

Chess master to play in Valley

*Event March 28
at Miami University
in Oxford*

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Cox News Service

OXFORD—People don't normally enter a game or contest to get their clocks cleaned, but the Miami University Chess Club is offering local players a chance to take on one of the United States' best players.

Grandmaster Gregory Kaidanov will visit the campus March 28 and will play a 25-board simultaneous chess match against club members and other local players.

"This is the chance of a lifetime for chess players," said Clyde Brown, faculty adviser. "It is like playing golf with Tiger Woods, tennis with Martina Hingis, basketball with Wally Szczerbiak or hockey with Wayne Gretzky."

Kaidanov was born in Russia in 1959. He came to the United States in 1991 after earning the coveted title of grandmaster in 1988.

"For the past decade, Gregory has been ranked in the top three American players and in the top 40 or 50 worldwide," said Michael Gribov, club president.

In a simultaneous chess match, a skilled chess player takes on multiple opponents. The grandmaster, in this case, will rotate quickly among the 25 opponents, make a move and continue to the next board. Club players must move within 10 seconds of the grandmaster's arrival at their board, according to match rules.

Some of the boards are reserved for club members, but others will be allocated to students, faculty and local residents.

"We're trying to get a range of players and will probably put them in categories, then draw names out of a hat," Brown said.

Kaidanov will also give a public presentation on Russian and American chess while on campus. His visit is sponsored by Miami University's Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies and the Miami University Chess Club and is part of a universitywide Imagining Russia Festival.

If you go

- **What:** A chess match featuring grandmaster Gregory Kaidanov playing against 25 players of various skills in simultaneous chess matches
- **When:** 6 p.m. March 28
- **Where:** Room 12 of Harrison Hall, Miami University, Oxford
- **Deadline:** Apply to play in the match by March 15.
- **More info:** Call (513) 529-2014 to get on the list of applicants to play.
- **Additional event:** An informal talk with Kaidanov on Russian Chess: Past, Present and Future will be at 2 p.m. March 28 in the Bystrom Room in the Shriver Center.
- **Cost:** Both events are free and open to the public.