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

**Alex Machin wins
2017 Idaho Open**



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NWC Staff

Editor: Jeffrey Roland,
editor@nwchess.com
Games Editor: Ralph Dubisch,
chesscoaching@gmail.com
Publisher: Duane Polich,
publisher@nwchess.com
Business Manager: Eric Holcomb,
eric@holcomb.com

Board Representatives

David Yoshinaga, Josh Sinanan, Grisha Alpernas,
Jeffrey Roland, Adam Porth, Chouchanik Airapetian,
Duane Polich.

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Business Manager, Northwest Chess
Eric Holcomb
1900 NE 3rd St, STE 106 PMB 361
Bend, OR 97701-3889
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On the front cover:

Alex Machin at the 2017 Idaho Open on April 22, 2017 in
Pocatello, ID. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

On the back cover:

Corey Longhurst at the Boise Chess Club on April 24, 2017
as seen through the fish-eye lens.
Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

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Jeffrey Roland, NWC Editor
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From The Editor's Desk

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Northwest Chess*. It is my 55th as your editor.

All issues, including this one, are unique and special. There is a lot packed into these 32 pages!

This issue was produced a week earlier in the month in an effort to make it available for distribution at the 2017 Washington Open.

Please contribute materials (games, photos, articles, etc.) by emailing editor@nwchess.com.

Thank you!

From Our Business Manager

If you update your address in the NWC online registration system, please also notify the Business Manager by email (info@nwchess.com). The online registration database is currently NOT the database used for mailing. We'll notify all members/subscribers when this situation changes. Thank you.

2017 Idaho Open Chess Tournament

By Jeffrey Roland

Pocatello, ID — April 22, 2017

The 2017 Idaho Open brought 32 players (22 Open and 10 Reserve) to Pocatello, Idaho on April 22, 2017 at the Idaho State University Student Union Building Salmon River Suites, South Fork Room. Turnout was indeed high for a tournament in Pocatello, and surprised everyone, even the tournament organizer and Chief TD Jay Simonson. For those who like to compare statistics, last year's Idaho Open held in Boise, June 18-19, 2016, brought in 34 players.

I actually made a comment while mingling with chess players before this year's tournament began that it looked to me like a tough playing-field, that it was hard to imagine anyone winning this event... and yet as the event unfolded for history, and as it always will, someone did indeed win!

Jay Simonson has a solid reputation as one of the most punctual tournament directors around. In all the years Jay has

been organizing events for the Idaho Chess Association (ICA), he has never been late starting the first round... until now. It is amazing to me that it is actually news and noteworthy as a first-time-ever occurrence that an event starts late, but here it is... This was the first time for Jay Simonson! Play in this tournament started a full-hour late, at 10:00 a.m. (advertised start time was 9:00 a.m.) This seemed to be fine with all the players though, at least on the front-side of the equation. But it was a little different story on the back-end, when it meant players got a very late start travel ing back home.

There were eight players from out-of-state, but the bulk of the players came from Idaho. Six states were actually represented in the field of players. The room was stuffed almost to capacity with very little left-over space, but all players did in fact fit in the room comfortably, as in chess, all one *really* needs is a place to sit, an opponent to play with, and a chess

board to play on. The tournament could have handled two more players without changing the seating, and in a pinch, they could have made the top table have two boards instead of one, so the tournament could have handled four more players before expanding into an adjacent room.

ICA President Adam Porth reported that this would actually be the last ICA tournament in the foreseeable future that will have two separate playing sections (Open and Reserve.) In the future, events will be single-section open events. This was also the first tournament wherein ICA implemented a new "Over 80 plays for free" policy and also included that IM's, FM's, and GM's play free too. The thinking is that if a person reaches 80-years-old, that they should be given free entry for the rest of their lives so that we can honor, cherish, and appreciate them at our events for as long as we possibly can.



Players analyze their games on the floor in the hall outside the playing room. L-R (around the chessboard): Samuel Pinson, Kevin Pinson, Ching-E Nobel Ang, Andrew Kitterman. Family members on couch watch too. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



Second-place winner DeWayne Derryberry in relief (“victory”) pose at the conclusion of the event. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

This being a one-day, four-round Swiss tournament, the time control for the first two rounds was Game/60;d5 then went to Game/90;d5 for the last two rounds.

In the Open Section, Alex Machin, Meridian (1673-1789—4.0/4), captured first place with a perfect score and securing the \$200 top prize. Machin played Black in three out of four games and beat higher-rated players in the last three games. Second place was DeWayne Derryberry, Pocatello (1740-1763—3.5/4), taking home the \$100 prize. Third place saw a three-way tie between Jacob Ari Nathan, Idaho Falls (1778-1788—3.0/4), Andrea Chimenton, Boise (1748P-1774—3.0/4), and Kevin Xu, Boise (1664-1679—3.0/4), and splitting third prize three-ways for \$25 each. Kevin Xu is the 2017 Idaho Scholastic K-8 Champion who will represent Idaho at the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions later this summer in Norfolk, Virginia.

In the U1400 Reserve Section, Tom Uptain, Casper, Wyoming (1369-1371—3.5/4), and Logan Call, Boise (1338-1352—3.5/4), tied for first-second place, each winning \$62.50. Third place was nailed by Andrew Kitterman, Boise (524P-654P—2.5/4), who took home \$25.00.

The tournament was honored with the presence of Phil Humpherys, Salt Lake City, UT (1856-1840—2.5/4), the 1987 Idaho Scholastic Champion and the current 2017 Utah State Chess Champion. Phil has not played in an Idaho tournament since the 1994 Thunder Lizard Grand Prix tournament played March 12-13, 1994 in Idaho Falls. Other notable players in attendance included Hans Morrow,

Farmington, UT (1900-1900—2.0/4), who has been both Idaho Open Champion four times (2001, 2008, 2010, and 2013) and Idaho State Champion by winning the Idaho Closed one time (2007). Daniel McCourt, Missoula, MT (1814-1783—2.0/4) and Gary Owens, Evanston, WY (1616-1579—0.5/4), were also present. And there was a host of other players too.

Let me leave you with an historical appreciation of this important event. The ICA was founded and is actually based on the Idaho Open chess tournament (this is truly my opinion based on years of personal study and appreciation of the ICA). It is the “Rock of Gibraltar” of the ICA, and a lot could be written about the history of the Idaho Open, but that is another story for another time. Suffice it to say that there is only one tournament that has *never* missed a beat, never missed a year of happening in the history of the ICA—the Idaho Open. Even after the Idaho Closed State Championship branched off in 1958 to decide the official Idaho State Championship title, and even when it was well-established, even it didn’t happen for two years in 1968 and 1969, but the rock-solid Idaho Open was still there.

In 1947, Mel Schubert registered the ICA with the United States Chess Federation. In 1947, he was hired as an instructor of speech and drama at Idaho State College (which now is Idaho State University where this year’s event was held!), and he organized, directed, and played in the first-ever Idaho State Chess Tournament, which is now known as the Idaho Open. I don’t know if the choice of venue for the 2017 event was intentional or not, but this is where it all began, right here at this college (or university), 70

years ago (this would be the 71st annual event since 1947, year zero, was the first).

Andrea Chimenton (1748) – Alex James Machin (1673) [E44]
Idaho Open Pocatello, ID
(R4), April 22, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0–0 5.Nge2 b6

The standard when facing an early Ne2 line is to transpose into a QGD and retain the dark-square bishop: **5...d5 6.a3 Be7**

6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.Nxc3 Bb7 8.f3

8.d5!?

8...d6 9.Bd3 Nbd7 10.0–0 Qe7 11.e4 e5 12.d5 Nc5 13.Bc2 a5 14.Bg5 Ncd7 15.Qd2 Rfe8 16.b4 h6 17.Be3 Nh5



Position after 17...Nh5

18.Ba4 Nhf6 19.Nb5 Rec8 20.Rfc1 Ne8 21.Qf2 axb4 22.axb4 Ra6 23.Bb3 Rca8 24.Rxa6 Rxa6



Position after 24...Rxa6

25.h3 Kf8 26.Qb2 Qd8 27.Ra1 Qa8 28.Rxa6 Qxa6 29.Qa3 Qxa3 30.Nxa3 Ke7 31.Kf2 Nef6 32.Nb5 Kd8 33.Na7 Ng8 34.Ba4 Ne7



Position after 34...Ne7

35.Nc6+?



Board one and the last game to finish. Andrea Chimenton (dark shirt) versus Alex Machin (light shirt). Photo credit: Adam Porth, Jeffrey Roland, and Phil Peterson.

35.Bc2 Ba6 36.Bd3 Ke8 37.Bd2 Ng6 38.g3 keeps Black from getting much activity.

35...Bxc6 36.dxc6 Nf8 37.g4?

This is a serious weakening of the f4-square especially. Presumably White was worried about ...f5, but that seems at worst a chance for Black to equalize. Give the knights outposts and they can dominate the bishops.

37...Ne6 38.h4

Jeffrey Roland recorded the rest of the game on his SmartPhone, so we have the moves and the clock times as well.



Position after 38.h4

38...Kc8?

38...Ng6! is important now, before the route is cut off. 39.Kg3 Ngf4 40.b5 Nd4 and recapturing whichever with a ...Ne2+ fork. The outposted knight vs bad bishop endgame clearly favors Black, but there's still the question of how to penetrate with the king to actually win the thing.

39.h5

39.h5! seals the route to those weak dark squares on d4 and f4.

39...Ng6 40.h5?!

40.Kg3 Ngf4 41.Bd1 takes away the e2-forking square, and thus reduces the effect of the knight outposts. It's pretty hard to see someone winning from here without a blunder of some kind.

40...Ngf4 41.Bc2 Kd8 42.Kf1 Ke7 43.Kf2 Kf6 44.Kf1

(At 3:22 into his thinking time, White said, "Would you accept a draw?" Black replied, "May I see your move first?" and at 2:58 this move was played.)

44...Kg5

(Draw offer declined) 44...g6!?

45.Kf2 Kh4 46.Bb1 Nc5

46...g6! 47.hxg6 fxg6 48.Bc2 h5 49.gxh5

gxh5+



Position after 46...Nc5

47.Bxc5??

47.Bc2

47...dxc5

Now clearly winning for Black, with good knight vs bad bishop and king penetration already achieved.

48.Bc2 Kh3 49.Bd1 Ne6 50.Ke3 Kg3 0:59.9 51.Be2 Nd4 0:56.4 52.Bd1 Kg2?! 0:54.4

52...g5!+

53.Be2?

53.f4 doesn't actually do much, but it's a better try for White.

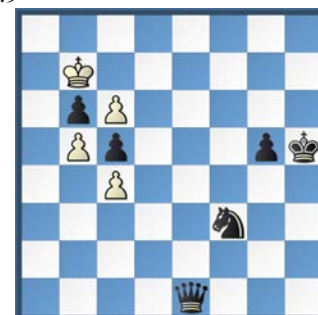
53...Kg3 0:27.4

53...Nx2 54.Kxe2 g5-+ is a fairly simple K+P ending win for Black.

54.Bd1 f6 0:27.4 55.Be2 Nc2+ 0:27.4 56.Kd2 Kf2 0:27.4 57.Bd1 Nd4 0:27.4 58.f4 exf4 0:24.6 59.Kd3 f3 0:24.6 60.e5 fxe5 0:24.6 61.Ke4 Kg2 0:17.8 62.Bxf3+ Nxf3 0:17.8 63.Kf5 Kg3 0:17.8 64.g5

64.Ke6 e4 65.Kd7 e3 66.Kxc7 e2 67.Kb7 e1Q 68.c7 Qe7 69.Kb8 Qd7 70.c8Q Qxc8+ 71.Kxc8 Ne5 72.Kb7 Nxc4+

64...hxg5 0:13.9 65.Kg6 Kg4 0:13.9 66.Kxg7 0:59.9 66...Kxh5 0:13.9 67.Kf6 0:59.9 67...e4 0:13.9 68.Ke6 0:59.9 68...e3 0:13.9 69.Kd7 0:59.9 69...e2 0:13.9 70.Kxc7 0:59.9 70...e1Q 0:13.9 71.Kb7 0:59.9



Position after 71.Kb7

71...Qb4 0:13.9

Likely faster: 71...Nd2 72.c7 Nxc4 73.c8Q Nd6++ Black's clock is running on fumes here, so it's not surprising he can't take time to find the most accurate

route. ...Qb4 takes longer in terms of the number of moves, but it's good enough.

72.c7 0:59.9 72...Qxc4 0:10.5 73.c8Q 0:59.9 73...Qxb5 0:10.2 74.Qh8+ 0:59.9 74...Kg4 0:10.2 75.Qc8+ 0:59.9 75...Kg3 0:08.8 76.Qc7+ 0:59.9 76...Kg2 0:08.8 77.Qf7 0:57.3 77...c4 0:08.8 78.Qf5 0:57.3 78...Qxf5 0:08.8 0-1

Alex James Machin (1673) –
Hans M. Morrow (1900) [B23]
Idaho Open Pocatello, ID
(R3), April 22, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.f4 Nc6 4.Nf3 g6 5.Bb5 Bg7 6.0-0 a6 7.Bxc6+ bxc6 8.d3 Bg4 9.Qe1 Bxf3 10.Rxf3 e6 11.Be3 Bd4 12.Bxd4 cxd4 13.Ne2 c5 14.c3 e5?

