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April 2014

State Championship Games  
annotated by players

Scholastics...

# STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS



**Nat Koons, 2014 Washington State Champion**



**Caleb Kircher, 2014 Idaho State Champion**



**Nick Raptis, 2014 Oregon State Champion**

# Northwest Chess

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## On the front cover:

2014 Washington State Champion, NM Nat Koons. Photo credit: Duane Polich;  
Caleb Paul Kircher, 2014 Idaho State Champion  
Photo credit: Adam Porth; 2014 Oregon State Champion, FM Nick Raptis. Photo  
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# Oregon Chess News



L-R: Chikote Buckway, Marco Ramirez, Japheth Carlson and Sam McLaughlin. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

## Vale Middle School Chess team wins the Idaho Chess Association open chess tournament

By Sandijean Fuson, 2-25-2014

The Vale Middle School chess team won the team competition of the Idaho Chess Association K-8th Open tournament February 22 in Eagle, Idaho, beating many Idaho schools. The team members were Chikote Buckway, Marco Ramirez, Japheth Carlson and Sam McLaughlin. All four boys contributed by winning many of their matches. There were over 49 people in the tournament, which had each participant playing 5 games. Bringing home a 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy in his age category was 8<sup>th</sup> grader Sam McLaughlin, also in that category was 7<sup>th</sup> grader Japheth Carlson who brought

home a 6<sup>th</sup> place metal. "Being from Oregon and all we really appreciate having the opportunity to compete in Idaho. Getting 1<sup>st</sup> place as a team was awesome, everyone's wins helped us beat the other schools with big teams. Special thanks to Mrs Lattin who gave up her lunches for our chess club. Many of us middle school kids had lots of fun playing this year and got better because of that." said Sam McLaughlin VMS chess club coach.

## The Portland Area League

By Ed Addis, 2-24-2014

Each Wednesday that the school is open from November to February you'll find over 100 chess players in the cafeteria of Lincoln High School located in downtown Portland. The chess players come from various high schools and middle school in the Portland metro area.

Lincoln High School was the clear favorite before the league started. Once the League got underway the Cardinals of Lincoln proved that ratings don't lie and pretty much sweep the competition away. This year the Portland Area League had twenty five-person teams split between an upper and lower division. The league played a 9-round robin to begin with. Lincoln HS dominated the upper division winning all 9 matches and 42.5 of the 45 games played. Lake Oswego High School came in second with 7 match wins and 31 game points; LaSalle College Prep was third with 6 match wins and 26 game points. A three way tie for fourth place (with 5 match wins) was Jesuit, Wilson, and Clackamas High Schools. Tied for 7th and 8th with 3 match wins was Access Academy (a middle school) and River Gate (a combination of Riverdale HS and Catlin Gable School); in 9th place was an At Large team (players from the east side without a school); coming in last was Cleveland High School. In the Lower Division Lincoln's second

team dominated the field winning all nine matches and 43 out of 45 game points. Jesuit's #2 team came in second with 8 match wins; Wilson and LaSalle College Prep's #2 teams tied for 3rd and 4th with 6 match wins; in 5th place with 5 match wins was Grant High School, sixth place went to Lake Oswego #2 with 4 match wins the same number that Lincoln #3 obtained; Eight and ninth place went to Clackamas #2 and LaSalle #3, with 2 match wins. Cleveland #2 finished in tenth.

After the 9-round robin the 20 teams were split into five quad sections. The top quad section was won by Lincoln High School; the second quad was won by Wilson High School, the third quad by Lincoln #2; the fourth quad by Grant High School, and the last quad by Lincoln #3.

In addition to team awards the League also presented awards to the top performances on each board.

In the upper division:

- Board #1 - Clemen Deng of Lincoln scoring 11.5 out of 12 games
- Board #2 - Andy Trattner of Lincoln scoring 10.5 out of 12.
- Board #3 - Phillip Weiss of Lincoln scoring 9 out of 12.
- Board #4 - Joseph Chen of Jesuit scoring 9.5 out of 11.
- Board #5 - Varun Sah of Jesuit scoring 9.5 out of 12.

In the Lower division:

- Board #1 - Duane Lee of Lincoln scoring 11.5 out of 12 games.
- Board #2 - Dylan Huard of Lincoln scoring 11 out of 12.
- Board #3 - Siddharth Suri of Lincoln scoring 8 out of 11.
- Board #4 - Nadia Siddiqui of Jesuit scoring 10 out of 11.
- Board #5 - Nes Cohen of Lincoln scoring 8 of 9.

## Oregon High School Chess Team Association

By Dan Dalthorp

The Oregon High School Chess Team Association (OHSCTA) sponsored its 51st state championship February 28 and March 1 in Myrtle Creek. In all, there were 34 five-player teams and nearly 200 players in three sections representing schools from all over the state. On paper, Corvallis' Crescent Valley High School (1638) and Portland's Lincoln High School (1679) were clear favorites among the 16 teams in the Varsity section, while South Eugene (1473) showed some upset potential. Crescent Valley and Lincoln did finish 1-2 but took rocky and surprising paths to get there, both struggled mightily against much



*State Champion Team, Crescent Valley High School: Yogi Saputra, Matt Dalthorp, Thomas Kneeland, David Wen, and Ian Dickson. Photo credit: Brendon Thrash*

lower rated teams almost every round, while the much-anticipated matchup between them did not materialize, as sixth-seeded La Salle (1315), a private Catholic High School in Portland, bumped Lincoln into the loser's bracket in the second round. La Salle continued its rampage into the final round and came within a hair's breadth of winning the championship, losing 3-2 to Crescent Valley in the final round to finish tied for third with Lake Oswego.

Crescent Valley (CV) finished its matches 5-0 to win its third straight title (including a four-way tie with Clackamas, Willamette, and La Salle in 2012). The perfect match score belies how difficult the tournament really was for CV. Four of the five matches were agonizingly close...3.5-1.5, 3-2, 5-0, 3-2, and 3-2. In rounds 4 and 5, the decisive games were the last to finish, and the results were unclear until critical mistakes in time pressure.

**Yogi Saputra (2014) –  
Pranav Sharan (1581) [D40]**  
OHSCTA Myrtle Creek, OR  
(R4), March 1, 2014

[Dan Dalthorp]

In his fourth round game, CV board #1 player, Yogi Saputra, sacrificed a knight and two exchanges and offered a bishop as well. He was able to see through the complications more clearly than his Lake Oswego opponent (Pranav Sharan) and emerged with a strong advantage in the endgame. Pranav blundered in time pressure to cede the victory to Yogi and CV.

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.e3 e6 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bd3 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 d5 8.a3 dxc4 9.Bxc4 cxd4 10.exd4 a6 11.Re1 b5 12.Bd3 Bb7 13.h3 Qc7 14.Be3 Rfd8 15.Rc1 Rd7 16.Ne4 Qd8 17.Qe2 Nd5 18.Ng3 Nxe3 19.fxe3 e5 20.Rxc6 Bxc6**

Is White really sacrificing the exchange here? He can take on e5 with his knight, capture the bishop on c6 after the rook moves away, and then skewer the rooks with Be4, winning a pawn in the process.

**21.Nxe5 Rc7 22.Bxh7+**

Declining to take the easy road go a pawn up, Yogi decides to have some fun first, following up his exchange sacrifice with the offer of a bishop.

**22...Kf8**

Pranav declines the bishop, perhaps missing that after 22...Kxh7 23.Nxf7 Qd5 and all threats are eliminated. 24.Qh5+ while after; 22...Kxh7 23.Qh5+ Kg8 24.Qxf7+ Kh8 White can achieve no better than a perpetual.

**23.Nxf7!?**

The knight sac leads to knife-edge complications that should favor White, but the road is difficult to navigate. Much simpler would have been to win back the exchange that was sacrificed a few moves earlier and play with clear two-pawn advantage and an initiative after 23.Nxc6 Rxc6 24.Be4 Rac8 25.Bxc6 Rxc6 26.Qf3

**23...Kxf7 24.Qh5+ Kf8 25.Bg6 Qd5 26.Qh8+ Qg8 27.Rf1+ Bf6 28.Rxf6+ gxf6**

It looks like another exchange sac, but White easily wins back the material (with interest).

**29.Qxf6+ Rf7 30.Qxc6 Re8 31.Qd6+**

31.Nf5! And Black could resign.

**31...Ree7**

There are many ways to proceed (e.g., Nh5 is lovely), but in time pressure, Yogi saw a simple path to liquidate into a good endgame.

**32.Nf5**

32.Nh5! Black's pieces are stuck. All he can do is move his queen back and forth between g8 and h8, while White's g-pawn marches into battle with devastating effect. 32...Qh8 33.Qd8+ Re8 34.Qd5 Qg8 35.Qd6+ Ree7 36.g4 Qh8 37.g5 Qg8 38.h4 Qh8 39.Bxf7 Kxf7 40.g6+ ...and White is totally winning.

**32...Rxf5 33.Qd8+ Kg7 34.Qxg8+ Kxg8 35.Bxf5 Rxe3 36.Kf2 Rb3 37.Be6+ 1-0**

In their final round, CV encountered the feisty La Salle squad, which had beaten the number one seed, Lincoln, the previous day. The teams split the first four games, and in the remaining game, La Salle's Tucker Price had a solid advantage against CV's Matt Dalthorp on board 3. In serious time pressure for both players and a crowd of onlookers tensely watching the final minutes of the game that would decide the championship, Tucker played a few inaccuracies to let Matt off the hook. Matt offered a draw, which would have meant a drawn match, but would have given CV the title at 4.5/5 and relegated La Salle to a tie for second with Lincoln. Tucker declined the draw and blundered a move later. With the victory, CV finished the tournament in clear first with a perfect 5-0 score, and Matt finished his OHSCA championship career with a perfect 20-0 individual record in his four years playing in the tournament.

**Tucker Price (1292) –  
Matt Dalthorp (1841) [D00]**  
OHSCA Myrtle Creek, OR  
(R5), March 1, 2014

[Matt Dalthorp]

**1.d4 d5 2.Bf4**

Blurgh.

**2...Nf6 3.e3 c5 4.c3 Bf5**

I wanted to prevent the light-squares bishop from developing to d3, but this move leaves b7 unguarded.

**5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Qb3 Qd7 7.Bb5 c4**

This is almost never a good move in this sort of opening. Here is no exception.

**8.Qa4 Qc8**

Nearly forced.

**9.Ne5 Bd7 10.Nxd7 Nxd7 11.Nd2 a6**

11...Nb6 12.Bxc6+ bxc6 13.Qc2 Qg4 14.Bg3 This line keeps queens on, which allows Black enough play to justify his poor opening work.

**12.Bxc6 Qxc6 13.Qxc6 bxc6**

Black is much worse.

**14.0-0 f6 15.Rfe1 e5 16.Bg3 e4**

This allows the bishop a very strong diagonal but prevents central expansion on White's part.

**17.b3 cxb3 18.axb3 Be7**

The a-pawn cannot be saved. Here I was thinking that I would force White to capture



*La Salle's Tucker Price realizes it's over after Black played Kf7-e6, while teammate Austin Yeo watches with a worried look.. Photo credit: Brendon Thrash*

on a5 with a pawn at some point, and then blockade the pawn and try to break through against it.

**19.Ra2 Bd8 20.Rea1 a5 21.b4 0-0 22.bxa5 Rf7 23.Nb3 Nb8**

Opening a line to a7 for the f7 rook and also planning a possible Na6 maneuver to control the c5-square and further blockade the pawn.

**24.Bxb8 Rxb8**

White's wonderful bishop is gone, but without the knight Black cannot attack the a-pawn once it moves onto a light square.

**25.a6 Ra7 26.Nd2 Rb6**

Maintaining control of the b-file while tying the white rooks to the defense of the pawn.

**27.h3**

27.Rb1 Rbxa6 28.Rxa6 Rxa6 29.Rb8 Ra1+ 30.Nb1 Kf7 and Black is probably better due to White's pawns being fixed on dark squares, and because it takes time for White to get untangled.

**27...Bc7 28.c4 Kf8 29.cxd5 cxd5 30.f3 f5 31.fxe4 fxe4**

31...dxe4 is somewhat tempting as it allows a possible f4-break, freeing the bishop, but White now has a second passed pawn and can also play Rf1 at some point with pressure against the whole Black kingside. We only needed to draw the match in order to guarantee first place, and we had two wins either forthcoming or already collected at this point. Thus a draw on my part would clinch the title, so I decided not to take an unnecessary risk.

**32.g4**

White attempts to generate some play on the kingside while the rest of the board is locked down. The problem is that my rooks also control some of White's target squares and that my king and bishop can also participate in the defense. But White knows he must play for a win and therefore must try to generate some action.

**32...Ke7 33.Kg2 Kd6 34.h4 Ke7**

34...Kc6 seemed to leave my king too exposed, and I decided it would be better placed defending the kingside.

**35.Kh3 Bd6 36.g5?! g6**

White's king cannot penetrate as long as the bishop controls the h2-b8 diagonal. Furthermore, all of White's pawns are now fixed on dark squares (except, of course, for that unpleasant a6-pawn).

**37.Kg4 Rc6 38.h5 Bb4 39.Nf1 Kd8 40.hxg6 Rxg6**

Black's kingside play is still blockaded, but the g5-pawn now is a target. If Black can eliminate it without allowing the White king to intrude, then a draw should be within reach. If 40...hxg6 then the White king cannot intrude, but the open h-file benefits White more than Black.

**41.Rh2 Rgg7 42.Rh6 Rg6**

A trap, hoping to win the g-pawn.

**43.Rxh7**

And White falls in.

**43...Rxh7 44.a7 Rxa7 45.Rxa7 Be7 46.Ra8+ Kd7 47.Ra7+ Ke8 48.Ra8+ Kf7**

Black hides his king successfully. White's checks have only managed to eliminate the route for his king to penetrate.

## 49.Ra7

49.Kf5 Rxc5+ White is in some danger of getting his knight trapped.

## 49...Rxc5+

I offered a draw here, knowing a draw would guarantee us first place, but my opponent wanted to play for a win, knowing that if he won, they would win first, not us.

## 50.Kf4 Rg1 51.Ng3?? Ke6!!

It's the natural move, but it's absolutely devastating.

## 52.Nxe4

Any other knight move would run into Bg5#. 52.Ra6+ Bd6+ 53.Kg4 Rxc3+, 52.Kg4 Bd6

## 52...Rf1+!

Preserving the other pawn and thus preserving the win. I went below five minutes at this point so I stopped notating. I grabbed the knight and then won the White pawns, all the while keeping White's king locked out of the action, and I was able to promote my last remaining pawn and win. The victory gave our team a 3-2 victory in the match and a 5-0 final score, winning the championship.

## 0-1

South Eugene was the first of the top seeds to go down. In the second round, they were paired against crosstown rival Willamette for the second time in two weeks. In the first encounter, South Eugene held on to win 3-2 in the final round of league play in Eugene, but Willamette turned the tables on them in round 2 at Myrtle Creek with a 5-0 slaughter despite being substantially lower-rated on every board. On paper, no where was the mismatch more pronounced than on board one, where the #4 rated scholastic player, South Eugene's Erik Skalnes (1964) took on Cody Webb (1345). Cody played the London System with white. The opening has a reputation of being solid but dull, occasionally with potential for White to develop a crushing kingside attack if Black is not careful. Maybe Erik underestimated his opponent or underestimated the danger of a breakthrough on the kingside, but the normally cautious Cody pieced together a devastating attack with a simple formula: sacrifice a bishop, sacrifice a rook, and checkmate in the middle of the board.

