and additional mailing offices.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to US Chess, PO Box 3967, Crossville, Tennessee 38557.

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MY FIRST MOVE
This month:
FM Annie Wang



ON THE COVER

Our main cover photo captures GM Sam Shankland's excitement at the exact moment he won the 2018 U.S. Championship. In the Women's Championship, IM Nazi Paikidze defeated teen phenom FM Annie Wang to win her title. Read about the U.S. Championships beginning on page 12 and check out page 22 to learn more about Annie. *Cover photos: Shankland: Mike Klein; Paikidze: Lennart Ootes.*



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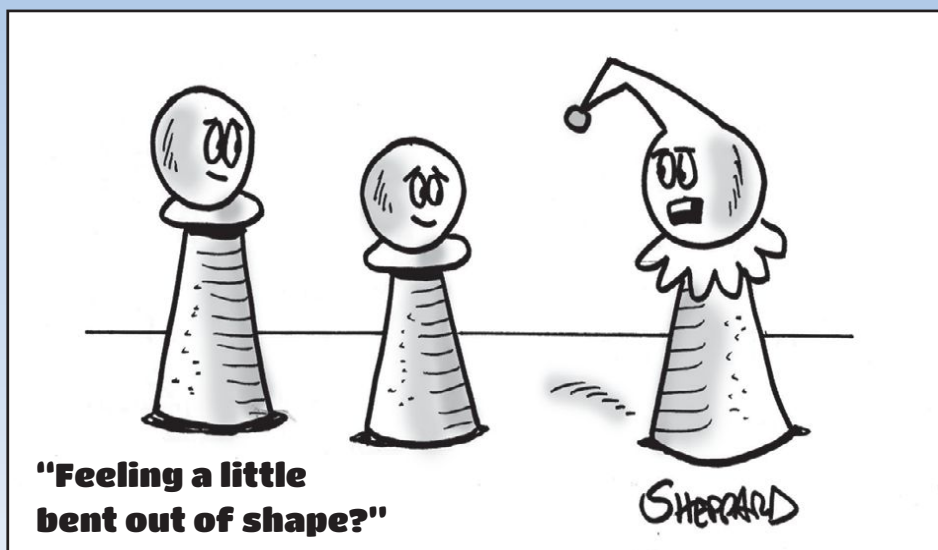
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It's Your Move!

Caption Contest Winner!



Congratulations to Sofie Dewan, who submitted the caption we judged the best entry in our Caption Contest from the February 2018 issue! Sofie has won a signed copy of *Great Moves: Learning Chess Through History*.

Sofie attends Trinity School in New York City, where she will be a fourth grader next school year. She was introduced to chess through her pre-K program and has been playing ever since! In April she won the 2018 New York State Girls K-3 Championship. In addition to chess, Sofie enjoys the swim team, reading, gardening, inventing, and LEGO.

Next Contest: Draw Fabi!

Send us your best artwork featuring Fabiano Caruana, America's world championship candidate! Fabi will be playing Magnus Carlsen for the title in November, and we will print a selection of our favorite entries in our October issue to help cheer him on. Feel free to include a message to Fabi in your artwork! Scan an image of your art and email your entry to dluca@uschess.org. Include your name, your age, your parents' or guardians' name(s), and their phone numbers. Include "Fabi" in the subject line.

Deadline for entries: July 5, 2018. Entrants must be no older than age 13 as of December 31, 2018.



YOU can DO IT!

by ICCM Jon Edwards
10th United States Correspondence Chess Champion

One hundred years ago, a young Alexander Alekhine defeated Abram Rabinovich with a surprise mate in one move. Here is the position after **28. Qf8-f5**, a strong centralization of White's queen.

(see diagram)

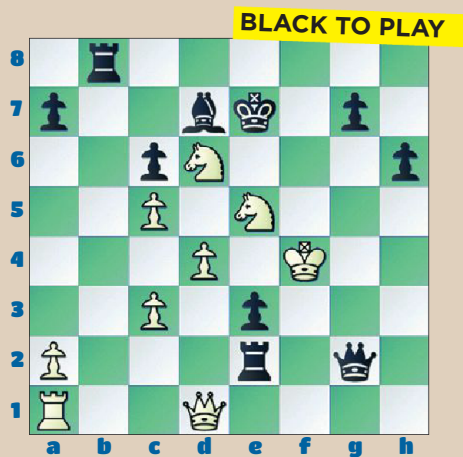
Rabinovich saw that Alekhine was threatening to play 29. Qd5 mate,



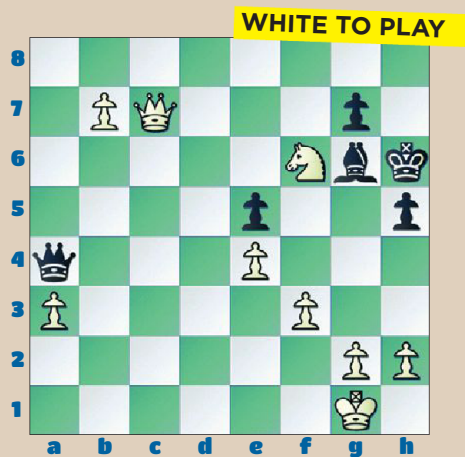
so he responded with **28. ... Rxd4**. To his chagrin, Alekhine uncorked **29. c5 checkmate**.

All of the positions in this quiz are mates-in-one move, and all of them must also have come as surprises. These are fun and may be just a little tricky, but I know that You Can Do It!

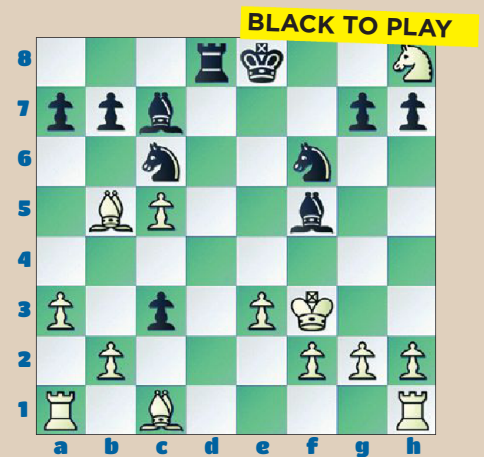
QUIZ #1



QUIZ #3



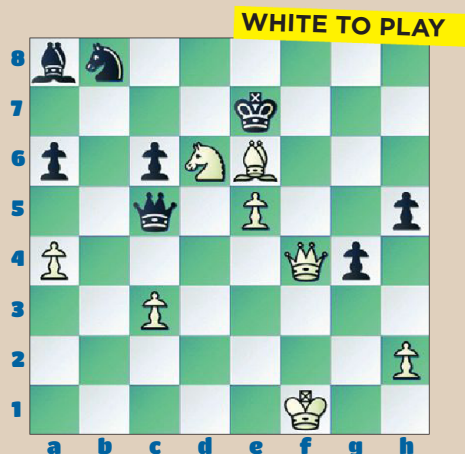
QUIZ #5



QUIZ #2



QUIZ #4

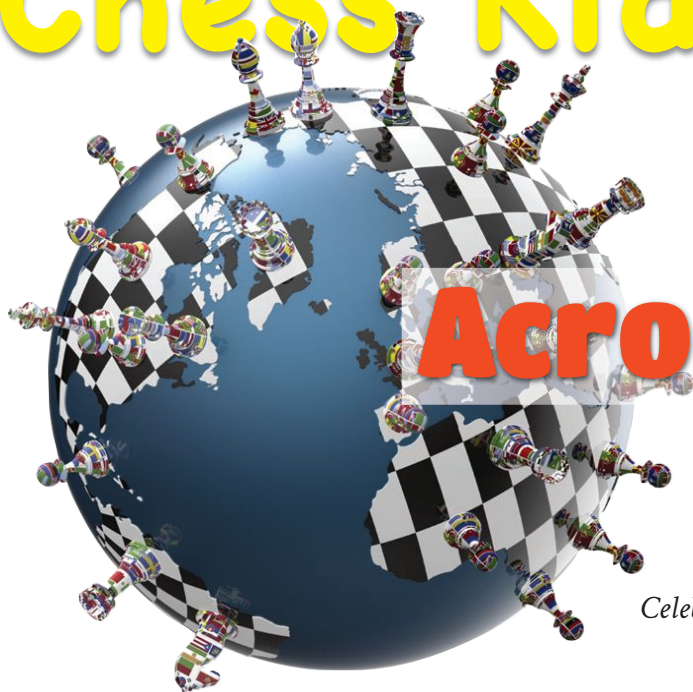


QUIZ #6



Please turn to page 21

Chess Kids



Across the Board

By Al Lawrence

Celebrating Chess Life Kids from across the country.

Roman Goldovsky

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

"Best four days of my life!"

Roman is a seventh-grader at Holland Middle School. But he plays for the Council Rock South High School chess team, which competes in a tri-county league in Pennsylvania. Even though he is the youngest player in the league, he won all his league games except for one draw. After three months, he was ranked number one in his chess league, which covers three counties in Pennsylvania. When Roman won his game in the Championship, he helped his team win the league title for the first time ever!

Roman taught himself to play by watching online videos. He got good fast. But he also wanted to bring chess to others. He polished his teaching skills on his brother Daniel. Then Roman got his elementary school to start a chess



Roman's first student, his brother Daniel, wins his first trophy! Sister Kristina is there to cheer!



A big honor: Ringing the bell to start the games at the Sinquefeld Cup! Below: Analyzing with the crowd outside of the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis.

club. Next, he volunteered as an aide to help run tournaments. That led to his first job—serving as a teacher’s aide at local chess summer camps. Roman is now a high-A player and was on the US Chess Top 100 list for 12-year-olds.

Roman has enjoyed a lot of other activities. He swam, played soccer, and painted. “Of those, I liked soccer the most. But once I learned about chess and started playing, it became my favorite thing to do.”

Roman wants to become a chess pro: “Opening my chess club where I can teach and hold chess competitions.” He can wait for that to happen someday. But he can hardly wait for the Carlsen-Caruana World Championship match in November. He’s rooting for American Fabiano Caruana to win back the crown for the U.S. His victory would “help bring a light back on this amazing sport.”

Last summer, his mom Elena hurt her back. That made it hard for her to travel. But she still took Roman to St. Louis to see former World Champion Garry

Kasparov. Garry came out of retirement to play in the St. Louis Rapid and Blitz tournament. “I got to meet many elite chess players. But I also got to meet a living chess legend, Garry Kasparov.

“I spent the best four days of my life there doing what I love the most!”



Chess kids in history

Judit Polgar



Judit (left) with her also-famous sisters Susan (right) and Sofia.

