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2014-2023 by Chess Journalists of America!**

Front Cover

NM Kyle Haining, co-winner of the
Washington Class Championships (Master section).
Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

Back Cover

Seattle Chess Club President John Selsky playing in the
Adult Swiss event at the
Washington Class Championships.
Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

Submissions

Submissions of games (PGN format is preferable for
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Table Of Contents

Kyle Haining Meiling Cheng.....	Front Cover
From The Editor's Desk Jeffrey Roland.....	3
NWC Hall Of Fame Inductee (Clark Harmon) Ralph Dubisch	4
Harmon Memorial (Ad) Seattle, March 2-3.....	9
Remembering August Piper John Selsky with Fred Kleist.....	10
WA State Barber/Rockefeller Open (Ad) Bellevue, March 16	11
Bryce Tiglon Interview Ken Lee.....	12
2024 Western States Regional for Women and Girls (Ad) Seattle, April 13-14	13
2023 Washington Class Championships Josh Sinanan	14
Washington Senior Championship (Ad) Redmond, May 17-19	28
Washington Open (Ad) Redmond, May 25-27	29
2024 East Idaho Regional Scholastic Qualifier Jay Simonson	38
11th Annual Reno Larry Evans Memorial Open (Ad) Reno, May 3-5, or May 4-5 (3 day or 2 day)	39
IM Eric Tangborn Simul Josh Sinanan	40
2023 Washington Junior Invitational Josh Sinanan	42
2023 Washington Winter Classic Josh Sinanan	44
Eastside Open (Ad) Issaquah, March 30	46
Seattle Chess Club (Ad) Seattle	47
John Selsky Meiling Cheng.....	Back Cover

From The Editor's Desk



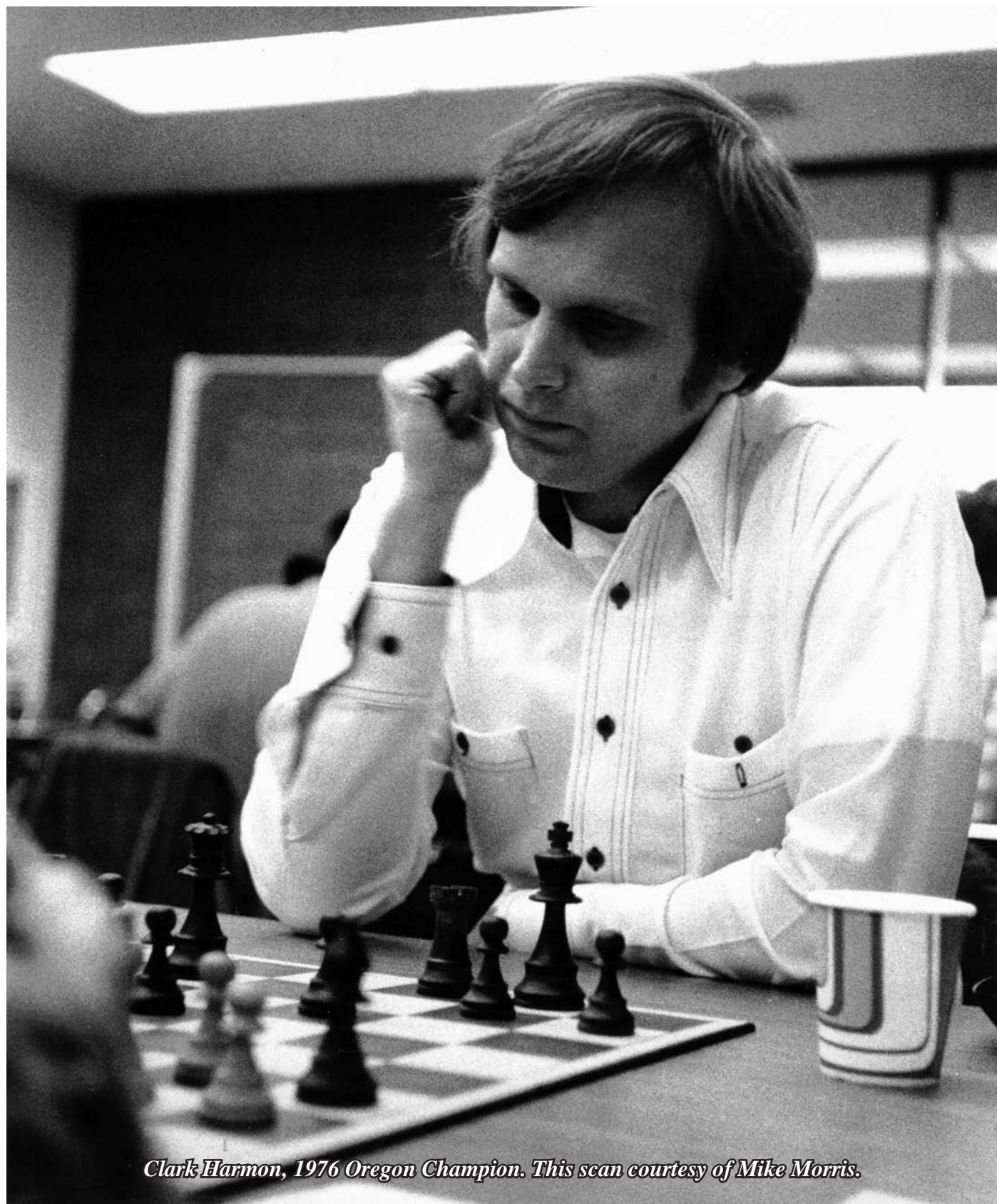
To the left is a photo that I took of August Piper at the Washington Open on May 24, 2014. At the time, I did not know who he was, but I liked the way he looked, and I took several pictures of him at the event.

To the right is a recent picture I took of my buddy, Storm. Storm is six years old going on seven. He doesn't play chess like Morgan The Dog did, but he supports me each month as I work on these issues.

When I call Ralph Dubisch on the phone, as we work on the issues, Storm always gets jealous!



—Jeffrey Roland, Editor



Clark Harmon, 1976 Oregon Champion. This scan courtesy of Mike Morris.

NORTHWEST CHESS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

CLARK HARMON

RALPH DUBISCH

The third inductee of the Northwest Chess Hall of Fame inaugural class is the late National Master Clark Harmon.

Clark was born in Portland, Oregon, in 1942. In the mid-1960s, after graduating Portland State University, he worked for Boeing in Seattle. In 1965 he served as President of the Washington Chess Federation. Returning to Oregon in 1966, he helped organize the Oregon Chess Federation and served as its first President in 1967.

Also in 1967, working with the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Clark started the annual OMSI scholastic tournaments.

Harmon won the Oregon Championship a total of nine times: 1966 (6.5/7); 1967, on tie-breaks over Rick Ganong (6.0/7); 1969 (6.5/7); 1970 (7.0/8); 1971 (5.0/7); 1972 (5.5/7); 1976 (5.0/7); 1992, with Bill Lapham (5.0/7); 1994 (5.5/7). He was also part of a three-way tie in 1997, sharing first with Richard Wood and Carl Haessler with the score 4.5/7, but came in second to Wood in the double-round robin play-off.

Clark died of cancer in 2007, age 64.

Games

Walter S. Browne (2538) –
Clark Harmon (2239) [A52]

Western States Open
Reno, NV (R1), October 27, 1999
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5!?

The Budapest Defense.

3.dxe5 Ng4 4.Nf3 Bc5 5.e3 Nc6 6.Nc3
0-0 7.Be2 Re8 8.0-0



Position after 8.0-0

8...Ncxe5

8...Ngxe5 9.b3 (9.Nxe5 Nxe5 transposes to the next note.) 9...Nxf3+ 10.Bxf3 Ne5 11.Bb2 a5 12.Ne4 Bf8±, but see the comment below.

9.Nd4

White goes his own way. Theory shows 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.b3 a5 11.Bb2 Ra6!?, when Black has delayed the development of the c8-bishop to allow some flexibility to retreat from c5 in either direction and to develop the a8-rook along the sixth rank. Stockfish will prefer White's space edge in these positions, but human practice seems to be balanced, or even to slightly favor Black.

9...Nf6 10.b3 d5 11.cxd5 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 Qxd5 13.Bb2 Qe4 14.Kh1 Qh4 15.Nf3 Nxf3 16.Bxf3 Bd6 17.g3 Qe7 18.Bg2 c6 19.e4 f6 20.f4 Be6 21.Qc2 Rac8 22.Rad1 c5?

