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

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## Selected Best State Magazine/Newsletter in 2014 and 2015 by Chess Journalists of America!

### On the front cover:

Christopher Baumann taken from behind sporting his Ambrose Chess team shirt at the Idaho Scholastic Triple Crown tournament on February 20, 2016. See page 15 for the same shot taken from the front. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

### On the back cover:

Close-up of the hat made and worn by announcer Bob Bishop at the Idaho Scholastic Championship on March 12, 2016. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

### Chesstoons:

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

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# Oregon Chess News

## Eugene March Madness

By Owen McCoy

On March 12, 2016, dozens of chess players from all over the state drove to South Eugene High School for a day full of chess (not basketball) at Jerry Ramey's third and final tournament this school year: Eugene March Madness 2016.

In the Elite Eight section, there was nothing out of the ordinary about the results. That is to say, NM Aaron Grabinsky (2360-2362) won all four games and gained no more than two rating points. Tying for second with 2.5/4 were Owen McCoy (1994-1993) and Joshua Grabinsky (1949-1955) after drawing a very long, tiring game. (I'm speaking for myself, but I don't know about my opponent!) Victor Dossin (1588-1594), Simon Venter (1706-1706), and Neal Ornes (1278-1331) all finished with 2.0/4, but money was only awarded to the top three.

The Advanced section was won by Kristian Villa (1164-1237) with 3.5/4 points. Jordan Henderson (1161-1202) took second with 3.0/4. Third place went to Arvind Mahadevan (1010-1099) with 2.5/4. Vincent Thrash (1037-1044) was awarded the fourth place trophy with his 2.0/4 on tiebreaks, but Shaw Stork (1026-1032) finished with the same score.

The Intermediate section was won by

Jalen Wang (856-1012) with 4.5/5 points. What followed was a six-way tie for second place. Second place on tiebreaks was Kevin McCoy (823-927), following in the footsteps of his older brother, with 3.5/5, the same as the next five in the standings. Francis Anderson-Blankenship (886-936) was awarded third place. Corianna Drouin (913-950) earned fourth with the same score. Noah Menachemson (773-893), Andre Rue (721-860), and Dorian Mills (826-877), finishing with 3.5/5, as well as Andrey Bindeman (666-795), and Kerek Kato (717-785), with 3.0/5, and also Naren Mahadevan (832-831), Brennan Connelly (891-870), and Silas Kohler (679-729) with 2.5/5. (Deep breath.) All of them were awarded outstanding performance trophies for their plus scores.

In Novice 2, Preston Mosley (669-884) won the house with his 5.0/5. Zachary Shao (400-924) was awarded the second-place trophy, and after his first five games, his rating has already gone up 524 (!) points. Noah Wagner (401-524) also had 4.0/5, but was given third on tiebreak. Max Murphy (553-693) finished with 3.0/5 and earned fourth, but Jonah Girvan (494-623), Baatyr Beksultan (508-604), Elliott Miller (471-577), and Kai Turner (500-586) all finished with plus-one scores.

Novice 1 had a three-way-tie for first place, but by blitz tiebreaks, Brandon Young (524-621) came out ahead, with Kevin Marberry (731-791) coming in second, and Hannah Yun (400-887)

coming in third. All three had 4.0/5. Raiko Holmgren (400-704) finished with 3.0/5 and earned fourth, but Sheldon Van Enk (605-626) and Fabian Thompson (705-686) had the same score.

Great job to all participants, and I hope to see you at the Fall Classic this November! (Date TBA.)

## 2016 Spring Open

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — March 12-13, 2016

During the rainy season—particularly this rainy season—a unique obstacle awaits the visitor attempting entrance to the Portland Chess Club's front door—a man-made waterfall that, at times, reminds one of nature's own Columbia Gorge cascades. Originating somewhere in the upper-story section of the building's two-story structure, the waterfall plunges through openings in the second-story porch, mimicking a small Multnomah Falls, which splashes over anyone brave enough to attempt entrance to the club.

Now, this is not necessarily a bad thing, if perchance you only got four hours of sleep the night before, and need something to jumpstart your concentration during the first round of play. Barring that, for others not so debilitated, it's a wet nuisance. But hopes for correcting this problem seem dim at best, as the waterfall has persisted and gained strength each winter—and



(L) Ian Vo thinks carefully about his next move against Josh Grabinsky.  
Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.



Brian Berger finds Morgan The Dog's ahhh-spot. Photo credit: Jazon Samillano.



(L) Corey Tache vs Kian Patel. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

now, I believe, is looked upon as a “natural” phenomenon.

But chess players are a hearty bunch, and a mere bracing shower and two inches of water on a front step appeared to be no deterrent to the 35 players who showed up for the Portland Chess Club’s Spring Open—this year officiated by Chief TD Mike Janniro, and Chief Assistant TD Mike Lilly—Lilly being quite active lately, both as a player and a TD, but who

could use some help from any member who would like to give some of his/her time to become an Assistant TD.

On hand after missing February’s Game 60 was none other than Morgan The Dog, himself, seeking acknowledgement of his presence from adoring fans while keeping eyes and ears open for telltale signs of weakness in players who might meet his live-in companion, Jerrold “Just Want To Make 1600 Before Its Over” Richards

(1497-1508). Given the ups and downs of Richards’ rating (much like mine), each tournament is a hold-your-breath surprise for Morgan, who never knows which Richards is going to show up that day—the one who at times seems comfortable playing against 1600 and 1700 players, or the one who struggles against provisional and unrated players.

Fortunately, Richards was firing on all cylinders that day, acquiring 2.5 points by first drawing with James Nelson (1699-1699—3.0/5), then claiming a win over Michael Olson (1598-1562—2.0/5), finally to gain another point on a third round forced bye, due to an odd number of players for that round. All this led to an additional 11-points being added to his rating, while his only two losses came at the hands of players higher rated than he—a performance that sets him firmly on the path of his life-long ambition (note his aka).

Turning to the winners in the Reserve Section, it was the long-absent-from-tournament-play Jazon “The Filipino Phenom” Samillano (1729-1748) who won the top prize of \$88, ending with a final score of 4.0/5 points, showing convincingly that no rust had formed during his self-imposed exile. Unfortunately this young entrepreneur with the bright smile will shortly be leaving the Portland chess community for the lure of fame and fortune in San Francisco, California, where business opportunities are many. I know he will be missed—especially by this reporter.

Grabbing the number two spot was Stephen Buck (1736-1729—3.5/5), who shared combined monies with Javkhlantugs Nyamdorj (1534P-1600—3.5/5), who also won the U1600. First U1400 fell to Konner Feldman (1290-1255—1.0/5, whose one-point was enough to line his pocket with \$44. And Collin Anderson (Unrated-1435P—2.0/5) took the U1200/Unrated prize of \$45 for his two draws and a win.

Topping the field in the Open Section was a happy Jason Cigan (2140-2161—4.5/5), who has been edging closer to Master level at nearly every tournament in past months—this one gaining him 21 valuable points and \$131, while holding off the formidable Lennart Bjorksten (2165-2164—3.5/5), who had to settle for tying for second with Phillip Seitzer (2114-2119—3.5/5) and Jose Gatica (2119-2115—3.5/5).

Two others, Brent Baxter (1948-1962) and Corey Tache (1841-1876) also had 3.5/5 points each, making it a tie for the U2000 prize money of \$66—probably



(L) Steven Witt vs Lennart Bjorksten. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



*Chief Assistant TD Mike Lilly. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

enough to cover their tournament costs and the indignity of having to brave the Portland Chess Club Falls, which lies in wait to drench unsuspecting souls on rainy days.

## March 2016 PCC Quad 45

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — March 19, 2016

A rare display of sunlight spread its warmth across the Portland area the day of the monthly Quad 45 tournament held at the Portland Chess Club. Unlike the recent two days of the Spring Open, no waterfall greeted the 18 players who passed over the threshold, an obstacle which manifests itself during a significant downpour (of which we have had many this winter), causing one to dart and weave to avoid a substantial shower of cold water (note reference to this phenomenon in the Spring Open article in this issue).

Three quads and a small Swiss made up the field this time, broken down as near as possible by similar ratings. It was a tough bunch in Quad One, no one was able to score the full 3.0 points, but Danny Phipps (1903-1914) came nearest to it with his 2.0/3 points, just edging out Raymond Fletcher III (1936-1928) and Ethan Wu (1806-1820), who both squeezed out a 1.5/3 score. And coming in fourth with a 1.0/3 was Moshe Rachmuth (1899-1883), who won over Fletcher in the second

round.

Quad Two was dominated by the young Kushal Pai (1348-1365), his 2.5/3 points barely edging out Dave Prideaux's (1196-1236) 2.0/3 score. It has taken some time, but Prideaux's game is becoming more solid, and we are hoping this tournament result will entice him to play more often. And third in line was Megan Cheng (1198-1184)—yes, the very same Cheng

who dispensed with this reporter in barely over four minutes on her clock in a recent game—who grabbed a point from fourth place Nicholas Gyde (1216P-1151P)—Gyde managing to get a draw with Pai in the first round.

Quad Three saw Egan Wong (1080-1089) lead the pack with 2.5/3 points, a full point ahead of Megan Cheng's sister, Erin (895-899), with 1.5/3 points. Third place finishers Aidan Gardner-O' Kearny (943-908) and Geordyn Allyn (718-742) finished with 1.0/3 points each.

In the Swiss, there was a final showdown between James "Batman" Hansen (1548-1656) and Brian "Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1576-1619). With two points each after their first two games, each sought the glory he felt he deserved, with Hansen seemingly more deserving than Berger, securing a perfect score of 3.0/3—the only perfect score of the day. And tying for third were Robert Allyn (1706-1690) and James Bean (1649-1640), both with a score of 1.5/3, beating out Nich Havrilla (1694-1672) with 1.0/3, and Arliss Dietz (1531-1500), who found himself 0.0/3 at the final bell.

Immediately following the Quads came the Blitz tournament, the time control being Game 3-minutes with a 2-second delay, in which six players participated. Tying for first were Micah Smith (2149-2142) and Benedict Smail (2078-2085), each with a 7.5/10 score, followed by Jason Cigan (2140-2085) and Danny Phipps (1882P-1876) with 4.5/10 points



*(L) Danny Phipps vs Moshe Rachmuth. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



*Egan Wong with his winning trophy and choice of a chess book.  
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

each, and fifth and sixth were Nich Havrilla (1612P-1642) and William Holloran III (1197P-1532), each with a final score of 3.0/10.

