



\$3.95

October 2016

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



Gavin Zhang occupies the center

Northwest Chess

October 2016, Volume 70-10 Issue 825

ISSN Publication 0146-6941

Published monthly by the Northwest Chess Board.
Office of record: c/o Orlov Chess Academy, 2501
152nd Ave NE STE M16, Redmond, WA 98052-5546.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Northwest Chess c/o Orlov Chess Academy, 2501
152nd Ave NE STE M16, Redmond, WA 98052-5546.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Seattle, WA
USPS periodicals postage permit number (0422-390)

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,
Adam Porth, Chouchanik Airapetian

Entire contents ©2016 by Northwest Chess. All rights reserved. Published opinions are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the Northwest Chess Board. Northwest Chess is the official publication of the chess governing bodies of the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

Advertising Rates

Display Ads: \$100 for a full page; \$60 for one-half page; \$30 for one-quarter page; \$20 for one-eighth page or for a business card. Additional charges apply if the staff must do layout work. Discounts: 10% (two consecutive ads); 15% (three or more consecutive ads); special business card rates: \$50 for three months or \$125 for one year. A surcharge may apply for non-chess-related ads. All ads subject to acceptance based on content and available space.

Event Announcement Rates (Upcoming Events listings)

Grand Prix events: \$25 for two consecutive listings of the same event. Other events: \$20 for one listing.

Please arrange payment for ads and Grand Prix fees with the Business Manager.

Advertising & Copy Deadline

Ads and submissions must be received by the 5th of the month for the items to appear in the next issue (e.g., **October 5 for the November issue; November 5 for the December issue**).

Submit all ads, donations, payments, changes of address & subscriptions to:

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

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Gavin Zhang in St. Louis by Kristina Zhang..... | Front Cover |
| 34th Annual Western States Open (Reno, NV Oct 21-23) Full Page Ad..... | 3 |
| Oregon Chess News..... | 4 |
| Oregon Class Championships (Portland, OR Nov 5-6) Full Page Ad..... | 17 |
| Washington Chess News..... | 18 |
| Washington Class Championships (Lynnwood Nov 25-27) Full Page Ad..... | 22 |
| Chess Groovies By NM Daniel He and NM Samuel He..... | 23 |
| Idaho Chess News..... | 24 |
| Northwest Chess Grand Prix by Murlin Varner..... | 28 |
| Seattle Chess Club Tournaments..... | 30 |
| Upcoming Events..... | 31 |
| Perry and Moshe Rachmuth at PCC Quad 45 by Brian Berger...Back Cover | |

Judged Best State Magazine/Newsletter for 2009 and 2014-16 by Chess Journalists of America!

On the front cover:

Gavin Zhang in St. Louis, Missouri on August 4, 2016. After the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions held in Indianapolis, Indiana, Gavin watched part of the Sinquefeld Cup. Photo credit: Kristina Zhang.

On the back cover:

Perry Rachmuth (left) helps his dad, Moshe Rachmuth (right), pick out a chess book at the August 2016 PCC Quad 45 tournament on August 20, 2016. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Chesstoons:

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

Northwest Chess Knights

Please donate today to help Northwest Chess!
Patrons, 2014-2016

Jennifer Sinanan in honor of Josh Sinanan, Gerard Van Deene, Washington Chess Federation, Idaho Chess Association, Ralph Dubisch, Murlin Varner, Russell Miller.

Submissions

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

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
425-882-0102

34th Annual Sands Regency Reno - Western States Open An American Classic & Heritage Event!!!

A Weikel Tournament

Trophies Plus 150 Grand Prix Pts. (Enhanced) • F.I.D.E. Nevada

October 21 - 23, 2016

\$20,800 (b/275) \$13,400 Guaranteed

**6SS - Open Section 40/2, G/55 Min-d5, ("A", "B", "C", "D" Sections 40/2, G/1-d5)
Entry: \$135 or Less • Rooms: \$41.71/\$71.22 While they last!**

Wednesday 10/19 - 7pm Clock Simul [40/2, G/1] (Including an analysis of YOUR game).
with GM Sergey Kudrin - \$30 (A great value!)

Thursday 10/20 - 6 -7:30 pm FREE lecture by IM John Donaldson - FREE
7:30 Simul GM Alex Lenderman (only \$20!), 7:30 Blitz (G/5 d0)Tourney - \$25 (80% to prize fund)

Saturday 10/22 - 3-4:30pm - IM John Donaldson Clinic (Game/Position Analysis) – FREE

Main Tournament

Registration: Thursday (5-8 pm) - Friday (9 - 10 am)

Round Times: 10/21 (Fri.) - Noon - 7 pm • 10/22 (Sat.) - 10 am - 6 pm • 10/23 (Sun.) - 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

For a flyer, call or e-mail: Chief TD N.T.D. Jerome V. (Jerry) Weikel, (775) 747-1405 / wackykl@aol.com

Room Reservations: Sands Regency Casino Hotel, 1-866-386-7829 - Ask for code: USCHESS1016

For complete details, visit: www.renochess.org

Open Section (2000 & above) EF: \$135, (1999 & below – EF: \$200) (GMs & IMs free but must enter by (9/23) or pay late fee at site. Open Section Guarantee (Prizes 1-10 plus 1/2 of all other prizes). Prizes: \$2,000-1,000-800-600-400-300-300-200-200,200, (2399/below)- \$800, (2299/below)- \$800, (2199/below) -\$1400-700-300, (2099/below) - \$500. (If there is a tie for 1st then a playoff for \$100 out of prize fund plus trophy). (NOTE: GM/IM w/free entry not eligible for class prizes 2399 and below; may elect to pay entry fee and become eligible).

Sec."A" (1800-1999) EF: \$134; \$1,300-500-400-300-200

Sec."B" (1600-1799) EF: \$133; \$1,200-500-400-300-200

Sec."C" (1400-1599) EF: \$132; \$1,000-500-400-300-200

Sec."D"/under (1399-below) EF: \$70; \$500-400-200-200; (1199/below) - \$200

**Club Championship \$600 - \$300
Top Senior \$200 (65+)**

To download an application and for more info, visit www.sandsregency.com (Events Calendar Page)

ENTRY FORM - 34th Annual Reno-Western States Open Chess Tournament - Reno, NV - October 21 - 23, 2016

Mail to: Sands Regency Casino Hotel - 345 N. Arlington Avenue - Reno NV 89501

PRINT Name _____ Daytime Phone _____ USCF/FIDE Rating _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

USCF I.D. Number _____ Exp. Date _____ **All pre-registered players please check in at tournament desk on arrival.**

ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED: (CIRCLE SECTION AND FEE BELOW) BYE(S) REQUESTED FOR ROUND(S): (CIRCLE) 1 2 3 4 5 6

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| ----- OPEN SECTION ----- | "A" | "B" | "C" | "D"/Under | UNRATED |
| GM/IM 2000/above | 1999/Below | 1800-1999 | 1600-1799 | 1400-1599 | 1399/Below |
| Free | \$200 | \$134 | \$133 | \$132 | \$70 |
| Free | \$135 | | | | Free With USCF Dues |

FEES ALSO ENCLOSED FOR:

- Hotel Deposit \$41.71* (Weekday) or
- Hotel Deposit \$71.22* (Fri. & Sat.)
- \$30 Wednesday GM Kudrin Clock Simul
- \$20 Thursday GM Lenderman Simul
- \$25 Thursday Blitz (G/5 d0)
- USCF Dues (Circle: \$25 Junior/\$49 Adult)
- \$10 +65 Senior DOB _____

HOTEL INFORMATION:

- No Room Needed
- Made By Phone
- Please Make Me a Reservation*
Arrival Date _____
Departure Date _____
- One Bed Two Beds S NS

*Send \$41.71 for weekday arrival, \$71.22 for Friday arrival.

POSTMARK BY SEPT. 23rd TO AVOID LATE FEE

Add \$11 after Sept 23rd. \$22 on-site, do not mail after Oct. 14th. Check/m.o. payable to THE SANDS REGENCY or provide credit card information and signature. \$5 service charge on credit card entries.

Visa MasterCard Am. Exp.

Card Number AND Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

CHECK ENCLOSED

CHARGE MY CARD

TOTAL FEES: \$

Oregon Chess News

Oregon Open

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—September 3-5, 2016

A prize fund of “\$10,000 Guaranteed” has a nice ring to it—so much so, that it generated a record attendance at the 66th Annual Oregon Open, which took place over the Labor Day weekend at the Lloyd Center, DoubleTree Hotel in Portland. The large guarantee was a gamble for its sponsors, the Portland Chess Club and the Oregon Chess Federation, a gamble which paid off with an influx of some 179 players, some of whom drove or flew many miles to pit their skills against other “fortune hunters.”

At the urging of Mike Morris, thought was given to raising the guaranteed prize fund from its previous tournament high of \$3600—to entice more players, but also, higher caliber players. Added to that was the suggestion of Micah Smith to add a third section, that being the U1600, which he opined would be a draw for more younger and lower-rated players, who before had only the choice of Reserve or Open sections.

Other suggestions were for also having a two-day schedule for those who found it hard to set aside three days, and for those scholastic players who were (on the first day) attending the Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation’s one-day tournament, held at the same venue. Throw in a Blitz tournament with all of these other options, and one can see the new changes were VERY appealing to a wide range of players.

To handle an event of this size you need some high caliber TDs, and they don’t come much higher caliber than Chief TD Grisha Alpernas—a US Chess Senior TD and FIDE Arbiter. Together with Chief Assistant TD Mike Morris and Assistant TD Andrei Botez, and with the added help of Micah Smith, Danny Phipps, and Mike Janniro, this tournament was in good hands.

Amongst that crowd of prize-seeking attendees were some players of note: the first being Oregon’s own Grandmaster, James Tarjan (2473-2474—4.5/6) who returned to competitive chess in 2014, after ceasing competition in 1984 to become a librarian. A man to be reckoned



(L) Christopher Chase vs Lennart Bjorksten. Photo by Brian Berger.

with in his prime (now in his 60s), he has for the last two years been seeking to shake off some of the rust and dust of a bookman’s life and rekindle the fire of an earlier Tarjan, who once sat across from some legendary names.

However, because of two byes and a draw with Joshua Doknjas (2192-2194—3.5/6), this tournament did not show the full range of Tarjan’s talent, having to settle for being part of a four-way tie for the \$500 third-place prize. Those sharing were the man known as “The Raptor,” FIDE Master Nick Raptis (2401-2394—4.5/6, who suffered three draws), National Master Josh Sinanan (2206-2204—4.5/6), and International Master Justin Sarkar (2511-2498—4.5/6), who flew all the way from New York to face a loss and a draw.

Others of note were National Master Christopher Chase (2390-2400—5.5/6), who came all the way from Massachusetts to claim the Open first place prize of \$2,000, and in the process beat National Master John Doknjas (2246-2256-4.5/6) of British Columbia, who won \$500 for coming in first U2200, and National Master Mike Zaloznyy (2260-2264—4.0/6) of Nevada—Brink’s guards escorting Chase out of the DoubleTree Hotel after the tournament.

Continuing with the Open Section, second and third place prizes for U2200 were also shared with four players who divided up a total of \$500, they being Cale McCormick (2199-2189—4.0/6) of Washington, Seth Talyansky (2107-2141), Dakota Dixon (2179-2176—4.0/6), and Ryan Richardson (2105-2126—4.0/6) But the most remarkable performance given in the Open Section had to be that of the second place winner, Jason Cigan (2167-2219—5.0/6), who drew with two Masters—first place winner Chase, and also John Doknjas, while winning the balance of his games. It was a performance which netted him \$1000, and gave Oregon another Master! Way to go, Jason!

Before I move on to the U2000 Section, I would like to mention one further player of note, who did not himself play (his rating being so high he felt it would be unfair, as well as un-sportsman-like), but was there to support his companion, Jerrold “I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It’s Over” Richards (1511-1517—1.5/6), that being the now world-famous Morgan The Dog, who generated such excitement among his following (young and old alike), that “crowd-control” was called in to quell attempts by fans to get his autograph, get away with a snippet of his fur, or just pet him to the extreme!—Morgan The Dog

groupies are an impassioned bunch.

Turning now to the U2000 Section, Neil Doknjas (1871-1960—5.5/6) from BC grabbed the big prize of \$1000 for his first place, scoring five wins and a draw against second place finisher Brent Baxter (1861-1917—5.0/6), who split a total prize package of \$1100 (\$600 for second and \$500 for first U1800) with Aaron Nicoski (1799-1853—5.0/6), who also finished with 5.0 points, giving both \$550 each to brag about.

Third place was split among three players, Moshe Rachmuth (1965-1975—4.5/6), Steven Merwin (1923-1934—4.5/6), and David Murray (1796-1848—4.5/6), each taking home \$133.33 of the prize fund. While in the U1800, second and third place prizes were divided equally between David Yoshinaga (1758-1819—4.0/6) and Numan Abdul-Mujeeb (1744-1766—4.0/6), that when split, gave each a \$250 wad to flash around.

I might mention here that, in the U2000 Section, there was one brave soul (some of you might have a substitute word for “brave” in this context), who, despite repeated attempts to win in positions in which he was up a major piece or a pawn, or just positionally better, managed to lose contact with reality and lose his first three games. But ratings be damned, he pressed on, where lesser men would have cut and run on their first substantial setback, finally to claw his way to a draw in the fourth round, only to lose his last two games. (As a protection against further ridicule, I have withheld his name,



Chief TD Grisha Alpernas goes over the rules before first round. Photo by Brian Berger.

but his initials are BB, and he was once a 1707 player.)

Addressing now the final section, that of U1600, three players tied for the first, Harry Demarest (1650-1650—5.0/6), Anne-Marie Velea (1535-1548—5.0/6), and Roshen Nair (1400-1518—5.0/6), Nair receiving a trophy as his prize (players who were under 19 had the option of a lower entrance fee, and a trophy award rather than a money prize),

while Demarest and Velea split the first and second place prizes to the tune of \$400 smackers each to wave in front of their friends and make them envious.

The third place award also saw a tie, with Eric Erard (1475-1496—4.5/6) and Jeremy Harlin (1410-1431—4.5/6) splitting the \$200 prize, while in the U1400 first and second went to Rohan Vora III (1286-1374—4.5/6) and Curtis Ware (1135-1194—4.5/6) on a tie, each receiving \$400. Also, a tie for third place U1400, saw Sophie Velea (1231-1401—4.0/6) and Brian Lee (1342-1401—4.0/6) split the U1400 prize money, each recouping \$100 of their entrance fee.

Lastly, \$300 and a 144-point rating gain went to Fedor Semenov (1087-1231—3.5/6) for winning the U1200, while Hristo Arabadjiev (Unrated-1529P—4.5/6) filled his pockets with \$200, by taking first in the Unrated category.

