

ICB

ILLINOIS CHESS BULLETIN
NOVEMBER&DECEMBER 2007

ANGELO
YOUNG

4 TIME ILLINOIS
OPEN CHAMPION





ICA SUPPORTERS

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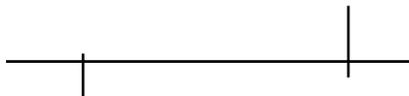
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E-ICB HOME PAGE

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e-ICB

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Illinois Chess Bulletin e-ICB

Published online six times per year.
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Next Deadline: December 15,
2007.

Submission Guidelines

Send all e-ICB submissions to:
Pete Karagianis
ICBEditor@gmail.com

Only electronic submissions will be accepted. The preferred format is .cbh or .pgn file for games, .doc file for articles.

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.

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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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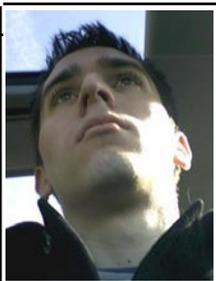
FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

e-ICB

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

by **Pete Karagianis**

There have been rumors-nothing concrete at this point, mind you, but ru-



mors that soon (very soon?) the ICB will be returning to a print edition. I have made some preparations for this, including some significant (and other less significant) format changes, and may make even more as the transition nears.

Still, the biggest change that the ICB needs is one that is beyond my power- the ICB requires more submissions. As we move to print, I would like to see a return to a more games-oriented bulletin, with tournament reports becoming the staple of the content, and our lovely and well-written editorials continuing to make the ICB one of the premier state chess bulletins.

Yes, I am beginning to sound like a broken record. What more can I do? I am very enthused to see some new contributors sending items on a regular basis- my thanks to Len Weber and Andi Rosen. I am also happy to see some first-time contributors (to my ICB-editorship regime) send me recent articles- my thanks to Jim Egerton and Kevin Bachler.

The effort of the above named and many others is what makes the ICB possible, and I urge you all to follow their example.

I know all about busy schedules- for those of you who don't know, a new chess player (my daughter) was born last April. But I don't think it is asking too much for you to take a few minutes out of your day to type a notation sheet into an e-mail, or attach a photograph, or type up a quick report of a tournament you attended. It doesn't have to win the Pulitzer- it doesn't have to be Clancy-esque- it just has to be. In the worst case, like a trusty spray bottle of Windex, I'll clean it up for you.

Of course, the best way to submit a game is in .pgn format. Images I prefer as .jpgs, and articles as .docs. All of this information is also featured in the masthead on page 3, but it can't hurt to repeat it in case you only glance over this bulletin as time permits.

Another area I feel that this bulletin is lacking is in **Scholastic Coverage**. Last spring, we were able to feature a great series of articles on chess coaching by Vince Hart. I hope to continue that this coming spring, but would also like some reports from the elementary and middle school (and even perhaps collegiate?) levels. I know scholastic activity happens- in the past month hundreds of kids have played in numerous tournaments across Chicagoland and downstate Illinois- but where are the articles? The games?

In the electronic age, the easiest way to submit a report of any kind is via e-mail- to icbeditor@gmail.com, and simply include a header

of "ICB Submission" or "Awesome Sicilian Crushing Masterpiece Game by Billy (1200)" or "The Two-Move Checkmate, Revisited"...

...you get the idea.

Alright, let's see, enough of that.

Angelo Young won the Illinois Open for something like the fourth time, you'll find his games from that event, with notes, in this issue. NM and LM Len Weber also discusses his own personal chess history, and sticking with the historical theme, FM Kevin Bachler reviews a critical game from the 1997 National Scholastic Championships, where an Illinois team brought home first place for the first time in over two decades. Also, Tom Panelas attended the ICA Banquet and his pictures from the banquet and simul can be found on page 19.

Also, please take special note of the letter from Andi Rosen on the following page, as she details the Warren Program and its benefits. A truly great cause that has helped improve Illinois chess for years.

OK, that's all I got.

_PK

Past Issues
are available
for download:

ilchess.org/eICB/e.htm

President's Podium



ICA PRESIDENT
CHRIS MERLI

As many of you have seen, voting cards went out to most members in October.

These cards were the result of a major rewrite of the ICA constitution.

As a Not-for-Profit organization the ICA is required to keep a copy of its constitution on file with the state. In addition we need to track revisions in the constitution as they are made. For some time there was not a good record of the revisions and the board determined it would be best to simply file a new copy of the document with the state. So far quite a few votes have already arrived and we will be counting them as soon as we are reasonably certain that there are no more "in the mail".

In other news Sevan Muradian has secured a women's match running from March 31 - April 4 between IM Irina Krush of the US and IM Lilit Mkrтчian of Armenia. The hope is to combine this with the Polgar and Denker qualifier events. The winner of each event will be provided with a stipend to help cover their costs to travel to the national event. Since they are invitational events and only a few players are invited, these events are usually supported by donations.

In the past ICA members have been most generous in contributing to help support the kids. This year the events are being run under the Warren Junior program and I am sure Andi Rosen would love to hear from members who are interested in making a donation towards the event.

Warren Program Donations Request, by Andi Rosen:

Dear Friend,

I am writing to ask for help with an important program for young people sponsored by the Illinois Chess Association. The ICA Warren Junior Chess Program has a simple mission: to identify nationally ranked Illinois chess players ages 7 to 18, and provide them with merit-based financial assistance to study with masters and grandmasters. The primary goal of the program is to nurture the highest-potential Illinois students so they can compete on a national and international stage.

The program also sponsors an invitational competition for the state's best high school chess players, and provides funding for the winner to attend the U.S. national championship tournament, which will be held this year in Dallas. The Warren Program also promotes chess in the community. For the past two years, the Warren Scholars have given a free chess clinic at the annual Taste of Chicago festival in Grant Park.

Currently, almost 30 Illinois children have high national rankings for their age group. Their success requires a combination of innate talent and hard work. The Warren Junior Chess Program offers the intensive mentoring these students need to attain even greater accomplishments.

Let me tell you why I think the Warren program has implications far beyond chess, and is a great investment in our state's future. American companies say they will soon face a shortage of highly qualified and educated professionals in technical fields. But few resources in public education are directed towards nurturing the brightest, most talented kids. Illinois does not require its schools to offer any programming for gifted education.

The Warren program helps fill this void. Chess naturally fosters logic, critical thinking and self-discipline that can later translate into so many other analytical and scientific disciplines. The opportunity that the program provides will help these kids grow into very capable and competent adults who will play important leadership roles in many fields. By helping to fund this program, you will be helping to provide a firm foundation for some of our state's most talented youth.

To make a donation: send a check for "ICA Warren Junior Program" to: Andrea Rosen, 8214 Keystone Ave., Skokie, IL 60076. The Illinois Chess Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, so your contribution will generally be tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor.

Sincerely,
Andrea Rosen, Director,
warrenprogram@ilchess.org

A QUARTER CENTURY OF CHESS

One nice day, a couple weeks ago, I was downtown at the chess pavilion near the North Avenue Beach, taking in some of the last nice weather we're going to get in 2007. I sat, as I sometimes do, on one of the stone benches, with a chessboard set up. I wasn't really in the mood to play, but I had set it up anyway, because maybe that's just what one does at a chess pavilion! Chess, in these recent years, has been more of a social activity for me than a sport, art, or science. This is because, while I am largely inactive in competitive play, I still enjoy seeing and talking to folks I have known through this game for years, in some cases most of my life.