22...Rcd8 guards the d6-bishop and makes White's attacking attempt far more

speculative: 23.e5 fxe5 24.Be4 h6 25.f5 Bf7 26.f6 gxf6, and while there are still attacking chances, it isn't quite clear how to proceed.

23.e5! fxe5 24.Be4 c4

Now 24...h6 25.f5 Bf7? 26.f6! gxf6 27.Qd2 is a fork, and White is winning.

25.Bxh7+ Kh8 26.Bg6 Bg4



Position after 26...Bg4

27.Rde1?

Black has done well to make things complicated, and here the late six-time U.S. Champion goes slightly wrong, picking the safer-looking move to avoid the morass. 27.fxe5 Bxe5 (27...cxb3 28.Qe4 Bxd1 29.Rxd1 Qg5 (Saving the rook doesn't work. 29...Red8 30.Qf5; Or 29...Rf8 30.Qg4 and mate follows shortly.) 30.Bxe8 Rxe8 31.Rxd6 bxa2 32.Kg2 and White's extra bishop is just too powerful.) 28.Rde1 would win: 28...c3 29.Bxc3 Rxc3 (29...Bh3 30.Qd1 Qg5 31.Bxe8 Bxf1 (31...Rxe8 32.Bxe5 Bxf1 33.Bxg7+ Kxg7 34.Qd7+ Kh6 35.Rxe8+-; 31...Bxc3 32.Rf8+ Kh7 33.Qc2+ g6 34.Bxg6+ Qxg6 35.Re7+ Kh6 36.Qxg6+ Kxg6 37.Rxc8 Bxc8 38.Rc7+-) 32.Rxe5) 30.Qxc3 Bxc3? 31.Rxe7 and Black has back rank issues.

Trying to calculate all of these lines with multiple hanging pieces for both sides is incredibly difficult in a practical game.

27...cxb3 28.Qxb3 Rf8 29.fxe5?!

29.Qd3 Qd7 30.Bxe5 Bb4±, heading into an unclear ending.; 29.h3 Bf5 30.Bxf5 Rxf5 31.g4 Rff8 32.f5±

29...Bb4 30.Rb1 Be2

30...Qg5

31.Qe3??

White sees a checkmate, but it turns out to be a bit of a mirage. After 31.Rxf8+ Rxf8 32.Be4 the battle continues.

31...Bxf1 32.e6



Position after 32.e6

White threatens 33.Qh6+. One can almost see GM Browne performing his manic time-pressure jitter in his chair at this point.

32...Rf6

32...Kg8 also defends and wins.

33.Bxf6

33.Qe4 Rxg6 34.Qxg6 Bc4 35.Bxg7+ Qxg7 36.Qxg7+ Kxg7 37.Rxb4 b5-+

33...Qxf6 34.Be4 Bc5 35.Qb3

35.Qf4 Bc4-+

35...Qf2



Position after 35...Qf2

Checkmate is forced. Bravo.

0-1

**Clark Harmon –
Gordon Taylor [E48]**
Seattle Futurity #2, June 8, 1983
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0
5.Bd3 c5**



Position after 5...c5

Theory in the Rubinstein Nimzo-Indian is dense and extensive, so I'll just offer a few generally similar alternate lines that are available. 5...d5 6.Nf3 c5 could lead to the next note.

6.Nge2

6.Nf3 d5 7.0-0 dxc4 8.Bxc4 Nbd7 9.Qe2 b6 10.Rd1 cxd4 11.exd4 is one version with the Isolated Queen Pawn (IQP).

6...d5 7.a3

7.cxd5 cxd4 8.exd4 Nxd5 9.0-0 Nc6 is another.

7...cxd4 8.exd4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Be7 10.0-0 Nbd7

10...Nc6 11.Qd3 b6 12.Rd1 Bb7 13.Qh3 Na5 14.Ba2 Rc8 15.Nf4 is an IQP that looks like the game, but with a queenside fianchetto for Black.

11.Qd3

11.Nf4 Nb6

11...Nb6 12.Ba2 Bd7 13.Rd1 Bc6 14.Qh3 Nbd5



Position after 14...Nbd5

This should look familiar to anyone who followed the previous notes. Black has

established a blockade on d5.

15.Bg5 Rc8 16.Rd3 Re8 17.Rad1 Nxc3 18.Nxc3 Nd5 19.Bxe7 Rxe7 20.Rg3 Nxc3 21.bxc3

The structure changes into the so-called hanging pawns, side-by-side on the half-open c- and d-files.

21...Bd5



Position after 21...Bd5

22.Bb1

White could start with 22.Qh6 with similar play, though White has the added option of retreat to d2. 22...Qf8

a) 22...g6 23.Rh3 f6 (23...f5 24.Qd2) 24.Bb1 f5;

b) 22...f6 23.Bb1 f5;

23.Bxd5 exd5 24.Qg5

22...f5 23.Re3 Rec7 24.Qg3

24.Bd3 Qd6±

24...Qf6

24...Qf8±

25.f4 Qf8 26.Rf1 Bc4 27.Rfe1 Qxa3

27...b5

28.d5! Qc5 29.dxe6∞



Position after 29.dxe6

29...Bxe6 30.Kh1 Bf7 31.Qg5 g6

31...h6 32.Qh4∞ (32.Qxf5 Qxf5 33.Bxf5 Ra8∞)

32.h4 Qa5

32...h6! 33.Qxh6 Qf8 34.Qg5 Qd8 forces a repetition.

33.Re5! Qxc3 34.Bxf5 Rb8

34...Rf8 35.h5±

35.h5 Rc6 36.hxg6?

36.Bd7±

36...hxg6 37.Be6



Position after 37.Be6

37...Rxe6?

The best defensive try is 37...Kg7, when there are several ways to continue the attack for White, but none leads to a clear advantage. 38.f5 (38.Bxf7 Rh8+! 39.Kg1 Qd4+ 40.R5e3 Rc1! 41.Qxg6+ Kf8 42.Qg3! Rxe1+ 43.Qxe1 Kxf7 44.Qc3; 38.R5e3 Qf6 39.Bxf7 Qxg5 40.fxg5 Kxf7 41.Re7+ Kg8 42.Rd7 Rc4 43.Ree7 Rh4+ 44.Kg1 seems to be no more than a draw.; 38.Bh3 Rh8 39.Re7 Rf6 40.Qe5 Rxh3+ 41.gxh3 Qxh3+ 42.Kg1 Qg3+) 38...Rh8+ 39.Kg1 Qd4+ 40.R5e3 Qh4 and all the complications appear to be heading for perpetual check or an equal rook ending.

38.Rxe6 Qh8+

38...Kg7 39.R6e3±

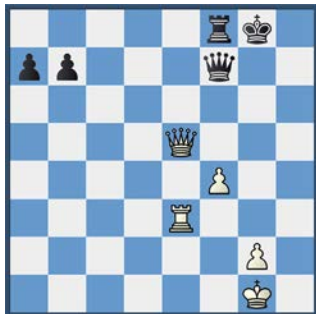
39.Kg1 Bxe6?

39...Qh5 40.Qxh5 gxh5 41.Re7±

40.Qxg6+

Or 40.Rxe6+.

40...Qg7 41.Qxe6+ Qf7 42.Qe5 Rf8 43.Re3



Position after 43.Re3

43...Qf6?

43...Qg7 44.Qd5+ Rf7 (44...Qf7 45.Rg3+ Kh8 46.Qe5+ Kh7 47.Qg5 Kh8 48.Qh6+ Qh7 49.Qxf8+) 45.Re8+ Qf8 (45...Kh7 46.Qh5+ Qh6 47.Qxf7+) 46.Rxf8+; 43...Qg6 44.Rh3 Rf6 (44...Qg7 45.Qe6+ with a continuing attack.) 45.Rh5+-

44.Rg3+ Kh7 45.Qe4+ Qf5 46.Qe7+ Kh6 47.Qg7+ Kh5 48.Rg5+

1-0

**Clark Harmon –
Gary Basanta [A59]**

Northwest Invitational Vancouver, B.C.
(R4), May 9, 1989
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.d4 c5 2.d5 Nf6 3.c4 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.
bxa6 Bxa6 6.Nc3 g6 7.e4 Bxf1 8.Kxf1
d6 9.h3 Bg7 10.Nf3 0-0 11.Kg1**



Position after 11.Kg1

11...Na6

More common is a sequence such as 11...Nbd7 12.Kh2 Qa5 13.Re1 Rfb8 14.Re2 Ne8 15.Rc2 Nc7. There are plenty of ideas and transpositions in the Benko Gambit, but the general idea is Black will put pressure on the queenside pawns and central dark squares along the a- and b-files and the long diagonal.

