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On the front cover:

Minda Chen in Seattle Chess Club on August 26, 2016 about to play her first game in Round Robin #2.
Photo Credit: Victoria Jung-Doknjas.

On the back cover:

Newly-minted National Master Jason Cigan from Oregon before the first round of the Kings vs. Princes Match.
Photo Credit: Victoria Jung-Doknjas.

Chesstoons:

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

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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:

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Seattle Kings vs. Princes Match III

By Josh Sinanan

Seattle, WA—August 26-30, 2016

Kings:

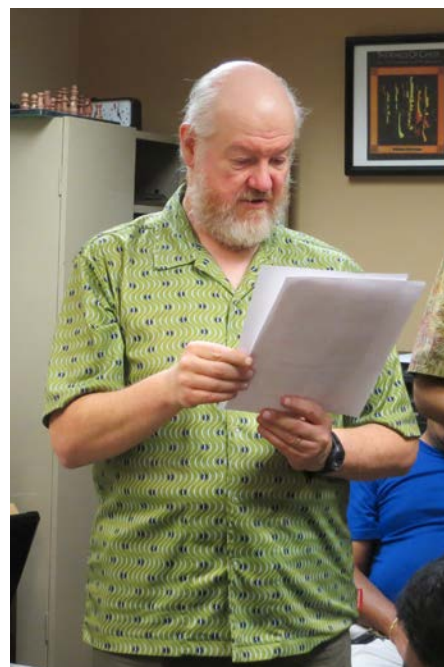
FM Steven Breckenridge (2349, 2250)
FM Ignacio Perez (2246, 2181)
FM William Schill (2209, 2137)
NM Josh Sinanan (2207, 2175)
LM Viktors Pupols (2200, 1990)
CM Jason Cigan (2157, 2061)
NM Dereque Kelley (2155, 2101)
NM Michael Lin (2152, 2077)
NM Roger Patterson (2087, 2037, CAN)
Avg. rating: (2196, 2118)

Princes:

NM Daniel He (2289, 2144)
NM Samuel He (2282, 2201)
CM Kyle Haining (2273, 2248)
NM Anthony He (2219, 2150)
CM John Doknjas (2199, 2200, CAN)
CM Joshua Doknjas (2169, 2137, CAN)
CM Derek Zhang (2137, 1980)
CM Vikram Ramasamy (2072, 2046)
WCM Naomi Bashkansky (2068, 1753)
Avg. rating: (2190, 2095)

The third installment of the Seattle Kings vs. Princes Match and FIDE Round Robins took place over five days August 26-30 at Seattle Chess Club. This time, the Kings and Princes teams each had nine players, up from five in the first match and seven in the second. The match was again played following the Scheveningen team format, in which each of the nine team members plays each of the opposing team members once. The purpose of these events is to support local junior players seeking FIDE experience in preparation for National and International competition. All of the games were dual USCF and FIDE-rated, played at the standard FIDE time control of 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an addition of 30 seconds per move starting from move one. The match was organized by WCF President Josh Sinanan and directed by National Arbiter and Senior TD Fred Kleist.

Going into the match, the Kings and Princes teams were very closely matched on paper. The Kings had several experienced FMs in the lineup including Steven Breckenridge, who traveled from Oregon to play in the match. The Princes team had many strengths as well, with both of the He brothers playing at the top of the lineup as well as Kyle Haining, who has been on somewhat of a tear recently. The Princes team also included



*Tournament Director Fred Kleist.
Photo credit: Victoria Jung-Doknjas.*

the Doknjas brothers from B.C., newly minted master Anthony He, and two of the top ninth graders in Washington state, Derek Zhang and Vikram Ramasamy. And don't forget about the lone Princess in the match, Naomi Bashkansky. She is a quickly improving force to be reckoned with and has already claimed several master scalps.

The match seemed to be going the Princes' way early on, especially with



Caption: L-R: (rear) Kings Team: Michael Lin, Roger Patterson, Jason Cigan, Steven Breckenridge, Josh Sinanan, Dereque Kelley, Bill Schill, Ignacio Perez (front) Princes Team: Derek Zhang, Samuel He, Daniel He, Joshua Doknjas, Vikram Ramasamy, Naomi Bashkansky, John Doknjas, Kyle Haining. Photo credit: Victoria Jung-Doknjas.

two of the Kings, Patterson and Pupols, struggling to find their form. Round four was an especially decisive victory for the Princes team, in which they thrashed the Kings 7.5-1.5. After this rout, the Kings were not really able to catch up, despite some small victories in the later rounds.

Kings vs. Princes Results:

Princes (43.5)

1st John Doknjas \$300

2nd Daniel He \$250

3rd Kyle Haining \$200

4th Joshua Doknjas \$150

Kings (37.5)

1st Steven Breckenridge \$300

2nd Ignacio Perez \$250

3rd Bill Schill \$200

=4th Michael Lin & Josh Sinanan \$75

It should be noted that, as a team, the Princes gained 154 FIDE rating points. Some of the most significant FIDE rating gains were:

John Doknjas 2200 -> 2257

Daniel He 2144 -> 2208

Joshua Doknjas 2137 -> 2165

Naomi Bashkansky 1753 -> 1870!

A ten-player FIDE Round Robin and a second seven-player Round Robin were held alongside the Kings vs. Princes Match at the same venue. Several players who scored a win or a draw against their FIDE-rated opponents were able to establish their first FIDE rating. All

of the players involved appreciated the opportunity to play in a strong Round Robin tournament, which are not often available for Class A and B players.

FIDE Round Robin Results:

1st Eric Zhang \$300

=2nd/3rd Neil Doknjas & Mary Kuhner \$225

4th Vignesh Anand \$150

Round Robin #2 Results:

=1st/2nd Anshul Ahluwalia & Isaac Vega \$275

3rd Sophie Tien \$200

4th Jason Zhang \$150

A Game from the Event

Minda Chen (1685) – Sophie Tien (1491) [D14]
Round Robin #2 Seattle (R5), August 28, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Bf4 Nc6 6.e3 Bf5 7.Nf3 e6

The starting position for hundreds, if not thousands, of “grandmaster draws.”

8.Bb5 Bb4 9.Qa4

9.0–0; or 9.Ne5 seem to offer White slightly better chances of retaining a tiny edge from the opening.

9...0–0 10.0–0 Bxc3 11.bxc3 Ne4 12.Rac1 g5 13.Bg3



Position after 13.Bg3

13...h5

13...Na5!??

14.h3 h4 15.Bh2 g4 16.hxg4 Bxg4 17.Be2?

17.Bxc6 Bxf3

(17...bxc6 18.Ne5 Bf5 19.c4±)



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 17...Bxf3)

18.Bf4! A finesse to keep the queen off g5, although (18.gxf3 Qg5+ 19.Kh1 h3 20.Bg3 (20.Rg1?? Nxf2#) 20...Nxc3+ 21.fxc3 bxc6 22.f4 Qg4 (22...Qg6 23.Kh2±) 23.Rf2± doesn't look too bad for White, either.) 18...bxc6 a) 18...Bxg2 19.Kxg2 bxc6 20.Kh2 is going to be tricky to defend for Black.; b) 18...Bg4 19.Bxb7 (19.f3!?) 19...h3



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 19...h3)

20.Qc2 (but not 20.Bxa8?? hxg2 21.Kxg2 Qh4+). White appears to have sufficient defense on the kingside, e.g. 20...hxg2 21.Kxg2 Bf5 22.f3 Ng3 23.Qf2 Nxf1 24.Bxa8±; 19.gxf3 Nd2 20.Rfd1 Nxf3+ 21.Kg2 Ng5 22.Rg1 is a bit obscure, but likely favors White due to the g-file play, despite the extra black pawn.

17...Bxf3

17...h3!?



The Princes Team (L) and Kings Team commence battle in round one.
Photo Credit: Victoria Jung-Doknjas.

18.Bxf3 Nd2 19.Rfd1 Nxf3+ 20.gxf3 f6
21.Qc2 f5 22.Bf4 Qf6 23.Kh1 Kf7

23...Kh7 24.c4 gives White a nice initiative.

24.Rb1

24.c4

24...b6 25.Qa4

It's pretty clear White wants to play 25.Rg1, and not quite as clear that the queen needs to be on a4.

25...Rac8 26.Rg1 h3?

26...Qd8 27.Bh6 Rg8 28.Rxg8 Kxg8
29.Rg1+ Kh7 30.Bg5±

27.Rg3 Rh8

27...h2 28.Be5! Nxe5 29.Qxa7+ Ke8
30.dxe5 also leaves Black's position in ruins.

28.Rbg1 Rh7



Position after 28...Rh7

29.Be5! Nxe5 30.Qxa7+ Qe7 31.Rg7+!
1-0

Brilliancy Prizes:

Each round a brilliancy prize was awarded for the best game by a King, Prince, or Round Robin Player. After considering many well qualified candidates, I selected the following games:

Rd 1: Perez - A. He 1-0

From a standard Spanish middlegame, Ignacio lit the board on fire and sacrificed two pieces to cap off a nice attack.

Ignacio Perez (2246) – Anthony He (2221) [C84]

Kings v Princes III Seattle
(R1), August 26, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6
5.0-0 Be7 6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0
9.a4 Bg4 10.h3 Bh5 11.Nbd2 Na5 12.Bc2
c5 13.Re1 Qd7 14.Nf1 Nc6 15.Ng3 Bg6
16.Nh4 Rfe8 17.Nhf5 h6 18.f4 exf4
19.Bxf4 Bf8 20.Qf3 d5 21.e5



Position after 21.e5

21...Nh7?!

21...Bxf5 22.exf6 g6∞

22.Nh4 Qe6 23.Nxg6 fxc6 24.Bb3? c4
25.Bc2 g5 26.d4!? gxf4 27.Nh5 Ng5
28.Qxf4 Be7 29.h4?

29.Qg3 Rf8 30.Nf4∞ with compensation.

29...Rf8 30.Qe3



Position after 30.Qe3

30...Qf7?

30...Qg4! 31.hxg5 Qxh5 32.gxh6 Bg5±
White's compensation is hard to spot here.

31.Ng3 Ne6 32.Rf1 Qe8 33.Nf5

33.Rxf8+ Bxf8 34.Qf3∞ White has light-square targets.

33...Ra7

33...Kh8 34.Nxh6 Rxf1+ 35.Rxf1 Qh5∞

34.Rf2

34.Qf3! Bxh4 (34...g6 35.Nxh6+ Kg7
36.Qg4 with big complications that appear to favor White.) 35.Qxd5 Bg5
36.Qe4! Rxf5 37.Rxf5±

34...Bd8

34...b4!?

35.Raf1

35.Qg3!?

35...Ne7?

35...Rxf5! 36.Bxf5 Bxh4 37.g3 Bg5
38.Qf3 Rd7∞



Position after 35...Ne7

36.Nxh6+

Or 36.Nd6! Qd7 (36...Rxf2 37.Nxe8 Rxc2
38.Qh3 Nf8 39.Qf3 Neg6 40.Qxd5+ Kh8
41.Qxd8+-) 37.Rxf8+ Nxf8 38.Rxf8+
Kxf8 39.Qf3+ Kg8 40.Qf7+ Kh8 41.Qf8+
Ng8 42.Bg6+-

36...gxh6 37.Qxh6 Nc6?!

