

# THE AMERICAN GO ASSOCIATION (CITY CHAPTER)

## *Discover THE GAME OF GO!*

IS COMING TO (BOOKSTORE)

(Bookstore address)

(Day, Date, Time)

*Discover the Game of Go!* is coming to your local bookstore. Go is the world's oldest strategy game. For thousands of years, it has been enjoyed by millions of players in China, Japan and Korea, and there are currently at least a hundred thousand players in the US, Europe and on the Internet. The game has even made appearances on the *Ally McBeal Show*, in the science fiction movie *Pi* and in a number of articles in the *LA* and *NY Times*.

Members of the (local city) Go Club will begin the evening with a short introduction, present a half dozen books written about the game and then invite the audience to "play Go!" While a regular game takes about the same time as an average chess match, our teaching games will take place on small-scale boards where a complete game will last only ten minutes. After this, In the spirit of Go, small Go sets and free computer playing software will be given away courtesy of the American Go Association, co-sponsor of the program along with --(bookstore)---

Immediate play is possible because, while Go is known as the world's most complicated board game, it is also the easiest to understand. There is a saying that Go has really has only two rules and 'if you are old enough to know you shouldn't eat the pieces, you are old enough to learn to play.'

Expert play is, of course, much more complicated and computer programs cannot even beat mid-level beginners. It is the supreme challenge for artificial intelligence studies now that Deep Blue has beaten Gary Kasparov, the chess champion. According to one estimate, there are more possible games than atoms in the universe.

Our demonstration will also feature some beautiful woodcuts from 19<sup>th</sup> century Japan along with other aspects of the history of a game which is internationally known not only as the supreme learning tool for Eastern strategic thinking, but also for spiritual wisdom.

In the press kit are photos of beautiful old Japanese woodcuts and modern Go players, including a recent one of US and Japanese astronauts playing on the space shuttle. Also included are some recent NY and LA Times articles, and a sample article that can be used by reporters along with a short pamphlet describing the aesthetics of the game.

Additional information can be found at the American Go Association web site: <http://www.usgo.org> and by contacting: (contact name) (address) (phone) (fax) (email)