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## Oregon Chess Champion Steven Breckenridge to play for reigning No. 1 team at Texas Tech University



# Northwest Chess

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## On the Cover:

Two-time defending Oregon Closed Champion Steven Breckenridge from Gresham, Oregon, is headed to Lubbock, Texas, to play chess for the reigning No. 1 team at Texas Tech University. Steven caught the attention of TTU's new program director, Al Lawrence, based on his 7-2 performance at the 2012 U.S. Open in Vancouver, WA, as well as his previous successful chess and academic performances. Steven will be coached by GM Alexander Onischuk, the #3 ranked player in the United States. Breckenridge's games from the U.S. Open against Dmitry Gurevich and Mark Pinto are presented on pages 18-20. He generously shared his personal notes and insights from his game vs. GM Gurevich. The US Open was his last tournament in the area before moving to TX. More details concerning his decision to accept the scholarship offer, as well as some insights and games from the 2012 Oregon Closed event, held this past February, can be found in the Oregon News section beginning on page 35. For the third month in a row, the *NWC* cover photo was taken by Jeffrey Roland.

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David Yoshinaga, pictured above, was re-elected President of the Oregon Chess Federation for the next two years and will remain a NWC Board rep. He tied for first place in the Reserve Section of the 2012 Oregon Open Championship. Coverage of the event begins on Page 4.

Photo credit: Brian Berger



**Expanded U.S. Open  
 Coverage Begins on  
 Page 14**

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# Six-way Tie At 2012 Oregon Open

The 2012 Oregon Open held Labor Day Weekend at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham ended in a six-way tie in the Open Section at 4.5-1.5. The co-winners were Nick Raptis of Portland, Roland Feng of Seattle, Michael MacGregor of Tacoma, Matthew Sellers of Michigan, Nathan Lee of Issaquah WA, and Paul Bartron of Tacoma.

The Reserve Section ended in a two-way tie at 5-1 between David Yoshinaga, Oregon Chess Federation President of Tigard, and Takuma Sato-Duncan of Portland. This was the 62nd time the event was held. It has been held continuously since 1948 with the exception of a few years during the 1950s. Grisha Alpernas of Lake Oswego was the chief tournament director. 42 players were in the Open Section and 47 players competed in the Reserve Section.

Nick Raptis is now a six-time champion of the Oregon Open. Raptis won the event outright in 2009 & 2011 and was a co-champion in 2001, 2006 and 2010. His victory moves him into a tie with Georgi Orlov and Viktors Pupols for the most Oregon Open victories. Coming into this year's event, he was tied with Arthur Dake and John Donaldson who each won the tournament five times.

Roland Feng, born in 2000, became the youngest co-winner in Oregon Open history. Two other former winners, Michael MacGregor (2006, 2007 & 2010) and Paul Bartron (1995) were among this year's co-champions. A complete list of Oregon Open champions is on pages 8-9.

At the end of round 5, all six eventual winners were tied with four points. Nathan Lee requested a half point bye. Fang drew with Sellers and Bartron drew with Movses Movsisyan, who entered the final round a half point behind the leaders. Meanwhile, Raptis and MacGregor played each other with a chance to win the tournament outright. Raptis won a pawn early and MacGregor held on tenaciously to split the point.

**Raptis, Nick (2309) - MacGregor, Mike (2177) [D82]**  
**2012 Oregon Open, Gresham, OR** (Rd. 6) Sept 3, 2012  
(Notes by Frank Niro)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6

The signature move of the King's Indian defense.

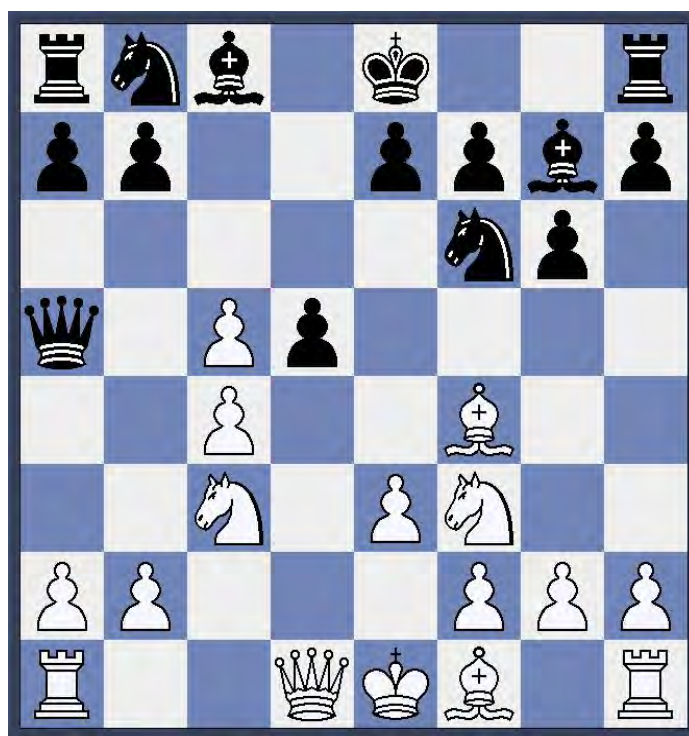
3.Nc3 d5

Changing gears and adopting the Gruenfeld setup. 4.Bf4 is *Informant* opening classification D82.

4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 c5

5...0-0 is the other main option here. 5...c6 is also playable.

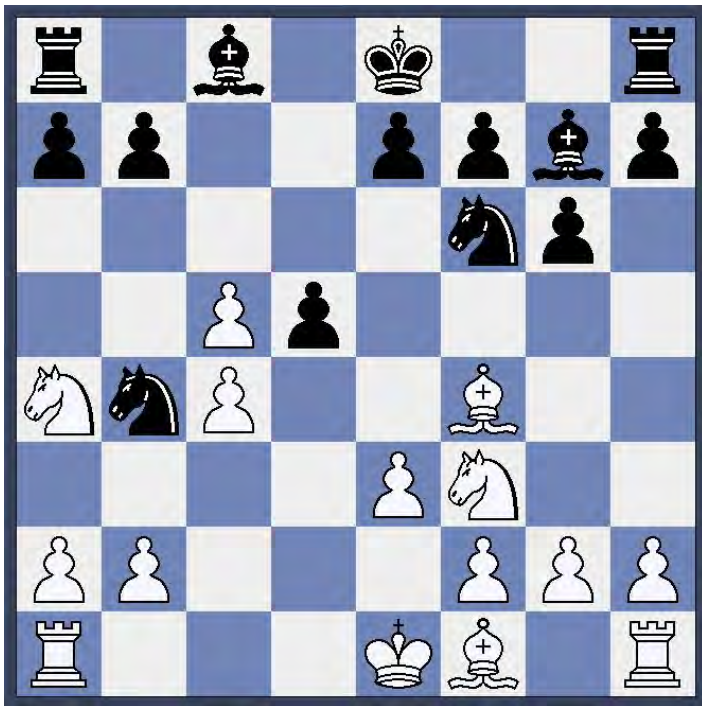
6.dxc5 Qa5 7.Nf3



7.Rc1 is the most common line with 454 games in my database: 37% white wins, 23% black and 40% draws at the master level. The less popular 7.Nf3 also favors White: 25 games, 7 wins for White, 5 for Black and 13 draws.

7...Nc6 8.Qa4 Qxa4 9.Nxa4 Nb4

9...Bd7 10. Nc3 dxc4 11. Bxc4 Nh5 12. Rc1 Rc8 13. O-O Nxf4 14. exf4 Na5 15. Bb5 Rxc5 16. Bxd7+ Kxd7 17. Rfd1+ Kc8 18. Ng5 Bxc3 19. Ne4 Rc4 20. Rxc3 Rxc3 21. Nxc3 Rd8 22. Rxd8+ Kxd8 1/2-1/2 Scheider (2470) -Neverov (2440), 1987



10.Nd4 Ne4?!

10...Bd7 needs to be played, either now or after 10...dxc4  
11.Bxc4, gaining a tempo by attacking the knight on a4.

11.a3! Na6 12.cxd5 Naxc5 13.Nxc5 Nxc5

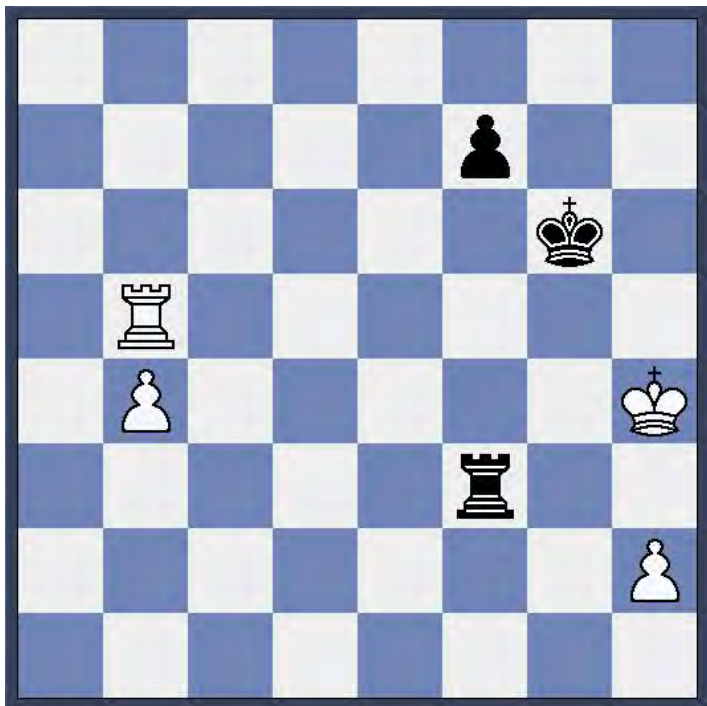


White is a solid pawn ahead with good prospects for a win and his sixth Oregon Open title.

14.Rd1

14.Rc1! with an eye on c7.

15...0-0 15.Bc4 Bd7 16.0-0 Rac8 17.Rc1 a6 18.b4 Ne4  
19.Bd3 Nc3 20.Bg5 Bxd4 21.exd4 Bb5 22.Bxb5 axb5  
23.Rxc3 Rxc3 24.Bxe7 Rd3 25.Bxf8 Kxf8 26.g3 Rxd4  
27.Rc1 Rxd5 28.Rc7 Rd3 29.Rxb7 Rxa3 30.Rxb5 Rb3  
31.g4 h5 32.gxh5 gxh5 33.Kg2 h4 34.f3 Kg7 35.Rb8  
Kf6 36.Rb5 Kg6 37.Kh3 Rxf3+ 38.Kxh4



White has an advantage but must be careful to avoid the tricky rook and pawn drawing lines, if possible.

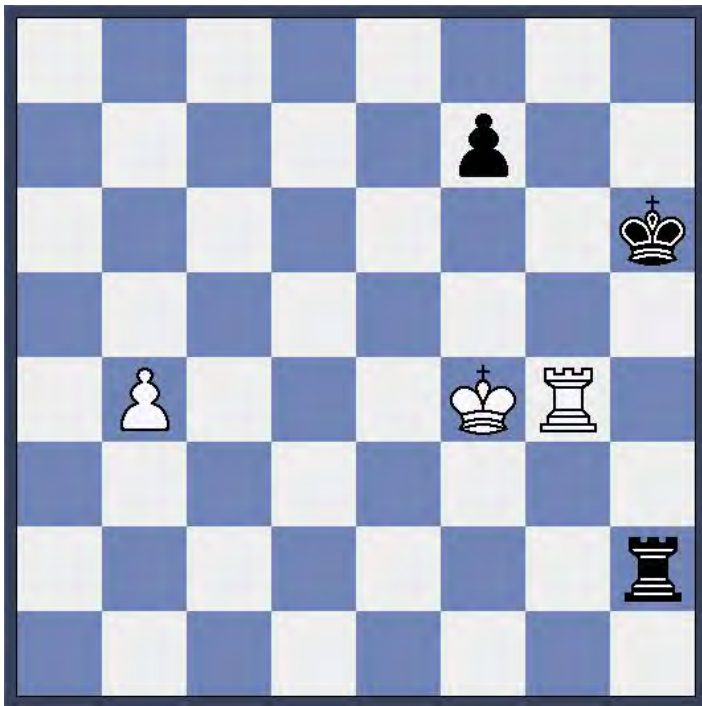
38...Rd3 39.Kg4 Rd4+ 40.Kf3 Rd3+ 41.Kf4 Rh3  
42.Rg5+ Kh6

After 43.Rg3 the game is a theoretical draw. 43.Kf5 may have been a better try here: 43...Rf3+ 44.Kg4 Rd3 (44...Rb3 45.Rb5!) 45.Rf5 Kg6 46.b5 Rb3 47.Rg5+ & 48.Rc5.

43.Rg3 Rh4+ 44.Rg4 Rxb2

The players have reached a six piece endgame. Now, thanks to the Nalimov endgame tablebases, we have perfect information at our disposal, something the players did not have during the game. Nevertheless, both players played flawlessly from this point forward.

Nalimov table bases for all 6,5,4 and 3 piece endgames, including Kings (except 5 vs. 1) are available online for free at: [www.k4it.de](http://www.k4it.de) or [www.chessok.com](http://www.chessok.com).



45.Ke5

The verdict is a draw whether white moves his king, his pawn to b5, or his rook to g1,g3,g5 or g8.

**Kh5 46.Rg8 Rb2 47.Rb8 Kg5 48.b5 f6+ 49.Ke6 f5 50.b6 Kf4 51.Kf6 Rb5 52.b7 Kf3 53.Ke6 f4 54.Kd7 Kf2 55.Kc6 Rb3 56.Rf8 f3 57.b8Q Rxb8 58.Rxb8 Ke3 59.Kd5 f2 60.Rb1 Ke2 61.Ke4 f1Q 62.Rb2+ Ke1 63.Rb1+ Ke2 64.Rb2+ Ke1 1/2-1/2**

There were no missed opportunities or slip-ups by either side after move 42. So the game ends, fittingly, in a draw.

Sellers and Feng ended things quickly and peacefully and waited for the results of the other games to determine their fate. The draw secured the distinction for Fang of being the youngest Oregon Open champion in history, at age 11.

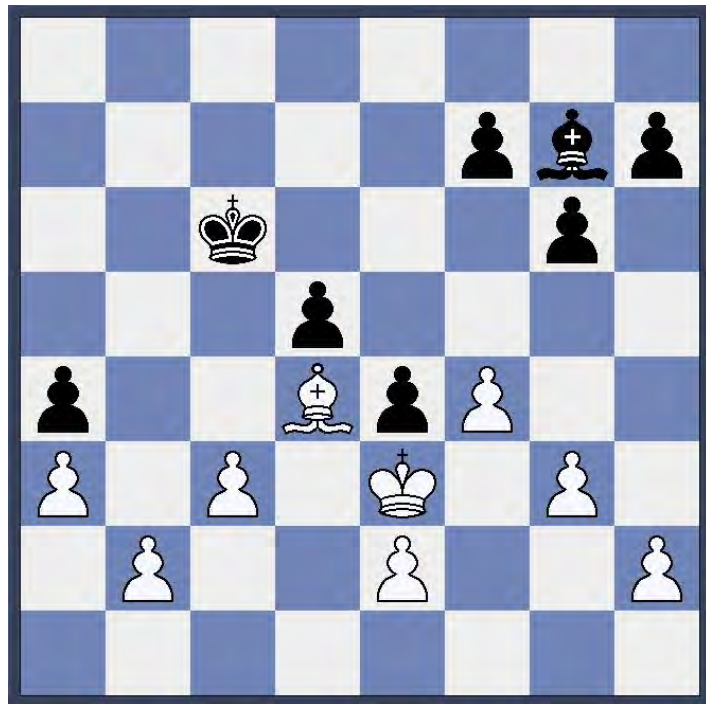
**Sellers, Matthew (2128) - Feng, Roland (2191) [C07]**  
2012 Oregon Open Gresham, OR (Rd. 6), Sept 3, 2012

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.Ngf3 c5 5.g3 Nc6 6.Bg2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.e5 Nd7 9.Re1 Re8 10.Nf1 b6 11.h4 f6 12.exf6 Bxf6 13.Ng5 Nf8 14.c4 Bb7 1/2-1/2**

*Northwest Chess* Assistant Editor Jeffrey Roland played in the open section and lost to 1972 co-winner Bill Kiplinger, Sr. in Round 1. This was Bill Sr's first rated game since 1994.

**Roland, Jeffrey (1700) - Kiplinger Sr, Bill (2000) [D02]**  
2012 Oregon Open Gresham, OR (Rd. 1), Sept 1, 2012

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 d5 5.0-0 0-0 6.Ne5 Nbd7 7.f4 e6 8.Nd2 c5 9.Ndf3 cxd4 10.Nxd7 Nxd7 11.Nxd4 Qb6 12.c3 Nf6 13.Qb3 Qc7 14.Nf3 Qc5+ 15.Nd4 Ne4 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Nb5 Qc6 18.Bxe4 dxe4 19.Nxa7 Qa6 20.Nxc8 Rfxc8 21.Kf2 b5 22.Rfd1 Rd8 23.a3 Qa4 24.Qxa4 bxa4 25.Rxd8+ Rxd8 26.Rc1 Kf8 27.Rc2 Ke8 28.Rd2 Rd5 29.Rxd5 exd5 30.Bc5 Kd7 31.Ke3 Kc6 32.Bd4**



**Bf8 33.c4 f5 34.cxd5+ Kxd5 35.Bb6? Bg7 36.Bd8 Bxb2 0-1**

15-year-old Becca Lampman defeated three-time champions Carl Haessler and Bill Heywood in consecutive rounds allowing her to push her rating above 1900. Her last round defeat at the hands of Richard Gutman resulted in a 3-3 finish.

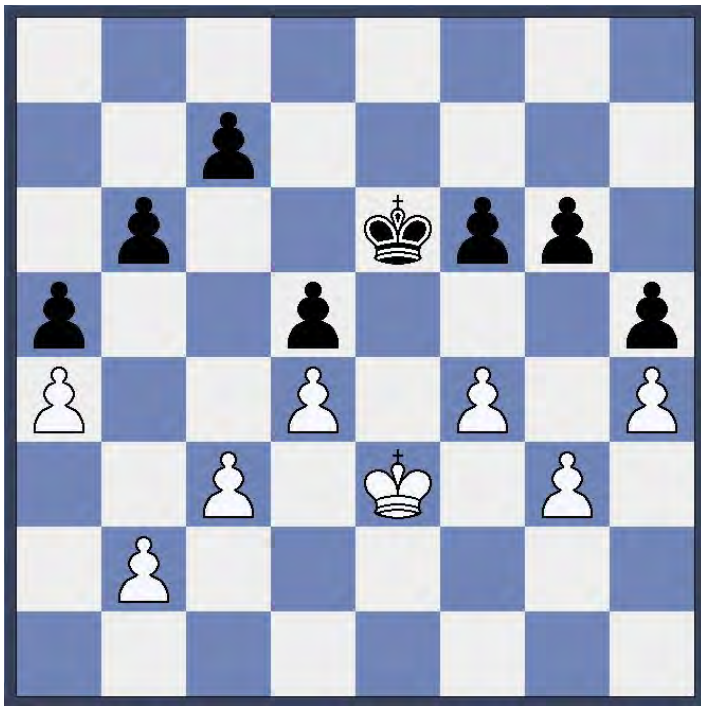
**Gutman, Rich (2050) - Lampman, Becca (1911) [A01]**  
2012 Oregon Open Gresham, OR (Rd. 6), Sept 3, 2012

**1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3 d5 4.Bb5 Bd6 5.f4 Qe7 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.fxe5 Bxf3 8.exd6 Qh4+ 9.g3 Qh5 10.Be2 Bxe2 11.Qxe2 Qxe2+ 12.Kxe2 f6 13.dxc7 Nge7 14.Nc3 Rc8 15.Nb5 0-0 16.Ba3 a6 17.Bxe7 Nxe7 18.Nd4 Rfe8 19.a4 Rxc7 20.b4 Nc6 21.Nxc6 bxc6 22.Kd3 Kf7 23.Ra3 Re5 24.Rb3 c5 25.bxc5 Re4 26.Rc3 Ke6 27.Rb1 Rxa4 28.Rb6+ Ke5 29.Ke2 Kf5 30.d4 1-0**

It was 17 years between championship titles for 1995 co-winner Paul Bartron. In round 5, he had to get by Raptis.

**Bartron, Paul (2110) - Raptis, Nick (2309) [C01]**  
 2012 Oregon Open Gresham, OR (Rd. 5), Sept 3, 2012

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Bd3 Nc6 5.c3 Bd6 6.Nf3 Nge7 7.Bg5 Bg4 8.Nbd2 Qd7 9.Qc2 0-0-0 10.0-0-0 f6 11.Be3 Bf5 12.Rde1 Rde8 13.h3 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 Ng6 15.Qb5 Nce7 16.Qxd7+ Kxd7 17.Nb3 Nf5 18.Bd2 b6 19.g3 Re7 20.Rxe7+ Bxe7 21.h4 h5 22.Ne1 Nf8 23.Nd3 Ne6 24.Be3 Bd6 25.Kd2 Re8 26.Re1 Rh8 27.Rh1 Ke7 28.a3 Kf7 29.Nbc1 Ne7 30.Ne2 Ng6 31.Nb4 Ne7 32.Nd3 g6 33.Bf4 Rd8 34.Bxd6 Rxd6 35.Nef4 Nf5 36.Re1 Nfg7 37.Nxe6 Nxe6 38.f4 Ng7 39.Ke2 Re6+ 40.Kf3 Rxe1 41.Nxe1 Nf5 42.Nc2 Ke6 43.Ne3 Nxe3 44.Kxe3 a5 45.a4 1/2-1/2



After a poor start, three-time champion Carl Haessler finished with three straight wins to finish a half point back of the leaders.

**Kiiru, Joseph (1911) - Haessler, Carl (2228) [A44]**  
 2012 Oregon Open Gresham, OR (Rd. 5), Sept 3, 2012

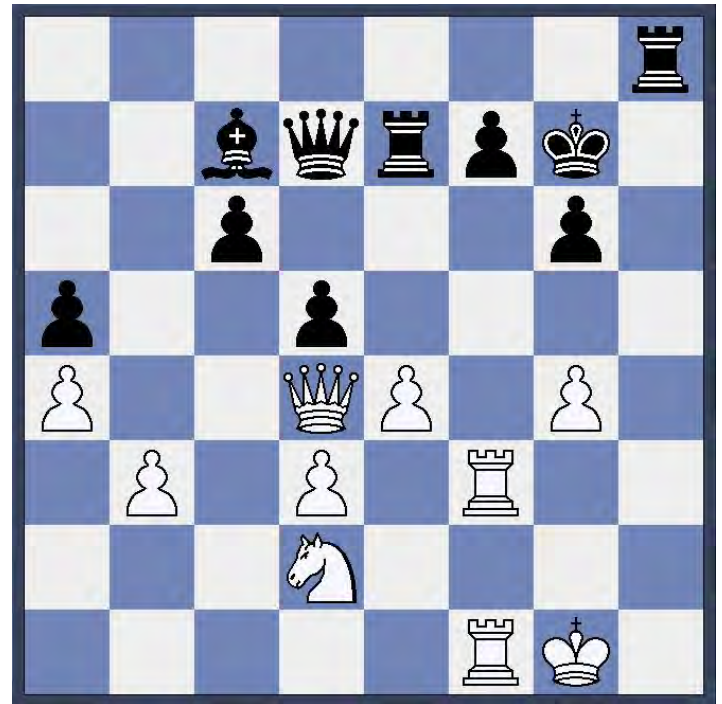
1.d4 c5 2.d5 e5 3.c4 f5 4.e4 d6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Bd3 g6 7.Nf3 Bg7 8.h3 0-0 9.Qe2 Na6 10.a3 Nc7 11.Rb1 a6 12.b4 cxb4 13.axb4 b5 14.cxb5 Nxb5 15.0-0 fxe4 16.Nxe4 Nxd5 17.Bxb5 axb5 18.Qxb5 Nc7 19.Qb6 Bf5 20.Bg5 Qd7 21.Nfd2 Nd5 22.Qxd6 Qxd6 23.Nxd6 Bxb1 24.Rxb1 h6 25.Bh4 Rf4 26.Nf3 e4 27.Bg3 exf3 28.Bxf4 Nxf4 29.b5 Ne2+ 30.Kh1 Nc3 31.Rc1 Rd8 0-1

**Haessler, Carl (2228) - Sherrard, Jerry (1945) [A20]**  
 2012 Oregon Open Gresham, OR (Rd. 6), Sept 3, 2012. c4 e5 2.g3 c6 3.d4 exd4 4.Qxd4 Qf6 5.Be3 Na6 6.Nc3 Bc5 7.Qe4+ Qe6 8.Qxe6+ fxe6 9.Bxc5 Nxc5 10.e4 Nf6 11.f3 a5 12.e5 Ng8 13.f4 Ne7 14.Nf3 Nf5 15.0-0-0 b6 16.Be2 Ba6 17.b3 Ke7 18.Ng5 h6 19.Nge4 Rhc8 20.Nxc5 bxc5 21.Na4 Nd4 22.Bg4 Rd8 23.Nxc5 Nf5 24.Bxf5 exf5 25.Rd6 a4 26.Rhd1 1-0

Dr. Nancy Daily-Keller held her higher rated opponent to a draw in an exciting major piece endgame played in the reserve section.

