



# November 2019



**Megan Lee**

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Megan Lee, 2019 Washington Women's Champion.  
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

**On the back cover:**

Jacob Mayer at Applebee's.  
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

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Kleist	79.25
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Schain	5
Blackwood	5
Lasher	4
Bishop	4
Niro	4
Manney	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>862</b>
<b>#Editors</b>	<b>31</b>

*Ever since my first issue in December 2012, I have been watching this list constantly. I started at the very bottom and have been moving my way up ever so slowly, but steadily.*

*This issue, I move to number two ahead of the legendary Robert Karch!*

*This list can be found at:*

*<http://www.nwchess.com/nwcmag/editors.htm>.—Jeffrey Roland, Editor.*



# Megan Lee wins WA Women's Championship

By Josh Sinanan

The Washington Chess Federation hosted the 2019 Washington Women's Championship during the weekend of September 13-15 at the Seattle Chess Club. This year's field, which included one WIM, three WFM's, and one WCM, was especially strong. Most games were hard-fought and ended decisively given the relatively large rating disparities in many matchups. In fact, there were only three draws in the entire tournament! Of the sixteen participants, only six were above the age of eighteen, reflecting the drastic drop-off of female tournament chess players when they reach adulthood. Despite the best efforts by the WCF to promote and support women's and girl's chess in the Northwest, it has proven difficult to reverse this trend!

Women's International Master Megan Lee, a Bellevue native who recently moved back to the Seattle area after a brief stint in California, won the five-round tournament in dominating fashion with a perfect five out of five score, including wins over WFM Anne-Marie Velea, WFM Chouchan Airapetian, WFM Minda Chen, and Melina Li. Megan's

games were full of sharp tactics, unusual maneuvers, and exciting sacrifices. No doubt she adopted this uncompromising style to avoid draws and capitalize on her rating advantage of nearly two-hundred points over her nearest rivals. Melina Li, a seventh-grade student at Jane Addams Middle School in Seattle, captured clear second place with four points from five games, losing only to Lee. WFM Anne-Marie Velea, the eldest of the famous Velea Sisters, rounded out the overall prize winners with three and a half points.

With so many prizes relative to the number of players, most of the ladies were in the running for class prizes up until the very end of the tournament. Angela Chen of Seattle won the "battle of the Angelas" and took home the U1800 prize with three points from five games. Three players tied for U1600 honors with two and a half points apiece: Lily Deng of Richland, Sonia Devaraju of Kirkland, and Sophie Szeto of Seattle. Lois Ruff, who still plays tournament chess at the ripe old age of 84(!), won the U1400 prize with two points. Lois was the lucky recipient of a point awarded by virtue of her opponent illegally promoting a pawn twice in the same game! Karen Schmidt of Seattle and Alansha Jiang of Bellevue shared the U1200 prize with one and a half points each. Newcomer Ruiming Zhang of Lynnwood claimed the Unrated prize with an impressive score of two points

from the five games. Congratulations to the winners and especially to our new Washington State Women's Champion, Megan Lee!

**Anne-Marie Velea (2077) –  
Megan Lee (2242) [C49]**  
WA Women's Championship  
Seattle, WA (R4), September 15, 2019  
*[Megan Lee]*

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bb5 Bb4  
5.0-0 0-0 6.d3 d6 7.Ne2**

Usually White plays for Bg5, but Ne2 is also a valid idea, setting up the position for something similar to mainline Ruy Lopez ideas where White transfers the knights to the kingside.

**7...Ne7 8.c3 Ba5 9.Ng3 c6 10.Ba4 Ng6  
11.d4 h6**

A slightly slow move, but I wanted to maintain winning chances and avoid doubling my f-pawns in the endgame if I had played 11...Re8 12. dxe5 dxe5 13. Qxd8 Rxd8 14. Bg5 **12.Bc2 Be6** Completing development and opening up the possibility for potential Bc4 ideas.

**13.b4**

A little hasty. White does not need to push on the queenside as she retains a strong presence in the center. Be3 might have been a better alternative.

**13...Bc7 14.Re1 a5**



2019 WA Women's Championship Participants: (L-R) Lily Deng, Angela Aгаian, Alansha Jiang, Grace Deng, Anne-Marie Velea, Megan Lee, Minda Chen, Angela Chen, Sonia Devaraju, Melina Li, Ruiming Zhang. (Front) Lois Ruff, Chouchan Airapetian, Karen Schmidt, Sophie Szeto. Photo Credit: Chen Zhou.

A common idea in the Ruy Lopez mainline but with reversed colors. Black attempts to create weaknesses with White's slight overextension.

#### 15.a4

The best defense 15.a3 axb4 16.cxb4 Bg4 17.Nf5 Re8 and now it is apparent that White's pawn would be better suited on a4 so that her pieces are not tied down to the defense of the a3-pawn.

#### 15...Bg4

Threatening exd4.

#### 16.Nf5 axb4

Also interesting is 16...d5.

#### 17.cxb4 exd4 18.Qxd4 Bxf5

18...Re8 slightly better than the chosen move, maintaining the pressure and also preparing for d5.

#### 19.exf5 Ne5 20.Nxe5 dxe5 21.Qh4 Nd5 22.Qg4 Qd6 23.Ba3 Nf6 24.Qe2

24.Qg3 slightly better, eliminating Black's discovery threats and to be followed up by gaining control over the central files. Also valid is Qd1.

#### 24...e4

Black is cramped for space if this move isn't played. Though still equal if not played, White can more easily push Black's pieces around.

#### 25.g3 Rfe8 26.Bb2 e3

Trading the hard-to-support e-pawn for White's f-pawn sheltering the king. 26...Qxb4? 27.Bxf6 gxf6 28.Rab1.



Position after 26...e3

#### 27.Bxf6

27.fxe3 Bb6 and Black can regain the lost pawn with ease. 27.f3? and Black can likely get away with 27...Qxb4; 27...Nd5 is also a strong post for the knight and Black can reinforce control over the center with ease. 27...Qxb4 28.Bxf6 gxf6 29.Rab1 Qc5 30.Rxb7 Ba5 31.Rd1 Reb8.

#### 27...exf2+ 28.Qxf2 Qxf6 29.Qd2

29.Rxe8+ Rxe8 30.Re1 trading off pieces gives White more drawing chances.



Megan Lee. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

#### 29...Be5

Maneuvering the bishop to the d4-square for attacking, while also keeping the pieces on the board.

#### 30.Ra3 Rad8

Bringing all the pieces to the party.

#### 31.Rd3 Rxd3 32.Bxd3

32.Qxd3 Bd4+ 33.Kf1 Rxe1+ 34.Kxe1 Qe7+ 35.Kf1 Qxb4±

#### 32...Rd8

Pinning the bishop and threatening Bc3.

#### 33.Rc1 Qd6

Adding pressure to the pinned piece while also attacking the kingside pawns.

#### 34.Rd1

34...Qd5 was also an exciting possibility, but I had foreseen the outcome of the following continuation.

#### 34...Bxg3 35.hxg3 Qxg3+ 36.Kf1 Rd4 37.Ke2 Rh4

Rh2 is now unstoppable.

#### 38.Rf1 Rh2+ 39.Kd1 Rxd2+ 40.Kxd2 Qg2+ 41.Kc3 h5 42.Re1 Kf8 43.b5 Qa2 0-1



# Chess Vignette “Karen Schmidt’s Chess Story”

By Karen Schmidt

I live in Seattle in the U District and have been an accountant most of my working life. (Before that, in a brief “previous lifetime” I had a vintage clothing store in the Pike Place Market for a few years, “Fritzi Ritz Vintage Clothing.”) I was born and raised in Yakima up through high school graduation. Then I moved to Seattle to attend the UW and have stayed here ever since. I have worked for Nordstrom Corporate Accounting and also as an accountant at UW.

I learned to play chess at about the age of 12. We had neighbors in Yakima with young children, about the age of my younger sister. They also had an older son, Chris Custer, who taught me to play chess. He was in high school but he and I had a nice platonic friendship and shared several interests. (He also taught me Morse code!) We played a lot of chess in my family’s breakfast nook after school. But when his family moved away, I put away the chess board. There was no one else I knew who played chess, and my junior and senior high schools did not have chess teams. Any anyway, “girls did not play chess.”

After the passage of several decades I had a son of my own, and when he was about eight years old I taught him to play chess. He joined his Green Lake Elementary School chess club and I became the parent assistant to the “parent coach” of the chess club. Within a year my son could beat me. I then could see his “chess potential” and got him a private chess teacher. He had his lesson every Friday evening, and I sat in on those lessons. Soon my son Peter was playing in scholastic chess tournaments and we were traveling about on Saturdays to various school tournaments. One year we even went to Elementary School Nationals in Tucson! Peter’s father was an avid fly fisherman (and did not play chess) and he probably thought that was the most boring “vacation” he had ever been on. We were either in the hotel swimming pool, since it was about 100 degrees outside, or in an air-conditioned gymnasium with about 1000 kids (mostly little boys), watching them play chess for several days.

Peter continued with chess and tournaments through high school and



*Karen Schmidt. Photo credit: Wendy Harper.*

has about 40 trophies to show for it. I began playing in the occasional “novice tournament” (under 1200 rating) at the Seattle Chess Club. And I was improving my game by sitting in on my son’s weekly lessons.

For several years after Peter stopped playing tournament chess, I took weekly lessons from the same private coach and

slowly improved my game. By 2015 I had also been looking for a “casual chess venue” where I could play chess for free and for fun, and also to improve my game.

One spring day in 2015, I took an antique book to be repaired in Pioneer Square by a professional antique book restorer. He suggested I go have coffee or shop, and return in an hour.

I went a block away to the Starbucks at the corner of first and Yesler. I ordered a short Pike Place roast with room for cream. When it was ready I turned around and looked for a place to sit. Much to my amazement, right in the middle of the Starbucks coffee shop at a long table, there were six guys playing chess and about six more guys standing and watching. I sidled up to the table with my coffee and began watching the games. After about 15 minutes someone sitting on the periphery left, and I quickly took his seat. After about another 15 minutes I cautiously asked, "Can girls play?" All the guys burst out laughing and invited me to join in and play. After that day, I tried to go to that Starbucks every weekend on either Saturday or Sunday. The Starbucks chess crowd seems to start trickling in about 10 am, and some stay until about 3 pm.

At first I lost most of my games, because most of the guys were higher level players than I was. But over time I began to win or draw an occasional game. I was also getting to know the guys. A couple guys were from Mexico and this afforded me a chance to practice my fairly fluent but rusty Spanish. There is actually not a lot of talking that occurs when playing chess. During the game the only conversation is usually either "check," "adjust," or "checkmate." But after the playing ended, I found myself hanging out and chatting with Randy, a congenial chess player a little younger than me, who usually beat me when we played. He seemed to have a great sense of humor and we shared several interests: chess; music; and books/literature. Much to my amazement, he had actually read many of the books I had read in my women's book group — which I had been part of for over 20 years.

One weekend day after playing chess and a bit of chatting, Randy and I were sitting together in Starbucks after the other players had left, and he said to me, "You know, we don't usually let girls join our chess club." I was moderately

taken aback and asked, "Why not?" He said rather conspiratorially, "Well, first of all, they are not usually very good at chess, and secondly, they ask too many questions." I had only known Randy for a few weeks, and while maintaining a pretty good poker face, I was thinking to myself, "Either this guy has a quirky dry sense of humor, or he is the biggest a\*\*hole I have ever met." I was stymied...which one was it? I think I replied something pretty noncommittal such as "Oh really." I wondered about it for a few weeks and gradually figured out that Randy and I both had a pretty dry sense of humor, and also that he was a very warm and caring people-person. He had been kidding.