12.Kh2 Nb4

Moving the knight around several times isn't usually part of the plan. Basanta was B.C. Champion in the late 1980s, and he carried the nickname "Chipper," for his tendency to set up the occasional tactical cheapo.

13.Be3 e6 14.a3 Na6?!

Better first 14...exd5 15.exd5, and only after the central exchange (15.axb4 Rxa1 16.Qxa1 d4 with complications.) 15...Na6

15.Qd2±

15.dxe6 fxe6 16.e5!± was perhaps a missed opportunity.

15...exd5 16.exd5 Re8 17.Bh6 Bxh6 18.Qxh6 Rb8 19.Rab1 Nc7 20.Rhd1 Nb5 21.Qd2 Nxc3 22.bxc3

22.Qxc3!?

22...Ne4?!

22...Ra8 could force White into a rather passive defense to keep the material.

23.Rxb8 Qxb8 24.Qc2 h6 25.c4 Qa7 26.Rd3 Qd7 27.Re3 f5 28.Qe2 Rb8 29.Ne1?

29.Nd2! Best, ignoring the threat of pinning along the second rank. 29...Nf6 (29...Rb2?? 30.Nxe4! Rxe2 31.Nf6+-) 30.Re7 Re8 31.Rxe8+ (31.Rxd7 Rxe2 32.Rxd6± is also possible.) 31...Nxe8, and White has both material and positional advantage.

29...Qg7! 30.Nd3



Position after 30.Nd3

30...g5?

Black's last chance to get into the game is to infiltrate with the rook: 30...Rb1, when activity compensates for material. If White proceeds as in the game with 31.f3?? then 31...Rh1+!-+ shows the point.

31.f3! Ng3?

Living up to the nickname "Chipper." 31...Nc3 32.Qe1 poses some very difficult questions for Black, though.

32.Re8+

Black was hoping for 32.Kxg3? f4+, of course.

32...Rxe8

32...Kh7 33.Kxg3+-

33.Qxe8+ Kh7 34.Kxg3 f4+ 35.Kh2 Qc3 36.Qe4+ Kg8 37.Qg6+ Kf8 38.Qxd6+ Kf7 39.Ne5+

Apparently Black lost on time, though Black must give up the queen to avoid mate in two here.

1-0



Clark Harmon. This scan courtesy of Mike Morris.

Harmon Memorial Chess Tournament



MARCH 2-3, 2024

LAKE SIDE UPPER SCHOOL

14050 1ST AVE NE, SEATTLE, WA 98125

Highest performing WA players (by TPR) in the Open and Reserve sections seeded into the 2025 Washington State Premier + Challengers sections, respectively.

Format: A 5-round Swiss in two sections:

Open: NWSRS, US Chess & FIDE Tri-Rated (except for rd. 1, which is not FIDE rated)

Reserve U1700: NWSRS & US Chess Dual-Rated.

In case of a tie for 1st place, follow-up playoff games will determine the seed for the Premier or Challengers section of the 2025 Washington State Championship.

Schedule: Saturday 9 AM, 12:30 PM, 6 PM; Sunday 10 AM, 3:30 PM. Closing Ceremony: Sunday ~ 8 PM or asap. Players whose games run long may request a late start for the next round.

Time Control: Rd. 1: G/60; +15.

Rds. 2-5: 30/90, SD/30; +30. Late default: 60 min.

Prize Fund: \$3,600 (based on 90 paid entries)

Open: 1st-6th: \$450-375-300-225-150-125.

1st U2100/U1900: \$100

Reserve: 1st-4th: \$325-250-175-125.

1st U1500/U1300/U1100: \$100; 1st Unrated: \$70

Special Prizes (per section): **Biggest Upset Win:** \$10/round, **Best Female Player** (by TPR): \$50, **Best Dressed:** \$20/day, **Best Senior Players** (50+ & 65+, by TPR): \$50, **Biggest USCF Rating Gain:** \$25, **Best Annotated game:** \$25. Minimum of 3 qualifying players required per section in contention for each best female/senior prize to be awarded.

Entry Fee: \$80 by 2/24, \$95 after. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs & WIMs. Players rated 1500+ (in both NWSRS + USCF) may pay an extra \$40 play-up fee to play in Open section. Maximum of 100 players – please register early to reserve your spot.

Memberships: Current US Chess and WCF membership/Northwest Chess subscription required. Memberships must be paid at time of registration.

Byes: Two half-point byes available. If interested, request before end of round 2.

Rating: US Chess and NWSRS Rated. Open section is also FIDE Rated (except for rd. 1). Highest of March FIDE, March US Chess Regular, or current NWSRS rating used to determine section, pairings, and prizes. If ratings differ by >200 pts., the avg. of current NWSRS and March. US Chess regular rating will be used.

Registration: Online at nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration
Pay by Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing.

Registration and payment deadline: Fri. 3/1 @ 5pm. No registrations accepted or refunds offered after the deadline. Payment also available via Zelle (ID: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com) or Venmo (ID: @WACChess).

Questions?

Josh Sinanan, WCF President,
206-769-3757,
WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Remembering August Piper

John Selsky with Fred Kleist

The Seattle Chess Club regrets to announce the death of Dr. August T. Piper, Jr., on January 13, 2024, in Seattle. He was 80 years old.

August was the club's President for 19 years, from 2002 until his retirement in 2021. The club's board awarded him a Lifetime Membership in September 2021 for his many years of dedicated service. In addition, August was the club's Most Valuable Player for the majority of those years, participating in almost every event. He was profiled in Northwest Chess in March 2021, along with Carol Kleist, on the occasion of their retirements from the Seattle Chess Club board.

A native of St. Louis, Missouri, August graduated from Yale University in

1965 and received his M.D. degree from Howard University College of Medicine. He was a psychiatrist by training and completed his residency at the University of Washington in 1981. He was attached to Swedish Hospital and had a private psychiatry practice in Seattle for many years. He authored a number of academic papers and a book (*Hoax and reality: The bizarre world of multiple personality disorder*, 1997) on multiple personality disorder and periodically was an expert witness at trials regarding that condition. He served on the board of the Country Doctor Community Clinic, a Seattle health care organization founded by the local Black Panthers in the 1970s.

August Piper was a character, a rash and brash character in his signature red

beret. Fred Kleist, SCC's tournament director, recalls his first sighting of August back in the late 1980s. He was carpooling with three other players to the Keres Memorial in Vancouver, BC. As they were driving up I-5, a red sports car zoomed by, August at the wheel. Ten miles up the road they passed that sports car stopped on the shoulder with a stern-looking state patrolman looming over it. August got a speeding ticket. They all ended up at the same B&B in Vancouver, and as usual, August was late for breakfast.

At the Larry Evans Memorial in Reno, I remember seeing August copping a snooze lying across three side chairs before a game. I can also remember him rushing into the playing hall 58 minutes after a round started and making his first move just before timing out. That was something of a trademark of August's.

Despite the rather rough descriptors that he applied to fellow chess players, August was a genuinely kind and caring person. He would often give players rides to the bus station and would buy meals for those with less resources.

In his game, Fred recalls, August played the Queens Gambit Accepted, the Réti System and the Najdorf Sicilian. In fact, he used to call himself "Mr. Najdorf" on occasion. Coincidentally, I was August's opponent for his last US Chess rated game, on July 1, 2022.

August was debilitated in his later years with multiple health issues. Although wheelchair-bound, he visited the club at its Green Lake premises several times in 2022 with the assistance of his old friend Henry Louie. We at the Seattle Chess Club will greatly miss this dedicated and colorful man.



August Piper at the 2018 Seattle Chess Classic.
Photo credit: Henry Louie.

WA State Barber/Rockefeller

OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT

Saturday, March 16, 2024

Chinook Middle School

2001 98th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004



CLASSICAL SECTIONS

K-5 Rockefeller Open (Qualifier for Rockefeller Closed Event)

6-8 Barber Open (Qualifier for Barber Closed Event)

A 4-round Swiss. Longer time control for Intermediate to Advanced players. Dual NWSRS and US Chess Rated; US Chess membership required. Time Control: G/60; +10, except for rd. 1 (G/25; +5). Rounds: 9am, 10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm. Awards ~ 6:45pm.

