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**IM Georgi Orlov wins
Washington Open 6.0/6!**



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On the front cover:

Georgi Orlov and Roland Feng, Washington State's two
strongest active players, face off on board one at the
Washington Open! Photo courtesy of Washington Chess
Federation.

On the back cover:

Isaias Oregel (wearing his Mariners cap) alongside other
Booster section players at the Washington Open. Photo
courtesy of Washington Chess Federation.

Chesstoons:

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From The Editor's Desk

This is my 56th issue as your editor. I am very pleased with the quality and quantity of the material that was submitted for consideration.

It was quite a challenge for me to boil it all down into only 32 pages. But here it is... the July issue!

Please remember to keep submitting games, articles, and photos to editor@nwchess.com.

Oh, one more thing...

Word reached us that Luke Harmon-Vellotti, formerly of Idaho, achieved his second GM norm at the Chicago Open May 25-29. At the same time and event, Aaron Grabinsky, formerly of Oregon, achieved his second IM Norm. Congratulations to both players!

— Editor.

From Our Business Manager

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IM Georgi Orlov Triumphs at the Washington Open

By Josh Sinanan

Lynnwood, WA — May 27-29, 2017

IM Georgi Orlov made his return to tournament chess in the Northwest after a three-year hiatus by convincingly winning the 2017 Washington Open 6.0/6. Georgi is an International Master originally from Russia (Moldova), who now runs chess academies based Redmond and Seattle. He extended his winning streak to eleven games, which he started the previous weekend at the Keres Memorial in Vancouver, B.C., where he finished second. On his way to the title, Georgi defeated three strong FMs in the final rounds: Tian Sang, Roland Feng, and David Bragg. A full-point behind Orlov was a group of four players who tied for second place: FM Roland Feng, FM Tian Sang, FM Steven Breckenridge and Benjamin Mukumbya, who starred in the recent Disney Film *Queen of Katwe*.

In the Reserve and Booster sections, youth prevailed over experience as junior players seemed to dominate. Perhaps there is some truth to the following metaphor, so eloquently stated by former Oregon State Champion Carl Haessler at a recent OCF meeting: “Scholastic chess is the dog, and we (adults) are the fire hydrant!”

Four players tied for first place in the Reserve section with five points apiece: Daniel Shubin, Jeffrey Yan, Joshua Lewis-Sandy, and Brandon Jiang. Half-a-point behind them, six more players rounded out the prize winners: Jacob Mayer, David Hendricks, Scott Charleston, Robin Tu, Michael Orr, and Artjom Menkov.

Northern Brown, a seventh-grader from the Eton School in Bellevue, emerged as the clear winner with 5.5/6 points in the 63-player Booster section. Tied for second-fifth place half-a-point back were the following players: Drake Borden, Harrison Keyser, Michael Kuang, Erik Liu, Tommy Rodgers, and Ajay Pai.

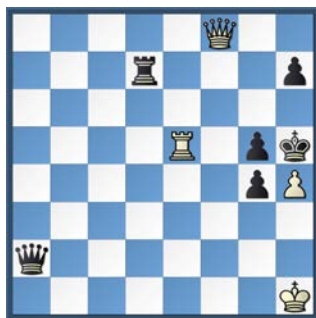
This year’s event also featured several special prizes, including highest finishing female and senior (50+) in each section, and top three largest upsets. The top female prizes were award to Naomi Bashkansky in the Open, Catherine Smith in the Reserve, and Melina Li in the Booster. The top senior prize winners were Georgi Orlov in the Open, David Hendricks in the Reserve, and Stephen Weller in the Booster. Ryan Min, an up-and-coming scholastic player, scored the two highest upsets (785, 634) to take the first and second place upset prizes while Minh Pham secured the third place upset prize with a 623-point upset!

Over the course of this three-day chess festival, many interesting chess games took place. Here are two that were especially noteworthy:

Round 2: Chen, M. – Olson, T.

The following position was reached shortly after the first time-control.

White to move:



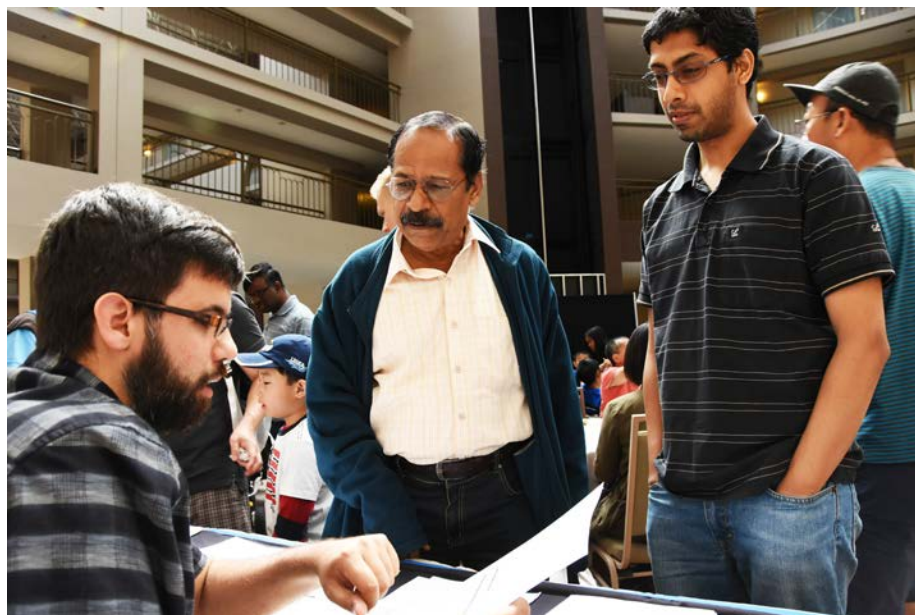
Black is up two pawns and seems to have good winning chances. Olson was acting confident, since he had seen the following forcing line: 1. Rxf2+ Kxf2 2. Qh6+ Kg3 after which White’s attack seems to fizzle out. But then, after nearly a 10-minute think, Chen found the brilliant resource: 1. Rxf2+ Kxf2 2. Qf2+!!

Minda’s move shocked both her opponent and the spectators watching the game, and the position with the two queens facing off remained on the board for quite some time while Travis considered his options. Eventually, he

captured the queen, but could not escape from the “mad rook” pursuing his king. The game concluded: 2...Qxf2 3.Rxf2+! Kh3 4. Rg3+ Kh4 5. Rg4+ Kh5 6. Rg5+ Kh6 7. Rg6+ hxg6 stalemate!

Round 6: Mukumbya, B. – Bishop, A.

Alan Bishop was in severe time pressure trying to make it to the time control in a complicated position. With only a few seconds left on his clock, Bishop made his 40th move and said “That’s time” as the clock rolled over to the second period and added an additional 30 minutes. His opponent Benjamin Mukumbya had missed a move earlier in the game and thought they were only on move 39. Thinking that his opponent was calling his own flag, Mukumbya extended his hand to accept Bishop’s resignation. The two players shook hands and started to reset the pieces, each thinking they had won the game! As they were about to leave, Bishop remarked, “I thought you would have played that on a bit.” Now the cat was out of the bag. Thoroughly confused, Mukumbya indicated that he thought Bishop had flagged and was extending his hand to accept Bishop’s time forfeiture. Bishop thought that Mukumbya was resigning since they had made time control and he now had a comfortable position. A win-win situation certainly would be nice, but alas this could not be so. As directed by the TD, the two gentlemen continued their game from



WCF President Josh Sinanan (L) greets Sridaran Ramachandren (Center), who was visiting from India. Photo courtesy of Washington Chess Federation.

the adjourned position, and Mukumbya eventually won.

The tournament was hosted by the Washington Chess Federation at the Lynnwood Embassy Suites over Memorial Day weekend, May 27-29. A strong attendance of 205 players took part in three sections: Open, Reserve U1800, and Booster U1400. Players came from across the region to represent their respective Northwest states — Washington, Oregon, and Idaho — and from British Columbia. The tournament organizers, WCF Tournament Coordinator Dan Mathews and WCF President Josh Sinanan, managed to run another successful event despite being paired against each other in the second round! As usual, Senior Tournament Director and National FIDE arbiter Fred Kleist directed the event with assistance from WCF Secretary Gary Dorfner, who ran many of the side events.

WA Open Scholastic

WCF Scholastic Director David Hendricks ran the WA Open Scholastic on Saturday, which attracted 74 players in five sections. He was assisted by WCF Member-at-Large Chouchanik Airapetian and numerous volunteers. A generous number of trophies were awarded to players in all five sections. Here are some of the winners:

K-3 U800: 1st Wyatt Kindred 5.0, 2nd Jeffrey Luo 4.0, 3rd Nyle Chaoweeraprasit 3.5

K-3 Open: 1st Ethan Chan 5.0, 2^{nd/3rd} Mobius Williamson, Leonardo Zhou 4.0

4-6 U900: 1^{st/2nd} Mia Chen, Pariks Venkataraghavan 4.0

4-6 Open: 1^{st/2nd} Siddharth Ghali, Sathvik Chilakala 4.5, 3rd Andrew Fang 4.0, 4th Ethan Luo 3.5

7-12 Open: 1st Joseph Truelson 5.0, 2nd Drake Borden 4.0

WA Open Blitz & G/45

FM Ignacio Perez, the Cuban speed chess legend, won the 16-player Washington Open Blitz side event that was held late Sunday evening. Ignacio scored 8-2 against a field which included several expert-level players. Tying for second place a point behind Ignacio were expert Dakota Dixon and newcomer Aba Nassif, an unrated player who was playing in his first event. The five-player G/45 event was won by the young Harrison Toppen-Ryan, a freshman at Juanita High School, with a perfect 4.0/4 score. Senior Tournament Director Gary Dorfner directed both events.

Georgi Orlov (2528) – Tian Sang (2363) [A10]

Washington Open Lynnwood, WA (R4), May 28, 2017
[Georgi Orlov]

1.Nf3 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.g3

If memory serves, this is our second Dutch with Tian. Last time I played the variation with d4, Nc3 and Bf4.

3...g6 4.b4

More common is 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.d4 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.Nc3 here. The idea of early b2-b4 is to make some lines where Black plays ...Nc6 or ...Na6 difficult for Black.

4...Bg7 5.Bb2 d6 6.d4 0-0 7.Qb3

7.Nc3!?! This move is more precise here since it stops ...a7-a5-a4 pawn run.

7...e6

This set-up looks a bit passive. More promising was 7...a5!? 8.b5 (8.a3 Ne4 9.Nbd2 axb4 10.axb4 Rxa1+ 11.Bxa1 Nc6=) 8...a4 9.Qc2 Nbd7

8.Bg2 Qe7

Another interesting line here is 8...Ne4 9.Nc3 a5 10.b5 c5 with competitive efforts in the center.

9.Nc3 a5 10.b5 Nbd7 11.0-0



Position after 11.0-0

11...Kh8?

Instead, immediate 11...Rb8! gave more chances, still after 12.Ng5 (12.Rad1 b6 13.Ng5!? Bb7 (13...h6 14.Nh3 g5 15.f4 Nh5 16.e4) 14.Bxb7 Rxb7 15.c5 bxc5 16.Qxe6+ Qxe6 17.Nxe6 cxd4 18.Rxd4 Re8 19.Nxg7 Kxg7=) 12...h6 (12...b6 13.c5±) 13.Nh3 g5 14.Rad1 b6 15.f4 g4 16.Nf2 Bb7 17.Rfe1 Bxg2 18.Kxg2 Qf7 19.e4± White has better chances.

12.Rac1 Rb8

12...c5 13.bxc6 bxc6 14.Qa3 Rb8 15.Ne5±

13.c5!? dxc5 14.Na4 b6



Position after 14...b6

Here 14...cxd4 loses to 15.Ba3 Qe8 16.Nxd4+-; But even the better 14...Ne4 15.dxc5 Ndf6 (15...Ndx5 16.Nxc5 Nxc5 17.Bxg7+ Kxg7 18.Qc3+) 16.b6± leaves Black with lots of challenges.

15.dxc5 bxc5 16.Ne5! Nxe5 17.Bxe5

Now weak c-pawns fall one after the other.

17...Bb7

17...Ba6 18.Bc6 Ne4 19.Bxg7+ Qxg7 20.Nxc5 Nxc5 21.Rxc5 Bc8 22.Qa3±



Tian Sang (L) vs Georgi Orlov during round four of the Washington Open. Photo courtesy of Washington Chess Federation.

18.Bxb7 Rxb7 19.Nxc5 Rb6 20.Na6

Here the simple 20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.Rfd1! Rd8 22.Rxd8+ Qxd8 23.Nxe6+ was very effective as well.

20...Nd5 21.Bxc7 Rxa6

21...Rb7 22.Bxa5 Ra8 23.Qc4+

22.bxa6 Nxc7 23.Qb7

The a-pawn cannot be stopped without major losses here.

23...Nd5

also loses here 23...Be5 24.Rfd1 f4 25.a7 Qe8 26.Qe4!+

24.Rc8 Rxc8

24...Qb4 25.a3+

25.Qxc8+ Bf8 26.a7 Nb6 27.Qb8 Qb4 28.a3 1-0



Georgi Orlov (L) vs Roland Feng in their fifth round game at the Washington Open. Photo courtesy of Washington Chess Federation.

**Roland Feng (2465) –
Georgi Orlov (2528) [E33]**

Washington Open Lynnwood, WA
(R5), May 29, 2017

[Georgi Orlov]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 Nc6
5.Nf3 d6 6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.Qxc3 0-0 8.b4



Position after 8.b4

8...Re8

Another interesting option is 8...e5!? Many years ago I lost a combative game to GM Walter Browne in this variation, after 9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 dxe5 11.Qxe5 Re8 12.Qb2. White retains the pawn, but development lead is substantial and I have no doubt in Black's position. However, it's been a while since I looked at this line and I did not want to go "all in" just yet.

