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March 2014

**Gearing up for Spring
Scholastic and State
Championship Season**



Northwest Chess

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On the front cover:

Quentin Van Law of Bellevue, Idaho as taken January 16, 2014 at the Dragon Chess Open Chess Tournament in Hailey, Idaho. Photo credit: Adam Porth

On the back cover:

Andre Murphy of Bellevue, Idaho at the 2014 Mountain Home Open quietly packs up sets and clocks when only two games remained in the tournament. It's these little things like cleanup that often go unappreciated by some, but are very much appreciated by most tournament directors. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

Chesstoons:

Chess cartoons drawn by local artist Brian Berger, of West Linn, Oregon.

Northwest Chess Knights

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Barbara Fortune, David Bragg, Jennifer Sinanan in honor of Josh Sinanan, Dale and Tess Wentz, August Piper, Jr., Gerard J. Van Deene, Frank Niro, Russell Miller, Steve Buck, Murlin Varner, Keith Yamanaka, Washington Chess Federation, Portland Chess Club, Eddie Sedillo, Jeff Pennig, Rod Stackelberg

Submissions

Submissions of games (PGN format if possible), stories, photos, art, and other **original** chess-related content are encouraged! Multiple submissions are acceptable; please indicate if material is non-exclusive. All submissions are subject to editing or revision.

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See our quarter page ad in the March issue of Chess Life, or visit www.renochess.org

3rd Annual Sands Regency
RENO - LARRY EVANS MEMORIAL OPEN
formerly The Far West Open
 A WEIKEL TOURNAMENT

150 Grand Prix Pts. ♦ **April 18-19-20, 2014** ♦ F.I.D.E. Rated

\$21,000!!
(b/250)

\$14,000!!
(Guaranteed)

6 Round Swiss ♦ 5 Sections ♦ 40/2 - Game-1-5d
 ♦ **Rooms: \$25/\$40 + tax!**

Open Section (2000 & above) EF: \$137, (1999 & below = \$151) (GMs & IMs free but must enter by (3/22) or pay late fee at door). Guaranteed (Prizes 1-10 in Open Section Gtd. plus 1/2 of all other prizes). \$2,000 -1,200 -1000 - 700 - 500 - 400 - 300 - 300 - 300 - 300, (2399/below) - \$1,000, (2299/below) - \$1,000, (2199/below) - \$1000 - 500 - 300 - 200 (If a tie for 1st then a playoff for \$100 out of prize fund plus trophy).

Sec."A"- (1800-1999) EF: \$136; \$1,000-500-400-300-200-100-100.
Sec."B"- (1600-1799) EF: \$135; \$900-500-400-300-200-100-100.
Sec."C"- (1400-1599) EF: \$134; \$700-500-400-300-200-100-100.
Sec."D"/under - (1399-below) EF: \$133; \$600-400-300-200-100-100-100;
Top Senior (65+) - \$200; Club Champ. - \$400-200.

Wednesday 4/16: 7:00 pm - GM Sergey Kudrin - Clock Simul. w/ complete analysis of YOUR Game (\$30)
Thursday 4/17: 6-7:15 pm - Lecture by IM John Donaldson (FREE)
7:30 pm - GM Melikset Khachiyan - Simul. (\$20) ; Blitz (G/5 d0) Tourney \$20 - 80% entries = Prize Fund
Saturday 4/19: 3-4:30 pm - FREE Game/Position Analysis - IM John Donaldson

 **Main Tournament** 

Registration: Thursday (4/17) (5 - 9 pm.) - Friday (4/18) - (9 - 10 am.)
Round Times: Fri.- 12 Noon - 7 pm, Sat.-10 am - 6 pm, Sun.- 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

PLUS! Complimentary Coffee and Coffee Cakes! Chess Palace Book Concession!

For more information: Call, Write or E-mail Organizer and Chief TD, N.T.D. Jerome (Jerry) Weikel, (775) 747-1405 6578 Valley Wood Dr., Reno, NV 89523 • wackyykl@aol.com
Room Reservations: Call the Sands Regency - 1-866-FUN-STAY • Reserve by April 1st for Chess Rate Ask for code: CHESS0418
For TLA and to confirm receipt of entry see player list at: www.renochess.org

ENTRY FORM - 3rd Annual Larry Evans Memorial (formerly Far West Open) - Reno, Nevada - April 18-20, 2014
 Mail to: Sands Regency Casino Hotel - 345 N. Arlington Avenue - Reno NV 89501

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 -----			"A"	"B"	"C"	"D and Under"	UNRATED
GM/IM	Masters/Experts	1999-Below	1800-1999	1600-1799	1400-1599	1200-1399	Free With
Free	\$137	\$151	\$136	\$135	\$134	\$133	USCF Dues

FEES ALSO ENCLOSED FOR: Hotel Deposit \$30.38* (Weekday) or Hotel Deposit \$47.40* (Fri. & Sat.)
 \$30 Wed. Clock Simul. GM Kudrin
 \$20 Thursday-Simul. GM Khachiyan
 \$20 Thursday Blitz (G/5 d0)
 \$10 Discount - Sr.+65 Age _____

HOTEL INFORMATION: No Room Needed Made By Phone
 Please Make Me a Reservation*
 Arrival Date _____
 Departure Date _____
 One Bed Two Beds S NS
 *Send \$30.38 for weekday arrival, \$47.40 for Friday arrival.

POSTMARK BY March 22, 2014
 Add \$11 after 3/22 and before 4/12. Do not mail after 4/12. \$22 on site. check/m.o. payable to THE SANDS REGENCY or provide credit card information and signature. \$5 service charge on credit card entries.
 Visa Master Card Am. Exp.
 Card Number AND **Expiration Date** _____
 Signature _____

CHECK ENCLOSED
 CHARGE MY CARD
TOTAL FEES: \$

State Championship Early Report

The State Championship results of all three Northwest States (Washington, Oregon, and Idaho) all happen in February each year, usually over the same weekends.

Since the deadlines of the magazine would normally preclude the inclusion of those results for the March issue (February 10 was the deadline for material), we are making a special exception just like we did last year for the early results-only with a more comprehensive report coming for the April issue.

We are also not putting any games from the events into the March issue, as not only do those take time to analyze and annotate, but also some players will be submitting games with their own notes for the April issue (in Washington prize winners are asked to annotate at least one game for publication in *Northwest Chess*).

Washington

Here are the final results of the Championship and Premier sections in order of tie-breaks.

Championship

NM Nat Koons 2273 5.5/8 1st \$675
NM David Golub 2242 4.5/8 =2nd-4th \$250
NM Josh Sinanan 2254 4.5/8 =2nd-4th \$250
NM Daniel He 2266 4.5/8 =2nd-4th \$250
FM Tian Sang 2330 4/8 =5th \$25
FM Ignacio Perez 2246 4/8 =5th \$25
NM Bryce Tiglon 2229 4/8 =5th \$25
NM Roland Feng 2244 3/8
NM Michael Wang 2219 2/8
Michael Omori 2184 0/3 (withdrew due to illness)

Premier

FM Bill Schill 2200 5/7 =1st \$450
NM Michael MacGregor 2219 4.5/7 2nd \$250
WIM Megan Lee 2114 4/7 =3rd-4th \$125
Satyajit Malugu 2128 4/7 =3rd-4th \$125
David Rupel 2131 3/7 =5th \$25
FM David Bragg 2221 3/7 =5th \$25
LM Viktors Pupols 2209 2.5/7
Kyle Haining 2097 2/7
FM David Roper 2222 1/4 (withdrew at TD's discretion)
Gil Lapid Shaffiri 2188 1/4 (withdrew at TD's discretion)



2014 Washington State Champion, NM Nat Koons. Photo credit: Duane Polich

Idaho

Here are the final results of the Idaho Closed State Championship in order of tie-breaks.

Caleb Paul Kircher 1911 5.0/6 - 1st Overall
Larry R Parsons 2000 4.5/6 - 2nd Overall
John B Carr 1700 4.0/6 - 3rd Overall
Jeffrey T Roland 1707 4.0/6 - 1st B
Cody Austin Gorman 1808 3.5/6 - 1st A
Nedzad Imamovic 1414 3.5/6 - 1st C
Fred Bartell 1700 3.5/6 - Top Senior
Lucas Knoll 1203 3.5/6 - 1st D
Kurt P Douglas 1668 3.0/6 - 2nd B
Adam Porth 1301 3.0/6 - 2nd D
William B Mabry 1279 3.0/6 - Buckendorf
Desmond Porth 1220 3.0/6 - Top Junior
Carmen Pemsler 1561 3.0/6 - Top Woman
Barry D Eacker 1670 3.0/6 - Buckendorf
Daniel S Looney 1615 3.0/6
Jamie Lang 1470 3.0/6 - 2nd C
Andre R Murphy 837 2.5/6 - 1st E
Jacob Ari Nathan 1244 2.5/6
Kevin R Patterson 1222 2.0/6
Jay L Simonson 710 2.0/6 - 2nd E
Jarod N Buus 1365 2.0/6
Dylan Porth 928 1.5/6
Alise Byer Pemsler 539 1.5/6
Keegan D Crowson 521 0/6



Caleb Paul Kircher, 2014 Idaho State Champion
Photo credit: Adam Porth

Oregon

Here are the final results of the Oregon State Championship in order of tie-breaks.

FM Nick Raptis 2368 7.0/9 - 1st
Daniel Gay 2210 6.5/9 - 2nd
FM Corey Russell 2232 6.0/9 - 3rd
Lennart Bjorksten 2170 5.5/9 - 4th
Aaron Grabinsky 2185 5.0/9 - 5th
Carl Haessler 2200 4.0/9 - 6th
Brian Esler 2146 3.5/9 - 7th
Corbin Yu 2220 2.5/9 - 8th-10th
Steven Deeth 2142 2.5/9 - 8th-10th
Jason Cigan 2086 2.5/9 - 8th-10th



2014 Oregon State Champion, FM Nick Raptis. Photo credit: Grisha Alpernas

50 Years Ago

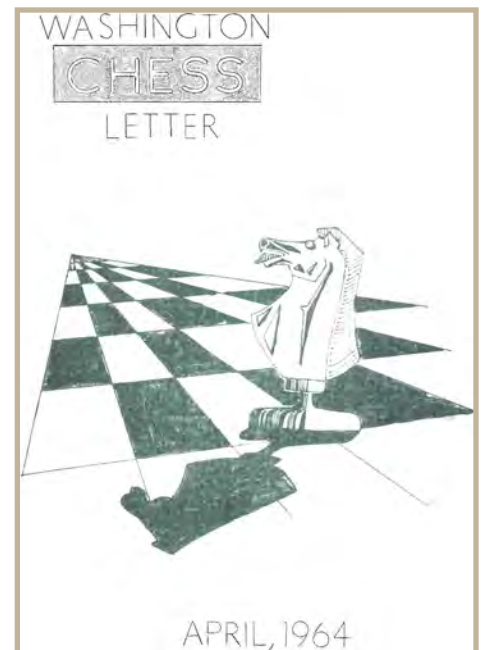
Rusty's Chess History

By Russell Miller

50 years ago on March 28-29, 1964, Easter weekend I ran my first open chess tournament. The Central Washington Open was held at Bungalow Cafe in my hometown of Chelan, Washington. The entry fee was \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for juniors with a time control of 50 moves in 2 hours. How things have changed in 50 years. 1st place prize of \$50.00 was guaranteed by me. There were chess books for class prizes. It was a five round Swiss tournament. The event was not USCF rated but was Northwest rated by Jim Montgomery of Seattle. The February issue of the *Washington Chess Letter* as edited and published by Dan Wade of Seattle has a tournament announcement on page 2. The April issue has an article about the results of the tournament along with a crosstable for the 14 player event. Clark Harmon then living in Renton won the tournament with

a 4.5-.5 score. Jim McCormick of Seattle drew the tournament winner. My future brother-in-law Buz Eddy of Kent finished in 8th place. I mention this because he brought his sister Kathy with him and I married her in 1967. 2nd place at 4-1 were Pat Hickey of Seattle and Mike Halabrin of Spokane. Hickey upset McCormick in round 3. Harmon won the Central Washington Open tournament held in Yakima in 1959. Your reporter also played in the event and scored 1 win 1 loss and 3 draws. From the article, "Russell wrote he does not recommend directing and playing in the same tournament."