I was becoming used to being the only female chess player at Starbucks, and the guys seemed to accept me. Over the years I have come to the conclusion that serious chess players tend to be somewhat quirky, myself included. Skill in chess also seems to go hand in hand with skills in math and music. Randy had been a rock band drummer and also taught himself to play piano. I myself had been a flute and piccolo (and sometimes oboe) player. We were both interested in math and enjoyed movies such as "A Beautiful Mind," "The Theory of Everything," and "The Imitation Game." And we always had a plethora of books and authors to discuss. I remember one day when I first met Randy's chess buddy Isaias (originally from Mexico). I could tell Isaias' first language was Spanish so I struck up a conversation with him in Spanish. Randy later confessed to me that this was a jaw-dropping moment for him. He had no idea I spoke Spanish. Over time I have reached the conclusion that there are usually many surprising things to be learned about most serious chess players!

Although I play a lot of chess at Westlake Park now, I still drop in to Starbucks when I can and play with my "original guys' chess club." The guys are really from all walks of life and all ages.

Several are from Mexico and one is from El Salvador. One player is from Denmark, and one is from Morocco and speaks five languages. I feel accepted by the group and have really improved my game by playing stronger players. I can now occasionally get a draw or a win against players who used to consistently beat me.

There was only one occasion when one of the men refused to play me. I was seated across the table from an elderly Asian man. I asked him if he would like to play a game. He replied that he would not play me. When I asked, "Why not?" he answered, "Because I don't play women." I was stunned speechless for a moment, and then replied "Thank you." I couldn't think of anything else to say! I look back on that moment with great amusement now.

In May of 2016 I discovered outdoor casual chess at Westlake Park, on 4th Avenue downtown between Pike and Pine. There are dozens of chess players there every nice day. The players are all ages, races, and from all countries and all walks of life. Some are retired and spend every day there; some drift over from Amazon or nearby banks on their lunch hour; some are tourists from Europe and Asia and the Middle East or India. Some are children with parents in tow. A couple players are very high level and one is a former Washington State two-time champion.

I am working part time for UW, but looking forward to playing a lot of chess the rest of this fall at Westlake. I bring my own set and on a nice warm day many of us stay there playing until dark! I am usually the lone female. Come on down to Westlake and if you see a pink vinyl board, come on over and play me a game!

**Note: This is Karen Schmidt's second Chess Vignette for *Northwest Chess*. Her first one was published in the September 2016 issue, pages 13-14.—Editor.**

## ***Northwest Chess* website gets security update!**

The *Northwest Chess* website can now be accessed securely, for example via

**<https://nwchess.com>** (please note the letter "s" after the http)

This is especially recommended for anyone using the online registration system,

<https://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration/>.

This was prompted by the compromise of online registration passwords for a few users. Although we don't yet know how the passwords were compromised, it is a good idea to begin using https to secure transmission of your password and other personal data when using the system. We also recommend changing your password, and not using the same password for other accounts.



# Eastern Idaho Open

By Jay Simonson

Pocatello, ID—September 14, 2019

On September 14, 2019, ten ardent chess players gathered at the South Fork, Salmon River Suites, of Idaho State University's Student Union Building to do battle, chess style, for the chance to become the Eastern Idaho Open Champion. Past winners Hans Morrow from Farmington, Utah, and Gary Owen from Preston, Idaho (formerly of Wyoming) were among the group of intrepid chess players who came to compete.

Five of the players came from Eastern Idaho, three from Western Idaho, one, the winner, from Jackson, Wyoming, and one from Utah. This was a four-round Swiss System tournament, with Jay Simonson as the Chief Tournament Director (TD).

After the dust from the hard-fought battles settled, Josep Companyo Pagerols of Jackson, Wyoming, emerged as the clear winner and Champion with a score of 4.0/4. DeWayne Derryberry of Pocatello, Idaho won clear second place with a score of 3.0/4. The TD used tie-breaks to award the Top Class C prize to Randy Gentillon of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and the Top Class D prize To Nobel Ang of Pocatello, Idaho, both of whom had a score of 2.0/4. There were no Class B or E entrants. Niall McKenzie, also of Pocatello, and also with a score of 2.0/4, was awarded the Top Class F prize. When completing the tournament financial report, the TD decided to award Gary Owen of Preston, Idaho a prize for tying for Top Class C, and Finn Belew of Boise, Idaho a prize for tying for Top Class D. Both Belew and Owen scored 2.0/4 points.

Pagerols received \$34 and Derryberry received \$25. Gentillon, Ang, and McKenzie each received \$8.50, and both Owen and Belew were awarded \$4.25.

**DeWayne Derryberry (1639) –  
Hans Morrow (1900) [D11]**

2019 Eastern Idaho Open  
Pocatello, ID (R2), September 14, 2019  
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 Bg4 4.h3 Bh5  
5.c4 e6 6.Qb3 Qb6 7.Nc3 dxc4**

7...e6

**8.Bxc4 Qxb3 9.Bxb3 Bxf3**

9...e6

**10.gxf3 e6±**



(L) Jay Simonson, Josep Companyo Pagerols. Photo courtesy of Jay Simonson.

Black has freely surrendered two important positional elements: center control and the bishop-pair. The resulting doubling of the f-pawns does not appear to be a significant weakness.

**11.e4 Nbd7 12.Be3 Be7 13.Rd1**

13.0–0–0!

**13...0–0 14.0–0**

14.Ke2!? Just pointing out that 0–0 isn't always essential.

**14...b5 15.d5?!**

White seems to be in a hurry, but there doesn't appear to be any great rush to bust open the center. Perhaps repositioning the

rooks to highlight the newly weakened c6-pawn? 15.Rc1 Rfc8 16.Rfd1±

One of the techniques to take advantage of better central control is simply sitting on the opponent, slowly improving the pieces, and waiting for something to crack.

**15...exd5**

15...cxd5 16.exd5 b4, while still slightly in White's favor, offers some complications.

**16.exd5 b4 17.Ne4**

Also to be considered: 17.d6 bxc3 (17... Bxd6 18.Rxd6 bxc3 19.bxc3±) 18.dxe7 Rfe8 19.bxc3 Rxe7 20.Rd6±; 17.dxc6



bxc3 18.cxd7 cxb2 19.Bf4 Rad8 20.Ba4 b1Q 21.Rxb1 Nxd7 22.Rb7±

17...cxd5 18.Bxd5 Nxd5 19.Rxd5 Nf6 20.Rd3 a5 21.b3 Rfd8 22.Rfd1 Rdc8 23.Nxf6+ Bxf6 24.Rd7 Rd8 25.Rxd8+ Rxd8 26.Rxd8+ Bxd8 27.Bc5 f5 28.Kf1 Kf7 29.Ke2 Ke6 30.Kd3 Kd5 31.Bd4 g5 32.Ba7 h5 33.Bd4 g4

33...h4!??

34.fxg4 fxg4 35.hxg4 h4??

No doubt an attempt to win, creating the outside passed pawn. Perhaps Black didn't calculate the defense for lack of time, and simply trusted in that dangerous h-pawn. 35...hxg4 is, of course, completely drawn, and that would have been a logical end result to the play up to this point. But the game is not yet half done!

36.f4 h3

36...Bc7 37.Bf2 Bxf4 (37...h3 38.Bg3 is essentially the same as the game.) 38.Bxh4

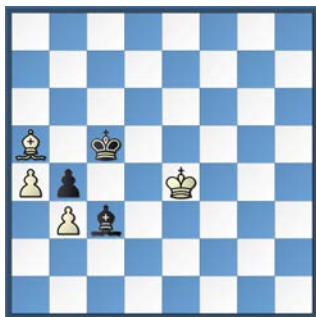
37.Bg1 Bc7 38.Bh2 Bd6 39.g5

39.Ke3 Bc5+ 40.Kf3 is straightforward, as Black cannot afford 40...Kd4 41.Bg1+.

39...Be7 40.Ke3 Bd8 41.g6

Presumably White avoided 41.Kf3 over worries about queenside pawns, but after 41...Kd4 42.Kg4 Kc3 43.f5 Kb2 44.f6 Kxa2 45.f7 Be7 46.Kxh3 Kxb3 47.g6 Bf8 48.Be5 a4 49.g7 Bxg7 50.Bxg7 a3 51.f8Q it is crystal-clear that Black could never have posed a meaningful threat.

41...Bf6 42.Kf3 Bg7 43.f5 Bf6 44.Kg4 Ke4 45.Bc7 Bc3 46.Kxh3 Kxf5 47.Bxa5 Kxg6 48.Kg4 Kf6 49.Kf4 Ke6 50.Ke4 Kd6 51.a4 Kc5



Position after 51...Kc5

52.Kd3?

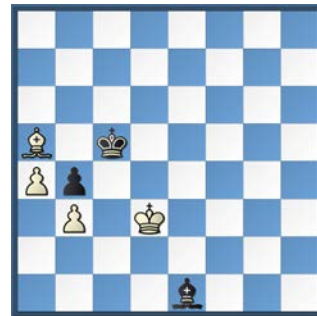
See the note to the next move for an explanation of why the king move is a mistake. Here's how someone like Pal Benko would have played it: 52.Bd8 Be1 (52...Kd6 53.Kd3 Kc5 54.Bg5 Kd5 55.Bh4 Kc5 56.Bf2+ Kd5 57.a5 is more or less the same idea for White.) 53.Kd3 Bc3 54.Bg5 Be1 55.Be3+ Kd5 56.a5! (White must still be careful even here.



(L) Jay Simonson, DeWayne Derryberry. Photo courtesy of Jay Simonson.

The apparently logical forced exchange of bishops actually leads to a drawn king and pawn ending! 56.Bd2?? Bxd2! 57.Kxd2 Kd4 58.Ke2 Ke4 59.Kf2 Kd4 60.Kf3 Kd5! when Black can maintain the opposition either vertically or horizontally while staying in the square of the passed a-pawn. Advancing the a-pawn doesn't do the trick either, as the black king can always reach b6 immediately following the capture of the b4-pawn, again using the opposition to establish a classic drawn ending.) 56...Bg3 57.a6 Kc6 58.Bc5 and White proves the point. This is a good ending to study and understand thoroughly. It's a minefield to work out over the board.

52...Be1?



Position after 52...Be1

Here's why White's king move was wrong. Black wants to reposition his king

in front of the a-pawn, and the maneuvers in the last note avoid that defense. Here, though, Black can gain a tempo on the bishop when it goes to c7 instead of d8, thus swinging the king to the a-file before White sets up the advance of the a-pawn with bishop controlling the g1-a7 diagonal.

Subtle and difficult endgame theory to be sure, and it would be almost shocking if the players had managed to find all this. But for endgame enthusiasts, this kind of thing is how we spend our weekends. 52... Bf6!! 53.Bc7 Kc6! 54.Bg3 Kb6! 55.Kc4 Bc3 56.Bd6 Ka5 57.Bc7+ Ka6 58.Bd6 Ka5 and although even my computer thinks White has a two-pawn edge, the truth is no progress can be made. For example: 59.Bc5 Bd2 60.Bf2 Ka6 61.Kd3 Bc3 62.Be3 Bf6 63.Bd2 Be7 64.Kc4 Ka5 65.Be3 Bh4 66.Bc5 Be1.

### 53.Bd8 Bc3 54.Bh4?

54.Bg5! Why? Because 54...Kb6 55.Bd2! now wins, since the black king is out of position to take up the opposition necessary for the bishop trade defense. 55...Bxd2 56.Kxd2 Kc5 57.Ke3!! Kd5 58.Kd3 Kc5 59.Ke4 and wins.

### 54...Kd5

Last chance! 54...Kb6! holds as above.

### 55.Bf2 Kc6 56.Kc4 Kb7 57.Bc5 Ka6 58.Bxb4 Bf6 59.Bc5 Bd8 60.b4 Bc7

60...Ba5!?! fails to 61.b5+, of course. (But not 61.bxa5?? with the wrong color bishop for the rook pawns.)