RAPID SECTIONS

K-1 U700, 2-3 U800, K-3 Open, K-8 U1100, K-8 U1500, 4-12 U1000, 4-12 Open.

A 5-round G/25; +5 Swiss. Shorter time control for players of all levels. Rounds: 9am, 10:30am, 11:45am, Lunch Time, 1:15pm, 2:30pm. Awards ~ 4pm.

ALL SECTIONS

NWSRS Rated. Open sections are also US Chess Rated, which requires clocks, notation, and US Chess membership. **All equipment is provided.** The U700, U800, U1000, U1100, and U1500 sections don't require clocks or notation, but a clock set for 10 mins +5 sec increment will be placed in unfinished games after 35 minutes of play.

ENTRY FEE

\$45 by March 9th, \$55 after.
Room for 250 players.

AWARDS

Section Prizes: Amazon Gift Cards awarded in each section:

1st – 5th: \$90-80-70-60-50.

Team Prizes: Amazon Gift Cards awarded to the top 4 players from the top 5 finishing teams (top 4 scores from same school comprise team score) across all sections:
1st – 5th: \$30-25-20-15-10.

Special Prizes (per section): Medals for first timers, best female player, and biggest upset win.

FOLLOW-UP INVITATIONAL EVENT

Top 12 finishing WA State residents in the K-5 Rockefeller Open and 6-8 Barber Open section (by tiebreaks) will qualify for the Rockefeller and Barber Closed Events on March 31 in Redmond. The winners of the 12-player closed (4-Round Swiss) events will earn a \$750 travel stipend (donated by the WCF) and will be the WA State representatives at the National Rockefeller (K-5) and Barber (6-8) Tournament of Champions, respectively, held concurrently with the US Open in early August.

THE DETAILS

Online Registration:

NWchess.com/OnlineRegistration/

Pay by

Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing.

100% pre-registered, no on-site entries or payments. **Entry + payment deadline Fri., March 15th @ 5pm.** No registrations accepted or refunds offered after the deadline. Unpaid players will be removed from the roster and waitlisted players will be offered a spot.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to all students in grades K-12 as of the 2023-24 school year. Out-of-state players welcome!

RATING

Highest of US Chess Regular March supplement, or current NWSRS rating used to determine section and pairings.

WA State Elementary Qualifier!

Questions?

Contact Josh Sinanan, WCF President at 206.769.3757 or WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

GM-Elect Bryce Tiglon Interview

By Ken Lee

Bryce Tiglon is Washington State's newest Grandmaster-elect after securing his final GM norm in Spain at the prestigious Sunway Sitges event. Bryce has been part of the Pacific Northwest chess community since he was seven years old. He currently is 23 years of age and finishing his final year at Stanford University.

Yasser Seirawan was the last home-grown GM, earning his title in 1980.

I had the opportunity to sit down with Bryce and chat about his journey into chess, medical research and more.

Ken: As a kid, why did you love playing chess?

Bryce: Sometimes I like to joke that the reason I fell in love with chess as a first grader was the pizza lunch and candy snack that always seemed to appear exclusively at scholastic chess tournaments. But, in all seriousness, I think I just really wanted to understand the game. In the beginning, it seemed possible to learn lesson A, then B, then C—and achieve complete mastery in due time. However, it turned out that this was not the case! Chess is just one of those things that's incredibly difficult; there is always more to learn.

I distinctly recall a moment in one of my first lessons at Wilder Elementary's before-school chess class. A coach was trying to demonstrate Legal's mate, but unfortunately, Black's knight was already developed on c6 (see diagram).



I remember questioning why Black

had to capture the queen after White's Nxe5. Couldn't Black instead play ...Nxe5 himself? It was moments like this that made me fall in love with chess. I wanted to understand everything.

Ken: How did you keep motivated as a kid when you lost?

Bryce: Personally, I don't think I ever had a problem with motivation. I know that losing games, especially as a kid, is extremely difficult. It's painful. But, as one matures, you realize that the losses are part of the growth process. If you want to get better, you have to be able sustain yourself through those dry periods.

Ken: Did you work with a lot of chess coaches throughout your chess career?

Bryce: Actually, no. I worked very briefly with the late WGM Elena Donaldson and GM Emil Anka, but to be honest, I was kind of a feisty, independent kid and liked to work out problems on my own.

Ken: If you didn't work with coaches, how did you improve?

Bryce: Yeah, that's a good question. In the early years, I think I got better mostly by playing games on the Internet Chess Club (ICC). Of course, now ICC is more or less extinct and everybody uses chess.com or Lichess.

Much of my progress, though, likely resulted from my absolute love for chess. I remember in High School, on my one-hour bus rides to and from city—I typically devoured every article from ChessBase News.

Ken: How did you deal with setbacks over the course of your chess career?

Bryce: Well, I'm not really the type of person to give up. I've always loved chess and believed in myself 100%. I think one should deal with setbacks with dedication and hard work. It's as simple as that.

Ken: What are some defining moments in your life and chess career that you'd like to share?

Bryce: Well, one very clear defining moment was an interaction I had with a friend of mine, Siva Sankrithi, when I was in eighth grade. I've known Siva for a very long time—and in fact at just eleven years old—I even played Siva in the final round of the 2012 US Open. That

game ended in a draw.

Fast forward three years and I'm in eighth grade competing at High School Nationals in Columbus, Ohio. Siva, who is 13 years older than me, was coaching Lakeside there and kindly invited all Washington players to the team room between rounds. It was there that he encouraged me to apply to Lakeside School. He insisted that I would be a good fit—and I'm incredibly grateful that this conversation happened.

Later that year, I applied to Lakeside for ninth grade and was accepted. That turned out to be a major defining moment in my life as it set in motion several opportunities that might not have been there for me otherwise.

Ken: What other defining moments would you like to share?

Bryce: In 2019, I took a gap year between Lakeside and Stanford, deferring my admission. Originally, I had intended to spend my time on chess—but one day a sequence of thoughts shifted my attention towards molecular biology. I was thinking about my future and the limits of time with regards to how I could spend my time as an adult. This then led me to start seriously pondering the determinants of longevity and what happens on a molecular level to the human body.

Much like chess, aging seemed like a complex puzzle that I wanted to understand. Now that's the focus of my research at Stanford.

Ken: Any words of advice to aspiring chess players?

Bryce: I would just say that self-belief is the key to getting better at anything you want to pursue. Sometimes the great work you put in doesn't show in results right away, but it's crucial to trust the process, trust the work, and always believe in yourself. The results will surely follow.



2024 Western States Regional Chess Championship for Women and Girls



Sat-Sun, April 13-14th, 2024

Lakeside Upper School
14050 1st Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98125

Format: A 5-Round Swiss in three sections –

Championship, Premier & Rising

Open to all female chess players. Maximum of 125 players, please register early.

Time Control: G/60; +10.

Late default: 30 min.

Byes: Two half-point byes available. If interested, request before end of round 2.

Entry Fee: \$50 if postmarked or online by 4/6, \$60 after or at site. Free entry for WGMs, WIMs, and WFM.

On-site Registration: Sat 8-8:30am.

Rounds: Sat. @ 9am, 1pm. Sun. @ 10am, 1pm, 4pm. Awards ~ 6:30pm or asap.

Prize Fund: \$2500 (based on 90 pd. entries).

Championship:

1st – 3rd: \$250, \$200, \$150

1st U1900/U1700/U1500: \$75

Premier U1400:

1st – 3rd: \$200, \$150, \$100

1st U1300/U1100/U900: \$75

Rising U800:

1st – 3rd: \$200, \$150, \$100

1st U700/U500/U300/unrated: \$75

Special Prizes (per section):

Biggest Upset Win: \$20/round

Best Dressed: \$10/day

Kindness & Spreading Joy: \$10/day

Rating: US Chess and NWSRS Dual Rated.

Highest of April US Chess or current NWSRS rating will be used to determine section, pairings, and prizes. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

Memberships: US Chess membership required. Membership must be paid at the time of registration.

WA State Elementary Qualifier!

Online Registration: nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration

Pay by Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing.

Online registration and payment deadline: Fri. 4/12 @ 5pm.