9.e3

After 9.b5 Ne7 10.Bb2 Black has a good game after 10...a6 11.a4 Ne4 12.Qc2 f5 13.e3 axb5 14.axb5 (14.cxb5 Nd5) 14... Rxa1+ 15.Bxa1 c6.

9...e5 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 dxe5

Other viable option here is 11...Rxe5!? 12.Bb2 a5 (12...Qe7 13.Be2 Bd7) 13.Be2 Bd7 14.0-0 Qe7.

12.Bb2 a5 13.Bd3 Ng4!?

Instead, after 13...axb4 14.axb4 Rxa1+ 15.Bxa1 b6 16.0-0 Bb7 17.Bb2 Qe7 18.Ra1± White keeps a small edge due to Bishop pair.

14.h3 Qh4



Position after 14...Qh4

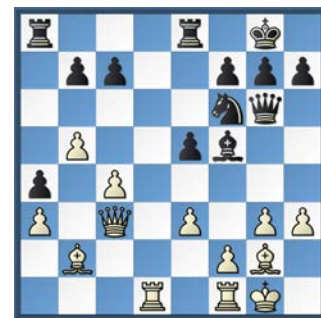
15.g3

In case of 15.0-0 Nf6 the prospect of ...Bh3 and Rook lift along the sixth rank is bothersome for White. Further play may look like this: 16.Rfe1 Qg5 17.Kh1 Bd7 (17...b6 18.c5) 18.b5 Rad8 19.Qc2 (19.Qxa5 Bxh3±) 19...b6 20.Rad1 h6 and Black seems OK at the end.

15...Qh6 16.b5 a4

16...e4 17.Bc2 Bf5 18.Qxg7+ Qxg7 19.Bxg7 Nxe3 20.fxe3 Kxg7=

17.Be4 Nf6 18.Bg2 Qg6 19.0-0 Bf5 20.Rad1



Position after 20.Rad1

20.Bxb7 Ne4 21.Bxe4 Bxe4 22.Kh2 Bf3±
20...Bc2!?



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This is interesting play, but probably not the best. Instead, deserved attention 20...Ne4 21.Qb4 c5 22.Qe1 h5 23.Rd5 b6 24.Qe2 f6=

21.Rd2?!

In case of 21.Bxb7! Rab8 22.Bc6 Bxd1 23.Bxe8 Rxe8 24.Rxd1 Qh5! Black's game looks good.

21...Bb3

21...Be4!? 22.f3 Qxg3 23.fxe4 Nxe4 24.Qd3 Nxd2 25.Qxd2 Rad8 26.Qf2 Qg6 27.Qf5±

22.Qb4

Better was 22.Bxb7! Rab8 23.Bg2 (23.Bc6 Ne4) 23...Ne4 24.Bxe4 Qxe4 and here 25.Rc1± is strong. 25...h5 (25...c6 26.b6 Rxb6 27.f3 Qg6 28.Qxe5!) 26.Qd3 Qxd3 27.Rxd3 f6 28.Rd7 Rbc8 at end, while has some chances, the opposite color Bishops leave Black with drawing opportunities.

22...Ne4 23.Rd7

23.Rd5 f6 24.Rd7 c5 25.bxc6 bxc6 26.Qb6 f5∞

23...c5 24.bxc6 bxc6 25.c5



Position after 25.c5

25.Re7! Reb8 26.Rb7 Re8 27.Re7=

25...Bd5 26.Rb7 Rad8

I felt Black has good position here since White's Q and R pair looks out of place on the Queenside.

27.h4 h5 28.Kh2

28.Rc1 Nd2 29.Qxa4 Nf3+; 28.Re1 Nxf2 29.Kxf2 Qf5+ 30.Kg1 Bxg2 31.Kxg2 Qc2+ 32.Kg1 Rd2-+

28...Nd2! 29.Qxd2??

This obvious move loses at once. Best was 29.Rd1 Bxg2 30.Rxd2 Bf3! 31.Ba1, but Black's position looks strong due to powerful light Bishop.

29...Bxg2 30.Rd7



Position after 30.Rd7

30...Qe6!

Now the threat of ...Qh3+ ends the game.

31.Kxg2 Rxd7 32.Qb4 Qb3 33.Bc3 Rd3 34.Rc1 f6 35.Be1 Qd5+ 36.e4 Qb3 37.Qa5 Qb2 38.Rc4 Qe2 39.Rxa4 Rd4 40.Rxd4 exd4 41.Bd2 Qxe4+ 42.Kg1 Rb8 43.Bb4 Qd5 44.Qc7 Re8 45.a4 Re2 46.Qa5 d3 47.Bd2 Qf3 48.Be3 d2 49.Qd8+ Kh7 50.Qd3+ f5 0-1

Ignacio Perez (2233) –
Roland Feng (2465) [E12]
Washington Open Lynnwood, WA
(R6), May 29, 2017
[Roland Feng]

Going into this game, I was feeling comfortable. I had scored 2.5/3 the past three times I played Ignacio with Black, and despite the fact that I knew he was an excellent attacker with the potential to beat anyone, I felt that I would be fine.

1.d4!

Even though I knew he also played this move in addition to e4, for some reason I didn't expect him to play it this tournament.

1...Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.a3

With the idea of preventing Bb4+ and therefore preventing the classic Nimzo-

type positions. The game ends up being reminiscent of a Queen's Gambit Declined.

3...b6 4.Nc3 Bb7 5.Nf3 d5 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Bd3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0

Maybe I should have played 8...c5 immediately, which would have stopped his next move.

9.b4 c5

If I don't play this myself, it is very easy for Black to get cramped after White plays c5.

10.bxc5 bxc5?

I moved too fast, and instinctively recaptured the pawn. Taking on c4 first would have been much better, as his next move would not be possible. 10...dxc4 11.Bxc4 bxc5. Black is actually slightly better here. There is pressure against the d4-pawn, and the somewhat awkward positioning of the loose white pieces along the c-file is a bit annoying for White.

11.cxd5 exd5

11...Nxd5 12.Nxd5 Bxd5 13.e4 Bb7 14.Bb2

12.Rb1!



Position after 12.Rb1

Immediately questioning my bishop and not giving me time to prepare a Ba8 retreat with Rc8.

12...Qc8?

I had originally planned to play ...Rb8, but this move caught my attention right before I moved and I decided to play this instead. It seems logical; the queen

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defends the bishop, eyes the loose knight on c3, and supports the light-square bishop in the event I want to exchange with ...Ba6. However, concrete analysis reveals this is pretty much all illusion. The engines still think Black is fine, but I certainly didn't like the position I got.

13.Bf5 g6

This move forces the bishop to commit to a diagonal, but also weakens the long a1-h8 diagonal, a fact I truthfully overlooked when I played it.

14.Bh3 Qc7

Getting out of the pin, defending e5, connecting rooks, and looking to improve my queen.

15.dxc5

15.Nb5 Qd8 16.dxc5 Nxc5 17.Bb2±

15...Nxc5 16.Nb5 Qd8 17.Bb2 Nfe4

Preparing to meet Qd4 with Bf6.



Position after 17...Nfe4

18.Ne5

18.Be5 Chouchan suggested this move after the game, which seems to greatly increase the bind on Black. However, Black actually has a few resources to escape this menacing dark-square control. 18...a6 19.Nbd4 (19.Nc7 Ra7±; 19.Bc7 Qe8 20.Nbd4 Nc3±) 19...Bd6

18...Bf6 19.f4 a6 20.Nd4

These knights look pretty beautiful in the center, but now the light-square bishops come off.

20...Bc8 21.Bxc8 Rxc8 22.Ng4 Bg7 23.f5 Nd7?



Position after 23...Nd7

Once again, I double-guess myself. I had seen 23...h5 and did not see a concrete way for White to continue the attack, but I opted for this 'safe' move. Ironically, Ignacio's attack now becomes far scarier than it ever could have been if I played h5. 23...h5 24.f6

a) 24.fxg6 fxg6 25.Rxf8+ (25.Nf2 Rxf2 26.Rxf2 Nxf2 27.Kxf2 Qh4+ 28.Kg1 Qe4) 25...Qxf8;

b) 24.Nf2 Nxf2 25.Rxf2 Ne4; 24...Nxf6 25.Nxf6+ Bxf6 26.Rxf6 Qxf6-+ and White has no good way to exploit the weak a1-h8 diagonal.

24.Ba1

Allowing the rook to access the seventh rank to join the attack. 24.Nc6 Rxc6 25.Qxd5 Nef6 26.Nxf6+ Rxf6 27.Rbd1.

24...Nc3

Hoping to extinguish White's attack by forcing him to concede his dark-square bishop, but the fire continues to rage even without the bishop.

25.Bxc3

25.Qf3 Any attempts to sacrifice the exchange fail due to Bxd4!, after which the diagonal is blocked and White has nothing. 25...Bxd4! 26.exd4 Nxb1-+; 25.Qd3 Bxd4 26.exd4 (26.Qxd4 Ne2+) 26...Nxb1

25...Rxc3 26.Rb7! h5?

Trying to force the retreat of the knight, but entering a very dangerous forcing line. 26...Nf6 27.Nxf6+ Bxf6 was more solid.

27.fxg6 fxg6 28.Rxf8+?



Position after 28.Rxf8+

Missing his chance to punish my mistake. 28.Ne6! Rxf1+ 29.Kxf1 Qa5. This was the defense I had planned to play during the game, and I thought Black was holding despite how sketchy it looked. However, there is actually a single refutation to this move — although it is hard to blame Ignacio if he missed it. 30.a4!! All other attempts fail. The point is that this move simultaneously guards b5 (so Rxd7 is a serious threat) while removing my ideas of Qxa3 or Rxa3 (which would generate counterplay along the first rank).

a) 30.Nxg7 hxg4;

b) 30.Qb1 hxg4 31.Rxd7 (31.Nxg7 Qxa3) 31...Rc1+ 32.Qxc1 Qb5+ 33.Ke1 Qxd7;

c) 30.Rxd7 Qb5+.

28...Nxf8 29.Qf3

29.Rxg7+ Kxg7 30.Qa1 Qc7 31.Ne2 d4±; 29.Qf1 Rc7 30.Rxc7 Qxc7 31.Nf6+ Bxf6 32.Qxf6=.

29...Rc1+ 30.Kf2 Rc7



Position after 30...Rc7

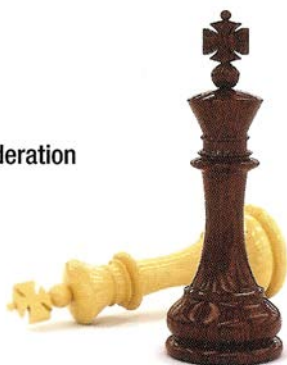
Expecting the game to quickly simplify into a dead drawn ending after Rxc7 but...

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31.Nc6!

The knight is unable to be taken due to Qf7+ with mate to follow, and now e5 is defended enough so that White can seemingly enter the aforementioned variation but emerge a pawn up... 31.Rxc7 Qxc7 32.Nf6+ (32.Qxd5+ Kh8 The knight on g4 is trapped.) 32...Bxf6 33.Qxf6 Qxh2 34.Ne6 Nxe6 35.Qxe6+=.

31...Qh4+!

The only way to fight for equality. 31... Qd6 32.Rxc7 Qxc7 33.Qxd5+ Kh8 34.Nge5±; 31...hxg4 32.Nxd8 gxf3 33.Rxc7+-

32.g3 Rxb7!!



Position after 32...Rxb7

The point. The rook will swing to f7 next move to pin the queen. 32...hxg4 33.gxh4 gxf3 34.Rxc7+-; 32...Qxg4 33.Qxg4 hxg4 34.Rxc7+-

33.gxh4 Rf7 34.Ne7+!?

Ignacio chooses to play for the win, instead of simplifying into what should be a drawn endgame. The result is a very interesting ending where Black has three pieces for the queen, but will lose the a-pawn as I try to untangle. 34.Nge5 Rxf3+ 35.Kxf3 Black is probably a bit better due to weak h-pawns, but White should be able to hold without too many issues.

34...Rxe7 35.Qxd5+ Rf7+ 36.Ke2?

Ignacio told me after the game that he was afraid of getting mated if he went Kg3, due to the fact that his king would be cut off. However, Kg3 would have been much better because it turns out Black is unable to really exploit the king



WCF Tournament Coordinator Dan Mathews makes his pre-round announcements at the Washington Open. Photo courtesy of Washington Chess Federation.

positioning and the loss of the g4-pawn would have eliminated most of Black's counterplay. 36.Kg3 hxg4 37.Kxg4 Nd7 38.Kg5 Ne5 39.h5=

36...hxg4 37.Qc4 a5 38.Qd5 Nd7 39.Qxa5 Ne5 40.a4 Kh7 41.Qa8 Rc7

Preparing a rook penetration into the white camp.

42.a5?!

Wasting no time pushing the passer, but this allows the rook to force the king onto the back rank. I was expecting a move like Kd2 or Kd1 in order to delay the rook invasion.

42...Rc2+ 43.Kd1?



Position after 43.Kd1

As scary as it may look, Kf1 was called for in order to help defend against the g-pawn. Black actually has no way to exploit the sketchy position of the king on f1.

43...Rxb2 44.a6 g3 45.a7 Ra2!

Getting the rook behind the passer, and setting the scene for possibly the most beautiful endgame I have ever played. 45...Nc4 46.Qf3 Rd2+ 47.Kc1 g2 48.Qxg2 Rxb2 49.a8Q was a technically better attempt to win, although I am not completely convinced that it is so easy to convert this due to the exposed nature of my king.; 45...g2 46.Qxg2 Rxb2 47.a8Q was not clear at all in my opinion.

46.h5

No time to waste! White has to open up the black king for hopes of a perpetual. 46.Qb7 Rxa7!+- 47.Qxa7 (47.Qg2 Ra1+ 48.Ke2 Ra2+) 47...g2 48.e4 Nf3.

