

*Where Organized Chess in America Began*

# EMPIRE CHESS

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## **Make Every Day National Chess Day**

NYSCA members tend to be the organizers of most of the chess events that make the Empire State the capital of chess in the United States, so in some ways I am preaching to the choir.

Having said that, it is my hope that in 2012 that our organizers would help to organizer a New York State Championship. Particularly outside the New York City/Hudson Valley corridor, NYSCA has not had many events in recent years.

Part of the reason is our own success. The New York State Championship has been anchored in Albany largely because the site is centrally-located and the site is well-suited to the needs of NYSCA and its members. It's hard to imagine a better location.

The New York State Scholastic has had a similar history. In recent years, it has become more and more difficult to schedule the State Scholastics in a downstate location and have the event be financially viable. The two issues are the amount of money that it takes to get space and hotel rooms, and the relative lack of support from upstate for the downstate tournaments, which makes it more difficult to get enough room nights to offset exhibit space costs.

Our membership has also shown a preference for hotel sites over schools or college sites, both of which require transportation from the hotel to the playing site.

There are over state events though. The Amateur Team has had a long history, though it hasn't been run the last few years. The same is true for the State Amateur. Both of these events can be run for a per player fee during 2012, so you can run a championship with less effort and cost that in the past.

Give it a try. You'll be happy you did. If you are interested, please contact an officer.

# EMPIRE CHESS

“The magazine of America’s oldest chess organization”  
Volume XXXIV, Number 3 – Fall 2011

Cover: WFM Anna Levina displays her winning form at September’s Buffalo FIDE Chess Festival. Courtesy Buffalo Niagara Chess Corner..

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Please send articles and advertisements in camera-ready format for publication. (TIF file, Adobe Photoshop, 100 lines per inch). Chess games should be in ChessBase, with boards and positions in final form. Articles should be sent via e-mail, in Microsoft Word, Times New Roman font, size 11. **Deadline for the Winter issue is December 15, 2011**, although earlier submissions are appreciated, and will more easily guarantee a space in the next magazine.

# ***Michael Chiang wins State Championship in tiebreak squeaker --Narrowly wins over Ostrovskiy and Aaron***

***by Bill Townsend***

The 133rd New York State Championship was held September 2 through 5 at the Albany Marriott in Colonie. About 178 players competed in the six sections which is, narrowly, the lowest turnout that the state championship has seen since it started being held in Colonie in 2006. Of course there are major extenuating circumstances: the economy is still not robust and many New York State communities were still cleaning up after Hurricane Irene, which came through the region the Sunday before the tournament. That being said, 178 isn't a bad showing: for example, the 2005 event only had 145 players.

The Open section was weaker than usual with no Grandmasters, two International Masters and three FIDE masters. The section finished in a three way tie at  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$  between scholastic players Michael Chiang, FM Aleksandr Ostrovskiy (the defending champion) and NM Deepak Aaron. All three are New York State residents, which has seldom been the case the last few years. Tiebreaks placed the three in exactly this order, so Chiang was declared state champion, however this requires a bit of explanation.

Going into the last round, Deepak was leading the field by a full point: he had  $4\frac{1}{2}$  and his closest rivals had  $3\frac{1}{2}$  at best. However, in the final round he was paired with Ostrovskiy, who is rated about 100 points over his head. Deepak held his own for a while, but then it became plain he was going to lose. I felt confident that even if he did lose the tiebreaks would favor him, but when everything was finished I was astonished to see that he was third. Not only that, he had beaten the first place finisher, Chiang, in their individual game. How on earth could this result be justified?

In 2002, after the championship ended in a four-way tie, the organizers decided that tiebreaks would be used to declare a single champion rather than having multiple players get the trophy.

For all other prizes they simply divide the cash prizes among equal scores. A variety of tiebreak systems can be used, but according to the *Official Rules of*

*Chess* the primary one is Modified Median: all the scores of the players' opponents are added together and the lowest one is dropped. This tiebreak gave the result: Chiang  $19\frac{1}{2}$ , Ostrovskiy 19, and Aaron 18. The second tiebreak used is called Solkoff, which is simply the sum of the opponents' scores. The result there is: Chiang and Ostrovskiy  $21\frac{1}{2}$ , Aaron  $20\frac{1}{2}$ . The third tiebreak method, the one I thought they were going to use, was Cumulative: the players' round-by-round scores are added together. This method obviously favors Deepak, with the result being: Aaron  $17\frac{1}{2}$ , Ostrovskiy 15 and Chiang  $14\frac{1}{2}$ . (*Editor's note: since the advent of computer pairings, the Cumulative System has fallen out of favor as a primary tiebreak, as all kinds of tiebreak systems can now be easily calculated in real time. It is notable that Ostrovskiy "won" the round-robin among the three top finishers with a  $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  score, while Aaron had one point and Chiang  $\frac{1}{2}$ . All three also played Rochester FM Ben Dean-Kawamura, with Aaron and Chiang winning and Ostrovskiy drawing, leaving Ostrovskiy and Aaron tied at 2-1 against common opponents.*)

The fact that these tiebreak systems were used to determine a champion led to a somewhat absurd situation: the championship was decided by a game not played by any of the contenders. In the final round National Master Yfim Treger was clearly lost to Expert Kapil Chandran, but in the middle of some complex tactics he managed to swindle a win. Since Chandran had played Ostrovskiy and Treger hadn't played any of the leaders, this gave Chiang the margin he needed to win. If Chandran had won, like it seemed he was going to, Ostrovskiy would have repeated as champion. See below for that crazy game.

Anyway, to complete the section results: tied for fourth with 4-2 were Treger and IM Rafael Prasca Sosa from Venezuela. Tied for sixth with  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$  were: FM Ben Dean-Kawamura, FM Igor Nikolayev, NM Matan Prilleltensky, Matt Slomski and NM Lonnie Kwartler. Tied for eleventh with 3-3 were: IM Jay Bonin, Kapil Chandran, Peter Henner, and Steven Taylor.

In the Under-2200 section longtime Syracuse-area Expert Viktor Levine dominated, finishing with  $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ , a full point ahead of the rest of the field, drawing only in the final round a point up on the 29-player field. Second and third with  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$  were Sam Barsky and Michael Ainsworth, both of whom took half-point byes during the tournament. Barsky was undefeated, while Ainsworth lost to Levine in the

fourth round. Tied for fourth with 4-2 were newly -inducted New York State Chess Hall of Famer Ed Frumkin, Harold Stenzel and David Petty. Six players tied for seventh with 3½-2½: Evan Rabin, Jason Margiotta, Jason Shi, Philip Sells, Ethan Segall and Robert Kwong.

In the 38-player Under-2000 section Massachusetts player Robert Campbell tied for first with scholastic player Malik Perry at 5-1, with Campbell returning to the Expert class, and Perry raising his rating to 2062, leading to the oddity of the Under 2000 champion leaving the tournament with a higher rating than the Under 2200 Champion. Tied for third with 4½-1½ were: Stanislav Busygin (who was leading the tournament until a last-round loss to the veteran Campbell), Daniel Kostovetsky and Vermonter Gabriel Katz. Tied for sixth with 4-2 were: Lilia Poteat, Phil Thomas and Lazar Vilotijevic, who had an unusual undefeated tournament with two wins and four draws. Tied for ninth with 3½-2½ were: Ken Chamberlain, Meghesh Pansari, Chen Qu and Benjamin Havey.

The 31-player Under-1800 section had a pleasant result for local players: Schenectady club members took the top three places. David Finnerman won the section with 5-1 with bookend draws surrounding four wins in rounds two through five, while Dilip Aaron (who started 4-0 before fading on the tournament's final day), Richard Moody and Quebecker Daniel Brule tied for second with 4½-1½. Tied for fifth with 4-2 were: Connor Wagner, Arthur Alowitz, Colin Denniston, Joseph McDermott, Pierce Cummings and *Empire Chess* scholastic columnist Zachary Calderon. Tied for eleventh with 3½-2½ were: Ivan Kaplan, Alexander Wei, and Zubin Mukerjee.

David Brodsky was the clear winner in the 39-player, Under-1600 section with a 5½-½ record, gaining an even 100 rating points with his result to end the tournament at 1658. Darius Jafary was clear second with 5-1, losing only to Brodsky in the fifth round to start Labor Day. Tied for third with 4½-1½ were Johan Gudmundsson and Michael Laccetti., both of whom lost to Jafary, and playing a last-round draw. Tied for fifth with 4-2 were: Terence Hardison, Max Katz and Jonathan Adelman. These last two players split the prize for best player rated under 1400. There were no fewer than eight players tied for eighth place with 3½-2½: Brian Clark, Jacob Chen, Charles Maguire, Christopher Lomeli, Nate Stevens, George Eason, Edwin Jin and Ryan Hoang.

There was a three-way tie at the top of the Under-1300 section at 5-1 among Brian Bongiovanni, Hong Jin and Jonah Klempner. All three split the prize money evenly, but Bongiovanni got the trophy on tiebreaks. Also worthy of note: young Jonah Klempner is the nephew of GM Joel Benjamin, the player who has won the championship nine times, a record I can't imagine ever being broken. In addition his grandmother, NYSCA treasurer Phyllis Benjamin, was playing in the same section (they didn't play each other). In how many other sports do things like that happen? Anyway, tied for fourth with 4-2 were: Erik Brodsky, Brittany Denniston (who won the prize for top player under 1100), Henry Olynik, Courtney Denniston, Kenneth Rossman and Neil Davignon. Max Kuperman and Susie Doscher tied for tenth place with 3½-2½. Shrevas Raman was top player under 800 with 3-3. Ken Stahl was top player rated between 999 and 800 with 2-4 while Aditya Singh was top unrated with 1-5.

The tournament was directed by Steve Immitt, Bill Goichberg and Brenda Goichberg for the New York State Chess Association and the Continental Chess Association.

The NYSCA Board of Directors met on the Sunday of the championship weekend. The usual business items were discussed, but there was some good news for Capital District players. The state championship will return to Colonie again next year, and the state scholastics will be held in Saratoga in early March for an unprecedented sixth time in a row. Moreover there are plans to hold more tournaments at the Studio of Bridge and Games in Schenectady, including the New York State Quick and Action championships.

Another discouraging statistic, at least for me: I only got 69 games from this event, as opposed to 116 from last years' tournament. There was a bit of a mix up in the early rounds with no carbonless scoresheets being available, and I'm sure that contributed to the dearth of games, but it was offset a little by people sending in games via e-mail.

For example, here is the only game I have from our new champion and it's his only loss of the tournament, to fellow top finisher Deepak Aaron. To tell the truth this game is hardly about Chiang at all, because it's a classic Deepak win. On move 19, Deepak makes a pawn sacrifice that looks sketchy in the cold light of computer analysis, but it must have

been very difficult to meet over the board. All it took was one second-best move from Chiang, and he was essentially lost.

**Deepak Aaron (2324) – Michael Chiang (2201)**  
**[C45] Scotch Game**  
**133rd New York State Championship, round 3**  
**Colonie, NY, Sept. 4, 2011**

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2 Nd5 8.Nd2 g6 9.c4 Ba6 10.Qe4 Nb6 11.b3 Bg7 12.Bb2 d5 13.cxd5 cxd5 14.Qe3 Bb7?!**

*This makes the game unique, but this Bishop doesn't seem to be worth the effort to preserve.*

**15.Bb5+ c6 16.Bd3 0-0 17.0-0 Rfe8 18.f4 f6 19.f5!?**  
*Very aggressive play. White wants open lines on the Black King, and is willing to give up a pawn to get them. White could have an advantage with less risk after 19.Rae1 c5 20.Qf2 f5.*

**19...gxf5 20.Rxf5 fxe5 21.Qg3 Kh8 22.Raf1 Rf8?**  
The net effect of this is for Black to give back his pawn with a lost game. Like it or not he had to play 22...e4! and now 23.Rf7 looks ugly, but Black seems to have the advantage after 23...Bxb2 24.Rxe7 Bd4+ 25.Kh1 Rxe7 26.Be2. In fact better for White is trading off the Queens with 23.Bxg7+ Qxg7 24.Qxg7+ Kxg7 25.Rf7+ Kg8 26.Bxe4 and things look even.

**23.Rxe5 Rxf1+ 24.Nxf1 Qf7 25.Rh5?!**  
*An inaccuracy, although it would take a lot of calculation to find 25.Qh4! and Black is lost: 25...Bxe5 There seems to be nothing better 26.Bxe5+ Kg8 27.Qg5+ Kf8 28.Bd6+ Ke8 29.Qe5+ Kd8 30.Bf5 Nc8 31.Qh8+ Qe8 32.Qf6+ and Black will have to give up his Queen to delay mate.*

**25...Bxb2 26.Rxh7+ Qxh7 27.Bxh7 Kxh7 28.Qc7+**  
*The sting at the end of the tail. White picks up another piece, with a winning advantage.*

**28...Kg8 29.Qxb7 Rf8 30.Ng3**  
*White still has to be careful. If he gets greedy he can still lose: 30.Qxa7?? Bd4+ with a mate in two.*

**30...Bd4+ 31.Kh1 Re8 32.h4!**  
*If White plays the more modest 32.h3 Black can force a draw: 32...Re1+ 33.Kh2 Bg1+ 34.Kh1 Be3+, etc.*

**32...c5 33.Nf5!**  
*Of course White can play 33.Qxa7 but this cuts right to the heart of the matter. A Knight and a Queen are a very powerful combination.*

**33...Bf6?**  
*Loses quickly, but Black's position is hopeless. Best would be 33...Re1+ 34.Kh2 Re6 35.Nxd4 cxd4 36.Qxa7 and White must win.*

**34.Nh6+ Kh8 35.Qf7 1-0**

Here is, as I mentioned above, the game that decided first place in this year's championship. Scholastic player Kapil Chandran had Brooklyn master Yefim Treger dead to rights, until the latter found a beautiful combination that turned the tables. Treger has a reputation for not resigning until he's practically being checkmated, but that dour resistance stood him in good stead in this case. He won \$300 for this effort, but more importantly by defeating Chandran, he deprived Aleksandr Ostrovskiy of the one tiebreak point he needed to repeat as New York State champion, so the crown went to Michael Chiang instead.

**Kapil Chandran (2152) – NM Yefim Treger (2291)**  
**[B06] Modern Defense**  
**133rd New York State Championship, round 6**  
**Colonie, NY, September 5, 2011**

**1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 a6 4.a4 d6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Be2 Nc6 7.d5 Bxf3 8.Bxf3 Nd4 9.Bg4 c5 10.0-0 Nf6**  
*Notice that Black has delayed playing this move until he practically has no choice. This is almost going beyond the call of duty to get White out of his opening book.*

**11.Bh3 b5 12.Qd3 0-0 13.axb5 axb5 14.Rxa8 Qxa8 15.Nxb5**  
*This is not winning a pawn, but trading a center pawn for a wing pawn - a strategically dubious idea.*

**15...Nxb5 16.Qxb5 Nxe4 17.Qd3 f5 18.f3 Nf6**  
Meekly ceding the center to White. More active was 18...Bd4+ 19.Be3 Nf6 with a roughly even game.

