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NWC Staff

Editor: Jeffrey Roland,
editor@nwchess.com

Games Editor: Ralph Dubisch,
chesscoaching@gmail.com

Publisher: Duane Polich,
publisher@nwchess.com

Business Manager: Eric Holcomb,
eric@holcomb.com

Board Representatives

David Yoshinaga, Josh Sinanan,
Grisha Alpernas, Jeffrey Roland,
Jim Berezow, Chouchanik Airapetian

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Business Manager, Northwest Chess
Eric Holcomb
1900 NE 3rd St, STE 106 PMB 361
Bend, OR 97701-3889
Eric@Holcomb.com
www.nwchess.com

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On the front cover:

Players at the Barnes & Noble Blitz Round Robin tournament on January 12, 2016 in Twin Falls, Idaho. The two seated players playing the game are L-R: David Zaklan and Donald Shouse. Photo credit: Adam Porth.

On the back cover:

Kyle Schwab at the Boise Chess Club on January 25, 2016.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

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

Northwest Grand Prix Administrator

Murlin Varner
13329 208 Ave NE
Woodinville, WA 98072
MEVjr54@yahoo.com
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Idaho Chess News

FM David Lucky Simul And Lecture

By Jeffrey Roland

Boise, ID — January 30, 2016

Unless otherwise credited, I always write the Idaho articles, but this time I felt since I plan to use a lot of first-person references and insights in the article I would put a byline on this one for clarity.

It was in early December 2015 when James Inman (Nampa) suggested to Jamie Lang (Meridian) and me that the Boise Chess Club (BCC) should have a simultaneous exhibition featuring Idaho State Chess Champion FM David Lucky. Well, until this time, BCC had always just done regular weekly meetings on Monday nights and an occasion four-round Swiss System tournament on a Saturday. We had never taken on an event of this nature or magnitude.

My initial reaction was that I didn't want to do it! In the 35 years I've been organizing chess events (1981-2016), I have never actually organized a simultaneous exhibition before. Not once! So, I wanted us to drag our heels, and *maybe* do it in the Spring of 2016... or maybe never if the idea just died (which it didn't!)



FM David Lucky at the start of his lecture. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

Well, after one preliminary e-mail from Jamie Lang to David Lucky, Jamie and I decided that I would become the organizer for this event and take point. So, I called David Lucky to ask if he would be willing to do it (and he said yes) and discovered that his schedule worked best if the event were held in January. And we further narrowed that down to January 30. David also said he felt that 20 boards would be

a good number to get things done in the time we allotted for the event.

The FIDE Master also said he wanted to give a lecture for about 60-90 minutes before the event and then go into the simul. I thought, sure, no problem... we can do that! I had just personally purchased a brand new demonstration board that still had that "new car"/"new board" smell to it. Furthermore, we decided that this event would supplant the normal monthly rated event in Boise that we have been trying to keep doing.

Next we confirmed that All About Games on Overland Road in Boise, Idaho could handle us having such an event on that date. They were pretty enthusiastic for it too. OK...so all excuses to not do this were rapidly going away...I was going to have to go forward and do this! Now, I just needed to figure out how to organize this. Simuls are different than tournaments!

Why BCC Instead of ICA?

You might be wondering why was this done under the banner of BCC instead of the Idaho Chess Association (ICA)? Well, in a way, it's the same thing, as I organize for both organizations, but the simple answer is, "Why not?" Actually I went to the History section of the ICA website and modeled our event after the BCC event from 1948. I actually held



L-R: Sarah Hollist, Max Hollist, Celeste Hollist, Temiloluwa Aderogba during the lecture. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.



An overview of the playing area. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

the original card invitation physically in my hand as part of my work on the Idaho Chess History Project years ago. It was a very nice elegantly done invitation to a two-game simul and lecture given by U.S. Open Champion Weaver W. Adams. Held at the club rooms of the Y.M.C.A. on November 6, 1948 at 8:00 p.m. and it was further mentioned that, "As these games are being played Mr. Adams will explain his own special system for selecting the strongest move in each position." Attendance was \$1.00.

So that was my "road map" of to how to do our 2016 simul! But there would be some differences. One was rather than elegant lettering I would use a nice photo of David Lucky I took on November 23, 2015. We wouldn't be charging anything, and we would have 20 boards instead of two.

Come One, Come All (Until We Get 20!)

I felt like I should create a list and take the first 20 players and then create a waiting list in case someone couldn't make it. I didn't care what the player's rating was or

how strong they were. People are people, and if they want to play David Lucky, they can, just for asking. This event was to be a gift to the public!

There would be no entry fee, everything would be free, nothing to join, no strings, no surprises, just come play the master and have a great day!

I don't like salesmen or pushy people, and I refuse to become one. So I took the "Que Sera Sera (Whatever Will Be Will Be)" approach. I feel like where there's a will, there's a way, and if someone wants to play they will!

So I posted the flyer up on the ICA website and also on the Idaho Clearinghouse Calendar. I guess Jamie Lang sent the flyer around in e-mails on his own. And I noticed that several other people got on the bandwagon and sent out e-mails too, also on their own. So that by "word of mouth" (or use of the forward button), the message was getting spread that FM David Lucky was giving a free simul at the BCC on January 30. By December 29, 2015 we had 17 boards filled. Then things really slowed down.

After Initial Boom, Things Began to Trickle In

We got nobody signing up for 10 days from December 29 to January 7, then on January 8 we got one player signing up. January 12 we got another. And January 15 we finally got to number 20. However, as it turned out, two of these first 20 players didn't play, so those who came in later still got to play. January 18 gave us position number 21, and January 27 gave us position 22 — but that person didn't show up either — so that by the time we actually got our 20 boards we were taking sign-ups on-site at the event.

Absolutely Everybody Got to Play!

So all in all, 26 players said they wanted to play. Four of those failed to come for one reason or another, so we had 16 plus four players on the waiting list got guaranteed slots in the 20-board simul. And then to top it all off, we decided that the other two players who also had signed up on-site on a waiting list could actually play too once a game finished, and thus, one game ended in seven moves, and another



James Inman (left) and Corey Longhurst (right). Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

ending in 19 moves, it was easy to bring them into the simul and so everyone who wanted to play got to play!

Chess Sets Loaned by ICA

One of the advantages of wearing so many hats is that I can cooperate with myself very well and efficiently. So as ICA President, I decided to loan myself at the BCC 20 boards and sets so that the simul could happen and be uniform in look and appearance. And I personally loaned my demonstration board to the BCC, too, so that physically, we had all the parts in place. ICA also donated the score sheets to allow the players to record their games (and so that we could consider those games for publication in the magazine and on the ICA website). In fact, the only “expense” to the BCC came as we bought pens for use of the players to record their moves.

The Big Day Comes!

Well, the big day came. January 30. All the stress and worrying I tend to have before an event was present here too, but the morning of the event everything came together, a calm came over me, and all was fine. I went and picked up a player who needed a ride, but then remembered I forgot the piece of paper that had the names of the registrations on it. So I drove back home, got that piece of paper, and continued to All About Games.

It was fun to actually set up the tables. It turns out 20 boards takes up a lot more room than one would think, and we really filled up the place with our simul.

David Lucky arrived on time dressed very nicely in a suit, and after initial announcements by Jeffrey Roland began his lecture. He went over two games he played as White in Las Vegas and took questions from the floor explaining these games. One game was full of fireworks and tactics and the other was more on the positional side.

It was certainly a very enjoyable lecture, and everyone seemed to hang onto every word the master said. Once upon a time I actually thought to record the lecture on video, but then I decided that this would just be something special that only those who attended got to experience.

Rules Explained

David Lucky played the white pieces on each board. Mr. Lucky explained that he would allow two passes, but otherwise one was expected to move when he came around. We had originally estimated that the simul would be finished between 4:00-6:00 p.m. and that is exactly what happened. The simul actually ended around 5:00 p.m., but David stayed around and answered questions people may have had about their simul game. One player felt he had a draw if he had only done a certain line. So David spent about 30 minutes and went over that ending with three players actively participating in the post-mortem analysis of that game.

Many Thanks, Sincerely...!

A few days after the simul, e-mails started coming in to me about how much they enjoyed and appreciated this event and

that they wanted to thank David Lucky. Of course, as the organizer, this is music to my ears!

David Lucky wrote the following to me in an e-mail on February 3 2016:

“I hope everybody enjoyed the simul, as that’s nice to hear you are receiving some positive e-mails.

This was my third simul in Idaho, and it was much stronger than the first 2 simuls.”

I would personally like to thank David Lucky. He did this for free, with no hassle, no complications, and just because he wanted to help. David came well-prepared and gave everyone his best. I believe that everyone had a lasting, memorable, and inspirational experience that will be remembered for years to come.

The Players

The following is the order the players sat around the tables.:

Jamie Lang (Meridian)
 David Zaklan (Twin Falls)
 Jeffrey T. Roland (Boise)
 Alex James Machin (Boise)
 Nicholas B. Hawkins (Boise)
 Seth Moore
 Oliver Remington
 Kenneth Sanderson (Boise)
 Corey Kenneth Longhurst (Boise)
 James Inman (Nampa)
 August Mussler-Wright (Boise)
 Clinton Morris Reid (Meridian)
 Paul Edvalson (Eagle)
 Chong-Jin Ong (Boise)
 Tom R. Booth (Caldwell)
 Caleb Paul Kircher (Meridian)
 Temiloluwa Aderogba (Eagle)
 Celeste Hollist
 Max Hollist
 Sara Hollist
 Tyler Holms (Boise)—took place where Max Hollist finished.
 Drew Anthony Machin (Boise)—took place where Ken Sanderson finished.

The Score

Probably the least important detail to me (but maybe the most important detail to others) was the actual score of the simul.



FM David Lucky. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

David Lucky won 21 games and lost one game. There were no draws. The game he lost to was to Nicholas B. Hawkins.

Final Thoughts

The most important detail (to me) was that everyone had such a great time, and that now this is a part of Idaho Chess History. It is this continuous process of being a part of things that draws me to chess and events time and time again.

One gets to meet new people and make new friends as well as renew old acquaintances. But there's nothing like taking part in an event and having a shared history with others who can then look back on it years later with fond memories.

And I might add that memories tend to become better in time. The good times (that we want to remember) almost always outweigh the bad (that we tend to want to forget). That's why you always hear things about "the good old days!" Well, these are the good old days.

Simul Games

David Lucky (2381) – Paul Edvalson (1593) [D13]

FM David Lucky Simul
Boise, ID (Board 13), January 30, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 c6 3.d4 Nf6 4.cxd5 cxd5
5.Nc3 e6 6.Bf4 Bd6 7.Bg3 Bxg3 8.hxg3
Nbd7 9.e3 a6 10.Bd3 b5 11.Ne5 Bb7
12.Rc1 Rc8**



Position after 12...Rc8

13.Qf3

13.Nxd7 Qxd7 14.g4!?

**13...b4 14.Ne2 Rxc1+ 15.Nxc1 Qc7
16.0-0**

16.Ke2!?

16...Nxe5 17.Qf4 Nfd7

17...0-0 18.dxe5 Ne4∞

18.dxe5 Qxe5

18...a5∞

19.Qxb4 Qc7 20.Nb3 Qb6



Position after 20...Qb6

21.Qa3

21.Qxb6 Nxb6 22.Rc1± White's pieces are better, and he will soon scoop up the a-pawn.