37...Nf5 38.Rxf5 Rxf5 39.Bxf5 Nf8 (39...
Re7 40.Rf3) 40.Rf4 Rg7 41.Qd6 White is probably just winning here, too.

38.Bg6! Rxf2

38...Qe7 39.Bh7+! Kh8 40.Bf5+ Kg8
41.Bxe6+ wins everything.

39.Bxe8 Rxf1+ 40.Kxf1 Ncx4 41.cxd4
Nxd4 42.Qd6 Bxh4 43.Qxd5+ Kf8
44.Qxd4 Re7 45.Qxh4 Kxe8 46.axb5
axb5 47.Kf2 Kd7 48.Qd4+ Ke6 49.Qd6+

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Kf7 50.Qd5+ Kg7 51.Qxb5 Rc7 52.Kf3 1-0

Rd 2: N. Doknjas - Anand 0-1

After defending well against a dangerous kingside attack, V. Anand unleashed an even stronger one of his own. I guess that's why he was World Champion.

Neil Doknjas (1755) – Vignesh Anand (1789) [B80]

FIDE Round Robin Seattle (R2), August 27, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 d6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nf6 6.Be3 Be7 7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.f4 e5

9...Nc5

10.Nf5 exf4 11.Bxf4 Ne5 12.Nxe7+ Qxe7 13.Bg5 Neg4 14.Nd5 Qe5



Position after 14...Qe5

15.Nxf6+ gxf6 16.Bf4 Qd4+ 17.Kh1 Nf2+ 18.Rxf2 Qxf2 19.Bxd6 Re8 20.Qh5 Qe3 21.e5 h6 22.Bh7+ Kg7 23.exf6+ Kh8 24.Bc5?

24.h4±

24...Qg5 25.Qxf7?

25.Qxg5 hxg5 26.Bd3 Bf5! 27.Bxf5 Re5 28.Bd3 Rxc5

25...Be6 26.Qg6



Position after 26.Qg6

26...Rg8! 27.Qe4?

27.Qxg5 Rxg5 28.Be3 Kxh7 29.Bxg5 hxg5 30.Re1 Re8±

27...Bd5-+ 28.h4 Qxg2+

28...Qh5

29.Qxg2 Rxg2 30.c4 Bc6 31.f7 Kxh7 32.f8Q Rg8+ 33.Kh2 Raxf8 34.Bxf8

Rxf8 35.Kg3 Rg8+ 36.Kh3 Rg2 37.b4 Rc2 38.c5 Rc3+ 39.Kh2 Rc4 40.Rb1 a6 41.Kg3 Rc2 42.a3 Rc3+ 43.Kg4 Rxa3 44.h5 Bd7+ 45.Kf4 Bc6 46.Kg4 Kg7 47.Rb2 Re3 48.Kf5 Kf7 49.Kf4 Rh3 50.Rf2 Rxb5 51.Kg4+ Kg6 52.Rd2 Rd5 53.Rb2 Rd4+ 54.Kh3 Kg5 55.Rb1 h5 56.Rg1+ Rg4 57.Rb1 h4 58.Rb2 Rg3+ 59.Kh2 Rg2+ 60.Rxg2+ Bxg2 61.Kxg2 Kf4 62.Kh3 Ke3 63.Kxh4 Kd4 64.Kg4 Kc4 65.c6 bxc6 66.Kf3 Kxb4 67.Ke3 a5 68.Kd2 a4 69.Kc2 a3 70.Kb1 Kb3 71.Ka1 c5 0-1

Rd 3: Perez - Joshua Doknjas 1/2-1/2

First a pawn, then a knight, and finally a bishop; the Cuban FM sure knows how to sacrifice material.

Ignacio Perez (2246) – Joshua Doknjas (2169) [B93]

Kings v Princes III Seattle (R3), August 27, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f4 Nbd7 7.Qf3 e5 8.Nf5 g6 9.Ng3 b5 10.Bd3 Bb7 11.0-0 Be7 12.a4

12.f5!±

12...b4 13.Nd5 Nxd5 14.exd5 Qa5 15.Bd2 f5 16.Rae1

16.Bxf5 gxf5 17.Nxf5∞

16...Bxd5 17.Qe2 0-0



Position after 17...0-0

18.Nxf5 gxf5 19.Bxf5 Rxf5 20.Qg4+ Rg5?!

20...Kh8 21.Qxf5 Qxa4±

21.fxg5 Nf8 22.h4 Qc5+ 23.Be3 Qc4 24.Qg3 Be6 25.Rf3 Qg4 26.Qh2?!

26.Qxg4 Bxg4±

26...Bd5 27.Rg3 Qh5

27...Qe4

28.g6 Nxg6

28...h6!?

29.Bg5 Kh8 30.Bxe7 Nxe7 31.Rg5 Qf7 32.Rf1 Qe6 33.Qg3 Rg8

33...h6

34.Rf2 a5 35.Qe3



Position after 35.Qe3

35...Rg6?

35...Ng6±

36.Qa7 Rxg5 37.hxg5 Ng6 38.Qb8+ Kg7 39.Qc7+ Qe7 40.Qxa5 Nf4 41.Rxf4 exf4 42.Qxd5 Qe1+ 1/2-1/2

Rd 4: Jiang - Vijayakumar 0-1

A nice squeeze on the light squares by the young Advait showing excellent positional understanding for a fourth grader.

Brandon Jiang (1532) – Advait Vijayakumar (1407) [C06]

Round Robin #2 Seattle (R4), August 28, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Qb6 8.Nf3 cxd4 9.cxd4 f6 10.exf6 Nxf6 11.0-0 Bd6 12.Qc2?!

12.Bf4±

12...Nb4 13.Qb1 Nxd3 14.Qxd3 0-0 15.Qc2?!

15.Bf4

15...Ne4 16.Be3 Bd7 17.Nc3 Rac8 18.Rac1 Bb4 19.Bd2 Rc4?!

19...Be8±

20.Rfe1

20.Ne5!?



Position after 20.Rfe1

20...Bxc3?!

20...Rxf3!? 21.gxf3 Nxd2 22.Qxd2 Rxd4 with compensation.; 20...Rf5 21.Rxe4 (21.Re3 Bd6±) 21...dxe4 22.Qxe4 Bd6±

21.bxc3 Ba4 22.Qd3 Bb5 23.Qe3



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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.

23.Qc2∞

23...Qd6

23...Ra4!? 24.Rc2 Qa6∞

24.Rb1 Ba6 25.Rb3 Rc7?!

25...Rf6 26.Bc1 Qc7

26.Bc1 Rf6 27.Ba3 Qd7 28.Ne5 Qc8

29.Ng4 Rg6



Position after 29...Rg6

30.Qf4??

30.f3! Rxc4! (30...Rxc3 31.Rxc3 Nxc3 32.Ne5 Rh6 (32...Rf6 33.Be7) 33.Bb4±) 31.fxc4 Rf7 The knight on e4 is worth a rook.; 30.Ne5 is also complex and a bit unclear. 30...Rf6 31.f3 Rxc3 32.Rxc3 Qxc3 33.Qxc3 Nxc3 34.Kf2 Nb5 (but not 34...Nxa2 35.Ra1 Nc3 36.Rc1 Ne4+ 37.Ke3+-)

30...Rf7 31.Qc1

31.Qxf7+ Kxf7 32.Ne5+ also loses for White, of course.

31...Rxc4 32.Qe3 Rxf2 33.g3 Qc4 34.Rbb1 Qxa2 35.Rb2 Rxb2 36.Qf3 Rg2+

36...Rf2 forces checkmate.

37.Qxg2 Qxg2+ 38.Kxg2 Rg6 39.Re3 Nd2 40.Bb4 Ne4 41.h3 Rf6 42.h4 Bf1+ 43.Kg1 Bh3 44.Kh2 Bg4 45.c4 Rf2+ 46.Kg1 Bh3 47.cxd5 exd5 48.Ba3 Rg2+ 49.Kf1 Rxc3+ 50.Ke2 Bf1+ 51.Kxf1 Rxe3 52.Bc1 Rc3 53.Bb2 Rc2 54.Ba3 Rf2+ 55.Ke1 Rf4 56.Bc1 Rxh4 57.Ke2 Ng3+ 58.Kf3 Rxd4 59.Kxg3 a5 60.Be3 Rd3 61.Kf2 Rxe3 62.Kxe3 b5 63.Kd3 b4 64.Kc2 a4 65.Kb2 a3+ 66.Ka1 b3 67.Kb1 a2+ 68.Kb2 d4 69.Ka1 d3 70.Kb2 d2 71.Ka1 d1Q+ 72.Kb2 Qc2+ 73.Ka3 a1Q+ 74.Kb4 Qc8 75.Kb5 Qc7 76.Kb4 b2 77.Kb3 0-1

Rd 5: Zhang - Schill 0-1

A Scotch gone wrong for White is capped off quickly by Bill's brutal mating attack.

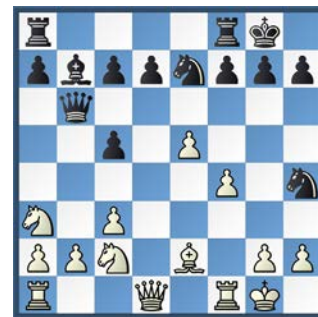
Derek Zhang (2137) – William Schill (2235) [C45]

Kings v Princes III Seattle (R5), August 28, 2016

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Be3 Qf6 6.c3 Nge7 7.Bc4 0-0 8.0-0

b6 9.Nc2 Ne5 10.Be2 Bb7 11.f4 N5g6 12.Bxc5 bxc5 13.e5 Qb6 14.Nba3 Nh4



Position after 14...Nh4

15.Qxd7??

15.Ne3±

15...Qg6 16.g3?

16.Rf2 Nxc2 17.Qg4∞

16...Qe4 17.Kf2??

17.Qh3 Qxe2 18.gxh4 Nf5 19.Rae1 Qh5

17...Rad8 18.Qxe7?

18.Qg4 holds out a little longer.

18...Rd2 0-1

Rd 6: John Doknjas - Lin 1-0

John shows us why the classical variation continues to be the critical test of the King's Indian Defense.

Washington Blitz Chess Championship

December 3, 2016

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

Two Sections: Open (US Chess Blitz Rated) and Scholastic (K-6).

Format: 7 Round Double Swiss. **Time Control:** G/5, d0.

US Chess December 2016 rating supplement will be used to determine ratings.

Higher of US Chess Regular or Blitz Rating will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating.

Higher of US Chess regular/blitz or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

Prize Fund: \$700 (based on 40 paid entries in Open Section).

Open: 1st \$175, 2nd \$140, 3rd \$105, 1st U1800 \$70, 1st U1600 \$70, 1st U1400 \$70, 1st U1200/Unr \$70.

Scholastic: Trophies to top finishers.

Entry Fee – Open Section: \$30 if postmarked or online by 11/30, \$35 after 11/30 or at site.

Entry Fee – Scholastic Section: \$20 if postmarked or online by 11/30, \$25 after 11/30 or at site.

Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

Registration: Saturday 3:30 - 4:15 PM.

Rounds: 4:30 PM, 5:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 6:00 PM, 6:30 PM, 7:00 PM, 7:30 PM.

US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted (Open Section).

Northwest Chess Grand Prix event (Open Section). 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.

