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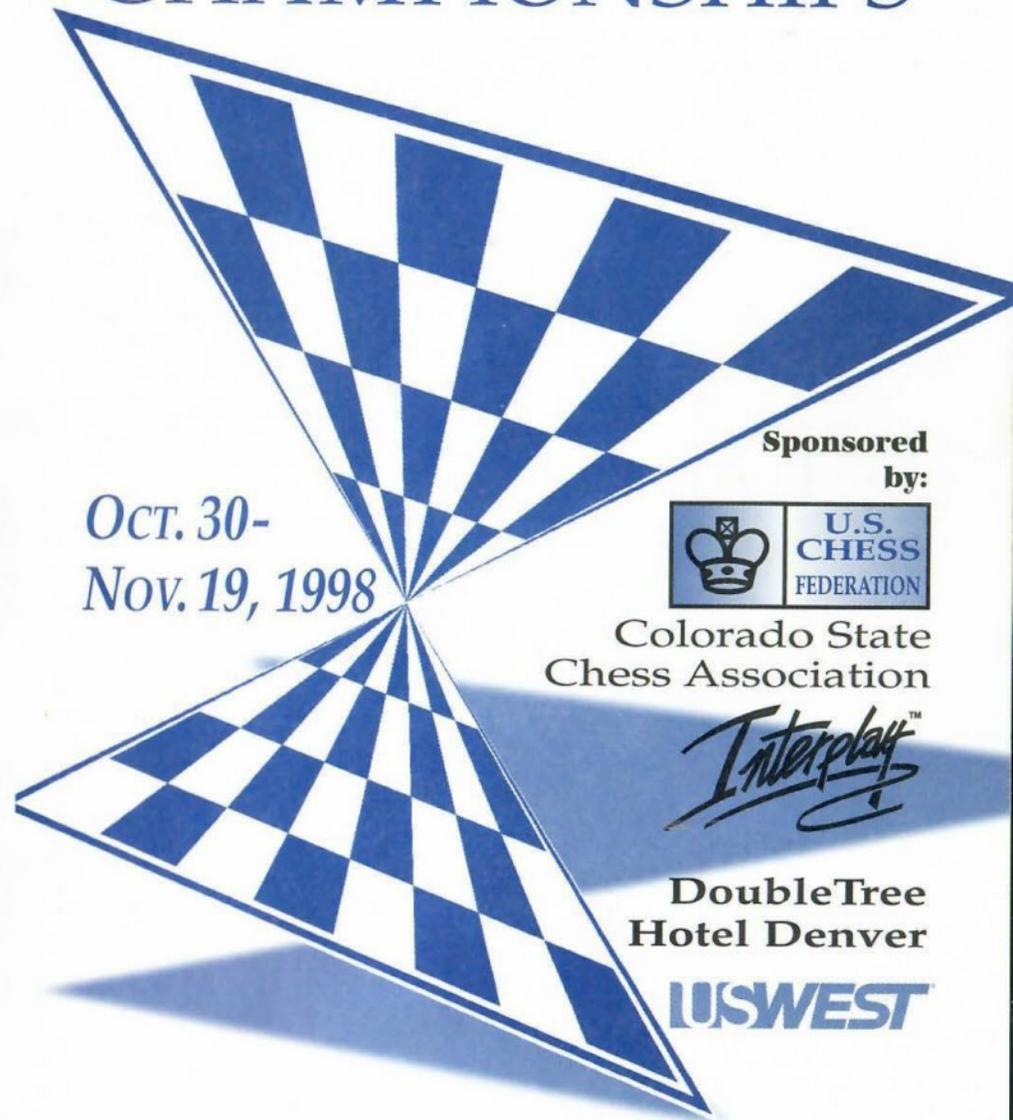
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October 30, 1998

Dear Fellow Chess Friends,

Welcome to the 1998 Interplay U.S. Chess Championships.

Our annual chess festival continues to grow. This year, the combined prize fund for our two championship events has been increased to \$100,000.

Plus, for the first time ever, the U.S. Senior Open has been added to the mix, giving our senior players the opportunity to observe our top professional players in action.

This year's U.S. Championship is also special because it is a qualifier for the 1998 FIDE World Championship. At least six U.S. players will gain spots in the world championship, which features a prize fund of \$3 million. Talk about pressure!

Our championship series wouldn't happen without the support of our local organizers. Richard (Buck) Buchanan, Craig Wilcox, Brad Hughes, and the entire Colorado State Chess Association have done wonderful work behind the scenes to make the event run smoothly.

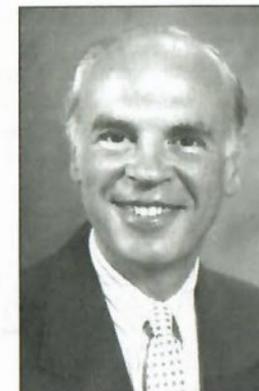
Also, our thanks go to our title sponsor, Interplay Productions, Inc., of Irvine, Calif., for their continued support of high-level chess.