**Cody Webb (1345) –  
Erik Skalnes (1971) [D02]**  
OHSCA Myrtle Creek, OR  
(R2), February 28, 2014

*[Cody Webb]*

## 1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bf4

Two weeks earlier when Erik and I had played, he'd made fun of me a little for playing the London System and recommended that I learn a different opening. Those remarks made victory even



*Willamette and South Eugene shake hands to begin their fateful encounter.  
Photo credit: Dan Dalthorp*

sweeter.

## 3...e6 4.e3 Bd6 5.Bg3

This move loses a tempo, but keeps my bishop on the h2-b8 diagonal and discourages Black from taking due to the opening of the h-file that would occur. This compensates for the loss of the tempo in my mind.

## 5...0-0 6.Bd3 b6 7.Nbd2 Bb7 8.c3 Ne4 9.Qc2 f5 10.Ne5?!

I regretted this move immediately after I hit the clock because of the weird pawn structure it creates, but oddly enough the pawn structure is what helped me win the game.

## 10...Nxc3 11.hxc3 Bxe5 12.dxe5 Nd7 13.f4 c5 14.Nf3

I wanted to make sure that the bishop on b7 couldn't cause too much chaos if Erik were to play ...d4, so I decided to put my knight on f3 in order to make the g2 pawn less vulnerable.

## 14...Re8! 15.g4

The move I've been planning for! Three potential attackers on h7 make fxg4 very risky, and after White does gxf5, I can use the g2 pawn to play g4 again and attempt a mating attack.

## 15...e4 16.Be2 g6 17.0-0-0 Nf8?

A big mistake that allows me to not only have a positional advantage, but also gives me a material advantage.

## 18.gxf5 exf5 19.Bxc4 Ne6 20.Be2 Qe7 21.Nd4

If Black takes on d4, I'd take with my pawn. It would give me extra protection for my passed e5 pawn, Black's bishop becomes worthless, and there are fewer minor pieces on the board. With my material advantage, that makes victory easier.

## 21...a6

Without any play on the kingside or center for Black, he goes for the queenside pawn-storm.

## 22.Bf3 b5 23.Rh2 Rac8 24.Rdh1 Nf8

Erik frees up his queen by using the knight to protect the h7 square.

## 25.Qb3

Simultaneously attacking the d5 pawn while making Black's c-rook less powerful by getting rid of the pin on the queen.

## 25...Red8 26.Kd2

Breaking the pin on the king. The b4 push no longer is as dangerous as it was a few moves ago.

## 26...h5?

A mistake. I was surprised when he played this. h7 seems well protected enough by the knight. h5 just allows for a huge weakness on the kingside. It's recommended that White sacrifice the bishop here, but I'm a fairly passive player and I didn't want to take a risk by losing material, so I brought one more piece to the party first.

## 27.Qd1 b4 28.Bxh5 bxc3+ 29.bxc3 Qa3



*Cody Webb, leader of the gang that toppled the mighty South Eugene.  
Photo credit: Dan Dalthorp*

**30.Bxg6?! Qxc3+ 31.Ke2 Qb2+ 32.Kf3 Nxb6 33.Kg3**

g3 is the safe square for me. It's difficult to attack and it allows the queen to infiltrate the kingside with Qh5.

**33...Qa3??**

The recommended move here was to put one of the rooks on the 7th rank in order to protect from the checkmate. I'm guessing Erik didn't see the severity of the situation or possibly underestimated my abilities.

**34.Nxf5**

According to my chess engine, the only move where White doesn't have an immediate forced checkmate is Qxe3+; however, Erik didn't foresee the forced mate that occurred. I spent a good ten minutes analyzing the next move, just to make sure there was no possible way he could get out of it. Enjoy.

**34...Rc3 35.Rh8+!! Nxb8**

35...Kf7 36.R1h7+ Ke6 37.Nd4#

**36.Qg4+!! Kf7**

36...Kf8 37.Qg7+ Ke8 38.Rxh8+ Qf8 39.Rxf8#; 36...Ng6 37.Qxg6+ (37.Qxg6+ Kf8 38.Rh8#) 37...Kf8

**37.Qg7+ Ke6**

37...Ke8 38.Rxh8+ Qf8 39.Rxf8#

**38.Nd4# 1-0**

La Salle Catholic College Preparatory's (1315) second-round upset of top-seeded Lincoln (1679) was at least as much of a surprise as Willamette's sweep of South Eugene. On paper, La Salle's top board (Jeff Austin, 1508) would be a great match for Lincoln's bottom board (Kian Patel, 1497), but instead Austin had to play against Lincoln's rising superstar, Clemen Deng (1912), one of the strongest scholastic players in the state, and La Salle was vastly out-rated on every board. To the casual observer, the question before the match was whether La Salle could win a single game. But to the observer who knows the recent history of La Salle's performances at OHSCTA, the question was whether La Salle would pull off another spectacular upset. Ever since Dennis Petersen and David Price began working with La Salle in 2011, the team has never ceased to amaze. At a time when surprisingly few schools manage to field even a single team, the relatively small La Salle has brought way more teams than any other school in the state—7 in 2013, 6 in 2012, and 3 in 2014 and in 2011, and every year the Varsity team has notched a major upset, beating the #2 seed and 212 point Elo favorite Clackamas in 2011 to tie for 3rd overall, beating the #1 seed Clackamas (230 point favorite) again in 2012 to tie for first, and beating the #2 seed and 213 point favorite South Eugene in 2013. This year's Elo deficit of 364 against Lincoln was enormous, but La Salle continued its tradition of beating the top seeds.

The team identified Austin Yeo's (1385) critical win with black against Andy Trattner (1853) on board 2 as the best game of the round. In a sharp French Advance, Andy sacrificed a pawn for a scary-looking attack, but looks can be deceiving. After an exchange of inaccuracies, Austin successfully parried the attack and went on to navigate the transition to the endgame more deftly than his opponent. Andy ended getting his knight trapped after a greedy pawn-grab on the edge of the board, and Austin had no trouble mopping up after that.

**Andy Trattner (1825) – Austin Yeo (1385) [C02]**  
OHSCTA Myrtle Creek, OR  
(R2), February 28, 2014

[Andy Trattner]

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

**6.Bd3 cxd4 7.cxd4 Bb4+ 8.Bd2 Bxd2+ 9.Qxd2 Nge7 10.Nc3 0-0 11.h4 Nf5 12.g4 Ncx4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.Qxd4 f6 16.g5 fxe5 17.Qg4 Qe8 18.Rg1**

**18...Rf4?**

18...Rf5! or Kg8! are both possible. Both sides missed this defensive setup. Black is just up a pawn.

**19.g6+ Kg8 20.Qh5 Ba6 21.Qh7+ Kf8 22.Qh8+?**

22. Rg5! wins after 22...Rf5? 23. Nxd5! Since Black cannot do much to improve his position, there is no need to rush with the check.

**22...Ke7 23.Qxg7+ Kd6 24.Rg5 Qh8!**

I completely missed this resource.

**25.Qxh8 Rxh8 26.g7 Rg8 27.h5 Rh4 28.0-0-0 Ke7 29.Rdgl Kf6**

29...d4 is stronger but this sets a trap which I fall into in time pressure.

**30.Rg6+ Kf7 31.h6? Bd3**



*La Salle vs. Lincoln.  
Photo credit: Dan Dalthorp*

The point of Kf6.

**32.R6g3 Bh7 33.Rf3+ Ke7 34.Re1 Rxh6 35.Rxe5 Kd6?!**

...Rxg7 is best.

**36.Rg5 Rg6 37.Rfg3?**

37...Nb5+ is necessary for better drawing chances

**37...R8xg7 38.Rxg6 Rxg6 39.Rxg6 Bxg6 40.Nb5+ Kd7 41.Nxa7 Bd3 42.Kd2**

42. f4! was the last drawing chance.

**42...Ba6 43.Ke3 e5 44.a4 Kc7 45.f4?? d4+**  
Resignable, but I played on until checkmate.  
**0-1**

Although Lincoln lost their second round match, they fielded the strongest team in recent memory, with their top two boards (Clemen Deng (1912) and Andy Trattner (1853) matching up well against anyone and their fourth and fifth boards (Gabe Skoro (1619) and Kian Patel (1497)) substantially stronger than all other teams'. Not surprisingly, Gabe and Kian provided a huge boost to the team by each finishing the tournament with perfect 5-0 scores.


Full results can be found at the OHSCTA website: [ohscta.tripod.com](http://ohscta.tripod.com)



*The amazing La Salle team. Photo credit: Dan Dalthorp*



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## February Portland G60 Tournament

By Brian Berger

Proving once again that a Master rating matters, Raptis finished with a perfect 4.0 score, and gladly welcomed the \$61.00 first prize. And standing not far from the Master's shadow was Michael Goffe (1875-1884), who showed that a rock-steady playing style, combined with a Zen-like calmness under time pressure, could net him a draw against the highly efficient mover of pieces, Micah Smith (2046-2040). Adding to this exciting draw, came two wins and another draw, giving Goffe an unbeaten final score of 3.0.



L-R: Venkat Doddapaneni vs Nick Raptis.  
Photo credit: Brian Berger

Also sharing 3.0 points each were Dagadu Gaikwad, Venkat Doddapaneni, Ethan Wu and Ari Bluffstone, co-winners who walked away \$21.60 richer.



L-R: Jon and Barbie Fortune.  
Photo credit: Brian Berger

Kudos must go to Jonathan and Barbie Fortune (assisted by Neil Dale in the registration period), for the smooth running of this tournament. And a special thanks too to Morgan the dog, owned by Jerrold Richards of Washington, for offering his head and belly for scratching, and his tongue for saying thank you.

## Portland Spring Open

By Brian Berger

Place 39 players and onlookers into the Portland Chess Club; add one (the only one) non-functioning toilet; leave one tournament director to deal with said turnout and toilet, and you have a recipe that TD Neil Dale found quite unappetizing on the opening morning of the club's Portland Spring Open tournament.

Most TD's would have exhibited a moment of panic, but Neil, the stoic veteran TD that he is, made a few phone calls—Roto-Rooter, Pota-Potty, and sat back and

waited. Luckily, no one needed relief more than Neil at the time, and soon the problem was fixed.

Before the emergency, Mike Morris and Barbie Fortune were on hand to help in the registration process, as was Assistant TD Jonathan Fortune. Even with the new website designed by Yuriy Kamsha, that allows preregistration for Club events, no one was prepared for the near record crowd of entrants. Although it caused some scurrying about, things were settled in short order, and the games began.

Round one saw David Murray (1817) playing white against Micah Smith (2046). As the last board playing, a large crowd gathered to watch the final moves of what became an upset win for the methodical Murray, as he unleashed a pawn swarm on Micah's flanks, forcing him to finally resign—a bravura performance by a fast rising local talent.

Although the balance of this tournament did not go as well for Murray, at least one other game is worthy of note, Murray playing black against the always dangerous Bill Heywood (2000), in a hard fought battle in round four. Again it was the final board playing, with a crowd witnessing what at first glance appeared to be a possible drawn position—Murray's three pawns, two rooks and a queen, against Heywood's two pawns, two rooks and a queen. But it was a final queen and rook positioning by Heywood, posing an unanswerable threat, that caused Murray to resign. Thank you David and Bill for the thoroughly enlightening and entertaining endgame!

The young Andrew Trattner (1819) has



Aaron Probst receiving his award money from TD, Neil Dale. Photo credit: Brian Berger



L-R: Bill Heywood versus Andrew Trattner. Photo credit: Brian Berger

also shown himself to be a rising force to be reckoned with. Starting the tournament in fine fashion with a win against Master Lennart Bjorksten (2165), then a draw against Expert Bill Heywood, it looked as if Trattner could be well on his way to a major upset in the Open Section, which had five players with ratings of 2000 and above. Though losses to David Murray and Jeff Austin (1418) would quell that hope, an exciting drawn game against Dagadu Gaikwad in the 4th round, had onlookers

straining forward to see the final minutes of the endgame.

A controversy about the agreed upon draw erupted between some of the onlookers and an observing Master, as to whether a draw should have ended the game. It was the Master's contention that the draw was premature, and that there was a win on the board. Taking the opposite view were the players and a number of those crowded around. The offer of a money

wager concerning the certainty of his assessment of the ending could be heard above the growl of the crowd, and the challenge "SHOW ME," could be heard in answer.

"Well, you see, if you just blah,blah,blah, then..." was broken off abruptly by a counter "Blah, blah, blah," that the first blah, blah, blaher

realized, was the true blah, blah of the situation. "Damn." the first blah blaher said, or something to that effect, "I didn't see that. I'm glad it wasn't one of my games!"

Although no money exchanged hands in that confrontation, which I am sure was a relief for the challenger, money was forthcoming for a number of other challengers whose confrontations over the boards netted them a return of dollars.

In the Open Section, Nick Raptis took First Place and \$146.25, with 4 1/2 points. Sarah May, with 3.5 points, won an uncontested Second Place, receiving \$97.50 for her fine performance. The under 2000 prize saw a four-way split, with Jeff Austin, Michael Goffe, E. Stern-Rodriguez and Dagadu Gaikwad, ending with 3.0 points and \$18.25 each.

In the Reserve Section, Mike Hasuik (1513-1571) and Mu Lin (1403-1524) tied for First Place with 4.0 points each, substantially upping both their ratings, and improving their net worth by \$85.00. The under 1600 prize was split between the



young Liam Booth (1446-1444), and the grizzled oldster who writes many of these articles, Brian Berger (1400-1465), each of whom accumulated 3.5 points and \$24.00 in hamburger money.

The under 1400 prize was split by Aaron Probst (1312-1302) and William Liang (1227 P-1343 P) with 3.0 points and \$24.00 each. And finally, Noah Tesema (891-1070) with 2.0 points, took the whole of the prize money in the under 1200 category—\$48.75.

## Oregon Closed Games

**Brian Esler (2146) –  
Nick Raptis (2368) [B35]**

Oregon Closed Portland  
(R1), February 15, 2014

[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Bg7 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 0-0 8.Bb3 Qa5?! 9.f3 d5**

This system is not highly regarded for Black, as he tends to get a slightly worse ending with virtually no winning chances.

There are two main ways to play against 7.Bc4. One is the Uogele, characterized after 7...O-O 8.Bb3 by the sharp 8...a5 followed by plenty of theory, including 9.f3 d5! The other is 7...Qa5, which forces 8.O-O due to the threat to the e4-pawn, then 8...O-O 9.Bb3 and Black is well advised to continue sanely with 9...d6.

**10.exd5 Nb4 11.Qd2 Rd8?!**

Interesting is 11...Nbx d5 12.Nxd5 Qxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Nxd5 14.Bxd5 Rd8, though White has an advantage — better development, 3/2 queenside majority, and active king — for example after 15.c4 e6 16.Be4 f5 (16...Bxd4 17.Bxd4 Rxd4+ 18.Kc3) 17.Bd3 Bxd4 18.Bxd4 Rxd4 19.Kc3 Rd8 20.c5!?

