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**Big Scholastic Chess Issue:  
Cal-Chess Scholastics**  
 Nicholas Yap is the 2005 Denker representative.  
 Playoff needed to determine Polgar representative.  
 Coverage of the 2005 CalChess Scholastics begins on page 4.  
 900 kids play at the **Northern California Regionals!** (p.16)  
**Inaugural San Francisco Kids' Championship** (p.10)



**Garry Kasparov retires from professional chess! See Eric Schiller's retrospective on page 13.**  
 Photo by Elizabeth Karnazes



**What are Elizabeth Shoughnessy and Alan Kirschner smiling about? 900 smiling kids enjoying the Northern Regional Scholastics in San Jose! Full report with photos begins on page 9.**  
 Photo by Michael Aigner



**Grandmaster Leonid Shamkovich (1924-2005)**

**Big 32 page issue with all the big scholastic results!**

As this issue was going to press, we learned of the recent death of Grandmaster Leonid Shamkovich. A tribute will be presented in our next issue.

# Northern California Tournament Calendar

by Michael Aigner, CalChess Clearinghouse Coordinator

The following clubs offer weekly rated play. See [www.calchess.org](http://www.calchess.org) for other local chess clubs.

weekly	Mon	East Bay Chess Club Mini-Marathon (EBC)	Berkeley
weekly	Tue	Mechanics' Institute Tuesday Night Marathon (MIC)	San Francisco
weekly	Tue	Visalia Chess Club (VIC)	Visalia
weekly	Wed	Sacramento Chess Club	Sacramento
weekly	Thu	Burlingame Chess Club (BCC)	Burlingame
weekly	Thu	Kolty Chess Club (KCC)	Campbell
weekly	Fri	Berkeley City Chess Club, (EBC)	Berkeley
May 14	Sat	5 <sup>th</sup> Charles Powell Memorial G/45 (MIC)	San Francisco
May 15	Sun	East Bay Chess Club Open Quads (EBC)	Berkeley
Jun 4-5	Sat-Sun	<b>42<sup>nd</sup> Arthur Stamer Memorial (MIC)</b>	San Francisco
June 11-12	Sat-Sun	East Bay Chess Club Open Swiss (EBC)	Berkeley
Jun 25	Sat	5 <sup>th</sup> William Addison Open G/45 (MIC)	San Francisco
July 2-4	Sat-Mon	<b>Sacramento Chess Championship (CAL)</b>	Sacramento
Jul 16	Sat	5 <sup>th</sup> Charles Bagby Memorial G/45 (MIC)	San Francisco
Aug 6	Sat	5 <sup>th</sup> Vladimir Pafnutieff Memorial G/45 (MIC)	San Francisco
Aug 20-21	Sat-Sun	Bernardo Smith Amateur (Under 1800) (MIC)	San Francisco
Sep 3-5	Sat-Mon	<b>CalChess Labor Day Festival (CalChess)</b>	San Francisco
Sep 24-25	Sat-Sun	Vallejo Chess Tournament (VAC)	Vallejo
<b>Scholastic Tournaments</b>			
May 14	Sat	Fremont Middle School Schol. Chess Championships	Fremont
May 21	Sat	Mechanics' Institute Quads/ <b>Academic Chess League</b> (MIC)	San Francisco
June 11-12	Sat-Sun	East Bay Chess Club June Scholastic Swiss (EBC)	Berkeley
Jun 18	Sat	Mechanics' Institute Children's Quads (MIC)	San Francisco
Jun 19	Sun	<b>Cool Chess Center Parents versus Children</b>	Fremont
Jun 25	Sat	<b>Weibel Summer Quads #1 (SAK)</b>	Fremont
Jul 3	Sun	<b>Coastside Chess Meet (CCC)</b>	Half Moon Bay
Jul 9	Sat	Berkeley Chess School Summer Quads (BCS)	Berkeley
Jul 10	Sun	<b>Coastside Chess Meet (CCC)</b>	Half Moon Bay
Jun 16	Sat	<b>Weibel Summer Quads #2 (SAK)</b>	Fremont
Jul 24	Sun	<b>Coastside Chess Meet (CCC)</b>	Half Moon Bay
Jul 30	Sat	Hayward Library Scholastic Tournament (SAC)	Hayward
Jul 30-31	Sat-Sun	Mechanics' Institute Providian Jjnior Championship (MIC)	San Francisco
Aug 7	Sun	<b>Coastside Chess Meet (CCC)</b>	Half Moon Bay
Aug 13	Sat	Mechanics' Institute Children's Quads (MIC)	San Francisco

## Event Organizers

BCC	Burlingame Chess Club	<a href="http://www.burlingamechessclub.com">www.burlingamechessclub.com</a>
BCS	Berkeley Chess School	<a href="http://www.berkeleychessschool.org">www.berkeleychessschool.org</a>
CCC	Coastside Chess Club	<a href="http://www.coastsidechess.us">www.coastsidechess.us</a>
EBC	East Bay Chess Club	<a href="http://www.eastbaychess.com">www.eastbaychess.com</a>
KCC	Kolty Chess Club	<a href="http://www.angelfire.com/ca2/kolty/">www.angelfire.com/ca2/kolty/</a>
MIC	Mechanics' Institute CC	<a href="http://www.chessclub.org">www.chessclub.org</a>
SCC	Sacramento Chess Club	<a href="http://www.sacramentochessclub.org">www.sacramentochessclub.org</a>
SAK	Success Chess,/Alan Kirschner	<a href="http://www.calnortheyouthchess.org">www.calnortheyouthchess.org</a>
VAC	Vallejo Chess	<a href="mailto:firrstbjb@juno.com">firrstbjb@juno.com</a>
VIC	Visalia Chess Club	<a href="mailto:ffifela@aol.com">ffifela@aol.com</a>



**CalChess.org**

the northern california chess association

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Vice-President: Eric Hicks

Treasurer: Richard Koepcke

Secretary: Roger Poehlmann

Board Member: Jacob Green

Board Member: Joe Lonsdale

Board Member: Eric Schiller

Board Member: Steve Stacy

## From the Editor

Welcome to the latest edition of the CalChess journal. We have finally migrated to Adobe InDesign, and it will take a little time to learn the tricks, so this issue is still experimental. Let me know what you think by emailing me at [editor@calchess.org](mailto:editor@calchess.org).

The President's Letter, which usually occupies this page, will appear in the next issue, after our board meeting in June. We are now offering ad space, and I've filled this page with some samples that were due to appear next issue, since I had to adjust the page right before I take off for the big HB tournament in Minneapolis. While most of this issue has to do with scholastics, the next issue will feature local players participating in Minneapolis and Las Vegas. Deadline for submissions is June 25.



**SUMMER  
FOR  
CHILDREN  
AT  
WEIBEL IN  
FREMONT**



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**QUADS:** <http://www.CalNorthYouthChess.org/Tournaments.html>



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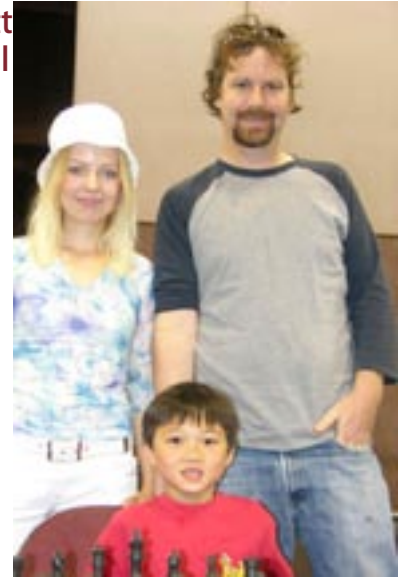
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# 2005 CalChess State Scholastic Championships

*by Joe Lonsdale, photos by Richard Shoreman*

The 30<sup>th</sup> CalChess Scholastic Championships were held at the Marriott Oakland Convention Center the weekend of April 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. Frisco Del Rosario did his usual excellent job of directing. The rounds all started on time, there were no conflicts or incidents, and awards were handed out promptly and professionally.

The winner of the HS Championship section was Nicholas Yap (2209) with 5.5 points. Nicholas was the only master in the field. He took a very unusual path to the championship. He drew his first round game against Major Castleberry (1276), and then won 5 straight games. Nicholas defeated David Chock (1913) of Saratoga in the last round to clinch the championship in the 55 player section. David finished fourth with 4.5 points. Tyler Wilken (1856) and Henry Wong (unr!) tied for second with 5 points.



Nicholas played for the Mechanics Institute which was the top Club in the High School Championship Section with 17 points. Nicholas will represent Northern California in the Denker Championship of High School State Champions. The top high school team was Saratoga High (16) followed by Mission San Jose (15.5) of Fremont and American High (14.5) of Fremont.

The high school (U 950) junior varsity (JV) section (Note, the confusing habit of calling the junior varsity section "Premier" was continued at this tournament. However, the CalChess board has decided that this confusing term will no longer be used to describe the lower sections) was won by Arnold Hua.

Arnold represented Skyline High School of Oakland. The high school JV team championship was won by Emery High of Emeryville with 14 points.

The Junior High school Champions section ended in a tie between Ted Belanoff (1627) of La Entrada School and Aaron Garg (1789) of Redwood MS in Saratoga with 5 points each. Belanoff, who defeated Garg in the last round, took the First place trophy on tiebreaks.

The top Junior High school team was Dunn Middle School of Los Olivos followed by Crocker Middle School.

The top club was Berkeley Chess School with 14.5 points followed by the Mechanics Institute with 12 points. The Junior High JV (U 850) championship was won by Howard Siu of Chinese Christian School with 6 points. The team championship was won by Emery with 14 points.



The elementary school team championship section was a tough battle between MSJE (Mission San Jose Elementary) of Fremont and Challenger School of Fremont. These schools tied for first place in the K-3 Championship section two years ago. MSJE pulled out the victory by 15 to 14.5. Forest Park of Fremont was the third place team the Elementary School Championship Division. The Mechanics Institute was the top club in this section with 11.5 points.

The Elementary (K-6) School Individual Champion was Mukund Chillakanti (1400) of Challenger with 5.5 points. Vivian Lo of Warwick was second with 5.0 points. Mukund's brother Kartik Chillakanti (1305) took third place with 4.5 points.

The Elementary School JV (U 900) championship was also won by MSJE with 20.5 points. Cherrywood of San Jose won the K-5 Championship with 18.5 points. Jason Robinett-Garcia (unr) of Cherrywood and Gordon Tom (unr) of MSJE played to a draw the last round to tie for first with 5.5 points in this section. (Note: The K-5 and K-6 sections play together, but the teams compete for separate trophies.)



The Primary (K-3) team championship was also won MSJE of Fremont with 16 points. We believe that 16 points is a record team score for this section. The K-3 Tournament is only 5 rounds. Forest Park of Fremont was the second place team.

Kevin Zhu (1368) of Happy Childhood was the top rated player in the Primary (K-3) Championship division by over 200 points. With one round to go Kevin had the only perfect score. Kevin was paired against Hemang Jangle (1105, 3 points after four rounds) of MSJE in the



last round. Hemang needed win to get into the top five. Kevin only needed a draw to win the State championship. Hemang refused several draw offers and won an exciting game.

This left Kevin tied with Hemang and three of Hemangs' teammates for first place with 4 points. The 2005 Primary (K-3) champions are (in tie break order) Kevin Zhu of Happy, Hemang Jangle, Warren Tian, Palak Goel, and James Kwok of MSJE. MSJE showed amazing depth in this section taking seven of the top twelve trophies including four of the top five. Five of these players are second graders and will be back next year.

In the Primary JV section (U 600) Forest Park



## 2005 CalChess State Scholastics Champions!

of Fremont kept MSJE from making a clean sweep of the Elementary and primary sections by edging out MSJE 14.5 to 14.0. MSJE took second place. The individual winners were Thomas Yuan of St Anthony and Suraj Nair of St Albans with perfect 6-0.

There was a K-1 section this year. This section was won by Nicholas Yip of St Anne in San Jose.

The Oakland convention center is an excellent site for a scholastic tournament. There is plenty of room to play and to wait, BART access, and room to park.