As for the Blitz event, held on the second day, 22 players decided to participate, with Washington’s Nick “The Raptor” Raptis (2428-2436—9.0/10) swooping in for the kill with nine wins and one loss, that put \$154 additional in his pockets. Second was Josh Grabinsky (2086-2081—7.5/10), whose 7-1/2 wins paid him \$88.

And in the U1900, Michael Moore (1554P-1555—6.0/10) took home \$66 for his six wins, while in the U1500, Eric Erard (1475P-1518P—5.5/10) grabbed the last \$44 of the prize fund, with 5-1/2 games to his credit.



Standing, Mike Morris converses with Chief TD Grisha Alpernas. Photo by Brian Berger.

A big hand goes to all who made this a fun, and a financially successful tournament—and no doubt, will again be so next year.

**Lennart Bjorksten (2142) –
Carl A. Haessler A (2219) [D55]**
Oregon Open Portland, OR
(R5), September 5, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5
5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3**

6.Nxd5?? Nxd5 7.Bxd8 Bb4+ is an ancient trap.

**6...Be7 7.Nf3 0-0 8.Bd3 b6 9.0-0 Bb7
10.Qe2 a6 11.Rac1 Ne4 12.Bxe7 Qxe7
13.Nd2 f5 14.Bxe4?!**

14.Rfd1∞

**14...fxe4 15.f3 exf3 16.Rxf3 c5 17.Rcf1
Nf6 18.Rf5 Rae8 19.Re5 Qd6 20.Rff5?!**

20.Rxe8 Rxe8 21.Nf3

20...Bc8 21.dxc5 bxc5



Position after 21...bxc5

22.Rxd5

22.Rxe8 Rxe8 23.Rf4

**22...Nxd5 23.Rxd5 Qg6 24.e4 Bb7
25.Rxc5?!**

25.Rd3

25...Qd6 26.Qe3??

26.Qc4+ Kh8 27.Nd5 Bxd5 28.Rxd5 Qf4
29.Qe2 looks like White's best chance, though Black is very close to winning in any case.



Position after 26.Qe3

26...Rd8?

26...Bxe4!! 27.Ncxe4? Rxe4! wins instantly.

27.Nd5 Bxd5 28.Rxd5 Qb4

28...Qc6

29.Rxd8?

29.b3 Rxd5 30.exd5 Qd6 31.Qe6+ Qxe6
32.dxe6

29...Rxd8 30.Qb3+

30.Nf3 Qxb2

30...Qxb3 31.Nxb3 Rc8

31...Rd1+ 32.Kf2 Rb1

**32.a4 Rc2 33.a5 Kf7 34.e5 Rc4 35.Kf2
Ke6 36.Nd2 Rc5**

36...Rc2+

37.Nf3?

37.b4 Rb5 (37...Rxe5 38.Nb3) 38.Nb3
Rxb4 39.Nc5+ Kf7 40.Nxa6

**37...Rxa5 38.Nd4+ Kd5 39.Ke3 Ra4
40.Nf3 Ra2 41.b3 Rxc2 42.h4 g6 43.Kf4
h6 44.h5 gxh5 0-1**

**William Schill (2236) –
Nicholas Proudfoot (2162) [E99]**
Oregon Open Portland, OR
(R5), September 5, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.c4 d6 4.Nc3 Nf6
5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7
9.Ne1 Nd7 10.f3 f5 11.g4 fxg4 12.fxc4
Rxf1+ 13.Kxf1 h6 14.h4 Nf8 15.Kg2 c5
16.Nd3 Bd7 17.a3 Rb8 18.b4 b6 19.Be3
Nh7 20.Qd2 Qc8**



Position after 20...Qc8

21.Nf2

21.g5!? is worth a look, taking advantage of the fact that closing the kingside with 21...h5 leaves White all the active chances on the other wing, while (after 21...h5) (21...hxg5 22.hxg5 has a very clear downside.) 22.Nb5! Bxb5 23.cxb5±

21...Nf6?

21...g5 22.h5 (22.hxc5 hxc5 23.Bxc5 Ng6, heading for f4, when Black's pieces are gaining quite a bit of activity for the material invested.) 22...a6, and while White must still have a small edge, the actual battlefield has become more limited.

22.Bxh6! Nxc4?

22...Bxh6 23.Qxh6 Qf8 is fairly hopeless in the long run, too.



Position after 22...Nxc4

23.Bxc7

Or 23.Bxc4 first.

23...Kxc7

23...Nxf2 24.Qh6 Nh3 25.Rf1 Nf4+ 26.Rxf4! exf4 27.h5! with quite a nifty attack, for example 27...Qe8 (27...g5 28.Qxc5) 28.e5! dxe5 (28...gxh5 29.Qh8+ Kf7 30.Bxh5+ Ng6 31.Qh7: 28...Bf5 29.e6) 29.Ne4 Nf5 30.Qh8+ Kf7 31.hxc6+ Kxc7 32.Bh5#

24.Bxc4 Bxc4 25.Qg5 1-0

**Carl A. Haessler (2219) –
James Edward Tarjan (2473) [A29]**
Oregon Open Portland, OR
(R6), September 5, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5
5.Nc3 Nb6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.0-0 Be7 8.d3
0-0 9.Be3 Be6 10.Ne4 Qd7 11.Rc1 Rfd8**



Position after 11...Rfd8

12.Rxc6

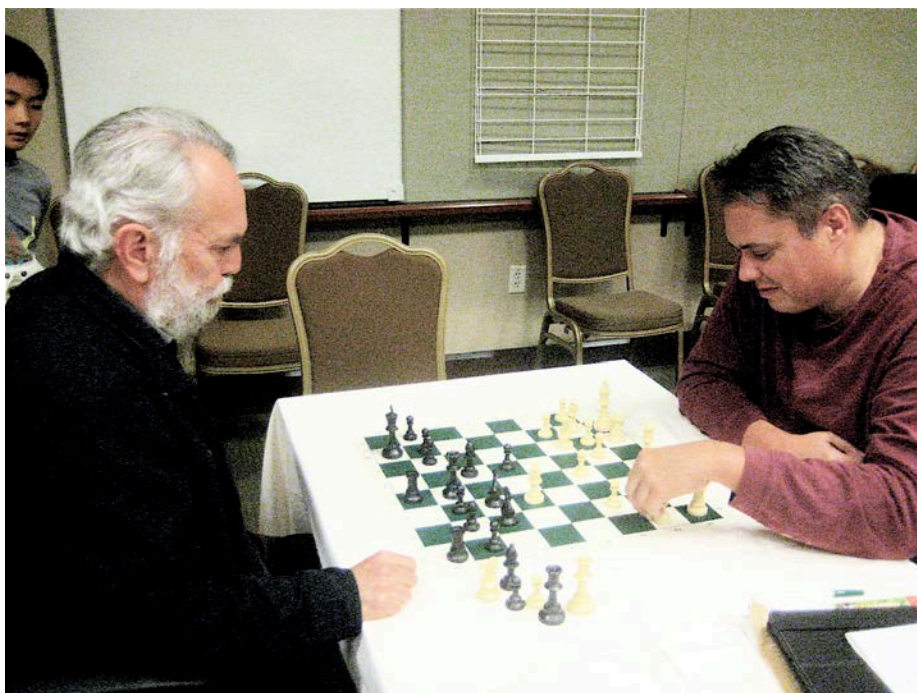
Flashy, but ultimately unsound. 12.Qc2

**12...Qxc6 13.Nxe5 Qb5 14.f4 f6 15.f5
Bxa2 16.Ng4 Qxb2 17.Nc5 Nd5 18.Bf2
Nc3 19.Qa1 Nxe2+ 20.Kh1 Qxa1
21.Rxa1 Bxc5 22.Rxa2 Bxf2 23.Nxf2
Nc1 24.Rd2 c6 25.Be4 a5 0-1**

**Josh Sinanan (2206) –
Lennart Bjorksten (2142) [E11]**
Oregon Open Portland, OR
(R6), September 5, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Bxd2+
5.Qxd2 0-0 6.Bg2 d6**

This is a very logical positional plan, placing the center pawns on the opposite color squares from the remaining bishop.



(L) James Tarjan and Carl Haessler go over their game. Photo by Brian Berger.

Unfortunately it also takes extra time, which White can exploit to grab more space and complete development. The less aesthetic 6...d5 is sound and about equal, despite the bad bishop. Black can develop it in fianchetto on b7, planning to improve its lot later on with center advances and exchanges.

7.Nf3 c5

7...Nc6 8.0-0 e5, perhaps.

8.Nc3 Qe7 9.0-0 Nc6 10.d5 exd5 11.cxd5 Nb4?!

11...Ne5 12.Nxe5 Qxe5 13.f4 Qh5 14.e4±

12.a3 Na6 13.Qf4 Nc7 14.Nd2 b5



Position after 14...b5

15.b4!± cxb4 16.axb4 Bb7 17.Qd4 a6 18.f4 Ng4 19.e4 f5 20.Rae1 Nh6

20...fxe4

21.e5 Rac8 22.Nb3 Nf7 23.Na5 Nd8 24.Re3 Na8 25.Rfe1 Qc7 26.Kh1 Qb6 27.Qd3

Or 27.Qxb6 Nxb6 28.e6+-

27...Rc7 28.Nc6

28.Ne2 — intending 29.Nd4

28...Nxc6 29.dxc6 Bxc6 30.Nd5 Qb7

30...Bxd5 31.Bxd5+ Kh8 32.Bxa8 Rxa8 33.exd6+-

31.exd6 Rd7 32.Re7 Kh8



Position after 32...Kh8

33.Qxf5 Qb8 34.Qg5 Rg8 35.Rxd7 Bxd7 36.Ne7 h6 37.Qe5 Re8 38.f5 Nb6 39.f6 Nc4 40.fxg7+ Kh7 41.Be4+ 1-0

Scholastic Players at the Oregon Open

By Owen McCoy

So, where to start? Well, John Doknjas (2246-2256), a 12th grader from BC, made it to board two in the final round and played against Jason Cigan. Although he only drew that game (*only* with air quotes attached) he still tied for 3rd-7th. NM Anthony He (2224-2227), a 6th (!) grader from WA scored 4.0/6 after taking a bye in round 6. Cale McCormick (2199-2189) managed 4.0/6, as did Seth Talyansky

(2107-2141), who had a remarkable result after drawing against a master in round two, and then defeating two more! Luke Xie (2214-2205) and Joshua Doknjas (2192-2194) both scored 3.5/6 against very strong opposition, in particular the latter drawing against GM Tarjan! Clearly these Doknjas' are a formidable force! More on that later. Naomi Bashkansky (2077-2094), Owen McCoy (2015-2028), Arjun Thomas (1990-2009), Jason Yu (1986-1996), CM Joshua Grabinsky (2009-1985), Addison Lee (1945-1946), Brendan Zhang (1897-1923), and Samuel Deng (1705-1781) all scored 3.0/6, but admittedly from the rating report I can see they all had tough competition! Four out of the above nine players had games against at least one person who finished in the top five, and though most of such games were lost, one was drawn! (Arjun Thomas held Nick Raptis to a draw.) There were a few more scholastic players in the Open section that didn't do quite as well as they might've hoped, but hey, they've all had better tournaments, and we've all had worse ones, right?

But if you want to talk about doing really well, how about this? Neil Doknjas (1871-1960) flat out won the U2000 section with 5.5/6! (I need to figure out what it is they do up in B.C.) Josiah Perkins (1865-1858) finished with 4.0/6 after stumbling in the first few rounds, but he made a nice comeback with three straight wins. Valentin Molchanov (1726-1744) had 3.5/6. Sangheeta Dhingra (1877-1862), James Hansen (1717-1743), Ari Bluffstone (1628-1709), and Sean Uan-zo-li (1440-1528) all had 3.0/6, but this particularly impressive in the case of the latter, who came in as the lowest rated in the entire section!

In the U1600 section, Roshen Nair (1400-1516) of Oregon and Anne-Marie Velea (1535-1548) of Washington tied for first with 5.0/6. Also having a very good day (Or three days rather. Or maybe two.) was Eric Erard (1475-1495), who despite his age is not only a good chess player, but also very good at soccer! (As I and some of my friends found out the hard way.) Advaith Vijayakumar (1431-1434) and Sophie Velea (1231-1401) of Washington, as well as Brian Lee (1342-1401) and Nikhil Samudrala (1092-1275) of Oregon, all finished with 4.0/6. Sophie Szeto (1354-1360), Ian Vo (1243-1353), Victor Dossin (1337-1328), and Fedor Semenov (1087-1231) all finished with 3.5/6, and David Roshu (1303-1300), Stephanie Velea (1331-1282), and Abbie Wu (147-653) finished with equal scores.

Clearly these guys will be a challenge to the "Big Guys" in the future. Watch out!



Owen McCoy (L) and Kevin McCoy (R) taking a ping pong break!
Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

**Seth Talyansky (2107) –
Luke Bohua Xie (2214) [B92]**
Oregon Open Portland, OR
(R3), September 4, 2016
[Seth Talyansky]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.a4 0-0
9.0-0 b6 10.Qd3

10.Nd5 tempted me, but I saw no satisfactory response to 10...Bb7

10...Bb7 11.Bg5 Nbd7 12.Rad1 Qc7
13.Rfe1 Rfd8 14.Bf3

My pieces are discombobulated, but at least I control the d5-square.

14...h6 15.Be3 Rac8 16.Nd2 Nc5
17.Bxc5?!

17.Qc4

17...Qxc5 18.Nf1 Qb4 19.Rb1

Sadly, I found nothing better.

19...Nd7 20.Ne3 Nf6 21.h4 Qc5 22.g3
Bf8 23.Re2 g6 24.h5 Be7 25.hxg6 fxe6
26.Ncd5 Nxd5 27.Nxd5 Bg5? 28.b4

Qc6 29.Bg4 Rb8?

29...Rf8

30.f4 Qxa4 31.fxe5 hxe5 32.Rf1 Rf8
33.Re2

33.Nf6+ Kg7 34.Qxd6

33...Rxf2 34.Rxf2 Kg7 35.Qf3 Qa1+
36.Kg2 Bxd5 37.Qf6+ Kh6 38.exd5 Qd4
39.Be6 Qe4+ 40.Qf3 Qd4 41.Rf1 Qd2+
42.Kg1 Qd4+

[Diagram top of next column]

42...Qxb4 43.Qh1+ Kg7 44.Rf7+ Kg8
45.Qh7#

43.Rf2 Qa1+

43...e4 44.Qh1+ Kg7 45.Kg2 Rh8 (45...
Rf8 46.Rxf8 Kxf8 47.Qh6+; 45...Rb7
46.Qf1) 46.Rf7+ Kg8 47.Rd7+



Position after 42...Qd4+

44.Kg2 Qd4

44...a5 45.Rf1 Qb2 46.Rh1+ Kg7 47.Qf7#

45.c3 g4 46.Bxg4 Qc4 47.Qe3+ Kg7
48.Be6 Rb7 49.Qf3 Kh6 50.Qf8+ Kh5
51.Qh8+ Kg5 52.Qf6+ Kh6 53.Kg1 1-0

**Owen McCoy (2015) –
Samuel Dengl (1705) [B10]**
Oregon Open Portland, OR
(R5), September 5, 2016
[Owen McCoy]

1.e4 c6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 e5 4.Ngf3 Bd6
5.g3 Nf6 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 Qc7?!

