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April 2015

*Chess News and Features from
Washington, Oregon and Idaho*



Roland Feng (Washington)

Three State Champions



David Lucky (Idaho)



Nick Raptis (Oregon)

Northwest Chess

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Selected Best State Magazine/Newsletter in 2014 by Chess Journalists of America!

On the front cover:

The three State Chess Champions in victory pose on February 16, 2015. Roland Feng (Washington) by Josh Sinanan; Nick Raptis (Oregon) by Grisha Alpernas, and David Lucky (Idaho) by Jeffrey Roland.

On the back cover:

Bill Brubaker at the Boise Chess Club on January 12, 2015 by Jeffrey Roland.

Chesstoons:

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

Northwest Chess Knights

Please donate today to help Northwest Chess!
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Jennifer Sinanan in honor of Josh Sinanan, Gerard Van Deene, Washington Chess Federation, Idaho Chess Association, Murlin Varner, Russell Miller.

Submissions

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

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Washington Open

A NW Grand Prix Event

May 23-25, 2015

Revised 3/18/2015

Highest finishing Washington resident in the Open Section seeded into the 2016 state championship.

Washington Open Entry Fees and Prize Fund

\$7,000 Prizes based on 170 entries
Medal only fees count as half entries.

Entry fees listed as: Postmarked
by April 25 / May 16 / at site

OPEN

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

PREMIER (U2000)

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

RESERVE (U1700)

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

BOOSTER (U1400)

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

Medal Only

EF \$50 / \$55 / \$60

Medals awarded to top three in each section.
(Juniors under age 21 only.)

Reentry for 1/2 of your original entry fee.

Free entry to GMs, IMs, and WGMs.

Canadians may pay C\$ at par (no coins) for
entry fee only.

	Open	Premier	Reserve	Booster
1st	\$700	\$300	\$250	\$200
2nd	\$550	\$250	\$200	\$150
3rd	\$350	\$225	\$175	\$125
4th	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$100
5th	\$200	\$150	\$100	\$75
	U2150	U1850	U1550	U1100
1st	\$350	\$200	\$150	\$120
2nd	\$250	\$150	\$125	\$80
3rd	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$120(*)
4th	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$80(*)

(*) Prizes for unrated players.

All prizes will be mailed starting 6/1/2015.

Entries/Information:

Send entries to: Dan Mathews
WCF Tournament Coordinator
749 Somerset Lane
Edmonds, WA 98020-2646
Cell Phone (425) 218-7529
danomathews01@gmail.com

Make checks payable to
Washington Chess Federation.

Lynnwood Convention Center

3711 196th Street SW

Lynnwood, WA 98036-7701, Phone (888) 778-7155

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

Rating: USCF rated. Open Section also FIDE rated (except G/60 games). USCF May 2015 rating supplement will be used to determine section eligibility. Higher of USCF or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Higher of USCF or FIDE rating used for pairings and prizes in Open Section. Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating. Unrated players may only win top five prizes in the Open Section or unrated prizes in 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 schedule with two half-point byes. Two half-point byes available at registration or before end of round 2. Play any two days, if taking two half-point byes. 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 at www.nwchess.com/online/registration. Pay by credit/debit or PayPal.

Rounds: 3-day schedule: Sat 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Sun 10:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Mon 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM. 2-day schedule: Sun 9:00 AM, 11:45 AM, 2:30 PM, then join 3-day schedule with round 4 at 5:30 PM. WCF annual meeting and elections at 2:00 PM Monday, May 25, 2015.

Time Controls: 3-day schedule: 40/120 and SD/30 with 10-second delay. 2-day schedule: G/60 with 10-second delay (rounds 1-3), rounds 4-6 same as 3-day schedule. Please bring tournament chess set, board, and digital clock.

Miscellaneous: Current USCF membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required in all sections. NW Grand Prix event. Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 20. ChessMagnet-School.com JGP. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

Hotel Info/Rates: see Northwest Chess website or contact Dan Mathews.

Washington Open Bughouse Team Championship: Sat 5/23 at 6:00 PM. Format: 5 round Double Swiss in one section. Registration: 5:00-5:45 PM. Rounds: 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30 and 8:00 PM. TC: G/5 (no delay). EF: \$20 per person. Trophies to top teams.

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

Washington Open Scholastic (May 23): A separate flyer/entry form/online registration link will be published on the NWC website for this event, or contact: David Hendricks, WCF Scholastic Coordinator, 2439 220th Place NE, Sammamish, WA 98074-6418, phone: (425) 868-3881, e-mail: DavidCHendricks@comcast.net.

Washington Chess News

Washington Closed State Championship

Event Dates: February 7-8, 14-16, 2015

Championship

Congratulations to Washington State Chess Champion Roland Feng!

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.

Name	Title	City (WA)	Rtg	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	Pos
1 Bryce Tiglon	NM	Redmond	2255	x	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	5.5	3rd
2 Costin Cozianu	FM	Everett	2466	0.5	x	0.5	1	0.5	1	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	6.0	2nd
3 David Bragg	FM	Mukilteo	2200	0.5	0.5	x	0	1	1	0	0.5	0	0.5	4.0	
4 Tian Sang	FM	Bellevue	2355	1	0	1	x	1	0	1	0	0.5	0.5	5.0	5th
5 Viktors Pupols	LM	Kingston	2200	0.5	0.5	0	0	x	0	0	0.5	0	0	1.5	
6 Daniel He	NM	Redmond	2254	0	0	0	1	1	x	1	0.5	0.5	0	4.0	
7 Samuel He	NM	Redmond	2225	0	0	1	0	1	0	x	1	0	0.5	3.5	
8 William Schill	FM	Seattle	2215	0	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	0	x	0.5	0	3.5	
9 Roland Feng	NM	Seattle	2325	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	x	1	6.5	1st
10 Curt Collyer	FM	Seattle	2313	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	1	0.5	1	0	x	5.5	3rd

Average rating: 2276

Prize Fund: \$3,200 (increased by a donation from Erik Anderson!)

Premier

Congratulations to Premier Champion Derek Zhang!

The Premier 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.

Name	Title	City (WA)	Rtg	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	Pos
1 James Colasurdo		Olympia	2051	x	0	0	1	0	1	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	3.5	
2 Derek Zhang		Bellevue	2078	1	x	1	0	1	1	0.5	1	0	1	6.5	1st
3 Michael MacGregor	NM	Tacoma	2188	1	0	x	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	6.0	2nd
4 Cameron Leslie		Seattle	2082	0	1	1	x	0.5	0	0	0	0	1	3.5	
5 Harley Greninger	NM	Hoquiam	2158	1	0	0	0.5	x	0.5	0	1	0.5	0.5	4.0	
6 David Levine	NM	Seattle	2200	0	0	1	1	0.5	x	0	1	0.5	1	5.0	5th
7 Kevin Gafni		Seattle	2077	1	0.5	0	1	1	1	x	0.5	0	1	6.0	2nd
8 Paul Bartron	FM	Tacoma	2132	0.5	0	0	1	0	0	0.5	x	0	1	3.0	
9 Kyle Haining		Lake Forest Park	2120	0.5	1	0	1	0.5	0.5	1	1	x	0.5	6.0	2nd
10 Anath Gottumukkala		Sammamish	1278	0.5	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0.5	x	1.5	

Average rating: 2031

Prize Fund: \$1,000

Invitational

Congratulations to Invitational Champion Chouchanik Airapetian!

The Invitational has been registered and will be FIDE rated.
Latest pre-tournament USCF ratings shown below.

	Name	Title	City (WA)	Rtg	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	Pos
1	Badamkhand Norovsambuu		Bellevue	2066	x	0	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	0	0.5	4.5	4th
2	Ryan Ackerman		Seattle	1842	1	x	0.5	0	0	0.5	0	1	0	1	4.0	
3	Joseph Kiiru		Tacoma	1852	0.5	0.5	x	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2.0	
4	Chouchanik Airapetian		Mercer Island	2017	0.5	1	1	x	1	0.5	1	0	1	1	7.0	1st
5	Alan Bishop		Tacoma	2000	0	1	1	0	x	1	0.5	1	0	0	4.5	4th
6	David Arganian		Seattle	2000	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	0	x	0.5	1	1	1	6.0	3rd
7	Michael Hosford		Bellevue	1966	0	1	0	0	0.5	0.5	x	0	0.5	1	3.5	
8	Vikram Ramasamy		Kirkland	1903	0.5	0	1	1	0	0	1	x	0	1	4.5	4th
9	Neo Olin		Renton	1910	1	1	1	0	1	0	0.5	1	x	1	6.5	2nd
10	Travis Olson		Mukilteo	1840	0.5	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	x	2.5	

Average rating: 1954
Prize Fund: \$500

—News Flash!—

Youngest State Champion Ever

By Josh Sinanan



Roland Feng. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

Roland Feng recently became Washington's youngest-ever State Chess Champion (14 years, 16 weeks, 2 days) on Monday, February 16. He scored 6.5/9 to take clear first in the 10-player round-robin held during the first two weekends in February at the Seattle Chess Club. As a result of this strong performance, Roland's FIDE rating has climbed to 2322, for which he has been awarded the FM title! Over the course of nine rounds, Roland was undefeated and scored victories against FM David Bragg (2200), LM Viktors Pupols (2200), NM Samuel He (2227), and FM Curt Collyer (2313). Congratulations Roland!

President's Cup

by Josh Sinanan

Fifty-six players participated in the second annual Washington President's Cup, a two-section swiss tournament held on the weekend of February 14-15 at the Seattle Chess Club. The tournament was hosted by the Washington Chess Federation and was held concurrently with the Washington State Championship, which took place in a separate room at the same venue. This year's field was weaker than last year's since many experts and strong class A players were playing in the Invitational section, which was brought back by popular demand after a one-year break. Nevertheless, two experts, Anthony He and Jerry Sherrard,

topped the 25-player open section, which was FIDE-rated and offered class A and B players a chance to establish or update their world (FIDE) rating. WCF Secretary Gary Dorfner was the main tournament director with assistance from Fred Kleist, who was nearby directing the State Championship.

Gabriel Tafalla, an 8th Grader at Tye Middle School in Bellevue, won the Open section with 3.5/4, claiming the \$300 first prize. For his victory, Gabriel is seeded into the Premier section of next year's Washington State Championship. Gabriel's chess career began when he was in 3rd grade in his school's chess club in Florida. He moved to Washington in 2010 and started to play quads at the Chess4Life Center in Bellevue. After reaching a class A level scholastic rating, Gabriel transitioned to longer games at Seattle Chess Club, where he has enjoyed playing for the last 2 years. To date, winning the President's Cup has been Gabriel's highest chess achievement, and raised his USCF rating to 1930. He hopes he can continue to improve in the years to come.

Four players tied for second place half a point behind Tafalla: Daniel Phillips, Eric Zhang, Vernon Vanpoucke, and Noah Yeo, each collecting \$81.25 for their efforts. Rajesh Shanmukam won the U1700 prize of \$150 with an impressive 2.5 points from four games.

In the reserve section (U1600), Cheyenne Zhang won four games and took a half-point bye to win clear first place, good for \$250. Cheyenne started playing chess in 3rd grade, at the Stevenson Elementary School chess club. Since then, she has participated in one national K-6 event, the 2012 US Open in Vancouver and the 2013 Supernationals. She won 3rd place in the 2012 US Girls Junior Open, along with a college scholarship. In 2014, she won 7th place in the U14 division at All-Girls' Nationals in Chicago, IL. This year, she has been playing for the Bellevue High School chess team in the KingCo League and continues to improve rapidly, gaining nearly 300 USCF rating points over the last year.

Joey Yeo of Redmond finished in clear second place with an undefeated 4 points from five games and won \$175. Mercer Island High School senior Andrew Ardeleanu and Lincoln Elementary Chess Team all-stars Dylan Xu and Adam Race scored 3.5 points apiece and shared the U1400/U1200 prize, each taking home \$100.

Player Bios

Here are three more player bios that came in after the deadline for last month's issue. These are presented in random order and two are written by the players themselves.

The photos were provided by the players and it is not known who took them.—Editor

Mike Macgregor



Although I did not know it at the time, my chess career began when I was 10 or 11 years old. A neighborhood friend and I would engage in what we termed *pawn wars*. We each took turns marching our pawns to the center of the board for annihilation. The player with the last pawn standing won the game.

My paternal grandfather had passed away in a house fire in the early 1970's during the "Fischer Boom." In his house I took only two things—not much had survived the fire—a couple of books with his handwriting in them: *Chess in a Nutshell* and *The Fireside Book of Chess*. They were the first books I studied when I took chess seriously in the 10th grade.

My high school appointed one hour a month for students to participate in an elective club held during the school day. I had a substitute teacher who said he would participate in the school's chess club in the class adjacent to ours. I joined the club and quickly learned to how to resign.

I coped with defeat because of an instant love for the game and because I knew that eventually I would win. My competitiveness drove me to studying books and buying a small chess computer. Within weeks I was winning those who so delighted in playing me. For some reason, few of them asked me to play anymore. I began as an alternate (Sixth Board). By the end of tenth grade, however, I was playing third board for the Federal Way High School chess team.

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

After high school, I enjoyed playing chess with some high school buddies for about a year. I then went on my church mission, returned, went to college, and did not participate in a rated chess tournament until 1996, a hiatus of more than ten years. Much to my surprise, my return to chess happened when my wife and I saw a decorative chess set on our honeymoon in the fall of 1995 and, yes, we are still happily married.

Currently, I'm treasurer for the Tacoma Chess Club and still play in a few tournaments each year. The lesson I have learned is that study is essential for improving in the game.