Payment also available via Zelle

(ID: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com) or Venmo (ID: @WACHess).

Info/Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

Mail To: Washington Chess Federation

c/o Orlov Chess Academy –

4174 148th Ave. NE, Building I, Ste. M, Redmond, WA 98052

Contact: Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757,
washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com

Fun Side Events!

Workshop for Girls and Women: Sat @ 12-1pm.

Includes complementary pizza lunch!

Puzzle Solving Competition: Sat @ 4:00-4:45pm. EF: \$10.

WIM Megan Lee Lecture + Q&A: Sat @ 5-6pm.

WIM Megan Lee Simul: Sat @ 6-9pm.

EF: \$25. Max 25 players, please register early.

Women's and Girls' Blitz Tournament: Sun @ 7-9pm. EF: \$25.



US CHESS
women

2024 East Idaho Regional Scholastic Qualifier

By Jay Simonson

Despite terrible, snowy, windy weather which caused the cancellation of many events and the closure of many school campuses, including the Idaho State University (ISU) campus, on January 12 2024, 42 students, from 25 different schools, plus home-schooled students, along with parents, coaches, and some friends braved the barely drivable roads to compete in the 2024 East Idaho Regional Scholastic Chess Qualifier. About 15 other students were planning on coming but didn't because of the weather.

This five-round, Swiss System event was held at the ISU Pond Student Union Building, Salmon River Suites, on January 13 2024. There were three sections, K-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Time control was game in 30 minutes with a five-second delay. The tie breaks were: Solkoff, Cumulative, Cumulative of Opposition, and Modified Median. Trophies were awarded to the top three in each section and to the first-place winner in each grade. Second and third-place winners in each grade received a medal. Jay Simonson was the Tournament

Director, with John Eisenmenger serving as Assistant TD.

Due to the confusion and delay caused by failure to register, not completing the payment process, and late registrants last year, The TD and organizer this year specified that registration and payment closed 48 hours before the start of the tournament. This resulted in a relatively smooth beginning. Pocatello High School lent us some clocks, so that we had a clock on every board.

In the K-5 Section, Arthur Xian, third grade, and his brother Cary, first grade, both from White Pine Charter School in Idaho Falls, tied for first and second place overall with four points. By tie breaks, Arthur won the first-place trophy and Cary won second. Owen Romrell, fifth grade, from Kershaw Intermediate School of Sugar Salem, and Nathan Abenroth, third grade, from John Evans Elementary School in Rupert, tied for third and fourth place overall. Tie breaks determined that Owen received the third-place trophy and Nathan won first place in third grade. This year there were no kindergarten students. Emma Abenroth, from John Evans Elementary, won first place in first grade, and Asher Swift, from Edahow Elementary School, in Pocatello, won second place. In the second-grade competition, Dominic Davis, homeschooled, from Albion, was first, and Rocco Maestas, also homeschooled in Albion, was second. As mentioned above, first place in third grade was won by Nathan Abenroth. The fourth grade first-place trophy went to Ace Maestas, homeschooled in Albion, and Agnes Swift, from Edahow won second place. In the fifth grade, there was a tie for first through third place. By tie breaks, Colton Wortley, from Wilcox Elementary School, in Pocatello, was first, Gavin Graham, from Grace Lutheran Elementary School, in Pocatello, won second, and Ruth Davis, homeschooled in Albion, took home the third-place medal.

Isaac Burke, eighth grade, Franklin Middle School, Pocatello, won clear first place in the 6-8 section with five points. Tied for second and third place with four points was Christian Swift, eighth grade, also from Franklin, and Sophie Ma, sixth grade, from Alturas Prep Academy, Idaho Falls. By tie breaks, Christian received the second-place trophy and Sophie received third. In the sixth grade, by tie breaks, first place went to Henry Johnson from Pocatello Community Charter

School, and Saxson Ackley, Blackfoot Heritage School, sixth grade, won second place. Grayson Wrathall, from American Heritage Middle School, Idaho Falls, won third place. Seventh grade winners were all tied for first through third places. The tie breaks gave Danger Maestas, homeschooled in Albion, first place; Aedan Wilde, Franklin, second place; and Bronx Martinez, Alturas Prep Academy, third place. The eighth grade also saw ties for the top three prizes. Joseph Foster, Eagle Rock Middle School, Idaho Falls, won first; Isaias Reyes Guillen, Madison Junior High School, Rexburg won second; and Raj Ramirez, from Taylor View Middle School, Idaho Falls, was third.

Hayden Egbert, ninth grade, Madison High School, Rexburg, with five points, was the clear winner of the 9-12 section. Adam Lindemood, ninth grade, Pocatello High School, and Ethan Swift, tenth grade, Highland High School, Pocatello, tied for second and third places. Adam was awarded second place and Ethan third place based upon tie breaks. In the ninth grade, the top three were also tied. First place went to Boston Rubert, from Sugar Salem High School; second place went to Tracy Gilbert from Pocatello High School; and third place was awarded to Jackson Taylor, also from Pocatello High School. Ethan Swift was the only tenth-grade student. Nolan Ma, from Skyline High School, Idaho Falls, won first place in eleventh grade; Sakiusa Tabakece, from Pocatello High, won second; and Julia Swift, from Highland High School, won third. No seniors competed in this year's tournament.

Franklin Middle School in Pocatello Idaho won the Top School trophy. Pocatello High School and White Pine Charter School were not far behind.

Your TD was not up to his usual performance during this tournament. Just as the tournament started, I found out that my wife's sister passed away earlier that morning. I needed to leave to take my wife to Rupert, where her sister lived, but had no TD's to take over. Because of the difficulty everyone had in getting there, I could not cancel. Because of this, I was distracted and didn't take pictures. Also, I neglected to note those who were not present to receive their awards. If you are named in this article and did not receive your award/trophy, please contact Jay at rooknjay@yahoo.com.



11th Annual Reno Larry Evans Memorial Open

May 3-5 or May 4-5, 2024, 3 Day or 2 Day Schedule

US Chess
150 GPP (Enhanced)

\$27,500!! (b/275)

\$17,000!! (Guaranteed)

F.I.D.E. Rated
OPEN Section

NEW LOCATION: CIRCUS CIRCUS RENO

500 N. Sierra Street, Reno, NV 89503 (Downtown Reno)

6 Rd Swiss ♦ 6 Sections ♦ 40/2, Game/1 - d5 ♦ (Open Section) 40/2, Game/55 - d5 ♦ 2 Day (Rds 1-3) G/1 - d5

Open Section (2200 & above) EF: \$194, (2000-2199) \$250, (1999/below) \$300; GMs and IMs free but must enter by 4/5 or pay late fee at door. Guaranteed Prizes; (1-7 in Open Section plus 1/2 of all other prizes).

Open Section \$2,000 - 1,000 - 900 - 800 - 700 - 600 - 500, (2399/below) \$1,000 - \$500, (2299/below) \$1,000 - \$500 (If there is a tie for 1st then a playoff for \$100 out of prize fund plus trophy).

Section Expert (2000-2199) EF: \$194 (2-day EF: \$190) \$2,000-1,000-500-300-200

Section "A" (1800-1999) EF: \$193 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,800-900-500-300-200

Section "B" (1600-1799) EF: \$192 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,700-800-400-300-200

Section "C" (1400-1599) EF: \$191 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,500-700-400-300-200

Section "D/Under" (1399-below) EF: \$180 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,000-500-300-200, (1199/below) \$400-200-100

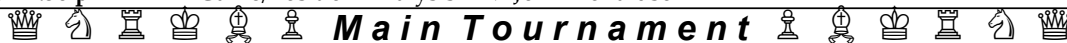
Top Senior (65+) - \$200; Club Championship - \$600 - 300.

Wed. 5/1: 7:00 pm - GM Sergey Kudrin Clock Simul w/ complete analysis of YOUR Game (Only \$30!-bring clock)

Thursday 5/2: 6 - 7:15 pm - Lecture by IM John Donaldson (FREE)

7:30 pm - GM Melikset Khachiyani Simul (\$20); Blitz (G/5 d0) Tourney \$25 - 80% of entries = Prize Fund

Saturday 5/4: 3 - 4:30 pm - FREE Game/Position Analysis - IM John Donaldson



Registration: Thursday (5/2) 5 - 8 pm. - Friday (5/3) 9 - 10 am. - Saturday (5/4) 9 - 10 am.

