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***Alex Machin wins  
Western Idaho Open***



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Alex Machin at 2018 Western Idaho Open.  
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

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Andrew Kitterman discovers page seven of the December 2018 issue at the 2018 Western Idaho Open.  
Photo credit: Alex Machin.

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# From The Editor's Desk

On my 32nd birthday, my mother gave my brothers and me this poem. It is "If" by Rudyard Kipling, first published in 1910. It has given me strength over the years and especially right now with all that is going on in my life and with the magazine. I want to share it here.

— Jeffrey Roland, Editor.

*If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too.  
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:*

*If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster,  
And treat those two impostors just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:*

*If you can make a heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings  
And never breathe a word about your loss;  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"*

*If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but none too much;  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!*

# PCC December 2018 Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—December 29, 2018

Having missed most of the Portland Chess Club's December activities due to a hip operation, I was glad to be well enough to attend Game 60, near month's end. It was a cold day, made to seem colder by a light rain and a busy breeze, and I was happy to enter the warmth of the club which, by the time that I arrived, was fast filling with eager players—many of the faces new to me.

It seems of late that the club has attracted a growing body of younger players, many of whom come with a sibling, shepherded by a doting parent. A smattering of teens and a number of older players are also in the mix—a healthy sign that chess in Portland is alive and well, and that the Portland Chess Club might well be on its way to its 200th anniversary!

Not long after registering, I noticed a well-known celebrity winding his way towards me—Morgan the Dog; and not far behind, his companion, Jerrold “I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It's Over” Richards, both of whom I consider family. As for Richards, we have in common our great love for chess, but more importantly, each of us harbor a goal to lift our games to a higher level—mine to become an A-player, and his a B-player. Morgan, on the other hand, might have an ulterior motive for his interest in me, one that supersedes even friendship—namely, Wendy's french fries and chicken nuggets! I'm just saying.

Because of some mix-up with information concerning a house player, Chief TD Mike Hasuike was not able to get the results of the tournament rated with the rapidity that he typically does (almost immediately after the tournament), and so I am still waiting (Monday) on those results so that I can expound, in sometimes humorous and expository detail, the triumphs and failings of humankind in relation to the game of chess.

And while I am waiting for that information, I think this would be a good time to mention a controversy that has been raging for some time, concerning whether there is a need for a hard copy of the magazine you are now holding in your hands, or whether the magazine should only be offered online.

On one side of the controversy, there are those who believe having to subscribe to *Northwest Chess* to be eligible to play in rated tournaments is a cost burden players should not have to bear, and some think that many refuse to pay the adult rate of \$30 for one year, the junior rate of \$24 for one year, the scholastic rate of \$14 for six months, or the senior rate of \$25 for one year opting not to enter these competitions because of this extra cost—leaving clubs money-poorer for it. Added to this, they point out that the magazine has barely kept itself above water, the cost of producing it eating up most, if not all the money taken in.

Although the cost parts are all true, the magazine for all these years



(L) Alex Yeo vs James Nelson. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



has been run as a non-profit, with no one getting rich, but with the goal of enriching the lives of Northwest players with tournament information and timely articles concerning their fellow players. And recently, the magazine has applied for federal non-profit status to ease some of its finance problems. Most of the articles you read are written by non-paid contributors (like myself), a diminutive compensation paid to some staff members, who could make more by taking back cans for refunds. All in all, the magazine is put together by those who love the game of chess, and see it as an informative source of monthly chess happenings, and ultimately, as a year-by-year account of the history of chess in the Northwest—something to be archived on your bookshelf, and not put in some *CLOUD* in the sky.

I would urge all who have an opinion concerning the continuation of *Northwest Chess* in the hard format, or switching to the online version only, to send an e-mail to Jeffrey Roland, editor of the magazine, expressing your feelings about this matter ([editor@nwchess.com](mailto:editor@nwchess.com)). As far as I know, no survey on this debated subject has ever been undertaken, and feedback from those who read (or don't read) the magazine would go a long way in coming to a fair solution to a problem I had not known existed, until recently. Also, it is a way to see your name in print, as I am sure all letters will be published in the "Letters to the Editor" section, which I believe has been an underused way for players to voice their likes and dislikes on any number of topics.



(L) Isaac Vega vs James Grehan. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

And now for the good news. No longer do I, Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1555-1535—1.0/4), have to digress as of this morning (Thursday), as the vital information needed to finish this article has magically arrived on the US Chess site. I think I left off writing about Game 60 at the point where Morgan the Dog was searching in a purposeful manner for the chicken nugget and fries man, followed closely by Jerrold Richards (1336-1373—2.5/4), who has

suffered from the same malady that has plagued me, and for about as long—that is, a lack of consistency.

It seems that both our skill levels have risen over the years, as have our passion for the game, which at times can be seen in our upsets against much higher-rated players. Unfortunately, there seems to be little consistency in our overall play, our losses wiping out any gains. However, Richards' games of late have shown a marked improvement, due to his willingness to study, a discipline I seem to be lacking—my methodology being, "Let's see what happens if I do this?"

This tournament is a case in point of Richards' recent study routine paying off, his dedication leading to a tie for U1450 with Ishaan Rao (1440-1419—2.5/4), the two of them receiving \$21 for their efforts. Unlike me, Richards is wise enough to know his limits, opting to play in the section that most affords him the opportunity to win, this time being the U1650 section, just introduced as the low section of Game 60. Previously, there were only two sections if the player count reached 30, otherwise, low-rated players were matched against higher rated in the first round, everyone eventually finding their level.

With this new format of two sections, no matter the player count, one can play up for an extra \$5. And since I can just as easily lose in the lower section, I forked over my \$5 to play above my capability to defend myself, hoping for luck to intervene—such as my opponent going chess-blind, or stranger yet, my having an



Jon Strohbahn assists Mike Hasuike during the pairings. Photo credit: Brian Berger.





(L) Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet vs Jerrold Richards. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Chief TD Mike Hasuike during registration. Photo credit: Brian Berger.


idea of what I am doing. Alas, neither of these happened, thus the 1.0, half of which was a bye I took in the fourth round!

Others in my chosen section (that held 12 players) fared better, such as Michael Pendergast (2187-2187—3.5/4) taking first overall; a performance that earned him \$70. Isaac Vega (1736-1785—3.0/4) was the lone winner of second overall, coming back from a loss in the first round to James Grehan (1612-1700—2.5/4), by winning his next two games, then beating an expert, Robert Fiset (2064-2055—2.5/4) of Washington (a player I have not previously seen), in the last round, raising his rating by 49-points and his net worth by \$47. And Vega's loss to Grehan seems less a fluke when you see that Grehan, entering the tournament as a 1612 player, ended the tournament 88 rating points to the better, tying with Alex Yeo (1654-1697—2.5/4) for the U1850 prize, and losing only to the overall winner, Pendergast.

The U1650 section, containing 23 players, saw Lucas Baker (1394-1529—4.0/4) take first overall by turning in a perfect score, three of his wins being against opponents higher-rated than he. This tour-de-force performance not only won him the \$70 top prize, but added 135 points to his rating! Someone to watch on the next go!

Another fellow to watch in coming tournaments is Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet (1425-1438—3.5/4), who took second overall in this section with no losses and one draw. This young man has shown slow but steady improvement in most of his outings, due mostly to a work-ethic that is reflected in everything he attempts. Coming from a family whose parents encourage him and his brother, Louie (who plays bridge, and is soon to turn professional), at whatever is their passion, has been the key to both siblings success. Their mother, Sophie, always on hand at the tournaments, has herself been captivated by the game, to the point that she sometimes acts as a house player—her game improving at a bit slower pace.





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*(L) Cassandra Roshu vs Ryan Lu. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

For Jerrold Richards, this was somewhat of an auspicious occasion, in that he added rather than subtracted rating points (unlike myself), for his two wins and a draw. Even Morgan the Dog was a bit surprised, considering Richards was barely elevated above his floor when he entered this tournament. The money was a consideration to Morgan also, as both players (Rao and Richards) received \$21, which meant that Richards could afford a can or two of dog food for his loyal companion.

Last of the U1650 section money went to Andrei Stancescu (1284-1319—2.5/4), who finished uncontested for the U1250 payout, allowing him to collect the whole \$35.

**A subscription  
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great gift!**



*(L) Robert Fisette vs Michael Pendergast. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



# 2018 Western Idaho Open

By Jeffrey Roland

Boise, ID—December 8, 2018

On December 8, 2018 at Boise State University, Student Union Building, Jordan Ballroom, in Boise, Idaho, 38 players played in the Western Idaho Open (WIO) chess tournament. Since the first WIO held at the Boise YMCA on December 5, 1964, it has been a favorite with players of Western Idaho for generations now. Usually the tournament is held in December, in Boise, and it usually happens every year. There are however, exceptions to this.

Thanks to the new structure of the ICA that came about as a result of the leadership of ICA President Adam Porth moving to Northern Idaho (Rathdrum) this past summer and the need to spread things out across the state even more than ever before, the WIO will be one of two events in Western Idaho that will be required each and every year going forward.

On the financial side of things, this year's tournament actually made money. When all was said and done, everything counted and reported, 100% of the prizes paid out, the 2018 WIO had a modest (yet definite) profit of \$248.15. As organizer of the event in my new role as West Region Trustee that, this pleases me.

Moving to this year's event, it was a single section four-round Swiss with a time control game/60;d5. The event was dual-rated by US Chess (affecting both quick and regular ratings). Jeffrey



Tournament Director Jeffrey Roland.  
Photo credit: Alex Machin.



Alex Machin. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

Roland was Chief Tournament Director. Jameson Tang of the Chess Club at BSU was Assistant Tournament Director. And while not officially part of the tournament staff, Alise Pemsler was present for much of the tournament helping with registrations, accounting, and many little things that come up with regard to the online payment system.

Also, this is something that should be counted as newsworthy for an ICA tournament, the printer worked perfectly as soon as it was plugged in! No problems whatsoever with the printer!!

Alex Machin (1844-1866—4.0/4) had the only perfect score in the tournament and won first overall and \$100.00.

Caleb Kircher (1882-1880—3.5/4) and Andrew Kitterman (1591-1616—3.5/4) tied for second-third overall and split \$62.50 each.

Due to the way the flyer was worded, there weren't actually class prizes, but U1800, U1600, U1400, etc. and thus it's probably best to list the players and the prizes they won.

Seven players tied for U1800/U1600/U1400: Seth Machakos (1535-1532—3.0/4), Michael Presutti (1645-1634—3.0/4), Brian Lange (1395-1404—3.0/4), Matthew Dominik (1368-1368—3.0/4), Gaby Dagher (1694-1694—3.0/4), Bryce Leifeste (1299-1297—3.0/4), and Bryan Li (1375-1381—3.0/4), each player taking home \$21.43.

Two players tied for U1200/U1000: William Wang (1133-1147—2.5/4) and Joetta Faulkner (894-962—2.5/4), each winning \$50.00.

Leonardo Wang (Unr.—633P—2.0/4) won the top unrated prize of \$50.00.

One of the aspects of this tournament that seemed a bit unique was the large number of families that took part. There were six "family acts" in the tournament. Three of these included fathers and sons, while others were siblings: Hollist (four players), Belew (two players), Dagher/Daghir (three players), Leifeste (two players), Remington (two players), and Wang (two players). Players of all ages, young and old, were clearly having a great time at this event.



Todd Imada (1886) –  
 Alex Machin (1844) [C41]  
 Western Idaho Open  
 Boise, ID (R4), December 8, 2018  
 [Alex Machin]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nbd7

Prepares ...e5 without allowing queen exchange.

4.Nf3 e5 5.Bc4 Be7 6.h3

White has developed his pieces classically which turns out to be the most common (and in my opinion the strongest) way of meeting the Black Lion formation of the Philidor opening. However, the move h3 is a bit debatable. As a highlight, it prepares the move Be3 which can no longer be harassed by the black knight on f6 as well as creates luft for a castled king. This is all great for White... but it gives Black a target to attack. One major game plan for the black pieces is to go for an all out kingside attack with moves like h6 and g5! The whole point I'm trying to make is that this attack becomes much stronger if White has played pawn up to h3. Knowing all this, I was extremely excited to see my opponent play this move!



Position after 6.h3

6...c6

The waiting game begins. I make useful moves and delay castling. I'm hoping White castles so I can begin my kingside onslaught!

7.a4

Stopping a potential ...b5 which could inconvenience the queenside pieces.

7...a5

White has a long term positional threat of pushing his a- and b-pawns up to a6 and b5. By doing so, he could trade them off for Black's b- and c-pawns. After this sequence of exchanges, the queenside would be opened up for counterplay. Also, the d5 square would now be a hole for the white pieces to occupy since White exchanged off the c6-pawn. Because of this, I make a useful waiting move which puts a halt to this idea.