### 61.Kd5 Bg3 62.Kc6 Bc7 63.Be7

63.b5+ Ka5 64.Kxc7 is also obviously good enough.

### 63...Bf4 64.Bf6 Bc3 65.Bc3 Ka7 66.b5 Bf4 67.Bd4+ Kb8 68.a5 Ka8 69.b6 Bg3

69...Bc7 70.b7+ Kb8 71.a6 Bb6 72.Be5+

### 70.a6 Be5 71.b7+ Kb8 72.a7#

Over the board and with quite limited time, this was very well-played. Many thanks to DeWayne and Hans for the opportunity to comment this fun and enterprising battle.

1-0

**DeWayne Derryberry (1639) –  
Josep Maria Companyo Pagerols  
(2058) [A90]**

2019 Eastern Idaho Open  
Pocatello, ID (R3), September 14, 2019  
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 f5 3.c4 Nf6 4.g3 Bb4+

4...d5

### 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.Bg2 Qe8

6...d6 7.0-0 Bxd2 8.Bxd2 (8.Qxd2!?! isn't really a greater loss of time, as either white piece recapturing on d2 will soon need to reposition. 8...Qe7 (8...Ne4 9.Qc2) 9.b3 e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Bb2 Nc6 12.Rad1) 8...Qe7; 6...a5 is also played here. 7.0-0 b6 is an interesting basket-like pawn structure that used to be seen quite frequently in the games of certain Canadian masters. 6...d5 7.0-0 c6 is a logical shift to the Stonewall.

### 7.0-0 Bxd2

Why not let White spend another move encouraging this capture? 7...Nc6 8.a3 seems likely, (True, 8.Nb1 is legal, and may even be a pretty good idea, but it seems a bit avant-garde at this level.)

### 8.Nxd2 Nc6 9.e3

A touch passive. This feels like the right moment to be assertive in the center: 9.d5!?! Ne7 (9...exd5 10.cxd5 Ne5 11.Qc2) 10.d6!?! cxd6 11.b3 d5 12.cxd5 Nexd5 13.Ba3 with tremendous compensation in dark-square play for the pawn.

### 9...d6 10.b3 e5 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.Nf3

12.Ba3 Rf7

### 12...e4 13.Nd4 Ne5 14.Qe2 Qg6?!



Position after 14...Qg6

What is the queen doing here? Is g3 really a vulnerable target? 14...c5 15.Nb5 Qe7# The position is hardly an open playground for White's bishops: the b5-knight can be driven back, and d3 could become quite a nice outpost.

### 15.Rd1 h5?!

Still not liking the plan to attack g3. How about 15...c5! 16.Nb5 f4! 17.exf4 Bg4 18.Qf1 Nf3+ 19.Bxf3 (19.Kh1? Nxb2!+-) 19...Bxf3, and this domination of the kingside light squares has cost only one pawn.

### 16.h4?!

Since I didn't see any threat, I'm not a fan of preventing the h-pawn advance. Playing on the d-file and queenside while completing development seems better, so: 16.Ba3, directly preventing the first

bit of the ...c5/...f4 idea from the last note, or 16.Bb2, aiming at the e5-knight. Now 16...c5?! 17.Nb5 f4? 18.Bxe5, when Black has a few more blunt objects to hurl, but few real chances to save the game. Better would be trying something similar to the game, occupying d3 and hoping White's compensation for the exchange isn't excessive.

### 16...Nd3

Our last look at the ...f4 tactic: 16...c5 17.Nb5 f4 18.exf4 Bg4 19.Qf1 Nf3+ 20.Kh1! is highly unclear.

### 17.Rxd3! exd3 18.Qxd3 Rd8 19.Qc2

19.c5 cedes the d5-square, true, but it prevents ...c5 thus solidifying the d4-knight, opens the c4-g8 diagonal for possible use by the white queen, and starts a general queenside pawn advance that will create problems for Black.

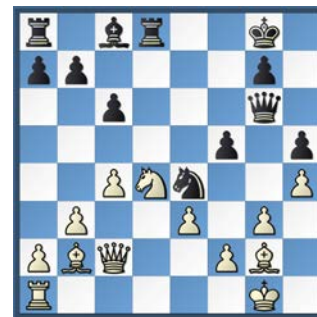
### 19...c6

The c-pawn advance isn't needed to play 19...Ne4.

### 20.Bb2

20.c5

### 20...Ne4



Position after 20...Ne4

### 21.Rd1?!

It's understandable to be nervous about the open d-file, and there is even a general principle suggesting that rooks belong on open files.

So why not here? The answer lies in a less well-known concept in materially imbalanced positions. Putting the rook on the d-file invites its eventual exchange — but that means White will be exchanging his only rook-style piece for what amounts to Black's redundant rook. In other words, unless Black can make powerful use of both rooks, exchanging one for White's only rook takes away some of White's action without costing Black much.

Notice that this effect is slightly reduced while queens are still on the board, as a queen can also supply the action of a rook in some circumstances. Notably, however, the queen can't later exchange



for an opposing rook, so may be forced to give way when challenged along a rank or file. 21.Nf3!? c5 22.Ne5 Qe8 23.Bxe4! fxe4 24.Qxe4

**21...Be6 22.Nxe6?!**

The knight is clearly a more useful piece than Black's light-bound bishop, so this exchange cannot be correct. The last two moves by White combine to form perhaps the equivalent of one question mark move. 22.Ne2, heading to f4, is a decent idea.

**22...Qxe6 23.Bf1 Qe7 24.c5?**

24.Bd3 fights on.

**24...Qxc5**

The right capture. Of course not 24...Nxc5? 25.Rxd8+ Rxd8 26.Qxf5±, or even worse, 24...Rxd1 25.Qxd1 Qxc5?? (25...Nxc5 26.Bc4+ Ne6 27.Qd4!+-) 26.Bc4+ Kf8 27.Qxh5+-.

**25.Bc4+ Kh7 26.Bd4 Qf8 27.Kg2**

At first it appears the knight is in trouble after 27.f3 Nxc3 28.Kg2, but 28...Qd6 29.Bd3 g6 30.Bc3 a5 31.Be1 f4 32.exf4 Nf5 33.Bxf5 Qxd1 34.Bxg6+ Kh6 only manages to put more white pieces en prise.

**27...c5 28.Be5 Rxd1 29.Qxd1 Qe8 30.Qa1 Qd7 0-1**

**Hans Morrow (1900) – Ching-E Nobel Ang (1377) [D36]**

2019 Eastern Idaho Open  
Pocatello, ID (R3), September 14, 2019  
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6**

There are other popular lines, some requiring deep theoretical knowledge. In other words, memorization that most normal players want to avoid. A shallow dip into darker waters: 4...dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 (6.Ne5 Nbd7 7.Nxc4 Qc7 8.g3 e5 9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Bf4 Nfd7 11.Bg2 g5 12.Ne3 (12.Bxe5 Nxe5 13.Qd4 f6 14.0-0-0 Be7 (14...Rd8 15.Qe3 Be7 16.Rxd8+ Kxd8 17.Rd1+ Kc8 18.Be4 Bg6) 15.Ne3) 12...gxf4 13.Nxf5 0-0-0 14.Qc2 Nc5 15.0-0 fvg3 16.hxg3 a5 17.Rad1) 6...e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 Nbd7 (8...0-0 9.Qe2 Bg6 10.Ne5 Nbd7 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.Rd1±) 9.Qe2 (9.Nh4 Bg6 10.Qb3 a5) 9...Bg6 (9...0-0 10.e4 Bg4 11.Rd1±) 10.e4 0-0 (10...Bxc3 11.bxc3 Nxe4 12.Ba3 Qc7 (12...Nxc3 13.Qb2) 13.Rfc1 with compensation.) 11.Bd3±; 4...a6 has a completely different idea. 5.e3 (White can try to cross Black's plan with 5.c5; or 5.a4) 5...b5 6.b3 Bg4 7.Be2 e6 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.h3 Bh5 (9...Bxf3!?) 10.Bb2 Bd6 11.Ne5 Bxe2 12.Nxe2 Qc7 13.cxd5 cxd5

14.Rc1 Qb8±

**5.cxd5**

5.e3 and 5.Bg5 both can lead to the aforementioned reams of published theory.

**5...exd5 6.Bg5 Be7 7.e3 0-0**

7...Bf5

**8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.Qc2 h6 10.Bh4 b6**

10...Re8

**11.h3**

11.0-0

**11...Bb7 12.a3 Rc8 13.0-0 c5 14.Bf5 Ne4 15.Bxe7 Qxe7**



Position after 15...Qxe7

**16.Rad1**

16.Ne5! Nef6 (16...Nxe5 17.Bxc8 appears to favor White.) 17.Qa4 Rc7

a) 18.Nb5!? Nxe5 19.Nxc7 Nc4 20.Nb5 Bc6 when the computer suggests White must accept a draw by repetition due to the precarious position of the knight: 21.Qxa7 Bb7 22.Qa4 (22.dxc5 Ra8 23.cxb6 Rxa7 24.bxa7∞) 22...Bc6 23.Qa7 Bb7 etc.;

b) 18.Nxd7 Nxd7 19.Bxd7 Rxd7 20.Qxa7 Rd6 21.Qa4 Qg5 is another brave way to sneak off with a pawn.;

c) 18.Bxd7 Nxd7 19.Nb5 Nxe5 (19...Rcc8 20.Qxa7 Nxe5 21.dxe5±) 20.Nxc7 Nc4 (20...Qxc7 21.dxe5 Bc6 22.Qf4 Re8 23.b4±) 21.Nb5 a6 (21...Nxb2 22.Qxa7 Nc4 23.Nc3 Ra8 24.Nxd5 Qd7 25.Nxb6 Qc6 26.d5 Qxb6 27.Qxb6 Nxb6 28.Rab1 Ra6 29.Rfc1±) 22.Nc3 Nxb2 23.Qb3 Nc4 24.dxc5 Nd2 (24...bxc5 25.Rad1 Rd8 26.e4 and White's edge is starting to look decisive.) 25.Qxb6 Nxf1 26.Rxf1±.

**16...g6 17.Bxd7 Qxd7 18.Nh2**

18.dxc5 Nxc3 19.Qxc3 bxc5±

**18...cxd4 19.exd4 Ba6 20.Rfe1 Qf5?**

20...Kg7

**21.Re3?**

Opportunity. 21.Ng4! Kg7 22.Ne3 Qd7 23.Nexd5 Qxd5 24.Qxe4±.

**21...Rfe8?**

21...Nxc3 22.Qxf5 gxf5 23.bxc3 Rfe8 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 is not bad for Black despite the weird pawns.

**22.g4?**

White doesn't seem to have sufficient justification for this kind of kingside weakening, plus 22.Ng4 again leads to clear advantage.

**22...Qg5**

22...Qf4 23.Rde1 Kg7 24.Rf3 Qd6

**23.Nf3 Qd8 24.Qa4 Nxc3 25.Rxe8+ Qxe8 26.Qxe8+ Rxe8 27.bxc3 Re2**

27...Kf8 28.Re1

**28.Nd2?**

White's last chance to hold was probably 28.Re1.

**28...Bb5! 29.Nb1 Ba4 30.Rc1 Rb2**

Or 30...Bb3.

**31.c4 dxc4 32.Nc3 Rc2**

32...Bb3

**33.Rxc2 Bxc2 34.d5**

This and the following pawn advances don't help White's cause, though more passive defense is also unappealing.