21...f6 22.Rc1 Kf7 23.Qa5

23.Qa4

**23...Rc8! 24.Rxc8 Bxc8 25.Qc3 Bb7
26.Na5 Ne5**

26...Ne5±

27.Nxb7

27.Bxh7!? g6 28.Nxb7 Nxb7 29.Qc8±

27...Nxd3 28.Qxd3 Qxb7 29.b3 Kg8
30.Qc3 h6 31.Qc5 Kf7 32.b4 Qb5
33.Qd6



Position after 33.Qd6

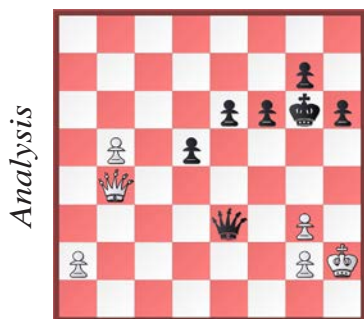
33...a5?!

33...e5; 33...h5

34.Qc7+ Kg6 35.Qxa5

35.bxa5!?

35...Qc4



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 39.Qb4)

35...Qe2! is better, when White's only chance for advantage is 36.Qa4! Qe1+ 37.Kh2 Qxf2 38.b5 Qxe3 39.Qb4!

Now it's very tricky to deal with the remote connected passed pawns, and after 39...Qb6 40.a4 d4 41.a5 Qd8 42.b6 d3 43.b7 d2, White must choose between Qb1+/Qd1, threatening a6, and the direct b8/Q, aiming to convert the a-pawn shortly.

White is close to winning in both cases, but Black is not entirely without defensive ideas, and the ending could be quite an interesting battle.

36.b5 Qc2 37.Qa6 Qc1+ 38.Kh2 Qc4 39.a4 e5 40.Qa8 d4 41.exd4 exd4 42.b6 Qc5 43.Qe4+ Kf7 44.b7 Qh5+ 45.Qh4 1-0

David Lucky (2381) –
Jamie Lang (1448) [E11]

FM David Lucky Simul
Boise, ID (Board 1), January 30, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Nc6
5.Bxb4 Nxb4 6.a3 Nc6 7.d5 exd5 8.cxd5

Ne7 9.Nc3 d6 10.e4 Bg4 11.Be2 0-0
12.0-0 c6 13.Qb3 cxd5 14.Nxd5 Nexd5
15.exd5 Qe7 16.Rfe1



Position after 16.Rfe1

16...b6?!

16...Bxf3 17.Bxf3 Qd7

17.Nd4?!

17.Bb5! Qd8 18.Nd4±

17...Rfe8

17...Bxe2 18.Rxe2 Qd7 looks as if it should favor White, due to the c6-outpost, but Black can oppose rooks, 19.Nc6 Rfe8, and pretty soon the d5-pawn will begin to feel like a weakness. So an assessment of equality is not out of line here.

18.h3 Qe4

18...Bxe2 19.Rxe2 Qb7∞

19.Bb5 Qxe1+ 20.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 21.Kh2
Bd7 22.Bc6

Or 22.Bxd7 Nxd7 23.Qc3±, posing some knotty tactical problems.

22...Bxc6 23.dxc6



Position after 23.dxc6

In general two rooks are a bit better than a queen, but activity and the other remaining pieces matter, and here the passed c-pawn ties down a defender, the queen and knight work terrifically well together, and Black's rooks cannot coordinate.

23...Rc8 24.Qg3 d5

24...Re5

25.Nf5

25.f3 Ree8 26.c7, keeping the Nf5 threat in reserve, is even stronger, as all of the e-file squares for the rook other than e8 lose material instantly.

25...g6 26.Qc3

26.f3!

26...Re6 27.Nd4 Ne4 28.Qb3 Rd6
29.Qb4

29.Qa4! a5 (29...Rc7 30.Nb5) 30.Qb5+—

29...Nc5 30.Nb5! Re6 31.Nxa7 Rc7
32.Qxb6 Ree7 33.Nb5 Na4 34.Qa5
Rxc6 35.Qa8+ Rc8 36.Qxc8+ Kg7
37.Nd4 Nxb2 38.Qc3 Nc4 39.Nf5+ Kf8
40.Qh8# 1-0

David Lucky (2381) –
David Zaklan (1473) [C66]

FM David Lucky Simul
Boise, ID (Board 2), January 30, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 d6 4.Nc3 Nf6
5.Bb5 Bd7 6.0-0 Be7 7.Bxc6 bxc6?

Better is 7...Bxc6, because 8.dxe5 Nxe4 is about equal.

8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Nxe5± 0-0 10.Bg5 Be8
11.Qe2 Qd6 12.Nc4 Qe6 13.Rad1 Bb4



Position after 13...Bb4

14.Bf4?

14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.e5+—

14...Rc8?

14...Bxc3 15.bxc3 Qxe4 16.Qxe4 Nxe4
17.Bxc7 Nxc3 18.Rd3 Nb5 is at most a tiny edge for White.

15.Rfe1 Kh8 16.h3 Kg8 17.Bg3 Bc5
18.Qd3 Nh5 19.Bh2 Nf6 20.Ne3 Bb4
21.Nf5 Kh8 22.Qd4 c5 23.Qe5 Bxc3
24.Qxc3 c4 25.Be5 Kg8 26.Bxf6 1-0

David Lucky (2381) –
Nicholas B. Hawkins (1749) [C15]

FM David Lucky Simul
Boise, ID (Board 5), January 30, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nge2 dxe4
5.a3 Ba5 6.b4 Bb6 7.Nxe4 Nc6 8.Bb2
Nf6 9.Nc5

9.Nxf6+ Qxf6 10.c4 looks a reliable plus for White.

9...0-0 10.Qd3 a5

10...Qe7 first, perhaps, with support for ...e5, pressure on the c5-knight after some undermining moves like ...a5, and



L-R: Nicholas Hawkins, David Lucky. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

the possibility of swinging a rook to the d-file.

11.b5 Ne7 12.Ng3 c6 13.Be2 Bc7

13...Bxc5 14.dxc5 Qxd3 regardless of how White recaptures.

14.bxc6 Nxc6 15.0-0 b6



Position after 15...b6

16.Qf3?

16.Nce4

16...bxc5 17.Qxc6 Rb8 18.Rab1 cxd4 19.Rfd1

19.Bxd4 Rxb1 20.Rxb1 Bxg3 21.Bxf6 Bxf2+ 22.Kxf2 Qxf6+

19...Bb7 20.Qc4 Qd5

20...e5; or 20...Bxg3 21.hxg3 e5

21.Qxd5 Bxd5 22.Bxd4 Ne4 23.Bf3?

23.Bd3

23...Rxb1 24.Rxb1 Nd2+ 25.Rd1 Nxf3+ 26.gxf3 Bxf3 27.Rd3 Rd8 28.Rxf3 Rxd4 29.Rc3 Bd8 30.Kg2 f6 31.Rc8 Kf7 32.c4 Ke7 33.c5 Kd7 34.Ra8 Rc4 35.Nh5 Rxc5 36.Nf4 Bc7 37.Ra7 Rc4 38.Nh5 Rh4 39.Ng3 Kc6 40.h3 Rd4 41.Nh5



Position after 41.Nh5

41...Rd8 42.Kf3 Kb6 43.Rxc7 Kxc7 44.Nxg7 Rd3+ 45.Ke4 Rxb3 46.Nxe6+ Kd6 47.Nd4 Rh4+ 48.f4 Rh5 49.Nf5+ Kc5 50.Ng7 Rh6 51.Ne8 Kc6 52.Kf5 Rh3 53.Nxf6 Kd6 54.a4 Ke7 55.Nd5+ Kf7 56.Nb6 Rh5+ 57.Ke4 Rc5 58.Kd4 Rf5 59.Ke4 Ke6 60.Nc4 h5 61.Ne3 Rc5 62.f5+ Kf6 63.Kf4 Re1 64.Nd5+ Kf7 65.Kg5 Rc4 66.Nb6 Rb4 67.Nd7 h4 68.Ne5+ Ke8 69.f6 h3 70.f7+ Kf8 71.Kg6 Rb6+ 72.Kf5 Rd6 73.Nf3 Kxf7 74.Ng5+

Ke7 75.Nxh3 Rd4 76.Ke5 Rxa4 77.Kd5 Rh4 78.Nf2 a4 79.Nd1 a3 80.Nc3 Rh2 81.Kc4 a2 82.Nd5+ Kd6 0-1

David Lucky (2381) – Corey Longhurst (1480) [C45]

FM David Lucky Simul
Boise, ID (Board 9), January 30, 2016

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bb4+ 5.c3 Bc5 6.Be3 Be7 7.Nf5 Bf6 8.Bc4 Nge7 9.Nxe7 Qxe7 10.Nd2 b6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bd5 Rb8 13.f4 g6 14.e5 Bg7 15.Qf3 Na5 16.Ne4 d6 17.exd6 cxd6 18.Rad1 Bb7



Position after 18...Bb7

19.Nxd6 Bxd5 20.Rxd5 Nb7 21.Nxb7 Rxb7 22.Rfd1 Rc7 23.Bd4 Bxd4+ 24.R5xd4 Re8 25.R4d2 Qc5+ 26.Qf2 Qc4 27.a3 Rce7 28.Rd4 Qe6 29.Rd8



Oliver Remington. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

Rxd8 30.Rxd8+ Re8 31.Rxe8+ Qxe8
 32.h3 Qe4 33.Kh2 h5 34.Qd4 Qe2 35.c4
 h4 36.b4 Qe1 37.Qd3 Qf2 38.Qd8+ Kg7
 39.Qg5 Qd4 40.Qe5+ Qxe5 41.fxe5 Kf8
 42.g3

42...hxg3+

42...Ke7

43.Kxg3 Ke7 44.Kf4 Ke6 45.h4 f6
 46.exf6 Kxf6 47.c5 bxc5 48.bxc5 Ke6
 49.Kg5 Kd5 50.Kxg6 1-0



Position after 42.g3

MVCC, ICU, and BCSD Team Up

By Adam Porth

The Magic Valley Chess Club (MVCC) and the Blaine County School District (BCSD) Chess Clubs are partnering to bring southern Idaho more chess events. To kick off the new year, the

MVCC hosted a Winter Solstice G/15;d0 tournament on January 2 and then hosted a Blitz Kickoff on January 12 to begin 2016 with chess excitement. The Idaho Chess Union (ICU) rates the events using the Rocky Mountain Chess Rating System. The BCSD Chess Club attended both events and then followed up by hosting a G/15 Sicilian Dragon Theme Tournament on January 14 to recognize National Dragon Day.

All the events drew a fair crowd with 18 in all three events, 10 from the BCSD Chess Club. The Winter Solstice was billed as a round robin event, so organizers divided up players into two sections with similar ratings and abilities to ensure a balanced tournament. Barry Eacker, MVCC, was chief tournament director with assistance from Adam Porth, BCSD Chess Club. Kona Coffee & Cakes donated space to play and the players enjoyed being able to munch on Spam Sammies and Spam Musubi between rounds.


Dewayne Derryberry and Fred Bartell were winners and each won a book, "Weapons of Chess" and "Taps and Zaps 2," respectively. Fred handily scored a perfect tournament (8.0 points) while Dewayne (7.0 points) drew two games against fellow MVCC players. Barry Eacker drew Dewayne in a technical game and a surprising blunder by Dewayne. Barry also enjoyed a Philidor endgame position in a game with me. I should have watched this video before the tournament. Barry (6.5 points) earned second place. Steve Hinton commented on how difficult the games are against the kids and was even chagrined that he should have lost some. Steve would make a point of showing kids better moves, and Fred spent nearly a half hour providing lessons!

