

Northwest Chess

\$3.95



FM Michael Lee, his father Hock Lee, NM Dereque Kelley, and NM Joshua Sinanan at the opening ceremonies of the Metropolitan International. Michael was the only player to make an IM norm in the event and Dereque won a Brilliancy Prize!

November 2011

Northwest Chess

Contents

November 2011, Volume 65, 11 Issue 766

ISSN Publication 0146-6941

Published monthly by the Northwest Chess Board.
Office of record: 3310 25th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

Northwest Chess, PO Box 84746,

Seattle WA 98124-6046.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Seattle, WA

USPS periodicals postage permit number (0422-390)

NWC Staff

Editor: Fred Kleist,

kleistcf@aol.com

Publisher: Duane Polich,

publisher@nwchess.com

Business Manager: Eric Holcomb,

eric@holcomb.com

Board Representatives

David Yoshinaga, Josh Sinanan,

Dale Wentz, Dan Mathews, Jeffrey Roland

Entire contents copyright 2011 by Northwest Chess. All rights reserved. Published opinions are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the Northwest Chess Board. Northwest Chess is the official publication of the chess governing bodies of the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

Advertising Rates

Display ads run \$150 for a full page, \$100 for tournament ads; \$85 for a half-page, \$60 for tournament ads; \$50 for a quarter page, \$30 for an eighth of a page, and \$20 for a business card-size ad. Additional charges apply if the staff must do layout work. A 15% discount is available for two or more consecutive ads of the same size.

Event Announcement Rates

Each appearance in the *Future Events* listings costs \$20. Please arrange payment for ads and Grand Prix fees with the Business Manager.

Advertising & Copy Deadline

Ads and submissions must be received by the 10th of the month for the items to appear in the next issue (e.g., **November 10 for the December issue; December 10 for the January issue**).

Submit all ads, donations, payments, changes of address, & subscriptions to:

Business Manager, Northwest Chess

Eric Holcomb

1900 NE Third St, Ste 106-361

Bend OR 97701-3889

Eric@Holcomb.com

www.nwchess.com

Submissions

Submissions of games, stories, photos, art, and other **original** chess-related content are encouraged! Multiple submissions are acceptable; please indicate if material is non-exclusive. All submissions are subject to editing or revision. Send via U.S. mail to:

Fred Kleist, NWC Editor

2420 S 137 St

Seattle WA 98168

or via e-mail to:

kleistcf@aol.com

Cover art: *FM Michael Lee, Hock Lee, NM Dereque Kelley, and NM Joshua Sinanan at the opening ceremony of the Metropolitan International*

Photo credit: Betsy Dynako

Page 3:	U.S. Open Report	Murlin Varner
Page 8:	Metropolitan International	NM Joshua Sinanan
Page 13:	Idaho Chess News	Jeffrey Roland
Page 15:	Theoretically Speaking: QGD Andersson, II	NM Bill McGeary
Page 17:	Love Song of the Chess Player	Carol Kleist
Page 19:	NW Chess News/National Chess Day	various
Page 20:	Poodle Dog Chess	Carol Kleist
Page 21:	Fred Kleist, editor redux	Eric Holcomb
Page 22:	NWGP 2011	Murlin Varner
Back Cover:	Future Events	

Northwest Chess

Business Manager

Eric Holcomb

1900 NE Third St, Ste 106-361

Bend OR 97701-3889

Eric@Holcomb.com

Editor

Fred Kleist

2420 S 137 St

Seattle WA 98168

kleistcf@aol.com

www.nwchess.com

Northwest Chess Knights

Please donate today to help Northwest Chess!

Patrons, 2010-2011

Kate Tokareva, Gerard Van Deene, Michael Wang, Alan Walker, Dale Wentz, Russell Miller, Ralph Dubisch, Frank Niro, Michael and Jeff Omori, August Piper, Robert Brewster, Steve Buck, Jeff Pennig, Murlin Varner, Inner Sound, Gene Milener, Dennis Jenquin.
Washington Chess Federation, Oregon Chess Federation

Northwest Grand Prix Administrator

Murlin Varner

13329 208 Ave NE

Woodinville, WA 98072

MEVjr54@yahoo.com 425-882-0102

U. S. Open Returns Again to Florida, I Think

by Murlin Varner

Rumor has it, the 2011 U. S. Open was held in Orlando, Florida. I say rumor, because there was no real proof. The event was held in a very nice hotel, the Hyatt Regency, in a very poor location—the middle of an airport! Frankly, all airports look alike and, if you are stuck spending time in one, it could be just about anywhere. The airport itself was many miles from the actual city of Orlando (28 miles away from Disney World!), and not near anything one could walk to. At least, you might think, there are usually a wealth of dining choices in an airport, and indeed there are, but three quarters of them are beyond the security area, and thereby inaccessible to your typical chess player. Since these are airport restaurants, there was also the issue of smaller menus and larger prices.

The turnout was small, the smallest since the USCF visited Hawaii in 1998 and second smallest of the past 20 years. Perhaps the economy was at fault. Perhaps it was the venue (I chose the shortest schedule, because I couldn't face any more than four days stuck in the middle of an airport). Or perhaps it was visiting Florida for the third time in fifteen years. Probably, all three are to blame. Forty-one states were represented, plus four players from Puerto Rico. Ten players came from seven foreign countries, including Belgium, El Salvador, Norway, Suriname, and two each from Canada, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

Notably missing were any players from nearby Mississippi. Other states not represented were Montana, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, Arkansas, Louisiana, Vermont and Delaware. Florida provided 131 players (36%), and other top states included California (24), Texas (17), New York (15), and Georgia (12). I am quite sure that our three state area will be able to do a better job next year in Vancouver, WA, than the states of Florida, Georgia and Alabama did this year.

Although smaller than usual, the event had a good collection of top players, with 18 GMs, 7 IMs, 7 FMs, 26 NMs, 2 WIMs, 1 WFM and one designated as a NCM, whatever that might be. Unlike last year in Irvine, the bottom of the rating spectrum was better represented with a greater percentage of players rated Class C or below. Although not as large a group as one would have hoped for, it was very well balanced. Among the attendees were seven players from Washington, two from Oregon and three from Idaho. These twelve were scattered rather evenly between the three schedules (9-day, 6-day and 4-day). As has been the pattern the past few U. S. Opens, the smallest group was those playing in the traditional schedule

At the end, there was a seven-player tie for first at 7.5/9. They were GMs Hikaru Nakamura, Tamaz Gelashvili, Timur Gareyev, Alejandro Ramirez, Giorgi Kacheishvili, Aleksander Lenderman, and Alonso Zapata. [Although all are US

residents today, only three, Nakamura, Ramirez and Lenderman are considered U.S. players by FIDE. For the others, their FIDE countries are Columbia, Georgia (2) and Uzbekistan.] Lenderman won a play-

off against GM Ramirez to claim the title. Six others (three GMs, three IMs) tied a half point back at 7/9.

Carl Haessler (2228) of Oregon played in the six-day event. In the six-day schedule, all games are at the slower time control, but two games are played on three of those six days. Day one has one game in the evening, and then there is a morning and evening game for each of the next three days. Carl took two half-point byes to start the schedule, arriving in Orlando in time for the evening session on day two. He won five of the seven games he played, ending up in a tie for 36th place overall. Interestingly, of the seven opponents Carl faced, only his last round opponent, Donald Danlag (CA, 2017) was from someplace other than Florida.

Marcus Robinson (1836) of Oregon participated in the fast four-day schedule. The first day had three G/60 games, and then three more on the second day before joining the rest of the contestants that evening for a slower game. Marcus lost to two FMs and an Expert, winning the other six, including defeating Jason Luchan (NY, 2185) and David Mathys (FL, 2141) in the final two rounds. His six points were good enough to tie for 1-2 in Class A, earning him a check for \$1480! I like to think I helped, since I let him beat me in Round Four. (Okay, he did it in spite of my best efforts.)

E76 King's Indian Four Pawns' Attack

**Marcus Robinson (OR, 1836)
Murlin Varner (WA, 1501)**

Orlando, U.S. Open (4) 2011

Annotations by Murlin Varner


1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 g6 3.♗c3 ♕g7 4.e4 d6 5.f4 O-O 6.♗f3 ♖bd7

Better is 6... ♖a6.

7. ♕e2 c5

Another idea is 7... e5 8.fe de 9.d5 ♖c5.

8.d5 ♖b6 9.O-O e6 10.e5 de 11. fe



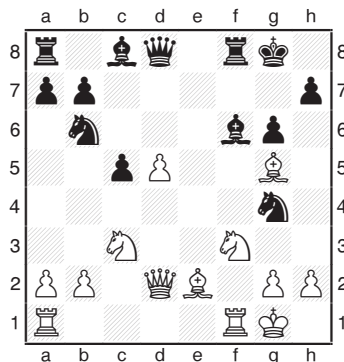
Carl A. Haessler
Lessons • Lectures • Exhibitions

USCF Life Master
3-Time Oregon Champion

(503) 358-7871
ssmith6154@aol.com

Ismailova-Badger, Verdun 1995, continued 11...♘fd7 12.♙g5 f6 13.♙h4 a6 14.de ♘:e5 15.♘:e5 ♙:d1 16.♙:a:d1 fe 17.♙:f8+ ♙:f8 18.e7 and 1-0 in 51.

11...♘g4 12.♙g5 f6 13.ef ♙:f6 14.♙d2! ed 15.cd



15...♙:g5?!

Better was 15...♙:c3 16.♙:c3 ♙d6.

16.♘:g5 ♙f5 17.♙:g4 ♙:g4 18.♙:f8+ ♙:f8 19.♙f1 ♙d6

19... ♙g7 20. ♙f4 ♙f5 doesn't lose as quickly.

20.♘ce4 ♙d8 21.♘f6+ ♘g7 22.♘:g4 ♙:d5 23.♙f7+ ♙:f7 24.♘:f7 ♘:f7 25. ♙f4+ ♘e6 26. ♙e5+ ♘d7 27.♘f6+ ♘c6 28.♘e4 ♙c8 29. ♙:c5+ ♘d7 30.♙d6+ ♘e8 31. ♘c5 ♘f7 32.h3 ♙c6 33.♙f4+ ♘g7 34.♘:b7 ♘d5 35.♙d4+ ♘f6 36. ♙:a7 ♙c7 37.♙b6 ♙d7 38.a4 ♘d5 39.♙c6 ♘f6 40.a5 1-0

Our other prize winner was Dakota Dixon (2096) of Washington, who also scored 6/9, enough to share in a many-way split of 3-4 Expert. He received \$115.56 for that effort. Playing in the six-day schedule, Dakota lost only one game, drawing four and winning four. He was held to a draw in the first round by a Class C player, but he more than made up for that in his other three draws, against NM Michael Vilenchuk (OH, 2252), NM Damir Studen (GA, 2312) and FM Gabriel Berrios (PR, 2257).

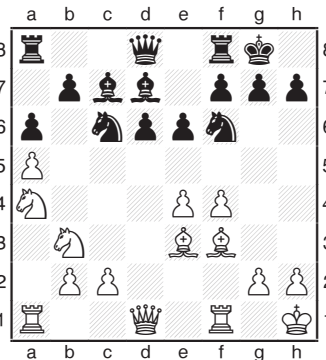
B83 Sicilian Scheveningen

NM Michael Vilenchuk (OH, 2252)
Dakota Dixon (WA, 2096)

Orlando, U.S. Open (3) 2011

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cd 4.♘:d4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 d6 6.♙e2 e6 7.O-O

♙e7 8.♙e3 a6 9.a4 ♘d7 10.♘b3 O-O 11.a5 ♙b8 12.f4 ♘d8 13.♘h1 ♙c7 14.♙f3 ♙d8 15.♘a4



15...♘:a5 16.♘:a5 ♙:a5 17.e5 ♘d5 18.♙:d5 ed 19.♙:d5 de 20. ♙:b7 ♙b5 21.♙fd1 ♙c7 22.♙:c7 ♙:c7 23.fe ♙:e5 24.♙d4 ♙fe8 25. ♘c3 ♙c4 26.♙:e5 ♙:e5 27.♙a4 ♙ae8 28.h3 ♙b5 29.♘:b5 ab 30. ♙b4 g6 31.c3 ♙f5 32.♙d2 ♙ee5 33.♙bd4 h5 34.h4 Draw

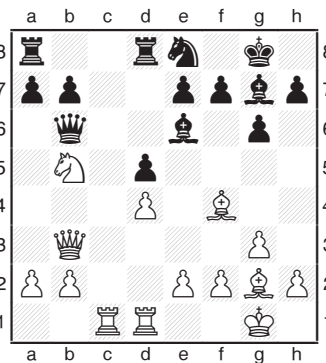
D79 Grunfeld Fianchetto

NM Damir Studen (GA, 2312)

Dakota Dixon (WA, 2096)

Orlando, U.S. Open (7) 2011

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.g3 ♙g7 4. ♙g2 O-O 5.O-O d5 6.c4 c6 7.cd cd 8.♘e5 ♙b6 9.♘c3 ♘c6 10.♘:c6 ♙:c6 11.♙f4 ♙e6 12.♙c1 ♙a6 13. ♙b3 ♙fd8 14.♘b5 ♘e8 15.♙fd1 ♙b6



16.♘c7 ♘:c7 17.♙:b6 ab 18.♙:c7 ♙dc8 19.a3 b5 20.e3 ♙a6 21.e4 ♙c6 22.♙:c6 bc 23.♙b6 de 24. ♙:e4 ♙d5 25.♙:d5 cd 26.♙e1 e6 27.♙c5 e5 28.♙d1 ed 29.♙:d4 ♙c2 30.♙:g7 ♘:g7 31.b4 ♙c3 32. ♙:d5 ♙:a3 33.♙:b5 ♙b3 34.♙b7 g5 35.g4 ♘g6 36.b5 f6 37.♘g2 h5 38.gh+ ♘:h5 39.♙b8 ♘g4 40.b6

♘f4 41.h3 ♙b2 42.♙h8 ♙:b6 43.h4 gh 44.♙:h4+ ♘g5 45.♙c4 ♙b3 46. f3 ♙b1 47.♘g3 Draw

Dereque Kelley (2241) of Washington

played in the traditional schedule. He won four and drew three, scoring 5.5 points, finishing in a tie for 63rd place. Noticeable among his games was his draw with IM John Bartholomew (2499) in Round Seven. In round three, Dereque lost to GM Kidambi Sundararajan of India on the first board. Sundararajan is one of the finishers at 7/9. Dereque only lost two rating points, indicating his performance was just about as expected.