This helps White both to open the f-file and to undermine the center. Better is 14...dxc3 when any White edge is minimal.

15.fxe5 dxe5



Position after 15...dxe5

16.cxd4

White misses a chance to truly smack Black's center with 16.b4! e.g. 16...cxb4 (16...dxc3 17.Qxc3 f6 18.bxc5) 17.cxd4 exd4 18.Qxb4

16...cxd4 17.Qb4 Qe7

17...Rb8

18.Qa4+?!

18.Qb6±

18...Kf8 19.Rc1 Kg7 20.Qa5 Ra7?

20...Nh6 21.Rc7 Qe6 and Black has untangled.

21.Rc6

21.Rc5!? f6 22.Rc6±

21...h5 22.Ng3 Nh6 23.h3 Rb8 24.b3 Rb5?!

24...h4 25.Nf1

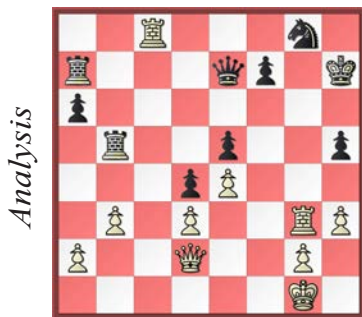
[Diagram top of next column]

25.Qa4

It's understandable that neither player noticed the in-between tactic that just popped up. It didn't work before 24...Rb5 because the rook on b8 defends the back rank. 25.Nxh5+!! Kh7 (25...gxh5 26.Qd2 Ng8 27.Rg3+ Kh7 28.Rc8



Position after 24...Rb5



(#Diagram-analysis after 28.Rc8)

28...Nf6 (28...Nh6 29.Qxh6+ Kxh6 30.Rh8#) 29.Rh8+ Kxh8 30.Qh6+ Nh7 31.Qg7#) 26.Qd2 Ng8 27.Nf6+ Nxf6 28.Rcxf6+- There's not much Black can do about Qg5 and h4-h5.

25...Rc5 26.Rxa6 Rxa6 27.Qxa6



Position after 27.Qxa6

27...h4?!

27...Rc1+!

a) 28.Nf1 Ng4! 29.hxg4? hxg4 30.Rg3 Qh4 31.Kf2 Qh1 32.Rxg4 Qxf1+ 33.Kg3 Qe1+ 34.Kh2 Qh1+ 35.Kg3 Rc2 with mate soon.;

b) 28.Kh2?? Ng4+ 29.hxg4 Qh4#;

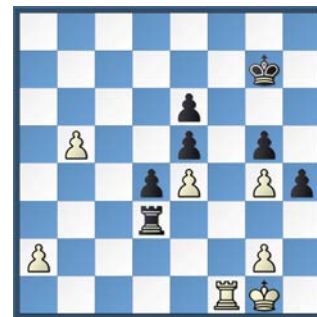
c) 28.Kf2 Qg5 29.Qa5 Rb1! 30.— intending 30...Rb2+ , when 31.Kg1 loses the pinned piece to 31...h4, (and 31.Kf1 Qc1+ 32.Qe1 Qc2 33.Qe2 Rb1+ 34.Kf2 Qc3 leaves White with only desperation checks in reply to the threatened ...Rb2.);

d) 28.Rf1! Rc2 29.Nh1 (29.Rf2 Rxf2 30.Kxf2 Qh4 31.— and 31...Qf4+ wins the piece.) 29...f5 Awkward pieces — especially the h1-knight — and Black's expanding kingside pawn mass provide plenty of compensation for the extra white pawn.

28.Nf1 g5 29.Nh2 Rc1+ 30.Rf1 Rc3 31.Ng4?!

31.b4!? Rc2 32.Kh1 now (On 32.a4? Black can break through and force White to take a perpetual check: 32...g4! 33.Nxg4 Nxg4 34.hxg4 h3 35.g3 Qg5 36.Qd6 Qe3+ 37.Kh1 Rf2!) 32...g4 lacks a queen check on e3, so fails by a tempo. 33.Nxg4 Nxg4 34.hxg4 h3 35.g3! Qg5? 36.Qb7

31...Nxg4 32.hxg4 Qe6 33.Qxe6 fxe6 34.b4 Rxd3 35.b5



Position after 35.b5

35...Rc3?!

35...Rd2 stops the pawns and leads to a drawn ending: 36.Ra1 Rb2 37.a4 Kf6 38.a5 Rxb5 39.a6 Rb8 40.a7 Ra8 41.Kf2 Ke7 42.Ra6

36.b6 Rc8 37.a4?!

37.b7; or 37.Rb1 gets there faster.

37...d3 38.Kf2?!

38.Rd1

38...Rf8+ 39.Kg1 Ra8 40.Rb1 d2 41.Kf2 Rxa4 42.Ke2 Rxe4+ 43.Kxd2 Rd4+ 44.Kc3 Rd8 45.b7 Rb8 46.Kc4 Kf7 47.Kc5 Ke7 48.Kc6 e4 49.Kc7 Rf8 50.b8Q Rxb8 51.Rxb8 e5 52.Kc6 e3 53.Rb3 Ke6 54.Rxe3 1-0

Jacob Ari Nathan (1726) –
Alex James Machin (1673) [E32]
Idaho Open Pocatello, ID
(R2), April 22, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 b6 7.Bg5 Bb7 8.Nf3 d6 9.Nd2 Nbd7 10.f3 e5 11.d5 h6 12.Bh4 a5

12...c6!?

13.Bf2 e4 14.fxe4 Re8 15.Qc2?!

15.g3 Nxe4 16.Nxe4 Rxe4 17.Bg2 Re8 18.Bd4∞

15...Qe7 16.g3 Nxe4 17.Nxe4 Qxe4 18.Qxe4 Rxe4 19.Rc1

[Diagram top of next page]

19...a4

19...Ba6 20.e3 Ne5! 21.Rc3 Re8 22.b3 a4! 23.Bg2 Rg4 24.h3 Rg6+

20.Bg2 Re7 21.Kd1 Rae8 22.Re1?



Position after 19.Rc1

22.Rc2

22...Ba6?!

Wrong move order. Better: 22...Ne5
23.Kd2 (23.Bd4?? Nd3) 23...Ba6

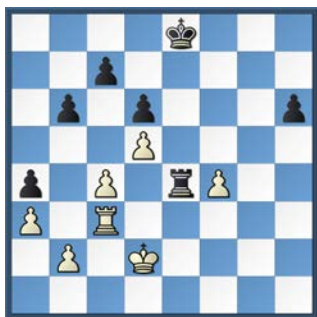
23.Bd4 Ne5 24.Bxe5 Rxe5 25.Rc3 Bc8
26.Bf3 Bf5 27.Kd2 Kf8 28.e3 R8e7
29.Bd1 Bd7 30.Rf1 Ke8 31.Rf4 f6
32.Bg4?!

32.Bc2

32...Bxg4 33.Rxg4 g5 34.Rd4 f5
35.Rdd3 f4 36.gxf4 gxf4 37.exf4 Re2+
38.Kc1 Rxh2 39.Rd2 Rxd2?

39...Rh1+ 40.Rd1 Rh4

40.Kxd2 Re4



Position after 40...Re4

41.Re3??

White heads into the king and pawn ending to avoid the loss of a pawn. The rook ending, however, holds far better hope. 41.Rh3! Rxc4 42.Ke3! Rc5 43.Ke4 Rc2 44.Rxh6 Rxb2 45.Rh8+ Kd7 46.Rh7+ Kc8 47.Rh8+ Kb7 48.f5 Rf2 49.Rh1 and a draw is the likely result.

41...Rxe3 42.Kxe3 Ke7+

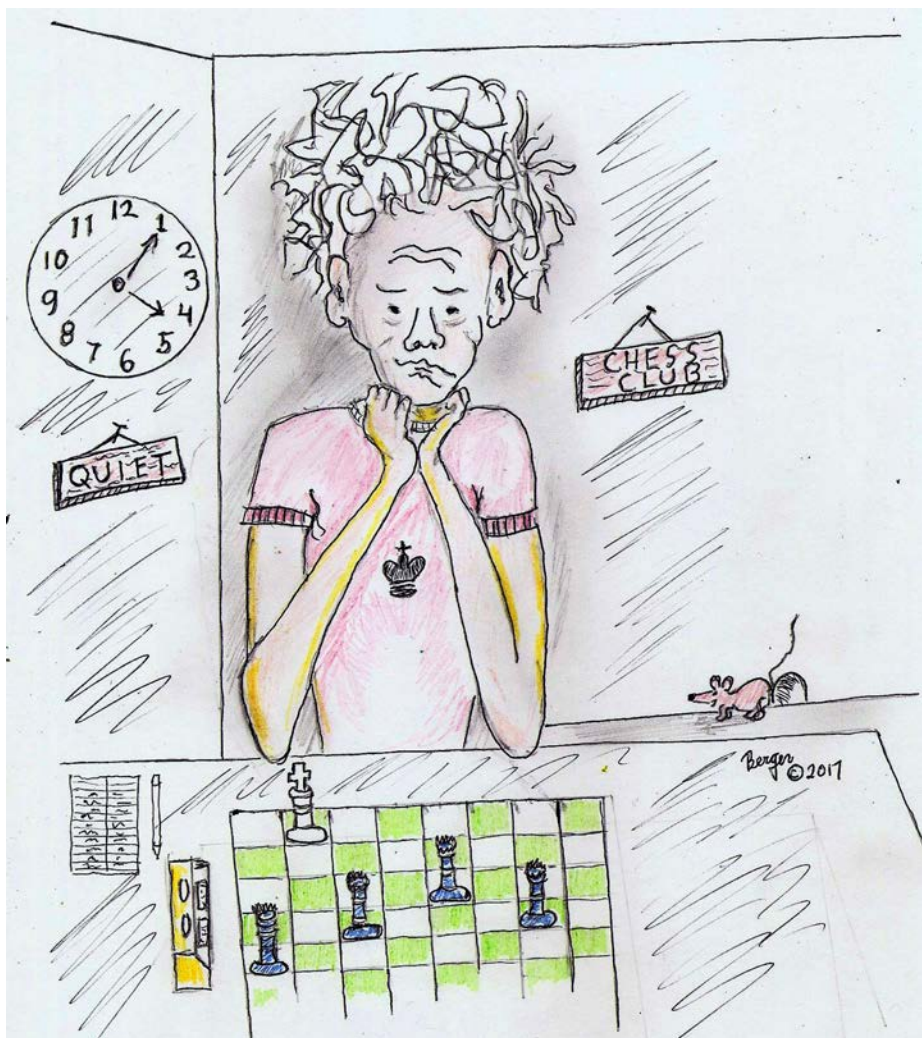
The outside passed pawn is decisive.

43.f5 Kf6 44.Kf4 h5 45.Kg3 Kxf5
46.Kh4 Ke4 47.Kxh5 Kd4 48.Kg6 Kxc4
49.Kf6 Kxd5 0-1

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1987 Idaho Scholastic and 2017 Utah State Chess Champion Phil Humpherys.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



BRANDON SUSPECTED HIS OPPONENT MIGHT BE TOYING WITH HIM, SURROUNDED AS HE WAS BY FOUR QUEENS.

11th Annual Clark Harmon Memorial

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — April 1-2, 2017

It was Oregon's year to host the Annual Clark Harmon Memorial Open (the 11th), a tournament which both Oregon and Washington play host to on a rotating basis. Organized to honor a master player who passed away in 2007, it is a tournament that has proven to be popular for northwest players.

Held at the Portland Chess Club, the 35 players and some of their parents filled the room to a comfortable level, allowing enough extra space for kibitzers to freely wander about, and for Morgan The Dog to hopefully avoid having his tail stepped on (an incident that did occur sometime in the second round, causing Morgan to let out a yelp which stopped all games in progress, and must have given whomever was so unlucky to have caused that anguished cry, to suffer a near heart attack).

The time control for this tournament was an easy to understand, no nonsense, Game/120, with a five-second delay thrown in for slow movers. Besides the prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, there were five class prizes up for grabs, as well as a bonus prize for the biggest upset—draws not counting as a half an upset.

In charge of this anxious assembly vying for the pot-of-gold and various sized pots of silver, copper, and some unknown base metal were Chief TD Micah Smith and Assistant Chief TD Mike Morris—with some special assistance in the registration process by our old friend and TD, Mike Lilly. We miss you, Mike.

Starting with the pot-of-gold winner, it was FM Corey Russell (2207-2217—4.5/5), outplaying his competition by a half-point to keep the whole pot to



*Jerrold Richards and Morgan The Dog checking out the competition.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



*Mike Lilly in his other calling—healing the sick and chess-challenged.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

himself. Seeing that the market price of an ounce of gold is somewhere near \$1,272, his \$210 prize translates into a pot-of-gold of minuscule size, but significant for its meaning. In this case, I'm sure Russell would have preferred less meaning, and more size.

