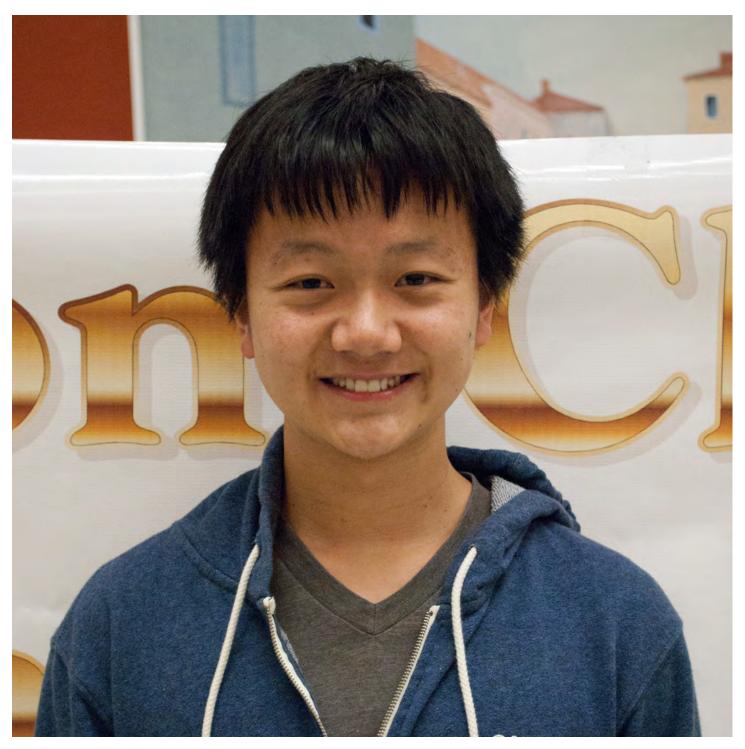


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Michael Wang wins Washington Open



Northwest Chess

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On the cover:

Michael Wang became the Northwest's newest master after winning clear first in the Washington Open on Monday, May 27. He defeated Canadian Master Alfred Pechisker (2182) and Daniel He (2149), and drew with current Oregon State Champion FM Nick Raptis (2407) along the way. With this victory, Michael gained an astounding 54 rating points to boost his rating to 2219, his all time high. Congratulations Michael!

Michael's victory at North Seattle Community College adds to his impressive chess accomplishments:

He has played in the Washington Junior Closed 4 times, in which he tied for for first in 2010. He played board 4 for the Seattle Sluggers chess team in 2010, in which he faced master level opponents. He currently plays board 1 for the Interlake High School chess team, one of the top in the state.

Michael, a specialist on both sides of the English Opening, prefers to play the "turtle style" of chess, in which one grabs some material and then hides in one's shell. He is not afraid, however, to come out of his shell and enter sharp complications if the situation calls for it. He has an affinity for the Sicilian and Cambridge Springs Defense's as black, which have yielded him many important victories. It is interesting to note that five out of six games that Michael played in the Washington Open were English Openings.

W hen he is not playing chess, Michael keeps busy as a full time student in his junior year in the prestigious International Baccalaureate Program at Interlake High School in Bellevue, after which he plans to attend a 4-year university. Michael certainly has a bright future in the game of chess and in the game of life! Photo credit: Jeff Roland.

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Submissions

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

> Jeffrey Roland, NWC Editor 1514 S. Longmont Ave. Boise, Idaho 83706-3732 or via e-mail to: editor@nwchess.com

Northwest Grand Prix Administrator

Murlin Varner 13329 208 Ave NE Woodinville, WA 98072 MEVjr54@yahoo.com 425-882-0102

63rd Annual Oregon Open Aug. 31, Sept. 1&2, 2013 Increased Prize Fund and Hotel Location!

6-round Swiss: 2 sections, Open & Reserve (under 1800)
Time Control: 40 moves in 2 hours, sudden death in 1 hour, 5 second delay (40/2; SD/1; d5)
Registration: Saturday 9-10:45 am. Bring sets & clocks (none provided)
Rounds: Saturday 11 & 5:30; Sunday 9:30 & 5:30; Monday 9 & 3
Location: Lloyd Center DoubleTree, 1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, OR; Free Parking
Byes: 2-½ pt. byes available, request before Rd 1

\$3,400 Guaranteed! \$1700 in each Section

Open: 1^{st} \$600; 2^{nd} \$330; 3^{rd} \$220 **U2000:** 1^{st} \$250; 2^{nd} \$180; 3^{rd} \$120 Highest Oregon finisher in Open Section is seeded into Oregon Closed Championship **Reserve:** 1^{st} \$400; 2^{nd} \$250; 3^{rd} \$150 **U1600, U1400, U1200 each** \$150-90-60 Unrated players limited to class prizes of \$100 in Open, \$60 in reserve

Entry: \$60; \$10 discount for all who register and pay by August 28
Juniors (under 19) may play for FREE in Reserve Section (not eligible for prizes) if they have purchased USCF and OCF/WCF/ICA memberships through Aug. 31, 2014
Other: USCF and OCF/WCF/ICA required (OSA) A USCF & NW Grand Prix event.

Oregon Open Scholastic Tournament

Saturday, August 31. 4 round Swiss; Game in 45, 5 second delay. Entry: \$20; \$5 discount for all that register and pay by August 28 Every player with a plus score will win a prize (USCF or OCF/WCF/ICA memberships.) **No memberships required**. See <u>www.pdxchess.org</u> for further details and prize distribution

		OCF/WCF Exp	Rating
Email		Section	Bye Rds
Entries: Payable to	Portland Chess Club; mail	l to Mike Morris, 2344 NE 27 th	¹ Ave., Portland, OR 97212

Washington Chess News

Washington Open

by Gary Dorfner

The 2013 Washington Open was held at the North Seattle Community College. 193 players participated in this event.

The winners were:

Open Section

1st Michael Wang 5.5 \$700.00, 2nd-3rd/U1250 Nick Raptis, Josh Sinanan & Yaman Tezcan 5.0 \$416.67 each, 4th-5th IM Ray Kaufman (from California) & Roland Feng 4.5 \$225.00 each, 2nd-4th U2150 Daniel He, Bryce Tiglon & David Arganian 4.0 \$166.67 each.

Premier Section

1st-2nd Mark Saarenas & Brett Becker 5-0 \$275.00 each, 3rd-5th Robert Bond, Hubert Jung, Michael Hosford & David Eva 4.0 \$143.75 each, 1st-2nd U1850 Neal Bonrud & Frederick Davis 4.0 \$\$175.00 each, 3rd-4th U1850 Stephen Buck & Ankush Puri 3.5 \$112.50 each.

Reserve Section

1st-3rd Justin Yu, Todd Damish & Dalton He 5.0 \$208.33 each, 4th/1st U1550 Mack Kelly & Vikram Ramasamy 4.5 \$150.00 each, 5th Nathaniel Yee 4.0 \$100.00, 2nd-3rd U1550 Neil Chowdhury & Padhi Pratik 4.0 \$112.50 each, 4th U1550 Aditya Kannan 3.5 \$100.00.

Booster Section

1st Unr. Gilbert Lomboy 5.5 \$120.00, 1st Neil Doknjas 5.0 \$200.00, 2nd-4th Breck Haining, Evan Ruan & Richard Tang 4.5 \$125.00 Each, 2nd Unr. Tom Kolar & Jinsong Yu 4.5 \$40.00 each, 5th Kannan Sundararajan, Wade McCorkle, Brien Chen, Maxwell Truluck & Jason Yu 4.0 \$15.00 each, 1st-2nd U1100 Maneesh Rjagopal & Andrew Smith 4.0 \$100.00 each.

Side Events:

TD's for all of these events were Fred Kleist & Gary Dorfner.

Blitz Section

This was done as a double round robin. 1st Nick Raptis 8.5 \$100.00, 2nd IM Ray Kaufman 7.0 \$80.00, 3rd David Roper, Daniel He & Bryce Tiglon 6.5 \$20.00, 1st U2000 Masayuki Nagase 6.0 \$40.00, 1st U1700 Jacob Mayer 4.5 \$40.00, 1st U1400 Jason Roush 1.0 \$40.00, 1st U1200/Unr. Alan Tan 3.0 \$40.00. There were 20 players in this event.

G/10 Championship Section

This was also run as a round robin as there were only 6 players. 1st Top Half Yogi Saputra 5.0 \$60.00, 1st Bottom Half Anthony Lamb 2.0 \$40.00.

Novice Section

There were only 4 players; therefore it was run as a Quad. 1st Jason Roush 3.0 Trophy, 2nd Dave Roberge 2.0 Trophy, 1st Unr. Grant Huston 0.0 Trophy.

Scholastic Section:

87 kids showed up to play in this event.

K-3 U800: 1st Arnav Jain 4.5, 2nd Forest Berg 4.5, 3rd Matt West 4.0.

K-3 Open: 1st Eamon Thakur 5.0, 2nd, Brandon Jiang 4.0, 3rd Benton Tameling 4.0.

4-6 U900: 1st Bryon Fong 4.0, 2nd Raymond Guo 4.0, 3rd Adam Rice 4.0.

4-6 Open: 1st Aaron Probst 5.0, 2nd Nate Getz 4.0, 3rd Asher Thakur 4.0. Team awards: 1st Bearcreek 14.5, 2nd Somerset 12.5.

The TD was David Hendricks.

Anthony He (1728) – Nathan Lee (2161) [B82] 2013 WA Open Seattle R1, May 25, 2013 *[Ralph Dubisch]*

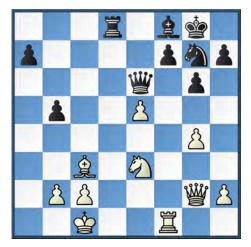
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Be3 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 0-0 9.0-0-0 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 e5 11.fxe5 Bg4



12.Qg3?

12.exf6! Bxf3 13.fxe7 Qxe7 14.gxf3 and White should be winning.

12...dxe5 13.Bxe5 Bxd1 14.Nxd1 Qa5 15.a3 Rac8 16.Bc3 Qa4 17.Bd3 Rfd8 18.Rf1 Qe8 19.e5 Nh5 20.Qh3 g6 21.g4 Ng7 22.Ne3 Bxa3 23.Bc4 Rxc4 24.Nxc4 Bf8 25.Qg2 b5 26.Ne3 Qe6



27.Rf6??

27.Rd1 Rxd1+ 28.Kxd1 Qa2 29.Nd5 Ne6 offers Black only a relatively small structural edge.

27...Qa2 28.b3 Ba3+ 29.Bb2 Qxb2# 0-1

Roland Feng (2218) – Raymond Kaufman (2436) [E39] 2013 WA Open Seattle R2, May 26, 2013 *[Ralph Dubisch]*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0–0 5.Nf3 c5 6.dxc5 Na6 7.g3 Nxc5 8.Bg2 b6 9.0–0 Ba6?



Logical is 9...Bxc3 10.Qxc3 Bb7 with a firm grip on the e4-square.

10.b3?

White misses a chance to win material due to the overcrowding of minor pieces on the queenside: 10.Nb1! Nce4 (10...- 11.a3 was the threat.) 11.Qa4 Ba5 12.b4 Bxc4 13.bxa5 Though there are still some problems to solve, White should be winning.

10...d5 11.Rd1 Qc8 12.Ne5 Bb7 13.Be3 dxc4 14.Nxc4 Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Ng4?

[Diagram top of next column]

15...Qc6+ 16.Kg1 Rfd8 is about equal.

16.Bxc5?

16.Bd4! Rd8 17.f3 Nh6 18.Nb5 Qc6



(18...Nd7 19.Rac1 gives White a solid plus.) 19.Nxa7! Rxa7 20.Bc3 with an unusual double attack to regain the piece and score an extra pawn.