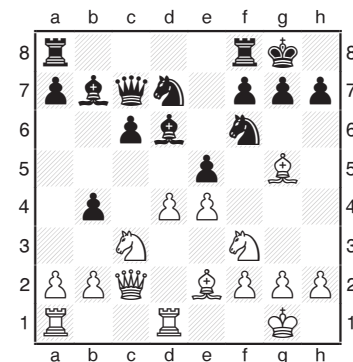
D46 Semi-Slav Anti-Meran

NM Dereque Kelley (WA, 2241)

GM Kidambi Sundararajan (IND, 2530)

Orlando, U.S. Open (3) 2011

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.e3 e6 5.♘f3 ♘bd7 6.♙c2 ♙d6 7.♙d3 O-O 8.O-O dc 9.♙:c4 b5 10.♙e2 ♙b7 11.♙d1 ♙c7 12.e4 e5 13. ♙g5 b4



14.de ♘:e5 15.♙:f6 gf 16.♘a4 ♘:f3+ 17.♙:f3 ♙:h2+ 18.♘h1 ♙f4 19.♙c5 ♙h4 20.♙h5 ♙:h5 21. ♙:h5 ♙e5 22.♘c5 ♙c8 23.♙d2 ♙b8 24.♙e2 f5 25.♙d3 ♙d8 26. ♙ad1 ♙f4 27.♙e2 ♙b5 28.♙c2 fe 29.♘:e4 ♙e5 30.♙c4 ♘g7 31. ♘c5 ♙h5+ 32.♘g1 ♙h2+ 33.♘f1 ♙d6 34.♘e4 ♙h1+ 35.♘e2 ♙:d1 36.♘:d1 ♙e7 0-1

Luke Harmon-Velloti (2275) of Idaho also finished with 5.5 points and could have had more. He had five points after seven rounds and was only a point off the lead. He had already requested an irrevocable half-point bye for the final round, and decided to withdraw be-



Dereque Kelley vs. GM Sundararajan

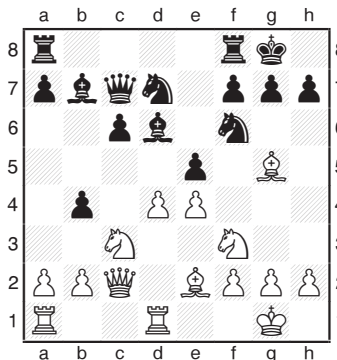
fore round eight. Luke had four wins, two draws and only one loss, to GM Loek Van Wely (NED, 2753), at that time. Luke drew with IM Daniel Naroditsky (CA, 2516) in Round Five.

45 English Opening

IM Daniel Naroditsky (CA, 2516)
Luke Harmon-Velloti (ID, 2275)

Orlando, U.S. Open (5) 2011

1. ♖f3 ♖f6 2.c4 b6 3.d3 ♙b7 4.e4 d6 5.♗c3 ♗bd7 6.g3 g6 7.♙g2 ♙g7 8.O-O c5 9.♗g5 O-O 10.f4 h6 11.♗h3 ♗e8 12.♙e3 ♖c8 13. ♗d2 f5 14.♗f2 ♗c7 15.g4 e6



- 16.gf ef 17.d4 cd 18.♙:d4 ♙:d4 19. ♗:d4 ♗c5 20.b4 ♗5e6 21.♗e3 ♗h4 22.♗d3 ♖ce8 23.♖ae1 fe 24. ♗:e4 ♗g7 25.♗g3 ♗:g3 26.hg ♖d8 27.♗f6+ ♖:f6 28.♙:b7 d5 29. cd ♗:d5 30.♙:d5+ ♖:d5 31.♗e5 ♗f5 32.♖f3 Draw

Fred Kleist (WA, 2100) scored five points in a most unusual way. Not wanting to come into Orlando in time for the six day schedule, but not wanting to play

the G/60 pace of the four-day, Fred chose to enroll in the six-day, but request a few byes. He took the three half-point byes allowed to him for the first three rounds, and then requested a zero-point bye for the fourth round. The tournament directors erroneously missed that last request and paired Fred. When Fred's flight got delayed, he called in to request yet another zero-point bye, which is probably when the directors realized their mistake. Thus, when Fred finally arrived after round five, he hadn't played a game, yet was a half-point ahead of your reporter. Fred then went on to finish well, with three wins and a draw to finish with 5/9. Of course, having so few points to start, all of Fred's opponents, when he finally got to play some games, were lower rated.

Ethan Gottlieb (WA, 1958) broke even at 4.5 playing in the six-day schedule. For the most part, Ethan performed as his rating would predict, but he did take a draw in Round Five with Class B player Cory Riegelhaupt (FL, 1724) and lose to Ian Mark (NY, 1871) in Round Six. Otherwise, he beat the lower rated and lost to the higher rated.

There were four Northwest players at four points. For three of them, this score probably represents a disappointment. First on my list is 89-year-old Dan Mayers (1873) of Idaho. Dan lives in Sun Valley, but plays far away from

there. According the USCF records on the website, Dan has not actually played in the Northwest at any time during the past twenty years. He does, however play in the U. S. Open every year, always in the traditional schedule, and this year was no exception. It was not too good a tournament for Dan this, but not because of his play. After seven rounds, Dan had four points and seemed on his way to another plus score, when he suffered some health problems which forced him to miss the final two rounds. I do not know any details of his problems, or the outcome, but I hope he is feeling better (*Ed. note: Dan played in Reno at the Western States Open, scoring 2/6.*)

Also finishing with four points, in the six-day schedule, was Carl Harmon-Vellotti (1841) of Idaho. Carl took half-point byes in rounds two and nine, and, like his brother, withdrew before round eight. Of the remaining six rounds, Carl broke even, with two wins, two draws and two losses. His draws were both against higher-rated opponents Kesav Viswanadha (CA, 2075) and Stephen Gordon (UT, 2100). In the opening round he lost to one of the top finishers, GM Alejandro Ramirez (TX, 2674). Carl was the only one of our four players at 4/9 to gain rating points as a result.

Blake Dixon (WA, 1852) also played in the six-day event, and also scored four points, but can't claim as good a result as Carl. Blake played in all nine rounds, and came out losing a few rating points,



Dan Mayers

Photo courtesy of 2011 US Open CD

after being upset by three Class B players. Blake's wins were all over players rated 1637 and below. Not a characteristic performance for Blake and one I'm sure he will be looking to improve upon in Vancouver next year.

The fourth Northwesterner at 4/9 was Job Thykkuttathil (1648). Job hasn't played in Washington since 2007, and hadn't played in any USCF events since 2008, so he might have been rusty. Of course with internet play, that isn't a given anymore. Playing in the four-day schedule, Job performed as one would expect with the exception of Round Six, when he was upset by Phillip Hayes (FL, 1379). Job did defeat Cary Carter (TN, 1340) in Round Four, someone I would find a way to lose to shortly thereafter.

That brings us to your reporter (WA, 1501). I managed just three points, something I've been known to do before, like just last year. The method was different this year, however. Last year, all of my opponents were higher rated, and all of my points came as upsets. My rating soared by over 100 points. This year, five of my opponents were lower rated, and I managed to beat only three of them. My rating would have dropped by nearly 50 points, except for that pesky little rating floor, upon which I was already resting. I managed to lose to the aforementioned Mr. Carter, as well as to Rod Avery (NM, 991), Wayne Hatcher's neighbor, when I badly miscounted in the endgame. My only real shot at an upset was dashed in the final round when I responded to a little threat in the worst possible way. I blame it all on too much airport food.

All in all, the 2011 U. S. Open did not provide the usual outcomes for the Northwest. Typically, those of us who attend this event bring back many rating points to share with our friends back home, especially when the event is on the East Coast. This time, we actually left twelve points behind. Not a great number, although my rating floor kept it from being worse. Our top gainers were Marcus Robinson (+28), Carl Harmon-Vellotti (+21) and Luke Harmon-Vellotti (+15). I should have been the biggest loser, but my rating floor gave that dubious honor to Blake Dixon instead (-36). Perhaps next year, we can welcome all



David Golub at the Denker closing ceremony Photo courtesy of 2011 US Open CD

the players to our neck of the woods and make them leave their points behind. I expect all of you to join me in that effort in Vancouver. Lets beat this year's total just by ourselves and show them they should come to the Northwest more than once a generation.

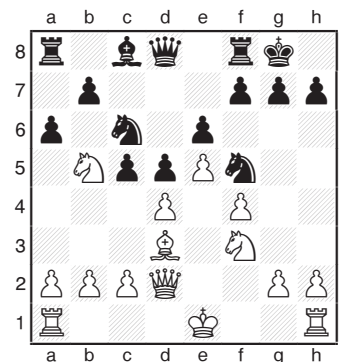
There are other events which go adjunct to the U. S. Open. One of these is the Denker Tournament of High School Champions. This year was the largest yet, with 50 players from 47 states and the District of Columbia. Since the USCF splits California, they had two representatives, and there was a player added from the host state to even the field. The only missing states were Wyoming, Delaware and New York. David Golub (2188) represented Washington and was the highest scoring player from the Northwest. David finished with 4/6, tying for eighth, and shared first under 2200 with two others. David had the toughest schedule of any player, facing five of the top nine finishers, defeating three of them, Andrew Shvartsman (NJ, 2293), Harrison Wheeler (CT, 2267) and Vincent Huang (CA, 2235). His only losses were to the top two players, clear winner Michael Vilenchuk (OH, 2252) and clear second place Nick Thompson (AZ, 2242). As a result of this and other recent performances, David is no longer going to be able to claim an under-2200 prize.

C17 French Winawer

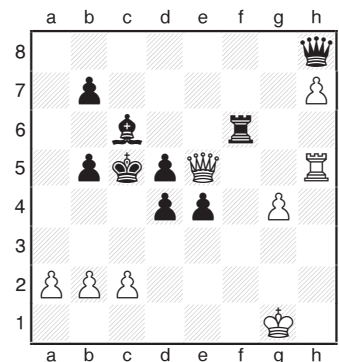
Harrison Wheeler (CT, 2267)
David Golub (WA, 2188)

Orlando, Denker (2) 2011

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 ♙b4 4.e5 c5 5.♙d2 ♘e7 6.♘b5 ♙:d2+ 7.♚:d2 O-O 8.f4 ♘bc6 9.♘f3 ♘f5 10.♙d3 a6



11.♙:f5 ab 12.♙d3 ♘:d4 13.♘:d4 cd 14.O-O ♚b6 15.♚e2 f5 16.ef ♙:f6 17.♚h5 g6 18.♚g5 ♙f7 19.h4 ♙d7 20.h5 ♙g7 21.h6 ♙f7 22.♙f3 ♚d8 23.♙:g6 hg 24.♚:g6+ ♘f8 25.h7 ♘e7 26.f5 e5 27.f6+ ♘e6 28.♙e1 e4 29.♙h3 ♚h8 30.♙f1 ♙af8 31.♙h5 ♙c6 32.♚f5+ ♘d6 33.g4 ♙:f6 34.♚e5+ ♘c5 35.♙:f6 ♙:f6±



36.♚:f6??

36.♙f5!

36...♚:f6 37.h8♚ ♚f3 38.b4+ ♘c4 39.♙h2 ♚d1+ 40.♘g2 ♚:g4+ 41.♘f1 ♚d1+ 42.♘g2 ♚d2+

42...♚:c2+

43.♘g1 ♚:b4 44.♚h3 ♚b1+ 45.♚f1+ ♚:f1+ 46.♘:f1 ♘c3 47.♘e1 b4 48.♘d1 ♙a4 49.♘c1 d3 50.cd ♘:d3 51.♙d2+ ♘c4 52.♙e2 ♙c6 53.♙c2+ ♘b5 54.♙b2 ♘a4 55.

