



MISSOURI CHESS ASSOCIATION

# MISSOURI CHESS BULLETIN

WWW.MOCHESS.ORG



Volume 37, Number Two—Spring 2010 Issue

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Missouri Chess Bulletin

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***Front Cover Photos from the Saint Louis Open.***

*Top, from left to right: IM Michael Brooks, WIM Alisa Melekhina*

*Bottom, from left to right: GM Hikaru Nakamura, GM Robert Hess, GM Alejandro Ramirez*

Photos by Laura Smith



The Missouri Chess Bulletin is the official publication of the Missouri Chess Association, a not-for-profit organization which promotes and supports chess in Missouri. The Missouri Chess Bulletin was founded in 1973 and is published quarterly. Your letters and writings are welcome. All submissions become the property of the MCA and the MCA reserves the right to edit any and all material received. Published opinions are those of contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the MCA

## Congratulations to these recent Tournament Winners:

Winter Open:

GM Benjamin Finegold

Botvinnik Open:

Section A: Selden Trimble

(two rating equal sections)

Section B: Vikram Arun & Steven Rand



Metro Class:

M/X GM Benjamin Finegold

A Tony Rich, Stephen Landrum, & Todd Plagemann

B Alex Vergilesov & Kyle Miles

C William Thompson

D Vishal Bharadwaj, Jason Zhou, & Sean Trani

E Jon Strand

Joplin April Open:

Open: Bob Holliman & Tony Dutiel

U/1600: Jacob Smith

Mid-America Open:

Open:

GM Alejandro Ramirez, Conrad Holt & FM Jake Kleiman

U/2200

James Voelker & Tenzing Shaw

U/2000

Tobias Simpson

U/1800

William Nesham, Ryan West, Sameer Manchanda, & Venkat Iyer

U/1600

Alex Hall

U/1400

Michael Yin

U/1200

Zoe Lemon & Mark Ferguson

U/900

Jonah Smith, Jason Ding, Alex Tan,

Laura Ockel, Brian Bourne, & Marie Braton



Saint Louis Open:

Open Section:

GM Hikaru Nakamura

GM Robert Hess

GM Joshua Friedel

GM Alejandro Ramirez

Reserve Section:

Mark J. Ferber

### Attention Tournament Directors

**The MCA will support your Event!**

**The Missouri Chess Association will reimburse tournament directors/organizers \$1 per player up to an annual maximum of \$100 when they require MCA membership for Missouri residents in their events.**

**Free advertising in the Missouri Chess Bulletin and on the popular MCA website is always included!**

See [www.mochess.org/tdcorner](http://www.mochess.org/tdcorner) for full details.

# From The Editor



Greetings Missouri Chess Players. Spring 2010 has been a busy time for Missouri chess, and the upcoming months promises more of the same. I hope you take time to look over the calendar of events on the MCA website, and are making plans to attend at least a few. The US Championships, The Missouri Class Championships, The Greater Kansas City Open, The US Women's Championship, the popular Super Team Tournament, and a new event, the Missouri Amateur Championship are just the biggest of many events scheduled in the Spring/Summer of 2010. (the fall is looking pretty packed too, but we'll save that for next time!)

This spring has already seen two big events occur here in Missouri. Both the Continental Chess Association's Mid America Open, and the Bill Wright Saint Louis Open drew well over 100 players! This is a great sign of things to come for over the board players in the area. The Spring Bulletin covers both tournaments, but is featuring stories and games from the Saint Louis Open. You can find no less than ten pages of coverage from the event. Along with a traditional tournament report, we've got stories and games, many annotated, from players from across the rating spectrum. From D Class, to Masters, you'll find games and articles about the action packed weekend that saw St. Louis invaded by some of the strongest players in the country.

I want to give a huge thanks to those players, particular the lower rated players, who donated material for the Saint Louis Open report. I hope this give those of you out there that have considered sending in your own highlights, but felt that was something for only the masters to do. Not at all! Players of every skill level read the MCB, and while we enjoy learning from the Masters, its also great to see annotations and games from those at our own level. I hope you'll consider sending something in to share with the chess community this year.

*Bob Howe*

Look for these and more in the Upcoming Summer Edition of the MCB.

- Report on the Missouri Class Championships held over Fourth of July.
- A Preview of the US Women's and Junior Championships.
- Highlights from the US Championships.
- Articles, annotated games, and interesting stories from YOU! The members that make up the MCA.

*Deadline for articles and games for the Summer issue is July 10th, 2010.*

## Super Team Championship — June 19th, 2010

4SS,G/65. Location: Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave. Saint Louis MO 63108,

♙ Prizes: \$1200 guaranteed, Championship Team \$500, 1st place team with aggregate rating under 4800, \$400. 1st place team with aggregate rating under 3800, \$300

♙ Entry Fee: \$75 for 3 person team, \$60 for team that are all annual members of the club, if registered by 6/18

♙ Registration: 9-9:45am. Rounds: 10am, 12:30, 3, 5:30

♙ MCA membership required for MO residents

Advance entries/info: 314-361-CHESS

4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108

info@saintlouischessclub.org, www.saintlouischessclub.org

## MISSOURIANS ON THE USCF TOP 100 LISTS — April 2010

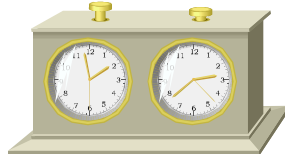
<b><u>Overall</u></b>	GM Ben Finegold (2621) 13th IM Michael Brooks (2442) 69th	<b><u>Age 11</u></b>	Margaret M.Hua (1777) 37th Stephen Zhang (1597) 85th
<b><u>Age 18</u></b>	Abhishek Mallela (2182) 13th Spencer Finegold (1926) 57th	<b><u>Age 8</u></b>	Jason Zhou (1378) 31st
<b><u>Age 17</u></b>	Brad Schlosser (1890) 68th Henry Cao (1792) 99th	<b><u>All Women</u></b>	Margaret M. Hua (1777) 91st
<b><u>Age 14</u></b>	Isaiah Gadson (1963) 34th Vikram Arun (1833) 67th	<b><u>Girls U/13</u></b>	Margaret M. Hua (1777) 8th
<b><u>Age 13</u></b>	Kevin Cao (2166) 4th Jialin Ding (2047) 17th	<b><u>Girls U/16</u></b>	Joanna Gossell (1523) 74th
<b><u>Age 12</u></b>	William Tong (1877) 35th Ansar Lemon (1677) 86th	<b><u>Senior</u></b>	Robert Jacobs (2107) 45th
		<b><u>Correspondence:</u></b>	Laurence Anderson (2305) 30th Harry Ingersol (2305) 33rd Barry Walker (2261) 44th

## MISSOURI'S TOP 100

1 GM Benjamin Finegold 2621 2 IM Michael Brooks 2442 3 Charles Lawton 2327 4 Kenneth Jones 2225 5 Loal Davis 2224 6 Ronald Luther 2216 7 Bob Holliman 2202 8 Richard Benjamin 2200 9 FM Robert Sulman 2200 10 Kevin Cao 2166 11 Mark Bohannon 2159 12 Andrew Witte 2149 13 Tomislav Juricic 2144 14 James McLaughlin 2124 15 James Voelker 2119 16 Bronik Matwijkiw 2113 17 Robert Jacobs 2107 18 Craig La Salle 2088 19 Nathaniel Fast 2068 20 Kenneth Thomas 2058 21 Jialin Ding 2047 22 Waldo Odak 2047 23 King Christian 2045 24 Zebedee Fortman 2036 25 Josh Frank 2021 26 James Davies 2008 27 Nick Karlow 2004 28 Kevin Johnson 2000 29 Pranav Akolkar 1995 30 Daniel Huff 1990 31 Matt Jacobs 1989 32 Nathan Swinger 1980 33 Shan Siddiqi 1969 34 Isaiah Gadson 1963 35 Frank Smith 1962	36 Jeffery Van Order 1956 37 Joseph Garnier 1950 38 Selden Trimble 1944 39 Daniel Roberts 1940 40 John Boyer 1931 41 Steven Bange 1928 42 Spencer Finegold 1926 43 Tony Rich 1917 44 Dwight Beasley 1916 45 Kenneth Fee 1902 46 Adil Skuka 1900 47 Darius Masuhud 1896 48 Dwight Beasley 1916 49 Albert Howlett 1907 50 Steven Bange 1905 51 Al Howlett 1886 52 Tim Blaco 1883 53 William Tong 1877 54 Robert Cima 1876 55 Renzo Herrera 1866 56 Alexander Vergilesov 1846 57 Victor Marshall 1839 58 Vikram Arun 1833 59 Kenneth Gurley 1831 60 Marcus Scott 1828 61 Alex Marler 1825 62 Tony Dutiel 1823 63 Stephen Landrum 1820 64 Paul Goddard 1813 65 Edil Karabiev 1812 66 Tom Epplin-Zapf 1808 67 Thomas Rehmeier 1804 68 Daniel Coryea 1800 69 Randy Giminez 1800 70 Jeff Eskew 1798	71 Jacob Wilkins 1794 72 Henry Cao 1792 73 Matthew Barrett 1788 74 Chris Fieber 1781 75 Margaret Hua 1777 76 Tim Nesham 1776 77 Warren Graham 1773 78 Steven Rand 1769 79 William Nesham 1767 80 Roger Smith 1766 81 Behrooz Vakil 1764 82 Bradley Herbst 1760 83 Joe Piotrowski 1747 84 Daniel Rethemeyer 1744 85 Max Benecke 1743 86 Daniel Todd 1740 87 Frank Whitsell 1731 88 Allen Bishop 1731 89 Anthony Ford 1731 90 Templin Kauschen 1730 91 Greg Clark 1727 92 William Starnes 1727 93 Edward Dromgoole 1720 94 Bob Howe 1718 95 Alex Esposito 1714 96 William Collin 1705 97 Gunter Kellotat 1700 98 James Larkin Smith 1699 99 Carl Priesendorf 1696 100 William Thompson 1696
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USCF April Supplement  
Includes players active in the  
past 12 months.

# Recent News in Missouri Chess



If you thought the news out of Saint Louis just couldn't get any bigger, then your not alone, you are, however, dead wrong! Grandmaster, US Champion, and top 20 in the world **Hikaru Nakamura** has announced his intention to move to the Gateway City this spring! Nakamura, who has been attending college in the Northwest, is ready for a change of scenery and has decided to relocate to St. Louis following the US Championships. The top GM has a busy schedule of events, but we hope to see him in some local tournaments, and certainly doing some lectures and events at the Chess Club. Welcome to Missouri GM Nakamura!!

With a heavy heart I'm sad to report that **James "the James Game" Miller** has passed away from cancer. James was a regular at the Delmar Loop for many years, and has been a mainstay at the CCSCSL. James loved playing with an aggressive, offbeat style that was always fun and dangerous to face. Even more than the way he played though, James will be remembered for his larger than life personality, his willingness to play anyone anytime, and the classic phrases he would throw out each game. James will be missed by many.

All the details for the **2010 Missouri Invitational Championship** are now available on the [mochess.org](http://mochess.org) website. The tournament is shaping up to be another legendary encounter, with most of the Missouri's best players facing off. The event now has the added bonus of absolutely no entry fee, as the Saint Louis Chess Club has agreed to not only host the event, but fully sponsor it! A huge thanks to the crew at the Club for helping make a great event better.

This July will see the return of the **United States Women's Championship** to Missouri. Along with this already great event, the Chess club and Scholastic Center is hosting the **US Junior Championship** to run concurrently. Names like IM Irina Krush, IM Anna Zatonsikh, GM Alex Lenderman, and GM Robert Hess are a few of the expected participants. Its shaping up to be another fantastic event, in what is becoming the norm for St. Louis.

Congratulations to MCA President **Thomas Rehmeier**, Thomas recently acted as Chief TD for the Bill Wright Saint Louis Open, which along with knocking out the difficult TD test, fulfilled his final obligations to qualify as a **Senior TD**. Thomas joins GM Finegold and Tony Dutiel as the only active Missourians with that level of TD certification. A particularly impressive feat to accomplish before turning 21!

**The Missouri Chess Association** will have a dues increase that takes effect on July 1 of 2010. The new rate structure will be \$5 for scholastic, \$10 for adults, \$20 for printed bulletin. Family rates will be \$15 Economy, \$25 Printed. With the increase scheduled for July, now is a good time to renew your membership at the cheaper rate and save. Purchasing a multi-year membership at the discounted price is worth considering.

# US Championships Returning to St. Louis

**All Twenty four players have been named for the 2010 U.S. Championship**

The following players have earned a bid to the championship by winning a qualifying event:

**GM Hikaru Nakamura:** 2009 U.S. Champion  
**GM Larry Christiansen** 2009 U.S. Senior Champion  
**GM Ray Robson** 2009 U.S. Junior Champion  
**GM Alex Lenderman:** T-1st 2009 U.S. Open  
**GM Alex Yermolinsky:** T-1st 2009 U.S. Open  
**GM Sergey Kudrin:** T-1st 2009 U.S. Open  
**GM Jesse Kraai:** T-1st 2009 U.S. Open  
**GM Dmitry Gurevich:** T-1st 2009 U.S. Open  
**IM Levon Altounian** State Champion of Champions

Eleven players have earned a bid by rating:

**GM Gata Kamsky** (2768)  
**GM Alexander Onischuk** (2734)  
**GM Varuzhan Akobian** (2699)  
**GM Yury Shulman** (2682)  
**GM Jaan Ehvest** (2673)  
**GM Alexander Shabalov** (2669)  
**GM Gregory Kaidanov** (2643)  
**GM Robert Hess** (2641)  
**GM Melikset Khachiyan** (2629)  
**GM Joel Benjamin** (2621)  
**GM Ben Finegold** (2616)



Four Players were awarded the Wildcard selections by the organizers.

**GM Vinay Bhat**  
**GM Alexander Stripunksy**  
**IM Irina Krush**  
**IM Sam Shankland**



This year's championship will feature a new format, which includes a 24-player, seven-round Swiss tournament followed by a four-player Championship final. The idea is designed to ensure drama in the final three days of play and to avoid the potentially less climactic pairings that are typical in a 24-player, nine-round Swiss.

This year's prize fund is being increased from \$135,000 to more than \$170,000 with a grand prize of \$35,000, a minimum of \$3,000 for last place and more funds going to second place in particular (\$20,000 as compared to \$15,000 in 2009).

**The 2010 U.S. Championship welcomes spectators to the event.** Grandmaster Maurice Ashley and WGM Jennifer Shahade will provide live, on-site commentary of the tournament. Spectators can watch the competitors live or watch the live broadcast of the analysis for each round at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis.

For complete and up to date information, including live feeds and daily recaps of all the action, be sure to visit the CCSC website, at <http://saintlouischessclub.org>

# Winter Open a Success

~ Mike Wilmering ~

After finishing 2009 with two strong tournaments, the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis was geared up for 2010. The newest addition to the CCSCSL staff, Grandmaster Ben Finegold, was slated to participate in the inaugural event to kick off the 2010 tournament schedule.

