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

**Owen McCoy**



# Northwest Chess

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US Chess Master Owen McCoy. (See story pp. 4-7.)  
Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

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GM Julio Sadorra doing a pushup at Kerry Park on  
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# Letter to the Editor

By Micah Smith

March 25, 2018

Hi, I noticed the letter to the editor in the April edition of Northwest Chess magazine and wanted to point out to John that the scholastic (NWSRS) ratings are inflated compared to US Chess ratings. The NWSRS ratings his opponents had at the tournament he mentioned wouldn't be much different than their US Chess ratings if you convert the NWSRS ratings to the US Chess rating scale based on the conversion formula US Chess came up with a few years ago:

<http://glicko.net/ratings/report15.txt>.

<http://www.glicko.net/ratings/rating.system.pdf>

While the conversion formula can only be based on the average and thus isn't 100% reliable on a case by case basis, it shows that NWSRS ratings are inflated compared to US Chess ratings.



## Table of Contents

US Chess Master Owen McCoy Sarah McCoy.....	Front Cover
Letter To The Editor MicahSmith.....	3
2018 PCC Spring Open BrianBerger.....	4
Letter To The Northwest Chess Board Micah Smith.....	8
Responses to Micah Smith's Letter Various Board Members plus Mike Mulford.....	8
Kings vs Princes Match V Josh Sinanan.....	12
2018 Intermat Candidates Tournament Josh Sinanan.....	14
Washington Open (Full-Page Ad) Lynnwood, WA May 26-28, 2018.....	17
PCC March Game 60 Brian Berger.....	18
Seattle Super Masters Josh Sinanan.....	21
2018 Washington President's Cup Jacob Mayer.....	24
Annotated Game Ralph Dubisch.....	25
Vancouver Open (Half-Page Ad) Vancouver, WA Aug 11-12, 2018.....	26
2nd Seattle Chess Classic (Full-Page Ad) Seattle, WA Aug 15-19, 2018.....	27
2018 NW Grand Prix Report Murlin Varner.....	28
Seattle Chess Club Tournaments.....	30
Upcoming Events.....	31
GM Julio Sadorra doing a pushup at Kerry Park Jacob Mayer.....	Back Cover

## Editor's Response

Micah, thank you. I'll pass that along. I'm sure it's not common knowledge that there has been a conversion of NWSRS already in place at US Chess!

After reading the report from the Ratings Committee (your top link), I am personally glad that when players ask me, as a tournament director, how games are rated, I almost always say, "It's complicated," and suggest that they not worry about it and just play chess! There comes a point where the details and formulas outweigh the point of why they are done in the first place.

But the details and formulas are there for those who want to dig in... I suppose there is a fascination and enjoyment from how these ratings are calculated too.

To illustrate this another way, one can analyze "how" digital sound is made, or one can simply play the music! No doubt, It is important that the knowledge and technology is there for sure... but most people will just want to play the music and enjoy!

Thank you for sharing!

— Jeffrey Roland, Editor

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

# 2018 PCC Spring Open

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — March 24-25, 2018

The thermometer registered a cold 35 degrees when I awoke the morning of the Portland Chess Club's Spring Open tournament, scheduled for two games a day, with a control of Game 90 plus 30-second increments.

Leaving my home at 8:45 am, I traveled along Highway 43, out of West Linn. All night the rain had beat a non-stop tattoo on my roof, but the morning gave way to a view of the spectacular snowcapped line of the Cascade Range, the rain having cleared the air so that these mountains stood out in sharp focus—a sight that one sees every now and again, when the exhaust of civilization is swept away by Mother Nature.

Having just come away from tying for first place in the Portland Chess Club's Tuesday night Quads, where I managed to regain some 75-points in rating—a rating that had been barely bouncing off my floor for the last number of months—I was pumped to enter the Open Section, thinking I needed to take advantage of this omen of good luck—the result of which, a bit later.

What I did not know at the time was that of the 38 players who were to participate, more than two-thirds were to choose to play in the Open (27), versus the 11 who entered the Reserve—a topsy-turvy distribution from the norm of having many more players in the lower section.

Although most of those with ratings in the 1500s or below satisfied themselves by opting for the Reserve, two others with ratings lower than mine chose to go head-to-head with an imposing field that contained three Masters, four Experts, with the balance made up of A and B players.

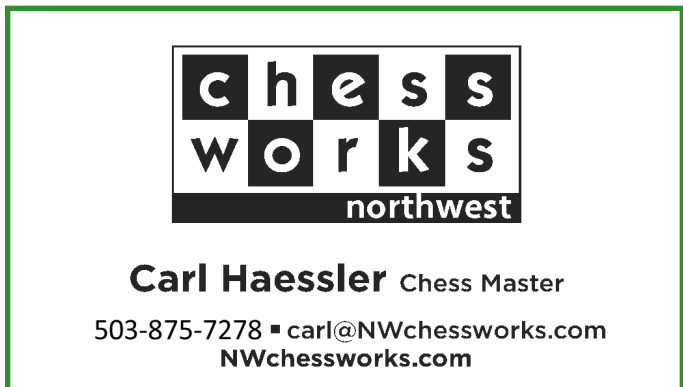
The B-players were a sizable portion (11) of the Open Section, more than one would expect from prize-driven



(L) Alan Rhoades vs Laszlo Szalvay Jr. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



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



motivations. Obviously they, like myself, were spurred more by the challenge than the bucks, accounting for the exceptionally large turnout in this section.

Two B-players who decided not to chance the Open Section, each with a rating in the 1700s, had an edge on the balance of the Reserve competition by margins of 125 to nearly 200 rating points. One of them, James Inman of Idaho (1757-1764—3.5/4), who tied for first place, found in the third round that he had his hands full with the co-winner, Austin Tang (1452-1495—3.5/4), who was more than 300 points below him. Each of them received \$83.25 in prize money.

The other 1700 player, David Yoshinaga (1700-1700—2.0/4), having learned the hard way in recent tournaments that low-rated players are not always what they seem, still chose the Reserve Section once again, and once again lost to a player some 400 points below his rating—that being Nikhil Samudrala (1298-1445—3.0/4), who raised his own rating by 147-points, winning first U1400, and pocketing a prize worth \$47.50.

Questioned by this reporter after his second-round loss, Yoshinaga's only comment was, "I had another one of those senior moments." A comment heard more frequently these days by a player who was once rated at 1975, back in 1993, but tripped on a ratings history graph line and has been mostly tumbling downhill since then. (Lest some of you readers feel I am unduly picking on a defenseless, older player, David is a friend of mine, and knows this MUCH older player has fallen prey to lower-rated players nearly



(L) Jerrold Richards vs James Inman. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

as often.)

Others who walked away winners in this Reserve section were Fedor Semenov (1575-1565—3.0/4), who came in first U1600, and Luke Wei, also of Idaho, (640-645—2.0/4), who captured the first U1200 prize—both prizes valued at \$47.50.

I might add here that a familiar Game 60 attendee (Jerrold "I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It's Over" Richards (1336-1338—1.0/4), having recently

played in a tournament held in Spokane, Washington, was once again with us, hoping to get a little higher off his floor of 1300. Summoning all his accumulated knowledge through many losses and few wins, and being urged on by none other than his loyal companion and famous canine, Morgan the Dog, he managed to win a game over the eventual U1600 winner, Semenov.

That glory was short-lived, as his last three games fell to his opponents, as did his hopes of getting closer to his wished for goal of being a 1600 player. But Richards, like myself, shows a perseverance undiminished by the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune," and just might, with the indefatigable help of Morgan, reach what seems unreachable at the moment.

Moving to the Open Section, it was Owen McCoy (2182-2203—4.0/4), from the Eugene area, who ended up with a perfect score, cementing his victory by besting LM Carl Haessler (2229-2219—2.5/4) and Jose Gatica (2114-2109—2.5/4) in the last two rounds. It was a performance that pushed McCoy to Master level, with the icing on the cake being the \$142.50 in prize money.

I stated earlier in this article that I, Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1581-1637—2.0/4), and two other lower-rated players, had opted to try our luck in the Open Section. And as luck would have it—"luck" being the operative word—I managed to find my way through the tangled maze of endgame pieces to beat both a 1736 player, and also one rated



(L) Nikhil Samudrala vs David Yoshinaga. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Francisco Lopez vs Carl Haessler. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

1824! A feat that added another 51 points to my recently added 75, pushing me once again into B-player territory.

The other low-rated player to make significant upsets in this section was Hansen Lian (1434-1584—2.5/4), who showed he knew something that the two 1800+ players that he beat, and the Expert that he drew, didn't know, that he was not a player to be judged by his low rating.

Apparently, since his last appearance in tournament competition back in the early part of 2016, he has been preparing for just such an opportunity, one that

gained him 150 rating points and nearly put him in contention for the U2000 prize.

Instead, the second place and first U2000 money was distributed in a four-way tie among Ryan Richardson (2037-2057—3.0/40), Gavin Zhang (1961-1967—3.0/4), Jai Dayal (1946-1952—3.0/4), and Roshen Nair (1805-1851—3.0/4), each receiving \$42.50 for their efforts.

Much appreciation for a smoothly run tournament must go to Chief TD Michael Lilly, Chief Assistant TD Mike Janniro, and Assistant TD Mike Hasuike.



(L) Chief Assistant TD Mike Janniro and Chief TD Michael Lilly work on the pairings. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

**Jose Miguel Gatica (2114) – Owen McCoy (2182) [A26]**  
PCC Spring Open  
Portland, OR (R4), March 25, 2018  
[Owen McCoy]

Going into this round, I was the only player with 3.0/3. Jose had 2.5/3, as did Ryan Richardson, who was paired against Carl Haessler. This gave me the reassurance that a draw would be sufficient for at least shared first. I knew that I would fall a few points short of 2200 if I drew, but a win would clinch it. However, I knew that winning with Black against such a formidable opponent as Jose would not be easy. Therefore I adopted my “try to win but don't risk a loss” strategy which, as usual, evolved into my “darn pragmatism and time trouble, just win!” strategy.

**1.Nf3 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.g3 d6 4.Bg2 e5 5.Nc3 f5 6.d3 Nf6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Rb1 Nc6 9.b4 h6 10.b5 Ne7 11.a4**

Jose played 11.Nd2 g5 12.Nd5 against me at the Fall Open in what would be one of the few top games that wasn't drawn. After 12...Nexd5 13.cxd5 b6 14.e4 f4 15.f3 h5 I had an advantage and eventually won the game. The move he played this time seems to be an improvement.

**11...g5 12.Ba3 Ng6 13.Nd2 Rf7 14.Nd5 Bf8**

It occurred to me that my position was markedly inferior to that of the aforementioned game from the Fall Open. White has mapped out significant queenside space, whereas Black is having to make minor concessions and hasn't gotten his kingside counterplay moving.

**15.e3 g4**



Position after 15...g4

**16.f4!**

This idea is well known, but it is a strong move nonetheless. White rules out the possibility of ...f4 and gains space on the kingside too.

**16...h5**

I couldn't figure out how to develop my queenside so I followed the adage “when in doubt, push a pawn!” But White's pawn moves have gained space on both sides of the board, so from that and White's superior piece coordination we can infer that he has the advantage.