The pot-of-silver was shared by NM Matt Zavortink (2229-2229—4.0/5) and NM William Lapham (2067-2084—4.0/5), who tied for the second-place prize, and who also split the third-place money, each claiming \$114. The market price of silver being about \$18.42 an ounce at this time, saw the dimensional size of the pot increase, but its content value diminish—but then, there is always the meaning to take into consideration, which seems to become less meaningful as we progress down the rare metals line.

We come now to the pot-of-copper, which contained winnings for the 1st U2100, 2nd U2100, and 1st U1900, and was split three ways by Gavin Zhang (1929-1912—3.5/5), H.G. Pitre (1843-1914—3.5/5), and Scott Levin (1860-1888—3.5/5). This pot was substantially larger in circumference, needed to contain the \$65 that each player earned—considering that copper's price at the time was \$2.61 a pound. And lucky for them that there was a copper dealer on hand to buy the nearly 75 pounds of metal for cash, as trudging home with 25 pounds of copper in your pocket could be a bit taxing.



(L) Abbie Wu vs Vljako Lakic. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

A mixture of scrap metals were contained in various-sized pots for the remaining prizes, too many types to fully break down in price per pound figures. But suffice to say, a scrap metal dealer was also on hand to convert them to cash, so winners would not have to go home looking as if they had rummaged through a junkyard.

Cashing in on their share of that scrap metal were the co-winners for 2nd U1900—Alan Rhoades (1768-1765—3.0/5) and Isaac Vega (1754-1806—3.0/5); Vega losing only to Corey Russell, but showing his steadily advancing skill level by taking out an expert and drawing two other players rated 1879 and 1956.

Rhoades, who is obviously more well-off moneywise than the average wood pusher, opted to donate his scrap winnings (\$27) to the Clark Harmon Memorial Fund. While Vega, apparently scrapping for every piece of scrap, was happy to do business with our scrap dealer and convert his portion of the pot of debris into 27 crisp new dollar bills.

Ralph Anthony (1671-1723—3.0/5), who traveled from his home in the Seattle area, was pleasantly surprised to find he was the only winner of the U1700 prize, pocketing \$70 after some tough negotiating with the scrap dealer, and as a bonus, adding over 50 points to his rating.

Amazing as it sounds, even Brian “I’m Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1546-1562—2.5), after having a run of disastrous, rate-sucking tournaments, managed to win a little scrap this time, sharing in the 2nd U1700 prize with Roshen Nair (1650-1662—2.5/5) and Abbie Wu (1439-1566—2.5/5). But we all won much more than the \$18 in scrap each of us received, and that was a boost in rating—and in my case, cause to believe I still know how to play chess when I put my MIND to it (an organ whose lifespan I have had cause to question of late).

As for Roshen and Abbie, they have seen their ratings climb nearly every tournament, with Abbie hitting her peak rating as of this tournament, gaining around 125 additional points by

beating players rated 1684 and 1853, and managing to draw with a 1929 player!!

And if that is not heady enough excitement for this young lady, I understand at this writing that she also placed tenth in the Under-eight section of the KCF Girls National Championships, held in Chicago, just a week later—all of this leading to an invite by US Chess to play in the Cadets Chess Championships, to be held in Brazil, this August.

Another of our young players, Zoey Tang (1462-1548—2.5/5), has also shown great leaps in her rating, this time adding another 86 points by drawing with a 1650 player, and beating two other 1600+ players, earning her the U1500 prize of \$70, after trading her scrap in for new bills.

Another player of note who has been pretty much mirroring my own rise and fall in the ratings racket, Jerrold “I Just Want To Make 1600 Before It’s Over” Richards (1406-1428—2.0/5), was somehow able to wrestle a win from



(L) Jon Strobehn vs Kian Patel. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

a 1681 player and caught a one-point, mandatory bye in the second round, thus giving him 2.0 points, enough to secure the 2nd U1500 prize. Overcome by what he perceived was a fortunate turn of events, he almost took home the scrap metal as a trophy instead of the \$53 payout it represented—as something tangible to place on his mantle.

Harry Buerer (1274-1280—2.0/5), who has been an off-and-on player at the

club for many years, has recently been playing a bit more often, and was able to win the 1st U1300/unrated prize of \$70, with a win, bye and draw—perhaps giving him some incentive to try his luck more often—while Austin Tang (739-770—1.5/5) grabbed the 2nd U1300/unrated prize of \$53.

Lastly, in what was a David and Goliath head-to-head, Arliss Dietz (1500-1521—2.0/5) took on David Murray



(L) David Murray vs Kushal Pai. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

(1862-1837—2.5/5), a player some 362 points higher in rating than Dietz, Dietz somehow hypnotizing Murray into believing he was playing Magnus Carlsen, thereby mentally sapping Murray of any hope of winning. Afterwards, Dietz snapped his fingers, and Murray was startled to see Dietz, rather than Carlsen in front of him, but by then it was too late, as Dietz had already claimed the upset bonus prize of \$50.

So I'll leave you with just a word of caution—if you chance to get Arliss Dietz as your opponent, don't stare into his eyes, and don't stare at the little gold watch that he gently swings back and forth between his fingers.

**Corey Russell (2207) –
Matt Zavortink (2229) [C19]**
Clark Harmon Memorial
Portland, OR (R4), April 2, 2017
[Corey Russell]

This is my most interesting game that I played at the Clark Harmon Memorial. You could argue it was the key game of the tourney, as whoever won this was going to get first, one way or another – on to the game!

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3

This is my third game against Matt — he commented that I keep getting White — I don't mind!

**3...Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5
7.Nf3 b6 8.Be2**

Even though I know ...Ba6 is coming, I still think moving this bishop is the move for me. Where to put my QB is not clear just yet, and I really want to castle before I do any operations in the center. Also I will kind of gain a tempo when I exchange on a6 and play Qe2.

8...Ba6 9.Bxa6 Nxa6 10.Qe2 Nc7 11.0-0



Position after 11.0-0

The positional threat here is 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.Be3 c4 14.Nd4 and White is a little better.

11...Qd7

Now 12.dxc5 isn't so good since Black would now have 12...bxc5 13.Be3 Qc6. The text also threatens both Nb5 and Qb5 — need to stop that.

12.a4 c4 13.Ba3

A great diagonal — note I need to be careful about playing Bd6 too early because that allows ...f6 or ...f5 and I can't take it without losing my bishop then.

13...Ng6

This is probably a mistake as he underestimated my strong reply. Instead 13...0-0 seems like the move he should do.

14.h4!

Indirectly defending a4 — 14...Qxa4?? 15.h5 Nf4 16.Qd2 Nxb5 17.Qg5 threatens both the knight and Qe7 mate.

14...0-0-0

This kind of castles into an attack, but there doesn't seem to be an alternative to this move anymore.

15.a5

Should be noted one idea of White's is that 15. ... b5 doesn't work, e.g. 15...b5? 16.a6! Nxa6 17.Bd6, followed by Ra5 and Rfa1 with a strong attack.

15...Kb7 16.Rfb1 Nb5 17.Qe1



Position after 17.Qe1

Note this move indirectly defends h4 e.g., 17...Nxa3 18.Rxa3 Qe7 19.Qc1 Nxb4 20.Nxb4 Qxb4 21.Qb2 and b6 falls with a powerful attack for White.

17...a6?

I think this is a mistake as now his dark squares are Swiss cheese. During the game I thought 17...Ra8 was his best move.

18.Bb4 Ra8 19.axb6 Kxb6 20.Bc5+ Kb7 21.Ra5 Rxb8 22.Bd6 Rc8 23.Rb4

In the post-mortem, Matt said this was a powerful move and he is right as it sets up Qb1 or Qa1, depending on the situation.

23...Kc6 24.Qb1

Threatening Rb4xb5 axb5 Qxb5 mate. Note his knight can't move else Rc5 is mate!

24...Qb7

My opponent said he was worried about Qa1, Rba4 and he loses a pawn. I am not convinced of that, as in a way am down a pawn due to my doubled c-pawns.



(L) Zoey Tang vs H.G. Pitre. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

I need more!

25.Ng5

Threatening 26.Nxf7 Qxf7 27.Rxbxb5 axb5 28.Qxb5 mate.

25...Nh8

It's a sad day when a knight has to move into a corner...

26.Nxh7 f6



Position after 26...f6

27.exf6!!

Sets up a deep combination. Black's trouble is he is low time and is having difficulty finding the right move — this is an extremely complicated position.

27...Kxd6 28.Rxbxb5 axb5 29.Rxb5

Note that if Black sacs his queen, White's queen and knight will wreak havoc on the unprotected king, plus the king-side pawns will be hard to resist that position as well.

29...Qa7?

I think ...Qf7 offers the stiffest resistance

— this move loses for sure.

30.Qb4+ Kc6 31.fxg7

This pawn is immune since 31...Qxg7 32.Qc5+ Kd7 33.Rb7+ would be devastating.

31...Nf7



Position after 31...Nf7

Post mortem, Matt said Rc5+ and Rxc8 is the fastest way to resign, as then Nf8+ and g8(Q) would force resignation — he's right, but fortunately I have another win here too.

32.Nf8 Rxf8 33.gxf8Q Rxf8 34.Ra5

The only responses for Black are ...Qb6 or ...Qb8. 34. ... Qb6 loses to 35.Rc5+ Kb7 36.Rb5. And 34...Qb8 is what Matt played.

34...Qb8 35.Qc5+ Kd7 36.Ra7+

Black has to give up his queen to stop mate, when White's queen and king side pawns would be too much to resist. So Matt realizes he's not going to be able to save this position and resigns here.

1-0

2017 Grand Pacific Open

By Mike Murray

Victoria, BC (Canada) — April 14-17, 2017

Moore and Sohal 2017 Grand Pacific Open Co-champions.

With \$5,000 in prizes at stake, the old guard was only partially successful in fending off a youthful tide at the eleventh annual Grand Pacific Open in Victoria, BC, Easter weekend. Victoria veteran NM Harry Moore and Surrey's FM Tanraj Sohal, age 21, tied for first in the top section, both undefeated with four wins and two draws in the six round event, each picking up \$800 in prize money, Sohal getting the trophy on tie-breaks. FM Jason Cao and Brandon Zhu, both age 17, tied for third with 4½ - 1½, while another veteran competitor and organizer NM Roger Patterson and Robert North nailed down the rest of the under 2100 money scoring 4-2. Zhu was awarded \$450 and the Under-2100 trophy, while Cao took \$400 for third place.

WFM Adela Fratila brought home \$125 as top woman.

The complete prize list is detailed below. The complete set of cross-tables for all sections is available on the tournament website at http://grandpacificopen.pbworks.com/Standings_2017

Ironically, the crucial final round games saw the two top younger players face off on Board One, while two grizzled veterans, Harry Moore and your writer and top-finishing U.S. contestant, Mike Murray, battled on Board Two. Sohal led the pack by half a point going into this round, but Cao held him to a draw, allowing Moore to pull even with a must-win over Murray.

Ratings shown are CFC. *(A note regarding Canadian titles and ratings: CFC ratings use the same basic Elo formula as the US Chess, but they don't use rating floors. Instead, they combat rating deflation by an aggressive bonus structure. The National Master (NM) is permanent, but ratings reflect actual results.)*

Round by Round Highlights

The spectators were treated to a number of upsets and upset-draws.

Round 1

Washington's Eric Zhang, probably about age 13, nicked Winnipeg NM Jeff



*The winners, NM Harry Moore and FM Tanraj Sohal, backed by the Victoria Chess organizers Brian Raymer, Paul Leblanc and Roger Patterson and International Arbiter Mark Dutton.
Photo credit: Mark Dutton.*

Babb for a draw, and 1698 rated Alec Chung defeated one of Washington's top women players, WFM Naomi Bashkansky. Michael Su split the point with Moore.

Round 2

The big news in the second round was top rated (and last year's co-champion) FM Jason Cao's upset by NM Roger Patterson. WFM Adela Fratila knocked off a previous GPO co-winner, WFM Valeria Gansvind. Port Townsend's Murray squeezed out a draw against Edmonton NM Jeff Reeve.

Round 3

Fratila vaulted into a tie for the lead with her second straight upset, this time over Reeve. Murray upset Babb in a see-saw rook ending while Moore was unable to beat Brandon Zhu.

Round 4

Fratila continued her impressive demonstration by drawing FM Sohal and Murray upset Patterson.

Round 5

The penultimate round saw two lower rated Experts, Murray and Fratila, sharing the lead with Sohal and Moore. The string of upsets came to an end, however, as Sohal defeated Murray on Board 1 to take sole possession of First and Moore beat Fratila on Board 2.

Round 6

Top rated Cao, recovered from his second round loss, faced Sohal in a must-win game on Board 1, while Moore, still smarting from draws against lower rated players, had a similar must-win situation against Murray on Board 2. Moore pulled off a nice win while Sohal held the draw, leaving the two as co-champions, with Sohal having better tie-breaks. Zhu beat Fratila to claim a share of 3rd place with Cao, while Robert North grabbed some money by upsetting NM Howard Wu.