Round Times: (3-day Schedule) Friday - 12 Noon - 7 pm; Saturday - 10 am - 6 pm; Sunday - 9 am - 4 pm
(2-day Schedule) Sat.- Rd 1 - 10:30 am, Rd 2 - 12:45 pm, Rd 3 - 3 pm, Rd 4 merge with regular schedule - 6 pm

For more information: Call, Write or E-mail Organizer and Chief TD, N.T.D. Jerome (Jerry) Weikel,
(H) 775-747-1405 OR (Cell) 775-354-8728 • 6578 Valley Wood Dr., Reno, NV 89523 • wackyykl@aol.com

Room Reservation: Call Circus Circus Reno, 1-800-648-5010, Group Reservation Code: SRLEM4

Hotel Rates \$87.00 Sun-Thu / \$166.45 Fri-Sat, single or double occupancy, tax included.

Reserve by 4/16 • Best way to reserve is Hotel Link: <https://book.passkey.com/go/SRLEM4>

For TLA and to confirm receipt of entry see player list at: www.renochess.org

ENTRY FORM - 11th Annual Larry Evans Memorial Open - Reno, Nevada - May 3-5 OR May 4-5, 2024

Mail to: WEIKEL CHESS, 6578 Valley Wood Drive, Reno NV 89523

PRINT Name _____ Phone# _____ USCF Rating _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

USCF ID# _____ Exp. Date _____ All pre-registered players check in at TD desk on arrival.

ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED: (CIRCLE SECTION AND FEE BELOW) BYE(S) REQUESTED FOR ROUND(S): (circle) 1 2 3 4 5 6

----- OPEN SECTION -----

EXPERT "A" "B" "C" "D/Under" UNRATED

GM/IM • Masters • 2000-2199 • 1999-Below

2000-2199 1800-1999 1600-1799 1400-1599 1399-Below Free With

3-Day EF	Free	•	\$194	•	\$250	•	\$300		\$194	\$193	\$192	\$191	\$180	USCF Dues
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2-Day EF	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$190	USCF Dues
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FEES ALSO ENCLOSED FOR:

- ☐ \$30 Wed. Clock Simul GM Kudrin
☐ \$20 Thu. Simul GM Khachiyani
☐ \$25 Thursday Blitz (G/5 d0)
☐ \$20 Discount - Sr 65+ Age _____

POSTMARK BY April 5, 2024. Add \$11 after 4/5. Add \$22 on site.

Do not mail after 4/26 or email after 4/30. Make check / m.o. payable to WEIKEL CHESS or provide credit card info and signature. \$5 service charge on credit card entries. ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ Am.Ex
Expiration Date _____ Zip Code _____
Credit Card# _____ CVV Code _____
Signature _____

- ☐ Check Enclosed
☐ Charge My Card

TOTAL FEES: \$ _____

IM Eric Tangborn Simul

Issaquah, Washington December 13, 2023

Josh Sinanan

As has now become a tradition, the Issaquah Highlands Chess Club and Washington Chess Federation teamed up to host a simul with a chess master on Wednesday, December 13 at the beautiful Blakely Hall in the heart of the Issaquah Highlands. This edition's honored guest was International Master Eric Tangborn, a former Washington State Champion who earned his IM title back in the 1970s! The evening opened with a brief introduction by Eric about his chess career while the players and spectators enjoyed some complimentary Flying Pie Pizza and soft drinks.

Several chess books that Eric has authored including *How Chessmasters Think* and *Chess Combinations of the World Champions: Steinitz to Tal* were raffled off to some lucky winners. The 25-board simul kicked off around 6:25 PM, with a few last-minute stragglers sneaking in to fill any empty boards that remained.

Players of all ages and ratings (unrated – 1861) participated in the simul, which lasted a total of three hours and 15 minutes! Eric was quite deliberate and took his time making the moves at each board, which allowed for only 20-25 moves to be played in each game when the simul concluded around 9:00 PM. When the dust had settled, Eric had won 12, drawn 10, and lost only three games. Several games still in progress at the cutoff time were adjudicated by WCF Vice President Duane Polich, who oversaw the proceedings. WCF Member-at-Large Ani Barua was also on-site taking photos and video coverage of the simul.

Congratulations to the following players who scored a half or full point against International Master Eric Tangborn! Draws were achieved by: Mary Kuhner (1805, Seattle), Odbayar Yondon (1767, Redmond), Chad Fondren



*IM Eric Tangborn (R) playing carefully against a wide variety of opponents at his simul event.
Photo credit: Ani Barua.*

(1588, Sammamish), Atharv Rastogi (1420, Issaquah), Yash Syal (1384, Sammamish), Sai Bulusu (1360, Bellevue), Mike Tie (1315, Sammamish), Olin Martin (1257, Seattle), Sambuddha S. Das (1149, Sammamish), Jude Merritt (unrated, Maple Valley).

Three fearless chess warriors managed to win against the International Master: Gabriel Razmov (1737, Seattle), Andrew Goupinets (1649, Bellevue), and Felicity Mei (438, Sammamish)! Eric, a true gentleman and amazing chess ambassador, graciously signed autographs and posed for photographs with the participants at the end of the simul.

Stay tuned for more simul events hosted by IHCC + WCF in 2024!

Ojas A. Kandhare

(425) 623-0692

ojaskandy@gmail.com

- Affordable group and private lessons
- In-person or virtual classes
- Interlake Chess Team President



*The playing hall at the Issaquah Highlands Chess Club during the simul event.
Photo credit: Ani Barua.*

2023 Washington Junior Invitational

By Josh Sinanan

The 2023 Washington Junior Invitational Chess Championship took place December 16-17 at Lakeside Upper School in Seattle concurrently with the co-located Washington Winter Chess Classic. As is the tradition, the Closed section consisted of a six-player round robin featuring the highest rated junior players in Washington State.

The 21-player Invitational section, a five-round Swiss, was run alongside the Closed and offered Tri-Rated games (NWSRS, US Chess, and FIDE) for the numerous ambitious youngsters taking part. The tournament was organized by Washington Chess Federation and directed by the WCF Dream Team: Vice President Rekha Sagar, Community Outreach Liaison and National FIDE Arbiter Suresh Balaji, and Member-at-Large Ani Barua.

Two teenage chess masters, Daniel Shubin of Redmond, and Ryan Min of Bellevue, tied for first place with four points apiece, each winning three games, drawing against fellow NM Stephen Willy, and drawing against each other. To decide the seed for the 2024 Washington State Championship, an excited blitz playoff was held, in which speed chess specialist Shubin triumphed in both games.

For his efforts, Daniel earns the seed into the Championship section of the 2024 Washington State Championship, taking place in February in Redmond! Sammamish chess studs NM Stephen



Washington Junior Invitational (Closed section) players — NM Daniel Shubin (L) vs local junior star, expert Ted Wang (R). Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

Willy and Austin Liu shared third/fourth place honors with 2.5 points each. In the Invitational section, Mongolian chess phenom Odbayar Yondon of Redmond and Bellevue chess prince Rishi Ramaswamy dominated the field, each scoring an impressive four points from five games. Yondon allowed only a single draw against the solid Arnav Gadde in the third round after taking a first-round half-point bye. Ramaswamy employed a more decisive approach, recovering well after a second-round loss against the dangerous Nirmalya Routray and winning his last three games in a row!

A quadruplet of players shared =third-sixth place honors a half-point back: Leonardo Wang of Fall City, Selina Cheng of Seattle, Dann Merriman of Duvall, and Rian Raja of Bothell. The future is certainly bright for each of these fine young chess players as the scholastic chess boom continues throughout the Pacific Northwest! Many thanks to all who contributed to this event and congratulations to the winners.



Pranav Kokati at the Washington Junior Invitational (Invitational section). Photo credit: Meiling Cheng.

Washington Junior Invitational: Closed										
#	Place	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total pts	Prizes
1	1-2	NM Daniel Shubin	2253	W 6	D 3	D 2	W 4	W 5	4	=1st / 2nd
2		CM Ryan Min	2138	W 4	W 5	D 1	D 3	W 6	4	=1st / 2nd
3	3-4	NM Stephen Willy	2232	D 5	D 1	W 6	D 2	L 4	2.5	=3rd
4		Austin Liu	2128	L 2	D 6	W 5	L 1	W 3	2.5	
5	5	CM Yiding Lu	2121	D 3*	L 2	L 4	W 6	L 1	1.5	Biggest Upset*
6	6	Ted Wang	2099	L 1	D 4	L 3	L 5	L 2	0.5	

Blitz Playoff				
Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total
NM Daniel Shubin	2253	W 2	W 2	2
CM Ryan Min	2138	L 1	L 1	0
Two G/5:+2 unrated blitz games.				