**Daily, Nancy (1453) - Placek, Philip (1714) [C26]**  
 2012 Oregon Open Gresham, OR (Rd. 1), Sept 1, 2012

1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.a3 Bc5 4.Bc4 0-0 5.d3 d6 6.Bg5 c6 7.h3 Nbd7 8.Nf3 Re8 9.0-0 h6 10.Bh4 Nf8 11.b4 Bb6 12.a4 a5 13.b5 Ng6 14.Bg3 Be6 15.Bb3 Nh5 16.Kh2 Nhf4 17.bxc6 bxc6 18.Qd2 h5 19.Bxf4 Nxf4 20.Ne2 Nxe2 21.Qxe2 Bxb3 22.cxb3 Rb8 23.Nd2 g6 24.f4 exf4 25.Rxf4 d5 26.Kh1 Qd6 27.Rf3 Re7 28.Raf1 Bc7 29.g4 hxg4 30.hxg4 Kg7 31.Qf2 Rh8+ 32.Kg1 Qd7 33.Qd4+



33...Be5? (33...Kg8!-+) 34.Rxf7+ Rxf7?

Black takes the bait. 34...Kg8! 35.Rf8+ Kh7 36.Qxe5 Rxf8! 37.Qg3 Qa7+ 38.Kg2 Rxf1 39.Kxf1 Kg7 and Black would be up the exchange with winning chances.

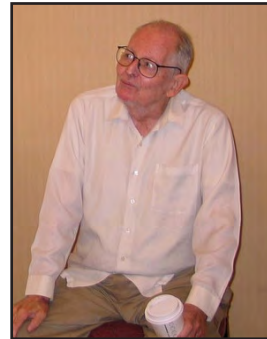
{continued on page 10}

**Past Oregon Open Champions** - Research for this list was a team effort by Rusty Miller, Jeff Roland, John Donaldson, Mark Turner, Casey Bush, Mike Morris, Eric Holcomb, Clay Kelleher, Brian Berger, Frank Niro, Lewis Richard. Resources used for compiling this list included back issues of *WCL* and *NWC*, photos of old trophies, papers in the basement of the archives of the Arthur Dake estate, research of the *Oregonian*, the *Idaho Chess Bulletin* archives and the USCF Website.

- 1948 – Arthur Dake
- 1949 – Jim Schmitt
- 1950 – Jim Schmitt (2)
- 1951 – Arthur Dake (2)
- 1952 – Ivars Dalbergs
- 1953 – Arthur Dake (3)
- 1954 – No event.
- 1955 – No event.
- 1956 – James McCormick
- 1957 – Viktors Pupols
- 1958 – No event.
- 1959 – Arthur Dake (4)
- 1960 – James McCormick (2)
- 1961 – James McCormick (3), John Bell
- 1962 – James McCormick (4)
- 1963 – Ivars Dalbergs (2)
- 1964 – Elod Macskasy
- 1965 – Viktors Pupols (2)
- 1966 – Duncan Suttles
- 1967 – Clark Harmon
- 1968 – Ivars Dalbergs (3)
- 1969 – Clark Harmon (2), Peter Biyiasas
- 1970 – Clark Harmon (3)
- 1971 – Robert Zuk, Dennis Waterman
- 1972 – Dennis Waterman (2), Clark Harmon (4), Bill Kiplinger
- 1973 – Peter Torkar, William Bills, Vladimir Pafnutieff
- 1974 – Yasser Seirawan, Arthur Dake (5), Ray Fasano
- 1975 – Peter Biyiasas (2)
- 1976 – Peter Biyiasas (3), Roy Ervin, Yasser Seirawan (2)
- 1977 – John Donaldson
- 1978 – Dennis Waterman (3), D. Leo Stefurak, Viktors Pupols (3)
- 1979 – Yasser Seirawan (3), Jerry Wolfe
- 1980 – Viktors Pupols (4), Bill Heywood, Michael Pollowitz
- 1981 – Gordon Taylor
- 1982 – John Grefe, John Donaldson (2), Robert Zuk (2)  
& Viktors Pupols (5)
- 1983 – John Grefe (2), John Walker, Nikolay Minev
- 1984 – John Donaldson (3), Jeremy Silman, Nikolay Minev (2)  
Bill Heywood (2) & Mike Schemm
- 1985 – Nickolay Minev (3)
- 1986 – Jeremy Silman (2)
- 1987 – John Donaldson (4), Viktors Pupols (6), David Ross
- 1988 – John Donaldson (5)
- 1989 – Igor Ivanov
- 1990 – Elena Donaldson
- 1991 – Lubomir Ftacnik, Elena Donaldson (2)



**Arthur Dake**



**James McCormick**



**Clark Harmon**



**Peter Biyiasas**



**Viktors Pupols**



**Georgi Orlov**



**John Donaldson**



## Oregon Open Champions {continued from page 8}

1992 – Georgi Orlov  
 1993 – Georgi Orlov (2)  
 1994 – John P. Hatala, Preston Polasek  
 1995 – Georgi Orlov (3), Elena Donaldson (3),  
 Carl A. Haessler & Paul R. Bartron  
 1996 – Georgi Orlov (4)  
 1997 – Georgi Orlov (5)  
 1998 – Georgi Orlov (6), Carl A. Haessler (2)  
 1999 – Charles Schulien  
 2000 – Corey J. Russell, John D. Graves  
 2001 – Nick Raptis, Carl A. Haessler (3)  
 2002 – Charles Schulien (2)  
 2003 – David C. Roper, William J. Schill, Benjamin Lin  
 2004 – Oleg N. Zaikov  
 2005 – Oleg N. Zaikov (2)  
 2006 – Nick Raptis (2), Michael MacGregor  
 2007 – Michael MacGregor (2)  
 2008 – Bill Heywood (3)  
 2009 – Nick Raptis (3)  
 2010 – Nick Raptis (4), Joshua Sinanan, Michael MacGregor (3)  
 2011 – Nick Raptis (5)  
 2012 – Nick Raptis (6), Roland Feng, Michael MacGregor (4), Matthew B. Sellers,  
 Nathan Y. Lee & Paul R. Bartron (2)



**Yasser Seirawan, age 13**



**Nikolay Minev**



**Carl Haessler**

### Multiple winners:

Georgi Orlov (6)  
 Viktors Pupols (6)  
 Nick Raptis (6)  
 Arthur Dake (5)  
 John Donaldson (5)  
 Clark Harmon (4)  
 Michael MacGregor (4)  
 James McCormick (4)  
 Peter Biyiasas (3)  
 Ivars Dalbergs (3)  
 Elena Donaldson (3)  
 Carl A. Haessler (3)  
 Bill Heywood (3)  
 Nikolay Minev (3)  
 Yasser Seirawan (3)  
 Dennis Waterman (3)  
 Paul R. Bartron (2)  
 John Grefe (2)  
 Jim Schmitt (2)  
 Charles Schulien (2)  
 Jeremy Silman (2)  
 Oleg N. Zaikov (2)  
 Robert Zuk (2)



**Bill Heywood**



**Elena Donaldson**



**Nick Raptis**

*Note: Photo credits for the images on pages 8 and 9 are listed on page 10.*



FM Nick Raptis (white pieces) contemplates his 7th move against Mike MacGregor in their final round battle at the 2012 Oregon Open. The game ended in a draw giving Raptis his record-tying sixth championship and MacGregor his fourth title. They were also co-champions in 2006 and 2010, and both players have previously won the tournament outright. Raptis and Georgi Orlov are the only players to win four years in a row. This year they were joined at the top by four others at 4.5-1.5. The complete score from their last round encounter can be found beginning on page 4.

Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

{continued from page 8}

35.Qxe5+ Kg8 36.Qb8+ Kg7 37.Qe5+ Kh7 38.Qh2+ Kg8 39.Qb8+ Kh7 40.Qh2+ Kg7 41.Qe5+ 1/2-1/2

Oregon Chess Federation president David Yoshinaga led the reserve section throughout and was caught in the last round by Takuma Sato-Duncan when he was held to a draw by Dillon Murray.

**Yoshinaga, David (1781) - Murray, Dillon (1730) [A18]**  
2012 Oregon Open Gresham, OR (Rd. 6), Sept 3, 2012

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 e5 4.d3 Nc6 5.f4 d6 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Be2 Bxf3 8.Bxf3 Nd4 9.Be3 Nd7 10.0-0 Be7 11.b4 Nxf3+ 12.Qxf3 exf4 13.Qxf4 0-0 14.Nd5 Ne5 15.Rad1 c6 16.Nxe7+ Qxe7 17.Qg3 c5 18.a3 a5 19.b5 a4 20.Rf5 f6 21.h4 Kh8 22.h5 h6 23.Bf4 Rad8 24.Qf2 b6 25.Qd2 Kh7 26.Rf1 Rd7 27.Qe3 Rdd8 28.Qg3 Rd7 29.Qe3 Rdd8 30.Qd2 Rd7 31.Qc3 Rdd8 32.d4 Nf7 33.e5 dxe5 34.dxe5 fxe5 35.Bxe5 Nxe5 36.Rxf8 Rxf8 37.Rxf8 Qxf8 38.Qxe5 Qd8 39.Qe4+ Kh8 40.Kf2 Qf6+ 41.Qf3 Qd4+ 42.Qe3 Qxc4 43.Qe8+ Qg8 44.Qc6 Qf7+ 45.Ke3 Qb3+ 46.Kd2 Qb2+ 47.Kd1 Qf6 48.g4 Qa1+ 1/2-1/2

Jeffrey Roland defeated Roland Eagles in the “battle of the Rolands.”

**Roland, Jeffrey (1700) - Eagles, Roland (1911) [E65]**  
2012 Oregon Open Gresham, OR (Rd. 6), Sept 3, 2012

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.c4 c5 6.e3 d6 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Nc3 Bg4 9.h3 cxd4 10.exd4 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Rc8 12.Be3 a6 13.Qd2 e5 14.b3 exd4 15.Bxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4 Qa5 17.Rac1 d5 18.Nxd5 Nxd5 19.Qxd5 Qxa2 20.Qxb7 Rb8 21.Qe4 Rxb3 22.Rc2 Qa3 23.Bg2 Rd8 24.c5 Rb4 25.Qe7 Qa5 26.c6 Qb6 27.c7 Rc8

28.Bd5 Qf6 29.Qd7 Qf5 30.Bxf7+ Qxf7 31.Qxc8+ Bf8 32.Qxf8+ 1-0



**Left: Bill Kiplinger, Sr.** was co-champion of the Oregon Open 40 years ago when he tied with four-time champion Clark Harmon and three-time winner Dennis Waterman in 1972. The 2012 event was his first rated tournament since 1994.

Photo: Jeffrey Roland

**Photo credits for the gallery of Oregon Open Champions:**

Page 8 - **Arthur Dake** - Oregon Historical Society Research Library; **James McCormick** - Russell “Rusty” Miller; **Clark Harmon** - courtesy of Chess Odyssey; **Peter Biyiasas** - courtesy of Chess Manitoba; **Viktors Pupols** - Brian Berger; **Georgi Orlov** - Andrei Botez; **John Donaldson** - Susan Polgar Chess Daily News and Information

Page 9 - **Yasser Seirawan** - Bob Black, courtesy of Russell “Rusty” Miller; **Nikolay Minev** - courtesy of www.thechesslibrary.com; **Carl Haessler** - Andrei Botez; **Elena Donaldson** - James F. Perry, courtesy of Wikipedia (Creative Commons *ShareAlike*); **Bill Heywood** and **Nick Raptis** - Jeffrey Roland.

Crosstables courtesy of Grisha Alpernas and the Portland C.C.

## 2012 Oregon Open - Championship Section

#	Name	Pub. Rtnng	New Rtnng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Tot.	Prize
1	♣ Nick Raptis	2309	2324	W17	W12	W10	D2	D6	D3	4.5	\$175.00
2	Roland Feng	2191	2195	W22	W37	W14	D1	D3	D4	4.5	\$175.00
3	♣ Michael MacGregor	2177	2193	W31	W41	H---	W5	D2	D1	4.5	\$175.00
4	Matt Sellers	2128	2140	D18	W38	W11	D7	W22	D2	4.5	\$175.00
5	Nathan Lee	2126	2144	W23	W16	W13	L3	W19	H---	4.5	\$175.00
6	♣ Paul Bartron	2110	2134	W32	D26	W25	W9	D1	D7	4.5	\$175.00
7	Movses Movsisyan	2279	2267	W20	D11	W26	D4	D16	D6	4.0	
8	♣ Carl Haessler	2228	2200	W21	L14	L22	W32	W31	W16	4.0	
9	Peter Lessler	2188	2192	W39	L13	W31	L6	W27	W19	4.0	
10	Robert Herrera	2051	2069	W33	W36	L1	D20	W26	D13	4.0	
11	Richard Gutman	2050	2058	W24	D7	L4	W37	D18	W22	4.0	
12	Mike Janniro	2028	2025	W28	L1	L23	W33	W24	W21	4.0	
13	Yaman Tezcan	1954	1991	W35	W9	L5	D18	W20	D10	4.0	\$200.00
14	♣ Bill Heywood	2000	2002	W34	W8	L2	L22	W25	D18	3.5	
15	David Inglis	1952	1948	L36	D18	L21	W35	W39	W26	3.5	\$62.50
16	Jerry Sherrard	1945	1959	W40	L5	W32	W23	D7	L8	3.5	\$62.50
17	Nikolay Bulakh	1932	1913	L1	W28	L36	W29	W23	H---	3.5	\$62.50
18	David Wen	1885	1932	D4	D15	W41	D13	D11	D14	3.5	\$62.50
19	Ethan Peake	1941	1956	L25	W33	W27	W36	L5	L9	3.0	
20	Jeremy Krasin	1930	1895	L7	W24	W30	D10	L13	H---	3.0	
21	H G Pitre	1925	1941	L8	H---	W15	H---	W36	L12	3.0	
22	Becca Lampman	1911	1917	L2	W42	W8	W14	L4	L11	3.0	
23	Erik Skalnes	1881	1869	L5	W35	W12	L16	L17	W36	3.0	
24	John Schwarz	1839	1888	L11	L20	W34	W38	L12	W31	3.0	
25	Seth Talyansky	1562	1651	W19	H---	L6	H---	L14	W33	3.0	
26	Marcell Szabo	1934	1929	W30	D6	L7	W39	L10	L15	2.5	
27	David Bannon	1846	1844	H---	H---	L19	W41	L9	D30	2.5	
28	William Kiplinger Jr	1809	1782	L12	L17	D35	W40	W38	U---	2.5	
29	Jeffrey Roland	1700	1716	L41	L31	B---	L17	D32	W39	2.5	
30	Alexander Barrett	1390	1655	L26	B---	L20	L31	W42	D27	2.5	
31	Joseph Kiiru	1911	1921	L3	W29	L9	W30	L8	L24	2.0	
32	Noah Fields	1881	1874	L6	W40	L16	L8	D29	H---	2.0	
33	Maxwell Sun	1843	1842	L10	L19	W42	L12	W41	L25	2.0	
34	Matt Dalthorp	1751	1720	L14	L39	L24	D42	B---	D38	2.0	
35	Frederick Davis	1636	1695	L13	L23	D28	L15	W40	H---	2.0	
36	Aaron Grabinsky	1624	1830	W15	L10	W17	L19	L21	L23	2.0	
37	Carl A Koontz	2010	1985	W42	L2	D39	L11	U---	U---	1.5	
38	Jason Cigan	1929	1915	H---	L4	H---	L24	L28	D34	1.5	
39	Roland Eagles	1911	1853	L9	W34	D37	L26	L15	L29	1.5	
40	Michael Terrill	1566	1564	L16	L32	H---	L28	L35	W42	1.5	
41	♣ William Kiplinger Sr	2000	1964	W29	L3	L18	L27	L33	U---	1.0	
42	Stephen Buck	1799	1700	L37	L22	L33	D34	L30	L40	0.5	

Legend: ♣ indicates that player is a previous Oregon Open champion or co-champion

## 2012 Oregon Open - Reserve Section

#	Name	Pub. New		Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Tot.	Prize
		Rtng	Rtng								
1	David Yoshinaga	1700	1800	W26	W23	D4	W31	W2	D5	5.0	\$295.00
2	Takuma Sato-Duncan	1654	1765	W27	W18	W16	W6	L1	W14	5.0	\$295.00
3	Dan Dalthorp	1608	1703	W45	W35	L6	D17	W25	W20	4.5	\$113.33
4	Steven Brendemihl	1586	1667	W38	W43	D1	W14	D7	H---	4.5	\$113.33
5	Dillon Murray	1563	1746	W40	D20	D30	W8	W23	D1	4.5	
6	Jason Hill	1561	1624	W46	W42	W3	L2	D15	W16	4.5	\$113.33
7	Aaron Nicoski	1780	1798	W34	L22	W19	W21	D4	D11	4.0	
8	Alex Mueller-Warrant	1737	1723	L18	W27	W33	L5	W32	W17	4.0	
9	Philip Placek	1714	1714	D25	W36	H---	L23	W18	W27	4.0	
10	Roger Gregory	1643	1622	D36	D37	L35	W45	W24	W26	4.0	
11	Stephen Burgoon	1600	1611	L13	W47	W37	W35	D20	D7	4.0	
12	Carl Dutton	1579	1565	L43	W38	L13	W37	W35	W23	4.0	\$50.00
13	Marshal Chi Xu	1229	1496	W11	L16	W12	W29	L14	W30	4.0	
14	Michael Vaughn	1792	1770	W24	D31	W22	L4	W13	L2	3.5	
15	Ronald Kirsch	1708	1700	L35	W45	W26	W22	D6	U---	3.5	
16	Sean Zlatnik	1606	1607	W47	W13	L2	W24	H---	L6	3.5	
17	Arliss Dietz	1537	1553	L33	W39	W40	D3	W31	L8	3.5	
18	William Hanlan	1491	1540	W8	L2	D41	W33	L9	W29	3.5	
19	Nicholas Brown	1455	1500	L29	W44	L7	W40	D30	W31	3.5	
20	Corey Tache	unr.	1694	W32	D5	D21	W30	D11	L3	3.5	\$60.00
21	Matthew Stevens	1567	1575	W39	D33	D20	L7	L26	W35	3.0	
22	Adam Culbreth	1555	1552	W41	W7	L14	L15	L27	W37	3.0	
23	Brian Berger	1519	1507	W28	L1	W43	W9	L5	L12	3.0	
24	Kornelij's Dale	1500	1500	L14	W46	W42	L16	L10	W40	3.0	
25	Nancy Daily-Keller	1453	1468	D9	L30	W36	W41	L3	D32	3.0	
26	Masakazu Shimada	1416	1492	L1	W28	L15	W42	W21	L10	3.0	
27	Abhinav Brahmarouthu	1333	1499	L2	L8	W46	W28	W22	L9	3.0	\$80.00
28	Sean Uan-zo-li	716	1120	L23	L26	X47	L27	W43	W34	3.0	
29	Christopher Burris	1733	1717	W19	H---	L31	L13	W41	L18	2.5	
30	Dagadu Gaikwad	1601	1589	D37	W25	D5	L20	D19	L13	2.5	
31	Lon Brusselback	1549	1563	W44	D14	W29	L1	L17	L19	2.5	
32	Russell Miller	1500	1500	L20	L40	W38	W43	L8	D25	2.5	
33	Rick Nicoski	1053	1181	W17	D21	L8	L18	L34	W42	2.5	\$130.00
34	Mike Hasuike	1500	1500	L7	L41	H---	H---	W33	L28	2.0	
35	Venkat Doddapaneni	1437	1510	W15	L3	W10	L11	L12	L21	2.0	
36	Thomas Parrish	1272	1281	D10	L9	L25	D44	H---	H---	2.0	\$16.67
37	Sebastian Clark	1230	1260	D30	D10	L11	L12	W46	L22	2.0	\$16.67
38	Neal Aditya	1214	1185	L4	L12	L32	W39	L42	W46	2.0	\$16.67
39	Harry Buerer	1178	1101	L21	L17	L45	L38	W44	B---	2.0	\$43.33
40	Geoffrey Kenway	1136	1386	L5	W32	L17	L19	W45	L24	2.0	\$43.33
41	Jake Winkler	1109	1350	L22	W34	D18	L25	L29	H---	2.0	\$43.33
42	Prem Sakala	227	427	B---	L6	L24	L26	W38	L33	2.0	
43	Leonardo Sun	1198	1188	W12	L4	L23	L32	L28	D44	1.5	
44	Greg Bradburn	1095	1083	L31	L19	H---	D36	L39	D43	1.5	
45	David Cohen	1262	1250	L3	L15	W39	L10	L40	U---	1.0	
46	Ethan Wu	1115	1036	L6	L24	L27	B---	L37	L38	1.0	
47	Stephen Weller	1251	1244	L16	L11	F28	U---	U---	U---	0.0	



# 30th Annual Sands Regency Reno - Western States Open An American Classic & Heritage Event!!!

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PRINT Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ USCF/FIDE Rating \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

USCF I.D. Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ **All pre-registered players please check in at tournament desk on arrival.**

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

----- OPEN SECTION -----	EXPERT	"A"	"B"	"C"	"D"/Under	UNRATED
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						\$142
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# Additional Games & Photos from the 2012 US Open

by Frank Niro

One of the few disappointments at this year's U.S. Open was the lack of tournament bulletins. According to U.S. Chess Federation Executive Director, Bill Hall, it just wasn't financially feasible to pay travel expenses and accommodations for a bulletin editor given the limited number of bulletin purchases in recent years. This was understandable, as long as there was a back-up plan. And there was!

Players were asked to turn in duplicate copies of score sheets after each game and, if interested, to volunteer to have their games "broadcast" online via the MonRoi.com web site. In this way, assisted by energetic volunteers such as WCF's Murlin Varner, games could be later cultivated for publication.

I am pleased to report that under Murlin's supervision, a file of over 500 games has already been assembled and distributed. By the time you read this article, those games should be available on the nwchess.com web site. The game file is in pgn format and consists not only of games from the US Open in Vancouver itself, but also other associated events (Denker, Barber, Swiss, Quads). The games feature players from Idaho (9), Oregon (85) and Washington (109) as well as some games without any Northwest players involved. Games were taken directly from turned in scoresheets plus the Monroi website and from other players who submitted their score sheets in person or by e-mail.

Murlin Varner still has requests out

for games and expects to end up sending an additional file later. If you have more game scores from the 2012 U.S. Open to share, please contact him directly: Murlin Varner, 13329 208 Ave NE, Woodinville, WA 98072, MEVjr54@yahoo.com .

The first thing I did when I received the updated file was compile some statistics and initiate a search for the "Everyman (or *Everywoman*, perhaps) Game" - the game that would result if the most popular move from all 500 games in the database was played at each turn. Little did I realize when I started that it would lead to... the mirror! In any case, here's what I found:

## 1. e4

This move was the clear favorite, played in 56% of the games, followed by 1.d4, which was tried by the player of the White pieces 32% of the time. Other first moves (c4, Nf3, f4 and b3) were made in 12% of the games.