Neo Olin

February 2015 USCF rating: 1910

Neo Olin has been playing chess since the age of 6 with a friend's instruction. Within weeks, Neo showed a clear natural affinity for the game. A few months later, Neo enrolled in Chess4Life chess program. The fantastic coaches and mentors not only sharpened his skills, but also instilled life lessons and virtues in him.

Starting in 2008, Neo participated four times in Washington State Elementary Championships. His highest achievement was 3rd place in the 4th grade section. Neo began taking chess seriously in 2014 and joined Seattle Chess Club. His rating rose over 800 points in a course of numerous tournaments during the year.

Neo competed in WA Junior Open in Jan 2015 and ranked 2nd place in the open section. Neo also competed in WA State Championship Open in February 2015. He scored 2nd place with a current 1910 USCF rating.

Amidst his continuing successes and hyper chess activities, Neo enjoys reading, fine dining, running track, and staying at the top of all his honors classes.

James Colasurdo



I learned how to play Chess at the age of 5 from my father, and also made a habit of learning all I could from the (now non-existent...) Saint Michael's Chess Club, and coach Tyler Spitzer. At home, I

played alongside my sisters which quickly allowed me to improve my game. My father read to me Chess books, including my favorite "How to Reassess Your Chess" by Jeremy Silman. I also watched numerous Maurice Ashley and Roman Dzindzichashvili videos. Those myriads of Chess books and videos are what enabled me to win the 2003 Washington State Kindergarten Elementary Chess Championship and a 4th place in the 2003 National K-1 Elementary Chess championship. I competed yearly in scholastic tournaments and State Elementary Chess Championships and played in three Intermat matches vs. B.C. From 6th grade-9th grade I was coached by NM Matt Fleury, who was a huge help in increasing my USCF/Scholastic ratings.

Fast forward to now I pride myself in being Co-champion in the 2014 WA St. High School Individual Chess Championship and a 4th place in the same tournament in 2015. I often practice at the Olympia Chess Club, which hosts occasional tournaments. Recently I won the 2014 Olympia Open. I still love and am interested in Chess as much as I was the first day I started playing.

Brilliance Prizes

By Josh Sinanan

This year's 2015 WA State Championship Brilliance Prize winners are as follows.

Championship:

Roland Feng \$100 and Costin Cozianu \$100 are co-winners for their wins against Curt Collyer and Daniel He, respectively.

David Golub's Rankings:

1) He Daniel-Costin Coziano: I've never seen the f4! + Nh5 idea before and the kingside attack (plus Nxe5) was very brilliant.

2) Schill vs. Tian: Classic Qb1 a3 + b4 against the exchange followed by winning the queen and converted nicely in the endgame.

3) Collyer vs. Feng: I'm a fan of king marches + exchange sac was very interesting (although white was probably lost out of the opening). Still, Feng converted very nicely.

4) Curt Collyer vs. Daniel He: Nice positional squeeze in the beginning followed by central pawns rolling through-I'm a fan of pawn rollers too!

5) Bryce-Daniel He: Very clean positional victory and exploited backward d6 pawn + two weaknesses motif well.

Nat Koons' Rankings:

1) Curt Collyer vs. Roland Feng 0-1: The new champion made things look easy in several games when his opponents blundered outright, but this game shows his best side: accurate calculation, fearless play, and most importantly for the brilliancy prize, good style! It's rare to see two pawn black pawns near a touchdown nowadays. Bravo!

2) Curt Collyer vs. Daniel He 1-0: A complete, well played game from start to finish. As early as move 26 the position was totally block, and although only white had chances to break through it looked very doubtful that this could be achieved. Nevertheless white maneuvered skillfully and prepared all of his pieces (including the king!) for the breakthrough, which came in the form of a central sacrifice (53. Nxe5!) instead of the expected penetration on the h-file. The game opened up and, after some excitement, white's central pawn mass proved unstoppable.

3) Daniel He vs. Costin Cozianu 0-1: An almost-miniature crush for black pieces after one mistake from white (11. fxe5?). Sometime one pawn really is worth one tempo. Cozianu once again proved his expertise in closed Sicilian-type setups. This game is a warning!

4) Daniel He vs. Tian Sang 1-0: There are games won on calculation, and those on judgment. This seems to me the latter type. On move 23 the game seemed to me to be fizzling out towards a prospectless position (for both sides), but Daniel showed fine judgment, and not fearing any exchanges took the game into the ending. Black's Na4 was marooned, but then Bd4 had to stay put to keep things that way. But - and here's the judgment factor - white's position could be steadily improved until a graceful, well prepared breakthrough (49. f5!) proved quickly decisive.

5) Bryce Tiglon vs. Daniel He 1-0: A very good technical game from white, who exploited black's backward d6 pawn in the standard, effective fashion. Presumably the final position was lost on time, but black's position was already dismal.

Premier:

Kevin Gafni \$100 for his win over James Colasurdo.

David Golub's Rankings:

1) Kevin Gafni vs. Colasurdo: Even though pawn down in an endgame had excellent pressure + the exchange sac

followed by Nf3 e5 was a good finish.

2) Zhang Derek vs. MacGregor: Bd5! And the kingside initiate developed very smoothly--not much black could do about it.

3) Greninger Harley vs. Paul Bartron: Rxb6! followed by rolling pawns through the middle--a nice crush.

4) Levine David vs. Zhang Derek: Good example of how to play for black in the French Nc3 Bb4 system. The Ne3! shot plus dominating bishop on d5 followed by endgame victory was well played.

5) Bartron-Paul vs. Kyle Haining: Nfd7 + c5 idea followed by penetration on the queenside while white was underdeveloped led to a large edge for black which Kyle converted nicely.

Invitational:

Alan Bishop \$100 for his win over Ryan Ackerman.

David Golub's Rankings:

1. Ackerman vs. Bishop: a6-b5 followed by Bb3! later on: classic KID counterattack on the queenside in a very messy game.

2. Hosford vs. Badakhand (sorry I'm probably butchering that name): A completely crazy game with a random king walk in the middle of the board that was unpunished! Very exciting.

3. Hosford Michael vs. Ramasy Vikram: Converted positional edge from opening to queenside attack and executed the attack very well. Very nice game.

4. Kiruu vs. Vikram: A very nice positional victory with very little to no counterplay for white.

5. Kiruu vs. Airapetian: A topsy turvy game where first black held edge then white seemed to be winning, but what made this game surprising was how quickly the tables turned and black got a crushing attack out of nowhere.

**Curt Collyer (2313) –
Roland Feng (2295) [D32]**
WA Championship Seattle, WA
(R8), February 15, 2015
[Roland Feng]

1.d4

A crucial game in the tournament. Whoever won this game had a very good chance of winning the Championship.

1...d5

An attempt to negate any preparation Curt might have had in store for me.

2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.e4!?



Position after 5.e4

An ambitious move that aims to open the position up immediately and cause complications.

5...dxe4 6.Bc4!?

At this point I was seriously concerned that I was walking into an opening trap. This bishop now eyes f7 and develops a piece.

6...Nf6

Trying to play the most natural move. 6... cxd4?! 7.Qb3 dxc3?? (7...Nf6 8.Bxf7+ Ke7 9.Nb5 This can get fairly messy very quickly.) 8.Bxf7+ Ke7 9.Bxg8 This is losing for me.

7.Qb3 Nc6!

Bxf7+ may look menacing, but in fact White is not developed enough to mount any sort of dangerous attack. Curt's center is now under some serious pressure.

8.Bxf7+

This is actually a mistake. However, Curt cannot be blamed because this is by far the most natural and obvious move, but not a very good one. Bxf7+ has no clear follow-up, and the precarious bishop on f7 is more for Curt to worry about as his center is on the verge of collapse.

8...Ke7

Developing the king.

9.Bc4!

Correctly realizing that White has no

attack here, and the bishop is one move away from being lost. 9.Nge2?? Na5! 10.Nd5+ Kxf7 White is completely lost.

9...Na5 10.Qb5 Nxc4 11.Qxc4 Qxd4



Position after 11...Qxd4

Putting Curt in a difficult position. If he trades queens, my resulting central pawns look menacing. However, if he does not trade, my queen is perfectly situated in the center and I will soon develop and hopefully convert my pawn + bishop pair advantage.

12.Qxd4

12.Qe2 Qd3; 12.Qb3 Qb4 13.Qc2 Kf7; 12.Qb5 Qd3

12...cxd4 13.Nb5 d3!

This will eventually lose the exchange by force or lead to a repetition, but the two connected passers are worth more than the exchange. 13...Kf7? 14.Nxd4 Bg4 15.Be3 Rc8 16.Nge2 White has significantly better drawing chances in this ending.

14.Nc7!

Curt correctly creates complications involving the awkward placement of my rook. Otherwise, he would simply be rolled over by my pawns and bishops quickly. 14.Bg5 Kf7 15.Rc1 Bd7 16.Rc7 Rc8 17.Rxc8 Bxc8 18.f3 Bb4+ 19.Nc3 Bf5 Black clearly has the upper hand here.

14...Rb8 15.Bf4

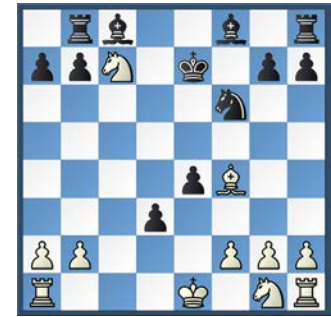
[Diagram top of next column]

15...Bf5!

Gives up the exchange for central domination and strong development. 15... Kf7? Curt told me

after the game that he had hoped and was also expecting a variation like this to unfold. 16.Na6! Ra8 17.Nc7 Bb4+ 18.Kf1 Rb8 19.Na6 bxa6 20.Bxb8 Black is still better here, but the position I achieved in the game is much better than this version.

16.Nd5+ Nxd5



Position after 15.Bf4

17.Bxb8 Ke6

The beginning of the end. I threaten to centralize all my pieces and perhaps even break through with a timely ...e3.

18.Bxa7

It's hard to see what Curt could have done. White can barely move any of his pieces. 18.a3 Bc5 19.Bg3 Bd4 20.Rb1 Rc8! The centralized black forces and the sleeping white pieces will quickly prove decisive here.; 18.Bg3 Bb4+ 19.Kf1 (19.Kd1?? Bg4+ White loses significant material here.) 19...Rc8

18...Bb4+ 19.Kd1 b6



Position after 19...b6

Completely cuts off White's only active piece from the action. White's underdevelopment will quickly prove decisive.

20.a3 Bg4+ 21.Nf3 exf3 22.g3



Position after 22.g3

22...Ne3+!!

Aesthetically pleasing KO.

23.fxe3

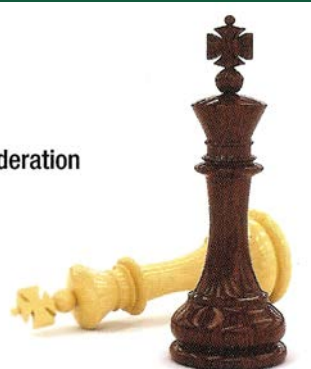
23.Kc1 d2+ 24.Kb1 d1Q+ 25.Rxd1 Nxd1 26.axb4 Nxf2 Easily winning for Black here.

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President, Washington Chess Federation

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23...f2+ 24.Kc1 d2+

It's not every day you get to see two passed pawns one square away from promotion by move 24!

25.Kc2 Rc8+ 26.Kd3 Rd8+

Intending to queen the d-pawn, trade everything off, then queen the f-pawn.

0-1

Daniel He (2227) – Costin Cozianu (2466) [A26]
WA Championship Seattle, WA
(R7), February 15, 2015
[Cozianu, Costin]

1.c4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 e5 5.d3 Bg7 6.e4 d6 7.Nge2 Nc6 8.0-0 9.h3?

This is a mistake, even if subtle. It weakens the king and offers Black a target for attack. White should pay attention to finishing development and fighting for his real prize: the d5-square 9.Nd5=; 9.Bg5=

9...f4!

Although exact variations are impossible to calculate, it is easy to see that Black can play this pawn sacrifice without risking much. In the worst case he'd obtain a draw by perpetual.

10.gxf4 Nh5 11.fxex5

Better was 11.f5 gxf5 12.Ng3 forcing simplifications, but initiative would still remain with Black. Frankly, it was only the computer at home after the game that saw this beautiful defense 12...Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Nxf5 Bxf5 15.exf5 Rxf5 16.Bxc6 bxc6 17.Qf3=

11...Qh4



Position after 11...Qh4

12.f4?

This gives up the game too easily, more stubborn was 12.Qd2 with idea Qg5 exchanging queens; If instead White goes on gobbling pawns, it turns out every last one of Black's pieces can reach the exposed white king, for example 12.exd6? Bxh3 13.dxc7 Ne5 14.f4 Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Ng4 16.Qe1 Qh2+ 17.Kf3 Ne5+ 18.Ke3 Qh3+ 19.Kd2 Qxd3#

12...Bxh3 13.Bxh3 Qxh3

And here White was hoping that four powerful pawns would prevent Black's



L-R: Duane Polich, Josh Sinanan, Fred Kleist. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

pieces from swarming towards the white king.

14.d4 dxe5 15.dxe5

15.d5 exf4 16.dxc6 f3

15...Rad8 16.Nd5 Nxe5!



Position after 16...Nxe5

It's easy to sacrifice when the attack is the whole Black army against the lonely white king.