Hemang Jangle, Kevin Zhou, James Kwok



- \* K-1 Championship:  
Nicholas Nip
- \* K-3 Championship:  
Kevin Zhu  
Hemang Jangle  
Warren Tian  
Palak Goel  
James Kwok  
top school: Mission San Jose Elementary
- \* K-3 Premier (under 600):  
Thomas Yuan and Suraj Nair  
top school: Forest Park Elementary
- \* K-6 Championship:  
Mukund Chillikanti  
top school: Mission San Jose Elementary  
top club: Mechanics' Institute
- \* K-6 Premier (under 750):  
winners: Jason Robinett-Garcia and Gordon Tom  
top school: Mission San Jose Elementary
- \* K-8 Championship  
Ted Belanoff and Aaron Garg  
top school: Dunn Middle School  
top club: Berkeley Chess School
- \* K-8 Premier (under 850)  
Howard Siu  
top school: Emery Middle School
- \* K-12 Championship  
Nicolas Yap  
top girls: Louiza Livschitz and Elisha Garg  
top school: Saratoga High School  
top club: Mechanics' Institute
- \* K-12 Premier (under 950)  
Arnold Hua  
top school: Emery High School

	K CHAMPIONSHIP	St/Tm	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	<b>Rd 5</b>
1	NIP, NICHOLAS		W 14	B 8	W 4	B 2	W 3
	1337	STANNE	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
3	ZHU, JESSICA		W 16	B 9	W 23	B 11	B 1
	1023	HAPPY	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.0
4	SHAH, MAADHAV		- 17	W 12	B 1	B 8	W 11
	645	STALB	X1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0
2	FORD, JORDAN		B 15	W 7	B 5	W 1	B 10
	1106		1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0

K-3 CHAMPIONSHIP		St/Tm	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	<b>Rd 5</b>
1	ZHU, KEVIN		W 14	B 7	W 5	B 9	W 3
	1386	HAPPY	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.0
3	JANGLE, HEMANG		B 15	W 13	B 6	W 4	B 1
	1105	MSJE	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0
10	TIAN, WARREN		W 22	B 5	W 21	B 17	W 6
	810 12906125	MSJE	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0
7	GOEL, PALAK		B 19	W 1	B 14	W 2	B 4
	913 12934794	MSJE	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0
12	KWOK, JAMES		W 24	B 18	W 2	B 6	W 5
	780 12934822	MSJE	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0

K-3 PREMIER (Under 600)		St/Tm	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5
8	YUAN, THOMAS		B 49	W 41	B 37	W 47	B 21
	469	STANT	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
3	NAIR, SURAJ		W 44	B 36	W 34	B 35	W 68
	549	STALB	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
65	ALON, GABE		W 24	B 20	W 12	B 54	W 2
	unr.	GIDEON	1.0	2.0	2.5	3.5	4.5

K-6 CHAMPIONSHIP		St/Tm	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	<b>Rd 6</b>
3	CHILLAKANTI, MUKUND		B 24	W 22	B 9	W 15	B 11	W 17
	1400 12803861	CHALFR	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	5.5
4	LO, VIVIAN		W 25	B 21	W 11	B 18	B 7	W 15
	1343 12810092	WARWIC	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
7	CHILLAKANTI, KARTIK		W 27	B 33	W 20	B 11	W 4	W 30
	1305 12803862	CHALFR	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.5	3.5	4.5
17	MAHAJAN, ROHAN		W 36	B 29	W 35	B 34	W 6	B 3
	1167 12906129	CHALFR	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.5
10	SANDBERG, EVAN		B 30	W 35	W 36	B 16	B 21	W 11
	1266 12920454	MECHCC	0.0	0.5	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.5
13	ZHANG, ISAAC		W 33	B 27	W 26	B 2	W 12	B 8
	1228 12837115	ZOKICC	0.0	0.5	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.5

K-6 PREMIER (Under 750)		St/Tm	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	<b>Rd 6</b>
59	ROBINETT-GARCIA, JASON		B 8	W 13	B 1	W 86	W 3	B 73
	unr.	CHERRY	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	5.5
73	TOM, GORDON		W 24	B 29	B 6	W 2	W 21	W 59
	unr. 13062654	MSJE	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	5.5
7	HUEY, NICHOLAS		B 58	W 49	B 95	W 85	B 92	W 2
	703 12881680	STALB	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	5.0
2	CHEN, JAMES		- 53	B 47	W 64	B 73	W 56	B 7
	749 12906121	MSJE	X1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
3	ZHOU, AARON		B 54	W 94	B 68	W 89	B 59	W 21
	748 12900834	MSJE	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	5.0

92	MADAYAG, ROMEO		B 41	W 37	W 22	B 10	W 7	B 16
	unr.	CHERRY	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	5.0
71	REN, KEVIN		W 20	B 21	W 24	B 22	B 6	W 15
	unr.	MSJE	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
9	CAMPBELL, MATTHEW		B 60	W 51	B 86	W 58	B 77	W 55
	666 12851228	DOWN	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
17	XIAO, TED		W 67	B 76	W 90	B 21	W 87	B 85
	572 12901869	ZOKACC	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
25	DAILEY, DONNY		W 75	B 87	W 10	B 64	W 90	B 8
	470 12846472	WESTLA	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0

K-8 CHAMPIONSHIP		St/Tm	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6
	BELANOFF, TED		W 25	B 17	W 8	B 7	W 5	B 1
	1627 12758264	LAENTR	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	5.0
	GARG, AARON		W 23	B 13	B 15	W 21	B 11	W 3
	1789 12767235	REDW	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
	KITANO, HUGO		B 26	W 16	B 12	W 6	B 3	W 7
	1542	MECH	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.5
	LAW, KENNETH		B 28	W 18	B 11	W 3	B 15	B 5
	1479 12853850	MILLER	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.5
	XU, DAVIS		B 24	W 15	B 23	W 18	B 14	W 6
	1727 12809037	MECH	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.5	4.5

K-8 PREMIER (U-850)		St/Tm	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	<b>Rd 6</b>
4	SIU, HOWARD		B 14	W 9	B 8	W 13	W 3	B 12
	782 12909799	CHINES	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0
5	FONG, CALVIN		W 15	B 12	W 16	B 1	B 13	W 6
	746 12872073	CHINES	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.5	5.5
	PLAHA, HARJIT		- 2	W 5	B 20	W 7	B 8	W 4
	unr.	EMERY	X1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.0
8	MINTZ, MATTHEW		B 19	W 21	W 4	B 17	W 12	B 13
	248 12919245	DUNN	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0
	MA, KEAKY		W 6	B 15	B 5	W 9	B 19	W 3
	unr. 12936290	EMERY	0.5	1.5	1.5	2.0	3.0	4.0
7	WALKER, ADAM		W 17	B 13	W 15	B 12	W 20	W 10
	636 12715394	LAMESA	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0
	VERMA, SURAJ		B 7	W 19	B 9	W 8	B 15	B 11
	unr.		0.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0



K-12 CHAMPIONSHIP		St/Tm	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	<b>Rd 6</b>
1	YAP, NICOLAS		B 28	W 37	W 13	B 5	W 4	B 6
	2209 12786967	MECHCC	0.5	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.5	5.5
7	WILKEN, TYLER		B 34	W 20	B 12	W 6	B 16	W 2
	1856 12774656	DSIS	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
	WONG, HENRY		- 27	B 13	W 35	W 20	B 10	W 3
	unr. 12908518	GOLDCC	X1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
6	CHOCK, DAVID		W 33	B 21	W 11	B 7	W 2	W 1

K-12 PREMIER (Under 950)		St/Tm	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	<b>Rd 6</b>
	HUA, ARNOLD		W 7	B 5	B 10	B 12	W 15	W 1
	unr. 13148890	SKYLIN	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0
	MA, KING		W 3	B 1	W 14	B 6	W 7	B 12
	676 12936296	EMERY	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
5	MA, ANDY		B 13	W 14	W 11	B 1	W 12	B 7
	851 12934706	EMERY	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0

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*'Mini-book' clips to Book's Spine!*

# San Francisco Kids' Championships

*by Eric Hicks*

Chess has come a long way when I was a kid. I remember the only chess playing tournament in my area was a 20 kid pencil prize tourney in the local library. I could not help but think looking over the 20,000 square foot playing venue with views of Alcatraz and the Golden Gate Bridge, giant chess sets, a giant jump house, burgers and hot dogs on the barbecue...that kids today have it made. In fact I have never seen such an impressive playing venue anywhere in chess, even in adult chess.



The event started Saturday Morning. Chess For Junior came all the way down from Colorado with 8 kids in full uniform. 4-6th graders and 7th-12 graders had a 2 day venue and k-3rd graders had a one day round-robin schedule, with an option to play in the both the k-3 and the 4-6th which two kids decided to do.

The K-3 tournament was made up of 50 kids. Most of these kids decided to play unrated, and had a good time. Festivities included jump house breaks, Mother's Day cards and a chess work shop. All kids won trophies and even better..a rose to give to their mother!

The 8 person k-3 championship section was a slugfest and nothing but chess for four straight hours. In a round robin every kid plays every kid in the section. There is little waiting in between rounds. As games finish, you play the next available opponent. Since the k-3 championship section was evenly matched with many strong players, the entire four hours was needed to finish

the tournament. No fun and games for these kids. One of the most spectacular games was against prodigy 1st grader Nicholas Nip (1366) and 3rd grade stand out Alex Grossman (1250). Nicholas went up two pawns early on, but Alex battled it out, achieving a solid position in the endgame. After over an hour of duking it out, Nicholas was not able to convert his material advantage and the game was

declared a draw. After drawing a second game to Eric in an opposite



colored bishop ending...things looked grim for the top seeded Nicholas since Alex was pulling off win after win. But suddenly Alex lost his last game to Austin , and then Nicholas beat Austin ...and finally we had our 1-3rd grade champion!

Nicholas Nip won the Grand Champion award, a trophy taller than he was! Austin won 2nd, and Alex won 3rd ...but all played amazingly well. It is real refreshing it see quality chess at this age level. Watching this tournament I was sincerely excited about the prospects of the future of Northern California Chess. I have never seen this quality of chess at this age...the only sad part is their was no accurate score sheets to show off!





After the prize ceremony, Nicholas Nip decided to showcase his incredible talent with a 6 board simultaneous exhibit taking on all challengers on 6 boards. Challengers included two 1400 players, a dad, and two junior high players. Amazingly Nicholas won all but one of the games which lasted into a close end game. Remember this kid is only in 1st grade! Expect to see Nicholas more in upcoming bay area scholastic tournaments...We are proud to have another young stand out in the Bay Area chess scene!

The 4th through 6th section was a 2 day 6 round dog fight. The first place winner, John Boyle, had an easy time winning every game. But beyond that.. things were a difficult struggle. John played like a true champion winning every game seemingly effortlessly.



For 2nd place there was a tremendous struggle culminating in a 4 person tie. Amazingly all 4 players drew their last round in positional struggles. Tied for second were Daryl Neubieser, Mukund Chillankan, Andrew Li, Kevin Zhu and Nicholas Nip. Nicholas, the champion in the k-3 played in both sections, and had an amazing showing given his age. Nicholas only suffered one loss out of 12 games in the two separate tournaments and that loss was to top seeded John Boyle.



The 7th-12th section was won by top seeded Diachi Siegrist (1850) who won every game. 2nd was Jeremy Lowenthal (1279) and third coming all the way from Colorado is Chess for Junior's Richard Mehlinger.

Sunday featured another simultaneous, this time by National Champion 3rd grader Daniel Naroditsky. Daniel who is rated over 1900 took

on 15 challengers at once and won every game. It was an impressive performance by an impressive player. Daniel is the first National Champion in the Bay Area since Vinay Blat. This was the first public simul Daniel has ever performed. As expected, he performed wonderfully with a perfect score.



The three grand champions were all terrific winners in their own rite. It should be mentioned that there was a nice representation of clubs among the three Grand Champion winners. Academic Chess (Nicholas Nip), Success Chess (John Boyle) Berkeley Chess School (Diachi Siegrist).

In terms of club winners...Academic Chess dropped out of the running since AC was organizing the tournament and thus deciding on parameters for deciding the award.

1st place club overall went to Berkeley Chess School, 2nd place club overall went to Success Chess. Top school trophy went to Challenger.

Also part of the festivities was renowned chess authors Eric Schiller and Robert Snyder had chess tables set up for chess analysis in between rounds. Their efforts were appreciated by all!

This tournament was organized by Academic Chess, Eric Hicks and wife Liina Vark. Kids will be invited later for rematches on [www.chess.ac](http://www.chess.ac) , the only online chess server built for kids.

# Naroditsky and others win at Supernationals

*by Michael Aigner*

April 8-10, 2005 saw the largest chess tournament in U.S. history taking place in Nashville, Tennessee: the third Supernationals. Over 5200 children representing 48 different states participated in these national scholastic championships. About 30 players from northern California travelled to Nashville. And many successfully came back home with trophies!

