

## Chess Grandmasters Alexandra Kosteniuk and Anatoly Karpov are at the Frascati Chess Festival (March 24 - April 2, 2006)

In the beautiful town of Frascati (close to Rome, Italy), several important pre-Olympic chess tournaments were held in the week March 24 – April 2, 2006. Among them were FIDE tournaments counting for the selection of the players for the Italian teams who will participate in the 37<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiads in Torino in May-June 2006.

Grandmasters Alexandra Kosteniuk and Anatoly Karpov were guests of honor of the Festival, and gave a Press Conference on March 31. Chess Champion Alexandra Kosteniuk visited the school's chess tournament where more than 600 children participated. On April 1, Alexandra gave a chess simultaneous exhibition on the main town square, Piazza San Pietro, and won all her 21 games against fans. Very many spectators were present at the event.

Anatoly Karpov has been chess world champion from 1975 to 1985. Alexandra Kosteniuk has been 3 times world champion in junior categories, Vice-Champion of the world in 2001, European Champion 2004, and current Russian Champion 2005. Kosteniuk is the 10<sup>th</sup> woman of the history of chess to have the highest chess title, International Grandmaster (a men's title), she has a FIDE rating of 2540 as of April 1, 2006. Alexandra is a 3-times Olympic Medal winner and will play for the Russian team in the Torino Olympiads. Kosteniuk is also one of the strongest promoter of the game of chess worldwide due to her fashion modeling activities who put a new fresh light on the royal game. At the Festival Alexandra was honored with the International Prize "Frascati Scacchi" for her contribution to Chess in Italy.



More information and photos can be found on the site <http://www.kosteniuk.com>  
Information about the Torino Olympiad is at: <http://www.chessolympiad-torino2006.org>  
For publication all photos can be obtained for free in hi-res or any format. Contact [webmaster@kosteniuk.com](mailto:webmaster@kosteniuk.com)

