

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual MAGIC CITY CLASSIC Chess Tournament Report

**Date:** December 19-20, 2009

**Location:** Homewood Community Center \* Homewood, AL

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Magic City Classic was played at a new facility. The players' were few in numbers. Nevertheless, we played some good chess. And, the Birmingham youthful chess movement continues. Five (5) of the Reserve section participants were Scholastic (K-12) grade level players. They have beaten the best scholastic players, improved their game and moved into the adult arena.

We truly appreciate the schools that supports chess and the devoted coaches that teach the children how to play chess. A "Special Thanks" to Brad Fournier, Chess Coach at Sun Valley Elementary. Your students made this 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Magic City Classic tournament – much better. Those smiling (sometimes confused) faces are a welcomed addition to the Birmingham chess scene. Great job teaching the children...

"Many Thanks" to Homewood Community Center (Mr. Mike Sullivan - Director) for hosting the tournament and supporting our efforts to promote chess in the metro Birmingham area.

## **And, the 2009 Magic City Classic Winners are:**

### **RESERVE (U1500):**

1<sup>st</sup>: **Steve Gibson**, Tuscumbia, AL and **Jonathan Anders**, Birmingham, AL  
- both with 4 points. Steve Gibson won the Reserve Trophy on Tiebreaks.  
U1300: Srihari Prahadeeswaran, Hoover, AL – with 3 points.  
U1000: John McNair, Gordo, AL – with 2.5 points.

### **AMATEUR (600-999):**

1<sup>st</sup>: **Joseph Shi**, Huntsville, AL – with 4 points.  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Cheng Zhou, Madison, AL – with 3 points.  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Kevin Duan, Madison, AL – with 3 points.  
4<sup>th</sup>: Kemosor Mejeidu, Pelham, AL – with 2 points.

### **Novice (K-8; Not Rated):**

1<sup>st</sup>: **Abdallah Nassar**, Birmingham, AL – with 6 points.  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Khaled Nassar, Birmingham, AL – with 5 points.  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Tra'veon Wheeler, Birmingham, AL – with 3.5 points.  
4<sup>th</sup>: Zachary Greer, Birmingham, AL – with 3.5 points.  
5<sup>th</sup>: Raeggin Williams, Birmingham, AL – with 3 points.  
6<sup>th</sup>: Andrea Carter, Birmingham, AL – with 3 points.

**Chief Tournament Director:** Caesar Lawrence

**Assistant Tournament Director:** Thomas Gilbreath and Mark Stribling

**Sponsor/Organizer:** Caesar Chess, LLC

**Attendance:** 26 Players (15 in the Rated sections and 11 in the Novice section)

USCF Rating Report: <http://uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?200912201721>