**19.c4 Nd7 20.Qe2 Bd4+ 21.Kh1 Rf7 22.g4!**  
*This looks like a dreadful positional blunder - White tears up his own kingside in order to block in his light-squared bishop - but it really is the best winning attempt and gives Black some unpleasant choices.*

**22...Ne5 23.gxf5 gxf5 24.Be3 Bxe3 25.Qxe3 Qf8 26.b3 f4 27.Qe4 Kh8 28.Be6 Rf6 29.b4!**

White's confidence in his attack seemed to be misplaced, until he rolled out this move. There's nothing much going on after 29.Rg1 Rg6.

**29...cxb4 30.c5! Qb8 31.c6 b3 32.Rg1 Rg6 33.Rb1**  
*This little dance with the Rooks sets up an interesting situation - Black has some threats against the White King, but other than that his position is falling apart - soon his loose pawns are going to start dropping and the pawn on c6 is a real threat.*

**33...Qa7 34.Qxf4 Kg7 35.Qd2?**  
*White's first misstep. After 35.Bf5! Black is in trouble 35...Rf6 36.Qg5+ Ng6 37.Rxb3 and White appears to be winning.*

**35...Nxf3?**

Seems sensible, but this lets White back in. Things are murkier after 35...Qc5.

**36.Qc3+ Ne5 37.c7 Qf2**

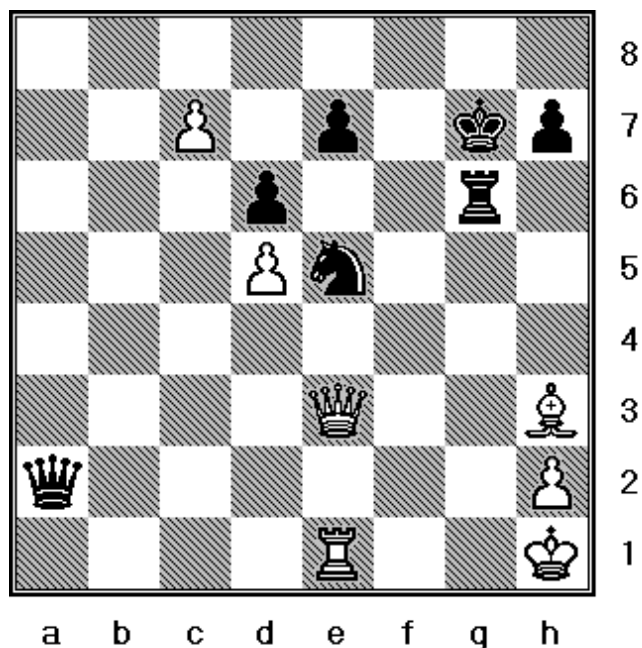
Black can't stop the c-pawn from queening, so he has to make a threat with every move.

**38.Bh3 Qe2 39.Re1 b2 40.Rxe2 b1/Q+ 41.Re1**

Not a mistake exactly, but I would think that 41.Qe1 was better proof against tactical tricks against the White King, which is all Black has, really.

**41...Qa2 42.Qe3??**

A blunder that loses quickly. Since the time control ended at move 40, the clock can't be blamed for this oversight. After 42.Rg1 Qxd5+ 43.Bg2 Qg8 White gets a second queen and the game is essentially over.



**43...Nd3!**

Black lets his Queen hang while he hunts for the King.

**44.Bg4**

No better is 44.Bg2 Nf2+ 45.Kg1 Nxe4.

**44...Rxc3 0-1**

Until his last round loss to Ostrovskiy, former State Scholastic champion Deepak Aaron was having a great tournament. The round before he had upset IM Jay Bonin, a three-time former state champion. What's even more surprising is that he did it in the ending. Deepak is known as a tactical player, not an ending whiz, but as we shall see, there were plenty of tactics in this ending.

**Deepak Aaron (2324) – IM Jay Bonin (2405) [B32] Sicilian Defense 133rd New York State Championship, round 6**

Colonie, NY, September 5, 2011

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb5 d6 6.c4 Be7 7.N1c3 a6 8.Na3 Be6 9.Be2 Bg5 10.0-0 Bxc1 11.Qxc1 Nf6 12.Rd1 Nd4 13.Bf1 Rc8 14.Nc2!**

A very nice pawn sacrifice, probably inspired by the fact that it would be rather awkward to keep defending it: 14.b3?! Qa5 15.Qb2 b5 and white is getting all tied up.

**14...Nxc2 15.Qxc2 Bxc4 16.Qa4+ Qd7 17.Qa3 Bxf1 18.Rxd6 Qe7 19.Rxf1**

White has gotten his pawn back, with a slight advantage.

**19...Rxc3!?**

This is a temporary exchange sacrifice - Black plans to get his Rook back. However, the results here favor White. Better seems to be 19...Rc6 20.Rfd1 0-0 and the game looks level.

**20.bxc3 Nxe4 21.Qa4+ b5 22.Qxe4 Qxd6 23.Qa8+ Qd8 24.Qxa6 0-0 25.Qxb5**

So the net effect of Black's combination is that White is a solid pawn up.

**25...Qc7 26.c4 Rb8 27.Qa4 g6 28.Qc2 Qc5 29.Rb1 Re8**

Black has to retreat because exchanging is bad: 29...Rxb1+ 30.Qxb1 Qxc4 31.Qb8+ Kg7 32.Qxe5+.

**30.Rc1 Kg7 31.h3 Rb8 32.Qe2 Rb4 33.Rc2 Rb1+ 34.Kh2 Qd4 35.Qe3 Qxe3??!**

After this White's c-pawn is going to be a bigger and bigger nuisance.

**36.fxe3 f5 37.c5 Kf6 38.c6 Rb8 39.Kg3**

The problem: if the Black King moves to the queenside to collect the c-pawn, the White King will infiltrate on the Kingside and start harvesting pawns.

**39...Ke6 40.Kh4 h6 41.c7 Rc8 42.Rc6+**

How does White proceed here? It seems like his best chance is to try to crack open the Kingside with 42.g4, but that seems to peter out: 42...Kd7 43.gxf5 gxf5 44.Kh5 Rxc7 45.Rd2+ (45.Rxc7+?? doesn't win because after 45...Kxc7 46.Kxh6?? f4 White loses.) 45...Ke6 46.Kxh6 Rc3 47.Re2 Kf6 48.Kh5 and it doesn't look like either side is making progress.

**42...Kd5 43.Rxc6 Rxc7 44.Rxh6 Ke4 45.Re6 Rg7 46.g4 fxg4**

46...f4? wins for White: 47.exf4 Kxf4 48.Rf6+ Ke3 49.g5 e4 50.g6 Kd2 51.Kg5, etc.

**47.hxc4 Ra7 48.Kg5 Rxa2 49.Rb6 Rf2??!**

This could be the losing move since after this Black's position seems to get incrementally worse, move by move. 49...Kxe3 seems to draw, but Black must be careful 50.Kf5 Ra5 51.Rb3+ Kf2 52.Rh3! Ra4 53.g5 e4 54.g6 e3 55.g7 Ra5+ 56.Kg6 Ra1, etc.

**50.Rb3 Rf3 51.Kh4 Rf1**

51...Rxe3? loses, because Black's King winds up in

*the way of his pawn: 52.Rxe3+ Kxe3 53.g5.  
**52.Kh5 Rf8 53.Kg6 Rg8+ 54.Kf6 Rf8+**  
 54...Rxc4? gives White a lost pawn ending after  
 55.Rb4+ Kf3 56.Rxc4 Kxc4 57.Kxe5.  
**55.Kg7 Ra8 56.g5 Kf5 57.g6 Ra6 58.Kh7 Rxc6**  
 This costs Black his Rook, but there was really no  
 help for it.  
**59.e4+ Kg5 60.Rg3+ Kf4 61.Rxc6 1-0**  
 Here Black resigned, which is hardly a shock since it  
 seems White has an easy win... or DOES he? Here is  
 something I stumbled on while I was looking at the  
 position: 61...Kxe4 62.Rf6 (This looks plausible,  
 but...) 62...Kd3 63.Rd6+ Ke3 64.Kg6 e4 65.Kg5 Kf3  
 66.Rf6+ Kg3 67.Re6 Kf3 and oops! The game is  
 drawn because the White King is too far away.*

However there is a surefire winning method if White knows what he's doing: 62.Kh6! (getting the King closer to the pawn is job #1!) 62...Kf3 63.Rf6+ Kg3 64.Re6 Kf4 65.Kh5 e4 66.Kh4 Kf3 67.Kh3 e3 68.Rf6+ Ke2 69.Kg2 Kd2 70.Re6 and the pawn is a goner.

I have no games from Viktor Levine, the winner of the Under-2200 section, but I have this game from second place finisher Michael Ainsworth. This game, like Aaron-Bonin, was decided in the ending, and like Chandran-Treger, it was a low-down, dirty, old-fashioned swindle. Yes, Virginia, you still have to worry about King safety when there aren't a lot of pieces on the board.

**Igor Yeliseyev (2158) – Michael Ainsworth (2047)**  
**[A18] English Opening**  
**133rd New York State Championship**  
**Under 2200 section, round 3**  
**Colonie, NY, September 4, 2011**

**1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.e5 Ne4  
 6.Nf3 Be7 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 c5 9.d4 Nc6 10.dxc5  
 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Bxc5 12.Bf4 Be6 13.Nd4 Ne7 14.Rb1  
 b6 15.Qd2 Nf5 16.g4!?**

*Rather provocative. White still has a good position playing more sedately: 16.Rfe1 Rc8 17.a4 Nxd4 18.cxd4 Be7 19.Bd3.*

**16...Nxd4 17.cxd4 Ba3 18.Qe3 Qe7 19.Rb3 Bb4  
 20.Bg3?!**

*Much better is 20.Bg5! f6 21.exf6 gxf6 22.Bh6 Rfe8 23.Bb5 and White wins material.*

**20...Rfc8 21.f4 Bd7 22.a3 Ba5 23.Bf3 Ba4  
 24.Bxd5!? Bxb3 25.Bxa8 Rc3 26.Qe4 Qxa3 27.f5  
 Rc1 28.Rxc1 Qxc1+ 29.Kg2 Qc2+? 30.Kh3?!**  
*30.Qxc2 Bxc2 31.d5 Be4+ 32.Kf2 gives White a dangerous pawn roller.*

**30...Qxe4 31.Bxe4 b5 32.d5 Bc7? 33.d6!?**

*Even better is 33.e6 fxe6 34.fxe6 Bd8 35.Bd6.  
**33...Bd8 34.Bc6 Bc4**  
 Black knows that White's pawn are about to crush  
 him, so he sets a little trap...  
**35.Bd7??***

*Which White obligingly falls into. He would have been still winning after 35.Bf2 or 35.Bh4.  
 35...Bf1, mate 0-1 (Ouch.)*

Bob Campbell, one of the co-winners of the Under 2000 section has had a string of fine results recently which have pushed his rating over the 2000 mark for the first time in nearly a decade. Here is one of his wins, a crazy firefight from round three.

**Nicolas De T Checa (1894) – Robert Campbell (1999) [A14] English Opening**  
**133rd New York State Championship**  
**Under 2000 section, round 3**  
**Colonie, NY, September 4, 2011**

**1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.b3  
 Nbd7 7.Bb2 b6 8.d3 Bb7 9.Nbd2 Rc8 10.Rc1 Ba8  
 11.Qc2 c5 12.Rfd1 d4 13.Nf1 Ne8 14.e3 e5 15.exd4  
 exd4 16.Rb1 Kh8 17.b4 f5**

*It's been pretty quiet and positional so far, but things are about to get nuts.*

**18.bxc5 bxc5 19.Ne1 f4!**

*It's just one little pawn, but it raises quite a ruckus.*

**20.Bxa8 Rxa8 21.Bc1 Bd6 22.Ng2 f3! 23.Nf4?! g5?**  
*The second player has a sudden case of tactical blindness. Instead he had the interesting exchange sacrifice: 23...Rxf4 24.Bxf4 Bxf4 25.gxf4 Qh4 26.Kh1 Qh3 27.Ne3 with a better game for Black.*

**24.Ne6 Qf6 25.Nxc5?**

*White returns the favor. Best seems to be simply taking the Rook with 25.Nxf8 Qxf8 26.Qd2 h6 27.h3 and Black has nothing.*

**25...h6 26.Ne4 Qe6 27.Qd2 Bf4!?**

*The right attacking idea, but it's even better this way: 27...Rf4! 28.gxf4 Qh3 29.Ne3 Bxf4.*

**28.gxf4 Qh3 29.Ne3 Rxf4 30.Bb2?**

*Black now has a forced mate. White had to play 30.Ng3 but he's losing anyhow after 30...Nef6.*

**30...Rh4 31.Ng3 Qxh2+ 32.Kf1 Qh1+ 33.Nxh1  
 Rxh1, mate 0-1**

Here is a game from the winner of the Under-1800 section, David Finnerman. His opponent is fellow Schenectady Chess Club member Dilip Aaron, who wound up coming in second. The advantage shifts a couple of times in this game – first White has the better of it, but makes a positional mistake which winds up handing the initiative over to Black. In his

turn, Black makes a bad exchange which leads to a won game for white.

**David Finnerman (1784) - Dilip Aaron (1738)**  
**[A13] English Opening**  
**133rd New York State Championship**  
**Under 1800 section, round 5**  
**Colonie, NY, September 5, 2011**

**1.c4 e6 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 d5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.0-0 dxc4**  
**6.Qa4 Be7 7.Ne5 Bd7 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.Bxc6 0-0**  
**10.Qxc4**

*Black gets some play for his lost pawn, but not quite enough.*

**10...Rb8 11.Bf3 Bb5 12.Qc2 Bd6 13.Nc3 Bd7 14.b3**  
**Qe7 15.Bb2 Rfe8 16.Rfe1 e5 17.e4?!**

*A positional error. White could simply play 17.d3 with a fine game. He really doesn't have to worry about Black playing ...e4.*

**17...Bg4 18.Nd5 Nxd5 19.Bxg4 Nb4 20.Qc3 Bc5!**  
*Black puts his finger on White's sore spot - the d-file, specifically the d4-square.*

**21.Qc4 Red8 22.Re2 Nd3**

*Now it's Black who clearly has the better position, in spite of his pawn minus.*

**23.Bc3 Qg5 24.Bf3 Qf6 25.Kg2 Rd6 26.b4 Bb6**  
**27.a4 Rbd8 28.Rf1 Rc6 29.Qb3 Qg6 30.Kh1 Rf6**  
**31.a5 Bxf2?**

*After building up a nice attacking position, Black zigs when he should have zagged. After 31...Rxf3 32.axb6 axb6 he still has White in a grip of iron. 32.Rexf2 Nxf2+ 33.Rxf2*

*Black has given up his two best attacking pieces for a pawn and a Rook - a bad bargain for him.*

**33...Rd3 34.Kg2 Rc6 35.Qa4**

*Suddenly Black's Rooks are revealed to be rather awkwardly placed.*

**35...Re6 36.Qb5 Rd8 37.Qc5 h5 38.Qxc7 Rd3**  
**39.Qxa7 h4 40.Qb8+ Kh7 41.a6 Rxa6 42.Qxe5**  
**hgx3 43.hgx3 Re6 44.Qf5**

*Black's attack is all but gone, so White's superior material must win the day.*

**44...Kg8 45.Qxg6 Rxg6 46.Rf1 Rb6 47.Be2 Rdd6**  
**48.Bc4 Rd7 49.Rf5 Rc7 50.Bd5 Kf8 51.Rg5 f6**  
**52.Rh5 Ke7 53.Rh7 Kd6 54.Bb3 Re7 55.Kf3 Kc7**  
**56.Rh5 Rd6 57.Rc5+ Kb6 58.Ke3 Red7 59.d4 Rc6**  
**1-0**

David Brodsky, the winner of the under-1600 section sent me all his games via e-mail a couple days after the event. Actually his mom sent them, so my thanks to both of them. The problem with his games is that nearly all of them are straightforward wins with not a lot of exciting things going on. At some point Brodsky gets an advantage, and never lets it go.