The article about the results of this event can be found on the *Northwest Chess* website: http://www.nwchess.com/articles/history/WCL/WCL_1964_04.pdf



Oregon Chess News

PCC January G/60

Portland, OR — January 25, 2014

By **Brian Berger**

On what was one of the most enticingly beautiful and sunny days this winter, when the weather just calls to you to enjoy the outdoors, a record number of chess players opted to sit elbow-to-elbow in the neon-lit playing room of the Portland Chess Club, to attend January's Game 60.

Expecting an average turnout of around 20 players, Chief TD Kornelijs Dale, along with Assistant TD Jonathan Fortune, were surprised to see 30 eager chess challengers lured by a siren song stronger than Mother Nature.

The large turnout would greatly enhance the prize fund, and drew five players above 2000, including Oregon's nearly indomitable Nick Raptis, Master at chess and ready repartee, and, not surprisingly, the overall winner, accepting \$90 for his perfect score of 4.0.

Six players diluted the combined 2nd and 3rd place prize fund, with final scores of 3.0: Daniel Gay, Micah Smith, Calvin Parnon, Larry Ball, Mosshe Rachmuth and Seth Talyansky, each taking home \$17.50. Happier still was Masakazu Shimada, also with 3.0 points, but as the under 1800 rated winner, was glad to be paid \$52.50 for his perseverance!



L-R: Nick Raptis, Daniel Gay. Photo credit: Brian Berger

Of the four players achieving a score of 2.5; Sarah May, Dan Oswalt, Ethan Wu and Dimitri Murphy, it was the under-1600-rated Murphy, who also walked away \$52.50 richer, and probably happy that he had chosen to give up a glorious winter day to the challenge of the chess board.

Chess In Prisons

Ontario, OR — January 26, 2014

by **SRCI Volunteer Tom Booth**



Tom Booth. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland



Some of the players at the PCC January G60. Photo credit: Brian Berger

The Snake River Correctional Institution in Ontario, Oregon, has an active chess club. On January 25, 2014, prominent Idaho chess player, Dave Stewart, played the best

chess players there in a simultaneous exhibition: 10 wins, 4 losses, 3 draws. Some of the fellows there are quite good!!

We'd like to express thanks to Dave for sharing his chess prowess. Thanks also to prison officers Gary and Bruce for their help in organizing the affair.

Promotion of chess in prisons is beneficial to all: the inmates and the volunteers. Hopefully, more chess players can volunteer their time to prison populations.

19th Annual I Have a Dream Scholastic Event

by Russell Miller

Klamath Falls, Oregon had a scholastic chess tournament on January 20, 2014 at Conger Elementary.

The High School Section of eight players was won by two with perfect 4-0 scorers: Clara Dykstra and Caleb Carlton, both of Klamath Union. A clear winner at 5-0 in the 6th-8th Grade Section was Craig Ronne of Henley Jr. High. 18 players in this section. K-5th Grade Section was won by Jarred Degroot Roosevelt Elementary also with a 5-0 score. 58 players in this section. There was an adult section won by Devin Harris at 4-1 in which six players took part. Marvin Dykstra directed the event.

Winter 2014 All Stars

Source: Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation (oscf.org)

The Winter 2014 All-Stars List has been compiled for rated events completed as of December 31, 2013. To be considered for the All-Stars, you must have been an active, Oregon-based, scholastic chess player in grades K-12 in good standing for the current trimester (in this case, September 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013) and have achieved an established rating. Players must have played at least one regular rated game (NWSRS or USCF) in the trimester. Rankings for those students are based on the highest established rating attained in the trimester, as determined by the maximum of the highest established NWSRS rating held during the trimester and the highest established USCF published monthly rating from the rating supplements published October 2013 through January 2014. Do let us know if you think that you see something incorrect in the list, and we'll check and correct it if necessary.

All-Stars lists are published each trimester of the year. Any player on one or more of the winter, spring or fall lists — or on the 2014 Lifetime Achievement list (to be published in September 2014) — is eligible to participate in the 2014 7th Annual Oregon All-Stars Invitational, which will be held in Salem in October, 2014. Congratulations to everyone on the list!



Seniors (2013-14)

		Highest Established Rating
1	Dalthorp, Matt	Corvallis 1882
2	Trattner, Andy	Portland 1850
3	Butenhoff, Patrick	Lake Oswego 1556
4	Yau, Jonathan	Portland 1480
5	Nutter, John	Portland 1430
6	Seitz, Daniel	Lake Oswego 1414
7	Lancaster, Henry	Cottage Grove 1399
8	Dickson, Ian	Corvallis 1374
9	Price, Tucker	Portland 1345
10	Webb, Cody	Eugene 1341

Juniors (2013-14)

1	Saputra, Yogi	Corvallis 2105
2	Skalnes, Erik	Eugene 1972
3	Wen, David	Corvallis 1919
4	Murray, Dillon	Gresham 1824
5	Pikus, Benjamin M	Beaverton 1775
6	Kamsha, Yuriy	Lake Oswego 1618
7	Weiss, Philip	Portland 1579
8	Murphy, Dmitri	Portland 1546
9	Austin, Jeff	Portland 1471
10	Chen, Joseph	Portland 1388

Sophomores (2013-14)

1	Grabinsky, Aaron	Coquille 2166
2	Deng, Clemen	Portland 1920
3	Kocher, Cameron	Beaverton 1651
4	Sharan, Pranav	Lake Oswego 1618
5	Soiffer, Rory	Portland 1466
6	Liang, William	Beaverton 1456
7	Trachuk, Val	Clackamas 1405
8	Work, Jonathan	Hillsboro 1340
9	Riley, Hailey	Coquille 1319
10	Huard, Dylan	Portland 1282

Freshmen (2013-14)

1	Chen, James	Salem 1732
2	Brahmarouthu, Abhinav	Portland 1726
3	Doddapaneni, Venkat	Hillsboro 1707
4	Skoro, Gabriel	Portland 1649
5	Molchanov, Valentin	Beaverton 1634
6	Sah, Ashwin	Portland 1617
7	Patel, Kian	Portland 1566
8	Jewell, Nathan	Portland 1461
9	Aditya, Neal	Portland 1457
10	Majmudar, Rahul	Portland 1457

List is continued on next page...

8th Grade (2013-14)			Highest Established Rating	4th Grade (2013-14)			Highest Established Rating
1	Sun, Maxwell	Corvallis	2005	1	Sharan, Praveer	Lake Oswego	1571
2	Perkins, Josiah	Coquille	1599	2	Klingler, Andre	Portland	1311
3	Deng, Leo	Portland	1485	3	Semenov, Fedor	Portland	1302
4	Allison, Ethan	Bend	1479	4	Dossin, Victor	Eugene	1254
5	Ornes, John	Corvallis	1389	5	Pai, Kushal	Portland	1171
6	Kleier, Benjamin	Portland	1245	6	Moolky, Ankur	Portland	1133
7	Nguyen, Samuel	Gresham	1245	7	Maslen, Arlo	Portland	1059
8	Nguyen, Stephen	Gresham	1236	8	Zhang, Jason	Portland	1025
9	Kitchens, Daniel B	Hillsboro	1197	9	Mann, Arjun	Beaverton	977
10	Lee, Isaiah	Oregon City	1193	10	Reynolds, Quinn	Corvallis	972
7th Grade (2013-14)				3rd Grade (2013-14)			
1	Talyansky, Seth	Portland	1814	1	Strigul, Michael	Portland	1238
2	Winkler, Jake	Portland	1560	2	Liu, Kyle	Portland	1210
3	Booth, Liam	Oregon City	1467	3	Crane, Elliot	Portland	1190
4	Gupta, Avi	Portland	1360	4	Lancaster, Carter	Oregon City	1041
5	Case, Tommy	Eugene	1291	5	Reeves, Leo	Eugene	887
6	Woltjer, Peter	West Linn	1245	6	Moleski, Jake	Portland	841
7	Siddhartha, Keshav	Hillsboro	1209	7	Nichols, Owen	Portland	824
8	Zhang, Randy	Portland	1202	8	Muthu, Kabir	Portland	808
9	Chen, Grant	Portland	1184	9	Majmudar, Riya	Hillsboro	778
10	Santoro, Marino	Bandon	1103	10	Kroenke, Carter	Portland	774
6th Grade (2013-14)				2nd Grade (2013-14)			
1	Wu, Ethan	Portland	1588	1	Chang, Calvin	Portland	1111
2	Botez, Andrea	Happy Valley	1549	2	Wong, Egan	Portland	864
3	Xu, Marshal	Portland	1478	3	Strayer, Jacob	Hillsboro	862
4	Sun, Jeffery	Lake Oswego	1286	4	Liu, Bob	Portland	853
5	Guo, Jonathan	Portland	1280	5	Schlimgen, Owen	Portland	767
6	Klimkina, Maria	Portland	1275	6	Cisowski, Adrian	Portland	749
7	Lee, Nathaniel	Portland	1271	7	Albers, Hailey	Oregon City	715
8	Frias, Corbin	Beaverton	1214	8	Weksler, Travis	Portland	691
9	Soiffer, Duncan	Beaverton	1184	9	Woodward, Tate	Tigard	664
10	Ornes, Neal	Corvallis	1127	10	Dickinson, Michael	Cottage Grove	651
11	Albers, Travis	Oregon City	1084				
5th Grade (2013-14)				1st Grade (2013-14)			
1	Mccoy, Owen	Eugene	1640	1	Strigul, Alexander	Portland	837
2	Grabinsky, Joshua	Coquille	1469	2	Zadok, Ori	Portland	599
3	Liu, Colin	Portland	1460	3	Holt, Forrest	Portland	568
4	Mcclain, Jack Woo	Eugene	1398	4	Maslen, Paul	Portland	564
5	Uan-Zo-Li, Sean	Portland	1365	5	Toledo Howlett, Isabella	Portland	413
6	Zhang, Gavin	Portland	1355	6	Beleiciks, Pearl	Salem	400
7	Woods, Carson	Redmond	1274	7	Franklin, Monty	Corvallis	400
8	Gardner-O'Kearny, Aidan	Portland	1170				
9	Samudrala, Nikhil	Hillsboro	1121				
10	Schuff, Michael	Portland	1090				

2014 Metzger Winter Classic

by Russell Miller

Tigard, OR - January 11, 2014

Tigard Oregon was the site of this event with the sponsoring USCF affiliate being the Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation. Jeff Risher

was the Chief TD. A perfect 4-0 score by Corbin Frias of Beaverton won the 16 player USCF rated event Kings section which was dual rated by USCF and Chess Ratings Northwest.

Another 4-0 score won the Rooks Section and that was by Kushal Pai of Portland over 25 other players.

The Bishops A section of 31 players was won by another perfect score, 5-0 by Melissa Phung of Hillsboro.

The Bishops B section of 18 players was a three way tie for 1st at the 4-1 score by William Guo of Portland, Anish Goswami of Wilsonville and Jacob Strayer of Hillsboro.

The Knights A section had 24 players and topped by a 5-0 score by Orië Zadok of Portland. The Knights B Section also finished with a 5-0 score by Linus Hoyt of Portland.

Coffeetime Feb 2014

by Russell Miller

18 players under the direction of Galen Pyle on February 1, 2014 played a G/15; d0 five-round swiss event. Nick Raptis of Portland scored a perfect score to take first place. At 3.5-1.5 in tie for 2nd-4th were Michael Goffe of Portland, Jesse Hutton, plus Scott Levin of Portland. The event was quick-rated by USCF.



