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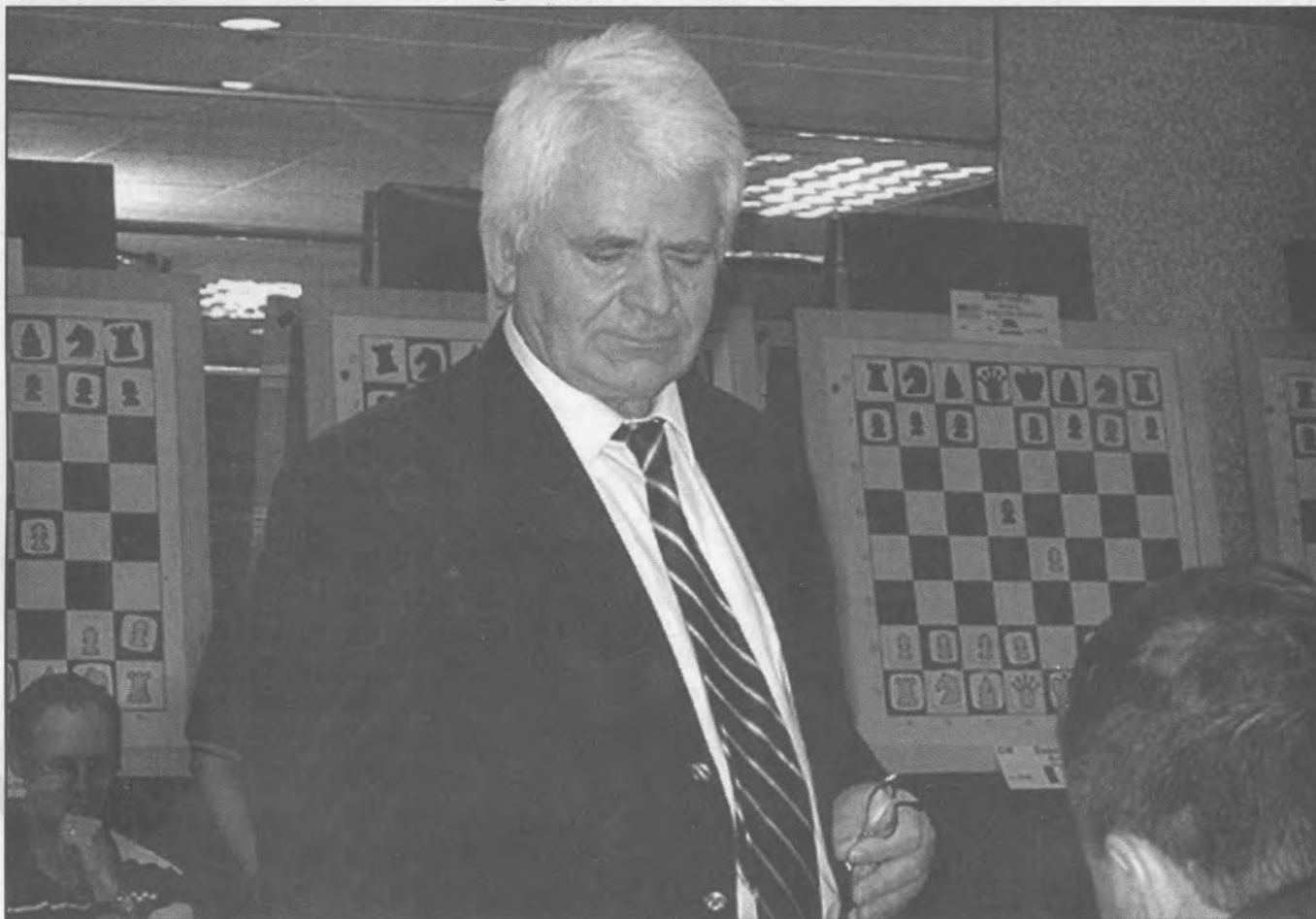
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Chess Federation

Oregon Chess Federation

December 2004

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Boris Spassky in Reno

**WA vs. BC, 1954 Washington Open
Peachcroft, Rowan, Stefurak and More!**

Northwest Chess

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Eric@Holcomb.com

Submissions

Hey folks! The editor depends on YOU to make this magazine vibrant and exciting. I need your games, photographs, thoughts, and ideas. This magazine has a great tradition and I hope people will contribute enthusiastically. You can send me your materials via U.S. mail or via e-mail:

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Greetings from the Editor



*Editor's
Desk*

As you may notice, the expected reports on the Western States Open and on Boris Spassky's appearance in Reno did not materialize. However, I am still hopeful.

As December will be shortened by the holidays and my trip to the North American Open in Las Vegas, expect the January issue to be 16 pages.

Scholastic organizers and parents! Please send me some tournament reports and/or games. Scholastic coaches! Please send me articles. Remember, the NWC board would like 8 pages of scholastic material per issue between October and April.

Best Wishes,

Frederick K. Kleist

Northwest Chess Knights

Northwest Chess Knight donors will be listed in the magazine for a period of one year following receipt of donation. All persons who did not donate in 2003 have been removed from the list. Please consider making a donation today to help Northwest Chess!

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Contributions can be sent to the Northwest Chess Business Manager, and are greatly appreciated!

Northwest Organizer Grand Prix Report

Eric Holcomb, administrator
PMB 342, 12932 SE Kent-Kangley Rd
Kent WA 98030-7940
Eric@Holcomb.com

At the *Northwest Chess* meeting in Tacoma on October 26, 2003, board members decided to initiate an "Organizers' Grand Prix" to reward chess promoters and organizers who sign up a large number of WCF and OCF members. The rules were a little vague, so I have adopted the following scoring system for now:

Memberships of more than \$10 (adult, full-year junior) count as a full point regardless of whether it's a new membership or a renewal. It would be too difficult to go back at this point and award extra credit to new memberships, but it's something that could be considered for next year. Family, tournament and 6-month junior memberships count as 1/2 point. Credit goes to the club or organization sponsoring the event (where applicable), but I also report below the name of the primary organizer/promoter for each club, who also deserves a great deal of the credit. Credit is not given for an individual's own membership, nor do I take credit for memberships/renewals obtained as part of my job as business manager.

The results below are for the first year (October 26, 2003 to October 26, 2004), however I strongly suggest that we extend the first time period until the end of 2004, and use calendar years thereafter. The prizes (and who will contribute them) have not yet been determined. I would suggest that Northwest Chess itself award at least two memberships as prizes. Suggestions are welcome. As you can see, it's currently a very close race between the WCF and the Portland Chess Club (with the outstanding efforts of Neil Dale)!! The Seattle Chess Club (with the outstanding efforts of the Kleists) is not too far behind!! With the WA Class Championships coming up the WCF will likely win the race, but perhaps the state organizations belong in a separate category from the local clubs. Kent McNall also signed up a renewing member at his first event (as a sponsor), but it's not yet recorded as I don't yet have the check.

Organization	Individual	Points
WCF		74.0
Portland Chess Club	Kornelijns Dale	72.0
Seattle Chess Club	Fred & Carol Kleist	56.0
OCF/Chessways	Jerry Ramey	23.0
Tacoma Chess Club	Gary Dorfner	20.5
Chess Odyssey	Peter Prochaska	9.0
GP Prize Fund	Christopher & Miller	7.0
	Murlin Varner	4.0
Peninsula Chess Club		1.0
Orca/Columbia PTA		1.0
	Stephen Christopher	1.0
	Linda Noble	0.5

Flash! Prior to the Washington Class, the PCC had wrested the lead from the WCF, 76:74. ■

Northwest Chess

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**The Northwest Chess Calendar
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On the Cover: Former World Champion Boris Spassky considers his reply during the \$100-per-board simul held in conjunction with the Western States Open in Reno. *Photo by Gary Bricher*

B.C. Bests Washington 6-4

Washington Increases Average Rating by 200 Points, Falls by Same Score as in 2003

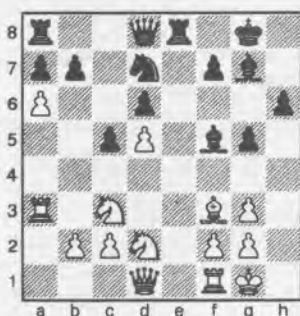
Schmid Benoni

IM Eric Tangborn (2472)

FM Oliver Schulte (2435)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (1) 2004

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♗f3 c5 3.d5 g6 4.♗c3 ♘g7 5.e4 O-O 6.a4 d6 7.♗e2 e6 8. O-O exd5 9.exd5 ♗e8 10.♗g5 h6 11.♗h4 g5 12.♗g3 ♗h5 13.♗d2 ♗xg3 14.hxg3 ♗d7 15.♗a3 ♗b6 16. ♗f3 ♗f5 17.a5 ♗d7 18.a6



18... ♗b8 19.♗b5 ♗b6 20. ♗b3 ♗xa6 21.♗c7 ♗a4 22.♗xe8 ♗xe8 23. ♗e1 ♗e5 24.♗e4 ♗g4 25.♗a1 ♗d4 26. ♗c1 b6 27.♗a3 c4 28.c3 ♗c5 29. ♗xa7 f5 30.♗c2 ♗f8 31.♗a1 f4 32. ♗e4 ♗xd5 33.gxf4 ♗xf4 34.♗a6 ♗f5 35.♗f6+ ♗xf6 36.♗xf5 ♗c5 37.♗c8+ ♗xc8 38.♗xc8 ♗f8 39.♗e6 ♗d3 40. ♗e2 ♗e5 41.g3 ♗f6 42.♗xc4 1-0

Modern Defense

NM Dan Scoones (2297)

FM Loren Schmidt (2430)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (2) 2004

1.♗f3 g6 2.c4 ♗g7 3.e4 e5 4.d4 d6 5.♗c3 ♗c6 6.d5 ♗ce7 7.♗e2 f5 8.exf5 gxf5 9.♗g5



9... ♗g6 10.h4 ♗h6 11.♗h5 ♗f6 12.♗b5 ♗d7 13.♗e6 ♗f4 14.♗bxc7 ♗xe6 15.♗xe6 f4 16.g4 ♗e7 17.g5 ♗f5 18.gxh6 ♗e4+ 19.♗d2 ♗xe6 20. dxe6 ♗d4+ 21.♗c2 ♗xc4+ 22.♗b1 ♗xh6 23.♗e1 ♗xe6 24.♗f3 ♗ad8 25.♗d5 ♗g6+ 26.♗e4 f3 27.♗xh6 ♗xh6 28.♗xf3 ♗hf8 29.♗e2 ♗f4 30.♗xf4 ♗xf4 31.♗h5 ♗f8 32.♗xh7+ ♗e8 33.a3 ♗d4 34.♗e6 ♗xf2 35.♗d7+ ♗f8 36.♗d8+ ♗g7 37.♗g8+ ♗h6 38.♗g5+ ♗h7 39.♗f5+ ♗h8 40.♗h6+ 1-0

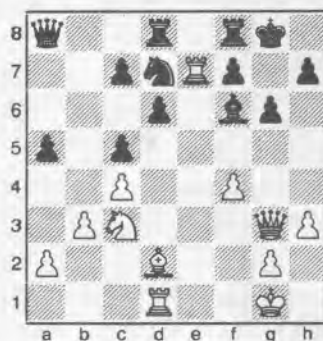
Modern Defense

FM William Schill (2264)

FM Fanhao Meng (2264)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (3) 2004

1.♗f3 g6 2.e4 ♗g7 3.d4 d6 4.♗c3 ♗g4 5.♗c4 ♗f6 6.h3 ♗xf3 7.♗xf3 ♗c6 8.♗b5 ♗d7 9.♗xc6 bxc6 10.♗e3 ♗b8 11.b3 e5 12.♗d1 ♗e7 13.O-O O-O 14.dxe5 ♗xe5 15.♗g3 a5 16.♗a4 ♗d7 17.♗fe1 c5 18.c4 ♗xe4 19.♗d2 ♗a8 20.♗e7 ♗bd8 21.♗c3 ♗e5 22.f4 ♗f6



23.♗d5 ♗xe7 24.♗xe7+ ♗g7 25. ♗c3+ f6 26.f5 ♗f7 27.♗d5 ♗e5 28. ♗f4 ♗e8 29.fxg6 hxg6 30.♗xe5 ♗xe5 31.♗xg6+ ♗f8 32.♗d5 ♗d8 33.♗f1 f5 34.g4 ♗h4 35.♗f4 ♗f6 36.gxf5 ♗exf5 37.♗xf5 ♗g3+ 38.♗g2 ♗xf5 39.♗xf5+ ♗g7 40.h4 ♗c3 41.♗h2 ♗c2 42.♗g5+ ♗f6 43.♗g3 a4 44.h5 a3 45.h6 ♗f7 46.♗g7+ ♗f8 47.♗xc7 ♗g8 48.h7+ ♗h8 49.♗g3 ♗xa2 50. ♗f4 ♗b1 51.♗g4 ♗xh7 52.♗xh7+ ♗xh7 53.♗d5 a2 1-0

French Exchange

NM Brian McLaren (2246)

NM Elliott Neff (2263)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (4) 2004

1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.♗d2 ♗f6 4.♗gf3 ♗c6 5.g3 ♗c5 6.♗g2 O-O 7.O-O a5 8.c3 dxe4 9.♗xe4 ♗xe4 10.dxe4 e5 11.♗c2 a4 12.♗d2 ♗f6 13.♗fe1 ♗g4 14.♗e3 ♗e7 15.h3 ♗e6 16.♗f1 f6 17.♗h2 ♗xe3 18.♗xe3 ♗a5 19.♗d2 ♗f7 20.♗ee1 ♗fa8 21.a3 ♗c5 22.♗d3 ♗a5 23.♗e3 ♗e7 24.♗ad1 b6 25.♗e2 ♗d8 26.♗f1 ♗b3 27. ♗xd8+ ♗xd8 28.♗f3 ♗c6 29.♗d1 ♗d6 30.♗xb3+ ♗xb3 31.♗g2 ♗f8 32.♗e3 ♗g8 33.♗e2 ♗c5 34.♗c4+ ♗f8 35.♗e2 c6 36.♗b4 ♗d2 37.♗xd2 ♗xd2 38.♗xb6 ♗d3 39.♗f5 ♗e1+ 40.♗f1 ♗d3+ 41.♗xe1 ♗xe4+ 42. ♗e3 1-0

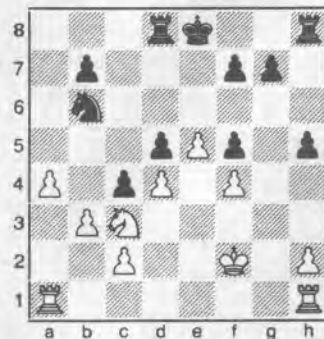
French Winawer

NM Nat Koons (2230)

NM Paul Brown (2246)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (5) 2004

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♗c3 ♗b4 4.e5 ♗e7 5.♗d2 c5 6.f4 ♗f5 7.♗b5 ♗xd2+ 8. ♗xd2 a6 9.g4 axb5 10.♗xb5+ ♗d7 11. ♗xd7+ ♗xd7 12.gxf5 ♗h4+ 13.♗f2 ♗xf2+ 14.♗xf2 exf5 15.♗e2 c4 16. ♗c3 ♗b6 17.a4 ♗d8 18.b3 h5



19.a5 ♗a8 20.♗hb1 cxb3 21.♗xb3 ♗h6 22.♗xb7 ♗c6 23.♗b5 ♗xc2+ 24.♗e3 ♗xh2 25.♗d6+ ♗f8 26. ♗xf7+ ♗g8 27.♗g1 1-0

Benko Gambit

Alfred Pechesker (2192)
FM David Bragg (2211)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (6) 2004