**34...Kf8 35.f3 Ke7 36.Kf2 Kd6 37.Ke3 Kc5 38.h4 a6 39.f4 b5 40.f5 gxf5 41.gxf5 Bxf5 42.Kf4 Bc8 43.Ke5 f5 44.d6 a5 45.Nd5 b4 46.axb4+ axb4 47.Nf6 b3 48.d7 Bxd7 49.Nxd7+ Kb4 50.Kd4 b2 51.Nb6 b1Q 52.Nd5+ Kb3**

A nice upset.

0-1



Ching-E Nobel Ang.  
Photo courtesy of Jay Simonson.

“It’s not a friendly world out there.”

—Henry Kissinger.

## Keplinger’s Revenge

By David Zaklan

In the distant past of 1969, I found myself indentured to years of watching adults redundantly review the obvious in a California high school. I was 15 and I knew everything I needed to know. If a teacher made a mistake in speech, spelling, calculation, or logic, then I no longer listened to anything they said.

This wise teenage stance, within the generalization fallacy, precluded my attention from all but a few teachers. One notable exception was Mr. Keplinger, my French teacher from France. I signed up for his class as my mother spoke French and my older sister had been his student.

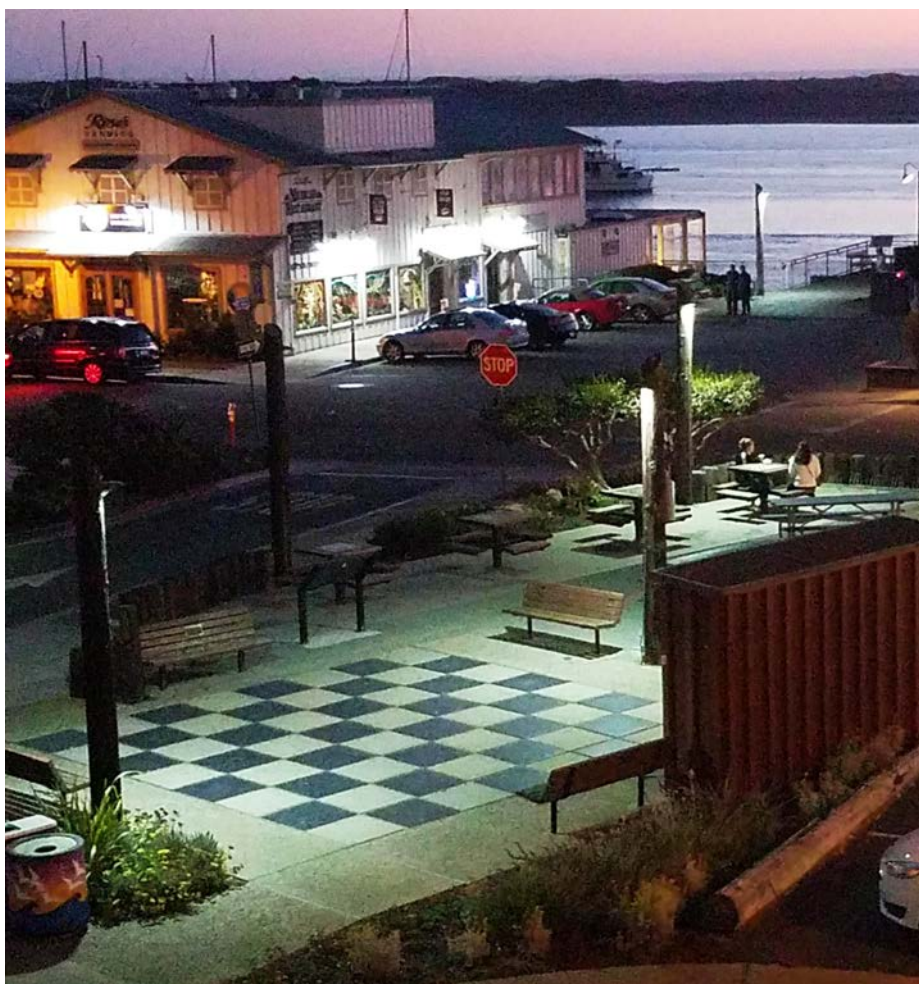
At the dinner table, the two of them would look at me, chatter back and forth in French, look at me again and break out into laughter. This was more than my ego would peacefully sustain.

Unannounced, I enrolled in Mr. Keplinger’s French class, sat front row center, and studied like my life depended on it. I quickly came to admire him. He obviously cared about his students, always dressed in a fine suit, and was meticulously groomed. He even forgave me, later, for wearing a Nazi Swastika armband into class. Although his immediate, glassy eyed, face to face response was, “I lost a lot of people I knew and loved in that war; take that damned thing off before I do something we’re both going to regret.” His tone was devoid of the normal friendliness. I complied, as I saw and felt the point. There were tears in both of our eyes.

Before Christmas came, I sat at the dinner table and interrupted the French conversation going on. “Il n’est pas poli de parler de quelqu’un dans une langue qu’il ne parle pas. (It’s not polite to talk about someone in a language that they don’t speak.)” That ended their chatter. Thank you Mr. Keplinger.

Five decades of life have unfurled since my initial studies. Within that time, I’ve taken a couple college French classes, spent a bit of time at French Club, and managed a working retention of the language, sometimes more than others.

This summer I was playing chess in Morro Bay, California, on one of the sidewalk chess tables that have been used there since before World War II. A young European man and his beautiful French



*Taken at the Embarcadero Inn in Morro Bay, California. Photo credit: Katie Zaklan.*

wife interrupted the play between me and my opponent. She spoke only French, so he interpreted. He said, “I do not play chess at all, but back in France she is the upcoming Chess Champion.” They came to the California coast for vacation and she was hoping for some play. Her FIDE rating was 1790. I shrunk a bit as I announced my US Chess rating of 1328; they scoffed, but I relished the chance to play, expecting loss.

We agreed on a set of five games and a five minute no delay time control. As we played they spoke back and forth in French; I acted nonplused and stared at the board. The greatest distraction, at first, was her incredible resemblance to Mona Lisa: olive skin, brown eyes, and shoulder-length brown hair. Focus on the game knothead.

The first game I drew Black and played the Slav for my opening. She said, “Je deteste cette ouverture. Je ne connais pas les réponses. (I detest this opening; I don’t know the responses.)” Inside I

smiled; the Slav it is. To my benefit she spoke French slowly, for her husband, delineating her plans as he commented and suggested alternatives. Chess can be an even more difficult game when facing two players simultaneously, as they discuss the game in a foreign language.

After four games the score was one for Mademoiselle. In the fifth game, I was stymied and had 25 seconds on the clock. She let out an almost imperceptible sigh as she studied the board, she whispered, “Le cheval! (The horse!)” They looked very worried.

I reevaluated. To their obvious relief, my right hand hovered over my bishop; my time ticked towards zero. When it reached two seconds; I picked up the knight and delivered checkmate.

I extended my hand and said, “Au revoir Mademoiselle, c’était une plaisir extreme. (Until again miss, it was an extreme pleasure.)” They walked away.

Thank you Mr. Keplinger.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Chess Workshop for Girls and Women

Friday November 29, 2019

Lynnwood Embassy Suites

20610 44<sup>th</sup> Ave. W Lynnwood, WA 98036



**Led by: WFM Chouchan Airapetian**

**USCF 2030**

Experienced chess coach, organizer, and promoter

Former US Women's Championship contender

WA Chess Federation Member-at-Large



<b>Location</b>	Boardroom adjacent to TD office
<b>Entry Fee</b>	Free!
<b>Arrival &amp; Check-in</b>	5:00 - 5:15 pm
<b>Workshop</b>	5:15 - 6:00 pm "How to support and grow women's and girl's chess"
<b>Q&amp;A, pizza, and ladies' bughouse</b>	6:00 - 7:00 pm

*Complimentary pizza and refreshments will be provided for all attendees!*

## Questions?

Chouchan Airapetian, WCF Member-at-Large, chornyaa@msn.com, 206-914-4252

# Chess At The Washington State Fair

By Bill Rogers

The Washington State Fair is the largest single attraction held annually every September in Puyallup, Washington. Once again the Tacoma Chess Club provided chess activities in the Hobby Hall among many talented and creative participants.

Our Tacoma Chess Club members sign up in advance, volunteering for three hour shifts to have fun playing chess and sharing their chess experience. In return, they are given tickets admitting them into the state fair, and includes free parking.

This year, a planned move relocated the hobby hall activities to a different building. Our new location now in the Education Pavilion, gave the Tacoma

Chess Club more space than our previous location in past years. The extra room provided our gaming area with two additional chess sets for active play. There is a downside to having expanded space. The relocation reduced all demonstrators from participating at once. Due to lack of space (irony) a decision was made to divide club activities into working the first half or second half of the fair — but not the entire fair, as opposed to previous years. This of course, cut our opportunity in half, eliminating exposure to chess.

This is our 10th year introducing chess, and playing chess games, teaching chess, and reaching out to the public to make fair-goers aware of the Tacoma Chess Club, and the many opportunities to play chess locally in the Puget Sound Region, and throughout the state of Washington and beyond.

The chess booth is initially set up each year by Bill and SuzAnna Rogers using two oversized 8” plastic chess sets.

Young children have a fascination with the size of these chess pieces, and are eager to learn how this game is played. Chess is introduced to first time beginners by a simple exercise moving a white knight in its L shape pattern. All the black pieces are used to be captured, and are placed in a block forming a square from e8-h8 e6-h6. I remove the black king replacing it with a white knight. The task at hand is to capture each black piece, one at a time, replacing it with their knight, always remembering each time the knight moves, the square it is on will change to a different color. Seeing where the knight will move to helps them think ahead. The main goal here is to have fun. Learning the names of each captured piece and returning them to its proper starting position ends their first lesson. We give encouragement along the way, and make their learning a positive experience.

A chess sticker or small candy treat is given out as a reward for their accomplishment.



(L) SuzAnna Rogers and Bill Rogers setting up the Tacoma Chess Club's booth. Photo credit: Bill Vinson.



# Tacoma Report

By Gary Dorfner

Tacoma, WA—September 26, 2019

Our membership is growing in leaps and bounds. I have been running tournaments every Friday night.

The Summer Swiss was held August 9. There were 12 members participating in this event. The winners were: 1st Mike Adario, 2nd Larry Anderson, Steve Buck, Sean Robinson and James Lawson.

Summer Swiss #3 was held on August 16. Eleven players participated in this one. The winners were: 1st Dan Lee, 2nd-4th Paul Bartron, Lewis Hucks, Steve Buck and Gary Dorfner two points each.

Summer Swiss #4 was held on August 19. Eighteen members played in this event.

Winners were: 1st/2nd Lewis Hucks and Gary Steve Buck, 3rd Eric Woodleif.

The Tacoma City and Pierce County Championship was held on July 12, 19, 26. Twenty members participated in this event. The winners were: 1st Larry Anderson, 2nd Paul Bartron, and 3rd Lewis Hucks. Class A none. Class B Jerry Morton. Class C Rain Prather. Class D Felix Castele. Class E Stan Wonder. Pierce County Sr. Champion Sean Robinson, Jr. Champion Vaughn Christnan.

The Tacoma Chess Club Sr. Adult Championship was held on Sept. 6, 13, 20. Ten players took part in this event. Winners were 1st Larry Anderson, 2nd Jerry Morton, 3rd Lewis Hucks, 4th Lewis Castele.

Gary Dorfner was the TD for all these events.

Next up is the Tacoma Chess Club Championship starting on Oct. 4.