**John Doknjas (2199) –
Michael Lin (2167) [E90]**
Kings v Princes III Seattle
(R6), August 29, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.Nf3 0-0 6.h3 e5 7.d5 a5 8.Bg5 h6
9.Be3 Na6 10.Nd2 Ne5 11.Be2 c6 12.g4
cxd5 13.cxd5 Ne8 14.Nf1 a4 15.h4 Qa5
16.Bd2

16.Nd2±

16...Bd7 17.Ne3 Qa7 18.h5 g5 19.f3
Qb8?!

19...Nc7

20.Nb5 Bf6 21.Bb4 Bd8 22.Qd2 Bb6



Position after 22...Bb6

23.Nc4! Bc7

Black has problems: 23...Bd8 24.Nxe5;

23...Ba7 24.Nxa7 Qxa7 25.Qe3; 23...
Bxb5 24.Nxb6 Ra6 25.Bxb5 Rxb6
26.Bc4±

24.Nxe5

24.Nxc7 Qxc7 25.Ba5 Qb8 26.Nb6 Ra7
27.Rc1+- also looks quite convincing.

24...Bxb5 25.Bxb5 dxe5 26.Bxc5 Ba5
27.Bb4 Bxb4 28.Qxb4 Nd6 29.Ke2 Rd8
30.Bxa4 b5 31.Bb3 Qc7 32.Rhc1 Qe7
33.Qd2 f5?! Desperation. 34.gxf5 Kh8
35.Rc6 Rac8 36.Rxc8 Rxc8 37.Rc1 Rd8
38.Rc6 Rc8 39.Rxc8+ Nxc8 40.d6 Qxd6
41.Qxd6 Nxd6 42.f6 g4 43.Be6 1-0

Rd 7: **Kuhner - Tu 1-0**

Black's adventurous play with the
queen eventually led to her majesty's
beheading.

**Mary Kuhner (1949) –
Robin Tu (1750) [A03]**
FIDE Round Robin Seattle
(R7), August 29, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 c5 4.d4 Nc6 5.c3
Qa5 6.Nbd2 cxd4 7.exd4 Bf5 8.Be2 e6
9.Ne5 Bd6 10.Ndf3

10.g4!? Bg6 11.h4

10...Bxe5?!

10...0-0

11.fxe5 Ne4 12.0-0 0-0-0?

12...h6; or 12...0-0 seem safer alternatives.

13.Qe1

13.Nh4±

13...h6 14.Nd2 Nxd2 15.Bxd2 Qb6



Position after 15...Qb6

16.a4

It does seem time for a gambit. How
about this one? 16.b4 Nxe5 17.Qg3 Ng6
18.Rac1

16...Qxb2 17.Bb5

17.a5∞

17...Rd7?

17...Na5! and Black is alive!

18.Rf2 Qb3?

18...a6 19.Bxc6 bxc6 20.Bxh6 Qb3
21.Bxg7 Rg8 22.Bf6±

Washington Bughouse Chess Championship

December 3, 2016

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

Two Sections: Open and Scholastic (K-6).

Format: 5 Round Double Swiss. **Time Control:** G/5, d0.

US Chess December 2016 rating supplement will be used to determine ratings.

Higher of US Chess Regular or Blitz Rating will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating.

Higher of US Chess regular/blitz or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

Prizes: Trophies to top teams.

Entry Fee: \$20 per player if postmarked or online by 11/30, \$25 per player after 11/30 or at site.

Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

After you and your partner have both registered, go to the roster and click on your name, then click the Team button to select a teammate – you will be able to select your partner from the list of registered players.

If you do not know who your partner will be, we will find a partner for you – someone near your rating.

Registration: Saturday 11:00 - 11:45 AM.

Rounds: 12:00 PM, 12:30 PM, 1:00 PM, 1:30 PM, 2:00 PM.

WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted (Open Section).

Northwest Chess Grand Prix event (Open Section). 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.

19.Bc1 Bc2 20.Qd2 Bg6



Position after 20...Bg6

21.Ra3?

21.Qe1!! Bc2 (21...Rc7 22.Rb2+-)
22.Ba3 intending Qc1 and Rb2 if the
bishop retreats. 22...a6 (22...Rc7 23.Bd6)
23.Bxc6 bxc6 24.Qc1+-

21...Qb1 22.Qd1 Bh5?

This helps White by forcing the queen to
move to a protected square. 22...Rc7∞

23.Qf1 Rc7

Black's best chance is 23...Na5 24.Bxd7+
Kxd7 25.Qb5+ Qxb5 26.axb5 b6 27.c4
dxc4 28.Bd2±

24.Bd3 Qb6 25.Rb2 Qa5 26.Rb5 Qa6



Position after 26...Qa6

27.Rxd5! Qb6

27...Qxd3 28.Qxd3 Bg6 (28...exd5
29.Qf5+) 29.Qh3 ...pin! 29...Bf5
30.Qf3+-

28.Rb5

28.a5! Nxa5 29.Rb5 Qc6 30.Rbxa5 a6
31.Bxa6+-

28...Qa6 29.Rxb7

Also 29.Rc5 Qb6 30.a5+- works.

29...Qxb7 30.Ba6 Qxa6 31.Qxa6+ Kd7
32.Rb3 Rhc8 33.Ba3 Bd1 34.Rb2 Bh5
35.Bd6 Nxd4 36.Bxc7 Ne2+ 37.Kf2
Rxc7 38.Qd6+ Kc8 39.Qf8+ Kd7
40.Rd2+ Kc6 41.Qe8+ 1-0

Rd 8: Joshua Doknjas -
Breckenridge 0-1

Steven's high class play was on full
display as he precisely converted his
advantage in the knight ending.

**Joshua Doknjas (2169) –
Steven Breckenridge (2349)**
[C54]

Kings v Princes III Seattle
(R8), August 30, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5
5.c3 d6 6.0-0 a6 7.Re1 Ba7 8.Bb3 0-0
9.h3 Ne7 10.Nbd2 Ng6 11.Nf1 Nh5
12.d4 Nhf4 13.Ng3



Position after 13.Ng3

13...Qf6?

13...exd4 14.cxd4 Be6 15.Bc2 (15.d5
Bxh3!?∞) 15...d5±

14.Nh5 Qe7 15.Nxf4 exf4 16.Bc2 Be6
17.Bd2 c5 18.Qe2 f6 19.Bd3 Rae8 20.a4
Qd7 21.Qf1 Re7 22.Kh2 Bb8 23.Bc4
Rfe8 24.Qd3 Bxc4 25.Qxc4+ Qe6
26.Qd3 Qb3 27.Qb1 Qe6

27...cxd4

28.Qc2 Kh8 29.Kg1 Qd7

[Diagram top of next column]

30.Re2

30.d5 Ne5 31.Nxe5 fxe5; 30.c4!±



Position after 29...Qd7

30...Qc6 31.Rae1 Ba7 32.dxc5 Bxc5
33.b3?

33.Bc1

33...f5! 34.e5 Qc8?

34...dxe5 35.Qxf5 e4! 36.Nd4 Bxd4
37.cxd4



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 37.cxd4)

37...f3! 38.gxf3 (38.Rc1 Qxc1+ 39.Bxc1
fxe2 40.Bd2 e3 41.fxe3 Rxe3 42.Be1
Rf8-+; 38.Re3 Nh4) 38...Nh4!+-

35.e6 Rxe6 36.Rxe6 Rxe6 37.Rxe6
Qxe6 38.b4 Bb6 39.a5 Ba7 40.Qd3 h6
41.c4 Kh7 42.Bc3 Qe4 43.Qxd6 Bxf2+
44.Kxf2 Qe3+ 45.Kf1 Qxc3 46.Kg1
Qe3+ 47.Kh2 Qe7

[Diagram top of next page]

48.Qb6?

48.Qd5

48...Ne5 49.Nd2?

49.Nxe5 Qxe5±

49...Qh4 50.Kg1

50.Qd4 Qg3+ 51.Kg1 Qe3+ 52.Qxe3
fxe3+- as in the game.

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Position after 47...Qe7

50...Qe1+ 51.Nf1 Qe4

51...Nd3! 52.Qd4 Nc1-+; 51...f3-+

52.Nd2 Qe3+ 53.Qxe3 fxe3 54.Nb3 Nxc4 55.Nc5 Nd6 56.Kf1 f4 57.Ke2 g5 58.g3 fxc3 59.Kxe3 h5 60.Kf3 h4 61.b5



Position after 61.b5

61...axb5

61...Nxb5 62.Nxb7 Nd4+ 63.Kg2 Ne6-+ 62.Nxb7 Nc4 63.a6 Ne5+ 64.Ke3 Nc6 65.Nd8 Na7 66.Ne6 Kg6 67.Nd4 b4 68.Kf3 Kf6 69.Ke4? g4

Or 69...b3 70.Nxb3 (70.Kd3 g4) 70...g2-+ 70.hxc4 h3 71.Kf3 h2 72.Kg2



Position after 72.Kg2

72...Kg5??

72...Kg6! 73.Nb3 Kg5-+

73.Ne2 Kh4 74.Nxc3??

74.g5! Kxg5 75.Nxc3 Kf4 76.Ne2+ Ke3 77.Nc1

74...h1R 75.Nxh1 b3 76.Ng3 b2 77.Nf5+ Kxc4 78.Ne3+ Kg5 0-1

Rd 9: Haining - Perez 1-0

Kyle punished Black's hybrid hippo-opening experiment, which ought never to be repeated.

Kyle Haining (2263) – Ignacio Perez (2246) [B06]

Kings v Princes III Seattle
(R9), August 30, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Bc4 Nd7 5.Nf3 e6 6.0-0 Ngf6?!

The knight here is just a target for the white e-pawn. 6...Ne7±

7.Qe2

7.e5! dxe5 8.dxe5 Ng8 9.Qe2 — and 10.Rd1±

7...0-0 8.e5 dxe5 9.dxe5



Position after 9.dxe5

9...Ng4

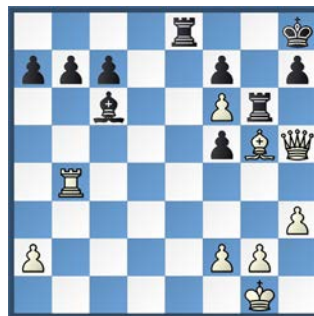
9...Nd5!? 10.Nxd5 exd5 11.e6! (11.Bxd5? Nxe5) 11...fxe6 12.Qxe6+ Kh8 13.Qxd5±

10.Bg5 Qe8 11.Bf4 Qe7 12.h3 Nh6 13.Bg5 Qc5 14.Ne4 Qa5 15.b4 Qxb4 16.Rfb1 Qa5 17.Bd2 Qa4 18.Bb5 Qxc2 19.Nd4



Position after 19.Nd4

19...Qxb1+ 20.Rxb1 Nf5 21.Nxf5 exf5 22.Bxd7 Bxd7 23.Nf6+ Bxf6 24.exf6 Bc6 25.Qe3 Kh8 26.Qh6 Rg8 27.Rb4 g5 28.Bxc5 Rg6 29.Qh5 Re8



Position after 29...Re8

30.f3

There's a flashier way: 30.Rh4! h6 31.Qxh6+! Rxh6 32.Bxh6! Re1+ (32... Kh7 33.Bg7+ Kg6 34.f4 — intending 35.Rh6#) 33.Kh2 Kg8 34.Bg7 — 35.Rh8#

30...Re2 31.Rd4 h6 32.Rd2 Rxd2 33.Bxd2 Kh7 34.Qxf5 Kg8 35.h4 h5 36.Qxh5 b6 37.Qe5 1-0

Film Review: Wazir

By Mike Hasuikie

This 2016 police movie from India garnered a high 7.2 rating on imdb.com. I would rate it two and a half stars out of a possible four.