Kathy Miller holding the Northwest Chess banner in front of the Portland Chess Club.
Photo credit: Russell Miller

Coffeetime Feb 2014 Crosstable (not in tie-break order)

#	Name	Pre-	Post	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total
1	Nick Raptis	2263	2269	W12	W9	W6	W2	W7	5
2	Michael Goffe	1878	1891	W13	D8	W7	L1	W10	3.5
3	Jesse Hutton	1758	1766	W17	L6	W13	W11	D4	3.5
4	Scott Andrew Levin	1688	1729	L15	W5	W14	W6	D3	3.5
5	Richard G Gutman	2116	2081	D10	L4	W15	D8	W12	3
6	Jason Cigan	1873	1868	W11	W3	L1	L4	W13	3
7	Allen Chalfen	1798	1796	W14	W15	L2	W10	L1	3
8	Jerry Sherrard	1752	1760	W16	D2	L10	D5	W11	3
9	Galen Pyle	1789	1766	W18	L1	L11	W14	H	2.5
10	Calvin Jay Parnon	1590	1657	D5	W12	W8	L7	L2	2.5
11	Corey Tache	1574	1581	L6	W17	W9	L3	L8	2
12	Andrew Lam Trattner	1557	1547	L1	L10	W18	W16	L5	2
13	HH Ward	1547	1537	L2	W16	L3	W15	L6	2
14	Geoffrey Winslow Kenway	1287	1307	L7	W18	L4	L9	W17	2
15	Elias Abraham Stern-Rodriguez	1125	1194	W4	L7	L5	L13	D16	1.5
16	Jeff Jack Austin	1173	1189	L8	L13	W17	L12	D15	1.5
17	Mark S Hanna	1255	1215	L3	L11	L16	W18	L14	1
18	Rhys Edward Greensted	1133	1079	L9	L14	L12	L17	B	1

Carl Haessler
Chess Master



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Seven Book Reviews

by IM John Donaldson

The second edition of Dvoretsky's Analytical Manual

(2013, Russell Enterprises, Inc., Figurine Algebraic Notation, paperback, 424pp., \$34.95) by Mark Dvoretsky is must reading for any ambitious player rated over 2200. There is a wealth of training material designed both to increase the students' knowledge and their analytical skills. The material is organized into five chapters: Immersion in the Position, Analyzing the Endgame, Games for Training Positions, Practical Psychology and Lasker the Great. The latter includes a 28 page analysis of Edward Lasker-Emanuel Lasker, New York 1924, that concludes with the famous rook and pawn versus knight ending. Dvoretsky has strong words for those who think that today's best would make mincemeat of world champions of the past.

"What inspires me most is Lasker's fantastic defense in the endgame. After his opponent's missed win (72...Rh8? instead of 72...Rd7+), the former world champion spent 30 moves holding on to a most difficult position. Many hours of analysis, aided by computers, has established that in this endgame, Lasker only made one subtle mistake (75.Ke4?, instead of 75. Kc3!) in contrast to the annotators (among them, two world champions) who, working at their leisure, and able to move the pieces on the board, erred repeatedly. Meanwhile, Lasker's best years were already long past (55 years old is a more than respectable age for serious work at the chessboard). He was also exhausted and undoubtedly disappointed by the unfortunate turn this game had taken for him. But his iron will and superb chess mastery overcame all obstacles. I doubt that any modern grandmaster would be capable of such exploits!"

Highly Recommended

The 3...Qd8 Scandinavian Simple and Strong

(2013, Russell Enterprises, Inc., Figurine Algebraic Notation, paperback, 176pp., \$24.95) by Dan Lowinger deals with a variation of the Scandinavian that is not so well known as the traditional 3...Qa5 and the modern and trendy 3...Qd6. The

author, a master from Connecticut, does a good job in his introduction of explaining the motivations behind the seemingly illogical 3...Qd8 which appears to be a clear violation of opening principles. Lowinger points out that some Scandinavian players are looking for Caro-Kann type positions (1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5) who want to avoid the advance variation (3.e5).

The Scandinavian is unquestionable the most self-directed of Black's answers to 1.e4 as after 1...d5 only 2.exd5 makes sense. For practicality it is second to none for both amateurs and professionals. The question is just how good is 3...Qd8? The traditional view, familiar to anyone who remembers Fischer's crushes of Robatsch and Addison, is that Black's queen retreat is simply a loss of time. Lowinger begs to differ. He holds that in a semi-open position Black's position can afford the lost time. In other lines of the Scandinavian Black's queen ends up on c7 and in the 3...Qd8 variation it often just arrives there via a different route.

The modern lines with 3...Qd8 often lend themselves to flexible play. After 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bc4 Black can choose between 5...a6 and 5...c6. The latter has definite Caro-Kann like tendencies after 6.Nf3 Bf5. Against 5.Bg5 Black answers with 5...h6 while on 5.Nf3 c6 6.Bc4 b5 or 5...Bg4. In the latter line after 6.h3 the retreat 6...Bh5? 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5 e6 9.Bg2 c6 10.h4 Bb4 11.0-0! leaves Black in serious trouble. Instead 6...Bxf3 7.Qxf3 leads to a typical Caro-Kann/Slav structure (also with some similarities to the Fort Knox Variation of the French - 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bd7 followed by ...Bc6xe4). White typically has a small edge in these type of positions but Black's setup is solid if slightly passive. Those whose ambitions don't extend beyond reaching a playable middlegame will find 3...Qd8 a good practical weapon be it as their regular opening to 1.e4 or as a surprise weapon.

Gary Kasparov on Gary Kasparov- Part II:1985-1993

(Everyman Chess 2013, www.everymanchess.com, 495 pages, hardback, figurine algebraic, \$45) covers one of the greatest players of all-time at the peak of his powers. This massive and beautifully produced hardback offers 100 extremely

well-annotated games, a quarter of them from the second, third and fourth Kasparov-Karpov matches.

No other World Champion has taken such trouble to chronicle his career and those of his predecessors. This is the eleventh of twelve planned volumes that already encompasses more than 4000 pages! This is must reading for all chess fans.

One small quibble. On page 125 Kasparov writes about the USA-USSR match from the Dubai Olympiad of 1986; "I made an untimely exchange of bishop for knight, blundered in a sharp rook ending, and suffered a painful defeat. As a result we lost the match (1 1/2 - 2 1/2), which had a considerable psychological effect: the U.S. President Reagan even sent his compatriots a congratulatory telegram!" This reviewer was captain of the U.S. team in Dubai and neither he nor teammates Yasser Seirawan and Nick de Firmian recall this telegram. This is not to say it didn't happen but a source would have been helpful.

This book is also available in electronic formats (ChessBase and PGN). For samples from this book go to http://www.everymanchess.com/chess/books/Garry_Kasparov_on_Garry_Kasparov%2C_Part_II%3A_1985-1993

Highly Recommended

A Cunning Chess Opening Repertoire for White

(Gambit 2013, gambitbooks.com, 256 pages, figurine algebraic, paperback, \$23.95) by FM Graham Burgess is a complete system for White based on 1.d4 and 2.Nf3 (2.g3 versus 1...d6, 1...g6 and 1...f5). Burgess bases his system on three pillars: The Queen's Gambit (d4 and c4) versus 1...d5, the Torre (1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bg5) and Counter Fianchetto (1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3).

The book is organized as follows:

- 1 Queen's Gambit: Introduction 11
- 2 QGD: Main Line with 5 Bf4 19
- 3 QGD without 4...Be7 40
- 4 Ragozin QGD 53
- 5 Queen's Gambit Accepted 60
- 6 Slav 74
- 7 Semi-Slav and Triangle QGD 99
- 8 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3: Tarrasch et al. 107

- 9 Torre Attack: Introduction 117
- 10 Torre Poisoned Pawn 119
- 11 Torre with ...d5 127
- 12 Torre without ...d5 134
- 13 Counter-Fianchetto: Introduction 153
- 14 King's Indian 158
- 15 Grünfeld 189
- 16 Anti-Benoni 210
- 17 Dutch and Other 1st Moves 235

This includes some currently popular lines (5.Bf4 in the Queen's Gambit Declined) and ones currently not in favor but sound (4.Qa4+ in the Queen's Gambit Accepted). Burgess does not promise an opening advantage for White but rather a solid and dependable repertoire with some punch where theory isn't constantly changing.

One difference between the repertoire offered by Burgess and in some other books, is there no attempt to get all the lines to match. All the transpositions are covered but instead of 1.d4, 2.Nf3 and 3.Bg5 against everything, A Cunning Chess Opening Repertoire for White offers a much more nuanced approach. This includes Romanishin's favorite 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nf3 d6 6.a4 as well as 5.g3 versus the Slav (1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4) and Semi-Slav (1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.g3). This approach requires more work but the payoffs are better chances for an opening advantage and fresher play.

A sample of this book can be found at http://www.gambitbooks.com/books/A_Cunning_Chess_Opening_Repertoire_for_White.html

A Cunning Chess Opening Repertoire for White is available is also available as an e-book.

Recommended

Magnus Force: How Carlsen Beat Kasparov's Record

(Everyman Chess 2013, www.everymanchess.com, 286 pages, paperback, figurine algebraic, \$27.95) by Colin Crouch is not your usual games collection. Instead of presenting a selection of "best games" by the current World Champion the English IM has chosen to divide his book into two parts. The first examines all of Carlsen's losses in 2010-12 and the second all of his efforts from London 2012 and Wijk aan Zee 2013. All told there are 29 well-annotated games with an emphasis on explanatory prose commentary over in-depth analysis. This makes this book much more accessible to a wider audience ranging from 1600 to 2400.

Besides the annotated games Magnus

Force: How Carlsen Beat Kasparov's Record contains an overview of Carlsen's accomplishments the past few years including crosstables. The oversize format with plenty of diagrams makes this a user friendly book. Like most Everyman books this work is available in both print and electronic formats. More information can be found at http://www.everymanchess.com/chess/books/http://www.everymanchess.com/chess/books/Magnus_Force%3A_%3Csmall%3EHow_Carlsen_beat_Kasparov%27s_record%3C_small%3E.

The Nimzo-Larsen Attack

(Everyman Chess 2013, www.everymanchess.com, 416 pages, paperback, figurine algebraic, \$29.95) by Cyrus Lakdawala, offers one stop shopping for those looking for an opening for White. The San Diego IM covers all of Black's replies to 1.b3 using 60 well-annotated games utilizing a Question and Answer format that engages the reader in a way that traditional opening books don't.

Although this book is primarily aimed at players from 1800 to 2200 there is still plenty to interest stronger players as well. One line in particular is the sequence 1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Bb5 Bd6 5.Na3 which Lakdawala dubs the Beginner Variation for obvious reasons. This line can lead to particularly creative play with one example being 5...a6 6.Be2 (6.Bxc6 is also played) 6...Na5 7.c4 0-0 8.Nc2 Nc6 9.g4!? b5! 10.g5! as in T.L. Petrosian-Vishnu, Fujairah City 2012. Lakdawala draws from older classics as well as new games with Fischer, Larsen and Nimzowitsch all featured prominently, a few via 1.Nf3 d5 2.b3.

This book, like many others published by Everyman Chess, is available in both print and electronic formats. For more information and a sample of this book go to http://www.everymanchess.com/chess/books/http://www.everymanchess.com/chess/books/The_Nimzo-Larsen_Attack%3A_Move_by_Move

Recommended

Botvinnik Move by Move

Few World Champions have annotated their games as thoroughly as Mikhail Botvinnik so one might question the need for another book on him, but Cyrus Lakdawala has taken a new approach with his Botvinnik Move by Move (Everyman Chess 2013, www.everymanchess.com, 398 pages, paperback, figurine algebraic, \$29.95). The San Diego IM, and six-

time Southern California Champion, has organized his material thematically (attack, defense, endings, etc.) and more importantly utilizes a question and answer that engages the reader in a way traditional games collections don't.

Some might find it a minor sacrilege that an International Master dares to not only annotate the games of the great Botvinnik but also questions some of the moves and evaluations of the Patriarch. He even questions some of Kasparov's notes to Botvinnik's games as well. Here is what Lakdawala has to say about this in his notes to Benko-Botvinnik, Monte Carlo 1968, as he queries the former World Champions' 19...h5?!, a move Botvinnik and Kasparov both give an exclamation mark.

Well, it does appear a bit presumptuous on your writer's part, but in my defense, there are mitigating factors: Botvinnik didn't have access to a computer. Kasparov did but he wrote his annotations around 2002/03, using computers much weaker than today's models. The Houdini and Fritz programs of 2013 are several levels stronger and apparently found a hole in Botvinnik's move order.

Believe me, ten years from now if you put this analysis in the top program of 2023, you will unearth a million improvements as well. This is why (I believe, at least) actual analysis in a chess book isn't all that important (!), since the "best" move or line is in constant flux, due to the increasing strength of chess programs. Only the prose, assessments, opinions, and verbal explanations of the thought process will be of real use in a few years to come.