Tournament Observations

This was simply a great tournament, ably directed by International Arbiter Mark Dutton. Your author should know – he's played in all eleven of them. Boards, sets and clocks were provided. The tournament's namesake, the top-flight Grand Pacific Hotel, supplied a spacious, well-lit ballroom and added a huge skittles and analysis room, nicely separated from the actual tournament, but still convenient.

Tournament entrants were offered a substantial discount on room rates, magnified this year for U.S. visitors by a thirty percent favorable exchange rate. Where else can one stay in a classy, down-town Victoria hotel for around eighty bucks U.S. a night? Victoria is safe and pleasant, plenty to do without a car. U.S. entrants can simply drive to Port Angeles, park the car across the street from the Black Ball Ferry, dock in downtown Victoria, stroll across the

street to the Grand Pacific Hotel. What could be simpler? Or, you can motor up to Vancouver, BC, take the Tsawwassen ferry and drive about an hour to Victoria.

It happens every Easter weekend – one round Friday evening, two rounds Saturday and Sunday, one round Monday morning – convenient for travel.

This year's event drew entrants from all over Canada and several U.S. states. Past events have often been salted with IMs and GMs from Europe (Nakamura popped in and won it a few years ago), and you can always count on strong but affable competition. Not enough chess in the main event? Free blitz and bug-house competitions are available to fill your free time. Sohal won this year's Midnight Blitz after the last round Saturday with a 10-zip score.

The organizers provided four sections this year, each about equally attended: 33 in the Premier, 37 in the under 2000, 45 in the under 1700, and 31 in the under 1200. A nice turnout, but the event deserves more.

Three local Victoria players, Brian Raymer, Paul Leblanc, and Roger Patterson, formed the "Victoria Chess" organization which has revitalized not only chess in the city, but the whole BC province. Any excess money an event generates goes right back into the next event.

Prize Winners:

Premier Section:

1st-2nd: \$800 each FM Tanraj Sohal (+trophy +BC Closed qualification spot), NM Harry Moore

3rd: \$400 FM Jason Cao

U2100:

1st: \$450 Brandon Zhu (+trophy)

2nd: \$175 each NM Roger Patterson, Robert North

Top Women:

1st: \$125 WFM Adela Fratila

2nd-3rd: \$90 each WFM Valeria Gansvind, WFM Naomi Bashkansky

4th: \$50 Sherry Tian

5th: \$25 WFM Chouchanik Airapetian

U2000 Section:

1st-2nd: \$350 each Jesse Beaudin (+trophy), Dave Bhavik

U1800:

1st-2nd: \$190 each Rowan James (+trophy), Lucian Wu

U1700 Section:

1st: \$200 David Crook (+trophy)

2nd-3rd: \$140 each Shayan Rahimabadi (+U1400 trophy), Dylan Parker

U1400:

1st: Shayan Rahimabadi (as above)

2nd: \$75 Andrew Xu

U1200 Section:

1st: \$100 William Bremner (+trophy)

2nd & U900: \$40 each Borna Amjadi (+trophy), Ashton Taylor

Biggest upset: \$50 Jason Imoo (681 points)

Top Unrated: \$50 Jeremy Chan (+trophy)

Jason Cao (2414) – Chouchanik Airapetian (2015) [C77]
Grand Pacific Open 11th annual (R1), April 14, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.d3 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.a4 Bb7 8.Nc3 b4

9.Ne2 h6 10.Ng3 0-0 11.Nf5 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.0-0 Qd7 14.N3h4 Nf6



Position after 14...Nf6

15.Bxh6!? gxh6 16.Qd2 Nd4 17.Nxh6+ Kh7 18.Qg5



Position after 18.Qg5

18...Bxg2?

This likely seemed inspired defense over the board, but there are in fact two better moves. 18...Qh3!! forces a draw immediately: 19.Nxf7

a) 19.gxh3?? Ne2#;

b) 19.Bxf7 Qxg2+ 20.Qxg2 Bxg2 21.Kxg2 Kxh6-+;

c) 19.Qxf6 Bxg2! 20.Rf1 (20.Nxg2 Nf3+) 20...Qxh4! 21.Qxh4 Nf3+ 22.Kxg2 Nxh4+ 23.Kh3 Kxh6 24.Kxh4 Bxf2+-+; 19...Ne2+ 20.Kh1 Bxg2+ 21.Nxg2 (21.Qxg2 Qxh4 22.Ng5+ Kh6 23.Nf7+ Kh7) 21...Ng4 22.Qf5+ Kg7 23.Qg5+ Kh7;

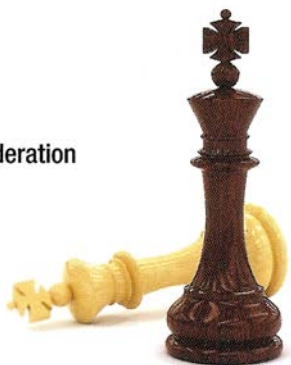
18...Rg8!! is only slightly less flashy, but may lead to a Black advantage: 19.Qxf6 (19.Nxg8 Rxg8 20.Qxf6 Qg4 and Black threatens at least ...Nf3+ and ...Nxh4.) 19...Rxg2+!! 20.Nxg2 (20.Kh1 Rg1+ 21.Kxg1 Ne2#) 20...Be7!! 21.Qxf7+

Joshua C. Sinanan

National Master
President, Washington Chess Federation

3610 218th St. SW
Brier, WA 98036

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



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Kxh6 when Black is ahead by a piece and is about to take over the offensive — the white queen is starting to run short of exit avenues. So ...Rf8 and ...Qh3 are coming up.

19.Bxf7 Ne2+ 20.Kxg2 Nf4+ 21.Kh1 Rxf7 22.Nxf7 Qxf7 23.Qf5+ Kh8 24.Rg1 Bxf2 25.Ng6+ Nxc6 26.Rxc6 Bh4 27.Rh6+ Kg8 28.Rg1+ Kf8 29.Rh8+ Ke7 30.Qxe5+ Kd7 31.Rxa8 Qh7 32.Rxa6 1-0

Roger Patterson (2070) –
Mike Murray (2043) [A21]
Grand Pacific Open 11th annual
(R4), April 16, 2017
[Mike Murray]

1.c4 Nc6 2.Nc3 e5 3.g3 d6 4.Bg2 f5 5.d3 Nf6 6.Nf3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Rb1 Qe8 9.b4 Bd8 10.b5 Ne7 11.d4N e4 12.Ne1 d5 13.cxd5 Nxd5 14.Nxd5 Nxd5 15.e3?! Be6 16.Bd2 Nb6

and White must lose material. He correctly decides to give up the exchange for the two bishops and counterplay.

17.f3 Bxa2 18.fxe4 Bxb1!?



Position after 18...Bxb1

Komodo doesn't like this, preferring 18... fxe4 19.Rxf8+ Kxf8! 20.Rc1 Kg8

19.Qxb1 fxe4 20.Rxf8+ Qxf8 21.Bxe4 g6?!

After this, White probably has a slight edge. Komodo's 21...Kh8! didn't occur to me, but it makes a lot of sense. 22.Qd1 (22. Bxh7 Nc4 23.Bc1 Bg5 24.Qd3 Qf7 25.Be4 Rf8 and Black manages to activate all his pieces with a big advantage.) 22...Bf6 23.Qh5 Qg8 24.Bxb7 g6 25.Qe2 Re8 and it's about equal.

22.Bxb7 Rb8 23.Qa2+ Kg7 24.Qxa7 Be7 25.Bc6 Bd6?!

The immediate 25...Nc4 was correct 26.Bc3 Bb4=

26.e4 Nc4 27.Bf4?

I was glad to see this move, which gave me the chance to sac a rook for a mating attack. 27.Bc3 Ne5! 28.Qa5 (28.dxe5? Bc5+) 28...Ng4 29.Qa2 Bb4; 27.Qa2 was best. 27...Nxd2 28.Qxd2 Bb4 seems about equal.

27...Bxf4! 28.gxf4 Qxf4! 29.Qxb8 Ne3 30.Nf3 Qxf3 31.Qxc7+ Kh6

and, with mate inevitable, White resigned.

0-1

Mike Murray (2043) –
Tanraj Sohal (2370) [B23]
Grand Pacific Open 11th annual
(R5), April 16, 2017
[Mike Murray]

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.f4 e6 4.Nf3 d5 5.Bb5 Nf6 6.e5 Nd7 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.d3 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Qe1 Rb8 11.b3 Qc7

All pretty stock Grand Prix stuff.

12.Bd2 Ba6 13.Qg3 f5 14.Ng5 Bxc6 15.Qxc5

I was feeling pretty good about my position here, with Black having a pronounced dark square weakness.

15...c4 16.dxc4 dxc4 17.Rf3

Nothing wrong with this, but 17.Rfd1! gets the rook out of the bishop's sights, and secures a nice edge for White.

17...Rf7 18.Rd1 Nb6 19.Be3 Nd5 20.Bc5!?



Position after 20.Bc5

Note to self: not usually a good idea to go in for long calculations against a tactician who is over 300 points higher rated and over 50 years younger. 20.Nxd5 is about equal, but unravels Black's pawns after 20...cxd5

20...cxb3 21.axb3

Not 21.Bd6?? Qb6+ 22.Kh1 bxc2 etc.

21...Qa5 22.Bd6?



Position after 22..Bd6

When I made my 20th, I thought this would simplify the position and give him problems on his first rank, after

22...Nxc3 23.Rxc3 Qxc3 24.Bxb8

but after

24...Rd7

I am the one with first rank problems. I moved reflexively

25.Qh5??

25.Bd6 is better but hopeless after 25... Qxc2 26.Re1 Qxb3

25...g6 26.Qf3 Qxf3 27.Rxd7 Qf1# 0-1

Harry Moore (2197) –
Mike Murray (2043) [A40]
Grand Pacific Open 11th annual
(R6), April 17, 2017
[Mike Murray]

1.d4 Nc6 2.Bg5 f6

Let's see who can outdo the other in the weird department.

3.Bh4 d5 4.e3 Nh6 5.c4 Nf5 6.Bg3 Nxc3 7.hxc3 e5 8.cxd5 Qxd5 9.Nc3 Bb4 10.a3 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 exd4 12.cxd4 Bf5 13.Nf3 Qa5+ 14.Qd2 Qxd2+ 15.Kxd2 0-0-0 16.Kc3 h6 17.Nh4 Bh7 18.Bd3 Bxd3 19.Kxd3 Rhe8 20.Nf5 Rd7 21.Rhc1 Na5 22.Rab1 b6 23.e4 Nb7 24.f3 c5 25.d5

Up to this point, both sides have played reasonable moves. Komodo considers the position equal. Unfortunately, I started playing very passively and soon got in trouble.



Position after 25.d5

25...Kd8

25...g6 26.Nd4 (26.Nxh6?! f5) 26...f5 27.Nc6 Nd6 28.Re1 Nf7=

26.a4 Nd6 27.g4 Nxf5 28.gxf5 Ke7?

28...Ree7 with a big edge for White, but no immediate win.

29.a5+- Rd6 30.axb6

30.Rb5!

30...axb6 31.Ra1 Rd7 32.Ra6 Rb7 33.Rca1 Rc8 34.Ra7 Rcc7 35.Rxb7 Rxb7 36.Kc4 Kd6 37.Kb5 Ke5 38.Ra4 Kd6 39.f4 Rc7 40.Ra6 c4 41.Rxb6+ Kd7 42.e5

But not 42.Rc6?? c3 and Black wins.

42...c3 43.e6+ Kc8 44.d6 Rb7 45.d7+

and I resigned. If 45...Kd8 White's cleanest win was 46.Rxb7 c2 47.Rb8+ Ke7 48.d8Q# 1-0

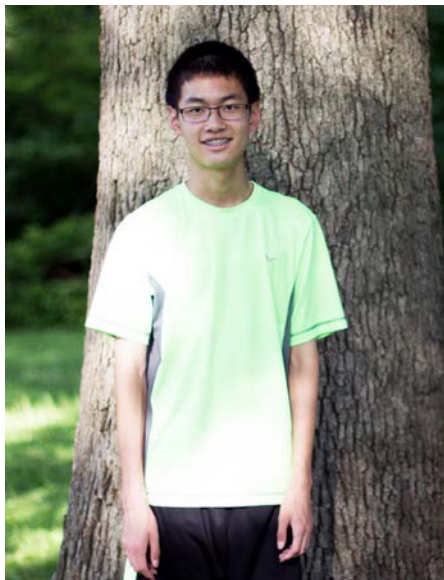
Congrats to NM Derek Zhang!

By Josh Sinanan

Congratulations to Derek Zhang of Bellevue, Washington, who achieved a 2200 U.S. Chess rating as a result of scoring 5 of 7 points in the U2200 section at the 11th Annual Philadelphia Open, Philadelphia, Pa., April 12-16.

“After reaching 2100 US Chess in 2015, my chess progress stagnated, but over these past few months I was able to put all the pieces together and reach 2200. My real breakthrough tournament was three months ago at the Golden State Open, where I scored 2.5/3 against FMs in the last three rounds to win the U2300 prize. After that, I knew it was just a matter of time until I reached NM, and in two more tournaments I had achieved my goal. It’s taken a while, but I’m glad I finally got there.”