I don't play often when I'm down there. The word travels fast among the regulars about you if you're not someone they can make money off of easily. Most of the "hustler" types want time odds. But I'm a customer too, sometimes, and my requests for time odds from FM Aleks Stannov go unheeded!

So I generally just wait to play the occasional passer by or one of the kindly older gentlemen with eastern European accents, such as "Boris", who loves a slow game, plays about 1800ish, maybe 2000+ on a good day.

So I sit, enjoy the weather, watching the sailboats out on the lake. I am awoken from my solitude by a female voice asking me if I could teach her to play. I look up, and she has already sat down on the other side of my board. A lady, maybe college age, maybe Chinese. She had apparently sneaked out of a group of young ladies nearby, and it seemed they waited patiently to



indulge their friend's curiosity.

"I would be honored," I responded.

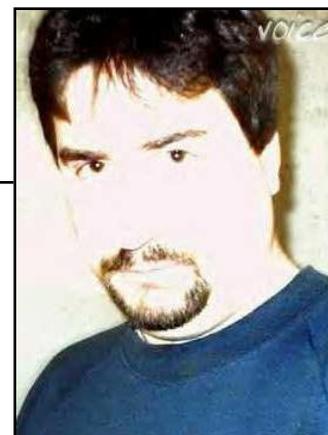
"Will you charge money?", she asked.

"No, I never charge to teach someone how to play chess." I don't. But I might charge them for lessons down the road, see? It can only benefit the game to teach someone how to play it, and that helps all of us, regardless of in what way we're involved in chess.

We exchanged introductions and began. I spent a few minutes explaining the pieces, and how they move, one at a time. She seemed to grasp quickly, and before I thought she should have it down, she asked to play a game. She was very insistent!

Ok. I give her white and we start. She makes her moves like a chess player. You know what I'm talking about- how you can tell a newcomer from a tournament player simply by the way they pick up the pieces or capture. She made mistakes, and I offered to let her take the moves back. Fiercely, she refused. But her opening was atrocious, and soon she was irreparably lost.

Unfazed, she played on to the inevitable end. But even as she went down, she still tried cute little tacti-



LM Len J. Weber

cal tricks. At some point during the game it occurred to me that she was probably versed in an Asian form of the game, Chinese Chess, or Shogi, or some such game that has a family resemblance to chess including how many of the pieces move. Yes, this would explain much.

After the game, she shook my hand, and thanked me. She asked how long I'd been playing chess?

And, there it hit me!

How long HAD I been playing chess?

:::long, slow whistle:::

"Twenty five years..."

She thanked me again, and rejoined her friends. They seemed to tease her a little, and they were off.

Wow. Twenty five years. It is twenty five years this winter since I played my first ever USCF rated game. Can the ICB Editor, NM Pete Karagianis, cue the harp music please!?

::::: November, 1982, Chicago, Illinois. The Put The Fun Back Into Chess Tournament. Round 1! The lowest section!:::::

(Or was it December? My old yel-

lowed scoresheet doesn't have a date on it!)

And so here I was. High School Junior. The 5th Board of Thornridge High School Chess Team. Confident because I had just qualified to be on my high school chess team. Nervous because I had lost my first two high school match games against other schools! An 0-2 season start! But now this was the big time, my first USCF rated tournament! If I recall, the entry fee was free, but I had to join USCF, and I believe also ICA. The event was run, annually back in those days, by legendary organizer Fred Gruenberg! The equally legendary Helen Warren, personally, sold me my memberships.

And now it was time to find the wall chart. I'm on board 71. I have black. My opponent is Brett Howe, rated 1195! Can I handle a player that strong?!

For whatever twisted reason, I still have the game scores of almost every rated game I have ever played.

Chicago, November 1982. "Put The Fun Back Into Chess".

Brett Howe (1195) – Len J. Weber (unr.)

1. P-Q4 ... (Yes, for the current generation of players, that is how we took notation back then! Algebraic was just coming into vogue around this time! I had to find a translator who understood cuneiforms to translate this game into "short algebraic" for this article...)

Ok. One more time.

1. d4 ... (Oh no! Queen pawn???)
How much do I really know about this???)

- 1. ... Nf6**
- 2. c4 e6**

3. Nc3 Bb4

(Oh goodie, I get to play the "Nimzo", an opening I saw some of the upper boards play. Hopefully he'll let me overpower c3 and maybe I can win!)

4. Bd2 d5

(Ok, he isn't going to fall for that, so I just play as solid as I can.)

5. e3 Nd7

6. Nf3 O-O

(So far, so good. But I was so nervous my hand was probably visibly shaking as I made the moves. Several times I forgot to hit the clock, and my opponent had to point at it.)

7. Be2 Nb6?

(Not real bad, just pointless because there were so many other good candidate moves that didn't use a tempo.)

8. O-O Bd7?

(Ok, smart guy, what are you going to do if he plays c5?)

9. Ne5 ...

(Sure, why not, great spot for a knight, made possible by Nb6?)

9. ... Re8

10. c5 Nc8

11. Re1 Ne7

12. a3 Bxc3

13. Bxc3 Ne4

14. Bd3 Nxc3?

(I mean the whole game looks "?" now, but I'll leave nitpicking individual moves and variations to you few guys who care and have the attention span to do all that. But I will say that his Bc3 was very limited, and that Ne4 was very strong, so maybe it would have been better in principle to play something like ... f5, and if he kicks the N with f3, just back it up to f6 again. But remember, I was a nervous rookie, and all his pieces looked very threatening, so I likely felt exchanges made

things look safer!

15. bxc3 Nc6

(Very visually pleasing!)

16. Qh5 ...

(Oh my gosh, where did THAT come from?? Is he threatening mate???)

16. ... g6

(Ok, wise guy, what you gonna do now?)

17. Qf3 Nxe5

18. dxe5 ...

(And now, for the first time in the game, I was comfortable. Even back then I knew he was going to have a hard time defending those pawns.)

18. ... Qe7

19. Rab1 Qxc5

(I had worked out getting more pawns than he would. But, of course, after the simple ... Bc6, how does he defend his c5 pawn?)

20. Rxb7 Qxc3

21. Qe2 Qxe5

22. Rc1 Rec8

(I felt I was doing OK.)

23. Ba6 ...

(Suddenly things weren't so clear. I felt after he moved the Rb7, he'd be hitting my Rc8, and my c pawn falls. Worse than what I actually saw was what I felt. Instead of calmly working it out and maybe finding Be8, which allows me to move the c pawn at some point, I instead just lost my cool in the FEAR of what might happen. Of course, there's no room for that in chess, the pieces are right in front of you, look at the board and work out the moves. Do not react to a fear of something you cannot see! But this, of course, is exactly what the unrated rookie from Dolton did.)

23. ... Rcb8?

(The "fear" of a hidden attack on

continued on p. 10



photo by Betsy Dynako

Ed:

IM Angelo Young recently won the Illinois Championship for the fourth time. We are honored to bring you his notes on some of his key games in this installment of the e-ICB.