GM Judit Polgar is generally considered the strongest female chess player of all time. She’s even listed in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest consecutively-ranked #1 female chess player (25 years and one month!). Judit, born July 23, 1976, is the youngest of the famous Polgar sisters. Along with her older sisters, GM Susan and IM Sofia, she dismantled assumptions about gender, conquered champions, and set multiple international records. She debuted on FIDE’s January 1989 Top 100 list when she was just 12 years old, becoming the youngest-ever player to earn a spot on the list. At age 15 years and four months, Judit broke none other than Bobby Fischer’s record as the world’s youngest grandmaster. She also became the first woman to participate in a world championship. In 2014, Judit announced her retirement from competitive chess, but she remains active in the chess community and was a commentator at the 2016 World Championship match.



AVOID THE by Bruce Pandolfini TRAP!

The "Dead Meat" Check

This column teaches you openings by helping you learn to avoid opening traps. Set up your board and pieces and play through the game below. Have paper and pen by your side. When you reach a question, write down your answer. After you are done with all 10 questions, check your answers at the end of the column. Total your points and see how you did against the scoring scale at the end!

I remember this trap from my own bitter experience. In fact, in the very first serious game I ever played, a wily adult opponent caught me in such a trap, and I lost a piece. A veteran Marshallite, the scheming old-timer called it a "dead meat check," as did some of the kibitzers at the Marshall Chess Club. For me, since I was easily impressed by the woodpushers at the world famous club, the nomenclature stuck. So, through the years, when describing the idea to students, I've often

applied the name to similar traps. What am I talking about exactly? The trap involves a friendly queen that gives a double attack, specifically, a forking check. One end of the fork involves a queen-check, usually (and descriptively) from queen-rook four, to the uncastled enemy king. At the other end of the fork is a simultaneous attack on a hapless minor piece, usually a bishop. Still a bit confused? Let's get more specific. The following example surely illustrates the main concept.

1. d4

A queen-pawn opening. Or would you prefer calling it a d-pawn opening?

Q1) Why is it easier for White to play (A) 1. e4 e5 2. d4 than (B) 1. d4 d5 2. e4? (10 points)

1. ... d5

A double queen-pawn defense. Or would you prefer calling it a

double d-pawn defense?

2. c4

Q2) How else could this position have been achieved? (10 points)

Q3) Does Black play 2. ... d5xc4 to win a pawn? (10 points)?

2. ... e6

The Queen's Gambit Declined.

Q4) What tends to be Black's main problem in the Queen's Gambit Declined? (10 points)

Q5) How else can Black reasonably support the d5-pawn? (10 points)

3. Nc3

White develops a knight toward the center and pressures both d5 and e4.

3. ... Nf6

Black also develops a knight toward the center and counters the attack to both d5 and e4.

4. Bg5

Q6) Why not 4. e2-e3 instead? (10 points)

Q7) Does this move threaten anything? (10 points)

4. ... Nbd7

Black bolsters one knight with the other.

Q8) Can White now win a pawn by 5. c4xd5 e6xd5 6. Nc3xd5? (10 points)

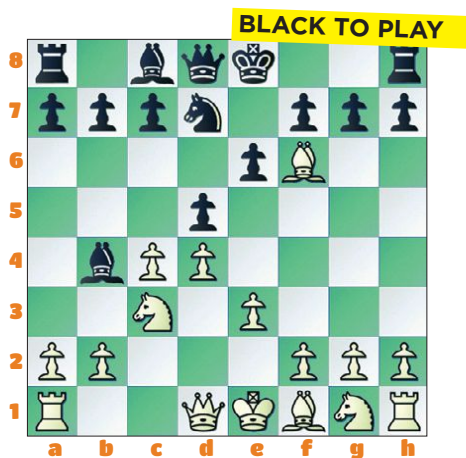
5. e3

Now that the queen-bishop is “outside the pawn chain,” White blocks the c1-h6 diagonal, but opens up for the king-bishop to enter the fray.

5 ... Bb4

Q9) How else could Black have logically continued? (10 points)

6. Bxf6

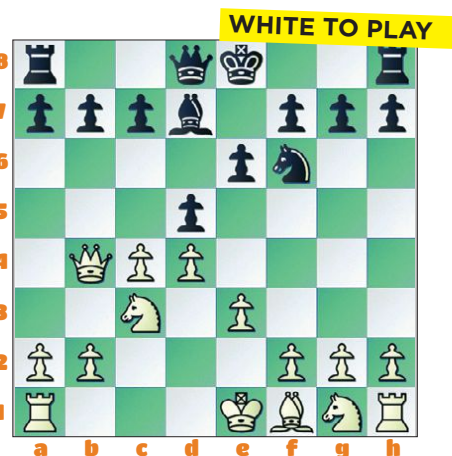


6. ... Nxf6

This is a blunder.

7. Qa4+ Bd7 8. Qxb4

White has won a bishop.

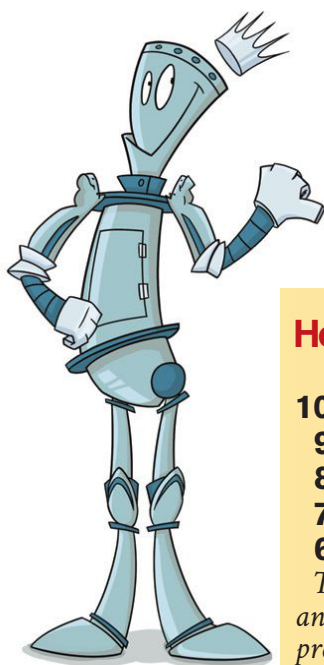


Q10) What was the last place Black could have avoided the trap? (10 points)

Illustrative Game:

M. Najdorf versus D. Florence, San Pablo 1947 (C53)

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Bc5 4. c3 Nf6 5. d4 exd4 6. cxd4 Bb4+ 7. Nc3 d6 8. d5 Na5 9. Qa4+ Bd7 10. Qxb4 Nxc4 11. Qxc4 O-O 12. Bg5, Black resigned.



How Did You Score?

- 100: 1800+
- 90: 1600
- 80: 1400
- 70: 1200
- 60 or lower: 1000

The score is based on the US Chess rating system and is intended only as a fun way to monitor your progress each issue as you Avoid The Trap!

Answers

A1) Because in (A), 2. d4 is supported by White’s queen. But in (B), 2. e4 is not.

A2) It could have been achieved by transposition: 1. c4 d5 2. d4.

A3) No. Black doesn’t expect to keep the pawn. Instead, he hopes such an exchange frees his game.

A4) Often, the light-square bishop becomes blocked up by the e-pawn once it goes to e6.

A5) The best alternative to 2. ... e7-e6, for supporting d5, is to play the Slav Defense, 2. ... c7-c6.

A6) The move 4. e2-e3 is fine, but by delaying it, White can first activate his queen-bishop.

A7) It threatens Bg5xf6, and to avoid losing a pawn on d5, Black’s structure becomes impaired by g7xf6.

A8) No. There’s a trap: if 5. c4xd5 e6xd5 6. Nc3xd5, then 6. ... Nf6xd5 7. Bg5xd8 Bf8-b4+ wins.

A9) Black could also have satisfactorily played 5. ... c7-c6 or 5. ... Bf8-e7.

A10) Black could have avoided the trap at move 6. Instead of 6. ... Nd7xf6, he could have played 6. ... Bb4xc3+ and then taken back on f6; or he could have played 6. ... Qd8xf6, or even 6. ... g7xf6.



This Land is
SHANKLAND,
This Land Could Be Your Land

by FM Mike “FunMaster” Klein

Photos: Lennart Ootes, courtesy of the

Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis

If you’ve ever thought of being champion of the United States, you have two good role models to pick from after the 2018 U.S. Championship and U.S. Women’s Championship, both of which took place in April in St. Louis. GM Sam Shankland won the overall title, finishing ahead of three world top-10 players. The man he had to stay in front of at the end was GM Fabiano Caruana, the person who will be challenging GM Magnus Carlsen for the World Championship in November.

Why else is Sam’s win so special? Even he will tell you—he wasn’t that great of a chess player as a kid! Sam is now 26 but didn’t start playing tournament chess until he was 11. That’s two years later than the record for youngest-ever chess master (several have done it at age nine!).

Speaking of master, you need a 2200 rating for that title. Want to guess what Sam’s first official rating was? Less than half that! Sam began with a rating of 1086. However, in a little more than three years, he was above 2000 and kept going up and up from there.

He’s won the California state championship several times, a bronze medal at the World Youth Championship, and an individual and team gold medal at the Chess Olympiad.

Still, Sam thought about retiring from chess several times. He even took some time to appear on a TV show (turns out he’s better at chess than reality TV).

It’s hard getting better and keeping your confidence up when you are competing against world-

class players. This year Sam was playing in his 10th U.S. Championship and only once had he even been in contention in the final rounds. That was way back in 2011, before many of you even knew how the pieces moved.

But he kept studying, playing a lot, working with coaches, and even recently wrote a chess book, *Small Steps to Giant Improvement*.

Through it all, Sam returned each year to St. Louis. This year it all came together for him with six wins and five draws (for a score of 8½/11), edging out Fabiano Caruana (see “It’s Your Move” on page 6 for more about Fabi!~ed.) by a half point. Sam ended up beating out all three U.S. players who have eclipsed the 2800 international (FIDE) rating, and in the process, he became only the seventh American player to ever go over 2700 himself!



For GM Sam Shankland, this is his first U.S. Championship title. IM Nazi Paikidze now has a second title to add to her 2016 victory.

"I'm sure that my mom is watching right now and going completely 'nanners,'" Sam said right after he won.

He's now in the top 50 in the world, will surely make the U.S. Olympiad team this fall, and he can forever call himself a U.S. champion.

"It's beyond my wildest dream," Sam said. "This is my life's work. All the sweat, blood, and tears, from all these years, this makes it worth it 10 times over."

In the women's event, you could almost call it the girl's tournament! Teenagers nearly took over the championship—five of the dozen ladies had yet to reach their 20th birthday.

One of the youngest of them all, 15-year-old FM Annie Wang,

nearly won the event (Akshita Gorti is six months younger)! In the end, IM Nazi Paikidze just barely beat her, and in the process won her second title. The tournament went all the way down to an "Armageddon" game, actually the third game of the playoff, which requires that everything end right there. Paikidze won that one, but Annie won over many fans.

Annie, like Sam also from California, had either a share or complete first place after every single round. She was all by herself at the top after rounds six through 10. How good is Annie? She was already 2100 at the age of 10 (remember Sam had yet to play in his first tournament when he was that age!).