It seems premature to commit the Queen to c7.

8.Nh4?

Also premature. 8.c3 was better as the Queen has left the d-file.

8...Nbd7?

Well, my Knight sortie proved effective! Instead of letting my Knight get to f5, 8...Re8! 9.Nf5 Bxf5 10.exf5 Nbd7 With a good solid position.

9.Nf5 Bc5?!

The bishop may prove vulnerable here.

10.Qe2 Re8 11.Re1 a5 12.Nf1

Building up for an attack and freeing my bishop.

12...Bb6

Freeing c5 for the knight. A very unique configuration by black! He has figured out how to get his pieces to good squares efficiently.

13.Qd2

Maybe not the best move, but a tricky one And hey, it worked!



Position after 13.Qd2

13...Nc5??

Exactly what I was hoping for! After 13...Ng4 I intended 14.Re2, but my pieces are looking a bit confused and Black looks better.

14.Nxg7 Kxg7?

14...Rf8 might have been better but who would want to play Black after 15.Qg5?

15.Qg5+!

More accurate than 15.Qh6+ because the black King is forced to stay on a dark square.

15...Kf8 16.Qxf6 Re6 17.Qh8+ Ke7
18.exd5! cxd5 19.Ne3!

Black's position is falling apart at the seams.

19...Rd6 20.Qxe5+ Kd8 21.Qh8+

Black resigns. I had hoped for 21.Qh8+ Ke7 22.Nf5+! Kd7 23.Re7+ Kc6 24.Nd4# which is admittedly a pleasing picture!

1-0

Oregon Open Scholastic Tournament

By Sarah McCoy and Rebecca Holt

In connection with the Oregon Chess Federation & Portland Chess Club's annual Oregon Open, held each year over Labor Day Weekend, the Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation hosted the second annual Oregon Open Scholastic Tournament at the Lloyd Center Doubletree in Portland. Although the full three-day Oregon Open tournament offers aspiring young chess players the challenge of very long time controls against adult players, the shorter time controls of the scholastic section also give scholastic players a great warm-up for the new academic year of chess.

The tournament drew players from as far south as Ashland, OR and as far north as Bellevue, WA, with ratings that ranged from 481 to 1455. During the tournament rounds, OSCF also offered training to new scholastic tournament directors as part of their goal to encourage more tournaments in Oregon throughout the year.

All those who finished with even or plus scores received medals, and trophies were awarded for 1st-3rd places in each of the three sections. Players who finished with 4.0 or 3.5 points also received a yearly membership to NW Chess, and those with 3.0 or 2.5 points received a six-month membership.

The winners in the advanced section

were Christopher Ng (1st), Nathaniel Tan (2nd), and Aaron Probst (3rd). The intermediate section's top finishers were Kevin Wu (1st), Kai Pinckard (2nd), and Ethan Tran (3rd). In the beginner section, the winners were Zoey Tang (1st), Katherine Tan (2nd), and Andrew Skidmore (3rd). Congratulations to all, and thanks to everyone who participated! OSCF hopes for an even bigger turnout next year!

A Game from 2016 Portland Summer Open

By Moshe Rachmuth

**Moshe Rachmuth (1913) –
Brent Lee Baxter (1938) [C13]**
Portland Summer Open
Portland, OR (R5), June 5, 2016
[Moshe Rachmuth]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bg5 e6

An interesting choice. This is the third game I played against Mr. Baxter and the third time I employed an unusual opening. I had not succeed in the first two games so I expected my opponent to call on my bluff with 3... Nb-d7. Instead Baxter decides to invite me to a main line French.

4.e4 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Be7 6.Bxf6 gxf6

6...Bxf6 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.c3 0-0 9.Bb5 Gives White a small advantage as long as you remember to prevent e6-e5.

7.Nf3 b6 8.Bd3?!

I did not know my theory. 8.Bc4 keeps control of d5. The problem with my move can be seen in the next note.

8...Bb7 9.Qe2 Nd7?!

9...Qd5 10.0-0 Nd7 11.Rfe1 0-0-0 12.c4 Qh5 was equal in Bologan-Tukmakov, Biel 1995

10.0-0-0 c6 11.Rhe1 Qc7 12.Kb1 0-0-0 13.Ba6

Despite playing out of our repertoire, we arrived at a well-known position in the Burn variation in which White has a minimal edge. In this position Ulf Andersson played 13...Bxa6 and drew in Leko-Andersson, Ubeda 1997. The move Black chose in the game is just as good.

13...Rhg8 14.g3 f5 15.Ned2 Bf6 16.Bxb7+ Kxb7 17.Nc4 f4

N This move improves Black's pawn structure but the price (allowing White's queen to e4) is too high. Instead Black could play 17...Kb8, 17...b5 or 17...Rg4 as in the following game: 17...Rg4 18.Ne3 Rgg8 19.c4 Ka8 20.Ng2 Rge8

21.Nf4 Nf8 22.d5 ...1/2-1/2, Velicka Petr 2410 - Pcola Pavol 2445, Slovakia 1997 Ch Slovakia (team) 1996/97

18.c3

Still, Black is closer to drawing than White is to winning.

18...Nf8?!

18...b5 19.Nce5 ffg3 20.hxg3 Nxe5 21.dxe5 Rxd1+ 22.Qxd1

19.Nce5?!

White chooses the wrong knight to put on e5. After 19. Qe4 Ng6 20. Nfe5! ffg3 21. hxg3 White will keep a knight on c4 that will be able to jump to d6 or a5. 19.Qe4 Ng6 20.Nfe5 ffg3 21.hxg3 b5 22.Nxc6 bxc4 23.Nxd8+ Kb6

19...Ng6 20.Qe4 ffg3 21.hxg3 Bxe5 22.dxe5!

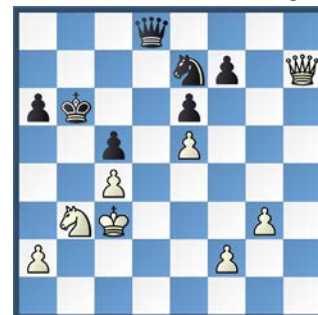
The only way of keeping any chance of winning is to leave a queen and a knight on the board. The double rook endgame is dead drawn: 22.Nxe5 Nxe5 23.Qxe5

Qxe5 24.Rxe5.

22...Rd5 23.c4 Rxd1+ 24.Rxd1 Rd8 25.Rxd8 Qxd8 26.Nd4 Ne7 27.Kc2 a6 28.b4 Kc7 29.Kc3 c5?!

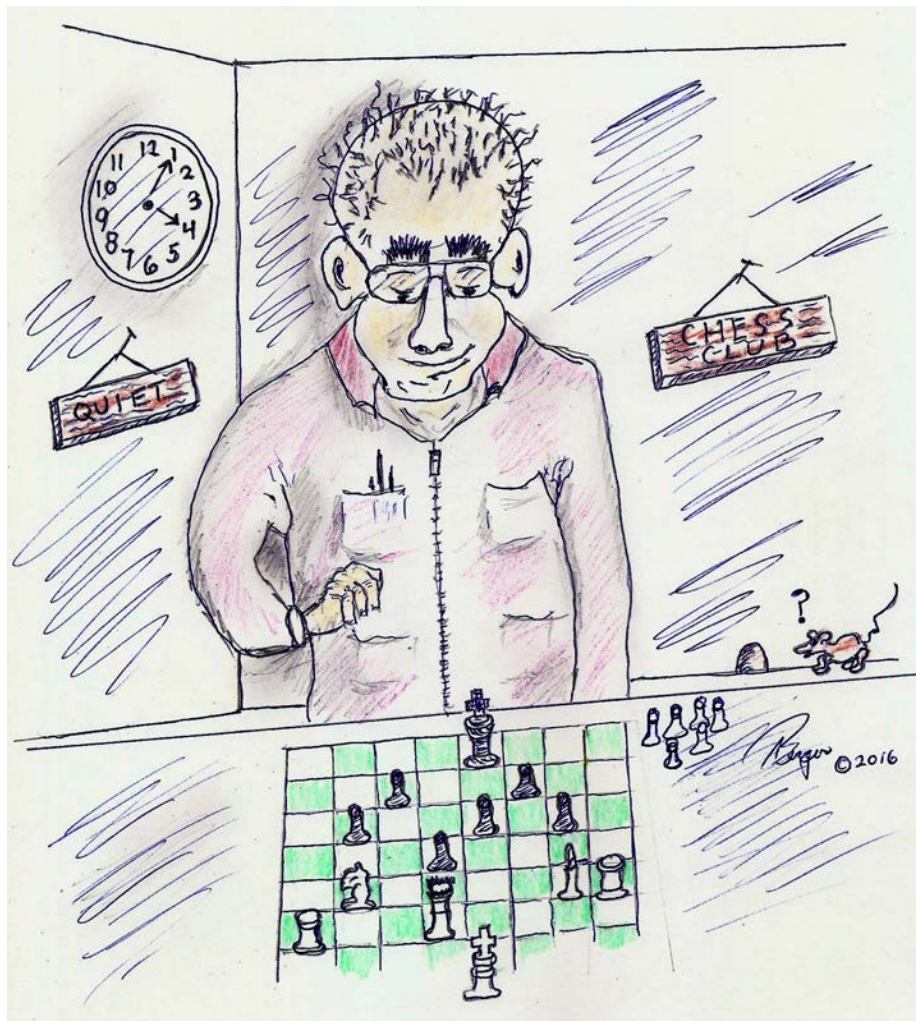
Black is passive but has only one weakness (the pawn on h7) so why create new weaknesses? After 29...Qg8 White stands well but that is not enough to win.

30.bxc5 bxc5 31.Nb3 Kb6 32.Qxh7?



Position after 32.Qxh7

Now it is White who loses his patience. The White queen goes offside and Black



**HAPPY WITH HIS NEW STRATAGEM OF TRADING
DOWN TO AN ENDGAME, BURTON TRADED OFF ALL
HIS MAJOR PIECES FOR PAWNS.**

can exploit it to move his pieces to active squares. During the game I thought I saw 32...Qd1 33.Qxf7 Nc6 with Black forcing a perpetual but I thought there was no other way and I hoped I was wrong in my calculation. I was wrong, alright, but not in the way I thought. First, I was wrong because after 32...Qd1 White can play 33.Qe4 with an advantage. Second, I was wrong because Black's first move should not be 32...Qd1 but 32...Nc6! and only then, after 33.Qxf7 (33.Qe4 Qg5!=) Qd1! it is a draw. Third I was wrong because instead of 32.Qxh7? I should have played 32.Qe3! keeping my queen in the center. I did not even consider this move but Houdini recommends it. After 32...Qc8 it still looks drawish to me but the silicon beast gives a twenty move sequence at the end of which White nets the h-pawn and wins. The whole line is beyond my grasp but had I seen 32.Qe3 to begin with I would have played it on principle grounds — keep the queen centralized in the endgame. 32.Qe3 Qc8 33.g4 Ng6 34.a4 a5 35.f4 Qc7 36.Kb2 Ne7 37.Ka2 h6 38.Qf2 Qc6 39.Kb2 Qc7 40.Qe3 Ka7 41.Kc3 Kb6 42.Kc2 Ng6 43.Kb2 Nf8 44.Qd2 Ka6 45.Ka3 Qb6 46.Ka2 Qc7 47.Qe3 Nd7 48.Qe1 Nf8 49.Qf2 Nd7 50.Qd2 Nf8 51.f5 Ka7 52.Qxh6

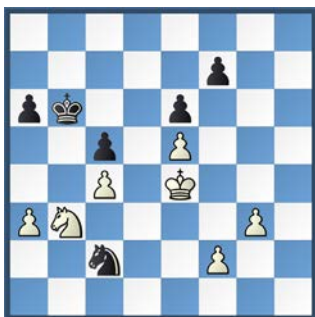
32...Qd7?

Black goes for a cheapo: 33.Qxf7?? Nd5+ wins for Black but now White has time to bring his queen back to the center. As mentioned in the previous note 32...Nc6 draws. 32...Nc6 33.Qxf7 (33.Qe4 Qg5) 33...Qd1 34.Qf4; 32...Qd1 33.Qxf7 Nc6 34.Qf4 Qe1+ 35.Kb2 Nxe5 36.Nc1 Qb4+ 37.Kc2 Qa4+ 38.Kb1 Qb4+ 39.Kc2

33.Qd3 Qxd3+

For the computer this is just as good as 33...Qc7 but I think Black has more hopes of drawing (or even winning) as long as the queens are on the board. The Knight endgame pawn down is almost as difficult as the pawn endgame. 33...Qc7 34.f4 Nc6 35.Nxc5 Nxe5 36.Qd4 Nc6 37.Qe3; 33...Qc8 34.Qd6+ Nc6 35.Qxc5+ Kb7 36.Nd4 Nb8

34.Kxd3 Nc6 35.Ke4 Nb4 36.a3 Nc2?



Position after 36...Nc2

This should have lost on the spot. 36...Nc6 would have offered better resistance

although White should win after 37.f4 36...Nc6 37.f4 Ne7 38.g4 a5 39.a4 Ng6 40.f5

37.a4?

White would have won beautifully with 37.Kd3! Nxa3 38.Kc3 a5 39.N d2 Na3 40.Kc3 a5 41.Nd2 and Black will soon lose his knight for the c4 pawn. Had I played 37.Kd3! I would have proudly sent this game for publication at *Northwest Chess* but as it is... well, I'll send it anyway. 37.Kd3 Ne1+ 38.Ke2 Nc2 39.Kd2 Nxa3 40.Kc3 a5 41.Nd2

37...Na3?

After this Black is doomed. Much better would have been 37...Nb4! and White still has to work. One line would be 37...Nb4 38. a5+ Kc6 39.g4 Na2 (What else? The king is tied to the defense of the c5 pawn) 40.f3 Nc3+ 41.Kd3 Na2 42.f4 Nb4 43.Ke4 and White wins. 37...Nb4 38.a5+ Kc6 39.g4 Na2 40.Nd2 (40.f3 Nc3+ 41.Kd3 Na2 42.f4 Nb4+ 43.Ke4)]

38.a5+ Kc6 39.Kd3

Black's king cannot move away from c6. Black's knight can only oscillate between a3 and b1. The rest is easy.

39...Nb1 40.f4 Na3 41.g4 Nb1 42.f5 exf5 43.gxf5 Na3 44.f6 1-0

Instructive Game from a Reader...

By Ari Bluffstone

Austing Scott Downes Jr. (1647) – Ari Joshua Bluffstone (1585) [B33]
Castle Chess Grand Prix
Atlanta, GA (R5), June 19, 2016
[Ari Bluffstone]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5

This is the Sveshnikov Sicilian, a very reliable line played often by Vladamir Kramnik.

