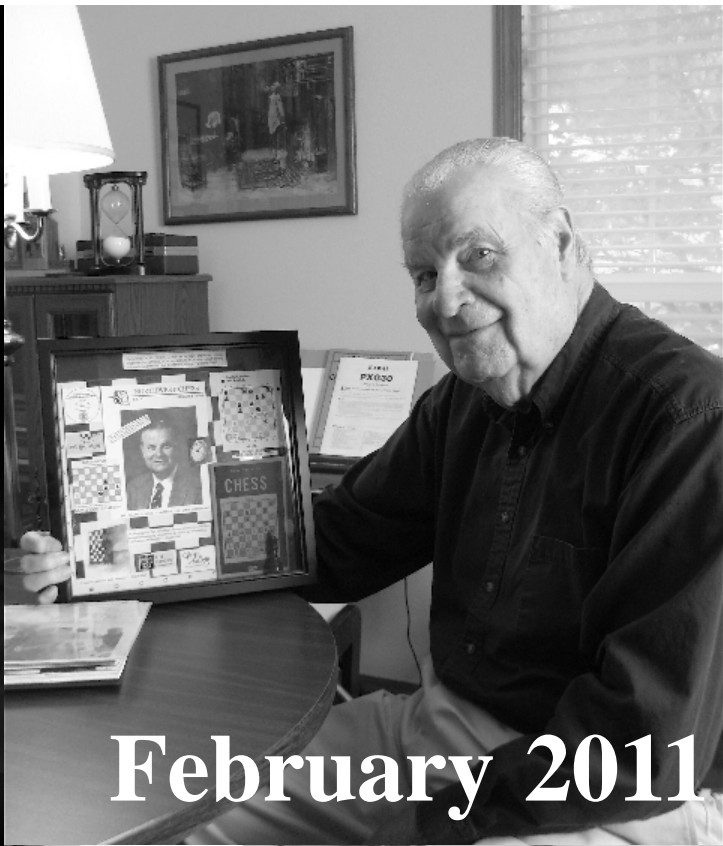


# Northwest Chess



February 2011



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# Northwest Chess

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**Photo credit: Frank Niro**

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## *Northwest Chess*

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Ralph Hall passed away on January 17, 2011, in Oregon City. He was 80 years old.

Ralph joined the US Chess Federation in 1957 and remained a member for the rest of his life. He founded the Norfolk (Virginia) Chess Club in 1956, and the Oregon City Chess Club in 1976.

He was instrumental in bringing the U.S. Open to Portland in 1987, and was the chief organizer of the event. The Oregon Chess Federation and *Northwest Chess* Board awarded him with a lifetime membership and subscription to *Northwest Chess* for this effort.

In addition to chess, Ralph was an Air Force officer, earned a Doctor of Education degree, was a science teacher and coach, High School Assistant Principal, school district administrator, Junior High Principal, and an avid golfer. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Irene, his daughter Kristine, son-in-law Chris, and three grandchildren.

Ralph's chess memoirs are in the John G. White Collection in Cleveland, Ohio. The pictures of Ralph on the cover were taken November 1, 2009, by Frank Niro.

Here are the pairings for the Washington Championship, Premier, and Invitational sections (as of 2/5).

### Championship

- 7. FM Costin Cozianu 2557
- 10. NM Howard Chen 2323
- 8. WGM Katerina Rohonyan 2319
- 1. FM Ignacio Perez 2296
- 4. NM Josh Sinanan 2284
- 2. FM Curt Collyer 2269
- 6. FM David Bragg 2208
- 5. NM Harley Greninger 2197
- 3. NM Dereque Kelley 2189
- 9. Igor Ummel 2083

avg rating: 2273  
Prize Fund: \$1500

### Premier

- 9. LM Viktors Pupols 2200
- 1. NM Michael MacGregor 2182
- 5. WFM Chouchanik Airapetian 2162
- 3. David Golub 2146
- 2. Gil Lapid Shafirri 2142
- 7. Michael Wang 2097
- 10. Nathan Lee 2075
- 8. Megan Lee 2063
- 6. FM Paul Bartron 2052
- 4. Samir Sen 2042

avg rating: 2116  
Prize Fund: \$1000

1st Alternate: Alan Bishop 2072

### Invitational

- 4. Roland Feng 2017
- 2. Hubert Jung 1964
- 10. Nicholas Hoffman 1916
- 5. Peter Watts 1915
- 3. Mark Smith 1907
- 8. Ethan Gottlieb 1902
- 1. Casey Xing 1862
- 6. Samuel He 1860
- 9. Michael Hosford 1856
- 7. Kate Tokareva 1794

avg rating: 1899  
Prize Fund: \$500

- 1st Alternate: Duane Polich 1879
- 2nd Alternate: Daniel He 1854
- 3rd Alternate: Dan Mathews 1841
- 4th Alternate: Steve Buck 1816
- 5th Alternate: Nick Pazderic 1805
- 6th Alternate: Amith Vanmane 1753
- 7th Alternate: Joe Davis 1657

Brilliancy Prizes: \$300 (\$100 for best game in each section).

Prize distribution (each section): 1st 45%, 2nd 25%, 3rd 15%, 4th 10%, 5th 5%.

The drawing of lots took place at 5 pm on Saturday, February 5, at Crossroads Mall in Bellevue. Howie Hare, David Bragg, Samuel He, Josh Sinanan, Dereque Kelley, and Chouchan Airapetian were in attendance.

Here is the pairings schedule for the rounds in each section. This is from the Berger tables.

Rd 1 -	1:10	2:9	3:8	4:7	5:6
Rd 2 -	10:6	7:5	8:4	9:3	1:2
Rd 3 -	2:10	3:1	4:9	5:8	6:7
Rd 4 -	10:7	8:6	9:5	1:4	2:3
Rd 5 -	3:10	4:2	5:1	6:9	7:8
Rd 6 -	10:8	9:7	1:6	2:5	3:4
Rd 7 -	4:10	5:3	6:2	7:1	8:9
Rd 8 -	10:9	1:8	2:7	3:6	4:5
Rd 9 -	5:10	6:4	7:3	8:2	9:1

- Josh Sinanan, WCF President

*Playing Site: Seattle Chess Club.*  
*Dates: February 12-13, 10 AM & 5 PM;*  
*February 19-20, 10 AM & 5 PM; February 21, 5 PM.*



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\$100,000 Based on 850 Players

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40/2, SD/1 (2-day rounds 1-3 Game/45)

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USCF National Championship

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# Ignacio Ignites the Washington Class

by Josh Sinanan

The 2010 Washington Class Championship was held in seven sections at the Marriott Hotel in Redmond Town Center November 26-28 over Thanksgiving weekend. A total of 177 players took part, up 13 more from last year despite the heavy snowstorm that tore through western Washington earlier in the week. The tournament was organized by Dan Mathews of the Washington Chess Federation and directed by Fred Kleist and Gary Dorfner.

With the first day of competition coinciding with Black Friday, there is a certain buzz around the Marriott as many nearby stores are packed with shoppers searching for the best sales. In fact, it has become quite popular for many parents to drop their kids off at the Scholastic tournament so they can get an early start on holiday shopping!

Every year the Class Championship seems to get younger as more junior players seeking fast improvement opt to play in the main event along with the adults. Many players

have also chosen to “play up” a section to better challenge themselves and maximize potential rating gains. WCF plans to continue offering this option and may even add a new Class F section for those rated 999 and below as more scholastic players transition to USCF-rated events.

FIDE Master Ignacio Perez won the 17-player Master section in convincing fashion with a score of five points in six rounds. True to his aggressive style, Ignacio played in the fast-paced 2-day schedule and started out by winning three straight games.

As the schedules merged in the fourth round, he faced off against top seed and current WA State Champion NM Howard Chen on board 1, the only other player with a perfect score. The two masters played a wild game in which Ignacio’s strong attack forced Howard to sacrifice his queen, ultimately leading to victory for the Cuban. He then topped up-and-coming expert David Golub in the fifth round to guarantee himself a share of first place with a round to go!

Ignacio’s only misstep came in the last round when he lost to yours truly in a tense game that could have gone either way. With this win over the tournament leader, I finished with 4.5 points and managed to tie for second with Howard, who was held to a draw by FM Curt Collyer. David Golub finished with 4 points to earn U2300 honors.

**Josh Sinanan – Ignacio Perez  
Washington Class, Round 6  
Redmond, November 28, 2010**

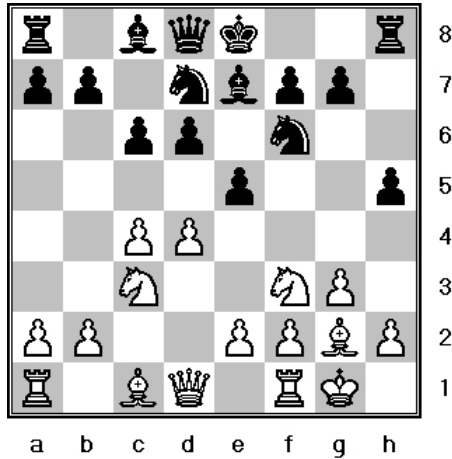
**1. d4 d6 2. Nf3 Nd7 3. c4 e5 4. Nc3 Ngf6 5. g3 Be7 6. Bg2 c6 7. 0-0 .h5**

A gutsy choice by Ignacio, who only needed a draw to clinch clear first in the tournament. He intends to avoid theory, but at the cost of losing a pawn for which he has no compensation. 7. ...0-0 8. e4 a6 9. a4 a5 10. h3 Re8 11. Be3 Bf8 12. Qc2 exd4 13.

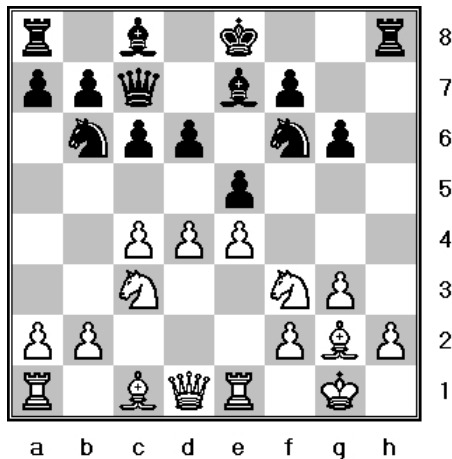


*Ignacio Perez. Photo credit: Philip Peterson.*

Nxd4 Nc5 14. Rad1 Qb6 15. Rfe1 g6 = is much more standard and should be preferred over the move played in the game.



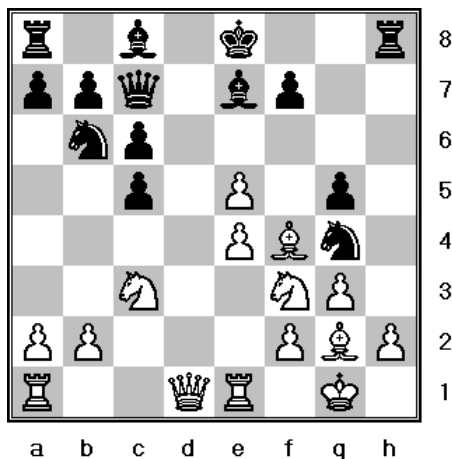
8. e4 h4 9. Nxh4 g6 10. Nf3 Qc7 11. Re1 Nb6?