17.Qb3 Kh8 18.fxe5 dxe5 19.Bxf8 Qxf8

Here I started to wonder if my kingside pawn pushes would turn out to be a liability rather than a strength. My king certainly felt a bit drafty, and my queenside was still stuck because of the bishop on g2.

20.Qc3 Qg7 21.c5

Gaining yet more space, but I would think that 21.a5 is more accurate, only followed by c5 if necessary.

21...h4 22.Nxf6

Not much choice, as otherwise I would play Nh5 and have serious kingside threats.

22...Rxf6 23.Nc4

Ah, so that was the purpose of 21.c5! Jose doesn't fear the opening of the h-file, and I think rightly so.

23...h3

Well, so much for opening the h-file.

24.Bh1



Position after 24.Bh1

While this is not yet bad, it would've been worth considering 24.Bd5 based on what happened to this bishop in the game. (Hint: it never left h1!)

24...Rf8 25.Rbe1?!

Here White loses his advantage as I am able to unravel my queenside. Perhaps 25.a5 should have been played?

25...Rb8!

Now I can play ...b6 and develop my bishop and rook.

26.Re2 Be6 27.Ref2 b6 28.c6 Rbd8

White has not made any progress and Black is now fully mobilized. If anyone has an advantage now, it is the second player.

29.a5

It would have been interesting to see how the game would've progressed had the a-file remained closed.

29...Rf7 30.axb6 axb6 31.Ra2 Rdf8

Hoping to break with ...f4

32.Raf2

Which Jose makes unattractive. The



(L) Karl Cosner vs Jason Cigan. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

computer recommends ...e4 here and for the next few moves, but we were both low on time and I didn't want to take risks. Also, by this point it was clear that the Haessler-Richardson game would be a draw, meaning that all I needed was a repetition to win clear first. But I wanted to hit 2200, so I avoided the repetition.

32...Rd8 33.Ra2 Re8 34.Raf2 Ref8

Haha! Now his ideal position must be altered.

35.Re1

But now ...f4 is really impossible. So I tried another approach...

35...Ra8 36.Ra1?!

After this I have a more concrete way of making progress.

36...Rxa1+ 37.Qxa1 Bxc4! 38.dxc4 e4!

I now have a close to winning advantage because I am effectively a piece up. But it is still complicated...

39.Qd4 Kh7 40.Ra2 Ne5 41.Ra8 Nd3

An exaggerated example of a superior minor piece.

42.Qd8 Nc5

42...Qb2! would've also been strong, maybe transposing to the game.

43.Qh4+ Kg6 44.Qd8 Kh7 45.Qh4+ Kg6 46.Qd8 Qc3!

This tournament was played with 30-second increment, so I repeated moves not because I was ready to acquiesce a draw, but to gain time on the clock.

47.Qg8+ Kh6! 48.Qh8+ Qxh8 49.Rxh8+

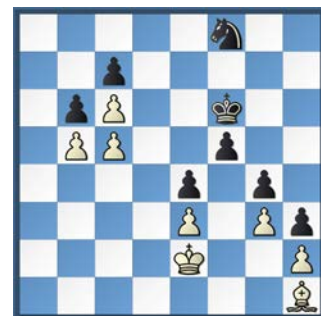
Kg7 50.Re8 Rf8

Here we go again...

51.Re7+ Rf7 52.Re8 Kf6 53.Kf1 Ne6 54.Ke2 Rf8!

The rooks are forced off the board, and I'm left with a winning endgame.

55.Rxf8+ Nxf8 56.c5



Position after 56.c5

56...Ne6

56...bxc5?? 57.b6 would be a rather tragic way to end the game.

57.cxb6 cxb6 58.Kd2 Ke5 59.Kc3 Kd5 60.Kb4 Nc7

And Jose resigned, acknowledging that his position is lost. Thus I won the tournament and reached 2200 for the first time. I was very happy to win this game, having been within 30 points of the title for four months. I don't know what or when my next milestone will be, but I will make sure to inform the Northwest about it when it happens!

0-1

# Letter To The Northwest Chess Board

By Micah Smith

March 2, 2018

Hi, the following is a letter intended for the Northwest Chess board. You can publish this letter in the *Northwest Chess* magazine if you like.

I would like to give some feedback on the "From the Publishers Desk" article in the December issue of the *Northwest Chess* magazine and share my thoughts on why I think changing the magazine from its current model of being print-only to being online-only, which the Northwest Chess board voted against doing, would actually be very beneficial to the magazine and to chess tournaments in the Northwest. I think there are many very good reasons why most chess magazines/newsletters have gone this route.

Advantages the magazine would see by going to the online-only route include: 1) There wouldn't be the space limitations the print magazine currently has. 2) People would receive the magazine in a more timely fashion each month. 3) All the pictures would be in color instead of most of them being in black and white like is currently the case with the print magazine. 4) Mistakes that are made are correctable with an online magazine. 5) An online magazine is more easily searchable. 6) People who have trouble reading the font size of the print magazine can increase the front size on a device. 7) The magazine would be accessible anywhere where there is internet access or on any device if you download it to that device.

Without the print magazine, there would no longer be any need for state membership to be required at many tournaments. Eliminating the state membership requirement from tournaments would have several benefits, including: 1) Increased attendance. I've seen the state membership requirement hurt attendance at tournaments for a variety of reasons, including: A) some people can't afford the extra cost, B) some people simply choose not to play due to the extra cost even though they can afford it, and C) and some people have been deterred based on principle as they don't feel they should be forced to subsidize a magazine they don't read or care about. 2) Help get more tournaments started on time. I've seen the state membership requirement slow down the on-site registration process and cause tournaments to start late.

Keeping the magazine in its current print-only format just for some sense of tradition and because that's how its always been done doesn't make much sense to me when there are numerous advantages to changing it to be online-only. I hope the Northwest Chess Board will seriously reconsider changing the magazine to the online-only format.

## Response to Micah's Letter

By Jeffrey Roland

I invite comment and discussion, of course. But I would like to take this opportunity to give a little input on this myself.

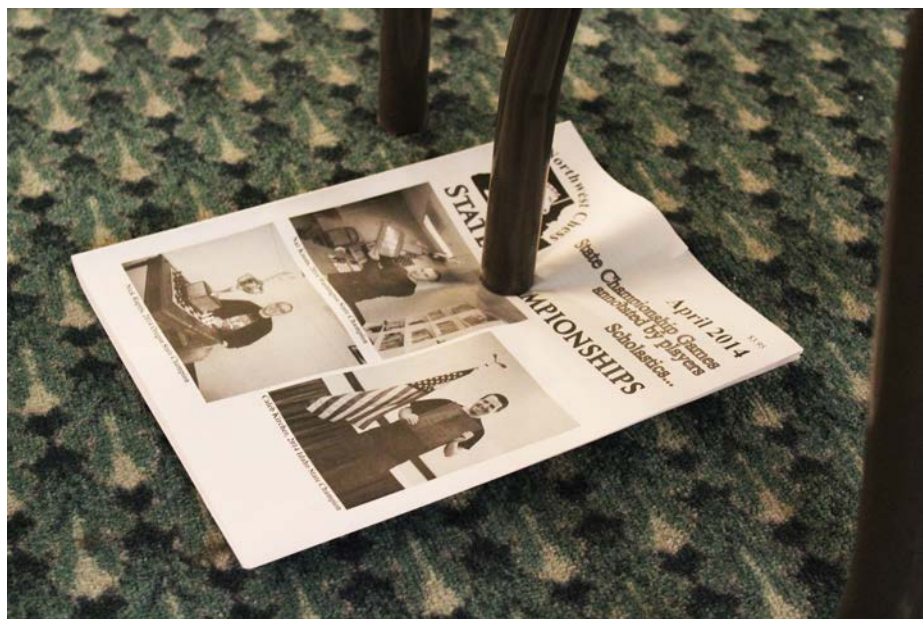
Back on August 14, 2011, I actually was instrumental in bringing Idaho into *Northwest Chess* officially, and the main reason was because of the magazine. I was not then editor, nor did I have any desire to become editor at that time, however I have been on the *Northwest Chess* board since August 2011, and from October 2011 until I became editor, I did submit four pages of Idaho Chess News each month.

I loved the magazine and to this day, I still read old issues that are preserved online (I even have scanned many issues myself to help get those old issues available.) So I hold the magazine very dear in my heart and I hope our readers do too. There was an issue (and sorry I can't remember which date) that I found that actually said that *Northwest Chess* magazine is the glue that holds the Northwest together. That resonated well with me, and I believe it! And once that

concept takes root in one's mind, heart, and soul, it becomes easy to come on board, support it, submit material, and to do something positive.

I disagree with the thrust of what Micah is advocating simply because the printed magazine is real, it exists physically in this world, and you can hold and look at it. If you lay it down, you'll probably pick it up again, even if to put away on a shelf. If it were online-only, you could and probably would click it and forget it... like so many other things that are online. The magazine existing physically sits on the table, asking to be looked at... and it does get read. And every time my eyes flip past a page, I see those ads again, so advertisers would much more want to have the ads exist physically too. I actually play in events that are advertised in the magazine because I want to get those Northwest Grand Prix points. And even events that are advertised in the magazine that aren't Grand Prix I support those too by playing in them because I want to reward organizers who support the "glue that holds the Northwest together!"

Also, we actually already do offer the best of both worlds anyway. We currently produce a "teaser" that you see even before the printed magazine gets delivered, so ads and time-critical information is out there very timely as it is, and after three months, we put the entire issue out there online. Since I've been editor, the magazine has never been late or untimely; I have hit the deadline every time, even when people get things to me late! We also have a *Northwest Chess* blog and a *Northwest Chess* Facebook page. We really are in my opinion, the envy of the nation, as we have stayed true to the



At the 2015 Idaho Closed, they used a copy of Northwest Chess magazine to even the height and reduce the wobble of a playing table. Photo credit: Adam Porth.



magazine, and we have branched out into other areas too without losing our roots. I believe those publications that went the cheap route of going to online-only have become more or less irrelevant and made themselves into nothing.

As to corrections, yes those are easy online, but we do that anyway now to the online versions and when there are big mistakes, we can also run an Errata (like we did last month in the April issue when I got the photos wrong and omitted a player bio I intended to put in.) But we work hard not to make mistakes in the first place. We're not perfect by any means, but we produce these issues every month, and we just keep going and going and going!

It seems to me that years ago US Chess used to sort of "force" their magazine, *Chess Life* (a very fine magazine by the way), on members, but eventually they elected to go down the road of offering the choice of a membership without the magazine and a membership with the magazine. On theory the logic was that the savings of not printing the issues would save money so the membership would be cheaper. This worked for a while, but not for long, as when it was \$24 for online only and \$40 for full membership with magazine (focusing here on one-year adult memberships), now, today, only a few years later, it is \$40 for online-only (which is what used to be what the full membership with magazine was), and \$49 for full membership with magazine



*At the 2015 Idaho Closed, they put an issue behind the urinal in the restroom, so physical issues can (and do) get good exposure!  
Photo credit: Adam Porth.*

too... so eventually, the price went back up to what it was before... so obviously, this is not so simple and black and white as logic would seem, and the same thing would probably happen here in time, as there is more to compute when costs are really figured out. It's not just printing costs to consider, that's too simplistic.