6.Ndb5 d6 7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Ne7 9.Be3

c4 is very normal here, but Be3 is certainly playable. After c4, Black should play Ng6; the instinctual a6 blunders surprisingly to Qa4.

9...g6 10.Qd2 a6 11.Nc3 Nf5 12.Bg5 f6 13.Be3 Bg7 14.h4

White sets the tone for the rest of the game. He will likely castle queenside and look to access my king down the h-file after h5 and hxg6.

14...Nxe3 15.Qxe3 0-0 16.Bd3

This seems like an inaccuracy, h5 seems like the obvious continuation.

16...f5 17.f3? e4! 18.fxe4 f4!

My thinking was that this continuation closed out both the knight and bishop from the kingside, made a monster of my bishop on g7, and helped to slow White's attacking inertia on the kingside... all at the cost of a measly pawn!

19.Qf2 Be5

I felt during the game this was an important move. Not only does it cement White's pawn on e4, blocking the bishop and knight, but it adds force to g3, helping to seal cracks on the kingside.

20.0-0-0 Bg4 21.Be2 Bd7!

I've misplaced his bishop on e2, and opened the c8-square.

22.h5 g5 23.h6 Rc8 24.Rdg1



Position after 24.Rdg1

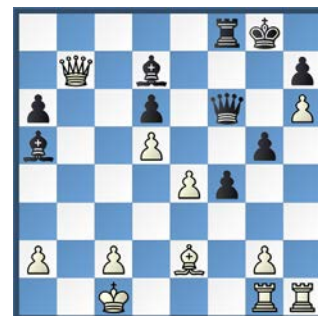
24...Rxc3!

Qa5 is also very strong. White's king is exposed, and the only minor piece capable of defending the dark squares has been eliminated. I wanted to keep the bishop so badly, I chose not to take the exchange with 24...Qf6 25.Nd1 25...Bd4, but to give it up with Rxc3!

25.bxc3 Qf6??

A major blunder. ... Qa5 has the same idea of targeting dark squares while preventing White's only source of counterplay as played in the game. The position is still difficult to defend for White, though.

26.Qb6 Bxc3 27.Qxb7 Ba5?



Position after 27...Ba5

Another misstep by me! It threatens mate on a1, but it turns out the resulting positions are defensible for white. 27...Qd4 returns the game to dynamic equality at least.

28.Kb1 Rc8 29.Bb5 Qc3 30.Bd3?

Allows the game continuation.

30...Bc7 31.Kc1 Rb8 32.Qxa6 Ba5
33.Qxa5 Qxa5 0-1

Atomic Knights Invade Indianapolis

By Casey Bush

Gavin Zhang and Neena Feldman, members of the ACCESS Academy's Atomic Knights Chess Club, went to Indianapolis in July to represent Oregon in the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions and the National Girls Tournament of Champions (NGTOC) which were held before the US Open.

Under the leadership of Principal Dave Wood, the ACCESS Academy provides accelerated educational enrichment opportunities for 350 students who are representative of Portland Public School's diverse racial, cultural and linguistic elementary and middle school population. Four years ago chess coach Larry Ball founded the Atomic Knight's Chess Club which has achieved high results in regional and state tournaments. For the last four years the Knights have placed first in Chess For Success Region three K-5 tournaments and for the last two years they have placed 1st in the 6-8th grade section.

In 2016 the Knights also placed 4th as the only middle school playing in Division A of the Portland high school league with Gavin taking 2nd place on Board One, Nate Lee 1st place on Board Two, Konner Feldman 3rd place on Board 3 and Joshua Bromley 2nd place on Board 4.

In May the Knights went to the Scholastic State Tournament at Seaside where Gavin became middle school champion and Neena took 5th in the Elementary Elite and was selected for the NGTOC. Neena finished way above her rating in the NGTOC while Gavin placed in the top half of the Barber which was dominated by experts and masters.

After the Barber tournament Gavin went to St. Louis to watch part of the Sinquefeld Cup while Neena and her older brother Konner stayed in Indianapolis and participated in the 389 player US Open. After returning from the Midwest Gavin, Neena and Konner sat down with Casey Bush to talk about their chess playing adventures.

CB: When did you learn to play chess?

Neena: I learned to play chess from my



Atomic Knights at 2016 OSCF. L-R: Neena Feldman, William Guo, Gavin Zhang, Coach Larry Ball, Ethan Zhang, Konner Feldman. Photo by Kristina Zhang.

brother Konner when I was in second grade at Woodstock School. They had a Chess For Success program sponsored by the librarian, Ms. Doty. The next year we transferred to ACCESS.

Gavin: I learned to play chess when I was 8 years old. My dad taught me. The first tournament I played in was the Whitford Cooper Mountain Tournament in 2012 where I scored 3.5/5 and took fifth place.

CB: What's your favorite class in school?

Gavin: Math.

Neena: Math.

Konner: Probably math, I guess.

CB: What else do you do outside of school besides chess?

Neena: I play in tennis. I'm the sixth best player in 12 years old and under in the Pacific Northwest and number one in Oregon.

Konner: I play tennis too, but I'm not quite as good as my sister, except for serving.

Gavin: I've started to compete in Rubik's Cube competitions this year. My favorite is the 3x3 and my best time is 9.5 seconds. I have also competed in the 2x2, pyraminx and the one handed 3x3.

CB: Since the start of this year you've all had some big victories.

Gavin: At the end of June I took first place in the Youth Trophy Tournament at the International Youth Championship in

Las Vegas. There were 50 some players and I finished 4.5/5.

Neena: I got 2.5/6 at the NGTOC and 3/9 at the US Open.

Konner: At the start of the year my rating was 1100 and now it's above 1700. In June I won the reserve section of the Oregon Summer Open at the Portland Chess Club.

CB: Did you meet Morgan the Dog?

Konner: Of course.

CB: Besides taking lessons from Coach Larry at his Steinitz Chess Academy, how did you prepare for the tournaments in Indianapolis?

Neena: Chess dot com. I did tactics trainer and played games and studied openings.

Gavin: I've been working with Coach Larry once a week for four years now. We didn't do anything special to prepare for the Barber, just the usual. I also play online, watch chess videos and do chess problems.

Konner: In July I went to the Western Invitational Chess Camp in Tucson. So did Gavin. It was run by FIDE Master Robby Adamson.

CB: What did you do at the camp?

Konner: We played a lot of bughouse. Between lessons we played bughouse. At lunch we played bughouse and we played in bughouse tournaments. A lot of bughouse.

CB: Konner what was your best victory this year?

Konner: I won just about every side event that I played in at the US Open and I beat a player with a rating of 1989. In a rapid tournament I played my first game against someone with a title, an International Master, and I went up a piece but unfortunately he managed to win. I need to work on my endgames. But perhaps my best game was my draw against Josh Grabinsky in the last round at Seaside. We were even in material but I didn't know if I could win and he was rated 500 points above me so I just forced a perpetual. Maybe my draw with Josh helped take the pressure off Gavin.

CB: Neena what was the special prize that you got in the NGTOC?

Neena: I beat a 1289 in the last round of the NGTOC and got the upset prize for the round because she was 400 points above me and then I got the overall upset prize for the tournament and two \$50 gift certificates. And also I got a third gift certification because the Oregon team, Aaron Grabinsky, Gavin and I won the under 1900 biggest team upset. Because of my low rating we actually qualified for the under 1600 team upset. My rating went from around 800 up to almost 1100.

CB: What did you spend the gift certificates on?

Neena: Chess books and other chess stuff and then I gave the rest to Konner. Konner still owes me \$50.

CB: Do you credit your brother at all for making you a good chess player?

Neena: Yes. Because he likes going over openings and endgames and stuff like tactics. Even though it is really annoying I guess I owe him.

Here are three games which exemplify Gavin's strategic style, Neena's laser like focus on checkmate, and Konner's tactical skills.

**Konner Feldman (1550) –
Joshua Grabinsky (2017) [C01]**
OSCF State Championship
Seaside, OR (R5), April 30, 2016

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Be3 dxe4 4.Nd2 Nf6
5.f3 exf3 6.Ngxf3 b6 7.Bd3 Bd6 8.0-0
Bb7 9.c3 h6 10.Nc4 Ng4 11.Bd2 0-0
12.h3 Nf6 13.Qe1 Nh5 14.Nfe5 Be7

[Diagram top of next column]

15.Nxf7! Rxf7 16.Qxe6 Qd5?! 17.Qg6
Rxf1+ 18.Rxf1 Nf6 19.Ne5

19.Rxf6! Qxg2+ 20.Qxg2 Bxg2 21.Re6



Position after 14...Be7

Kf7 22.Rxe7+ Kxe7 23.Kxg2

19...Qxg2+ 20.Qxg2 Bxg2 21.Kxg2
Nbd7 22.Bc4+ Kh7 23.Bd3+

23.Nxd7 Nxd7 24.Rf7 Re8 25.Bf4

23...Kg8 24.Bc4+ Kh7 25.Bd3+ Kg8
½-½

**Neena Feldman (944) –
Pranav Devalapalli (1335) [D05]**
117th U.S. Open Indianapolis, IN
(R8), August 6, 2016

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 e5 4.c3 Nc6
5.Bd3 e6 6.0-0 Be7 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.dxc5
Bxc5 9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Bxe4
Qc7



Position after 11...Qc7

12.Bxh7+ Kxh7 13.Ng5+ Kg8 14.Qh5
Re8 15.Rd1 Bd7 16.Qxf7+ Kh8 17.Qg6
Kg8 18.Qf7+ Kh8 19.Bf4 e5 20.Rxd7
Qb6 21.Qxg7# 1-0

**Kevin S. Wang (1692) –
Gavin Zhang (1840) [A36]**

Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions
Indianapolis, IN (R5), August 1, 2016

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7
5.a3 e6 6.Rb1 Nge7 7.e4 0-0 8.Nge2 d6
9.b4 Rb8 10.d3 b6 11.Bg5 Bb7 12.0-0
h6 13.Be3 Nd4 14.Qd2 Kh7 15.f4 f5
16.Bxd4 cxd4 17.Nb5 e5 18.Nxa7 fxe4
19.dxe4 Ba6 20.Nb5 Bxb5 21.cxb5
Ra8 22.Qd3 Ra4 23.Rb3 Qd7 24.Rc1
Rc8 25.f5 Rxc1+ 26.Nxc1 gxf5 27.exf5
Bf6 28.h4 d5 29.Qc2 Qxb5 30.Bf1 Qd7
31.b5 Ra8 32.Ne2 Rc8 33.Qd2

[Diagram top of next column]

33...Qxf5 34.Nxd4 Qg4 35.Nc2 Bxh4
36.Kh2 Bg5 37.Qf2 Qf5 38.Rf3 Qg6
39.Ne1 e4 40.Rb3 Kg8 41.Nc2 Rf8
42.Qe2 Qf6 43.Kg2 Qe5 44.a4 Nf5 45.a5



Position after 33.Qd2

e3 46.Qg4



Position after 46.Qg4

46...Nh4+! 47.Kg1 Rxf1+! 48.Kxf1
Qf6+ 49.Ke2 Qf2+ 50.Kd3 Qd2# 0-1

Aaron Grabinsky Wraps Up Scholastic Career

By Nancy Keller

Written August 15, 2016

These last two weeks with three major chess tournaments was Aaron Grabinsky's finale to his scholastic career. As previously reported, he tied for second place in the National Denker Tournament of High School Champions. This was followed by the US Open also in Indianapolis.

Aaron rated 2373 was in a playing field scattered with plenty of grandmasters (international ratings above 2500) that he could potentially be paired against. This tournament was mostly adults but Aaron was one of the scholastic players wanting a chance at them. (!) mark games where our Coquille players managed to do better than expected.

Round 1: beat Leslie Bale 1729 from Illinois

Round 2: beat Joshua Samuel 1985 from Colorado

Round 3: beat Justin Lohr 2175 from Virginia

Round 4: drew Internation Master Andrey

Gorovets 2636 from Texas (!)

Round 5: lost to Milikset Khachiyani 2617 from California

Round 6: beat Gunner Anderson 2225 from Colorado

Round 7: beat Tan Nguyen 2145 from Virginia

Round 8: beat Alexander Fishbein 2540 from New Jersey (!)

Round 9: half point bye

With his 7 points, he clearly won first place in the Masters Category and won \$2000 that will help pay for the trip and help with college.

Josiah Perkins rated 1700 managed five wins. He never got paired against a grandmaster but he managed to beat people well above his rating as well.

Round 1: lost to Tianqi Wang 2308 from North Carolina

Round 2: beat Robert Larabee 1233 from Indiana

Round 3: beat Krishna Venkatasubba 1946 from Michigan (!)

Round 4: lost to Donald Cotten 2036 from California

Round 5: drew Madhavan Narkeeran 1842 from Pennsylvania

Round 6: beat Michael Grant 1923 from Indianapolis (!)

Round 7: beat John Coffey 2012 from Indianapolis (!)

Round 8: lost to Maxmillian Zinski 2170 from Illinois

Round 9: half point bye

Josiah ended up in a four way tie for first place for rating under 1800 and he was not even at the top of the rating bracket. This was his start towards a Class A rating (1800 to 1999). He also won first place in some side events called Quads.

Joshua Grabinsky age 12, already a class A player with a rating of 1981 got good practice in but was not strong enough to place or move back in the Expert classification that he had briefly held earlier in the year.

Round 1: beat David Stader 1298 from Indianapolis

Round 2: lost to International Master Roland Feng 2434 from Washington

Round 3: beat Eric James Yussman 1713 from Kentucky

Round 4: drew Kevin Yang 2188 from California

Round 5: beat Jackson Wahl 2257 from Minnesota



Arrival at Indianapolis L-R: Joshua Grabinsky, Aaron Grabinsky, Josiah Perkins.
Photo credit: Nancy Keller.

Round 6: lost to Manis Davidovich 2229 from Michigan

Round 7: lost to Jason Drake 2248 from Illinois

Round 8: beat Ryan Johan Obermeyer 1701 from Illinois

Round 9: half point bye

A half point bye was taken by the three boys as there was an overlap with the North American Youth Championships held in Windsor, Canada, which was only a short (by Coquille chess club standards) five hour car ride away.

In Windsor, Detroit could be seen on the other side of the river and the Caesar Hotel was quite fancy. Security was tight to prevent cheating at this prestigious event. Aaron had a few stumbles but managed to place 4th in the Under age 18 section in this very tough event. Ratings were international based so Aaron started with a rating 2312 for this tournament.

Round 1: beat Yinshi Li 2138

Round 2: drew FIDE Master Guannan Terry Song 2208

Round 3: beat Justin Wang 2177

Round 4: beat Diwen Shi 2209

Round 5: drew David Peng 2283

Round 6: beat FIDE Master Edward Song 2300

Round 7: lost to FIDE Master Michael Song 2373

Round 8: beat Joshua Sheng 2394 (!)