17.Qb3

17.fxex5 Qg4+ 18.Kh1 (18.Kh2 Bxe5+) 18...Qxe4+ 19.Kg1 Qg4+ 20.Kh1 Ng3+ 21.Nxg3 Qh3+ 22.Kg1 Qxg3+ 23.Kh1 Bxe5+

17...Qg4+ 18.Kf2 c6 19.Rg1 Qh4+ 20.Kg2 cxd5 0-1

Kevin Gafni (2077) – James Colasurdo (2059) [B43]
WA Premier Seattle, WA
(R7), February 15, 2015
[Kevin Gafni]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Bd3 Nf6 7.f4 Bc5 8.Nb3 Bb4!?

This was the first idea in the game I was unfamiliar with, and I am faced with an uncomfortable choice.

9.Bd2 Bxc3

Whether to take back with the pawn and play with the space advantage but a compromised structure, or whether to play a pawn down with a strong lead in development, I felt it was more consistent to play a pawn down.

10.Bxc3 Qxf4

Here White is forced to trade queens but finishes development very quickly, so there is strong compensation for the pawn.

11.Qf3 Qxf3 12.gxf3 d6 13.Rg1

Already it is unclear how Black can keep the material.



Position after 13.Rg1

13...Kf8?

This move is the source of many problems for Black in the game, not only because it returns the pawn but because it makes it practically impossible for Black to finish his development. 13...e5 is probably the best way to return the pawn, making sure the light squared bishop will find an active square on e6 and putting king on e7 in typical Sicilian fashion; 13...Rg8?? is obviously impossible because of 14.Bxf6.

14.Bb4 Ne8 15.e5 Nc6 16.Bxd6+ Nxd6 17.exd6±



Chouchanik Airapetian, winner of the Invitational Championship.
Photo credit: Jim Berezov.

After a series of rather forcing moves following ...Kf8 White has regained his pawn with a strong edge.

17...Ne5 18.0-0 b6

18...Nxf3 19.Rg3 Ne5 20.Be4 Nd7 (20...Rb8 21.Rc3) 21.Rc3 White has more than enough compensation for the pawn here, Black can hardly move.

19.Be4 Ra7 20.f4 Nd7 21.Rg3 f5 22.Rc3?!

The rook is well placed on g3 and the bishop is very well placed on c6, this was the best way to improve the position. 22.Bc6 Nf6 23.Nd4 Kf7 24.Nf3 and White does not face as many technical issues as in the game.

22...Kf7 23.Bf3

23.Bc6 should still be preferred as playing Nb8 to remove the bishop is unpleasant for Black and the bishop is attacking d7.

23...e5 24.fxe5 Nxe5 25.Nd4 Bd7 26.Re1 Kf6 27.Rce3 Nc4

This is a highly critical moment, if White retreats the rook Black will activate the rook on h8 and White will only have a small plus. White must act quickly to retain a winning advantage.

28.Re6+!?

28.Re7 forces a note discussed below after 28...Nxd6 (28...Rd8? 29.Ne6 Re8 30.Nxg7 Rxe7 31.Nh5+ Kg6 32.dxe7+-) 29.R1e6+ Bxe6 30.Rxe6+ Kg5 31.Rxd6

28...Bxe6 29.Rxe6+ Kg5 30.b3 Na5



Position after 30...Na5

I thought Black might go for 30...Nxd6! 31.Rxd6 b5 where White is clearly better placed for the moment, but I thought Black might have better practical chances here than in the game.

31.Bd5!

White's pieces are very well placed and sadly for Black there is no concrete way to activate his pieces without losing.

31...Rd7

31...Rd8 32.Nf3+ Kf4 33.Ne5 Nb7 White can force this move at any time with b4 if Black tries to move a pawn 34.Nc6 Rxd6 35.Rxd6 Nxd6 36.Nxa7± White still has some technical issues to deal with but should be able to convert the material advantage.; 31...Rf7!? 32.Re5 (32.Nf3+? is prevented in this case 32...Kf4 33.Ne5 Rf6!) 32...Rd7 33.Rxf5+ Kh6 34.b4 Nb7 35.Bxb7 Rxb7 36.c4+- The advanced connected passed pawns give White good winning chances.

32.Nf3+ Kf4 33.Ne5 Rxd6?

Black overlooks an in-between-move, however the alternatives were also very

favorable to White. 33...Ra7 34.b4 Nb7 35.Re7 Rd8 36.Nc6 Rxd6 (36...Nxd6 37.Rxa7 Nc8 38.Nxd8+-) 37.Nxa7 Rxd5 38.Rxb7+-; 33...Rhd8 34.Nxd7 Rxd7 35.b4 (35.c4) 35...Nb7 36.Bxb7 Rxb7 37.c4+- in spite of the drawing nature of rook endgames White will soon have advanced connected passed pawns which will be decisive.

34.Nd3+

Black resigned because when he moves his king White will play Rxd6 when White is up a piece with a strong initiative. Black was hoping for 34.Rxd6? Kxe5 where White will likely regain his pawn at some point and a complicated endgame will ensue.

1-0

Harley Greninger (2158) – Paul Bartron (2120) [D20]
WA Premier Seattle, WA
(R3), February 8, 2015
[Harley Greninger]

1.d4 d5

Paul plays many openings with great expertise and is very difficult to prepare against. So, instead of spending vast amounts of time in attempting to prepare 'something special', I chose to simply play what I know.

2.c4 dxc4 3.e4

3.Nf3 is the main line and also gives White some advantage.

3...Nf6

The 'theoretical drawback' of White's 3rd move is supposed to be 3...e5 but after 4.Nf3 exd4 5.Bxc4 Bb4+ 6.Nbd2 Nc6 7.0-0 my opinion is that White has more than enough compensation for the Pawn.

4.e5 Nd5 5.Bxc4 e6 6.Nf3 c5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Nc3 cxd4 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.Bb5 Bd7

The first new move. Previously played was 10...a6 11.Ba4 b5 12.Bb3 Be6 (12...Bg4 might be suggested here.) 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Qxd4 Rc8 15.Qd3 Bc5 16.Qg3! and Black has nothing better than 16...Kf8± 1-0 (31) Sideif Sade,F (2445)-Kufa, P Ostrava 1992.

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11.Nxd4 Be7 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Bd3 Qc7
14.f4 0-0 15.Qc2 h6 16.b3 f5?!



Position after 16...f5

It's understandable that Black would want to stop an eventual f4-f5 by White, however this is quite possibly the losing move. Had I been Black, I would have preferred to challenge White's Pawns by 16...f6 A sample line might go... 17.Bb2 fxe5 18.Bxe5 (18.fxe5 Rxf1+ 19.Rxf1 Rf8 is clearly fine for Black.) 18...Bd6 19.Rae1 Rae8 and Black is holding his own.

17.Bb2 Be6 18.Rac1 Qb6+ 19.Kh1 Rac8 20.g4! g6

Alternatively, 20...fxg4 21.f5 Bd7 (21...Bg5 22.fxe6 Bxc1 23.Qxc1 Rf3 (23...Rxf1+ 24.Qxf1 Rf8? 25.Bh7+) 24.Bg6 Qa6 25.Rg1±) 22.f6 gxf6 23.exf6 is clearly lost for Black.

21.gxf5 Bxf5 22.Rg1 Kh7

Initially when I went in for this line, I had intended to play 23.Rg3 followed by doubling on the g-file 'with possibilities of sacrificing on g6'. Then the 'light came on' and I thought that perhaps I didn't have to wait. After quite a bit of thought, I played...

23.Rxg6!! Kxg6

23...Bxg6 24.Bxg6+ Kh8 25.Qe2! Black will have great difficulties parrying the threat against his h-pawn. The best that Deep Fritz 14 can come up with is 25...Qb4 but after (25...Rxf4 26.e6+ Bf6 27.Qh5 Bxb2 28.Qxh6+ Kg8 29.Qh7+ Kf8 30.e7#) 26.f5 there's no hope.

24.Rg1+ Kf7



Position after 24...Kf7

Best here is 24...Qxg1+ 25.Kxg1 c5 26.e6!

When Paul and I were discussing the game in the post-mortem, he suggested this winning move. 26...d4 27.Bxd4 cxd4 28.Bxf5+ Kg7 29.Qe4 Rcd8 30.Qe5+ Rf6 (30...Bf6 31.Qc7+ mates.) 31.Bd3 and White should win.; I very nearly rejected the Rook/Exchange sac due to 24...Bg5 25.fxg5 h5 26.Rf1 Be4+ (which would be winning for Black, had his King been on a different square) until it dawned on me that 27.Bxe4+ is with check!; I quickly dismissed the move 24...Kh7 25.Bxf5+ Kh8 26.Bxc8 Rxc8 27.e6+

25.Bxf5 Qe3 26.Bxc8 Qf3+

The Queen exchange is now forced due to the threat (again) on g6. 26...Rxc8 27.Qg6+ Kf8 28.Qg8#

27.Qg2 Qxg2+ 28.Rxg2 Rxc8 29.f5 Bg5 30.h4! Bxh4 31.e6+ Ke7 32.Rg7+ Kd6 33.Rd7+ Kc5 34.f6 Re8 35.f7 Rf8 36.Ba3+ 1-0

Some games submitted even with notes could not be presented this time due to space limitations but will be considered for future issues. So thank you to all who submit material. It is always appreciated.—Editor.



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Oregon Chess News

Oregon Closed State Championship

Congratulations to Oregon State Chess Champion Nick Raptis for successfully defending his title!

Nick also won the Oregon championship in 2001 and 2013-14, 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.

Name	Title	City (OR)	Rtg	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	Pos
1 Jason Cigan		Portland	2159	x	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	4.0	
2 Aaron Grabinsky	NM	Coquille	2316	1.0	x	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	7.0	2nd
3 Corey J. Russell	FM	Medford	2237	1.0	0.0	x	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.5	3.0	
4 Nick Raptis	FM	Portland	2389	1.0	0.5	1.0	x	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	7.5	1st
5 Carl A. Haessler	LM	Lake Oswego	2213	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	x	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	4.0	
6 Phillip Seitzer		Portland	2178	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	x	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.5	5.0	3rd
7 Lennart Bjorksten		Portland	2147	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.0	x	0.5	1.0	1.0	4.5	
8 Brian John Esler		Portland	2194	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	1.0	0.5	x	1.0	0.0	4.0	
9 Yogi Saputra		Clackamas	2113	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	x	0.5	2.5	
10 Steven B. Deeth	NM	Beaverton	2109	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	1.0	0.5	x	3.5	

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

Organized by the Oregon Chess Federation. Event Dates: February 7-8, 14-16, 2015

Tournament Director: Grisha Alpernas. Assistant TD: Mike Morris.

Phillip Seitzer (2178) – Nick Raptis (2389) [C06]
Oregon Closed Portland, OR
(R1), February 7, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7
5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4
f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Nf3 Bd6 11.Bf4 Bxf4
12.Nxf4 0-0 13.0-0 Ne4 14.g3 Qf6



Position after 14...Qf6

15.Ne5?!

15.h4

15...Nxe5 16.Bxe4

16.dxe5 Qxe5 17.Qe2 Ng5 18.h4 Qxe2
19.Bxe2 Rxf4!? (19...Ne4 20.Rfe1 Bd7
Black completes development, but White
has enough for the pawn.) 20.gxf4 Nh3+
21.Kh2 Nxf4∞

16...Nc6 17.Bd3?!

17.Bg2 Bd7 a) 17...Nxd4?! 18.Nh5 Qf7
19.Qxd4 Qxh5 20.f4 when the strong
blockade makes the extra pawn a liability.;
b) 17...Qxd4 18.Qxd4 Nxd4 19.Rfd1
Rxf4!? (19...Nf5 20.Re1 Rf6 21.Rac1 Bd7
22.Rc7 Bc6 23.Bh3 White has enough
for (and will almost certainly regain) the
pawn.) 20.gxf4 Ne2+∞; 18.Ne2± (18.
Qg4!?∞)

17...Nxd4 18.Rc1?

18.Be2±



Position after 18.Rc1

18...e5! 19.Nxd5 Nf3+ 20.Kg2

No better is 20.Kh1 Qh6 21.h4 Nxh4
22.gxh4 Qxh4+ 23.Kg1 Qg5+ 24.Kh2
Bg4 with a crushing attack.

20...Bh3+! 21.Kh1 Qh6 22.Rg1 Nxe4
23.Rg2 Nf3 0-1

Nick Raptis (2389) – Steven Deeth (2109) [D02]
Oregon Closed Portland, OR
(R3), February 8, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bf4 Bf5 4.e3 e6
5.Be2 Be7 6.0-0 h6 7.h3 0-0 8.c4 c6
9.Nc3 Nbd7 10.Qb3 Qc8 11.Rac1 Ne4
12.cxd5 Nxc3 13.Qxc3 exd5 14.b4 a6
15.a4 Nf6 16.Ne5 Qe6

16...Bd6!? 17.Nxc6? Ne4!±

17.Nd3 Kh8 18.Nc5



Position after 18.Nc5

18...Bxc5?

18...Qc8± Black faces a lengthy defense against a grinding minority attack.

19.bxc5± Ne4 20.Qe1

Very cautious. White knows he has a serious positional advantage on the queenside, and wants to prevent any possible kingside attack. 20.Qb2 is more direct, and also safe enough, as 20...Bxh3?! 21.gxh3 Qxh3 22.Rf1, planning Bf1, gives Black no compensation for his piece.

20...g5

20...Bxh3? 21.gxh3 Qxh3 22.f3 is precisely what White's move 20 is designed to refute.