In the final four rounds, Annie had to play the last four U.S.

women's champions, but she didn't seem to mind. Annie never looked or sounded stressed. She left after every game and continued her routine of doing schoolwork before she went to bed.

"She has nerves of steel," Paikidze said about Annie. "I was very emotional at 15. I was all over the place ... She has definitely impressed since the last time she was here."

If Annie had won, she would have been the second-youngest winner in the tournament's history. Can you guess who did it at age 14? Hint: she's the most highly-decorated American female player of all time! That's right, GM Irina Krush won the first of her seven U.S. Women's Championships when she wasn't even old enough to drive a car. Krush is the only



For GM Shankland to win, he had to compete against three players who are ranked in the top-10 in the world (GMs Fabiano Caruana, Wesley So, and Hikaru Nakamura)!

American woman to ever earn the grandmaster title, so even though Annie fell short this time, she is following in some good footsteps (by the way, Annie beat Irina in their head-to-head game this year, the first grandmaster Annie had ever defeated!).

Annie actually had three chances to win the tournament. She was ahead of Paikidze in the last round by a half point, but then lost her only game of the tournament, allowing Paikidze to force a playoff with a draw. Annie then dominated the first rapid game of the playoff before losing in round two (her second chance) and in the Armageddon game (her final chance).

How much did she over-perform? Well, she was “only” the number-seven seed out of the 12 going into the tournament. At the last U.S.

Junior Girl’s Championship, Annie “only” finished fifth, but that wasn’t against adult women. She even finished behind a few girls who were in the U.S. Women’s Championship field this year. (For more about Annie, see “My First Move” on page 22. ~ed.)

HOW TO REACH THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Want to know how you can become U.S. champion? Surprisingly, there’s no age requirement, and there’s even a method for kids to win! Here’s how:

Each of these tournaments invite 12 players. Note that women are allowed to play in the overall U.S. Championship if they qualify. Most of the dozen players are chosen based on rating. But unless you’re over 2600 or a girl who is over 2300, it’s going to be tough to

use that method! You can also get in by winning the U.S. Open, but almost every winner there is an international master or grandmaster.

Instead, here’s how I’d recommend you try to fulfill your quest: First, for your chance to be in the U.S. Championship, you’ll want to play in the U.S. Junior Open—anyone below the age of 20 can compete. If you win that tournament, you are assured an invitation to the U.S. Junior Championship. If you also win there, you then get automatically invited to play in the top tournament—the U.S. Championship!

Girls, here’s a method for being the top female player in the country: First, win your state’s girls’ championship. That’s usually how most states nominate someone to represent them in the National Girls Tournament of Champions, which is played each year at the site of that year’s U.S. Open (which will be in Middleton, Wisconsin this July/August). Then you’ll want to beat out all the other state champions to get an automatic spot in the U.S. Junior Girl’s Invitational. Win that one too, and you’re in to the U.S. Women’s Championship.

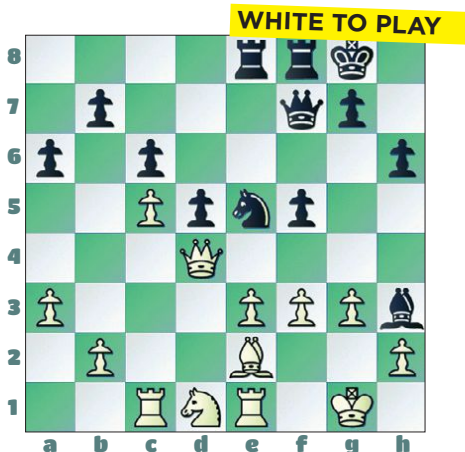
Did you qualify for the big one? OK, now just do a “Sam” or a “Super-Annie” and you’re the champ. Hey, I didn’t say it would be easy, but it is possible!

Now that you know the story, let’s see some actual chess! There were many decisive games and relatively few draws. I’ve provided some highlights over the next two pages.

CHAMPIONSHIP TACTICS

Try your hand at some key moments from the U.S. and U.S. Women's Championships! Your job is to find the best game continuation. Look at which side is to play, cover the moves below the diagram, and decide what you think the winning continuation is.

GM Samuel Shankland
GM Yaroslav Zherebukh



21. Nf2 Qh5

The only way to guard the bishop, but now:

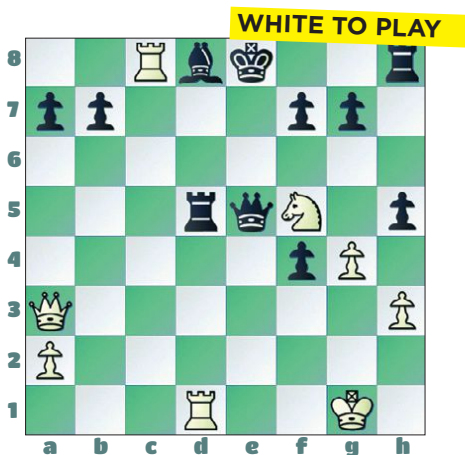
22. Qh4!

... and if the queens trade, the bishop is trapped.

22. ... Qxf3 23. Qxh3!

... and White won a piece and the game.

IM Nazi Paikidze
WGM Anna Sharevich

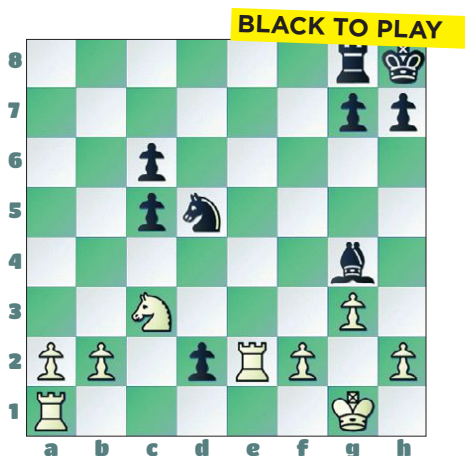


IM Paikidze was our "My First Move" subject in the February 2018 issue. If you don't still have your copy, you can read it at uschess.org.

27. Qa4+, Black resigned.

On 27. ... b5, White has 28. Qxb5+! Rxb5 29. Rxd8 mate (Yes, you can capture with the other rook instead!). And if 27. ... Kf8 28. Rxd8+ and the White rooks do an x-ray defense of each other.

GM Alexander Onischuk
GM Varuzhan Akobian



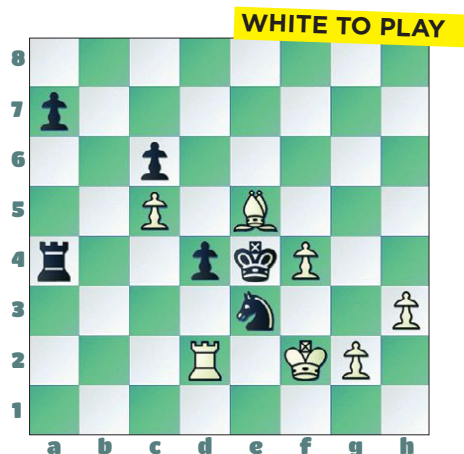
25. ... d1=Q+, White resigned.

If 25. ... Bxe2, then 26. Nxe2 and it looks like White can stop the

pawn and survive.

If 26. Rxd1, then Bxe2 and Black wins with the extra piece. Black can follow with 26. ... Nxc3, removing the guard! (The try 26. ... Bxe2 27. Nxe2 just wastes the pawn promotion.) After 27. bxc3 Bxe2, Black can easily win with the extra piece.

FM Annie Wang
FM Jennifer R. Yu



53. Bxd4!

A nice simplifying tactic to get

rid of the dangerous pawn.

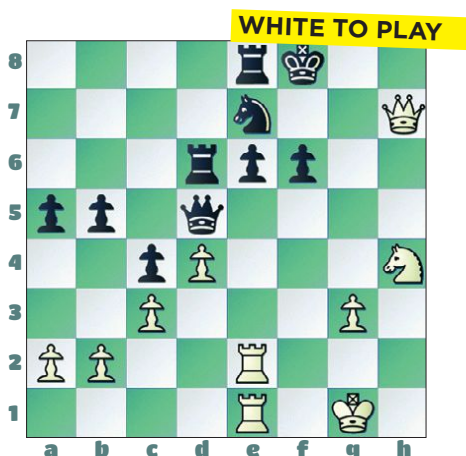
53. ... Rxd4 54. Re2 Rd3 55. f5!

And Black is so tied up that she's out of pieces to stop that pawn, so she must give the extra piece back.

55. ... Kxf5 56. Rxe3

And White went on to win with her connected passed pawns (in 51 more moves!).

WGM Anna Sharevich
GM Irina Krush



38. Re5!

This rook lift brings another piece over to the open kingside.

38. ... Qc6

If 38. ... fxe5, then 39. Rf1+ Nf5 40. Ng6 mate.

39. Rh5

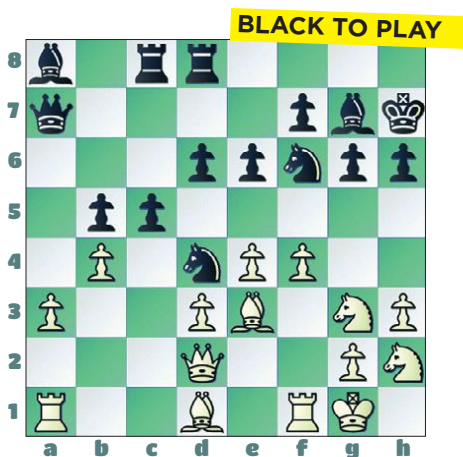
The move 39. Rg5 also works, much like before, and might be even a little faster. 39. ... fxe5 40. Rf1+ Nf5 41. Ng6 mate.

39. ... Rd5 40. Qh8+ Ng8 41. Ng6+ Kf7 42. Qh7+ mate.



15-year-old FM Annie Wang, one of the youngest participants in the Women's Championship, nearly won the event!

GM Yaroslav Zhrebukh
GM Wesley So



24. ... cxb4

Much better is 24. ... Nf5!! 25. exf5 (There is a discovered attack on the rook on a1 with 25. ... Nd5.

After 26. Ra2 Nxe3, Black wins at least the pawn on f5 after 27. Qxe3 Bd4 pins the queen to the king!). If 25. Bf2 Nxb3 26. Bxg3 Nh5, then Black wins either the Bg3 or Ra1.

