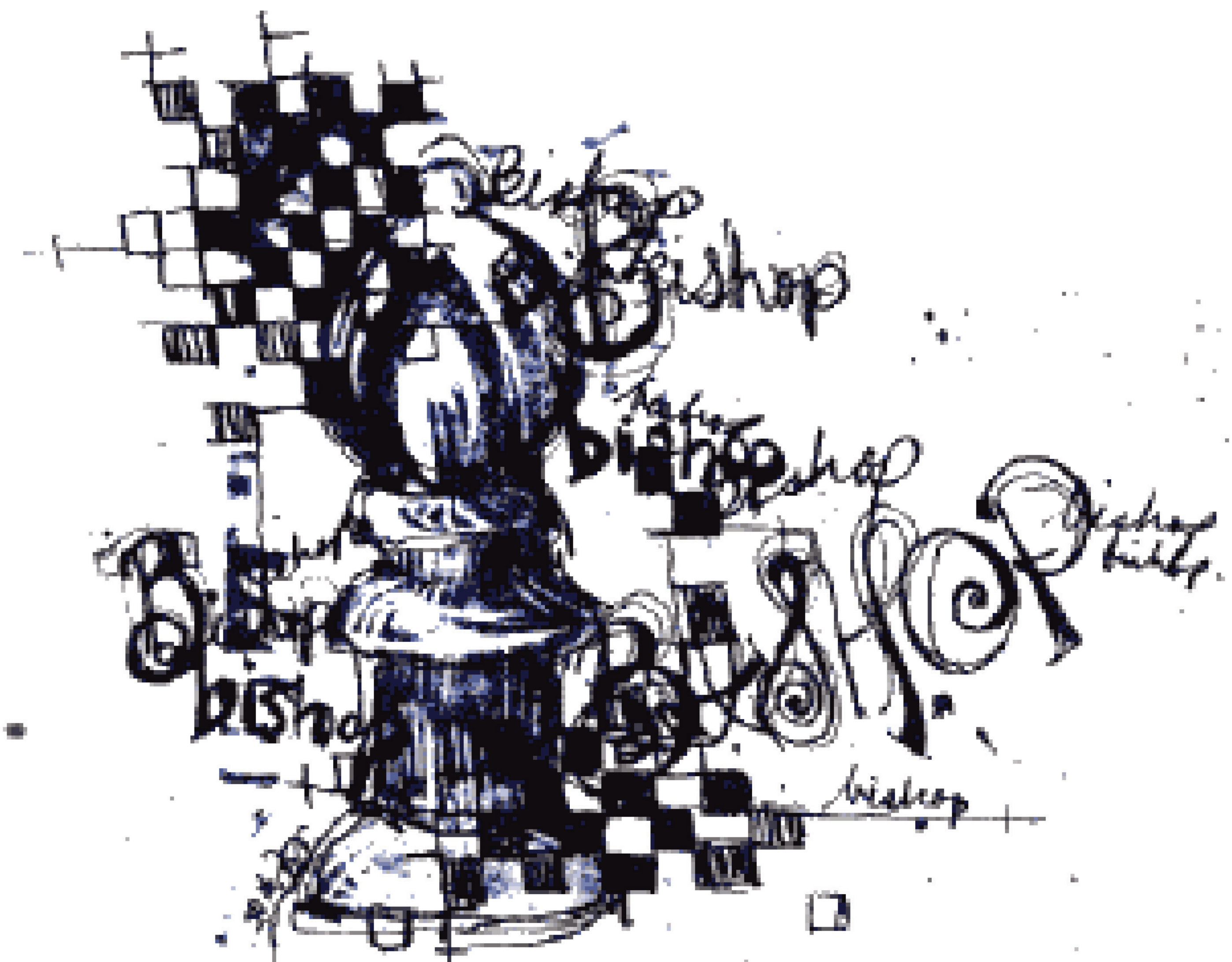
# Rank & File

March-April 2006 | Volume XXIX, No. 2 | $3.00



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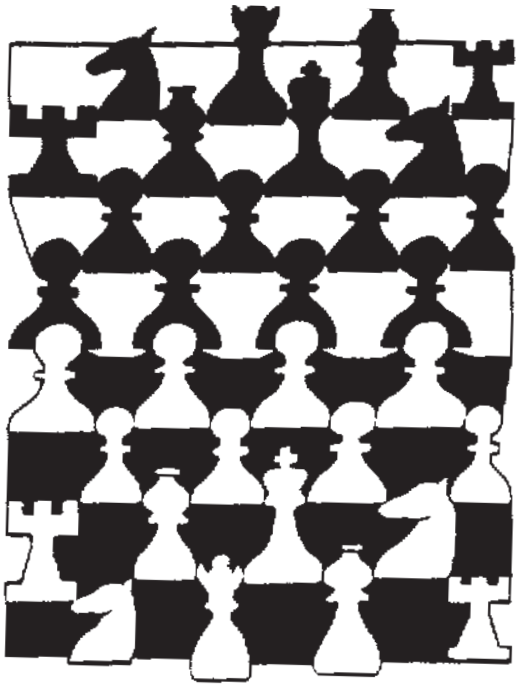
SCCF



4th Annual

# Western Pacific Open

**April 14-16, 2006**

## $10,000 Prize Fund

(based on 200 players, 50% of each prize guaranteed)

at the

**LAX Hilton**

5711 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90045

Five Rounds — Swiss System

3-day schedule 40/2, SD/1; 2-day schedule rounds 1-2 G/75

**Entry Fees:**

**Open** $81 if received by 4-13, $97 at door

**Premier** (U2000) $81 by 4-13, $97 at door

**Amateur** (U1400) $66 by 4-13, $80 door

SCCF membership required of rated state residents ($14, jr. $9)

**Registration:** 5:30-6:30 p.m. 4-14, 8:30-10 a.m. 4-15

**Rounds:** 3-day 7 p.m., 11-5:30, 10-4:30; 2-day 10:30-1:30 Saturday (G/75), then merges

**Entries:** SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Place #1, Los Angeles, CA 90038

**HR:** $94 single or double. (310) 410-4000. Be sure to mention Western Chess.

**Parking** $7/day

**On-line entry, advance entry lists:**

*www.westernchess.com*

### Open

**1st: $1600**

**2nd-5th: $1000-$800-$400-$200**

($200 bonus for clear first)

**U2400: $300**

**U2300: $200**

**U2200: $700-$500- $300**

### Premier

(Under 2000)

**$700-$500-$300-$100**

**U1800: $400-$200- $100**

**U1600: $400-$200- $100**

### Amateur

(Under 1400/Unrated)

**$$ T+400-$200-$100**

**U1200: T+$100**

**Unrated: T+$100**

**Best Game Prize:** $25 (all sections eligible)

# Around the Nation

## SCCF Championship Fund Raising Challenge!

The San Diego Chess Club is donating $250.00 to the SCCF State Championship prize fund. We are challenging all other clubs to match this donation in hopes of raising the necessary funds to cover the expenses of the event.

SDCC Member Chuck Ensey is also personally donating $250.00 to the SCCF State Championship prize fund. He is challenging other SCCF members to match his individual donation.

All donations regardless of size are greatly appreciated! *(See page 21 for a list of donors so far.)*

Ron Rezendes Jr
President SDCC/SCCF

## Orange County Chess Park?

Orange County is going to have a park built on a portion of the land that was once the El Toro air base. This is a good time for the chess playing residents of Orange County to begin urging that the park also include a chess center. I think this will be a great asset for all southern California chess players. To express your support for this project, you may write to:

Orange County Great Park Corporation
PO Box 19575
Irvine CA 92623 - 9575

Further information may be found at www.ocgp.org concerning the organization, how to get involved, when the stakeholders' meetings are, and so forth. – *Brian Scanlon*

## Kasparov Chess Foundation To Sponsor Olympiad Teams

The Kasparov Chess Foundation (KCF) and United States Chess Federation announced that KCF will serve as the official sponsor for both the Men's and Women's US Chess Olympiad teams for the next three chess Olympiads, which are scheduled to take place in 2006, 2008 and 2010.

The Kasparov Chess Foundation previously conducted an extensive training program and served as sponsor for the 2004 US Women's Olympiad Team. By capturing Silver for team performance, the US Women's Team took home the first US medals since the Chess Olympiad's inception in 1924. The international competition consisted of 87 teams from around the world.

"The sponsorship underscores the Foundation's mission to transform chess into a major cultural activity in the United States. We've seen how the success of our US Olympic Soccer program has helped make

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that sport one of the most popular among our youth. By financing our Olympiad chess teams through the end of the decade, we're ensuring that our country's best players will get the recognition they've worked so hard to achieve, while influencing younger players," said Michael Khodarkovsky, Kasparov Chess Foundation President.

USCF President Bill Goichberg added, "The US Chess Federation is pleased that a substantial percentage of the cost of sending our teams to the next three chess Olympiads will be covered by the Kasparov Chess Foundation. Our association with KCF regarding the Olympiads began successfully in 2004, when our Women's Team won the Silver Medal. Our men's team placed fourth in 2004 and with the probable addition of two very strong players, US Champion Hikaru Nakamura and former FIDE World Championship finalist Gata Kamsky, we expect great things this year and in the future." – *USCF news release*

## Pan American Intercollegiate

The 2005 Pan American Intercollegiate Championship, held December 27-30 at Miami Dade College, saw 27 teams compete. First place with 5½-½ went to University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). Their team consisted of GM Alexander Onischuk, IM Pascal Charbonneau, GM Pawel Blehm, Bruci Lopez, and WGM Katerina Rohonyan. Next at 5-1 were University of Texas at Dallas-B and UTD-A (yes, in that order), two teams which between them included one GM and eight IMs. Unheralded host team Miami Dade-A finished fourth with 4½-1½.

**Advertising Rates:** Full page $80, half page $45, 1/4 page $25, 1/8 page $15, back cover (3/4 page) $80. (All rates are for camera-ready copy.) Flyer insert $50 (advertiser must supply flyers). 50% discount for tournaments requiring SCCF membership. Display ads should be sent to the Editor, flyers to the Publisher (addresses at right). Payment should be sent with order to the Editor. SCCF reserves the right to reject any advertising.

## USCF Special Election: *Once more into the breach*

In addition to the biennial election of Delegates, this summer will see yet another USCF special election for the Executive Board. When Tim Hanke of Massachusetts resigned after last year's election, his position was left vacant, but now Greg Shahade, elected last year as part of a "reform" slate, has resigned in order to permit his sister Jennifer to accept employment with the USCF. In the case of two vacancies, a special election is mandatory. Those wishing to enter the fray have until April 17 to submit nominating petitions. At this time, rumored candidates include Mikhail Korenman, former Board member Randy Bauer, the perpetually unsuccessful Sam Sloan, Mike Goodall of Northern California, and Southern California's Randy Hough.

## FIDE Trainers Seminar

Louisville, KY, Feb. 8, 2006 -- American Chess University (ACU) will hold a weekend-long management educational program for teachers, chess coaches and trainers. The seminar will be held in conjunction with the national Junior High Championships, on Apr. 8 – 9, 2006 in Galt House Hotel, 140 North Fourth Street, Louisville, KY

Information on fees and scheduling may be found at http://www.americanchessuniversity.com/seminars/trainer_registration/.

– *USCF news release*

**Cover Art:** Erin Roberts

**SCCF Online**

**The SCCF Web page is located at:**

**WWW.SCCHESS.COM**

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|---|---|
| **Editor** | John Hillery |
| | 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1 |
| | Los Angeles CA 90038 |
| | rfeditor@westernchess.com |
| **Publisher** | David Argall |
| **Contributing Editors** | |
| | Jack Peters |
| | Tim Hanks |
| | Al Pena |
| **Contributors** | |
| | Chuck Ensey |
| | Randy Hough |
| | Barbara McCaleb |
| | John Price |
| | Brian Scanlon |

**Subscriptions/Address Changes**
Randy Hough, **Membership Secretary**
P.O. Box 205
Monterey Park CA 91754
(626) 282-7412
randallhough@yahoo.com

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# Western Class Championships

The Western Class Championships, held at the Renaissance Hotel in Agoura Hills January 20-22, attracted 167 lpayers in seven sections. Tying for first in the top section with 4-1 were IMs IM Melikset Khachiyan and Enrico Sevillano Next at 3½-1½ were IM Andranik Matikozyan and Michael Casella. U2300 winners Steven Van Enk, Gregg Small, and Daniel Schwarz rounded out the prize list at 3-2.

Other section winners included David Bennett, John Bryant, Alen Melikadamian and Marian Nita Jr. (Expert, 4-1); Daniel Naroditsky and Michael Schemm, (A, 4½-½); Michael Ambartsoumian and Sarkis Kasamanian (B, 4½-½); Joe P. Davis and Jerry Yee (C, 4-1); Stewart Yanez (D, 4½-½); and Nicholas Hammond, (E, 4½-½).

Bill Goichberg directed for the Continental Chess Association, with the assistance of Brenda Goichberg and Randy Hough.

**Daniel Schwarz – Eugene Yanayt**
**Western Class Championships, Agoura Hills 2006**
**B26 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Closed Variation**

*(Notes by* Los Angeles Times *chess columnist Jack Peters)*

**1. e4 c5**
**2. Nc3 g6**
**3. g3**

The Closed Sicilian. White refrains from d2-d4 and instead takes control of d5.

**3. … Bg7**
**4. Bg2 Nc6**
**5. d3 e6**
**6. Be3 d6**
**7. Qd2 Rb8**

Postponing ... Ng8-e7 to prevent Be3-h6.