21.Bh2 Rg8 22.f3 Nf6 23.Qf2 Bg6 24.Rc3 Rae8 25.Rb3 Re7 26.Bd6 Rd7 27.Be5 Kh7 28.Bd3 Bxd3 29.Rxd3 Ne8 30.Rb3 f6 31.Qc2+ Kh8 32.Bg3 Ng7 33.Rfb1 Nf5 34.Bf2 Rgg7



Position after 34...Rgg7

35.g4 Nh4 36.Bxh4 gxh4 37.Qf2 f5 38.Qxh4 fxg4 39.hxg4 Rdf7 40.Kg2 Qg6 41.R3b2 h5 42.Rh1 Rh7 43.g5 Qf5 44.Qg3 1-0

Jason Cigan (2159) – Nick Raptis (2389) [C11]
Oregon Closed Portland, OR
(R6), February 14, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bc5 9.Qd2 a6 10.0-0-0 Qc7 11.Qf2 Bxd4 12.Bxd4 b5



Position after 12...b5

13.Be3

13.Bc5!? prevents kingside castling and aims for the d6-square. 13...Nxc5 An attempt at a tactical refutation.



Brian Essler (left) vs. Lennart Bjorksten (right), Steven Deeth in the background. Photo credit: Grisha Alpernas.

Alternatives: (13...Nxc5 14.Qxc5 is perhaps a tiny edge for White. Black has more actual center pawns and queenside space and mobility to counter White's advanced e-pawn, but also retains the bad bishop and castling issues. Probably both sides would be fairly satisfied with the outcome of this opening.; The aggressive-looking 13...Qa5 14.a3 b4 15.axb4 Nxb4

a nifty bind for the piece.; b) 14...Nc4? 15.Bxg7 Rg8 16.Nxd5 exd5 17.Re1+ Nce5 (17...Kd8 18.Qh4+ mates.) 18.Bxe5 Nxe5 19.Rxe5+ Be6 20.Bd3+-; 15.Nxd5! exd5 (15...Qd6 16.Qe2 Qxd5 17.Bxg7 Qxa2 18.Bxh8+-) 16.Qe2+ Nge5 17.Bxe5 (or 17.fxe5 0-0 18.e6± Bishop-pair and pawn islands.) 17...Nxe5 18.Qxe5+ Qxe5 19.fxe5±



(#Diagram-analysis after 15...Nxb4)

16.Bd6 Qa1+ 17.Kd2! Qxb2 18.Bd3 Nxd3 19.Qh4! f6 20.Rb1+-) 14.Bd4 Ng4 a) 14...Nc6 15.Bxg7 Rg8



(#Diagram-analysis after 15...Rg8)

16.Nxd5! exd5 17.Re1+ Ne7 18.Bd4 is

13...0-0 14.h4 f6 15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Be2 b4 17.Na4 Ne4 18.Qe1 Qa5 19.b3 Rb8 20.Kb1 Bd7 21.Bf3 Nc3+ 22.Nxc3 bxc3 23.Rd3

23.Bd4 Nb4 24.a4 Bxa4 yields a smashing attack for Black.; 23.Bc1 Nb4 24.a3 Nxc2!? 25.Kxc2 seems less clear, though Black retains the initiative.

23...Nb4 24.Rxc3 Qxa2+ 25.Kc1 Rfc8 26.Bd4



Position after 26.Bd4

26...Rxc3

Winning. 26...Nd3+! 27.cxd3 Rxb3 is a pretty alternative.

27.Qxc3 Rc8 28.Bc5 Nxc2 29.Qxc2 Qa1+ 30.Qb1

30.Kd2 Qxh1+

30...Rxc5+ 31.Kd2 Qd4+ 32.Ke2

32.Qd3 Qxf4+ 33.Qe3 Rc2+

32...Bb5+ 33.Ke1 Qe3+ 34.Kd1 Rc3 0-1

Micah Smith (2079) –
Moshe Rachmuth (1845) [D00]
G60 PCC January Portland, OR
(R3), January 31, 2015
[Moshe Rachmuth]

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Bg4 3.c4 Nc6 4.Nc3 e6
5.f3 Bh5 6.g4?! Bg6 7.h4?! h6?!

7...h5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.g5 Bd6 10.Nxd5

8.e3 Bd6 9.Nge2?

White loses control of the d3-square and gets into trouble. Many moves would have been better, for example 9.cxd5 with equality.

9...Nb4 10.e4

Here Houdini suggests White play 10.Kd2 with a small advantage for Black, but I don't think any human would have played it so 10.e4 is reasonable, covering d3.

10...dxc4

And Black in turn renews the threat Nd3.

11.Qa4+?

Here White should have played 11.Bxd6 when Black has two options, both giving Black a small advantage: 11.Bxd6 Qxd6 12.Kf2 and the white king finds safety in the east wing; or 11.Bxd6 Nd3 12.Kd2 Qxd6 13.Qa4+ c6 14.Qxc4 Ne5 15.Qb3 Nxf3+ 16.Ke3 with a wild game where Houdini prefers Black but everything could happen really.

11...c6 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.e5?



Position after 13.e5

This should have lost immediately to 13...Nd3 14. Kd2 Nxe5 when White is two pawns down and his king is caught in the center.

13...Qe7?

Missing the above line.

14.Ne4?

White would have had a better chance after 14.Nf4 Nc2+ 15.Kf2 Nxa1 16.Bxc4 when White has some compensation for the lost material.

14...b5 15.Qd1 Nd3+ 16.Kd2 Bxe4
17.fx4 Nf2 18.Qe1 Qb4+?!

Objectively, Black should not exchange queens when White's king is traveling in the center. 18...Nxb1 would have been better. Still this may be a good practical decision if Black is a strong endgame player but this is not the case as we will see soon.

19.Ke3 Qxe1 20.Rxe1 Nxb1 21.Bg2 Ne7
22.Rxb1 0-0?!

22...c5 23.d5 Ng6

23.Nf4 Rfd8 24.Rd1?! Rac8?!

24...c5 25.d5 Nc6

25.g5 hxg5 26.hxg5



Position after 26.hxg5

My next moves may make no sense to rational being. So in order to explain my "thought process," let me go a few decades back to when I had pimples on my forehead rather than wrinkles. In those days I was reading "My Chess Career" by Jose Raul Capablanca. I did not see the book in many years now but Capablanca's ability to plan ahead in the endgame had impressed me much.

Capablanca would sometimes write things like the following (I quote from memory): "Here Black has a simple winning plan. All Black needs to do is double his rooks on the King Knight's file, open the file, infiltrate White's camp through KKN7, capture White's queen rook's pawn on QR7, exchange one of his rooks but keep the other. Then Black takes his remaining rook behind his own QR pawn via the route QR7-KKN7-KKN1-QR1, promotes his own QR pawn and checkmates the White king." At that point you would see some thirty moves in which things happened exactly as JR had predicted them without his opponent having any counter chances whatsoever. That is all wonderful as reading material but quite dangerous when you start imagining you are Capablanca in the middle of a true tournament chess game, as happened to me.

At this point, a Capa-like plan came to my head. My impossible-to-beat plan was: open the f-file put my king on e7 double the rooks on the f-file, infiltrate White's position... hence the next move.

26...Ng6??

26...g6

27.Nxg6 fxg6 28.Bh3 Kf7?

Had I not been in the "I am Capablanca" world of fantasy I might have played 28...Re8, a move that still keeps some advantage on Black's side.

29.d5

Oh my! I am not Capablanca but rather Patzernegra. At this point I was telling myself, "Just don't lose the game!" and decided to play for a draw. The position, by the way, is objectively equal, according to Houdini.

29...cxd5 30.exd5 exd5 31.Bxc8 Rxc8
32.Rxd5 a6 33.Kd4?!

Here I expected 33.Rd7+ Ke6 34.Rxg7 Kxe5 35.Rxg6 Kf5 36.Rxa6 Kxg5 with what I thought would have been a dead draw. In fact after 37.Ra5 Black may lose if he is not careful enough.

33...Ke7 34.Kc3 Rc6 35.Rd2?!

35.a4 would dissolve the tension on the Queen's side and lead to an immediate draw.

35...Rc5?!

35...Ke6

36.Kd4?!

36.Rd6

36...Rc7 37.Rf2 Ke6 38.Re2 Rd7+
39.Ke4?!

Instead of the last move White should have played 39.Kc5 Rd5+ 40.Kb6 Rxe5 41.Rg2. With the rook defending the g4-pawn and the king controlling the queenside, White should have a draw. After 39.Ke4?! both White's pieces are passive and he is suffering, especially when he has less than five minutes on the clock, as he did.

39...Rd5 40.Kf4 Rd1 41.Ke4 Rg1 42.Kf4
Rf1+ 43.Ke4 Rf5 44.Kd4

More tenacious would have been 44.Rg2. After 44.Kd4 the g-pawn falls and White has issues on both wings while Black's king hides behind the e5-pawn. From here on Black is winning. All this is very clear to me now, sitting in front of my computer but at the time of the game every result seemed possible.

44...Rxg5 45.b3 Rg4+ 46.Kc5 c3 47.Kb6
b4 48.Kxa6 g5 49.Kb5 Rf4 50.Ka4 g4
51.a3 bxa3+ 52.Kxa3 g3 53.Rg2 Rf3
54.b4

Only now did I realize that I was actually going to win the game.

54...c2+ 55.Kb2

[Diagram top of next page]

55...Rf1!



Position after 55.Kb2

It was not too late to ruin it all with 55... c1Q+?! 56.Kxc1 Rf1+?? (56...Kxe5 still wins.) 57.Kd2= but after the text move both 56.Kxc2 Rf2+ and 56.Rxc2 Rf2 are easily winning for Black. In this last position White lost on time. This was a far-from-perfect game but hopefully not an uninteresting one.

0-1

February 2015 PCC Quad 45

Portland, OR — February 21, 2015

By Brian Berger

Not only were the many daffodils blooming around Portland a sign that winter was on the wane, but the sunny day that greeted the 24 players entering the Portland Chess Club, for the 3rd Saturday of the month Quad 45, were welcomed with spring-like weather.

Meeting and greeting the many who came to once again exhibit their chess prowess, was the highly efficient team of Mike-and-Mike (Mike Lilly and Micah Smith). These two great guys are building quite a following, with attendance figures



(L) Geoff Kenway vs Byron Wong.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Egan Wong vs Michael Bunker.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

indicating that the time control for this tournament is becoming very popular with the younger, and many of the older crowd. And as icing on the cake in these tournaments, for those whose appetite for chess falls into the category of over indulgence, Mike-and-Mike hold 10 rounds of blitz immediately after the dust has cleared from the Quads.

Due again to the fact that there were quite a few unrated as well as provisional players, and also to the fact that some players did not want to be paired up with family members, those players were entered in a Small Swiss, while the remainder were broken into four quads. The upper quad was won by Elias Stern-Rodriguez (1977-2003), who lately has seen his rating increase in nearly every tournament—winning this time

with a score of 2.5 points, and breaking into the Expert class. And following closely was Jason Cigan (2161-2152) with 2.0 points, then unrated Santiago Tenesaca, who managed 1.0 point, ending as an 1861 provisional player, and edging out Dagadu Gaikwad (1855-1842) by a half point.

Quad # 2 saw Jeff Austin (1797-1813) claim the top dog spot, with 2.5 points, trailed closely by Ethan Wu (1615-1665), securing second with 2.0 points, and leaving Carl Stump (1631-1629) and Mu Lin (1778-1736) with 1.0 point, and 0.5 respectively.

Quad # 3 found Brian Berger (1560-1602) fighting his way back into the B class, by managing to upset Jazon Samillano (1605-1591), in an endgame that was being dominated by Samillano, who earlier had gained an exchange advantage, plus an extra pawn, but found





(L) Jerry Sherrard giving some advice in the skittle room.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

himself in time trouble trying to avoid Berger's relentless, dogging queen, who had skillfully found her way deep into the now worried king's domain, supported by a centrally placed bishop. The end result being, a resignation by Samillano, faced with a two-move checkmate threat.

Quad #4 was won by Marcus Leung (1148-1347), who trashed the competition with a perfect 3.0 points, and added almost 200 points to his post-game rating! And the unrated Rakesh Rapolu, finished his games with a win and a draw, enough for 2nd place and a post-provisional rating of 1330. While Byron Wong (1322p-1301p) with 1.0 point, and Geoffrey Kenway (1411-1359) with a 0.5, trailed behind.

The Small Swiss saw (coincidentally) perhaps the smallest and youngest player in the tournament, Egan Wong (783-994), ride roughshod over the 7 other players in this 8 player side event, by posting

3.0 points. Egan appears to be a lion in sheep's clothing, and with this win, he upped his rating over 200 points! His closest competition were Megan Cheng (1102p-1074p), Michael Bunker (unrated-881p) and Erin Cheng (821p-817p), all finishing with 2.0 points.

Tied for 1st with 8.0 points each in the Blitz competition, were Jason Cigan (2133-2133) and Jerry Sherrard (2070-2072), with the unrated Santiago Tenesaca only a heartbeat behind, coming in 2nd by posting a more than respectable 7.5 points, and gaining a provisional blitz rating of 2055! Who is this masked man?!!

February 2015 PCC G60

Portland, OR — February 28, 2015

By Brian Berger

There are few but the chess-minded who would gaze out their windows on a gorgeous, sunny, Saturday morning, and say to his/her self—"Wow! What a great day for chess!" But it was a good number of those few (31 to be exact) who did just that, by attending the

Portland Chess Club's February Game 60, a tournament that tests the speed of your calculating skills, and where it is possible to get in four games of exciting, fast-paced chess, and still get home at a reasonable hour.

On hand to TD were Chief TD Neil (no nonsense) Dale, who has lately demonstrated through various encounters with rogue elements of the wild animal kingdom i.e. alligators, hyenas, crocodiles, and misguided malcontents, that Chief TD is not a title to be taken lightly and, is in fact, due respectful indulgence. And helping Neil in his duties as his Assistant TD, was Mike (kind-hearted) Lilly; together they formed a a contrasting pair, exhibiting formidable leadership skills.