46...Rxa7!!

[Diagram top of next page]

The crux of the variation. Black simultaneously eliminates the dangerous pawn while deflecting the queen off g2. Although this position is technically

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Position after 46...Rxa7

drawn, only one line exists where White can salvage the half point.

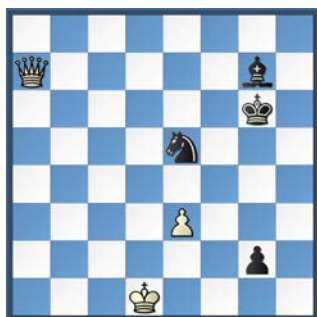
47.hxg6+ Kxg6

47...Kh6 48.Qxa7 g2 49.e4 Nf3 50.Qe3+ Kxg6 51.Qxf3=

48.Qxa7

48.Qe4+ Kh5 49.Qf5+ Kh4 50.Qh7+ Kg5-+. White runs out of checks, and Black will soon be able to reorganize his pieces and bring home the full point.

48...g2



Position after 48...g2

49.Qb6+??

While it may be hard to believe, White is completely lost after this innocent looking check. 49.e4! Nf3 50.Qa6+ (50.Ke2 g1Q 51.Qa6+ transposes to the other line, and is also drawn) 50...Kh5 51.Ke2 g1Q 52.Kxf3 Bd4 53.Ke2 Qe3+ 54.Kd1 Qb3+ 55.Kd2! Not Ke2??? (55.Ke2 Qc2+ 56.Ke1 Bc3+ 57.Kf1 Qd1+ 58.Kf2 Bd4+ 59.Kg2 Qg1+ 60.Kh3 Qg4+ 61.Kh2 Be5+ 62.Kh1 Qh3+ 63.Kg1 Bd4#); 49.Qa6+ Kg5.

49...Kh5 50.e4 Nf3 51.Qa5+

51.Qc5+ Be5 52.Ke2 g1Q; 51.Qb5+ Kh4 52.Ke2 Nd4+

51...Kh4 52.Ke2

52.Qd8+ Kg3 53.Qb8+ (53.Qc7+ Be5) 53...Be5 54.Qg8+ Kh3 55.Qh7+ (55.Qe6+ Kh4 56.Qh6+ (56.Qe7+ Kg3) 56...Kg3 57.Qg6+ Kf2 58.Qb6+ Bd4) 55...Nh4 56.Qa7 Kh2 57.Qf2 Bg3 with Kh1 to follow.

52...g1Q 53.Kxf3 Qd1+



Position after 53...Qd1+

Although White had a way to save the game, I'm still glad I got the chance to show off the power of coordination against a queen on an open board. The game ended here, but I'll provide some extra analysis.

54.Kf4

54.Ke3 Bd4+ 55.Kf4 Qg4#; 54.Kg2 Qe2+ 55.Kh1 (55.Kg1 Bd4+ 56.Kh1 Qf1+ 57.Kh2 Qh3#) 55...Qf1+ 56.Kh2 Qh3+ 57.Kg1 Bd4#; 54.Kf2 Bd4+ 55.Kg2 Qg1+ 56.Kf3 Qf2#

54...Bh6+ 55.Ke5

55.Kf5 Qh5+

55...Qh5+ 0-1

Ryan Ackerman (1949) – Anne-Marie Velea (1759) [D35]
Washington Open Lynnwood, WA
(R6) May 29, 2017
[Ryan Ackerman]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Be7 6.Qc2 0-0 7.e3 Nbd7 8.Bd3 b6 9.Nge2

9.Nf3 was a better way of meeting Black's plan to play b6 and c5.

9...Bb7 10.0-0 c5 11.a4 Re8 12.Ng3 g6 13.f4??

13.a5 or 13.Rad1

13...c4??



Position after 13...c4

13...Ng4! Big oversight for both of us right off the bat. ...Ng4 is a dream killer. 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.Rf3 Nxe3+.

14.Be2± Kg7 15.f5! h6! 16.fxg6! hxg5!

Accepting the sacrifice is the right idea, not: 16...fxg6 17.Bf4 Rc8 18.h4±

17.gxf7± Rh8!

If she moved her rook to the f-file my plan was to play 17...Rf8 18.Bh5 Nxb5 19.Nxb5+ Kh6 20.Qf5+-. Absolutely crushing. She defended this well in her game continuation, but it allowed me to gain some time on the clock.

18.Qf5?



Position after 18.Qf5

My attack is very strong here but I've lost the thread of the game a little. My rook belonged on this square, not my queen.



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In this razor sharp sacrificial attack every mistake counts. Nevertheless, Ignacio would be proud. 18.Rf5 Kxf7 19.Bf3±.

18...Rh7! 19.Qxg5+ Kh8

A very nifty resource.

20.Nf5 Rxf7 21.Nh6??

21.Rf4! Rc8 22.Raf1± would have kept the attack alive, objectively maybe Black can survive, but White has a serious advantage and has a much easier time making moves here. Fritz recommends 22...Qf8 23.Bh5 Rh7 24.Nxe7 Qxe7 25.Rxf6 Nxf6 26.Rxf6 Rf8 27.Rxf8+ Qxf8 28.Nxd5+.

21...Rh7!

I was trying to keep my poker face intact, but it's clear my attack has quickly become hopeless. I need to seek refuge in an endgame soon.

22.Bh5 Ng8 23.Qxg8+ Qxg8 24.Nxg8 Rxg8 25.Bf3 Nf6 26.a5! Bd6 27.g3 Ng4?!

Her attack looks pretty good, but oh wait-I win a pawn! Yes I can hold this. Onto the endgame we go.

28.Bxg4 Rxg4 29.a6 Bc6 30.Rf5 Bb4 31.Nxd5 Bxd5 32.Rxd5

With four loose connected passed pawns for the bishop, objectively Black is slightly better; but I've taken the wind out of my opponent's sails and she didn't mentally recover.

32...Re7 33.Ra4 Bd2 34.Rxc4 Bxe3+ 35.Kg2 Rg5 36.Rxg5 Bxg5 37.h4 Bf6 38.Kf3 Kg7 39.Kf4 Kg6 40.b3



Position after 40.b3

It's still balanced. This was the final round of the tournament, time to buckle down and finish strong.

40...Re1 41.Rc7 Re7 42.Rc6

42.Rb7! Kf7 43.h5±

42...Rd7 43.h5+= Kf7 44.Kf5 Bxd4 45.g4 Be3? 46.h6!

My opponent was hoping for 46.g5 when she can draw with: 46.g5 Rd5+ 47.Ke4 Rxg5 48.Kxe3 Rxh5 49.Rc7+ Ke6 50.Rxa7 Kd6 51.Kd3 Rd5+ 52.Kc3 Kc6 53.Rg7 Kb5 54.a7 Rd8=.

46...b5?



A view of the 3-day section playing room of the Washington Open shot using a GoPro camera. Photo courtesy of Washington Chess Federation.

46...Bc5 would have offered more resistance 47.g5 Rd5+ 48.Kf4 Rd4+ 49.Ke5 Rd8 50.Rc7+

47.Rf6+?

Wrong plan, 47.g5 was better. 47...Ke8 48.Rc8+.

47...Ke7??

47...Kg8 there is still more life to this game, and it's a draw with best play. 48.Kg6 Bc5 49.Rf5 Be7 50.g5 Rd6+ 51.Kh5 Rxa6 52.Re5 Bxg5 53.Kxg5 b4 54.Rb5 Kh7 55.Rb7+ Kh8 56.Rxb4 Ra5±

48.Re6+! Kf7 49.Rxe3

Lights out.

49...Rd5+ 50.Re5 Rd6 51.Rxb5 Rxa6 52.g5 Ra3 53.Rb7+ Kg8 54.g6 Kf8 55.h7 Ra5+ 56.Kf6 Ra6+ 57.Kg5 Ra5+ 58.Kh6 a6 59.h8Q# 1-0

Brandon Jiang (1578) – Jeffrey Yan (1776) [C01]
Washington Open (Reserve)
Lynnwood, WA (R2), May 27, 2017
[Brandon Jiang]

This is my favorite game in Washington Open this year. I beat one of the top-rated players in the Reserve Section in 20 moves.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nge2 Nf6 7.0-0

I probably should play Bg5 to keep option of long castling.

7...0-0 8.a3?!

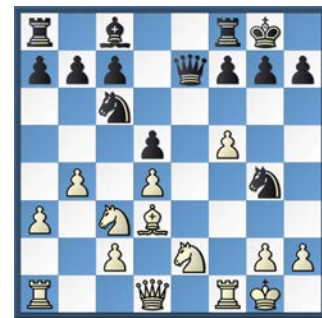
Black is likely to retrieve his bishop

anyway, this move just helps him. 8.Bg5 should be played.

8...Bd6 9.Bg5

I am not worrying about typical 9...Bxh2+ here, as I will play 10. Kh1 and get the pawn back on d5.

9...Be6 10.f4 Be7 11.f5 Bc8 12.b4 Ng4 13.Bxe7 Qxe7?



Position after 13...Qxe7

Blunders a pawn 13...Nxe7, White is still better, but not much.

14.Nxd5 Qd6 15.Nef4 Nh6 16.f6!

In the previous move, Black should play 15...Nf6. Now he let me play f6, I felt my attack was unstoppable at this time.

16...Bg4 17.Qd2 gxf6??

Suicide?! Anyway, Black's position is very difficult to hold.

18.Nh5 f5 19.Nhf6+ Kh8 20.Qxh6

Checkmate in two coming. Black resigned.

1-0

**Jason Cross (1658) –
John Christy (1451) [A29]**
Washington Open (Reserve)
Lynnwood, WA (R5), May 29, 2017
[John Christy]

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6

IM Georgi Orlov wrote in one of my old lessons that 2.Nc3 is more precise, for on 2.g3, Black can play 2...f5 and he gives a game Korchnoi - Shirov in Madrid 1996 out of 12 moves noting "and Black has a good game."

3.Bg2 Nc6 4.Nf3 Bc5? 5.0-0 0-0?

AFTER I castled I realized that 4...Bc5 allowed the "fork trick," which is annoying. Next time, a safer 4...Be7.

6.Nc3 d6

I'm happy to survive the opening for I'm weak in openings.

7.a3 a5 8.Rb1 Be6 9.d3 Qc8

I love this maneuver to remove White's g2-bishop with ...Bh3.

10.Ng5

And this shows why I should have put the bishop on d7 instead of e6 in the first place. Must keep the bishop, so

10...Bd7

and, White has the initiative.

11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.cxd5?



Position after 12.cxd5

Oh my, this recapture can't be right blocking the g2-bishop.

12...Ne7 13.e4 Bg4 14.Qc2 h6 15.Nf3 Bh3?

GREAT, I've achieved my goal to eliminate the g2-bishop, but why? The blockading d3, e4, and d5 pawns effectively limit the bishop and maybe it's better to take the f3-knight.

16.Be3 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Bxe3 18.fxe3

Well, I feel good now, thinking he's got two open files for his rooks, but doubled e- and d-pawns, so I think I can win this ending, not sure exactly how, but that's my plan.

18...Qd7 19.Rbc1 Rac8 20.Qb3 c5 21.Nd2 b5 22.Qd1 Kh8

To make room for the knight to go ...Ng8, ...Nf6, and ...Ng4. But it's too slow, maybe ...f5 now was better.

23.Qh5 Ng8 24.Rf3 Nf6 25.Rxf6!

DOH! The bolt from the blue. I SHOULD have considered the exchange sac ripping open my kingside, do I get mated here? BUT, he can't mate me with the queen alone, he needs more stuff, can he get there fast enough? I don't know, prove it.

25...gxf6 26.Qxh6+ Kg8 27.Rf1 f5 28.Qg5+



Position after 28.Qg5+

Mr. Cross spent almost 40 minutes calculating before this move. And I spent at least 20 minutes before I replied.

28...Kh7

28...Kh8 gets me mated.

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.

29.Qh5+ Kg8 30.Qg5+ Kh7

Do something different or draw by move repetition or perpetual check.

31.Rxf5 f6

White eschews a draw.

32.Qh5+ Kg8 33.Qh3 Rf7

Did White miss a mate? Don't know, we both spent a LOT of time analyzing, and neither of us found it.

34.Qg4+ Rg7 35.Qf3 Rf8 36.h4 Qf7

We're both in time pressure.

37.Nf1 Rg6 38.Nh2 Qg7 39.Kh3 Kf7
40.Ng4 Rg8

JUST barely made time control.

41.Rg5 Rxxg5 42.hxxg5 Qxxg5 43.Qf5
Qxf5 44.exf5 Rh8+



Position after 44...Rh8+

And NOW, I think we're at that won ending for Black.

45.Kg2 a4 46.Nf2 b4 47.Ne4 Ke7
48.Nd2 Rb8 49.Nc4 bxa3 50.bxa3 Rb3
51.Kf3 Rxd3 52.Ke4 Rb3

Inaccurate in time pressure. Yes, I've got seven or eight minutes left, but ...Rc3 doesn't give White a free move.

53.g4 Rc3 54.Nb6 Rxa3 55.Nc8+ Kd7
56.Nb6+ Kc7 57.Nc4 Rc3 58.Nd2 a3
59.Nb1 Rb3

I wanted to kill the knight and not face any trouble calculating a queen vs knight finish in time pressure; although Mr. Cross was down to less than a minute by now.

60.Nxa3 Rxa3 61.g5 fxg5 62.f6 Ra8

And Mr. Cross resigned, and seconds later his time expired. 0-1



Position after 62...Ra8



John Christy. Photo courtesy of John Christy.

