

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2007

ILLINOIS

B U L L

CHESS

E T I N



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Games and an Interview from IM
Angelo Young

Illinois Chess Club Reports

Chess from the Middle

Road Warrior

and much more!





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SPECIAL WEB FEATURE

Replay the "Reader's Games" section!

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ALL SUBMISSIONS including advertisements should have the subject "ICB Submission" in the e-mail.

Pictures Wanted!

Have a digital camera? Take it to your next tournament and send the photos to the ICB! A picture says a thousand words. Preferred format for all digital images is .jpg, but others are accepted.

Editorial Staff

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HTML Replay

All games found in the ICB are available for online replay:
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The Illinois Chess Bulletin (ICB) is published by the Illinois Chess Association (ICA). ICA membership includes a subscription to the ICB. Memberships marked 1st receive their magazines first class. Memberships marked "P" also received a plaque. Affiliates receive discounted advertising rates, event advertising on the ICA website, and the right to run tour events.

Further information on membership rates and benefits can be found at:

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

e-ICB

<http://ilchess.org/e.htm>

by **Pete Karagianis**

It's a busy time of year for chess and, well, everything else for that matter. I



have collected here an itemized list of ICB news, chess news, and anything and everything else that may have something to do with the ICB, you, the ICA, me, or anything in between.

First I am very pleased to bring you an exciting game from downstater and A-class player, Peoria's own **Henry Getz**, who won eight games in a row in downstate play before taking home sizeable money in the North American Open, 2006! Also in the Reader's Games section (page 12) you will find an interesting battle between up-and-comer Jason Chien and old-schooler Victor Mata, from the final round of the McClean County Open.

Second, Congratulations again to **IM Angelo Young** who emerged victorious once again in another Illinois Open. Can anyone stop this guy in that tournament? Goodness! You will find an interview with IM Young and also be able to peruse his own annotations from his 2006 State Championship later in this Bulletin.

Of course, I'm sure you will all remember **this awesome picture** (----->) from the last issue. I'm sure many of you may be tired of

seeing it by now, and maybe I'll get the nerve to change it if you, the readers, **send me some images!** The cool thing about owning a digital camera is the ease with which one can immediately transfer the photographs to an e-mail. For those of you still not hip to the idea, e-mail ICBeditor@gmail.com for a brief motivational speech. Now get those shutters clicking!

**All Games
are available
for replay online:**

ilchess.org/eICB/e.htm

Oh, and get those fingers typing, too. GM Shulman was busy with his many nefarious opening preparations and thus unable to contribute to this issue, but he has promised me "the ultimate rook ending" article for a future bulletin. Fortunately, some **headstrong ICA members** took the initiative and hooked me up with a wonderful batch of content for this issue that I am sure you will all enjoy. Take their lead and get in line, amigos! Send in your club



news, tournament results, goofy pictures of chess players in cowboy hats, annotated games, or whatever else floats your boat, and you just might see it in print! It's a new year, chock full of new events, tournaments, and rants and I'm sure plenty of it is fit for publishing.

I, myself, have been desperately punching away at the incredibly difficult 2006 Chessbase Christmas Puzzle Contest, and you can read all about my path to solution in this month's installment of the **Road Warrior**. I hope you'll find my walk through the world of the super-puzzle both entertaining and, in some strange way, instructive?

You will also find the ICA Election Results on the next page, along with some informative spiel from **new ICA President Chris Merli**.

For those among you who don't know yet, The ICB will be published **fully online** for the foreseeable future (read: 2007 and beyond?), so fire up your internet browsers. Part of my goal is to make the download speed of the e-ICB reasonable even for those of us still stuck in the stone-age of dial-up, which means I'll be doing my best to keep the total document Megabyte size to a reasonable number.

Finally, Merry Christmas to all and Happy Holidays. I hope you will enjoy the **cover design** as much as I did, and please once again check out the designer's advertisement on page 21.

President's Podium



[ed: Chris Merli, former downstate VP, assumed the role of interim president until the 2006 election was completed. Merli retained his role as president, and full results are available in the far column]

Welcome fellow chess players.

Many of you have noticed some big changes recently in the Illinois Chess Association. One of the major changes has been a reduction in the ICA membership rates.

Part of the reason for the decrease has been a significant shift in our publication of the ICB. One way in which the ICA was able to lower dues was by lowering across-the-board publication costs. The printed version of the ICB costs us about \$1,600 per issue as compared to the online version at only \$900 per issue. Though our financial situation is improving it is still prudent to keep the ICB fully-online and produce more online issues than we have in the past.

In other news, the board has also discontinued the Illinois Tour. The Tour was never designed as a money making venture but as of late it has been losing even more money. More importantly, it does not appear to be performing its primary function of improving tournament attendance.

My goal for the ICA is to focus on those things that a state organization can do best. We

should emphasize our primary goals of overseeing state tournaments and in providing current tournament information. I also believe our status as a non-profit organization offers us a unique opportunity to educate future generations of chess players. Finally I think we should provide organizers with what they need to run successful tournaments. Hopefully in the next couple of years we can make progress in these areas.

Notes:
Mr. David Heiser and Mr. Sevan Muradian have declined their election to the Metro V.P. position. President Chris Merli is contacting the other nominees to determine interest. Mr. Dolson returns as Treasurer, while Mr. Kitson and Mr. Long begin new terms.

2006 ICA ELECTION RESULTS

Position	Candidate	Votes	Winner
President	Chris Merli	18	
	David Heiser	1	
			Merli
Treasurer	Carl Dolson	18	
	David Heiser	1	
			Dolson
Metro VP	David Heiser	4	
	Sevan Muradian	4	
	Robert Cairone	1	
	Howard Cohen	1	
	Steve Miller	1	
			See Note
Downstate VP	David Long	18	
	David Heiser	1	
			David Long
Secretary	Colley Kitson	4	
	Jeff Smith	2	
	Six others with	1	
			Colley Kitson



A Rating is **Just a Number**

BY VINCENT HART

Has this ever happened to you? Your opponent is rated four classes above you. He plays an opening variation that you have never seen. Before you know it, you are down a pawn with a position that looks like it is ready to fall apart. Do you pray to be put out of your misery quickly or do you try to find a way to make your opponent miserable?

In the last two years, the Prospect High School chess team has improved from 0-10 to 8-2 in the Mid-Suburban Chess League. While I would like to attribute it to good coaching, much of the improvement must be credited to the improved play of first board Mike Pozsgay who sports a somewhat stale USCF rating of 1069. His only loss this season came at the hands of 2013 rated Zach Kasirurak of Barrington. After getting caught in an unfamiliar variation, Mike managed to generate quite a bit of play and nearly pulled off the upset.

Pozsgay, M (1069) - Kasirurak, Z (2013)

Prospect v Barrington 30.11.2006
[1st Board]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bc4?!

In practice games, I try to play a variety of openings, but I had never ventured the Kan Variation of the

Sicilian against Mike (mostly because I don't understand it). Not being sure how to handle it, he tries to play the same way he would against the Najdorf. Unfortunately, in the Kan, Black has a solid grip on the a2-g8 diagonal and the White bishop has little future on c4..

5...Qc7 6.Bb3 Nf6 7.Nc3? Bb4 8.Bd2 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 Nxe4



With a nine hundred point rating differential, White could be excused for being somewhat discouraged, but he manages to find an enterprising continuation.

10.0-0!?

White would not have had all that much for a one pawn deficit, but now he gets a nice lead in development. Another way to try to demonstrate some compensation might have been

10.Qg4!?. This idea comes up from time to time in lines where Black plays ...Bb4. 10...Nxc3 11.Qxg7 Rf8 12.bxc3 Qxc3+ 13.Ke2.

10...Nxc3 11.bxc3 Qxc3 12.Re1

10. ...Nc6?!

Zach was playing very quickly and failed to realize how much trouble this move would cause. 12...0-0! would have prevented the knight from gaining the outpost at d6.

13.Nf5 0-0 14.Re3 Qf6 15.Nd6



15...g6?!

As White has no immediate threats, Black probably should have concentrated on untangling his queenside with 15...b5. I suspect that Zach figured that the rating differential would eventually kick in if he just defended solidly.

16.Rc1 Nd4 17.c3 Nf5 18.Rf3 Qe5 19.Nc4

19.Nxf5!?. is an interesting idea. Black must choose between weakening his pawn structure or exposing his king.

19...Qc7 20.g4!?

A good practical move that keeps Black in a defensive frame of mind although it creates a lot of weak-

nesses.

20...Nh6?!

20...b5!? would have given White something to think about.