As Chief TD, Micah Smith played as a house player to make the Blitz an even number, therefore the \$5 discount on the Saturday Blitz went to Smail. Mike Lilly was Chief Assistant TD once again, and it looks as if he has recommitted for this



*(L) Robert Allyn vs Arliss Dietz at the PCC Quad 45. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

role for the foreseeable future—and so we again have the team of Mike & Mike running this popular monthly tournament.

So there you have it!—all as it really happened, brought to you in living color and black & white by your roving (make that limping) reporter.

## March 2016 PCC Game 60

**By Brian Berger**

Portland, OR — March 26, 2016

With no scholastic tournament scheduled for the same day as the Portland Chess Club's monthly Game 60, the pool of eager players for this popular tournament nearly took over the club's entire playing area—coming in at an even 40. Combine these with the number of parents in tow, and the playing conditions got downright claustrophobic!

On hand to officiate this multitude of motivated before-the-games millers were Chief TD Lennart Bjorksten and Chief Assistant TD Mike Lilly, who quickly paired the pacing throng and managed to get the tournament going on time. And conspicuous by his absence was Morgan The Dog, who I understand was attending a Washington Democratic caucus with his companion, Jerrold "I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It's Over" Richards. It seems Richards' regard for Trump matches his distaste for snake-oil salesmen, and those players who bring their colds to tournaments to sneeze and cough in your face while dribbling spittle on the board.

Being dispassionate about the whole process of human politics, Morgan The Dog acts as a stabilizing influence for Richards, who tends to act out his frustrations on seeing machinations he



*(L) Kushal Pai playing some pre-tournament blitz with James Hansen (Chief TD Micah Smith in the background) at the PCC Quad 45. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



*(L) Erin Cheng vs Liam Lancaster at the PCC Game 60 tournament. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



*(L) Ryan Richardson vs Jazon Samillano. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



(L) Valentin Molchanov vs Jon Strohhahn. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

perceives as moronic behavior—raising not only his ire, but his blood-pressure. It is at these times that Morgan (trained in the art of acupuncture) applies needles to specific, calming spots on Richards' torso and neck areas, while chanting an ancient soothing rhythm of unknown origin. If these don't work, then it's two tablets of Oxycodone and a tranquilizer.

As per recently revised rules about this tournament (more than 30 players requires an upper and lower section), two sections were formed, this time containing 20 players each. Having too-often tackled the terrors of the unrated and lower rated, I was happy to just make the cutoff point for the upper section—figuring, it's better to go down in flames fighting dragons, than do so trying to fend off munchkins. But my one win out of four games (and that by my opponent's time running out) caused me to view the munchkins in a different light.

Andrea Botez (1699-1816—3.5/4) showed that dragons come in all forms, by besting a tough field of upper section players, settling for a draw in only one of her games—a performance that earned her 117 rating points and \$97.50 in hard cash, while giving notice to other dragons that this young lady is the real deal!

Tying for second place were Ryan Richardson (2127-2133), Phillip Seitzer (2119-2117), and Mike Janniro (2002-2006), each with 3.0/4 points, and each receiving \$32.50 of the prize fund.

In the lower section the top player was Sean Uan-Zo-Li (1333-1471), a young man who has quickly moved up the rating ladder, and who turned in a perfect 4.0/4, giving him the whole of the \$84.50 in prize money. Nipping at his heels and tying for second place with scores of 3.5/4 each, were James "Batman" Hansen (1656-1668) and Michael Moore (1523-1586), two other young players who have been giving notice that they mean business when it comes to stalking their opponents' kings—both receiving \$22.75 after splitting the prize fund.

And lastly, taking the U1400 prize money of \$65, was Carter Lancaster (1243-1381), a recent newcomer to US Chess rated tournaments—and who, I can personally attest, is at the moment highly underrated—with a final score of 3.0/4. My experience with this youngster's playing skills comes from the games I have played against him (and his siblings) at Sunday gatherings of the Singer Hill/Oregon City Chess Club (which meets Sundays from 11 to 4 at the Singer Hill Cafe, in Oregon City), and where, also, James Hansen drops in from time-to-time.

## Another Game From The Oregon Closed

Lennart Bjorksten (2155) –  
Jose Miguel Gatica (2125) [E46]  
Oregon Closed Championship  
Portland, OR (R2), February 6, 2016  
*[Ralph Dubisch]*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0  
5.Nge2 d5 6.c5?!

6.a3 Be7

6...c6

6...b6! 7.a3 (7.cxb6 axb6) 7...Bxc3+  
8.Nxc3 bxc5 9.dxc5 a5!±

7.a3 Ba5 8.b4 Bc7 9.f4 Ne8 10.Ng3  
Qh4 11.Qh5 Qxh5 12.Nxh5 f6 13.Be2  
g6 14.Ng3 Ng7 15.0-0 e5 16.fxe5 fxe5  
17.Rxf8+ Kxf8 18.Bb2 e4?!

18...Be6

19.Kf2?!

19.Rf1+ Ke8 20.Ncxe4!? dxe4 21.Nxe4  
gives White compensation for his piece.



(#Diagram-analysis after 21.Nxe4)

Two mobile center pawns, active developed pieces, and Black's exposed king seem more than enough. 21...Nf5 (21...Nd7 22.g4±) 22.Nf6+ Ke7 (22...Kf7 23.Nxh7 Kg7 24.Ng5±) 23.Ng8+ Ke8 24.e4 Ne3 25.Nf6+ Ke7 26.Rf2 h5 27.d5 cxd5 28.exd5 and Black's problems seem insoluble.

19...Nd7 20.b5 Nf6 21.h3 h5 22.Bd1

This maneuver seems a little slow.

22...Ke7 23.a4 Bd7 24.Nge2 Rf8 25.Kg1  
Nf5 26.Bc1 g5 27.Bb3?!

27.Rb1±

27...g4 28.hxg4?!

After 28.b6 axb6 29.cxb6 Bd6 30.h4  
Nxh4±. Black is close to winning.

28...hxg4?

28...Nxg4+–

29.a5

29.Bd2 g3 30.Rf1 Rh8 31.Nf4 Bxf4  
32.Rxf4 Rh2, when ...Nh4 will shortly  
force White to part with the exchange.

29...a6 30.bxa6 bxa6 31.Bd2 Rb8

Or 31...g3.

32.Bd1 g3 33.Na2

33.Nf4 Bxf4

33...Ng4 34.Nb4

[Diagram top of next page]

34...Rxb4?

34...Nf2! 35.Kf1 (35.Nxa6 Rh8 36.Kf1





Position after 34.Nb4

Rh1+ 37.Ng1 Nxd1



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 37...Nxd1)

38.Nxc7 (38.Rxd1 Bxa5! 39.Ke2 Rh2!  
40.Bxa5 (40.Kf1 Bxd2 41.Rxd2 Nxe3+  
42.Ke1 Nxc2+) 40...Rxc2+ 41.Ke1  
Rxc1+ 42.Kd2 Rxd1+ 43.Kxd1 g2-+)  
38...Nfxe3+ 39.Bxe3 Nxe3+ 40.Ke2 Nc4  
41.a6 (41.Rf1 Rh2 42.Ke1 (42.a6 Rxc2+  
43.Ke1 Bg4 44.a7 Rb2 mates.) 42...  
Rxc2 43.Ne2 Bg4 44.Nxc3 Rxc3 45.a6  
Ra3-+) 41...Bg4+ 42.Kf1 Nd2+ 43.Ke1  
e3 44.— Rxc1#) 35...Rxb4 36.Bxb4  
Nxe3+ 37.Ke1 Nxc2+ 38.Kd2 Bg4-+ is  
overwhelming.

**35.Bxb4 Nfxe3**

35...Ngxe3 36.Bd2∞, likely about equal.

**36.Be1**

Or 36.Bd2. White is certainly not worse here.

**36...Nf5 37.Bc3 Nge3 38.Bd2 Nc4 39.Be1**

39.Bg5+ Kf7 40.Rb1 Nxa5 41.Bd2 Bc8  
42.Ba4 Nc4 43.Bc1 and now 43...Na5  
44.Bd2 is a repetition, while anything else is quite murky.

**39...Bc8 40.Bb3 Nce3 41.Bd2 Ng4 42.Ra3 Kd7**

42...Nge3

**43.Bd1 Nf2 44.Bc2 Ng4 45.Ra4**

45.Ba4±

**45...Nge3 46.Bb1 Ke6 47.Ba2 Nd1 48.Ra3 Ke7 49.Be1 Nde3 50.Bb3 Ng4?**

50...Bd7 51.Ba4 Nc4 52.Rb3 Kd8 53.Rb1 Kc8

**51.Ra1**

51.Ba4 Bd7 52.Rb3 Kd8 53.Rb7 Kc8  
54.Ra7 Kb8 55.Rxa6 Kb7 56.Rxc6 Bxc6  
57.a6+ Kxa6 58.Bxc6± White's bishop-pair  
doesn't offer realistic winning chances here, but neither is he losing.

**51...Nf6 52.Bd2 Ng4 53.Rf1?**

53.Rb1

**53...Nf2?**

53...Nge3 54.Rb1 Bd7 55.Re1 Ke8  
56.Ba4 Nc4

**54.Bc2 Ke8 55.Bg5 Bxa5 56.Bf4 Ng4 57.Ba4 Bd7 58.Bxc3 Nge3 59.Rb1 Nxc3 60.Nxc3 Bc7 61.Ne2 Kd8 62.Rb3 Nc4 63.g3 Kc8 64.Nf4 Nd2**



Position after 64...Nd2

**65.Rb2?**

65.Ra3 Nf3+ 66.Rxf3 exf3 67.Kf2

**65...Nf3+ 66.Kf2 Nxd4 67.Ng6 Nf5 68.g4 Nd4 69.g5?!**

69.Ke3±

**69...Kd8**

69...Bd8±

**70.Kg2?!**

70.Rb1

**70...Ne6**

70...e3!

**71.Rc2?!**

71.Rf2 e3 72.Rf6 d4±

**71...Nxc3 72.Ra2 Nf3**

72...Be8 73.Nh4 Ne6 74.Rc2 Be5 75.Nf5 Bd7-+

**73.Bd1 Bf5 74.Nf8**

74.Nh8 doesn't look like much of an improvement.

**74...Ke7 75.Rxa6**

75.Bxf3 exf3+ 76.Kxf3 Be4+ 77.Ke3 a5-+

**75...Kxf8?**

75...Nh4+

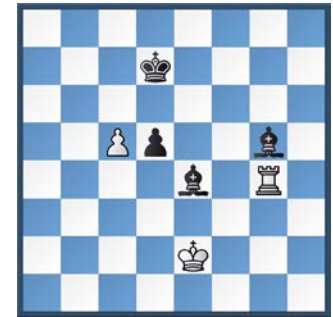
**76.Bxf3 exf3+ 77.Kxf3 Be4+ 78.Ke2??**

78.Ke3 Ke7 79.Rxc6 Be5 80.Rb6±, but winning chances are minimal.