**12.0-0 e6**



**13.a3?!**

13.Kb1! exd5 (13...Nbx d5? 14.Nxd5 Rxd5 (14...Qxd2? 15.Nxf6+ Bxf6 16.Rxd2 wins.) 15.Bxd5 Qxd2 16.Rxd2 Nxd5 17.Bf2 Black's compensation for the exchange looks inadequate.) 14.Bg5 intending 14...— 15.Qf4 looks like a significant plus for White.

**13...Nbx d5 14.Nxd5 Qxd2+ 15.Bxd2?!**

15.Rxd2 Nxd5 16.Bxd5 saves time, with a slight plus despite the black bishop-pair.

**15...Nxd5 16.Ba5 b6 17.Nc6 Re8 18.Bxd5 exd5 19.Bb4 Bf6 20.Rxd5 Bb7 21.Rd6 Bg5+?!**

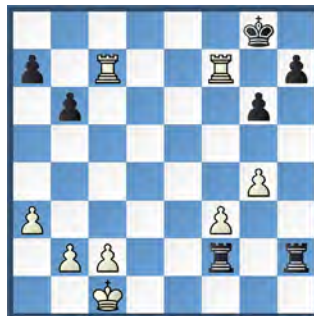
Black has some intriguing alternatives. After 21...Bg7 22.Nd4 he can force a draw with 22...Be5 23.Rd7 Bc8 24.Rd5 Bb7; There's also the complicated winning attempt 21...Re6!? 22.Rxe6 fxe6 23.Ne7+ Kf7 24.Rd1



Analysis

24...Rb8! (24...a5 25.Rd7 favors White.) 25.a4 a5 26.Ba3, but it's hard to see how either side can break out of the mutual Gordian knot they've perpetrated. 26...Ke8 27.Ng8 Bg5+ 28.Kb1 Kf7 doesn't seem to lead to much.

**22.Bd2 Bxd2+ 23.Kxd2 Bxc6 24.Rxc6 Rad8+ 25.Kc1 Re2 26.g4 Rf2 27.Rc7 Rdd2 28.Re1 Rxh2 29.Re8+ Kg7 30.Ree7 Rdf2 31.Rxf7+ Kg8**



**32.b3?!**

32.Rfd7 Rh1+ 33.Rd1 Rxd1+ 34.Kxd1 Rxf3 35.Rxa7 gives White an endgame edge.; Also better than the game: 32.Kb1 Rxc2 33.Rxc2 Rh1+ (33...Rxc2 34.Rxa7) 34.Ka2 Kxf7 35.Rc7+ Kf6 36.Rxa7.

**32...Rxc2+ 33.Kb1**

33.Rxc2 Rxc2+ 34.Kxc2 Kxf7 is now great for Black, with his outside soon-to-be-passed h-pawn.

**33...Rb2+ 34.Ka1**

34.Kc1 Rbc2+ 35.Rxc2 Rxc2+ 36.Kxc2 Kxf7 37.Kd3 is the same lost king and pawn ending mentioned in the previous note, but it's arguably better than the game...

**34...Rbf2**

Immediately decisive is 34...Rbe2! 35.Rg7+ Kf8! heading for the check-free zone on e8.(35...Kh8 36.Rxh7+ Rxh7 37.Rc8+ Kg7 38.Rc7+ Kg8 39.Rc8+ Kf7 40.Rc7+ Re7 works also, and illustrates the other main point in favor of Re2 vs Rf2.)

**35.Rg7+ Kh8 36.Rxh7+**

Cleverly escaping the mating net, but landing in a lost rook ending.

**36...Rxh7 37.Rc8+ Kg7 38.Rc7+ Kh6 39.g5+ Kxg5 40.Rxh7 Rxf3 41.Kb2 a5 42.Rd7 Rf6 43.Kc3 Kf4 44.Rd4+ Ke5 45.Rg4 Rf3+ 46.Kc2 Kf5 47.Rc4 Re3 48.Rc6 Re6 49.Rc3 g5 50.b4 axb4 51.axb4 g4 52.Kb3 Rg6 53.Ka4 g3 54.Kb5 g2 55.Rc1 Kf4 56.Rg1 Kg3 0-1**

**Daniel Gay (2210) –  
Corey Russell (2232) [B90]**

Oregon Closed Portland  
(R7), February 22, 2014

[Corey Russell]

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6**

It's been a while since I've used the Najdorf. I had horrible results against the English Attack so stopped playing. But while thinking about it at the hotel, I came up with an inspiration, ...h5. After the game Nick Raptis says it's one of the best lines, glad I chose to use it, as this game is English Attack as well.

**6.f3 h5 7.Be3 e6 8.Qd2 b5 9.0-0-0 Bb7 10.Be2**

I felt happy about my position here.

**10...Nbd7 11.h3**

White signals he really does want to play g4. My next series of moves prevents it.

**11...b4 12.Nb1 d5 13.exd5 Bxd5**

Besides putting his bishop at a strong post at d5, this move also prevents g4, e.g. 14.g4? hxg4 15.hxg4 Rxh1 16.Rxh1 Nxc4! wins a pawn.

**14.Rhe1 Qa5**

I didn't do 14...Bxa2 since 15.Nc6 and White wins his pawn back at b4.

**15.g4?!**

15. a3 seems better.

**15...hxg4 16.hxg4 Bxa2 17.Bg5 Rc8 18.Bd3 Nc5**

Effectively immobilizing the white d4 knight, since if it moves then ...Nb3 is mate.

**19.Bf5 Nd5 20.Be4 Nxe4 21.Rxe4**

I have to be extremely careful here. For example if 21...Nc3?? 22.Nxe6! and White would win.

**21...Qb6 22.Nf5 Bb3 23.Ne3 Be7!**



Note that 24.Nxd5?? loses. Sample line,

24.Nxd5 Bxg5 25.Nxb6 Rxc2 mate.

**24.Bxe7 Nxe7 25.Rxb4 Qxe3!!**

Once again, 26.Qxe3?? Rxc2 is mate.

**26.Rxb3**

Black can't touch this rook. If 26...Qxb3?? 27.Qd7+ Kf8 28.Qd8+!! and Black would get mated.

**26...Qxd2+ 27.Rxd2 Nd5 28.Ra3 Rc6**

I felt Black had a small advantage here, due to his well placed pieces.

**29.b3**

This leads to trouble. As unpleasant as it was, perhaps 29.Nc3 was necessary.

**29...Rh3 30.Rf2 Ne3 31.Re2?**

A blunder. "Best" would be 31.c4 Rh1+ 32.Kd2 (32.Kb2?? Nd1+ -) Nxc4+ 33.bxc4 Rxb1 which leaves White down a pawn. The text loses two pawns.

**31...Rxf3 32.c4 Nxc4 33.Nd2 Rf4 34.Ra5 f5 35.Kb2 Kf7 36.Kc3 e5 37.Re1 e4 38.c5 Ke6 39.b4 e3 40.Nc4**

Here I realized I was in real danger of losing my pawn advantage – I decided to sac an exchange, which would leave me with three connected passers with King support.

**40...Rxc4+ 41.Kxc4 Ne5+**

Of course not 42.Kd4?? Nf3+ -+

**42.Kc3 f4 43.Ra2 Kf5 44.Rh1 Ke4 45.Rh5 g6 46.Rh6 Ng4 47.Rh4 Nf2 48.Rh8 Ng4**

I realized my knight was misplaced so brought it back.

**49.Rd8 f3 50.Rd4+ Kf5 51.Rd5+ Kf4 52.Rd4+ Kg3 53.Kd3 Re6! 54.Rd6 Re8 55.c6 e2**

56.Ra1 f2 is pretty devastating. White has no defense so resigns here. **0-1**

**Aaron Grabinsky (2185) –  
Lennart Bjorksten (2170) [B19]**

Oregon Closed Portland  
(R7), February 22, 2014

[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.Nf3 Nd7 7.h4 h6 8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6 11.Bd2 Ngf6 12.0-0-0 Bd6 13.Ne4 Nxe4 14.Qxe4 Nf6 15.Qe2 Qc7 16.Ne5**



**16...0-0-0**

[16...0-0 17.Ng4 and it is unclear if White

can make much of his space and kingside chances, as Black is pretty solid and the pieces are coming off.(17.g4 c5 is starting to look like counterplay.)]

**17.f4 Kb8**

[17...c5 now, before that rook lifts.]

**18.Rh3 Nd5 19.c4 Bxe5 20.fxe5 Ne7 21.Bb4 Nc8 22.Qg4 c5 23.Bxc5 b6 24.Ba3**

[24.Rb3 leaves White with a significant advantage, as he can keep the extra pawn indefinitely. 24...Rhg8 25.Qf3.]

**24...Qxc4+ 25.Rc3?!**



[25.Kb1 is still a White edge, albeit without the extra pawn of the last note.]

**25...Qd5?**

[Attack is the best defense in this now finely balanced position: 25...Qxa2! activates the queen, and if White captures g7, the rooks, in aggressive positions threatening the white king. 26.Qxg7 Rhg8! (26...Rdg8? 27.Qxf7 Rxc2? (27...Qa1+ 28.Kc2 Rxc2+ 29.Rd2 White defends the counter-attack and will emerge with a decisive lead.) 28.Qc7+ Ka8 29.Qc6+ Kb8 30.Qxg2) 27.Qxf7 Qa1+ 28.Kc2 (28.Kd2 Rxd4+ 29.Ke3 will, with care, draw shortly. 29...Rg3+?? 30.Kf2, however, wins for White.) 28...Rxc2+ 29.Rd2 (Or 29.Kb3 Qxd1+ 30.Ka2 Again there is no escape from the perpetual check Qc7-c6-c7.) 29...Rxd2+ 30.Kb3! and despite the rook deficit, White will soon force a perpetual check to end the game.]

**26.Qxg7 Rhg8 27.Qxf7 Rxc2 28.Qc7+ Ka8 29.Bd6! 1-0**

**Corey Russell (2232) –  
Jason Cigan (2086) [B94]**

Oregon Closed Portland  
(R8), February 23, 2014

[Corey Russell]

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.Bc4**

NCO recommends this move if Black plays an early ...Nbd7 here without ...e6.

**7...Qb6 8.a3?**

While this defends the b-pawn, this is a blunder. Either Bb3 or Nb3 is absolutely necessary here. Black could have played ...Qc5 here and been immediately equal with the attack on both hanging white bishops.

**8...e6 9.0-0?**

9.Nb3 is still absolutely vital. Black of course should still play ...Qc5 here.

**9...Be7 10.Be3!± Qc7 11.Bxe6!**

I don't see a forced win here, but I do see White can get three pawns for the piece and Black's king unable to castle, that seemed fine to me.

**11...fxe6 12.Nxe6 Qa5?**

This loses material. Better was 12...Qc6 13.Nd5 Bd8! 14.Nxc7+ Kf7 15.Nf5 with an unclear position.

**13.b4 Qe5 14.Nc7+ Kd8 15.Bd4**



**15...Kxc7**

This is forced, as any other black queen moves lose her to a knight fork.

**16.Bxe5 Nxe5 17.f4 Ng6 18.Qd4 Rd8 19.a4 Bd7**

The computer recommends b5 and b6 here. I was concerned about the blocked nature of the position, but it's probably right.

**20.h3 Rac8 21.g4?**

21. Rf3 is much better, with the ideas similar to the text but a move ahead, which does make a big difference.

**21...Kb8**

Here I realized my plan of 21. g5 and Nd5 have several technical problems: 21.g5 Bxh3 22.Rf3 Bg4 23.Rg3 Nxf4! 24.gxf6 Bxf6 and Black is just fine, with the problems at e2 and c3.

**22.Rf3 Be6 23.Nb5**

Another white minor piece is thrown into the fire. I didn't see a forced win, but believed the white b-pawn would be a powerful threat.

**23...axb5 24.axb5 Rc4 25.Qa7+ Kc8 26.b6 Nxe4 27.Qa8+ Kd7 28.Qxb7+ Ke8 29.Ra8**

If White wants his b-pawn to go anywhere, the rooks need to be traded.

**29...Rxb4 30.Re3**

Trying to provoke ...d5 so White could play Rb3. Considering what happened in the game, perhaps Black should have gone for this.

**30...Nc5 31.Qc6+**

One of White's points is that if 31...Kf7 32.f5! works since White can capture either piece with check.

**31...Bd7 32.Rxd8+! Kxd8 33.Qc7+ Ke8**

### 34.Qxd6

This move presents a lot of problems for Black. Note that 34...Ne4? 35. Qxb4! wins – students should work this out.

34...Rb1+ 35.Kh2 Nb7 36.Qb8+ Nd8 37.f5 Nh8

Here I missed an easy win with 38.Qe5 Nc6 39.Qxg7. White is still a bit better.

38.Qd6 Nc6 39.Qd5 Nf7 40.g5 Rf1 41.g6 hxg6 42.fxg6 Nh6

After this move, I believe Black is lost. Rybka and I both agree that ...Nfe5 and the game is not over since Qg8+ Rf8 is not mate.

### 43.b7

White threatens Qxc6.

43...Rb1 44.Rb3 Rxb3 45.cxb3 Bf6

Black sets one last trap: 26.Qxc6?? Be5+ covers the b-pawn queening square and Black would win! However, White has much better.

46.Qd6! Be5+ 47.Qxe5+

Black realizes it's hopeless and throws in the towel here.

1-0



**OREGON CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIP 2014 PARTICIPANTS:**

*Seated left to right: Aaron Grabinsky, Carl Haessler, FM Corey Russell, Steven Deeth. Standing left to right: Corbin Yu, Lennart Bjorksten, FM Nick Raptis, Daniel Gay, Brian Esler, Jason Cigan. Photo credit: Grisha Alpernas.*

## Championship

**Congratulations to Nick Raptis for successfully defending his Oregon State chess championship!**

*Nick also won the Oregon championship in 2001 and 2013, and tied with Oleg Zaikov for the championship in 2005.*

*The Championship has been registered and FIDE rated.*

*Titles: FM = FIDE Master, NM = National Master, LM = USCF Life Master.*

*Note: Corbin Yu withdrew after the first weekend due to illness.*

	Name	Title	City (OR)	Rtg	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	Pos
1	Carl Haessler	LM	Lake Oswego	2200	x	0.5	1	0	0	1	0	0	0.5	1F	4.0	
2	Nick Raptis	FM	Portland	2368	0.5	x	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	1F	7.0	1st
3	Jason Cigan		Portland	2086	0	0	x	1	0	1	0	0.5	0	0	2.5	
4	Daniel Gay		Tigard	2210	1	0.5	0	x	1	1	1	1	0	1	6.5	2nd
5	Steven Deeth		Beaverton	2142	1	0.5	1	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	2.5	
6	Aaron Grabinsky		Coquille	2185	0	0.5	0	0	1	x	1	1	0.5	1F	5.0	5th
7	Lennart Bjorksten		Portland	2170	1	0	1	0	1	0	x	1	0.5	1F	5.5	4th
8	Brian Esler		Portland	2146	1	0	0.5	0	1	0	0	x	0.5	0.5	3.5	
9	Corey Russell	FM	Medford	2232	0.5	0	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	x	1	6.0	3rd
10	Corbin Yu		Lake Oswego	2220	0F	0F	1	0	1	0F	0F	0.5	0	x	2.5	

**Prizes:** \$200 (1st), \$100 (2nd), \$50 (3rd).

Organized by the Oregon Chess Federation.

