



MISSOURI CHESS BULLETIN

MISSOURI CHESS ASSOCIATION

WWW.MOCHESS.ORG



In 2009 Steven Rand wins B Class, In 2010, he grabs the Class A prize with an even higher score.

Novice Champ in 2009, Mark Johnson moves up a class in 2010, The Result.... Another Plaque.

2007, 2008, 2009, 2010
The years change, the results don't! Ron Luther Four-peats as Master/Expert State Champion.

Familiar Winners at Missouri Class



Volume 37 Number Three—Summer 2010 Issue
Serving Missouri Chess Since 1973



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Missouri Chess Bulletin

~Volume 37 Number 3 - Summer 2010~

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the next issue of the MCB:
OCTOBER 5th, 2010

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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

From The Editor *Bob Howe*



Greetings Missouri Chess Players. The summer season is passing by quickly, and a busy fall of chess is heading our way. The last few months have been quieter than usual for local tournament play. However, this was more than made up for by the three National Championships held in St. Louis, hosted by the Chess Club and Scholastic Center.

The United States Women's Championship and the United States Junior Championship have just wrapped up as this edition of the MCB is heading to the printer. International Master Irina Krush pulled off an impressive comeback to win her third title. Irina played strong and exciting chess, ending the event with 7 wins and 2 draws. In the meantime, another similar story went on in the Juniors. International Master Sam Shankland also had an impressive comeback. From an 0-2 start, he caught the leaders in the last round and tied for first with GM Ray Robson and FM Parker Zhao. IM Shankland prevailed in the tiebreaks to be the surprise champion, first beating Zhao, then denying Robson his chance to be the repeat champion.

Speaking of GM Ray Robson, the nation's youngest GM has been appearing regularly in St. Louis lately, playing in the US Championships in 09 and 10, as well as this year's Junior. His father has recently released a book about the family's commitment to help Ray, and the struggles that entails. A book review, by John Donaldson, is included on page 12.

The success of chess in Missouri is showing in areas other than just big events. I couldn't help but notice, on the top 100 Missouri Players list, that my own meager rating was barely enough to hang onto a spot. Since staring the list with the December 08 supplement, my own rating has managed to creep up about 60 points, but my position on the list has, after a brief climb, has steadily fallen back toward the tail end. The reason for this is simple, stronger players!

There are 3 more players over the 2000 mark, and 10 more players over 1900 than that first list! What is needed to make the list has climbed from 1613 to 1681. This appears to be mix of the growth of local players, as well as some old names being drawn back into the game. I'm convinced this trend will continue, and Missouri will be a stronger and stronger chess area over the coming years. I'd better get studying!

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

- Report on the Missouri Amateur Championship and Invitational.
- Highlights from the Missouri Open and Chess Festival
- Articles, annotated games, and interesting stories from YOU! The members that make up the MCA.

Deadline for articles and games for the Fall issue is October 5th, 2010.

Missouri Amateur Championship! August 14-15, 2010

This classic tournament returns after many years. Play will run concurrently with the Missouri Invitational. You can watch Missouri's best battle each other.

5SS,G/120. 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:

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MISSOURIANS ON THE USCF TOP 100 LISTS — June 2010

<u>Overall</u>	GM Ben Finegold (2610) 17th IM Michael Brooks (2411) 91st	<u>Age 12</u>	Ansar Lemon (1801) 54th
<u>Age 18</u>	Spencer Finegold (1996) 41st Brad Schlosser (1890) 69th Steven Rand (1801) 84th	<u>Age 11</u>	Margaret M.Hua (1742) 36th
<u>Age 14</u>	Isaiah Gadson (1937) 37th Vikram Arun (1885) 50th James L. Smith (1874) 54th William Nesham (1803) 86th	<u>Age 8</u>	Jason Zhou (1263) 54th
<u>Age 13</u>	Kevin Cao (2179) 6th Jialin Ding (2042) 20th William Tong (1920) 37th	<u>Girls U/13</u>	Margaret M. Hua (1742) 11th Zoe Lemon (1344) 68th Keturah Gadson (1333) 73rd
		<u>Senior</u>	Robert Jacobs (2100) 52nd
		<u>Correspondence:</u>	Laurence Anderson (2305) 30th Harry Ingersol (2305) 30th Barry Walker (2218) 65th

MISSOURI'S TOP 100

1 GM Benjamin Finegold 2695	36 Isaiah Gadson 1937	71 Matthew Barrett 1783
2 IM Michael Brooks 2411	37 Tony Rich 1934	72 Chris Fieber 1781
3 Charles Lawton 2327	38 Selden Trimble 1933	73 Margaret Hua 1779
4 Kenneth Jones 2225	39 John Boyer 1931	74 Mike Clark 1777
5 Richard Benjamin 2204	40 Kenneth Fee 1930	75 Wayde Stallman 1769
6 Kevin Cao 2202	41 William Tong 1920	76 Roger Smith 1766
7 Ron Luther 2201	42 Dwight Beasley 1916	77 Alex Esposito 1762
8 Bob Holliman 2200	43 Steven Bange 1908	78 Joe Piotrowski 1746
9 FM Robert Sulman 2200	44 Darius Masuhud 1902	79 Tim Nesham 1741
10 Mark Bohannon 2156	45 Dan Juengel 1902	80 Anthony Ford 1740
11 Andrew Witte 2149	46 Adil Skuka 1900	81 Ray Kurczynski 1737
12 James Voelker 2141	47 Alexander Vergilesov 1900	82 Daniel Todd 1733
13 Bronik Matwijkiw 2113	48 Albert Howlett 1898	83 Brad Herbst 1732
14 Robert Jacobs 2100	49 Tony Dutiel 1884	84 Allen Bishop 1731
15 James McLaughlin 2100	50 Vikram Arun 1883	85 Greg Clark 1727
16 Mark Ferber 2094	51 Frank Whitsell 1879	86 William Starnes 1724
17 Nathaniel Fast 2080	52 Brad Schlosser 1868	87 Behrooz Vakil 1715
18 Josh Frank 2079	53 Henry Cao 1858	88 Spencer Conklin 1730
19 Kenneth Thomas 2064	54 Steven Rand 1853	89 Peter Harris 1712
20 Waldo Odak 2047	55 James Smith 1849	90 Micheal Kummer 1711
21 King Christian 2045	56 Raymond Birt 1845	91 Smajlagic Senad 1710
22 Jialin Ding 2023	57 Alex Marler 1841	92 Matthew Angeli 1705
23 Nick Karlow 2015	58 Victor Marshall 1839	93 William Collin 1704
24 Suman Kalavagunta 2013	59 Ansar Lemon 1834	94 Bob Howe 1703
25 Kevin Johnson 2000	60 Paul Goddard 1833	95 Alex Hall 1701
26 James Davies 2000	61 Kenneth Gurley 1831	96 Carl Priesendorf 1696
27 Spencer Finegold 1996	62 Daniel Coryea 1822	97 Edward Dromgoole 1696
28 Joseph Garnier 1991	63 Marcus Scott 1816	98 William Thompson 1693
29 Daniel Huff 1990	64 Tom Epplin-Zapf 1808	99 Leonardo Severino 1691
30 Benjamin Gradsky 1990	65 Steven Landrum 1807	100 Ryan McCulla 1681
31 Nathan Swinger 1975	66 William Nesham 1803	
32 Pranav Alkocar 1972	67 Thomas Rehmeier 1801	
33 Shan Siddiqi 1969	68 Randy Gimenez 1800	
34 Frank Smith 1954	69 Edil Karaviev 1795	
35 Daniel Roberts 1940	70 Jacob Wilkins 1794	

USCF July Supplement
Includes players active in the
past 12 months.

Congratulations to these recent Tournament Winners:

Gateway City Quads:

Quad A: Josh Frank & Joseph Garnier

Quad B: Alex Vergilesov

Quad C: Michael Kummer & Bill Thompson

Quad D: Jacob Amann

Quad E: Vishal Bharadwaj

Quad F: Andrew Latuda

Kansas City Open: Ron Luther & Steven Rand

Show-Me Classic: Mark Ferber

Mizzou Quads:

Quad A: Ron Luther

Quad B: Al Howlett

Quad C: Thomas Gaul

Quad D: Daniel Raymon



Missouri Junior Championships:

Open: Jialin Ding U/1600 Keturah Gadson & Karan Mehta

Super Team Championship:

Open: Super Team Champions! Ben Finegold, Spencer Finegold, & Ray Kurczynski
& Team TDF: Doug Eckert, Bob Holliman, & Nick Karlow

U/4800: The A Team: Maxim Segalov, George Ruan, & Alan Liang

U/3800: Omega Supreme: Tess Butcher, Thomas Liberman, & Nelson Corliss

Missouri Class Championships:

M/X Ron Luther D Class Jay Shapiro

A Class Steven Rand E Class Mark Johnson

B Class Joel Stebbins Novice Jason Ding

C Class Tha Dun

Attention Tournament Directors

The MCA wants to 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 for full details.

Recent News in Missouri Chess

The United States Chess Championship, hosted for the second straight year by the Chess Club and Scholastic Center, concluded in May with a victory by **GM Gata Kamsky**. GM Kamsky beat out GM's Hikaru Nakamura, Alexander Onischuk, and Yury Shulman in the final quad. The unique format qualified the top four scorers after 7 rounds into a separate section for the finals. These players squared off against each other in a round robin, regardless if they had or hadn't been paired earlier in the event. The format avoided a problem typically seen in a small tournament with many rounds like the US Championship. The top players will commonly meet in the middle rounds, and by the late rounds those contending for the top prize are playing down, sometimes against the middle of the field. This new format provided exciting and meaningful matches in the last rounds, but with a downside. A number of players who were theoretically still in the hunt, but not in the top four, are eliminated from contention. The Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, who have done a superb job of hosting this event, has announced that it will return for a third year in 2011.

Congratulations to **Margaret Hua**, who has, for the second year in a row, qualified to represent the United States at the 2010 World Youth Chess Championship. Last year this event allowed an opportunity for Margaret to travel to Vietnam to compete with the best young players from all across the world. This year the event is scheduled to be held in Greece. Players qualify by having a peak rating among the top three players in each age category, or being within 50 points of the third qualifying spot.

In the last issue we mentioned the news that Grandmaster **Hikaru Nakamura** was planning to relocate to Missouri. The move has happened as planned and the nation's strongest player can now be seen blitzing and hanging out at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center. Some quotes from a recent press release explain his motivation to join us in the Show-me State.

The two-time U.S. Champion is relocating to Saint Louis from Seattle because of the support the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis has provided for American chess, particularly at the top level. The Chess Club's creation of a burgeoning chess scene in Saint Louis also factored into Nakamura's decision.

"It feels like what's happening in Saint Louis, both at the top level and the scholastic, grassroots level, is something I want to be a part of, and I feel like this is the one area of the country where things are really happening," Nakamura said.

Nakamura's tournament schedule will not be affected as he plans to continue to compete in elite events throughout the coming year. Between travels, Nakamura will conduct periodic lectures and simuls, participate in special events and provide occasional content for the club's website, www.saintlouischessclub.org.