Also on hand was (let's say it all together) "Morgan the Dog!" What Game 60 would be complete without Morgan the Dog wandering amongst his fellow chess aficionados (noting those who just push the pieces with indecisive randomness, and those fine-tuned few, whose movement of the pieces is like a well-composed symphony, the final delicate refrains signaling the defeat of their opponents), looking for head pats and chin scratches—and, best of all, tummy rubs.

And with Morgan the Dog, was Jerrold Richards, basking in his companion's celebrity status, while also attempting to fully make use of his astounding knowledge of the game. Trying to be kind in my assessment of this ongoing experiment, I will just say that, given enough time to assimilate some of the wealth of esoteric chess strategy that Morgan the Dog has at his paw-tips, and enough patience on Morgan's part to continue his tutoring duties, Jerrold could just possibly elevate his play to the B level—the operative words here obviously being "time" and "patience," which could be in short supply for a hard working accountant. Nevertheless, "hope springs eternal," as they say, and might, eventually, shift the three losses Jerrold suffered in this tournament, into the win column of some future event.

Now to the more important issue of the day—who were the prize winners? Unusual in the fact that they did not face each other, both Nick Raptis (2399-2402) and Mike Goffe (1905-1931) tied for 1st place, ending with 4.0 points each and \$77.50. Even more unusual was that, Goffe, also missed playing Washington Master William Schill II, (2208-2206), who ended the tournament sharing prize money with three other players who finished with 3.0 points



Carl Haessler Chess Master

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chessworksNW.com



(L) Michael Strigul vs Erin Cheng.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

each—Christopher Burris (1647-1643), Jon Strohheln (1528-1611) and Jazon Samillano (1591-1594), that when pooled together with 3rd place and U-1800 monies, netted each \$25.25. While the one clear prize winner was Marcus Chi-Leung (1353-1469), who walked away \$54 richer, by accumulating 2.5 points in the U-1500 category.

Although prize winners constituted some of the many tough battles fought over the board, they were not the only interesting battles. A case in point was the 4th round game between the perpetually- hyper youngster, Michael Strigul (1339-1324), and his direct opposite, the young and demure, Erin Cheng (817p-856p). Their endgame play, accelerated by the quickly vanishing time on both sides, mirrored

their demeanor, with Strigul rapidly and AUDIBLY moving and slamming his pieces (the sounds of which, could be heard bouncing off the club walls), and the quick, but controlled movements of Cheng, who, with her queen, was defending against Strigul's attempts to queen a pawn—she being successful, in that a draw was agreed upon. A nice feather in the cap for a new to the USCF young lady, who held off a much higher-rated player, and added 39 more points to her own rating.

Another game of interest, also between players of highly disparate ratings, and also in the last round, was the pairing of Egan Wong (994-1075) and Mu Lin (1736-1654). A friend of this reporter (and no slouch as a player himself) who

had watched some of the endgame moves, was astounded by the mature authority of Wong's play, ending in the defeat of the much older, and much higher rated player—a win that, though unusual due to the huge difference in ratings, did not catch me completely by surprise, as Egan Wong and his dad, Byron Wong, are regular attendees of a chess gathering I host every Sunday at Singer Hill Cafe, in Oregon City, in which I have witnessed near similar results by this stoic lad in casual games against seasoned players.

**Egan Wong (994) –
Mu Lin (1736) [B21]**
PCC G/60, February 28, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 Nc6
5.Nf3 d6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Qe2**

7.e5!?

**7...a6 8.0-0 Bg4 9.Rd1 e6 10.h3 Bxf3
11.Qxf3 Ne5 12.Qe2 Nxc4 13.Qxc4 Qb6**

13...Rc8; 13...Be7

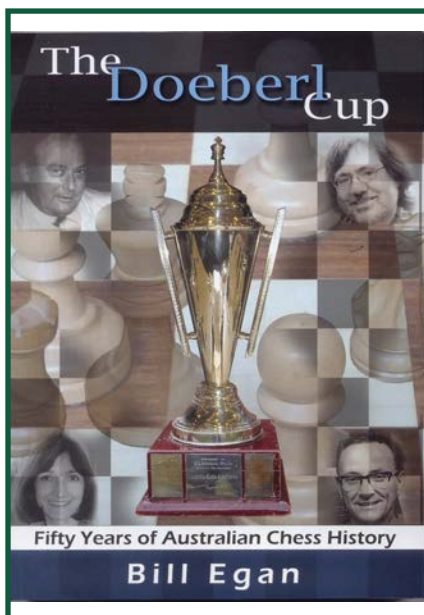
**14.Be3 Qc6 15.Qe2 Nxe4 16.Rac1 Nxc3
17.Rxc3 Qd7**

17...Qe4!?

18.Rdc1



Position after 18.Rdc1



The Doeberl Cup: Fifty Years of Australian Chess History. (Author Bill Egan) Limited edition collector's item, 336 pages, games, diagrams, 46 profiles of greats who won one of the world's longest continually running tournaments – Purdy, Miles, Christiansen, Rogers, Arakhamia, Akobian and more. CD with 6,000+ games. Amazon, post-free \$39.95. Search "Doeberl Cup".

Jeremy Silman says:

"If you are an Australian then this is a must own book. But if you love chess history, annotated games, wonderful photos, and the ups and downs of a seemingly endless parade of great players, then you'll find that the \$39.95 price tag is money well spent, no matter what country you're from."

See full review at: <http://tinyurl.com/knd9h2z>

John Donaldson says:

"A first-rate account of this event which has come to mean so much for Australian chess. The book comes with a bonus in the form of a DVD which contains over 6,000 games from the 50 years of competition, most of which are not to be found in ChessBase. **Recommended.**"

See full review at: <http://tinyurl.com/llfnppa>

18...b5??

Black needs to get castled ASAP: 18...Be7 19.Rc7 Qd8 20.Rxb7 0-0 21.Rcc7±. White has plenty of compensation for the pawn in the form of activity (those rooks doubled on the seventh, for example), but not too many weaknesses to target.

19.Qf3 Qd8 20.Qc6+ Ke7 21.Qb7+ Kf6

21...Ke8 22.Rc7 (Even stronger than 22.Rc8 Rxc8 23.Rxc8 Qxc8, though of course this is also crushing.) 22...Be7 23.Rxe7+ Qxe7 24.Qxa8+ Qd8 25.Rc8

22.Bd4+ e5 23.Rf3+ Kg6 24.Qxf7+ Kh6 25.Qe6+

25.Be3+ g5 26.Rf6+ is simpler, but it's forced mate in any case.

25...Kh5 26.Qg4+ Kh6 27.Be3+ g5 28.h4 Be7 29.Qe6+ Kh5 30.g4+ 1-0

Answers to last month's Crossword Puzzle

I	S	O		H	E	R		W	O	R	L	D
M	E	N		I	R	A		O	R	A	I	A
W	E	L	L	M	A	N		M	O	N	E	Y
S	K	Y	E		S	D	C	E		T	N	S
		M	I	A		O	H	N	O			
S	E	T		M	A	M	A		A	B	E	T
A	L	A	T	I	M		I	O	K	E	V	A
G	O	L	D		I	M	N	M		P	E	G
			S	A	G	E		Y	O	U		
A	N	Y		T	O	M	E		U	S	C	F
S	E	A	R	S		B	R	O	T	H	E	R
H	O	R	S	E		E	G	O		E	D	A
A	N	D	P	A		R	O	H		D	E	U



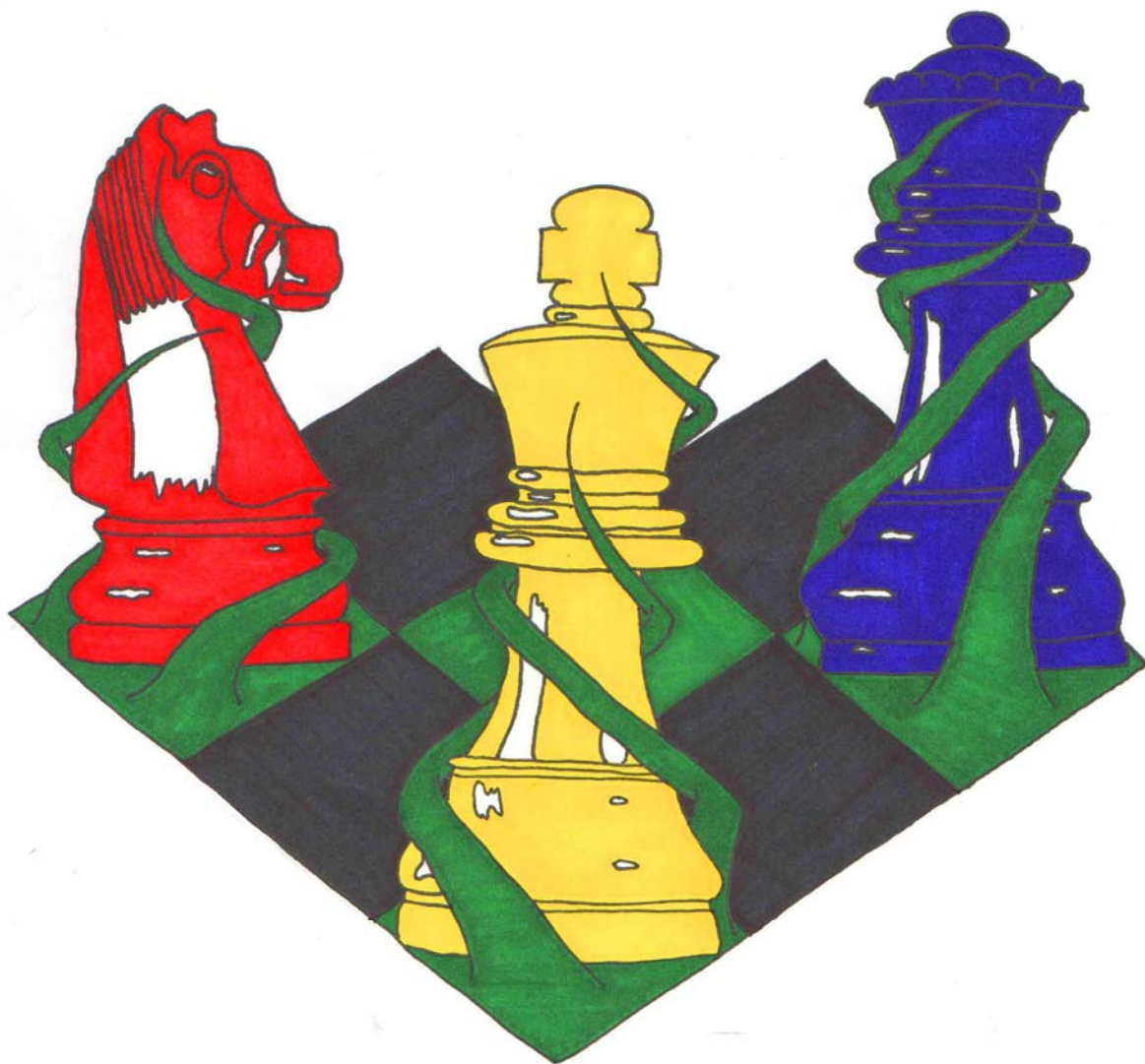
Morgan the Dog catches a little sun with Jerrold Richards.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



The Chess Butler is represented out West by russellmiller22@comcast.net

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BOISE CHESS FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 6, 2015

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

2015 Idaho State Chess Champion, FM David Lucky playing a 12 board simul; 18 Time Idaho State Chess Champion, Larry Parsons playing a 12 board simul; and Caleb Kircher, 2014 Idaho State Chess Champion playing a 12 board simul; Drawings, Speed Chess Exhibitions, Bughouse Exhibitions; Spar with Chess Champions; Blitz; Lightning G/1 Minute and Invitational Rated G/2 Hour Tournament; 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 2015

www.BoiseChessFestival.info

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Idaho Chess News

Jim Berezow joins the Northwest Chess Board

Last month, Jim Berezow was appointed to the Northwest Chess Board of Directors to replace Cameron Leslie who moved to Washington. Idaho has two representatives on the Board (see page 2.)

Jim Berezow is a Candidate Master (aka Expert) who resides in Meridian. Jim plays almost each week at the Boise Chess Club and also takes pictures of the players at those meetings for the Idaho Chess Association website and for Northwest Chess.

Jim's first contribution to the magazine was his picture of the Fremont Troll in Issue 800 (see page 3) from September, 2014. He also took a photo of the Seattle skyline in that same issue (see page 20.) Jim has had many pictures appear in the magazine since that time.

Jim is a man of many talents, and he is very enthusiastic about the magazine. We look forward to having him represent Idaho on the Northwest Chess board.



Jim Berezow at the Boise Chess Club on March 2, 2015. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland



2015 Mountain Home Open participants. Back Row L-R: Journey Iverson, Desmond Porth, Andre Murphy, Wesley Brimstein, Jeffrey Roland, Jarod Buus, Nathanael Winchell, Christopher Pentico, Christopher Olson, Adam Porth. Front Row L-R: Corey Longhurst, James Inman, Stanley Lidback. Photo credit: the clerk at the cafe (her name is unknown to us.)

Mountain Home Open

The Mountain Home Open was played at the cafe in the Mountain Home Library at 790 North 10th East in Mountain Home on February 7, 2015. 13 players attended this free event that was open to everyone. This was a great warm-up event to the Idaho Closed State Championship which was to happen the following weekend. The time control was Game/30;d0 and it was a 5-round Swiss System tournament. It was not rated by USCF but instead by Rocky Mountain Chess. The event was sponsored by Idaho Chess Union (not to be confused with Idaho Chess Association) and BCSD Chess Rage. Adam Porth was the tournament director.