21.Rh3 Kg7

21...Qf4!? might have been a little better. Black keeps responding to White's threats without creating any of his own.

22.Nd6 f6 23.g5 Ng4?

This was Black's chance to finally evict the pesky knight from d6.

23...Nf7!? 24.gxf6+ Kg8 and the White knight must give up his outpost after which Black unravels his queen side and exploits White's weak pawns.

24.gxf6+?!

Releasing the pressure.

24.Qd4! The knight on g4 has nowhere to go.

24...Nxf6 25.Qd4 Qa5?!

25...b6! looks better with the idea of untangling the queen-side and challenging the White queen with ...Qc5.

26.Re1 Kg8 27.Re5 Qd8 28.Rg5 Qe7



29.Nf5?!

As on move 24, White opted for a forcing move over one that would have ratcheted up the pressure. 29.Bc2!! looks like it may be winning for White.

Due to Black's snarled queen-side, White is effectively two pieces ahead. By adding the bishop to the attack, White can afford to sacrifice one of his extra pieces on g6 to expose the Black King.

29...Qg7 (29...Kg7 30.Bxg6 Rh8 31.Ne8+ Kf8 32.Nxf6) 30.Rhg3 Kh8 31.Bxg6 h6 32.Qh4]

29...Qa3 30.Nh6+

30.Kg2 holds out hope according to Fritz. At this point, both players were running low on time and Zach shows why he is an expert.

30...Kg7 31.f4 Qc1+ 32.Qd1 Qxf4 33.Rhg3 Ne4 34.Rf3 Qxg5+ 35.Kf1 Nd2+ 36.Ke1 Nxf3+ 37.Ke2 Qg2+ 38.Ke3 Qg1+ 39.Ke2 Qxd1+ 40.Kxd1

[0-1]

Interestingly, Black never did move the rook or bishop on the queen-side.

This game just goes to show that you should never be intimidated by a rating. By the same token, you should never assume that a lower rated player does not have a few tricks up his sleeve even if he doesn't know all his openings.

Position of the Moment
Mail suggestions to:
ICBeditor@gmail.com

**January 13, 2007.
Illinois High School
Grade Championships.**

January 13, 2007. Illinois High School Grade Championships. Sponsored by Walter Payton College Prep Chess Team. Organized by Chess Education Partners. Walter Payton College Prep, 1034 North Wells Street, Chicago, IL, 60610.

5 rounds SS G/45. Check in 8:00-8:30 a.m., first round 9:00 a.m, awards at approx. 5:30 p.m. Sections: 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade divisions. Players must play in their grade. Qualifier to the ICCA Championships Section (02/24/07) and the CPS MVP Tournament. Awards: Plaques for top ten finishers in each division, awards for all players. No team awards. Entry: before January 12, 2007, \$20 per player. Send payment with name, school and grade to Chess Education Partners, 1943 N. Kenmore, Chicago, IL 60614, or email entries to Chessteacher@aol.com. More information at 312-927-4290.



From: Szabo-Geller (analysis)
Zurich, 1953. White to move



Interview **With a Champion**

2006 ILLINOIS STATE CHAMP
IM Angelo Young

PS: Let's talk about the Illinois State open...

How much did your prepare for the Illinois State Championships?

opponent a truce, but to my amazement my opponent replied, "Are we just going to let [FM Mehmed Pasalic] win?" So he fought on and we continued until he finally blundered in the end.

PS: Was there anyone in particular that you were preparing against?

I was preparing for the four GM's Georgiev, Gurevich, Shulman & Mitkov but none of them showed up

2006 Illinois State Champion Angelo Young sits down for an interview with Pete Stroyan, of Bloomington-Normal.

Nowadays Its hard for me to prepare at all, I'm tied between my family and teaching chess. I just read chess books before going to bed .

Pete Stroyan: How old were you when you started playing chess?

I was nine years old. I was inspired by former world Champion Robert Fischer.

PS: Who was your first instructor?

Nobody. I never had a formal instructor. I got a lot of my chess knowledge by reading chess books on my own.

PS: What was your first book?

Middle game Books 1 & 2 by Euwe and Kramer.

PS: What was the biggest tournament that you have won?

I have won several Illinois tournaments including Illinois Opens, but my best score was coming in 3rd place at the World Open in 1996, which also scored me an IM Norm.

PS: Do you have any games that really stand out?

My first win against a Grand Master when I sacrificed a queen to deliver a checkmate will always stick with me in my memory.



IM Young in action

to play.

PS: Did you feel any pressure since you have won three Illinois State Championships in a row?

The first time I won an Illinois Championship wasn't easy. I had to defeat three masters in row. The second time I had to beat IM Smetankin in the last round to tie for first with GM's Georgiev & Shulman, two strong players! This year I thought it would be easier without any Grand Masters playing, but I felt more pressure. I was going to give it up in the 5th round when I got into a drawish position. I offered my

PS: Is there any advice you like to give to our readers?

If you can't prepare at all play, just use what you know and play it with all your heart. To our young readers use the phrase G.O.D:

Guidance & Goals – Find help to elevate your game and create goals.

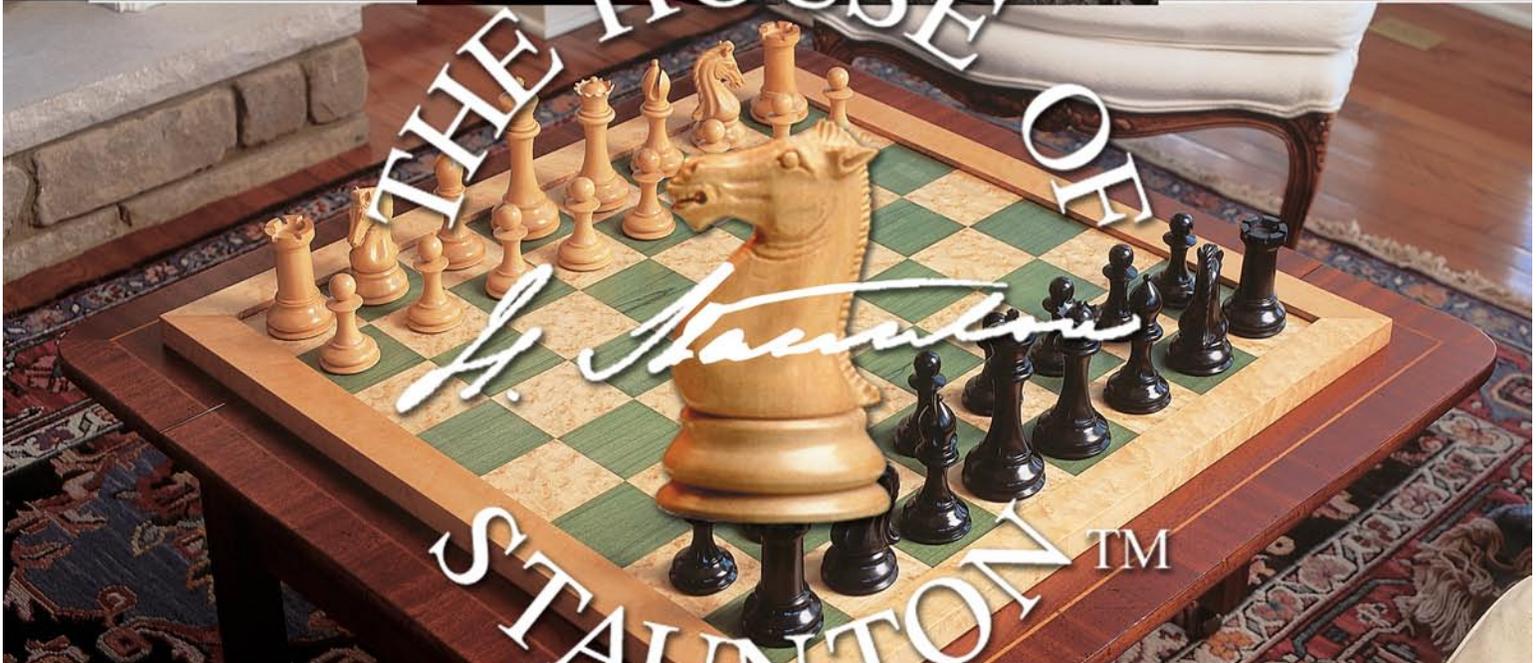
Obedience – Follow all the principles, obey your coach and parents.

Dedication – Hard work- solid opening, principled play in middle and ending.

PS: Congratulation for winning the Illinois State for the 5 times and Good luck in your chess!