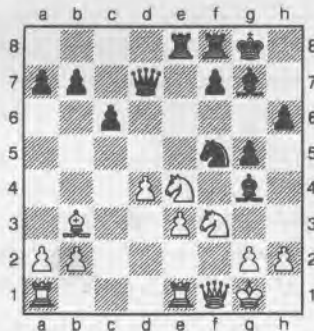
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6
5.bxa6 ♘xa6 6.♘c3 g6 7.e4 ♘xf1
8.♗xf1 d6 9.♘f3 ♘g7 10.g3 O-O
11.♗g2 ♖b6 12.♙e1 ♘a6 13.♙e2
♙fb8 14.h3 ♘c7 15.a4 ♖a5 16.♙a3
♙b4 17.b3 ♖b6 18.♘d2 ♘d7 19.♘a2
♙d4 20.♖c2 ♖a6 21.♘f3 ♙d3 22.
♘e1 c4 23.♘b4 ♙c3 24.♘xa6 ♙xc2
25.♙xc2 ♘xa6 26.♙xc4 ♘e5 27.♙c2
♘b4 28.♙c7 f5 29.f3 ♙xe4 30.♙xe4 ♘f6
31.♘f4 ♘a6 32.♙c2 ♘d7 33.♘d3 g5
34.♘e3 h6 35.b4 ♗f7 36.b5 ♘ab8
37.a5 e6 38.a6 exd5 39.exd5 ♘e5
40.♘xe5+ dxe5 41.a7 ♘d7 42.b6 1-0

Modern Defense

NM Bill McGeary (2219)
Joe Oszvald (2172)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (7) 2004

1.d4 g6 2.e4 ♘g7 3.c3 d6 4.♘f3 ♘d7
5.♘c4 e6 6.O-O ♘e7 7.♙e1 O-O 8.
♘g5 h6 9.♘f4 g5 10.♘e3 d5 11.exd5
exd5 12.♘b3 c6 13.c4 dxc4 14.♘xc4
♘b6 15.♘b3 ♘bd5 16.♘c3 ♘xe3
17.♙xe3 ♘g4 18.♖d3 ♖d7 19. ♖f1
♙ae8 20.♘e4 ♘f5



21.♘e5 ♙xe5 22.dxe5 ♘xe5 23.h3
♘h5 24.g4 ♘g6 25.♙ad1 ♖c8 26.
gxf5 ♘xf5 27.♘d6 ♘xd6 28.♙xd6
♘xh3 29.♖f3 ♘g4 30.♖g3 h5 31.
♖e5 ♖f5 32.♖xf5 ♘xf5 33.e4 ♘h7
34.♙d7 g4 35.e5 g3 36.e6 ♙xe6 37.
♙xe6 1-0

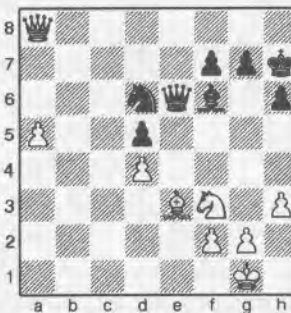
Sicilian Alapin

FM Nigel Fullbrook (2147)
Bobby Ferguson (2197)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (8) 2004

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.c3 d5 4.exd5
♖xd5 5.d4 ♘f6 6.♘e3 cxd4 7.cxd4 e6
8.♘c3 ♖d6 9.♘c4 ♘e7 10.O-O O-O
11.a3 ♙d8 12.♙c1 b6 13.♖e2 ♘b7

14.♙fd1 ♘a5 15.♘a6 ♘d5 16.b4
♘xa6 17.♖xa6 ♘c6 18.♘xd5 exd5
19.♙c3 ♘f6 20.♙dc1 ♘e7 21.♙c7 h6
22.♙xa7 ♙xa7 23.♖xa7 ♙c8 24.
♙xc8+ ♘xc8 25.♖a8 ♖e6 26.a4 ♗h7
27.a5 bxa5 28.bxa5 ♘d6 29.h3



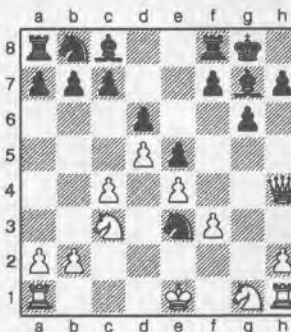
29...♘c4 30.♘f4 ♘xd4 31.♘xd4
♖e1+ 32.♗h2 ♖xf2 33.♘e2 ♖xe2
34.♖xd5 ♖f1 35.♖e4+ ♗h8 36.a6
♘b6 37.♘c7 ♖xa6 38.♖e8+ ♗h7
39.♖xf7 ♘c4 Draw

King's Indian Sämisch

Bruce Kovalsky (2166)
Jim Ferguson (2125)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (9) 2004

Annotations by Bruce Kovalsky
1.d4 d6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♘g7 4.e4 ♘f6
5.f3 O-O 6.♘e3 e5 7.d5 ♘h5 8.♖d2
♖h4+ 9.g3 ♘xg3 10.♖f2 ♘xf1 11.
♖xh4 ♘xe3



Black plays a book variation to sacrifice his Queen for two pieces and two pawns. Even though it appears White has the edge, Black's position is tough to penetrate and his extra pieces can get to good squares; caution required.

12.♖f2

12.♗e2 ♘xc4 13.♙c1 ♘a6 14.♘d1
♘b6 15.♘e3 ♘d7 16.♘h3 f6 is another
main line that leads White to a slight edge.
12...♘xc4 13.b3 ♘b6 14.♘ge2 ♘a6
15.O-O ♘d7 16.a4 ♙ae8 17.a5 ♘c8
18.♙ab1 ♘b4 19.♘c1 f5 20.♘1a2

Either 20.♘3a2 or 20.♖e2, preventing 20...♘d3, is better.

20...♘d3 21.♖c2 ♘f4 22.♗h1?

22.a6! ties up Black's queenside and gives White good chances to infiltrate there.

22...a6 23.♘b4

An interesting idea that leads Black to gain control of b5 and then d4.

23...♘a7 24.♘d3 ♘xd3 25.♖xd3
♘b5 26.♘xb5

I considered giving the exchange back with 26.♖e3 ♘xf1 27.♙xf1 ♘c8, but it's not enough to break through.

26...♘xb5 27.♙bc1 ♘h6 28.♙c4
♙e7 29.exf5?!

This leads to a blocked position that White cannot get through, unless Black takes chances. Perhaps best try is 30.♙b4 and taking the Knight on b5.

29...♙xf5 30.♙h4

Remainder of game involves lots of maneuvering without much progress.

30...♘g5 31.♙g4 ♙ef7 32.♗g2 ♘f4
33.♗h1 ♗g7 34.♙fg1 ♘d4 35.♙f1
♘h6 36.♗g2 ♘f4 37.♙f2 h5 38.♙h4
♗h6 39.♙h3 g5 40.b4 ♗g6 41.♖e4
♗h6 42.♙a2 ♙5f6 43.♖d3 ♙g6
44.♗h1 ♙gf6 45.♖d1 ♘b5 Draw

French Exchange

Laszlo Tegzes (2051)
Curt Collyer (2187)

Bellingham, WA vs. BC Match (10) 2004

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.♘d3
♘c6 5.♘f3 ♘d6 6.O-O ♘g4 7.♙e1+
♘ge7 8.c3 ♖d7 9.♘bd2 O-O 10.♘f1
h6 11.♘g3 f5 12.♖c2 f4 13.♘f1 ♘xf3
14.gxf3 ♘f5 15.♘xf5 ♙xf5 16.♖e2
♙f6 17.♘d2 ♘e7 18.c4 c6 19.c5 ♖h3
20.♖f1 ♖xf1+ 21.♗xf1 ♘f5 22.cxd6
♘xd4 23.d7 ♗f7 24.b3 ♙d6 25.♙e8
♙xe8 26.dxe8=♖+ ♗xe8 27.♘b2
♘e6 28.♙e1 ♗f7 29.b4 b6 30.♘b3 c5
31.bxc5 bxc5 32.♘a3 ♙a6 33.♘xc5
♘xc5 34.♘xc5 ♙xa2 35.♘d3 g5
36.♘b4 ♙a5 37.♘c6 ♙a6 38.♘b4
♙d6 39.♙a1 ♙d7 40.♘c6 ♗f6 41.
♙xa7 ♙d6 42.♙a6 h5 43.♘b4 ♙xa6
44.♘xa6 g4 45.♗e2 ♗g5 46.♘c7
♗h4 47.♘xd5 ♗g5 48.♘e7 ♗f6
49.♘c6 ♗g5 50.♘d4 ♗f6 51.♘d3
♗e5 52.♘c6+ ♗d5 53.♘e7+ ♗e5
54.♘g8 ♗f5 55.♘h6+ ♗g5 56.♘xg4
♗h4 57.♗e4 1-0

A Christmas Story, Part II

by Don Emigh

Peachcroft took his gift over to Lenny's on Christmas Eve. He climbed the four flights of ancient, creaking stairs and went down the dark hall. When Lenny opened the door, Peachcroft pushed the package at him and said, "Merry Christmas, Lenny!"

"Peachcroft! What are you doing here? I didn't think you were coming till tomorrow."

"Perhaps you are not aware, dear fellow, that gifts are to be exchanged on Christmas Eve, not Christmas Day. Merry Christmas," Peachcroft said again.

"I can't believe it! Peachcroft, you're the best friend a man could ever have. Come in! Oh, come in! I'm so glad to see you!"

They went into the room and Lenny put the package on the table by the window. Staring down at the package, Lenny ran his fingers over the wrapping paper and carefully touched the gold bow. "How did you do this, Peachcroft?" he asked. "This is wonderful! Beautiful!"

"I must admit that I was aided in the wrapping by the person at the store. I might add that she said that she was sure you would like the gift. Let us hope so."

"I'm going to like it," Lenny said. "I already like it. And don't think I didn't get something for you, too." He went over to the corner of the room, opened the refrigerator and took out a round fruitcake wrapped in cellophane. He carried it back

to the table and placed it beside Peachcroft's package. "Two gifts," he announced, "yours and mine. Yes, Peachcroft, I remembered that you said you liked fruitcake and they had stacks of them at the store today. Stacks! On sale! I got this for only \$1.79."

Peachcroft mumbled, "You aren't supposed to tell someone how much you paid for his gift."

Lenny ignored this remark — perhaps he didn't hear it — and continued, "I was going to give the fruitcake to you tomorrow, when you came over. I thought it would go real well with this other thing I bought." He went back to the corner where the refrigerator stood, reached up on a shelf, and took down an unopened can of coffee. "Fresh coffee, Peachcroft. I bought this today, too. I thought we could sit at that table tomorrow, right there, and drink coffee and eat some of your fruitcake. Who could ask for a better Christmas?"

"No one," Peachcroft replied. "But now that I know what my gift is, you have to open your gift, too. Open the package, Lenny. It's your turn."

One would think that a chubby, slightly unkempt person, one whose shirts were usually too tight, whose pudgy fingers were like small sausages — one would think that he might tear into a package from all directions, ripping and crumpling. This was not the case here, not at all. Lenny opened the package with the deliberate precision of a surgeon. The bow was adroitly removed from the box, and the two pieces of red and green wrapping paper were smoothed against the top of the table. "I can use this bow," he said, "and this paper is just what I need for my shelves."

Lenny said nothing as he stood looking at the revealed chess set and board. He stood for a long time, then he sat down. Finally, he exclaimed, "Look at this, would you!" He set the two bags of pieces side by side and picked up the folding board, opening it flat on the table. "You shouldn't have, Peachcroft! All this must have cost you a fortune. Where did you get the money, this late in the month?"

"I saved it over," Peachcroft explained. "It wasn't all that much. Besides, you needed a set of your own. My goal, as you may have guessed from our recent conversations, is to raise the level of your play to that of my own. There is no greater satisfaction than to watch one's own student, one's own protégé, become a Master and a Champion."

Lenny stood up. What say we get started tonight, Peachcroft? Why wait for tomorrow? Why wait for Christmas? Pull that other chair over and start setting things up. I'll fix the fruitcake and coffee. ■

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Northwest News

Reno, NV

The **Seattle Chess Club** finished second to the Mechanic's Institute CC of San Francisco by a score of 37.5 to 38 in the Club Championship at the **Western States Open**, held October 15-17. The Northwest OutKasts, a team formed by Kirk Steinocher, tied for fourth with 32.5 points. The team scores consisted of the sum of the best ten scores from the twelve-player (maximum) teams.

Tacoma, WA

The 82nd **Puget Sound Open** was held at the University Place Library on Oct. 23-24. There were 19 players in all. The winners were: 1st – **Mike MacGregor**, \$102.50, Group #1 – Bruce Gregg, \$61.50, Group #2 – Stephen Buck & Dan Gay, \$28.70 each, Group #3 – Alex Ostrow, \$53.30, and Economy – Jason Fetters, certificate. The sole upset occurred when Bill Rogers (1370) drew Ernst Rasmussen (1803). Gary Dorfner directed.

The **Tacoma Chess Club Championship** took place on Friday nights in Oct. There were 14 players in all. The winners were: 2004-5 Club Champion – **Paul Bartron**, plaque & a *Chess Vision 8000*, which was developed by a gentleman from Oregon, Club Jr. Champion – Jesse Mahaney, trophy, Class A Champion – Marvin Hayami, trophy, Class B – Ernst Rasmussen, trophy, Class C – David Wight, trophy, & Class D – Jerry Olson, trophy. Gary Dorfner directed.

Courtesy of Gary Dorfner

Missoula, MT

A total of twenty-two players entered the 2004 **Turkey Open** (11/6-7), including seven of our good friends from Idaho and Washington. While the total was eight short of the number required to pay the full prizes, there were enough to make seventy percent of the advertised amounts.

Three players tied for first with four points of the five possible, splitting the top three prizes: Robert Feldstein, esq. of Brooklyn, New York; **John Julian** of Spokane, and Missoula's own Greg Nowak. Each earned \$63.33. At the request of Feldstein (who has played in all 50 states and an additional 20 countries), I calculated the tiebreaks among the three to see who might be considered the "Turkey Open Champion." It was Feldstein himself.

There was a four-way tie, at three points, for the 1700-1899 prize. Haluk Beyenal of Bozeman, Romie Carpenter of Missoula, Bob Martin of Helena, and Phil Weyland of Idaho split the \$30. There was a three-way tie (again, three points each) for the 1500-1699 prize, with **Steve Brendemihl** and **Kevin Korsmo**, both of Spokane, sharing the \$25 with Henry Pallares of Great Falls. **Jerry Morton** of Spokane took home \$20 as the U1500 winner.

Kevin Korsmo won the upset prize of \$15 by knocking off Herman Chiu in the first round — a difference of 475 ratings points (look for Kevin's rating to soar!). Herman was victimized again in round three by Bob Martin, but the 466-point difference was not quite enough. Given his good tournament outcome, it might be hard to convince Bob of that. Ron Weyland's upset of Ron Erickson, 427 points, is worth mentioning.

David Griffin, despite being a Washingtonian, joined the MCA and generously donated a membership to the best finishing Washington player. John Julian, we hope you like the next year's issue of *MCA*! Speaking of generosity, several Spokane players donated their winnings back to UCCC. Thanks, Jerry, Kevin, and Steve!

The Turkey was at a new venue, Ruby's Inn and Convention Center on N. Reserve St., just off the Interstate. For those foresightful enough to reserve one of the rooms held until October 1, the rate for a double was a reasonable \$57. While the free breakfast is generally not available on weekends, the fact that the Griz played at home meant that this service was provided as a bonus for those staying there. A number of players thought the playing site was a good one.

