

# Three-way tie at the U.S. Open

By JACK PETERS  
International Master

State champion and International Master Enrico Sevillano of Tehachapi tied for first place in the 109th U.S. Open in Dallas.

Sevillano, IM Rade Milovanovic (Texas) and a former U.S. champion, Grandmaster Alexander Shabalov (Pennsylvania), scored 8-1 in the 377-player tournament, the longest-running national championship in the world.

Three additional players with Southern California connections finished among the leaders. Former state champion IM Doug Root, who has lived in Texas since 1992, took fourth prize with 7½-1½. Masters Joel Banawa and Julian Landaw tied for fifth place by scoring 7-2.

The Denker Tournament of Champions, held during the U.S. Open, featured the top high school star from almost every state. Landaw, Daniel Yeager (Pennsylvania) and Scott Low (Maryland) will count as co-champions of the 4½-player event.

## Local news

The 30th Southern California Open will be held Labor Day weekend, Aug. 30 through Sept. 1, at the Pasadena Hilton, 168 S. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena. The six-round tournament includes an Open section and an Amateur (under-1800) section, with choices of two- and three-day schedules. The Southern California Chess Federation will recognize the winner of the Open section as a



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**Position No. 6016:** White to play. From the game Nigel Short-Jan Timman, Staunton Memorial, London 2008.

**Solution to Position No. 6015:** White gains material by 1 Qg4+ Kh8 2 Rxe4! dxe4 (if 2... Bxd4 3 Rxd4 e5 4 Qg3 Rg8, most decisive is 5 Ng4 Rg5 6 b5! Rxa5 7 Rxc6) 3 Qg3! (crosspin!) Rf5 4 Ng4. Similar is 1... Kh7 2 Qg6+ Kh8 3 Rxe4! dxe4 4 Qg3. Also 1... Kf7 2 Qg6+ Ke7 3 Bxe5 Qxe5 4 Nxc6+ and 1... Bg7 2 h6 e5 3 Qxg7+ cost Black material.

state champion.

Organizer John Hillery will also present the SCO Scholastics on Aug. 31 and the SCO Action Swiss (five 30-minute games) and SCO Hexes (three 90-minute games) on Sept. 1. For more information, see [www.sccchess.com](http://www.sccchess.com).

The SCCF's invitational state championship continues through next Sunday in Century City. The SCCF website offers replayable games.

The Bakersfield Chess Club has reopened after years of in-

activity. All players, adults and children, are invited to attend from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursdays at McKee Road Baptist Church, 400 McKee Road in Bakersfield. Call John Marble at (661) 871-3220 for information.

Roger Dellaca and Craig Faber shared first place with scores of 5-1 in the Bobby Fischer Memorial, a 35-player tournament at the La Palma Chess Club. For more about the club, see [www.lapalma-chess.741.com](http://www.lapalma-chess.741.com).

## Today's game

GM Jan Smeets (Netherlands)-GM Michael Adams (England), Staunton Memorial, London 2008: 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 exd4 4 Nxd4 The Scotch Game, known since the 18th century. Nf6 5 Nxc6 bxc6 6 e5 Qe7 7 Qe2 Nd5 8 c4 Ba6 9 b3 These old openings are not exhausted! Recent practice has revealed new ideas after 9 g3, 9 h4 and 9 Nd2. 0-0-0 10 Bb2 Many players insert 10 g3 to avoid the game continuation. Qg5 Or 10... f6. 11 Qf3 Sharpest. Black would not mind 11 a3 Nf4. Bb4+ 12 Kd1 Nf4 13 h4! Qh6 14 g3 Black parries 14 Bc1? with 14... d6! 15 Bxf4 dxe5+. Ne6 15 Bc1 Best, if White follows correctly. Qg6 16 h5 The natural 16 Bd3? fares badly after 16... Nd4! 17 Qe4 Qxe4 18 Bxe4 Rhe8. Qc2+ 17 Kxc2 Nd4+ 18 Kd3?? White should get an edge from 18 Kb2 Nxf3 19 Be2! Nd4 (as 19... Nxe5? 20 f4 traps the Knight) 20 Bg4. Nxf3 19 Ke4 Clever, but White has missed Black's reply. Nxe5! Also decisive is 19... e5 and 20... Bb7+. 20 h6 After 20 Kxe5 Be7, White must return at least a Knight. Ng4 21 hxg7 Rhg8 22 Kf5 Rxc7 Not so clear is 22... Nxf2?! 23 Rxf7 23 f3?! Nf2 The "trapped" Knight helps surround White's King. 24 Rh2 Bc5 Threatening 25... Bd4. 25 Bh6 Also hopeless is 25 Bb2 Rxc3. Rg6 26 Nd2 Bd4! Anticipating 27 Re1 Rf6+ 28 Kg5 Rg8+ 29 Kh5 Rf5+ 30 Kh4 Bf6+. 27 Bg5 Re8 28 Rxf2 Re5+. White Resigns. After 29 Kf4 Rxc5, White must yield a Rook.

For a second game, see [latimes.com/chess](http://latimes.com/chess).