Apart from winning tournaments, IM Young also hosts the Touch Move Chess Center, on Ashland in Chicago. He runs weekly and monthly events, which you can learn more about in the 'ICA Calendar' section of this bulletin.

[White "IM Young, Angelo"]

[Black "FM Stannov, Alexander"]

[Result "1-0"]

1. Nf3

{Reti opening . used by world champions Fischer , Kasparov,Kramnik & Anand}

1...d5 2. g3 Nf6 3. Bg2 c6 4. d3 Bg4 5. h3 Bxf3 6. Bxf3 Nbd7 7. Nd2

what a beautiful move ! ` Beauty in the eyes of the beholder'.

7... e6 8. e3 Bd6 9. Qe2

{A remarkably quiet move guarding against any attack on kingside.}

Instructional GAMES: analysis with IM ANGELO YOUNG

9...Qb6

{With a devious plan on attacking my king.}

10. a3

{I know at this point that my opponent is counting on his kingside attack.}

10... a5 11. O-O h5

{The kingside attack which I have been referring to. Black can't resist on taking this chance.}

12. Bg2

{A very natural move, not panicking in reaction to black's wicked plan.}

12... h4 13. g4 O-O-O 14. b4!

{Exclam ! Even Fritz agrees on my assestment.}

14... a4 15. Bb2 Bb8 16. Rfc1 Qc7

{I saw this coming when I played 14. b4.}

17. Nf1 Ne5 18. Bxe5! +-

{Keeping it simple.}

(18. f4 Ng6 19. Bd4 (19. c4 d4!) 19... e5 20. fxe5 Nxe5 21. c4 dxc4 22. dxc4 {Is also good for white .})

18... Qxe5 19. d4 Qd6

{Black can't stop the opening of the queenside.}

20. c4! Kd7

{Too late the hero! the queenside will be open no matter what.}

21. b5

{Now white pieces enter the attack.}

21... Ke7 22. bxc6 bxc6 23. Qc2 Rc8 24. Qxa4

{"One pawn is enough to win".}

24... c5 25. cxd5 exd5 26. dxc5 Rxc5 27. Rxc5

{Simplified! reduced the complexity of the game.}

27... Qxc5 28. Rb1 Bd6 29. Rb7+ Bc7

{I thought at some point my opponent will resign here but he kept finding some resistance.}

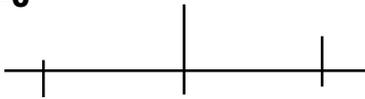
30. g5 Nd7 31. Rb5 Qc4 32. Rb4

{I tried to finish the game without exchanging the queens.}

32... Qc5 33. Qb3 Bd6 34. Bxd5 Rb8 35. Rxb8 Nxb8

{Two pawns up the rest was easy.}

36. a4 Nd7 37. Qc4 Qa5 38. Qe4+ Kd8 39. f4 Nc5 40. Qf5 Qxa4 41. Qxf7 Qa1 42. Bf3 Qc3 43. Bg4 Qa1 44. Qd5 Ke7 45. Bf5 Qa6 46. g6 Qa1 47. Kf2 Qf6 48. Nd2 Na6 49. Ne4 Qb2+ 50. Kf3 1-0



[White "IM Young, Angelo"]
[Black "Magness, Trevor"]
[Result "1-0"]

1. Nf3

{Round 1. The last time i played Trevor was at the 5th NACA FIDE invitational. He is full of potential, and needs just to improve in some areas.}

1... Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. b3 b6 4. g3

{Doubled fianchetto opening .}

4... Bb7 5. Bg2 Be7 6. O-O O-O 7. Bb2 c5 8. d3 d5 9. e3 Nc6 10. Qe2

{A quiet move .}

10... Qc7

(10... d4 11. Ne5 Rc8 12. Na3 dxe3 13. fxe3 a6 14. Nc2)

11. Nc3 Rad8

{Bad... (11... d4 \$2 12. exd4 cxd4 13. Nb5)

12. cxd5! exd5 13. d4 cxd4 14. Nb5 d3!

{Trevor finds the best reply he returns the pawn in order to gain a tempo. Although I anticipated this move I was a little bit concerned-

had I missed anything in my analysis?}



15. Qxd3 Nb4 16. Qd2

(16. Qxh7+ Kxh7 17. Nxc7 Rc8 18. Nb5 Ba6 19. Nfd4 Nc2 20. Nxa7 Ra8 21. Nac6 Bxf1 22. Nxc2 Bxg2 {During the game i was worried and couldnt find reputation to Qc2 and spent 25 minutes on my clock but to my suprise, he played almost instantly:})

16... Qd7?

{If 16... Qc2 17. Qxc2 Nxc2 18. Rac1 Nb4 19. Rc7 Rd7 20. Rfc1 Bd8 21. Rxd7 Nxd7 22. Ba3 \$18 {White is better +-}

17. Bxf6!

{ Black will lose two minor pieces for a rook or much worse, weaken his kingside.}

17... Bxf6

(17...gxf6 18. Nbd4 Rc8 19. Rac1 Ba6 20. Rfd1 Nd3 21. Rxc8 Rxc8 22. Nh4!)

18. Qxb4 a5 19. Qa4 Bxa1

(19... Bc6 20. Nfd4 Bxd4 21. Qxd4 Bxb5 22. Rfd1 Bc6 23. Qxb6 ! {Black has no compensation for the pawn.})

20. Rxa1 Rc8 21. Nfd4 Rfd8 22.

Bf1

{This will ensure there will be no tactical oversight.}

22... Rc5 23. b4 axb4 24. Qxb4 Rdc8 25. Qb2

{Stopping any exchanges on Rc1 thereby limiting Black rooks activities.}

25...Ba6 26. a4 h6 27. h4 Re8 28. Bd3 Qd8 29. Nf5 f6 30. Qd4

{With the ideas like Qg4 ,Qg6 , Nh6+ so black resigned.} **1-0**



[White "Ruan, Gordon"]
[Black "IM Young, Angelo"]
[Result "0-1"]

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 c6

{Pribyl Defense}

4. Be3 Qc7 5. f3 Nbd7 6. g4 e6

{A new idea. Ever since i began using the Pribyl I created different approach to the line in each game.}

7. g5 Ng8 8. Nge2 Ne7 9. Qd2 b5

{Intending to discourage white from castling queenside.}

10. Ng3 a6

{A very nice prophylactic move! Keeping all options open e5,d5,c5.}

11. f4

{Too ambitious. Better would be

safetying the king first.}
 (11. O-O-O Nb6 12. h4 Rb8 13. h5 Nc4 14. Bxc4 bxc4 15. Bf4 Qb7 16. Na4 Qb4 17. Qxb4 Rxb4 18. Nc3 Kd7+=)

11... Nb6 12. b3 d5 13. Bg2 b4 14. Nce2 Ng6!?



{The critical move of the game. making commit himself to advanced his h-pawn}

15. h4

(15. O-O Nh4 16. Bh1 dxe4 17. Bxe4 Nd5 18. c4 bxc3 19. Nxc3 Ba3 20. Rae1 With equal chances.)