8.Be3 Qc7 9.Bb3

[Diagram top of next column]



(L) Alex Machin vs Todd Imada. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



Position after 9.Bb3

I remember seeing an idea where White creates a queen and bishop battery. The idea is a bit blunt but it creates a direct threat. This idea makes perfect sense because White is making useful moves while avoiding castling. Since my whole game plan is based on White castling kingside, I need to adjust my strategy. Objectively speaking, I should castle kingside and think about breaking with d5 to open up a diagonal for my dark squared bishop.

9...h6

A common move in this structure. The idea to protect the g5 square so my knight on d7 can use the f8 square to maneuver to a more active position on either the g6 or e6 square.

10.Qe2 Nf8 11.Qc4 Ne6 12.Rd1 0-0

I finally give in and change my plan. I figured I'd get my king out of the center and finish my development. Ironically, I started wondering if White could go for a kingside himself with moves like Ne2, g4, Ng3.

13.dxe5 dxe5 14.Ne2?

This move ends up costing White the game. My opponent wanted to maneuver the piece to the g3 square where it eyes the

gorgeous f5-square. After my next move, White is faced with multiple problems.

14...b6!

A quiet move with the huge threat of trapping his queen!



Position after 14...b6

15.Kf1?

White needed to avoid getting his queen trapped. By moving the king, the queen can no longer be pinned to the king. White probably wanted to castle but that would have dropped material after ...15 Ba6. If White is able to castle by hand and consolidate his position, then I see no problem with this idea. White missed the fact that after my next move, the knight on e2 needs protection. Thus the immediate kingside castle by hand technique doesn't work.

15...Ba6 16.Qc3 Rad8

After an exchange of rooks, the e5-pawn is taboo as White gets mated on the back rank.

17.Nd2 Bb4!

The queen is trapped! My opponent respectfully resigned not seeing a good way of responding.

0-1



**Michael Presutti (1645) –  
Gaby Dagher (1694) [D21]**

Western Idaho Open  
Boise, ID (R4), December 8, 2018  
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Bd7?**

I don't want to say too much about this opening, except that Black probably shouldn't attempt to hold the c4-pawn, unless circumstances change later on, but instead more or less equalizes by restraining White from playing e4 and striking back at the white center with ...c5.

Of course in those lines there's tons of theory: 3...Nf6 4.e3 e6 5.Bxc4 c5 6.0-0 a6 is most common, with play branching here depending largely on whether or not White chooses to accept an isolated d-pawn.

**4.e4 b5 5.a4 c6 6.g3**

White can more actively undermine the black pawn mass with 6.d5; or 6.b3.

**6...e6 7.Bg2 Nf6**

7...Bb4+!?

**8.0-0 Be7**



Position after 8...Be7

**9.Nc3**

Encouraging ...b4 and introducing complications. But White has more favorable tactics with 9.axb5! cxb5 10.d5! exd5 a) 10...Nxe4 11.Ne5! and Black has all sorts of problems with hanging pieces on the long diagonal.; b) 10...Qc8 11.dxe6 fxe6 (11...Bxe6 12.e5 Nd5 13.Ng5 Bxg5 14.Bxg5 Qd7 15.Nc3 Nxc3 16.bxc3 Nc6 17.Ra6! See? The open a-file does come in handy.) 12.e5 Nd5 13.Ng5±; 11.exd5 Bd6 (11...0-0 12.d6 The points of White's central advance are the issues along the h1-a8 diagonal and preventing Black from castling.) 12.Re1+ Kf8 looks uncomfortable for Black.

**9...b4 10.e5 Nd5 11.Ne4 a5?!**

It's time to castle.

**12.Qc2**

12.Bg5 0-0 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Rc1 Bc8 15.Re1 Ba6 16.Nfd2± Anticlimactic. White regains the pawn with some positional edge.

**12...Nb6**

12...Bc8

**13.Bg5 f6?**

13...0-0 14.Bxe7 is also hard to defend, with the white knights freely hopping in and out of d6.

**14.exf6 gxf6 15.Bh4**

15.Bh6

**15...Bc8 16.Ned2**

16.Rfe1 0-0 17.Nc5 pressuring e6 is possible.

**16...Kf7**

Black is having a tough day, one way or another. 16...c3 17.bxc3 bxc3 18.Qxc3 Nd5 19.Qc1 0-0±

**17.Rfe1 Ba6 18.Qe4 Bc8 19.Rec1**

White apparently wants to regain the c-pawn without risking the a4-pawn. But there's no need to abandon the e-file play: 19.Bh3!, and if 19...f5 20.Bxf5 exf5 21.Qxe7+ Qxe7 22.Rxe7+.

**19...f5 20.Bxe7 Qxe7**

20...fxe4 21.Bxd8 Rxd8 22.Nxe4 Ke7 23.Ned2 Ba6 doesn't look too promising.

**21.Ne5+ Kg7 22.Qf3 Bb7 23.Ndxc4 Nd5 24.Qh5 Ra7 25.Nd2**



Position after 25.Nd2

25.Nd6! is a nice shot: 25...Ba6 (25...Qxd6 26.Qg5+ Kf8 27.Bxd5 exd5 28.Qxf5+ Kg7 (28...Ke8 29.Re1+-) 29.Qf7+ Kh6 30.Ng4+ Kg5 31.f3 Qg6 32.Qe7+ Kh5 33.Qh4#) 26.Nxc6 Nxc6 27.Rxc6 Rd8 28.Bxd5 Rxd6 29.Rxd6 Qxd6 30.Qg5+.

**25...Rc8 26.Ndf3**

This is the perfect time for the unexpected 26.Bxd5! The knight has potential as a kingside defender on g6, and after 26...exd5 27.Rxc8 Bxc8 28.Ndf3 Black has also lost the defensive potential of the c8-rook, while leaving c6 under-covered. 28...Rc7 (28...Qf6 29.Ng5 h6 30.Qe8 Rc7 31.Nh3 leaves Black in a pickle.) 29.Ng5 Kg8 30.Nef7+-.

**26...Nd7 27.Ng5**

27.Nxd7 Qxd7 28.Ne5 Qe8 29.Qg5+ Kh8 30.Bxd5 cxd5 31.Qf6+ Kg8 32.Rxc8 Bxc8 33.Rc1, and although White still needs to actually prove the win, he clearly has all the trumps.

**27...N5f6 28.Qh4**

Or 28.Qe2.

**28...h6 29.Nh3 Nxe5 30.dxe5 Nd5 31.Qxe7+ Nxe7 32.Rc5**

32.Nf4 first is more accurate, as it forces 32...Kf7.

**32...Nd5**

32...Rd8 33.Nf4 Bc8 is a different, albeit still cramped, approach.

**33.Rac1?!**

Now really is the time for 33.Bxd5: 33...cxd5 34.Rac1 Rxc5 35.Rxc5 Ba8 36.Nf4.



Position after 33.Rac1

**33...Rd8**

33...Nb6 takes advantage of the loose pawns on a4 and e5, suggesting the sequence 34.Bxc6 (34.b3 Nd7 35.R5c2 c5 (35...Nxe5?! 36.Nf4 Kf6 37.Re2 c5 38.Nh5+ Kg5 39.Rxe5 Kxh5 40.Rxe6±) 36.Bxb7 Rxb7 37.Nf4 Kf7 38.Nd3 Rbc7 39.Rc4±) 34...Rxc6 35.Rxc6 Bxc6 36.Rxc6 Nxa4 when, yes, White will end up with a slight material edge, but the black queenside pawns threaten counterplay.

**34.Bxd5 Rxd5?**

34...exd5 is unappetizing, but must be better than the exchange/e-pawn sacrifice here. Obviously taking back with the c-pawn is a complete pin disaster allowing both white rooks to the seventh rank.

**35.Nf4 Kf7**

35...Rd2 36.Nxe6+; or 35...Rxc5 36.Nxe6+ Kf7 37.Nxc5+-

**36.Nxd5 exd5+- 37.Kg2 f4 38.Kf3**

38.gxf4 is perfectly good, too.

**38...fxg3 39.hxg3 Ke6 40.Kf4 Ba8 41.Rxc6+**

41.Rh1 should be considered, too.

**41...Bxc6 42.Rxc6+ Ke7 43.Rxb6**

43.Kf5

**43...Ra8 44.Kf5 Rf8+ 45.Rf6 Rc8 46.g4**

The only real risk to White's win is if Black can generate two passed pawns; one is more easily handled. So 46.f4 Rc2 47.Re6+ Kf7 48.Rd6 seems simple and risk-free.

**46...Rc2 47.f4 Rxb2 48.g5 d4 49.g6 Rg2 50.Rb6**





(L) Gaby Dagher vs Michael Presutti. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

50.Rf7+ Ke8 51.Kf6 d3 52.g7 d2 53.e6 forces mate.

**50...d3**



Position after 50...d3

**51.Rb7+??**

51.Re6+ Kf8 52.Kf6 d2 53.Rd6 Ke8 54.f5 b3 55.e6 b2 56.e7

**51...Kd8??**

51...Ke8! 52.e6 d2 and White must draw with rook checks, as 53.Kf6?? Rxc6+! 54.Kxc6 d1Q+-

**52.e6 d2 53.Rd7+ Ke8 54.Kf6 b3 55.g7??**

After 55.f5 b2, White needs a little more fancy footwork to force the black king to d8 via threat of mate before advancing the e-pawn: 56.Rh7! Kd8 57.Ra7! d1Q 58.e7+ Kc8 (58...Ke8 just gets mated: 59.Ra8+ Kd7 60.e8Q+, i.e. 60...Kd6

61.Qe5+ Kc6 62.Rc8+ Kb6 63.Qb8+ Ka6 64.Rc6#) 59.e8Q+ Qd8+ 60.Qxd8+ Kxd8 61.Rb7+-

**55...b2 56.Ra7??**

Now White should be satisfied with a draw: 56.Rf7 Kd8 57.Rd7+ Ke8 and either a repetition or the more interesting version: 58.Rxd2! Rg6+! 59.Kxc6 b1Q+ 60.f5 Qg1+ 61.Kf6 Qd4+! 62.Rxd4

**56...Rg6+??**

Sometimes it's hard to be aware that you are missing opportunities. After suffering the whole game, Black sees a way to queen with check — but of course winning is better. 56...d1Q 57.Ra8+ Qd8+ 58.Rxd8+ Kxd8 59.Kf7 b1Q 60.e7+ Kc7 61.e8Q Qg6+ 62.Ke7 Re2+ 63.Kf8 Rxe8#

**57.Kxc6 b1Q+ 58.Kf6 Qb2+ 59.Kg6??**

Now 59.Kf5 is necessary, though of course these subtleties are quite hard to spot after the grind of a long game. 59...Qc2+ (59...Qxc7 doesn't win here due to 60.Ra8+ Ke7 61.Ra7+ Kd6?? 62.Rxc7 d1Q 63.Rd7+) 60.Kf6 Qc3+ 61.Kf5 Qh3+ 62.Ke5

**59...Qc2+??**

But here 59...Qxc7+! forces a recapture, so removes the rook check perpetual option mentioned in the last note. 60.Rxc7 d1Q 61.f5 Qxa4+-

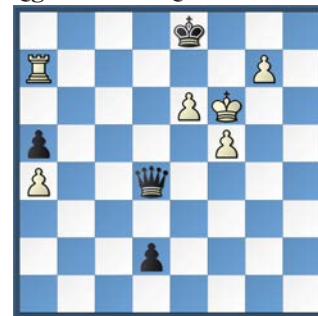
**60.Kg5??**

This one White should probably have seen. 60.f5! blocks all checks and threatens to promote with mate.

**60...Qc5+?**

60...Qh7!+-

**61.f5 Qg1+ 62.Kf6 Qd4+**



Position after 62...Qd4+

**63.Kg6??**

63.Kg5! is the right way, because 63...Qxc7+ 64.Rxc7 d1Q 65.f6! Qd5+ 66.Kf4 Qxe6 67.Re7+ Qxc7 68.fxe7 Kxe7 69.Ke5 is a drawn K+P ending!