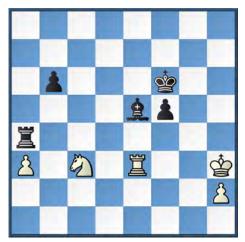
16...Qxc5 17.Ne4

17.e3? loses material: 17...b5

17...Qc6 18.f3

18.Kg1!?=+

18...Qxc4 19.Qxc4 Ne3+ 20.Kf2 Nxc4 21.bxc4 Rfd8 22.Rab1 Be7 23.Rd3 f5 24.Nd2 Kf7 25.Rbb3 Bc5+ 26.e3 Ke7 27.Ke2 h5 28.Rxd8 Rxd8 29.Rd3 Rc8 30.a3 h4 31.g4 h3 32.gxf5 exf5 33.f4 Bd6 34.Kf2 Rc5 35.Kg3 Ra5 36.Nb1 Ra4 37.Rc3 g5 38.Kxh3 gxf4 39.exf4 Bxf4 40.c5 Be5 41.Re3 Kf6 42.cxb6 axb6 43.Nc3



43...Ra7?!

43...Rd4 44.Ne2 Rd2 45.Ng3 f4 46.Rf3 Kg6 Black still has some chances in this ending.

44.Nd5+ Ke6 45.Nxb6 Rh7+ 46.Kg2 Rxh2+ 47.Kg1 Rc2 48.Nd7 Kxd7 49.Rxe5 Ra2 ¹/₂-¹/₂

Michael Wang (2165) – Becca Lampman (1981) [A16] 2013 WA Open Seattle R3, May 26, 2013 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.d3 d6 6.e4 Nc6 7.Nge2 a6 8.Rb1 Rb8 9.b4 b5 10.cxb5 axb5 11.d4 e5 12.d5 Nd4 13.Nxd4 exd4 14.Ne2 Re8 15.Bg5 c5 16.dxc6 Qb6 17.Bxf6 Bxf6 18.0-0



18...Be6?

18...Bg4! 19.Rc1 Rbc8 20.Qc2 Bxe2 21.Qxe2 Rxc6 22.Rxc6 Qxc6 = since after 23.e5?! the pawn is pinned.; 18... Qxc6?? 19.e5 wins.

19.Nf4 Bxa2 20.Nd5 Bxd5 21.exd5 Re7 22.Qd3 Ra8 23.Ra1 Rea7?

23...Ra4!? 24.Rxa4 bxa4 25.b5 Ra7 26.Ra1 Bd8 White has a structural plus, but there is no imminent breakthrough, and the Black blockade (aided by opposite color bishops) may hold this.

24.Rxa7 Rxa7 25.Rc1 Bd8 26.Bf1 Ra4 27.Rb1 Ra2 28.Re1 Kf8 29.h4 Rb2 30.h5 Kg7 31.Re8 Ra2

31...Bf6 doesn't help much at this point.

32.Qf3 Bg5

[Diagram top of next page]

Northwest Chess



33.h6+! Kxh6 34.Rg8 1-0

David Rupel (2091) – David Golub (2235) [A43] 2013 WA Open Seattle R4, May 26, 2013 *[David Rupel]*

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 c5 3.c4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 b6

In the post mortem, Black indicated he was sweating 5.Nb5 which indeed wins in the continuation 5...d6 6.Bf4 e5 7.Qd5 +--. However, Black has 5... Ba6, discouraging 6.Nd6+ since the c-pawn hangs after 6...Bxd6.

5.e4 Bb7 6.Bd3 a6 7.0–0 Qc7 8.Nc3 Nf6 9.Qe2 d6 10.f4 Nbd7 11.f5 e5 12.Nb3

Okay, but more thematic is 12.Nc2 with the idea Ne3 followed by Nd5 (Ljubojevic – E Meyer 1985).

12...Nc5 13.Nxc5 dxc5 14.Bg5 Be7 15.a4 Rc8 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.b3!? a5 18.Nd5 Bxd5

Expected, but now White's bad bishop springs to life.

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19.cxd5 h5?! 20.Bb5+ Ke7?

Marginally better is 20...Kf8. Now, Black's next dozen responses are virtually forced, culminating in a lost ending.

21.d6+! Qxd6 22.Rad1 Qb8 23.Rd7+ Kf8 24.Qc4 Be7 25.f6! gxf6 26.Rxf6 Rh7



27.Qe6!! Bxf6 28.Qxf6 Kg8 29.Bc4 Rf8 30.Bxf7+! Rhxf7

Taking with the other rook is equally bleak after 30...Rfxf7 31.Rd8+ Qxd8 32.Qxd8+ and White mops up the weak black pawns.

31.Qg6+ Kh8 32.Rxf7 Rxf7 33.Qxf7 Qd6 34.Qxh5+ Kg7 35.Qg4+ Kf6 36.h4 Qd4+ 37.Kh2 Qc3 38.Qg5+ Kf7 39.h5 Qxb3 40.h6

And here Black resorted to a little joke.

40...Qe3?? 41.Qxe3 1-0

Nick Raptis (2397) – Michael Wang (2165) [A37] 2013 WA Open Seattle

R6, May 27, 2013 [Ralph Dubisch]

> 1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.c4 Nc6 5.Nc3

These symmetrical positions in the English Opening are deceptively simple to play,

especially for White, who barely needed to deviate from the script for the first 18 moves or so. We sometimes used to call the plan "the box," as in "it worked right out of the box, no adjustments needed." Fundamentally, White aims for central light-square control, followed by queenside play by advancing a3 and b4, often backed by the rook on b1. More specifically, White often manages to play c4, Nf3, Nc3, g3, Bg2, 0-0, d3, Bd2, Rb1, a3, and b4 using only a minute or two off his clock for the lot. In this game, there's an extra (but still standard) maneuver to bring the king knight to d5: Nf3-e1-c2-e3-d5. The only difference in this game from the basic plan is that White managed to do without Rb1, as the d5-knight added support for the b4-pawn. Add in captures and recaptures, and you have the first 18 moves, ending with a pretty tiny but remarkably persistent edge for White. GM Seirawan used to play these English positions with great results, spawning a generation of English Opening players in the mid- to late-'70s. Hard to argue with success.

5...d6 6.0–0 e5

A Botvinnik idea, though more effective with colors reversed and against slightly different pawn structures, adding still more grip to the d4-square and suggesting a plan to gain space and attack along the f-file with ...f5 coming soon. The g8knight is now heading to e7 instead of f6 in order not to interfere with f-file operations and to support c6 as necessary.

7.Ne1

Oh, look! A d5-square!

7...Nge7 8.Nc2 0-0 9.Ne3 f5 10.Ned5 Rb8 11.d3 h6 12.a3 a6 13.Bd2 Kh7 14.b4 cxb4 15.axb4 Nxd5 16.Nxd5 b5 17.cxb5

This is certainly "box" standard, but in this case White has some options to maintain the tension -- and possibly



the pawn support of his d5-outpost. 17.Rc1!?

17...axb5 18.Bc3 Bb7 19.Qb3 Re8 20.e3

Now we see the big difference between the d4 and d5 squares: d4 can be guarded by a pawn.

20...Qd7 21.Rfc1

21.Ra3 Qf7 22.Rfa1 Ra8 23.Nb6l? is another idea that offers White a small edge. 23...Qxb3 24.Rxb3 Rxa1+ 25.Bxa1

21...Qf7 22.Qb2



A key moment. Black misses a path to near equality, and for the next 16 moves White's advantage grows steadily.

22...Na5?!

22...Nd4! 23.Ra7 Nc6 24.Ra3 (24. Nf6+ Qxf6 25.Rxb7 Rxb7 26.Bxc6 Qe7 27.Bxe8 Qxe8 =) 24...Nd4 Now White can take the repetition, or try 25.Qa2 Ra8 (25...Ne2+ 26.Qxe2 Bxd5 27.e4 +=) 26.Ra5 (26.exd4 Rxa3

Joshua C. Sinanan

National Master President, Washington Chess Federation

3610 218th St. SW Brier, WA 98036

Cell: (206) 769-3757 joshsinanan@gmail.com 27.Qxa3 Bxd5 28.Bxd5 Qxd5 29.dxe5 Ra8 30.Qb2 Ra2 31.Qb1 dxe5 =+) 26... Nc6 27.Rxa8 Rxa8 unclear.]

23.bxa5 Bxd5 24.Bxd5 Qxd5 25.Qb4 Rec8

25...Qxd3 26.Rd1 Qc4 27.Rxd6 is good for White.

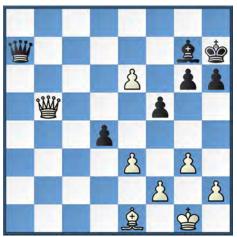
26.Rd1 Qc5 27.Be1 Bf8 28.Rdb1 Qc6

28...Qa7 is still good for White, but might limit the damage a little by hanging onto the attacked pawns and providing a physical obstruction of the mobile a-pawn.

29.a6 d5 30.Qb2 e4 31.a7 Ra8 32.dxe4

White is winning.

32...Bg7 33.e5 Rc7 34.Rc1 Qb7 35.Rxc7 Qxc7 36.Qxb5 Rxa7 37.Rxa7 Qxa7 38.e6 d4



39.Qd7?

Allows a mechanical draw by repetition. Instead, 39.exd4 Bxd4

40.Bb4 (Or 40.Qd5 maintaining White's advantage, with excellent prospects for the win.) 40...Bxf2+ (40...Bf6 41.Qd5) 41.Kf1 Bd4 42.Qd7+ Qxd7 43.exd7 Bf6 (43...Bb6 44.Be7) 44.Ba5 picking up a bishop.

39...Qa1 40.Kfl Qa6+ 41.Kg2 Qa8+ 42.Kh3 Qa6

42...Qh1 43.Qb5 = 43...Qf3 44.e7 Qg4+ 45.Kg2 Qe4+

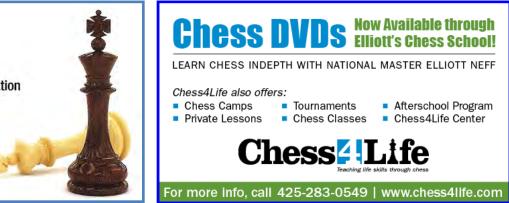
43.Kg2 Qa8+ 44.Kg1 Qa1 45.Kf1 Qa6+ ¹/₂-¹/₂

> Nathaniel Yee (1673) – Todd Damish (1666) [B75] 2013 WA Open Seattle R6, May 27, 2013 /Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f3 Nc6 7.Be3 g6 8.Bc4 Bg7 9.Qd2 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 0-0 11.h4 Qa5 12.0-0-0 Be6 13.Bxe6 fxe6 14.g4 Nd7 15.Bxg7 Kxg7



16.Qd4+?



Northwest Chess

Suddenly White's f- and g-pawns become very difficult to defend. Much better is 16.f4 when the pawns are safe, and White can build a nice attack on the g- and h-files.

16...Qe5 17.Rhf1 Qxd4 18.Rxd4 Ne5 19.f4 Nxg4 20.Rd2 Rf7 21.Ne2 Rc8 22.Rd3 Rc4 23.Nd4 Rf6 24.b3 Rc8 25.Rg3 h5 26.Rff3 Kf7 27.Kd2



27...e5

And with the elimination of the doubled e-pawn, any compensation White might claim disappears.