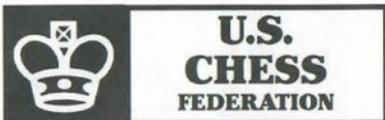
These games will be followed by countless chess fans each day on the Internet. Only a few lucky ones will be able to watch them live, in-person, up close and personal.

It's a chess experience to remember.

Yours for chess,

Don Schultz
USCF President





3054 NYS Route 9W • New Windsor, N.Y. 12553

October 30, 1998

Dear Chess Friends,

What better place than Denver to host the 1998 Interplay U.S. Chess Championships?

This year, we've increased our championship tournament total to three, adding the 1998 U.S. Senior Open to the 1998 Interplay U.S. Championship and 1998 Interplay U.S. Women's Championship.

Where else can you watch the top 16 U.S. players fight for the coveted U.S. Championship ring, the top 10 U.S. women players contest a Round Robin championship, and nearly 100 of the top U.S. senior players aim for a national title — all at the same time?

The USCF is committed to supporting more high-level chess tournaments. Our annual calendar features nearly 40 National Events. We've raised the overall prize fund for these championships to a record \$100,000, and we hope to do even better for 1999.

Of course, these chess championships are made possible through the continued support of our title sponsor, Interplay Productions, Inc.

And special thanks go to local organizers Richard (Buck) Buchanan, Craig Wilcox, Brad Hughes and the Colorado State Chess Association.

We also thank Doubletree Hotels and the surrounding Denver chess community.

Though fun to watch, chess is primarily a participatory sport. While watching these games, may you be inspired to make some of your own chess history.

Game, anyone?

Sincerely,

Michael Cavallo
USCF Executive Director



COLORADO STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION

AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION

October 30, 1998

Welcome! It is an honor for Colorado Chess to host an event like this. Our chess community is excited and enthusiastic about it, and we are looking forward to great things.

This is not the first time the U.S. Championship has come to Colorado. In recent years the tournament has been played twice in Estes Park and once in Durango. But this is the first time that a major city has hosted it, with other important accompanying tournaments and widespread community support.

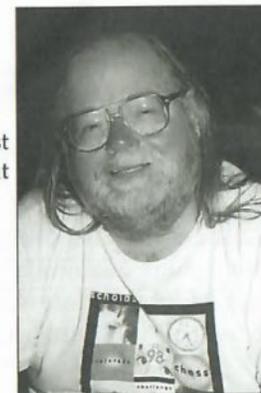
Much of the credit for this goes to USCF President Don Schultz. Don gave a lot of support and encouragement to us in the early days of planning and bid-writing. We were amazed and delighted to have our bid accepted over bids from such great locations as Hawaii and New York City. Credit for this also goes to former CSCA Vice President George Spentzos, who wrote the original bid and made the first contacts with the Doubletree Hotel.

So many other people have worked to build this tournament. Joyce Baldwin and Donna Karras used their contacts within the scholastic chess community to provide many volunteers and support staff. Brad Hughes of U.S. West has worked to solve technical problems and build support within the Denver business community. *Rocky Mountain News* chess columnist Todd Bardwick has helped with publicity. And of course there is tournament organizer Craig Wilcox, who has put in many hours of hard, dedicated work.

And support has come from other folks, too. We have a long list of volunteers who are assisting with the tournament — not only tournament regulars, but new people attracted to organized chess by this event. The sets and pieces used in the Championship tournaments have been sponsored by the Colorado Chess Community, who, after the tournament, will have a wonderful, practical souvenir of it.

And so on, and so on. We are very proud to host the Interplay U.S. Championship, Interplay U.S. Women's Championship, and U.S. Senior Open as part of the Colorado Chess Festival. May the best players win, and may all remember this as a great chess experience!

Richard Buchanan
President, Colorado State Chess Association.



Format for the 1998 Interplay U.S. Championship

Our tournament this year features a special format, designed to combine the best elements of the traditional Round Robin with the excitement of one-on-one matches.

The 16 players must battle to survive through three separate stages:

* **Stage 1 (Preliminaries):** The 16 players are grouped into two eight-player Round Robins. The top two players in each mini-tournament qualify for the next round.

* **Stage 2 (Semi-finals):** The two finalists from each Round Robin contest a short four-game match. The winner moves on ... the loser is eliminated. Ties will be broken by fast time control games.

* **Stage 3 (Finals):** The two finalists square off in a four-game final match for the title of U.S. Champion and the coveted championship ring.

Who will win the title this year? Chart the progress of the players as they move through each qualification stage.

The groupings for Stage 1 were determined by a formula based on the players' invitational ratings. The exact pairing numbers (determining the schedule of play) will be set at the drawing of lots ceremony on October 30.

Group 1 consists of: GM Alexander Shabalov, GM Nick de Firmian, GM Yasser Seirawan, GM Larry Christiansen, GM Dmitry Gurevich, GM Roman Dzindzichashvili, GM Sergey Kudrin, and IM Igor Ivanov.

