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NWC Staff

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

Board Representatives

Chouhanik Airapetian, Eric Holcomb,
Alex Machin, Duane Polich, Adam Porth, Jeffrey Roland,
Josh Sinanan.

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Business Manager, Northwest Chess
Eric Holcomb
1900 NE 3rd St, STE 106 PMB 361
Bend, OR 97701-3889
Eric@Holcomb.com
www.nwchess.com

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On the front cover:

2019 Idaho Scholastic Girls Championship.
(L) Ava Gaylord vs. Temiloluwa Aderogba.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

On the back cover:

Fifty years ago Buz Eddy became editor of Washington Chess Letter. Image of cover and partial inside page.

Chesstoons:

Chess cartoons drawn by local artist Brian Berger, of West Linn, Oregon.

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Jeffrey Roland, NWC Editor
1514 S. Longmont Ave.
Boise, Idaho 83706-3732
or via e-mail to:
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Table of Contents

Ava Gaylord vs. Temiloluwa Aderogba Jeffrey Roland.....	Front Cover
From The Editor's Desk Jeffrey Roland.....	3
16th Annual Idaho Scholastic Girls Championship Jeffrey Roland.....	4
Washington Senior Championship Gary Dorfner	7
Grand Pacific Open Stephanie Velea.....	8
Washington Championship Game Michael Lee.....	10
Washington State Championship Brilliancy Prizes Daniel He.....	12
Washington State Premier Brilliancy Prizes Samuel He	13
Washington State Challengers Brilliancy Prizes Mark Smith.....	15
Vancouver Open (Half-Page Ad) Vancouver, WA Aug 10-11	16
3rd Annual Seattle Chess Classic (Full-Page Ad) Seattle, WA Aug 14-18	17
Seattle Spring Open Carol and Fred Kleist	18
Idaho Open Jay Simonson	19
9th Annual Oregon Senior Open Brian Berger	20
2019 Portland Spring Open Brian Berger	23
Chesstoon Brian Berger	25
Northwest Chess Grand Prix Report Murlin Varner	26
Pacific Northwest Chess Center (PNWCC).....	30
Seattle Chess Club Tournaments	31
50 Years Ago — June 1959 Washington Chess Letter — Buz Eddy became editor. Images of cover and inside page.....	Back Cover

From The Editor's Desk

This year's Grand Prix is honoring the two players Glen Buckendorf and Buz Eddy. I could write a book about Glen Buckendorf who is one of the most incredible people I have ever been privileged to know.

But Buz Eddy is probably the player I most wanted to meet for at least the last decade before he died. It was around 2006 when I began reading about Buz Eddy in the old "Idaho Chess Quarterly" issues that I had photocopied and typed into html for the ICA website. Buz Eddy was someone who impressed me as someone who really cared about Idaho Chess. Just an example, March 29-30, 1958 Buz took his Junior Team from Seattle (consisting of five players: Jim Munro, Chris Napjus, Phil Moorman, Bob Brown, and Buz Eddy) and played team matches with five Idaho clubs: Canyon County, Boise, Twin Falls (which included Glen Buckendorf, and Glen lost to Jim Munro!), Pocatello, and Rupert. So he took this club and traveled clear across the state in only two days playing five clubs.

Buz liked Idaho so much that he continued to support and promote events in Idaho. He even organized a major Idaho Open tournament in 1960. He most definitely had a hand in the ICA during the early days, which I consider to be the 1950s and 1960s. At any rate, I think it's great that we honor individuals in this way (to name the Grand Prix after them in their honor) after they have died, so that when we play in Grand Prix events we can think of them and perhaps they can sort of be with us in spirit.

— Jeffrey Roland, Editor.



Buz Eddy in March 1964 (archival photo). Photo credit unknown. I colorized this previously B&W picture, giving it kind of a sepia tone look that I wanted to share in this issue. — Jeffrey Roland, Editor.

16th Annual Idaho Scholastic Girls Championship

By Jeffrey Roland

Meridian, Idaho—April 6, 2019

Ninth-grader Temiloluwa “Temi” Deborah Aderogba won the 2019 Idaho Scholastic Girls Championship on April 6, 2019, by winning every game (5.0/5) of a five-round Swiss tournament of 21 players held at The Ambrose School in Meridian, Idaho. This year makes the third time Temi has won the title of Idaho Scholastic Girls State Champion.

Sixth-grader Rosemary Bowyer was second place overall with 4.0/5, and seventh-grader Sara Hollist was third place overall, also with 4.0/5, but was just behind Rosemary on tie-breakers.

Grade-level State Champions:

Emma Gao – First Grade

June Redlich – Second Grade

Emma Grace Latulippe – Third Grade

Rowan Kate Belew – Fourth Grade

Audrey Louise Latulippe – Fifth Grade

Alyssa Jasmine Montano – Sixth Grade

Verah Arnold – Eighth Grade

Ava Gaylor – Tenth Grade

Molly Schleicher – Twelfth Grade

Jeffrey Roland was Chief Tournament Director and Alise Pemsler was Assistant Tournament Director. We had superb help from Ellen and David Baumann (WISCL), Jef Leifeste and his son, Bryce (DGT Board), Devin Nakano (YSTEM and Chess), and Crystal Montano (Volunteer Assistant).

This year the event was held in the beautiful library of The Ambrose School; it was a perfect setting for such an event. With a view to the outside one could see a large chessboard on the pavement, but with the cloudy-rainy day, nobody went out there to play on that. It was inspiring to see nonetheless.

Upstairs, spectators could view the tournament from above. There was also a large computer screen placed in the hallway of the school where players could not only watch what was happening on board one (which was using a special DGT sensory board to record the times and moves as well as broadcast all this to the world via the Internet via live stream), but using the navigation controls could move through the game. This is becoming a regular feature at ICA events.



Temiloluwa Aderogba, 2019 Idaho Scholastic Girls Champion. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

As the event was not US Chess rated, there was no requirement to record the games, however, as always, it was strongly encouraged. For in addition to the ability to publish games that are recorded it is also good to be able to make claims of three-fold repetition, as well as the 50-move rule, which was something that did come up during one of the games, but without a record of the game kind of hard to prove. But perhaps the most important reason anyone can record their games is to learn, to share, and to take personal responsibility for one's moves. When games are recorded, someone might see them. I think that one tends to make better moves when at some point in the future they might be seen again. I should point out, however, that most of the players did not record, which is also fine!

I wish to thank the girls who played and the family/friends who came to support them out in the halls. I believe the girls had a great time in this tournament. This was their tournament, their memories, but it was our honor and pleasure to hold this event for them.



*Temiloluwa Aderogba playing White in the final round versus Audrey Latulippe.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.*

**Temiloluwa Aderogba –
Audrey Louise Latulippe [C41]**
Idaho Scholastic Girls Championship
Meridian, ID (R5), April 6, 2019
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 d6

3...exd4 is pretty much the move here, leading after 4.Nxd4 to the Scotch Game. 4...Bc5 and 4...Nf6 are both playable, though some of the complications require a bit of home preparation before attempting them over the board.

4.d5

4.Bb5 can now transpose into a Steinitzian-style variation of the Spanish Game (Ruy Lopez), while 4.dxe5 seems quite natural, planning to disrupt castling while heading into a queenless middlegame: 4...Nxe5 5.Nxe5 dxe5 6.Qxd8+ Kxd8 7.Bc4±.

4...Nce7 5.Bd3



Position after 5.Bd3

After something like 5.c4 g6 6.Nc3 Bg7, we've actually managed to transpose into a King's Indian Defense, usually seen after 1.d4.

5...c6 6.h3?!

There's no reason to fear the pin ...Bg4, so it makes more sense to overprotect in the center. 6.c4 and White is very comfortable.

6...cxd5 7.exd5 Nf6 8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.Bxd7+ Qxd7 10.c4 b5!

Now the White center is less stable, and the position is unclear.

11.b3 bxc4 12.bxc4 Rc8 13.Nbd2 g6

Another idea entirely is 13...Ng6, hoping to bring the bishop into play via the maneuver Bf8-e7-d8-a5 (or b6), while allowing the knight to threaten the f4-hop.

14.Ba3 Bh6 15.Rb1

Perhaps both sides should be thinking more seriously about castling around here. 15.0-0 0-0 16.Re1∞

15...e4?

Black has been aiming for this, apparently winning the c-pawn, but better is 15...0-0.



Position after 15...e4

16.Nd4?

White overlooks the tactical reply. 16.Nxe4! Nxe4 17.Qd4 0-0 18.Bb2 (18.Qxe4 Qa4!∞) 18...f6 19.Qxe4, though the extra pawn won't stay on the board long. 19...Qf5! 20.Qxf5 Nxf5 21.0-0 Rxc4 22.Rfe1±

16...Bxd2+?

Perhaps the threat really is stronger than the execution here. 16...0-0 ships the king (and the loose rook on h8) off to safety, and leave White to deal with the defense of c4. 17.Nb5?! Nf5 18.g4 a6 adds an exposed king to White's troubles.

17.Qxd2 Rxc4 18.Nb5

18.Qh6!/? prevents castling and hints at the Qg7 fork. 18...Rxd4?! (18...Nexd5 19.Nb5!; 18...Nfxd5 19.0-0 with good activity and better king safety to compensate for the material investment.) 19.Qg7 Rg8 20.Rb8+ Nc8 21.Qxf6 Rxd5 22.0-0! Black may appear to be two pawns ahead, but the reality of targets on c8, d6, e4, and ultimately e8 means White is winning.



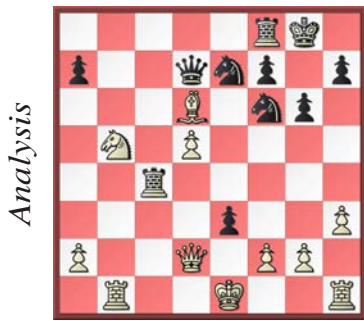
Position after 18.Nb5

18...0-0! 19.Bxd6?

19.Nxd6∞

19...Nfxd5?

Now Black misses a tactical shot: 19...e3!!



(Diagram-analysis after 19...e3)

20.fxe3 (20.Qxe3 Re4) 20...Ne4 21.Qd3 Rfc8 22.Ba3 (22.Bxe7 Rc1+ (22...Qf5 may be even stronger.) 23.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 24.Ke2 Rxh1-+) 22...Qf5 23.Rf1 Qg5 and Black's major pieces own the board.

20.Bxe7 Rb8

20...e3!?!; 20...Qxe7 is also possible: 21.Qxd5 Rc5 22.Qd2 e3! 23.fxe3 Rb8∞,

since 24.Na3 Rd8 25.Qe2 Qf6 pretty much leaves White searching for a way to give back the piece and try to survive an inferior ending.

21.0-0 Rxb5 22.Bg5 Rbc5 23.Rfd1

23.Rb8+ Rc8 24.Rxc8+ Rxc8 25.Rd1 f6 26.Be3 Rd8 27.Qa5±

23...Qf5?

23...Qc8

24.Rb8+ Kg7 25.Bh6+ Kf6 26.g4!

26.Re8!, and White threatens Qd2-b2(+)-b8, infiltrating, as well as direct ideas involving g2-g4.

26...Qe5 27.g5+?

27.Rg8! is an unusual means of controlling g7 and threatening a skewer. 27...Ke7 28.Bf8+ Kd7 29.Bxc5 Rxc5 30.Qb4+-

27...Ke6??

The last opportunity. 27...Kf5 28.Qe2 Qf4 and it's not obvious how White can threaten the king anymore.

28.Re8+ Ne7 29.Qd7# 1-0



Second-place overall, Rosemary Bowyer. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

Idaho Scholastic Girls Champions

The history of the Idaho Scholastic Girls Championship goes back to the first one in 2004 and has been held each year from then to now.

Year	Winner	City
2004	Rebecca Hansis	Challis
2005	Emily Nicholas	Eagle
2006	Erica D. Barkell	Boise
2007	Erica D. Barkell	Boise
2008	Erica D. Barkell	Boise
2009	Erica D. Barkell	Boise
(tie)	Emily Patterson	Boise
(tie)	Katie Abderhalden	Boise
2010	Katie Abderhalden	Boise
2011	Katie Abderhalden	Boise
(tie)	Savanna Naccarato	Sandpoint
(tie)	Michaela Abernathy	Meridian
2012	Michaela Abernathy	Meridian
2013	Carmen Pemsler	Eagle
2014	Carmen Pemsler	Eagle
2015	Temiloluwa Aderogba	Eagle
2016	Carmen Pemsler	Eagle
2017	Temiloluwa Aderogba	Eagle
(tie)	Dylan Porth	Bellevue
2018	Dylan Porth	Bellevue
2019	Temiloluwa Aderogba	Eagle

Errata

Oh, I hate printing that word! It means we made a mistake. This was completely my fault, with the hat on as "contributor" I made a mistake in my initial story that I submitted to myself as editor, and I didn't catch it in time for the printed issue!

In the April 2019 issue in the story of the 2019 Idaho Scholastic State Championship article, Justin He (not James Wei) won the K-8 section and became the Idaho Representative for the Barber. And the caption to the photo on page 10, while it was the correct photo, also had the name of James Wei incorrectly listed. It is in fact Justin He in the photo, and is rightly holding the championship trophy.

Note, this error did not appear in the online issue as it was corrected before it was posted online, but it did go out in the printed issue incorrectly.

Here are the correct results:

K-8th Grade Section

- 1st Overall - Justin He (Boise)
- 2nd Overall - William Wang (Boise)
- 3rd Overall - James Wei (Boise)

—Jeffrey Roland, Editor.

Washington Senior Championship

By Gary Dorfner

The Washington Senior Championship was held at the Seattle Chess Club April 13-14, 2019. There were 14 players participating in this event. The winners were:

First place Bill Schill 4.5. He will be representing Washington State in the National Senior Tournament of Champions August 3-6 in conjunction with the US Open.