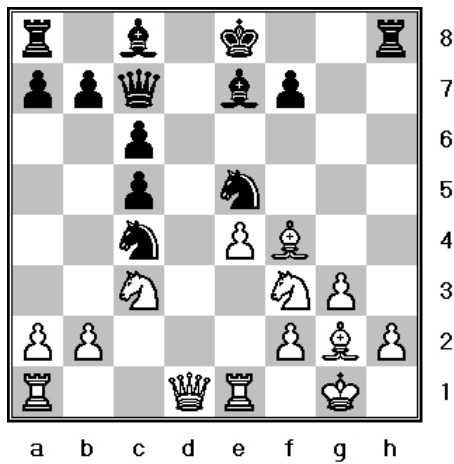
After this move, I sensed that I could favorably open up the center and try to use my lead in development.

12. c5! dxc5 13. dxe5 Ng4 14. Bf4 g5!

Ignacio finds the best defense, living up to his reputation as a very tough player to put away.



15. Nxe5 Nxe5 16. Nf3 Nbc4



17. Nxe5?

This lets Black off the hook. Much better was 17. Qe2 Nxf3+ 18. Bxf3 Ne5 19. Bh5! when the best that Black has is 19. ...0-0 20. Nd1 Be6 21. Ne3 +/-.

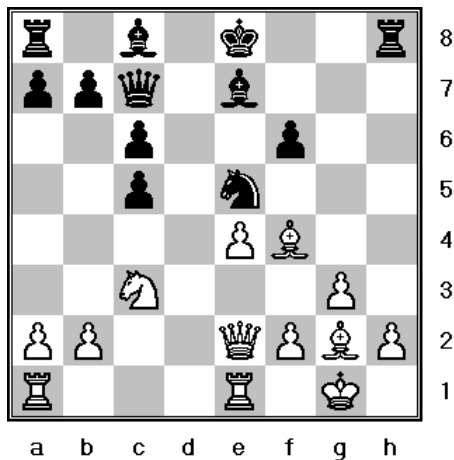
Somehow transferring the bishop from a fianchettoed position on g2 to the edge of the board on h5 seemed too exotic to me.

I chose a more natural, but ultimately inferior move.

17. ...Nxe5 18. Qe2

I spent some time looking at 18. Nd5 cxd5 19. exd5 f6, but couldn't find a clear way to proceed.

18. ...f6

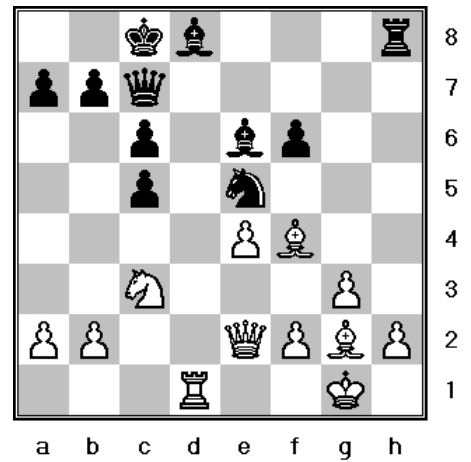


19. Rad1

Better was 19. Bxe5 Qxe5 20. f4 Qd4+ 21. Kh1.

It is hard for Black to find shelter for his king in time!

19. ...Bd7 20. Rd2 0-0-0 21. Red1 Be6 22. Rxd8+ Bxd8



23. h3



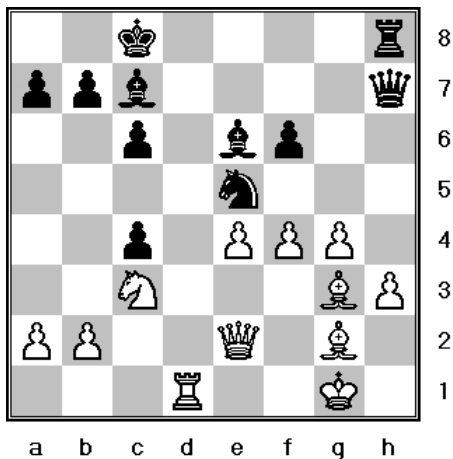
Josh Sinanan. Photo by Philip Peterson.

Here I sensed that my advantage was fading, and I now had to choose a defensive set-up on the king-side to meet Ignacio's coming attack down the h-file. I couldn't decide between h3 and h4, and probably chose the wrong plan.

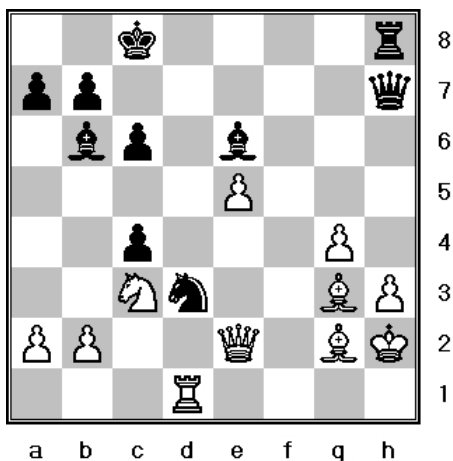
Better was 23. h4 Qg7 24. Na4 b6 25. Rd6, when not all of my kingside pawns are idle targets and White has counterplay on the queenside.

23. ...Qh7 24. g4 Bc7 25. Bg3 c4 26. f4?

Far too ambitious; this just opens up my king to be attacked. I should have solidified my king's position with 26. Qe3 Kb8 27. Ne2 Qe7 28. Nd4 while also improving my knight to a more centralized position.



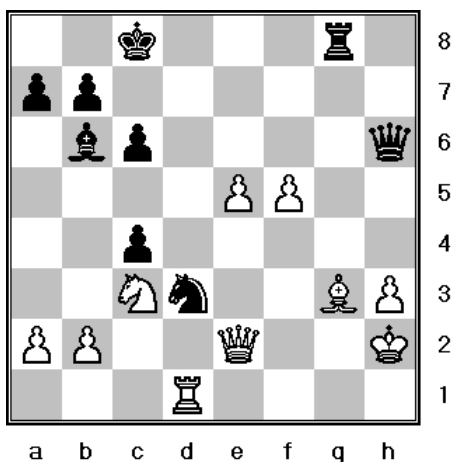
26. ...Nd3 27. e5 fxe5 28. fxe5 Bb6+ 29. Kh2



29. ...Rg8 30. Be4 Qh6 31. Bf5??

An inexplicable blunder played immediately after making time-control. My sense of danger had abandoned me, and I completely underestimated the consequences of opening the g-file.

31. ...Bxf5 32. gxf5



32. ...Rxc3??

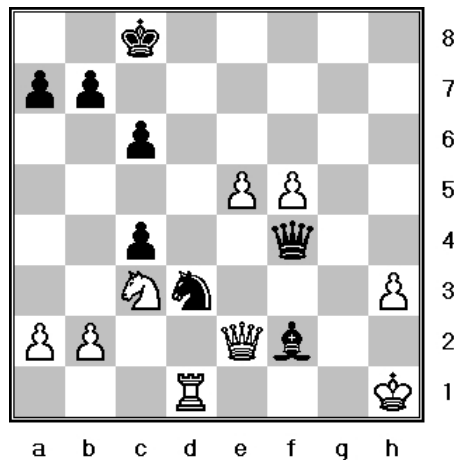
Ignacio returns the favor, perhaps playing a bit too quickly for the multiple

spectators that had now gathered around the stage. 32. ...Nf4 33. Qf1 Bg1+!! is immediately decisive! If Ignacio had used a little more time and found this, he would have gone an amazing 6-0.

33. Kxg3 Bf2+

33. ...Nf2 34. h4 Qg7+ 35. Kh2 Nxd1 36. Nxd1 Bc7 37. Kh3 Bxe5 38. Qg4 =.

34. Kh2 Qf4+ 35. Kh1



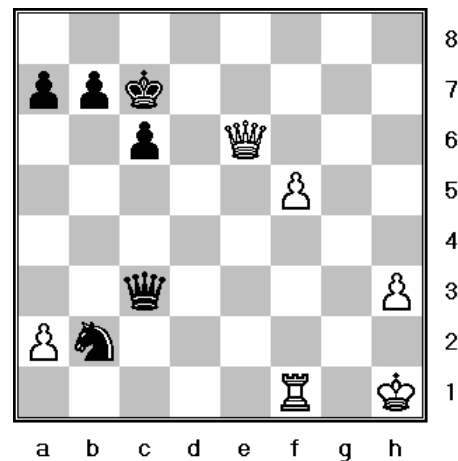
35. ...Bd4

A better try to hold was 35. ...Qxf5 36. Qg4 Qxg4 37. hxg4 Bd4 38. Rf1 Bxe5 39. g5 Nxb2 40. Ne2 b5 41. Rf7 a5 42. Re7 Nd3 43. g6 Bb2 44. g7 Bxg7 45. Rxc7, though White should still be winning.

36. Rf1 Qh4 37. Qf3 Nxe5 38. Qg2 Nd3 39. Ne4 Bf6 40. Nxf6 Qxf6 41. Qg8+ Kc7 42. Qxc4 Nxb2 43. Qe6 Qc3



Ankush Puri. Photo credit: Philip Peterson.



44. f6

1-0

Roger Patterson from British Columbia and young Samir Sen from Vancouver, WA tied for first in the 14-player expert section, each scoring 4.5 points. Both had a rocky start to the tournament, with Samir losing to Roger in round one and Roger falling victim to an upset in round two at the hands of Frank Qu. After the first day however, neither looked back and they each only conceded half a point out of the remaining four games. Andy May, who is studying chemistry at UW, came in third place with 4 points.

High School Freshman Peter Marriott and Canadian Jofrel Landingin each scored 5 points to finish at the top of the Class A section, which consisted of 25 players. Both finished the tournament undefeated; Jofrel drew his first two games and then won four in a row while Peter won his first four games before taking two half-point byes in the final rounds. Quentin Chi finished in clear third with 4.5 points and earned a medal.

Juan Perez, who is apparently not related to Ignacio, took clear first in the 26-player Class B section with 5 points, drawing only against third and fourth place finishers Amith Vanmane and Stephen Buck. Lane Van Weerdhuizen shared second place with Amith, scoring 4.5 points.

Fred Davis, last month's *Northwest Chess* cover boy, won sole first in the Class C section with a very impressive 5.5 points. James Colasurdo finished in second place by losing only to Davis and winning all of his other games.

Ankush Puri, ranked fourth for 8th graders in WA State, and Zamir Birnbach, a seventh grader from Evergreen School, tied for first place in the 32-player Class D

section, each scoring 5 points. Sharing second place were Sammamish fourth graders Brendan Zhang and Emanuel Chang, both scoring 4.5 points.

The largest section of the tournament was the 37-player Class E section, where first was shared between Kaicheng Hu, David Humphrey, Boas Lee, and Sukeerth Vegaraju, all of whom finished with 5 points. Menaka Narayanan scored 4.5 points to earn clear second. If you are wondering how much each player won, the full prize winners report is included below.

Tim Tobiasion returned as the main vendor again after missing last year's championship due to the poor economy. He offers excellent deals on chess sets, books, and software that are hard to find anywhere else. Joe Aragon also had a table set up to sell his hand-crafted leather chess boards, which are the perfect complement to a nice chess set.

Overall, the WA Class ran very smoothly and all of the games were hard fought, with several lasting well into the second time control. It's always a pleasure to see so many

talented players deep in thought, struggling to find the best moves. Thank you very much to those who attended the WA Class and we'll see you again next year!

## Side Events

### Results reported by Gary Dorfner

#### Blitz

1st/2nd Slava Mikhailuk & Elliott Neff, \$85 each; U2000 Matt Wilson, \$50; U1700 Bryce Tiglon, \$50; U1400 Sangeeta Dhingra & Dillon Murray, \$25 each.

TD: Gary Dorfner.

#### Novice

1st Breck Haining, 2nd Howard Hwa, 1st U1100 Karen Haining, 2nd U1100 Casey Schoonover, 1st U1000 Rachel Pulfer, 2nd U1000 Katherine Pulfer. They each received a trophy.