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August 5-7, 2017

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August 16-20, 2017



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

Format: A *9-round Swiss* in two sections: Open and Reserve (U1800)

Entry fees: *Open:* \$200 by 8/9, \$250 after or at site. *Reserve:* \$150 by 8/9, \$175 after or at site. Free entry for GM/IM/WGM/WIM/2400+ USCF

Schedule:

Wednesday 8/16	Check-in	5:45pm
Wednesday 8/16	Round 1	6pm
Thursday 8/17	Round 2 & 3	10am & 5pm
Friday 8/18	Round 4 & 5	10am & 5pm
Saturday 8/19	Round 6 & 7	10am & 5pm
Sunday 8/20	Round 8 & 9	10am & 5pm
Sunday 8/20	Closing Ceremony	About 9 pm
Sunday 8/20	Blitz Tournament	After Closing Ceremony

Time Control: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an addition of **30 seconds per move starting from move one.**

Late Default: 60 minutes.

Rating: Higher of USCF or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

Both sections USCF rated, open section FIDE rated. Maximum capacity of 80 players.

Prizes: (b/o 40 players in each section)

Open: 1st \$1000, 2nd \$750, 3rd \$550

U2300/U2150/U2000/U1850: 1st \$500, 2nd \$350

Top Female: \$250

Top Senior (50+): \$250

Reserve: 1st \$600, 2nd \$450, 3rd \$350

U1600/U1450/U1300/U1150: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200

Top Female: \$200

Top Senior: \$200

Byes: 2 half-point byes allowed for rounds 1-9 if announced before the start of round 2.

Registration: Please register online at <http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration/>. The deadline to register is Tuesday 8/15 at 10pm.

Chief Organizer: Josh Sinanan, WCF President (206-769-3757, joshsinanan@gmail.com)

Tournament Director: Fred Kleist, USCF Senior TD, FIDE National Arbiter

67th Annual Oregon Open

September 2-4, 2017

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FORMAT: 6-round Swiss in three sections, Open, U2000, U1600. The official September US Chess regular ratings generally used. Unofficial US Chess regular ratings based on at least four games or foreign ratings (with adjustment if necessary) generally used for players with no official US Chess regular rating. Choice of 3-day and 2-day schedules. Two half point byes are available if requested before round 1.

TIME CONTROL: 40/120,SD/30;d10, first three rounds of the 2-day schedule played at G/60;d10. **Bring digital clocks as well as sets and boards (none supplied).**

ROUND TIMES: **3-day:** Saturday 11am & 5pm; Sunday 10am & 6pm; Monday 9:30am & 3:30pm. **2-day:** Sunday 9am, 11:45am, 2:30pm, then merge with 3-day schedule for round 4.

ENTRY FEE: \$100 if you pre-register by August 30, \$120 on-site. Free entry to GM's and IM's if pre-registered by August 30 (\$100 deducted from any prizes). Players under 19 in the U1600 section may pay a lower rate (\$25 if pre-registered by August 30, \$35 on-site) and compete for trophies instead of cash prizes. Players in the 3-day may withdraw and re-enter into the 2-day by paying \$100. **US Chess & OCF/WCF/ICA memberships required (OSA).**

RATED: All sections US Chess rated. Open section also FIDE rated except for the first three rounds of the 2-day schedule. FIDE rules used in the Open section (including the first 3-rounds of the 2-day schedule; see the PCC website for the US Chess-FIDE rule differences). US Chess rules used in the other sections.

REGISTRATION: To pre-register, fill out the online registration form at pdxchess.org **and** pay the entry fee online or mail a check payable to Portland Chess Club to Mike Morris at 2344 NE 27th Ave, Portland, OR, 97212. To get the lower entry fee rate, we must receive your registration form **and** entry fee by August 30. On-site registration runs from 9-10:30am Saturday for the 3-day schedule and 8-8:45am Sunday for the 2-day schedule (only cash or check accepted on-site).

OPEN SECTION PRIZES

1ST, 2ND, 3RD: \$2000-1000-500; U2200: \$500-300-200

U2000 SECTION PRIZES

1ST, 2ND, 3RD: \$1000-600-400; U1800: \$500-300-200

U1600 SECTION PRIZES

1ST, 2ND, 3RD: \$500-300-200; U1400: \$500-300-200

U1200: \$300 **UNR:** \$200

Unrated players limited to place prizes in Open section and unrated prize in U1600 section. Any player winning \$600 or more must complete IRS form with SSN before payment. Foreign players may be subject to withholding taxes. Players under 19 in the U1600 section choosing the lower entry fee option will compete for trophies instead of cash prizes based on points. Players rated 1400 or higher will win a trophy if they score at least 5, players rated between 1200 and 1399 will win a trophy if they score at least 4, and players rated under 1200 or unrated will win a trophy if they score at least 3.5.

OTHER: Northwest Chess, US Chess, and US Chess Junior Grand Prix event; qualifier for the Oregon State Championship, Oregon Invitational Tournament, and OSCF State Championship; see the list of tournament sponsors at pdxchess.org

SIDE EVENTS: **Scholastic**-see information at pdxchess.org. **Blitz**-registration Sunday 3-3:20pm, play starts at 3:30pm. One section, 5-round double Swiss, G/3;inc2, \$15 entry fee, US Chess blitz rated, US Chess membership required, prize fund: \$200 based on 20-1st \$60, 2nd \$40, U2100, U1900, U1700, U1500-\$25 each; unrated players are eligible for all of the prizes. The higher of a player's US Chess regular and blitz rating is generally used. **OCF membership meeting**-Sunday at 4:30pm.

LOCATION: Lloyd Center DoubleTree Hotel, 1000 NE Multnomah St, Portland, OR 97232. A limited number of rooms are available at special chess rate (mention tournament); single or double occupancy \$119 plus tax. Reserve early, 1-800-996-0510. Free parking.

2017 Idaho Scholastic Champion of Champions

By Jeffrey Roland

Boise, ID — May 27, 2017

This is the first-ever event of this kind in Idaho. Five players played for the Idaho Scholastic Championship title in downtown Boise, Idaho on May 27, 2017 at the Foerstel Design building at 249 South 16th Street in Boise, Idaho. The five players were Bryan Li, Seth Machakos, Dylan Porth, Kevin Xu, and Forrest Zeng.

These players qualified to play in this event by being the top three finishers in both the Idaho Scholastic K-8 Championship (held in Boise, March 11, 2017) and the Idaho Scholastic 9-12 Championship (held in Boise, March 4, 2017), with one player from the 9-12 Championship, Thomas Connelly Reisig, not playing.

It was a round robin Game/45;d5 event, rated by the US Chess Federation. Alise Pemsler was the event organizer. Jeffrey Roland was Chief Tournament Director. Alise Pemsler and Adam Porth were Assistant TD's.

Boise High School Junior Seth Machakos (1278P-1441P—5.0/5), won the event with a perfect score and is now officially the 38th Annual Idaho Scholastic Chess Champion.

Why was this new format tried?

One of the complaints about the Idaho Scholastic Championship over the past 37 years has been that often times the winners complain they had too little opposition to win the title and maybe only one game hard fought (if even that). This was because there were in some cases literally hundreds of players in a big super tournament and the best players only had to play each other in the final round(s), if even then. Different things have been tried over the history of the tournament, including having a US Chess-rated championship section which did help, but for the most part this particular problem has been largely left unresolved... until now.

This year, Adam Porth and Alise Pemsler have really taken Idaho Scholastics in a new and innovative direction, redesigning everything to do with Idaho Scholastic basically from the ground up.

How a player qualifies to play in the Idaho Scholastic K-8 Championship as well as the Idaho Scholastic 9-12 Championship has expanded and improved participation and/or opportunities for players to improve and play more, and for less out-of-pocket money from the players/parents. Regional events around the state make it easier for players to be part of the program, plus participation in normal open events with adult players, such as the Idaho Closed State Championship, as an alternate way to qualify. Additionally, the new Idaho Scholastic Teams Championship event adds *that* (teams) level to the mix, plus the Idaho Scholastic Girls Championship has been brought back as well. Idaho



*The players at the 2017 Idaho Scholastic Champion of Champions tournament.
L-R: Forrest Zeng, Dylan Porth, Kevin Xu, Bryan Li, Seth Machakos. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.*

Scholastic Chess has definitely seen some new things this year!

This new Idaho Scholastic Champion of Champions round robin event makes it possible for a much harder-fought event to choose out of basically the top six scholastic players in Idaho for the ultimate honor of Idaho Scholastic Champion, and it's no cakewalk. They have to play the best of the best to earn the title.

This year the fact that one player could not play, left a five-player (odd number) round robin event instead of six so that in each round, one player had a full-point bye. A rated game for the player who had the bye was played in each round against three very experienced Idaho chess players, Alex Machin, Adam Porth, and Jeffrey Roland. These extra rated games (that did not count in the tournament score) were played alongside the main tournament games on board three, had the same time controls and conditions as the tournament games, and were taken just as seriously as the main tournament games.

**Bryan Li (1564) –
Forrest Zeng (1115) [B92]**
Idaho Scholastic
Champion of Champions
Boise, ID (R2), May 27, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Be3 Be7
9.0-0 0-0 10.Qd2



Position after 10.Qd2

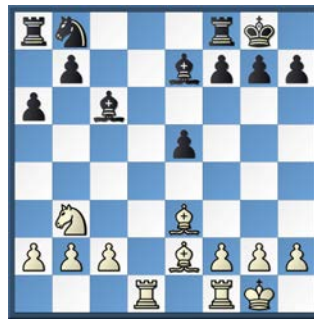
10...d5?!

There's no need to rush into this liquidating central advance. 10...Nbd7 planning ...Rc8 and routing the knight to c4, if circumstances warrant, is fine for Black. The apparently backward d-pawn isn't a real weakness here, and the d5-outpost point is well-covered.

11.exd5 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 Qxd5 13.Qxd5 Bxd5 14.Rad1 Bc6?!

It's a little better to retreat to e6, though Black can still be forced to part with the bishop-pair through Nc5.

14...Be6 15.Bf3 Nc6 16.Nc5 Bxc5 17.Bxc5 Rfd8± White should keep a small but persistent edge.



Position after 14...Bc6

15.a3

15.Na5! The first of several opportunities to play this move, with the plan of removing the light-square bishop and exploiting the d-file. 15...Be4 16.f3!? (16.Bd3 Bxd3 17.Rxd3 b5 18.Rfd1 also looks good.) 16...Bxc2 17.Rc1 Bf5 18.Nxb7 Nd7 19.Rc7 Rfc8 20.Rfc1 Rxc7 21.Rxc7 Be6 22.Kf2 looks better for White.

15...Nd7 16.h3

16.Na5

16...Rad8

16...Bd8!?! nullifies the annoying Na5 idea, at least.

17.Rd2

17.Na5

17...Bf6

17...Nf6∞

18.Rfd1 e4 19.Nd4 Ne5 20.Nxc6 Nxc6 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.Rxd8+ Nxd8 23.b3

23.c3±

23...Ne6 24.Kh2

24.Bc4!? Nd4 25.Bd5 Nxc2 26.Bxb7 Nxe3 27.fxe3 White will win a pawn, but at the cost of entering an opposite bishop ending, and a draw is likely.

24...Bd4

24...Nd4 25.Bd1 Be5+ 26.g3 f5 Black is fine.



Position after 24...Bd4

25.Bxd4?

25.Bg4 is probably still a plus. Black doesn't really want to exchange on e3, but White's threat to e6 could be real.

25...Nxd4 26.Bd1 f5 27.Kg3 Kf7?!

27...g5 is obvious and strong.

28.Kf4 Kf6 29.a4 g5+ 30.Ke3 Ne6?

30...Ke5 — ditto the comment to 27...g5 above.



Position after 30...Ne6

31.Ke2?

31.g4! Black's job is to support and smoothly advance the pawn mass; White's job is to break it up and pick it apart.

31...f4

31...Ke5 is a solid centralization.

32.g3 f3+?

Helping White to blockade the pawn mass. 32...Ke5 is again natural and strong.

33.Ke3 Ke5 34.c3 h5??

34...Nc7 should be a draw: 35.c4 Ne8 36.Bc2 Nd6 37.g4 b6



Position after 34...h5

35.g4??

Losing. But 35.Bc2 wins!

35...hgx4 36.hgx4 Nf4 37.Bc2 Nd5+ 38.Kd2 Nf6 39.Ke1 Nfg4 40.Kf1 e3 41.fxe3 Nxe3+ 42.Kf2 Nxc2 43.Kxf3 Kf5 44.Kg2 Kg4 45.Kg1 Kg3 46.Kh1 Kf2 47.Kh2 g4 48.Kh1 g3 49.b4 g2+ 50.Kh2 g1Q+ 51.Kh3 Qg3# 0-1

**Seth Daniel Machakos (1279) –
Kevin Xu (1664) [B01]**
Idaho Scholastic
Champion of Champions
Boise, ID (R2), May 27, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 c6 6.h3 Bf5 7.Be3 e6 8.g4 Bg6 9.Ne5

[Diagram top of next page]



Position after 9.Ne5

9...Be7

9...Nbd7 is more challenging. Black doesn't yet know where the bishop belongs, but the development of the knight is clear and immediately useful.

10.Qd2

10.h4!?

10...Ne4 11.Nxe4 Bxe4 12.Rg1 Qd8 13.f3 Bg6 14.Nxg6 hxg6 15.0-0 Nd7 16.Kb1 Nb6



Position after 16...Nb6

17.f4 Nd5 18.f5! Nxe3 19.Qxe3 exf5 20.gxf5 gxf5 21.Rxg7 Kf8 22.Rg2 c5??

Black's sense of danger deserts him. He should put one of his diagonal-movers to cover e5, e.g. 22...Bd6 23.d5 Qf6 24.dxc6 bxc6 25.Bc4 and while Black is certainly uncomfortable, he is at least still breathing.

23.Qe5



Position after 23.Qe5

White forks f5, h8, and g7.

23...Rg8?