25. Qxb4 Nd7 26. Kh1 Nc2 27. Bxa7 Nxb4 28. Rb1 Nxd3 29. Rxb5 Bc6 30. Rb1 Ra8 31. Be3 Rxa3 32. Bf3 h5 33. Ne2 N3c5 34. Bxc5 Nxc5 35. e5 Ba4 36. exd6 Rxd6 37. Rbc1 Nb3 38. Rc7 Nd2 39. Re1 Rd7 40. Rxd7 Bxd7 41. Rd1 Ra2 42. Nc1 Ra1 43. Nd3 Rxd1+ 44. Bxd1 Ne4 45. Nf3 Bb5 46. Nfe1 h4 47. Kh2 Bc3 48. Bc2 Bd2 49. Nf3 Bxd3 50. Bxd3 Bxf4+ 51. Kg1 Be3+ 52. Kf1 Ng3+ 53. Ke1 Kg7, White resigned.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix

2018 Junior Grand Prix Standings



Standings for events received and processed by May 8, 2018 are unofficial and subject to change during the year or until year-end tabulation is complete. The top prize for 2018 will be a Chess.com one-year Diamond membership valued at \$100, a Chess.com gear/merchandise package valued at \$100, a US Chess plaque, free entry into the 2019 U.S. Open, and \$1,000 of expense money from US Chess to offset the trip. For the top five players on the overall list and to each state winner, Chess.com will also award a choice of a one-year ChessKid.com gold membership (valued at \$50/annually) or a one-year Chess.com Gold membership (valued at \$40/annually). US Chess gratefully acknowledges the participation of Chess.com!

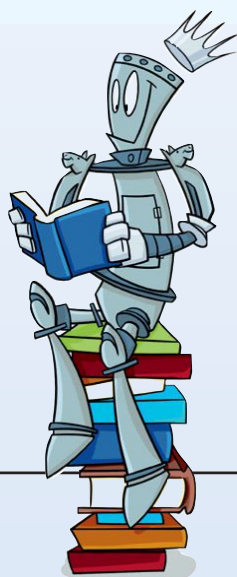
Top 5 Overall Standings

NAME	STATE	PTS	EVENTS
DE DONA, MARK	NY	5667	6
FAN, JERRY	NY	5450	5
SHINKLE-STOLAR, KYLER	PA	4343	2
LU, SAMUEL	MO	4276	3
VIDYARTHI, OMYA	CA-N	4041	6

For the top 200 overall, see www.uschess.org

State Leaders

NAME	STATE	PTS	EVENTS
STALLWORTH, JACOB	AL	3006	1
WENG, KAYLA	AR	1354	1
REMPE, JONAS JAKOB RAZA	AZ	2419	4
MEIYAPPAN, KAVYA	CA-N	3774	6
ZHANG, KEVIN SHAOWANG	CA-S	1966	2
BECHTEL, JACOB THOMAS	CO	1772	1
SU, JASMINE ZHIXIN	CT	2972	5
STEINER, ADAMSON	DC	2904	4
DESIGNES, SAMERIS RENAE	DE	3324	1
WANG, JULIAN-ALEXANDRE	FL	3798	3
MYDUKAR, AMIT	GA	3086	6
COPELAND, ELI	IA	2615	3
SHEPARD, RIVER CHARLES	ID	2976	2
KODIPPARAMBIL, ADVAITH G	IL	4039	4
KACZANOWSKI, AIDAN P	IN	3271	4
PAULSON, MICHAEL N	KS	3052	3
MORGAN, TRINITY	KY	1560	1
MAYEUX, BENJAMIN THOMAS	LA	2284	2
HAN, HENRY YU-FENG	MA	2444	2
GUO, ANDREW	MD	2474	4
CARTWRIGHT, SAMUEL	ME	2485	1
BYRD, JONATHAN ABRAM	MI	2730	2
PATTERSON, BEN	MN	2300	1
PANDA, ASISH	MO	2815	4
GRIFFIN, GABRIEL	MS	3050	3
WALTHALL, THOMAS KASEY	MT	2100	2
DURBHA, ANTARA	NC	2996	3
TAN, SOPHIE	NE	36	1
TIRUVEEDHULA, SUHAVI	NH	1564	2
MUNDAYAT, ABINAV RAJIV	NJ	3965	6
CONTRERAS, ANDRES	NM	1165	1
MURTY, ASHWIN NARAYAN	NV	976	1
YU, SICHENG	NY	3600	5
NIESET, ANDREW	OH	2424	2
KOLOEN, PRESTON	OK	1400	1
SOIFFER, DUNCAN SMITH	OR	3500	1
TOMLIAN, NATE	PA	3760	2
PAIK, JUSTIN	RI	2083	1
RAJA, SHIVANI	SC	1140	1
TAO, CHRISTOPHER	SD	431	1
VAZQUEZ MACCARINI, DANI	TERR	786	2
KOSTINA, POLINA	TN	2762	1
ESPINOZA, LUIS	TX	2800	1
GARZA, JASON	TX	2800	1
RAY, UJAN	UT	2435	4
GUO, EDWARD	VA	3543	3
COLLINS, ALEXANDER	VT	1847	1
SINGH, ADITYA	WA	2608	1
DASHO, DAKITO	WI	3482	1
KUKKILLAYA, SOHAN	WV	1294	1
TORRES, FRANK	WY	470	1



Check out
www.uschess.org
for rules and prizes.

How to earn Points:

Eligible US Chess members earn points by winning or drawing against higher rated players, based on the pre-event ratings for both players. (If a player does not have a US Chess rating yet, or has a provisional rating based on less than 4 games, that player's post-event rating from that event is used to compute JGP points.)

For a win against a higher rated player, the number of JGP points earned is 2X the ratings difference, up to a maximum of 700 points per game.

Example: A 1200 player who defeats a 1350 player earns 2X the difference in ratings (150) or 300 points.

For a draw, the number of JGP points earned is the ratings difference, up to a maximum of 350 points per game.

Example: A 1200 player who draws a 1350 player earns the difference in ratings, or 150 points.

The US Chess Executive Director has the authority to review events for compliance with these rules.

Tournament Life Announcements

JUNE 15 THROUGH AUGUST 14

Scholastic Members:

As a service to you, we are listing upcoming National US Chess rated events, and requested events of possible interest to you. You can always log in to www.uschess.org, and click on "Clubs & Tournaments." Then click on "Upcoming Tournaments" for a complete listing of upcoming rated events and details. As always, you can check out the TLA section of *Chess Life*.

Organizers and Tournament Directors:

If you would like your tournament listed here in *Chess Life Kids* for August 2018 (events to be held after August 14), the deadline for submitting your announcements is June 10th. The deadline for the October 2018 issue is August 10th. The processing fee is \$1.00 per line for the first eight lines, \$2.00 for every line thereafter. Send your announcements to Joan DuBois, tl@uschess.org. Display advertising is also available. Advertising rates are posted on the US Chess website, www.uschess.org, or you may email: tl@uschess.org for complete details.

ABBREVIATIONS & TERMS

All tournaments are non-smoking with no computers allowed unless otherwise advertised.

BLZ:	Blitz rated.
QC:	Quick Chess events.
\$\$Gtd:	Guaranteed prizes.
\$\$b/x:	Based-on prizes, x = number of entries needed to pay full prize fund. At least 50% of the advertised prize fund of \$501 or more must be awarded.
Bye:	Indicates which rounds players who find it inconvenient to play may take 1/2-point byes instead. For example, Bye 1-3 means 1/2-point byes are available in Rounds 1 through 3.
CC:	Chess club.
dx:	Time delay, x = number of seconds.
+xx:	Time increment, xx = number of seconds added after each move.
EF:	Entry fee.
Ent:	Where to mail entries.
FIDE:	Results submitted to FIDE for possible rating.
G/:	Game in. For instance, G/75 means each side has 75 minutes for the entire game.
GPP:	Grand Prix Points available.
HR:	Hotel rates. For example, 60-65-70-75 means \$60 single, \$65 twin, \$70/3 in room, \$75/4 in room.
JGP:	Junior Grand Prix.
Memb. req'd:	Membership required; cost follows. Usually refers to state affiliate.
Open:	A section open to all. Often has very strong players, but some eligible for lower sections can play for the learning experience.
Quad:	4-player round robin sections; similar strength players.
RBO:	Rated Beginner's Open.
Rds:	Rounds; scheduled game times follow. For example, 11-5, 9-3 means games begin 11 a.m. & 5 p.m. on the first day, 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. on the second day.
Reg:	Registration at site.
RR:	Round robin (preceded by number of rounds).
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.
SS:	Swiss-System pairings (preceded by number of rounds).
Unr:	Unrated.
W:	Site is accessible to wheelchairs.
WEB:	Tournaments that will use a player's online rating.

NATIONALS

An American Classic!

A Heritage Event!
US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
June 21-24, 22-24 or 23-24, Nevada
US Chess Grand Prix Points: 300 (Enhanced)
2018 National Open

7-SS, 40/90, SD/30, +30 (3-day rounds 1-2 G/60, +10, 2-day round 1-4 G/30, +5, Beginners Section G/30, +5). Westgate Resort & Casino, 3000 Paradise Road, Las Vegas 89109. **\$\$100,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund** will not be reduced! In 8 sections, top 2 FIDE rated. **Open:** \$8,000-4,000-2,000-1,000-600-500-400-300-300-300, top under 2500 \$2,500, top under 2400 \$2,400, **Extra** \$2,500 for perfect score. The winner of the Open section also receives a replica of the Edmondson Cup. **Under 2300:** \$6,000-3,000-1,500-750-400-350-300-250-250-250. **Under 2100:** \$5,000-2500-1250-600-350-300-250-250-250-250. **Under 1900:** \$4,000-2,000-1,000-500-300-250-250-250-250-250. **Under 1700:** \$3000-1500-700-350-300-250-250-250-250-250. **Under 1500:** \$2000-1,000-500-300-250-250-250, top under 1000 (no provisional) \$900. **Beginners** (unrated or rated under 1000): 3 schedules with 6 rounds per day \$200-125-75 each day plus \$300 overall (best 2 results).