**Tournament director:** Grisha Alpernas. Assistant TD: Mike Morris.

# Idaho Chess News

## Idaho Closed State Championship

The Shilo Inn at 1586 Blue Lake Boulevard North in Twin Falls was host to the Idaho Closed State Championship held over the February 15-17 three-day weekend. 24 players attended the event.

24-year-old Caleb Kircher (Nampa) won the six-round Swiss System tournament with a score of 5 points and this became his first time as Idaho State Champion.



Caleb Kircher. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

Larry Parsons (Boise), 18-time state champion, was second place with 4.5 points and John Carr (Victor) was third-place by tie-break over Jeffrey Roland (Boise) each having 4 points. Complete list of prizes is shown in the "State Championship Early Report" on page 4 of the March 2014 issue of *Northwest Chess*.

The time control for the event was 30/120 SD/60 with 5 second delay throughout the game. Plaques were given as prizes and ties were broken by 1) Head-to-Head (if 2-way tie only); 2) Solkoff; 3) Median; 4) Cumulative of Opposition; 5) Cumulative. All of the games are available to view under Results (ICA) on the Idaho Chess Association website [idahochessassociation.org](http://idahochessassociation.org) as well as far more comprehensive coverage than is possible in this issue.

The Annual Business Meeting is held each year at the State Championships. Jeffrey Roland, ICA President, conducted the meeting and elections were held with the following results:

Jeffrey Roland (President) and Adam Porth (Vice President) were not up for election this year. Jay Simonson, who was appointed by the Board to be Secretary/Treasurer on December 31, 2013, was elected to finish out the term resigned by Patrick Abernathy on September 23. These three positions will expire March 31, 2015.

Craig Barrett was elected Trustee for Scholastic Development. Jamie Lang and Alise Pemsler were elected Trustee for Tournament Organization (there are two positions with the same title, duties, and responsibilities). Kevin Patterson was elected Trustee for Web Development and Maintenance. These terms commence March 31, 2014 and end on March 31, 2016. We thank these volunteers for their service on the ICA Board of Directors.

**Larry R Parsons (2000) –  
Carmen Pemsler (1561) [A26]**  
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID  
(R2), February 15, 2014

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.Nf3  
Nc6 6.0-0 d6 7.d3 0-0 8.Rb1 a5 9.a3

[Diagram top of next column]

9...d5?

Black has roughly equal chances after a developing move such as 9...Re8; 9...Bg4;



or 9...Bd7.

Transposing into a reversed Dragon Sicilian with ...d5 is not a good idea. Black was already a move behind in the reversed positions, but also took two moves to bring the d7-pawn to d5.

Now White wins at least a pawn by force.

**10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.Nxe5! Nxc3 12.Nxc6  
Nxd1**

Also possible, but not better, is 12...Nxe2+  
13.Qxe2 bxc6 14.Bxc6 Rb8 15.Bf4.

**13.Nxd8 Nxf2**

13...Rxd8 14.Rxd1 c6 leaves Black a pawn down and facing a tough technical defense.

**14.Nxb7**

[Diagram top of next page]

**14...Bxb7?**

Now White wins a piece, and the game is over. Better is 14...Nh3+ 15.Kh1 Re8 16.e3 Ng5 17.b3 with a rather obscure kind of extra pawn position for White. (But not the tempting 17.Nd6? cxd6 18.Bxa8 due to 18...Ba6! =)



Carmen Pemsler (left) vs. Larry Parsons (right). Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland



15.Bxb7 Rab8 16.Bf3 Bd4 17.e3 Nxd3  
18.exd4 Rfd8 19.d5 Ne5 20.Bf4 Nxf3+  
21.Rxf3 Rxd5 22.Bxc7 Rb7 23.Rc3 Rdb5  
24.b3 a4 25.b4 Rd5 26.Rbc1 Rd7 27.Be5  
1-0

**John B Carr (1700) –  
Nedzad Imamovic (1414) [D20]**  
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID  
(R2), February 15, 2014

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 e6

3...Nc6; 3...Nf6; 3...c5; and 3...e5 all have adherents.

4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Bxc4 Be7

Perhaps 5...Bb4; or 5...c5. Black needs to pressure the White center.

6.Nf3 a6 7.0-0 b5 8.Bd3 Bb7

8...c5!?, but White is ahead in development.

9.Qc2

9.e5 Nd5 10.a4 favors White.

9...Nc6



10.Nxb5!? axb5??

This is what White is hoping for. A much more testing defense: 10...Nb4! 11.Nxc7+ (11.Qxc7?! Rb8 (Not 11...Nxd3? 12.Qxb7 axb5 13.Qxb5+ Qd7 and 14.Qxd3 wins.; But possible is 11...Qc8!? 12.Be2 axb5 13.Bxb5+ Bc6 14.Bxc6+ Nxc6 and Black is fairly happy.) 12.Be2 axb5 13.Bxb5+ Kf8 14.Qxd8+ Bxd8 15.Bf4 Ra8 16.a3 Nc2 17.Rac1 Bxe4 and White does not appear to have quite enough for the piece.) 11...Kf8 12.Qc4 Rc8 13.Bf4

[See Analysis Diagram next column]

13...Nxd3 (13...Ne8 14.Rac1 Nxd3 15.Nxe6+ fxe6 16.Qxd3 and White may hold a slight edge.) 14.Qxd3 Rxc7 (14...Bxe4?! 15.Qxa6 helps White in the coming complications. For example: 15...Rxc7 (15...Bxf3 costs Black an important



John Carr (left) vs. Nedzad Imamovic (right). Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland



Analysis

defender of the light squares while inflicting a relatively meaningless kingside weakness. 16.gxf3 Rxc7 17.Bxc7 Qxc7 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.Rc8+ Ne8 20.Rfc1 is big trouble.) 16.Bxc7 Qxc7 17.Rfc1 Qb7



Analysis

18.Rc8+! Ne8 19.Ne5! with initiative.) 15.Bxc7 Qxc7 is unclear.

11.Bxb5 0-0

Now the most interesting defense is in the big material imbalance 11...Qd7 12.Ne5 Nxe5! 13.Bxd7+ Nexd7, which should be entertaining. White probably holds an edge with those queenside pawns, but Black has potential, too, if he can get all the pieces coordinated.

12.Bxc6 Bxc6 13.Qxc6 Rb8

The game just moves inexorably downhill for Black from here.

14.Qc2 Rb5 15.Bf4 c5 16.a4 Rb4 17.Bd2 Rb7 18.dxc5 Qc7 19.b4 Nd7 20.Rfc1 Qc6 21.Nd4 Qa6 22.b5 Qa8 23.c6 Rc7 24.Qd1

Nc5 25.b6 Rxc6 26.Nxc6 Qxc6 27.a5 Qxe4 28.Be3 Rd8 29.Qc2 Qxc2 30.Rxc2 Nb3 31.b7 Nxa5 32.Bb6 Nxb7 33.Bxd8 Nxd8 34.Ra8 Kf8 35.Kf1 f5 36.Rc7 Ke8 37.Ke2 Bd6 38.Rxg7 Be7 39.Rxh7 Bf6 40.Rh6 1-0

**Jarod N Buus (1365) –  
Jeffrey T Roland (1707) [C02]**  
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID  
(R2), February 15, 2014

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Qb6 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.a3 Bd7

The main point of White's plan with 6.a3 is to play b2-b4 to both gain space and resolve the central tension by pressuring the c5-pawn. Black should prevent this by preemptively advancing the c-pawn, gaining control of b3 and cramping White's queenside. 6...c4

7.b4 c4

Now Black gains control of b3, but has no pieces that can access the advanced outpost.

8.Be3?!

This bishop has roughly six squares to which it might develop. What is the advantage of e3? Hard to see any, as it acts as a big pawn here, and can also be a target for a black knight on f5 or possibly an advancing f-pawn.

Much stronger is 8.a4! delaying the development decision, grabbing the offered space, and guaranteeing White the flexibility to lock the queenside if Black advances either the a- or b-pawn.

8...Nge7 9.Nh4

9.a4

9...h6 10.g4

10.a4

10...g5?!



Jarod Buus taken during his game with Jeffrey Roland. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

10...a5! 11.Nd2 Qa6! gives Black a-f file control and a clear advantage: 12.Nb3 (12.Rc1 Na7!? 13.Nb3 axb4 14.axb4 Qa4! 15.Nc5?! Qxd1+ 16.Kxd1 Bc6 17.Ra1 b6 18.Na6 Nb5 19.Kc2 Bb7) 12...b6 13.bxa5 Nxa5 (Or perhaps even better 13...Nc8 14.axb6 Nxb6 when White's extra a-pawn is by no means the most important factor in the position.) 14.Nd2 Qc8 (14...Nb3 15.Nxb3 Ba4 16.Qb1 Bxb3 17.Qxb3 cxb3 18.Bxa6 Rxa6 is less clear.) 15.Be2 Nb3 16.Nxb3 Ba4 17.Qd2 cxb3!

11.Ng2 Ng6 12.Nd2 Qd8 13.Be2 Bg7 14.Qc2 0-0?! 15.Nf3 f5



16.exf6?

16.h4! fxg4 17.Nxg5 Nce7 (17...Rf5 18.Bxg4 hxg5 19.Bxf5; 17...hxg5 18.Qxg6) 18.h5 The opening kingside lines favor White.

16...Qxf6 17.h4 Nf4 18.Bxf4 gxf4 19.g5 Qf5 20.0-0-0 Qxc2+ 21.Kxc2 Nxb4+?

Energetic, but fundamentally wrong. 21...b5 22.Kb2 a5 +=.

22.cxb4 Ba4+ 23.Kc3 Bxd1 24.Bxd1 b5 25.gxh6 Bxh6 26.Rg1 Kh8 27.Ne5



27...Rf6

Black is now clearly lost, as he has little choice but to part with the exchange, leaving him down a piece for only one pawn.

28.h5

More forcing is 28.Ng4 Kg7 (28...Rg6 29.h5 Rxg4 30.Bxg4 is, if anything, even worse for Black.) 29.Nxf6 Kxf6 30.Ne1 +-.

28...Rg8

28...Bg7 29.Nxf4 doesn't look like an improvement for Black.

29.f3??

29.Ng4 Bg5 30.Nxf6 Bxf6 31.Bf3 +-.

29...Rg3 30.Bc2 Kg7 31.Bg6

31.Kd2 is complicated and unclear.

31...Bg5 32.Be8 Rf5 33.Bxb5 Rxe5

33...Bf6!

34.dxe5 Rxf3+ 35.Kc2?

35.Kd2 Rg3 36.Ke1 f3 37.Kf2 Rxg2+ 38.Rxg2 fxg2 39.Kxg2 offers White a few more chances to hold than the game line.

35...Rg3 36.Nxf4?! Rxg1 37.Nxe6+ Kf7 38.Nd4 Rg2+ 39.Kb1 Be3??

39...Rg4 40.Nc6 Bf4 41.a4 Rg2

40.e6+ Kf6 41.e7 Rg1+ 42.Kc2 Rg2+ 43.Kb1 Kxe7 44.Nf5+ Ke6 45.Nxe3 Rg3



46.Nc2?

46.Nxc4! dxc4 47.Bxc4+ Kf6 48.Kb2 Rh3 49.a4 should be a draw.

46...Ke5 47.Be8 d4 48.a4 d3 49.Na3 c3 50.Bb5

50.Bg6 Rg1+ 51.Ka2 c2! 52.Nxc2 d2 53.Ne3 Kd4 wins for Black.

50...Kd4 51.Ba6 Rg1+ 52.Ka2 c2 53.Nb5+ Ke3 54.Nd6 c1Q 55.Nf5+ Kd2 0-1

Jeffrey T Roland (1707) –  
Cody Austin Gorman (1808) [B41]  
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID  
(R4), February 16, 2014

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 c5 4.Nc3

4.d5 enters Benoni territory.

4...cxd4 5.Nxd4 a6 6.e4

But now we've gone Sicilian!

6...Bb4 7.Bg5 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Qa5 9.Bd2 Nxe4

9...d6!?

10.Qg4 Nf6?!

10...Nxd2 11.Qxg7 Rf8 12.Kxd2 Nc6 is unclear.

11.Qxg7 Qe5+



12.Be3

Better is 12.Be2 Rg8 13.Qh6, as taking the g-pawn is dangerous: 13...Rxg2 (13...Rg6 14.Qh3 and Black still has serious development issues.) 14.Bf4 Rg6 (14...Ng4 15.Bxe5 Nxb6 16.Bg3 and wins without too much trouble, as the eventual ...Rxg3 is met by hxg3 and snacking on the h-file.)



15.Qxg6 winning material, though there are still technical difficulties converting this.

12...Rg8 13.Qh6 Rg6

13...Nc6 +=.

14.Qf4

14.Qh3!?

14...Qa5 15.Bd2 e5



16.Qe3

16.Nb3! Qc7 (16...Qxc3? 17.Bxc3 exf4 18.Bd3 with a rather large advantage to White despite Black's temporary material edge.) 17.Qh4 d6 18.Bg5. This is possibly more than a small advantage for White.

16...Ng4 17.Qe4 Nf6 18.Qe3 Ng4 19.Qe4 Nf6 1/2-1/2

## Boise Chess Club Inaugural Chess Tournament



Boise, ID — March 8, 2014

The Boise Chess Club was very active and thriving in the early 1950's through around 1995, when due to fatigue, burnout, or for whatever reason, the club simply folded up and disappeared for 19 years.

From that time until now, loyal dedicated chess players met weekly at local bookstores like Barnes & Noble and Borders Books, and then a few years ago, went to All About Games on Overland. But all this was without any actual structure or organization whatsoever.

Jamie Lang noticed how cool it was that the Portland Chess Club seemed to have monthly rated events and wanted to try



James Inman winner of the Boise Chess Club Inaugural Chess Tournament. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

something like that in Boise.

So it transpired that he contacted Jeffrey Roland who suggested that the club reform. Jeffrey then put Jamie in contact with several others who were passionate about the idea of starting a new Boise chess club too.

The five founding members of the Boise Chess Club are Peter Olsoy (President), Jamie Lang (Vice President), Katie Sorenson (Secretary), Jeffrey Roland (Treasurer), and Jarod Buus (Public Relations Director).

On March 8, the first monthly tournament occurred. Entry was free, and it was USCF-rated. Time control was Game/60;d5.

It was held at All About Games on Overland Road in Boise, Idaho with Jeffrey Roland

being the tournament director.

11 players competed in the 4-round Swiss System event.

1st-place with 3.5 points was James Inman (Boise) with Jarod Buus (Nampa) in 2nd-place with 3 points.

Brett Hamilton (Meridian) and Elijah Hill (Boise) tied for 3rd-4th place with 2.5 points each.

5th-8th place ties occurred when Corey Longhurst (Boise), Tom Booth (Caldwell), Chris Amen (Boise), and Paul Edvalson (Eagle) each scored 2 points.

Jamie Lang (Meridian) and Roger Hunter (Nyssa, OR) tied for 9th-10th place with 1 point each, and William Mabry (Boise) withdrew after 2 rounds and 0 points.



Former ICA President, Bill Mabry. Bill has been away from local tournaments for a while. It is great to see him playing again. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

## Idaho Scholastic Triple-Crown

Eagle, ID — February 22, 2014

This year, the ICA tried something new. After two years of combining the Idaho Scholastic Novice Tournament and the Idaho Scholastic Girls Championship into one event, this year a third event was added to make it a Triple Crown event.