**78...Ke7??**

78...d4!-+

**79.Rxc6 Kd7 80.Rh6 Bf4 81.Rh4 Bg5 82.Rg4**

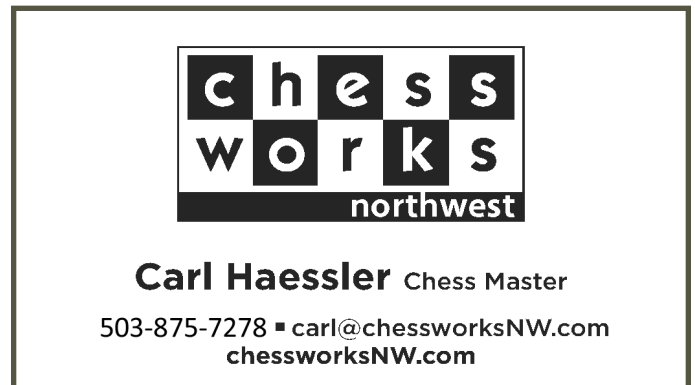


Position after 82.Rg4

**82...Be7??**

82...Bc1 offers some winning hopes for Black, or at least the opportunity to torture White indefinitely.

**83.Rxe4! ½-½**



# Idaho Chess News

## Resignation of ICA President

On April 6, 2016, Jeffrey Roland of Boise submitted a letter of resignation to the Idaho Chess Association Board of Directors that he will resign his presidency effective April 30, 2016. Adam Porth accepted this resignation on April 8, 2016. Jeffrey Roland is still President until April 30, 2016 at which point Adam Porth of Bellevue will become the new ICA President to finish the term that ends on March 30, 2017.

Jeffrey Roland resigned as Boise Chess Club Treasurer on April 6, 2016 too.

## Letter to the Editor

Received March 31, 2016

Hello,

I just wanted to offer a few comments on the section of your last newsletter covering the Idaho State Championship.

While I applaud your efforts to encourage women in chess, I had to cringe when you “congratulated” women merely for attending the tournament. It’s nice that more women participated this year than ever before, but do we really need a picture of women just to show “hey, we had women here!” How would this come across if it were men instead of women?: “Congratulations men — you came! Let’s take your picture!” In much the same vein, I likewise object to women’s awards and women’s tournaments — awards and special tournaments implicitly suggest there’s an inherent difference between the abilities of men and women that require women to have separate categories in order to receive any recognition. Maybe other women appreciate this, but I have no interest in such things so long as a “Best Man Award” and a “Men’s Tournament” are not also offered.

If you want to encourage women chess players, then I respectfully suggest you try asking women what would be helpful in facilitating their involvement rather than just congratulating us for showing up. By way of example, I already know that I cannot come to the state championship next year because you’ve already arranged for it to be in Twin Falls — and I

will not be able to travel next year because my youngest child — due later this year — will not be weaned by then. Maybe it would be helpful if you provided food in the tournament area so that players will not get migraine headaches — a condition disproportionately suffered by women, which can be caused by disruptions to eating schedules. Maybe there are other things that could be done — who knows? Ask us! And more especially, ask women who don’t participate in chess. You might be surprised by what you find.

Respectfully,

Christine Smith

*Thank you for your letter. I think it’s great that you shared your feelings with our readers. And I think you stated your points very well.*

*I honestly have a pretty open mind about this. In the past I’ve made some of these very same arguments to others in the back-rooms and organizational meetings.*

*Now, however, I think that an all-girl tournament, an all-senior tournament, or an all-kids (scholastic) tournament, all of which are isolating groups of the population by some other method than simply open-to-all, are all fine and don’t in any way imply that the players are less than anyone else.*

*It’s just a way to inspire, motivate, and activate people on yet another level to participate more in chess. I’m pretty sure that if Idaho tournaments had even close to a 50-50 participation ratio between men and women that there would indeed be an all-men tournament and/or a “Best Man Award.” We just aren’t close to that yet.*

*I mentioned the women in the original article because it set an all-time attendance record. It would be a crime to not mention that in the article. To write an article if one has an all-time record being set, it makes good sense to mention it.*

*To show a picture (or not) for whatever reason is simply an editor’s choice. I had a picture taken by Adam Porth that showed a moment in these five girls’ lives that I felt would be good to share with our readers. I simply liked the picture. The tournament director picture above it is much the same. Those four tournament*

*directors (of which I was one) shared a moment in life in that picture—it was a pretty special moment historically and that picture too was important in that way.*

*A different editor or even me at a different time might come up with a different set of choices for the article (it was only about the second or third time I wrote an article in first-person for the magazine, this is a new writing style for me inspired by Brian Berger of Oregon), but each issue is unique and special, it is what it is.*

## Idaho Scholastic Triple Crown

The Idaho Scholastic Triple-Crown chess tournament was held on February 20, 2016 at North Star Public Charter School in Eagle. There were four playing sections in the event—Novice K-3, Novice 4-12, Scholastic K-6, and Scholastic K-12. The Idaho Scholastic Girls Champion was chosen from this event as was the Dewain Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions representative.

Players and organizers alike sometimes use this event as a warm-up for the big Idaho Scholastic Championship that this year was to happen only three weeks later in Boise.



Jacob Nathan. Photo credit: Adam Porth.



2016 Idaho Scholastic Girls Champion  
Carmen Pemsler. Photo credit: Adam Porth.

Carmen Pemsler (Eagle) with 4.5/5 points became the Idaho Scholastic Girls Champion for the third time (2013 and 2014 being the other years she won the title.) In addition to being champion Carmen will have first-choice on being able to represent Idaho at the US Chess National Girls Invitational Tournament (or NGIT) held later in the year, as well as to have the same honor and first choice to represent Idaho at the Susan Polgar Foundation Girls Invitational.

Jacob Nathan (Idaho Falls) and Kevin Xu (Boise) tied for first-second with 4.5/5 points to be co-champions of the K-12 Open Section. Jacob Nathan is the 2016 Idaho Scholastic K-8 Champion and he is qualified to be the Idaho representative at the Dewain Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions to be held later this year. Kevin Xu and Wency Suo (Boise) were first and second runner-ups respectively.

## Idaho Scholastic Championship

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Idaho Scholastics took place at the Vineyard Boise. The event organizer was Jeffrey Roland. The Chief Tournament Director was Craig Barrett, with assistance by Curtis Barrett and Jay Simonson, plus a host of other volunteers who did everything from running information back and forth, multiple floor TD's and helpers, a professional-sounding announcer with a great speaker system that was even piped into the skittles-players room, to a roving ICA



(L) Jay Simonson presents the top trophy to Travis Miller. Photo credit: Adam Porth.

President Jeffrey Roland who was on-hand to answer questions and mingle with the crowds.

Numbers were up from last year, and in the championship section, attendance more than doubled from 25 last year to 52 this year! Twelve players (up from only four last year) actually "played up" to go for the championship title. There were 239 players total in this year's event, and 25 teams were represented. This year's event, in the opinion of Jeffrey Roland, was probably the best organized, best run, and most pleasant ICA scholastic event in the 33 years in which he has been personally involved.

In the championship section, Travis Miller of Post Falls won first place with a perfect 5.0/5 points and will represent Idaho at the Denker Tournament of High School Champions later this year. James Liu of Boise took second place with 4.5/5

and Jon Jalandoni of Boise captured third place with 4.0/5 points.

While the primary focus of the event is intended to be the individual championship so as to crown champions, teams also play a vital role in this event and are for some players the real fun of the tournament. Silver Creek High School (from Hailey) won the top team award with 9.5 points. Teton High School (from Driggs) took the second place team award with 8.5 points, narrowly edging out Fairmont Junior High School (from Boise) who also scored 8.5 points but who took the third-place team award due to tie-breaks. Borah High School (from Boise) earned the fourth-place team award with 7.5 points.

Complete results can be found at [www.idahocheessassociation.org](http://www.idahocheessassociation.org).



*Championship section first-place team, Silver Creek High School (from Hailey). Photo credit: Adam Porth.*



*Championship section second-place team, Teton High School (from Driggs). Photo credit: Adam Porth.*



*Bob Bishop provided personality and flair to the announcements, creating excitement and suspense at every turn. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.*



*Craig Barrett (left) and Curtis Barrett (right) attending to the computer work carefully entering the data, checking, re-checking, and cross-checking for accuracy. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.*

# 2016 Magic Valley Chess Club Championship

Twin Falls, ID — April 2, 2016

It's been a little over two years since the last Magic Valley Chess Club (MVCC) Championship was held. There was not one in 2015. This year's event was sponsored by MVCC, Idaho Chess Union (ICU), and BCSD Chess Rage. As always in any ICU event, entry was free and rated by Rocky Mountain Chess.

Barry Eacker (Twin Falls) was the tournament director and organizer of this event.

The event was an invitational event. Eighteen players played in this year's event, which was actually held in one section for pairing purposes, but there was still a Challenger (U1300) section for prizes. The demographic breakdown of the players was as follows: Bellevue (one player), Boise (two players), Hailey (four players), Heyburn (two players), Mountain Home (one player), Pocatello (three players), and Twin Falls (five players).

The tournament was held at Kona Coffee & Cakes in Twin Falls with a very early start time of 8:00 a.m. Thus, eight out-of-town players took a first-round half-point bye.

This was a four-round Swiss with Game/60 and no delay. In fact, analog clocks were actually encouraged to be used.

## Prizes

With free entry, prizes were "to be determined" before the event, and even went out that way in the invitations. This year, David Zaklan donated some classic chess books as prizes.

First place in Overall went to newcomer Sam Saltaga (Twin Falls) with 3.5/4, and winning "My 60 Memorable Games" by Bobby Fischer. Second place Overall went to Fred Bartell (Twin Falls) with 3.5/4, and receiving "Pawn Power In Chess" by Hans Kmoch.

First place Challenger went to Wesley Nyblade III (Heyburn) with 2.0/4, and winning the book "My System" by Aron Nimzovich. Second place Challenger went to Nobel Ang (Pocatello) with 2.0/4 points, and earning "Chess For Fun And Chess For Blood" by Edward Lasker.



*Otto Olson (left), Fred Bartell (seated, right), and Barry Eacker (standing, right). Photo credit: Adam Porth.*

The winner of the Challenger Section always gets invited to play up into the Open Section, so the next MVCC Championship (likely in 2017) will have

Wesley Nyblade III being asked/invited to play up into the Open Section. This year, that honor went to Desmond Porth for winning Challenger Section in 2014.