23...Bf6 is only a small improvement. 24.Qxc5+ Qe7 25.Qxf5 Bxd4?! 26.c3 and all of White's pieces are about to target

f7.; 23...Rh5?? 24.Qg7+ Ke8 25.Bb5+

24.Rxg8+ Kxg8 25.Bb5

25.Bc4 is more to the point.

25...Bf6 26.Rg1+ Kh8

26...Kf8 27.Qxc5+ Be7 28.Qxf5 Qxd4 29.Rf1 Qg7 30.Bc4 f6

27.Qxf5 Bg7 28.Qh5+ Kg8 29.Bc4 Qe7

29...Qf6 30.Rf1

30.Qg4

30.Qg6! Qf8 31.Rf1

30...Qf6 31.Rf1 Qe7 32.Bxf7+ Kf8

32...Qxf7 33.Rxf7 Kxf7 extends the game a few moves.

33.Be6+

33.Qg6

33...Ke8 34.Qg6+ Kd8 35.Rf7 Qh4 36.Rd7+

A single-minded pursuit of open lines leading to the black king.

1-0

Jeffrey T. Roland (1763) –
Dylan Porth (1173) [D50]

Scholastic Ch of Ch Extra Rated Game
Boise, ID (R2), May 27, 2017
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Bb4 5.e3 c5 6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 Nbd7 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Nf3

9.Bd3

9...Qa5 10.Qb3 Ne4 11.Rc1 0-0 12.Be2 Nb6 13.0-0 Bg4



Position after 13...Bg4

14.h3??

White apparently overlooks the threat completely. 14.Be7 c4!?

14...Bxf3 15.Bxf3 Nd2??

15...c4 16.Qb4 Qxb4 17.axb4 Nxg5 wins. The piece is worth more than the exchange, especially when the exchange is opposed by a bishop-pair.

16.Qc2 Nxf1 17.Rxf1 Qxa3 18.Be7 Rfc8 19.Bxc5 Qa4

19...Rxc5 20.dxc5 Qxc5

20.Qf5 Qd7 21.Qf4 Rc6 22.Ra1 Rf6

23.Qh2 Na4 24.Bb4



Position after 24.Bb4

24...Rc8?

24...a5 25.Bxa5 Nb6; or 24...b6 25.Qe5 Rxf3 26.gxf3 a5 27.Qe7 Qxe7 28.Bxe7 Nxc3, both with a very clear advantage to Black.

25.Bg4 Qc6??

25...Re6 gives back much less material, and leaves things about equal.

26.Bxc8 Qxc8 27.Rxa4 a6 28.Qe5 Rf5 29.Qd6 h6 30.Ra5 Qe6 31.Qb8+ Kh7 32.Qxb7 Rf6 33.Qxd5 Qxd5 34.Rxd5 Kg6 35.Rd6 Rxd6 36.Bxd6 Kf6 37.Bb4 Ke6 38.Kf1 Kd5 39.Ke2 Kc4 40.Kd2 Kb5 41.Bf8 a5 42.Kc2 Kc4 43.Bxg7 h5 44.e4 a4 45.Bf8 Kb5 46.Kd3 Kc6 47.Kc4 Kb6 48.Kb4 a3 49.Kxa3 Kc6 50.Kb4 Kd7 51.c4 Ke8 52.Bh6 h4 53.Kb5 Kd7 54.Kb6 Kc8 55.c5 f6 56.d5 f5 57.exf5 Kd7 58.c6+ Kc8 59.d6 Kd8 60.Bg5+ Kc8 61.d7+ Kb8 62.d8Q# 1-0



2017 Idaho Scholastic Chess Champion
Seth Machakos.

Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

Minda Chen at Chicago All-Girls National Championships

By Zhou Chen

Chicago, IL — April 7-9, 20170

In this year's Chicago All-Girls National Championships, Minda Chen beat the odds and won the U14 section.

This is the second championship win in Chicago for Minda. Last year she was the winner of the U12 section.

It is very rare for one person to win twice at this event.

Minda went to Chicago this year without much expectation due to an ongoing cold. After a draw at the 5th round, her chance for another win seemed very slim. However, she went on to defeat a higher rated player at the final round and claimed the championship.



Minda Chen received U14 Championship trophy. Photo credit: Zhou Chen.

Susan Polgar National Open

By Monica Olaru

Livermore, CA — May 6-7, 2017

Another chess news from Susan Polgar National Open that took place on 6-7 May 2017 in Livermore, CA: Anne-Marie Velea won 1st place at girls under 14, Stephanie Velea won 1st place at girls



L-R: WCM Sophie Velea, Anne-Marie Velea, GM Susan Polgar, Stephanie Velea.
Photo credit: Monica Olaru.

under 12 and Sophie Velea tied for 2nd at girls under 10. These players are from WA state.

Spokane Chess Club Elections

By Kevin Korsmo

Spokane, WA — May 18, 2017

The Spokane Chess Club held its annual election of officers tonight. The new officers, effective immediately, for the 2017-2018 club year are:

President — Michael Cambareri

Vice President — John Frostad

Secretary — Ted Baker

Treasurer — Kevin Korsmo

In other news, Dave Griffin is retiring in August from all chess activities due to health concerns. Also, the club's new meeting room (club meetings remain Thursdays from 7-11) is Jepson Center room 127 on the Gonzaga University Campus. It is just around the corner from our previous location.

May 2017 PCC Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — May 20, 2017

Most states have chosen a species of flora or fauna as official state symbols—few, if any, have chosen a state color. But that is what Oregon decided to do this year; and after careful consideration and

extensive observation, they chose the color GRAY.

Whomever was responsible for this uplifting choice, from a virtually unlimited palette of colors, probably did not first confer with the state's tourist bureau, that immediately tweeted back—"WHAT THE...?"

And certainly one can sympathize with their surprise and displeasure, given that they are responsible for trying to entice hoards of profoundly overworked city dwellers to come and partake of the glories of Oregon's summer landscapes. "When You Think Of Gray, Think Of Oregon," somehow seems a somewhat less enticing state motto.

What does all of this have to do with an article about the Portland Chess Club's monthly, Game 60? Very little. But it does allow me to neatly segue into saying that, on one of the few days this year that have not contained the word GRAY in the forecast, 24 players chose to give up the rare appearance of a day of sunshine, for indoor recreation—chess people definitely know what they like.

I'll just mention here that Jerrold Richards (a man, much like myself, that fights for every rating point as if his life depended on it, and loves attending Game 60) was this day absent from the lineup, as he and the famous Morgan The Dog were off in Port Townsend for the annual Rhody Run, where they hoped to get in some exercise before heading off for the upcoming Washington Open—Morgan sending his apologies for not being there to greet all of his fans.



(L) Patrick Morrissey vs Ian Fudalla. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Since the magic number of 30 players was not reached, this Game 60 remained a one-section event, officiated by the very capable team of Chief TD Lennart Bjorksten and Chief Assistant TD Danny Phipps.

Leading the list of indoor habitués was NM Jason Cigan (2217-2220—4.0/4), whose perfect score earned him

\$72 (real money this time, as players were getting frustrated having to exchange freshly tanned beaver and muskrat pelts, and also semiprecious and scrap metals for spendable cash), and the distinction of winning the last three Game 60s.

Jack Woo McClain (1713-1774—3.5/4) placed second, managing three wins and a draw—one of those wins being



Chief Assistant TD Danny Phipps (L) at the registration desk. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Chief TD Lennart Bjorksten doing the pairings. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

against the formidable Michael Goffe (1934-1895—2.0/4), whom we have not seen in quite a while due to his immersion in the world of competitive bridge. And for McClain, coming in second meant going home with \$48, and also a gain of some 60 rating points—enough to push this tough young competitor to his all-time high rating.

Third place ended in a three-way tie, with David Murray (1837-1850—3.0/4), Chris Burris (1757-1757—3.0/4) and Zoey Tang (1520-1590—3.0/4) all finishing with three wins—Murray's and Tang's only loss being to Jason Cigan, while Burris dropped a game to Jack Woo McClain.

Splitting the third place and U1800 prize money amounted to \$26 for each of them, with Zoey Tang getting a bonus of a 70 point boost in her rating—a new peak for this fast rising young lady.

The final prize money, amounting to \$42, went to Jon Strohhenn (1450-1457—2.5/4) for winning the U1500.

My own performance—Brian “I’m Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1529-1524—2.0/4)—during this day-long meeting of the minds, left a great deal to be desired—especially the desire to keep my queen on the board during a hard fought round four endgame with Chris Burris, when I was suddenly struck with chess blindness, and left my lady hanging while I was merrily pursuing other plans—seeing the opportunity, he shrugged, then took her, thereby dashing any hope of my being in the money, or gaining back any precious rating points.

Although not prize winners, notable gains in rating were achieved by Patrick Morrissey (887-938—1.0/4), Arlo Maslen (881-931—1.0/4) and Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet (998-1040—1.5/4).

May 2017 PCC Quad 45

By Micah Smith

Portland, OR — May 13, 2017

The May edition of the PCC Quad 45 and Game in 60 were both a week earlier than usual due to the Washington Open. The Quad 45 took place on May 13 in Portland. I ran the tournament as usual and was assisted at registration by Michael Hasuike, who also played in the event. It got a good turnout of twenty-six players. This included sixteen scholastic players which is an excellent turnout, especially considering the OSCF State Championship in Seaside was the week before and twelve of those players played in the OSCF State Championship.

Notably absent from the event was Brian Berger who had to miss playing in and reporting on the event for this magazine due to having the flu. Except for blitz, Brian has played in almost every PCC event around the last four years and had played in the Quad 45 for thirty straight months from November 2014 to April 2017!

The tournament was split into five quads and a six-player Swiss. The Swiss was made up of the bottom six players to try and avoid some family members from having to play against each other.

NM Jason Cigan (2209-2217—3.0/3), won the top quad for the second straight month with a perfect 3.0/3 and won a book. Jason has now won the top section of the last four PCC tournaments!

Will Holloran (1732-1748), won Quad 2 with 2.5/3. He declined to take a book.

Michael Hasuike (1504-1521), won Quad 3 with 2.0/3. He declined to take a book.

Ian Fudalla (1391-1420), won Quad 4 with 2.5/3 and gained 29 rating points. He also declined to take a book.

Havish Sripada (803P-987P), who became the Primary (K-2) State

Champion for the second straight year (he tied for first last year) by winning the top Primary section at the OSCF State Championship, won Quad 5 with 2.5/3. He added 184 points to his provisional rating and won a book and a small trophy as a scholastic player who won his section with 2.5 points.

Arlo Maslen (799-874), won the Swiss with a perfect 3.0/3, gaining 75 rating points and winning a book and a trophy as a scholastic player who won his section with three points. Father and son Chad Lykins (Unrated-768P) and Pace Lykins (588P-648P), tied for second-third in the Swiss with 2.0/3. Chad was playing in his first US Chess rated tournament while Pace added 60 points to his provisional rating.

Miscellaneous Game

Seattle Masters 8

The following game was submitted by Curt Collyer.

**Curt Collyer (2305) –
Nick Raptis (2419) [B07]**
Seattle Masters 8
Seattle, WA (R1), June 3, 2017
[Curt Collyer]

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Bg5 Nf6
5.f4 0-0 6.Qd2 c6 7.Nf3 d5 8.e5 Ne4
9.Nxe4 dxe4 10.Ng1 Be6 11.0-0-0 f6
12.Bh4 Nd7 13.Nh3 b5 14.Nf2 f5 15.g4
Nb6 16.gxf5 gxf5 17.Bh3 Qd5 18.b3 Rf7
19.Rhg1 a5 20.Nxe4



Position after 20.Nxe4

20...fxe4
20...Qxe4 21.Bg2
21.f5 Bxf5 22.Bxf5
Rxf5 23.Qh6 Qf7
24.Qxc6 Rb8 25.Qc7
Qf8 26.Rxg7+
Kxg7 27.Bxe7 Qc8
28.Bf6+ 1-0

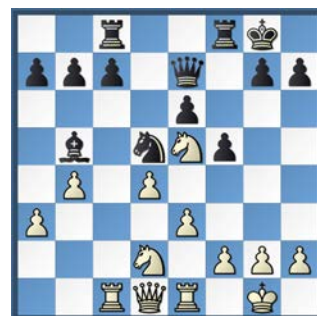
Aaron Grabinsky achieves second IM Norm at Chicago Open

Aaron Grabinsky reports that he has achieved his second IM norm with a round to spare by finishing with 5.5/9 at the Chicago Open held May 25-29, 2017, beating two GMs in the process. He plans to go to the World Open in Philadelphia (June 29-July 4) to try for the third and final norm... He gives us all nine games from the Chicago Open, complete with light yet frank notes for the readers of *Northwest Chess* to enjoy!

**Aaron Grabinsky (2406) –
Ravi Khanna (2176) [A45]**
Chicago Open Chicago, IL
(R1), May 25, 2017
[Aaron Grabinsky]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.e3 Nc6
Strange.

4.Nf3 Nh5 5.Bg5 Be7 6.Bxe7 Qxe7
7.Nbd2 f5 8.c4 Nf6 9.Rc1 d5 10.cxd5
Nxd5 11.Bb5 Bd7 12.0-0 0-0 13.a3 Ne5
14.Nxe5 Bxb5 15.Re1 Rac8 16.b4



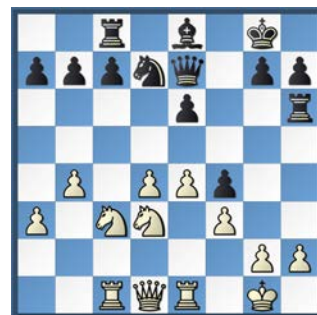
Position after 16.b4

Simply stopping Black's one active idea.

16...Rf6 17.Nb1 f4?!

Positionally, this is awful.

18.e4 Nb6 19.Nc3 Be8 20.f3 Nd7 21.Nd3
Rh6



Position after 21...Rh6

Sacrificing a pawn for little to no compensation, but the position was very



bad in either case.