Wise words from I.M. Lakdawala.

This book is currently available in print and Kindle formats. Go to http://www.everymanchess.com/chess/books/Botvinnik%3A_Move_by_Move for more information.



IM John Donaldson
Photo courtesy of John Donaldson.

Elliott's Chess Tips

by NM Elliott Neff - Chess Coach



NM Elliott Neff. Photo courtesy of Elliott Neff

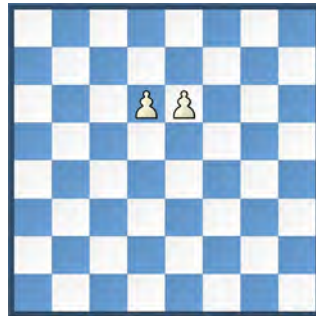
Powerful Pawns on the 6th Rank

Let's look at some unique characteristics of pawns, particularly those on the 6th rank.

Did you know that two connected pawns on the 6th rank are better than a knight, bishop, or rook? Let's consider the position with just two connected pawns on an empty board, side by side, on the 6th rank (two squares away from promotion). In terms of material, they are worth two points (one point each). In terms of position, however, they carry the unique threat of 'promoting' into pieces worth much more!

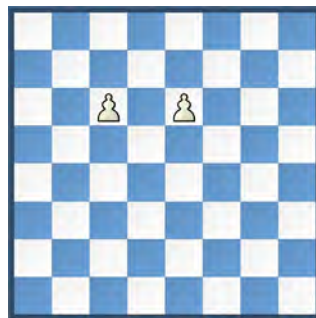
Let's assume that you could now place a knight, bishop, or rook anywhere on the empty board. Then, the pawns get to move first. You will find that even against a rook, worth 5 points, the pawns win! Example: White pawns on d6 and e6, Black rook on d5 attacking one pawn. White simply plays

e7. If Black plays Re5 to stop that pawn from promoting, White then plays 2. d7! and one of the pawns will reach the 8th rank safely, even though one pawn must be sacrificed.



If you replace the rook with a bishop or knight from the starting position, you will quickly see that any of these pieces is helpless in preventing at least one pawn from safely promoting.

But does this hold true if the pawns are separated by one or more files? Suppose the pawns are on c6 and e6.



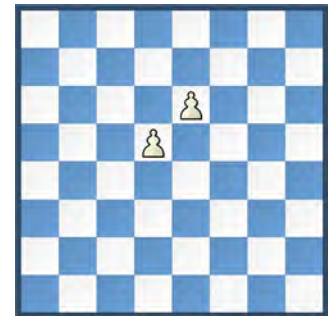
Now we find that the powerful rook can easily stop the pawns simply by being on a safe square on the 8th rank (such as a8). As the pawns advance, the rook can simply pick them off. The rook will always win in this situation, no matter how far apart the pieces are.

Now let's try a bishop. Placing a bishop on d6 to stop both pawns, we find that the pawns win again! If either pawn advances, the bishop can capture it, but the other pawn then safely promotes. This principle holds true no matter how far apart the pawns are on the 6th rank.

Now on to the knight, which presents an interesting situation. Can you see how the knight can actually stop both pawns? Imagine the knight on d6. White plays 2. e7 then 2. Ne8 (blocking one pawn and also covering c7 so the pawns will be captured as they advance).

But a knight is short-ranged. It runs into trouble when the pawns are two files apart. Imagine pawns on e6 and b6, knight on c7. White plays e7 and then 'decoys' the knight after 1. Nd6 with 2. b7. We also find that when the pawns are any farther apart, the knight is helpless to stop both pawns.

What happens if one of the pawns is not yet on the 6th rank? Imagine pawns on d5 and e6.



In this scenario, we quickly see that the pawns are helpless against a well positioned knight, bishop, or rook. Can you figure out where each defensive piece should be placed so as to single-handedly stop the pawns?

We come to the following conclusions:

Pawns become more valuable the farther they advance towards the promotion square. In general, pawns that are 'connected' (side by side) are much stronger than disconnected pawns because they can protect each other as they advance (exception being vs. the knight, where being farther apart exposes the knight's short-range weakness). Blockading is a key tactic to preventing pawns from advancing.

Answers: Knight on d6 or e8, bishop anywhere on the diagonal a3-f8 (if light-squared bishop, anywhere safe on the h3-c8 diagonal), and rook anywhere on the e-file, preferably behind the pawn from e1-e5.

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Washington Chess News

Here are some short bios in no particular order sent in by or on behalf of the players of the 2014 Washington State Championship Premier and Championship sections. We did not get bios on NM Roland Feng, FM David Bragg or LM Viktors Pupols. Michael Omori withdrew due to illness.

Thanks goes to Joshua Sinanan for his help in encouraging the players to submit these to Northwest Chess before the event and to H.G. Pitre for suggesting the idea to us.

FM William Schill

by William Schill

Juanita High School Kirkland, Washington
University of Washington Seattle,
Washington

Second Place Tropicana World Cup
Backgammon

Washington State Texas Hold'em
Champion

Washington State Chess Champion 2000
and 2001 (shared)

Currently coaching chess at six Seattle area
schools



William Schill. Photo credit: Duane Polich

NM Daniel He

by Samuel He

NM Daniel He is a freshman at Redmond High School. He started playing chess in second grade, and has always loved the game since then! Currently rated 2257 USCF, Daniel has had many achievements, most recently, first place in the 2014 WA Junior Closed. Daniel believes having fun with chess and learning is more important than winning and he mainly plays 1 minute

games on the Internet Chess Club. When Daniel is not playing chess, he enjoys basketball, running, and studying math.



Daniel He. Photo credit: Duane Polich

NM Nat Koons

by Nat Koons

I started playing chess back in 1993, and an essential part of my education was playing innumerable hours of blitz at none other than the Seattle Chess Club. I won several junior state titles but I have never won the state championship, so my goal this year is to change that! The peak of my chess career was traveling to Budapest in 2005 to play in a First Saturday tournament, an experience I would recommend to anyone.



Nat Koons. Photo credit: Duane Polich

NM Mike MacGregor

by Mike MacGregor

When my paternal grandfather passed away in the early 1970's I had salvaged Chess in a Nutshell and The Fireside Book of Chess from the fire. They still smell old and like smoke. I don't know why I had saved these books. I was about seven years old at the time. My father didn't even know his father had these chess books or that he had an interest in chess. When I told my dad about these books in 2007, 35 years later, he was in disbelief until he saw his father's hand writing in Fireside where he would write the solution to two-move tactical problems.

A few years after my grandfather's passing, my paternal grandmother bought my parents a chess set, which they never used. The gift seemed like a cruel joke to my mother because she didn't even know how to play chess (and still doesn't!). The gift seemed to be a symbol of the strained relationship between my mother and her mother-in-law. Historically, these chess items were purchased during the Fischer boom of the early 1970's.

I didn't touch a chess set until I was 10 or 11 years old. A neighborhood friend and I would engage in what we termed pawn wars. We each took turns marching our pawns to the center of the board for annihilation. The player with the last pawn standing won the game. My friend and I used only the pawns simply because we did not know how to use the pieces, despite placing them all on the first rank. Not knowing how to use those pieces planted a small desire in me to learn the game when the opportunity presented itself.

My high school appointed one hour a month for students to participate in an elective club held during the school day. That day in the tenth grade I had a substitute teacher who said he would be participating in the school's chess club in the class next to ours. I joined the club and quickly learned to accept defeat as normal. I was placed as an alternate for the chess team.

I coped with defeat because of an instant love for the game and because I knew that eventually I would win. My competitiveness drove me to studying books and buying a small chess computer. I fondly remember watching Bruce Lee movies and then learning to win against the chess computer. Of course, this was back in the day when computers were rated about 1800. Within a short period of time I was winning. After losing, however, few of my opponents

asked me to play them anymore. By the end of tenth grade, I was playing third board for the Federal Way High School chess team.

To improve, I needed to increase the caliber of my opponents. I joined the Tacoma Chess Club and began participating in rated tournaments. I competed and won the right to play first board for my high school early within the eleventh grade and maintained that privilege through graduation. I finished high school (1984) with an Expert rating of 2000+.

After high school, I enjoyed playing chess with some high school buddies for a year. I then went on my church mission, returned, went to college, and did not participate in a rated chess tournament until 1996, a hiatus of more than ten years. Much to my surprise, my chess strength had not dissipated despite not having played or studied for so long, although it took some time to relearn the opening theories.



*Mike MacGregor.
Photo courtesy of Mike MacGregor*

Kyle Haining

by Breck Haining

Kyle Haining is an 8th grader at Kellogg Middle School. He enjoys school and takes all the honor classes he can. In the school orchestra Kyle plays the cello. Outside of school Kyle likes to play the piano. In the fall and sometimes in the spring Kyle plays on a recreational soccer team. Kyle is active in Boy Scouts and at church. Kyle has been a member of the Seattle Chess Club since 2008. For several years now Kyle has been the top rated player in his grade in Washington state. Kyle won 1st place in the WA Junior Open tournament in 2012 and 2014. He won 1st place in the Tournament of Champions in 2012. In the WA State Elementary Chess

Championships Kyle won 1st place and was outright champion in 2012 in the 6th grade section; he won 2nd place and was co-champion in the 5th grade section in 2011; he won 1st place and was co-champion in the 4th grade section in 2010; he won 1st place and was co-champion in the 3rd grade section in 2009; he won 7th place in 2nd grade in 2008, his first year playing in scholastic tournament chess. In May 2012 Kyle won 1st place in the K-6 National Blitz championship tournament.

Kyle became interested in chess in 1st grade when he saw a couple of classmates playing the game. Kyle's father purchased a plastic chess set for \$3, and then armed with a copy of Susan Polgar's "Chess Tactics for Champions" began to teach Kyle to play. A couple of months later Kyle's mother learned that his school had a chess club and that the chess club would be holding a tournament open to all students in the school. She signed him up for the beginner/intermediate section. Kyle won 1st place. His mother later learned from friends that their children played in scholastic tournaments every Saturday. In 2nd grade Kyle's parents registered Kyle to play in one of these Saturday tournaments thinking it would be fine for him to play in a tournament once a month. Kyle was hooked and soon "once a month" became every Saturday. Dad soon realized that Kyle needed to play against better players, so signed Kyle up to be a member of the Seattle Chess Club. After winning 7th place in the state 2nd grade championship tournament dad decided it was time for Kyle to take private lessons. Kyle's first chess coach was NM Matt Fleury, who taught Kyle for 3 years. Kyle took lessons for a time from FM Ignacio Perez. Kyle now studies with GM Emil Anka.



Kyle Haining. Photo credit: Duane Polich

David Rupel

by David Rupel

I learned chess at the knees of my dad, Gene Rupel, when I was five or six, although I didn't take it seriously until about the time of my first rated event, the Washington Junior of 1963 when I was 13. My dad also taught the moves to his sister, my Aunt Carol Kleist, when they were young.

I reached expert status (2000) in my University of Washington days in the late 1960s-early 70s. It wasn't until 1985, though, that I managed to go over 2200, an achievement I was able to maintain for a couple of years.

My most memorable tourney success was clear first "A" prize in the US Open in Pasadena in 1983, although tying for first under 2200 in the 2014 Golden Gate Open has to rank too. Although I've come away with my share of half scalps, biggest full scalp to date came in the 2004 American Open versus then California state champion Kong Deng (2504).

Over the years, I have played in several Swisses in Europe as I enjoy the higher level of playing conditions abroad. That was the subject of the cover story of the December 2012 *Northwest Chess*.



David Rupel. Photo credit: Duane Polich

FM Ignacio Perez

Rating: 2246
Title: Fide Master
Age: 46
Birthplace: Cuba

Chess Highlights:

Two-time WA State Champion (2007, 2013), 2006 WA Premier Champion, Runner-up in the strongest ever WA State Championship in 2008, 2012 Evergreen



Ignacio Perez. Photo credit: Duane Polich

Empire Open Champion, Participated in 7 consecutive WA State Championships

Bio:

Originally from Cuba, Ignacio emigrated to the United States in 1991. He is specialist in speed chess and regularly plays at Crossroads Mall in Bellevue. Ignacio has been a USCF Life Master since 1997 and became a FIDE Master in 2008, reaching a peak FIDE rating of 2306. He is the current Washington State Champion, having first won the title in 2007.