I'll close with a TD's observation (and advice). In four of the five rounds at least one person had trouble with the delay clock — some not set with a delay and some with other problems. Remember, it is each player's responsibility to know how the clock works. If you use your opponent's clock, ask for a demonstration before you start your game. Better still, buy your own (it is hard to beat the Chronos).

Courtesy of Bill McBroom

Spokane, WA

The annual **Turkey Quads** ended on November 18 at the Spokane Chess Club. This annual club event had 14 players total with two quads and a mini swiss.

In the top quad, **Adam Attwood** (1528) and **Phil Weyland** (1728) tied for first with two points apiece. Attwood, the bottom seed, had at least a draw in every round including a first round win, over Weyland, a 200-point upset. Other scores: Kevin Korsmo (1698) finished with 1.5 and Daniel Copeland finished with 0.5.

The second quad saw perfection as **Chris Copeland** (1518) finished with a 3-0 score. Other scores were: David Griffin (1503) with 1.5, Pat Kirlin (1289) with 1.0, and Zach Countryman (1289) with 0.5.

The third group had six players; so it became a mini swiss. **Jim Burney** (1161) took first with a perfect 3.0. Ron Weyland (1286) and Jim Waugh (1267) tied for second with two points apiece. Other scores were Ted Baker (1177) with 1.0 and Matt Greer (1063) with 0.0.

The final night of the quads was also the 54th Birthday of the Spokane Chess Club. John Julian ran the event.

Courtesy of David Griffin

Spokane, WA

The **Gobbler** took place on November 20 at the Spokane Chess Club on the Gonzaga University campus. Nine players participated in the four-round G/15 event. The G/30 event was scaled back to three rounds, as only seven players entered.

Continued on page 14

Washington Chess Letter

December 1954

by **Russell (Rusty) Miller**

John DeWitt continues as Editor. R. R. Merk was the circulation head with Ken Mulford as Publisher. Contributors: John Nourse ("Nourse AdNauseam"), Fred Weaver ("From Chess Life"), Viktors Pupols ("Vox Pupoli"), Stephen Falk ("Chess Bits"), Dan Wade (feature writer), Ollie LaFreniere (feature writer).

Puget Sound League play results continue to come in.

U of W	5.5	Olympia	4.5
West Seattle	1.0	Seattle YMCA	9.0
Latvian	7.0	Seattle CC	3.0
Tacoma	9.0	McNeil Island	1.0
Seattle YMCA	6.0	Tacoma	4.0
U of W	6.0	Latvian	4.0
Olympia	5.0	Kitsap	5.0
Seattle CC	7.5	West Seattle	2.5

After five rounds, the U of W is the leading team. Elmars Zemgalis, top board for the Latvian Club, had won nine games and drawn one. Viktors Pupols (Latvian) was +6=3-1. Olaf Ulvestad (Seattle CC) was +6=2-2. Robert Edberg (Seattle CC) had +5=1-0. Alan Clark had the best score for the U of W with five wins and two draws. John DeWitt was doing well for Seattle YMCA with +6=2-2.

The *Chess Life* section reports the North Central Open of 72 players was won by Curt Brasket 6-1. Herman Steiner won the 10-player California Championship 7.5-1.5. The Missouri Open attracted only 20 players; R. Steinmeyer won 5-1. The Eastern States Open did a little better with 50 players; Arthur Bisguier was the winner at 6.5-0.5.

Plans are in the works for annual Puget Sound Open for Washington's Birthday weekend. Entry fee is \$10.00 which is higher than most events of this era.

Dan Wade wrote an article "Operation Black and Blue." He wants to organize a tournament in which players sign up to play either on Saturday or Sunday for two weekends in a row. The winners of the two events would then meet for the Seattle CC Championship. He hoped to get a larger turnout than usual with this set up.

Only 16 pages this issue. It was reported the O.W. Manney one of the mainstays of Washington Chess had moved to Alaska. Ted Warner had graduated from the U. of W. and was now working in Tri-Cities. ■

Games from the 1954 Washington Open

French

Alan Clark
Russell Vellias

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1.c4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.cxd5 exd5 4.e5 ♖c6 5.d4 ♙b4+ 6.♗c3 f6 7.♙b5 ♖e7 8.f4 ♙d7 9.♗f3 ♗xe5 10.♙xd7+ ♗xd7+ 11.♗f2 ♙xc3 12.bxc3 ♗d8 13.♙e1 ♖d6 14.a4 b6 15.♖e2 ♗e7 16.♙a3 c5 17.dxc5 ♗xc5 18.g3 ♙e8 19.♗d4 g6 20.♗b5 ♖c6 21.♙ad1 ♗c8 22.c4 ♗b7 23.♖xe7+ ♙xe7 24.♙xe7+ ♗d7 25.cxd5 ♖c2+ 26.♗e1 ♖xa4 27.♙xd7+ ♗a6 28.♗c7+ ♗a5 29.♗xa8 ♖xd7 30.♙a1 ♗a6 31.♗c7+ ♗b7

32.d6 ♖c6 33.♗d2 ♖g2+ 34.♗e3 f5 35.♙e1 ♖a2 36.♙c1 ♖b3+ 37.♗f2 ♖c2+ 38.♗g1 ♖c5+ 39.♙e3 ♖xd6 40.♗e8 ♖b4 41.♙e2 ♖e7 42.♗f2 ♖xe8 43.♙xb6 ♖xe2+ 44.♗xe2 axb6 0-1

QGD Ragozin

Dan Wade
Russell Vellias

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1.d4 d5 2.♗f3 ♗f6 3.c4 e6 4.♗c3 ♙b4 5.♗e5 O-O 6.a3 ♙xc3+ 7.bxc3 c5 8.e3 a6 9.♙d3 dxc4 10.♗xc4 ♗c6 11.a4 ♖c7 12.a5 e5 13.♗b6 ♙b8 14.♖a4 exd4 15.exd4 ♙e8+ 16.♙e3 cxd4 17.cxd4 ♗g4 18.♗d2 ♗xf2 19.♙hf1 ♗xd3 20.♗xd3 ♖e7 21.♙ae1 ♙f5+ 22.♗c3 ♖e4 23.♖d1 ♗xa5

24.d5 ♙bc8+ 25.♗xc8 ♙xc8+ 26.♗b2 ♙c2+ 27.♗a3 ♗c4+ 28.♗b3 ♙b2+ 29.♗c3 ♙c2+ 30.♗b3 ♗a5+ 31.♗a3 ♙c3+ 32.♗a2 ♖c4+ 33.♗a1 ♙a3+ 34.♗b2 ♖c3 mate

Ruy Lopez

Max Bader
Ted Warner

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

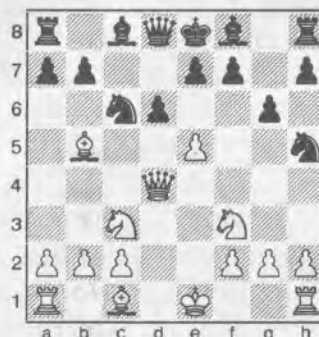
1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♙b5 a6 4.♙a4 ♗f6 5.O-O b5 6.♙b3 ♙e7 7.c3 O-O 8.d4 exd4 9.e5 ♗e8 10.cxd4 d6 11.♙d5 ♙b7 12.♙e1 dxe5 13.dxe5 ♗a5 14.♙xb7 ♗xb7 15.♗c3 c5 16.♗d5 ♗c7 17.♗xe7+ ♖xe7 18.♙g5 ♖e6 19.♖e2 h6 20.♙h4 ♗d5 21.♖e4 ♙ab8 22.♙ad1 ♗e7 23.b4 ♗g6 24.♙g3 ♙fc8 25.bxc5 ♗xc5 26.♖d5 ♖xd5 27.♙xd5 ♗e6 28.♙d6 a5 29.♗d4 ♗xd4 30.♙xd4 ♙d8 31.♙d6 ♗f8 32.♙ed1 ♗e6 33.♙xd8+ ♙xd8 34.♙xd8+ ♗xd8 35.f4 b4 36.♙e1 ♗e6 37.g3 ♗c5 38.♗f1 ♗f8 39.♗e2 ♗e7 40.♗d1 ♗e6 41.♗c2 ♗d5 42.♙f2 ♗e4 43.♙b6 a4 44.♙a5 ♗c4 45.f5 ♗c5 46.♙c7 ♗d5 47.♙d6 b3+ 48.axb3 axb3+ 49.♗b1 ♗d7 50.♗b2 h5 51.♗xb3 ♗xe5 52.♙f8 ♗f3 53.♙xg7 ♗xh2 54.♙c3 ♗f1 55.♙e1 ♗e5 56.f6 ♗xf6 57.♗c4 ♗f5 58.♗d3 ♗g4 59.♗e2 ♗xg3+ 60.♗f2 f5 61.♗g2 h4 62.♙a5 f4 63.♙b6 f3+ 64.♗h2 ♗e4 65.♙a7 f2 0-1

Sicilian

Robert Edberg
Ted Warner

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.♗c3 g6 4.d4 cxd4 5.♖xd4 ♗f6 6.e5 ♗c6 7.♙b5 ♗h5



8.exd6 ♙g7 9.♖c4 ♖xd6 10.♗e4 ♖e6 11.♖xe6 ♙xe6 12.O-O O-O 13.♗c5 ♙d5 14.c3 b6 15.♗a6 ♙ac8 16.♙e3 ♗a5 17.♗d2 e5 18.♗b4 ♙e6 19.

♖e4 f5 20. ♗g5 ♙c4 21. ♙xc4+ ♗xc4
 22. ♗d5 ♙fe8 23. b3 ♗d6 24. ♙ac1 h6
 25. ♗f3 f4 26. ♙d2 g5 27. c4 ♗f6 28.
 ♙b4 ♗f5 29. ♙fd1 e4 30. ♗e1 ♗xd5
 31. ♙xd5 ♗d4 32. ♙d1 ♙cd8 33. ♗f1
 e3 34. ♙1xd4 ♙xd4 35. ♗c2 ♙xd5
 36. cxd5 ♙c5 37. ♙xe3 ♙xb4 38. ♗xb4
 ♙xe3 39. d6 ♙e6 40. ♗c6 ♙xd6 41.
 ♗xa7 ♙d1+ 42. ♗e2 ♙a1 43. a4 ♙a3
 44. g3 ♙xb3 0-1

Sicilian Dragon

Russell Vellias
Ted Warner

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1. e4 c5 2. ♗f3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. ♗xd4
 ♗f6 5. ♗c3 g6 6. f4 ♗c6 7. ♗xc6 bxc6
 8. e5 ♙g4 9. ♙e2 ♙xe2 10. ♙xe2 dxe5
 11. ♙xe5 ♗d5 12. ♗xd5 cxd5 13. ♙b5+
 ♙d7 14. ♙xd7+ ♗xd7 15. O-O ♙g7
 16. ♙xf7 ♙xe5 17. ♙g5 ♙xb2 18.
 ♙xe7+ ♗d6 19. ♙ae1 a5 20. ♙1e6+
 ♗c5 21. ♙c7+ ♗b4 22. ♙e7+ ♗a4



23. c4 d4 24. ♙b7 ♙hb8 25. ♙eb6
 ♙xb7 26. ♙xb7 ♙a3 27. ♙xa3 ♗xa3
 28. ♗f2 ♙c8 29. ♗e2 ♙xc4 30. ♗d3
 ♙b4 31. ♙xh7 ♗xa2 32. h4 a4 33. h5
 gxh5 34. ♙xh5 a3 35. g4 ♗b3 36. ♙c5
 a2 37. ♙c1 ♗b2 38. ♙c2+ ♗b1 0-1

OGD Slav

Ted Warner
Alan Clark

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1. d4 d5 2. c4 c6 3. ♗c3 dxc4 4. e4 b5
 5. a4 ♙d7 6. ♗f3 e6 7. ♙e2 ♙b4 8.
 O-O ♙xc3 9. bxc3 ♗f6 10. ♙c2 h6 11.
 ♗e5 O-O 12. g4 ♗h7 13. f4 f6 14. ♗g6
 ♙f7 15. ♙e3 ♗f8 16. ♗h4 ♙e8 17.
 ♗f3 ♗h7 18. h4 ♗d7 19. ♗g2 g6 20. g5
 hxg5 21. hxg5 f5 22. ♙fd1 ♙e7 23.
 ♙c1 ♙c7 24. ♙a3 ♙f7 25. e5 ♗b6
 26. ♙d6 ♙b7 27. ♗h4 ♙g7 28. ♙f3
 ♗d5 29. ♙xd5 cxd5 30. ♙db1 a6
 31. ♙a3 ♗f8 32. ♗g3 ♙c6 33. ♙a2

♗d7 34. a5 ♗b8 35. ♙h1 ♙e8 36. ♙h3
 ♗c6 37. ♙b2 ♙d7 38. ♗xg6 ♙xg6
 39. ♙h2 ♗e7 40. ♙xe7 ♙e8 41. ♙f6
 ♙d7 42. ♙h8+ 1-0

Queen Pawn

William Gillette
Russell Vellias

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1. d4 d5 2. a3 c5 3. dxc5 e6 4. b4 a5
 5. ♙b2 axb4 6. axb4 ♙xa1 7. ♙xa1 b6
 8. ♙d4 ♗c6 9. ♙c3 ♗f6 10. b5 ♗e4
 11. ♙b2 ♗a5 12. c6 ♗c4 13. ♙b3 ♙c5
 14. e3 ♗a5 15. ♙a2 d4 16. ♙d3 ♙b4+
 17. ♗e2 ♗c3+ 18. ♗xc3 ♙xc3 19.
 ♙xc3 dxc3 20. ♙a3 ♙d5 21. ♗f3 ♗d8
 22. ♙d1 ♗c7 23. ♙e7+ ♗b8 24. c7+
 ♗a7 25. ♙xf7 ♙b7 26. ♙xg7 ♙c8 27.
 ♙xc3 ♙h5 28. ♙a1 1-0

Stonewall Attack

Harry Hall
Max Bader

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1. d4 e6 2. e3 d5 3. ♙d3 ♗f6 4. ♗d2 c5
 5. c3 ♗bd7 6. f4 ♙d6 7. ♗gf3 O-O 8. O-O
 b6 9. ♗e5 ♙b7 10. g4 ♗e4 11. ♙f3
 f6 12. ♗xd7 ♗xd2 13. ♙xd2 ♙xd7
 14. ♙h3 f5 15. g5 g6 16. ♙f3 ♙ac8
 17. ♙h6 ♙g7 18. ♙h3 ♗f7 19. ♙g2
 ♙h8 20. h4 h6 21. ♗f2 ♙h7 22. ♙h1
 ♙ch8 23. ♙fh3 ♙e7 24. b3 ♙a8 25.
 ♙g1 hxg5 26. ffg5 e5 27. ♙e2 cxd4 28.
 cxd4 exd4 29. exd4 ♙xd4+ 30. ♙e3
 ♙e5 31. ♙d1 ♙c5 32. ♙xc5 bxc5 33.
 ♙c2 ♙d4+ 34. ♗e1 ♙xh4 35. ♙xh4
 ♙xh4 36. ♙xh4 ♙xh4+ 37. ♗f1 ♙h3+
 38. ♗e1 ♙e3 39. ♙d2 ♙xd2+ 40. ♗xd2
 d4 41. ♙c4+ ♗e7 42. ♗e2 ♙e4 43.
 ♗f2 f4 0-1