*This is Christopher Baumann taken at the same session that the cover-photo was done—on February 20, 2016. Three weeks later, on March 12, 2016, he became the Idaho Scholastic Ninth-Grade Champion. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.*

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## Boise Chess Club Portraits

In addition to playing free games of chess on Monday nights, chess photographers get lots of opportunities to take pictures of chess players. Here are some club pictures from April 4, 2016. There was nothing unusually earth shattering or extraordinary here in this meeting, but this was a regular meeting caught on camera by our *NWC* Board Member, Jim Berezow.



*Jesse Batten.*



*Viorel Wegner.*



*Jeff Reynolds.*



*Hank Harris.*



*Nick Hawkins.*



*Tom Booth.*



*Jason Seipler.*



*Jaime Crosby.*



*Michael Duckett.*

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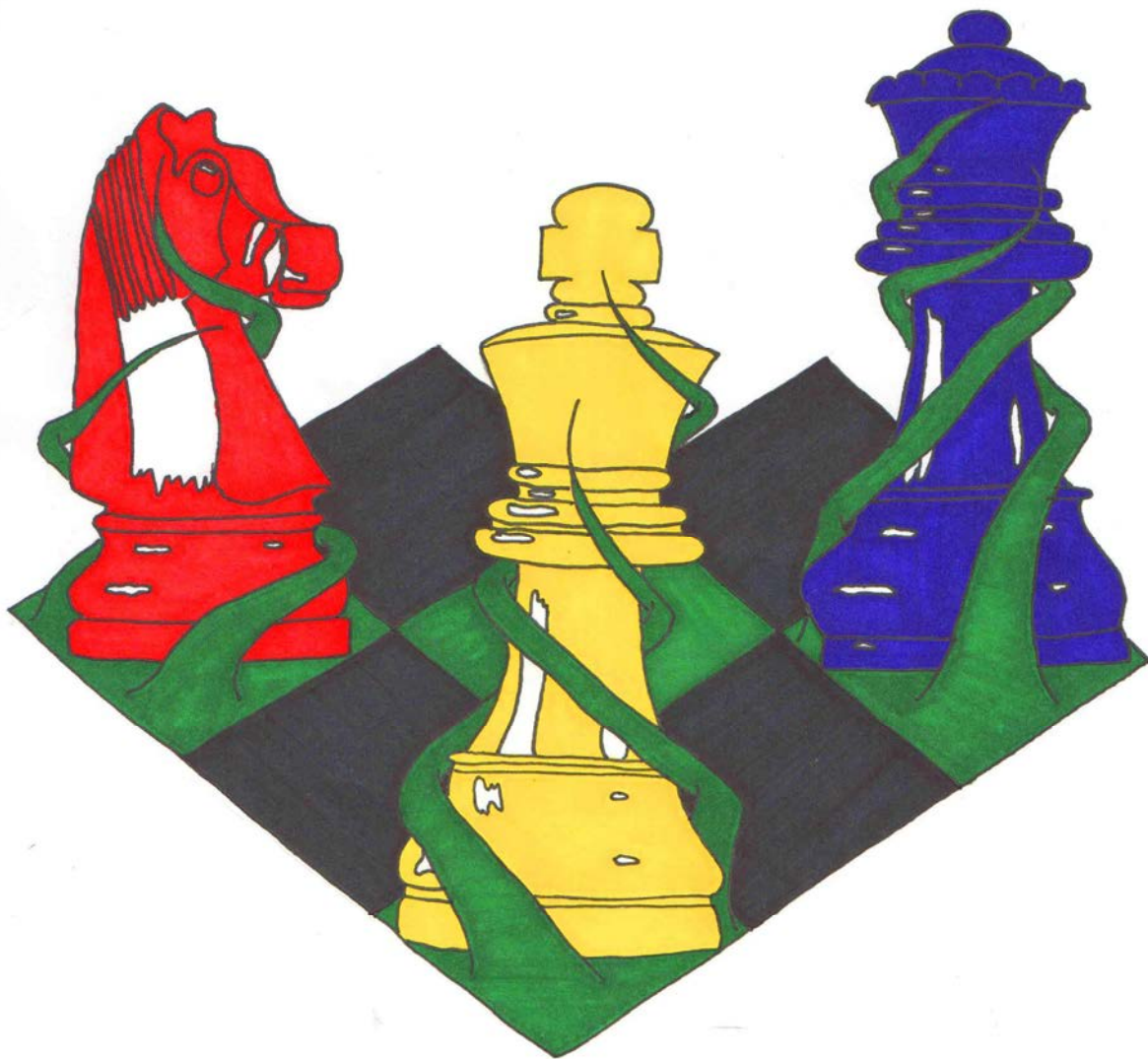
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# BOISE CHESS FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 4, 2016

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

2016 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; Drawings, Speed Chess Exhibitions, K-6 Beginners Tournament, Bughouse Exhibitions; Spar with Chess Champions; Unrated Bullet G/1 Minute and BCF Rated Blitz G/5 minute d 0 Tournaments; Fun for Everyone; Family Friendly; Instructional Sessions; Adult and Scholastic Chess Players welcome; Beginners welcome, even if you don't yet play...Game Analysis by Idaho Chess Champions; Awesome Prizes, Giant Chess; Chess organizers on hand to provide event and program information for summer and fall 2016

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

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

# Washington Chess News

## Dave Collyer Memorial

By Kevin Korsmo

Spokane, WA — February 27-28, 2016

The 2016 Dave Collyer Memorial, the 24<sup>th</sup> edition of Spokane's biggest chess tournament, definitely was not "same old, same old" this year. It featured several last minute withdrawals on the top boards, new winners, and a new location. Things were hopping all weekend.

Top seed NM Jim Maki, formerly of San Diego, but now residing in Coeur d'Alene, and Spokane club champion Michael Cambareri, shared top honors this year with scores of 4.5 to lead the 61 player field. Second place was shared by four players with 4.0 scores: Viktors Pupols, David Arganian, Steve Merwin, and Mika Mitchell. Arganian claimed the Expert prize, while Merwin and Mitchell shared the class A prizes.

Two days before the event, Colorado NM Brian Wall withdrew due to the hospitalization in Colorado of his friend, George Lombardi, a north Idaho transplant who had arranged for Wall to play in the Collyer. The following day, tournament mainstay John Donaldson was called back to San Francisco due to a family medical emergency. John detoured

to Spokane long enough to give his annual lecture on the upcoming FIDE candidates tournament and play his traditional simul. John made some predictions on the likely winner of the event and dissected an interesting game between Anand and Aronian. Then it was up at 3 a.m. for an early flight to San Francisco. Another person who had to call it a weekend after Friday night was Jerry Morton. He traveled all the way from Tashkent, Uzbekistan! Unfortunately, issues with a building contractor required him to spend Saturday in Seattle. But he, like John Donaldson, plans to return in 2017.

With the loss of St. Anne's Center (now leased to a different group and remodeled beyond use for chess), the event found a new home at the Millwood Presbyterian Church's Community Center. Competition with an early morning Zumba class meant that tournament set-up began at 10 with the first round beginning about 10 minutes after its scheduled 11 a.m. start. The fireworks started soon thereafter.

Not long after play had started, a table buckled sending chess pieces and coffee to the floor and spraying nearby boards, as well as sending your reporter/T.D. to the broom closet for a mop. Order had not long been restored before a Ph.D. sitting in the same location managed to spill his water while reaching for the clock. More mopping ensued.

The first round of the Collyer typically brings several upsets, and this year made up for the relative quiet of last year's first round. Ceceilia Valeriotte claimed the biggest upset of the event, a victory over an opponent rated 687 points higher. It was one of several, and each round brought a significant upset. The second largest upset came in the final round when Ted Baker claimed a victory over an opponent rated 486 points higher. In all, there were eight upset victories involving a margin of at least 300 ratings point.

Maki was a victim of an upset draw in the second round, moving Viktors Pupols to the top board for the rest of the event. Maki's game was part of a slew of upsets that saw four draws and one loss on the top 9 boards. With nearly 1/3 of the field taking the third round off, there were not as many upsets that round, but Cambareri was held to a draw by Mitchell on board three.

Round four saw Pupols face off against David Arganian, both of whom were playing in their first Collyer tourney. The Life Master prevailed in 66 moves, showing nice endgame technique. On board two, Maki defeated Kairav Joshi to leave Pupols as the only perfect score. On board three, Michael Cambareri prevailed over his longtime personal nemesis John Julian to join Maki as the only two players sitting one-half point behind Pupols at the beginning of the final round. Cambareri prevailed over Mark Havrilla on board two and then had to await the outcome of the board one match. There Maki triumphed in 86 moves in the last game (by about two minutes) to be completed. Round five saw quite a few draws, but all of them were lengthy affairs.

There were a lot of other prize winners. First place in class B went to Steve Buck (3.5), with a crowd of Steve Fabian, Dan McCourt, Jim Skovron, and Jeremy Younker sharing second at 3.0. The two class C prizes went to youth — Nick Havrilla and Garret Casey each scored 3.5 to win their class prizes. Five players scored 2.0 to share the class D prizes: Arlene Bodie, Hedda Campbell, Jeff Jaroski, Colin Phelps, and Bill Rottmayer. The class E/unrated first prize went to Anthony Raelund (3.0), while another newcomer, Dr. Shancie Wagner (2.0) claimed the second prize.

The event was again sponsored by the Spokane Chess Club and the Gary



IM John Donaldson. Photo credit: James Stripes.



# Washington Open

## A NW Grand Prix Event

### May 28-30, 2016

Revised 3/11/2016

Highest finishing Washington resident in the Open Section seeded into the 2017 state championship.

#### Washington Open \$7,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund

Entry fees listed as: Postmarked  
by April 30 / by May 21 / at site

<b>Open</b>	EF \$110 / \$120 / \$130
<b>Reserve (U1800)</b>	EF \$100 / \$110 / \$120
<b>Booster (U1400)</b>	EF \$90 / \$100 / \$110
<b>Medal Only</b>	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.

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

#### Special Prizes

Upset Prize (all sections eligible)

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

Email: [danomathews01@gmail.com](mailto: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/online/registration](http://www.nwchess.com/online/registration)  
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 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: 40. US Chess Junior Grand Prix. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

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

**Washington Open G/15 Championship:** Sat 5/28 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 5/29 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](mailto:DavidCHendricks@comcast.net).