15... dxe4 16. h5 Ne7 17. Bxe4

{If (17. Qxb4 Nbd5 18. Qd2 Nf5 19. Nxf5 exf5 20. O-O h6)

17... Ned5

{Black is slightly better due white's overextended pawn structure.}

18. f5?

{White commits a mistake in a difficult position.}

18... Bd6 19. Rg1 exf5 \$1 20. Nxf5 Bxf5 21. Bxf5 Qe7!

{Best! keeping white king in the center.}

22. Kf2

(22. Bf2 g6 23. Bh3 Bf4 24. Qd3

Bxg5 {with clear pawn advantage.})

22... g6 23. Bh3 O-O

{Black dominates the board .}

24. Bf4 Rae8 25. Rae1 f6!

{Opens up more lines.}

26. hxg6 fxg5 27. gxh7+ Kh8 0-1

A Quarter Century Continued from p.7

the Rc8 caused this silly move.)

24. Rb7xc7 Qd6?

(Again, panic. Brain freeze. ALWAYS look for "the shot" or the hidden tactics in a position. It is true, Black is still up a pawn, but White threatens the Bd7, and if it moves he can play Bb7, winning an exchange. So maybe ... Rb1! Works! It trades a set of rooks, prevents White from taking on d7, and saves the exchange from the Bb7 idea. Of course, if Rxb1, then Qxc7. Black is ok.

25. Bb7 Rxb7

26. Rxb7 Qxa3

27. Rcc7 Qa1+?

(Just ... Be8 is better, because the Queen check just allows White to threaten a Queen trade AND still be attacking the Bd7. If ...Be8, perhaps Black can try to stay in the game by threatening to queen the a pawn.)

28. Qf1 Qxf1+

29. Kxf1 Rc8??

(Now it is over, mentally and materially...)

30. Rxc8 Bxc8

31. Rb8

and Black resigned.

And there it is, my first ever USCF

rated game. I played two more rounds, a loss against Ubaldo Vazquez, and a draw with a gentleman noted on my scoresheet only as "Lewis". I believe my performance was 760! Very demoralizing, but somehow the failures drove me on and made me more determined to do better.

Pete, can you cue the time machine harp music again, please?

::::: Present Day :::::

Ah yes. Here I was, back at the beach. I can hear FM Aleks Stannov offering Jim Michalak 5 minutes.(for Jim) to 55 seconds and draw odds to play some games!

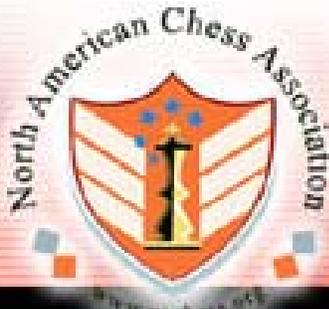
"Aleks, can I have those odds?"
 "No! You may NOT!" he shoots back.
 Ah yes 25 years.

Case in point, Jim "Papa" Michalak. I have known Jim since the days of the Homewood Flossmoor Chess Club, at the very infancy of my chess "career". It is always good to see Jim bantering, just like he did in the old days, with us chess folks.

Wins, losses, draws, seem important at the moment, but in the big picture, they don't matter. Chess is a journey, and a culture of its own. The people you meet now, you'll likely know for the rest of your life.

There was no actual party for my 25th Chess Anniversary. But I celebrated it exactly where I ought to have been, with exactly whom I should have celebrated it with. And by teaching a newcomer how to play chess, I celebrated in exactly the manner it ought to be celebrated.

May we have a toast to old friends, new friends, and to those we've lost along the way.



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A Ten-Year Anniversary Celebration

by Kevin Bachler

ILLINOIS HISTORY

There are many games that could be contenders for the most important game in Illinois history. For example, last round encounters at state championships- William Aramil's win from a worse position against Rob Riddle about 6-7 years ago in a Denker playoff is a contender. Robby Rasmussen's final win in his third high school championship or Rob Riddle defeating Yelena Gorlin in a key IHSA match-up in 2002. Certainly there are other contenders that I don't recall or don't know about, and there may be a game that surpasses the contender suggested below.

One game that stands out is Rob Riddle vs. Eric Seiden in the 1997 K-5 Super-National Scholastic Championship. Here is our reasoning for why this was the most important game, and a celebration of a big victory for Illinois Chess.

BACKGROUND

In 1997 Illinois had not had a major national championship team since Evanston High School in the early 1970s. But in 1994 several kids from Franklin Elementary School formed a team. The Cavemen, as they were known, won the Illinois K-3 championship that year, and finished 5th, ahead of a Bruce Pandolfini coached team at Nationals in Little Rock. The next year they again took first in state, and finished 3rd in the K-5 Nationals in Tucson.

As they watched the awards in Tucson, the team focused on their goal for 1997. They wanted to be the first Illinois team to win Nationals in about 25 years. But they sat and watched as trophies

were awarded to player after player from Hunter College Campus school of New York coached by the well-known Sunil Weermantry. The team knew that other schools, such as perennial contender Dalton of New York, or some of the Arizona schools, would also be important. But the key would be in their ability to beat Hunter. This was a tall order.

As the team began its preparations in the fall of 1996, they realized that the schools of New York were

eventually reached 22 consecutive regional events.)

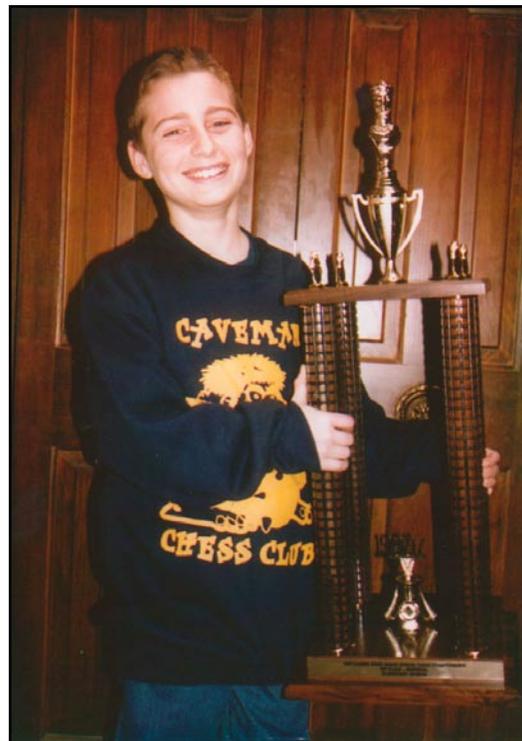
But the most important goal is that they target scoring 26 points out of a possible 28 at the state championship. This event was a 7 round medley Swiss where the top 4 scores equaled the team score.

The team worked diligently week after week with team and individual lessons, participating in tournaments. Top contenders on the team included Rob Riddle, Robby Rasmussen, Mark Rokita, Bill Biel-

ski, John Piergalski, and Dan Leung, along with solid players Ed Mueller and Dan Widing. All were in 5th grade, except the two Dan's who were in 4th grade.

At the state championship of about 200 players in the 4th-5th grade section, the team came very close to hitting its goal by scoring 24.5 out of 28, a scoring record that I believe stands to this day. Individual results included Rob Riddle who scored 6.5 out of 7, drawing out of exhaustion in the last round although a piece up, and taking first overall on tie-

Rob Riddle, 1997 IL 4th - 5th Grade State Champion.



so good, that no single Illinois team could serve as a "rabbit". No Illinois team was good enough to push them to the next level. They would have to focus on overall team goals and individual improvement more so than in the past.