The Winter Open brought other changes as well, as annual members were required to pre-register to receive the typical discount. This change had an immediate impact with 26 players registered before the day of the event. One might have expected another 10-15 players, which would have been considered a successful Winter event, but what happened on the morning of January 16 was pretty spectacular. Despite the cold Saint Louis weather, 31 more players came out to compete and meet the newest chess celebrity in Saint Louis! The 57-player field represented the second largest ever for the CCSCSL and continued the successful trend of 40-plus player tournaments the club has been enjoying.



GM Finegold, right, and son Spencer, both had a great debut in Missouri at the Winter Open.

Round one got started with a bang, as two players in the eight-player Master/Expert section were upset by class C players, prompting their immediate withdrawal from the event. William Little scored one of the biggest upsets of the event when he hung a loss on Nick Karlow. Not to be outdone, Alex Vergilesov, who entered the event as an underrated 1593, was able to notch a victory against rising superstar Jialin Ding, who came into the event as a 2095! Don Harper, who has seen a sharp rating increase in the past few months, was able to maintain his impressive performance with an upset victory over Kevin Dale Johnson. This meant that after the first round, three of the eight players in M/X were already out of the running for first place as a perfect performance was going to be necessary with GM Finegold at the top board and a field of 57 players.

Round two was equally hard on the top players as expert Josh Frank succumbed to Troy Krimminger, prompting his withdrawal from the event as well. Expert Drew Hollinberger also suffered a suspect loss to Tim Nesham, leaving only three of the eight players in the M/X section with perfect scores after round two. Most of the class A players were rolling along, except for Al "Debo" Howlett who ran into the buzzsaw that was Vergilesov as he notched his second upset of the day.

Round three definitely separated the men from the boys, as the contenders made themselves known in this round. While everyone was watching GM Finegold, having just demonstrated his superiority by outplaying John Boyer in an opposite-colored bishops endgame, his son Spencer was putting on an equally impressive performance. His third-round victory over Tim Nesham left him as one of only four players with a perfect record at the end of the third round. Along with Ben and Spencer, Paul "Peaches" Mechem and Dan Roberts were sitting at the elusive 3.0/3.0 mark. The final round pairings found Spencer playing Mechem while Ben squared off against Roberts.

Round four had a lot of drama with plenty of prize money on the line. With GM Finegold the only undefeated player in the M/X section, most people were expecting a victory and outright win for the club's resident GM.



James Smith continued his run of strong performances with a 2.5 score.

Meanwhile, the other marquee matchup had major implications for the A class. A decisive victory would mean an outright win, while a draw would really throw a wrench into things. As the last round of an open Swiss tends to do, the drama proved to be high, as GM Finegold quickly found himself in a slightly worse position versus Roberts. Reaching back on his experience though, he was able to outplay his opponent and turn the one positive aspect of his position, a lowly passed a-file pawn, into the difference maker. Meanwhile, on board two, neither Spencer nor Mechem were able to push for a victory, and a draw became the final result. They both finished the event with 3.5/4.0 points and a tie for first in A class. Selden Trimble, utilizing the under-appreciated Swiss Gambit, managed a fourth round victory to catch Mechem and Spencer, creating a three-way tie and \$42 for each participant. GM Finegold's victory on board one assured him outright first place in the tournament, and Gordon Ruan finished with 3.5/4.0 to take clear second in the M/X section.

In class B, Bob Howe, editor of the Missouri Chess Association Bulletin, managed another impressive CCSCSL performance and took class B outright with a 3.0/4.0 performance. Troy Krimminger and Dennis Taylor were able to split second place with equally respectable 2.5/4.0 results. In class C, Vergilesov parlayed his monster start into a 3.0/4.0 finish, which was more than enough to capture first place in class C all by himself. Class D continued the trend of uncontested winners, with Nathan Phan's 2.0/4.0 performance proving strong enough to win class D by himself. Amazingly, while a 2.0/4.0 performance was enough to win class D outright, it yielded a five-way tie in the U1200 section with James Elliott, Scott Anderson, Clark Rogers, Anthony Ford, and Jon Strand all walking away with \$25 for their efforts.

The tournament was a huge success, not only for the CCSCSL, but also for the Finegolds as they settle in to their new home in Saint Louis. We will undoubtedly be seeing more of Ben and Spencer in our events in the future. Kudos to all the club members that got paired against him and gave him a run for his money. The club's next event will be the Show me Classic. The event will take place on May 29th, so make sure to pre-register if you are an annual member of the club to receive your tournament discount. As always, you can register right from the home page at [www.saintlouischessclub.org](http://www.saintlouischessclub.org), or you can check the events section for more details on any and all upcoming events. We hope to see you there!

## Show-me Classic — May 29th, 2010

4SS,G/65. Location: Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis,  
4657 Maryland Ave. Saint Louis MO 63108,

- ♔ Prizes: \$750 (b/40): \$100 1st/\$25 2nd in each M/X, A, B, C, D, U1200/UNR
- ♔ Entry Fee: \$25, \$20 for annual members if registered by 5/27
- ♔ Registration: 9-9:45am. Rounds: 10am, 12:30, 3, 5:30
- ♔ MCA membership required for MO residents

### Advance entries/info:

4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108.  
314-361-CHESS

# Scholastic State Championship

~ Bob Howe ~

Jefferson City once again saw over 500 players converge on the Capital Plaza Hotel to participate in the Scholastic State Championship. Students from Kindergarten to 12th grade played a long day of chess on Saturday, February 27th to determine Missouri's 2010 Individual Champions and School Champions.

The tournament, which is legendary for running on time, or even ahead of schedule, finally hit a road block this year, as problems caused the first round to start late, and the hard working crew from the Gateway league and MCA could never quite catch back up. According to chief TD Ed Baur, the problem was a huge number of players (and in one case an entire team) being registered in incorrect sections. This required a tedious by hand repairing and reorganizing. Other than that early bump though, the tournament ran smoothly, and the event has to be considered a great success.

This year's winners include:

## Team Champions

3rd and Under McKelvey Elementary, Maryland Heights

5th and Under: Spoeede Elementary, St. Louis

6th and Under: New City School, St. Louis

8th and Under: Parkway Northeast, St. Louis

9th and Under: Vianney High, Saint Louis

High School: Rockhurst High School, Kansas City



High School Board One, led by Henry Cao (right) and Steven Rand



Young and dangerous! 3rd and under co-champ Jason Zhou(left) and 5th place finisher Torin Hylan



## Spotlight on Kevin Cao

Chess players across the state dream of being crowned a state champion, and each one who achieves that special goal deserves recognition. However, at times a player stands out in the crowd, even when that crowd is State Champions. Kevin Cao went undefeated with a 6-0 record at the State Scholastic Championship this year. Such an accomplishment is outstanding in any case, but in the case of Kevin Cao, perfect records and State Championships have become the norm. This year's event represents Kevin's 6th straight year as a Missouri Champion! In fact, he has run off 36 straight wins in State competition!! Starting in 2005 with a rating in the 1100's, until this year, when he is fast approaching Master, Kevin has been perfect in the big games. Even with Kevin favored in rating in most of those encounters, any serious chess player knows the difficulty of fending off lower ranked players round after round. It takes not just chess talent, but incredible fortitude to complete such a run. Missouri has seen many special chess talents over the years, but the current run by Kevin must stand out as among the best.

## 2010 Individual State Champions:

High School Board 1: Henry Cao

High School Board 2: Arjun Khurana

High School Board 3: Alex Esposito, Andrew Schatz, & Isadora Grossman

High School Board 4: Michael Cranwill, Jon Mura, & William Hodel

9th and Under: James L. Smith

8th and Under: Kevin Cao

6th and Under: Margaret Hua

5th and Under: Keturah Gadson

3rd and Under: Jason Zhou & Jason Schibler



Margaret Hua



James L. Smith

**James L. Smith** of Lamar, Missouri used his victory in the 9th grade section at State as a catapult to become the winner of the 2010 Denker Playoff. He will be Missouri's representative at the 2010 Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions. For the second year in a row, **Margaret Hua** of Ballwin, Missouri was the winner of the Girls Championship Playoff and will be Missouri's representative at the 2010

USCF All-Girls Nationals.



The top three placers in the 9th and under, Nate Noss, James Smith, and Isaiah Gadson, consider their chances before round 6.



Arjun Khurana of Rockbridge surprised the field by going 4-0 on High school Board 2.

### Spotlight on Rockhurst High School

For the second year in the row, Rockhurst High School took home first place in the high school team competition. In 2009, Rockhurst put up a perfect 16-0 score to win the state title. In 2010, the Rock returned to Jeff City with an even stronger team, but the road wouldn't be as smooth. The team was incredibly deep, but the 2008 championship team from Chesterfield looked strong as well. As the day developed, the top boards of Rockhurst were upset, giving up draws, but the lower two boards were dominating, with not only one player holding a perfect score, but multiple perfect scores. This not only gave Rockhurst the full points for themselves, but they were defeating their competition as they went. When all the chips fell, the Parkway Team won the top board, but Rockhurst took boards 3 and 4, allowing them to edge out everyone and claim the second straight title. Congratulations to the Rockhurst Team.

*Left: Rockhurst High School Team celebrates their second straight title.*



# Mid America Open

~ Matt Angeli ~

After the boards had been cleared, and all the pieces put away, the Missouri players had a lot to be proud of as they departed from the 2010 Mid-America chess tournament put on by Continental Chess. Since the dawn of the new chess club, chess continues to grow in Missouri, as the Missourians gained a grand total of 1250 rating points amongst themselves, with the biggest help coming from Zoe Lemon (166), Greg Owsley (111), Tim Campbell (110), Keturah Gadson (92), and Alex Hall (90). Special thanks to local retired tournament director legend Al Howlett for compiling these rating statistics.

On the money end, Missouri players won \$5,497 of the total \$15,995 paid out which comes out to 34.4% of the prize money. Local players only took 1.7% of the open section prize money, but really dominated in the U900 with 83.3% and solid showings of 68.1% in both the U1600 and U1400 sections. The U1200 had a respectable showing of 53.3% as did the U2200 with 50%. Lagging behind in the percentage wars were the U1800 Missouri players with only 25% booty captured and the U2000 with a flimsy 15%. As usual though, percentages don't tell the whole story as I will leave it up to the reader to decide if some players were brave and played up, or were negligent and left their battle sections undefended. Regardless, these statistics do provide a glimpse of where the main playing strength of Missouri chess players lies.



Alex Hall, (back), landed the only perfect 5-0 score in the tournament, sweeping the U/1600 section.



Jim Voelker led the way in the U/2200

The tournament attendance dipped a bit this year with 191 entries (including some re-entries). In 2008, the Mid-America tournament drew 230 entries and in 2009 caught virtually the same crowd with 228 entries. Weather was not a factor at all this year as it was only a bit cool but the ever-debated question about paying \$100 to play in a tournament especially in an uncertain job climate may have kept a few back from playing. Nevertheless, it was good to see local players make a good showing and account for 89 of the entries and comprising 47% of the playing field. Some were unfortunate enough though to get paired up against players they know all too well,

however for the most part, there was a good mix of local and out-of-state players.

In the open section, local rising star Kevin Cao did the best of the Missouri players with a score of 3 points, earning him into an eight-way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> place under 2300. Sadly money never grows when divided, however I'm sure no one would ever say no to \$70.

Jim Voelker went undefeated in the U2200 section with three straight wins and two draws and tied for first place for a big prize of \$840. Joshua Frank played well himself with 3.5 points



The Open section winners, far table, Gm Ramirez, FM Kleiman, and front right, Conrad Holt.



Mark Ferguson, left, and Zoe Lemon, right, tied for first in the U1200. Isaiah Angeli, back right also cashed after a strong event.

and winning \$280. Deserving mention are William Tong and Nathan Swinger who played up a section and did well with 3 and 2.5 points respectively.

The U2000 saw three Missouri players money as Joe (not just good at blitz) Garnier, Steven Bange, and Randy Giminez all scored 3.5 points and tied with two other players for a respectable prize of \$112.

Only William Nesham got money in the U1800, but he did so by going undefeated with three wins and two draws to achieve a solid 4 points and win \$560. Coming a long way from where he used to be, William with this result leaves the status of a “B” player and joins the ranks of Missouri’s “A” players.

In the U1600, Missouri saw its own Alex Hall completely destroy the opposition with the only perfect score in the whole tournament and tying with another Missourian in winning the most money as a local player with \$960. Overshadowed but

still very deserving of mention is Greg Owsley with four wins and a healthy prize of \$293.

Michael Yin came in clear first in the U1400 with 4.5 points and secured the first place prize of \$960 as the other Missourian winning the most money. Tying for second with four points was Chansamone Khot-syphom who added a cool \$293 to the Missouri total.

The U1200 saw three Missourians cash in with Zoe Lemon tied for first with four points for \$480. Isaiah Angeli and Yi Zhao both paid a measly \$9 to play in the tournament as their 3.5 points won them \$80.

Six people tied for first in the U900 with four points each, with five of them being Missourians. \$53 went to Jonah Smith, Jason Ding, Laura Ockel, Alex Tan, and C Marie Braton.

Overall, many players had a good time and did well. Like any tournament though, you have some who do well and some who don’t do well. Fortunately though, chess isn’t going away from Missouri, and there is plenty of time to start preparing for next time.



Tha Dun and Tim Campbell compete in the U/1600



Don Harper and Joe Hoffmann playing in the Under 1600 section



High School players Steven Rand and Emily Tallo from the U/1800



Chief TD Walter Brown



Action from the Under 1200 section.



Greg Owsley, right, had one of the biggest point gains of the event.

# Saint Louis Open

~ Bob Howe ~

Bill Wright, who received a tip of the cap last year when he was named to the Missouri Chess Hall of Fame, got a second well deserved accolade when the annual Saint Louis Open was named in his honor this year. The event was a longtime labor of love for Bill, as he organized it for many years in partnership with TD's Ed Baur and Thomas Rehmeier.

In any typical year, the STL Open can expect to draw a larger than average attendance from the local field. If the local weekend events are drawing 35-40, the STL Open can expect 20-30 more. With numbers climbing this year anyway, (the club's Saturday tournaments in Jan/Feb both drew in the high 50's) it could be assumed the numbers for the STL Open would be big. However, things went well beyond big this year! Late last year the CCSCSL switched roles from venue host, to actual organizer, and they targeted the STL Open as THE event of the year.

It started with US Champion Hikaru Nakamura, who agreed to attend the event after being sponsored by Rex Siquifield in the World Team Championship. Then, with the hiring of GM Finegold and his attendance, the event now had multiple GMs! After that the ball started rolling, and one name after another joined the list of titled and prestigious players signing on. The list would eventually include seven Grandmasters, five women from last year's US Women's championships, State Champion IM Michael Brooks, defending STL Open Champ Life Master Ron Luther, USCF Executive Director Bill Hall, CCSCSL founder Rex Siquifield, and a list of masters, experts and strong players far too long to even try to list here.