GROUP 1

	NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
1	GM Nick de Firmian	♠	1	1/2	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	5
2	GM Dmitry Gurevich	0	♠	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	1	1	4 1/2
3	GM Roman Dzindzichashvili	1/2	1/2	♠	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	4
4	GM Sergey Kudrin	0	1/2	1/2	♠	1	1/2	1	1/2	4
5	GM Yasser Seirawan	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	♠	1	1	1/2	4
6	GM Larry Christiansen	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	0	♠	1	0	2 1/2
7	IM Igor Ivanov	1/2	0	1/2	0	0	0	♠	1	2
8	GM Alexander Shabalov	0	0	0	1/2	1/2	1	0	♠	2

Group 2 includes: GM Gregory Kaidanov, GM Alex Yermolinsky, GM Boris Gulko, defending U.S. Champion GM Joel Benjamin, GM Walter Browne, GM John Fedorowicz, IM Leonid Sokolin, and GM Tal Shaked (seeded as 1997 U.S. Junior Champion).

GROUP 2

	NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
1	GM Joel Benjamin	♠	1/2	1/2	1	0	1/2	1	1/2	4
2	GM John Fedorowicz	1/2	♠	1/2	0	1	1/2	1	1/2	4
3	GM Boris Gulko	1/2	1/2	♠	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	4
4	GM Tal Shaked	0	1	1/2	♠	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	4
5	GM Gregory Kaidanov	1	0	1/2	1/2	♠	1	1/2	0	3 1/2
6	IM Leonid Sokolin	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	♠	1/2	1/2	3
7	GM Alex Yermolinsky	0	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	♠	1	3
8	GM Walter Browne	1/2	1/2	0	0	1	1/2	0	♠	2 1/2

Both sections will use the following pairing formula

Round	Pairings			
1	4-8	5-3	6-2	7-1
2	8-7	1-6	2-5	3-4
3	3-8	4-2	5-1	6-7
4	8-6	7-5	1-4	2-3
5	2-8	3-1	4-7	5-6
6	8-5	6-4	7-3	1-2
7	1-8	2-7	3-6	4-5

The semi-final matches cross-pair the top two qualifiers from each of the preliminaries:

GROUP 1

Name	1	2	3	4	Total
Nick de Firmian	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	2 1/2
Tal Shaked	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1 1/2

GROUP 2

Name	1	2	3	4	Total
Joel Benjamin	1/2	1	1		2 1/2
Dmitry Gurevich	1/2	0	0		1/2

In the finals, the two remaining players battle to become the next U.S. Champion:

Name	1	2	3	4	Total
Nick de Firmian	1	1/2	1/2	1/2	2 1/2
Joel Benjamin	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1 1/2

The winner becomes the new 1998 U.S. Champion.

THE PLAYERS

1998 INTERPLAY U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP

GM JOEL BENJAMIN,

34, lives in New York City. Joel is the defending U.S. Champion. He is also a previous U.S. Championship winner (1987, tied with GM Nick de Firmian). As a junior player, Joel completed a rare triple crown: winning the National Elementary (1976), National Junior High (1978), and National High School (1980, 1981) championship titles. Joel was a key factor in the success of the bronze-medal winning U.S. team at the 1996 FIDE World Olympiad. He is the former editor of *Chess Chow* and a past columnist for *Chess Life*. Joel also worked as a consultant for IBM at last year's Kasparov-Deep Blue match.



Joel Benjamin



GM WALTER BROWNE,

49, hails from Berkeley, Calif. Walter is a six-time U.S. Champion (1974-75-77; 1980, tied with GM Larry Evans and GM Larry Christiansen; 1981, tied with GM Yasser Seirawan; 1983, tied with GM Larry Christiansen and GM Roman Dzindzichashvili), a 10-time winner at the National Open, and a constant threat to win any major U.S. Swiss tournament he enters. Walter is the founder of the World Blitz Chess Association (WBCA).

Walter Browne

GM LARRY CHRISTIANSEN,

42, is a California native who, after spending time in Germany, is now based in Cambridge, Mass. Larry is a past U.S. Championship winner (1980, tied with GM Walter Browne and GM Larry Evans; 1983, tied with GM Walter Browne and GM Roman Dzindzichashvili). He reached the finals of the U.S. Championship again in 1997, but lost to GM Joel Benjamin. Larry most recently served as captain for the 1998 U.S. Olympiad team.



Larry Christiansen



GM NICK DE FIRMIAN,

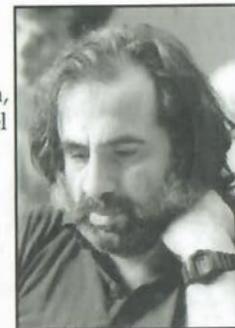
41, has relocated to Denmark but maintains his ties to New York City. Nick is a two-time U.S. Champion (1987, tied with GM Joel Benjamin; 1995, tied with GM Patrick Wolff and GM Alexander Ivanov). He has represented the United States at several Interzonals (formerly a qualifying stage for the World Championship). Nick has also competed in the FIDE Olympiad, including the 1996 event in Yerevan, Armenia and the 1998 event in Elista, Kalmykia.