**63...Qg1+??**

63...Qg4+! 64.Kf6 d1Q 65.Ra8+ Qd8+ 66.Rxd8+ Kxd8+-

**64.Kf6 Qd4+ 65.Kg6?? Qg1+?? 1/2-1/2**



## Western Idaho Open Champions

Year	Winner	City
1964	Richard S. Vandenburg	Boise, ID
1965	Bert Germalm	Blackfoot, ID
1966	Richard S. Vandenburg	Boise, ID
1967	A. B. Ellis	Nampa, ID
1969	T.C. Hartwell	Twin Falls, ID
1970	Ed Trappen	Twin Falls, ID
1971	Carroll Powell	Emmett, ID
1972	Kenneth Sanderson	Boise, ID
1973	T.C. Hartwell	Twin Falls, ID
1974	Peter D. Hess	Reno, NV
1975	Jim Mulder	Logan, UT
1976	William Whitacre	Boise, ID
1978	Alan Knowles	
(tie)	Mark Holm	Burley, ID
1979	Todd Q. Miller	Salt Lake City, UT
1980	Larry R. Parsons	Boise, ID
1981	Eric Tangborn	Tacoma, WA
1982	Eric Tangborn	Tacoma, WA
1984	Peter Cencik	Boise, ID
1985	Joseph J. Kennedy	Boise, ID
1987-1	Larry R. Parsons	Boise, ID
1987-12	Leslie R. Colin	Boise, ID
1988	Michael A. Henderson	Boise, ID
1990	Larry R. Parsons	Boise, ID
1991	T. C. Hartwell	Twin Falls, ID
(tie)	Christopher A. Pentico	Mountain Home, ID
<b>1992-2000 no tournament</b>		
2001	Herman B. Chiu	Corvallis, OR
(tie)	Matthew C. Campbell	Moscow, ID
2002-7	Randy D. Zumbrunnen	Salt Lake City, UT
2002-9	Beenish Bhatia	NJ
2003	Gary Owen	Evanston, WY
2004	Hans M. Morrow	Pocatello, ID
(tie)	Steven Bryan Bieler	Boise, ID
2006	Kenrick C. Barkell	Boise, ID
2008	Dr. Chong-Jin Ong	Boise, ID
2010	Phil Weyland	Boise, ID
(tie)	Randall W. Pellam	Boise, ID
2011	Paul M. Johnson	Boise, ID
2012	Alex Yermolinsky	Sioux Falls, SD
2013	Jaime Crosby	Meridian, ID
2014	David Lucky	Eagle, ID
2016	David Lucky	Eagle, ID
2017	Kevin Xu	Boise, ID
(tie)	Seth Machakos	Boise, ID
2018	Alex Machin	Boise, ID

## Le Parc d'Echecs

By Carmen Pemsler



Over the summer, I got the incredible opportunity of traveling through Europe. I went to Paris with a friend for a week. One day, as my friend and I were shopping and walking through Paris, we came upon a street lined with small stands selling paintings, books, and other souvenirs. I noticed that one old man was selling chess books at his stand, and I decided that I would buy my mother a beginner's chess book that was written in French as she once was fluent in the language. As I struggled to tell the man in French why I was buying the book, I eventually communicated to him that I myself am a competitive chess player. He then told me that there was a park in Paris called Jardin du Luxembourg. At the gardens, chess players would gather to play chess at all times of the day, all days of the week.

The day after I bought my mom her new French chess book, I went to the park to find these French chess players. After wandering for almost an hour, I finally found *the* spot. There were a lot of tables set with chess boards. The majority of the people playing were older men. The environment was much like street chess in New York but less aggressive play. Luckily, there was a small group of young men gathered around one table. They seemed to be the most talkative, experienced, and enthusiastic group.

I managed to get their attention and they asked if I would like to play. (They said this in Spanish as they later told me they assumed I was from Mexico.) Their clock was set to game in three. I won my first game, to their surprise. After I won, all the guys spoke louder and in some French that I did not understand, but they seemed impressed.

One of the guys who spoke Spanish explained to me that the rule among the group was that if you win, you must play black in the next game.

I played as black for the rest of my time at the chess spot in that park in France.



# Winter Solstice In The North

By Adam Porth

Coeur d'Alene, ID—December 22, 2019

It is great to see the opportunities for tournament play opening up for folks in north Idaho and today we played in the Winter Solstice in the North tournament sponsored by the Lakeland High School Chess Club, the Coeur d'Alene Chess Club and the ICA. Partnerships where clubs come together to produce opportunities are important in states such as Idaho where there are not many tournaments. In this way an overall strategy and coordination of events can take place. We plan on holding a tournament each month in the Rathdrum and Coeur d'Alene area. Nine players signed on for today's tournament with ratings from 468 to 1916 and ages 14 to 80 years. As Kenneth Erickson said, "it will be a bit until the ICA tournaments are on people's radar."

The big highlight was the face-off between Kenneth Erickson, Athol and Michael Cambareri, CDA and with the fast time controls being a rating equalizer (G/15; d0), Kenneth emerged with a win. Ken's quick-chess rating is much lower than his regular rating, but the quick-rating is sure to rise with this upset. Michael took the loss in stride as he is a chess playing machine and as long as it was an interesting game, Michael left the round appearing pleased. All players won at least \$10 (50% of prizes)/ class, while Kenneth won \$25. As all indicated as they received their prizes, "it wasn't about the money."



(L) Michael Cambareri vs Craig Moore. Photo credit: Adam Porth.



(L) Kenneth Erickson vs Darwin Porth. Photo credit: Adam Porth.



(L) Gabe Dickens vs Darwin Porth. Photo credit: Adam Porth.



# Neil Dale Memorial

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—January 5-6, 2019

The Third Annual Neil Dale Memorial Open drew a record 54 participants! As a matter of fact, it might be an all time record for any tournament ever held at the Portland Chess Club, now the official venue for this tournament, once held annually in Gresham, and then known as the Gresham Open—or as it was sometimes referred to, the Siberian Open. It was on the passing of long-time tournament director Neil Dale, in the late part of 2016, that the tournament was renamed in his honor.

The “Siberian Open” name was in reference to the usually REALLY cold weather to be expected during January of each year (think ice and snow), which was made more treacherous by the Gresham venue—Mt. Hood Community College, located just off Highway 84, at the entrance to the Columbia Gorge, where the constant wind currents caused a chill-factor that would make an Eskimo think twice about attending this two day event. It was so bad at times that attending this tournament was to literally jeopardize your life trying to traverse the roads anywhere in the vicinity.

As a matter of fact, the last time the tournament was played in Gresham, still under the title of the Gresham Open, a storm hit the region that was so cold and severe that one could reasonably assume that another ice age was upon us. It caused



(L) Isaac Vega vs Alex Yeo. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

14 players to opt out of attending on the second day—this reporter being one of them. Somehow, by renting dogsleds, donning caribou parkas and snowshoes, some of the more hearty souls fought the elements to attend the final day.

It was for this reason, and the fact that attendance had been dropping at the same time that the cost of the venue had risen, that it was proposed that the future home of this annual tournament be moved

to the safer climate and easier access of the Portland Chess Club, albeit one that would hold a much smaller number of players—mandated by city regulations, and at that time, one operating toilet. Thankfully, the toilet situation was updated to 20th century standards (we now have two), which eliminated jumping up and down in place, and losing concentration during crucial points in your game.

Now for the really strange part of this story. Newly named, the First Annual Neil Dale Memorial Tournament was scheduled for January 7-8, 2017, at its new venue. Perhaps the gods of the Gorge were perturbed by the loss of this annual event, or perhaps it was just coincidence, but the tournament had to be canceled due to a storm that left Portland and its vicinities covered in ICE AND SNOW!—the result of which caused the tournament to be postponed until March 4-5 of that year.

Speed ahead to this Third Annual Neil Dale Memorial Tournament. Although the weather was cold on January 5-6 this year, it was balmy compared to what this tournament has endured in the past. Each year since the change of venue the player count has risen by small increments—37 in 2017; 39 in 2018; and this year’s record-breaking 54! And on hand to handle this full house were Chief TD Mike Morris and Assistant Chief TD Mike Janniro, helped on the first day by sometimes active TD Mike Lilly.

Heading this one section, five-round Swiss, rating-wise, was Washington’s FIDE Master Steven Breckenridge (2325-



(L) Chief Assistant TD Mike Janniro (R) Assistant Mike Lilly.  
Photo credit: Brian Berger.





(L) Arliss Dietz vs Arlo Maslen. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

2338—5.0/5), who showed that the top rating usually counts for something when money and bragging rights are on the line. His perfect performance was worth \$324, the extra \$24 a bonus, due to the more than 50-player count.

Breckenridge's closest competitors were NM Joshua Grabinsky (2230-2227—4.0/5) and NM Jason Cigan (2217-2207—3.5/5), Cigan somehow taken out of the running for a prize by allowing a draw in his first round with Silas Lainson (1541-1663—3.5/4) of Washington, who tied for the U1700 prize of \$94.50 (more about the other player a couple of paragraphs down), while adding 122-points to his rating. As for Grabinsky, he tied with Ryan Richardson (2100-2104)—4.0/5), Josiah Perkins (1971-1964—4.0/5), Brent Baxter (1927-1914—4.0/5), and Zoey Tang (1871-1889—4.0/5)— all of them splitting second and third overall, first and second U2100, and first U1900 prizes, to the tune of \$129.60 each. Tang, a young lady who has shown an ever increasing understanding of what it takes to play great chess, must have been happy to be paid for giving chess lessons.

Tying for second in the U1900 were Sean Al Uan-Zo-Li (1868-1892—3.5/5) and Isaac Vega (1785-1817—3.5/5), their 3.5 scores good enough to receive a bit of moo-la (\$40.50), an amount that just covered their entrance fee.

The “upset prize” of \$54 went to the young Yu-Cheng Liang (1625-1710—3.5/5)—who was also the player who tied with the afore mentioned Silas Lainson for the U1700 prize—by beating Karl Cosner

(2079-2048—3.0/5). Liang has shown himself to be a rapidly rising, formidable opponent, making his opposition pay for even the subtlest miscalculation in piece placement.

And now we come to perhaps the most amazing player performance of the whole tournament, that being the winner of the U1500 prize—drum-rolls, please—Jerrold “I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It’s Over” Richards!! (1373-1470—

3.0/5). Call it a miracle; call it voodoo; call it what you will; he somehow overcame incredible odds to become the recipient of the U1500 first place prize, his three wins earning him \$108, 97 points in rating, and the endearment of Morgan the Dog—who finally saw a payoff for his untold hours of coaching time spent trying to improve Richards’ game, and perhaps more dog food from this unexpected cash windfall.

Although having a rocky start in the first round by losing to Jack Woo McClain (1813-1818—3.0/5)—to be expected in a one section Swiss, with much higher-rated players in the mix—Richards won his second game against an unseasoned Lokesh Hariharan (655-608—0.0/5). But here is where it got interesting; he was then paired with diminutive (but aggressive) Abbie Wu (1685-1652—3.0/5), managing a win from this powerhouse player, carrying a rating some 300 rating points higher! And if that was not sufficient evidence of something spooky going on, he then did a walk-over on the young Eric “Mighty-Mite” Erard (1770-1716—1.5/5), some 400 points his better!

He must have been thinking thoughts of invincibility at this point, as he was about to face Washingtonian Brent Baxter (1927-1914—4.0/5). Probably driven by Quixotic fervor, Richards now readied himself to take on one of the big “windmills” of the tournament, in the hopes of slaying this final opponent. Although he tilted mightily, this opponent was too big to conquer. Though accolades and a medal for bravery were the very least his due, he instead had to settle for



(L) Jason Cigan vs Silas Lainson. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



taking home money and rating points, and the memory of his three wins, perhaps dreaming of further victories over giants.

Taking U1500 second place prize was Cleveland Johnson (1385-1469—2.5/5), his 2.5 score earning him \$81 and 84 rating points. And for the final payouts for the day, those being for first and second U1300/Unrated monies, four players split that into \$47.25 each—Sudarshan Gokul (1162-1198—2.0/5), Jason Jacobsen (1021-1023—2.0/5), Anisha Sripada (883-890—2.0/5), and Ben Barnes (Unrated-1405P—2.0/5).

*The following two games were submitted by Steven Breckenridge who expressed great respect and admiration for the late Neil Dale.—Jeffrey Roland, Editor*

**Joshua Grabinsky (2230) –  
Steven Breckenridge (2325) [C45]**  
Neil Dale Memorial Portland, OR  
(R4), January 6, 2019  
*[Ralph Dubisch]*

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6  
5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2 Nd5 8.c4  
Ba6**

Another main branch starts 8...Nb6.

**9.Nd2**

9.b3 is slightly more common.

**9...0-0-0 10.b3 g5**

10...f6 11.Qe4 (11.Bb2 fxe5 12.0-0-0 when 12...Re8 looks all right for Black.) 11...Nb4 12.Bb2 Bb7 13.exf6 Qf7 (or 13...gxf6 and Black seems fine in either case.)