The story of the weekend was the first place finish by third grader Daniel Naroditsky in the K-3 championship section. In a tournament full of upsets, Daniel had the skill, poise and determination required to win every game. Daniel's victory was hardly a fluke, since his USCF rating is an incredible 1847 after his 5.5-0.5 result in the B section in Reno last month. Alan Kirshner reports that Daniel became the first local national champion since Vinay Bhat and Jordy Mont-Reynaud in the mid 1990s.

Other players earning top 10 finishes were David Chock and Sam Shankland. David took 4th place in K-9 championship, just behind the three co-winners. His biggest victory came in the last round against New York junior high school champion Sarkis Agaian (2174 USCF). David also finished 6th in both the K-12 blitz and K-12 bughouse (partner Elisha Garg). Sam blitzed his way to a perfect score and a first place trophy on tiebreaks in the K-8 blitz tournament.

The following players earned trophies at Supernationals III. Trophies were awarded to the top 25 finishers plus all ties for 25th.

Nicholas Nip: 15th place in K-1 championship

Daniel Naroditsky: 1st place in K-3 championship

Hugo Kitano: 33rd place in K-5 championship

Christopher Tsai: 34th place in K-6 championship

Sam Shankland: 17th place in K-8 championship, 1st place in K-8 blitz

Jeff Young: 34th place in K-8 championship,

11th place in K-12 bughouse

Avinash Kumar: 57th place in K-8 u1250

David Chock: 4th place in K-9 championship,

6th in K-12 blitz, 6th place in K-12 bughouse

Jojo Zhao: 28th place in K-9 championship

Elisha Garg: 6th place in K-12 bughouse

Over half of the northern California players in Nashville represented two local scholastic communities: Saratoga H.S. / Redwood M.S. in Saratoga and St. Mark's School in San Rafael. The rest were independent from any school teams, but many had ties to the Mechanics' Institute, East Bay Chess Club, Berkeley Chess School, Academic Chess or Success Chess.

Saratoga High School: 9th place team in K-9 championship

Redwood Middle School: 13th place team in K-8 championship

St. Mark's School: 17th place team in K-8 u1250

St. Mark's School: 11th place team in K-8 u1000

For complete results, please visit <http://alchess.com>

Tong, William - Naroditsky, Daniel (1847) Supernationals III, K-3 championship (3) 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Bf4 Bg7 4. Nf3 O-O 5. Nc3 d6 6. e3 Nbd7 7. Bd3 Re8 8. Qc2 e5 9. dxe5 dxe5 10. Bg5 c6 11. O-O-O Qa5 12. Kb1 Nc5 13. Bxf6 Bxf6 14. Ne4 Nxe4 15. Bxe4 Be6 16. h4 Qb4 17. Bd3 e4 18. Bxe4 Bxc4 19. Nd2 Be2 20. Rde1 Bb5 21. a3 Qa5 22. Nb3 Qb6 23. h5 Ba4 24. hxg6 hxg6 25. Bxg6 Bxb3 26. Qf5 Ba2+ 27. Kc1 Qxb2+ 28. Kd1 Rad8+ 29. Qd3 Bb3# 0-1

Chock, David (1913) - Agaian, Sarkis (2174) Supernationals III, K-9 championship (7) 1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. d4 cxd4 5. Nxd4 a6 6. Be3 e5 7. Nb3 Be6 8. f3 Be7 9. Qd2 O-O 10. O-O-O b5 11. g4 b4 12. Nd5 Bxd5 13. exd5 a5 14. Kb1 Qc7 15. g5 Nfd7 16. h4 a4 17. Nc1 Na6 18. Qf2 f5 19. f4 Nac5 20. Bg2 a3 21. b3 Ne4 22. Bxe4 fxe4 23. Ne2 Rac8 24. Rc1 exf4 25. Bxf4 Ne5 26. Qd4 Rxf4 27. Nxf4 Nf3 28. Qxb4 Qa7 29. Rhd1 e3 30. Qe4 Ne5 31. Nd3 Qc7 32. c4 Rb8 33. Nxe5 dxe5 34. d6 1-0

# Garry Kasparov retires from Professional Chess

Some reflections on the career of the world's greatest chess player, by Eric Schiller

Note: The following material is an abridged and updated version excerpted from my book, *Learn from Garry Kasparov's Greatest Games*. Photos have been added.

Garry Kasparov is the greatest chess player of all time. Of course there will be some who disagree with that statement, and many would point out that I am highly prejudiced in favor of my longtime friend. Yet no matter how you look at it is hard to place anyone in history of the game on higher pedestal than Garry Kasparov.

Kasparov has dominated chess since about 1980. Now, almost a quarter century later, Kasparov has retired from competitive chess, so it is a good time to reflect on the gifts he has bestowed upon the chess community.

I have the privilege of knowing all of the World Champions of my lifetime, with the sole exception of Mikhail Botvinnik. In each case except for Bobby Fischer, I had an opportunity to discuss Kasparov and his games (and of course Kasparov's chess politics) and saw them when they were observing Kasparov's games or reviewing them.

When such a monumental player as Mikhail Tal expresses wonderment while reviewing a Kasparov game, or Boris Spassky gazes up at a demonstration board in wonderment as Kasparov launches some deep strategic plan, you can always see the respect for the chess abilities Kasparov possesses. Even back in 1983, when the World Champion Vasily Smyslov was in London, playing his semifinal match alongside the Kasparov vs. Korchnoi match, he made no secret of his respect for the quality of Kasparov's play. Even Tigran Petrosian, who at first owned Kasparov at the chess board, and wasn't highly complementary, was forced to respect after Kasparov blew him off the board in 24 moves in their game at Bugojno, presented in Game #13. For Anatoly Karpov, his eternal opponent, reflected in over 100 World Championship games against each other, set up a rivalry which led to the some of the most brilliant and exciting chess games ever played.

As you take a little walk through his life in the sections that follow, please always understand that Kasparov's quest for democracy (as he sees it) was rooted in the persecution he suffered through most of his early career. In 1983, the government of the Soviet Union refused to let Kasparov participate in a candidates match in Pasadena, and Kasparov was actually thrown out of the World Championship cycle. Though as you'll see below, that situation was eventually remedied, Kasparov was forced to overcome a significant hurdles. Those of you unfamiliar with the bad old days of communism, just keep in mind that there were some big bad government entities who went to great lengths to try to keep Kasparov from becoming champion of the world. The Soviet government had a lot of influence over the World Chess Federation, and didn't hesitate to use it.

The chess artist who would be known to the world as Garry Kasparov was born in Baku, Azerbaijan on April 13, 1963 to Kim Moiseyevich Vainshtein and Clara Shagenovna Kasparova. In Russian, his native language, his name is spelled g-a-r-r-i. The Russian "g" is used for many imported words and names where English and most languages would have "h". And "v" is used where "w" is the origin, especially in German names. So, his name might be rendered as "Harry Weinstein".

As with so many great chess players, he is of Jewish ethnicity. Although he was born in Azerbaijan, he is not ethnically Azeri. Still, as a child he was able to enjoy the excellent local climate and food. Baku was not only the capital of Azerbaijan, is also an ancient city dating back over 1200 years. It is believed in chess was being played in Azerbaijan even before that city was built. Modern Azerbaijan continues to produce many top chess players.

How did Harry Weinstein become Gar(r)y Kasparov? His father died, when the chess prodigy was still a child. The family followed a tradition where the child took on his mother's surname when the father died. That would make him Garri Kasparian. Kasparian is a well honored name in chess, since

Genrikh (Henry) Kasparian is a famous chess composer. Because in the Soviet Union at the time, they were many advantages to being Russian, rather than being seen as an Armenian, the family Russified his name a bit to Kasparov. He retained his middle name, Kimovich, in the traditional Russian patronymic which honors the father. Kimovich means "son of Kim."

Kasparov was not taught the game of chess as most children learn it. He picked up the game by observing his relatives playing and especially by watching them solving puzzles in the chess columns of the local paper. One evening his parents were looking at a fairly difficult problem, and as usual Garik was taking note of the position. His parents found that a bit odd, after all their child hadn't even been taught how the pieces move! They were stunned when, the next morning, while eating breakfast, he told them how to solve the problem, even using chess notation. His father quizzed him on the names for the squares, and Kasparov passed the test with flying colors.

Kasparov's earliest chess games were played under the name Vainshtein. His name changed when he was 12 years old. He had already made quite an impact on the local chess scene in Baku. His chess club, the Baku Young Pioneers, had already produced some stellar chess players. He quickly rose through the ranks, becoming a Candidate Master at the age of 10. A short time before that result, he had joined the famous chess school of World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik, who held the title off and on from 1948 to 1961. Still, his real hero was Botvinnik's predecessor, Alexander Alekhine, whose brilliant play appealed to Kasparov even more than that of Paul Morphy, Mikhail Tal or Bobby Fischer.

Like Bobby Fischer, Kasparov's entrance into the national junior championship was as one of the very youngest participants. He was just 11 while some of his competitors were as old as 17! His result was a very respectable 5 1/2 points out of 10. This result did not go unnoticed in the Soviet Union or indeed in the entire chess world. A leading British chess trainer and journalist, Leonard Barden, predicted that Kasparov would be the leading candidate for the world chess championship in 1990. Kasparov later proved him right winning a world Championship match that year, after he had already been champion for some time!

Kasparov's international debut came in the World Cadet Championship in 1976. He traveled to France for a competition open only to players born in 1958 or later. Even so, many of his competitors were significantly older than him. Still, he managed to tie for third in a field of 32 players including over a dozen future Grandmasters.

The next year he ran all over the field in the Soviet junior championship held in Riga, Latvia, which was then part of the Soviet Union. He scored an amazing eight and a half out of nine points, yielding just a single draw.

In 1978, Kasparov quickly made an impact on the national scene. Although he did not yet have a ranking on the international rating lists, Kasparov took first place in a very strong tournament in Minsk. It was a massive 18 player event, and in 17 games, Kasparov managed to win 13 points, losing only two games and drawing four. Most of the players in the tournament were International Master strength.

At the time, it was extremely rare for unranked players to be invited to participate in strong international competitions. It was expected that Kasparov would find the field, which included no less than 14 Grandmasters, more than a little bit challenging. The chess world was shocked when the 16-year-old took first place by a clear two point margin!

Kasparov was finally an internationally ranked player with a huge initial rating of 2545. In the finals of the 47th Soviet championship held in the city of Minsk which saw his breakthrough in 1978, Kasparov finished in third place, six spots up from his previous attempts. He then went back home to Baku and won a strong international tournament, earning his second Grandmaster norm, assuring that he would be awarded the title of International Grandmaster later in the year at the Chess Olympiad.

Kasparov had a stop to make on before the Olympiad. He traveled to Dortmund, Germany, to pick up the title of world junior champion. This was a very strong championship and his rival Nigel Short, of England, who Kasparov would later face in a title match, finished second. But there was no stopping Kasparov. He scored 10.5 out of 13, not losing a single game.

The entire chess world was already familiar with Kasparov from reading about his exploits in the newspapers. At the chess Olympiad in Malta, players from over 80 countries finally had a chance to meet him and get to know the new superstar. His achievements were so impressive that the British publisher B.T. Batsford decided to enlist Kasparov in a major project. A team was assembled to put together a one volume reference on modern opening theory, for the first time uniting both Soviet and Western authors. Grandmaster Raymond Keene of England wanted Kasparov to be a part of this. Since the British Grandmaster did not speak Russian, he asked me to act as interpreter and also invited me to be part of the team, since I had a degree in Russian and already been working with him on various projects involving chess opening research.

So, on a rainy day in late November, I was introduced to the young phenomenon, and we chatted about the BCO project and many other topics. I was able to view his games right at the board, since I was working at the tournament as an arbiter, the chess equivalent of a referee. This was my debut at the Olympiad, and I had expected to be relegated to some minor contests, but since I was able to speak many of the languages of the top teams, and for some reason the Soviet delegation was impressed with my work, I was assigned not to the normal rotation, but to the top boards where they Soviets played all of their matches. I received the title of International Arbiter at the event.

Kasparov's play was quite successful. He scored nearly 80 percent as the second reserve on the team. Since each match took place on four boards, the second reserve would always be playing on the fourth board. That meant that it was the unfortunate lower members of the opposition teams who had to face Kasparov.

