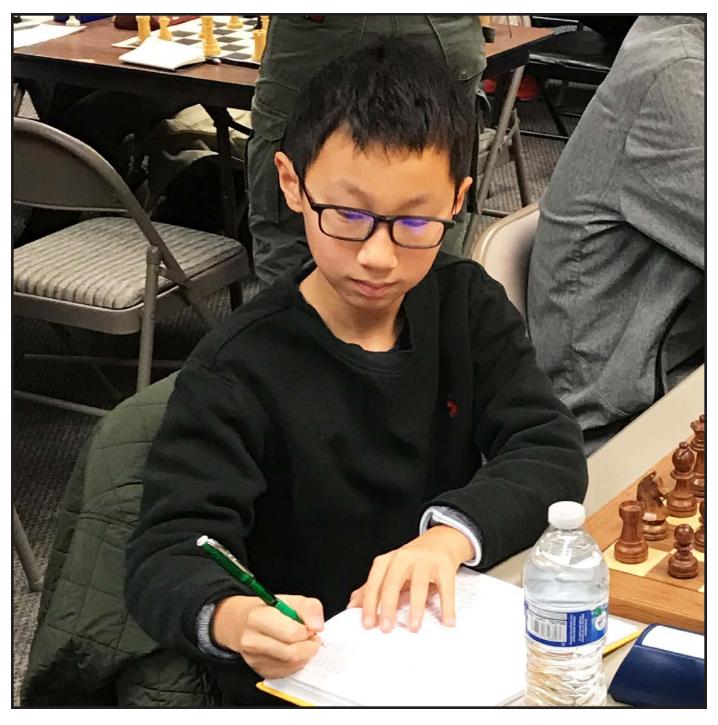


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Remembering John Braley 1944-2017



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Anthony He, a 6th grader from Sammamish, at the fourth Seattle Masters tournament. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan

On the back cover:

Adjacent chess automobiles from British Columbia (L) and Washington State at the 2017 WA vs. BC Match.

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"We learn from chess the habit of not being discouraged by present bad appearances in the state of our affairs, (but rather) the habit of hoping for a favorable change, and that of persevering..."

~ Ben Franklin

The above quote came to me in an email from Sarah McCoy of Eugene, Oregon on January 19, 2017. I liked it so much I wanted to share it here.—Editor.

John Braley 1944-2017

By IM John Donaldson

National Master John Braley of Seattle died on February 7, 2017 at the age of 72. His death marks yet another loss for Seattle chess which has seen the passing of several giants in recent years. Others, who like John began playing in Washington State in the 1950s, include Michael Franett (2004), Elmars Zemgalis (2014) and Viesturs Seglins (2016). Only Viktors Pupols and James McCormick remain of this illustrious group.

Best known for winning three Washington State Championship invitational titles including a 7-0 performance in 1971, John Braley was not only a strong player. Unique among National Masters of his era, he occupied many administrative positions in the Washington Chess Federation and the Seattle Chess Club. John also performed important duties for the Washington Chess Letter, first in the early 1960s and later as the editor of its successor publication Northwest Chess in the 1980s. The issues Braley produced are remembered as some of the best in the history of this magazine which has appeared monthly since November 1947. John was able to do this by attracting a wide variety of contributors including Grandmaster Duncan Suttles, International Master Nikolay Minev, International Master Eric Tangborn, FIDE Master Bruce Harper and future U.S. Women's Champion Alexey Root.

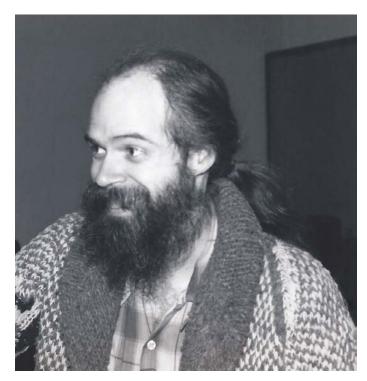
John Braley was born in Tacoma on March 2, 1944, but grew up in the Magnolia neighborhood in Seattle. John started playing at the age of 14 and quickly became one of the best players in Washington which he credited in part to regularly visiting Olaf Ulvestad's Chess Center. John had fond memories of that short-lived establishment located around eighth and Pine that was run by the first international level player from Washington – Ulvestad was a teammate of Arthur Dake in the 1946 USA-USSR match in Moscow, splitting a pair of games with David Bronstein.

In an interview with Jonathan Goetze published in the June 1983 issue of *Northwest Chess*

John also credited his rapid rise to the training he received playing fellow Seattle Prep graduate and life-long friend Michael Franett, Robert Holzinger, Buzz Eddy, Willie Brandel and Jim Campbell. In those pre-Internet days they would often get together for all night sessions of blitz chess. John described the Washington juniors of the time as street fighters in their playing style. He definitely viewed chess as a struggle between two opponents and not an academic exercise.

John played in his first Washington State Championship in 1961 at the age of 16, likely the youngest player to compete in this event dating back to the early 1930s, until Yasser Seirawan broke his record in 1975. Rated an Expert under Robert Karch's Pacific Coast Ratings (later Northwest Ratings) John tied for third in his debut behind Viktors Pupols and Art Wang.

Surprisingly John would not play in another Washington State Championship for a decade. In what should have been some of his best years as a chess player he only competed sporadically throughout the 1960s, his interest in other matters taking him



John Braley in the mid 1980's from John's photo archive. July, 1983 cover. No photo credit given. Courtesy of John Donaldson.

away from the game. John briefly attended Gonzaga University around 1962-63 but structured academic life did not suit him. That did not stop him from a lifelong pursuit of learning with a strong interest in mathematics, particularly three-dimensional geometry.

The Vietnam War was a defining moment for John who was one of the earliest draft resisters. This was before there was any wide spread movement and John acted on his own.

As he told Goetze in the 1983 interview, "...I didn't want to be part of causing large scale harm to people." Luckily for John this was before the first wave of conscientious objectors and the induction people preferred to keep things quiet and drop the matter.

The only time John lived outside Washington was in 1967 when he spent a year in San Francisco where he played several times at the Mechanics' Institute, even winning one of its strong weekly blitz tournaments. This was also the point in his life when John stopped wearing shoes. One day one of his neighbors in Haight Ashbury asked John if he could borrow his hiking boots, his only pair of shoes. They weren't returned, but it was summer, and San Francisco's winters are mild, and soon John got in the habit of walking around barefoot which continued the rest of his life.

Many, upon seeing John for the first time, but not yet

knowing him, would instantly peg him as a hippie. They would be mistaken. Yes, John was a vegetarian (later vegan) most of his life. Yes, he had long hair and a full beard and mustache since at least the mid-1960s. Yet John never considered himself a hippie. As he explained to Goetze, "I have never used drugs at all. And I never participated in group sex either. I'm sure never having done these things I couldn't possibly be a hippie."

John had several successful tournaments in the late 1960s and early 1970s including the 1969 Tacoma Centennial which he won with a 6-0 score defeating Jim McCormick and Peter Biyiasas the last two rounds. McCormick was a good customer of John's, at one point losing to him four times in a row. Jim did not take his losses lightly and after losing yet another game to Braley's then favorite hippopotamus, uttered various expletives at him in his Darth Vaderesque voice, something John would later imitate perfectly on request.

John's 7-0 score in the 1971 Washington State Championship ahead of four past and future state champions (Viktors Pupols, Mike Franett, John Walker and Kent Pullen) is only one of three perfect scores in the close to 90 year history of the event- Elmars Zemgalis (1953) and Slava Mikhailuk (1998) are the others.

The report in *Northwest Chess* (March 1971) on this event held at the Northgate Mall (the long defunct J.J. Gill bookstore), not far from the current home of the Seattle Chess Club, noted that John was not only in horrible time pressure in most of his games, but seemed to deliberately pursue it. According to *N.W.C.* he spent one hour on his seventh move against George Krauss in round one, an hour and 23 minutes for his first nine moves against Robert Routsalainen in round two and one hour and eight minutes for his first six moves against John Walker in round three!

This success would be one of the few tournaments John played in the 1970s. International Master Eric Tangborn remembers seeing John for the first time at a 30/30 tournament

held at Robert Karch's American Chess Service (1135 North 96th), a well-intentioned but short-lived attempt to establish a full-time chess center in Seattle in the wake of the Fischer boom. John tied for first in the event with Paul Eggers and went into hibernation only to be awakened in 1980 by a phone call from Mike Franett.

The June 1980 issue of *Northwest Chess* has a report on the Seattle entry into the National Telephone League (a precursor to the US and Pro Chess Leagues). "Before our noon starting time against Philadelphia it was apparent that one of our players wasn't going to arrive on schedule. This put us in a bit of a quandary, would he show or wouldn't he? Faced with the bleak prospect of forfeiting a board to such a strong team we all thought frantically of who we might get. At last Mike Franett thought of John Braley. A quick call to John's home woke him from his slumber and he graciously agreed to play ending a long break from the game. To show him our appreciation, we gave him the Black pieces on second board against one of the strongest junior players in the country (Tom Costigan)." This was the first time I met John and the start of a 37-year friendship.

It would be nice to report that John won the game against Costigan (he didn't), but it did serve as the catalyst for the most active decade of chess activity in John's life. He not only earned two more Washington State Championship crowns (1983 and 1986) competing several times against current Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson, but also won many tournaments including the Paul Keres Memorial and Washington Open.

A group of Soviet junior all-stars (Kramnik, Tiviakov, Rublevsky Svidler and Galliamova among others!) visited Seattle in March of 1989 as part of the Goodwill Games and annihilated the locals 11 ½ - 1 1/2 . John drew (now Israeli GM) Michael Oratovsky on board two with the Black pieces.



John Braley, playing the white pieces taken in 1962. Photo credit: Russell Miller.

Reference has already been made to John's administrative duties for chess and his editorship of *Northwest Chess*, but his contributions to the game went well beyond this. He was a well-regarded chess teacher, who emphasized getting students to think for themselves and made learning fun. Several summers he ran well-received chess camps that featured many of the best players in Seattle as instructors.

These camps were run as non-profits with John putting the proceeds back into chess. This is mentioned as John never had much money. Whether it was *Northwest Chess*, the Washington Chess Federation, or the camps, the local chess community has never had a more prudent steward of its finances. John was scrupulously honest.

John lived most of his life (early to mid-1970s to January 2013) in the basement of a two-story house at 4715 9th Ave in Seattle, just off I-5 in the University District. The house was never in good repair, but it offered students and creative souls cheap rent in a friendly environment. John was the one constant in the home and proud of his many house mates that included two winners of The Stranger's Awards (writer Stacey Levine and musician Lori Goldston), the well-known artist Susan Zoccola, fellow state champions John Walker and John Donaldson, and 1989 U.S. Women's Champion Alexey Root. The latter shares her memories of John here.

"I rented a second-floor room in a house that John Braley lived in and managed, at 4715 9th Ave. NE, Seattle. John occupied the entire basement and those of us who rented rooms lived on the first and second floors. He had photos from *Northwest Chess* on one of the walls. John knew chess history, history in general, music, and the best places to go in Seattle. When I knew John, he didn't wear shoes but kept a pair of slip-ons in his bag in case he entered a place that required footwear. He maintained a long, dark beard. I won't ever forget his intense eyes and soft-spoken voice. He was an interesting and unique person."

John stopped playing chess in the late 1980s to explore his other interests including gaming where he had a large community of friends. He also taught several classes at the University of Washington's Experimental College based on the ideas of

Buckminster Fuller and tensegrity. John's basement was full of structures he had designed.

Though no longer a player, John still followed the chess world with interest and kept in touch with old friends. He attended the memorial for Elmars Zemgalis in early 2015 and was in good health, but not long after was stricken with an unidentified muscular wasting disease for which there was no cure. Despite his grim prognosis John remained in good spirits and never complained about his condition. He spent a lot of time on Google Earth the last few years visiting places he was always curious about. One of the last things he did before he died was watch the games from Tata Steel and listen to Yasser Seirawan's live commentary.

John Braley will be remembered by his many friends and for his games, two of which are offered here.

John was known for his Jekyll and Hyde treatment of the openings, beginning tournaments with quiet, non-theoretical variations that led to long positional games with lots of maneuvering and later switching to hyper-aggressive play in the final rounds.

He explained his strategy as follows:

"I usually felt most comfortable with semi-open positions; but my priority in the opening was mainly to avoid lines I thought my opponents knew. This often led to openings with little initial contact and long, difficult games. I would be tired by the 5th round. To deal with that I prepared a few high-contact, tricky openings for late rounds with the idea that maybe by the time I had to start working, the game was already decided."

Here is an example of his aggressive side from his first Washington State Championship victory.

John Braley – George Krauss [C44]

Washington State Championship 1971 [John Donaldson]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.c3 dxc3 5.Bc4 c2

5...cxb2 6.Bxb2 d5 is the standard response to the Danish Gambit. Black limits himself to a gain of one pawn, returning the other to try to get his pieces out. Black, a long-time master who was a career military man, tries for something similar here.