GM Gurevich vs GM Hess.  
Hess won the round 4 game to stay perfect into the final round.

When the dust settled, 136 players made their mark on the tournament, with both an open section and a reserve section packed. The clubs capacity was challenged, although not overcome by the large attendance. The play-

ing area remained spacious and comfortable, with only the skittles area falling sacrifice to the record attendance.

Missouri players made up the majority of the participants, but players from as far as New York, Georgia, Texas, and even Canada made the trip, as well as

strong numbers from many nearby states.

There was a great deal of excitement as the tournament ap-

proached,

with Missourians pondered and pontificated who of the locals would knock off the visiting titled players. As it turned out, gaining such a scalp was far harder to come by than expected, but the locals did put up some memorable battles, many of which you can enjoy in the coming pages.

The reserve section was won by Mark Ferber, an Unrated player from the Phillipines, but after him came a slew of Missourians taking home prize money and rating points. Of particular note are players like Lou Sarmento, who took advantage of the option to take 2 half point byes, but might have regretted it! He played incredible chess, winning all three rounds he played, facing competition averaging over 100 points above him! And regular faces around Saint Louis tournaments like



IM Irina Krush prepares to take on St. Louisian Nick Karlow

Behrooz Vakil, Williman Nesham, Ed Baur, Ken West, Steven Korenblat, Vishal Bhadrwaj and Luke Herbst also played well enough



USCF Director Bill Hall and Randy Giminez check out results



GMs Everywhere! From left, GM's Finegold, Gurevich, Friedel, Nakamura, and Ramirez

to take home some prize money from the event. Congratulations to all the winners in the reserve section, and I'm happy to say several of them have submitted annotated games for us to enjoy.

In the Open section, the local heroes didn't far quite so well, as the top of the podium was dominated by GMs Nakamura, Hess, Ramirez, and Friedel, all who finished with a score of 4.5/5. That's not to say there weren't many notable performances, including Life Master's Ron Luther, Bob Holliman, and IM Michael Brooks coming in just a half point back.

Meanwhile some impressive performances were put up by some local A class players like Vikram Arun and Spencer Finegold, whose 3.5/5 performance gave them a healthy helping of rating points for the weekends work. Congratulations to those players mentioned, and the many others who participated in this fantastic event.



Young Guns! Kevin Cao, James Smith, William Tong, and Vikram Arun hang out in between rounds.

Now its time to let the players do the talking, with games and stories from a multitude of players of every skill level. Leading off is Matt Angeli, who had a solid weekend in the reserve, including this upset.

When I got to the third round, I was exhausted from my two earlier games as both had gone about 3.5 hours and I had been up for nearly 15 hours with a small headache. I didn't feel like playing at all, much less to a high rated player. On that note, I present this imperfect game which is fairly boring in the beginning, but by the end, becomes very interesting, not only to play, but also to analyze.

**Queen's Pawn Opening**

Saint Louis Open

W: Matthew Angeli (1621)  
B: Jarrod Travares (1789)

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.e3 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.c3 Bg4 6.Be2 Bxf3N 7.Bxf3 e6 8.Nd2 cxd4 9.cxd4 Bd6 10.Bxd6 Qxd6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Qa4** [*Ambitious queen move that black will be able to chase away in a short time but I wanted to connect my rooks and began the upcoming fight for the c-file*] **a6 13.Rfc1 Rfc8** [13...b5 14.Qc2 Rac8 15.Nb3 Ne7 (15...Nb4 16.Qxc8 Rxc8 17.Rxc8+ Qf8 18.Rxf8+ Kxf8 +-) 16.Nc5 Nd7 17.b4 and white has a rock solid knight] **14.a3 Rc7 15.Rc2** [15.Rc3 was a bit better as it allows my queen a retreat line if things get too dangerous] **15...b5 16.Qb3 Rac8** [16...Na5 17.Qd3 Rac8 18.Rac1] **17.Rac1 g6 18.Qd3** [allowing room for Nb3 on its way to c5] **18...Kg7 19.g3 h6** [19...Na5 20.Nb1=] **20.h4 h5** [I was expecting 20...e5 as it seems to be active for black but 21. dxe5 Nxe5 22. Qb3 and white has nothing to fear.] **21.Nb3 Nd7 22.Nc5 Na5 23.b4 Nc4= 24.Qb3** [Thinking of playing a4 to open the a-file and exchange my white squared bishop for the c4 knight] **Nf6 25.Be2 Ng4 26.Kg2 Rc6 27.Qd3** [Leary of black's king-side movements although I should have played Bxg4 here instead of trying to get frequent flier miles with the fifth move from my queen.] **27...Qe7 28.Bxg4 hxg4= 29.Qe2 f5** [Worse is 29...Nxa3 30.Ra2 Nc4 31.Qxg4±] **30.Ra2** [finally someone is going to pry open the a-file] **30...Kf7** [30...g5!?!=] **31.a4 Rh8 32.axb5 axb5 33.Rca1 Rc7 34.Ra6+- Nd6 35.Qa2 g5 36.Qa5??** "White is ruining his position" the computer told me. 36.hxg5 would have been much better. For some reason I thought I would be letting in a dragon by opening the h-file and felt I better speed up my threats on the queen-side. Although black can't attack too fast as he would drop pieces and my king can find refuge at e2 and f1 if need be. **36...gxh4= 37.Qxc7??** [37. gxh4 Nc4 38.Qxc7 (38.Qxb5?? would be letting black's dragon materialize) 38...Qxc7 39.Ra7 Qxa7 40.Rxa7+ Kf6 41.Ra6±; 37.gxh4 Qxh4 38.Qxc7+ Kg6 39.Kf1] **37...Qxc7-+ 38.Ra7 h3+ 39.Kh2 Rc8 40.R1a6 Ne4 41.Rxc7+ Rxc7 42.Ra5** [Kg1 is better although I was probably a bit too anxious about getting a passed pawn and thought I could afford to drop the f-pawn] **42...Nxf2 43.Rxb5 Nd1 44.Ra5 Nxe3 45.b5 Kf6 46.b6 Nf1+** [I thought for sure I was winning here and I was shocked when the computer actually says the position is about -4.5 but when I thought about it, it makes sense as evident by black's best move at move 50.] **47.Kh1** [47.Kg1 Rh7] **47...Nxc3+ 48.Kg1** [48.Kh2 cannot change what is in store for 48...Nf1+ 49.Kh1 Rh7-+] **48...Rh7 49.Ra2 Ne4 50.b7 g3???** [50...Rxb7! secures the win for black! 51.Nxb7 g3-+ Both my opponent and I completely missed this. After a long tournament day, I suspect few would find it. I played this ending out a few times as both sides on the computer and had difficulty in winning as black and defending as white so the ending is not fool-proof but black is definitely better. After missing this key move though, the game is over for black] **51.Nxe4++- dxe4 52.b8Q h2+ 53.Kh1 Rg7 54.Qe5+ Kg5 55.Qxg7+ Kf4 56.Qe5+ Ke3 57.Ra3+ 1-0**

**Near Misses!** Ron Luther, Bob Holliman, and Todd Plagemann, annotate matchups between local players and some visiting Titled Masters.

*“At the higher levels, a chess game is like walking a tightrope, you can be within inches of the other side, but a single slip, will still land you on the ground.”*

*- Ron Luther*

One of the things most chess players would like, is a win over a titled player. It is one of the reasons some players go to events with several GM's, IM's, and other titled players. Some spend a lot of money to play in these events. Others will even play up in the top sections in order to have the chance to notch a win against a Titled player. Here we will look at several games from the Bill Wright St Louis Open, where some local players, missed the opportunity of a lifetime, to beat a Titled player.

**Reti Opening**

Saint Louis Open

W: Josh Frank (2021)

B: WIM Tatev Abrahamyan

*Josh Frank had an enjoyable back and forth battle with WIM Abrahamyan* Annotation by LM Ron Luther **1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.0-0 0-0 5.d3 d6 6.e4 c5 7.Nbd2 Nc6 8.Re1 Rb8 9.a4 a6 10.Qe2 Bg4 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Nxf3 Nd7 13.c3 b5 14.axb5 axb5 15.Be3 Nb6 16.e5 dxe5?** [16...b4] **17.Bxc5± Qc7 18.Ra6**

**Rfd8 19.Ng5** [19.d4 This looks better. 19...Nd5 20.dxe5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 Bxe5 (21...Qxc5?? 22.Rc6) 22.Ba7±]

**19...Bf6 20.Ne4 Nd5** (*Diagram*) Up until here Josh has played well and enjoys a nice advantage. However he now plays some slightly weaker moves that allow Black to get back into the game. **21.Nxf6+?! [21.Rea1; 21.h4** Both these moves seem to highlight Whites advantage.] **21...exf6 22.Qd2?! [22.d4!]**

**22...Na5 23.b4?! After this Black is slightly better. 23...Nb3 24.Qa2 Nxc5**

**25.bxc5 Qxc5 26.Ra7?! [26.Bxd5] 26...b4?! [26...Nc7!] 27.cxb4 Qxb4 28.Rc1**

**Qd4 29.Rc2 Qxd3 30.Kh2 e4?** [30...Qb3] Black has fought hard to get a slight

advantage from what was earlier a bad position, now it all goes away with one bad move! **31.Rd2!**

**Qb3 32.Qxb3 Rxb3 33.Bxe4 Rb5** (*Diagram left*)

**34.Ra3?! Here Josh misses his chance!** [34.Bf3!

Simply moving out of the way of any Knight moves. 34...Kf8 35.Ra1 Kg7 (35...Ke7 36.Re1+ Kf8 37.Red1+-) 36.Rad1+-] **34...Rd7 35.Rad3 Nc3 36.Rxd7 Nxe4 37.Re2?! [37.Ra2] 37...f5 38.g4 Nf6 39.Rd6?** Last chance to win is... [39.Rd8+ Kg7 40.g5 Ne4 41.h4 Rb6 42.f3 Rd6 43.Rc8 Rd2 44.Rxd2 Nxd2 45.Rc3 And the Knight is trapped! This forces Black to make weak moves, losing more material to try and save it. 45...Nb1 46.Rd3] **39...Kg7 ½-½**



**Sicilian Dragon**

Saint Louis Open

W: Frank Smith (1962)

B: WIM Iryna Zenyuk (2280)

*WIM sacrificed a piece for three pawns, leading to an unbalanced battle. Annotation by LM Ron Luther* **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3**

**Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.0-0-0 d5** is Blacks most played move here. **9...Bd7 10.g4 Rc8 11.h4 Ne5 12.h5 Nxf3?! (Diagram)** While interesting, I doubt the

soundness of this sacrifice. **13.Nxf3 Bxg4 14.Be2 Bxh5 15.Ng5?! [15.Kb1 Qa5 16.Rh4 Bg4 17.Nd5 Qxd2 18.Bxd2 Nxd5 19.Rxg4] 15.Nd4 Bxe2 16.Ndx2±]**

**15...Bxe2 16.Qxe2 Rxc3 17.bxc3 Qa5 18.Qc4! Ng4 [18...h6 19.Nf3 b5** This

seems to offer some good play.] **19.Rxh7?** [19.Bd2 Nf2 20.Rdf1 This leaves

White in control.] **19...Bxc3?** [19...Nxe3! 20.Rxg7+ Kxg7 21.Qd4+ f6 22.Ne6+

Kf7 23.Qxe3 Kxe6µ] **20.Qb3 [20.Rd3 After the game we thought this won, but**

it seems it does not. 20...Bf6!-+ 21.Bd2 Bxg5 22.Rdh3 Qxd2+ 23.Kb2 Nh6]

**20...Nxe3 21.Rxf7 Nc4 22.Rxf8+ Kxf8 23.Rf1+ Ke8 24.Qxc4 Qxg5+ 25.Kb1**

**Bf6 26.Qc8+ Kf7 27.Qxb7 Kg7 28.Qd5 Qe3 29.Qc4 a5 30.Rc1?** [30.Qd3=]

**30...Qb6+ 31.Qb3 Qd4 32.c3 Qxe4+ 33.Qc2 0-1**



Todd Plagemann's first round battle was the closest a local player got to beating a GM.

**Two Knights Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: Todd Plagemann (1932)

B: GM Josh Friedel (2571)

Annotation by

Todd Plagemann

1)e4 e5 2)Nf3 Nc6

3)d4 exd4 4)Bc4

Nf6 5)e5 d5 6)Bb5 Ne4 7)Nxd4 Bc5....The sharpest Move for black leading to risky play. 8)Be3 0-0!? black sacrifices a pawn to keep white's king in the center. I knew the variation coming up but was having trouble recalling the precise moves for white and spent much time getting it right over the board during the game. 9)Nxc6 bxc6 10)Bxc5 Nxc5 11)Bxc6 Ba6, again the sharpest variation. Most players on the black side of this now bail into 11)...Rb8 which supposedly leads to a slight advantage for white. 12)Nc3! the key move for White. Grabbing material at this point gets white an early grave if Qxd5 or Bxa8 black has Qg5 and white is in trouble. 12)...d4 13)Bxa8 dxc3 14) Qxd8 Rxd8 15)b4! Ne6 16)Bc6 Nd4 17) Ba4, and according to Alburt, Dzinzi, and Perelshteyn in "Chess Openings for White, explained" white is + over - here. 17)...f6 18)e6 Nxe6 19)Bb3 Kf7 20) Rd1 Re8 21)Rd7+ Kg6 22)Bxe6 Rxe6+ 23)Kd1 Be2+ 24)Kc1 Ra6 25)Rd5 Rxa2 26)Ra5 Rb2 27) Re1 Bc4 (diagram) and here if I Play 28)Re3 and



prepare to take the c3 pawn white is winning, but I play 28) Rxa7?? and he immediately played 28)...Ba2 now after the following forced exchanges white will be in a lost king and pawn endgame. 29)Rxa2 Rxa2 30)Kd1 Ra1+ 31)Ke2 Rxe1+ 32)Kxe1 Kf5 I played on for another 10 moves in vain and resigned on move 43. One of the most painful losses I would say I have ever endured in my 30yrs plus career. I however enjoyed the whole weekend and would like to thank Tony and the gang for once again showing what a classy run Tournament is all about. Bill Wright would have loved every moment of it!!!