We welcome Mr. Nakamura to Missouri and hope he finds St. Louis to his liking for many years to come.

The United States Chess League, a popular program organized by IM Greg Shahade, has announced the plan of expansion into St. Louis for this year's competition. The League pits players from different cities against each other in team play over the internet. The games aren't rated, due to the internet format, but with grandmasters leading most teams, and a fun to follow format, the league has been a big hit. **The St. Louis "Archbishops"** will be managed by Tony Rich, and the expected team lineup will be GM Hikaru Nakamura, GM Yury Shulman from Illinois, GM Ben Finegold, and his son, A player Spencer Finegold.

For years the Chess Hall of Fame, officially known as **The World Chess Hall of Fame and Sidney Samole Museum** was hosted in Florida by the Excalibur Company, makers of the popular Excalibur Chess Clocks. Unfortunately Excalibur fell on difficult times, and the company was sold. The new owners had no interest in housing the Hall and the collection moved into storage. Now efforts are underway to bring the exhibits to a new home in Missouri. Work is being done on a building near the Chess Club and Scholastic Center, where the collection can once again be proudly displayed.

In the Winter 09 edition of the Missouri Chess Bulletin, we featured two Scholastic players that crossed the 2000 mark to become young chess experts. One of those players, Kevin Cao of Chesterfield, has turned that mark into a simple stepping stone, and continued to vastly improve. At the recent Chicago Open, Kevin turned in another fine performance, which included victories over an International Master and a Women's International Master. This effort bumped his rating over 2200, meaning **Kevin Cao is a Chess Master at age 13!** Congratulations! A few of his games from his milestone event are included on page 30. I'm sure we'll continue to hear much more from Kevin in the future.



Kevin sports his All America Team jacket at a recent tournament.

Ed Baur has taken over the position of **Membership Chair** for the Missouri Chess Association. Ed will be handling the job of organizing the membership list and taking care of renewals and new memberships. Ed takes over for Nathaniel Fast, who has graciously filled the position for the last several years.

Missouri Chess Festival! - September 17-19th A State Championship Event

5SS,G/120. Location: Best Western Columbia Inn,
3100 I-70 Dr. SE, Columbia, MO. 65201

- ♔ 5 Round Swiss, Game in 2 hour (G/120)
- ♔ Open and Reserve (U1600) Sections
- ♔ Prizes: Open, \$250 1st Overall, Classes, \$120 1st in each, M/X, A, B, Reserve, \$200 1st, \$100 per class, C, D, E, U1000/Unr. Highest MO resident in Open earns spot in the 2011 Invitational.
- ♔ Entry Fee: \$40 if registered by 9.10, \$50 on site.
- ♔ Registration: 9-9:45am. Rounds: Saturday, 10am, 2:30, 7, Sunday, 10:30, 3:00
- ♔ MCA membership required for MO residents

Side Events:

Missouri Quick Championship: 4SS, G/29 (Quick Rated). Prizes: based on 20, \$75-1st Overall + Plaque, \$50-1st U1600. Registration: 6:30-7pm Friday. Rounds: 7/8/9/10pm. Entry Fee: \$10 by 9/10, \$15 on site

Missouri Blitz Championship: 5SS, G/5 (Quick Rated). Prizes: \$75-1st + plaque, \$50-2nd, \$25-3rd. Entry Fee: \$10. Registration: 8-8:15am Sunday. Rounds paired ASAP, ends by 9:30am

MCA SCHOLASTIC: 5SS, G/30. Prizes: Trophies to top 3, medals for 4th-10th in each section: HS, K-8, K-6, K-3. Entry Fee: \$10 by 9/10, \$15 on site. Registration: 9-10am Saturday. Rounds: 10:30/11:45/1:15/2:30/3:45. Awards: 5:15pm.

- ♔ MCA membership required for all events except MCA Scholastic, available on site from \$10, other states accepted.
- ♔ MCA General Membership meeting 9:30-10:15am Sun. Hotel: \$69/night, free Wi-Fi & Hot breakfast, 573-474-6161, mention CHESS.

Advance entries/info:

Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice St., Jefferson City, MO 65109.
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Super Team Championship

~ Ray Kurczynski ~

Things have finally calmed down from a hectic May that saw the 2010 US Championships followed immediately by the Show-Me Classic. As the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis gears up for the U.S. Women's Championship and the Junior Closed, June found just enough time for the 2nd Annual Super Team Championship. Last year's tournament began the trend of increasing field sizes in club events, and this tournament managed to break the 50-player barrier again! Although there was one less team overall this year, six teams showed up ready to compete for the title of Super Team Champs and the club championship qualifier spots that accompanied that distinction. Team names were as varied and random as last year including such gems as Those Guys, the Chess Mafia, and the arrogantly named 2010 Super Team Champions.

As is typical in a Swiss-paired chess event, many teams found themselves heavily outmatched. While most of the higher-rated teams were able to survive their matches, the 2010 Super Team Champions, comprised of GM Ben Finegold, his son Spencer Finegold, and tournament director Ray Kurczynski, yielded a costly tiebreaker point on board two when Spencer's sacrifice against George Ruan came up a bit short leading to a 2-1 victory for the team. Meanwhile the top team, TDF, made up of FM Doug Eckert, Bob Holliman, and Nick Karlow easily cruised to victory. Other notable teams that 3-0'd their opponents in the first round included Pi (Kevin Cao, Jialin Ding (wearing a 3.14 shirt), and Henry Cao), Team 85 (Scott Moore, Anthony Cirillo, and Dan Juengel), and the Pawn Stormers (Todd Plagemann, Dennis Humphries, and James Bramstedt).

In round two the action really started to heat up. Both TDF and 2010 Super Team Champions found themselves in a lot of trouble, succumbing a crucial half point. On board four, another miscalculation by the struggling Spencer led to an 0-2 start, and Joe Garnier's stunning draw against GM Ben Finegold put the pressure squarely on Kurczynski's head. Luckily a solid victory by Ray ensured the 1.5-1.5 draw and the half match point for round two. TDF also found themselves in hot water when Steve Bange upset Bob Holliman on board two and Josh Frank was able to hold FM Doug Eckert to a draw. This left the door open for Pi to catapult into first, and they took full advantage, sweeping Ja Doobie Doobie Doo, which included William Nesham, Tim Nesham, and Ken West. The upset of the round came from Omega Supreme (Tess Butcher, Thomas Liberman, and Nelson Corliss). Tess was able to pull one of the best swindles of the tournament, checkmating Vikram Arun, who out rated her by more than 600 points, when Vikram overlooked an immediate checkmate threat when he was up a piece and in a dominating position. Her win proved extremely fortunate, as Thomas Liberman was also able to out maneuver board two for the Gatorhorns, Vishal Bharadwaj, leading to a 2-1 victory for Omega Supreme. Combined with their first round bye, Omega Supreme (the lowest rated team in the tournament) found themselves in a tie for first!

Unfortunately for Omega Supreme, the dream turned into a nightmare very quickly. Round three brought about a pairing with Pi, the only other undefeated team, and much to every one's expectations, it was like sending lambs out to get slaughtered by wolves. Pi easily dispatched of their severely outmatched opponents, sweeping their third team in a row for clear first. Pi didn't even give up a single game point in the tournament through three of the first four rounds! 2010 Super Team Champions found themselves in real trouble again when a quick win by GM Ben Finegold and subsequent draw by Spencer Finegold left the pressure clearly on Ray. Unfortunately for the Finegolds, Ray was in a lot of trouble and on the verge of defeat when a few timely inaccuracies by his opponent allowed him to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat and complete a solid 2.5-.5 victory over the Pawn Stormers. Team TDF also managed a narrow victory, beating Those Guys 2-1, with Bob Holliman conceding a crucial tie breaking game point to young Isaiah Gadson.

"This is what it all comes down too". This classic quote couldn't have been more appropriate than when talking about the fourth round of the 2010 Super Team Championship. Pi, the only undefeated team both on game

points and match points, controlled their own fate against the top-rated TDF (who had 2.5/3.0 match points). In the mean time, 2010 Super Team Champions were paired against Team 85 who were both hoping for TDF to pull off the upset. Bob Holliman won a nice game against young Jialin Ding and Nick Karlow's solid victory over Henry Cao rendered Kevin Cao's nice win over FM Doug Eckert moot. The win left TDF at 3.5 points, a score 2010 Super Team Champions was able to match when both GM Ben Finegold and Spencer Finegold were able to turn in convincing wins. Once the match was decided, and with little left to play for, Team 85's third board offered Kurczynski a draw in a position that was in his favor. Quick to accept the draw, this result proved very important as this .5 point allowed both teams to finish tied on first tie breaks ... total game points. The A-Team's (Maxim Sigalov, George Ruan, Alan Liang) impressive run after their first round loss to 2010 Super Team Champions left them at 3-0, in clear first for the under 4800 section, and gave a much needed boost to the second tiebreaks (total opponent's score) for 2010 Super Team Champions. In fact, it was second tiebreaks that allowed their team name to become prophetic as they were officially crowned the 2010 Super Team Champions. Both Spencer Finegold and Ray Kurczynski were extended invitations to the 2011 CCSCSL Club Championship (Ben had previously qualified), and all three split their half of the first place prize, \$250. The other half went to TDF for their equal 3.5/4.0 performance, and each player on both teams received \$84.



For their efforts in the under 4800 section, The A-Team each received \$134. The bye and upset that led Omega Supreme to their scorching 2.0-0.0 start ended up being enough to claim the under 3800 section and a \$100 prize for each team member. Overall the event ran smoothly and everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Start planning your team now for the 2011 Super Team Championship!



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Tactics Simplified!

~ Ron Luther ~

When one starts on their journey of learning chess, they are bombarded with an array of tactical motifs. Some of these will include: Pins, Forks, Skewers, Overloaded pieces, and more. In my 25 years of teaching, there has always been the need to simplify, as much as possible, for the student. The reasons are simple. If they understand why things work, not only does it make sense, but it becomes easier to remember and apply in their games. After years of looking at how, and why combinations work, I have reached a conclusion.

All chess combinations involve either, a DOUBLE ATTACK (s), REMOVING of a DEFENDER(s), or a COMBINATION of BOTH.

As I was to find out later, several authors used the Double Attack, as the basis of all combinations. This is a purist view, and is not always correct. The removing of the defender idea is critical, and is also much easier for the student to grasp.

In the following Diagrams I will show some of these concepts. Also, when you solve puzzles, take some time to see why the combination works. You might be surprised, it really isn't Magic!

In each diagram someone can either mate or win significant material. (For Solutions, see page 24)



#1. Black to Move



#2 Black to Move



#3 White to Move



#4 White to Move

Gateway City Quads

~ Bob Howe ~

Having recently relocated to the St. Louis area, I decided to break in my new home by directing a quad tournament. The otherwise packed STL chess calendar seems to be lacking in this particular format.. (actually the CCSCSL holds weekly quads, but are action tournaments with quick rating only)

The event was a modest affair, not surprising, given it fell after the two biggest events on the calendar. The just concluded CCA's Mid America Open and the highly successful Saint Louis Open had just run back to back in the March and April. Still, 26 players showed up to play some chess.