## 1...c5

The Sicilian Defense was seen in 108 games in the database, more than 20% of all the games played. Double king pawns accounted for 78 games. In response to 1.d4, 1...Nf6 was the most frequent reply as 76 games started this way.

## 2.Nf3

By far the most popular way to meet the Sicilian. This move was seen in more than 80% of the games with this opening (88 out of 108).

## 2...d6

This move, played 37% of the time, was not surprising. What was surprising was how close the split was compared to the main alternatives 2...e6 (30%) and 2...Nc6 (28%).

The next five half-moves were nearly unanimous.

## 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3

The Open Sicilian. Black has a choice of defensive schemes including the Classical, Dragon or Najdorf formations, among others.

## 5..a6

As with most modern tournaments, the Najdorf Sicilian was the most popular opening based on our sampling of 500+ games. This position

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was reached in 20 of the 28 games where 5.Nc3 was played (and 4% of all of the games in the database).



Now the choices are essentially a matter of preparation and style. The move 6.Bg5 was the main line during the 50s, 60s and early 70s. The Schveningen Variation, characterized by 6.Be2, was also quite popular in the early days of the Najdorf.

After the Fischer boom, the Sozin variation 6.Bc4 gained in popularity. Then, in the late 80s and early 90s, the English attack characterized by 6.Be3 (or 6.f3 followed by Be3), became the more common choice. I don't believe it was because 6.Be3 was objectively better. More likely, the resulting positions were easier to play. In general, much deeper theoretical analysis was readily available and needed to be absorbed in order to successfully employ the old main lines after 6.Bg5. In other words, 6.Be3 lines were seen as easier, relatively speaking, to prepare.

Of course, 6.Be3 also has the incidental benefit of avoiding the so-called Poison Pawn variation after 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qb6 with its resulting double edged positions.

### 6.Bg5

The old main line was played six

times, followed closely by 6.Be2 (five), and by 6.Bc4 (3 times), 6.Be3 (3 times), 6.h3 (twice) and 6.f3 (once).

### 6...e6 7. f4 Be7

Five games made it this far. 6...e6 and 7.f4 are almost always seen in this line. But Black has many choices for his 7th move: 7...b5 (Polugaevsky), 7...Qb6 (Poison Pawn - which, by the way, is waning in popularity since the white move 8.Qd3 has started to replace the formerly automatic 8.Qd2), 7...h6 (sometimes followed by 8...Qb6), modern treatments such as 7...Nbd7 and 7...Qc7, the well worn paths after 7...Be7, and even 7...Nc6 as popularized in recent years by GM Maxime Vachier-Lagrave of France.

### 8. Qf3

Four games made it to this position.



### 8...Qc7

Seen twice, specifically in Frank Niro (ID) vs. David Arganian (WA) in round 2, and Michael Langer (TX) vs. Michael Wang (WA) in round 7. The other two games, i.e. with 8...e5 - Mat Goshen (WA) vs. Ted Baker (WA) in round 1 - and 8...Nbd7 - Daniel Ho (WA) vs. Russell Miller (WA) in round 1 - went off in different directions and were both won by White.

### 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 b5 11.Bxf6



### 11..Bxf6

Here, 11...Nxf6 is usually played followed by 12.g5 Nd7 13.f5. However, Black can get tricky and try to throw White off with 11...Bxf6!?! tempting his opponent to play 12.Bxb5+?!. In that case, White's best, in my opinion, is simply 12.g5 Be7 (12...Bxd4 13.Rxd4 is fine for White) 13.f5 transposing to the same position reached after 11...Nxf6.

As an aside, I successfully played 12.Bxb5+ twice in the past but was shown by UT-Dallas players Dennis Rylander and Balazs Szuk, an IM from Hungary, that 12.Bxb5 is actually bad assuming that Black knows what he is doing. I assumed, correctly as I learned later, that David knew what he was doing.

Following are the two games mentioned above for reference:

Niro, F - Mital, J [B99]

Buffalo, NY, Feb 15, 1974

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 b5 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 (from previous Diagram) 12.Bxb5 axb5 13.Ndxb5 Qb6? (13...Qa5! 14.Nxd6+ Ke7 15.e5 Bh4 16.g5 g6 17.Rhg1 h5) 14.Nxd6+ Kf8 15.e5 Nxe5 16.Qxa8, 1-0/30

Niro, F - Haddibje [B99], corr. 2010 (from previous Diagram) 12.Bxb5 Rb8 13.Ba4 (13.Bxd7 Bxd7 14.g5 Bxd5 15.Rxd4 Qb6 is the line given in ECO) 13...Rb4 14.Nde2 0-0 15.a3 Rb6 16.g5 Be7 17.Nd4 Nc5 18.Bb3 Bd7 19.Rhg1 Rfb8 20.f5 a5 21.g6 Nxb3+ 22.Nxb3 fxxg6 23.fxxg6 Bf6 24.e5 Bxe5 25.Qf7+ Kh8 26.Rd3 d5 27.Rh3 Bf4+ 28.Kb1 h6 29.Rf1 1-0

Note that Black can also play 11...gxf6, although White is considered better after 12.f5. David asked me after the game how I would have answered gxf6 and, when I told him, he said "I thought so." I'm not sure how he meant that, but I took it as a compliment. After 11...gxf6 I have indeed played 12.f5 before, but I have also tried my own novelty 12.Rg1.

Niro, Frank - Hill, Joshua [B99] US Amateur Team, Parsippany, NJ (Rd. 2), February 15, 2003

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 b5 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Rg1N [12.f5! Ne5 (12...e5 13.Nd5 Qb7 14.Ne2±; 12...Nc5!? 13.fxe6 fxe6 14.b4) 13.Qh3 0-0 (13...b4 14.Nce2 or 13...Bd7 14.Rg1 0-0-0 15.a4 b4 {15...exf5 16.Nd5 is winning} 16.Bxa6+ Kb8 17.fxe6 fxe6 18.Nce2 bxa4 19.Nf4) 14.Qh6 Kh8 15.g5 Rg8 16.g6! fxxg6 17.fxe6 Bb7 18.Nd5 Bxd5 19.exd5 Rac8 20.h4 Niro-Botsch, corr 1984, 1-0/33] 12...b4 13.Nd5 (*a critical decision that I'll come back to in my game with David Arganian*) 13...exd5 14.exd5 Bb7 15.Nf5 Rc8 16.Qe2 Nf8 17.Bg2 Ng6 18.Rge1 Kf8 19.h4 Re8 20.Rd4 a5 21.h5 Ne5 22.fxe5 fxe5 23.Rc4 Bg5+ 24.Kb1 Qd7 25.Qf2 Rc8 26.Rxc8+ Bxc8 27.Qb6± Bd8 28.Qxd6+ Qxd6 29.Nxd6 Bxxg4 30.Rxe5 Bc7 31.Re8+ Kg7 32.h6+! Kg6 33.Rxxh8 Bxd6 34.Ra8 1-0

So, after either:

11...Nxf6 12.g5 Nd7 13.f5 (as reached in Langer vs. Wang), or

11...Bxf6 12.g5 Be7 13.f5 (as in Niro vs. Arganian), we reach the following "Everyman" position.



In this well known *Tabiya* set-up, Black has three choices: 13...Nc5, 13...Bxxg5+ or 13...Ne5.

For decades the main move here was 13...Nc5. But after Perenyi's 16.Rg1 became so deeply analyzed (see my game below vs. Gustafsson in the 2010 National Open for an example of this variation), most players have switched to the clearer lines after 13...Bxxg4+ 14.Kb1. In fact, that's the direction that the Langer-Wang game took at this point.



David Arganian

photo credit: Russell "Rusty" Miller

Langer, M (2264) - Wang, M (2148) [B99] US Open, Vancouver, WA Round 7, August 10, 2012

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 b5 11.Bxf6 Nxf6 12.g5 Nd7 13.f5 (Diagram) 13...Bxxg5+ 14.Kb1 Ne5 15.Qh5 Qe7 16.Nxe6 Bxe6 17.fxe6 g6 18.exf7+ Kxf7 19.Qe2 Kg7 20.Nd5 Qd8 21.Bh3 Rf8 22.Rhf1 Ra7 23.Rxf8 Qxf8 24.Qg2 Bh6 25.Qg1 Rf7 26.Qb6 Rf3 27.Nc7 Be3 28.Ne6+ Kh6 29.Qxe3+ Rxe3 30.Nxf8 Rxxh3 31.b3 Nf7 32.Rd2 Re3 33.Rd4 Re2 34.h3 Re3 35.a4 Rxxh3 36.Ne6 Rh5 37.Nc7 bxxa4 38.Rxxa4 a5 39.Nd5 Re5 40.Rxxa5 Rxe4 41.Ra7 Kg7 42.Kb2 h5 43.Kc3 h4 44.Kd3 Re8 45.b4 g5 46.b5 h3 47.b6 h2 48.Ra1 g4 49.Ne3 Ne5+ 50.Kc3 Kg6 51.b7 Ra8 0-1

Interestingly, David took the road less traveled with 13...Ne5. After the game, he asked me what I would have played after 13...Nc5. I told him 14.f6 leading to the Perenyi variation after 14...gxf6 15.gxf6 Bf8 16.Rg1. He said, "Yep, that's what I play too, and I didn't feel like facing it tonight."

Niro, F (1734) - Arganian, D (2002) [B99] US Open, Vancouver, WA Round 2, August 5, 2012

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 b5 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.g5 Be7 13.f5 (Diagram) Ne5 14.Qg3 b4

This is a position we both had seen before. The book lines all favor White after 15.Nce2! I've been in the position after 15.Nce2 four times previously as White and won all four games, including two since 2010 on



Gameknot.com. For some reason, I started thinking of games where Nd5 led to a strong attack (as in the game vs. Joshua Hill from the 2003 US Amateur Team presented earlier and the Gustafsson game below). I failed to calculate sufficiently and convinced myself that it has to work..



### 15.Nd5?

Oops. Bad decision. 15.Nce2! is both forced and good. After 15...Bd7 16.h4 [16.fxe6! is even better and 16.Nf4 is the recommended line in ECO sldo favoring White] 16...exf5 17.Nxf5 Ba4 18.b3 Bc6 19.Ned4 0-0 20.Nxe7+ Qxe7 21.Nxc6 Nxc6 22.Qxd6± Qe8 23.Bc4 Rd8 24.Qf4 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Ne5 26.Bxa6 Ng6 27.Qd6 Nxh4 [27...Qxe4 28.h5 Nf4 29.Qd4] 28.Bb7 Nf3 29.Rd5 Qb8 [29...Qxe4? 30.Qxf8+ Kxf8 31.Rd8+ Qe8 32.Rxe8+ Kxe8 33.Bxf3] 30.Qxb4 Qf4+ 31.Kb2 Nfg5 32.a4 Qe3 [32...Qf6+ 33.Qd4] 33.Qc5 Qxc5 34.Rxc5 Ne6 35.Rc4 1-0 (Niro-C.Huerta, Gameknot.com, 2010)

If 15.Nce2! Bb7 16.fxe6 0-0 [16...Bxe4 17.Bxg2 ECO] 17.Nf4 Qc5 18.Kb1± Bxe4 19.Bg2 Bxg2 20.Qxg2 Rae8 21.h4 Qc8 22.h5+- a5 [22...fxe6?! 23.Nfxe6 Qa8 (23...Rf7? 24.g6) 24.Qe2] 23.exf7+ Rxf7 24.Nde6 Rf5 25.Qe4 Rxf4 26.Nxf4 Bxg5 27.Rxd6 Qc4 28.Rd4 Qf7 29.Re1 Rf8 30.Qxe5 Bf6 31.Qe4 Bxd4

32.Ne6 Bf2 33.Nxf8 Qxf8 [33...Bxe1 34.Ng6! hxg6 35.hxg6 Qf8 36.Qd5+ Kh8 37.Qh5+ Kg8 38.Qh7#] 34.Qe6+ Kh8 35.Qe8 1-0 (Niro-tdkittens,Gameknot.com, 2011)

Finally, after 15.Nce2! Nc6, ECO gives 16.g6 fvg6 17.fvg6 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 Bf6 19.gxf7 with a large plus Arseniev vs. Tunik, USSR 1979.

So, why did I choose the lemon move 15.Nd5? My mind's eye was still locked into the patterns in the Perenyi line, though my opponent had redirected the game. I still had in focus the stem game from the National Open in Las Vegas two years ago despite the fact that my current position was remarkably different. Either I wasn't able to calculate anew or wasn't willing to take the time. Bottom line: carelessness (or laziness?!).

Niro, F - Gustafsson, A [B99] Las Vegas, NV, (Rd. 1), June 11, 2010

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.0-0-0 Nbd7 10.g4 b5 11.Bxf6 Nxf6 12.g5 Nd7 13.f5 Nc5 14.f6 gxf6 15.gxf6 Bf8 16.Rg1 h5 17.Rg7 17...Bd7 [17...Bb7? 18.Bh3 b4 19.Nd5 exd5 20.exd5 Nd7 21.Bxd7+ Qxd7 22.Nc6 Bxc6 23.Re1+ Kd8 24.dxc6 Qc7 25.Qe4+-] 18.Bh3 b4 19.Nd5 exd5 20.exd5 0-0-0 21.Rxf7 a5 22.Nc6 Re8 23.Bxd7+ Nxd7 24.Qh3 Re3 25.Qf5 [25.Rxf8+! Rxf8 26.Qxe3+-] 25...Bh6 26.Kb1 Rf8 27.Qxh5 Rxf7 28.Qxf7 Ne5 29.Qg8+ Kb7 30.Nd8+ Kb6 31.Ne6+- Qb7 32.Qd8+ Ka6 33.Qxd6+ Qb6 34.Nc7+? [34.Qe7!+-] 34...Kb7 35.Qxb6+ Kxb6 36.d6 Nd7 37.Nd5+ Kc6 38.Nxe3 Bxe3 39.f7 Bf4 40.h4 Bh6 41.Rg1 Ne5 42.Rf1 Bf8 43.Rf6 Nc4 44.h5 Kd7 45.h6 Nxd6 46.h7 1-0

Anyway, back to the U.S. Open game.

David polished me off quickly and smoothly. Lesson learned.

15...exd5 16.exd5 Bd7 17.h4 a5 18.Bh3 a4 19.Rhe1 a3 20.g6 axb2+ 21.Kb1 Qa5 22.gxf7+ Kxf7 23.Qb3 Qa3 24.Nc6 Nxc6 25.dxc6+ Qxb3 26.cxb3 Bc8 27.Re4 Ra5 28.Rxb4 Bxf5+ 29.Bxf5 Rxf5 30.Kxb2 Rc8 31.Rc4 Rc5 32.Rdc1 Rxc4 33.Rxc4 d5 0-1

Here are a few games beginning with the most popular queen pawn opening line 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc4 Bb4

**Pupols,V (2200) - Herrera,R (2044)**  
[D38] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Round 3, August 6, 2012

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.Qa4+ Nc6 6.e3 0-0 7.Bd2 Re8 8.a3 Bf8 9.Qc2 a5 10.Bd3 dxc4 11.Bxc4 e5 12.d5 Ne7 13.e4 c6 14.Bg5 Qc7 15.dxc6 bxc6 16.Nb5 Qb8 17.Qb3 Nfd5 18.exd5 a4 19.Qd1 cxb5 20.d6 Ng6 21.d7 Bxd7 22.Bxf7+ Kxf7 23.Qxd7+ Kg8 24.Qd5+ Kh8 25.0-0 Ra6 26.Rfe1 h6 27.Be3 e4 28.Nd4 Re5 29.Qd7 Rh5 30.h3 Ne5 31.Nc6 Rxc6 32.Qd1 Qe8 33.Bf4 Nc4 34.b3 axb3 35.Qxb3 Rf5 36.Bg3 Bc5 37.Re2 Qg6 38.Kh2 Bd6 39.Rd1 e3



**USCF Executive Director Bill Hall**  
photo credit: Russell "Rusty" Miller

40.Bxd6 Rxd6 41.fxe3 Rxd1  
 42.Qxd1 Qd6+ 43.Qxd6 Nxd6  
 44.Rc2 h5 45.Rc6 Ne4 46.Re6 Nc3  
 47.Kg3 Kg8 48.e4 Rc5 49.Kf4 Kf7  
 50.Ra6 Rc4 51.Ra7+ Kg6 52.Ra6+  
 Kf7 53.Ra7+ Kg6 54.Ra6+ Kh7  
 55.Kf5 Rxe4 56.g4 hxg4 57.hxg4  
 Ra4 58.Rd6 Rxa3 59.g5 b4 60.Rd3  
 Ra5+ 61.Kg4 Rb5 0-1

**White: Pechisker, A (2223)**

**Black: Gutman, R (2052)**

[D38] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
 Round 6, August 9, 2012

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3  
 Bb4 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.e3  
 0-0 8.Be2 Na5 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Nd2  
 Be6 11.0-0 Re8 12.a4 Ne4 13.Nxe4  
 dxe4 14.Rb1 c5 15.Bb5 c4 16.Bxe8  
 Qxe8 17.Rb5 Qd8 18.Qh5 b6 19.f3  
 Bd7 20.Rd5 1-0

The following game was played by Steven Breckenridge of Gresham, OR, against GM Dmitry Gurevich. The US Open was Steven's last tournament before moving to Lubbock, TX, to play for the Texas Tech University Chess Team. More details concerning his move can be found on page 35.

**White: Gurevich, D (2539)**

**Black: Breckenridge, S (2382)**

[E15] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
 Round 5, August 8, 2012

[Notes by Steven Breckenridge]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6  
 5.Qa4 Bb7 6.Bg2 c5 7.dxc5 Bxc5

Normally I play bxc5 in blitz games. This is my first Bxc5 tournament game. I studied this line for an hour before the game, along with other preparation, as Gurevich has played virtually every line vs Queens Indian.

8.0-0 0-0 9.Nc3 Be7 10.Rd1 Na6

11.Bf4 Qc8



12.Rac1

12.Nb5 is a better line, I think, with more immediate pressure 12...Nc5 13.Qa3

12...Rd8

12...Nc5 13.Qc2 Nce4 14.Nd4 Nxf2?! (14...Nxc3 15.Qxc3 Bxg2 16.Kxg2 Qb7+ 17.Qf3 Ne4 18.Nb5 f5 19.Bd6 Nxd6 20.Nxd6 Qc7 21.Nb5 Qc8) 15.Kxf2 e5 16.Bxe5 Ng4+ 17.Kg1 Nxe5 18.Qf5 Bxg2 19.Kxg2 Qb7+ 20.Nd5. It's an interesting line, but

white's pieces are too active; it reminds me of what my dad used to tell me: "Just because you can play a tactic, Steven, doesn't mean you should."

13.Nb5 Ne8

After the game Dmitry told me, "in the 30 years of playing and training GMs in this line, I've never seen Ne8, but it is solid."

13...Ne4 14.Nfd4 d6 15.Qc2 Nf6 16.Nf3 (16.f3 g6)

14.h4 h6 15.Qb3

Struggling for ideas. Afterwards, he thought Qc2 or Nd2 was good.

15...d6 16.Qa3 Qc5

Trades are good. 16...Nc5 17.b4 Ne4 is the other line, for example 18.Nd2 Nxd2 19.Bxb7 Qxb7 20.Bxd2 d5 21.Qf3 Qd7 22.Be1 Rac8

17.Qxc5 bxc5

17...Nxc5 18.Nfd4 (18.b4 Na4! with



**Michael Morris (left)** holds his copy of *Viktors Pupols: American Master* by Larry Parr open to page 38 so that **Mark Taylor (right)** can snap a picture for the cover of *The Chess Journalist* as **Viktors Pupols** looks on. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

a6 coming) 18...Bxg2 19.Kxg2

18.Nd2 Bxg2 19.Kxg2 f5 20.Nb3 Nb4 21.Na5 a6 22.Nc3

22.a3. I showed him after, and he acknowledged, that he completely missed this. It's not over though. 22...Na2 (22...axb5 23.axb4 bxc4 24.Nc6 Rd7 25.bxc5 d5 26.Rxc4 dxc4 27.Rxd7 Bxc5 28.Be5 Ra6 29.Nd4 Kf8 and I'm barely hanging on, but this was obviously the ideal position he would have liked to get.) 23.Ra1 axb5 24.Nc6 bxc4 25.Nxd8 Bxd8 26.Rxa2 d5 seems holding.

22...Rdc8 23.Nb7!? e5 24.Be3



24...Nc6

24...Rcb8 is much simpler. 25.Na5 Bd8 26.Nb3 Nxa2 27.Nxa2 Rxb3. I missed this alternative while occupied with calculating the game continuation.

25.Nd5 Kf7 26.Nb6

26.Rc3 Rab8 27.Nxe7 Kxe7 28.Nxd6 Nxd6 29.Bxc5 Nd4 30.Bxd6+ Kxd6 31.e3 Rxb2 32.exd4 e4=

26...Rcb8 27.Nxa8

27.Nxd6+ Bxd6 28.Nxa8 Rxa8 isn't much different.

27...Rxb7 28.b4 Rb8 29.bxc5 dxc5



30.Rb1?

30.Rd7 Rxa8 31.Bxc5 Ke6 32.Rd5! Nf6 33.Bxe7 Nxe7 34.Ra5 Nc6 35.Ra3 with compensation.

30...Rxa8 31.Rb7 Nd4

31...Na5 32.Rbd7 Ke6 is much stronger.

32.Bxd4 exd4



33.e3?

My hope when I played exd4! A rook move to e1, c1 or even b6 was better.

33...Nd6 34.Rc7 dxe3 35.fxe3

35.Rxd6? e2 wins

35...Rc8

This move seemed natural. 35...Nxc4 36.Rdd7 Re8 37.Kf2 Ke6 38.Ra7 a5 is a lot stronger though.

36.Rxc8 Nxc8 37.Rd7 Nb6 38.Ra7 Nxc4 39.Rxa6 Nxe3+ 40.Kf3 Nd5 41.a4 Ke8 42.Ra7



42...c4

42...Kd8 I think is much simpler. The closer my king to his pawn, the easier I can work with my knight and king to defend it.

43.Ke2 Nc3+ 44.Kd2 Ne4+ 45.Kc2 Nxc3

45...Bf6 46.Rc7 Be5 47.Rxc4 Bxg3 48.h5 Kd7 49.a5 Bf2 50.a6 Bb6 51.Kd3 Nc5+ 52.Ke3 Nxa6+ 53.Kf4 Nb8 54.Kxf5 Nc6 55.Rc1 Bd4 56.Rd1 Ke7 57.Rc1 Kd6 58.Rb1 Ne7+ 59.Ke4 Bf6+ is my computer line.

46.a5 f4 47.a6 Bc5

47...f3 48.Rc7 f2 49.a7 f1Q 50.a8Q+ Kf7 51.Qd5+ Kg6 52.Rxe7 Qf5+ 53.Qxf5+ Nxf5 54.Re4 Kh5 55.Kd2 Nxh4 56.Rxc4 and this is more than likely a draw, unless he's in time pressure. I did see this line up to Qd5+ and Kg6, I was thinking then Qd3+

which was definitely draw, but Qf5+ is much better I think.



48.Rxg7 Nf5 49.Rc7 Ne3+?

A mistake, thinking c3+ followed by Kd3 f3, but just Ke2. 49...Bg1 50.Kd2 f3 51.a7 Bxa7 52.Rxa7 c3+ 53.Ke1 I have chances; or, if 49...Bd4 50.Rxc4 f3 51.Rxd4 Nxd4+ 52.Kd2 Nb5 53.Ke3 Kf7 54.Kxf3 Kf6 55.Kf4=.