This game caught my eye when I walked by and saw the White rook out on e5. I was busy playing a horrid mess of my own so I kept walking but thought...gee if we get the game scores this one would be interesting. Of course I picked Hess to win the US Championship last year in our stlchess.com unofficial poll and he almost did but for that bizarre loss to Nakamura. Ok so lets see what GM Hess can do.... Annotation by LM Bob Holliman

**Ruy Lopez**

Saint Louis Open

W: GM Robert Hess (2657)

B: Richard Benjamin (2200)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6

3.Bb5 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6

5.Qe2 0-0 6.0-0 d6

7.Rd1N Novelty on

move 7, at least for my

database. You can see two other games with 7. d3. Here white starts active counterplay plans: d4 could be coming... [7.d3 h6 8.Rd1 (8.Be3 Bb6 9.Nbd2 Bd7 10.Nc4 Ne7 11.Bxd7 Qxd7 12.d4 exd4 13.cxd4 Ng6 14.a4 c6 15.e5 dxe5 16.dxe5 Nd5 17.Rfd1 Qe6 18.Bxb6 Ngf4 19.Qf1 axb6 20.Nd4 Qg4 21.Ra3 Ne6 22.Rg3 Qh5 23.b3 Rad8 24.Rh3 Qg4 25.Rg3 Qh5 26.Rh3 Qg4 27.Rg3 Qh5 1/2-1/2 Kavalek,L-Smejkal,J/Prague 1990/CBM 20) 8...Qe7 9.h3 a6 10.Ba4 Ba7 11.Nbd2 Nh5 12.Nf1 Qf6 7...Qe7 8.h3 Bd7 9.d3 Bb6 10.Na3 Ok, this one stumps me. Perhaps its headed for c4 I mean does not White want to keep the light square bishop (the "Fischer" bishop)? 10...a6 11.Ba4 Ba7 12.Nc2 b5 13.Bb3 Na5 14.Bg5 h6 15.Bh4 g5 16.Bg3 Nh5 17.Bh2 Nf4 18.Bxf4 gxf4 Ok this maneuver looks a bit strange as Black opens up the "G" file for his use but White also gets to use the file. so now here comes the race of who gets where first. 19.d4 Rad8 [19...Kh7 20.dxe5 dxe5 21.Nxe5±] 20.dxe5 dxe5 21.Rd5 Nxb3 22.Rxe5 The zwischenzug - in between move - nets White a pawn and for a GM that's normally all its going to take but look at the next few moves and how easily Hess picks up pawns here and there... 22...Be6 23.axb3 Qd6 24.Ncd4 Bxd4 25.cxd4 Bxb3 26.Rf5 Be6 27.e5 Punch and counter-punch, Hess just keeps picking up pawns 27...Qc6 28.Rxf4 Rd7 29.Rf6 Kg7 30.Nh4 (diagram) Ah to be able to play like this - leave the pawn undefended because Nf5 would pick up the rook and while you are doing that you are also freeing up the diagonal to bring the queen over to meet the Black king. 30...Qc4 31.Qh5 Rh8 32.Ra3 Rh7 33.Rg3+ Kh8 34.Qxh6 Rd8 35.Qg5 Qxd4 36.Rh6 Qd2 37.Qg7# 1-0



Ken West (sorry, that's GM Ken West) scored 50% in the tournament, but he earned those points the hard way. Landing upsets early meant he played up every round, giving him pairings against five opponents averaging 430 points above him. His 2.5 must be considered a huge success for a player ranked where he was in the field. Below, Ken talks about his experience over the weekend, and annotates his favorite game.

## Playing the Colle to get back to Class D! By Ken West

And yes that does rhyme. I looked it up on chessposter.com. It is pronounced Kaw-lee. Otherwise this would have been titled "On the roll, using the Colle" to rhyme with the other pronunciation I have heard. But I digress. The fine editor of the MCB apparently wanted something from a lower class player so as not to clog up the thinking process of the higher rated. I am not a grandmaster, but do play one at the St. Louis club.



In the St. Louis/Bill Wright Open, I was able to gain about 170 rating points for my 2.5 in the reserve. Using the Colle, I had a win over the higher-rated Joe Hoffman, a come-from-behind draw with higher rated Don Harper and Ed Baur, also higher rated, beat my Colle. Obviously I still have a lot to learn about the opening system. While it may not suit the style of young, attacking or tactical players, the slow build up has helped me, not only in gaining the rating points, but in understanding ideas behind openings in general. For those who don't know, the idea behind the Colle is a d4 opening with an early e3. There is a slow buildup to push the pawn to e4. "Colle System" by George Koltanowski is a great place to start for those who want to not only understand the opening, but to get a quick how-to in the ideas behind it. For the unwary opponent on the black side, if white is able to push the pawn to e4 and it doesn't get traded, the push to e5 makes the slow Colle explode. If white drives away the knight on f6, white can sometimes look to sacrificing the bishop on h7. That can set up the classic attack of N to g5 followed by the queen to h5. Another common mistake I have seen in the short time I have played the Colle, is black attacking the white squared bishop, which is key to keep on the board for the Colle player. I have been surprised by the number of times higher rated players have pushed their pawn on c5 to c4 to attack the white-squared bishop. In that case, white should be able to push the e pawn and get the advantage in the center. As the following example shows, I have a way to go.

### Colle System

Saint Louis Open

W: Ken West (1125)

B: Joe Hoffman (1585)

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.e3 b6** OK, now I know I don't usually see this. Tony Rich played it against me earlier this year in a Knights tournament. I remember losing it, but b6, c'mon, who plays Queen's Indian, if that is even what it is. Probably not, because some pawn is probably not in the right place. My small book knowledge is gone, so I decide to go with the basic setup. I should probably play c4, but play slow for the e4 buildup. **4. Bd3 Bb7 5.Nd2 Be7 6.O-O O-O 7. e4** Pushing even before I castle—no rush to castle here, I think, but again, I only play a grandmaster at the club and am in fact, not. However, Koltanowski says to push the pawn as soon as it is safe to do so. And here it is. **7...d6 8. b3 c5** Don't ask me to explain all my moves, after all this is about trying to get back to Class D. **9 Re1 cxd4** When black has the dark square bishop fianchetto in the King's Indian, d4 has given me problems. That's one of the reasons I dropped a pawn early in the Harper game. In this position I don't have that problem. **10. Nxd4 Nd7 11. c4 Nc5** Now, this isn't really a Colle. Again, referring to Kotanowski, whenever your opponent doesn't challenge in the center early, go for an advantageous Queen's Gambit opening. In this position, white controls a lot of space. That's chess lingo by the way. Joe plays Nc5, attacking the much needed white squared bishop But the black knight's move also weakens his e5. **12.Bc2 Re8 13. Bb2 Bf8 14. b4 Nd7** The third move by this knight, back to whence he came. **15. a3 a6 16.Rc1 Rc8 17.Bb1 Rc7 18.Ndf3 Qa1** (*diagram*) I wondered why the rook went to c7. Plus, instead of Nd4-f3, I should look at f4. But I also figured that would weaken



e4 way too much, especially with the bishop-queen battery that would directly hit g2 after a push to e5. That b7 bishop hampered a lot of my game. Because of its control over the a8-h1 diagonal, I almost overlooked a later mate in one when the black queen checks on the back rank, delivering mate. **19. e5 Ng4** Here I expected dxe5, I would take on e5 with the bishop and black would retreat his rook or taking with the knight and I have my rook at e5. But don't ask where I would put the rook after Bd6. His d pawn and both knights are attacking the e pawn. Not what I had in mind if the knight left f6, but the idea remains the same. **20. Bxh7 (diagram) Kh8** The bishop sac on h7 is why I love this. But he should take the bishop, and after I check Ng5, regardless of where the king goes, the knight falls and I am up the pawn. After he didn't take the bishop, should I then play Ng5 or retreat the bishop? I'm just trying to get back to Class D, so don't ask me. (Again bad rhymes and not even iambic pentameter.) **21. Ng5 Nxe5 22. BxNe5 dxe 23. Qh5 Nf6** If instead



22..dxe, if he had played 22...Nxe5, then: 23.RxNe5 dxRe5 24. Qh5 Re-e7 25. Bg6+ Kh7, 26. Qh7mate. If 24. Qh5 g6 25.Bxg6+, Qh7 mate. Or 24.Qh5 g6 25.Nxf7+ RxNf7 26. Bxg6+, if 26..Kg7 27.Qh7 mate, and if 26..Kg8, 27. BxRf7+ Kg7 28. Qg6+ Kh8 29. Qg8 mate. **24. Nxf7+ RxNf7 25. QxRf7 KxBh7** I am not so happy now. He has three minors, with both bishops, a rook and queen against my two rooks, queen and knight. My pawn on g2 is weak and the location of my queen makes her vulnerable to attack. The plus for me is I can harass his king with my rooks quickly. **26. Re3 Bxg2** Also stops Rh3 check with mate to follow. **27. Rc-c3 Ng4 28. Qh5+ Nh6 29. Rg3 Bc6 30. Qg6+ Kh8 31. Rh3 Qd8** Attacking my undefended knight and thus giving the queen time to come to the king side defense.. I am not at all happy now. **32. Nf3** Also stops black's threat of Qd1 mate to follow but the knight also can't move or Qd1 again mates. **32..Re7** In the following position, I am probably missing all kinds of continuations. **33. Rd3 Rd7 34.Nxe5 RxRd3 35. Nf7+ Kg8 36.RxRd3 Qf6** Did not make the best moves here. I am sure there is much better. **37. NxN+ Kh8** Not good. My knight under attack, my queen under attack and I almost overlooked Qa1 for black. **38. QxQ gxQ 39.Rd8 Kg7 40. Ng4** And I eventually won playing knight and rook against two bishops. I don't recommend it. But that is just an example of the fun the slow Colle can be.

My draw with Don Harper was not due to the Colle, but a lucky tactical shot late in the game that made up for being two pawns down. I also lost to Ed Baur. Both played a King's Indian set up, which Koltanowski believed to be the best play against the Colle..

But here is the overall point. The Colle not only helps you get out of the opening without being surprised, it also teaches ideas in advancing your center pawns. After playing the Colle a few times, I find I better understand play in the center, even in king pawn games. Also, my center pawn structure appears to be better structured. If you don't want to spend reams of time to study an opening, check out the Colle. Now for a black response to e4 where I don't have to know line after line... The Ponziano?

Onward and upward (to C class)!

## Greater Kansas City Open — May 15th, 2010

### \*Missouri Invitational Qualifier\*

4SS,G/60. Location: The Plex at Noland Road Baptist Church,  
4505 S. Noland Rd, Independence, MO 64055

♙ Prizes: Prizes based on score: 4.0-\$80, 3.5-\$50, 3.0 \$25, 2.5-\$10

♙ Entry Fee: \$20 Site entries cash only.

♙ Registration: 9-9:45am. Rounds: 10am, 12:30, 3, 5:30

♙ MCA membership required for MO residents

Advance entries/info:

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*At the St. Louis open, the St. Louis "Blitz King" had another solid performance in classic chess, scoring 3/5. This left him just short of the expert mark, but that treasured barrier would quickly fall in his next event.*

## Goodbye A!!! By Joseph Garnier

Ladies and gentlemen I've done it! After eight years of playing tournaments I've finally crossed the 2000 barrier! Hopefully you don't think it's in bad taste to begin an article with such a narcissistic tone but personally I could care less what you think because I'm happy! Being able to say I'm an expert not only looks great on my resume, but also gives me quite a complacent feeling of accomplishment. As a chess player and teacher I feel that it's my civic duty to help others attain new chess heights.

Last September I was rated 1864 and after ten months and seven tournaments my rating had basically stagnated. Even though I was playing through Grandmaster games and learning new openings I wasn't getting any better. This intrigued me because it seemed unusual that even with regular study that someone wouldn't gain at least a few rating points. It was then that I had a revelation! I realized that being knowledgeable about chess and being a good tournament player were two almost totally different things! Knowledgeable chess players can talk all day about openings and strategy but when it comes to swimming through an unfamiliar tactical position they're lost! A good tournament player on the other hand will buckle down and grind their way through the fog. Even if the game lasts six hours, they'll still be pushing when most of us have given up, offered draws, dropped a queen, or simply fallen asleep at the board. Endurance is the attribute that all great chess players share! Knowledge is nothing if you cannot apply it and you're no good if you cannot concentrate. Once I understood the seemingly obvious bit of information I decided to overhaul my study plan. Over the last six months I've spent an average of an hour a day doing difficult chess puzzles. On average they take about ten minutes to solve and thus reward you for taking your time! Along with positive reinforcement for patience, these puzzles also help with your ability to concentrate. Although I still have trouble sitting still at the board, I feel that the puzzles have helped improve my ability to concentrate and are thus almost solely responsible for my recent rating increase.

### Najdorf Sicilian

Saint Louis Open

W: Joseph Garnier (1950)

B: John Roush (1806)

I'd now like to annotate a short game I played at the St. Louis open. I'll give you fair warning that my comments are written for amusement and educational value. I'll apologize to my opponent in advance and please no hard feelings. **1.e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6** (Much better and cooler is 5...g6!!! because that's the Dragon and the Dragon rules! This variation is called the Najdorf and it's named after a dude named Najdorf.) **6. Bg5** (I can do other stuff here but I don't like it as much.) **6. e6 7. f4 7...Qa5!?** (I've never seen this move before but according to my friend and all around cool guy Alex Marler it's playable. I thought it allowed me to imbalance the pawn structure with 8. Bxf6 and thus make the game interesting. Although black's pawns look rather funny, his king is quite well positioned in the center.) **8. Bxf6 gxf6 9. Qf3 Nd7 10. Bc4** (9. f5 is somewhat tempting but not very strong. Black could simply hop his knight to the e5 square and annoy everything. This is a common idea in the Sicilian Defense and I figured my opponent knew about it.) **10...Nb6??** (This move is just bad! As tempting as it was to attack my bishop the better choice was 9...b5 or 9...Qb4. The knight on b6 gets in the way of everything black usually does in the Sicilian Defense! Not to mention the fact that I can play f5 now without worrying about e5.) **11. Bb3 Rb8 12. f5** (I thought I was winning here because..... I was. Black's best option is to stand still and take it like a man.) **12...Qe5 13. 0-0-0 h5 14. fxe6** (London Bridge is falling down, falling down, falling down.) **13...Bh6+** (Always check it might be mate!) **15. Kb1 fxe6 16. Rhe1** (I spent two minutes looking at Nf5 until I realized that I didn't need to give anything away. What's he gonna do?) **16...0-0?** (Diagram) (I understand now! He's forcing me to play Nf5. I can't resist mocking his e pawn.) **17. Nf5 Kh7?** (Now the end is like Germany and Poland.) **18. Nxe6 Nd7 (Kxe6 Qe3+) 19. Nf5 Qxh2 20. Rh1 Ne5 21. Qe2 1-0.**



White's surprising move here starts a powerful attack.

## Games of the Saint Louis Open

Vikram Arun has been on a tear over the last few months, and he continued his run of impressive performances at the Saint Louis Open. Here Vikram annotates his final round upset over another up and coming player.