**11.Bb2 Bg7 12.0-0-0 Rde8?!**

12...Nf4 13.Qe3 Bb7 14.h4 h6 You can probably claim a small edge for White with g3 coming, either with or without an exchange on g5 first, but the position is dynamic and playable for both sides.

**13.Re1**

Black isn't actually threatening the e-pawn — after exchanges on e5, there won't be a pin on the a6-f1 diagonal — so there's no immediate need to defend it. Possible is 13.g3 Nb6 14.f4 gxf4 15.gxf4 f6 when White can investigate 16.e6!? (or 16.Rg1!?)

**13...Nf4 14.Qe3 c5 15.h4 h6 16.h5?**

This simply cannot be positionally correct. Yes, it takes away g6 from the black knight... but was it really headed there? The reduction in tension and the passivity of the h1-rook are certainly more important. 16.g3 Bb7 17.Rh2 Ne6 18.Bg2±; 16.hxg5 hxg5 17.Rxh8 Bxh8 18.g3 Ng6 19.Bg2 Nxe5 20.Nf3 Ng6

21.Qxe7 Bxb2+ 22.Kxb2 Rxe7 23.Rxe7 Nxe7 24.Nxg5± based on pawn islands.

**16...Bb7± 17.f3?!**

17.Rg1 Ne6 18.Ne4 Kb8∞

**17...Ne6**

Black can take advantage of the pinned e-pawn here to advance 17...f5!, eliminating knight access to e4.

**18.Ne4 d6**



*Position after 18...d6*

**19.Nf6?!**

Maintaining the e5-pawn has been the focus of White's game, so it's understandably hard to shift gears. But best here is probably 19.exd6 Bxb2+ 20.Kxb2 cxd6.

**19...Rd8**



*(L) Joshua Grabinsky vs Steven Breckenridge, who likes to take naps between moves.  
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



19...Bxf6 20.exf6 Qd8 is also fine.

**20.Nd5 Qf8 21.Rd1**

Perhaps it's time for White to finally develop his last piece? 21.Bd3 makes tons of sense.

**21...Nd4 22.Bxd4?!**

22.exd6!?

**22...cxd4 23.Qxd4 Kb8 24.Nf6?! Qe7 25.Nd5 Qe6 26.Nc3 Bxe5 27.Qd3 f5 28.Qc2**

28.Kc2

**28...g4 29.Nd5 c6**



Position after 29...c6

**30.Nb4**

30.Nc3 Bg7 Black clearly has more mobility.

**30...Bf6**

30...Bg7!? gives the queen access to two squares on the diagonal.

**31.Be2**

31.Nd3 c5 32.Re1 Qf7 33.Be2 Rhe8 and White is suffering.

**31...Rhe8 32.Rde1 Qe3+ 33.Qd2 Qc3+**

It's definitely all over now.

**34.Nc2**

34.Qxc3 Bxc3-+

**34...Qb2+ 35.Kd1 Bc3 36.Qc1 Qxa2 37.Ref1 Qxb3**

37...Bb2 38.Qxh6 Qb1+ 39.Kd2 Rxe2+

**38.fxg4 fxg4 39.Rf4 d5 40.c5 g3 41.Rf3 Rxe2 42.Kxe2 Ba6+ 43.Kd1 d4 44.Qa3 Qb1+ 45.Qc1 Qb3**

45...Qb5

**46.Qa3 Be2+ 47.Kc1 Qxa3+ 48.Nxa3 Bxf3 49.gxf3 Bb4 50.Nc4 Bxc5 51.Ne5 Kc7 52.Nf7 d3 53.Kd2 g2 54.Rc1 g1Q 55.Rxg1 Bxg1 0-1**

**Steven Breckenridge (2325) –**

**Jason D. Cigan (2217) [B25]**

Neil Dale Memorial

Portland, OR (R5), January 6, 2019

[Ralph Dubisch (RD) and

John Glass (JG)]

**1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.0-0 Nc6 5.d3 d6 6.e4 Nf6 7.Nc3 Rb8 8.h3 0-0 9.Re1**

RD: I'm not entirely sure the point of Re1. Normal here is 9.a4 a6 10.Be3, the difference from the game line being the tempo used on Re1. 10...Nd7 11.Qd2 Nd4 12.Kh2, for example, avoids a tactical issue that could have arisen.

**9...Nd7 10.Be3 Nd4 11.a4 a6 12.Qd2?**

RD: Searching for a move-order that reaches the game line without allowing the tactic in the next note... 12.Bxd4 cxd4 13.Ne2 e5 14.Qd2 b5?! 15.axb5 axb5?! 16.Qb4 . Perhaps it could have happened that way, but I still have some issues with Black's play on moves 14 and 15 in this line. In reverse order I think I would have preferred 15...Rxb5 or 14...a5!?

**12...b5?**

RD: The fact that White allowed, and Black missed, the simple thematic tactic 12...Nxf3+ 13.Bxf3 Ne5 14.Bg2 Bxh3! makes me wonder if the submitted game score has a move-order error.

**13.axb5 axb5 14.Bxd4 cxd4 15.Ne2 e5 16.Qb4 Qb6**

JG: Why not 16...Nc5, since Black wants to play ...f5? White can't snatch the b-pawn: 17.Ra5?! Qc7!?! (Nothing wrong



(L) Jon Strohbahn vs Karl Cosner.  
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



with 17...Bd7 either.) 18.Rxb5? Na6! 19.Qc4 (19.Qb3 Be6 20.c4 Rxb5 (20... dxc3 also seems more than adequate.) 21.Qxb5 Nc5. Black threatens both ...Nxd3 and ...Rb8.) 19...Rxb5 20.Qxb5 Qxc2 looks like a clear plus for Black.

**17.Ra5 Nf6?!**

JG: Is Black trying for ...d5? What's that about?

RD: 17...Nc5 still looks pretty good for Black to me.

**18.Rea1 Re8 19.c3 d5?!**

RD: Wow, apparently he was. That seems a bit anti-thematic. Maybe there's still a shot at equality with 19...Qc5 here. 20.Qxc5 dxc5 21.cxd4 exd4 22.Rc1 Nd7 23.Nf4. It's all messy and unclear. Black may be able to push ...c4 and liquidate a bunch of pawns; White could try b4 somewhere to break the pawn mass.

**20.cxd4 dxe4 21.Nxe5 exd3 22.Nf4**

JG: So, White wins the d-pawn and it's all over?

**22...Bf5 23.Ra6 Qc7 24.g4**

RD: Oh, at first I thought White was planning a big tactic: 24.Rxf6! Bxf6 25.Nd5 . Only when we reached here I noticed the defense 25...Be7!! Nicely

avoided. Not sure I would have spotted that one over the board.;

JG: What about 24.Bc6 Re7 25.Nfxd3 taking over the center and blocking play along the c-file?;

RD: Maybe. 24.Bc6 may allow Black to sac the exchange on e5. I'm not sure it works, but it could be more fun and freedom than White wants to allow Black to have here.

**24...Qc2?**



Position after 24...Qc2

JG: That doesn't look right.

RD: 24...Be4 25.Rxf6! (25.Nfxd3 must be a slight edge for White, too, but there are complications.) 25...Bxf6 26.Bxe4 Bxe5 27.dxe5 Qxe5 28.Bf3 White is

certainly a bit better here, but the win is still far off.

**25.Rc6!**

RD: No, ...Qc2 really isn't good enough. White could even take on f5. There just isn't a real threat to promote that d-pawn. 25.gxf5! d2 26.Bf3 Qc1+? (26...Qxf5 27.Nfd3 Qxh3 28.Bg2 Qh5 29.Qxd2... still not seeing a real threat anywhere.) 27.Bd1 with Nfd3 coming.

**25...Bf8 26.Rxc2 Bxb4 27.Rc6!**

RD: An unusual double attack.

**27...d2**

RD: 27...Be6 doesn't improve: 28.Nexd3 Be7 (28...Bf8 29.d5) 29.Nxe6 fxe6 30.Rxe6+]

**28.gxf5 Nd7 29.Nfd3 Nxe5 30.dxe5 Rbd8 31.Bf1 gxf5**

RD: A last tactical attempt is 31...Rxd3 32.Bxd3 Rxe5, desperately hoping for ...Re1+. But Black's down a rook, so there are all sorts of adequate defenses, like 33.Rf1 (33.Ra8+ Kg7 34.f6+ Kh6 35.Bc2 Re1+ 36.Kg2 d1Q 37.Bxd1 Rxd1 38.Ra7 looks even better.) 33...Re1 34.Bc2

**32.Rd1 1-0**



Some of the players.  
Photo credit: Brian Berger.





(L) Kushal Pai vs Andrei Botez. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Eric Erard vs Jerrold Richards. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

## Successful Year For Central Oregon Chess

By Eric Holcomb

Central Oregon Chess (the local US Chess affiliate) wrapped up a successful four-tournament year with the Redmond Fall Open, held on Nov. 10 at the Redmond (Oregon) Senior Center. The previous Spring Open was also held at the Senior Center, and the Bend Summer Open and Bend Fall Quads were held at the Whispering Winds retirement home in Bend. The Redmond events were held in cooperation with the Redmond Chess Club, directed by Gilberto Raygoza, which meets on Saturdays at the local library. The tournament directors were Paul Shannon (NTD) and Eric Holcomb (Club TD). The events attracted a total of seven unrated players, including four juniors, who are now working on their provisional ratings.

The Redmond Fall Open was played at a faster G/45;d5 time control, compared to G/60;d5 for the other three tournaments. This allowed for four rounds and some exciting action, with a three-way tie for first among Paul Shannon, Eric Holcomb and Gilberto Raygoza, each losing one game and scoring 3 of 4 points. Indeed, there were no draws out of 19 games played by 10 entrants, which is not unusual for faster time controls. All 10 players won at least one game; no one was shut out, which is especially good for the juniors.

Paul is a longtime expert-level player (currently at his 2000 floor) who has competed in the invitational section of the Oregon Closed (annual championship). Eric had five previous draws and five

previous losses to Paul in rated games, but no wins. This time turned out differently! (See the annotated game.)

With Paul and Eric's organizing efforts, Central Oregon Chess is planning to be active again in 2019, including a round-robin one-game-per-week tournament with both Bend and Redmond players. For more information, please contact Eric at [eric@holcomb.com](mailto:eric@holcomb.com). (For NWC business matters, you can continue to use [info@nwchess.com](mailto:info@nwchess.com).)

**Eric Holcomb (1563) – Paul Shannon (2000) [C16]**

Redmond Fall Open  
Redmond, OR (R4), November 10, 2018  
[Eric Holcomb]

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Ne7 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6 7.Nf3**

Avoiding the more common and active Qg4, for now.

**7...0-0**

And Black is avoiding c5.

**8.Bd3 h6 9.0-0 Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.Bd2 c5 12.Qe2 c4 13.Rab1 Nc7 14.Nh4 Nc6**

Removing this knight from defense of the kingside gives white an edge.

**15.Qg4**

Now it's time!

**15...Kh7 16.f4 f5 17.exf6 Qxf6 18.f5 e5**

N back to e7 was better.

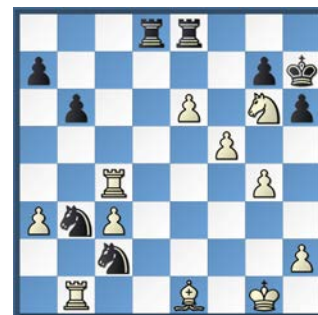
**19.Qg6+**

No need to offer a queen trade here, except it was a G/45.

**19...Qxg6 20.Nxg6**

White is still slightly better with this well-placed knight.

**20...Rfe8 21.dxe5 d4 22.g4 Nd5 23.cxd4 Nxd4 24.c3 Nb3 25.Be1 Rad8 26.e6 Ne3 27.Rf4 Nc2 28.Rxc4**



Position after 28.Rxc4

Oops! Both players miss the obvious fork at a3. That's time pressure!

**28...Nc5 29.Bh4 Rd2**

Nxa3 was still the best.

**30.Rxc5**

A simply winning exchange sacrifice, with the remaining rook heading to the seventh rank!

**30...bxc5 31.Rb7 Ne3 32.h3 Rd1+ 33.Kf2 Nd5 34.c4 Nb6 35.Bf6**

f6 was even better, but both moves win.

**35...Rg8 36.e7**

Oops! Bxg7 was winning, but now black can block with Re8.

**36...Nd7**

The wrong blocking move ... now white is totally winning again.

**37.Rxd7 Rxd7 38.Nf8+ Kh8 39.Nxd7**

Immediate queening of the pawn was better, but this is still very good, and black resigned after a few more moves with both players under time pressure. Thank goodness for the 5-second delay!