The top quad featured a strong group of players. It was led by Mark Ferber, fresh off a 5-0 performance in the Reserve section of the STL Open. His provisional master rating was put to the test against Expert Josh Frank, and strong A players Joseph Garnier and Steve Bange. The games in that section were all hard fought affairs, without a single draw until the final round. At the end of the chess tournament Josh Frank and Joseph Garner had each won their first two rounds, and a peaceful settling of their last round game gave them a split of the prize. This result was particularly satisfying to Garnier, as he cracked 2000 for the first time in his career.

In the second quad, a tight rating group emerged with William Tong, Peter Rupprecht, Alex Vergilsov, and Tom Gaul making up the group. The day belonged to Vergilesov, who continued his impressive streak of late, with a 3-0 sweep. This brought Alex's rating up to 1896, from only 1567 five months ago! With that rate of increase, 300 pts per 5 months, we can reasonable expect Alex to be approaching 3000 in the next year and a half!

The third quad saw a little more rating discrepancy, as the players ranged from the high 1400's to the low 1700's. This was a good chance for upsets. Indeed, the bottom player Don Harper managed to draw the top, Mike Kummer. Still his effort wasn't enough to stop the higher seeds, and the top two players, Kummer and Bill Thompson ended with 2 pts and a share of first.

Quad D was back on track with great pairings, with

only a 70pt difference among all the players. As expected, this led to close games, and a result of all four players scoring between 1 and 2 points. Jake Amann lost his first round affair with John Slattery, but came back with two wins in rounds 2 and 3. This was enough to take sole first in this particular section.

Vishal Bharadwaj has recently had some good results, and added a first place victory in quad E to his resume. Vishal's victories in rounds one and two guaranteed him the top prize with at least a draw in the final round. With that goal forefront in his mind, he quickly offered a handshake after gaining a pawn advantage and a fine position against Jon Strand. Strand happily agreed to get out of his messy position with half a point. Vishal secured first place and a little spending money to go with it.

The final six player quad was dominated by young Andrew Latuda. Andrew was the 3rd seed, but defeated everyone paired against him. His perfect 3-0 score netted him the biggest rating gain of the day, with a 114 point jump! Andrew's last round game was a long tense battle. Even going in at 2 for 2, he was put in a must win position to stay ahead of Ken West, who had finished up earlier with 2.5/3. Andrew pushed an attack to the finish and eventually netted the win.

Finally, I'd like to thank Jon and Adam at the Chess Club for their help running the tournament. The experience of directing an event at the CCSCSL was fantastic! I'm use to running tournaments in hotels and schools, but this was just a luxury by comparison. Boards and clocks all supplied and set up. Wonderful surroundings, they accepted credit card entries for me, and had every conceivable supply on hand if I was short on anything. All at a rate equal to or better than I've gotten anywhere. It was a great experience, and I'd highly recommend it to other TD's. I know the Club already runs regular events, but there is room on the schedule for some other activities, so don't hesitate to give it a try!

Book Review

~ Review by John Donaldson ~

GM Ray Robson is becoming a familiar face around Saint Louis, as he has now played in three Championships events. The country's youngest GM will no doubt be back for many more. Robson's father, Gary Robson, has recently completed a book about Ray's success, and the family's trials and tribulations in helping a talented young man become a GM in America.

Chess Child: The story of Ray Robson, America's Youngest Grandmaster (Nipa Hut Press 2010, www.nipahutpress.com, 281 pages, paperback, \$16) by Gary Robson may initially remind many of Fred Waitzkin's *Searching for Bobby Fischer*. Both are great father-son stories and each traces the development of a young boy from a chess novice to strong player. Along the way each family is forced to make sacrifices and find their own way with no guarantees as to how things will end. Both fathers start out with no knowledge of the chess world and have to figure things out along the way with no maps or books to guide them. While there are similarities between the two stories there are also important differences. One major one is that the Robson family lives near Tampa, a semi-desert for chess compared to the Waitzkins who were based in Manhattan. While Josh had the advantage of living in the center of American chess near both the Marshall and Manhattan Chess clubs, Ray's club was the Internet. Despite all his hard work and gift for the game it is unlikely that a player the strength of Ray would have emerged from Central Florida 20 years. Not only were all the opportunities that the Internet allows not available then, nor were ChessBase and Rybka/Fritz not to mention strong coaches. The latter was a key in Ray's development. Gary Robson writes movingly of the difficulties of finding the right person to help his son at the right time. This coach not only has to possess the necessary chess information and be able to communicate it but also achieve the right rapport with young Ray.

Finding one coach is not enough. One of the more painful passages in *Chess Child* deals with one of Ray's first teachers, a Florida expert who has been a good teacher and friend but who is unable to recognize that he has no more knowledge to offer. As Ray climbs up the ladder, this need for stronger and stronger teachers doesn't go away.

A gifted young player and his parents in the Soviet Union didn't have to make this sort of choice nor worry how the lessons, tournament entry fees, hotels and airline tickets would be paid for. There were many (!) problems in the old communist states but for chess most of them got it right. Think of the amount of state support that was allocated to Karpov and Kasparov to name but two prominent examples. A reoccurring theme throughout *Chess Child* is the sacrifices the Robson family (Gary, Yee-chen and Ray) make. There can't be too many families in Florida that have spent several summers without air-conditioning! Giving a young talent a chance to thrive is not cheap. At one point the Robson's are spending \$25,000 a year out of pocket and they are not materially wealthy people.

Faced with a similar situation the family of Fabiano Caruana moved to Europe where strong coaching and tournament opportunities abound and he has thrived. The savings on travel have to be huge and the avoidance of jet-lag a blessing but this solution may not be a template for others as the Caruanas have dual citizenship and the Italians have provided generous sponsorship. The Samford family has provided something similar in the United States with its two year stipend of \$76,000 and Gary Robson is quick to praise the Fellowship for the good as it has done enabling Ray to work with Alex Onischuk on a regular basis supplemented with sessions with Jaan Ehlvest, Yury Shulman and Varuzhan Akobian. The work they did with Ray in 2009 quickly yielded good results as he made his last norms soon after and broke Bobby Fischer's record as the youngest American Grandmaster ever.

Ray is a strong Grandmaster nearing 2600 FIDE as the book ends at the end of 2009. He has accomplished a great deal in chess, more than his parents could have ever expected, but what will the future hold? Ray clearly loves chess and has parents who realize that material success doesn't mean everything but few players below the elite (2750 on up) are able to support themselves by tournament winnings alone. Coaching, commenting and writing are all honorable ways to make ends meet but they take away from playing and many strong Grandmasters do them not out of pleasure but because they must. For many that is why they call

earning a living "work" and leads to questions of why if one is going to "work" doesn't it make sense to seek something that pays better. Still one does well to remember the words of the Canadian-American Grandmaster Peter Biyiasas who once said that a chess professional should never trade his freedom for a 9 to 5 job unless he doubled his pay!

One might think that Gary Robson would be bitter should his son choose to follow a different path than chess down the road. Think of all the sacrifices the family has made from sleeping on kind strangers' couches, taking flights with multi-layovers to get the cheapest ticket to driving clunkers and more. But he wouldn't be. He writes at the end of *Chess Child* that it has all been worth it. The family has traveled all over the world from the Galapagos Islands to the far north of Norway from Brazilian beaches to bathing in thermal pools in Iceland and there son has been able follow his dream. That doesn't sound bad.

Chess Child will be an interesting read for a wide audience, particularly parents of young chess talents looking for guidance

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS

Gentlemen:

Ballots were counted at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis on Tuesday, July 6. The process was witnessed by club employee Michael Kummer. Enclosed for your inspection are a list of members who voted. Photocopies of the tally sheets are also enclosed for the official record.

Region 1: 24 MCA members cast ballots

Winners :	Edward Baur	17
	Tony Rich	16
	Bob Howe	9

Others receiving votes :

	Matt Angeli	8
	Ray Kurczynski	8
	Joseph Garnier	1

Region 2: 4 MCA members cast ballots

Winners :	C.J. Armenta	4
	John Sutton	4
	Bruce Cantwell	3

Region 3: 12 MCA members cast ballots

Winners :	Thomas Rehmeier	9
	Tim Campbell	8
	Nathan Swinger	6

Others receiving votes :

	Peter Soriano	4
	Mike Clark	3
	Joseph Brozovich	1
	Martin Stahl	1

Irregularities : None this year. One ballot had votes in more than one region, but these were crossed out.

Commentary : The election went without a hitch. Due to the close contest in region 1, a recount was conducted to verify the vote totals.

I congratulate the winners, and wish all of our elected officers success in your efforts at chess promotion.

Sincerely,

James A. Davies

Election Commissioner

Board of Director, Meeting Summary: June 2010

Present: Thomas Rehmeier, Bob Howe, Matt Angeli, Ed Baur, Bob Holliman, Ron Luther, Absent John Sutton, Tony Rich. Tim Campbell joined the meeting in progress. The next meeting is scheduled for September 19th at 9am. This is just prior to the General Membership meeting at the Missouri Open.

Minutes from the January Meeting were approved. Treasurer's report put the MCA account near the \$3000 mark. Membership report stated current membership is 219. Ed Baur has volunteered, and will be taking over the Membership Chair duties.

Upcoming tournaments: The Missouri Invitational lineup is almost finalized for this August. The St. Louis Premier and Amateur can qualify a player, and one organizer wildcard remains.

The 2010 State Scholastic Championship will be held at the same location as the last several years. Ed is working on a plan to divide the room between High School and lower grades since they start rounds at different times. There was also discussion about improving the availability of skittles area for parents and teams.

The 2012 tournament is in limbo at this time as we wait to hear on action from the MSHSAA organization. The Springfield Park Board Chess Club is running a large 2 day G/120 event in October that Bob Holliman is helping organize. The event will require MCA membership, the first tournament to do so in that part of the state in many years. Bob encouraged everyone to support this event to help get the Springfield area back involved with state-wide chess.

Old Business:

The new dues prices are announced in the bulletin and on the website. They will take effect starting with the Missouri Class Championships.

John Sutton couldn't attend, but sent e-mails with the latest on the MSHSAA activity. The organization delayed all votes on new activities this year due to budget constraints. A poll by MSHSAA got a response of 69 yes and 244 no's from school principals as to whether they would participate in chess if it was approved.

This result seems bad at first glance, but chess actually did better in the poll than any of the other 6 activities that were being considered.

New Business:

The board discussed the issue of Regions receiving equal representation rather than based on population. The consensus felt this "senate" setup was best. The "representative" system was used for a time in the 1980's and some members felt this led to less participation by all the regions.

Hall of Fame: Selden Trimble has been named to be the inductee into the Missouri Chess Association Hall of Fame for 2010. The Board received four excellent nominations this year, and the other candidates will be kept open for nomination next year. A presentation for Dr. Trimble will occur at the Missouri Open.