### Caro Kann Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Daniel Gurevich (2141)

B: Vikram Arun (1839)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5  
3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3

This is a sideline compared to the

standard Panov Attack with 4.c4. 4...Nc6 5.c3 Nf6 6.Bf4 e6 7.Nf3 Bd6 8.Bg3 0-0 9.0-0 Re8 10.Nbd2 Bxg3 11.hxg3 Qb6 12.Qc2 h6 13.Rae1 Bd7 14.Ne5 Rac8 15.Nxc6 [15.Nxd7 Nxd7= And the c-file is under pressure] 15...bxc6?! [15...Bxc6 16.Qb3 Qa5=] 16.Nb3 Now white has a slight advantage because of the open c5 square. 16...Rb8 17.Re2 Bc8 18.Nc5 Nd7 19.Nxd7 [19.Na4 Qc7 20.Rc1 Bb7=] 19...Bxd7 20.b4 Bc8 Aiming to relocate the bishop to a6. 21.a4 Ba6 22.a5 Bxd3 23.Qxd3 Qb5 24.Qd2 Re7 25.Rfe1 Rbe8 26.g4 Qc4 Tying the white queen down to protecting c3. 27.g3 f6 28.f4 e5 Initiating a long series of exchanges along the e-file. 29.fxe5 fxe5 30.Rxe5 Rxe5 31.Rxe5 Rxe5 32.dxe5 Qxg4= 33.Qe3 Qd1+ 34.Kf2 Qc2+ 35.Ke1 Qb1+ 36.Kd2 Qa2+ 37.Kc1 Qa1+ 38.Kc2 Qa2+ 39.Kd1 Qb1+ 40.Ke2 Qc2+ 41.Kf3 a6?! A gamble in a drawn position. [41...Qf5+ 42.Ke2 Qc2+=] 42.g4 [42.e6 Perhaps white's best move, although still drawish. 42...Qf5+ 43.Kg2 Qc2+ 44.Kg1 Qb1+ 45.Kf2 Qc2+ 46.Kf1 Qf5+ Still looks like a draw] 42...Qh2 43.Qe1?? The turning point in the game. White could have taken the draw with 43.e6 or 43.

Qd4. 43...Qh3+! 44.Kf4 [44.Qg3 Qxg3+ 45.Kxg3 Kf7 46.Kh4 g6 47.Kg3 Ke6 48.Kf4 h5 49.Ke3 Kxe5] 44...Kf7! 45.e6+

Ke7 46.Qe2 Qxc3!-+ (Diagram right) Playing for a mate trap 47.Qxa6 Falling for the mate trap, even though the white position is likely lost [47.g5 Qc4+] 47...g5+

48.Kf5 Qf6# This was a nice game even though there were many drawing chances for white. The white king became very suffocated and I managed to take advantage of it. 0-1



Here White wants to grab the a pawn to maintain material equality. Can he survive after taking it?

### Modern Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Rhee William (1995)

B: Bob Holliman (2202)

1.Nf3 d6 2.d4 Bg4  
3.e4 g6 4.h3 Bxf3  
5.Qxf3 Bg7 6.Bc4  
e6 7.c3 a6 8.0-0 c6

9.Qe2 d5 10.exd5 cxd5 11.Bd3 Ne7 12.Nd2 Nbc6 13.Nf3 Qd7 14.Bf4 Rc8 15.Rfe1 0-0 16.a4 Kh8 17.Nd2 Rfe8 18.Nb3 Ra8 19.Nc5 Qc8 20.b4 Nb8 21.a5 Nd7 22.Qd2 Nc6 23.Bd6 e5 24.dxe5 Ncxe5 25.Bf1 Qc6 26.Bxe5 Nxe5 27.Rad1 Rad8 28.f4 Nd7 29.Qxd5 Rxe1 30.Qxc6 bxc6 31.Rxe1 Nxc5 32.bxc5 Bxc3 33.Rc1 Bxa5 34.Bxa6 Bd2 35.Rc4 Re8 36.Kf2 Re7 37.Kf3 f5 38.Rd4 Be3 39.Rd8+ Kg7 40.Rc8 Bxc5 41.Rxc6 Re3+ 42.Kf2 Ba7 43.Rc7+ Re7+ 0-1

### French Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Jialin Ding (2047)

B: Kyle Miles (1872)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3  
Nf6 4.Bg5 Bb4 5.e5  
h6 6.exf6 hxg5 7.fxg7  
Rg8 8.Nge2 Qf6

9.Qd3 Bd7 10.a3 Ba5 11.0-0-0 Na6 12.g3 0-0-0 13.Bg2 c5 14.Rhf1 Kb8 15.dxc5 Nxc5 16.Qd4 Qxd4 17.Rxd4 Bb6 18.Rdd1 Bc6 19.Nd4 Rxg7 20.Nxc6+ bxc6 21.b4 Nd7 22.h3 Ne5 23.Na4 Nc4 24.Nxb6 axb6 25.Rd3 e5 26.Rfd1 Kc7 27.b5 f5 28.bxc6 e4 29.Rxd5 Rxd5 30.Rxd5 Rf7 31.Bf1 Nd6 32.Bb5 Nxb5 33.Rxb5 Kxc6 34.Re5 Kd6 35.Re8 Rh7 36.Rg8 Rxh3 37.Rxg5 f4 38.gxf4 Rxa3 39.Re5 Rf3 40.Rxe4 Rxf2 41.Kb2 Kd5 42.Rb4 Kc5 43.Kb3 b5 44.Re4 Rf1 45.Kc3 b4+ 46.Kd3 Rf3+ 47.Kd2 Rf2+ 48.Kd3 Rf3+ 49.Ke2 Rc3 50.Kd2 Rf3 51.Ke1 Rc3 52.Re2 b3 53.cxb3 Rxb3 54.Kf2 Kd6 55.Re5 Rb2+ 56.Kg3 Rb1 57.Kg4 Rh1 58.Re2 Rh8 59.Kg5 Rg8+ 60.Kf6 Ra8 61.f5 Ra1 62.Kf7 Ra7+ 63.Kg6 Ra1 64.f6 Rg1+ 65.Kf7 Rf1 66.Kg7 Rg1+ 67.Kf8 Rf1 68.f7 Kd7 69.Rd2+ Kc6 70.Rd4 Rf2 71.Kg7 Rg2+ 72.Kf6 Rh2 73.f8Q 1-0

### Modern Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Jason Kasick (2092)

B: Spencer Finegold (1926)

1.d4 d6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3  
Bg7 4.e4 Nc6 5.Be3  
e5 6.Nge2 f5 7.f3 Nf6  
8.d5 Ne7 9.Qd2 0-0

10.0-0-0 a6 11.Kb1 Bd7 12.Nc1 Rb8 13.Bd3 b5 14.c5 b4 15.N3e2 Bb5 16.Nb3 fxe4 17.Bxe4 c6 18.cxd6 Nexd5 19.Bc5 a5 20.g4 a4 21.Nbc1 Qa5 22.g5 Nc3+ 23.Nxc3 bxc3 24.Qc2 Bc4 25.Ba3 Nd5 26.Bxd5+ cxd5 27.Ka1 Rxb2 0-1

### Caro Kann Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Jim Voelker (2140)

B: Peter Harris (1585)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5  
3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nc6  
5.cxd5 Qxd5 6.Nf3  
Bg4 7.Be2 Nf6 8.Nc3

Qa5 9.0-0 e6 10.h3 Bh5 11.Be3 Be7 12.a3 0-0 13.b4 Qc7 14.Rc1 a6 15.g4 Bxg4 16.hxg4 Nxg4 17.Kg2 Bh4 18.Qd2 Rad8 19.Rh1 Bf6 20.Ne4 h6 21.Nxf6+ Nxf6 22.Bxh6 Ne4 23.Qe3 f5 24.Bf4 Qb6 25.Bc4 Rf6 26.Rcd1 Rg6+ 27.Kf1 a5 28.b5 Ne7 29.Ne5 Rf6 30.Qh3 Rh6 31.Bxh6 Rxd4 32.Rxd4 Qxd4 33.Bxe6+ Kf8 34.Bxg7+ Ke8 35.Qh8+ Ng8 36.Qxg8+ Ke7 37.Ng6+ 1-0

**Grunfeld Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: Vince Pinkey (1211)

B: Lou Sarmento (1372)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3  
d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.e3 0-0  
6.Bd3 c6 7.0-0 Bg4  
8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 e6  
10.b3 Nbd7 11.Bb2 a6

12.Rfe1 e5 13.cxd5 e4 14.Bxe4 Nxe4 15.Nxe4 cxd5  
16.Nc3 Nf6 17.Rad1 Re8 18.e4 dxe4 19.Nxe4 Nd5  
20.Ng3 Qa5 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.a3 Qd8 23.Rd2 Re1+  
24.Kh2 Qd6 25.Re2 Rxe2 26.Qxe2 Kf8 27.Kg1 Nf4  
28.Qd2 Kg8 29.Kf1 Nd5 30.Ne4 Qb6 31.Nc5 Qc6 32.b4  
Bf8 33.f3 Bd6 34.Ne4 Qc4+ 35.Kf2 Bf4 36.Qe2 Be3+  
37.Kf1 Qb3 38.Nc5 Qa2 39.Nxb7 Qb1+ 40.Qe1 Qxb2  
41.Nd6 Qxd4 42.Ne4 Kg7 43.Nc5 Nf4 0-1

**Scandinavian Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: Anthony Ford (1738)

B: Mark Ferber (UNR)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6  
3.Nf3 Nxd5 4.d4 Bf5  
5.c3 c6 6.Be2 e6 7.0-0  
Bd6 8.Re1 0-0 9.c4 Nf6

10.Bg5 Nbd7 11.a3 a5 12.Nc3 h6 13.Bh4 Be7 14.Bg3 Nh5  
15.Bd3 Nxc3 16.hxc3 Bxd3 17.Qxd3 Bf6 18.Rad1 Nb6  
19.Ne4 Be7 20.Qb3 a4 21.Qe3 Nxc4 22.Qc3 Nb6 23.Nc5  
Nd5 24.Qc2 b5 25.Ne5 Qc7 26.Ned7 Rfd8 27.Qe4 Rxd7  
28.Nxd7 Qxd7 29.Rd3 Nb6 30.g4 Qd5 31.Qe2 Bf6  
32.Red1 Rd8 33.Qe1 Nc4 34.Qb4 Rd7 35.Kh2 Qg5 36.f3  
Bxd4 37.Rxd4 Rxd4 38.Re1 Qd2 39.Qc5 Qxe1 40.Qxd4  
Qe5+ 0-1

**Giuoco Piano**

Saint Louis Open

W: William Immer (1524)

B: Ken West (1125)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6  
3.Bc4 Bc5 4.d3 Nf6  
5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 h6  
7.Bh4 g5 8.Bg3 Be6

9.Bb5 Qd7 10.d4 exd4 11.Nxd4 Bxd4 12.Bxc6 Bxc3+  
13.bxc3 Qxc6 14.0-0 0-0 15.f3 Qxc3 16.Bf2 d5 17.Qd4  
Qxd4 18.Bxd4 Nd7 19. Bxh8 Rxh8 20.exd5 Bxd5  
21.Rfe1 Be6 22.a4 h5 23.a5 a6 24.c3 Bd5 25.Re3 f5  
26.Rae1 Kd8 27.Kf2 g4 28.f4 h4 29.h3 g3+ 30.Kg1 Be4  
31.Rd1 c6 32.Re2 Kc7 33.Red2 Rh7 34.Kf1 Nc5 35.Kg1  
Rd7 36.Rxd7+ Nxd7 37.Rd2 Nc5 38.Kf1 Nd3 39.Kg1  
Nxf4 40.Kf1 Bxg2+ 41.Rxg2 Nxg2 42.Kxg2 0-1

**Sicilian Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: Peter Harris (1585)

B: Nathan Swinger (1912)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4  
cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3  
d6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nf3 h6  
8.0-0 Be7 9.Re1 Be6

10.Be3 d5 11.exd5 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 Bxd5 13.c4 Be6  
14.Qa4 0-0 15.a3 Qc7 16.Rad1 f5 17.b4 f4 18.Bc1 e4  
19.Nd4 Nxd4 20.Rxd4 Qe5 21.Bb2 f3 22.Bxf3 Rxf3  
23.Rd8+ Rxd8 24.Bxe5 Rfd3 25.Qc2 Bg5 26.Bc3 Rxc3  
27.Qxc3 Bd2 28.Qa1 Bxe1 29.Qxe1 Bxc4 30.h3 Bd3  
31.Qc3 a6 32.Qc7 Rd5 33.Qxb7 Rg5 34.h4 Rg6 35.Qc8+  
Kf7 36.Qd7+ Kf8 37.f3 Bb1 38.Qf5+ Rf6 39.Qc5+ Kf7  
40.fxe4 Bxe4 41.Qc4+ Re6 42.Qc7+ Kf6 43.a4 Bc6  
44.Qd8+ Kf7 45.Qc7+ Kf6 46.Qa5 Be4 47.b5 axb5  
48.axb5 Re7 49.Kf2 g6 50.g4 g5 51.hxc5+ hxc5 52.Ke3  
Bb7+ 53.Kd4 Be4 54.Qd8 Kf7 55.Qxe7+ 1-0

**Evans Gambit**

Saint Louis Open

W: Daniel Parmet (1961)

B: Kevin Cao (2180)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6  
3.Bc4 Bc5 4.b4 Bxb4  
5.c3 Bc5 6.d4 exd4  
7.0-0 d6 8.cxd4 Bb6  
9.Qb3 Na5 10.Bxf7+

Kf8 11.Qd1 Kxf7 12.Ng5+ Kf8 13.Nc3 h6 14.Qh5 Qe8  
15.Qf3+ Nf6 16.e5 hxc5 17.exf6 Qh5 18.fxc7+ Kxc7  
19.Qg3 Qh4 20.Qxc5+ Qxc5 21.Bxc5 Bxd4 22.Rac1  
Bd7 23.Ne2 Bb6 24.Rc3 Bb5 0-1

**Nimzowitsch Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: Ron Luther (2204)

B: Leo Donofrio (1871)

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 d5  
3.exd5 Qxd5 4.Nc3  
Qd6 5.h3 e5 6.Bc4 h6  
7.Qe2 a6 8.0-0 Be6

9.Bxe6 Qxe6 10.Re1 Bd6 11.d4 Nxd4 12.Nxd4 exd4  
13.Qd1 Be5 14.f4 Qb6 15.Rxe5+ Kf8 16.Nd5 Qa7  
17.Qe1 1-0

**Phillidor Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: Richard Benjamin (2200)

B: Jennifer Skidmore (1954)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6  
3.Bc4 Be7 4.0-0 Nf6  
5.d3 Bg4 6.Re1 0-0  
7.h3 Bh5 8.c3 Nc6  
9.Nbd2 Re8 10.Nf1

Bf8 11.Ng3 Bg6 12.Bb3 d5 13.Bg5 Qd6 14.Bxf6 dxe4  
15.Bxe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Qxe5 17.Nxe4 Rad8 18.d4 Qf4  
19.Nd2 Bd6 20.Nf1 c5 21.Qg4 Qf6 22.Ne3 h5 23.Qf3  
Qxf3 24.gxf3 cxd4 25.cxd4 Bb4 26.Red1 b5 27.Rac1  
Rd7 28.a4 a6 29.Rc6 Rd6 30.axb5 axb5 31.Rc7 Ba5  
32.Rb7 Rb6 33.Ra7 Bb4 34.Nd5 Rf6 35.Nxf6+ gxf6  
36.Rb7 Re2 37.Rxb5 Bd6 38.Kf1 Re8 39.Rb6 Be7  
40.Re1 Bd3+ 41.Kg2 Kf8 42.Rb7 h4 43.Ba4 1-0