**1-0**



# Washington Winter Classic

By Josh Sinanan

Seattle, WA—December 26,30-2018

The Washington Winter Classic, a nine-round marathon Swiss tournament in two sections – Open & Reserve U1800 – was held December 26-30 at the Seattle Chess Club. The so-called “holiday week” between Christmas and New Year’s is a popular time for many to partake in chess competitions worldwide. For many local Northwest players, a winter chess tournament offers an escape from the dreary, rainy winter days and is a fun way to close out the end of the year.

The 2018 Winter Classic attracted only 19 players, down from the 40+ who attended in 2017. Perhaps this was due to more folks opting to play in the North American Open in Las Vegas, which offers higher stakes competition and more opportunities to gain rating points. After all, it’s no secret that trying to raise one’s US Chess rating playing locally in the Northwest is extremely difficult given the plethora of underrated juniors caused by the dual rating systems.

As a result of the low turnout in the Open section, which fell to only four players after the top seed withdrew after the first round, the format was changed to a double round robin, in which each player faced everyone else twice over the six rounds.

Self-proclaimed RAR Master Joseph Truelson of Issaquah captured clear first place in the Open section with 5.5/6 points and took home the \$375 cash prize. Truelson earned his victory convincingly, finishing 1.5 points ahead of the field. Along the way, he defeated two-time Washington State Champion FM Ignacio Perez 2-0 in their head-to-head games. Joseph Frantz of Seattle finished in clear second place with 4.0/6 and was responsible for knocking out top-seeded NM Peter Lessler in the first round after a wild time-scramble resulting in a draw. For his efforts, Frantz received the second

place prize of \$300. FM Ignacio Perez, the speed chess legend originally from Cuba, finished in clear third place with 2.5/6 and took home \$250. Like a good cigar, the Cuban just seems to get better with age!

WCM Mary Kuhner of Seattle rounded out the prize winners and won \$200 for her fourth place finish. Along the way, Kuhner almost defeated Perez in one of her pet lines of the French defense in which she obtained two pawns, a knight, and a rook vs Ignacio’s queen. Despite her material superiority, the slippery FM was able to escape unscathed!

The young Neeraj Harish of Redmond won the 14-player Reserve U1800 section with an undefeated 7.5/9 points and took home a check for \$250. Harish started the tournament off strong, winning his first 4 games in a row! The adults in the section eventually put an end to Neeraj’s spree, as he drew against Jack Christy in round five and Dan Mathews in round six.

Harish returned to his winning ways in the final two rounds with victories over Angela Chen and Aidan Moran, pulling a full-point ahead of Mathews, his nearest rival. WCF Tournament Coordinator Dan “Money” Mathews finished in clear second place with 6.5/9 points and took home \$200. Young Saket Singh of Sammamish captured clear third place half-a-point back and won \$175. Edward Li, whose twin sister Emma also played, won the \$150 fourth place overall prize with an undefeated 5.5/9 points, winning two games and drawing the rest.

Three players tied for the U1600, U1400, and U1200 section prizes with 5.0/9 points apiece and each won \$100: Jack Christy of Anacortes, Angela Chen of Seattle, and Emma Li of Redmond. Sacchit Boddapati of Bothell and Aidan Moran or Kirkland tied for first place U1000 with four points each and each brought home \$50 for their efforts. Angela Chen and Emma Li split the female prize of \$67.50, which was the only special prize awarded by virtue of meeting the minimum number of eligible players. Congratulations to all the winners!

Angela Chen (1284) –  
Edward Li (1409) [C54]

WA Winter Classic  
Seattle, WA (R2), December 28, 2018  
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6  
5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Bxd2+  
8.Nbxd2 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.0-0 0-0



Position after 10...0-0

## 11.Nb3

All book through move ten, but here 11.Rc1 or 11.Re1, continuing development, look better.

## 11...a6?!

11...Bg4, developing with purpose. Black plans ...Nf4, too.

## 12.a3?!

There’s no rule that says you have to push the same rook pawn as your opponent. Develop instead.

## 12...b6?!

The bishop already has lovely diagonals, and this weakens c6. Instead of restraining the b3-knight, perhaps focus on the available f4-square for the d5-knight instead?

## 13.Qc2 h6

13...Nf4!? tries to tempt White into the disastrous sequence 14.Bxf7+?? (14.Qe4 Qf6 15.Rfe1 is better, of course.) 14...Rxf7 15.Qxc6 Be6, when all of Black’s pieces participate in a kingside attack: 16.Nbd2 Bd5 17.Qc2 Nxc2! 18.Kxc2 Qg5+ 19.Kh1 Rxf3-+

## 14.Qe4

14.Rfe1. Complete development before

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Some action and a greeting from the Winter Chess Classic. Credit: Josh Sinanan/WCF.

embarking on an adventure.

**14...Be6**

14...Nce7!? 15.Ne5 Bf5

**15.Bd3 Nf6**

15...g6 16.Ne5 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Nf4 18.Qxf4 Qxd3 19.Nd4 g5 20.Qe3 Qxe3 21.fxe3 Rfe8 22.Rf6 is another tactical exchanging sequence that settles into equality after a little excitement.

**16.Qxc6 Bxb3 17.Qc3 Bd5 18.Rfe1?**

18.Ne5

**18...Bxf3 19.gxf3 Nd5 20.Qd2 Qf6 21.Bf1**



Position after 21.Bf1

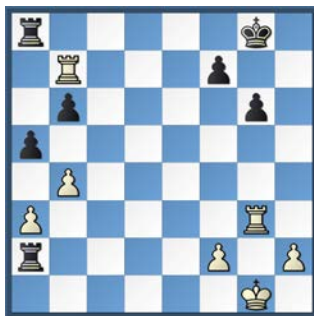
**21...Qxf3**

21...Rad8 plans to occupy the f4-outpost with the knight and looks like a clear advantage for Black. There's no hurry taking f3 — it's a permanent weakness, and even serves a function interfering with the white bishop.

**22.Bg2 Qg4 23.Re4 Qg5?**

23...Qg6 and Black stays up a pawn.

**24.Qxg5 hxg5 25.Re5 c6 26.Bxd5 cxd5 27.Rxd5 Rfd8 28.Rxg5 Rxd4 29.Rc1 Rd2 30.b4 Ra2 31.Rg3 g6 32.Rc7 a5 33.Rb7**



Position after 33.Rb7

**33...axb4**

Activating the rooks is key to these endings. Black is equal after 33...Re8 34.Rf3 (34.Rxb6 Re5 35.bxa5 Rxa5 36.Rbb3) 34...Re5 35.h4 (35.Rxf7 Ra1+ 36.Kg2 Rg5+ 37.Kf3 Rxa3+ 38.Kf4 Rg2) 35...Rf5 36.Rxf5 gxf5 37.Rxb6 Rxa3 38.bxa5 Rxa5.

**34.axb4 R8a6 35.Rf3 Rb2 36.Rxf7 Rxb4 37.Rg7+ Kf8 38.Rxg6 Ra1+ 39.Kg2 b5 40.Rc6 Ra8 41.Rc5 Rg4+ 42.Kf3 Rb4 43.Rxb5**

43.Kg3 offers White more practical chances, with the f-pawn available to interpose checks along the third rank and the king supporting an advance of the h-pawn, but the position likely remains theoretically drawn.

**43...Ra3+**

Even exchanging rooks into a single-rook ending with 43...Rxb5 is possible. As the f- and h-pawns haven't advanced for the ending is technically drawn, though the method is not trivial.

**44.Kg2 Rg4+ 45.Kf1 Ra1+ 46.Ke2 Rg2**

Obviously White could choose to play on here.

1/2-1/2

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**August Piper (1500) –  
Emma Li (998) [A20]**

WA Winter Classic  
Seattle, WA (R2), December 27, 2018  
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.g3 e5 2.c4 c6 3.d4!**

We reach a reversed Sicilian Alapin (c3) with an extra tempo for White.

**3...d6 4.Bg2**

4.Nc3 Nd7 5.Bg2 Ngf6 is fairly standard transposition into Old Indian/King's Indian territory.; 4.dxe5 dxe5 5.Qxd8+ Kxd8 is a dynamic queen-less middle game. Castling isn't terribly important here, as the black king has a nice haven on c7, so White is hard-pressed to point to any advantage.

**4...g6 5.d5**

I'm not a big fan of spending a move to reduce the central tension. White can claim a space advantage, but Black evidently wasn't planning to use c6 for the b8-knight in any case, and the c8-bishop has plenty of squares other than e6 to choose from.

5.Nc3 is more consistent, when 5...Nd7 (Against others, White can consider playing the queen exchange lines: **a)** 5...Nf6 6.dxe5 dxe5 7.Qxd8+ Kxd8 8.Nf3 Nbd7 9.0-0 and White is a bit happier than in similar OID exchange lines, as

not only has Black played ...Nf6 (there's much to be said for defenses involving ...f6 instead), she's also weakened the kingside dark squares with ...g6.; **b)** 5...Bg7 6.dxe5 dxe5 (6...Bxe5?! 7.Nf3 Bxc3+ (7...Bg7 8.Bf4) 8.bxc3± is a big early commitment, giving up the bishop pair and a developmental lead in a fairly open position.) 7.Qxd8+ Kxd8 and g7 might not be the ideal square for the bishop in these positions.

**5...Bg7 6.e4 Nf6 7.Nc3 Na6 8.a3**

Since I don't see an immediate, specific need for a3, I would prefer to continue consistent development with 8.Nge2, aiming, after preparation — 0-0, h3, Be3, perhaps — for an eventual f4.

**8...Nc7 9.dxc6**

Again, I'm not sure what changed or is gained by the immediate capture on c6, so would prefer 9.Nge2 on principle.

**9...bxc6 10.Nf3 Bb7**

10...0-0 we know for sure, ...Bb7 we don't. I can picture lines where that bishop belongs instead on e6 or a6, generally causing trouble for the white c-pawn.

**11.0-0 0-0 12.Qe2 Re8 13.Rd1 d5!?**

Black could continue to prepare with 13...Qe7.

**14.cxd5 cxd5 15.exd5 Nxd5**

15...e4!? can be quite complicated. 16.Ng5 Nxd5 17.Nxe4 Qb6 and Black has compensation for the pawn.

**16.Bg5**

16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.Ng5∞

**16...Nxc3 17.bxc3 Qa5**

17...Qc7

**18.Rab1 Bxf3 19.Bxf3 Rac8**

19...e4!? 20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.Bxe4 Qxc3

**20.Rb5**



Position after 20.Rb5

20.Bb7!? This is actually a very complicated and obscure position in which the white bishop-pair and rooks can generate threats and activity to compensate for the loss of queenside pawns.

**20...Qxc3 21.Rd3 Qc4 22.Rb4 Qe6**

# Washington President's Cup

## February 9-10, 2019

*Highest Finishing WA resident in Open section seeded into the 2020 Washington Invitational*

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

**Format:** 5 Round Swiss.

**Two Sections:** Open and Reserve (under 1600).

**Time Control:** Rd 1 G/60, d10, Rds 2-5 30/90, SD/30, d10.

US Chess February 2019 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:** \$2,000 (based on 50 paid entries).

**Open:** 1st \$385, 2nd \$285, 3rd \$180, 1st U1800 \$125, 1st U1600 \$125

**Reserve:** 1st \$275, 2nd \$225, 3rd \$160, 1st U1400 \$120, 1st U1200/Unrated \$120

**Entry Fee:** \$70 if postmarked or online by 02/03, \$80 after 02/03 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

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

**Rounds:** Saturday 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 5:30 PM; Sunday 10:30 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. Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. NS. NC. W.

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

**Mail To:** Jacob Mayer, 9502 44th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115-2610. **Phone:** (206) 697-5625.

**Email:** [ivictormayer@yahoo.com](mailto:ivictormayer@yahoo.com).

**Online Registration:** [nwchess.com/onlineregistration](http://nwchess.com/onlineregistration).



### 23.Bxf6 Qxf6

Other complications develop after 23... Bxf6 24.Bg4 (24.Bd5 Qh3 25.Rd1) 24... Rc1+ 25.Kg2 Qc6+ 26.Bf3 Qc8 27.Qe4 Both sides need to take great care in opposite bishop positions with other pieces, especially queens and rooks, on the board.

### 24.Re4?!

24.Rb7 They say a rook on the seventh is worth a pawn...

Now Black's edge begins to grow.

### 24...Qa6 25.Qe3??

25.Qd1!? supports a Ra4 and helps control the d-file.