Round 9: lost to FIDE Master Hans

Niemann 2298

It was a rocky finish but still a great result to end Aaron's scholastic career.

Josiah Perkins FIDE rated 1759 won five games in the Under 16 years of age section and placed # 18:

Round 1: lost to Wen Lu Yu 1993

Round 2: lost to Matthew Miyasaka 1971

Round 3: beat Stefano Lee 1592

Round 4: drew Brandon Zhu 1866

Round 5: beat Jeff Zhang 1907

Round 6: beat Dennis Shamroni 1917

Round 7: lost to Danial Asaria 2038

Round 8: beat Balaji Daggapuh 1935

Round 9: drew Christopher Pan 1975

Joshua Grabinsky FIDE rated 1704 won 4.5 games in the Under 12 years of age section and placed #27:

Round 1: beat Kun Xing 880

Round 2: drew Rishan Idnani 1860

Round 3: drew Tyler Tanaka 1620

Round 4: lost to Patrick Huang 1973

Round 5: beat Naveen Nath 1481

Round 6: lost to Max England 1607

Round 7: beat Henry Hawthorn 1486

Round 8: drew William Howard McNutt 1875

Round 9: lost to Qiuya Huang 1972

Aaron Grabinsky now has less than a week to pack before he moves to Webster University that has the best college chess

team in the nation. He will be studying with Susan Polgar, renowned Women's World Champion and Grandmaster. We will look forward to his accomplishments as an adult player.

Alexander Fishbein (2533) – Aaron Grabinsky (2371) [C01]
117th U.S. Open Indianapolis, IN
(R8), August 6, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5

What does it mean when a Grandmaster with a 150+ point rating edge chooses to play the Exchange Variation of the French Defense?

Five possibilities: 1) It's simply part of his normal repertoire; 2) He's spotted a weakness in his opponent's book; 3) He thinks his opponent is weak in symmetrical endgames in general; 4) He's afraid of preparation against his normal line with White; 5) He's tired and just wants to make a draw.

Which of these applies? Take your best guess. The game continuation does not easily support any of the theories.

3...exd5 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Bg5 c6 7.Nc3 dxc4 8.Bxc4 Qe7+ 9.Be2 h6 10.Bh4 Be6 11.0-0 g5 12.Bg3 Bxg3 13.fxg3 Nbd7 14.Qe1 Qd6 15.Rc1 g4



Position after 15...g4

16.Nh4

16.d5!? Nxd5 (16...gxf3?! 17.dxe6 fxe2?! (17...Qxe6 18.Rxf3±) 18.exd7+ Nxd7 19.Qxe2+±) 17.Nd4 Nxc3 18.Qxc3 0-0-0 19.Nb5 Qe5 20.Qa3 a6 (20...Qxe2?? 21.Rxc6+! bxc6 22.Qa6+ Kb8 23.Qxa7+ Kc8 24.Nd6#) 21.Nd6+ Kb8 22.Nxb7

Kxb7 23.Qxa6+ Kb8 24.Rxc6 Rc8 25.Rb6+ Nxb6 26.Qxb6+ Ka8 27.Qa6+ A draw is a reasonable outcome from the balance of material vs activity.

16...Qxd4+ 17.Kh1 0-0-0 18.Nb5 Qb6 19.Qd2

19.Nd6+ Kb8 20.Bc4 Bxc4 21.Rxc4 Nd5 22.Nxf7 Rde8

19...a6

19...Nd5

20.Nd6+ Kb8 21.Bc4 Rh7

21...Nd5

22.Rcd1

22.Rce1 Nd5 (22...Bxc4 23.Nxc4 Qc7 24.Re7∞) 23.Bd3 Rhh8 24.Nxf7 Bxf7 25.Rxf7 Rhe8

22...Qc7



Position after 22...Qc7

23.Qd4

23.Bxe6 fxe6 24.Nxb7 Kxb7 25.Rxf6 Nxf6 26.Qxd8 Qxd8 27.Rxd8∞

23...Nd5 24.Bd3 c5! 25.Qf2 Rhh8 26.Ndf5 Ne5 27.Bb1 Nb4 28.a3 Nbd3 29.Bxd3 Nxd3 30.Qe2 Ne5 31.Rc1 Nd3 32.Rc2 h5 33.Qe3 c4 34.b3 Rhe8 35.Ng7 Re7 36.Nxe6 Rxe6 37.Qg5 Rde8 38.h3 Re1 39.Qf5 Rxf1+ 40.Qxf1 Re1 0-1

August 2016 PCC Quad 45

By **Brian Berger**

Portland, OR — August 20, 2016

With the weather predicted to be 102 degrees the day of the Portland Chess Club's monthly Quad 45 tournament, it was anyone's guess as to what would be the attendance figures. Surprisingly, though Portland sizzled, it didn't stop 25 players (the third highest attendance since the introduction of this tournament) from sweating their way through three rounds of game 45, with a 15 second delay—the sweating being mostly mental, as the club remained reasonably comfortable through the noonday, desert-like conditions.

Chief TD for this event was Micah Smith (who did some real sweating during the pairings process, which was a bit more complicated than usual), ably assisted by the recent (and for the third time) winner of the Senior Open, Life Master Carl Haessler. Normally, this Assistant TD position would have been filled by Mike Lilly, but as mentioned in an article in last month's *Northwest Chess*, Mike decided to withdraw from his position as a TD, leaving Micah as the lone Mike, in what was rapidly becoming known as the team of Mike & Mike.

Six sections were required to place players near others of similar rating, five of those being quads, with the sixth being a five-player, small Swiss. As sometimes happens, uneven sections require the lowest-rated player to take a bye, and this time it was a new to US Chess player, Pierre Beaucher (Unrated-100P—1.0/3).

At what appears to be a first for this tournament, there were three players rated over 2100+ in Quad 1, with Nick "The Raptor" Raptis (2391-2395—3.0/3) carrying the most-punch-per-the-pound for every round, walking away with first place, his choice of a chess book, and a \$10 discount on his next entry. It might be the first time in the history of the game that a Master fought so hard for so little. But he was not alone in this quest, as Jason Cigan (2183-2191—2.0/3), Karl Cosner (1987-1995—1.0/3) and Ryan Richardson (2122-2095—0.0/3) were vying for the same rewards—go figure!



Carl Haessler Chess Master

503-875-7278 ■ carl@chessworksNW.com
chessworksNW.com





(L) Robert Allyn vs David Murray. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Quad 2 also had an outright winner, Moshe Rachmuth (1944-1964—3.0/3), who “rach-ed” up a perfect score, carrying away not a pot of silver, but a chess book of his choice and the above mentioned \$10 discount on his next entry. Second in line was Ethan Wu (1767-1789—2.0/3), who found that coming in second-best could not even merit the first two chapters of a chess book.

Quad 3 found Brian “I’m Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1623-1638—2.0/3) tying with James Tsai (1585-1607—2.0/3) for first place, each entitled to a chess book and a \$5 discount on a future entry. Berger, in what appeared to be a magnanimous gesture towards “The Raptor,” forwent his earned choice of a chess book, allowing “The Raptor” to choose a second book—thus adding a 50% bonus to the Master’s prize award. (The truth is, Berger owns more chess books than the average chess store, not one of which has ever improved his game!)

Speaking of “The Raptor,” it was one of his students, Michael Moore (1542-1566—2.5/3), who came in first in Quad 5, just edging out Davit Gabunia (1527P-1549P—2.0/3), a provisional player who had only five games under his belt on entering this tournament—his only loss being to Moore. Not only did Moore receive the above awards, but also a small trophy for being a scholastic player with a winning score of at least 2.5 points—the larger trophies being for players who win their section with three points.

Taking Quad 5, and winning in this tournament for the second straight month, was Nick Lafond (1300-P-1637P—3.0/3). New to US Chess, he has not lost a game since joining, scoring 6-for-6 in his first 6-games, and tacking on 337 provisional rating points with this second tournament!! (Do we have another up-and-coming “Raptor?”)

The Small Swiss was dominated by another newcomer to US Chess, Xiao Lin

(Unrated-1300P—3.0/3), Lin receiving the same awards as other winners. His closest rivals were Kevin Wu (324P-499P—2.0/3) and Perry Rachmuth (377-390—2.0/3) with finishing scores of 2.0 points—Wu adding a substantial 175 points to his six game provisional rating.

**Ethan Wu (1767) –
Moshe Rachmuth (1944) [A41]**
August 2016 PCC Quad 45
Portland, OR (R2), August 20, 2016
[Moshe Rachmuth]

1.d4 d6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 f5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Qc2 Na6 6.e4 fxe4 7.Nxe4 Nxe4 8.Qxe4 Nc5 9.Qc2 a5?!

Black played this move to prevent White from chasing the knight away with b4. But after 9...Qf6! 10.b4 Black could have played the Zwischenzug (or easier to pronounce “the intermediate move”) 10...Bf5 to chase the white queen and allow the knight to e4 with a slight advantage for Black.

10.Bd3 Nxd3+ 11.Qxd3 Be7 12.Nf3 0–0 13.Bd2?!



Position after 13.Bd2

White needs to take his knight to e4 via d2. Now the bishop is going to be in the way.

13...Bf5 14.Qe2 Qd7

White would have liked to castle immediately but after 15.0–0–0 Qa4 both c2 and a2 are under attack and after 15.0–0 Bg4 white kingside pawn structure will be shattered after Bxf3. So what is White to do? The solution is 15.Rc1! Bg4 16.Rc3 and White defends his king’s pawn-shield although after 16... Bf6 White’s

Sachin Singhal USCF National Master

White to Play
Mate in Four Moves

Private chess coaching
Individual & Group Lessons via Internet

Email:
sksinghal888@gmail.com

Phone: (410) 913-9207

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE

Saitek clocks - we pay shipping
\$30 ALIVE ... \$3 DEAD

Large Selection of Chess Books and Gear
Volume discounts to schools and clubs

Dill Books
509-822-9801
books@dillbooks.com

Oregon Class Championships

Nov. 5-6, 2016

Lloyd Center Double Tree Hotel

5-round Swiss in 5 sections—Players may play up one section for additional fee of \$10
M/X (2000+); Class A (1800-1999); Class B (1600-1799);
Class C (1400-1599); Under 1400

Prizes in each class: \$200-100-50, based on 10 entries in that class

Entry Fee: \$55; \$45 if received by November 2

Time control: rounds 1-3 40/90, SD 30, d5; rounds 4-5 40/120, SD 30, d5
Rounds: Saturday, 10, 2:30, 7:00; Sunday 9:30, 3:30

The top Oregon finisher in the Master-Expert section is seeded into the 2016 Oregon Closed Championship. Second Oregon finisher in M/X is seeded into the 2016 Oregon Invitational.

Site: Lloyd Center Double Tree Hotel
1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, OR 97232; Free parking

Registration: Saturday 9:00 am- 9:45 am. **Other:** OCF/WCF/ICA & USCF memberships required. OSA. NW Grand Prix. Classes may be combined if less than 8 in a section. One half-point bye allowed if requested before round 1. Official November ratings will be used.

Information: mikejmorris@earthlink.net

Name _____
Address _____
USCF ID # _____ USCF Exp _____ OCF/WCF Exp _____ Rating _____
Email _____ Section _____ Bye Rds _____

Entries: Payable to Oregon Chess Federation; mail to Mike Morris, 2344 NE 27th Ave., Portland, OR 97212

Washington Chess News

This doesn't actually qualify as Washington Chess News, but it's a short letter and response that needs to go somewhere, why not here?—Editor

Letter to the Editor

June 30, 2016

Dear Northwest Chess

I am enjoying the newsletter very much—you do a fine job of reporting. I only play postal/computer chess but like to keep up with the local chess scene.

I am wondering why you don't print the opening of games like most other chess publications? Knowing what the opening is at the start makes it much easier to decide whether to play through the game.

Sincerely,

David A. Sanchez

Editor's Response

Dear Mr. Sanchez,

Thank you for the question. Actually, we do list the openings on every complete game. The three characters that follow the player listed as Black in the game header is an opening key generated by the ChessBase program we use (and many other programs use it too) that is called the ECO Index (or Encyclopedia of Chess Openings.)

Why don't we use the full English Descriptive name, you might ask? Well, space and uniformity is the main reason that I chose just the ECO code. Would an opening be called Ruy Lopez or Spanish, Scandinavian or Center-Counter,

Petroff or Russian, etc.?

And then how detailed would that description go (Queen's Gambit Tartakower, Bondarevsky, Makagonov Variation, or just plain Queen's Gambit Declined)...and the spellings of these names is also sometimes different. Nimzovitch, Nimzowitch, etc.

Many openings have been given different names over the years, but the ECO index is consistent and so easy to produce given that the computer simply does it, and human error doesn't enter into the picture.

I actually once toyed with the idea of putting the long descriptive names there (because I too thought that might be nice), but for a long time I couldn't find a list that translated the ECO Index into descriptive opening names (but I can find that now) and so I decided just to put in the ECO Index and leave it at that.

Games From Our Readers

**Nicholas Hawkins (1840) –
Josh Sinanan (2200) [B26]**
Washington Open Lynnwood
(R2), May 28, 2016
[Nicholas Hawkins]

**1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7
5.d3 d6 6.Be3 Rb8 7.Qd2**

My idea is to free up d1 for my queen's knight for when Black pushes ...b7-b5-b4 and to exchange off Black's dark-squared bishop on h6 once Black moves the knight. It's tricky, though: Black can just leave the knight where it is for a while, as I have no immediate threats.

7...b5 8.Nge2 b4 9.Nd1

Even though this looks awkward, it's a

solid defensive setup, and I can reroute the knights to the kingside after I castle.

9...e5

This seems to block in the bishop, but the long diagonal will open up again when I play f4, almost a mandatory move in the Closed Sicilian.

10.0-0 Nge7?!

Understandably, Black doesn't want to keep the knight on g8 forever, even if moving it allows me to play Bh6. But it's hard for me to continue to delay the f4 break — if I don't do it soon, Black will play ...f5 and have a good position. The computer prefers 10...h5, upon which 11.f4? can be punished with 11...h4!, forcing open the h-file to give Black a small advantage.; Another option is to play on the queenside with 10...a5 and start a classic kingside-versus-queenside race after 11.f4.

**11.Bh6 0-0 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.f4 f5
14.Ne3**

The back-rank knight gets back into the game!

14...Qc7

I'm not sure what Black is going for with this move, though it isn't easy to see a much better alternative. At least he strengthens e5 and prepares to connect rooks.

15.exf5!?

With the idea of either removing the defensively important pawn on g6 or gaining a tempo with g4 next move, not to mention freeing my g2-bishop. Stockfish advocates the prophylactic 15.a3 here, which makes a lot of sense. After 15...bxa3 (15...b3? 16.c3 leaves Black with no play) 16.b3 I'll get the a3-pawn back and have play against the weakness on a7.