—Derek



BCC #13

By Jeffrey Roland

Boise, ID — April 30, 2017

The 2017 Boise Chess Club (BCC) #13 chess tournament happened on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at All About Games on Overland Road in Boise, Idaho. Jeffrey Roland was the organizer and tournament director.

The event was a long time in coming. After the 22-board Simul and Lecture by FM David Lucky that happened on January 30, 2016, there was a gap of 15 months before BCC #13 actually came to pass.

The time control was Game/30 + 30 seconds per move increment. With this time control we required that all players record all moves since in this time control there is no such thing as time trouble that would prevent such recording, and this is all in the official rules too. So we actually have all 58 games preserved accurately and in their entirety.

The number 30 seeming to be everywhere (Game/30 +30), there were also exactly 30 players in the event, which sets a new record for most players in a BCC event since the club was formed back in March 2014. There were no entry fees or club memberships. BCC has always been completely free with nothing to join. It was required, however, that players had to have current US Chess memberships since the event was rated by US Chess.

This tournament was the first event BCC ever advertised in *Northwest Chess* magazine. And we also made it part of the Northwest Chess Grand Prix, requiring \$1/player to go into the Idaho fund. We counted on voluntary donations to pay for this, and people came through with enough to cover those costs.

The tournament was won by Chris Amen, Boise (1722-1746—4.0/4), winning his fifth BCC event, and Cody Gorman, Eagle (1881-1900—4.0/4), winning his second BCC tournament, each with perfect 4-0 scores. First prize for this free tournament was to have a photograph taken of the winner(s). Five players were officially “unrated” and there were plenty of upsets and surprising results throughout.

This was the first time at this venue that we actually had a high speed internet connection set up on the computer. This meant that the TD, who was also taking pictures, was able to make interesting Facebook posts, including pictures and even updated wall charts posted round by round. The event was submitted to US Chess right there from the tournament before packing up, and it was rated the same day it took place.

Idaho State Chess Champion FM David Lucky came down to watch the games, offering free analysis to players after the games were done, and he stayed from round two to the end of the tournament, including a very interesting lunch at Eddie’s Restaurant (just outside All About Games at the edge of the parking lot) where he and Alex Machin looked over and analyzed the Machin vs. Morrow game from round three of the Idaho Open in Pocatello played only a week earlier. There were about eight players around this table watching the analysis while eating their meals.

Boise Chess Club wishes to thank All About Games for hosting this event. We also thank the players, the tournament director, the state chess champion, and those who donated voluntarily and anonymously to cover expenses.

**James Inman (1828) –
Forrest Zeng (1115) [E36]
BCC #13 (R1), April 30, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]**

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0–0
5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 d5 7.Bg5 Nbd7 8.e3
b6?! 9.exd5 exd5 10.Nf3**

10.Qc6! Rb8 11.Bf4± looks awkward for Black to meet.

10...h6 11.Bh4 Bb7 12.Bd3



Position after 12.Bd3

12...Rc8?!

A little too much prep. Just 12...c5!?

13.0–0

13.Bf5! g5 14.Bg3 (14.Nxg5!? hxg5 15.Bxg5∞ may be fun.) 14...c5 15.Qd3 Ne4 16.Ne5 Black’s king position is somewhat compromised.

**13...c5 14.Bf5 cxd4 15.Qxd4 Rc4
16.Qd2 Ne5 17.Nd4 Ne4 18.Bxd8 Nxd2
19.Rfd1 Rxd8 20.Rxd2 Rd6?!**

20...Rc7 21.Rdd1±

21.Rad1

21.b3 Rc5 22.b4 Rc4 23.f4 Ng6 24.Nb5±

21...Rf6 22.f4 Nc6

22...Ng6 23.Bd3 Rc8 24.Rc2 Rxc2 25.Bxc2 Ne7, while clearly in White’s favor, still leaves something to prove.

23.Bd3 Rc5?

23...Rxd4 24.exd4 Rxf4±



Position after 23...Rc5

24.Nb3! d4 25.Nxc5 bxc5 26.exd4
 26.Be4 Kf8 27.Rc2 dxe3 28.Rxc5 g6
 29.g3+
 26...Nxd4 27.f5 Kh7 28.Rf2 Bd5 29.Rc1
 Nb3 30.Rc3 h5 31.Bc2 c4
 31...Rb6 32.Bxb3+
 32.Rh3 Kh6 33.g4 g6 34.fxc6 Rxc6
 34...Rxf2 35.Rxh5+
 35.Rxh5+ Kg7 36.Bxc6 1-0

Alex James Machin (1673) –
 Finn Curtis Belew (678) [C54]
 BCC #13 (R1), April 30, 2017
 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5
 5.c3 0-0 6.Bb3 d5 7.Qe2 d4!? 8.0-0 Bg4
 9.Nbd2?!



Position after 9.Nbd2

9.h3

9...dxc3

9...Nh5 essentially forces the weakening
 10.g3

10.bxc3 Bxf3?

10...Nh5 is still good, but White can
 try 11.Nc4!? b5 12.Nb2, which was
 not available before the exchange on
 c3. Probably still simply favors Black,
 though.

11.Nxf3±

Now White has the bishop-pair and a
 potentially mobile pawn center.

11...Qd6 12.Be3

12.Nh4!



First prize was being in this victory pose picture. L-R: Chris Amen, Cody Gorman.
 Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

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12...Bxe3 13.Qxe3 Rad8 14.Rad1 Ng4
15.Qg5 Nf6 16.Rfel h6 17.Qf5 Nh7
18.d4 exd4 19.cxd4 Ne7 20.Qb5 b6
21.Rc1

21.e5±

21...Rc8

21...c6 22.Qa4

22.e5! Qg6 23.Qd7 Nf5?

23...Ng5 24.Nh4 Rcd8 25.Nxg6 Rxd7
26.Nxf8+



Position after 23...Nf5

24.Rxc7

24.Bc2 wins the pinned knight.

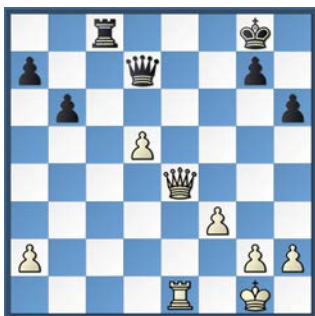
24...Rxc7 25.Qxc7 Ng5 26.Nxg5 Qxg5
27.e6?!

27.Qc3; 27.Rd1

27...fxe6 28.Bxe6+ Kh7 29.Bxf5+?!
Qxf5 30.f3 Rc8 31.Qe5 Qd7?!

31...Qxe5±

32.Qe4+ Kh8 33.d5 Kg8



Position after 33...Kg8

34.Qe6+?

Suddenly all semblance of an advantage

for White disappears in the rook ending.
The e-pawn is overextended.

34...Qxe6 35.dxe6

35.Rxe6 Kf7 gives White nothing.

35...Kf8 36.e7+ Kf7 37.Kf2 Re8 38.a4
Rxe7 39.Rxe7+?

Playing with fire. The irony here is
that Alex won the Idaho Open just a
week previously by demonstrating he
understood the strength of the outside
passed pawn in a king and pawn ending.
39.Rc1

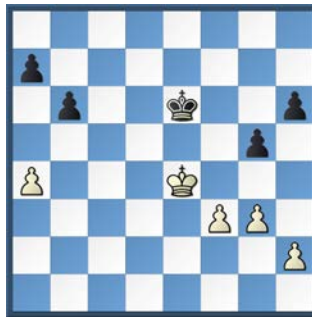
39...Kxe7 40.Ke3 Ke6

40...Kd6

41.Ke4 g5?!

41...a6; 41...h5!? White can probably still
hold this ending with accurate play, but
Black has the initiative. 42.g3! a6 43.h3
b5 44.a5! The key to a successful defense.
(44.axb5?? axb5 45.Kd4 Kd6-) 44...
Kd6 45.f4 Kc5 46.Kd3 Kd5 47.g4 hxg4
48.hxg4 g6 49.g5! and nothing works.

42.g3



Position after 42.g3

42...Kf6??

Among others: 42...a6 43.g4 b5 44.axb5
axb5 45.f4! draws.

43.Kd5 Kf5 44.Kc6 g4 45.f4 h5 46.Kb7
h4 47.Kxa7 hxg3 48.hxg3 Ke4 49.Kxb6
Kf3 50.f5 Kxg3 51.f6 Kf4 52.f7 g3
53.f8Q+ Ke3 54.a5

54.Qf1

54...g2 55.Qg7

55.Qc5+ Ke2 56.Qg1

55...Kf2 56.Qf6+ Ke1 57.Kb5 g1Q
58.Qa1+ Kf2 59.Qxg1+ Kxg1 60.a6 1-0

David Zaklan (1444) –
Jameson Juyan Tang [E61]
BCC #13 (R1), April 30, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0
5.Bf4 d6 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Be2 c6 8.0-0 Re8
9.Re1 e5 10.Bg3 a5 11.h3 exd4 12.exd4
Nf8 13.Qd3 Bf5 14.Qd2 Ne4 15.Nxe4
Bxe4 16.Rad1 Ne6 17.b3 Bxf3 18.Bxf3
Nxd4 19.Rxe8+ Qxe8 20.Bxd6 Nxf3+
21.gxf3 Qe6 22.Kh2 Rd8 23.c5 Be5+
24.f4 Bxd6 25.cxd6 Qf5 26.Kg3 h5
27.Qe3 Qe6 28.Qc5

28.Qe5

28...Qe2 29.Qxa5



Position after 29.Qxa5

29...h4+?

29...Qxd1 30.Qxd8+ Kg7 31.Qe7 Qd3+
32.Kh2 Qd2 and it's very difficult for
White to find a way out of the threats
of perpetual check without giving up
the advanced d-pawn. 33.Qe3 Qxd6
34.Qe5+?? Qxe5 35.fxe5 g5! actually
wins for Black.

30.Kg2 Qe4+?

30...Qxd1 31.Qxd8+ Kg7 32.d7 Qd5+
33.Kh2 Qd2 34.Qxh4 Qxd7 35.Qg3±

31.Kg1 Rd7 32.Qd2?

It isn't clear why White has been
avoiding 32.Qe5! Qc2 (32...Qxe5 33.fxe5
looks pretty clear for White.) 33.Rd4 Qf5
34.Kg2 Rd8 35.a4±

32...Qf3



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32...f6! leaves Black with adequate structural compensation for the pawn.

33.Kh2

33.Re1! f6 (33...Qxh3 34.Qd4 Rd8 35.Qf6 Rf8 36.Re3 Qg4+ 37.Kh2 c5 38.Rh3 leaves White very happy.) 34.Re3 Qd5 35.Rd3 Qf5 36.a4± or a little more than that.

33...Qe4

33...Rxd6! 34.Qxd6 Qxf2+ 35.Kh1 Qf3+ 36.Kg1 Qg3+ 37.Kf1 Qf3+ 38.Ke1 Qe3+

34.Re1

34.Qe3 Qxe3 35.fxe3 f5



Position after 34.Re1

34...Qf5??

34...Rxd6! 35.Qxd6 Qxe1

35.Re8+ Kg7 36.Re1??

36.Re7! Kh6 37.Qd4 Kh7 38.Re8 f6 39.Re7+ Kg8 40.Rxd7 (Stockfish says 40.Qc4+ is even stronger.) 40...Qxd7 41.Qxf6+-

36...Qc5 37.Rd1 Qf5?

37...Rxd6! 38.Qxd6 Qxf2+ 39.Kh1 Qf3+ 40.Kg1 Qg3+ is another draw by perpetual check.

38.Re1?

38.Qe3

38...Qf6?

38...Qc5

39.Rd1 Qf5 40.Qd4+ Qf6 41.Kg2

41.Qe5! g5 42.Qxg5+ Qxg5 43.fxg5 Kg6 44.Kg2 (44.f4 Kf5 45.Rd4 c5) 44...Kxg5 45.Kf3±

41...Qxd4 42.Rxd4 Kf6

42...f5

43.Kf3 Kf5 44.Ke3

44.a4

44...Ke6 45.Kf3



Position after 45.Kf3

45...Kf5?

45...f5

46.a4 f6?!

46...b6

47.b4?

47.Rd1; or 47.a5±

47...Ke6 48.Kg4 Rxd6??

48...b6 49.f5+ gxf5+ 50.Kxh4±

49.Re4+??

49.Rxd6+ Kxd6 50.Kxh4+-

49...Kd5 50.f3??

50.Re7

50...f5+ 51.Kxh4 fxe4 0-1

Jameson Juyan Tang –
Alex James Machin (1673) [C01]
BCC #13 (R2), April 30, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.c3 Nge7 7.0-0 Bg4 8.Nbd2 Qd7 9.Qc2 0-0-0 10.b4 Rde8 11.b5 Nd8 12.a4 Ne6 13.Ba3 Nf4 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.Ne5 Nxd3 16.Qxd3 Bf5 17.Qg3?!

17.Qf3± since White threatens Nf7 even after ...f6, and the queen guards d3 in case the knight wants to retreat there and aim

toward the queenside. Clearly this is not the case if the queens can be exchanged on g3.