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# Washington Class Championships A NW Grand Prix Event

## November 29 - December 1, 2019

### \$10,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund

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By Oct 27 / By Nov 13 / At site

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### Embassy Suites Seattle North/Lynnwood

20610 44th Avenue West

Lynnwood, WA 98036-7701, Phone (425) 775-2500

#### Entries/Information:

**Send entries to:** Jacob Mayer, 9502 44th Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

**Phone/Email:** (206) 697-5625, [victormayer@yahoo.com](mailto:victormayer@yahoo.com)

**Info:** Josh Sinanan, (206) 769-375, [wcf.tournaments@gmail.com](mailto:wcf.tournaments@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

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**Pay by credit/debit or PayPal.**

**Rating:** US Chess rated. Master/Expert/Class A/Class B sections also FIDE rated (except G/60 games). US Chess November 2019 rating supplement will be used to determine class sections. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Higher of US Chess or FIDE rating used for pairings and prizes in Master, Expert, Class A, Class B sections. Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Unrated players may only win 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes in Master section, or unrated prize in Class E. Medal Only may not win any cash prizes, including the special female prize.

**Registration:** Friday 9:00-10:00 AM for 3-day schedule, or 3:00-3:30 PM if entering with one half-point bye. Saturday 8:00-8:30 AM for 2-day schedule, or 8:30-9:30 AM if entering 3-day schedule with two half-point byes. *Late registrations may receive half-point byes for first round.* Two half-point byes available at registration or before end of round 2. Play any two days, if taking two half-point byes.

**Rounds:** 3-day schedule: Fri: 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM, Sat 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM, Sun 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM. 2-day schedule: Sat 9:00 AM, 11:45 AM, 2:30 PM, then join 3-day schedule with round 4 at 6:00 PM.

**Time Controls:** 3-day schedule: 40/120 and SD/30 with 10-second delay. 2-day schedule: G/60 with 10-second delay (rounds 1-3), rounds 4-6 same as 3-day schedule. Please bring tournament chess set, board, and digital clock.

**Miscellaneous:** Current US Chess membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required in all sections. Other States Accepted. Memberships may be paid at time of registration. NW Grand Prix event. US Chess Grand Prix Points: 40. US Chess Junior Grand Prix. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

**Hotel Info/Rates:** \$144 Double, single or double occupancy. Call (425) 775-2500, request the Washington Chess Federation block. Group Code: 404873. Cut-off date for reservations at the discount is November 8, 2019 at 5:00 PM PST.

**Washington Class Blitz Championship:** Sat 11/30 at 9:30 PM. Format: 5 round Double Swiss in one section. Registration: 8:30-9:15 PM. Rounds: 9:30, 9:55, 10:20, 10:45 and 11:10 PM. TC: G/5; d0. EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400/b20. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400/Unrated \$60. US Chess Blitz rated. Current US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required.



# Seattle Kings vs. Princes Match VII

December 14-15, 2019



**Site:** Seattle Chess Club, 2150 N. 107<sup>th</sup> St. B-85 Seattle, WA 98133

**Organizer:** Washington Chess Federation

**Format:** A 6-round Team Swiss tournament, in which a team of Kings (adults) will play against a team of Princes (juniors). Ten or more players on each team, players of all levels and ages welcome. Total score will decide the match. Pairings will be done using the Swiss system with pairings between fellow team members blocked. All games will be dual NWSRS & US Chess rated. US Chess ratings will be used to determine pairings.

**Entry Fee:** \$65 by December 7, \$75 after or at site.

**Time Control:** G/75 + 30 sec increment per move.

**Schedule:** Saturday 12/14: Registration: 9:00-9:45am, R1-3: 10am, 2pm, 6pm. Sunday 12/15: R4-6: 10am, 2pm, 6pm. ~9:30pm or asap - Kings & Princes ice cream party & blitz tournament.

**Royal Prize Fund (based on 20 paid entries):** Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 finishing players on each team: 1<sup>st</sup> \$250, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$150, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$75. Top upset: \$10/round. Best dressed King & Prince: \$20/day.

**Byes:** 2 half-point byes available for rounds 1-6 if announced before the start of round 2.

**Registration:** <https://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration/>

**Contact:** Josh Sinanan, WCF President, (206) 769-3757, [joshsinanan@gmail.com](mailto:joshsinanan@gmail.com)

# Seattle Fall Open

By Carol Kleist

Autumn has arrived, bringing rain and wind and darkness, but also a healthy 42-player Fall Open Tournament at the Seattle Chess Club! Held punctually to welcome Fall's advent, on September 20-22. Forty-two players was the exact number used for the based on prize fund of \$880.

Dividing up this prize fund in the Open section was a trio composed of Garrett Casey, Rushaan Mahajan, and Viktors Pupols, each with 4.0/5 points. Casey draws Rushaan and Deshpande, Rushaan draws Casey and Deshpande and beats Unkel Vik who wins all his other games.

The Under 2000 prize was earned by Derin Goktepe with 3 1/2 points and the Under 1800 awarded to Silas Lainson who finished with 3.0/5 points.

The Reserve Section, reserved for players under 1700 for this tournament, was won by a surprise clear first winner, Evan Edwins, who finished with a decisive 4.5/5 points. The surprise comes from the fact that going into this tournament Evan was rated provisionally at only 1009.

Emma Li was also a solo winner, taking second place with 3.5/5 points.

The Under 1550 prize was shared by a quartet, composed of Angela Chen, Jack Christy, Richard Hao and another surprise winner, Kylie Zhang (rated 1016), all with 3.0/5 points.

From Viktors Pupols:

Do you dream chess? I do. This is a game I dreamed many years ago.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.e5 Nh5 8.Qd4 Ng7 9.e6 fxe6 10.Be3 a6 11.Bd3 Rb8 12.Rb1 Qa5 13.Qe4 Qxc3+ 14.bxc3 Rxb1+ 15.Ke2 Rxh1 16.Qxg6+ hxg6 17.Bxg6+ Kd8 18.Bb6# 1-0



Position after 18.Bb6#



Viktors Pupols. Photo credit: Carol Kleist.

**Derin Goktepe (1784) – Sophie Tien (1862) [D36]**

Seattle Fall Open  
Seattle, WA (R4), September 22, 2019  
[Derin Goktepe]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5

This is the Queen's Gambit Exchange variation.

5.Bg5 Be7 6.Qc2 Nbd7 7.e3 c6 8.Bd3 0-0 9.Nge2 Re8 10.0-0 Nf8 11.f3 h6 12.Bh4 Ne6 13.Rad1 b6 14.Bf2

I played 14.Bf2 so when I push my e-pawn, my pawn on d4 would be protected.

14...c5?



Position after 14...c5

This move is a mistake because it weakens Black's pawn on d5.

15.dxc5 Bxc5 16.Bb5 Bd7 17.Bxd7



Derin Goktepe. Photo credit: Gulin Goktepe.

Qxd7 18.e4 d4 19.e5 Nh7 20.f4 Rac8 21.f5 Neg5??

This move is a blunder because there is the move Bxd4 or a simple h4 which traps the knight immediately.

22.Bxd4 Qe7 23.h4 Nh3+ 24.gxh3 Qxe5 25.Bxc5 Rxc5 26.Qd3 Nf6 27.Qd4 Qe7 28.Nf4 Re5 29.Nd3 Re3 30.Rde1 Rg3+ 31.Kh2 Qc7 32.Qf4

The game is simply lost for black after we trade queens.

32...Qxf4 33.Rxe8+ Nxe8 34.Nxf4 Re3 35.Ng2 Rd3 36.Rd1 1-0



Lois Ruff, leader of her class in the Grand Prix, playing in the Seattle Fall Open. Photo credit: Carol Kleist.



# Vancouver Open

By Josh Sinanan

The Washington Chess Federation hosted the 6th Annual Vancouver Open during August 10-11 in Vancouver, Washington. This tournament has (and hopefully will continue to be) an excellent opportunity for Washington and Oregon players to find some new competitors and this year proved to follow that trend. When the event was over there was a three-way tie for first place between Oregon player Roger Martin and Washington juniors Aaryan Deshpande and Eric Zhang. The three players would finish undefeated with 4.0/5 points. A special congratulations to Eric Zhang, who reached a rating of 2200 exactly to earn his National Master title!

In the Reserve section *unrated* player Conor McAvity finished with 4.5/5 points and won first place outright! Conor and Jasper McAvity came into the event unrated, but would leave with provisional ratings over 1700 and 1400 respectively. In a tie for second-place were Washington resident Stephen Buck and Oregon resident Elaine Walquist with 4.0/5 points. We look forward to hosting another edition next year!

Congratulations to all our prize winners.

Open: Aaryan Deshpande (first place — tie), Roger Martin (first place — tie), Eric Zhang (first place — tie), Konnor Feldman (U2200 and U2000 — tie), Andreas Teuffer (U2200 and U2000 — tie), Ethan Wu (U2200 and U2000 — tie).

Reserve: Conor McAvity (first place), Stephen Buck (second place — tie), Elaine Walquist (second place — tie), John Hoover (U1600), Jerrold Richards (U1400), Mo Buckner (U1200).



Konnor Feldman. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

**Eddie Chang (1812) –  
Josh Sinanan (2285) [E58]**  
Vancouver Open  
Vancouver, WA (R1), August 10, 2019  
*[Ralph Dubisch]*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0–0  
5.Bd3 d5 6.Nf3 c5 7.0–0 Nc6 8.a3 Bxc3  
9.bxc3 Qc7 10.cxd5 exd5 11.a4 Re8  
12.Ba3 c4 13.Bc2 Bg4 14.Qb1

Theory here runs 14.Qe1 Bh5 (14...Bxf3  
15.gxf3 Qd7 16.Kh1) 15.Nh4 Ng4 16.g3  
Bg6 17.Nxg6 hxg6.

14...Ne4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.Nd2 Be2  
17.Re1 Bd3 18.Qb5 a6 19.Qb2 Re6  
20.f4 exf3 21.Nxf3 Rd8 22.Bc5 Rd5  
23.Qf2 Nb8 24.Qh4 f5



Position after 24...f5

24...Re4!? 25.Qg3 Qxg3 26.hxg3 Nd7  
Black is doing pretty well, despite the  
unusual blocking pieces.

25.Qf4 Qd8 26.Ba3 Nd7 27.Ng5 Rg6  
28.e4!



Position after 28.e4

28...Bxe4



Roger Martin. Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

28...Ra5 29.Bb4 h6 30.Bxa5 (30.Nh3 Bxe4 31.Rxe4 fxe4 32.Qxe4 also comes out about even.) 30...Qxa5 31.Nf3 fxe4 32.Rxe4 Bxe4 33.Qxe4 Qxc3 34.Rb1 Nf8 35.Rxb7

**29.Rxe4!**

29.Nxe4 Rg4 30.Qf1 (or 30.Qf3 Rxe4 31.Rxe4 fxe4 32.Qxe4 Nf6) 30...Rxe4 31.Rxe4 fxe4 32.Qxc4±

**29...fxe4 30.Qf7+ Kh8 31.Be7?**

31.Qxg6! Rxg5 (31...hgx6?? 32.Nf7+-) 32.Qxe4±

31...Qg8! 32.Qf4 Rg5 33.Bxg5 h6 34.Be7 Qe6 35.Ba3 b5 36.axb5 axb5 37.Re1 Nf6 38.Bb4 Kh7 39.Ba3 Rf5

**40.Qg3 Nd5 41.h3 e3 42.Bb4 Qe4 43.Qh2 Rg5 44.Re2 Nf4 45.Ra2 Qb1# 0-1**

**Jon Strohhahn (1400) –  
John L. Hoover (732) [A22]**  
Vancouver Open  
Vancouver, WA (R1), August 10, 2019  
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 d6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Be7 5.d4 exd4**

5...Nbd7 6.Be2 0-0 7.0-0 c6 is a fairly ordinary Old Indian Defense.