Yunker Foundation in memory of both Dave Collyer and Gary Yunker. Both of their widows attended the event in addition to the “usual suspects” who have played in the tourney over the past two decades. In another new twist, we also had a sponsor for the building. The facility rental was covered by Camilla Mounts, a local realtor with an appreciation for chess that goes back to the 1986 Junior High National event held in Spokane. Her son had been part of an Indiana team that won the championship and created fond memories of Spokane! Dave Collyer was among the group that brought Spokane its only national event, and club stalwart Steve Fabian shared his memory of pairing the event using tables of pairing cards! For those of you who remember the days before computer-assisted pairing, you can appreciate the challenge of pairing that event!

Next year will be the 25<sup>th</sup> Collyer Memorial and several regular attendees already have suggested ideas for celebrating the silver anniversary in a special manner. If you have an idea on how to make next year’s event extra special, please contact me.

**Viktors Pupols (2210) –  
David G. Arganian (2000) [E51]**  
Collyer Memorial Spokane  
(R4), February 28, 2016  
*[John Donaldson]*

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd2**

White signals with this modest continuation that he wants to avoid a theoretical duel (4.e3 and 4.Qc2 among other lines) and just play chess.

**4...0-0 5.e3 d5**

Occupying the center with pawns can’t be bad, but 5...b6 followed by ...Bb7 and likely ...Bxc3, ...Ne4 and ...f5 ala a reversed Bird-Larsen setup, was also fully viable.

**6.Nf3 b6**

Mixing and matching (occupying the center with a pawn and fianchettoing the queen bishop is playable, but there is much to be said for 6...c5 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Be2 Nc6 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.0-0 a6 with a typical isolated queen pawn position that offers fighting chances for both sides.

**7.cxd5 exd5 8.Qc2 Ba6**

8...Bb7 9.Bd3 Bd6 10.0-0 c5 was a more classical approach.

**9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Qa4! Bxc3 11.Bxc3 Nb8**

11...Qc8 12.0-0 Ne4 13.Rac1 offers White a small advantage.

**12.0-0 Qd7 13.Qc2 Nc6 14.Rac1 Rac8 15.Rfd1 Rfe8 16.Be1**

White preserves his bishop from exchange



*Viktors Pupols. Photo credit: James Stripes.*

and prepares a4, b4 and b5 fixing c7 as a weak point.

**16...Re6 17.Ng5 Rd6 18.f3!?**

White opens the e1–h4 diagonal for his bishop and prepares to play e3-e4. However with accurate play by Black this will be difficult to achieve. Another approach was 18.b4 starting the plan described in the last note.

**18...h6 19.Nh3 a5?**

This stops b4 but better was 19...Ne7 meeting 20.Bg3 with 20...Rc6.

**20.a3**

20.Bg3! Nb4 (20...Re6 21.Nf4) 21.Qe2 Re6 22.a3 Nc6 23.e4! with the point that 23...dxe4 24.d5 Nxd5 loses material after 25.Qb5

**20...Nd8?!**

20...Ne7 21.Bg3 Rc6 22.Qd2 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Ng6 and it is not easy for White to get in e3-e4 under favorable circumstances.

**21.Nf4 c5**

21...Ne6 22.Nd3; 21...Rc6 22.Qa4 Qe8 23.Bf2 Rxc1 24.Qxe8+ Nxe8 25.Rxc1 Nf6 26.g4 and White has a small but persistent advantage.

**22.Nd3**

22.dxc5 Rxc5 23.Bc3 looks more logical with White’s bishop having been transformed into a powerful piece.

**22...c4**

22...Qe7

**23.Ne5 Qe8 24.Bc3**

24.b3!

**24...Nc6 25.Re1 Nd7**

25...Re6 restraining e4 was more to the point.

**26.Nxc6 Rdxc6 27.e4**



*Position after 27.e4*

**27...dxe4?**

27...Qd8 intending the blockading maneuver ...Nf8-e6 made a lot of sense. The text opens the position for White’s bishop and allows his center pawns to start rolling.

**28.fxe4 Rg6 29.e5 Qe6 30.Qe4! Rg4 31.Qf3 Qg6 32.Re2 Re8 33.Rf1 h5 34.a4**

The motivation behind this move is clear—to stop ...b5 making the c4 pawn a potential target—but the move is unnecessary. 34.Ref2 Rf8 35.Qb7 followed in most cases by d4-d5 is winning on the spot.

**34...Re7**

**[Diagram top of next page]**

**35.Qf5**

The endgame is nice for White but much stronger was 35.Qa8+ Nf8 (35...Kh7 36.Qd8 Qg5 37.Bd2) 36.d5 in both cases White is winning. Notice how the d- and e6-pawns are now racing down the board.

**35...Qxf5 36.Rxf5 Nf6 37.h3 Rg6**



Position after 34...Re7

### 38.Kh2?!

38.Rc2 Nd5 39.Bd2 wins a pawn (c4 or h5). Likely both players were getting short on time at this point of the game.

### 38...Nd5 39.Re4

Matters are no longer so simple for White who is better after 39.Bd2 Rb7 (39...h4 40.Bg5) 40.Ref2 b5 41.axb5 Rxb5 42.Bc3 but not necessarily winning.

### 39...Rc6 40.Re1 g6 41.Rf3 Kf8

41...f6!? with equal chances.

### 42.Bd2 Ke8 43.g4 hxg4 44.hxg4



Position after 44.hxg4

### 44...f6??

Black, almost certainly in serious time pressure, blunders horribly after a long tough defense. 44...Kd7 would have left White with only a tiny advantage.

### 45.exf6 Nxf6 46.Rxe7+ Kxe7 47.Bg5

Setting the stage for a winning king and pawn ending.

### 47...Kf7 48.Kg3 Kg7 49.Rxf6 Rxf6 50.Bxf6+ Kxf6 51.Kf4 b5

There is nothing better. 51...Ke6 52.Ke4 Kd6 (52...g5 53.d5+ Kd6 54.Kd4) 53.d5.

### 52.axb5 a4 53.b6 c3 54.bxc3 a3 55.b7 a2 56.b8Q a1Q 57.Qd6+ Kf7 58.Qc7+ Ke6 59.Kg5 Qg1 60.Qe5+ Kf7 61.Qf6+ Kg8 62.Qxg6+ Kh8 63.Qe6 Qc1+ 64.Kf6 Qxc3 65.Qe8+ Kh7 66.Qg6+ 1-0

**Michael Cambareri (2036) – Mark Havrilla (1985) [B01]**  
Collyer Memorial Spokane (R5), February 28, 2016  
[John Donaldson]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Qa5 5.Bd2 Qb6 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Bc4 e6 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3



Position after 9.Qxf3

### 9...c6

This is normally played in these type of positions but there was something to be said here for the unconventional 9...Nc6; Black develops more quickly and his king is not so exposed if he castles queenside. The potential dark side of this move is the vulnerable position of the queen on b6 but there doesn't seem to be any way for White to exploit it.

### 10.0-0-0 Nbd7 11.Bf4



Position after 11.Bf4

### 11...0-0-0?

11...Be7 followed by castling kingside does run into a pawn storm with g4-g5, but is much safer than the game continuation.

### 12.Rhe1 Bb4 13.Re3 Nd5 14.Bxd5 exd5



Position after 14...exd5

### 15.Nxd5!

15.a3! Bxc3 16.Rxc3 Nf6 17.Bh2 idea Qg3 or Qf4 is very difficult to meet, but Michael's move is even stronger!

### 15...cxd5 16.Qxd5?

16.Rb3! wins back the piece while continuing the attack. If 16...Qa5 17.a3 Be7 then 18.Rc3+.

### 16...Qa5?

Sacrificial shock. 16...Qc6! 17.Qb3 Bd6 18.Rc3 is met by

18.d5 is better although after 18...Qa6 19.Qc3+ Kb8 20.Bxd6+ Qxd6 21.Qxg7 Qf4 Black's piece is stronger than White's three pawns. 18...Bxf4+ 19.Kb1 Nc5! — definitely a sequence better seen by a computer!

### 17.Qc4+

White recovers his piece and more.

### 17...Nc5 18.a3 b5 19.Qxb4 Qxb4 20.axb4 Ne6



Position after 20...Ne6

### 21.Be5

Two extra pawns is too much. Black never gets a hint of a chance in what follows.

### 21...Rd5 22.b3 Rhd8 23.c4 R5d7 24.d5 f5 25.Rde1 Ng5 26.Bf4 Ne4 27.f3 Nf6 28.d6 h6 29.Be5 Nh5 30.c5 g5 31.g4 f4 32.Rd3 Kb7 33.gxh5 1-0

The following are more games that were annotated and submitted by players from the 2016 Washington Closed.—Editor

### Roland Feng (2419) – Michael Lee (2505) [A57]

Washington Closed Championship  
Redmond, WA (R2), February 6, 2016  
[Michael Lee]

This is, perhaps surprisingly, the first time I have played Roland. He is one of Washington's most talented players, and from playing together in the Seattle Sluggers, I knew he was a solid player who has a strong grasp of positional play.

### 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3

This move order was a bit of a surprise to me, since I knew Roland to almost exclusively play 2.c4 here. It indicates that he wants to avoid the Benko and transpose into the King's Indian (an opening I also play). To avoid preparation for those lines, which can be extremely theoretical, I played...

### 2...c5

2...g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.e4 d6 would lead to the main lines of the King's Indian.

### 3.d5 b5 4.c4

Roland thought for a bit here before playing this odd-looking response, which in fact transposes into the 4.Nf3 line of the Benko. This line is pretty solid, the main line leading to a small positional advantage for White. 4.Bg5 is the most challenging response against this line.

### 4...g6

The main line, although Black has a number of options here like ...Bb7 and ...bxc4.

### 5.cxb5 a6 6.Qc2

Roland played this move very quickly, which is a sideline not that frequently seen, perhaps indicating we were still in his opening preparation. Main line is 6.b6.

### 6...d6 7.e4 Bg7 8.Nc3 0-0 9.Be2!?

9.a4 is perhaps more accurate, because White plans to solidify his extra pawn though control of the light-squares, particularly b5, and this doesn't immediately lose the tempo involved with Be2 and Bxb5, giving Black the onus of having to improve his position without taking on b5.

### 9...axb5 10.Bxb5 Ba6

Black enjoys trading off the light-squared bishops in the Benko.

### 11.0-0 Ng4!?

Perhaps a little premature. The idea is to trade off some pieces while keeping the dark-squared bishop. I had wanted to make sure I could recapture on a6 with the knight, but White can punish this move order. 11...Nbd7 is more logical, setting up a number of plans including the move played in the game.



Position after 11...Ng4

### 12.a4

12.h3! forces Black to capture on b5, giving White extra tempi i.e. 12...Ne5 (12...Bxc3 13.Bxa6±) 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.Bh6 and now Black has to take on b5 or lose his important black-squared bishop. 14...Bxb5 15.Nxb5 Re8 16.a4 with a slightly better position for White.