NM David Golub

David Golub is a national master. Apart from exploring chess, when he's not being chased by his cat Bruno, he likes to play piano and fiddle with computers.



David Golub. Photo credit: Duane Polich

NM Joshua Sinanan

by Joshua Sinanan

I began playing chess competitively in my sophomore year at Edmonds-Woodway High School. During this time, I learned

the London system from J.P. Sarasad, who played first board for our team in the WESCO league. In my senior year, I won the 2003 Washington State High School Championship after finishing second behind FM Curt Collyer the year before. I am a self-taught player and have learned most of what I know by playing 3-minute chess on the Internet Chess Club. I recently finished my seventh season playing for the Seattle Sluggers chess team in the US Chess League, which we won in 2012. I am now a full time chess instructor and work to promote chess throughout the Northwest as I enter my 4th year as WCF President. In my spare time, I relax by playing 200+ correspondence chess games on gameknot.com.



Joshua Sinanan at the 2012 U.S. Open. Photo credit: Phil Peterson

Satyajit Malugu

Courtesy of Satyajit Malugu

Satyajit learned chess from his father when he was about 7 years old, his father pushed him for chess coaching at the age of 13 to overcome Satya's boredom. His first coach G. Srinivas gave him the basics, respect and fascination for the game. His next coach(es)- Jonnalagadda family Rama Krishna, Ramana and their father coached him for 5 years.

During this time Satyajit won state championships Under-15, Under-19, State champion championships, and represented Andhra Pradesh state in Indian nationals. His best result is when his state team came in 6th at Indian team championships. His photo was stamped on front page, when he came second in a state tournament conducted by popular telugu media publication Eenadu.



Satyajit Malugu. Photo credit: Duane Polich

For Satya, chess is the place where rationality, science, analysis, social equality, mental balance, grace in defeat, fighting spirit all come together.

WIM Megan Lee

by Hock Lee

Megan Lee is a Woman International Master and the 2013 North America U-18 Girl Champion. She started learning chess at age 6. She won the 18-and-under division of the All-Girls Nationals Championship when she was 12 years old and was awarded a four-year scholarship to the University of Texas at Dallas. She played for the Seattle Sluggers in the US Chess League in 2013. She is the president of the chess club at Newport High School in Bellevue. She currently studies with IM Georgi Orlov.



Megan Lee. Photo credit: Duane Polich

FM Tian Sang

by Tian Sang

Starting to play chess at the age of nine, I had intensive training and improved my skills quickly. I was among the best juniors in China, winning regional and national events. I was once the youngest member in the Chinese (adult) national team; however, I decided to leave the professional track and go to college. I graduated from Tsinghua University, China, and then received Ph.D. from University of Washington. After many years of retirement, I could not resist the fascination of chess and picked it up again. My recent tournament results include co-winner of Challenger's cup 2012, runner up of 2013 WA championship, and co-winner of 2013 Seafair Open.



Tian Sang. Photo courtesy of Tian Sang

NM Bryce Tiglon

by Anemone Tiglon

Bryce was introduced to chess in Kindergarten. In first grade, he played in his first scholastic tournaments. He made rapid progress especially following several lessons with Elena Donaldson who introduced him to ICC. In third and fourth grade, Bryce won the WA State Elementary Chess Championships and three national blitz titles. He became the fifth grade National Champion in 2012 which earned

him the right to attend the 2012 World Youth Chess Championships (WYCC) in Slovenia. Bryce studied with GM Emil Anka for several months leading up to the 2012 WYCC, and he finished 21st in his division. In 2013, Bryce won the K-6 Blitz Championship at Supnationals with a perfect score. He also became a National Master in December, 2013 at the age of 12, and he earned personal right to attend the 2014 WYCC in South Africa. Bryce is currently in the 7th grade gifted program at Redmond Middle School. When not independently studying chess, he plays competitive soccer and baseball.



Bryce Tiglon. Photo credit: Duane Polich

NM Michael Wang

by Michael Wang

I started playing chess back in Kindergarten when I joined my school's chess club. I won a trophy in the very first tournament I played in, and six-year old me was ecstatic. One of my very first chess books was "How to Beat Your Dad at Chess," and before long, I had mastered this lesson. Chess has taught me many life lessons growing up including perseverance and sportsmanship. To this day, I continue to enjoy playing the game of chess primarily because it is so

challenging and competitive. Last summer, I won the Washington Open and achieved my National Master title.



Michael Wang at the 2013 Washington Open. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

We don't have bios for the following four individuals, however, we do have pictures.

FM David Bragg



FM David Bragg. Photo credit: Duane Polich

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NM Roland Feng



NM Roland Feng. Photo credit: Duane Polich

LM Viktors Pupols



LM Viktors Pupols.
Photo credit: Joshua Sinanan

Michael Omori



Michael Omori. Photo credit: Jeff Omori

Washington Junior Open

Source: Joshua Sinanan, January 21, 2014

Hi Everyone,

Congratulations to Kyle Haining for winning the 2014 WA Junior Open! He tied for 1st with 3.5/4 along with Derek Zhang. For his victory, Kyle is seeded into the 2015 WA Junior Closed and the 2014 WA Premier.

The playoff game was played at the following time control: White starts with 10 minutes (no delay), Black starts with 8 minutes and receives draw odds. Derek won the coin toss and chose the black pieces.

The players entered a main line of the Tarrasch French, and both seemed well prepared theoretically. After blitzing out the opening, Kyle took the advantage in the center and eventually won Derek's bishop using a pin. Kyle converted his advantage masterfully!

**Kyle Haininge (2077) –
Derek Zhang (1942) [C06]**
2014 WA Junior Open Playoff,
January 20, 2014
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7
5.c3 c5 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4
9.cxd4 f6 10.exf6 Nxf6 11.0-0 Bd6 12.Bf4
Bxf4

I'm not a fan of Black's plan to exchange dark-squared bishops in these positions.

13.Nxf4 0-0 14.Qd2 Bd7 15.Rfe1 Rfe8
16.Rad1 Rac8 17.a3

17.Ne5! Nxe5 (17...Nxd4 18.Bb1! (18.
Bxh7+ Kxh7 19.Qxd4 Qxd4 20.Rxd4 is
also at least a small advantage to White.)
18...Nc6 19.Nxd7 Nxd7 20.Nxe6 is a
decent plus for White.) 18.dxe5 Ng4
19.Nh5 Rf8? ? (19...g6 20.h3 with obscure
complications that appear to favor White.)
20.Qg5! is winning.

17...a5 18.Bb1 Nd8 19.Ne5



19...Nf7?

19...Ba4 20.Rc1 Rxc1 21.Rxc1 Nc6
22.Nxc6 Bxc6 +=

20.Qd3?

White misses the overload tactic 20.Bxh7+!
Nxb7 (20...Kxh7 21.Nxf7) 21.Nxd7
winning.

20...Bb5 21.Qb3 a4 22.Qb4

22.Qg3!?

22...Nd6?!

22...Nxe5 23.Rxe5 Rc4 24.Qd2 +=

23.Bd3 Nc4 24.Nxc4 dxc4 25.Bc2

[Diagram next column]

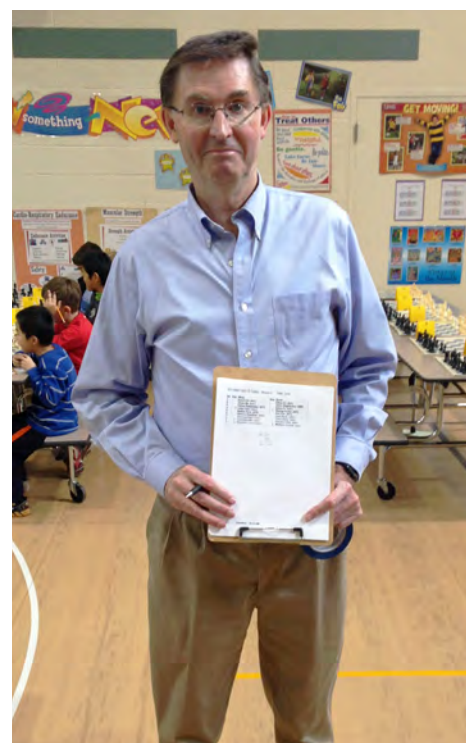
25...Nd5?

25...Qa6 26.Re5 Bd7 27.Rg5 White has
all the play, but at least material is still in
balance.

26.Nxd5 exd5 27.Bxa4 Rxe1+ 28.Rxe1



Qxd4 29.Qxb5 Rf8 30.Rf1 Qe4 31.Qxb7
c3 32.Bc6 Qd4 33.Bxd5+ Kh8 34.bxc3
Qxc3 35.Qb4 Qe5 36.Qxf8# 1-0



Tournament Director David Hendricks.
Photo credit: Joshua Sinanan

WA State Elementary Chess Championships

April 12, 2014

Smith Cove Cruise Terminal
Pier 91, Magnolia WA (just north of the Space Needle)

Sections: Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, 4th Grade, 5th Grade, 6th Grade, I Love Chess Too K-3, I Love Chess Too 4-6, I Love Chess Too 7-Adult. (Must qualify for main grade-level sections.)

Entry Fees: \$55 by March 1st, \$65 by April 1st. Registration closes April 1st.

Registration: Register online at <http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration>. Chess Club Directors and Coaches may order lunches or team seats by selecting the Directors and Coaches non-playing section when registering.

Schedule: 7:00am – Pairings for Round 1 posted. 7:00am to 8:50am: Check in by picking up your registration envelope. Any players whose envelopes are not picked up by 8:50am will receive 0 point byes and will be manually replaced in the pairings. 9:00am – All players in their seats, instructions to players. 9:15am - Round 1, 10:45am – Round 2, 11:00am to 12:45pm – Lunch, 12:45pm – Round 3, 2:00pm – Round 4 (may be pulled earlier if possible), 3:15pm – Round 5 (may be pulled earlier if possible), 4:45pm – Trophy presentation, 6:00pm – Tournament complete.

Parking: \$10 per car. There is a parking lot north of Pier 91 with room for 1600 cars, with free shuttle service to take you to the playing site. There are no in and out privileges. Carpooling, arranging to be dropped off, or taking a shuttle from your hotel may save you money on parking. It is recommended you drop off at the playing site first, and then only the driver parks the car to lessen the load on the shuttles.

Food options: (please preorder) Prices include sales tax: \$6.00 Breakfast coffee or juice, muffin, banana; \$8.00 Hotdog with chips, drink, cookie; \$8.00 Pizza 1 slice (Cheese, Pepperoni, Hawaiian, Combo) with chips, drink, cookie; \$10.00 Pizza 2 slices (Cheese, Pepperoni, Hawaiian, Combo) with chips, drink, cookie; \$10.00 Caesar Salad with breadsticks, drink, fruit; \$10.00 Chef Salad with breadsticks, drink, fruit; \$12.00 Sandwich (turkey, ham and cheese, roast beef) with chips, drink, cookie.

Team tables: \$5 per seat, each rectangular 6' table seats 6 people. Team seats must be pre-ordered before Apr 1st. There is no free seating at this event.

Commemorative boards: \$20 each - includes vinyl chess board with 2014 logo, plastic pieces, and zippered bag. Pick these up at the end of the tournament at the check in tables.

Internet/Electrical power: Internet access at this site is very expensive; it is recommended you plan to use your cell phone mobile hot spot if you can. Some tables will be setup with electrical power to recharge electronics.

Info: See online registration for more information (including hotels), or go to <http://www.wsecc2014.com/>.

Bughouse Tournament is Friday April 11th at the Smith Cove Site.

See the Bughouse flyer at <http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration> for details.



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Offer expires April 30, 2014

Junior: \$19/year or \$45 for 3 years. Junior members receive *Northwest Chess* each month, and NWC will pay the WA state sales tax with this special offer. *Must be in grades K through 6 as of April.*

Family: \$5/year or \$12 for 3 years (**not a subscription – membership only**). With this special offer, additional family members must also be in grades K-6 residing at the same address as the junior. For other rates, including adult plus additional family member, please see the Northwest Chess website.