Player of the Year: Current standings were shared. The board considered whether the program has been successful in encouraging players to play more or directors to include MCA membership at their events. (see standings on page 15)

The Board voted unanimously to recognize Rex Sinquefield for his leadership in the many accomplishments made for chess in the last several years. A Special Award will be prepared to present to him on behalf of Missouri's Chess players at the Invitational Championship.

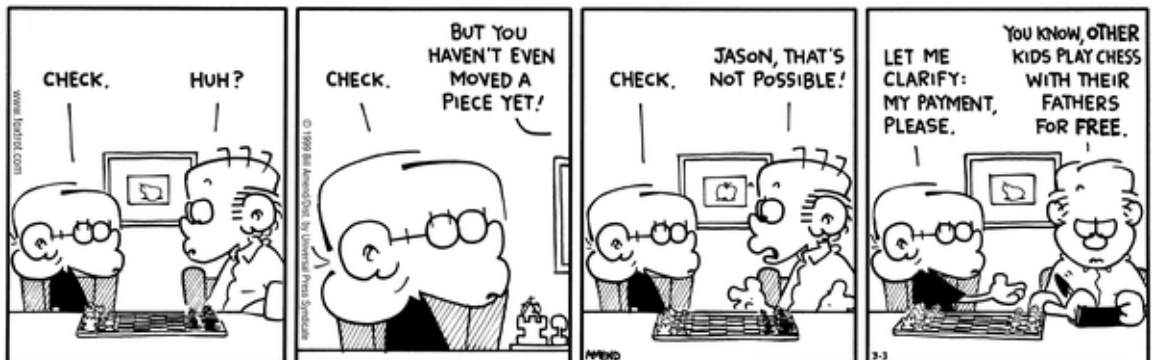
Foxtrot

By

Bill Amend

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MCA Player of the Year Standings (as of July 25th)

1. William Nesham	63.5
2. Jialin Ding	50
3. William Thompson	50
4. Ken West	49.5
5. Kevin Johnson	48.5
6. Joseph Garnier	48
7. Vishal Bharadwaj	47
8. Joshua Frank	45.5
9. William Tong	45
10. Alex Vergilesov	45

The MCA Player of the year points are awarded at any tournament that requires MCA membership. Points are earned as follows: 2 points for each tournament attended, 1 pt for each win, .5 pts for each draw.

Junior Grand Prix Standings Missouri's Top Five

Player:	JGP pts	National Standing
James L. Smith	115	5th
Margaret Hua	60	t-55th
Jacob L Smith	60	t-55th
Noah Sondov-Gold	55	
Suhas Bobbas	50	

The Junior Grand Prix, sponsored by Chess Magnet School, ([www.chessmagnet school.com](http://www.chessmagnet.school.com)), is a USCF nation wide program. Scholastic players are awarded JGP points by playing opponents 100 rating points or higher than themselves. Five points are awarded for a draw, and ten points are awarded for a win.

Springfield Park Board Chess Club Open October 16th & 17th

The Springfield Park Board Chess Club is proud to announce the first major tournament hosted in Springfield in years. Players are expected from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, and Missouri, making this a great opportunity for players to face new competition while playing locally.

5SS, G/120. South Side Senior Center,
2215 South Fremont Ave., Springfield, MO 65804.

- ♙ **Prizes:** Overall prizes guaranteed: \$500-300-200. (\$\$G 1000)
Class prizes based on 50. X,A,B,C,D,U1200, \$100, \$50, / Unr \$100.
- ♙ **Entry Fee:** \$40 if by 9/30, \$35 for SPBCC members, \$50 at site
- ♙ **Registration:** 8:30-9:30 on 10/16. Rounds: 10, 2:30, 7:00; 9:00-1:30. All site entries and memberships must be paid in cash.
- ♙ **Memberships:** USCF required, MCA required for MO residents, OSA
- ♙ **Bonus:** Friday night jumble with Life Masters Bob Holliman & Ron Luther. Lecture at 7 pm with simultaneous exhibition at 8 pm.
- ♙ **Hotel:** Lamplighter Inn, 1772 S. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65804, 417-882-1113. Request tournament rate of \$59.95/night. Lamplighter Inn is about 1 mile from the tournament site

Advance entries/info:

Joe Brozovich, 4334 S. Newton, Springfield, MO 65810

Visit www.springfieldparkboardchessclub.com for current information and directions. 417-882-3992

Class Championships 2010

Fireworks, Barbeques, family reunions, and the Missouri Class Championships are what Fourth of July was made of this year. The annual state championship fell over the holiday weekend, but it didn't seem to hinder many players from coming out, as 55 players contested for the seven trophies. The tournament was once again held in central Missouri, at the Columbia Best Western Inn, to give players from all over the state a fair chance of making the trip.

The award presentations didn't have long to wait, as a new single day format was tried for the Novice/Under 1000 division. The lower rated players are often under-represented at this event, so a shorter time control was tried to see if more would be willing to make the trip. It appears that this isn't the secret answer though, as the section was still a small one. Jason Ding was the slight rating favorite in the section, and showed why as he handled the competition in every round. Jason went a perfect 3/3 in the Novice section to grab the first State Championship Plaque.

The turnout was pretty well spread out among the other classes, although in two cases, the groups were just under the needed amount to run their own sections. D class was one of those, with 5 player entered, so there was a merger between E and D for pairing purpose, although both would still receive their own prizes. This meant some cross pairings between the two groups, but for the most part the top players in each section faced off against each other. In the first round, the D players were paired down against E players, and most of them were able to pick up wins, with one exception. Mark Johnson, Novice Champion from 2009, and coming in with a rating of 1041, was paired against the highest seed in the section, Terrance Shuman, rated 1377. Mark was able to get the upset, which rewarded him with another pairing up in round two. He was again able to pick up the upset point, and in round three, now leading E class, he was paired with the D class leader Ashwath Kumar. After a long tense struggle, Johnson prevailed for his third straight point against players averaging over 250 pts above him! Of course upset wins lead to tough pairings, and in round four he drew the 2nd seed, a player a full three hundred points above him. Finally Mark's luck slipped, as he blundered the exchange against Tess Butcher. The former Missouri Polgar representative made the most of her advantage to win the game and take the lead in her section. This left Mark at 3/4, and going into the last round, would finally play someone from his own class. While things would get easier according to rating, the reality is the last round was by no means a break. Johnson had to sit down across from none other than the defending Class E champion David Reitz. Reitz had lost a game in round 2, but had picked up the full point in all three other rounds, and now had the opportunity to repeat as state champion with a victory in round five. Reitz made this task difficult on himself, when he slipped early, dropping a piece for pawn. This would be his only serious error though, as he dug in and defended bravely, forcing Johnson to take over 40 moves to finally convert his piece advantage by clearing the last pawn left on the board's path to home. This completed quite a feat for Johnson, who not only moves up one class, but then is paired up another class 4/5 rounds, and still comes through.



Novice Winner Jason Ding

Semi-Slav Defense

Missouri Class Championship

W: Mark Johnson (1041)

B: David Reitz (1057)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.e3 e6 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bd6 6.Be2 0-0
 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.h3 e5 9.cxd5 cxd5 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Nd4
 a6 12.Bd2 Bd7 13.Rc1 Rc8 14.Nxd5 Nxd5 15.Qb3
 Bc6 16.Nxc6 Nxc6 17.Bf3 Nde7 18.Rc2 Ne5 19.Rxc8
 Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 Qxc8 21.Kg2 Re8 22.f4 Qc6+ 23.f3 Qd5 24.Qxd5 Nxd5 25.e4 Nxf4+
 26.Bxf4 Bxf4 27.Rf2 Rd8 28.h4 Rd2 29.Rxd2 Bxd2 30.h5 g6 31.hxg6 hxg6 32.Kg3
 Kg7 33.f4 Kf6 34.Kg4 Bxf4 (diagram) 35.Kxf4 g5+ 36.Kg4 Ke5 37.Kxg5 f6+ 38.Kg6
 b6 39.b3 a5 40.a4 Kxe4 41.Kxf6 Kd4 42.Ke6 Kc3 43.Kd5 Kxb3 44.Kc6 Kxa4
 45.Kxb6 Kb4 0-1



Mark gives back the piece to win. Bxf4!



Jay Shapiro, right, completes his comeback with a third straight win in Round 5.

Meanwhile, Jay Shapiro was facing an uphill climb after being the round two upset victim of Mark Johnson. This loss left him chasing the leaders the rest of the way. He came back by beating fellow D players in rounds 3 and 4, improving his own score and pushing his rivals down the chart. By round 5 he was sitting in 2nd, with the leader, Tess Butcher, only a half point ahead. The pairings pitted the two against each other, meaning Shapiro had to win, while Butcher took the title with a win or draw. The game between the leaders didn't disappoint. In fact, as the hours rolled by and the room slowly cleared out, it was eventually the last game remaining! Its not often a matchup of D players will outlast all other games, but this one did. Both players gave their all, using nearly the full time allowed. Shapiro was able to slowly improve his material count,

picking up one pawn, then a 2nd, but that meant little as the game entered an ending with queens, a rook, opposite bishops, and both kings in exposed. Butcher, recognizing the need to mate given her material deficit, pressed an attack that looked dangerous. Shapiro's king was cornered, but not mated, when he was able to launch own Queen. This started a pawn gobbling series of checks that would leave him well ahead. At this, Butcher threw in the towel, and Shapiro emerged as the D Class Champ.

Alapin Sicilian

Missouri Class Championship

W: Tess Butcher (1341)

B: Jay Shapiro (1240)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6 4.d3 Nc6 5.Nbd2 g6 6.d4 cxd4 7.cxd4 Qa5 8.Bd3 Bg4 9.0-0 Nxd4 10.h3 Nxf3+ 11.Nxf3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Qc7 13.Bf4 Rd8 14.Bb5+ Nd7 15.Rac1 Qb6 16.Bc4 Nf6 17.g4 h6 18.e5 dxe5 19.Bxe5 Bg7 20.h4 g5 21.h5 0-0 22.Bd3 Qe6 23.Bxf6 Bxf6 24.Rfe1 Qd5 25.Be4 Qb5 26.b3 Rd6 27.a4 Qd7 28.Red1 Rd8 29.Rxd6 Qxd6 30.Qf5 Bg7 31.Rc8 e6 32.Qh7+ Kf8 33.Bxb7 Rxc8 34.Bxc8 Qd1+ 35.Kg2 Qxg4+ 36.Kf1 0-1

The C Class had a big turnout, as usual, but had far less drama. Tha Dun, from the Springfield area, was held to a draw in the first round. He then ran off four straight wins to dominate the section and finish with the highest score in the tournament. His 4.5/5 was unmatched in any section! Dun grabbed the lead in round three, when he knocked out C class co-leader Doug Howe. Dun was up a pawn most of the game, but the ending turned into a queening race. Both sides queened, but Dun's one tempo advantage let him check Howe's king into trouble, and trade off the new monarchs to his advantage. This left a won king and pawn ending, and a sole lead for Dun going into the second day. Sunday then would be about holding on to that lead, which he did in fine style. Interestingly, he did it by beating the top and bottom of the section! Round four saw him knock out Bill Thompson, the 2nd seed in the B class (which was merged down due to a smaller turnout).