28.fxe5 Nxe5 29.Rxf6+ exf6 30.Nf3 Nxf3+ 31.Rxf3 Rc5 32.Rd3 Ke6 33.c4 g5 34.Ke3 g4 35.b4 Re5 36.Kd4 f5 37.exf5+ Kxf5 38.Rd2 g3 39.Rg2 Kf4 40.c5 dxc5+ 41.bxc5 Re1 42.Rb2 Rd1+ 43.Kc3 Rd7 44.Rb6 Kg4 0–1



Paul Bartron at the 2013 Washington Open. Photo credit: Jeff Roland



Galen Pyle at the 2013 Washington Open. Photo credit: Jeff Roland



Joshua Sinanan at the 2013 Washington Open. Photo credit: Jeff Roland



Cameron Leslie (right) at the 2013 Washington Open. Cameron is the new Idaho Representative on the Northwest Chess Board and is one of Idaho's best chess players. Paul Bartron is playing White on the board next to Cameron. Photo credit: Jeff Roland



Yaman Tezcan at the 2013 Washington Open. Photo credit: Jeff Roland



Alfred Pechisker of BC (Canada). Photo credit: Jeff Roland



Gilbert B. Lomboy (WA) won first place in the Booster Section. Photo credit: Jeff Roland



Mark Bustillo Saarenas (WA) (left) and Brett A. Becker (CA) (right). They tied for first place in the Premier Section. Photo credit: Jeff Roland

The newly elected Washington Chess Fedreation Board of Directors on May 27, 2013



This is the new Washington Chess Federation Board, with some of the officers on staggered two-year terms elected at the Washington Open. Left to right: Eelco van Ruth (Tournament Coordinator), Robert Allen (Treasurer), Marty Campbell (Member At Large), Gary Dorfner (Secretary), David Hendricks (Scholastic Coordinator), Duane Polich (Vice President), Joshua Sinanan (President). Photo credit: Jeff Roland.



The Annual Business Meeting held at the Washington Open. This is the newly elected Board in action. All Board members are present. L-R: Eelco van Ruth, Marty Campbell, Robert Allen, Gary Dorfner, Duane Polich, Josh Sinanan, David Hendricks. Photo credit: Jeff Roland

Oregon Chess News

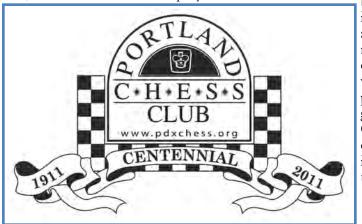
My Experience at Texas Tech

by Steven Breckenridge

Since I've been here at Texas Tech University, I've had the great privilege of working with Grandmaster Onischuk. I've learned more about how top players compete at the highest level and mastery of the game. From deep training, puzzles, blitz, and game analysis; to looking at the chess development of openings and theory from the olden days, I've bettered my understanding and broadened my view. I've also learned more about preparation and how to think about my opponent, a big part of the game.

Some of this also has come from my teammates who have helped me like GM Moradiabadi, learning to play more solid and positional like GM Zherebukh, and crazy tactics like IM Aleskerov. They all have different styles, yet still play at similar levels, and I'm thankful for their advice and support.

Motivation is always necessary to play your best. While just being there for someone, continuing to remind them there's no reason to be fearful, remember the training, and just play, is so helpful to calm our minds and regain focus in tournaments. So, I would encourage everyone to do that, and with relaxation or prayer in



between rounds, not too much preparation, but enough. Onischuk told me during my tournament, "Eat well, sleep well, rest well and you'll play well." Less stress and better chess!

I've played around eight tournaments since I've been here at Tech; the majority of them taking place in Dallas, TX, where I've faced much of the UTDallas team. The tournaments have been great learning experiences for me, though my rating hasn't increased significantly, my play and understanding have. When getting better at anything, experience is always the best way to get better. I was board #4 for the Texas Tech A-team for the Pan-Am National Collegiate Championship this past Christmas, where I won three, drew one, and lost two. The losses were from GM Hoyos, and WGM/IM Paikidze. I've never really lost as many games as I have being here, but I've also never played so many Grandmasters and other titled players before. It is definitely true that you can learn much more from your losses than your wins, though many times pride may get in the way and blind the learning experience when just focused on the win and not the game. When we let it go and focus on the experience, we learn. I am grateful for the opportunity to play and compete with these many talented players.

I am going to show a couple games from two separate tournaments,

both taking place in Dallas, and talk about my tournament results. Both of these games were against UTD players. The first game is with WIM Chardine Camacho from the Philippines, who is on the UTD B-team. Steven Breckenridge(2376) – Chardine Camacho WIM (2244) [C06] UTDallas Spring Fide Open R5, Mar 11, 2013 [Steven Breckenridge]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Nf3 Qc7 12.Bg5 0-0 13.Rc1

13.Bh4 Nh5 14.Qc2 is the common line with Nh5 and Rxf3 (14.Bg3 Nxg3 15.hxg3) 14...h6 15.Bh7+ Kh8 16.Bg6 Rxf3 17.Bxh5 (17.gxf3 Bxh2+ 18.Kg2 Nf4+ 19.Nxf4 (19. Kxh2 Nxg6+ 20.Bg3 Qf7 21.Kg2=) 19...Qxf4 20.Bg3 Bxg3 21.fxg3 Qxd4 which looks similar to the game continuation, but Black is much more ahead) 17...Rf8 18.Bg3 Bd7 19.Rac1 and this is typical.

13...Nh5

Normally this is played after 13. Bh4, but I continue with that anyway 13...Bd7 is a mainline; and 13...Ng4 is most often played with the same Rxf3 idea 14.h3 (14.Ng3 would stop Rxf3 line 14...g6 15.Bb5 Sokolov - Jussupow) 14...Rxf3 15.hxg4 Rf7 16.Bb1 I prefer, with Rc3 ideas.

14.Bh4

14.Ng3 I could play again.

14...Rxf3 15.gxf3 Bxh2+ 16.Kg2 Bd6?

[Diagram top of next page]

16...Bf4 forcing a rook move 17.Rc2 e5 seems best; 16...Nf4+ also is better 17.Nxf4 *(17.Kxh2 Nxe2+ 18.Bg3 Nxg3 19.fxg3 Qb6±)* 17...Bxf4 18.Bg3 Bxg3 19.fxg3 Qb6 20.Rf2± with Qh1 ideas while protecting b2.

17.Rh1 g6 18.Bg3

Necessary.

Northwest Chess



18...Nxg3

A move like 18...Qe7 would run into 19.Bxd6 Qxd6 20.Rxh5 gxh5 21.Qh1 and looks close to winning.

19.fxg3

Very pleasant for White, and I have a clear idea.

19...Qg7

19...e5 is necessary, activating Black's bishop on c8 with a soon Rd8 Black may be holding on.

20.f4!

Stopping the crucial e5 push, and allowing Nxd4. This pawn push, perhaps is the closer(end) to the game.

20...Bd7

20...Nxd4? 21.Nxd4 Qxd4 22.Rxh7! and White is winning with the threat of Bxg6+ if Kxh7 (or 22.Bxg6 Qxd1 23.Bxh7+).

21.Qd2

Seeking to double the rooks, and again allowing Nxd4.

21...Bb4

[Diagram top of next column]

A little too slow, Rf8 may have been best 21...Nxd4 the computer's preferred line, though still in White's favor 22.Nxd4 (22.Bxg6 is another strong alternative 22...Qxg6 23.Nxd4 e5 24.f5 Qf7 25.Nf3 e4 26.Ng5



Qxf5 27.Rxh7 Qe5 28.Rh8+! Kg7 29.Ne6+! Qxe6 (29...Kf7 30.Rf1+Ke7 31.Rh7+) 30.Qg5+ Qg6 31.Qxg6+ Kxg6 32.Rxa8 but again this is computer analysis, and it is unlikely we would have played this.) 22...Qxd4 23.Rxh7 Bb5! and now the computer line 24.Qe2 Kxh7 25.Qxe6 with a mate threat of Qf7 and Rh1# 25...Be8 (25...Qxb2+ 26.Rc2 Qg7 27.Bxb5+-) 26.Qxd6 Bf7 (26...Qxd3 27.Rc7+Bf7 28.Rxf7+ Kh6 29.Qe7 Qe4+ 30.Qxe4 dxe4 31.Rxb7+-) 27.Rc7 Qxb2+ 28.Kf3 Qg7 and White is still better but not yet winning.

22.Qe3 Ba5 23.Rh2!

Doubling the rooks, and letting go of the d-pawn.

23...Bb6 24.Rch1

Taking pawn would quickly lose to Rxh7.

24...h5

24...Rf8 was best 25.Rxh7 Qxh7 26.Rxh7 Kxh7 27.Bb5

25.Bxg6!

The rooks are too powerful.

25...Qxg6 26.Rxh5 Bd8 27.Rh8+ Kg7 28.f5

Clearing the Knight to f4 and opening up the queen diagonal for mate threats and Black resigned.

1–0

This game was played round 5 at the UTDallas Spring Fide Open in March, which followed my 21st birthday.

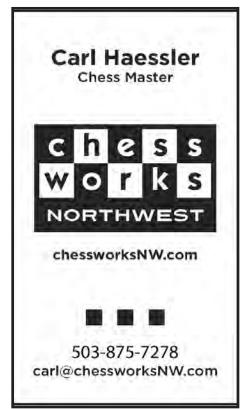
That tournament I scored 4.5/9, facing one WFM, one WIM, two FM's, three IM's, and two GM's. I wasn't thrilled with my result, as from losing a completely won position from a FM, drawing a close win from an IM and blundering a piece when possible drawing chances with a GM.

But overall I felt my play was strong, despite the grueling nine rounds, and after a blitz tournament, which was followed by the six hour drive to Dallas, I still had a good experience and had fun spending time with our team.

My next game is versus the top board on the UTDallas A-team, GM Valentin Yotov from Bulgaria.

Valentin Yotov GM (2657) – Steven Breckenridge (2382) [E15] Texas Masters R2, Feb 16, 2013 [Steven Breckenridge]

I must confess this game I had a solid hour or more to prepare for Yotov



in between rounds. I have never been so successful with my preparation. It obviously is much easier to prepare for someone who is a GM, and has many games in databases, but still it takes a lot of understanding to prepare. The first 15 moves or so, I didn't really spend much time on.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Ba6 5.Qc2

Which has been a rising alternative to b3, Qa4, or Nbd2.

5...Bb7 6.Bg2 c5 7.d5

This pawn sacrifice has become very popular amongst the top Grandmasters today.

7...exd5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.0–0 Be7 10.Rd1

White has a great space advantage, and will be completely developed soon which quickly compensates for the pawn 10.Qe4 is actually a strong line with the idea of Nh4 and Nf5 or Rd1, where Black is prompted to play 10...Bc6 (or 10...Na6 11.Nh4 g6 12.Qe5 f6 13.Qe4 Svidler-Karjakin, and Radjabov-Leko) 11.Ne5 Nf6 12.Nxc6 Nxc6 13.Qa4 0-0 14.Rd1 Nd4 15.Nc3 b5 16.Qa6 b4 17.Nd5 Nxd5 18.Bxd5 Rb8 19.Bf4 Qb6 20.Qc4 d6 21.e3 Nb5 22.g4 Nc7 23.Be4 g6 24.Rd2 Rbd8 25.Qe2 d5 26.Bxc7 1/2–1/2 Aronian,L (2739)-Anand,V (2799)/Morelia/ Linares 2008/CBM 123; 10.Ne5 also 10...Qc7 11.Qe4 Nc6 12.Qxd5 Nd8 13.Qxd7+ Qxd7 14.Nxd7 Bxg2 15.Kxg2 1/2–1/2 Nakamura,H Baltlan V (2627) 2008 (2699)

59	99) - Baklan,V (2627) 2008.	Kramnik
	Roger and Ilse Roberts	ð
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Have some chess books, ask Roger about Bobby!

10...Qc8

Over-protecting the bishop from a move like Qe4. 10...Nc6 is what I normally play in blitz 11.Qa4 (11.Qf5 Nf6 12.e4) 11...Nf6.

11.Qf5



A more aggressive move, though in principle a queen is not to be moved out so early; in this case if it were to be attacked another weakness would be created, so it is fine here until it has served its purpose 11.Nh4 I believe is the most popular 11...Bxh4 12.Rxd5 (12.Bxd5 Bxd5 (12...Be7 13.Nc3 0-0) 13.Rxd5 Be7 14.Qe4 Nc6) 12...Be7 13.Nc3 Nc6 14.Qe4 0-0 (14...Nd8 *15.Bg5 f6 16.Bf4 Ne6 17.Qc4*∓) 15.Rh5 g6 16.Rh3 d6 17.Nd5 Re8 18.b4 Qd7 19.Bb2 Nd4 20.Bxd4 cxd4 21.Nxe7+ Rxe7 22.Qxb7 Qxb7 23.Bxb7 Rxb7 24.Rh4 Re8 25.Rxd4 Rxe2 26.Rxd6 Rc7 27.a3 Kg7 1/2-1/2 Beliavsky,A (2641)-Timman,J (2565)/Bazna 2008/CBM 124 Extra; 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bxe7 Nxe7 13.e4 0-07; 11.a3 has also been played by Topalov and V ik.