6.Qxc2 Bb4+ 7.Nc3 d6 8.Bg5

8.0–0 Bxc3 9.bxc3 Nf6 10.Ba3 0–0 11.e5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 dxe5 13.Rad1 gave White a nice initiative which he converted into a win in Velimirovic-Romanishin, Odessa 1975.

8...f6?!

8...Nf6 was better.

9.Bh4 Nh6 10.0-0 Bxc3 11.Oxc3 Oe7?

11...Nf7 trying to castle had to be played.

12.Bd5! Bd7

As 12...Nd8 is met by 13.e5! dxe5 14.Rfe1 and White captures on e5 with devastating effect. Relatively best was 12...Be6, although after 13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14.Qxc6+ Kf7 15.Nd4 White has a strong initiative with even material.

13.Ob3 g5

The immediate 13...0–0–0 met by 14.Nd4 followed by a rook to the c-file. Black cannot defend against this sort of attack.

14.Bg3 g4 15.Nh4 0-0-0

This is a little better as the knight is no so active, but the attack is still there for White

16.Rac1 Rde8 17.Qe3 Nf7



Position after 17...Nf7

18.Rxc6! Bxc6

18...bxc6 19.Qxa7 Kd8 20.Qa8+ Bc8 21.Bxc6 Reg8 22.Nf5 Qe6 23.Rc1 and the game will soon be over.

19.Nf5 Qf8 20.Qxa7 Nd8

20...Rxe4 21.Bxf7 and White two minor pieces trump Black's extra rook, but this was the best practical choice for Krauss whose position quickly falls apart.

21.Rc1 h5 22.b4 h4 23.Bf4 Rh5 24.b5 Bxd5 25.Bxd6 Qf7 26.Qa8+ Kd7 27.Rxc7+ Ke6 28.Qc8+ 1-0

While the following game is not theoretically significant, it is an excellent example of the sort of sharp sacrificial attack White can develop seemingly out of nowhere in the Smith-Morra. Two multiple Washington State Champions battle it out in the last round of the 1983 Washington Open in Seattle.

John Braley (2296) – Neil Salmon (2324) [B21]

Washington Open (R7) 1983 [John Donaldson]

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 d6 6.Bc4 a6 7.0–0 Nf6 8.h3!?

8.Bg5 and 8.Bf4 are the main tries.

8...e6 9.Qe2 Bd7 10.Rd1 Qb8

Here 10...Be7 transposes to a more commonly-seen variation, where White can choose between 11.Bf4 and 11.Bg5.

11.a4 Be7 12.b4 Nxb4

12...0-0 was safer.

13.e5 dxe5 14.Nxe5 Oc8



Position after 14...Qc8

15.Rxd7!!?

The text is not completely correct (hence the question mark), but extremely difficult to meet over the board. The two exclamation marks are for White's appreciation of the long-term difficulties Black's King will face if all the sacrifices are accepted.

15...Nxd7 16.Nxf7 Kxf7?

Black had to refuse the second gift. After 16...Nb6! 17.Bxe6 (or 17.Nxh8 Qxc4 18.Qf3 0-0-0 19.Be3 Qxc3 20.Rc1 Qxc1+ 21.Bxc1 Rxh8) 17...Qxc3 18.Rb1 Qd3 Black is doing fine.

17.Qxe6+ Ke8 18.Bg5 Qc5

A good example of the long-term attack White has can be seen in the following line: 18...Nc6 19.Ne4! Kd8 (or 19...Qc7 20.Rd1 Rf8 21.Nd6+ Kd8 22.Nxb7+ Qxb7 23.Bd5 Rc8 (23...Bxg5 24.Bxc6) 24.Bxe7+) 20.Bxe7+ Nxe7 21.Rd1 Ra7 22.Nd6 winning.

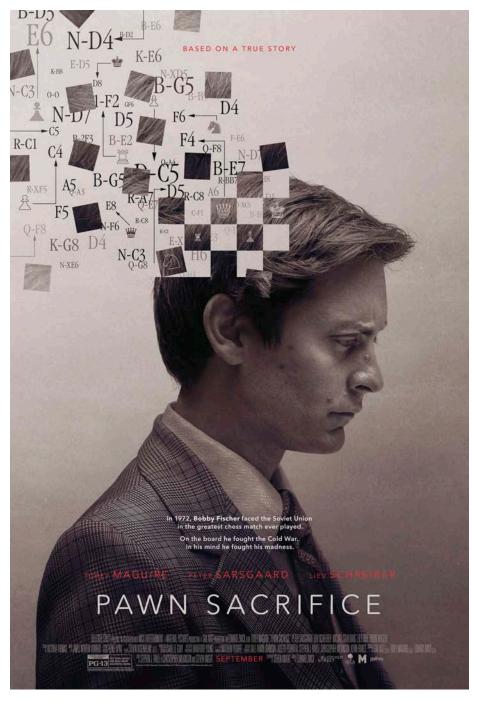
19.Re1

Stronger was 19.Ne4! Qe5 20.Qf7+ Kd8 21.Rd1 Qxe4 22.Be6 and the game will soon be over.

19...Qxg5 20.Ne4 Qe5?

20...Qg6 was absolutely forced. 21.Nd6+ Kd8 22.Qxe7+ Kc7 23.Be6 Rad8 24.Nf7 Nc6 25.Qd6+ Kb6 26.Nxh8 Rxh8 27.Qxd7 Rd8 28.a5+ Ka7 29.Qc7 Re8 with equal chances.

21.Nd6+ Qxd6 22.Qxd6 Nc6 23.Bd5 Kd8 24.Rxe7! Nxe7 25.Be6 Ke8 26.Qxd7+ Kf8 27.Qxb7 1-0



Film Review: Pawn Sacrifice

By Mike Hasuike

Who was Bobby Fischer? Besides still being the one many consider the best player ever, was he a conspiracy theorist or a paragon of fair play? A Prima Donna or the best chess promoter thus far? Ugly American or cold war hero? Loose cannon or anti-Semite? High strung or merely paranoid? This 2014 "based on a true story" film provides evidence for most of these possibilities. With its rich historical and political context, it chronicles his

rise and conquest of what mattered most to him. The real life footage of Fischer's last years at the end is priceless and suggests that Fischer was a pawn and also a sacrifice, at least by his own lights.

Fischer's intense focus on and virtuosity over the 64 squares certainly did not necessarily transfer well to dealing with people and the office and other politics of the real world. The Carmine Nigro, William Lombardy and Paul Marshall characters, though actual people, serve dramatically as composites of the various people in and out of his life that acted as Fischer's mentors, liaisons, and handlers. The coterie of Peter Sarsgaard as GM William Lombardy,

Michael Stuhlbarg as Paul Marshall, Liev Schreiber as Spassky, and Tobey Maguire as Fischer himself give great nuanced perfomances.

We see Boris Spassky as the tip of the spear of the Soviet chess machine. He chafed against the strictures of his handlers, including Nei and Geller. The movie reaches its climax in the first part of the '72 title match. Spassky faced a tough dilemma, win by forfeit or try to win over the board, where he had a two point lead.

I would rate this movie, available on DVD, three and a half stars out of a possible four.

Anthony He wins 2017 Washington Junior Closed

By Gary Dorfner and Josh Sinanan

The 2017 Washington Junior Closed was held on January 8-10, 2017. Rounds one, two, and three were held at TD David Hendricks' house while rounds four and five were held at the Seattle Chess Club. There were six players in all. Samuel He, Anthony Bi He, and Vikram Ramasamy finished in a three-way tie for first place with 3.5/5 points each.

A playoff was held Sunday evening in which Anthony He was able to hold off Samuel and Vikram and win the title. Anthony is seeded into the Washington State Championship.

2017 Washington Junior Open & Reserve

By Gary Dorfner and Josh Sinanan

The 2017 Washington Junior Open was held on MLK Monday January 16 at Interlake High School in Bellevue. A record 297 players took part in 7 sections: K-1 U800, 2-3 U800, K-3 U1400, 4-6 U900, 4-12 U1400, U1600, and Open. The tournament was hosted by the Washington Chess Federation and directed by David Hendricks with assistance from Josh Sinanan, Chouchan Airapetian, Roland Feng, and Jacob Mayer.

Joseph Truelson, a 10th grader at Mercer Island High School, won the open section with a perfect 4/4 earns a seed into the 2017 Washington Premier and 2018 WA Junior Closed. Along the way, Joseph defeated Brandon Jiang (1487), Munkh-erdene Munkhbileg (1542), Joshua Lewis-Sandy (1496), and Eric



Players competing in the K-3 U1400 section of the Washington Junior Open. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

Zhang (2028).

Two players tied for second place with 3.5/4: Benjamin Mukumbya (who was visiting from Uganda along with Phiona Mutesi and Robert Katende) and Vignesh Anand. Charith Sunku won the U1600 section also with a perfect score. Anirudh Rajesh and Harrison Keyser tied for second in the U1600 with 3.5.

Joseph Truelson (1885) – Eric Zhang (2028) [A62]

Washington Junior Open Bellevue, WA (R4), January 16, 2017

[Joseph Truelson]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.g3 Bg7 8.Bg2 0-0 9.0-0

I played the Fianchetto Benoni hoping for a positional battle in which I would be the only one playing for a win. But this was my first time playing this system, and I didn't know how to handle his next move.

9...Na6

To get the knight to c7 and play b5.

10.Nd2

Getting ready to put the knight on c4, so that I can attack d6 after Bf4 and maybe Nc3-b5 (e4).

10...Nc7

Now he is threatening to play b5, so I stop it. However, I learned after the game that this doesn't actually need to be prevented, as White has tactical opportunities down the long diagonal, and I should have continued with my plan of Nc4 immedatiely.

11.a4



Position after 11.a4

11.Nc4! b5!? Risky, but the only real

test of Nc4. 12.Nxd6 Qxd6 13.Bf4 Qb6 14.d6 Ne6 15.Bxa8 Nxf4 16.gxf4 Black has compensation for the exchange, but it probably isn't sufficient. In the game he gets easy equality.

11...b6 12.Nc4 Ba6 13.Qb3 Qd7 14.Bf4 Bxc4

He played this quite instantly, and I was happy to see this as I wanted to have the only light squared bishop.

15.Qxc4 a6 16.Qb3 b5 17.Rfd1 Rfe8 18.Qc2 Nh5 19.Be3 f5?!

This move severely weakens his king, while not causing me any problems. I saw a tactical opportunity of taking on c5, in fact I considered playing it immediately. Looking at it now I'm not sure why I didn't. At this point both Eric and I had around 30 minutes left.

20.axb5 axb5 21.Rxa8 Rxa8 22.Bxc5! Bxc3 23.Qxc3?

I played this without thinking, something I appear to do a lot. Soon after I made this move, I realized that my rook on d1 was unprotected, and therefore I was not going to be able to regain my piece. 23.bxc3 dxc5 24.d6 Now I regain the piece, as I am able to play dxc7 without hanging my Rd1. This is the difference from the game continuation.

23...dxc5 24.d6 Re8 25.Qxc5

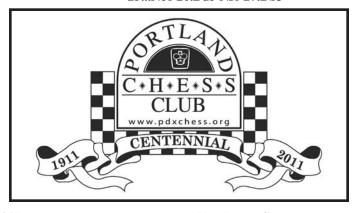


Position after 25.Qxc5

Even though I'm down a piece, my two pawns and active pieces provide a lot of compensation. I was up 26 to 20 minutes here, and I continued to move quicker in order to put him under pressure.

25...Ne6 26.Bd5 Nf6 27.Bb3





I obviously need to keep as many pieces on the board as possible.

27...Kg7 28.Qb6

With the idea of Ra1-a7. He spent seven minutes here, however, his next move doesn't do anything to prevent my plan.

28...Nf8?! 29.Ra1 Qd8 30.Ra7+ N8d7 31.Qxb5

Now I have three pawns for the piece, and was getting more confident about my position. He was also down to only four minutes here.

31...Kh8 32.Ba4 Nb6 33.d7? Re4

We both played quickly here, me hoping that he would make a blunder under the extreme time pressure.

34.b3 Rd4 35.Qa5 Rd6 36.Rb7

36.Bc6!

36...Kg7 37.Kg2 Kh6?

This allows me to win a piece after the somewhat obvious:

38.Qe5

Now he is lost, but since he was under one minute quickly played a very bad blunder.

38...Qa8??

After a few seconds I realized that this just loses after the game continuation.

39.Qxd6 Qxb7+ 40.Bc6 Qa6 41.d8Q

He resigned here, making me clear first as the only player with a perfect score.

1-0

Eugene Winter Carnival

By Owen McCoy

Eugene, OR — January 21, 2017

On January 21, 2017, I arrived at South Eugene High School wishing that I had had more for breakfast than cold instant oatmeal. Yet somehow it kept me going for two rounds until lunchtime — cold pizza. That could explain my tremendous failure in the 3rd round. (More on that later.)