The new event was the Idaho K-8 Scholastic Open. This event was used to determine the representative for the Barber K-8 Tournament of Champions. Previously the ICA chose this player by the best player in those grades who played up and played in the Championship Section of the Idaho Scholastic Championship. But since last year only two players were in that category, it was determined that this new event was essential. Also, this event was open to all states, and thus players in eastern Oregon, for example, would have a place to play without having to drive 400 miles. To the delight of all (see page 4), the Vale Middle School took first place Team this year.

Tony Brar (Riverglen Jr. High, Grade 7) was first place with 6 points, Lucas Knoll (Mountain Home Jr. High, Grade 8) was second place with 5 points, and Jacob Nathan (Idaho Falls, Grade 4) was third with 5 points.



*Tony Brar. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland*

Tony Brar indicated that he will indeed be representing Idaho at the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions held July 26-29 in Orlando, Florida.

In the Idaho Scholastic Girls Championship, Carmen Pemsler (Capital High, Grade 10) was first place with 7 points. Dylan Porth (Wood River, Grade 8) was second place with 5.5 points, Nichole Adams (Grade 8)



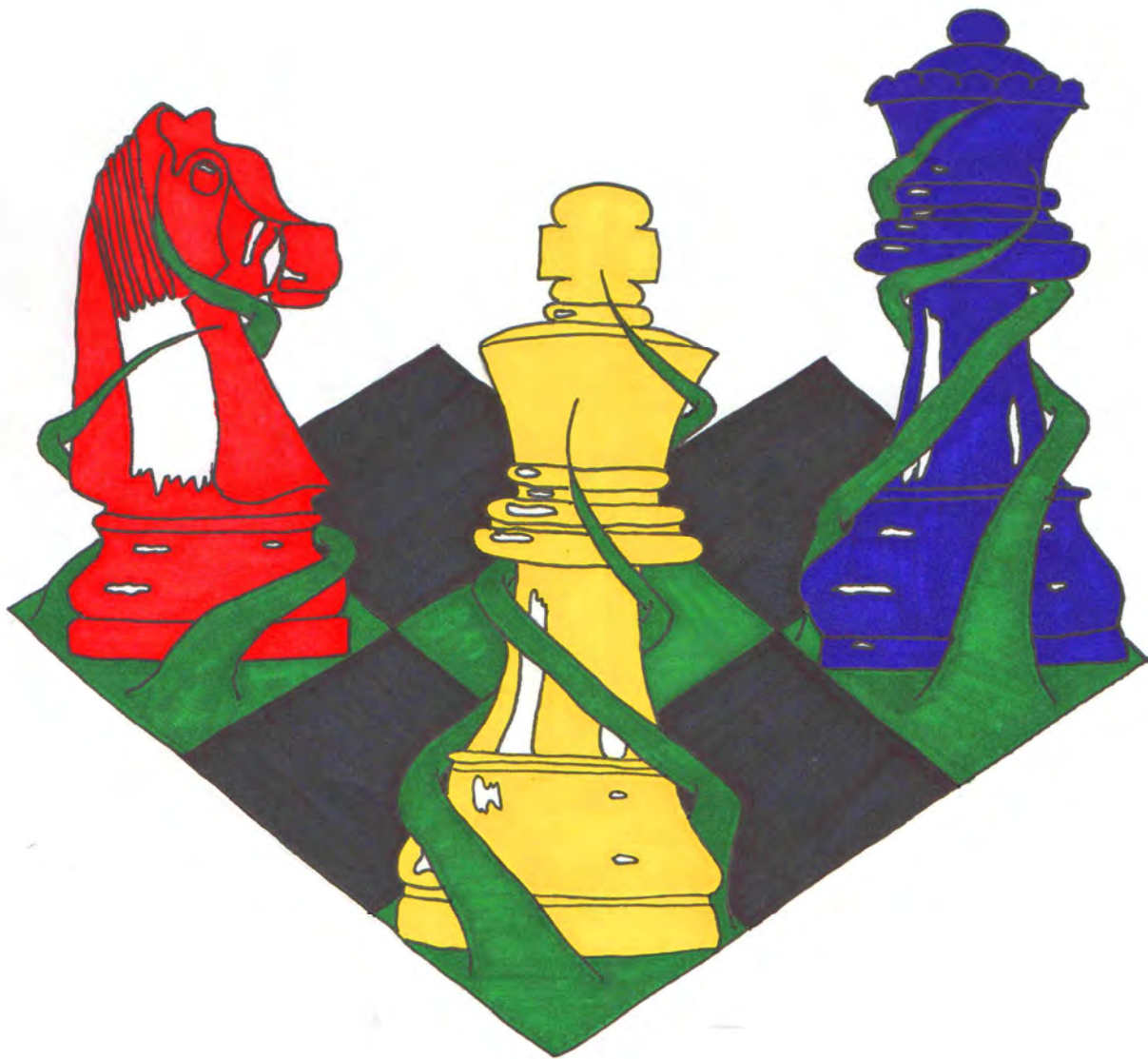
*Carmen Pemsler. Photo credit: Adam Porth*

was third place with 5 points, and Anna Kappelman (Riverstone International, Grade 10) was fourth place with 4 points.

Carmen Pemsler will represent Idaho at the National Girls Invitational Tournament July 26-29 in Orlando, Florida. She will also represent Idaho at the Susan Polgar Foundation Girls Invitational July 10-15 at Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri.

## U.S. AMATEUR NORTH CHAMPIONSHIP

**May 24-26 U.S. AMATEUR NORTH CHAMPIONSHIP, Boise, ID.** 5-SS. T/L: G/90, w/30 second increment (or G/100 w/5 second delay). Jordan Hall, Boise State U; Boise, ID. In 2 Sections. OPEN (to U2200) 1st Trophy, Book, and 2014 U.S. AMATEUR NORTH CHAMPION title; 2nd, 3rd, Top U1800 engraved Plaque. The U.S. Amateur North Champion may be requested to play in an internet playoff of the 4 regional champions to determine an overall U.S. Amateur Champion. RESERVE (Open to U1600 & Unr) 1st Trophy and Book; 2nd, 3rd, Top U1300, Top U1000 engraved Plaque; Top Unrated Book. BOTH EF: \$44 if by 5/6/14, \$52 if by 5/15, \$60 at site. Reg. 1:30-2pm on 5/24. Mailed entries to Lawrence Cohen, P.O. Box 6632, Villa Park, IL 60181 (put ATTN: U.S. Amateur bottom right corner). Online entry at [onlineregistration.cc](http://onlineregistration.cc). Rounds 2:30-7, 11-3:30, 10. NC, NS, W. FREE RAFFLE PRIZES (3) Choice of Free entry to 2014 Eastern Idaho Open or Free entry to Western Idaho Open; Choice of Free entry to 2014 Oregon Open or Free entry to 2014 Southern Idaho Open; Free entry (in 2015) to 23rd Dave Collyer Memorial Open or entry to 2015 Idaho Closed State Championship. Winners for 2014 must choose event by 5/26/14, Winner of 2015 event must choose by 12/1/14. 1/2 point bye is available for any round, but must be requested before 4pm 5/24. NS, NC, W. Sunday: U.S. AMATEUR G/15 SWISS (open to U2200) 4-SS, T/L: G/15. EF: \$10 at site only. (\$200 b/20) \$50-45, U1900 \$40, U1600 \$35, U1300/Unr \$30. Reg. until 7pm. Rds 7:30 and ASAP thereafter (8:10-8:50-9:30). NS, NC, W. Information on both events: e-mail [allamericaschess@gmail.com](mailto:allamericaschess@gmail.com) or call (630) 834-2477.



# Boise chess festival

**Saturday, June 7, 2014**

**Library! Plaza Business Mall**

Corner of Cole Road and Ustick across from Walmart Neighborhood Market and Boise Public Library!  
3085 N. Cole Road, Boise, ID 83704 ~10am – 7pm

**Free Event for the Community**

18 Time Idaho State Chess Champion, Larry Parsons playing a 12 board Simul; Drawings, Speed Chess Exhibitions, Bughouse Exhibitions; Spar with Chess Champions; Blitz; Lightning G/1 Minute Tournaments; Fun for Everyone; Family Friendly; Instructional Sessions; Adult and Scholastic Chess Players welcome; Beginners welcome, even if you don't yet play...Game Analysis by Idaho Chess Champions; Giant Chess; Chess organizers on hand to provide event and program information for summer and fall 2014

[www.BoiseChessFestival.info](http://www.BoiseChessFestival.info)

e-mail: [Questions@BoiseChessFestival.info](mailto:Questions@BoiseChessFestival.info)

# Washington Chess News

## Championship

### Congratulations to Washington State chess champion Nat Koons!

The Championship has been registered and will be FIDE rated.

Titles: FM = FIDE Master, NM = National Master, LM = USCF Life Master.

Latest pre-tournament USCF ratings shown below.

Note: Michael Omori withdrew due to illness. His games do not count towards the totals.

	Name	Title	City (WA)	Rtg	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	Pos
1	Tian Sang	FM	Bellevue	2330	x	0.5	1	1	0.5	-	0	0.5	0.5	0	4.0	5th
2	<b>Nat Koons</b>	<b>NM</b>	<b>Kenmore</b>	<b>2273</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>1st</b>
3	Roland Feng	NM	Seattle	2244	0	0	x	0.5	1	-	0.5	1	0	0	3.0	
4	Michael Wang	NM	Kirkland	2219	0	0.5	0.5	x	0	-	1	0	0	0	2.0	
5	Daniel He	NM	Redmond	2266	0.5	0	0	1	x	1	0.5	0.5	1	1	4.5	2nd
6	Michael Omori		Seattle	2184	-	-	-	-	0	x	-	0	-	0		
7	David Golub	NM	Bellevue	2242	1	1	0.5	0	0.5	-	x	0.5	0.5	0.5	4.5	2nd
8	Josh Sinanan	NM	Brier	2254	0.5	0.5	0	1	0.5	1	0.5	x	1	0.5	4.5	2nd
9	Bryce Tiglon	NM	Redmond	2229	0.5	0	1	1	0	-	0.5	0	x	1	4.0	5th
10	Ignacio Perez	FM	Seattle	2246	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.5	0.5	0	x	4.0	5th

Average rating: 2244

Prize Fund: \$1,500. (1st \$675, 2nd-4th \$250 each, 5th-7th \$25 each)

Chief TD: Frederick K. Kleist

## Message from Washington State Champion, Nat Koons

"I am very happy to have won the championship this year, but also a little surprised because I felt somewhat rusty going into the tournament. I was generally pleased with how I played, despite a few blunders. I can't help but think back to my first state championship eighteen(!) years ago, having qualified as the junior champion. In that tournament I scored 1.5/9 and I remember working very hard and being very happy with those three draws! Well it's taken a while but I've advanced a step. This year the tournament was very well run and proceeded smoothly despite some bad weather. I would like to mention the classiest move that was made, when Michael Wang offered me a draw in a K&R vs. K&N ending where I had only 30 seconds left on my clock and where he could have tried to flag me for a long time. I like to think I would have offered him or

anyone else the same courtesy! PS I will be back next year to defend my title!"

## Games from players of WA Championship and Premier

Nat Koons (2273) –  
Ignacio Perez (2246) [A43]  
WA Championship Seattle  
(R3), February 9, 2014

[Nat Koons]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.f4 Nd7 5.Nf3  
c5 6.d5 a6 7.a4 Ngf6 8.a5?!

8.e5

8...0-0 9.Be2 b5 10.axb6 Nxb6 11.0-0  
Bb7 12.Ng5?!

I knew this was wrong when I played it!  
12.Nd2 e6 13.Nc4 exd5 14.Nxb6 Qxb6  
15.exd5=

12...h6 13.Nh3 e6 14.Bf3 exd5 15.exd5  
Qd7? 16.Nf2 Rfe8 17.g4 Qe7 18.h4 Nfd7  
19.g5 Bd4

19...f5! ♣ V20.Ng4

20.Kg2 Qf8 21.Ng4,, hgx5 22.hgx5 f5  
23.Nh6+ Kg7

The white knight is stranded, and if the position simplifies white may be effectively a piece down. But the black king is also in an interesting position: a white check on the a1-h8 diagonal will pose a problem.

24.Ne2! Be3 25.Qd3 Bxc1 26.Raxc1 Qe7  
27.Qc3+ Ne5

The most interesting position on my board in the entire tournament. I spend a long time on my next move, but I still managed to miss Ignacio's reply.

28.Rcd1!?

28.fxe5 Qxg5+ 29.Ng3 Nxd5∞; 28.Ng3!  
The Computer.

28...Na4!

Whoops! I'm not taking on e5 anymore, so do I have to resign?

29.Qb3 Nxf3 30.Ng3! ♣

Well, here is a resource! So the game goes on.

## Premier

**Congratulations to William Schill on winning the Premier!** *He is seeded into the Championship next year.*

*The Premier has been registered and will be FIDE rated.*

*Titles: FM = FIDE Master, NM = National Master, LM = USCF Life Master, WIM = Woman International Master.*

*Latest pre-tournament USCF ratings shown below.*

*Note: Shafri and Roper were withdrawn by the TD. Their games do not count towards the totals.*

	Name	Title	City (WA)	Rtg	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	Pos
1	Viktors Pupols	LM	Kingston	2209	x	0	0	0.5	0	1	-	1	0	0.5	2.5	
2	Satyajit Malugu		Bellevue	2128	1	x	1	0.5	0	0	-	0.5	1	1	4.0	3rd
3	Michael MacGregor	NM	Tacoma	2219	1	0	x	1	1	0.5	-	0	1	-	4.5	2nd
4	Kyle Haining		Lake Forest Park	2097	0.5	0.5	0	x	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0	-	2.0	
5	<b>William Schill</b>	<b>FM</b>	<b>Kirkland</b>	<b>2200</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>1st</b>
6	David Rupel		Olympia	2131	0	1	0.5	0.5	0	x	0.5	0	1	0.5	3.0	5th
7	Gil Lapid Shafri		Redmond	2188	-	-	-	0.5	0	0.5	x	-	-	OF		
8	Megan Lee	WIM	Bellevue	2114	0	0.5	1	1	0.5	1	-	x	0	-	4.0	3rd
9	David Bragg	FM	Bothell	2221	1	0	0	1	0	0	-	1	x	-	3.0	5th
10	David Roper	FM	Lynnwood	2222	0.5	0	-	-	-	0.5	OF	-	-	x		

Average rating: 2171.

Prize Fund: \$1,000. (1st \$450, 2nd \$250, 3rd-4th \$125 each, 5th-6th \$25 each)

Chief TD: Frederick K. Kleist

**Organizers:** Josh Sinanan (WCF President). Thank you for your service to chess in Washington State.

**30...Qd7 31.Qxf3 Kf8 32.c4**

32.b3

**32...Ke7?**

32...Qg7! ...33.Qb3? (33.Nhxf5 gxf5 34.Nxf5 Qg6 35.Qh3) 33...Qxb2+ 34.Qxb2 Nxb2 35.Rb1 Rab8!! Ignacio Peres 36.Rxb2 Bxd5+ 37.cxd5 Rxb2+-

**33.b3 Nb6 34.Qc3 Kd8 35.Qf6+ Kc7 36.Qxg6 a5 37.Nhxf5 a4 38.Ng7 axb3 39.Nxe8+ Rxe8 40.Rfe1 Rf8 41.Rh1!**

Luring the black rook to f7 so that g6 comes with tempo.