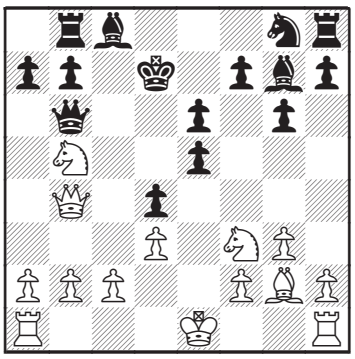
**8. Nf3 Nd4??**

Falling into a trap that has claimed dozens of victims. Correct is 8. ... b5 9. d4 b4 10. Ne2 Nf6 11. e5 Ne4, with counterplay.

**9. Bxd4 cxd4**
**10. Nb5! Qb6**

As 10. ... e5 11. Qb4 Bf8 12. Nxa7 Bd7 13. Nb5 gives Black nothing for the pawn.

**11. Qb4 Kd7**
**12. e5! dxe5**



**13. Nd2!**

The main target is d6.

**13. … Ne7**

Nor can Black stand 13. ... a5 14. Qa4.

**14. Nc4 Qa6**
**15. Qc5!**

White's Queen will reach c7, as 15. ... Nc6 loses instantly to 16. Qd6+ Ke8 17. Nc7 mate.

**15. … Nd5**
**16. Bxd5 exd5**

**IM Melikset Khachiyan**

**17. Qxd5+ Ke7**
**18. Qc5+ Kd7**
**19. Qc7+ Ke6**
**20. Qxb8**

Easiest, although 20. Nbd6 also wins.

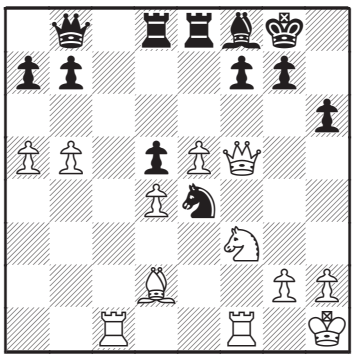
**20. … Qxb5**
**21. Qd6+ Kf5**
**22. Qe7! Qd5**
**23. Nd6+ Kg4**
**24. Qh4+ Kf3**
**25. Ne4 h5**
**26. g4**
**1-0**

Only 26. ... Qxe4+ delays the end.

**IM Enrico Sevillano**

**IM Enrico Sevillano – Gregg Small**
**Western Class Championships, Agoura Hills 2006**
**C42 PETROFF DEFENSE**

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nxe5 d6 4. Nf3 Nxe4 5. d3 Nf6 6. d4 Be7 7. Bd3 Bg4 8. c3 c6 9. Nbd2 Nbd7 10. 0–0 0–0 11. Qc2 Bh5 12. Ng5 Bg6 13. f4 Bxd3 14. Qxd3 Re8 15. Ndf3 Bf8 16. Kh1 Qa5 17. Bd2 Rad8 18. a4 Re7 19. c4 Qa6 20. b4 d5 21. b5 Qb6 22. cxd5 cxd5 23. a5 Qc7 24. Rac1 Qb8 25. Ne5 h6 26. Ngf3 Ree8 27. Qf5 Nxe5 28. fxe5 Ne4



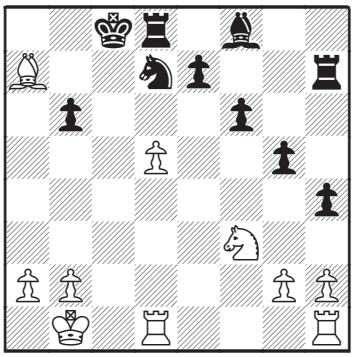
29. Ng5 hxg5 30. Qxf7+ Kh8 31. Rf3 g4 32. Rf5 g5 33. Bxg5 Nxg5 34. Rxg5 Bh6 35. Qf6+ 1–0

**Eric Zhang – Raul Bugnosen**
**Western Class Championships, Agoura Hills 2006**
**B06 ROBATSCH DEFENSE**

1. e4 g6 2. d4 Bg7 3. Nf3 b6 4. c4 Bb7 5. Nc3 Nf6 6. Bd3 Nc6 7. 0–0 Nh5 8. d5 Ne5 9. Nxe5 Bxe5 10. Kh1 e6 11. f4 Bg7 12. Be3 Qh4 13. Qf3 0–0–0 14. a4 Nf6 15. d6 Ng4 16. h3 Nxe3 17. Qxe3 Bxc3 18. bxc3 cxd6 19. a5 Qh5 20. axb6 a6 21. e5 Kb8 22. Kh2 g5 23. Qd4 Rc8 24. Qxd6+ Ka8 25. Rxa6+ Bxa6 26. Be4+ 1–0

**IM Melikset Khachiyan – Philipp Ponomarev**
**Western Class Championships, Agoura Hills 2006**
**D01 QUEEN'S PAWN GAME**

1. d4 d5 2. Nc3 Bf5 3. Bg5 c6 4. Qd2 Nd7 5. f3 Ngf6 6. 0–0–0 Qa5 7. e4 dxe4 8. fxe4 Bg6 9. e5 Nd5 10. Nxd5 Qxd5 11. Kb1 0–0–0 12. Nf3 f6 13. Bf4 Be4 14. Be2 g5 15. Bg3 h5 16. Bd3 h4 17. c4 Bxd3+ 18. Qxd3 Qf7 19. Bf2 Nxe5 20. Qf5+ Nd7 21. d5 cxd5 22. cxd5 Qh7 23. Qxh7 Rxh7 24. Bxa7 b6

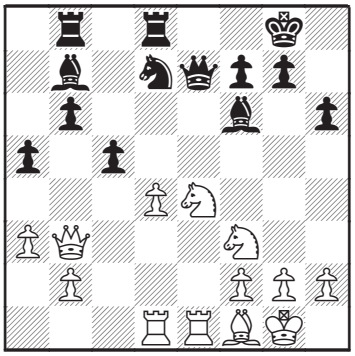


25. Nd4 Kb7 26. Ne6 Ra8 27. Rc1 Rxa7 28. Rc7+ Ka6 29. Rxd7 Rxd7 30. Nxf8 Rxd5 31. Nxh7 Rd2 32. Rg1 Rf2 33. h3 e5 34. Re1 Kb5 35. Kc1 Kc6 36. Nxf6 Rxf6 37. Rxe5 g4 38. hxg4 Rf4 39. Rg5 1–0

**Michael Casella – Steven Van Enk**
**Western Class Championships, Agoura Hills 2006**
**D58 QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED, Tartakover Variation**

MICHAEL CASELLA

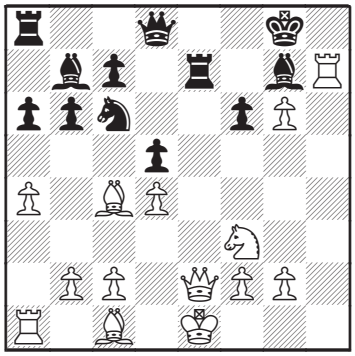
1. d4 e6 2. c4 Nf6 3. Nf3 d5 4. Nc3 Be7 5. Bg5 h6 6. Bh4 0–0 7. e3 b6 8. Be2 Bb7 9. Bxf6 Bxf6 10. cxd5 exd5 11. 0–0 Qe7 12. Qb3 Rd8 13. Rad1 c6 14. Rfe1 Nd7 15. Bf1 a5 16. a3 Rab8 17. e4 dxe4 18. Nxe4 c5



19. Neg5 Bxg5 20. Rxe7 Bxe7 21. Bc4 Rf8 22. Ne5 Nxe5 23. dxe5 Bc6 24. a4 Rbd8 25. Rxd8 Bxd8 26. f4 Bc7 27. Kf2 g6 28. Bd5 Bd7 29. Kf3 Kg7 30. g4 Be8 31. h3 h5 32. g5 Bd7 33. h4 Bg4+ 34. Ke3 Bd7 35. Qc4 Kg8 36. b3 Bd8 37. Qa6 Bg4 38. Qb7 Bf5 39. Kd2 Bg4 40. Kc3 Bh3 41. Bc6 Bg4 42. Bd7 Bxd7 43. Qxd7 Kh8 44. Kd3 Kg8 45. e6 fxe6 46. Qxe6+ Kg7 47. Qd7+ Kg8 48. f5 Bxg5 49. Qe6+ Kh8 50. hxg5 Rxf5 51. Qxg6 1–0

**Allan Pleasants – Philipp Perepelitsky**
**Western Class Championships, Agoura Hills 2006**
**B08 PIRC-ROBATSCH DEFENSE**

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. Nf3 Bg7 5. h3 a6 6. a4 b6 7. Bc4 Bb7 8. Qe2 Nc6 9. e5 Nd7 10. Ne4 0–0 11. e6 Nf6 12. exf7+ Kh8 13. Nxf6 exf6 14. h4 d5 15. h5 Rxf7 16. hxg6 Re7 17. Rxh7+ Kg8



18. Be3 dxc4 19. Qxc4+ Kf8 20. 0–0–0 Na5 21. Qc3 Bxf3 22. gxf3 Qd5 23. Rdh1 Rae8 24. Kb1 Nc4 25. Bh6 Bxh6 26. Rh8+ Kg7 27. Rh7+ Kg8 28. R7xh6 b5 29. f4 Nd6 30. Rh8+ 1–0

# North American Open:

## *Southern Californians shine*

### by Randy Hough

The post-Christmas North American Open in Las Vegas attracted a good turnout of 731 players. The 2005 U.S. Champion, GM Hikaru Nakamura, made good use of the new seven-round format, He downed the previous clear leader, GM Nikola Mitkov of Macedonia (now living in Chicago) in the last round to take clear first with 6 points. This happened after he indignantly rejected an emissary's pre-game proposal that he accept a draw "with compensation." Grandmaster ethics are not dead.

GMs Julio Becerra, Ildar Ibragimov, Alex Shabalov, and Jaan Ehlvest joined Mitkov and IM Eugene Perelshteyn in a second-place tie with 5½. Local FM Alan Stein finished with an excellent 5 points, qualifying for the US. Championship along with IMs Jesse Kraai and Mark Ginsburg and former Southern Californian FM Stephen Muhammad. WIM Batchimeg Tuvshintugs of Northern California took a women's qualifying spot.

Among other Southern Californians, GM Varuzhan Akobian also scored 5. IMs Enrico Sevillano and Tim Taylor earned 4½, and Eugene Yanayt, Garush Manukyan, Gregg Small, and Elliott Liu finished at 4, with the latter two picking up Under 2300 money.

In the Under 2200 section, Alen Melikadamian, Francis Chen, and Gevorg Vardanyan tied for fourth through ninth with 5½, while Phillip Perepelitsky and Derek Tan scored 5 and earned shares of tenth place.

Our big winner was Dante Tabing, who tied for first and second in Under 1800 with 6½, earning $6350. Armen Arakelov's 5½ resulted in a tie for fifth through eleventh, and Alan Murfitt and Sandy He tied for 12th.

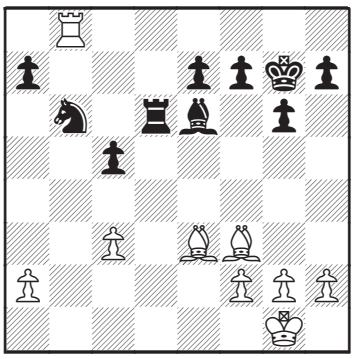
In Under 1600, Todd Heino was equal third with 5½, and Armen Samuelian, Danil Fedunov, and Paul Brestyansky tied for sixth with 5 points. Bobby Scott and Aram Kavoukjian split 2nd/3rd in Under 1400 with 6; Alex Kayfetz-Gaum was equal fifth with 5 and Terrence Sun tied for 12th with 4½.

In Under 1200, Ben Schuster tied for fifth with 5, while Jason Qu and David Karapetyan were equal 13th with 4 points.,

Congratulations to all, and we hope you didn't leave any of that prize money in Las Vegas!