17...f6 18.Nef3 Qxg3 19.hxg3 Bd3 20.Rfc1 Nf5 21.c4?!

While this does open the c-file, it creates a long-term pawn weakness on d4, and White doesn't really have enough force for a big c-file attack. 21.Ne1∞

21...Re2?!

21...dxc4 22.Nxc4 Rd8± at least.

22.c5?!

22.cxd5!?? Rhe8 (22...Nxd4 23.Nxd4 Rxd2 24.Ne6) 23.Ra3

22...Nxd4 23.Nxd4 Rxd2 24.b6 axb6 25.cxb6 Bc4

25...c6! gives Black good chances to hold on the light squares. For example 26.a5 Re8 27.a6 Bxa6! 28.Nxc6 bxc6 29.Rxa6 Kb7.

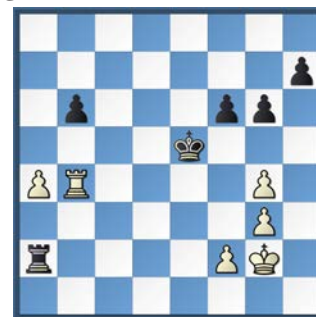
26.Nf3

26.Ne6 forks c7 and g7.

26...Rb2 27.bxc7 Re8 28.Nd4 Re4 29.Nb5 Ree2?!

29...Bxb5 30.axb5 Rc4±

30.Nd6+ Kxc7 31.Nxc4 dxc4 32.Rxc4+ Kd7 33.Rf4 Ra2 34.Rxa2 Rxa2 35.Kf1 b6 36.g4 Ke6 37.g3 Ke5 38.Rb4 g6? 39.Kg2



Position after 39.Kg2

39.Rb5+ Ke4 40.Rxb6 Kf3 41.Rxf6+ Kxg4 42.Rf4±±

39...h6? 40.Kf3?

40.Rb5+ Ke6 41.Rxb6+

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40...Ra3+ 41.Kg2 Ra2 42.Kf3?

42.Rb5+

42...Ra3+ 43.Kg2 ½-½

MVCC Championship

By Adam Porth

Twin Falls, ID — April 1, 2017

Barry Eacker just earned his final Grandmaster norm at the Magic Valley Chess Club (MVCC) Championship... April Fool's! He did, however, organize the MVCC Championship on April 1 with the support of the Idaho Chess Association (ICA). The ICA is increasingly organizing events in partnership with Idaho groups and clubs. In fact, the MVCC and the Idaho Chess Union (ICU) have a webpage on the ICA's website so that players can find out about tournaments and the results of events sponsored by those organizations. The ICA would like to encourage more cooperation and collaboration among the many Idaho chess clubs and affiliating with the ICA is one way to make this happen. The ICA can provide tournament support, webpage development, tournament directing, organizational and calendar opportunities for groups in need.

The MVCC Championship began in 1991 before the ICU formed. It is rated using the Rocky Mountain Rating System (RMRS) which was developed by Barry Eacker after the ICU formed. This system is comparable to the US Chess rating system but the RMRS uses 1000 as the floor for all players. This year's tournament attracted 18 people from as far away as Casper, Wyoming.

"Cheater time controls" and "cheater clocks" were not allowed. The preferred clock was an analog with the time controls being G/60;d0. These time controls provided ample time for quality games with the added excitement of some games ending with both parties in time trouble. After players completed their games, they were able to witness very



Round 3, DeWayne Derryberry (left) plays Tom Uptain (right). Photo credit: Adam Porth.

intense endgames that brought games to the brink of flag falls. In one such game, DeWayne Derryberry and Tom Uptain almost elicited applause. DeWayne won by flagfall with a potato-chip holding his own flag up (see photo above.)

John Glenn (Mountain Home) won the tournament with a relaxed panache as he securely tucked his hands behind his head while entrenched on board one the entire tournament. His eyes studied the board thoroughly from under his cowboy hat. He scored a perfect 4.0/4 and left before he could select his book prize. Four players ended with 3.0/4 points tying for second-fourth place. I am sure that most would have stayed for another round as most were from the Twin Falls area. In the end, however, DeWayne Derryberry (Pocatello) and Samir Saltaga (Twin Falls) won the books based on tiebreakers.

We would like to give a shout out and warm welcome to the Uptain family, bringing three generations of players from the Jackson Hole area to play in the tournament. In the last round, little brother Uptain faced off with big sister Uptain and snarky witticisms were overheard by neighboring players. All in

fun! Newcomer, Larry Schwartz (Hailey), commented that this was a very strong group to play against and a good group to learn from. We hope many others will be able to enjoy the ICU/ICA partnership.

District 91 Scholastic Chess Tournament

By Jay Simonson

On Thursday, April 20, 2017, 12 High School/Middle School students gathered at Idaho Falls High School media center (library) to play in a five-round scholastic chess tournament.

Jacob Moore, who participated in tournament chess for the first time at the Eastern Regional Scholastic Tournament in January 2017, organized the tournament and acted as assistant Tournament Director (TD). Jacob contacted and invited a total of eight area schools, which included high schools, middle schools, and junior high schools. Jacob asked Idaho Chess Association (ICA) Secretary/Treasurer and TD, Jay Simonson to be the chief TD.

Jacob Nathan, two-time winner of the Idaho Scholastic K-8 Championship, and also prior winner of ICA's Eastern Idaho

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Jacob Moore (right) presents the trophy to Jacob Nathan (left).
Photo credit: Jay Simonson.

Open Chess Tournament, from Talorview Middle School, won the first-place (and only prize) trophy.

Students from Idaho Falls High School, Bonneville High School, and Talorview Middle School came to the event and played their best chess. The time control was game in 30 minutes, which most thought was just the right amount of time. Each participant said they hoped to have more tournaments like the D91 tournament in the future.

April 2017 PCC Quad 45

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — April 15, 2017

There was something in the sky the morning of the monthly, Quad 45, at the Portland Chess Club—a large, yellowish, blinding orb—a sight not seen across the Portland landscape on a sustained basis, for a long, long time. And this day it was to radiate its warmth throughout the whole of the day, as 20 chess enthusiasts shrugged off its enticing allure and instead, opted to spend most of the afternoon pitting their chess skills against whomever was put in front of them.

On hand to register their names and take their money was Mike Lilly (supposedly retired from TDing) standing in for a short time as an Assistant Chief TD, a part he used to play when he and Chief TD Micah Smith partnered together



(L) Moshe Rachmuth vs Jason Cigan. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

each month to bring us this fun event, that is especially popular with the young crowd because of its shortened time control.

Lilly has since then set up a law practice in the downtown Portland area, which allows him to actually make money settling the problems of people other than chess players (maybe some of them too), and be well compensated for any headaches incurred in said profession—whereas before, the headaches of TDing

could only be compensated for by having plenty of aspirin on hand.

It was nice to see Andrei Botez and his daughter, Andrea, on hand once again, as other events and obligations have kept them away for a while. Also, some new faces were on the scene—Lincoln Schell (Unrated-466P—2.0/3) and Nathaniel Leof (Unrated-101P—0.0/3). Schell, playing in his first US Chess rated tournament, tied with Perry Rachmuth (396-418—2.0/3) and Liam Lancaster



(L) Carter Lancaster vs Kushal Pai. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Thomas Rolfs vs Pierre Hadrien Beauchet. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

(378-408—2.0/3) for first place in Quad 5, each receiving a chess book of his choice, and a metal for being a scholastic player.

Pierre Hadrien-Beauchet (712-940—2.5/3) was the dominant figure in Quad 4— a young man who, in a recent scholastic event, won all four of his games, and in March's Game 60 added 295 rating points. This latest win gained him yet another 230 points, a small trophy, and also his choice of a chess book—leaving one to wonder just how underrated might be this relative newcomer to the tournament world.

Quad 3 saw a ray of sunlight fall upon Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1549-1566—2.0/3), after flailing away in a number of tournaments in relative darkness, trying not to sink lower in rating. Tying for first with Carter Lancaster (1541-1561—2.0/3), who took home a book and also a medal as a scholastic player, Berger, on the other hand, was just glad to finally take home some rating points.

Of the two perfect scores of 3.0 during this tournament, Chris Burris (1727-1791—3.0/3) went home owning one of them, and also a book of his choice, for winning Quad 2. Nearest to him in rating was Andrea Botez (1743-1721—1.0/3), who this time managed to score only one win, perhaps owing to the fact that practice has given way to schooling and other activities of a teen nature.

The second perfect score was registered in Quad 1, where NM Jason

Cigan (2179-2193—3.0/3) led all of his competition by a comfortable 2.0 points, his nearest threat at the start being Ryan Richardson (2108-2088—1.0/3). As in the other quads, Cigan's win entitled him to his choice of a chess book—which I have mentioned in another article, should be offered to losers, instead.

April 2017 PCC Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — April 29, 2017

Some of you might have noticed the full-page cartoon in the May issue of *Northwest Chess*, depicting an elderly



(L) Chief Assistant TD Mike Morris and Jon Strhbehn working on the pairings. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

(old) gentleman (guy) reflecting on the cosmic cruelty of life, by allowing him to continue in believing he might have an aptitude for chess.

If the resemblance of the distraught figure reminds you of anyone you might have sat across from, or just seen wandering around during a tournament (in what appeared to be a daze), it is not just a coincidence. Nope! the resemblance was intentional, and based on one of the biggest whiners (as opposed to winners) in the annals of the Portland chess scene—Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1541-1529—1.0/4).

The truth of that cartoon manifested itself with extreme clarity at this Game 60, where with heroic effort, and tons of luck, I managed only one win, my last round game against an opponent I have played many times (Arliiss Dietz—1523-1500—0.0/4), who seems trapped in 1500s-limbo—much as I do. (There I go, whining again.)

The whining seems to have a purpose, a protective barrier between what is (I ain't getting any better) and what I wish it to be (there is still hope). But as I mentioned above, I seem not to be alone in searching for a justification for not improving, because, besides Dietz, there is another near mirror of my own predicament, and that is Jerrold "I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It's Over" Richards (1428-1362—1.5/4), who has gained notice for living with the world famous Morgan The Dog—companion and chess teacher.

Because the tournament reached the magic number of 30-players, the number needed to split it into two sections, Richards, due to his lower rating, was placed in the lower section. And there, he suffered somewhat the same fate as Dietz and I (who were placed in the Upper section), slowly sinking towards his floor (1300).

Dietz, on the other hand, had already sunk to his floor during this tournament (1500), while Richards and I are still plunging at about the same rate to our floors—mine being 1500. And while Richards does whine a bit about all of his hard luck, it pales in comparison with mine, and especially that of Morgan The Dog, whose sorrowful whining after Richards' poor performance, reached ear-aching volume, reminiscent of a coyote whose tail has just been run over by a Mack truck.

Now that I have wasted six paragraphs whining about me, and a couple of guys like me (age has its privileges), I'll continue by telling you about players who are not struggling to keep their heads above water—starting with the prize



(L) Austin Tang vs Henry Westlund. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

winner in the Upper section. And first on that list would be NM Jason Cigan (2206-2209—3.5/4), who with no losses and one draw—that draw being to second place prize winner, Ryan Richardson (2088-2099—3.0/4)—took home a stunning, partial pelt of tanned beaver (worth \$75), while Richardson had to settle for \$50 in muskrat.

I might mention here that the reason the club is not paying its prize monies in precious, semi-precious and scrap metals, as they did recently, is because they are out of them. So it was Mike Morris who came up with the idea of setting traps along the Willamette and Columbia rivers to replenish the prize fund.

The critters needed to assure payment for third place were captured nearby (at the back of the club), which added up to \$5 each for the five players who tied at 2.5 points—those being Moshe Rachmuth (1964-1962), Ray Fletcher (1905-1900), Michael Moore (1652-1676), Colin Liu (1651-1675), and Roshen Nair (1682-1753), Nair exhibiting his growing understanding

of what it takes to be a top-rated player in this game, by beating an expert, then drawing with three A-players.

The Lower section saw Egan Wong (1216-1314—4.0/4) best a field of 14 players by turning in a perfect score, a feat that carried an award of \$50 worth of tanned muskrat pelt, and a rating boost of 98 points! While Zoey Tang's (1530-1521—3.0/4) two wins and two draws were enough to cement second place—and as beavers and muskrats were not deemed appropriate for a young lady, a couple of squirrel pelts were acquired locally, which had a fur value of \$35.

The last prize was earned by Raj Kodithyala (1303-1285—3.0/4), who took the U1400, and was given the option of \$50 worth of tanned beaver or muskrat (he chose beaver).

It is anyone's guess what the next tournament's prize fund will contain, but I understand Mike Morris is now making plans for a more extensive exploration of the Columbia Gorge—the reason for those plans being hush-hush at this time.



Patrick Morrissey. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

12th Annual OSCF State Championship

By Owen McCoy

Seaside, OR — May 5-6, 2017

On the weekend of May 5-6, 2017, Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation held their 12th Annual State Chess Championship at the Convention Center in Seaside, Oregon. A grand total of 352 kids (just shy of the record 372!) came from as far as the California border to compete for fabulous prizes and also to have a good time. Thankfully, the Cascadia earthquake did not happen and there was no tsunami. (This made having a good time easier.)