Second-Third Ignacio Perez and Richard LaVoice 3.5 each, Under 2000 Mike Rompogren and Steve Shuman 3.0 each, Under 1400 John Hornickle 1.5,

Age 70+ David Rupel 2.5, Age 80+ Viktors Pupols. The tournament director was Gary Dorfner.



(Front-Back) William Schill, Michael Rompogren, and John Hornickle during round one of the Washington Senior Championship. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

**William Schill (2300) –
David Rupel (2102) [A60]**
2019 WA Senior Championship
(R4), April 14, 2019
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 c5 4.d5 exd5
5.cxd5 b5**

Black takes advantage of White's lack of influence on the b5-square to grab some queenside space...

6.e4

...to which White responds with a gambit.

6...Nxe4 7.Bg2

7.Qe2 Qe7 8.Bg2 is most common in this minor line, when Black has the choice of ...f5 or ...Nd6. The question then is whether the interpolation of the queen moves favors White. Although one can argue that the black queen on e7 is in the way of the f8-bishop, the truth is that Black's development is going to be a bit awkward no matter where that queen ends up, and White will need to develop the c1-bishop to e3 to avoid the queen exchange. So in the game line that bishop gets to jump right up to f4 while the white queen retains flexibility to head to c2 or b3, as well as potentially supporting the d5-pawn.

7...Nd6

This is the normal move here, though the sample size is slim. 7...Qe7 now would be a mistake, as after 8.Ne2 White will quickly castle and bring a rook to the e-file.

8.Nf3

8.Bf4 feels more precise; for the reasoning, see the next note.

8...Be7

8...Qe7+!?, while not actually promising a Black advantage, would force White to change plans a bit.



(diagram-analysis after 8...Qe7+)

Choices on move 9.—

a) 9.Be3 Nf5 (or 9...Nc4) 10.0-0 Nxe3 11.fxexd6 and White is minus a pawn and the bishop-pair, and while there very well may be adequate compensation, it isn't quite as evident as the compensation that develops in the actual game.

b) 9.Kf1 Qd8 and it's certainly going to be awhile before White's rook finds its way to the e-file.

c) 9.Qe2?! Qxe2+ 10.Kxe2 Bb7, when taking the queens off solves some of Black's development difficulties.

9.0-0 0-0 10.Bf4

An opening book might end here with some comment like "with compensation," or "unclear." The problem is that the players in an actual game need to keep going, and it turns out that these positions are simply much more fun for White.

10...Qb6?

The queen here is a target for an advancing a-pawn, and as the designated defender of the d6-knight, it can become a bit overloaded. Not to mention the logjam of black pieces on the back left quadrant is likely to cause problems both practical and aesthetical. 10...Bb7 11.Re1 (11.Nc3 b4 12.Na4 Na6) 11...Na6 12.Nc3 Nc7 — still more fun for White, but not immediately fatal, perhaps.

11.Re1 Bf6 12.Nc3 Nc4 13.Qb3

The ever-faithful Stockfish suggests 13.Ne4 Bxb2 14.Rb1, and evaluates this as a two pawn advantage for White — which is quite impressive compensation when you consider that a material count shows White as two pawns behind.

13...a6?

13...Nxb2!? 14.Qxb2 b4 15.Be5 bxc3 16.Qxc3 Bxe5 17.Nxe5 and White is, perhaps surprisingly, still having fun.

14.a4 Na5

The kingside is in the other direction, sir knight.

15.Qc2 Bb7 16.Ne4 c4?

16...Be7 17.Neg5 Bxg5 18.Nxg5 f5 19.Re7. It's now mostly a matter of choosing the means of execution.

17.Bd6 Rc8 18.Nxf6+ gxf6 19.Be7 f5

19...Bxd5 20.Qf5

20.Nh4

The king is looking decidedly lonely.

1-0

Grand Pacific Open

By WCM Stephanie Velea

“Not all artists are Chess players, but all Chess players are artists” — Marcel Duchamp

What can be said about Grand Pacific Open chess tournament held every year in April in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada? Would it be the same if it would have been held in another place? Definitely not! Victoria is considered the most romantic city in Canada! And it is not hard to see why: Victoria is a thriving city of heritage architecture, of gardens and beaches due to the ocean at its doorsteps.

This year was my second time participating in this tournament, and I enjoyed it even more!

The trip had its surprises. We didn't have a reservation for the ferry from Tsawwassen, so we ended up waiting a few hours to board. We had fun while waiting, walked around, played with a few dogs. It was a sunny day so the trip

on the ferry was delightful, with beautiful views along the way!

But our good moods soon turned into a stressful rush. We were lucky to arrive in time for the first round; we arrived just 10 minutes before it started! Exhausted from the travel, with no time to eat so you could probably guess what happened. Velea sisters had a bit of a bumpy start, with a first round score of 1.5 of the three games we played altogether. Still, we learned a lot from the games.

WGM Nino Maisuradze, GM Andrey Gorovets and GM Alexandr Fier were the grandmasters that participated. Besides the GMs the field was very strong with many NMs, FMs/WFMs and CMs/WCMs.

I want to say few words about the logistics of this event. This is one of the tournaments where you don't have to worry about anything like bring board, set, clock. All is provided and set up so you can just enjoy and play the best chess! Oh, and you even get chocolate on the Sunday morning. And the lucky winners get very beautiful trophies and

money of course!

I want to share with you one of the games I enjoyed during this tournament:

**Emmanuel Pangilinan (1672) –
Stephanie Velea (1836) [B23]**
Grand Pacific Open
(R2), April 20, 2019
[Stephanie Velea]

A good, pleasant game for myself, not so much for my opponent.... For he arrived ~45 minutes late to the round, and was close to being forfeited from the round.

1.e4 c5 2.f4

I wasn't all in all expecting this move, but it soon transposed into the Grand Prix. Instead of playing my move

2...g6

Here, another interesting move would've been 2...e6 with the idea of playing d5 in the future. 2...d5!? Is also a good alternative. 3.exd5 Nf6 4.c4 e6 With excellent compensation for the pawn thanks to a lead in development and White's pawns being overextended, leading to weakened squares.



Watch out, double the trouble: (L) WCM Sophie Velea and WCM Stephanie Velea – waiting for the opponents.

3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bc4 e6

Also possible instead of

6.a3

would've been 6.e5 d5 7.exd6 Qxd6; 6.d3

6...Nge7 7.Ba2 d5 8.e5 f6 9.0-0?

Here was not a good move, because after 9.exf6

9...fxe5

Which is what I played, White creates a weakness on e5. This is eventually what made him lose the game.

10.fxe5 0-0 11.Re1 Nf5 12.d3 Nfd4

12...Nh4 was also good; 12...h6!?

13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.Ne2 Bxe5

14...Qh4

15.Nxd4 Bxd4+ 16.Kh1



Position after 16.Kh1

16...Bf2

This wasn't a very good move, but the position is still definitely better for me. 16...Qh4; 16...Bd7! bringing all the pieces into the game makes more sense. It's not so much about the bishop being on d7, it's more about later on getting the rook on a8 involved in the game.

17.Rf1 Qh4?



Position after 17...Qh4

After this move, my position went from better to slightly better, and as you can see, my advantage is slowly starting to go away. 17...Bd7 Again, successful attacks very rarely work when NOT ALL PIECES are in the game.

18.c3?

Now allows me to play 18...Rf5. My opponent missed 18.g3, but after 18...Qh3 (18...Bxg3 19.Rxf8+ Kxf8 20.Qf3+

is the point. This makes the g3 move work for White. Now we can clearly see the consequences of the rook on a8 not participating. Had the bishop been on d7, after Rxf8+, Rxf8 would just easily win, and g3 wouldn't be a problem for Black.) 19.Bf4 Bd4 20.c3 Bg7∞ the position is suddenly unclear.

18...Rf5

just in time. 18...Bd7 is still probably more accurate.

19.Rxf2?

This was not the best move, but White has a bad position no matter what he does. 19.h3 would've been better, but White's position will still collapse, slowly, but surely.

19...Qxf2 20.Qg1 Qxg1+

20...Bd7

21.Kxg1 b6 22.Be3 Ba6 23.Rd1 Rf8 24.h3 Re5 25.Bh6 Rf6 26.Bc1 Re2 27.c4 d4 28.Rf1 Rxf1+ 29.Kxf1 Rc2

White Resigns. An instructive game, where the opening went well for me, but even still a lot to learn from this game, the main lesson being that even when our attack looks promising and we are up a pawn, and everything seems to go well, it's still very important for ALL OUR PIECES to be involved in the party, or else our initiative will often dissappear.

0-1

I had the privilege to talk with one of the organizers, Paul Leblanc. He told me about the history of this tournament, started by a group of enthusiastic chess lovers: "Thirteen years ago there wasn't much chess in British Columbia. Brian Raymer, Roger Patterson, and I got together, and we decided we would start a new tournament just so that Victoria will have one big tournament. We could boost chess in British Columbia using our tournament and it's been going every year since."

"One of the highlights was when Hikaru Nakamura came. He was number three in the world at the time and he came to our tournament to support us. Of course, he won with 6.0/6, but it was very good for our reputation to have a super grandmaster like that."

"What makes Grand Pacific Open such a truly special tournament? Well it's the location, most beautiful city in British Columbia, beautiful ballroom, views of the inner harbor in Victoria. It is a spectacular setting."

I invite the readers to travel to Victoria, British Columbia and be inspired! It is the perfect place to have a vacation and play very good chess in Grand Pacific Open! What better place to be for an artist-chess player? My sisters and I will certainly be there in 2020!



GM Andrey Gorovets first place (center) along with organizers Paul Leblanc, Brian Raymer, Roger Patterson, TD Elliot Raymer.

Washington Championship Game

Michael Lee (2502) –
Anthony He (2407) [D72]
Championship Redmond
(R8), February 24, 2019
[Michael Lee]

Going into this game, I had 5.0/7 and Anthony had scored 4.5/6. This meant that if I beat him, I would secure the title with a round to spare (I had a bye in the last round). However, conversely, a draw would be insufficient. If he then won his last round game, I would be second at best. Thus, this game was critical for the tournament standings. Luckily for me, I had the white pieces.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6

Anthony has played a number of openings with Black, but traditionally has played the Grunfeld in response to d4. However, during this tournament, he opened previously with 1. d5 instead. At this point I knew which direction he would take, and thought to play around the main line of the Grunfeld.

3.g3

3.Nc3 d5 is popular, and theoretical.

3...Bg7 4.Bg2 d5

Black's last chance to stay in somewhat familiar territory. Otherwise he must defend a fianchetto King's Indian, which I assume Anthony was less experienced in. 4...0-0 5.Nc3 d6 6.Nf3

5.exd5 Nxd5



Position after 5...Nxd5

6.e4

Continuing along the lesser played variation, which leads to slightly different structures than the main line. White lays a more direct claim to the center. 6.Nf3 0-0 7.0-0 leads to a fairly standard structure.

6...Nb6 7.Ne2 0-0 8.0-0

As Anthony used more time, it was clear we were now out of opening preparation and in a reasonably complicated middlegame where Black has to pick a good defense/counter against White's center. So far, so good.

8...Nc6

It isn't necessarily clear how Black can immediately undermine White's structure, so Anthony falls back on a good idea — even though his knight gets sent to the edge of the board, he has enough counterplay and tempi to prevent himself from being overrun.

8...e5 is an alternative way to challenge White's center, but the d-pawn proves well-defended and Black would still have to find ways to develop. 9.d5 c6 10.Nbc3 exd5 11.exd5 Bf5 12.b3± and it's not clear how to develop for Black.

9.d5 Na5

And White doesn't have time to challenge the knight before his center is counterattacked.

10.Nbc3 c6! 11.b3

Taking away the key c4 square and preparing to develop the dark-squared bishop.

11...exd5 12.exd5



Position after 12.exd5

12...e6?!

Anthony finally gives me a chance to seize a strong positional advantage. 12...Bg4! attacks the key defenders in White's position.

It turns out White's position can barely be held together. Tempo is important! 13.f3 (*13.Bb2?! fails due to a neat trick, taking advantage of overloading. 13...Nac4! 14.bxc4 Nxc4 and there's no way to defend all the pieces without losing material.*

The g7 bishop is strong on the diagonal. 15.Qc2 Nxb2 16.Qxb2 Bxe2 17.Qxe2 Bxc3±) 13...Bd7 and White needs to find a way to untangle. 14.Bb2?! Nbc4! Again strong, but for a different reason. 15.bxc4 Qb6+!

13.Ba3 Re8 14.d6!±

White need not be afraid of pushing this pawn too far. Black now is the one who must untangle his pieces, before he even has ideas of capturing the advanced pawn. This gives White time to develop and take advantage of his large space advantage.

14...Bd7 15.Bb4?!

Over thinking things. I worried too much about allowing the trade of pieces with Bc6 and my good light-squared bishop. A simple 15.Rc1 Bc6 16.Ne4 would have done the trick. Giving up the d5-square is an illusion, because Black's knight on the rim still is under danger of being trapped. 16...Nd5? (*16...Bd5?! 17.N2c3* If Black loses the Bishop, his position becomes very difficult to defend. *17...Rc8 18.Nxd5 exd5 19.Rxc8 Qxc8 20.Nc5+-*) 17.b4.

15...Nc6 16.Bc5 Nd5?!

We agreed after the game that this was optimistic, hoping White would choose to defend his material (the rook on a1) instead of being willing to gain a strong positional edge. 16...Rc8 17.Rc1 Ne5 and now White has to figure out where to put the Bishop he has already wasted a few moves on.



Position after 16...Nd5

17.Nxd5!

With the idea of...

17...exd5

17...Bxa1 18.Qxa1 exd5 19.Nf4 is the same.

18.Nf4!