Truth to tell, it's this sort of steadiness that wins the majority of the games I see, so that's definitely a good quality to have. The game I'm presenting here is the only one he didn't win. In a situation where both players are attacking castled positions on opposite wings, the only way to win is to jump into the tactical fire, and neither player seems to be willing to do that, so they agree to a draw instead.

**David Brodsky (1561) – David Worl (1533) [C11]**  
**French Defense**  
**133rd New York State Championship**  
**Under 1600 section, round 3**  
**Colonie, NY, Sept. 4, 2011**

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3**  
**Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 8.Qd2 a6 9.dxc5 Nxc5 10.0-0-0 b5**  
**11.Qf2 Nd7 12.Qg3 0-0 13.h4**

*13.f5! right away puts the question to Black. He now has to play 13...Kh8 and after 14.Kb1 Qa5, White has a modest advantage. However if he plays the plausible-looking 13...g6, White has 14.Bh6 Re8 15.fxg6 fxg6 16.Bd3 with a dangerous attack.*

**13...Nb6 14.Nd4 Bd7 15.Bd3 b4 16.Nce2 Qc7**  
**17.Qf2**

*White seems to be hesitant to completely commit himself to the attack, but this may be a good thing. My chess computer recommends 17.h5 as far better, but the attack soon peters out: 17...Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Nc4 19.Bxc4 dxc4 20.h6 g6.*

**17...Nc4 18.Bxc4 dxc4 19.Kb1 Rfc8?!**

*This seems like a plausible move, but there doesn't seem to be any planning behind it. Instead, Black has a nice attack after 19...Nxd4 20.Nxd4 c3 21.b3 a5.*

**20.g4 Na5?!**

*Again, Black should commit himself with 20...c3.*

**21.Rc1 Nc6 22.g5 Nxd4**

*Not to repeat myself but 22...c3 23.b3 a5 looks very strong.*

**23.Nxd4 a5 24.h5 a4 25.Qg3**

*On White's end of things, 25.g6 looks slightly better than shuffling his pieces around, but his attack doesn't seem to be quite as good as Black's.*

**25...Bc5 26.Qf2 Qa7**

*Here's Black's last chance to commit himself to an attack: 26...a3 27.b3 Bxd4 28.Bxd4 Bc6 29.Rh3 Be4! (29...cxb3?! 30.Rxb3 and black's attack eventually runs out of steam) 30.h6 g6 31.Qe3 Qb7 32.Rh2 cxb3 33.axb3 and Black clearly has the upper hand.*

**27.Rhe1 Qc7 1/2-1/2**

# Central New York News

*By Karl Heck*

Binghamton has become one of the chess centers for Central and Southern New York once again, with Cordisco's Chess Center hosting monthly Grand Prix tournaments.

Binghamton Expert Daryll Weatherly won the August 21 tournament with 3 ½ points, having a "Swiss Gambit" with a first-round draw against Rob Drake followed by three wins to clinch the top prize in the seven-player Open section. Jeffrey LaComb was clear second with a 3-1 score, losing only to Weatherly in the second round. Larry Patterson won the Reserve section with a 3-1 score. The tournament was directed by John Cordisco for Cordisco's Chess Club.

September meant a return to tournament chess in Utica, and there was a four-way tie for first in a very competitive event. Viktor Levine, the Under 2200 Champion at this year's New York State Championship, tied for first with three points along with Doran Race, Lance Winters, and Everett Pashley. Winters were undefeated with a half point bye and a draw in between two wins, including wins over Race and Pashley. Pashley also won the class prize, as his rating was 1315 going into the tournament. He gained over 80 points for his result.

Joe Ball organized and directed the tournament.

The August Syracuse-Minoa tournament was quite competitive, with Syracuse-area expert Viktor Levine and Ken Frieden tying for first with 3-1 scores. Levine won his first three games, and then lost to Jan Ondrich in the last round while Frieden beat Tom Barkley in order to move into the tie.

Joe Ball organized and directed the event.

Viktor Levine was also the clear winner in the July Syracuse-Minoa Open, which drew 16 players on July 21 to Minoa. Levine finished clear first with 3 ½ points, drawing with Jarrod Tavares in the second round and winning the other three games. Levine beat Ken Chamberlain in the last round to end clear first. Chamberlain and David Kolb tied for second with 3-1 scores in the tightly-bunched event with half of the field rated between 1800 and 2100.

Raymond Garzia III won the Top Class Prize with 2 ½ points, gaining almost 100 rating points to get over 1700 after the event.

Joe Ball run the tournament on behalf of the ES-M Chess Club.

## **Buffalo Niagara Chess News** *from staff reports*

### ***Women's FIDE Master Undefeated CHAMPION - Buffalo FIDE Summer Chess Festival 2011***



The Buffalo FIDE Summer Chess Festival has its first female undefeated Champion, Anna V. Levina (shown above), Women's FIDE Master. Anna came in from Cornell University in Ithaca to claim the new crown, scoring 4 ½ points in what was a very good chess month for the family. Her father, Viktor Levine, won the Under 2200 section of the New York State Championship in Albany on Labor Day weekend. Levina took a half-point bye in the third round, and won all four games that she played. The tournament pushed her rating back over 2100.

IM Brian M. Hartman from Toronto, Ontario Canada placed second with 4 points out of 5 games, losing only to Levina in the second round. There was a three-way tie for third place with 3 pts were long-time Jamestown Expert Mark Clark, and area players John Zilliox and Daniel F. Johnston.

Levina's defeat of the heavily-favored Hartman was also the biggest upset of the tournament,

Results of the Buffalo September Under 1500 Section, hosted 10 players in a five-round Swiss, USCF Rated, Game/50 format and held concurrently with the FIDE Chess Festival.

The Champion was Kevin Roulhac. The Urban Knights Chess Club member posted four wins out of

five games to win the section and top prize. Tied for second was Vinay Sharma and Adam Chelpinski with 3 ½ points. Sharma, the section's highest-rated player, managed to defeat Rouhlac in the third round, but then only managed half a point from the last two round to allow Rouhlac to win the section. Rouhlac beat Chlepinski in the second round, and gained over 100 rating points for his victory.



The tournaments were organized by the Archangel 8 Chess Academy and directed by Michael McDuffie. Shown above is McDuffie (center) with WFM Anna Levina and IM Ken Regan.

Barry Davis and Sam Copeland drew against each other in round 3 of the 15-player Open section September Sardinia tournament held on September 3, and ended up tied for first with 3 ½ points each in the monthly event. Ryan Madden won his first three games but hung a rook against Barry in the endgame in Round Four with a chance to win the tournament, and finished third with a 3-1 score. Sam beat Glenn Westcott to join the tie at the top Pat Patterson and Bob Simpson finished with 2.5, drawing each other while losing to one of the leaders.

Bob Simpson won the Under 1500 class prize with 2 ½ points.

In the scholastic section James Lyon from Hamburg won with an undefeated four points, allowing draws for second-place finished Zachary Madden and Maxwell Peters, and beating his other three opponents. Peters and Madden finished with 3 ½ points.

The 21-payer tournament was organized by the Southtowns Chess Club and directed by Tom Werner.

Twenty-nine chess players participated in the August Summer Chess Festival held at Gloria J. Parks Community Center in Buffalo, New York.

The Scholastic Stars K-7 Undefeated Champion was Samuel E. Santora, with DaRon C. Lipscomb finishing second in the 10-player section.

In the August Open Section, co-champions were Harish Srinivasan and Barry Davis, who both finished with 3 ½ points after a last-round draw clinched the tie at the top in the 19-player section., Three players tied for third with 3-1 scores: Erik Lubas, James Davis and Adam Chelpinski. All of them only lost to one of the leaders.

The second part of the Summer Chess Festival attracted 21 players at the Gloria J. Parks Community Center on Saturday, July 16th. Upsets were plenty and the young scholastic players were making their mark in the July Chess Festival.

The new 2011 Summer Chess Festival Undefeated Champion was Ryan Madden with a perfect 4-0 score. Buffalo Expert Barry Davis was clear second in the 21-player tournament with 3 ½ points, drawing Benjamin Havey in the third round. Havey, Erik Lubas, Partho Bhattacharya, and Kevin Rouhlac all tied for third with 3-1 scores and split the Under 2100 prize. Havey was undefeated.

James Paul won the Under 1800 prize with 2 ½ points.

The tournament was organized by the Archangel 8 Chess Academy and directed by Michael McDuffie.

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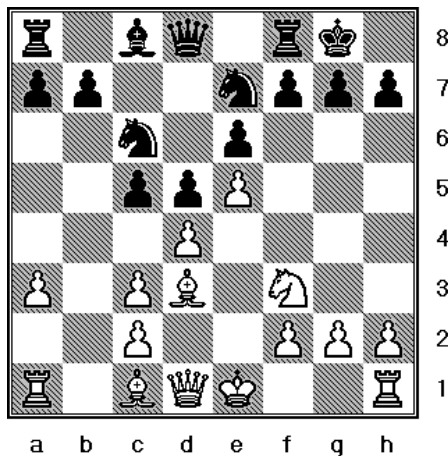
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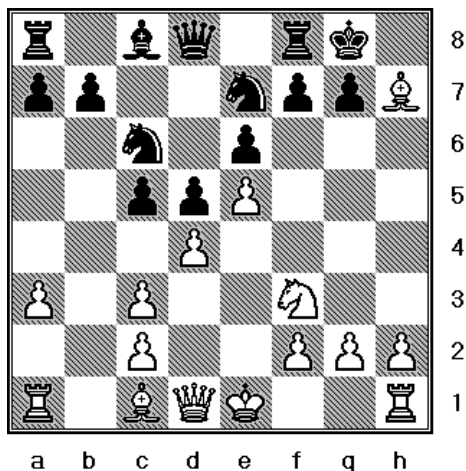
# The Classic Bishop Sacrifice.

## The Scholastic Column

By Zachary Calderon



I, personally, am a huge lover of the Classic Bishop Sacrifice.



Also known as the Greek Gift, the position above is the simplest example of the Classic Bishop Sacrifice. This position can be reached from the French Defense, Winawer Variation, after

**1. e4 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 c5 5. a3 Bxc3 6. bxc3 Ne7 7. Nf3 Nbc6 8. Bd3 0-0?**

And we have the position above. White continues with

**9. Bxh7+!**

What are the ideas that we need for this sacrifice? Many things must be in place.

1. There is no Knight on f6 or f8 defending h7. You can still sacrifice there despite that, however, that's a whole other article..

2. A Knight on f3 or h3.

3. A Queen on the d1-h5 diagonal.

4. A dark squared Bishop, either on the a3-f8 diagonal, or on the c1-h6 diagonal.

5. It is helpful (but not necessary) for the Rook to still be on f8 after Kingside castle.

First of all, what if Black declines the sacrifice? This leads to instantaneous disaster after

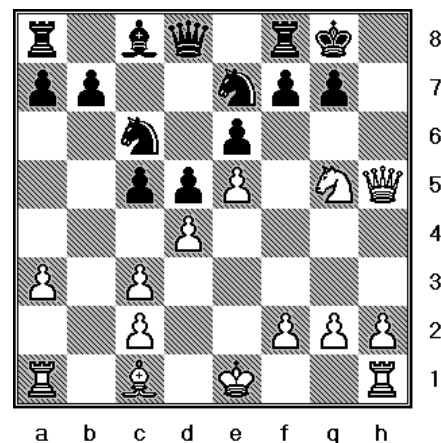
**9...Kh8 10. Ng5 g6 (to stop Qh5) 11. Qg4!**

Where the Queen will go to the h-file and Black is hopeless against the mating threats. Of course, the best way to refute a sacrifice (or gambit) is to accept it! So, what if the King takes the Bishop?

**9...Kxh7 10. Ng5+**

...where Black has two main defenses, the ...Kg8 defense and the ...Kg6 defense. The ...Kg8 defense is the most straightforward, bringing the King back to its original square, but with proper play, White can mate.

**10...Kg8 11. Qh5**



The threat is, of course, Qh7#. White has a pawn for a piece, but his Knight and Queen become monsters, working together to smash the Kingside defenses. The only way to avoid mate is to give another pawn, but this only prolongs the inevitable.

**11...Re8 12. Qxf7+ Kh8 13. Qh5+ Kg8**

Of course White has a draw by perpetual check if he wants, but he has a much better move.

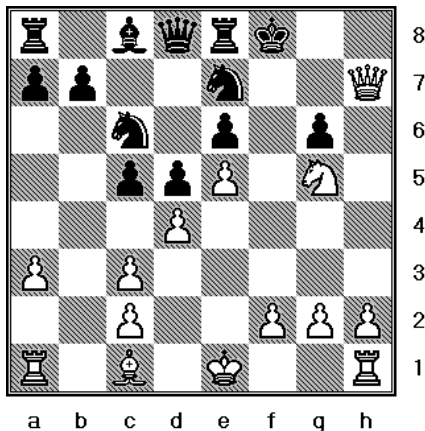
**14. Qh7+ Kf8 15. Qh5!**

And Black's position is totally hopeless against the upcoming mates on f7. For instance, 15...g6 16. Qh7! And mate can only be delayed a move by 16...Nxe5 when after 17. dxe5 the mate on f7 is still unstoppable. Let's go back to move 15 after Qh5.

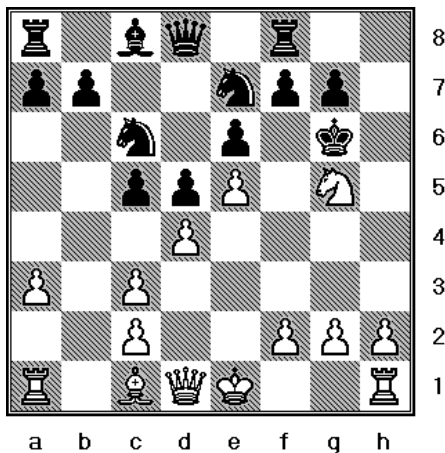
Even the piece offer isn't good enough after 15...Ng6, trying to make room for the King, but the Queen stops at nothing to get to her target. The Black King throws everything he has at her, but she plows right through, effortlessly breaking through the King's defenses, punishing him for being so careless.

### 16. Qxg6

Once again, mate on f7 is threatened. 16...Ke7 17. Qxg7#



Now, there are two main defenses, and the next one I would like to take a look at, the Kg6 defense.



While sometimes this is a better way for Black, as we will take a look at in a bit, White has the simple move after 10...Kg6 11. Qg4 when Nxe6 wins the Queen, and Black has no satisfactory defense against it.

His only legal King move is 11...Kh6, when again 12. Nxe6 wins the Black Queen because of the discovered check with the c1 Bishop. However, this is not always the case, and, as always in chess, sometimes we need to think on our own earlier than we suspected.

I am once again going to offer an example game where my Classic Bishop Sacrifice almost went wrong, and why we need to think before we make our moves.