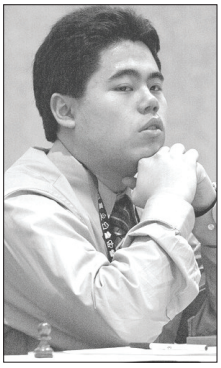
**GM Varuzhan Akobian – GM Alexander Shabalov**
**North American Open, Las Vegas 2005**
**A57 BENKO GAMBIT**

1. d4 g6 2. c4 Bg7 3. Nf3 c5 4. d5 b5 5. e4 bxc4 6. Bxc4 d6 7. 0–0 Nf6 8. e5 dxe5 9. Nxe5 0–0 10. Nc3 Nfd7 11. Nc6 Nxc6 12. dxc6 Nb6 13. Be2 Be6 14. Be3 Rc8 15. Qxd8 Rfxd8 16. Rfd1 Rxd1+ 17. Rxd1 Bxc3 18. bxc3 Rxc6 19. Rd8+ Kg7 20. Bf3 Rd6 21. Rb8

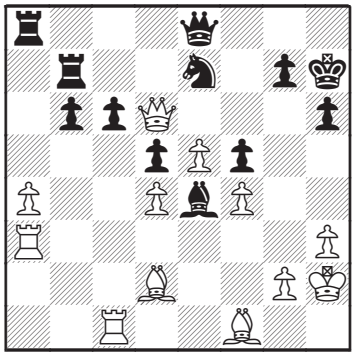


21. ... Rd3 22. Bxc5 Nd7 23. Rb5 Nxc5 24. Rxc5 Rd2 25. a3 Ra2 26. h4 Rxa3 27. Rc7 a5 28. c4 Rc3 29. Rxe7 Rxc4 30. Ra7 a4 31. h5 g5 32. Ra5 Kh6 33. Kh2 Rd4 0–1

**GM Hikaru Nakamura – GM Nikola Mitkov**
**North American Open, Las Vegas 2005**
**C45 SCOTCH GAME**



1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Nxd4 Qf6 5. Be3 Bc5 6. c3 Nge7 7. Bc4 0–0 8. 0–0 Ne5 9. Be2 Qg6 10. Nd2 d6 11. Bh5 Qf6 12. f4 N5c6 13. N2b3 Bb6 14. Qd3 Nxd4 15. cxd4 d5 16. e5 Qh6 17. Be2 Bf5 18. Qd2 Qe6 19. h3 Be4 20. Kh2 f5 21. a4 a5 22. Rfc1 Qc8 23. Nc5 Bxc5 24. Rxc5 b6 25. Rcc1 Qd7 26. Bb5 c6 27. Bf1 Rfb8 28. Ra3 h6 29. b4 axb4 30. Qxb4 Kh7 31. Bd2 Rb7 32. Qd6 Qe8

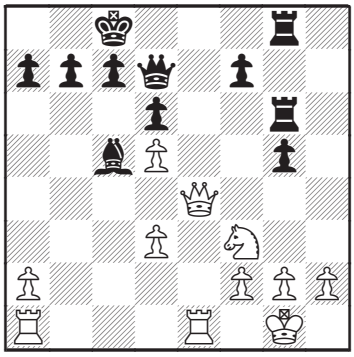


33. Qe6 b5 34. a5 b4 35. a6 Rb6 36. Rb3 Rab8 37. Qd6 Nc8 38. Qc5 Ra8 39. Ra1 Qg6 40. Bxb4 Rab8 41. Rg3 Qf7 42. Qf8 Qxf8 43. Bxf8 g5 44. fxg5 Rb1 45. a7 Ra8 46. Rxb1 Bxb1 47. g6+ Kg8 48. Bc5 f4 49. Rb3 1–0

**IM Andranik Matikozyan – IM Tim Taylor**
**North American Open, Las Vegas 2005**
**C47 FOUR KNIGHTS GAME**

1. e4 Nf6 2. Nc3 e5 3. Nf3 Nc6 4.

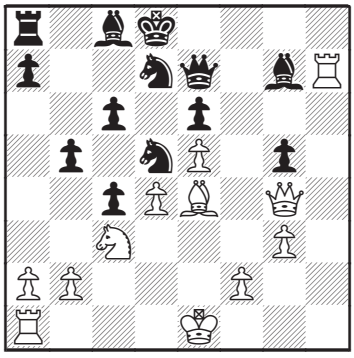
d4 Bb4 5. d5 Ne7 6. Nxe5 d6 7. Nf3 Nxe4 8. Qd4 Nxc3 9. bxc3 Bc5 10. Qxg7 Rg8 11. Qh6 Bf5 12. Bg5 Qd7 13. Bd3 0–0–0 14. 0–0 Rg6 15. Qh4 Rdg8 16. Rfe1 Nxd5 17. c4 Bxd3 18. cxd3 h6 19. cxd5 hxg5 20. Qe4



20. ... g4 21. Nh4 g3 22. hxg3 Rxg3 23. Kf1 R3g4 24. Qh7 Bd4 25. Nf5 Rh8 0–1

**Philipp Perepelisky – Wataru Katsuhara**
**North American Open, Las Vegas 2005**
**D44 SEMI-SLAV DEFENSE, Anti-Meran Gambit**

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Nf3 c6 5. Bg5 dxc4 6. e4 b5 7. e5 h6 8. Bh4 g5 9. Nxg5 hxg5 10. Bxg5 Nbd7 11. g3 Rg8 12. h4 Rxg5 13. hxg5 Nd5 14. g6 fxg6 15. Qg4 Qe7 16. Bg2 g5 17. Be4 Kd8 18. Rh7 Bg7



19. Rxg7 Qxg7 20. Qxe6 Nxc3 21. bxc3 Qe7 22. Qxe7+ Kxe7 23. Bxc6 Rb8 24. f4 Nf8 25. Kd2 Rb6 26. d5 Bd7 27. Bxd7 Nxd7 28. Rh1 Ra6 29. Rh7+ Ke8 30. d6 Nc5 31. Ke3 gxf4+ 32. gxf4 Rxa2 33. Rc7 b4 34. Rxc5 Kd7 35. Rc7+ Kd8 36. e6 1–0

# Improve Your Chess

**By John Hillery**

## *Control of the Center*

The real key to improving one's chess though study is pattern recognition, the ability to recognize and apply the lessons of past games. While tactical patterns are more or less concrete – two pieces are undefended and should be attacked simultaneously; h7 and f7 recurrently invite Bishop sacrifices – strategic patterns generally epress themselves in the form of aphorisms. "develop rapidly," "avoid weak squares," and – today's subject – "play in the center."

The center is of crucial importance because of the geometry of the chessboard. Pieces must pass through it in order to attack enemy weak points, or to reinforce one's own. An unhindered advance of central pawns can drive away enemy defenders, clearing the way for attack by the pieces. Even in the absence of such pawns, centrally posted pieces can strike rapidly at the weakest point, before forces scattered on the wings can consolidate.

In the (rather one-sided) game which follows, Black ignores the center completely, and is instructively punished.

**Ribl – Sampouw**
**Skopje Olympiad, 1972**
**C84 RUY LOPEZ**

**1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. d4 exd4 6. 0–0 Be7 7. Re1 h6**

A novelty, which proves unsuccessful. One of the advantages of the Olympiads is the opportunity for weaker players to face grandmasters – and for us to see how grandmasters punish mistakes.

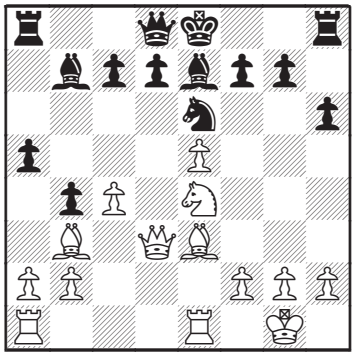
**8. e5 Nh7 9. Nxd4 Nxd4 10. Qxd4 b5**

Black probably intended … Nh7-g5-e6, but 10. … Ng5 11. Bxg5 Bxg5 12. e6 f6 13. h4 and 11. … hxg5 12. e6 fxg6 13. Qxg7 Rf8 14. Qg6+ Rf7 15. Qg8+ Rf8 16. Qxe6 are crushing for White.

**11. Bb3 Bb7 12. c4 Nf8**

On 12. … Ng5, there could follow 13. Bxg5 Bxg5 14. Nc3 b4 15. Ne4 Bxe4 16. Qxe4 0-0?! 17. Bc2 g6 18. f4, with a strong attack.

**13. Qd3 b4 14. Nd2 a5 15. Ne4 Ne6 16. Be3**



**16. ... a4 17. Bc2 Ra5 18. f4 Qa8 19. Rad1 Bc6 20. f5 Rxe5**

Equally unpleasant are 20. … Nd8 21. Nf6+ and 20. … Nf8 21. Nd6+. And while 20. … Ng5 21. Bxg5 Bxg5 22. f6 isn't quite as immediately disastrous, it's pretty bad.

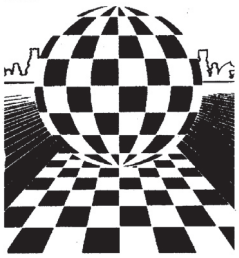
**21. fxe6 Rxe4 22. exd7+ Kd8 23. Bf2 Rg4 24. Rxe7 Rxg2+ 25. Kf1 Rxf2+ 26. Kxf2 Kxe7 27. Qd4**

Threatening 28. Qe5+ Kd8 29. Qxg7, winning the Rook

**27. ... Qa5 28. d8Q+ 1–0**

## *Aeroflot Open*

The Aeroflot Open, probably the strongest open tournament in the world, concluded February 17 in Moscow. The top section, consisting of 93 GMs and IMs, ended in a four-way tie at 6½-2½ among GMs Baadur Jobava, Viktor Bologan, Krishnan Sasikiran, and Shakhriyar Mamedyarov. Some idea of the event's strength may be seen in the fact that top U.S. player GM Alexander Shabalov barely managed a plus score at 5-4. Other U.S. participants in the "A1" section were GMs Varuzhan Akobian (4-5) and Alexander Ivanov (3-6).



## *Late News:* Caltech Wins USATW

Winners of the 23rd Annual U.S. Amateur Team West, held from February 18-20 at the Marina San Pedro Hotel, were **Caltech** (Patrick Hummel, Eugene Yanayt, Howard Liu, and Joshua Gutman) with 5½-½. This is Caltech's third victory in four years (they also took first in 2003 and 2004), but their dynasty is in jeopardy, as the core of their team will be graduating this spring..

Second with 5-1 went to a team of visitors form Arizona, **The Knight the King Smacked My Bishop** (Robby Adamson, Leonardo Martinez, Jonathan Cox, and Sean Higgins). Third on tiebreak at 4½ were **Good Knight and Good Rook** (Michael Casella, Mike Zaloznyy, Gevorg Vardanyan, and Chris Lee), which also received a special prize for best team name.

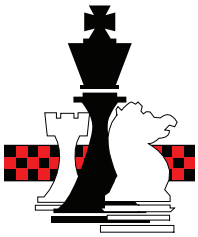
Earning Board prizes Allan Pleasants (1), Eugene Yanayt (2), Gevorg Vardanyan (3), Joshua Gutman (4), and Aldrich Ong (Alternate).

Also worthy of note was the return of GM William Lombardy, a veteran of the 1960 World Student Team Championship, playing first board for **A Priest and a Bishop.** Though clearly a bit rusty, he had many tales to tell of the "good old days."

Forty-six teams competed in the main event, along with a near-record 33 in the one-day Scholastic Team. John Hillery and Elie Hsiao directed. Complete standings are available at www.scchess.com. A full report, with games and photos, will appear in our next issue.


*2006 Lina Grumette*

# *Memorial Day Classic*



**May 19-21, 2006**

Burbank Airport Hilton

2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank, CA 91505

*(adjacent to Burbank Airport)*

5-SS, 40/2, SD/1

*(2-day schedule rds. 1-2 G/75)*

*Also:*

| MDC Scholastics | MDC Action | MDC Hexes |
|---|---|---|
| May 19 | May 19 | May 19 |
| 5-SS, G/45 | 5-SS, G/30 | 3-SS, G/90 |

*www.westernchess.com*

## Prize Fund

**$10,000**

*Based on 200 players, 60% of each prize guaranteed*

**In 5 sections**

*(Unrated must play in Unrated or Open)*

**Open**: $$ $$T+1700-750-400-300-200, U2400 400, U2200 700-300-200.

**Premier** *(Under 2000)*: $$750-300-200-100.

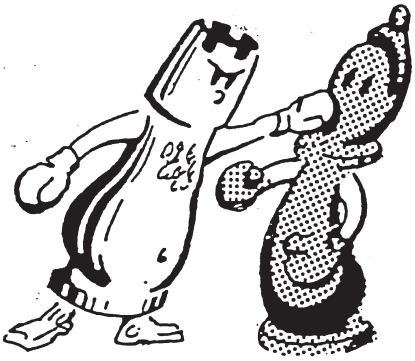
**Amateur** *(Under 1800)*: $$750-300-200-100.

**Reserve** *(Under 1600)*: $$750-300-200-100.

**Booster** *(Under 1400)*: $$T+400-200-100, U1200 T+150, Unr T+150. *(Unrated may win Unrated prizes only in this section)*

***Best Game Prize*** $25, all sections eligible.

# Here & There



## La Palma Chess Club

Two local clubs battled it out in a club match on December 18th in a team event that featured a handicap scoring method. Eleven players from the La Habra Chess Club with an average rating of 1706 beat the La Palma Chess Club who fielded a team with an average rating of 1937. The event was held at La Palma's Central Park. Both teams were lead by three experts and three "A" players on the top six boards. While the LPCC scored an undefeated 6 wins and 5 draws, the LHCC won the match based on net team rating point gain of +10 vs. LPCC's net rating point gain of +7. This was made possible by upset draws on boards 9 and 10 with rating differences of 835 and 312 points, respectively.

Charles Grine bested a 14-player field of mostly stronger opponents with a fine undefeated score of 7½ in a 1-night 8-round Swiss of G/10 quick chess action at the La Palma Chess Club on Jan. 6th. Second place went to John Rinaldo with 6½, and third place was TD and club founder Mike Henebry with 5½. Complete standings and schedules for the year here http://www.lapalmachess.741.com. – *Chris Roberts*

**Bill Martino – Chris Roberts**
**La Palma Club Championship, 2005**
**E93 KING'S INDIAN DEFENSE, Petrosian Variation**

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. d4 0-0 5. e4 d6 6. Be2 e5 7. d5 Nbd7 8. h3 Nc5 9. Qc2 a5 10. Be3 Nh5! 11. g4?! Nf4 12. Bxf4?! exf4 13. Qd2? Re8 14. Qxf4 Bxc3+ 15. bxc3 Rxe4 16. Qh6 Qf6! 17. Nd4 Nd3+ 18. Kd2 Nf4! 19. f3 Rxd4+ 20. cxd4 Qxd4+ 21. Kc2 Bd7! 22. Rad1 Ba4+ 23. Kb1 Qc3! 24. Rc1 Qb4+ 25. Ka1 Nxe2 26. Rb1 Qxc4 27. Qe3 Re8 28. Qd2 Nd4 29. Rhc1 Qxd5 30. Rxc7 Nb3+ 31. axb3 Qxd2 32. bxa4 Re2, White Resigns.