Nick de Firmian

THE PLAYERS

GM ROMAN DZINDZICHASHVILI,

54, resides in East Boston, Mass. Roman was born in Soviet Georgia, and played in two USSR Championships before emigrating to Israel in 1976. He came to the U.S. in 1980, and has won the U.S. title twice (1983, tied with GM Walter Browne and GM Larry Christiansen; 1989, tied with GM Yasser Seirawan and IM Stuart Rachels). Roman is a frequent chess commentator on the World Wide Web.



Roman Dzindzichashvili



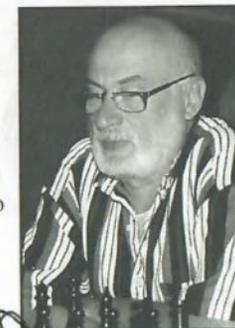
GM JOHN FEDOROWICZ,

40, lives in New York City. John has won numerous U.S. titles including the U.S. Junior Championship (1977, tied with IM Ken Regan), U.S. Open (1980, tied with GM Florin Gheorghiu) and National Open (1992, tied with four players). He has won the World Open four times (1977, 1979, 1982, 1989). John would love to add the U.S. Championship title to his chess resume, which includes a stint as official second to GM Gata Kamsky during the 1996 FIDE World Championship.

John Fedorowicz

GM BORIS GULKO,

51, makes his home in Fairlawn, N.J., with his wife, Anna. Born in Germany, Boris spent most of his life in the USSR, where he won the USSR Championship in 1977 (tied with GM Dorfman). GM Gulko and his wife attempted to emigrate in the late 1970's, and endured persecution as "refuseniks" from 1979 to 1986 (when they were finally allowed to leave Russia). Boris is the only person who can claim the titles of both USSR Champion and U.S. Champion (he won the U.S. title in 1994). He recently won the U.S. Masters Championship (1998) and tied for first at the U.S. Open (1998) with GM Judit Polgar.



Boris Gulko



GM DMITRY GUREVICH,

42, lives in Chicago, Ill. Dmitry left his native Russia in 1980 to live in the United States, where he earned his Grandmaster title three years later (1983). He has finished in first place at the National Open on multiple occasions (1985, 1986, 1990, 1991, 1997), and has been a steady performer at most major U.S. Swisses, including the U.S. Masters Championship (1996, 1997).

Dmitry Gurevich

THE PLAYERS

IM IGOR IVANOV,

51, resides in Payson, Ariz. Igor is perhaps best-known for his crushing margins of victory in the annual Novag Grand Prix series (he's won the thing an amazing nine times). He is also a trainer for The Shelby School, one of the country's top scholastic chess programs.



GM GREGORY KAIDANOV,

38, has lived in Lexington, Ky., since 1991, when he arrived from the USSR. Gregory soon became a terror on the U.S. Swiss circuit, winning the World Open (1992), National Open (1992), U.S. Open (1992), and Novag Grand Prix (1992). Gregory was a member of the bronze-medal winning U.S. team at the 1996 FIDE World Olympiad in Armenia, and he also qualified for this year's team in Elista.

Gregory Kaidanov

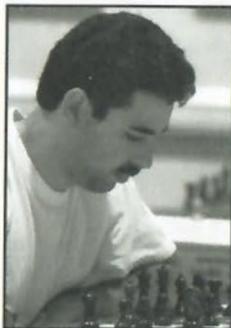
GM SERGEY KUDRIN,

38, hails from Chestnut Hills, Mass. Sergey has collected many first-place finishes in U.S. Swisses, including the National Open (1982, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1993), New York Open (1983, 1985), and North American Open (1995, 1996). He has played in several U.S. Championship tournaments.



Sergey Kudrin

GM YASSER SEIRAWAN



38, makes his home in Seattle, Wash., with his wife, Yvette. Yasser is a former U.S. Champion (1981, tied with GM Walter Browne; 1986, clear first; 1989, tied with GM Roman Dzindzichashvili and IM Stuart Rachel). He has been a candidate for the World Championship on several occasions. Yasser is the founder of International Chess Enterprises, publisher of *Inside Chess* magazine. He is a successful chess author, and served as commentator at last year's Kasparov-Deep Blue return match. Yasser achieved the best U.S. result in last year's World Championship tournament, defeating Super GM Vassily Ivanchuk before being eliminated in Round Three.