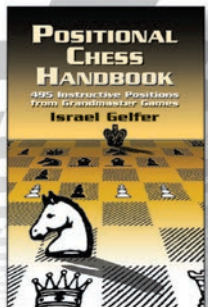
It is clear that the younger players learned much while playing all the experienced players and Adam quipped, "These tournaments are important for the older players to pass their knowledge onto the younger generation as these kids will eventually be running clubs like the

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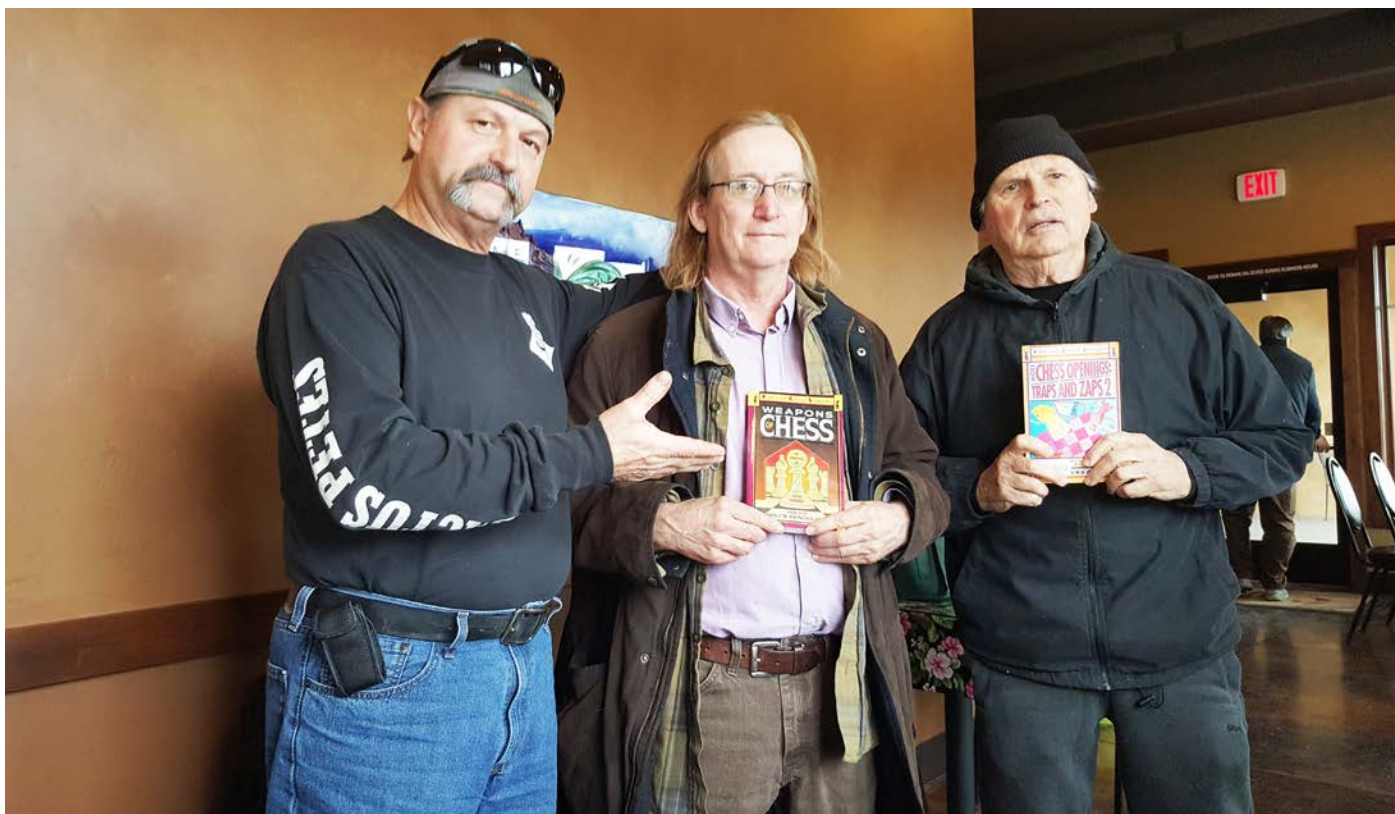
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Barry Eacker, DeWayne Derryberry, Fred Bartell. Photo credit: Adam Porth.

MVCC after we're all gone." Therefore, sharing and analyzing games for the kids is critical after a match. And, it must be fun for them. Despite the solstice actually being over, the new year began the way all chess players want it to.

The following week featured the BCSD Chess Club traveling to Barnes & Noble for a G/5 Blitz round robin tournament, however, organizers switched to a seven-round Swiss due to time constraints. Players here are more concerned with playing a variety of players and maximizing the number of games they can play. Barry and Adam worked efficiently to keep the rounds moving, but the stacks of books frequently drew players' attention in between rounds.

More than half of the players were scholastic and there were some new faces. Peter Clark clearly enjoyed his games and was very competitive — he will return for more games. David Zaklan made Peter exclaim loudly after a surprise checkmate caught him off guard. Blitz does that to players! Each match was actually a double in that players played opponents as white and as black, so there were 14 games total. WinTD doesn't work well with this type of format: 2 wins = 1.0 point, 1.5 wins = 1.0, 1 win each = 0.5 points. In the end it all works out well and Fred Bartell was again on the top (6.0 points).

On January 14, eighteen players visited the BCSD Chess Club for a Sicilian Dragon theme tournament in which a pre-determined opening was played. White begins after, 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6. In this tournament, players were granted 15 minutes each (G/15;d0) and instruction by YouTube chess teacher, NM Dereque Kelley. Each player was also provided a handout.

Organizer Adam Porth also collects data on the success of the openings during theme tournaments. It is clear that amateur chess players struggle with the Sicilian Dragon Defense as White won 56 times against 29 wins for Black. The fianchettoed bishop has a great

diagonal and strong, queen-side attacking opportunities, but I noticed the novice players destroying their defenses once the king was castled by moving their pawns!

Interestingly, the top players were 50:50 as White and Black. Four players each scored 4.0 points and Dylan Porth won first place. Larry Schwartz earned second place but declined his trophy to a scholastic player, Zac McStay. This allowed Levi Catangatang the third place trophy. Dave Walters won an 11th edition Modern Chess Openings book from the Library of Dan Mayers from a drawing, and Jasmine Boeddiker, excitedly, won a chess set (she does not have one at home).

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Also, check out nwchess.com/blog/

Oregon Chess News

\$10,000 Guaranteed at Upcoming 2016 Oregon Open!

By Mike Morris

The Oregon Chess Federation (OCF) and the Portland Chess Club announce that this year's Oregon Open will have a \$10,000 guaranteed prize fund. The tournament will be held over the traditional Labor Day weekend at the Lloyd Center Double Tree hotel, a popular venue for Portland tournaments. The hotel is offering a special room rate of \$99 per night, single or double occupancy. Rooms at this rate may be limited, so make your reservations early.

To encourage out-of-area players we will have both a three-day and a two-day schedule. Players may enter the Open Section, the U2000 Section or the U1600 Section. By having three sections the tournament will be more competitive, hopefully attracting more higher rated and lower rated players. The entry fee will be \$100 in advance, \$120 after September 1 or on site.

Further details will be posted on the OCF and Portland Chess Club websites and on flyers in the July and August issues of *Northwest Chess*.

2016 PCC January Quad 45

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — January 16, 2016

January's Quad 45 at the Portland Chess Club broke no record for attendance, but that did not make the 17 players who showed any less enthusiastic about the day's games. And on hand once again to officiate this usually better attended venue was the team of Mike & Mike (Micah Smith and Mike Lilly), who have until just recently been the guiding force of this popular monthly tournament. I say, "until just recently" because Mike Lilly a while back supposedly retired from his TD work for health and family reasons but has reappeared now and again to help out in just that capacity—this being one of those times.



(L) Raymond Fletcher III vs Roland Eagles. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Actually, although listed as the Chief Assistant TD by Chief TD Micah Smith, he was that in name only, as his TD activity stopped at the registration desk (a favor to Smith to get the ball rolling), whereupon he once again disappeared

from public sight—much like a Marvel comic hero (let us dub him "Chessman") who answers the calls of those of his chess brethren in need, and then (when all is well), quietly fades into the night. Thank you, Chessman.



(L) Jon Strohbahn vs Jonathan Hurkett. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

The “Big Dog” in this tournament was Raymond Fletcher III (1974-1946), a recent import from Virginia who started over a 100 points ahead of his nearest competition, Danny Phipps (1867-1924). But it was Phipps, who has been showing in recent tournaments that he belongs with the “Big Dog” crowd, that ruled the day with a perfect 3.0/3 finish in Quad One, leaving Fletcher to settle for third place with 1.0/3. The other two players in the quad were Roland Eagles (1749-1768—1.5/3), who placed second, and Gerald Weaver (1819-1800—0.5/3) who only could muster a draw—but to his credit, it was against Fletcher.

Turning to Quad Two, it was Andrea Botez (1690-1675—1.5/3) who had the credentials to dominate this quad, but by a quirk of fate met a rested, focused, and VERY lucky, Brian “Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1531-1575—2.0/3), who managed a first round win against this young lady with the bright and ready smile, who has shown great promise to follow in the footsteps of her sister, WFM Alexandra Botez—whose many exciting games Portland tournament players had the pleasure of watching as she climbed the ranks to her present rating.

Matching Berger’s 2.0/3, and tying for first place, was Jonathan Hurkett (1570P-1614P), a recent newcomer to the tournament scene, and a rapidly advancing one at that. An early acquisition of one of my pawns was his pathway to my defeat, while his game with Botez resulted in his only loss.



Assist. Chief TD Mike Lilly. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Quad Three found Jack Johnson (1225P-1437P), still a provisional player (only three games at the beginning of the tournament), chalking up 2.5/3 points to take first place and adding more than 200

points to his rating for his dominating performance. While John Anderson, also a provisional player (1397P-1399P), was second with 1.5/3. And Arliss Dietz, coming into these games with a 1531 rating (coincidentally, the same as I came in with, and who opted to play in the lower quad while fortuitously I chose the one above), fared not so well as his rating would imply, winning only one game from another provisional player from Washington, Jimmy Dee (1291P-1295P—1.0/3).

Because of the uneven number of players a Small Swiss was formed to accommodate the remaining five players, with Robert Bowden (1218-1240), the higher rated of the five, placing first with a score of 2.5/3, followed by Nicholas Gyde (unrated-1200P—2.0/3) and Erin Cheng of Washington (864-913—2.0/3) tying for second. Marcus Leung (1207-1200—1.5/3) and Megan Cheng (1152-1109—1.0/3), also Washington players, finished in just that order.

All winners received a chess book of their choice, plus a \$10 discount on their next tournament, while those that drew for first, received \$5 off and their choice of a book.



Roland Eagles, actively following Brian Berger’s conversation. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Winter Carnival

By Owen McCoy

The weekend of January 16-17, 2016 was apparently a very busy one. The 16th was not only the day of the Portland Chess Club G/45, but it was also the day of the Metzger Winter Classic. The reason I did not attend either of those is because I was competing in the Winter Carnival at South Eugene High School down in Eugene. (I say *down* in Eugene because it is South of just about everywhere else in the Pacific Northwest.)