*Newly minted master Ryan Min (L) vs. Stephen Willy
at the Washington Junior Invitational (Closed section).
Photo Credit: Meiling Cheng.*

Washington Junior Invitational: Invitational										
#	Place	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total pts	Prizes
1	1-2	Odbayar Yondon	1767	H---	W 12	D 10	W 14	W 3	4	=1st / 2nd
2		Rishi Ramaswamy	1744	W 14	L 8	W 5	W 10	W 9	4	=1st / 2nd
3	3-6	Leonardo Wang	1695	D 15	W 19	W 8	W 4	L 1	3.5	=3rd-6th
4		Selina Cheng	1669	W 11	W 17	W 7	L 3	D 6	3.5	
5		Dann Merriman	1651	W 6	D 10	L 2	W 15	W 11	3.5	
6		Rian Raja	1372	L 5	W 18	W 13	W 7	D 4	3.5	
7	7-9	Vijay Nallappa	1734	W 18	W 9	L 4	L 6	W 13	3	=7th
8		Nirmalya Routray	1616	W 16	W 2	L 3	L 9	W 17	3	
9		Haituka Anandkumar	1559	W 21	L 7	W 12	W 8	L 2	3	
10	10-12	Arnav Gadde	1561	W 20	D 5	D 1	L 2	D 12	2.5	
11		Atharv Rao	1391	L 4	W 21	W 20	H---	L 5	2.5	Biggest Upset W in*
12		Miles King	1159	W 13*	L 1	L 9	W 18	D 10	2.5	
13	13-17	Andy Chen	1582	L 12	W 15	L 6	W 20	L 7	2	
14		Pranav Kokati	1518	L 2	W 16	W 17	L 1	U---	2	
15		Yuchen Zhou	1502	D 3	L 13	W 19	L 5	D 18	2	
16		Jeffrey Chien	1330	L 8	L 14	B---	L 17	W 19	2	
17		Sachin Miskelly	unr.	B---	L 4	L 14	W 16	L 8	2	
18	18-19	Sanjay Urali	1509	L 7	L 6	W 21	L 12	D 15	1.5	
19		Aakash Mishra	1032	H---	L 3	L 15	W 21	L 16	1.5	
20	20-21	William Zhao	1127	L 10	B---	L 11	L 13	L 21	1	
21		Solomon Levy	1092	L 9	L 11	L 18	L 19	W 20	1	



*Washington Junior Closed
participant Yiding Lu.
Photo Credit: Meiling Cheng.*

Blitz Playoff				
Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total
Odbayar Yondon	1767	W 2	W 2	2
Rishi Ramaswamy	1744	L 1	L 1	0
Two G/5:+2 unrated blitz games.				

2023 Washington Winter Classic

By Josh Sinanan

The 2023 Washington Winter Classic was held December 16-17 at Lakeside Upper School in Seattle. Unlike last year, which saw the event split into two sections due to space constraints at the Orlov Chess Academies in Redmond and Seattle, all 38 players in this year's tournament were housed entirely in one location, the spacious Howard Wright Community Center in the heart of the Lakeside Upper School Campus.

The Washington Junior Closed and Invitational, a prestigious junior event, was held concurrently at the same venue. Both events were directed by the WCF Dream Team of Community Liaison/FIDE Arbiter Suresh Balaji, Member-at-Large Ani Barua, and Vice President Rekha Sagar, who paired the tournament remotely.

The Washington Winter Classic was run as a five-round Swiss tournament in two sections, Open and Reserve U1600, over two days with the popular FIDE-approved time control of game in 90 minutes with a 30-second increment.

The intense first-day schedule of three rounds in a single day resulted in many third-round half-point byes, as stamina definitely became a factor when playing the third game of the day. To entice some stronger players to come out, the highest finishing Washington residents in the Open and Reserve sections were seeded into the Premier and

Challengers sections, respectively, of the 2024 Washington State Championship.

In the 21-player Open section, experience trumped youth as the Ukrainian Chess Wizard, Leonid Gavrysh (1926 → 2007, 5.0) of Brier topped the field with a perfect five points from five games. For his efforts, Leonid is seeded into the Premier section of the 2024 Washington State Championship. A pair of chess aces, Thanh Tien Nguyen (2124 → 2120, 4.0) of Redmond and Brian Lee (1953 → 1969, 4.0) of Napavine tied for second/third place a full point back.

The key matchup between Nguyen and Gavrysh occurred in the penultimate round, with Gavrysh emerging the victor in a wild clash of the chess titans. Young Jamie Zhu (1953 → 1957, 3.5) of Sammamish captured the U2100 prize a half-point back, losing only to Gavrysh in the final round. Seattle chess king Chad Boey (1672 → 1737, 3.0) won the U1900 prize with three points after a clutch final

Washington Winter Classic : Open

#	Place	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total pts	Prizes
1	1	Leonid Gavrysh	1981	W 7	W 9	W 10	W 2	W 4	5	1st
2	2-3	Thanh Tien Nguyen	2116	W 14	W 17	W 3	L 1	W 12	4	= 2nd / 3rd
3		Brian Lee	1954	W 15	W 16	L 2	W 7	W 6	4	
4	4	Jamie Zhu	1950	W 11	W 20	H---	W 13	L 1	3.5	1st U2100
5	5-7	Bental Tagor	1999	L 10	W 18	L 7	W 9	W 15	3	
6		Emerson Wong-Godfrey	1937	L 16	W 21	W 15	W 10	L 3	3	
7		Chad Boey	1727	L 1	W 19	W 5	L 3	W 13	3	1st U1900
8	8-12	Abhinav Mishra	1782	L 20	L 15	W 21	W 14	D 10	2.5	
9		Christos Boulis	1776	W 12	L 1	D 20	L 5	W 19	2.5	
10		Gabriel Razmov	1737	W 5*	W 13	L 1	L 6	D 8	2.5	Biggest Upset W in*
11		Shuyi Han	1634	L 4	W 14	L 13	D 17	W 20	2.5	Best Female Player
12		Arush Yadlapati	1453	L 9	B---	H---	W 20	L 2	2.5	
13	13-16	Damarcus Thomas	1960	W 18	L 10	W 11	L 4	L 7	2	
14		Ujwal Garine	1754	L 2	L 11	W 18	L 8	W 17	2	
15		Iris Zhang	1647	L 3	W 8	L 6	W 21	L 5	2	
16		Collin Dang	1625	W 6	L 3	W 17	U---	U---	2	
17	17-20	Robin Tu	1792	W 19	L 2	L 16	D 11	L 14	1.5	
18		Andrew Goupinets	1649	L 13	L 5	L 14	H---	B---	1.5	
19		Don Hack	1555	L 17	L 7	H---	B---	L 9	1.5	
20		Karthik Bimod	1540	W 8	L 4	D 9	L 12	L 11	1.5	
21	21	John Patrick Christy	1473	H---	L 6	L 8	L 15	H---	1	

round win over fellow king Damarcus Thomas.

Up-and-coming Seattle chess prince Gabriel Razmov (1712 → 1748, 2.5) won the Best Upset Win prize thanks to his first-round knockout against Bental “The Tiger” Tagor. Rising Sammamish superstar Arush Yadlapati (1191 → 1241, 2.5) was the highest US Chess Rating points gainer with 50 rating points added to his Elo. Bellevue’s Shuyi Han (1612 → 1634, 2.5) claimed the Best Female Player prize with a tournament performance rating (TPR) of 1799. Classiness was on display throughout the weekend, with Andrew Goupinets (1206 → 1201, 1.5) of Bellevue and Chad Boey of Seattle especially dressing to impress and taking home the Best Dressed prizes on Saturday and Sunday, respectively.