## AAA Winter Scholastic

The AAA Chess Club's Winter Scholastic attracted 124 players to First Lutheran Church in Glendale on Dec. 17. Sandy He won the grades K-12 section, scoring 5-0. Ryan Polsky and Albert Young tied for second place at 4-1. Syunik Zohrabyan won the grades K-8 section with 5-0, and Michael Chen and Jonathan Cummings tied for first in the grades K-5 section, both scoring 5-0. Harut Keshishian directed.

## West Valley Chess Club

The Holiday Swiss, a 28-player tournament ending in December, saw Ed Bayer take first place with 5-1. Class prize winners included Dan Wong, Ped Bashi, Maurice Marchesini, Beverly Woolsey and Colin Klinger.

In January and February, the Club Championship atracted 33 players. Taking first place with 5-1 was 11-year-old Michael Yee, followed at 4½-1½ by Mike Leidner. Class prizes went to Filiberto Zadini (A), Nathaniel Lagemann (B), Brendyn Estolas (C), and Patrick Bollig (U1400)

The West Valley Chess Club meets Thursdays at 6:30 PM at the West Valley Jewish Community Center at 22622 Vanowen Street in West Hills. For information, call John Price (818-363-1379) or Duane Cooper (818-999-0837).

## Arcadia Chess Club

Winner of the Richard Morris Memorial, ending in December, was Chris Lee with 5½-½. Next at 5-1 were a half point ahead of best expert Melandro Singson and best Class A Brian Ofalla. Class prizes went to Roel Sanchez (B), Sandy He (C), and Terrence Sun and Vikram Kumar (D/E)

The 40-player Winter Open, ending in February, saw Ike Miller with 5-0, a half-point ahead of Larry Stevens. Class prizes went to Gordon Brooks and Frank Cipriani (A), Jeff Schroeder (B), Atzael Perez (C), and Vikram Kumar (D/E).

The Arcadia Chess Club meets 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Mondays in the Senior Citizens building, 405 S. Santa Anita Ave. For information, call Fred Brock at (626) 331-1638 or Mel Clark at (626) 447-9355.

## Los Angeles Chess Club

Winners of the weekly "L.A. Masters" tournaments in January and February were: January 7: Ganbold Odondoo, 3½-½; January 14: Show Kitagami, Ganbold Odon-

doo, Takashi Kurosaki, 3-1; January 28: Ilia Serpik, 3½-½; February 11: Sargis Hakobyan, 3½-½.

On January 1, the LACC hosted the 27-player "Golden Goose Open," with sponsorship by Dr. Harold Valery. IM Melikset Khachiyan, took first with 4½-½, followed at 4-1 by Julian Landaw. Khachiyan also earned the Best Game prize for his win over Landaw (see "Games from Recent Events"). Tied for third with 3½-1½ were David Kerman, Show Kitagami, Brendan Purcell, Louie Rivera, and Dennis Uchimura. Pirouz Hendi topped the Reserve (under-1800) section with 4½-½, while class prizes went to Andrew Beeli, Walter Burstein, Greg Roudebush, Marcelo Grion, and Saleem Karamali.

The Los Angeles Chess Club is located on the second floor of 1514 Santa Monica Blvd., above Javan restaurant. For information, call Mick Bighamian at (310) 795-5710 or send a message to mick@lachessclub.com. Web site: www.lachessclub.com.

## Exposition Park Chess Club

Jose Quiroz and Atzael Perez won their sections in the January 8 free tournament at the Exposition Park Chess Club. On February 4, section winners were Marc Conde and Jose Quiroz (tied), and Al Tillman. For photos of the club, see chess.expoparkla.com. The club, meets every Sunday afternoon in the public library, 3665 S. Vermont Ave. in Los Angeles.

## Costa Mesa Octos

Section winners at the January 14 Costa Mesa Octos were Julian Landaw, Vincent Huang, and Todd Heino, all with perfect 3-0 scores. The 26-player tournament, the first directed by Takashi Iwamoto, was held at the Chess Center in Costa Mesa.

On February 11, 28 players competed in three sections. Once again, all three were won with perfect scores, by Mike Zaloznyy, Roger Bowen, and Vincent Wetzell respectively

For information about the futures Octos, call (949) 689-3511 or write to takashi@cox.net.

## Southern California Invitational High School League

The second tournament of the Southern California Invitational High School League, held on January 21 at Oakwood School, 11600 Magnolia Blvd. in North Hollywood, attracted 36 players from nine schools. Wen Wu of Arcadia High School finished first at 5-0, followed by Xin Hua of Lincoln High and Edward Che of Arcadia. Arcadia and Campbell Hall shared first place in the team competition. Grandmaster Varuzhan Akobian appeared as guest lecturer.

For details of the league's next tournament, e-mail league director PhilipVoronatphilster12@earthlink.net.

## West Covina Chess Club

Eddie Concepcion scored 5½-½ to take first prize in the John Rykowski Memorial, ending in January. Class [prizes went to Bob Salwet and Randy Chambers. The West Covina Chess Club meets 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Senior Center, 2501 E. Cortez St. For information, call Richard Williams at (626) 339-5188.

## Diversity Educational Center Winter Scholastic

### January 29

Nicholas Hammond took first prize in this 21-player event with 4½-½. Anthony Hung, Rebecca Sanchez, Orion Burl and Christopher Hung scored 3½-1½ and finished in that order after a playoff.

Diversity Educational Center conducts a scholastic chess club in Arcadia on Friday evenings. For more information, see www.diversityeducationalcenter.com.

## BCSD Educational Foundation Winter Scholastic

### December 10, 2005

This scholastic event at Col. Nichols Elementary School in Bakersfield saw more than 250 players and 60 teams participate. Winners were:

**Individual**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| K-1 | David Lindgren | Thorner Elementary School | 4.5 |
| K-3 | Shyam Gandhi | Gonzalves Elementary | 5.0 |
| K-3 | Arthur Joven | Thorner Elementary School | 5.0 |
| K-6 | Elijah Baier | Thorner Elementary School | 5.0 |
| K-8 | Ashish Govan | Heritage Academy | 5.0 |
| K-12 | Albert Young | Warren Jr High School | 5.0 |

**Team**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| K-1 | Thorner Elementary School | 18.5 |
| K-3 | Thorner Elementary School | 20.5 |
| K-6 | Thorner Elementary School | 21.5 |
| K-8 | Fairfax Middle School | 19.0 |
| K-12 | Ridgeview High School | 14.0 |

For complete results, please visit the YCCF website at www.youthchess.com.

## Warner Winter Scholastic

**February 4**

This annual event, held at Warner School in Westwood, attracted 91 players. Kevin Casey led the championship section and David Coles finished second. Other sections winners were Happy Ullman, Jonathan Cummings, Dillon Rangel (on tiebreak over Batkhishig Saikhanbayar), Noah Soofer, Taylor Bright, Jed Tamase, Adam Semprevivo, Jordan Semprevivo, Jack Cogdill, Jesse Halpern, Alexander Co, James Dameris and Theo Valaise. John Surlow directed.

## 2005 Chess Palace Club Championship

The 2005 Chess Palace Club Championship that was held from November 2 to December 21, 2005 attracted twenty-six participants. Topping the strong field of contenders was Russell Ryan who scored 6½ out of 7. Following him were Michael Henebry and Herbert "Yogie" Faeth, who was the one who garnered the half point from Russell. Class prizes went to Daniel Petras, U1700; Carmen Childress and Robert Gonzales, U1450; and Connor Cunningham, Jose Cortez, and Brad Gonzales, U1100. Congratulations to all the players. Special thanks to NTD Randy Hough for helping direct the event.

Chess Palace is located at 4336 Katella Avenue, Los Alamitos CA 90720. The club offers a wide variety of chess events for all ages and level. The club also carries a wide selection of chess books, sets, and merchandise for sale. Please visit www.chesspalace.com or call 562-598-5099 for more information. – *Austin Ong*

## Pasadena Chess Club

The Richard Lewis Memorial, with 25 players, saw Chris Lee and Prasanna Borse tie for first at 5-1. Class winners included Elston He (Under 2000), Gerald Harrison and Spartak Ohanyan (Under 1800), Antony Milici (Under 1600), and Thomas Hogue and Robert Burlingame (Under 1400).

The Pasadena Club Championship, with a $750 guaranteed prize fund, will begin Friday, February 25, at 7 pm. The Club meets at Throop Church, 300 S. Los Robles. For information call Randy Hough at (626) 282-7412.

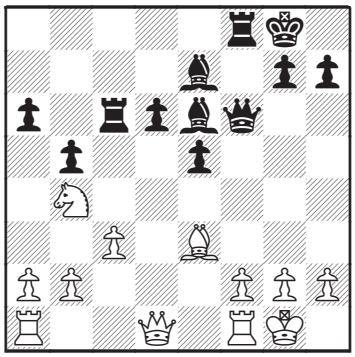
The Pasadena Chess Club meets 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Fridays in Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles Ave. For information, call Neil Hultgren at (818) 243-3809 or Randy Hough at (626) 282-7412. Web site: www.tim-thompson.com/pasadena.html. – *Randy Hough*

## Gambito Opens

The January Super Gambito (#254) drew a good crowd of 39 players to the San Diego Chess Club, with 20 players in the Open and 19 in the Reserve. Enrico Sevillano and Cyrus Lakdawala tied for first with 3½ points each. Surprisingly, the BU2200 was won by a Class A player, Esteban Escobedo, who was fresh from a great performance in Las Vegas at the North American Open in the Class B section, where he tied for third and won a nice amount of money for a 6 point score out of 7. In this Gambito, he upset NM Bruce Baker, Experts Alan Sebeckis and Giovanni Carreto and drew his last round game with Expert Rick Aeria. Not bad for a player who has hung around the 1750 to 1800 level for several years. Carey Milton was 2nd U2200. Coming all the way down from LA, Amor Luat captured the BU2000 prize, while local player Felipe Camacho and a new Russian member of our club, Nikolay Arutyunov, split the 2nd U2000. In the Reserve Section, Kyron Griffith was the star with a perfect score of 4. Kyron is one of three young talented players to emerge from Bruce Baker's training laboratory, the Jedi Knights Club. Kyron, Daniel Grazian and Jesse Orlowski have all raised their ratings from 1200 or so well into the Class B range after starting to play in adult events for the first time just recently. Jesse tied for 2nd U1600 with Aaron Ibarra in this event. The total prize fund was $860. Here are the Best game Prize winners:

**Romeo Ignacio (2213) – Carey Milton (2025)**
**Gambito Open #254, Rd 3, San Diego, 1/07/06**
**B32 Sicilian, Kalashnikov**

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 e5 5. Nb5 d6 6. N1c3 a6 7. Na3 f5 8. exf5 Bxf5 9. Be3 b5 10. Nd5 Rb8 11. Be2 Nf6 12. 0-0 Be6 13. Nxf6+ Qxf6 14. Bf3 Rc8 15. c3 Be7 16. Nc2 0-0 17. Bxc6 Rxc6 18. Nb4



18. ... Rc4 19. Nxa6 Qg6 20. g3 d5! 21. Nb4? Bxb4 22. cxb4 d4 23. Bd2 Bd5 24. f3 Qd3 25. Bg5 Qf5 26. Be7 Rf7 27. Bc5 Bxf3 28. Qe1 e4 29. Rc1 Qh3 30. Rxf3 Rxc1 31. Qxc1 exf3 0-1

**Jesse Orlowski (1467) – Daniel Grazian (1782)**
**Gambito Open #254, Rd 3, Reserve Section, San Diego, 1/07/06**
**C24 Bishop's Opening**

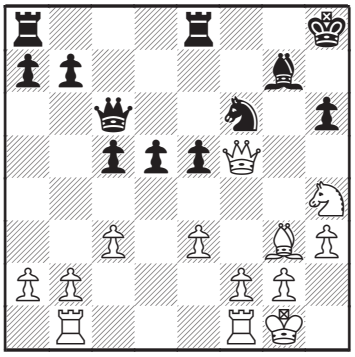
1. e4 e5 2. Bc4 Nf6 3. d4 exd4 4. Nf3 Nxe4 5. Qxd4 Nf6 6. Bg5 Be7 7. Nc3 Nc6 8. Qh4 d6 9. Bd3 Be6 10. 0-0-0 Qd7 11.Rhe1 0-0-0 12. Bb5 h6 13. Qa4 hxg5 14. Ne5 dxe5 15. Rxd7 Rxd7 16. Bxc6 Rd4? 17. Qxa7 bxc6 18. Qa8+ Kd7 19. Qxh8 Rh4 20. Rd1+ Nd5 21. Qa8 Rxh2 22. Qa4 Kd6 23. Ne4+ Kd7 24. c4 Rh4 25.

cxd5 Bxd5 26. Rxd5+ Ke6 27. Qxc6 Kf5 28. Ng3+ Kf4 29. Qc4+ e4 30. Qxe4# 1-0

In February, the Super Gambito experimented for the second time with a 5 Round G/40 format with a higher entry fee of $40 in advance (or $50 on site) and a larger prize fund of $1800. In October the format had drawn 40 players, but there had been little advance publicity. This time we advertised well in advance of the event and it drew a near record breaking crowd of 47 players, just 2 short of the all-time Gambito Open record of 49. The first place prize was $350, but no one was able to win it, as once again Enrico Sevillano and Cyrus Lakdawala split first and second place for $250 each with 4½ points. Carey Milton won $150 for BU2200 with 4 points, plus $20 for the Biggest Upset Prize. Five players tied for 3rd/2nd BU2000 – Leonard Sussman, Rick Aeria, Raoul Crisologo, Alex Garcia-Betancourt and Jesus Orozco, all with 3½ points. Felipe Camacho and Richard Jensen each won $115 for scoring 3 points as the Best Under 2000. In the Reserves, there was a clear winner with Santiago Lunas scoring 4½ to win $250. David Brown won BU1600 with 4 points for $150. Six other players won $50 each: Jemar Fragante, Shawn Sweitzer and Joe Thorpe for 2nd/3rd, Jesse Orlowski for 2nd U1600, and also Venkat Iyer and Dodge Williams for BU1400. Venkat also won $20 for the Biggest Upset in the Reserves. Here are the Best Game Prize Winners:

**Jesus Orozco (2014) - Bruce Baker (2252)**
**Gambito #258, Rd 2, San Diego, 2/04/06**
**A48 London and Colle Systems**

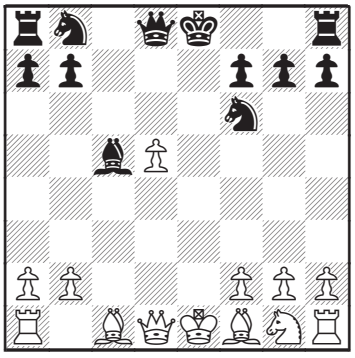
1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. Bg5 Bg7 4. e3 d6 5. Bc4 Nbd7 6. c3 c6 7. Nbd2 0-0 8. 0-0 h6 9. Bh4 Re8 10. Qb3 d5 11. Bd3 Qb6 12. Qc2 e5 13. dxe5 Ng4?! 14. Bxg6! Ndxe5 15. Bh7+ Kh8 16. Rab1 Qc7 17. Bf5 Be6 18. Bg3 Qd7 19. Nd4 c5 20. Nxe6 fxe6 21. Bg6 Nxg6 22. Qxg6 e5 23. h3 Nf6 24. Nf3 Ng8 25. Nh4 Qc6 26. Qh5 Nf6 27. Qf5



27. ... Ne4 28. Bxe5! Nd2 29. Bxg7+ Kxg7 30. Rfd1 Nxb1 31. Rxd5 Re6 32. Rxc5+ Qe4? 33. Rc7+ Kh8 34. Rh7+ Kg8 35. Qf7# 1-0

**Pirouz Hendi (1797) – Jesse Orlowski (1556)**
**Gambito #258, Rd 4, Reserve Section, 2/04/06**
**D32 Tarrasch Defence**

1. c4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 c5 4. dxc5 Bxc5 5. cxd5 exd5 6. Nxd5 Be6 7. e4 Bxd5 8. exd5



8. ... Nf6 9. Qa4+ Nbd7 10. Bg5 0-0 11. Bxf6 Nxf6 12. Bc4 Qb6 13. Nh3? Rae8 14. Kf1 Qxb2 15. Rd1 Ne4 16. Qb5 Qc2 17. Be2 Nc3 0-1

The Gambito Open has been played on every Saturday for over 5 years in row. Last year we started alternating sites between the National City Chess Club and the San Diego Chess Club. The first and third Saturdays are in San Diego, and the second and fourth are in National City. Call 619-239-7166 for more information or see the SDCC website at http://groups.msn.com/sandiegochess. The entry fee is $20, except for the Super Gambito on the first Saturday of every month, when it is $25. The Super Gambito has $600 in guaranteed prizes, while regular Gambitos have a variable prize fund based on the entries; almost all entry fees are returned in prizes except for a nominal club fee of $30 to $70. Every 3 months or so we have a Special Super Gambito with a $40 entry fee and $1,800 in prizes. The next one is scheduled for May 6th. First Place is $350. – *Chuck Ensey*

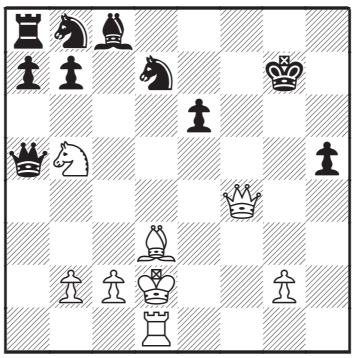
## San Diego Chess Club

In December the Club completed the Class Championships with 54 players attending, plus 7 house players filling in when needed. The Master/Expert Section was won by Dr. Carl Wagner, who earned himself a qualifying spot in the 2006 Club Championship with this victory. Carl scored 4 out 5 possible points and won his last round game against the current Club Champion, Adam Corper. He also won games from Bruce Baker and Expert John Funderburg, plus he had draws with David Hart and George Zeigler. George was also undefeated and also scored 4 points, but Carl had better tiebreaks. George did win the Expert trophy though, so he was still pleased with the results. He played some outstanding games in the event, winning against Todd Smith, Dimitry Kishinevsky and David Hart, plus drawing with Bruce Baker and Carl Wagner.

**George Zeigler (2105) – Dimitry Kishinevsky (2117)**
**The Masters San Diego 2005**
**B09 PIRC-ROBATSCH DEFENSE**

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. f4 Bg7 5. e5 Nfd7 6. Nf3 0–0 7. h4 c5 8. h5 cxd4 9. Qxd4 dxe5 10. Qf2 e6 11. hxg6 fxg6 12. Ng5 exf4 13. Nxh7 Rf5 14. Bd3 Qa5 15. Bd2 Rh5 16. 0–0–0 Kxh7 17. Nb5 Qxa2 18. Rxh5+ Kg8 19. Bc3 gxh5 20. Bxg7 Kxg7 21.

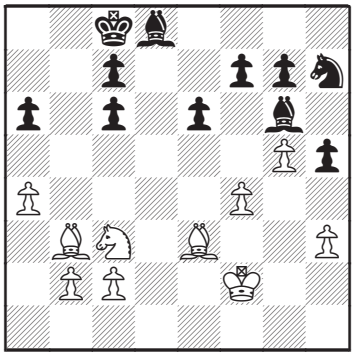
Qxf4 Qa1+ 22. Kd2 Qa5+



23. b4 Qd8 24. Rf1 Qe7 25. Qg3+ Kh8 26. Qg6 Qxb4+ 27. Kc1 1–0

**George Zeigler (2105) – David Hart (2005)**
**The Masters San Diego 2005**
**B01 CENTER COUNTER DEFENSE**

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nc3 Qa5 4. d4 Nf6 5. Nf3 Nc6 6. Bd2 a6 7. Bc4 Qh5 8. Ne5 Qxd1+ 9. Rxd1 Nd8 10. a4 Bf5 11. Bb3 e6 12. f3 h5 13. g3 Be7 14. Kf2 Nc6 15. Nxc6 bxc6 16. h3 0–0–0 17. g4 Bg6 18. g5 Nh7 19. f4 Rxd4 20. Be3 Rxd1 21. Rxd1 Rd8 22. Rxd8+ Bxd8



23. Bd4 Bf5 24. Bxg7 Bxh3 25. Bc4 Kb7 26. Bd3 Nxg5 27. fxg5 Bxg5 28. Kg3 Bg4 29. Ne4 Be7 30. Bf6 Bb4 31. c3 Bd6+ 32. Kh4 a5 33. Bc2 Bf4 34. Nc5+ Ka7 35. Bd4 Be2 36. Nxe6+ 1–0

The Class A trophy was won by Benjamin Barquin, who scored 4½ and won all his games except for a draw with Jesus Orozco. Jesus lost in the last round to Maksim Gusev and so Jesus and Maksim ended up tied for second place, a full point behind Ben. Ben is one of our strongest Class A players, and the trophy was well deserved. Last year he won the BU2000 prize in the Gambito Open numerous times, and in fact was one of the year's biggest money winners at the Gambito. Expert status has already been attained by him a few times and my guess would be that in 2006 we will see him establish a solid Expert rating and stay there, because he has already shown the ability to beat experts and even masters on occasion.

The Class B trophy was won by Luis Castaneda, another hard working and deserving player. Luis has raised his rating steadily throughout 2005, and in this event he was the only player to earn a draw with the unrated Russian, Nikolay Arutyunov, who was placed in this section to even out the field and because at the time we had no idea how good he was. Nikolay won his first four games before the draw with Luis, and now through the Gambito Open he has quickly established his official rating as 1875, but even that may be a bit low, as it is based on 29 games, many of them G/45.

The Class C trophy was won by Helmut Keil, who tied for first in the combined Class C and D sections with Karen Kaufman. Helmut had better tie breaks and so he took the Class C trophy while Karen had to settle for the Class D one. But Karen had to be proud that she beat Helmut in the last round game, which was Helmut's only loss. But Karen's first round bye cost her, as byes are not good for your tie break scores. Both Helmut and Karen are long term club members and it is great to see such kind hearted people win trophies. Congratulations to <u>all</u> the trophy-winners, and as for the runners up, better luck next year! The Class Championships are held at the end of every year and the players really like the nice solid wood-based and gold cup trophies that are attractive enough to proudly display on any mantle.

The club is currently playing the Markowski Open, a 7 round qualifying event for the 2006 Club Championship. Only Todd Smith and Carl Wagner have already qualified by winning the San Diego Open and the Masters. 14 other qualifiers will be chosen in the Markowski, the hotly contested Open with only one section and over 80 players. Currently Bruce Baker and Adam Corper are leading the field with 5 out of 6 points. – *Chuck Ensey*

## 15th SPA Winter Classic

**February 11**

This scholastic event at St. Paul the Apostle School in Westwood saw 63 players compete. In the Championship (K-12) section, Boris Kitapszyan took first on tiebreak over brother John Kitapszyan, both with 3½-½. Jonathan Laks was third with 3-1. Junior Varsity (K-8) section winners included Chad Tanioka, Ivan Popilyanu and Allen Goldfarb, Batkhishig Saikhanbayar and Jesse Halpern. Novice (K-5) sections were won by Jonathan Gunn, Adam Semprevivo, Morgan Lewis) TB over Maxwell Schmitt), and Jack Mallery. John Surlow directed.

## San Luis Obispo February Open

The San Luis Obispo February Open was held on February 11. The 8-player Open Section was won by Eric Montany and Warren Williamson, each scoring 3½-½, having tied in their game. B/C prizes went to Mark Donovan, 2-2, and Kevin Maxwell, 1-3. The 8-player Reserve Section (U1400/unrated) was won by Alex Bruzzo, 4-0, with Shaun Kelly taking 2nd at 3-1. The U1000/unrated prize was won by first-time tournament player Sarah Stephan Maxwell, 2-2. Steven Tomak directed. – *Barbara McCaleb*

# 2006 SCCF SENIOR OPEN

**April 29th and 30th** Must be 50 years or older!

5 Round Swiss $1,600 Guaranteed Prize Fund

The San Diego Chess Club 2225 Sixth Avenue

In San Diego's beautiful Balboa Park

3 games on Saturday: All at G/90 min w/20 sec time delay
Round 1 at 10 AM, Round 2 at 2 PM, Round 3 at 6 PM
2 games on Sunday: Both at 40/2, G/1, with 5 sec delay
Round 4 at 10 AM, Round 5 at 4 PM (or 3 PM if both players agree, are willing to start early and pairings are up)
Just One Section unless we have more than 40 players
First Place $500, Second Place $300, Third Place $150
Best Under 2100 $150, Second U2100 $50
Best Under 1900 $150, Second U1900 $50
Best Under 1700 $150, Second U1700 $50
Best Game $25, Biggest Upset $25

**Entry Fee:** $50 in advance, or $60 after 4/28/06, Mail to: SDCC, PO Box 120162, San Diego CA 92120. Must be a current USCF & SCCF ($14 a year) to play. One ½ point available in Rnds 1-4 only

**Registration:** 9 to 9:45 AM Saturday April 29, lots of free parking

For more **Info**: call (619) 239-7166 after 4 PM or see our website Groups.msn.com/sandiegochess. Wheelchair friendly, no smoking

**Hotels:** None really close to club, but plenty in Mission Valley, go on internet to find best rates, or call club about hospitality program where friendly club members may offer space in home on Sat night

Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Byes: Rd 1 Rd 2 Rd 3 Rd 4 Rd 5 Rating _____ USCF # _____ Expires _____

# Where to Play Chess

**ARCADIA.** The Arcadia Chess Club meets at 6:30 p.m. Mondays in the Senior Citizens building, 405 S. Santa Anita Ave. Continuous rated tournaments, casual play. Dues: $10/year, $7.50/year for juniors and seniors. Call Fred Brock at (626) 331-1638 or Mel Clark at (626) 447-9355. Web site: www.geocities.com/arcadiachessclub.

**ARCADIA.** A youth group meets for casual play 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Fridays in Diversity Educational Center, Suite A, 1012 S. Baldwin Ave. For students in kindergarten, elementary school and junior high. Occasional Sunday tournaments. Free. Call Roel Sanchez at (626) 254-9951. Web site: www.diversityeducationalcenter.com.

**BISHOP.** Kava Coffee House, 206 N. Main St., welcomes chessplayers. Chessboards are available at all hours. Call (760) 872-1010.

**BURBANK.** A group meets Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Joslyn Center, 1301 W. Olive St. (at Griffith Park Drive). Casual play, ages 55 and up only. No dues. Call (818) 238-5353.

**BURBANK.** A group meets Fridays from 5.15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in McCambridge Park, 1515 N. Glenoaks Blvd. Casual play, tournaments possible. Call Emil Klimach at (818) 845-1104.

**CARLSBAD.** A group meets 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Ave. Casual play. Most attendees are over age 55, but younger adults are welcome. No dues. Call (760) 602-4650.