The only minor dilemma was that only six players (myself included) signed up for the Elite 8 section. Due to that obvious reason, the Elite and Advanced sections were combined. What this meant was that even though the sections were combined, the Elite 5 could only compete for the money, whereas the 10 Advanced players could vie for either the Advanced trophies, or the Elite money if they chose to. However, the fact that nobody

stepped up meant that the prizes would be distributed as usual.

Nevertheless, Owen McCoy (1984-1990) still found himself taking home the first prize of \$125 and a trophy, and he has ever since been thanking his lucky stars for the fact that Aaron and Joshua Grabinsky were not there. Second place and \$75 went to Victor Dossin (1557-1580) who definitely proved himself to be “the Victor”. Third place went to Jack Woo McClain (1609-1614), Simon Venter (1629-1614), and John Ornes (1370-1359). The three of them split the 3rd place money of \$50, receiving \$16.66 apiece.

First place in the Advanced section went to Christopher Glesmann (1239-1259) who actually would’ve taken half of Victor Dossin’s money, had he stepped up, as both finished with 3.0/4. Not only that, but he also earned himself free automatic entry into the Elite section at *March Madness*, which is to take place on March 12 at the South Eugene High School cafeteria, in Eugene, Oregon.

Second place was awarded to Isaac Eads (1042-1112) with 2.5/4. The third place trophy went to Joey Brundan (1091-1085), but Harrison Nabors (1014-1106) tied with him but was given fourth. Also, Leo Reeves (1151-1164) also had 2.0/4 at the end.

The Intermediate section was not US Chess-rated like the other higher sections, but still attracted a wide range of players aged from second grade to 11th grade. (In case you were wondering by this point, all ratings mentioned in this article were Northwest ratings.) First place went to Alex Saveau (834-945) who with 4.5/5 was the only undefeated player in his section. The second place trophy went to Brendan Van Ryzin (740-956), but Kristian Villa (734-931), and Nathan Nevue (400-724) also finished with 4.0/5, although they received third and fourth places respectively. In addition to all that, *Outstanding Performance* trophies went to Noah Menachemson (708-773), Jalen Wang (832-856), Kevin McCoy (708-808), Albert Liu (827-828), all of whom finished with 3.0/5, as well as Marston



Intermediate player Kevin McCoy (right) checks the pairings before his next round.. Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.



Owen McCoy (left) and Victor Dossin (right) competed in the Advanced/Elite section.
Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

Scher (775-778), who finished with 2.5/5.

The Novice section (also not US Chess-rated) was divided into two smaller subsections, named Novice O (older) and Novice Y (hmm... I wonder...) with Novice O being for grades 3-8, and Novice Y for K-2. First place in Novice O was a three-way-tie between Joshua Diem (697-761), Toby Dressekie (559-712), and Silas Kohler (615-679), all of

whom finished with 4.0/5, and none of whom went undefeated. But blitz tie-breaks gave first place to Silas, second to Toby, and third to Josh. Fourth place went to Sam Parsons (564-669), as the only one with 3.5/5. Additionally, medals were given to all of the players in this section. (Note: for several players, this was their first tournament!) First in Novice Y was given to Sam Farley (640-805) who won his section with a perfect 5.0/5. Second



Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

place went to Benji Urbancic (535-681) who lost only to Sam and won the rest. Sheldon Van Enk (400-605) was playing in his first tournament, and with a score of 3.5/5, took home the third place trophy and more than 200 rating points! Yufei Su (585-607) was given fourth place by tie-breaks, but Brandon Young (400-524) and Rui Wang (611-599) also had 3.0/5 at the end. As with Novice O, medals were given to all participants in this section.

Big thank you to TDs Jerry and Forrest Ramey for making it happen, and I hope to see you for their next tournament, *March Madness!*

2016 PCC January Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — January 30, 2016

In contrast to the Portland Chess Club's December Game 60 held the day after [Christmas](#), and (surprisingly) managing to still draw 20 players, January's Game 60 started the new year with a bang, enticing 32 players to spend the afternoon exchanging pieces and rating points.

Early on the scene was the team of Jerrold "I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It Is Over" Richards and Morgan the Dog--Game 60 being one of Morgan's favorite tournaments, as it allows him, in the course of one afternoon, to quickly assess Richards' progress, and identify any glaring errors in his play. Some of these errors he will try to correct on the spot, and others after returning home. This afternoon however, Morgan had little to be concerned about, as all of his hard work of late seemed to be paying off, as Richards (1412-1474), along with Dale Wentz (1500-1500), Hansen Lian (1450-1475) and Megan Cheng (1109-1170), all tied for second place in the lower section (two sections are required when there are more than 30 players) with final scores of 3.0/4, that combined with the U1400/unrated prize money, netted each \$22.50.

I might note here that, both of the Cheng girls, Erin and Megan, have been earnest attendees of these faster tournaments, and although both have had some setbacks and disappointments, these seemingly have not dimmed their enthusiasm for the game, and on the contrary, only made them more resolved to become better players--Megan's performance during this Game 60, attesting to that fact. Erin, although lately showing improvement in her play, unfortunately ran into some stiff competition from two unrated players (always an unknown, as I well know), and



(L) Jerrold Richards vs Mike Hasuike. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Nick Raptis. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Mike Morris assisting in the registration process.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Praveer Sharan vs Phillip Vianna.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Carl Haessler Chess Master

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(L) Sean Cvetkovic vs Erin Cheng. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

had to settle for sharing last place with one other player--a position, I am sure, she has determined to avoid in the future.

Filling the number one slot in the lower section was the young Aaron Probst (1428-1504), who has mellowed a bit from when I first met him over the board a few years back. At that time, he had a hard time controlling his desire to move as quickly as possible, and to reign in his fidgety nature. But the Aaron I saw this time seemed to have pretty much held in check those tendencies, and methodically maneuvered his pieces to capture first place, with a very convincing 3.5/4 score, and with it, the \$70 prize.

On hand in the upper section to send shivers down the spines of lesser players, was Nick "The Raptor" Raptis (2396-2399), himself--who, when all was said and done, had gained a perfect score of 4.0/4, and was within a hair's breadth of 2400 once again. After having a few odd setbacks during this last year, Raptis has of late come on like a house-a-fire--

in September winning first place in the Seattle Chess Club's Fall Open, then winning the Gresham Open with a perfect 5.0/5, and just recently, taking first in the Seattle City Championship.

A four-way tie split the second place prize money into small packets of \$20, Owen McCoy (1969-1979), Jason Cigan (2136-2140), Steven Witt (1883-1902) and Roland Eagles 1768-1785) each claiming one of them for finishing with a 3.0/4.

Chief TD Lennart Bjorksten should be thanked for running this hassle-free, fun tournament, along with Mike Morris, who assisted in the registration process.

2016 Oregon Closed State Championship

Championship

1	Carl A. Haessler	2239
2	Lennart Bjorksten	2155

3	Seth Talyansky	2066
4	Phillip Seitzer	2176
5	Michael J. Morris	2091
6	Benedict A. Smail	2218
7	Jose Miguel Gatica	2125
8	Corey John Russell	2207
9	Jeff Jack Austin	2008
10	Michael J. Pendergast	2162

Invitational

First news. Due to illness some last minute withdrawals resulted in nine players in the Invitational.

1	Steve S. Surak	1960
2	Bill Heywood	2048
3	Moshe Rachmuth	1904
4	Sean O'Connell	1970
5	Gunther Jacobi	1941
6	Jerry Sherrard	2051
7	Carl A. Koontz	1936
8	Steven B. Deeth	2062
9	Gregory Freeze	2048

Stay tuned next month for Oregon Closed results.—Editor.

Washington Chess News



This photo, courtesy of John Donaldson, is in the book, "Encyclopedia of Latvian Chessplayers, Volume 2 (L-Z)" (Davis, CA, 2010) compiled by Val Zemitis.

In Memoriam Viesturs Seglins 1926-2016

By IM John Donaldson

Two-time Washington State Champion Viesturs Seglins died in Seattle on January 14, 2016, at the age of 89.

Seglins was born on June 28, 1926, in the town of Bauska in southern Latvia, about 40 miles from Riga, and was introduced to the game at the age of nine when his godfather bought him a book by Capablanca. This work (likely *Chess Fundamentals*) had a great influence on his style and in later years Seglins would be noted for his expertise in the endgame, the Cuban's forte.

Seglins played in some small tournaments during his school days in Latvia but it was only after World War II that he began competing more seriously. He was second at the 1947 Muhlhausen Championship in Germany and the following year won a strong tournament in Kufstein, Austria.

Seglins started playing in the Pacific Northwest around 1958 and immediately

made an impact, winning the state championship that year and in 1962. He was the top-scoring Washington player in the 1966 U.S. Open (with Viktors Pupols and James McCormick), scoring 9-4. Seglins had another fine result in the 1968 U.S. Open in Aspen, Colorado, where he shared 11th place in a field of 172 with a score of 8-4.

Among his victories in Aspen was the following miniature against the Montana master Peter Lapiken.

**Viesturs Seglins –
Peter Lapiken [C47]**

1968 US Open, Aspen, Colorado
[John Donaldson]

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 Bb4 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.Qd4**

This old-fashioned line of the Scotch was popular back in the 1880s, but still looks to be quite playable.

7...Qe7 8.Bd3 d5

8...Bc5 is Black's other main try.

9.0-0 c5 10.Bb5+ Kf8

10...Bd7 11.Bxd7+ Kxd7 12.Qd3 Bxc3
13.Qb5+ c6 14.Qb7+ Kd6 15.Bf4+ Be5

16.Qxe7+ Kxe7 17.Bxe5 Nxe4 18.Bxg7 leads to an unbalanced ending with equal chances, something that would have been very much to Seglins' liking. Openings were not his strength but he played endgames well. Viktors Pupols once told me that Viesturs was one of the few players he faced where he made a concentrated effort to extract the maximum from the opening.

11.Qd1 Bxc3 12.bxc3 dxe4 13.Ba3 Rb8??

Position after 13...Rb8



Lapiken overlooks White's threat. 13...Bb7 with equal chances had to be played.

14.Bxc5! Rxb5 15.Qd8+ 1-0



Photo taken June 1, 1958 at the 1958 Idaho Open. Seated at table L-R: Viesturs Seglins (Seattle, WA) and Ben Greenwald (Salt Lake City, UT). Watching are L-R: Dr. Peter Lapiken (Missoula, MT) and Viktors Pupols (Seattle, WA). Photo credit: The Idaho Statesman.

Seglins found his work as a landscape architect taking up more of his time by the early 1970s and began to play less frequently, but would still visit tournaments from time to time with his wife Natalie who was also a chess player. The two made their home in the Madrona district of Seattle and also spent a lot of time in Hawaii.

Viesturs was a friendly man with a quick smile. He will be missed.

Washington News

By Gary Dorfner

The Northwest Chess Open was held at the Seattle Chess Club on Dec. 26-27. There were 37 players participating in this event. The winners were: 1st Anthony He 4.5, 2nd Huso Hadzic 4.0, U2000 Duane Polich and James Soetedjo 3.5 each, Under 1800 Samuel Deng and Anshul Ahluwalia 3.5 each, Under 1600 Aniruddha Barua 3.0, U1400 Christopher Magnani 2.5. TD was Travis Olson.