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US OPEN GAMES: analysis with IM ANGELO YOUNG

Games from: 2006 ILLINOIS OPEN

[White "IM Young, A.."]
[Black "Nienart, C.."]
[Result "1-0"]
[ECO "D93"]

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Bf4
A cousin of the London System

3... g6
Black is intending to transpose to a Gruenfeld setup. He could have also chosen a symmetrical position.

4. e3 Bg7 5. c4 c6 6. Nc3 O-O 7. Rc1



In GM Dreev - GM Bagirov The game continued:

7. Bd3 Bg4 8. h3 Bxf3 9. Qxf3 dxc4 10. Bxc4 Nbd7 11. O-O Qe8 12. Bb3 e5 13. dxe5 Nxe5 14. Qe2 Qe7 15. e4 Nfd7 16. Be3 Nc5 17. Bc2 Ned7

18. Rad1 Rfd8 19. a4 a5 20. Qc4 Qe6 21. Qxe6 Nxe6 22. f4 Bf8 23. Kf2 Bc5 24. Ke2 Nb6 25. Bxc5 Nxc5 26. e5 f6 27. exf6 Kf7 28. b3 Kxf6 29. g4 Ne6 30. f5 gxf5 31. Rxf5+ Kg7 32. Ke3 Re8 33. Be4 Re7 34. g5 Nc7 35. Kf3 Nd7 36. h4 Ne5+ 37. Rxe5 Rxe5 38. Rd7+ Kg8 39. Rxc7 Rf8+ 40. Ke3 h6 41. Kd4 Re6 42. Rxb7 Rf4 43. Kc5 Rxh4 44. Bxc6 Re5+ 45. Bd5+ Kf8 46. g6 Rg4 47. Kd6 {1-0 Dreev,A-Bagirov,V/Sevastopol 1986/EXT 98 (47)

7... Qa5 8. Nd2
a3 or h3 is more flexible.

8... Bf5 9. Be2 Nbd7 10. O-O dxc4 11. Nxc4 Qd8 12. Qb3 Nb6
b6 will just create a weak pawn on c6.

13. Na5 Qd7 14. Be5 Ne4 15. Nxe4 Bxe4 16. Bxg7 Kxg7 17. Qc3 f6 18. Nb3!

To become good player One must know when to transfer his pieces to a more active role (transition game). Look how the knight re-manuevers.

18... Bd5 19. Nc5 Qc7 20. b3
Im intending a4-a5 to control more space on queenside.

20... Nd7 21. Nd3 Rfe8 22. Nf4 Bf7 23. d5 e5!?
This move did not occur to me in my analysis. I was expecting:
23... Rac8 24. Rfd1 g5 25. Nh5+ Kh8 26. d6 Qb6 27. Bg4, which wins at least the exchange.

24. dxc6 exf4 25. cxd7 Qxd7 26. Qc7 Re7 27. Qxf4 Qd2 28. Bb5 Re5 29. Bc4 Rc8
(29... Qxa2 30. Bxf7 Kxf7 31. Qh6 Kg8 32. Rc7)

30. Rcd1 Qb4 31. Bxf7 Re4 32. Qf3 Kxf7 33. a3 Qe7 34. Qh3!



With triple threats Qxh7, Qxc8, and the most cunning move Rd7 winning the queen.

34... f5 35. Qxh7+ Kf6 36. Qxe7+
With two Pawns up the rest will just be a matter of technique.

36... Rxe7 37. Rd4 Rc2 38. h4 Rec7 39. Rfd1 Rb2 40. R1d3 Rcc2 41. Rf4
The Key move! Stops all counter play.

41... Ke5 42. g3 a5 43. b4 a4 44. Rd7 Ra2 45. Rxb7 Rxa3 46. Rb5+ Ke6 47. Rb6+ Ke7 48. b5 Ra1+ 49. Kg2 Raa2 50. Rxc6 a3 51. Ra6 Rc3 52. Rxf5 Rb2 53. h5 a2 54. h6 Rc8 55. h7 Rh8 56. Rc5 Kd7 57. Ra7+ Kd8 [1-0]

[White "IM YOUNG, A.."]
[Black "KARKLINS, A.."]
[Result "1-0"]
[ECO "A46"]

This was the last round. I was tied with FM Pasalic with 4.5 Pts. out of five rounds. This game was a must win situation.

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. d4 e6 3. c3 c5 4. e3

Here I chose a more solid approach. Normally Bg5 is considered best.

4...Nc6 5. Bd3 cxd4

This move can still wait

6. exd4

Now I enjoyed small opening space advantage.

6... Be7

6. ...d5 would transpose to Carokahn defense.

7. O-O O-O 8. Re1 d6 9. Nbd2

While I'm still looking for the right plan, I was surprised when my opponent played:

9... e5? 10. dxe5 dxe5 11. Qc2+-



Plain and simple ! This move protects the bishop with the dual pressure on h7 and the e5 pawn.

11... g6

(11...Qd6 12. Nc4 Qc5 13. Nfxe5) (11... Qc7 12. Nc4 Bd6 13. Bg5 h6 14. Bxf6 gxf6 15. Rad1 Be7 16. Bf5)

12. Nxe5

Now I felt that I was in a verge of winning the Illinois State Championships once again.

12...Nxe5 13. Rxe5 Qc7 14. Re2

It took me 15 minutes to decide between Re1 and Re2.

14...Bg4 15. Re1 Rad8 16. Nf1 Rd5 17. Be3 Rfd8 18. Bd4

Eyeing both sides of the board and a possibility of back rank mate.

18... Be6 19. Qe2

Another possibility: (19. Bxg6 hxg6 20. Rxe6 fxe6 21. Qxg6+ Kf8 22. Bxf6 Bxf6 23. Qxf6+ Qf7 24. Qh8+ Ke7 25. Qh4+)

19... Rh5 20. Ng3 Rh4 21. Bc4 Nd5

Forced! Other moves will make it easier for white.

(21... Bxc4 22. Qxe7 Qxe7 23. Rxe7 Nd5 24. Rxb7)

Black will have no compensation.

22. Bb3!

Shredder 9 consider it the best.

22... Bd6 23. Bxd5!! Bxg3

(23... Bxd5 24. Bf6 {Fork!})

24. hxg3 Rxd4 25. cxd4 Rxd5 26. Rad1 h5 27. Qe3 Qb6 28. Rd2 Qa5 29. a3 Rg5 30. d5!

Simplify!

30... Rxd5 31. Rxd5 Bxd5 32. Qe8+ Kh7 33. Re5 Qd2 34. Qd7 Qc1+ 35. Kh2 Ba2 36. Qxb7 h4 37. Qb4 hxg3+ 38. Kxg3 Qc7 39. Qf4 Qc6 40. Re3 Bd5 41. Qh4+ Kg7 42. Qd4+ Kh7 43. f3 Be6 44. Qe5 Qb6 45. Re4 Kg8 46. b4 Bf5 47. Rh4 f6 48. Qe8+ Kg7 49. Qe7+ Kg8 50. Rh7 [1-0]

Congratulations to IM Angelo Young, 2006 Illinois Open Champion with 5.5/7 points!

NORTHSORE SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENT

January 14, 2007.

3rd North Shore Scholastic Chess Tournament. Northwestern University - Norris University Center. 1999 Campus Drive, Evanston, IL 60208.

SPACE LIMITED TO FIRST 350 ENTRIES - PLEASE REGISTER EARLY - VERY LARGE TURNOUT EXPECTED. NO ONSITE ENTRIES.

4R-SS G/30 (Dual-Rated).

EF: \$25 postmarked by Jan 9th. Special Discounts: Sibling Discount: \$5 off each sibling; Team Discount: \$5 off each team member; Discounts can be combined!

Sections: Open (requires rating of minimum 1000 and open to K-12 players), K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8.

Check-in: 10:30-11:30am; Rd 1 @ 12PM with all subsequent rounds starting as soon as sections finish.

Awards: Trophies to Top 5 per section; Team Trophies to Top Scholastic Team per section and Top Club Team per section (top 3 scores/2player min. for team/club trophies).

Boards and Sets provided.

BRING CLOCKS - NONE PROVIDED.

USCF Membership Required. Visit the North Shore Scholastic website for registration details

North Shore and Kumbaya **Scholastic Events**

REPORT BY **SEVAN MURADIAN**

The new scholastic year brought about a new series of chess tournaments for the kids. These events have been hosted by two separate groups: Chess Ed, a chess teaching organization operated by Alice Holt and Shiva Maharaj; and also by the North American Chess Association (NACA) and 64Squares (the Northwestern University Chess Club).