15...Bxf5 16.g4! Bd7

Chess4Life
teaching life skills through chess

LEARN LIFE

IMPROVE CHESS

HAVE FUN

PREMIUM CENTER CLASSES | CAMPS | SCHOOL CHESS CLUBS | TOURNAMENTS

KIDS@CHESS4LIFE.COM | 425-283-0549 | CHESS4LIFE.COM

BELLEVUE | BOTHELL | ISSAQUAH | REDMOND | RENTON



Neil Salmon
Professional Chess Coach

USCF Life Master
5-time Washington State Champion
45 years experience

*Private Lessons, Group Lessons
Scholastic Chess Clubs
Camps & Workshops*

(253) 229-9646
neilsalmon@gmail.com



Position after 16...Bd7

17.f5!

Yes! Now my attack really gets going. The threat of a queen check on g5 effectively gives my pawn an extra defender.

17...gxf5 18.Nxf5+?

More accurate is 18.gxf5! Qd8 19.Ng3 Kh8 20.Rf2 with about +1 for White.

18...Bxf5?

18...Nxf5! 19.gxf5 Qd8 20.Rf3 Nd4 defends.

19.gxf5 Kh8 20.f6 Ng6

This position should be winning for me, but I have to play extremely accurately or it will blow up in my face. There are many options: Do I cover g8 with Bd5, bring in an extra piece with Rae1 or Ng3, or place the queen more aggressively on g5 or h6? Essentially, the problem is that d4 and f4 are brilliant defensive squares for Black's knights and my knight can only defend one of them.

21.Qg5?

Wrong decision! My attack goes up in smoke. Per Stockfish, the best continuation here is 21.Bd5! Nd4 22.Rae1!, a critical move that stops ...Nf4 with the nasty threat of Rxf4 followed by Re7. Those were the two key ideas: control g7 and g8 and prevent ...Nf4. The game might have continued 22...Qd8 23.Nxd4 cxd4 24.Qg5 Rb5 25.Be6 Rb7 26.Re2 and Black has nothing better than to sac the exchange: 26...Rbf7 27.Bxf7 Rxf7 28.h4 and White should win without too much trouble.; Also good is 21.Rae1, again with the idea of Rxf4 followed by

Re7 if Black's knight comes to f4. As before, Black must give up the exchange to defend: 21...Rf7 22.Bd5 Rbf8 23.Bxf7 Qxf7 24.Ng3 Nf4 25.Rxf4 exf4 26.Qxf4 with about +1.3 for White.

21...Nd4?

Better is 21...Rg8! creating a potential pin that stops me from playing Bd5. Now my king is just as exposed as Black's, maybe more so.

22.Nxd4 cxd4 23.Rae1?

Again, 23.Bd5! is the only good move. I have to keep Black's rook off the g-file.

23...Rg8

I didn't realize it quite yet, but I'm already almost lost here.

24.f7?

A fatal miscalculation. Just as bad is 24.Kh1 Nf4, losing a piece on g2.

24...Rg7! 25.Qf6 Rf8

And I resigned: Once f7 drops, I'm toast. For some reason I had thought I could defend with Bd5, but of course that loses a piece to Nf4+. If only my king were on h1!

0-1

Mark Havrilla (1972) – Ryan S. Ackerman (1947) [B13]
Spokane Falls Open Spokane, WA (R4), August 14, 2016
[Ryan Ackerman]

4th round of the tournament. My score is 3-0 and Mark's 2.5 after taking a 3rd round bye. We are the two highest rated players in the tournament. Mark told me the last time we met my hair was down to my shoulders six years ago! I regret not preparing more before the game. But that's no excuse—he outplayed me by a long shot.

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4

I rummaged through my tapered Modern Chess Openings 15 book, the bindings falling apart in numerous places due to my countless hours of study, in search of information on this strange move. The 748 page book makes no mention of 2.

Bf4. The theoretically unexplored nature of the London system undoubtedly must be a source of pride for the Montana players who seem to be so fond of it. I played:

2...c5

My Fritz 15 database offer this mainline: 2...Nf6 3.Nf3 c5 4.e3 Nc6 5.c3 e6 6.Nbd2 Bd6 7.Bg3 0-0 8.Bd3 b6 9.Ne5 Bb7 10.0-0 Ne7 11.Qc2 Rc8 12.Rae1 This position looks resembles the Colle system, known to be a passive opening. I believe GM Emil Anka described the Colle once as, "assuming the fetal position" instead of playing for an advantage.

3.e3 cxd4

Two weeks prior I played Aaron Nicoski and continued: 3...Qb6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Nb5 Na6 6.a4 I plan on studying the London more soon. Aaron told me after the game he had read a book on the London system saying the opening is actually rather tactical in nature.

4.exd4 Nc6 5.c3 Qb6!?

Mark told me afterwards he was surprised by this move. He thought we would enter into a Caro-Kann Opening, something like: 5...Nf6 6.Bd3 Bg4 7.Qb3 Qd7 8.Nd2 e6 9.Ngf3 Bxf3 10.Nxf3 Bd6 11.Bxd6 Qxd6= The critical flaw in my thinking over the board was my headstrong attitude towards playing Qb6. I needed to let that idea go in order to view the game more objectively next time.

6.Qb3 Qxb3 7.axb3± Bf5 8.Na3!?

I found this move very intimidating, and I panicked.



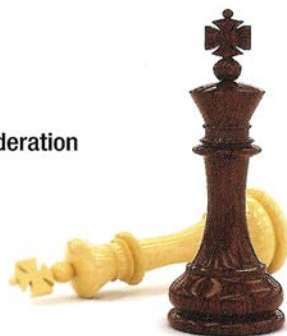
Position after 8.Na3

Joshua C. Sinanan

National Master
President, Washington Chess Federation

3610 218th St. SW
Brier, WA 98036

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



Orlov Chess Academy
IM Georgi Orlov
2540 USCF

Offers time-tested program,
challenge and quick progress!

Chess Camps, Tournaments
Chess Classes, Private Lessons

chess64@comcast.net
www.chessplayer.com
(206)-387-1253



8...f6?

Such an unusual looking move like 8.f6? often feels at the time like a stroke of genius but more often than not it's just an odd mistake. In hindsight this move seems terrible but hindsight is 20/20. Better is the more obvious continuation: 8...e6 9.Nb5 Kd7=

9.Nf3?

He lets me back in the game. Better would have been the soul shattering: 9.Nb5! Kf7 10.Nc7Rd8 11.Bb5 g5 12.Bg3 e6 13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.Rxa7± I'd probably appreciate a solid hug/a few positive affirmations at this point, maybe a shoulder to cry on. Interestingly his advantage is only .54 after 14.Rxa7. But psychologically this position would have been a devastating blow. This aggressive sharp style is not in Mark's style. I noticed he prefers snappier, defensive play and reserving his clock for more critical moments. This time management plan served him well in our game because I soon collapsed as my time was running out much faster than his.

9...g5 10.Bg3 h5 11.h4!?

11.Nb5!

11...g4=

I love chaos on the board, sometimes this comes at my own expense but I seem to

be doing mostly fine hitherto. It's only later that I botch this game.

12.Nd2 a6 13.b4 Bh6?

13...e5! 14.dxe5 fxe5 15.b5 axb5 16.Bxb5 Kf7 17.0-0 Nge7 For practical reasons I avoided looking at this line because Mark's snappy play made me run low on time and I couldn't afford the luxury of analyzing this 13...e5!?

14.b5?!



Position after 14.b5

14.Nb3!±

14...Na5??

He was playing too fast and I was playing too slow. A blunder oversight was practically inevitable. Mark showed off his fine technical ability and made it look easy to finish me off. Mikhail Tal once said: "You must take your opponent into

a deep dark forest where 2+2=5, and the path leading out is only wide enough for one." That's great Mr. Tal. That's really great. Interesting fella, anyway—I am not Mr. Tal and my rabbit hole of an opening choice has left me with a lot to learn! I didn't come to learn, I came to win. But that's all too late now. My high school chess coach James Stripes, who I haven't spoken to in two years rolled in—I thought "Perfect, just perfect. I'm getting crushed and James wants to show up now. That's just great!" Anyway, the rest of the game is very technical and needs less narrative. I should have played: 14...axb5! 15.Bxb5 Kf7! 16.Nb3 e5 17.dxe5 Nxe5! =

15.Nab1!

Mark gleefully explained to me how he predicted I would overlook this move. In the book entitled: Invisible Moves, it references retreating moves such as 15. Nab1 to be difficult for an opponent to see. Gee whiz, TMYK! Stripes could've stuck around to see me beat his son the next round. He didn't. That's fine.

15...Bxb1 16.Nxb1 Nc4 17.b3 Nb6 18.bxa6 bxa6 19.Rxa6 Rxa6 20.Bxa6+- f5? 21.Be5

Mark demonstrates excellent technical ability.

21...Rh7 22.c4 e6 23.Nc3 Ra7 24.Nb5 Re7? 25.c5 Na8 26.Bb7! 1-0

Vancouver Open

October 22-23, 2016

Site: Hilton Vancouver Washington, 301 West 6th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660. (855) 213-0582.

HR: \$159.00 Single/Double, \$179.00 Triple, \$199.00 Quad until 10/01. 1-360-993-4500, mention Chess Tournament.

Format: 5 Round Swiss. **Two Sections:** Open and Reserve (under 1800).

Time Control: Rd 1 G/60, d10, Rds 2-5 40/120, SD/30, d10.

US Chess October 2016 rating supplement will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

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

Prize Fund: \$1,630 (based on 60 paid entries).

Open: 1st \$380, 2nd \$280, 1st U2000 \$120, 1st U1800 \$120

Reserve: 1st \$280, 2nd \$180 1st U1600 \$90, 1st U1400 \$90, 1st U1200/Unrated \$90

Entry Fee: \$75 if postmarked or online by 10/19, \$85 after 10/19 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

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

Rounds: Saturday 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 6:00 PM; Sunday 10:00 AM, 3:30 PM.

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

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

Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 6. US Chess 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.

Inland Chess Academy endorses Erin Jones.

Erin plays chess and encourages schools to add chess clubs run by professional chess coaches . . . *vote for Erin to help put chess in our schools.*



Paid Advertisement. Erin Jones is on the ballot for Washington State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Washington Challenger's Cup

October 29-30, 2016

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

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

Two Sections: Open and Reserve (under 1800).

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

Reserve: 5 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** Rd 1 G/60, d10, Rds 2-5 40/120, SD/30, d10.

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

Prize Fund: \$1,700 (based on 60 paid entries).

Open: FIDE rated 1st \$400, 2nd \$275, 1st U2100 \$125, 1st U1900 \$125.

Reserve: 1st \$250, 2nd \$180, 1st U1600 \$115, 1st U1400 \$115, 1st U1200/Unrated \$115.

Entry Fee: \$75 if postmarked or online by 10/26, \$85 after 10/26 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, 12:30 PM, 6:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM.

Byes: One half-point bye available (Open Section), two half-point byes available (Reserve Section).

Request before end of round 2. US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted.

Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 6. US Chess 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/onlineregistration.



Washington Class Championships

A NW Grand Prix Event

November 25-27, 2016

Washington Class Championships Entry Fees and Prize Fund

\$6,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund

Entry fees listed as: Postmarked
By Oct 29 / By Nov 19 / At site

Master (2200+) EF \$110 / \$120 / \$130
Prizes \$500, \$350, \$175, U2300 \$100, \$75

Expert (2000-2199) EF \$100 / \$110 / \$120
Prizes \$400, \$275, \$150, U2100 \$100, \$75

Class A (1800-1999) EF \$90 / \$100 / \$110
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$125, U1900 \$100, \$75

Class B (1600-1799) EF \$90 / \$100 / \$110
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$125, U1700 \$100, \$75

Class C (1400-1599) EF \$90 / \$100 / \$110
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$125, U1500 \$100, \$75

Class D (1200-1399) EF \$90 / \$100 / \$110
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$125, U1300 \$100, \$75

Class E (1199&Under) EF \$80 / \$90 / \$100
Prizes \$200, \$125, \$100, U1000 \$100,
U800/Unrated \$75

Medal Only EF \$55 / \$65 / \$75
Medals awarded to top two in each class.
(Juniors Under age 21 only)

Reentry for 1/2 of your original entry
fee.

Rated players add \$45 to play up one
class only (can't play up two classes).

Free entry to GMs, IMs, and WGMs.

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

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

Make checks payable to
Washington Chess Federation.

Rev. 9/15/2016

Embassy Suites Seattle North/Lynnwood
20610 44th Avenue West
Lynnwood, WA 98036-7701, Phone (425) 775-2500

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

Format: Seven class sections as shown at left, six round Swiss system. Sections may be combined if less than 12 players in a section. Late registrations may receive half-point byes for first round.

Rating: US Chess rated. Master/Expert/Class A sections also FIDE rated (except G/60 games). US Chess November rating supplement will be used to determine class sections. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Unrated players may only win 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes in Master section, or unrated prize in Class E.

Registration: Friday 9:00-10:00 AM for 3-day schedule, or 3:00-3:30 PM if entering with one half-point bye. Saturday 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.

Rounds: 3-day schedule: Fri: 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Sat 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Sun 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM. 2-day schedule: Sat 9:00 AM, 11:45 AM, 2:30 PM, then join 3-day schedule with round 4 at 5:30 PM.

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 US Chess membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required in all sections. Other States Accepted. Memberships may be paid at time of registration. NW Grand Prix event. Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 20. US Chess Junior Grand Prix. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

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

Hotel Info/Rates: \$129 Run of the house. Call (425) 775-2500 and request the WCF 2016 Washington Class Championship block. Group Code: 374388. The cut-off date for reservations at the discount is November 11, 2016 at 5:00 PM local time.

Washington Class Blitz Championship: Friday 11/25 at 9:00 PM. Format: 5 round Double Swiss in one section. Registration: 7:30-8:15 PM. Rounds: 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30 and 11:00 PM. TC: G/5 (no delay). EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400 based on 20 entries. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. Miscellaneous: US Chess Blitz rated. Current US Chess membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required.

Washington Class Scholastic (Nov 25): 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, email: DavidCHendricks@comcast.net.

Chess Groovies

By NM Daniel He and NM Samuel He

The Bilbao tournament took place from July 13 to July 23 in Bilbao, Spain, and it was won by Magnus Carlsen. He won because the scoring system in the tournament was 3 points for a win, and 1 point for a draw, and he managed to get the most wins.

**Magnus Carlsen (2855) –
Hikaru Nakamura (2787) [B91]**
IX Chess Masters Bilbao 2016
(R1), July 13, 2016
[Daniel He]

This game is noteworthy because it is the first game Hikaru Nakamura defeated Magnus Carlsen in a classical tournament game!

1.e4 c5 2.Ne2

This move is interesting because White waits for Black to show his setup before he reveals whether he wants to transpose into an open Sicilian or play g3 and go into a closed Sicilian.