Name(s) _____ Date(s) of birth _____

E-Mail (strongly recommended; used for annual renewal notices and occasionally for tournament announcements)

Street or P.O. Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Amounts: \$ _____ (junior) + \$ _____ (additional family) = \$ _____ (total)

Make check or money order for total amount payable to Northwest Chess and mail to:

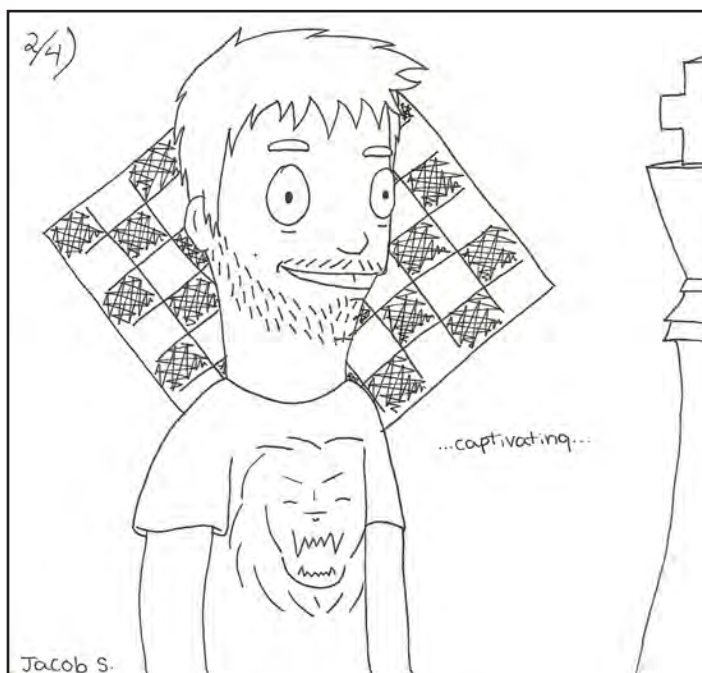
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The Dialogue That Ends With A Point

by Jacob Stinar and Jeffrey Roland



Jacob Stinar as drawn by Sydney Fuentes on February 4, 2014



Jeffrey Roland as drawn by Sydney Fuentes on February 4, 2014

I took my seat. A man with his back to me stood facing a blinded window with his hands clasped above the back-flaps of his black suit.

“So what do you remember?” he asked. At this moment his hands unhinged from behind his back, pulled a cord, and changed the angle of the blinds. A blast of outside light hit me hard. Dazed, my chair propped onto its back two legs as my pupils constricted in protest. I faced the light with the valiance of a stag viewing the headlights of obliteration. The black vinyl window blinds diced the light into separate beams and made thousands of free-floating dust particles be revealed in suspended animation.

I thought about his question. I realized I did not remember much of anything, not even how I had gotten here. That realization started to frighten me. I inhaled deeply and searched the room for clues. I noticed there was no color. There was only white and its absence. I felt like I was catapulted into film noir and realized I liked such a binary world. I exhaled fully. My eyes were adjusting now, and I felt no need to withhold anything. “I remember only your question as if it is the start of my life anew” I confessed.

He chuckled. I used the silence thereafter to study him. He was an older man with a white beard and gentle eyes. His face was

weathered with a peaceful countenance. He returned to the table and sat across from me in the shadows. I realized that a game had begun and thus the advantage was with him. I didn’t like him retiring to such an obscure position, for he was clothed by the shadows of the room, and I was naked in the light. I felt in resonance with one of the thousands of dust particles that were now hanging in the air before me.

“Am I real?” I asked as I thrust my eyes at his. I knew I made contact because I saw them spark.

“I cannot prove to you that you are real. I can only validate your reality,” he said.

“Is my reality somehow different from yours?” I asked.

“Objectivity is not dependent upon either of us, but subjectivity is completely contingent upon the knower.”

“And what is knowledge?” I asked.

“Knowledge is the narrative of the cosmos.”

“But a story of faith nonetheless”. I added.

He nodded. “So let us paint a story.”

“And I shall play the protagonist!” I exclaimed.

He smiled. “Perhaps that is *my* role...”

My blood cooled as my jaw tightened. “Then I shall kill you to prove the part is mine!”

He smiled again. “You cannot prove anything. You can only identify and integrate certain expectations within this reality.”

I thought for a moment. He was right. This was going to be a challenge. “Do you think the the truth is limited by trans-lingual interpretation?”

“No. Truth is trans-lingual but supersedes definition.”

“Well, my task is still the same. I shall vanquish you,” I said apathetically.

“And what are you trying to ascertain by this chess game?”

“The point,” I stated plainly.

His eyes flickered. “I didn’t know there was one.”

“Every system of operations has a point. This game is no different.”

“And do you think I possess the point?” “Hardly,” I answered. “though your arrow may fly truer than mine...”

“Hence this contest” he answered.

“Indeed.” I answered. “And I know that I am here. Because I am here I will always be a part of this. For we do not just die and disappear. Something that is existent cannot become nonexistent. There is only change.”

He nodded. “Undoubtedly. You cannot escape from this notion, just as you cannot escape the view of someone that isn’t watching you.”

I smiled. “My point has been made.”

“So what else can you preconceive?” he asked, and I saw a faint smirk that disappeared with a blink.

“How dare you gambit such a specious tenet to my face” I answered blithely. “Preconception is often used as the foundation of thought, but all thought verifies our own history. Although notation is practical in the depths of this reality, schemas should be shed like a fleece at the door of a new house. The preconception is already obsolete. Thought itself produces the most fire if it is burned without a single trace of smoke. I do not plague myself with preconception, for my cognition burns within the furnace of this moment. Don’t you think I know this already?”

“Thousands wouldn’t.” He smiled. “Thought must reflect the moment. Preconception and post-conception distort your reality as does a bottle of water refract light.

“Teach me something I don’t know,” I challenged.

There was silence. He breathed. “You’ve wandered to this place as a dreamer who has been distracted by the spectrum of colors and novel activity. The subjectivity of your own preconceptions asphyxiates you, and you cling to logic as does a drowning man aboard a sinking ship. You send a flare skywardly, seeking enlightenment, convinced that someone somewhere has the answer. You think this person will quantify how many gallons make up the very water that swallows you, and you think that to avoid its depths its merely a matter of hanging on to your vessel at the surface.”

I panicked. This was something I did not know. “What else to do when death is inevitable? Why not try to swim to the shores of understanding and truth? Why not seek help to survive?” I floundered.

“Because you fail to see that every one is adrift within the ether. No man can save you because he too floats freely in the same boundless ocean.”

“No!! There must be a point to this!!”

“That is the point. The point is what you make it. The point is not to just survive

but to live. This is your design. And when you play this game with me, it is ours together that we are co-creating. Embrace the color, accept the mystery, play the game. Recognize that the battlefield is not just black and white but also stained red with the blood of those who fight with the conviction that there is a point to this war.”

His words echoed into silence. There was a slow eruption of light that enveloped me in a nova of obliteration. My chair dropped back onto its four legs. The man was now gone. I wasn’t sure what I had learned but my attention was at the deficit of the polychromatic room. There was no more thought. I was changed and sought activity. I drifted out of the room and into the hall. I found a door. I opened it and walked through its threshold. I sat in suspended animation waiting in anticipation. A man stood facing a blinded window with his hands linked above the back-flaps of his white suit.

“So what do you remember?” he asked. And he pulled the blinds...

— Dedicated to our good friend and chess player, John Carr of Victor, Idaho.



John Carr. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland



DISTRESSED AT LOSING IN THE OPENINGS, BERNARD PONDERED THE DEEPER MEANING OF “EN PASSANT.”

Idaho Chess News

Mountain Home Open

by Adam Porth

Mountain Home houses several chess players that rarely stray far from their digs to play, but the Blaine County School District (BCSD) Chess Rage and the Idaho Chess Union (ICU) rescued residents on a blustery Saturday by sponsoring the Mountain Home Open. This is the fourth time that the Mountain Home Public Library and the Stagecoach Espresso has sponsored a chess tournament since April 28, 2012, and January 11, 2014 was special. Sixteen competitors faced off in the colorful and relaxed atmosphere to play G/60;d0 games in a 4-round Swiss System of pairing.

The Wood River contingent included Desmond, Darwin, and Adam Porth and standard BCSD chess clubbers, Andre Murphy, Wesley Brimstein, and Keegan Crowson. Jose Blanco is a student in a chess class and decided at the last minute to play in his first chess tournament with classical time controls. Barry Eacker and Fred Bartell traveled from Twin Falls, Jeffrey Roland and Shane Taylor traveled from Boise, and Jamie Lang traveled from Meridian. Mountain Home locals included Thomas Westcott, Nathanael Winchell, and Christopher Pentico. Dena Marchant came from Glens Ferry to her first tournament, too.



Shane Taylor, winner of tournament with perfect 4-0 score. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

The Mountain Home Library and the Stagecoach Espresso hosted us and it was nice to dive into coffee or lattes whenever players needed a fix. With the coffee shop embedded in the library, people came just to hang out, use the computers, participate in the programs, or get lost in the stacks while secretly observing the chess players in action.

In fact, many games ran full time and players nearing the ending always drew a fairly large crowd of spectators that were

done with their games. In round two, Adam Porth and Jeffrey Roland played the endgame into the last couple minutes to a draw in very sharp and interesting positions. Also in round two, Fred Bartell, in a rare occurrence, ran out of time against Shane Taylor. Shane, in fact was playing very strong chess and again brought Jeffrey Roland to the verge of flag-fall when Roland finally conceded. After a brief remission, round four commenced with Shane Taylor playing Barry Eacker on board one. Barry's French Defense was gradually wearing away Shane's queenside, when Barry abruptly left a free pawn on the second rank and shifted defenses to the kingside. Shane successfully thwarted the attack, consolidated and eventually won with a perfect tournament score.

Unique prizes were offered to the top three positions for adults and also scholastic players. Adam Porth donated three pen-and-ink Stonehenge lithographs and Dan Looney, McCall artist but not present in the tournament, donated artistic prints of a painting of a turbulent ocean scene. The winners that selected Stonehenge included: Fred Bartell (second place), Barry Eacker (third place), and Andre Murphy (third place Scholastic). Winners selecting the paintings were: Shane Taylor (first place), Wesley Brimstein (first place Scholastic), and Desmond Porth (second place Scholastic). The BCSD Chess Rage thanks Chris Pentico for help in organizing, the Mountain Home Public Library and the Stagecoach Espresso for sponsoring, and the ICU for helping.



Keegan Crowson. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland



L-R: Shane Taylor, Barry Eacker at the conclusion of the game. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

Shane Taylor (1374) – Barry D Eacker(1634) [C18]
 Mountain Home Open, Mountain Home (R4), January 11, 2014
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qa4

Better 7...Ne7 since 8.c4 Qc7 looks equal.

8.Be3?

8.Qg4 +=

8...c4 9.Qg4



9...Ne7?

9...Qxc2! 10.Qxg7 Qxc3+ 11.Ke2 Qd3+ 12.Kf3 Qe4+=, when the attempt to avoid the draw with 13.Kg3? meets 13...Qg6+ 14.Qxg6 hxg6 and Black carries an extra pawn into a favorable endgame.

10.Qxg7 Rg8 11.Qxh7 Nbc6 12.Nf3 Rg6?

But 12...Qa5 13.Bd2 Bd7 doesn't offer much in the way of compensation for the two pawns.

13.Kd2

Alternately 13.Be2 Kd7 (13...Qxc2 14.Rc1 Qb3 15.Ng5) 14.Ng5 Kc7 15.Bh5 Qxc2 16.Rc1; or just 13.Ng5 increase White's advantage by conquering f7.

13...Bd7 14.Ng5 Nd8?

Black has to escape his king, though

14...0-0-0 15.Nxf7 Rdg8 16.Nd6+ Kb8 17.g3 will eventually prove good for White as well.

15.Be2 Kf8 16.Bh5 Rg7 17.Qh8+ Rg8



17...Ng8 18.Nf3 leaves Black curiously helpless against the coming Bh6.

18.Nh7+ Ke8 19.Nf6+ Kf8 20.Bh6# 1-0

Christopher Pentico (1455) – Wesley M Brimstein (1000) [C02]
 Mountain Home Open (R4), January 11, 2014
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.c3 b6?

5...Qb6 is normal and better, pressuring the base of the chain on d4 and stunting White's queenside development.