In 1981, he started off with a big Soviet teams competition, held in celebration of a major Communist Party meeting. Although Kasparov never had any respect for communist views, and would become a staunch opponent of the communist regime, he went along with most of the lip service that Soviet players were required to give to political affairs, in order not to fall out of favor. Kasparov had to play World Champion Anatoly Karpov twice in this event and both games ended in a draw.

The next clash of the rivals was at the Moscow International held in April. They drew their individual game, but Karpov won the event while Kasparov had to settle for second place with a score of seven and a half out of 13. Is only loss came at the hands of World Champion Petrosian. However, the only managed to win three games and drew the rest. He really wasn't in his best form, but still managed to take second place!

Kasparov's next trip abroad took him to the famous chess town of Graz, Austria. The World Championship for Youth Teams was taking place there. I was present as captain of the American team, and had been in the town before for the 1972 World Student Team Championship. At this event I spent a lot of time with Kasparov and was able to learn a few new things about his slightly superstitious nature. It turns out, that Kasparov's lucky number is 13! He was born on the 13th day of April would go on to become the 13th World Champion and there are many other aspects of his life for which that number was significant.

It was no surprise that Kasparov would rarely lose a game, but in this youth event, he felt obligated to try to win just about every time, and was very unhappy with himself after a draw. He couldn't figure out what was "wrong" with his game, so he decided to stop shaving, thinking that might be the problem. This, combined with his love for leather jackets, created a fearsome and

Continued on page21

# CALIFORNIA NORTHERN REGIONAL SCHOLASTIC CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

A big thank you to all 916 players and the phenomenal staff and tournament directors that made this event everything that was promised and more. And, what a group of players, TD's and volunteer staff I had. The quality of the players made any title obtained—individual or team—truly meaningful. The best of the best showed, as well as many players who simply wanted to participate in the largest Northern California scholastic event of 2005. The players came in droves, far exceeding the 700 I had anticipated even though they knew this was not the official State championships.

Almost every actively licensed tournament director in Northern California helped to ensure the integrity of the competition. Senior Director Hans Poschmann headed the floor staff and Senior Director Richard Koepcke ran the computer room aided by Assistant National Director John Mc Cumisky. I moved the High School and Junior High School Varsity sections into the Crowne Plaza Hotel. They graciously provided me an extra 6,000 square feet for a very minimal charge when I became aware that the 30,000 square feet I had contracted at the San Jose Convention Center next door would be a tight fit for the 900 plus players. Senior Director Allan Fifield arrived from Visalia to take charge of the hotel players in his usual efficient manner. All of the aforementioned were ably assisted by a staff of 15 experienced TD's.

Volunteers from all over California, about 30 people, most of whom had spent years working the State Championships, made the posting of pairings and results as well as the movement of the children fairly effortless. Stephanie Blatt and Phoebe Chen receive my enduring gratitude, not only for the phenomenal leadership of this very important element--the volunteers--of any major tournament, but for their willingness to join my staff again, having worked with me from 1995 until I ceased to do the major tournament in 2000.

I wish I could say all moved smoothly. I had a few glitches which I know is inevitable in a tournament this size. Some were pleasant like selling out all the youth and most of the adult T-shirts days before the tournament began. As many of you know, I continued to promise that the Regionals would broadcast the games of many of the top players into the parents room on a 50 foot screen and across the internet. Well, all in all, I succeeded in keeping my promise thanks to the great knowledge and hard work of Doug Boyle, NM Kerry Lawless, Mark Shelton and FM Bela Evans. However, we did lose the connection to the hotel. Those games were recorded on the sensory boards and can be viewed and downloaded at <http://www.ChessDryad.com> along with most of the games from the top boards in all the varsity divisions. The Convention Center did hit me with an unexpected expense. They demand an exorbitant fee for setting up the connection and wanted me to pay \$200 per computer that hooked up to their wireless internet. Thanks to the continuous negotiations of Doug Boyle I got off for a much reduced price, still outrageous for something that should be free. Finally, there was no charge for the computers in the Center that we provided the password to watch the games.

# CALIFORNIA NORTHERN REGIONAL SCHOLASTIC



# CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS APRIL 15-17, 2005



I was also a bit disappointed that we could not get enough victims on Saturday night for the simultaneous play of our two International Masters, Ricardo De Guzman and John Grefe, and our International Master in waiting, Dmitry Zilberstein. John Grefe and Dmitry Zilberstein graciously bowed out. IM De Guzman took on a crew of 17 players of all skills and ages. By winning all the games he saved me the book prizes I had prepared to give for anyone who drew or defeated him. I can at least write that my son Micah, as usual, made me proud, He was the last man left standing. He has this ability to provide that little extra reward for my efforts at running these momentous tournaments. At the 2000 CalChess States, the last event I organized, he won the High School Division and, therefore, represented the Northern California State at the Denker, the tournament of all the state High School champions.

Another regret I had this year, was that our tournament could not determine the Denker or the Polgar (a new all-state women's championship) representatives. The legal settlement between the CalChess President, Elizabeth Shaughnessy (The settlement was between CalChess and Peterson, not any specific individual—ed.), and Richard Peterson, dictated that the CEA CalChess States become the sole tournament for the selection in 2005. My regret was that those top High School players who had a shot at representing CalChess at those tournaments did attend the competing event. Obviously, with their attendance in Oakland, it meant that the victories in that High School Championship were far from empty.

On to some very positive achievements that went forth without any glitches, hitches or regrets. Parents and others really raved about our special presentations. On Saturday, Dan Gertmenian (owner, Chess Prep) spoke on Parental Influence: How to Make Chess Fun for Your Child. NM Eric Schiller (author) on What Your Kids Need to Know About Chess. Eric also brought a number of his best selling chess books with him and generously remained in the lobby to sign copies to any interested players and parents. On Sunday, NM Art Wang demonstrated How to Use the Award Winning Chess Mentor Program to Improve your Child's Chess. Chess Mentor also donated free copies to our winners and announced that anyone at the tournament could download the demo from their chess.com site and if they wanted to purchase the program until the end of May it would be 35% off if they mentioned they had attended the Regionals. Dan Gertmenian did a second presentation on How NOT to Be a Chess Parent and SM David Pruess discussed with parents and children Why He Stayed With Chess After His Years as a Scholastic Player.

The Dr. Pepper dirt bike was won by Darrell Churf of Merced. The Merced coaches brought 43 players and I was happy to see the strength of their program and their excitement at their victories.

All the trophies and awards are listed in this edition and all the results, plus tons of photographs can be located at <http://www.CalNorthYouthChess.org/photographs.html>. I would like to at least highlight some of the top players and teams. Winners received Chess Mentor programs or Saitek chess clocks or computers along with their trophies. The Kindergarten Division drew 27 players and all received trophies with Julie Yeung, Robert Lee Chan, Amit Rao, Alice Bain tying for first place with 4 points out of a possible 5. The Primary School Varsity Division (up to third grade) had 43 competitors and Samuel Bekker (1235) and Yian Liou (956) receiving 4.5 out of 5 points to be declared co-champions. Weibel Elementary School came out on top of 7 other teams to be the California Northern Regional Primary School Champion. I decided to adhere to the national policy of not having club team awards. Northern California has never set a policy and a standard for what constitutes a club team or when a player can join. This lack of a policy has caused many disputes and hard feelings over the years.

The Primary School Junior Varsity Division was our largest—292 entries. I decided to provide trophies for the top 20 non-rated players, but this came after four unrated players went undefeated (Sundeep Raj, Rachan Narala, Sriram Somasundaram, Tyler Ballesteros) with two rated players (Sophia Luo, 664, Leonardo Framba, 516). Weibel Elementary School narrowly defeated Heather

School for the first place team award in this division that sported some 60 teams.

The Elementary School Varsity Division (up to sixth grade) drew some of the toughest competition. The games were a marvel to observe. Daniel Naroditsky (1715), fresh off of being the first Northern Californian to win the Primary School Nationals since the days of Jordy Mont-Reynaud and Vinay Bhat (in the mid-1990's), won a decisive victory going 6 and 0. Daniel had decide to move up to the Elementary School Division from the Primary School to face the best Northern California had to offer. He defeated John Boyle (1587), Steven Zierk (1508)—who gave him a run for his money being a rook up at one point, and Partha Vora (1575). The California Northern Regional Team Championship went to Weibel Elementary School who defeated Harker by a half point and Warm Springs by a point. This division had 96 player entries and about 25 teams. By the way, keep on eye on Daniel to see if he can do what Jordy and Vinay did, become a Chess Master at ten and a half. I am betting he will, if not sooner.

The Elementary School Junior Varsity competition also was exceptionally large with 249 entries and about 60 teams. I once again provided a whole set of extra trophies for the unrated players. Three players tied with 6 and 0 scores: Alan Kaptanoglu (783) , Jonathan Tu (777), Abishek Akella (767). The top team award went to Gomes Elementary School who out pointed Weibel by .5. It was soon pointed out by every Weibel player present that Jonathan Tu of Gomes had just transferred there due to his parents move a short while back and was still taking his lessons at Weibel. I told them to be happy to win three out of the four lower division awards. :0)

A number of the Junior High School Varsity players (up to eighth grade) decided at the last moment to compete in the strong High School section. This still left 52 entries and good competition. Sreekar Jasthi (1548) won first with a score of 5.5 out of 6 points. Redwood Middle School won decisively against 19 other teams.

The Junior High School Junior Varsity Division saw 77 entries with Michael Nelson (783) going undefeat for first place. Marin County Day School tied with former CalChess State Champion Egan Junior High School of Sunnyvale for the first place team award.

The High School Varsity Division (up through twelfth grade) had a number of former CalChess State Champions testing their mettle for this title. Ramon Qiu (1769) narrowly defeated (5.5 to 5 points) Wesley Chen (1909) and Kevin Hwa (1608) to take home the Championship trophy. This section had 52 registered in individual play with some 20 teams. Lynbrook High School went home with the California Northern Regional Team Champion title.

The smallest section at the 2005 California Northern Regional Scholastic Chess Championships was the High School Junior Varsity Division with only 23 players. Everyone took home a trophy, but Gregory Kushnir and Alex Fandrianto took home the big trophies after drawing each other. Monache High School returned to Porterville with the first place team trophy.

Once again I want to thank all of you who supported my endeavor to return to producing a class event in Northern California. You are the people who made it possible. And, what of next year? Time will tell!