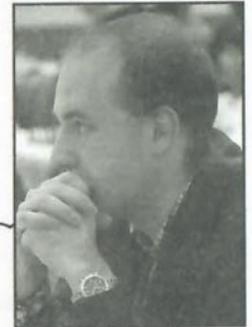
Yasser Seirawan

THE PLAYERS

GM ALEXANDER SHABALOV,

30, resides in Pittsburgh, Pa. Alexander is a past U.S. Championship winner (1993, tied with GM Alex Yermolinsky). Originally from Latvia, GM Shabalov played on the Latvian team at the FIDE Olympiad before moving to the United States. He often has the highest USCF rating among active U.S. players.

Alexander Shabalov



GM TAL SHAKED,

20, lives in Tucson, Ariz. Tal is the reigning FIDE World Junior Champion, having won the title at last summer's event in Poland. This is his second appearance in the U.S. Championship.

Tal Shaked

IM LEONID SOKOLIN,

31, lives in Brooklyn, N.Y. Leonid moved to the United States in 1993, after posting strong results in his native St. Petersburg's annual chess championship (1992, 2nd place; 1993, 3rd place). Leonid holds two GM norms. He has qualified for previous U.S. Championship tournaments, but this is his first official appearance in the event.

Leonid Sokolin



GM ALEX YERMOLINSKY,

40, makes his home in Euclid, Ohio, with his wife, WIM Camille Baginskaite. Alex is a former U.S. Champion (1993, tied with GM Alexander Shabalov; 1996, clear first). He is one of the most active U.S. Grandmasters, and plays in dozens of U.S. tournaments each year. Alex was a member of the bronze-medal-winning U.S. team at the 1996 FIDE World Olympiad. He also qualified for the 1998 Olympiad in Elista.

Alex Yermolinsky

U.S. Champions: Pre-USCF Matches & Tournaments

1845	Charles Henry Stanley over Eugene Rousseau
1857	Paul Morphy — 1st American Congress
1871	George Mackenzie — 2nd American Congress
1874	George Mackenzie — 3rd American Congress
1880	George Mackenzie — 4th American Congress
1890	Jackson Showalter over Solomon Lipschutz
1891	Solomon Lipschutz over Jackson Showalter
1894	Jackson Showalter over Albert Hodges
1894	Albert Hodges over Jackson Showalter
1895	Jackson Showalter over Solomon Lipschutz
1897	Harry Nelson Pillsbury over Jackson Showalter
1906	Pillsbury dies — Showalter regains title
1909	Frank J. Marshall over Jackson Showalter
1923	Frank J. Marshall over Edward Lasker

Modern Tournaments & Matches

1st	1936	Samuel Reshevsky	24th	1975	Walter Browne
2nd	1938	Samuel Reshevsky	25th	1977	Walter Browne
3rd	1940	Samuel Reshevsky	26th	1978	Lubosh Kavalek
Match	1941	Samuel Reshevsky over I. A. Horowitz	27th	1980	Walter Browne, Larry Evans & Larry Christiansen
4th	1942	Samuel Reshevsky — after playoff	28th	1981	Walter Browne & Yasser Seirawan
5th	1944	Arnold Denker	29th	1983	Walter Browne, Larry Christiansen & Roman Dzindzichashvili
Match	1946	Arnold Denker over Herman Steiner	30th	1984	Lev Alburt
6th	1946	Samuel Reshevsky	31st	1985	Lev Alburt
7th	1948	Herman Steiner	32nd	1986	Yasser Seirawan
8th	1951	Larry Evans	33rd	1987	Joel Benjamin & Nick de Firmian
Match	1952	Larry Evans over Herman Steiner	34th	1988	Michael Wilder
9th	1954	Arthur Bisguier	35th	1989	Yasser Seirawan, Stuart Rachels & Roman Dzindzichashvili
10th	1957-58	Bobby Fischer	36th	1990	Lev Alburt
11th	1958-59	Bobby Fischer	37th	1991	Gata Kamsky
12th	1959-60	Bobby Fischer	38th	1992	Patrick Wolff
13th	1960-61	Bobby Fischer	39th	1993	Alexander Shabalov & Alex Yermolinsky
14th	1961-62	Larry Evans	40th	1994	Boris Gulko
15th	1962-63	Bobby Fischer	41st	1995	Patrick Wolff, Nick de Firmian & Alexander Ivanov
16th	1963-64	Bobby Fischer	42nd	1996	Alex Yermolinsky
17th	1965	Bobby Fischer	43rd	1997	Joel Benjamin
18th	1966	Bobby Fischer			
19th	1968	Larry Evans			
20th	1969	Samuel Reshevsky			
21st	1972	Robert Byrne (playoff)			
22nd	1973	John Grefe & Lubosh Kavalek			
23rd	1974	Walter Browne			

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Grandmaster Yasser Seirawan

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A Short History of the U.S. Women's Championship

Summarized by Robert Tanner

Women have played a pivotal role in chess for many centuries. In the Middle Ages, a game of chess was one of the acceptable reasons for a man to be in the boudoir of a lady. Still, club and tournament play for women is a relatively recent development.

In the late 1800s, clubs were formed for the exclusive use of female players. The first women's international tournament was in England in 1895 and was won by the mother of Sir George Thomas (a perennial British Champion).