Queen's Gambit Accepted

Max Bader
Russell Vellias

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1. d4 d5 2. c4 dxc4 3. ♗c3 e5 4. dxe5
 ♙xd1+ 5. ♗xd1 ♗c6 6. ♙f4 ♙e6 7. e3
 O-O-O+ 8. ♗c1 h6 9. a3 g5 10. ♙g3
 ♗a5 11. ♗c2 ♗e7 12. e4 ♗ec6 13.
 ♗ge2 ♙g7 14. f4 gxf4 15. ♙xf4 ♙xe5
 16. ♙xe5 ♗xe5 17. ♗g3 ♗g4 18. ♙e1
 ♙he8 19. h3 ♗f2 20. ♙g1 f5 21. ♙e2
 ♗xe4 22. ♗cxe4 ♙xe4 23. ♙xe4 ♙f5
 24. ♗xf5 ♙xe4 25. g4 ♙h8 26. ♙g3
 ♗c6 27. b3 cxb3+ 28. ♗xb3 ♗d4+
 29. ♗xd4 ♙xd4 30. ♙c4 c6 31. ♙e6+

♗c7 32. h4 ♙hd8 33. ♗c3 ♙f4 34. g5
 ♙d6 35. ♙b3 hxg5 36. hxg5 ♙g6
 37. ♙c2 ♙g7 38. g6 ♗d6 39. ♙e3 ♙g4
 40. ♙e8 ♙4xg6 41. ♙xg6 ♙xg6 42.
 ♙b8 ♗c7 43. ♙h8 ♗b6 44. ♙h5
 ♙g3+ 45. ♗b2 c5 46. ♙h6+ ♗a5 47.
 ♙h7 ♗a6 48. ♙h4 ♙g5 49. ♙a4+
 ♗b6 50. ♙h4 ♙d5 51. ♙h6+ ♗a5
 52. ♙h7 ♗a6 53. ♙h4 ♙d4 54. ♙h5 b6
 55. ♙h7 ♙a4 56. ♗b3 ♗b5 57. ♙h5
 ♙d4 58. ♙g5 ♙d3+ 59. ♗b2 ♗a4
 60. ♙g4+ ♙d4 61. ♙g7 a5 62. ♙g6 b5
 63. ♙g2 c4 64. ♙g3 ♙d3 65. ♙g5
 ♙b3+ 0-1

Ruy Lopez Chigorin

James McCormick
R. Greenwood

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1. e4 e5 2. ♗f3 ♗c6 3. ♙b5 a6 4. ♙a4
 ♗f6 5. O-O b5 6. ♙b3 ♙e7 7. ♙e1 O-O
 8. c3 d6 9. h3 ♗a5 10. ♙c2 c5 11. d4
 exd4 12. cxd4 ♙e8 13. ♙g5 ♙b6 14.
 ♗c3 ♙b7 15. e5 dxe5 16. dxe5 ♙ad8
 17. ♙e2 ♗d5 18. ♙xe7 ♙xe7 19. ♗h4
 ♗c4 20. ♗f5 ♙xe5 21. ♙g4 ♙f6 22.
 ♗xd5 ♙xd5 23. ♙g3 ♙xf5 24. ♙xf5
 ♙xf5 25. b3 ♗a3 26. ♙e5 ♙f6 27. ♙d1
 ♙e6 28. ♙xd8+ ♙xd8 29. ♙xc5 h6
 30. ♙c6 a5 31. ♗h2 ♙d2 32. ♙a6
 ♙xa2 33. ♙a8+ ♗h7 34. ♙d3+ g6 35.
 ♙d4 g5 36. ♙f6 1-0

Queen Pawn

Dan Wade
William Bills

Seattle, Washington Open 1954

1. d4 ♗f6 2. ♗f3 e6 3. g3 d5 4. ♙g2 c5
 5. e3 ♗c6 6. O-O ♙d6 7. ♗bd2 O-O
 8. ♙e1 ♙b8 9. c3 b5 10. dxc5 ♙xc5
 11. ♗d4 ♙d7 12. ♗xc6 ♙xc6 13. c4
 bxc4 14. ♗xc4 dxc4 15. ♙xc6 ♙b4 16.
 ♙f1 ♙b6 17. ♙f3 ♙fd8 18. ♙c2 ♙bc8
 19. a3 ♙a5 20. ♙d1 ♙b3 21. ♙xb3
 cxb3 22. ♙xd8+ ♙xd8 23. e4 ♙d2
 24. e5 ♗e8 25. ♙xd2 ♙xd2 26. ♙d1
 ♙xd1+ 27. ♙xd1 ♗f8 28. f4 ♗e7 29.
 ♙xb3 ♗c7 30. ♗f2 h5 31. ♗e3 g6 32.
 ♙c4 ♗d7 33. b4 ♗c6 34. a4 ♗b6 35.
 ♗d4 ♗c6 36. h3 ♗b6 37. g4 hxg4 38.
 hxg4 ♗c6 39. f5 gxf5 40. gxf5 ♗d7 41.
 ♙xe6+ ♙xe6 42. b5 ♗e8 43. a5 ♗g7 44.
 ♗c5 ♗c7 45. a6 ♗b8 46. ♗d6 1-0

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Beating the Offbeat

by NM Tom Rowan

[This is the latest in a series of articles on improving your chess by NM Tom Rowan. Earlier articles in this series are available for viewing at Tom's chess website, <http://www.tomrowan.com>. Send your questions, comments, and suggestions for future articles to Tom at chess@tomrowan.com.]

Good opening preparation is necessary for good chess, but doesn't it sometimes seem like you get punished for your hard work? You study the ideas, the variations, and the latest games. You're psyched, ready to crush your opponent with your powerful arsenal. And then your opponent plays something offbeat on move two. You're out of book. All your opening preparation is out the window. Your opponent looks annoyingly happy. He's still in his book, and he's got you rattled.

I have a couple of suggestions for coping with this problem, but let's look first at some common "solutions" that don't quite work.

Your first idea for coping with offbeat openings might be to try to study all those offbeat openings that you're afraid you'll run into. Maybe you'll get some ideas about how to deal with offbeat openings generally, but don't expect to be able to get prepared for everything you might face. The number of offbeat openings is virtually limitless; so clearly this approach is impractical. Also, how much time can you afford to spend studying an opening that you might see, at most, once in your lifetime? There's just not much improvement bang for your study buck with this approach.

For another possible approach, consider Shereshevsky's advice for dealing with openings "that cannot even aspire for the mark of quality." In his excellent book, *The Soviet Chess Conveyor*, Shereshevsky recommends players not try to battle slightly offbeat openings with the responses recommended by theory. Instead, he recommends preparing a "counter-surprise." prepare a playable, but unusual, response to the unusual opening. The idea is that a player plays an offbeat opening primarily for its surprise value, not to try to get an opening advantage. By answering his unusual opening with something slightly unusual of your own, you've robbed him of the only trump he has — surprise. Shereshevsky's recommended responses to the Budapest Gambit, the Chigorin Defense, and the Albin Countergambit are good, solid, sensible moves. I think the recommendations would work well, and I think this is a good approach, as far as it goes.

Unfortunately, Shereshevsky's approach has a limitation I've already mentioned. It's impractical to have something prepared for every offbeat opening you might have to face.

Another common approach can be illustrated using the Sicilian Defense as an example. The Sicilian is the most popular chess opening for good reason. It's sound and aggressive, offer-

ing Black excellent chances, not only to equalize, but also to play for a win. It's no surprise, therefore, that many players study the Najdorf, the Sveshnikov, or the Dragon and anxiously await the chance to bash White. Only White doesn't let that happen. After 1.e4 c5, he plays 2.c3 or 2.♘c3 or 2.f4 or 2.b3 or something else besides the main lines. Black gets so frustrated having to worry about all these sidelines and not getting a chance at his specialty, that he dumps the Sicilian from his repertoire.

I think this is a gross over-reaction. If you like the Open Sicilian, don't throw the baby out with the bath water. The vast majority of strong players agree that 1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 (2...e6, 2...♘c6) 3.d4 is the strongest way for White to combat the Sicilian. If he plays something else on move two or move three, he's either afraid of theory or of the variation you might play against him. Try not to get frustrated. After all, your opponent is playing second or third best moves against you. Logically, that should be a plus for you.

My first recommendation for fighting offbeat openings has its origin many years ago, when a friend of mine was fretting over what to play against 1.b4. In an upcoming round, he was likely going to have to face a 1.b4 specialist who was scoring well with it. The more my friend looked at the book lines against it, the less he liked it from the black side.

I suggested he play the King's Indian, based on the following reasoning. The King's Indian is a respectable opening against the more common closed openings. It seems like it has to be at least as good against 1.b4, which may turn out to be only marginally useful against a King's Indian setup. Besides that, why should you care what books recommend you play against 1.b4? Once you find a response that is good and that you have confidence in, you're in good shape. I don't remember if my friend had to face 1.b4 that day, but at least he was no longer psyched out about facing an offbeat opening.

What are the characteristics of the King's Indian that make it a good antidote to many offbeat setups? It's sharp and aggressive, and pieces get developed fairly quickly, but I think that a subtle, often overlooked, characteristic is that the opening moves of the King's Indian are not just reactions to what White plays. If White wastes time or starts playing offbeat moves, Black can keep playing normal King's Indian moves and usually get a better position than if White had followed the main lines.

The Tarrasch Defense to the Queen's Gambit is another opening that is similarly versatile. Black gets to develop his pawns and pieces classically and effectively against virtually any closed setup by White.

Now consider an opening that is more reactive than the King's Indian and the Tarrasch Defense, e.g., the Hedgehog versus the English Opening. Just as in the King's Indian and

the Tarrasch, piece placement and the opening moves follow a pattern that's typical of the Hedgehog opening. However, the Hedgehog's characteristic pawn structure occurs only after d4 cxd4 . As long as White refrains from playing d2-d4 , there is no Hedgehog. The opening requires that Black react in fundamentally different ways depending on whether White breaks with d2-d4 .

Try the following test in each opening in your repertoire. At each move, ask yourself: If I had one or more free moves here, what would I do? If your answer is, "I don't know," then that opening or the way you play it is too reactive. It's also a warning sign that your opening play is relying too much on your opponent following book.

RECOMMENDATION #1: Choose and study your repertoire openings so you have a good idea what to play if you have one or more free moves. If you know how to improve your position if given a free move, you're in good shape to improve your position if your opponent plays an offbeat move.

For my next recommendation I'm going to ask you to do a little soul searching. Answer the following question as honestly as you can.

"Why do offbeat openings annoy me so much?"

Logically, they shouldn't bother you. Offbeat openings usually include second or third best moves. That should be good for you.

Strong players aren't bothered much by offbeat openings. Pick your favorite offbeat opening and check your database for what GMs play against it. When I do that, I don't see the GMs following an antidote recommended in a book. Instead, I see them apparently improvising over the board, finding a variety of ways to beat that opening. They don't appear to have prepared anything special. Instead, they seem to be saying, "Good! I get to play against a move that isn't the strongest."

When I get annoyed at having to face an offbeat opening, it's usually because I'm lazy. It's so easy to toss out a few

more book moves without thinking. If my opponent plays something offbeat, I have to start thinking NOW!

Clearly that's the wrong mind set. The sooner you start thinking, the more likely you'll win that game. If your opponent is throwing out offbeat moves, you're being given an extra opportunity to get a good position.

RECOMMENDATION #2: Adopt the mind set that you'll start thinking at move one and that facing the offbeat is an opportunity, not an annoyance.

Many of you are probably thinking, "If facing offbeat openings is so tricky, maybe I should start playing offbeat openings myself."

True, you can pose your opponents challenges with offbeat openings, but I think you're hurting yourself more than them. Repertoires based on surprise quickly give diminishing returns. You'll either have to keep jumping from one offbeat opening to another to keep the surprises coming, or you'll have to bite the bullet and start building a respectable repertoire you can play long term.

Playing more traditional openings lets you can stand on the shoulders of giants. You're playing proven openings played by the best players. You don't need to rely on following the latest opening theory. Since you're going to be playing the opening for awhile, you'll have time to learn the underlying ideas of the opening, which will help you navigate even if something new gets thrown at you. You'll be able to devote more time to other aspects of your game, such as tactics or endings. That's a lot better than constantly having to learn new offbeat openings from scratch.

If you have the right mind set, you needn't be worried about facing offbeat openings, and you shouldn't be considering playing them. The correct mind set is to try to play the best moves yourself, and to look forward to those opportunities when your opponent doesn't play the best moves. ■

WCF Board Meeting 10/28/04

Present: Pres. Kent McNall (by phone), VP Duane Polich, Sec. Gary Dorfner, Treas. Robert Allen, TC Carol Kleist, NWC Rep. Kevin Korsmo (by phone), and NWC BM Eric Holcomb. The meeting was called to order at 7:30. The minutes were read & approved.

Old Business:

Discussed the ethics violation problem. No further action will be taken by USCF or WCF. The USCF Ethics Committee said that Rudy Vrana committed a serious violation on the Code of Ethics. He was given a 1-yr. probation. The committee also ruled that Kirk Steinocher, Elston Cloy & David Griffin did not commit any violations of the Ethics code.

Discussed the Planning Meeting held last Aug. WCF still needs to write up a mission statement. The board will put it together

as a business plan which will show where the WCF is going to go in the next few years & then do a 5-yr. projection. The top goals on the list are scholastic membership, increasing the size of the WCF-sponsored tournaments, the number of tournaments held & the tournament prize funds.

Discussed the 2005 WA Open. It will be held at the Lynnwood Convention Center. It may be held in Spokane in 2006 or 2007. Gary opposed holding it there, as it would not get as big a turnout.

The WCF will sponsor the following tournaments in 2005 in the Spokane area: the Lilac Open, to be held on June 18-19, & the Columbia Cup Open, to be held on July 23-24 in Richland.

Dave Hendricks has indicated that he is interested in filling the vacant office of WCF Scholastic Director. A discussion followed. Kent will talk to him about it & the board will keep looking for a qualified person.

Minutes from the Retreat Meeting were read & approved.