22.Nxf4 Qh4 23.Nh3 Bh5 24.Rf1 Rf8
25.Qe2 Rhf6 26.Qf2 Qxf2+ 27.Nxf2 c6
28.Na4??



Position after 28.Na4

Blowing my whole advantage! Nd3 was much better...

28...Rg6

Oops! Kh1 runs into ...Rxf3! I missed that small detail... :)

29.Nh1 Bxf3 30.Ng3 Bg4 31.Rxf8+ Kxf8 32.Nc5 Nxc5 33.bxc5 h5 34.Rf1+ Ke8 35.e5 h4?!

This ending is still very pleasant for White, but ...b6! for Black seemed more challenging to me during the game.

36.Ne4 Bf5 37.Nd6+ Ke7 38.Rf4 h3 39.g3 b5 40.cxb6 axb6 41.Nc8+ Kd8 42.Nxb6

Now I've again won a pawn and this time I don't blunder it back!

42...Rh6 43.Na4 g5 44.Rf2 Rh7 45.Nc5

What a gorgeous knight!

45...Ra7 46.a4 Kc8 47.Rb2 Bg4 48.Ra2 Bf3 49.a5 Bd5 50.Ra1 Bc4 51.a6 Kb8 52.Rb1+ Bb5 53.Rb2 g4 54.Rf2 Re7



Position after 54...Re7

55.Rf6?!

This is still just winning, but I missed the fairly simple shot d5!

55...Bc4 56.Kf2 Ka7 57.Ke3 Bxa6 58.Rxe6 Rf7 59.Rf6 Rg7 60.Nxa6 Kxa6 61.Rxc6+-

No need for further comments...

61...Kb5 62.d5 Ra7 63.Rc2 Ra1 64.d6 Re1+ 65.Kf4 Rg1 66.d7 Rg2 67.Rc1 1-0

Alexander Shabalov (2660) –
Aaron Grabinsky (2406) [B41]
Chicago Open Chicago, IL
(R2), May 26, 2017
[Aaron Grabinsky]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.Nc3 e6 4.d4 cxd4
5.Nxd4 a6 6.e4 d6 7.Be2 b6 8.Be3

On Bf3, I was planning on ...Ra7 and only then Bb7.

8...Bb7 9.f3



Position after 9.f3

9...Be7?!

The coming check is annoying. Better is probably to play ...Nbd7 and play the position with the a4-a5 plan...

10.Qa4+! Nfd7

10...Nbd7 11.Nc6±; 10...Qd7 11.Qb3 and Na4 comes.

11.0-0 0-0 12.Rfd1 Qc7 13.Rac1 Nc6 14.Nxc6

14.Nd5? exd5 15.cxd5 Nc5!±

14...Bxc6



Position after 14...Bxc6

As a result of Qa4+, White has traded a pair of minors, favoring him of course...

15.Qc2 Bb7 16.Bf1 Rac8 17.Qf2

This is already unpleasant for Black who has no real active plan. I soon cracked under the pressure...

17...Ba8 18.b4 Rb8 19.a4 Rfd8 20.Qa2 Bb7?

And the game is pretty much over. I kept fighting, but my position from here on out is just horrible. 20...Rdc8= is much better, but still slightly awkward.

21.Nd5!+-

duh...



Position after 21.Nd5

21...exd5 22.cxd5 Nc5 23.a5 Qd7

23...b5? 24.e5!+-

24.bxc5 bxc5 25.Rb1 Ra8 26.Rb6 Ra7 27.Bf4 h6 28.Bc4 Rda8 29.Bb3 Rf8 30.Ba4 Qd8 31.e5 Bg5

Lashing out, but to no avail.

32.Bxg5 Qxg5 33.exd6 Qe3+ 34.Qf2 Qa3 35.Qc2 Qe3+ 36.Kf1 Bc8 37.Bc6 Qa3 38.Qa4 Qxa4

Otherwise d7, but I could already probably resign.

39.Bxa4 Bf5 40.Kf2 c4 41.g4 Bd3 42.d7 f5 43.Ke3 Raa8 44.Re6 fxe4 45.fxe4 h5 46.h3 hxe4 47.hxe4 Bh7 48.Kd4 Bd3 49.Re8 Bg6 50.Rde1 1-0

Aaron Grabinsky (2406) –
Arjun Vishnuvardhan (2240) [A80]
Chicago Open Chicago, IL
(R3), May 26, 2017
[Aaron Grabinsky]

1.d4 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bf4 e6 4.e3 b6 5.Bd3 Bb7 6.Nbd2 Bd6!?



Position after 6...Bd6

Slightly unusual, but not that bad I guess.

7.Qe2 Ne4 8.0-0-0 Qf6 9.h4 Bxf4 10.exf4 Nxd2 11.Rxd2 0-0 12.Qe3 Rc8 13.Bc4 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 c6

A sad move, but Black has already clearly misplayed his cards... :)

15.d5! exd5 16.Rxd5 Kh8 17.Re5 d6 18.Re6 Qf8 19.Rhe1

The way I managed to destroy my beautiful position from this point on is just embarrassing.

19...Nd7 20.Ba6? Rcb8 21.Bd3 Nc5

22.R6e2 d5 23.Re5 Ne4 24.g3?



Position after 24.g3

I still don't get this move.

24...Re8 25.Qe3 Kg8 26.c3 g6 27.Qd4 Qc5 28.Re2 Qxd4 29.cxd4 Kf7

And here, I was kind of depressed after having what I did out of the opening...

30.Ba6? Rxe5 31.dxe5??



Position after 31.dxe5

Yeah, don't ask...

31...c5??

31...Nc5!+- and I have to resign immediately.

32.Kc2 Ke6 33.Kd3 Rd8 34.Ke3 Kd7

And Black is clearly better here. For some reason, my opponent flagged which was quite nice, to say the least! This extremely fortunate escape started my run in the coming rounds...

1-0

Balaji Daggupati (2240) – Aaron Grabinsky (2406) [C10] Chicago Open Chicago, IL (R4), May 27, 2017 [Aaron Grabinsky]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nc6!?

A good practical choice against a young, inexperienced opponent.

4.e5 Nge7 5.Nf3 Nf5 6.h4 h5 7.Bg5 Be7 8.Qd2 b6 9.0-0-0 Qd7 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Qg5?! Bd7

I was pretty sure I could outplay him in the endgame, should it arise...

12.Qf4

Lol



Position after 12.Qf4

12...0-0-0 13.Kb1 Kb7 14.Qd2 f6

Starting to put some pressure on my opponent.

15.Bb5 Nb8!

I love playing moves like this... I don't think this kid knew that people could play chess like this yet! :)

16.Bd3 Nh6!

Another slick move.



Position after 16...Nh6

17.exf6

And he cracks! I get what I want now. Better was Rhe1 I think, holding the e5 point.

17...gxf6 18.Rhe1 Qg7 19.g3 Ng4 20.Bf1 Bc8 21.Ng1 c6 22.Nh3 e5

What a beautiful metamorphosis of my position!



Position after 22...e5

23.dxe5 fxe5 24.f3 Nh6 25.Qg5!

I kind of missed this move...

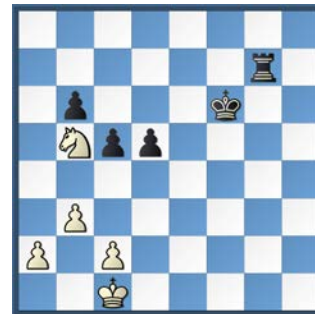
25...Qxg5 26.hxg5 Nf5 27.Rxe5 Nxb3 28.Bg2 Nf5 29.Rh1 Rhg8 30.f4 Rdf8 31.Rhe1 Bd7 32.Ng1 Nh4 33.Bh3 Ng6 34.Bxd7 Nxe5?

34...Nxd7-+ is easier.

35.Be6 Nf7 36.Nh3 Rg7 37.Rg1 Nd8 38.f5 Nxe6 39.fxe6 Rg6 40.e7 Re8 41.Ne2 Rxe7 42.Nef4 Rg8 43.Nxh5 Re3 44.N5f4 Nd7 45.Kc1 Ne5 46.b3 Kc8 47.Rg2 Kd7 48.Nh5 Rh8?

48...Ke6!±

49.N3f4 Ke7 50.g6 Re4 51.g7 Rg8 52.Ne2 Rg4 53.Rxg4 Nxg4 54.Nd4 c5 55.Nc6+ Ke6 56.Nxa7 Nf6 57.Nxf6 Kxf6 58.Nb5 Rgx7



Position after 58...Rgx7

And now it's just technique...

59.Nc3 Ke5 60.a4 Rg2 61.Nb5 Ke4 62.Nc3+ Kd4 63.Nb5+ Ke3 64.Nc7 Rg5 65.Na8 Kd4 66.Kb2 c4! 67.bxc4 dxc4 68.Nxb6 Rg1 69.c3+ Kd3 70.a5 Rg5 71.Nc8 Rxa5 72.Nd6 Rd5 73.Nf7 Rb5+ 74.Kc1 Kxc3 75.Nd6 Re5 76.Kb1 Kb3 77.Kc1 c3

This 12-year old was tough!

0-1

Aaron Grabinsky (2406) – Eylon Nakar (2584) [D02] Chicago Open Chicago, IL (R5), May 27, 2017 [Aaron Grabinsky]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.e3 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nd2 e6 6.Ngf3 Bd6 7.Bg3 0-0 8.Bd3 b6 9.Qe2 Bb7 10.Rd1 h6 11.Bxd6 Qxd6 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Rfd8 15.0-0 Qe7 16.dxc5 Qxc5 17.Rfe1 Qe7 18.h3 Rac8 19.Rxd8+ Rxd8 20.Rd1 Kf8 21.Rxd8+ Qxd8 22.Qd2



Position after 22.Qd2

It might be easier to just keep the queens on the board...

22...Qxd2 23.Nxd2 Ke7 24.f4 g5 25.g3

f5 26.Bxc6 Bxc6 27.Kf2 e5 28.Ke3?

28.fxe5 Ke6 29.Nf3= is much better.

28...exf4+ 29.gxf4 Bg2

Now I create a really cool fortress. :) 29... Ke6!±

30.h4 gxh4±

It's really equal, the computer doesn't understand.

31.Kf2 Bd5 32.a3



Position after 32.a3

Now all I have to do is... Nothing!

32...Kd6 33.Kg1 h3 34.Kh2 Bg2 35.Kg3 Kc5 36.Kh2 Kb5 37.Kg3 Ka4 38.Kh2 Kb5 39.Kg3 Ka5 40.Kh2 Ka4 41.Kg3 b5 42.Kh2 a6 43.Kg3 a5 44.Kh2 b4 45.axb4 axb4 46.Kg3 bxc3 47.bxc3 Kb5 48.Kh2 Kc5 49.Kg3 Kd5 50.Kh2 Kc5 51.Kg3 Kd5 52.Kh2 Ke6 53.Kg3 Kd5 1/2-1/2

Akshat Chandra (2580) – Aaron Grabinsky (2406) [E11] Chicago Open Chicago, IL (R6), May 28, 2017 [Aaron Grabinsky]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.g3 Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2 Nc6 7.b3 d5 8.Bg2 Qb4?

8...0-0 9.0-0 b6=

9.0-0± Qxd2 10.Nbxd2 0-0 11.e3

As a result of my misguided queen trade on move eight, White just has a pleasant plus here.



Position after 11.e3

11...Rd8 12.Rfc1 Bd7 13.Ne5 Be8 14.Nd3 Rab8 15.Rc2 Ne7 16.cxd5 Nxd5 17.Rac1 c6 18.h3 h6 19.Kf1 Kf8

20.Ke2 Ne7 21.g4 g5 22.f4 gxf4 23.Nxf4 Ned5 24.Nd3 Ne7 25.Rf1 Kg7 26.Rcc1 Ng6 27.Rf2 Rbc8 28.Rcf1 Nd5 29.Rc1 Nf6 30.Nc4 Rc7 31.a4 Nd5 32.a5 Nde7 33.Nc5 Nd5 34.Nd3 Nde7 35.Bh1 Nd5 36.Rff1 Nf6 37.Rfd1 Nh7 38.Nce5 Nxe5 39.Nxe5 f6 40.Nd3 Nf8 41.Nc5 a6 42.h4 Kf7 43.Rf1 Ke7 44.g5 hxg5 45.hxg5 f5 46.Bf3 Nd7 47.Rh1 Bf7 48.Rh7+-

After the last 40 moves of pure suffering, I have, quite understandably, arrived at a lost position...

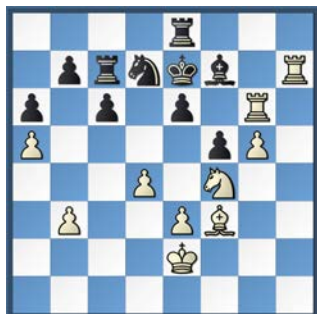


Position after 48.Rh7

48...Kf8 49.Nd3?

49.g6! Bg8 50.Rg1 would have ended it pretty quickly.

49...Bg8 50.Rh6 Kg7 51.Nf4 Re8 52.Rg6+ Kf8 53.Rh1 Bf7 54.Rh8+ Ke7 55.Rh7??



Position after 55.Rh7

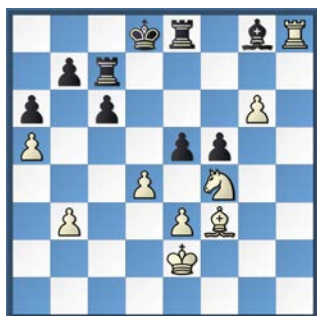
In severe time trouble, my opponent blunders! How nice...

55...Nf8= 56.Rgg7 Nxh7 57.Rxh7

And now he loses everything. 57.g6= was essential.

57...Kd8 58.g6 Bg8 59.Rh8? e5!+-

What a turnaround!



Position after 59...e5

60.dxe5 Bc4+?