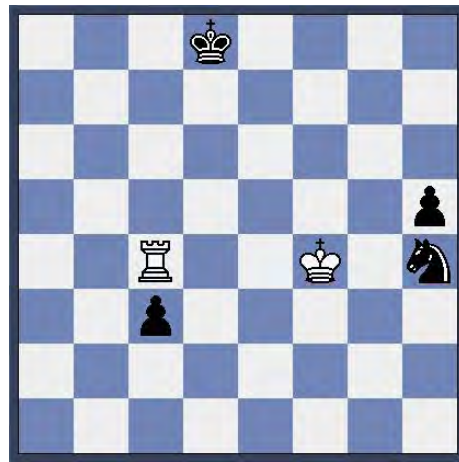
50.Kd2 Bd4

50...c3+? 51.Ke2 (51.Kd3? f3 52.Rxc5 f2+) 51...Bb6 (51...Bd4 52.Rxc3) 52.Rxc3 Nf5 53.Rc7 Nxh4 54.Rb7 f3+ 55.Ke1 Bd4 56.a7 Bxa7 57.Rxa7 Ng6 58.Kf2 Ne5 59.Ra5 Nf7 60.Kxf3 Ke7=

51.Ke2 h5 52.Kf3 Kd8 53.a7 Bxa7 54.Rxa7 Nf5 55.Kxf4 Nxh4



56.Ra4 c3 57.Rc4



*Editor's note: Steven's notes ended here, essentially declaring the game a draw with best play. I entered this position in the Nalimov six-piece endgame Tablebases at <http://www.chessok.com>. This position is, in fact, a technical draw. But here's the controversial part: Black's next move 57...Ng2+ is a theoretical losing move (see below). Correct, according to the Tablebases, is 57...c2 58.Rc5 c1=Q+ 59.Rxc1 Ng6+ and the draw is forced.*

57...Ng2+? 58.Ke4?

*But this way is still a draw! According to Nalimov, 1.Ke5! (i.e. 58.Ke5!) forces mate in 37 moves for White! After Ke7 2. Rc7+ Kf8 3. Rxc3 Ke7 4. Rc7+ Kd8 5. Rc2 Ne3 6. Rc3 Ng4+ 7. Ke6 Nf2 8. Rc2 Ne4 9. Ke5 Ng5 10. Rg2 Nf7+ 11. Ke6 Nb6 12. Rg5 Ng4 13. Rxb5 Kc7 14. Rb4 Ne3 15. Rb3 Ng4 16. Rg3 Nf2 17. Kd5 Kd8 18. Rg2 Nh3 19. Ke4 Ke7 20. Kf5 Kd6 21. Kg4 Kc5 22. Kxb3 Kd4 23. Rg5 Ke3 24. Rg4 Kf3 25. Rb4 Ke2 26. Rb3 Kf2 27. Rg3 Ke2 28. Kg2 Ke1 29. Re3+ Kd1 30. Kf3 Kd2 31. Kf2 Kc1 32. Re2 Kd1 33. Ke3 Kc1 34. Kd3 Kd1 35. Re4 Kc1 36. Rb4 Kd1 37. Rb1#. Wow!*

*After this, neither side errs. I'll leave it to the curious reader or endgame specialist to probe more deeply using whatever computer assistance you wish. Feel free to send your analysis if you disagree to [editor@nwchess.com](mailto:editor@nwchess.com).*

58...Nh4 59.Rxc3 Kd7 60.Rh3 Ng6 61.Rxh5 Ke6 62.Rf5 Ne7 63.Rf8 Ng6 64.Ra8 Ne7 65.Ra6+ Kd7 66.Ke5 Nc6+ 67.Ke4 Ne7 68.Rh6 Ng8 69.Rg6 Ne7 70.Ra6 Nc6 1/2-1/2

The following long game in the last round between Steven and FM Mark Pinto, given here without notes, should be a very encouraging endgame for the fighters. This was one of the last games to finish.

White: Pinto, M (2200)

Black: Breckenridge, S (2382)

[C60] US Open, Vancouver, WA

Round 9, August 12, 2012

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nge7 4.d4 exd4 5.Nxd4 g6 6.Nxc6 Nxc6 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.Qd4 f6 9.0-0 Bd6 10.Nc3 Qe7 11.Be3 0-0 12.Rfe1 Qe5 13.Qc4+ Rf7 14.f4 Qa5 15.a3 Ba6 16.Qa4 Qxa4 17.Nxa4 Bf8 18.Nc5 Bc8 19.b4 a5 20.c3 a4 21.Rad1 d6 22.Nd3 Be6 23.Bd4 Bb3 24.Rd2 Re8 25.Kf2 Bg7 26.f5 Rfe7 27.fgxg6 hxg6 28.Nb2 Rxe4 29.Rxe4 Rxe4 30.Re2 Rxe2+ 31.Kxe2 Kf7 32.Kd3 Ke6 33.c4 Bf8 34.Kc3 f5 35.Nd3 g5 36.g3 Be7 37.Nc1 Bd1 38.Kd2 Bf3 39.Na2 c5 40.bxc5 dxc5 41.Be3 Ke5 42.Nc3 Bc6 43.Kd3 f4 44.Bf2 Kf5 45.h3 Bd6 46.g4+ Ke5 47.h4 gxh4 48.Bxh4 Bd7 49.Bf2 Be8 50.Ke2 Bd7 51.Kd3 Be7 52.Nd5 Bd8 53.Nc3 Be7 54.Nd5 Bf8 55.Nc3 Bc6 56.Bh4 Ke6 57.Bf2 f3 58.Ne4 Ke5 59.Bg3+ Ke6 60.Bf2 Bg7 61.Nxc5+ Kd6 62.Kc2 Bf6 63.Kb1 Ke5 64.Nd3+ Ke4 65.Kc2 Be7 66.Nb4 Bb7 67.c5 Bc8 68.Kd2 Bg5+ 69.Ke1 Bc1 70.Nc2 Bxg4 71.Kd1 Bb2 72.Kd2 Be6 73.Bg3 Bb3 74.Ne1 Bxa3 75.Nd3 c6 76.Kc3 Ke3 77.Bf2+ Ke2 78.Bd4 Bg8 79.Nf4+ Kd1 80.Nd3 Bh7 81.Ne5 Be4 82.Nc4 Bc1 83.Nb2+ Bxb2+ 84.Kxb2 Ke2 85.Ka3 Bc2 0-1

Botez, A (2035) - Bu, K (2221)  
[D45] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Denker, August 6, 2012

1.d4 c6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3  
e6 5.e3 Be7 6.Bd3 Nbd7 7.0-0  
0-0 8.a3 a5 9.b3 b6 10.Ne5 Nxe5  
11.dxe5 Nd7 12.f4 Nc5 13.Be2 dxc4  
14.bxc4 Ba6 15.Qc2 Qc7 16.e4 Rfd8  
17.Be3 Rd7 18.Rab1 Bc8 19.Kh1 a4  
20.Bxc5 Bxc5 21.Nxa4 Be3 22.Qb3  
Bd4 23.Rfc1 Ba6 24.Bg4 b5 25.cxb5  
Bxb5 26.Nc5 Bxc5 27.Rxc5 Qa7  
28.Rbc1 Rd3 29.Qc2 Qxa3 30.Be2  
Rdd8 31.Bxb5 cxb5 32.Rxb5 Qe3  
33.f5 exf5 34.exf5 h5 35.e6 Rac8  
36.Qxc8 Rxc8 37.Rxc8+ Kh7 38.h3  
Qe1+ 39.Kh2 h4 40.Rb1 Qe5+  
41.Kh1 Qxf5 42.Re1 fxe6 43.Re8  
Qg5 44.R8xe6 Kg8 45.R6e4 Qa5  
46.Re8+ Kh7 47.R1e5 Qa4 48.Re4  
Qd1+ 49.Kh2 Qd6+ 50.R8e5 Kg8  
51.Kh1 Qd1+ 52.Re1 Qd6 53.Re8+  
Kh7 54.R8e4 Qf6 55.R1e3 Qf1+  
56.Kh2 Qf6 57.Rd3 Kg8 58.Rdd4  
Qg5 59.Rd3 Qf6 60.Rd7 Qf5  
61.Rd8+ Kf7 62.Rdd4 Kg8 63.Re8+  
Kf7 64.Rde4 Qg5 65.Re3 Qf4+  
66.Kg1 Qd4 67.Kh1 Qd1+ 68.Re1  
Qd2 69.R1e7+ Kf6 70.Re2 Qd1+  
71.Re1 Qd2 72.R8e7 Qd5 73.R7e4  
g5 74.Rf1+ Kg6 75.Rb4 Qc5 76.Rb8  
Kg7 77.Rb7+ Kg6 78.Rfb1 Qc2  
79.R1b6+ Kf5 80.Rf7+ Ke5 81.Rf3  
Qc1+ 82.Kh2 Qc7 83.Rb1 Ke4+  
84.Kh1 Qa5 85.Rc1 Qd2 86.Rc4+  
Ke5 87.Rg4 Qd1+ 88.Kh2 Qd2  
89.Ra3 Qd6 90.Ra1 Qd2 91.Rxg5+  
Qxg5 92.Ra5+ Kf4 93.Rxg5 Kxg5  
94.Kg1 Kf4 95.Kf2 Ke4 1/2-1/2

Ng, A (2306) - Huang, D (2046)  
[B13] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Denker, August 6, 2012

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6  
5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 dxc4 7.d5 Ne5  
8.Qd4 h6 9.Qxe5 hxg5 10.Bxc4 Bd7  
11.Bb3 g4 12.Nge2 Rh5 13.Qf4 g6  
14.Ng3 Bh6 15.Qd4 Rh4 16.0-0 Kf8

17.Rfe1 Qb6 18.Qxb6 axb6 19.Rad1  
Bf4 20.Rd4 Bd6 21.Nce4 Nxe4  
22.Rdxe4 f5 23.Rd4 Kf7 24.Nf1  
Bxh2+ 25.Nxh2 Rah8 26.f3 Rxh2  
27.d6+ e6 28.fxc4 Rh1+ 29.Kf2  
Rxe1 30.Kxe1 Kf6 31.gxf5 gxf5  
32.Kf2 Ke5 33.Rb4 b5 34.a4 bxa4  
35.Rxb7 Kxd6 36.Bd1 Bc6 37.Ra7  
Rb8 38.Bf3 Rxb2+ 39.Kg3 Bxf3  
40.gxf3 Ra2 41.Kf4 a3 42.Ra6+  
Ke7 43.Kg3 Ra1 44.f4 a2 45.Kg2  
Kd7 46.Ra7+ Kd6 47.Ra6+ Kd5  
48.Ra5+ Kc4 49.Ra8 Kd3 50.Ra6  
Kd4 51.Kh2 Ke3 52.Rxe6+ Kxf4  
53.Ra6 Kf3 54.Ra3+ Ke2 55.Ra7 f4  
56.Ra8 f3 57.Re8+ Kf2 58.Ra8 Kf1  
59.Kh1 f2 60.Kh2 Ke2 61.Re8+ Kd3  
62.Rd8+ Ke4 0-1

Varner, M (1673) - Sawyer, D (1944)  
[A37] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Round 5, August 7, 2012

1.c4 c5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nf3  
Nc6 5.0-0 e5 6.d3 Nge7 7.Nc3  
0-0 8.Rb1 d6 9.Bd2 h6 10.Qc1 Kh7  
11.b3 Bg4 12.h3 Bd7 13.Ne4 Qb8  
14.g4 f5 15.gxf5 gxf5 16.Ng3 Nd4  
17.Nh2 f4 18.Be4+ Bf5 19.Nxf5  
Nxe2+ 20.Kh1 Nxc1 21.Nxe7+  
Kh8 22.Ng6+ Kg8 23.Bd5+ Kh7  
24.Nxf8+ Qxf8 25.Rbxc1 Rb8  
26.Nf3 Qe7 27.Rg1 Rc8 28.Rg2 Rc7  
29.Rcg1 Qd8 30.Rg4 b6 31.Nh4 h5



Murlin Varner  
photo credit: Russell "Rusty" Miller

32.Rg5 Bh6 33.Be4+ Kh8 34.Ng6+  
Kg7 35.Rxh5 1-0

Omori, M (2171) - Vibbert, S (2315)  
[B22] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
August 5, 2012

1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4  
Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.dxc5 Qxd1+  
7.Kxd1 e5 8.b4 e4 9.h3 Bh5 10.g4  
Nxc4 11.hxc4 Bxc4 12.Nbd2 exf3  
13.Bd3 Be7 14.Be4 Nc6 15.Re1  
Kf8 16.Kc2 a5 17.b5 Nd8 18.Nxf3  
Bxf3 19.Bxf3 Bxc5 20.Be3 Bxe3  
21.Rxe3 g6 22.Rd1 h5 23.Bg2 g5  
24.Rd5 Ne6 25.Rf5 Re8 26.Bxb7  
h4 27.Bc6 Re7 28.b6 Nd8 29.Rxe7  
Kxe7 30.Bh1 Rh6 31.Rb5 Rf6  
32.Rxg5 Rxb6 33.Rh5 Rf6 34.f3 Rf4  
35.Rxa5 Nc6 36.Rc5 Kd6 37.Rh5  
Ne5 38.Kd2 Ra4 39.Ke3 Ng6  
40.Rg5 Rxa2 41.f4 Ne7 42.Be4 h3  
43.Rh5 h2 44.Bf3 f5 45.Be2 Nd5+  
46.Kf3 Rxe2 47.Rh6+ Re6 48.Rxh2  
Re3+ 49.Kf2 Rxc3 50.Rh6+ Ke7  
51.Rh7+ Kf6 52.Rh6+ Kg7 53.Rh4  
Kg6 54.Kg2 Ne3+ 55.Kf2 Ng4+  
56.Kg2 Nf6 57.Rh8 Nh5 58.Rg8+  
Kf7 59.Rg5 Nxf4+ 60.Kf1 Kf6  
61.Rg8 Ke5 62.Re8+ Ne6 63.Kf2  
f4 64.Ra8 Ke4 65.Re8 Rc2+ 66.Ke1  
Kd5 67.Kf1 Nd4 68.Re7 Nf5 69.Re8  
Kd4 70.Re6 Ng3+ 71.Kg1 Ne4  
72.Ra6 Ke3 73.Ra3+ Rc3 74.Ra4  
f3 75.Ra8 Rc1+ 76.Kh2 f2 77.Ra3+  
Ke2 78.Rb3 Nd2 79.Ra3 Nf3+  
80.Kg3 f1Q 0-1

Theil, C (2183) - Warriar, V (1885)  
[B47] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
August 10, 2012

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 a6 4.g3 Nc6  
5.Bg2 Qc7 6.0-0 Nf6 7.d4 cxd4  
8.Nxd4 Be7 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.Be3  
Rb8 11.e5 Nd5 12.Nxd5 cxd5  
13.Qg4 g6 14.Bh6 Rb4 15.Qe2 Rxb2  
16.Qe3 Qc5 17.Qd2 Rxc2 18.Qxc2  
Qxc2 19.Rac1 Qc6 20.Rxc6 dxc6  
21.Bd2 f6 22.exf6 Bxf6 23.Rb1 Kd7

24.Bf1 Rf8 25.Bb4 Be7 26.Bxe7 Kxe7 27.Rb8 Bd7 28.Rb6 Kd6 29.Rxa6 Rb8 30.a4 Rb1 31.Kg2 e5 32.a5 Bh3+ 33.Kxh3 Rxf1 34.Kg2 Ra1 35.Ra8 e4 36.a6 Kc5 37.h4 d4 38.a7 d3 39.g4 Kc4 40.h5 gxh5 41.gxh5 c5 42.h6 d2 43.Rd8 Kc3 44.Rd5 c4 45.f4 exf3+ 46.Kxf3 Rxa7 0-1

Vibbert, S (2315) - Mu, J (2242)  
[B04] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
August 7, 2012

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 dxe5 5.Nxe5 c6 6.Be2 Bf5 7.0-0 Nd7 8.c4 Nb4 9.Nd3 e6 10.Nxb4 Bxb4 11.Qb3 Bd6 12.c5 Be7 13.Qxb7 e5 14.Qxc6 exd4 15.Qd5 Bxb1 16.Rxb1 Nxc5 17.Bb5+ Kf8 18.Qf3 Rc8 19.Bc4 Bf6 20.Rd1 Nd7 21.Ba6 Rc5 22.b4 Ne5 23.Qe4 Rd5 24.f4 Ng4 25.h3 Rd6 26.b5 Ne3 27.Ba3 Nxd1 28.Rxd1 Kg8 29.Bxd6 Qxd6 30.Qc6 Be7 31.Kh1 Qxf4 32.Qa8+ Bf8 33.Qxa7 Bd6 34.Qa8+ Bb8 35.Kg1 g6 36.Qf3 Qh2+ 37.Kf2 Kg7 38.b6 Qd6 39.Bc4 Qxb6 40.Qxf7+ Kh6 41.Kg1 Qd6 42.Rf1 Qh2+ 43.Kf2 Bd6 44.Qd5 Rc8 [44...Rf8+!] 45.Ke2 Qg3 46.Kd1 Bf4 47.Qf3 Rxc4 48.Qxf4+ Qxf4 1/2-1/2

White: Pechisker, A (2223)

Black: Gutman, R (2052)

[D38] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Round 6, August 9 2012

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.e3 0-0 8.Be2 Na5 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Nd2 Be6 11.0-0 Re8 12.a4 Ne4 13.Nxe4 dxe4 14.Rb1 c5 15.Bb5 c4 16.Bxe8 Qxe8 17.Rb5 Qd8 18.Qh5 b6 19.f3 Bd7 20.Rd5 1-0

Kiiru, J (1833) - Cotten, D (2015)

[D09] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Round 8, August 11, 2012

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 d4 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.g3 Bg4 6.Bg2 Qd7 7.0-0 Bh3 8.Qb3 0-0-0 9.e6 Bxe6 10.Ne5 Na5 11.Bxb7+ Nxb7 12.Nxd7 Rxd7 13.Na3 Nf6 14.Qa4 a5 15.Nb5 Bc5 16.b4 c6 17.bxc5 cxb5 18.cxb5 Nxc5 19.Qxa5 Kb7 20.b6 Na6 21.Bf4 Rd5 22.Qa3 Re8 23.Rfc1 g5 24.Rc7+ 1-0

White: Weatherspoon, K (2060)

Black: Warriar, V (1885)

[B48] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
August 9, 2012

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Qd2 Nf6 8.f3 Bb4 9.0-0-0 d5 10.Nxc6 Qxc6 11.e5 Nd7 12.Bd4 b5 13.Qg5 0-0 14.Bd3 Nc5 15.f4 Bd7 16.Qh4 g6 17.Qf2 Rfc8 18.h4 Rc7 19.h5 Be8 20.g4 Rac8 21.Rh2 Nxd3+ 22.Rxd3 Bf8 23.f5 b4 24.Nd1 Qc4 25.Kb1 Qxd3 26.hxg6 Qxd1# 0-1

White: Ummel, I (2175)

Black: Thompson, I (2343)

[C00] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
August 10, 2012

1.e4 e6 2.b3 d5 3.Bb2 dxe4 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Qe2 Nbd7 6.Nxe4 Nxe4 7.Qxe4 Nf6 8.Qh4 Be7 9.Nf3 Nd5 10.Qe4 Nf6 11.Qe2 0-0 12.g3 b6 13.Bg2 Bb7 14.0-0 c5 15.c4 Qc8 16.Rad1 Rd8 17.Rfe1 1/2-1/2

White: Airapetian, C (2155)

Black: Hughes, C (1732)

[B03] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Round 1, August 7, 2012

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.d4 d6 5.f4 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 N8d7 9.Nc3 c5 10.dxc5 Nxc5 11.b4 Na6 12.Be3 Be6 13.c5 Nc4 14.Bd4 Rc8 15.exd6 Ne3 16.Bxe3 Bxc3 17.Nd4 exd6 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.Qb3 Qf6 20.Rac1 Bd4 21.Kh1 d5 22.a3 Nc7 23.Rcd1 Bxe3 24.Qxe3

a6 25.g3 Rfe8 26.Bg4 Rcd8 27.Rfe1 Rd7 28.Rd3 Rde7 29.Qe5 Qxe5 30.Rxe5 Kf7 31.h4 Nb5 32.h5 Na7 33.hxg6+ hxg6 34.Bd1 Nc6 35.Re1 Kf6 36.Kg2 Rh8 37.Ba4 Reh7 38.b5 axb5 39.Bxb5 Rh2+ 40.Kf3 Rc2 41.Rb1 Rxc5 42.Ba4 e5 43.Kg4 exf4 44.gxf4 Ra8 45.Bd1 b5 46.Bf3 Ra4 47.Rxd5 Rxd5 48.Bxd5 Ne5+ 49.Kg3 Rxa3+ 50.Kg2 Nd3 51.Rxb5 Nxf4+ 52.Kf2 Nxd5 53.Rxd5 Ra6 54.Kg3 Re6 55.Kf4 Rc6 56.Rd4 g5+ 57.Kg4 Kg6 58.Ra4 Rf6 1/2-1/2

White: Bashkansky, N (1589)

Black: Hough, R (2022)

[A45] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Round 1, August 4, 2012  
[Notes by Murlin Varner]

1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 b6 3.Bd3 Bb7 4.Nf3 g6 5.0-0 Bg7 6.c3 0-0 7.Nbd2 c5 8.Re1 d5 9.Ne5 Nc6 10.f4 Nd7 11.Bb5 Ndx5 12.fxe5 f6 13.exf6 Bxf6 14.Qg4 Qd6 15.Rf1 e5 16.e4 exd4 17.exd5 Ne5 18.Qe6+ Qxe6 19.dxe6 dxc3 20.bxc3 Bd5 21.Bb2 Bxe6 22.c4 a6 23.Bxe5 Bxe5 24.Rxf8+ Rxf8 25.Re1 Bd4+ 26.Kh1 Bc8 27.Bc6 Bc3 28.Bd5+ Kh8 29.Rf1 Rxf1+ 30.Nxf1 Bf5 31.Ne3 Bb1 32.Bb7 b5 33.cxb5 axb5 34.Ba6 Bd4 35.Nf1 c4 36.Bxb5 c3 37.Ng3 c2 38.Ne2 Bxa2 39.Bd3 Bb1 40.Bxc2 Bxc2 41.Nxd4 Be4 42.Kg1 Kg7 43.Ne2 Kf6 44.Ng3 Bd5

Portions of the remainder of the score sheet were indecipherable, but the players waltzed around for another 14 moves before deciding that this really was a draw. 1/2-1/2

Goshen, M (2013) - Baker, T (1564)

[B98] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Round 1, August 4, 2012  
[Notes by Murlin Varner]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4

Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7  
8.Qf3 e5 9.Nf5 Bxf5 10.exf5 Nc6  
11.0-0-0 Nd4 12.Qh3

12.Qd3 Rc8 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Qe4  
0-0 15.fxe5 dxe5 16.h4 Qa5 17.g4  
Rfd8 18.Rh3 Bxh4 19.Rxh4 Rxc3  
20.Bd3 Rc6 21.Kb1 Qc5 22.f6 g6  
23.Rdh1 Rxf6 24.Rxh7 Kf8 25.Rh8+  
Ke7 26.Rxd8 Kxd8 27.Qxb7 Re6  
28.Rh8+ Re8 29.Qa8+ Kc7 30.Rxe8  
Nc6 31.a3 1-0, Pegoraro Nicola (ITA)  
2051 - Frank Albert (BEL) 2023, Im-  
peria (Italy) 1996

12...Qa5 13.Kb1 0-0 14.Bxf6 Bxf6  
15.Ne4 Be7 16.Bd3 f6 17.fxe5  
dxe5 18.Bc4+ Kh8 19.Rd3 Rac8 ??  
20.Qxh7+ Kxh7 21.Rh3# 1-0

As Mat told me, after three years  
away from tournament chess, what  
better way to get back into it than  
with a queen sac for mate?