♖d2 ♘a3 56. ♖d4 ♘:a2 57. ♖:b4 ♘a3 58. ♖d4 ♘b3 59. ♘d2 b5 60. ♘e3 b4 61. ♖d2 ♘c3 62. ♖d1 ♘c2 63. ♖d2+ ♘c1 64. ♖h2 b3 65. ♘d4 b2 66. ♖h1+ ♘c2 67. ♖h2+ ♘b3 68. ♖h3+ ♘a2 69. ♖h2 ♘a1 70. ♖h6 b1 ♖ 71. ♖:c6 ♖d3+ 72. ♘e5 e3 0-1

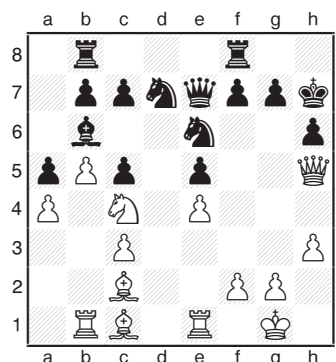
C50 Giuoco Piano

David Golub (WA, 2188)

Vincent Huang (CA, 2235)

Orlando, Denker (3) 2011

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♙c4 ♙c5 4. d3 ♗f6 5.♙b3 d6 6.c3 ♙b6 7. ♗bd2 O-O 8.♗c4 ♙g4 9.h3 ♙e6 10.a4 ♖e7 11.O-O h6 12.♖e1 ♖ae8 13.♙c2 ♙:c4 14.dc ♗d7 15. b4 a5 16.♖b1 ♗d8 17. c5 dc 18. b5 ♘h7 19.♗d2 ♗e6 20.♗c4 ♖b8 21.♖h5



21...♖f6 22.♖f5+ ♘g8 23.♖:f6 ♗:f6 24.♗:e5 ♖fe8 25.♗c4 ♗d7 26.♖d1 ♖bd8 27.♙e3 g5 28.♖d2 ♘f8 29.♖bd1 ♘e7 30.♘f1 ♖g8 31.g3 f6 32.♖d5 ♖g7 33.♖1d2 ♖gg8 34.♙d1 ♖ge8 35.♙h5 ♖g8 36.♙g4 ♖ge8 37.♘e2 ♖h8 38. ♗:b6 cb 39.♖d6 ♗ef8 40.♙f5 ♖g8 41.f4 ♖h8 42.e5 gf 43.gf fe 44.fe ♖g8 45.♙:h6 ♖g2+ 46.♘e1

♗:e5 47.♙:f8+ ♖:f8 48.♖e6+ ♘f7 49.♖:g2 ♗f3+ 50.♘f2 ♗h4 51. ♙g4 ♗:g2 52.♘:g2 ♖d8 53.♖:b6 ♖d2+ 54.♘f1 ♖c2 55.♖:b7+ ♘f6 56.♖a7 ♖:c3 57.b6 c4 58.♖:a5 ♖b3 59.♖b5 ♖:b5 60.ab c3 61. ♘e2 c2 62.♘d2 1-0

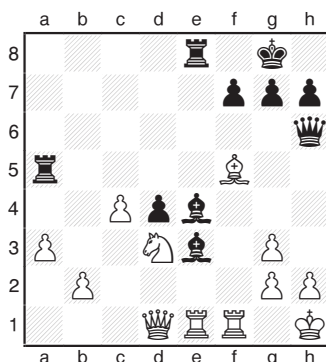
C08 French Tarrasch

Andrew Shvartsman (NJ, 2293)

David Golub (WA, 2188)

Orlando, Denker (4) 2011

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♗d2 c5 4.ed ed 5.♗gf3 a6 6.♙e2 ♗f6 7.O-O ♙e7 8.dc ♙:c5 9.♗b3 ♙b6 10.♙g5 O-O 11.c3 ♖e8 12.♗fd4 ♖d6 13. ♙h4 ♗e4 14.♙g3 ♗:g3 15. fg ♗c6 16.♖d2 ♙d7 17.♖ae1 ♖e7 18. ♘h1 ♖ae8 19.♗:c6 bc 20.♙:a6 ♙e3 21.♖d1 c5 22.♙d3 ♖h6 23. c4 d4 24.♗:c5 ♙c6 25.♙f5 ♖e5 26.♗d3 ♖a5 27.a3 ♙e4



28.♖g4??

28.♙:e4 ♖:e4 29.♖f3+-

28...♖:f5 29.♖:f5 ♙:d3 30.♖e5 ♖f8 31.c5 ♖f6 32.♖d5 ♖f2 33. ♖a1 ♙f1 0-1

Also in attendance at the Denker were Aaron Pikus (1483) of Oregon, who scored 2.5/6 and Carl Harmon-Vellotti of Idaho, scoring 2/6. Michael Martell (1368) scored 1/6 representing Montana.

The USCF gave up on the under-attended college tournament and introduced two new ones. One was the U. S. Girls Junior Open. There were only 15 entrants in this event won by Rachel Gologorsky

(FL, 1978) with 5/6. Only nine states plus Russia and Puerto Rico were represented. No Northwesterner participated. This event should be better known and promoted next year.

The other new event was the Barber K-8 Championship., which invites the best K-8 player from each state. For an inaugural event, the turn-out was excellent, with 44 players, including five NMs. Two players tied for first with 5.5/6, Michael Brown (CA, 2254) and Justus Williams (NY, 2239). Nicolo Gelb (1846) represented Washington, scoring 3/6. David Wen (1828) of Oregon scored 2.5/6. There was no one from Idaho, but Conrad Lee (1210) of Montana attended and scored one point on two draws.

The U. S. Open is also known for a number of side events, although too many of them are just daily quads. This year, they also had the usual weekend swiss, a scholastic event, a G/15 event, and blitz to go along with four daily sets of quads. Northwest players were represented in the Blitz and the G/15 Championships.

Only 18 players entered the G/15. Of course, you really have to be playing the traditional schedule in order to have the time, since it happens before the four-day people even arrive and overlaps round two for the six-day players. The Harmon-Vellotti brothers entered this event, Carl taking a half-point bye in the Open to free the time. Carl finished in seventh place, scoring 3/5. Luke won the event with a perfect 5.0, including defeating FM Kazim Gulamali.

The Blitz Championship was well attended, as it always is, with 73 entrants, including four quick masters. GM Nakamura won the event with a perfect score of 14, three points ahead of second place Robert Perez (FL, 2176). Carl Harmon-Vellotti scored 8/14 to tie for 23rd, and Marcus Robinson tied for 38th with 7/14.

Everyone reading this should think long and hard about making plans to attend next year in Vancouver. I'll be there, and I want lots of company! The Open hasn't been in the state of Washington since the 1960s, and was last in the Northwest (Portland) twenty-five years ago. Who knows when we'll see it again, but a good turnout will make it more likely to come back sooner than 2037. ■

Orlov Chess Academy
IM Georgi Orlov
2540 USCF

Offers time-tested program,
challenge and quick progress!

Chess Camps, Tournaments
Chess Classes, Private Lessons

chess64@comcast.net
www.chessplayer.com
(206)-387-1253



First Metropolitan International

by Josh Sinanan

From August 17-21, four Washington masters, FM Michael Lee, FM Howard Chen, NM Dereque Kelley, and yours truly, ventured down to Los Angeles, California, to compete in the First Metropolitan International. The 9-round swiss tournament was specially crafted to offer the maximum opportunity at GM, IM, WGM, and WIM norms. A total of 86 players participated, including 10 Grandmasters, 15 International Masters, 29 foreign players, and 50 titled players. Invitation was officially open to players over the rating of 2200 FIDE, and almost all participants were USCF National Masters or higher.

The time control of 40/90 & SD/30 with a 30-second increment, beginning at move one, was quite a change from 40/120 & SD/60 and required some adjusting. The 30-second increment enables one to build up time on the clock in dominating positions, but it also makes for more hard-fought games, since the defender has more time to think in difficult positions.

The tournament hall was located in the luxurious Sheraton Hotel in the heart of downtown L.A. near many local attractions such as Universal Studios, Walt Disney Concert Hall, and Staples Center. Despite the hotel's excellent location, most players didn't venture far due to the demanding schedule of play.

The tournament began with an opening ceremony which consisted of a delicious welcome dinner on the top floor of the Sheraton. The guest list included players, parents, and organizers, but, unfortunately, no Hollywood celebrities were present. Mingling amongst the chess players was encouraged and seemed somewhat successful.

As I was meandering around the room, I spotted English Super GM Michael Adams, the top seed of the tournament. I introduced myself to him and

his wife, and we discussed the London Chess Classic, a tournament which I played in December 2009 with Curt Collyer. I explained that I appreciated him returning the favor by coming to play in one of "my" tournaments in the U.S.

A bit star-struck after my conversation with the Grandmaster, I wandered over to join my fellow Washingtonians Michael Lee, his father Hock Lee, and Dereque Kelley for dinner. Howard did not have much of an appetite and chose to skip the festivities. The chief organizer of the tournament, NM Ankit Gupta, accompanied us and spoke about what it takes to run a norm tournament like this one. As WCF President, one of my goals is to bring a major tournament to the Northwest to give local players a chance at earning FIDE norms. After my conversation with Ankit, I have a much better idea of what it takes to pull off such a tournament.

When I got back to my hotel room to rest before the first round, I realized to my chagrin that I had been left off of the first round pairings! I frantically ran down to the playing hall to locate Ankit, who was just as surprised as I was and graciously re-paired the round to include me. Somehow I had been left off of the pairings because I registered at the last minute. When the new pairings were printed and posted on the wall, I could hardly believe my eyes. I was paired against GM Adams on Board One! So much for easing into the tournament.

E05 Catalan

NM Joshua Sinanan

GM Michael Adams

Los Angeles, Metropolitan Int'l (1) 2011

Annotations by NM Joshua Sinanan

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.g3

I remembered that Mickey is a specialist in the Nimzo- and Queen's Indian Defenses; so I decided to go for a Catalan. This is GM Boris Avrukh's rec-

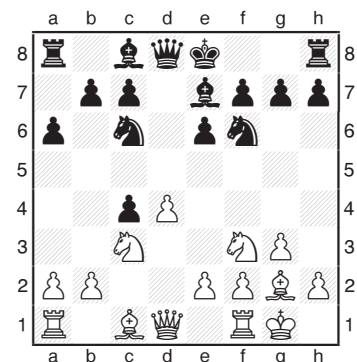
ommendation in *1.d4, Volume One*, a book I would highly recommend for any serious Queen's Gambit player.

3...d5 4.♘f3 dc 5.♙g2 a6 6.O-O ♘c6 7.♘c3

The most ambitious choice favored by Avrukh. More common and perhaps solid is 7.e3, but I figured I should mix it up and go for a more complicated position.

7...♙e7

An interesting choice by Adams, sidestepping the main line of 7...♖b8. With 7...♙e7, Black allows White to win back the c4-pawn in return for quick development.



8.e4!?

I couldn't remember my preparation and decided to go for a space-grab in the center. Avrukh recommends 8.♙a4 instead, aiming to recapture the pawn on c4. I was familiar only with 7...♖b8, when 8.♙a4 is well met by 8...b5. Here, 8...b5 doesn't work because of 9.♘:b5! 8...O-O 9.♙e2?!

Offering a second pawn for the initiative.

9...b5

I thought Adams might try 9...♘:d4 10.♘:d4 ♙:d4 11.♖d1 ♙c5 12.e5 ♘d7 13.♙f4, when White has good piece activity and a nice lead in development for the two pawns.

10. ♖d1 ♜b4 11. ♞e1

Preventing ...♞d3. Adams went into a long think and seemed a bit unsure about what to do. White is threatening to play a2-a3, forcing the Knight back to c6, followed by d4-d5, when the center breaks open in White's favor.

11...c5!?

Adams chooses to free up his queenside at the cost of a pawn.

12. d5?!

The most aggressive continuation. 12.dc was a more balanced alternative. But it is well met by 12...♞c7, when Black will capture the c5-pawn at his leisure and have a strong 3-vs.-2 pawn majority on the queenside.

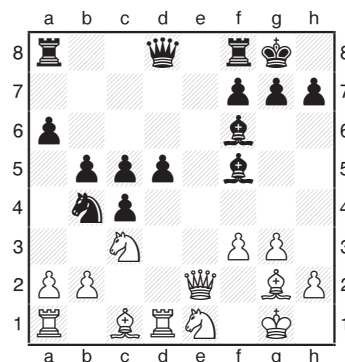
12...ed 13. e5

The point, Black will have to give up his Knight for three pawns to prevent his strong center from collapsing.

13...♙g4!

A strong restricting move by Adams and the only one that keeps Black's advantage.

14. f3 ♙f5 15. ef ♙:f6



We have reached the critical position of the game. At this point, many of the games on the top boards had ended, and we had quite a crowd of spectators. The three-pawns-vs.-minor-piece material imbalance makes for exciting chess!

The plans for each side are clear. White needs to activate his pieces and get some play going against Black's massive pawn center. Black should start advancing his pawns and use them to restrict the movement of White's pieces.

16. ♞f2 d4 17. ♞e4 ♙e7 18. a3 ♞d5 19. g4?



NM Joshua Sinanan vs. GM Michael Adams

I was not sure what to do here, so I decided to lumber forward on the kingside. A misjudgement. Opening the kingside favors Black, since he is better able to coordinate his pieces.