Jarod Buus of Nampa won first place with a score of 4.5 points and James Inman of Nampa was second place with a score of 4.5 points. Christopher Pentico of Mountain Home was third place with 3 points.

Prizes were lithographs made by Adam Porth.

Idaho Closed State Championship

The Idaho Closed State Chess Championship was held at the Shilo Inn in Twin Falls, Idaho from February 14-16, 2015. Barry Eacker was Chief

Tournament Director with Jeffrey Roland being Assistant Tournament Director. There were 29 players in the event, and three of those were former Idaho State Chess Champions (Larry R. Parsons, John Carr, and Caleb Paul Kircher.)

With a time control of 30 moves in 2 hours and a secondary time control of game/60 with 5-second delay throughout the game, players were given plenty of time to play their best. For most, this is the biggie, the premier event of the year. Several games went the entire six hours, sometimes with only seconds to make that 30th move. Not one of the 81 games played was lost to a time forfeit or flag-fall, but some got short of time.

The Idaho Closed is actually "open" to everyone in Idaho, but "closed" if you are not a resident of Idaho. Each state in the Northwest gets one event open to all residents of that state to count as a Northwest Chess Grand Prix event given that all other NWGP conditions are met, and this is the one from Idaho that counts.

The Annual Business Meeting was conducted Sunday morning, February 15, 2015. Jeffrey Roland was re-elected as President, Adam Porth re-elected as Vice President, and Jay Simonson re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer. The new terms of these officers will commence on March 31, 2015 and last until March 30, 2017. The four Trustees will be up for election next year (the 7 board members have staggered terms). Currently those

four trustees up for election next year are Kevin Patterson as Trustee for Web Development and Maintenance, Craig Barrett for Trustee for Scholastic Development, Jamie Lang and Alise Pemsler for Trustee for Tournament Organization.

Prize Winners

David Lucky of Eagle won first place overall with 6 points.

Caleb Paul Kircher of Nampa won second place overall with 4.5 points.

James Inman of Nampa won third place overall with 4.5 points.

Alex James Machin of Boise won first place Class C with a score of 4 points.

John Carr of Victor won first place Class B with 4 points.

Jarod N. Buus of Nampa won second place Class B with 3.5 points.

Jeffrey T. Roland of Boise won the Buckendorf Award #1 with 3.5 points and chose the book “*Essential Chess Endings*” by Ken Smith from the Glen Buckendorf Library.

Kurt P. Douglas of Boise won Top Senior with 3.5 points.

Chris Amen of Boise won the Buckendorf Award #2 with 3.5 points and got the book, “*Practical Opening Tips*” by Ken Smith from the Glen Buckendorf Library.

Carmen Pemsler of Eagle won Top Woman with 3 points.

David Allen Zaklan of Twin Falls won second place Class C with 3 points.

Lloyd Landon of Idaho Falls won first place Class A with 3 points.

Desmond Porth of Bellevue won first place Class D with 3 points.

Matthew Dominick of Boise won second place Class D with 3 points.

Jacob Ari Nathan of Idaho Falls won Top Junior with 2.5 points.

Larry R. Parsons of Boise won first place Expert with 2.5 points.

Jay L. Simonson of Idaho Falls won first place Class E (and below) with 2 points.

Donald L. Shouse of Hansen was second place Class E (and below) with 2 points.



Alex Machin in his game with Chris Amen. Alex had a great tournament and his rating jumped 145 points at the tournament. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

Alex James Machin (1571) – Chris Amen (1683) [A48]

Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R3),
February 14, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.e3 c5 4.c3 Bg7 5.Be2 0-0 6.0-0 b6 7.Nbd2 d5 8.Ne5 Bb7 9.Qa4

The white queen temporarily prevents ...Nc6, but could prove slightly misplaced on the queenside.

9...cxd4 10.exd4 a6 11.f4 b5

This forces the white queen to a better square, while creating some static targets on a6 and b5. Better would be 11...e6; or 11...Qc7, when Black stands no worse.

12.Qd1 Nbd7



Position after 12...Nbd7

13.b4?

Seriously weakens the c3-pawn and the c4- and a4-squares. As a defense against the minority attack, this kind of move is sometimes effective if a knight can quickly go to c5 to block all frontal pressure on the c-file.

Here, however, White has advanced the f-pawn, leaving powerful outposts on e4

and c4 for black knights, and playing Nb3 reduces White’s piece control over e4. And, as yet another white pawn lands on a dark square, that c1-bishop has fewer and fewer prospects.

It also begs the question — is there really a minority attack that needs defending? 13.a4!?

13...Rc8

13...Nb6⁺ makes sense here, both aiming at the newly minted c4-outpost and preventing a4.

14.Nb3

14.a4! tries to liquidate the queenside.

14...Ne4 15.Bd2 f6?!

15...Nxc3 16.Bxc3 Rxc3. Both players have something to be happy about: White has exchanged his passive, bad bishop for Black’s out posted knight; Black is ahead material.; 15...Nb6 16.Nc5 Qc7[∞]

16.Nxd7 Qxd7 17.Bg4?!

This is a good time for that c-file blocking play, 17.Nc5.

17...f5 18.Bf3



Position after 18.Bf3

18...Rc7?

It's almost as if the possible capture on c3 has become invisible. Best, of course, is 18...Nxc3 19.Bxc3 (19.Qe1 Ne4±) 19...Rxc3 20.Qd2 (20.Nc5 Qc6 21.Be2 Rc4! 22.Bxc4 dxc4 23.Nxb7 Qxb7, with ample compensation for the exchange in the form of material (the d-pawn is also falling) and position (passed c-pawn and dark square domination).) 20...Rc4±

19.Bxe4 dxe4 20.Nc5 Rxc5?

20...Qd6±

21.bxc5 b4?

21...Bd5

22.Qb3+ Qd5 23.Qxb4?

23.Kf2±



Position after 23.Qxb4

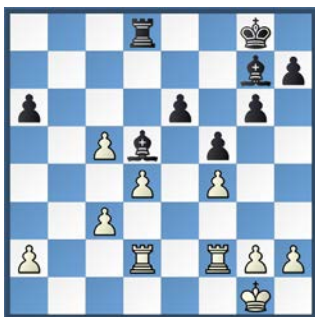
23...e3! 24.Qb3 exd2 25.Rf2 Rd8

25...Bh6 26.Rd1 Qxb3 27.axb3 Bd5 28.c4 Be4 29.Rdxd2 Rb8∞; or 25...e6 26.Qxd5 Bxd5 27.Rxd2. Black's bishop-pair matches up pretty well against the rook and pawns here, as long as the black rook can find some activity, too (such as along the b-file).

26.Rd1 e6

26...Qxb3 27.axb3 Bd5 28.b4∞

27.Qxd5 Bxd5 28.Rdxd2



Position after 28.Rdxd2

28...Bc4?!

28...Bf6 29.Rb2 g5 30.fxc5 Bxc5 31.Rfe2 Kf7 32.Kf2 (32.Rb6 Bc4±) 32...Bf4 33.g3 Bc7 and Black is certainly not worse.

29.g3

29.Rb2±

29...Rb8?! 30.Rb2 Rxb2?



David Lucky (left) vs. Fred Bartell (right). Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

Exchanging rooks is the wrong plan for Black. Instead, he should have tried to control all of the useful entry points along the b-file and aimed to break on the kingside with something like ...g5.

31.Rxb2 Bb5?

A final blunder, though now the position is lost in any case. 31...Bd5 32.Rb6+—

32.Rxb5! 1–0

David Lucky (2377) – Fred Bartell (1609) [B22]
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R1),
February 14, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 e5

3...d5; 3...Nf6; 3...e6

4.d4

4.Bc4±

4...exd4 5.cxd4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Bc5

6...Nf6 7.Nc3 Bb4 . By putting pressure on c3 and e4, Black is trying to encourage White to either exchange the d4-knight on c6 or to gambit the e-pawn (though probably with sufficient compensation). 8.Nxc6 (8.Bc4 Nxe4 9.0–0 Bxc3 10.bxc3 d5 with unclear complications.) 8...bxc6 9.Bd3 0–0 10.0–0 d5 is at worst a tiny disadvantage for Black.

7.Nb3 Bb4+ 8.Nc3 Nf6 9.Bc4 Ne5

9...0–0

10.Be2 Qe7?!

This gains little, and the queen is just a bit more exposed on this square. 10...0–0±

11.f3 0–0 12.0–0 Bxc3 13.bxc3 Rd8

[Diagram next column]



Position after 13...Rd8

14.f4

There's also something to be said for the prophylactic 14.c4. White has space and the bishop-pair.

14...Ng6?!

14...Nc6 15.e5 Ne4 16.Qe1 d5 17.c4±

15.e5 Ne8

Or 15...Ne4, though Black's development is still awkward.

16.Qd4 d6?!

16...d5±

17.Ba3 Qc7

17...Bf5 18.Rad1

18.exd6 Nxd6

18...Qc6 19.f5+—

19.Rad1 Qb6 20.Bc5 1–0

David Allen Zaklan (1483) – Caleb Paul Kircher (1819) [E60]
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R1),
February 14, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.c4 c5 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nbd2 0–0 6.Bd3 d6 7.b3 Bg4 8.h3

Bxf3 9.Nxf3 Nc6 10.Bb2 cxd4 11.exd4 d5 12.0-0 e6 13.Re1 Rc8 14.Rc1 Bh6 15.Rb1 Na5 16.c5 b6 17.b4 Nc4 18.Ba1 a5 19.Bxc4 dxc4 20.bxa5 bxc5 21.dxc5 Qxd1 22.Rexd1 Nd5 23.Be5 Rfe8 24.Rb5 Red8 25.Rdb1 f6 26.Ba1 e5 27.a6 c3 28.Ne1 Bf8 29.a7 Bxc5 30.Rxc5 Rxc5 31.Rb8 Rcc8



Position after 31...Rcc8

32.Rb3

This is one of those incomprehensible moments. White has worked hard to force the promotion of the a-pawn, and balks at the last moment. With 32.a8Q, White succeeds, and can claim at least some advantage with queen and piece vs two rooks and a pawn. 32...Rxb8 33.Qa6 when the queen can escape attacks by checking on e6, and attempts to back the passed pawn give White time to blockade with Nc2. Perhaps he was worried about 33...Rb1??, but 34.Bxc3! takes care of that: 34...Nxc3 35.Qe6+ Kf8 36.Qxf6+ Ke8 37.Qxe5+ Kf7 38.Qc7+ Ke8 39.Qxc3 Rdd1 40.Kf1 and White wins.

32...Ra8 33.a3 Rdc8 34.Nc2 Rxa7 35.Rb5 Nf4 36.Kf1 Rd7 37.Rb1 Rd2 38.Ne3 Nd3 39.Bxc3 Rxc3 40.a4 Rc1+ 41.Rxc1 Nxc1 42.Ke1 Ra2 43.Kd1 Nd3 44.a5 Nxf2+ 45.Kc1 Nd3+ 46.Kd1 Rxa5 47.Nc4 Rd5 48.Ne3 Rd4 49.Nc2 Nf4+ 50.Nxd4 exd4 51.g3 Ne6 52.Kd2 Kf7 53.Kd3 Ke7 54.h4 Kd6 55.Kc4 Ke5 56.Kd3 Kd5 57.Ke2 Ke4 58.g4 d3+ 59.Kd1 Ke3 60.g5 f5 61.h5 f4 62.h6 Nng5 63.Ke1 Ne4 64.Kd1 g5 65.Ke1 d2+ 66.Kf1 d1B 67.Kg2 Nd2 68.Kg1 Kf3 69.Kh2 Kf2 70.Kh1 g4 71.Kh2 Nf1+ 72.Kh1 Bf3# 0-1

Jarod N Buus (1656) –
David Lucky (2377) [C02]
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R2),
February 2, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Qb6 5.a3 Bd7 6.Nf3 cxd4 7.cxd4 Nc6 8.b4 Rc8 9.Be2 Nge7 10.0-0 Nf5 11.Bb2 Be7

[Diagram next column]

12.g4?!

This move is not a disaster all by itself, but it does create weaknesses on the kingside in general and along the f-file in particular. 12.Qd2, perhaps intending



Position after 11...Be7

Rd1 and Nc3 to complete development, seems more solid.

12...Nh4 13.Nbd2 Nxf3+

Another idea is 13...Ng6, aiming for the weak f4-square.

14.Nxf3 0-0 15.h4?!

Adding to the kingside targets.

15...f6 16.exf6 Rxf6



Position after 16...Rxf6

17.Qd2?

17.Bc1 Rxf3! 18.Bxf3 Qxd4 offers Black compensation for the exchange.; 17.b5 Na5 18.a4 Bd6

17...Rcf8 18.Kg2?

18.Ne1 e5!#

18...Rf4 19.g5 Be8 20.Rh1 Bh5 21.Rh3 Bd6 22.Rf1 Bg4 23.Rg3 Re4 24.Bd3 Rxf3 25.Rxf3 Bxf3+ 26.Kxf3 Nxd4+ 27.Kg2?

27.Bxd4 Qxd4+

27...Rg4+ 28.Kh3 Rxf4+ 0-1

Jeffrey T Roland (1730) –
Alex James Machin (1571) [D66]
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R2),
February 2, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Be7 4.Nc3 d5 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Rc1 h6 8.Bh4 0-0 9.Bd3 a6 10.0-0 dxc4 11.Bxc4 b5 12.Bd3 c5 13.Ne5 Bb7 14.Nxd7 Nxd7 15.Bxe7 Qxe7

[Diagram next column]

16.dxc5?