### 12...Nd7

Now Black can recapture on e5 with his other knight.

### 13.h3 Nge5 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.f4

Even though White gains tempi here, he is weakening his pawn structure.

### 15...Nd7

15...Nc4? 16.Bxa6 Rxa6 17.Qd3+-

### 16.Be3 Nb6

Black needs to prepare the inevitable trade of light-square bishops while improving his position. Ideas include ...Qc8 and ...Nc4. 16...Bxb5 17.Nxb5 Qb6 is an alternative idea.

### 17.Qe2 Bxb5

Deciding now is the optimal time to trade, as White can only recapture with pawn or queen.

### 18.Qxb5 Qc7

Black has a dynamic position here — he threatens taking over the b-file with Rfb8, while White doesn't have his opportunistic e5 break or enough time to solidify his position before Black gains counterplay.

### 19.a5 Nd7 20.a6

Although this advance is intimidating, White has to be very careful not to lose his extended pawn. On a4 it is a fortress, but on a6 it can easily become vulnerable.

### 20...Rfb8



Position after 20...Rfb8

### 21.Qc6?

This move looks tempting, but ultimately the vulnerability of White's queen loses him tempi. b2 is hanging and a6 is also weak. 21.Qe2 retreating is a more solid plan, as Black doesn't easily win the b2 pawn. 21...Qb6 22.Ra2 and White can hold his a6 pawn with Rfa1.

### 21...Qd8

Now White can't find a way to defend his pawns easily. 21...Qxc6? White's advanced pawns are too hard to defend against with queens off the board. 22.dxc6 Nb6 23.a7 Rc8 24.Ra6! Now Black loses to the pins in his position. 24...Rxc6?! Even 25.Na4 here should win material easily.

### 22.a7

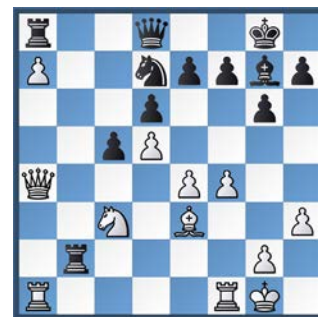
22.Rfb1 Rb6 23.Qa4 Rbxa6 24.Qxa6 Rxa6 25.Rxa6 Qb8± and the Queen is stronger than the two rooks here because of the awkward placement of White's pieces.

### 22...Rb6!

An important in-between move. 22...Rxb2? allows 23.Nb5! Rxb5 24.Qxb5 Bxa1 25.Rxa1 Qc7 26.Qa6 and Black is in a bind. 26...Nb6? 27.Rb1 Nc8 28.Rb7!+-

### 23.Qa4 Rxb2

Now White looks like he is under a bit of pressure, but during the game, I underestimated his initiative.



Position after 23...Rxb2

### 24.e5!

The only move in this position, temporarily blocking Black's powerful g7-bishop. 24.Rfc1 Rb7± and Black regains the pawn soon.

### 24...dxe5 25.Rab1 Rxb1 26.Rxb1 exf4

Here I thought Black was comfortable, looking at only...

### 27.Bxf4?

27.Rb7! But this in-between move is key, preventing Black from getting Bd4+ as an in-between and making Black make a difficult decision about moving his knight. 27...fxe3 (27...Bxc3!? 28.Rxd7 Qb6! 29.Qc6!! This line is almost impossible to discover in practical play. 29...Qxc6 30.dxc6 fxe3 31.Kf1= and despite Black's overwhelming material advantage, the passed pawns give White enough counterplay.) 28.Rxd7 Qe8 29.Ne2!= White's knight holds both the e- and c-pawns, and Black cannot make progress. i. e. 29...c4 30.Qc6 c3? 31.Rxe7!+- Black's attempted advance of the c-pawn can't pass the e2-knight.

### 27...Bxc3 28.Rb7 Ne5

But now Black has full control over the position with his material edge. What a difference a tempo makes.

### 29.Qb5 Bd4+!

The most precise continuation. 29...Qxd5 30.Bh6! and now Black has to find 30...Nf3+! 31.gxf3 Bd4+ 32.Kg2 Qa2+ 33.Kh1 Qa1+ 34.Qb1 Qxb1+ 35.Rxb1

Be5-+  
30.Kh1



Position after 30.Kh1

30...Kg7!-+

The point. White cannot defend his ...d5 pawn and no longer has Bh6 and back-rank tricks.

31.Rb8 Qxd5 32.Rxa8 Qxa8 33.Qb8 Qe4

And even though White can get two queens, his king is too vulnerable to Black's attack.

34.Bd2



Position after 34.Bd2

34...Qd3!

Most accurate. White's cannot defend his first rank now.

35.Qf8+

Even with this, White soon runs out of checks.

35...Kxf8 36.Bh6+ Ke8 37.a8Q+ Kd7 38.Qb7+ Ke6 39.Qc8+ Kf6 40.Qh8+ Kf5 41.g4+ Nxe4

41...Ke4?! 42.Qa8+ Black's king is cutely stuck, and this would give white a few more checks.

42.Qc8+ e6 43.hxe4+ Kxe4

Mate is inevitable.

0-1

**Kyle Haining (2191) –  
John Readey (2266) [B19]**  
Washington Closed Premier  
Redmond, WA (R8), February 14, 2016  
[Kyle Haining]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 Nd7 8.h5 Bh7

9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6 11.Bf4 Qa5+ 12.Bd2 Bb4 13.c3 Be7 14.c4 Qc7

This was the first move outside my opening preparation. My preparation went 14...Bb4!? 15.Ne4! Bxd2+ 16.Nfxd2±

15.0-0-0 Ngf6 16.Kb1 0-0 17.Ne4 Nxe4

Another option is 17...Rad8!? 18.Nxf6+ Nxf6 19.g4 Nxe4 20.Rhg1 f5 21.Qe2 Bf6 22.Qxe6+ Kh8 23.Bb4 Rf7 24.Rd2 Qd7 25.Re1 Qxe6 26.Rxe6± Carlsen,M (2765)-Kamsky,G (2726)/Baku 2008

18.Qxe4 Nf6 19.Qe2



Position after 19.Qe2

The evaluation is currently equal. White will likely go for a kingside pawn storm while Black will respond with active play in the center.

19...b5 20.c5 Qd7 21.g4 Nxe4?

Giving White a huge attack.

21...Qd5! 22.g5  
Qe4+ 23.Qxe4  
Nxe4 24.gxe4  
Nxf2 25.hxe4  
Rfd8 26.h6 Nxd1  
27.Rxd1 Rd5±

22.Rhg1+- f5  
23.Ne5!

[Diagram top of next column]

23...Qd5

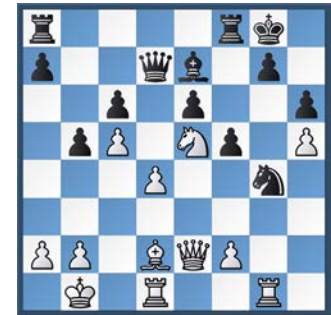
23...Nxe5 24.dxe5 Rf7 25.Bxe6 Qe8 26.Rg6 is better for Black than the game, but is still losing.

24.Ng6! Rf7 25.f3 Nf6 26.Ne5

Even more winning is 26.Bxe6 Bf8 27.Ne5 Rb7 28.Qg2

26...Nxe5 27.Qh2 Nf6 28.Bxe6 Bf8 29.Bg5

The threat of Rh1 followed by Qh8 is unstoppable.



Position after 23.Ne5

29...Be7 30.Rh1 Kf8 31.Bxf6 Bxf6 32.Qh8+ Ke7 33.Qxa8

The computer gives mate in nine: 33.Qxa8 Rf8 34.Ng6+ Kf7 35.Qxf8+ Kxg6 36.Qe8+ Kg5 37.Qh5+ Kf4 38.Qh2+ Kxf3 39.Rd3+ Ke4 40.Qe2+ Kf4 41.Qe3+ Kg4 42.Qg3#

1-0

**Kyle Haining (2191) –  
Samuel He (2263) [B90]**  
Washington Closed Premier  
Redmond, WA (R8), February 14, 2016  
[Samuel He]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 Ng4

An interesting alternative to the more common moves e5 or e6.

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7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 Bg7 10.Be2 h5 11.Bxg4 Bxg4 12.f3 Bd7 13.Qd2 Nc6 14.Bf2 Ne5



Position after 14...Ne5

15.0-0-0!?

When studying such positions, White had always castled kingside every single time, so I knew this move must not be the most accurate, but it is not clear how Black can take advantage of it successfully.

15...Rc8 16.Nd5 Nc4 17.Qe1 e6 18.Nc3 Qa5 19.Nb3 Qc7

I had intended 19.Qb4, thinking the threat of Nxb2 was unstoppable, but I missed 20.Bd4! — So I had to retreat my queen.

20.Bd4 Be5!?

The plan was that if White played Bxe5, I would recapture with the pawn, stopping any white pieces from coming to d4 and blocking any other expansions on the kingside. However, the bishop on e5 helps White attack with g3, f4, and Qf2, as in the game.

21.g3 b5 22.Qf2 b4 23.Nb1 a5 24.f4



Position after 24.f4

24...a4!?

Making the game more complicated. However, the engine does not believe Black's kingside is in any danger, and suggests the below line with a small advantage for Black. Engine line: 24... gxf4 25.gxf4 Bxd4 26.Qxd4 (26.Nxd4 e5 27.fxe5 dxe5 28.Nf3) 26...e5

25.fxe5 dxe5

During the game, I was also considering axb3??, with exd6 bxa2 dxc7 and a1=Q — with a complicated game — however, the engine gives that as +10 for White!

26.Rhf1 Rh7!

This move looks strange, but it defends f7 and also moves the rook away if White is to play Qf6.

27.Nc5 exd4 28.Nxd7 Qxd7 29.Qxd4 Qc6 30.Rf2

Here, Kyle offered me a draw, but I felt my more advanced pawns on both sides of the board as well as my stronger knight would give me at least some advantage.

30...b3 31.axb3 Na5 32.Nc3 axb3



Position after 32...axb3

33.Qa4

This looks like the natural move, trading queens in a position which looks pressuring. However, White is actually better with the queens on the board in the below line. 33.e5! opening up the e4-square for the knight in the future. 33... bxc2 34.Kxc2 h4 35.g4 Rg7 36.Kb1 Nc4 37.Ne4±

33...bxc2 34.Qxc6+ Nxc6 35.Kxc2 Ne5

My knight is on a strong square now, and I believed pushing the kingside pawns would eventually lead to some play.