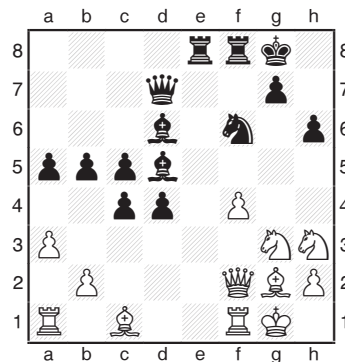
19...♙e6 20. g5 f5 21. gf ♞:f6 22. ♞g3

I rejected 22. ♞g5 due to 22...♞g4 23. ♞:e6 ♞:f2 24. ♞:d8 ♞:d1-+ but missed that 23. ♞e2! is good for White.

22...♞d7 23. f4 ♖ae8

Bringing his last piece into position. Black's pieces coordinate nicely, while my queenside Rook and Bishop have yet to join the game!

24. ♞f3 ♙d6 25. ♞g5 ♙d5 26. ♖f1 h6 27. ♞h3 a5



A sign that the pawn avalanche is starting to roll. I likened my current situation to trying to stop an ocean wave—it's coming whether you like it or not and all you can do is get out of the way!

28. ♙d2 b4 29. ab ab 30. ♖ae1 c3 31. ♙c1 ♙:g2 32. ♞:g2 d3 33. bc bc 34. ♞a2+ ♞h8 35. ♞f2 ♖a8!

Adams shows accurate technique in converting his advantage. I was hoping to sacrifice a piece back for two pawns, but it looks like I'll just have to settle for one.

36. ♞c4 d2

Splash!

37. ♙:d2 cd 38. ♖a1 ♖:a1 39. ♖:a1 ♞g4 0-1

With my kingside in shambles and two pawns down with little counterplay, I decided it was time to throw in the towel. It was an honor and a privilege for me to play against Adams. To see a video made about the game, please visit <http://vimeo.com/27878064>.

After my game against Adams, I was unable to find my form and managed only three points out of the remaining eight games. Though I found myself with an advantage out of the opening in most of my games, I struggled to convert, and even lost, several promising positions. Fortunately, the rest of the Washington squad fared much better.

Dereque had recently been playing many out-of-state tournaments including the Chicago Open, National Open, and U.S. Open in his quest to improve his playing strength. He came to Los Angeles hoping to defeat some strong players and to continue his pursuit of the FM title.

Dereque was quite successful, as he scored a very solid 4.5/9 and increased his USCF rating 33 points! He won the *iPad2 Brilliance Prize* in Round Six for his spectacular win against Indian IM Siddharth Ravichandran, rated 2483 USCF.

D46 Semi-Slav Anti-Meran

NM Dereque Kelley
IM Siddharth Ravichandran

Los Angeles, Metropolitan Int'l (8) 2011

Annotations by NM Dereque Kelley

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.e3 e6
5.♗f3 ♗bd7 6.♚c2 ♘d6 7.♙d3
O-O 8.O-O dc

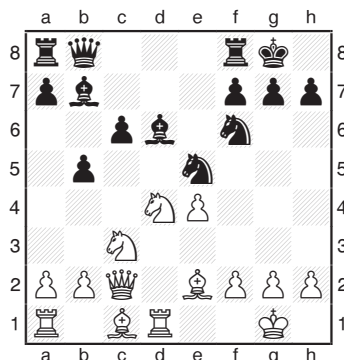
In an earlier game against me, Ravichandran went for 8...h6, which leads to a more quiet, positional game. Perhaps he feared that I had done some homework; so he opted for the more usual line.

9.♙:c4 b5 10.♙e2 ♙b7 11.♖d1
♚b8

This is a refinement over 11...♚c7, after which Black has some problems related to the Queen's vulnerability to pin-tactics along the c-file — see the note to Black's 16th move. However, this Queen move comes with the obvious drawback of not sufficiently coordinating Black's Rooks.

12.e4 e5 13.de ♗:e5 14.♗d4

If Black is able to carry out the key break ...c6-c5, he will not only equalize, but stand much better. His Bishops are placed in terrifying diagonals and the three-to-two queenside pawn majority is an enormous asset in both the middle-game and the endgame. Therefore, White must make powerful moves to hinder the realization of his opponent's ambitions. White aims for ♗f5.



14...♗g6 15.g3

Preventing ...♙:h2+.

15...♖e8 16.♙g5 ♙e5

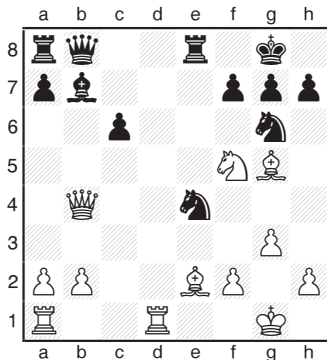
An example of the benefits of placing the Queen on b8. Were Black's Queen on c7, White would now have 17.♙:f6 ♙:f6 18.♗d5!

17. ♗f5

White's pressure has reached a boiling point—it's difficult to see how Black parries natural threats such as f2-f4 or a Knight invasion on d6. Meanwhile, he can't unfold his position with ...♚c7 due to the aforementioned tactic.

Also to be considered were 17. ♖ac1 ♙:d4! 18. ♖:d4 c5± and 17. ♙e3!?

17...♙:c3! 18.♚:c3 b4! 19.♚:b4
♗:e4



Brilliant! This centralized Knight is a huge thorn for White which prevents all the natural plans. Firstly, the Bishop on g5 is under attack; secondly, the Black pawn is ready to advance to c5; thirdly, the natural ♚c3 is missing for White. However, Black has not solved all of his problems. White retains the Bishop pair and a better structure on the queenside.

Taking with the Rook would have been significantly worse: 19...♖:e4? 20. ♚c3!! ♖:e2? (20...♚e5 21.♚:e5 ♗:e5 ♗:e5 22.♙e3±) 21.♙:f6 gf 22.♚:f6 ♚f8 23. ♖d7 ♙c8 24.♗h6+ ♚:h6 25.♚:f7+ ♗h8 26. ♖d8+ and mates!]

20. ♙e3 c5?!

20...♙c8! 21.♗e7+ ♗:e7 22.♚:e4
♚:b2! 23.♙d4 ♚b4 24. ♖ab1 ♚a4 25.
♚e5 f6 26.♚c5

21. ♚b5! a6 22. ♚b3

By playing the subtle 21.♚b5!, I've managed to bring my opponent's a-pawn

to a more vulnerable square. (See the next note.) 22.♚b6!? ♖e6 23.♚b3 could be a further refinement, as 23...♙c8 no longer threatens the Knight on f5.

22...♚c7!?

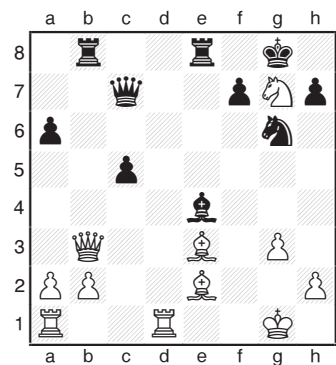
22...♙c8 23.♚:b8 ♖:b8 24.♗d6
♗:d6 25.♖:d6 ♖:b2 26.♙:a6 (This is why I wanted him to play ...a6!) 26...
♙:a6 27.♖:a6±]

23.f3 ♖ab8?

This move scared me! I had considered only 23...♗f6, after which I had a certain advantage. Instead it seems my opponent has found a fantastic tactical solution to his problems . . . or has he??

A better defense was 23...♗g5!
24.♗f2 ♚e5! 25.♚:b7 ♚:f5 26.♙:g5
♚:g5 27.f4±.

24.fe! ♙:e4 25.♗:g7!!



The star move of the game! This bolt from the blue refutes Black's 23... ♖ab8.

25...♗:g7

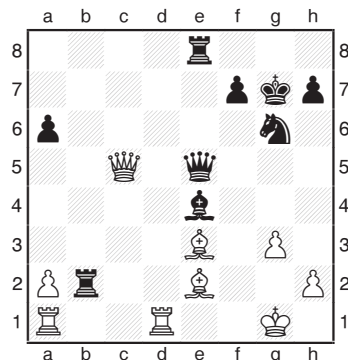
Unfortunately, the Queen cannot be taken!—25...♖:b3?! 26.♗:e8 ♚e7 27. ab ♚:e8 (27...♙c2 28.♗f6+ ♚:f6 29. ♖d2 ♚:b2 30. ♖:a6) 28.♙g5!, winning.

26. ♚c3+ ♚e5

Error begets error. It isn't logical to a) keep the King on a dark square and b) bring the Queen to a dark square. However, my opponent has a violent concept in mind. 26...♗g8 is more logical, but White has consolidated his Bishop pair and has a much better structure - this is a very dangerous situation for Black (who also faces time pressure).

27. ♚c5 ♖:b2!

An amazing attempt for counterplay which is, in fact, not as bad as it seems.



28. ♖d4 ♜:e2 29. ♜e1! ♜g2+ 30. ♔f1 ♜c2!

Not 30... ♜:h2? 31. ♜:e4!

31. ♖:e5+ ♜:e5?

The last major slip; now White wins easily. Recapturing with the Knight was better, e.g., 31... ♖:e5 32. ♜d4 ♖g2+ 33. ♔g1 f6 34. ♜f1 ♖:f1 35. ♜:f1±.

32. ♜d4 ♖g2+ 33. ♔g1 f6 34. ♜d7+! ♔h6 35. ♜d3 ♜ec5 36. ♜ac1!? ♖e5 37. ♜:c2 ♖f3+ 38. ♔f2! ♜:c2+ 39. ♜:c2 ♖:e1 40. ♔:e1 ♖d5 41. ♜d2 ♖c4 42. a4 ♔g5 43. ♜d4 ♖b3 44. ♜f4 f5 45. ♔d2 h5 46. ♔c3 ♖d1 47. ♔b4 ♖e2 48. ♔a5 ♖d3 49. h4+ ♔f6 50. ♜d4 ♖e2 51. ♜d6+ ♔e5 52. ♜:a6 ♖:a6 53. ♔:a6 ♔e4 54. ♔b6 ♔f3 55. a5 ♔:g3 56. a6 ♔:h4 57. a7 ♔:g3 58. a8 ♜ f4 59. ♜g8+ ♔f2 60. ♜g5 f3 61. ♔c5 ♔e2 62. ♜:h5 ♔e3 63. ♜e5+ ♔d3 64. ♜d4+ ♔e2 65. ♜e4+ ♔f2 66. ♔d4 1-0

Howard, current WA Champion, was intent on raising his USCF rating to the elusive 2400 level, which would earn him the USCF Senior Master title. He had a somewhat slow start with four draws out of his first five games. Nevertheless, he finished strong, scoring 5/9. He ended up losing one rating point in the tournament, but since then has had a string of excellent results to peak at 2411! In the fourth round, he found himself paired against fellow Washingtonian Michael Lee. The two had not played since the 2009 WA State Championship.

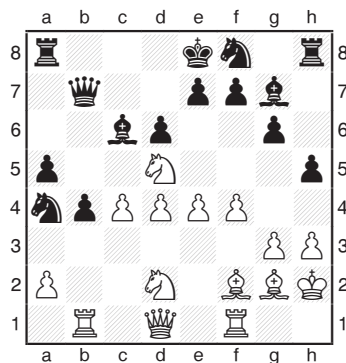
A05 King's Indian Attack

NM Howard Chen
FM Michael Lee

Los Angeles, Metropolitan Int'l (4) 2011

1.g3 ♖f6 2.♖g2 g6 3.e4 d6 4.♖c3 h5 5.h3 ♖c6 6.d3 ♖g7 7.♖g5 ♖h7

8.♖e3 ♖d4 9.f4 c5 10.♖f3 ♖d7 11. O-O ♜c8 12.♔h2 ♖f8 13.♖d5 ♖c6 14.♜b1 b5 15.♖f2 ♜b7 16. ♖d2 ♖de6 17.b4 a5 18.bc ♖:c5 19.c4 b4 20.d4 ♖a4



21.e5 de 22. ♜f3 ♜c8 23.fe ♖h7 24.♖e4 O-O 25.a3 e6 26.♖d6 ♜d7 27.ab ed 28. b5 ♖a8 29.c5 ♜b8 30.♜a3 ♖b6 31.cb ♜:b6 32.♜c5 ♜fb8 33.♖e3 ♖f8 34.♜fc1 ♖:d6 35.ed ♖f8 36.♜c7 ♜b6 37.♜:d7 ♜:d7 38.b6 ♖e6 39.b7 ♜b:b7 40. ♜c8+ ♔g7 41. ♜a1 ♜a7 42.♖d2 ♖b7 43. ♜b8 ♜:d6 44. ♜:a5 ♜:a5 45.♖:a5 ♖a6 46. ♜b6 ♜:b6 47. ♖:b6 ♖c4 48.h4 ♔f8 49.♔g1 ♔e7 50.♔f2 ♔d6 51.♖h3 f5 52. ♔e3 ♔c6 53.♖a7 ♔b5 54.♖b8 ♔b4 55.♖e5 ♔c3 56.♖g2 ♔c2 57.♖f3 ♔c1 58.♖f6 ♔b2 59. ♖e5 ♔a3 60.♖d6+ ♔a4 61.♖d1+ ♔b5 62.♖e5 ♖f1 63.♖b3 ♖g2 64. ♔f2 ♖e4 65.♔e3 ♖d8 66.♖f6 ♖f7 67.♖d1 Draw

Michael had an excellent tournament and earned his second IM norm, the only one awarded in the entire event! As the highest rated FM in the field, it was clear that Michael had his sights set on the norm from the very beginning. Michael kept his focus throughout the tournament, thanks in part to his enormous headphones that he wore in each and every game. Along the way to earning his norm, Michael faced five titled players and finished with 5.5/9. He defeated GM Dmitry Gurevich in Round Six in a very complicated King's Indian.