The Washington Women's Championship was also held on the same weekend as the Northwest Chess Open at the same site. Seven ladies played in this event. The winners were: 1st Airapetian 3.5, 2nd Naomi Bashkansky 3.0, 3rd Bodamkhand Norovsambuu 2.5, U1800 Anjali Walsh 2.0, U1600/U1400/U1200 Kerry Van Veen, Minda Chen and Karen Schmidt 1.5 each. TD Carol Kleist.

Washington Game Sixty Championship #2 was held at the Seattle Chess Club on Dec. 28-29. #1 was held at the Tacoma Chess Club on Sept. 26. There were eight players in that one. The winners were 1st-2nd Naomi Bashkansky and Addison Lee 3.5 each, U1800 Stephen Buck 1.5, U1600 Owen Xuan 2.0. TD Gary Dorfner.

In G/60 #2 there were 48 players participating. The winners were: 1st Ignacio Perez 5.5, 2nd Huso Hadzic and Brendan Zhang 5.0 each, U1800 Jacob Mayer, Oscar Petrov, Joseph Truelson and Brian Chen 4.0 each, U1600 Owen Xuan and Daniel Shubin 4.0 each, U1400 Joshua Lewis-Sandy, Jasen Reeves and Brandon Jiang 3.5 each, U1200/Unr. Anne-Marie Velea and Kevin Tu 3.5 each. TD Fred Kleist.

The Washington Junior Open was held at Interlake High School in Bellevue on January 18, 2016. There were 263 students participating in this event. The winners were: Open Section 1st Anthony He, Neo Olin, Petar Spasic and Arjun Thomas 3.5 each. Anthony He won the playoffs and will be seeded into

the Washington Premier. In the U1600 Section the winners were: 1st/2nd Vignesh Anand and Daniel Qian 4.0 each. In the 4-12 U1400 Section the winners were: 2nd-7th Paul Phillips Nichols, Siddhant Dharap, Darryl Wang, Alexander Tran, Hongyi Zhu and Anuta Baturytski 4.0 each. In the 4-6 U900 Section the winners were: 1st Kevin Luo 5.0, 2nd-6th Amogh Babu, Aditya Manivel, Joseph Penarczyk, Michael Sheng and Richard Barkley 4.0 each. In the K-3 U1400 1st Stuart Bushfield 5.0, 2nd-6th Max Lan, James Frasca, Samuel Tran, Raghav Puri and Melina Li 4.0 each. In the 2-3 U800 Section 1st Henry Laun 5.0, 2nd Ankit Panja 4.0, 3rd/4th Kai Parker and Andy Luo 3.5 each. In the K-1 U800 Section 1st-5th Michelle Ewig, Anoop Gupta, Gavin Shi, Nhung Doung and Ivan Allen 4.0 each. TD David Hendericks. Team awards: 1st Cascadia E.S. 17.0 Stuart Bushfield, Samuel Tran, Melina Li, Gavin Shi, 2nd Somerset E.S. 14.5 Kevin Luo, Andy Luo, Brandon Luo, Jacob Chen, 3rd Shelton View E.S., Amogh Babu, Ankit Peja, Julia Fung, Srisha Prasanna,

Tacoma Chess Club News

The New Years Swiss was held on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Friday nights in January. There were nine players in all. The winners: 1st-2nd Larry Anderson and Tom Walker 4.0 each 3rd Steve Buck 3.5, 4th Bill Rogers and Paul Bartron 2.5. Bartron (2064) lost to Anderson (1741) and Walker (1880). TD Gary Dorfner

The Tacoma Open was held on Saturday, January 23, 2016. Only seven players showed up to play in this event. The winners were: 1st Top Half Paul Bartron 3.0, 1st Bottom Half Keagan Byers 2.0. TD was Gary Dorfner.

State Championships

By Josh Sinanan

Below are the pairing numbers for the Championship, Premier, Invitational, and Challengers sections as of 1/30 (showing current ratings).

Championship

5. IM Michael Lee 2505, Bellevue
6. FM Costin Cozianu 2451, Everett
7. FM Roland Feng 2425, Seattle
10. FM Nick Raptis 2396, Vancouver
2. IM Ray Kaufman 2359, Stanwood
9. FM Tian Sang 2354, Bellevue
1. NM Bryce Tiglon 2350, Redmond
4. NM Daniel He 2249, Redmond
3. LM Viktors Pupols 2206, Kingston
8. Derek Zhang 2179, Bellevue

Avg Rating: 2347

Prize Fund: \$1500

Premier

1. FM John Readey 2266, Seattle
9. FM William Schill 2265, Seattle
6. FM Ignacio Perez 2264, Seattle
2. NM Samuel He 2262, Redmond
10. NM Michael MacGregor 2211, Tacoma
7. NM Josh Sinanan 2205, Brier
4. FM David Bragg 2202, Mukilteo
8. NM Kyle Haining 2202, Lake Forest Park
5. Anthony He 2135, Sammamish
3. WFM Chouchanik Airapetian 2090, Mercer Island

Avg Rating: 2210

Prize Fund: \$1000

Invitational

2. FM Nikita Chetrari 2298, Mountlake Terrace
7. FM Paul Bartron 2064, Tacoma
9. Neo Olin 2038, Renton
4. Toshihiro Nagase 2023, Redmond
10. Damarus Thomas 2020, Bothell
6. Jason Yu 2008, Bellevue
5. Alan Bishop 2007, Tacoma
1. David Arganian 2000, Seattle
3. Masayuki Nagase 2000, Redmond
8. Sangeeta Dhingra 1928, Redmond

Avg Rating: 2039

Prize Fund: \$500

Challengers

8. Vikram Ramasamy 2010, Kirkland
2. WCM Naomi Bashkansky 1979, Bellevue
3. Travis Olson 1961, Mukilteo
9. Mary Kuhner 1933, Seattle
6. Michael Hosford 1933, Bellevue
4. Brendan Zhang 1932, Sammamish
1. Brent Baxter 1916, Olympia
5. Noah Yeo 1900, Redmond
10. Mark Smith 1896, Seattle
7. Eric Zhang 1827, Sammamish

Avg Rating: 1929

Prize Fund: \$250

Alternates

- 1st: Arjun Thomas 1922, Auburn
- 2nd: James Soetedjo 1884, Kenmore
- 3rd: Frederick Davis 1832, Vancouver
- 4th: Nathaniel Yee 1837, Seattle

Player Bios

The following are short bios and photos of some of this year's participants of the Washington State Championships as presented by the players themselves.

— Editor

Naomi Bashkansky



WCM Naomi Bashkansky (12) started to play chess at five, promptly winning the Washington State Championship among kindergartners. Ever since, she has been the highest rated Washington chess player for her grade.

Two time winner of All Girls US National Championships (U10 and U12) and Pan American co-champion in Brazil (Girls U10), she has represented the USA many times in World Youth Chess Championships.

Mary Kuhner



Mary started playing competitively at age 15 and was twice Junior Champion of Alaska before leaving the state for college. She tied for fourth place in the 1987 US Womens' Closed Championship and reached a rating high of 2170 before realizing that she had to choose between chess mastery and her PhD program. In 2014 she was bitten by the chess bug again and has been hacking her way back toward Expert. She favors high-risk, aggressive chess.

It should be noted that she is also a WCM.

FM Nikita Chetrari



I started to play chess with my father and I always wanted to get victory. Since first grade I begin to learn chess professionally. I successfully participated in many tournaments in different countries of the world. In 2015 I became a FIDE Master. From the beginning of 2016 I started to play chess in Washington state. At the moment I get used to local tournament organization and specificity of time control. I enjoy playing chess with strong opponents. It makes me more concentrated and more creative. I hope I will have possibility to face new challenges. I know that the struggles lies ahead. I am ready to play and to win.

Brent Baxter



Though I learned the rules of chess at an early age, it wasn't until the Bobby Fischer mania of the early 1970's that I began to take a real interest in the game. Already in middle school, I began improving my play quickly, winning my middle school's championship. (Our chess coach wasn't much help—his favorite piece of advice was “when in doubt, move a pawn!”) I eventually progressed to the Class A and Expert levels, winning the Kansas City High School Championship in 1975 and the Kansas City Area Championship (co-

champion) the following year. After taking a hiatus from chess to pursue graduate studies in Seattle, I inevitably returned to tournament play only to find that the competition in Seattle was a bit tougher than what I had experienced in Kansas City. No more city championships, but lots of good acquaintances and battles over the chessboard. Then, once again, life's experiences (including single parenthood) took me away from tournament chess, this time for 16 years. Having returned to playing in tournaments in early 2015, I'm expecting to stick around this time for the duration. After all, the third time's supposed to be a charm.

Viktors Pupols

I first played in the Washington State Championship in 1954.

Kyle Haining



Kyle Haining is a tenth grader at Inglesmoor High School where he is enrolled in the International Baccalaureate program. The US Chess Federation awarded Kyle the title of National Master at the start of this school year.

Kyle became interested in chess as a first grader when he saw a couple of students playing the game. Initially, Kyle's father taught him how to play, but Kyle quickly outpaced his father's playing ability and understanding of the game, so in 2008, when he was in second grade, Kyle's

father enrolled Kyle as a member of the Seattle Chess Club. For several years Kyle studied chess under the tutelage of Matt Fleury. For a time Kyle studied with Ignacio Perez. Kyle then studied with GM Emil Anka for several years. Kyle is now taking a break from chess lessons so he can focus on school.

In addition to Math, Science, English, and Social Studies, Kyle is studying Mandarin Chinese at school, and he plays the cello in the sophomore orchestra. Outside of school Kyle plays the piano. He also enjoys playing soccer in a recreational league.

Masayuki Nagase



My name is Masayuki Nagase and I am currently a junior at Lakeside High School. I enjoy playing chess because it helps develop my logical thinking skills. Outside of the chess world, what interests me the most is researching and developing technology that could solve our current environmental issues. I also play Ultimate Frisbee after school and this year we won the state championships. Another passion of mine is A cappella, as I am part of a group that performs in

concerts throughout the year at school and various other venues.

Anthony He



photographer
Diana Matison

I learned how to play chess through a Chess4Life summer camp when I was five years old. I became fascinated by chess and my dad bought me Elliot's Chess School DVD's and studied chess together with me. Soon my dad couldn't beat me anymore and started bringing me to chess tournaments, mostly Chess4Life quads. I also got my first private coach Hristo Arabadjiev when I was six. As I became stronger, NM Elliot Neff and then GM Emil Anka started to coach me. I won 2012 K-1 National Elementary Champion and 2015 K-6 Elementary Blitz Champion. I participated World Youth Chess Championship three times with the best result being the 14th place in the U10 section of 2015 WYCC held in Greece. I am a member of the All-America chess team in 2014 (age eight) and 2015 (age nine).

I qualified for the 2016 Washington State

Championship Premier by winning the 2016 Washington Junior Open. I will play with nine masters and I hope I can do well.

IM Ray Kaufman



I started playing chess younger than 10 years old. Accomplished U.S. master at 15. My greatest chess achievements include top U2400 Chicago Open 2010, earning International Master in 2008, and tied for first at the Alajuela Open.

As well as a player, I am also a professional coach in schools, and privately. I have trained some of the top young players at different times. My other hobbies include Shogi (Japanese chess), where I am a 3-DAN level player, and movies. It is a great opportunity being part of the chess community here, and look forward to many interesting exciting games here at the Washington Championships.