Advertisers know that the way things are right now with *Northwest Chess*, they get the ads put on the website, the printed issues, the online teasers, and the online full issues, so LOTS of bang for the buck. Even with a full-page ad at \$85 all it takes is two or three people to see it and come play in the tournament as a result of the ad, and they paid for that ad! So it makes good business sense for organizers to place ads in our magazine for tournaments.

If the magazine went online-only, and not printed, then why would advertisers bother placing ads? It would be the end of the magazine, as without revenue created from the ads, everything would unravel and fall apart. There would be no website, as the magazine drives that too, no *Northwest Chess* Facebook page, no blog, no Eric Holcomb who is the most fantastic business manager I can imagine, he's awesome and works for practically free! The point is you have to weigh the cheaper cost of the issues getting printed against the lost revenue when advertisers don't advertise when the product is cheapened by that move, and it probably doesn't save that much money in the big picture. So again, I think this whole thing would be a bad move.

And even if there were an online-only version of the magazine, why would that eliminate the need for state memberships? To me, that has nothing to do with it. You still need to be a member of your state association when playing in most tournaments whether or not there is a printed or online magazine, why would that change if the format of the magazine changed? I don't think the two things are connected at all.

How do we know that if the magazine were completely free, that the state federations wouldn't still charge \$30? (if not right away, eventually, as happened when US Chess raised the online-only to what used to be the printed cost.) They might... they might not. But to require state membership in state tournaments seems pretty obvious and straight forward, having nothing to do with the magazine anyway.

One other comment I want to make about something Micah said in his letter, he is right about the idea that I wouldn't be limited in space and we could put lots of pictures, lots of games, no page limit! But the problem with that is that it cheapens

the quality, makes it into a glorified web page that just copies and pastes instead of really works with the material like we do now. Plus, there is the flipside to that too. It seems to me that if I didn't have to come up with 32 pages each month of material, I wouldn't be working so hard to go get that material (instead of more, we might actually get less!), and that is hard... to actually get the material to be submitted, but I believe the reason we've been winning the award for the Best State Magazine/Newsletter for four years running now, is because people have come on board and support the magazine with submissions of material, taken an interest, written letters, submitted photos, games, poems, etc. The rest of the nation knows we have something incredibly valuable here. Why don't we all realize this ourselves? I think we would soon know this if it went away or became irrelevant by becoming an online-only publication.

Anyway... as I said, I invite discussion and comment, but I just wanted to present too my believe that right now, we're doing it exactly right, offering the best of both worlds, you already get the online issues free three months later, or the teaser immediately now, and the printed issue too. And if I am completely wrong, then I am completely wrong! But I could also be right, and we on the *NWC* board have talked about this very issue for at least five years now, and we have wrestled with this idea, and we really do believe offering the three ways to get the magazine like we are doing now is the best thing for all.

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## Micah's letter... my initial response...

By Duane Polich

One of my reasons to not being an online-only magazine, is if it is such a good idea, then why doesn't the Northern California Chess Association have a superior online magazine product? They claim to be a hot-bed of activity in the Bay area with a chess marathon tournament drawing over 200 players at the Mechanic Chess Institute and lots of other tournament/club activity, yet their online publication is pretty insignificant.

This is on their website, yet when you click on the link, it takes you to the Winter 2016 issue. Hmm, looks really successful.

### Re-Birth of the California Chess Journal

The CalChess Board of Directors has voted to start publishing the *California Chess Journal* again. In March, Eric Schiller created a Winter 2009 issue (see back issues), later we had well-known writer Frisco Del Rosario create a Summer 2010, up to January 2011 issue. Next we had the young and talented Aditya Kumar as editor for two issues in 2012. Scott Mason took over for a few issues, until October 2014. After a dry spell we have the award winning Frisco Del Rosario back with the latest issue see below. With your support, we are hoping to continue publishing an electronic version on a more regular basis. Once we get this established, issues will be FREE and emailed to all current CalChess members.

It still takes someone to put the issue together, assemble and write a lot of the articles, do diagrams, analysis, proofing, etc. That takes a lot of work and effort from a dedicated staff. So the savings are not so much from dropping the print publication.

## Mike Mulford's take on Georgia Chess Association Experience

By Michael Mulford

I shall confine my remarks to the issues surrounding Georgia Chess. Since I was already off the GCA board at the time, however, I do not claim to be fully in the know. For a more accurate portrayal of the facts, Mark Taylor (editor at the time) and Fun Fong (GCA President at the time) would be first-hand sources. I can guarantee, however, that they did not see things eye to eye!

First, a little background on their business model is in order, as it is very different from what you have. During the time I was on the board, the only nonscholastic tournaments (hereafter lazily referred to as adult events) GCA sponsored were the State Championship (May) and Class Championships (November) and a relatively small senior event. Since those were the only events requiring GCA memberships, many players either skipped those in favor of events by other organizers or renewed their membership every other year (a membership purchased one year didn't expire until the end of the month next year so they got a two-fer). With this model, the membership base was very small and mathematically did not justify the costs of publication. However, GCA also ran the state scholastic events, and those made enough money to maintain a very adequate reserve fund and cover the substantial loss in printing the magazine and on the adult tournaments (which were all +- a few hundred dollars).

GCA leadership, particularly President Fong, didn't like that model. They made numerous changes in the way scholastic events were run, broadening the volunteer base but also incurring additional costs. I can't say whether those changes proved cost-effective or not, although in many ways the events

were improved. The board believed we could not afford the loss on the magazine (printing was about \$6600 a year when I left the board) so the board decided to eliminate the magazine and go entirely on-line. The resulting product is nowhere near the quality of the print magazine, in my opinion. I stopped paying attention to it except when I played in the 2015 Georgia Senior, when the person who wrote the report had no clue what they were doing. It took a couple rewrites for them to even get the basic facts right. No chess-competent editor would ever have made the mistakes that were made on this article initially. The quality of the writing since then has improved a lot, but there is very little coverage of tournaments in Georgia, and that is a pity.

I leave it to you to determine how relevant the Georgia experience is to the Northwest scenario. Best wishes, Mike

P.S. For the benefit of those who don't know me, I have been treasurer of both the Washington Chess Federation (mid 70s- early 80s) and the Georgia Chess Association (mid to late 2000s) as well as a regular columnist for both publications.

## Comments from the Business Manager

By Eric Holcomb

As Jeff said, this is an issue which invites discussion and comment, as there are legitimate points to be made on both sides. But for now, I'd like to thank both Sound Publishing Inc. and the U.S. Postal Service for keeping magazine printing and mailing affordable.

Did you know that these two expenses average only about \$1.10 (total) per mailed magazine, with some printed copies left over for publicity? That's a good bargain, and I'd prefer not to rush into an untested business model of online only.

Even aside from the issues Jeff and Duane have raised, there would be some cost associated with using an online magazine subscription service, which we

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## Jacob Mayer Response

By Jacob Mayer

While I may be the new member, who hardly ever reads the magazine, I still don't understand the complaint from Micah. The actual printing of the magazine doesn't seem to be the bulk of the cost. I think the biggest thing *Northwest Chess* does is keep the three states connected, with ads for tournaments, articles, Grand Prix, etc.

I always just considered it to be an annual dues, and a very minor one (even \$30/year is less than \$3/month!) I have always considered my dues to be supporting *Northwest Chess*. If someone has a method they think is better than the magazine then I am open to any suggestions. I don't think I've ever heard a complaint over here in Washington about the membership.

Jeff, I like the pieces that you and Duane contributed as well as the nice history lesson including Michael Mulford.

Thanks for listening,

Jacob

## Brian Berger Response

By Brian Berger

Since I am now on the board at the Portland Chess Club, invited by David Yoshinaga to lend my two-cents to things of import, and also a contributor to this seemingly controversial (read "controversial" as "money grubbing") publication, I thought now is the time to give you my two-cents' worth.

Most of the feedback from those who have responded pretty much mirror my own thinking on the subject—of course one would think so, considering I feel that I am one of the staff at this juncture, and

STATEMENT OF NEWS POLICY

This being the first issue of the Washington Chess Letter, it is probably well to outline the scope and purpose of the publication. From its primary form, The Everett Chess Letter, it has expanded to a form which is not only increased in quantity of content but also in responsibility of representation to the constituent clubs of the Washington State Chess Federation. It is now the official organ of the Federation.

The following items are newsworthy and reports on them are desired and requested by the editors.

1. Tournament match results of each club.
2. League match results (reported by the winning club sec. or captain).
3. Special chess events such as exhibitions by masters and extraordinary club events such as rapid transit (or speed) tournaments and intra-club matches.
4. News about chess instruction in clubs, such as classes or lectures by well-known players.
5. Reports on social activities between or within the various clubs.
6. Important games of the Federation, reported as soon as possible after played. This includes correspondence games.

Needless to say, every attempt will be made by this publication to give a full, accurate, representative and unbiased picture of all chess activity in Washington. All reports should be sent to Editor-in-Chief, Lawrence W. Taro, 331 Alverson Blvd., Everett, Wash., with the exception of correspondence chess information, which should be sent to Postal Editor, Neil F. Power, Snohomish, Wash.

Subscription price: \$1.00 per year. Special rates to clubs and interested individuals: 50¢ per year in lots of ten. Single copy 10¢. Send subscriptions to Circulation Manager, R. P. Allen, 413 15th Avenue N., Seattle 2, Wash.

*Washington Chess Letter (which is now Northwest Chess) from November 1947, Volume 1, Number 1—our first issue! We have stayed pretty true to this original vision.—Editor.*

an indispensable attribute to this award-winning magazine. 😊 But putting my ego aside, I just think subjectively that the reader of *Northwest Chess* is getting a lot of bang for his/her buck, a very small amount of yearly cash outlay for keeping in the know about what is going on in their beloved sport—such as where and when to participate, who is up-and-coming and whom to take as a serious threat, great games analyses, (helping them to prepare for future combat), photographs of friends and those who are famous (such as Morgan the Dog), world-class humor (courtesy on an observant writer), and a cartoon a month (that one either finds funny or totally witless), all to be had as a hard copy for future perusal.

As a collector of books for a great many years, I have respect for printed matter, the physical object lending to the enjoyment of the contents, and the ease with which it can be taken off the bookshelf and reread when one feels the

urge to revisit a particular passage, or once again reread the whole. Electronic devices that produce written works save space on shelves, but most of what you read is quickly forgotten, to be lost eventually in some great repository of untold megabytes, possibly never to be retrieved.

I mentioned to David Yoshinaga (who feels, like Micah Smith, that the publication is a hindrance to getting chess players to play—although he personally likes it), that I would back him if it could be proved that a majority of those who play in Northwest tournaments would rather forgo the need to subscribe to a hard copy. To that end, I proposed that a vote by players, taken at at least one (preferably two) of our large tournaments (by large I mean 125 players or more), would give us that needed input.