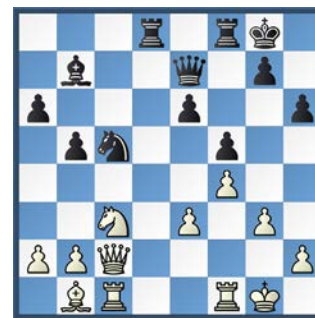
Loses time by advancing the black knight



Position after 15...Qxe7

on the recapture, and more time due to the tempo gain on the d3-bishop. 16.Be4

16...Nxc5 17.Bb1 Qg5 18.g3 Rad8 19.f4 Qe7 20.Qc2 f5#



Position after 20...f5

21.Nxb5?!

21.Rfd1 is better, though Black's edge is pretty clear.

21...Nd3 22.Nc3

22.Rcd1 axb5 23.Rxd3 Be4 was probably the tactical twist White missed when considering 21.Nxb5, but this is still the line to try. 24.Qb3 Bxd3 25.Bxd3 b4# may not be completely lost yet.

22...Qc5! 23.Nd1? Qd5 0-1

David Lucky (2377) –
DeWayne Derryberry (1763) [B22]
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R3),
February 15, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 e5 4.d4

White already has a significant advantage, with better development, favorable pawn tension, and superior central control.

4...Nc6 5.Bb5 cxd4 6.cxd4 Qa5+ 7.Nc3 a6 8.Bc4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.Qxd4 Be6 11.Bxe6 fxe6 12.Qc4 d5 13.exd5 exd5

[Diagram top of next page]

14.Qe2+!

14.Qxd5 only wins a pawn. White is fishing for big game.

14...Be7

14...Ne7 is not better.



Position after 13...exd5

15.0-0 0-0-0?

Loses on the spot, but prospects were bleak in any case.

16.Bf4 Qb6

16...Rd7 17.Rac1 Kd8 18.Qe5+, for example 18...Bd6 19.Bg5+ Ne7 20.Bxe7+

17.Rac1 1-0

Caleb Paul Kircher (1819) – David Lucky (2377) [A03]

Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R4),
February 15, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.b3 g6 4.Bb2 Bg7
5.e3 0-0 6.Be2 c5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.Na3



Position after 8.Na3

8...d4!? 9.Nc4 Nd5 10.a4 Ncb4 11.exd4
Nxf4 12.dxc5 Bxb2 13.Nxb2 Nxe2+
14.Qxe2 Nxc2 15.Rad1 Nd4 16.Qe3
Nxf3+ 17.gxf3 Be6 18.b4 Qd5 19.d4
Rad8 20.Rd2 Rd7 21.Rc1 Rfd8 22.Nc4
Qh5 23.Nb2?



Position after 23.Nb2

With fewer pawn islands and total domination of the blockading square d5, Black already has the edge, but this retreat loses material to a tactic.



A very nice picture of Dylan Porth taken by her father. Photo credit: Adam Porth

23...Rxd4 24.Rxd4 Rxd4 25.b5

25.Qxd4 Qg5+ 26.Kf2 Qxc1

25...Rb4

Or 25...Rd5!

26.Rd1 Bd5 27.c6?

27.Nd3 Rg4+ 28.fxg4 Qxg4+ 29.Kf2
Qxd1-+

27...Rxb2 28.cxb7 Qxh2+ 0-1

Larry R Parsons (2000) – James Inman (1650) [A12]
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R4),
February 15, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.c4 c6 2.b3 Nf6 3.Bb2 d5 4.Nf3 Bf5
5.g3 e6 6.Bg2 h6 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.d3 Be7
9.Nbd2 0-0 10.Re1 Bh7 11.Qc2 Rc8
12.e4 Nc5 13.Ne5 Qc7 14.b4 Ncd7
15.Nxd7 Qxd7 16.a3 c5 17.b5 d4 18.e5
Ne8 19.Ne4 f6 20.exf6 Nxf6 21.Qe2 e5
22.Bc1 Rce8 23.a4 Rf7 24.a5



Position after 24.a5

24...Ref8?

24...Bxe4 25.Bxe4 Nxe4 26.Qxe4 Bd6±
25.f4?

25.Nxf6+ Bxf6 (25...Rxf6 26.f4!) 26.Bd5±

25...Nxe4 26.Bxe4 Bxe4 27.Qxe4 exf4
28.Bxf4 Bd6 29.Bxd6 Qxd6 30.Rf1 Qd7
31.Rae1 Rxf1+ 32.Rxf1 Re8 33.Qf3 Qe7
34.Qd5+ Kh8 35.Qf7 Qe3+ 36.Kg2

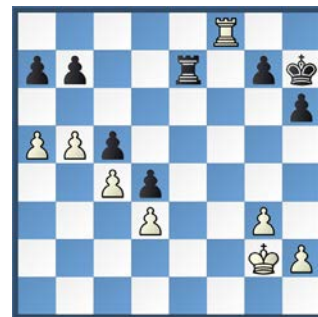


Position after 36.Kg2

36...Qe7?

36...Qd2+ 37.Rf2 Re2

37.Qxe7 Rxe7 38.Rf8+ Kh7



Position after 38...Kh7

39.Ra8

39.Rc8! b6 40.axb6 axb6 41.Rc6 Rb7
(41...Re3 42.Rxb6 Rxd3 43.Rc6) 42.Kf3±
39...b6 40.a6 Kg6 41.Kf3 Kf5 42.Rf8+
Ke5 43.Kg4 Kd6 44.Kf5 Re3?

44...Re5+

45.Rf7?

45.Rd8+! Ke7 46.Ra8+- Taking pawns with check is just more fun.

45...Rxd3 46.Rxa7 g6+?

46...Rf3+ 47.Ke4 Re3+ 48.Kf4 Re8! 49.Rf7! (49.Rxg7 d3 50.Rg6+ Kd7 and White must take the perpetual.) 49...g6! (49...d3? 50.Rf5 Kc7 51.Rd5) 50.Rf6+ Kc7∞

47.Kxg6 Ra3 48.Rb7

48.Rf7! d3 49.Rf5+-

48...d3 49.Rxb6+ Ke5



Position after 49...Ke5

50.Rb8

50.Rb7! Kd4 51.Kxh6 Kxc4 52.g4 d2 53.Rd7 Kxb5 54.Rxd2 Rxa6+ 55.Kh5 c4

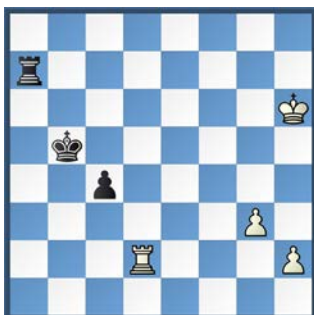


Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 55...c4)

Despite the apparent resemblance, White is dramatically ahead of the game continuation. 56.Rb2+ Ka4 57.g5 c3 58.Ra2+ Kb5 59.Rc2 Kc4 60.g6+-

50...Kd4 51.Rb7 Kxc4 52.a7 d2 53.Rd7 Rxa7 54.Rxd2 Kxb5 55.Kxh6 c4



Position after 55...c4

56.g4 c3 57.Rc2 Kc4 58.g5 Kd3



Barry Eacker (right) presents Jay Simonson (left) with the first-place Class E plaque. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland



Position after 58...Kd3

59.Rxc3+

59.Rc1 is a good trick to try, since Black's attempt to promote the c-pawn comes up short: 59...Kd2? (The gear-shift 59...Ra8! is good enough to hold the draw, though. 60.g6 (60.Kh7 Ra7+) 60...Rh8+) 60.Rg1 c2?? (60...Re7! 61.g6 Re1 can still reach a theoretically drawn pawn down queen ending.) 61.g6 c1Q 62.Rxc1 Kxc1 63.g7 and White is winning.

59...Kxc3 60.g6 Ra1 61.h4 Kd4 62.g7 Rg1 63.h5 Ke5 64.Kh7 Kf6 65.h6 Kf7 1/2-1/2

David Lucky (2377) –
Carmen Pemsler (1664) [D14]
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R5),
February 16, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.cxd5 cxd5
5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bf4 Bf5 7.e3 e6 8.Bb5 Bd6
9.Ne5 Bxe5 10.Bxe5 0-0 11.Bxf6 Qxf6
12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.0-0

[Diagram next column]

13...Qe7

13...e5±



Position after 13.0-0

14.Na4 Rab8 15.Rc1 Rfc8 16.Rc5 Qd7
17.Qd2 Rb5 18.Rfc1 Rxc5 19.Rxc5 Qb7
20.Qc3 Qa6 21.Ra5 Qb7?

21...Qe2 22.Qc1 Rc7 23.Nc3 Qc2
24.Qxc2 Bxc2 25.b3±

22.Qc5 Rc7 23.h3 h6 24.Qd6 Bd3?

24...Re7 25.Nc5 Qc7 26.Qxc7 Rxc7
27.f3±

25.Nc5 Qb6 26.Ra3 Bb5 27.Qd8+ Kh7



Position after 27...Kh7

28.Nd7 Rxd7 29.Qxd7 a6 30.Qxf7 c5
31.dxc5 Qxc5 32.Rc3 Qd6 33.f4 e5
34.Qf5+ Qg6 35.Qxg6+ Kxg6 36.fxe5
Kf5 37.Rc7 g6 38.Re7 h5 39.Kf2 Bc4

40.b3 Bb5 41.Kf3 g5 42.g4+ hxg4+
43.hxg4+ Kg6 44.Re6+ Kf7 45.Rd6 Ke7
46.Rxd5 Ke6

46...Bc6 47.e4

47.Rxb5 axb5 48.Ke4 Ke7 49.Kf5 Kf7
50.Kxg5 Ke7 51.Kf5 1-0

Alex James Machin (1571) –
David Lucky (2377) [A23]
Idaho Closed Twin Falls, ID (R6),
February 16, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 c6 4.d4 e4 5.f3
d5 6.fxe4 Nxe4 7.Bg2 Bb4 8.Bd2 Nxd2
9.Qxd2 dxc4 10.Nf3 0-0 11.0-0 Re8
12.Rad1 Nd7 13.e4 Nf6 14.Ng5 c5
15.Qf4



Position after 15.Qf4

15...cxd4??

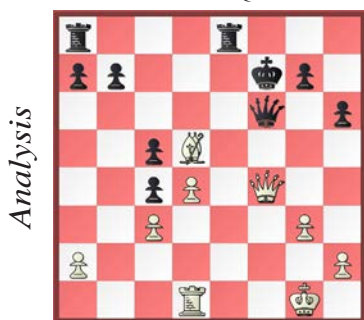
Lucky's only real mistake in the tournament, but it could have cost him a share of first place. 15...Bg4!∞



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 15...Bg4)

16.e5 (or 16.Nxf7!? Qe7 (16...Kxf7?
17.Qxg4) 17.e5 Bxd1 18.exf6 Qxf6 (18...
Qxf7? 19.Bd5) 19.Qxf6 gxf6 20.Nh6+∞)
16...Bxd1 17.Rxd1 Bxc3 18.bxc3 h6
19.Nxf7 Kxf7 20.exf6 Qxf6 21.Bd5+



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 21.Bd5+)



David Lucky (left) vs. Alex Machin (right) on board one in the final round.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

21...Kg6 (21...Kf8 22.Qg4 with more than
sufficient compensation. Rf1 is hard to
meet.) 22.Be4+ Kf7 (22...Rxe4 23.Qxe4+
Qf5 24.Qxb7 Rf8 25.dxc5) 23.Bd5+

16.e5 Qc7



Position after 16...Qc7

Here's the problem — the queen is undefended.

17.Nb5??

17.e6! Re7 (17...Qxf4 18.exf7+
Kf8 19.fxe8Q+ Kxe8 20.Rxf4 dxc3
21.Rxc4+-) 18.Qxc7 Rxc7



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 18...Rxc7)

19.Nd5!! Ba5 20.exf7+ Rxf7 21.Nxf7
Kxf7 22.Rxd4+-

17...Qxe5 18.Nc7 Qxf4

18...Bg4

19.gxf4?

19.Rxf4 Bg4+

19...Bg4 20.Bf3 h6 21.h3

The natural 21.Nxa8 Rxa8 22.Ne4 Nxe4
(or 22...Bxf3 23.Nxf6+ gxf6 24.Rxf3 d3)
23.Bxg4 d3 24.Kg2 does not give White
much more hope.

21...Bf5 22.Nxa8 Rxa8 23.Nxf7 Kxf7
24.Bxb7 Rb8 25.Bf3 Bc2 26.Rc1 d3
27.Bd1 Bd2 28.Ra1 Rxb2 0-1



Jay Simonson (left) presents Matthew Dominick (right) with the Second Class D award. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland

Idaho Scholastic Triple Crown

The ICA held the second annual Idaho Scholastic Triple Crown tournament on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at North Star Public Charter School in Eagle. The event was made up of three tournaments.

There was a Novice Tournament with prizes for three sections, but the event was combined as one for pairing purposes) and is geared for players who haven't played in any (or few) tournaments, and a K-6 Scholastic Tournament. And finally, the K-12 Open Tournament, which is where the stronger more advanced players play and where the Idaho representative to the Dewain Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions is selected. This year, that honor goes to Justin Siek of Boise.

K-12 Open Individual Awards

Justin Siek (1st), Jacob Nathan (2nd), Temiloluwa Aderogba (3rd), James Liu (4th), Kevin Xu (5th), Desmond Porth (6th), Daniel Fernandez (7th), Dylan Porth (8th), Garrett Strickler (9th), Matthew White (10th), Nathan Avey (11th), Katelyn Genta (12th), Gaven Ordenez (13th), Marco Ramirez (14th), and Levi Catangcatang (15th).