For those not familiar with the South Eugene High School cafeteria, I will attempt to create a visual picture of it; when you walk through the front door, the main cafeteria area is to the front and left, and the registration/administration desk is on the right. (The Intermediate and Novice sections play in the main area.) Further to the right is a sun room that is quite nice to play in; so long as it isn't sunny. Off to the side of that is a classroom that is also sometimes used. On this particular not sunny day, the Advanced section was



L-R: Jerry Ramey, Joshua Grabinsky, Owen McCoy, Simon Venter, Jack McClain.
Photo credit: Josh McCoy.

given the not sunny sun room (which still had a nice view of dripping wet soccer players and Spencer Butte in the background), while the Elite 8 were given the classroom, which, I might add, has a very annoying radiator that acts up from time to time.

On this day, the radiator was very well behaved, which allowed us chess players to think. The first Elite player to upend a higher rated player was Ian Vo (1571-1566 — 1.5/4) who managed to draw someone rated 350 points higher than him and still lose rating points. (How does that happen?) This meant that I got to play against Joshua earlier than expected, but with white. That game was an interesting draw, and can be found below. Meanwhile, at this point, Simon Venter (1760-1781 - 2.5/4) was the only person with 2/2. Joshua changed that with a convincing win. Owen McCoy (2049-2033 - 2.5/4 — me), was not so lucky. I dropped a queen in the opening against Jack McClain (1773-1806 — 2.5/3), and despite my noble efforts I was unable to save the game. (Also included below.) On two occasions I have managed to win after blundering a rook, but luck can only do so much, and a queen might be where the line is drawn. Round four didn't change much in the standings, so at the end of the day, Joshua Grabinsky (2055-2069 - 3.5/4) was declared the winner, and Simon, Jack, and I shared second place honors.

Similarly, in the advanced section, Isabella Harker (1151-1262 — 3.0/4) was the only one on 2/2 after the first two

rounds. (There were no fewer than 4 with 1.5.) Not only that, but a win in round 3 made her chances of winning spike. Sadly, the win was stolen by Arvind Mahadevan (1223-1323 — 3.5/4), who himself had had a great tournament. Thus first place went to Arvind, second went to Isabella, while third and fourth went to Jalen Wang (988-1131 — 3.0/4) and Noah Menachemson (958-1153 — 3.0/4) respectively. I might add, though I think the reader will notice, that both achieved massive rating gains! Also, Ethan Bassingthwaite (1620-1476 — 2.5/4) was awarded an outstanding performance for his plus score.

The Intermediate Section almost exceeded the limits of a five-roundswiss with its 28 competitors. Nathan Pupko (837-1026 — 4.5/5) dominated the tournament from start to finish and was awarded first prize. (Deservedly so!) Second and third went to Yufei Su (820-983 — 4.0/5) and Naren Mahadevan (849-924 - 4.0/5), each of whom only lost one game. Of the three that finished with 3.5/5, Pahlychai Thao (1016-1022) got the fourth place trophy, while Kevin McCoy (977-1000) and Marston Scher (874-908) each received outstanding performance trophies for their plus scores. The other outstanding performers were Joshua Diem (700-836), Sophia Reid (757-848), Sawyer Bergstedt (903-899), Kai McCormack (740-791), Samuel Herford (708-781), Maia Wilhour (849-831), and Luke Donaldson (942-899), all of whom finished with 3.0/5.

Novice II had the unusual case of a

three-way-tie between Max Polson (651-783 — 4.0/5), Mia Dentinger (749-787 — 4.0/5), and Toby Dressikie (632-781 — 4.0/5), who in the blitz tiebreaks finished in that order. Ryan Carey (500-869 — 3.5/5) got fourth place (and a whole lot of rating points!), while Calvin Joye (666-714 — 3.0/5) and Andrew Thoennes (453-563 — 3.0/5) got outstanding performances for their plus scores.

Novice I saw a perfect sweep by Sheldon van Enk (634-856 — 5.0/5. — Wow! I can't remember the last time I went up that many rating points!), followed closely by Julian Svoboda (400-687 — 4.0/5) in second, and Miles Rodriguez (475-570 — 3.5/5) in third. Valerie Ostrovsky (640-654 — 3.0/5) got fourth place on tiebreaks, while Raiko Holmgren (673-666 — 3.0/5), Jeremy Wang (649-653 — 3.0/5) and Liam Priest (585-608 — 3.0/5) got plus score awards.

Thanks again to Jerry and Forrest Ramey, and anyone else that helped out, and I hope you enjoy the complex struggle and the quick game that wasn't much of a struggle for my opponent that I included below!

Owen McCoy (2049) – Joshua Grabinsky (2055) [C00]

Winter Carnival Eugene, OR (R2), January 21, 2017 [Owen McCoy]

This much awaited encounter came sooner than expected.

1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.Qe2!?

In previous game against Josh I have played 3.Nd2, but I've been doing well with this line and wanted to try it.

3...Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.g3 c5 6.Bg2 Nc6 7.0-0 0-0 8.e5 Nd7 9.h4

9.c4 first may have been more accurate.

9...f6 10.exf6 Nxf6 11.Nbd2?!

11.c3 was probably better, preparing d4 and retaining options with the dark-squared bishop. (The whole point of Qe2 rather than Nd2!)

11...Bd6 12.c3 e5

My position is not all that great.

13.Nh2?!

This looks (and is) bad, but I couldn't think of anything better.

13...Re8 14.a3 a5 15.Re1 Qc7 16.Ndf1 Bd7?!

He doesn't seem to be playing very ambitiously. Moreover, he missed something.

[Diagram top of next column]

17.Bg5!

Now I can split his pawns, which will lead to a very double-edged position.



Position after 16...Bd7

17...Ne7 18.Bxf6 gxf6 19.Nd2

I wanted to leave e3 open for my other knight, but I could've played Ne3 immediately.

19...Kh8

Why ...Kh8? The position is just screaming for ...f5!

20.Rac1 b5

Wow! How 'bout those pawns! Wouldn't it make more sense to attack me on the queenside though?

21.c4?! Bc6?

21...bxc4! 22.dxc4 Rab8 is recommended by the computer. After the text move I am better for the first time in the game!

22.Ng4!

I gain time attacking f6 to swing over to e3

22...Rf8 23.Ne3?!

23.cxd5! followed by a quick Ne4 was the way to go.

23...d4?

Returning the favor. 23...bxc4! 24.dxc4 d4 Was better, in that the c-pawn isn't backwards, and black get the half-open b-file.

24.Nef1

Ng4 was better.

24...Bxg2 25.Kxg2 Qb7+ 26.Kg1 f5?

Nothing subtle here! He missed a trick though.



Position after 26...f5

27.cxb5! Rae8

27...Qxb5 28.Nc4

28.Nc4

28.Rxc5!? was an alternative that the computer pointed out to me. In return for the exchange White gets several pawns and the initiative.

28...Bc7 29.b6! Bb8 30.Nxa5?!

Premature. 30.Nfd2 Was better, retaining all of White's advantage.

30...Qxb6 31.Nc4 Qf6 32.Nxe5?

32.Nfd2! Nd5 33.Nb3! is suggested by the fearless computer. I was worried about my king and my suddenly low time.

32...Nc6

Now simplifications occur.

33.f4 Nxe5 34.fxe5 Rxe5 35.Qf3 f4 36.Rxe5 Qxe5 37.g4 Qe7 38.h5 Rg8 39.Rc2 Qh4 40.Rg2

I have parried all of his threats, but I am left with a difficult conversion task and ten minutes to do it.

40...Re8 41.Re2



Position after 41.Re2

41.b4 was the only way to try to win. I was satisfied with a draw though.

41...Rg8 42.Rg2 Re8 43.Re2 Rg8 44.Rg2 Re8

Draw. One of our less interesting games! 1/2_1/2

Jack McClain (1789) – Owen McCoy (2049) [B55]

Winter Carnival Eugene, OR (R3), January 21, 2017 [Owen McCoy]

I offer this game for the entertainment of the reader, at the expense of my own selfesteem

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.f3!? e5 6.Bb5+ Nbd7 7.Nf5 a6

This had all occurred in one of our previous games.

8.Ba4

8.Bxd7+ was played in the aforementioned game.

8...b5 9.Bb3 Nc5 10.Ne3 Bb7 11.Nc3 Rc8 12.Ned5 Nxb3 13.axb3 Nxd5 14.Nxd5 Oh4+!? I provoke a concession, albeit at the cost of my development...

15.Kf1 Be7!?

or not!?

16.Be3

Setting a trap...



Position after 16.Be3

16...0-0

which I fell for! 16...Rf8!? Was an alternative to consider, despite it's strange appearance.

17.Bf2

Oops. I had seen 17.g3? Qh3+ 18.Kf2 Qe6 with a great position for Black.

17...f5!?

Well why not? There's nothing better, as 17...Qg5 18.h4 is no improvement.

18.Bxh4 Bxh4 19.g3 Bd8 20.Kg2

and White wins. I will cut the remaining 27 moves and just say that I was unable to save the game. Oh well, better luck next time!

1-0

Corrected Game

Nick Raptis (2401) – Anthony Bi He (2255) [D85]

Seattle Masters 2 – Master Seattle, WA (R1), December 10, 2016 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.exd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 0-0 8.Be2 c5 9.0-0 Nc6 10.Be3 Qa5 11.Qb3 Qc7 12.d5 Na5 13.Qa3 b6 14.Rac1 e6 15.c4

f5 16.exf5 exd5 17.cxd5 Bxf5 18.Nd4 Bd7



Position after 18...Bd7

Last month I annotated what I thought was Nick Raptis vs Anthony He from the Seattle Masters 2, and at this point my score, supplied by the tournament director, said 19.Nc6. I commented that 19.Ne6 was more to the point.

19.Ne6!

True, and of course that was the actual move Nick played. So please go back in time and erase all of my comments between moves 19 and 27 from your memory.

19...Bxe6 20.dxe6 Nc6 21.Bf3 Rae8 22.Rfd1 Ne5 23.Bd5 Kh8 24.h3 Nc6 25.Bxc5 bxc5 26.Qxc5 Qf4 27.Bxc6 Rxe6 28.Qxa7 Be5 29.g3 Qg5



Position after 29...Qg5

And here is where our game score from last month ended, with a note that White won on move 60, which also turns out to be inaccurate. The entire score is supplied here, demonstrating quite a convincing endgame technique by the Senior Master.

30.Bg2 Ref6 31.Rc2 Qf5 32.Rcd2 R8f7 33.Qa8+ Kg7 34.Qe4 Qxe4 35.Bxe4 g5 36.Bd5 Rf8 37.Bb3 Bb8 38.Rd7+ Kh8 39.Rb7 Be5 40.Rdd7 Rh6 41.Kg2 Bc3 42.Rf7 Rxf7 43.Rxf7 Rf6 44.Rxf6 Bxf6 45.a4 Bc3 46.Kf3 Kg7 47.Ke4 Be1 48.Kd5 Bxf2 49.g4 Be1 50.Kc5 Kf6 51.Kb6 Ke5 52.a5 Kf4 53.a6 Kg3



Position after 53...Kg3

54.Bf7 Kxh3 55.Bh5 Bf2+ 56.Kb7 Kg3 57.a7 Bxa7 58.Kxa7 Kf4 59.Kb7 Ke5 60.Kc7 Ke6 61.Kd8 Kf6 62.Ke8 Kg7 63.Ke7 Kh6 64.Ke6 Kg7 65.Kf5 h6 66.Ke6 1-0

January PCC Quad 45

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—January 21, 2017

About a week after most people living in the Portland Metro area had pulled off their galoshes, took off what was left of the chains on their vehicles, cleaned up the debris of snow and iceladen trees, and thawed out from power outages that left them cold and in the dark, the Portland Chess Club held its first tournament of the new year, the January PCC Quad 45—having had to cancel/reschedule the 1st Annual Neil Dale Memorial Open, which had been scheduled for the previous weekend.

The lack of tournament competition due to the above, must have had withdrawal effects similar to those who have addictions other than chess, as this tournament drew the third largest gathering of antsy players of any of the



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(L) Wyatt Whiting vs Ryan Walsh. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

previous Quad 45s—26, spread out through five quads and a six-player Swiss.

In charge of this excited assemblage (many of whom drifted in past the startup time), was the patient and forgiving Chief TD, Micah Smith, whom along with his stoic Assistant Chief TD, Mike Hasuike, remained calm throughout the registration and pairing process—which was completed about a half hour later than the advertised starting time.

As seems always the case with this time control, there were a good number of younger players present, their sole goal apparently, being to take hard earned ratings points from unwary older players—usually finding that I fit the reluctant, accommodating example.

But for once I, Brian "I'm Just Glad To be Here" Berger (1569-1555—1.0/3), was not thrown into a Swiss with a group of merciless Munchkins, there to bear the checks-and-mates of "outrageous fortune," but was given the opportunity to confront some older players in a Quad (except for one who turned out to be a larger version of the Munchkin clan), where I might be able to do battle on an even playing field.