Gentlemen (and ladies), I rest my case. Brian Berger

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# Kings vs Princes Match V

By Josh Sinanan

Seattle, WA—March 16-18, 2018

The fifth installment of the Seattle Kings vs Princes Match took place March 16-18 at Seattle Chess Club and attracted 24 players in three sections: two 5v5 Scheveningen matches and one four-player round robin. The tournament was directed by Senior TD Fred Kleist, hosted by the Seattle Chess Club, and organized by WCF President Josh Sinanan. Congratulations to the Princes, who have once again dethroned the Kings by a final score of Princes 26 - Kings 24.5! Here are the final results:

Last Name	First Name	US Chess	FIDE	Points	Prize
<b>Kings A</b>					
FM Perez	Ignacio	2258	2098	4.0	\$160
Du	Wenyang	1955	1881	4.0	\$160
Lee	Addison	2023	1973	3.5	\$140
Watts	Peter	2045	1975	3.0	\$120
Whale	Nicholas	1908	1818	1.5	\$60
<b>Princes A</b>					
Mahajan	Rushaan	1943	1718	2.5	\$50
Levine	Joseph	1976	1817	2.0	\$40
Shubin	Daniel	1960	1796	2.0	\$40
Deshpande	Aaryan	1907	1793	1.5	\$30
Anand	Vignesh	1956	1708	1.0	\$20
<b>Kings B</b>					
Vega	Isaac	1768	1615	2.5	\$50
Holloran	William	1842	1769	2.0	\$40
Fagundes	Frank	1723	1523	2.0	\$40
Jones	Davey	1766	1602	1.0	\$20
Whitmer	Charles	1688	Unr.	1.0	\$20
<b>Princes B</b>					
WCM Chen	Minda	1899	1753	4.5	\$180
CM Xuan	Owen	1816	1665	4.5	\$180
WCM Velea	Sophie	1720	1585	3.0	\$120
Lee	Brian	1688	1800	3.0	\$120
Taylor	Thomas	1797	1906	2.0	\$80
<b>Round Robin</b>					
Roberts	Teddy	1665		3.0	\$90
Gupta	Anand	1537		1.5	\$45
Rajesh	Anirudh	1595		1.0	\$30
Min	Ryan	1463		1.0	\$30

**A subscription to *Northwest Chess* makes a great gift!**



(L) Princes B vs Kings B at the start of the match. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan



(L) Kings A vs Princes A. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

# 2018 Intermat Candidates Tournament

By Josh Sinanan

Bellevue, WA — March 24, 2018

The 2018 Intermat Candidates Tournament took place March 24 at the Chess4Life Center in Bellevue. The four highest-rated Washington players in each grade level played a quad to determine the two honored players who will make up Team Washington at the WA vs BC International Match on May 5 at UBC in Vancouver, B.C. The tournament was directed by Jacob Mayer, hosted by Chess4Life, and organized by WCF President Josh Sinanan. Below are the final results:

Section	Last Name	First Name	Grade	NWSRS	US Chess	Score
Kindergarten	Kang	Ayaan	K	1097	unr.	3
Kindergarten	Su	Alfred	K	1069	401	1
Kindergarten	Zhang	Ethan	K	867	unr.	0
Kindergarten	Jammalamadaka	Vihaan	K	822	105	2
1st Grade	Chinni	Rishabh	1	1335	770	1
1st Grade	Shi	Ted	1	1300	1004	3
1st Grade	Beegala	Keshav	1	1211	unr.	2
1st Grade	Zhang	Michelle	1	975	unr.	0
2nd Grade	Song	Kevin	2	1528	1102	3
2nd Grade	Harish	Neeraj	2	1506	1219	1
2nd Grade	O'Brien	Hansol	2	1494	978	1
2nd Grade	Vemparala	Nikash	2	1475	1066	1
3rd Grade	Velea	Sophie	3	1776	1720	3
3rd Grade	Min	Ryan	3	1602	1463	1
3rd Grade	Balaji	Pranav	3	1584	1154	0
3rd Grade	Eswar	Ritesh	3	1484	1278	2
4th Grade	Gross	Alexander	4	1798	1665	3
4th Grade	Li	Albert	4	1731	1436	1.5
4th Grade	Qu	Collin	4	1611	1147	1.5
4th Grade	O'Brien	Garam	4	1384	1190	0
6th Grade	Kurungod Anoop	Pranav	6	1863	1528	1.5
6th Grade	Peng	Brandon	6	1838	1651	1
6th Grade	Qian	Daniel	6	1784	1667	2
6th Grade	Gao	Jaden	6	1692	1047	1.5
8th Grade	Brown	Northern	8	1832	1460	2.5
8th Grade	Liu	Nathan	8	1735	1639	1
8th Grade	Zhang	Kyle	8	1679	1515	2.5

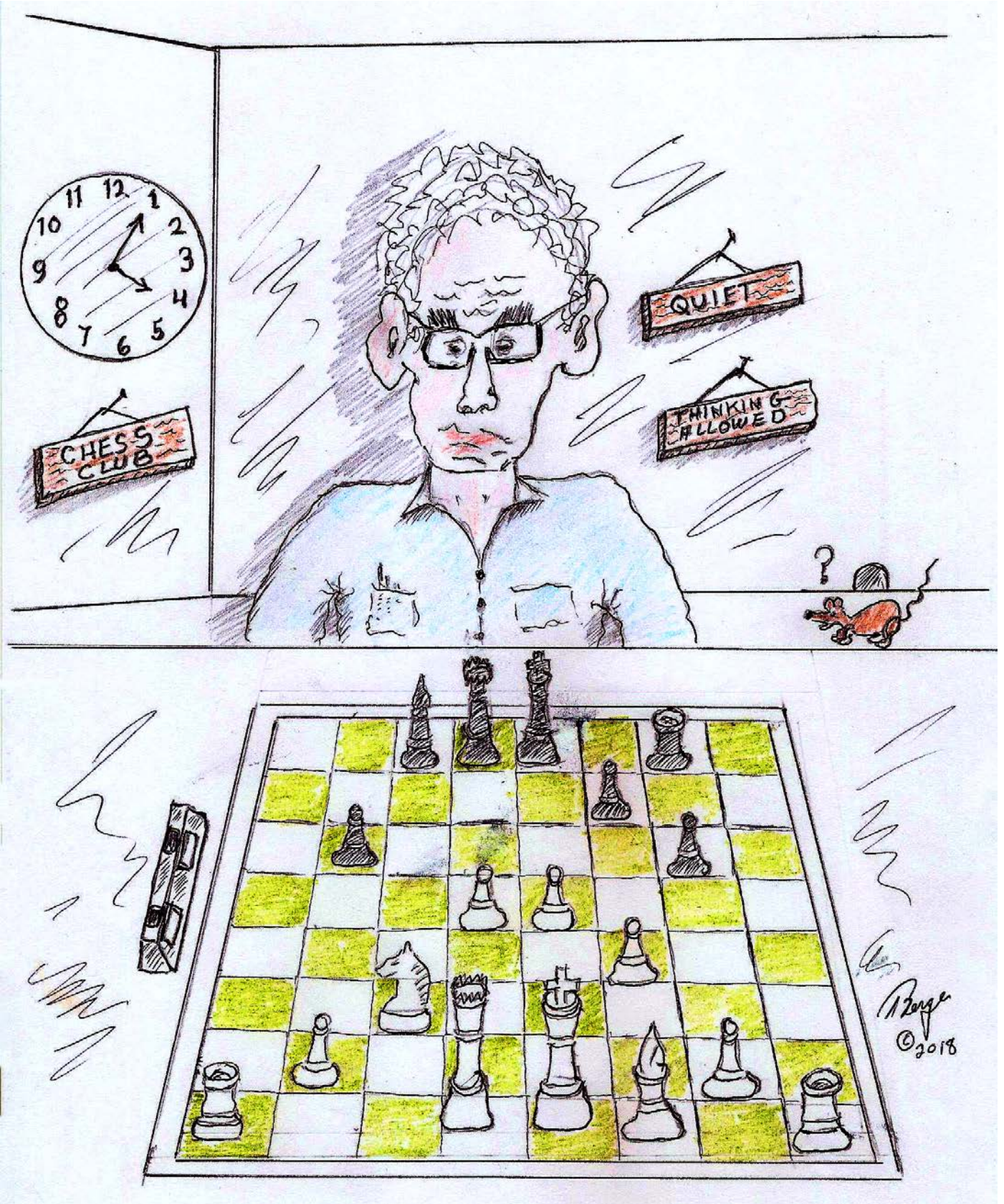
Note: Players in grades 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, and 12 did not play in the Intermat Candidates Tournament due to lack of sign-ups.



Fourth Grade Candidates players (L-R): Garam O'Brien, Alexander Gross, Albert Li, & Collin Qu. Photo Credit: Jacob Mayer.



Second Grade section: (Rear L) Hansol O'Brien vs Nikash Vemparala, (Front L) Kevin Song vs Neeraj Harish. Photo Credit: Jacob Mayer.



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Medal Only	EF \$ 80 / \$95 / \$105

	Open	Reserve	Booster
1st	\$1,200	\$900	\$600
2nd	\$900	\$700	\$500
3rd	\$700	\$550	\$400
4th	\$500	\$400	\$300
	<b>U2100</b>	<b>U1650</b>	<b>U1200</b>
1st	\$350	\$275	\$200
2nd	\$250	\$200	\$150
	<b>U1900</b>	<b>U1500</b>	<b>U1000</b>
1st	\$350	\$275	\$200
2nd	\$250	\$200	\$150
			<b>Unrated</b>
1st			\$200
2nd			\$150

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**Format:** A seven-round Swiss system tournament in three sections, as shown at left.

**Rating:** US Chess rated. Open Section also FIDE rated (except G/40 games which are US Chess dual rated only). US Chess May 2018 rating supplement will be used to determine section eligibility. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Higher of US Chess or FIDE rating used for pairings and prizes in Open Section. Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Unrated players may only win top four prizes in the Open Section or unrated prizes in Booster Section. Medal-only players are ineligible to win cash prizes.

**Registration:** Saturday 8:30-9:30 AM for 3-day schedule. Sunday 8:00-8:30 AM for 2-day schedule. Three half-point byes available at registration or before end of round 2. Play any two days, if taking three half-point byes. *Late registrations after 9:30 AM Saturday or 8:30 AM Sunday may receive half-point byes for first round.*

**Rounds:** 3-day schedule: Sat 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM and 5:30 PM, Sun 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Mon 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM. 2-day schedule: Sun 9:00 AM, 10:45 AM, 1:00 PM, 2:45 PM, then join 3-day schedule with round 5 at 5:30 PM. WCF annual meeting and elections at 2:00 PM Monday, May 28, 2018.

**Time Controls:** 3-day schedule: G/40 with 10-second delay (round 1), rounds 2-7 40/120 and SD/30 with 10-second delay. 2-day schedule: G/40 with 10-second delay (rounds 1-4), rounds 5-7 same as 3-day schedule. Please bring tournament chess set, board, and digital clock.

**Miscellaneous:** Current US Chess membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required in all sections. Other States Accepted. Memberships may be paid at time of registration. NW Grand Prix event. US Chess Grand Prix Points: 60. US Chess Junior Grand Prix. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

**Hotel Info/Rates:** \$144 King, \$154 Double, single or double occupancy. Call (425) 775-2500, request the Washington Chess Federation block. Group ID: 398898. Cut-off date for reservations at the discount is May 12, 2018 at 5:00 PM PDT.

**Washington Open Blitz Championship:** Sat 05/26 at 9:00 PM. Format: 5 round Double Swiss in one section. Registration: 8:00-8:45 PM. Rounds: 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30 and 11:00 PM. TC: G/5 d0. EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400/b20. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700/Unrated \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. US Chess Blitz rated. Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required.