Vikram Ramasamy

I am an 8th grader at North Shore Junior High School. I like to play soccer, football and badminton as well as chess. I

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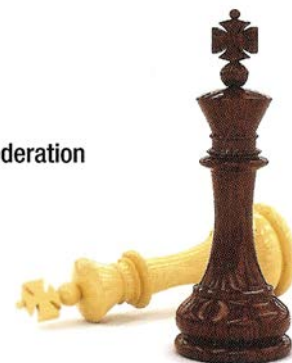


Joshua C. Sinanan

National Master
President, Washington Chess Federation

3610 218th St. SW
Brier, WA 98036

Cell: (206) 769-3757
joshsinanan@gmail.com



got introduced to chess in my elementary school when I decided to join the school chess club. I thought chess was cool, and I started playing competitively. I have been invited to multiple Washington-British Columbia inter matches where the top two players in each grade from K-12 in Washington and British Columbia are invited to play against each other. Some of my best recent tournaments were the Washington Class where I won all six out of six in Class A and won the section, the annual North American Open where I tied for first with six out of seven in the U1900 section. I enjoy playing in chess tournaments and look forward to playing in this year's Washington State Championships.

Damarcus Thomas



I learned the game of chess at the age of six by watching two brothers play each other in a very intense match. I didn't start playing regularly until the 12th grade in high school. I use to pass by downtown San Francisco on the weekends to visit my Dad. It was there, that I played and got hooked on the game. I briefly played chess in college, and before graduating I played in a few local chess tournaments where I would normally score four out of six. I moved to New York City right after graduating college, it was there that I played more regularly in the various places throughout the city mostly for

recreation—my favorite place to play was at the Marshall Chess Club. My favorite opening is the Bishop's Opening and the Pirc Defense. I can play up to four boards blindfolded, I average about four or five tournaments per year, but I plan to play more often and travel overseas to play chess in the near future.

Mark Smith



When I moved to Seattle in 2009, I joined Chess4Life and got to see Nakamura playing for the Seattle Sluggers in C4L's building. My hopes of seeing him again were dashed when he caught sight of me and promptly moved to St. Louis, only 200 miles from where I had been living for the previous 26 years! Thanks a lot, Hikaru. But no hard feelings; I'm still rooting for you to take Magnus's title this November.

If asked how long I've been playing chess, I respond that I don't remember a time when I couldn't play chess. (That's not the only thing I don't remember.) And, although that's true, I do remember studying the rules in an old encyclopedia; a picture of me playing with a friend outside on a small folding board with plastic pieces gives evidence that I knew how to play by age nine as well as evidence that I once could squat on my heels. An elegant little trophy testifies that I won a YMCA championship in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in 1961 when I was 15. That tournament must have extended over many months, since my score was 72-18! I played on and off through the years, especially in high

school geometry class, passing a folding pocket set through classmates to a friend a few rows away when the teacher's back was turned. (She probably was allowing our transgression, since we were the two best students in geometry.) I played a few matches on the Yale B team and a decent training game against fellow Yale U.S. Junior Champion John Meyer.

While Fischer was busy scoring 20-0 in 1970-71, I moved to Miami, where it was thrilling to play some Cuban exiles who had known Capablanca! I watched the Fischer – Spassky match on my wife's parents' TV up in the little garret of their big Chappaquidick house. Shelby Lyman would answer the phone and then make each move on his demo board. Although it was primitive, it was chess on TV! Like many others, when Fischer disappeared I felt like searching for Bobby Fischer, who often showed up in my dreams walking down the street, where I ran to him for his autograph.

Working on a PhD in Stony Brook, New York, made me feel too busy for chess, but I got serious again when I became assistant professor of English in Springfield, Missouri, in 1983, winning the city championship several times and peaking at expert rating 2068. In the late 1980s some fluke resignations by masters gave me a correspondence rating over 2600, which qualified me to play in the Absolute Championship. I thought I was on my way to masterhood OTB. However...

It was discouraging but I have to admit amusing, after I rewarded myself by buying ChessBase, to watch my rating descend more than 200 points. That's about one point for each dollar I had paid for the super-duper grandmasterly program.

And so I wonder about the mysteries of improving in chess. Is it really true that anyone of reasonable intelligence can become a master? I think not, based on what I have observed and on how hard I and some of my friends have worked. But



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I haven't given up yet, even though my 70th birthday looms.

I am addicted to the beautiful geometries of our game. Everyone quits chess some time (I have even heard young masters threaten to quit). If nothing stops us sooner, death will stop us all (except obviously Viktors Pupols, who will doubtless play forever, along with Korchnoi). So, when the men's room is close to the tournament room, and when the atmosphere is not too hot and claustrophobic, and when it won't cost me too much sleep, I'll try to show up for a few tournaments. The under-rated superkids, especially the ones who can barely see over the crosses atop their kings' heads, should be kind enough to show me a little mercy now and then, don'tcha think?

Thanks to Josh Sinanan and the other leaders of *Northwest Chess* for setting up this marvelous tournament and for all the other things they do in the service of chess.

Bryce Tiglon

Bryce played in his first scholastic chess tournaments in the first grade. In third and fourth grade, Bryce won the Washington State Elementary Chess Championships and three national blitz titles. He became



the fifth grade National Champion in 2012 which earned him the right to attend the 2012 World Youth Chess Championships (WYCC) in Slovenia where he finished 21st in his division. In 2013, Bryce won the K-6 Blitz Championship at Supernationals with a perfect score. He also became a National Master in December, 2013 at the age of 12. In 2014,

Bryce again competed in the World Youth Chess Championships, this time in South Africa, where he tied for sixth place in the U14 division. Bryce recently tied for first at the Washington State High School Chess Championship and is currently in the ninth grade at Lakeside High School.

Samuel He

Samuel He is currently a junior at Redmond High School.

He started playing chess around second grade, and he has played chess every day since then. Samuel improved primarily through books, his favorites being "How to Reassess Your Chess" and "Play the London System." Samuel also believes that his countless practice games against his brother Daniel He was a big help for his chess improvement. Outside of studying chess, Samuel enjoys finishing his homework, playing bullet chess online, and speedcubing.

Daniel He

Daniel He, currently a junior at Redmond High, first learned how to play chess when he was in second grade. Daniel gained a lot of his chess experience by playing

10th Annual Grand Pacific Open

C\$5000 GUARANTEED Prize Fund; FIDE rated

Easter: March 25-28, 2016

Location: Hotel Grand Pacific, 463 Belleville St, Victoria, BC

Round Times: Friday 6:00pm, Sat. 12:00 / 6:00pm, Sun. 12:00 / 6:00pm, Monday 10:00am

Sections: Open (FIDE and CFC rated); U1900 (CFC rated); U1400 (CFC rated)

Entry Fees: C\$80 by Feb. 15, C\$90 by Mar. 21, C\$100 on site. Discount C\$20 if in U1400 section.

Prizes: C\$5000 guaranteed.

Registration: on line at www.grandpacificopen.com or by cheque payable to Victoria Chess. Mail to Paul Leblanc, 1012 Spiritwood Place, Victoria, BC V8Y 1C6

Transportation: Clipper jet boat from Seattle and Coho ferry from Port Angeles both dock across the street from the playing site. Round times are set up to match the sailing schedule.

Misc: Equipment provided. C\$102 room rate at Hotel Grand Pacific 1-800-663-7550 (rate code "MAR16CHESS") See www.grandpacificopen.com for further details and side events.

speed chess online and studying openings. As co-president of the Redmond High chess club with his twin brother Samuel, he led the team to first place finishes in the KingCo chess league for the past two years! Outside of chess, Daniel enjoys playing basketball, bodybuilding, and studying mathematics.

Travis Olson

Travis Olson is from Mukilteo, Washington. He started playing chess competitively at the age of 16 after joining the Kamiak High School chess team his Junior year, and has been avid and enthusiastic about the game ever since.

Travis was once president of both the UW Seattle and UW Bothell chess clubs. He helped organize the Pioneer Square chess tournament in Occidental Park in Seattle in August 2011, and numerous other smaller events.

He also has been coaching chess for about four years as of this writing, in schools, camps, classes, small groups, and private lessons. He is always looking for motivated students to teach, and he offers an affordable rate!

Travis started the Mukilteo Chess Club and Learning Center (MCCLC) in May of last year, and he has held tournaments in libraries. He has been tournament directing (TD'ing) several events, including some for WCF and the Seattle Sluggers matches, and he hopes to become a senior-level TD some time in 2017, and a FIDE arbiter! He is even inventing new ways to pair tournaments and assign/calculate ratings, and writes his own software to accomplish those and other tasks.

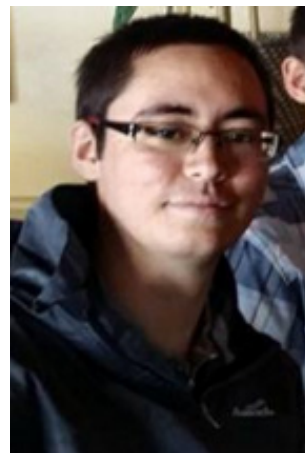
As of the writing, Travis is rethinking his angle on the MCCLC, and will make major changes to it, including the name, before he starts it up again (by the time this article is published).

Travis prides himself on being entirely self taught and motivated. As of this writing, he believes that he is still improving (despite being an adult) and will (hopefully) reach expert by the end of 2016! He is, as of this writing, rated 1961, which is higher than ever before.

Some of Travis' chess highlights include being Washington Class B Champion in 2013 (5.5/6) and June 1, 2014 Seattle Chess Club Tornado champion (4.0/4.) More recently, he defeated FM Nick Raptis in a classical game (on his

birthday! SCC Extravaganza 2015) and placed clear second at the Washington Class A Championship 2015 (4.5/6.)

This will be Travis' second consecutive year playing in one of the Washington State Championship sections. He would like to thank WCF president Josh Sinanan for adding the Challengers (fourth) section to the tournament this year, as otherwise he wouldn't be able to play! (This is despite his rating being 100 points higher than last year.) He would also like to thank Cha Zhang for giving the players such an extravagant site at Microsoft this year, and lastly Fred Kleist for TD'ing the event and having it FIDE rated!



Clark Harmon Memorial

April 9-10, 2016

Site: Seattle Chess Club, 2150 North 107th Street, Seattle, WA 98133.

Two Sections: Open (FIDE Rated) and Reserve (under 1800).

Open: 4 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** 40/120, SD/30, d10.

Reserve: 5 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** Saturday 30/90, SD/30, d10; Sunday 40/120, SD/30, d10.

USCF April 2016 rating supplement will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

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

Prize Fund: \$1,550 (based on 50 paid entries).

Open: 1st \$350, 2nd \$250, 1st U2100 \$125, 1st U1900 \$125.

Reserve: 1st \$250, 2nd \$150, 1st U1600 \$100, 1st U1400 \$100, 1st U1200/Unrated \$100.

Entry Fee: \$65 if postmarked or online by 04/06, \$75 after 04/06 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

Registration: Saturday 9:00 - 9:45 AM.

Rounds: Open: Saturday 10:00 AM, 4:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM.

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

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

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

Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 6. USCF Junior Grand Prix event.

Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. NS. NC. W.

Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

Mail To: Dan Mathews, 749 Somerset Lane, Edmonds, WA 98020-2646. **Phone:** (425) 218-7529.

E-mail: danomathews01@gmail.com. **Online Registration:** www.nwchess.com/online-registration.