**41...Rf7 42.Qd3 Qg4**

42...Rxf4 43.Rh7 Rf7 44.g6+-

**43.Qxb3!**

The knight on g3 defends the king by itself.

**43...Re7 44.Rb1 Kb8 45.Rbe1 Nc8 46.Rxe7 Nxe7 47.Rb1 1-0**

**Nat Koons (2273) – Daniel He (2266) [A42]**  
WA Championship Seattle (R6), Februar 15, 2014

[Nat Koons]

**1.Nf3 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.d4 d6 4.e4 c6 5.Nc3 Bg4 6.Be3 Qb6 7.Qd2 Bxf3 8.gxf3 Qc7 9.f4 Nf6 10.Be2 Qd7?**

A harmful move, taking away a useful square for the black knights. The position is now too cramped.

**11.Rg1 d5 12.e5 Ng8 13.f5 Kf8?+-**

After this move Black is unable to develop at all, so the position is already winning for White.

**14.0-0-0+- Na6 15.h4 dxc4 16.h5 gxh5 17.Rxg7→**

One path to victory.

**17...Kxg7 18.e6 Qc8 19.Bh6+ Nxb6 20.Qg5+ Kf8 21.Qxh6+ Ke8 22.Qg7 fxe6 23.Qxh8+ Kd7 24.fxe6+ Kxe6 25.Qe5+ Kd7 26.Bxh5 Qf8 27.Bg4+ Kd8 28.d5 Nc5 29.dxc6+ Nd3+ 30.Rxd3+ cxd3 31.Qa5+ b6 32.Qd5+ Ke8 33.Bd7+ Kd8 34.Be6+ 1-0**

**Joshua Sinanan (2254) – Nat Koons (2273) [D46]**  
WA Championship Seattle (R9), February 17, 2014  
[Nat Koons]

The decisive game! I needed only a draw to become the champion...

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 dxc4 9.Bxc4 a6 10.Rd1 b5 11.Be2 Qc7 12.e4 e5 13.g3 Bb7?**

Apparently this very natural move is simply inaccurate! Re8 is the theoretical move, and indeed that would have been very useful move against the plan White chose in the game.

**14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nd4!**

A strong move. f5 will be a great square for the knight, and Black must also watch out for f4+ e5.

**15...b4?!**

This does not solve the problem!

**16.Nf5! Rfd8 17.Nxd6 Rxd6 18.Rxd6 Qxd6 19.Na4 c5**

If Black allows Nc5 he will be squashed like a bug, so I had planned this move beforehand to simplify down to a boring drawn position...

**20.Qxc5 Nxe4 21.Qxd6 Nxd6 22.Bf4! f6 23.Bxe5! fxe5 24.Nc5± Bd5!?**

I really did not want to play the passive Bc8, so I tried to make this “crazy” move work. Crazy because it appears White wins a piece with Rd1, but then comes Bc4, and if Bf3 then e4! Everywhere White is better and often a pawn up, but at least the Black pieces are working! 24...Bc8 25.Rd1 Nf7 26.Bc4 Kf8 27.Bxf7 Kxf7 28.Rd8 a5 29.f3 Ke7 30.Rh8 Bb7 31.Rxh7 Bxf3 32.Rxg7+ Kf6±

**25.b3?**

Josh choose this safe preparatory move, but now Black reaches equality.

**25...Nb5 26.Bxb5 axb5 27.Nd3 Bxb3 28.Nxb4 Ra3 29.Re1 Bc4 30.Re3 Rxe3 31.fxe3 Kf7 32.e4 Ke6 33.Kf2 Kd6 34.Ke3 Kc5 35.a3 Bf1 36.Kf2 Bh3 37.Ke3 Bf1 38.Kf2 Bh3 39.Ke3 Bf1 40.Kf2 ½-½**

**Daniel He (2266) – Ignacio Perez (2246) [A25]**  
WA Championship Seattle  
(R9), February 17, 2014

*[Daniel He]*

I played Ignacio Perez in the last round of the WA championship. I didn't find any of his games against the English, but I looked at some of Ignacio's games against e4 and d4. I found that he always plays d6 and g6, the Pirc opening. I expected him to play the King's Indian against the English.

**1.c4 g6 2.g3 Bg7 3.Bg2 e5 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.d3 d6 6.Rb1 h5?**

This move didn't seem to be accurate, as it weakened the g5 square. However it did give Black the chance to play aggressively in the future on the kingside, with h4, true to Ignacio's style.

**7.h3 Nge7 8.b4 a6 9.a4 0-0 10.Bg5 f6 11.Bd2**

This plan wasn't the best, as my bishop got stuck a few moves later. Better was Nf3.

**11...Nd4 12.e3 Ne6 13.a5 f5 14.Nd5**

The point of playing a5 was that, whenever Black played c6, my knight can find home at b6.

**14...f4 15.exf4 Nxd5 16.cxd5 Nd4 17.Nf3 exf4 18.Nxd4 Bxd4 19.Bxf4 Qe7+ 20.Qe2 Bc3+ 21.Kf1**

I cannot play Bd2 because of Qxe2+ Kxe2 Bxd2 Kxd2 Rxf2+, winning for Black.

**21...Qf6 22.Be4 Bd7 23.Kg2 Rae8 24.Bd2 Rxe4!?**

I was not expecting this move at all! I had planned Black to move the c3 bishop back and I can bring a rook to the c-file. I was forced to take the rook, and Black got a good attack. Not sure if it was enough compensation.

**25.dxe4 Bb5 26.Bxc3 Qxc3 27.Qe1 Qf3+ 28.Kg1 Bd3 29.Rb3**

At this point, I was threatening Qd2, so Black had to play Qxe4, trading the queens.

**29...Qxe4 30.Qxe4 Bxe4 31.Rh2 Bf3!**

Instead of taking the pawn, Black traps my rook, and it's hard for my rook to escape. In the post-game analysis, some strong players suggested that Black was better at this point.

**32.h4 Rf5 33.Rc3 Kf8 34.Kf1 Ke8 35.Ke1 Kd7 36.Rd3 Kc8 37.Kd2 Bxd5 38.f4 Be4 39.Re3 Rd5+!?**

I was expecting d5, where the position was about equal. This move gave winning chances to both sides.

**40.Kc3 Bf5 41.Rd2 Rb5 42.Re7 b6 43.axb6 Rxb6 44.Rd4**

My rooks were getting active, while Black's rook was passively defending.

**44...Kd8 45.Rg7 Kc8 46.Rc4 c6 47.Rd4 d5 48.Rd2 Kb8 49.Re2 Be4 50.Rxe4!**

I calculated that I would win this endgame. My passed f-pawn is too strong.

**50...dxe4 51.Rxg6 Rb7 52.Rg8+**

This forces Ka7, which brings the king farther away from my passed pawn. If Kc7, then trading the rooks leaves me with a winning endgame.

**52...Ka7 53.f5 Rb5 54.Rg5 Rd5 55.f6 Rd3+ 56.Kc4 Rf3**

To win the game, White must get his rook behind the passed pawn and advance the king forward.

**57.Rg6 Kb6 58.Kd4 e3 59.Kd3 c5 60.Ke2 Rf5 61.bxc5+ Kb5 62.Kxe3 a5 63.Ke4 Rf1 64.Ke5 Re1+ 65.Kd6 Rd1+ 66.Ke7 Re1+ 67.Kf8 a4 68.f7 a3 69.Rb6+ Kxc5 70.Ra6 Re3 71.Kg7 Rxd3+ 72.Rg6! 1-0**

**Satyajit Malugu (2128) – David Bragg (2212) [C02]**

WA Premier Seattle  
(R1), February 8, 2014

*[Satyajit Malugu]*

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Ne7**

As far as I know this is the first time I faced this move. I spent about 20 minutes thinking of alternatives and strategies.

**5.Nf3 Nec6**

I was a bit relieved after this move, I only feared Nf5 and pressure on d4. I didn't like the positions that occur after g4.

**6.Bd3 b6**

Now I know Blacks ideas. He wants to exchange d3-bishop for his weak c8-bishop and basically play a strategic game.

**7.Ng5?!**

Dubious I know but I was hoping my opponent would not be able to play right. He needs to play accurately and actively to refute this. Blacks king knight migrated for errands on the queen side, I just couldn't resist challenging Blacks's king side.

**7...Ba6**

Black might have missed some variations, I am not sure if there compensation for this pawn.

**8.Bxh7 cxd4 9.cxd4 Bb4+?! 10.Nc3 Qc7 11.Bd3**

White has advantage.

**11...Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Bxd3 13.Qxd3 Na5**

Black wants to pin down the queen side. But White has other ideas.

**14.0-0 Nc4 15.f4 g6 16.f5!**

Though not required, this leads to an affective exploitation of Black's king side.

**16...gxf5 17.g4 f6!?**

I didn't see this move but luckily I was turning out better.

**18.Nxe6 Qh7 19.Bf4 fxd4?**

Black should try something more. This just

leads to a lost position.

**20.Qxh7 Rxh7 21.exf6 Na6 22.Rae1 Kd7 23.Ng5 Rh5 24.Re7+ Kc6 25.f7**

Black resigned. There is nothing he can do. White will simply advance f7 to gain material.

**1-0**

## Dave Collyer Memorial 2014

By Kevin Korsmo

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Dave Collyer Memorial tournament was played in Spokane the weekend of February 22-23. There were strong showings by old familiar faces and by some of the newcomers to the event.

The familiar faces were at the top of the final standings where three players bested the field of 50 with scores of 4.5. Top seed John Donaldson, expert Paul Bartron, and Moscow (ID) stalwart Mark Havrilla shared this year's title after a lengthy and exciting fifth round. The final round played late as a strong and evenly matched field resulted in close matches throughout the score groups. On the top boards, three players stood undefeated after the fourth round — Bartron, Donaldson, and expert Cameron Leslie. Havrilla was the only 3.5 score, the sole blemish being the third round bye he took on Saturday night. The standings thus required all of the top four to win their games in order to claim first prize. The final round featured Donaldson and Bartron on board 1, while Leslie took on his fellow Moscow resident on board two. Turning down a draw offer, Leslie aggressively played for the win, only to have an advanced rook cut off and the position turn against him. Meanwhile Bartron and Donaldson played a sharp game in which the master had a rook and pawn for two pieces. Havrilla downed Leslie while board one progressed into a rook and two separated pawns versus the two pieces endgame. Bartron eventually collected the pawns while losing his bishop. Donaldson attempted to convert his rook against the knight, but eventually agreed to a draw as Bartron succeeded in keeping his knight from getting trapped.

The three champions shared the first three prizes. There were numerous other prize winners. Leslie and Tim Moroney shared the Expert prize with 4.0 scores. Nikolay Bulakh took first in class A with another 4.0 score. Second in class A, with scores of 3.5, were Jeremy Krasin, Mika Mitchell, Dave Rowles, and James Stripes. Four players with 3.0 scores split the two class B prizes: Ralph Anthony of Mukilteo, Brad Bodie, Jerry Morton, and Jeremy Younker, the son of tourney founder Gary Younker. The two class C prizes were split three ways by Jacob Beverly of Oregon, George



John Donaldson Simul.  
Photo credit: James Stripes

Lombardi, a recent transplant to north Idaho from Alaska, and Ashley Napier of Missoula (MT) by way of Scotland. Each scored 2.5. The class D prizes were shared by Jeff Jaroski, recently returned to Idaho after moving to Wisconsin and then Montana, and Frank Miller of Montana. They scored 2.0. Jeff was handicapped by a fourth round forfeit after a blown tire on the freeway put him in the ditch awaiting a tow truck on Sunday morning.

Younger newcomers were the story in the class E/under section. Andrew Wolf was the surprise of the tourney. Rated 953 while playing in USCF events through junior high, he disappeared from tournament play for 10 years to return extremely underrated. He defeated two 1780 players in the first two rounds before finally falling to Leslie in round three. His score of 3.0 won the section by a full point and was the only plus score by anyone in the lower half of the tourney. He also claimed both of the biggest upset prizes. Second place in the section went to nine-year-old Alden Ortolano of Richland who beat a class C and a class B player to earn his points. His game showed remarkable maturity for his age, and his second win resulted from



John Donaldson Simul. - seventh grader Alex Herron (left) and fourth grader Alex Popescu.  
Photo credit: James Stripes



John Donaldson Simul. at Jim Waugh's board. Photo credit: James Stripes

outplaying the B player in an even king and pawn endgame. We can expect big things from Alden over the years.

The weekend kicked off with three popular events on Friday evening. John Donaldson gave his always well-attended lecture and then took on 20 players in a simul, defeating 17 while drawing 1 and losing 2. Earlier that afternoon, 14 players from as far away as Great Falls, turned out for the inaugural Collyer weekend blitz event. Havrilla won the event with a perfect 6.0 score on his way to a perfect weekend with 10 wins. Organizers hope to include the blitz tourney as a part of future Collyer tourneys.

The tournament was played under the cloud of the unexpected death of Bill McBroom of Missoula the previous Saturday. Regional chess suffered a huge loss. Bill, a retired professor of sociology at the University of Montana, was instrumental in building the chess relationship between Spokane and Missoula. He was a regular at the Collyer Memorial since the second Collyer in 1994. He helped organize and direct the popular Turkey Open in Missoula and many more events in that region. More critically to all who knew and benefited from his commitment to chess, Bill was the epitome of the gentleman sportsman. He handled disruptions, including the occasional flare-up between players or problems with a playing location, with his typical mild-mannered demeanor that reflected his keen intelligence and uncommon good sense. Whether they knew it or not, everyone who played in this region the past 25-30 years benefited from Bill's leadership in the chess community. Bill was one of the original supporters of the Gary Younker Foundation and could always be counted on to donate any prize winnings to the Foundation. His funeral in Missoula on February 20 was

well attended. Several tournament regulars stayed home the weekend of the tourney to visit with Bill's family. His friends at the tournament shared fun memories and a few went out for a Saturday evening drink in his honor.

The tournament was again sponsored by the Spokane Chess Club and the Gary Younker Foundation.

## Game annotated by John Donaldson

John Donaldson (2413) –  
Nikolay Bulakh (1964) [A35]  
22nd David Collyer Memorial Spokane  
(R3), February 22, 2014

[John Donaldson]

My opponent is one of several young underrated players from the Spokane area that should become masters in the next few years if they play in stronger events outside the area.

**1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nf6**

2...Nc6 3.Nc3 g6 4.e3 Nf6 5.d4 cxd4 6.exd4 d5

**3.Nc3 Nc6 4.e3 g6 5.d4 cxd4 6.exd4 d5 7.cxd5**

This is the only real try for advantage. Instead 7.Be2 Bg7 8.0-0-0 is a Tarrasch Defense with colors reversed. White has tried 9.Re1 and 9.h3 here but neither promises much hope for an edge. More dynamic is 9.Bf4 meeting 9...dxc4 in gambit fashion with 10.d5 Na5 11.Be5 and Qd4 to follow. Black isn't obliged to capture on c4.

**7...Nxd5 8.Qb3**

8.Bc4 Nxc3 9.Qb3 transposes but gives Black the extra option of 8...Nb6.

8...Nxc3



Forced as 8...Nb6 is strongly met by 9.d5 Nb8 10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.0-0 Bg7 12.d6!