**Pinto, M (2200) - McAleer, J (1800)**  
[C02] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Round 1, August 4, 2012  
[Notes by Murlin Varner]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6  
5.Nf3 Qb6 6.a3 c4 7.Nbd2 Na5  
8.Be2 Bd7 9.0-0 Be7 10.Re1 0-0-0  
11.Rb1 Nb3 12.Nxb3 Ba4 13.Bg5  
Bxb3 14.Qc1 h6 15.Be3 a5 16.Nd2  
a4 17.f4 g6 18.g4 Re8 19.Bf3 Bd8  
20.Bf2 Ne7 21.Bh1 g5 22.Bg3  
gxf4 23.Bxf4 Ng6 24.Nxb3 Nxf4  
25.Qxf4 Bg5 26.Qg3 axb3 27.h4  
Be7 28.Kg2 Qd8 29.Kh3 Ref8  
30.Re3 Rh7 31.Rf1 Kd7 32.Bg2 Kc8  
33.Ref3 Kd7 34.Qf2 Qe8 35.Qg3  
Qd8 36.R3f2 Kc8 37.Bf3 Kd7  
38.Bg2 Kc8 39.Rf3 Kd7 40.h5

White decides to break the holding  
pattern, but at the expense of weak-  
ening his position. Black now has the  
advantage.

40...Bg5 41.Rf6 Ke7 42.R6f2 Qd7  
43.Re2 b5 44.Qe1 Rg7 45.Bf3 Qc6  
46.Qg3 Qd7 47.Ref2 Qc6 48.Bg2  
Qd7 49.Rf6 Qc6 50.Qf2 Rh7 51.Rg6

After reacquiring an even position,  
White again avoids the draw by weak-  
ening his position.

51...Ke8 52.Rxg5 hxg5 53.Qf6 Rg8  
54.Kg3 Qd7 55.Qf2 Rh6 56.Qe3  
Qe7 57.Kh3 Kd7 58.Qf2 Rf8 59.Re1  
f6 60.Qe3 f5 61.Bf3 fxg4+ 62.Bxg4  
Qh7 63.Kg2 Rxh5 64.a4 Rh4 65.Bf3  
Rxf3 66.Qxf3 Rh2+ 0-1

**White: Guadalupe, F (2305)**

**Black: Sinanan, J (2262)**

[B42] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Quads, August 7, 2012

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4  
a6 5.Bd3 Bc5 6.Nb3 Be7 7.0-0  
d6 8.Nc3 Nf6 9.f4 Nbd7 10.a4 b6  
11.Qe2 Qc7 12.Be3 0-0 13.Rae1 Bb7  
14.g4 Nc5 15.Nxc5 bxc5 16.g5 c4  
17.gxf6 cxd3 18.cxd3 Bxf6 19.d4 g6  
20.Rc1 Qd7 21.Rfd1 Rac8 22.Qd3  
Bg7 23.b4 f5 24.e5 dxe5 25.fxe5  
f4 26.Bf2 Rf5 27.Kf1 Rh5 28.h4 g5  
29.Ne4 g4 30.Rxc8+ Qxc8 31.Nd6  
Qc6 32.d5 Qxd5 33.Nxb7 Qxb7  
34.Qd8+ Bf8 35.Qe8 Qh1+ 36.Ke2  
Rxe5+ 0-1

**White: Seirawan, Y (2674)**

**B: Raptis, N (2200)**

[E05] US Open, Vancouver, WA  
Round 4, August 7, 2012  
[Notes by Murlin Varner]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2  
Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.c4 dxc4 7.Qa4  
a6 8.Qxc4 b5 9.Qc2 Bb7 10.Bf4  
Bd6 11.Nbd2 Nbd7 12.Rfc1 Rc8  
13.Nb3 Be4 14.Qd2 Nd5 15.Ne5  
Bxg2 16.Kxg2 Bxe5 17.Bxe5 N5b6  
18.Bf4 Nc4 19.Qb4 Ndb6 20.Rc2 a5  
21.Qxb5 a4 22.Nd2 Qxd4 23.Rxc4  
Nxc4 24.Qxc4 Qxb2 25.Rb1 Qa3  
26.Rb4 c5 27.Rb7 1-0



photo credit: Allan Bogle

**Next Year's U.S. Open  
Madison, Wisconsin  
July 27 - August 4, 2013**

# National Chess Day - October 13, 2012

## Seattle, WA

### NATIONAL CHESS DAY AT THE PARK

Site: Occidental Park in Pioneer Square Seattle

Format: 5 round swiss

Time Control: G/15 +5 second delay

Reg. 10:00-10:45, October 13

Rounds: 11:00, 11:45, 1:00, 1:45, 2:30

Entry Fee: \$20.00

Prizes: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 1st U1800, U1600, U1400

No Memberships Required

Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner 8423 E, B St. Tacoma WA. 98445

(253)535-2536 ggarychess@aol.com

Or Adrienne Hall (206)684-7710 Adrienne.

Caver-Hall@seattle.gov

## Spokane, WA

### UNCLE'S GAMES AT THE VALLEY MALL

Players from all over the United States will celebrate National Chess Day on October 13, and the Spokane Chess Club will do so at the Valley Mall. Uncle's Games has provided space to play chess that day from 10 am to 9 pm.

The following events are scheduled:

10 am -- G/30 tourney (USCF rated, \$8 entry fee);

1:30 pm -- G/15 tourney (USCF rated, \$8 EF);

3:30 -- Blitz tourney (G/5) open to all.

At 6:00 pm Tim Moroney will give a simul; the entry fee is \$1 to play. There also will be drawings for prizes in addition to prizes for the tourneys.

If you are interested in helping out, contact Dave Griffin, dbgrffn@hotmail.com. Visitors who want to drop in and play are also welcome

## Portland, OR

### PCC FALL OPEN

The Portland Chess Club will celebrate National Chess day this year by hosting the annual Fall Open on Oct 13-14, an event that has been traditionally held in September.

Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR.

USCF-rated, two-day tournament played in two sections, has five rounds

Time Control: 40/90 SD/30.

Entry Fee: \$35; PCC members get \$10 discount.

Memberships: USCF and OCF/WCF/OSA

Registration: opens at 9:00am on Saturday.

For further details, see back cover or go to the club's web site: [www.pdxchess.org](http://www.pdxchess.org)

## Boise, ID

### LIBRARY! PLAZA BUSINESS MALL 24 HOUR CHESS CELEBRATION

Location: 3085 N. Cole Rd., Boise, ID 83704

Format: 8 Rounds, Modified Swiss System, 1/2 point byes permitted in every round with 1 hr. notice.

Entry Fee: \$12. Free to players in their First or 2nd USCF-rated tournament. No State memberships req. Subscriptions to NWC through ICA available.

Registration: At the site throughout the day Oct 13. Sleeping bags, blankets and pillows allowed.

Time Control: G/45 + 30 secs digital; G/60 analog.  
Rounds: 12:01 AM, 3 AM, 6 AM, 9 AM, 12 NOON, 3 PM, 6 PM and 9 PM.

Lots of prizes and activities. For more info, go to: [www.idahochessassociation.org](http://www.idahochessassociation.org)



# WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION



## Washington Class Championships A NW Grand Prix Event November 23-25, 2012

### Washington Class Championships Entry Fees and Prize Fund \$7,000 based on 170 players

Entry fees listed as: Postmarked by  
Oct 26 / By Nov 16 / At site

**Master (2200+)** EF \$85/\$95/\$105  
Prizes \$500, \$350, \$200, U2300 \$100, \$75

**Expert (2000-2199)** EF \$80/\$90/\$100  
Prizes \$400, \$275, \$175, U2100 \$100, \$75

**Class A (1800-1999)** EF \$75/\$85/\$95  
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$150, U1900 \$100, \$75

**Class B (1600-1799)** EF \$75/\$85/\$95  
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$150, U1700 \$100, \$75

**Class C (1400-1599)** EF \$75/\$85/\$95  
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$150, U1500 \$100, \$75

**Class D (1200-1399)** EF \$75/\$85/\$95  
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$150, U1300 \$100, \$75

**Class E (1000-1199)** EF \$75/\$85/\$95  
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$150, U1100 \$100, \$75

**Under 1000/Unrated** EF \$70/\$80/\$90  
Prizes \$200, \$150, \$125, U800 \$75,  
Unrated \$75

Advance entries must be received by Nov. 16. Reentry 1/2 of your entry fee. Rated players add \$25 to play up one class only (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, 2012.**

### Entries/Information:

Send entries to: Dan Mathews,  
WCF Tournament Coordinator  
930 NE High Street, Unit F412  
Issaquah, WA 98029-7423  
Phone: (425) 218-7529

E-mail: [dthmathews@aol.com](mailto:dthmathews@aol.com)

Make checks payable to  
Washington Chess Federation.

### Redmond Marriott Town Center

7401 164th Avenue NE, Redmond, WA 98052, phone (425) 498-4000

Online Registration at [www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration](http://www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration)  
Pay by credit/debit or PayPal.

**Format:** Eight 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 (except G/60 games if applicable). USCF November rating supplement will be used. Higher of USCF or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. 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 Under 1000/Unrated section.

**Registration:** Friday 8:30-9:30 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 8:30-9:30 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: 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM, Sat 10:30 AM and 6:00 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 6:00 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. Dr. Ralph Hall Memorial NW Grand Prix event. Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 10. 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: [www.marriott.com/seamc](http://www.marriott.com/seamc). Group code WACWACA. The cut-off date for reservations at the discount is November 11, 2012.

**Side Event: Washington Class Blitz Championship:** Friday 11/23 at 8:15 PM. Format: 5 round Double Swiss in one section. Registration: 7:30-8:00 PM. Rounds: 8:15, 8:45, 9:15, 9:45 and 10:15 PM. TC: G/5 (no delay). EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400 based on 20 entries. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. Miscellaneous: USCF Quick rated. WCF/OCF membership required.

**Washington Class Scholastic (Nov 23):** 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](mailto:DavidCHendricks@comcast.net).

Rev. 9/20/2012

# Washington Chess News

by Russell "Rusty" Miller

Unfortunately, the Taste of the Harvest Open scheduled for September 15-16 in Wenatchee was cancelled due to smoke from the numerous forest fires in the area. It has been tentatively rescheduled for November 10-11. See page 46 for further information.

Congratulations to Peter Lessler, a recent graduate of Lakeside School in Seattle, who became the Northwest's newest master on Saturday, Aug. 18. He scored 4.5/9 at the 2nd Metropolitan International in Los Angeles, CA and gained 22 points to boost his rating to 2203! He beat NM Kesav Viswanadha (2219), NM Tommy He (2223) and IM Jack Peters (2444) along the way.

## National Chess Day in Seattle and Spokane

Chess fans all over the United States will celebrate National Chess Day on October 13, and the Spokane Chess Club will do so at the Valley Mall. Uncle's Games has provided space to play chess that day from 10 am to 9 pm. In Seattle, the site will be Occidental Park in Pioneer Square. See Page 24 for details of both events.

## Tacoma Chess Club

The 49th Annual Puget Sound Open was held at the Tacoma Chess Club on Aug. 25. There were 15 players participating in this event. The winners were:

Top Half 1st—2nd Paul Bartron, H.G. Pitre & John Schwarz 3.5; Bottom Half 1st Daniel Reisinger 2.5, 2nd James Wang & Joe Davis \$10.00 each. TD was Gary Dorfner.

## US Chess League Results

In week 1, The Dallas Destiny, who present a strong roster year after year, kicked things off with an overwhelming win over the Seattle Sluggers 4-0. Leading Dallas was GM Christian Chirila, displaying some fine endgame play against FM Costin Cozianu:

**Chirila-Cozianu:** 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.e3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Be2 O-O 6.O-O d6 7.Nc3 Nbd7 8.b4 a6 9.a4 Re8 10.Ba3 e5 11.b5 exd4 12.exd4 axb5 13.axb5 c5 14.Re1 b6 15.Bb2 Bb7 16.Rxa8 Bxa8 17.d5 Bb7 18.h3 h6 19.Qd2 Nf8 20.Bd3 Rxe1+ 21.Nxe1 Bc8 22.Nc2 Ne8 23.Ne3 h5 24.Ne2 Be5 25.f4 Bxb2 26.Qxb2 Qe7 27.Nf1 Ng7 28.Neg3 Nh7 29.Qa1 Nf6 30.Qa8 Qb7 31.Qxb7 Bxb7 32.Nd2 Bc8 33.Nge4 Nxe4 34.Nxe4 Ne8 35.Nc3 Nc7 36.Na4 Na8 37.Kf2 Kg7 38.Kf3 Kf6 39.g4 hxg4+ 40.hxg4 Kg7 41.f5 gxf5 42.Bxf5 Bxf5 43.gxf5 f6 44.Kg4 Kg8 45.Kh5 Kh7 46.Nc3 Nc7 47.Ne2 Ne8 48.Nf4 Ng7+ 49.Kg4 Kg8 50.Ne6 Kf7 51.Nc7 1-0

In Week 2, an exciting match between the New Jersey Knockouts and Seattle Sluggers, saw Fide Masters Cozianu and Mikhailuk of Seattle holding New Jersey GMs Boris Gulko and Joel Benjamin to a draw, and the match was decided by FM Curt Collyer's win over New Jersey's Vince Klemm.

**Klemm-Collyer:** 1.Nf3 b6 2.c4 Bb7 3.Qb3 g6 4.d4 Bg7 5.Nbd2 d6 6.e3 Nd7 7.Be2 e5 8.d5 Ne7 9.O-O O-O 10.Qc2 h6 11.b3 f5 12.Bb2 g5 13.Rfd1 Ng6 14.Ne1 Qe7 15.Nf1 Bc8 16.b4 Nf6 17.Rac1 a5 18.a3 Bd7 19.Ra1 Qe8 20.Rdc1 Ne7 21.f3 Kh8 22.Bc3 f4 23.bxa5 bxa5 24.e4 Ba4 25.Qd2 Qb8 26.Bd1 Be8 27.Nd3 Qa7+ 28.Qf2 Qa6 29.Be2 g4 30.Nd2 Bd7 31.Kh1 Qc8 32.c5 Qe8 33.Nc4 g3 34.hxg3 fxg3 35.Qxg3 Nh5 36.Qh2 Qg6 37.Be1 Rg8 38.Ra2 Raf8 39.cxd6 cxd6 40.Nxa5 Bf6 41.Rcc2 Bb5 42.Nc6 Bxd3 43.Nxe7 Bxe7 44.Bxd3 Bg5 45.Rc7 Be3 46.Rac2 Rf4 47.R2c3 Bd4 48.Rc2 Rff8 49.Rd7 Rb8



Paul Bartron, 2012 WA Adult Sr. Champion

photo credit: Gary Dorfner

50.Rc1 Rb2 51.Bc2 Qg5 52.Rb1  
Rxc2 53.Rbb7 Nf6 0-1

US Chess League, Week 3  
Monday, September 17th  
Sluggers-3 Arizona Scorpions-1

Standings after 3 Weeks:  
Western Division

Dallas	2.5 - 0.5
Seattle	2.0 - 1.0
St. Louis	1.5 - 1.5
Carolina	1.5 - 1.5
Arizona	1.5 - 1.5
San Francisco	1.5 - 1.5
Los Angeles	1.0 - 2.0
Miami	1.0 - 2.0

Eastern Division

New York	2.0 - 1.0
Manhattan	2.0 - 1.0
Connecticut	2.0 - 1.0
New Jersey	1.5 - 1.5
Philadelphia	1.5 - 1.5
Boston	1.0 - 2.0
Baltimore	1.0 - 2.0
New England	0.5 - 2.5

In Week 4, Baltimore takes on Seattle with the Kingfishers looking to turn their luck around after a tough sweep in Week 2 followed by an unfortunate mouseslip in Week 3. The

Sluggers, on the other hand, have already managed to turn their Week 1 sweep well around having won two straight and will surely look to continue that trend as they battle for first place in the West. Follow the action on: [www.uschessleague.com](http://www.uschessleague.com)

### Women's & Sr. Adult Champs

**The WA Women's Championship** was held at the Seattle Chess Club on 9/8. Only 4 players showed up. The winners were:

- 1st Chouchanik Airapetian 3.0,
- 2nd Sujatha Chalasani 2.0

**The WA Sr. Adult Championship** was held at the SCC on the same day as the Washington Women's tournament. There were 6 players in all. The winners were:

- 1st Paul Bartron 3.0,
- 2nd Mark Smith and Kristen Dietsch 2.5

TD for these events: Gary Dorfner.

### Yasser Seirawan unretires, but just for a month

(The following is based on an article dated Sept 12 by Johnny Buse in the *St. Louis Beacon*)

GM Yasser Seirawan, 52-year-old four-time U.S. Chess Champion, has authored a popular series of chess books, acted as a conflict mediator and served as an all-around advocate for the sport. He also has been serving as the acting resident Grandmaster at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis since Sept. 3, following former GM-in-residence Ben Finegold's resignation in mid-August. Seirawan serves as an instructor for the club's members, as well as head coach for the Lindenwood University Chess Team, which is underway with its first season. According to Seirawan, the position is temporary — he expects to return to his home in Netherlands in October, with a full-time replacement in place at the club.

"They want me to take a permanent position, but my wife and I -- my wife is Dutch -- have been living in Amsterdam since 2006. We have a very easy life, a very comfortable, enjoyable life in Amsterdam. Coming to St. Louis in a permanent position I know is going to involve work."

"I look at the staff members here, and all the things they're doing, and I know they're working very hard and moving chess forward at such a fast pitched pace. I would be challenged to keep up with them."

"Chess is a sport, but also an art, that can teach you a lot of things. The most important thing that I think impacts a child is critical thinking. See, I can give you a series of facts, that will make you knowledgeable — that will not necessarily make you clever or wise. But being able to critically assess those facts, and then turn that knowledge into a concrete plan of action; that's critical thinking."

"Chess is such a powerful tool in that



**Chouchanik Airapetian, WA Women's Champ** photo credit: Gary Dorfner

it forces people to think,” Yasser continued. “For the better part of the last 60 years, America’s social life has been dominated by the TV. Today, and maybe for the first time in the last 60, 70 years, the actual number of minutes and hours that Americans are watching TV has fallen, and what has it been replaced by? The Internet.”

“The very sad truth for us chess Grandmasters is that television and chess has not been a good marriage — it has not even been a good relationship. Because chess was not on TV, chess has been invisible, full stop and end of story. The only time it ever becomes visible is when we have something like a Bobby Fischer or Hikaru Nakamura or some fantastically marvelous chess Grandmaster doing marvelous things.”

“Conversely, the Internet is a perfect medium for chess. Nakamura and Kramnik just played a five-hour game. You try to stick that five hours on TV, and the producers will have nightmares. The director, the cameramen will be sleeping. It’s terrible! You put that game on a screen and then go happily typing, doing whatever you want, and then pull it up.

“They made a few moves, how are they doing? Oh! Yasser says Hikaru’s winning...”

“So the Internet is a perfect medium for chess. It records the games, you can see the people’s faces, there are webcams, there are people commenting in real time, there are chess instructionals, puzzles, sites you can go for free information, for calendar clearinghouses, when’s the next tournament, wherever you happen to be? Just go to the Internet and immediately find out.”

“With TV, we had no chance. With the Internet, not only do we have a chance: God created the Internet for chess players.”

Sincere thanks to Yasser Seirawan, Johnny Buse and the *St. Louis Beacon* for the update and wonderful insights.

### **Emerald City Open**

The Seattle Chess Club was the site of the Emerald City Open on June 22-24. The event was directed by Fred Kleist of Seattle. The Open Section had 15 players and a first place tie at 4-1 between Roland Feng of Seattle and Karnik Ramachandran of Texas. Catherine Smith of Mill Creek, Wash. topped the reserve section with 4.5-.5. 23 players played in this section. Thanks to Carol and Fred Kleist for providing the story, together with photos and games from the Emerald City Open, that follows.

### **David Rupel in Russia**

David Rupel reports that he had an exact replication of his performance in February’s WA Premier -- 3 wins, 3 losses, 3 draws for a score of 4.5-4.5. But in St. Petersburg, Russia, he had a performance rating of 2160 FIDE.

David’s e-mail message explained, “I was quite taken with St. Petersburg, so much so that I decided to extend my stay and forego plans to visit Moscow this time. I spent a couple of days in Berlin before flying to Tenerife in the Canaries. No rain nor cold here! I consider my best effort my win in the eighth round. In fact, I was in contention for the senior (over 60) prize until a “senior moment” in the last round cost me any chance of that.”

David will submit a write-up for *Northwest Chess* that will appear in the November issue. Until then, here are a couple of his early round wins from the annual Botvinnik Memorial tournament in St. Petersburg.

### **Veelenturf, W - Rupel, D**

[B27] Botvinnik Memorial 2012 St. Petersburg, Russia, Aug 27, .2012

1.e4 c5 2.c3 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Qc2 Nc6 5.d3 d5 6.exd5 Qxd5 7.Be2 Nf6 8.0-0 b6 9.Ne1 Bb7 10.Bf4 e5 11.Bf3 Qe6 12.Bg3 0-0 13.Nd2 Rfd8 14.Rd1 Qxa2 15.Nb3 c4 16.dxc4 Rxd1 17.Bxd1 Na5 18.Nxa5 Qxa5 19.Bf3 e4 20.Be2 Qc5 21.Bf4 Nd7 22.Qa4 Bc6 23.Qa2 Qf5 24.Bg3 a5 25.Nc2 Bb7 26.Ne3 Qc5 27.Rd1 Ne5 28.Qb1 a4 29.Nd5 f5 30.Bf4 Bxd5 31.Rxd5 Qe7 32.Bxe5 Bxe5 33.Qd1 Ra7 34.Rd8+ Kg7 35.Qd5 Bf6 36.Rd6 a3 37.bxa3 Bxc3 38.Qe6 Qxe6 39.Rxe6 Bd4 40.g3 Rxa3 41.Rd6 Bc5 42.Rd1 Ra2 43.Kf1 g5 44.Rb1 f4 45.gxf4 gxf4 46.Bg4 Rxf2+ 0-1

### **Kharmunova(2219) - Rupel,D(2100)**

[D31] Botvinnik Memorial 2012 St. Petersburg, Russia, Aug 29, 2012

1.d4 c6 2.c4 d5 3.Nc3 e6 4.Nf3 f5 5.g3 Nf6 6.Bg2 Nbd7 7.0-0 Bd6 8.Qc2 Ne4 9.Nxe4 dxe4 10.Ng5 Nf6 11.f3 h6 12.Nh3 exf3 13.Bxf3 e5 14.c5 e4 15.cxd6 exf3 16.Bf4 Nd5 17.exf3 Nxf4 18.Rfe1+ Ne6 19.Nf4 Qf6 20.Qb3 Kf7 21.Rxe6 Bxe6 22.Qxb7+ Bd7 23.Qxd7+ Kg8 24.Re1 Rd8 25.Re8+ Kh7 26.Rxh8+ Kxh8 27.Qxc6 Qxd4+ 28.Kg2 Qxd6 29.Qb5 Qd2+ 30.Kh3 Qd7 31.Qe5 Qf7 32.a4 Kh7 33.g4 g5 34.Ne6 fxe4+ 35.Kxe4 Rc8 36.Qf5+ Qxf5+ 37.Kxf5 Rb8 38.Ke5 Rxb2 39.Kd5 Rxh2 40.Kc5 Rb2 41.a5 Kg6 42.Nc7 h5 0-1

# 11-year-old Roland Feng climbs to 2199 at Emerald City Open

## by Carol Kleist

The Seattle Chess Club's Emerald City Open, June 22-24, was composed of a comfortable, friendly group of 37 players. An unusually high percentage, about half, were advanced elementary and middle school students. Our adults did not flinch, however, but played bravely with determination versus their miniature opponents. Yes, we all know by now that the age distribution of chess players has changed remarkably over the past 20 years, yet we adults still find it incredible that the youngsters play so well.

So, at the start of the final round, TD Fred Kleist has just directed the players to start their clocks, and the room has the typical hushed, expectant, totally quiet atmosphere of serious chess. What happened to the noisy mob of gleefully shouting bug-house players pounding the clocks in the skittles room a few minutes ago? A mysterious metamorphosis.

11-year-old soon to be chess master Roland Feng, leading the open section with 3 1/2 points, is paired on Board 1 with Samuel He who has 3. The other runner up, Karthik Ramachandran, visiting from the University of Texas at Dallas, also with 3 points, is paired with Daniel He. Roland and Karthik have already played each other with a draw in rd. 3.

In the reserve section Catherine Smith, our sole adult representative among the leaders, is on Board 1 with 3 1/2. On bd. 2, also with 3 1/2, is a newcomer to open chess, Anthony He, age 7. Catherine and Anthony have drawn in Rd. 3. How will it all end?