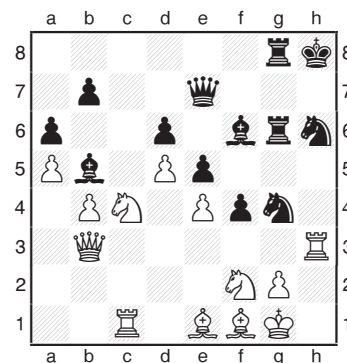
E98 King's Indian Classical

GM Dmitry Gurevich
FM Michael Lee

Los Angeles, Metropolitan Int'l (6) 2011

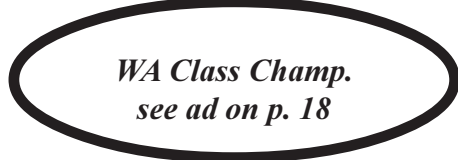
1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 g6 3.♖c3 ♖g7 4.e4

d6 5.♖f3 O-O 6.♖e2 e5 7.O-O ♖c6 8.d5 ♖e7 9.♖e1 ♖d7 10.♖e3 f5 11.f3 f4 12.♖f2 g5 13. ♜c1 ♜f6 14.♖d3 ♜h6 15.♖e1 ♜g6 16.b4 h5 17.c5 ♖f6 18.♖b5 ♖e8 19.♖f2 ♔h8 20.h3 ♖g8 21.a4 ♖h6 22.cd cd 23.♜c2 ♖d7 24.♜b3 a6 25. ♖a3 ♖f6 26.♖c4 g4 27.hg hg 28. fg ♖f:g4 29.a5 ♜g5 30.♖h3 ♜e7 31. ♜f3 ♖b5 32.♖f1 ♜g8 33.♖f2 ♖f6 34. ♜h3



34... ♖e3 35.♖:e3 fe 36. ♖g4 ♜:g4 37. ♜:h6+ ♔g7 38. ♜:e3 ♜f4 39. ♖:b5 ♔:h6 40.♖e2 ♖h4 41. ♜h3 ♔g7 42.♖d2 ♖f2+ 43.♔f1 ♜h8 44.♖h5 ♖e3+ 45.♔e2 ♜f2+ 46. ♔:e3 ♜g5+ 47.♔f2 ♜:d2+ 48. ♔g1 ♜:c1+ 49.♔h2 ♜g5 50.♜d7+ ♔h6 51.♖g4 ♜d8 52. ♜e6+ ♔g7 53.♖h3 ♜f6 54. ♜g4+ ♜g6 55. ♜h4 ♜f8 56. ♜e7+ ♜f7 57. ♜h4 ♜h6 58. ♜g4+ ♔h7 59. ♜e2 ♜f4+ 60. ♔g1 ♜c7 61. ♜h5+ ♔g7 62. ♖g4 ♜e3+ 63. ♔f1 ♜c1+ 64. ♖d1 ♜d3+ 65. ♔f2 ♜d2+ 66. ♔g3 ♜e3+ 67. ♖f3 ♜f4+ 68. ♔f2 ♜c2+ 69. ♔g1 ♜e3+ 70. ♔h2 ♜h6 71. ♔g3 ♜:h5 72. ♖:h5 ♜c4 73. ♖f3 ♜:b4 74. ♔h4 ♔g6 0-1

The Metropolitan International was the first large-scale norm tournament on the west coast in many years. It provided the opportunity for local players to compete with top Grandmasters in a strong open tournament setting. Thanks to the vision of organizer Ankit Gupta and Metropolitan Chess, we can look forward to many more events like this in the future! ■



Western Idaho Open

Boise, Idaho

December 10-11, 2011

Format: 5 Round Swiss System

Time Control: Game/90 Rd 1; Game/120 Rds 2-5

2 Sections: OPEN and U1400 Reserve

Site: Boise State University, Student Union Building, Hatch Ballroom, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho 83706.

Entry Fee: \$30 (\$25 if Under 18 or 60+ years old, BSU Chess Club members entry \$10) if registered by December 5, 2011. \$5 more for all if received after December 5, 2011. E-mail entry will lock in advance entry rate.

Current USCF Membership is required, available at site or online at www.uschess.org

Make all checks payable to Idaho Chess Association.

Register & check in: 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Saturday, December 10, 2011

Round Times:

Round 1:	9:00 a.m.	Saturday, December 10, 2011
Round 2:	1:00 p.m.	Saturday, December 10, 2011
Round 3:	6:00 p.m.	Saturday, December 10, 2011
Round 4:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday, December 11, 2011
Round 5:	2:00 p.m.	Sunday, December 11, 2011

1/2 point bye (Maximum 1), Rounds 1-4 only. 1st round, must notify TD before round is paired; all others, before round 2 is paired.

Prizes (Based on 30 non-BSU entries): Open: \$200, \$100, \$75.

Reserve: \$100, \$75, \$50.

Entries: Jeff Roland, 1511 S. Leadville Ave., Boise, ID 83706, 208-424-9847 or E-mail: jroland@cablone.net, www.idahochessassociation.org

No Computers, No Smoking, Wheelchair access

Name _____

Address _____

USCF ID # _____ USCF Exp _____ Rating _____

E-mail _____ Section _____ Bye Rds _____

Entries: Payable to ICA; mail to Jeff Roland, 1511 S. Leadville Ave., Boise, ID 83706

Idaho Chess News

By Jeff Roland

Glen Buckendorf, Jr.

(June 19, 1929 – September 12, 2011)

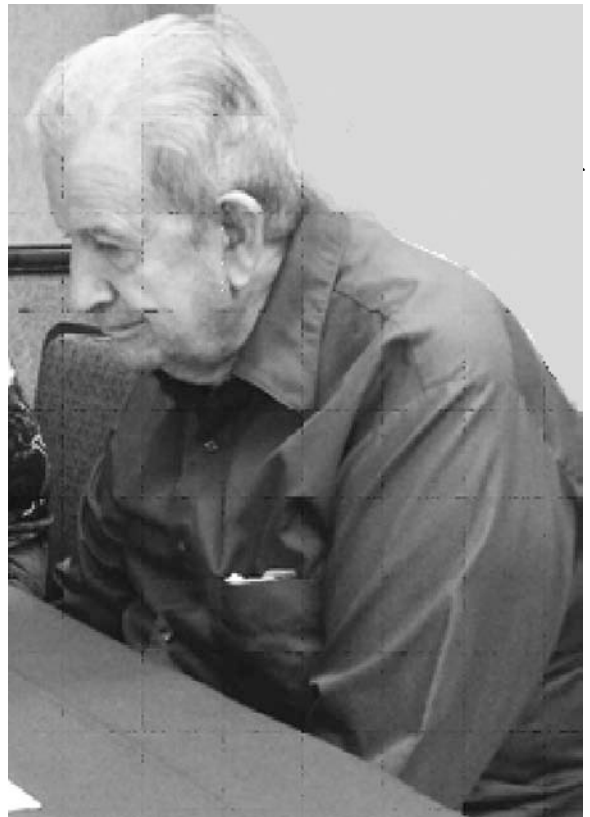
On September 12, 2011, Glen Buckendorf, Jr., passed away. Glen and his wife, Annette, supported the Idaho Chess Association (ICA) from 1947 to 2011, which spans the entire history of the ICA! In fact, Glen played in the *first* Idaho State Chess Championship in 1947, and it was there that he met his future wife. Shortly after that tournament, they were married. Glen often said that his true strength was that Annette was always there by his side making the big sacrifices, while he had the fun playing chess. It is no small feat that Annette came to all the tournaments and played Scrabble or visited with the other “chess widows” while their husbands were having their fun playing chess.

Glen was a very dedicated supporter of the ICA for many years. Here are some, not all!, of Glen Buckendorf’s accomplishments over the years: Glen was Idaho State Chess Champion in 1951, 1954, 1956, 1957, 1959, 1960, 1967, 1968, 1972, and 2001 (a span of 51 years!).

Starting in 1959 and going through 2011, Glen played in 53 consecutive Idaho State Championship tournaments, a record that will probably never be broken in any state in the United States of America! Glen Buckendorf was the first-ever U.S. Junior Champion for the Correspondence Chess League of America (CCLA). The event started in 1950 . . . and in 1955, he was the winner! Glen was ICA President in 1951, 1970, 1971, and 1972. He was also Secretary/Treasurer in 2000, and served on the Board of Directors as Trustee for Tournament Organization in 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009. Throughout the years, if Glen wanted to play in a big tournament in California or some other place and if there was an ICA tournament that same weekend, Glen would always choose the ICA tournament to support Idaho Chess. In 2010, Glen Buckendorf was made trustee emeritus in recognition of his ongoing devotion as a friend, supporter, and champion of chess.

In the history of the ICA, only two people have been given the honor of Life Membership in the ICA, Dick Vandenburg and Glen Buckendorf. But Glen was given the additional honor of free entry to every event as well, which was the highest honor the ICA could really give to anybody.

Glen was a tough competitor. He had a chess sense that went very deep and a technical knowledge to win won positions that most of his contemporaries just didn’t take the time to learn (his dramatic win against Garrett Reynolds in the 2001 Idaho State Championship, winning the game on the 50th move where his opponent claimed insufficient losing chances is a perfect example of this).



Glen Buckendorf, ICA Summer Classic, July 2011

Photo by Adam Porth

C92 Ruy Lopez Zaitsev

Glen Buckendorf, Jr. (2000)
Jeff Roland (1836)

Idaho Falls, President’s Cup 1992.

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♙b5 a6 4.♙a4 ♘f6 5.O-O ♙e7 6.♞e1 b5 7.♙b3 d6 8.c3 O-O 9.h3 ♙b7 10.d4 ed 11.cd ♞e8 12.♘bd2 ♙f8 13.♙c2 h6 14.a3 ♞d7 15.♘f1 g6 16.♘g3 ♙g7 17.♙d2 ♞e7 18.♞c1 ♘h7 19.♙c3 ♞ae8 20.b4 ♘g8 21.♞b2 ♘b8 22.♞ad1 ♞c6 23.♞e3 d5 24.e5 ♞e6 25.♘e2 ♘d7 26.♘f4 ♞c6 27.♘d2 ♘b6 28.♞b1 ♘c4 29.♘:c4 bc 30.♞g3 ♞e6 31.♘:e6 ♞:e6 32.b5 ♘e7 33.f4 ♙c8 34.♙b4 ♘f5 35.♙:f5 ♞:f5 36.♞:f5 ♙:f5 37.ba ♞a8 38.a4 ♞:a6 39.♞a3 ♙c2 40.♞da1 ♙b3 41.a5 h5 42.♘f2 ♙h6 43.♙d2 ♙f8 44.♞:b3 cb 45.♞b1 c5 46.dc ♙:c5+ 47.♘e2 ♙e7 48.♞:b3 ♞a7 49.♙e3 ♞:a5 50.♞b7 ♞a2+ 51.♘f3 ♙d8 52.♞:f7+ ♘g8 53.♞d7 ♞a8 54.♞:d5 ♙e7 55.♘e4 ♞a4+ 56.♞d4 ♞a3 57.♞d7 ♘f7 58.♙c5 ♞a4+ 59.♘d5 ♞:f4 60.♞:e7+ ♘g8 61.

Chess DVDs Now Available through Elliott’s Chess School!

LEARN CHESS INDEPTH WITH NATIONAL MASTER ELLIOTT NEFF

Chess4Life also offers:

- Chess Camps
- Tournaments
- Afterschool Program
- Private Lessons
- Chess Classes
- Chess4Life Center

Chess4Life
Teaching life skills through chess

For more info, call 425-283-0549 | www.chess4life.com

♖e8+ ♜g7 62. ♖e6 ♜f7 63. ♖d6
 ♖f5 64. ♖d7+ ♜g8 65. ♜d6 ♖f1
 66.e6 ♖f6 67. ♜e7 1-0

2011 Eastern Idaho Open

The Eastern Idaho Open chess tournament was played on September 24, 2011 at Idaho State University, Student Union Building, in Pocatello, Idaho. Jay Simonson was the tournament director. Fourteen (14) players representing four

(4) states (ID, WY, UT, MT) competed in the one-day event. The time control was G/60 for the first two rounds, and G/90 for rounds three and four.

In the Open Section, Caleb Kircher (Nampa) won first place with an impressive 3½ score, followed by Jeff Roland (Boise) in second place with three points. Kircher and Roland were the only two players in the Open section to be undefeated. Third place was a tie between Ed McLaughlin (Anaconda, Montana) and Tom Booth (Caldwell) each with 2½ points.

In the Reserve Section, play was changed to a Round Robin format and therefore reduced from four rounds to three rounds. Cindy Hanson (Idaho Falls) was first with a perfect score of three points. Marc Harrison (Idaho Falls) was second with two points, and Jay Simonson (Idaho Falls) was third with one point.