*Chess is Forever!*

*Alan*

# Northern Regional Scholastics results

HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY	JUNIOR HS VARSITY	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	UNRATED DIVISION
<b>1. Ramon Qui 5.</b> 2 Wesley Chen 5.0 3 Kevin Hwa 5.0 4 Sam Shankland 4.5 5 Jeff Young 4.5 6 Vincent Rubianes 4.5 7 Corey Chang 4.5 <b>12 GRADE:</b> Benjamin Irvine <b>11 GRADE:</b> David Youngworth <b>10 GRADE:</b> Hecht <b>9 GRADE:</b> Arnav Shah <b>RATING GROUPS:</b> U 2000 Matt Zavortink U 1300 Brian Lin U 1200 Jonathan Ek U 1100 Jay Retamal <b>TEAMS:</b> <b>1-2. Lynbrook (San Jose) 13.5</b> <b>&amp; Mission (San Jose) 13.5</b> 3. Berkeley High School 12.5 4. Leigh High 10 5. Edison High (Stockton) 8 6. Monache Hgh (Porterville) 7.5 7. Harker (San Jose) 7  <b>HS JR. VARSITY</b> 1-2. Gregory Kushnir 5 & Alex Fandrianto 5 3. Kendrick Chan 4.5 4. Cody Ross 4.5 5. Edward J. Duenas 4 6. Christopher Zele 4 7. Catherine Laporte-oshiro 4 8. Ilya Rotenstein 4.0 <b>BEST 12 GRADE:</b> Dean Hanson <b>BEST 9 GRADE:</b> Geo Booras <b>TEAMS:</b> <b>Monache H.S.(Porterville)</b> <b>11.5</b> 2. Edison High 7.5 3. WhiteWhite Oaks (San Carlos) 5.0 4. Harker 5.0	<b>1. Sreekar Jasthi 5.5</b> 2. Trevor Showalter 5.0 3. Vinzent Davies 5.0 4. Shaun Tse 4.5 5. Samson R Wong 4.5 6. Charles Sun 4.5 7. Greg Bodwin 4.5 8. Brian Tsui 4.5  <b>8 GRADE:</b> Jiro Egawa <b>7 GRADE:</b> Siddarth Ramesh <b>RATING GROUPS:</b> 1500 Tyrone Plata, 1300 Bryuan Tsang, 1200 Larry Zhong 1100 Kimberly Tom, 1000 Nitin Gomatam <b>TEAMS:</b> <b>Redwood Ms (Saratoga) 15.5</b> Hopkins (Fremont) 11.0 Kennedy (Cupertino) 10.0  <b>JUNIOR HS JR. VARSITY</b> <b>1. Michael Nielsen 6</b> 2 Joseph Goodman 5.5 3. Ryan Duggal 5.0 4 Mark Rotenstein 5.0 5 Neil Enriquez 5.0 6 Nima Emami 5.0 7 Mark Orlovsky 5.0  <b>8 GRADE:</b> Dylan Mc Carty 3.5 <b>7 GRADE:</b> Charles Jiang 3.5 <b>6 GRADE:</b> Alex Golz 3.5 <b>RATING GROUPS:</b> 800 Ryan Wong 3.5, 700 Ross Lewis 3 600 Hershhal Patel, 500 Sia Thao 2.5 <b>TEAMS:</b> <b>1-2. Marin Country Day</b> <b>(Marin) 16.5 &amp; Egan Jr. Hs</b> <b>(Sunnyvale) 16.5</b> 3. Miller Ms (Cupertino) 14.5	<b>1. Daniel Naroditsky 6</b> 2. John Boyle 5.0 3. Steven Zierk 5.0 4. Partha Vora 5.0 5. Rohan Agarwal 5.0 6. Ojas Chinchwadkar 5.0 7. Kevin Leong 5.0  <b>TOP 6 GRADE:</b> Christopher Tsai <b>TOP 5 GRADE:</b> Daniel Mao <b>TOP 4 GRADE:</b> Victor Xu <b>RATING GROUPS</b> 1200 Sankash Shankar, 1100 Max Elisman, 1000 Brian Chao, 900 Surag Sheth, 800 Rik Basu <b>TEAMS:</b> <b>1. Weibel Elementary</b> <b>School 16</b> 2 Harker (San Jose) 15.5 3Warms Springs (Fremont) 15.0  <b>ELEMENTARY JR. VARSITY</b> <b>Alan Kaptanoglu, Jonathan</b> <b>Tu, Abishek Akella 6</b> 4 Samyukta Bhat 5.5  <b>6 GRADE:</b> Kevin Shieh <b>5 GRADE:</b> Matthew T. Chan <b>4 GRADE:</b> Clovis Tong <b>RATING GROUPS:</b> 700 Allan Ko 600 Ramya Kaushik 500 Wesley Tai 400 Samika Kumar <b>TEAMS:</b> <b>1. Gomes Elem. School 18</b> 2 Weibel (Fremont) 17.5 3Blue Hills (Saratoga) 17.5	1. Scott Lee 5.5 2. Evan Ye 5.5 3. Edward Wong 5.0 4. Ben Greenberg 5.0 5. Wong Ho Him 5.0 6. Robert Massingill 4.5 7. Eric Shen 4.5 8. Jia Ming Zhu 4.5 9. Prajesh Hardas 4.5  <b>KINDERGARTEN</b> <b>Julie Yeung, Robert</b> <b>Lee Chan, Amit Rao,</b> Alice Bain 4 5. Yang Yan 3.5 6. Winnie Ni Lee 3.5 7. Garrett Lew 3.5  <b>BLITZ (8 games)</b> <b>1. Matt Zavortink 8</b> 2. Sam Shankland 7 3. Red Belanoff 6  <b>Grade prizes</b> <b>9-12</b> Gabriel Gordon 5 <b>7-8</b> Jeff Young 5 <b>4-6</b> Steven Zierk 5 <b>K-3</b> Venkat Iyer 5  <b>BUGHOUSE</b> <b>Overall = Arnav</b> <b>Shah &amp; Rohan Sathe</b> <b>8pts</b> <b>Grade prizes</b> <b>7-8 grade</b> Ted Belanoff & Sam Shankland 7 <b>4-6 grade</b> Richard Livingston & Donald Livingston 4 <b>K-3 grade</b> Kimura & Decker 2

# Games from the Northern California Regionals

*annotated by Eric Schiller*

Wesley Chen vs. Ryan Ko

1.d4 e5 2.dxe5 Nc6 3.Nf3 f6 4.exf6 Nxf6  
5.Bg5 Bc5 6.e3 d6 7.h3 a6 8.c3 Be6 9.Bd3  
Qe7 10.Nbd2 d5 11.Nb3 Ba7 12.Nbd4 Nxd4  
13.cxd4 O-O 14.O-O Qe8 15.Qc2 Qh5 18...  
c6! should have been played right away. 19.Be2  
Qe4 20.Bd3 Qe7 would have given Black a decent  
game. Black's bishop would be able to retreat  
to b8. 19.Rg1 c6 20.Rg5! Wesley seizes the  
initiative, and Black's king should be a bit nervous.  
20...Qe8 21.Rag1 Rf7 22.Be5! All of White's  
pieces are involved in the attack, while most of  
Black's are just twiddling their thumbs. 22...Bb8



23.f4? Wesley missed a clean kill here.  
23.Bxh7+ Nxh7 24.Rxg7+ Rxg7 25.Rxg7+ Kf8  
26.Qf5+ and mate in 2. 23...Bxe5 24.dxe5 Ne4  
25.Bxe4 dxe4 26.Qxe4 Wesley is up a pawn,  
and it is a powerful passed pawn. The doubled  
pawn at e3 is a useful defender of the pawn at f4.  
Of course, that pawn is an attacker, and doesn't  
need support! 26...Rd8 27.Rh5 g6 28.f5! Rg7  
29.f6! Rc7 30.e6 Splat! There is no escape now.  
30...Kh8 31.Qe5 The game ends with the threat  
of discovered mate! Black can delay the inevitable  
with ...Rf7, exploiting the pin on the pawn at e6,  
but then the White rook on the g-file just grabs  
the pawn at g6, and the game can't last long.

Sam Shankland vs. Vincent Rubianes

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3  
a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.O-O Be7 8.f4?! 8.Bb3 is the normal  
move. 8...Nxe4?! Castling is the natural move, and  
since Black never manages to castle in this game, it  
would have been a much better move. 9.Nxe4 d5  
10.Bd3 10.Bxd5 exd5 11.Nc3 Nc6 12.Nb3 d4 13.Ne2  
d3?! 14.Qxd3 Qxd3 15.cxd3 Bf5 16.d4 Rd8 provided  
sufficient compensation for the pawn in Goutor vs.  
Martinson, 2000. 10...dxe4 11.Bxe4 Nd7 12.c3 Nf6  
13.Bc2 Qc7? Again, Black should simply castle, with  
an equal game. The kingside attack will be fierce, but  
Black has enough resources to hold. 14.Qf3 Bd7 Black  
simply refuses to castle! 15.Be3 Rb8 Now queenside  
castling is out of the question. Still, Black should simply  
have castled. 16.Ne2 Bc6 17.Qh3 Castling is again  
sensible, but Black might also have pinned the knight  
by moving the bishop to b5. 17...b5?! There is no  
queenside attack, so this was a dubious choice. 18.Bd4!  
Now Black can't castle, for tactical reasons. 18...b4 18...  
O-O 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Qxh7# 19.cxb4 Bxb4 20.Rac1  
Qe7 21.Rfd1 Rc8? 21...Bb5! was Black's last chance  
top stay in the game.



22.Ba4! Sam exploits the pin on the c-file, winning  
a piece. 22...Qb7 23.Rxc6! The point! 23.Bxc6+  
Rxc6 24.Rxc6 Qxc6 doesn't give White any immediate  
win. 23...Rxc6 24.Rc1! The new pin wins. 24...Ke7  
25.Bxc6 Qb8 26.Qe3 Bd6 27.Ng3 Bxf4 28.Bc5+  
Kd8 29.Qd4+ Kc8 30.Ba7 Qc7 31.Bb7+ Kxb7  
32.Rxc7+ Black resigned

## Garry Kasparov (Continued)

intimidating image in the playing hall.

Sitting on first board for the Soviet team, he carved up the opposition winning eight games and drawing just two. Of course I wasn't in a position to cheer for him, especially when he sat down to play against my American team.

Right after this event, I had one of my most amusing experiences with Kasparov. He been asked to do a television interview for a German television station. The only problem was that Kasparov didn't speak a word of German. The Soviet delegation didn't have anyone who spoke German well enough, so I was asked to act as translator. The interviewer would ask the question in German, I translated into Russian for Garry, and he would answer me in Russian, and I would have to give his answer in German. The initial question went well until the fourth stage. It was simply something about when he started to play chess, and I had no problems translating the answer but I slipped into English. I quickly recovered and the rest of the interview went smoothly. We all figured they would just any out any minor slips. Then on the way, we asked when the interview would be airing, only to be told that it had gone out live!

Of course Kasparov had no idea what I was saying in German. I reminded of him of this on the way back to the dorms, and that I might have provided answers that were completely off the wall. You have to wonder what the bosses back in Moscow would have thought of their famous prodigy having an American as a spokesman, and not having any idea what was being said!

Although the 18-year-old Kasparov had plenty of eligibility left, the Austrian event was to be his last as a "student". Next he was off to the famous chess town of Tilburg, Holland for their famous super tournament, known as Interpolis, named after the corporate sponsor. It had nothing to do with the police or Interpol! Kasparov's debut at this event was a bump in the road of his chess career. He had a mediocre tournament finishing with an even score, losing again to Petrosian, which was beginning to become a bit of an annoyance to him.

Kasparov went home with his tail between his legs, and got down to work. He prepared himself as early as possible for the 49th Soviet championship, held in the city of Frunze. This was one of the strongest championship fields, and every single participant was a named familiar to those who follow international chess. A massive 18-player event, it was a test of stamina as well as preparation. Kasparov proved he had both, tying for first-place in an exciting sprint to the finish. Kasparov's play was excellent, he won all of his games except for five draws and two losses. He lost his game to co-winner Lev Psakhis, one of his teammates in Graz, and dropped a game to Boris Gulko, who would eventually become the American champion. Once he turned 19 in 1982, Kasparov set his sights on the ultimate prize. He entered the cycle to determine the challenger for World Champion Karpov in the cycle which would end in a title match in 1984. First, however, he went back to Yugoslavia. This time he came not as an unranked kid, but as one of the highest rated Grandmasters in the world and the second seed in the Bugojno Supertournament (behind Jan Timman). He lived up to his billing going undefeated winning six games and drawing seven to take clear first place, a point and a half ahead of the field.

Kasparov was actually quite relaxed throughout the event, and we were able to spend some time on a variety of other activities offered by the country setting. There was tennis, when the goats decided to leave the courts to the humans. We were treated to a fashion show. There were special films, which became an interesting challenge as the translation of various English titles was, to say the least, inventive. Turning up to watch science-fiction classic "Rollerball", we wound up experiencing the rather hideous and unfunny "Cannonball Run" instead! But the food was good, the air was fresh, and the people were very, very, nice. Kasparov managed to keep his focus whenever he sat down a chessboard.

Inside the playing hall it was a different matter entirely. Kasparov paced back and forth like a

frustrated tiger, still wearing his most intimidating persona. His demeanor only softened a little bit when he was finally able to defeat Petrosian in a game that didn't even make it to move 25 (Game #12). His mood after that game was stratospheric. It was a game of his life as far as he was concerned. Though, to be fair, in every successful tournament Kasparov usually had a game that he considered the best game of his life!

In September, his formal quest for the World Championship began in earnest. As one of the top-ranked players in the world, Kasparov was invited to take part in the Interzonal tournament at the Hotel Sport in Moscow. Kasparov's victory in this event came as no surprise. He was ranked highest in the field, and with a rating of 2675, was a mere 25 points behind World Champion Karpov on the ranking list. Former World Champion Mikhail Tal had to settle for third place and failed to qualify for the next stage. Kasparov and Alexander Belyavsky were the two qualifiers for the series of candidate matches which would begin in 1983.

At the 1982 Olympiad in Lucerne, Switzerland, Kasparov, playing second board behind World Champion Karpov, led the Soviet team to victory. As usual, he had a high score of any of the members of the Soviet team. He won six with five draws and no losses. His most significant game was a win as Black over Karpov's famous rival Victor Korchnoi, who had defected from Russia and was living in Switzerland. The game really should have ended in a draw but as usual Korchnoi's severe problems in handling the time control caused him a bit of difficulty, and led to a bad move which allowed Kasparov to collect the full point. This game was important because the two would be facing off in 1983 in one of the candidates matches for the World Championship, though each would have to first defeat another opponent.