2...d6 3.Nbc3 a6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.d4

Carlsen decides to play for an open Sicilian even when he's already played g3. This is the Chameleon variation, which is a flexible system against the Accelerated Dragon.

6...cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nf6 8.0-0 0-0 9.b3

Typically in the Chameleon variation, White will play Nde2 and play h3, Be3, a4, and Nd5 at the right time. Carlsen is playing a more solid set up by placing his bishop along the a1-h8 diagonal.

9...Nc6 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Bb2 Qa5 12.Na4 Bg4 13.Qe1 Qh5 14.f3



Position after 14.f3

An interesting improvement is 14.e5, which opens up the diagonal for the bishop on g2. Even if the queens are traded with 14...dxe5 15.Qxe5, White's bishops are very active, and the knight on a4 has squares to hop in next move.

14...Bh3 15.g4

This move can be a bit weakening to White's king if Black manages to get his queen out safely. Black seems to always have g5, so White can't trap the queen with Bc1 yet.

15...Qh6 16.Rd1 g5 17.Bc1 Bxg2 18.Kxg2 Qg6 19.h4!?

This idea is a bit too wild, as White doesn't appear to have any immediate threats. Black can just open up the center and leave White's king very unsafe.

19...gxh4 20.Qxh4 d5



Position after 20...d5

21.g5?!

Carlsen missed a tactic here. He thought if Black plays dxe4, he can play f5 and Black's queen is in trouble. However, Black simply plays e6 and Carlsen's position is positionally lost. If Carlsen had seen this move ahead of time, he'd probably have not played h4 in the first place and play a more solid approach such as c4.

21...dxe4 22.f4 e6

Nakamura stops the threat of f5 just in time and he is a pawn up with a much better position. This game shows the consequences of opening up too many lines near your king. It can be hard to defend and keep everything in control, as witnessed in the game.

23.c4 Rfd8 24.Rde1 Ne8 25.Nc5 Nd6 26.Qf2 f5

Black's position is just too solid for White to break through. If White tries to create some weaknesses, his king safety will become a problem. For example, if White tries to line his rooks on the h-file to target the h7-pawn, Black can easily play ...Nf7 and ...e5, opening up the position for his bishop and rooks.

27.Bb2 Nf7 28.Bxg7 Kxg7 29.Qg3 Rd6 30.Rd1 Rad8 31.Rxd6 Rxd6

Black is willing to trade all the rooks off

into a queen endgame up a pawn and with a much safer king.

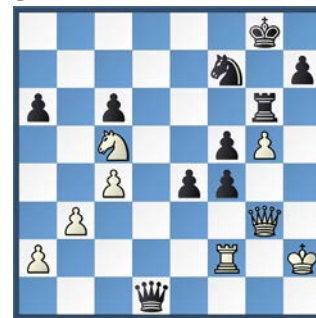
32.Qc3+ Kg8 33.Rf2 Qh5 34.Qh3 Qd1

White can't even be greedy and play Nxa6 because Black plays ...Rd3 and the e-pawn is free to move up.

35.Qe3 e5 36.Qg3

If 36.fxe5 Nxe5 37.Rxf5, then Black has ...Qg4+, winning the rook.

36...Rg6 37.Kh2 exf4



Position after 37...exf4

A much quicker win is 37.Qd4 to force the knight to retreat, and then e3. White's position falls apart slowly. With ...exf4 right away, White holds on since he can capture with the queen.

38.Qxf4 Qh5+ 39.Kg1 Qd1+ 40.Kh2 Qh5+ 41.Kg1 Nxe5 42.Qb8+ Kg7 43.Qe5+ Kh6

Black just has to find the right king positions to avoid any checks and then breakthrough with his pieces against the white king.

44.Qf4 Qd1+ 45.Kh2 Qd4 46.b4 Kg7 47.Qc7+ Kh8 48.Qc8+ Rg8 49.Qxf5 Nf3+ 50.Kh3 Qd6

White cannot stop the threats of Qg3# or Qh6 followed by mate, so Carlsen resigns.

0-1

A lesson from this game is it's not ideal to push too many pawns in front of your king. If not played properly, you will end up with a troubled king position the rest of the game. After this loss, Carlsen recovered and scored many wins, including one against upcoming World Championship challenger Karjakin!

Thanks for reading!

Idaho Chess News

Boise Chess Club

By Jeffrey Roland

The Boise Chess Club (BCC) meets each Monday night starting around 4:00 p.m. (though it's perfectly fine to come later) through 10:00 p.m. at All About Games on Overland Road (not to be confused with the one that is downtown) in Boise, Idaho.

A Brief History...

The Original Club

The BCC was a very well organized entity going back at least to the early 1950's, holding annual championship events and having regular rated tournaments for several decades. Its closeness to the Canyon County Chess Club (who would hold a very impressive round robin annual tournament usually in the winter, and usually won by A.B. Ellis with Jerry Stanke also being very strong and active) gave it opportunities to compete one on one against this rival club in team matches and both clubs got stronger for it.

At least two players (the late Dick Vandenburg and Larry Parsons) held the club in very high regard. Dick Vandenburg actually maintained two trophies that he displayed proudly on his mantle at home listing the years and his placements in both the Boise Chess Club Championship (one trophy) and the Idaho State Chess Championship (another trophy). So rather than have dozens of trophies, Dick had just two. It was no secret that Dick and Larry both cherished the annual Boise Chess Club Championship, almost as much if not more than the Idaho Closed State Championship.

Decline

Events were really strong and active throughout the 1980's and the first half of the 1990's. But politics reared its ugly head, and the final BCC President, the late Stewart Sutton, became convinced that nobody wanted to do anything and that nobody was happy with whatever was done. So elections ceased, activities stopped, nothing more happened, but the club maintained its official affiliation status with the United States Chess Federation through January, 2008 when its affiliation finally expired (with nobody

left to renew it, Stewart Sutton having died in 2006.)

Resurrection

In actual fact, the true origin of the current (new) Boise Chess Club stems from the players who refused to stop meeting even after the old Boise Chess Club stopped doing things. So in the late 1990's loyal players faithful to chess continued to meet at Borders Books on Milwaukee Street (and later this moved to the Boise Towne Square Mall) honing their skills, socializing, and continuing to play the game they loved on Monday nights with no organization whatsoever.

Borders Books went out of business at the Boise Towne Square Mall (July 18, 2011 being the last meeting at this location), and one week later on July 25, 2011 the BCC started meeting at All About Games (play then was either casual play or unrated

ladder play.) This continued for almost three years when on March 8, 2014, inspired by the Portland Chess Club, BCC began having what was hoped would be monthly US Chess rated tournaments in addition to the Monday meetings. However, enthusiasm and reality don't always jive. The same person who was organizing the Idaho Chess Association (ICA) events was also organizing the BCC events (namely, me!) and it just became too much work to do a full platter of events for each organization, along with everything else I was doing, if both organizations did monthly tournaments too. So things have slowed down a little in the area of actual organized tournaments in the BCC (though this could easily pick up again too...many possibilities going forward). There have been twelve of these tournaments to date, and one 22-board Simul/Lecture by FM David Lucky.

Today, the BCC is strong and gets anywhere from about 12-20 players



Close up of the plate on the annual Boise Chess Club Championship "Boise Chess Tourney" trophy of the late Dick Vandenburg. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



Tom Booth. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

weekly. The true strength of the club is that it is not organized, there are no politics (NEVER has there ever even been an election with the new club), never has any money been charged for anything, no memberships, no entries, no nothing. This is a club purely for the benefit of all, and made up of people who simply love to play chess and who enjoy a casual social atmosphere with each game being competitive in its own right for its own sake, simply because it's chess! Some people just show up at different times (some players are there the whole time, others show up after work, players come and go). Occasional Saturday tournaments happen, but the club is mainly a way to keep strong, try out new ideas, make chess friends, and encourage others (and to be encouraged by others), and of course this benefits the ICA and therefore *Northwest Chess* too as the strong club players then play in the big state and regional events.

On September 5, 2016, the big event in the Northwest was clearly the 66th Annual Oregon Open. But some 12-14 players attended the Boise Chess Club on this night, in what became a very enjoyable evening.

I brought my fancy wooden chess set that I purchased at the 2000 U.S. Open Chess tournament in St. Paul, Minnesota. It was a special commemorative edition and design made by House of Staunton that was a replica of the set that was specially designed for the first U.S. Open held in Excelsior, Minnesota in 1900 (101 years prior to the 2000 event) and had not been seen since then. They were used on the top boards at the 2000 event, then sold to the players at the end of the tournament.

At any rate, this set has not been taken anywhere outside my house since I got it 16 years ago. This was its public debut! But this was a special occasion—it was September 5, 2016, and I was to play my friend, Alex Machin, in a game of chess after I hadn't seen him in about eight months.

**Tom R. Booth (1523) –
Jeffrey T. Roland (1771) [D59]**
Casual Game Boise, ID
September 5, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7
5.e3 h6 6.Bh4 0-0 7.Nf3 b6 8.cxd5 Nxd5
9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.Nxd5 exd5 11.Be2 Bb7
12.0-0 c5 13.dxc5 bxc5 14.Rc1 Nd7

15.Re1 Rfc8 16.b3 Nf6 17.Qc2 Rc7
18.Qb2 Rac8 19.h3 a6 20.Qe5 Qxe5
21.Nxe5 Ne4 22.Nf3 Nd6 23.Red1
Ne4 24.Bd3 Nf6 25.Bf5 Rd8 26.Bd3
Kf8 27.Be2 Ke7 28.Ne5 Ne4 29.Nf3
Nf6 30.Nd4 g6 31.Nf3 Ne4 32.Nd2 f5
33.Nxe4



Position after 33.Nxe4

33...dxe4?!

33...fxe4

34.Rxd8 Kxd8 35.Rd1+?!

35.g4!±

35...Rd7 36.Rxd7+ Kxd7 37.Bc4 g5
38.Bf7 Kd6 39.Kf1 Bd5 40.Bxd5 Kxd5
41.Ke2 a5 42.Kd2 c4 43.Kc3 cxb3
44.Kxb3 Kc5 45.a4 h5 46.g3!

Objectively the only move to hold the draw.

46...Kd5 47.Kc3



Position after 47.Kc3

47...Ke5?? 48.Kc4 h4 49.Kb5??

White wins rather directly by avoiding all the kingside breakthrough tactics: 49.gxh4 gxh4 50.Kb5 Kd5 51.Kxa5 Kc5 52.Ka6 Kc6 53.a5 Kc7 54.Kb5+-

49...hgx3

Or 49...g4!, forcing a passed h-pawn.

50.fxg3 f4 51.exf4+ gxf4 52.gxf4+ Kxf4 53.Kc4 Kf3 54.h4 e3 55.Kd3 e2 56.Kd2 Kf2 0-1



Jim Berezow. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

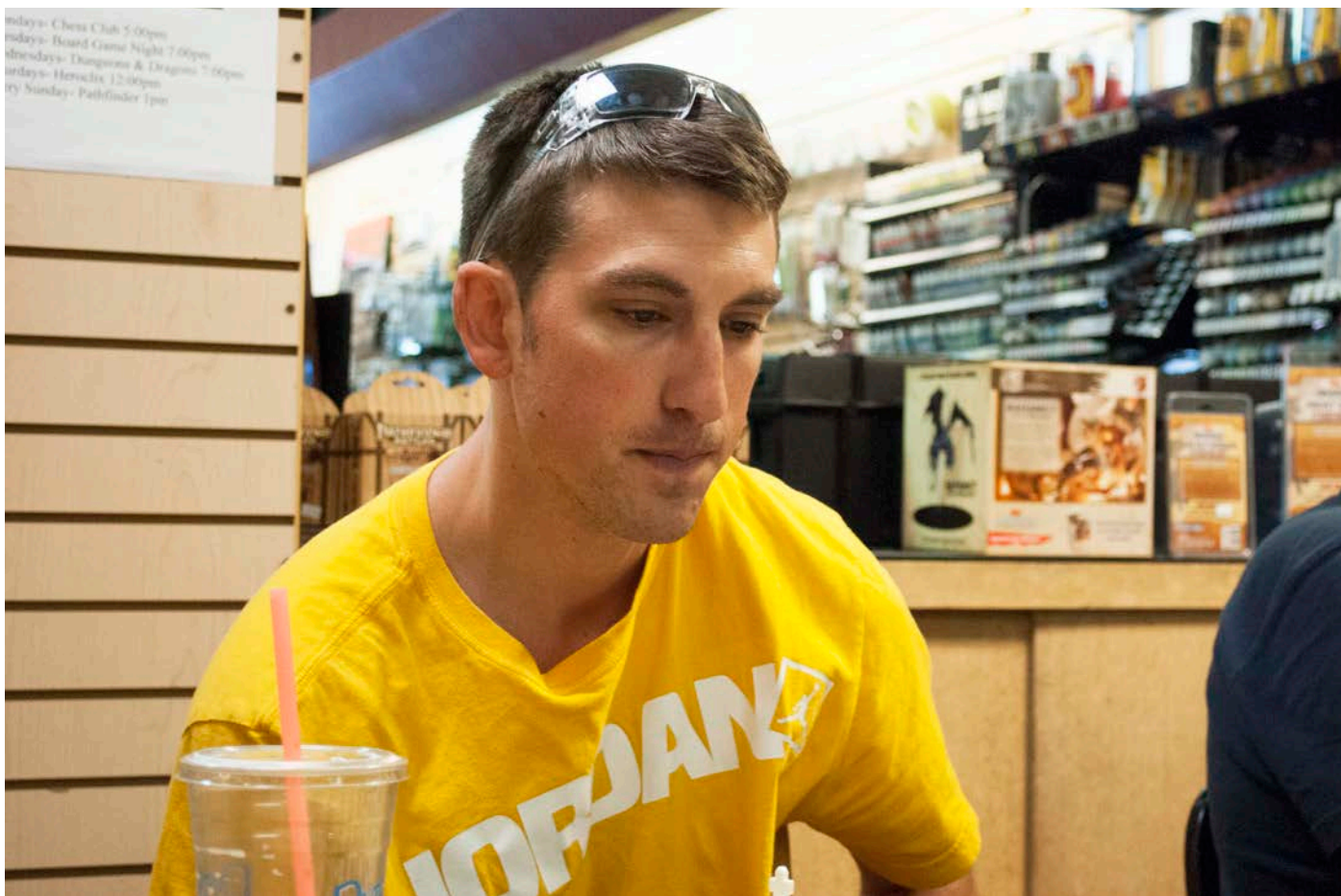
More photos from the September 5 meeting of the Boise Chess Club



Jeffrey Roland. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.