These events were organized to give parents, coaches, and kids more options of where to play and when to play. Our belief is that more options will increase the overall amount of chess being played and will create feeders into the independent chess teachers here in the Metro Chicago area.

Chess Ed has dubbed their events 'The Kumbaya Chess Tournaments'. Shiva Maharaj coined the Kumbaya phrase in display that kids of all strengths and **coached by anyone** are welcome to play. So far there have been three Kumbaya tournaments and one All Girls Tournament held. The events have been held at very nice facilities including the Wilmette Park District, the Northfield Park District, and Heather Ridge Country Club. The Country Club was a beautiful location but due to size constraints on an ever growing chess tournament, the Kumbaya events quickly outgrew the site!

NACA and 64Squares created a scholastic option called the North Shore Scholastic Chess Tournaments on the beautiful Evanston Campus of Northwestern University with a spectacular view of Lake Michigan. 64Squares operates a school-only

chess club which competes in the CICL and we use this opportunity to help fundraise for the club so they can run their special events (last year Master Jon Burgess gave a simul, this year WFM Palina Churun gave a simul, and this year the team is going to the Pan-American's). So far two events have been held and we nearly doubled the size from the first to the second tournament!

Both groups of chess tournaments are planning on special events between each other and working together as a cohesive team. Watch out for unique activities between the two sets of events.

Listing the cross-tables for these events would be too cumbersome but you can see the cross tables and results by going to: www.uschess.org/msa and clicking on "Affiliates." Next, enter the name "North American Chess Association" and click on Search – you will see the event lists for both the Kumbaya events and the North Shore Scholastic events!

Good Chess to All,

Sevan A. Muradian

3rd Kumbaya Top Finishers

K-1: Elliot Bonhwa Jung-Bee-man

2-3: Jack Thomas Curcio,
Elliot James Lueck

4-5: Scott Drier

6-8: Roshan Calvin Shankar,
Maxwell I. Heinrich

Want more information?

www.nachess.org/kumbaya
www.nachess.org/northshore

Alice Holt – aholt729@earthlink.net
Sevan Muradian – info@nachess.org

Tourney and Event Schedule

January 3 – Girls Only Chess Class
January 3 – The French Defense by Shiva
January 14 – 3rd North Shore Scholastic
January 18 – 4th Kumbaya Scholastic
February 4 – 2nd All Girls

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Downstate Action

Reader Games from Tournament Winners

Recently, Henry Getz, of Peoria, went undefeated in two consecutive tournaments: the September Open in Bloomington, Illinois and the Fall Tornado held in Peoria. He scored an impressive eight wins in a row, jumping from 1776 to 1865 in the process. But his rampage didn't stop there! He also went on to score 5.5 from 7 in the North American Open to jump all the way to 1910. He sends us some of his games from downstate play...

Meanwhile, Victor Mata, of Normal, returned to tournament play after a six year break, and in his first event back tied for first in the McLean County Historical Open with experts Chris Merli and David Long and A-Players Ivan Wijetunge and Gordon Ruan. He sends us his last round game from the event!

GAME 1:

**David Long (2009) [W] v.
Henry Getz (1910) [B] [B38]
29.10.2006**

[Notes by Henry]

This, for me, and probably for me only, was hugely anticipated. The Greater Peoria Chess Federation website (www.gpcf.net) offers a free software download called MSA that offers career stats including performance against individual opponents. My record against David Long stuck out as a sore spot in my mind leading into this tournament, especially since our last bout where I missed a game winning move and instead flagged. I was determined things would go differently this time.

**1.e4 c5 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nf3 g6 4.d4
cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7 6.Be3 Qb6!?**

This is a blitz line I play. Confident in my tactics, I simply wanted to take the game out of the ordinary.

7.Nb3

[7.Nb5!? Qa5+ 8.N1c3 Nf6 and then: 1) 9.f3 (also possible: 2) 9.Bd2 0-0 10.Be2 d6 11.0-0 a6 12.Nd5 Qd8 13.Nbc3) 9...0-0 10.Be2 a6 11.Nd4 Nh5 12.0-0 Nf4 13.Nxc6 Nxe2+ 14.Qxe2]

7...Qc7 8.Nc3 Bxc3+!?

This is actually a prepared line. My database shows this to be a brutally tactical game but nonetheless a GM draw. My plan is to work off the doubled pawns, and if white attempts to prevent me from castling kingside with a time appropriate Bh6 then I will actually castle queenside! However, this is still difficult play for both sides.

9.bxc3 Nf6 10.f3 b6

[1) 10...0-0 11.c5 b6 12.Bb5 bxc3 13.Bxc5 d6 14.Be3 Ne5 15.0-0 Be6 2) 10...d6 11.Bh6 Rg8 12.Qd2]

11.c5

[11.Bh6!? and then: 1) 11...Rg8 (Or: 2) 11...Ba6 12.Bg7 Rg8 13.Bxf6 exf6 14.Be2 Kf8 15.0-0 Kg7 16.c5 Bxe2) 12.Qd2 Ba6 13.Be2 Ne5 14.Bf4 d6 15.0-0 Nxc4 16.Qc1 Nd7

11...bxc5 12.Nxc5 0-0

1) 12...0-0 13.Be2 Rd8 14.c4 d6 15.Nb3 Ba6 16.0-0 Rac8 17.Rc1 2) 12...d6 13.Nb3 d5 14.exd5]

13.Rb1?!

This is the one mistake that should have lost the game, if I don't allow him back with the later, Nd4. The

moves that follow show perfectly how tense these lines can be.

[possible was: 13.Be2 Rd8 14.c4 d6 15.Nb3 Ba6 16.0-0 Rac8 17.Rc1 Ne5]

13...d6 14.Nb3

14.Na6!? Bxa6 15.Bxa6 d5 16.0-0 dxe4 17.fxe4 Rab8 18.Rb3 Rxb3 19.axb3 Rd8 20.Qe2 Nxe4

14...d5!

14...d5 15.exd5 Qe5 16.dxc6 Qxe3+ 17.Be2 Qg5 18.0-0 Nd5 19.Rf2 Nxc3 20.Qc1 Qxc1+

15.exd5

[1) 15.exd5 Qe5 16.Kf2 Nxd5 17.Qd2 Bf5 18.Re1 Rfd8 19.Nd4 Qc7 2) 15.Be2 dxe4 16.0-0 Bf5 17.fxe4 Bxe4 18.Rc1 Nd5]

15...Qe5 16.dxc6 Qxe3+ 17.Qe2 Qxc3+

[Some options now: 1) 17...Qxc3+ 18.Kf2 Qxc6 19.Qxe7 Bf5!! 20.Nd4 Qd5 21.Rd1 Qxa2+ 22.Be2 Nd5 23.Qg5 Be6 24.Rhe1 Nc3]

18.Kf2 Qxc6 19.Qxe7 Qc2+?!

Bf5 was the gamebreaker. I was thoroughly disappointed seeing that after ...Qc2+ Be2, then...Re8 fails due to Nd4!! But in the game I was frustrated and decided maybe Da-

vid wouldn't play Nd4 because he's not such a bad guy. [19...Bf5!!]

20.Be2 Re8?!

In a game 80 time control there will be mistakes, with more time i believe i would've found 20...kg7! [1] 20...Kg7 21.Qa3 Re8 22.Nd4]

21.Nd4

...But david can be mean when he wants to.



21...Rxe7 22.Nxc2 Bf5 23.Rb2 Nd5?! 24.Nd4 Bc8 25.Rhb1

Black may have the smallest of edges, but white wants to challenge that on the b-file. Woe is me! If only I had found 19. ...Bf5!!

25...Kg7 26.Rb8 Rxb8 27.Rxb8 Bb7 28.Bb5 a6 29.Ba4 Nb4 30.a3 Nd3+ 31.Kg3

It's hard to tell who has the better pieces, but it looks like I, for now at least, have the happier king.

31...Nc5 32.Re8 Kf6 33.Rxe7

This might be the loser. My king can leap to the queenside too quickly.

33...Kxe7 34.Bc6

Odd that he wanted to trade. Maybe David was still playing to win. Knight and pawn endings are almost always decisive!

34...Kd6 35.Bxb7 Nxb7 36.Kf4

The white king is late to the party.

36...Kc5 37.Nc2 f6 38.Ke3 Kc4 39.Kd2 Kb3 40.Ne3

White is playing for activity. David has to try something, otherwise black plays Nd6 and Nc4+ anyway, which wins the a-pawn. But after I get a3, it's a matter of technique in any case.

