

Magnus League Continues For February 21st Match:

Stuyvesant And Dalton Victories Put Both In Commanding Leads, While John Chen and Kyle Chan Shue Lead The Individual Standings, 4-0

By Steve Immitt, National Tournament Director

The New York City weather continued its warming trend, and the chessboards heated up as well for the Magnus High School League's fifth round on February 21st. Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School hosted the games as before, and League Founder and Commissioner, International Arbiter Sophia Rohde once again provided a plentiful provender of refreshments to help wake everyone up for the Sunday morning round.

This month the two top-rated schools flipped positions from January, and it was New York City's Dalton School which fielded the top-rated team (1710). They defeated the home team of Columbia Grammar and Prep, with Swarup Dhar, Oliver Neubauer and Kyle Chan Shue each taking the full point on Boards 2, 3 and 4 against the Columbia Lions' trio of Adam Perlstein, Robert Millman and Tristan Warner, respectively, while Jonathan Kogan held the visitors to a draw on First Board against Dalton's Ben Goldstein.

Stuyvesant High School of New York City (1678) was ranked second this month, but the result was still another victory just the same, albeit a little closer this time. This time they faced New York's Collegiate School. Daniel Regassa and Anne-Gail Moreland carried the day for Stuyvesant on Boards 3 and 4 against Collegiate's David and Stephen Moon, respectively, while Matthew Miyasaka won on Board 1 for the Collegiate Lions. There was no one from Collegiate to contest Stuyvesant's Brandon Huang on Board 2, and he won an extra house game against Anita Maksimiuk from the NEST + m School.

The trio from New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math (NEST + m) were assigned a team bye, resulting in an extra rated game between Anita Maksimiuk and the unpaired Brandon Huang from Stuyvesant. Meanwhile, NEST's top two boards, Isaac Barayev (2208) and Mubassar Uddin (1925) assayed an alternate extra game scenario, playing two simultaneous Quick-rated games (fifteen minutes each player plus a 3-second delay per move) against International Master Alex Ostrovskiy, who was on hand to analyze the players' games and provide chess guidance. Alex performed impressively during the impromptu simul, winning both games and then delving into some chess instruction for the others.

We are very happy to have had both IM Alex Ostrovskiy with us in December and February, as well as GM Mackenzie Molner, who was on site in January and is returning in March, to analyze the players' games.

Eighteen players, representing five schools, turned out for the February 21st match. After five Magnus League rounds, Stuyvesant High School has a perfect 5-0 score, with match victories in October, November, December, January and February. In Clear Second, 1½ points back, is the Dalton School of New York City, with 3½ match points. In the individual competition, Stuyvesant's John Chen and Dalton's Kyle Chan Shue are each 4-0.

The complete results from Round 5 on February 21st have been posted at:

<http://www.chesscenter.cc/Magnus/2015-2016/fs-MagnusLeague-2015-2016-February21.htm>

(Magnus standings and match results, along with USCF-rated results, can also be seen at the Magnus League webpage at www.magnusleague.org as well).

The **final regular season match of the Magnus League** is Round 6, scheduled for **10:00 am Sunday March 6th** (please arrive about 9:30 am to confirm your participation) at **Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School, 36 West 93rd Street**, just west of Central Park West, in Manhattan.

This should be a good opportunity to get in some final preparation for the upcoming New York State Scholastic Championships on March 12-13 in Saratoga Springs, NY— we will be using the same time control, one hour per player plus 10-second delay each move, in Saratoga as well!

Check for online registration at www.magnusleague.org through 6:00 pm Saturday March 5th!