TD: Gary Dorfner.

### Thanksgiving Scholastic

**K-3 Open:** 1st Jonathan Hu, 5-0; 2nd-5th Omkar Shetti, Howard Hare, Maxwell Truluck, Richard Yang & Sujatha Devi Chalasani, 4-1 each.

**K-3 U800:** 1st Scott Wynn, 5-0; 2nd Khushal Dhingra, 4-1; 3rd Ethan Du, 3.5; 4th/5th Chase Traicoff & Nic Hansen, 3-2 each.

**4-6 Open:** 1st/2nd Marcell Szabo & Kyle Haining, 4.5 each; 3rd Chandler Moy, Trey Michaels, Olga Cherepakhin, Tudor Muntianu & Jordan Price, 4-1 each; Ethan Vincei Kho & Arjun Thomas, 2-3 each.

**4-6 U900:** 1st-4th Saffa Hiyeri, J.J. Finan, Dan He & Emily Bazar, 4-1 each.

**7-12 Open:** 1st Peter Sherman, 4.5; 2nd Dillon Murray, 4-1; 3rd Matt Coopersmith, 3.5.

**Team awards:** 1st Spirit Ridge, 16.0; 2nd Soundview, 14.0; 3rd Redmond Elementary, 14.0. They each received a trophy.



*British Columbia's Ben, Katherine, and Rachel Pulfer. Photo credit: Philip Peterson.*

# The 2011 Gresham Open

by Neil Dale

On January 8th and 9th we had a good tournament: the weather gods were not angry, and the attendance was good; we had 58 entrants.

Radu Roua won it with a perfect score, thus earning first place money plus the \$200 prize donated by Rusty Miller in memory of Stephen Christopher. Carl Haessler, a previous multiple winner of this tournament finished a half a point behind for a clear second. Four players finished with 4 points each: Howard Chen and Viktors Pupols split the third place money, Mikeal Davis claimed the U-2200 first place money, and Brian Esler the U-2000 honors and money.

Among players with 3 points some deserve mention: Rusty Miller and Mike Terrill split the U-1600 prizes, and Mark Hanna, who apparently gained 140 rating points, won the U-1400 first place money. As Rusty donated the money for the perfect score, it is poetic

justice and good karma that he got some of the money back. My apologies to all higher rated 3 1/2 and 3 pointers that I did not mention, but there were many.

The Portland Chess Club sponsored the event, and Mt. Hood Community College provided the nice playing site. Looks like a good start for chess in Oregon for the year 2011, which also happens to be the 100th birthday of the Portland Chess Club.

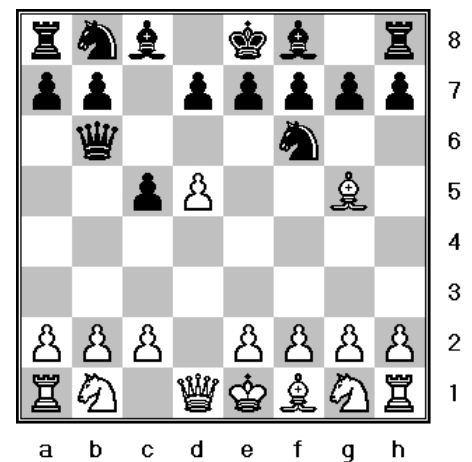
Many thanks to Andrei Botez for taking excellent pictures, and to Charles Schulien for annotating some games from the event.

## Richard Gutman – Carl Haessler Gresham Open, Round 3 Gresham, Oregon, January 8, 2011

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bg5 c5

In the most popular line 2. ...Ne4 3. Bf4 c5 4. f3 Qa5+ 5. c3 Nf6 6. d5 (6. Nd2) 6. ...Qb6, now 7. Bc1 is considered best. White cannot play a strong gambit due to c3 being occupied by a pawn.

3. d5 Qb6



4. Bc1

Very unusual here. Possibly Richard was thinking of the line quoted above? Critical is the gambit continuation 4. Nc3 Qxb2 5. Bd2. There follows 5. ...Qb6 6. e4 d6 7. f4



Radu Roua. Photo credit: Andrei Botez.



with an attack.

4. ...g6

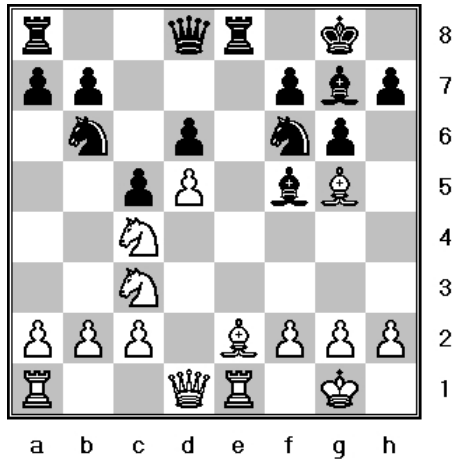
Or 4. ...e6 opening lines, since Black leads in development.

5. Nc3 Bg7 6. Nf3 0-0 7. e4 d6 8. Nd2 Qd8 9. Be2 e6 10. 0-0 exd5 11. exd5 Re8 12. Re1 Nbd7 13. Nc4 Nb6 14. Bg5

14. Ne3 Bd7 15. Bd2 is innocuous here. Black can exchange a pair of knights with ...Na4 or ...Ne4 with approximate equality.

14. ...Bf5

Exchanging pieces eases Black's cramp, and in this case, allows further development with gain of time. 14. ...Nxc4 15. Bxc4 Rxe1+ 16. Qxe1 Bf5.



15. Ne3!

Right about now, Carl regretted passing

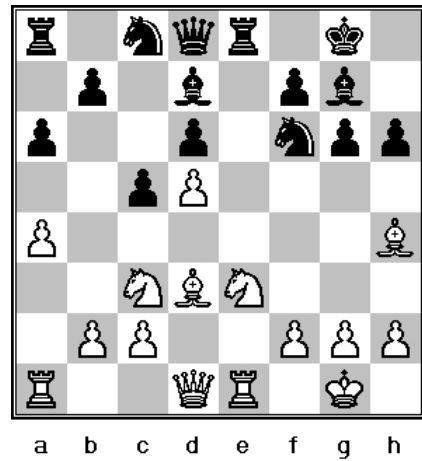


Richard Gutman.

Photo credit: Andrei Botez.

up the exchange on the previous turn, but he hadn't expected the knight retreat.

15. ...Bd7 16. a4 h6 17. Bh4 Nc8 18. Bd3 a6



19. Qf3

19. h3.

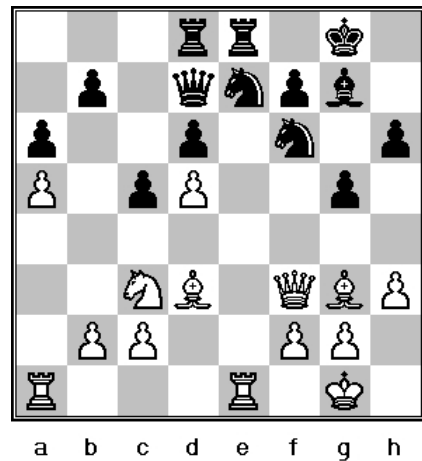
19. ... g5 20. Bg3 Rb8

20... g4!?

21. Nf5

21. Bf5 preserves the knight, but I won't argue with Gutman's choice here. The light squared bishop is a good piece.

21. ...Bxf5 22. Qxf5 Ne7 23. Qf3 Qd7 24. a5 Rbd8 25. h3



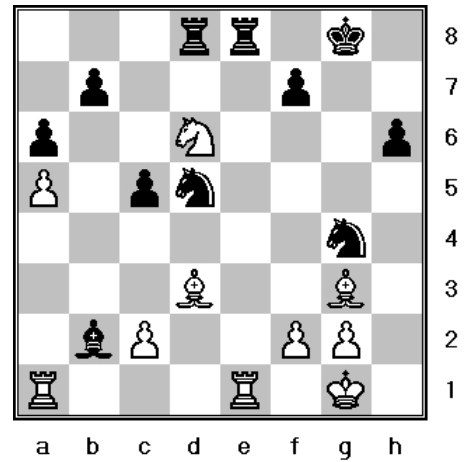
25. ...g4!?

Black didn't feel that he had time for 25. ...h5 26. Qe3.

26. hxg4 Qxg4 27. Qxg4 Nxg4 28. Ne4 Nxd5!?

After using up most of his remaining time for the first control, Carl decides to sacrifice a pawn here, facilitating liquidation of pieces. The next 12 moves were played at blitz tempo. 28. ...Nf5 takes a lot of nerve to try. The black knights are loose pieces.

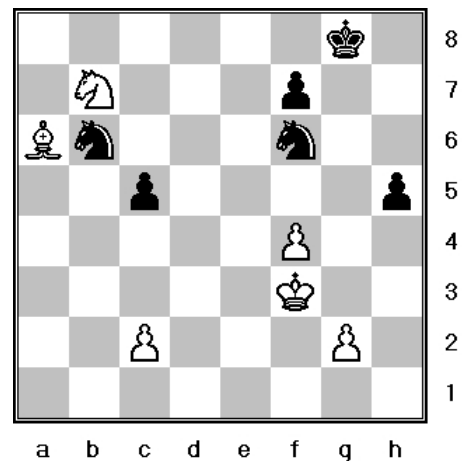
29. Nxd6 Bxb2



30. Rxe8+

The safe move, and quite understandable – White had just a few minutes of thinking time for the following 12 moves. Probably White should keep a pair of rooks on the board, as his advantage is not yet sufficient in the minor pieces endgame: 30. Nxe8 Bxa1 31. Nd6 Bc3 32. Rb1. I could supply some long, non-forced variations, but overall Black has more to worry about than in the game.

30. ...Rxe8 31. Nxe8 Bxa1 32. Nd6 b5 33. axb6 Nxb6 34. Bxa6 Be5 35. Bxe5 Nxe5 36. f4 Ned7 37. Kf2 Nf6 38. Kf3 h5 39. Nb7



I'm not certain of the moves before time control, but believe that this right. If so, Black erred on his next turn.

39. ...Kg7?

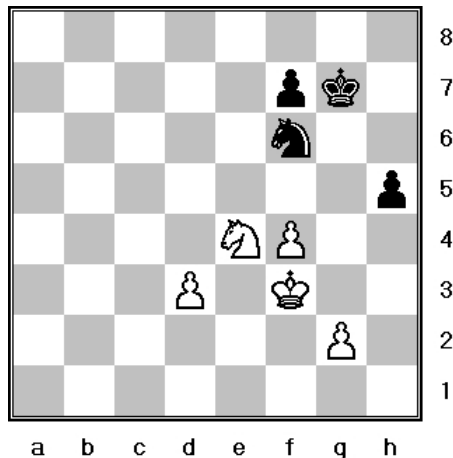
39. ...c4 40. Nd6 c3.

40. Nxc5 Nbd5 41. Bd3 Nb4 42. Ne4?

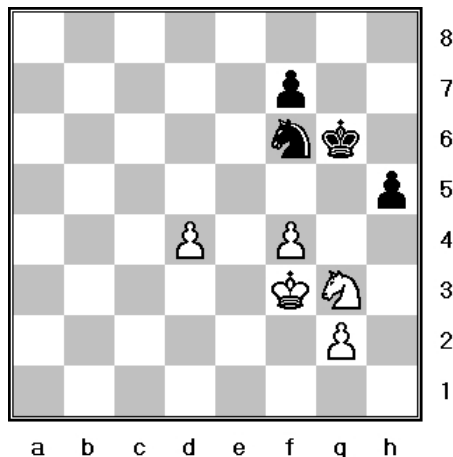
A mistaken exchanging decision. 42. c3 Nxd3 43. Nxd3 stretches the defense. White's chances are definitely improved with a c-pawn passer!