The eight candidates for the World Championship formed a knockout group, with pairings determined by the drawing of lots. Kasparov wound up with Alexander Belyavsky as his opponent. He won that match without difficulty and in the semifinals was all set to face off against Korchnoi in Pasadena, California. But then politics raised its ugly head and for the first time had a very serious impact on Kasparov's career.

Because the United States had boycotted the Olympic Games in Moscow, the Soviets were preparing to boycott the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984. Against this background, Soviet authorities decided not to permit Kasparov to travel to Pasadena, close Los Angeles, to play an official World Championship semifinal match. This led to a struggle between the Soviets authorities and FIDE. The Machiavellian manipulations involved have been discussed in the number of books and articles, not necessarily agreeing on many things.

Unfortunately, between the world situation, chess politics, and the obvious conflict between a Soviet superstar and a Soviet defector, Kasparov was not allowed to travel to Pasadena. So ended the other match as well, between former World Champion Vasily Smyslov and his opponent Zoltan Ribli from Hungary, another communist nation. That match was scheduled to be held in the United Arab Emirates but the Soviets rejected that one too.

Fortunately, Ray Keene and his British colleagues came to the rescue, offering to host both semifinal match is, Kasparov vs. Korchnoi, and Smyslov vs. Ribli. The hastily arranged matches were agreed to by all sides, scheduled for November and December of 1983. While awaiting the rescheduled match, Kasparov continued to compete internationally, impressively winning a major tournament in Niksic, Yugoslavia as well as playing in a national team championship or it he also demonstrated his skill at rapid chess, winning one of the strongest ever tournament's played at a time rate of five minutes per player for the entire game. Both Kasparov and Korchnoi participated and Kasparov won their individual game. In fact, Kasparov's score of 13 1/2 out of 16 put him a full three points ahead of second-place finisher Korchnoi, with World Champions Tal and Spassky back

in the pack.

The first five games showed neither player was able to dominate the other, despite Korchnoi's initial victory in the first game. The critical point came in the sixth game of the match in a very complicated rook endgame. Kasparov's winning this game, his second in a row, was a blow from which Korchnoi could not recover and Kasparov cruised to a 7-4 match win. The path to the World Championship title now would go through former World Champion Smyslov and current World Champion Karpov.

After defeating one veteran player, Kasparov found himself in the final match to determine the challenger for Anatoly Karpov. Vasily Smyslov had won the World Championship title in 1957, defeating Mikhail Botvinnik. Smyslov was at the time good deal older even than Korchnoi, and he had stunned the entire chess world by qualifying for this final match. Kasparov chose an appropriately ancient opening strategy, the Tarrasch Defense, and handily defeated Smyslov 8.5-4.5 in a match held in Vilnius, Lithuania in the spring of 1984. This was just a warm-up for the title match which would begin later that year.

In the summer, Kasparov participated in the second "USSR vs. World" match. This event had been hastily organized by Ray Keene, at the request of FIDE. After a bit of scrambling, he convinced the London Dockland Development Corporation to provide some space at their ambitious new development on the Isle of Dogs.

They supplied the Northern and Shell building, which was empty, save for a few pictures and spare copies of an adult magazine, which were removed in order that the players not be distracted. However, there was a major source of distraction during the games, since the construction of new buildings was going on all around us! A tent was set up to house lectures, a bookstall, press center and refreshments. A computer link from the press centre to the tournament hall kept the information flowing, and a number of computer terminals were provided for the processing and transmission of the games.

Kasparov won his match against Timman, winning the fourth game after drawing the first three. The Soviet team won by a score of 21-19. Karpov also won his match by a single point, and the two rivals combined to reach the margin of victory!

Kasparov participated in an interesting event right after this contest. He played live against five top British juniors at Limehouse Studios, and at the same time faced five American juniors playing via satellite from New York! This was the first ever satellite simultaneous exhibition. Of course these days the Internet makes such an event trivial, but it drew quite a bit of attention back in 1984. Kasparov's score was seven wins and three draws out of the ten games. The opponents included familiar names in the chess world, future Grandmasters Britain's Michael Adams and Americans Patrick Wolff, and Dmitry Gurevich.

During the summer, Kasparov prepared intensively for his upcoming match with Karpov. In September 1984 the marathon began. Kasparov entered the match with confidence in his play. He outranked Karpov by ten points on the international rating list, but had cause for concern away from the chess board. The Anatoly Karpov was the ideal "Soviet man". He backed the Communist Party, and put on a good public face. He did not cause trouble, and was therefore much liked by the Soviet chess authorities and the Soviet government. Kasparov was not a favorite of the world chess federation either because of the acrimonious atmosphere concerning the cancellation of the semifinal match in Pasadena. His skirmishes with the organization would erupt into open warfare a few years later.

Team Kasparov was ensconced in a group of rooms at a hotel in Moscow. It was a comfortable establishment, though things were a bit cramped. When I visited, I was greeted by a banner with his mother's favorite saying on it: If not you, who? If not now, when? There was often classical

music in the background mostly Mozart. Kasparov's food was freshly prepared, and a number of ingredients were flown in from Baku to make Moscow as homelike as possible. His trainers were constantly busy researching and double checking their opening preparations. The match was expected to last 24 games, though winning the contest required only six victories. Everyone was prepared for a match lasting two to three months, during which the weather in Moscow would be reasonably pleasant until winter set in.

It was not to be. The story of the off-the-board machinations would fill several books with details of the intrigues, politics and feuding that led to the most unique championship event in the history of any game or sport. You can read all about it in the book *Manoeuvres in Moscow* by Keene and Goodman, or in books by Kasparov himself. I'll just try to bring you some of the event as I experienced it in the early weeks.

I was there for the start of the match, covering the event for the Associated Press and doing some work for the PBS television coverage hosted by Shelby Lyman. The authorities had placed me in a distant hotel, the (in)famous Hotel Cosmos, far away from the match in downtown Moscow, and twice as far from the Associated Press offices. The level of paranoia in the Soviet government was mostly amusing. I was followed when I went to the office, had constant supervision when I phoned in reports from the tournament press center, and was frequently invited to dine with various officials who were interested in talking about all sorts of things and willing to supply the caviar and champagne necessary to do so.

As usual, the match attracted most of the luminaries of the Soviet chess world, and many chess fans and journalists from around the world. The lavish playing site in the middle of Moscow was accompanied by a very high level of hospitality. It was especially interesting to spend time with David Bronstein, who lost to Botvinnik in a World Championship match in 1951, who was pressing his case for a complete reform of not only the World Championship, but of chess in general. He wanted to speed up again considerably, limiting games to less than an hour. Had his ideas taken root, the 48 game marathon match could've been finished in a few days.

In this strange atmosphere, I was not surprised that the World Championship chess match quickly degenerated into an absurd spectacle. Kasparov clearly wasn't ready for this contest. His opening preparations was reasonably good but he didn't put enough effort into finding ways to counter Karpov's enormous advantage in experience. He learned some important lessons in the first stage of the match, which saw him lose the third game, then the sixth game and the seventh game.

Trailing by three games to none, a situation was already bad since the winner of the match would be the first player to win six games regardless of the score of the opponent. It was expected that this match would last about 24 games, the standard for most World Championship matches in modern history.

Karpov won again in game nine, but then Kasparov turned the match into a war of attrition. Kasparov, with the great assistance of his mother, managed to keep his nerve, and that not overreact to the terrible situation he found himself. Draw followed draw followed draw, and after 24 games Karpov still led 4-0, but was unable to gain the final two victories he needed. So the match continued, and Karpov managed to win game 27. It was now late November, and most observers felt that the final blow would be delivered before long.

The 21-year-old Kasparov was able to stand the constant pressure of playing three games each week, though each player was able to take a day off when they wanted a time out. By the end of November, each player had taken three timeouts, which prolonged the agony of the match. Karpov was getting tired. In the 32nd game, Kasparov finally broke through and defeated his eternal opponent. This happened on the 13th day of December. Remember, 13 is Garry's lucky



number. After this game, however, neither side would budge, and they rattled off 14 straight draws. They weren't always boring draws, The 36th game was an exciting finding tactical game, but nevertheless after 40 games the score remained Karpov 5, Kasparov 1.

It was now the middle of February, and the world still waited for Karpov's sixth and decisive victory. It was Kasparov, however, who emerged victorious in the 47th game. Physically, Karpov was exhausted. He got break when the match was moved to the Hotel Sport, because they could no longer occupy the prestigious venue in central Moscow, the hall of columns in the House of trade unions. It took a full five days to make the transfer so Karpov had to be a time to recover.

Major complications were brought about when FIDE president Florencio Campomanes decided that some in the would have to be needed to this marathon. Kasparov was infuriated. He was coming back and there was no provision in the rules for a break for as much as one month, as proposed by Campomanes. After Kasparov won game 48, Campomanes decided to simply cancel the match and pretend that it never happened.

In the middle of the month, a few days after the match was canceled, Campomanes declared that the match had ended without decision, and that the two rivals would play in the match starting from scratch on September 1st. Whoever won that match would be declared World Champion, but not for the traditional three years. The winner would reign only for 1985 and 1986. For Kasparov, the entire experience served one very useful purpose. He finally learned how to play against Anatoly Karpov!

Kasparov had only a few months to prepare for the rescheduled 24-game contest in September. He spent much of this time working on his opening repertoire, abandoning strategies that were not particularly successful against Karpov, especially the Tarrasch Defense. Karpov's positional and strategic mastery required earlier confrontations in the game, for which openings like the Sicilian Defense and hypermodern approaches were best suited. Kasparov has said that "a chessplayer's frame of mind depends on his play with Black."

This time the play was in the famous Tchaikovsky Hall. Kasparov was inspired from the start. There was such a commotion around the playing ball, that some of the participants and officials arrived late and the game wasn't able to start on time. But once things got going, Kasparov quickly hit his stride. He won the first game convincingly.

After a couple of draws Karpov rebounded with two victories, but it didn't rattle Kasparov. The next five games ended in draws but Kasparov drew blood again in the 11th game. He won game 16 and the 19th game, and it looked as though he might cruise to victory leading 4-2. Karpov threw a monkey wrench into the works by winning the 22nd game. After another draw the stage was set for the final game, with Kasparov leading by score of 12-11 and needing only a draw to claim the title of World Champion. He did better than that, winning the last game, running up to score to his lucky number 13 and earning the honor of being the 13th official world chess champion at age 22.

TO BE CONTINUED

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## Summer Chess Camps

details at our website [www.calchess.org](http://www.calchess.org)

Jun 20-24: 6th Mechanics' Institute Chess Camp for Beginners and Novice Players

Jun 27-Jul 15: Success Chess Summer Camp 2005

Jun 27-Jul 22: Berkeley Chess School Summer Camp 2005

Jul 18-Aug 5 : Los Gatos - Saratoga Recreation SCS Summer Camp 2005

Jul 20-22: 2nd Davis Chess Camp

Aug 1-5: 6th Mechanics' Institute Chess Camp for Intermediate and Advanced Players

# Eolian vs. Kasparov, 1975

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 b5.** The sharp Polugayevsky Variation was in vogue at the time. White seems to have been caught unprepared.

**8.a4** Since White usually castles on the queenside, this is a poor move. Eventually, the lack of a pawn on the a-file will cost White the game! **8.e5** is the usual move.

**8...Bb7 8...b4 9.Na2 Bb7** is also good for Black, as a later prodigy demonstrated. **10.Bd3 Qb6 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Qd2 d5!** The standard central break gave Black a good game in Antal vs. Kiss, Hungarian Under-12 Championship, Paks 1996.

**9.Qe2 Be7 10.O-O-O?! Why not accept the gambit? 10.axb5** might lead to a very complicated situation after **10...Qb6!** **11.bxa6 O-O!** since the a-pawn is pinned.

**10...Nbd7 11.g4 Qb6 12.Bh4?** White is willing to sacrifice a pawn to accelerate the kingside attack, but it just opens lines on the queenside.

**12...Nc5 13.Bg2** The e-pawn must be preserved.

**13...Nxa4 14.Nxa4 bxa4 15.g5 Nd7 16.Be1.** **16.Bf2** is more natural, but after **16...Nc5** Black still has a great game.

**16...O-O 17.h4 Rab8 18.Bc3.** The bishop helps defend the king and also may support a kingside attack by aiming at g7. Kasparov realizes this, and finds an elegant solution.