But alas, not even this seemingly welcome opportunity to save some face at this fast time control was a help, as I dropped one game to James Bean (1616-1629—2.0/3), a player only a decade younger than me, and another to the afore-mentioned Munchkin, Takuma Sato-Duncan (1678-1724—3.0/3), who was the winner of Quad Three, and took home a chess book of his choice and some

of my rating points.

Besides Sato-Duncan winning Quad Three, there were other players who fared much better than myself, such as Ryan Richardson (2103-2102—2.0/3) and Moshe Rachmuth (1979-1995—2.0/3), who tied for first place in Quad One, by drawing each other in round two. For Richardson, it was the second time in a row for winning at this time control, and the third time he has taken first place in the last three times he has played in the

top quad.

Andrea Botez (1785-1790—2.0/3) topped Quad Two with two wins and a loss, the loss being against the provisional player, Ahmet Gurcan (1714P-1716P—1.5/3) from Washington. Gurcan ended this tournament with his 24th provisional game, a journey which shows he attained a high of 1826 about midway through 2014, but then did not become active again until a few months into 2016, when his rating dropped to 1714, then reappeared once again for this Quad 45—an activity level which might indicate that we will once again see him near the closing months of 2017.

Once again the oddity of the pairing system placed a tiger in a cage with three lambs, the result of which allowed Washington's Jimmy Dee (1169-1171—3.0/3), a player nearly 700 rating points ahead of his nearest competitor, to devour the whole of his competition and take first place in Quad Four.

Quad Five saw the battle of the "unrated," as all four players tested themselves for the first time under tournament conditions, Ryan Walsh (Unrated-1418P—3.0/3) showing himself to be the most motivated to turn in a sterling performance by winning all three of his games. But just to let him know that he faced another player with much the same ambition, Darian Radfarr (Unrated-1047P—2.0/3) came in second with two wins.

In the six-player Swiss, It was Greg Markowski (1413-1433—2.5/3) and David Roshu (1331-1392—2.5/3) who



(L) Aaron Nicoski vs Moshe Rachmuth. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

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stood above the rest, tying for first place by playing each other to a draw. Being a scholastic player who shared a 2.5/3 win in his section, allowed Roshu to select a small trophy as well as a chess book to take home, while Markowski was only offered a book (possibly envying Roshu his trophy).

Aaron Nicoski (1851) – Moshe Rachmuth (1979) [D00]

January 2017 PCC Quad 45 Portland, OR (R3), January 21, 2017 [Moshe Rachmuth]

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Bg4 3.f3 Bh5 4.g4 Bg6 5.h4 h6 6.Nc3 c6 7.Qd2 e6 8.e4 Be7?!

8...Nf6 9.Bd3 dxe4 is equal.

9.0-0-0 dxe4

The pawn on h4 is poisoned: 9...Bxh4 10.exd5 exd5 11.Rxh4 Qxh4 12.Re1+ and White wins.

10.Nxe4 Nf6 11.Nxf6+ Bxf6 12.h5 Bh7 13.Be5?!

13.Nh3 Qd5 14.Kb1 Nd7 15.g5 and White has a pleasant initiative. After 13.Be5 the game should peter out to a draw.

13...Bxe5 14.dxe5 Qxd2+ 15.Rxd2 Nd7 16.f4 0-0-0 17.Bd3 Bxd3 18.Rxd3 Nc5 19.Rxd8+ Rxd8 20.Nf3 Ne4

I was sure a draw would be agreed soon. 21.g5 Ng3 22.Rh2 Nf1 23.Rf2 Ng3 24.g6 White plays ambitiously and it almost worked for him. There was another interesting sacrifice but everything is eventually a draw. 24.c3 Nxh5 25.Nd4

24...Nxh5

Also equal is 24...fxg6 25.hxg6 c5 26.Nh4 Kc7 27.c3

25.gxf7 Rf8 26.Nd4 Rxf7 27.Nxe6 g6?!

I understood that 28.f5 had to be prevented but the right way was 27...Ng3.

28.Rd2

Only now I noticed 28...Nxf4?? 29. Rd8#

28...Rd7 29.Rxd7?!

White could have kept some pressure with 29. Rg2 Rf7 30.Rg4 but instead he wins a pawn that he will not be able to keep for long.

29...Kxd7 30.Nf8+ Ke7 31.Nxg6+ Ke6 32.Kd2 Kf5 33.Nh4+ Kxf4 34.e6

Here or sometime soon White needed to activate his knight. For example, 34. Ng6+ Ke4 (34... Kf5 35.Ne7+ Kxe5 36.Ng8) 35. Ke1. White's plan—to blockade the h5-pawn with the knight and pick the pawn up with the king—will cost White a pawn on the king side.

34...Nf6 35.Kd3 Ke5 36.e7 h5 37.Ke2 Ke6 38.Kf3 Kxe7 39.Kf4 Nd5+ 40.Kg5 Ne3 This is your "to PE or not to PE" moment: should White enter a pawn endgame with 41.Nf5+ or stay in the knight endgame after 41.Kxh5. Clearly none of the two is fun to play as White but which one is the least of the two evils?



Position after 40...Ne3

41.Nf5+?

In general, if you cannot calculate, you should not enter an inferior pawn endgame because it is probably lost. If you cannot calculate but want something, you can use the following rule of thumb: the side that moves first draws if the number of king moves it needs to capture all the pawns of the opponent is equal or bigger in one than the number of moves needed for the second player to achieve the same goal. In this case, after 41...Nxf5 42.Kxf5, Black's moves will be Kd6-e5-e4-e3-d2-

1st Annual Neil Dale Memorial Open: March 4-5, 2017

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Location: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR 97219

c2-b2-a2, a total of eight moves to capture all of White's pawns. White will have to go Kg5-h5-g5-f6-e7-d7-c7-b7-c6-b7-a7, a total of eleven moves. Therefore the pawn endgame is lost for White and the knight endgame can only be better. After 41.Kxh5! Houdini gives -0.99 that is something between losing and drawing for White. I looked the position up in Karsten Muller and Frank Lamprecht's Fundamental Chess Endings. According to Muller and Lamprecht (page 80–81) this position—N+3 Vs. N+2 on the same side—is usually a draw. They demonstrate their point with the last 47(!) moves of the game Jugelt-Dautov, German Championship (Bremen), 1998. I am sure neither my opponent nor I would have played perfectly but in the knight ending White has a realistic chance of drawing. The pawn endgame, as explained above, is a one-sided affair.

41...Nxf5 42.Kxf5 Kd6 43.Kg5 Ke5 44.Kxh5 Ke4 45.Kg4 Ke3 46.Kf5 Kd2 47.c4 Kc2 48.b4 Kc3 49.b5 Kxc4 50.bxc6 bxc6 51.Ke4 c5 52.Ke3 Kc3 53.Ke4 c4 54.Ke3 Kb2 0-1

Bethel January Ouads

By Owen McCoy

Eugene, OR — January 22, 2017

On the day of January 8, 2017, everything in Eugene (and much of the surrounding area) was covered in ice, snow, or some repugnant combination of the aforementioned ingredients and mud. That's why the quads were rescheduled for the 22nd of that month. Actually, I had planned to play in the Neil Dale Memorial in Portland, which was also the weekend of January 7-8, but due to unfortunate weather conditions, I opted out. (It happens that it was rescheduled for March 4-5.) I was hoping that the quads would still be on, but alas, Mother Nature did not cooperate. No chess was to be played that weekend!

The weather on January 22 was much more tolerable. This allowed the eager

chess players to resume their battles. And I could be wrong, but by the turnout of 32 (enough for eight full quads!), it would seem that rescheduling attracts more players. (If this theory holds true, Neil Dale will have a fine tournament held in his honor.)

Quad One (which was also US Chess rated, by the way) saw Owen McCoy (2033-2036 — 2.5/3) and William Ravn (1927-1943 — 2.5/3) winning their first two games and then finding each other's defenses to be too solid. Thus we each received \$5 and discounted entry to the next quads. Cody Webb (1699-1705 — 1.0/3) and Torrey Gage-Tomlinson (1728-1697 — 0.0/3) were the lucky players given the chance to have a 1900 and a 2000 in their quad.

Quad Two saw Brian Schartz (1565-1579 — 2.5/3), the superior by rating, prove to be superior over the board as well. He won against Jeremy Thomas (1438-1451 — 2.0/3) and Toby Monger (1218-1204 — 0.0/3), and drew against Clifton Harris (1523-1508 — 1.5/3).

Jared Roe (1336-1339 — 2.0/3) and Joseph Doerr (1041-1161 — 2.0/3) tied for first in Quad Three, each receiving \$5, discounted entry to the next quads, and three rating points. The latter was given 117 more. They divided up the rating points provided by Ben Kurtz (1433-1398 — 1.5/3) and Addison Thomas (1141-1121 — 0.5/3).

In Quad Four, Shane Wilder (1137-1258—3.0/3) seemed to be a bit ahead of the rest in that he scored two points more than anyone else in the quad. These other players were Kevin McCoy (1000-1014—1.0/3), Noah Menachemson (1153-1130—1.0/3), and Scott Svetal (1262-1215—1.0/3).

The players in Quad Five collectively had (in my opinion) weirdly distributed ratings, spanning 600 points. Moreover, by ratings, the results were almost backward from what one would expect. John Roe (749-954 — 3.0/3) defeated Brandon Young (1028-1033 — 2.0/3), Evan Silverman (1399-1170 — 1.0/3), and Duncan Rhodes (1300-400 —

0.0/3.0).

As it turned out, there were too many kids from Charlemagne Elementary School for them all to avoid playing against each other. In Quad Six, Yufei Su (983-1021 — 3.0/3) and Sam Farley (815-778 — 1.0/3) were the unlucky schoolmates that had to play each other. Yufei seemed undeterred by this though, and defeated Sam, as well as Aidan Cagle (777-807 — 2.0/3) and Danielle Stone (502-471 — 0.0/3).

In Quads Seven and Eight, the Newell brothers were wholly triumphant. Bryce Newell (618-745 — 3.0/3) won Quad Seven by winning against Andrey Bindeman (765-761 — 2.0/3), Chase Smith (734-657 — 1.0/3), and Catie Welch (1000-400 — 0.0/3). Leland Newell (585-680 — 3.0/3) won Quad Eight by defeating Cameron Hansen (589-610 — 2.0/3), Sherry Stone (1300-435 — 1.0/3), and Kai Yamashi (400-400 — 0.0/3).

Thanks as always to TD Mike Myers. Good job everybody, and see you next time!

Coeur d'Alene Chess Club

By Greg Callen

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Some members of the CDA Chess Club: L-R: Ben Herlin, Sam Rainey, Corey Sturgis.

Photo credit: Greg Callen.

their edge, will all find a challenge here. Kids are always welcome, need a date night? Drop them off with us, you will get them back with a new skill set and a much needed break.

I want to take this moment to thank Jeffrey Roland for giving us this great opportunity to breathe life back into chess in a place where I feel it is dwindling. We can really use a resurgence of chess in north Idaho.

2017 Washington State High School Individual Championship

By Gary Dorfner and Josh Sinanan

The 2017 WA State High School Individual Championship took place January 27-28 at Lakeside School in Seattle and attracted 77 players in three sections: Championship (NW rating 1500+), Premier (1000-1499), and Reserve (1000 and below). The tournament was hosted by Lakeside School and organized by Washington Chess Federation. ChessMates President Ben Radin, WCF President Josh Sinanan, and WCF Tournament Coordinator Dan Mathews organized and ran the tournament.

Top players taking part in the starstudded Championship section included FM's Roland Feng and Bryce Tiglon, National Masters Daniel He, Kyle Haining, Samuel He, and Luke Xie. We're happy to announce that this year there was a clear winner in each of the three sections. Bryce Tiglon of Lakeside School won the Championship for the second year in a row with 4.5/5. Seattle

11th Annual Clark Harmon Memorial Open: April 1-2, 2017

One section, 5-round Swiss, G/120;d5, one half point bye available if requested before round 1, US Chess rated. Registration: Sat 9-9:45am. Rounds: Sat 10am, 2:15pm, 6:30pm; Sun 10am, 2:15pm. The tournament is limited to the first 50 players. Reserve a spot online at pdxchess.org. However, you must still arrive on-site by 9:30am Saturday to keep your spot and be paired for round 1.

Prize fund: \$1,500 based on 50 entries

1st \$300; 2nd \$200; 3rd \$125; U2100, U1900, U1700, U1500, U1300/unrated: 1st \$100, 2nd \$75

Bonus upset prize (win with the greatest established-rating difference): \$50

Entry Fee: \$45, \$35 for PCC members (pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club). **Memberships**: US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA memberships required (OSA) and can be purchased during registration.

Other: Northwest Chess Grand Prix event, qualifier for the OCF Invitational Tournament and OSCF State Championship. See information about Clark at pdxchess.org.