To do this they set a goal of continuing to win all the regional tournaments that they participated in (they were already on a streak that

break.

Mark Rokita finished second, also with 6.5 out of 7, giving up a draw in an earlier round.

Robby Rasmussen finished third, scoring 6 out of 7 with two draws. John Piergalski finished 10th with 5.5, coming within minutes of a tie for first. A piece up, he blundered in time pressure and lost his final game.

The team felt good about this result, especially since Piergalski came so close to tying for first, and since Leung had been very ill during the tournament. As they prepared for Nationals, CNN did story on the team.

But would all this preparation be enough?

NATIONALS

The team got off to a strong start at nationals, and after 2 rounds had a perfect score of 8, while top contenders Dalton, Hunter and PS 119 all had scores of 7.5.

After 4 rounds, state champion Riddle and Leung were both off to a particularly good starts - each was at 4-0. Meanwhile, Rasmussen, Rokita and Piergalski were at 3-1 and Bielski was at 2.5. Widing and Mueller were at 2-2.

The last three rounds of the tournament would be rough. Leung lost in round 5, while Rasmussen and Piergalski both won, moving all to 4-1. But the key game was the last one done.

RIDDLE-SEIDEN

In round 5, Rob Riddle was paired as white against New York state champion Eric Seiden. Even more important to the Cavemen was that Seiden was first board for Hunter College, and it was the first time in the tournament that any Caveman had faced anyone from Hunter. Surprisingly, it turned out to be the only direct encounter between the two schools in the match.

Riddle was known for an aggressive style, and had the advantage of having White. He went after Seiden with full force and eventually won the game, moving to 5-0. In round 6 Riddle would lose a close game against the eventual tournament winner Adam Maltese, and in Round 7 he would fall while pushing

for a win in a drawn position to try to help his team clinch first.

But this game, this win, was key. Franklin Elementary went on to win its first national championship by a half point margin over Dalton, and Hunter. Any other result here would have given Hunter sole first place.

When Riddle won the game he was accompanied back to his team by one of its coaches, Ken Wallach, who exclaimed: "Who's the man!"

So here it is: national champion contender against national champion contender, state champion against state champion, first board against first board, in a match that would wind up being for all the marbles, and would bring Illinois its first major national championship in nearly 25 years.

Riddle,Rob (1450) - Seiden,Eric (1724) [B86]

1997 National Elementary (5), 27.04.1997, Board 10

[Bachler]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bc4 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.f4

[8.Bb3 Nc6=]

8...a6

A standard move that prevents intrusion on b5, and prepares to strike at the center through ...b5 and ...b4. White's position is highly aggressive, and is based on development and an all out kingside assault.

[8...Qb6 9.Be3 Qxb2 10.Qd2]

9.e5

White gains space

9...dxe5 10.fxe5 Nfd7 11.Bf4

Qh5 is more common, but White

decides to play a secondary line to catch Black off guard.

11...Nc6= 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Qg4 Kh8 14.Rad1!?=

[14.Kh1!?±]

14...Qc7

[14...Qb6+ 15.Kh1 Qxb2 16.Rd3=]

15.Rde1

[15.Qg3!?±]

15...Nb6?

After this key error, White focuses on the Kingside and gets a clear advantage.

[15...Qb6+ 16.Kh1 Qxb2 17.Re3 Qb4 18.Be2 f5 19.Qh5]

16.Bd3! Re8?!+-

[16...Rb8+-]

17.Rf3

[17.Be3 Rf8±; 17.Qh3!]

17...Bf8?? Diagram



18.Bxh7!

Coming is Qh5

18...Kxh7 19.Rh3+ +-

[19.Qh5+ Kg8 20.Rh3 Bc5+ 21.Kh1+-]

19...Kg8 20.Qh5 Bc5+ 21.Kh1 Kf8 22.Bg5!

This is a nice forced ending, and looks to be a hair stronger than Qg5.

22...f6

Trying to defend along the 7th and block the Bishop

23.exf6 Re7

Plans Qf4

24.fxe7+

24 Qg6 forces mate, and White saw this potential but as he said "I knew this game was key and I really didn't want to mess it up, in case I was missing something in my analysis.

[24.Qg6 Kg8 25.f7+ Rxf7 26.Qh7+ Kf8 27.Qh8#]

24...Bxe7

[24...Qxe7 doesn't help 25.Rf3+ Qf6 26.Bxf6 gxf6 27.Rxf6+ Ke7 28.Rf7+ Ke8 29.Rg7+ Kd8 30.Qh8+ Bf8 31.Qxf8#]

"I knew this game was key and I really didn't want to mess it up, in case I was missing something in my analysis."

25.Bxe7+

Again, choosing a safe, materialistic win. [25.Rf1+ Bf6 26.Rxf6+ gxf6 27.Qh8+ Kf7 28.Qxf6+ Ke8 29.Rh8+ Kd7 30.Qe7#; 25.Qh8+ Kf7 26.Rf1+ Bf6 27.Rxf6+ gxf6 28.Rh7+ Kg6 29.Rh6+ Kf7 30.Rxf6+ Ke7 31.Qf8+ Kd7 32.Rf7#]

25...Kxe7

[25...Qxe7 26.Qh8+ Kf7 27.Rf1+ Qf6 28.Rxf6+ gxf6 29.Qh7+ Ke8 30.Qg7 Nd7 31.Rh8+ Nf8 32.Rxf8#]

26.Rf3+-

[26.Qg5+ Kf7 27.Rf1+ Kg8 28.Rh8+ Kxh8 29.Rf8+ Kh7 30.Qh5#]

26...Bd7 27.Rf7+

[27.Qh4+ Ke8 28.Ref1 Qxh2+

29.Kxh2 g5 30.Rf8+ Ke7 31.Qb4+c5 32.Qxc5#]

27...Kd8 28.Qh8+-

[28.Rf8+ Ke7 29.Qf7+ Kd6 30.Rd1+ Nd5 31.Ne4+ Ke5 32.Qxg7+ Nf6 33.Qxf6+ Kxe4 34.Qd4#]

28...Be8 29.Rxc7

Black plays on because his team needs the point. White continues to play with care while mopping up.

29...Kxc7 30.Rxe6 Rd8

[30...Kd7 31.Re3 Kc7 32.Rxe8 Rxe8 33.Qxe8+-]

31.Qxg7+

[31.Rxe8 is likely quicker. 31...Rd7 32.Rb8 a5+-]

31...Kc8 32.h3 Nd7 33.Rxc6+ Kb7 34.Rd6 Kc7 35.Rxa6 Kb7 36.Re6 Kc7 37.Nb5+ Kb7 38.Rxe8 Rxe8 39.Qxd7+ Kb6 40.Qxe8 Kc5 41.h4 Kb6 42.h5 Ka5 43.h6 Kb6 44.h7 Ka5 45.h8Q Kb6 46.Qc3 Kb7 47.Nd6+ Kb6 48.Qb5+ Ka7 49.Qa3# 1-0

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Friday - Friday Night Fischer Random @ 7pm (non-rated)

Saturday - Scholastic Only free time chess (9:30am-11:30am); Saturday G/5 blitz @ 7pm (rated)

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THE ROAD WARRIOR

with NM PETE
KARAGIANIS



Gut Instinct: The Exchange Sac

Have you ever found yourself in this situation?