C05 French Tarrasch

Caleb Kircher (1765)
Ed McLaughlin (1758)

Pocatello, Eastern Idaho Open (3) 2011

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘d2 ♘f6 4.e5
 ♘fd7 5.♙d3 c5 6.c3 ♘c6 7.♘e2
 ♞b6 8.♘f3 cd 9.cd ♙b4+ 10.♙d2
 f6 11.ef ♘:f6 12.O-O ♙:d2 13.
 ♞:d2 O-O 14.♖ad1 ♙d7 15.♖fe1
 ♖ae8 16.♘g3 h6 17.♙b1 ♘g4 18.
 h3 ♘f6 19.♘e5 ♙c8 20.a3 ♘d7
 21.♘:d7 ♙:d7 22.♞d3 ♘e7 23.
 ♞h7+ ♜f7 24.♘h5 ♖g8 25.♖d3
 ♘f5 26.♖f3 ♞:d4 27.♙:f5 ef 28.
 ♖:f5+ ♙:f5 29.♞:f5+ 1-0 ■

Photo by Jeff Roland



Caleb Kircher, winner 2011 Eastern Idaho Open

For lists of upcoming Idaho tournaments and ICA officers, see page 17.

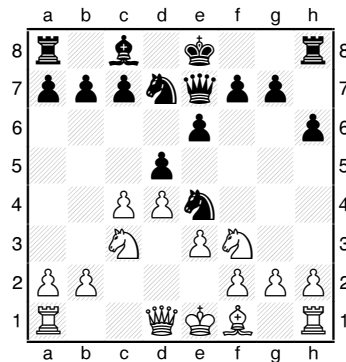
Theoretically Speaking

by Bill McGeary

D51 Andersson QGD, Part II

When Lasker originally played a defense to the QGD with $\text{d}e4$, the idea was simply to exchange pieces, whether it was a practical decision or based on some extra psychological factor is a matter of some debate. Later it was determined that including the moves $\text{h}6/\text{g}4$ were favorable to Black, because any backrank problems were addressed. In our line, Black has gone one step further by using a move order to subvert some other ideas for White. It could be named the "Ultra extra modern Lasker" defense! The one thing that remains the same through all the alterations is that White has a choice to make after taking on e7: exchange Knights on e4, exchange pawns on d5, or let Black decide the fate of the tension and get on with development. This time we will look at exchanging on d5.

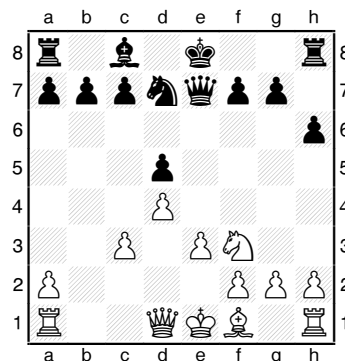
1.d4 $\text{d}f6$ 2.c4 e6 3. $\text{d}f3$ d5 4. $\text{g}5$ $\text{b}d7$ 5. $\text{c}3$ h6 6. $\text{g}4$ $\text{e}7$ 7.e3 $\text{e}4$ 8. $\text{e}7$ $\text{e}7$



9.cd compels Black to exchange 9... $\text{c}3$ to avoid losing the d5-pawn entirely. After that come the return exchanges 10. bc ed, when we arrive at the second criti-

cal position. The resulting position is not quite equal for Black, in my opinion, but is very close. White is going to push c3-c4 at some point and Black is likely to exchange, otherwise there is a serious danger that White will push c4-c5 with a strong minority type attack. After the exchange on c4, White will post Rooks on the c- and b-files. Black will station his Knight on f6, his Bishop on e6, and the Rooks will go to d6 and c7. Keeping pressure on d5 and e4 will support Black attempting some play with $\text{R}d6$ -g6 or just a lateral defense. At this point I want to point out an obvious inconsistency: Black played the opening to reach an equal position by exchanging pieces, but upon reaching this position Black seeks active play which would work better with more pieces. The easiest way for Black to lose this position is to get the idea that playing aggressively for a win is on the cards and start pushing things, only to have it fail. The point of this little diatribe is to confirm that Black is seeking to outplay the opponent, not win because of the opening. Here is a look at what has been played.

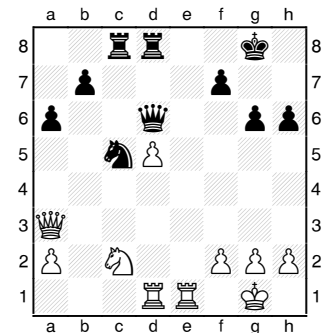
9.cd $\text{c}3$ 10.bc ed



A) 11.c4

White immediately seeks a change in the pawn structure by eliminating the d5-pawn. After this exchange, White will have an advantage in the center and is likely to target the c- and b- files for the Rooks. The Black side requires more patience. Exchanging has eased Black of serious cramping, the central light squares are easily controlled and the queenside majority can become an asset. If Black doesn't want to just sit tight the timing and arrangement of the move c5 is imperative. The line was contested twice by Seirawan and Andersson.

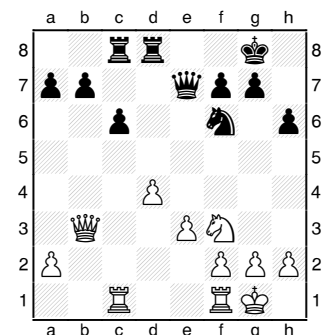
11... $\text{d}f6$ 12.cd $\text{d}5$ 13. $\text{e}c4$ $\text{e}e6$ 14. $\text{b}3$ c6 15.O-O O-O 16. $\text{f}e1$ $\text{a}c8$ 17.e4 $\text{f}4$ 18. $\text{e}e6$ $\text{d}e6$ 19.d5 $\text{c}5$ 20. $\text{a}3$ cd 21.ed $\text{d}6$ 22. $\text{a}d1$ a6 23. $\text{d}d4$ g6 24. $\text{c}2$ $\text{f}d8$



This equal position was drawn on move 48 in Seirawan-Andersson, Haning 1990.

Seirawan-Andersson, Tilburg rapid 1992, varied on move 14.

14. $\text{e}b3$ O-O 15.O-O $\text{a}c8$ 16. $\text{f}c1$ $\text{f}d8$ 17. $\text{c}2$ $\text{d}f6$ 18. $\text{b}1$ $\text{e}b3$ 19. $\text{b}3$ c6



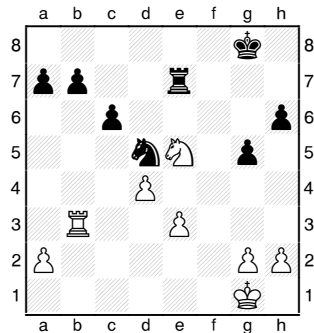
White is slightly better and won on move 57. It is important to note that this was a rapid game, as 14...c5 looks like an easy route toward equality.

14. ♖b3, pressuring b7 and d5, seems an obvious move, yet, after 14...c6, does Black threaten ...b7-b5? The idea is that a Bishop retreat has to be ready, for ...♟f4 comes with a discovered attack on the Queen and a direct attack on the Bishop. When the Queen retreats, capturing the Bishop and playing ...♙c4 might skewer the Rook on f1. Therefore at move 15 the Rook slides left and Black continues 15...b5, then ...a5 with an active game.

B) 11. ♙d3

This is an obvious, simple move, developing a piece and keeping c3-c4 on tap, maybe an e4-push is in the works. The downside is that it doesn't present Black with any immediate concerns. As well as the obvious and standard idea of c6/♙e6 and Rooks to the center, Black can seek more activity with c7-c5.

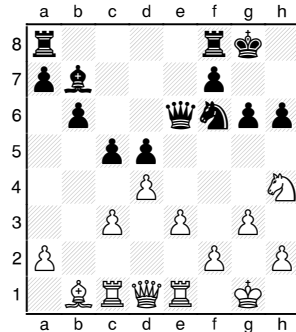
11. ♙d3 O-O 12. O-O c6 13. c4 dc 14. ♙:c4 ♟b6 15. ♙b3 ♙e6 16. ♙:e6 ♖:e6 17. ♖b3 ♜fe8 18. ♜fc1 ♜ad8 19. ♖:e6 ♜:e6 20. ♜c5 ♜d5 21. ♜b1 ♜e7 22. ♜:d5 ♟:d5 23. ♟e1 f5 24. ♟d3 g5 25. ♟e5 f4 26. ♜b3 fe 27. fe



With a small advantage Podprigora – Vassiliev Tallinn masters 2000

12...c5 is the attempt to take advantage of White's slow play. In lines where White has played a quick c4 and exchanged on d5, Black has to consider that pushing ...c7-c5 might be met by d5, when the passed pawn and a Knight coming to c4 could be very uncomfortable. In the current situation, Black has ...c7-c5 in already and can exchange in the center at will. Black isn't worried about d4:c5, leaving an isolated pawn on d5, as the c3 pawn is at least as weak and has much less influence on the center. In essence, Black has claimed the initiative.

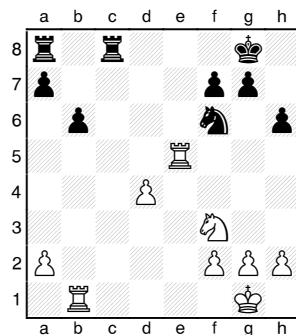
13. ♜c1 b6 14. ♙b1 g6 15. ♜e1 ♙b7 16. g3 ♖e6 17. ♟h4 ♟f6



And Black won after some maneuvering in Stamenov–Babiy, Kiev 2003.

In Planas–Andersson, Calvia 2006, White tried

13. ♖e2 ♜d8 14. ♜ab1 b6 15. e4 de 16. ♙:e4 ♙b7 17. ♜fe1 ♖:e4 18. ♖:e4 ♙:e4 19. ♜:e4 ♟f6 20. ♜e5 cd 21. cd ♜dc8



But Black gained the advantage.

I would think that, after 11. ♙d3 O-O 12. O-O c5, White doesn't have an easy way to change things. Black is advised to play ...b7-b6, ...♙b7 and ...♜fc8 before deciding whether to play for an advance on the queenside or to exchange on d4 and try to make something down the c-file.

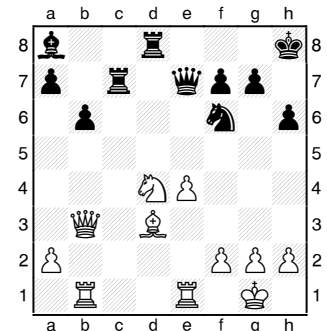
C) 11. ♖b3

This frequently appears in the regular lines of the Lasker defense. White takes more direct action than with 11. ♙d3, but still does not commit to c3-c4. Black's position is well built for such an eventuality, the Knight on d7 now has a job, and, consequently, White will not be getting much from the opening.

11. ♖b3 ♟f6 12. c4 c6 13. ♙d3 ♙e6 14. O-O ♜c8

Black is more keen to rebuff any ideas about the b7-pawn rather than blindly castling.

15. ♜ab1 ♜c7 16. cd ♙:d5 17. ♖a4 O-O 18. ♟e5 b6 19. ♜fe1 c5 20. e4 ♙a8 21. ♖b3 ♟h8 22. ♟f3 cd 23. ♟:d4 ♜d8



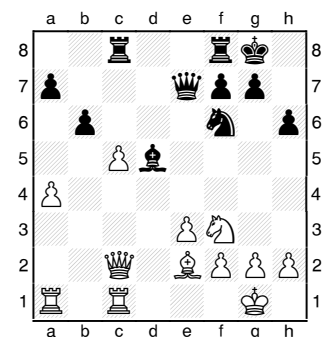
Black didn't have much to worry about and could seek mischief on the dark squares in Nikolic–Andersson, Leningrad 1987. Black ended up winning in 16 more moves.

At move 13, ♜b1, attempting to pin Black down on the b7 pawn, could be critical. 13... ♜b8 14. ♖a4 doesn't seem like the answer. The most obvious course is 13...O-O 14. ♙d3 dc 15. ♙:c4 b5 16. ♙e2 ♙e6 17. ♖c2 ♙d5. This is not typical play for Black and needs to be tested. 13. ♟e5 by itself doesn't look too difficult, Black can look for the typical play of O-O/c4/♙e6/♜c8-c7, while an attempt by White to combine ♟e5 and ♜b1 might be countered by a timely 13...c5.

D) Other Moves

Two other moves suggest themselves: 11. ♙e2 and 11. ♜b1.

11. ♙e2 O-O 12. O-O c6 13. a4 ♟f6 14. ♖c2 ♙e6 15. c4 c5 16. cd ♙:d5 17. dc ♜ac8 18. ♜fc1 b6



This was equal for Black in Kiselev–Kiriakov, Moscow 1996.

11. ♖b1 is another “slow” move seeking to have the Rook in place before pushing c3-c4. 11...O-O 12. ♗d3 c6 13. O-O ♘f6 14. c4 ♗e6 is okay for Black. 11. ♖b1 O-O 12. ♗d3 c5 13. O-O b6 is a way to look for more from the Black side.