A few hours later we know the answers. Roland Fang and Samuel He have a short draw, and Karthik wins his game versus Daniel He, so Roland and Karthik share 1st and 2nd place in the tournament. Gary Edwards, the adult prize winner in the Open section, and Toshihiro Nagase share the U1950 prize.

**He, D (2031) - Feng, R (2198)**  
 [A08] Emerald City Open,  
 Seattle, WA, June 24, 2012  
 [Notes by Roland Feng]

It was the 4th round of the Emerald City Open. I was paired against fellow expert Daniel He, rated 2031 and is someone I feel like I've played a *gazillion* times.

**1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.Ngf3 Nf6 5.g3 Nc6 6.Bg2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.e5 Nd7 9.Re1 Re8 10.Nf1 f6!?**

This is an idea I have been playing frequently on ICC in blitz games, and the point is that I will try to take advantage of white's awkward development and quickly build and stabilize a big center.

**11.Bf4?**

This cannot be good. Giving up the Bishop pair in an open game?

**11...Ndx5 12.Nxe5 fxe5 13.Bxe5 Nxe5 14.Rxe5 Bf6 15.Re2 Bxb2 16.Rb1 Bc3**

If I had gone Bf6 immediately, he could

have played c4. However, after I provoked him into playing Rb3, he cannot play c4 due to tricks on the d-file that involve his undefended queen.

**17.Rb3**



**17...Bf6**

This is a bad move. My coach GM Varuzhuan Akobian suggested 17...Bd4, and I agree.

**18.Ne3 Bd4**

What's this? Moving the bishop five



Seattle CC, site of the 2012 Emerald City Open  
 photo credit: Carol Kleist assisted by Arvind Dhingra

times in a row? I was worried about c4 and I played this so I could take on e3 if he played c4, and then when he recaptures, take on c4 and utilize the pinned d3 pawn. Also, 18...b6 trying to play Bd7 doesn't work due to 19.c4! (Note that 19.Nxd5 doesn't work, see if you can understand why!)

**19.Qe1 Bd7**

NOT a good move! This lets him restore material equality. Better was 19... Rf8, trying to hold onto my pawn.

**20.Rxb7 Bc6 21.Rb1 Qg5 22.c4 Bf6**

Oh dear... more bishop moves. This loses a pawn to Nxd5, but neither of us had seen the idea yet.

**23.Bf3 Rad8**



**24.Nxd5!**

That's a bomb! I can't take because, for example, if 24...exd5 25.Bxd5+! and my poor bishop is overloaded.

**24...Bd4**

If I play 24...e5 trying to hold onto the pawn, after Nxf6+ and Bxc6 trading off the pieces, I am clearly lost after 27.Re4.

**25.Rxe6 Bd7**

Inviting him to trade rooks and give me the open "f"-file, but if he defends correctly, shouldn't amount to anything.



**26.Ne7+?**

And he falls into my nicely concealed trap! His thought was that after I move my king, that he could go 27.h4 trapping my queen. However, if he does that, his g-pawn is pretty much undefended because of the pin on the f-pawn, and he would just end up losing lots of material.

**26...Kf8 27.Re4**

Realizing his mistake, he tries to do some damage control, but he is already lost.

**27...Rxe7 28.Qa5**

A nice little idea by him, hoping I will move my d8 rook so he can utilize the pin on the c5 pawn and take my bishop on d4.

**28...Rxe4**

Unfortunately, it doesn't work due to this move...

**29.Bxe4 Qf6 30.Kh1 Bc6**

This is not a blunder. If he takes on

c6 and I take back, He cannot take my undefended rook on d8 because after I take back on c6, it's check!



**31.f4 Re8**

Threatening 32...Rxe4.

**32.Re1 Bxe4+ 33.Rxe4 Qc6**

Attacking the pinned piece.

**34.Qe1 Rb8**

Trying to bring my rook to the 2nd rank and put my queen on b7 so I can pin his queen with Rb1.

**35.Kg2 Rb2+ 36.Kh3?**



**36...Qh6+ 37.Kg4 Qg6+ 38.Kf3 Qh5+ 39.g4 Qh3+ 40.Qg3 Rf2# 0-1**

In the reserve section, Anthony He and Brendan Zhang have an exciting draw of 70 moves, with Brendan achieving a rook and knight perpetual. So Catherine Smith, winning her game against Jothi Ramesh, emerges as clear first, upholding the honor of adult chess players. Anthony takes 2nd. Olga Cherepakhin, going into 7th grade wins the U 1450 prize. In addition to the self-annotated games from the winners we have included a game of SCC President August Piper's with an entertaining knight sacrifice and a successful *cheapo* by Jothi Ramesh.



**Ramesh, J (1760)-Zhang, D (1505)**  
 [A10] Emerald City Open,  
 Seattle, WA, June 24, 2012  
 Position after 27...Kh7  
 (White to move)

**28.Rd5!?**

Inviting Black's Bishop to fork his Rooks, which the Bishop promptly does. Jothi sets the trap and it works, but his comment after the game was "I was playing Hope Chess, and you're not supposed to play Hope Chess."

**28...Be4 29.Rg3 Bxd5? 30.Qxh6+ 1-0**

30...Kxh6 31.Rh3#; 30...Kg8 Qh8#.

**Liou, B (1563) - Piper, A (1500)**  
 [B23] Emerald City Open,  
 Seattle, WA, June 22, 2012

**1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 a6 3.g3 b5 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.d3 d6 6.f4 Nd7 7.Nf3 e6 8.0-0 Qc7 9.Be3 Be7 10.Qd2 Bf6 11.Rab1 h5 12.Ng5 Nh6 13.h3 Bd4 14.Bxd4 ?! 14...cxd4 15.Ne2 e5 16.Rbc1 Qb6 17.Kh2 b4 18.Qe1 Rc8 19.Qf2 Nf6 20.Kg1 0-0 21.c3 b3 22.a3? 22.Nhg4**

I was watching the game here, and although I had no gold coins to show-er the board with, I was highly impressed by this exciting, long-range knight sacrifice, and wanted to share it with you.

**23.hxg4 Nxg4 24.Qe1 dxc3+ 25.Kh1 cxb2 26.Rc3 Ne3 27.Qf2 Rc6 28.Rxc6 Bxc6 29.Rb1 Qc5 30.Rxb2 Qxa3 31.Rb1 Ng4 32.Qb6 Bb5 33.Nc3 Qb4 34.Nxb5 axb5 35.Bf1 Qd2 36.Qg1 b2 37.Qg2 Nf2+ 38.Kg1 Qc2 39.Re1 Qc1 40.Rxc1 bxc1Q 41.Qxf2 b4 42.Qa2 Qc3 43.Kh1 b3 44.Qa3 Qc2 45.Qa4 Qa2 46.Qc4 Qb1 47.Kg1 b2 48.Qb3 Qc1 49.Qb7 0-1**

**Cherepakhin, O - Osslander, G**  
 [C01] [B23] Emerald City Open,  
 Seattle, WA, June 24, 2012

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Bd3 Nf6 5.c3 Nc6 6.Ne2 Bd6 7.h3 Be6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 g5 10.Bg3 Qd7 11.Nd2 0-0-0 12.Qc2 Rde8 13.0-0-0 Nh5 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.Nf3 Re7 16.Rhe1 Rhe8 17.Bb5 Nf4 18.Nxf4 Qxf4+ 19.Qd2 Qd6 20.Ne5 f6 21.Nxc6 bxc6 22.Ba6+ Kb8 23.Qc2 Bc8 24.Rxe7 Qxe7 25.Bxc8 Kxc8 26.Qf5+ Kb7 27.Qf3 Qd6 28.Kd2 Re4 29.Re1 Qe6 30.Qd1 Rxe1 31.Qxe1 Qxe1+?!**

Black should not go into a pawn endgame where he has no winning

chances, and White's pawn structure is better.

**32.Kxe1 Kb6 33.Kd2 c5 34.Kd3 c4+ 35.Ke3 f5 36.f4 c5 37.g3 a5 38.fxg5 hxg5 39.h4 cxd4+ 40.Kxd4 f4 41.hxg5 fxg3 42.Ke3 Kc5 43.g6 g2 44.Kf2 d4 45.cxd4+ Kxd4 46.g7 c3 47.bxc3+ Kxc3 48.g8Q Kb2 49.Qb3+ Ka1 50.Kxg2 a4 51.Qxa4 Kb2 52.Qc6 1-0**

After his tie for 1st in the SCC Emerald City, Roland Feng, going into 6th grade, needed only one rating point to become a USCF Master. He returned to the club the following week and achieved his master status.

**Feng, R (2199) - Grijalva, R (2032)**  
 [D14] Seattle CC "Close Ratings"  
 Seattle, WA, June 29, 2012  
 [Notes by Roland Feng]

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bf4 Bf5 7.e3 e6 8.Qb3 Qb6 9.Qxb6 axb6 10.Bb5 Nd7 11.Ne5 Bb4 12.Ke2 Bxc3 13.bxc3 f6 14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.Bxc6 Ra3! 16.Bd6! Rxc3 17.Rhc1 Bd3+ 18.Kd2 Rxc1 19.Rxc1 Bc4 20.a4 Kf7 21.Bxd7 Rd8 22.Bb5 Rxd6 23.Bxc4 dxc4 24.Rxc4 e5 25.Kc3 exd4+ 26.Rxd4 Rc6+ 27.Kb3 Rc1 28.Rd2 Ke6 29.e4 g5 30.f3 h5 31.h3 g4!? 32.hxg4 hxg4 33.fxg4 Ke5 34.g5 fxg5 35.Rd5+ Kf4 36.Rf5+? Kg4 37.Rd5 Rb1+ 38.Kc3 Rc1+ 39.Kd3? Rd1+? 40.Kc4 Rc1+ 41.Kb5 Rb1+ 42.Kc6 Rb4 43.e5 Kf5 44.Kd6 Rxa4 45.e6+ Kf6 46.Rd2! 1-0**

The winning move. He could not stop the e7/Rf2+ idea. If he tried to shield his king from checks with 46...Rf4, he would lose to e7, and if he tried to stop the pawn with Re4, he would lose after Rf2+. His rook is overloaded. Realizing this, Richard resigned and I surpassed 2200.

# Idaho Chess News

by Jeffrey Roland

## Adam Porth rejoins the ICA Board of Directors

August is always a quiet chess month in Idaho because we purposely do nothing so as to encourage going to the U.S. Open. So we had no events in August. Except Adam Porth re-joining the Board!

ICA has been without a Secretary/Treasurer since April 16, 2012 when Adam Porth resigned. We were unable to find a suitable replacement in the almost five months that followed.

On September 7, 2012, Adam Porth officially re-joined the ICA Board as Secretary/Treasurer to complete the term he was elected to in 2011. Adam is a valuable asset to the ICA and his return is greatly appreciated.

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**Trustee for Tournament Organization** – George Lundy, III  
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**Trustee for Tournament Organization** – Patrick Abernathy  
(aberp@at@gmail.com)

## National Chess Day in Boise

Julie Nahlen of Master's Academy, based in Boise, responded positively to our challenge in last month's Northwest Chess to sponsor activities on National Chess Day, October 13, 2012.

Called the "LIBRARY! PLAZA BUSINESS MALL 24 HOUR CHESS CELEBRATION," the event will be held at 3085 N. Cole Rd., Boise, ID 83704 beginning at Midnight (!) and lasting 24 hours. It is not necessary for anyone to be there the whole 24 hours, except maybe the TDs Frank Niro and Jeff Roland, but there will be quiet space provided where players and family members can bring sleeping bags, blankets, pillows and catch a snooze between rounds.

The format will be eight (8) rounds using modified Swiss pairing system (meaning that players can play each other more than once, but not with the same color). 1/2 point byes are permitted in every round with at least one hour notice. That way, players can get as many as eight rated games, or as little as one game, and still be a participant with a chance for generous door prizes and class prizes.

The entry fee is \$12 (\$6 for re-entries), but the festivities are free to players in their First or 2nd USCF rated tournament. No State memberships are required, but Subscriptions to *Northwest Chess*

through the ICA will be available. One time USCF tournament memberships will be provided free of charge to new players. Veteran players will be required to have a current USCF membership.

There will be no advance registration. Entries will be taken at the site throughout the day of Oct 13 and round by round status reports will be posted on the ICA web site. Once again, sleeping bags, blankets and pillows allowed and a few of the chess coaches and parents are expected to be on hand as volunteers and chaperones as needed.

Time Control for the chess games is Game in 45 minutes plus an increment of 30 seconds per move for those utilizing digital clocks and Game in 60 minutes for players with traditional analog time keepers.

Rounds: 12:01 AM (or as soon as enough players are registered to start), 3:00 AM, 6:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 12 NOON, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM and 9:00 PM.

Lots of prizes and activities should result in a memorable day for the players. It is hoped that the planned publicity will be good for the growth

## Julie Nahlen, Program Director

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of chess in the area. That's the point, of course!

Please join in as a player, volunteer or cheerleader. Even more important is that you please bring a friend (or friends), especially friends that have not participated in organized chess events previously. For more info, go to: [www.idahocheessassociation.org](http://www.idahocheessassociation.org).

### Luke Harmon-Vellotti over 2400

13-yr-old Luke Harmon-Vellotti has been Idaho's highest rated player since catching Michael Gold (2310) for that honor last October and finally passing him this past February. Now, as a result of his outstanding performances at the World Open in Philadelphia in July and the Metropolitan International in Los Angeles in August, Luke has climbed past the 2400 threshold and is officially a Senior Master with a USCF rating of 2411.

Additionally, Luke earned his second International Master norm at the World Open with performances like this marathon victory over IM Qingnan Liu of China and his fine win over GMs Alejandro Ramirez.

**White: Liu, Qingnan**

**Black: Harmon-Vellotti, Luke**  
World Open, Philadelphia 2012

1.e4 e6 2.Qe2 c5 3.g3 Nc6 4.Nf3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.O-O Nge7 7.c3 O-O 8.d3 d6 9.Rd1 b6 10.d4 Bb7 11.Na3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Rc8 13.Bf4 Qd7 14.h4 f5 15.d5 exd5 16.exd5 Nb4 17.Qe6+ Qxe6 18.dxe6 Bxb2 19.Bxd6 Ned5 20.Bxf8 Kxf8 21.Nb5 Bxa1 22.Rxa1 Ke7 23.Nbd4 Nf6 24.Rd1 Nxa2 25.h5 Bxf3 26.Bxf3 Nxh5 27.Kg2 Rc1 28.Nc6+ Kxe6 29.Nd8+ Ke7 30.Nc6+ Ke6 31.Nd8+ Ke7 32.Nc6+ Kf6 33.Rd7 a5 34.Rd6+

Kg7 35.Rd7+ Kf6 36.Rd6+ Kg7 37.Rd7+ Kh6 38.Ne7 Nf6 39.Rd6 Kg7 40.Rxb6 Nb4 41.Nc6 Nxc6 42.Bxc6 Ng4 43.Bf3 Ne5 44.Rb7+ Kh6 45.Be2 Rc2 46.Kf1 Rc1+ 47.Kg2 Rc2 48.Kf1 a4 49.Ra7 Ra2 50.Ra5 Nc6 51.Ra6 Nb4 52.Ra7 a3 53.Ra4 Nd5 54.Ra5 Nf6 55.Bf3 Ne4 56.Bxe4 fxe4 57.g4 Kg7 58.Ra4 Ra1+ 59.Kg2 a2 60.g5 Kf7 61.Ra6 Ke7 62.Kh2 Kd7 63.Kg2 Kc7 64.Kh2 Kb7 65.Ra3 Kb6 66.Kg2 Kc5 67.Ra7 Kd4 68.Ra5 Kc4 69.Ra7 e3 70.fxe3 Kd3 71.Ra3+ Ke4 72.Kh2 Kf3 73.e4+ Kxe4 74.Kg2 Kf4 75.Ra5 Kg4 76.Kh2 Rf1 77.Rxa2 Kxg5 78.Kg2 Rf5 79.Kg3 h5 80.Ra4 h4+ 81.Kg2 Rf4 82.Ra6 Kh5 83.Kh3 g5 84.Ra8 Rf3+ 85.Kg2 Kg4 86.Rg8 h3+ 87.Kh2 Rf2+ 88.Kg1 Ra2 89.Rg7 Kh4 90.Rb7 g4 91.Rb4 Re2 92.Ra4 Kg3 93.Ra3+ Kf4 94.Ra8 Kf3 95.Rf8+ Kg3 96.Rf1 Ra2 97.Kh1 Ra4 98.Rb1 Kh4 99.Rc1 g3 100. Rb1 h2 0-1

**White: Harmon-Vellotti, Luke**  
**Black: Ramirez, Alejandro**  
World Open, Philadelphia 2012

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.e4 e5 5.Be3 exd4 6.Bxd4 Nf6 7.f3 Nc6 8.Be3 O-O 9.Nge2 Ne5 10.Nd4 a6 11.Be2 c5 12.Nc2 Be6 13.b3 Ne8 14.Qd2 Qa5 15.Nd5 Qxd2+ 16.Bxd2 b5 17.O-O Rb8 18.Rab1 f5 19.Nce3 fxe4 20.fxe4 Nf6 21.Nc7 Bc8 22.cxb5 Nxe4 23.Rxf8+ Bxf8 24.bxa6 Nxd2 25.a7 Ra8 26.Nxa6 Nxb1 27.Nb6 Bb7 28.Ba6 Nc6



**U.S. Over-75 Champion Dan E. Mayers of Sun Valley**  
photo credit: Russell "Rusty" Miller

36.Ngf6+ Ke6 37.Ne4 Be5 38.g3 Kd7 39.Nf4 Nc6 40.Bxc6+ Kxc6 41.Nxg6 Bd4 42.Nf4 d5 43.Nd2 h4 44.gxh4 Be5 45.Ng6 Bxh2 46.h5 Bc7 47.h6 Bd8 48.Ne5+ Kc7 49.Ng4 1-0



**13-year-old SM Luke Harmon-Vellotti of Boise**  
photo credit: USCF Chess Life Online

Luke's performance at the 2012 World Open wasn't the first time he has toppled a Grandmaster.

**White: De Firmian, Nick**  
**Black: Harmon-Vellotti, Luke**  
Philadelphia Open, 2011

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Nf3 Nbc6 8.Be2 Qa5 9.Bd2 Bd7 10.O-O c4 11.Ng5 h6 12.Nh3 O-O-O 13.Nf4 f6 14.exf6 gxf6 15.Nh5 Rdf8 16.Bg4 Qc7 17.Qf3 Ng6 18.Rfe1 f5 19.Bh3 e5 20.Qxd5 Nce7 21.Qf3 e4 22.Qg3 f4 23.Bxd7+ Qxd7 24.Qh3 Qxh3 25.gxh3 Rhg8 26.Rxe4 Rf5 27.Ng3 f3 28.hxg3 h5 29.Rae1 Kd7 30.Rb1 b6 31.a4 h4 32.g4 Rf3 33.a5 Nd5 34.axb6 axb6 35.Ra1 Ngf4 36.Re5 Kd6 37.Bxf4 Nxf4 38.Rb1 Rxh3 39.g5 Ne2+ 40.Kg2 Nf4+ 41.Kg1 Kc6 42.Rf5 Rf3 43.Rf6+ Kc7 44.Rfxb6 R3g5+ 45.Kf1 Rh3 46.Ke1 Rg1+ 47.Kd2 Rxb1 48.Rxb1 Rf3 49.Rb4 h3 50.Rxc4+ Kd7 51.Ra4 Rxf2+ 52.Ke3 Rf1 53.Ra7+ Ke6 54.Rh7 Kf5 55.c4 Kg6 56.Rh8 Kg7 57.Rxh3 Nxh3 58.c5 Ng5 59.d5 Kf6 60.c6 Ke5 61.c4 Rf3+ 0-1

John Bryant should be a familiar name to those who followed our 2012 U.S. Open coverage last month. Bryant tied for first place with GMs Dmitry Gurevich and Manuel Leon Hoyos and lost an exciting Armageddon playoff for the title. At age 12, Luke had his way with Bryant too.

**White: Harmon-Vellotti, Luke**  
**Black: Bryant, John**  
Philadelphia Open, 2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.f3 Be6 9.Qd2 O-O 10.O-O-O Nbd7 11.g4 b5 12.h4 b4 13.Nd5 Bxd5 14.exd5 a5 15.Kb1 Nb6 16.Bxb6 Qxb6 17.Bd3 a4 18.Nc1 a3 19.b3 Qd4 20.c4 bxc3 21.Qc2 Qc5

22.Be4 Rfc8 23.Nd3 Qa5 24.Ne1 Rc5 25.Qd3 Rb8 26.Nc2 Rbb5 27.g5 Nxd5 28.Bxh7+ Kh8 29.Qf5 Ne3 30.Qxf7 Kxh7 31.Rc1 Nd5 32.g6+ Kh6 33.Qg8 Nf6 34.Qh8+ Kxg6 35.Rhg1+ Kf7 36.Rxg7+ Ke6 37.Re1 Qa4 38.Ka1 Qf4 39.Qa8 Qd2 40.Kb1 Rd5 41.Qc8+ 1-0

We will ask Luke, if possible, to annotate one or more of his games from Los Angeles.

### Idaho's National Chess Champ

By the way, can you identify Idaho's only currently reigning United States Chess Champion? It is Dan E. Mayers of Sun Valley who has, for the past several years, been the United States Senior Open Champion in the Over-75 category.

Dan is 90 years old, a life member of the USCF with a current rating of 1880 (2000 FIDE). He is a "super-veteran" in the eyes of his chess competitors, and a strong one at that. He was rated over 2000 as recently as 2002 when he drew with GM Arnold Denker in the World Chess Hall of Fame Over-80 tournament in Miami.

With failing eyesight, Dan is unable to drive and usually plays in the large events around the country where he can take public transportation. Re-

cently, he wrote a letter to the editor of *Northwest Chess* with these remarks: "I would be happy to participate in Idaho chess tournaments if someone will have the courtesy to collect me from my Sun Valley condo and drive me to the tournament and back again. I do not drive and cannot afford a taxi... I would be most appreciative of your kind assistance."

So, if you or anyone in your circle of chess friends would like to support our current national champion in his quest to continue playing chess, please send an e-mail with specifics concerning the tournament for which you may be able to help to: editor@northwestchess.com. We will gladly help make the arrangements.

### A Conversation with the Editor, Frank Niro – Part III (not!)

When I discussed the space requirements for this issue with the Editor, Frank Niro, he insisted that I include the news about Luke Harmon-Vellotti and the letter from Dan Mayers without waiting another month. He declared that, "if we need space then my interview will have to be the first thing to go." And so it is... Come back next month for the conclusion of the Conversation with the Editor. As a teaser, can you name the members of the 2004 U.S. Women's chess "Dream Team" pictured below?



# Oregon Chess News

by Frank Niro

## The Tim Tebow of chess to TTU

For those who aren't sure, Tim Tebow is a professional football player known for sharing his Christian faith with fans and in clinics, hospitals, market places, schools, and orphanages. And, like Tim Tebow, the reigning two-time Oregon Closed Chess Champion is not hesitant to acknowledge the strong religious beliefs and values that underpin his philosophy of chess as well as the way he goes about making life's decisions.

So, besides the Oregon Open, covered in the feature article beginning on page 4, the big news this month is Steven Breckenridge's decision to attend Texas Tech University beginning with fall classes. Before the recently completed U.S. Open in Vancouver, WA, this option wasn't even on his radar. Three weeks into his sudden relocation, I had the opportunity to chat with Steven on behalf of the *Northwest Chess* readers concerning the abrupt changes in his life. Below is a summary of what has happened in recent weeks, in Steven's own words...