**6.Nxd4 0-0 7.Bd3 h6 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Nf5 Ne5 10.Nxe7+ Qxe7 11.Be2± Be6?!**

**12.b3 c6?**



Position after 12...c6

**13.Bb2**

White to play and win a piece: 13.f4! Neg4 (13...Ng6 14.f5; 13...Ned7 14.f5) 14.h3

**13...Ng6 14.Qc2 d5 15.cxd5 Nxd5 16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Rad1 Qg5 18.e4 Be6 19.Rfe1 Nf4**



Position after 19...Nf4

**20.Bf1?**

20.Bf3 holds: 20...Bh3 (20...Bg4 21.Bxg4 Qxg4 22.f3) 21.Bc1

**20...Bg4! 21.Rd2**

21.Bc1 Bxd1 22.Rxd1 Qe5±



Position after 21.Rd2

**21...Bf3?**

21...Nxg2!!, the point being 22.f4 (22.Bxg2 Bf3; 22.Kxg2 Bd1+ 23.Kh1 Bf3+) 22...Nxe1 23.fxg5 Nxc2 24.Rxc2 hxg5+

**22.Qc3??**

22.Re3 Nxg2 23.Rxf3 Ne1+ 24.Rg3 Nxc2 25.Rxg5 hxg5 26.Rxc2 when the bishop-pair look a little better than rook and pawn



in this ending. 22.g3 is also surprisingly safe. The direct attacking attempt 22...Qh5? completely fails against 23.Qc3 f6 24.Re3.

22...Nxc3 23.Qxc3 Qxc3 24.Bxc3 Nxe1 25.Bxf8 Rxf8 26.Bh3 Bxe4 27.Re2 Nf3+ 0-1

**Neena Feldman (1443) –  
John L. Hoover (732) [D00]**

Vancouver Open  
Vancouver, WA (R2), August 10, 2019  
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 e6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Bd3 h6  
5.Nd2 Bd6 6.Bg3 0-0 7.Ngf3 b6 8.e4  
dxe4 9.Nxe4 Bb7 10.Nxd6 cxd6 11.c3

11.0-0

11...Nc6 12.h3

12.0-0

12...Ne7

12...e5!?

13.Qc2?! Ned5 14.0-0 Rc8 15.a3 Nh5



Position after 15...Nh5

16.Bh2?!

16.Rfe1 Nxc3 17.fxc3. Giving Black's knights access to f4 is the greater evil.



John Hoover. Photo courtesy of John Hoover.

16...Ndf4 17.Be2 Qf6 18.Rfe1 Nxc3+

18...e5!?, though less forcing, also looks strong and avoids some complications.

19.gxh3 Bxf3 20.Bxf3 Qxf3



Position after 20...Qxf3

21.Re3

21.Bxd6 Rfd8 (21...Qxh3 22.Bxf8 Nf4 23.Qe4 Black can force a draw with queen checks on g4 and h3, but anything else is speculative.) 22.Re3 Qd5 forks d6 and d4, but things get interesting after 23.Be5 f6 24.Bh2 Qg5+ (24...Qxd4 25.Rxe6) 25.Kf1 Rxd4.

21...Qd5 22.Qe2 Qg5+ 23.Kh1 Qd5+ 24.Qf3 Qxf3+ 25.Rxf3 d5 26.Rg1 Kh7 27.Rg4 Nf6 28.Rg2 Ne4 29.Rf4 f6 30.h4 Nd2 31.Rfg4 Rf7 32.Bf4 Nc4 33.f3 Re8 34.Bc1 e5 35.b3 Na5 36.dxe5 fxe5 37.b4 Nc4 38.R4g3 Ree7 39.a4 Rc7 40.Re2 Rfe7 41.Rg4 Nd6 42.Bd2 Nf5 43.Kh2 d4 44.cxd4 exd4 45.Ree4 Rf7

45...Rc2 46.Rg2 (46.Rxe7 Rxd2+) 46...Rxe4 47.fxe4 Nxc4 48.Rf2 Rxd2 49.Rxd2 Nf3+

46.h5 Rc2 47.Rg2 d3 48.Kh3 Rd7 49.Re5 Nd4 50.f4 Nf3 51.Re3 Rxd2 52.Rxf3 Rxc2 53.Kxc2 d2 54.Rf1 d1Q 55.Rxd1 Rxd1 0-1

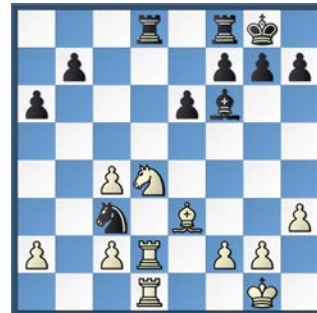
**Richard Johnson (1321) –  
Conor McAvity [C10]**

Vancouver Open  
Vancouver, WA (R2), August 10, 2019  
[Conor McAvity]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.Nf3 Ngf6 6.Bd3 c5 7.Be3 Nxe4 8.Bxe4 Nf6 9.Bd3 Qc7 10.h3 Be7 11.Bb5+ Bd7 12.Bxd7+ Nxd7 13.0-0 Rd8 14.Qe2 0-0 15.Rad1 Bf6 16.Rd2 cxd4 17.Nxd4 a6 18.Rfd1 Nb6 19.b3

White prevents Nc4, but weakens the c3-square.

19...Nd5 20.Qc4 Qxc4 21.bxc4 Nc3



Position after 21...Nc3

22.Ra1

This loses immediately due to a fork trick on e2.

22...Bxd4 23.Bxd4 Rxd4 24.Rad1 Rfd8 25.Rxd4 Rxd4 26.Rxd4 Ne2+ 27.Kf1 Nxd4 28.c3 Nc6 29.Ke2 Kf8 30.Kd3 Ke7 31.c5 e5 32.Ke4 Ke6 33.g4 g6 34.g5 Ne7 35.c4 Nc6 36.f4 exf4 37.Kxf4 Ne5 0-1

**Viktors Pupols (2200) –  
Isaac Vega (1860) [E99]**

Vancouver Open  
Vancouver, WA (R2), August 10, 2019  
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7



Position after 8...Ne7

9.Ne1

Other very common moves here can lead to somewhat different play. For example



(L) Elaine Walquist, Jacob Mayer. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

9.b4 Nh5 (9...a5 10.Ba3 axb4 11.Bxb4 Nd7 12.a4±) 10.Re1 f5 (10...a5 11.bxa5 Rxa5 12.Nd2 Nf4 13.Bf1±) 11.Ng5 Nf6 12.Bf3±; 9.Nd2 a5 10.a3 Nd7 11.Rb1 f5 12.b4 Kh8 13.f3 Ng8 and practical results suggest Black is doing fine.

**9...Nd7 10.f3**

10.Nd3 f5 11.Bd2 Nf6 12.f3 f4 13.c5 g5 is the “pure” form, with White depending on the queenside play and Black going for the jugular on the other wing.

**10...f5 11.g4**

White aims to gum up the works on the kingside. Another popular plan is 11.Be3 f4 12.Bf2 g5 13.a4.

**11...Nf6**

11...Kh8 12.Nd3 Ng8 is interesting.

**12.Nd3 c6 13.Be3 Rf7**

[Diagram top of next column]



Position after 13...Rf7

This move I haven't seen before in this position. Black tries to do without ...Kh8 entirely. After 13...Kh8, 14.h3 and 14.Kh1 have both been played.

**14.Rf2?!**

Perhaps Viktor's theory is that one good rook lift deserves another. The white rook, however, seems to be a bit in the way on

this square. I'd prefer 14.Rc1, continuing queenside activity, or 14.h3, a kingside defensive move that will certainly be useful.

**14...f4 15.Bd2 Bd7**

15...cxd5 16.cxd5 g5 and Black is fine. White isn't optimally placed for this type of position.

**16.Rc1 cxd5 17.cxd5 b5**

I'm not a huge fan of the queenside demonstration here. Black has only limited force in the area, so the resulting weakness of the queenside pawns and the c6-square could cause problems. 17...g5 feels more natural, locking down White's g-pawn, opening a path for the e7-knight toward h4, and retaining the option of later queenside play if warranted.

**18.a3?!**



Position after 18.a3

Too passive to be a typical Pupols move. I would expect 18.h4 or 18.a4 instead.

**18...Qb6 19.Kg2 Rff8**

The experiment of the mini rook lift ends. Black could still claim to be aiming for a transfer to the h-file with 19...g5.

**20.Be1 Rfc8 21.Bf1**

21.Rf1 intending Bf2 is another path.


**21...a5**

21...g5

**22.Na2**

22.Qb3

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22...Rc4

22...Rxc1 23.Qxc1 Bxg4!? 24.fxg4 Nxe4∞

23.b3

23.Rfc2

23...Rxc1 24.Qxc1 Rc8

24...Bxg4! 25.fxg4 Nxe4 26.Rc2 Nf6∞

25.Rc2 Rd8?!

25...Rxc2+ 26.Qxc2 g5∞

26.Bf2 Qb8



Position after 26...Qb8

27.Qd2

27.g5 Nh5 28.Rc7±. It's no longer clear where Black can find active play. 28...Rc8 29.Rxc8+ Qxc8? 30.Qxc8+ Nxc8 31.b4, and Black's pieces are all stuck on the wrong side of the board.

27...Rc8 28.h3 h5 29.Be2 hxg4 30.hxg4 Kf7 31.Rxc8 Qxc8



Position after 31...Qxc8

32.Qc3

32.Qxa5! Nxe4 (32...Qc2 doesn't work: 33.Nc3 Qxb3 34.Qb4+-) 33.fxe4 Bxg4 34.Qd2 Bh6 35.Qd1. White should be able to repel the attack and make the extra material count.

32...Qd8 33.Be1 Nfxd5!

Necessary.



Position after 33...Nfxd5

34.Qxa5?

Just because the opponent sacrifices a piece doesn't mean it's wrong to accept! 34.exd5! e4 35.Qc1 exd3 36.Qxf4+ with complications.

34...Ne3+ 35.Kg1 Qh8 36.Bf1?

36.Bf2 prolongs the defense.

36...Bxg4!

Black finally crashes through.

37.fxg4 Nxg4 38.Qd2 f3! 39.Nxe5+ dxe5 40.Bxb5 Bh6 41.Bc4+ Kg7 42.Qd7 Be3+ 0-1

Conor McAvity – Elaine Walquist (1608) [C53]

Vancouver Open  
Vancouver, WA (R3), August 10, 2019  
[Conor McAvity]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 d6 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb4+ 7.Nc3 Nf6 8.Qd3 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Qe7 10.0-0

Black cannot capture the pawn on e4 safely, so the queen is misplaced on e7.

10...0-0

10...Nxe4 11.Re1 f5 12.Bg5 Qd7 13.Rxe4+

11.Re1 Qd7 12.Bb3 Ne7

This gives up control of the e5 square, allowing White to break in the center.

13.e5 dxe5 14.Nxe5 Qd6 15.a4

Threatening to bring the bishop to a3.

15...Bf5 16.Qf3 Bg6 17.Ba3 Qd8 18.Bxe7 1-0

Julian Lin (1683) – Brent Baxter (1896) [B01]

Vancouver Open  
Vancouver, WA (R1), August 10, 2019  
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6 4.Bc4



Position after 4.Bc4

White goes his own way in the opening, avoiding d4 entirely. 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 is almost universally played, with Black now choosing between ...c6, ...a6, ...g6, or more rarely ...Bg4.

a) 5...c6 6.Ne5 (6.g3!?) 6...Nbd7 7.Nc4 (7.Bf4!? Nd5 8.Nxd5 Qxd5) 7...Qc7 8.Qf3 Nb6 9.Bf4 Qd8 (9...Qd7!? 10.h3!?) (10.0-0-0 Qg4 is Black's idea. 11.Qxg4 Bxg4 12.f3 Be6 with at most a minimal edge to White.) 10...Nxc4 11.Bxc4 Qxd4 12.Bb3 gives White quite a lot of development for the pawn.) 10.Be5 Bg4 (10...Be6 11.Ne3 Nfd7±) 11.Qg3 h5 12.h3 h4 13.Qf4 Be6 14.Ne3 Nbd5 15.Nexd5 Nxd5 16.Qd2;

b) 5...a6 6.g3 Bg4 7.Bg2 Nc6 8.0-0 0-0-0

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9.d5 (or 9.h3!?!);

c) 5...g6 6.Nb5 Qb6 7.c4 c6 8.Nc3 Bg7 9.Be2 (9.c5!?!);

d) 5...Bg4 6.h3 Bh5 (6...Bxf3 7.Qxf3 c6 8.Be3 Nbd7 9.0-0-0 e6 10.Kb1±) 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5 Nbd7 9.Nxg6 (9.Bf4!?) 9... hxc6 10.Bg2 c6.