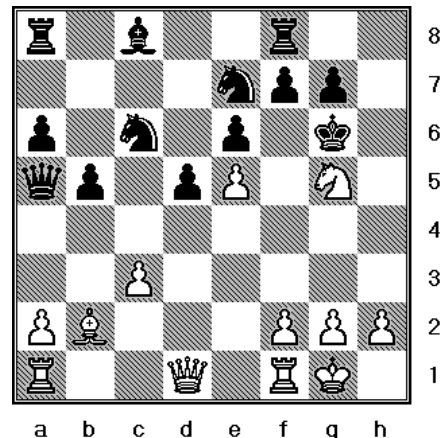
Just another thing, I would like you to, while we go

through, try to figure out my opponents rating.

White: Zach Calderon

Black: Sai Jamana

1. e4 c5 2. d4 cxd4 3. c3 dxc3 4. Nxc3 e6 5. Nf3 Bb4 6. Bc4 Bxc3 7. bxc3 a6 8. 0-0 Nc6 9. e5 b5 10. Bd3 d6 11. Be4 d5 12. Bc2 Nge7 13. Ba3 Qa5 14. Bb2 0-0? 15. Bxh7+! Kxh7 16. Ng5+ Kg6!

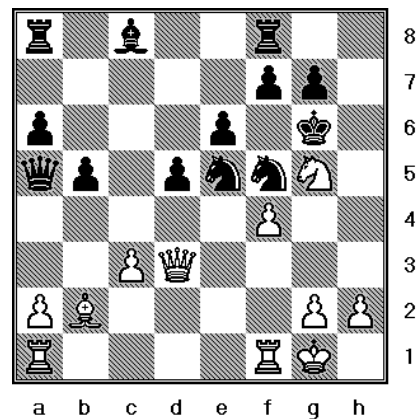


Have you ever missed a step on a stair and gotten that mini heart attack? I had that happen here, except that feeling lasted until I found the right solution. The point is that after the standard 17. Qg4 he has 17...Nxe5 when I'm down a piece, and his king is going to escape, or at least make it a lot harder for me. So I needed another solution, and I found it. 17. Qd3+! Offering him the piece. If 17...Kxg5 18. Bc1+ Kh5 19. Qh7+ Kg4 20. h3#.

Instead he played 17...Nf5 18. f4 Qb6+.

This is in no way standard Classic Bishop sacrifice, however, if you expect to play this successfully, you must learn it and also learn to adapt to its changes. I made a mistake not allowing me to play Qg4 so I had to improvise.

19. Kh1 Nxe5?!



True, this does grab a pawn, and it's a flashy, cute

tactic. Indeed, after

**20. fxe5 Kxg5**

Black does win a pawn, however, my attack can continue on even better.

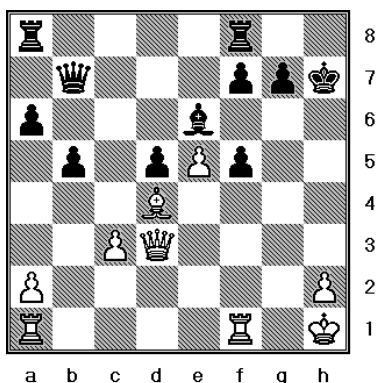
**21. Bc1+!**

Bringing one more piece into the attack.

**21...Kg6 22. g4 Kh7**

I win my piece back at the cost of a pawn, and Black's King slithers back into his den.

**23. gxf5 exf5 24. Be3 Qb7 25. Bd4 Be6.**



The position looks totally shut down, so I decided to stir it up!

**26. Rxf5! Bxf5 27. Qxf5+ Kg8 28. Rg1 Qc8 29. Qg5** avoiding the exchange of queens and making more threats.

**29...g6 30.Qf6 Qe6?**

This is just another tactics puzzle. At this point I knew I had something, and closed my eyes, envisioning my old coaches house, with my tactics book in front of me trying to solve this problem.

**31. Rxc6+! fxc6 32. Qxe6+ Kh7 33. Qh3+ Kg8 34. e6 1-0**

Mate on h8 is unavoidable. Remember in the beginning I told you to guess his rating? Believe it or not he was only 1118! He played way higher than his rating suggests, or I expected! Here is a game which is just one more example of "playing creatively", full of mistakes where my opponent declined the sacrifice for counter-play. Mind you this was a one-minute game.

**1. Nf3 Nf6 2. d4 d5 3. c4 e6 4. Nc3 Be7 5. Bg5 0-0 6. Bxf6 Bxf6 7. e4?**

A small technical opening mistake.

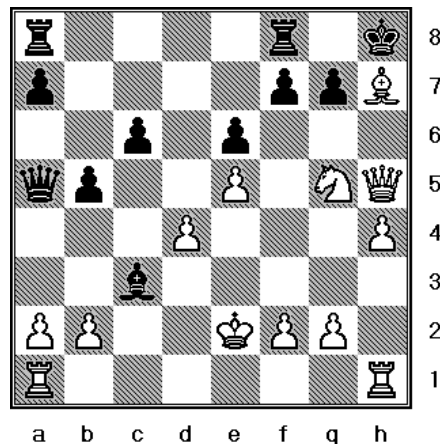
**7...c6?**

**7...dxe4 8. Nxe4 c5!**

**8. e5 Be7 9. h4 dxc4 10. Bxc4 b5 11. Bd3 Qa5?! 12. Bxh7+! Kh8?**

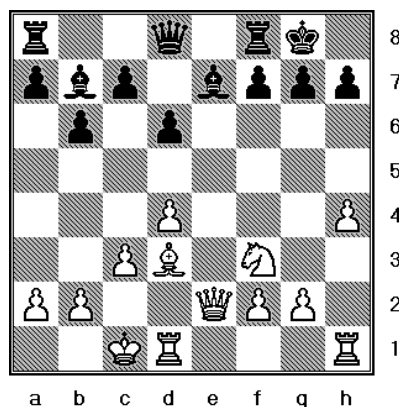
He believes that his counter-play on c3 will be sufficient, but as it turns out, it isn't. Remember how I said that most of the time declining the sacrifice was a mistake?

**13. Ng5! Bb4 14. Qh5! Bxc3 15. Ke2!!**



There are no checks, and mate is coming. **1-0**

There are times when Black may have a Bishop on e7 that prevents the Knight from going to g5. However, in that case, if the Kingside Rook is still on the h-file we can play h4 with a totally new idea.



**1. Bxh7+! Kxh7 2. Ng5+ Bxh5**

if Kg8 or Kg6 this leads us right back to what we covered before.

**3. hxg5+**

of course **3...Kg6 4. Qh5+ Kf5 5. Qh3+** with a decisive attack.

**So 3...Kg8 4. Qh5**

when the mate is coming. Black's last try is

**4...f6**

when we can't rush in the attack immediately with Qh8 or Qh7 as the Black King escapes. Rather, you must be patient and play

**5. g6!**

Where Black is hopeless against the mating threats.

There is plenty more material on the Classic Bishop Sacrifice, and I hope this has inspired you to do deeper research. Remember the points, be sure to analyze deeply, and good luck!

# Frumkin and Felber Named to New York State Hall of Fame

By Karl Heck

The New York State Chess Association named two new members to the State Chess Hall of Fame at the annual State Championship in Albany.

Long-time organizers and players Ed Frumkin and Joe Felber have both made significant contributions to chess in New York State over the years. Frumkin began his career in Rochester, and was tournament director and president of the Rochester Chess Club from 1971 to 1976. After moving to New York City to pursue his career, remained active. Frumkin has long been the main organizer of the Queens Chess Club, one of the largest in New York City, being president of the club for almost all of the period since 1987. Frumkin has also been active in the Marshall Chess Club Board of Governors for almost two decades. Frumkin has also been the long-time organizer of the New York State Women's and Senior Championships at the Marshall Chess Club, which have been a true success story for NYSCA.

Felber was also born upstate, in the current home of the State Championship in Saratoga Springs. In 1976, Felber moved to Long Island after graduating from Bucknell (being an officer in the chess club for his entire time there), and has had a long and successful career as a rated Expert and chess organizer -- being the long-time Treasurer of the Nassau Chess Club and the Vice-President/Treasurer of the Queens Chess Club. Felber has also been a teacher for the Long Island Chess Nuts in between stints in his professional field of liability insurance. Felber has played over 5,000 rated games over the years, and played in USCF events in every state except Alaska.

Both Frumkin and Felber have represented New York State many times as Delegates at the USCF Annual Meeting, and NYSCA looks forward to having them represent us for many years in the future.

Felber was gracious enough to provide us with a game from the recent New York State Championship, where they were both inducted in the Hall of Fame.

Peter Henner - Joe Felber  
2011 New York State Championship  
Queen's Gambit's Declined -- Slav Defense

**1. d4 Nf6; 2. c4 g6; 3. Nc3 d5; 4. Nf3 Bg7; 5. Bf4 c6; 6. e3 O-O; 7. Bd3 Na6**

*Not everyone cares for the Gruenfeld-Slav or Schlechter Slav -- but the lines in ECO at least seem to indicate that it is playable for Black. Though Henner is another veteran player, it is notable that such lines can be extremely effective against "booked-up" scholastic players.*

**8. cxd5 Nxd5; 9. Nxd5 cxd5; 10. O-O**

*And not 10. Bxa6?!, Qa5+ leaves Black with the two Bishops and no problems.*

**10. .... Nc7**

*So now at least one Knight on the board may end up on a few unusual squares.*

**11. Qc2 Ne6; 12. Bg3 Bd7; 13. Qb3**

*Leaving White with a slight edge .*

**13. ... Bc6; 14. Ne5 Rc8; 15. Nxc6 Rxc6**

*If 15. ... bxc6? 16. Ba6 wins an exchange for White.*

**16. Qxb7**

*And White has a tangible edge, as his outside Passed Pawn will eventually decide matters, I did not get as much counterplay with 17... Rxb2 as I had hoped for.*

**16. .... Rb6 17. Qxa7**

*Some of the old chess books from the 1950's and 1960's preached "Never take the QNP with your Queen -- but Peter demonstrates that sometimes it IS possible!*

**17. ... Rxb2 18. Qa3**

*White seems to be technically winning already; I hadn't realized how strong the White Bishops would be, in escorting the a-Pawn down the board to the a8 Queening square.*

**18. .... Rb6 19. Rab1 Bf6.**

*To free the Queen from defending e7. Black has very little play now, and Bg3 (for example) is a much more powerful piece than its counterpart on f6.*

**20. Qa7! Rxb1 21. Rxb1 Qc8 22. Qb7 Qc3**

*Trading Queens would be completely hopeless for Black.*

**23. Qb3 Qa5 24. a4**

*Now White can play Bb5 anytime, so he must be winning in the long term.*

**24. ... Rc8.**

*Trying for some activity, and the next task for Black is to improve the positions of his minor pieces.*

**25. f3**

*I thought Bb5, Qd1 and Rc1 looked like a good plan for White.*

**25. .... Kg7**

*If 25. .... Qd2; 26. Bf2 looked to me to be OK for*

White.

**26. Be1!**

*Backwards moves on diagonals are the hardest thing to see in chess, and I missed this.*

**26...Qe7; 27. Qb7! Qxb7**

*On 27. .... Qd8; 28. a5 will be a simple and quick win for White.*

**28. Rxb7, Rc1; 29. Rb1**

*Missed this one, too.*

**29. ... Rc8**

*The only way to play on.*

**30. a5 Nd8**

*Essential to attempt a defense.*

**31. a6 Ra8 32. Bg3 Nc6; 33. Rb6 Rc8; 34. Rb7 e5!**

*An absolute "must" for Black to improve Bf6.*

**35 dxe5 Bxe5 36. Bxe5+ Nxe5 37. Bf1**

*And not 37. a7? Nxd3 38. Rb8 Rc1 mate.*

**37... Nc4 38. Kf2 Rc5 39. a7 Ra5; 40. Rd7 Nb6; 41. Rc7 Ra2+ 42. Kg3 Nc4 43. e4!**

*The undermining of Nc4 finally decides, but White must play precisely.*

**43. .... Ne3 44. Bb5 d4 45. Rd7 Rxd2+ 46. Kh3 Ra2 47. Bc6**

*Since Black can't stop the Pawn promotion on a8, he must try to fashion a mating net around the Black King.*

**47. .... Rf2 48. e5 Nf1 49. a8 (Q) h5**

*Finally with a mate threat.*

**50. Rxf7+**

*I saw this, but not White's Queen maneuver to bring the Lady to f4.*

**50. .... Kxf7 51. Qe8+**

*Because of this move, Black cannot prevent Qf4 by White.*

**51. .... Kg7 52. Qe7+ Kh6 53. Qf8+ Kh7?**

*Black had to try 53..... Kg5!*

**54. Qf4**

*Now it seems that White can win in all lines.*

**54. ... d3 55. e6 d2 56. Ba4**

*Another "backwards move on a diagonal, "after which White's win is not difficult.*

**56. .... Rxh2+ 57. Qxh2 Nxh2 58. Kxh2**

## **45<sup>th</sup> New York State Scholastic Championship**

***March 3-4, 2012  
Saratoga Springs  
Details on back cover***

## **News from the Marshall *from staff reports***

Thirty-one players. Grandmasters. International Masters. International players. Rising scholastic stars. Major news in Texas or California, but a typical Grand Prix tournament at the Marshall Chess Club, the heartbeat of American chess for over a century.

The September edition of the Marshall Masters was won on September 24 by IM Justin Sarkar with the tournament's only perfect 4-0 score. Sarkar's critical win was in the third round over GM Mikheil Kekelidze, relegating the Georgian to a second-place tie with New York State Hall of Famer IM Jay Bonin, and NM's Yefin Treger and Miro Reverby. With the exception of Kekelidze, the other three players drew in the first round, and had two wins and a draw the rest of the way. Terger and Bonin drew in the last round.

The group at 2 ½ included GM Michael Rohde (who lost to Sarkar in the final round in the battle for the top prize), Michael Finneran, Kadhira Pillai, and Isuru Attanagoda.

Matthew Morales was the chief TD for the monthly event.

The September 20<sup>th</sup> Marshall Masters is another of the long-standing traditions of the club, as a monthly tournament open only to Masters and rising scholastic Experts. It is a one-night, four-round war contested on the hallowed ground of the club on the third Tuesday of every month.

One IM's, Marc Tyler Arnold, along with SM's Igor Sorkin and Adam Maltese, tied for the top spot in the 22-player September edition with 3 ½ point scores. They drew in the last round after sweeping through the field in the first three rounds, including Sorkin's impressive win over super-GM and U.S. Championship participant Alexander Stripunsky in the third round. Maltese's only draw was in the second round against another U.S. Championship participant, Nick De Firmian.

Stripunsky was clear fourth at 3-1. De Firmian and GM Mikheil Kekelidze, along with IM Justin Sarkar, NM and former State Champion Teddy Coleman, and NM Ramon Manon-Og, Jr., all tied for fifth with 2 ½ points.

The tournament was directed by Matthew Morales for the Marshall.

FIDE Mondays are another kind of tournament that make the Marshall the great club that it is. This event, held one game a week from July 18 through August 22, gives people the chance to get or add to their FIDE rating while also holding down a “day job.”

IM Jay Bonin, New York State Hall of Famer and consistently one of the most active players in America, was the co-leader of the 29-player event along with NM Karan Bhatta, a native of India whose participation is especially valuable in circumstances where international players are needed.