**Washington Open G/45 Championship:** Mon 05/28 at 11:30 AM. Format: 4 round Swiss in one section. Registration: 10:30-11:15 AM. Rounds: 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, and 5:30 PM. TC: G/45 d0. EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400/b20. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700/Unrated \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. US Chess Dual rated. Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required.

# PCC March 2018 Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—March 31, 2018

As I entered the door of the Portland Chess Club to register for their monthly Game 60 tournament, confidence was oozing from every pore in my body as I had just the week before won three out of four games in the Portland Chess Club's Spring Open, and earlier in the same month tied for first in the Tuesday Quads. It was a feat that quickly added 128 points to a rating that had been taking a beating for most of this year.

Game 60 might turn out to be the last boost needed to once again getting my rating into the 1700s, a short-lived rating that I achieved in 2016, only to see it oscillate like a dribbled basketball between my floor of 1500 and the low 1600s.

Also on hand to enter this four-round battle among 29 players was my friend, Jerrold "I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It's Over" Richards (1338-1331—2.0/4), and his trusty and chess knowledgeable companion, Morgan the Dog. Struggling with the same vicissitudinous qualities of play, Richards' and my ratings history graphs show similar patterns, with each of us exhibiting a constant hope of finding some stable footing for future gains.

Unfortunately for Richards, this tournament would not lend itself to becoming that stable platform, his two



Chief TD Mike Hasuike at registration desk. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

wins coming from provisional players some 1000 to 800 points below his rating. Nor would I, Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1637-1641—3.0/4), gain much to brag about rating-wise—my three wins also being against lower-rated players that only saved me from dropping any more points after my one loss to Michael Moore (1827-1849—3.5/4).

However, though my gain in rating points was minuscule, I did qualify (because of my three wins) for receiving the first U1800/UNR prize money, an

ego-boosting \$50.75, though not enough to put me in a higher tax bracket. But, like my ratings in the past, that \$50.75 will likely also quickly disappear, as it passes from my fingers to those of my wife.

The other ratings prize went to Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet (1329-1399—2.5/4), a young man who has steadily shown himself to be a player who quickly learns by his mistakes and has exhibited marked improvement in the short time he has been playing. It is, one can see while talking to him and observing his smile and enthusiasm, a game he has fallen in love with.

This tournament, that enthusiasm allowed him to capture the U1500/UNR prize of \$50.75 by beating a player some 140 points above him, and then drawing to one of the toughest-to-beat young players in the room, Zoey Tang (1715-1701—2.5/4), who outranked him by 386 points!

Although not seeing the very last of that struggle, I had stopped by as they were entering the early part of the endgame. I could see that Beauchet was cunningly protecting himself from Tang, a player known for her strong ending play, and that this time she could not break through Beauchet's defense. It was another learning experience that you can be sure will add to Beauchet's future wins.

Speaking of Zoey Tang, both she and Geoff Kenway (1343-1308—1.5/4) had the same opponent in Steve Surak (1900-1901—2.5/4). Had Tang noticed that a back-rank checkmate was possible in her endgame with Surak (something that at least four others saw while watching the ending), a game in which Surak was



Some before-tournament skittles, showing from left, Jerrold Richards, Sophie Beauchet, Pierre Beauchet, and Arliss Dietz. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



*Chief Assistant TD Geoff Kenway. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



(L) (L) Steve Surak vs Matt Zavortink. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Brian Berger vs Michael Moore. Photo credit: Sanjay Nair.

slowly closing in on her, she would not have played Beauchet.

And had Kenway, who had reached the endgame with Surak, pushing what looked like an unstoppable line of pawns in front of him, slowed down his moves (he later said he was so excited that he was almost in a frenzy to beat Surak), it is almost certain he would have also beat Surak that day.

And so, Surak can be thankful for these opponents breaking two of the cardinal rules of chess: “Always give yourself time to look for the best move.” And two: “Never hurry what seems an obvious win.” It certainly was Surak’s lucky day.

Others who seemed not to need relying on luck were NM Matt Zavortink (2205-2210—4.0/4), who turned in a perfect score, earning him uncontested first place and \$87 and Michael Moore and Roshen Nair (1851-1873—3.5/4), who tied for second-third place prize money, amounting to \$50.75 each.

Presiding over this fun event were Chief TD Mike Hasuike and Chief Assistant TD Geoff Kenway.

# Seattle Super Masters

By Josh Sinanan

Seattle, WA — March 1-4, 2018

The first ever Seattle Super Masters tournament was held at Seattle Chess Club March 1-4. Three GM lectures by Andrey Gorovets, Julio Sadorra, and Yaroslav Zhrebukh kicked off the event on Thursday evening. Around 40 players attended the lectures, which were followed by a pizza party and blitz with the GMs.

The main tournament took place Friday-Sunday and was hosted by the Washington Chess Federation under the direction of Fred Kleist. 35 players took part in two sections: Masters (rating 2000+) and Challengers (1600-2000). GM Yaroslav Zhrebukh, an economics graduate student from St. Louis, won the Masters section with a perfect 5.0/5,

defeating the other two GMs in the process and claiming the \$1000 guaranteed first place prize! GMs Gorovets and Sadorra split equal 2nd/3rd place honors with 3.5/5 each after drawing against each other in a wild last round game in which White sacrificed his queen!

FM Ignacio Perez and WIM Megan Lee split U2400 honors with 3.0/5 points while Aaryan Deshpande and Joseph Levine shared the U2200 prize. In the Challenger's section, a trio of players tied for first with four points apiece: Vignesh Anand, Frank Fagundes, and Joseph Frantz, each of whom took home \$540 for their efforts! Alec Beck and Alex Kaelin tied for first U1900/U1700 with 3.0/5 points each.

The female prizes went to WIM Megan Lee in the Masters and to WCM Mary Kuhner in the Challengers. Senior 50+ prizes to Kings Ignacio Perez and Frank Fagundes. Lastly, the upset prizes were won by Aaryan Deshpande and Frank Fagundes.

**Julio Sadorra (2650) –  
Adrien Allorant (1928) [E43]**  
Seattle Super Masters  
(R1), March 2, 2018  
*[Ralph Dubisch]*

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.e3 b6 4.d4 Bb7  
5.Bd3 Bb4+ 6.Nc3 Ne4**

A decent non...f5 alternative is 6...Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 d6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nd2 e5 10.e4 Nc6 11.Bb2 Re8 12.Re1.

**7.Qc2 f5 8.0-0 Bxc3**

8...Nxc3 has also been played, leading to something like 9.bxc3 Bxf3 10.gxf3 Qg5+ 11.Kh1 Bd6 12.f4.

**9.bxc3 0-0 10.Nd2 Nxd2**

10...Qh4 is a little more popular. Perhaps the point of the queen sortie is 11.g3? Ng5!, when 12.gxh4?? Nh3# Of course White does better with 11.f3, when Black will likely take on d2 anyway.

**11.Bxd2 d6 12.f3**

12.e4!? f4 13.e5 with some initiative



(L) Josh Sinanan vs GM Julio Sadorra at the blitz tournament. Photo Credit: Jacob Mayer.

similar to the game continuation.

12...Nd7 13.e4



Position after 13.e4

13...f4

But now Black can afford to exchange on e4, as there is no fork of e6 and a8 to worry about, and the knight is developed supporting ...e5. 13...fxe4 14.Bxe4 (14.fxe4 Qh4 15.Rae1 Rxf1+ 16.Rxf1 Rf8) 14...Bxe4 15.Qxe4 Qe7 16.Rfe1 Rae8 and Black looks fine.

14.e5 dxe5 15.Bxh7+ Kh8 16.Be4 Bxe4 17.Qxe4 Rf5

17...exd4 18.cxd4 Nc5! 19.dxc5 Qxd2 may objectively favor White, but messy is Black's friend here.

18.Rae1 Qe8 19.g4 Rf8 20.c5 b5?!

Another unit hangs, which should shortly give White the chance to fork some guys. 20...bxc5 21.dxe5 Qf7 doesn't look particularly appetizing, either.

21.c6

21.Qc6 would be the aforementioned fork.

21...Nb6

Position after 21...Nb6

22.Bc1

22.Qxe5 Nc4 (22...Qxc6 23.Qxe6 is just a pawn extra for White.) 23.Qxb5 Nxd2 24.Rf2 brings the piece back home with advantage.

22...Nd5 23.Qxe5 Qxc6 24.Qh5+

It appears this kingside demonstration shouldn't quite work. 24.Qxe6±

24...Kg8 25.g5 Rf5! 26.h4?! Nxc3

27.Qg6



Position after 27.Qg6

27...Nd5??

Simply 27...Re8 leaves White trying to prove there is an attack to compensate for the lost material.

28.Rxe6 1-0

Jason Yu (2165) – Yaroslav Zhrebukh (2706) [B84] Seattle Super Masters (R1), March 2, 2018 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e6

6...e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 is theory, with a typical struggle ahead.

7.Be3 Nbd7 8.f4 Qc7

8...b5

9.a4 b6 10.Bf3 Bb7 11.0-0 Rc8 12.f5 e5

Position after 12...e5

13.Nb3

13.Ne6!? fxe6 (13...Qb8 14.Nxf8± at least.) 14.fxe6 Nc5 (14...Nb8 15.Bh5+) 15.Nd5 might be a fun way to mix things up vs the GM: 15...Bxd5 (15...Nxd5 16.exd5 Be7 17.b4∞ regains the piece.) 16.exd5 Be7 17.b4 Nb7 (17...Nxe6 18.dxe6 0-0∞) 18.Bh5+ g6 19.Be2 a5? (19...Qxc2?? 20.Rc1; 19...0-0 20.Bxa6∞) 20.Bh6 Rg8 (20...axb4 21.Bg7 Qc5+ 22.Kh1±) 21.Bg5 Rf8 22.c3 and White develops a shocking amount of compensation for the piece.

13...Be7 14.Rf2 Qb8 15.Qd3 0-0 16.g4 d5 17.g5 Rxc3!?

17...dxe4 18.Nxe4 (18.Bxe4?? Rxc3) 18...Bxe4 19.Bxe4 Rfd8! 20.gxf6 Nxf6 21.Qxa6 Nxe4±

18.Qxc3 d4



Position after 18...d4

19.Bxd4

19.Nxd4 may be better: 19...exd4 (19...Rc8 20.Qd2 exd4 21.Bf4 Ne5 22.gxf6 Bxf6 23.Bg2) 20.Bxd4 Ne8 (20...Nxe4 21.Bxe4 Bxe4 22.Re1 Qb7 (22...Bxg5 23.Rxe4; 22...Nc5 23.b4±) 23.Qe3 while all complex, appears to favor White.)

19...Rc8 20.Qd2 exd4 21.gxf6 Bxf6 22.Nxd4 Ne5 23.c3 Nxf3+ 24.Rxf3 Bxe4 25.Rg3 Ba8 26.Nf3?! Rc5

26...h5!?

27.Re1 h6 28.Qe2 Qb7 29.Qg2 Qc8 30.Qc2

30.Qe2

30...Bc6

30...Qc6 makes it hard work for White just to find pieces to move.