60...Bxb3+ was much better. 61.Rxe8+ (61.Rh5 Rxe5) 61...Kxe8 62.Kd3 Rd7+ 63.Kc3 Bg8 and Black should win easily.

61.bxc4 Rxh8 62.Ne6+ Kc8 63.Nxc7 Kxc7± 64.e4 fxe4 65.Bxe4 Rh5?

65...Rf8 was much better.

66.Kf3= Rxe5 67.Kf4 Re7 68.c5 Kd8 69.Kf5??



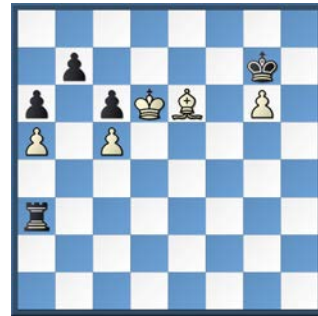
Position after 69.Kf5

The final mistake! 69.Bf5 and the computer says equal, but with a few seconds left on the clock, I doubt he'd hold, even here. By the way, Bf5 was his only move to be "equal". :)

69...Ke8 70.Bd3 Re3 71.Bc4 Kf8 72.Kf6 Rf3+ 73.Ke5 Kg7 74.Kd6 Ra3??

74...Kxg6 75.Kc7 Rc3+ was pretty obvious...

75.Be6??



Position after 75.Be6

75.Kc7! Rxa5 76.Kxb7 Rxc5 77.Bxa6± and White just might hold this. Ra3... How embarrassing!

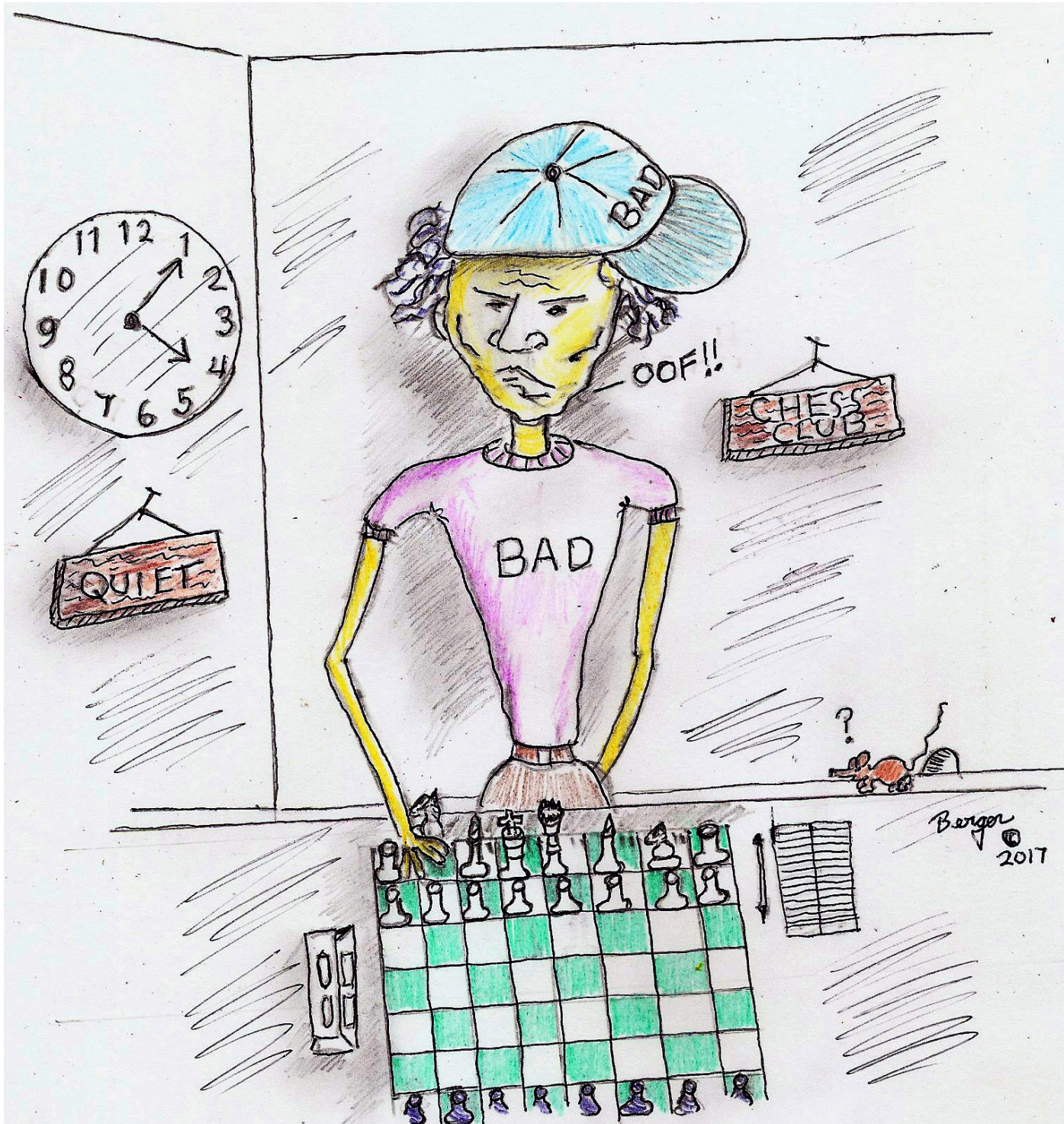
75...Rxa5 76.Bf5 Rb5 77.Bd3 Rb3 78.Bc4 Rb4 79.Bf7 a5 80.Kc7 a4 81.Kd6 a3 82.Kc7 Rb2 83.Kc8 b6 84.cxb6 Rxb6

A far from perfect game!

0-1

Aaron Grabinsky (2406) – Vladimir Belous (2658) [A48] Chicago Open Chicago, IL (R7), May 28, 2017 [Aaron Grabinsky]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.e3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.Be2 c5 6.c3 b6 7.Nbd2 Bb7 8.0-0 d6



DUE TO HIS LACK OF MUSCLE-TONE, GERALD COULD NOT PLAY WITH TRIPLE-WEIGHTED PIECES.

9.h3 Nbd7 10.a4 a6 11.Bh2 Qc7 12.Bd3 cxd4



Position after 12...cxd4

12...e5 the main move I'd looked at. 13.e4 Nh5 14.Re1 Nf4 15.Bf1± was the end of my preparation for this game.

13.cxd4

Now White is quite comfortable.

13...Nd5 14.Rc1 Qb8 15.Qb3 a5 16.Bb5 Qd8 17.Bc6 Bxc6 18.Rxc6 Nb4 19.Rcc1 Nf6 20.Nb1 Qd7 21.Na3 Rac8 22.Nd2 Rc6 23.Rxc6 Qxc6 24.Nb5

Preventing the occupation of the c-file...

24...Ne4 25.Nxe4 Qxe4 26.Rc1 Nd3?

After a fairly dry, equal game for pretty much the whole way, my opponent errors! Unfortunately, I didn't maximize my chances... :(26...Qf5=



Position after 26...Nd3

27.Rd1?

27.Qc2!± this is very strong! 27...h5 28.Rd1 Nc5 29.Qxe4 Nxe4 30.Rc1 and White is clearly better.

27...Rc8?!

27...Nb4=

28.Nc3 Qf5 29.Qc2 Nb4 30.Qxf5 gxf5 31.g4 fxg4 32.hxg4±

This isn't too bad either though! After all, a draw would have been just fine with me!

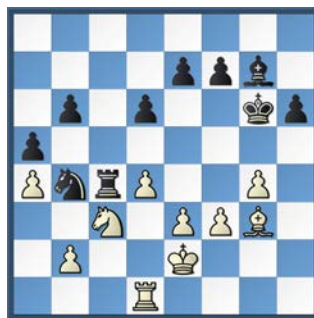
32...Rc4 33.Kf1 Bf6 34.Ke2 h6 35.f3 Kg7 36.Bg3 Rc8 37.Bh2

37.Rh1!±

37...Kg6 38.Bg3 Rh8 39.Rh1 Rc8 40.Rd1

40.Rh5±

40...Bg7 41.Rg1 Rc4 42.Rd1



Position after 42.Rd1

At this point, I was just trying to prevent e5 and draw. Probably not the right mindset...

42...f5 43.Bh2 fxg4 44.fxg4 Bf6 45.Bg3 Rc8 46.Rh1 Bg5 47.Bh4 Rh8 48.Ne4 Bxh4 49.Rxh4 d5 50.Nd2 Rc8 51.Rh5 Rc2 52.b3 Rc6 53.Nf3 Rc2+ 54.Nd2 e6 55.Re5 Rc6 56.Nf3 Na2 57.e4 dxe4 58.Nd2 Kf7 59.Ke3? Nc1?

59...Rc3+± 60.Kxe4 Nb4 61.Nc4 Nd5 62.g5 Rxb3 and I would almost surely lose.

60.Rb5 Na2?

60...Rc3+ 61.Kxe4 Nd3 62.Rxb6 Nf2+=

61.Nc4

And again, I'm better!

61...Kf6 62.Nd2

That "just draw this guy" mindset was killing me. I had no ambitions at this point. 62.Rh5! Kg7 63.Kxe4± of course! I'm so dumb...

62...Nb4 63.Nxe4+ Kg6 64.Re5 Nd5+ 65.Kd2 Kg7 66.Nf2 Nb4



Position after 66...Nb4

67.Nd3??

And here, I finally cracked. What a disgusting way to lose a game. However, my cowardly attitude throughout most of the game was punished I suppose... 67.Ne4= I still don't know why I didn't play this "rational" move. After all, I've been playing these kind of "safe" moves the whole game!

67...Rc2+

No more comment necessary...

68.Kd1 Nxd3 69.Rxe6 Rg2 70.Rxb6 Rxg4 71.Rb5 Rg5 72.d5 Nb4 73.Rxa5

Rxd5+ 74.Rxd5 Nxd5 75.Ke2 Nb4 76.Ke3 h5 77.Ke4 Kg6 78.Kf4 Kf6 79.a5 Kg6 80.Ke4 h4 81.Kf4 Kh5 82.Kf3 Kg5 83.Kf2 Kg4 84.Kg2 h3+ 85.Kh2 Kh4 86.Kh1 Kg3

This one hurt a lot, but fortunately, I was able to recover strongly the next morning with a win against GM Holden Hernandez.

0-1

Aaron Grabinsky (2406) –
Holden Hernandez (2597) [D02]

Chicago Open Chicago, IL
(R8), May 29, 2017

[Aaron Grabinsky]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.e3 c5 4.Nf3 d5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Nbd2 Bd6 7.Bg3 0-0 8.Bd3 b6 9.Qe2 Re8 10.Ne5

The standard reply to prevent e5 by Black.

10...Bxe5 11.dxe5 Nd7 12.f4±



Position after 12.f4

I don't think this idea of exchanging on e5 was the correct treatment by him... It seems White is the more comfortable now.

12...a5 13.c4 Nb4 14.Bb1 a4 15.a3 Nc6 16.0-0 Nf8 17.Bd3 Ba6 18.Ra1 Qc8 19.Bh4?



Position after 19.Bh4

Before this move, I had a strong edge, but not anymore... / 19.Qf3±

19...Ng6= 20.Bg3 Na5 21.e4 dxc4 22.Nxc4 Nxc4 23.Bxc4 Bxc4 24.Qxc4 Qc6 25.Rfd1 Rad8 26.f5 b5

26...exf5 27.exf5 Rxd1+ 28.Rxd1 Nxe5 29.Bxe5 Rxe5 30.Rd8+ Re8 31.Qd5 Qb5 32.Qc4 would have resulted in a quick handshake...

27.Qf1 Nf8 28.f6

Still equal, but tense!

28...Qxe4 29.fxg7 Ng6 30.Qxb5 h5?

30...Nxe5! 31.Re1 Qd4+ 32.Bf2 Qd6 33.Rc3 Ng4=

31.Re1!±



Position after 31.Re1

Even though it's fairly obvious, I'm sure glad I found this move!

31...Qd4+ 32.Bf2 Qg4 33.Qe2?

33.h3! Qg5 34.Rc3!± a nice rook lift that I failed to consider.

33...Qxe2 34.Rxe2 Rd5 35.Rc4 Nxe5 36.Rxc5 Rxc5 37.Bxc5 f6?!±



Position after 37...f6

A definite step in the wrong direction... 37...Nd3 38.Bd4 Rc8=

38.Bd6 Ng6?±

Uh-oh!



Position after 38...Ng6

39.Re4

Only move, and again, glad I found it. :)

39...Kxg7?

Three bad moves in a row by my GM opponent and now, he's just gone too far.

39...Rc8 40.Rxe6 Kxg7± is better.

40.Rxa4+- Rc8 41.Ra7+ Kh6 42.Rc7 Ra8 43.Rc3 Ra6 44.Bc5 e5 45.b4

And he respectfully resigned.

1-0

Daniel Gurevich (2539) – Aaron Grabinsky (2406) [B12]

Chicago Open Chicago, IL

(R9), May 29, 2017

[Aaron Grabinsky]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.h4 h5 5.Bd3 Bxd3 6.Qxd3 e6 7.Bg5 Be7 8.Nf3 Nd7



Position after 8...Nd7

8...Nh6 9.Nc3 c5 is definitely the more active way of playing.

9.Nc3 Nh6 10.Ne2 Qa5+ 11.c3 Qb5 12.Qc2 Nf5 13.Ng3 g6 14.b3 Rc8 15.Nxf5 gxf5 16.c4 Qa5+ 17.Ke2 Rg8 18.Rhe1 Bb4 19.Rec1 Ba3 20.Rd1 Qa6 21.Qd3±



Position after 21.Qd3

And, for not the first time in my life, I've managed to drift into a rather unpleasant position...