Anthony spent a lot of time and decided (wisely) against taking the exchange. His dark-squared bishop is very valuable in defending his king. With a pawn for the exchange, active pieces, and the two bishops, White would retain the advantage.



Position after 18.Nf4

18...d4!

18...Bxa1 19.Qxa1 Be6 20.Bxd5 and Black is under a lot of pressure. 20...Bxd5? (*20...Qg5* is probably his best bet to cause counterplay. During the game I thought *21.Rd1* would be the best

continuation. But the computer finds 21... Bg4 22.f3 Bxf3!) 21.Nxd5.

19.Nd5

Now White's position looks strong, but I couldn't find the critical blow. Anthony stubbornly stuck to his defense.

19...Rc8 20.Rc1

Anthony was at around 10 minutes for the remaining 20 moves of time control. But being a fast and tactically sound player, he continued to play well. So I used most of my time as well.



Position after 20.Rc1

20...h5!

One of Black's best plans in this position — h4 h3 would be a little unpleasant for White, and Black's king could sometimes use the luft in a few situations. Not only that, White does not particularly want to play the weakening h4 in response.

21.h3

Perhaps overly cautious. 21.h4? Bg4 22.Bf3 Qd7 and Black looks to trade off at least some of White's most dangerous pieces. 21.Nc7 Re5 (21...Rf8 22.h3. Now White has a strong bind.) 22.b4 and Black begins to run out of good moves to play.

21...Re5

This move doesn't do much, but it doesn't hurt his position either. A hallmark of a good blitz player. 21...h4? would allow White to fix the pawns to his advantage: 22.g4.



Position after 21...Re5

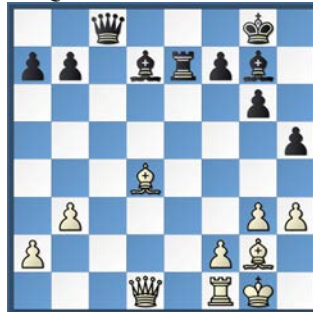
22.Ne7+

Spending a lot of my time here, I tried to simplify into a better endgame. But I then missed the best path to possible advantage.

22...Nxe7 23.dxe7 Qe8 24.Bxd4 Rxe7

One possibility would be 24...Rxc1 25.Qxc1 Rxe7 26.Bxa7! The move I underestimated. Simple and greedy, but it works. 26...Bb5 27.Rd1±. I overestimated Black's counterplay. Black can't drum up anything specific.

25.Rxc8 Qxc8



Position after 25...Qxc8

26.Bxg7?

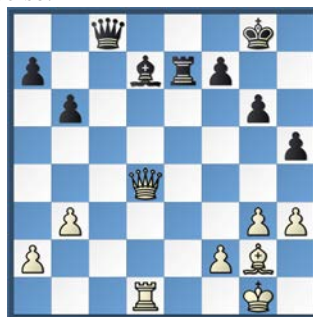
Played too quickly. I overestimated Black's development advantage. 26.Bxa7 is entirely tactically justified. 26...Bxh3?? (26...Qc7) 27.Bxh3 Qxh3 28.Qd8+ Bf8 29.Bc5+.

26...Kxg7 27.Qd4+ Kg8 28.Rd1

Now taking the pawn does not lead to material advantage. 28.Qxa7 Bxh3 29.Bxh3 Qxh3 and there is nothing for White.

28...b6

Good defensive move, gaining a good pawn formation, especially with the light-squared bishops on the loose. Now I tried my best to utilize White's newly gained piece activity, but again, was slightly too imprecise.



Position after 28...b6

29.Qf6

The only way to try to take advantage of Black's slight lack of coordination.

29...Qe8 30.Bd5

Continuing to apply pressure. Qxg6+ is the obvious threat, but there are more.

30...Kh7

30...Be6 31.Bc6!? and Black would have to trust in 31...Bd7 which luckily holds. (31...Qf8 32.Re1 and Black's pinned down. 32...Rc7?! 33.Rxe6! fxe6

34.Qxg6+ Qg7 35.Qxe6+ Qf7 36.Qd6 with threats and great winning chances.)

31.Kh2

Preventing Re1+

31...Qf8 32.Rd4

Continuing to generate possible threats and parry Black's means of disentangling himself.

32...Be6

32...Bf5? 33.g4! White breaks through.



Position after 32...Be6

33.Be4?

But here, I finally let up the pressure. 33.Re4! would give Black a tricky task of finding the best way to get out of his pins.

Black turns out to be close to lost. 33...Re8!? (33...Qe8?! 34.g4! Black is almost completely paralyzed, and White's work would have paid off. 34...hxg4 35.hxg4 Kg8 36.g5+- with the almost unstoppable idea of Rh4.) 34.Bxe6 fxe6 35.Rxe6. I'd take my chances in the pawn-up rook endgame.

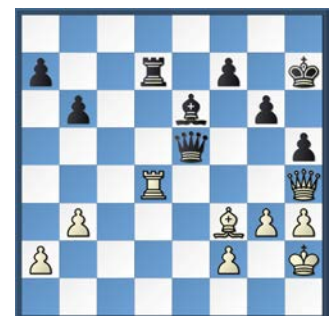
33...Qg7! 34.Qh4

34.Qxe7?! Qxd4 And there are no threats.

34...Qe5!

Strong and active moves. 34...Qxd4?? 35.Bxg6+

35.Bf3 Rd7



Position after 35...Rd7

With Anthony finally equalized and with no time left for both sides, I thought it best to accept his draw offer. Well defended. 1/2-1/2

Final results of the tournament was a three-way tie for the championship between Michael Lee, Roland Feng, and Anthony He.—Editor.

2019 Washington State Championship Brilliancy Prizes

By Daniel He

1. Michael Lee - Tian Sang 1-0

A great positional win where the white pawn on h6 controlled the entire game. It's usually unwise for the side with more space to trade pieces, but this game is a good exception.

White just needed a rook on the seventh rank and Black is tied down to defense. Great technique in the end too, as the passed h-pawn cannot be stopped.

**Michael Lee (2502) –
Tian Sang (2398) [A80]**
Championship Redmond
(R4), February 17, 2019

1.d4 f5 2.Bg5 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e3 Nf6 5.h4 d5 6.h5 Be6 7.h6 Bf8 8.Nf3 Nbd7 9.Bd3 e6 10.Ne2 Qa5+ 11.c3 Nh5 12.b4 Qc7 13.a4 Ndf6 14.Nf4 Nxf4 15.Bxf4 Qc8 16.Rc1 Bd7 17.c4 e6 18.b5 Qd8 19.Ne5 Bb4+ 20.Kf1 0-0 21.Qb3 Be7 22.bxc6 bxc6 23.cxd5 cxd5 24.Nxd7 Nxd7 25.Bc7 Qc8 26.Rc6 Nf6 27.Ba6 Qd7 28.Qc2 Ne4 29.Be5



Position after 29.Be5

Bd6 30.Bxd6 Nxd6 31.Rc7 Qd8 32.Qc6 Rb8 33.Bb5 Rb6 34.Rg7+ Kh8 35.Qd7 Qxd7 36.Rxd7 a6 37.Bd3 Kg8 38.a5 Rc6 39.Ke2 Rb8 40.Rg7+ Kh8 41.Rb1 Rxb1 42.Bxb1 Nc4 43.Ra7 Kg8 44.Bc2 Nxa5 45.Ba4 Rd6 46.Ra8+ Kf7 47.Rh8 g5 48.Be8+ Kf6 49.Rxh7 Rd8 50.Rh8 Nc6 51.Rf8+ Ke7 52.Rg8 1-0

2. Roland Feng – Tian Sang 1-0

An powerful way to attack Black in the Dutch. This game illustrates the idea that in opposite colored bishop middlegames, the attacking side stands better.

White's bishop was much stronger than Black's, and the attack on the dark squares was too much for Black to defend against.

**Roland Feng (2456) –
Tian Sang (2398) [A80]**
Championship Redmond
(R8), February 24, 2019

1.d4 f5 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bf4 Nf6 4.e3 e6 5.Nf3 Bd6 6.Ne5 a6 7.h3 0-0 8.g4 Nc6 9.Qf3 Bb4 10.gxf5 exf5 11.Rg1 Nxe5 12.Bxe5 Rf7 13.Bd3 Ne4 14.0-0 Bxc3 15.bxc3 Qe7 16.Bxe4 fxe4 17.Qh5 Be6 18.Rg5 Qa3+ 19.Kb1 Qxc3 20.Rdg1



Position after 20.Rdg1

20...Qb4+ 21.Kc1 Qa3+ 22.Kd1 Qxa2 23.Rxg7+ Kf8 24.Rxf7+ Bxf7 25.Qg5 Qb1+ 26.Kd2 Qb4+ 27.Kc1 Qa3+ 28.Kd1 Qa1+ 29.Ke2 Qb2 30.Kf1 Ke8 31.Qf6 Rd8 32.Rg7 Rd7 33.Rxh7 Re7 34.Rh8+ Kd7 35.Bxc7 Qb5+ 36.Kg1 Kxc7 37.Qxe7+ Qd7 38.Qc5+ Qc6 39.Rh7 1-0

3. Bryce Tiglon – Anthony He 1-0

The idea of Nh4 and g3, sacrificing a pawn, was a creative try and White definitely got enough compensation with his enormous pawn center.

21.f5 was a strong in-between move which immediately cut off Black's bishop and opened White's. Another opposite colored bishop middlegame wins!

**Bryce Tiglon (2452) –
Anthony He (2407) [C60]**
Championship Redmond
(R3), February 17, 2019

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.c3 a6 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.d4 exd4 7.cxd4 Bg7 8.h3 Ne7 9.0-0 Qd6 10.Nc3 h6 11.Be3 g5 12.Qb3 0-0 13.Rad1 g4 14.Nh4 gxh3 15.g3 Ng6 16.Nxg6 Qxg6 17.Kh2 b6 18.f4 Be6 19.d5 Bg4 20.Rd2 Bxc3



Position after 20...Bxc3

21.f5 Qf6 22.bxc3 Rfe8 23.Rf4 h5 24.c4

c5 25.Rdf2 Kh7 26.Bc1 Qd6 27.f6 Re5 28.Qe3 Kg8 29.Bb2 Rae8 30.Bxe5 Rxe5 31.Rxg4+ hxg4 32.Qh6 Qf8 33.Qf4 Qd6 34.Qxg4+ Kf8 35.Qc8+ Re8 36.Qxh3 1-0

4. Alikhan Irgaliyev – Roland Feng 0-1

Black sacrificed a pawn in the opening for piece activity and a huge lead in development.

26...Qxd5 was a nice exchange sacrifice as the bishop-pair soon dominated the game. The ending position is quite nice too.

**Alikhan Irgaliyev (2263) –
Roland Feng (2456) [A45]**
Championship Redmond
(R7), February 23, 2019

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.dxc5 d5 5.cxd6 Qb6 6.Qc1 Bxd6 7.Nf3 f5 8.Nbd2 Bc5 9.e3 0-0 10.Nb3 Bd6 11.Bd3 f4 12.e4 Bg4 13.Nbd2 Bc7 14.0-0 Nd7 15.h3 Bh5 16.Re1 Rfe8 17.Bc4 Rad8 18.c3 Qg6 19.Bd5 Bb6 20.Kf1 Ne5 21.Nxe5 Rxe5 22.Nc4 Rxd5 23.Qxf4 Rc5 24.Ne3 Qe6 25.Nd5 Rc4 26.b3



Position after 26.b3

26...Qxd5 27.bxc4 Qxc4+ 28.Kg1 Qxc3 29.Rac1 Qa3 30.g4 Bg6 31.h4 h5 32.gxh5 Bxh5 33.e5 Qh3 0-1

5. Michael Lee – Alikhan Irgaliyev 1-0

Black's opening was a bit questionable, and White immediately took advantage of the weak d5-square with his knight.

White was in control for the rest of the game, and once Black was forced to sacrifice the exchange, the game was pretty much over.

**Michael Lee (2502) –
Alikhan Irgaliyev (2263) [A80]**
Championship Redmond
(R2), February 16, 2019

1.d4 f5 2.Bg5 Nf6 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.e3 c5 5.dxc5 Nc6 6.Nc3 Bxc5 7.Bc4 d6 8.Nge2 Ne5 9.Bb3 Nf7 10.Ba4+ Kf8 11.0-0 g6 12.Nd5 Kg7 13.b4 Bb6 14.c4 Ne5 15.Rc1 Be6 16.Bb3 Bf7 17.Qd2 a5 18.a3



Position after 18.a3

Ba7 19.Nec3 h5 20.Nb5 Bb8 21.h3 Re8
22.Rfd1 g5 23.Nd4 Bg6 24.Ba4 h4 25.f4
Nf7 26.Bxe8 Qxe8 27.Qd3 axb4 28.axb4
Nh6 29.fxg5 fxg5 30.Nf3 Nf7 31.Qd4+
Kh6 32.Ra1 Rxa1 33.Rxa1 1-0

2019 Washington State Premier Brilliance Prizes

By Samuel He

1. Minda Chen – Kyle Haining
2. David Levine – Joseph Frantz
3. Ignacio Perez – David Levine
4. David Levine – Stan Kitsis
5. Ignacio Perez – Harrison Toppen-Ryan

Explanation:

1. This game really stood out to me as Minda showed good patience and practicality throughout and really exhibited the hidden venom that comes with playing solidly, a key strategy of former World Champion Tigran Petrosian.

The game started with Minda unleashing a creative novelty against Kyle's signature King's Indian beginning with 5.Be2 and 6.Be3, and following up with 8.h4!, provoking Black to weaken his kingside with 8...h5. Minda made the decision of recapturing with the e-pawn with 9.exd5 instead of 9.cxd5, which is a good practical move against a higher-rated player, keeping the position symmetrical.