**9.Bc4**

This is an important zwischenzug. The routine 9.bxc3 would allow 9...Bg7 meeting 10.Bc4 with 10...0-0

**9...Nd5**

The alternative is 9...e6 which after 10.bxc3 Bg7 11.Ba3 Bf8 12.Bxf8 Kxf8 13.0-0 Kg7 leads to a critical position. Black is now threatening ...Na5 so White normally plays A recent refinement, played by Aronian, is 14.Qb5 when (14.Qb2 intending Be2, Rfd1, Rac1, c4 and eventually d5.) 14...a6 (14...Qc7 preparing to develop his bishop which was prevented by White's last move. 15.Be2 b6 (15...Rd8 is safer) 16.c4 Bb7 17.Rac1 Rhd8 18.d5! Na5 19.Qb2+ Kg8 20.Ne5 with the threat of Ng4 leaves White with a strong initiative.) 15.Qb2 favors White. More testing is

**10.Bxd5 e6 11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.0-0 Qd5**

On 12...Bg7 White has two strong choices: 13.Bf4 (13.Qa3 Qe7 14.b3) 13...0-0 14.Qe3

**13.Qc3**

White prefers to avoid the queenless middlegame that arises after 13.Be3 or; 13.Bg5

**13...Bg7 14.Bf4 0-0 15.Qe3**



15.Rfc1 is more commonly seen here but the text appears to be more precise. White refrains from committing his rooks and prepares to play Be5 or Bh6. The trade of bishops would setup a very promising good knight/bad bishop situation for White.

**15...c5?**

15...Qb5 16.b3 c5 17.dxc5 gives White good compensation for the exchange. 15...Rd8 looks like the most solid approach. The text is just a little too ambitious.

16.dxc5 Bxb2 17.Rab1 Bg7 18.Rfd1 Qxa2



**19.Be5**

White aims to exchange off Black's most active piece and weaken him on the dark-squares. The alternative 19.Bh6 ensures the trade of dark-squared bishops but after 19...Bxh6 20.Qxh6 f6 White's queen is out of play.

**19...f6**

Forced as 19...Ba6 20.Bxg7 Kxg7 21.Ra1 Qe2 22.Qa3 Bc4 (22...Bc8 23.c6) 23.Rd2 Qe4 24.Qc3+ Kg8 25.Rd4 wins a piece.

**20.Bd6**



**20...Re8**

20...Rf7?? 21.Qe4; 20...Rd8 21.Nd4 Bd7 22.Ra1 Qc4 23.c6 e5 (23...Bc8 24.Rac1 Qa2 25.Nb5) 24.cxd7 exd4 25.Qf3 Qb5 26.Bc7 wins the exchange.

**21.Nd4 Ba6 22.Nc6 e5**

22...f5 23.Re1 Bf6 24.Nb8 with Qf3 a very difficult threat to meet.

**23.Nb4?!**

23.Ne7+! Kh8 24.Nd5 was more precise.

**23...Qe2 24.Nd5**



**24...Qxe3**

24...Red8 25.Qh3 Bc8 26.Ne7+ Kf7 27.Nxc8 Rxc8 28.Qb3+ mates.

**25.fxe3 Bc4**

Black's last chance to resist was 25...Be2 though after 26.Rd2 Bg4 27.Rb7 White has a large advantage.(27.Nc7 Rab8)

26.Nc7 a5 27.c6 Be6 28.Nxa8 Rxa8 29.c7 Re8 30.Rb8 Kf7 31.Bc5 1-0

## Washington High School 2014 State Team Championship Report

By Patrick Van Dyke

"19.5 points," mused Lakeside Coach Siva Sankrithi. "19.5 points will win State."

A total of 179 players from 24 different high schools converged on Issaquah High School on Friday, February 28 and Saturday, March 1 to decide the best high school team in the state of Washington. Sankrithi would continue to predict that five-time defending state champion Lakeside would be the team to reach this total. Lakeside, from the Metro League, as well as Newport and Interlake from the KingCo League, outrated the field by approximately 300 points, and seemed to be the three most likely teams to take the title.

The tournament was ably directed by TD and outgoing WHSCA president Dave Ellinger and assisted by WHSCA Treasurer Randy Walther. While the tournament started late, this was to allow for the late-arriving teams who had qualified to register, and the thirty-two minute clock deduction in the G/60 opening round should prove ample deterrent against teams running late next year.

Friday featured two rounds, and the second round featured the more traditional G/90 format. One oddity in the second round had to do with a long-standing policy regarding league teams playing each other: teams from the same league were traditionally not allowed to play in the first two rounds. With eight of the thirteen first round winners being KingCo teams, this meant that second round pairings featured three KingCo teams that won in the first round playing a team that lost in the first round. At the coaches meeting during this round, this tradition was modified to only league protect teams that did not win in Round 1.

In other decisions from the coaches meeting, WHSCA President Dave Ellinger has asked to step down from his role. Lakeside coach Siva Sankrithi was unanimously selected to take over his responsibilities. Coaches also agreed to remove the tradition for league champions to temporarily take on the top seeds of the tournament for the first round.

By the time Saturday morning rolled around, favorites were starting to separate





Newport Team, (l to r) Steven Han, Ethan Bashkansky, John Leece, Megan Lee, Michael Quan  
Photo Credit: Guy Bashkansky

from the rest of the pack. The third round featured Newport comfortably winning against Northwest League champion Ferndale, while the frequent Interlake A – Lakeside match from the last several years once again occurred, with the teams fighting to a 2.5 – 2.5 draw.

After three rounds, Newport sat at 13 points, with Mercer Island at 11.5, Lakeside and Bellevue at 11, and Interlake A and Ferndale A at 10.5. All the other teams in the field had 9 points or less. Newport rather convincingly beat Mercer Island, 4.5 – 0.5 and Lakeside swept Bellevue, 5-0. When Interlake A could only muster a 3-2 victory over Ferndale's A team, it eliminated any chance Interlake had of being able to win the championship.

The championship match was set. Newport had 17.5 points, and Lakeside had 16, and the first team to 19.5 points would win the championship, just as had been predicted. For Newport, the feeling had to be somewhat reminiscent of the KingCo Championship, where they led Interlake by 1.5 points going into their head-to-head match, only to lose the match by a 3.5 – 1.5 margin and the title by a mere ½ point. For Lakeside to repeat, they needed this same margin of victory or better.

For a while, it looked like they just might get it. Lakeside got a Board 1 upset by Masayuki Nagase over WIM Megan Lee, a Board 4 victory by Justin Yu over John Leece, and a Board 5 victory by Thomas Thongmee over Steven Han, while Newport's Ethan Bashkansky won on Board 2 over Nicolo Gelb. Lakeside had taken the narrowest of leads, a half-point margin, with just the Round 3 game between Newport's Michael Quan and Lakeside's Quentin Chi remaining. Both players were undefeated at the tournament going into the game, and Quan had the extra pawn in a R+3P vs. R+2P ending... with the pawns on opposite sides of the board! Chi's exchange of rooks in a difficult position in mutual time pressure appeared to completely seal his fate, and a hard-earned victory by Quan earned Newport its first state title in chess, and possession of the coveted LaFreniere Cup.

In the last round, Interlake A won 3-2 over league rival Eastlake to finish with 16.5 points and clinch third place. Issaquah overwhelmed Mariner to slide into 4<sup>th</sup> place with 16 points, while Mercer Island, Eastlake, and Overlake all finished with 15.5 and took 5<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup>. Ferndale finished with 14 points and took 8<sup>th</sup>, while Garfield finished with 13.5 points and

took 9<sup>th</sup>. Bellevue, Sehome, and Mariner finished with 12.5 points, with Bellevue taking the 10<sup>th</sup> place trophy on tiebreaks. Interlake B and Ferndale B both deserve special recognition as teams that finished with more than 12.5 points, but did not win trophies (as state regulations limit trophies to one per school).

Board medals were available for notable scores of 4.5 points or more. The only perfect scorer among the State Team participants was Ethan Bashkansky (Newport, Board 2). With 4.5 points, were six players: Mayhul Arora (Interlake A, Board 4); Wesley Esko (Issaquah, Board 2); Dalton He (Mercer Island, Board 3); Nathan Lee (Issaquah, Board 1); Michael Quan (Newport, Board 3); Justin Yu (Lakeside, Board 4). Of note is that He and Quan drew against each other in Round 4, while Yu and Arora drew in Round 3.

The All-Comers event was split into divisions. In the over 800 division, it was Eastside Catholic's Dino Deraad, who swept aside the competition with a perfect score. Kyler Elmer of Stanwood (which qualified for state out of the Wesco League, but only had four players) took second with 3.5 points. Interlake's Devansh Dwivedy, Overlake's Christopher Chin, Overlake's Drew Chouinard, and Stanwood's Desert Stone each finished with 3 points, with Dwivedy and Chin taking the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place trophies, respectively.

In the Under 800 division, Marcel Colvin of Overlake finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place with 4.5 points. Prachatorn Joemjumroon of Mariner had 4 points and took 2<sup>nd</sup> on tiebreaks over Sehome's Lance Moore. With 3.5 points, La Center's Kyle Degraaf took the 4<sup>th</sup> place trophy, Jared Alfieri took 5<sup>th</sup>, and Ritchey Paxton took 6<sup>th</sup>.

It was great to see Othello High School traverse across the mountains to join us at State, as well as ten brand new players from La Center High School playing in their first rated matches!

Next year's tournament is scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, back at Issaquah High School. If other high schools are interested in hosting, WHSCA is always looking for bids both to host State Team as well as Mini Teams!



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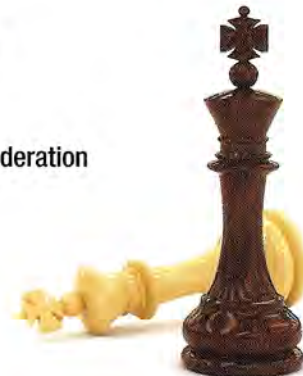


## Joshua C. Sinanan

National Master  
President, Washington Chess Federation

3610 218th St. SW  
Brier, WA 98036

Cell: (206) 769-3757  
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# HARMON MEMORIAL

May 2-4 or 3-4, 2014

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

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

5 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** 30/90, SD/1, d5; 2-Day Option, Rd. 1, G/60, d5

Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating. Higher of USCF or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

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

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

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

**Entry Fee:** \$50 if postmarked or online by 04/30, \$60 after 04/30 or at site.

Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

**Registration:** Friday 7:00 - 7:45 PM; 2-Day Schedule: Saturday 9:00 - 9:45 AM.

**Rounds:** Friday 8:00 PM, Saturday 12:30 PM, 6:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 4:30 PM.

2-Day Schedule: Saturday 10:00 AM, then merges with 3-Day Schedule.

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

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

Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. Chess Magnet School JGP. NS. NC. W.

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

**Mail To:** Dan Mathews, 749 Somerset Lane, Edmonds, WA 98020-2646.

**Phone:** (425) 218-7529. **E-mail:** danomathews01@gmail.com.

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



# Washington Open Chess Tournament

## May 24-26, 2014

Revised 3/23/2014

### Washington Chess Federation

#### WA Open Sections/Entry Fees

(by April 26 / May 17 / on site)

#### OPEN

EF \$100 / \$110 / \$125

#### PREMIER (U2000)

EF \$90 / \$100 / \$115

#### RESERVE (U1700)

EF \$80 / \$90 / \$105

#### BOOSTER (U1400)

EF \$70 / \$80 / \$95

Reentry ½ original entry fee.

Free entry to GMs, IMs, WGMs.

\$45 entry option for juniors under age 21

playing for medal only. Three medals

awarded per section. Canadian dollars

accepted at par (no coins) for entry fee

only.

#### \$7,000 Prizes based on 170 entries

(medal only counts as ½ an entry)

Open	Premier	Reserve	Booster
\$700	\$300	\$250	\$200
\$550	\$250	\$200	\$150
\$350	\$225	\$175	\$125
\$250	\$200	\$150	\$100
\$200	\$150	\$100	\$75
U2150	U1850	U1550	U1100
\$350	\$200	\$150	\$120
\$250	\$150	\$125	\$ 80
\$150	\$125	\$100	\$120(*)
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$ 80 (*)

(\*) Prizes for unrated players.

All prizes will be mailed starting

6/1/2014.

#### Entries/Information:

Dan Mathews

WCF Tournament Coordinator

749 Somerset Lane

Edmonds, WA 98020-2646

Cell Phone (425) 218-7529

[danomathews01@gmail.com](mailto:danomathews01@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to Washington  
Chess Federation (WCF).

Online registration available at

[www.nwchess.com](http://www.nwchess.com).

### North Seattle Community College

9600 College Way North

Seattle, WA 98103

**Format:** Four sections as shown at left, six-round Swiss system. Late registrations may receive half-point byes for first round.

**Ratings:** USCF rated. Open Section also FIDE rated (except G/60 games if applicable). *USCF May 2014 rating supplement will be used to determine section eligibility.* Higher of USCF or FIDE/foreign rating used at TD discretion. Unrated players may only win the top five prizes in the Open Section, or the unrated prizes in the Booster Section.

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

**Time Controls:** 3-day schedule: 40/120 and SD/60 with 5-second delay. 2-day schedule: G/60 with 5-second delay (rounds 1-3), rounds 4-6 same as 3-day schedule. Please bring tournament chess set, board and digital clock.

**Rounds:** 3-day schedule: Saturday: 10:30 AM and 5:30 PM, Sunday 10:30 AM and 5:30 PM, Monday 9:00 AM and 3:45 PM. 2-day schedule: Sunday 9:00 AM, 11:45 AM and 2:30 PM, then join 3-day schedule with round 4. WCF annual meeting and elections: 4:00-5:00 PM Sunday, May 25, 2014.

**Memberships:** Current USCF membership and state membership required in all sections. Other States Accepted. Memberships may be paid at time of registration.

**Miscellaneous:** Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 20. Chess Magnet School JGP. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible. Please bring set, board and clock.

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

#### Side Events:

Please see separate flyer (to appear online and in the May magazine) for details on the following Washington Open Side Events:

- May 24 WA Open Scholastic and Bughouse
- May 25 WA Open Blitz Championship (tentative date—see website for updates)
- May 26 WA Open Game/30 Championship (details to be announced)

# 2014 Elena Donaldson Akhmylovskaja Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

by Murlin Varner, untitled master of points

Already, 2014 is a third of the way over with. Not that the points below show that, deadlines being what they are. The standings below are through March 9th, with six more events (two with multipliers) in the books by the time this article reaches you. While March had a total of nine GP events, April is a rather slow month, as we only have five events to look forward to, none of which have multipliers. They include quads and a tornado at the Seattle Chess Club, the monthly G/60 at the Portland Chess Club, the annual Taxing Quads put on by the Spokane Chess Club, and the long-running Daffodil Open at the Tacoma Chess Club. So, while you can't get buckets of points this month, you do still have some opportunities.

The Grand Prix has been billed for years as a memorial event, named now for the second year in honor of Elena Donaldson Akhmylovskaja. Not every chess player can be honored this way, but it is still appropriate to remember other chess players at their passing. This month while updating the ratings file it came to my attention that William McBroom of Montana passed away fairly recently. I do not have any of the details, but many of you, especially among the Spokane players, knew William from his frequent visits to tournaments there. His most recent visit was to the Collyer Memorial Open in 2013. He was quite active in Montana chess and played in a rated event as recently as February of this year. The USCF lists 441 rated events that William played in since 1991, dozens of which were in Spokane.