Washington Open

A NW Grand Prix Event

May 28-30, 2016

Highest finishing Washington resident in the Open Section seeded into the 2017 Washington State Championship

Washington Open

\$7,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund

**Entry fees listed as: Postmarked
By April 30 / By May 21 / At site**

Open	EF \$110 / \$120 / \$130
Reserve (U1800)	EF \$100 / \$110 / \$120
Booster (U1400)	EF \$ 90 / \$100 / \$110
Medal Only	EF \$ 55 / \$ 65 / \$ 75

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 for entry fee only.

	Open	Reserve	Booster
1st	\$700	\$450	\$350
2nd	\$500	\$350	\$250
3rd	\$350	\$300	\$200
4th	\$300	\$200	\$150
5th	\$250	\$150	\$100
	U2100	U1650	U1200
1st	\$250	\$200	\$100
2nd	\$150	\$100	\$ 60
	U1900	U1500	U1000
1st	\$250	\$200	\$100
2nd	\$150	\$100	\$ 60
		Unrated	
1st			\$100
2nd			\$ 60

Special Prizes

Upset Prize (all sections)

1st \$100

2nd \$ 60

3rd NWC membership extension

Top female (per section) \$ 60

Top senior 50+ (per section) \$ 60

Entries/Information:

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

E-mail: 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

**Online Registration at www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration
Pay by credit/debit or PayPal.**

Format: Three 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 2016 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.

Rounds: 3-day schedule: Sat 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Sun 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Mon 9:30 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 30, 2016.

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. ChessMagnetSchool.com JGP. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

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

Washington Open G/15 Championship: Sat 05/28 at 8:00 PM. Format: 5 round Swiss in one section. Registration: 7:00-7:45 PM. Rounds: 8:00, 8:40, 9:20, 10:00 and 10:40 PM. TC: G/15,d0. EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400/b20. 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 Blitz Championship: Sun 05/29 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,d0. EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400/b20. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. Miscellaneous: USCF Blitz rated. Current USCF membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required.

Washington Open Scholastic (May 28): 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.

Chess Groovies

By NM Daniel He and NM Samuel He

David Navara (2672) –
Vladimir Kramnik (2788) [D43]
Prague CEZ Trophy m Prague
(R8), May 18, 2008
[Samuel He]

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 c6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6
5.Qd3!?

An interesting sideline. Navara chooses to avoid the more complicated lines with Bg5 and e3 for something more strategic.

5...Nbd7?!

In order to take advantage of the queen on d3, Black must play dxc4 with b5 later on, creating some play for Black. As seen in the game, Black had difficulty getting any play at all.

6.e4 dxe4 7.Nxe4 Nxe4 8.Qxe4 Nf6
9.Qd3 c5 10.Be3 cxd4



Position after 10...cxd4

11.0–0–0!

Any recapture of the d4-pawn would be difficult to defend after Bb4+. Navara takes advantage of the pin on the d-file to recapture the pawn the next move with a strategic advantage.

11...Bc5 12.Bxd4 Bxd4 13.Qxd4 Qxd4
14.Rxd4

Kramnik is one of the most solid players ever, and when an endgame is reached with no clear advantage for the opponent, it can be assumed that the game will end in a draw. However, this game is an exception! With the three pawns vs two pawns advantage on the queenside, White has good winning chances with accurate play.

14...Ke7 15.Be2 Rd8 16.Rxd8 Kxd8
17.Ne5 Ke7 18.Bf3

[Diagram top of next column]

With the last two moves, White has advanced his minor pieces while making it hard for Black's pieces and pawns to move. This makes White's plan of advancing the queenside pawns simpler.



Position after 18.Bf3

18...Nd7 19.Nxd7 Kxd7 20.Rd1+ Kc7
21.b4

White has both pieces actively participating while Black's pieces are still on their starting squares. White will soon be winning when the pawns are pushed up.

21...Bd7



Position after 21...Bd7

22.b5

It is important to see that while 22.Bxb7 does win a pawn, Black will eventually win it back while activating his pieces 22.Bxb7? Rb8 23.Be4 Rxb4 24.Bd3 Bc6 with an active and better position for Black.

22...Be8 23.Kc2 g5 24.Kc3 f5 25.g3

Creating a square for the bishop to retreat in order to keep the bishop on a strong active diagonal.

25...g4 26.Bg2 h5 27.a4 a6 28.Kb4 a5+
29.Kc3 Rc8

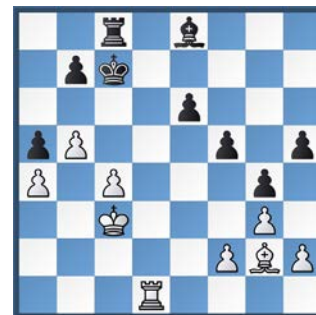
[Diagram top of next column]

30.c5

While the rook has finally come out, it is too late already as White's pawns are already on their perfect squares.

30...Kb8 31.Kc4 e5 32.Rd6

The active rook begins to attack the over-pushed kingside pawns.



Position after 29...Rc8

32...e4 33.Rf6 Bd7 34.Bf1 h4 35.gxh4
Rh8

Interesting idea, but Black has no time to even recapture the h4-pawn due to the strong threats the white queenside pawns create.

36.c6 bxc6 37.bxc6 Be8 38.Kc5 Kc7
39.Re6 f4 40.Re7+ Kd8 41.c7+

This game shows the importance of realizing queenside pawn majorities and how to take advantage of them. This is especially impressive against Kramnik, who rarely ever loses.

1–0

Magnus Carlsen (2872) –
Boris Gelfand (2740) [B30]
FIDE Candidates London ENG
(R10), March 27, 2013
[Samuel He]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e6 4.0–0 Nge7
5.Re1

The Rossolimo is known to be a strategic opening, something Carlsen would play well.

5...a6 6.Bf1 d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.d4

Carlsen aims to create a three pawn vs. two pawn queenside advantage, which you should be very familiar with from the previous game!

8...Nf6 9.Be3 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bd7



Position after 10...Bd7

11.c4

Beginning the queenside pawn pushes. Notice that this plan is strong as Black's position in the center is very passive, so White can focus on the sides without worry.

11...Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bc6 13.Nc3 Be7 14.a3 a5!

Correctly stopping the further queenside expansions for now.

15.Qd3 0-0 16.Rad1 Qc7 17.Be5 Qb6 18.Qg3 Rfd8



Position after 18...Rfd8

19.Rxd8+

As seen in the previous game, trading rooks doesn't make White's advantage go away. Here, this is a particularly good move as Black can't recapture with the rook as Bc7.

19...Qxd8 20.Rd1 Qb6 21.Bd4 Qb3 22.Rd3 Qc2



Position after 22...Qc2

23.b4!!

This move looks crazy, but because of White's attack on the kingside, Black can't take advantage of this! Soon, White will advance the pawns all the way up

23...axb4 24.axb4 Nh5 25.Qe5 Bf6 26.Qxh5 Bxd4 27.Rxd4 Qxc3 28.Qa5!

Interesting move, taking advantage of the weak back rank.

28...Rf8 29.Qb6 e5 30.Rd1 g6 31.b5 Be4 32.Qf6

Here, White's plan is to move his pieces around to find the best squares in order to successfully push the b- and c- pawns. With the weakening move g6, the white queen finds a solid active square on f6.

32...h5 33.h4!

Stopping any annoying threats Black can do with future h5-h4-h3.

33...Bf5 34.Rd5 Qc1 35.Qxe5 Be6 36.Rd4 Ra8 37.Qe2 Kh7 38.Rd1 Qc3 39.Qe4 Ra1 40.Rxa1 Qxa1 41.c5 Qc3 42.Qxb7 Qe1 43.b6 Bc4

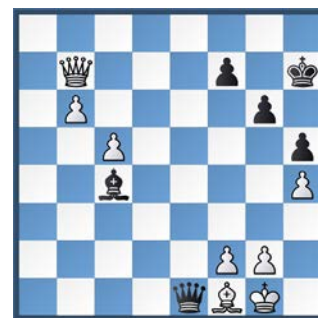
[Diagram top of next column]

44.Qf3

The pawns have become so strong that Carlsen can give up his bishop and still win!

44...Qxf1+ 45.Kh2 Qb1 46.b7 Qb5 47.c6 Bd5 48.Qg3

Another good example of the strength of queenside pawn majorities.



Position after 43...Bc4

1-0

Hopefully these games have taught you something to use in your own games!



GERALD'S CHESS UNDERSTANDING WAS PROPORTIONAL TO HIS IGNORANCE, THEREBY CANCELING OUT ANY HOPE FOR FUTURE PROGRESS.

The 2015 Elmars Zemgalis Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix Final Standings

By Murlin Varner, Administrator

The winners are known. The checks are out. The 2015 Elmars Zemgalis Memorial NWC Grand Prix is over. The top winner in Idaho was Travis Miller, with a single point lead over Jeremy Krasin. In Washington, Michael Munsey had a much more comfortable 47 point lead over August Piper. The largest margin of victory went to Oregon's frequent winner, Nick Raptis, with an 89 point lead. Many class prizes were won by just a few points, and second place in Washington's Class A was shared by Naomi Bashkansky and Addison Lee.

There are prizes for first and second in each class, by state. The amounts are determined by the number and size of the tournaments held within each state. Washington's prizes are the largest, as the majority of events are held there. Idaho's prizes are the smallest as there were only six GP tournaments in that state. The top prize per class was \$167.64 in Washington, \$58.56 in Oregon and \$10.00 in Idaho. Second place prizes are half of the first place amounts (\$83.82, \$29.28 and \$5.00). The overall winner gets a second first place share to go with his or her class prize.

One record was set this year, for the highest average entries per event, at 31.52, about a third of an entry higher than the previous record from 2012. For Miller and Munsey, this is their first Grand Prix win. For Raptis, this is his tenth since I took over the records in 2003. Seventy Idaho players took part in one or more Grand Prix events. Oregon had 177 players total and Washington had 416. Fifty-two players came to GP events from outside the three-state area. The highest score among those players was Joseph Truelson of Minnesota, with 63.5 points. The most active Grand Prix player was August Piper of Washington, who attended 36 events in the course of the year. Nick Raptis lead Oregon players in activity with 26 events, and three Idaho players participated in eight events each (Travis Miller, Jeremy Krasin and Ron Weyland). Events were held in twelve different cities, with 36 in Seattle and 19 in Portland. (Portland's number will go up with the addition of the PCC Quads to the GP line-up for 2016.)

Now we move on to the 2016 Richard Gutman Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix, where, after eight completed events, 173 players already have Grand Prix points. The early leaders (as of February 1st) are Nick Raptis in Washington with 33 points, Mike Hasuike in Oregon with 20.5 points, and Travis Miller in Idaho with 5 points.

Data below is current through December 31.