> Nc6 12...0–0 13.Bg5 d6 (13...d5 14.Qxc8 Rxc8 15.Nb4 Nbd7 16.Nf5 Bf8 17.Nxd5 Nxd5 18.Bxd5 Bxd5 19.Rxd5 1/2–1/2 K h a l i f m a n , A (2624)-Khairullin,I

11...Nf6

12.Nc3

(2586)/ Sochi 2007/ CBM 118 19... Nb8) 14.Qxc8 Rxc8 15.Nb5 Bc6 16.Nxd6 Bxd6 17.Bxf6 Bf8 18.Bc3 b5 19.Rac1 Re8 20.e3 Be4 21.Nh4 Bxg2 22.Nxg2 Nc6 23.Nf4 1/2–1/2 Sargissian, G (2643)-Leko,P (2741)/ Yerevan 2008/CBM 124 Extra.

13.Bg5 d5 14.Nh4

14.Qf4 may have given him better chances here 14...d4 (14...Qb8=) 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Bd8 17.e3 Ne7 18.Nxe7 Bxe7 19.exd4 0–0 20.dxc5 bxc5 21.Rac1 a5 22.b3 1/2–1/2 Svidler,P (2746)-Carlsen,M (2765)/ Foros 2008/CBM 125 reaching the same position as Cheparinov -Kamsky which was three months prior to this game, and was quickly drawn.

14...Nd4

A queen trade may favor Black.

15.Qd3 0-0 16.e3 Ne6 17.Nf5 Qc7= 18.Bxf6

18.Nxe7+ Qxe7 19.Bxf6 Qxf6 and all lines are completely equal.

18...Bxf6 19.Nxd5

19.Bxd5 Rad8 20.e4 is another consideration.

19...Bxd5 20.Bxd5 Rad8 21.Qe4!?

hoping for Qe5 after Bxb2. 21.Qc4 Bxb2 22.Rab1 Bf6; 21.Qb3 Qc8.

21...Bxb2 22.Rab1 Bf6

22...Qe5? 23.Qxe5 Bxe5 24.Ne7+ Kh8 25.Nc6+-.

23.Qc4

Now allowing me a full pawn up 23.Bxe6 fxe6 24.Qxe6+ Qf7 would give me a very easy endgame, to where White would be trying to draw.

23...Qc8 24.Qg4

[Diagram top of next page]

24...Kh8

I strongly considered 24...Ng5 with



the idea of h5, but after e4 I wasn't sure how much better I was. After I told Yotov about the move, he looked at me like I was crazy, and said wow. 25.e4 (25.h4? h5 26.Qxh5 (26.Ne7+ Bxe7 27.Qxc8 Rxc8 28.hxg5 Bxg5) 26...Qxf5 27.hxg5 Rxd5-+) 25...g6 26.Nh6+ Kg7 27.e5 Be7 28.Qxc8 Rxc8 29.Ng4.

25.Bc4 Qc6 26.h4 g6

Forcing a draw repetition 26...Rxd1+ 27.Rxd1 Rd8 28.Rxd8+ Nxd8 29.Qe2 was the continuation I was going to go into where the computer gives me a clear pawn better with best play, but I decided a draw was already a great result and may do better to save my energy for the next games.

27.Nh6 Kg7 28.Nf5+ Kh8 29.Nh6 Kg7 ¹/₂-¹/₂

This game was played round 2 at the Texas Masters Tournament, a month before the Dallas Spring tournament, and I scored 3/5. Despite having a hard loss against IM Darwin Yang where I should have won, but in time pressure managing to lose, I still won the U2400 prize. My three points came from the draw from this game, a draw with Rufieng Li, a strong young Chinese kid who was around 2300, and beating two experts.

Thanks for all your love and support. I am missing the Northwest and my home each day, but I still thank God for the opportunities He's given me here. Blessings and love to you all, and I hope to come back soon for visits.

Lennart Bjorksten (2108) – Nick Raptis (2397) [D11] PCC May Quads Portland R3, May 21, 2013 [Lennart Bjorksten]

This game was a milestone for me. I was out of chess for 20 years, but got back in partly because I had unfinished business: despite being rated 2100+ for years, I never made master. Chess changed a lot while I was away, thanks to computers and databases and tactics trainers. I had also forgotten all my opening theory, which was out of date anyway. This game was my first win against a master since my return, and I definitely made it count!

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Qc2 g6 5.e3 Bg7 6.Nc3 0–0 7.b3 a6 8.Bb2 b5 9.Bd3 Nbd7 10.0–0 Nb6 11.Ne5 Bb7 12.c5

This move means Black will end up wasting four tempi on Nd7-b6-d7 and Bc8-b7-c8. This effectively gives White the initiative for th rest of the game.

12...Nbd7 13.f4 Qc7 14.Rf3 Bc8 15.Raf1 b4 16.Ne2

I also considered Na4, which would essentially extinguish any black queenside threats and permanently threaten to plan the knight at the powerful b6 outpost if Black's knights ever leave d7. My computer prefers Na4, but White is clearly playing for a kingside attack, so I chose to move the knight in that direction.

16...a5 17.f5!

[Diagram top of next column]

This is the kind of move I used to be afraid to make. If the f5 pawn gets traded off and Black plays Nxe5, White's shattered pawn formation looks like easy pickings in the endgame. However, we're a long way from the endgame, and the pawns' static weakness would be more than compensated for by their dynamic strength and the power of White's



dark squared bishop, which would be unleashed by a knight trade on e5.

17...Ba6

Evidently Nick agrees that Nxe5 is too dangerous for Black.

18.fxg6 hxg6 19.Nxg6!

Another move that I might not have made in years past, since I've always been nervous about sacrificing material for nebulous compensation. However, this position fairly screams for a piece sacrifice on g6. Even if White gets nothing more than two pawns for it, the g and h pawns will easily be worth a piece if White can start pushing them.

19...fxg6 20.Bxg6 e5

Ne4 looks better.

21.Qf5

Risky, since the knight on e2 is now hanging. My computer prefers Rh3, but White has a very strong attack this way too.

21...Rae8

White's light squared bishop is so strong that Black offers an exchange to get rid of it.

22.Bxe8

...and White accepts. Rh3 looks playable but I couldn't find anything decisive in that line.

22...Rxe8 23.R1f2



23...e4

Black's last chance was the sneaky cute 23...Bd3, followed by 24.Qg5 Ne4 25.Qg6 Nef6 26.Qg5 Ne4, with a draw by repetition. After the text move Black just looks doomed, although White still has to pick his moves carefully.

24.Rg3 Bxe2 25.Rxe2 Qd8 26.Rf2 Qe7 27.Rg6 Qe6 28.Qg5 Re7 29.h4 Kh7 30.h5 Rf7







Black's pieces are all tied down on defense, he can't do anything of consequence without losing material. If Black does nothing, White will simply trade pawns on b4, then activate his bad bishop via Bc1-d2-Bxb4-a5-c7 or d8. There's really no way for Black to stop this without allowing White to crash through decisively on the kingside.

34.h6 Bf8 35.g4 Rh7 36.g5 Ng8 37.Rxc6 Bxh6

The mark of a master. Yes, this loses quickly, but what sets masters apart from lesser mortals is their focus on activity. Even if the game is lost, do what you can to get some activity, it gives your opponent more chances to make a mistake.

38.gxh6 Nxh6 39.Rc8+ Ng8 40.Rg2 Rg7

Ndf6 is no better, it loses to Qxf6.

41.Qh5+ Rh7 42.Rcxg8#

My big achievement isn't just that I won, but that I did so by reducing such a strong player to near total passivity. Conversely, I found my best moves by staying focused on playing as actively as possible. Thanks to games like this, I feel confident that it's just a matter of time before I reach the 2200 mark.

1-0 31...Qe7 32.axb4 axb4 33.Qf5 Kh8



Phone: (425) 218-7529. E-mail: danomathews2@aol.com.

Online Registration: www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration.

Oregon Senior Chess Championship July 6-7, 2013

Site: Pioneer Adult Community Center, 615 Fifth St., Oregon City, OR (enter by basement door on Washington Street). Wheelchair accessible.

Type: Rated 5 Rd. Swiss SystemRegistration: 9:00-9:45 AM on July 6

Rds: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm, 6 pm; Sunday 9 am & 3:30 pm

Time Control: Game in 120 minutes (with or without 5 second delay)

Entry Fee: \$25 if received by June 30; \$30 later

Memberships required: U.S.C.F. and player's state federation

Open to players age 50 and up, no matter where they reside.

Byes: Up to two half point byes allowed in any round if requested by end of rd. 3.

Prizes: Prizes: \$1000+ (b/40 paid entries), Overall \$200-100-50, Under 1800 \$100-50, Under 1600 \$100-50, Under 1400 \$100-50, Over age 60 \$75, Over age 70 \$75, Over age 80 \$50. Trophy to Open winner. First Washington & Idaho senior each guaranteed minimum \$50 prize.

Champion's name will be engraved on the Dr. Ralph Hall Memorial Trophy on display at Oregon City/West Linn Chess Club, and will receive free entry into the 2014 Oregon Senior Chess Championship. Note that more than 100% of entry fees were awarded in cash prizes in 2011 and 2012.

Previous co-winners, Mike Janniro & Stephen Deeth (2011), as well as Michael Morris & David Rupel (2012) receive free entry this year.

Advance entries to tournament director: Grisha Alpernas, 12 Scarborough Dr., Lake Oswego, OR 97034; E-mail: grisha.alpernas@gmail.com. phone: 503-638-5423

Organizer: Oregon Chess Federation

Host: Brian Berger, President of Oregon City/West Linn Chess Club

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Coverage: Tournament results and games will be in Northwest Chess

Idaho Chess News



2013	4/4	4/11	4/18	4/25	5/23	5/30	6/6	6/9	6/13	6/20	7/25	8/1	
# moves	61	42	29	11	25	11	40	29			-		
Player	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Jeff Roland	1	0.5	0	0.5	1	0.5	0	0			1		3.5
Frank Niro	0	0.5	1	0.5	0	0.5	1	1					4.5

(For games 1-4, see the June 2013 issue)

Jeff Roland (1701) – Frank Niro (1700) [B13] Match G5, Nampa, ID May 23, 2013 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Bg5 Qa5?

6...Be7 leads to main line Panov-Botvinnik positions: 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.c5 0–0 with rough equality.

7.Bd2?!

Both players have been having trouble making decisions about when to exchange bishops for knights in this match. In one of the earlier games, Frank chose to double Jeffrey's pawns at the cost

of the bishop-pair, but it proved to be a mistake. Here Jeffrey misses an opportunity. 7.Bxf6 gxf6 8.cxd5 exd5 (8...Bb4 9.Nge2 exd5 (9...Qxd5 10.a3 Bxc3 + 11.Nxc3) 10.a3 is very nice for White.) 9.Bd3 is quite good for White. Black has many easily targeted weaknesses, has no easy home for his king, and is behind in development. This is not a good combination. Expect White to develop Qf3, Nge2, O-O, then prosecute a winning attack. A plausible continuation is 9... Nc6 (9...Bb4?! 10.Nge2 Nc6 11.0-0 is even better for White. Black's only compensation for the positional deficit is the pair of bishops, so it is wrong to suggest the exchange of one of them for a white knight.) 10.Qf3 Be6 11.Nge2 0-0-0 12.0-0

7...dxc4

Black could try the retreat 7...

Qd8 hoping that the bishop on d2 is slightly misplaced, rather than counting as another unit developed.

8.Bxc4 Qb6 9.Nf3 Bd7

9...Nc6 10.0–0 Nxd4 11.Be3 Nxf3+ 12.Qxf3 gives White more than enough for the pawn.