Lines after 9.cd are typically simplified. This is a style of play that some players adopt with the White pieces, basically looking for a small edge without any serious risk. Still, the exchanges work out for Black. It is very interesting that if White doesn't play c4 early and instead looks to keep the game “locked up,” Black gets very easy play. White's best try appears to be 11. ♖b3 ♘f6 12. c4 c6 13. ♖b1. ■

Idaho Chess Association

Upcoming Tournaments

Western Idaho Open

Boise, Idaho
December 10-11, 2011

Meridian Invitational

Meridan, Idaho
January 7, 2012

Idaho Closed

Boise, Idaho
February 18-20, 2012

ICA Board of Directors

President: Jay Simonson

(rooknjay@yahoo.com)

Vice President: Kevin Patterson

(kpat42@msn.com)

Secretary/Treasurer: Adam

Porth (aporth1@cox.net)

Trustee for Website Development and Maintenance:

Jeff Roland (jroland@
cableone.net)

Trustee for Scholastic Development: vacant

Trustee for Tournament Organization: Barry Eacker

(mol@q.com)

Trustee for Tournament Organization: Hugh Myers

(hsmyers@gmail.com)

Love Song of the Chess Player

Will it have been worthwhile, after all,
After the baited gambits, the poisoned pawns,
The fork-tongued dragons which lurk
In the labyrinthine Sicilians,
Or the doomed attempt to breach the walls
Of the sturdy Stonewall Dutch?
A lifetime isn't much.

Or nights of sleepless dreams
Which twist and wind and toss,
After a long, almost-drawn
Endgame loss.

But think of the joys of striving for truth
In duels with other minds!
Or could it be these pieces we touch
Are mere toys of idle hands,
Of those enthralled by Caissa's charms
Or consumed by fever of the chess disease?
A matter of perspective, if you please.

As far as known to humans
There is no chess in heaven
Only in hell, where you will play
The devil's minions
Who chant and dance in their sweaty chains
While you lose
And they win every game.

But you could always try! Strive to improve!
Decision agony:
Which do you choose, below or above?
Your clock is ticking
Make your move!

Carol Kleist (with love to T.S. Eliot)

WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION



Washington Class Championships A NW Grand Prix Event November 25-27, 2011

WA Class Championships Entry Fees and Prize Fund

**\$6,000 Guaranteed by the
Washington Chess Federation**

**Entry fees listed as: Postmarked
By Oct 28 / By Nov 18 / At site**

Master (2200+) EF \$70 / \$80 / \$90
Prizes \$500, \$350, \$200, U2300 \$150

Expert (2000-2199) EF \$65 / \$75 / \$85
Prizes \$400, \$300, \$175, U2100 \$125

Class A (1800-1999) EF \$60 / \$70 / \$80
Prizes \$300, \$250, \$150, U1900 \$100

Class B (1600-1799) EF \$60 / \$70 / \$80
Prizes \$300, \$250, \$150, U1700 \$100

Class C (1400-1599) EF \$60 / \$70 / \$80
Prizes \$300, \$250, \$150, U1500 \$100

Class D (1200-1399) EF \$60 / \$70 / \$80
Prizes \$300, \$250, \$150, U1300 \$100

Class E (1199&below) EF \$55/\$65/\$75
Prizes \$150, \$125, \$100, U1000 \$75,
U800 \$75, Unrated \$75

Advance entries must be received by Nov. 18. Reentry 1/2 of your entry fee. Add \$25 to play up one class (can't play up two classes). Free entry to GMs, IMs, and WGMs. Juniors (U21) may play for medals only for an advance EF of \$30. (Medals awarded for top two in each class.) Canadians may pay C\$ at par (no coins) for entry fee only.

**ALL PRIZES WILL BE MAILED
starting December 1, 2011.**

Entries/Information:

Send entries to Eddie Chang,
WCF Tournament Coordinator:
c/o Warring Properties
787 Maynard Ave S, STE C
Seattle, WA 98104-2987
Phone (425) 922-7136

E-mail wcf.tournaments@gmail.com

Also see www.nwchess.com.

Make checks payable to
Washington Chess Federation.

Seattle Airport Marriott, 3201 South 176th St,
Seattle, WA 98188, phone (206) 241-2000

**Online Registration at <http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration>
Pay by credit/debit or PayPal.**

Format: Seven class sections as shown at left, six round Swiss system. Sections may be combined if less than 12 players in a section. Late registrations may receive half-point byes for first round.

Rating: USCF rated. Master/Expert sections also FIDE rated. USCF November supplement will be used. Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating. Unrated players may only win 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes in Master section, or unrated prize in class E.

Registration: Friday 8:00-9:00 AM for 3-day schedule, or 3:00-3:30 PM if entering with one half-point bye. Saturday 8:00-9:00 AM for 2-day schedule, or 8:30-9:00 AM if entering 3-day schedule with two half-point byes. Two half-point byes available at registration or before end of round 2. Play any two days, if taking two half-point byes.

Rounds: 3-day schedule: Fri: 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Sat 10:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Sun 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM. 2-day schedule: Sat 9:30 AM, 12:00 noon, 2:30 PM, then join 3-day schedule with round 4 at 5:30 PM.

Time Controls: 3-day schedule: 30/90 and SD/1 with 5-second delay. 2-day schedule: G/60 with 5-second delay (rounds 1-3), rounds 4-6 same as 3-day schedule. Please bring tournament chess set, board and digital clock.

Miscellaneous: Current USCF membership and WCF or OCF membership required in all sections. Other States Accepted. Memberships may be paid at time of registration. NW Grand Prix event. National Grand Prix Points: 20. Chess Magnet School JGP. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

Entries/Prizes/Info: See left column. Please use entry form (available on NWC website) for a list of all discounts and fees, and to indicate schedule, section, side events and byes requested – or use online registration.

Hotel Info/Rates: \$95.00 for single, double, triple or quad. Reservation link is available on Northwest Chess website (www.nwchess.com). Group code CHECHEA. The cut-off date for reservations at the discount is November 13th.

Side Event: Washington Class Blitz Championship, Friday 11/25 at 8:00 pm. Format: 5 round double Swiss System in one section. Registration: 7:30-8:00 PM. Rounds: approximately 8:15, 8:45, 9:15, 9:45 and 10:15 PM. TC: G/5 (no delay). EF: \$25. Prizes: Based on 19 entries. 1st \$120, 2nd \$80, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. Miscellaneous: Not USCF rated. Memberships not required.

Washington Class Scholastic (Nov 25): A separate flyer/entry form/online registration link will be published on the NWC website for this event, or contact: David Hendricks, WCF Scholastic Coordinator, 2439 220th Place NE, Sammamish, WA 98074-6418, phone 425-868-3881, e-mail: DavidCHendricks@comcast.net.

Revised 9/12/2011.

Bellevue, WA

The Washington Blitz Championship was held at the Chess4Life center on August 13, 2011. There were 25 players in all, 12 in the Open section & 13 in the K-12 Scholastic section. The winners were: In the Open section—1st Elliott Neff, ten points; =2nd-4th Samuel He, Rex De Asis, and Daniel He, six points each. In the Scholastic section—1st Bryce Tiglon, ten points; =2nd-3rd Ben Seran and Gabriel Tafalla, seven points each.

Courtesy of Gary Dorfner

Tacoma, WA

Eight players participated in the Washington G/60 Championship held on September 10. Experts Paul Bartron and Patrick Van Dyke topped the field of mostly B and C players with 3.5/4 each. Gary Dorfner directed.

Seattle, WA

A second tournament was held at Occidental Square Park in the Pioneer Square district of Seattle. In August last year, it was blitz, while this year Quick chess (G/30) was featured. There were 24 players in all—10 in the Paid section & 14 in the Free section—at the August 21 event sponsored by the Seattle Parks Department and the University of Wash-

ington CC as well as the Seattle CC and the Pioneer Square Alliance. The winners were: Paid section—1st Vishnu Warrior, 4.5/5; Free section—1st Gilbert Lomboy 5.0. The event was directed by Travis Olsen.

Courtesy of Gary Dorfner

Portland, OR

The Portland CC hosted the Portland Fall Open on October 15-16. NM Steven Breckenridge won the 16-player Open Section with four wins and a draw (with Brian Esler). Brian had three draws in the event and tied with Curtis Brooks for second place at 3.5/5.

The Reserve Section ended in a tie at 4-1 between Dan Oswalt and Frederick Davis. Davis beat Oswalt and lost

to James McAleer. Among the 15 players in this section were two unrated players. The Chief TD was Gregori Alpernas

Courtesy of Rusty Miller

Tacoma, WA

Six players took part in the Puget Sound Open held on August 20. Expert Paul Bartron won the G/65 event with a score of 3.5/4. Peter O’Gorman came second on three points. Gary Dorfner directed. ■

Chess Vision
"Train Your Brain!"

RADU ROUA
Chess Master

Tel: 503-880-0581
Chess Vision, Inc.
11918 SE Division St. PMB 279
Portland, OR 97266-1037
RADU@chessvision.net
www.chessvision.net

**National Chess Day
in the Northwest**

Bellevue, WA

It was Blitz- and Bug-Day at Chess4Life, a scholastic chess training center and tournament site. The former was a fifteen-player, five-round double Swiss. The latter was an eight-team double round-robin won by Asher and Eamon Thakur with thirteen points out of fourteen.

Courtesy of Gary Dorfner

Coquille, OR

Scholastic chess clubs from Coos Bay, Coquille, Myrtle Point, and North Bend took part in a live chess game in the Figo Plaza parking lot. Local celebrities, including the police chief and a TV personality also participated.

Courtesy of Rusty Miller & Brie Thiele, KCBY News

Seattle, WA

The Washington Team Championship was scheduled to be held at the Seattle Chess Club, but only one team of four—FM David Bragg, Joe Davis, James Hamlett, and Alan Walk—and five other players showed up.

The team was awarded part of the prize, an exhibition match against the Seattle Sluggers, and eight of the players agreed to play a Quick Chess (G/29) round-robin. FM Bragg won the event with six points, despite losing to dan Mathews in the last round.

The youngest and lowest-rated participant, Peiqi Jiang, finished second with five points, having lost only to Bragg. The 1338-rated youngster scored 3.5/4 against the Class B players in the event!

Courtesy of Gary Dorfner ■



Poodle Dog Chess

Directing a chess tournament can be a tough job.
Egos to the nth power, gaping generation gaps,
One man's "the right way" equating with another man's "fussiness."
The Spring Daffodil Open held at the Poodle Dog Café in Tacoma
Was one of my most challenging. Noise was a problem from the start.
Clinking spoons and knives, dinner table talk, ubiquitous techno-beat drifting in,
Bursts of uproarious laughter.
In the tournament hall itself Vojnovic keeps talking to his opponent on board one,
Catherine is moving the pieces in her opponent's turn in his absence,
Explaining at my protest that he would take the pawn.
Then there would be quadruple pawns on an open file,
And she would attack them like this.
"No, no, wait he doesn't have to take the pawn," I tell her.
A little girl is playing with her pet frog on a lower board.
She and her visiting girlfriend are laughing, while her opponent,
A big man with a chess belly is looking around for the director.
A probably drunk bystander with high mounds of light colored curls
Has begun to hum lightly about Irish roses, but is gathering momentum.
Someone opens a door by the Tournament Director's desk.
All the scoresheets flutter away like released homing pigeons.
Two boys, who know how to beat adults,
But not yet how to mark up the scores on the pairing sheets
Have their hands up for my attention to their victories.
An older gentleman is arguing, mistrustful of the digital game timer.
Catherine says, "What else can he do? If he tries to push past,
I'll move here." "But," I say, "what if he just sits and plays the rook, say to e7?"
But wait, the opponent of the frog girl has found me.
The two boys have grown antsy,
Waving their arms in semaphore mode.

A spectator opens the door: wind.
I succeed in making Catherine put the pieces back, threatening to forfeit her.
A seedy man walks through the tournament room,
Distributing flyers announcing in bold red and green:
“Secret High Roller Chess Club! \$100 a game!”
Catherine’s opponent returns from the restroom, sits down,
And takes the pawn!
Catherine tosses me an I-told-you-so look.
The big man is telling me the mate on the board doesn’t count,
Because the frog was helping the girl.
The tenor decides he could hardly find a better audience,
And bursts into full bloom wild roses,
While the seedy man is hawking his wares furtively,
Whispering into the ears of players not on the move.
You see I have my hands full.
But although Catherine goes on to win,
I am happy to demonstrate
In the post-game analysis
That if her opponent does not take the pawn,
Black should have good winning chances.

Carol Kleist

(based on a dream of T.D. Fred Kleist)

Fred Kleist returns as Northwest Chess editor

by Eric Holcomb

Northwest Chess is that as of October 14, 2011, Fred Kleist, a former editor of 70 issues of *Northwest Chess* magazine from 2002 to 2008, is returning as editor with the November 2011 issue, at least on a temporary basis. Editor Ralph Dubisch, responsible for 54 issues, most recently from November 2008 to date, agreed to step down due to family commitments. The *Northwest Chess* board thanks Ralph for his excellent service, and hopes that he will be able to serve *NWC* again in the future. Ralph’s last magazine as editor was the October 2011 edition.

Kleist, an expert-rated chess player and life member of the U.S. Chess Federation and Washington Chess Federation, is well-known along with his wife Carol Mayer-Kleist, for outstanding support of chess at both the local and national level. Both Fred and Carol can often be found at the Seattle Chess Club.

Chess-related content for possible publication in *Northwest Chess* may be submitted to Fred Kleist by email to kleistcf@aol.com. It is recommended that publisher Duane Polich (duane@combonate.com) be sent a copy of the submission. Any content of an advertising nature, or any content where payment is requested for publication, must also be submitted to and approved by business manager Eric Holcomb (eric@holcomb.com or info@nwchess.com).