I arrived early on Friday morning to help with setting up. (It's always fun to see which pieces come out of the bag. Also, someone has to make sure nobody starts with an extra king.) Following this were the first two rounds of the High School and Middle School Platinum sections. Then commenced an episode of *The-Most-Energetic-And-Wound-Up-Chess-Players-You've-Ever-Seen* (also called blitz and bughouse.) The blitz participants numbered 151, and bughouse totaled 220. As always, the contests of crazy hats and crazy names were quite



Competitors enjoy a relaxing post-tournament game of bughouse to let off steam. The real question is: did the owner of all that taffy share? From left to right, Ian Vo, Owen McCoy, Jack McClain, Victor Dossin, Kushal Pai, Isabella Harker, Sean Uanzo-li, and Josiah Perkins. Photo credit: Bill McClain.

something to see/hear.

Saturday morning saw the HS Platinum and MS Platinum sections play

their last three rounds, and also all of the other sections play all four or five rounds. Aside from that there were a plethora

3rd Annual Rose City Sectionals: July 8-9

Four-round Swiss in five sections, Open, U1900, U1700, U1500, U1300; The most current ("live") US Chess regular ratings are usually used for section eligibility, pairings, and prize eligibility; G/90;inc30; one half point bye is available if requested before round 1; US Chess and NWSRS rated; on-site registration runs from 9-9:45am and the rounds are scheduled for 10am and 2:45pm each day. **Due to space at the club facility, the tournament is limited to the first fifty players. Reserve a spot online at pdxchess.org. However, you must still arrive on-site by 9:30am to keep your spot and be paired for round 1.**

Prize Fund: \$1500 based on 50 entries

Open Section: 1st \$160, 2nd \$110, 3rd \$75, 1st U2100 \$55; **U1900 Section:** 1st \$145, 2nd \$95, 3rd \$65; **U1700 Section:** 1st \$135, 2nd \$85, 3rd \$60; **U1500 Section:** 1st \$125, 2nd \$75, 3rd \$55; **U1300 Section:** 1st \$110, 2nd \$60, 3rd \$45, 1st U1100 \$45. Unrated players are eligible for all of the prizes. **Bonus prizes:** Any player who goes 4-0 will receive a \$35 discount on the entry fee into next year's Rose City Sectionals. Any scholastic player who scores at least 2.5 will be able to select a trophy.

Entry Fee: \$45, \$35 for PCC members. Add \$5 play-up fee for each section you play up. Pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club. US Chess membership is required and can be purchased during registration.

Other: Northwest Chess Grand Prix event; qualifier for the OSCF State Championship; see more information, including rule variations used at this tournament, at pdxchess.org.

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

of side events to take part in. For those not eligible for the main event, there was the Friends & Family tournament with an Open section (tied for first were Moshe Rachmuth and Steve Surak) and a Scholastic section (first-place winner was Connor Dash). Other between-rounds activities included The Puzzle Scavenger Hunt, Giant Chess, and of course, Lucky Chess!

At the end of the day, the trophies filled with taffy were handed out. I've listed the first-place winners below. (Grand Champions in bold.) Great job, everybody!

**High School Grand Champion/
Oregon's Representative to the
Denker Tournament of High School
Champions: NM Seth Talyansky**
**Middle School Grand Champion/
Oregon's Representative to the Barber
Tournament of K-8 Champions:
Owen McCoy**

High School Silver: Eric Gibbs

Middle School Silver:
Kabir Rathore Muthu

**Elementary School Grand Champion:
Roshen Nair**

High School Copper: Ben Harding

Middle School Copper: David Hill

Elementary School Silver: Elijah Schaal

Middle School Zinc: Daniel Vo

Elementary School Cobalt:
Steven Hagen

Elementary School Copper:
Eldon Nichols

Elementary School Zinc: Eliyo Ely
Elementary School Iron: Aidan Chan

**Primary School Grand Champion:
Havish Sripada**

Primary School Silver:
Rishi Ramaswamy

Primary School Copper:
Ameya Shirguppe

Big thank you to the amazing OSCF board for setting this up, and all the volunteers who made it possible! Mark your calendars for April 13-14, 2018!

**Owen McCoy (2077) –
Sean Uan-zo-li (1729)**
2017 OSCF State Championship
Seaside, OR (R4)
[Owen McCoy]

Going into this round, Sean and I were the only ones with 3.0/3.

1.Nf3!?

Last time I played 1.e4 and wasn't entirely

satisfied with how the opening went.

**1...d5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.d3 c5 5.0-0
Nc6 6.Nbd2 Nf6 7.e4 d4!?**

I didn't expect this. Now the game becomes more closed.

8.a4 Bg4

This doesn't really spoil anything, but what's the point if not to provoke h3 (which isn't actually that much of a concession on my part).

9.h3



Position after 9.h3

Of course. My thoughts went something like, "He can either surrender the bishop pair, or admit to wasting time and retreat." However, after some thought, Sean played...

9...Bh5!?

Vancouver Open

August 5-6, 2017

Site: Hampton Inn & Suites, 315 SE Olympia Drive, Vancouver, WA 98684. (360) 891-3000.

HR: \$169.00 Standard King/Double Queen.

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

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

US Chess August 2017 rating supplement will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

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

Prize Fund: \$2,500 (based on 60 paid entries).

Open: 1st \$600, 2nd \$450, 1st U2000 \$175, 1st U1800 \$175

Reserve: 1st \$400, 2nd \$250 1st U1600 \$150, 1st U1400 \$150, 1st U1200/Unrated \$150

Entry Fee: \$75 if postmarked or online by 08/02, \$85 after 08/02 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

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

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

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

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

Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 10. US Chess Junior Grand Prix event.

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

Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

Mail To: Dan Mathews, 749 Somerset Lane, Edmonds, WA 98020-2646.

Phone: (425) 218-7529. **E-mail:** danomathews01@gmail.com.

Online Registration: www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration.

after which

10.g4 Nxg4 11.hxg4 Bxg4

followed immediately. I thought this was just a mistake by him, but amazingly after letting Fritz 15 run, it said only “+=”. As compensation for the piece he has more space, a safer king, and a pawn majority.

12.Re1

I planned to unravel easily, but this probably isn’t the best way.

12...h5 13.Nf1 Be5 14.Qd2 Bxf3 15.Bxf3 f6?!

Now the tide starts to turn in my favor. I think this is unnecessary and weakening. Still, only +=.

16.Qe2 Qd7 17.Bg2?!



Position after 17.Bg2

I had no intention of allowing the black queen into h3, but now the black pawns can advance. Fritz 15 suggests moving more pieces away from my already slightly insecure king with 17.Nd2!?

17...g5 18.Nd2

Better late than never?

18...0-0-0 19.Nc4 h4 20.Bf3 g4?

It’s understandable that he wanted to force this through before Bg4, but now I can create a blockade on g4...

21.Bxg4

Forced.

21...Rdg8 22.f3

Also forced.



Position after 22.f3

22...Rxxg4+?

Or can I? This move is a mistake, but otherwise the attack can be fended off.

23.fxg4 Rg8 24.g5

The g-file gets closed, and the attack is beaten off.

24...Bg3 25.Rf1 fxxg5 26.Qf3 Kb8 27.Qf5 Qc7 28.e5 Nxe5 29.Qf8+

The queens come off, and the attack is repulsed.

29...Qc8 30.Qxc8+ Kxc8 31.Rf5 Nd7 32.Rxxg5 Rf8 33.Bd2 Nf6 34.Rf1 Bb8 35.Bf4 h3 36.Bxb8 Kxb8 37.Rf3 h2+ 38.Kxxh2 Ng4+ 39.Kg3 Nf6 40.Ne5 Rh8 41.Kg2 a6 42.Ng6 Re8 43.Nxe7 Nh7

44.Rg7 Nf8 45.Rg8 Rxe7 46.Rxfx8+ Ka7 47.a5 Re2+ 48.Kf1 1-0

2017 Girls State Scholastic Championship

By Adam Porth

Hailey, ID — April 29, 2017

“Don’t look for a princess in need of saving, search for a queen willing to fight by your side!” Well, that about sums up all the ladies playing at the 2017 Girls State Scholastic Championship April 29, 2017 in Hailey at the Community Campus. In fact fourteen “queens” were fighters for nearly six hours as they competed against one another for a chance to represent Idaho at the National Girls Tournament of Champions held in Norfolk, Virginia at the end of July. Also, the top girl is nominated to the Susan Polgar Foundation Girls’ Invitational held prior to the NGTOC.

Only one name could be submitted for the national events and Temiloluwa Aderogba won by 0.5 tiebreakers against Dylan Porth. Both Scored 3.5 points and are Idaho Girls State Scholastic Co-champions.

In their game, the two agreed to a draw as Dylan’s time fell below a minute though she was a pawn up in a knight-bishop endgame that pitted 4 pawns against 3 on the queen-side.

The youngest player was in first grade and the oldest was in eleventh grade, with beginners and experienced players, and others in between. Players came from Hailey, Ketchum, Bellevue, Boise, Meridian, and Eagle and the parents watched and lamented how poor their chess skills are compared to their players. Players were also thankful for the food and munchies that Deb Van Law provided.

Awards were presented to winners which were, in reality, competing for placement. Muffy Davis, Olympic Gold Medalist, visited to provide inspirational words and wisdom to the young players. Muffy was paralyzed in a skiing accident. She encouraged players to make their dreams reality among the other inspirations she passed on. After meeting the players, Muffy helped pass out trophies, autographed photographs and signed chess boards - organizers gave chess boards away as a souvenir.

The entire tournament was pleasant and taught the younger players etiquette, tactics, and strategies that will help them be more successful over the board and in life. Endgame Clothing, Snow Bunny

Semiahmoo Open Chess Tournament

August 5-7, 2017

**Pacific Inn Resort
White Rock, BC, Canada**

**1160 King George Blvd, Surrey, BC
Just across Canada/US border from Blaine**

6 Round Swiss; Four sections
Saturday, Sunday, Monday
Cash prizes; FIDE and CFC rated
90min/game + 30s time controls
Email Jeffrey Street at:
semiahmooopen@gmail.com
Details and register online at:
semiahmooopen.pbworks.com





2017 Idaho Scholastic Girls Chess Champion Temilohua Aderogba.
Photo credit: Adam Porth.

Drive-In, and Powerhouse Pub were sponsors.

2017 WRECC Results

By Adam Porth

Hailey, ID — April 26, 2017

We were only expecting a handful, but then they just kept coming! In one's, two's, then five's! I became overwhelmed as numerous kids began to register for the

2017 Wood River Elementary Chess Championship. Thanks to Kristy Turco's beating drum (and heart for chess!), 14 kids came from Hailey Elementary to play while Deb Van Law's encouraging aura brought 19 from Alturas! In all, 40 kids participated in the annual event that began as Nick Bruck's Senior Project. Last year only five players competed!

Many parents were also present to witness the fine etiquette, manners, and sportsmanship of their children and were shocked at their intense focus. "I was surprised to find out that my kid wanted to play in a chess tournament tonight," beamed one dad. The 2017 WRECC took place on Wednesday April 26 after a full day of school and lasted an additional five hours!

Hailey Elementary overwhelmingly won with 14.5 points and Alturas won second place with 9.0 points. Hemingway

posted 7.0 points and Bellevue posted 6.5 points. None of the private schools were represented.

First-third place trophies were provided the grade level winners. Conrad Foster, Garin Beste, and Carson Bauer won top three overall and won a free drink from the Internet Cafe.

The night progressed smoothly with tears only appearing during Round 4 (and also when some kids had to go to a Spring Concert during Round three). This was the first time many players had played in a tournament and so checkmate, draws, how to use the clocks, and other tournament nuances were learned at this event. The BCSD Chess Clubbers were also on hand to help: Otto Olson, River Shepard, Darwin Porth, Quentin Van Law, Sera Begay, and Dylan Porth all helped kids with their games, openings, tactics, and other stuff. River and Otto played a Blitz exhibition for parents and a scavenger hunt for those done playing was also available.

TD Tip: always grab a parent to count moves when the players don't quite know how to checkmate so that the 50 move rule is counted quickly. This happened in several games with Chess Clubbers helping to show how a queen and king, a rook and king, etc. can finish the game.

Seattle Chess Classic

August 16-20, 2017

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

Format: 9 Round Swiss. **Two Sections:** Open (FIDE Rated) and Reserve (under 1800). **Time Control:** 40/90, SD/30, +30.

US Chess August 2017 rating supplement will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

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

Prize Fund: \$10,000 (based on 40 entries each section).

Open: \$1,000-750-550 1st-2nd-3rd, \$500-350 1st-2nd U2300/U2150/U2000/U1850, \$250 Top Female, \$250 Top Senior 50+.

Reserve: \$600-450-350 1st-2nd-3rd, \$300-200 1st-2nd U1600/U1450/U1300/U1150, \$200 Top Female, \$200 Top Senior 50+.