**Scandinavian Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: Jim Voelker (2140)

B: Bob Howe (1699)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5  
3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 c6  
5.Bc4 Nf6 6.Nf3 Bf5  
7.Bd2 Nbd7 8.Qe2 e6

9.0-0-0 Bb4 10.Nh4 Bg4 11.f3 Bh5 12.g4 Bg6 13.Nxc6  
hxc6 14.a3 Bxc3 15.Bxc3 Qc7 16.d5 cxd5 17.Bxd5 0-0-  
0 18.Ba2 Qf4+ 19.Bd2 Qe5 20.Qc4+ Qc7 21.Qa4 Qc5  
22.Rhe1 Nd5 23.Bxd5 exd5 24.Be3 d4 25.Bxd4 Nb6  
26.Bxc5 Nxa4 27.Bg1 Rd7 28.Rxd7 Kxd7 29.b3 Nc3  
30.Bd4 Nb5 31.Bxc7 Rxc7 32.Bf8 f5 33.Re7+ Kc8  
34.Re5 Nd4 35.Rc5+ Nc6 36.gxf5 gxf5 37.Rxf5 a6  
38.Bg7 Rg2 39.Bc3 Kd7 40.Rf7+ Kc8 41.a4 Re2 42.f4  
b5 43.axb5 axb5 44.Rf5 b4 45.Rc5 Kd7 46.Bd2 Rf2  
47.Rc4 1-0

**Queen's Gambit Declined**

Saint Louis Open

W: Sean Trani (1334)

B: Stephen Zhang (1569)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3  
Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.e3 0-  
0 6.Bd3 Re8 7.0-0  
Nbd7 8.Qc2 Nf8  
9.Bd2 dxc4 10.Bxc4

Nd5 11.Rac1 c6 12.a3 b5 13.Ba2 Ba6 14.b4 Rc8  
15.Bb1 Bf6 16.Ne4 h6 17.Nc5 Qb6 18.e4 Nc7 19.Bf4 g5  
20.Bd6 Red8 21.e5 Bg7 22.Nd2 Ne8 23.Nde4 Bb7  
24.Rcd1 Ba8 25.f4 Nxd6 26.Nxd6 Rc7 27.fxc5 hxc5  
28.Rd3 Ng6 29.Nxf7 Nf4 30.Nxd8 Re7 31.Ndxe6 Rxe6  
32.Ba2 Nxd3 33.Bxe6+ Kh8 34.Qxd3 Bxe5 35.Qh3+

**Kg7 36.Rf7+ Kg6 37.Qh7# 1-0****London System**

Saint Louis Open

W: Mark Ferber

(UNR)

B: Tim Harder

(1568)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6  
 3.Bf4 e6 4.e3 c5 5.c3  
 Nc6 6.Bd3 cxd4  
 7.exd4 Bd6 8.Bxd6

Qxd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Re1 Bd7 11.Nbd2 Rac8 12.Ne5 a6  
 13.Re3 b5 14.Nb3 Ne4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.Nxd7 Qxd7  
 17.Rxe4 Ne7 18.Nc5 Qd6 19.a4 Rfd8 20.Qe2 bxa4  
 21.Nxe6 fxe6 22.Rxe6 Qd7 23.Rxe7 Re8 24.Rxe8+ Qxe8  
 25.Qxe8+ Rxe8 26.Kf1 1-0

**Pirc Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: William Tong

(1877)

B: Randy Ho

(2019)

1.d4 d6 2.e4 Nf6  
 3.Nc3 c6 4.Nf3 Bg4  
 5.Be2 e6 6.0-0 Be7  
 7.Bg5 0-0 8.Qd2 d5

9.exd5 cxd5 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Nd1 Nc6 12.c3 Qc7 13.Ne3  
 Bh5 14.h3 Rad8 15.Rad1 a6 16.Rfe1 b5 17.a3 Na5  
 18.Ng4 Be7 19.Nfe5 Bg6 20.Nxg6 hxg6 21.Ne5 Nc4  
 22.Bxc4 bxc4 23.Nxg6 fxc6 24.Rxe6 Rd6 25.Qe2 Bf6  
 26.Re1 Qb6 27.Rxd6 Qxd6 28.Qc2 Bh4 29.Re2 Rf5  
 30.b4 Bd8 31.Re8+ Rf8 32.Re5 Bf6 33.Re3 Bh4 34.g3  
 Bg5 35.f4 Bxf4 36.gxf4 Qxf4 37.Qe2 Rf5 38.Re5 Rg5+  
 39.Rxg5 Qxg5+ 40.Kh2 Kf7 41.Qf3+ Ke6 42.a4 Qd2+  
 43.Kg3 Qe1+ 44.Kg2 Qd2+ 45.Kg3 Qe1+ 46.Kf4 Kd6  
 47.Kg4 Qe6+ 48.Kg3 Qe1+ 49.Kg4 Qe6+ 50.Kg5 Qe8  
 51.Qf4+ Kc6 ½-½

**Nimzo-Indian Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: James Smith

(1699)

B: Rex Sinquefield

(1647)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3  
 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.Nge2  
 Bb7 6.a3 Bxc3+  
 7.Nxc3 0-0 8.Bd3 Qe7

9.0-0 d6 10.e4 e5 11.d5 a5 12.Bd2 Na6 13.Qe2 Nc5  
 14.Bc2 c6 15.b4 axb4 16.axb4 Ncd7 17.dxc6 Bxc6  
 18.Be3 Qe6 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.cxd5 Qe7 21.f3 Rfb8  
 22.Ba4 Qd8 23.Bc6 Rxa1 24.Rxa1 Qc7 25.Qb5 Kf8  
 26.Ra6 Ke7 27.Qa4 Qd8 28.Ra7 h6 29.f4 Kf8 30.Bxd7  
 Nxe4 31.Bf5 Qh4 32.Qd1 Nc3 33.Qd2 Nxd5 34.Bf2  
 Qxf4 35.Qxf4 Nxf4 36.g3 g6 37.Bd7 Nd5 38.b5 Nf6  
 39.Bc6 d5 40.Be3 g5 41.Bc1 Kg7 42.Bb2 d4 43.Re7 Ng4  
 44.Bd5 Rf8 45.h3 Ne3 46.Rxe5 f6 47.Re7+ Kg6 48.Bc6  
 Rb8 49.Be8+ Kf5 50.Bd7+ Kg6 51.Bxd4 Nd5 52.Be8+  
 Kf5 53.Re1 Nc7 54.g4+ Kf4 55.Be3+ Kg3 56.Bf2+ Kxh3  
 57.Bh5 Re8 58.Be3 Nxb5 59.Kf2 Nc3 60.Rh1# 1-0

**Old Indian Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: Dan Juengel

(1893)

B: Paul Mechem

(2003)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6  
 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.Bf4 c6  
 5.Nc3 Nbd7 6.e4 e5  
 7.Be3 Qa5 8.Bd3

exd4 9.Bxd4 Ne5 10.h3 Bxf3 11.gxf3 Nh5 12.Be3 Be7  
 13.f4 Nxd3+ 14.Qxd3 f5 15.e5 Rd8 16.Qxf5 g6 17.Qe4  
 d5 18.cxd5 cxd5 19.Qd4 b6 20.Bd2 0-0 21.Rg1 Bc5  
 22.Qd3 Nxf4 23.Bxf4 Rxf4 24.Rxg6+ Kh8 25.0-0-0 Rxf2  
 26.Rh6 Rd7 27.e6 Qb4 28.Rd2 Rxd2 29.Qxd2 Rg7  
 30.Rf6 Be7 31.Rf5 d4 32.Ne2 Qc4+ 33.Kb1 Qxe6  
 34.Nxd4 Qe4+ 0-1

**London System**

Saint Louis Open

W: Reddivari Dushyanth (1954)

B: Al Howlett

(1886)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6  
 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 Be7 5.h3  
 b6 6.c4 Bb7 7.Bd3 d6  
 8.Nc3 Nbd7 9.0-0 0-0

10.Nb5 Qb8 11.Re1 a6 12.Nc3 Qc7 13.d5 exd5 14.Nxd5  
 Bxd5 15.cxd5 Rfe8 16.e4 Bf8 17.Qd2 b5 18.Re2 c4  
 19.Bc2 a5 20.Rae1 Ne5 21.Nd4 Qb6 22.Bxe5 dxe5  
 23.Nc6 Bb4 24.Nxb4 axb4 25.Qxb4 Rxa2 26.b3 Rb2  
 27.Rd2 Ra8 28.Qc3 Raa2 29.bxc4 b4 30.Qxe5 b3  
 31.Bxb3 Rxd2 32.Qf5 Ra8 33.e5 Qxb3 34.exf6 Rd1  
 35.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 36.Kh2 Qd4 37.Qd7 Qf4+ 0-1

**Scandinavian Defense**

Saint Louis Open

W: Stanley Vehyl (709)

B: Charles Manley

(906)

1.e4 d5 2.e5 d4 3.d3 c5  
 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bf4 Bg4  
 6.Be2 Qd5 7.0-0 0-0-0  
 8.c3 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Qd7

10.Qe2 e6 11.Nd2 dxc3 12.bxc3 Qxd3 13.Qxd3 Rxd3  
 14.Ne4 h5 15.Rfd1 Rxd1+ 16.Rxd1 Be7 17.Nd6+ Bxd6  
 18.exd6 Kd7 19.Rb1 b6 20.a4 Na5 21.Be2 f6 22.Rd1 e5  
 23.Bb5+ Nc6 24.Bc1 Nh6 25.Bxh6 gxh6 26.a5 Rd8  
 27.axb6 axb6 28.f3 Rc8 29.h4 Kd8 30.Ba6 Rb8 31.d7  
 Ne7 32.Bb5 Ra8 33.Rd6 Rb8 34.Rxf6 Nd5 35.Rf8+ Ke7  
 36.Rxb8 1-0

**C3 Sicilian**

Saint Louis Open

W: Bill Thompson (1696)

B: Nolan Hendrickson (1907)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3  
 Nf6 4.Bd3 e6 5.0-0 Be7  
 6.Bc2 0-0 7.e5 dxe5  
 8.Nxe5 Qc7 9.Ng4 b6

10.Na3 Nbd7 11.Re1 Bb7 12.Bd3 Qc6 13.Bf1 Nxc4  
 14.Qxg4 f5 15.Qh3 Rf6 16.d4 Rg6 17.Bf4 Rg4 18.d5  
 Qxd5 19.Rad1 Qc6 20.Rxe6 Qa4 21.Qd3 Qxf4 22.Qxd7  
 Qf3 23.Kh1 Rxc2 24.Qxb7 Qxb7 25.Bxc2 Qc7 26.Kg1  
 Rd8 27.Rde1 Bh4 28.c4 Qf4 29.R6e2 h6 30.Nb5 Qxc4  
 31.Nc7 Kh7 32.Ne6 Rd1 33.Nf8+ Kg8 34.Ng6 Rxe1+  
 35.Rxe1 Bf6 36.Rd1 Bd4 37.Bd5+ Qxd5 38.Ne7+ Kf7  
 39.Nxd5 Bxb2 40.Re1 Bf6 41.Nc7 g5 42.Kg2 h5 43.f3 h4  
 44.Kh3 Bd8 45.Nb5 a6 46.Na7 Bf6 47.Nc8 b5 48.Nd6+  
 Kg6 49.Nb7 c4 50.Re6 b4 51.Rxa6 b3 52.axb3 cxb3 53.  
 Rb6 b2 54.Nd6 g4+ 55.fxc4 f4 56.Ne4 b1Q 57.Rxb1 1-0

**King's Indian**

Saint Louis Open

W: Spencer Finegold (1926)

B: Jialin Ding

(2047)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3  
 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nf3  
 d6 6.0-0 Nbd7 7.Nc3  
 c6 8.b3 Qc7 9.Bb2 e5

10.Qd2 Re8 11.e3 a5 12.Rad1 h6 13.a3 Nh7 14.dxe5  
 dxe5 15.Ne4 b6 16.Qd6 Ra7 17.Nh4 Nb8 18.c5 bxc5  
 19.Qxc5 Na6 20.Qc3 Be6 21.f4 Rb8 22.Nd2 Qb6 23.f5  
 Bxb3 24.Nxb3 Qxb3 25.Rd8+ Nf8 26.Rxb8 Qxb8  
 27.fxc6 fxc6 28.Be4 Qd6 29.Qb3+ Kh7 30.Rxf8 Qxf8  
 31.Nxc6 Qe8 32.Nxe5+ Kh8 33.Ng6+ Kh7 34.Ne7+ Kh8  
 35.Bxc7+ Kxc7 36.Qc3+ Kf8 37.Qf6+ Qf7 38.Ng6+ Ke8  
 39.Bxc6+ Rd7 40. Qh8+ 1-0

**London System**

Saint Louis Open

W: Isaiah Gadson (1963)

B: Derrick Bartotto

(1614)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6  
 3.Bf4 e6 4.e3 c5 5.c3  
 Nc6 6.Bd3 cxd4  
 7.exd4 Bd6 8.Bg3 0-0

9.Nbd2 Re8 10.0-0 e5 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 Bxe5  
13.Nf3 Bg4 14.Be2 Bxg3 15.hxg3 Qb6 16.Qc2 Ne4  
17.Nd4 Bxe2 18.Nxe2 Rac8 19.Rad1 Re5 20.Rd4 Nf6  
21.Rfd1 Rce8 22.Nf4 Re1+ 23.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 24.Kh2  
Ng4+ 25.Kh3 f5 26.Qxf5 Nxf2+ 27.Kh4 Rh1+ 28.Nh3  
Qh6+ 0-1

#### Dutch Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Kevin Johnson (2000)  
B: Bill Thompson (1696)

1.d4 f5 2.e4 fxe4 3.Nc3  
Nf6 4.Bg5 e6 5.Nxe4  
Be7 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.g3  
0-0 8.Bg2 Nc6 9.Nf3  
Rb8 10.0-0 b5 11.d5 exd5 12.Qxd5+ Kh8 13.Rae1 Ne7  
14.Qh5 g6 15.Qc5 d6 16.Qxa7 Nc6 17.Qe3 Bd7 18.Neg5  
Ne5 19.h4 Kg7 20.Nd4 h6 21.Nge6+ 1-0

#### Modern Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Tim Steiner (2077)  
B: Randy Giminez (1800)

1.d4 d6 2.e4 g6 3.Nc3  
Bg7 4.Be3 a6 5.Qd2  
Nd7 6.Nf3 h6 7.0-0-0  
b5 8.e5 e6 9.d5 Nxe5  
10.Nd4 Ne7 11.f4 Ng4