2011 Robert Karch Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

by Murlin Varner, the Grand Tabulator

The year's end approaches inexorably, and many races for class prizes are exceedingly close. Take a look for yourself. In Oregon, pay special attention to the Master, Expert and Class A contests, as well as the battle for second place in Classes B, C, and D. Every division in Oregon has prizes still up for grabs. A similar scenario exists in Washington, where the competition for the top spot is tight in Class A and C, with second place equally tight in Class C and D. While margins elsewhere are larger, they are not insurmountable, considering the events still to be held.

By the time you read this four other events will have been held in Seattle and Portland to conclude the month of October. There are two events left on our calendar with multipliers, the Seattle Chess Club Extravaganza (Nov. 4-6), and the Washington Class (Nov. 25-27), both occurring in November. There will be 11 other, non-multiplier events before the year ends, in Portland, Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma. One of interest, if you are looking for more GP points, will be the Spokane G/10 on December 10th. Although not a multiplier event, the large number of rounds makes this event a good source of Grand Prix points.

It is not too early to look ahead to the 2012 edition of the Grand Prix. The Gresham Open, I presume, will kick us off with a multiplier, if past years are any indication. Perhaps the biggest change of recent time for the Grand Prix will be the inclusion of Idaho as a third partner. This means that all those Idaho players who have been coming to Spokane and gaining points that were of no use to them will now be competing for their own set of prizes. It also means that Washington and Oregon players can attend select Idaho events and bring GP points back home. That's something to look forward to.

Oregon

Washington

Masters

Breckenridge, Steven	146.0	Bragg, David	139.0
Raptis, Nick	145.0	Pupols, Viktors	111.0
Haessler, Carl	90.5	Golub, David	90.5
Roua, Radu	44.0	Sinanan, Joshua	88.5
Russell, Corey	15.0	Orlov, Georgi	79.5
		Chen, Howard	67.5

Experts

Botez, Alexandra	119.0	Bartron, Paul	144.0
Esler, Brian	117.5	Ummel, Igor	125.0
Gay, Daniel	104.5	Sen, Samir	93.5
Brooks, Curtis	78.5	Lessler, Peter	92.0
Janniro, Mike E	78.0	Feng, Roland	87.0
Heywood, Bill	56.5	Lee, Nathan	78.5

Class A

Sherrard, Jerry	121.5	Buck, Stephen	169.5
Wen, David	113.5	Fields, Noah	166.5
Cigan, Jason	104.0	Haining, Kyle	127.0
Fisette, Robert	89.5	McAleer, James	127.0
Sun, Maxwell	83.0	Lampman, Becca	127.0
Two tied at	82.5	Kiiru, Joseph	111.0

Class B

Shimada, Masakazu	80.5	Kramlich, Dan	167.0
Robson, Luke	70.0	Walk, Alan	142.0
Terrill, Michael	67.0	Davis, Frederick	115.5
Dalthorp, Matt	55.0	Nicoski, Aaron	105.0
Harris, Christopher	51.0	Ambler, Dennis	81.5
Malone, Robert	49.5	Soetedjo, James	76.5

Class C

Murray, Dillon	100.5	Hanna, Mark S	96.0
Chatterjee, Dhruva	63.0	Piper, August	93.5
Gaikwad, Dagadu	59.5	Dhingra, Sangeeta	91.5
Skoro, Gabriel	51.0	Monahan, Darby	89.5
Pettengill, Stephen	49.0	Zhang, Derek	81.0
Midson, Tony	48.5	Varner, Murlin	78.5

Class D and Below

Cohen, David	73.0	Richards, Jerrold	119.5
Sharan, Praveer	61.0	Thomas, Arjun	69.5
Jewell, Nathan	56.0	Haining, Breck	68.0
Sharan, Pranav	55.0	Jones, Davey	66.0
Booth, Liam	51.0	Buzek, Jan	59.5
Doddapaneni, Venkat	46.5	Cherepakhin, Olga	54.5

Overall Leaders, by State

Breckenridge, Steven	146.0	Buck, Stephen	169.5
Raptis, Nick	145.0	Kramlich, Dan	167.0
Sherrard, Jerry	121.5	Fields, Noah	166.5
Botez, Alexandra	119	Bartron, Paul	144
Esler, Brian	117.5	Walk, Alan	142
Wen, David	113.5	Bragg, David	139
Gay, Daniel	104.5	Haining, Kyle	127
Cigan, Jason	104	McAleer, James	127
Murray, Dillon	100.5	Lampman, Becca	127
Haessler, Carl	90.5	Ummel, Igor	125
Fisette, Robert	89.5	Richards, Jerrold	119.5
Sun, Maxwell	83	Davis, Frederick	115.5
Bannon, David	82.5	Pupols, Viktors	111
Witt, Steven	82.5	Kiiru, Joseph	111
Shimada, Masakazu	80.5	Two tied at	105

Most active players in NWGP- 2011

	events		events
Esler, Brian	13	Walk, Alan	22
Sherrard, Jerry	12	Buck, Stephen	21
Shimada, Masakazu	12	Kramlich, Dan	19
Botez, Alexandra	11	Piper, August	19
Cigan, Jason	11	Fields, Noah	18
Raptis, Nick	11	O'Gorman, Peter	17
Brooks, Curtis	10	Ummel, Igor	17

Players from Other Places

	state	rating	pts.
Havrilla, Mark	ID	1935	50.0
Cheng, Kun	CAN	1883	45.0
Sly, Douglas	CAN	1527	42.5
Laceste, Loren	CAN	2493	42.0
Cheng, Bindi	CAN	2396	42.0
Patterson, Roger	CAN	2179	39.0
Landingin, Jofrel	CAN	1902	39.0
Joshi, Kairav	ID	1886	38.0
Lee, Andy	CA	2317	36.0
Bugaoan, Jenesis	CAN	1890	36.0
Le Blanc, Paul	CAN	1855	36.0
Six tied at			33.0

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

↘ Address ↙
 2150 N 107 St
 → Seattle WA 98133 ←
Infoline
 ↗ 206-417-5405 ↖
 www.seattlechess.org
 kleistcf@aol.com
Address for Entries
 SCC Tnmt Dir
 2420 S 137 St
 Seattle WA 98168

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 Ave. N. The club is on the lower level.

Attendance at 2011's events

Novice (1/8)--2, (4/16)--3, (7/30)--5, (10/30)--6; *Quads* (1/22)--17, (2/5)--19, (3/19)--32, (4/16)--22, (5/14)--24, (6/11)--26, (7/9)--29, (8/20)--23, (9/17)--28, (10/15)--20; *Tornados* (1/2)--16, (1/30)--19, (2/27)--26, (3/27)--24, (4/17)--22, (5/8)--10, (6/5)--9, (7/17)--24, (8/7)--20, (9/11)--20, (10/9)--25; **City Championship** (1/14-16)--33; **Spring Open** (4/1-3)--56, **Yaz Lecture/Book-signing** (4/10)--60, **Adult Swiss** (4/30-5/1)--10, **Emerald City Open** (6/24-26)--50, **Seattle Seafair** (7/22-24)--64, **Seattle Fall Open** (9/23-25)--50, **SCC Extravaganza** (11/4-6)--32.

2012 Weekends

Novice: Jan. 21, Apr. 21, Jul. 21, Oct. 27. **Quads:** Jan. 28, Feb. 25, Mar. 17, Apr. 14, May 12, June 9, July 7, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 29. **TCC vs. SCC Match:** Mar. 3. **Tornados:** Jan. 8, Feb. 5, Mar. 4, Apr. 1, Apr. 29, May 20, Jun. 17, Jul. 15, Aug. 26, Sept. 30, Oct. 28, Nov. 18, Dec. 16.

Seattle City Champ.--January 13-15.

Seattle Spring Open--March 23-25.

SCC Adult Swiss--May 5-6.

Emerald City Open--June 22-24.

Seafair Open--July 27-29.

Seattle Fall Open--Sept. 21-23.

Extravaganza--November 2-4.

Nov 20, Dec 11

Sunday Tornado

Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/64. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prize Fund:** \$10 from each EF. **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16%. **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.

SCC Junior Swiss on 12/3-4--Cancelled

Dec 3 NEW DATE, Dec 31

Saturday Quads

Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** G/120. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7 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.

Dec. 31

3rd SCC Insanity

Format: 3 interconnected events (Quick Chess/FischeRandom/Chess Variants). **TC:** Quick-G/14; FR-G/24; CV-G/27. **EF:** \$33 if rec'd by 12/28 (\$24 SCC memb., \$29 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW), \$42 at site (\$33 SCC memb., \$8 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW). *For indiv. events:* \$14 at site (+\$3 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Based on entries for each event and overall. For overall prize(s), QC counts 0.78, FR--0.86, CV--0.98. \$0.99 for stupidest question to TD. **Reg:** 10:00-10:32 p.m., 1:00-1:10 a.m., 4:05-4:20 a.m. **Rds:** (QC) 10:47-11:21-11:56-12:31-(FR) 1:12-2:19-3:16-(CV) 4:22-5:21-6:20 **Byes:** 3 available all rounds if requested 23 min. before. **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd for Quick Chess. Breakfast for all who go the distance. NS. NC.

January 21

SCC Novice

Format: 4-SS. U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75. **EF:** \$11 by 1/18, \$16 at site. (-\$2 for SCC mem., -\$1 for mem. of other NW dues-req'd CCs). **Prizes:** Memb (SCC, WCF, USCF). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4--commit at reg.). **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Darby Monahan Memorial Grand Prix

Leaders 10/1-10/31

Fred Kleist	84.5	Catherine Smith	41.0
Kerry VanVeen	82.5	Jothi Ramesh	39.5
Michael VanScyoc	76.0	Roland Heimisch	39.0
Carol Kleist	73.0	Alan Walk	39.0
David Kelly	72.5	Howard Chen	38.0
Drayton Harrison	44.0	Nick Pazderic	35.5
Trevor Jung	42.5	August Piper	35.5

Everyone in the first column, except for Trevor, played for the SCC team in Reno (minimum - 32 pts.). In addition, everyone on this list, except for Catherine and Howard, are playing in the SCC Championship (minimum - 15 pts.). The G.P. continues through 5/31/12. The prize(s)--free entry to the 2012 Canadian Open or 2012 U.S. Open.

📅 November 19

TCC Saturday Quads 📅

Site: Tacoma Chess Club, 409 Puyallup Ave E, 2nd floor, Room 11 in the DTI Soccer Store Building across from Alfred's Café (two blocks down the hill from the Tacoma Dome). **Format:** 3RR, 4-plyr. sections. **TC:** G/90. **EF:** \$10. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** Sat. 10-1:30-4 or ASAP. **Byes:** none. **Misc:** OCF/WCF and USCF memb req'd. NS. NC. NW. **Entries/Info:** Gary J. Dorfner 8423 E 'B' St, Tacoma WA 98445; 253-535-2536; ggarychess@aol.com.

📅 November 25-27

Washington Class Championships 📅

See full page ad on page 18

📅 November 26

Portland Chess Club G/60 📅

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

📅 December 10

Spokane G/10 📅

Site: Spokane Valley Library, E 12004 E Main, Spokane WA. **Format:** RR (single or double depends on entries). **TC:** G/10. **EF:** \$11. **Prize Fund:** \$100 added to prize fund with at least 10 players competing. **Prizes:** Section and other prizes TBD. **Reg:** Sat 8:30-9:45. **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd, USCF rated, NC. **Ent/Info:** Dave Griffin, PO Box 631, Spokane Valley WA 99037; 509-994-9739; dbgrffin@hotmail.com; http://spokanechessclub.org.

December 10-11

Western Idaho Open

See full page ad on page 12

📅 December 17-18

Christmas Congress 📅

Site: Tacoma Chess Club, 409 Puyallup Ave E, 2nd floor, Room 11 in the DTI Soccer Store Building across from Alfred's Café (two blocks down the hill from the Tacoma Dome). **Format:** 4SS, one section. **TC:** 40/90, SD/60. **EF:** Adults \$25 in advance, \$30 at site; juniors \$20; economy \$10. **Prize Fund:** \$\$225 b/16. **Prizes:** \$75, U2000 50, U1700 50, U1400 50.00 (min. 4/prz. gp.). **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** Sat. 10-4, Sun. 10-4 or ASAP. **Byes:** two half-point byes avail. **Misc:** OCF/WCF and USCF memb req'd. NS. NC. NW. **Entries/Info:** Gary J. Dorfner 8423 E 'B' St, Tacoma WA 98445; 253-535-2536; ggarychess@aol.com.

📅 December 17-18

Portland Winter Open 📅

New Dates! (TA based on previous events and may be subject to change.) **Site:** Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24 Ave, Portland OR. **Format:** 5SS, two sections. **TC:** Rds 1-3 (Saturday) 40/90, SD/30; Rds 4-5 (Sunday) 40/120, SD/60. **EF:** \$35, PCC members – \$10 discount. **Prize Fund:** \$\$650 b/40. **Prizes:** *Open* — \$150- 100, U2000 75; *Reserve* — \$100-75, U1600 50, U1400 50, U1200 or UNR 50. **Reg:** opens at 9:00am on Saturday. **Misc:** USCF and OCF/WCF req'd and can be purch'd/renewed at reg. Note—This event is now an OSCF (scholastic) qualifier event. See www.oscf.org for more information.

**Northwest Chess is now on
Facebook!**

**Visit us soon
and 'like' our site!**