25...f5+ 26.Rb4 e4 27.Rd7 exf3 28.Qb3+ Re6 29.h3 Qe2 30.Rxg7+

30.Rd1 Rc2 31.Rf1 Qxf1+

30...Kxg7 31.Rb7+ Kh6 32.Rb4 Rc1+ 33.Kh2 0-1

Halle Wong (1207) –

John P. Christy (1416) [C58]

WA Winter Classic

Seattle, WA (R8), December 30, 2018

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Na5 6.Bd3?!

6.Bb5+ c6 7.dxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 is a known

line, though (8.Be2 is more popular. White gets a pawn; Black gets space and activity.)

### 6...Nxd5 7.Nf3 Bd6



Position after 7...Bd6

### 8.c4??

8.0-0 is necessary, though still favoring Black's space and development.

### 8...Nf4 9.Bf1 0-0

9...e4! completely contains the white forces.

### 10.Nc3 Nc6

10...e4!

11.d3 Bg4 12.Bxf4 exf4 13.Be2 Bxf3 14.Bxf3 Re8+ 15.Kf1 Bc5 16.Be4 Qh4

16...Ne5+

17.Qd2

17.g3 Qh3+ 18.Bg2 Qd7 19.Bxc6 Qxc6 20.Nd5 is still better for Black, but the amount of advantage is open to discussion.

### 17...Rad8 18.Bxc6 bxc6

18...Rxd3!-+

19.Re1 f3 20.Ne4 fxg2+

Or 20...Rxe4+.

21.Kxg2 Qg4+?

21...Rxe4!-+

22.Ng3 h5 23.h4

23.h3!? first?W

23...Kf8 24.Rd1

24.b3!?

24...Re6 25.Qg5 Qd4 26.Rhf1 Rg6

26...g6 27.Ne4 Be7

27.Qe3?

27.Qxh5 Rh6 28.Qe2

27...Qd6 28.d4 Bxd4 29.Qd2 Qf6

30.Kh3 Qe6+

30...Rg4

31.Kg2 Qe4+ 32.Kh3 Qg4+ 33.Kg2 Qxh4 34.Rh1 Qe4+ 35.Kh3 Qg4+ 36.Kg2 c5 37.b4 Rdd6 38.Qd3 h4 39.Qf3 Qxf3+ 40.Kxf3 Rdf6+ 41.Ke4 Rg4+ 42.Kd3 Rf3+ 43.Kc2 Rxf2+ 44.Kc1 Rxg3 45.Kb1 g5 0-1

# Washington Senior Championship

## April 13-14, 2019

Highest finishing Washington resident receives the title of Washington State Senior Chess Champion, a seed into the Invitational Section of the 2020 WA State Championship, and a \$750 travel stipend from the WCF to attend the 2019 National Senior Tournament of Champions, which will be held August 3-6 in conjunction with the US Open.

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

**Format:** A 5-Round Swiss in one section. Open to Seniors age 50+ (or reaching age 50 by or before August 3, 2019). US Chess Rated. Playoff round if needed to break tie for 1st place will be resolved later in the year by a G/90 playoff game.

**Time Control:** G/90, +30.

US Chess April 2019 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:** \$750 (based on 25 paid entries).

1st \$150, 2nd \$125, 3rd \$100, 1st U2000 \$75, 1st U1700 \$75, 1st U1400 \$75. 1st Age 70+ \$75, 1st Age 80+ \$75.

There must be at least two eligible players for the age prizes to be given. Only one age-based prize allowed per person, cannot win multiple age-based prizes.

**Entry Fee:** \$50 by 04/07, \$60 after 04/07 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

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

**Rounds:** Saturday 10:00 AM, 2:30 PM, 7:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 4:00 PM.

**Byes:** Two half-point byes available. Request before end of round 2. US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted.

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

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

**Phone:** (206) 769-3757. **Email:** [joshsinanan@gmail.com](mailto:joshsinanan@gmail.com).

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



# Northwest Chess Open

By Duane Polich

Seattle, WA—December 15-16, 2018

Congratulations to Chouchan Airapetian, Brandon Jiang and Joshua Lewis-Sandy the winners of the Northwest Chess Open with 4.0 points each. The event was held at the Seattle Chess Club on December 15-16, 2018. It was a fundraiser for Northwest Chess magazine. Other winners included Ansul Bharat-Ahluwalia first under 1800, Ashwin Kaliyaperumal first under 16 00, Collin Dang first under 1400 and Roman Drake first under 1200. Total prizes were \$502.00.



(L-R) Chouchan Airapetian, Joshua Lewis-Sandy, Brandon Jiang. Photo credit: Duane Polich.

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## 13th Annual Grand Pacific Open

**C\$6000 GUARANTEED Prize Fund; FIDE rated**

**Easter: April 19-April 22, 2019**

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

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

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

**Entry Fees (C\$):** \$80 by March 11, \$90 by April 15, \$105 on site. Discount \$20 if in U1200 section.

**Prizes:** C\$6000 guaranteed.

**Registration:** on line at [www.grandpacificopen.pbworks.com](http://www.grandpacificopen.pbworks.com) or by cheque payable to Victoria Chess. Mail to Paul Leblanc, 1012 Spiritwood Place, Victoria, BC V8Y 1C6

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

**Misc:** All equipment provided. C\$115 room rate at Hotel Grand Pacific 1-800-663-7550 (rate code "APRIL19GPO") See website for further details and side events.



# A Hidden Story And A Tournament That Went Unnoticed

## (A student of NM Josh Sinanan, Washington State)

### By Sridhar Seshadri (paid advertisement)

Sridhar Seshadri left chess for higher education and studies in the year 1989 when his estimated rating was above 2000 which never got listed with US Chess or FIDE because he did not know what a rating meant during that time.

It was after over two decades when he got settled in the USA, he got back into playing chess in 2012 at the Crossroads Mall in Bellevue, WA where people come to play chess on the giant set on the floor. Surprisingly Sridhar beat a local player then that made him want to buy chess books from Amazon and learn chess again to get back to the level of player he was like in 1989.

He went to a tournament after two years of preparation and participated in the 3rd Annual Reno — Larry Evans Memorial Tournament in 2014, where he scored 5.5/6 finishing first in Class B, and raising his rating to 1695 provisional to 1805. Sridhar won the under 1800 section playing for Washington State beating players from several western states, including Joshua Grabinsky of Oregon who was a 1600 player then and now rated 2230. His game with John Locke was a sharp Sicilian defense, his game with Joshua featured a deadly rook sacrifice, and he executed a razor-sharp attack against Om Chinchwadkar which got him first place, winning a cash prize and trophy. This tournament result also helped win a first-place team award for Washington State along with members from the Seattle Chess Club. Sri runs the Sri Chess Academy in Bothell, WA and Las Vegas, NV for scholastic players. Sri's students have a high success rate of qualifying for the Washington State Elementary Chess Championships.



The below games are presented for 1600 players to learn how to look at moves and take over the opponent's strategy, with sacrifices (like when Joshua went after too many pawns where he grabbed them one by one just to get checkmated soon).

**Sridhar Seshadri (1694) –  
Michael Titus (1568) [A35]**  
3rd Annual Larry Evens Memorial  
Reno, NV, (R1) April 18, 2014

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 d6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 0-0 6.Bg5 e5 7.Be2 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Nc6 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.0-0 Bb7 11.Bf3 Qc7 12.Rc1 Rfd8 13.Qc2 a6 14.Rfe1 Qa5 15.Bd2 Qc7 16.Be3 c5 17.Bg5 Kf8 18.Re2 Nd7 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.cxd5 Nf6 21.Rce1 Re8 22.Qd2 Ra7 23.Bxf6 Raa8 24.Bxg7+ Kxg7 25.Qc3+ Kg8 26.Re3 Qd7 27.h3 h5 28.Bd1 Ra7 29.Rg3 Qd8 30.Bc2 Kh7 31.Rf3 Kg8 32.g4 hxg4 33.hxg4 Qd7 34.g5 Qg4+ 35.Rg3 Qh5 36.Rh3 Qg4+ 37.Kf1 f6 38.Bd1 Qf4 39.gxf6 exf6 40.Bf3 f5 41.exf5 Rxe1+ 42.Qxe1 Qxf5 43.Rg3 Rf7 44.Qe2 Qb1+ 45.Kg2 Qxa2 46.Rxg6+ Rg7 47.Qe8+ Kh7 48.Rxg7+ Kxg7 49.Qe7+ Kg6 50.Be4+ Kh6 51.Qf8+ Kg5 52.Qg7+ Kh4 53.Qh6+ Kg4 54.Qg6+ Kh4 55.Qg3+ Kh5 56.Bf3+ Kh6 57.Qf4+ Kg7 58.Qg5+ Kf8 59.Qf6+ Kg8 60.Qe6+ Kf8 61.Bh5 Qxb2 62.Qf7# 1-0

**Sridhar Seshadri (1694) –  
Joshua Grabinsky (1538) [D26]**  
3rd Annual Larry Evans Memorial  
Reno, NV (R3), April 19, 2014

1.Nf3 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e3 Nf6 4.c4 dxc4 5.Bxc4 c5 6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.Qa4 Nc6 8.Ne5 Nxe5 9.dxe5 Bxb5 10.Qxb5+ Qd7 11.Nc3 a6 12.Qe2 Nd5 13.a3 Nxc3 14.bxc3 Qd5 15.Qa2 Qxe5 16.Bb2 Bd6 17.Rd1 Bc7 18.c4 Qe4 19.0-0 Ke7 20.f4 Qxe3+ 21.Kh1 Ba5 22.Rf3 Qe4 23.Qa1 Rhg8 24.Rg3 Qxc4 25.Rc1 Qa4 26.Rd1 f6 27.Rxg7+ Rxg7 28.Bxf6+ Ke8 29.Bxg7 Qxf4 30.Bf6 Qa4 31.Qe5 Qxa3 32.Qh5+ Kf8 33.Qh6+ Ke8 34.Qg7 Bd8 35.Qg8# 1-0

**John J. Locke (1782) –  
Sridhar Seshadri (1694) [B98]**  
3rd Annual Larry Evans Memorial  
Reno, NV (R5), April 20, 2014

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Be7 8.Qf3 Qc7 9.Be2 b5 10.e5 Bb7 11.exf6 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 gxf6 13.Bxa8 fxe5 14.Bf3 gxf4 15.0-0-0 Bf6 16.Nde2 d5 17.a3 Nd7 18.Rhe1 0-0 19.g3 Bxc3 20.Nxc3 fxe3 21.hxg3 Kh8 22.Rg1 Rg8 23.Rh1 Rxg3 24.Rdf1 Qf4+ 25.Kb1 Rxf3 0-1



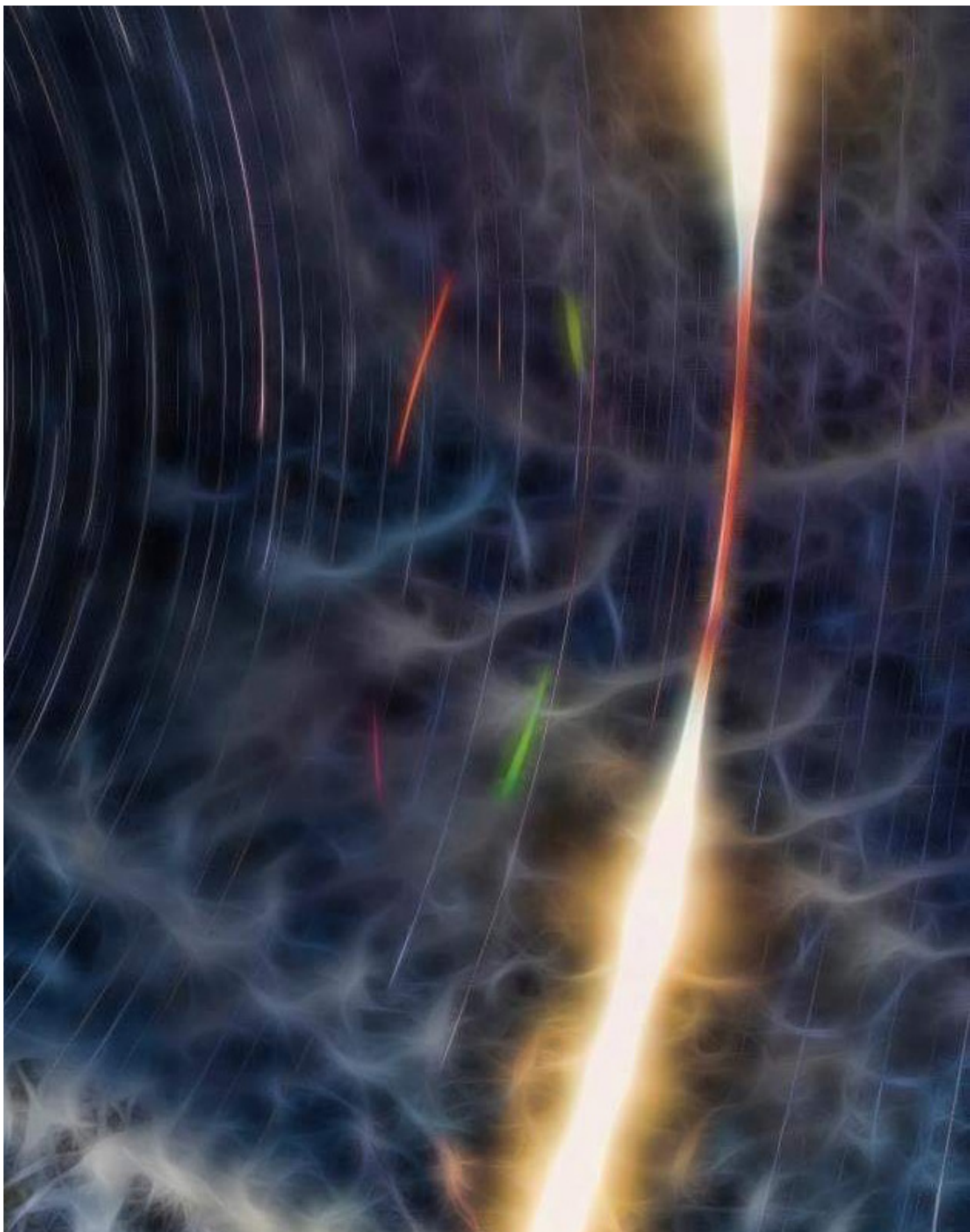
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Saturday and Sunday 9am-9pm