Entry Fee: Open: \$200 if postmarked or online by 08/09, \$250 by 08/15 at 10:00 PM.

Reserve: \$150 if postmarked or online by 08/09, \$175 by 08/15 at 10:00 PM.

Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs, WIMs, 2400+USCF.

Registration: Before 10:00 PM on Tuesday, August 15. **Check-in:** Wednesday, August 16 at 5:45 PM.

Rounds: Wednesday 08/16: 6:00 PM, Thursday 08/17, Friday 08/18, Saturday 08/19, Sunday 08/20: 10:00 AM, 5:00 PM.

Closing Ceremony: Sunday August 20 at 9:00 PM or asap, followed by a blitz tournament.

Byes: Two half-point byes available, request before end of round 2. **Late Default:** 60 minutes.

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

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

Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

Mail To: Josh Sinanan, 3610 218th Street SW, Brier, WA 98036-8087.

Phone: (206) 769-3757. E-mail: joshsinanan@gmail.com

Online Registration: www.nwchess.com/online/registration

The 2017 Neil Dale Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator

Time to respond to some mail (email, actually). One correspondent asks about why he's still in Class B when his rating has dropped to Class C (I know your pain). Well, dear writer, the ratings used to determine class prizes in the Grand Prix are your peak rating over the year. Therefore, your rating can only go up, never down. Rest assured, should you remain in the doldrums to the end of the year, you will start 2018 in your lower class. The US Chess issues official ratings every month, and I check and update our players with each new issue.

Another writer wonders how the multipliers work. Well, oh curious one, they are based on the guaranteed prize fund. If an event has no guaranteed fund or it is less than \$500, the event is not multiplied. If an event's prize fund is advertised as "based on", then by US Chess rules, half that prize fund must be guaranteed. Thus a \$650 fund based on 30, for instance, would be considered a \$325 fund for Grand Prix purposes, and no multiplier would be added. For larger prize funds the multiplier goes up as the fund goes up. At \$500, the points of the event are multiplied by two. At \$1000 the multiplier goes up to three. \$2000 will earn a 4x multiplier. Reach \$5000 and the multiplier is 5x (Washington Open on Memorial Day weekend guaranteed \$7000, so all the points earned there were multiplied by 5). A multiplier of six is used when the event reaches or exceeds \$10000, and at \$20000, the multiplier would be 7x (I've never used that one). Those big events can really help you move through the standings.

A third email asked how the points are earned. This one is simple, you get the points you received in the tournament. This means that you get a point for all your wins, a half-point for all your draws and you get to keep the points you received from byes and HPBs. And, if you finish your schedule, you get a two-point bonus, which is added before any multiplier is applied. You do not get the bonus if you have an 'F' or a 'U' on the crosstable. So, if you think you want to leave early, be sure to decide in time to request the HPB. Otherwise, stick it out and play the last round. You paid all that money to enter anyway, didn't you?

Finally, a writer suggested that bonus Grand Prix points should be awarded for upset wins. Obviously, this was not a Master asking the question. They already have bull's eyes on their chests. Frankly, this is enough work going through 6-12 crosstables per month and verifying ratings of 1400+ players every month. I don't think I need the extra responsibility, and I don't think it would be fair to the higher rated players, since your chance for big upsets goes down as your rating goes up.

May only had six GP events, but finished with a bang with the above mentioned Washington Open. June has 8 events on the calendar, including the 2x Emerald City Open in Seattle. The other events can be found in Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, and Mountain Home (free entry!). Go, play, and be happy. And keep those letters coming.

Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington		
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
Masters								
			1 Cigan	Jason	40.5	1 Pupols	Viktors	40
			2 Haessler	Carl A	32.5	2 Irgaliyev	Alikhan	29
			3 Zavortink	Matt	17	3 Collyer	Curt D	22
			4 Russell	Corey J	13	4 Tiglon	Bryce	11
			5 Talyansky	Seth D	5	5 Three Tied at		6
M/X/Class A			Experts					
1 Cambareri	Michael E	32	1 Rachmuth	Moshe S	29.5	1 Lapham	William D	24
2 Havrilla	Mark A	28	2 Cosner	Karl	23.5	1 Julian	John	24
3 Maki	James J	26	3 Tobin	Sean	20.5	3 Bashkansky	Naomi	22.5
4 Inman	James	25	4 Gatica	Jose M	12	4 Arganian	David G	22
5 Two tied at		20	4 Richardson	Ryan	12	5 Deshpande	Aaryan H	21
Class B			Class A					
1 Martonick	Nick	18	1 Vega	Isaac	29	1 Casey	Braxton W	33.5
2 Machin	Alex J	10.5	2 Levin	Scott A	25.5	2 Anand	Vignesh	33
3 Nathan	Jacob A	9	3 Wu	Ethan	24	2 Shubin	Daniel	33
3 Xu	Kevin	9	3 Phipps	Danny	17	4 Reutter	Karl H	32.5
5 Amen	Chris	6	5 Murray	David E	14.5	5 Frantz	Joseph K	32

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
Class C			Class B								
1	Geyman	Jonathan P	25.5	1	Berger	Brian F	43.5	1	Kirsch	Ronald B	54.5
2	Weyland	Ron	25	2	Moore	Michael	23.5	2	Velea	Stephanie	31.5
3	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	3	Nair	Roshen S	22.5	3	Beck	Alec W	31
4	Courtney	Caleb	14	4	Feldman	Konner	22	4	Lopez	Fransisco J	30
5	Zaklan	David A	7	5	Bean	James R	21	4	Velea	Anne-Marie	30
Class D			Class C								
1	Merry	William A F	20	1	Wu	Abbie	46	1	Piper	August	46.5
2	Wei	James	10.5	2	Tang	Zoey	37.5	2	Richards	Jerrold	41.5
3	Machakos	Seth D	6.5	3	Fudalla	Ian	26.5	3	Raffel	Brian	32.5
4	Call	Logan	5.5	4	Pai	Kushal	24	4	Strohbehn	Jon D	31
5	Liu	James	5	5	Two Tied at		19.5	5	Velea	Sophie	29.5
Class E and Below			Class D and Below								
1	Callen	Gregory D	17	1	Wu	Kevin	33.5	1	Chung	Thomas W	30
2	Belew	Finn C	8	2	Tang	Austin	26	2	Rottmayer	Bill	18.5
3	Kitterman	Andrew N	7	3	Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	20	3	Wagner	Shancie J	18
4	Zeng	Forrest	4.5	4	Buerer	Harry F	17	3	Subramanian	Nithya	18
5	Eight Tied at		4	5	Kodithyala	Raj	13	5	Li	Albert	17.5
Overall Leaders, by State											
1	Cambareri	Michael E	32	1	Wu	Abbie	46	1	Kirsch	Ronald B	54.5
2	Havrilla	Mark A	28	2	Berger	Brian F	43.5	2	Piper	August	46.5
3	Maki	James J	26	3	Cigan	Jason	40.5	3	Richards	Jerrold	41.5
4	Geyman	Jonathan P	25.5	4	Tang	Zoey	37.5	4	Pupols	Viktors	40
5	Inman	James	25	5	Wu	Kevin	33.5	5	Casey	Braxton W	33.5
5	Weyland	Ron	25	6	Haessler	Carl A	32.5	6	Anand	Vignesh	33
7	Roberts	Joseph D	20	7	Rachmuth	Moshe S	29.5	6	Shubin	Daniel	33
7	Buus	Jarod N	20	8	Vega	Isaac	29	8	Reutter	Karl H	32.5
7	Merry	William A F	20	9	Fudalla	Ian	26.5	8	Raffel	Brian	32.5
10	Martonick	Nick	18	10	Tang	Austin	26	10	Frantz	Joseph K	32
11	Callen	Gregory D	17	11	Levin	Scott A	25.5	11	Yu	Jason	31.5
12	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	12	Wu	Ethan	24	11	Velea	Stephanie	31.5
12	Callen	Gregory D	14								

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

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

Address
 2150 N 107 St, B85
 Seattle WA 98133

Infoline
 206-417-5405
 seattlechess.club
 kleistcf@aol.com
 Address for Entries
 SCC Tnmt Dir
 2420 S 137 St
 Seattle WA 98168

June 3, July 1 **Seattle Masters #8, #9**
Format: 3-SS, 2 sec— Master & Expert, FIDE-rated. **TC:** G/90; i30. **EF:** \$75 by 5 p.m., 5/5 (#7) or 6/2 (#8), 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 & eligibility:** see www.nwchess.com or contact joshsinanan@gmail.com or call 206-769-3757

June 4, July 9 **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.

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

July 16 **SCC Novice**
Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 7/12, \$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.

July 21-23 or 22-23 **Seattle Seafair Open**
Format: 5-SS. **TC:** 40/120, SD/60; d5 (2-day schedule Rd. 1: G/60; d5). **EF:** \$44 if rec'd by 7/19, \$55 at site. GMs, IMs, & WGMs—FREE. Unrated—Free w/purch. of 1-yr. US Chess & 1 yr. WCF. SCC Memb. subtract \$12. Memb. of other dues-req'd CCs in BC, ID, OR, or WA subtract \$6. **Add \$1** to any EF for 2-day sched. **Prize Fund:** \$1620 b/68, 6/prz gp. **Prizes:** \$300g-195g-115g, U2200 140, U2000 135, U1800 130, U1600 125, U1400 120, U1200 60, UNR 45, Best Upset (Rds. 1-4) 10/rd, Plus-Score Pool 215. **Reg:** Fri. 7-7:45p, Sat. 9-9:45a. **Rds:** 8, (10@G/60)-12:30-6:45, 11-5. **Byes:** 2 avail. (Sunday rds commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess, WCF memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

Emerald City Open

June 23-25

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

a Northwest Grand Prix event

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

Upset (rds 1-4) \$20

Entry Fees: \$36 if rec'd by 6/21, \$45 at site. **SCC members**—subtract \$10. Members of other dues-required CCs in BC, ID, OR, and WA—subtract \$5. **Unr**—free with purchase of 1-year US Chess and WCF. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.**

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

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

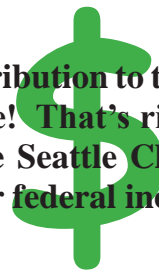
Byes: 2 (for Sunday rounds, commit at registration).

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

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.

Your contribution to the SCC is tax-deductible! That's right, what you give to the Seattle Chess Club can lower your federal income tax bill!



Upcoming Events

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

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

Jun 16-18 BC Senior Championship, **Victoria, BC**. (<http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>)

♣ **Jun 17** ICA & ICU Players' Memorial, **Mountain Home, ID**. 4SS, Time Control: G/30 d5. Sections: Open (Rocky Mountain Rated). Site: Mountain Home Public Library, 790 N 10th E St, Mountain Home, Idaho. EF: Free! Donations only. Check in: 10-11am. Rd. times: 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm. 1/2 pt bye avail: Max 1, Rds. 1-3 only. 1st Rd., before Rd. 2 is paired. Prizes: 1st-3rd Chess Books. INFO: ICA, Contact: idahochessassociation@gmail.com, Online registration at www.idahochessassociation.com.

♣ **Jun 17** Evergreen Empire Open, **Tacoma, WA**. Site: Metro Parks Community Center, 3515 Portland Ave. E., Tacoma, WA. Format: 3 round Swiss. Time Control: G/90;d5. Entry Fee: Advance \$25, at site \$30; TCC members: Advance \$22, at site \$27. Prize fund: 1st \$25.00, 2nd \$20.00, Top half & Bottom half. Rounds: 10:00, 1:30, 4:45. US Chess & WCF memberships required. W, NS, NC. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, phone (253) 535-2536 or email garychess@aol.com.

♣ **Jun 17/Jul 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/>

♣ **Jun 24/Jul 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/>

♣ **Jul 1-2** Puget Sound Open, **Tacoma, WA**. Site: Metro Parks Community Center, 3513 Portland Ave. E., Tacoma, WA. Format: 4 round Swiss in 1 section. Time Control: G/90; d5. Entry Fee: \$30 advance, \$35 at site; club members \$25. Reg. 9:00-9:45. Round Times: Sat. 10:00 & 2:00, Sun. 10:00 & 2:00. Prize Fund: \$360 b/15, 1st \$100, 2nd \$80, 1st U2000 \$60, U1700 \$60, U1400/UNR \$60. Byes: 2 half point byes available. US Chess & WCF memberships required. NS, NC, W. Info/Entries: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, phone (253) 535-2536 or email garychess@aol.com.

♣ **Jul 8-9** 3rd Annual Rose City Sectionals, **Portland, OR**. (See half-page ad page 24)

Jul 10-14 Chess Camp at Catlin Gabel School, **Portland, OR**. (See half-page ad page 27, May 2017 issue).

♣ **Aug 5-6** Vancouver Open, **Vancouver, WA**. (See half-page ad page 25)

Aug 5-7 Semiahmoo Open Chess Tournament, **White Rock, BC (Canada)**. (See quarter-page ad page 26)

♣ **Aug 16-20** Seattle Chess Classic, **Seattle, WA**. (See half-page ad page 27)

Northwest Chess
c/o Orlov Chess Academy
4174 148th Ave NE, Building I, Suite M
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