10.0-0 Bd6



11.Qe2

11.d5! looks very promising: 11...e5 a) 11...0-0 12.dxe6 Bxe6 13.Bxe6 fxe6 14.Be3 Qd8 (14...Qxb2 15.Qxd6 Qxc3 16.Qxe6+) 15.Qb3 All these lines look great for White.; b) 11... exd5 12.Re1+ Be6 13.Nxd5 Nxd5 14.Bxd5 0-0 15.Bxe6 fxe6 16.Be3 with an obvious plus.; 12.Be3 Qxb2 (12...Qc7 13.Bd3 (Or 13.Nb5 Bxb5 14.Bxb5+ Nbd7 15.Rc1) 13...0-0 13.Qd3 0-0 14.Rab1 14.Rc1) Qa3 15.Rxb7 and White enjoys a significant advantage in development and activity.

11...0-0 12.Rfe1 Bc6 13.Ne5 Qxd4



14.Nxf7!?

This is actually a thematic sacrificial idea in many IQP positions, and here it feels as though Black has been systematically inviting it: offside queen; tempo-eating bishop maneuver to c6, reducing the defense of e6; loss of time pawn grabbing with the queen (...Qa5-b6xd4).

14....Kxf7?

Black tries to hold onto some of the extra material, and so gets squished. 14...Rxf7! 15.Qxe6 (15.Bxe6 Nbd7 16.Rad1 Re8 17.Bxf7+ (17.Bg5 Rxe6! 18.Rxd4 (18.Qxe6 Bxh2+!) 18...Rxe2 19.Rxe2 Be5 is fine for Black.) 17... Kxf7 18.Be3 Qe5 when Black has a bit of a plus due to a somewhat favorable material imbalance and a slightly safer(!) king.) 15...Bxh2+! (15...Nbd7!? 16.Qxf7+ Kh8) 16.Kxh2 Ng4+ 17.Kh1 Bxg2+! 18.Kxg2 Qxf2+ 19.Kh3 Qh2+ 20.Kxg4 Qg2+ 21.Kh4 Qf2+ 22.Kh5 Qh2+ (Or 22...g6+ 23.Kg5 Qg2+ 24.Kh4 Qf2+) 23.Kg5 Qg2+ and Black has actually forced the draw, since 24.Qg4? Qxd2+ 25.Kh4 Qh2+ 26.Qh3 g5+ 27.Kg4 h5+ 28.Qxh5? (28.Kxg5 Qxh3 when White's activity is no match for an extra queen.) 28...Qg2#

15.Qxe6+ Kg6 16.Be3



16...Bd7

Black's last hope to stay in the game is the difficult decoy/forking tactic 16...Bxh2+! 17.Kxh2 Qe5+! 18.Qxe5 Ng4+ 19.Kg3 Nxe5 when material equality is restored, but White retains the bishop-pair, a development advantage, and better king safety.

17.Bxd4 Bxe6 18.Rxe6 Bb4 19.Nd5 Nc6 20.Rxc6 bxc6 21.Nxb4 c5 22.Bxc5 Rfc8 23.Na6 Nd7 24.Bd3+ Kf7 25.Be4 1–0

> **Frank Niro (1700) –** Jeff Roland (1701) [C62] Match G6, Eagle, ID May 30, 2013

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bb5 d6 5.d4 exd4 6.Nxd4 Bd7 7.Nxc6 Bxc6 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.0-0 Be7 10.Be3 0-0 11.f3 Qd7 ¹/₂-¹/₂

(A short draw in this game suited both players for different reasons. Frank had a lot to do that day and didn't want to spend a lot of time in this game unless Black wanted a full-blown struggle. I knew Frank was "inclined" to go for a short draw in this game. For me, it was a consolidation of a one-point lead and an opportunity to really gain the upper hand if I could win the next game as White too. As you can see below, however, this did not happen. After the next two games (both of which that I lost), I came to realize that I needed to play hard for a win in each and every game regardless of color. So this is the last game of the match to be a short "Grandmaster Draw", game four being the only other example.—Roland)

> Jeff Roland (1730) – Frank Niro (1700) [D45] Match G7, Eagle, ID June 6, 2013 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 c6 2.c4 d5 3.Nf3 e6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bb4?!

I'll leave it to someone else to quote GM games chapter and verse on this position. Suffice to say I'm not a fan of the bishop pin. When a bishop pins a knight it's trying to cause trouble, and here the idea must be to pile on with ...Ne4 and perhaps ...Qa5. But the move suggests a willingness to either exchange that bishop or to lose time retreating it at some point. That's Black's good bishop. It should exchange for a knight? I think not. I prefer 5...Be7

6.Bd2 0–0 7.Bd3 dxc4 8.Bxc4 b6 9.0–0 Ba6

9...Bb7 looks a little better. Black doesn't seem interested in challenging White's center, so the small advantage starts to grow.

10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Qa4 Qc8 12.Rac1 Bxc3 13.Bxc3

Safe and sane. Also reasonable is 13.Rxc3 but White would need to be prepared for the complications of 13...Ne4 For example, 14.Rxc6 (14. Ra3 or; 14.Rc2 keep a clear plus while avoiding some of the edgier ideas involved in the direct purchase of the c-pawn.) 14...Qe8 is a tricky pin,

and White may need to part with the exchange (for, of course, a healthy number of pawns) to extricate the rook. 15.b3 Nxd2 16.Nxd2 Nb4 17.Rc4 b5 18.Qxb4 bxc4 19.bxc4 is one obscure line leading to material imbalance and perhaps a small to middling edge to White.

13...Nd5 14.Bd2 Nb8 15.Ne5 b5 16.Qc2 Qa6 17.e4 Nf6 18.Bg5 Rc8

Maybe a little better is 18...Nfd7 19.Nxc6 Nxc6 20.Qxc6 Nb6 but 21.Rc5 still shows a very nice advantage for White.

19.Bxf6!

It may be a little much to give an exclamation mark for this obvious move, but here it is the right decision, and both players have been having issues with this kind of exchange.

19...gxf6 20.Ng4 Nd7 21.Qd2 Kf8 22.Rfe1

22.Qh6+ Ke7 23.e5 is a big attack, similar to positions that could be reached in the coming notes.

22...Qb6 23.e5 fxe5

23...f5 24.Nh6 Qd8 25.Rc3 Ke8 26.Rg3 Nf8 27.Rg7 and White is having a lot more fun.

24.dxe5 Qd8



24...Qc7 25.Qh6+ Ke8 26.Nf6+ Nxf6 27.exf6 Rd8 though of course Black is still getting crushed: 28.Qxh7 Kd7 29.Qxf7+ Kc8 30.Qxe6+

25.Red1?

I have a theory as to why White doesn't play Qh6+ in this game. The thought process might have gone something like this: "Black played his king to f8, so if I check him, it's just forcing his king to go where it wants to go anyway. He must know what he's doing, so I won't waste time analyzing something that obviously helps him." 25.Qh6+! Ke7 26.Red1 Oc7 27.Nf6 (among many others) (27.*Qg*5+ *Kf8* 28.*Rd6* is just crushing.) 27...Nxe5 28.Qg5! Kf8 29.Nxh7+ Ke8 30.Nf6+ Kf8 31.f4 Ng6 32.Rd7 Qb6+ 33.Kh1 Kg7 34.Nh5+ Kg8 35.Qf6 and mate follows shortly.

25...Qh4 26.Qd6+?!

26.Rc3 looks very strong: 26...Rd8 (26...Qxg4 27.Qd6+ Kg8 28.Rg3 Qxg3 29.hxg3 is similarly good for White.) 27.Rh3 Qxg4 28.Rg3 Qxd1+ 29.Qxd1 Nxe5 30.Qh5 Rd5 31.h4 and White will pick off the h-pawn at his leisure.

26...Kg7 27.Ne3 Nb8?

Better is 27...Nb6 28.Rd4 Qh5 29.Rg4+ Kh8 30.h3 Rd8 White's position is preferable, but it's still a game.

28.Rd4 Qh6 29.Qe7 c5



30.Rh4?

30.Rg4+ Kh8 31.Qb7 Nc6 32.Rxc5 and lights out, due to 32...Rab8 33.Rxc6

30...Nc6 31.Rg4+

31.Qxf7+ Kxf7 32.Rxh6 Nxe5 33.Rxh7+ Kg6 34.Rb7 White has a healthy extra pawn, though that's a bit of a disappointment compared to some of the possibilities he's missed.

31...Kh8 32.Qd6 c4



32...Nd4 33.Rxc5

33.Re1?!

33.b3! f5 34.exf6 Qxf6 35.bxc4 Ne5 36.Re4 Nxc4 37.Nxc4 bxc4 38.Rxe6 and White has good winning chances.

33...Qf8 34.Qd1?

34.Nf5 Rab8 leaves White with only a relatively small plus, but that's much better than giving Black a clear advantage.

34...Nxe5 35.Rg3 Rd8 36.Qh5 f5 37.f4

37.Rh3 Qf7 38.Qxf7 Nxf7 39.Nf1 f4 40.Ra3 when Black is the one up a solid pawn.

37...Nd3 38.Rh3 Qg7 39.Rg3

39.Rf1 hangs on a bit better.

39...Qxb2 40.Nd1?

40.Rf1 while still losing, keeps the flame of hope burning for a few extra moves.

40...Qd4+ 0-1



[eff Roland (left) vs. Frank Niro (right) during game 8 of the 2013 Roland vs. Niro Match. Photo taken by Jarod Buus with Jeff Roland's camera.

(Game 8 of the match was the one game to date that we promoted and opened up to the public to watch. As such, we have pictures from this game, which was played at the Nampa Chess Club at the Flying M Coffee Garage on a Sunday morning.-Roland)

> Frank Niro (1700) -Jeff Roland (1730) [A00] Match G8, Nampa, ID June 9, 2013 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.Nc3 Bd6 6.d4 exd4 7.Qxd4 f6 8.Be3 Ne7 9.0-0-0 Be6 10.Nh4 0-0 11.f4 c5 12.Qd3 Nc6 13.Nd5 Ne7 14.Nb6 Rb8?

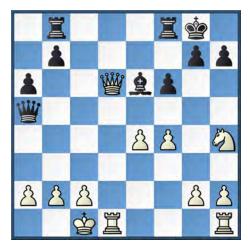
Faced with the surprise knight incursion, Black makes what looks like an analytic error. 14...cxb6 15.Qxd6 Bg4! (I suspect the only line Black considered when faced with that Nb6 was 15...Oxd6? 16.Rxd6 when White will end up with at least one extra pawn.) 16.Rd2 Qxd6 17.Rxd6 Nc6

with rough equality, since White must arrange for a defense of the e-pawn against frontal attack by a rook.

15.Nc4 Nc8 16.Nxd6 cxd6 17.Bxc5 Qa5 18.Bxd6

18.Ba3 looks like a clear edge.

18...Nxd6 19.Qxd6



19....Bxa2?

19...Qxa2 is much better, keeping

some control of the f5-square and generating some action around the white king: 20.Qa3 (20.Rhe1 Qa1+ 21.Kd2 Qa5+ and White must either allow the draw by repetition or try 22.Ke3 Rfe8 23.Nf3) 20...Qc4 21.Rhe1 Rbc8 22.Rd2 Rfe8 and Black definitely has some compensation for the pawn.

20.Nf5 Bf7 21.Qa3 Qc7 22.g3 Rfe8 23.Rd4 Rbc8 24.c3 g6 25.Nd6 Red8 26.Rhd1 Rb8 27.Nxf7 Kxf7?

27...Rxd4 28.Nh6+ Kg7 29.Nf5+ gxf5 30.Rxd4 Re8 is not really great for Black, but it avoids resignation.

28.Rxd8 Rxd8 29.Rxd8

29...Qxd8 30.Qb3+ Kf8 31.Qxb7 Qd3 32.Qd5 Qf1+ 33.Qd1 Qf2 34.Qd2 Qf1+ 35.Kc2 and it's just a matter of time and patience for White to make the two extra pawns count.