You're cruising along in an opening you know very well. You're comfortable. Your opponent has made some inaccuracies already- perhaps even some serious ones. You have a simple strategic advantage- maybe his king is open or you have some weak pawns to target, or you control an open file. Suddenly, you are too comfortable, think any move will win, make one silly error, and you're in a rough spot. One move, one tiny inconsistency, and you're starting a long, grueling defense right in the face.

In such cases, it is often useful to remember the following phrase: "Why suffer? Sacrifice!"

Of course, I am being facetious- but only to a degree. Often, your error can be easily overcome if you are willing only to give a point or two. Remember: you have a superior position and some long term trumps. Why not give up some material to eliminate your opponent's best piece or biggest threat? Stalling his immediate and most powerful counterplay may not only rectify your one-move oversight, but pay off in bushels.

Psychologically, such moves can be doubly effective. Put yourself in the shoes of your enemy: you have strained through an opening that your opponent has hammered

out easily, you have had the worse of the game for a long time, and finally, when daylight seems to have just peeked over the horizon, BAM! "Uhhh... I didn't calculate that one?"

Of course, I am speaking generally. But I find, all too often, players are unwilling to relinquish a little material for anything resembling speculative compensation- they will, instead, only sac for something concrete. Even more interesting, some players overvalue their own position after their opponent sacrifices "unsoundly" and will miss the best continuations because they discredit the pluses of the "sacrifice-r's" position.

Alright, let's take a look at a specific example to illustrate what this spiel is all about. My opponent psyches himself out- refusing to play his typical Gruenfeld due to a defeat in our last encounter, and soon ends up in unfamiliar territory, creating weaknesses left and right. I then make an inaccuracy- weakening my light squares and allowing him to place a strong knight on c4. Believing in the overall soundness of my position, I turn the tables with a quick sacrifice, and win shortly thereafter.

(3) Karagianis,P (2200) - Madison,J (1898) [D53]
Ames Chess Festival Iowa State University, 27.10.2007
[Karagianis,Pete]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e3 h6 6.Bh4 0-0 7.Qc2 c6 8.cxd5 cxd5

Usual is ...exd5.

9.Nf3 Nc6 10.a3 a5

Here is the first weakness he creates, again in unfamiliar territory. Was b4 really a threat?

11.Bd3 Ne8 12.Bg3

I did not want to trade and open up his pieces. If now ...Bd6 I would at least have considered Ne5.

12...f5

Way too loose. Better would be ...Nd6 or maybe even ...Bd6.

13.Rc1

I was happy with this move. The idea is to take advantage of ...cd5 by invading on c7.

13...Nd6 14.0-0 g5 15.Ne5 Nxe5

[15...f4 I I spent a long time making sure the "sacrifice" was sound. Black could try ...f4, "trapping" the bishop. 16.Bh7+ Kh8 17.exf4 gxf4 (17...Nxd4 18.Ng6+ Kxh7 19.Nxf8+ Kg8 20.Qh7+ Kxf8 21.Qh8+ Kf7 22.Qxd4) 18.Ng6+ Kxh7 19.Nxe7+ Kh8 20.Ng6+ Kg7 21.Bh4]

16.Bxe5 Bd7 17.Qb3 a4 18.Qd1

Eyeing h5.

18...Qe8 19.Qe2 Qf7 20.Bb5

Here is the move. So far, I have been coasting along, and now I continue poorly. This move is nowhere near best, and almost throws the advantage away, if not for a nice intuitive sacrifice. Better was Nb5 here... and I even saw why (...Nc4 by black), but for some reason I just reached for the bishop.

20...Bxb5 21.Nxb5 Nc4



22.Rxc4

Is this sound? Well, once I saw the idea I really liked it. Let's evaluate the sacrifice under the provisions discussed earlier. First: I will get at least a knight and a pawn for the rook, and my long term targets- a4 and b7- remain weak. If i can net just one of the queenside pawns, then the material trade will be even. Also, black's king remains open, I have my choice of where to play in the center, and finding concrete plans for black is difficult.

Using that rationale, this move may deserve an !, even though it was played on instinct.

Moreover, after the game, my opponent felt he was winning here. That overestimation may account for some of his inaccuracies that soon follow.

22...dxc4 23.Qxc4 Rfc8 24.Qd3 Rc6 25.Rd1

d5 right away might have been best.

25...Bf8 26.d5 !

The idea is to split up the pawns and have targets on d5 and f5.

26...exd5 27.Nd4 !

Get f5 first, round up d5 later.

27...Rc4 28.Nxf5 Rac8 29.Bc3

White's control over the kingside is impressive, but even the weaknesses on d5 and the queenside remain. Black's position is hard to hold, despite the material... "advantage" (?).

29...b5

Trying to solidify, and maybe break on b4. Very logical, but white's play comes through so quickly.

30.h3

It is necessary to make luft before taking on d5, or maneuvering the knight away.

30...R8c6

The last move before time control, and not very strong. Now both Nd4 and Qxd5 give white a small edge.

31.Nd4

[31.Qxd5 Qxd5 32.Rxd5 I avoided this because I feared Bxa3, but that doesn't work at all. 32...Bxa3 (32...R4c5 was much better for black. 33.Rxc5 Bxc5) 33.bxa3 Rxc3 34.Ne7+]

31...Rf6 ??

Now white wins the exchange

back, and black still has many weaknesses.

32.Nf3



Rxc3?

A second blunder, and probably the losing one. After fighting a difficult, defensive battle, it is understandable that black may have been shaken by ...Rf6.

This also illustrates my early idea: one advantage of the unanticipated sacrifice is a psychological one: your opponent may overvalue their position and make significant errors, judging that it is their right to be the aggressor.

[32...Rd6 was much better. 33.Ne5 Qe6 34.Nxc4 dxc4 35.Qc2 Rxd1+ 36.Qxd1 And white is only slightly better.]

33.Qxc3 Bd6 34.Qd3 Rf5 35.Qxb5 d4 36.Qe2 Qe7 37.Qc4+ Rf7 38.Qxd4 T

he rest of the game can pass without comment.

38...Bc7 39.Qxa4 Rxf3 40.gxf3 Qe5 41.Qc4+ Kf8 42.f4 Qg7 43.Qc5+ Kg8 44.Qd5+ Kh8 45.Qd4 gxf4+ 46.Qxg7+ Kxg7 47.Rd7+

1-0

Pictures from the ICA Banquet Tom Panelas



The ICA Banquet was held October 28th at the Touch Move Chess Center in downtown Chicago. It also featured a simultaneous exhibition by International Master and TMCC proprietor Angelo Young. Here are a few photographs submitted by Tom Panelas.



From Left: Carl Dolson, Chris Merli, Brad Rosen, and Maret Thorpe

Chris Merli concentrates during his game with IM Angelo Young



...as does Bill Brock!