Plus Score Bonus: (\$12,000 guaranteed) in addition to any other prizes, every player with 4 points or more wins a \$50 gift certificate. Plus score certificates will be awarded on site only. **Mixed Doubles:** best male/female combined 2-player team score: \$1,500-750-350-250-150. Teammates may play in different sections but must have average rating below 2200. **The Freddie:** Players age 14 and under are eligible for best game prizes including the Freddie Award and \$400 in cash prizes (donated by Fred Gruenberg). Unrated players may play only in Beginners or Open Section. Provisionally rated players may not win more than 40% of top prize in any under section; balance goes to next player(s) in line. CCA minimum ratings or other ratings may be used if higher than US Chess June Supplement. **EF:** \$199 by 1/31, \$229 by 5/31, \$259 by 6/19, \$280 later. Add \$125 for adults rated under 2200 or juniors under 2100 playing in the Open Section. \$40 less for seniors 65 and over. Beginners section only: \$125 less for players in only 1 schedule, \$60 less in 2 schedules. **Reg:** 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Thursday. **Rds:** 7:30, 11-5:30, 10-4:30, 10-4:30. 3-day schedule: **Reg:** 8:30-9:30 a.m. Friday. Rds 11-2 then merge with 4-day in round 3 at 5:30. 2-day schedule: **Reg:** 8:30-9 a.m. Saturday. **Rds:** 10-11:30-1-2:30 then merge with 4-day in round 4 at 4:30. Half point byes available in any round; round 6 or 7 byes must be requested before the start of round 2 and may not be cancelled. Chess sets and boards provided for tournament play only, not for skittles. Please bring digital chess clocks! **The LAS VEGAS INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL** features the National Open, the U.S. Women's Open, the International Youth Championship, and other events. **Many free extras and surprises!** Free parking. Free raffles with great prizes. Free GM lectures. Free GM analysis of your games. Free Daily Bulletins and free commemorative DVD for all participants. **Grandmaster Simuls and Chess Camp** for all ages on Thursday. **U.S. Women's Open** Wednesday and Thursday. **Walter Browne Memorial Blitz** Thursday 2:00 p.m. **Youth Tournaments** Friday, Saturday & Sunday. **Blitz** Sectionals Friday, Saturday & Sunday. **Poker Tournament** Monday Morning. **Don't be shut out** - make your reservations early and be sure to ask for the **CHESS rates** - \$69 single or double (\$92 Friday and Saturday nights) guarantees a premium room with new furniture, refrigerator, flat screen TV and more. The resort package including access to the Fitness Center, free WI-FI, and more is substantially discounted for our group. **Cutoff for special hotel rate is May 31; after that rates will increase significantly and there may not be any rooms available.** (800) 732-7117 or www.VegasChessFestival.com/hotel. **ENT:** Vegas Chess Festivals, PO Box 90925, Henderson, NV 89009-0925, online at www.VegasChessFestival.com. **Info:** (702) 930-9550 and leave a message. FIDE. W.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

June 22-24, Louisiana
2018 U.S. Junior Open
6SS, G/90 i30 (Game in 90 min. with 30-second increment) All Sections are USCF rated and the U21 Section is also FIDE rated using FIDE Rules. **SIDE EVENT: 2018 U.S. Junior Blitz Tournament:** 5-min. Blitz Tournament on Thurs., 6/21, at 6pm (details below). Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel, 901 Airline Dr., Kenner, LA 70062, Ph: 504-469-5000 (hotel is directly across from the New Orleans Intl. Airport with free hotel/airport shuttle service). HR: \$119 + tax for single, double, triple or quad - mention Cajun Chess Tournament and reserve by May 28 to assure group rate. Complimentary parking for all tournament attendees and free basic internet in each room. Hotel hot breakfast buffet tickets discounted to \$15 including tax and tip (usually \$19.95 without tax and tip) for hotel guests only. **SECTS (based on Player's Age as of 1/1/2018):** **U21** (FIDE Rated); **U15; U11; U8.** Ratings used will be from June 2018 USCF Supplement. **INDIVIDUAL PLAYER PRIZES:** U21: \$500 cash prize awarded to eligible qualifier of the 2019 U.S. Junior (Closed) Championship; Individual plaque to top five overall; Plaque for top player age 18, 17, 16, 15 and under 15. **U15:** Individual trophies to top ten overall; Trophies to top player age 14, 13, 12, 11 and under 11. **U11:** Individual trophies to top ten overall; Trophies to top player age 10, 9, 8 and under 8. **U8:** Individual trophies to top ten overall; Trophies to top player age 7, 6, and under 6. **SCHOOL TEAM INFO:** A team will consist of a minimum of THREE players from the same school or home-school district playing in the same section. No maximum limit of number of players on a team; the top FOUR scores will count for final team standings. **TEAM PRIZES:** Trophies to top three school teams in each of the four sections. In the event of a tie, plaque/trophy winners for individuals and teams will be determined by USCF computer tiebreaks. **EF:** \$60 by 6/1/18; \$75 by 6/15/18; \$90 thereafter and at site; **Onsite Reg:** Fri. 6/22 from 8:30-9:30am. Rds.: Fri/Sat/Sun (June 22-24):10am & 3pm. **BYES:** 1/2-point bye may be taken for any Round in all sections EXCEPT for the last round (Rd. 6) of the U21 Section due to FIDE rules - if you must leave prior to the last round in the U21 Section, you will have to take a

zero-point bye or simply withdraw after Round 5; limit of 2 half-pt. byes allowed but must commit to any byes prior to the start of Round 3. **U.S. JUNIOR BLITZ EVENT:** Thurs., 6/21, 1st Round at 6pm. 7SS, G/5 d0 - USCF Blitz Rated (June 2018 Supplement Blitz Ratings used). Two Sections Only: U21, U11. **PRIZES:** Trophies to top 3 in each section. Blitz EF: \$15 by 6/15; \$20 thereafter and at site. **ENTRIES:** On-line registration, printable entry form, and more detailed info at www.cajunchess.com or mail entry form to Cajun Chess, 12405 Hillary Step Dr., Olive Branch, MS 38654. Info or Phone Ent: 504-208-9596 or 504-905-2971. Major credit cards accepted (no checks at site). Please bring your own chess boards, sets and clocks; chess vendor will be on site. FIDE.

July 20, North Carolina

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 10
2018 U.S. G/10 Championship (BLZ)

6 rounds, G/10 d0. Renaissance Charlotte Suites Hotel, 2800 Coliseum Centre, Charlotte, NC - 844 277 1443 and mention chess tournament, or reserve online at www.charlottechesscenter.org. Reserve early or block may run out. Free parking. **\$1000 guaranteed prize fund** in one section. **G/10 National Championship:** \$300 - 200, top U2200 \$150, top U1900 \$150, top U1600 \$100, top U1300/Unr \$100. Trophy and 2018 U.S. National G/10 Champion title to first place. US Chess Blitz rated, but July regular ratings used for pairings and prizes. Up to 3 byes available, request before round 2. Rounds Friday 7:30pm then ASAP. tournament should end before 10pm. **Registration:** \$30 online at www.charlottechesscenter.org or check mailed to Charlotte Chess Center, 1800 Camden Road, Suite 108, Charlotte, NC 28203 by Wednesday July 18. \$40 after or on-site. **\$10 Off Total Registration if Staying at Sponsored Hotel** Cash or check only on-site. Info and registration: www.charlottechesscenter.org, 980 265 1156, grant@charlottechesscenter.org.

July 21, North Carolina

US Chess Grand Prix Points: 20
2018 U.S. G/30 Championship

5 rounds, G/30 d5. Renaissance Charlotte Suites Hotel, 2800 Coliseum Centre, Charlotte, NC - 844 277 1443 and mention chess tournament, or reserve online at www.charlottechesscenter.org. Reserve early or block may run out. Free parking. **\$4000 guaranteed prize fund** in three sections. **G/30 National Championship:** \$800 - 400 - 200, top U2000 \$200. **Under 1800:** \$500 - 300 - 200, top U1600 \$200. **Under 1400/Unr:** \$500 - 300 - 200, top Under 1200 \$200. Trophy and 2018 U.S. National G/30 Champion title to first place in Championship section. Rated players may play up if within 100 points of cutoff, unrated players must play Under 1400 section. Up to 2 byes available, request before round 2. Rounds Saturday 10am, 12pm, 2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm. **Registration:** \$60 online at www.charlottechesscenter.org or check mailed to Charlotte Chess Center, 1800 Camden Road, Suite 108, Charlotte, NC 28203 by Thursday July 19. Discounted early combined entry of \$110 if also entering G/60 Championship Sunday. \$75 after or on-site. **\$10 Off Total Registration if Staying at Sponsored Hotel** Cash or check only on-site. Info and registration: www.charlottechesscenter.org, 980 265 1156, grant@charlottechesscenter.org.

A Heritage Event!

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
July 28-Aug. 5, July 31-Aug. 5 or Aug. 2-5, Wisconsin
US Chess Grand Prix Points: 300 (Enhanced)
119th Annual U.S. Open

Includes Traditional one game per day schedule (9 days), a 6-day slow time control option, and 4-day option. 9SS, 40/120, SD/60; d5 (4-day option, Rds. 1-6, G/60 d5; then 40/120, SD/60 d5). Madison Marriott West, 1313 John Q. Hammons Dr., Middleton, WI 53582, HR: \$115, Call (608) 831-2000, mention "US Chess". Reserve by June 30th or rate may increase. **\$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 U.S. player not otherwise qualified qualifies for 2018 U.S. Championship. **Choice of three schedules:** **Traditional:** 40/120 SD/60; d5. One round daily at 7 PM, except Rd. 9, 3 PM 8/5. **6- Day Option:** 40/120, SD/60; d5. 7 PM 7/31, 12 NOON & 7 PM 8/1-8/3, 7 PM 8/4, 3 PM 8/5. **4-Day Option:** Rds. 1-6: G/60 d5; then 40/120, SD/60 d5. 12 NOON, 3 PM, 7 PM, 10 PM 8/2; 12 NOON, 3 PM, 7 PM 8/3; 7 PM 8/4; 3 PM 8/5. **All** schedules merge after Round 6 & compete for same prizes. **Projected prizes:** Top places \$8000-4000-2000-1500-1000-800-600-500, clear or playoff winner \$200 bonus. If tie for first, top two on tiebreak play Armageddon game (White 5 minutes, 2-sec delay, Black 3 minutes, 2-sec delay and gets draw odds) for bonus and title. **Class Prizes:** Top Master (2200-2399) \$2500-1200-800-500, Expert (2000-2199) \$2500-1200-800-500, Class A (1800-1999) \$2500-1200-800-500, Class B (1600-1799) \$2500-1200-800-500, Class C (1400-1599) \$2000-1000-600-400, Class D (1200-1399) \$1500-700-500-300, Class E or below (under 1200) \$1500-700-500-300, Unrated \$800-400-200. **Half-Point Byes:** must commit before Round 4; up to 3 byes allowed for 2000/Up, 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 if requested at *least two hours before the round(s) in question.* **Entry Fee:** Online, \$145 by 6/25, \$165 by 7/16, \$185 after 7/16. By mail, \$147 postmarked by 6/25, \$167 postmarked by 7/16, \$187 after 7/16; do not mail after 7/23! By phone, \$150 by 6/25, \$170 by 7/16, \$185 after. No phone entries after 5PM Central 7/27 (close of business at the US Chess Office) At site, all \$190; Free entry for GMs and WGMs for main event only. All entries must be made at least two (2) hours prior to the player's first game. Current US Chess membership required. **July Rating Supplement** used; unofficial ratings (at least four games) used if otherwise unrated. CCA ratings used if above US Chess. 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:** US Chess, ATTN: 2018 U.S. Open, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557. Online entry available, see website. Phone entry: 800.903.8723. **NOT FIDE rated, NO cell phones.** Bring a clock - none supplied. Sets/boards supplied for tournament but not for skittles. Many meetings, workshops and seminars, including: **US Chess Committee Meetings** 8/1-8/3, **US Chess Awards Luncheon** 8/4 Noon, **US Chess**

Tournament Life

score. **Sched:** 9-9:15a. **Games:** 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 34, 49 after 7/3. Info: <http://BayAreaChess.com/signature.W>.