**18...Rfc8 19.Rh3 Ba8.** The pawn at b2 is a natural target. The defender at c3 will quickly be eliminated. **20.Qg4.**

**20...Rxc3!?** **20...a3 21.b3 a2** would also have been effective

**21.bxc3 Nc5 22.f5 e5!** Kasparov blasts open the center.

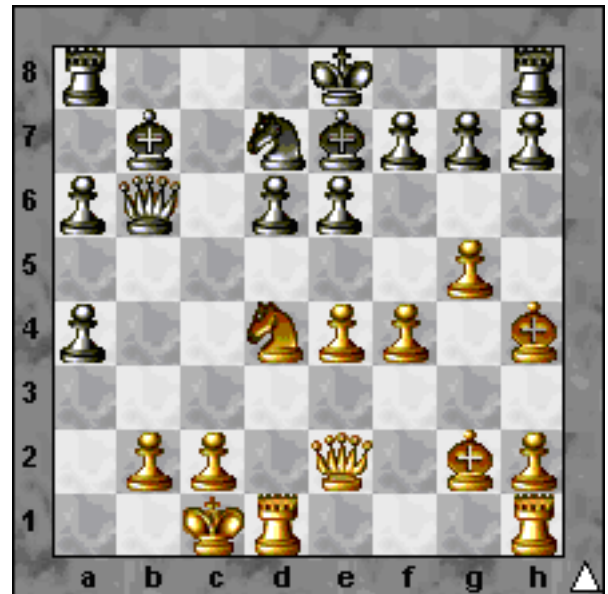
**23.Ne2. 23.f6 Qb2+ 24.Kd2 Bd8 25.Nf5** White is just attacking with a knight and f-pawn, so the pawn at g7 is irrelevant. **25...a3 26.Nh6+ gxh6 27.gxh6+ Kf8 28.Qg7+ Ke8 29.Qg8+ Kd7 30.Qxf7+ Kc6 31.Qd5+ Kc7 32.Qf7+ Kb6** and the Black king is perfectly safe. **33.Qxh7 a2 34.f7** loses to **34...Nb3+!** **35.Ke1 a1=Q 36.Rxa1 Nxa1! 37.f8=Q Bxh4+!** with a discovered attack against the White queen.

**23...d5!** The 12-year old Kasparov shows his understanding of key Sicilian concepts by employing the d5-break.

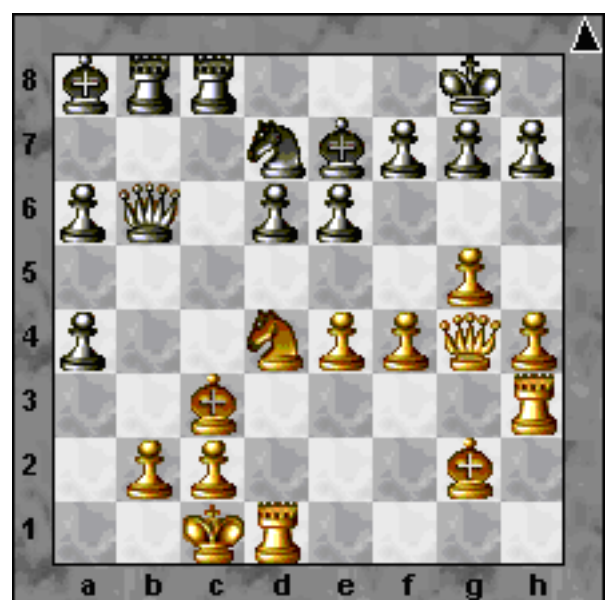
Position after 8.a4



Position after 15...Nd7



Position after 20.Qg4



**24.f6 Nxe4!** Threatening mate on the b-file. Of course Kasparov doesn't fall for 24...gxf6 25.gxf6+ Kf8 26.fxg7+ Kxe7 27.Qg5+ and Black is busted.

**25.Bxe4 Ba3+ 26.Kd2 dxe4 27.Ke1 Bc5.**

Clearing the way for the a-pawn.

**28.Qf5 28.fxg7 a3 29.h5 a2 30.g6 Qf6!** Bringing the queen to defend the king, and simultaneously threatening ...Qf2 mate!

**28...a3 29.Qxe5 a2! 30.c4.** Eolian has done a good job of covering a1, but it isn't enough.

**30...e3. 30...Qa5+ 31.Kf1 Rb1** would have been more efficient, but Kasparov's move also wins.

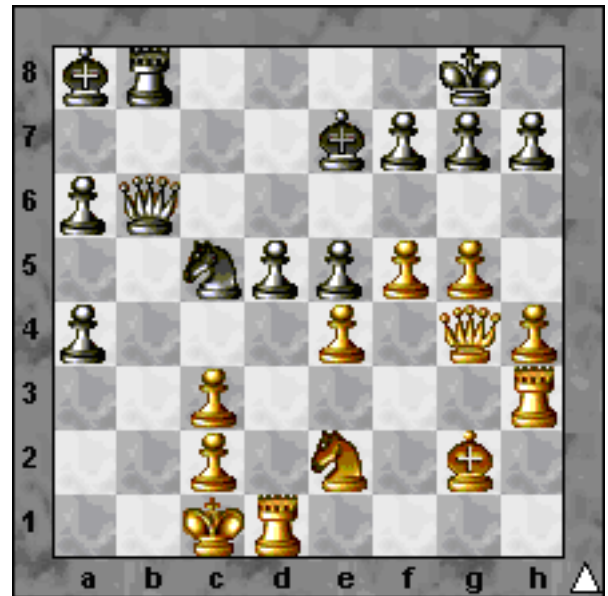
**31.Nc1. 31.Kf1 Qb7! 32.Nf4 Qb1! 33.Re1 a1=Q 34.Qxa1** looks good, but Black has a resource. **34...Qxc2!** Again, f2 is the target!

**31...Bd4!** Black can afford to sacrifice because a new queen is coming.

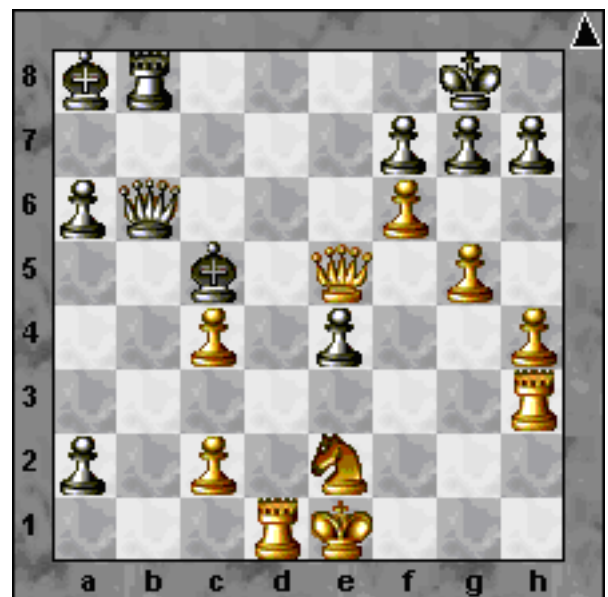
**32.Qxb8+ Qxb8 33.Nxa2 Qf4!** White **resigned**, faced with mate at f2. Checkmate is forced in 5 moves.

Notes by FM Eric Schiller

Position after 23...d5!



Position after 30.c4



## Kasparov Victim of Random Attack

*by Eric Hicks*

Just when you thought professional chess was separate from the real world, and oblivious to its problems..Gary Kasparov who just last month retired from professional chess, was hit across the head with a chess board in a random terrorist-like attack.

Although Kasparov was not hurt, this attack was a spooky reminder of the random violence for the sake of media attention which plaques our modern world today.

It seems Kasparov's chess and political world collided when a strange person approached him posing as a chess fan, and asked him to sign his chess board. Kasparov agreed, but after he signed it, the ingrate attacker slammed him over the head with the wooden chess board!

According to a Kasparov spokesperson, before he was attacked the assailant said, "I admired you as a chess player, but you gave that up for politics."

The irony of it all made the whole incident seem like some April Fools joke, but I think I speak for all chess players, when I was happy that this attacker used a chess board for his weapon.

As Kasparov stood dazed after the first swat, the assailant tried to hit him a second time, but was tackled by Kasparov security guards. Kasparov is the only chess player in the world who can afford his own security detail...and this incident proved it was money well spent.

Afterwards in front of television cameras, Kasparov was smooth as always, uninjured, but a little rattled." It was a fairly nasty incident, it was not very pleasant psychologically," He said.

Kasparov is known for being., an outspoken critic of President Vladimir Putin.

He retired from chess last month, saying he planned to focus on politics and do "everything in my power to resist Putin's dictatorship." He plays a leading role in the Committee 2008: Free Choice, a group formed by liberal opposition leaders.

Although his retirement was devastating for chess players everywhere, Kasparov who has already proven himself one of the greatest chess champions ever, has decided to devote himself to being a champion for his people, and changing the political system which he believes is corrupted.

This cowardly attack on a chess and world hero is symbolic of the type of times that we live in, when random violent attacks get national press coverage at the expense of innocent victims. Hopefully this event does not change Kasparov's gracious and embracing attitude he usually has to his fans.

# Photos from the final BlackKnight Tournament San Jose, April 30th, 2005



Photos by Eric Schiller

# The Murky Politics of This Years Scholastic Championship

*by Eric Hicks*

The politics of this years tournament was thicker than usual and definitely newsworthy.

I am hoping this story will clear some of the confusion that surrounded the major scholastic tournaments of this year.

It amazes me to see the fervor that organizers, coaches, and even parents exhibit these days in Northern California chess. The kids to me seem the same, cool as clams, with a tendency not to like losing. But the battle that these kids fight over the chess board has somehow rubbed off into the heads of the adults that surround them, and scholastic chess tournaments have taken on a huge new meaning, as battles abound all around! I always tell people involved in this scene to not get jaded — because scholastic chess is nowhere else as it is in Northern California. The tournaments here are now taken very seriously. When organizing a major event, every detail, from time control to prize structure is argued vehemently as if planning a world championship. I have coached some of the top kids in the country, and I can still tell you that Scholastic Tournaments for the most part are and always will be a slot machine. Kids for the most part play so sloppy that either side can win at either time. It is funny that tournament conditions are argued so fervently when the games themselves are so quick and sloppy. These are kids after all!

Lately I was thinking how did the tournaments get so big and so serious in Northern California. Never have I seen a scholastic tournaments mimic adult conditions as I do here — and I think state championships are more accustomed to being in school gymnasiums rather than convention centers. This year Northern California had 3 convention center styled events — how did this happen??

First let me explain some of the background on the state championship itself. I remember being a student at U.C. Berkeley and Ray Orwig conducting the state championship tournament each year at St. Marks School in Marin where he is an Athletic coach. At that time the state championship was a much smaller affair with less than several hundred kids competing each year. Back then people had a much more level head when it came to organizing competitive scholastic chess.

In fact, at that time Scholastic chess was far less organized. The only chess program in the bay area was Elizabeth Shaughnessy's Berkeley Chess School

(at the time called Chess in the Schools). I was the main instructor for the Berkeley Chess School, and would also work privately with a handful of kids who I felt were competitive. To give you an idea the difference in settings back then, when I would come to see how my kids were doing at this state championship I was one of maybe 3 coaches who would drop by. I, like other coaches, would only send my most talented kids...kids who I felt were ready to compete in chess. Keep in mind that for the most part, this was the only USCF rated scholastic event of the year.

So what exactly is the State (Scholastic—ed.) Championship? It is a yearly tournament, sponsored by Cal Chess, the United States Chess Federation's state affiliate for Northern California. Their only can be one tournament a year claiming to be the state championship. That tournament must be recognized by Cal Chess as the State Championship to proclaim itself the state championship. (What is Cal Chess? Cal Chess is the state affiliate of the United States Chess Federation.)The United States Chess Federation is in charge of making sure titles of tournaments do not conflict. For example according to the USCF there can be only one national championship. The USCF sees California as two separate states in essence. So there is the Southern California federation (the SCCF) and the Northern California chapter which is Cal Chess. Each of these two entities have their own state championship.

What is the benefit of competing in a state championship? If your child wins a state championship you can fairly call them "state champion". This is a title that will help that child for the rest of their life. For example what a dream to apply for college and be able to put "former state champion of chess" in your list of achievements! A state title, simply put is for bragging rights.