**42. ...Nxd3 43. cxd3**

Now the black king and knight can reasonably defend the field of play, which comprises five files side-to-side. Overall, Carl and I feel that Black's chances for a draw are higher than White's odds of winning. Further analysis, while not exhaustive, tends to support that conclusion.



**43. ...Nd5 44. Ng3 Kg6 45. d4 Nf6 46. Ne4 Nd5 47. Ng3 Nf6**



**48. Ne4**

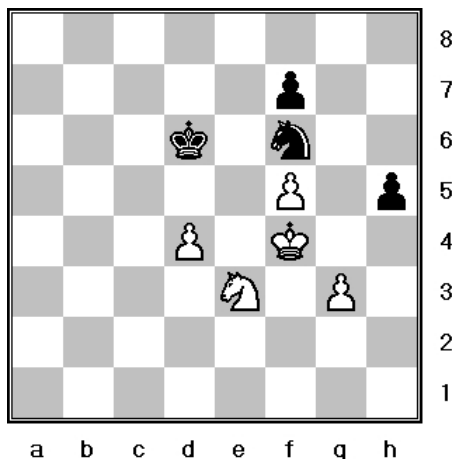
I'll just show a few possible variations where White advances his pawns and pieces: 48. Nf1 Nd5 49. Ne3 offers better chances. But after 49. ...Nc3 50. d5 Kf6 51. Kf2 (51.

g3; White plays for zugzwang, but it doesn't quite work: 51. ...Kg6 52. d6 Kf6 53. Nf5 Ke6 54. Ng7+ Kxd6 55. Nxh5 and this ending should definitely be drawn.) 51. ...Ne4+ 52. Ke2 Ke7 53. Kd3 Ng3 54. Nc4 f6, and White has yet to prove anything.

**48. ...Nd5 49. Nd6 Kf6 50. g3**

Avoids further repetition of position, but it also costs white his 'spare' move, and a potential square for the king.

**50. ...Ke6 51. Nc4 Nf6 52. Ne3 Kd6 53. f5 Kd7 54. Kf4 Kd6**



Play might continue 55. Nc4+ Kd5 56. Ne5 Kxd4 57. Nxf7 Nd5+ 58. Kg5 Ke4, when the black king is just in time to harass both white pawns.

1/2-1/2

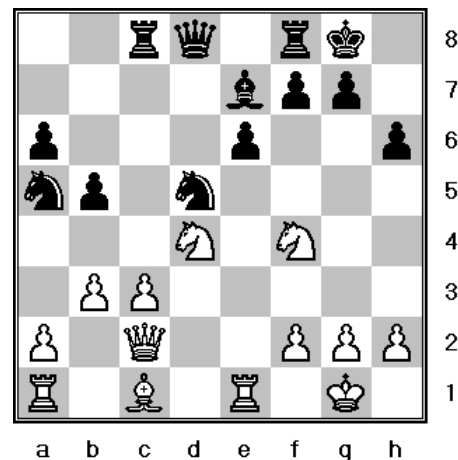
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**Carl Haessler – David Bragg  
Gresham Open, Round 5  
Gresham, Oregon, January 9, 2011**

**1. Nc3 d5 2. e4 dxe4 3. Nxe4 Bd7 4. Bc4 e6 5. Nf3 Bc6 6. Qe2 Be7 7. 0-0 Nf6 8. Neg5 0-0 9. Re1 Bd5 10. d4 Nc6 11. c3 h6 12. Nh3 Bxc4 13. Qxc4 Nd5 14. Qb5?! a6 15. Qb3 b5 16. Bd2 Na5 17. Qc2 Nc4 18. Bc1 c5 19. b3 Na5?! 20. Nf4 cxd4 21. Nxd4 Rc8**

After an indifferent opening, Black is on

the verge of seizing the initiative... but White is having none of it!

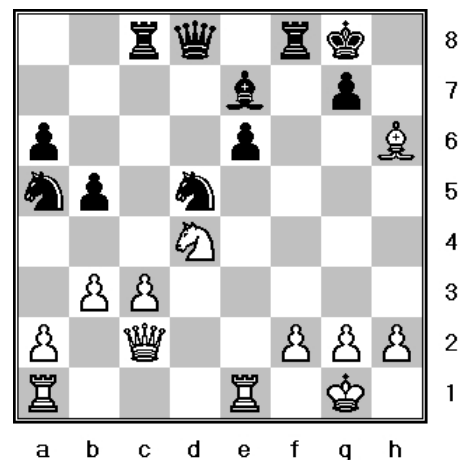


**22. Nfxe6!**

Black probably expected something like 22. Nxd5 Qxd5 23. Be3 Rfd8 with a comfortable position.

**22. ...fxe6 23. Bxh6!?**

White plays for mate! Much safer was 23. Nxe6 Qb6 24. Nxh8 Rxf8 25. Be3 with chances for both sides. White's rooks should operate effectively with two open center files, and the black knight on a5 will not be very helpful.



**23. ...Rf6**

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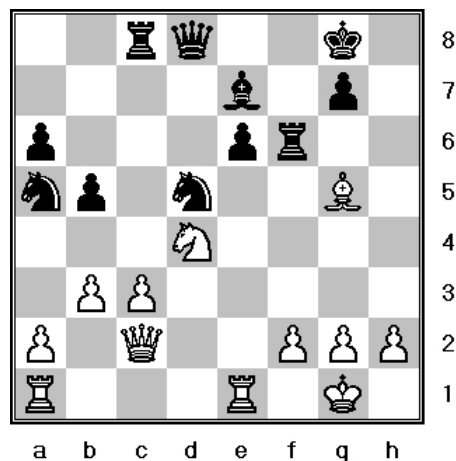
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RADU@chessvision.net  
www.chessvision.net

Black has another way to defend e6: the retreat 23. ...Nc7. It looks bad to take the knight off it's strong square and block the rook on c8, but after 24. Qe4 it opens the way for the black queen: 24. ...Qd5.

Of course 23. ...gxh6 24. Qg6+ Kh8 25. Nxe6 wins immediately.

#### 24. Bg5

It is very easy for Black to go wrong, given the chaos which Carl unleashed.



#### 24. ...Nf4?

To my mind, the most obvious capture is also the best one: 24. ...Nxc3 25. Bxf6 Bxf6 26. Nxe6 Qd7 27. Rac1 Rc6!

Somewhat weaker is 24. ...Rxc3 25. Qe4. Yet even here, a computer move allows Black to maintain some sort of balance: 25. ...e5! 26. Qxe5 Rf7 27. Ne6 Qd6.

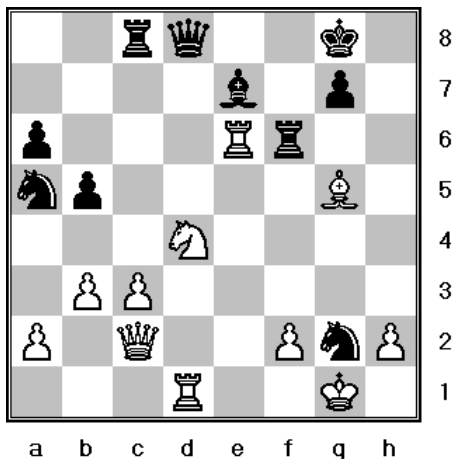
#### 25. Rad1

White could just chop wood with 25. Bxf6 Bxf6 26. Nxe6 Nxe6 27. Rxe6, leaving Black with fewer chances to make mischief.



Carl Haessler. Photo credit: Andrei Botez.

#### 25. ...Nxc3!? 26. Rxe6

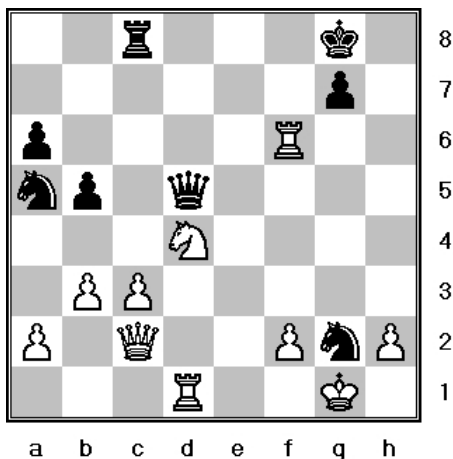


#### 26. ...Qd5?

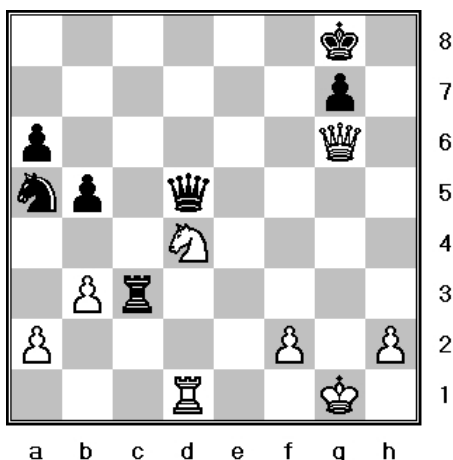
This is far too optimistic. 26. ...Rxe6 27. Nxe6 Qe8 and nothing is settled yet.

#### 27. Bxf6 Bxf6 28. Rxf6!?

The prosaic 28. Qf5 is equally effective.



#### 28. ...Nh4 29. Rg6 Nxc6 30. Qxc6 Rxc3



#### 31. Re1!

Now White wins by attack after all!

#### 31. ...Rc8 32. Nf5 Qb7 33. Ne7+

1-0

Mikael Davis, Brian Esler,  
and Russell Miller.

Photo credits: Andrei Botez.



# From Wenatchee to Albuquerque... to St. Louis??

by Wayne Hatcher

Hi Folks!

I moved to New Mexico in 2005, being directly reassigned here from Wenatchee as a result of streamlining of the Forest Service Financial Management organization nationwide. Many folks either were laid off or retired when the big move to one service center happened in 2005. I have worked with the FS Financial Management since 1980 (25 years in Wenatchee and 6 years here). I was eligible to retire April 2010 and hope to in the next couple years – if my wife and I can pay off our house mortgage here and move to Saint Louis to play chess.

There is a fairly active chess community here in New Mexico that you can read about at [www.nmchess.org](http://www.nmchess.org). There are a quite a few players below 2000 with a handful of experts and a couple masters that are active. All the big events are in Albuquerque (about 900,000 pop. in Greater ABQ area) where there are small monthly events at a couple libraries and three or four regular larger tournaments yearly. There is a weekly chess club at a restaurant downtown across the street from University of New Mexico campus that reminds me of the old Last Exit on Brooklyn in Seattle's U. District. Play is one unrated G/30 weekly with much speed

chess and chess talk – about 20-30 people show. It's in a seedy part of town, where there are a few panhandlers, and a bunch of strange (from my point of view) college age people hanging out, but it has been the chess hangout too for many, many years.

And then there is the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis that is first class all the way. There are numerous 4' X 6' television monitors there are two at the front of the club facing the street that continuously have the highest rated ICC game with moves as they are being played. Of course most of the games are 3-minute blitz.

The only thing (and it's a big deal to me) is there are no elevators (something about building being on National Historic Register and they couldn't find the space to put one in) with steep staircase (reminds me of the stairs at the Lake City Community Center site back in the 70's where a well-meaning chess player almost let go of my wheelchair, but that's a different story) from ground floor to both basement and 2nd floor which limit my options – however during big events in the downstairs lecture hall they have a closed circuit TV system that can broadcast throughout the building – the voice kept

cutting out when Nigel Short was lecturing.