Location: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR 97219

See our quarter page ad in the February Issue of Chess Life, or visit www.renochess.org

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Registration: Thursday (4/13) 5 - 8 pm. - Friday (4/14) 9 - 10 am. Saturday (4/15) 9 - 10 am.

Round Times: Fri.- 12 Noon - 7 pm; Sat.-10 am - 7 pm; Sun.- 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

(2 Day Sch.): Sat.- Rd 1 - 10:30am, Rd 2 - 1:00 pm, Rd 3 - 3:30 pm, Rd 4 merge with regular schedule - 7:00 pm

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For more information: Call, Write or E-mail Organizer and Chief TD, N.T.D. Jerome (Jerry) Weikel, (775) 747-1405 6578 Valley Wood Dr., Reno, NV 89523 • wackyykl@aol.com

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For TLA and to confirm receipt of entry see player list at: www.renochess.org ENTRY FORM - 6th Annual Larry Evans Memorial - Reno, Nevada - April 14 - 16, 15 - 16, 2017 Mail to: Sands Regency Casino Hotel - 345 N. Arlington Avenue - Reno NV 89501 LISCE/FIDE PRINT Name _Daytime Phone _ Rating _State_ Street Address City. _ Exp. Date_ USCF I.D. Number_ 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 "EXPERT" "A" "C" "B" --- OPEN SECTION ---"D and Under" UNRATED 2000-2199 1800-1999 1600-1799 1400-1599 \$159 \$158 \$157 \$156 1399-Below GM/IM Masters 2000-2199 1999-Below Free With \$150 3-Day EF Free \$159 \$200 \$300 USCF Dues \$155 \$155 2-Day EF \$155 \$155 FFES ALSO ENCLOSED FOR

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POSTMARK by March 14, 2017

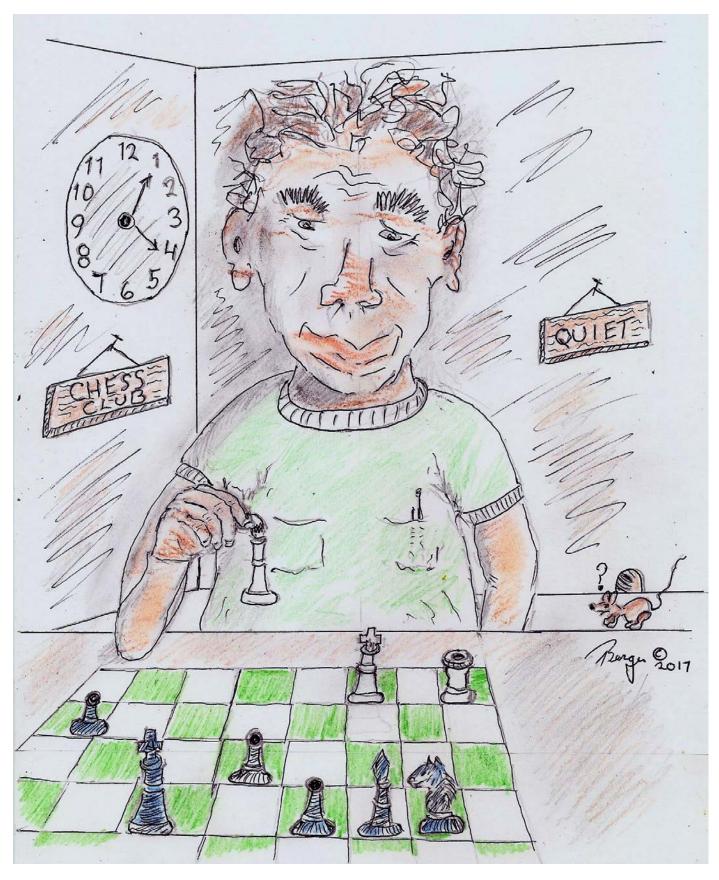
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March 2017 Page 16 **Northwest Chess**



ESTHETICALLY, FELIX FOUND CHESS PIECES FASCINATING. INTELLECTUALLY, THEIR MOVEMENTS EVADED HIS UNDERSTANDING.

Prep's Marnel Ramirez, a senior, won the Premier with an impressive 10/10 clean sweep! Tim Litovchenko, a junior from Ferndale High School, won the Reserve with 7.5/10!

Congratulations to the Champions!!

January PCC Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — January 28, 2017

Finally, a tournament not coming on a day of extreme cold, ice-coated roads, snow flurries, sleet, hail, possible tornadoes, sightings of Big Foot, near riots, nude bicyclists, or any of the other things Nature and Man can throw at usexcept the Big Two, Death and Politics (I bet you thought it was taxes). And since I was sure I had escaped the first of those this day, that only left Politics and its associated "Extreme Vetting," "Alternative Facts," "Something there is that doesn't love a Wall," "My crowd is bigger than your crowd," "Voter fraud," etc, etc., which will be with us, it seems, until the "first" happens to us.

Were I more of a betting man than I am, I might have caught a plane to Reno right after January's Game 60. It somehow seemed more than just a coincidence that, both January's Ouad 45 and this tournament would draw exactly 26 players—it smacked of some sort of omen, the kind that would send an omen believing gambler to the nearest roulette table to plunk down a substantial bet on #26.

But as I mentioned in a previous article, "omens" and "hopes" are for other people, as none have ever come true concerning my chess luck—except for THIS tournament, where a quite large omen proved true (I'll explain that a little further in this article).

As a one section tournament (if under 30 players), Game 60 allows the small fry to mix with the upper level players, and if a small fry is good enough to win his/



(L) Jimmy Dee vs James Bean. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

her first game, he or she will be paired (usually) with another upper level player. And it is for this very reason that Game 60 appeals to me more than Quad 45, where one is placed in a quad of similar rated players, or possibly in a Small Swiss, where a player at my rating might have to fight off a group of up-and-coming provisional players (usually young players with make-believe ratings), just to not lose rating points.

So, I was "hoping" (there's that word again) that I might have a chance to win my first matchup with a higher rated player and move on to win another. But after the parings, that's where this rather large omen of how things were to turnout entered the scene, in the image of Nick "The Raptor" Raptis (2430-2432—4.0/4), who just recently gained his first IM norm.

The problem with THIS omen was that it was not good. Although I, Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1555-1535—1.0/4) held out for a time against this immovable force, I was slowly pulverized after first losing a center pawn in the opening moves of the game—becoming but dust, to be blown from the board. It would signal a not too encouraging beginning to what I had hoped (I have to stop using this word) would be a successful tournament for me.

Before I get to informing you of the rest of the tournament's outcome, I just want to put in a plug for our very efficient Chief TD, Lennart Bjorksten, who, with some early registration help from one of our past TDs, Mike Lilly (just passing by and had offered to assist), got things rolling on time throughout the tournament

Also, I might mention that my wife was out of town, so I had charge of our dog Mitzi (or she of me), and so brought her to the club for the day to spend some time with Morgan The Dog. The two of them were a study in contrasts, Morgan being known worldwide for his

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chess playing prowess, and of rather tall stature. And as for Mitzi, she is a Sheltie (a herd dog who only seems to herd me) about half as tall as Morgan, but seems proud of her girth, which almost matches Morgan's, and is not known as widely as Morgan, but only slightly outside her home, which is in West Linn.

Even so, Mitzi did not seem fazed by suddenly encountering a chess legend, and so proceeded to give Morgan the sniff test, finding that he smelled very much like other, less famous dogs that she has met, and decided to see if she could get his attention. For whatever reason, Morgan seemed not interested; and so, what could have been tabloid news to counter that of Trump fame, became only a passing fancy for Mitzi.

I know by now that some of you are asking, "What about some tournament results? I'm paying for a chess magazine." And in anticipation of that question at this very moment, I will elucidate just such information, hoping to give you your full money's worth. Anyone still dissatisfied, please don't bother to complain, as I don't get paid for this, but do it for the fun of it.



(L) Abbie Wu vs Fedor Semenov. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Hugo Hartig with Mike Lilly. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

As mentioned earlier, my encounter with "The Raptor," (who has not been playing in these tournaments for some time) signaled the beginning of my demise, and for him, the winning of all four of his games and the top prize of \$78.

Second place was won by Moshe Rachmuth (1995-2003—3.5/4), who rose to a personal best of 2003, with three games and draw, not only pushing him into the Expert Class, but also rewarding him with \$52.

Four players tied for third place by winning three of their games, those being NM Jason Cigan (2230-2230—3.0/4), Takuma Sato-Duncan (1724-1767—3.0/4), Chris Burris (1727-1754—3.0/4) and Michael Moore (1685-1727—3.0/4), the \$21.12 that each received was a result of adding third place and U1800 monies and splitting them four ways.

Another player who pushed his rating to a new high (courtesy of my help), was Kushal Pai (1353-1427—2.5/4), who won the U1500 prize of \$45.50, and got his photo taken with the moola in his hand by the guy who helped him win it.

Time pressure played a big part in some of the more exciting games, something I missed out on, as mine were not particularly exciting (except my second round game) or long—my one win lasting under an hour, won from a player who had opened my castled position like a can-opener, but luckily failed to find the next best move, giving me just enough time to attack him and find some safety for my king.

Emerald City Chess Club Winter Open

By Owen McCoy

Eugene, OR — January 28, 2017

Just one week after the Winter Carnival and Bethel January Quads (which I'm sure you've already read about), I got the chance to win some money and save my sinking rating. Emerald City Chess Club (not Seattle, but Eugene, the *real* Emerald City) has previously hosted only one tournament (someone wrote about it in the December issue), but this one was bigger, better, and also had a US Chess section!

In that US Chess section, no less than four players had at least US Chess "A" ratings. Most notably, Tom Fischer came to play with a rating of 2337! Unfortunately, two losses cost him 19 of those points. I lucked out in round two and was paired with Jack McClain (the same guy I dropped a queen against last time), and I wanted to not drop any pieces this time. I did just that, and

won (included below). Round three saw Owen McCoy (me), Josiah Perkins, William Ravn, and Jack Dale with 2.0/2. I managed to pull together a victory against William (after playing on five-seconddelay for 20 moves), while Jack Dale did something equally or more impressive against Josiah. After getting to a drawish position out of the opening, Jack offered a draw, which Josiah declined. The thing is, only Jack had winning chances! With his limited time, he managed to exploit them wholly. I was well aware of this, and upon being paired with Jack in round four, I promptly squandered any winning chances on move two by not playing d6 after e4 c5 Nf3. (What was I thinking?) A quick draw resulted from this, so Owen McCoy (2036-2042 — 3.5/4) and Jack Dale (1642-1732 — 3.5/4) shared 1st place and each received some money. Josiah Perkins (1880-1896 — 3.0/4), William Ravn (1943-1946 — 3.0/4), and Jack McClain (1806-1809 — 3.0/4) each received not quite as much money for shared third. Mention must be made of Andrei Kleshchev (1310-1348 — 2.5/4), who stepped up to play in the US Chess section and proceeded to get a plus score! To avoid any confusion, I will say now that all ratings given are NWSRS.

There were two NWSRS rated sections: an upper one and a lower one. (That makes sense.) Jimmy Hicks (1216-1348 — 4.0/4.0) won the top one with a perfect score, while Jordan Henderson (1146-1268 — 3.0/4.0) and Bryce Cason (1321-1332 — 3.0/4.0) tied for second. In the lower section, Maia Wilhour (831-999 — 4.0/5.0), Luke Donaldson (899-1007 — 4.0/5.0), and Sawyer Bergstedt (883-989 — 4.0/5.0) all tied for first and split the combined first, second, and third prizes three ways. (I'm not using specific \$ amounts because in all honesty I don't remember what they were!)

Thanks again to Chief TD Cody Webb, Assistant TD Mike Myers, and Emerald City Chess Club for putting on this great event, and I hope to see a large crowd at the ECCC Spring Open, details TBA soon!

Jack McClain (1806) – Owen McCoy (2036) [B33]

Emerald City Chess Club Winter Open Eugene, OR (R2), January 28, 2017 [Owen McCoy]

Time for revenge after that last one!

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

5.f3?! doesn't work as well as Black has not played d6.

5...e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Bxf6

This is considered inaccurate. 8.Na3 b5 and then only 9.Bxf6 is better.

8...gxf6 9.Na3 f5!

The point. Black hasn't had to spend a tempo on b5, so he can immediately start his central counterplay.

10.Bd3 Rg8



Position after 10...Rg8

11.Qf3?? Nd4

g2 falls.

12.Qd1

12.Qh3 fxe4

12...Rxg2 13.Kf1 Rg8 14.exf5 Qg5 15.Be4 Bxf5

Black has a nice Sveshnikov initiative.

16.Bd5!?

16.Bxb7!? was a double-edged alternative. 16...Rb8 17.Bd5 Rxb2 looks dangerous for White.

16...Bh6 17.Nc4??

On the surface, this move looks logical. However...

17...Bh3+! 18.Bg2

Really? 18.Ke1 Qg1+! 19.Rxg1 Rxg1# Would've been so much cooler!