Northwest Grand Prix Standings (2015 prize winners in bold)

Idaho			Oregon			Washington				
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.		
Masters										
			1	Raptis	Nick	292	1	Pupols	Viktors	173
			2	Bjorksten	Lennart	90.5	2	Schill	William J	157.5
			3	Grabinsky	Aaron	64	3	Haining	Kyle	129.5
			4	Haessler	Carl A	41	4	Tiglon	Bryce	90.5
			5	Seitzer	Phillip	36	5	Feng	Roland	84
Experts										
			1	Cigan	Jason	113	1	He	Anthony B	177
			2	Talyansky	Seth D	93	2	Yu	Jason	141
			3	Sherrard	Jerry D	90	3	Nagase	Toshihiro	106
			4	Saputra	Yogi	71	4	Zhang	Brendan	104.5
			5	Heywood	Bill	68	5	Bartron	Paul R	87.5
Class A										
			1	Murray	David E	134.5	1	Baxter	Brent L	173
			2	Phipps	Danny	116	2	Bashkansky	Naomi	115
			3	Zhang	Gavin	101.5	2	Lee	Addison	115
			4	Gaikwad	Dagadu B	85	4	Zhang	Eric M	111
			5	Goffe	Michael P	74	5	Kuhner	Mary K	109.5
M/X/Class A										
1	Miller	Travis J	54							
2	Krasin	Jeremy A	53							
3	Bodie	Brad	38.5							
4	Inman	James	16.5							
5	Lucky	David	15							
Class B										
1	Roland	Jeffrey T	35.5							
2	Naccarato	Savanna	27.5							
3	Hawkins	Nicholas B	21							
4	Griggs	Glenn	18							
5	Machin	Alex J	16.5							

Idaho			Oregon			Washington		
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
Class C						Class B		
1	Weyland Ron	41.5	1	Hasuike Mike L	203	1	Puri Ishaan	110
2	Jaroski Jeffrey A	29	2	Eagles Roland	138	2	Buck Stephen J	104.5
3	Nathan Jacob A	18.5	3	Samillano Jazon	113.5	3	Tu Robin L	101
4	Zaklan David A	16	4	McClain Jack W	81	4	Deng Samuel	100.5
5	Lombardi George	13.5	5	Moore Michael	70	5	Petrov Oscar	91
Class D						Class C		
1	Hiatt Arlene	23	1	Berger Brian F	143	1	Munsey Michael R	229.5
2	Porth Desmond	14	2	Dietz Arliss	79	2	Piper August	182.5
3	Porth Adam	11	3	Kenway Geoffrey W	57.5	3	Richards Jerrold	165.5
4	Nyblade Wesley, III	8.5	4	Hansen James J	51	4	Anand Vignesh	140
5	Dominick Matthew T	3	5	Romero Henry G	41.5	5	Xuan Owen	139
Class E and Below						Class D and Below		
1	Naccarato Chris D	12.5	1	Buerer Harry F	46	1	Jiang Brandon	92
2	Fister Joel S	9	2	Kypriotakis Kyriakos	38.5	2	Tien Sophie	90
3	Aderogba Temiloluwa D	8.5	3	Uan-Zo-Li Sean A	36	3	Zhang Kyle	80
4	Porth Dylan	8	4	Pai Kushal	30	4	Tien Andy	78.5
5	Catangatang Levi	7	5	Gupta Rohit	27	5	Jiang Andrew	78
Overall Leaders, by State								
1	Miller Travis J	54	1	Raptis Nick	292	1	Munsey Michael R	229.5
2	Krasin Jeremy A	53	2	Hasuike Mike L	203	2	Piper August	182.5
3	Weyland Ron	41.5	3	Berger Brian F	143	3	He Anthony B	177
4	Bodie Brad	38.5	4	Eagles Roland	138	4	Pupols Viktors	173
5	Roland Jeffrey T	35.5	5	Murray David E	134.5	4	Baxter Brent L	173
6	Jaroski Jeffrey A	29	6	Phipps Danny	116	6	Richards Jerrold	165.5
7	Naccarato Savanna	27.5	7	Samillano Jazon	113.5	7	Schill William J	157.5
8	Hiatt Arlene	23	8	Cigan Jason	113	8	Yu Jason	141
9	Hawkins Nicholas B	21	9	Zhang Gavin	101.5	9	Anand Vignesh	140
10	Nathan Jacob A	18.5	10	Talyansky Seth D	93	10	Xuan Owen	139
11	Griggs Glenn	18	11	Bjorksten Lennart	90.5	11	Haining Kyle	129.5
12	Inman James	16.5	12	Sherrard Jerry D	90	12	Bashkansky Naomi	115
12	Machin Alex J	16.5				12	Lee Addison	115

Errata

The photograph to the right from the 2016 Gresham Open that appeared atop page 21 of the February 2016 issue of *Northwest Chess* was mis-captioned in the printed version only. The online version will be correct.

Instead of, "(L) Frederick Davis vs Nick Raptis" it should have said, "(L) Oscar Petrov vs Nick Raptis."

I would like to thank an alert reader for pointing this out to us so quickly.—Editor.



Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

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

Future at the SCC

On-Line Registration: We hope to have our website set up to take registrations for the Spring Open in March! EFs will be \$2 to \$3 higher to defray costs and counteract the higher percentage of advance EFs expected.

Membership Sale: From March 9th through 23rd, membership dues will be cut by 20% across the board.

Music-Playing Chess Kids: The date of the concert will be May 14 and the venue will be near the corner of 96th & Linden.

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.

Coming in April: Adult Swiss!

Seattle Spring Open

March 18-20 or 19-20

A two-section Swiss (4 rounds – Open, 5 rounds – Reserve) with a time control of 40/120 and SD/60 with a 5 second delay (two-day Reserve schedule – Round 1, G/60; d5). The prize fund of \$1000 is based on 52 paid entries, 6 per prize group.

a Northwest Grand Prix event

Open		Reserve (U1950)	
First	\$220	First	\$120
Second	\$160	Second	\$80
U2100	\$100	U1750	\$70
		U1550	\$60
		U1350	\$50
		Unrated	\$20
Plus Score Pool — \$120			

Entry Fees: \$36 if rec'd by 3/16 (\$26 SCC memb., \$31 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW), \$45 at site (\$35 SCC memb., \$40 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW). **Unrated**—Free with purchase of 1-yr USCF & 1-yr WCF. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.**

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

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

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

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

☞ **Mar 13, Apr 17** **Sunday Tornado** ☞

Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/60; d5 (or G/64; d0). **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 from each EF goes to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

March 25-27 **SCC Team in Reno!**

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

☞ **Apr 2, May 7** **Saturday Quads** ☞

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

April 3 **SCC Novice**

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 3/30, \$16 at site. (-\$2 SCC mem., -\$1 mem. 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.

Attendance at 2015's events

3-Day Wknd Tnmts (6)—ave. 53.7;
 Tornado (12)—ave. 21.7; Quads
 (11)—ave. 18.5; 2-Day Wknd Tnmts
 (1)—15; Novice (4)—ave. 6.7.

Upcoming Events

☞ denotes 2016 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

☞ **Mar 5 Northwest Open, Tacoma, WA.** Site: Metro Parks Community Center, 3513 Portland Ave. E., Tacoma, WA. Format: 3 round Quads. Time Control: G/90; d5. Entry fee: \$25.00 advance, \$30.00 at site, \$22.00 for TCC members. Prize fund: \$40.00 each quad. Registration: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Rounds: 10:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m. One half-point bye available. US Chess/WCF memberships required. NS NC W. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, ph. (253) 535-2536, ggarychess@aol.com or web: tacomachess.org.

☞ **Mar 12-13 Portland Spring Open, Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR. Format: US Chess rated, two days, two sections (Open and U1800), 5-round Swiss. Time Control: 40/90, SD/30, d5. Byes: 2 half-point byes available if requested before 1st round. Entry fee: \$35, \$10 discount to PCC members. Registration: 9:00-9:45 a.m. on Saturday. Limited to first 50 entrants. Rounds: Saturday 10:00, 2:15 & 6:30; Sunday 11:00 & 3:15. Players who have a game go around the full time can request extra time off before the next round. Prizes: \$650 based on 40 total entries. Open: 1st \$150, 2nd \$100, U2000 \$75; Reserve: 1st \$100, 2nd \$75; U1600, U1400, U1200/unrated each \$50. No tiebreakers used, prizes split between players with the same results. Memberships: US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA required and can be purchased or renewed at registration, OSA. OCF Invitational Qualifier. OSCF State Qualifier.

☞ **Mar 19/Apr 16 Portland CC Quad 45, Portland, OR.** 3-round quads, G/45;d10. Some/all sections may run as a 3-round Swiss with more than four players. The most current ("live") US Chess regular ratings are usually used for section placement. On-site registration runs from 9-9:45am. Rounds are scheduled for 10am, 12pm, and 2pm. Rounds 2 and 3 can be started earlier if both players agree. Players who have a game go long can request extra time off before the next round. EF: \$15, PCC members \$10, free entry for players who are unrated in US Chess. US chess and NWSRS rated. US Chess membership is required and can be purchased during on-site registration. Winner of each section receives \$10 discount on the entry fee for one of the next three PCC Quad 45 or Tuesday Quads. If there is a six or seven player Swiss, the runner-up receives \$5 discount. Scholastic awards: trophy for winning section with 3 points; smaller trophy for winning or tie for first with 2.5; medal for winning or tie for first with 2 or 1.5. OSCF State Qualifier. Optional blitz tournament afterwards. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR

Mar 25-27 Larry Evans Memorial, Reno, NV. (Full-page ad page 3)

Mar 25-28 10th Annual Grand Pacific Open, Victoria, BC (Half-page ad page 23)

☞ **Mar 26/Apr 23 Portland CC Game in 60, Portland, OR.** 4SS, G/60;d5. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR - Map. If 30 or more entries the field will be divided into 2 sections by ratings. EF: \$20, \$5 discount for PCC Members. US Chess rated; OCF/WCF/ICA and US Chess membership required, OSA. No advance entries. Reg: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Byes: 1/2 point bye if requested at reg. Players who have a game go around the full time can request extra time off before the next round. Prizes: If one section (\$200/b20) \$60-\$40-\$30; U1800, U1500/unrated \$35 each. If two sections - upper section \$75-50-25 (b/15); lower section \$65-35; U1400/unrated \$50 (b/15). No tiebreakers (prizes split). OSCF State Qualifier. Info: email@pdxchess.org, phone 503-246-2978, website www.pdxchess.org. (**Note that Apr event is NOT an OSCF qualifier.**)

☞ **Apr 7, 14, 21 Taxing Quads, Spokane, WA.** Site: Gonzaga University (Herak Rm 121). Registration: 6:30-7:15 p.m. E.F. \$16, Time Control: G/120 (with 5 second delay), US Chess rated. Info: dbgrffn@hotmail.com.

☞ **Apr 9-10 Clark Harmon Memorial, Seattle, WA** (Half-page ad page 24)

☞ **Apr 23 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, Salmon River Suites, 1065 S. 8th St., Pocatello, Idaho. US Chess mem req., ICA mem req., OSA. EF: \$30 (U18 & 60+ \$25), by 4/20/16, \$35 (all) after. Reg & Ck in: 7:30-8:30 AM 4/23. 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 c/o Jay Simonson, 391 Carol Ave. Idaho Falls, ID, 83401, 208-206-7667, rooknjay@yahoo.com, http://www.idahochessassociation.org. NC, NS, W.

☞ **Apr 30 Daffodil Open, Tacoma, WA.** Site: Metro Parks Community Center, 3513 Portland Ave. E., Tacoma, WA. Format: 3 round Quads. Time Control: G/90; d5. Entry fee: \$25.00 advance, \$30.00 at site, \$22.00 for TCC members. Prize fund: \$40.00 each quad. Registration: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Rounds: 10:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m. One half-point bye available. US Chess/WCF memberships required. NS NC W. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, ph. (253) 535-2536, ggarychess@aol.com or web: tacomachess.org.

☞ **May 28-30 Washington Open, Lynnwood, WA** (Full-page ad page 25)

Northwest Chess
c/o Orlov Chess Academy
2501 152nd Ave NE STE M16
Redmond, WA 98052-5546

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