*"After the U.S. Open, I was urged to talk with the new Director of the Chess program of Texas Tech, Al Lawrence, by our mutual friend, Frank Niro. Little did I know that a few weeks later I would be going to Texas to be part of their "A" team!"*

*"Mr. Lawrence talked to me about the possibility of a full chess scholarship, and asked me to follow up by sending him an e-mail. After a couple of days, he contacted me about joining in the fall and getting trained by a US Champion, GM Alex Onischuk. I will be playing on Board 3 behind two Grandmasters!"*

*"Since I would be leaving in a week and needed to get everything ready to go, I really didn't know how everything would work out. I prayed more and tried to calculate a lot and see all the steps that I would need to take. (And I found out that cleaning out my room and packing everything was a very tough task!) But with so much help from my mom - there was a lot of the paperwork - and details of where I could stay, how she would get me down there... I really thank God for her."*

*"It was amazing how everything fell into place, and just the right amount of time. I was able to have a going away party and got to see a lot of my good chess and church friends. I put on a nice blindfold simul with them."*

*"I left the weekend before classes started, and arrived on the 27th of August, right when classes started. I was able to register a couple days later for classes. That worked really well with my schedule and was an answer to prayer, with good teachers, and I really feel like I'm getting a good education! The transition was pretty crazy, but God has really provided..."*

*"I was able to stay with another guy from the chess team, Zach Haskin, and his roommate Josh, who are both part of a Christian fraternity I'm joining. Zach is the Chaplain and Josh, an officer. Josh is also on the tennis team and they're both great guys, teaching me more discipline as they really do a lot with work and school and other activities. I'm hoping to make more good friends..."*

*"So far I've been able to meet all the chess team members and play a few games with each top player and go over games with my coach. He left to play in a big tournament with average rating of 2700 FIDE. I feel like I'm getting better already, and hoping to improve more and be a great team member*

*and hard worker in school, and bring God glory."*

*"So, I want to thank everyone back home for the support, friendship, love and encouragement. I'll miss you guys, and hope to come back soon, possibly next year. May God bless you all."*

I first met Steven Breckenridge in February 2011 in my role as tournament director of the Oregon Closed Championship. Steven finished in a four-way tie for first Radu Roua, Brian Esler and Daniel Gay.

This year he won the tournament outright by a half point over Nick Raptis, despite losing his individual game to Raptis.

In his typically humble way, Steven asked that I share his loss first. Here it is with Steven's own notes.

**White: Raptis, N (2308)**

**Black: Breckenridge, S (2349)**

[E18] 2012 OR Closed

Rd. 8, Feb 19, 2012

[Notes by Steven Breckenridge]

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.0-0 Be7 6.Nc3 0-0 7.d4 Ne4 8.Nxe4 Bxe4 9.Ne5 Bxg2 10.Kxg2 d6**

10...Nc6 11.Nxc6 dxc6 is fairly equal  
12.e4 c5 13.d5 exd5 14.exd5 Re8

**11.Nf3 c5 12.d5 e5 13.e4 f5 14.exf5 Rxf5 15.Qd3 Qd7 16.Bd2 Na6 17.Ng1 Raf8 18.Rae1 Bg5 19.Bc3 Qa4?!**

Computationally it is a solid move; in principle, it's a poor move. Nick finds a great line to break through my king-

side, in consequence 19...b5 20.cxb5 Nc7 21.a4 Qf7 22.Nh3 Nxd5 is good.

#### 20.h4 Bh6 21.f4!

21.b3 doesn't work 21...Qxa2 22.Ra1 Rxf2+ 23.Kh3 Qc2! 24.Qxc2 Rxc2 25.Rxf8+ Kxf8 26.Bxe5 dxe5 27.Rxa6 Be3 28.Nf3 e4 29.Ng5 Bxg5 30.hxg5 e3

#### 21...Nb4

21...exf4? 22.g4 R5f7 23.g5±

#### 22.Bxb4 Qxb4 23.Nf3 g6 24.a3 Qa5 25.Re2

25.h5!± is winning 25...Rhx5 (25...R5f6 26.hxg6 hxg6 27.Rh1 Bg7 28.Nh4 g5 29.Nf3 gxf4 30.Ng5 Rf5 31.Ne6+-) 26.g4+-

#### 25...exf4 26.g4 R5f7 27.Re6 Bg7 28.Rf2

28.h5 Bxb2 29.hxg6 Rg7 30.Ng5 hxg6 31.Rxd6 Qc3 32.Qxc3 Bxc3 33.Ne6 Be5 34.Rc6 f3+ 35.Rxf3 Rxf3 36.Kxf3 Rd7 37.Ke4+-

#### 28...Rf6 29.Qe4 Qa4

29...Qa6 30.h5 Qc8 31.hxg6 Rxc6 32.Rxc6 hxg6 33.Qxc6 Rf6 34.Qh5 Rh6 35.Qg5 Qe8 36.Qf5 Rf6 37.Qd3

#### 30.Re7 b5 31.cxb5 Qxb5 32.Rxa7 Qb8 33.Re7 Qc8 34.Re6 Rxe6 35.dxe6 Re8 36.Re2 c4?

A very bad move, allowing Qd5 and every bad thing. Be5 is best, and equal. Qa6 or Re7 also are OK, and I can probably hold a draw. 36...Be5!, my idea for the move before, which I saw didn't work with Nxe5 Qxe6 Qc4, but now the rook would be pinned, and I should have thought longer before I played c4 37.Nxe5 Qxe6 38.Qxf4 (38.Nd7? f3+! (38...Qxg4+ 39.Kf1

Qh3+ 40.Qg2 Qxd7) 39.Kxf3 Qf7+ 40.Qf4 Qxf4+ 41.Kxf4 Rxe2; 38...dxe5 39.Qe4 Rb8=

#### 37.Qd5 Qc7 38.e7+ Kh8 39.Qe6 Qc6 40.h5 gxf4 41.gxf4 h6 42.Qf7 Be5 43.Kh2 Rb8 44.Qf8+ Kh7 45.Qf5+ Kh8 46.Nxe5 dxe5 47.Qxe5+ Kh7 48.Qxb8 Qf3 49.Qh8+ 1-0

A nice game by Nick.

Steven Breckenridge and Nick Raptis had the same score going into the last round. Breckenridge defeated Brian Esler for the title and Steven Deeth held Raptis to a draw.

In addition to his OR games, Steven submitted notes to his draw in the U.S. Open vs. GM Dmitry Gurevich. That game is included, along with his tough endgame victory over Mark Pinto, in our expanded U.S. Open coverage (see page 18).

I have been personally impressed by Steven's play, his respect for others, and the way he handles himself under pressure from the first time I met him. I made what might be considered by some as a big TD mistake when I intervened in his game in 2011 against Brian Esler. I felt that he was trying to blitz his opponent off the board in time pressure by moving instantly and then writing the score down for both players' moves on his opponent's time.

So I asked him to write his opponent's score down before moving since he had plenty of time remaining to do so.

The reality is that it was sudden death and his op-

ponent had less than five minutes remaining, so neither player was actually required to keep score. He was doing so merely to preserve the record. My instructions to him were wrong and I should have let the players continue undisturbed.

Nevertheless, Steven calmly and respectfully nodded and followed my instructions without a frown or an argument. His eventual loss in that game resulted in the four-way tie. A draw or win would've given him the title outright. Yet he did not complain to me, then or at anytime since. I have long ago apologized to both players, but I was struck by the fact that someone so young could be so mature handling a pressure situation that would have driven most of us bananas. This aspect of his personality will serve him well, no doubt, throughout his life.

His memorable queen sacrifice in the same tournament followed by mate in the middle of the board against Steven Deeth was selected the "Most Interesting Game" of the tournament. And Breckenridge's chess prowess has continued to increase steadily ever since.

Al Lawrence was a predecessor of mine as Executive Director of the United States Chess Federation. He has been involved with chess for many years and still writes frequent

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articles for *Chess Life*. I lived in Al's house in upstate New York in 2002-03 and it was natural, since both of our wives remained at home, that we would room together at this year's U.S. Open in Vancouver.

Al Lawrence succeeded Susan Polgar in July as the Director of the chess program at Texas Tech University after she famously moved the #1 team at Texas Tech to Webster University in St. Louis. T.T.U. announced the hiring of GM Alexander Onischuk as the coach and team trainer in August, effective when he returned from the Chess Olympiad in September.

So, in Vancouver, it was comfortable for me to try to help two friends simultaneously.

"You've got to see this kid Breckenridge's games," I said. "He has great potential, comes from a good family and may get over 2400 this tournament."

"Sure, I'll talk to him," he said. "The University has made a commitment to keep funding the chess program. So, we may have an opening for the right student."

As I recall, that was the entirety of our conversation concerning Steven.

I mentioned at the beginning of this article that Steven possesses a strong sense of faith and values. As I asked him more about it he requested that I print his chess philosophy, which is biblically based.

"It's who I am as a chess player, and also as a person."

### **My Chess Philosophy by Steven Breckenridge**

"Here are some things I've learned and grown in my understanding of what really matters when it comes to playing chess. I

*used to play only for pride, money, and glory for myself, but God has changed me."*

*"From what my dad has taught me growing up, and as I study scripture, I find it very important to write down the basis of my beliefs, when it comes to this important large area of my life, in how I'm to behave. And one day, as I was meditating on chess player's pride, I was inspired to write this, and find all the verses. It was a really great study. "*

*"1: Anyone can win a game with pride, but can you lose a game with humility and grace?*

*2: Anyone can lose a game with pride, but can you win a game with humility and grace?*

*3: Be humble always! With wisdom comes humility; Pride comes before a fall... a haughty spirit before destruction. (Proverbs 11:12, 16:18, 18:12, 29:23)*

*4: Bad company corrupts (ruins) good character (morals); Don't be friends with those who are hot-tempered, lest you learn their ways. (1 Corinthians 15:33, 5:6; Proverbs 22:24-25)*

*5: You're not fighting a real war where you need to think of your opponent as an enemy. Remember it's literally just a game. Don't hang around others who gossip or talk bad about each other. (Proverbs 11:13, 20:19, 13:3; 1 Corinthians 5:6)*

*6: Smile for real! Heartache crushes the spirit. (Philippians 4:5; Prov. 15:13, 17:22)*

*7: Don't boast about yourself; Don't think of yourself highly or be conceited. Remember we are all but dust. (Prov. 27:2; 2 Cor. 10:12, 18; Prov. 25:27; Rom. 12:16; Gen. 3:19)*

*8: Fear Not! Don't be anxious for anything (pray always!), but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, pres-*

*ent your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Isaiah 41:10; Philippians 4:6-7)*

*9: Do your best! Play to learn! Don't seek your own honor or prestige. Don't make the game about winning; when playing to win just to feel good, your emotions pour out into the game, and it becomes your idol. Anger and bitterness comes with making chess your god. (Eccl. 9:10; Eph. 6:7; Col. 3:23; Prov. 14:23; 27:2; 25:27; Ex. 20:3; Lk 6:45)*

*10: Be gentle and encouraging if you win; so you don't possibly make the other person feel bad. Always show love, and be polite during the game. Don't just greet and be nice to your friends, but greet those who you don't know, for anyone is a potential friend. (Phil. 4:5; Mth. 5:47)*

*11: Golden Rule: Matthew 7:12/Luke 6:31/Luke 10:27/Galatians 5:14 Shake hands - be polite - treating others like yourself.*

*12: Lastly: Have FUN! If you can't then you shouldn't be playing!"*

**White: Deeth, S (2116)**

**Black: Breckenridge, S (2349)**

[E52] OR Closed (Rd. 4), Feb 12, 2012

[Notes by Steven Breckenridge]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 d5 6.Nf3 b6 7.cxd5 exd5 8.a3**

Not necessary. 8.0-0 c5 9.Ne5 Bb7 is more common

**8...Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Nc6 10.0-0 Bg4 11.c4**

We had a similar game last time we played, where I played something like Na5.

11...dxc4 12.Bxc4 Na5 13.Ba2

13.Be2 more safe 13...Qd5 14.Bb2 Ne4 15.Rc1 c6

13...Ne4 14.Qd3

14.Qc2 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Nd6

14...Re8 15.Bb2 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Qg5+ 17.Kh1 Qh5 18.fxe4 Qf3+ 19.Kg1 Rxe4



If you can force an attack that guarantees equality or more, within a sacrifice, it is normally best.

20.Rfd1?

In defending a sacrificial attack, it often takes only one missed idea, to lose the game. 20.Rfc1 is forced 20...Rg4+ 21.Kf1 Rg2 22.Rc2 Rxb2 23.Ke1 Re8 24.Rac1 c5 and computer somehow gives this equal, with white defending, but a human may not make all of these moves.

20...Rg4+ 21.Kf1 Rg2 22.Qc2 Rxb2

I was also considering 22...Re8, which is more easily winning.

23.Ke1 Qh1+ 24.Ke2 Rxf2+ 25.Kd3

25.Kxf2 Qh2+

25...Rxc2 26.Rxh1 Rxb2 0-1

This line was forced, after Rfd1, and he has no more play...Rhf1 Rf8 and his bishop is stuck, with his rook stuck protecting it, so resignation was respectful of him.

White: Haessler, C (2200)

Black: Breckenridge, S (2349)

[C24] OR Closed 2012

(Rd. 6), Feb 18, 2012

[Notes by Breckenridge, Steven]

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 c6 4.Nf3 d5 5.exd5 cxd5 6.Bb3 Bd6 7.0-0 e4!?

Very unorthodox of me, I think. 7...0-0 would be playing a more boring line.

8.Bg5 d4 9.Nbd2 Nc6 10.Re1 h6 11.Bh4 Rb8 12.h3 Re8 13.Nc4 b5 14.Nxd6 Qxd6] 8.dxe4 dxe4 9.Ng5 0-0 10.f3?

I understand his intention, but that was a bad decision in this position, he needs to just develop and win the e-pawn, where I'll get to trade for the h-pawn with the tactic 10...Bxh2+ Qh4. 10.Nc3 Nc6 11.Ncxe4 Nxe4 12.Nxe4 Bxh2+ 13.Kxh2 Qh4+ 14.Kg1 Qxe4 15.Re1 Qg6 16.c3 Bf5 and it seems to be pretty equal, and may be a long battle for one to gain an advantage.

10...Qc7

10...exf3 11.Qxf3 Nc6 was also good.

11.Nxe4 Bxh2+

12.Kh1 Be5

13.Nbc3 Nxe4

14.fxe4 Qe7

15.Qe1

15.Qh5 Bxc3

16.bxc3 Be6 17.a4

Bxb3 18.Ba3 Qe6 19.Bxf8 Bc4 20.Rfd1 Nc6 21.Ba3 Qxe4 is interesting 22.Rd7 b6 23.Qf3 Qxf3 24.gxf3 Ne5 25.Rd4 Be2 26.f4 Nc6 27.Rd2 Bf3+ 28.Kh2 Re8

15...Bxc3

15...Nc6 16.Nd5 Qd6 17.Bf4 Bxf4 18.Nxf4 Bg4 19.Qg3 Ne5 20.Nd3 Qh6+ 21.Kg1 Nxd3 22.cxd3 Qb6+ 23.Kh1 Be6 24.Bxe6 Qxe6 with some advantage

16.Qxc3 Nc6 17.Bf4 Be6 18.Qg3 Qf6!

Unexpected.

19.Bd6 Qh6+ 20.Kg1 Rfe8 21.e5 Bxb3 22.Qxb3 Nd8 23.Rf3 Qe6 24.c4 b6 25.Qc3 Rc8 26.b3 f6 27.Re1 Nf7 28.Rfe3 Qd7 29.Rd3 Qe6 30.Rde3 Red8 31.Qb4 f5 32.Rd3 h6 33.a4 Rc5?! 34.Qc3 Rc6 35.Ba3 Re8 36.Bb2 Ng5 37.a5 b5 38.c5 Ne4 39.Rxe4 fxe4 40.Rd6 Qc8 41.e6 Rc7 42.Qe5 Rce7 43.b4 e3! 44.g4? e2 45.Bc3 e1Q+ 46.Bxe1 Rxe6 47.Qd5 Kh8 48.Bc3?

48.Rxe6 Qxe6 49.Qxe6 Rxe6 50.Kf1 Re4+-

48...Rxd6 0-1

A good game, with not many mistakes, except in the end where Carl seemed to be tired and lost focus.

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## Portland Chess Club Events for 2013 have been announced:

(source: [www.pdxchess.org](http://www.pdxchess.org))

### Tournaments -

Gresham Open	Jan 5-6
Spring Open	March 16-17
Harmon Memorial	Apr 13-14
Summer Open	July 13-14
PCC Championship	Oct 1-29
Fall Open	Oct 12-13
Winter Open	Dec 14-15

### Tuesday Quads -

Jan 8,15,22; Feb 5,12,19;  
Mar 5,12,19; Apr 9,16,23;  
May 7,14,21; Jun 4,11,18;  
Jul 2,9,16; Aug 6,13,20;  
Sep 3,10,17; Oct - none;  
Nov 5,12,19; Dec 3,10,17.

### Saturday Quads -

Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9, May 11.  
Jun 8, Aug 10, Sep 14, Nov 9.

### Game in 60 -

Jan 26, Feb 23, Mar 30, Apr 27,  
May 18, Jun 22, Jul 27, Aug 24,  
Sep 28, Oct 26, Nov 30, Dec 28.



## Oregon Chess Federation 2012-2014 Election Results

Term: September 2, 2012 to August 31, 2014  
(or until annual meeting). Note: All OCF of-  
fices are 2-year terms that expire at the annu-  
al membership meeting at the Oregon Open  
(usually in Sept) in even-numbered years.

President: **David Yoshinaga**  
Vice President: **Richard Gutman**  
Secretary: **Daniel Gay**  
Treasurer: **Michael Morris**  
Tournament Coordinator: **Grisha  
Alpernas**  
Scholastic Coordinator: **Carl  
Haessler**  
Member-at-Large: **Karl Schoffstall**  
USCF Delegate: **Carl Haessler**  
Alternate Delegate: **Michael Morris**  
NWC Board: **David Yoshinaga  
and Grisha Alpernas**  
OCF Webmaster: **Eric Holcomb**  
Oregon Editor: **Frank Niro**

## Washington Challenger's Cup October 27-28, 2012

**Site:** Seattle Chess Club, 2150 North 107th Street, Seattle, WA 98133. (206) 417-5405

**Two Sections:** Open and Reserve (under 1800)

**Open:** 4 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** 40/2, SD/1, D/5

**Reserve:** 5 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** Saturday 40/90, SD/30, D/5; Sunday 40/2, SD/1, D/5  
Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating

**Prize Fund:** \$1,000 (based on 40 paid entries)

**Open:** FIDE rated 1st \$200, 2nd \$125, 1st U2100 \$100, 1st U1900 \$100

**Reserve:** 1st \$150, 2nd \$100, 1st U1600 \$75, 1st U1400 \$75, 1st U1200 \$75

**Entry Fee:** \$50 if postmarked or online by 10/24, \$60 after 10/24 or at site

**Special Medal Only Entry Fee:** \$25 for Juniors under age 21. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs

**Registration:** Saturday 8:00 - 9:30 AM.

**Rounds:** Open: Saturday 10:00 AM, 5:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM.

Reserve: Saturday 10:00 AM, 2:30 PM, 7:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM

**Byes:** Two half-point byes available (Reserve Section), request before end of round 2.

USCF and WCF/OCF memberships required, other states accepted.

☞ A Ralph Hall Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. Chess Magnet School JGP. NS. NC. W.

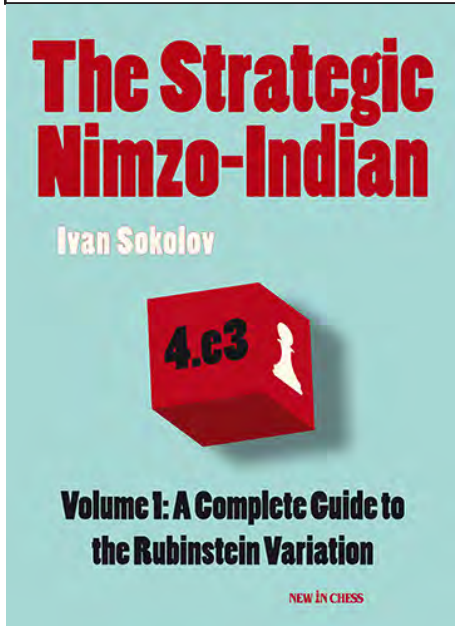
**Entries:** Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

**Mail To:** Dan Mathews, 930 NE High Street, Unit F412, Issaquah, WA 98029-7423.

Phone: (425) 218-7529. E-mail: [dthmathews@aol.com](mailto:dthmathews@aol.com).

Online Registration: [www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration](http://www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration).

## Book Review by IM John Donaldson



*The Strategic Nimzo-Indian : Volume 1: A Complete Guide to the Rubinstein Variation* (New in Chess 2012, www.newinchess.com, 411 pages, paperback, figurine algebraic, \$29.95) by Grandmaster Ivan Sokolov is an outstanding book which covers a huge amount of territory but does it a way which is both instructive and entertaining.

Sokolov's two previous works for *New In Chess*, *Winning Chess Middle-games* and *The Ruy Lopez Revisited*, were both exceptional books but his latest may be his best yet. What makes this book special is the author's explanation of the typical plans and ideas for both sides and his original suggestions which appear throughout.

The following are but a few examples from *The Strategic Nimzo-Indian* that illustrate how a strong Grandmaster is still an invaluable guide in the age of the Silicon Oracle. Fischer recommended **1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.Ne2 Ne4** in *My 60 Memorable Games*, and Sokolov also thinks highly of the move and has played

and faced it over the board. White's best continuation after **5...Ne4** is not clear and Sokolov writes that it is impossible to say what is best for White – or the most dangerous for Black. This reviewer has always found the positions after **6.Bd2 Nxd2 7.Qxd2** to be annoying for Black so I was curious to see what Sokolov had to say.

Black has a surprisingly wide variety of moves here and **7...Bb7, 7...Nc6, 7...0-0, 7...d5** and **7...Ba6** are all considered.

Sokolov believes White is a little better after **7...d5**.

*"In general I think that, after the ...d7-d5 push and the cxd5 exd5 exchange, as regards the pawn structure the position resembles the Tartakover/Bondarevsky Variation of the Queen's Gambit Declined, and should be slightly better for White. For a black player looking for a dynamic game it is probably better to opt for an Indian setup with ...d6/e5."*

Likewise, writing about the position reached after **7...Ba6 8.a3 Bxc3 9.Nxc3 d5 10.b3 Nc6 11.Be2**



*"The position as regards pawn structure is identical to the line 4.e3 b6 5.Ne2 Ba6*

*6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.Nxc3 d5, with the difference that White's c1 bishop and Black's knight have been exchanged. Logically (at least I think so), with the bishop pair eliminated, this trade should make equality a bit easier to achieve for Black. However, White still has a little more space, his c3 knight is better placed than Black's c6 knight, and also White's Bishop is superior to its black colleague in this pawn structure, so White does keep a small advantage."*

Sokolov backs up these verbal assessments with concrete variations, but the prose is much more valuable for the layman rated below 2400 who will remember the helpful advice long after the analysis has been forgotten.

The author is not afraid to challenge convention. After **7...Bb7 8.a3 Be7 9.d5 0-0 10.g3** he criticizes the move **10...c5**.



*"Botvinnik loved this move in such positions. I have my reservations – once the center is opened, any e4-e5 push will be considerably stronger."*

Later Sokolov writes, after **7...Bb7 8.a3 Be7 9.d5 e5**

*"is according to Botvinnik's note book the best for Black, and I would agree, since*



Black closes the center, while on the other hand it makes sense for him to delay castling and keep his options open.”



### 10.g3 c5

“Again Botvinnik likes this move. He even gives it an exclamation mark, with which I disagree. The pawn on c5 means a considerable positional risk here, and in many lines it would simply be better on c7. The correct setup is 10...d6 11.Bg2 Nd7.”

Sokolov challenges the Patriarch, not over a move in analysis, but over the proper positional way to handle the position ...and Sokolov is right.

The author does not just confine himself to helpful advice. He also delivers concrete analysis of topical variations. One case in point is the variation 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.Nge2 Ba6 6.a3 Be7 7.Nf4 d5 8.cxd5 Bxf1 9.dxe6!



This sacrifice has been known since the 1950s when it was analyzed by the likes of Botvinnik, Keres and Smyslov but until recently it was thought to be insufficient. Sokolov, based on recent games, does not agree and after 9...Ba6 10.exf7+ Kxf7 11.e4!



