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Homenetmen Ararat Sends Four Local Players to Table Tennis U.S. Open Championships

GLENDALE, California – Homenetmen Glendale Ararat Chapter (Ararat) is sending four of its best table tennis players to compete on an international level at the U.S Open Table Tennis Championships in Las Vegas on July 4, 2007.

Over 1,000 participants ranging in age and competition level, from all over the world will be competing for the top honors in table tennis. Four top rated players from Ararat, Hratch Javadian, Robert Shanazari, Georgik Nazarian and Eric Shahnazarian will be representing Ararat and Glendale, CA. Javadian, Shanazari and Nazarian will be competing on the adult level and Eric Shahnazarian age 10 will be competing at the junior level. Eric Shahnazarian is a top rated table tennis player ranking highest in strength for his age group.

Ararat recently hosted a sanctioned tournament with the United States Table Tennis Association in April 2007, and invited table tennis all star national players for this local tournament. All four players from Ararat also competed. In December of 2006, Javadian ranked 2nd place in table tennis with a 2100 rating, and Shanazari took 3rd with a 2200 rating in the US National Championships. Eric Shahnazarian ranked 3rd place in the under age 10 category in the same tournament.

“It is a great reward to see our players participating in one of the most important table tennis tournaments and representing our local organization,” stated Armond Gorgorian, Director of Homenetmen Ararat Chapter. “We are excited to have such a talented group of players getting a chance to compete with players from Europe, Central America and the United States. It’s a honor to be among the best of the best in table tennis, added Gorgorian.

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The Armenian General Athletic Union and Scouts, referred to as Homenetmen, is a non-profit organization founded in 1918. As a strong believer in the strong mind in a strong body concept, Homenetmen provides the Armenian American youth with moral, physical and social education. **The Glendale Ararat Chapter** is the largest chapter in the United States, with nearly 2,300 members. The most important part of our organization's function is provision of healthy and clean programs for teenagers and young adults through organized and supervised after school and weekend activities in a family oriented environment.