Both players had undefeated 4 ½ point scores, with Bonin having three wins and three draws, while Bhatta had a half-point bye in the last round to go with his three wins and two draws. Bonin’s last-round win over NM Yefim Treger in the last round was the clincher.

Treger, NM’s Evan Rosenberg, James Black, Jr., former *Empire Chess* contributor James West, and Expert Benjamin Katz all tied for third with 4-2 scores. West was undefeated, while the others all had one loss in the hard-fought tournament.

James Frawley directed.

The August 16<sup>th</sup> version of the Marshall Masters also drew 31 players to Manhattan. Three players shared top honors with 3 ½ points: GM Mikheil Kekelidze, along with IM’s Irina Krush and Jay Bonin, joined in the first-place honors.

Bonin and Krush drew in the last round while atop the table, while Kekelidze drew with IM Justin Sarkar in the third round, and won his last-round game to join the tie. Sarkar, who had an undefeated performance, FM Kassa Korley, NM’s Raven Sturt and Paul Szuper, and Expert Ted Belanoff, all tied for fourth with 3-1 scores. Korley’s “Swiss Gambit” of losing in the first round and winning three straight against the always deep field in these tournaments was particularly impressive.

James Frawley directed for the Marshall.

A total of 37 players contested the August 7<sup>th</sup> monthly Grand Prix at the Marshall.

IM Yury Lapshun won clear honors in the event with the tournament’s only perfect 4-0 score. Though the tournament’s highest-rated player, his road was not easy, as a last-round win over IM Jay Bonin is testimony to. NM’s Yefim Treger and James Black, Jr. both tied for second with 3 ½ point scores that involved a half-point bye and three wins.

NM Karan Bhatta, a regular in Marshall tournaments, and Expert Edward Kopiecki, tied for fourth with 3-1 scores. The group at 2 ½ included FM Aleksandr Ostrovskiy, who recently tied for first at the New York State Championship, IM Jay Bonin, Christopher Repka, George Berg and Bora Yagiz.

James Frawley directed for the Marshall.

The July Marshall Masters drew 31 players to the club for the “Mid-Summer Masters” on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

A 2700 player even commands attention at the Marshall, and GM Tamaz Gelashvili lived up to his super rating with a 4-0 perfect score in the tournament. GM Mikheil Kekelidze, who was upset in the first round by Norwegian Master Aryan Tari (2228 FIDE) and then won three straight games to get into the tie with SM’s Igor Sorokin (who lost to Gelashvili in the last round), Adam Maltese (who lost to Kekelidze to end the tournament), and NM’s Paul Szuper and WFM Amanda Mateer, who joined the group of National masters with her performance. Mateer went undefeated and gained 50 points, which included an upset of IM Gabriel Bataglini in the third round.

The tournament was directed by James Frawley for the Marshall.

The calendar also meant that the July Grand Prix was on the same week as the Masters, so it was a very busy week of high-level chess in the heart of Manhattan.

A total of 42 players contested the Grand Prix, but one person stood at the top: GM Tamaz Gelashvili, who had a perfect 4-0 score. IM Jay Bonin was the last threat for the Georgia Grandmaster on his way to the sweep. IM Yury Lapshun was second with 3 ½ points, taking a half-point bye in the first round and thereby avoiding anybody in the three points score group, along with Expert Kyle Moon, whose upset of 2375-rated Leif Pressman in the last round vaulted him close to the top of the tournament.

The three-point score group was quite impressive,

with IM Jay Bonin, IM Gabriel Battaglini, NM Matan Prilleltensky, NM James Black, Jr., and Expert Vladimir Polyakin.

James Frawley directed for the Marshall.

The Marshall is also the home of the Four Rated Games Tonight series, the longest-running Action Chess event in the United States. Steve Immitt's brainchild is truly a legacy of chess in the United States.

The September 22 edition, Ten Grand Prix Points Tonight, was won by GM and former New York State Scholastic Champion Aleksandr Lenderman, along with former New York State Champion GM Michael Rohde, both with 3 ½ points. The two GM's drew in the third round, and won last-round games to hold the top spots. IM Marc Tyler Arnold, GM Mikheil Kekelidze, IM Jay Bonin (undefeated), and Expert Bora Yagiz, with Yagiz battling back through the field after a first-round loss. Kekelidze lost to Lenderman in the last round.

Steve Immitt directed.

## Capital Region News

*by Bill Townsend*

While nationally and internationally there are a lot of big chess events during the Summer, in the Capital District things are pretty quiet. There are no scholastic tournaments in the summer months and turnouts at the local clubs are at a low ebb. In point of fact, the biggest Capital District chess story of this summer didn't even take place in the Capital District, or even this country for that matter.

Our local chess prodigy, former New York State scholastic champion Deepak Aaron, took part in the World Junior Championship which was held from August 1 to 16 in Chennai, India. The World Junior is the world championship for players under 20. The last round saw tournament leader GM Robert Hovhannisyan of Armenia passed by GM Swiercz of Poland. Both scored 10½-2½, but Swiercz won the trophy on tiebreaks. IM Sahaj Grover of India took the bronze metal with 9½-3½. The higher-rated U.S. representative, GM Ray Robson, was part of a five-way tie for fourth place at 9-4. Deepak, the other U.S. player, finished in a tie for 70th place with 6-7.

The competition at this tournament was exceptionally tough, and Deepak finished a little worse than his rating would have predicted.

The World Junior Championship is a prestigious tournament, held every year in a different country. The first one was held in 1951, and it was held bi-annually until 1973 when it became an annual event, making this year's the 50th. Several World Champions have also been World Junior Champions, among them Boris Spassky, Anatoly Karpov, Gary Kasparov and Viswanathan Anand. Previous American World Junior Champions are GM's William Lombardy, Yasser Seirawan, Maxim Dlugy, Ilya Gurevich and Tal Shaked, and IM Mark Diesen. Speaking of Anand, by the way, the current World Champion was on hand at this year's opening ceremony.

Something that struck me while I was looking at the list of players preceding the event was how many players there were from the home country of India: of the 126 players, nearly half, 62, were Indian. I wondered if this was usual, so I did a little research. There were 120 players at last year's World Junior, and 22 of them were from the home country, Poland. The 2009 World Junior was held in Argentina, with 14 native players competing. Turkey was the venue for the 2008 tournament with 18 Turkish players out of a field of 109, most of them finishing near the bottom.

So yes, this level of participation from the home country is unprecedented. But what is even more remarkable is the overall strength of these players: five of them finished in the top 20 while twenty of them made the top 50. It's plain that the popularity of chess is exploding in India and they have a large pool of young, talented players, hungry for international ratings and titles. I would imagine having a native-born World Champion would have something to do with this: India is now having their own Fischer Boom.

All of this goes a long way to explain how Deepak finished with only 6 points out of 13. Since he was actually born in Chennai it was felt he would have a "home court advantage. (Given that the World Junior has never been held in the USA, this is probably the closest to "home cooking" any American participant has ever had). While I'm sure that the familiar surroundings helped Deepak's play, the overall strength of the field and the plethora of strong, underrated Indian competitors made for a different

metaphor: "thrown into the shark tank."

Incidentally, Deepak is not the only local player to take his chess "on the road" recently. Peter Henner is took a trip to Mongolia, and there is a video on YouTube of him playing chess on the streets of the country's capital, Ulaanbataar. From the video it seems that Peter is playing an entire crowd at once: the kibitzers there seem to take a "hands on" approach to the games they are watching.

Here is one of Deepak's wins from the World Junior, against Roberto Soares Erikson of Angola. Around move 19 it looked that Deepak was lost: his opponent was building up ominous pressure on the queenside and Deepak couldn't castle and connect his rooks. However Soares let him off the hook, and then melted down in what seems to have been an even ending.

**Roberto Soares Erikson (2181) – Deepak Aaron (2288) [D11] QP Game**  
**50th World Juniors, round 6**  
**Chennai, India, August 7, 2011**

**1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 c6 4.Bg2 Bf5 5.c4 e6 6.Nc3 Bb4 7.Qb3 a5 8.c5 Nbd7 9.0-0 b6 10.cxb6 c5 11.Nh4 c4!?**

*Rather provocative play. 11...Bg4 seems like a safer idea.*

**12.Qa4 Bxc3?! 13.bxc3**

*Here White misses a chance to sow further confusion among the Black army with 13.b7 Rb8 14.bxc3 Rxb7 15.Nxf5 exf5 16.Ba3 with a position similar to the game, with the Black pieces less favorably placed.*

**13...Qxb6 14.Nxf5 exf5 15.Ba3 Rb8 16.Qc2 g6 \**

*This creates a host of dark square weaknesses. 16...Qe6 was a better way to protect the f-pawn, since the Queen is going to have to flee the b-file soon anyway.*

**17.Rab1 Qc6 18.Rxb8+ Nxb8 19.Rb1 Na6 20.Bc5**  
*This exploits the fact that Black can't play 20...Nxc5 because of 21.Rb8+, however 20.Rb2, with the idea of 21.Qb1, or 20.Qd2 seem harder for Black to meet.*

**20...Nd7!? 21.Qb2?**

*This allows Black to castle, giving back much of White's advantage. He had to admit that 20.Bc5 was a flawed idea and play 21.Ba3. 21...Naxc5.*

**22.dxc5 0-0 23.Qb5 Qc7 24.Qb7?!**

*With this the last of White's advantage goes out the window. Rather than trying to save the doomed c5-pawn, White should try to play actively with 24.Rd1.*

**24...Qxb7 25.Rxb7 Nxc5 26.Rc7 Ne6 27.Rc6**

*This is actually best. If White tries to go after Black's*

*d-pawn he gets an unpleasant shock: 27.Rd7? d4! and white is in trouble and may well be lost.*

**27...Rd8 28.e3**

*This cautious move reveals that white was well aware of the potential problems of letting Black play ...d4.*

**28...a4 29.Ra6 Nc5 30.Ra5 Nd3!?**

*Black can hold onto the d-pawn with 30...Ne4 but the position seems drawish after 31.Bxe4 fxe4.*

**31.Bxd5 Nb2 32.Rb5**

*32.Rc5 would be an improvement here.*

**32...Nd1 33.Bxc4 Nxc3 34.Rb7 Kg7 35.Rxf7+ Kh6 36.Rc7?!**

*White has an extra pawn, plus he has a Bishop versus a Knight in an ending. He should be winning or at least better, right? The fact is that White's advantage is far from huge and this move is the first of a series of inaccuracies that shows that a position like this can indeed be lost.*

**36...Ne4 37.f3?! Rd1+ 38.Kg2 Rd2+ 39.Kg1??**

*This seems harmless - the King moves right back to where it was before, but this is the losing move for White. Instead after 39.Kf1 Ng5, We holds the balance with 40.Bg8 However 39...Rf2+ is a better choice for Blck.*

**39...Ng5 40.f4?**

*From bad to worse, but even though 40.Kf1 is somewhat better, it loses too.*

**40...Nf3+ 41.Kf1 Nxb2+ 42.Kg1 Nf3+ 43.Kf1 Rc2 44.Rc6 Nd2+ 45.Ke2 0-1**

In my last report the Capital District League was down to its last few matches. The league is an annual event that pits four-player teams from the area's chess clubs against each other.

The Saratoga B team, which actually featured players from all over the Capital District, got a late start but pursued their matches with vigor, playing all seven in little over a month. Their last match was played on May 5 against the Schenectady Geezers, the current league leaders, and they lost by the smallest margin possible, 2½-1½. In fact, it could have easily gone the other way since Bill Little appeared lost on board two before an oversight by his opponent. The players, with the Geezers on the right:

1. Michael Mockler 1, David Finnerman 0
2. Bill Little 1, Matt Clough 0
3. Richard Chu ½, Cory Northrup ½
4. William Montross 0, Jason Denham 1

The Schenectady Geezers are this year's Cinderella Story: in 20 years they have never won the league, but when this match was played they were the current

leaders. They played Albany B, last year's "Guilderland" team, on May 11 in Albany, winning 3-1. The individual results, with the Geezers again on the left:

1. Michael Mockler 0, John Morse 1
2. John Phillips 1, Peter Henner 0
3. Bill Little 1, Arthur Alowitz 0
4. William Montross 1, Charles Eson 0

The key matchup between the "A" teams of Saratoga and Schenectady took place on May 15 in Saratoga, and saw Schenectady keep their hopes of a back-to-back championship alive by squeaking past the Spa City, 2½-1½. The last game to finish was Magat-Sells on Board Three. The battle on Board One was also riveting: Deepak Aaron had what seemed to be a winning advantage and a commanding lead on the clock: Taylor had just two minutes left and Deepak had more than an hour. Nevertheless, few people are better in time trouble than Steve Taylor, and the wily expert managed to draw. The board by board results, with Schenectady A on the left:

1. Deepak Aaron ½, Steve Taylor ½
2. Patrick Chi 1, Jonathan Feinberg 0
3. Philip Sells 1, Gordon Magat 0
4. John Barnes 0, Gary Farrell 1

Albany B concluded their schedule on May 26 when they played the Schenectady A team, losing to them 3½-½. The games, with Schenectady A on the left:

1. Patrick Chi ½, John Morse ½
2. Philip Sells 1, Kavanna Mallanna 0
3. Bill Townsend 1, Art Alowitz 0
4. Dilip Aaron 1, Charles Eson 0

After 28 matches and 110 games, the Capital District Chess League finally came to a close on June 23 when the last two outstanding matches were played at the Schenectady Chess Club. Both these matches were important, with three teams in the running for first place: Albany A (5 points), Schenectady Geezers (5 points) and Schenectady A (4½ points). When the dust settled, Schenectady A managed to successfully defend the title they won last year. Initially I thought that this was the first time Schenectady had won back-to-back championships, but they had also won in 2004 and 2005. However, the dominating team in the league has always be the premiere Albany team, which has existed under a number of names. For example they won the championship seven times in a row from 1991 to 1997.

Although Schenectady A were the defending champions, this was definitely a come-from-behind victory: an early draw to Troy's Uncle Sam club and a loss to the Schenectady Geezers made it seem like they were almost out of the running. Going into the last two matches Albany A was leading the league - they vaulted to the top of the standings by winning two matches in a row.

At the end of May, the Schenectady Geezers were leading the league with a perfect 5-0 score, but their run of luck came to an end on June 2 when they lost at home to the Albany A team. The individual results, with Albany A on the left:

1. Dean Howard 1, Michael Mockler 0
2. Jon Leisner 1, John Phillips 0
3. Tim Wright ½, Bill Little ½
4. Glen Perry ½, Richard Chu ½

On June 12, Albany A travelled to Saratoga A, and managed to squeak by, 2½-1½. The players, with Albany A on the left:

1. Dean Howard 1, Jonathan Feinberg 0
2. Jon Leisner 1, Gordon Magat 0
3. Tim Wright 0, Gary Farrell 1
4. Glen Perry ½, Alan LeCours ½

The last two matches were played in the same place and time: June 23 at the Schenectady Club. The first match to finish was between Schenectady A and Albany A, with Schenectady winning by the lopsided score of 3½-½.