18...Qxg2+ 19.Ke1 Qxh1#

A triumph of the Sveshnikov strategy!

BC and Washington Teams Meet in Historic Match

By Paul Leblanc

There have been a number of one day challenge matches between British Columbia and Washington State between 1946 and 2007. There has never before been a multi day FIDE rated round robin.

The cities of Vancouver and Victoria had not played a match since 1947 when last year a team of five Vancouver masters triumphed over Victoria's top players in a five round event hosted by Victoria Chess.

Over the weekend of January 13-15 Victoria hosted a much more ambitious set of challenge matches involving two BC teams, two Washington teams, a

Vancouver team and a Victoria team. Each team comprised five players competing in a Scheveningen style tournament where each team member played every player of the opposing team.

The BC Team led by IM Bindi Cheng was favored to win the match against Washington but faced tougher than expected competition from a determined group of Washington masters led by FM Bryce Tiglon. Washington led the match until the very last game when Bindi wrestled a full point from the diminutive junior Anthony He, tying the match 12.5 to 12.5.

BC Team B had a tougher time of it, trailing the entire weekend to Washington Team B. The BC team made it close with a superior showing in the last round but could not close the gap, with Washington B winning 13-12. The only perfect score of the weekend was notched by a young lady originally from Mongolia, Badamkhand Norovsambuu, who scored 5-0 against BC Team B.

The fiercest competition was between the Victoria team led by WFM Valeria Gansvind and the Vancouver team led by FM John Doknjas. After trailing most of the way the Victoria team pulled ahead in the last round to win 13-12, avenging last year's loss.

The tournament featured an unusual number of FIDE flags. In addition to Canada and the USA:

Badamkhand Norovosambuu (Mongloia)

Kenjii Hiebert (Japan)

Valeria Gansvind (Estonia)

Francisco Barranco (Spain)

Oliver Schulte (Germany)

Grigoriy Morozov (Russia)

Zulkifar Sali (England)

There were four players present who participated in the last BC vs Washington match in 2007:

Bindi Cheng, Roger Patterson, Josh Sinanan (who is President of the



Sridhar Seshadri playing for Washington Team B at the WA vs. BC Match.
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

Washington State Chess Federation) and David Bragg of Washington State.

Some creative measures were necessary to fill all the seats on six teams and team composition was fluid

right up to the night before round one. Kai Richardson of Williams Lake and Francisco Barranco who is a Spaniard studying at UBC were invited to be members of Team Vancouver. Kenji Hiebert who lives most of the time in





Carl Haessler Chess Master

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The British Columbia (L) and Washington State flags at the WA vs. BC Match in Victoria. Photo Credit: Victoria Jung-Doknjas.

Japan was given a spot on BC Team B. Most interestingly, Washington Team B had a withdrawal the day before the tournament and Stefan Trandafir of Port Moody graciously accepted a position playing for Washington. In fact Stefan did very well with a score of 3-2, second best on the team.

The match was co-sponsored by the Washington Chess Federation and Victoria Chess.

In addition to the Scheveningen matches, the 2nd Annual Victoria Open attracted 45 players. Frank O'Brien of Nanoose Bay and Ross Richardson of Victoria finished in an absolute deadlock for 1st place, having played almost exactly the same opponents. Ross in an opportune moment seized the trophy at the prize ceremony while Frank was blissfully driving the Malahat. A clone trophy is being ordered for Frank.

Avinash Kulkarni of Vancouver swept the field in the U1600 section with a 5-0 score and took home the trophy and prize money.

Jeffrey Street of Vancouver claimed the top unrated prize.

Organizer: Paul Leblanc TD: Stephen Wright, IA

Paul Ross (2334) – Bryce Tiglon (2408) [D72] BC-WA A Victoria (R3), January 14, 2017

[Ralph Dubisch]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 d5
5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4 Nb6 7.Ne2 c5 8.dxc5?!

8.d5 e6 9.Nbc3 (9.0–0 exd5 10.exd5 0–0) 9...exd5 10.Nxd5 0–0 11.0–0±

8...Qxd1+ 9.Kxd1 Na4 10.Nbc3 Nxc5 11.Be3 Nba6 12.Kc2 b6 13.Rad1 Bb7 14.Kb1 e6 15.a3 f5 16.f3 Nc7 17.Rhe1 Rd8 18.Rxd8+ Kxd8 19.b4 Nd7 20.Rd1 h6 21.Kc2 Ke7 22.Bh1 Rc8 23.Kb3 Ba6

23...fxe4 24.fxe4 Ba6=

24.f4 fxe4



Position after 24...fxe4

25.Bd4

25.Bxe4± Nd5 26.Bxd5 exd5 27.Nxd5+ Ke6 28.f5+! gxf5 29.Nef4+

25...e5

25...Bxd4 26.Nxd4 (26.Rxd4 Nf6 27.a4 (27.Bxe4? Bxe2 28.Nxe2 Nb5∓) 27... Rd8) 26...Nd5 27.Nxe4 e5∞

26.fxe5 Ne6 27.Bxe4 Bc4+ 28.Kb2 Nxe5 29.Bxe5 Bxe5 30.Bd3 Nd4 31.Nf4 Bxd3 32.Rxd3 Kf7 33.Kb1 Bxf4

[Diagram top of next column]

34.Rxd4?

34.gxf4∓



Position after 33...Bxf4

34...Be5 35.Ne4 Bxd4 36.Nd6+ Ke6 37.Nxc8 b5 0-1

Oliver Schulte (2422) – David R. Bragg (2280) [B11] BC-WA A Victoria (R3), January 14, 2017 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Nxf6+ exf6 6.Bc4 Bd6 7.Qe2+ Qe7 8.Qxe7+ Kxe7 9.0-0 Be6 10.Re1 Kd7

11.Be2± has been played before.

11...c5

I'm a little suspicious of this attempt to restrain d4, as it can lead to more lines opening toward the black king. But Black handles it well. 11...Bg4!?

12.d4 Nc6 13.dxc5 Bxc5 14.Be3 Bxe3 15.Rxe3 Rad8

Now definitely equal.

16.Bb5 Kc7 17.c3 a6 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Nd4 Rd6 20.Rae1



Position after 20.Rae1

20...Rhd8

20...Bxa2!? is possible now. 21.Nf5 (21. $b4\ g6\overline{+}$) 21...Rd2 22.Re7+ (22.Nxg7 $Rxb2\ 23.Ne8+\ Kb6\ 24.Nxf6\ Rd8\overline{+}$) 22... Kb6 23.Nxg7 (23. $b4\ g6$) 23...Rxb2 $\overline{+}$ The a-pawn is a real threat.

21.h3

21.b3 c5 22.Nxe6+ fxe6 23.f4

21...Bxa2! 22.Nf5 Rd2 23.Nxg7 Rxb2 24.Ne8+ Kb6 25.Nxf6 Rdd2

25...a5!?

26.Ne4?!

26.Rf3

26...Rdc2 27.Rd1 Bd5

Or 27...f5 28.Nf6 Rxf2 29.Rg3 a5+

28.g4

28.Nf6 Rxf2 29.Nxd5+ cxd5 30.Rg3∓

28...Bxe4

If the threat is truly stronger than the execution, perhaps 28...a5!?

29.Rxe4 Rxf2 30.Rb4+ Rxb4 31.cxb4? 31.Kxf2∓

31...Rf4 32.Rd7



Position after 32.Rd7

32...a5

Also 32...h6 33.Rd6 Rxb4 34.Rxh6 a5 35.Rh8 a4 36.Ra8 Kb5 \mp is close to winning.

33.bxa5+ Kxa5 34.Kg2 c5 35.Kg3 Rf1 36.Kg2 Rf6 37.Rd5 Kb4 38.g5 Rf4 39.Kg3?

39.Rd7 Rf5 probably doesn't help much.

39...Rd4!-+ 40.Rf5 Rd7 41.Kf3 Re7

41...c4-+

42.Rf4+ c4 43.Rh4



Position after 43.Rh4

43...f6??

Black's first mistake in the game. 43... Kc3-+

44.gxf6 Rf7 45.Rf4 Kb3 46.Ke2

46.Ke4! c3 47.Ke5 c2 48.Rf1 Rd7 (48... Kb2?? 49.Ke6+-) 49.Ke6 Rd1 50.Rf3+ Kb4 (50...Kb2 51.Rf2 Kb1 52.Rxc2 Kxc2 53.f7 Rf1 54.Ke7) 51.f7

46...c3

[Diagram top of next column] 47.Kd1??



Position after 46...c3

White misses the subtle, problem-like save: 47.Rf3!! h6 (47...Kb2 48.Rf5! c2 49.Rb5+) 48.h4 h5 49.Rf5 c2 50.Rb5+ Kc4 51.Rb6 Kc5 52.Rb8

47...Rd7+ 48.Ke2 c2 49.Rf1 Rf7

49...Kc3

50.Kd2

50.Kd3 Rd7+ 51.Ke4 Rd1 52.Rf3+ Kc4 53.f7 c1Q 54.f8Q Qb1+ and Black engineers a mating attack with queen and rook, or 55.Ke3 Qd3+ 56.Kf4 Qxf3+ 57.Kxf3 Rf1+

50...Kb2

A very interesting ending, and a well-deserved win by Black.

0-1

Bryce Tiglon (2408) – Tanraj S. Sohal (2383) [B33] BC-WA A Victoria (R1), January 13, 2017 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bf4 e5 8.Bg5 a6 9.Na3 b5 10.Nd5

If White wants to force the position with play against the broken pawn structure

with doubled f-pawns, he needs to exchange on f6 before the black bishop goes to e7. Of course then Black has some choice about where to place the f8-bishop.

10...Be7 11.Bxf6

Now Black can choose either recapture on f6.

11...Bxf6 12.c4

12.c3, intending Na3-c2-e3, is another more positional concept.

12...Nd4

Choosing to gambit. 12...b4 13.Nc2 a5

13.cxb5 0-0 14.bxa6 Bg5?

14...Be6 15.Bc4 Bxd5 16.Bxd5 Qa5+ $17.Kf1^{\pm}$



Position after 14...Bg5

15.b4?!

15.h4!, since 15...Qa5+?! 16.b4 Qxa3 17.hxg5 leaves White with a monster knight on d5, while its counterpart on d4 is strangely ineffective. Black can't try to remove the d5-knight right away, either: 17...Be6?? 18.Ne7+ Kh8 19.Rxh7+ Kxh7 20.Oh5#

15...Rxa6 16.Nc2 Bg4 17.Qd3?!

The finesse 17.Qb1! allows the white



Team BC and Team WA: rear (L-R) Oliver Schulte, Tanraj Sohal, Bryce Tiglon, Anthony He, Josh Sinanan, Curt Collyer, Paul Ross, Organizer Paul Leblanc, seated (L-R) Grigoriy Morozov, Bindi Cheng, David Bragg. Photo Credit: Victoria Jung-Doknjas

bishop access to d3 to help defend c2 and clear the kingside. 17...Rc6 18.Bd3±

17...Qc8 18.Nxd4 Rxa2! 19.Rb1 exd4 20.h4 Re8 21.hxg5 Of5



Position after 21...Of5

22.f3 Qxd5

22...Qxg5 23.Be2 Be6

23.Be2 Oe5

23...Qb7

24.0-0 Bc8 25.f4 Qxe4 26.Qxe4 Rxe4 27.Bf3 Re8?!

27...Re7

28.Bc6

28.b5

28...Ree2?

28...Re7

29.b5 Bf5



Position after 29...Bf5

30.Rbe1?!

30.Ra1±

30...d3?

30...h6 31.b6 Reb2 32.b7 Ra6±

31.b6 Rab2 32.b7 d5 33.Bxd5 Be6?

33...Rxe1 34.Rxe1 Kf8 35.Bc6 Be6 36.f5 d2 37.Rd1 Bd7 (37...Bxf5 38.Rxd2+-) 38.Bxd7 Rxb7 39.Rxd2+-

34.Ra1 g6 35.Ra8+ Kg7 36.Bf3 Bg4 37.b8Q Rxb8 38.Rxb8 Bxf3 39.gxf3

39.Rxf3 d2 40.Rd8 Re1+ 41.Rf1 Re2 42.Rd5 Kf8 43.Re5 is another way to finish.

1-0

Paul Ross (2334) – Anthony Bi He (2248) [D71]

> BC-WA A Victoria (R1), January 13, 2017 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 Nb6 7.d5?!

7.Nf3

7...c6 8.e4 0-0 9.Nge2 cxd5 10.exd5 N8d7 11.0-0 Ne5 12.h3 Bf5 13.g4 Bd7 14.Bg5



Position after 14.Bg5

14...Nec4

14...h6

15.b3 Nd6 16.Rc1 f5 17.Nd4 h6 18.Bh4 g5 19.Bg3 f4 20.Bh2 Rc8 21.Qd3 Qe8 22.Rfe1 Qf7

11th Annual Grand Pacific Open

\$5000 GUARANTEED Prize Fund; FIDE rated

Easter: April 14-17, 2017

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

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

Sections: Premier (FIDE and CFC rated); U2000; U1700; U1200; (all CFC rated).