Contact: Sridhar Seshadri, Ph 425-492-4176  
Email: [SSeshadri@srichessacademy.com](mailto:SSeshadri@srichessacademy.com)



*Late in the production of this issue (January 20, 2019) CJA Award-winning photographer and former Northwest Chess editor Philip Peterson took this incredible photograph of the blood “eclipsed” red moon at Lost Maples, Texas using time-lapse photography. Note how the moon trail gets thin, turns red (not visible in B&W) and then turns yellow again before it widens again. Photo credit: Philip Peterson.*





**THE PATH YOU SEEK TO CHESS ENLIGHTENMENT IS WITHIN YOU, FELIX. UNFORTUNATELY, IN YOUR CASE, THAT PATH IS STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION, OVER BUDGET, AND THERE ARE COURT CASES PENDING THAT CLAIM IT TO BE ENVIRONMENTALLY DANGEROUS.**

# The 2018 John Braley Memorial Standings

Murlin Varner, Administrator

mevjr54@outlook.com

The end of the year is always a hectic time. Can I get all the results and payments in time for the publication deadline? Some years, I am able to get it all done and submitted for the February magazine, other years not so lucky. This year, I have made it, sort of. I have the final results for two-thirds of the 2018 contest. Washington and Oregon results are given in full below, but at the moment of this writing, Idaho has to be considered "on hold," but is tentatively shown anyway, pending further developments. More on that next month, I hope.

No repeat champions this year. August Piper has been close in the past, but held his lead this year, winning the Washington contest with 257.5 points. That gave Piper a 16 point margin over Viktors Pupols. In Oregon, Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet edged Zoey Tang by 24.5 points, scoring 242, with a consistent year-long effort. Piper will receive \$127.12 for his overall win in Washington, plus an equal amount for winning Class C. Beauchet will receive \$83.28 for first plus another \$83.28 for his Class C win. I believe this is the first time to have two overall winners from Class C. To win the Northwest Memorial Grand Prix you don't have to be among the best players, just be the most dedicated.

All class winners will receive a first place share, as mentioned above, \$127.12 in Washington and \$83.28 in Oregon. Second place class winners will receive half those amounts, \$63.56 in Washington and \$41.64 in Oregon. Some of our winners are former recipients of GP prizes, but more than half are getting their first GP check.

We set one record this year, for the most points awarded. We earned 31293.5 points in 2018, exactly 100 points more than were awarded in 2017. This was fueled by increases in multiplier levels. We had fewer entries, and no more events, but the size of the multipliers goes a long way towards increasing the points awarded.

Through the year, we welcomed players from beyond the three state area to our GP events. This year we had 70 visitors to our tournaments, including five from other countries, including Canada (7), Germany (2), France, Singapore and Kyrgyzstan. The other 65 came from 18 different states, led by Montana (14), California (11), Utah (5), Wyoming (4) and Minnesota (4). Thanks for visiting, come back soon!

The first weekend of January found me attending the Neil Dale Memorial Open at the Portland Chess Club. There were 54 entries, about the maximum the Portland Chess Club can handle. It was run very well and everything seemed to go smoothly to my eye. I got to put faces to many of the names that I have been tracking for years in the GP. I noted first that there were three past GP champions among the field, including the new champ from Oregon. Looking through the list, I also realized that at least ten other entrants have earned checks from the Grand Prix in past years. The Grand Prix had an impact to those 13+ players, and has been a motivating factor for many to attend one more tournament each month. Makes me feel it is worthwhile.

## 2018 Memorial Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
			<b>Masters</b>								
			1	Tarjan	James	84.0	1	Pupols	Viktors	241.5	
			2	Peng	Shunkai	69.0	2	Yu	Jason	197.5	
			3	Grabinsky	Joshua	64.5	3	Perez	Ignacio	192.0	
			4	McCoy	Owen	59.5	4	Breckenridge	Steven J	141.0	
			5	Zavortink	Matt	54.0	5	He	Anthony B	132.5	
<b>M/X/Class A</b>			<b>Experts</b>								
1	Machin	Alex J	68.0	1	Nair	Roshen S	137.5	1	Truelson	Joseph	214.5
2	Cambareri	Michael E	65.0	2	Seitzer	Phillip	86.0	2	Levine	Joseph R	209.0
3	Presutti	Michael J	52.0	3	Richardson	Ryan	82.5	3	Anand	Vignesh	185.0
4	Xu	Kevin	44.5	4	Bjorksten	Lennart	78.0	4	Velea	Anne-Marie	175.0
5	Inman	James	37.0	5	Gatica	Jose M	70.5	5	Zhang	Eric M	154.5
<b>Class B</b>			<b>Class A</b>								
1	Roland	Jeffrey T	53.5	1	Tang	Zoey	217.5	1	Fagundes	Frank	233.0
2	Wei	James	52.0	2	Vega	Isaac	201.0	2	Beck	Alec W	199.0
3	Machakos	Seth D	35.5	3	Moore	Michael	176.5	3	Vijayakumar	Advait	183.0
4	Derryberry	Dewayne R	31.5	4	Kodithyala	Raj	149.0	4	Jiang	Brandon	173.0
5	Dagher	Gaby	30.5	5	Feldman	Konner	134.0	4	Yan	Jeffrey O	163.0



Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
<b>Class C</b>			<b>Class B</b>								
1	Kitterman	Andrew N	55.5	1	Tang	Austin	214.5	1	Gupta	Anand	203.5
2	Zeng	Forrest	26.0	2	Sripada	Havish	124.5	2	Min	Ryan	188.0
3	He	Justin	20.0	3	Wu	Abbie	119.0	3	Goktepe	Derin	178.5
4	Felice	Louis V	15.0	4	Roshu	David L	101.0	4	Velea	Stephanie	171.0
5	Weyland	Ron	13.5	5	Berger	Brian F	98.5	5	Buck	Stephen J	160.5
<b>Class D</b>			<b>Class C</b>								
1	Porth	Adam	36.5	1	Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	242.0	1	Piper	August	257.5
2	Shepard	River C	34.5	2	Dietz	Arliss	130.0	2	Singh	Saket	193.0
3	Leifeste	Bryce	32.5	3	Wong	Egan	128.5	3	Richards	Jerrold	188.0
4	Merry	William A F	23.0	4	Roshu	Cassandra M	111.5	4	Chen	Aiden	137.0
5	Ang	Ching-E N	22.5	5	Morrissey	Patrick W	106.5	5	Wang	Felicity	136.0
<b>Class E and Below</b>			<b>Class D and Below</b>								
1	Wang	William J	29.0	1	Kodarapu	Ishaan K	92.5	1	Henderson	Doug	209.5
2	Leifeste	Jef	28.0	2	Adiraju	Vimal	63.0	2	Li	Edward	208.0
2	Wei	Luke B	25.0	3	Sripada	Anisha	60.5	3	Li	Emma	169.0
4	Olson	Otto W	24.5	4	Lykins	Pace	55.0	4	Ruff	Lois A	160.0
5	Belew	Finn C	24.0	5	Midson	Tony	51.0	5	Chen	Angela Z	145.0
<b>Overall Leaders, by State</b>											
1	Machin	Alex J	68.0	1	Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	242.0	1	Piper	August	257.5
2	Cambareri	Michael E	65.0	2	Tang	Zoey	217.5	2	Pupols	Viktors	241.5
3	Kitterman	Andrew N	55.5	3	Tang	Austin	214.5	3	Fagundes	Frank	233.0
4	Roland	Jeffrey T	53.5	4	Vega	Isaac	201.0	4	Truelson	Joseph	214.5
5	Presutti	Michael J	52.0	5	Moore	Michael	176.5	5	Henderson	Doug	209.5
5	Wei	James	52.0	6	Kodithyala	Raj	149.0	6	Levine	Joseph R	209.0
7	Xu	Kevin	44.5	7	Nair	Roshen S	137.5	7	Li	Edward	208.0
8	Inman	James	37.0	8	Feldman	Konner	134.0	8	Gupta	Anand	203.5
9	Porth	Adam	36.5	9	Dietz	Arliss	130.0	9	Beck	Alec W	199.0
10	Machakos	Seth D	35.5	10	Wong	Egan	128.5	10	Yu	Jason	197.5
11	Shepard	River C	34.5	11	Sripada	Havish	124.5	11	Singh	Saket	193.0
12	Leifeste	Bryce	32.5	12	Wu	Abbie	119.0	12	Perez	Ignacio	192.0

## *Upcoming Events*

(Continued from Page 31)

☞ **Apr 6-7** 13th Annual Clark Harmon Memorial Open, **Portland, OR**. Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR 97219. One section, 5-round Swiss, round 1: G/60;d10, rounds 2-5: G/120;d10, one half point bye is available if requested before round one, US Chess rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45am, Rds: 10am, 12:45pm, and 5:30pm on Saturday and 10am and 2:45pm on Sunday. Rounds 2, 3 and 5 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: \$45, \$35 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 (\$1500 b/50): 1st-\$300, 2nd-\$200, 3rd-\$125, U2100, U1900, U1700, U1500, U1300/Unrated: 1st-\$100, 2nd-\$75. Upset bonus prize (the player with an established rating who beats a higher rated player by the largest rating difference)-\$50. Qualifier for the Challengers section of the Oregon Closed. More info., including info. about Clark, at [pdxchess.org](http://pdxchess.org), (503) 246-2978.

**Apr 13-14** Washington Senior Championship, **Seattle, WA**. (See Half-Page AD page 23)

**Apr 19-22** 13th Annual Grand Pacific Open, **Victoria, BC (Canada)**. (see Half-Page Ad page 24)

# 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



As of January 8th, the SCC online registration system was still inoperative. To register for the **Spring Open** in advance, you may have to use the U.S. Postal Service.

## \*SCC G/15 Championship March 29

A 5-round Swiss (or Round Robin, depending on entries). \$8 from each entry goes to the prize fund.

**First** 62%  
 (8+ players: 1st 35% & 2nd 27%)

**First in bottom half** 38%  
 (8+ players: 1 BH 22% & 2 BH 16%)

EF: \$10 for SCC mem., \$15 others.  
 Reg: 7-7:45 p.m. 1st Rd: 8:00. Byes: 1 (Rd 3/4—commit at reg.). Misc: US Chess memb. req'd.

## 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.

## Feb 2, Mar 2, Mar 30

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

## Saturday Quads

## Feb 24, Mar 24

**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 per 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.

## Sunday Tornado

## Mar 31

**Format:** 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 3/27, \$16 at site. (-\$2 SCC mem., -\$1 mem. other NW dues-req'd CCs). **Prizes:** SCC membership. **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4—commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

## SCC Novice

## WCF @ the SCC

Presidents' Cup

Feb. 9-10

## SCC Fridays

Typical Friday fare is one round of an ongoing tournament (free to SCC members, \$5 per night for others; no prizes) played at a rate of 40/90 followed by 30/60. Drop in for any round!