Albany's Dean Howard has been playing some great chess this year and his 6-0 record on board one already assured him of this year's Most Valuable Player award, but he suffered his first defeat to Schenectady Champion Patrick Chi. John Barnes agreed to an early draw with Glen Perry although subsequent analysis showed that Barnes may have been winning. Philip Sells was in pretty bad time pressure against Albany's Tim Wright, but managed to win in fine style, securing the match for Schenectady. Nine-time club champion Carl Adamec had the better position against Albany's Jon Leisner, and then secured the win in Leisner's time pressure. I should point out that even though this match was played in Schenectady it was a home match for Albany, and they had White on boards one and three. The players, with Schenectady A on the left:

1. Patrick Chi 1, Dean Howard 0

2. Carl Adamec 1, Jon Leisner 0
3. Philip Sells 1, Tim Wright 0
4. John Barnes ½, Glen Perry ½

Because it was played at a slightly slower time control, the match between the Schenectady Geezers and Saratoga A finished after the Schenectady A-Albany A match. Because Schenectady A had defeated Albany A, this left the door open for the Geezers to secure their first league championship but alas they fell short, losing 2½-1½. The Geezers are so named because of their long experience over the chessboard, and the fact that they have the oldest average age of any team. Ironically, Saratoga's fourth board for this match, Yakov Dadashev, was 88 years old, and he actually won his game against Schenectady club president Richard Chu. In fact it was the first game to finish because Richard spoiled a good position by playing too quickly. Magat and Mockler on board one got down to an endgame pretty rapidly and drew. This set up a situation where the Geezers had to win both the remaining games but they split the total, giving the match to Saratoga, 2½-1½, and the League championship to Schenectady A. The players, with Saratoga A on the left:

1. Gordon Magat ½, Michael Mockler ½
2. Gary Farrell 0, John Phillips 1
3. Alan LeCours 1, Bill Little 0
4. Yakov Dadashev 1, Richard Chu 0

Here is the table showing the final results for all the league matches. The first number after the team name is number of matches won, the second is number of individual games won.

1. Schenectady A, 5½, 20.5
2. Albany A 5, 17.5
3. Schenectady Geezers 5, 17
4. Saratoga A 4½, 17.5
5. Albany B 4, 13.5
6. Uncle Sam 3, 13
7. Saratoga B ½, 7.5
8. RPI ½, 6.5

Here is one of the key matchups from the recently completed Capital District Chess League, featuring two of this area's strongest players. This game was analyzed extensively by Bill Little on his blog on the ENYCA website, but when the tempo of play got frantic around move 33 he was unable to record the moves, but I believe this is the complete game.

The mere score of this game can't convey how tense

it was: in fact it was a virtuoso display of time-trouble brinkmanship by Taylor. He was lost on the board in crushing time pressure, but somehow managed to survive. At one point Deepak was an hour ahead on the clock, but Taylor managed to do all his thinking on his opponent's time.

**Steven Taylor (2175) – Deepak Aaron (2315) [C48]**

**Capital District League 2011 Four Knights  
Saratoga A vs. Schenectady A, Board 1  
Saratoga Springs, NY, May 15, 2011**

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bb5 Bd6!? 5.d3 a6  
6.Ba4 h6 7.a3 0-0 8.Bb3 b5 9.Ne2 Bc5**

*This essentially undoes Black's fourth move, but the missing tempo really doesn't seem to hurt him.*

**10.Be3 Bxe3 11.fxe3 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Qd2 Nf6  
14.e4 Bg4 15.h3 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Nd4 17.Nxd4 Qxd4  
18.c3 Qb6 19.Qf2 c5 20.Rg1?!**

*This seems like a natural idea, but it actually is the beginning of White's problems. 20.f4 first would keep the Knight off of f4.*

**20...Nh5! 21.Bd5 Rad8 22.Rg4 Nf4**

*Black could win a pawn with 22...Nf6 23.Rg3 Nxd5 24.exd5 Rxd5.*

**23.0-0-0 Nxd5**

*The time situation, already bad, has now become critical for White. He has less than two minutes to finish the game while Black has over an hour.*

**24.exd5 Rxd5 25.Rdg1**

*For his lost pawn, White has some pressure on the Kingside, but it doesn't seem to be quite enough.*

**25...g6 26.Qe3 Kg7 27.Rh4 Rh8 28.c4 Rd7**

*Gives back the pawn without a fight. Better is 28...Qf6 and now White is obliged to play 29.cxd5 Qxh4 30.Qxe5+ Qf6 31.f4 Rd8 32.Re1 and now Black could start to work on the queenside with 32...a5.*

**29.Qxe5+ Qf6 30.Qxf6+ Kxf6 31.Rf4+ Kg7 32.Kc2  
Rhd8 33.Re1 f5?!**

*The time situation is now desperate. White has nine seconds left while black has 40 minutes. Black is trying to use his time advantage judiciously and not play hasty moves, but this also allows his opponent to think on his time. Perhaps better here is 33...Rxd3 and now might follow: 34.Re7 Rd2+ 35.Kc1 Rd1+ 36.Kc2 g5 37.Rxf7+ Kg6 38.Rg7+ Kh5 and Black seems better, but a draw is the likely result.*

**34.cxb5? axb5 35.b4 cxb4?**

*Here Black, still with plenty of time, misses a tactical finesse. After 35...c4! 36.dxc4 Kf6, the Rook on f4 is trapped: 37.cxb5 Rc8+ 38.Kb2 g5, etc.*

**36.Rxb4 Rxd3 37.Rxb5 Rxa3 38.Rb6 Rc8+ 39.Kb2  
Rxf3 40.Re7+ Kf8 41.Rbb7 Rb8 42.Rf7+ ½-½**

*This is the problem with double Rook endings - the weaker side can often force a perpetual check, and that's what happens here. A very close call for Steve Taylor.*

Here is an important game from one of the final matches, the pivotal match between Albany A and Schenectady A, with Albany president Tim Wright facing off against former Schenectady champion Philip Sells. The advantage traded hands a couple of times, but what seems to have decided things, once again, was Sells' superior command of himself while in time pressure.

Sells gave this game some in-depth analysis on the news blog at ENYCA.org, and I have used some of his notes from there below.

**Tim Wright (1920) – Philip Sells (1982) [B80]  
Capital District League 2011  
Albany A vs. Schenectady A, board 3  
Schenectady, NY, June 23, 2011**

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6  
6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.Bxd7+ Qxd7 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Be3 Be7  
10.f4 0-0 11.Nxc6?! Qxc6 12.Qf3 Rfc8 13.f5! Bd8  
14.fxe6 fxe6 15.Kh1?!**

*A nervous move. Better was 15.Qh3 forcing Black to pay attention to his pawns right away.*

**15...Ba5! 16.Bd2 Rf8 17.Qe2?**

*Loses a pawn. Again 17.Qh3 seems best.*

**17...Bxc3 18.Bxc3 Qxe4**

*Sells: "I was in more of a hurry than I needed to be: an interesting point that I didn't notice at the time was that Black can play to restrict White's bishop with 18...e5! since White still can't save his e-pawn due to the weakness of his back rank: 19.Rae1 (19.Rfe1 Nxe4 is even worse for White because now he has to worry about Black invading on f2 as well) 19...Nxe4!." 19.Qd2 Nd5 20.Rxf8+ Rxf8 21.Re1 Nxc3*

*The counterthreat 21...Qc4! looks very strong.*

**22.Qxc3 Qf5**

*Sells: "I got myself down to 4 minutes remaining with this move, compared to 29 minutes for my opponent. A better idea would have been 22...Rf2, again using White's back-rank weakness, but I must have thought there would be some problem for me after 23.Qc8+ Kf7 24.Qd7+ Kg6, which doesn't seem to be the case in retrospect. Other decent ideas here were 22...e5 and 22...Qd5. Time pressure was starting to nag me." 23.h3 e5 24.Qb3+ Qf7 25.Qg3 Qf2 26.Qb3+ Rf7?! Best here is 26...Qf7 but Black doesn't want to repeat moves because he is still a pawn ahead, but the time*

*situation was becoming critical. White had 23 minutes left while Black only had about 3:40.*

**27.Rd1 Qf6 28.Qd5 Kf8**

*Wright stopped keeping score here. The rules of chess state that once one player is down to less than five minutes, both players can stop keeping score. Sells, on the other hand, kept writing down the moves until near the end.*

**29.Qxd6+ Qxd6 30.Rxd6 Rf1+ 31.Kh2 Ke7 32.Rd2**  
*White has fought his way back to near-equality. Black still has the initiative, but the pawns are even again. 32...h5 33.Kg3 Rf4 34.Re2 h4+ 35.Kh2 Ke6 36.g3 hxg3+ 37.Kxg3 Rf1*

*Sells: "The game still felt rather even to me at this point. My goal for the moment is to try to keep White's king from reaching the center while inching my passed pawn down the board. White is active enough, though, that he should be able to keep my King out; and White has only one real weakness that he needs to keep watch on, that being the h3-pawn."*

**38.c4 Rc1 39.b3 Rf1 40.Kg2 Ra1 41.Kf3 Kf5  
42.Kg2 e4 43.Rf2+ Ke6 44.Kg3 g5 45.Kg4?**

*Sells: "This ruins the game for White--his king will be marooned on the edge of the board until it is too late. In spite of his big advantage on the clock--still something like 20 minutes to 3--White played too quickly here, probably encouraged by the fact that I had necessarily been playing at blitz tempo for some time. Black will now effectively be playing with an extra piece, namely his centralized King, which will make the win easy. Generally, the King needs to be centralized in the endgame as much as possible. White's king was not in a bad place on g3, so he should have played 45.Rd2, for example, continuing to focus on keeping my King from invading. With that approach, he would probably have held the draw, since it's not so easy for me to make progress in such a position."*

**45...Rg1+ 46.Kh5 Ke5**

*At this point Sells calmly reached over, took the Black Queen from Wright's side of the board and placed it his elbow. In spite of the deteriorating time situation, this was Sells firmly saying that he, not the clock, was in control of the game.*

**47.Kg6?**

*It's too late to try to activate the King. White's best seems to be to get his Rook behind the Black King with 47.Rf7.*

**47...e3 48.Rf7 Ke4 49.Re7+ Kd3 50.Rd7+ Kc3  
51.Re7 Kd2 52.Rd7+ Ke1 53.Kf5**

*Perhaps more stubborn was 53.Rxb7, looking forward to an ending where Black has an extra Rook, but White has a lot of pawns.*

**53...e2 54.Ke4 Kf1 55.Rf7+ Kg2 0-1**

In the previous report I had the results of the last few Make the Right Move free scholastic tournaments of the 2010-11 season. However, I didn't get a chance to report on their annual free picnic which was held on June 29, and the year-end awards were handed out there. The standings for top player were neck-and-neck right up to the very end with Sandeep Alampalli from Woodland Hills edging out Niskayuna's George Ladouceur, 30 points to 29. Bill Matters from East Greenbush was third with 28½ while Vignesh Pernati was fourth with 26. A remarkable thing about all four of these players: they attended all ten of the Make the Right Move events held in the 2010-2011 season.

Top team with a commanding lead was the East Greenbush Chess Club, and club Organizer Bill Matters was named Coach of the Year. This was a case of slow and steady winning the race. East Greenbush won only one of the ten tournaments (the one held in May) but piled up the points by coming in second or third in all but two of the others. In total they scored 108 points, with Menands coming in second with 87½.

Weekend chess returned to Schenectady in a big way on June 12 when the Schenectady Open was held at the Studio of Bridge and Games on Eastern Parkway in Schenectady. Overall 47 people played in the three sections. The time control was rather fast (Game in 40 minutes) but this allowed the organizers to run an entire four-round tournament in one day.

The top section was won by its top rated player, Schenectady Champion Patrick Chi, with a perfect 4-0 record. Tied for second with 3-1 were: Louis Petithory, Stanislav Busygin, Peter Zaas and Chen Qu. All of these players, except for Zaas, had their sole loss to Chi. Gordon Magat was all alone in sixth place with 2½-1½.

The under-1700 section was won by scholastic player George Ladouceur with a perfect 4-0 score. George has been having some outstanding results recently: in March his rating was 1313, but this result should put him over 1600. Second and third were Cory Northrup and Matt Clough with 3-1. Tied for fourth with 2½-1½ were Walter Snyder and Nicholas Moscatello. An excellent result for Moscatello by the way, considering he was playing up a section.

The largest section was the Under-1100 section, and that was won by Scott Zdunczyk, also with a perfect

4-0 record. Second through fifth with 3-1 were: Michael Zhou, Yogi Kanakamedala, Jovanna D'Alonzo and Jonathan D'Alonzo. Jovanna won the prize for top player under 900. Tied for seventh with 2½-1½ were: Philip Thibault, Shreyas Raman (Top player under 700) and Jeffrey Qu.

It was good to see chess happening again at the Studio of Bridge and Games, home of the fondly remembered regular tournaments that were held there for over 30 years, ending in 2009. Apparently the organizers were impressed enough with the turnout that they are planning to hold another tournament there at the end of October, and at least one more there next year.

The tournament was directed by Bill and Brenda Goichberg for the Continental Chess Association.

Here is the game that decided first place at the Schenectady Open, between the only two players who had 3-0 at the end of the third round. Patrick Chi, the player of the White pieces, is the current Schenectady Chess Club Champion and first board of the Schenectady A team. His opponent, Louis Petithory of Massachusetts, is a veteran expert and a strong postal player. Strategy and tactics aside, the main factor in this game was the chess clock. In fact, Petithory played about half this game with less than one minute left. While this would have been impossible in the days before time delay clocks that add five seconds after every move, it adds to the length of the game, not the quality of play. The tense nature of the game caused Patrick to make some dubious decisions as well, even though he had plenty of time left.

**Patrick Chi (2073) – Louis Petithory (2055) [A41]  
Schenectady Open, round 4  
Schenectady, NY, June 12, 2011**

**1.d4 d6 2.c4 Nd7 3.Nc3 e5 4.d5 Ngf6 5.e4 Be7 6.f3  
0-0 7.Be3 Nh5 8.Qd2 Nf4 9.g3 Ng6 10.0-0-0 f5  
11.exf5 Rxf5 12.h4 Rh5**

*Meant to stop g4, at least temporarily, this puts the Rook in an awkward place.*

**13.Nh3 Ndf8**

*13...Nc5 seems like a better idea, but white is still better after 14.Bxc5 dxc5 15.Bd3.*

**14.Be2 h6?! 15.f4 exf4**

*Gives up the exchange, but not much better is 15...Rf5 16.Bd3 Rf6 17.Ne4 Rf7 18.h5.*

**16.Bxh5 fxe3 17.Qxe3 Ne5 18.Be2 c6 19.Nf4 Bf5  
20.c5 b5?**

*Better was the more sedate 20...Qc7. However, now the time situation was becoming critical: White had 22 minutes while Black only had 75 seconds.*

**21.dxc6 Qa5 22.cxd6 Bf6 23.Qc5 Nxc6**

Black's position is rapidly deteriorating, and he only has 8 seconds left.