**CLOVIS.** The Maharlika Chess Club meets 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Fridays in Carl's Jr. at 818 W. Shaw Ave. in Clovis, CA. Casual play, blitz, occasional tournaments. No dues. Call Sam Roamboa at (559) 222-4354.

**COLTON.** A group meets 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday nights in a private room at Denny's restaurant, 160 W. Valley Blvd. Casual play, blitz. Call Denny's at (909) 824-2132.

**CORONA.** Chessplayers are invited to play on Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., at All About Coffee, 2276 Griffin Way, Suite #108. Casual chess, blitz (bring your clocks). Call Steven Burleson at (951) 549-6710.

**COSTA MESA.** The Chess Center meets in the Odd Fellows/Rebekah Hall, 2476 Newport Blvd. Rated tournaments at 7:30 p.m. Tournaments Wednesdays, Fridays, Sundays, casual play Thursdays, monthly Octos tournaments on Saturdays, Chess classes for children, scholastic tournaments, casual play, lectures, lending library of chess videos, chess supplies for sale. For information, call Al Massip at (949) 646-6696. Web site: www.chess-center.com.

**ENCINITAS.** A group meets 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mondays in the Senior Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Drive. Casual play, ages 55 and up only. No dues. Call (760) 943-2250.

**ESCONDIDO.** The Palomar Chess Club meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Escondido Bridge Center, 2427 S. Center City Parkway. Continuous rated tournaments. Call John Goddard at (760) 591-0200 or palomarchessclub@cox.net. Web site: www.sdchess.com.

**ESCONDIDO.** A group meets noon to 4 p.m. weekdays in the Senior Center, 210 Park Ave. Casual play, ages 50 and up. No dues. For information, call (760) 839-4688.

**FRESNO.** The Fresno Chess Club meets 6:00 p.m. to midnight Mondays in Carl's Jr. restaurant, 3820 N. Cedar. Rated tournament in May, non-rated quick chess quads, casual play, chess library, newsletter. Dues: $15/year, $8/year for students, women, and those who live outside Fresno County. Contact Aaron Hise at (559) 228-8089 or send a message to aaron.hise@sbcglobal.net.

**GLENDALE.** The chess park at 227 N. Brand Blvd. is open day and night for casual play. Speed tournaments Friday evening, occasional weekend tournaments.

**HAWTHORNE.** The Alondra Park Chess Club's temporary home is in Bodger Park, 14900 S. Yukon Ave. The club meets 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tuesdays. Rated six-round tournaments at 7:00 p.m., speed chess on seventh Tuesday, no smoking. Dues: $5/year plus $5/tournament, $2.50/year for juniors. Call Steve Boak at

(310) 607-9751.Website. www.geocities.com/alondra_park_cc.

**HEMET.** The Hemet Chess Club meets 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Thursdays in the clubhouse library of Colonial Country Club MH Estates, 601 N. Kirby St. Casual play, rating system, refreshments. Dues: $20/year, less for juniors. Call Marcos Montes at (951) 252-5926.

**IRVINE.** A group meets at lunch time (11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) Fridays at Knowlwood Restaurant, 14952 Sand Canyon Ave. Speed chess, analysis. Bring equipment. Contact David Zechiel at david@zechiel.com.

**JOSHUA TREE.** The Joshua Tree Chess Club meets 5:30 p.m. to midnight Fridays at Faith Lutheran Church, 6336 Hallee Rd. in Joshua Tree. Casual play, occasional tournaments, some instruction, junior chess program. Contact Mark Muller at (760) 367-2311 or at muller29@adelphia.net or call Henry Schmit at (760) 367-7173.

**LA HABRA.** The La Habra Chess Club meets at 6:00 p.m. Fridays in the Community Center, 101 W. La Habra Blvd. Continuous rated tournaments, casual play, instruction for beginners, USCF membership required, all visitors welcome. Dues: $3/year, $1.50/year for juniors under 18. Call Jerry Schain at (562) 691-2393.

**LA PALMA.** The La Palma Chess Club meets 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Fridays in Central Park, 7821 Walker St. Rated tournaments, Action chess, casual play. Dues: $10/year. Entry fees: $35 for three months of rated tournament play. Call Leigh Hunt at (714) 635-0448 or Mike Brady at (562) 867-8248. Web site: www.lapalmachess.741.com.

**LAGUNA BEACH.** People gather to play chess at the permanent chess table on the boardwalk.

**LAGUNA WOODS.** The Leisure World Chess Club meets 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mondays and 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursdays in the Community Center building in Leisure World. Guests are welcome. Casual play, ladder competition, occasional simul. Call Alan Brown at (949) 206-1039.

**LAWNDALE.** The Alondra Park Chess Club has moved to temporary quarters in Bodger Park, 14900 S. Yukon Ave. in Hawthorne.

**LONG BEACH.** The chess room in Bixby Park, 130 Cherry Ave., is open for casual play from noon to 5:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and noon to 4:00 p.m. Saturdays. Free.

**LONG BEACH.** Players gather for casual play at Golden Burger, 2301 E. 4th St., after the chess room in Bixby Park closes. Call the restaurant at (562) 434-2625.

**LOS ALAMITOS.** Chess Palace, 4336 Katella Ave., is open 6:00 p.m. to 10 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:30 am to 10:00 p.m. Saturdays, and 11:00 am to 7:00 p.m. Sundays. Closed Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Wide variety of rated tournaments, Action chess, youth tournaments, scholastic chess camps, blitz, occasional lectures and simuls, large selection of chess books, computers, and equipment for sale, lending library of chess videos, excellent Web site: Dues: $3/day or $99/year. Call Alfred Ong or Austin Ong at (562) 598-5099. Web site: www.chesspalace.com.

**LOS ANGELES.** The Exposition Park Chess Club meets 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sundays in the Exposition Park branch of the public library, 3665 S. Vermont Ave. Casual play, lectures, simuls, instruction, free tournament on the first Sunday of every month. No dues. Call the library at (323) 732-0169 or send a message to the club secretary at expochess07@yahoo.com. Web site: http.//chess.expoparkla.com.

**LOS ANGELES.** A group meets at 6 p.m. Mondays in the Baldwin Hills branch of the public library, 2906 S. La Brea Ave. Casual play, instruction for beginners. All ages welcome, especially children and teenagers. Call the library at (323) 733-1196.

**LOS ANGELES.** A group of seniors meets Monday and Friday mornings at 8:00 a.m. in the Freda Mohr Community Building, 330 N. Fairfax Ave. Casual play, no smoking.

**LOS ANGELES.** The Los Angeles Chess Club (LACC) meets on the second floor of 11514 Santa Monica Blvd., above Javan restaurant. Variety of tournaments and instruction on Saturdays, Sundays, Tuesday evenings and Wednesday evenings. Dues: adults $120/year, juniors/seniors $100/year or $5/visit for nonmembers, first visit free. Call Mick Bighamian at (310) 795-5710 or send a message to Mick@LaChessClub.com. Web site: www.lachessclub.com.

**LOS ANGELES.** The California Chess Club at 11610 W. Olympic Blvd. offers a variety of tournaments and instruction for children and adults. For times and prices, contact Oscar Maldonado at (310) 473-2435 or at echessoscar@aol.com. Web site: www.californiachessclub.com

**LOS ANGELES.** Tang's Donuts, 4341 W. Sunset Blvd., welcomes chessplayers for casual play and speed chess, especially late at night.

**MORRO BAY.** A group meets 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays at the big chess board on Embarcadero at Morro Bay Blvd. Chess pieces may be checked out weekdays from the Parks and Recreation Dept. Call Eugene Arcamonte at (805) 528-4079 or Fred Brown at (805) 772-7074.

**OCEANSIDE.** The Oceanside Chess Club meets 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesdays in the North River Road Neighborhood Center, 5306 N. River Rd. Casual play, occa-

sional rated tournaments. No dues required. Call James Fritz at (760) 967-0717.

**NATIONAL CITY.** The National City Chess Club meets noon to 10:00 p.m. daily at 1341 E. 8th St. Scholastic instruction and casual play Tuesdays, Gambito tournaments every other Saturday. Free instruction for scholastic members ages 7 to 12. Dues: $120/year, $15/month, $1.50/visit, free to masters. Call Jorge Balares at (619) 477-3118 or (619) 788-8395. Web site: www.nationalcitychessclub.com.

**NEWBURY PARK.** The Boney Mountain Chess Club will continue its tournament schedule with a five-round Swiss beginning Feb. 24 at Borchard Community Center, 190 Reino Rd. The club plans weekly events on Friday evenings, plus special weekend events. Call Akagi Kayashima at (805) 368-5918 or write to him at chessdreamsorg@aol.com to request a free e-mail club calendar with descriptions.

**ORANGE.** The Orange Senior Club meets from noon to 4:00 p.m. Tuesdays in the Orange Senior Citizens Community Center, 170 S. Olive St. in Orange. Casual play, all ages welcome. For information, call (714) 538-9633.

**PASADENA.** The Pasadena Chess Club meets 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Fridays in Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles Ave. Rated tournaments, Action chess, quick chess, occasional exhibitions. Dues: $15/year. Call Neil Hultgren at (818) 243-3809 or Tim Thompson at (818) 354-8698. Web site: www.tim-thompson.com/pasadena.html.

**PASO ROBLES.** The Paso Robles Chess Club meets 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesdays in the Senior Center, 270 Scott St. Casual play, tournaments. Dues: $15/year. Call Dennis Steele at (805) 227-4444. Web site: www.chessmaniac.com/pasoclub.

**POWAY.** The North County Chess Club meets 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Fridays in the Poway Senior Center, 13094 Bowron Rd. Continuous rated tournaments, casual play. Dues: $25/year, $10/year for juniors. Call Mike Nagaran at (858) 485-0241.

**REDLANDS.** The Joslyn Center Chess Club meets 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays in the Joslyn Senior Center, 21 Grant St. Casual play, non-rated tournaments. No dues. Call the Senior Center at (909) 798-7550.

**REDLANDS.** Another group meets 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Tuesdays in the Community Center, 111 W. Lugonia Ave. Call (909) 798-7579.

**RIDGECREST.** The Ridgecrest Chess Club meets 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturdays in the Kern County Library (west entrance), 131 E. Las Flores Ave. Casual play, occasional scholastic and club tournaments. No dues. Contact Dwight Morgan at (760) 377-0034 or dmorgan@iwvisp.com.

**RIVERSIDE.** A group meets for casual play and blitz at 8:30 p.m. Thursday evenings in Back 2 the Grind Café, 3575 University Ave. "Quick Thursdays" G/15 quads on the first Thursday of every month, register at 8 p.m. Bring equipment. Call the café at (951) 784-0800 or e-mail Tyrone Liddell at TD@TheChessUnion.com. Web site: www.TheChessUnion.com.

**RUNNING SPRINGS.** The Mountain Chess League meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays in The Fireside, 32031 Holiday Lane. Casual play, must be over age 21. Annual team tournament starts in March. No dues. Call Don La Suer at (909) 867-4994 or send a message to donculo@earthlink.net.

**SAN DIEGO.** The San Diego Chess Club meets daily in the Balboa Club, 2225 6th Ave. (at Ivy) in Balboa Park. Club opens for casual play at 2:00 p.m. weekdays, 10:00 a.m. Saturdays, and noon Sundays. Rated tournaments at 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. Saturdays, Action chess, speed chess, instruction by master Bruce Baker at 7:00 p.m. Thursdays, Jedi Knights children's club from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Fridays. Dues: $48/year. Call the club at (619) 239-7166. Web site: http://groups.msn.com/SanDiegoChess/.

**SAN DIMAS.** Coffee Bazaar, 661 W. Arrow Highway, welcomes chessplayers. Bring your chess set. Call (909) 394-1964.

**SAN LUIS OBISPO.** The San Luis Obispo Chess Club meets 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Thursdays in the Church of the Nazarene, 3396 Johnson Ave. Casual play, lectures, occasional tournaments. Dues: $15/year, $5/year for students. Contact Barbara McCaleb at (805) 544-0717 or bmccaleb@calpoly.edu.

**SAN LUIS OBISPO.** The 2 Dogs Chess Club meets 6 p.m. to closing at 2 Dogs Coffee Company, 1017 Monterey St. Casual play. Call (805) 543-5282.

**SANTA CLARITA.** The California Youth Chess League offices at 25864 Tournament Rd., Suite G, are open for casual play and blitz Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. All ages welcome. Kids usually leave by 8:00 p.m. No dues. Contact Jay Stallings at (661) 288-1705 or at coachjay@cycl.org.

**SANTA MONICA.** The Santa Monica Bay Chess Club meets 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Mondays in Joslyn Park, 633 Kensington Road. Variety of rated tournaments, casual play, simuls, excellent playing conditions, over 50 years in business. Dues: $40/year, free to women and juniors. Call Pete Savino at (310) 827-2789. Website: www.santamonicachess.com

**SANTA MONICA.** Chess tables are available from sunup to sundown

daily at the Santa Monica International Chess Park, on the promenade just south of the Santa Monica pier. Casual chess, blitz, chess bulletin board, large demonstration board, occasional summer tournaments. No dues.

**VENTURA.** The Ventura County Chess Club meets on the first Tuesday, the second Monday, and the later Tuesdays each month in the Church of the Foothills, 6279 Foothill Rd. Rated tournaments, casual play. Dues: $35:00/year, $17.50/year for juniors and military, $2:00/night for non-members. Call Jimmy Sweet at (805) 659-0356 or Chuck Smith at (805) 654-8472. Web site: http.//users.adelphia.net/~sdall/

**WEST COVINA.** The West Covina Chess Club meets 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Senior Center, 2501 E. Cortez St. All ages welcome. Casual play, rated and non-rated tournaments on Tuesdays. Bring chess equipment. No speed chess! Call Richard Williams at (626) 966-6311.