1 - 0



Jeff Roland as taken by Frank Niro with Jeff's camera during game 8 of the Roland vs. Niro Match.



Frank Niro as taken by Jeff Roland during game 8 of the Roland vs. Niro Match.



L-R: Chong-Jin Ong, Tom Booth, Kurt Douglas (back), Isaac Blake (front), Caleb Kircher, Roger Hunter, Dan Looney, Jarod Buus. Photo credit: Jeff Roland

6th Annual Treasure Valley Chess Championship

The 6th Annual Treasure Valley Chess Championship was played on June 8, 2013 at the Redeemer Lutheran Church on 2920 W. Cassia in Boise, Idaho. Jeff Roland was the tournament director, and he also took pictures at the event.

Eight players attended the invitational

event (down from 15 last year). The time control was game/60 with no time delay and no insufficient losing chances rule. This created quite a dynamic in a couple of the games. In fact, one game between Kurt Douglas and Chong-Jin Ong from round two was so low on time, that I had to take 60 pictures focused right on the board and clock to get an accurate record of the game, which by this time neither player could record. In the final moves, BOTH players had less than 10 seconds for the game.



Kurt Douglas of Boise was the only undefeated player in the event and scored three points (two wins and two draws). Caleb Kircher of Nampa also achieved three points (three wins and one loss) and would have won the tournament on tie-breaks if not for the fact that he lost to Kurt Douglas in the first round. In this event, head-to-head trumps all other tie-breaks, so Kurt Douglas finishes in first place with Caleb Kircher at second place.

Tom Booth of Caldwell, Jarod Buus of Nampa, Dan Looney of Meridian, Chong-Jin Ong of Boise, Isaac Blake of Boise, and Roger Hunter of Nyssa, OR were the other players in the tournament, which gave the tournament excellent representation of the Treasure Valley.

The event was sponsored by Idaho Chess Union (ICU) and was rated by Rocky Mountain Chess.

We would like to thank the players for playing, and Redeemer Lutheran Church for providing such a great playing site for free.



\$1550 Guaranteed Prize Fund FIDE Rated USCF Grand Prix Points: 15

Prizes (100% Guaranteed!):

Open Section: \$500, \$250, \$100. Open section will be separated into two halves for prize payout only (but will be one section for pairing). First place in lower half receives \$200, 2nd place in lower half will receive \$100, and 3rd place in lower half will receive \$50.; **Reserve (U1400) Section:** \$200, \$100, \$50.

Format: 5 Round Swiss System

Time Control: Game/120;d5

2 Sections: OPEN and U1400 Reserve

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

Entry Fee: \$30 (\$25 if Under 18 or 60+ years old) if registered by August 12, 2013. Special Family Rate of \$60. \$5 more for all if received after August 12, 2013. FM's IM's, GM's, and WGM's enter for free (no deduction from winnings). E-mail entry will lock in advance entry rate.

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

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

Make all checks payable to Idaho Chess Association.

Register & check in: 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. Saturday, August 17, 2013 Those not paid and checked in by 8:45 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 by as long as they arrive before 1:15 p.m.

1/2 point bye (Maximum 1), in any Round. Must notify TD before round 2 is paired.

Round Times: 9:00 A.M., 1:30 P.M., 6:00 P.M. (Saturday); 9:00 A.M., 1:30 P.M. (Sunday)

Entries: George Lundy, 9533 Caraway Dr., Boise, ID 83704

E-mail: tdmlundy@juno.com, www.idahochessassociation.org

No Computers, No Smoking, Wheelchair access

July 2013

An afternoon chat with Yasser

by Frank Niro

Quote of the day: "Lkhamsürengiin Myagmarsüren", he said. Not quite able to understand what he just heard, Bobby looked up and asked once more. "Lkhamsürengiin Myagmarsüren," his opponent repeated. This went on for a third time after which Bobby just shook his head and wrote *A. Mongolian* on his score sheet.



Chess Grandmaster Yasser Seirawan and Frank Niro at 2012 US Open in Vancouver, WA. Photo courtesy of Al Lawrence.

Recently, I had the opportunity to chat with American Grandmaster Yasser Seirawan, originally from Seattle. Yasser currently splits his time between the Netherlands and St. Louis, where he spends about a third of the year as temporary Grandmaster-in-residence at the St. Louis Chess Center and coach of the Lindenwood University chess team. Following is part one of my interview with him on May 21, 2013 in St. Louis.

Frank:

Thank you, Yasser, for taking the time to meet with me here in St. Louis. I enjoyed the tennis court photo of you and Robert very much. Tell me, please, about your relationship over the years with Grandmaster Robert Byrne.

Yasser:

I met Robert for the first time I believe around 1980 when we played in a U.S. Championship together. And

then I knew him very well during the 80s and 90s period. For example, the tennis picture you asked about was taken by Lars Grahn. They were published originally in the Swedish magazine, Schacknytt, which Lars published for about 20 years. Robert and I were playing tennis during the 1981 Karpov-Korchnoi match in Merano, Italy. Lars took a lot of photos and also added some things. There is one where my racket is fully extended, Byrne is close to the net, and the ball is landing behind me. And Lars has drawn these dots where the ball hits my racket and goes over my head. He did it very nicely.

Robert in those days, of course, was a columnist for The New York Times. He took his job extremely seriously. When he was on a deadline, he really focused. And when you think about his column and what he achieved, it is remarkable consistency. Take a thousand of these articles, from the first to the thousandth, just fantastic! I think today folks really don't know how good he was at what he did. The *Times*, beyond the column that he had, would periodically give him space to write about the world championships that he was covering. So he wrote massive articles about Korchnoi-Karpov, Kasparov-Karpov, and all of those matches that he attended. It was a remarkable effort on his part for a very long period of time.

We had a really good relationship. I thought of him, in a way, as a very classical man, a man of great dignity, a cultured man. He was extremely well mannered. I remember, in 1995, we were at the Kasparov-Anand match in New York City in the twin towers, where the match was held. We were staying at the hotel at the very bottom of the towers, as were he and his wife. We had gone out to dinner. Our table was prepared, everything was really nice. But before we sat down, he went to his wife's seat and pulled back her chair. It's just nice, old world manners, nothing to do with sexism or political correctness

or any of that nonsense. It was just the way he was raised and what he did, how gentlemen behaved. It made an impression so much so that I'm telling you about it now.

He was, as you know from your own experience with Robert, a great*raconteur*. It was very surprising because, in his column, he shied away from that. He wrote matter-of-factly: "this is what happened, and... white lost on time." But how white lost on time, and all the stories and the politics, he never got into that. When the gloves were off and he could tell stories, however, we would laugh so hard and have such good times! It's a shame that the general public didn't often get to see that side of him.

He told me lots of stories about Bobby Fischer, which I just loved. One, in particular, I really liked. He was in Buenos Aires, Argentina, for the Petrosian match. It is game seven of the match, and Fischer has a slight 3.5-2.5 lead. The winner will play Boris Spassky for the world championship in 1972. At move 22 he surprised many GMs by forsaking his strong knight outpost to take an underperforming bishop.

Robert J Fischer – Tigran Petrosian [B42]

Candidates Match Buenos Aires ARG (round 7), October 19, 1971

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.0-0 d5 8.c4 Nf6 9.cxd5 cxd5 10.exd5 exd5 11.Nc3 Be7 12.Qa4+ Qd7 13.Re1 Qxa4 14.Nxa4 Be6 15.Be3 0-0 16.Bc5 Rfe8 17.Bxe7 Rxe7 18.b4 Kf8 19.Nc5 Bc8 20.f3 Rea7 21.Re5 Bd7

[Diagram top of next page]

Robert Bryne described the scene as follows: "White had a dominating knight on c5, and Petrosian had this stupid looking bishop on d7. And Bobby took the bishop."

22.Nxd7+



"In the media center, there was pandemonium," Robert said. Grandmaster Miguel Najdorf was holding court, and he just started shouting: "My God, what an idiot! How could he give up this fantastic knight for the stupid bishop? He knows nothing, nothing about chess." "The Soviets," Byrne recalled, "were all smiling because they understood that Bobby had made an egregious strategic error."

Everybody turned to Robert Byrne and asked his opinion. "I'm working on my story for the match and can't answer right now," he said. Later, when telling Yasser this story, he explained, "I knew Bobby Fischer very well and I knew how he played chess. Bobby loved his bishops and by capturing that bishop, in Bobby's mind, he was just putting the nail into Tigran's coffin. While I wasn't sure it was a good move, I knew that Bobby was happy making that move and would do it 100 times out of 100."

"Well, the game progressed and, as it progressed, everything was like a dream, a boa constrictor. Move after move after move Bobby's position improved and Tigran's got worse. The next thing you know, Bobby had two rooks doubled on the seventh, a dominating bishop, excellent king and Petrosian had to resign."

22...Rxd7 23.Rc1 Rd6 24.Rc7 Nd7 25.Re2 g6 26.Kf2 h5 27.f4 h4 28.Kf3 f5 29.Ke3 d4+ 30.Kd2 Nb6 31.Ree7 Nd5 32.Rf7+ Ke8 33.Rb7

Nxf4 34.Bc4 1-0



"Grandmaster Suetin, who had been smiling, now had his jaw on the table," Byrne said.

Suetin whispered, "Fischer just plays so simply!"

In 1966, at the Havana Olympiad, Bobby Fischer had a large and beautiful suite where all of the team members assembled after each round and Bobby would show his game. The U.S. team, which won the Silver medal, consisted of Fischer, Byrne, Benko, Evans, Addison and Rossolimo. Byrne said, "This was an incredible highlight. It was like watching a Mozart. He had these very big hands and the pieces just danced as they moved about the board. At one moment, Bobby showed a position he had reached against Svein Johannessen of Norway on Board 1 of their match. Bobby had the black pieces and his opponent had just moved his knight from d5 to f4 uncovering his protected bishop on g2 against Bobby's queen."

[Diagram top of next column]

Johannessen, S - Fischer, R [A57]

Havana ol (Men) (round 7), 1966 {Inf. 2/51}

Position after 26.Nf4

Bobby said, "And now, and now, and now the pizza, (Bobby's variation for the term *patzer*, referring to his opponent), the pizza played this



move!" The next thing you know," Byrne said, "Bobby is in a laughing fit and just can't stop. Bobby starts laughing so hard that he falls of the chair and is back on the carpet hugging his midsection and laughing hilariously. In the meantime, the other guys on the team were scouring the board trying to understand what was wrong with the guy's move. It looked on the surface like a reasonable move."

Byrne said, "Yasser, it was the scariest thing I've ever been a part of. I'm analyzing with this chess genius and I don't want him to think that I'm a pizza as well. But I can't find what's wrong with the move. Bobby is still laughing hilariously when I saw it...I got it...and, I made a move, then I started laughing with Bobby. Then the other guys saw why and, in turn, five guys started laughing in tandem. Bobby got up from the carpet and wiped his eyes and showed us the refutation."

26...Rxf4! 27.Bxc6 Bd4+ 28.Kh2 Rf2+ 29.Kg1 Rxb2+ etc.

Byrne said, "There was a moment there that I was absolutely petrified, the dark side of analyzing a chess game with a genius."

Once he realized that he was essentially forced to take Bobby's queen, after which he would be quickly checkmated, Johannessen resigned after 26...Rxf4!.

OK, one more quick Fischer story

from Robert Byrne and we can move on. At one of the chess Olympiads, I'm not sure which, the United States was paired with the team from Mongolia. Bobby sat down and shook the hand of his opponent and politely asked his name.

"Lkhamsürengiin Myagmarsüren", he said. Not quite able to understand what he just heard, Bobby looked up and asked once more. "Lkhamsürengiin Myagmarsüren," his opponent repeated. This went on for a third time after which Bobby just shook his head and wrote *A*. *Mongolian* on his score sheet.

Robert Byrne had a whole repertoire of stories. He was a Candidates player and lost his Candidates' finals match to Spassky famously. Byrne knew so many people in the game of chess. Again, he was a man of great dignity with old world manners, just a genuine fellow with no pretense.