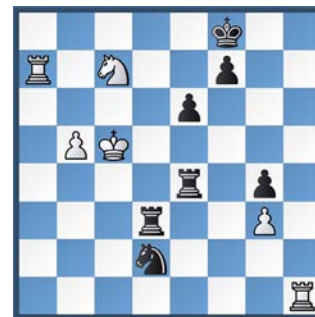
36.Ra1 g4 37.Ra7 h4 38.b4 hxg3 39.hxg3 Rh3 40.Rg2 Nf3 41.Kb2 Ne1 42.Rg1 Rh2+ 43.Kb3 Nf3 44.Nb5!

I had completely missed this strong move, which threatens Nd6+, allowing him to move the g1 rook the next move.

44...Nd2+ 45.Ka3 Rd8 46.Nc7+ Kf8 47.b5 Re2 48.Rh1

with a threat of Nxe6!

48...Rd3+ 49.Kb4 Rxe4+ 50.Kc5



Position after 50.Kc5

50...Rxc3!

In case things didn't work out on the queenside, I was planning on giving up my knight for the pawn, still giving me three strong pawns against the white knight.

51.b6 Rc4+ 52.Kb5 Rb3+ 53.Ka6 Rc6

There is no easy way to defend against the pawn.

54.Nb5 Nc4 55.Rb7 Rc5 56.Rh7 Ra3+!

Interesting mate

57.Nxa3 Ra5# 0-1

Eric Zhang (1792) –

Vikram Ramasamy (2010) [A57]

Washington Closed Challengers  
Redmond, WA (R5), February 13, 2016  
[Vikram Ramasamy]

Going into round five, I was leading the Challengers with Brent Baxter. We both had 3.5/4. This round I was playing a familiar opponent and I was expecting a Benko Gambit.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.b6!?



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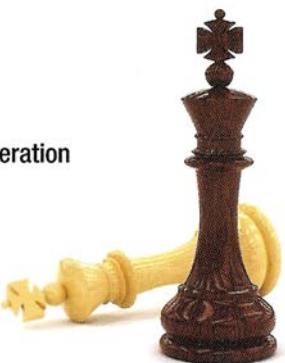
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Here Eric Zhang deviated from our last game which was in Las Vegas where he played bxa6.

**5...g6 6.Nc3 d6 7.Nf3 Bg7 8.e4 Qxb6**

Simply castling and winning b6 later is better.

**9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 Bb7**

Preparing e6 in some positions to break in the center.

**11.Nd2**

Eric's favorite idea in the Benko trying to bring the knight to c4.

**11...Nbd7**

11...e6? 12.Nc4 Qc7 13.dxe6 Followed by winning the d6 pawn or taking f7 is good for White.

**12.Nc4 Qa7**

...Qc7 was another option but I wanted to leave that square for knight maneuvers.

**13.Be3 Ne8**

...Ne8-c7-b5 is a typical Benko maneuver.

**14.Qc2 Nc7 15.Rab1!?**

Possibly preparing b4. 15.Na5 Nb5 16.Nxb5 axb5 17.Bxb5 Qxa5 18.Bxd7 Rfd8=



*Position after 15.Rab1*

Black has enough compensation for the pawn and will get play down the queenside and White's light-squared bishop will be misplaced. 15.a4!? was worth consideration preventing Nb5.

**15...Nb5**

Heading for d4.

**16.Na5 Nd4**



*Position after 16...Nd4*

The d4-knight is keeping an eye on c6 as well as harassing white in the center.

**17.Qd2 Rab8 18.Bd1 Ba8**

Opening the b-file for play on the queenside.

**19.Ne2 Nb5 20.a4?**



*Position after 20.a4*

Missing my next move!

**20...Na3!**

Causing White some problems.

**21.Ra1 Rxb2 22.Qd3 Nb1**

The only move to save the knight. 22...Rxe2 fails to 23.Bxe2 Bxa1 24.Rxa1 and the knight is trapped as well as weak dark squares for Black.

**23.Nc4**

23.Rxb1? Ne5! wins material since the Queen is overloaded.

**23...Nd2!**

**[Diagram top of next column]**

The only move to save the knight.

**24.Bxd2?**



*Position after 23...Nd2*

24.Nxd2 Rxd2 25.Bxd2 Bxa1 26.Nc3= is better than Bxd2 because White will get Black's strong dark-squared bishop.

**24...Rxd2 25.Qxd2 Bxa1 26.Bc2 Bg7 27.Rb1 Rb8 28.Qc1 Ne5 29.Nxe5 Bxe5 30.Kf1 a5 31.f4 Bf6 32.Bd3 Rb4 33.Qc2 Bb7**

Here I knew I had the clear advantage and I wanted to improve my light-squared bishop which is coming to a6.

**34.Nc3?? e4**

Here Eric resigned on a account of 35.Be2 Bxc3 winning the knight. If Rxb4 then ... axb4 with double threats. I carried my momentum from this game and won the Challengers section with 8.0/9.

**0-1**



*Vikram Ramasamy.*

*Photo credit: Jay Ganapathi.*

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# Chess Groovies

By NM Daniel He and NM Samuel He

## GM Vladimir Kramnik

By NM Daniel He

GM Vladimir Kramnik is one of my favorite players because his play is very strong and he's very hard to beat. It's reasonable that he's rated over 2800! In the following game, Kramnik gives up material for the initiative and a positional advantage and he slowly and accurately outplays his opponent. It's amazing how confident he is in his sacrifices!

GM Vladimir Kramnik (2796) –  
GM Daniel Naroditsky (2628) [D77]  
2015 Qatar Masters  
(R4), December 23, 2015  
[Daniel He]

1.Nf3

Kramnik usually starts the game with 1.Nf3 or 1.d4 and plays for a small positional advantage in the opening. As Black, he plays solid openings like the Ruy Lopez Berlin and the Nimzo-Indian to equalize quickly in the opening.

1...d5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.d4



Position after 4.d4

White must play d4 now or Black will get to play e5 with an advantage.

4...Nf6 5.0-0 0-0 6.c4 dxc4 7.Na3 c3 8.bxc3 e5 9.Ne5 Nc6 10.Nac4 Nd5 11.Nxc6!?

The most popular move by far is Bb2, but Kramnik plays Nxc6 probably to get out of theory and Naroditsky's heavy preparation.

11...bxc6 12.Bd2 Ba6 13.Ne5 Qd6 14.Re1!?



Position after 14.Re1

Kramnik gambits the pawn. As of right now, it's unclear whether White has enough compensation for the pawn. Black does have a weak pawn on c6, but Black's position seems to be pretty safe. However, Kramnik knew he would have a long-term advantage and this proved to be strong later on.

14...cxd4 15.cxd4 Bxe5 16.dxe5 Qxe5 17.Rc1 Rfd8 18.Qc2 Rac8 19.Qc5 Qd6 20.Qa5

For the next few moves, Kramnik uses his initiative to force Black's pieces to passive squares.

20...c5 21.Bh3 e6 22.Bg5 Re8 23.Rcd1 Qe5 24.Bd2 Qh5 25.Bf1 Bb7 26.Qxa7

Kramnik wins back the pawn, but his position is solid, while Black's position has many weaknesses and his pieces are not coordinated well.

26...Rc7 27.Qa4 Ra8 28.Qc4 Nb6 29.Qc1

Notice how White's pieces are all on the first two ranks. In just a few moves, White will get a winning position. Amazing!

29...c4?!

Naroditsky wasn't aware of how strong White's position is, and he advances his passed pawn. Kramnik soon breaks through Black's position.

30.Bg5!



Position after 30.Bg5

White has the idea of Rd4 to h4, trapping the queen. Also, Black's dark squares are really weak after he exchanged his dark squared bishop. The consequences are clear now!

30...Qg4 31.Bd8 Rc6 32.h3 Qh5 33.Bg5 Rc5 34.Bf6 Qf5 35.Bd4 Rb5 36.e4 Qf3 37.Bg2

White is just chasing the black queen all over the board!

37...Qa3 38.Qxa3 Rxa3 39.Rb1


Black's pieces are too tied up, and White wins a piece here.

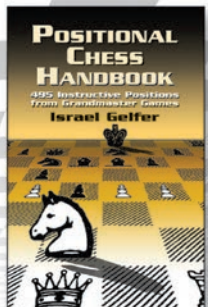
39...Rxb1 40.Rxb1 c3 41.Bxb6 1-0

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# The 2016 Richard Gutman Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

**Murlin Varner, Administrator**

A great mystery is afoot. Time to call in the sleuths: August Dupin, Sherlock Holmes, Dirk Gently, Hercule Poirot, Sam Spade, Nancy Drew, J P Beaumont, Brother Cadfael, Kinsey Millhone, Tommy and Tuppence, Nick and Nora; invite them all to help answer the burning question... Where have all the Oregon Masters gone? Outside of one cameo appearance by Carl Haessler early in the year, none have been sighted at any GP events. Have they been spirited away by Moriarty? Taken to another time by the Master? Held ransom by the Dark Circle? Fallen into Parker's clutches? Moved to Texas (how horrible a fate is that?)? We know what happened to one of them: Nick Raptis moved to Washington. The rest? (insert ominous music here)

The past month changed little in Idaho, except two or three players moved to a new class. Oregon had a little more action, with three events, 92 entries, and yet, no home-grown masters. Washington did slightly less than that, with three events and only 88 entries, including appearances by Feng, Tiglon, Raptis and Pupols (twice). April looks to have been better, with eight events in Pocatello, Portland, Seattle, Spokane, and Tacoma. Check out this space next month to see if any more masters have been found. Miss Marple is on it.

May offers some excellent opportunities for master sighting, as two of our events are of the multiplier variety. There will be Grand Prix tournaments every weekend, usually more than one. The first weekend (May 7) gives us Quads in Seattle and Portland. May 14-15 gives us the choice of two-day events in Spokane (Inland Empire Open) and Portland (Rose City Sectional, 2x), and a one-day event on Sunday in Seattle (SCC Tornado). The 21<sup>st</sup>, we have a G/60 Swiss in Portland and Quads in Tacoma. The month concludes with a biggie, the Washington Open in Lynnwood, a 5x event.

Three weeks after the Washington Open is the Idaho Open. Someday, I am going to do the Northwest trifecta and play in all three state Opens in the same year. I have played the career trifecta (plus Opens in Michigan, Tennessee, and Georgia), but it would be special to do it all in one year. Throw in the British Columbia Open (does that exist?) and it could be a Grand Slam of Northwest Chess. It is always good to have goals. Make one of yours to compete for a Grand Prix prize. Get out there and play.