Then in round five he ground down the bottom seed in the section Charlie Ward to secure his plaque. It seems odd for the leader to face the bottom seed, but Ward was in that position due to having an outstanding event. Even with the loss to Dun, Ward enjoyed a 60 point jump in his rating, one of the weekend's best results.



Tha Dun picks up some hardware to show off back in Springfield. Dun first swore his win was all bout earning the trophy, but I don't buy it... He still insisted on getting his prize money!

Dutch Defense

Missouri Class Championship

W: Doug Howe (1470)

B: Tha Dun (1587)

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 c6 5.e3 d5 6.Be2 Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Rb1 Qe8 9.b4 Nbd7 10.b5 Ne4 11.Bd2 Ndf6 12.Ne5 Nxc3 13.Bxc3 cxb5 14.c5 Bxe5 15.Bxb5 Bxh2+ 16.Kxh2 Bd7 17.Bxd7 Qxd7 18.Rh1 Ne4 19.Be1 Qc7+ 20.Kg1 Rab8 21.f3 Nf6 22.Qa4 b6 23.cxb6 axb6 24.Qb5 Qc4 25.Bg3 Rb7 26.Kf2 Qxa2+ 27.Rb2 Qc4 28.Rhb1 Qxb5 29.Rxb5 Nd7 30.Rc1 Ra8 31.Rc2 Kf7 32.Bd6 Ra5 33.Rb1 b5 34.Rcb2 Nb8 35.Bb4 Ra4 36.Bc5 Na6 37.Rxb5 Rxb5 38.Rxb5 Nxc5 39.Rxc5 Rc4 40.Ke2 Rxc5 41.dxc5 Ke7 42.Kd3 g5 43.Kd4 h5 44.Ke5 g4 45.fxg4 hxg4 46.g3 Kd7 47.c6+ [47.Kd4=] 47...Kxc6 48.Kxe6 f4 49.exf4 d4 50.f5 d3 51.f6 d2 52.f7 d1Q 53.f8Q Qb3+ 54.Kf6 Qf3+ 55.Kg7 Qxf8+ 56.Kxf8 Kd5 57.Kf7 Ke4 58.Kf6 Kf3 59.Kf5 Kxg3 60.Ke4 Kf2 0-1

Meanwhile in B class, another smaller turnout meant the players from B were paired against the C class to make a complete section. Fortunately this situation wasn't nearly as bad as it could have been, as all the B



Red Hot Joel Stebbins wins the B Class title.

players were rated in the 1600's. The disparity was minimized to no more than 260 pts from top to bottom. The top finishers in the class, Joel Stebbins, and Justin Hull, met up in round 3, with Stebbins holding a half point lead. Hull was able to take away that lead by winning the matchup, and this put him in the driver's seat for Sunday. His 2.5 score improved to 3.5 after a win in round four. Then, with the title oh so close, his hopes were dashed in the last round when Bill Thompson took down the leader. This opened the door for Stebbins, who after a long fight, finally took the full point from Thomas Taylor of Arkansas. The win meant Stebbins finished 4/5, with the loss to Hull his only blemish. The Class B title is just an addition to the great results Joel has had recently. He entered the tournament "officially" playing up, as his supplement rating was 1474, but his actual up to date rating was 1678, after several great results in the past month. Stebbins had honorably refused to play in C class, where his rating allowed, knowing he belonged in B. Oddly enough, the move helped him earn a state title, because if he'd stayed in C he would have had to beat the record score of Tha Dun!

It has become a tradition in the Missouri Class Championships for A class to merge with the Master/Expert, as it seems like the A players that do enter always want to play up. This year, happily, that tradition was broken, and a solid group of A players got to fight it out among themselves for their title. The ten players were evenly matched, such that after two rounds only a single player had managed to win both games. Tony Cheng of Kansas held that honor, but would concede it in round three when Steven Rand took over the lead of the section by defeating him. Rand, who took home the B class trophy last year, now sat tied with Missouri's Denker rep James Smith in first place with 2.5 each. The two had drawn a tough game in round 2, so their fate was left up to others rather than a head to head matchup on Sunday. Rand improved his chances in round four, with a slashing win over Ignacio Becerra. Smith slipped back, although stayed in range, with a draw against Cheng.

Grunfeld Defense

Missouri Class Championship

W: Ignaccio Beccera (1846)

B: Steven Rand (1853)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bf4 0-0 6.e3 c5 7.Be2 Nc6 8.dxc5 Qa5 9.0-0 Qxc5 10.Qc2 e5 11.Bg3 e4 12.Nd2 Bg4 13.f3 exf3 14.gxf3 Bh3 15.Rfd1 Bh6 16.Kf2 Ne5 17.Nce4 Bxe3+ 18.Ke1 Nxe4 19.Bxe5 Bf2# 0-1

That left a final round matchup of Rand against Jared Taylor, the section's top seed. While Smith, still hoping to catch Rand, took on Beccera on the second board. Things clarified early, as Smith got into trouble quickly against Becerra. The game didn't end quickly, but anyone observing could easily see that Becerra had both a material and positional advantage, and only a huge turnaround would make a difference. Probably seeing this, Rand offered to shake hands in his contest with Taylor. The draw that resulted gave him 4 points, a total that could only be matched with a miracle win by Smith. No miracles happened on that board though, as Beccera drove home his advantage. Congratulations are in order for Steven Rand, who repeated as State Champion, and did so up a class, in a very competitive field!



The Top boards in A class, round 4.

Last, and certainly not least, we come to the top of the rating chart. The Master/ Expert division was packed with strong competition. Defending Co-Champions, Masters Ron Luther and Kevin Cao, both returned to defend their title. They faced four experts, and six A players that would try to bring them down. The field of A players playing up was nothing to scoff at either, considering it included the likes of Missouri Open Champion Selden Trimble, and red hot young (can you say underrated!) players like Vikram Arun, Spencer Finegold, William Tong, and Frank Smith. While a few of these playing up players did struggle, the majority of them grabbed upsets and made life very difficult for the favored field.

As for the competition, it was rough from the get-go for the two Masters. Both Cao and Luther had difficult games in the opening round against Finegold and Smith respectively. They did manage to get through the challenge and win, but neither could repeat in round two. It would be a pair of experts, Jialin Ding, and Barry Manthe, that cracked the Master's shields, by grabbing a win (Ding over Cao) and a draw (Manthe vs Luther). This left the class wide open, even more so after round three saw Luther beat Ding, leaving no perfect scores

Irregular Opening: 1.g3

Missouri Class Championship

W: Ron Luther (2210)

B: Frank Smith (1940)

heading into Sunday matchups.

1.g3 d5 2.Bg2 Nf6 3.d3 Bf5 4.a3 e6 5.Nd2 c6 6.h3
 Bd6 7.e4 Bg6 8.Ne2 h6 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.f4 e5 Dia-
 gram 11.f5?! Bh7 12.Nc3 d4 13.Ne2 Qc7 14.c3
 0-0-0 15.cxd4 exd4 16.Nc4 Ne5 [16...Bxg3? 17.Nxg3 Qxg3 18.Bf4] 17.Nxd6+
 Qxd6 18.b4 g5 19.Bb2 g4 20.h4 Nh5 21.Rc1 Rhg8 22.Kf2 Kb8 23.Rc5 Nf3
 24.Bc1 b6 25.Rc4 Qf6 26.Rh1 Bxf5 27.exf5 Qxf5 28.Nf4 Ne5 29.Be4 Qf6 30.Rc2
 Rd6 31.Kg2 Ng7 32.Rf1 Qe7 33.Ne2 Rf8 34.Bf4! f5 35.Bxc6 Rff6 36.b5 Nh5
 37.Bxe5 Qxe5 38.Nf4 Nxf4+ 39.gxf4 Qe3 40.Re1 Qh3+ 41.Kg1 Rxc6 42.Re8+!
 Kc7 43.Qe1! Qg3+ 44.Qxg3 Rxc2 45.Qe1 Rf7 46.Qe5+ 1-0



After 10 moves each

James Long, of Arkansas, has been coming up to play in Columbia events regularly over the past few years, and he always seems to exceed even his lofty 2000 rating at these events. Always a tough competitor, he showed it in round four, when he took Ron Luther head on, hoping to avenge a loss from a tournament a few weeks earlier. He wasn't able to pull off the complete upset, but he did hold the Life Master to a draw. This left the trophy up for grabs, as no player had mustered more than 3/4 going into the final round.

The fourth round had Luther and Ding leading the event with 3 points each, with the likes of Long, Manthe, and Frank Smith in hot pursuit with 2.5. Those five were the players still with a shot at first, and the question everyone wanted answered, was who among them would be paired with the three time defending champ. The answer... NONE! Luther, the top seed among the leaders, would instead be paired all the way down to an A player, Mark Kende, who was sitting with a respectable, but out of the running, 2pts. This seems just bizarre at first, but the answer is simple. Luther had, in the first four rounds, already played the other four highest scorers in the event! Much like we saw local hero Mike Brooks get paired with Nakamura in last year's US Championship, due to Nakamura already having played all the leaders. In this event, the pairing of Luther with anyone



James Long, standing, keeps an eye on Jialin Ding's Game.



Ron Luther vs Mark Kende . Final Round



Clearly the highlight of the whole tournament. The Laura Smith snack table. Thanks Chess Mom!



at his score, or the three at .5 below, was impossible since he had played them all. This meant Kende, a professor from Iowa, got the challenge of stopping Luther from taking yet another title. Kende was by no means intimidated by the task, in fact he happily declared before the round that this was exactly what he had made the long trip for, the chance to play strong competition! Kende's enthusiasm, and fighting spirit certainly weren't lacking, but that didn't save him from a classic problem seen by Luther's opponents. A slightly worse position out of the opening, and then the squeeze. Kende's time ticked, ticked, ticked away, and while his position remained with some hope, the clock put him in dire trouble while Luther had nearly 45 minutes remaining. However, anyone watching had to give the Iowan full props. As he reached the point of mere seconds remaining, and Luther began blitzing away to keep him from being able to make any plans, the two exchanged blows for what seemed like an eternity! Its hard to say with no notation, but I heard 20-30 moves were made with Kende's flag hanging by a thread. Luther finally landed a fork that stunned Mark for enough of a moment that the flag went down. The pursuers were disappointed, but impressed. With Long then securing a win against Ding, the day officially belonged to Ron Luther. He landed his (unprecedented?) fourth straight M/X Title!



GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE CONCLUDES FORTY-SIXTH SEASON

By Edward Baur

The Gateway Chess League, an organization of Saint Louis Area schools whose students compete in scholastic chess, concluded the 2009-2010 season with the awards banquet on Wednesday, May 5. The League began sponsoring area scholastic competition during the 1964-1965 season, with Brother Delmar Jorn of Chaminate High School as the first League president. The League sponsors competitions that determine the league champions. The League also sponsors the CROSSROADS ELEMENTARY TOURNAMENT, the GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE FALL OPEN TOURNAMENT, the GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE BOARD TOURNAMENT, the GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE TEAM TOURNAMENT, the GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE ACTION TOURNAMENT and the GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE CLASS TOURNAMENT. The League also co-sponsors, with the Missouri Chess Association, the MISSOURI SCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONSHIPS TOURNAMENT and the ARNOLD DENKER PLAYOFF TOURNAMENT. A total of 893 students from 151 schools competed in one or more of these events during the 2009-2010 season.

The three most active players, each with 48 games, were Luke Trask of Kennard Elementary, Akshay Srinivasan also of Kennard Elementary and Zhizhang Wei of Glenridge Elementary. Keturah Gadson of Central Christian Elementary led the League with 33 wins. Zachary Millsap of Spoede Elementary and Zhizhang Wei of Glenridge Elementary both finished the season with 32 wins.

Ladue High School was the Senior High League Champion this year. Vianney High School was the Ninth Grade and Under Junior High League Champion, McKinley High and Crossroads High were the Eighth Grade and Under Junior High League champion, and New City Elementary was both the Sixth Grade and Under Junior High League champion and the Fifth Grade and Under Junior High League champion.

2009 CROSSROADS ELEMENTARY TOURNAMENT

SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	LADUE
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	NATHAN PHAN
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	KENNARD
FIFTH GRADE AND UNER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	ADAM SCHELLENBERG

2009 GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE FALL OPEN TOURNAMENT

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM CHAMPION	VIANNEY
HIGH SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	BRAD SCHLOSSER
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	VIANNEY
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	VIDHAN SRIVASTAVA
EIGHTH GRADE AND UINDER TEAM CHAMPION	MCKINLEY
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	WILLIAM NESHAM
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	NORTH COUTY CHRISTIAN
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	GABRIEL BOYD
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	CENTRAL CHRISTIAN
FIFTH GRADE AND UNER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	JASON ZHOU

2009 GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE BOARD TOURNAMENT

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM CHAMPION	LADUE
HIGH SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	ISAIAH GADSON
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	VIANNEY
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	SATHYA ANAND
EIGHTH GRADE AND UINDER TEAM CHAMPION	SPERRENG
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	YU DENG
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	IMMACULATE CONCEP- TION
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	ANDREW LATUDA
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	SPOEDE
FIFTH GRADE AND UNER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	NATHAN PHAN

2010 GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE TEAM TOURNAMENT

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM CHAMPION	WASHINGTON
HIGH SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	JAMES JONES
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	LINDBERGH
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	VIDHAN SRIVASTAVA
EIGHTH GRADE AND UINDER TEAM CHAMPION	SPERRENG
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	SAM STEPHENS
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	CENTRAL CHRISTIAN
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	KETURAH GADSON
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	KENNARD
FIFTH GRADE AND UNER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	BRANDON STANFIELD

2010 GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE ACTION TOURNAMENT

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM CHAMPION	LADUE
HIGH SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	PETER HARRIS
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	VIANNEY
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	NICKY HART
EIGHTH GRADE AND UINDER TEAM CHAMPION	PARKWAY NORTHEAST
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	LUKE HERBST
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	MAPLEWOOD
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	VIGNESH NATARAJAN
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	MCKELVEY
FIFTH GRADE AND UNER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	NATHAN PHAN

2010 GATEWAY CHESS LEAGUE CLASS TOURNAMENT

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM CHAMPION	LINDBERGH
HIGH SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	NATHANIEL JOHNSON
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	CROSSROADS
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	MATTHEW LARSON
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	SPERRENG
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	LUKE HERBST
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	CENTRAL CHRISTIAN
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	JOHSUA WIEDNER
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	MCKELVEY
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	MICHAEL YIN

2010 MISSOURI STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM CHAMPION	ROCKHURST
HIGH SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	HENRY CAO
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	VIANNEY
NINTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	JAMES SMITH
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	PARKWAY NORTHEAST
EIGHTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	KEVIN CAO
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	NEW CITY
SIXTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	MARGARET HUA
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	SPOEDE
FIFTH GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	KETURAH GADSON
THIRD GRADE AND UNDER TEAM CHAMPION	MCKELVEY
THIRD GRADE AND UNDER INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION	JASON SCHIBLER

For more information on the Gateway League, Visit www.gatewaychess.org



Support The MCA!

Please check your [MCA membership](http://www.mca.org) expiration date. If it will expire within a few months, [renew](http://www.mca.org) today. We hope you appreciate the MCA and its website at www.mochess.org. The printed MCB is sent to current Members for only \$20, and all other Members can view the MCB online at www.mochess.org even less.

Scholastic Schedule

Chess Clubs

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. Rounds: 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

Missouri Chess Festival—September 18th

MCA SCHOLASTIC: 5SS, G/30. Prizes: Trophies to top 3, medals for 4th-10th in each section: HS, K-8, K-6, K-3. Entry: \$10 by 9/10, \$15 on site. Registration: 9-10am Saturday. Rounds: 10:30/11:45/1:15/2:30/3:45. Awards: 5:15pm. Entries/Info: Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice St., Jefferson City, MO 65109. JChess89@yahoo.com, 573-291-0852.

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

Upcoming National Events:

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>

Heart of America Chess Association

Noland Baptist Church
4505 S Noland Rd. Independence, MO 64055
Meets: Friday nights 7-11pm
Community Club, No fee to play
Contact Bob Holliman-chessbob@aceweb.com

Westport Chess Club

Westport Flea Market 817 Westport Rd. Kansas City, MO
Meets: Tuesdays 6:30 to 11:00 PM
\$2 for adults, \$1 for Students and under 18
Contact Ray Birt-westportchessclub@gmail.com
Website-<http://www.westportchessclub.org>

Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis

4657 Maryland, Saint Louis, Missouri 63108
Club open Tuesday-Sunday
Weekly Blitz, Bughouse, Lessons, and Tournaments
Contact Tony Rich-trich@saintlouischessclub.org
or call 314-361-CHESS
Website-<http://saintlouischessclub.org>

St. Louis Chess Club

St. Louis Bread Company 6630 Delmar Ave. (U-City)
Chess played every night 6-9pm, most players come weekends
Contact Joesph Garnier-chessoholic@sbcglobal.net

St. Peters Chess Club

235 Salt Lick Road, St. Peters
Beginner Classes: Fridays 4-5 pm--Free!
Intermediate/Advanced classes: \$10/hr
Open chess club 5-7 pm
Contact Tim Nesham-tim.nesham@gmail.com

Univ. of Missouri Chess Club

Memorial Union (518 Hitt Street) Room N206, Columbia
Meets: Mondays 7 to 10 PM August-May
Contact Charlie Ward-czar8196@gmail.com
Website-<http://muchess.students.missouri.edu>

Missouri S&T Chess Club

Havener Center, Shamrock Room Missouri S&T
1346 N. Bishop, Rolla, MO 65409
Meets: Thursdays 7 to 9 PM
Contact Thomas Rehmeier-trrthf@mst.edu

Springfield Park Board Chess Club

Southside Senior Center 2215 S. Fremont Ave., Springfield
Meets: Fridays 6:30 to 11:00 PM
Contact Joe Brozovich- jmbroz@att.net or call 417-882-3992
Website- <http://www.springfieldparkboardchessclub.com>

Frontier Chess Association

Conference room, St. Joseph Public Library St. Joseph, MO
Meets: Fridays 7-9 PM Fees: \$5 per visit, \$40 annual
contact Jim Heitz-jcatrotg@ccp.com
Call 816-238-3048 after 5p.m.
Website- <http://frontierchess-stjomo.tripod.com>



Invitational Championship 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)
- 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, Missouri Class M/X 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)
Isaiah Gadson	Wildcard
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)
Steven Rand	Greater Kansas City Open Winner
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>
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 Missouri Amateur Championship to run concurrently with the Invitational. See page 8 for full details on the Amateur Championship!

Tactics Simplified: Solutions

Diagram #1:

We will start out with some simple combinations. Here we see that the Knight on e4 is pinned. However if the rook was not on f1 then Nf2 would be mate. So we remove the Defender with... 1...Rg1+!!
2.Rxg1 Nf2#

Diagram #3

In this diagram we remove 2 Defenders. Can you see how? 1.Qxd7+!! Rxd7 2.Re8+ Rd8 3.Rxd8#
Keres - Alekhine—Margate 1937

Diagram #2

White is a pawn up, however his pieces are not well placed. How do we use both themes of a Double Attack, and Removing the Defender to win?
1...Qe4!! This works because of the weakness of the back rank. Alekhine - Bogoljubow— 1929

Diagram #4

Here Black has just won the e-pawn but now pays a big price. 1.Qh6!! Mate is unavoidable. This one reflects another idea of mine, called the "10 Point Rule", of which I will expound upon, in a future issue. We will look at some tougher ones in the next MCB.

Thanksgiving Open — November 26th-28th, 2010 \$10,000 Prize Fund Event in Saint Louis!

- ♔ 6SS, G/120 (2-day option Rounds 1-3 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.
- ♔ Entry Fee: 3 day \$99 if received by 11/20. \$119 at site. 2 day \$98 if received by 11/20. \$118 at site. Juniors may pay half entry fee, but compete for half the prizes. Scholastic Entries count half for based on totals.
- ♔ 3 Sections: (Open, U1800, U1400)
- ♔ Prize Fund: \$10,000 (b/100): Open: \$\$Guaranteed! \$1,600-\$1,000-\$600-\$400 U2200: \$500-\$300. U2000: \$450-\$250. U1800: \$1,000-\$500-\$300. U1600: \$450-\$250. U1400: \$1,000-\$500-\$300. U1200: \$250-\$150. U1000: \$225-\$125. Unrated players may play in any section but are only eligible to win place prizes.
- ♔ Round Times: 3 day schedule Registration: Fri. 11:00-12:30 Rounds: Friday 1, 6 Saturday 1, 6 Sunday 10, 3. 2 day schedule Registration: Saturday 8-8:45 Rounds: Saturday 9, 12, 3, 6. Sunday: 10, 3. (Schedules merge after Round 3) Re-entry: \$60 (available in all sections and not counted toward b/PF) Top 3 overall qualify for 2011 Club Championship. Three 1/2 point byes available if declared before Round 1.
- ♔ Hotel (ask for chess rate): 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. Ent: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at saintlouischessclub.org Info: 314-361-CHESS info@saintlouischessclub.org

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS



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. Entry Fee: \$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). Prizes:(b/40) \$1,200: Each Section \$225-\$150-\$100-\$75-\$50 (1st-5th). Winners of Premiere and Amateur Sections qualify for 2011 Club Championship. Registration: 8-8:45. Rounds: 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. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at saintlouischessclub.org Info: 314-361-CHESS info@saintlouischessclub.org.