Alex Machin. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



Jesse Batten. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



Chris Amen. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

**Keep submitting
articles, games,
and photos!**

Julie Nahlen, Program Director

Nationally Recognized Children's Chess Camp Director and Instructor

208.562.9785 Academy

Email: chessanyone@integrity.com

- ◆ Chess Camps & Tournaments
- ◆ Schooled at Home Programs
- ◆ Home School Programs
- ◆ After School Programs
- ◆ Ages 4 and up
- ◆ Over 20 years experience

www.MastersAcademyBoise.com

Located in Boise, ID
Camps around Northwest and US



The 2016 Richard Gutman Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator

As I write this, the Oregon Open is entering its second day. As of Friday night, they had 117 pre-registrations, and presumably signed up many walk-ins on Saturday and maybe even Sunday morning. A well-attended tournament coupled with a 6x multiplier due to its impressive prize fund, and all those statistics you see below are pretty much worthless even before I get them sent to our esteemed Editor. A lot of the Grand Prix leaders and close also-rans are in the pre-registration list, so those who didn't attend are going to find themselves overtaken or left in the dust.

So far this year, we have had twelve events with sufficient prize funds to warrant multipliers. Multipliers are granted based on the prize fund guarantee, so a tournament listed as "based on" will be credited with half the amount shown as their guaranteed minimum. A \$500 fund earns a 2x multiplier, and for \$1000, you get 3x. A 4x multiplier is granted when the prize fund passes \$2000, and a 5x multiplier is applied for those events over \$5000 (as the Washington Open was in May). Reach \$10000, the mark hit by the Oregon Open, and a 6x multiplier is your reward. Should someone ever offer a guarantee of \$20000, we could use our first ever 7x multiplier. (Anyone want to make a pledge?)

As I said, we've had 12 multipliers through 9 months, which isn't too bad at all. When I started keeping these records, shortly after the turn of the century, we didn't always manage even one per month. So things are growing. Especially this October, which will add FOUR more 2x multiplier events to our total. On the first weekend, there are two, The Norman Friedman Memorial in Haley, ID and the Eastern Washington Open in Spokane. Then, on October 22 and 23, we will have the Vancouver Open, followed the Washington Challenger's Cup in Seattle the following weekend. Both are Washington Chess Federation events. There are six single value tournaments also in October, giving us a very respectable total of ten for a single month. Two are at the Seattle Chess Club, three more at the Portland Chess Club, and something in Tacoma called the "Hog Goblin Hectic" (no, I have no idea what that is) two days before Halloween.

Below data is current through September 2.

Northwest Grand Prix Standings

| Idaho | | | Oregon | | | Washington | | |
|--------------------|------------|------|----------------|-----------|------|--------------|-------------|-------|
| last | first | pts. | last | first | pts. | last | first | pts. |
| Masters | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1 Haessler | Carl A | 41 | 1 Pupols | Viktors | 132 |
| | | | 2 Tarjan | James | 32.5 | 2 Raptis | Nick | 107.5 |
| | | | 3 Grabinsky | Aaron | 30 | 3 Tiglon | Bryce | 84.5 |
| | | | | | | 4 He | Anthony B | 82.5 |
| | | | | | | 5 | Two Tied At | 55.5 |
| Experts | | | | | | | | |
| M/X/Class A | | | | | | 1 Yu | Jason | 52.5 |
| 1 Miller | Travis J | 55.5 | 1 Cigan | Jason | 60.5 | 2 Leslie | Cameron D | 51.5 |
| 2 Hawkins | Nicholas B | 48 | 2 Richardson | Ryan | 51.5 | 3 Bashkansky | Naomi | 46.5 |
| 3 Cambareri | Michael E | 36.5 | 3 McCoy | Owen | 37.5 | 4 Olin | Neo E | 40.5 |
| 4 Bodie | Brad | 30.5 | 4 Seitzer | Phillip | 35.5 | 5 Arganian | David G | 39.5 |
| 5 Maki | James J | 19.5 | 5 Bjorksten | Lennart | 30 | | | |
| Class B | | | Class A | | | | | |
| 1 Derryberry | Dewayne R | 13.5 | 1 Phipps | Danny | 46 | 1 Baxter | Brent L | 102.5 |
| 2 Roland | Jeffrey T | 10.5 | 2 Rachmuth | Moshe S | 34 | 2 Lee | Addison | 88 |
| 3 Carr | John B | 6 | 3 Wu | Ethan | 32.5 | 3 Zhang | Brendan | 74.5 |
| 3 Amen | Chris | 6 | 4 Fletcher | Raymond R | 32 | 4 Truelson | Joseph | 74 |
| 3 Naccarato | Savanna | 6 | 5 Murray | David E | 25.5 | 5 Zhang | Eric M | 71.5 |

| Idaho | | | Oregon | | | Washington | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------|-------------|---------------|-------|------|-------------|-----------|-------|
| last | first | pts. | last | first | pts. | last | first | pts. | | | |
| Class C | | | Class B | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Martonick | Nick | 18.5 | 1 | Hasuike | Mike L | 136 | 1 | Buck | Stephen J | 193 |
| 1 | Weyland | Ron | 18.5 | 2 | Berger | Brian F | 68.5 | 2 | Pothukuchi | Revanth V | 114.5 |
| 3 | Jaroski | Jeffrey A | 16 | 3 | Vega | Isaac | 61 | 3 | Jiang | Brandon | 79.5 |
| 4 | Courtney | Caleb | 13.5 | 4 | Moore | Michael | 48 | 4 | Xuan | Owen | 78 |
| 5 | Nyblade | Wesley | 10 | 5 | Burris | Christopher E | 39.5 | 5 | Beck | Alec W | 70.5 |
| Class D | | | Class C | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Bodie | Arlene | 24.5 | 1 | Dietz | Arliss | 56 | 1 | Piper | August | 106 |
| 2 | Porth | Adam | 15 | 2 | Kenway | Geoffrey W | 38 | 2 | Richards | Jerrold | 80 |
| 3 | Ang | Ching-E N | 9.5 | 3 | Lancaster | Carter D | 27.5 | 3 | Zhang | Kyle | 67 |
| 4 | Nyblade | Wesley, III | 9 | 4 | Wentz | Dale R | 18 | 4 | Cordero | Rowland | 64.5 |
| 5 | Porth | Desmond | 5 | 5 | Two Tied At | | 17.5 | 4 | Lawler | Aidan | 64.5 |
| Class E and Below | | | Class D and Below | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Callen | Gregory D | 27 | 1 | Roshu | David L | 23.5 | 1 | Munsey | Michael R | 80 |
| 2 | Porth | Darwin A | 13 | 2 | Roshu | Cassandra M | 22 | 2 | Jiang | Andrew | 75 |
| 3 | Bauman | Christopher J | 6 | 3 | Pai | Kushal | 20.5 | 3 | Pogrebinsky | Ethan | 55.5 |
| 3 | He | Justin | 6 | 4 | Zhang | Ethan Y | 20 | 4 | Kou | Jeffrey | 54.5 |
| 5 | Three tied at | | 5 | 5 | Bowden | Robert E | 17 | 5 | Bai | Raymond | 54 |
| Overall Leaders, by State | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Miller | Travis J | 55.5 | 1 | Hasuike | Mike L | 136 | 1 | Buck | Stephen J | 193 |
| 2 | Hawkins | Nicholas B | 48 | 2 | Berger | Brian F | 68.5 | 2 | Pupols | Viktors | 132 |
| 3 | Cambareri | Michael E | 36.5 | 3 | Vega | Isaac | 61 | 3 | Pothukuchi | Revanth V | 114.5 |
| 4 | Bodie | Brad | 30.5 | 4 | Cigan | Jason | 60.5 | 4 | Raptis | Nick | 107.5 |
| 5 | Callen | Gregory D | 27 | 5 | Dietz | Arliss | 56 | 5 | Piper | August | 106 |
| 6 | Bodie | Arlene | 24.5 | 6 | Richardson | Ryan | 51.5 | 6 | Baxter | Brent L | 102.5 |
| 7 | Maki | James J | 19.5 | 7 | Moore | Michael | 48 | 7 | Lee | Addison | 88 |
| 8 | Martonick | Nick | 18.5 | 7 | Phipps | Danny | 46 | 8 | Tiglon | Bryce | 84.5 |
| 8 | Weyland | Ron | 18.5 | 9 | Haessler | Carl A | 41 | 9 | He | Anthony B | 82.5 |
| 10 | Joshi | Kairav R | 16.5 | 10 | Burris | Christopher E | 39.5 | 10 | Richards | Jerrold | 80 |
| 11 | Jaroski | Jeffrey A | 16 | 11 | Kenway | Geoffrey W | 38 | 11 | Munsey | Michael R | 80 |
| 12 | Three tied at | | 15 | 11 | McCoy | Owen | 37.5 | 12 | Jiang | Brandon | 79.5 |

From the Business Manager

Reminder to Washington residents: *Northwest Chess* has been required to collect sales tax on magazines for several years. Please do not omit the tax when paying *Northwest Chess*. Currently there is no membership portion which can be excluded. Up until now, *NWC* deducts one month per year for any unpaid tax, however this no longer fully covers the tax in most Washington cities. Tax is also required for Washington residents paying at the Portland Chess Club, based on the rate where your magazine is received in the mail. Beginning in January 2017, payments without sales tax may be returned or refused. Thank you.

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

Woo Hoo!!

*You can now register
 online for full-weekend SCC
 tournaments and make your tax-
 deductible donations at www.
 seattlechess.club*

October 8 **SCC Novice**
Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 10/5, \$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.

↖ **Oct. 9, Nov. 6** **Sunday Tornado**
Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/60; d5. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 from each EF goes to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

↖ **Oct. 15 [date change], Nov. 19** **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.

October 21-23 **SCC Team in Reno!!**
Join the SCC Team(s) in Reno at the **Western States Open**. We will be competing against six to ten teams from other clubs in Reno, Sacramento, San Francisco, etc. The tournament is multi-section (Open, U2000, U1800, . . .) and teams consist of ten players from a club.

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.

WCF @ SCC

| | |
|------------|-----------------------|
| Oct. 29-30 | WA Challengers Cup |
| Dec. 3 | WA Blitz Championship |
| Dec. 27-28 | WA G/60 Championship |

*Insanity is coming to the SCC
in December*

9th SCC Extravaganza!!

November 11-13, 2016

A two-section, seven-round Swiss with a time control of **G/90; d5** (Two-day option – rounds 1 & 2 @ G/45; d5). The prize fund of **\$1000 is based on 60**.

Open: \$200-140, U2200 100, U2000 100

Reserve (U1800): First \$140-100, U1600 70, U1400 70, U1200 60, UNR 20

Entry Fee: \$43 by 11/9 (\$32 for SCC members, \$38 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, OR, & BC), \$51 at site (\$38 for SCC members, \$45 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, OR, & BC).

Registration: Friday 7-7:45 p.m. Saturday 9-9:45 a.m. Rounds: Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 11-2:30-6, Sunday 11-2:30-6.

Two-Day Option: Rounds 1 & 2 Saturday 10-12. Byes: 3 available; 1 for rounds 5-7, must commit before round 3.

Miscellaneous: US Chess & ICA/OCF/WCF membership required. OSA. NC, NS.

Ent/Info: SCC Tnmt Dir, 2420 S 137 St, Seattle WA 98168. 206-417-5405 (recorded message); kleistcf@aol.com.

Upcoming Events

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

☞ **Oct 1-2** Norman Friedman Memorial Tournament & National Chess Week Celebration, **Hailey, ID**. See <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>

☞ **Oct 1-2** Eastern Washington Open, **Spokane, WA**. Location: Jepson Center, Rooms 108-109, Gonzaga University (one block southwest from St. Al's church). 5 round Swiss System. Registration: 8:30-9:30, Oct. 1. Rounds: 10-2:30-7; 9-1:30. Time control: Game/120; d5. Entry fee: \$21 if received by 9/30, \$26 at the door; under 18 \$5 less. \$615 prize fund GUARANTEED. Additional classes and class prizes may be created if entries exceed 30 players. Class prizes based on at least 5 per class; classes (and class prizes) may be reconfigured if less than five class entries. Only one prize per player (except biggest upset). NS, NC, W. One 1/2 point bye available if requested by end of previous round; Sunday bye must be requested by end of round 3. Director reserves right to use class pairings in final round. Prizes: First \$125. Class Prizes: \$75 first, \$35 second: A; B; C; D-E-unrated. Biggest Upset (non-provisional) - \$50. Entries: Kevin Korsmo, 9923 N. Moore St., Spokane, WA 99208. For information please call (509) 270-1772 (cell). Club website: www.spokanechessclub.org.

☞ **Oct 8-9** National Chess Day Portland Fall 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 & W2:15. 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.

☞ **Oct 15/Nov 12** Portland CC Quad 45, **Portland, OR**. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. 3-round quads, G/45;d15. 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, 12:15pm, and 2:30pm. 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.

Oct 21-23 34th Annual Western States Open, **Reno, NV**. (See Full-page Ad page 3)

☞ **Oct 22-23** Vancouver Open, **Vancouver, WA**. (See Half-page Ad page 20)

☞ **Oct 29-30** Washington Challenger's Cup, **Seattle, WA**. (See Half-page Ad page 21)

☞ **Oct 29/Nov 19** Portland CC Game in 60, **Portland, OR**. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. 4SS, G/60;d5. 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.

☞ **Nov 3, 10, 17** Turkey Quads, **Spokane, WA**. Site: Gonzaga University, Jepson Center, Rm. 108. Reg: 6:30-6:55 Nov 3rd. E.F.: \$16; T/C: G/90 (with 5 second delay); Games start at 7:00 p.m. US Chess membership required, n/c, US Chess rated event. Info.: Dave Griffin, Email dbgrffn@hotmail.com, web spokanechessclub.org.

☞ **Nov 5-6** Oregon Class Championship, **Portland, OR**. (See Full-page Ad page 17)

☞ **Nov 12** Southern Idaho Open, **Twin Falls, ID**. 4SS, Time Control: G/60;d5. 2 Sections: Open and Reserve (U1400) (Sections may be combined based on entries). Site: Shilo Inn, 1586 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., Twin Falls, Idaho 83301. US Chess mem req. ICA Mem req. OSA. EF by 11/6 \$30 (U18 & 60+ \$25), Special family rate \$60. \$5 more for all if after 11/6. Register & check in: 8-8:30am 11/12. Rd times: 9am, 11am, 3pm, 5pm. 1/2 pt bye avail: Max 1, Rds. 1-3 only. 1st Rd. byes must notify TD before rd. is paired; all others, before Rd. 2 is paired. \$\$ (based on 30) Open: \$150-125-100-75. Reserve (U1400): \$100-75-50. ENT/INFO: ICA, Contact: Barry Eacker, 963 Delmar Dr., Twin Falls, ID 83301. 208-733-6186 or E-mail: mol64@q.com, Online registration at www.idahocheessassociation.org. NC, NS, W.

☞ **Nov 25-27** Washington Class Championships, **Lynnwood, WA** (See Full-page Ad page 22)

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

Periodicals Postage

PAID

Seattle, WA