**24.Qxc6 Rc8 25.Qxc8?**

*The Black pieces seem to be closing in on the white king, so Patrick, with plenty of time left, decides to quash black's counterplay at the cost of most, but not all, of his material advantage. During the game I thought that 25.Qd5+ was probably winning, and it turns out I was right: 25...Be6 26.Nxe6 Rxc3+ 27.Kb1! (Not 27.bxc3?? Qxc3+ and White gets mated.) 27...Kh8 28.Qa8 and Black loses major material. 25...Bxc8 26.Nfd5 Nd7*

*Better is 26...Bxc3 27.Nxc3 b4 and now in order to maintain his advantage White has to find 28.Bc4+ Kh7 29.Ne4.*

**27.Nxf6+ Nxf6 28.Bxb5 Bd7 29.Bxd7 Nxd7 30.Rhe1** *White has two Rooks and two pawns against Black's Queen, which should be a pretty straightforward win, even ignoring the fact that Black has no time left.*

**30...Kf8 31.Re7 Nc5?**

*A blunder that White fails to take advantage of. The time is now: White 13 minutes, Black 2 seconds.) 32.Rf1+ (Here's an interesting win: 32.Re5! (This seems to drop the exchange, but... 32...Nb3+ 33.axb3 Qxe5 34.d7 and White gets a new Queen.*

**32...Kg8 33.d7 Nxd7 34.Rxd7 Qe5**

*Black is playing on through sheer inertia, hoping for a miracle.*

**35.Rd3 Qc5 36.Rfd1 a5 37.Kb1 Qc4 38.Rd4 Qc5 39.Rd5 Qe3 40.g4 Qf3 41.g5 h5 42.g6 Qg4??**

*Allows a mate in one. After 42...Kf8 43.Rd8+ Black will probably run out of time before he gets mated.*

**43.Rd8, mate 1-0**

One of the usual high points of the summer chess schedule is the Chess In the City Summer Finale Blitz tournament, usually held in Downtown Schenectady on the Friday before Labor Day. When the tournament was scheduled for August 29 nobody could have known that tropical storm Irene was going to hit the day before.

Ironically the day of the 29<sup>th</sup> was beautiful and sunny, but Irene had caused widespread flooding and power outages in this area, perhaps the worst weather

damage I've ever seen in the half century I've lived here. Under the circumstances the Chess in the City Summer Blitz Finale had to be cancelled. Sections of the city were still without power and both nearby bridges over the Mohawk River were closed to traffic. It was a pity since this fun tournament usually draws about 40 people, but it was an event that couldn't be postponed: it was the last week for chess under Proctors' marquee, and the following Monday was Labor Day. Hopefully it will be back next year.

Bill Little of the Schenectady Chess Club has been livening up the summer months by directing events with fast time controls at some of the club's Thursday night meetings. At the first one held on June 16, eight people participated, and the winner was a first-time visitor to the club named Mr. Nar. We didn't catch his first name, but he won the event with a perfect 3-0 score. Tied for second with 2-1 were: Timothy Wright, Brij Saran and Cory Northrup.

The second event, held on June 30, had six players participating, and was a round robin. There was a four way tie for first place at 3-2 among: Tim Wright, Glen Perry, Cory Northrup and John Phillips. Dean Howard was fifth at 2-3 and Richard Chu scored 1-4.

The third of the "Just For Fun" tournaments was held at the Schenectady Club on July 14, again with six players participating. Glen Perry and Herman Calderon tied for first place with 3-2, while Bill Little was third with 3-1, with an unplayed game. Technically speaking that should be a three way tie for first. Richard Chu was fourth with 2½-2½, Brij Saran was fifth with 1-2, and Zachary Calderon was sixth with ½-3½. Zach, one of this area's strongest scholastic players, must have been having an off night.

Finally, the last one was held on July 28, with six players competing in a round robin at the rate of game in ten minutes. Philip Sells was clear first with a perfect 5-0 record. Peter Henner, recently back from Mongolia, was clear second with 3-2, having unexpectedly dropped a game to unrated Tom Clark from Voorheesville, as well as losing to Sells. Clark and Tim Wright tied for third with 2½-2½. Richard Chu was fifth with 1½-3½ while Cory Northrup was fifth with ½-4½.

# **Minutes of the New York State Chess Association Annual Meeting, Sunday, September 4, 2011 Albany Marriott, Albany, NY**

**Respectfully submitted, Phyllis Benjamin, membership secretary**

**Members present:** President Bill Goichberg, Brenda Goichberg, Karl Heck, Phyllis Benjamin, Harold Stenzel, Robert Currie, Ken Evans, Jonah Klempner, Edward Frumkin, Leonard Chipkin, Bill Townsend, Lonnie Kwartler, Steve Immitt, and Joseph Felber.

President Bill Goichberg called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and called on Secretary Phyllis Benjamin to report on the Board of Directors election results:

President, Bill Goichberg, Vice-President, Polly Wright, and Treasurer, Karl Heck, were re-elected with 26 votes each..

The Upstate directors elected were: Phil Ferguson 10, Brenda Goichberg 12, Karl Heck 10, Ron Lohrman 8,. Bill Goichberg 12, and Bill Townsend 11. There were 4 write-ins: John Cordisco, Matthew Katrein, Steve Taylor, and Dean Howard, each receiving one vote.

The Downstate results are: Phyllis Benjamin 12, Dr. Frank Brady 10, Joeseoph Felber 11, Ed Frumkin 12, Carrie Goldstein 10, Steve Immitt 13, Martin Merado 9, Robert Rizzo 6, Sophia Rohde 9, Harold Stenzel 11, Mark Kurtzman 9, and Polly Wright 9. There were 2 write-ins, Margarita Lanides 2, and Sunil Weeramantry 1. These two names were inadvertently omitted from the ballot, so the delegates voted to place them on the board.

Since Dr. Brady and Mark Kurtzman are not current members of NYSCA, they are not eligible to serve on the board. It was decided to contact them and give them the opportunity to renew.

There is confusion concerning USCF delegates, and NYSCA delegates. They are not delegates to the USCF unless we select them at the annual meeting. The USCF has modified their approach to seating state association delegates from previous years. Presently, the delegates must be present by 9:30 a.m. or considered resigned. So no advance resignations needed to be tendered so that there were vacancies that could be re-appointed at the meeting. Therefore, it is not so essential to appoint delegates, so it makes sense to appoint the highest vote getters in the NYSCA election to be delegates, and everybody who is considering attending the meeting. Next year's U.S. Open and Annual Meeting will be in Vancouver, Washington. After considerable discussion, we agreed to appoint Phyllis Benjamin, Sunil Weeramantry. Steve Immitt, Ed Frumkin, Polly Wright, Carol Jarecki, and Joe Felber to represent downstate. Brenda Goichberg, Shelby Lohrman, and Ashok Aaron were appointed as upstate representatives. Alternates will be appointed by NYSCA executive committee. All of these actions were approved unanimously.

Treasurer , Karl Heck, distributed copies of the budget that appears at the end of this report.

He reported that we are about \$150 ahead for the year (Treasurer's Note: we ended the year basically even after the receipt of the webmaster's bill, which was \$160 and received after the meeting). We have switched printers, and are using bulk mailing. Karl submitted the IRS report for 2009-2010, and the 2010-2011 IRS report was submitted after the meeting.

Our website needs overhauling and we need someone with the technical skills in order to accomplish this. Karl was authorized to find a web designer or person in order to complete this task, and additional funds were placed in the budget for this purpose.

A lot of discussion ensued concerning the fact that all of the players that qualified to represent us at the Denker Tournament of High School Champions declined to go. NYSCA will provide \$200 expense money to the Barber and Denker representatives if requested, adding the Barber to the Denker Champion, which has been offered since the inception of the tournament. There was discussion regarding providing \$200 expense money to a girl to play in her choice of the Junior Girls Open or the Scholastic National All Girls. It was decided to offer the \$200, but there was concern that if we give it to the top girl at the New York State High School that could be a player who is far from NY's best. There was discussion of having a minimum rating, but that would make some players ineligible no matter how well they did at the state HS. Finally we decided that the \$200 would go to the best scoring girl, provided that she scored at least four points out of six, and if no girl achieves this score, it would be offered to the highest-rated girl under 18 in the state.

A motion to accept the budget was passed unanimously.

A motion was passed allowing organizers of NYSCA sponsored tournaments, other than the State Championship, State Scholastics, and State Open, to pay \$5 for each NY resident who is not a member. There was one negative vote, Phyllis Benjamin.

Ed Frumkin and Joe Felber will be inducted into the NYSCA Hall of Fame at a ceremony before the beginning of tonight's round.

A motion was passed to induct Lenny Chipkin and Karl Heck into the Hall of Fame next year, which passed unanimously.

Future NYSCA tournaments scheduled for the coming year include:

The State Scholastic in Saratoga for the first weekend in March 2012.

The State Action and Quick Championships will be organized by Karl Heck and held in the spring in the Albany area.

The State Women's and Senior, organized by Ed Frumkin, will tentatively be held in the spring at the Marshall Chess Club.

The New York State Open will be held in the spring.

The annual State Championship will again be organized by Bill Goichberg and held over the Labor Day weekend at the Albany Marriott.

For additional information on NYSCA tournaments, read Empire Chess.

# New York State Chess Association, Inc.

## *2010-2011 Treasurer's Report and Adopted Budget*

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>2010-11</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>2011-12</u>
Editor Salary	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800
Magazine Contributors	\$ 750	\$ 380	\$ 750
Printing/Mailing Magazine	\$3,000	\$2,313.15	\$2,000
Plaques	\$ 150	\$ 165.88	\$ 75
Annual Meeting Expenses	\$ 75	\$ 67.10	\$ 75
Secretary's Expenses	\$ 150	\$ 92	\$ 150
USCF Membership	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40
HS Championship Expenses	\$ 200	\$ 0	\$ 400
Webmaster	\$ 400	\$ 273	\$ 800
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$6,565</b>	<b>\$5,135.13</b>	<b>\$6,090</b>

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>2010-11</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>2011-12</u>
Advertising	\$ 200	\$ 204	\$ 200
Membership/Tournaments	\$6,365	\$4,944.95	\$5,865
Interest Income	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$6,565</b>	<b>\$5,144.95</b>	<b>\$6,065</b>

### Assets of the New York State Chess Association, Inc. (8/31/11)

Operations Balance	\$3,904.44
<u>Alan Benjamin Builders Fund</u>	<u>\$2,642.12</u>
<b>Total Assets 8/31/11</b>	<b>\$6,556.56</b>
<b>Total Assets 8/31/10</b>	<b>\$6,546.74</b>
Net Asset Change	\$ 9.82

# Updated New York State Chess Club Directory

## Western New York

### **Rochester Chess Center**

221 Norris Drive  
Rochester, NY 14610  
Ron Lohrman, 585-442-2430  
Monday and Wednesday: 7:30-10 p.m.  
Saturday: 10 a.m-10 p.m.  
[www.nychess.org](http://www.nychess.org)

### **Niagara CC Chess Club**

Building G, Room 244  
Wednesday, 6:30-10:30 p.m.  
Harish Srinivasan  
[harish.srinivasan@gmail.com](mailto:harish.srinivasan@gmail.com)

### **University of Buffalo CC**

Student Union Room 145  
Friday, 5-7 p.m.  
Tom Kessler  
[Kessler5@buffalo.edu](mailto:Kessler5@buffalo.edu)

### **Lakeshore Chess Club**

Lake Shore Library  
Route 5, Hamburg  
Mondays, 5-8 p.m.  
Tom Warner  
[warner689@cs.com](mailto:warner689@cs.com)

### **Villa Maria College**

Pine Ridge Rd., Cheektowaga  
Friday, 7:30 p.m.  
[Peg@ex-webit.com](mailto:Peg@ex-webit.com)

### **Jamestown Chess Club**

Chautauqua Chess Assoc.  
111 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Suite 210,  
Jamestown  
Mark Clark, 716-763-6825  
Thu., 6-9 pm., Sat. 10:30-3.

### **buffalo chess.blogspot.com**

for additional information.

## Southern Tier

### **Hornell Chess Club**

Hornell Intermediate School  
Park Street, Hornell  
(Summer: Arkport Community  
Room) Fred Harris, 607-295-9858  
[Fharris3@stny.rr.com](mailto:Fharris3@stny.rr.com)  
Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

### **Elmira/Corning Chess Club**

Manos Diner, Monday  
118 College Ave. Elmira  
Raynesford Taylor Bacorn  
607-734-8602  
Monday, 6:30 p.m.  
Thu. Barnes & Noble, 821 CR 64,  
Big Flats

### **Cornell Univ. Chess Club**

Goldwin Smith Hall, Room 164  
Monday & Wednesday, 5 p.m.  
[rso.cornell.edu/chess](http://rso.cornell.edu/chess)

## Central New York

### **Seymour Library Chess Club**

Seymour Public Library  
176 West Genesee Street,  
Auburn  
Second Saturday of the Month,  
1-4 p.m.  
Tom McKellop  
315-252-3789  
[tom\\_mckellop@hotmail.com](mailto:tom_mckellop@hotmail.com)

### **Watertown Chess Club**

HSBC Building  
120 Washington Street  
Watertown  
Tuesdays, 7-11 p.m.  
Don Klug  
315-408-1850

### **Sullivan Chess Club**

707 Legion Drive, Chittenango  
Mondays, 6:00 p.m.  
John Wolf, 315-687-3356

*For Capital Region and Hudson Valley clubs, go to:*

**[www.enyca.org](http://www.enyca.org)**

### **East Greenbush Chess Club**

Sunshine Day Care, across from  
Greenbush Reformed Church,  
East Greenbush  
14 Hayes Road  
Wednesdays 6:30-10 p.m.  
Bill Matters, 518-477-2820

### **Greenwich Chess Club**

Greenwich Free Library,  
Greenwich  
Thursday, 7 p.m.  
John Hartnett,  
[jhartnet@twcap.rr.com](mailto:jhartnet@twcap.rr.com)

### **Saratoga Staunton Chess Club**

Saratoga Springs United  
Methodist Church  
(5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Hennings Road)  
Sunday, 6:00 p.m.  
Lee Battles  
[lee\\_battles@aol.com](mailto:lee_battles@aol.com)  
Alan LeCours, 518-583-0400

### **Schenectady Chess Club**

Niskayuna Community Center  
2682 Aqueduct Rd., Niskayuna  
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Bill Townsend, 518-346-6595  
[wtownsen@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wtownsen@nycap.rr.com)

## Hudson Valley

### **King's Knight CC**

Rosendale Café  
435 Main St., Rosendale  
Ken Evans, 845-331-8186  
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

### **Margaretville Chess Club**

Methodist Church, Margaretville  
Tuesday, 7 p.m.  
Tom Delehanty,  
[tdelehanty@catskill.net](mailto:tdelehanty@catskill.net)

**Middletown Chess Club**

Walkill Comm. Center  
Route 211, E. Middletown  
Lonnie Kwartler, 845-469-4451  
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

**Vassar-Chadwick CC**

Vassar College, Poughkeepsie  
Monday 7 pm  
Craig Fisher, 845-462-5630  
[Craig.fisher@marist.edu](mailto:Craig.fisher@marist.edu)  
[www.vassar-chadwick.com](http://www.vassar-chadwick.com)

**Walden Chess Club**

Josephine-Louise Public Library  
5 Schofield St, Walden, 10am-  
2pm, 845-778-7621

**New York City/Westchester****The Bob Peretz Chess Club**

(Formerly The Bronx-Yonkers  
Chess Club)  
White Plains YMCA  
250 Mamaroneck Ave.  
White Plains, NY 10601  
914-831-3707 Alan Abrams –  
Treasurer  
[TheBobPeretzChessClub.blogspot.com](http://TheBobPeretzChessClub.blogspot.com)  
Mondays 7:45PM – Midnight

**Westchester Chess Club**

Trinity Lutheran Church  
25 Crane Road, Scarsdale  
Wednesday, 7:30-10:50 p.m.  
John Marino  
914-723-7363  
[jdmario@alumni.princeton.edu](mailto:jdmario@alumni.princeton.edu)  
[www.westchesterchessclub.com](http://www.westchesterchessclub.com)

**Brooklyn College CC**

2900 Bedford Ave.  
Tue. & Thurs. 1:30-3:30  
Contact: Fedor Khrapatin,  
[frkn81@aol.com](mailto:frkn81@aol.com)  
cell: 646-239-0783  
<http://bcchess.tripod.com>

**Marshall Chess Club**

23 W 10 St, NYC  
Jim Frawley, Manager  
212-477-3716  
Weekdays, 1:00-12:00 pm  
Weekends, noon – midnight  
[Marshallchessclub.org](http://Marshallchessclub.org)

**Polgar Chess Club**

103-10 Queens Boulevard,  
Forest Hills, Queens  
Susan Polgar, 718-897-4600  
M-F 4:30-9:30 p.m., Sat 12-8  
p.m., Sun. 12-7 p.m.  
[www.susanpolgar.com](http://www.susanpolgar.com)

**Queens Chess Club**

All Saints Lutheran Church  
164-02 Goethals Avenue,  
Jamaica  
(w) Friday, 7:30 pm to Sat 12:30  
am; events start at 8:15 pm  
Ed Frumkin, 212-677-3224  
[Efrumkin@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Efrumkin@nyc.rr.com)  
[www.queens-chess.com](http://www.queens-chess.com)

**Staten Island Chess Club**

Holy Child Forum  
Lew Fraser, 718-948-2284  
[LewFraser@si.rr.com](mailto:LewFraser@si.rr.com)  
Tuesday, 7 pm

**Max Pavey Chess Club**

Recreation Center  
48 Macy Rd., Briarcliff  
Sal Catalfamo  
Friday, 7 p.m.