6.Bb5

This is slightly dubious, since White does not want to exchange his good light-square bishop for either the knight or Black's c8-bishop. Better is just 6.Be2 with easy development and a small but persistent White advantage.

6...Bd7 7.Qa4?

Committing White to the exchange of his good bishop. 7.Be2 is now roughly equal due to the loss of time involved in Bf1-b5-

e2.

7...Nge7 8.Bg5 Qc7 9.0-0



9...Nb8?

9...a6! 10.Na3 Qb7 11.Bxc6 Nxc6 +=. White's queen must retreat, and Black's play on the queenside is faster than anything White has going elsewhere.

10.dxc5?!

10.c4!? a6 a) 10...dxc4 11.Nc3; b) 10...cxd4 11.Na3 (11.Bxe7 Bxe7 12.cxd5 exd5 13.Nxd4 0-0 (13...Qxe5 14.Nc3 and White is winning.) 14.Nc3 Bc5 15.Bxd7 Qxd7 16.Rfd1 +=) 11...dxc4 12.Rac1; 11.Bxd7+ Qxd7 12.Nc3 dxc4 (12...cxd4 13.Nb5! Nec6 14.cxd5 exd5 15.Bf4 with a clear advantage to White.) 13.Qxc4 +=

10...bxc5 += 11.b4?!

11.Re1

11...Bxb5 12.Qxb5+ Nd7 13.Nbd2 a6 14.Qa4 Qc6 15.Qa5 Qb5?!

15...Ng6 16.Rfe1 (16.c4!? is an attempt to divert the focus from Black's e5 pressure. 16...cxb4 17.cxd5 Qxd5 18.Qxd5 exd5 19.Rfe1 does that, but can't hide the fact that Black is now up a pawn.) 16...h6 with a pretty significant plus for Black, who appears to be on the verge of winning a pawn.

16.Qxb5 axb5 17.bxc5 Nxc5

Alternatives are 17...Ng6; or 17...Nc6 delaying capture of c5 to pressure e5 first.

18.Nd4 Rb8

18...Ng6 =

19.Bxe7?!

19.Rfb1 Ng6 20.a4 Nxe5 21.axb5 is +=

19...Bxe7 20.Nc6?!

20.Rab1 Ra8 21.Rxb5 Rxa2 22.N2b3 Nxb3 23.Rb8+ Bd8 24.Rxb3 +=

20...Rb7



Wesley Brimstein. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland



Jeffrey Roland's pieces after the conclusion of his fourth round game. Photo credit: Adam Porth

20...Rb6! is more accurate, forcing the knight to make a decision. 21.Nd4 Na4 22.Ne2 Kd7 23.Rfc1 Ba3 is quite good for Black...

21.Nxe7?



21.Rfb1 =+

21...Rxe7??

... as is 21...Kxe7! This is the endgame, so it's time to activate the king. There's no risk to the king remaining in the center at this stage, and Black simultaneously activates the rook on h8 and saves time with the other rook, which stays on the useful b7-square.

Black's advantage comes from having fewer pawn islands, or put another way, fewer weaknesses.

22.Rfb1 Rb7 23.a4 bxa4 24.Rxb7 Nxb7 25.Rxa4 0-0!?

25...Kd7 is better.

26.Rb4

26.c4!

26...Nc5 27.f4?! =+

27.c4 =

27...Nd3?!

27...Ra8 =+, since 28.c4? Nd3

28.Rd4 Nc5 29.c4 Rd8 += 30.cxd5 Rxd5

31.Rxd5 exd5 32.g3

32.Kf2

32...f6 33.exf6 gxf6 34.Kf2 Kf7 35.Ke3 Ke6 36.Kd4

36.g4

36...Kd6 37.f5 h6 38.g4 Nd7 39.h3 Ne5 40.Ke3 Nc4+ 41.Nxc4+ dxc4 42.Kd4 c3 43.Kxc3 Ke5 44.Kd3 Kf4 45.Kd4 Kg3 46.Kd5 Kxh3 47.Ke6 Kxg4 48.Kxf6 h5 49.Kg6 h4 50.f6 h3 51.f7 h2 52.f8Q h1Q 53.Qf5+ Kg3 1/2-1/2



Christopher Pentico. Photo credit: Adam Porth



Adam Porth. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

Fred Bartell Simul

By Adam Porth

When asked, “Which openings do you play?” by a curious student, Fred Bartell replied, “I just play what looks natural.” Fred was true to his nature on Tuesday, January 14 at the Magic Valley Chess Club meeting at Barnes & Noble in Twin Falls. Mr. Bartell played eight students ranging in abilities from the Blaine County School District Chess Rage Club simultaneously and played a different opening against each student challenging him. This type of tournament is commonly referred to as a *Simul*.

Playing a different opening against each challenger is a great strategy for a simultaneous exhibition where a chess guru plays multiple players at the same time to display his chess dominance and prowess. The challenging players can't look at the adjacent boards to see how other challengers are coping with an opening when the simul-giver changes his opening. During the tournament, the



L-R: Desmond Porth, Fred Bartell, Jose Blanco.
Photo credit: Adam Porth



L-R: Fred Bartell, Tyler Avilla, Jose Blanco, Desmond Porth, Andre Murphy.
Photo credit: Adam Porth

exhibitor moves from board to board, making one move at a time down a line of challengers. The challengers must refrain from moving until the simul-giver returns to their board—the challenger moves and simul-giver immediately replies.

Fred Bartell is known locally as a brilliant rapid chess player and a fierce competitor in long games and is quite entertaining to his opponents. Fred grimaces, smiles, chuckles and even talks some great smack when he becomes comfortable. Fred attacks immediately and has enjoyed a long history of playing in California and in Idaho to perfect his flexible style. Fred began tournament play in Idaho in 2006 and was a near expert from the get-go.

Usually a simul takes time and the giver continues to stand over his opponents as they move from board to board. After fifteen minutes, the first player succumbed to a queen and a bishop working diligently for checkmate. It only took another hour and a half before Fred finished the final competitor. He won all the games. Afterwards, Fred obtained a quick drink and then sat down with students to continue teaching them through rapid games.

Fred is critical member of the Magic Valley Chess Club which meets at Barnes & Noble in Twin Falls every second and fourth Tuesday of the month and is open for casual play to players of all abilities.

Note: Fred Bartell was 83-years-old at the time of the simul.—Editor.

Jared Arp Simul

By Barry Eacker

You wanna do WHAT for your senior project?? Twin Falls, Idaho Senior Jared Arp, who attends Twin Falls High School, submitted to his advisors that his project consisted of introducing chess and chess clubs into local elementary, middle and high schools as well as culminating his project with a simultaneous chess demonstration at center court of the local Magic Valley Mall. They can be initially excused for not knowing what the heck that meant. Chess activity is relatively scarce in southern Idaho, compared to some other states where chess is popular and well attended, so the concept of a Simul by a scholastic-age player was quite novel.

Authorization came and Jared busied himself with contacting schools and supplying information about the benefits that chess curriculum has on other school subjects as well as offering his assistance with formation and operation of the clubs- and inviting players to the Simul. Many people who were curious wanted to know "what kind of tournament is this anyway?" The interest was growing.

Finally on January 25, 2014 the players started arriving at the site, some carrying magnetic chess sets with 3/4 inch kings, others wanting to know where the tournament was and those who did not know exactly what to expect. When they found out they were sitting around a big half circle of tables playing on standard tournament sets against one guy, the mood changed from apprehension to anticipation. Players from seven-years-old to sixty-something started taking their seats at one of the twenty-two boards. Of course, some of the players were established tournament attendees from the Hailey/Sun Valley area under the leadership of chess coach and science teacher Adam Porth. These students brought their MonRois to record the games for later scrutiny. After a brief introduction of Simul rules, it was time for chess.

Arp, 17, had never performed a large simul, or one in such an open public setting; in fact, he does not have an established USCF rating yet because he has only played in seven tournament games and has a provisional rating of 746. Players in the Simul ranged in strength from Novice to around 1250. Play got underway with Arp playing white on all boards and the first mate came in about an hour. By the two hour mark, four more had fallen.

Passers-by could be heard to remark about playing chess when they were younger and musing about the possibilities had they continued with the game. One Navy man quipped that when he was in the military, everyone had to learn to play chess because



Jared Arp. Photo credit: Adam Porth

the basis of the game was war at it's most unforgiving. Some hurried by without a second glance, while others stood by in wonderment as if what they were seeing was somehow not possible or at least improbable. Several young observers made their way to the "Free Lessons" table to immerse themselves in knight moves and mate with King and Queen.

As the third hour passed, Arp had lost three and surrendered a draw, but picked up six more wins. Four hours in, he conceded one more loss but cashed in four more victories. As things wound down, one more draw was offered, which Arp gladly took, as the position for white was shaky at best. That left one board, which was occupied by ten

year old Mclean Weig of Paul, Idaho. His father Hans had scored the full point and he was looking to match the feat. Arp pulled up a chair and played the last few moves, ultimately scoring his final victory against staunch resistance. Final result: 16 wins, 4 losses and 2 draws. Winners were Hans Weig, Alex Schneider, Andre Murphy and Keegan Crowson. Desmond Porth and Porter Wilcox nicked Arp for draws.

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Dragon Chess Open Chess Tournament

by Adam Porth

Believe it or not, January 16 was National Dragon Day. Coincidence? I am now a Silver Dragon (Silver Creek High School in Hailey, Idaho) and I just taught my chess class the Sicilian Dragon, so why not a Sicilian Dragon tournament on the national day to honor dragons? When chess clubbers showed up for our usual meeting, they were treated to a 4 round tournament using the fierce defense, the Sicilian Dragon.



Jordan Pulliam. Photo credit: Adam Porth

Theme tournaments are good teaching tools and it moves some players that have “their opening” out of their comfort zone and into other realms. Our chess club hosted this tournament at our usual chess club time and it featured faster time controls (G/15) than the blitz tournaments we offer, and it allowed enough time for some forethought during the game. The opening:

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6

Games were as fierce as Smaug, but the players that signed up were as cordial and polite as hobbits. In one game, one of our experienced players taught a little boy while competing for the grand prize, a chess variant game called Dragon Chess. He showed him better moves and the game turned out pretty good. The little pixie went away feeling accomplished and like he learned quite a bit. There were 16 players ranging from 6 to 44 years. After 4 rounds, Tyler Avila doused Wesley Brimstein with a crushing attack and Tyler Avila won the Dragon Chess set with a perfect 4.0.

I am proud of the competitive balance that we foster in our players. In a great example



L-R: Adam Porth, Tyler Avilla...and the rest of the players in the tournament.
Photo credit: Adam Porth

of sportsmanship, Noah cordially tells his opponent, “You played a really good game” after crushing the player like a dwarf under the claw of a dragon. His opponent Otto shook hands and respectfully retreated to his dad, Billy. As this was the last game and all the high school-ers were watching, we knew Noah would love it if we all clapped and he beamed, “That was the best game, Mr. Porth.”

When we looked at the data, it was roughly equal with 51% white and 49% black wins.

GP Fishbowl #1

Moscow, ID - February 8, 2014

On the heels of the successful 2013 “Fishbowl part deux” of December 28,

Mark Havrilla has set up a new long-term event in Moscow, Idaho at the University of Idaho, Fishbowl lounge that is geared to increase activity. He has suggested that they meet for two rated games per 60 days. In December 2014, the player with the most points wins. It’s kind of a local Pullman/Moscow Grand Prix.

In this first event GP Fishbowl #1, a two-round event held February 8, 2014, the following results occurred.

1. Timothy M Moroney (Pullman, WA) 2044, 1.5 points;
2. Cameron Leslie (Moscow, ID) 2012, 1.5 points;
3. Mark Havrilla (Moscow, ID) 1954, 0.5 points;
4. Haluk Beyenal (Pullman, WA) 1841, 0.5 points.



L-R: Tim Moroney, Cameron Leslie. Photo credit: Mark Havrilla

2014 Elena Donaldson Akhmylovskaja Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

by Murlin Varner, point minister

Welcome to the new year of the Grand Prix. At this moment, there are no changes from the previous year, except you all started January tied for first. That didn't last too long, though as January started out with two multiplier events in the first two weekends. February also had two multiplier events, the WCF President's Cup in Seattle (Feb. 15-16, 2x) and the annual Dave Collyer Memorial in Spokane (Feb 22-23, 3x). Add to that four single value events during February and we're off to the races.