40...Kxa3 41.Kc2 Nc5 42.Nd5 Nd7 43.Kc3 Ka4 44.Nc7 Ka5 45.Kc4 Kb6 46.Nd5+ Kc6 47.Nb4+ Kb7 48.Kd5 a5 49.Nc2 a4 50.Ke6 Kc6 51.g4 g5 52.h3 h6 53.Ke7 Kc7 54.Ke6 Kc6 55.Ke7 Ne5 56.Kxf6 Nxf3 57.Kg6 Kc5 58.Kxh6 Kc4 59.Kg6 Kc3 60.Na3 Kb3 61.Nb5 a3 62.Nxa3 Kxa3 63.Kf5 Kb3 64.Ke4 Nh4 65.Ke5 Kc3 66.Kf6 Nf3 67.Kf5 Kd3 [0-1]

GAME 2:

Mata,Victor -

Chien,Jason [E70]

McLean County Historical Museum Open (4), 30.12.2006

This last round encounter allowed Victor to tie for first in the top score group.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nge2 0-0 6.Ng3 c5 7.d5 Na6 8.f4

If black plays passively, white has the option of attacking quickly on the kingside.

8. ...Nd7 9.Be2 Nb6

It's unclear what this knight is trying to accomplish... maybe an e-pawn push would help black, or even the move Qc7.

10.0-0 Nc7 11.f5 e6 12.dxe6 fxe6 13.Bf4

White has a new target: d6! Black has opened things up, and now must play accurately. The next move helps to guard the pawn with

tempo.

13. ...Bd4+ 14.Kh1 Rf7

14. ...exf5 may have been slightly better, to open up the c8-bishop.

15.fxg6 hxg6 16.Qd2 Rh7 17.Bg5 Qd7 18.Rf3 Qg7 19.Bd8!



A nice "clearance" move. A straightforward idea that allows the white queen to get to the kingside. White now follows up with a series of "pressure-building" moves, and the advantage he accumulates is soon enough to overpower black's weakened defense.

19. ...Qd7 20.Qg5 Rf7 21.Raf1

The pressure is mounting.

21. ...Rxf3 22.Rxf3 Ne8 23.Be7!

A nice cut-off move. Black has been defending g6 through the threat of simplification. Now white says, "That won't be enough!" It was wise for white not to capture and allow the defensive block ...Qg7. Now white will prove that the attack is worth more than the temporary pawn.

23. ...Bg7 24.e5

Opening the final paths for the bishop and knight.

24. ...d5 25.Bd3 Nxc4 26.Qxg6 Qxe7 27.Qh7# [1-0]

THE ROAD WARRIOR

with NM PETE

KARAGIANIS

Ah, Christmas. That lovely time of year when Nat King Cole, the Chipmunks, and Burl Ives become everyone's new best friend. It is a time for family, for remembering things past, for egg nog and fruit cake, for merry-making, for Santa Claus, for commercialism.

Did you get your iPod Nano? I know I did.

But, for me, every department-store-p.a.-jingle-bell-rock-filled day from Black Friday (the day after Thanksgiving, for the shopping-impaired) until just before Christmas is nothing more than a weighty, gloomy harbinger of doom, for I know the bane of my existence cometh.

Yes chess fans, as I'm sure you all know, I am referring to the annual ChessBase Christmas Puzzle Contest.

For the uninitiated reader, the Chessbase Christmas Puzzle Contest is the most ludicrously sadistic challenge that combines dry British John Nunn humor with some of the most devilish chess problems ever devised by man. (You can waste around ninety-three hours of your life trying to solve them by going to www.chessbase.com, if you really want to.) So far this year I have attempted four of the eight puzzles. I am marching through them based on a strange formula composed by my brain that judges whether or not I will work on a puzzle by weighing various factors such as chronological order of puzzle listed, my own assessment of the "solve-ability" of the puzzle,

and my own decision as to whether or not the puzzle interests me. This formula has allowed me to work on these puzzles while simultaneously keeping my sanity.

Well, for the most part.

I have conclusive evidence that one of these puzzles directly affected the sleep patterns of four homo-sapiens between the ages of 18 and 35 over an extended period of time. One is an anomaly. Two is a coincidence. Three is a trend. Four is proof.

The demon-seed puzzle haunted me for nearly four days before, in a moment of random inspiration, I discovered an idea while not even looking at the position. I, of course, hurriedly set up the pieces to find out if it worked which, naturally, it didn't, but the notion- the "truth", perhaps, of the puzzle- was born.

Let me show you this terrifying conception and hold your hand as we walk through the valley of darkness that leads to the ultimate light of solution.

Oh dear, here we go:



This puzzle features white to move and "self-mate" in four moves. Of course, the idea of a self-mate is half-nuts to begin with. In fact, when I showed this to my students they thought I had finally fallen off the deep end.

"Uh oh," I heard on multiple occasions, "Coach Pete is trying to checkmate himself again."

The puzzle is a royal pain for several reasons.

First, white's bishops are immovable sentries, able to block the discovered first-rank mate or simply capture the piece delivering the checkmate. They must be dealt with! But how?

Second, black is very nearly stalemated! In fact, his pieces only serve to annoy- they are on precisely the wrong squares. Take, for example, the pawn on a2. If white ever must block the discovered mate with the move Bb1, that pawn can underpromote to any non-horizontally-moving piece and permanently stop the checkmating idea!

Ok, before we go too far and complain beyond all reason or hope, let's pause for a second to show a simple line that illustrates what that "checkmating idea" actually is. Just in case you are as asleep as I was when I first tried to solve this

monster, the easy variation goes like this:

1. Rxa2+ Kc1 2. Qb2+ Kd1 3. Rxa1+ Rxa1 4. Qd2+ Kxd2+

Basically- white sacrifices the queen to force the black king to move off the first rank and checkmate white. Unfortunately, after 4. ...Kxd2+, white can capture on a1 or block on b1. The point of a self-mate is white must force black to checkmate white in every possible variation.

Alright, let's return to our complaints.

First: White's bishops are immovable sentries!

There are three natural tries to get rid of them:

1) The "Move the darn thing" theory. Unfortunately, white simply runs out of time:

1. Bg7 Rxa6 2. Bf8 Ra7 3. Rc1+ Kxc1 4. Qd2+ Kxd2 5. Bb1

2) The "Sac the darn thing" theory. Unfortunately, this also runs into the under-promotion theme.

1. Qd3 Rxa6 2. Rf8+Kxf8 3. Bb2+ Kxb2 4. Qb1+ axb1=N

Of course, there are other variations as well involving a bishop sac, including sacrificing the light squared bishop, such as:

1. Qe3 Rxb5 2. Rxa2 Kxa2 3. Bb1+ Rxb1+ 4. Qe1 but, black is never "forced" to take the e1-queen. **4. ...Kxb3** and it doesn't work.

3) The "Waste a move" theory. This one actually comes really close when combined with another idea, which is: forcing black to move. A deep look at the position actually enlightens the would-be puzzle solver to a key concept: If it is black to move then he must play a move that somehow activates his a5-rook. This is important for one major reason:

If the black rook activates, then white can play a "check-mating" move!

In other words, in the initial position, if the white rook retreats along the c-file (other than to c1), black would be checkmated by a discovery from h7. However, after a wasted move, the black rook at a5 could come into play and block the check. For example:

1. Bg7 Rxa6 2. Rc3+ Rg6

But now how does white continue? The g7-bishop is still too much of a monster, and can only be temporarily blocked by the c3-rook. Also, the white queen and rook can still block the mate on the first rank, and you can't get rid of two pieces in two moves while simultaneously stopping the g7 bishop. It just won't work!

Sigh...

Let's return to our second complaint. "Black is very nearly stalemated." For actually it is within the connection between this objection and the first regarding the sentry-like bishops that the solution lies. Let's try a smorgasbord of the themes. We need to activate the a-rook to block the check, utilize the nearly-stalemated black position, and also somehow eliminate or interfere with the h8 bishop's laser path.

If you ignore the rook, the only move that keeps, or nearly keeps, the "status quo" of the stalemate of the black pieces is:

1. Qf2

This hands the move over to black and forces him to move his rook. Let's try the move that caused us trouble before:

1. ...Rxa6

Now, at the very least, the a5 rook will be able to block the discovered check as the white rook moves along the c-file. But, if we have managed to give our rook free reign, where should it go?

Strangely enough, after we've gotten this far, the answer is simple. The rook must block the dark bishop while also denying itself the capability to return to the 1st rank and block the checkmate from the a1-rook.