31.Qd2 Kh7 32.Nd4



Position after 32.Nd4

32...Be8



**Neil Salmon**  
Professional Chess Coach

USCF Life Master  
5-time Washington State Champion  
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(L) GM Yaroslav Zhrebukh vs Jason Yu.  
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

I'll annotate the rest of this game assuming 32...Be8 was actually played, but the next three moves would be more logical if 32...Bb7 was the true score. Thus 33.Qf4 Qd7 34.h3 Rc4 35.b3 Rc5. I will still have some trouble explaining 36.Rf1?? Qd8?, though.

### 33.Qf4 Qd7?!

This maneuver of ...Be8/...Qd7 is the odd concept that has me doubting the supplied score. 33...Bxa4, perhaps?

### 34.h3

34.Rge3 Bg5 35.Qe4 Bxe3+ 36.Rxe3 Rc8∞, but certainly not much worse for White, and even 34.Qe4 Re5 35.Qxe5 Bxe5 36.Rxe5 doesn't look too bad.

### 34...Rc4?!

34...Qc8

### 35.b3?!

35.Rge3 Bg5 36.Qe5 Bxe3+ 37.Rxe3 Rc8 38.f6

### 35...Rc5?!

35...Rxc3 36.Rxc3 Bxd4+ 37.Rce3

### 36.Rf1?!

36.Kh1

### 36...Qd8?!

36...Be5 seems stronger in both the text line and the alternative mentioned above.

Now the score says 0-1, which is either a time forfeit or a miscalculation, as the position given isn't winning for Black.

0-1

### Frank Fagundes (1709) – Oscar Petrov (1899) [A70] Seattle Super Masters (Challenger) (R1), March 2, 2018 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.e4 Bg4?!

While I'm mostly familiar with the Frankenstein lines where White rolls the center pawns with 6.e4/7.f4, one thing I'm pretty sure applies to all lines in the Modern Benoni is that Black should develop the kingside and castle as quickly as possible... before disaster strikes.

### 8.Bf4 Qe7?!

See above.

### 9.Qa4+ Bd7 10.Bb5

Another idea is 10.Qb3 Bg7 (10...Nxe4?? 11.0-0-0+ e.g. 11...Qf6 12.Be3 Nxc3 13.Re1! and Black is powerless against the coming Bg5.) 11.Bd3 leaves Black awkwardly placed. A possible line: 11...b6 12.0-0 0-0 13.e5 dxe5 14.Rae1±; 10.Nb5!? also deserves consideration.

### 10...Nh5?

A serious breach of the cardinal rule. 10...Bg7 and it isn't over yet.

### 11.Bg5 f6 12.Be3 Kf7 13.0-0-0

Or the safe and sane 13.0-0±, allowing White the option of queenside pawn play.

### 13...Bg4?

Black must really like this move, having now played it twice in the same opening. Unfortunately, it's even worse the second

time. 13...a6 14.Bxd7 Nxd7 15.g4 Ng7±



Position after 13...Bg4

### 14.e5!

Discovering a lateral attack on the bishop.

14...Bxf3 15.e6+ Kg8 16.gxf3 Qd8 17.Rhg1

Or 17.Be8!

17...Ng7 18.Qc2 Be7 19.Bh6

19.Bd3 prepares violence on the g-file.

19...Na6 20.a3

20.Bd3 Nb4 21.Bxg6 Nxc2 22.Bf7+ Kf8 23.Bxg7#

20...Nb4 21.Qb1

21.axb4 cxb4 22.Bd3

21...a6 22.Bd7 Qc7 23.Rg3 Rf8 24.Bxg7 24.Ne2

24...Kxg7 25.Ne2 Qa5 26.axb4 cxb4 27.Qc2 f5 28.Nf4 Bh4

28...Qa1+ 29.Kd2 Qa2 30.Ke1+—



Position after 28...Bh4

### 29.e7 Rf7

29...Bxe7 30.Bxf5

30.e8Q Rxe8 31.Bxe8 Bxg3 32.Ne6+ Kf6 33.fxg3 Re7 34.Ba4 b5 35.Bb3 Qb6 36.Qd2 1-0

### Benjamin Mukumbya (1988) – David Levine (2200) [C44] Seattle Super Masters (R2), March 3, 2018 [Ralph Dubisch]

1.Nf3 d5 2.d3 Nf6 3.Nbd2 Nc6 4.g3 e5 5.e4 Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.h3 Re8 8.0-0 h6 9.Re1 dxe4 10.dxe4 Be6 11.Qe2 Qc8 12.Kh2 a5 13.Nc4 Nd7 14.a4 Bc5 15.Be3 Bxe3 16.Nxe3 f6?!

Solidifies the e-pawn, but also creates more kingside light-square weaknesses.

17.Nh4 Nd4 18.Qh5 Bf7 19.Qd1 Nc5



Position after 19...Nc5

20.c3

20.Nhf5 Nxf5 21.Nxf5 Kh7∞

20...Nc6?!

20...Ndb3!? 21.Ra3 Rd8 (21...Qd8 22.Nd5 c6 23.Rxb3 Nxb3 24.Qxb3∞ is similar.) 22.Nd5 Qd7 23.Rxb3 Nxb3 24.Qxb3 c6 25.c4 cxd5 26.exd5∞ With compensation.; 20...Bb3!? 21.Qd2 Nde6∞

21.Nhf5 Kh7?

21...Ne7 22.Qg4 Nxf5 23.Nxf5 g6 24.Nxh6+ Kg7 25.Qxc8 Rexc8 26.Nxf7 Kxf7 27.Bf1±



Position after 21...Kh7

22.Nxg7! Kxg7 23.Nf5+ Kh7 24.Qd2 Qxf5 25.exf5 Nb3 26.Qe2 Nxa1 27.Rxa1 Rd8 28.Rd1 Rxd1 29.Qxd1 Rd8 30.Qe2 Kg8 1-0

## 2018 WA President's Cup

By Jacob Mayer

Seattle, WA — February 17-18, 2018

The 2018 Washington President's Cup was held at Seattle Chess Club over mid-winter break February 17-18, concurrently with the second weekend of the Washington State Championship. The tournament was hosted by the Washington Chess Federation and directed by Jacob Mayer with assistance from Duane Polich. Sixty players took part in two sections: Open and Reserve U1600.

With 60 of the top Washington players



President's Cup TD Jacob Mayer. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan

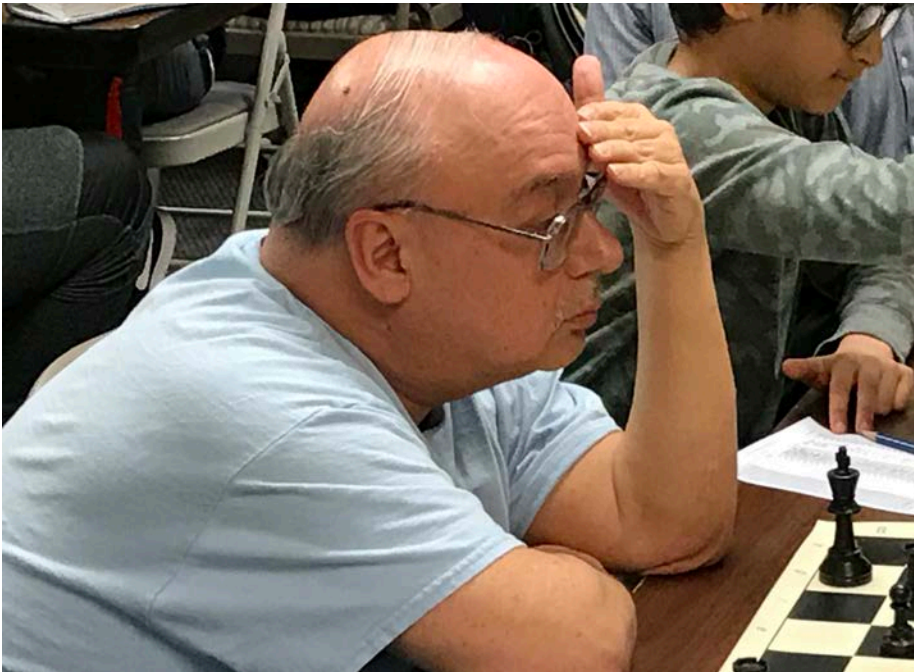
busy playing in the state championship, Gavin Zhang, a ninth grade high school student from Oregon, came in as the favorite. Going into the last round Gavin, Zachary Zhang (no relation to Gavin), and Alec Beck were all tied with 3.5/4 with first place and the seed into next year's Washington State Invitational on the line. Zachary Zhang had a requested bye for the last round, so Alec Beck faced off against Gavin Zhang knowing a draw would win him the seed (Zachary's tiebreaks being inferior due to the bye).

However, Gavin Zhang won the last round, giving him clear first in the Open section with 4.5/5 and the \$300 prize. Zachary Zhang, despite not playing the last round, finished clear second and took the seed to the 2019 Washington State Invitational (as the highest finishing Washington state player). After losing the last round Alec Beck slid into a third place tie with Daniel Pogrebinsky and

Sophie Tien. Colin Smith of Redmond used a crucial last round bye to finish with 3.5/5 and win the U1600 prize. Smith also finished the weekend with strong upset victories over Frank Fagundes and Daniel Qian.

The Reserve section would go down to the final game with Ryan Burgess of Redmond, Washington, upsetting Munkh-Erdene Munkhbileg in the final game of the night to claim first place with a score of 4.5/5. Burgess took the \$210 prize and increased his rating nearly 300 points! Half-a-point behind, finishing tied for second-third and U1400, were Lavindu Devadithya, Felicity Wang, and Pranav Kurungod Anoop, each of whom took home \$123.33 for the effort. Last but certainly not least was Sayali Gijare of Bothell, who won first place U1200/unr with 3.5/5 and raised her rating by over 200 points in the process! Congratulations to all the winners!





*WCF Vice President and NW Legend Duane Polich at the President's Cup.  
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.*

## Annotated Game

Joseph Truelson (2080) –  
Tian Sang (2372) [C53]  
Championship Redmond, WA  
(R3), February 11, 2018  
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Qe7  
5.0-0 d6 6.d4 Bb6 7.a4 a6 8.b4 Nf6  
9.Ba3?! Bg4 10.d5 Nb8 11.Nbd2 Nbd7  
12.Re1 Nh5 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 g6  
15.Bf1 0-0 16.c4 Bd4 17.Rac1?

17.Ra2 allows a defense of f2 along the second rank.

17...f5

It is now clear that something has gone wrong in White's opening.

18.Qb3 Qh4 19.g3 Qxg3+

More immediately crushing was 19... Nxf3!, e.g. 20.Bg2 (20.Nf3 Bxf2+! 21.Kxf2 (21.Kg2 Qf4) 21...fxe4) 20... Bxf2+! 21.Kxf2 Nxe4+ 22.Kg1 Nxd2+

20.Qxg3 Nxf3 21.Nb3 Ba7 22.exf5 Rxf5  
23.c5 Nxf1 24.Rxf1 Rf3



*The playing room during the WA President's Cup. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.*



Position after 24...Rf3

**25.Rb1 Rxh3**

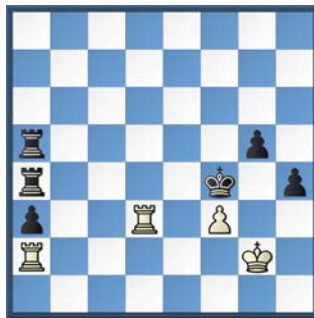
Well, that should be it, right?