**Cabin Fever:** 2/1, 8, 15, 22.

**March Winds (Close Rtg's I):** 3/1, 8, 15, 22, 29\*.

**April Showers:** 4/5, 12, 19, 26.

## Seattle Spring Open

March 15-17 or 16-17

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

## a Northwest Grand Prix event

### Open

**First** \$220  
**Second** \$160  
**U2100** \$100

### Reserve (U1950)

**First** \$120  
**Second** \$80  
**U1750** \$70  
**U1550** \$60  
**U1350** \$50  
**Unrated** \$20

### Plus Score Pool – \$120

**Entry Fees:** \$38 if rec'd by 3/13 (\$26 SCC memb., \$32 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW), \$48 at site (\$36 SCC memb., \$42 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW). **Unrated**—Free with purchase of 1-yr US Chess & 1-yr WCF. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.**

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

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

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

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



# Upcoming Events

♣ denotes 2019 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

**Feb 9-10 and 16-18** OR State Championship and Invitational, **Portland, OR.** <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>

**Feb 9-10 and 16-18** WA State Championship, **Redmond, WA.** <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>

♣ **Feb 9-10** President's Cup, SCC, **Seattle, WA.** (see **Half-Page Ad page 22**)

♣ **Feb 16-18** Idaho Closed State Chess Championship, **Twin Falls, ID.** 6SS, Time Control: 30/120, d5 SD/60, d5. Section: Open. Site: Hampton, 1658 Fillmore St, Twin Falls, ID. Call for Chess Rate, 208-734-2233. Idaho Residency req'd, US Chess and ICA membership req'd EF: \$30 per player, Register online for discount. Rd Times: 2/16 9 am, 4 pm, 2/17 10 am, 5 pm, 2/18 8 am, 3 pm. Business meeting 9 am 2/17. 1/2 pt by Rds 1-5 only. Maximum 1-half point bye, Rounds 1-5, commit before round is paired. 0-point bye round 6. Prizes: 1, 2, 3 Overall; Classes B - E, Top Expert, Class A, Junior, Senior, Unrated, Woman. Details: idahocheessassociation@gmail.com, Online registration at [www.idahocheessassociation.com](http://www.idahocheessassociation.com), (208) 450-9048.

**Feb 22** IM John Donaldson Simul & Lecture, **Spokane, WA.** <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>

♣ **Feb 23-24** The 27th Dave Collyer Memorial, **Millwood, WA.** The Spokane Chess Club and the Gary Younker Foundation, in memory of former presidents Dave Collyer and Gary Younker, proudly present the 27th Dave Collyer Memorial tournament. Location: Millwood Presbyterian Church Community Center, 3223 N. Marguerite, Millwood, WA; I-90 Exit 287, north on Argonne Road to light at Euclid, turn left, two blocks. Format: A computer-paired, five-round Swiss System event. Registration: 9:30-10:30, Feb. 23. Rounds: 11-2:30-7; 10-2:30 or ASAP. Time control: Round 1: G/90,d5; Rounds 2-5: G/115,d5. Entry fee: \$28 if received by 2/22, \$35 at the door; under 18 \$5 less; cash or checks only. Telephone entries accepted (pay at door). All registrants must check in by 10:40 unless a first-round bye was granted. \$1,800 GUARANTEED prize fund. Class prizes based on at least 5 per class; classes may be reconfigured if less than five class entries. Only one prize per player (excluding biggest upset). NS, NC, W. One ½-point bye available if requested by end of prior round; Sunday bye must be requested by end of round 3. Director reserves the right to use class pairings in final round. PRIZES: First \$350, Second \$225, Third \$125; Class Prizes: Top Expert \$100; \$100 first, \$70 second in A, B, C, D, E/Unr. Biggest Upsets: \$100 & \$50 (non-provisional ratings). Entries: Spokane CC, c/o Kevin Korsmo, N. 9923 Moore, Spokane, WA 99208-9339. For information please call (509) 270-1772. Check website for updates: [spokanechessclub.org](http://spokanechessclub.org). W.

♣ **Feb 23/Mar 30** Portland CC Game in 60, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. Two sections-Open and U1650, 4-round Swiss, G/60;inc5, one half point bye is available if requested before round one, US Chess rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45 am. Rds: 10am, 12:30pm, 2:45pm, 5pm. 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 (Add \$5 play-up fee if play up. 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 (\$300 b/30) (any play-up fees are added to the prize fund). Open section: 1st-\$60, 2nd-\$40, 1st U1850/unrated-\$35; U1650 section: 1st-\$60, 2nd-\$40, 1st U1450/unrated-\$35, 1st U1250/unrated-\$30. OSCF State qualifier. More info at [pdxchess.org](http://pdxchess.org). Phone: (503) 246-2978.

♣ **Feb 24/Mar 17** 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](http://pdxchess.org). Phone: (503) 246-2978.

♣ **Mar 2** Northwest Open, **Tacoma, WA.** Site: Eastside Community Center, 1721 E. 56th & Portland Ave. Format: 1 section, 3 round Swiss. Time Control: G/90; d5. Round times: 10:00, 1:30, 4:45. Entry Fee: Advance \$25.00, At Site \$30.00. Prize fund: \$420 B/16, 1st \$50, 2nd \$45, 3rd \$40, Top Half & Bottom Half. Misc.: NC W NS. Byes: 1 half-point bye available. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445. Phone (253)535-2536 or email [garychess@aol.com](mailto:garychess@aol.com).

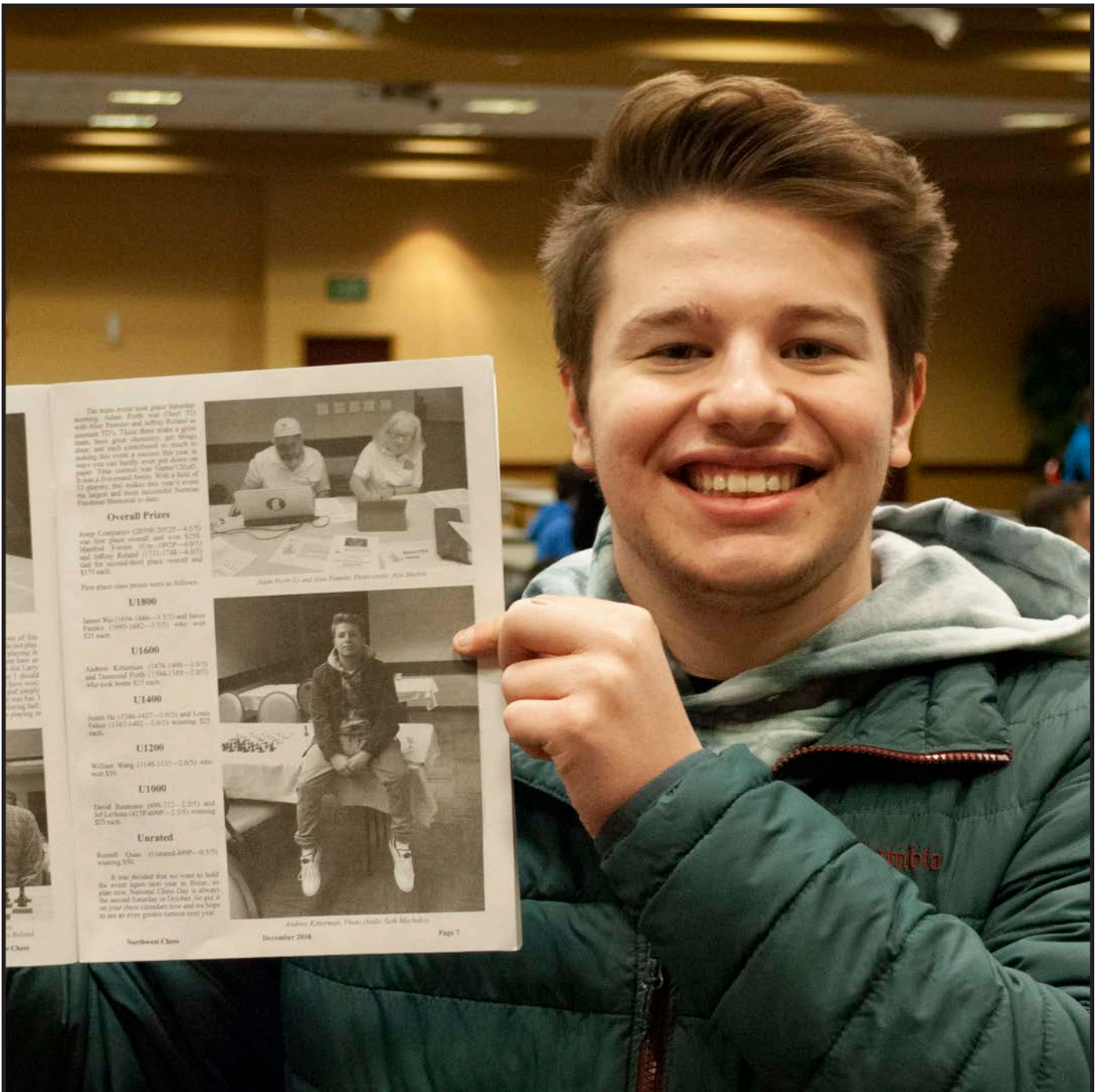
**March 8-10** 9th Annual Oregon Senior Open, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR 97219. Open to all, including those out-of-state, who will be at least 50 years old on Aug 3, 2019. One section, 5-round Swiss, choice of a 3-day or 2-day schedule, up to two half-point byes are available if requested before round four, US Chess rated. TC: G/90;inc30, round one of the 2-day is G/30;inc30. Schedule: 3-day: reg: Fri 7-7:15pm, rds: Fri-7:30pm, Sat-12:45pm & 5:30pm, Sun-10am & 2:45pm. 2-day: reg: Sat 9:30-9:45am, rds: Sat 10am, then merges with 3-day. EF: \$35 (pay by cash or check payable to Oregon Chess Federation). US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA memberships are required and can be purchased during registration (OSA). Players in the 3-day may withdraw and re-enter into the 2-day by paying \$35. Prizes: (\$750 b/30). 1st-\$175, free entry into next year's Oregon Senior Open, and name engraved on the Dr. Ralph Hall memorial perpetual trophy, 2nd-\$125, 1st U2000, 1st U1800, 1st U1600, 1st U1400/unrated-\$75. Bonus prizes (only one bonus prize allowed): age 60 & over-\$60; age 70 & over-\$50; age 80 & over-\$40. Qualifier for the National Senior Tournament of Champions and Challengers section of the OR Closed. More info. at [pdxchess.org](http://pdxchess.org), (503) 246-2978.

♣ **Mar 23-24** Portland Spring 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. Qualifier for the Challengers section of the Oregon Closed and qualifier for the OSCF State Championship. More info. at [pdxchess.org](http://pdxchess.org), (503) 246-2978.

(Continued on page 29)

Northwest Chess  
c/o Orlov Chess Academy  
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Seattle, WA



The main event took place Saturday morning. Adam Park was Chief TD with Alex Pender and Jeffrey Ralston as assistant TD's. These three make a great team. Use your chemistry, get things done, and don't forget to check in when you are ready even just down on paper. Time control was 20/30/20/20 for the round robin. With a field of 13 players, this makes this year's event the largest and most successful Northwest Chess tournament to date.

**Overall Prizes**

**U1800**  
Alex Pender (1606-1666) - 3.5/5 and Jeffrey Ralston (1711-1748) - 4.0/5 tied for second-third place overall and \$75 each.

First-place chess prize went as follows:

**U1800**  
James Wu (1606-1666) - 3.5/5 and James Tunko (1605-1682) - 3.5/5 who won \$25 each.

**U1600**  
Andrew Kabanov (1476-1499) - 3.0/5 and Donald Park (1594-1594) - 3.0/5 who took home \$25 each.

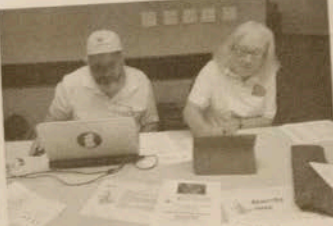
**U1400**  
Justin Yu (1746-1427) - 3.0/5 and Louis Fokas (1147-1442) - 3.0/5 winning \$25 each.

**U1200**  
William Wang (1146-1115) - 2.0/5 who won \$50.

**U1000**  
David Bannan (098-212) - 2.0/5 and Jeff LeRoux (077-6099) - 2.0/5 winning \$25 each.

**Unrated**  
Russell Chen (1146-0999) - 0.5/5 winning \$30.

It was decided that we want to hold the event again next year in Seattle, so plan now. Northwest Chess Day is always the second Saturday in October, so put it on your chess calendar now and we hope to see an even greater turnout next year.



Alex Park TD and Alex Pender. Photo credit: Alex Shubin.



Andrew Kabanov. Photo credit: Josh Markham.