With that in mind, all white needs to do is put it one square above the black rook!

2. Rc7+ Rg6

Black's only move- he must get out of checkmate and this block is the only way.

3. Rg7!!!

And now, black would very nearly be stalemated, except for his only legal move:

3. ...Kc1

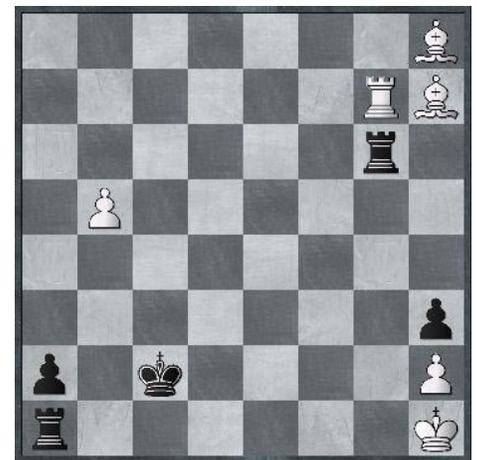
And now, finally, the queen sacrifice works:

4. Qc2+

And black has only one legal reply, again:

4. ...Kxc2, checkmate.

What a pretty picture! Both rooks are blocking both bishops!



After 1. Qf2, the rook lift on the c-file works in the event of any black first move, as long as white's tower stays one rank higher than black's. For example... 1. ...Ra3 is met by 2. Rc4, and so on. Marvelous, yet frustrating beyond belief..

Pete Karagianis is a columnist for En Passant, The Illinois Chess Bulletin, The Oklahoma Chess Quarterly, and The Chess Underground.

He can be reached for comments, questions, sympathies, or rants at: Karagianis@gmail.com

CHESS FROM THE MIDDLE

WITH RONALD SUAREZ

If you are reading this and are not a member of the ICA, I would tell you to look around this ICA website and enjoy the various offerings. I would also kindly suggest

To ICA or Not To ICA, That Is the Question

Greetings, my friends, I hope you all had a nice holiday season and got plenty of wonderful chess stuff as presents. I did. In fact, I received a very nice chess set (Proline Rosewood), wooden board (tournament birch wood) and carrying bag, all from the House of Staunton as a combined birthday (October) and Christmas present. The whole setup cost less than \$170 and I tell you, the quality is great. I played a rated game with it at the Twin Cities chess club in Bloomington with Matt Vail and we had a nice time of it. We drew the game so I can honestly say that I have never lost a chess game with that set and board.

Yet.

Let's get on with the topic of this article, the ICA. As the title depicts I want you all to think like Shakespeare about organized chess in Illinois. I also want you to decide the merits of the ICA.

First let's look at some factual numbers. The present ICA membership numbers are close to four hundred let's call it four hundred even. According to USCF statistics, there are 1,883 rated chess players in Illinois. Let's call it 1900. That means that only 21% of all USCF members living in Illinois are also members of the ICA. Now, 79% or about 1500 USCF members living in Illinois, do not belong to the ICA.

Wow, there are about 1500 USCF

member chess people/players that do not receive the benefits of ICA membership? That do not play in ICA events near to their homes? I am aware that the current officers of the ICA are presently redefining exactly what those benefits are, but, the benefits do and will exist regardless of the changes made by the new board.

What exactly do chess people/players in Illinois do, want and need? There are those that play only in their schools. There are those that play tournament, over the board chess. There are those that play on the internet. There are those that play correspondence chess, either via regular mail or using the internet. There are those that really don't play much but like reading the magazines, bulletins, websites, etc. There are those that like to organize and run chess activities like tournaments, chess clubs, simuls, and other fun events. I know that I personally fall into most of those categories, but others may fall into only one or some, which would still stick them under the umbrella of what the ICA mission seeks to accomplish.

If you are a person that likes to play or participate in chess, you might want to give a little input to the organizations like the ICA and USCF to let them know what you want to see happen. If you are reading this and are a member of the ICA, I would kindly suggest that you tell your non-ICA member friends about what the ICA does for you, or about local ICA events, and how they might like to join.

you to look at the benefits of being an ICA member and consider joining and supporting chess in our state through local clubs, tournaments, and other chess activities in your area.

Whether you are a member or not, I would strongly suggest that you go to the ICA Discussion Forum and participate there by reading the various posts and subjects. (ed: you can access this forum by going to www.ilchess.org and clicking on "Forums") You might also want to post a comment or two of your thoughts on the topics discussed. If you have a thought or concern that you see no topic covering, you can start your own topic or "thread" and get the discussion going to address your individual interest.

Let's face it; we live here in the Middle of the country, the world and the universe. We have many opportunities to enjoy chess in our state, including a range of local to national tournaments, city chess clubs, and other special chess events. Chess is interesting, educational and just plain fun. Playing chess in any of the ways people now choose to play is great. We can certainly enrich our own and others' experiences in Chess by banding together as a group to make it easier to participate in all aspects of the game.

So my fine feathered friend, I leave it to you to decide, "To ICA or Not to ICA?"

ICA TOUR STANDINGS

Below you will find the standings for the 2006-2007 ICA and Ex-Urban Tours as of December 20, 2006. Players who have competed in less than three events are indicated by parentheses. Standings include the following events: Peoria April Tornado, Springfield Springtime Open, Chicago Open, State Farm June Swiss, Peoria July Tornado, US Open, Illinois Open, Bloomington September Open, Bradley Summer Open, Peoria Fall Tornado, Midwest Class, David Mote Memorial, Illinois Class.

Standings are based on Illinois residency. Tour Prizes are only awarded based on points earned in tournaments where the player was a current ICA member.

MASTER TOUR POINTS:

PASALIC,MEHMED	47.0
YOUNG,ANGELO	47.0
GUREVICH,DMITRY	43.0
SHULMAN,YURY(2)	34.0
KARKLINS,ANDREW	33.0
NIENART,CHRISTOPH	29.0
TSYGANOV,IGOR M	29.0
STAMNOV,ALEKSANDA	28.0
FELECAN,FLORIN (2)	27.0
ELEZAJ,ESAD (2)	24.0

EXPERT TOUR POINTS:

NIENART,CHRISTOPH	45.0
GETZ,HENRY BARNEY	30.5
RUAN,GORDON J	30.5
LONG,DAVID	30.0
MEEROVICH,ILAN	30.0
MAGNESS,TREVOR S	29.0
KARKLINS,ERIK	28.0
CHIEN,JASON W	27.0
CAO,TONY (2)	25.0
KASIURAK,ZACH	23.0
MENON,GOPAL S	23.0

CLASS A TOUR POINTS:

MAGNESS,TREVOR S	54.5
KASIURAK,ZACH	38.0
ROTHSCHILD,BEN	37.0
GETZ,HENRY BARNEY	30.5
RUAN,GORDON J	30.5
FORD,SAMUEL M	30.0
MC NALLY,DANIEL	29.0
CHIEN,JASON W	27.0
HAMILTON,MARK P	27.0
APPLEBAUM,ANDY F (2)	26.0

CLASS B TOUR POINTS:

LEONG,GEE Y	42.0
MEDURI,AAKAASH	39.0
DZANANOVIC,MUHAME	38.0
ENGELN,MARK S	32.0
GETZ,HENRY BARNEY	30.5
THARIATH,MIKE	29.0
LIN,DER-LONG	28.0
MC CLANAHAN,GAVIN	27.0
CREMEENS,MATTHEW	26.5
AILES,TIM S	26.0

CLASS C TOUR POINTS:

JOHNSEN,ALECK C	44.0
THARIATH,MIKE	33.0
LACKLAND,JOE (2)	27.0
DATLA,SIDDARTH	24.0
LIU,JOSEPH	23.0
MC CLANAHAN,GAVIN	23.0
DOLSON,CARL L	21.0
PATEL,RASESH R	19.0
VELA,JOHNNY	19.0
PADILLA,RUDY R	18.5

CLASS D TOUR POINTS:

DOLSON,CARL L	28.0
WANG,ROGER R (1)	23.0
GATTO,CHRISTOPHER	22.0
BOLTON,BRIAN MCAN (2)	19.0
MATTHEWS,DENNIS E (1)	19.0
DEMOS,JAMES C.	18.0
MC CLANAHAN,BRYCE	18.0
KHURELCHULUUN, T (2)	17.0
VILLAFLO,ELIZABE	17.0
LEWIS,OTIS	16.0

CLASS E TOUR POINTS:

DEMOS,JAMES C.	20.0
BERMAN,MARK E (2)	17.0
KHURELCHULUUN, T (2)	17.0
CEN,YUEQIN	15.0
FERNANDES,NINOSHK (1)	15.0
SCHULD,ADAM J	15.0
NEWSOME JR,CLEO	12.0
PAUL,BARRY S (2)	12.0
MIRANDA,OSCAR VIR (2)	11.0

MASTER EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

BROCK,WILLIAM H (2)	7.5
BURGESS,JON L(2)	7.5
COZZIE,ANTHONY E (1)	7.5
BAUMGARTNER,CHRIS	4.0
BONWELL,JONATHAN (2)	4.0
CHIEN,JASON W	4.0
DAVIS,JEFFREY E. (1)	4.0
MARSHALL,JAMES A (1)	4.0
RUAN,GORDON J	4.0
SIMPSON,TOBIAS GA (1)	4.0

EXPERT EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

GETZ,HENRY BARNEY	30.5
CHIEN,JASON W	22.0
LONG,DAVID	22.0
RUAN,GORDON J	15.5
THOMAS,BRIAN (1)	14.0
MICHEL,BRUCE	9.5
CREMEENS,MATTHEW	9.0
DOLSON,CARL L	8.5
BONWELL,JONATHAN (2)	8.0
MAGNESS,TREVOR S	8.0

CLASS A EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

GETZ,HENRY BARNEY	30.5
CHIEN,JASON W	22.0
MAGNESS,TREVOR S	15.5
RUAN,GORDON J	15.5
THOMAS,BRIAN (1)	14.0
LEALI,MICHAEL E	12.5
DOLSON,CARL L	10.0
VOSS,ANDY S	10.0
MICHEL,BRUCE	9.5
CREMEENS,MATTHEW	9.0

CLASS B EX-URBAN TOUR POINTS:

GETZ,HENRY BARNEY	30.5
MICHEL,BRUCE	17.0
CHIEN,JASON W	15.5
CREMEENS,MATTHEW	11.5
DOLSON,CARL L	10.0
VOSS,ANDY S	10.0
BOURGERIE,DENNIS	9.0
NASZODI,LASZLO	8.5
BONWELL,JONATHAN (2)	8.0
ZIMMERLE,R WAYNE	8.0

For full
TOUR STANDINGS,
 consult the Illinois Chess As-
 sociation Discussion Forums
 at:
www.ilchess.org



Brian Thomas Sweeps December Tournament

After a seven-month hiatus, the Springfield Chess Club organized a tournament on December 9. Thirteen chess players plus two housemen participated in the tournament, which was moved to a different room than normal because of water damage at the Signature Inn.

The Soy City and its environs had a very strong showing in this tournament. The first place winner was Brian Thomas, of Decatur, who won all four games. Second place went to Bruce Michel, of Stonington, with 3½ points. Kevin French, of Decatur, scored 2½ points and captured the first Class A-B prize.

Carl Dolson, of Peoria, won Class C-D, also with 2½ points. The Class E prize was shared by William Kerns, of Franklin, and David Wiedman, of Effingham. They each finished the day with 2 points. No unrateds participated.

The End of an Era in Southern Illinois

The annual New Years' Day tournament at the church in Columbia, Illinois, has been a traditional way to break in the new year with chess since Jimmy Carter was President. Columbia, about 15 miles south of East St. Louis, is home to Russell Day, longtime chess organizer.

According to information on the USCF internet site, the tournament on January 1, 2007, is the 30th such tournament – and it is also the last.

NEWS FROM THE
SPRINGFIELD CC

The SCC wishes Russell a happy retirement from the world of organized chess.

Obituary

SCC member Alex Bilyeu died on November 5, 2006. He joined the club earlier in 2006 and was a semi-regular at Wednesday meetings in mid-2006. He was 20.

WANT YOUR CLUB REPORT HERE?
e-mail Karagianis@gmail.com
header: "ICB Submission"

Rank	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd3	Rd4	Total
1	Brian Thomas	1981	W8	W4	W6	W3	4.0
2	Thomas Warfield	1860	W9	D5	L3	D11	2.0
3	Kevin French	1800	W10	DH	W2	L1	2.5
4	Martin Franek	1702	W11	L1	L5	----	1.0
5	Bruce Michel	1635	W12	D2	W4	W6	3.5
6	Jeremy Milligan	1372	W13	W7	L1	L5	2.0
7	Paul Peterson	1341	LH	L6	L8	W10	1.0
8	Carl Dolson	1331	LH	D11	W7	W9	2.5
9	James Marshall	1223	L2	W12	W13	L8	2.0
10	Larry Coulter	1140	L3	L13	L12	L7	0.0
11	William Kerns	1053	L4	D8	WZ	D2	2.0
12	David Wiedman	945	L5	L9	W10	W13	2.0
13	Peyton R House	741	L6	W10	L9	L12	1.0
H	David Long	2009	W7	D3	-----	----	1.5
Z	James Ruth	1205	-----	----	L11	----	0.0

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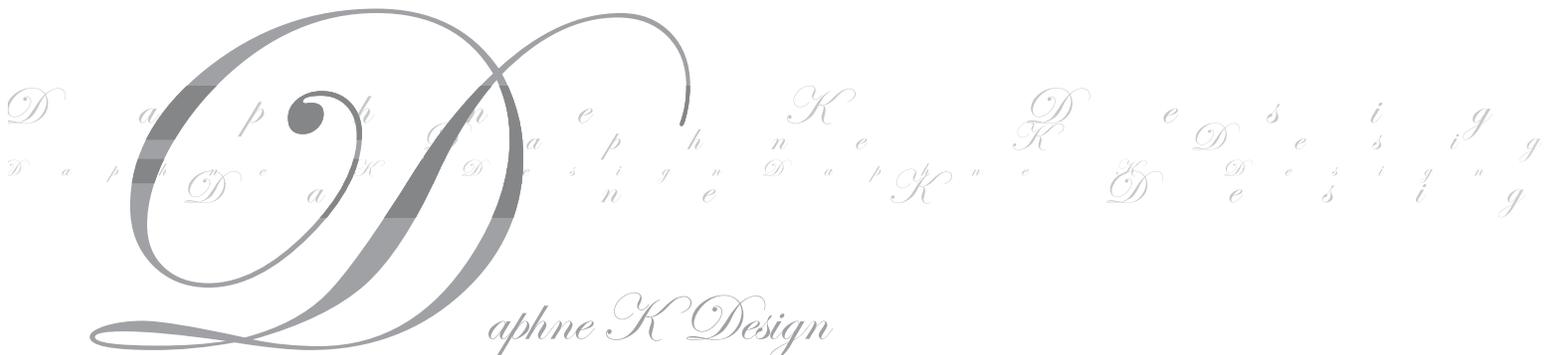
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January 15, 2007. 20th Annual Martin Luther King Day Celebration Scholastic Chess Tournament. Hosted by Metcalf School at the Bone Student Center, Illinois State University. Sections: (All G30, 5SS) K-1, 2-3 grade U300/Unrated, 2-3 grade open, 4-5 grade U500/Unrated, 4-5 grade open, 6-8 grade open; players may play up. No byes in 5th round. Registration: \$15, at <http://www.bnasc.org/app/> by 1/11/07 at 8:00 p.m. Adds after this point get a 1st round bye. Drops must be reported before 8:30 a.m. Monday. Payment due Monday morning by completion of 2nd Round. JTP accepted for all K-1 and 2-3 sections, USCF membership required for all 4-8 grade sections. First Round to begin at 9:00 am with following rounds ASAP by section. Awards: Metcalf Cup Team Top 4 score each of K-1, 2-3 Open, 4-5 Open, Top 2 scores each of 2-3 U300 and 4-5 U500. Individual Trophies: K-1st grade top 10 overall, top 5 each grade; 2-3 U300 top 5, top 3 U200, top 3 unr.; 2-3 open top 10 overall, top 3 U600, top 3 U400, top 2 U300; 4-5 grade U500 top 5 overall, top 3 U300, top 3 unrated; 4-5 grade open top 10 overall, top 3 U900, top 3 U700, top 2 I500; 6-8 grade open top 10 overall, top 3 U1000, top 3 U800, top 2 U600. Team Trophies (top 4 count in all sections): K-1 Grade Top 5; All other sections: Top 3 each section. Skittles Areas Available. Tournament sponsor: WonderChess. More information: <http://www.bnasc.org/Metcalf%20Tournament.html> or email marknibb@verizon.net