**26.cxd6 cxd6 27.b5 axb5 28.Bxd6 bxa4 29.Na5 Bd4 30.Rxb7 Nc5 31.Bxc5 Bxc5 32.Rb5 Rc3 33.Nb7 Bf8 34.d6 Rd3 35.Ra1 Bxd6**

Would it make sense to advance the a-pawn first? 35...a3 Yes, yes it would. 36.Rxe5? Bg7

**36.Nxd6 Rxd6 37.Rxe5 a3 38.Ra2 Rd3 39.Re7 Rb3 40.Kg2 h5 41.Rc7 Rb4 42.Kg3 Rba4 43.f3 R8a7 44.Rc8+ Kg7 45.Rc6 R7a6 46.Rc5 Kf6 47.Rd5 R6a5 48.Rd3 Kf5 49.Re3 g5 50.Rc3 h4+ 51.Kg2 Kf4 52.Rd3**

[Diagram top of next column]



Position after 52.Rd3

This superficially trivial ending is anything but, and requires a surprising amount of precision to convert.

**52...Rb5?**

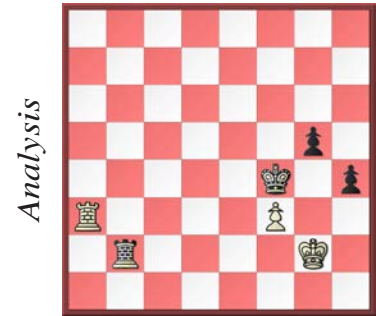
52...Re5! suggests ...Re3, when the f-pawn is vulnerable. 53.Kf2 and only now 53...Rb5! since 54.Rdxa3 Rxa3 55.Rxa3 Rb2+ 56.Kf1 h3+

a) 53.Rdxa3 Rxa3 54.Rxa3 Re2+ 55.Kh3 Re3-+;

b) 53.Rb3 Re3 54.Rb8 Ra5 55.Rf8+ (55.Rb4+ Ke5 and in some lines the king can transfer to the queenside to support the a-pawn.) 55...Rf5 56.Ra8 Rxf3 57.Ra4+ Ke5.

53.Rdd2??

This looks like a case of trusting the opponent too much. 53.Rdxa3! Rxa3 54.Rxa3 Rb2+



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 54...Rb2+)

55.Kh3! Rf2 56.Ra4+ Kxf3 (56...Ke3 57.Ra3+; 56...Kf5 57.Ra5+ Kg6 58.Ra6+ Kh5 59.Ra3 and while progress is hard to come by, at least there is still hope in endless maneuvering.) 57.Ra5! g4+ (57...Rf1 58.Rf5+ Ke2 59.Rxg5) 58.Kxh4 Black's king has a problem — there is a distinct lack of cover against rook checks. 58...Rh2+ 59.Kg5 g3 60.Ra3+ Kg2 61.Kg4, and if you want a piquant way to end the struggle, 61...Rh3 62.Ra2+ Kh1 63.Kxh3 g2 64.Rxg2 stalemate.

**53...Rb3 54.Rf2 h3+! 55.Kxh3 Rxf3+ 56.Kg2 Rxf2+ 57.Kxf2 g4 58.Ke2 g3 0-1**

# Vancouver Open

## August 11-12, 2018

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

**HR:** \$169 Standard King/Double Queen.

**Format:** A 5-round Swiss in 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 2018 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:** 1<sup>st</sup> \$400, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$300, 3<sup>rd</sup> 250  
1<sup>st</sup> U2200/U2000: \$150, Biggest Upset: \$75

**Reserve:** 1<sup>st</sup> \$300, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$200, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$150  
1<sup>st</sup> U1600/U1400/U1200: \$150, Biggest Upset: \$75

**Entry Fee:** \$75 if postmarked or online by 8/8, \$85 after 8/8 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.

**Entries:** Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

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

**Phone:** 425-218-7529. **Email:** [danomathews01@gmail.com](mailto:danomathews01@gmail.com).

**Online Registration:** [www.nwchess.com/online/registration](http://www.nwchess.com/online/registration).

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Seattle Chess Classic

August 15-19, 2018



**Seattle Chess Club**

2150 North 107th Street, Seattle, WA 98133

A 9-round Swiss in two sections: Open and Reserve (U2000)

**Entry fees:**

***Open:***

Rating	Entry Fee before 8/8	After 8/8 or at site
US Chess Rating 2400+ or GM/IM/WGM/WIM	Free entry	\$100
2000-2399	\$200	\$250
1999 and below	\$400	\$450

***Reserve:*** \$150 by 8/8, \$175 after or at site.

**Schedule:**

<b>Wednesday 8/15</b>	Check-in & Round 1	6:45pm & 7pm
<b>Thursday 8/16</b>	Round 2 & 3	11am & 6pm
<b>Friday 8/17</b>	Round 4 & 5	11am & 6pm
<b>Saturday 8/18</b>	Round 6 & 7	11am & 6pm
<b>Sunday 8/19</b>	Round 8 & 9	11am & 6pm
<b>Sunday 8/19</b>	Closing Ceremony + Blitz Tournament	~10pm & ASAP

**Time Control:** 100 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 US Chess August 2018 supplement or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Both sections US Chess rated, Open section also FIDE rated. Maximum capacity of 60 players.

**Prizes:** (based on 60 paid entries)

**Open:** 1<sup>st</sup> \$1000, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$750, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$550, U2400/U2250/U2100: 1<sup>st</sup> \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$350

**Reserve:** 1<sup>st</sup> \$600, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$450, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$350, U1900/U1750/U1600/U1450: 1<sup>st</sup> \$300, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$200

**Special prizes:** Top Female & Top Senior: \$150 per section, Biggest upset & Best game: \$50 per round  
Best dress for man, woman & junior (under 18 years old): \$25 per day.

**Byes:** 2 half-point byes available 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 8/14.

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

**Tournament Director:** Fred Kleist, US Chess Senior TD, National FIDE Arbiter

# The 2018 John Braley Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator

mevjr54@outlook.com

A couple of years ago, I asked Oregon where all their masters had gone, since there were only two with Grand Prix points in the May issue. This year, the Washington masters, of which there are many more, have gone awol in the early part of the year. We have only two, Viktors Pupols and Ignacio Perez who have been active in Grand Prix events, compared to five in Oregon. When you search the US Chess database, Washington comes up with 79 names with ratings of 2200 or better. Nine are listed as inactive, non-member or deceased, and another 34 have expired memberships. That means out of the remaining current and life members, only two of 34 have played in a Grand Prix event during the first three months of the year. (By comparison, a search of Oregon comes up with 30 names, of which 17 are currently members. 5 of 17 is a much better percentage.) So, for you 32 currently missing Washington masters, I ask, "What gives?" (I am one to talk, since I haven't played yet this year, either. But I will, at the Washington Open, if not before.) Idaho, by the way, claims five masters, of which four have expired memberships. Time for that one life member to come in out of the cold.

We had a number of last month's Class leaders move up a class this month. In some cases, that left them lost in the pack in their new Class, but others have moved in to supplant previously leading members. This kind of thing happens when you play a lot, and you have to play a lot to hold a top spot in any class. Those of you who lost ground, the answer is simple, play more. April had seven events again, our usual total, capped off by two multiplier events, the Clark Harmon Memorial in Seattle, and the Inland Empire Open in Spokane. Unfortunately, they were both on the same weekend. In May, we will once again have seven events, in Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, and Lynnwood. Only one will have a multiplier, but it is a doozy! The Washington Open is offering a guaranteed prize fund of \$12,000, which earns it a 6x multiplier. These don't happen very often. Our last 6x multiplier was the Oregon Open in September of 2017. (Who is going to make the next quantum leap? All it takes for a 7x multiplier is a \$20,000 guaranteed prize fund. I'd do it, but Megamillions keeps drawing the wrong numbers.)

Some people are off and running again this year, and it should be interesting to see who can turn the sprint into a marathon. Note that the most active players can be found on the leaderboards. That's what it takes. Play a lot, see your name in the magazine!

The statistics below are current through March 31.

## 2018 Memorial Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington		
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
			<b>Masters</b>					
			1 Breckenridge	Steven J	12	1 Pupols	Viktors	46.5
			2 Cigan	Jason D	7	2 Perez	Ignacio	37.5
			3 Peng	Shunkai	6			
			3 Zavortink	Matt	6			
			5 Haessler	Carl A	4.5			
<b>M/X/Class A</b>			<b>Experts</b>					
1 Inman	James	26	1 Kelley	Dereque D	15	1 Lee	Addison	22.5
2 Cambareri	Michael E	18	1 Richardson	Ryan	15	2 Arganian	David G	21
3 Machin	Alex J	7.5	1 Donnell	Brian G	15	3 Julian	John	18
4 Kircher	Caleb P	7	4 Cosner	Karl	14	4 Yu	Jason	17
5 Gorman	Cody A	6	5 Grabinsky	Joshua	13	5 Leslie	Cameron D	16.5
<b>Class B</b>			<b>Class A</b>					
1 Martonick	Nick	16.5	1 Moore	Michael	30.5	1 Fagundes	Frank	58.5
2 Machakos	Seth D	11	2 Vega	Isaac	27.5	2 Beck	Alec W	32.5
3 Saltaga	Samir	7	3 Rachmuth	Moshe S	22.5	3 Tien	Sophie J	32
4 Three Tied at		6	4 Zhang	Gavin	22	4 Levine	Joseph R	30
			5 Nair	Roshen S	21.5	5 Casey	Braxton W	25.5