See you next month. Get out and play. Often if possible.

## Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
			<b>Masters</b>								
			1	Raptis	Nick	30.5	1	Feng	Roland	23.5	
			2	Haessler	Carl A	10	2	Pupols	Viktors	23	
			3	Gay	Daniel Z	5	3	Lessler	Peter	11	
						4	Bragg	David R	10		
						5	Schill	William J	5		
<b>M/X/Class A</b>			<b>Experts</b>								
1	Havrilla	Mark A	18.5	1	Bjorksten	Lennart	17	1	Bartron	Paul R	31.5
2	Leslie	Cameron D	18	2	Parnon	Calvin J	14	2	Smith	Micah	26.5
3	Kircher	Caleb P	7	3	Grabinsky	Aaron	13	3	Moroney	Timothy M	18
4	Parsons	Larry R	6.5	4	Heywood	Bill	5	4	Erickson	Mark J	16.5
5	Gorman	Cody A	5.5				5	He	Samuel F	15.5	
<b>Class B</b>			<b>Class A</b>								
1	Bodie	Brad	20.5	1	Gaikwad	Dagadu B	19	1	Brusniak	Benjamin	26
2	Carr	John B	6	2	Murray	David E	14	2	Olson	Travis J	24
2	Roland	Jeffrey T	6	3	Trattner	Andrew L	14	3	Bulakh	Nikolay I	23.5
4	Bartell	Fred	5.5	4	Three tied at		11	4	He	Anthony B	23
5	three tied at		5					5	Cambareri	Michael E	22
<b>Class C</b>			<b>Class B</b>								
1	Weyland	Ronald M	15	1	Doddapaneni	Venkat S	18.5	1	Anthony	Ralph J	41.5
2	Lombardi	George	13.5	2	Eagles	Roland	14	2	Thomas	Arjun	27
3	Imamovic	Nedzad	5.5	2	Shimada	Masakazu	14	3	Raffel	Brian	21
4	Lang	Jamie	3	4	Blevins	Jimmie	12.5	4	Yeo	Noah	20
			5	Grabinsky	Joshua	11	5	Quang	Man T	18.5	

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
<b>Class D</b>						<b>Class C</b>					
1	Handeen	Bjorn J	10.5	1	Hasuike	Mike L	29.5	1	Piper	August	31
2	Knoll	Lucas	5.5	2	Berger	Brian F	19.5	2	Zhang	Eric M	19
3	Mabry	William B	5	3	Harry	Ken	14.5	3	Frostad	John C	13.5
3	Porth	Adam	5	4	Beverly	Jacob P	13.5	4	Grassy, IV	Brock	13
3	Porth	Desmond	5	5	Botez	Andrea C C	13	4	Ruan	Evan	13
<b>Class E and Below</b>						<b>Class D and Below</b>					
1	Hiatt	Arlene	14.5	1	Buerer	Harry F	12	1	Richards	Jerrold	17.5
2	Wetmur	Harold R	10.5	2	Sharan	Praveer	8	2	Probst	Aaron	17
3	Murphy	Andre R	4.5	3	Four Tied at		7	3	Guo	Raymond	15
4	Simonson	Jay L	4					3	Popescu	Alexander M	15
5	Porth	Dylan	3.5					3	Wolf	Andrew M	15
<b>Overall Leaders, by State</b>											
1	Bodie	Brad	20.5	1	Raptis	Nick	30.5	1	Anthony	Ralph J	41.5
2	Havrilla	Mark A	18.5	2	Hasuike	Mike L	29.5	2	Bartron	Paul R	31.5
3	Leslie	Cameron D	18	3	Berger	Brian F	19.5	3	Piper	August	31
4	Weyland	Ronald M	15	4	Gaikwad	Dagadu B	19	4	Thomas	Arjun	27
5	Hiatt	Arlene	14.5	5	Doddapaneni	Venkat S	18.5	5	Smith	Micah	26.5
6	Lombardi	George	13.5	6	Bjorksten	Lennart	17	6	Brusniak	Benjamin	26
7	Handeen	Bjorn J	10.5	7	Harry	Ken	14.5	7	Olson	Travis J	24
7	Wetmur	Harold R	10.5	8	Eagles	Roland	14	8	Bulakh	Nikolay I	23.5
9	Kircher	Caleb P	7	8	Murray	David E	14	8	Feng	Roland	23.5
10	Parsons	Larry R	6.5	8	Parnon	Calvin J	14	10	He	Anthony B	23
11	Carr	John B	6	8	Shimada	Masakazu	14	10	Pupols	Viktors	23
11	Roland	Jeffrey T	6	8	Trattner	Andrew L	14	12	Cambareri	Michael E	22

## Most Active GP Players

Last	First	State	Rtg	events
Piper	August	WA	1500	7
Anthony	Ralph J	WA	1700	6
Hasuike	Mike L	OR	1500	5
Pupols	Viktors	WA	2209	5
Raffel	Brian	WA	1614	5
Thomas	Arjun	WA	1687	5
Berger	Brian F	OR	1518	4
Brusniak	Benjamin	WA	1804	4
Doddapaneni	Venkat S	OR	1704	4
He	Anthony B	WA	1918	4
Olson	Travis J	WA	1840	4
Quang	Man T	WA	1746	4
Raptis	Nick	OR	2375	4
Richards	Jerrold	WA	1243	4

Last	First	State	Rtg	events
Smith	Micah	WA	2058	4
Zhang	Eric M	WA	1574	4
Buerer	Harry F	OR	1318	3
Chowdhury	Neil	WA	1603	3
Feng	Roland	WA	2273	3
Gaikwad	Dagadu B	OR	1804	3
Gulamali	Freya	WA	1388	3
Harlin	Jeremy C	WA	1391	3
Harlin	Jerid J	WA	642	3
Harry	Ken	OR	1422	3
Nagase	Toshihiro	WA	2012	3
Probst	Aaron	WA	1390	3
Wade	James M	WA	1275	3
Yeo	Noah	WA	1672	3

# Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

→ Address ←  
 → 2150 N 107 St, B85 ←  
 Seattle WA 98133  
 ↗ Infoline ↖  
 206-417-5405  
 www.seattlechess.org  
 kleistcf@aol.com  
Address for Entries  
 SCC Tnmt Dir  
 2420 S 137 St  
 Seattle WA 98168

## SCC Elections, Fri. 5/2

### WANTED

Chessophiles, willing to work long hours in obscurity, without remuneration, for a constituency whose typical comment is "Wanna play Blitz or Bug?"

{This is, in other words, a solicitation to stand for election on Friday, May 2, to the Board of Directors of the SCC.}

Interested chessophiles should contact the secretary, Carol Kleist (kleistcf@aol.com, 206-242-7076, or 206-417-5405).

## April 12

Seattle Scrabble Club  
See www.seattlescrabble.org for details.

## Apr 13, May 4

**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.

## Sunday Tornado

## April 18-20

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

## SCC Team in Reno!

## Apr. 26, May 17

**Format:** 3-RR, 4-ply 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.

## Saturday Quads

## April 27

**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.

## SCC Novice

## 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.

## SCC Adult Swiss

April 5-6, 2013

A four-round Swiss open to those born before 4/7/1993 with a prize fund of \$375 based on twenty paid entrants (five per prize group).

<b>First</b>	<b>\$105</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>\$60</b>
<b>U2000</b>	<b>\$55</b>
<b>U1800</b>	<b>\$55</b>
<b>U1600</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>U1400/Unr</b>	<b>\$50</b>

**Time Control:** G/150; d5.

**Entry Fees:** \$33 if rec'd by 4/4, \$42 at site. *SCC members*—subtract \$9. Members of other dues-required CCs in BC, ID, OR, and WA—subtract \$4. *GMs, IMs, WGMs*—Free. *Unr*—free with purchase of 1-year USCF plus 1-year WCF/OCF/ICA.

**Registration:** Sat. 10-10:45 a.m. **Rounds:** 11-4:30, 11-4:30.

**Byes:** 1 (Sunday rounds, commit at registration).

**Miscellaneous:** USCF & WCF/OCF/ICA membership req'd (OSA). No smoking. No computers.

# Upcoming Events

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

♣ **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)**. wsecc2014.com

**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](mailto:ggarychess@aol.com).

♣ **Apr 26/May 31** 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](mailto:portlandchessclub@gmail.com), phone 503-246-2978, website [www.pdxchess.com](http://www.pdxchess.com).

♣ **May 2-4 or May 3-4** Harmon Memorial, **Seattle, WA**. See half-page ad on page 26.

♣ **May 10** Pierce County Open, **Tacoma, WA**. Site: The Tacoma Chess Club in the DTI Soccer Store Building on the second floor at 409 Puyallup Ave across the street from Alfred's Cafe. New! Prize Fund: 1st Place \$100 Guaranteed! Secondary Prize Fund to be made up of 50% of total entry fees, divided into 5 equal prizes, 2nd place overall and first place in Classes A, B, C, and D. Unrated players can play for 1st and 2nd place only. Registration: 9 – 9:45. Format: 4 round Swiss in 1 section. Time Control: G/60; d5. Entry Fee: \$25.00. Rounds: 10:00, 1:00, 3:15 and 5:30. 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, ph. (253)535-2536, [ggarychess@aol.com](mailto:ggarychess@aol.com).

♣ **May 17-18** Inland Empire Open, **Spokane, WA**. Site: Gonzaga University (Schoenberg Center) Rm. 201 & 202, N. 800 Pearl Street, Spokane, WA 99258. Registration: Sat. 8:30am-9:30am. Rounds: Sat. 10:00-2:30-7:00, Sun: 9:00-1:30 or ASAP. Time Control: G/120 (with 5 second delay). E.F. \$23 if received by 5/16, \$28 at the door; 18 and under \$5 less. Telephone entries accepted. USCF rated. \$625 prize fund based on 30, Class prizes based on at least five per section. Only one prize per person (Excluding biggest upset - Both players must have established ratings). NS, NC, W. One ½ point bye if requested before proceeding round; Sunday byes must be requested before the end of round 3. Director reserves the right to use class pairings in the final round. Prizes: 1st Overall: \$165, 2nd Overall: \$125. Class Prizes: 1st (A; B; C; D/E/unrated) \$55, 2nd (B; C; D/E/unrated) \$25, Biggest Upset: \$40 (non-provisional ratings). Cookies & coffee provided. Entries: Spokane CC, c/o David B. Griffin, P.O. Box 631, Spokane Valley, WA 99037. For information: cell (509) 994-9739.

**May 17-19** 39th Annual Keres Memorial, **Richmond, BC**. [http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/Keres\\_201405.pdf](http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/Keres_201405.pdf)

♣ **May 24-26** Washington Open Chess Tournament, **Seattle, WA**. See full-page ad on page 27.

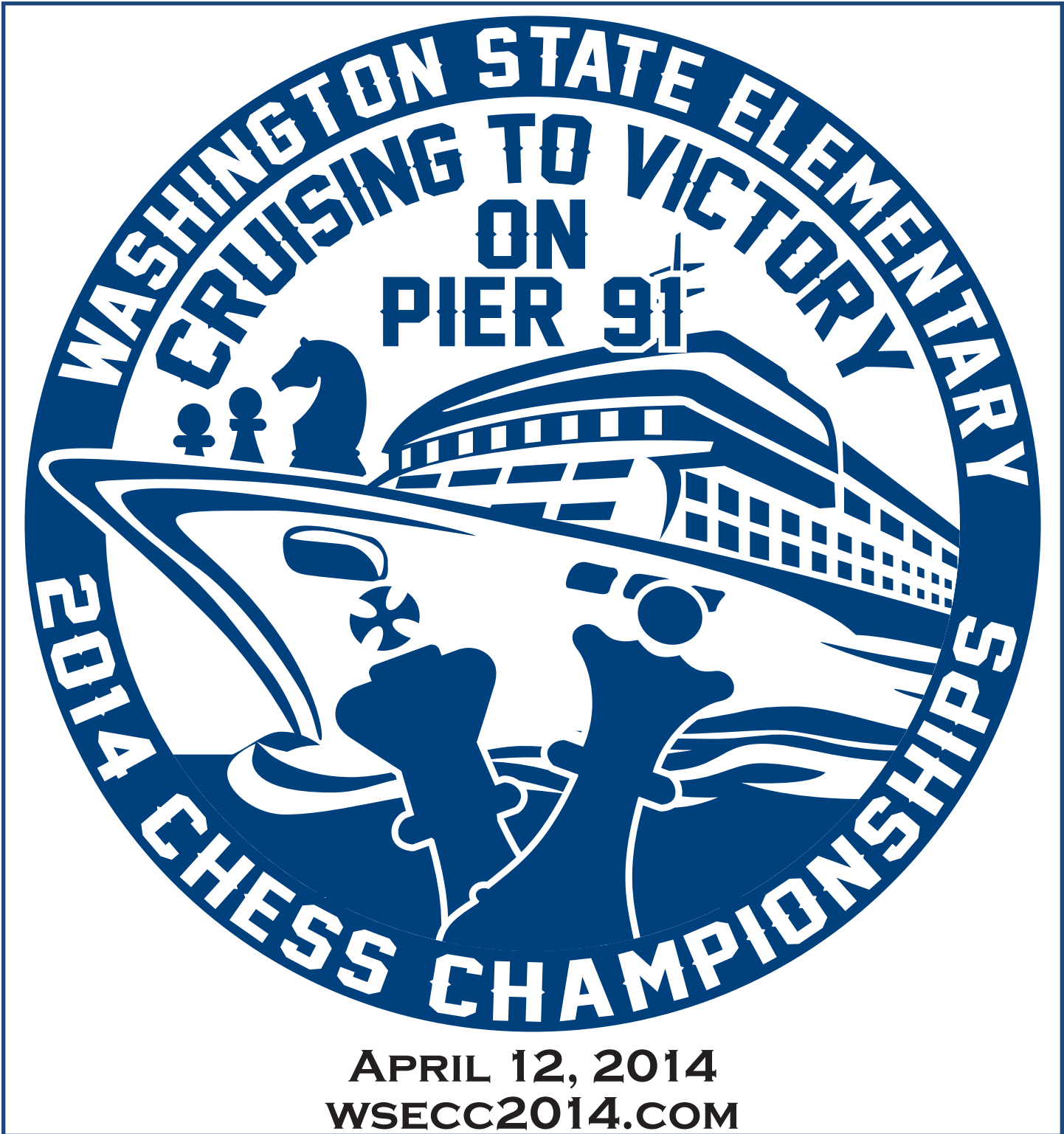
**May 24-26** U.S. Amateur North Championship, **Boise, ID**. See half-page ad on page 18.

**Jun 7** Boise Chess Festival, **Boise, ID**. See full-page ad on page 19.

## From our Business Manager:

**“The American Red Cross is encouraging people who want to help those impacted by the mudslide in Snohomish County to consider making only financial donations. For additional information, contact the Red Cross at [www.redcross.org/wa/everett](http://www.redcross.org/wa/everett) or call: 1-800-RED-CROSS (733-2767).”**

**Northwest Chess magazine is printed at Snohomish Publishing Co. in the city of Snohomish, Washington.**



APRIL 12, 2014  
WSECC2014.COM