Data below is current through February 29.

## Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington				
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.		
<b>Masters</b>										
			1	Haessler	Carl A	11	1	Pupols	Viktors	55
							2	Raptis	Nick	49.5
							3	Perez	Ignacio	24
							4	Tiglon	Bryce	23
							5	Schill	William J	22
<b>Experts</b>										
			1	Cigan	Jason	23.5	1	Arganian	David G	27
			2	Seitzer	Phillip	21.5	2	Cambareri	Michael E	26
			3	Bjorksten	Lennart	16.5	3	He	Anthony B	21.5
			4	Richardson	Ryan	10	4	Leslie	Cameron D	21
			5	Sherrard	Jerry D	9	5	Vrana	Rudy	20.5
<b>Class A</b>										
			1	Phipps	Danny	21.5	1	Baxter	Brent L	35.5
			2	Murray	David E	16.5	2	Zhang	Brendan	30.5
			3	Tache	Corey	14.5	3	Bonrud	Neal	27.5
			4	Surak	Steve S	11.5	4	Zhang	Eric M	22
			5	Friesen	Daniel A	10	5	Chi	Quentin	19
<b>Class B</b>										
1	Miller	Travis J	31							
2	Bodie	Brad	21							
3	Maki	James J	19.5							
4	Joshi	Kairav R	16.5							
5	Havrilla	Mark A	15							

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
<b>Class C</b>			<b>Class B</b>								
1	Courtney	Caleb	13.5	1	Eagles	Roland	25.5	1	Buck	Stephen J	81
1	Martonick	Nick	13.5	2	Havrilla	Nich A	19.5	2	Pothukuchi	Revanth V	32.5
3	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	12	3	Vega	Isaac	19	3	Tu	Robin L	27.5
4	Nathan	Jacob A	6	4	McClain	Jack W	17	4	Tien	Sophie	27
5	Nyblade	Wesley	5.5	5	Hurkett	Jonathan	14.5	5	Reeves	Jasen	25
<b>Class D</b>			<b>Class C</b>								
1	Bodie	Arlene	16	1	Hasuike	Mike L	62	1	Piper	August	42.5
2	Weyland	Ron	11.5	2	Berger	Brian F	28.5	2	Barua	Aniruddha	31
3	Porth	Adam	5	3	Dietz	Arliss	26	3	Richards	Jerrold	29
3	Porth	Desmond	5	4	Hansen	James J	14.5	4	Jiang	Brandon	25.5
3	Nyblade	Wesley, III	5	5	Kenway	Geoffrey W	14	5	Raffel	Brian	24.5
<b>Class E and Below</b>			<b>Class D and Below</b>								
1	Aderogba	Temiloluwa D	4.5	1	Uan-Zo-Li	Sean A	14.5	1	Tien	Andy	34.5
1	Callen	Gregory D	4.5	2	Phelps	Colin	14	2	Lawler	Aidan	33
1	Porth	Darwin A	4.5	3	Gyde	Nicholas A	10	3	Jiang	Andrew	30
4	Shouse	Donald L	4	4	Three tied at		9	4	Munsey	Michael R	29
4	Porth	Dylan	4					5	Kaelin	Alex	25
<b>Overall Leaders, by State</b>											
1	Miller	Travis J	31	1	Hasuike	Mike L	62	1	Buck	Stephen J	81
2	Bodie	Brad	21	2	Berger	Brian F	28.5	2	Pupols	Viktors	55
3	Maki	James J	19.5	3	Dietz	Arliss	26	3	Raptis	Nick	49.5
4	Joshi	Kairav R	16.5	4	Eagles	Roland	25.5	4	Piper	August	42.5
5	Bodie	Arlene	16	5	Cigan	Jason	23.5	5	Baxter	Brent L	35.5
6	Havrilla	Mark A	15	6	Seitzer	Phillip	21.5	6	Tien	Andy	34.5
7	Martonick	Nick	13.5	6	Phipps	Danny	21.5	7	Lawler	Aidan	33
7	Courtney	Caleb	13.5	8	Havrilla	Nich A	19.5	8	Pothukuchi	Revanth V	32.5
9	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	12	9	Vega	Isaac	19	9	Barua	Aniruddha	31
10	Weyland	Ron	11.5	10	McClain	Jack W	17	10	Zhang	Brendan	30.5
11	Lucky	David	8	11	Bjorksten	Lennart	16.5	11	Jiang	Andrew	30
12	Hawkins	Nicholas B	7	11	Murray	David E	16.5	12	Richards	Jerrold	29

**(See more Upcoming Events Continued from page 31)**

☞ **Jun 18-19 Idaho Open, Boise, ID.** 5SS, Time Control: G/120,d5. 2 Sections: Open and Reserve (U1400). Site: La Quinta Inn & Suites, 7965 W. Emerald St., Boise, ID 83704. US Chess mem req., ICA/OCF/WCF required and can be purchased or renewed at registration, OSA. EF by 6/13 \$30 (U18 & 60+ \$25), Special Family Rate of \$60. \$5 more for all if received after 6/13. Email entries OK. Register & check in: 8-8:45 am 6/20. Rd times: Sat 9 am, 1:30 pm, 6 pm; Sun 9 am, 1:30 pm. 1/2 pt byes: Max 1, any round. Must commit before Rd 2 pairing. Players arriving for round 2 may take a retroactive R1 1/2 pt bye as long as they arrive by 1:15 pm. Prizes: \$\$ b/30; Open: \$200-100-75; Reserve: \$100-75-50. HR/ENT/INFO: ICA, www.idahocheessassociation.org. Contact: Jeffrey Roland, 1514 S. Longmont Ave., Boise, ID 83706. jroland@cablone.net. NC, NS, W.

**Jun 24-26 2016 Canadian Senior Championship, Vancouver, BC.** (Quarter-page ad page 23)

☞ **Jun 25 Evergreen Empire 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.

# 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

**May 7, June 4** **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.

**May 15, June 5** **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.

**July 10** **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, US Chess). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4-commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

**How to Find the SCC**

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

## SCC Annual Meeting, Fri. May 6

### Chess Kids Play Music 2

an SCC Fundraiser  
**Saturday, May 14**  
 at Music Center of the Northwest  
 901 N 96th St  
 Seattle WA 98103

5:00 p.m. Rehearsal  
 5:30 p.m. Concert  
 ~7:00 p.m. **Pizza & Quick Chess**

### G/12 Hexes

6-player round-robin. G/12;d0. Limited to 2 hexes. Winners receive free entry to two SCC Saturday Quads or one SCC Sunday Tornado or \$15 off any entry fee of \$24 or more. US Chess memb. req'd.

### Suggested Donations

Concert + G/12	\$30
Concert Only	\$25
G/15 Only	\$10

**Come support the SCC and your fellow music-playing chess players and, after pizza intermission, play chess!**

## Emerald City Open

June 10-12

A two-section, five-round Swiss with a time control of 40/120 & SD/60;d5 (Rd 1 of 2-day schedule – G/60;d5). The prize fund of \$1000 is based on fifty-six entries.

*a Northwest Grand Prix event*

Open		Reserve (U1700)	
<b>First</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>\$175</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>\$160</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>\$110</b>
<b>U1950</b>	<b>\$120</b>	<b>U1450</b>	<b>\$80</b>
		<b>Unr</b>	<b>\$25</b>

**Upset (rds 1-4) \$20**

Entry Fees: \$36 if rec'd by 6/8, \$45 at site. SCC members–subtract \$10 Members of other dues-required CCs in BC, ID, OR, and WA–subtract \$5. Unr–free with purchase of 1-year US Chess and WCF. Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.

Registration: Fri. 7-7:45 p.m., Sat. 9-9:45 a.m.

Rounds: Fri. 8, Sat. (10 @ G/60;d5)-12:30-6:45, Sun. 11-5.

Byes: 2 (for Sunday rounds, commit at registration).

Miscellaneous: US Chess & WCF membership req'd. No smoking. No computers.

# Upcoming Events

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

☞ **May 7/June 18** 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, \$5 discount for each additional family member who lives in the same household, 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.

☞ **May 14-15** Inland Empire Open, **Spokane, WA**. Site: Gonzaga University (Jepson Center) Rm. 108 & 109, 502 E. Boone St., Spokane, WA 99202. 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 5/13, \$28 at the door; 18 and under \$5 less. Telephone entries accepted. US Chess 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 1/2 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 14-15** 2nd Annual Rose City Sectionals, **Portland, OR**. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. Four round Swiss in five sections, Open, U1900, U1700, U1500, U1300. One half point bye is available if requested before round 1. If there are multiple players with a full point bye, these players will be paired together for a rated game which counts for tournament score purposes for the player in the higher section. Sections may be combined based on the number of players but prizes will remain separate. TC: G/120;d15. On-site registration runs from 9-9:45am. Rounds are scheduled for 10am and 3pm each day. Rounds 2 and 4 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: \$40, PCC members \$30, \$5 play-up fee for each section you play up, except anyone who has an unofficial rating that would put them in a higher section may play up in the corresponding section without a fee. US Chess and NWSRS rated. US Chess membership is required and can be purchased during registration. Prizes: \$1200 based on 40 entries (adjusted proportionally with \$600 guaranteed) Open: 1st-\$160, 2nd-\$110, 1st U2100-\$60; U1900: 1st-\$145, 2nd-\$95; U1700: 1st-\$135, 2nd-\$85; U1500: 1st-\$125, 2nd-\$75; U1300: 1st-\$110, 2nd-\$60, 1st U1100-\$40. Unrated players are eligible for all of the prizes. Scholastic players who win money will also receive a trophy. OSCF State Qualifier.

☞ **May 21** Pierce County 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 21/June 25** 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). Info: email@pdxchess.org, phone 503-246-2978, website www.pdxchess.org.

☞ **May 28-30** Washington Open, **Lynnwood, WA**. (Full-page ad page 19)

☞ **Jun 4** Qualchan Quads, **Spokane, WA**. Site: Spokane Valley Library, E. 12004 E. Main, Spokane, WA 99206. Reg: Sat 8:30-9:45. E.F. \$16. T/C: G/120 (with 5 second delay). Rds: 10:00, 2:30 & 7:00. Format: Prizes: \$50 for 1st in quad. US Chess membership required, n/c, US Chess rated. Coffee & cookies provided. Ent/Info: Dave Griffin, P.O. Box 631, Spokane Valley, WA 99037, Ph. (509) 994-9739, Email: dbgrffn@hotmail.com, web spokanechessclub.org.

☞ **Jun 4-5** Portland Summer 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 10:00 & 2:15. 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.

(See more Upcoming Events Continued on page 29)

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