In the United States, women have had a bit of a struggle. Many clubs banned women well into the 1930s, and there was no U.S. Women's Champion until 1937. Since that time, the event has been won by most of the top female players of this country and even some world contenders. Sonja Graf (Stevenson), the titlist in 1957 and 1964, was the main opposition for the first Women's World Champion, Vera Menchik. Elena Donaldson and Irina Levitina, who have dominated the competition in the early 1990s, played matches with women's World Champion Maya Chiburdanidze in 1986 and 1984, respectively.

In 1972, Rachel Crotto was the youngest person (13.7 years) to play in a National Championship event that wasn't age restricted. Irina Krush, at 11.9 years of age, broke that record in 1995. At the other end of the age spectrum, Gisela Gresser won the title at age 63 and played a record 22 times.

Previous U.S. Women's Champions

1st 1937 Adele Rivero	21st 1974 Mona Karff
2nd 1938 Mona Karff	22nd 1975 Diane Savereide
3rd 1940 Adele Rivero	23rd 1976 Diane Savereide
4th 1941 Mona Karff	24th 1977 Rachel Crotto & Diane Savereide
5th 1942 Mona Karff	25th 1978 Rachel Crotto & Diane Savereide
6th 1944 Gisela Gresser	26th 1979 Rachel Crotto
7th 1946 Mona Karff	27th 1981 Diane Savereide
8th 1948 Gisela Gresser & Mona Karff	28th 1984 Diane Savereide
9th 1951 Mary Bain	29th 1986 Inna Izrailov
10th 1953 Mona Karff	30th 1987 Anna Achsharumova
11th 1955 Gisela Gresser & Nancy Roos	31st 1989 Alexey Rudolph
12th 1957 Sonja Graf & Gisela Gresser	32nd 1990 Elena Donaldson
13th 1959 Lisa Lane	33rd 1991 Irina Levitina & Esther Epstein
14th 1962 Gisela Gresser	34th 1992 Irina Levitina
15th 1964 Sonja Graf	35th 1993 Elena Donaldson & Irina Levitina
16th 1965 Gisela Gresser	36th 1994 Elena Donaldson
17th 1966 Gisela Gresser & Lisa Lane	37th 1995 Anjelina Belakovskaia & Sharon Burtman
18th 1967 Gisela Gresser	38th 1996 Anjelina Belakovskaia
19th 1969 Gisela Gresser	39th 1997 Esther Epstein
20th 1972 Eva Aronson & Marilyn Braun Koput	

1998 Interplay U.S. Women's Championship

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
1 Jennifer Shahade	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	6
2 Jennie Frenklakh	1	1	1/2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	4 1/2
3 WIM Sharon Burtman	1	1/2	1	1	1/2	1	0	0	1/2	1	5 1/2
4 Ivana Jezierska	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
5 WIM Ester Epstein	0	1	1/2	1	1	1	0	0	1/2	1	5
6 Tatyana Zitzerman	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
7 Irina Krush	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	8 1/2
8 WIM Anna Khan	0	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	1	1	0	6 1/2
9 Olga Sagalchik	0	0	1/2	1	1/2	1	0	0	1	0	3
10 WGM Anjelina Belakovskaia	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	5

Round	Pairings	Round	Pairings
1	5-10	6	10-7
2	10-9	7	2-10
3	4-10	8	10-6
4	10-8	9	1-10
5	3-10		
		6	8-6
		7	3-1
		8	7-5
		9	2-9
		9-1	8-6
		4-5	3-1
		8-9	7-5
		3-4	2-9
		7-8	1-4
			5-8
			9-3
			4-7
			2-3
			6-7
			1-2
			5-6

THE PLAYERS

1998 INTERPLAY U.S. WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

WGM ANJELINA BELAKOVSKAIA,

29, lives in Brooklyn, N.Y. Anjelina is a previous U.S. Women's Champion (1995, tied with WIM Sharon Burtman; 1996, clear first). She is also a three-time winner of the New York Women's Championship, and has represented the United States at the FIDE Olympiad and FIDE Women's Interzonal.



WIM SHARON BURTMAN,

30, lives in Orange, Calif. Sharon is a former U.S. Women's Champion (1995, tied with WGM Anjelina Belakovskaia). She was one of three women chosen to represent the United States at the FIDE Women's Interzonal in 1995 in Moldova (a qualifying step for the FIDE Women's World Championship). Sharon is also the editor of *Rank and File*, the official state publication for the Southern California Chess Federation (SCCF).



WIM ESTHER EPSTEIN,

44, makes her home in Newton, Mass., with her husband, GM Alexander Ivanov. Esther is the defending U.S. Women's Champion, and she also won the event in 1991 (tied with WGM Irina Levitina). She was also the USSR Women's Co-Champion (1976) prior to her arrival in the United States.