**WEST HILLS.** The West Valley Chess Club meets 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Thursdays in the West Valley Jewish Community Center, 22622 Vanowen St. Open to all, continuous rated tournaments, blitz, casual play. One of the largest local clubs. Call John Price at (818) 363-1379 or Duane Cooper at (818) 999-0837. Web site: www.geocities.com/westhillschess.

## *The Long View*

by John Hillery

A striking combination by Zukertort, perhaps the best of the "old school" masters. After his defeat by Steinitz in 1886, it became clear that Steinitz's positional theories had brought a new aspect to the game.

**Zukertort – Blackburne**
**London, 1883**
**A13 ENGLISH OPENING**

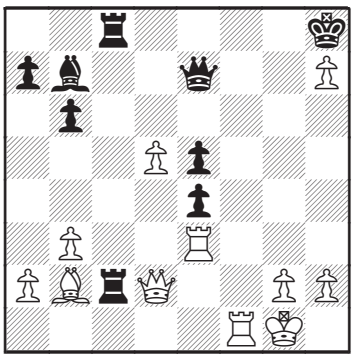
**1. c4 e6 2. e3 Nf6 3. Nf3 b6 4. Be2 Bb7 5. 0-0 d5 6. d4 Bd6 7. Nc3 0-0 8. b3 Nbd7 9. Bb2 Qe7**

More prudent was 9. ... a6, preserving the important dark-squared Bishop.

**10. Nb5 Ne4 11. Nxd6 cxd6 12. Nd2 Ndf6 13. f3 Nxd2 14. Qxd2 dxc4 15. Bxc4 d5**

Now both sides have a "bad" Bishop. White plans to advance in the center with e3-e4, while Black pins his hopes on the c-file.

**16. Bd3 Rfc8 17. Rae1 Rc7 18. e4 Rac8 19. e5 Ne8 20. f4 g6 21. Re3 f5 22. exf6 Nxf6 23. f5 Ne4 24. Bxe4 dxe4 25. fxg6 Rc2 26. gxh7+ Kh8 27. d5+ e5**



Now it seems that White must lose a piece, but the active White Rooks, the exposed position of the Black King, and the strong Bishop on b2 provide the basis for an "overloading" combination.

**28. Qb4! R8c5**

On 28. ... Qxb4 29. Bxe5+ Kxh7 30. Rh3+ Black will soon be mated. **29. Rf8+ Kxh7 30. Qxe4+ Kg7 31. Bxe5+ Kxf8 32. Bg7+ Kg8 33. Qxe7, Black resigns**

## *Solutions to Chess Quiz* (see page 24)

**1) Tatarintsev – Tsemtsov, USSR 1966:** White begins with the *pseudo-sacrifice* **1. Qf3 Bxb3** Of course not 1. … bxf3? 2. Rxf7#. If 1. ... Nf6 2. Rxf7+ Kg8 3. Bxd5 Qxd5 4. Rf8+ Kxf8 5. Qxf6+ Qf7 6. Ne6+ Kg8 7. Qd8+ is decisive, and 1. ... Ne7 2. Bxd5 Qxd5 3. Qf6 Nd7 4. Ne6+ is no better. Now follows an *eliminating sacrifice* to create a winning *pin*: **2. Rxf7+ Bxf7 3. Ne6+ 1–0**

**2) Mariotti – Panchenko, Las Palmas 1978:** The *diverting sacrifice* 1. Rb6 draws the Black Queen from its strong defensive position, allowing mate after **1. … Qxb6 2. Qh8+ Kg6 3. Bh5# 1–0**

**3) Faulkner – Learner, Southend 1979:** White first eliminates the only active Black piece with **1. Rxd4** (Of course not 1. Nef6? Nf3+), and after **1. ... Bxh3** (or 1. ... Bxd4) **2. Nef6 Bxf6 3. Qxf6** mate is inevitable.

## *Pasadena Club Championship*

The Pasadena Chess Club is happy to announce that its club championship (the longest-running in Southern California) will offer a $750 guaranteed prize fund. Details:

One game each Friday night, Feb 24 - March 31.

Second floor, Throop Memorial Church, 300 S Los Robles (NE corner of Del Mar), Pasadena.

**Registration:** 6:30- 6:50, rounds at 7, 40/90, SD/30

**Entry fee:** $20, club membership $15 annually for adults, $10 for juniors.

**Prizes:** $150 - 75 - 40, Under 2000 80 - 40, Under 1800 80 - 40, Under 1600 70 - 35, Under 1400 60 - 30, Unrated 50

**Info:** Randy Hough, randallhough@yahoo.com

# Games From Recent Events

## *Golden Goose*

Melikset Khachiyan earned the best game prize in the Golden Goose Open for the game below against Julian Landaw. Note by *Los Angeles Times* chess columnist Jack Peters, who judged the submissions.

**Julian Landaw – IM Melikset Khachiyan**
**Golden Goose Open, Los Angeles 2006**
**B24 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Closed Variation**

| | |
|---|---|
| **1. e4** | **c5** |
| **2. Nc3** | **Nc6** |
| **3. g3** | **g6** |
| **4. Bg2** | **Bg7** |
| **5. d3** | |

The Closed Sicilian. White cedes d4 to prepare a slow buildup on the Kingside.

| | |
|---|---|
| **5. …** | **Rb8** |
| **6. f4** | **d6** |
| **7. Be3** | **Nd4** |
| **8. Nf3** | |

Not bad, but 8. Qd2 b5 9. Nd1 and soon c2-c3 is the simplest way to chase the Knight from d4.

| | |
|---|---|
| **8. … Bg4** | |
| **9. h3** | |

Or 9. 0-0 b5 10. Qd2.

| | |
|---|---|
| **9. … Bxf3** | |
| **10. Bxf3** | **b5** |
| **11. Bxd4!** | |

Probably the best decision.

| | |
|---|---|
| **11. …** | **Bxd4** |
| **12. Qd2** | **b4** |
| **13. Nd1** | **Bg7** |
| **14. 0-0** | **Nf6** |
| **15. Ne3?!** | |

White should insert 15. a3 a5 16. axb4 axb4 before 17. Ne3. The open a-file helps White.

| | |
|---|---|
| **15. …** | **Nd7** |
| **16. c3** | **bxc3** |
| **17. bxc3** | **0-0** |

With deceptively simple moves, Black has preempted White's Kingside dreams. If the action takes place on the Queenside, Black will have the edge.

**18. d4?!**

Black will apply Grünfeld-like pressure to White's shaky center. White should aim for a slightly passive but defensible position by 18. Rab1 Qa5 19. Nd5 or 18. Nc4 Nb6 19. Nxb6 Qxb6 20. Rf2.

| | |
|---|---|
| **18. …** | **Qa5** |
| **19. Nc4?** | |

Necessary is 19. Rad1.

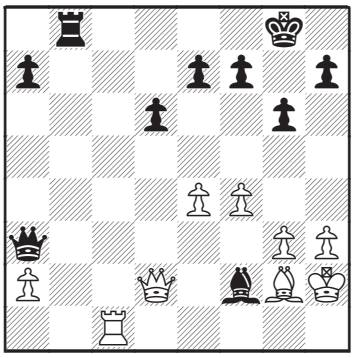
| | |
|---|---|
| **19. …** | **Qa4!** |

Eyeing both c4 and d4.

**20. Be2**

Giving up a pawn, as 20. Nb2 Qb5 is too uncomfortable.

| | |
|---|---|
| **20. …** | **cxd4** |
| **21. cxd4** | **Nb6!** |
| **22. Rac1** | **Rfc8** |
| **23. Nxb6** | **Bxd4+** |
| **24. Kh2** | **Bxb6** |
| **25. Bf3** | **Qa3** |
| **26. Bg2** | **Rxc1** |
| **27. Rxc1** | **Bf2!?** |



Cleverly forcing a winning endgame. The middlegame solution 27. ... Ba5 28. Qd1 Rb2 requires calculation of the complicated variation 29. Rc8+ Kg7 30. Qd4+ e5 31. fxe5 Rd2! 32. Qxa7 Qf3 33. Qg1 Bb6 34. Qh1 h5! 35. h4 g5!, with a dark-square breakthrough.

| | |
|---|---|
| **28. Rc3** | **Rb2** |
| **29. Rxa3** | |

Worse is 29. Qc1 Qxa2.

| | |
|---|---|
| **29. …** | **Rxd2** |
| **30. h4** | **h5** |
| **31. f5?!** | **Kg7** |
| **32. fxg6** | **fxg6** |
| **33. Kh3** | **Bc5** |
| **34. Ra4** | **Kf6** |
| **35.Bf3** | **Ke5** |
| **0-1** | |

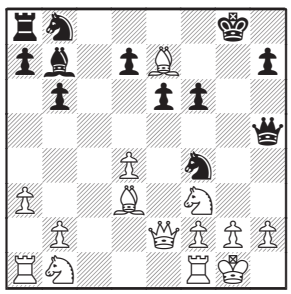
Black can create a passed pawn by ... Bc5-b6, ... e7-e6, and ... d6-d5.

## *Wild and Wooly*

Black sacrifices a Rook. White offers a Queen. Then White offers two pieces. Who's on first? Play through the game and see!

**Todd Smith (2219) – George Zeigler (2105)**
**The Masters, San Diego 2005**
**B22 SICILIAN DEFENSE, Alapin Variation**

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. c3 Nf6 4. e5 Nd5 5. Bc4 b6 6. 0–0 Bb7 7. d4 Be7 8. Qe2 0–0 9. a3 f6 10. Bd3 cxd4 11. cxd4 Qe8 12. exf6 gxf6 13. Bh6 Qh5 14. Bxf8 Nf4 15. Bxe7



15. ... Qg4 16. Bxh7+ Kg7 17.

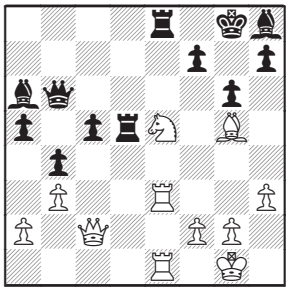
Bxf6+ Kf8 18. Nh4 Nxe2+ 19. Kh1 Kf7 20. f3 Qf4 21. Bd8 Nc6 22. g3 Qxd4 23. Bg6+ Kg7 24. Bg5 Ne5 25. Bh5 Rh8 26. Nc3 Rxh5 27. Nxe2 Qxb2 28. Bf4 Rxh4 29. Bxe5+ Qxe5 30. gxh4 Qxe2 31. Rg1+ Kh6 32. Rg3 Bxf3+ 33. Kg1 Qe3+ 34. Kf1 Qd3+ 0–1

## *Opening Book? What Opening Book?*

A new opening idea on move 2? In a Grandmaster game? Claims of the death of chess would seem to be somewhat exaggerated.

**GM Vadim Zviagintsev (2659) – GM Alexander Khalifman (2653)**
**Russian Championship Superfinal, Moscow 2005**
**B20 Sicilian Defense**

**1. e4 c5 2. Na3 Nc6 3. Bb5 Qc7 4. Nf3 g6 5. c3 a6 6. Bxc6 Qxc6 7. 0–0 Bg7 8. d4 d6 9. d5 Qc7 10. h3 Nf6 11. Bf4 0–0 12. Re1 b5 13. Qd2 Bb7 14. Rad1 Rfe8 15. c4 Qb6 16. Bh6 Bh8 17. b3 e6 18. Ng5 exd5 19. cxd5 Re7 20. Re3 Rae8 21. Rde1 a5 22. Nb1 b4 23. Qc2 Nd7 24. Nd2 Ba6 25. Ngf3 Ne5 26. Bg5 Nxf3+ 27. Nxf3 Rd7 28. e5 dxe5 29. Nxe5 Rxd5**



Now White rips open the Black Kingside with a piece sacrifice.

**30. Nxf7 Rxe3 31. Rxe3 Kxf7 32. Re7+ Kf8 33. Qe4**

Black is in trouble, but perhaps not yet lost. One try is 33. … Qd6!? 34. Bh6+ Bg7 35. Bxg7+ Kg8 36. f4 with some hope of survival.

**33. … Rd1+ 34. Kh2 Qd6+ 35. f4 Bf6 36. Bh6+ Kg8 37. Qa8+ 1–0**

## 2005-2006 State Championship

Seeded into the Championship are 2005 co-champions Andranik Matikozyan, Cyrus Lakdawala, and Melikset Khachiyan, Southern California Open champion Enrico Sevillano, and four from the 2006 Candidates Tournament.

| Date | Name | Qualifiers |
|---|---|---|
| July 2-4 | Pacific Southwest Open | Michael Casella<br>Ilia Serpik |
| July 9-17 | State Championship | Jack Peters<br>Alaa-Addin Moussa<br>Craig Clawitter<br>Ron Bruno |
| July 21-24 | Pacific Coast Open | Boris Kreiman<br>Greg Hjorth |
| August 13-14 | San Luis Obispo County Championship | John Williams<br>Steven Tomak<br>Francisco Anchondo |
| August 21 | Westwood Open | Tatev Abrahamyan |
| Sept. 4-6 | Southern California Open | Kongliang Deng<br>Francis Chen<br>Alen Melikadamian |
| October 30 | Norwalk Open | David Zimbeck |
| Nov. 24-27 | American Open | Garush Manukyan<br>Joel Banawa<br>Reynaldo del Pilar<br>Henrik Pashayan |
| December 10-11 | Joseph Ileto Memorial | Tim Taylor<br>Eduardo Ortiz<br>Ike Miller<br>Alan Bishop |
| January 20-22 | Western Class Championships | Ron Hermansen<br>Steven Van Enk<br>Gregg Small |

**Upcoming**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| April 14-16 | 4th Annual Western Pacific Open | LAX |
| April 29-30 | SCCF High School Championship | Burbank |
| May 6-7 | Los Angeles County Open | Monterey Park |
| May 19-21 | Memorial Day Classic | Burbank |

Each event qualifies two players (highest scoring Southern California residents not previously qualified) except that 1) In the event of a tie, all tied players will advance; 2) A score of 60% is required to qualify; 3) The SCCF Amateur, SCCF High School and any one-day event will each have *one* qualifying spot; and 4) All one-day tournaments shall require a 75% score and only *one* player shall qualify on tiebreak.