The acting, cinematography, cultural content, sound track, and the fact that it is entertaining are its greatest strengths.

The film is about average in verisimilitude for its genre; its main weakness is perhaps the premise that people can be manipulated like pushing chess piece to effect the desired result.

The *wazir* is the strongest piece, the equivalent of our queen. The *wazir* of the film is very elusive and but a part of the rich royal game motif.

The hero, Daanish, works in antiterrorism in Delhi and overcomes a family tragedy and lack of chess acumen to take on the corrupt high government official Qureshi.

The gun play and number of car chases enrich it, even though they are maybe not quite up to, say, Hollywood standards. At times, Daanish takes his licks but, when necessary, fights like Rambo. Daanish is aided by amputee chess guru Dhar who is played by an actor bearing a slight resemblance to Al Pacino. Dhar turns out to be an almost Christ-like pawn, while Daanish is a rook. As Dhar says, "A game is a game is a game." *Wazir* resembles a musical at times. The several music-video-like sequences adroitly advance the plot.

The subplot following Daanish and his wife's relationship adds some depth to a story with many otherwise flat characters.

View *Wazir* on DVD and see if the denouement is checkmate!

Casual Chess at the Boise Chess Club

Alex James Machin (1675) – Jeffrey T. Roland (1771) [D37]

Casual Game Boise, ID,
September 5, 2016
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7
5.Bf4 0-0 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Bd3 dxc4 8.Bxc4
c6 9.0-0 Nh5 10.Re1

10.Be5!? Nxe5?! 11.dxe5!± Black's
offside knight becomes a focal point.

10...Nxf4 11.exf4 Nf6 12.Qe2 Qc7
13.Ne5 Nd5 14.Qg4?!

14.g3± offers space, mobility, and central
control.

14...f6

14...Qb6!?

15.Nd3 Kh8



Position after 15...Kh8

16.f5?!

16.g3 Bd6 (16...e5?! 17.Qe2 exd4 (17...
Nxc3 18.bxc3±; 17...Nb6 18.Bb3 exd4
19.Qxe7 Qxe7 20.Rxe7 dxc3 21.bxc3±)
18.Nxd5 cxd5 19.Bxd5 Bd6 20.Rac1±)
17.Qe2±

16...exf5



Jeffrey Roland (top), Alex Machin (bottom).
Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

16...Nxc3 17.bxc3 exf5 18.Qf3 Bd6

17.Qf3

17.Qe2 Bd6 (17...Nxc3 18.Qxe7 Qxe7
19.Rxe7 Ne4∞) 18.Nxd5 Bxh2+ 19.Kh1
cxd5 20.Bxd5 Bd6 21.Rac1∞

17...Nxc3 18.bxc3 Bd6 19.Qh5 Bd7
20.Re3 f4 21.Re2 g6 22.Qh6 Bg4 23.f3
Bf5 24.Nf2 Rfd8

24...c5

25.Ne4 Bf8 26.Qh4 g5 27.Qh5 Bg7

28.Rae1 Bg6 29.Qh3



Position after 29.Qh3

An interesting thing happened at this point
during the game. Jim Berezow was right
at this point standing on a chair taking
pictures of the game from high above and
looking down over the board. He took
many pictures of this game actually, from
all angles, which kind of made Alex and
me feel special... at Boise Chess Club,
we're all used to pictures being taken all
the time, but not often does anyone take
aerial photos of our game!

Anyway, right now, Jim Berezow said
(while still standing on the chair above
the game), "I know what I would play."
To which Alex then pulled out his phone,
texted a move and sent it to Jim's phone.
Instantly Jim got it while still standing on
the chair above the game, and said, "Yep,
that's it!"—All of this played out right in
front of me with no attempt to conceal...
and why not? After all, chess club is
fun and social! So I asked, "Okay, what
was it?" to which Alex said, "29...b6 to
prevent the knight going to c5".

I pondered a few more minutes and
decided to play 29...b5 anyway. I had
been considering ...b6 too, but I was
feeling ...b5 more, and I went with what I
was feeling.—Jeffrey Roland.

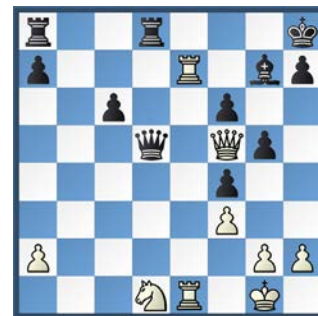
29...b5 30.Be6 b4 31.Bf5 Bxf5 32.Qxf5
Rd5 33.Qe6 bxc3 34.Nxc3

34.Nxf6!? Rd6 35.Qe8+ Bf8 (35...Rxe8?
36.Rxe8+ Bf8 37.Rxf8+ Kg7 38.Ne8+
Kxf8 39.Nxc7) 36.Qe5 Qg7 37.Ne4 Rxd4

34...Rxd4 35.Qf5 Rdd8 36.Re7?

36.Na4 helps restrain the c-pawn and
may generate some compensation by
threatening a hop into c5 and e6.

36...Qd6 37.Nd1 Qd5



Position after 37...Qd5

38.Rxg7??

38.Qxd5 cxd5 39.Nf2

38...Qxf5 0-1

We played a post-mortem game, "what
if White hadn't played 38.Rxg7??", and
Black still won that too, so the blunder
didn't kill the game for either of us.

Several players spent over two hours
watching us play this game rather than
play their own games.

It felt really good to play Alex Machin.
Life being busy for both of us this year,
the two of us hadn't both been at chess
club at the same time in more than eight
months, and much longer than that since
we both played each other, so it was a
pretty special game for both of us.

We played it as if it were a tournament
game (touch-move, for example), except
we could socialize with ourselves and
others watching, and we did not play with
a clock. The game was unlimited in how
long it could take.

Those watching this game intently were
John E. Connors III, Bill Brubaker, and
Jim Berezow. Others like Chris Amen,
Alex Lopez, and Jesse Batten occasionally
stopped by to watch it.—Jeffrey Roland.

September 2016 PCC Quad 45

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—September 17, 2016

Mix a popular monthly tournament
with a popular venue (the Portland Chess
Club), toss in a rainy Saturday afternoon,
and you have the ingredients to draw
a sizable turnout. And so it was on a
rainy September 17th, when 22 players
stepped through the man-made waterfall
that cascades over the front entrance to
the club whenever there is a sufficient
downpour. A phenomenon noted by
all club members, and also the Oregon
Tourist Bureau, who have added it to their
list of must-see attractions.

Among those 22 players was a
familiar face not seen for some time, that
of Women's FIDE Master, Alexandra



(L) Gunther Jacobi vs Alexandra Botez. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Praveer Sharan. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Botez (2083-2090—2.0/3), known to Oregon chess players as the sister of Andrea Botez (1769-1784—2.0/3)—a strong player in her own right, and also in attendance—and daughter to Andrei Botez, who runs the Silver Knights Chess Club, in Happy Valley, Oregon. Now studying International Relations at Stanford, she had this day decided to renew relations of a more local kind; at a venue she gained experience at during her high school years in Oregon.

It would have been interesting to see Alexandra facing Washington's Nick "The Raptor" Raptis, who has of late been seen playing a number of Quad 45s (perhaps just to keep his talons sharp), but was nowhere to be seen this tournament. Instead, she was faced with another formidable opponent, Ryan Richardson (2126-2138—2.5/3), who finished a half point ahead of Alexandra in Quad One—a strong quad, also made up of Gunther Jacobi (1961-1961—1.0/3) and Elias Stern-Rodriguez (2029-2008—0.5/3).

Four Quads formed the bulk of this tournament's players, with a Small Swiss holding six of the lowest ranked players, in an effort to keep brother and sister Kevin Wu (729P-802P—3.0/3) and Abbie Wu (653P-652P—2.0/3) from having to face each other. The outcome of that Swiss was that Kevin Wu won it with a perfect score of 3-zip, earning 73 more rating points, a \$10 discount on his next entry, a chess book of his choice and a trophy.

And at his heels was Abbie Wu, who with newcomer to US Chess tournaments, Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet (104P-326P—2.0/3), tied for second with two wins each, entitling them to \$2.50 off their next entry—the second place prize of \$5.00 split two ways. But in addition to his split of the second place money, Beauchet also upped his provisional rating 222 points, which I am sure pleased him more than the money prize.

Quad Two saw Andrea Botez secure

first place with two wins and one loss, with Kian Patel(1882-1865—1.5/3) and Isaac Vega (1672-1690—1.5/3) tying for second. Botez earned \$10 off her next entrance fee, but declined her choice of a chess book and also a medal for being a scholastic player—two things I am sure she has little room for amongst her many other awards.

Quad Three's outcome was more personal, in that it contained Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1566-1524—0.5/3), whose aka should really be, Brian "One Step Forward, Two Steps Back" Berger. Seems that no matter what advantage I have lately (be it a major piece up, a pawn up, or just having a very good mid-game or ending position), I find a way to lose amongst a number of ways to win or draw—which continued as a pattern in this tournament, where I dropped my first game against the young Roshen Nair (1518-1543—2.0/3), and the second against the young Praveer Sharan (1481-1522—2.0/3), finally to



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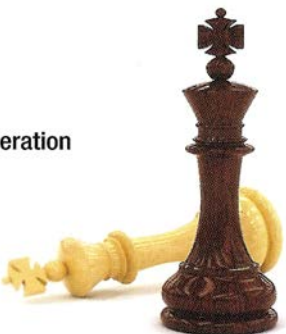
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(L) David Roshu vs Greg Markowski. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Patrick Morrissey.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

manage a draw against Will Holloran III (1593P-1580P—1.5/3).

To their credit, these two younger players beat a higher rated player (at least on paper), and tied for first place, each receiving a chess book and medal, and \$5 off their next entry. And as for me, the only things I received were a number of condolences.

Turning now to the fourth and last Quad, David Roshu (1300-1416—3.0/3) came away with all the marbles for his perfect score (Greg Markowski 1435-1436—2.0/3 being his closest contender), gaining 116 points on his rating, as well as a chess book of his choosing and a trophy to place in his room. Oh yes, and also a \$10 discount on his next tournament.

Acknowledgments must be made to Chief TD Micah Smith, and to Mike Janniro (who assisted during registration), for making sure everything went like clockwork for the duration of the Quads, that ended without an announced Blitz tournament being held immediately thereafter, due to a lack of interested players.