The stair thing actually worked in my favor as about 120 people piled up the stairs paying \$10 each to have Kasparov autograph a book and have one 3x5 picture taken. No chess board anywhere to be seen – whereas I sat patiently on the ground level waiting about an hour for him to come (several club staff repeatedly told me he would see me) and had numerous pictures taken at the chess board. I set up an English opening – Kasparov can be seen laughing and commenting, seeing GM Short behind me, “must be an English evening!” He was waiting behind the board seemingly for me to say something, so I asked him if there was any chance that he would return to playing chess one day. He replied, “No, I am moving forward,” at which point he stood up and walked downstairs where Nigel gave his lecture. I did not get to play Mr. Kasparov. Supposedly he was only to be at the chess club for an hour but stayed at least two. Garry was nice to me – he gave me a firm handshake – I was tempted to say “draw” when we shook hands but couldn't find the courage.

Pics courtesy Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis.





# 2010 UW Photography Program Art Show

## by Philip Peterson

You know you are an *artiste* when the only complaint at an art show opening is about one of *your* photographs.

An art show featuring the photography of the graduation class of the 2010 UW photography program opened on January 21 and will exhibit through March 15, 2011.

One of the features is the chess photography of Philip Peterson, as well as works by a dozen of his classmates. Out of about eighty photos, just one of the photos (and that a chess photo) garnered any complaints.

Photographer Philip Peterson and WCF Vice President Duane Polich availed themselves of the free food and drinks on opening night.

The chess photos feature pictures of chess pieces frozen, burning, and chopped to pieces with an ax and stomped on. And yes, several chess sets were harmed in the production of these photos.

The photos are available to viewing by the public (though mid March), though you have to sign in at the security desk on the ground floor and tell the guard you are there to view the gallery on the Mezzanine level at the UW Tower from 8:00 am to 6:00 PM.

So next time you are in Seattle's U-district, and want to see some cool photos, stop by 4333 Brooklyn Ave. NW and head on up to the mezzanine level. For those of you who do not wish to make the arduous journey to Seattle, many of the photos can be found here: <http://philip.photomerchant.net./galleries/chess>.

Oh yes, the complaint: Who knew that seeing someone face down with a pool of blood spreading across a chess board might be considered objectionable?



*Philip Peterson and Duane Polich standing in front of Philip's exhibit. Photo credit: Philip Peterson.*



*Chess art by Philip Peterson.*

***<http://philip.photomerchant.net./galleries/chess>***

## **5th Annual Grand Pacific Open**

### **\$4000 GUARANTEED Prize Fund**

**Easter: April 22-25, 2011**

**Location:** Hotel Grand Pacific, 463 Belleville St, Victoria, BC

**Round Times:** Friday 6:00pm, Sat. 12:00 / 6:00pm, Sun. 12:00 / 6:00pm, Monday 10:00am

**Time Control:** Game in 90 minutes plus 30 second per move increment.

**Entry Fees: Open:** \$75 by Mar. 15, \$85 by Apr. 15, \$95 on site. **U1400:** \$55 by Mar. 15, \$65 by Apr. 15, \$75 on site. Non-CFC members add \$16(\$8) for adult (junior)CFC Tournament Membership

**Prizes:** \$1,000/\$600/\$400 U2000 \$400/\$300. U1700 \$350/\$250 U1400 \$300/\$200 Upset \$100 Unrated \$100.

**Registration:** on line at [www.grandpacificopen.com](http://www.grandpacificopen.com) or by cheque payable to Victoria Junior Chess Society. Mail to Brian Raymer, 2386 Dalhousie St., Victoria, BC V8R 2H6

**Transportation:** Clipper jet boat from Seattle and Coho ferry from Port Angeles both dock across the street from the playing site. Round times are set up to match the sailing schedule.

**Misc:** Sets, boards and clocks provided. Special \$99 room rate at Hotel Grand Pacific 1-800-663-7550 (rate code "APR11GRAND") See website [www.grandpacificopen.com](http://www.grandpacificopen.com) for further details and additional side events. FIDE and CFC rated. *All amounts listed are Canadian dollars.*



# Theoretically Speaking

by Bill McGeary

## GM Wells' Queen's Gambit, part one of five.

Every chessplayer wants to play better. For the vast majority of us the method we use to improve is to look at games played by other players, hopefully players stronger than ourselves, and learn from those games. In some game we play a bit of of wisdom from the studied games will appear on the board and we will be happy that we were able to emulate a good player. This is how we each eventually get a "chess hero" to try to play like. One upshot of this is that we are likely to take up the openings of that player, simple osmosis.

Ok, I confess that what I am presenting is backwards. I found an opening method I liked and it worked backwards for me picking up on a specific player. The opening is the Queens Gambit via 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 and the player is the English GM Peter Wells. I prefer not to waste time in how I got from 'b' to 'a', but suffice it to say that results helped.

First off, a small point of move order. If White plays 1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 Wells prefers to play 2...d5 because it affords him certain options should White not play 3. c4. For our purposes the real investigation begins at move four. White usually plays 4. Nc3 or 4. Bg5 with 4. g3 and 4. cxd5 a further step down. There are other fourth moves, but they are infrequent and much less critical. So, after either 4. Nc3 or 4. Bg5 Wells' preference is to play 4. ...dxc4. Let's start with 4. Nc3 dxc4.

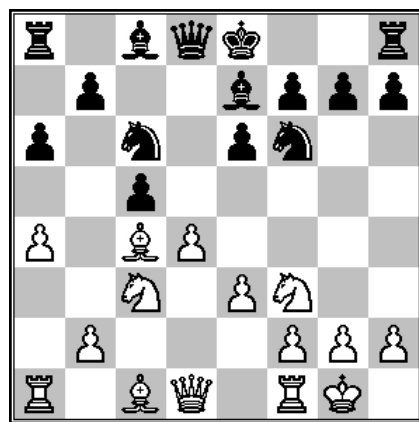
White has a choice at move five which suggests Black's surrendering the d5-pawn

is a bit more involved than we might expect. Pushing 5. e4 or pinning with 5. Bg5 are likely to transpose to the complex Vienna Variation, 5. Qa4+ involves some tap dancing as each side tries to control events on the c- and b-files, and finally 5. e3 is a transposition to the Queen's Gambit Accepted. Likely this is White's most solid choice, but also the least ambitious. Black is afforded a QGA where the sharpest or most theoretically critical lines are avoided. Not such a bad deal!

Black develops smoothly (...c7-c5, ...b7-b5, ...Bb7, ...Bd6, ...Qc7/b8 and ...Nbd7) while trying to control central black squares. Notice I said black squares – and e4 is a white square. Black will keep e4 under surveillance, but can't really prevent the advance e3-e4. What Black is counting on is that after e3-e4, Black can exchange ...c5xd4 and control the squares from h2-b8. White can try to counter this with a later f4, but that involves a lot of build-up and often will just lead to further weaknesses around the White king. White can try to cross Black up at a couple of points. White can play a4 early to inhibit ...b5 and aim to slowly build up to e4, or by arranging to play d4-d5 early White can attempt to use tactical means to overcome Black's position.

Here goes:

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 d5 4. Nc3 dxc4  
5. e3 a6 6. a4 c5 7. Bxc4 Nc6 8. 0-0 Be7

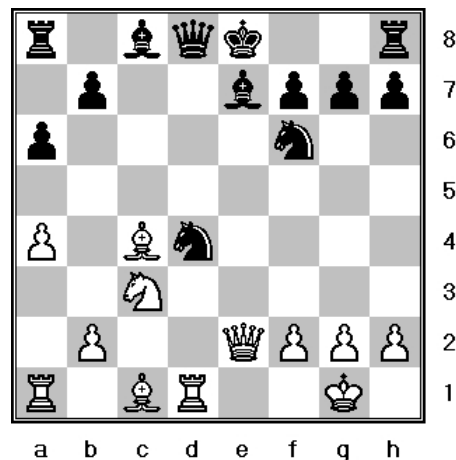


9. Qe2 cxd4 10. Rd1 e5

A slightly risky move, still uncastled Black boosts the pawns in front of the king.

Here we see a point of the early move order. With the inclusion of Nc3 and Be7 Black can play this, whereas in the standard QGA it would be dreadful due to the pin of the e-pawn. Black's idea is to ease the position with some exchanges.

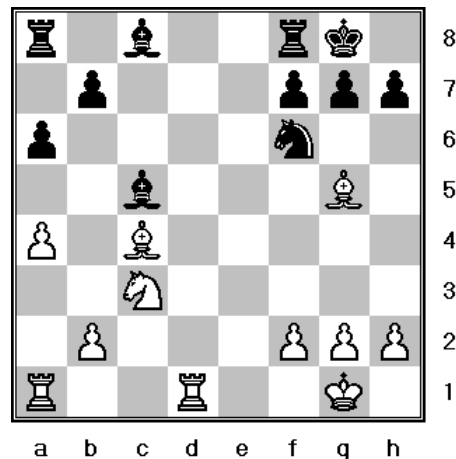
11. exd4 exd4 12. Nxd4 Nxd4



13. Qe5

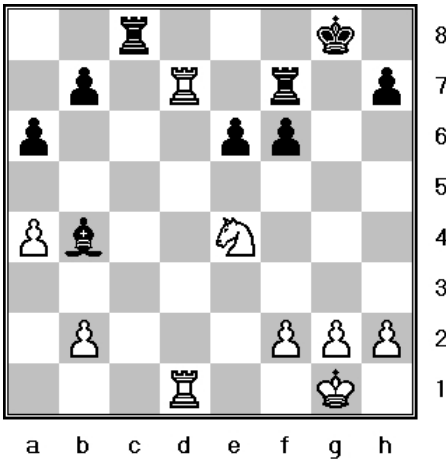
This is standard in this position. An alternative which GM Sasikiran played against Wells at Hastings 2002 is 13. Qe3 to keep the queens on. 13. Qe3 0-0 14. Rxd4 Qc7 15. Qe2 (novelty) 15. ...Bd6 16. g3 Re8 17. Qf1 at which Wells played 17. ...Be5 looking to stir up some trouble with a possible ...Bxc3, but 18. Bf4 squelched that and Wells lost later on. Back at move 17 I would think that Black does well with either ...Bc5 or ...Qb6.

13. ...Qd6 14. Qxd4 Qxd4 15. Rxd4 Bc5 16. Rd1 0-0 17. Bg5



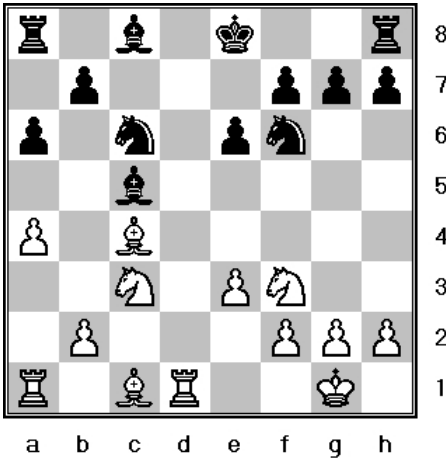


17....Be6 18. Bxe6 fxe6 19. Bxf6 gxf6  
20. Ne4 Rac8 21. Rd7 Rf7 22. Rad1 Bb4



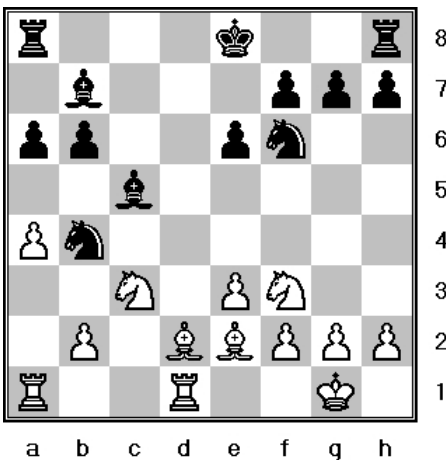
Prasad – Wells, Port Erin 2003, ended peacefully in 41 moves. At move 17 Wells wasn't afraid to have his kingside pawns disrupted because the rest of his army was active enough.