Entry Fees: \$80 by Mar. 6, \$90 by April 10, \$100 on site. Discount \$20 if inU1200 section.

Prizes: over \$5000 guaranteed.

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

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

Misc: All equipment provided. \$105 room rate at Hotel Grand Pacific 1-800-663-7550 (rate code "APRIL17CHESS") See website for further details and side events.

Note: All dollar amounts are in Canadian dollars.



Position after 22...Qf7

23.a4?!

23.Ne6 Rxc3 24.Rxc3 Bxc3 25.Qxc3 Rc8 23...Of6 24.Red1 Rc5

24...Qxd4 25.Qxd4 Bxd4 26.Rxd4 Rc5+

25.Ncb5 Rfc8 26.Rxc5 Rxc5 27.Nxd6 exd6 28.Ne6 Bxe6 29.dxe6 Qxe6 30.Bxb7 Be5 31.b4?

31.Bf3∓

[Diagram top of next column]

31...Rc3 32.Qe4?

32.Qe2 Qd7∓

32...Rxh3 33.f3 Qa2 34.Qg6+

34.Bd5+ Nxd5 35.Qxd5+ Qxd5 36.Rxd5 Rxf3-+

34...Kf8 35.Qf5+ Kg7 0-1



Position after 31.b4

He & Mukumbya Victorious at 4th Seattle Masters

By Gary Dorfner and Josh Sinanan

The 4th Seattle Chess Masters Tournament took place February 4 at the Seattle Chess Club and attracted seven players in two sections — four in the Master and three in the Expert.

Washington's youngest ever National Master Anthony He from Sammamish won the master section with a perfect 3.0/3. Second place in the master section was Alikhan Irgaliyev, a college student originally from Kazakstan.

Benjamin Mukumbya, a candidate master

from Uganda who was featured in the recent Disney movie Queen of Katwe, won the expert section with 2.5/3, half a point ahead of Karthik Shaji of Redmond.

The tournament was directed by Senior TD Fred Kleist, organized by WCF President Josh Sinanan, and hosted by the Washington Chess Federation.

Anthony Bi He (2240) – Perez Ignacio (2296) [B08] Seattle Masters 4 – Master Seattle (R1), February 4, 2017 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Nc3

The classic, if rather orthodox, way to place the knights. Obviously White is under little pressure here, and can choose almost any plan of development. Sometimes 4.Bc4 is played, in case Black was planning the blunder 4...Nd7?? when 5.Bxf7+ Kxf7 6.Ng5+ wins the queen or checkmates, depending on Black's next.; As part of a strategy to limit Black's light-bound bishop, 4.h3 makes quite a bit of sense.

4...Nf6

I would have expected the more avantgard 4...Nc6 from the Washington Champion.

5.Bc4 0-0 6.0-0 Bg4

42nd Annual Keres Memorial

\$4000 GUARANTEED Prize Fund, FIDE rated

Victoria Day Weekend, May 20-22, 2017

Location: Executive Plaza Hotel, 7311 Westminister Hwy, Richmond, BC.

Round Times: Sat. 12:00 noon / 5:15, Sun. 10:00 / 5:00, Monday 10:00 / 3:15.

Sections: Premier (CFC & FIDE rated), U2000 (CFC rated), U1600 (CFC rated).

Time Control: Game in 80 minutes plus 60 second per move increment.

Entry Fees: Premier & U2000: \$90 by April 17, \$100 by May 15, \$115 on site. U1600 \$55 by April 17, \$65 by May 15, \$80 on site. CFC tournament or regular membership required.

Prizes: \$4000 Guaranteed.

Registration: on line at <u>www.keresmemorial.pbworks.com</u> or by cheque payable to Alfred Pechisker, Apt. 3009, 602 Citadel Parade, Vancouver, BC, V6B 1X2, Canada.

Misc: All equipment provided. Special \$139 room rate at the Executive Plaza 1-800-663-2878 (rate code "Keres Memorial Chess Tournament". See website for further details.

Note: All dollar amounts are in Canadian dollars.

WASHINGTON CHESS FEDERATION

Washington Open A NW Grand Prix Event May 27-29, 2017

Highest finishing Washington resident in the Open Section seeded into the 2018 Washington State Championship

Washington Open

\$7,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund

Entry fees listed as: Postmarked By April 29 / By May 20 / At site

Open	EF	\$120 / \$130 / \$140
Reserve (U1800)	EF	\$110 / \$120 / \$130
Booster (U1400)	EF	\$100 / \$110 / \$120
Medal Only	EF	\$ 55 / \$ 65 / \$ 75

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

Special Prizes

Upset Prize (all sections eligible)

1st \$100 2nd \$ 60

3rd NWC membership extension

Top female (per section) \$ 60 Top senior 50+ (per section) \$ 60

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

Reentry for 1/2 of your original entry fee.

Free entry to GMs, IMs, and WGMs.

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

Entries/Information:

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

E-mail: danomathews01@gmail.com
Make checks payable to
Washington Chess Federation.

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

Rating: US Chess rated. Open Section also FIDE rated (except G/60 games). US Chess May 2017 rating supplement will be used to determine section eligibility. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Higher of US Chess or FIDE rating used for pairings and prizes in Open Section. Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Unrated players may only win top five prizes in the Open Section or unrated prizes in Booster Section.

Registration: Saturday 8:30-9:30 AM for 3-day schedule, or 3:00-3:30 PM if entering with one half-point bye. Sunday 8:00-8:30 AM for 2-day schedule, or 8:30-9:30 AM if entering 3-day schedule with two half-point byes. Two half-point byes available at registration or before end of round 2. Play any two days, if taking two half-point byes.

Rounds: 3-day schedule: Sat 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Sun 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Mon 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM. 2-day schedule: Sun 9:00 AM, 11:45 AM, 2:30 PM, then join 3-day schedule with round 4 at 5:30 PM. WCF annual meeting and elections at 2:00 PM Monday, May 29, 2017.

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: 40. US Chess Junior Grand Prix. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

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

Washington Open G/15 Championship: Sat 05/27 at 8:00 PM. Format: 5 round Swiss in one section. Registration: 7:00-7:45 PM. Rounds: 8:00, 8:40, 9:20, 10:00 and 10:40 PM. TC: G/15;d0. EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400/b20. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. US Chess Quick rated. Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required.

Washington Open Blitz Championship: Sun 05/28 at 9:00 PM. Format: 5 round Double Swiss in one section. Registration: 8:00-8:45 PM. Rounds: 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30 and 11:00 PM. TC: G/5;d0. EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400/b20. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. US Chess Blitz rated. Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required.

Washington Open G/45 Championship: Mon 05/29 at 11:30 AM. Format: 4 round Swiss in one section. Registration: 10:30-11:15 AM. Rounds: 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, and 5:30 PM. TC: G/45;d0. EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400/b20. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. US Chess Dual rated. Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required.

6...Nxe4!? seems like a traditional equalizing tactic here and on the next move

7.Be3 Nc6 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 e5 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Qe2 Nxc4 12.Qxc4 Re8 13.Rad1 Qd7 14.Qd3 Qc6 15.f3 Nd7 16.Bd4 Ne5 17.Qe2



Position after 17.Qe2

17...f5?!

White has played for solid equality and has achieved his goal. Now Black lashes out, trying to create an imbalance, but mostly succeeds in creating weaknesses. 17...Nc4

[Diagram top of next column]

White has a solid plus, but must avoid troublesome tactics on the g-file. To this end, perhaps 24.Kh1 or 24.Rd2.



Position after 23...Rag8

24.Rd3?? Nh4??

Black misses his shot: 24...Ne5!! 25.fxe5 Rxg2+ 26.Qxg2 Rxg2+ 27.Kxg2 Qxc2+ and wins.

25.g3 Qc5 26.Kf1 Qxf2+ 27.Kxf2 Ng6 28.Re6 Rf7 29.c4 Rd8 30.Rde3 Kg7 31.Re8 Rdd7 32.Nc3 c6 33.Ne2 d5 34.c5 Rde7



Position after 34...Rde7

35.Nd4 Rxe3 36.Rxe3 Nf8 37.b4 h5 38.Kf3 Kf6 39.Re5 Kg6 40.Ke3 Nd7 41.Re6+ Kg7 42.a3 a6 43.Kd3 Kf8?!

43...a5 44.Rd6±

44.Rh6 Nf6 45.Nxf5 Ng8 46.Rxh5 Rf6 47.Nd4 Nh6 48.g4 Nf7 49.Ke3 Rg6 1–0



Benjamin Mukumbya at the 2013 World Youth Chess Championships. Photo Credit: Chess-DB.com

Upcoming Events Continued from page 31

Apr 22 Idaho Open Chess Championships, **Pocatello, ID.** Format: 4SS, G/60;d5 rnds 1 & 2, G/90;d5 rnds 3 & 4. 2 Sections: Open and Reserve (U1400), may be combined for pairing purposes if low turnout. Site: ISU, Student Union Bldg., Salmon River Suites, 1065 S. 8th St., Pocatello, Idaho. US Chess mem. req., ICA mem. req., OSA. EF: \$30 (U18 & 60+ \$25), by 4/20, \$35 (all) after. Reg. & Check-in: 7:45-8:30 a.m. 4/22. If not checked in & paid by 8:30, may not be paired in 1st rnd. Rounds: 9, 11:15, 2, 5:15. ½ pt byes: Max 1, Rd 1-3 only. Request 1st & 2nd round byes before round is paired. All others commit by end of round 2. Prizes: \$\$b/30; Open: \$200-100-75; Reserve: \$75-50-25. HR/ENT/INFO: ICA, 212 N. 3rd St., Bellevue, ID, 83313, idahochessassociation@gmail.com, http://www.idahochessassociation.com. NC, NS, W.

Apr 30 Boise Chess Club #13, Boise, ID. All About Games, 7079 W. Overland Rd., Boise, ID 83709. This is the first-ever Northwest Chess Grand Prix event for the BCC! 4SS, US Chess Rated, Game/30 + 30 second time increment per move. Jeffrey Roland will be Chief TD. Please register by e-mailing jroland@cableone.net. Email pre-registration is appreciated to speed up registration. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. Registration will be from 9-9:30 a.m. First round "should"/"could"/probably will start promptly at 9:30 a.m. Those coming late will get a first-round bye. One-hour for lunch taken after round 2. Estimated time for end of tournament is 6:00 p.m. Entry is Free!

Apr 29-30 Inland Empire Open, Spokane, WA. Site: Gonzaga University (Jepson Center) Rm. 109, Spokane, WA. Registration: Sat. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Rounds: Sat. 10:00-2:30-7:00 Sun: 9:00-1:30 or ASAP. Time Control: G/120 (with 5 second delay). E.F. \$23 if received by 5/28, \$28 at the door; 18 and under \$5 less. Telephone entries accepted. US Chess rated. \$750 prize fund based on 35, Class prizes based on at least five per section. Only one prize per person (excluding biggest upset). NS, NC, W. One ½ point bye if requested before proceeding round; Sunday byes must be requested before the end of round 3. Director reserves the right to use class pairings in the final round. Prizes: 1st Overall: \$175, 2nd Overall: \$140, 3rd Overall \$100. Class Prizes (A; B; C; D/E/unrated): 1st \$50, 2nd \$25. Biggest Upset: \$35 (non-provisional ratings). Misc.: Cookies & coffee provided. Entries: Spokane CC, c/o David B. Griffin, P.O. Box 631, Spokane Valley, WA 99037. For information: cell (509) 994-9739.

May 20-22 Keres Memorial Open, Victoria, BC (Canada). (See half-page ad on page 25)

May 27-29 Washington Open, Lynnwood, WA. (See full-page ad on page 26)

The 2016 Richard Gutman Memorial Final Results Northwest Chess Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator

One year over, another begun. 2016 was a year for the record books. In all but one of the categories (most multiplier events) where I keep such records, 2016 rewrote the standards. There were 777 players involved in Grand Prix events during 2016, ten more than the previous record set in 2014. These players entered Grand Prix events 3063 times, which exceeded 2014 by 403 entries. They did that in 95 events, up ten from 2014 and earned 27929.5 Grand Prix points, over 600 above the previous best set in 2011. This gave us new standards for Entries/Event (32.242), Points per entry (9.118) and Entries per player (3.942), all new records. Finally, the personal record for most points earned was set by Stephen Buck of Washington who scored 359.5 in 2016, up 58 points from Ralph Anthony's previous record set in 2013. Buck did this while attending 53 different events throughout the year. Like Johnny Cash, he's been everywhere, man.

Buck obviously finished as the winner of the Washington competition, as well as winning in Class B. This is Buck's sixth win since 2003. In Oregon, Mike Hasuike joins the ranks of repeat winners (the first was in 2014), by scoring an even 200 points, also winning his state's Class B prize. In what appears could be Idaho's last Grand Prix winner, Kevin Xu made it a clean sweep for Class B players, scoring 69 points to edge out Travis Miller by just 3. (The Grand Prix fees for the final three GP events in Idaho have not been paid and have been covered by NWC.)