July 8, Bay Area Cupertino Quads (PK-12; 3xG/30 d5)
Court yard Marriott, Cupertino, CA 95014. **Trophies:** Players w + score. **Sched:** Reqr. Check-in 1:30-2p. **Games:** 2:15-5p. **EF:** 29, 44 after 7/3. Info: <http://BayAreaChess.com/signature.W>.

July 22, Palo Alto LuperSwiss90 (3SS, G/90 d5)
Crown Plaza Palo Alto, 4290 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94306. **Prizes:** \$1,300 b/50. 60% guar. 1900+ : \$200-100-100, u2000 50-50. 1500-1899: \$200-100, u1600 50-50. u1500: \$200-100, u1200 50-50. July 18 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. Rds. 9-1-4:30. **EF:** 49, Econ 39 w 1/2 prz. after 7/18 +20, play up +20, GMs/IMs/NMs- \$0 by 7/8. **Info:** <http://BayAreaChess.com/grandprix.W>.

July 22, Bay Area San Ramon Swiss (PK-12; 4SS, G/30 d5)
Court yard Marriott, 18090 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94583. **Trophies:** players w + score. **Sched:** 9-9:15a. **Games:** 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 34, 42 after 7/15. Info: <http://BayAreaChess.com/signature.W>.

July 22, Bay Area San Ramon Quads (PK-12; 3xG/30 d5)
Court yard Marriott, 18090 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94583. **Trophies:** Players w + score. **Sched:** Reqr Check-in 1:30-2p. **Games:** 2:15-5p. **EF:** 29, 44 after 7/15 Info: <http://BayAreaChess.com/signature.W>.

July 27-29 or 28-29, GM Rauf Mamedov Championship
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 5, Bay Area Cupertino Swiss (PK-12; 4SS, G/30 d5)
Court yard Marriott, Cupertino, CA 95014. **Trophies:** players w + score. **Sched:** Reg 9-9:15a. **Games:** 9:30a - 1:30p. **EF:** 34, 49 after 7/31. Info: <http://BayAreaChess.com/signature.W>.

Aug. 5, Bay Area Cupertino Quads (PK-12; 3xG/30 d5)
Court yard Marriott, Cupertino, CA 95014. **Trophies:** Players w + score. **Sched:** Reqr. Check-in 1:30-2p. **Games:** 2:15-5p. **EF:** 29, 44 after 7/31. Info: <http://BayAreaChess.com/signature.W>.

Aug. 10-12 or 11-12, 9th annual Central California Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Aug. 11, Foster City LuperSwiss90 (3SS, G/90 d5)
Foster City Court yard Marriott, 550 Shell Blvd., 94404. **Prizes:** \$1,300 b/50. 60% guar. 1900+ : \$200-100-100, u2000 50-50. 1500-1899: \$200-100, u1600 50-50. u1500: \$200-100, u1200 50-50. Aug 18 Supp & TD disc. **Reg.:** 8:30-8:45. Rds.: 9-1-4:30. **EF:** 49, Econ 39 w 1/2 prz. after 8/6 +20, play up +20, GMs/IMs/NMs- \$0 by 7/29. **Info:** <http://BayAreaChess.com/grandprix.W>.

California, Southern

The Los Angeles Chess Club

The Most Active Club on the West Coast! (310) 795-5710. * LACC: www.LAChessClub.com; VCC: www.ValleyChessClub.com; Contact: Mick@LAChessClub.com; Saturday & Sundays: 10 am-9 pm (Beginner/Novice & Intermediate classes + 3 Tournaments each day - Details on our web site. Tuesdays: 7:30-9:30 pm (Advance lecture). 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025. (4 blocks W of 405, SW corner of Santa Monica & Butler * 2nd Floor - above Javan Restaurant) Group Classes * Tournaments * Private (1:1) Lessons. Note our monthly major tournaments. Also, we have the best Weekly BLITZ tournament on Saturday nights at 6:30 pm!!

June 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, Every Saturday & Sunday Chess 4 Juniors

9 separate events- 5SS, G/30 d0. 11514 Santa Monica Blvd. & Butler LA, 90025, 2nd fl. 4 blocks West of 405. **EF:** \$30 (\$20 LACC memb. No prize 1/2 EF, siblings 1/2, Free new LACC members). **Reg.:** 12-1 pm. Rds: 1pm & asap; done by 4; **Prizes:** Trophies & medals; All players receive prizes! **Parking:** Free on streets & BoA. Free healthy refreshments. **Info:** (310) 795-5710 or www.LAChessClub.com or Mick@LAChessClub.com.

July 20-22 or 21-22, 23rd Annual Pacific Coast Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Connecticut

June 8-10 or 9-10, 24th Annual Northeast Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

July 27-29 or 28-29, 23rd Annual Bradley Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Sept. 21-23 or 22-23, 9th Annual Hartford Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Florida

Boca Raton Chess Club

Friday night tournament games, one game a week for 4 weeks. www.bocachess.com, 561-302-4377.

The Stormont Kings Chess Center in Miami, FL

We have a beautiful office with multiple rooms located in the Kendall/Falls/Pinecrest Area. We offer Private and Group Lessons, Homeschool Activities, Tournaments, Camps, Family Game Nights, Parents Night Out, Casual Chess Play TSK Rated and more! Chess Sets and equipment for sale. Complimentary Bottled Water, Ample Parking, Comfortable Waiting Room with legos, and other activities for siblings while waiting. Located at 8353 SW 124 St, Suite 201-A, Miami, FL 33156. Contact Chris Stormont, Phone: 786-303-2437, E-mail: chris@stormontkingschess.com, Web: www.StormontKingsChess.com

June 15-17 or 16-17, 9th Summer Solstice Open
See Grand Prix.

July 27-29 or 28-29, 26th Annual Southern Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Nov. 9-11 or 10-11, 17th Annual Turkey Bowl
See *Chess Life* or www.bocachess.com.

Georgia

Nov. 9-11 or 10-11, 17th Annual Turkey Bowl (FL)
See *Chess Life* or www.bocachess.com.

Illinois

June 16, 1st Annual Southern Missouri Illinois Egyptian RBO
5-SS, G/30 d5. Southern Illinois University, Student Center, Cambria Room, 1255 Lincoln Dr., Carbondale, IL 62901. **EF:** \$10, \$15 after May 31st or onsite. USCF membership required. **Rounds:** 10, 11, 1 pm, rounds 4 and 5 ASAP. **Trophies:** 1st and 2nd place U1000, U800, U600 and 1st U400, U200 and 1-3rd place Unrated. **Reg.:** 8-9:35am. **Parking:** Free parking in student lots. **Info:** sichess.org, info@sichess.org, 618-203-0927.

July 20-22 or 21-22, 11th annual Chicago Class
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Oct. 5-7 or 6-7, 27th annual Midwest Class Championships
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Indiana

Aug. 24-26 or 25-26, 13th annual Indianapolis Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Louisiana

June 22-24, 2018 U.S. Junior Open
See Nationals.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!
June 22-24, 2018 Not-A-Junior-Not-A-Senior Open

5SS, G/90 i30 (Game in 90 minutes with 30-second increment.) Open to all players ages 21 to 49 by start date of tournament (6/22/2018). Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel, 901 Airline Dr., Kenner, LA 70062, Ph: 504-469-5000 (hotel is directly across from the New Orleans Intl. Airport with free hotel/airport shuttle service). HR: \$119 + tax for single, double, triple or quad - mention Cajun Chess Tournament and reserve by May 28 to assure group rate. Complimentary parking for all tournament attendees and free basic internet in each room. Hotel hot breakfast buffet tickets discounted to \$15 including tax and tip (usually \$19.95 without tax and tip) for hotel guests only. June 2018 USCF Supplement Ratings used. **SECTS: OPEN** (U2200 & U2000); **U1800/Unr.** (U1600 & U1400). **PRIZES:** 80% of Entry Fees. Two place prizes in each main section; one place prize in each class section. **EF:** \$60 by 6/1/18; \$70 by 6/15/18; \$80 thereafter and at site; **On-site Reg:** Fri 6/22: 6/22 from 11am-1pm. **Rds.:** Fri (6/22): 3pm; Sat & Sun (6/23-24): 10am & 3pm. **BYES:** 1/2-point bye may be taken for any Round; limit of 2 half-pt. byes allowed but must commit to any byes prior to the start of Round 3. **ENTRIES:** On-line registration, printable entry form, and more detailed info at www.cajunchess.com or mail entry form to Cajun Chess, 12405 Hillary Step Dr., Olive Branch, MS 38654. Info or Phone Ent: 504-208-9596 or 504-905-2971. Major credit cards accepted (no checks at site). Please bring your own chess boards, sets and clocks; chess vendor will be on site.

Maryland

Maryland Chess Tournaments

MD Chess runs scholastic tournaments 2 Saturdays per month from September through June & open tournaments 2 Saturdays or weekends per month throughout the year. Visit www.MDChess.org to find tournament announcements, tutors, coaches, & camps; register online for tournaments; & subscribe to scholastic and/or open e-newsletters. MD scholastic players who compete in the Varsity section (exclusively for players rated 1600+) of a MD-Sweet-16 Qualifier can qualify for the \$45,000 scholarship to UMBC awarded annually. The University of Maryland, Baltimore County's chess team is a perennial top-10 contender for the national championship.

Massachusetts

Aug. 16-20, 16-19, 17-19 or 18-19, 48th annual Continental Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Nevada

June 21-24, 22-24 or 23-24, 2018 National Open
See Nationals.

June 22, Youth Trophy Tournament

5-SS, G/25, +5. Westgate Las Vegas Resort. Open to players age 14 & under. **3 sections:** Open, U1000, U700. **Trophies** top 5 in each section, top 2 in each 200 point rating group and unrated. Must be 3 players eligible for each prize to be awarded. **EF:** \$39 by 5/31, \$50 later. **Reg.:** 8:30-9 a.m. **Rds.:** 10-11:30-1-2:15-3:30. **Youth Blitz:** 6:30 p.m. (\$20 by 5/31 \$25 later). www.VegasChessFestival.com.