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
<b>Class C</b>			<b>Class B</b>								
1	Geyman	Jonathan P	13.5	1	Tang	Zoey	32.5	1	Buck	Stephen J	22.5
1	Weyland	Ron	13.5	2	Wu	Abbie	31	2	Levy	Avi	21
3	Rainey	Samuel W	12	3	Erard	Eric C	26.5	3	Li	Melina	19
4	Looney	Daniel S	5.5	4	Yeo	Austin S	24	4	Lee	Brian	17
5	Two Tied at		5	4	Kodithyala	Raj	12	5	Hanna	Mark S	15.5
<b>Class D</b>			<b>Class C</b>								
1	Merry	William A F	12	1	Tang	Austin	32.5	1	Piper	August	44
2	Shepard	River C	5.5	2	Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	30.5	2	Goktepe	Derin	33
2	Porth	Adam	5.5	3	Dietz	Arliss	28.5	3	Gupta	Anand	32.5
4	Zaklan	David A	2	4	Berger	Brian F	25.5	4	Min	Ryan	30
4	Porth	Dylan	2	5	Roshu	David L	21	4	Christy	John P	30
<b>Class E and Below</b>			<b>Class D and Below</b>								
1	Wetmur	Harold R	9	1	Kenway	Geoffrey W	21.5	1	Richards	Jerrold	28.5
1	Geyman	Josiah B	9	2	Morrissey	Patrick W	16	2	Henderson	Doug	27
3	Porth	Darwin A	5	3	Schuff	Thomas	15	3	Ruff	Lois	24
3	Mason	Brandon	5	4	Midson	Tony	11	4	Balaji	Pranav	22.5
3	Simonson	Jay L	5	5	Kong	John	10	5	Two Tied At		21
<b>Overall Leaders, by State</b>											
1	Inman	James	26	1	Tang	Zoey	32.5	1	Fagundes	Frank	58.5
2	Cambareri	Michael E	18	1	Tang	Austin	32.5	2	Pupols	Viktors	46.5
3	Martonick	Nick	16.5	3	Wu	Abbie	31	3	Piper	August	44
4	Geyman	Jonathan P	13.5	4	Moore	Michael	30.5	4	Perez	Ignacio	37.5
4	Weyland	Ron	13.5	4	Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	30.5	5	Goktepe	Derin	33
6	Rainey	Samuel W	12	6	Dietz	Arliss	28.5	6	Beck	Alec W	32.5
6	Merry	William A F	12	7	Vega	Isaac	27.5	6	Gupta	Anand	32.5
8	Machakos	Seth D	11	8	Erard	Eric C	26.5	8	Tien	Sophie J	32
9	Wetmur	Harold R	9	9	Berger	Brian F	25.5	9	Levine	Joseph R	30
9	Geyman	Josiah B	9	10	Yeo	Austin S	24	9	Min	Ryan	30
11	Machin	Alex J	7.5	11	Rachmuth	Moshe S	22.5	9	Christy	John P	30
12	Kircher	Caleb P	7	12	Zhang	Gavin	22	12	Richards	Jerrold	28.5
12	Saltaga	Samir	7								

## Upcoming Events

Continued from Page 31

**Jun 24** Boise Chess Club #19, **Boise, ID.** All About Games, 7079 W. Overland Road, Boise, Idaho 83709. 4SS, US Chess Rated, Game/30 + 30 second time increment per move. Jeffrey Roland will be Chief TD. Please register by e-mailing [jroland@cableone.net](mailto:jroland@cableone.net). Email pre-registration is appreciated to speed up registration. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Registration will be from 8:30-9:00 a.m. First round "should"/"could" probably will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. Those coming late may get a first-round half-point bye. 90-minute break for lunch taken after round 2. Estimated time for end of tournament is 7:30 p.m. Entry is Free. Donations gladly accepted!

☞ **Aug 11-12** Vancouver Open, Vancouver, WA. (Half-Page Ad page 26)

☞ **Aug 15-19** 2nd Annual Seattle Chess Classic, **Seattle, WA.** (Full-Page Ad page 27)

# Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

Address  
 → 2150 N 107 St, B85 ←  
 Seattle WA 98133  
 Infoline  
 → 206-417-5405 ←  
 → [seattlechess.club](http://seattlechess.club)  
 ← [kleistcf@aol.com](mailto:kleistcf@aol.com)  
 Address for Entries  
 SCC Tnmt Dir  
 2420 S 137 St  
 Seattle WA 98168

**SCC Annual Meeting, Fri. May 4**

Come elect the SCC Board of Directors for the next twelve months!!



## WCF @ the SCC

**Seattle Masters Series** May 5, June 2  
**Kings vs Princes 6** June 30-July 1  
**OR vs. WA Match** July 13-15

## 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.

**May 6, June 3** **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. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4—commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

**May 19, June 9** **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.

**June 15-17 or 16-17** **Emerald City Open**  
**Format:** 5-SS. 2 sec: Open & Reserve (U1700). **TC:** 40/120, SD/60; d5 (2-day schedule Rd. 1: G/60; d5). **EF:** \$36 if rec'd by 6/13, \$45 at site. GMs, IMs, & WGMs--FREE. Unrated--Free w/ purch. of 1-yr. US Chess & 1 yr. WCF. SCC Memb. subtract \$10. Memb. of other dues-req'd CCs in BC, ID, OR, or WA subtract \$5. **Add \$1** to any EF for 2-day sched. **Prize Fund:** \$1000 b/56, 6/prz gp. **Prizes:** *Open* \$250-160, U1950 120, *Reserve* 175-110, U1450 80, UNR 25, Best Overall Upset (Rds. 1-4) 20/rd. **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.

Wednesdays are for casual play,  
from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm

## SCC Adult Swiss

May 12-13, 2018

A four-round Swiss open to those born before 5/13/1997 with a prize fund of \$375 based on twenty paid entrants (five per prize group).

First	\$105
Second	\$60
U2000	\$55
U1800	\$55
U1600	\$50
U1400/Unr	\$50

**Time Control:** G/150; d5.

**Entry Fees:** \$36 if rec'd by 5/9, \$45 at site. *SCC members*—subtract \$10. Members of other dues-required CCs in BC, ID, OR, & WA—subtract \$5 *GMs, IMs, WGMs* — Free. *Unr*—free with purchase of 1-year US Chess plus 1-year WCF/OCF/ICA.

**Registration:** Sat. 10-10:45 a.m. **Rounds:** 11-4:30, 11-4:30.

**Byes:** 1 (Sunday rounds, commit at registration).

**Miscellaneous:** US Chess & WCF/OCF/ICA membership req'd (OSA). No smoking. No computers.

# Upcoming Events

♣ denotes 2018 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

♣ **May 5-6** Penguin Extravaganza, **Portland, OR**. Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR 97219. 6-round Swiss in two sections, 1700+ (Premier) and U1700 (Reserve). Playing up is not allowed. The most current (“live”) US Chess regular ratings are usually used for section eligibility, pairings, and prize eligibility. TC: G/60;inc30. Up to two half point byes are available if requested before round one. US Chess and NWSRS rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45am. Rds: 10am, 1:30pm, and 5pm each day. The second and third rounds each day 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: \$35, \$25 for PCC members (pay by with cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club). US Chess membership is required and can be purchased during registration. Prizes (\$650 b/40): Premier: 1st-\$125, 2nd-\$100, 1st U2100, 1st U1900-\$75 each; Reserve: 1st-\$100, 2nd-\$75, 1st U1500, 1st U1300/unrated-\$50 each. OSCF State Qualifier. More info. at pdxchess.org, (503) 246-2978.

**May 6** Boise Chess Club #18, **Boise, ID**. All About Games, 7079 W. Overland Road, Boise, Idaho 83709. 4SS, US Chess Rated, Game/30 + 30 second time increment per move. Jeffrey Roland will be Chief TD. Please register by e-mailing jroland@cableone.net. Email pre-registration is appreciated to speed up registration. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Registration will be from 8:30-9:00 a.m. First round “should”/“could”/probably will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. Those coming late may get a first-round half-point bye. 90-minute break for lunch taken after round 2. Estimated time for end of tournament is 7:30 p.m. Entry is Free. Donations gladly accepted!

♣ **May 12/Jun 30** Portland CC Game in 60, **Portland, OR**. Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR - Map. 4-round Swiss. If there are less than thirty players it’s played in one section. If there are at least thirty players it’s split into two sections at the mid-point of the field based on rating except that both sections will start with an even number of players if possible. G/60;inc5, one half point bye available if requested before round 1, US Chess rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45 am. Rds: 10am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm, 4:30pm. Players who have a game go around the full time can request extra time off before the next round. EF: \$20, \$15 for PCC members (pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club). US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA memberships are required and can be purchased during registration (OSA). Prizes: If one section (\$200/b20): 1st-\$60, 2nd-\$40, 3rd-\$30; 1st U1800/unrated, 1st U1500/unrated-\$35 each. If two sections, upper section (\$150/b15): 1st-\$70, 2nd-\$40, 1st U1800/unrated-\$40; lower section (\$150/b15): 1st-\$70, 2nd-\$40, 1st U1200/unrated-\$40. OSCF State qualifier. More info at pdxchess.org. Phone: (503) 246-2978.

**May 19** Redmond Quads & Novice Tourney, **Redmond, OR**. Site: Redmond Senior Center, 325 NW Dogwood Ave., Redmond, OR 97756. Format: Open Quads sections (U.S. Chess rated, 3-RR or bottom section may be 3-SS) and Novice (not rated, limited to unrated or U800 who have never won a prize in a previous Novice Tourney), 3-SS. TC: G/60; d5. Entry Fee: \$20 (Open), \$10 (Novice). Reg.: 8:30–9:00. Rounds: 9:00 (Open), 9:30 (Novice), 12:30, 2:30. Prizes (Open): \$40 first place in each section. 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 Quads sections, W, NS, NC. Co-sponsored by Central Oregon Chess Club (Bend) and Redmond Chess Club.

♣ **May 19** Tacoma Pierce County Open, **Tacoma, WA**. Site: Metro Parks Community Center, 3513 Portland Ave. E. Format: 3 round Swiss in one section. Time Control: G/90;d5. Entry fee: Advanced \$25, at site \$30; TCC members advanced \$22, at site \$27. Prizes (b/12): 1st \$50, 2nd \$45 top half & bottom half. Rounds 10:00, 1:30, 5:00. Reg. 9:00-9:45. US Chess / WCF memberships required, OSA. NS NC W. One half point bye available. Info/entries: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, phone (253) 535-2536 or email ggarychess@aol.com.

**May 19-21** 43rd Annual Keres Memorial, **Richmond BC (Canada)**. (<http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>)

♣ **May 20/Jun 24** Portland CC Sunday Quads, **Portland, OR**. Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR - Map. 3-round quads. Some or all the sections may run as a 3-round Swiss with more than four players. The “live” US Chess regular ratings are usually used for section placement and pairings. G/50;inc15, US Chess and NWSRS rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45am, Rds: 10am, 12:30pm, 3pm. 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 (pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club), free entry for players who are playing in their first US Chess rated tournament. US Chess membership is required and can be purchased during registration. Winner of each section receives \$10 discount on the entry fee to one of the next three PCC Sunday or Tuesday Quads. If there is a six or seven player Swiss, the runner-up receives \$5 discount. Bonus scholastic awards: trophy for winning section with 3 points; smaller trophy for winning or tying for first with 2.5; medal for winning or tying for first with 2 or 1.5. OSCF State qualifier. More info. at pdxchess.org. Phone: (503) 246-2978.

♣ **May 26-28** Washington Open, **Lynnwood, WA**. (Full-Page Ad page 17)

♣ **Jun 9-10** Portland Summer Open, **Portland, OR**. Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR 97219. Two sections-Open and Reserve (U1800), 4-round Swiss, G/90;inc30, one half point bye is available if requested before round one, US Chess rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45am, Rds: 10am and 2:45pm each day. Rounds 2 and 4 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: \$35, \$25 for PCC members (pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club). US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA memberships are required and can be purchased during registration (OSA). Prizes (\$650 b/40): Open: 1st-\$150, 2nd-\$100, 1st U2000-\$75; Reserve: 1st-\$100, 2nd-\$75, 1st 1600, 1st U1400, 1st U1200/unrated-\$50 each. OCF Invitational Tournament and OSCF State qualifier. More info. at pdxchess.org, (503) 246-2978. Note: Same details are valid for Spring, Summer and Winter Opens unless otherwise announced.

Continued on Page 29

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

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Seattle, WA



This photo was taken at Kerry Park in Seattle. Although the drop-off on the other side of this wall is not as dangerous as it appears in the photo, we discourage climbing on the wall. Please check park rules and regulations when visiting.