### 11...c5 12.e5!

the modern improvement over the older 12.Be3

12...Re8 13.Be3 Nc6 14.Qb3+ c4 15.Qa4 Na5 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.0-0 Qd6 18.Nfd5 Bb7 19.Nxf6 Qxf6 20.d5



“With an extra pawn and an excellent position, White soon won in Aronian-Medvegy, Germany Bundesliga 2004/05.”

Sokolov exhaustively analyses Black alternatives. His final conclusion is:

“9.dxe6 is critical and will establish itself as the new main line. Practical tests of 11...Bc4 (in place of 11...c5 and analyzed for 1 ½ pages – reviewer) will be important for the viability of this line for Black – at least I do not see satisfactory improvements elsewhere.”

I give *The Strategic Nimzo-Indian : Volume 1: A Complete Guide to the Rubinstein Variation* my strongest endorsement without reservation. Players from 1800 on up who play either side of the 4.e3 Nimzo must have this book.

The contents of this book are given below. For sample extracts of this book go to: <http://www.newinchess.com/Shop/Images/Pdfs/969.pdf>.

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### Chapter 3.5

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Bibliography



We are in the throes of moving...professional lighting, hanging systems, signage, state of art technology and of course local master level artists. We anticipate being operational by the third week of September and planning a grand opening for First Thursday in November. Stay tuned!



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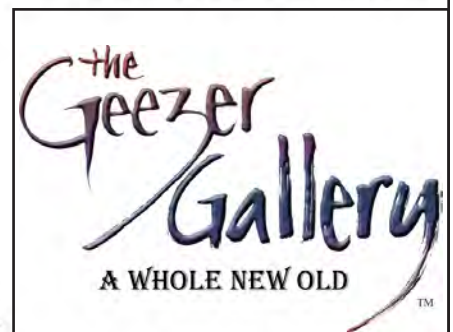
Hours: Wednesday – Sunday 10:30 – 5:30

It is with a heavy heart that we will be closing our gallery space in Multnomah Village. Yet is with great excitement and anticipation of new opportunities that we are moving to downtown Portland! Loaves and Fishes has been our home for just over two years and in that time we have experienced growth and community. Loaves and Fishes was instrumental in helping us plant our feet on solid ground and providing a gallery space to showcase our talented local artists.

The Geezer Gallery will continue this relationship in providing art programming for several Loaves and Fishes meal site centers on-going. Please visit our website for more information on current and upcoming art workshops for seniors.

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Both sections USCF Rated. Open Section is also FIDE rated!

Idaho Chess Association (ICA) membership required. OSA (Other States Accepted).

Make all checks payable to Idaho Chess Association.

**Register & check in:** 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. Saturday, December 8, 2012 Those not paid and checked in by 8:30 a.m. may not be paired in first round. Players arriving for round 2 (even if not known in advance) may take a retroactive first round bye as long as they arrive before the 2nd round starts (1:30 p.m.).

**Round Times: Saturday: 9am, 1:30pm, 6pm; Sunday: 9am, 1:30pm**

**1/2 point bye** (Maximum 1), in any Round. Must notify TD before round 2 is paired. Players may arrive for round 2 and take a retroactive first round half point bye if arrive before 1:30 p.m. on Saturday.

**Prizes (Guaranteed!):** Open: \$500, \$250, \$100. Open section will be separated into two halves for prize payout only (not for pairing purposes). First place in lower half receives \$100 and 2nd place in lower half will receive \$50. Reserve: \$200, \$100, \$50.

**Entries:** Jeff Roland, 1514 S. Longmont Ave., Boise, ID 83706, E-mail: [jroland@cablone.net](mailto:jroland@cablone.net), [www.idahocheessassociation.org](http://www.idahocheessassociation.org)

**No Computers, No Smoking, Wheelchair access**

# The 2012 Ralph Hall Memorial Northwest Grand Prix

by Murlin Varner, Calculator extraordinaire

I just finished inputting the results from the Oregon Open. It kinda looks as if they prospered by having the U. S. Open nearby. I noticed a number of players who had not played in a Grand Prix event in quite a while, if ever, and more than a few had played in the Open a few short weeks earlier. Nothing like a good major event to spur increased local activity. Over a quarter of the players in the Oregon Open were playing in their first Grand Prix event of the year and 13 were new to my current database, meaning they haven't played in a GP event for at least three years. This is good to see. Before you read this, but only shortly after I write it, there is an event in Wenatchee, the first in a long, long time. I hope to see a lot of players there renewing their acquaintance with tournament chess, too.

Every month, I have the opportunity to review the ratings of all the GP contestants, as we categorize players by their peak yearly rating. As such, I often see people who are progressing impressively. This month I would like to make mention of one such player from Oregon. Aaron Grabinsky came into 2012 with a provisional rating of 1182. As of October first, his official rating will be 1830! Well done Aaron, keep that learning curve rising.

The standings below use the official October ratings and include all events through September 8th, except the August Adjeeb Quads from Spokane. By the time you receive this, another seven events will be in the books, including two with 2x multipliers. Looking ahead to October and the start of the final quarter of the year, we see two events with multipliers. The Eastern Washington Open in Spokane on the weekend of October 6-7 and the Washington Challengers' Cup in Seattle on the weekend of October 27-28 both have 2x multipliers, the first with a \$600 guaranteed prize fund and the latter with a \$1000 based on 40 prize fund. Additionally, there are six single point events in Hailey, ID, Bremerton and Seattle (2), WA, and Portland (2), OR. All of those are on just three weekends. The weekend of October 19-21 we have no GP events, so you might as well go on down to the Western States in Reno. No Grand Prix points, but still a good tournament.

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
						<b>Masters</b>					
			1	Raptis	Nick	146	1	Feng	Roland	68.5	
			2	Gay	Daniel Z	35.5	2	Pupols	Viktors	62.0	
			3	Breckenridge	Steven J	26.0	3	Bragg	David R	40.0	
			3	Haessler	Carl A	26.0	4	Sinanan	Joshua C	38.0	
			5	Movsisyan	Movses	24.0	5	Collyer	Curt D	35.0	
						<b>Experts</b>					
<b>M/X/Class A</b>			1	Saputra	Yogi	87.5	1	Bartron	Paul R	114.0	
1	Leslie	Cameron D	32.0	2	Esler	Brian J	50.5	2	Lee	Nathan Y	70.0
2	Joshi	Kairav	27.5	3	Janniro	Mike E	45.0	3	He	Daniel M	44.5
3	Havrilla	Mark A	21.0	4	Heywood	Bill	40.0	4	Lee	Megan	44.0
4	Kircher	Caleb P	15.5	5	Herrara	Robert	39.0	4	Ummel	Igor	44.0
5	Johnson	Paul M.	5.5				<b>Class A</b>				
<b>Class B</b>			1	Sherrard	Jerry	56.0	1	Buck	Stephen J	135.0	
1	Roland	Jeffrey T	31.0	2	Cigan	Jason	51.5	2	Szabo	Marcell	105.0
2	Bodie	Brad	25.0	3	Bannon	David T	44.0	3	Lampman	Becca	83.5
3	Williams	Richard	22.0	4	Sun	Maxwell S	37.0	4	Krasin	Jeremy	64.0
4	Jiang	Nathan	10.5	5	Tezcan	Yaman	34.0	5	Kiiru	Joseph K	63.0
5	Olsoy	Peter J	9.5								

Class C			Class B								
1	Weyland	Ronald M	31.5	1	Gaikwad	Dagadu B	80.5	1	Ramesh	Jothi N	89.5
2	Brown	Nicholas R	22.0	2	Sato-Duncan	Takuma	67.5	2	Zhang	Derek	81.5
3	Bruck	Nick J	8.5	3	Hasuike	Mike L	39.0	3	Nagase	Toshihiro	79.5
4	Pemsler	Carmen	4.0	4	Burris	Christopher E	37.5	4	Wang	James	72.5
5	Myers	Hugh	3.5	5	Dalthorp	Dan	33.0	5	Davis	Frederick	69.5
Class D			Class C								
1	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	26.0	1	Doddapaneni	Venkat S	53.0	1	Piper	August	60.0
2	Patterson	Kevin R	14.5	2	Stevens	Matthew	45.0	2	Jones	Davey V	56.0
3	Gorman	Cody A	13.0	3	Dietz	Arliss	43.5	3	Thomas	Arjun	55.5
4	Porth	Adam	6.5	4	Brahmarouthu	Abhinav	37.5	4	Bashkansky	Brendan	52.0
5	Lang	Jamie	6.0	5	Murphy	Dmitri M	34.5	5	Wheaton	John L	37.5
Class E and Below			Class D and Below								
1	Blake	Lloyd	14.0	1	Buerer	Harry F	50.5	1	Richards	Jerrold	75.5
2	Blake	Isaac R	11.5	2	Aditya	Neal	28.0	2	Nicoski	Rick	51.0
3	Wetmur	Harold R	10	2	Svetal	Scott M	25.5	3	Haiing	Breck	42.0
4	Buus	Jarod N	9.5	4	Sun	Leonardo S	23.0	4	Dixon	Max L	38.0
4	Chaney	Alethia J	9.5	5	Kenway	Geoffrey W	22.0	5	Thakur	Eamon	37.5
Overall Leaders, by State											
1	Leslie	Cameron D	32.0	1	Raptis	Nick	146	1	Buck	Stephen J	135.0
2	Weyland	Ronald M	31.5	2	Saputra	Yogi	87.5	2	Bartron	Paul R	114.0
3	Roland	Jeffrey T	31.0	3	Gaikwad	Dagadu B	80.5	3	Szabo	Marcell	105.0
4	Joshi	Kairav	27.5	4	Sato-Duncan	Takuma	67.5	4	Ramesh	Jothi N	89.5
5	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	26.0	5	Sherrard	Jerry	56.0	5	Lampman	Becca	83.5
6	Bosie	Brad	25.0	6	Doddapaneni	Venkat S	53.0	6	Zhang	Derek	81.5
7	Williams	Richard R	22.0	7	Cigan	Jason	51.5	7	Nagase	Toshihiro	79.5
7	Brown	Nicholas R	22.0	8	Esler	Brian J	50.5	8	Richards	Jerrold	75.5
9	Havrilla	Mark A	21.0	8	Buerer	Harry F	50.5	9	Wang	James	72.5
10	Kircher	Caleb P	15.5	10	Janniro	Mike E	45.0	10	Lee	Nathan Y	70.0

### Players from Other Places

	<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>pts.</i>
1	Donaldson	John	CA	2408	28
2	McCourt	Daniel J	MT	1803	27
3	Sellers	Matthew B	MI	2149	26
3	Kennedy	Tim	MT	1496	26
5	Doknjas	Neil	CAN	1095	24
6	Doknjas	Joshua	CAN	1676	22
6	Hay	John G	MT	1537	22
8	Doknjas	John	CAN	1940	20
8	Carpenter	Romie G	MT	1839	20
8	Phillips	Robert L	MT	1820	20
11	Belanoff	Ted	CA	2178	19
12	Two tied at				18

### NW Grand Prix Stats

So far this year, we have awarded 10,369.5 Grand Prix points, from 1299 tournament entries by 507 different players. This is an average of 2.56 entries per player and 7.98 points per entry.

Through the end of October there will have been 67 events, twelve of which have had multipliers. The last two months of the year will add at least eleven more events, of which two or possibly three will have multipliers. There are still a lot of chances to play, earn points, and win a prize! So, get out there and play.

**See Back Cover for Upcoming Grand Prix  Events**

## Upcoming Events

{continued from page 48}

**Oct 19-21** 28th Annual Sands Regency Western States Open, **Reno, NV**. See PDF ad/flyer on page 11.

☞ **Oct 27-28** Washington Challengers Cup, **Seattle, WA**. Format: two sections - open 4 rounds and reserve under 1800 5 rounds. Both sections USCF rated, open section FIDE rated. Seed: Highest Washington player score in open section is seeded into the 2013 Washington state championship. Info: Mail entries to Dan Mathews, WCF Tournament Coordinator, 930 NE High St Apt F412, Issaquah, WA 98029-7423. Cell phone 425-218-7529. See ad below for further details. Email [Dthmathews@aol.com](mailto:Dthmathews@aol.com). Make checks payable to WCF. Register at [www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration](http://www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration).

☞ **Oct 27** Portland CC Game in 60. 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: e-mail [portlandchessclub@gmail.com](mailto:portlandchessclub@gmail.com), phone 503-246-2978, website [www.pdxchess.org](http://www.pdxchess.org).

☞ **Nov 3** Southern Idaho Open, **Twin Falls, ID**. Format: 4 Round Swiss System. Time Control: Game/60. Site: Obenchain Insurance Building, Community Room - Rear Entrance, 260 South Main, Twin Falls, Idaho. Details at [www.idahoChessAssociation.org](http://www.idahoChessAssociation.org) or contact TD Barry Eacker, 963 Delmar Dr., Twin Falls, ID 83301. ph: 208-733-6186 or E-mail: [mol@q.com](mailto:mol@q.com).

**Nov 3-4** Turkey Open, **Missoula, MT**. Details at [www.montanachess.org](http://www.montanachess.org) and on the Northwest Chess web site calendar.

**Nov 10** Portland Saturday Quads, **Portland, OR**. A monthly, USCF-rated quad tournament usually held on the 2nd Saturday of every month at the Portland Chess Club. 4 Player Round-Robin: If there are enough players for more than 1 section, players are grouped based on rating (so that you play others who are rated approximately the same); sometimes can run as a small Swiss, depending on number of players. Time control: G/90. Entry Fee: \$10 for PCC members; \$15 for non-members. Membership: USCF is required and can be purchased at registration. Round 1 starts at 10 AM, registration runs 9:30-9:45 AM. Prizes: 1st place - free entry to Tuesday or Saturday Quads, valid for 3 months (non-members still must pay \$5 visitor's fee). No tiebreakers used, prizes split between players with the same results.

☞ **Nov 10-11** Wenatchee Valley Open, **Wenatchee, WA**. Originally the Taste of the Harvest Open, cancelled due to wildfires and smoky conditions. Rescheduled! 5SS, 40/90, SD/30, D/5. Wenatchee Convention Center, 121 North Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee, WA 98801. \$\$750/b30: \$200-150-100, Class A \$75, Class B \$75, Class C \$75, Class D/Under \$75. Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating. EF: \$50 if postmarked or online by 11/7. \$60 at site. Special Medal Only EF: \$25 Juniors U21. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs. Registration: 9-9:45am. Rds.: Sat. 10am, 2:30pm, 7pm, Sun. 10am & 3pm. Bye: limit 2, request before end of Rd. 2. Memb. Req'd: \$25 (\$17 juniors). OSA. ENT: Checks payable to Washington Chess Federation. Mail to: Dan Mathews, 930 NE High Street, Unit F412, Issaquah, WA 98029-7423. Enter online: [www.nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration](http://www.nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration). Info: [dthmathews@aol.com](mailto:dthmathews@aol.com), 425-218-7529. NS. NC. W. Chess Magnet School JGP. See [www.nwchess.com](http://www.nwchess.com) and November issue of *NWC* for more information as some details may change.

**Nov 17** Portland CC G/60. **Portland, OR**. Info: [www.pdxchess.org](http://www.pdxchess.org).

**Nov 17** Washington G/60 Championship. **Seattle, WA**. Further details in November.

☞ **Nov 23-25** Washington Class Championships, **Redmond, WA**. See PDF ad/flyer on page 15.

☞ **Dec 8-9** Western Idaho Open, Boise, ID. See PDF ad/flyer on page 43.

**Dec 8** Christmas Congress, **Tacoma WA**. See Tacoma CC web site [www.tacomachess.org](http://www.tacomachess.org) for details.

**NOTE: Portland Chess Club schedule for 2013 has been announced. See page 39 for details.**

**Read the new Northwest Chess  
Blog at:**

<http://www.nwchess.com/blog/>



**Visit the Northwest Chess logo store  
on CafePress to order shirts and  
other merchandise:**

<http://www.cafepress.com/northwestchesslogo>

# Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

Address  
 2150 N 107 St, B85  
 Seattle WA 98133  
 Infoline  
 206-417-5405  
[www.seattlechess.org](http://www.seattlechess.org)  
[kleistcf@aol.com](mailto: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.

## ☞Oct. 7, Nov. 4

## Sunday Tornado☞

**Format:** 4-SS. **TC:** G/64;d0 or G/60;d5. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 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/ICA memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

## ☞Oct. 13, Nov. 10

## Saturday Quads☞

**Format:** 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** G/120;d5. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future quad. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10-2:15-6:30 **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

## October 14

## SCC Novice

**Format:** 4-SS. Open to U1200 and unrated. **TC:** G/75;d5. **EF:** \$11 by 10/11, \$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.

## October 19-21

## SCC Team in Reno!!

Join the SCC Team(s) in Reno at the **Western States Open**. We will be competing against six to ten teams from other clubs in Reno, Sacramento, San Francisco, etc. The tournament is multi-section (Open, U2200, U2000, . . .) and teams consist of ten players from a club.

## Attendance at 2012's events

*G/15 Ch. (3/2)-6; Insanity (12/31-1/1)-7; Novice (1/21)-9, (3/18)-5, (7/21)-10; Octagonals (9/9)-13; Quads (1/28)-14, (2/25)-19, (3/17)-23, (5/14)-19, (6/9)-14, (7/7)-22, (8/18)-8; Tornado (1/8)-14, (2/5)-5, (3/4)-14, (4/1)-14, (4/30)-14, (5/19)-19, (6/17)-20, (7/15)-34, (8/26)-18; Seattle City Championship (1/13-15)--30; Seattle Spring Open (3/23-25)-51; SCC Team in Reno (4/6-8)-6; SCC Adult Swiss (5/5-6)-9; Emerald City Open (6/22-24)-37; Seafair Open (7/27-29)-57.*

# 7<sup>th</sup> SCC Extravaganza!!

November 2-4, 2012

A Northwest Grand Prix event

A two-section, seven-round Swiss with a time control of **G/90** (Two-day option – rounds 1 & 2 @ G/45). The prize fund of **\$1000** is based on **52**.

**Open: \$200-140, U2200 100, U2000 100**

**Reserve (U1800): First \$140-100, U1600 70, U1400 70, U1200 60, UNR 20**

Entry Fee: \$40 by 10/31 (\$30 for SCC members, \$35 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, OR, & BC), \$48 at site (\$36 for SCC members, \$42 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, OR, & BC).

Registration: Friday 7-7:45 p.m. Saturday 9-9:45 a.m. Rounds: Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 11-2:30-6, Sunday 11-2:30-6.

Two-Day Option: Rounds 1 & 2 Saturday 10-12. Byes: 3 available; 1 for rounds 5-7, must commit before round 3.

Miscellaneous: USCF & ICA/OCF/WCF membership required. OSA, NC, NS.

Ent/Info: SCC Tnmt Dir, 2420 S 137 St, Seattle WA 98168. 206-417-5405 (recorded message); [kleistcf@aol.com](mailto:kleistcf@aol.com).

## Upcoming Events

☞ denotes 2012 Ralph Hall Memorial Northwest Grand Prix event - see pages 44-45 for details; for Seattle Chess Club events, see page 47

☞ **Oct 6** Wood River Weekend Progressive. 4SS, Time Control: G/30 Rd 1, G/45 Rd 2, G/60 Rd 3, G/90 Rd 4. 2 Sections: Open and Reserve (U1400). Site: Wood River High School, 1250 Fox Acres Rd., **Hailey, ID**. USCF mem req., EF by 10/3 \$30 (\$25 if 60+ or under 18), K-12 students \$10, \$40 entry for all after 10/03. Email entries OK. Register & check in: 8-8:30am 10/06. Rd. times: Sat 9am, 10am, 1pm; 3pm. 1/2 pt byes: Max 1, Rds 1-3 only. Commit by end of Rd 2. Prizes: \$\$ b/15; Open: \$100-75-50; Reserve: \$75-50-25, Student: trophies 1st-3rd pl. HR/ENT/INFO: ICA, Contact: Adam Porth, 212 N. 3rd St., Bellevue, ID 83313. 208-450-9048. aporth1@cox.net, www.idahocheessassociation.org. NC, NS, W. Chess Magnet School JGP.

☞ **Oct 6-7** Oyster Bay Inn Classic. Site: Oyster Bay Inn, 4412 Kitsap Way, **Bremerton, WA** 98312. Format: 4SS, 3 sections. Time control: G/90 + 30 seconds/move increment. Registration: 10:00-11:30 AM. Rounds: Sat. 12:30 PM, 6:00 PM; Sun. 9:45 AM, 3:00 PM. Prize fund: \$800-same as last year but b/40: Open section  $\geq$  1900 USCF \$160, \$80, \$80; Premiere section: U1900 \$80, \$56, \$44 plus top score U1700 \$60; Reserve U1400/unr. \$80, \$56, \$44 plus top Unrated score \$60. Entry fee: \$40 if received by 9/24, \$50 after and on-site; OCF/WCF and USCF memb req'd. OSA. Half-point bye: must be requested at registration, max. of one. Entries, checks payable to: Kris Dietsch, Apt. C-102, 2251 High View Ln. NW, Bremerton, WA 98312-5345 (please use a separate line for Apt C-102); cash/checks at site. You may also register online at <http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration/>. Info: Kris (360) 479-0847, mrkrisyawho@yahoo.com, Joe Eversole, joeeversole@q.com. Hotel: players \$60 single/dbl. in advance, mention Kitsap County Chess Club: (360) 377-5510, 1-800-393-3862, info.: www.oyster-bayinnbremerton.com. NM Bill McGearry will be giving entrants a complimentary SIMUL Sat 10 AM (others \$10), and will return with complimentary coaching/lecture for entrants after rd. 2 and between rds. 3 and 4.

☞ **Oct 6-7** Eastern Washington Open, Spokane, WA. Location: Schoenberg Center, Room 201, Gonzaga University, N. 900 Pearl Street, **Spokane, WA** (southwest corner of GU campus – one block east of Division/Ruby couplet off DeSmet Ave.). 5-round Swiss System. Registration: 8:30-9:30, October 6. Rounds: 10-2:30-7; 9-1:30 or ASAP. Time control: Game/120. Entry fee: \$21 if received by 10/05, \$26 at the door; under 18 \$5 less. \$600 prize fund GUARANTEED. Additional classes and class prizes may be created if entries exceed 30 players. Class prizes based on at least 5 per class; classes (and class prizes) may be reconfigured if less than five class entries. Only one prize per player (except biggest upset). NS, NC, W. One 1/2 point bye available if requested by end of preceding round; Sunday bye must be requested by end of round 3. Director reserves right to use class pairings in final round. PRIZES: FIRST -- \$130. Class Prizes: \$70 first, \$35 second: A; B; C; D/E/unrated. Biggest Upset (non-provisional) -- \$50. Entries: Loyd Willaford, E. 1340 Forest #6, Colville, WA 99114. For information please call (509) 723-9037 (cell). Club website: [www.spokanechessclub.org](http://www.spokanechessclub.org).

**Oct 13 National Chess Day.** Events are schedule in **Seattle** (Occidental Park in Pioneer Square), **Spokane** (Uncle's Games at the Valley Mall), **Portland** (Portland Fall Open) & **Boise** (Library! Plaza Business Mall 24-hr. Celebration). See inside pages for details of National Chess Day activities and events.

☞ **Oct 13-14** Portland Fall Open, **Portland, OR**. Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR. This USCF-rated, two-day tournament is played in two sections, has five rounds, and offers long time controls and lots of cash prizes: New! Time Control: All Rounds 40/90 SD/30. Entry Fee: \$35; members of the Club get \$10 discount. Memberships: USCF and OCF/WCF required and can be purchased/renewed at registration. Registration: opens at 9:00am on Saturday. Prizes: based on 40 entries and adjusted proportionally if different number of players, total prize fund is \$650 (each section's prize fund \$325). Open section: 1st place - \$150, 2nd place - \$100, best result for rated under 2000 - \$75. Reserve section: 1st place - \$100, 2nd place - \$75, best results for rated under 1600, under 1400, and under 1200 or unrated - \$50 each. No tiebreakers used, prizes split between players with the same results.

{continued on page 46}