Yasser Seirawan, age 21 at the time, with Robert Byrne at the 1981 World Championship match between Anatoly Karpov and Viktor Korchnoi in Merano, Italy. Yasser was Korchnoi's second and Robert covered the match for The New York Times. Photo courtesy of Lars Grahn.

His chess style, I want to say, was quite universal. He could lead with e4 or d4 and he played a lot of different defenses as well, some of which carry his name. His Byrne Defense to the Samisch King's Indian is still played at the very highest level.

Frank:

As I understand it, according to Estravios Grivas in a survey published in *New In Chess Yearbook* #92 (2009), Robert Byrne developed a flexible



GM Yasser Seirawan at last year's U.S. Open chess championship in Vancouver, WA.

approach where Black plays ...c6 and ...a6 in order to prepare a push with ...b5. Black's direct counter strike in the center is postponed so that the queen side advance can proceed quickly.

White can decide to halt Black's ...b5 break by playing 7.a4 at the cost of weakening the dark squares on the queenside. After 7...a5, Black has gained control over the b4 square, and will usually win the c5 square as well. If Black wants to transpose into the Byrne while avoiding the 7.Bd3 lines, the flexible 6...a6 can be played first. This way, Black retains the option of playing ...c5 or ...c6 depending on the circumstances.

Yasser:

I remember 1990 New York/Lyon in the fifth world championship match between Karpov and Kasparov when Kasparov as Black led off the match by playing the Byrne Variation of the King's Indian Defense against the Samisch. That says it all right there, right?

Karpov,A (2730) - Kasparov,G (2800) [E81]

World Championship 35th-KK5 Lyon/New York (1), August 8, 1990 Samisch Kings Indian Defense, Byrne Variation

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0–0 6.Be3 c6 7.Bd3 a6 8.Nge2 b5 9.0–0 Nbd7 10.Rc1 e5 11.a3 exd4 12.Nxd4 Bb7 13.cxb5 cxb5 14.Re1 Ne5 15.Bf1 Re8 16.Bf2 d5 17.exd5

Nxd5 18.Nxd5 Qxd5 19.a4 Bh6 20.Ra1 Nc4 21.axb5 axb5 22.Rxa8 Rxa8 23.Qb3 Bd3 Nd6 25.Qxd5 Bxd5 26.Nxb5 Nxb5 27.Bxb5 Bg7 28.b4 Bc3 29.Rd1 Bb3 30.Rb1 Ba2 1/2-1/2

Byrne was also victimized by the famous game he lost to Bobby Fischer in the 1963/64 U.S.Championship where the assembled commentators all felt that Bobby had over reached.

Frank:

I saw that Jude Acers in his recent blog called that game the "real Fischer Immortal game" in the U.S. Championship won by Fischer with a staggering 11-0. "Horowitz told me that he really had no time to realize Fischer was a knight down on the large wall demonstration chess board versus Mr.Byrne but heard Rossolimo murmer: *What is happening? Fischer is losing the game.*"

According to Acers, "Chess historians will also remember that gentleman philosopher Mr. Byrne tumbled down the stairway to explain to the baffled crowd why he had just resigned the game...played years after his own brother contested the other Game of the Century."

Yasser:

It's tough to be the victim of a brilliancy, but that game was very, very special. The attack against White's king is like, how do you even conceive that White's king is vulnerable. At what point does Bobby realize he can launch an attack and it's good. What did White do that was so egregiously bad? A half tempo here and there and it was decisive.

Frank:

Bobby used the tennis analogy that he was just hitting the ball over the net awaiting his opportunity. Acers quoted Fischer as follows: "I just tried to keep the game alive, trying to win with the black pieces against Byrne. It was partly analysis. I didn't see everything and was just keeping the game alive."

The U.S. championship that we speak of was played in New York City from December 15, 1963 to January 2, 1964. The game here was from round 3

Byrne,R - Fischer,R [D71]

USA-ch New York (round 3), December 18, 1963

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 c6 4.Bg2 d5 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Nc3 Bg7 7.e3 0-0 8.Nge2 Nc6 9.0-0 b6 10.b3 Ba6 11.Ba3

"After White's 11th move I should adjudicate his position as slightly superior, and at worst completely safe. To turn this into a mating position in eleven more moves is more witchcraft than chess! Quite honestly, I do not see the man who can stop Bobby at this time." -- K.F. Kirby, South African Chess Quarterly

11...Re8 12.Qd2



12...e5!

"I was a bit worried about weakening my QP, but felt that the tremendous activity obtained by my minor pieces would permit White no time to exploit it. 12...e6 would probably lead to a draw." – Fischer

13.dxe5

13.Rac1 exd4 (13...Rc8 14.Rfd1 e4 15.f3!) 14.exd4 Rc8 15.f3

13...Nxe5 14.Rfd1?

a)14...Rc8 14.Rad1! 14...Ne4 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Bd3 17.Bg2 Rc2 18.Qxc2+-; b)14...Nd3 15.Qc2; c)14...Qd7 15.Qc2± Rac8 16.Qb1!; d)14...Qc7 15.Qc1! Ne4!? 16.Nxd5! Qxc1 17.Nxc1 Bxf1 18.Bxe4 Ba6 19.Ne7+ Kh8 20.Bxa8 Rxa8 21.f4±; e)14...Qc8! 15.Nxd5 (e)15.Rc1 Qd7! 16.Rcd1 Rad8; e)15.Bb2 Qf5; e)15. Qc1Ne416.Nxd5Bxe217.Bxe4Kh8! 18.Qxc8 Raxc8 19.Ne7 Rc7 20.Rc1 Rd7 21.Rfe1 Bf3!-+) 15...Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Rd8 17.f4 Rxd5! 18.Qxd5 Bb7! 19.Qd8+ (e)19.Qd2 Qh3! 20.Nd4 Ng4 21.Rfe1 (e)21.Nc2 h5,) 21...Nxe3!-+) 19...Qxd8 20.Rxd8+ Rxd8 21.fxe5 Bxe5; 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Bxe4 Qxd2 17.Rxd2 Nc4 18.Bxa8 Nxd2 19.Rd1 Nc4 20.bxc4 (20.Bc6! Averbakh,Y 20...Nxa3 21.Bxe8 Bxe2 22.Rd7+-) $20...Rxa8 \times c4$

"This is very much a case of the wrong rook. One can understand Byrne's desire to break the pin on the e2-knight, but this turns out to be less important than other considerations." -- John Nunn

14...Nd3! 15.Qc2

15.Nd4 Ne4 16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.Bb2 Rc8; 15.Nf4 Ne4 16.Nxe4 dxe4 (16... Bxa1? 17.Nd6) 17.Rab1 Rc8 18.Nxd3 Bc3! 19.Qe2 Bxd3 20.Qg4 f5 21.Qh3 Bxb1! 22.Rxd8 Rexd8 23.Bf1 Rd1 24.Kg2 Bd3! 25.Bxd3 exd3-+; 15.f3 Bh6 16.f4 (16.Nf4? d4!) 16...Bg7!

15...Nxf2! 16.Kxf2 Ng4+ 17.Kg1 Nxe3 18.Qd2 Nxg2!

18...Nxd1 19.Rxd1=

19.Kxg2 d4! 20.Nxd4 Bb7+ 21.Kf1

21.Kg1 Bxd4+ 22.Qxd4 Re1+! 23.Kf2 Qxd4+ 24.Rxd4 Rxa1 25.Rd7 Rc8 26.Rxb7 (26.Bb2 Rh1) 26... Rxc3 27.Rb8+ Kg7 28.Bb2 Rxa2-+; 21.Kf2 Qd7! 22.Rac1 Qh3 23.Nf3 Bh6 24.Qd3 Be3+ 25.Qxe3 Rxe3 26.Kxe3 Re8+ 27.Kf2 Qf5!-+]

21...Qd7! 0–1

White resigned because of 22.Qf2 (22.Ndb5 Qh3+ 23.Kg1 Bh6-+) 22...Qh3+ 23.Kg1 Re1+!! 24.Rxe1 Bxd4-+

Yasser:

It's still a phenomenal game, just remarkable. It really is.

Frank:

Getting back to tennis, I heard the rumor somewhere along the line that Byrne's favorite tennis sparring partner was you. Did you play a lot beyond Merano?

Yasser:

Yes, we were at a lot of U.S. Championship events together and played a lot of tennis during world championship match events and some opens here and there. All over, in fact. Mostly, he beat me by the way! Let's just say that he was better and I was much worse. It seemed to me that Robert took his tennis quite seriously. I'm not trying to excuse my losses, not at all. I saw it as a means of getting some really good exercise.

I remember that Robert would come and he'd have this head band, and these wrist bands as well. He had some types of things on his knees. And after these tennis matches, he took off his various bands and squeezed them as hard as he could. He would look at his droplets of sweat. If it was really a lot of good droplets of sweat, he was really happy. I also believe that he took tennis lessons, but I can't say exactly from whom. The reality was that Robert was very good at shots. He had very good control. He could put it deep in one corner and on the very next shot deep in the other corner and I would run baseline to baseline.

To be continued...?

The Elena Donaldson Akhmylovskaia Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

by Murlin Varner, addition whiz

Welcome to summer! While the temptation is to do all of those outdoorsy things, don't forget to set aside a weekend or two for chess. You can bask in the sun with the appropriate SPF between rounds (except in Seattle where it will probably be cloudy). Although most of June falls before the technical start of summer, some hot times will surely be had at the eight GP events therein.

July offers seven more events in the Grand Prix, including at least one event every weekend. The first weekend, you can play GP Quads in Seattle at the Seattle Chess Club. The second weekend, you have the choice of two two-day events, the Portland Summer Open and the Spokane Falls Open. The third weekend brings the Seafair Open in Seattle, an event that was a 2x multiplier event last year. The final weekend of July offers three possibilities for those who are not going to the traditional schedule of the US Open. They include the monthly Game/60 at the Portland Chess Club, the Puget Sound Open at the Tacoma Chess Club, and a renewal of the Columbia Cup in Richland, a 2x multiplier sponsored by the Washington Chess Federation. Plenty of excuses to avoid those yard work plans.

The statistics below show a big jump in points, due to the 4x Washington Open. Once the official ratings take this event into account, there will be a jump in many leaders' ratings, so expect to see some people in new classes next month. A few people, like August Piper, jumped a class this month, but next month there will be many, especially among the kids who raided my rating point stash so mercilessly. I'll do my best to bring a whole new stash of points from Madison to share with all my Northwest friends.