Kyle played very logically, putting a knight on e5 and aiming to occupy g4 in the future. Minda's moves 14.Rfe1, 15.a3, and 17.Rac1 were very good Petrosian-like moves that seem innocuous, but all contribute to a plan expanding in the center, which is far from easy to foresee from Black's perspective.

Kyle called the bluff and invaded with his queen to the newly weakened b3 square, only to regret it a move

later and return back. This gave Minda the opportunity to grab space on the queenside and eventually create a powerful passed d-pawn at the cost of a pawn. Kyle decided to get his queenside pawns pushed with 28...b5, and Minda wasted no time and immediately strikes with 29.Nd5! from that point on, each of Minda's moves comes with powerful effect and brings all the pieces into the attack. In a crazy finish, the white king finds itself safely placed on g3 from Black's counterattack, and eventually the black king was mated.

Minda Chen (1984) –
Kyle Haining (2267) [E73]
Premier Redmond
(R4), February 17, 2019

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e4 d6 5.Be2
0-0 6.Be3 c5 7.d5 e6 8.h4 exd5 9.exd5
h5 10.Nf3 Re8 11.Qd2 Bf5 12.Ng5
Nbd7 13.0-0 Ne5 14.Rfe1 a6 15.a3 Nfg4
16.Bf4 Qb6 17.Rac1 Qb3 18.Nge4 Qb6
19.b4 cxb4 20.axb4 Bf8 21.Bxg4 Nxb4
22.c5 Qxb4 23.Nxd6 Rxe1+ 24.Rxe1
Qxc5 25.Nde4 Qb6 26.Rb1 Qa7 27.d6
Bg7 28.Re1 b5



Position after 28...b5

29.Nd5 Kh8 30.Nc7 Rd8 31.Ng5 Kg8
32.Qa2 Nh6 33.Re7 Qd4 34.Nxf7 Qd1+
35.Kh2 Ng4+ 36.Kg3 Rc8 37.Ng5+ Kh8
38.Rxg7 Qd3+ 39.f3 Qf1 40.Rh7# 1-0

2. Very impressive and instructive play by David against Joseph's King's Indian. 16.Bxc5! was an important move which was the starting point of White's strategic dominance. Following with 17.Bb5 and 18.Nc4, David successfully took control of the queenside and the light squares, and then proceeded to turn his attention to the kingside.

The exchange sacrifice 27.Rxh6 was an effective move to break through to the black king. Joseph defended very well, and found a nice practical idea 30...b5 to attempt to gain counterplay, with the idea being that White can't play the seemingly crushing 31.N4xe5 as Black can follow up with 31...b4! However, David managed to find an absolutely brilliant idea of 32.N4xe5!!, sacrificing the other knight altogether in return for the knight to be firmly planted on e5 with the supporting move 33.f4!

Material-wise, White is pretty much down a full rook, but Black's pieces are tied down completely that amazingly, Black cannot stop mate! A must-see for any King's Indian player for either color.

David Levine (2200) –
Joseph Frantz (2049) [E90]
Premier Redmond
(R1), February 16, 2019

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.Nf3 0-0 6.h3 e5 7.d5 Na6 8.Bg5 h6
9.Be3 Qe7 10.g4 Nc5 11.Nd2 a5 12.Be2
Kh7 13.Qc2 c6 14.0-0-0 cxd5 15.cxd5
Bd7 16.Bxc5 dxc5 17.Bb5 Rfd8 18.Nc4
Bxb5 19.Nxb5 Nd7 20.Kb1 b6 21.h4
Rab8 22.Na7 Bf8 23.g5 Rb7 24.Nc6
Qe8 25.h5 Ra8 26.hxg6+ fxg6 27.Rxh6+
Bxh6 28.Rh1 Rc7 29.Rxh6+ Kg7 30.Qc3
b5 31.Qh3 Nf8



Position after 31...Nf8

32.N4xe5 Rxc6 33.f4 Re6 34.dxe6 Qd8
35.Rxg6+ Nxb6 36.Qh6+ 1-0

3. Very well played game by Ignacio in the Ruy Lopez, that reminded me a lot of Fischer's wins in the opening. The critical point of the game was when David chose to recapture the knight with the slightly inaccurate 18...Rxe5 instead of 18...dxe5. The reasoning is that it is important to restrict the activity of White's light square bishop – especially against a strong attacking player like Ignacio – which may come to life after a later e4-e5 advance by White.

Ignacio immediately took advantage of this and within a few moves maneuvered his pieces to set up a powerful battery with the queen and bishop lined up at the poor knight on h7.

Black seemed to have things under control when he played 27...Bg4, threatening the rook and intending to transfer the bishop to g6 via h5, contesting the diagonal. Of course, Ignacio wasn't afraid to sacrifice the exchange and immediately took the chance to blast the center open with powerful 28.e6!!

David defended very precisely to hold off the attack, but was forced to defend a passive position down a couple pawns. Ignacio understood that there wasn't going to be mate on the board

and wisely swapped queens to a winning endgame.

**Ignacio Perez (2200) –
David Levine (2200) [C78]**
Premier Redmond
(R2), February 16, 2019

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6
5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Bc5 7.c3 d6 8.a4 Rb8
9.axb5 axb5 10.d4 Bb6 11.h3 0-0 12.Na3
Re8 13.Re1 Bd7 14.Bc2 h6 15.Nxb5
Qc8 16.Na3 Ra8 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nxe5
Rxe5 19.Bf4 Rea5 20.Qf3 Nh7 21.Rad1
Be6 22.Qd3 g5 23.e5 Nf8 24.Bg3 d5
25.h4 c6 26.hxg5 hxg5 27.Kh2 Bg4



Position after 27...Bg4

28.e6 fxe6 29.Re5 Bd8 30.Rde1 R5a7
31.Qe3 Rg7 32.Qd4 Bh5 33.R5e3 c5
34.Qd2 Bg6 35.Be5 Bc7 36.Kg1 Bxe5
37.Rxe5 Bxc2 38.Nxc2 Qd8 39.Ne3 Ra4
40.f3 Rh4 41.Ng4 Rg6 42.c4 d4 43.Rxc5
d3 44.Rd1 Rg7 45.Qe3 Rh5 46.Rxd3
Qe7 47.Rc8 Rgh7 48.Rdd8 Rh1+ 49.Kf2
Rf7 50.Qc5 Qxc5+ 51.Rxc5 Rf5 52.Rc7
Rf7 53.Rcc8 Kg7 54.Ne5 1-0

4. I was quite impressed by Stan's piece play throughout the whole game. After an aggressive advance in the center by David with 8.e5, Stan patiently maneuvered his knight to the strong e6 blockade square via Nf6-e8-c7-e6. Following that, Stan decided to trade his other knight for White's light-squared bishop, which gave him full control of the light squares, around which his play centered for the next couple moves. By move 23, all of Black's pieces were ideally placed on active squares while White's were passively placed.

Sensibly, David did not want to hold a passive position and went for a good practical try with a kingside attack beginning with 26.g4. While the attack appears to be threatening at first, with Black having the two bishops in such an open position makes it quite difficult for such an attack to succeed. Stan decided to go for the counterattack with 26...hxg4, 27.hxg4 f5!

Stan continued to build up pressure, taking advantage of the multiple pins in the position, until David finally cracked.

It is interesting to note that the black knight that was pushed back to the first rank on move eight ended up on the powerful d4 outpost on move 15 and remained there the whole game, playing a big role in controlling the key squares.

**David Levine (2200) –
Stan Kitsis (2133) [B08]**
Premier Redmond
(R7), February 23, 2019

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c6 4.h3 d6 5.Nf3
Nf6 6.Bd3 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.e5 Ne8
9.Bf4 dxe5 10.dxe5 Nc7 11.Qe2 Ne6
12.Bg3 Ndc5 13.Qe3 Qb6 14.Qc1 Nxd3
15.cxd3 Nd4 16.Ne1 Bf5 17.Kh1 Rad8
18.f4 h5 19.Bf2 Qa6 20.Qe3 c5 21.Rd1
Bh6 22.a3 Qc6 23.Kh2 b6 24.Bh4 Qb7
25.Rg1 Be6



Position after 25...Be6

26.g4 hxg4 27.hxg4 f5 28.exf6 exf6
29.Ne4 Bg7 30.Rd2 Qc7 31.Rg3 Kf7
32.Kg1 Rh8 33.Rh2 Bd5 34.Rgh3 Rde8
35.Bxf6 Bxf6 36.Ng5+ Bxg5 37.Rh7+
Rxb7 38.Rxb7+ Kg8 39.Rh8+ Kxh8
40.Qxe8+ Kg7 0-1

5. After a dubious idea from Harrison to trade off his light-square bishop for a knight, Black's light squares in all areas of the board were particularly weak. Ignacio managed to take control effectively: 24.f5! was the key breakthrough, and after 24...gxf5 25.Nxd6 Qxd6 26.exf5, White's light-square bishop was brought to life. It certainly looked like White's attack would succeed eventually, but it was not easy without any knights on the board.

Ignacio shuffled his pieces around for a bit, looking for ways to continue the attack until Harrison finally gave in and traded queens. While this is a normal principle when defending against an attack, here this is the final straw as the weakness of the light squares created early-on allows the white king a clear route into Black's position.

Very instructive gameplay by Ignacio, centering his plan around the weak light squares created by Harrison from move 11 onwards.

**Ignacio Perez (2200) –
Harrison Toppen-Ryan (1771) [A05]**
Premier Redmond
(R5), February 18, 2019

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.0-0
0-0 5.d3 d6 6.e4 e5 7.Nbd2 c5 8.a4
Nc6 9.Nc4 Be6 10.Ng5 d5 11.Nxe6
fxe6 12.Nd2 Qd7 13.c3 Rad8 14.Qe2
d4 15.Nb3 b6 16.cxd4 exd4 17.Bg5 h6
18.Bd2 a5 19.Be1 e5 20.Nd2 Ne8 21.Nc4
Rb8 22.f4 Nd6 23.Qc2 Kh7



Position after 23...Kh7

24.f5 gxf5 25.Nxd6 Qxd6 26.exf5 Ne7
27.Be4 Kh8 28.Qg2 Rbd8 29.Bd2 Nd5
30.Rf3 Nf6 31.Re1 Rf7 32.Qh3 Nh7

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33.Qh5 Rdf8 34.g4 Nf6 35.Qh4 Nxe4
 36.Rxe4 Kg8 37.Rh3 Rf6 38.Qe1 R6f7
 39.Qc1 Rf6 40.Qc4+ Kh7 41.Bg5 R6f7
 42.Re2 Kg8 43.Bd2 Kh7 44.Rh5 Rf6
 45.Kf1 Qe6 46.b3 Kg8 47.Kg2 Qxc4
 48.bxc4 Rd6 49.Kf3 Rf7 50.Ke4 Re7
 51.h4 Bf8 52.g5 hxg5 53.hxg5 Kf7 54.f6
 Ree6 55.Kf5 Ke8 56.Rxe5 1-0



Position after 16...Bd5

Honorable Mention:

Damarcus Thomas – Brent Baxter 1-0
 “hauling cannons”

This game features much patient maneuvering in White’s London System vs Black’s ...Bb7. Black’s queen-plus-rook control of the c-file leads nowhere, but White’s f-file control eventually pays off in a round-about way. Having doubled rooks on the f-file at move 25, White rebuilds his assault and doubles rooks on the c-file at move 43.

Then, surprisingly but effectively, he hauls cannons back to the east and doubles rooks on the f-file again at move 55! Unfatigued, the rooks crash through on f6 and wreak havoc on Black’s uncastled king.

**Damarcus Thomas (1844) –
 Brent Baxter (1914) [A47]**
 Challengers Redmond
 (R8), February 24, 2019

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.e3 b6 4.Nd2 Bb7
 5.Ng3 d6 6.Bd3 Be7 7.c3 Nbd7 8.e4 h6
 9.Qe2 g5 10.Bg3 Nh5 11.Nf1 c5 12.Bb5
 a6 13.Bd3 b5 14.N1d2 g4 15.Ng1 Rg8
 16.h3 Nxc3 17.fxc3 h5 18.h4 Qb6
 19.Qe3 Rc8 20.Ne2 cxd4 21.cxd4 Ne5
 22.0-0 Nxd3 23.Qxd3 Qd8 24.Rf4
 Rg7 25.Raf1 Rc7 26.a3 Qd7 27.d5 e5
 28.R4f2 Qe8 29.Nc3 Rc5 30.Qe3 Rh7
 31.Rf5 Qd8 32.Qf2 f6 33.Qe3 Bc8
 34.R5f2 Qb6 35.Re1 Qa7 36.Rc1 Bd8
 37.b4 Rcc7 38.Qe1 Bd7 39.Nb3 Rf7
 40.Kh1 Rc4 41.Nd2 Re8 42.Nf1 Bb6
 43.Rfc2 Kd8 44.Qd2 Rh7 45.Qd3 Rf7
 46.Nd2 Be3 47.Re1 Bd4 48.Rec1 Qb7
 49.Nb3 Bb6 50.Rf1 Be8 51.Qd2 Qe7

52.Qh6 Rf8 53.Na5 Bxa5 54.bxa5 Qf7



Position after 54...Qf7

55.Rcf2 Qe7 56.Na2 Rc4 57.Nb4 Rxe4
 58.Rxf6 Rxf6 59.Rxf6 Kc7 60.Nxa6+
 Kd7 61.Nb8+ Kc7 62.Na6+ Kd7 63.Re6
 Qf8 1-0

Honorable Mention:

Brandon Jiang – Sophie Velea 1-0
 “sac, sac, mate”

Section winner Brandon Jiang’s bold sac 22.Nf6+ may be objectively unsound, but Black does not find the best defense, and White’s attack builds strongly. After sacking a bishop as well, White engineers a stylish two-rook mate.