November 17, 2006. Naperville Kings Cup. 1300 N. Mill St. Naperville, IL. 4 Sections: Grades K-4 Rated- 5 SS G/30. Grades 5-8 Rated- 5 SS G/40. Grades K-4 Unrated- 5 SS G/30. Grades 5-8 Unrated- 4 SS G/40. Awards: 72 Total Trophies! 5 Individual trophies for each section. 2 individual trophies in each grade. Team trophies for each section, team scores determined by top 4 scores. Medals to everyone who misses a trophy on tie-breaks Schedule: Arrive at 8:30 am, round 1 begins promptly at 9:00 am . Entry Fee: \$25 if registered by 11/11/07. \$35 if registered by 11/15/07. Register Online at www.illinoischessteachers.com . USCF Membership required! Registration: Advance registration only; No registration on site! No Changes after 5:00 pm, 11/16/07. To register by 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@illinoischessteachers.com or Blair Machaj (630)204-6245 blair@illinoischessteachers.com .

November 17 , 2007. The First Evanston Chess Club Rapid. 5 round SS, G/15. Levy Activity Center, 300 Dodge Avenue, Evanston, IL. Registration: 9:00-9:30 a.m. Rounds: 9:45, then about every 45 minutes with a lunch break, to end roughly at 2 p.m. Entry Fee: \$5.00. Prizes: None, just the usual fun day of chess with good people, except faster. Entries: send your name, USCF number, rating and phone number to enter@evanstonchess.org by November 15, 2007, then bring cash to the tournament. Or mail your info to Evanston Chess, c/o Maret Thorpe, 1735 Wesley, Evanston, IL 60201. On-site: go to www.EvanstonChess.org to see if space is available; register at the tournament by 9:15 a.m. Other: All on-site payments for entries or USCF memberships are cash only. We cannot guarantee space for on-site entrants. Please bring clocks and sets. Skittles area will be available. Players under age 14 must be accompanied by a parent. More information: www.EvanstonChess.org

November 17 2007, Grove All Girls and All Boys. Bloomington Normal Area Scholastic Chess

November 18, 2007-- 10th Kumbaya Scholastic Chess Tournament. National-Louis University, 5202 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL. 60077-4409. Presented by Chess-Ed. 4R-SS G/30. Schedule: Check in 10:30AM, Round 1 at 11:00AM, progressing ASAP. Sections: K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, K-12/+1000, Unrated. Awards, each section: Top 5 individuals: top 3 teams (top 3 scores/2 player min. for teams); remembrances for all players. Entry Fee: \$25.00 post marked by Monday, November 12, 2007, \$30.00 if received afterwards, FREE to players rated over 1400-must use mail in registration form to qualify. No on-site registration. Register: Online at www.eventbrite.com/org/23735997. Or mail in and if siblings play take \$5 off and if team list sent in take \$5 Disc for each team member. Send registration and check payable to Chess-Ed., c/o A. Holt, 729 Colby Ct., Gurnee, IL. 60031. Information/registration form: aholt729@earthlink.net .

November 18, 2007. Academy of Intellectual Games Chess Challenge. Temple Judea Mizpah, 8610 Niles Center Road, Skokie, IL 60077. 5 round Swiss, G25. Verify entries at 9:00 a.m. First round 10:00 a.m. sharp. Free parking. Food available 11:30-2:00. Open section: \$600 prize pool guaranteed to the first six places in Open section. Scholastic Advanced and Scholastic Beginner sections: in each section trophies to top 10. Also family team prizes: any number of players from a family enter and top two family scores count. Entry fee: \$25 per player before 10/15; \$30 per player by 11/1; \$35 after or at the door (arrive by 9:00 a.m. to register at the door or 1/2 pt bye for Rd 1.) Send entries to: Sypro Management, 2379 Castilian Circle, Northbrook, IL 60062. Information: (847) 414-3730, (847) 966-5048 or (847) 657-9686, or iana@kqchessclub.com. Limit 200 players. NOT USCF rated.

November 18, 2007. Chess Education Partners Championship Cup Series # 2 (Scholastic), Michigan Shores Club, 911 Michigan Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091, 847-251-4100. On site entry 8:00 - 8:40 AM, check in for proper seeding in round 1 by 8:45 AM, 1st round at 9 AM, trophies for 1st individual & team, awards for 2nd- 5th individual and participation awards for everyone at approx 1:30 PM. Open to all players grades K-8. Four sections: K-1, 2-3, 4-5 and 6-8; 4 rounds g/30, USCF rated (membership available on site). After the awards are over we are hosting a blitz tournament. Five rounds g/5, USCF blitz rules to apply, ending around 3 PM. Entry fee is \$30 per player and includes both tournaments and a buffet lunch. This is a private club: food will be available, but you may not bring food or drink into the club. A note on parking: please do not park in member only parking! Park either on the street or follow Lake St. east of the club to free parking at the beach. Online entry and directions at www.ChessTeachers.org. Points earned in all CEP tournaments will count towards the Chess Education Partners Championship Cup. For more information call 847-987-3091, 312-927-4290 or visit www.ChessTeachers.org.

November 18, 2007. TOUCH MOVE CC ACTION 4SS. G/30, 5639 N. AshLand Chicago IL. 60660. EF: \$20 (members), \$25 (Non-member) \$100 - \$60, U1800 \$60, U1400 \$60, based 24 paid entries. Reg. 3:30 pm Rds. 4pm. 1 bye possible. 773-627-2759 USCF RATED. TMChesscenter@hotmail.com

November 29, 2007. TOUCH MOVE QUADS. 3RR G/20 5639. N. Ashland Ave., Chicago IL. 60660. EF: \$10, \$8 Jrs., \$25 to 1st/Quad. REG: 6:45 pm - 7pm. Rds: 7 pm. Info: tmchesscenter@hotmail.com 773/627-2759 USCF RATED

November 30, 2007. Friday Night Blitz Is Back. Touch Move. 5639 N. Ashland, Chicago IL. 773-627-2759. Double Round Swiss (play your opponent as black and white). Registration 6:30-6:50 pm, Rd 1 @ 7pm sharp! EF - \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. 1st place \$40, 2nd place, \$20 3rd place. \$10 under 1600, \$10 Based on 10 players. TMChesscenter@hotmail.com.

December 1, 2007. 2007 Illinois Class Championships. 4R-SS G/60 - \$3000 b/80 paid entries. Oakton Community College, Business Institute. 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016. Awards: M/X: \$400-200-100, Class A: \$350-\$175-100, Class B: \$350-175-100, Class C: \$300-150-75, Class D/E/F/U, \$300-150-75. Unrated Prize - Book Prize only. Un-

rated must play in M/X or Class D/E/F/U sections. No playing up - must play in your own class. Entry Fee: \$50 Adult, \$40 Youth both postmarked by 11/24; \$65 Adult, \$55 Youth at door (Youth entries count as 2/3 entry). Mail payments (made payable to) and registration to: North American Chess Association, 2516 N. Waukegan Rd. Suite 342, Glenview, IL 60025. Byes: One 1/2pt bye allowed, Rd 4 bye must commit by start of Rd 2. November Rating Supplement used. Schedule: Reg: 8:30-9:30am, Rds: 10, 12:30, 3, 5:30. Re-entry: \$25 only 1/2pt in Rd 1 - no re-entries after Rd 2. BRING BOARDS, SETS, AND CLOCKS - NONE PROVIDED. USCF & ICA Membership Required (OSA). Only IL resident can claim class titles. NS,NC,W. Information: Sevan A. Muradian 888-80-CHESS or info@nachess.org. For further information, online registration and payment visit <http://www.nachess.org/ilclass>. Chess Vendor will be onsite.

