

Five-Way Tie For First Place In U.S. Chess Open At Imperial Palace



An exhibition three-game "Speed Match" took place between 1984-85 Champion, GM Lev Alburt (L) and Yasser Seirawan at the 1987 U.S. National Open Chess Tournament at the Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. Seirawan won the "winner take all" match and received \$1,500.

More than 900 chess players (200 more than expected), including Grandmasters (GM's) and International Masters (IM's), packed the convention area of the Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino, recently, for the 1987 National Open Chess Tournament. The FIDE-rated National Open was co-sponsored by the United States Chess Federation and Fidelity International Inc.

Play began Friday at 12:30 p.m. and continued afternoons and evenings each of the three days, with the final round ending around midnight on Sunday.

It was an exciting tournament ending in a five-way tie for first place. Each of the five winners received 5-1/2 points out of a possible 6 (5 wins, 1 tie). The five-way tie winners included: GM Maxim Dlugy of New Jersey, who holds the 1985 World Junior Championship title and is now just 21 years old; Sergey Kudrin of Stanford, CT, formerly of the U.S.S.R., in his late 20's and is considered one of the top players in the country.

IM Joel Benjamin, 23, of Brooklyn, NY, was also part of the five-way tie. He placed second in the U.S. Championship in 1986 and, one week ago, tied for first place in the Mid-West Masters Invitation Championship in Chicago, IL. This summer, he will compete in the Interzonal Championships, the next qualifying step toward the World Championships. GM Walter Browne of Berkley, CA, who tied for first, is the six-time United States Champion.

According to Gerald J. Dullea, Executive Director of the U.S. Chess Federation, Cyrus Lakdawala of Los Angeles was the "dark horse winner." He was a surprise to all when he was one of the top five winners since his predicted finish was 14th place. Until now, Lakdawala had never won a major tournament nor title.

In addition to the rated and unrated players, there were three computer entries that played humans for rating points and prize money. The top computer, a Hi-Tech received 3-1/2 points (3 wins, 1 tie). Next was La Chex, which received 2-1/2 points out of 6, followed by the Leonardo X, an experimental computer by the SciSys Company, with 2 points.

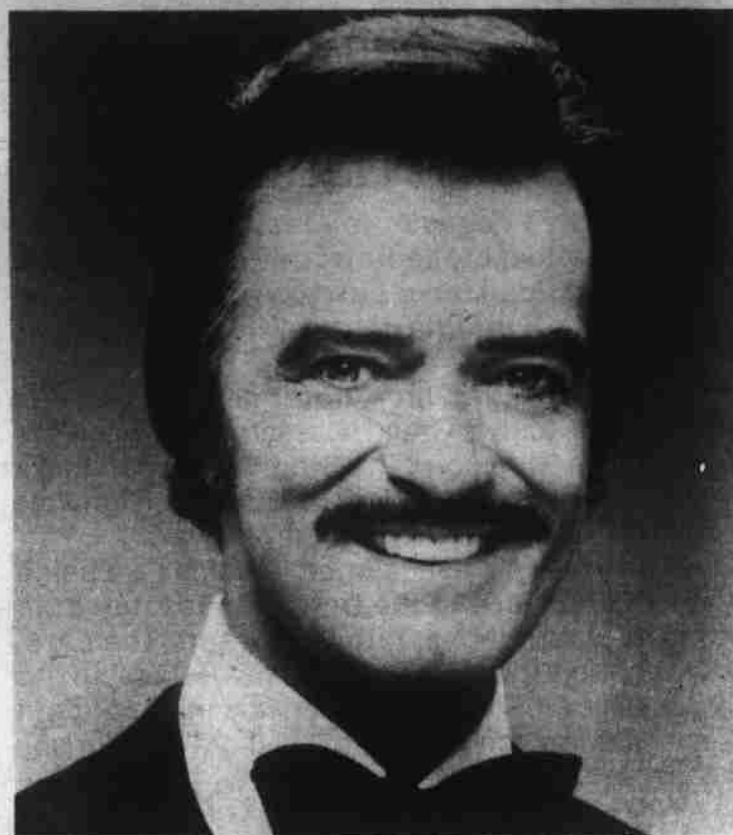
Each of the Grandmasters tying for first place took home \$1,800 in prize money. Had there been only one first-place winner, that person would have received \$3,500. In addition to a cash prize, Maxim Dlugy also received the first-place trophy, says Dullea, "because mathematical calculations indicated that Dlugy received his 5-1/2 points by playing tougher opponents. It is a tie-breaking system."

On Thursday evening an exhibition three-game "Speed Match" took place between 1984-85 Champion, GM Lev Alburt and GM Yasser Seirawan. Seirawan won the "winner take all" match and received \$1,500.

Total prize money was \$20,000, a record for the event.

Las Vegas Israelite Robert Goulet And Don Cherry "Roast" Red McIlvaine April 1st At Palace Station

On Wednesday, April 1st, Robert Goulet, Fred Lewis, Cork Proctor, Pete Barbutti, Buddy Lester, Walt Reno, and Don Stubbs, are just some of the star studded dias, for the Second Annual Celebrity Roast, this year honoring Red McIlvaine, a longtime Las Vegas, who has dedicated his time and talent to the betterment of his chosen home town. Mr. Pete Moss, well-known radio and television personality, will M.C. this affair, the only fund raiser held each year to benefit Joe Behar's Community Drama Workshop. The workshop holds a showcase yearly, usually in the Clark County Library Flamingo Branch, which is free to the community. The workshop also has an "Outreach Program" titled "Cocoon," which performs in the local nursing homes, to bring cheer to those unable to get out. So a very worthy cause, can bring you an evening of entertainment not available, even in the showroom's of Las Vegas. For the sum of a \$25.00 donation you get a sit-down dinner, and an evening of laughter, as



some of the best comedians and celebrities with a well-known sense of humor "Give it" to Red.

Call 458-0069 to order tickets; or write to Community Drama Workshop, 3402 Katmai Dr., Las Vegas, Nevada 89122. The Workshop is also free to the community and meets in Sam's Town Western Emporium Theater on Monday nights from to to 8 P.M. Come join us.

B'nai B'rith Gives Iran's UN Envoy The 'Haman Of The Year Award'

UNITED NATIONS (JTA) — B'nai B'rith's "Haman of the Year Award" came home to Persia Monday night when it went to Said Rajaie-Khorassani, Iran's Ambassador to the UN.

The award was presented by Dr. Harris Schoenberg, director of the United Nations Affairs for the International Council of B'nai B'rith. The occasion was the International Council's Fourth Annual United Nations Purim Party.

Rajaie-Khorassani was cited for his extraordinary solution to the United Nations financial crisis. In a speech to the General Assembly on October 30, 1986, the Iranian diplomat suggested that the destruction of the Jewish State would help to solve the crisis by removing many money-consuming items from the world body's agenda.

In a similar way, Schoenberg said, Haman of old has proposed that he would solve King Ahashveraus's money problems once the king authorized the destruction of Persian Jewry.

Ambassador Rajaie-Khorassani bemoaned Israel's existence and UN membership because, he said, the "political cancer" of Israel "contaminates all of us."





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