Ray Orwig served as liaison to the board for scholastic chess but did not hold a position on the board. The title of Scholastic Director was created upon the request of Alan Kirshner for himself. The duties which he attached to that title included running the Scholastic State Championship. Alan of course is the president of Success Chess, a relative new comer to the scholastic chess scene. Alan brought tremendous energy to the state championship, and he did this without a financial interest (he was not paid for organizing the tournament). Alan's philosophy of teaching chess is intertwined with tournament and competitive

chess. He made it a requirement that most of the kids in Success Chess attend the state championship. This started to really lift the numbers of attendees to the state championship. As Kirshner directed the state championship, the tournament grew from a maximum of 500 to over 1200 kids, making it one of the largest scholastic tournaments in the country. Not surprisingly, Success Chess kids made up at least half of the attendees at the state championship, even though Success Chess was not the largest of the scholastic programs. The other major chess programs, Berkeley Chess School, Know Chess, and my own Academic Chess, would only send our most talented kids. To Alan Kirshner's credit, he did a wonderful job of organizing the tournament and growing it into a giant event, before retiring from directing the tournament. Hats off to Kirshner for what he did for competitive scholastic chess in the Bay Area!

From here an interesting thing happens. Kirshner passes off the tournament to Doug Shaker and Riley Hughes, President of Know Chess. At the time of passing on the tournament, Kirshner and Hughes were on more than civil terms. But by the day of the State Tournament, 1240 kids in attendance, according to then Cal Chess president Richard Koepcke, "They were close to blows." The battle between Riley Hughes and Alan Kirshner would become legendary, grow larger and more bitter, escalating into a court case brought on by Know Chess against Success Chess in which Know Chess claimed damages for unfair business practices against Kirshner and Success Chess. The Case was eventually dropped. And to think this bitter feud all started with the two of them arguing about who would order the agenda at the coaches meeting (on conditions and rules of the state scholastic tournament)!!

After this fire storm tournament of 2001, the smooth talking Richard Peterson steps in. With a history of running large USCF tournaments, and no affiliation to the bay area scholastic scene, Peterson seemed like a perfect candidate to run the state championship. He is by nature a smooth talker and quickly able to appease the different factions who put pressure on the state tournament organizer. Peterson, a Southern California Ridgecrest resident, even started commuting 500 miles so that he could serve as Cal Chess treasurer. Peterson was known for his ability to negotiate large playing venues, and in

the case of the state championship did not disappoint. In 2002 he directed the tournament in the Monterey Convention Center, and in 2003 and 2004 in the huge and beautiful Santa Clara Convention Center. The Peterson era became known as huge beautiful playing venues, lots of kids (averaging 1200 rated kids) and huge disorganization.

In the case of the Peterson tournaments, Cal Chess would just appoint his organization CEA, to direct the events. Since there was no one else interested in running the event this worked well. Cal Chess would receive one dollar out of every entry fee. It became clear to everyone, that for the first time an individual (Richard Peterson) was profiting tremendously from the event.

As a Cal Chess board member, I pushed that in 2005 Cal Chess directs its own tournament. The board decided against this and instead came up with a system where each year the tournament would be open to bid. In the case of 2005, Peterson submitted the only acceptable bid and was awarded the tournament.

The tournament we as a board agreed on would be held in Santa Clara... on a different date from where it was held. Peterson a month after being awarded the bid, on his own changed the date, and the playing arena to the Oakland Convention Center. Supposedly out of coincidence, the Peterson Event, and the new Kirshner tournament fell on the same day... a mid air collision disaster for Bay Area chess. It is believed in some circles that another weekend was available at the time at the Oakland Convention Center and that no financial commitment had been made with the San Jose Convention Center for that particular date. Wherever the truth lies, neither Kirshner nor Peterson would change the date of their tournament. In essence, before the tournaments were even played a chess match was happening between Peterson and Kirshner where both sides were thinking they would "blow away" the other. Of course Kirshner ended up winning the dog fight with over twice as many attendees, but both sides probably ended up with less kids than if one of the parties had rescheduled.

The Kirshner Retro Event, was an event set up to remember the good ole days when Kirshner ran the state tournament. It was set up much like a state championship, except that it could not claim the title of "state championship" for reasons explained above. The fact that it fell on the same day of the official state championship was a travesty to all, and one of the elements that caused so much confusion this year with the major scholastic tournaments. According to local Chess lore, Peterson and Kirshner, still on civil terms, were having lunch in a McDonalds and speaking over their plans for their respective chess tournament. It was

then that they realized that they were planning both events on the same weekend! Supposedly neither Peterson nor Kirshner was able to change the date of their tournament...and thus the stage was set for the two biggest tournaments of the year to happen on the same weekend.

It was at this point that everyone realized that neither tournament would be as big as last year's Santa Clara tournament (close to 1500 kids and the biggest state championship ever). Kirshner was responsible for half of the kids that attend the state championship. It was a given that most of the Success Chess kids would attend the "Retro" Championship". Of course there was much finger pointing at both Kirshner and Peterson on how these events got scheduled on the same day, and "chess conspiracy" was hollered several times...from the Cal Chess board perspective we had agreed on a different playing venue and a different date...already I was feeling that Cal Chess had been bamboozled by Peterson, and I started to speak out against him, generating the friction that would later explode into the so called "Peterson Fiasco."

Please read on it gets better!

In the heat between me and Peterson, I was the first to point out he was a Southern California resident. This brought up the entire controversy on whether he was eligible to run as a Cal Chess board member. Also there was the whole issue on whether it was a conflict of interest for him to profit from the tournament, and at the same time serve on the Cal Chess board as Treasurer. Things heated up, and to make a long story short, Peterson dropped the bombshell of accusing Cal Chess President Elizabeth Shaughnessy of embezzling Cal Chess money into a secret account. Of course this allegation was completely untrue, but during the smoke storm that ensued, Peterson walked out with all \$28,000 in the Cal Chess account supposedly to "protect it".

So there is much to this story, but to keep it focused on the State Tournament, you can see why Cal Chess decided that they didn't want Peterson to run the State Championship. So Cal Chess went back to my original idea which was to run our own Scholastic Event as a non profit event. We found a wonderful playing venue, the Fort Mason Pavilion, and proceeded to plan our state event.

On the legal front things thickened up. The Cal Chess lawyer (chess icon Neil Faulkner) informed us that if we were to precede with the lawsuit,

it would involve Cal Chess board members going to court 500 miles away in Ridgecrest. The legal fees alone would be worth more than the \$28,000 that was taken...so to make a long story short, our attorney recommend we settle. So the Cal Chess Board settled, allowed Peterson to conduct the state tournament in Oakland as originally planned, Shaughnessy agreed not to sue him and Cal Chess got its money back. Of course no one was happy to see Peterson in charge of any event after his wacky actions. But Cal Chess saw no other way to retrieve the \$28,000. The vote was anonymous to settle...and once again the State Championship Scholastic Chess Tournament would be held in Oakland.

The Oakland State Championship had a record low 300 participants. The low turn out could be attributed to the "word" getting out regarding Peterson, and the fact that most scholastic organizers decided to send their kids to the Kirshner "Retro" event, held on the same weekend. The Kirshner event had over 800 kids, and by all accounts was a well run, well organized affair.

The Oakland State Championship, true to Peterson form, was relatively disorganized and poorly run. The tournament had Peterson sleazy Fingerprints on it, i.e.. Scholastic Poker match in between rounds with an entry fee (isn't that illegal?!) One melodramatic and chaotic moment that ensued, is at the beginning of the tournament, Peterson had security remove from the convention center, Cal Chess President Elizabeth Shaughnessy and myself, Vice President Eric Hicks. It would mark the first time that Cal Chess officials were removed from a Cal Chess championship!

So there was one more major loose end...and this was the planned Fort Mason Event...originally billed as the "New State Championship". The way the situation worked out, Cal Chess was not sure until the start time of the tournament if Peterson was really going to conduct the Oakland tournament.

Cal Chess had already reserved the Fort Mason Pavilion, and kept the reservation open just in case Peterson reneged. After the Peterson tournament, it was unclear what to do with the Fort Mason site. The consensus of the Cal Chess board was to cancel the tournament since no one seemed motivated to put out the tremendous energy needed to pull off a chess event there. At this point, Academic Chess offered to take over the financial and time commitment needed to put on the Fort Mason Tournament.

The Cal Chess board voted unanimously to pass on the tournament to Academic Chess.

So there you have it. An explanation for the

confusion of this year regarding the major scholastic chess tournaments.

I would like everyone know that the Cal Chess board has been through a terrible time this year. And being all volunteer members it was especially difficult given the many long and exhausting meetings we had to endure. I would like to take a minute to thank all my fellow board members who endured this...I know it has been a thankless job. Special thanks goes to our president Elizabeth Shaughnessy who suffered many unwarranted attacks despite her countless hours of hard work for Cal Chess this year. It was a weird situation where the public would make assumptions not based on fact, and we were not allowed to communicate what was going on because our lawyer had advised us to remain silent.

I would like to end this crazy story with one of the sayings that helped me through my life, especially through my teenage years which were especially trying. "whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger."

I sincerely hope that after this Cal Chess can make it through anything...and I for one would like to see the Northern California scholastic scene to be more unified...so to that end...extra strength will definitely be needed!

*The opinions expressed by the author are his individual views, this article was not reviewed by the CalChess Board.*

## Book Review by Eric Schiller

**Smyslov's Best Games of Chess: My Rise to the World Championship**  
By Vasily Smyslov

ISBN 184382115x  
Hardinge Simpole Chess Classics  
172 pages  
\$29.95

### Smyslov's Best Games of Chess

*My Rise to the World Championship*



Vasily Smyslov  
Illustration by Peter Clarke

This excellent book is typical of the quality publications from the firm of Harding-Simpole, who specialize in returning out of print chess books to the marketplace. This is not a new book, but a republication of Smyslov's "My Best Games of Chess 1935-1957". The book contains a great deal of background information about Smyslov but of course the main attraction is in the high-quality notes provided by Smyslov himself and translated by the most capable Peter Clarke. The reprint does contain a few corrections but otherwise the collection of 67 games and game fragments is reproduced from the original book published in 1958. Of course this book is in descriptive notation which may put off some younger readers, but Smyslov's excellent notes are well worth the effort. Very highly recommended. Though, considering the price, you might do an Internet search for a used copy of the original. You can order the book online or find it in bookstores, but these valuable reprints are not sold by USCF sales.

Sample page from the book

42

BONDAREVSKY-SMYSLOV

17



20. ... K-B 2!

The King is aimed for Kt 3 so as to strengthen the K B P and embarrass the White Kt.

21. Kt-B 1	K-Kt 3
22. Kt-B 6	QR-Q 1
23. QR-Q 1	R x R
24. R x R	R-Q 1
25. R x R	B x R

With the exchange of Rooks the position has become simpler, but no easier for White. After Black's Kt-Q 5 the position of the White Kt on K B 6 would appear to be hopeless; Black also threatens Kt B 5 with a double attack on K Kt P and Bishop. White's best here is 26. B-Kt 2.

26. Kt-K 3



26. ... P-K B 5!

A reply which White had not foreseen. The attacked Kt can neither take the K Kt P because of 27. ... P-K R 4 nor advance to Q 5 because of 27. ... P-B 3, and a piece is lost in both cases. The sad retreat to the first rank is all that remains.

27. Kt-Q 1	B x Kt
28. P x B	B-K 5
29. B-Kt 2	P-Kt 5

Depriving the white Kt of its QB 3 and threatening to win a piece by 30. ... B-B 7 should White play 30. P-Q B 3.

30. P-K B 3	B x Q B P
31. Kt-B 2	P x P
32. P x P	B-Kt 8
33. Kt-K 4	B x P
34. Kt-Q 2	P-Q R 4

Black has won two pawns and at any moment threatens to free his trapped Bishop by P-Q R 5.

35. K-B 2	Kt-Q 5
36. B x Kt	P x B
37. K-K 2	K x P
38. K-Q 3	K-K 4
39. K-B 2	

After 39. K-B 4, P-R 5; 40. K x P, B x P the Bishop is free again, while if 39. Kt B 4 ch, K-Q 4; 40. Kt x P, B-Kt 8 ch, Black wins easily.

39. ...	P-R 5
40. P x P	P-B 4
41. P-R 5	P-B 5
42. P-R 6	P-Q 6 ch

White resigned. If 43. K-Q 1, then 43. ... P-B 6; 44. P-R 7, R-Q 4 or if 43. K-Kt 2, then 43. ... P-B 6 ch; 44. K x B, P x Kt; 45. P-R 7, P-Q 8=Q; 46. P-R 8-Q, P-Kt 6 ch and wins.