## *State Championship Patrons*

The following have helped support the 2006 SCCF State Championship with donations of $250 or more.

**Eric Ferguson** **Chuck Ensey** **San Diego Chess Club**

Contributions (in any amount) may be sent to SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038, or go to *www.scchess.com*.

# Upcoming Events

### February 27 - March 27

**SMBCC Club Championship.** 5-SS, 633 Kensington Road, Santa Monica 5 blocks south of Pico Blvd. 2 blocks west of Lincoln Blvd. Time control: G/1:55 EF: $25, plus annual membership: $40. **Reg**: 7 p.m. 2-27, 1/2 point byes available. Inf: Pete Savino @(310) 827-2789 www.santamonicachess.com

### March 4

**2006 Riverside Gambit Scholastic.** 4SS, G/30, Full-K. North High School, 1550 Third Street, Riverside, CA. Trophies only, b/50 Sections: Grades 9-12 Trophies 1-2-3, Grades 7-8 Trophies 1-2-3, Grades K-6 Trophies 1-2-3, Highest Score K-3 Trophy. **EF:** $10 by 2/23, $25 at site. **Reg:** 8:30-9:15 a.m. **Rds:** 10-11:10-12:45-2. **Inf:** Dr. K. Atkinson 951-536-9004, katkinson@north.rusd.k12.ca.us. Bring clocks, lunch break at noon **Ent:** Checks to "John W. North High School" 1550 Third Street, Riverside, CA 92507. NS, NC, W

### March 18

**Costa Mesa Octos.** 3-SS, 35/90, SD/30. 8 player sections by rating. Odd Fellows/Rebekah Hall, **2476 Newport Blvd.,** Costa Mesa, CA. **EF:** $27 advance, $32 at site, $2 disc. to all Southern Calif. Chess Federation members. **$$** prizes per entries. **Reg.** 9:15-10 a.m. **Rds.** 10:15-2:45-6:45. **Info/Ent:** Takashi Iwamoto (takashi@cox.net), 24275 Tama Lane, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677. Home: (949) 643-2981 Cell: (949) 689-3511. NS, NC.

### March 25

**Chess Union Spring Open.** 3-SS, G/75. Back to the Grind Café (lower level), 3575 University Ave Riverside, CA. $$Top 2 Gtd., U1800 and U1500 prizes b/30 **EF:** $24 online/mail received by 3-18, $30 at door. **Reg:** 9:30-10:15 a.m. **Rds:** 10:30-1:15-4:00. **Ent:** Checks out to the "Blueprint Association," PO Box 1313, Bloomington, CA 92316. **Info:** at TheChessUnion.com or call Tyrone Liddell (951) 990-7990. No checks or credit card entries at door. NC. No time delay allowed.

### April 14-16

**4th Annual Western Pacific Open.** 5-SS, 3-day 40/2, SD/1, 2-day rds. 1-2 G/75 then merges. LAX Hilton, 5711 W Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045. $$10,000 b/200, 50% of each prize guaranteed. **In 3 sections: Open:** 1600-1000-800-400-200 plus $200(G) bonus for clear first, U2400 300, U2300 200, U2200 700-500-300. **EF:** $81 if received by 4/13, $97 door. **Premier** (U2000): $$ 700-500-300-100, U1800 400-200-150, U1600 400-200-150. **EF:** $81 if received by 4/13, $97 door, no unrated. **Amateur** (U1400): $$400+trophy-200-100, U1200 100+trophy, Unr 100+trophy, unrated may win unrated prize only. **EF:** $66 if received by 4/13, $80 door. **On-line entry**: www.westernchess.com. No checks or credit card entries at door. **All:** $25 Best Game prize, all sections eligible. One half-point bye if requested with entry, rds 4-5 cannot be revoked. SCCF membership req. of S. Cal. res., $14 reg, $9 junior. **Reg:** 5:30-6:30 p.m. 4/14, 8:30-10 a.m. 4/15. Rds: 3-day 7 p.m., 11-5:30, 10-4:30. 2-day: 10:30-1:30 (G/75), then merges. **HR:** $94, (310) 410-4000. Be sure to mention Western Chess. **Parking** $7/day. **Inf:** admin@westernchess.com. **Web site:** www.westernchess.com. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038. NS. NC. F. **GP: 40. State Championship Qualifier.**

### April 16

**Western Pacific Hexes.** 3-RR, G/90 LAX Hilton, 5711 W Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045. 6-player sections by rating. $$40-20-10 each section. **EF**: $20 if received by 4/13, $25 door. **Reg**: 9:30-10:30 a.m. **Rds** 10:45-2-5. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038. **On-line ent:** www.westernchess.com

### April 16

**Western Pacific Scholastics.** 5-SS, SD/45. LAX Hilton, 5711 W Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Open to gr. 12-below. **In two sections: Open**: Trophies to top 5, top 3 U1200, top 2 Unrated, best each grade 12-11-10-9/below. **Grade 6/below U1000:** Trophies to top 5, top 3 U700, top 2 Unrated, best each grade 6-5-4-3-2-1/below. **Reg**: 8:30-9:15. **Rds** 9:30-11-1:00-2:30-4. **EF**: $16 if received by 4/13, $20 door. **On-line ent:** www.westernchess.com. **Inf**: John Hillery, admin@westernchess.com. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038.

### April 22

**Costa Mesa Octos.** 3-SS, 35/90, SD/30. 8 player sections by rating. Odd Fellows/Rebekah Hall, **2476 Newport Blvd.,** Costa Mesa, CA. **EF:** $27 advance, $32 at site, $2 disc. to all Southern Calif. Chess Federation members. **$$** prizes per entries. **Reg.** 9:15-10 a.m. **Rds.** 10:15-2:45-6:45. **Info/Ent:** Takashi Iwamoto (takashi@cox.net), 24275 Tama Lane, Laguna Niguel, CA

92677. Home: (949) 643-2981 Cell: (949) 689-3511. NS, NC.

### May 6-7

**8th Annual Los Angeles County Open.** 5-SS, rds. 1-3 30/85, SD/30, rds. 4-5 40/2, SD/1. Sierra Vista Community Center, 311 N Rural Dr, Monterey Park, CA 91755. **EF**: $30 rec'd by 5/4, $40 door. **Special EF**: $10 for juniors not competing for cash prizes (trophies to top five). $$1100 Gtd: $300-200-100, U2200, U2000, U1800, $100 each, U1600, U1400 $75 each, Unr $50. SCCF mem. req. ($14 reg, $9 jr), OSA. **Reg**: 8:45-9:40. **Rds**: 10-2-6, 10-4. Up to two half-pt byes if requested w/entry. **Info**: Randy Hough (626) 282-7412, randallhough@yahoo.com. **Ent**: SCCF, PO Box 205, Monterey Park, CA 91754**. NS. NC. W. GP: 10. State Championship Qualifier.**

### May 19-21

**2006 Lina Grumette Memorial Day Classic.** 5-SS, 3-day 40/2, SD/1, 2-day rds. 1-2 G/75 then merges. Burbank Airport Hilton, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank CA (adjacent to Burbank Airport). $$10,000 b/200, 60% of each prize guaranteed. **In five sections: Open:** $$T+1700-750-400-300-200, U2400 400, U2200 700-300-200. **Premier** (under 2000): $$750-300-200-100. **Amateur** (Under 1800): $$750-300-200-100. **Reserve** (Under 1600): $$750-300-200-100. **Booster** (Under 1400/unrated): $$T+400-200-100, U1200 T+150, Unr T+150. (Unrated may win Unrated prizes only.) **EF**: $81 if received by 5/17, $97 door. Premier (U2000): $$ 700-500-300-100, U1800 400-200-150, U1600 400-200-150. EF: $81 if received by 4/13, $97 door, no unrated. **Amateur** (U1400): $$400+trophy-200-100, U1200 100+trophy, Unr 100+trophy, unrated may win unrated prize only. **EF**: $66 if received by 4/13, $80 door. On-line entry: www.westernchess.com. No checks or credit card entries at door. **All**: $25 Best Game prize, all sections eligible. One half-point bye if requested with entry, rds 4-5 cannot be revoked. SCCF membership req. of S. Cal. res., $14 reg, $9 junior. **Reg**: 5:30-6:30 p.m. 5/19, 8:30-10 a.m. 4/15. Rds: 3-day 7 p.m., 11-5:30, 10-4:30. 2-day: 10:30-1:30 (G/75), then merges. HR: $99, (818) 843-6000 or (800) 840-6450. Be sure to mention Western Chess. Parking $8/day. Info: admin@westernchess.com. Web site: www.westernchess.com. Ent: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038. **NS. NC. F GP: 40. State Championship Qualifier.**

### May 21

**MDC Hexes.** 3-SS, G/90. Burbank Airport Hilton, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank CA (adjacent to Burbank Airport). 6-player sections by rating. $$40-20-10 each section. **EF**: $20 if received by 5/17, $25 door. **Reg**: 9:30-10:15 a.m. **Rds**: 10:30-1:30-4:30. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038. On-line ent: www.westernchess.com.

### May 21.

**MDC Action Swiss.** 5-SS, G/30. Burbank Airport Hilton, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank CA (adjacent to Burbank Airport). $$500 b/40, else proportional: $150-70-40, U2100/Unr $80, U1800 $80, Under 1500 $80. **EF**: $20 if received by 5-17, $25 at door. **Reg**: 9-10 a.m. **Rds**: 10:15-11:30-12:45-2:30-3:45. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038, online at www.westernchess.com.

### May 21

**MDC Scholastics.** 5-SS, SD/45. Burbank Airport Hilton, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank CA (adjacent to Burbank Airport).Open to gr. 12-below. **In two sections: Open:** Trophies to top 5, top 3 U1200, top 2 Unrated, best each grade 12-11-10-9/below. **Grade 6/below U1000:** Trophies to top 5, top 3 U700, top 2 Unrated, best each grade 6-5-4-3-2-1/below. **Reg**: 8:30-9:15. **Rds**: 9:30-11-1:00-2:30-4. **EF**: $16 if received by 5/17, $20 door. On-line ent: www.westernchess.com. Info: admin@westernchess.com. **Ent**: SCCF, c/o John Hillery, 835 N. Wilton Pl. #1, Los Angeles CA 90038.

## 2006 Super State Scholastics

*(Includes SCCF High School Championship)*

**April 28-30**

Burbank Airport Hilton, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank CA

10 sections *(7 rated, 3 unrated)*

Details: ***www.chess4children.com***

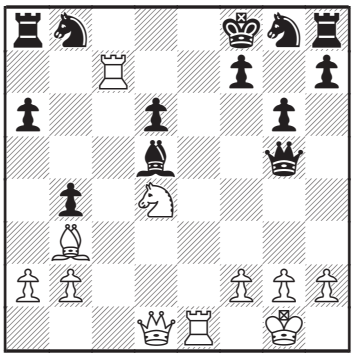
### Scholastic Chess Calendar
(prepared by Joe Hanley)

**March**
11 – Morrison Scholastic, Buena Park (Dewain Barber)
18 – AAA Scholastic (Glendale)
25 – Bakersfield
26 – Diversity Ed. Ctr. Winter Blitz
31-Apr. 2 – Western States Scholastic (Ventura)

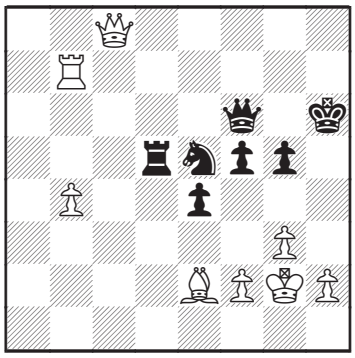
**April**
1 – So. Cal Scholastic Chess League
7-9 – U.S. K-9 Championships
16 – WPO Scholastics (LAX)
21-23 – U.S. K-12 Championships
29-30 – Super State Scholastics (Burbank)

**May**
6 – American Heritage Spring Classic, Bakersfield
12-14 – U.S. K-6 Championships, Denver, CO
20 – CYCL Championships
21 – MDC Scholastics

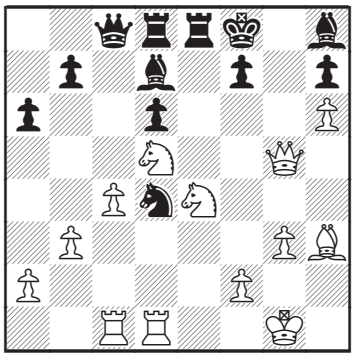
**June**
3 – AAA Scholastics, Glendale
3 – Warner Summer Scholastic
10 – Westwood Charter Summer Scholastic



**Tatarintsev – Tsemtsov**
**USSR 1966**
**White to move**



**Mariotti - Panchenko**
**Las Palmas 1978**
**White to move**



**Faulkner - Learner**
**Southend 1979**
**White to move**

**Solutions on page 19**

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SCCF
PO Box 205
Monterey Park CA 91754