June 23-24, International Youth Championship
6-SS, G/60 +5. Westgate Las Vegas Resort, 3000 Paradise Road, 89109. In 4 Sections by age: 14 & Under Open, 14 & Under Reserve (under 1000), 9 & Under Open, 9 & Under Reserve (under 800). **Trophies** to

top 10 in each section plus class and team trophies. 1st Place in each section wins a Computer loaded with valuable Chess Software and hundreds of Videos, 2nd-4th win chess prizes valued at 250-150-100. Unrated players may not win 1st in Reserve sections. **EF** \$89 by 5/31, \$99 by 6/20, \$120 later. Half point bye in any round (limit 2) if requested in advance. **Reg.:** 8:30-9 a.m. **Rds.:** 10-1-3:30, 10-1-3:30. **Youth Blitz:** 6/22 6:30 p.m. (\$20 by 5/31 \$25 later). **HR:** \$69, \$92 Friday and Saturday (800) 732-7117 **Cutoff for special hotel rate is May 31; after that rates will increase significantly and there may not be any rooms available.** **ENT:** Vegas Chess Festivals, PO Box 90925, Henderson, NV 89009-0925 or www.VegasChessFestival.com.

New Jersey

June 9, Princeton Charter School

TOURNAMENT LOCATION: Princeton Charter School at:100 Bunn Dr., Princeton, NJ 08540. **TIME CONTROL:** 6/30 d0; Swiss to 4 rounds. **SECTIONS:** Open above 1000; U1000; U700; U300/Unrated. (sections will be combined. Awards will be given to the top 3 in each section) **Parental Supervision Required:** The parents or another adult must be designated to supervise the student player between rounds. **Schedule** (will be accelerated if possible) **First Round:** 12:01 PM. **Second Round:** ASAP. **Third Round:** ASAP. **Fourth Round:** ASAP. **Award Ceremony:** ASAP (4:05 the latest). Schedule will be accelerated if possible. (*) **Online Registration \$30 Only if register one week before: www.ChessKid-SNY.com/PCSSchessProgram.htm. (*) Fee will increase automatically to \$35 if register later. On site registration the date of the event: \$40 from 11:45 am to 12:00 noon. Information:** email to Miguel Iniguez at: migini@gmail.com **Results will be posted online the same day of the event!**

June 16, King's Chess Club Quads

Morning quads and afternoon quads, G/30 d5, Kindergarten-undergraduate (scholastic, youth, and young adult memberships). Bethlehem Church, 758 Route 10, Randolph, NJ 07869. **EF:** None. **Reg.:** 9-9:20 am., 1st rd. 9:40. Arr. by 12:15 pm to reg. only for afternoon quads. Medal to each quad winner. **Info:** Bethlehem Church 973-366-3434 or Bob McAdams 973-694-3988.

July 15, Westfield Summer Scholastic

New uniform 12:30 starting time. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, NJ 07090. K-12. **3 Sections:** Open, U1250, U750. **Open:** 3-SS. G/40 d5. **Rounds:** 12:30, 2:15, 4:00 p.m. **U1250 & U750:** 4-SS. G/25 d5. **Rounds:** 12:30, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15 p.m. **Prizes:** Trophies to Top 5 in each section. Tiebreaks used. See USCF Rule 34E. **EF:** \$25, \$20 members. **Register:** 11:45 am-12:20 p.m. **Info:** westfieldchessclub@gmail.com, www.westfieldchessclub.org/Events.html

Sept. 1, New Jersey Scholastic K-8 Championship

5-SS, G/30 d5. Hyatt Morristown, 3 Speedwell Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960. Phone: 973-647-1234, mention NJ Chess. Free parking, public transportation to NYC, Phil. walking distance, 30 restaurants, shops and parks within 5 minute stroll. In three sections: Under 1200, Under 900, Under 600. Trophies to Top Ten in each section. **Registration:** Saturday, September 1st, 11 am - 12 noon. **Rounds:** 12:30 pm, then ASAP. **EF:** \$30 if postmarked by August 25th. \$40 cash at site. \$32 online at njscf.org until midnight 8/31. One 1/2 point bye allowed if requested with entry fee. August Rating Supplement used. **Entries:** to Noreen Davison, 132 US 206, Flanders, NJ 07836. Entries must include section, name, USCF ID and expiration date, mailing address, email address, phone number, and entry fee. Checks made out to NJSCF. Questions to noreenchess@gmail.com, phone: (973) 219-6877, W.

New York

July 20-22 or 21-22, 2nd annual Peter Henner Memorial
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Aug. 3-5 or 4-5, 17th annual Manhattan Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Aug. 31-Sept. 3, Sept. 1-3 or 2-3, 140th annual NY State Championship

Out of state welcome. See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Nov. 9-11 or 10-11, 17th Annual Turkey Bowl (FL)
See *Chess Life* or www.bocachess.com.

North Carolina

July 20, 2018 U.S. G/10 Championship (BLZ)
See Nationals.

July 21, 2018 U.S. G/30 Championship
See Nationals.

Aug. 17-19, 2018 North Carolina Open
See Grand Prix.

Aug. 17-21, 2018 U.S. Masters Championship
See Nationals.

Ohio

Aug. 10-12 or 11-12, Cleveland Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Pennsylvania

MasterMinds Scholastic Summer League
Info at: www.mastermindschess.org.

July 2-3, 7th annual World Open Women's Championship
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

US Chess Junior Grand Prix!

July 2-3, 10th annual World Open Under 13 Championship
6SS, G/60 d10. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (see World Open for

location, rates). Open to all born after 7/3/05. In 4 sections. **Open Section:** Trophies to top 7, top 2 Under 1600/Unr; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/13/18-12/31/18 to 1st. **Under 1400 Section:** Trophies to top 7, top 2 Under 1200, free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/13/18-9/30/18 to 1st. **Under 1000 Section:** Trophies to top 7, top 2 Under 800, free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/13/18-9/30/18 to 1st. **Under 600 Section:** Trophies to top 7, top 2 Under 400, top Unrated; free entry in all CCA tournaments 7/13/18-9/30/18 to 1st. **EF:** \$48 online at chessaction.com by 6/30, \$51 mailed by 6/15, \$60 at site. **Late reg.** 7/2 to 10 am, rds. Mon 11-2-5, Tue 10-1-4. Up to 2 half point byes allowed, must commit before rd. 3. **Ent:** chessaction.com or Continental Chess, PO Box 8482, Pelham, NY 10803. Questions: chessstour.com, chessstour.info, DirectorAtChess.US, 347-201-2269. \$15 service charge for refunds.

July 3-8, 4-8, 5-8 or 6-8, 46th Annual World Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

July 27-29 or 28-29, 19th annual Pittsburgh Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Nov. 9-11 or 10-11, 17th Annual Turkey Bowl (FL)
See *Chess Life* or www.bocachess.com.

Virginia

June 15-17 or 16-17, 7th annual Continental Class Championships
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Aug. 24-26 or 25-26, 50th annual Atlantic Open
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Oct. 4-8, 5-8 or 6-8, 10th annual Washington Chess Congress
See *Chess Life* or www.chesstour.com.

Wisconsin

July 28-29, 2018 U.S. Open Weekend Swiss
See Grand Prix.

July 28-Aug. 5, July 31-Aug. 5 or Aug. 2-5, 119th Annual U.S. Open
See Nationals.

July 29, 2018 U.S. Open Scholastic Championships

Open to all US Chess members entering Grade 12 and below [including new members]. **4 Round Swiss in Four Sections: Junior High - High School Championship:** Open to players entering Kindergarten through the 12th Grade in the fall. Open to all ratings. **Junior High - High School Under 1200:** Open to players entering Kindergarten through the 12th Grade in the fall. Open to players rated below 1200. *No Unrateds!* **Elementary Championship:** Open to players entering Kindergarten through the 6th Grade in the fall. Open to all ratings. **Elementary Under 1000:** Open to players entering Kindergarten through the 6th Grade in the fall. Open to players rated below 1000. *No Unrateds!* *If the sections are larger than expected, they may be split into multiple sections.* **Prizes:** Trophies to the Top 3 in each section. *The number of trophies may increase based on the number of entries.* **Schedule: Championship Sections:** Round One at 12 NOON. Round Two at 1:30 PM. Round Three at 3:00 PM. Round Four at 4:30 PM. Awards Ceremony at 6:00 PM. **Time Control:** Game/30 d5. **Entry Fee:** Online, \$25 by 7/9, \$35 after. By mail, \$27 postmarked by 7/9; \$37 postmarked by 7/16. *Do not mail after 7/16 - it will not be received!* By phone, \$30 by 7/9, \$40 after until 7/20 by 5 PM CDT. Onsite, \$40 until 7/29 by 10 AM EDT. See www.uschess.org/tournaments/2018/usopen/ for additional details.

Aug. 4, 2018 U.S. Open National Blitz Championship (BLZ)
See Nationals.