December 1, 2007. Benjamin School's Patrick Machaj Memorial Tournament. Benjamin School 28W300 St. Charles Road West Chicago, IL 60185. Check in: 8:30 a.m.; Round 1 9:00 a.m. Sections: Primary-Grade 3 and under, 5/SS G/30; Elementary - Grades 4 & 5, 5/SS G/35; Junior High - Grades 6-8, 4/SS G/45. Awards: Top 5 teams in each section, Top 10 individuals in each section, Top 3 individuals in grades 1-8, Top Kindergarten player. Entry Fee: \$20 if paid by Friday November 23rd. \$25 after November 23rd if space available NO ON SITE REGISTRATION. Entries: Check payable to Benjamin Activity Fund. One check per school, please. Send to Joe Splinter 1944 St. Clair Lane Hanover Park, IL 60133 Phone 630-213-9523. Contact email: jcschess00@cs.com

December 1, 2007. Frosh-Soph Ind/Team & Senior Ind. & Junior Ind. & non-HS open. (Unrated High School) Mike Zacate (H) 708-479-9380 mezacate@yahoo.com

December 8, 2007. Thunderbolt Invitational Team. (Unrated High School) Andrew H.S. 8-bd team: Sam Thomas (H) 708-614-0553

December 15, 2007 TP Quick Chess #14. HUGE. G/18 (or G/16+3 sec.) 5SS if fewer than 24 players in Round 1, 6SS if 24 or more. Registration: 11:00-11:50. First round 12:00 noon. EF: Adults-\$22, under age 19-\$11. Prizes: \$570 prize fund based on 32 entries. Information: Tom Fineberg, 773-721-3979, E-mail: tafineberg@att.net, web: <http://cfmdesigns.net/tuleyparkchess/>.

December 15, 2007. West Chicago Team. (Unrated High School) West Chicago H.S.: 8-bd team & Individual: Joe Splinter (H) 630-213-9523

December 15, 2007. South Suburban Scholastic Chess Tournament. (Unrated scholastic.) 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. Registration: 8:00-9:00 a.m.; events usually finish around noon. Divisions: K-3, K-5, K-8, and K-12. Awards: Individual trophies to top 5 and medals to 6th-20th in each division. Team trophies to 1st and 2nd overall. Entry Fee: \$20 for on-line registrations (ends on Thursdays before the events day); \$25 on-site 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. To register: on-line at www.intecsus.org ; by email to intecsus@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.

December 16, 2007. Chess Education Partners Championship Cup Series # 5 (Scholastic), Glenview Park District Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave, Glenview, IL 60026, 847-724-5670. On site entry 8:00 - 8:40 AM, check in for proper seeding in round 1 by 8:45 AM, 1st round at 9 AM, trophies for 1st individual & team, awards for 2nd- 5th individual and participation awards for everyone at approx 1:30 PM. Open to all players grades K-8. Four sections: K-1, 2-3, 4-5 and 6-8, 4 rounds g/30, USCF rated (membership available on site). After the awards are over we are hosting a bughouse tournament, five rounds g/5. Entry fee is \$25 per player and includes both tournaments. Online entry & directions at www.ChessTeachers.org. Points earned in all CEP tournaments will count towards the Chess Education Partners Championship Cup. For more information call 847-987-3091, 312-927-4290 or visit www.ChessTeachers.org. Food will be available.

January 5, 2008. Illini Classic. (Unrated High School) U of I, Urbana Union: 5-bd team Var & J-V & Individual: Chris Merli (H) 217-384-5530

January 5-6, 2008. Tim Just's Winter Open/Reserve XXII, 5SS, 40/90, SD/30. Site: Fairfield Inn & Suites, 645 W. North Avenue, Lombard, IL 60148, (630) 629-1500 / (630) 629-2957, \$69 room rate until 12/23. \$\$ (4,000 b/125 pd players, \$2000 guaranteed, Guaranteed \$\$\$ increased to maximum as attendance increases!). 2 Sections: Open: open to all. Open Prizes: \$\$ 700-300-200; U2200, 300-150; U2000 \$300-125; Unr. can win top three only. Reserve: open to U1800. Reserve

Prizes: \$500-300-150; U1600, \$225-150; U1400. \$200-100; U1200, 150-75; Unr = \$75, Unr. qualify for Unr. Prize only. Both.; EF: \$64 (add \$10 if playing up from Reserve into Open section) with name, id, e-mail/phone, to current/renewing USCF if rec'd by 1/2; Both \$80 at site 8-8:30 AM; \$85 at site 8:30-8:45 AM; \$10 to play up from Reserve to Open section. DISCOUNT EF: ICA members can deduct \$5 off of the early or at the door EFs. Rds: 9-1:30-6; 10-2:30. Re-Entry \$40 with 1/2 pt Bye round 1, Byes Rnds 1-4, unretractable rnd 5 at Registration, Bring sets, boards, clocks, none provided,. Ent: Tim Just, 37165 Willow, Gurnee, IL 60031 (847) 244-7954 before 6 PM. e-mail for info only (sorry, e-mail entries not available): timjust@chessforlife.com, Checks payable to Chess For Life, LLC, info and PayPal entries: <http://chessforlife.com/chess/winter08.html> NS, NC, W. Book Dealers: Checkmate Chess Supply & Toby Chess.

January 6, 2008. Chess Education Partners Championship Cup Series # 6 (Scholastic), Hyde Park Neighborhood Club, 5480 S. Kenwood, Chicago, IL 60615, phone 773-643-4062. On site entry 8:00 - 8:40 AM, check in for proper seeding in round 1 by 8:45 AM, 1st round at 9 AM, trophies for 1st individual and team and participation awards for everyone at approx 1:30 PM. Open to all players grades K-8. Four sections: K-1, 2-3, 4-5 and 6-8; 4 rounds g/30, USCF rated (membership available on site). After the awards are over we are hosting a bughouse tournament, five rounds g/5, ending around 3 PM. Entry fee is \$20 per player and includes both tournaments. Online entry & directions at www.ChessTeachers.org. Points earned in all CEP tournaments will count towards the Chess Education Partners Championship Cup. For more information call 847-987-3091, 312-927-4290 or visit www.ChessTeachers.org. Food will be available.

January 11, 2008. Bent District 87 Scholastic. (100 player limit). Bloomington Normal Area Scholastic Chess. <http://www.bnasc.org/>

January 12, 2008. TP Quick Chess #1. MEDIUM. G/18 (or G/16+3 sec.) 5SS if fewer than 24 players in Round 1, 6SS if 24 or more. Registration: 11:00-11:50. First round 12:00 noon. EF: Adults-\$14, under age 19-\$7. Prizes: \$330 prize fund based on 32 entries. Information: Tom Fineberg, 773-721-3979, E-mail: tafineberg@att.net, web: <http://cfmdesigns.net/tuleyparkchess/>.