March offers seven more GP events for you to attend, including two interesting new events being held at the Tacoma Chess Club. These events, sponsored and directed by H. G. Pitre, both earn 2x multiplier status with their \$600 prize funds. And they offer a format not often seen in our neck of the woods. The first of these is the TCC March Semi-Class Saturday, which will be held on two sequential Saturdays (March 8 and 15). The event will be divided into two sections based on ratings and is limited to 26 players. The other is the TCC March Open, to be held on subsequent Sundays (March 9 and 16). This is a one section event limited to 20 players. In both events, two games will be played on each day, with an increment time control rather than that pervasive SD control we're so used to seeing at most weekend events. As they both carry that 2x bonus for GP points, this would be a good time to try out one or the other. Since participation is limited, pre-registration is a good idea. (Also a good idea is to remember that Daylight Savings Time starts at 2 AM Sunday March 9th, so remember to spring forward or you'll be an hour late.)

In addition to these interesting propositions, five other tournaments will be held in Seattle (3) and Portland (2). Unfortunately, only one of the first 19 GP events will have been held in Idaho. We really need more events in Idaho to become GP events (I'm begging here) to help shore up the prize fund and get more people involved in the chase. If you are running g/30s, g/60s, quads or any other such thing within your locality, consider advertising the event in NWC and adding a dollar to the entry fee to cover the GP fee and help us build the Grand Prix in Idaho! The ICA shouldn't have to be the only GP organizer in the state.

Below is a list of the top point earners among all three states as of February 1st. There are not enough people yet to really warrant our usual chart. As of Feb. 1, we have had 154 entries by 119 players in all GP events completed. Ratings used represent the peak official rating through February.

##	Last Name	First	ST	USCF	# of Events	Pts
1	Pupols	Viktors	WA	2209	4	19
2	Quang	Man T	WA	1735	3	18.5
3	Raptis	Nick	OR	2375	2	18
4	Feng	Roland	WA	2273	2	17.5
5	Smith	Micah	WA	2058	2	17
6	Thomas	Arjun	WA	1687	3	16
7	Anthony	Ralph J	WA	1700	3	15.5
8	Piper	August	WA	1500	4	15
9	Brusniak	Benjamin	WA	1804	2	14
9	Eagles	Roland	OR	1773	2	14
9	Ramasamy	Vikram	WA	1822	2	14
9	Shimada	Masakazu	OR	1595	2	14
13	Grabinsky	Aaron	OR	2185	1	13
14	Raffel	Brian	WA	1614	3	12
14	Probst	Aaron	WA	1390	2	12
14	Bartron	Paul R	WA	2115	1	12
14	Bjorksten	Lennart	OR	2173	1	12
14	Chan	James	CAN	2093	1	12
19	Chowdhury	Neil	WA	1583	3	11.5
20	Alpernas	Gregori Z	OR	1860	1	11
20	Deng	Clemen	OR	1920	1	11
20	Dhingra	Sangeeta	WA	1872	1	11
20	Grabinsky	Joshua	OR	1553	1	11

##	Last Name	First	ST	USCF	# of Events	Pts
20	Lampman	Becca	WA	2094	1	11
20	McLaren	Brian R	CAN	2225	1	11
20	Murray	Dillon T	OR	1828	1	11
27	Berger	Brian F	OR	1518	2	10.5
27	Harry	Ken	OR	1422	2	10.5
27	Hasuike	Mike L	OR	1500	2	10.5
27	Kumar	Varun	WA	1159	2	10.5
31	He	Anthony B	WA	1918	2	10
31	Olson	Travis J	WA	1840	2	10
31	Richards	Jerrold	WA	1217	2	10
31	Bragg	David R	WA	2226	1	10
31	Davis	Frederick A	WA	1826	1	10
31	Haessler	Carl A	OR	2206	1	10
31	Hanna	Mark S	WA	1633	1	10
31	Jessa	Omar	CAN	1837	1	10
31	Murray	David E	OR	1817	1	10
31	Ramanujan	Nevin G	WA	1516	1	10
31	Roback	Joe	CAN	1935	1	10
31	Sun	Maxwell S	OR	1999	1	10
31	Trattner	Andrew L	OR	1853	1	10
31	Yeo	Noah	WA	1672	1	10

##	Last Name	First	ST	USCF	# of Events	Pts
45	Doddapaneni	Venkat S	OR	1704	2	9
45	Abdul-Mujeeb	Numan	WA	1727	1	9
45	Botez	Andrea C C	OR	1554	1	9
45	Buck	Stephen J	WA	1812	1	9
45	Gaikwad	Dagadu B	OR	1804	1	9
45	Perkins	Josiah	OR	1602	1	9
45	Rozenfeld	Yevgeniy	WA	1990	1	9
45	Shaham	Joshua	CA	1665	1	9
45	Strohbehm	Jon D	WA	1627	1	9
45	Sullivan	Brian	CAN	1637	1	9
55	Blevins	Jimmie R, III	OR	1620	1	8
55	Bonrud	Neal	WA	1831	1	8
55	Culbreth	Adam	OR	1597	1	8
55	Guo	Raymond	WA	1338	1	8
55	McCants	Tim	OR	1533	1	8
55	Molchanov	Valentin I	OR	1634	1	8
55	Sharan	Praveer	OR	1377	1	8
55	Tsai	James	OR	1687	1	8

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39th Annual Keres Memorial

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Victoria Day Weekend, May 17-19, 2014

Location: Executive Airport Plaza Hotel, 7311 Westminster Hwy. Richmond, BC

Round Times: Sat. 12:00 noon, 5:15pm, Sun. 10:00am, 5:00pm, Mon. 10:00am, 3:15pm

Entry Fees: Open & U2000: C\$90 by Apr. 7, C\$100 by May 12, C\$115 on site. U1600 C\$55 by Apr. 7, C\$65 by May 12, C\$80 on site. C\$20 to play up a section (can only play up 200 points). GM, IM, WGM, please refer to website or contact us directly.

Prizes: C\$4000 Guaranteed

Registration: on line at www.keresmemorial.pbworks.com or by cheque payable to Victoria Chess. Mail to Victoria Chess 4381 Wildflower Lane, Victoria, BC V8X 5H1 Canada

Misc: All equipment provided. Special C\$119 room rate at Executive Airport Plaza Hotel (1-800-663-2878 Quote "Keres Memorial Chess"). Free parking for hotel guests, C\$5/day otherwise. FIDE (Premier Section) and CFC rated (all sections).

Website: www.keresmemorial.pbworks.com for more information.

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

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 206-417-5405
 www.seattlechess.org
 kleistcf@aol.com
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 SCC Tnmt Dir
 2420 S 137 St
 Seattle WA 98168

Mar. 1 & 29, Apr. 26

Saturday Quads

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

Mar. 1 & 29

Mini-Quads

Format: 2-SS, 4-plyr sections. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$6 (+\$4 for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future mini-quad. **Reg:** 10:45-11:15a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-2:15. **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Mar. 1 & 29

GM Emil Anka Game Analysis

Starts at 5:30 p.m. For K-12 students. See www.chesssport.com for details.

Mar. 16, Apr 13

Sunday Tornado

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.

April 18-20

SCC Team in Reno!

Join the SCC Team(s) at the **Larry Evans Memorial**. We will compete against teams from San Francisco, Reno, Sacramento, and elsewhere!

April 27

SCC Novice

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 1/1, \$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.

Seattle Spring Open

March 21-23 or 22-23

A two-section Swiss (4 rounds – Open, 5 rounds – Reserve) with a time control of 40/120 and SD/60 with a 5 second delay (two-day Reserve schedule – Round 1, G/60; d5). The prize fund of \$950 is based on 50 paid entries, 6 per prize group.

a Northwest Grand Prix event

Open		Reserve (U1950)	
First	\$200	First	\$120
Second	\$150	Second	\$80
U2100	\$100	U1750	\$65
		U1550	\$55
		U1350	\$45
		Unrated	\$15
Plus Score Pool – \$120			

Entry Fees: \$33 if rec'd by 3/19 (\$24 SCC memb., \$29 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW), \$42 at site (\$33 SCC memb., \$38 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW). **Unrated**—Free with purchase of 1-yr USCF & 1-yr WCF. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.**

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

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

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

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

Attendance at 2013's events

3-Day Wknd Tnmts (6)—ave. 54.5;
Tornados (12)—ave. 22.2; Quads (12)—
ave. 17.6; 2-Day Wknd Tnmts (1)--13;
Novice (3)—ave. 4.7.

SCC Fridays

Typical Friday fare is one round of an on-going tournament (free to SCC members, no prizes) played at a rate of 40/90 followed by 30/60. Drop in for any round!

March Winds: Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28.

April Showers: Apr. 4, 11, 18, 25.

Close Ratings: May 2, 9, 16.

Pre-WAO Blitz (G/5): May 23.

It's Summertime: May 30; June 6, 13, 20.

Firecracker Quads (G/25): June 27.

How to Find the SCC

Look for the Northway Square East Building, just across I-5 from Northgate Mall, with a large sign proclaiming "Northwest Kidney Centers." The main entrance is reached by turning east on N. 107th Street from Meridian Ave. N. The club is on the lower level.

Upcoming Events

♣ denotes 2014 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

♣ **Mar 1/Mar 29/Apr 26** 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 membership required, 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.

♣ **Mar 8-9** Portland Spring Open, **Portland, OR.** 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 - \$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.

♣ **Mar 8, 15** Tacoma CC March Open Back-to-back Saturdays, **Tacoma, WA.** USCF rated. Four rounds. Swiss System. Time Control: G/90, with 30 seconds inc. Two sections. Limited to 26 players. Approx. the top rated 40% play in the Premier section, the rest become the Reserve section. TD: H. G. Pitre. Registration: 11:15AM and in advance. Half-point byes available in Reserve section when registering. Round 1 12PM, Round 2 5PM, Round 3 12PM, Round 4 5PM. EF: \$40 by March 3; \$50 at site. Guaranteed Prizes: Premier section: \$150, \$120, \$90; Reserve section: \$90, \$90, \$60. Location: Tacoma Chess Club, 409 Puyallup Ave, 2nd Floor. Mail entries to: H. G. Pitre, 700 Crockett Street, Apt 105, Seattle, WA 98109. hgpitre@gmail.com or phone: 206 284 9314.

♣ **Mar 9, 16** Tacoma CC March Open Sundays, **Tacoma, WA.** USCF rated. Four rounds. One section. Swiss System. Time Control: G/90, with 30 seconds inc. Limited to 20 players. TD: H. G. Pitre. Registration: 8:45AM and in advance. Half-point byes available when registering. Schedule: Round 1 9:15AM, Round 2 2PM, Round 3 9:15AM, Round 4 2PM. EF: \$50 by March 3; \$60 at site. Guaranteed Prizes: 1st \$150, 2nd \$120, 3rd \$90, 1st 1400-1800 \$90, 1st Under 1400 or Unrated \$90. Best game by a non-prize winner \$60. Location: Tacoma Chess Club, 409 Puyallup Ave, 2nd Floor. Mail entries to: H. G. Pitre, 700 Crockett Street, Apt 105, Seattle, WA 98109. hgpitre@gmail.com or phone: 206 284 9314.

♣ **Apr 3, 10, 17** Taxing Quads, **Spokane, WA.** Site: Gonzaga University (Herak Rm 121). Registration: 6:30-7:15 p.m. on first night. E.F. \$16. Time Control: G/120 (with 5 second delay). USCF rated.

Apr 12 WA State Elementary Chess Championships, **Magnolia, WA (just north of Spaceneedle).** See full-page ad on page 18.

Apr 18-20 3rd Annual Sands Regency Reno - Larry Evans Memorial **Reno, NV.** See full-page ad on page 3.

Apr 18-21 8th Annual Grand Pacific Open, **Victoria, BC.** <http://grandpacificopen.pbworks.com/w/page/15387541/FrontPage>

♣ **Apr 19** Daffodil 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 membership required. NS NC NW. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, phone (253) 535-2536, email ggarychess@aol.com.

May 17-19 39th Annual Keres Memorial, **Richmond, BC.** See half-page ad on page 29.

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