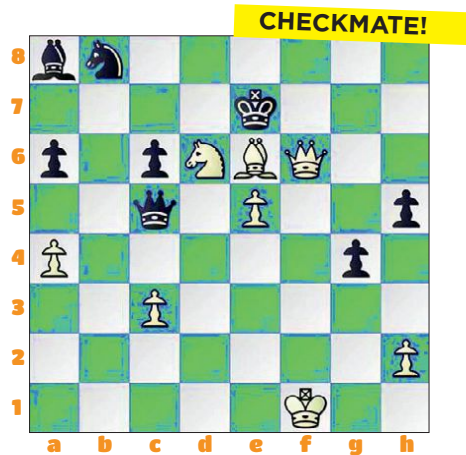
Answers

for **You Can Do It!** (from page 7)

Solution #1: 1. ... g5# (Black actually played 1. ... Rf8+ 2. Nef7 g5+ 3. Ke5 Qd5#)



Solution #4: 1. Qf6#



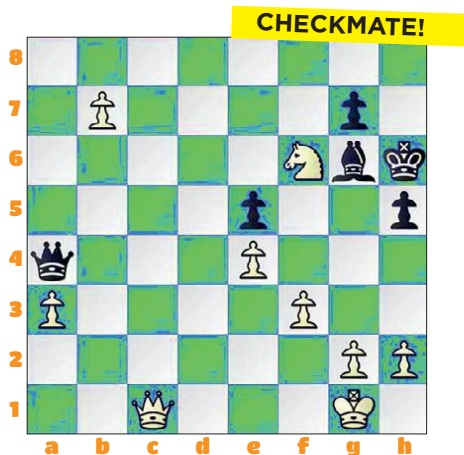
Solution #2: 1. Ne5#



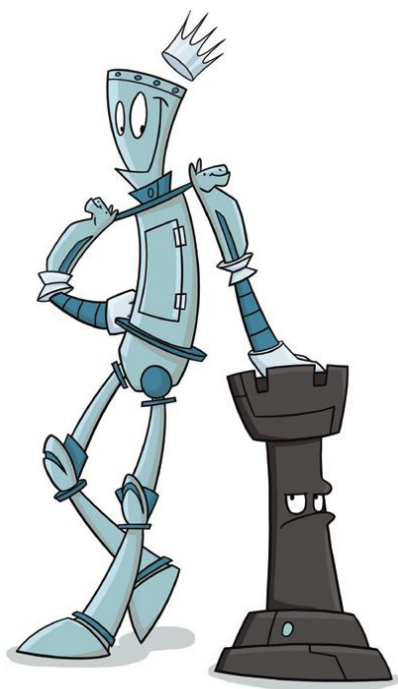
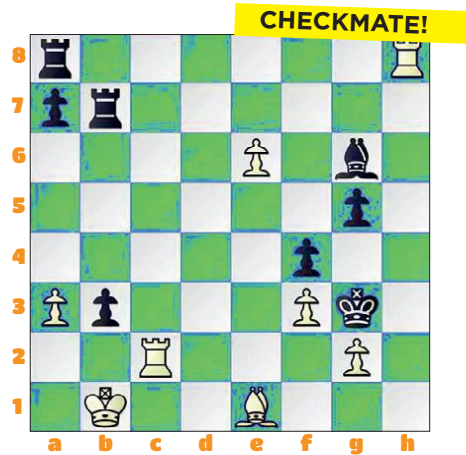
Solution #5: 1. ... Bg4#



Solution #3: 1. Qc1#



Solution #6: 1. Rc2#



My First Move



FM Annie Wang, Under 16 Gold Medalist, World Youth Chess Championships

In this column, we feature advice from your chess heroes and explore what shaped their development when they were Chess Life Kids like you!

How it began

I learned to play chess when I was five after seeing a simultaneous exhibition in my local park and deciding that chess looked like a fun game to learn. I was first attracted by the shape of the pieces; I thought they looked like toys, so I wanted to learn how they were used, and this interest eventually led me to enroll in my first chess classes.

Maintaining interest

There are times when I'm studying chess but I want to do something else. Usually, when I feel like this, I just try to concentrate on the chess-related goals that I want to achieve and use them as a source of motivation for completing my chess studying before moving onto something else.

What does the future hold?

I haven't decided yet if I want to become a professional chess player. However, regardless if I do or don't, I'm pretty sure that chess will continue to be a big part of my life in the future; I plan to continue playing chess for a long time.



Annie, age 7, at the 2009 Pan American Youth Chess Championships in Mar del Plata, Argentina. *Photo by Ou Wang.*

On being one of the youngest participants in the 2018 U.S. Women's Championship

I don't really think my age has a big impact on my participation in the Women's Championship; I feel like all the participants in the tournament are experiencing the same kind of pressure to do well, not just me. *(For more about Annie's performance at the championship, please see pages 12-16. ~ed.)*

The chess hero's chess heroes

I don't really think I have one specific chess player that I look up to. Instead, I try to learn from the games of several different top players, so that I can incorporate their ideas and strategies into my own games.

Playing all girls events

I don't have a problem with girls-only events; I like competing in them, and I think they're a good method for promoting chess among girls.

Best chess moment

I'm pretty sure my proudest chess moment was when I won the Girls U-16 section of the World Youth Chess Championships last year.



Annie's calm demeanor belied her fierce determination at the 2018 U.S. Women's Championship. *Photo courtesy of the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis.*



Selfie time for the teen sensations at the 2018 U.S. Women's Championship. Left to right: Jennifer Yu, Akshita Gorti, Maggie Feng, Annie Wang. *Photo courtesy of the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis.*

Maintaining energy

Personally, I don't have a problem with maintaining my energy during long matches. I think I'm usually so concentrated on finding the best moves and winning the game that I don't notice if I begin to get tired or hungry.

Outside of chess ...

I like reading, watching movies, and spending time with my friends.

Favorite openings

I liked playing the Scotch when I was younger, but now prefer the King's Indian Defense.

Favorite books

As a child, my favorite chess book was Bobby Fischer's *My 60 Memorable Games*. Now, however, I really like Boris Gelfand's books, especially *Positional Decision Making in Chess*.

The best advice received

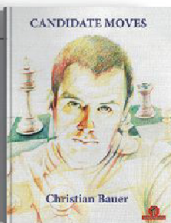
My dad always tells me that if you work hard, you'll see good results. I think that's a really important thought to keep in mind.

My best chess advice

Be persistent! If you keep on playing chess, you'll improve.



"Batter up!" in 2010 in Arcadia, California. *Photo by Ou Wang.*



CANDIDATE MOVES

By Christian Bauer

B0025TH - \$36.95

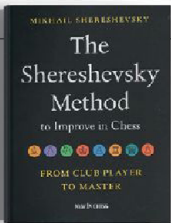
Christian tackles one of the most important issues in chess: how to select candidate moves. He illustrates and discusses many different themes such as entering relatively uncharted territory, replying on your acquired knowledge, using intuition and how to play prophylactically. He uses examples from his own games, the result is a uniquely useful book that will help you to raise the level of your general play.

AMERICAN CHESS MAGAZINE ISSUE NO. 6

By Various Authors

ACM0006 - \$29.95

By the time we had concluded the manuscript of Issue #06, Fabiano Caruana had already made a great start at the Candidates Tournament in Berlin. In fact it's almost as if he wanted to fulfill the "rollercoaster" prediction emblazoned on our front cover. Well, if the only way was up on his current rollercoaster ride after a brilliant win in London and an epic fall in Wijk aan Zee, then he was destined to shine brightly in Berlin. And he did! 156 Pages.



THE SHERESHEVSKY METHOD TO IMPROVE IN CHESS

By Mikhail Shereshevsky

B0196NIC - \$29.95

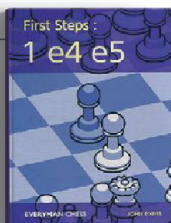
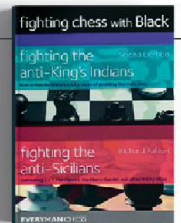
In 2014, the Russian Chess Federation commissioned legendary author Mikhail Shereshevsky to recapitulate and condense his famous training methods into a single book. This resulted in a totally reworked compendium of his acclaimed classics – Endgames Strategy and The Soviet Chess Conveyor – complete with many new examples and exercises. All Club players who wish to improve their game once again have access to this famous training programme.

FIGHTING CHESS WITH BLACK

By Palliser and Dembo

B0481EM - \$29.95

Two books from Everyman Chess brought together in one volume. Fighting the Anti-King's Indian is an ideal guide to play against those annoying White systems designed to avoid the mainlines, including Trompowsky, London System, Veresov and many more. Fighting the Anti-Sicilian offers a dynamic and practical repertoire for Sicilian players to combat 2...c3, The Closed, the Morra Gambit and other Anti-Sicilian openings.



FIRST STEPS 1. e4 e5

By John Emms

B0480EM - \$24.95

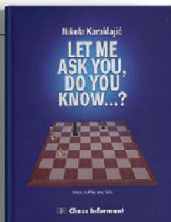
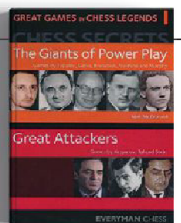
Chess games that start with 1. e4 e5, known as "The Open Games", feature a central structure with pawns on e4 and e5 that often leads to play based around highly classical themes. First Steps books are based around carefully selected instructive games where there is enough theory to enable the improving player to get to grips with the opening without feeling overwhelmed. If you want to take up a new opening, First Steps is the ideal place to start.

GREAT GAMES OF CHESS LEGENDS - VOLUME 1

By Neil McDonald

B0477EM - \$29.95

Two books from the Chess Secrets series brought together in one volume. Chess Secrets is a series of books which uncover the mysteries of the most important aspects of chess: strategy, attack, classical play, opening play, endgames and preparation. In each book the author chooses and deeply studies a number of great players from chess history who have excelled in a particular field of the game and undeniably influenced those who have followed.



LET ME ASK YOU, DO YOU KNOW...?

By Nikola Karaklajic

B0023SHV - \$34.95

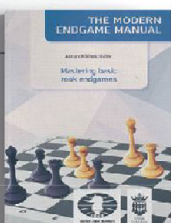
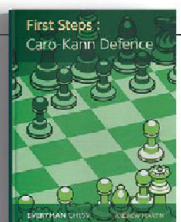
One of the rare books that transcends the time in which it was written and continues to teach and entertain on the Endgame. Now, for the first time this hidden jewel of chess literature is being presented to the worldwide chess audience in all its excellence. The structure of the book was a revolutionary one at the time of its first release, and influenced the production of many instructive chess volumes.

FIRST STEPS – CARO-KANN DEFENCE

By Andrew Martin

B0479EM - \$24.95

The Caro-Kann Defence arises after the moves 1 e4 c6. With this first move Black (as is also the case with the French Defence – 1 e4 e6) plans 2...d5, establishing a well-protected central pawn. First Steps books are based around carefully selected instructive where there is enough theory to enable the improving player to get to grips with the opening without feeling overwhelmed. If you want to take up a new opening, First Steps is the ideal place to start.



THE MODERN ENDGAME MANUAL – MASTERING BASIC ROOK ENDGAMES

By Mikhalchishin, Grivas and Balogh

B0044EV - \$27.94

The first FIDE-approved endgame manual, written by 3 of the world leading experts: FIDE Senior Trainers IGM Mikhalchishin, IGM Grivas and IGM Balogh. A total of 8 endgame books will take you step-by-step from king & pawn endgames all the way through to extremely complex and materially-unbalanced endgames. Become an expert and learn to enjoy even more the "silent beauty" of the endgame.

CATASTROPHES & TACTICS IN THE CHESS OPENING – VOLUME 6 – OPEN SICILIANS

By Carsten Hansen

B0006CH - \$12.95

Everybody wants to win fast, preferably straight out of the chess opening. This book is a collection of Open Sicilian games played by top players in which either White or Black wins in 15 moves or less, either a result of blunders, an accumulation of mistakes or brilliant chess tactics. Through the study of the Open Sicilian games in this volume, you will improve your opening play, opening repertoire, strategies and tactical ability.