Sub Committees:

WA Open. Chair: Kent McNall, Members: Gary, Carol, Duane, Robert

WA Chess League. Chair: Gary Dorfner
Committee to apportion state to find Regional TD's. Chair: Kevin Korsmo, Advisory Board: Kent

WA Jr. Closed. Chairman: Gary Dorfner, Members: Carol

Polgar & Denker Tournaments. Chair: Robert Allen, Members: Gary & Carol

Web Site. Chair: Kent McNall, Members: Duane & Eric

Committee reports:

2005 WA Open. Carol presented a proposed format. Kent is underwriting the tournament. Cutoff for advance entries May 20th. A laptop computer will be the main prize in

Continued on page 18

USCF Crosstables

(qqqq) indicates Quick Rating

Qualchan Quads	8/28	Spokane	TD: David Griffin
1 Julian, John	1882	1933	- W W W 3.0
2 Drake, Christopher	1981	1966	L - D D 1.0
3 Herbers, Patrick	1960	1947	L D - D 1.0
4 Steinocher, Kirk	1863	1860	L D D - 1.0
1 Anderson, Mark	ID 1725	1747	- D W W 2.5
2 Weyland, Phillip	ID 1707	1735	D - W W 2.5
3 Eacker, David	ID 1769	1747	L L - W 1.0
4 Griffin, David	1564	1539	L L L - 0.0
1 Attwood, Adam	1526	1542	W5 W2 W3 3.0
2 Greer, Matthew	1002	1124	W6 L1 W4 2.0
3 Kirlin, Patrick	1371	1360	D4 W6 L1 1.5
4 Baker, Ted	1084	1111	D3 W5 L2 1.5
5 Countryman, Zachary	1144	1143	L1 L4 W6 1.0
6 Waugh, James	1325	1247	L2 L3 L5 0.0

PCC August Game-in-60	8/28	TD: Korneljs Dale
1 Salisbury, Blake	1858(1539) 1874(1628)	W7 W15 W8 W11 4.0
2 Raptis, Nick	2316(2170) 2313(2166)	W19 W6 W16 D3 3.5
3 Lin, Benjamin	2147(1938) 2152(1948)	W18 W14 W17 D2 3.5
4 Knutson, Keegan WA	1778(1624) 1769(1612)	W21 L16 W26 W12 3.0
5 Yoshinaga, David	1700(1721) 1700(1705)	W22 L8 W19 W16 3.0
6 Holler, Robert	1615(1542) 1633(1553)	W34 L2 W21 W17 3.0
7 Arun, Aditya	1579(1517) 1621(1562)	L1 W34 W14 W13 3.0
8 Encke, Michael	1174(1186) 1495(1396)	W13 W5 L1 W15 3.0
9 Jones, Mark WA	672(705) 901(929)	B W10 L11 W23 3.0
10 Banner, Richard	1807(1722) 1800(1689)	D25 L9 W24 W26 2.5
11 Rosenbaum, David	1667(1631) 1660(1609)	W27 D12 W9 L1 2.5
12 Serres, Drew	1619(1375) 1620(1395)	W31 D11 W25 L4 2.5
13 Jacobi, Gunther	1656(1716) 1624(1676)	L8 W28 W22 L7 2.0
14 Dillingham, Gregg WA	1652(1637) 1637(1603)	W28 L3 L7 W25 2.0
15 May, Todd WA	1600(1411) 1581(1401)	W30 L1 W20 L8 2.0
16 Robinson, Marcus	1571(1433) 1585(1455)	W32 W4 L2 L5 2.0
17 Chen, Howard WA	1543(1237) 1554(1277)	W29 W23 L3 L6 2.0
18 Zimmer, Craig	1501(1527) 1523(1514)	L3 W29 D23 H 2.0
19 Becker, Brett	1485(1235) 1484(1252)	L2 W27 L5 W28 2.0
20 Hedlund, Kirk	1323(1382) 1324(1353)	L23 W31 L15 W27 2.0
21 Porter, Nathan	1318(1231) 1321(1236)	L4 W30 L6 W29 2.0
22 Wang, Eddie	1174(963) 1184(1009)	L5 W32 L13 W31 2.0
23 May, Andy WA	1746(1461) 1698(1418)	W20 L17 D18 L9 1.5
24 Goodspeed, Timothy	1526(1420) 1496(1400)	D26 L25 L10 W33 1.5
25 Coussens, Nathaniel	1406(1282) 1428(1308)	D10 W24 L12 L14 1.5
26 Porter, Joel	999(789) 1106(919)	D24 W33 L4 L10 1.5
27 Fernandez, Matthew	1126(998) 1145(1025)	L11 L19 W33 L20 1.0
28 Buckley, Timothy WA	1087(1022) 1094(1030)	L14 L13 W30 L19 1.0
29 Hsu, Brendan	1001(919) 1013(930)	L17 L18 W32 L21 1.0
30 Quinn, Brian	992(1018) 965(977)	L15 L21 L28 B 1.0
31 Riedi, Andrew	724(753) 790(793)	L12 L20 W34 L22 1.0
32 Kudva, Sudhakar	0(954) 954(906)	L16 L22 L29 W34 1.0
33 Kudva, Vikram	1464(1345) 1386(1257)	H L26 L27 L24 0.5
34 Schon, Levi	1131(1056) 1056(980)	L6 L7 L31 L32 0.0

Pierce County Open	8/28-29	TD: Gary Dorfner
1 MacGregor, Michael	2169 2177	W18 W6 W8 H W4 4.5
2 Ferguson, Bobby	2197 2192	W7 W9 H D3 W10 4.0
3 Walther, Randy	1811 1825	W13 W10 H D2 D5 3.5
4 Rompogren, Michael	1788 1800	W14 W15 H W9 L1 3.5
5 Binz, Kevin	1663 1712	W16 W8 H H D3 3.5
6 June, Peter	1693 1692	W17 L1 H D11 W13 3.0
7 Hsieh, Alan	1446 1462	L2 W12 H D14 W15 3.0
8 Bartron, Paul	2057 2031	W11 L5 L1 D12 W14 2.5
9 Buck, Stephen	1735 1723	W12 L2 W13 L4 D11 2.5
10 Woodlief, Eric	1580 1571	W19 L3 D14 W15 L2 2.5
11 Jusak, Jeremy	1497 1520	L8 W17 H D6 D9 2.5
12 Alhajri, Andrew	1287 1296	L9 L7 B D8 W19 2.5
13 Fetters, Jason	1483 1473	L3 W19 L9 W16 L6 2.0
14 Putnam, Josh	1467 1475	L4 W16 D10 D7 L8 2.0
15 Fico, Nathaniel	1048 1122	B L4 W18 L10 L7 2.0
16 Wright, Dennis	0 1253	L5 L14 W19 L13 W17 2.0
17 Lee, Nathan	1222 1199	L6 L11 H W19 L16 1.5
18 Bemis, Gary	1480 1447	L1 H L15 U U 0.5
19 Bryant, Charles	0 806	L10 L13 L16 L17 L12 0.0

Fox Suisse	9/2	Spokane	TD: Christopher Drake
1 Drake, Christopher	(1901)	(1911)	W11 W5 W3 D2 3.5

2 Steinocher, Kirk	(1867)	(1875)	W8 D6 W10 D1 3.0
3 Julian, John	(1776)	(1775)	W9 W7 L1 W11 3.0
4 Korsmo, Kevin	(1529)	(1536)	W12 L10 W11 W13 3.0
5 Attwood, Adam	(1813)	(1622)	W14 L1 W6 D7 2.5
6 Weyland, Phillip	ID (1595)	(1620)	W13 D2 L5 W10 2.5
7 Griffin, David	(1504)	(1545)	W10 L3 W13 D5 2.5
8 Waugh, James	(1236)	(1218)	L2 L13 W9 W12 2.0
9 Baker, Ted	(1117)	(1126)	L3 W12 L8 W14 2.0
10 Herbers, Patrick	(1958)	(1915)	L7 W4 L2 L6 1.0
11 Johnson, Vern	(1362)	(1351)	L1 W14 L4 L3 1.0
12 Greer, Matthew	(893)	(908)	L4 L9 W14 L8 1.0
13 Edwards, Blanche	(820)	(892)	L6 W8 L7 L4 1.0
14 Christiansen, Peter	(1066)	(1005)	L5 L11 L12 L9 0.0

Oregon Open	9/4-6	Eugene	TD: Korneljs Dale
Open			
1 Zaikov, Oleg	2325	2334	W11 W32 W7 W2 W8 D3 5.5
2 Phillips, Blake	1923	2006	W20 W21 W5 L1 W14 W8 5.0
3 Martin, Roger	2194	2205	W27 D4 W24 D5 W12 D1 4.5
4 Raptis, Nick	2313	2305	W28 D3 L14 W24 W15 D7 4.0
5 Koons, Nat WA	2236	2229	W33 W23 L2 D3 W11 H 4.0
6 Pupols, Viktors WA	2212	2200	L12 L24 W27 W32 W22 W10 4.0
7 Prochaska, Peter	2200	2200	W17 W16 L1 D13 W21 D4 4.0
8 Salisbury, Blake	1874	1949	W35 W10 W31 W14 L1 L2 4.0
9 Hosford, Michael WA	1738	1815	W30 H D13 L12 W29 W16 4.0
10 Haessler, Carl	2200	2200	D18 L8 W34 W20 W23 L6 3.5
11 Wyde, David WA	1934	1952	L1 W19 W22 D21 L5 W23 3.5
12 Brownell, Landon	1927	1946	W6 L14 W26 W9 L3 D13 3.5
13 Knutson, Keegan WA	1769	1832	D22 W35 D9 D7 D16 D12 3.5
14 McCormick, James NV	2206	2200	W26 W12 W4 L8 L2 U 3.0
15 Bartron, Paul WA	2031	2016	D31 D22 W17 D16 L4 D18 3.0
16 Lanka, Adi WA	1854	1869	W29 L7 W30 D15 D13 L9 3.0
17 Herrera, Robert	1837	1847	L7 W29 L15 D19 W27 D22 3.0
18 Wyde, Ben WA	1813	1831	D10 L31 L29 W33 W26 D15 3.0
19 Jacobi, Gunther	1624	1656	L32 L11 B D17 D31 W30 3.0
20 Esler, J Brian	1593	1642	L2 B D23 L10 D25 W31 3.0
21 Weikel, Jerome NV	2043	2035	W25 L2 W32 D11 L7 U 2.5
22 Alpernas, Gregori	1910	1901	D13 D15 L11 W34 L6 D17 2.5
23 Pappas, James	1906	1895	W34 L5 D20 W31 L10 L11 2.5
24 Vaughn, Michael	1826	1842	H W6 L3 L4 H D25 2.5
25 Addis, Edward	1825	1805	L21 L30 D33 B D20 D24 2.5
26 Messer, David	1821	1831	L14 W28 L12 D29 L18 W34 2.5
27 Fabian, Steve WA	1667	1683	L3 B H D30 L17 W33 2.5
28 Lin, Benjamin	2152	2134	L4 L26 B H H U 2.0
29 Gale, Geoffrey WA	2021	1984	L16 L17 W18 D26 L9 H 2.0
30 Motta, Paul	1910	1900	L9 W25 L16 D27 H L19 2.0
31 Banner, Richard	1800	1800	D15 W18 L8 L23 D19 L20 2.0
32 Sheryka, David NV	1900	1900	W19 L1 L21 L6 D34 U 1.5
33 Bannon, David	1840	1795	L5 L34 D25 L18 B L27 1.5
34 Perez, Juan WA	1654	1662	L23 W33 L10 L22 D32 L26 1.5
35 McCormick, James NV	2206	2200	L8 L13 U U U F 0.0

Reserve			
1 Yoshinaga, David	1700	1779	W29 W12 W22 W7 W3 D4 5.5
2 Kleshchev, Fedya	1396	1595	W59 W5 W45 D8 W20 W7 5.5
3 Buck, Stephen WA	1723	1752	W55 W38 W20 W10 L1 W13 5.0
4 May, Andy WA	1698	1750	D40 W23 W18 W17 W8 D1 5.0
5 Chen, Howard	1554	1597	W48 L2 W58 W24 D10 W17 4.5
6 Rankin, Josh	1437	1598	W18 W19 L17 D38 W36 W21 4.5
7 Evers, Jason	1772	1753	W30 W26 W39 L1 W14 L2 4.0
8 Caluza, Severo BC	1731	1736	W28 W11 W13 D2 L4 H 4.0
9 Stevens, Daniel	1679	1658	L46 W51 W28 L12 W31 W27 4.0
10 Ulrich, Friedrich	1654	1656	W47 W27 W41 L3 D5 D11 4.0
11 Serres, Drew	1620	1625	W57 L8 D34 W29 W37 D10 4.0
12 Robinson, Marcus	1585	1608	W54 L1 W16 W9 L13 W34 4.0
13 May, Todd WA	1581	1599	W53 W34 L8 W45 W12 L3 4.0
14 Wentz, Dale	1538	1536	L15 W52 W56 W41 L7 W32 4.0
15 Mowery, Zane	1299	1458	W14 L39 W26 H W38 D18 4.0
16 Higbie, Gordon WA	1731	1700	L27 W40 L12 W46 D34 W37 3.5
17 Hann, Anthony	1707	1693	D23 W46 W6 L4 W22 L5 3.5
18 Smith, Micah WA	1690	1665	L6 W47 L4 W57 W28 D15 3.5
19 Gay, Daniel	1636	1610	W32 L6 W31 L22 D41 W43 3.5
20 Gay, Patrick	1590	1584	W51 W31 L3 W39 L2 D23 3.5
21 Singer, Garry	1566	1544	L34 W49 W35 D36 W43 L6 3.5
22 Gehring, Warren	1511	1591	W44 W24 L1 W19 L17 H 3.5
23 Becker, Brett	1484	1508	D17 L4 H W47 W33 D20 3.5
24 Castor, Zion	1679	1640	W42 L22 W27 L5 D30 D29 3.0
25 Hughes, Kamran WA	1582	1531	L33 W58 D48 L34 W42 H 3.0
26 Spera, Bernard	1474	1452	W43 L7 L15 L32 W50 W41 3.0
27 Addis, Sean	1445	1461	W16 L10 L24 W56 W48 L9 3.0
28 Maxwell, Wray	1442	1449	L8 W50 L9 W49 W18 W47 3.0
29 Midson, Tony	1430	1441	L1 W57 D37 L11 W52 D24 3.0
30 Charleston, Scott WA	1387	1366	L7 L56 W59 W58 D24 H 3.0
31 Bohn, Calvin	1365	1398	W36 L20 L19 W35 L9 W48 3.0

3 Dirickson, Mason	0(493)	493(476)	L L - W W W	3.0
4 Ressler, Spencer	100(100)	176(139)	L L L - D W	1.5
5 Vu, Lamson	0(160)	160(139)	L L L D - D	1.0
6 Pellissier, Austin	0(100)	100(100)	L L L L D -	0.5

PCC October Quads		10/5-19	TD: Michael Morris	
1 Jacobi, Gunther	1667	1702	W6 W4 W2	3.0
2 Becker, Brett	1555	1560	W5 W6 L1	2.0
3 Meyer, David	1347	1355	L4 W5 D6	1.5
4 O'Connell, Sean	WA 1604	1598	W3 L1 F	1.0
5 Larson, Andrew	1184	1139	L2 L3 X	1.0
6 Jarvinen, John	1484	1456	L1 L2 D3	0.5

Spokane Fall Championship		9/16-10/14	TD: Kevin Korsmo	
1 Herbers, Patrick	1941	1947	W8 W13 D3 D4 W7	4.0
2 Copeland, Chris	1514	1615	W15 L4 W6	W12 W3 4.0
3 Julian, John	1923	1912	W9 W14 D1 W5 L2	3.5
4 Steinocher, Kirk	1858	1860	W16 W2 D11 D1 H	3.5
5 Weyland, Ronald	ID 1268	1399	D6 W18 W12 L3 W11	3.5
6 Cambareni, Michael	1815	1787	D5 D12 L2 W18 W10	3.0
7 Brendemuhl, Steve	1596	1646	L19 W17 W13 W14 L1	3.0
8 Griffin, David	1503	1505	L1 W22 L14 W17 W15	3.0
9 Kirlin, Patrick	1297	1366	L3 W15 L10 W13 X	3.0
10 Weyland, Phillip	ID 1728	1696	L12 W16 W9 D11 L6	2.5
11 Copeland, Daniel	1643	1631	H W20 D4 D10 L5	2.5
12 Countryman, Zachary	1297	1346	W10 D6 L5 L2 W18	2.5
13 Moore, Craig	1768	1727	W17 L1 L7 L9 W21	2.0
14 Korsmo, Kevin	1698	1684	W22 L3 W8 L7 F	2.0
15 Baker, Ted	1145	1177	L2 L9 W16 W22 L8	2.0

16 Johnson, Vern	1267	1245	L4 L10 L15 W20 D17	1.5
17 Waugh, James	1222	1224	L13 L7 W22 L8 D16	1.5
18 Christiansen, Peter	868	915	H L5 W20 L6 L12	1.5
19 Raptis, Nick	2313	2314	W7 U U U U	1.0
20 Greer, Matthew	1124	1070	H L11 L18 L16 F	0.5
21 Burney, James	1159	1157	U U U U L13	0.0
22 Ramer, Paul	1126	1082	L14 L8 L17 L15 F	0.0

Attwoods October Action		10/29	Spokane	TD: Adam Attwood
1 Julian, John	1912(1775)	1913(1786)	W7 W6 D2	2.5
2 Steinocher, Kirk	1860(1875)	1862(1873)	W9 W4 D1	2.5
3 Weyland, Phillip ID	1696(1620)	1694(1622)	W8 W5 D6	2.5
4 Weyland, Ronald ID	1399(1301)	1405(1322)	W10 L2 W9	2.0
5 Waugh, James	1224(1218)	1233(1230)	W12 L3 W11	2.0
6 Griffin, David	1505(1545)	1510(1543)	W11 L1 D3	1.5
7 Countryman, Zachary	1346(1404)	1333(1372)	L1 L11 W8	1.0
8 Baker, Ted	1177(1126)	1172(1127)	L3 W12 L7	1.0
9 Burney, James	1157(1261)	1161(1247)	L2 W10 L4	1.0
10 Greer, Matthew	1070(908)	1063(927)	L4 L9 W12	1.0
11 Edwards, Blanche	1064(892)	1077(958)	L6 W7 L5	1.0
12 Christiansen, Peter	915(1005)	896(947)	L5 L8 L10	0.0

Microsoft CC Quick		10/29	Redmond	TD: Cezary Marcjan
1 Apacible, Jennifer	(988)	(1008)	- W W	2.0
2 Marcjan, Karen	(610)	(659)	L - W	1.0
3 Apacible, Christopher	(754)	(702)	L L -	0.0
1 Hendricks, David	(1714)	(1727)	W2 W2	2.0
2 Krishnan, Shiukum	(1430)	(1415)	L1 L1	0.0

Northwest News cont'd from page 7

John Julian finished on top in the G/15 with a perfect 4.0. Phil Weyland took the B/1800 with 2.0. David Griffin took the B/1600 prize with 2.5. Pat Herbers and Phil Weyland tied for first in the G/30 tourney with 2.5 apiece. Adam Attwood and David Griffin tied for the best U1600 with 1.5 apiece.