**Brandon Jiang (1988) –
 Sophie Velea (1866) [B52]**
 Challengers Redmond
 (R4), February 17, 2019

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Bxd7+
 Qxd7 5.0-0 Nf6 6.Re1 e6 7.c3 Be7 8.d4
 cxd4 9.cxd4 d5 10.e5 Ne4 11.Nbd2 Nxd2
 12.Bxd2 0-0 13.Rc1 Nc6 14.Rc3 Rfc8
 15.a3 b5 16.Rd3 b4 17.h4 bxa3 18.bxa3
 Bd8 19.Nh2 Ne7 20.Ng4 Nf5



Position after 20...Nf5

**2019 Washington
 State Challengers
 Brilliancy Prizes**

By Mark Smith

First Prize Winner:

Jeffrey Yan – Alex Kaelin 1-0
 “explosions and sparkle”

Opening with a Scandinavian, this game features tactical explosions early in the middle game and tactical sparkle late in the endgame. After several possibilities for sacrifices against Black’s uncastled king, Jeffrey finds a splendid queen sac (17.Qxe4+), which not only staves off Black’s attack against White’s king on b1, but also ends up netting a rook and two pieces for the sacrificed queen. Black does not give up on trying to mate, but White sags a knight to stop the threat and shepherds his passed d-pawn through to promotion.

**Jeffrey Yan (1923) –
 Alex Kaelin (1790) [B01]**
 Challengers Redmond
 (R3), February 17, 2019

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8 4.d4
 Nf6 5.Bc4 a6 6.Nf3 b5 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.Bf4
 e6 9.Qe2 Bb4 10.Bxb5+ c6 11.Bc4 c5
 12.0-0-0 Bxc3 13.bxc3 Qa5 14.Bxe6
 Qa3+ 15.Kb1 Ne4 16.Bf5 Bd5

[Diagram top of next column]

17.Qxe4+ Bxe4 18.Bxe4 Nd7 19.Bxa8
 0-0 20.Bc6 Nb6 21.Bc1 Qa5 22.Nd2 c4
 23.Bb2 Na4 24.Bxa4 Qxa4 25.d5 Rb8
 26.d6 Qb5 27.Nxc4 Qxc4 28.d7 Qc7
 29.Rhe1 Rf8 30.Re8 Qc5 31.d8Q 1-0

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21.Bg5 h6 22.Nf6+ gxf6 23.exf6 Qe8
24.Qh5 Qf8 25.Rf3 hxg5 26.hxg5 Bxf6
27.gxf6 Qh6 28.Rxf5 Qxh5 29.Rxh5 Rc3
30.Ree5 Rc1+ 31.Kh2 Rac8 32.Reg5+
Kf8 33.Rh8# 1-0

Honorable Mention:

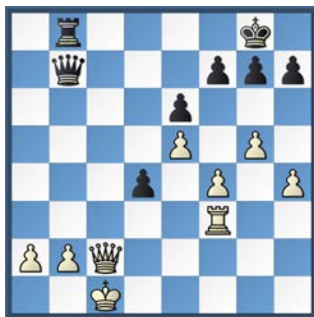
Stephanie Velea – Brent Baxter 0-1
“major mating”

By move 19, all four knights and four bishops are gone, and pawn structure is 4-4 on the kingside, 3-3 on the queenside. Elephantine maneuvering leads to a rook trade. Now it's Q+R vs Q+R and an extra pawn for White, but, according to Stockfish, Black's passed d-pawn is the equal of White's connected, passed a- and b-pawns. For us humans, probably not. On move 31, White allows infiltration into her king's position; Black's majors dance a beautifully coordinated but brutal series of eleven moves ending in mate.

Stephanie Velea (1744) – Brent Baxter (1914) [B17]
Challengers Redmond
(R9), February 24, 2019

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7
5.Nf3 Ngf6 6.Bd3 Nxe4 7.Bxe4 Nf6
8.Bd3 Bg4 9.c3 e6 10.h3 Bh5 11.Bf4
Bd6 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.g4 Bg6 14.Ne5
Bxd3 15.Qxd3 0-0 16.h4 Rad8 17.0-0-
0 Nd7 18.Qe2 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Qe7 20.g5

Rd5 21.Qe3 b5 22.f4 a5 23.Rxd5 cxd5
24.Qb6 b4 25.Qxa5 bxc3 26.Qxc3 Qb7
27.Qd3 Qb4 28.Rf1 Rb8 29.Qc2 Qb7
30.Rf3 d4



Position after 30...d4

31.Rb3 Qh1+ 32.Qd1 Rc8+ 33.Kd2
Qh2+ 34.Kd3 Qxf4 35.Qe2 g6 36.Qe4
Qf1+ 37.Kd2 Qc1+ 38.Ke2 Rc2+ 39.Kf3
Qh1+ 40.Kf4 Qxh4+ 41.Kf3 Rf2# 0-1

Honorable Mention:

Brent Baxter – Jeffrey Yan 0-1
“classical queen sac = mate”

In this complex archetypal battle, White starts with 1.b3 and sets up a “hypermodern” double fianchetto. Black opts for a center-controlling classical set-up with pawns on e5 and d4, bishops on c5 and f5, knights on c6 and f6. Anchored by his central control, Black pushes

pawns on the kingside.

After White channels Reti by pulling his queen far from the action to set up the battery Qa1/Bb2, Black breaks through on g3 with a classy queen sac for the mate!

Brent Baxter (1914) – Jeffrey Yan (1923) [A01]
Challengers Redmond
(R1), February 16, 2019

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.c4 Nf6 4.g3 d5
5.Bg2 d4 6.d3 Bf5 7.Nd2 Qd7 8.a3 a5
9.Qc2 Bc5 10.h3 h5 11.Ng3 0-0 12.Nh4
Bh7 13.0-0 g5 14.Nhf3 g4 15.Ng5 Bf5
16.h4 Rae8 17.Kh2 b6 18.Nde4 Bxe4
19.Nxe4 Nxe4 20.Bxe4 f5 21.Bd5+ Kh7
22.Rae1 Ne7 23.Bg2 f4 24.Be4+ Kg7
25.e3 Qd6 26.exf4 exf4 27.Qc1 Rf6
28.Qa1 Ref8 29.b4 fxd3+ 30.fxd3 Rf2+
31.Bg2



Position after 31.Bg2

31...Qxg3+ 0-1

Vancouver Open

August 10-11, 2019

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

HR: \$169 Standard King/Double Queen. Cut-off date July 26.

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

Open: 1st \$400, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$250
1st U2200/U2000: \$150, Biggest Upset: \$75

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

Entry Fee: \$75 if postmarked or online by 8/4, \$85 after 8/4 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. US Chess Grand Prix Points: 6. US Chess Junior Grand Prix event. Northwest Chess Grand Prix event.

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:** jvictormayer@yahoo.com.

Online Registration: www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration.

3rd Annual Seattle Chess Classic



August 14-18, 2019

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

A 9-round Swiss in two sections: Open and Reserve U1800.

Entry fees: Open: \$150 by 8/7, \$175 after or at site. Reserve: \$100 by 8/7, \$125 after or at site. Free entry for GM/IM/WGM or US Chess Rating 2400+.

Schedule:

Wednesday 8/14	Registration & Round 1	6:00-6:45pm & 7pm
Thursday 8/15	Rounds 2 & 3	11am & 6pm
Friday 8/16	Rounds 4 & 5	11am & 6pm
Saturday 8/17	Rounds 6 & 7	11am & 6pm
Sunday 8/18	Rounds 8 & 9	11am & 6pm
Sunday 8/18	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 2019 supplement or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Both sections US Chess rated, Open section also FIDE rated. Maximum capacity of 60 players.

Prizes: (\$4000 based on 60 paid entries)

Open: 1st \$600, 2nd \$450, 3rd \$300 1st U2400/U2200/U2000: \$200

Reserve: 1st \$400, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$200 1st U1600/U1400/U1200: \$125

Special prizes: Biggest upset & Best game: \$25 per round. Top Female: \$100 per section (provided at least 3 qualifying players). Best dressed: \$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/>.

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

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

Seattle Spring Open

By Carol and Fred Kleist

Life Master Viktors Pupols just keeps on winning! His recent victory: clear first in the Seattle Spring Open, a Seattle Chess Club (SCC) tournament held at the SCC from March 15-17, with also a two-day option. Viktors is widely known in the chess world as “Unkel Vik,” a fitting title for the mentor and competitor of the young and very young Yasser Seirawan during his formative years. It still fits the man today, with his encouragement of the upcoming prodigies seeking their first Master titles, and his willingness to play matches with them to give them an opportunity to achieve these goals. Actively playing in the Northwest (originally from Latvia and a stay in Germany) since 1953, Viktors continues to present a challenge in numerous Northwest chess events.

Joseph Frantz, a winner, unlike the Emperor Franz Joseph, came in second, and Derin Goktepe, still of scholastic age, secured the Under 2150 prize in the Open Section.

The Reserve Section was dominated by a youthful pair, Alex Kaelin and Brian Lee, who shared first and second, and the Under-1750 prize was divided between long-time Northwest player Stephen Buck and new player, college student Rowan Foxley. The very young Mudit Johar captured the Under 1350 prize.

Pupols has opted to present two diagrams, taken from his own recent games, from which you should find the correct continuation that wins. Have fun with this novel approach.



Unkel Vik's Problem #1. Black to move.



Unkel Vik's Problem #2. Black to move.

Solutions to appear in next month's issue.

A special feature of this Spring Open was the free chess lecture, held during the hour preceding the tournament, by FIDE Master William Schill, better known as Bill Schill, who has expressed his willingness to present more free lectures in conjunction with SCC Tournaments.

As you see, chess is alive and well at the Seattle Chess Club, flourishing continuously since 1879, 140 years. Affordable, high percentage of prizes, and good chess. Wednesday evenings are for free casual chess (or use it for not so casual practice. And as T.D. Fred Kleist says, the Club belongs to its members. So bring your ideas, wishes, complaints, and desire to help.

Two other bits of club news: Note that our website is in transition from the administration of Attorney at Law Neal Bonrud to the new administrator, young computer expert Austin Cluff. He hopes to have the on-line registration capability up and running soon, so let him know your wishes for updates and current and future events. The other news is that we now have on the SCC Board retired Professor of Business Ethics, who did his

Ph.D. work in Non-Profit Organizations, currently Consulting Fellow of the Institute for Washington's Future, active SCC Member, avid chess player, our Outreach Liaison, Dr. John Selsky. How can we miss?



Retired Professor Dr. John Selsky.
Photo credit: Carol Kleist.



Viktors Pupols. Photo credit: Carol Kleist.

2019 Idaho Open

By Jay Simonson

Pocatello, ID—April 6-7, 2019

Twenty players showed up at the Pocatello Red Lion Inn on April 6 with their eyes set on the title of “Idaho Open Champion.” The showdown came in the final round on April 7 between Ronald Kirsch of Tacoma, Washington, and Andrew Kitterman of Boise. In order to tie for the top honors, Ronald needed to win, but Andrew needed only to draw to clinch the clear title. In the end, that draw is exactly what happened. For his efforts, with 4.5/5 points, Andrew received the championship plaque and \$134 in cash (67% of the \$200 advertised prize).

Ronald won clear second place, with a score of 4.0/5, and a check for \$67. Four players tied for 3rd-6th place, with 3.5/5 points, and received checks for \$12.50. They are: John Carr, of Victor, Zach Fritchen, from Idaho Falls, Gaby Dagher, of Boise, and Jason Gold, from Centerville, Utah.

Dewayne Derryberry, from Pocatello, claimed \$33.50 for the top Class B player, and Kelen Gold, from Centerville, Utah, won \$33.50 for the top Class C player. River Shepard, from Hailey, and Joshua Price, from Kuna, tied for top Class D honors, and \$16.75 in prize money. Finn Belew, from Boise won \$33.50 for top Class E, and Niall McKenzie, of Pocatello and Michael Duckett from Boise shared first place in Class F, each receiving \$16.75.

Many of the players said that the 2019 Idaho Open was one of the toughest tournaments they had played in. This of course was exactly what Tournament Director Jay Simonson, who had set up a display of some 30 personal chess boards and pieces, wanted to hear. Jay’s displayed collection included the first chess board he acquired as a teenager and a large variety of different and unusual chess sets he has come to possess over the years.



(L) Andrew Kitterman, Jay Simonson.
Photo courtesy of Jay Simonson.

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9th Annual Oregon Senior Open

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—March 8-10, 2019

March, when the weather is supposed to carry the fragrance of warmer days. March, when there is the anticipation of picnics on the grass beside the babbling of sun-drenched brooks, fed by the crystal waters of melting snows. March, when the clock leaps forward an hour, allowing for more daylight, so that one can dance among the daisies with flowers in their hair. All seemed a fairy tale of yore, when those who sought to attend the Oregon Senior Open attempted to reach the Portland Chess Club on the night of March 8, just when a freak snow storm tried its hardest to blanket Portland in an unseasonable covering of white flakes and slush.

But with a snow-be-damned attitude, 12 oldsters trudged through the blinding storm and building drifts (here I have used artistic liberty to enhance the excitement of the narrative) to reach the doorstep of the club for the first of five games to be played over three days. Those, apparently, were the more hearty of the eventual 22-player field, as the next day (Saturday) saw another ten grey-beards arrive in the melt of the previous night's snow.

The reason for having had one game on Friday night was to lessen the possibility that there would be a number of byes (there were 13 in the third round last year), were there to be three long



(L) David Yoshinaga, David Rupel, Carl Haessler and Lennart Bjorksten, tied for first place. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

games played on Saturday, as the time control (G/90; increment 30—changed this year from its previous G/120; delay 50) could make for a very tiring day, eliciting a number of byes; some of these old guys need to be in bed by 8:00 PM.