In the Reserve U1600 section, Bellevue Chess Queen Nola Fung (1491-1536, 5.0) emerged victorious with an impressive five points from five games. Nola took care of business against her nearest rivals Koripella (1197), Liu (1347), and Burchall (1310) during her five-game rampage. Chess Dad Kefu Zhao (964 → 1130, 4.0) of Bellevue, whose son William was playing in the co-located

Washington Junior Invitational, finished in second place a full point back. Kefu played especially solid chess in the tournament and was the only other player besides Fung to finish undefeated! Sammamish chess aficionado Dheeran Koripella (1197 → 1232, 3.5) claimed third place honors a half-point back, losing only to Fung and drawing with Zhao along the way. Chess powerhouses Allen Chang (1179 → 1234, 3.0) of Mountlake Terrace and Laurion Burchall (1310 → 1318, 3.0) of Seattle shared the U1500 prize a half-point back. Chess stud Alex Foltenyi (919 → 989, 3.0) of Redmond won the first U1300 prize with a solid “plus one” score. Aaron Zhang (508 → 543, 2.0) of Redmond, who no doubt has been picking up some pointers from his older sister Iris (1569), won the U1100 prize with two points.

Youngster Ziliang Ma (2124 → 2120, 4.0), a student from Detective Cookie’s



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Chess Club in South Seattle, earned the Biggest Upset Win prize with a huge 165-point last round upset victory against James “Skip” Hamlett. Redmond’s Vilmos Foltenyi (1071 → 1079, 2.5) earned the highest US Chess Rating Gain prize with a solid eight-point ascent.

The Best Dressed Prizes were awarded to chess dudes Ziliang Ma on Saturday and Joshua Pantea (941 → 919, 2.0) on Sunday. Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to all who contributed to this fantastic event!

Washington Winter Classic : Reserve U1600

#	Place	Name	Rating	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total pts	Prizes
1	1	Nola Fung	1565	W 9	W 6	W 3	W 4	W 7	5	1st
2	2	Kefu Zhao	1206	W 7	W 14	D 4	D 3	W 8	4	2nd
3	3	Dheeran Koripella	1385	W 8	W 5	L 1	D 2	W 12	3.5	3rd
4	4-8	Vincent Liu	1538	W 10	W 11	D 2	L 1	D 6	3	
5		Evan Cen	1511	W 12	L 3	L 7	W 10	W 11	3	
6		Allen Chang	1471	W 17	L 1	D 10	W 14	D 4	3	= 1st U1500
7		Laurion Burchall	1396	H---	W 13	W 5	H---	L 1	3	
8		Alex Foltenyi	1050	L 3	B---	W 9	W 11	L 2	3	1st U1300
9	9-10	Ziliang Ma	1344	L 1	W 15	L 8	D 16	W 14*	2.5	Biggest Upset Win*
10		Vilmos Foltenyi	1313	L 4	W 17	D 6	L 5	W 16	2.5	
11	11-13	Jeb Stroud	1393	W 16	L 4	W 12	L 8	L 5	2	
12		Joshua Pantea	1303	L 5	W 16	L 11	W 13	L 3	2	
13		Aaron Zhang	956	B---	L 7	L 16	L 12	W 15	2	1st U1100
14	14-16	James Hamlett	1509	W 15	L 2	H---	L 6	L 9	1.5	
15		Neil Kossuri	1278	L 14	L 9	H---	B---	L 13	1.5	
16		Nathan Zhang	1104	L 11	L 12	W 13	D 9	L 10	1.5	
17	17	Lakshana Anand	1269	L 6	L 10	U---	U---	U---	0	

Issaquah Highlands Chess Club & Washington Chess Federation Present...



Eastside Open

Sat. March 30, 2024



Blakely Hall – 2550 NE Park Dr. Issaquah, WA 98029

Format: A 5-round Swiss tournament in three sections: **Open**, **Reserve** U1600, and **Rising** (unrated).

Entry fee: \$45 by 3/23, \$55 after. \$25 play-up fee if rated under 1600 and playing in Open section. Free entry for players rated 2000+. Maximum of 100 players, please register early to reserve your spot!

Schedule: Registration & Check-in: 9-9:45am. Rounds (5): 10am, 11:30am, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:30pm. Closing Ceremony + Blitz Tournament: ~ 6:00pm or asap.

Time Control: G/30; +5 sec. increment per move starting from move 1.

Rating: Open and Reserve U1600 section are Dual NWSRS + US Chess Rated. Higher of March US Chess or current NWSRS rating will be used to determine section, pairings, and prizes. Rising section is unrated, with no memberships required.

Memberships: US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required for Open and Reserve sections, other states accepted. No memberships required for Rising section.

Prize Fund: \$2,500 based on 100 paid entries.

Open: 1st – 3rd: \$250-200-150. 1st U2000/U1800: \$100

Reserve U1600: 1st – 3rd: \$225-180-150, 1st U1400/U1200/U1000: \$100

Rising (unrated): 1st – 4th: \$200-150-125-100.

Special Prizes (per section):

Biggest Upset Win: \$35, Best Female Player (by TPR): \$35, Best Dressed: \$20.

Byes: Up to 2 half-point byes available if requested before the end of round 2.

Registration: Online at nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration. Pay by Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing.

Registration + payment deadline: Fri, Mar 29 @ 5pm. Unpaid players will be removed from the roster after the deadline, and players from the Waitlist will be offered a spot. At-site registration: 9-9:45am.

On-site payment available by cash, check made out to "WCF", Zelle (ID: washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com), or Venmo (ID: @WACHess).

Blitz Tournament: Time: 7-9pm (after rd. 5 of main tournament). Entry Fee: \$20. Format: A 7-Round Single Swiss in one section, 2 half-point byes available. US Chess Blitz rated. TC: G/4; +3. On-site registration: 6:00-6:45pm. Rds. @ 7pm, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8, 8:15, 8:30. Closing Ceremony ~ 8:45pm or asap. Current US Chess membership required. Higher of March 2024 US Chess Blitz or Regular rating used to determine pairings and prizes. Prize Fund: **\$500** (based on 50 pd. entries)

1st – 3rd: \$120-80-50, 1st U1900/U1700/U1500/U1300/U1100/Unrated: \$30. Biggest upset win: \$10/rd.



Questions – Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

Address
 → 7212 Woodlawn Ave NE ←
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 Info
 ↗ www.seattlechess.club ↖
 Addresses for Entries
 SCC Tnmt Dir
 2420 S 137 St
 Seattle WA 98168
 —OR—
 contact@seattlechess.club

Apr. 20-21 **SCC Adult Swiss**
Format: 4-SS, open to those born before 4/22/2006. **TC:** G120; +30. **EF:** Free for SCC members. \$12 for non-members.
Prize Fund: \$320 gtd. **Prizes:** \$100-70, U1800 50, U1600 45, U1400 40, U1200 & Unrated 15. **Reg:** Sat. 10-10:45 a.m.
Rds: Sat. 11-4:30, Sun. 11-4:30. **Byes:** 1 available. Rounds 3 or 4 must commit at registration. **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC. **Sponsored by Henry Yan.**

Mar 9, Mar 30, Apr 27 **Saturday Quads**
Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sec. by rtg. **TC:** G/100;+15. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free quad entry. **Reg:** 9-9:45 a.m.
Rds: 10:00-2:15-6:30. **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Mar 10 **G/20 Hexes**
Format: 5-RR in 6- or 5-player sections. **TC:** G/20;+8. **EF:** \$12 (+\$6 fee for non-SCC). **Prize Fund:** \$54 b/6. **Prizes:** \$36-18. **Reg:** 12-12:45 p.m. **Time Frame:** 1 to ~6:30 p.m.
Byes: 0. **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Mar 16, Apr 28 **SCC Novice**
Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/60;+15. **EF:** \$20 (-\$2 SCC members). **Prizes:** SCC membership(s). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4—commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Mar 17, Apr 14 **Sunday Tornado**
Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/50;+10. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 per EF to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4—commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

*Wednesdays are
for casual play*

Seattle Spring Open

March 23-24, 2023

A five-round Swiss with a time control of G/100 plus 15 seconds per move. The prize fund of \$500 is based on 24 paid entries, 3 per prize group.

First	\$150	Second	\$100	U1900	\$70
U1700	\$60	U1500	\$50	U1300	\$40
		Unrated	\$30		

Entry Fees: \$40 if rec'd by 3/20 (\$28 SCC memb.), \$52 after the 20th (\$38 SCC memb.). **Unrated**—Free with purchase of 1-yr US Chess & 1-yr WCF.

Registration: Sat. 9-9:45am. **Rounds:** Sat. 10-2:30-7, Sun. 11-3:30.

Byes: 2 (Sunday rounds, commit at registration). **Miscellaneous:** US Chess & WCF membership req'd. No smoking.