Courtesy of David Griffin

Seattle, WA

The Seattle CC Championship concluded on November 5. Thirteen players competed in the seven-round event. Geoffrey Gale, who had been tied for the lead with Chris Kalina, emerged as Champion, when Kalina was upset by Joe Plesha in the final round. Fred Kleist and Kalina tied for second/U2000 on 5.0, a point back of Gale.

Cyberspace

Ellinger Replies to Collyer

Thanks for putting our game in *NW Chess*. [see *NWC* November 2004, pp. 8-9, for Curt Collyer's annotations]

Benko Gambit

David Ellinger (1941)
Curt Collyer (2136)

Seattle, Seafair Open (5) 2004

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6
5.b6 d6 6.♗c3 ♗bd7 7.a4 a5 8.e4 g6
9.♗f3 ♗g7 10.♗b5 O-O 11.O-O ♗b7

12. ♗e2 ♗xb6 13.♗d1 ♗c7 14.h3
♗ad8 15.♗f4 h6 16.♗h2 ♗h7 17.
♗d2 ♗c8 18.♗ad1 ♗a8 19.♗e1 ♗e8
20.f3 ♗c7 21.♗c2 ♗a6 22.e5 ♗xa4
23.♗xa6 ♗xc3 24.bxc3 ♗xa6 25.
♗xa6 ♗xa6 26.♗a1 ♗b8 27.♗xa5
♗d7 28.f4 g5 29.exd6 exd6 30.♗a3
♗f6 31.c4 ♗fe8 32.♗e3 ♗xe3 33.
♗xe3 ♗e4 34.♗d3 ♗d4 35.♗f1 ♗b8
36.fxg5 hxg5 37.♗d1 f5 38.g3 ♗b4
39.♗e3 ♗g6 40.♗d1 ♗xc4 41.♗g1
♗e5 42.♗f2 ♗c2 43.g4 f4 44.♗g1 c4
0-1

Most of the interesting stuff we talked about after the game, but it's always nice to see an interesting loss there. A couple of things:

1) Calling me opening knowledgeable is a compliment I don't deserve. I've never played the 5.b6 line [of the Benko Gambit] in a tournament and was making it up completely. I think I played it once at Crossroads . . . that's about it.

2) Instead of the e5-break [move 22], what should I do? I felt that if I didn't make the break then, I wasn't going to get any play.

3) In our earlier game, calling me "happy with a draw" isn't the whole story. I had that nice edge against your Cambridge Springs, but blew the middle game. I think I played ♗c6 at some point where it just dropped my extra pawn. Then, a:d only then, was I indeed "happy with a draw."

Just clarifying. Never like to be known as a "chess wimp" . . . or at least want to defend myself one time when I didn't deserve it!

Courtesy of NW Chess Center Forum



Many thanks to those who have written pointing out the anomalies in the crosstables for the Portland Summer Open and the Auntie's Open which I printed as received from USCF in the November issue. Special thanks to Floyd R. Kirk and Norm May for the following corrections:

Portland Summer Open

2 Kathleen Atkinson = Ray Lipin
11 Koal Humpton = Andy May

Auntie's Open

4 Dereque Kelley = Chris Kalina
13 Tim Harris = Stephen Buck
22 Garrett Sullivan = Zach Countryman

Rd 4	2 Gale	W18
	3 Drake	W13
	13 Buck	L3
	18 Brodie	L2

Christopher Memorial Northwest Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, administrator
13329 208th Ave. NE
Woodinville WA 98077
mevjr54@yahoo.com

The year is winding down, but most Grand Prix races are wide, wide open. Unless Nick Raptis is involved, at least. Nick's lead in the Oregon master class definitely can be described as insurmountable. There are ten events yet to be included in our statistics, including the recently completed Washington Class, with a 4x multiplier. A player scoring six points in that event will have added 32 points to his/her total, which is enough to really shake up the standings in most classes.

Lets take a look at the races. As I stated earlier, Nick Raptis has sewn up the Oregon Master prize. There aren't enough points left in the year for him to lose this lead. Second place is still quite up in the air, with Carl Haessler leading by only 8 points over Oleg Zaikov. In the Washington Master Class, David Bragg has a good lead over Nat Koons, who has an even better lead over Viktors Pupols. Neither of those leads are mathematically secure, but seem likely to hold up.

In the Expert Class, Ben Lin should be able to lay claim to the Oregon first place. Second place could still be won by anyone, if they finish with a flurry of events. Among the Washington Experts, Geoffrey Gale has pretty well clinched first with a lead of almost 70 points. Paul Bartron and Curt Collyer should make plans to go to the Winter Open in Portland, because the race for second will go down to the last event of the year.

Washington's Class A goes into the final month as a four-person race, with Stephen Buck holding a slight lead over Kirk Steinocher. John Julian and Elston Cloy are also right in the chase. On the Oregon side, Richard Banner just took the lead, by a mere half-point, over Blake Salisbury, with Blake Phillips only 2.5 points further back. Robert Herrera isn't out of it either, if he gets busy.

In Class B, Drew Serres and Andy May both have fairly comfortable leads in their respective states, but the struggle for second is wide open. In both states, there are at least ten players with a reasonable shot at talking over the second place by the end of December. If the Mays are going to keep the Washington Class B all in the family, Todd better keep looking over his shoulder, Keegan Knutson is getting closer.

Class C is also wide open in Washington: five players are within 12.5 points. In Oregon, Brett Becker and Marcus Robinson have the inside track for the prizes, but Aditya Arun is within striking distance. This is another race that will have to wait for the Winter Open to determine the winners.

In Oregon's Class D, Michael Terrill has a comfortable lead for first place. Second place will be up to Eddie Wang and Michael Taylor to decide in December. Washington? Who knows? Again there are ten players with a shot at first and second. The Washington Class will have helped to clear up the picture by the time you read this, but if someone wants to win Class D in Washington, he should consider attending a tournament or two in December.

Overall, the Oregon Grand Prix champion appears to be Nick Raptis. It is mathematically impossible for any other Oregon player to overtake him, so, unless he moves out of state, the prize is his. Things are much

different in Washington, where David Bragg and Geoffrey Gale are tied. These guys need to plan a trip to Portland in December as well. Don't take a master draw though, guys; there are four or five others who could catch you in the last month.

Current standings:

(Includes all events completed by November 18, except the Puget Sound Open and the SCC November Tornado.)

Oregon		Washington	
Masters			
1 Raptis, Nick	174.0	Bragg, David	160.5
2 Haessler, Carl	56.5	Koons, Nat	124.0
3 Zaikov, Oleg	48.5	Pupols, Viktors	72.5
4 Prochaska, Peter	23.5	Perez, Ignacio	46.0
5 Griffiths, Morgan	22.0	Sprenkle, David	35.0
6 Rowan, Thomas	10.5	Roper, David	33.0
Experts			
1 Lin, Benjamin	83.5	Gale, Geoffrey	160.5
2 Martin, Roger	45.5	Bartron, Paul	91.5
3 Slye, Damon	24.0	Collyer, Curt	90.5
4 Gutman, Richard	16.0	Drake, Christopher	71.5
5 Morris, Michael	14.5	Selzler, Richard	50.5
6 Heywood, Bill	9.5	Rozenfeld, Yevgeniy	44.5
Class A			
1 Banner, Richard	72.0	Buck, Stephen	135.0
2 Salisbury, Blake	71.5	Steinocher, Kirk	127.0
3 Phillips, Blake	69.0	Julian, John	113.0
4 Herrera, Robert	53.5	Cloy, Elston	103.5
5 Alpernas, Gregori	37.5	Kalina, Chris	86.5
6 Pritchett, Pete	35.5	Herbers, Patrick	74.0
Class B			
1 Serres, Drew	76.0	May, Andy	121.0
2 Rosenbaum, David	45.0	May, Todd	89.5
2 Gay, Daniel	44.5	Mathews, Dan	89.0
2 Gay, Patrick	40.5	Knutson, Keegan	86.0
5 Jacobi, Gunther	40.5	Fabian, Steve	77.0
6 Gagnon, William	38.5	Hickey, Patrick	77.0
Class C			
1 Becker, Brett	71.0	Kirlin, Patrick	82.0
2 Robinson, Marcus	64.5	Griffin, David	81.0
3 Arun, Aditya	41.5	Chen, Howard	74.5
4 Bohn, Calvin	27.0	Attwood, Adam	70.0
5 Kleshchev, Fedya	26.5	Blumenthal, Gabriel	69.5
6 Midson, Tony	23.0	Charleston, Scott	64.0
Class D and below			
1 Terrill, Michael	82.5	Li, Jerry	59.5
2 Wang, Eddie	52.0	Waugh, James	59.0
3 Taylor, Michael	43.0	Countryman, Zach	57.0
4 Nettles, Jordan	29.0	Omori, Jeffrey	50.5
5 Porter, Nathan	28.0	Yang, Matthew	49.5
6 Robinson, Tim	26.5	Inglis, David	49.0
Overall Leaders			
1 Raptis, Nick	174.0	Bragg, David	160.5
2 Lin, Benjamin	83.5	Gale, Geoffrey	160.5
3 Terrill, Michael	82.5	Buck, Stephen	135.0
4 Serres, Drew	76.0	Steinocher, Kirk	127.0
5 Banner, Richard	72.0	Koons, Nat	124.0
6 Salisbury, Blake	71.5	May, Andy	121.0
7 Becker, Brett	71.0	Julian, John	113.0
8 Phillips, Blake	69.0	Cloy, Elston	103.5
9 Robinson, Marcus	64.5	Bartron, Paul	91.5
10 Haessler, Carl	56.5	Collyer, Curt	90.5



Lynnwood, WA

The Intermat Candidates Tournament was held at Meadowdale HS on November 6. Invited players compete in grade level quads to determine which two from each grade will play in the WA vs BC Match. In both the HS seniors and juniors groups, only two players showed up; so Prithvi Shankar (Roosevelt HS, Seattle) and Harry Cheadle (Garfield HS, Seattle) will represent 12th grade, while Kevin Binz (home schooled, Normandy Park) and Jeremy Jusak (Sehome HS, Bellingham) will represent Grade 11. In Grade 10, Lane Van Weerdhuizen (Lynden HS, Lynden) coasted to victory after winning his first two games, drawing in the final round with Steven Taki (Mercer Island HS, Mercer Island), who also qualified, finishing second with two points. A similar path was followed by the two ninth grade qualifiers, Alan Hsieh (2.5, Olympia HS, Olympia) and Jimmy Hooper (2.0, Seattle Acad. of Arts & Sciences, Seattle).

In Grade 8, Andy May (home schooled, Vancouver) scored three from three to become the top qualifier, while Vishnu Warriar (Int'l Community School, Redmond) scored two points to take the second qualifying spot. Shinichiro Tanaka (Washington MS, Seattle) and John Talbot were the only two 7th graders to appear, thus becoming the representatives from their grade. Dakota Dixon (2.5, home schooled, Bothell) and

Thomas Witecki (2.0, Assumption School, Bellingham) advanced from the 6th grade quad.

Igor Ummel (Marshall ES, Marysville) and Darren Wu (Stevenson ES, Bellevue) qualified in Grade 5, scoring 2/2 and 1/2 respectively in their triad. In 4th grade, both Evergreen School (Shoreline) representatives, David Inglis and Michael Omori advanced with identical 2.5 scores. Nathan Lee (Issaquah) and Alec Ho (King's Way Christian, Vancouver) scored 3.0 and 2.0 respectively in the 3rd grade quad to qualify for the Intermat. James Colasurdo (3.0, St. Michael's, Olympia) and Ankush Puri (2.0, Evergreen, Shoreline) advanced from the 2nd grade quad. The first graders saw more action than the others. While Wesley Yu (Lowell ES, Seattle) easily qualified with a perfect 3.0, Zamir Birbach (Evergreen, Shoreline) had to win a speed chess playoff among the three one-pointers.

Seattle, WA

Three hundred and forty-two kids attended the Chessmates Fall Kickoff on November 13. The 84-player Grades 5-8 section saw three players finish with perfect 5-0 scores: George Fan (Washington MS), Calvin Chan (Odle MS, Bellevue), and Nat Mayer (Evergreen School, Shoreline, 5th gr.). The same situation prevailed in the 188-player Grades 2-4 section, as a trio of 4th graders—Tate Mairder (Laurelhurst ES), Zachary Elliott (West Mercer Elem., Mercer Island), and Michael

Omori (Evergreen)—scored five points apiece. The 70-player Grades K-1 section was also topped by three players, albeit at 4.5 points each. The winners were Jiayi Hu (Sammamish Chinese Academy), Zamir Birnbach (Evergreen), and Wesley Yu (Lowell ES). Elena Donaldson directed.

Lynnwood, WA

The High School Mini-Team Tournament, held November 6, attracted 22 three-player teams. In addition, four teams were created on site with the extra players that had turned out. The team of Eric Tohni, Tyler Hansen and Chris Wei of Skyline HS scored 13/15 to win the event by 2.5 points over Bainbridge Island HS "A" (Ricky Selzler, Ben Wagner, and Dante Garcia). Garfield HS (Ibba Armanacas, Andrew Girardeau-Dale, and Barry Tomo) finished third on ten points. Selzler and Michael Isley (O'Dea HS, Seattle) topped Board One with perfect 5-0 scores. Girardeau-Dale and Jake Hill (Issaquah HS) did the same for Board Two, while only Wei was perfect on Board three.

Twenty-one teams and one composed team turned out for the Junior High School/Middle School Mini-Team Tournament. Odle MS (12.5/15) of Bellevue (Ernest So, Calvin Chan, and Joshua London) smashed out a two-point victory over the com-

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posed team of Kerry Xing (Woodmoor ES, Bothell), Douglas Chung, and Nevin Ramanujan (both of Federal Way Public Academy). Finishing in a tie for third-fourth on ten points were Pine Lake MS (Aakarsh Gottumukkala, Daryl Hansen, and Christopher Clark) of Sammamish and the "B" team (Andrew Haeger, Alexander Isik and Lawrence Xing) from Seattle's Lakeside School. So and K. Xing both had perfect 5-0 scores on Board One. Isik topped Board Two with 4.5 points and Clark did the same on Board Three.