12.h3 Nxe3 13.Qxe3 e5 14.Nf3 Nf5 15.Qe1 0-0 16.fxe5  
dxe5 17.Nxe5 Re8 18.Nc6 Rxe1 19.Nxd8 Rxd1+  
20.Nxd1 Ng3 0-1

#### King's Indian

Saint Louis Open

W: Ben Finegold (2621)  
B: Jialin Ding (2047)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6  
3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0  
5.Bg5 d6 6.e3 Nbd7  
7.Be2 c6 8.0-0 Qc7  
9.b4 Rd8 10.Qb3 Nf8

11.Rac1 e5 12.c5 exd4 13.exd4 d5 14.Bh4 Ne6 15.Rfe1  
Bd7 16.Bf1 Re8 17.Bg3 Nf4 18.Ne2 Bh6 19.Nxf4 Bxf4  
20.Rxe8+ Rxe8 21.Re1 Rxe1 22.Nxe1 Ne4 23.b5 Bxg3  
24.hxg3 Nd2 25.Qb4 Nxf1 26.b6 Qb8 27.Kxf1 axb6  
28.cxb6 Qa8 29.a4 Qa6+ 30.Kg1 Bf5 31.a5 Qe2 32.Nf3  
Bd3 33.Qd2 Qf1+ 34.Kh2 Be4 35.Qa2 Bxf3 36.gxf3  
Qb5 37.Kg2 Kg7 38.Qa3 Qa6 39.Qe7 Qa8 40.Qe5+ Kg8  
41.a6 Qxa6 42.Qb8+ Kg7 43.Qa7 1-0

#### Nimzo-Indian Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Reddivari Dushyanth (1954)  
B: Michael Brooks (2442)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6  
3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nf3 c5  
5.e3 b6 6.Bd3 Bb7 7.0  
-0 Bxc3 8.bxc3 d6

9.Re1 Nc6 10.a3 e5 11.Bc2 0-0 12.e4 Na5 13.Qe2 Re8  
14.Bg5 h6 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.Rad1 Qe7 17.Bxf6 Qxf6  
18.Ba4 Red8 19.Rd2 Rxd2 20.Nxd2 Qe6 21.Qd3 Qe7  
22.Nb3 Rd8 23.Qe2 Nxb3 24.Bxb3 Qg5 25.Rd1 Rxd1+  
26.Bxd1 Qc1 27.Qd3 Bxe4 0-1

#### Scotch Game

Saint Louis Open

W: Lou Sarmento (1372)  
B: Phillip Meyers (1753)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6  
3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 d6  
5.Bc4 Bd7 6.0-0 Nf6  
7.Bg5 Be7 8.Nc3 0-0  
9.Re1 Ne5 10.Bb3 a6

11.a3 c5 12.Nf3 Bg4 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Nd5 Nxf3+  
15.gxf3 Bh3 16.c3 Be5 17.f4 Qh4 18.Qf3 Bf6 19.Kh1  
Kh8 20.Rg1 Be6 21.Rg3 b5 22.Rag1 c4 23.Bc2 Bxd5  
24.exd5 g5 25.Rh3 Qxf4 26.Rxh7+ Kg8 27.Qxf4 1-0

#### Grunfeld Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Mark Ferber (UNR)  
B: Richard Fox (1518)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6  
3.Bf4 c6 4.e3 g6 5.c4  
Bg7 6.Nc3 Nbd7  
7.Ne5 0-0 8.Be2 Nb6

9.c5 Nbd7 10.0-0 Re8 11.b4 Nxe5 12.Bxe5 Bd7 13.a4  
Qc8 14.h3 a6 15.b5 axb5 16.axb5 Rxa1 17.Qxa1 Qa8  
18.Qb2 h6 19.Ra1 Qc8 20.Na4 cxb5 21.Nb6 Qc6  
22.Bxf6 exf6 23.Nxd7 Qxd7 24.Bxb5 Qe6 25.Bxe8  
Qxe8 26.Qxb7 Kh7 27.c6 1-0

#### Closed Sicilian

Saint Louis Open

W: Rex Sinquefield (1647)  
B: John Roush (1806)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6  
3.f4 d6 4.Nf3 g6  
5.Bb5 Bg7 6.d3 e6  
7.0-0 Nge7 8.Qe1

Bd7 9.Bxc6 Bxc6 10.Be3 0-0 11.Qh4 f6 12.Rad1 Qc7  
13.g4 b6 14.Rf2 d5 15.exd5 Nxd5 16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.c4  
Bb7 18.Qg3 Rad8 19.f5 Qxg3+ 20.hxg3 e5 21.fxg6  
Bxf3 22.gxh7+ Kh8 23.Rxf3 e4 24.Rf5 exd3 25.Rd5  
Rxd5 26.cxd5 Kxh7 27.Rxd3 Rd8 28.b3 Kg6 29.Kg2  
Bf8 30.Kf3 Bd6 31.Bf4 a6 1/2-1/2

#### Slav Defense

Saint Louis Open

W: Bob Holliman (2202)  
B: John Veech (2052)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6  
3.e3 Bf5 4.c4 c6  
5.Nc3 e6 6.Nh4 Bg6  
7.Nxg6 hxg6 8.cxd5

exd5 9.a3 Bd6 10.h3 Nbd7 11.Bd3 Qe7 12.b4 Ne4  
13.Qc2 f5 14.b5 0-0 15.bxc6 bxc6 16.0-0 Ndf6 17.Nxe4  
fxe4 18.Be2 c5 19.dxc5 Bxc5 20.Bb2 Rac8 21.Qd2 Bd6  
22.a4 Bb8 23.Bxf6 gxf6 24.Qxd5+ Kg7 25.Rab1 Rfd8  
26.Rb7 Bc7 27.Qb3 Qe5 28.g3 Rd2 29.Qc4 Kh6  
30.Rfb1 Bb6 31.Qxc8 Rxe2 32.Qh8+ Kg5 33.Qh4+ Kf5  
34.Qg4# 1-0

#### Bb5 Sicilian

Saint Louis Open

W: Daniel Gurevich (2136)  
B: Alex Vergilesov (1846)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6  
3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Bb5  
Bg7 5.d3 d6 6.0-0  
Nf6 7.Bg5 0-0 8.Bxc6  
bxc6 9.Qd2 Bg4

10.Nh4 Qb6 11.Rab1 Qb4 12.Bh6 c4 13.h3 Bd7 14.d4  
c5 15.e5 Nh5 16.g4 cxd4 17.Nd5 Qxd2 18.Bxd2 dxe5  
19.Nxe7+ Kh8 20.gxh5 Bf6 21.hxg6 Bxe7 22.Bh6 fxg6  
23.Bxf8 Rxf8 24.Ng2 Bxh3 25.Rfe1 Rf5 26.f4 Bf6  
27.Kh2 Bg4 28.Kg3 h5 29.Re4 g5 30.fxg5 Rxg5 31.Kf2  
Bf5 32.Re2 e4 33.Rg1 e3+ 34.Ke1 Bg4 35.Nf4 Bxe2  
36.Rxg5 Bxg5 37.Nxe2 d3 38.cxd3 cxd3 39.Ng1 Bh4+  
40.Kd1 Bf2 0-1

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# Chess lets kids make some moves

~ Daniel Cailler ~

*For many years Charlie Ward and a host of other volunteers have built up the Columbia Public School District annual chess tournament. The tournament has seen steady growth over the years. This growth was on display this year, as the event broke the 100 player mark for the first time, and drew reporters from both local papers, even landing on the front page with the following article by reporter Daniel Cailler.*

When children ordinarily enter a school gymnasium, there is a lot of yelling and running about. But yesterday morning at Gentry Middle School, the predominant sound was the pitter-patter of plastic chessmen.

Gentry hosted Columbia's 13th annual Columbia Open Chess Tournament for elementary and middle school students. The event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. was open to all students in the Columbia Public Schools district, kindergarten through the seventh grade.

More than 100 kids registered — a record turnout, said Gentry guidance counselor Denise Zimny. "It's a really fun activity. Parents seem very happy that their kids are involved," she said.

Competition is organized by age group — kindergarten through third grade, fourth and fifth grades, and sixth and seventh grades.

Eleven-year-old Grant Roulier and his 9-year-old brother Gabe, who are enrolled in the fifth and third grades respectively at Mill Creek Elementary School, have been playing chess several years and each has had some formal training. They both placed first for their age groups last year.

"I like that it takes a lot of strategy," Grant said. "Some of my friends are really good."

For other kids, such as Mill Creek second-grader Evan Bentinganan, 7, chess is a recent discovery. His father taught him the ropes three months ago. "I wanted to learn because my friends were playing it at school," Evan said.

The tournament had four rounds. No child is eliminated for losing. Each plays through all the rounds, accumulating points based on performance. Future pairings are determined by the points each child has earned. Any tie for first place requires finalists to face off in a 5-minute speed game.

Echoing last year's climax, Grant faced off once again with fellow fifth-grader Zane Durante, 10, who placed second last year. After a few tense minutes, with a small crowd eyeballing every move, Grant used his queen to deliver a checkmate with only seconds left on the clock. Both children shook hands and walked from the table.

Nathan Herting, 7, a second-grader at Mill Creek, placed first in his age group; Grant retained his title; and Bob Herting, 12, a fifth-grader at Gentry, placed first in his age group.

Charlie Ward, a U.S.C.F. certified tournament director, has been helping to organize and run these tournaments for 10 years.

"I like to encourage kids to learn chess because it is clearly beneficial for them to learn," Ward said. "It gives them a sense of responsibility because, across the board, everyone is equal. If you make a mistake, you can't blame someone else. They can feel good about themselves if they play well, because it's not something that has been given to them."

This article was published on page A1 of the Sunday, February 21, 2010 edition of The Columbia Daily Tribune.

<http://www.columbiatribune.com/>



Zane Durante, left, watches as defending champion Grant Roulier prepares to move a piece during a tie-breaking match in the Columbia Open Chess Tournament.

Photo by Parker Eshelman



Matthew Hoepfner, left, a sixth-grader, and Bob Herting, right, a seventh-grader, play speed chess for the tiebreaker for the sixth- and seventh-grade category. Herting won.

Photo by Christiana Nielson

# UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS



## **May 15th—Kansas City Open—Independence**

**\*MO Invitational Qualifier\*** 4SS G/60. The Plex at Noland Road Baptist Church, 4505 S. Noland Rd., Independence, MO 64055. Reg: 8:30-9:30. Rds: 10, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45. Prizes based on score: 4.0-\$80, 3.5-\$50, 3-\$25, 2.5-\$10. EF: \$20. Site entries cash only. MCA req'd for MO residents, available on site from \$5, OSA. Max one 1/2-pt. bye if declared by Rd. 1. Hotel: American Inn, 4141 S. Noland Rd. \$44.95/night. 818-373-8300. Entries/Info: [Bob Holliman](mailto:Bob.Holliman@independencechess.com), PO Box 1871, Independence, MO 64055

## **May 24th, US Championship Blitz Tournament**

9rd G/5, Entry Fee, \$40 for Club Members, \$50 for others, Prize Fund, Guaranteed \$10,000 !!!  
Open section and Reserve (U/2000) Rounds start at 8pm. Entries and Info: (314) 361-CHESS (2437) or [info@saintlouischessclub.org](mailto:info@saintlouischessclub.org) or 4657 Maryland Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63108

## **May 29 – 2nd Annual Show-Me Classic – Saint Louis**

4SS, G/65. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs, deducted from earnings. GMs and IMs are not counted toward the based on prize fund total. EF: \$25, \$20 for annual members of the club if registered 5/27. MCA Membership Req'd from \$5. OSA. PF: \$750 (b/40): \$100 1st/\$25 2nd in each M/X, A, B, C, D, U1200/UNR. Winner qualifies for 2011 Club Championship. Reg: 9 - 9:45. Rds: 10, 12:30, 3, 5:30. One 1/2 point bye if declared before round 1. Hotel: Water Tower Inn at 314-977-7500 ask for the "chess rate" of \$70/night. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. 314-361-CHESS.

## **June 12th—Mizzou Quads - Columbia**

3RR, G/75. Memorial Union room N208, 518 Hitt St, Columbia. Directions: From I-70 exit 126, south on Providence, east on Rollins, north on Hitt. Entry Fee: \$20 mailed by 3/14, \$25 at site. First prize each quad \$70. Site entries cash only. Reg: 9:30-10:15. Rounds: 10:30-1:15-4:00. Entries/Info: Charles Ward, 2400 Cimarron Drive, Columbia, MO 65203, 573-443-6685 <[czar8196@gmail.com](mailto:czar8196@gmail.com)>

## **June 19<sup>th</sup>— Super Team Championship—St. Louis**

4SS, G/65. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Entry Fee: \$75 for 3 person team, \$60 for 3 person team that are all annual members of club if registered by 6/18. MCA Membership Req'd from \$5. OSA. PF: \$1,200 Unconditionally Guaranteed! Championship Team: \$500. 1st Place Team with aggregate rating under 4800: \$400. 1st Place Team with aggregate rating under 3800: \$300. 1st Place team members qualify for 2011 Club Championship. Reg: 9-9:45. Rds: 10, 12:30, 3, 5:30. Ad Hoc teams formed at the door. Hotel: Water Tower Inn at 314-977-7500 ask for the "chess rate" of \$70/night. Ent: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at [saintlouischessclub.org](http://saintlouischessclub.org) Info: 314-361-CHESS [info@saintlouischessclub.org](mailto:info@saintlouischessclub.org).

## **July 3rd-4th—Missouri Class Championships—Columbia**

**\*MO Invitational Qualifier\*** 5SS, G/120. (Novice/U1000 section plays Saturday only, 4rd G/60); Best Western Inn, 3100 I-70 Dr SE, Columbia, MO 65201; Prizes: b/7 per class: \$100-1st, \$50-2nd, each: M/X, A, B, C, D, E, Novice (U1000/Unr); Missouri State Championship Plaque to winner of each section! M/X winner receives Invitation to the Missouri Invitational. Players play only those in their own Class. (Small sections may be combined. Combined section use prize pairing in last round) Registration: 8:30-9:30; Round times: Sat-10-2:30-7, Sun-9:30-2. (Novice: Sat-10-12:30-2:30-5) Entry Fee: \$30 if marked by 6/20, \$35 at site. Site entries cash only. Novice section \$10 less. Max 1 half bye; MCA required, O.S.A., available on site from \$5. Hotel Rate: \$69/night, Free breakfast & Free Wi-Fi w/ hotel room 573-474-6161, mention CHESS. Entries/Info: Bob Howe, 311 E. Walnut St. Pacific, MO 63069 (636) 234.7928

## **July 24—St. Louis Premiere and Amateur**

4SS, G/90. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs, deducted from earnings. GMs and IMs are not counted toward the based on prize fund total. EF: \$40, \$30 for annual members of the club if registered by 6/22. MCA Membership Req'd from \$5. OSA. Two Sections:

Premiere & Amateur(U1600). PF:(b/40) \$1,200: Each Section \$225-\$150-\$100-\$75-\$50 (1st-5th). Winners of Premiere and Amateur Sections qualify for 2011 Club Championship. Reg: 8-8:45. Rds: 9, 12:15, 3:45, 7. One 1/2 point bye if declared before round 1. Hotel: Water Tower Inn at 314-977-7500 ask for the "chess rate" of \$70/night. Ent: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at [saintlouischessclub.org](http://saintlouischessclub.org) Info: 314-361-CHESS [info@saintlouischessclub.org](mailto:info@saintlouischessclub.org).