To make up for missing the longer Friday night game, the players who came on Saturday were offered the option to play one game at 10:00 AM at G/30; increment 30, thereafter to merge with

those playing the three day schedule, that had a start time of 12:45 PM. As one of the hearty players that opted to play the three day schedule, I, Brian “I’m Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1500-1500—2.0/5), had hoped to be able to hold my own against some of the lower-rated coots, thereby gaining some face-saving points to attach to a rating that I can’t seem to push much above my floor.

On this matter, it seems there is no hope for the hopeless; no ray of redemption for the ratings challenged; no succor for he who sucks at chess; no escaping the inescapable evidence of diminished calculating capacity—just the stark realization of chess mediocrity at its most mediocre. For at no time during this tournament (despite what seem to be two wins on my final score), had I control of the board, my bladder, or the building desperation that just kept building.

Truth be told, one of those points was a gift of a game from Jon Strohbahn (1470-1439—1.5/5), who was methodically maneuvering my king into a checkmate position, but in the process, lost track of his minutes left on the clock, and so lost on time. The second gift was a one point mandatory bye in the last round, when one of the players decided to leave the tournament. So with these two gift points I was able to claim half of the U1600 prize money—Jerrold “I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It’s Over” Richards (1467-1459—2.0/5) claiming the other half, which amounted to \$27.50 each.

To compound the embarrassment of



Chief TD Micah Smith awards Bob Malone prize money for 1st U1800, which includes a bonus for age 70 and over. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Steven Deeth vs Carl Haessler. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

the outcome, I lost against Richards in the fourth round, a comrade who has had his own problems staying away from his floor, and who also was given a full-point bye in the third round, my loss accounting for his second full point. So what became a miserable showing by both of us rating-wise, turned into a tie for first U1600, with part of our registration fee returned to us—a small victory at best, and highly unexpected. Morgan the Dog could only shake his head at what he had seen, and hoped never to see again.

Before continuing, I want to mention a bit of background behind this tournament, now in its ninth year. It was at the request of Frank Niro, a well known figure in the chess world, that a tournament should be held to honor the passing of another well known figure in Oregon chess, that being Dr. Ralph Hall, who in 1976 started the Oregon City Chess Club (still in existence as the Oregon City/Singer Hill Chess Club, now co-run by myself and Carl Koontz on Sundays), and who also was instrumental in bringing the 1987 US Open to Portland. The rest is geezer history.

In addition to the prizes being awarded, a perpetual trophy (the Dr. Ralph Hall Memorial Award) will be inscribed with the tournament winner or winners, which can be seen in its permanent place at the Portland Chess Club. Substantial in size, it will acknowledge those oldsters who overcame degrees of synaptic impairment to have their deeds etched for all to see.

Apparently, not yet feeling the impact

of mental impairment that insidiously stalks the aging, three of the higher-rated players and one unexpected wild-card all tied with 4.0/5 points to their credit: Carl Haessler (2220-2218—4.0/5), Lennart Bjorksten (2164-2166—4.0/5), David Rupel (2072-2102—4.0/5) and David Yoshinaga (1700-1781—4.0/5), splitting the first, second, first U2000 prize monies to the tune of \$69 each, and the prospects of a sort of immortality, by having their names attached to a trophy that, quite



(L) Grisha Alpernas vs David Yoshinaga. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

possibly, will far outlast their physical being.

That wild-card I spoke of was none other than the 1700-rated player (his floor), David Yoshinaga, this being one of the best tournament results Yoshinaga has seen in a very long time. Given his propensity to be out of book by his second move, it is almost a miracle he did not crash and burn under the pressure. But as luck would have it, when faced with the very real threats of Bjorksten, Carl Koontz (1941-1927—3.0/5) and Grisha Alpernas (1892-1875—2.2/5), his only loss was to Bjorksten, in a well-played game.

Fortunately for Yoshinaga, he was playing less speculative chess moves this time around, and so was not losing pieces right-and-left. This helped him chalk up a win against the cautious and time-strapped Koontz, and the very cagey Grisha Alpernas (1892-1875—2.5/5). And as for his other two opponents, John Hornickle (1261-1262—1.5/5) and Brian Berger, his ability to stand tall against the above high-rated players made it child's play to quickly eliminate Berger and beat the much lesser-rated Hornickle.

Not only did Yoshinaga partake of a percentage of the money from his first place tie, and will have his name placed on the perpetual trophy, but he also split the age 60 and over bonus prize with David Rupel, giving him an additional \$22. In the process, he finally got his rating off the floor by gaining 81 rating points—an elevated figure he has not seen for some time. So here's hoping all of this has not gone to Yoshinaga's head, where

he might think that “Invincible” should be tattooed on his upper arm, and he again reverts to type, using openings known only to him.

Some of the other prizes distributed went to the following: Bob Malone (1655-1720—3.5/5), for first U1800 (\$55),

together with a bonus prize of \$37 for age 70 and over—the win giving him a nice nudge to his rating of 65 points; William Gagnon (1600-1600—2.5/5), who won a \$30 bonus prize for age 80 and over; plus Tony Midson (1300-1322—1.5/5) and John Hornickle, who split first U1400/unrated for their 1.5/5 points, each

winning \$27.50 in prize money.

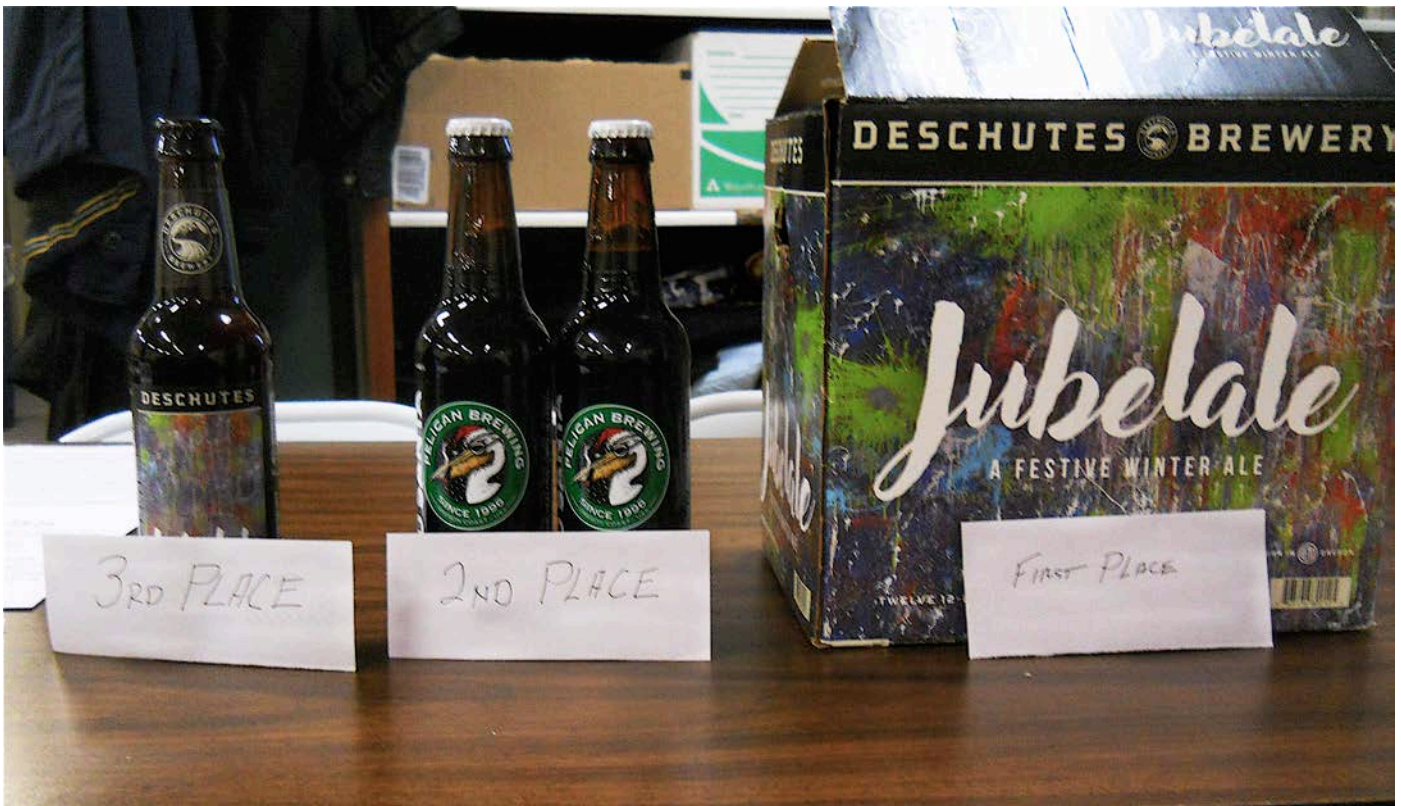
This year’s Chief TD was Micah Smith, ably assisted by Greg Markowski, who also was a player. Their attention to detail kept everything running smoothly throughout this three-day event, sponsored by the Oregon Chess Federation.



*Jerrold Richards.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



(L) Carl Koontz vs Arliss Dietz. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Bonus prizes supplied by Jon Strohbehn—players were carded before receiving them. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

2019 Portland Spring Open

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—March 23-24, 2019

Spring break seems to do one of two things, add extra players, or diminish attendance at tournaments. I am pleased to say it was the former this year, when 40 avid chess players came through the portals of the Portland Chess Club, there to spend two days vying for money and fame (and perhaps some added rating points) at the Portland Spring Open.

In charge this year was Chief TD Mike Janniro (in contrast to last year, when 38 players had three TDs on board) overseeing a four-round Swiss, played at Game 90, with increment 30, the prize fund of \$650 based on a 40-player attendance—an OCF Invitational Tournament, it was also an OSCF State Qualifier.

To quell any suspense the reader might have concerning the outcome of this two-day, mind-draining, ego-deflating effort on the part of this writer, Brian “I’m Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1500-1500—0.0/4), I will start off telling you the grim reality of the matter—I stink at the endgame! And I’m not too hot at the opening or middlegame either! And this is not to overstate, as my final score is here for all to see—not a win nor a draw in four games!!

That is probably more exclamation points than I have ever used in one paragraph, considering that The Chicago Manual of Style says that, “an exclamation point is used to mark an outcry or an emphatic or ironic comment. To avoid detracting from its effectiveness,



Chief TD Mike Janniro.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Chris Burris vs Yu-Cheng Liang. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

however, the author should use this punctuation sparingly.” But *sparingly* would not convey the proper, convincing *OUTCRY!!!* of an anguished soul—so to heck with The Chicago Manual of Style!

Perhaps it was my fault for choosing to play in the Open Section, where out of the 16 players, my rating of 1500 was the lowest by 163 points from the next-lowest, and a whopping 862 from the highest. Still, I was once a 1707 player (for a short time; a laurel I have been resting on for far too long), and was hoping to prove that, at age 76, I might have a smidgen of the talent left that had gotten me there. And that smidgen provided me with the only glimmer of hope I had in this tournament, the possibility of winning or drawing my last two games against Austin Tang (1690-1691—1.5/4) and Chris Burris (1663-1642—1.0/4), after being soundly defeated in my two earlier games against Omurbek Kobonov (1876P-1996P—3.0/4) and David Murray (1838-1826—1.0/4).

Not far into the opening with Tang I gained a knight for two pawns, and felt, at last, that I now had a game I could win. However (I just hate this word used in this context), the savvy Tang found more use for those two extra pawns than I did for my knight, eventually causing

me to slink away in disbelief from what I thought was a sure win or draw advantage.

And if that were not enough to savage my ego beyond repair, my last hope to redeem any semblance of pride would be decided in my game against Burris, during which I also felt that I had winning or drawing chances. And just when I thought I was giving him a tough time, a combination I thought was pretty tricky backfired, leaving me material down, and my ego fully trashed. And so, folks, that was how I managed to drop FOUR games while daffodils were blooming, and real chess players were WINNING their battles.

And some of those real players could certainly be found in the Open Section, such as the overall winner with all four wins, FIDE Master Shunkai Peng (2362-2371—4.0/4), who recently moved to Oregon from China—a teenager (I believe 14 or 15) who first showed up on US Chess statistics around December of



Carl Haessler Chess Master

503-875-7278 ■ carl@NWchessworks.com
NWchessworks.com



(L) Michael Moore vs Chris Burris. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

2018 with a rating of 2264, but quickly elevated that to 2396 about February of 2019. Thereafter, his play has vacillated a bit (nothing compared with my vacillation, that resembles the dribble of a basketball in the hands of one of the Harlem Globetrotters), but remains near his high mark.

His fourth game was with NM Jason Cigan (2237-2237—3.0/4) for “all the marbles,” those marbles amounting to \$150 and a nine-point gain in rating; Cigan having to settle for a tie for second place with the above mentioned provisional player, Omurbek Kobonov, plus splitting the prize money for first U2000, also—the combined total giving each \$88, and Kobonov a huge 120-point boost in his provisional rating.