August 14-15 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. Rounds: Sat-10/2:30/7, Sun-9:30/2. One Section. Prizes: b/40: \$250-1st Overall, Class prizes: \$120-1st in each X, A, B, C, D, E, U1000/Unr. Entry Fee: \$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. Hotel: 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, 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. Registration: 8:30-9:30. Rounds: Sat-10/2:30/7, Sun-9:30/2. Prizes: b/20: \$500-1st, \$250-2nd, \$125-3rd. Entry Fee: Free!—courtesy of the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis. MCA Membership. req'd. Hotel: 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. Entries/Info: Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice St., Jefferson City, MO 65109. JCChess89@yahoo.com, 573-291-0852.

August 28—Vassily Smyslov Open - Columbia

3SS, G/75. Memorial Union room N206, 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>

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. Entry Fee: \$60, \$50 for annual members of the club if registered by 9/3. MCA Membership Req'd from \$10. OSA. One Section. Prizes: \$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. Registration: 9-9:45. Rounds: 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 Info: 314-361-CHESS info@saintlouischessclub.org.

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

2010 MISSOURI OPEN: 5SS, G/120. Best Western Columbia Inn, 3100 I-70 Dr. SE, Columbia, MO; **2-Sections:** *Open & Reserve (U1600):* Prizes: *Open*—\$250-1st Overall + Plaque (Top MO resident earns spot in 2011 Invitational Championship), \$120-1st in each M/X, A, B. *Reserve*—\$200-1st Overall + Plaque, \$100-1st in each C, D, E, U1000/Unr. EF: \$40 by 9/10, \$50 on site. Site entries cash only. Reg: 9-9:45am. Rounds: Sat-10/2:30/7, Sun-10:30/3. One 1/2-pt bye. **MISSOURI QUICK CHAMPIONSHIP:** 4SS, G/29 (QR). Prizes: b/20, \$75-1st Overall + Plaque, \$50-1st U1600. Reg: 6:30-7pm Friday. Rounds: 7/8/9/10pm. Entry Fee: \$10 by 9/10, \$15 on site. **MISSOURI BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP:** 5SS, G/5 (QR). Prizes: \$75-1st + plaque, \$50-2nd, \$25-3rd. Entry Fee: \$10. Registration: 8-8:15am Sunday. Rounds paired ASAP, ending by 9:30am.

(chess festival continued)

MCA SCHOLASTIC: 5SS, G/30. Prizes: Trophies to top 3, medals for 4th-10th in each section: HS, K-8, K-6, K-3. Entry: \$10 by 9/10, \$15 on site. Reg: 9-10am Saturday. Rounds: 10:30/11:45/1:15/2:30/3:45. Awards: 5:15pm.

MCA membership required for all events except MCA Scholastic, available on site from \$10, OSA. MCA General Membership meeting 9:30-10:15am Sun. Hotel: \$69/night, free Wi-Fi & Hot breakfast, 573-474-6161, mention CHESS. Entries/Info: Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice St., Jefferson City, MO 65109. JCChess89@yahoo.com, 573-291-0852.

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

4SS, G/75. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs, deducted from earnings. Entry Fee: \$60 for 2 person team, \$50 for 2 person team that are annual members of club if registered by 10/7. MCA Membership Req'd from \$5. OSA. Prizes: \$1,200 Championship Team: \$500. 1st Place Team with aggregate rating under 3600: \$400. 1st Place Team with aggregate rating under 3000: \$200. Place Team with aggregate rating under 2400 1st Place team members qualify for 2011 Club Championship. Reg: 9-9:45. Rds: 10, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15. Ad Hoc teams formed at the door. 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. Additional Info: Tony Rich or visit the CCSCSL Website.

October 16-17, Springfield Park Board Chess Club Open—Springfield

5SS, G/120. South Side Senior Center, 2215 South Fremont Ave., Springfield, MO 65804. Entry Fee: \$40 if by 9/30, \$35 for SPBCC members, \$50 at site. Class prizes based on 50. Overall prizes guaranteed: \$500-300-200. (\$\$G 1000) X,A,B,C,D,U1200, \$100, \$50, / Unr \$100. Registration: 8:30-9:30 on 10/16. Rounds: 10, 2:30, 7:00; 9:00-1:30. USCF required, MCA req'd for MO residents. OSA. All site entries and memberships must be paid in cash. Bonus: Friday night jumble with Life Masters Bob Holliman, Ron Luther. Lecture at 7 pm with simultaneous exhibition at 8 pm. Hotel: Lamplighter Inn, 1772 S. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65804, 417-882-1113. Request tournament rate of \$59.95/night. Lamplighter Inn is about 1 mile from the tournament site. 30 rooms (24 non-smoking & 6 smoking, all with 2 queens size beds) will be held till Oct. 11th. Visit Springfield Park Board Chess Club Website for current information and directions. Entries/Info: Joe Brozovich, 4334 S. Newton, Springfield, MO 65810, 417-882-3992. 20 G P Points

Oct 30 Trick or Treat Open - Columbia

3SS, G/75. Memorial Union room N206, 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>

Nov 26-28 Thanksgiving Open—St. Louis

6SS, G/120(2-day option Rds 1-3 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. EF: 3 day \$99 if received by 11/20. \$119 at site. 2 day \$98 if received by 11/20. \$118 at site. Juniors may pay half entry fee, but compete for half the prizes. Scholastic Entries count half for based on totals. 3 Sections: (Open, U1800, U1400) PF: \$10,000 (b/100): Open: \$\$GTD \$1,600-\$1,000-\$600-\$400 U2200: \$500-\$300. U2000: \$450-\$250. U1800: \$1,000-\$500-\$300. U1600: \$450-\$250. U1400: \$1,000-\$500-\$300. U1200: \$250-\$150. U1000: \$225-\$125. Unrated players may play in any section but are only eligible to win place prizes. 3 day schedule Reg: Fri. 11:00-12:30 Rds: Fri 1, 6 Sat 1, 6 Sun 10, 3. 2 day schedule Reg: Sat. 8-8:45 Rds: Sat: 9, 12, 3, 6. Sun: 10, 3. Schedules merge after Round 3. Re-entry: \$60 (available in all sections and not counted toward b/PF. Top 3 overall qualify for 2011 Club Championship. Three 1/2 point byes available if declared before Round 1. Hotel (ask for chess rate): 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. Ent: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108, or online at saintlouischessclub.org Info: 314-361-CHESS info@saintlouischessclub.org

Visit www.mochess.org/Tournaments.htm for an up-to-date calendar of Missouri chess events.



Featured Game

Annotations by Joseph Garnier

During the past few months many people have asked to see a copy of my draw against Ben Finegold from the Team Championship. I'm appreciative that there's so much interest in my game, but I feel that it isn't deserving. Instead of annotating the draw, I've decided to discuss a game of much higher quality. Although I lost in the end, I feel that it's one of the best games I've ever played!

Benoni Defense

Friday Action Quads

W: GM Ben Finegold (2604)

B: Joseph Garnier (2061)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 (I've been playing the Modern Benoni for about six months and I figured it was time to give it a shot in tournament play. I thought if I was going to receive a revenge beating I may as well learn something in the process.) **4.Nf3** (4.Nc3 is another option that is a bit more flexible since it gives white the option to play the Taimanov Variation with f4 and Bb5+. That said Nf3 is perfectly fine if you intend on playing more classical lines. Obviously 4...Nxe4?? loses to 5. Qa4+) **4...xd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Bd3 Bg7 8.h3** (Diagram right) (So far the development has been pretty typical. With 8.h3 Ben prevents my Bishop from coming to the g4 square. The logic behind this is simple. If black is allowed to play Bxf3 then it will increase his control over the e5 square. This is an important point in the Modern Benoni because if white is allowed to play e5 he can very easily develop a strong attack. However, the move h3 isn't independently constructive with regard to white's development and results in a slight loss of time. Another option is 8.0-0 but it's simply a matter of taste.) **8...0-0 9.0-0** (9. Nc3 is more typical here. I thought there was a good chance Ben was trying to take things off the beaten path. After about a minute I played.) **9...Na6** (According to Chessbase and Rybka 9...b5 is the most common move here. I considered it during the game but I didn't like the resulting 10. Bxb5 Nxe4 11. Re1 Nf6 12. Bg5. Upon further investigation I found that this line is harmless for black. My reasoning behind 9...Na6 was that I could maneuver it to c7 and then support a later a6 and b5. I've seen a few Tal games from the Modern Benoni where the pawns rolled up the board and basically crushed everything in their path. I rather like this idea, not to mention Tal himself and I figured it couldn't be too bad.) **10.Re1 Nc7 11.a4** (I hate grandmasters! This move basically stops my plan dead and forces me to find something else. If 11...a6 white will play 12.a5! And bind up my queenside.) **11...b6 12.Na3 Ba6** (I thought my light squared bishop was totally useless so I decided to trade it. I didn't have enough time to make another detailed plan.) **13.Nb5 Bxb5** (I guess Ben



White preserves his f3 Knight with 8. h3



Black sacrifices the a pawn with 19... a5. Will the b and c pawn rolling compensate?

wanted to keep the Bishop on d3 to defend e4. I didn't see anything better than chopping of that bad boy on b5.) **14.axb5 Nd7 15.Bg5 Qe8** (Saving the queen seemed like a good idea. I choose e8 because it guarded e5 and pressured the b5 pawn.) **16.Bf4 Ne5 17.Bxe5 Bxe5 18.Qe2 Bg7** (I figured the bishop was stronger than the knight because of the pressure on b2.) **19.Ra2** (The plan of Re1 is very simple and would suck the life out of my position.) **19...a5!** (Diagram left) (Even though Rybka thinks this is a mistake, I gave this move an exclamation because it's a very interesting pawn sacrifice. The idea is that the b and c pawns mobilize while the white A pawn remains firmly blockaded. During the game I only considered this move for about a minute and obviously I was unable to calculate all the ensuing complications However, the alternative of being slowly squeezed to death was less than appetizing. After the game I asked Ben what he thought of this move and he replied "What else?") **20.bxa6 b5** (Rybka suggest 21. Ra7 al-



Position after White plays 26. h4

though I still think it's overly concerned with regaining the lost material.) **21.a7 c4 22.Bc2 Qc8** (The computer gives this a solid 1.14 advantage for white. Obviously it's hard to argue with something that has an estimated rating of over 3000, but I fail to see how white has any advantage at all.) **23.Qe3 Qb7 24.Rea1? Rfe8?** (After the game Ben pointed out that 24...b4! Gives black an advantage.) **25.Qf4 Qb6 26.h4** (Diagram Left) (At this point I was fairly confident with my position. I thought h4 was a somewhat meaningless display on the Kingside aimed at finding counter play. Rybka however thinks this idea is quite strong and provides some complicated computer calculation to back it up. Considering the mutual time pressure it was unlikely either of us understood the complications. My guess is that the idea of h4 was played somewhat intuitively seeing that Ben's time usage at this point was

rather limited.) **26...Re7** (I spent two minutes on this multi purpose

move. The possible defense across the seventh rank was rather comforting and I liked the pressure on a7.) **27.Bd1** (After the game Ben mentioned that he played this move because he wasn't sure what to do. I'm guessing this was an exaggeration but it does give my confidence a nice boost.) **27...Ne8 28.Qe3** (Ben spent quite a while on this move and at this point we both had around six minutes. Rybka gives black a -.38 advantage in the ensuing endgame. The following moves were played at a rather high rate of speed. Obviously there are many different options and missed opportunities for both sides.) **28...Qxe3 29.fxe3 c3?!**



Black plays 29. c3?!