**Long Island**

Neal Bellon  
Long Island Chess Club  
United Methodist Church  
470 East Meadow Ave.  
East Meadow, NY11554  
Thursdays, 6:45 – 10:30 PM  
[www.lichessclub.com](http://www.lichessclub.com)

**Huntington Chess Club**

Huntington Library  
338 Main Street  
718-829-7770  
Saturday, 10-5, (informal)

**Long Island Chess Nuts**

Old County Rd., Garden City  
Margarita Lanides  
[mlanides@chessnuts.org](mailto:mlanides@chessnuts.org)  
516-739-3907  
Thu. & Fri., 4-6 pm  
Many Scholastic locations

**Nassau Chess Club**

1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church of  
Mineola  
Main & First Sts. Mineola  
Harold Stenzel,  
631-218-4440  
[captahal@optonline.net](mailto:captahal@optonline.net)  
Monday, 7 - 11:30 p.m.

**Syosset Chess Mates**

Walt Whitman Elem. School  
Woodbury, NY 11797  
Randi Gertler / Marc Berger  
(516) 381-1755  
[Gertler@aol.com](mailto:Gertler@aol.com)

**Chess Clubs are the lifeblood of  
chess activity in New York.  
Support your local club.**

***Supporting your local chess club  
allows chess activities in your  
community to flourish in ways  
that Internet chess will never be  
able to replace.***

***Be part of your chess  
community, and make your  
chess club part of your  
community! Check  
[www.nysca.net](http://www.nysca.net) for updated  
chess club information.***

## Upcoming NYSCA-Sponsored and Major Tournaments

# Remember National Chess Day on October 8<sup>th</sup>!

### October 8: National Chess Day: Herschelle Carrousel Chess Classic 2011

Celebrating National Chess Day and The Archangel 8 Chess Academy Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum, 180 Thompson St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120. Featuring a Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum All Girls K-12 Championship. In 4 Sections: Herschell Carrousel K-12 Girls Championship: 4SS, Game 30, EF: \$10.00 if received by October 1, 2011. Herschell Carrousel Novice K-6th: 4SS, Game 30, EF: \$10.00 if received by September 30, 2011. Herschell Carrousel K-12th: 4SS, Game 30, EF: \$10.00 if received by September 30, 2011. Herschell Carrousel Unrated K-12th: 4SS, Game 30, EF: \$10.00 if received by September 30, 2011. ALL: No checks onsite. Trophies to the Top 3 in each section, Medals for players who earn 2 points. Reg.: Advance entries only! \$5.00 if received by September 24, 2011. Rds.: Round 1 at Noon, other games will begin when all are finished. One half point Byes available upon request prior to round. ENT: The Archangel 8 Chess Academy, 60F Guilford Ln., Buffalo, NY 14221. Advance entries only. [arcangel8chess@yahoo.com](mailto:arcangel8chess@yahoo.com). INFO: Mc Duffie, Chess Ambassador, 60F Guilford Ln., Buffalo, NY 14221. Advance registration entries only! NS. NC. W.

### October 23: 34th Binghamton Monthly \$1000 Tourney! (monthly Grand Prix events are now in Binghamton)

Prizes Increased! \$1000 b/24. 4SS, Rds. 1-3 G/65 Rd.4 G/75. Entry: \$59. Cash only at site. Reg.: 8:45 to 9:15 AM. Rds.: 9:30, 12:00, 2:30, 4:45. Open: \$250, \$200, \$100. Reserve: \$200, \$150, \$100. Trophies: 1st - 4th, both sections. Make checks payable to: Cordisco's Corner Store, 308 Chenango St., Binghamton, NY 13901. (607) 772-8782. [cordiscos@stny.rr.com](mailto:cordiscos@stny.rr.com). Chess Magnet School JGP.

### December 27-29 or 28-29: 30th annual Empire City Open GPP: 60 Enhanced

6SS, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-3 G/50). New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Ave at 34th St, across from Penn Station, New York 10001. \$10,000 guaranteed prize fund. In 5 sections. Open: \$1000-500-300-150, clear or tiebreak 1st \$50, top 2200-2299 \$500, top U2200/Unr \$500. FIDE. Under 2100: \$800-400-200-100, top U1900 \$500. Under 1800: \$800-400-200-100, top U1600 \$400. Under 1500: \$700-400-200-100, top U1300 \$300. Under 1200: \$600-300-150-100, top U1000 \$250. Unrated may not win over \$200 in U1200, \$300 U1500, or \$500 U1800. EF: 3-day \$98, 2-day \$97 if check mailed by 12/18, \$99 online at [www.chesstour.com](http://www.chesstour.com) by 12/23, \$105 phoned by 12/23 (406-896-2038, no questions), \$120 at site. No mailed credit card entries. GMs free (\$90 from prize). EF for unrated in U1200 or U1500: \$50 less. All: Re-entry \$50, not available in Open. No checks at site, credit cards OK. Unofficial [uschess.org](http://uschess.org) ratings usually used if otherwise unrated. Special 1 year USCF dues with magazine if paid with entry. Online at [chesstour.com](http://chesstour.com), Adult \$30, Young Adult \$20, Scholastic \$15. Mailed, phoned or at site, Adult \$40, Young Adult \$30, Scholastic \$20. 3-Day Schedule: Reg. ends Tue 10:30 am. Rds. Tue 11 & 6, Wed 11 & 6, Thu 10 & 4:30. 2-Day Schedule: Reg. ends Wed 9:30 am. Rds. Wed 10, 12:45, 3:15 & 6, Thu 10 & 4:30. Half point byes available all rounds, limit 2 byes, Open must commit before rd. 2, others before rd 4. HR: \$229-229, 1-800-764-4680, 212-971-0101, reserve by 5 pm 12/13 or rate will increase, ask for Continental Chess Association rate. Ent: Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577. \$15 service charge for refunds. Questions: [chesstour.com](http://chesstour.com), DirectorAtChess.US, 845-569-9969. Advance entries posted at [www.chesstour.com](http://www.chesstour.com). Bring set, clock, board-none supplied. Chess Magnet School JGP.

January 29-30, 2012: Greater New York City Scholastic Chess Championships - Sponsored by the Kasparov Chess Foundation 5-SS, G/30 in four separate one-day tournaments at the New Yorker Hotel, 481 Eighth Avenue at 34<sup>th</sup> Street, New York City. Guaranteed individual and team prizes in all sections, with trophies to the top 12 individuals and top six schools in each section. Round times for all tournaments are 10:00 a.m., 12:00, 2:00, 3:30 and 5:15 p.m.

The Primary (K-3) and Junior High Championships (K-9) will be held on Saturday, January 29 and the Elementary (K-6) and High School Championships (K-12) will be held on Sunday, January 30. All tournaments except the

Primary are conducted in Varsity, Junior Varsity and Novice sections. The Primary will be held in Varsity, Junior Varsity and K-1 sections.

For complete information and online registration, contact [www.chesscenter.cc](http://www.chesscenter.cc).

**March 3-4, 2012: New York State Scholastic Chess Championship, Saratoga Springs, NY.** See the ad on the back page for complete information..

**The second Saturday of every month. Jennifer Woods Grand Prix:** 4-SS, rounds 1 & 2 G/60, rounds 3 & 4 G/90 @Rochester Chess Center, 221 Norris Drive, Rochester. Guaranteed Prizes: \$150-90-60 class \$80. Reg: 8:30-9:15. Rounds. 9:30-12-2:15-5:30 EF: \$30 Advanced Entries/Info: Rochester Chess Center, 221 Norris Drive, Rochester, NY 14610. (585)442-2430.

**Most third Saturdays of month there will be the Monthly Buffalo Grand Prix Events at the Main Place Mall in Buffalo.**4-SS, TL: Rounds 1 & 2,G/45, Rounds 3 & 4 G/60 Prizes: 1st-2nd Guaranteed \$250-150-100, Class \$75. Reg.: 8:30-9:15 a.m., Rounds.: 9:30-11:20-1:10-3:30 EF: \$50. U1600 EF: \$35, \$150-90-60, ALL PRIZES EXCEPT 1st & 2nd in OPEN, BASED ON 20 ENTRIES. Scholastic EF: \$15, Trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place. Adv. Entries/Info: Archangel 8 Chess Academy, [arcangel8chess@yahoo.com](mailto:arcangel8chess@yahoo.com), 60F Guilford Lane, Buffalo, NY 14221. See [www.buffalochess.blogspot.com](http://www.buffalochess.blogspot.com) for future dates and details.

**Third Tuesday of each month. Marshall Masters at the Marshall Chess Club.** 4-SS, G/30. 23 W. 10th St., NYC. 212-477-3716. Open to players rated over 2100 (plus all players scoring 2 ½ or more from CCNY at the Marshall's Thursday Night Action) EF: \$40, members \$30, GMs \$10 (returned on completion of tournament). Top three prizes guaranteed. \$\$Guaranteed 250-150-100. Top Under 2400 and Top Under 2300 prizes. Special prize for biggest upset. Reg.: 6:15-6:45. Rounds.: 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 p.m. One bye available, rounds 1 or 4 only.

**Practically every Thursday night at the Marshall Chess Club...Four Rated Games Tonight (10 Grand Prix Points Tonight the last Thursday of the month)!** 4-SS, G/30, Chess Center at Marshall Club, 23 W 10th St, NYC: 212-477-3716. May be limited to 1st 36 entries. EF \$30, Club membs \$20, specified Greater NY Scholastic prizewinners free. \$\$ (480 b/32 paid): 150-100-50, Top U2200/unrated \$95, U2000 \$85. Limit 2 byes (1 bye if U2000), commit by 8:15. Re-entry \$15, counts half. Reg. ends 10 min. before game. Rds. 7-8:15-9:30-10:45 pm. Phone entry often impossible! \$5 extra if entering under 10 min. before game. Check [www.marshallchessclub.org](http://www.marshallchessclub.org) for additional information.

## A HERITAGE EVENT

# 45th annual NEW YORK STATE SCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

**March 3-4, 2012**

**Open to grades K-12 in any state** (top New York State player & team in each section are NY champions). Saratoga Hilton, 534 Broadway (I-87 Exit 13-N, 4 miles north on U.S. 9), Saratoga Springs NY 12866. Free parking. Team prizes based on top 4 scores from same school; no combined school teams allowed even if one school “feeds” another. Teams of 2 or 3 players allowed, but are at a disadvantage.

**The tournament is held in 8 sections.** Each section is a six-round Swiss System, G/61 except K-1 is 5-SS, G/30 playing Sunday, March 4 only.

**High School**, open to grades K-12. Entry fee \$38.20 if check mailed by February 10.

**High School Reserve**, open to grades K-12 under 1200 or unrated, EF \$38 if check mailed by February 10.

**Junior High School**, open to all in grades K-9. Entry fee \$37.90 if check mailed by February 10.

**Middle School Reserve**, open to all in grades K-8 under 1000 or unrated. EF \$37.80 if check mailed by February 10.

**Elementary**, grades K-6. Entry fee \$37.60 if check mailed by February 10.

**Elementary Reserve**, open to all in grades K-5 under 800 or unrated. Entry fee \$37.50 if check mailed by February 10.

**Primary**, open to all in grades K-3. Entry fee \$37.30 if check mailed by February 10.

**K-1**, grades K-1. Entry fee \$37.10 if check mailed by February 10.

**Postmarked 2/11-21: All entry fees \$10 more. Do not mail entry after 2/21.**

No credit card mailed entries. **Online at chesstour.com, all sections: Entry fee \$40 by 2/10, \$50 by 2/27. No online entry after 2/27.** Phoned to 406-896-2038, all sections: Entry fee \$55 by 2/27. No phone entry after 2/27. Entry fee at site: all \$60.

*USCF membership required. See online shopping cart for special USCF dues with paper magazine.*

**Trophies to top 15 players and top 7 teams each section**, top 3 Unrated in Primary, K-1, and each Reserve Section, and top Under 1500, Under 1300 (HS), Under 900, Under 700 (HS Reserve), Under 1200, Under 1000 (JHS), Under 700, Under 500 (MS Reserve), Under 1000, Under 800 (Elementary), Under 500, Under 300 (Elementary Reserve). Speed playoff if perfect score tie. **Free entry to NY State Championship, Labor Day weekend 2012 (Albany), to top player each section.**

**Schedule:** Late registration ends Saturday 10 a.m., rounds: Saturday 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m., 12 noon, 2:30 p.m. Awards 5:30 pm.

**K-1 schedule:** Late registration ends Sunday 9 a.m., rounds Sunday 10 a.m., 12 noon, 1:30 p.m., 3 p.m., 4:30 p.m. Awards 5:45 pm.

**Half point byes OK all, limit 2, must commit before round 2.** Hotel rates: \$117-117, 888-999-4711, 518-584-4000, reserve by 2/18 or rate may increase. 48 hours notice required for room cancellation. Backup hotel: Courtyard by Marriott, two blocks away, 518-226-0538. Special car rentals: Avis, 800-331-1600, use AWD #657633. **Mail entry: Continental Chess, PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills NY 12577. Include name, rating, USCF ID, USCF expiration (non-members enclose dues), section, school, grade, birth date, address of each player.** Checks payable to Continental Chess. \$15 per player service charge for refunds. \$10 extra to switch sections, all substitutions from advance list charged \$60. Questions: chesstour.com, 845-496-9658. Bring set, board, clock if possible- none supplied. **Chess Magnet School Junior Grand Prix Points available (except K-1 Section).**