Ivan Sokolov deviated after 8. 0-0 Be7:  
9. dxc5 Qxd1 10. Rxd1 Bxc5



Sokolov was trying to simply outplay Wells, but the position didn't afford this.

11. Bd2 b6 12. Bd3 Nb4 13. Be2 Bb7

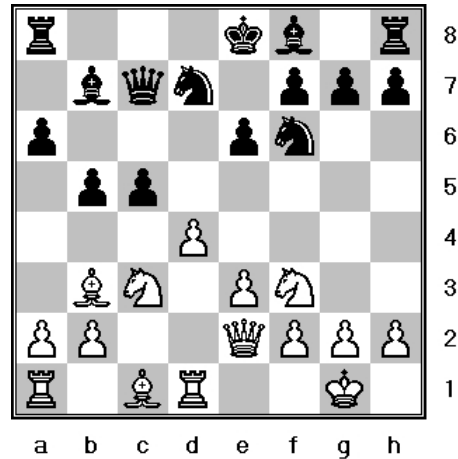


14. a5 bxa5

Denying White any dreams of a sac on b5 followed by running the a-pawn. Black has a weak a6, White a weak b2. Black's king might be a little better placed for the endgame, but the rooks aren't connected. This seems very insipid; after all, if White wants to claim a space advantage Black will simply put a finger on the b4 square and smile. Legendary German GM Uhlmann tried to press this position against Wells in Austria during 2002 and even lost!

Attempts with an early d5 by White lead to some hairy positions. A good example of this is D'Costa-Wells, 4NCL (West Bromwich) 2002. D'Costa is now an IM with some energetic tendencies. After 5. e3 a6:

6. Bxc4 b5 7. Bb3 Bb7 8. 0-0 c5 9. Qe2 Nbd7 10. Rd1 Qc7



11. d5

The idea is a pawn sac: 11. ...exd5 12. e4 to open lines toward e8. An interesting point is that in simple count of pieces off the back rank Black is only one behind, yet White is banking on a development advantage because of the situation of Black's king. 11. a4 is possibly a better precursor to this with the idea of having a possible open line on the queenside as well as aiming to define Black's pawns on that side of the board.

11. ...c4

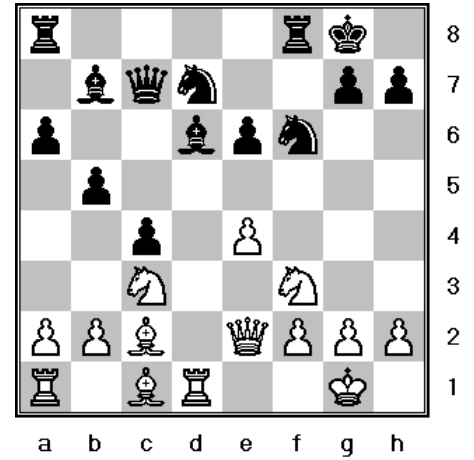
A small point. Black can undermine the support of d5 with either ...c5-c4 or ...b5-b4. After ...b4 the c3-knight is going to end up on an awkward square like a4, which might seem like an extra benefit for Black.

The choice is actually very easy, because Black has to be more concerned right now with the king. By playing c5-c4 Black limits

the activity towards e6 and f7 which is paramount currently.

A bonus for Black is that the c5 square also has become available for Black's pieces.

12. dxe6 fxe6 13. Bc2 Bd6 14. e4 0-0

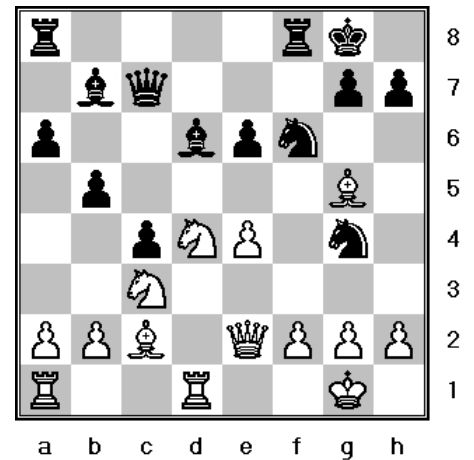


A type of position that arises from lines in the Meran defense. Black will have a lot of activity to compensate for the structural weaknesses.

15. Bg5 Ne5 16. Nd4 Neg4

This position is just too good for Black. The entire Black army is poised for a direct attack on the squares in front of White's king.

How did this happen? The action with d5 was not appreciated by White and proof is only as far as the half open f-file.



17. g3 Nxf2 18. Nxe6 Nh3+ 19. Kg2 Qe7 20. Nxf7 Qxf7 21. Bxf6 Rxf6 22. Kxf6 Rh6+ 23. Kg2 Rxf2+ 24. Kxf2 Qxf3+ 25. Kh1 Qh3+ 26. Kg1 Bc5+

0-1

To be sure Black will want to be familiar with some ideas in these QGA positions, but on the whole this isn't a big threat.

End part one.



# And In The End

by Dana Muller

On the other hand, with three pawn islands scattered across the board, Black does need to exercise a bit of caution. In particular the kingside pawns are susceptible to being fixed, thereby creating a permanent target.

White's bishop pair counts for a lot, able to prevent the black king from penetrating into White's position by either controlling key diagonals in front of Black's king or attacking pawns that need to be protected by the king.

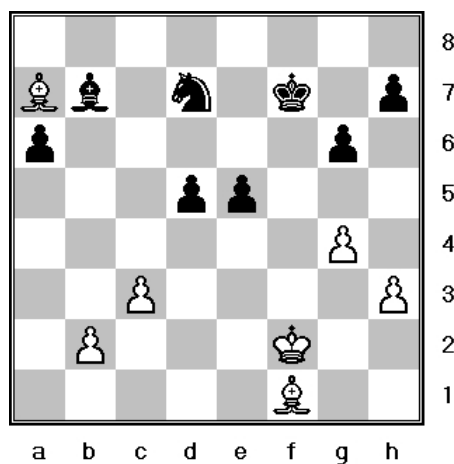
Generally, White does not want to trade his black-square bishop for the knight. On the other hand, trading the white-square bishop for knight (resulting in a bishop of opposite color ending) is the road to a simple draw in many positions.

One more point: the game was to be adjourned shortly after time control (move 40), therefore both players tried to avoid making any irreversible commitments before the adjournment.

**37. ...Nd7**

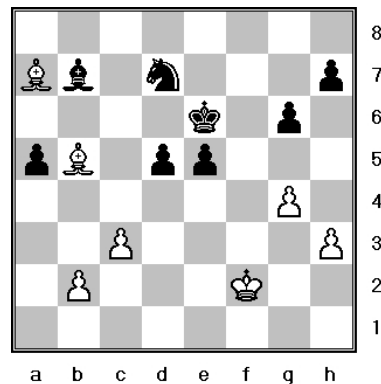
Natural, trying to enforce ...e5

**38. Kf2 e5 39. Ba7**



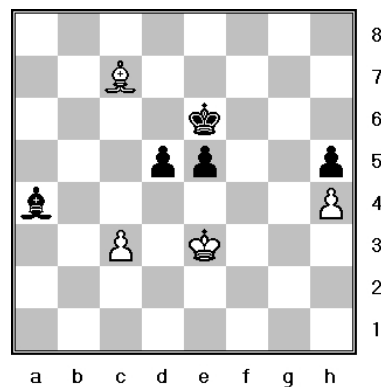
**39. ...Ke6**

Another plan is 39. ...a5 (possibly ...a4 to follow), trying to either restrict White's queenside pawns or remove a potential weakness by exchanging the a-pawn. It is double-edged in that the black a-pawn makes a nice target for the white bishops. Here are some samples of play after 39. ...a5 40. Bb5 Ke6:



(1) 41. g5 (fixing the black kingside) Kd6 42. h4 Bc6 43. Be2 (43. Bd3 Nc5 44. Bc2 d4 gives black play) 43. ...Ba4 (43. ...Nc5 44. Bb8+ Ke6 45 Bg4+) 44. Ke3 Nc5 45. Bg4 Kc6 46. Bb8 e4 47. Bg3 Nd3 48. c4 Nx2 49. Kd4! Nxc4 50. Be6. The position has been randomized a bit, but White can probably draw with precise play.

(2) 41. Bxd7+ (immediately playing for the bishops of opposite color ending) 41. ...Kxd7 42. Bb8 Ke6 43. b3 Bc6 44. Bc7 a4 45. bxa4 Bxa4 46. Ke3 h5 47. gxh5 gxh5 48. h4.



White can hold by keeping the bishop on the b8-h2 or d8-h4 diagonals as appropriate.

(3) 41. Ke3 Kd6 42. Kd2 (White diddles as in the game) 42. ...Bc6 43. Be2 Nc5 44. Ke3 g5 45. Bb8+ Ke6 46. Bc7 a4 47. Bd1 h6 48. Bc2. Black has a little more play than in the game continuation, but White can hold.

So the verdict is that 39. ...a5 offers chances roughly equivalent to the game continuation, with variation (2) being a fairly clear-cut method for White to draw.

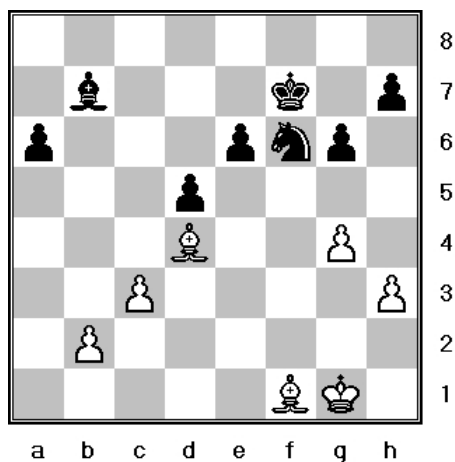
Have you ever played a game where your position is clearly superior, but there seems to be no rational way to play for a win?

This month we look at one of those frustrating positions; Black is a clear pawn ahead and at first glance appears to have winning chances. However, it turns out that Black lacks a plan that would allow his king to penetrate White's position; without such penetration the winning chances are greatly diminished.

This game is an example of the defensive power of the two bishops; in this ending the bishops provide a near impenetrable barrier to Black's king.

**Palayo Lopez – Dana Muller  
Washington Open  
January 1977**

(Black to move)

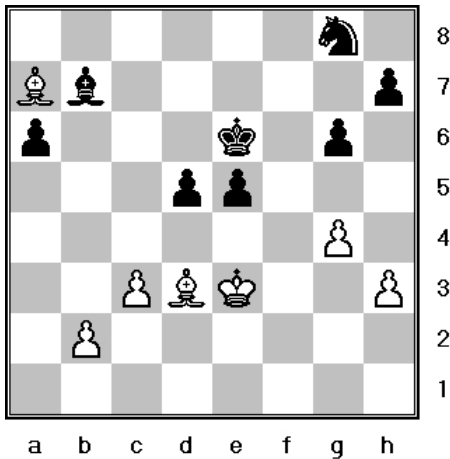


Black is a clear pawn ahead, so you would think that he should be able to make a serious winning attempt.

#### 40. Ke3

Also possible is 40. b4 which stops any ...a5 plans by black. I think both players viewed ...a5 as too committal at this point.

