

## Daniel Naroditsky Conquers the World!

Posted by fpawn on Wednesday, November 28 @ 16:16:31 CST



**Congratulations to Northern California youngster FM Daniel Naroditsky for winning the under 12 division at the World Youth Chess Festival in Turkey!** Ranked #1 for his age in America for the past two years and as the 2007 CalChess High School Champion, Danya has been used to success in chess. He also won a medal at the 2006 Pan American Youth Chess Festival. But the World stage is something much bigger.

Danya finished with a remarkable score of 9.5 out of 11 against the world's top youths in his age group. He actually tied for first place with top ranked wunderkind FM Illya Nyzhnyk (2377) from Ukraine, but Danya had the superior tiebreaks. **In addition to the gold medal, Danya will receive the automatic FIDE Master title for this performance.**

Our hero began the event with five straight wins against lower rated players. In the second half of the tournament, Danya faced three of the top five rated players, all masters. First, he drew with top seed Nyzhnyk in round 6, then he suffered his only defeat to Ulvi Bajarani (2268) of Azerbaijan in round 8 and finally he defeated Ivan Bukavshin (2248) of Russia in the final round. Danya also beat each of the other eight players that he faced.

This was not Danya's first attempt at winning the World Youth, but it certainly was by far his most eventful trip. The experience from previous years really paid off, especially in the final round when his higher rated opponent Ivan Bukavshin (2248) of Russia was clearly rattled by the enormous pressure of the moment. What should have been a difficult struggle ended up being an easy two hour victory.

As one of Danya's coaches, I can say that it has been a great pleasure for me to work with him. His pure love for the game of chess is enormous. Danya is obviously a very strong player, so I am glad that he has Grandmasters who provide most of his instruction. Hopefully he picked up a few tidbits here and there from the many sparring contests that we have had over the past 1.5 years. The future is bright for Danya and I predict that the FM title will be just the first step to achieving even higher success in chess.

Congratulations to America's newest FIDE Master, Daniel Naroditsky! You're #1!

Play through 10 of Danya's 11 games from the World Youth using the Java viewer below.



Danya focusing for the last round (official website).



Top boards in U12 with Nyzhnyk in front right and Danya in rear left (Chessbase).



Danya holding trophy and wearing gold medal (Dujui Yang).