NM JENNIE FRENKLAKH,

18, lives in Marina, Calif. Jennie is making her third appearance in a U.S. Women's Championship (her first was in 1995). She has represented the U.S. in many international competitions, including the 1997 FIDE World Junior Championship.



Jennie Frenklakh 16

THE PLAYERS

NM IVONA JEZIERSKA,

40, resides in Van Nuys, Calif. Ivona was quite active in chess, then took a break, then re-appeared to represent the United States at the 1995 FIDE Women's Interzonal tournament in Moldova.



WIM ANNA KHAN,

22, resides in Jersey City, N.J. Anna earned her Women's International Master title in 1995. She moved from Latvia (then a part of the USSR) to the U.S. in 1992. Anna has represented the United States in the FIDE World Junior Championship.

NM IRINA KRUSH,

14, lives in Brooklyn, N.Y. In 1995, Irina became the youngest player ever to play in the U.S. Women's Championship (at age 11). She is making her third championship appearance. Irina earned a silver medal at the 1996 Mickey for Kids World Rapid Chess Championship in Paris, and she has represented the U.S. at many international events. She is also featured in a series of instructive videos produced by the World Wide Web Chess Superstore.



NM OLGA SAGALCHIK,

31, lives in Brooklyn, N.Y. with her husband, GM Gennady Sagalchik. Olga was born in Belarus, where she won the title of Belarus Women's Champion (1991). In 1996, she also gained the title of New York State Women's Champion.

Jennifer Shalder

NM JENNIFER SHAHADE,

17, hails from Philadelphia, Pa. Jennifer is the current U.S. Junior Open champion, which means she has earned a spot in the 1999 Interplay U.S. Junior Championship. Jennifer is making her second appearance in the U.S. Women's Championship.



NM TATYANA ZITSERMAN,

Tatyana Zits

51, lives in St. Louis Park, Minn. She is a native of Ukraine, and moved to the United States in 1993. In the USSR, she participated in the Spartakiada, and was a five-time champion of Tajikistan. This is her third appearance in a U.S. Women's Championship.



Combined Prize Fund: \$100,000

1998 Interplay U.S. Chess Championship

\$72,000 to be divided as follows:

FINALS

- 1. 1998 U.S. Champion
\$12,000 + ring + title
- 2. Runner-up \$7,500

SEMI-FINALS

- 3-4. Semifinalists \$6,000

PRELIMINARIES

- 3rd place each section: \$4,500
- 4th place each section: \$3,950
- 5th place each section: \$3,700
- 6th place each section: \$3,200
- 7th place each section: \$2,700
- 8th place each section: \$2,200

1998 Interplay U.S. Women's Championship

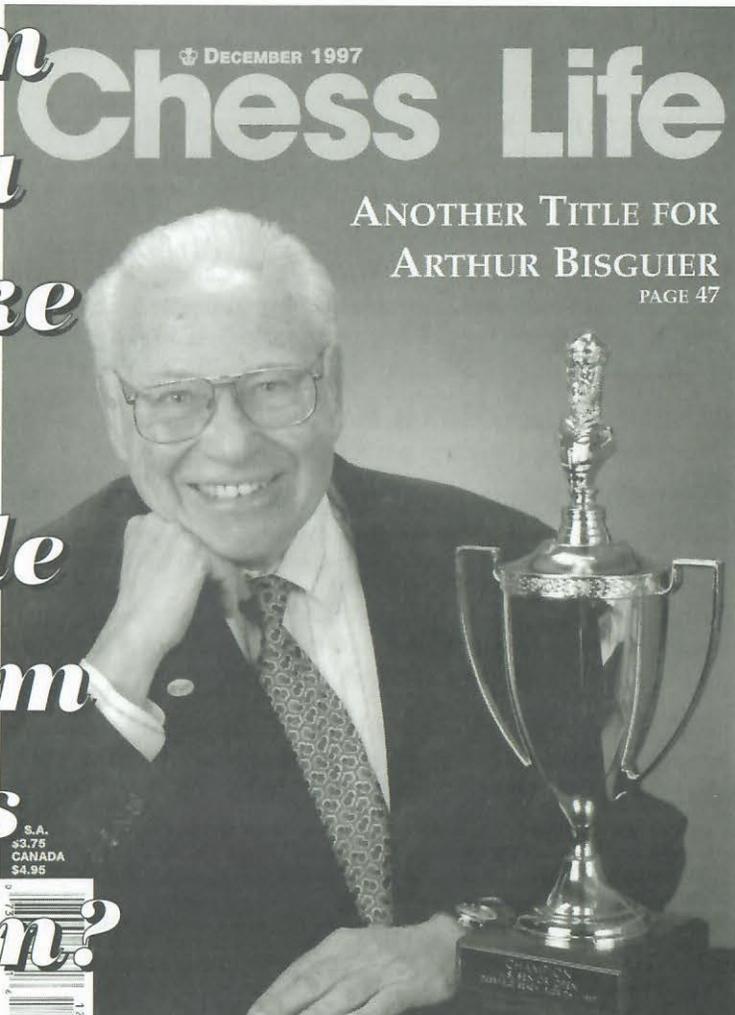
\$28,000 to be divided as follows:

- 1. \$5,000
- 2. \$4,000
- 3. \$3,500
- 4. \$3,000
- 5. \$2,700
- 6. \$2,300
- 7. \$2,100
- 8. \$1,900
- 9. \$1,800
- 10. \$1,500

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Schedule

Registration:	Nov. 7	Noon - 4:00 pm
Round 1	Nov. 7	6:00 pm
2	Nov. 8	6:00 pm
3	Nov. 9	4:00 pm
4	Nov. 11	4:00 pm
5	Nov. 12	4:00 pm
6	Nov. 13	4:00 pm

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

GRANDMASTER (GM): The highest title awarded by the World Chess Federation (FIDE). There are approximately 600 Grandmasters in the world.

INTERNATIONAL MASTER (IM): The second-highest title awarded by the World Chess Federation (FIDE). To earn a title, players must accumulate a number of exceptional performances (or norms) in international tournaments, and achieve a certain (high) FIDE rating.

WOMEN'S GRANDMASTER (WGM): One of several special titles reserved for women players by the World Chess Federation (FIDE). Women are eligible for these special titles, as well as the standard titles of GM and IM.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL MASTER (WIM): One of several special titles reserved for women players by the World Chess Federation (FIDE).

NATIONAL MASTER (NM): A title based on ratings issued by the United States Chess Federation. Players are said to have achieved a master's rating when their national rating rises to 2200 or above.

RATING: A numerical representation of a player's success in tournament play. A player's rating is correlated with (but not a direct measure of) their skill or knowledge of chess.

FIDE: An acronym for the World Chess Federation (or Federation Internationale des Echecs), one of two bodies that govern chess on a world scale. FIDE has regulated the world championship title since 1948. GM Anatoly Karpov is the FIDE World Champion.

GM Zsuzsa Polgar is the FIDE Women's World Champion.

PCA: An acronym for the Professional Chess Association, one of two bodies that govern chess on a world scale. GM Garry Kasparov is the PCA World Champion.

INTERPLAY PRODUCTIONS INC.: The title sponsor for our national championship tournaments. Interplay is the producer of famous gaming software such as *Battle Chess*, *Chess Mates*, and *USCF Chess*.

UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION (USCF): The governing body for chess in the United States. Publisher of *Chess Life* and *School Mates*.

WCC: An acronym for the World Chess Council, a group based in Spain that was to have organized the Kasparov v. Shirov match.

Schedule of Events

Oct. 30	Combined Opening Ceremony	7:00 pm
31	Round 1	Both events 3:00 pm
Nov. 1	Round 2	Both events 3:00 pm
2	Round 3	Both events 3:00 pm
3	Round 4	Both events 3:00 pm
4	Free Day (U.S. Chp.)	
	Round 5 (U.S. W. Chp.)	3:00 pm
5	Round 5 (U.S. Chp.)	3:00 pm
	Round 6 (U.S. W. Chp.)	3:00 pm
6	Round 6 (U.S. Chp.)	3:00 pm
	Round 7 (U.S. W. Chp.)	3:00 pm
7	Colorado Quick Chess Chp.	Reg. 8:30 pm
	Round 1 (Colorado QC)	10:00 am
	Round 7 (U.S. Chp.)	3:00 pm
	Round 8 (U.S. W. Chp.)	3:00 pm
	U.S. Senior Open	Reg. Noon
	Round 1 (U.S. Senior)	6:00 pm
8	Colorado Quick Chess Chp.	9:00 am
	Playoff (U.S. Chp.)	TBA
	Round 9 (U.S. W. Chp.)	3:00 pm
	Round 2 (U.S. Senior)	6:00 pm
9	Combined Closing Ceremony	Noon
	Round 3 (U.S. Senior)	4:00 pm
10	Stage 2 - Game 1	3:00 pm
	Free Day (U.S. Senior)	
11	Stage 2 - Game 2	3:00 pm
	Round 4 (U.S. Senior)	4:00 pm
12	Stage 2 - Game 3	3:00 pm
	Round 5 (U.S. Senior)	4:00 pm
13	Stage 2 - Game 4	3:00 pm (if needed)
	Round 6 (U.S. Senior)	4:00 pm
14	Stage 2 - Playoff	TBA
	U.S. West Chess Festival	TBA
15	Finals - Game 1	3:00 pm
	U.S. West Chess Festival	TBA
16	Finals - Game 2	3:00 pm
17	Finals - Game 3	3:00 pm
18	Finals - Game 4	3:00 pm (if needed)
19	Finals - Playoff	TBA

1998 Interplay U.S. Chess Championships

Time Control: 40 moves in 100 minutes, followed by 20 moves in 50 minutes, followed by all moves in 10 minutes, with 30 second increment (Fischer mode).



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