4...Nf6 5.Nf3

5.d3 a6 6.Nge2

5...Bg4 6.0-0

6.d4; 6.h3

6...c6

6...Nc6!?

7.h3 Bh5 8.Re1 e6 9.d3 Be7 10.Ne4 Nxe4 11.Rxe4 Qc7

11...Nd7 12.Bf4∞

12.Bf4 Bd6

12...Qb6



Position after 12...Bd6

13.Bxe6! 0-0

13...Bxf4 14.Bg4+ Kf8 15.Bxh5±; 13... fxe6 14.Rxe6+-

14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.Bc4 Nd7 16.g4 Bg6 17.Rd4 Qc7 18.Nh4 b5 19.Bb3 Kh8 20.c4?!

20.Qd2 c5 21.Rf4 Ne5 22.Re1± c4? 23.dxc4 bxc4 24.Qc3±

20...Nc5

20...c5! 21.Nxg6+ fxg6 22.Re4 bxc4 23.dxc4 Ne5∞



(L-R) Josh Sinanan, Robert Allen, Alex Kaelin, and Jacob Mayer celebrate at Joe's Crab Shack. Photo Credit: Courtesy of Joe's Crab Shack..

21.cxb5 Nxb3

21...cxb5 22.Rc1 Qe7 23.Nf3±

22.Qxb3 cxb5 23.Qc3

23.Qxb5 Rab8 24.Rd7 Rxb5 25.Rxc7 Rxb2 26.Rxa7 Bxd3 27.a4±

23...Qe7 24.Nf3 f5?!

24...Rac8 25.Qe1±

25.Re1 Qb7 26.Ne5 fxg4



Position after 26...fxg4

27.Rxg4

27.Rd7! Qb6 28.Nxg4 Rg8 29.Ree7±; 27.hxg4 is also better than the rook recapture. 27...Rac8 28.Qb4.

27...Bf5 28.Rg3 Rac8 29.Qd2 Qd5

29...Rf6!?

30.b3 h6 31.Kh2 Rce8 32.f4 Rf6 33.Reg1 Re7 34.Qe2 Rfe6?

34...Kh7 35.Qh5 Qd4∞ 36.Nc6 (36.Qf3 Bc8 37.Nc6 Rxc6 38.Qxc6 Bb7 39.Og6+ Kg8 40.Og4 h5 41.Qxh5 Qf2+ 42.R1g2 Bxg2 43.Rxg2 Qxf4+ 44.Rg3) 36...Rxc6 37.Qxf5+ Kg8 38.R1g2 and White's extra pawn no longer feels particularly significant.

35.Qh5! Rf6?

35...Rxe5 is forced: 36.fxe5 Qxe5 37.d4±.

36.Ng6+

36.Qxf5!! Rxf5 37.Ng6+ Kh7 38.Nxe7 Qf7 39.Rxg7+ Qxg7 40.Rxg7+ Kxg7 41.Nxf5+-

36...Rxg6 37.Rxg6 Kh7 38.R6g3 g6? 39.Rxg6! 1-0

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## Miscellaneous Game



Joey Frantz.  
Photo credit: Carol Kleist.

**Edward Li (1450) –  
Joseph Frantz (2040) [C42]**  
Seattle Seafair  
Seattle, WA (R1), July 27, 2019  
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d3**

5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 is a more popular method, possibly continuing 6...Nc6 7.0-0 Be7 8.c4 Nb4 9.Be2 0-0 10.Nc3±

**5...Nf6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 Bg4**



Position after 8...Bg4

I'm not sure Black should be aiming to exchange this bishop for either the f3-knight or the e2-bishop. Perhaps 8...d5 instead.

**9.h3 Bh5 10.Be3**

10.Nh4!? Bxe2 11.Qxe2 Qd7 12.Qf3 Nc6 13.Nf5±

**10...Nc6 11.Qd2**

On d2 the queen makes a target for an eventual black knight on e4. 11.d4 makes more sense.

**11...d5 12.d4**

12.Nd4!? Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Bxe2 14.Nxe2

**12...Re8**

12...Bb4!?

**13.Rfe1 Ne4 14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.Ne5 Nxe5 16.Bxh5?!**

16.dxe5 Qxd2 17.Bxd2 with equal chances.

**16...Nc4 17.Qc3 Qd5 18.Be2 Nxe3 19.fxe3?**



Position after 19.fxe3

The recapture with the pawn represents a surprisingly major weakening of the kingside structure, not to mention reducing the white queen's influence in that sector. 19.Qxe3 doesn't solve all the problems, but gives White more flexibility in the coming defense. For example, 19...Bg5 20.Qb3! Qxd4 21.Rad1 with good activity — Rd7, Bc4 — to fully compensate for the pawn.

**19...Bd6 20.Bc4 Qg5 21.Qb3?!**

The queen gets even further from the required defense. Black weaves a mating net.

**21...Qg3 22.Bxf7+ Kh8 23.Qxb7**

23.Bxe8 doesn't help at all. 23...Rxe8 24.Kf1 Rf8+ 25.Ke2 Qxg2+ 26.Kd1 Bg3 27.Re2 Qh1+ 28.Kd2 Qxa1+.

**23...Rf8**

23...Rab8 first is stronger: 24.Qd5 (24.Qxa7 Rxb2!) 24...Re7, and with ...Rf8 coming, White is helpless.

**24.Qd5 Qh2+**

24...Rae8

**25.Kf1 Rxf7+ 26.Qxf7 Rf8 27.Qxf8+ Bxf8 28.Kf2 Bd6 29.Rg1 Qg3+ 30.Ke2 Qg5 31.g4 Qb5+ 32.Kd2 Qxb2 33.Rgb1 Bb4+ 34.Kd1 Qc3 35.Ke1 Qxe3+ 0-1**

## Donaldson Wins FIDE's Botvinnik Award

By Rusty Miller and John Donaldson

John Donaldson wins "The Mikhail Botvinnik Award," for best trainer of men or a team in an open event from FIDE, announced on October 18, 2019 according to Rusty Miller. John Donaldson responded to Rusty:

Thanks Rusty,

It's funny they mention 1996 and not 1986. The latter was the year Yasser and Lubos Kavalek first approached me with the idea of being captain. 1996 was my last Olympiad for a decade.

*Canis omni die sua* (Every dog has his day) comes to mind, but it's more a testimonial to how the US players have been consistent overachievers over the years.

Only since 2016 have we been rated in the top three. The result in 2019 in the World Team where we beat China and tied for fourth despite missing our top seven rated players and going down to number 15 on the invitation list, is more typical.

### 1986- 2019

22 times — Olympiads 1986-1996, 2006-2018; World Team 1993, 1997, 2009-2019, Pan Am 2013

Gold 1993 World Team, 2013 Pan Am, 2016 Olympiad

Overall — Gold (3), Silver (4), Bronze (4)

Plus the 1998 team, captained by Larry Christiansen nearly won, winning silver in a brilliant performance in Elista.

Going back further the teams between 1974 and 1984 won gold (1976) and bronze (1974, 1978, 1982 and 1984). Jim Tarjan was a member of four of those medal winning teams and also won three individual medals (two gold). That is a record!

John



# The 2019 Glen Buckendorf / Buz Eddy Memorial Northwest Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator (mevjr54@outlook.com)

To finish last month's story, I played better in Butte than I did in Denver. "Better" means 3-2 rather than 2-3, but my losses were against higher-rated foes. I lost in the first round to Montanan Wilton Strickland, a Class A player, and the last round to Expert Josep Companyo Pagerols of Wyoming. In between, I won three in a row, the third being over 1707 rated Daniel Mattson, a fellow I met the previous Thursday in Billings. I haven't won three in a row outside of a Quad since the Washington Open in 2017, so this was noteworthy.

There were some changes in the standings due to events in September. A couple of 2x multipliers and an event in Idaho facilitated those changes. October should result some additional upheaval, as three of the five events had multipliers. These included the 2x Norman Friedman Memorial in Boise, the 2x Washington G/60 Championship in Seattle, and the 3x Washington Challengers' Cup, also in Seattle. The SCC Quads and the Northern Idaho Open in Coeur d'Alene were single point events. If all went well, I was at three of those, including the last one mentioned. Maybe we met over the 64 squares.

(Notice that we had TWO Idaho Grand Prix events in October in Idaho. Wouldn't it be cool if we could do that every month? Well, go out and organize something, you can't leave it up to the same four guys all the time.)

Looking forward to November, the best way to make a big splash in the Grand Prix standings is to attend the Washington Class Championships in Lynnwood, WA. With a guaranteed prize fund of \$10,000, this one earns the coveted 6x multiplier. Win everything and you could add 48 points. Lose everything but play the full schedule and you will still score 12 points. This can make a difference in the Grand Prix contest, no doubt. In addition to this event, there are three single point events at the Seattle Chess Club, the Quads on the 2nd, the SCC Extravaganza! on the weekend of the 8th, and the Tornado on the 17th. There is also the Puget Sound Open in Tacoma on the 23rd. Look at these as being warm-ups for the main event November 29 to December 1. Remember how my second weekend of my trip worked out so much better than the first. Practice helps.

The standings below are current through September 30.

## 2019 Memorial Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Washington			Other Places						
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	state	pts.			
			<b>Masters</b>									
			1	Pupols	Viktors	118.0	1	Raptis	Nick	OR	19.5	
			2	Truelson	Joseph	78.0	2	Donaldson	W John	CA	18.0	
			3	Perez	Ignacio	70.0	3	Cigan	Jason D	OR	16.5	
			4	Sinanan	Joshua C	58.5						
			5	Schill	William J	53.5						
<b>M/X/Class A</b>			<b>Experts</b>									
1	Cambareri	Michael E	41.5	1	Frantz	Joseph K	115.0	1	Nair	Roshen S	OR	42.0
2	Geyman	Jonathan P	34.5	2	Casey	Garrett W	89.0	1	Huang	Patrick W	CAN	42.0
3	Bodie	Brad	15.0	3	Mahajan	Rushaan	87.0	3	Omori	Michael J	HI	36.0
4	Erickson	Kenneth	11.0	4	Anand	Vignesh	83.0	3	Tang	Zoey	OR	36.0
5	Maki	James J	9.0	5	Whale	Nicholas M	72.0	5	Moore	Michael	OR	33.0