Mattawa, WA

The three-section Mattawa Autumn Leap, held on October 30, attracted 80 players. Four players finished atop the 22-player Grades 7-12 section: Daniel Tissell (West Valley HS, Yakima, sr.), John Talbott (Liberty Christian School, Richland, 7th gr.), Andrew Willson (King's Way Christian, Vancouver, 7th gr.), and David Wang (Carmichael MS, Richland, 8th gr.). Each scored four from five. Scoring 4.5 to tie for first-third in the 38-player Grades 4-6 section were Daniel Scheibe (Lewis & Clark ES, Richland), Zachary Countryman (Wilson ES, Spokane), and Leonie Oostrom (Lewis & Clark ES). Shane Breitenfeldt (Sacajawea ES, Richland) was the sole winner in the 20-player Grades K-3 section, scoring 4.5 points.

Ferndale, WA

Forty-nine eager young chess players descended on Ferndale HS for the Northwest WA League Kickoff Tourney on October 25. They were divided into eight-player sections by rating. R. Sterling Dietz (Lynden MS, 8th grade) and John Her-

nandez (Bellingham HS, jr.) won the top two sections respectively, scoring 3-0 each. The third, consisting of nine players, was headed by Alexander Marks (Ferndale HS, so.) and Dustin Vandehoef (Lynden HS, so.), who both scored three points. The fourth and fifth sections also had winners with perfect scores: Jordan Fish (Kulshan MS, Bellingham, 7th gr.) and Tim Ho (Bellingham HS, fr.) respectively. Ilya Grishchuk (Kulshan MS, 6th grade) won the final section with a score of 2.5.

Seattle, WA

Exactly one hundred players took part in the North Seattle Christian Fall Tournament, held on October 30. Igor Ummel (Marshall ES, Marysville) had the only perfect score in the 50-player Grades 4-6 section and finished a point ahead of the field. Anthony Guo (Stevenson ES, Bellevue, 3rd grade) was also five for five to top the 50-player Grades K-3 section. Second grader Jack Sather (Open Window School, Bellevue) finished second on 4.5. Elena Donaldson directed.

Bellingham, WA

There were 150 players at the Kulshan Fall Chess Classic, held on November 20. The Grand Champions are: High School - Lane VanWeerdhuizen, Middle School - Thomas Witecki (Assumption School) and David Loudon (Horizon MS), Elementary - Mikayla Chang, and Primary - Langston Engle (Larabee ES) and Colton Carpenter (St. Paul's School, kindergarten). All finished with 5-0 scores save for the Primary (K-2) winners, who scored 4.5 points apiece. The sizes of the sections were: HS-17, MS-47, E-58, and P-30.

Courtesy of Randy Kaech

Olympia, WA

St. Michael's Fall Tournament (11/6) attracted 93 young players. Jennifer Apacible (Islander MS, Mercer Island) won the 57-player Grades 4-8 section with a 5-0 score. Andrew McNutt (Washington MS, Seattle) finished second on 4.5 points. Mikayla Chang (Assumption School, Bellingham) finished atop the 36-player K-3 section, having scored 4.5 points. The event was directed by Jon Licht.

Sedro-Woolley, WA

The Northwest WA League Beta Tournament (11/8) attracted 35 players, who were divided into four sections by rating. Lane VanWeerdhuizen (Lynden HS, so.) won the seven-player top section with a score of 3-0. The eight-player second section was won by David Preszler (Lynden HS, so.), who also scored 3-0. Alexander McClement (Bellingham HS, so.) and Brain Hakim (Ferndale HS, so.) were 3-0 victors in the bottom two ten-player sections.

Pasco, WA

One hundred seventy-seven players took part in the Pasco Pawn Power event on November 6. John Talbot (Liberty Christian, Richland, 7th gr.) topped the 26-player Grades 7-12 section with a perfect 5-0 score. Alex Chow (Wilson ES, Spokane) and Dominick Ghirardo (Liberty Christian) did the same in the 65-player Grades 5-6 section. The 53-player Grades 3-4 section also had a 5-0 winner in Elizabeth Barrington (Sacajawea ES, Richland); Sean Stephens (Lewis & Clark ES, Richland) finished second on 4.5. Cody Daniels (Liberty Christian) won the 33-player Grades K-2 section with a 5-0 score. ■

Alex and the Wednesday Chess Club

by Janet S. Wong, illustrated by Stacy Schuett.

published by Simon & Schuster, hardcover, 40 pages. New York 2005. Retail \$16.95.

by Dr. Leo Stefurak – President, Chess Mates Foundation

Author Janet Wong is a local parent of her chess-playing son, Andrew. She is also a nationally recognized poet and award-winning author and is a familiar face at Seattle-area scholastic chess tournaments. This is her twelfth book.

Alex and the Wednesday Chess Club is a big and square children's picture book (9.25 inches on a side) for kindergarteners through third-graders (of all ages!). The full-color illustrations by Stacey Shuett were initially rendered in gouache and ink on watercolor paper. This big, beautiful, and exciting children's book successfully captures the joy children feel when they play tournament chess. Janet Wong knows what real scholastic chess tournaments are all about. Through an engaging story about a young boy choosing to attend his school chess club, she vividly brings to life a cast of young chess players and their desires and concerns.

Children are not small adults and Janet Wong knows and shows their chess motivations and reservations as they are lived and felt in the world of childhood. Children live in dimensions of hopes and dreams that only occasionally intersect the adult world and chess is one of those intersection points. Having lived and breathed the scholastic chess world in support of her own son's chess partici-

pation, Wong magnificently translates the feelings of novice and neophyte by way of word and deed.

Children know how to have fun and the fun and excitement of tournament chess is brought home to readers through narrative and picture on every page. I cannot imagine a more child friendly introduction to school chess clubs and scholastic chess tournaments than *Alex and the Wednesday Chess Club*.

Parents wondering why 1,000 elementary school children attended the last Washington State Chess Championship will know the answer after reading this book with their son or daughter. Children wondering if they should join their school chess club will be amazed, enthused, and asking for a chess set after reading this book with their parents.

Alex and the Wednesday Chess Club has a useful list of Top Ten Tips as the gold at the end of the rainbow of this book. Another local chess mom, Women's Grandmaster Elena Akhmilovskaya Donaldson, says about Alex and the Wednesday Chess Club, "This book will inspire kids and parents to learn and play chess."

It is the chess book find of the year for students and parents. Chess makes learning fun and Janet Wong has made reading a chess book fun for everyone. ■

WCF Board Mtg cont'd from page 11

the raffle. Advance entries will be taken & raffle tickets given away at other tournaments.

WA Championship & Premier + Woodpushers Open. Chair: Duane Polich, Members: Gary & Carol. Suggestion to hold the Ch-&P at the Oki Foundation building the 1st weekend & in the Crossroads Mall Community Room on the 2nd weekend & do the Woodpushers Open in the mall area. The committee will meet later & decide what to do.

WA Challenger's Cup. Gary has it set up at Table Top Games, which is located in the Lakewood Cinema Plaza on 84th St. next to the freeway. The dates: Dec. 11-12.

WA Jr. Closed. Gary has the University Place Library reserved for Dec. 18-19. Carol will send out the invitations.

WA Action Championship. Gary proposed holding it on Dec. 18 at Table Top Games. Duane preferred to hold it at Crossroads Mall. This was agreed, too. Date to be set later.

Discussed dividing state into districts & appointing District Directors. The state could be divided as follows: Everett to Bellingham - District #2, Olympia to Vancouver including the Peninsula - Districts #3 & #6, the Central Region of Eastern WA - District #4, the Eastern Region (the Spokane area) - District #5, the Tacoma/Seattle area - District #1. Kevin & Kent will submit a final plan to the board for approval at the next meeting.

Financial report: There is \$6923.84 in the bank at this time.

NWC Membership report: There are 432 members at this time. Financially NWC is just breaking even.

Discussed the ballot for the constitution & by-laws. The ballot was supposed to have been in the Sept. issue of NWC. It will be in the Nov. issue. Ballots will be sent to the Sec. Deadline to have them in will be Nov. 30th.

Duane gave a report on the WA-BC match. Everyone was pleased with the site & playing conditions. BC 6:WA 4. The site was

in Bellingham. It may be held there next year as well.

New Business:

WA Jr. Open Committee: Chair: Duane Polich, Members Gary & Carol.

Kent will talk to the OR people about setting up the next NWC Board Meeting.

Kent has started putting a volunteer list together. He already has a number of names on the list. Elliot Neff will do a Blindfold Match at the WA Open. Georgi Orlov & Bill Schill will give lectures.

Discussed the CRN system for the web site. The WCF & NWC web sites will be moved to Kent's servers when he gets that set up. Discussed ways & means of improving the web sites. Committee will meet in Nov. & discuss it further.

Next board meeting will be held in Feb. 05. Committees will try & meet during Nov. Meeting adjourned at 9:36 pm.

Gary J. Dorfner, Sec.

Scholastic Checkup with Dr. Leo

Please discuss the use and development of visualization in chess skill and the practice of internal and external seeing inherent to the visual imagination of chess deliberation.

Chess play involves the movement of objects across a plane to certain predetermined spots. These 'spots', or squares, are arrayed in columns and rows and diagonals and constitute the familiar 64 square chessboard. Chess play and practice fundamentally consist of the navigation of our pieces and pawns on the chess plane. Just as we mentally navigate our walk home from the neighborhood library down streets and (diagon-)alleys, so we can mentally envision the path our chess pieces take on the chessboard. In fact, we can even imagine our route home before taking a step along the way. This mental visualization of movement along streets and paths in our neighborhood is similar to the visualization of possible chess moves (individual steps) and variations (taking a walk) as we consider our next move during a chess game.

"Genius ... is the capacity to see ten things where the ordinary man sees one, and where the man of talent sees two or three, plus the ability to register that multiple perception in the material of his art." — Ezra Pound

It is possible to follow a list of written directions to our home which indicate when to turn right or left and when to go straight for some distance. But such a list, even when put into practice, is not the same as actually imagining the route home and forecasting our movement through the neighborhood in our mind's eye. This difference in mental effort and action between the words that direct our path and a mental image which could picture the way home is parallel to the difference in chess thinking between simply verbally identifying a move and making the effort to visualize it being made on the chessboard.

It is important to distinguish between these two useful mental approaches, verbal and visual, to chess navigation. Strategy is usually verbal in nature and consists of a plan expressed in words. Tactics are usually visual and spatial and consist of a series of piece movements imagined in our mind's eye. This distinction can be thought of as the difference between saying, "I am going to walk home" versus creating a detailed mental motion picture of one's self walking through the particular streets and alleys which lead you home (i.e., a verbal map is not the visual territory).

Strategy is usually broad, general, verbal, and is focused upon goals and objectives while tactics are detailed, specific, pictorial, and consist of the individual steps which, when combined, take us down a particular route of play. The art and skill of visualization in chess is the mental activity of generating and 'projecting' piece and pawn movement, in our mind's eye, in advance of its execution on the chessboard. Visualization in chess is the detailed and lucid mental animation of our pieces and pawns in the action of carrying out tactical operations.

Now we as humans are very good at thinking about and imagining what is to come and where we are going. Two-thirds of the human brain is devoted to visual processing. The art of insightful chess play is to implement such predictive imagination in pictorial detail in our mind. Chess players are chess mechanics and while it is possible to drive a car without specific knowledge of its internal function, automotive designers must be familiar with the detailed mechanics of engines, transmissions, and the many systems of vehicle operation. A chess player is a driver, a navigator and an engineer and needs to operate on many levels during a chess game. The tactical level of detailed chess operations is mentally represented as a series of logistical, spatial, and visual tasks.

Visualization, or 'seeing with the mind's eye,' is one such level of mental functioning. Chess visualization in action is the mental process of seeing pieces and pawns in our mind's eye where they could be, might be or will be on the chessboard in the near future. Chess players can see, with their eyes, where pieces are now; it is only a small extrapolation to 'see,' with our minds, where a piece might be after one additional move is made.

"None so blind as those that will not see." — Matthew Henry

Visualization is a learned and learnable skill. Initially, making the mental effort of visualizing moves in detail can seem difficult and often frustrating. By taking 'baby steps' in the development of our visualization capacities, we can ease this perceived burden. Dr. Leo suggests looking for and imagining all checks, captures and threats in a given position. These elementary tactical operations are relatively easy to find and

to see in the mind's eye. By consistently seeking out and 'seeing' such moves — and their consequence, the position that will result AFTER the move is made — we are developing the mental muscles of our own visual imagination.

To see the position that results from a check, a capture, or a threat, we need to image and imagine in our mind's eye the relationships between the pieces that may have changed as a result of the check, capture or threat move. By asking, "What is different?" and "What will my opponent do after I make this move?" we activate the mental machinery of visual expectation and anticipation.

"Vision is the art of seeing things invisible." — Jonathan Swift

Initially, it may be helpful for the aspiring player to divide the board into four quadrants of 16 squares each for use in apportioning the visualization effort. Quality and not quantity should be the training objective of developing players. In other words, players would do better to see a portion of the chess board clearly in their mind's eye than to see the whole board poorly. Eventually, the quadrants can be visually integrated into halves and then finally the whole board will be capable of a unified representation in the imagination.

"If we had a keen vision of all that is ordinary in human life, it would be like hearing the grass grow or the squirrel's heart beat, and we should die of that roar which is the other side of silence." — George Eliot

The one constant from chess move to chess move is the chessboard itself, it is the fixed background upon which our mental imaginings can be imposed. By using the template of the chessboard, available in front of our eyes, as the map upon which we can mentally move pieces, we are able to lighten the load of visualization. The player may therefore wish to make the current pieces and pawns 'disappear' from the board while imposing his or her will and imagination upon the board (or a quadrant of the board) and 'seeing' the newly re-placed chessmen in their stead.

"What you see, yet can not see over, is as good as infinite." — Thomas Carlyle

It is of the utmost importance in chess to "see what I say." It is usually wise not to substitute the saying of words for the seeing of moves when considering chess tactics. Words may provide a start, words may lead us to moves, but we must drink the water of chess by imagining, in our mind's eye, the move having been made and the position of piece and pawn relationships which then results.

The student should be reassured that he or she is quite good already at visualization! Do you not look both ways before you cross the street? Are you not visualizing what will happen next? And, when you read a book, are you not looking forward to 'seeing how things

"The little girl had the making of a poet in her who, being told to be sure of her meaning before she spoke, said, 'How can I know what I think till I see what I say?'" — Graham Wallas

Washington Chess Federation (WCF)/Oregon Chess Federation (OCF)

Adult: \$25/year (12 issues). Residents of OR and WA receive a 1-year membership in the OCF or WCF. Members receive *Northwest Chess* via periodicals mail each month.

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Trial: \$13 (membership and subscription, expires in 3 months). By paying the balance of dues for an Adult or Junior membership, this option can be extended to 12 months. The balance must be paid before the trial status is expired.

Membership Application/Renewal Form

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will turn out? Reading, itself, is comparable to chess play: as readers we see the characters and activities present in the book come alive in our mind! And, sometimes, our imagination is so strong and clear that we are surprised and perhaps disappointed when we see a favorite book reach the movie screen, it wasn't what we imagined!

Please go beyond the obvious in your chess imaginings. Your opponent is expecting the obvious: see something new, imagine and invent something original, and surprise your opponent! As a walking, running, travelling human being, you are already over-practiced at visualizing motion through space! Bring your talents to bear on chess and try to see moves in your imagination as much or more than stating the move in words when playing chess! Discipline your mind to see with your mind's eye and avoid the mistake of falling back into the old habit of thinking just in words!

