

Local Kids at World Youth Championship

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By NM Michael Aigner

Two local youngsters are representing the United States at the World Youth Chess Championship in Belfort, France this week and next. The WYCC is an annual tournament usually held in Europe that attracts the best juniors in boys and girls age categories.

Daniel Naroditsky and Nicolas Yap have been selected as part of the USA delegation.

Daniel Naroditsky (1872 USCF) is rated #1 in USA for age 9 by over 200 points on the August rating list. He won the national K-3 championship in Tennessee this spring with a perfect 7-0 score. He won the K-6 section at the regional championship in San Jose. Daniel also plays in adult tournaments and impressively dominated the B section in Reno last October. Daniel is competing in the boys under 10 section in France.

NM Nicolas Yap (2258 USCF, 2261 FIDE) is the reigning CalChess K-12 champion, having finished first against stiff competition in the Oakland tournament. Nicolas has been on fire recently, winning three of the last four G/45 events that he has played in at the Mechanics Institute! Along the way, he has tangled with IMs DeGuzman and

Mezentsev. He is the most recent recipient of the Falconer award given to the highest rated local junior. He is playing in the boys under 16 section in France.

Results from France are difficult to come by, but fortunately Vladimir Naroditsky has posted in the Forums on this website. Look under the Tournaments topic for the World Youth Chess Championship. Daniel is currently 2-0 and Nicolas won his first game.

The official website is <http://www.belfort-echechs.com/>. Results are also posted by the Fédération Française des Échecs at <http://www.echechs.asso-fr/>. Unfortunately, both websites load very slowly.

Please join me in wishing our young stars all the best of luck in Belfort, France! Go for the gold!



Daniel Naroditsky at San Jose regional scholastic championship (thanks www.chessdryad.com)



Nicolas Yap at Oakland state scholastic championship (thanks www.chessdryad.com)