Standings below are current through June 2nd.

ld	aho		0	regon	Washington				
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.		last	first	pts.
					Maste	ers	5		
			1 Raptis	Nick	80.5	1	Pupols	Viktors	64
			2 Haessler	Carl A	35	2	Feng	Roland	42.5
			3 Gay	Daniel Z	34	3	Bragg	David R	36.5
						4	Sinanan	Joshua C	32.5
						5	Two	tied at	24
M/X/	Class A				Expe	rts			
1 Leslie	Cameron D	51.5	1 Tezcan	Yaman	72.5	1	Lampman	Becca	60
2 Havrilla	Mark A	23.5	2 Cigan	Jason	54	2	Tiglon	Bryce	55.5
3 Kircher	Caleb P	11	3 Sherrard	Jerry	39	3	Bartron	Paul R	54
4 Parsons	Larry R	7	4 Botez	Alexandra V	31.5	4	He	Daniel M	50
			5 Herrera	Robert	31	5	Rupel	David	48
Class B					Class	; A			
1 Roland	Jeffrey T	63.5	1 Eagles	Roland	38.5	1	Lee	Kevin	58
2 Bodie	Brad	15	2 Sun	Maxwell S	33	2	Smith	Micah	56.5
2 Griggs	Glenn	15	3 Levin	Scott A	29	3	Nagase	Masayuki	49
4 Gorman	Cody A	10	4 Yoshinaga	David K	28	4	Nagase	Toshihiro	43
4 Machin	Alex J	10	5 Tw	o tied at	22	5	Fields	Noah D	35.5

Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho				Oregon			Washington			
	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.		last	first	pts.
	Clas	ss C			(Class	В			
1	Weyland	Ronald M	17.5	1 Berger	Brian F	43	1	Anthony	Ralph J	101
2	Imamovic	Nedzad	6	2 Burris	Christopher E	37.5	2	Buck	Stephen J	76
3	Pemsler	Carmen	5	3 O'Connell	Sean R	33.5	3	Piper	August	68
3	Hollingsworth	Gary M	5	4 Trattner	Andrew L	31.5	4	Davis	Frederick A	57
3	Taylor	Shane	5	5 Donchenko	Peter	19	5	Ramesh	Jothi N	56.5
	Clas	ss D			(Class	С			
1	Naccarato	Savanna	18	1 Hasuike	Mike L	35	1	Zhang	Eric M	63.5
2	Handeen	Bjorn J	12	2 Sharan	Praveer	33	2	Chowdhury	Neil	59
3	Porth	Adam	4.5	3 Culbreth	Adam	28	3	Bashkansky	Naomi	35
				4 Shimada	Masakazu	27	4	Kannan	Aditya	34
				4 Beverly	Jacob P	27	5	Cordero	Rowland	32
	Class E a	nd Below		Class D and Below						
1	Wetmur	Harold R	15	1 Jacobsen	Jason	30	1	Richards	Jerrold	58.5
2	Calza	Paula	12	2 Buerer	Harry F	27.5	2	Gulamali	Freya	40.5
3	Nathan	Jacob A	9	3 Slavik	Jacob	25	3	Harlin	Jeremy C	37.5
4	Hiatt	Arlene	7.5	4 Butson	Jeffrey C	23.5	4	Sehgal	Rahul	36
5	Porth	Desmond	5	5 Markowski	Gregory A	22	5	Thakur	Eamon	32.5
				Overall Lead	ders, by Stat	е				
1	Roland	Jeffrey T	63.5	1 Raptis	Nick	80.5	1	Anthony	Ralph J	101
2	Leslie	Cameron D	51.5	2 Tezcan	Yaman	72.5	2	Buck	Stephen J	76
3	Havrilla	Mark A	23.5	3 Cigan	Jason	54	3	Piper	August	68
4	Naccarato	Savanna	18	4 Berger	Brian F	43	4	Pupols	Viktors	64
5	Weyland	Ronald M	17.5	5 Sherrard	Jerry	39	5	Zhang	Eric M	63.5
6	Bodie	Brad	15	6 Eagles	Roland	38.5	6	Lampman	Becca	60
6	Griggs	Glenn	15	7 Burris	Christopher E	37.5	7	Chowdhury	Neil	59
6	Wetmur	Harold R	15	8 Haessler	Carl A	35	8	Richards	Jerrold	58.5
9	Handeen	Bjorn J	12	8 Hasuike	Mike L	35	9	Lee	Kevin	58
9	Calza	Paula	12	10 Gay	Daniel Z	34	10	Davis	Frederick A	57
	Kircher	Caleb P	11	11 O'Connell		33.5	11	Smith	Micah	56.5
	Two tie		10		tied at	33		Ramesh	Jothi N	56.5

Be sure to like Northwest Chess' on Facebook! Also, check out nwchess.com/blog/

Upcoming Events

(Continued from back cover)

Aug 1, 8, 15 August Ajeeb Quads, Spokane, WA. Site: Spokane Chess Club, Gonzaga University, Herak Rm. 121. Reg: Aug. 1st 6:30-7:15, E.F. \$16, Format: 3 Rds G/2Hr with 5 second delay. USCF membership required. n/c, USCF rated. Ent/Info: Dave Griffin, Email: dbgrffn@hotmail.com, www.spokanechessclub.org.

Aug 3 Run/Chess Championship, Newport, OR. Sites: for timed mile - Newport Middle School Track, 825 NE 7th St, Newport, OR 97365; for chess - Central Lincoln County PUD Building, 2129 N Coast Hwy, Newport, OR 97365 (just south of Walmart). Format: Run, jog, or walk a timed mile after registration. Your time for the mile will be your opponents' time for the 5-SS. TC: variable. EF: \$5. Prizes: Championship trophy; additional age/group trophies as participation allows. Reg: 11:30-11:45 a.m. at the track. Rds: noon - timed mile, Rd. 1 - 1:00pm. Info: Bill Barrese, bllbrrs2020@yahoo.com, 541-563-7033, 3599 E Alsea Hwy, Waldport, OR 97394.

Aug 3 Olympia Open, Olympia, WA. Site: Legion Room, 116 Legion Way S.W., Olympia, WA, in the lobby of the Urban Onion. Format: 3 round Mini-Swiss in 1 section. Time Control: G/60; d5. Entry fee: \$30.00. Prize Fund: \$225.00 B/16, 1st \$55.00, 2nd \$50.00, 1st U2000, U1700, U1400 \$40.00. Trophies for those U1400. Reg. 9:00-9:45. Rounds 10:00, 1:00, 3:30 or A.S.A.P. USCF/WCF memberships required. NS NC W. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445. (253) 535-2536, ggarychess@aol.com.

Aug 10 Washington Speed Chess Championships, Bellevue, WA. See https://www.chess4life.com/chess-event/2013-washington-speed-chess-championships/2608 for details and registration.

Aug 17-18 ICA Summer Classic, Boise, ID. See full-page ad on page 23.

Aug 17 Tacoma Open, Tacoma, WA. Site: Tacoma Chess Club in the DTI Soccer Store Building on the second floor at 409 Puyallup Ave, across the street from Alfred's Cafe. Registration: 9 – 9:45. Format: 4 round Swiss in 1 section. Time Control: G/60; d5. Entry Fee: \$25.00. Prize Fund: 60% of entry fees. 1st 25%; 2nd \$15%; U2000, U1700, U1400 20% each. Rounds: 10:00, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30 or A.S.A.P. Byes: 1 half-point bye available. USCF and state memberships required. NS NC NW. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, (253)535-2536, ggarychess@aol.com.

Aug 24 Spokane Summer G/45, **Spokane, WA.** Site: Spokane Valley Library, E. 12004 E. Main, Spokane, WA 99206. (Chess downstairs - take elevator.) Reg: Sat 8:30-9:45, E.F. \$11, Format: 4 Rd Swiss G/45, 5 second delay, Dual-rated, USCF membership required, n/c. Coffee & snacks provided. Ent/Info: Dave Griffin, P.O. Box 631, Spokane Valley, WA 99037, (509) 994-9739, Email: dbgrffn@hotmail.com, www.spokanechessclub.org.

Aug 24 Washington Senior Adult Championship, Tacoma, WA. See http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/ TA.htm for details not available at time of printing.

Aug 31-Sep 2 63rd Annual Oregon Open, Portland, OR. See full-page ad on page 3.





 Polyme30, Aug. 11, Sept. 8 NEW DATE
 Sunday Tornado
 Polyme30

 Format: 4-SS. TC: G/60; d5 (or G/64; d0). 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 memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

PJuly 6, Aug. 10, Sept. 14 NEW DATESaturday QuadsFormat: 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. TC: G/120; d5. EF: \$9 (+\$7 fornon-SCC). Prizes: Free entry for future quad. Reg: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Rds:10:00-2:15-ASAP. Misc: USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

July 13

SCC Novice

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and unrated. **TC:** G/75. **EF:** \$11 by 1/5, \$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.

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.

Seattle Seafair July 19-21 or July 20-21

A one section, five-round Swiss with time controls of 40/120 & SD/60 (d5) [Two-day schedule – Rd. One, G/60; d5]. The prize fund of \$1620 is based on 64 paid entries, 6 per prize group.

a Northwest Grand Prix event

First	\$300 gtd.	U1800	\$130
Secon	d \$195 gtd.	U1600	\$125
Third	\$115 gtd.	U1400	\$120
U2200	\$140	U1200	\$60
U2000	\$135	Unrated	\$45
	Best Upset (Rds 1-4)	\$10/rd	
	Plus Score Pool	\$215	

Entry Fees: \$41 if received by 7/17, \$50 at site. **GMs, IMs, & WGMs**–FREE. **Unrated**–Free with purchase of 1-yr USCF & 1-yr WCF. **SCC Members**–subtract \$11. Members of other dues-required CCs in BC, ID, OR, or WA–subtract \$5. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.**

 Registration: Fri. 7-7:45 p.m., Sat. 9-9:45 a.m.
 Rounds: Fri. 8, Sat. (10 @ G/60)-12:30-6:45, Sun. 11-5.

 Byes: 2 (Sunday rounds, commit at reg.).
 Misc: USCF & WCF memb. req'd. OSA. No smoking. No computers.

Upcoming Events

D denotes 2013 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 31

July 6-7 Oregon Senior Chess Championship, Oregon City, OR. See full page ad on page 16.

Jul 13-14 Portland Summer Open, **Portland, OR.** (Details tentative based on Spring Open.) Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR. This USCF-rated, two-day tournament is played in two sections (Open and U1800), has five rounds, and offers long time controls and lots of cash prizes: Time Control: 40/90 SD/30, 5 second delay if clock allows. Two half point byes available for Rounds 1-4 if requested at registration. Entry Fee: \$35; members of the Club get \$10 discount. Memberships: USCF and OCF/WCF required and can be purchased/renewed at registration (other state memberships OK for out-of-area players). Registration: 9:00-9:45am on Saturday. Rounds at 10, 2 and ASAP on Saturday, 10 and ASAP on Sunday. 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 - \$100, under 1400, and under 1200 or unrated - \$50 each. No tiebreakers used, prizes split between players with the same results.

Jul 13-14 Spokane Falls Open, **Spokane, WA.** Site: Schoenberg Center, Room 201, GU Campus 800 Pearl St. Spokane, WA 99258. Reg: Sat 8:30-9:45, E.F. \$18 by 7/12 (U/18) \$15, \$25 at the site for all, T/C: 1Hr 55 minutes, with 5 second delay. Sat Rds: 10:00, 2:30, 7:00, Sun 9:00 & 1:30 or ASAP. USCF membership required. n/c, USCF rated, Unrated USCF members play in first event free. Prizes: \$500 based on 25 entries, 1st Overall: \$120, 2nd Overall: \$80, B/U/1800: \$60, 2nd/U/1800 \$30, B/U/1600: \$60, 2nd/U/1600 \$30, B/U/1400: \$60, 2nd/U/1400 \$30, Biggest Upset: \$30 (both players must have established ratings). All section prizes based on at least four players per section. Prizes may be adjusted otherwise, only one prize per player, excluding biggest upset. Byes: One $\frac{1}{2}$ point bye if requested before previous rounds. Requested byes for rounds four and five must be made before the end of round three. Ent/Info: Dave Griffin, P.O. Box 631, Spokane Valley, WA 99037, (509) 994-9739, email: dbgrffn@ hotmail.com, web www.spokanechessclub.org. Special Event: Spokane Fall Open will be held concurrently with the Spokane City Championship on July 13-14. James Stripes will take on one of six players who are now playing in a round-robin. Two rounds are scheduled for Saturday while rounds three and four will take place on Sunday. The time control will be G/2hr with a 5 second delay. If needed, there will be a G/10 playoff with the first to get three points wins.

July 27-28 Columbia Cup, Richland, WA. See half-page ad on page 15.

July 27/August 24 Portland CC Game in 60. **Portland, OR.** 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 reqd, 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, phone 503-246-2978, website www.pdxchess.com.

Jul 27 Puget Sound Open, Tacoma, WA. Site: Tacoma Chess Club in the DTI Soccer Store Building on the second floor at 409 Puyallup Ave across the street from Alfred's Cafe. Registration: 9:00 – 9:45. Format: 4 round Swiss in 1 section. Time Control: G/60; d5. Entry Fee: \$25.00. Prize Fund: 60% of entry fees. 1st 25%; 2nd 15%; U2000, U1700, U1400 20% each. Rounds: 10:00, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30 or A.S.A.P. Byes: 1 half-point bye available. USCF and state membership required. NS NC NW. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, (253) 535-2536, ggarychess@aol.com.

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