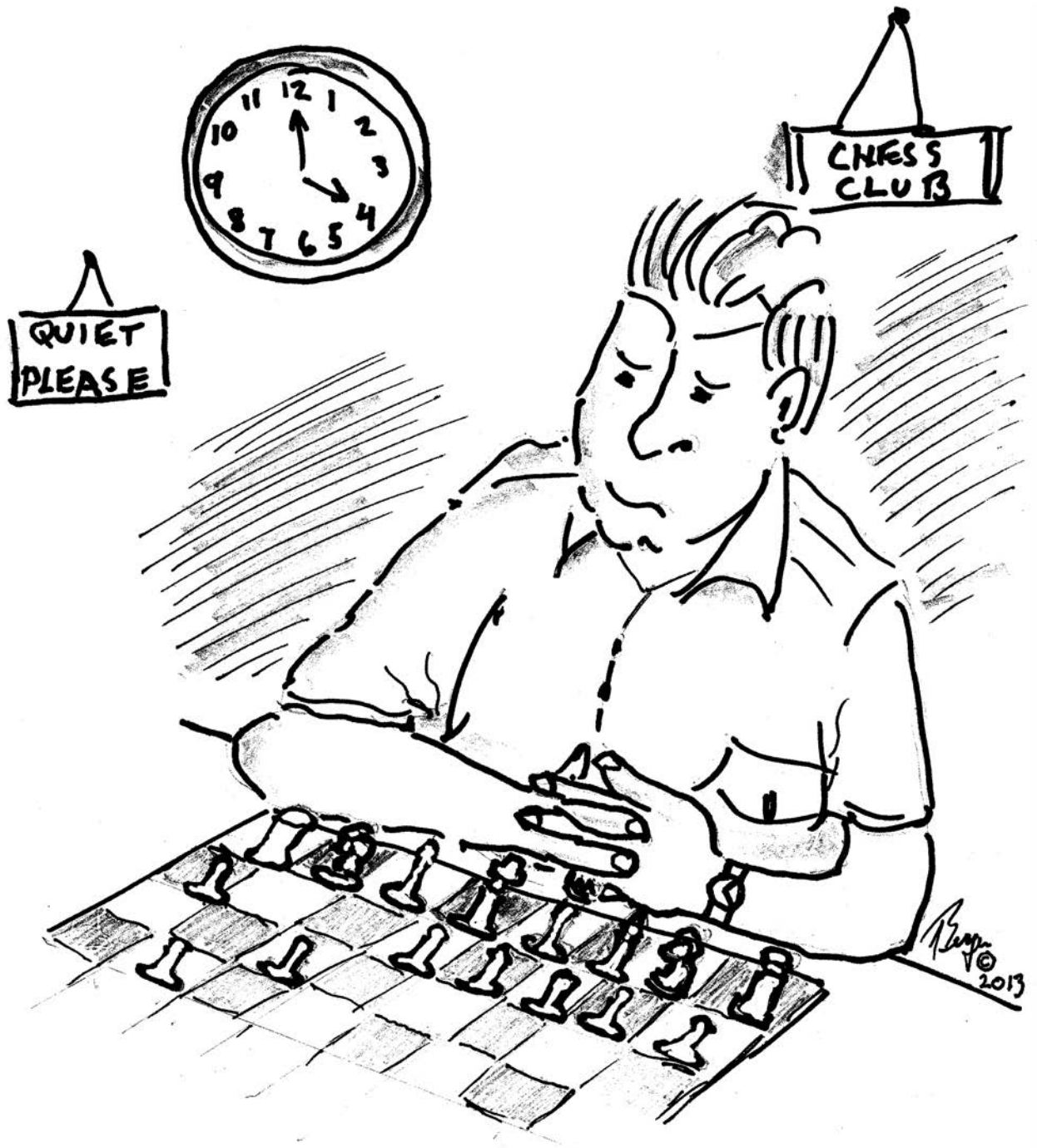
The Reserve Section, containing 24 players, saw Ronald Kirsch (1753-1759—3.5/4) of Washington, and James Wei (1681-1695—3.5/4) of Idaho, tie for first and second place, splitting the two prizes into \$87.50 each. And in the class prize category, Riley Waugh (1238P-1283P—3.0/4), Gregory Post (1275-1297—3.0/4), and Ryan Lu (1621-1638—3.0/4) split the U1600, U1400 monies, amounting to \$33.33 each.

The U1200 class was secured by two players, Nikhar Khamesra (556P-748P—2.0/4) and Jason Jacobsen

(1180-1142—2.0/4) their split of the prize being \$25 each, with Khamesra pumping up his rating an additional 192-points!



(L) Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet vs Nikhar Khamesra. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



PROPER PLACEMENT OF WHITE'S F- AND G-PAWNS IN THE OPENING WAS ALWAYS A MYSTERY TO FELIX.

Brian Berger was not able to provide a new chesstoon this month due to more pressing matters keeping him from making the deadline. Brian has never missed a month of providing a chesstoon since he started in October 2013. Rather than go a month without a Brian Berger cartoon, I decided to run one that we never actually ran in an issue before.

A similar composition was included in the compilations of Brian Berger Chesstoons that were posted in two volumes online in 2018.

— Jeffrey Roland, Editor.

The 2019 Buz Eddy / Glen Buckendorf Memorial Northwest Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator

mevjr54@outlook.com

This year we are honoring two people who supported organized chess in their respective states, one through a lifetime of participation, and the other for a deeply involved role at a time when the organization needed someone to help it stay relevant.

Glen Buckendorf was a lifetime supporter and participant in the Idaho Chess Association. There at the beginning, Buckendorf played in the very first Idaho Chess Championship in 1947, the year of the ICA's founding. He eventually played in that event almost every time it was held, including a string of fifty straight years. Buckendorf was the State Champion ten times, the first coming in 1951, and the last in 2001, a remarkable 50 year span! Active in the state organization, Buckendorf was ICA President in 1951, 1970-1973, Secretary/Treasurer in 2000, and Trustee for Tournament Organization from 2006-2009. And, since state organizations often run on a shoestring budget, Buckendorf was known to make quiet little donations to keep the ICA on its feet. Buckendorf passed away in 2011.

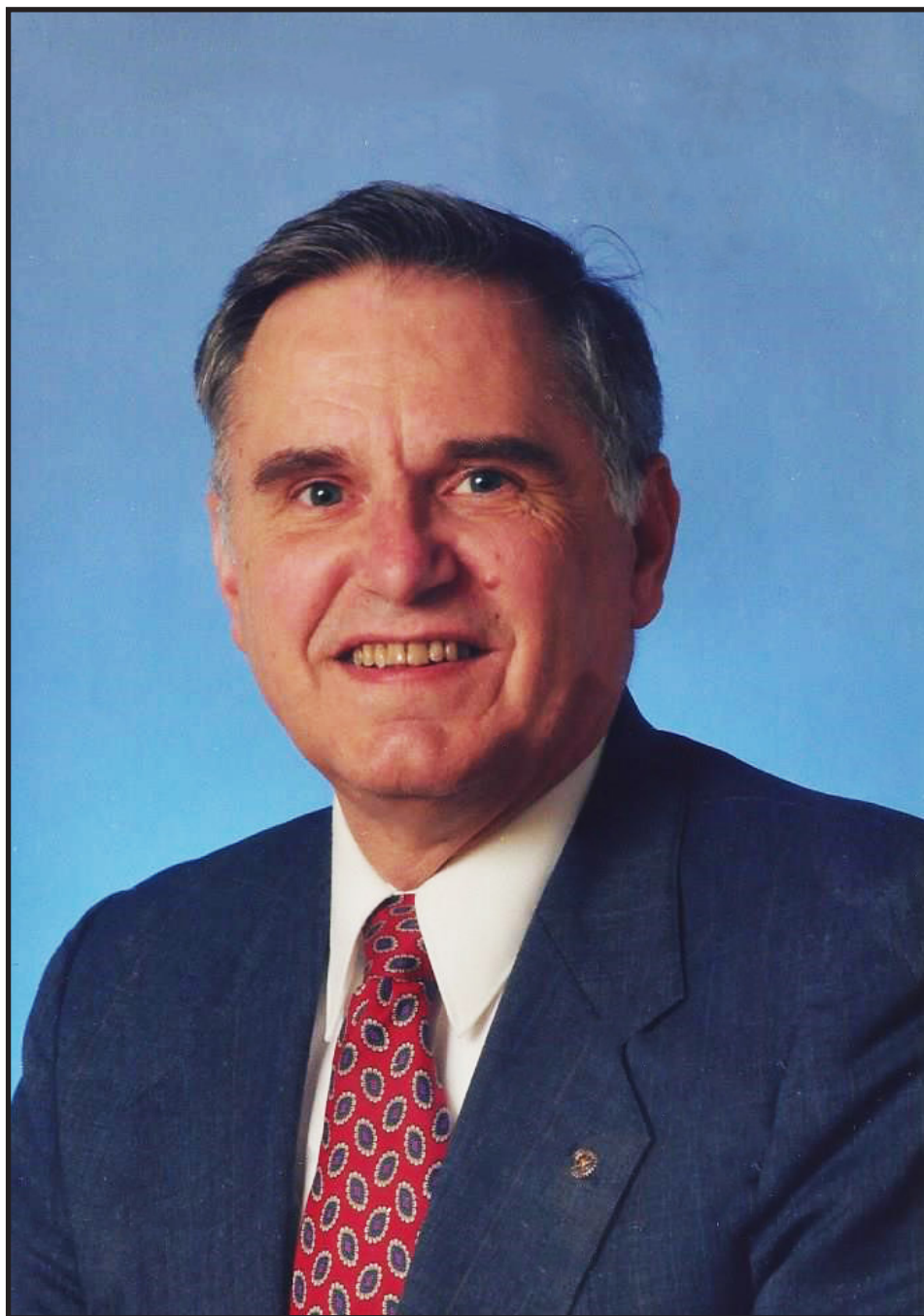


*Glen Buckendorf at the Idaho Closed State Championship of 1960 in Twin Falls.
Photo is likely taken by staff at the Twin Falls Daily News.*

Buz Eddy was also there when the federation needed him. He spent many years as the Washington State Tournament director and was an assistant director for the US Open when it came to Seattle in 1966. Eddy also stepped forward when the magazine needed an editor and publisher. He edited the Washington Chess Letter from June of 1959 to May of 1960, and later stepped up to fill the gap for Northwest Chess from May through October of 1966. (One of the biggest killers of regional chess magazines in the US has been the inability to find willing volunteer editors.) Editing the magazine in those days often included printing and assembling the magazine as well, which Eddy managed in the basement of his parents' home in Kent. While Buckendorf was a life-long participant and supporter of chess in Idaho, Eddy packed a lifetime of involvement into about two decades. He eventually left chess to focus on marriage and family. Eddy passed away in 2016.

This month's statistics reflect the changes from three events, the Idaho Open in Pocatello, and two Seattle Chess Club events, the monthly tornado and quads. May will make significant changes as there are two multiplier events. Along with the monthly Seattle Chess Club tornado and quads, we had the Inland Empire Open in Spokane (2x) and the Washington Open in Lynnwood (6x). In June, we have four events taking place, all at the Seattle Chess Club. They begin with the Sunday Tornado the first weekend, followed the next weekend with the Hi-Roller Octagonals. The third weekend has the Emerald City Open, and the month ends with the Saturday Quads on the 29th.

The stats on pages 28-29 represent all WA and ID GP events through April 29.

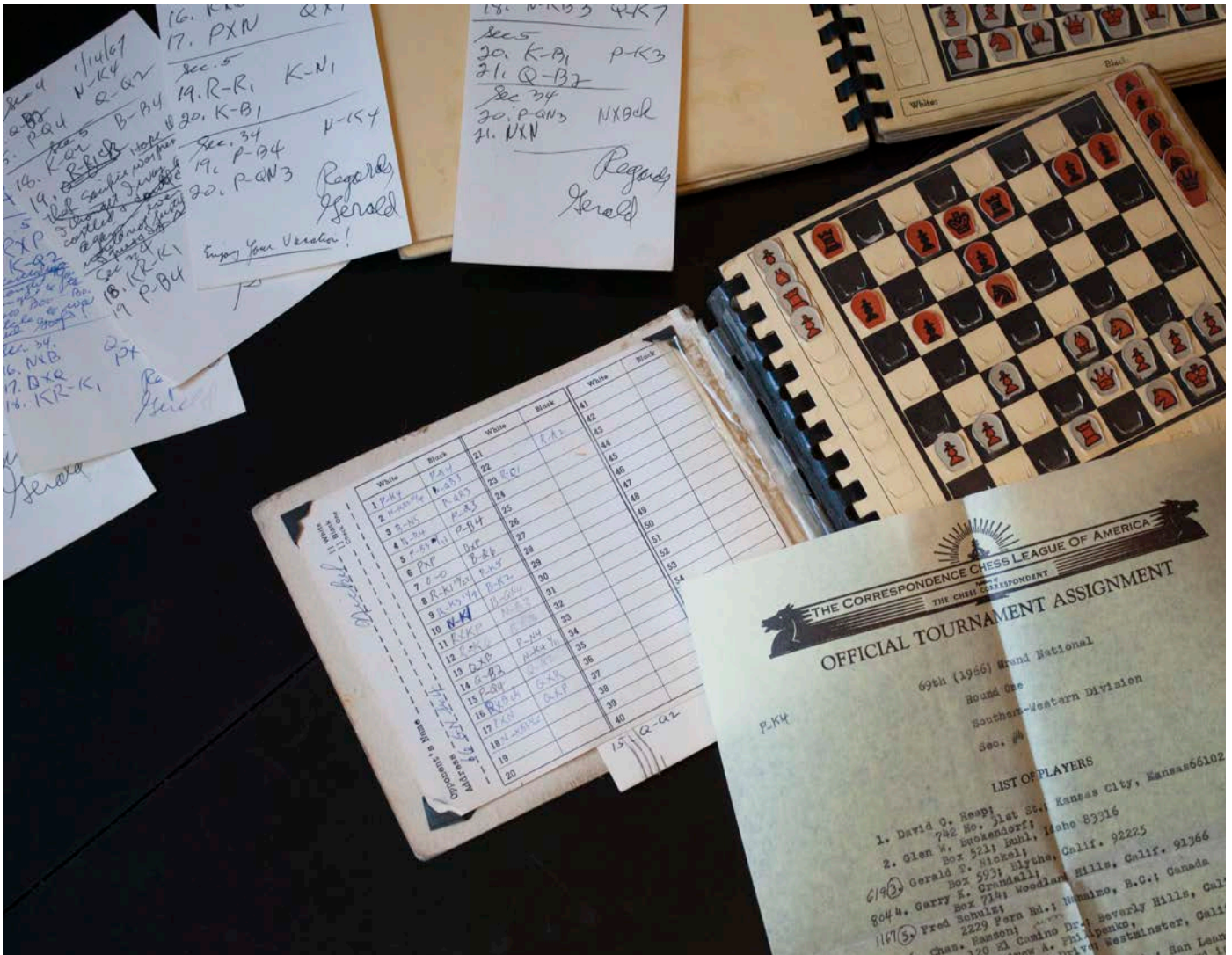


Buz Eddy circa 1995. Photo courtesy of Sharon Eddy.