K-12 Open Team Awards

Collister Elementary (Boise) – 1st (12.5 points)

Silver Creek High School (Hailey) – 2nd (10 points)

Eagle Middle School (Eagle) – 3rd (9 points)

Vale Middle School (Vale, OR) – 4th (7 points)

Vale High School (Vale, OR) – 5th (5.5 points)

K-6 Scholastic Awards

Ryan Ripley (1st), Darci DeAngelis (2nd), Dennis Delane (3rd), Mechitas Fernandez (4th), Darwin Porth (5th), Sara Hollist (6th), Max Hollist (7th), Emma Palmer (8th), Jonah Banta (9th), and Marlee Zimmer (10th).

K-6 Scholastic Team Awards

Washington Elementary (Boise) – 1st (8.5 points)

Riverstone International (Boise) – 2nd (8 points)



Jeffrey Roland (left) presents Justin Siek (right) the first place trophy for the Idaho Scholastic Triple Crown. Photo credit: Adam Porth

Ambrose School (Meridian) – 3rd (4 points)

Audrey Richmond (3rd), Cale Abrew (4th), Michael Weyner (5th).

Novice 7-12 Section Individual Awards

Alex Goodwin (1st), Vimeon Rath (2nd), Zach McStay (3rd), Micah McPherson (4th), and Reilly Gorman (5th).

Novice 4-6 Section Individual Awards

Seth Dempsay (1st), Isaac Mcpherson (2nd), Kaiden Cross (3rd), Matthew Litzenberger (4th), Lucas Eidson (5th), Vedant Ranganathan (6th), Yahir Lopez (7th), Anugyan Sharma (8th), Calub Honeycutt (9th), Eric DeHaas (10th), Tanner Sibert (11th), Ryan DeHaas (12th), August Jackson (13th).

Novice K-3 Section Individual Awards

Ethan Montalbano (1st), Samuel McPherson (2nd),

Novice 4-6 Team Awards

Riverstone International (Boise) – 1st (10 points)

Mill Creek Elementary (Middleton) – 2nd (7 points)

Eagle Middle School (Eagle) – 3rd (6 points)

Novice K-3 Team Awards

Riverstone International (Boise) – 1st (10 points)

Washington Elementary (Boise) – 2nd (2.5 points)

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And We're Off...Again

by Murlin Varner, administrator

First off, let me make a correction. Last month I made mention of Stephen Buck just missing Geoff Gales points record from 2005. In doing so, I totally forgot that Ralph Anthony obliterated that record in 2013 by gaining a total of 301.5 points! So disregard that part of the March report, since it wasn't so close after all.

As I've mentioned before, we name the Grand Prix in honor of chess players who have left us, but we are not able to honor everyone. A recent passing deserves mention here. In mid-February, Ben Delson, long time Seattle Chess Club member, passed away at age 91. Ben was a Class B/C player who played very regularly until his health declined. His last local event was an SCC Quad in February of 2005, and he last travelled to play in the North American Open in Nevada in December of 2004. Ben participated in 478 events between 1992 and 2005, making him a very busy chess player.

The statistics below represent the first two months of the year, and offer us some new names on the leader boards. Thirteen events have been completed, with the annual Dave Collyer Memorial in Spokane being the most significant, as the first 3x multiplier for 2015. There are six events scheduled for March, all of which are single-value events. Our next multiplier is the Clark Harmon Memorial in Portland in April, with a 4x value. There are five other events scheduled for April, in Pocatello, Portland, Seattle, and Tacoma.

The year is just underway, and all of you are still in the hunt, even if you haven't started yet. But you need to start soon. See you across the board.

The statistics below are current through February 28.

Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington				
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.		
Masters										
			1	Raptis	Nick	25	1	Pupols	Viktors	24.5
			2	Grabinsky	Aaron	12	2	Bragg	David R	13.5
			3	Prochaska	Peter	11	3	Szabo	Marcell	11.5
			4	Haessler	Carl A	5	4	Schill	William J	10
							5	Kelley	Dereque D	6
Experts										
			1	Talyansky	Seth D	16.5	1	He	Anthony B	35.5
			2	Bjorksten	Lennart	12	2	Moroney	Timothy M	18
			2	Saputra	Yogi	12	2	Bishop	Alan	18
			4	Seitzer	Phillip	11	4	Haining	Kyle	17.5
			4	Parnon	Calvin J	11	5	Smith	Micah	14
Class A										
			1	Griggs	Glenn	13.5	1	Russell	Darren	26.5
			2	Inman	James	6.5	2	Dussome	David E	24
			3	Carr	John B	6	3	Krasin	Jeremy A	20.5
			3	Machin	Alex J	6	4	Zhang	Eric M	20.5
			5	Four tied at		5.5	5	Merwin	Steven E	18
			5	Hartley	Alan W	5.5				

Idaho			Oregon			Washington							
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.					
Class C			Class B										
1	Weyland	Ronald M	15.5	1	Hasuike	Mike L	41.5	1	Anthony	Ralph J	34.5		
2	Lombardi	George	13.5	2	Eagles	Roland	19.5	2	Bonrud	Neal	21		
3	Zaklan	David A	5	3	Samillano	Jazon	18	3	Puri	Ishaan	20		
4	Three tied at		4.5	4	Grabinsky	Joshua	11	3	Griffin	David B	20		
						5	Four tied at		10	5	Tu	Robin L	17
Class D			Class C										
1	Nacarato	Savanna	16.5	1	Sharan	Praveer	17	1	Piper	August	33.5		
2	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	2	McClain	Jack W	16.5	2	Zhang	Cheyenne	21		
3	Porth	Desmond	5	3	Berger	Brian F	16	2	Petrov	Oscar	21		
4	Porth	Adam	4	4	Kenway	Geoffrey W	13.5	4	Baker	Ted	20		
5	Dominick	Matthew T	3	5	Three tied at		12	4	Ahluwalia	Anshul B	20		
Class E and Below			Class D and Below										
1	Fister	Joel S	9	1	Frias	Corbin M	8	1	Munsey	Michael R	39.5		
2	Nacarato	Chris D	7.5	1	Gupta	Rohit	8	2	Anand	Vignesh	22.5		
3	Hiatt	Arlene	5	1	Wong	Egan	8	3	Burney	James L	15		
4	Courtney	Caleb	4.5	4	Wong	Byron	7	4	Casey	Garrett W	15		
5	Three tied at		4	5	Lilly	Michael J	6	5	Two tied at		14.5		
Overall Leaders, by State													
1	Nacarato	Savanna	16.5	1	Hasuike	Mike L	41.5	1	Munsey	Michael R	39.5		
2	Weyland	Ronald M	15.5	2	Raptis	Nick	25	2	He	Anthony B	35.5		
2	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	3	Eagles	Roland	19.5	3	Anthony	Ralph J	34.5		
4	Griggs	Glenn	13.5	4	Gaikwad	Dagadu B	18.5	4	Piper	August	33.5		
4	Lombardi	George	13.5	5	Samillano	Jazon	18	5	Russell	Darren	26.5		
6	Fister	Joel S	9	6	Sharan	Praveer	17	6	Pupols	Viktors	24.5		
7	Bodie	Brad	8.5	7	Talyansky	Seth D	16.5	7	Dussome	David E	24		
8	Lucky	David	8	7	McClain	Jack W	16.5	8	Anand	Vignesh	22.5		
9	Nacarato	Chris D	7.5	9	Berger	Brian F	16	9	Bonrud	Neal	21		
10	Kircher	Caleb P	6.5	10	Kenway	Geoffrey W	13.5	9	Zhang	Cheyenne	21		
10	Inman	James	6.5	11	Grabinsky	Aaron	12	9	Petrov	Oscar	21		
12	Maki	James J	6	11	Bjorksten	Lennart	12	12	Two tied at		20.5		

**Be sure to like '*Northwest Chess*'
on Facebook
Also, check out [nwchess.com/
blog/](http://nwchess.com/blog/)**

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

April 11 **SCC Novice**
Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75;d5. **EF:** \$11 by 4/8, \$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..

Apr. 12, May 17 **Sunday Tornado**
Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/60;d5. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 from each EF goes to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Misc:** USCF, WCF memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

Apr. 25, May 30 **Saturday Quads**
Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sec's by rtg. **TC:** G/120;d5. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future qd. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:15-6:30. **Misc:** USCF, WCF memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

SCC Elections, Fri. 5/1

The Hotel
 Nexus on Northgate Way
 less than a block from the club is offering a \$109 chess rate (1 king or 2 queens) during the winter months. Includes complimentary hot breakfast and free shuttle to downtown/U-District.

SCC Adult Swiss

May 2-3, 2015

A four-round Swiss open to those born before 5/4/1995 with a prize fund of \$375 based on twenty paid entrants (five per prize group).

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

Time Control: G/150; d5.
Entry Fees: \$33 if rec'd by 4/29, \$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. *Umr*—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.

Your contribution to the SCC is now tax-deductable! That's right, what you give to the Seattle Chess Club can lower your federal income tax bill!

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.

Visit our new website, www.seattlechess.club

Upcoming Events

♣ denotes 2015 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

Apr 3-5 4th Annual Larry Evans Memorial, **Reno, NV**. See <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>

♣ **Apr 4** Daffodil Open, **Tacoma, WA**. Site: Metro Parks Community Center, 3513 Portland Ave., Tacoma, WA. Format: 3 round Quads. Time Control: G/90; d5. Entry Fee: \$25, \$22 for Tacoma Chess Club members. Prize Fund: 1st \$40 each Quad. Reg. 9:00-9:45 am. Rounds: 10:00, 1:30, 4:45. Byes: one half point bye available. USCF and state membership required. NS NC. Wheelchair Accessible. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, (253) 535-2536, email ggarychess@aol.com.

♣ **Apr 11-12** 9th Annual Clark Harmon Memorial Open, **Portland, OR**. \$2,000 Guaranteed! Sponsored by the Portland Chess Club and contributors to the Harmon Memorial Fund. Format: 5-round Swiss, one open section. Qualifier for OCF Oregon Invitational. Time Control: Saturday 40/90, SD/30, d5; Sunday 40/120, SD/60, d5. Registration: Saturday 9-9:45 am. Registration is limited to first 50 entrants. Advance registration is strongly encouraged. Rounds: Saturday 10:00; 2:15 & 7:00; Sunday 9:30 & 4:30 or ASAP. Location: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th. Information: check www.pdxchess.org for info and directions. Byes: 1 half-point bye available if requested before 1st round. Prizes: 1st \$525, 2nd \$325, 3rd \$175; U2000, U1700, U1400/unr each 1st \$200, 2nd \$125. Entry: \$50; \$45 for PCC members. Memberships: USCF and OCF/WCF/ICA required (OSA). NW Grand Prix.

♣ **Apr 18** ICA Spring Open, **Pocatello, ID**. 4SS, G/60;d5 rnds 1 & 2, G/90;d5 rnds 3 & 4. 2 Sections: Open and Reserve (U1400) (may be combined for pairing purposes if low turnout.) Site: ISU, Student Union Bldg., Bear River Room, 1065 S. 8th St., Pocatello, Idaho. USCF mem req., ICA mem req., OSA. EF:\$30 (U18 & 60+ \$25), by 4/15/15, \$35 (all) after. Reg & Ck in: 7:30-8:30 AM 04/18. If not ckd in & pd by 8:30, may not be paired in 1st rnd. RNDs: 9, 11:15, 2, 5:15. ½ pt byes: Max 1, Rd 1-3 only. Request 1st rnd byes before 1st round is paired. All others commit by end of rd 2. Prizes: \$\$ b/30; Open: \$200-100-75; Reserve: \$75-50-25. HR/ENT/INFO: ICA % Jay Simonson, 391 Carol Ave. Idaho Falls, ID, 83401, 208-206-7667, rooknjay@yahoo.com, <http://www.idahochessassociation.org>, NC, NS, W.

Apr 23-26 Washington State Elementary & Middle School Chess Championships **Spokane, WA**. (see half-page ad on page 11)

♣ **Apr 25/May 30** Portland CC Game in 60. **Portland, OR**. 4SS, G/60;d5. TD may switch to 5SS and G/45;d5 if more than 25 entries. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. EF: \$20, \$5 discount for PCC Members. OCF/WCF/ICA 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 email@pdxchess.org, phone 503-246-2978, website www.pdxchess.org.

♣ **May 9** Pierce County Open, **Tacoma, WA**. Site: Metro Parks Community Center, 3513 Portland Ave., Tacoma, WA. Format: 3 round Quads. Time Control: G/90; d5. Entry Fee: \$25, \$22 for Tacoma Chess Club members. Prize Fund: 1st \$40.00 each Quad. Reg. 9:00-9:45 a.m. Rounds: 10:00, 1:30, 4:45. Byes: 1 half-point bye available. USCF and state membership required. NS NC. Wheelchair Accessible. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, phone (253) 535-2536, email ggarychess@aol.com.

♣ **May 16-17** Inland Empire Open, **Spokane, WA**. Gonzaga University (Schoenberg Center) Rm. 201 & 202, N. 800 Pearl Street, Spokane, WA 99208. 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 5/15, \$28 at the door; 18 and under \$5 less. Telephone entries accepted. USCF rated. \$725 prize fund based on 35, 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: \$160, 2nd Overall: \$130, 3rd Overall \$100. Class Prizes: 1st (A; B; C; D/E/unrated) \$50, 2nd (A; B; C; D/E/unrated) \$25. Biggest Upset: \$35 (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 23-25** Washington Open, **Lynnwood, WA**. (see full-page ad on page 3)

Jun 6 Boise Chess Festival, **Boise, ID**. (see full-page ad on page 19)

Northwest Chess
c/o Orlov Chess Academy
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