Roshen Nair.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Isaac Vega plays some skittles with Kian Patel before the tournament, with Chief TD Micah Smith in the background. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

2016 Washington Women's Championship

This month we have two reports on the same event. The first is from the TD's perspective, and the second is from a player's perspective. I like both articles and present both fully intact here. The reader will hopefully forgive the fact that there are some redundancies in the two articles, as both speak of results and scores.—Editor

The TD's Report

By Carol Kleist

Seattle, WA—September 17-18, 2016

The Washington Women's Championship is alive and well and growing. Fifteen participants cannot be termed an overwhelming number, but let's compare for a moment. Last year, in 2015, only seven players, less than half the 2016 number turned out. This year the roster was topped by three US Chess Experts: Chouchanik (Chouchan) Airapetian, Naomi Bashkansky, and Badamkhand (you may call her Bada) Norovsambuu, and near expert Mary Kuhner. Minda Chen, who followed next in rating order, came in at 300 rating points higher than last year. The players came from all ages, ranging from second grader Sophie Velea, winner of the Pan American and also the North American recent championships in the girls under eight years old divisions, to mature women with children of their own. And let it be known, these grade school age chess enthusiasts, in the words of Mary Kuhner, "did not give up any points easily."

As might be expected, one of the Experts, Bada Norovsambuu won the first place prize money and will be seeded into the Premier of the next Washington State

Championship. She did this convincingly with a perfect score of 4.0/4 points. Mary Kuhner followed closely, winning the second place prize with 3.5/4 points. Third place was won by seventh grader Sophie Tien, who saw her US rating soar by 88 rating points.

The school age students took the rest of the very generous prize money in the form of a tie for U1800/U1600 shared by Minda Chen and Anne Marie Velea, each with 2.5/4 points. Sophie Szeto and Melinda Li were winners of the U1400/U1200 prize and the U1000 prize went to Angela Agaian.

Perhaps next year's Women's Championship will see US Expert and WCF Board Member Chouchanik Airapetian, US Expert Naomi Bashkansky, the current B players Jessica Lauser and Cheyenne Zhang, as well as the grade school players Stephanie Velea, Allison Xiao, and Sophie Velea join in the prize winning.

Meanwhile, we had a tournament filled with good fellowship, good sportsmanship, exemplary behavior at the board by the children, and fun. From this Tournament Director's perspective, i.e., Carol Kleist's, the tournament was a dream come true. No pieces to pick up under the tables in the skittles room

after the tournament, no wondering what happened to various black pawns and pieces. When I mentioned this fact, contrastingly, on Sunday morning at the next SCC tournament, I was met by the male reaction of SCC T.D. Fred Kleist, and SCC Webmaster Neal Bonrud, who were standing by with humorously non-comprehending looks and Neal's question "Are you trying to tell us something?" I had to give it up. But even though they win, I still find it true.

Last mentioned, but foremost in importance to the growing interest and participation in this tournament, credit goes to the incredibly energetic, thorough, and imaginative WCF President Josh Sinanan, aided no doubt by WCF Board Member Chouchanik Airapetian, with her firsthand knowledge of the experience.

A Player's Report

By Mary Kuhner

Seattle, WA—September 17-18, 2016

It's often said that women play more aggressive chess than men; certainly at the modern top level they draw far fewer games. The Women's Championship lived up to this reputation, with only two draws in 28 games, and some spectacular violence over the board.



L-R: TD Carol Kleist, Chouchanik Airapetian, Badamkhand Norovsambuu, Melina Li, Mary Kuhner, Jessica Lauser, Angela Agaian, Minda Chen, Sophie Velea, Naomi Bashkansky, Stephanie Velea, Alison Xiao, Anne-Marie Velea. Not pictured: Cheyenne Zhang, Sophie Tien, Sophie Szeto. Photo credit: Varuzhan Karl Agaian.

On paper this looked like two disjoint tournaments. The “top section” consisted of three Experts—defending Champion WFM Chouchanik Airapetian, WFM Badamkhand Norovsambuu, and WCM Naomi Bashkansky—and myself as a somewhat distant fourth. The “bottom section” was rated 1630 and below, and consisted of a single adult, Jessica Lauser of Sacramento, and ten eager young players. My first hint that things wouldn’t be so simple came when Jessica challenged me to blitz before round one and quickly beat me several times. She explained that she had come specifically to try to get her regular rating to match her Expert-level blitz rating.

Any remaining idea that the lower-rated players could be disregarded was dispelled in round one, where Sophie Tien (1606) defeated Chouchanik Airapetian (2072) with a violent attack. One of the young players said to me, “Sophie used to be so timid, and now she’s attacking everyone!” I eventually won a difficult game against Stephanie Velea (1294), who mishandled her opening but then unleashed a bold piece sacrifice and counterattacked like a tiger.

The higher-rated players managed to regroup in round two, setting up exactly the pairing I’d predicted (and feared) for round three: I had Black vs. Naomi Bashkansky, who had handed me stinging defeats in both of our previous games. I’d solicited advice on handling Naomi from all sides. Josh Sinanan, who was beaten by her in Kings vs. Princes, said wryly, “Don’t let her attack.” Another player expanded on this: “Naomi is fire. Let her attack you and she’ll burn you up. Bottle her up and she burns out.” Armed with these ideas, I finally managed to get a good position out of my Stonewall Dutch; in time trouble the game veered back and forth, finally ending in a draw with seconds left on Naomi’s clock.

The TD let us sit anywhere we wanted for round four, and the top boards clumped together so that we could watch each others’ games. Chouchanik, who may have been distracted by her family, dropped a piece to me, leaving all eyes on the board one game between Badamkhand and Naomi. If Naomi won this game I would tie for first with her; if she drew I would tie for first with Badamkhand. (There was general uncertainty about the tiebreak system, so no one quite knew what this would mean for the title.) The game erupted in tactical violence

in the very early moves of Naomi’s characteristic Queen’s Gambit Accepted, but when the dust settled Naomi was left defending several weak pawns, and her attempts to break free from this defensive chore only led to a fatal invasion by Badamkhand’s queen and rooks.

Badamkhand thus won the tournament with 4.0/4, demonstrating a well-honed ability to build up pressure until her opponents cracked. Congratulations to our new State Women’s Champion! I came in second with 3.5/4, and Sophie Tien posted an impressive third with 3.0/4, losing only to the Champion and gaining 88 rating

Kleist for directing it. I hope we’ll need a fifth round next year! The excellent turnout of young players speaks well for the future of women in Northwest chess.

**Naomi Bashkansky (2094) –
Mary Kuhner (1955) [A85]**

WA Women’s Championship
Seattle, WA (R3), September 18, 2016
[Mary Kuhner]

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.g3 d5 5.e3

While this move is often made somewhat aimlessly, Naomi doesn’t make aimless moves. I speculated that she was aiming for Ne2, f3, and e4 to break up my center, and decided to respond with a carefully timed ...dxc4 and ...e5. The game becomes quite different from our two previous Stonewalls.

**5...c6 6.b3 Bd6 7.Bg2 0–0
8.Nge2 Qe8 9.Bb2**



Position after 9.Bb2

This felt like the correct moment for my center break, as her king is not yet castled.

9...dxc4 10.bxc4 e5 11.Rc1

11.d5 might be met by something like 11...Bb4 12.0–0 e4 13.dxc6 Nxc6 14.Nd4 Ne5. I have trouble deciding if this is better or worse than what she played. I do think, though, that she should have tried d5 at some point.

**11...e4 12.0–0 Na6 13.a3
Kh8**

I kept seeing problems for my king on the a2–g8 diagonal, and I also remembered Naomi destroying me on that diagonal in a previous game. On the other hand, now my king is on a line with her bishop. The truth is, there is no reliably good place for Black’s king in the Stonewall. You put it somewhere that seems transiently safe and prepare to move it again if necessary.

**14.Qd2 Bd7 15.f3 exf3 16.Bxf3 Qe7
17.Ra1**

17.Nf4 Bxa3 18.Bxa3 Qxa3 19.Ra1 did not look that great to me, and in fact I would probably not have taken on a3. Here and later Naomi plays too cautiously,

NORTHWEST CHESS OPEN December 10-11, 2016

**A Northwest Chess fundraising event.
US Chess-rated, NWC Grand Prix.
State membership optional.**

Format: 5 Round Swiss; TC 40/90, SD/30, no delay.

Playing site: Seattle Chess Club, 2150 N 107th St, Seattle, WA. Registration 8:30–9:15 a.m.

Entry: Entry Fee \$30.00 in advance, \$35.00 at door. Make checks payable to Duane Polich and send to 17317 Woodcrest Drive NE, Bothell, WA 98011, or enter online at nwchess.com/online-registration.

Prizes: Prize fund \$750 based on 35 entries; 1st \$150, 2nd \$100, 1st U2000 \$100, 1st U1800 \$100, 1st U1600 \$100, 1st U1400 \$100, 1st U1200 \$100. Prizes increased if over 40 entries. Additional books and NWC magazine subscription prizes as entries permit.

For more information and details:

Go to: <http://www.nwchess.com/>

Advance entry deadline is December 7th.

points. The class prizes were also hotly contested across the entire range: I wasn’t able to watch whole games, but I caught glimpses of several sharp mating attacks and pawn-promotion fights. Minda Chen and Anne-Marie Velea split the U1800/U1600 prizes, Sophie Szeto and Melina Li split the U1400/U1200 prizes, and Angela Agaian won the U1000/Unrated prize.

We had twice as many players (15) this year as in 2015, and an excellent event with exciting chess throughout. Thanks are due to Josh Sinanan for organizing this event and Carol Mayer-

and drifts into a bad position.

17...Rae8

It is hard for White to defend e3 without making a concession elsewhere. At this point I began to think I might be, not just getting out of the opening intact, but actually better. (Surprisingly enough, Stockfish agrees.)

18.Nd1 Ne4 19.Qd3 Be6 20.Bg2

20.Bxe4 fxe4 21.Qxe4 Rxf1+ wins the queen.



Position after 20.Bg2

20...Nb8

At the time this seemed like a good way to redeploy my knight, which is doing nothing on a6. But I wonder if it's the move where I began to lose the thread.

21.Nec3 Nxc3 22.Nxc3 Nd7 23.e4 fxe4

24.Nxe4 Bc7 25.Qc3 Nb6 26.Nd2

Again Naomi is defending rather than attacking, and I could tell by her body language that she wasn't happy about it. She was also significantly short of time.

26...Na4 27.Qc2 Nxb2 28.Qxb2 Ba5 29.Rac1 Rxf1+ 30.Nxf1 Bb6

Time control. White had 29 seconds. I had 8 minutes. The next time control was 30/SD.



Position after 30...Bb6

31.Nd2 Qf6

Stockfish identifies this as the move where I lose my advantage, and suggests moving the e6 bishop away (to any of g8, f7, or f5) instead.

32.c5 Ba5 33.Ne4 Qe7 34.Nd6

Having carried out a powerful knight

invasion White is now better, but I rapidly make things even worse for myself.

34...Rb8 35.Bxc6

Stockfish likes 35.Qe2 Qg5 36.Rb1 Qg6 even better. Apparently the weak queenside pawns do not run away.

35...Bc7 36.Nxb7 Bh3 37.Qd2 Rf8 38.Rd1 Qf6 39.Bg2 Bxg2 40.Qxg2 Qa6 41.Rf1 Re8

I figured I was lost and could only hope for a time-trouble inaccuracy.

42.Qf3 h6 43.c6 Bb6



Position after 43...Bb6

44.Nc5

According to Stockfish this loses much of White's advantage. Her open king position makes it difficult to hold the far-flung pawns.

Washington G/60 Chess Championship

December 27-28, 2016

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

Format: 6 Round Swiss. One Section.