Black stands slightly better as the time scramble begins.

(Diagram Right) (Rybka wants me to play 30...Rxe4. (I was overcome by the urge to win the scary looking a7 pawn. The rest of the game quickly became a mad time scramble and I was lucky to remember as much of it as I did. **30.Nd4 cxb2 31.Rxb2 Rxa7 32.Rxa7 Rxa7 33.Kf2 Nc7 34.Rc2 b4 35.Rc6 Be5 36.Ke2 Ra2+ 37.Kd3 Na6 38.Nb3 Kg7 39.h5 Nb8 40.Rc7 Na6 41.h6+ Kxh6 42.Rxf7 Rxe2 43.Ra7 Ra2 44.Kc4 Ra3 45.Re7 Bg3 46.Bg4.....1-0** (Diagram left) (At this point Rybka gives black a -1.09 advantage. The ensuing scramble quickly got messy and I missed a very nice tactic which allowed him to promote his e-pawn. Ben is a very strong bullet player and his ability to see tactics quickly puts mine to shame. Although many of you might consider me to be a strong at speed chess I can assure you that Ben is in a totally different league!

October 9th, 2-on-2 Team Tournament

4SS,G/75. Location: Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis,
4657 Maryland Ave. Saint Louis MO 63108,

- ♔ Prizes: \$1200:Championship \$500, U/3600 \$400, U/3000 \$200, U/2400 \$100
- ♔ Entry Fee: \$60 per team, \$50 for annual members if registered by 10/7
- ♔ Registration: 9-9:45am. Rounds: 10am, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15
- ♔ MCA membership required for MO residents

Advance entries/info:

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



RECENT GAMES FROM MISSOURI CHESS PLAYERS

Below are two games, from the Chicago Open, where Kevin Cao gained the Master title.

Sicilian Defense

Chicago Open

W: Kevin Cao (2179)

B: FM Adnan Kobas (2318)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 a6 3.d4
cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 e5 6.Nb3 Bb4
7.Bd3 b5 8.Bd2 d6
9.Qe2 0-0 10.0-0 Nbd7

11.a3 Bxc3 12.Bxc3 Bb7 13.Rad1 Re8 14.Bb4 Qb6
15.Na5 Nc5 16.Nxb7 Qxb7 17.Rde1 Rac8 18.Bxc5 dxc5
19.c3 Rcd8 20.Bb1 Rd7 21.f4 Qc7 22.f5 Red8 23.Rd1
h5 24.Bc2 c4 25.Rxd7 Rxd7 26.h3 h4 27.Rd1 a5
28.Rxd7 Qxd7 29.Qe1 Qd6 30.Kh2 Qd8 31.a4 Qb6
32.Qe2 Qc6 33.axb5 Qxb5 34.b3 Qc5 35.bxc4 Qa3
36.Qe3 Qa2 37.Qd3 Qa3 38.Qe3 Nd7 39.Qd3 Qe7
40.Qd5 Kh7 41.Qxa5 Qg5 42.Qa1 Qe3 43.Qd1 1/2-1/2

Torre Attack

Chicago Open

W: IM Odladapo Adu (2319)

B: Kevin Cao (2179)

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6
3.Bg5 Nbd7 4.e3 e6
5.Bd3 Be7 6.0-0 0-0
7.Nbd2 c5 8.c3 Re8

9.Qc2 b6 10.Bb5 Bb7 11.Ne5 Rf8 12.f4 Nxe5 13.fxe5
Ng4 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.Rae1 f5 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Nf3 Raf8
18.h3 Nh6 19.Bd3 Nf5 20.Ne5 c4 21.Bxf5 Rxf5 22.Qe2
Qg5 23.Rf3 Rxf3 24.Nxf3 Qg3 25.Ne5 Qg5 26.Kh2 h6
27.g4 Bc8 28.Kg3 Qf6 29.Kg2 Qg5 30.Rf1 Rxf1 31.Kxf1
Qe7 32.Kg2 Bd7 33.Kg3 Be8 34.h4 b5 35.a3 a5 36.Qf3
b4 37.axb4 axb4 38.e4 bxc3 39.bxc3 Qd8 40.Qe3 Qb8
41.h5 Qa8 42.Kh4 Qd8+ 43.g5 dxe4 44.Kg4 hxg5
45.Qxg5 Qxg5+ 46.Kxg5 e3 47.Nf3 Kh7 48.Ng1 Ba4
49.h6 gxh6+ 50.Kf4 Bd1 51.Kxe3 Bg4 52.Kf4 h5 53.Ke5
Kg6 54.d5 exd5 55.Kxd5 Kf5 56.Kxc4 Ke4 0-1

Games from the Missouri Class Championships

Sicilian Dragon

Missouri Class Championship

W: Mark Johnson (1041)

B: Jay Shapiro (1240)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6
3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be4
Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Be3

Nc6 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.0-0-0 Rc8 11.Bb3 Ne5 12.Bh6
Bxh6 13.Qxh6 Nc4 14.h4 Qa5 15.g4 Nxb2 16.Kxb2
Qxc3+ 17.Kb1 Kh8 18.h5 Ng8 19.Qg5 Rc5 20.hxg6
fxg6 21.Qxg6 h5 22.Bxg8 Rxg8 23.Qh6# 1-0

Colle System

Missouri Class Championship

W: Mark Kende (1948)

B: Vikram Arun (1883)

*Annotations by Mark
Kende* 1.d4 c6 2.Nf3
Nf6 3.e3 e6 4.b3 d5
5.Bb2 Nbd7 6.Bd3

Bd6 7.Ne5 Qc7 8.f4 b6 9.Nd2 a5 10.Qe2 Bb7 11.0-0
c5 12.Ndf3 0-0 13.Nxd7 Nxd7 [If 13...Qxd7 then
possibly 14.dxc5 leading to black's Kingside destruc-
tion 14...Bxc5 15.Bxf6 gxf6] 14.Bxh7+!? Kxh7

15.Ng5+ Kg8 16.dxc5 [16.Qh5 Nf6] 16...Be7 17.Qh5
Bxg5 18.fxg5 [18.Bxg7 In analysis, Arun pointed out
this wins faster] 18...Ne5 19.Rf4 Ng6 20.Rf3 e5
21.Rh3 Rfe8 22.Rf1 Qc6 23.cxb6 e4 [23...Qd6
24.Ba3 Qxa3 25.Qh7+ Kf8 26.Qxg6 black is still fac-
ing mate threats.] 24.Qh7+ Kf8 25.Ba3+ Re7
26.Qh8+ 1-0

Modern Defense

Missouri Class Championship

W: Jialin Ding (2030)

B: Ron Luther (2210)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7
3.Nc3 d6 4.g3 Nc6
5.Nge2 Bg4 6.Qd3
a6 7.Bg2 e5 8.f3?!

[8.d5] 8...exd4 9.fxg4 dxc3 10.Nxc3 Nf6 11.g5 Ng4
12.h3 Nge5 13.Qe2 Nd4 14.Qf2 c6 15.0-0 0-0
16.Nd1? 16...Ne6! 17.h4 f6! 18.Bh3 Qe7 19.gxf6
Rxf6 20.Qg2 Rxf1+ 21.Qxf1 Rf8 22.Qg2 Nf3+!
23.Kh1 Nc5 24.Be3 Ne1 25.Bg5 Qe5 26.Qg1 Qxe4+
27.Bg2 Nxg2 28.Qxg2 Be5 29.Nc3 Qg4 30.Rg1 Rf3
31.Kh2 Qf5 32.Nd1 Rxg3 0-1

French Defense

Missouri Class Championship

W: Tess Butcher (1341)

B: Terrance Shuman (1377)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5
3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd3
dxe4 5.Bxe4 c5 6.d5
Qb6 7.Qg4 g6 8.Qf4

f5 9.Qe5 fxe4 10.Qxh8 Kf7 11.Qxh7+ Kf8 12.Bh6+
Nxb6 13.Qxh6+ Kf7 14.Qh7+ Ke8 15.Qxg6+ Kd7
16.0-0-0 1-0

Taimanov Sicilian

Missouri Class Championship

W: Justin Hull (1698)

B: Stan Jackson (1507)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6
3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2
e6 7.Be3 Be7 8.g4 h6

9.Qd2 b5 10.Bf3 Ne5 11.Be2 b4 12.Na4 Nxe4
13.Qc1 Bh4 14.Nb3 0-0 15.Nbc5 Ng5 16.Bxg5 Qxg5
17.Qxg5 Bxg5 18.h4 Be7 19.g5 d6 20.Nd3 Bb7
21.Rg1 Nf3+ 22.Bxf3 Bxf3 23.gxh6 g6 24.Nb6 Ra7
25.Rg3 Bh5 26.Nf4 Kh7 27.Nxh5 gxh5 28.0-0-0 d5
29.Rg7+ Kxh6 30.Rdg1 Bxh4 31.R7g2 Rb7 32.Na4
Rc8 33.b3 Rbc7 34.f4 Rc6 35.Rh1 Bf6 36.Nb2
Bxb2+ 37.Kxb2 d4 38.Rg5 Rc5 39.Rh5# 1-0

Queen's Gambit Declined

Missouri Class Championship

W: William Tong (1920)

B: Spencer Finegold (1974)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6
3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 Be7
5.Bg5 0-0 6.e3 h6
7.Bh4 b6 8.Rc1 Bb7

9.Bxf6 Bxf6 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Bd3 c5 12.dxc5 bxc5
13.0-0 Nd7 14.Bb1 Ne5 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.Qe2 Qe7
17.Nxd5 Qd6 18.Nf4 Bxf4 19.exf4 Qxf4 20.Rxc5
Rac8 21.Rxc8 Rxc8 22.Re1 g6 23.Qe3 Qb4 24.b3
Rc6 25.Rf1 Re6 26.Qxa7 Bxg2 1/2-1/2

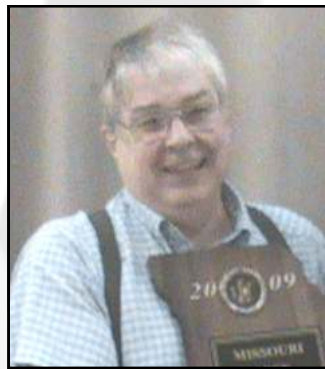
Missouri State Champions



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

2010 Class Champions

Master —	Ronald G. Luther
Expert	
Class A	Steven J. Rand
Class B	Joel Stebbins
Class C	Tha Dun
Class D	Jay Shapiro
Class E	Mark Johnson
Novice	Jason Ding



Bughouse Champion Team
Tony Dutiel &
Elizabeth Oliver

For a complete history of Missouri Champions, visit 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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