**August 14th-15th Missouri State Invitational Championship and Amateur Championship! - St. Louis Amateur Championship:** 5SS, G/120. Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. **Reg:** 8:30-9:30. **Rds:** Sat-10/2:30/7, Sun-9:30/2. One Section. **\$\$b/40:** \$250-1<sup>st</sup> Overall, Class prizes: \$120-1<sup>st</sup> in each X, A, B, C, D, E, U1000/Unr. **EF:** \$30 if rec'd by 8/7. \$40 on site. Site entries cash only. Max one 1/2-pt bye. MCA req'd for MO residents, available on site from \$5, OSA. **HR:** Chase Park Plaza Hotel, 1-877-587-2427, \$159/night. Parkway Hotel, 314-256-7777, \$97/night. Water Tower Inn, 314-977-7500, \$70/night. **Entries/Info:** Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice St., Jefferson City, MO 65109. [JCChess89@yahoo.com](mailto:JCChess89@yahoo.com), 573-291-0852.

**Missouri State Invitational:** (By invitation only) 5SS, G/120. Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. **Reg:** 8:30-9:30. **Rds:** Sat-10/2:30/7, Sun-9:30/2. **\$\$b/20:** \$500-1<sup>st</sup>, \$250-2<sup>nd</sup>, \$125-3<sup>rd</sup>. **EF:** Free—courtesy of the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis. MCA Memb. req'd. **HR:** Chase Park Plaza Hotel, 1-877-587-2427, \$159/night. Parkway Hotel, 314-256-7777, \$97/night. Water Tower Inn, 314-977-7500, \$70/night. Ask for chess rate. Full information regarding qualification and earning an invitation available at [www.mochess.org](http://www.mochess.org). **Entries/Info:** Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice St., Jefferson City, MO 65109. [JCChess89@yahoo.com](mailto:JCChess89@yahoo.com), 573-291-0852.

#### **August 28th—Mikhail Tal Open - Columbia**

3SS, G/75. Memorial Union room N208, 518 Hitt St., Columbia, MO. Directions: From I-70 exit 126, south on Providence, east on Rollins, north on Hitt. Entry fee: \$1, NO PRIZES—Just the satisfaction of playing well. Two rating equivalent sections if 18+ players. Reg: 9:30-10:15. Rds: 10:30-1:15-4:00. Entries/Info: Charles Ward, 2400 Cimarron Drive, Columbia, MO 65203, 573-443-6685 <[czar8196@gmail.com](mailto:czar8196@gmail.com)>

#### **Sept 4-5 Saint Louis Districts—St. Louis**

5SS, G/120. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs, deducted from earnings. EF: \$60, \$50 for annual members of the club if registered by 9/3. MCA Membership Req'd from \$10. OSA. One Section. PF: \$2,525 Unconditionally Guaranteed! \$600-\$400-\$200. U2000 \$300-\$200-\$100. U1600 \$225-\$125-\$75. U1200 \$150-\$100-\$50. Top 2 finishers qualify for 2011 Club Championship. Reg: 9-9:45. Rds: 10, 2:15, 6:30. Sunday: 9, 1:15. One 1/2 point bye if declared before round 1. Hotel: Water Tower Inn at 314-977-7500 ask for the "chess rate" of \$70/night. Ent: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at [saintlouischessclub.org](http://saintlouischessclub.org) Info: 314-361-CHESS [info@saintlouischessclub.org](mailto:info@saintlouischessclub.org).

#### **Sept 17th-19th Missouri Chess Festival, featuring the Missouri Open -Columbia**

**October 9th 2-on-2 Team Tournament—St. Louis**

**Oct 30th Trick or Treat Open - Columbia— 3Rd G/75**

**Nov 26-28 Thanksgiving Open—St. Louis 6rd G/120**

**December 18th— End of Year Bash— St. Louis 4rd G/75**

*Visit [www.mochess.org/Tournaments.htm](http://www.mochess.org/Tournaments.htm) for an up-to-date calendar of Missouri chess events.*



# Scholastic Schedule

NEW EVENT FOR 2010!!

## Missouri Junior Championship June 12-13th

5-SS, G/90, open to all born after 6/12/1989 from any state, Prize Fund: \$5,000 Guaranteed! Entry Fee: \$60 (\$55 if received by 6/12), \$50 (\$45 if received by 5/13) for annual members of CCSCSL. Two Sections: Open. 1st overall: \$2,000 scholarship and \$300, 1st X: \$250 2nd X: \$100, 1st A: \$200 2nd A: \$75, 1st B: \$150 2nd B: \$50. Under 1600: 1st overall: \$500 scholarship and \$300, 1st C: \$250 2nd C: \$100, 1st D: \$200 2nd D: \$75, 1st E: \$150 2nd E: \$75, 1st U1000: \$125 2nd U1000: \$50. Un-rated can play in the open section for 1st place prize, or in U1600 for \$50 max prize. Highest scoring female in each section: \$50. Trophies for 1st in each class. Reg: 8:30-9:30. Registration limited to the first 150 entrants! Pre-register to guarantee your spot.  
Round times: Sat 10-2-6. Sun: 10-2. One half point bye available, must commit before Round 1. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. 314-361-CHESS.

## May 22 – May Class Tournament

Parkade Center -- Columbia -- Open to scholastic players up to 12th grade for the 2009-2010 school year. Entry Fee \$5. Registration 9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Rounds at 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Awards ceremony at 2 p.m. Rounds and award ceremony schedule may be accelerated as play allows. Players will be grouped in rating classes for competition and awards. Some classes may be merged for pairing purposes. Info: Tim Campbell 573-696-0082

## Out of School Bash— June 5th

4 SS, G/30. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. Entry Fee: \$5 if received by 6/4. \$10 on-site. One Section: Trophies to 1st-5th Place, Top U/1000, Top U/800, Top U/600 and Top Female. Reg: 9-9:45. Rds: 10, 11:30, 1:15, 2:30. Awards: 3:45-4:00. One 1/2 pt bye if declared before rd 1. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at [saintlouischessclub.org](http://saintlouischessclub.org)

## Summer Slam Bash—August 7th

4 SS, G/30. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. Entry Fee: \$5 if received by 6/4. \$10 on-site. One Section: Trophies to 1st-5th Place, Top U/1000, Top U/800, Top U/600 and Top Female. Reg: 9-9:45. Rds: 10, 11:30, 1:15, 2:30. Awards: 3:45-4:00. One 1/2 pt bye if declared before rd 1. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at [saintlouischessclub.org](http://saintlouischessclub.org)

## Back to School Bash—September 18th

4 SS, G/30. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. Entry Fee: \$5 if received by 6/4. \$10 on-site. One Section: Trophies to 1st-5th Place, Top U/1000, Top U/800, Top U/600 and Top Female. Reg: 9-9:45. Rds: 10, 11:30, 1:15, 2:30. Awards: 3:45-4:00. One 1/2 pt bye if declared before rd 1. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at [saintlouischessclub.org](http://saintlouischessclub.org)

## Upcoming National Events:

### National Elementary Championship May 7th—9th

(Open to K-6), Hyatt Regency, Atlanta, Georgia  
See [www.uschess.org](http://www.uschess.org) for details soon.

### 2010 Trophies Plus U.S. Girls Junior Open Championship July 31st—Aug 3rd

6SS, 40/2, SD/1. Hyatt Regency Irvine (see U.S. Open). Open to all females born after 7/31/89. EF: Free if playing in US Open, otherwise \$50 mailed by 7/22 or online by 7/28, \$60 at site. Prizes: 1st Place: \$500.00 Scholarship and Plaque; 2nd Place: \$350.00 Scholarship and Plaque; 3rd Place: \$150.00 Scholarship and Plaque; Plaques to: Top A, B, C, D, E, Unr. Reg. ends Sat 6:30 pm, rds. Sat. 7:30 pm, Sun/Mon 12:30 pm & 7:30 pm, Tue 11 am. Ent: USCF (Girls Junior Open), PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557. Online entry: <https://secure.uschess.org/webstore/tournament.php>. Chess Magnet SchoolAdd Girls champs at US Open.

# MISSOURI CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP

July 3-4, 2010

\* A Missouri Invitational Tournament Qualifier \*



Location: Best Western Columbia Inn & Conference Center  
3100 I-70 Dr. SE, Columbia, Missouri 65201, 573-474-6161

- The tournament is a 5-round, Swiss pairings, Game/120. \*\*Novice Section will be a one day, 4round G/60, Saturday only. Players are paired against only those in their own section. (small classes combined for pairing only)

Master/Expert (2000+)  
Class A (1800-1999)  
Class B (1600-1799)  
Class C (1400-1599)  
Class D (1200-1399)  
Class E (1000-1199)  
Novice (Under 1000 & Unrated)



- Prizes: Every Section winner receives a State Championship Plaque!  
Cash prizes: \$100-1<sup>st</sup>, \$50-2<sup>nd</sup> in each section, prizes based on 7 entrants per class.  
Master/Expert section winner receives a spot in the MO Invitational Championship.
- Registration: 8:30-9:30a.m,
- Round times: Sat-10am, 2:30pm, 7pm, Sun-9:30am, 2pm.  
Get home in time to shoot fireworks! One 1/2-pt bye allowed if declared by round two. Novice section - round times are Saturday 10am, 12:30, 2:30, 5:00.
- Entry fee: \$30 if postmarked by 6/22, \$35 on site. Novice section, \$20, \$25 on site. Site entries cash only please. K-12 students may enter the U/1000 section for half price! (will only be eligible for half prizes)
- MCA membership required for Missouri residents, from \$10. OSA.

Conveniently located at the intersection of I-70 and Highway-63. \$69.00/night  
Free Wi-Fi and Free hot breakfast. Mention "Chess"



Entries/Info: Bob Howe  
311 E Walnut St, Pacific, MO 63069  
636-234-7928, E-mails to [Bdhowe@yahoo.com](mailto:Bdhowe@yahoo.com)





# Invitational Championship Cycle for 2010

The title of 2010 Missouri State Chess Champion will be decided at the Invitational Championship, held on **August 14-15, 2010** at the **Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis**.

This year's Invitational Championship will mark the first time the state title will be awarded on a separate weekend from the Missouri Open and Chess Festival.

Invitations for this Closed Championship are awarded in the following ways.

- o Previous Missouri State Champions (State Champions from the past 5 years receive an invitation.)
- o 2009 Gold Player of the Year
- o Denker tournament representative
- o Polgar tournament representative
- o All Missouri residents\* rated 2200 USCF and over.
- o Missouri Heritage events automatically qualify at least one. (St. Louis Open, The Greater KC Open, M/X Class Champion, Missouri Open Winner)
- o Select other tournament winners\*\* (events can qualify by meeting standards, see mochess.org for details)
- o Up to two wildcards named by the championship organizer

## The players currently qualified for the Invitational are:

<u>Player</u>	<u>Qualifying Merits</u>
Steven D. Bange	Christmas Open Winner
NM Richard Benjamin	Rating
John R. Boyer	2-on-2 Team Tournament Winner
IM Michael A. Brooks	Defending Missouri State Champion / Rating
Kevin Y. Cao	Mid-America Open--Top Missouri Resident in Open
James A. Davies	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2008)
Jialin Ding	Thanksgiving Open (2nd-Place)
GM Benjamin P. Finegold	Winter Open Winner / Rating
Zebedee Fortmann III	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2005)
NM Thomas G. Gossell	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2005) / Rating
Kevin Guo	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2005)
LM Bob Holliman	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2005) / Rating
Margaret Hua	Polgar Playoff Winner
Kevin Dale Johnson	2009 Gold Player of the Year
NM Kenneth E. Jones	Rating
Nick W. Karlow	Thanksgiving Open Winner
NM Charles Lawton	Rating
LM Ronald G. Luther	Previous Missouri State Champion (2006, 2007, 2008) / Rating
James F. McLaughlin	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2005)
James Larkin Smith	Denker Playoff Winner
FM Robert M. Sulman	Rating
William M. Tong	Thanksgiving Open (2nd-Place)
Selden Trimble	Missouri Open Champion
James R. Voelker	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2005)

If you still want a chance to get into the prestigious event, the following tournaments are qualifiers:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Greater Kansas City Open	Independence	May 15
Missouri Class Championships	Columbia	July 3-4
Saint Louis Premier and Amateur	Saint Louis	July 24

Everyone will be welcome to play during the weekend of the Invitational, as the MCA will be hosting the first ever, Missouri Amateur Championship to run concurrently with the Invitational. See page 27 for full details on the Amateur Championship!

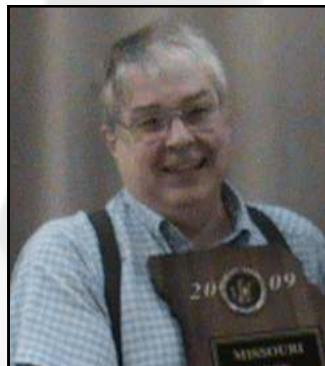
# Missouri State Champions



**Missouri State Champion**  
International Master Michael A. Brooks



**Denker Champion**  
James Larkin Smith



**Missouri Open Champion**  
Selden Trimble



**Polgar Champion**  
Margaret Hua



**Quick Champion**  
Kevin Cao

**Blitz Champion**  
Kevin Cao

## 2009 Class Champions

<b>Master —</b>	Ronald G. Luther & Kevin Y. Cao
<b>Expert</b>	
<b>Class A</b>	Henry Cao
<b>Class B</b>	Steven J. Rand
<b>Class C</b>	Richard Fox
<b>Class D</b>	Alex V. Esposito
<b>Class E</b>	David B. Reitz
<b>Novice</b>	Mark L. Johnson



**Bughouse Champion Team**  
Tony Dutiel & Elizabeth Oliver

For a complete history of Missouri Champions, visit [www.mochess.org](http://www.mochess.org) & click the Champions Link.

# Missouri Chess Hall of Fame



*Mr. James H. Davies*  
*Inducted: 2000*



*Mr. Donald Oswald*  
*Inducted: 2001*



*Mr. Robert M. Jacobs*  
*Inducted: 2002*



*Mr. Michael A. Brooks*  
*Inducted: 2003*

*Chess, like any creative activity,  
can exist only through the combined  
efforts of those who have creative  
talent, and those who have the  
ability to organize their creative  
work.*

*-Mikhail Botvinnik*



*Mr. Robert H. Steinmeyer*  
*Inducted: 2006*



*Mr. John V. Ragan*  
*Inducted: 2008*



*Mr. William H. Wright*  
*Inducted: 2009*

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**Missouri Chess Association**  
**Bulletin Editor**  
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