Time Control: G/60, d5.

Dual Rated: Regular and Quick Chess rated.

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

Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating.

Higher of USCF or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

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

1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 1st U2000 \$100, 1st U1800 \$100, 1st U1600 \$100, 1st U1400 \$100, 1st U1200/Unrated \$100.

Entry Fee: \$45 if postmarked or online by 12/24, \$55 after 12/24 or at site.

Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

Registration: Tuesday 11:00 - 11:45 AM.

Rounds: Tuesday 12:00 PM, 2:30 PM, 5:00 PM; Wednesday 12:00 PM, 2:30 PM, 5:00 PM.

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

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

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.

44...Qc4 45.Qd3 Qd5 46.Nb3 Qxc6
47.Qf5 Qd6 48.Kh1 Qxa3

Now I am even a little better. My scoresheet becomes inaccurate here and Naomi had abandoned keeping score several moves earlier. In the subsequent flurry we exchanged the minor pieces and then I won the d-pawn, trading queens. This led to a rook endgame with h-pawns and an extra b-pawn for me, in which Naomi, with 11 seconds on her clock, offered a draw. I decided that trying to blitz a young player in a drawn endgame was not wise—I had only two minutes myself and I'm not a strong blitz player—and accepted the draw.

½-½

September 2016 PCC Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—September 24, 2016

September's Game 60 at the Portland Chess Club drew an avid crowd of 28 attendees, who gave up a most wonderful sunny afternoon to stay indoors and match wits over a board of 64 squares. Whether the tradeoff was worth it probably depended on how you stood game-wise entering the final fourth round.

One attendee that could not go unnoticed was Morgan The Dog, last seen at the Oregon Open where he drew such a bevy of adoring fans that the management of the DoubleTree Hotel had to physically restrain some of them from over-petting



Abbie Wu (a new fan and a tough chess competitor) plays with Morgan The Dog.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

and asking for his paw-print. And Game 60 (on a smaller scale) seemed to follow somewhat of what was seen at the Open, where petting was heavy and belly-scratching mandatory.

Almost overlooked because of the attention being paid to Morgan, was his companion, Jerrold “I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It’s Over” Richards (1517-1511—2.0/4), who of late has

been showing he just might make his goal, entering this tournament as a 1517 player—up from the 1400s, where it was believed he had taken up permanent residency. And though he played well this time (Morgan The Dog’s coaching seems finally to be bearing fruit), he was up against some stiff competition in his two losses, and had to give up six of his precious points.

Another presence in the playing room who also could not go unnoticed was, Nick “The Raptor” Raptis (2394-2392—3.5/4), sporting a freshly manicured set of talons. But unlike the August Game 60, where “The Raptor” rapaciously gnawed his way through the competition, this Game 60 proved to have a stumbling block, in the form of the always smiling Andrea Botez (1784-1804—3.0/4), who forced a drawn game against this most formidable foe—knocking him out of the running for first place (he took second and \$54), and propelling Botez into first in the U1800, giving her an additional 20 rating points and \$47.75.

I should also mention at this point that, I too, Brian “Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1661-1628—2.5/4), had my problems in this tournament, one of which occurred in the second round against the young Cassandra Roshu (1101-1216—2.5/4), a student of Andrei Botez. It was a game (where I thought I was winning, until I was not) in which the time was giving her concern (she was continually short of it throughout the game), but like a seasoned pro, she took the needed seconds to evaluate what was taking place on the



(L) Jon Strohhahn vs Geoff Kenway.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

board and, in the end, with but seconds left on her clock (we were using my old windup with no delay), the win was hers.

This might have been her best tournament performance to date, as she gained 115 rating points (most coming from me, but also her draw against a 1401 player), and shows that, even under pressure, patience can become a winning virtue. It taught me I need to look harder for MY virtue, something I have yet to discover.

The tournament's top-dog, and the winner of \$84, proved to be Matt Zavortink (2099-2107—4.0/4) of Washington, who, by the mysteries of the pairing system, drew some rather tame competition (rating-wise—no player over 1580, and that player was provisional!) for his first three games. Only in the fourth round did he face one opponent who could have upset the applecart, Steven Witt (1924-1939—3.0/4)—who has the ability to upset some pretty heavy applecart's when least expected, and who tied with David Murray (1832-1860—3.0/4) for third and fourth place, giving each \$20.75.

Winding up the winners' list was Will Holloran III, (1580P-1658P—3.0/4), who pocketed the U1500 prize of \$62.45, and earned a nice boost in his rating. Holloran has exhibited marked improvement in each of his 20 provisional games, and shows no tendency to slow down anytime soon.

Lennart Bjorksten, serving as Chief TD, and Danny Phipps, as Chief Assistant TD, provided the trouble-free running of the tournament—a tournament which has shown to be popular for its time controls, and for its ease of access.

2016 Eastern Washington Open

By Kevin Korsmo
Spokane, WA—October 1-2, 2016

Spokane area chess veteran Brad Bodie and newcomer Joseph Roberts, attending college in Moscow, Idaho, tied for first place in this year's Eastern Washington Open. The pair drew their third round encounter and then each went 1.5 the second day to finish on top with 4.0 scores. That left them ½ point ahead of Michael Cambareri, John Julian, Steve Merwin, Karl Reuter, and Dan McCourt. Bodie and Julian fought to a draw with seconds left on their respective clocks in the final round, while Roberts topped seventh grader Garrett Casey in a fascinating endgame where he first sacked an exchange and then a bishop to connect two passed pawns that rolled over Garrett's two rooks en route to promotion—all in the last few minutes of the game.



Ted Baker in round one.
Photo credit: James Stripes.

The tournament finish was indicative of the battles that marked every round of the tournament. There were 29 players taking part in this year's installment of the EWO. With 1/3 of the field class A or stronger, the event shaped up to be very competitive, and it certainly lived up to that expectation—there were no perfect scores after the first day's action. Roberts, an unrated player who only joined the US Chess for the tourney, was the lowest-ranked player, but the unrated label was misleading. Joseph had played competitive high school chess in Mexico, competing in national competitions and earning a FIDE rating of 1961. Although he had not played competitively for a bit, the rust was not much in evidence. His performance gave him a provisional rating in the Expert category.

While the finish of the event was exciting and hard fought, the first round demonstrated that the entire tourney was destined to be that way. It began with three upsets (one victory and two draws) on the top five boards, with two of the games exceeding the four hours expected for the round. The second round saw upset losses on boards two and four, while the third round saw draws on the top three boards. Of course, one of those went to the absolute maximum time before drawing.

With no perfect scores, six players led the event after the first day's activities. That list promptly got trimmed to one the following morning when Bodie was the sole victor of the leading group. Brad's 3.5 score was ½ point ahead of five others, while seven more pursuers were but one point back. That guaranteed a contentious final round that saw only one early result on a lower board.



Bill Rottmayer in round five.
Photo credit: Kevin Korsmo.

The winners split the first prize of \$125 and the Unrated prize that otherwise would have gone to Roberts. That left Steve Merwin to claim first in class A, with Romie Carpenter (3.0) second. Karl Reutter and Dan McCourt won the class B prizes, while Sam Comi and Jason Cross, who literally just moved to Spokane, tied for the class C prizes with their 3.0 scores. Second in the class D/Unrated section went to Frank Miller (2.0). Even the biggest upset prize was competitive—the four biggest upsets all featured victories in the 400 to 430 point spread, with Jason



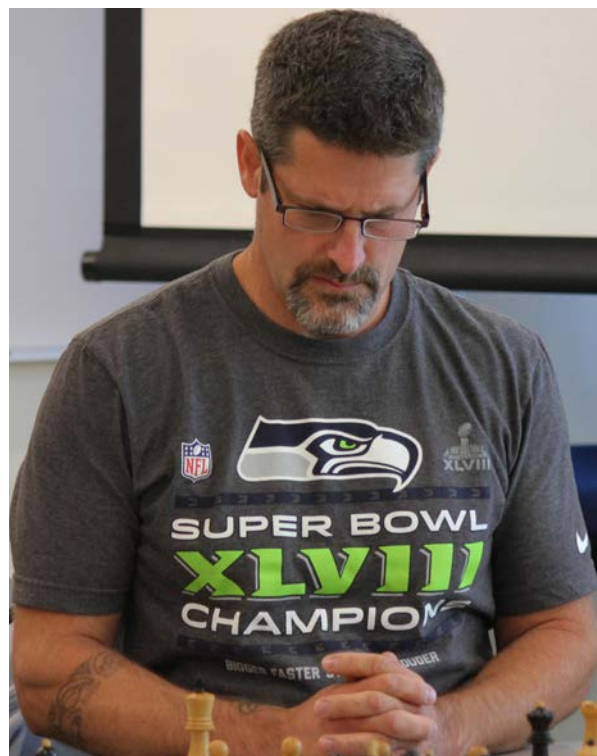
Steve Merwin.
Photo credit: James Stripes.



*(L) Michael Cambareri vs. Jason Cross from round four.
Photo credit: James Stripes.*



*John Julian.
Photo credit: James Stripes.*



*Brad Bodie.
Photo credit: James Stripes.*

Cross's victory edging Ron Weyland's for the prize by only 13 points.

This year's event was played at Gonzaga's Jepson Center on October 1 & 2 and featured a guaranteed prize fund of \$615.

Norman Friedman Memorial

By Adam Porth

Hailey, ID—October 1-2, 2016

Open Winners:

1st place Cody Gorman (\$200)

2nd place \$50/each

Jacob Nathan

Barry Eacker

Adam Porth

Desmond Porth

U1600 (\$50) Graeme Faulkner

U1400 (\$50) James Liu

U1200 (\$50) Temi Aderogba

U1000 (\$50) Levi Catangatang

Unrated (\$50) Seth Machakos

Scholastics Winners:

1st place Oliver Nathan

2nd place Otto Olson

3rd place River Shepard

Grade Level winners: Darwin Porth, Rylee Siles-Zaccardi, Gracie Robles, Dartanyon Ratliffe, Leam Van Law

Blitz Winners

1st place Cody Gorman

2nd place Adam Porth

3rd place Barry Eacker

\$25 Gift Certificates to DaVinci's Darwin Porth and Temi Aderogba

\$25 Gift Certificate to Powerhouse Easton Turck

USChess Membership Gracie Robles

Norman Friedman Books: Quentin Van Law and Seth Machakos

Dan Mayer's Books: Gracie Robles

**Remember to
keep submitting
articles, games,
and photos!**



*Cody Gorman.
Photo credit: Adam Porth.*



*(L) Desmond Porth vs. Jacob Nathan.
Photo credit: Adam Porth.*



Outdoor Group Photo. Photo courtesy of Adam Porth.

Film Review: *The Dark Horse*


By Mike Hasuike
October 4, 2016

This film is inspired by the true story of the late Genesis Potini and at least partly adapted from the documentary of the same title. In the opening sequence, we are introduced to the Native New

Zealander title character whose Rain-Man-like behavior threatens him with continued institutionalization. His dark equine Polynesian mane for a 'do suggests the origin of his nickname. His very casual attire, with Crocs for shoes and a patchwork quilt for a raincoat, punctuate his often homeless status. His old press clippings reveal that he had been a chess player of some note. However, analyzing moves over the board is the least of his concerns now.