"Genius ... means little more than the faculty of perceiving in an unhabitual way." — William James

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ROOM SHARING

North American Open (Bally's in Las Vegas)

Dec. 25-30, 2004

contact Ben Delson

phone: 425-643-7454

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Seattle Chess Club

Address
17517 15 Ave NE
Seattle WA 98155
Infoline
206-417-5405
Address for Entries
SCC Tnmt Dir
2420 S 137 St
Seattle WA 98168

SCC 125th Birthday Celebration

Friday, Dec. 17 **Rapid Transit Tournament** (10 seconds per move) – Celebrating the early Twentieth Century – EF: \$2 (non-members \$3) 1st Rd - 8:00 p.m. Reg. 7-7:45

Saturday, Dec. 18 **Simultaneous Exhibitions** — 11:00a – NM David Bragg, \$10; 2:30p – NM Elliott Neff, blindfold simul (limit 5 boards), \$20

Birthday Party starts at 7:00 p.m. The SCC especially invites its former Presidents and Champions.

Sunday, Dec. 19 **High-Roller Octagonals** — Celebrating the 1980s — 3SS, 8-player sections, G/90; EF: \$10 (non-members \$15); Prizes: \$40-20; Reg.: 9-9:45 a.m.; Rds: 10-1:15-4:30; Misc: USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. 1/2-K rated. NS, NC.

Seattle City Championship

January 14-16 or January 15-16

A two-section, five-round Swiss with time controls of 40/2 & SD/1 (Two-day schedule – Rd 1, G/64). The prize fund of \$1120 is based on 56 paid entries, 5 per prize group.

Championship		Reserve (U1800)	
First	\$250	First	\$150
Second	\$160	Second	\$100
Expert	\$110	Class C	\$85
Class A	\$100	Class D	\$75
		Class E & Under	\$60
		Unrated	\$30

EF: \$40 if rec'd by 1/12, \$48 at site.

EF: \$32 if rec'd by 1/12, \$40 at site.

Entry Fee Adjustments: *Unrated*—Free with purchase of 1-yr. USCF & 1-yr. WCF. *SCC members*—subtract 25%. *Members of other dues-required CCs* in BC, OR, and WA—subtract 12.5%. Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.

Registration: Friday 7-7:45 p.m.; Saturday 9-9:45 a.m.

Rounds: Fri. 8, Sat. (10@G/64)-12:30-6:45, Sun. 11-5.

Byes: 2 (Rds 4,5 commit at registration).

Miscellaneous: USCF & WCF membership req'd. No smoking. No computers.

A Christopher Memorial Grand Prix event

☞ **Jan. 9, Feb. 6**

Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** 40/90, SD/60. **EF:** \$6 (+\$5 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future quad. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:30-ASAP. **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

SCC Saturday Quads ☞

☞ **Jan. 22, Feb. 19**

Format: 4SS. **TC:** G/64. **EF:** \$14 (+\$5 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 from each EF goes to prize fund). **Reg.:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. 1/2-K rated. NS, NC.

SCC Sunday Tornado ☞

Future Events

☞ indicates a Christopher Memorial NW Grand Prix event

☞ December 11-12 WA Challengers' Cup ☞

Site: Table Top Games, 2510 S 84 St, Suite D22, Lakewood WA. **Format:** 2-section, 5-round Swiss. **TC:** Sat. 40/90 & SD/60, Sun. 40/2 & SD/1. **EF:** \$30 if rec'd by 12/10, \$35 at site. Jrs (U20) may play for medals only: EF \$10 by 12/10, \$15 at site. **Prize Fund:** \$\$675 gtd. **Prizes:** Open - \$120-100, U2000 80; Reserve (U1900) - \$100-80, U1700 70, U1500 65, U1300 60. **Reg:** 9-9:45 am. **Rds:** Sat 10-2:30-70, Sun 10-4. **Byes:** Half-point bye avail. rds 1-4, if requested at reg. **Misc:** WCF/OCF memb. req'd. OSA. NS. NC. W. **Ent/Info:** Washington Chess Federation (WCF) c/o Gary J Dorfner, 8423 E B St, Tacoma WA 98445-2223; Ggarychess@aol.com; 253-535-2536 (voice or fax) www.nwchess.com. **State Championship Qualifier.**

☞ December 18-19 Portland Winter Open ☞

Site: Portland CC, 8205 SW 24th, Portland OR 97219. **Format:** 2-section, 5-round Swiss. **TC:** Sat. 40/90 & SD/30, Sun. 40/2 & SD/1. **EF:** \$30 if rec'd by 12/16, \$35 at site. \$10 discount for PCC members. **Prize Fund:** \$\$650 b/40. **Prizes:** Open (\$\$325) - \$150-100, U2000 75; Reserve (U1800; \$\$325) - \$100-75, U1600

50, U1400 50, U1200/unr 50. **Reg:** 9-9:30 am. **Rds:** Sat 10-2-ASAP, Sun 10-ASAP. **Byes:** Two half-point byes avail. if requested at reg. **Misc:** OCF/WCF and USCF memb req'd, OSA. **Entry:** Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland OR 97219. **Info:** Neil Dale 503-256-5233 www.aboutchess.org.

☞ January 8 Action Freeze ☞

Site: Valley Library, 12004 E Main, Spokane WA. **Format:** 5SS. **TC:** G/30. **EF:** \$11. **Prize Fund:** 90% of EF. **Reg:** 10-10:30 am. **Rds:** Lunch break TBD. **Misc:** USCF 1/2-K rated. Coffee & snacks provided. **Info:** David Griffin 509-928-3260 dbgriffin@hotmail.com.

Replaces the Gresham Open

☞ January 8-9 Portland New Year's Open ☞

Site: Portland CC, 8205 SW 24th, Portland OR 97219. **Format:** 5-round Swiss. Accelerated Pairings if more than 30 participants. **TC:** Sat. G/120, Sun. G/180. **EF:** \$30 if rec'd by 1/6, \$35 at site. \$10 discount for PCC members. **Prize Fund:** \$\$650 b/40. **Prizes:** \$175-125-75, U2000 75, U1800 50 U1600 50, U1400 50, U1200/unr 50. **Reg:** 9-9:30 am. **Rds:** Sat 10-2-ASAP, Sun 10-ASAP. **Byes:** Two half-point byes avail. if requested at reg. **Misc:** OCF/WCF and USCF memb req'd, OSA. **Entry:** Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland OR 97219. **Info:** Neil Dale 503-256-5233 www.aboutchess.org.

More Scholastic Events

January 2005

8 Knightmare's Gauntlet	Cindy Musto chesstournament@evergreenschool.org http://chess.seatab.com	Shoreline WA
15 Chess Odyssey Winter Olympics Team Tnmt	P. Prochaska 503-504-5756 pete@chessodyssey.com www.chessodyssey.com	Hillsboro OR
15 Ollie LaFreniere Memorial (K-8)	Jon Licht 360-754-6472 jlicht@earthlink.net	Olympia WA
15 WA Scholastic Action Ch (6-8,9-12)	Kirk Winges kwinges@comcast.net http://whsca.org	Edmonds WA
15 Apple Crunch (K-12)	Loren Schmidt gaijin@nwinform.net	Yakima WA
15 Whatcom County Championship	http://home.earthlink.net/~kaech5	Lynden WA
17 Martin Luther King Day Chess(K-12)	hnoonanharris@earthlink.net	Hillsboro OR
22 Heritage Winter Scholastic (K,1-3,4-6)	Karen Dixon karen@dixonshome.com www.heritagechessclub.org	Bothell WA
23 Chess Odyssey Parent/Child Workshop	P. Prochaska 503-504-5756 pete@chessodyssey.com www.chessodyssey.com	Beaverton OR
28-9 WA HS Individual Ch	Kirk Winges kwinges@comcast.net http://whsca.org	Lynnwood WA
29 NW Grade-Level Tnmt	Dave Joswiak joswiak@astro.washington.edu www.bryantschool.org	Seattle WA

February 2005

5 UCDS Scholastic (K,1-3,4-6)	jenn@ucdschess.org www.ucds.org/chess	Seattle WA
5 WA MS/JHS Individual Ch	Kirk Winges kwinges@comcast.net http://whsca.org	Lynnwood WA
12 Central Seattle Chess Combo (K-6, K-8 qds)	Meg Strong winterwren@juno.com	Seattle WA
12 Chess Jam 2005	Randy Kaech kaech5@earthlink.net http://home.earthlink.net/~kaech5	Ferndale WA
12 Cornerstone (K,1-3,4-6,7-8,9-12)	Norm May nmay@pacifier.com	Vancouver WA
19 NSC Winter Scholastic (K-3,4-6)	www.chessplayer.com/NSC_REG.htm	Seattle WA
19 Eastern Wash. Ch (K-2,3-4,5-6,7-8,9-12)	Cathy Kuwamoto (509)942-2380 Cathy_Kuwamoto@rsd.edu	Richland WA
21 Chess Odyssey Girls Only Pentathlon	P. Prochaska 503-504-5756 pete@chessodyssey.com www.chessodyssey.com	Hillsboro OR
25-6 WA State HS Team Ch	Kirk Winges kwinges@comcast.net http://whsca.org	Yakima WA
26 Queen's Quest (K-8 girls only)	Jon Licht 360-754-6472 jlicht@earthlink.net	Olympia WA

March 2005

5 WA State MS/JHS Team Ch	Kirk Winges kwinges@comcast.net http://whsca.org	Mercer Island WA
5 WA Elem. Team Ch (4 per team)	www.chessplayer.com/teams.htm	Seattle WA
12 Tournament of Champions (Inv)	www.chessplayer.com/stars.htm	Seattle WA
12 NSC Scholastic Open (2-6)	www.chessplayer.com/NSC_REG.htm	Seattle WA
19 Liberty Chess Tmt. (K-12)	Joe Daniels 509-582-6245 tryoursoftwater@bmi.net	Richland WA
19 TOPS Spring Tnmt (K-8)	www.seattleschools.org/schools/tops/afterschool/chess/index.html_lshenry_98@yahoo.com	Seattle WA

USCF NATIONAL Scholastics

For information on any national event, contact Diane Reese at events@uschess.org.

April 8-10, 2005:

Super Nationals III

Nashville TN

Open Events

December 2004

- | | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 10,17 | TCC Mini-Swiss #2 Rds 2 & 3 | Gary Dorfner 253-535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com .. Tacoma WA |
| ♣11 | Xmas Chaos | David Griffin 509-928-3260 dbgriffin@hotmail.com www.spokanechessclub.org Spokane WA |
| ♣11-12 | WA Challengers' Cup | Gary Dorfner 253-535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com .. Tacoma WA |
| 17-19 | SCC 125th Birthday Celebration | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com www.seattlechessclub.org... Seattle WA |
| ♣18-19 | Portland Winter Open | Bruce Peterson 503-805-0493 b_r_u_c_e_p_e@yahoo.com www.aboutchess.org Portland OR |
| 26-29 | North American Open | Continental Chess www.chesstour.com Las Vegas NV |

January 2005

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|--------|----------------------------------|---|
| ♣8 | 2005 Action Freeze | David Griffin 509-928-3260 dbgriffin@hotmail.com www.spokanechessclub.org Spokane WA |
| ♣8-9 | Portland New Year's Open | Neil Dale pdxchess@aol.com www.aboutchess.org Portland OR |
| ♣9 | SCC Sunday Tornado | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |
| ♣14-16 | Seattle City Championship | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |
| 15-16 | Vancouver Team Tnmt | Bruce Harper 604-263-8264 bruce54321@shaw.ca www.chess.bc.ca Vancouver BC |
| ♣20,27 | Spokane Winter Ch, Rds 1&2 | David Griffin 509-928-3260 dbgriffin@hotmail.com www.spokanechessclub.org Spokane WA |
| ♣22 | SCC Saturday Quads | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |
| ♣22-23 | Don McAdam Memorial | Gregory Churchill gregorychurchill@shaw.ca www.chess.bc.ca Victoria BC |
| 28 | TCC Membership Mtg | Gary Dorfner 253-535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com ... Tacoma WA |
| ♣29 | PCC Game-in-45 | Bruce Peterson 503-805-0493 b_r_u_c_e_p_e@yahoo.com www.aboutchess.org Portland OR |
| ♣29-30 | Stephen Christopher Memorial | Gary Dorfner 253-535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com .. Tacoma WA |

February 2005

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|------------|----------------------------|--|
| ♣3,10,17 | Spokane Winter Ch, Rds 3-5 | David Griffin 509-928-3260 dbgriffin@hotmail.com www.spokanechessclub.org Spokane WA |
| 4,11,18,25 | Pierce County Ch, Rds 1-4 | Gary Dorfner 253-535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com .. Tacoma WA |
| ♣6 | SCC Sunday Tornado | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |
| 12 | SCC Novice | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |
| ♣12-13 | Winter Open | Ben Daswani 604-596-1606 bndaswani@bcnet.com www.geocities.com/vanseasonal . Burnaby BC |
| ♣19 | SCC Saturday Quads | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |
| ♣26 | Portland CC Game-in-60 | Bruce Peterson 503-805-0493 b_r_u_c_e_p_e@yahoo.com www.aboutchess.org Portland OR |
| ♣26-27 | 13th Dave Collyer Memorial | Kevin Korsmo kmkorsmo@comcast.net www.spokanechessclub.org Spokane WA |

March 2005

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|--------|---------------------------------|--|
| 4 | Pierce County Ch, Rd 5 | Gary Dorfner 253-535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com .. Tacoma WA |
| ♣5-6 | Northwest Open | Gary Dorfner 253-535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com .. Tacoma WA |
| ♣12-13 | Portland Spring Open | Bruce Peterson 503-805-0493 b_r_u_c_e_p_e@yahoo.com www.aboutchess.org Portland OR |
| ♣13 | SCC Sunday Tornado | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |
| 18-20 | 5th Sands Regency Far West Open | Jerry Weikel 775-747-1405 wackykl@aol.com Reno NV |
| ♣26 | Portland CC Game-in-60 | Bruce Peterson 503-805-0493 b_r_u_c_e_p_e@yahoo.com www.aboutchess.org Portland OR |
| ♣26 | SCC Saturday Quads | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |

April 2005

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|--------------|---------------------|--|
| ♣1-3 | Seattle Spring Open | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |
| 1,8,15,22,29 | Tacoma City Ch | Gary Dorfner 253-535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com .. Tacoma WA |
| ♣10 | SCC Sunday Tornado | SCC Infoline 206-417-5405 cfkleist@cs.com Seattle WA |
| ♣16-17 | 33rd Daffodil Open | Gary Dorfner 253-535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com www.tacomachessclub.netfirms.com .. Tacoma WA |
| ♣16-17 | Inland Empire Open | David Griffin 509-928-3260 dbgriffin@hotmail.com www.spokanechessclub.org Spokane WA |

NOTE: A '♣' in front of the date indicates a Christopher Memorial Northwest GP event. A '♣' in front of the date indicates an Island GP event. A '♣' in front of the date indicates a Vancouver Seasonal GP event. Events listed in boldface type have tournament announcements (in our Future Events Section) or display advertisements elsewhere in this issue

Scholastic Events

December 2004

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|--|
| 11 | Class Action Tmt(JHS,MS & HS) | Kirk Winges kwinges@comcast.net http://whsca.org Tukwila WA |
| 11 | Solstice Sacrifice | Chris Copeland chris_copeland@comcast.net Spokane WA |
| 18 | Skagit ChessFest | Randy Walther, RandyWalther@msn.com, http://home.earthlink.net/~kaech5/ Sedro-Woolley WA |
| 18 | Hillsboro Holiday Classic (K-12) | hnoonanharris@comcast.net Hillsboro OR |
| 18 | Christmas Classic (K-12) | Steve Seymour (360)887-8315 seymours@pacifier.com Ridgefield WA |
| 20-22 | Chess Odyssey Holiday Camp | P. Prochaska 503-504-5756 pete@chessodyssey.com www.chessodyssey.com Beaverton OR |

For more scholastic events, see inside back cover