Along with the overall prize for each state's champion, there are first and second prizes in each class. As mentioned, all the state winners were also Class B winners. Sometimes, the competitions were very close, and there was even a tie. In Oregon, Cassandra Roshu took second place with a one point lead over Kevin Wu. The Class A top prize went to Andrea Botez over Danny Phipps also by one point. Idaho's second place for Class C was shared by Nick Martonick and Jeffrey Jaroski, each with 23 points, while in Idaho's top class, a merger of Master, Expert and Class A, Michael Cambareri took second place behind Miller, edging out Nicholas Hawkins by just two points. Washington did not have any races quite as close as those. In the Expert class, Brendan Zhang was 8 points better than Jason Yu, while Anthony He bested Nick Raptis by just 6 to take second place among the Masters. Other class winners and runner-ups can be seen in the chart below.

Fifty eight of our entries came from beyond the three state area, led by players from Canada. Top among the "outsiders" was British Columbian Neil Doknjas, who came south often enough to gather up 87.5 Grand Prix points. 14 other Canadians helped contribute to our Grand Prix prize funds. Players also came from 17 US states outside of the Northwest, led by 9 from Montana, 5 from Wyoming and 4 each from California and Florida.

Along with Buck's very active total of 53 events, there were others who found time to play quite frequently. Washington's Class C winner, August Piper, attended 37 events, while Viktors Pupols attended 30 to win the Washington Master Class. Oregonian Brian Berger attended 32 events yet only finished 3rd in Class B, as top finisher Hasuike and second place Isaac Vega both attended many more multiplier events. Washington resident Addison Lee attended 25 events and took second in Class A. (Yours truly attended just four, leaving me only about 150 points behind Piper.)

Next month, we forget 2016 and start talking about 2017! All data below are final for 2016.

Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington		
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
					Mas	ters		
			1 Cigan	Jason	146	1 Pupols	Viktors	226.5
			2 Haessler	Carl A	86	2 He	Anthony B	183.5
			3 Tarjan	James	71.5	3 Raptis	Nick	177.5
			4 Grabinsky	Aaron	30	4 Perez	Ignacio	115.5
			5 Prochaska	Peter	27	5 Sinanan	Joshua C	107.5
\mathbf{M}	I/X/Class A				Exp	erts		
1 Miller	Travis J	66	1 Richardson	Ryan	122.5	1 Zhang	Brendan	150
2 Cambareri	Michael E	62	2 Talyansky	Seth D	100.5	2 Yu	Jason	142
3 Hawkins	Nicholas B	60	3 Zavortink	Matt	94	3 Bashkansky	Naomi	122
4 Bodie	Brad	47	4 Bjorksten	Lennart	90	4 Thomas	Arjun	113
5 Nathan	Jacob A	31.5	5 Gatica	Jose M	77	5 Ramasamy	Vikram	81

	Idaho		Oregon		Washington			
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
	Class B				Clas	ss A		
1 Xu	Kevin	69	1 Botez	Andrea C C	101.5	1 Baxter	Brent L	233
2 Derryberry	Dewayne R	23.5	2 Phipps	Danny	100.5	2 Lee	Addison	179.5
3 Rainey	Samuel W	13	3 Rachmuth	Moshe S	98	3 Truelson	Joseph	155
4 Fucsko	Janos	12.5	4 Perkins	Josiah	80	4 Anand	Vignesh	149
5 Booth	Tom R	12.5	5 Murray	David E	79.5	5 Zhang	Eric M	148
	Class C				Clas	ss B		
1 Weyland	Ron	38.5	1 Hasuike	Mike L	200	1 Buck	Stephen J	359.5
2 Martonick	Nick	23	2 Vega	Isaac	149	2 Jiang	Brandon	182.5
2 Jaroski	Jeffrey A	23	3 Berger	Brian F	133	3 Xuan	Owen	162
4 Courtney	Caleb	21.5	4 Moore	Michael	114.5	4 Velea	Anne-Marie	160.5
5 Two Tied at		14	5 Markowski	Gregory A	74	5 Pothukuchi	Revanth V	151.5
	Class D				Clas	ss C		
1 Liu	James	49.5	1 Dietz	Arliss	98.5	1 Piper	August	226.5
2 Wei	James	39.5	2 Roshu	David L	78.5	2 Richards	Jerrold	169
3 Porth	Adam	35.5	3 Tsai	James	72.5	3 Jiang	Andrew	141.5
4 Bodie	Arlene	24.5	4 Uan-Zo-Li	Sean A	65.5	4 Vijayakumar	Advaith	137.5
5 Porth	Desmond	22.5	5 Kenway	Geoffrey W	64	4 Tien	Andy C	131
Class	E and Below		Class D and Below					
1 Callen	Gregory D	57	1 Zhang	Ethan Y	101	1 Munsey	Michael R	163.5
2 Zeng	Forrest	49	2 Roshu	Cassandra M	71.5	2 Velea	Sophie	155
3 He	Justin	43.5	3 Wu	Kevin	70.5	3 Velea	Stephanie	144.5
4 Porth	Darwin A	20	4 Wu	Abbie	65.5	4 Pogrebinsky	Ethan	142.5
5 Porth	Dylan	19	5 Pai	Kushal	64	4 Bai	Raymond	103
			Overall Lea	ders, by State				
1 Xu	Kevin	69	1 Hasuike	Mike L	200	1 Buck	Stephen J	359.5
2 Miller	Travis J	66	2 Vega	Isaac	149	2 Baxter	Brent L	233
3 Cambareri	Michael E	62	3 Cigan	Jason	146	3 Pupols	Viktors	226.5
4 Hawkins	Nicholas B	60	4 Berger	Brian F	133	4 Piper	August	226.5
5 Callen	Gregory D	57	5 Richardson	Ryan	122.5	5 He	Anthony B	183.5
6 Liu	James	49.5	6 Moore	Michael	114.5	6 Jiang	Brandon	182.5
7 Zeng	Forrest	49	7 Botez	Andrea C C	101.5	7 Lee	Addison	179.5
8 Bodie	Brad	47	8 Zhang	Ethan Y	101	8 Raptis	Nick	177.5
9 He	Justin	43.5	9 Phipps	Danny	100.5	9 Richards	Jerrold	169
10 Wei	James	39.5	9 Talyansky	Seth D	100.5	10 Munsey	Michael R	163.5
11 Weyland	Ron	38.5	11 Dietz	Arliss	98.5	11 Xuan	Owen	162
12 Porth	Adam	35.5	11 Rachmuth	Moshe S	98	12 Velea	Anne-Marie	160.5

Remember to keep submitting articles, games, and photos!



The WCF in its wisdom has scheduled the Kingsvs.-Princes and Queensvs.-Princesses matches for the weekend of March 18-19, when the Seattle Spring Open was to be held, necessitating the date change.



SCC Fridays

Typical Friday fare is one round of an ongoing tournament (free to SCC members, no prizes) played at a rate of 40/90 followed by 30/60. Drop in for any round!

Close Ratings:

3/3, 10, 17, 24, 31.

April Showers:

4/7, 14, 21, 28.

Close Ratings 2:

5/5, 12, 19, 26.

It's Summertime!:

6/2, 9, 16, 23, 30.

Mar. 4, Apr. 1

Seattle Masters #5, #6

Format: 3-SS, 2 sec— Master & Expert, FIDE-rated. TC: G/90; i30. EF: \$75 by 5 p.m., 3/3 (#5) or 3/31 (#6), afterwards \$90. Prizes (b/15): \$450-325-225-125. Reg: 9-9:45 a.m. Rds: 10-2:30-7. Misc: US Chess, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC. More details: see www.nwchess.com or contact joshsinanan@gmail.com or call 206-769-3757

™Mar. 5, Apr. 2 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.

Mar. 18 New Date, Apr. 22 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. reg'd, OSA. NS, NC.

SCC Novice April 23

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. TC: G/75; d5. EF: \$11 by 4/19, \$16 at site. (-\$2 SCC mem., -\$1 mem. other NW dues-req'd CCs). **Prizes:** Memb (SCC, WCF, US Chess). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4–commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

How to Find the SCC

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

Seattle Spring Open

March 24-26 or 25-26 New Dates

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

a Northwest Grand Prix event

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

Entry Fees: \$36 if rec'd by 3/22 (\$26 SCC memb., \$31 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW), \$45 at site (\$35 SCC memb., \$40 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW). Unrated-Free with purchase of 1-yr US Chess & 1-yr WCF. Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.

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

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

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

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

Upcoming Events

denotes 2017 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

- Mar 4-5 Neil Dale Memorial Open, Portland, OR. Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR. Format: US Chess rated, two days, two sections (Open and Reserve U1800), 5-round Swiss. Time Control: 40/90, SD/30; d5. Byes: Two half-point byes available if requested before 1st round. Entry fee: \$45, \$35 for PCC members. Registration: 9:00-9:45 a.m. on Saturday. 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: \$1,500 based on 50 total entries. Open: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$125; U2000 1st \$100, 2nd \$75; Reserve: 1st \$150, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$75; U1600, U1400, U1200/unrated each 1st \$75, 2nd \$50. No tiebreakers used, prizes split between players with the same results. Memberships: US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA required and can be purchased or renewed at registration, OSA. OCF Invitational Qualifier. OSCF State Qualifier. See ad/flyer. Note: The tournament is limited to the first 50 players (entrants). Reserve a spot online at pdxchess.org. However, you must still show up on-site by 9:30 a.m. Saturday to keep your spot and be paired for round 1. (See also half-page ad on Page 13)
- Mar 11 (rescheduled) Bend Winter Open & Novice, Bend, OR. Site: Whispering Winds, 2920 N.E. Conners Ave., Bend, OR 97701. Format: 4-SS in two sections: Open (U.S. Chess rated) and Novice (limited to unrated or U800 who have never won a prize in a previous Novice Tourney). TC: G/60; d5. Entry Fee: \$20 (Open), \$10 (Novice). Reg.: 8:30–9:00. Rounds: 9:30, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30. Prizes based on entries. U.S. Chess membership prize(s) available in Novice section. Entries/Info: Paul Shannon, NTD, 60958 Targee Dr, Bend, OR 97702, email countdune@netscape.net. Misc: U.S. Chess memb. req'd. in Open section, W, NS, NC.
- Mar 11 Tacoma CC Northwest Open Tornado, Tacoma, WA. Format: 5 round Swiss. Time Control: G/30; d5. Entry Fee: Advance \$25, At the door \$30; Club members: Advance \$22, At the door \$27. Price fund: 1st \$25, 2nd \$20; Top half & Bottom half. Rounds: 10:00, 11:15, 12:30, 2:00, 3:30. US Chess & state memberships required. W NS NC. One half-point bye available. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445. Phone (253) 535-2536 or email ggarychess@aol. com.
- Mar 18/Apr 15 Portland CC Quad 45, Portland, OR. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. 3-round quads, G/45;inc15. 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, 12:30pm, and 3:00pm. 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. http://pdxchess.org/
- Mar 25/Apr 29 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, http://pdxchess.org/ (Note: The PCC April G/60 is not an OSCF qualifier).
- Apr 1-2 Clark Harmon Memorial Open, Portland, OR. (See half-page ad on page 15)
- **Apr 8** Kitsap Quick, **Bremerton, WA.** Site: 7555 Old Military Road NE, Bremerton, WA 98311. Format: 5 round Swiss in two sections. Time Control: G/25 (no delay). Entry Fee: \$15 for open, \$10 for scholastic. Prize Fund: Open: \$100/b10 1st-\$40 2nd-\$30 3rd-\$20 U1500/Unrated-\$10; Scholastic: Trophies to 1st/2nd/3rd. Rounds: 10:00, 11:15, 1:00, ASAP w/minimum of 20 min between end/start of round. US Chess membership required for Open, NWSRS membership required for scholastic. NS NC. Two half-point byes available; director must be notified at least two rounds in advance. Contact: Keagan Byers, 255 NE Evans Lane, Poulsbo, WA 98370. Phone: (360) 930-5425, Email: kcbyers1@gmail.com.
 - Apr 14-16 Larry Evans Memorial, Reno, NV. (See full-page ad on page 16)
 - Apr 14-17 11th Annual Grand Pacific Open, Victoria, BC (Canada). (See half-page ad on page 24)
- Apr 15 Tacoma CC Daffodil Open Tornado, Tacoma, WA. Format: 5 round Swiss. Time Control: G/30; d5. Entry Fee: Advance \$25, At the door \$30; Club members: Advance \$22, At the door \$27. Price fund: 1st \$25, 2nd \$20; Top half & Bottom half. Rounds: 10:00, 11:15, 12:30, 2:00, 3:30. US Chess & state memberships required. W NS NC. One half-point bye available. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445. Phone (253) 535-2536 or email ggarychess@aol. com.

Upcoming Events Continued on page 27

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