Initially, off his tranquilizers and other medications, he repeatedly faces the consequences of the stigma against him, including gang-related and other violence. Nevertheless, with the support of his family and growing circle of friends and his native spirituality, he aims to take a club of underprivileged native kids to the national junior championships. Their problems become his problems, including that of his gang-initiate nephew, in his quest for a positive path in life.





Carl Haessler Chess Master
503-875-7278 ■ carl@chessworksNW.com
chessworksNW.com

The film is rated R for profanity, drug content, and violence, though it is ultimately very uplifting and shows what a positive thing chess can be in our lives and in the community. The acclaimed Maori actor Cliff Curtis who plays Genesis is at the top of his game in this film and the child actors playing the club members are convincing and endearing.

Though chess players may be annoyed by the numerous inaccuracies in how the royal game is portrayed, I rate it three out of four stars. It's a solid, good movie that takes you into another culture while exploring universal themes.

National Chess Day Portland Fall Open

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—October 9, 2016

The skies had been ominous in the days leading up to The Portland Chess Club's annual Fall Open, rain saturated nights with sometimes a little clearing during the day. But on the Saturday of this tournament, held in October, the rain from the night before carried into the early and mid-morning hours, probably prompting some players who were vacillating about attending, to commit to two days of intense concentration across from an equally intense opponent.

Although the day transitioned to mild and sunny, some of those in the 34 player field revealed by facial expressions that they were experiencing an extended period of grayness, while their opposition were basking in the warmth of a sunny



(L) Daniel Friesen vs Danny Phipps.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

disposition, brought about by the gray cloud hanging over their opponent's head.

I know of what I speak, as I, Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1628-1631—1.5/5), had such a gray cloud hanging over my head for most of this five game marathon, barely seeing a glint of sunlight, and that due to a win and a draw. But as an excuse (and I am fast running out of them), I had chosen to play in the Open Section and not the

Reserve, and so was faced with three players who were from 200 to 400 points above my rating. And only when I was matched with two other 1600+ players did I manage that win and draw.

Another player in attendance who has been struggling mightily (as I have) to achieve a wished-for goal, was Jerrold "I Just Want To Make 1600 Before It's Over" Richards (1511-1521—2.5/5), who in company with the famous "MorganThe Dog," edged a bit closer to that elusive number by besting a 1657 provisional player and a much lower rated provisional player, while taking a bye in the third round. And though making what appears (to those who have not followed the chess career of Richards) to be a seemingly insignificant incremental advance in rating, it is actually a giant leap for Richards, who has given of his sweat and blood for every point earned (to say nothing of the sweat and blood Morgan The Dog has expended in trying to better Richards' game).

But it was not just the little people who were experiencing a bit of gray weather in this tournament. A few of those who enjoy more sunny days than gray in a majority of their encounters also felt a stiffening of the breeze, and noted a darkening cloud moving their direction.

Top among them was Nick "The Raptor" Raptis (2392-2388—4.0/5) who had to settle for second place and \$85 in the Open Section, moved from his normal "catbird seat" by suffering two draws from tough opponents—one being the \$127.50



Chief TD Mike Morris. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

first place winner, Matt Zavortink (2107-2132—4.5/5) from Washington; the other, a highly determined Seth Talyansky (2181-2191—3.5/5).

Tying for the U2000 prize money were Danny Phipps (1953-1951—3.0/5) and Daniel Friesen (1833-1885—3.0/5, whose three points each were made up of two wins and two draws (Friesen losing only to Zavortink), netting them \$32—showing they, unlike some players, were favored by mostly sunny weather during their play.

Others to experience upsets in the Open Section were Seth Talyansky who, although he drew “The Raptor,” also had to take a draw in his game with the youngster with many hats, Joshua Grabinsky (1985-1987—2.5/5). Playing the black pieces, Grabinsky took the game into the final minutes, putting Talyansky under horrible time pressure, forcing the offer of a draw.

Ray Fletcher III (1902-1900—2.0/5) also had his troubles with Kevin Xu (1672-1671—1.5/5), their second round game ending in a draw; while Phil Seitzer (2109-2083—3.0/5) had his own hands full with Daniel Friesen, losing to him in the first round, and suffering through draws with Isaac Vega (1625-1649—2.0/5) and Kevin Xu in the second and third rounds.

The Reserve Section was not exempt from stray, gray clouds either. Peter Donchenko (1699-1678—3.5/5), highest rated in this section, found the young Kushal Pai (1358-1354—2.5/5) less of a



(L) Greg Markowski vs Kushal Pai.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

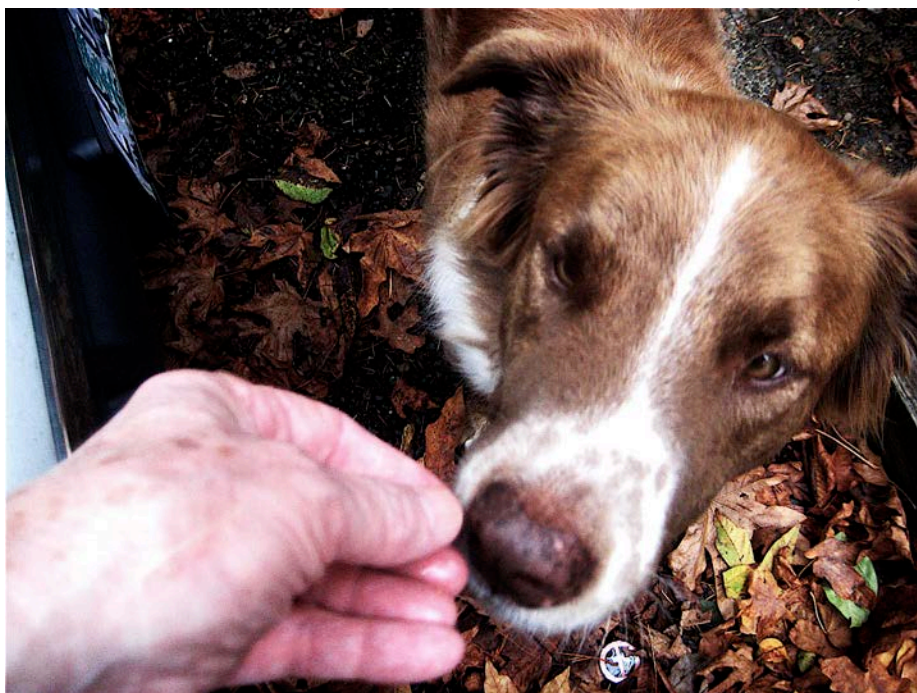
pushover than expected, when he had to accept a draw in the first round. And Greg Markowski (1428-1400—1.5/5), who at times shows he has the chops to take down higher competition, found himself under the darkest cloud at the tournament, when he gave up games one, two and five to Abbie Wu (759P-828P—2.0/5), Kushal Pai and Ethan Zhang (1032-1155—3.0/5).

Those enjoying more sunny conditions were Konner Feldman (1688-

1702—4.0/5) and Jeremy Le Grove (1609-1666—4.0/5) who split the first and second place prize money, receiving \$75 each for two days of high-level play. And it was Mike Hasuike (1521-1555—3.5/5) who walked away with the U1600 prize of \$42.50—showing that he can be more than just a class B, Grand Prix winner.

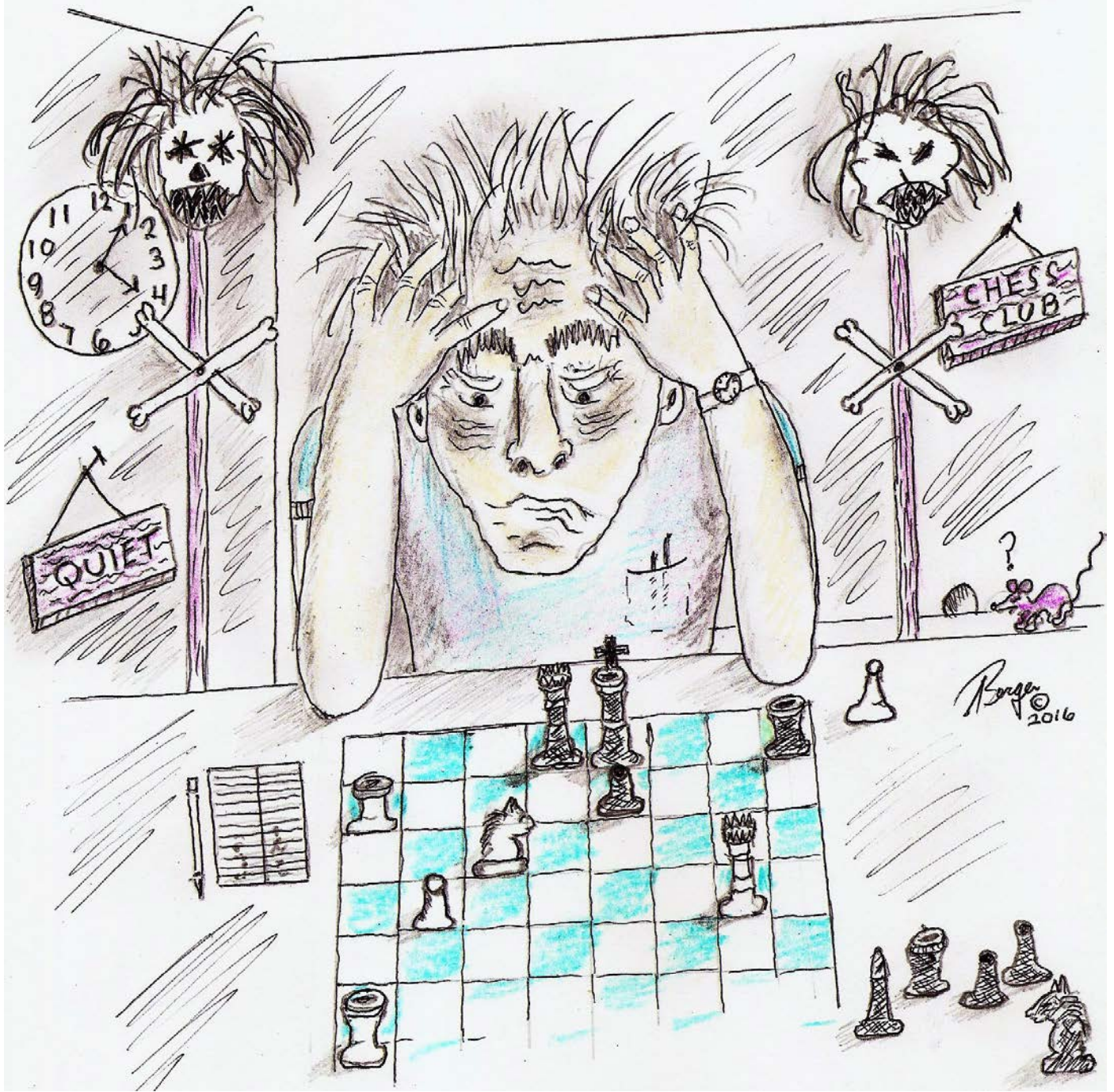
Two other players saw a ray of sunshine during most of their games, and those were Ian Fudalla (1253-1301—3.0/5) and Ethan Zhang—Fudalla winning the U1400, and Zhang the U1200, giving each \$42.50 to go crazy with.