21...Be7 22.Kf1 Nb6 23.Rac1 Bxg5 24.Nxg5 Ke7 25.Kg1 Rgd8 26.Qe2



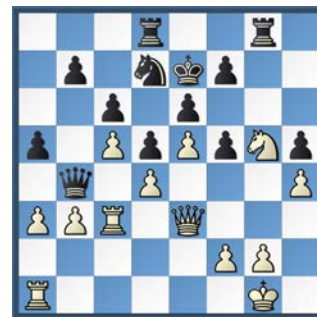
Position after 26.Qe2

26.Qd2+- Rh8 27.a4 the computer says -2, and I guess it has a point, although there's nothing clear. I need to stop playing chess like this!

26...Rh8 27.Rd2 Qa3 28.Rdc2 Qb4 29.Rc3 Rcd8 30.Qe3 Rhg8

30...c5? 31.Nxe6 fxe6 32.Qg5+-

31.c5 Nd7 32.Ra1 a5 33.a3



Position after 33.a3

33.a4? Nxe5!± I had this planned, but of course, this guy's too good for that cheap stuff... :)

33...Qb5 34.Qd2 Rc8 35.Rac1 Rg7 36.Rg3 Reg8 37.Rcc3 Qa6 38.Qd1 Rh8 39.Rcf3 Nf8 40.Qd2 Qa8 41.Ne4 Rxg3 42.Nxg3 Qd8 43.b4 a4 44.Ne2 Ng6 45.g3 Kd7 46.b5 Rg8 47.Kf1 Ke8 48.Nc3 f4 49.bxc6 bxc6 50.Nxa4 fxg3 51.fxg3 Ne7 52.Nc3 Qa5 53.Qb2 Kf8 54.Qb6 Qa8 55.Ne2 Nf5 56.Kf2 Kg7 57.Qb4 Kh7? 58.Rb3

58.Rxf5 exf5 59.Qb1± would have been pretty strong I guess...

58...Rg4 59.Qb8 Qa5 60.Qb4 Qa6??



Position after 60...Qa6

Blowing everything after defending for so long! 60...Qa8!± 61.Qb7 Qg8 62.a4 Qg6 and this isn't easy at all for white! Black has real counterplay and I have a feeling things could easily have gone wrong for my opponent considering he had about two minutes on his clock to finish the game...

61.Qb7+-

Forgot about this move... duh!

61...Qc4 62.Qxf7+ Ng7 63.Rb7 Kh6 64.Rb8 Kh7 65.Qg8+ Kh6 66.Qh8+ Kg6 67.Rf8 1-0

The 2017 Neil Dale Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator

May is gone and with it, the Washington Open. Two hundred seven entries. 5x multiplier. Lots and lots of Grand Prix points, and changes all over the Washington standings, and a few more in Oregon. And through it all, the Washington leader is still Ronald Kirsch. Oregon got a new leader out of the Washington Open, while Idaho had few changes at all, other than a few class changes due to ratings growth.

Of the 207 entries, 104 were playing in their first Grand Prix event of the year, and I had to add 31 to my database, meaning they were brand new or hadn't played a GP event in over three years. Two of those I had to add to the database, Cleve Johnson and Asher Kobin, hadn't played any rated chess since 1996. Welcome back! A third, Daniel Gregson, was back after a 12 year hiatus. (Thanks for the game, Dan.) It's always good to see people rejoin our happy pastime.

Had it not been for this grand event, May would have been a rather uneventful month. One tournament, in Tacoma, had to be canceled, leaving just four others, the regular monthlies at the Seattle and Portland chess clubs. Together, these four events had a total of 106 entries, most of whom were the usual suspects.

June, the month that will be about over by the time you read this, had eight events, led by the double points Emerald City Open in Seattle. In addition to those monthlies mentioned above, there were also the Portland Summer Open, the Evergreen Empire Open in Tacoma and the ICA/ICU Players' Memorial in Mountain Home. These eight events should give us another 200+ entries, and shake up the standings some more.

Looking to July, we have seven more chances to gain GP points, including 2x multipliers in both Portland (Rose City Sectionals) and Seattle (Seafair Open). Then there is the Puget Sound Open in Tacoma the first weekend, and the usual quads, tornado and G/60 at PCC and SCC. Get out there and play. (Especially consider the Tacoma events, as we don't need to have cancellations taking away opportunities for Grand Prix points.) Maybe we can exceed 300 entries in July.

(Plan for a couple of major multiplier events in August, too.)

All data current through June 1.

Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington			
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	
Masters									
			1 Cigan	Jason D	81.5	1 Pupols	Viktors	78.5	
			2 Zavortink	Matt	47	2 Perez	Ignacio	41.5	
			3 Breckenridge	Steven J	35	3 Orlov	Georgi	40	
			4 Gatica	Jose M	34.5	4 Feng	Roland	35	
			5 Haessler	Carl A	32.5	4 Sang	Tian	35	
M/X/Class A									
1	Cambareri	Michael E	32	1 Rachmuth	Moshe S	29.5	1 Bashkansky	Naomi	52.5
2	Havrilla	Mark A	28	2 Roring	Tres	27.5	2 Arganian	David G	47
3	Maki	James J	26	2 McCoy	Owen	27.5	3 Calpo	Benjamin V	45
4	Inman	James	25	4 Seitzer	Phillip	25	4 Zhang	Brendan	40.5
5	Two tied at		20	5 Cosner	Karl	23.5	5 Rupel	David	32.5
Class B									
1	Martonick	Nick	18	1 Zhang	Gavin	38	1 Frantz	Joseph K	70.5
2	Machin	Alex J	10.5	2 Vega	Isaac	29	2 Xuan	Owen	69.5
3	Xu	Kevin	9	3 Levin	Scott A	25.5	3 Shubin	Daniel	68
4	Amen	Chris	6	4 Patel	Kian	24.5	4 Yu	Jason	64
5	Derryberry	Dewayne R	5.5	5 Wu	Ethan	24	5 Levine	Joseph R	59
Class A									

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
Class C			Class B								
1	Geyman	Jonathan P	25.5	1	Moore	Michael	50.5	1	Kirsch	Ronald B	86
2	Weyland	Ron	25	2	Berger	Brian F	47.5	2	Lewis-Sandy	Joshua M	63.5
3	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	3	Feldman	Konner	46.5	3	Anthony	Ralph J	55.5
4	Courtney	Caleb	14	4	Burris	Christopher E	23.5	4	Yan	Jeffrey O	53
5	Wei	James	10.5	4	Holloran	William T, III	23.5	5	Velea	Anne-Marie	52.5
Class D			Class C								
1	Merry	William A F	20	1	Wu	Abbie	73.5	1	Piper	August	74
2	Machakos	Seth D	6.5	2	Tang	Zoey	67.5	2	Jiang	Brandon	66
3	Call	Logan	5.5	3	Fudalla	Ian	35	3	Richards	Jerrold	61.5
4	Liu	James	5	4	Pai	Kushal	31	4	Christy	John P	58
5	Three tied at		4	5	Hasuike	Mike L	28	5	Tien	Andy C	51.5
Class E and Below			Class D and Below								
1	Callen	Gregory D	17	1	Tang	Austin	59	1	Dunbar	Jason R	50
2	Belew	Finn C	8	2	Wu	Kevin	36.5	2	Li	Melina	48.5
3	Kitterman	Andrew N	7	3	Feldman	Neena	35	3	Ruff	Lois	47
4	Zeng	Forrest	4.5	4	Zhang	Ethan Y	29.5	4	Gupta	Anand	45
5	Seven Tied at		4	5	Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	26	5	Karukayil	Johan	43.5
Overall Leaders, by State											
1	Cambareri	Michael E	32	1	Cigan	Jason D	81.5	1	Kirsch	Ronald B	86
2	Havrilla	Mark A	28	2	Wu	Abbie	73.5	2	Pupols	Viktors	78.5
3	Maki	James J	26	3	Tang	Zoey	67.5	3	Piper	August	74
4	Geyman	Jonathan P	25.5	4	Tang	Austin	59	4	Frantz	Joseph K	70.5
5	Inman	James	25	5	Moore	Michael	50.5	5	Xuan	Owen	69.5
5	Weyland	Ron	25	6	Berger	Brian F	47.5	6	Shubin	Daniel	68
7	Roberts	Joseph D	20	7	Zavortink	Matt	47	7	Jiang	Brandon	66
7	Buus	Jarod N	20	8	Feldman	Konner	46.5	8	Yu	Jason	64
7	Merry	William A F	20	9	Zhang	Gavin	38	8	Lewis-Sandy	Joshua M	63.5
10	Martonick	Nick	18	10	Wu	Kevin	36.5	10	Richards	Jerrold	61.5
11	Callen	Gregory D	17	11	Breckenridge	Steven J	35	11	Levine	Joseph R	59
12	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	11	Fudalla	Ian	35	12	Anand	Vignesh	58.5

Be sure to like 'Northwest Chess'
on Facebook.
Also, check out nwchess.com/blog/

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

July 8 **Seattle Masters #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.

☞ **July 9, Aug 13** **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.

☞ **July 15, Aug 19** **Saturday Quads** ☞
Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** G/120; d5. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7
 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future quad. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45
 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:15-ASAP. **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/OCF/ICA memb.
 req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

How to Find the SCC

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

Seattle Seafair

July 21-23 or July 22-23

A one section, five-round Swiss with time controls of 40/120 & SD/60; d5 [Two-day schedule - Rd. One, G/60; d5]. The prize fund of \$1620 is based on 68 paid en-tries, 6 per prize group.

a Northwest Grand Prix event

First	\$300 gtd.	U1800	\$130
Second	\$195 gtd.	U1600	\$125
Third	\$115 gtd.	U1400	\$120
U2200	\$140	U1200	\$60
U2000	\$135	Unrated	\$45
Best Upset (Rds 1-4)		\$10/rd	
Plus Score Pool		\$215	

Entry Fees: \$44 if received by 7/19, \$55 at site. **GMs, IMs, & WGMs**—FREE. **Unrated**—Free with purchase of 1-yr US Chess & 1-yr WCF. **SCC Members**—subtract \$12. Members of other dues-required CCs in BC, ID, OR, or WA—subtract \$6. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.** You can register online at www.seattlechess.club.

Registration: Fri. 7-7:45 p.m., Sat. 9-9:45 a.m. **Rounds:** Fri. 8, Sat. (10 @ G/60)-12:30-6:45, Sun. 11-5.

Byes: 2 (Sunday rounds, commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess & WCF memb. req'd. OSA. No smoking. No computers.

Upcoming Events

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

♠ **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 ggarychess@aol.com.

♠ **Jul 8-9 3rd Annual Rose City Sectionals, Portland, OR.** (<http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>)

♠ **Jul 15 ICA Summer Classic, Boise, ID.** Boise Public Library, Bingham Room, 715 S Capitol Blvd, Boise, ID. Sponsored by the Idaho Chess Association. Rated Open Section: 4SS, G/30; d5. Check-in: 12:00 noon - 12:30 pm. Round Times: Sat. 12:30 pm, 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm, 3:30 pm. Prizes: Open Section 1st - 3rd place prizes. Registration: FREE! ICA Membership is required. Register online at <http://www.idahochessassociation.com/register-online>. Online registration preferred. Online registration closes 24 hours before event start time. Games: Chess sets & clocks provided. No Insufficient Losing Chances rule. TD: Jeffrey Roland & Alise Pemsler. Tie-break Order: Solkoff, Cumulative, Cumulative of Opposition, Modified Median. Byes: Maximum 1-half point bye, Rounds 1-3, commit by round 2. 0-point bye round 4. Details: idahochessassociation@gmail.com, or www.idahochessassociation.com.

♠ **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/>

Jul 22 Bend Summer Open & Novice, Bend, OR. Site: Whispering Winds, 2920 N.E. Conners Ave., Bend, OR 97701. Format: 4-SS in two sections: Open (U.S. Chess rated) and Novice (limited to unrated or U800 who have never won a prize in a previous Novice Tourney). TC: G/60; d5. Entry Fee: \$20 (Open), \$10 (Novice). Reg.: 8:30-9:00. Rounds: 9:30, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30. One half-point bye available only if requested before 1st round. Prizes based on entries. U.S. Chess membership prize(s) available in Novice section. Entries/ Info: Paul Shannon, NTD, 60958 Targee Dr, Bend, OR 97702, email countdune@netscape.net. Misc: U.S. Chess memb. req'd. in Open section, W, NS, NC.

♠ **Jul 29/Aug 26** (note that some TA details for this event change beginning in August.) **Portland CC Game in 60, Portland, OR.** Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. 4SS, G/60;d5. If 30 or more entries the field will be divided into 2 sections by ratings. EF: \$20, \$5 discount for PCC Members. US Chess rated; OCF/WCF/ICA and US Chess membership required, OSA. No advance entries. Reg: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Byes: 1/2 point bye if requested at reg. Players who have a game go around the full time can request extra time off before the next round. Prizes: If one section (\$200/b20) \$60-\$40-\$30; U1800, U1500/unrated \$35 each. If two sections - upper section \$75-50-25 (b/15); lower section \$65-35; U1400/unrated \$50 (b/15). No tiebreakers (prizes split). OSCF State Qualifier. Info: email@pdxchess.org, phone 503-246-2978, website www.pdxchess.org.

♠ **Aug 5-6 Vancouver Open, Vancouver, WA.** (See half-page ad page 12)

Aug 5-7 Semiahmoo Open Chess Tournament, White Rock, BC (Canada). (See quarter-page ad page 13)

♠ **Aug 16-20 Seattle Chess Classic, Seattle, WA.** (See full-page ad page 14)

♠ **Aug 20 Portland CC Sunday Quads, 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 Sunday Quads 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/>.

♠ **Sep 2-4 67th Annual Oregon Open, Portland, OR.** (See full-page ad page 15)

Northwest Chess
c/o Orlov Chess Academy
4174 148th Ave NE, Building I, Suite M
Redmond, WA 98052-5164

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