2019 Memorial Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Washington			Other Places				
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	state	pts.	
			Masters							
			1 Pupols	Viktors	40.5	1 Raptis	Nick	OR	19.5	
			2 Schill	William J	11.5	2 Donaldson	W John	CA	18.0	
			Experts							
M/X/Class A			1 Erickson	Mark J	18.0					
2	Bodie	Brad	15.0	2 Fisette	Robert	16.5				
3	Maki	James J	9.0	2 Leslie	Cameron D	16.5				
4	Xu	Kevin	7.0	4 Frantz	Joseph K	16.0				
4	Nathan	Jacob A	7.0	5 Arganian	David G	12.0				
Class B			Class A							
1	Geyman	Jonathan P	18.0	1 Roberts	Theodore (Teddy)	21.5	1 Strickland	Wilton	MT	18.0
2	Herr	Griffin G	15.0	2 O'Gorman	Peter J	21.0	2 Holloran	William T, III	OR	16.5
2	Martonick	Nick	15.0	3 Casey	Garrett W	18.0	2 Yeo	Austin S	OR	16.5
2	Daigle	Adrian P	12.0	3 Qian	Daniel	18.0	4 Vogel	Benjamin	MD	15.0
5	Derryberry	Dewayne R	9.5	5 Kaelin	Alex	17.0	4 Carpenter	Romie G	MT	15.0
Class C			Class B							
1	Booth	Tom R	6.0	1 Buck	Stephen J	44.0	1 Stacey	Darren	MT	15.0
2	Porth	Desmond	5.5	2 Lainson	Silas	43.0	1 McCourt	Daniel J	MT	15.0
2	Leifeste	Bryce	5.5	3 Anthony	Ralph J	34.5	1 Muller	Michael	MT	15.0
4	Zeng	Forrest	5.0	4 Lee	Brian	30.0	4 Caldwell	Scott	MT	13.5
4	Ang	Ching-E N	5.0	5 Goktepe	Derin	26.0	5 Gold	Jason	UT	5.5
Class D			Class C							
1	Porth	Adam	17.5	1 Varner	Murlin E	33.0	1 Strong	Murray	MT	13.5
2	Glass	Evan M	12.0	2 Wang	Felicity	29.0	2 Gold	Kelen	UT	5.0
3	Merry	William A F	10.5	3 Singh	Saket	27.0				
3	Bodie	Arlene	10.5	4 Johnson	Cleveland R	25.5				
5	Shepard	River C	8.5	5 Li	Edward	22.5				
Class E and Below			Class D And Below							
1	Porth	Darwin A	14.5	1 Louie	Henry S	32.0	1 Carlino	Daniel	MT	10.5
2	Daigle	Micah J	12.0	2 Ruff	Lois A	28.5	2 Miller	Frank E	MT	9.0
2	Sherwood	Jax L	12.0	3 Shuman	Steve	26.0				
4	Callen	Gregory D	9.0	4 Solt	Ian	23.5				
5	Su	Darren	8.5	5 Clemons	Shelton	21.0				

Idaho			Washington			Other Places			
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	state	pts.
Overall Leaders, by State									
1	Cambareri	Michael E	19.5	1	Buck	Stephen J	44.0	<p>There are no prizes for players residing outside of the Northwest Chess area. This information is presented here so our readers can see that we do draw from other states and those players are contributing to our Grand Prix prize fund.</p>	
2	Geyman	Jonathan P	18.0	2	Lainson	Silas	43.0		
3	Porth	Adam	17.5	3	Pupols	Viktors	40.5		
4	Bodie	Brad	15.0	4	Anthony	Ralph J	34.5		
4	Herr	Griffin G	15.0	5	Varner	Murlin E	33.0		
4	Martonick	Nick	15.0	6	Louie	Henry S	32.0		
7	Porth	Darwin A	14.5	7	Lee	Brian	30.0		
8	Daigle	Adrian P	12.0	8	Wang	Felicity	29.0		
8	Glass	Evan M	12.0	9	Ruff	Lois A	28.5		
8	Daigle	Micah J	12.0	10	Singh	Saket	27.0		
8	Sherwood	Jax L	12.0	11	Goktepe	Derin	26.0		
12	Merry	William A F	10.5	11	Shuman	Steve	26.0		
12	Bodie	Arlene	10.5	13	Johnson	Cleveland R	25.5		



Glen Buckendorff was the first-ever US Junior Champion of CCLA when in August 1955, he won the 1950 CCLA US Junior Championship. In 2012 Jeffrey Roland took a picture of some of Buckendorff's CCLA materials, and in 2017, gave permission to the Colorado Chess Informant to use it for the cover of their October 2017 issue. See http://www.coloradochess.com/informant/October_2017.pdf. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Pacific Northwest Chess Center (PNWCC)</h2>	PNWCC Website
	12020 113th Ave NE #C-200, Kirkland, WA 98034	
	PNWChessCenter@gmail.com (General)	Event Registration
	pnwccdt@gmail.com (Tournament)	
	https://www.pnwchesscenter.org (Website)	
	http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration/ (Tournament registration)	

Scholastic Event		
Dates	Description	Rounds
6/15	PNWCC Scholastic Open	4
6/29	Boys vs Girls	4
7/7	Transformers G45;d5	4

PNWCC USCF Open		
Dates	Description	Rounds
6/8 - 6/9	6-round G90;d10	6
7/13 - 7/14	6-round G90;d10	6

PNWCC GM/IM Norm Invitational		
Dates	Description	Rounds
7/17-7/21	Two groups of GM and IM norm invitational tournament	9

PNWCC FIDE Open Tournaments			
Dates	Theme	Featured GM's	Rounds
6/21 - 6/23	Tesla	GM Nestorovi, Nikola & GM Rambaldi, Francesco	5
7/24 - 7/28	Summer of Seattle	GM Mikhalevski, Victor and 3+ other GM's	9

PNWCC GM Camps			
Dates	Level	Coach	Days
6/24-6/28	Intermediate	GM Emil Anka	5
7/8 -7/12	Intermediate & Advanced	GM Melik Khachiyani & GM Steven Zierk	5
7/29 - 8/2	Intermediate & Advanced	GM Victor Mikhalevski & GM Melik Khachiyani	5
8/5-8/9	Intermediate	GM Melik Khachiyani	5
	Advanced	GM Alex Lenderman	5
8/12-8/16	Intermediate	GM Melik Khachiyani	5
	Advanced	GM Alex Lenderman	5
8/26-8/30	Intermediate & Advanced	GM Victor Mikhalevski & GM Emil Anka	5

Tournament dates and details are subject to changes. Visit our website for most recent updates.

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



The SCC online registration system is now open at www.seattlechess.club.

The SCC is pleased to announce that we've received a **donation of \$250** to defray up to one half (\$25) of the entry fee for the June 15th Hi-Roller Octagonals. This is to encourage those for whom the entry fee of \$50 is too expensive to play in the event.

If you wish to take advantage of this donation, **please let the TD know when you register.** This option may be unavailable with the online registration system, but there is no penalty for registering on site.

June 9, July 7

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/ICA memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

Sunday Tornado

June 15

Format: 3-SS, 8-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** G/75; +30. **EF:** \$50 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prize Fund:** \$300 b/8. **Prizes:** \$200-100. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10-2-6. **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

SCC Hi-Roller Octagonals

June 22, July 20

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:** 10:00-2:15-6:30. **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

Saturday Quads

Jun 30

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 6/26, \$16 at site. (-\$2 SCC mem., -\$1 mem. other WA 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

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.

Emerald City Open

New Dates (conflict w/PNWCC FIDE Open): June 28-30 or 29-30

A two-section, five-round Swiss with a time control of 40/120 & SD/60;d5 (Rd 1 of 2-day schedule – G/60;d5). The prize fund of \$700 is based on thirty-five entries.

a Grand Prix event

Open		Reserve (U1700)	
First	\$180	First	\$130
Second	\$120	Second	\$90
U1900	\$75	U1400	\$50
		Unr	\$15

Upset (rds 1-4) \$10

Entry Fees: \$40 if rec'd by 6/26, \$50 at site. **SCC members**—subtract \$10. Members of other dues-required CCs in BC and WA—subtract \$5. **Unr**—free with purchase (at SCC) of 1-year US Chess and WCF. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.**

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

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

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

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

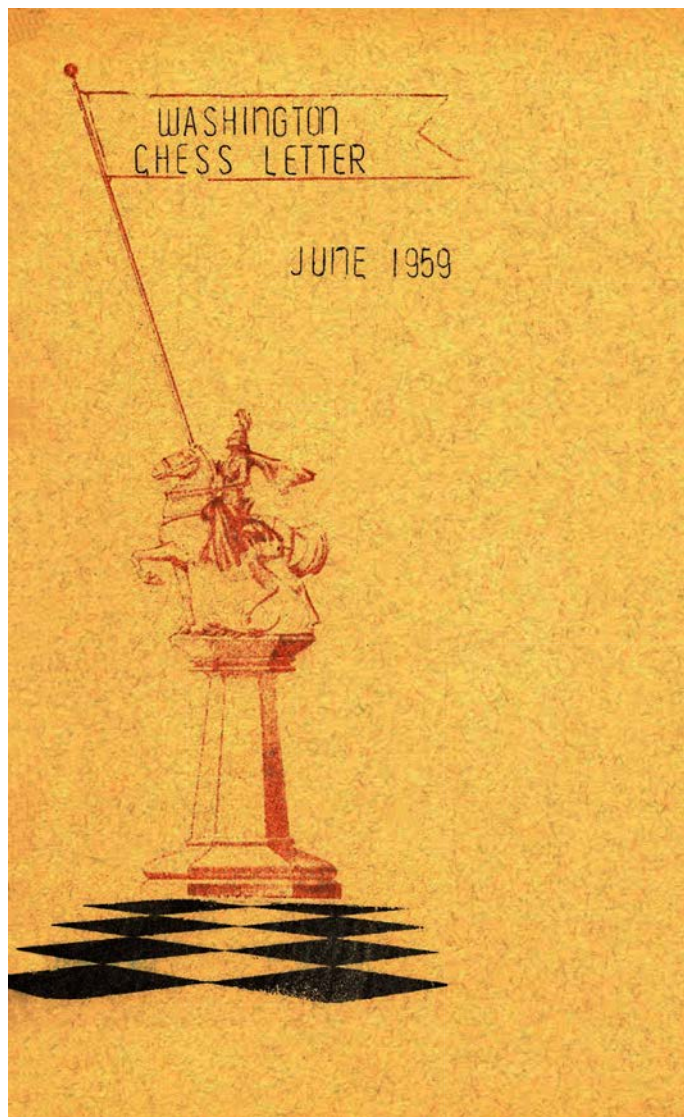
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 Redmond, WA 98052-5164

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60 years ago this month, Buz Eddy became editor of Washington Chess Letter!



WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER

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 Woodland Park Ave.
 Seattle, Wash.

W. C. F. Officers

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 Tournament Dir. Al Livingston

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Send Subscriptions to the Treasurer. Send news stories to the editor.

Hello

After seven years of excellent work by Dan Wade, your Chess Letter has a new editor. We will attempt to maintain the high quality standard set by Dan, although this will not be easy. We hope to enjoy our new job, and we sincerely hope that you will continue to enjoy reading the Washington Chess Letter.

Seattle Junior Chess Club

Seven Seattle Juniors have organized some new chess activity. A club based on game improvement rather than tournaments, has been formed by, Bob Holzinger, John Braley, Mike Franett, Jim Blair, Dave Grannis, Pat Hickey, and Buz Eddy. This club meets once a week at the homes of its members. Games are played under tournament conditions, but are not counted for ratings.

Be sure to remember the International, July 26, at the Peach Arch. The Seattle Seafair Aug. 1, and 2nd. and the Oregon Open, Labor Day week - end.

Prize Disputes

The 1959 Puget Sound had a lot of some hot and heavy argument over the distribution. Since this had no effect on Washington tournament prize distribution, I have decided to present my own argument here, and ask that you make in some constructive comment.

First let us look at the prize money distributed at that tournament. 1st place - \$35.00
 2nd place - \$7.50
 3rd place - \$7.50 plus
 This was a tie for second place in Class "B".
 16th place - Class "B" - \$10.00
 27th place - Class "C" - \$10.00

Now the dispute arises over the fact that not players finishing so low as 16th place should be maintained on one side that should be based on a winner of prize distribution, with prize for Class winners. A majority of the prize money goes to the players that prove themselves in the contest.

The other side bases its argument on the fact that more clocks are used in weaker tournaments. Also that weaker players will encourage more players to enter tournaments, and therefore players are not necessarily the majority of the prize money.

If you have any ideas for a better distribution of prize money, either send them to Al Livingston or forward to me. If they are forwarded to me, they will be forwarded to Al. Al's address is Rt. 3, California Junction, California.

California Junior Chess Club

The California Junior Chess Club tournament will be held at Los Angeles June 26-28. There will be a number of prizes will be distributed.

The winner will be presented with a Junior Champion and will receive plus \$150.00 expense money to represent California in the U.S. Open at Omaha in July.

If any Northwest Juniors are interested in going to this event, contact me and I will try to help you.

1961 U.S. Open

The W.C.F. is looking for a city of holding the U.S. Open. This will be discussed in the next issue.