A big thank you is due to Chief TD Mike Morris and Chief Assistant TD Danny Phipps for getting this tournament up and running in an efficient manner; and especially to Mike Janniro who, although not on the official masthead, sat in for Morris through most of the tournament.



Morgan The Dog getting a treat from Brian Berger.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

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**SURE THAT HIS MIND WAS
BEING READ BY HIS OPPONENT,
FELIX TOOK EXTREME
MEASURES TO BLOCK HIM.**



*Vacationing in Maui (Hawaii) from October 2-10, 2016, Jim Berezow can't fully relax without his latest issue of Northwest Chess.
Photo credit: Jane Berezow.*

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The 2016 Richard Gutman Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator

First, a moment of contrition. I messed up last month. I sent an old file and so the standings published in October were the same ones that had been published in September. Credit a couple of observant GP players with pointing this out to me. The standings you see below ARE up to date, or as up to date as can be when created almost a month before publication.

As was to be expected, the Oregon Open with its 6x multiplier has had a major impact on the leaderboards. We see many changes in the top. Let's begin with Idaho, where Gregory Callen has taken the overall leadership away from Travis Miller. Gregory, however, was already leading his rating group. Kevin Xu came out of nowhere to take charge in Idaho's Class B, also due to all the points gained at the Oregon Open. One additional point about the Idaho standings. On October 1 and 2, there were two 2x tournaments held. The Eastern Washington Open in Spokane had nine Idaho players in attendance, and those players have reaped some benefits. At the same time, the Norman Friedman Memorial in Hailey, Idaho also had a number of Idaho players, or so I would imagine. Those stats are not a part of my standings at this writing because the tournament had not hit the US Chess website by the time I had to submit. Therefore, some of the gains garnered by the players in Spokane may be fleeting, as the Hailey tournament will soon also be a part of the standings.

Oregon now has a full slate of Masters, with the emergence of Peter Prochaska at the Oregon Open and the elevation of Jason Cigan to the Master Class (an event I predicted last spring). Not only did Jason join the Masters, he took over first place there. With Jason vacating the Expert Class, Ryan Richardson has taken over as leader there, with lots of shuffling behind him. Moshe Rachmuth is the new leader in Class A, swapping places with Danny Phipps. There was no change in Oregon's Class B, but everyone has a lot more points now. Arliss Dietz maintained his hold on Class C, but a lot of shuffling occurred behind him. Class E was also shuffled, with no one occupying the same spot as last month. Cassandra Roshu is the new leader.

Washington also saw its share of turmoil. Nick Raptis and Viktors Pupols traded places in the top class. Jason Yu kept his top spot among Washington's Experts, but the rest of the class moved about. Class A remained remarkably stable, with the top three positions unchanged, except in their point totals. Class B also stayed mostly the same (you know Steve Buck is not going to relinquish his top spot). In Class C, Anne-Marie Velea has clambered over Jerrold Richards for the honor of taking second to August Piper. This is also the only class where all five leaders are over 100 points. In Class D, Mike Munsey continues to lead, and Anne-Marie's two sisters, Stephanie and Sophie have now joined the top five.

The Oregon Open also did a very good job of drawing from outside our three state area. We currently have 48 players from beyond our borders, including six Masters, who have played in one or more Grand Prix events. Neil Doknjas of Canada leads the "others" with 67.5 points.

I hope you all played some good chess during the month of October. Many points were available and you should have snagged your fair share. Looking to November, we have our usual mix of monthly local events, plus another biggie, the Washington Open in Lynnwood, with a 5x multiplier. The year is drawing to a close, but many of you can still make a charge, just keep playing.

The data below is almost complete through October 2, with that one exception mentioned above.

Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington		
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
Masters								
			1 Cigan	Jason	106.5	1 Raptis	Nick	163
			2 Haessler	Carl A	74	2 Pupols	Viktors	144
			3 Tarjan	James	71.5	3 He	Anthony B	135.5
			4 Grabinsky	Aaron	30	4 Tiglon	Bryce	84.5
			5 Prochaska	Peter	27	5 Schill	William J	74.5

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
M/X/Class A			Experts								
1	Miller	Travis J	55.5	1	Richardson	Ryan	104	1	Yu	Jason	96
2	Cambareri	Michael E	52.5	2	McCoy	Owen	67.5	2	Bashkansky	Naomi	92
3	Hawkins	Nicholas B	48	3	Cosner	Karl	64	3	Thomas	Arjun	85.5
4	Bodie	Brad	42.5	4	Talyansky	Seth D	62	4	Bartron	Paul R	64.5
5	Havrilla	Mark A	21	5	Bjorksten	Lennart	60	5	Dixon	Dakota E	63.5
Class B			Class A								
1	Xu	Kevin	34.5	1	Rachmuth	Moshe S	83	1	Baxter	Brent L	161
2	Derryberry	Dewayne R	13.5	2	Phipps	Danny	77	2	Lee	Addison	145.5
3	Rainey	Samuel W	13	3	Murray	David E	71.5	3	Zhang	Brendan	118.5
4	Roland	Jeffrey T	10.5	4	Perkins	Josiah	66	4	Zhang	Eric M	109.5
5	Buus	Jarod N	8	5	Yoshinaga	David K	46	5	Kuhner	Mary K	94.5
Class C			Class B								
1	Weyland	Ron	31.5	1	Hasuike	Mike L	178.5	1	Buck	Stephen J	260
2	Martonick	Nick	23	2	Berger	Brian F	99	2	Pothukuchi	Revanth V	146.5
2	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	23	3	Vega	Isaac	89.5	3	Jiang	Brandon	122.5
4	Courtney	Caleb	21.5	4	Moore	Michael	85	4	Deng	Samuel	91.5
5	Nyblade	Wesley	10	5	Burris	Christopher E	71	5	Beck	Alec W	90.5
Class D			Class C								
1	Liu	James	37	1	Dietz	Arliss	89.5	1	Piper	August	159.5
2	Wei	James	30	2	Nair	Roshen S	61.5	2	Velea	Anne-Marie	112
3	Bodie	Arlene	26.5	2	Roshu	David L	61.5	3	Richards	Jerrold	109
4	Porth	Adam	15	4	Kenway	Geoffrey W	58.5	4	Jiang	Andrew	102
5	Ang	Ching-E N	9.5	5	Tsai	James	53	4	Vijayakumar	Advaith	102
Class E and Below			Class D and Below								
1	Callen	Gregory D	57	1	Roshu	Cassandra M	23.5	1	Munsey	Michael R	121
2	He	Justin	33	2	Pai	Kushal	22	2	Pogrebinsky	Ethan	97.5
3	Zeng	Forrest	32	3	Wu	Kevin	20.5	3	Velea	Sophie	95.5
4	Porth	Darwin A	13	4	Prideaux	Dave	20	4	Velea	Stephanie	91.5
5	Bauman	Christopher J	6	5	Zhang	Ethan Y	18	5	Frasca	Anne	68.5
Overall Leaders, by State											
1	Callen	Gregory D	57	1	Hasuike	Mike L	178.5	1	Buck	Stephen J	260
2	Miller	Travis J	55.5	2	Cigan	Jason	106.5	2	Raptis	Nick	163
3	Cambareri	Michael E	52.5	3	Richardson	Ryan	104	3	Baxter	Brent L	161
4	Hawkins	Nicholas B	48	4	Berger	Brian F	99	4	Piper	August	159.5
5	Bodie	Brad	42.5	5	Vega	Isaac	89.5	5	Pothukuchi	Revanth V	146.5
6	Liu	James	37	5	Dietz	Arliss	89.5	6	Lee	Addison	145.5
7	Xu	Kevin	34.5	7	Moore	Michael	85	7	Pupols	Viktors	144
8	He	Justin	33	8	Rachmuth	Moshe S	83	8	He	Anthony B	135.5
9	Zeng	Forrest	32	9	Phipps	Danny	77	9	Jiang	Brandon	122.5
10	Weyland	Ron	31.5	10	Haessler	Carl A	74	10	Munsey	Michael R	121
11	Wei	James	30	11	Tarjan	James	71.5	11	Zhang	Brendan	118.5
12	Bodie	Arlene	26.5	11	Murray	David E	71.5	12	Velea	Anne-Marie	112

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

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 Seattle WA 98168

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*You can now register online for
 full-weekend STC tournaments and
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 at www.seattlechess.club*

Nov. 6, Dec. 4

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.

Sunday Tornado

Nov. 19, Dec. 17

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.

Saturday Quads

December 31-January 1

Will consist of three or more separate, but interconnected events, including FischeRandom Quads and other chess variants as well as normal chess at abnormal time controls.

SCC Insanity!!

January 8

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 1/4, \$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.

SCC Novice

How to Find the SCC

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

WCF @ SCC

Dec. 3	WA Blitz Championship
Dec. 27-28	WA G/60 Championship

*Insanity is coming to the STC 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: USCF & 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

☞ **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 dbrgrffn@hotmail.com, web spokanechessclub.org.

☞ **Nov 5-6** Oregon Class Championship, **Portland, OR.** (See <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>)

☞ **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 12/Dec 3** 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.

☞ **Nov 19/Dec 17** 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 25-27** Washington Class Championships, **Lynnwood, WA** (See Full-page Ad page 8)

Dec 3 Washington Blitz Championship, **Seattle, WA.** (See Half-Page Ad page 9)

Dec 3 Washington Bughouse Championship, **Seattle, WA.** (See Half-Page Ad page 10)

☞ **Dec 3** Christmas Tornado, **Tacoma, WA.** Site: Metro Parks Community Center, 3513 Portland Ave. E., Tacoma, WA. Format: 5 round Swiss. Time Control: G30; d5. Entry Fee: \$25 advance, \$30 at the door. TCC members \$22, \$27. Prize Fund: 1st \$45, 2nd \$40; Top Half and Bottom Half. Registration: 9:00 to 9:45, Rounds: 10:00, 11:15, 12:30, 2:00 and 3:30. 2 half point byes available. USCF/WCF or other state membership required. NS NC W. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E B St, Tacoma, WA 98445, (253) 535-2536, ggarychess@aol.com. Website: tacomachess.org.

☞ **Dec 10-11** Western Idaho Open, **Boise, ID.** 5SS. Game/120;d5. 2 Sections Open and Reserve (U1400). Site: La Quinta Inn & Suites, 7965 W. Emerald St., Boise, Idaho 83704. US Chess mem req. ICA mem req. OSA. EF by 12/5 \$30 (U18 & 60+ \$25), Special family rate \$60. \$5 more for all if after 12/5. Register & check in: 8-8:45am 12/10. Rd Times: 9:00, 1:30, 6:00, 9:00, 1:30. 1/2 pt bye available in any round (max 1). Those not checked in by 8:45 a.m. may not be paired in first round. Players arriving before 1:15 p.m. on 12/10 may take a retroactive first round 1/2 pt bye regardless of whether notice was given or not. \$\$ (based on 30). Open \$200, \$100, \$75. Reserve \$100, \$75, \$50. Register online at www.idahocheessassociation.org. INFO: Chief TD Jeffrey Roland at jroland@cableone.net. NC, NS, WC.

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

☞ **Dec 10-11** Northwest Chess Open, **Seattle, WA.** (See Quarter-Page Ad page 17)

☞ **Dec 27-28** Washington G/60 Championship, **Seattle, WA.** (See Half-Page Ad page 18)

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