Idaho			Washington			Other Places						
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	state	pts.			
<b>Class B</b>			<b>Class A</b>									
1	Herr	Griffin G	35.0	1	Kaelin	Alex	80.5	1	Murray	David E	OR	45.0
2	Daigle	Adrian P	18.0	2	Vijayakumar	Advaith	76.5	1	Vega	Isaac	OR	45.0
3	Martonick	Nick	15.0	3	Lee	Brian	75.0	1	Sripada	Havish	OR	45.0
4	Derryberry	Dewayne R	14.5	4	Kuhner	Mary K	61.0	4	Pitre	H G	CA	36.0
5	Kitterman	Andrew N	6.5	4	Chen	Aidan	61.0	5	Wu	Abbie	OR	33.0
<b>Class C</b>			<b>Class B</b>									
1	Porth	Adam	24.0	1	Buck	Stephen J	145.0	1	Kodarapu	Ishaan K	OR	51.0
2	Ang	Ching-E N	9.0	2	Anthony	Ralph J	128.5	2	Tang	Austin	OR	36.0
3	Booth	Tom R	6.0	3	Lainson	Silas	109.0	2	Lykins	Pace	OR	36.0
4	Porth	Desmond	5.5	4	Gupta	Anand	94.5	4	Qu	Jayden	CAN	33.0
4	Leifeste	Bryce	5.5	5	Patton, Jr	Lorenzo	76.0	5	Stacey	Darren	MT	26.0
<b>Class D</b>			<b>Class C</b>									
1	Glass	Evan M	14.0	1	Varner	Murlin E	108.5	1	Yang	Arnold T	OR	48.0
2	Merry	William A F	10.5	2	Li	Edward	77.0	2	Morrissey	Patrick W	OR	39.0
2	Bodie	Arlene	10.5	3	Johar	Mudit	75.0	3	Lykins	Chad	OR	30.0
4	Shepard	River C	8.5	4	Johnson	Cleveland R	74.5	4	Buckner	Moises H	OR	15.0
5	Belew	Finn C	7.5	5	Two Tied at		68.5	5	Strong	Murray	MT	13.5
<b>Class E and Below</b>			<b>Class D And Below</b>									
1	Porth	Darwin A	14.5	1	Ruff	Lois A	126.0	1	Sripada	Anisha	OR	46.5
2	Daigle	Micah J	12.0	2	Karukayil	Johan	73.0	2	Sripathi	Prajna	OR	39.0
2	Sherwood	Jax L	12.0	3	Henderson	Doug	66.5	3	Rickert	Samuel	CA	33.0
4	McKenzie	Niall	10.0	4	Chi	Isobel	65.0	4	Morrissey	Christopher	OR	30.0
5	Su	Darren	9.5	5	Sommer	Miles T	61.5	4	Yang	Arthur T	OR	30.0

### Overall Leaders, by State

1	Cambareri	Michael E	41.5	1	Buck	Stephen J	145.0	<p>There are no prizes for players residing outside of the Northwest Chess area.</p> <p>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	Herr	Griffin G	35.0	2	Anthony	Ralph J	128.5			
3	Geyman	Jonathan P	34.5	3	Ruff	Lois A	126.0			
4	Porth	Adam	24.0	4	Pupols	Viktors	118.0			
5	Daigle	Adrian P	18.0	5	Frantz	Joseph K	115.0			
6	Bodie	Brad	15.0	6	Lainson	Silas	109.0			
6	Martonick	Nick	15.0	7	Varner	Murlin E	108.5			
8	Derryberry	Dewayne R	14.5	8	Gupta	Anand	94.5			
8	Porth	Darwin A	14.5	9	Casey	Garrett W	89.0			
10	Glass	Evan M	14.0	10	Mahajan	Rushaan	87.0			
11	Daigle	Micah J	12.0	11	Anand	Vignesh	83.0			
11	Sherwood	Jax L	12.0	12	Kaelin	Alex	80.5			
12	Bodie	Arlene	10.5	13	Johnson	Cleveland R	25.5			



FELIX COUGHED AND SNEEZED HIS WAY TO MANY A TOURNAMENT WIN, WHEN HE DETECTED HIS OPPONENT HAD A TENDENCY TOWARDS HYPOCHONDRIA.





# Pacific Northwest Chess Center (PNWCC)

12020 113th Ave NE #C-200, Kirkland, WA 98034

Register PNWCC Events on our Web Site

<https://www.pnwchesscenter.org/tournaments-events>

PNWCC  
Website



## Friday Night Events

Dates	Description	Rounds
November 15, 22 Dec 6, 13, 20	G45 Duel/G15+2 Rapids/Fischer Random Chess (Chess960)/G3+2 Blitz	2/4/3/7

## Scholastic and Beginner Event

Dates	Description	Rounds
<del>Nov 2</del>	<del>USCF Beginners Tournament (Canceled)</del>	4
Nov 17	Transformers G45;d5	4
Dec 8th	Transformers G45;d5	4

## One-Day Tournament

Dates	Description	Rounds
Nov 3	Sunday G60 – Adults and USCF 2000+ play for free	4
Nov 16	G60 USCF Quads – First 4 players paly for free	4
Dec 21	Saturday G60 with accelerated pairing	4

## PNWCC USCF Open

Dates	Description	Rounds
Nov 23-24	6-round G90;d10	6
Dec 14 – 15	6-round G90;d10	6

## PNWCC FIDE Open Tournaments

Dates	Theme	Featured GM's	Rounds
Nov 8 – Nov 11	Bruzon	GM Bruzon	7
Dec 26 – Dec 30	WoW, Xiong!	Super GM Jeffery Xiong	9

**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](http://www.seattlechess.club).

**Nov 2, Dec 14** **Saturday Quads**  
**Format:** 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** G/120; d5. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free entry for future quad. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:15-6:30. **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

**Nov 17, Dec 22** **Sunday Tornado**  
**Format:** 4-SS. **TC:** G/60; d5. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 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.

**Dec. 7-8** **Adult Swiss #4**  
 See box below. Details same as **Adult Swiss #3**, except open to those born before 12/9/1998.

**WCF @ the SCC**  
**Kings vs. Princes** *Dec. 14-15*

**SCC Adult Swiss #3**  
**November 23-24, 2019**

A 4-round Swiss open to those born before 11/25/1998 with guaranteed prizes of \$225 (5 per prize group).

<b>First</b>	<b>\$65</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>\$35</b>
<b>U2000</b>	<b>\$32</b>
<b>U1800</b>	<b>\$32</b>
<b>U1600</b>	<b>\$31</b>
<b>U1400/Unr</b>	<b>\$30</b>

**Time Control:** G/120; +30.  
**Entry Fees:** Free for SCC members. Others -- \$10.  
**Registration:** Sat. 10-10:45 a.m. **Rounds:** 11-4:30, 11-4:30.  
**Byes:** 1 (Sunday rounds, commit at registration).  
**Miscellaneous:** US Chess & WCF/ICA membership req'd (OSA). No smoking. No computers.

**SCC 2020 Weekend Schedule, Jan.—June**

<b>Hi-Roller Octagonal:</b> Mar 8. <b>Novice:</b> Jan 5, Apr 4.
<b>Quads:</b> Jan 4, Feb 1, 29, Mar 28, Apr 25, May 23, Jun 13.
<b>Tornado:</b> Jan 26, Feb 23, Mar 15, Apr 5, May 4, Jun 7.
<b>Seattle City Championship</b> <span style="float: right;">17-19 January</span>
<b>Seattle Spring Open</b> <span style="float: right;">20-22 March</span>
<b>Emerald City Open</b> <span style="float: right;">19-21 June</span>

## 11<sup>th</sup> SCC Extravaganza!!

### November 8-10, 2019

A two-section, seven-round Swiss with a time control of **G/90; d5** (Two-day option – rounds 1 & 2 @ G/45; d5). The prize fund of **\$700 is based on 40**.

### Open: \$140-100, U2200 70, U2000 70

**Reserve (U1800): First \$100-70, U1600 50, U1400 50, U1200 40, UNR 10**

Entry Fee: \$44 by 11/6 (\$33 for SCC members, \$39 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, ID, & BC), \$52 at site (\$38 for SCC members, \$46 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, ID, & BC). Add \$1 for 2-day option.

Registration: Friday 7-7:45 p.m. Saturday 9-9:45 a.m. Rounds: Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 11-2:30-6, Sunday 11-2:30-6.

Two-Day Option: Rounds 1 & 2, Saturday 10-12. Byes: 3 available; 1 in rounds 5-7, must commit before round 3.

Miscellaneous: US Chess & ICA/OCF/WCF membership required. OSA. NC, NS.



# Upcoming Events

♣ denotes 2019 Northwest Grand Prix event.

Pacific Northwest Chess Center events see page 29. Seattle Chess Club events see page 30.

**Nov 9** Southern Idaho Open & Veteran's Day Tournament, **Twin Falls, ID.** 4SS, Time Control: G/60; d5. Section: Open. Site: Holiday Inn Express, 1554 Fillmore St, Twin Falls, ID. Call for Chess Rate, 208-734-2233. US Chess mem. req. EF: Veterans free, \$30 per player, over 80, IMs, FMs, GMs free. Discount for online registration. Check in: 9:00-9:30 am. Rd. times: 10:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:30 pm, 7:00 pm. 1/2 pt bye avail: Rnd 1-3, Max 1, Notify TD before Rd. 2 is paired. \$\$ (based on 30) 1st - 2nd place Overall \$100, \$75. \$50/class: B, C, D, E, F, & unr. Details: idahocheessassociation@gmail.com, Online registration at www.idahocheessassociation.com, (208)450-9048.

♣ **Nov 23** Puget Sound Open, **Tacoma, WA.** Site: Eastside Community Center, 1721 E. 56th & Portland Ave. Format: 3 round Swiss. Time Control: G/90; d5. Entry Fee: \$30. Prize Fund: \$300 B/12; 1st \$80, 2nd \$70, Top Half & Bottom Half. Rounds: 10:00, 1:30, 5:00 or ASAP. Reg. 9:00-9:45. NS WNC. US Chess Rated. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, or ggarychess@aol.com.

**Nov 23** Bellingham Knights Chess Club November Quad, **Bellingham, WA.** Site: Bellingham Youth Chess, 4120 Meridian St #270, Bellingham, WA. Active US Chess membership is required for this US Chess rated event. Time Control: G/90;d5. Sections/Rounds: 3RR (Sections of 4 players divided by rating), 9:00 a.m., 12:20 p.m, 3:40 p.m. Registration: 24 player limit. Online registration at <http://www.bellinghamchess.com/>, onsite registration (if not full) also available between 8:15 and 8:45 a.m. Cost: \$20 if pre-registered online, \$25 at door. Prizes:\$30 prize to 1st place winner of each quad section.

**Nov 29** Chess Workshop for Girls & Women, **Lynnwood, WA.** Full-Page Ad page 13.

♣ **Nov 29-Dec 1** Washington Class Championship, **Seattle, WA.** Full-Page Ad page 16.

♣ **Dec 14** Western Idaho Open, **Boise, ID.** 4SS, Time Control: G/60;d5. (**Site: Note change of previously advertised venue**): ECI (Engineering Consultants, Inc., 303 Federal Way, Boise, Idaho. US Chess & ICA/OCF/WCF mem req. EF: \$30 per player. Discount for online registration. Check in: 9:00-9:30 am. Rd. times: 10:00 am, 12:30 pm, 3:00 pm, 5:30 pm. 1/2 pt bye avail any round: Max 1, Notify TD before Rd. 2 is paired. \$\$ (based on 30) 1st - 3rd place Overall \$100, \$75, \$50. \$50/class: U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200, U1000, unr. Details: idahocheessassociation@gmail.com, Online registration at www.idahocheessassociation.com, (208) 450-9048.

**Dec 14** Bellingham Knights Chess Club December Open, **Bellingham, WA.** Site: Bellingham Youth Chess, 4120 Meridian St #270, Bellingham, WA. Active US Chess membership is required for this US Chess rated event. Time Control: G/60;d5. Sections: 1 Open section. Rounds: 4SS, 9:00 a.m., 11:20 a.m., 1:40 p.m., 4:00 p.m. Registration: 24 player limit. Online registration at <http://www.bellinghamchess.com/>, onsite registration (if not full) also available between 8:15 and 8:45 a.m. Cost: \$20 if pre-registered online, \$25 at door. Prizes: 1st Place \$60, 2nd Place \$30.

**Dec 14-15** Seattle Kings vs. Princes Match VII, **Seattle, WA.** Full-Page Ad page 17.

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