#### 40. ...Nf6 41. Bd3 Ng8



The idea is to maneuver the knight to c6 via e7. I was hoping to find a favorable chance to play ...d4.

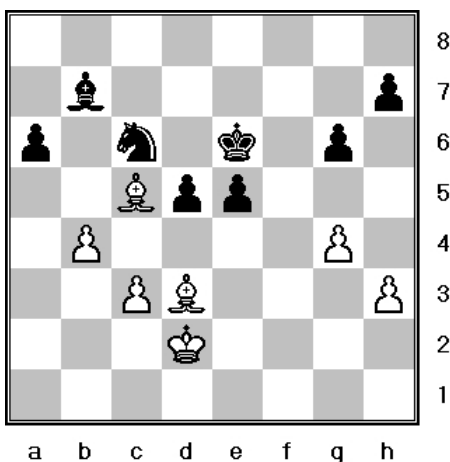
#### 42. Kd2

The immediate 42. Bc5 is quite playable as well.

#### 42. ...Ne7

If 42. ...a5 then 43. h4 a4 44. h5 gxh5 45. Bxe7 Kxe7 46. gxh5 h6 47. Bb5 a3 48. bxa3 is nearly equal; rational play by White should be sufficient to draw.

#### 43. Bc5 Nc6 44. b4



#### 44. ...Nd8

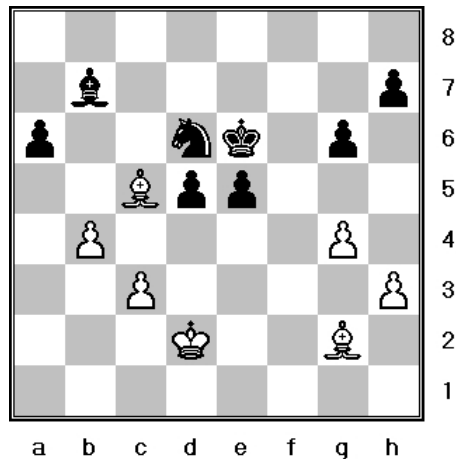
OK, so the knight doesn't do as much on c6 as I hoped; this starts a maneuver designed to get the knight to d6. Basically, Black's knight is flailing about without a clear purpose. A better try to unsettle White is 44. ...a5 (but this seemed awfully committal with adjournment imminent). If White allows Black to play 45. ...axb4 then

either 46. cxb4 or 46. Bxb4 Nxb4 47. cxb4 gives Black connected passed pawns. This is still insufficient for victory, but clearly Black has better chances than in the game. Therefore White should play 44. ...a5 45. bxa5 Nxa5 46. Ke3 Bc6 47. h4 Nb7 48. Bf8 Nd6 49. h5 gxh5 50. gxh5 Nf5+ 51. Bxf5+ when Black is a still better but nowhere close to winning.

#### 45. Bf1

White has made a series of non-committal moves during the run-up to adjournment, but no harm was done to his position. It's likely that the plan of fixing Black's kingside via g5, h4, Bh3 had occurred to him earlier in play, but he wanted to verify its correctness during the adjournment before committing to the plan.

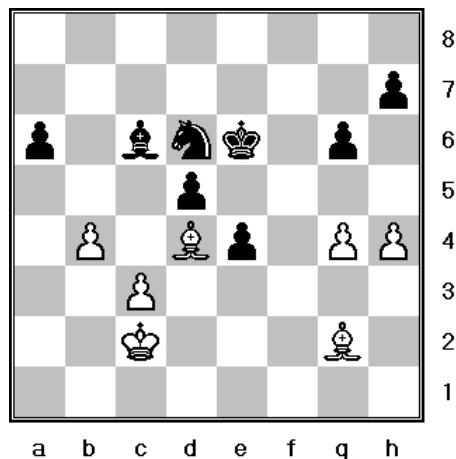
#### 45. ...Nf7 46. Bg2 Nd6 (sealed)



#### 47. Kc2 Bc6 48. h4

The right idea, perhaps not the best implementation. For reasons discussed on move 51, a more precise procedure is 48. g5 followed by h4 and Bh3.

#### 48. ...e4 49. Bd4

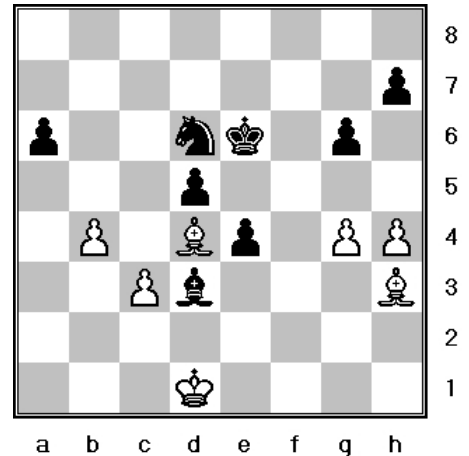


Perhaps 49. g5 is better.

#### 49. ...Bb5 50. Bh3

Once again, 50. g5 may be more precise.

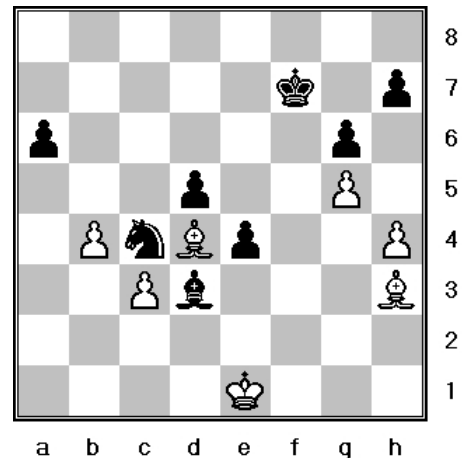
#### 50. ...Bd3+ 51. Kd1



#### 51. ...Nc4

Black missed his chance to mix it up with 51. ...g5. After 52. hxg5 Kf7 53. Be5 Nb5 54. Kd2 Na3 55. Bf6 Nc4+ 56. Ke1 Kg6 57. Be7 Na3 58. Bg2 a position is reached that can be held by White, but Black has superior chances than in the game. Black can use the weaknesses at c3 and g5 plus random tactical shots involving ...e3 to torture White for another 25-30 moves. Again, White can draw with careful play, but White needs to be far more careful here as opposed to the game.

#### 52. g5+ Kf7 53. Ke1



1/2-1/2

After 53. ...a5 (removing the weak a-pawn) 54. bxa5 Nxa5 55. Bb6 Nc4 56. Bd4 Nb2 57. Kd2 Bc4 58. Ke3 Bb5 59. Bg4 Black is getting nowhere.

If you have played an ending that you think would interest *Northwest Chess* "And In The End" readers, send your pgn game scores to: editor@nwchess.com.



*PCC Officers. Seated: Mike Morris, Alex Grum. Standing Mike Janniro, Ted Lundin, Neil Dale, Grisha Alpernas.*

*Photo credit: Russell Miller.*



# The Robert Karch Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix 2010 Final Statistics

*courtesy Murlin Varner, ultimate data guru*

The results are in and there were some incredibly close contests. You can see many of them in the statistics below. To summarize, in five Oregon classes (Expert, A, B, C, and D) and four Washington classes (Master, Expert, A and C) some winners were determined by less than five points. In Oregon's Expert and B classes, the margin from first to third was 4.5 and 4 point, respectively. Washington's A class was home to the top three point gainers in the Grand Prix, and Steven Buck missed out on a check by a mere half point! To put all this in perspective, if you attend a low prize fund weekend swiss and go 3-2 while completing your play schedule, you would receive five points. If you attended one of our dozen or so events during the year with higher guaranteed prize funds and point multipliers, then completing your schedule and scoring only a single point would gain you six GP points or more, depending on the level of the multiplier. Therefore, a person missing a cash place in the Grand Prix by two or three points could have turned that around by attending just one more tournament during the year.

2010 was also a year for many Grand Prix records. In spite of the number of events being down three from last year's record setting 80, the number of entries into Grand Prix events was up 9.4% to 2135, beating soundly 2009's record of 1951. The number of players active in one or more Grand Prix events was also up, by 5.1%, to a record setting 593 (previous record: 566, 2008). Thirteen events this year had multipliers, down from last year's record of 16, but the level of some of those multipliers helped set a new record for points awarded, at 20,003.5 points, an increase of 14.9% from last year and another all-time record. We also set records in the ratio of entries per event, 27.727, up 13.7% from last year and well ahead of 2004's 25.286, and the ratio of entries per player, 3.601, up 4.1% from last year, beating 2006's 3.527 for the record.

Nick Raptis is the overall winner in Oregon, for the fifth time in the eight years I have kept the results. His margin of 41 points over Stephen Breckenridge is actually closer than the usual for his victories. In Washington, Dennis Ambler took overall first with 276 points, 35.5 points ahead of Dan Mathews, and a new record for the GP as well. Dennis is the seventh Washington winner in the past eight years, leaving Stephen Buck as the only player to repeat during my tenure.

Overall winners get a double share, for their class as well as the overall title. First place in each class will receive \$65.23 in Oregon and \$153.39 in Washington, with half those amounts going to the second place players in each class. All funds collected at events within a state are added to the prize fund for that state, regardless of the state of residence of the players in the event. Added money through donations is split evenly between the states. This year we have \$447 in added money provided through donations to honor the memory of Robert Karch. For 2011, I understand a substantially higher amount has been pledged.

The 2011 Grand Prix is already well underway, of course. The year started off with a bang, with two multiplier events in the first three weekends, the Gresham Open and the Seattle City Championship, both with 2x multipliers. The next event on the calendar with a multiplier is the Collyer Memorial in Spokane (3x).

The biggest multiplier event of the year, the Washington Open, is not all that far away and it's never too early to start planning. With five events in the books, the early leaders for 2011 are: David Bragg (WA), 23 pts.; Brian Esler (OR), 18 pts.; Dan Kramlich (WA), 17 pts.; Igor Ummel (WA), 15.5 pts.; and Alexandra Botez (OR) and Stephen Buck (WA), 15 pts. each.