January 20, 2007. South Suburban Scholastic Chess Tournament. Orland Park Cultural Center, 14760 Park Lane, Orland Park (former Orland Park Library), organized by Mikhail Korenman, International Chess Organizer and Glenn Panner, National TD. 5 Rounds, Game/30 min, Unrated. Registration: 8:00-9:00 a.m.; events usually finish around noon. Divisions: K-3, K-5, K-8, and K-12. Awards: Trophies to top 3 and medals to 4th-20th in each division. Entry Fee: \$20 for on-line registrations (ends on Thursdays before the events day); \$25 on-site before 9:00 a.m.. To register: on-line at www.intecsus.org ; by email to [\[yahoo.com\]\(mailto:yahoo.com\); by mail to Glenn Panner, 21694 Doud Ct., Frankfort, IL 60423, checks payable to IntECS, Inc.; or on-site from 8:00-9:00 a.m. on event days. Information: \(815\) 955-4793 or \(785\) 906-0402. Food concession will be available on site.](mailto:intecsus@</p>
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January 20, 2007. Youth Chess Foundation of Chicago Scholastic Tournament. Jean De Lafayette School, which is located at 2714 W. Augusta (1000 N), Chicago. Unrated tournament open to all elementary (K-8) students. 4 or 5 round SS. Registration 9:00 - 9:30, Tournament 10:00 - 2:30, Trophy Presentation 2:45 (est.). Divisions: Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced. Awards: Trophies to top 10 beginner, top 6 intermediate, top 5 advanced, top beginner team. Entries: By 4:00 P.M. 1/19, please send a player list (name, school, division entered) of players who have not played in a YCFC tournament to accounting@apt-people.com, or fax to 773-248-1007, attn: Michael Cardinale. Students who have played in a YCFC event this year or last year may sign up on site. For more information: Michael Cardinale, accounting@apt-people.com

January 20, 2007. Naperville Kings Cup. Scholastic. Meadow Glens School: 1150 Muirhead ave, Naperville IL 60565. 3 Sections: Grades K-3, 5 round SS, G/30. Grades 4-5, 5 round SS, G/35. Grades 6-8, 4 round SS, G/45. Awards: Top 10 individuals in each section. Top player in each Grade. Medals to everyone who miss a trophy on tie-breaks. Top 5 teams in each section, team scores determined by top 4 scores. Schedule: Arrive at 8:30 am , round 1 begins promptly at 9:00 am . Entry Fee: \$25 if postmarked by 1/12/07 . \$35 postmarked by 1/18/07. USCF Membership required available at site. Registration: Advance registration only; No registration on site! No Changes after 5:00 pm, 1/19/07. To register mail checks payable to Illinois Chess Teachers, Inc. to 605 Waterview Ct. Naperville , IL 60563 . Include Name, address, email, phone # school, grade, and USCF ID. For more information contact Paul Raso (630) 674-3474 paul-

raso@sbcglobal.net or Blair Machaj (630)204-6245
bmachaj@sbcglobal.net.

January 21, 2007. 3rd Coast G/60 with 3 sections at the Radisson Hotel, 2875 N. Milwaukee Ave, Northbrook, IL 60062. \$600 (b/40) 4 round Swiss, G/60. EF: \$30 by Jan. 11, \$35 after, \$40 onsite. Open Section \$100, \$75, \$50, \$25 U1800 \$50; U1800 Section \$100, \$75, \$50, \$25 U1400 \$50. \$10 to play up to Open Section from U1800. Registration: 8:30 - 9:15 am. Rounds: 10:00-12:15-2:30-4:45. U1400 Section 4 round Swiss, G/45. EF: \$20 by Jan. 11, \$25 after, \$30 on site. Trophies to top 5; medals to rest Registration: 8:30 - 9:15 am. Rounds: 10:00-11:45-1:30-3:15. Entries: online at www.RKnights.org or mail to Renaissance Knights, PO Box 1074, Northbrook, IL 60065-1074. Checks payable to Renaissance Knights. Questions (847) 867-5346 or rknightsccc@aol.com. More Information at www.RKnights.org

January 21, 2006. South Suburban Scholastic. Anita Stone JCC, 3400 W 196th St, Flossmoor, IL 60422. Arrive by 8:30 a.m., 1st round at 9 a.m., Awards approx. 1:30 p.m. Open to all players grades K-8, 4 rounds g/30, USCF rated (membership available on site). Trophies to top 5 individuals and top 3 teams. Entry fee is \$20 per player. Online entry at www.chessteachers.org. For more information call 312-927-4290.

January 27, 2007. Northwest Scholastic Open. Eisenhower Junior High, 800 West Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60195. Hosted by MacArthur/Eisenhower Scholastic Chess Club. Doors open 7:30 am. Sections/Start times: Junior High gr. 6-8 5 rounds SS G/45 9:00 am prompt; Elementary gr. 4-5 5 rounds SS G/40 9:30 am prompt; Primary grades K-3 5 rounds SS G/30 9:30 am prompt. Concessions available from 8 am until closing. Awards: (approx. 3:30 pm) Each Section: top 10 teams (top 4 scores count), top 10 individuals, biggest upset, top unrated. Each grade: top 5 individuals; trophies to all kindergarteners; medals to all players missing a trophy on tie breaks; ribbons to all participants. Entries: advance registration only must be received on/before 1/24/07, \$20 entry fee payable to MESCC (one check per school, please), USCF registration is required (available on site). Entries must include name, school, grade, USCF ID and expiration date. Mail entries and payment to: MacArthur/Eisenhower Scholastic Chess Club, PO Box 95707, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169; email entries to MacArthurChess@aol.com (excel or word format preferred); fax entries to 847-519-2164. Verify entries online at www.dogpages.com/macarthur. More information: Steve Froehlich (days: 847-885-7300 or cell: 847-951-5500).

January 28, 2007. 3rd Coast Scholastic. 4 Round Swiss in 3 Sections at the Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel, 933 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, IL 60062. Limited to first 60 Players. Sections: Grades K-3 G/30; Grades 4-5 G/35; Grades 6-9 G/45. EF: \$20 by Jan. 18, \$25 after. Rd 1 at 10:00 am, Rest ASAP. Trophies top 4 each section, Top team per section (team score determined from top 4 scores), all others participation medal. Entries: online at www.RKnights.org or mail to Renaissance Knights, PO Box 1074, Northbrook, IL 60065-1074. Checks payable to Renaissance Knights. Questions (847) 867-5346 or rknightsccc@aol.com. More Information at www.RKnights.org

January 28, 2007. 4th Kumbaya Scholastic Chess Tournament. National Louis University 5202 Old Orchard Road, 5th Fl, Skokie. SPACE LIMITED - REGISTER EARLY. NO ONSITE ENTRIES. 4R-SS G/30 (Dual-Rated). \$25.00 post marked by Monday, January 22, 2007.* \$30.00 if received afterwards. Sections: Non-rated, K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, Open (requires rating of minimum 1000 and open to K-12 players). Check-in: 10:30am. Rd 1: 11am and progressing as completed. Awards: Top 3 individuals in each section. Top 2 teams in each section (top 3 scores/2player min.). Remembrances for all players. Boards and Sets provided. BRING CLOCKS - NONE PROVIDED. USCF Membership Required. Click here for registration flyer. Visit the Kumbaya website for more details. Free Chronos Clock: All entries will be entered in a drawing for 1 free Chronos Clock- (\$100.00 value). *Entries postmarked before Jan. 22nd will receive 2 chances to win a Chronos Clock!

February 3, 2007 TP Quick Chess #2 Medium Tuley Park Chess Club For more information Tom Fineberg

February 3, 2007. Chicago Scholastic Chess Championship. St Gregory's High School: 1609 W. Gregory St, Chicago IL. 3 Sections: Grades K-3, 5 round SS, G/30. Grades 4-5, 5 round SS, G/35. Grades 6-8, 4 round SS, G/45. Awards: Top 10 individuals in each section. Top player in each Grade. Medals to everyone who miss a trophy on tie-breaks. Top 5 teams in each section, team scores determined by top 4 scores. Schedule: Arrive at 8:30 am, round 1 begins promptly at 9:00 am. Entry Fee: \$25 if postmarked by 1/26/07. \$35 postmarked by 2/1/07. USCF Membership required available at site. Registration: Advance registration only; No registration on site! No Changes after 5:00 pm, 2/2/07. To register mail checks payable to Illinois Chess Teachers, Inc. to 605 Waterview Ct. Naperville, IL 60563. Include Name, address, email, phone # school, grade, and USCF ID. For more information contact Paul Raso (630) 674-3474 paulraso@sbcglobal.net or Blair Machaj (630)204-6245 bmachaj@sbcglobal.net.