## 2010 Final Standings

### Oregon

### Washington

#### Masters

1 Raptis, Nick ..... 167.5	1 Pupols, Viktors ..... 118
2 Breckenridge, Steven 126.5	2 Malugu, Satyajit .... 115.5
3 Haessler, Carl A ..... 47.5	3 Sinanan, Joshua C ... 101.5
4 Roua, Radu ..... 43.5	4 Chen, Howard J ..... 93.5
5 Prochaska, Peter ..... 22	5 Perez, Ignacio ..... 70
5 Russell, Corey J ..... 22	6 Selzler, Ricky ..... 54
.....	6 Bragg, David ..... 54

#### Experts

1 Esler, Brian ..... 66.5	1 Ummel, Igor ..... 168
2 Heywood, Bill ..... 64.5	2 Bartron, Paul R .... 164
3 Davis, Mikeal ..... 62	3 Sen, Samir ..... 135.5
4 Morris, Michael J ..... 54.5	4 Feng, Roland ..... 123.5
5 Gay, Daniel Z ..... 44.5	5 Golub, David ..... 100
6 Daroza, Eduardo J ..... 42	6 Lee, Nathan Y ..... 93.5

#### Class A

1 Grom, Alex ..... 68	1 Ambler, Dennis L ... 276
2 Botez, V Alexandra ..... 61.5	2 Mathews, Daniel R 240.5
3 Bannon, David T ..... 59.5	3 Buck, Stephen J ..... 240
4 Waterman, Jeremy ..... 53.5	4 He, Daniel M ..... 139
5 Sherrard, Jerry ..... 47.5	5 Watts, Peter O ..... 131
6 Pyle, Galen ..... 29	6 He, Samuel F ..... 127

#### Class B

1 Skalnes, Erik ..... 61.5	1 Monahan, Darby P 187
2 Witt, Steven A ..... 59	2 Lampman, Becca ... 155.5
3 Levin, Scott A ..... 57.5	3 Fields, Noah ..... 148
4 Chu-Kung, Ben ..... 49.5	4 Hua, Daniel ..... 131
5 Wen, David ..... 42	5 Szabo, Marcell ..... 128.5
6 Cigan, Jason ..... 39	6 Chi, Quentin ..... 121

#### Class C

1 Shimada, Masakazu ... 67	1 Piper, August ..... 159.5
2 Dalthorp, Dan ..... 48.5	2 Davis, Frederick A . 153

3 Dietz, Arliss .....	47.5	3 Kramlich, Dan .....	150.5
4 Chattopadhyay, Sandip	41	4 Nagase, Masayuki .....	99
5 Dalthorp, Matt .....	39.5	5 Haining, Kyle .....	75
6 Midson, Tony .....	34	6 Cordero, Rowland .....	73.5

### Class D and Below

1 Butson, Jeffrey C .....	70.5	1 Richards, Jerrold ...	147.5
2 Murray, Dillon T .....	41	2 Zhang, Derek .....	112
3 Chatterjee, Dhruva .....	39.5	3 Soetedjo, James C ...	101
4 Winter, Dillon W .....	37	4 Zhang, Brendan .....	91.5
5 Booth, Liam K .....	29	5 Yeo, Noah .....	88
6 Molchanov, Valentin ....	27.5	6 Dhingra, Sangeeta ....	85.5

### Overall Leaders, by State

1 Raptis, Nick .....	167.5	1 Ambler, Dennis L ...	276
2 Breckenridge, Steven .	126.5	2 Mathews, Daniel R ..	240.5
3 Butson, Jeffrey C .....	70.5	3 Buck, Stephen J .....	240
4 Grom, Alex .....	68	4 Monahan, Darby P ..	187
4 Shimada, Masakazu .....	67	5 Ummel, Igor .....	168
6 Esler, Brian .....	66.5	6 Bartron, Paul R .....	164
7 Heywood, Bill .....	64.5	7 Piper, August .....	159.5
8 Davis, Mikeal .....	62	8 Lampman, Becca .....	155.5
9 Botez, V Alexandra .....	61.5	9 Davis, Frederick A ..	153
9 Skalnes, Erik .....	61.5	10 Kramlich, Dan .....	150.5
11 Bannon, David T .....	59.5	11 Fields, Noah .....	148
12 Witt, Steven A .....	59	12 Richards, Jerrold ....	147.5
13 Levin, Scott A .....	57.5	13 He, Daniel M .....	139
14 Morris, Michael J .....	54.5	14 Sen, Samir .....	135.5
15 Waterman, Jeremy .....	53.5	15 Two tied at .....	131

### Players from Other Places

1 Landingin, Jofrel	CAN	1854	67.5
2 Leslie, Cameron D	ID	1881	64.5
3 Joshi, Kairav R	ID	1762	62
4 Havrilla, Mark A	ID	1965	53
5 Caluza, Severo	CAN	1854	50
6 Brewster, Robert D	CAN	2002	43.5
7 Patterson, Roger	CAN	2194	42.5
8 Weyland, Ronald M	ID	1510	42.5
9 Subedi, Avinaya	ID	1931	40.5
9 Brow, John N	CA	1492	40
11 Monkhouse, Neale D	CAN	1787	39.5
11 Sullivan, Brian J	CAN	1614	34
11 Xiao, Alice H Y	CAN	1502	32.5
14 Su, Michael	CAN	1263	27.5
15 Vivas, Miguel	CAN	1124	27.5

### Players in Database 2010

class	Oregon	Washington	Other	totals
Master	7	20	1	28
Expert	13	34	5	52
Class A	19	59	14	92
Class B	31	72	12	115
Class C	24	67	14	105
Class D-below	46	145	10	201
totals	140	397	56	593

Most active players in 2010 GP: Ambler, Dennis L (47 events); Buck, Stephen J (33); Mathews, Daniel R (27); Monahan, Darby P (27); Piper, August (27); Ummel, Igor (24); O’Gorman, Peter J (23); Richards, Jerrold (21); Watts, Peter O (20); Kramlich, Dan (19); Szabo, Marcell (19).

## Northwest Chess Subscription, State Chess Federation Membership Form

**Adult:** \$25/year (12 issues) via periodicals mail each month. See page 30 for special multi-year subscription rates.

One-year membership in the Oregon or Washington Chess Federation included for residents of OR and WA.

**Junior:** \$17/year (12 issues) or **Scholastic:** \$10/6 months (6 issues, convertible to regular junior membership by paying \$7 before expiration). Must be under age 20 at time of expiration. OR/WA residents only; state membership included.

**Family:** \$5/year (not a subscription — membership only). Open only to a co-resident of an Adult or Junior member. Expires at the same time. If first member is a junior (\$17/year), additional family member(s) must also be juniors.

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For general information, Eric Holcomb (541) 647-1021, e-mail: Eric@Holcomb.com

### OCF/WCF Membership Application/Renewal Form

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**Format:** Three 10-player round-robins with rounds scheduled for 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. every-day except Monday, 21 February, only 5 p.m.

## Seattle Spring Open

April 1-3 or April 2-3

A two-section Swiss (4 rounds – Open, 5 rounds – Reserve) with a time control of 40/2 and SD/1 (two-day Reserve schedule – Round 1, G/64). The prize fund of \$810 is based on 40 paid entries, 5 per prize group.

*a Harmon Memorial Grand Prix event*

Open		Reserve (U1900)	
First	\$160	First	\$100
Second	\$120	Second	\$75
U2100	\$90	U1700	\$60
		U1500	\$50
		U1300	\$40
		Unrated	\$15

**Plus Score Pool – \$100**

**Entry Fees:** \$33 if rec'd by 3/30 (\$24 SCC memb., \$29 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW), \$42 at site (\$33 SCC memb., \$38 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW). **Unrated**—Free with purchase of 1-yr USCF & 1-yr WCF. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.**

**Registration:** Open—Sat. 11-noon; Reserve—Fri. 7-7:45pm, Sat. 9-9:45am.

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

**Byes:** 1 in Open, 2 in Reserve (Sunday rounds, commit at registration).

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

### Feb. 5, March 19 Saturday Quads

**Format:** 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** G/120. **EF:** \$7 (+\$5 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future quad. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:15-ASAP. **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

### Feb. 27, March 27 Sunday Tornado

**Format:** 4-SS. **TC:** G/64. **EF:** \$17 (+\$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. NS, NC.

### March 5 SCC vs. TCC Match

**Site:** Tacoma CC. **Format:** 7-bd (M, X, A, B, C, D, E & Under) match. **TC:** G/120. **Prizes:** ?? **Rds:** 1:00 p.m. **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd. NS, NC.

### Feb. 16; Mar. 2, 16 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. Quick Quads

**Format:** 3-RR. **TC:** G/20. **EF:** \$5 (+\$3 for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future QQ. **Reg:** 6:15-6:45 p.m. **1st Rd:** 7 p.m. **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd. NS. NC.

## How to Find the SCC

Look for the Northway Square East Building, just across I-5 from Northgate Mall, with large signs proclaiming "Northwest Kidney Centers" and "City University." The main entrance is reached by turning east on N. 107th Street from Meridian Avenue N. The club is in the basement.

# Future Events

♣ indicates a NW Grand Prix event ♣

## February 12-13 & 19-21

Seattle Chess Club, Seattle, WA. Championship, Premiere, and Invitational sections, each 10-player RR. Rounds at 10 AM & 5 PM on the weekends, final round 5 PM only on 2/21. Quiet spectators welcome.

## Washington State Championship

## February 12-13 & 19-21

Portland Chess Club, Portland, OR. One section invitational 10-player RR. Quiet spectators welcome.

## Oregon State Championship

## ♣ February 26

4SS, G/60. TD may switch to 5SS and G/45 if more than 25 entries. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. EF: \$20, \$5 discount for PCC Members. OCF/WCF and USCF memb req'd, OSA. No advance entries. Reg: 9-9:30. Byes: 1/2 point bye if requested at reg. Prizes: (\$200/b20) \$60-\$40-\$30 U1800, U1500 \$35 each. Info: portlandchessclub@gmail.com, 503-246-2978, www.pdxchess.com.

## Portland Chess Club G/60 ♣

## ♣ February 26-27

5SS, G/120. St. Anne's Children's Center Conference Room, W. 25 Fifth Ave., Spokane, WA 99201. Special "sleep in" option for round one: Players may play round 1 beginning at noon with a G/60 t/c. EF: \$27 if received by 2/25; \$33 at door; Under 19 \$5 less. \$\$GTD: \$325-200-125. Ex - \$100; A; B; C; D/E/Unr: \$100-75; Biggest Upsets: \$100-50 (non-provisional ratings only). One prize per player except for biggest upset. Reg.: Feb. 26 8:30-9:30 am (sleep-in option must register by 11:40). Rds.: 2/26: 10 (or 12) - 2:30 - 7:00; 2/27: 9:00; 1:30. one 1/2 point bye available. Players meeting at 9:45 Feb. 26. ENT: Spokane CC, c/o Kevin Korsmo, 9923 N. Moore, Spokane, WA 99208-9339. INFO: www.spokanechessclub.org, kmkorsmo@comcast.net. NS. NC. W. Chess Magnet School JGP.

## 19th Dave Collyer Memorial ♣

## ♣ Mar 12-13

Site: Tacoma Chess Club, 409 Puyallup Ave., Room 11, across the street from Alfred's Café & 2 blocks down the hill from the Tacoma Dome. Format: 5 Round Swiss. Play to improve your USCF rating and to gain N.W. Grand Prix points. Rounds: Sat. 10:00am (G/60), 1:00pm (G/90), 4:00pm (G/120), Sun. 10:00am, 2:00pm or A.S.A.P. (G/120). Entry Fee: Play any 3 rounds for \$8.00, any 4 rounds for \$10.00, all 5 rounds for \$12.00. Registration: 9:00-9:45 am. NS, NC, NW, USCF & WCF/OCF memberships required. Entries/info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445 or call (253) 535-2536 or (253) 306-7137 (club), or e-mail ggarychess@aol.com.

## Northwest Open ♣

## ♣ April 1-3

Seattle Chess Club, Seattle, WA. See display advertisement on page 23.

## Seattle Spring Open ♣

## April 22-25

Grand Pacific Hotel, Victoria, B.C., Canada. Renew your passport now! See display advertisement on page 15.

## Grand Pacific Open

## ♣ April 30-May 1

Tacoma Convention Center, Tacoma, WA. 5 RD Swiss, Game/90. \$750 in Prizes based on 30 entries. Event runs in conjunction with Washington State Elementary (April 30), Middle and High School Chess Championships (April 30-May 1). Fundraiser for *Northwest Chess* Magazine. Details to follow in March and April issues.

## Super State Open ♣

## June 9-12

Las Vegas, Nevada. International Chess Festival. See display advertisement on page 3.

## National Open

Three-year subscription discounts are now available to *Northwest Chess*!! (Includes OCF or WCF membership as applicable to residents.) Pay only \$60 for three years (adult), \$40 (junior) or \$12 (additional family member w/o subscription). These rates will only be in effect until March 2011.

Use PayPal or mail-in PDF form linked on the NWC website magazine page, or send a check or money order to the Business Manager, payable to NWC, with your name and membership number (see label). Washington residents must add the correct sales tax or your subscription term will be reduced.

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