



December 2019

Joshua Price



Northwest Chess
December 2019, Volume 73-12 Issue 863

ISSN Publication 0146-6941

Published monthly by the Northwest Chess Board.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Office of Record:
Northwest Chess c/o Orlov Chess Academy 4174 148th Ave NE,
Building I, Suite M, Redmond, WA 98052-5164.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Seattle, WA
USPS periodicals postage permit number (0422-390)

NWC Staff

Editor: Jeffrey Roland,
jeffreyroland9@gmail.com
Games Editor: Ralph Dubisch,
chesscoaching@gmail.com
Publisher: Duane Polich,
publisher@nwchess.com
Business Manager: Eric Holcomb,
eric@holcomb.com

Board Representatives

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

Entire contents ©2019 by Northwest Chess. All rights reserved.
Published opinions are those of the contributors and do not
necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the Northwest Chess
Board. Northwest Chess is the official publication of the chess
governing bodies of the states of Washington and Idaho.

Event Announcement Rates
(Upcoming Events listings)

Grand Prix events: \$35 for three consecutive listings of
the same event. \$25 for two consecutive listings of the same
event. \$20 monthly for events held every month (may include
dates for current month and next month).

Other events: \$20 for one listing. \$30 for two listings. \$35
for three listings. (Must be consecutive listings of the same
event.)

Please arrange payment for ads and Grand Prix fees of \$1.00
per player with the Business Manager.

Advertising & Copy Deadline

Ads and submissions must be received by the 5th of the month
for the items to appear in the next issue (e.g., **December 5** for
the **January** issue; **January 5** for the **February** issue).

**Submit all ads, donations, payments, changes of address &
subscriptions to:**

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

Judged Best Magazine/Newsletter for 2009 and 2014-19
by Chess Journalists of America!

On the front cover:

Joshua Price at the Norman Friedman Memorial.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

On the back cover:

Corey Longhurst at the Norman Friedman Memorial.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

Chesstoons:

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

Submissions

Submissions of games (PGN format is preferable for games),
stories, photos, art, and other **original** chess-related content
are encouraged! Multiple submissions are acceptable; please
indicate if material is non-exclusive. All submissions are subject
to editing or revision. Send via U.S. Mail to:

Jeffrey Roland, NWC Editor
1514 S. Longmont Ave.
Boise, Idaho 83706-3732
or via e-mail to:
jeffreyroland9@gmail.com

Northwest Chess Knights

Please donate today to help Northwest Chess!
Patrons, 2014-2019

Dale R. Wentz, Stephen Buck, Murlin Varner, Jennifer
Sinanan in honor of Josh Sinanan, Gerard Van Deene,
Washington Chess Federation, Idaho Chess Association,
Ralph Dubisch, Russell Miller, August Piper, Jr.,
Catherine Smith.

Subscriptions / Memberships

Individual residents of Washington only.
Washington residents please add sales tax.
Idaho residents see
<https://www.idahocheessassociation.com/>

		Rate
Adult	1 year	\$ 30.00
	3 years	\$ 80.00
Junior	1 year	\$ 24.00
	<i>Age U/21 at expiration</i>	2 years \$ 43.00
Scholastic	6 months	\$ 14.00
Senior	1 year	\$ 25.00
	<i>Age 65 or over</i>	3 years \$ 65.00
Additional Family Members	1 year	\$ 10.00
	<i>Residing at same address</i>	2 years \$ 18.00
		3 years \$ 25.00
Tournament/Trial	1 month	\$ 12.00

Non-Member Subscriptions

Check online for any U.S. promotional rates.

		Rate
U.S. addresses	1 year	\$ 30.00
	3 years	\$ 80.00
Canada	1 year	\$ 40.00
Foreign	1 year	\$ 60.00



Table of Contents

Joshua Price	
Jeffrey Roland.....	Front Cover
Free Chess Lectures Weekly	
Jeffrey Roland.....	3
Norman Friedman Memorial	
Jeffrey Roland.....	4
Washington Blitz Championship	
Josh Sinanan	8
Washington Game/60	
Josh Sinanan	9
Corporate/Collegiate Tournament	
Florian Helff.....	9
Washington Challenger's Cup	
Josh Sinanan	10
Northern Idaho Open	
Adam Porth.....	12
Arliss Dietz	
Brian Berger	14
2019 Portland Winter Open (Full-Page Ad)	
Portland, OR Dec 14-15	15
Chess Peace Cartoons samples from his book	
Tony Sullivan	16
Oregon Chess News	
Frank Niro	18
Turkey Open	
Mike Murray	22
Seattle Kings vs. Princes Match VII (Full-Page Ad)	
Seattle, WA Dec 14-15.....	23
Chess Vignette "Yuri"	
Karen Schmidt.....	24
Sridhar Seshadri in Iceland at Fischer Grave (Photo)	
Sridhar Seshadri	25
Washington President's Cup (Half-Page Ad)	
Seattle, WA Feb 15-16.....	25
Northwest Chess Grand Prix Report	
Murlin Varner	26
Chesstoon	
Brian Berger	28
Pacific Northwest Chess Center (Full-Page Ad).....	29
Seattle Chess Club (Full-Page Ad).....	30
Upcoming Events	31
Corey Longhurst	
Jeffrey Roland.....	Back Cover

Free Chess Lectures Weekly

Alex Machin is no stranger to our readers, but on November 3, 2019, the former ICA Vice President and former Idaho State Chess Champion accepted the indefinite post of giving a free weekly chess lecture open to the public. Alex inherits this honor after Greg Jones did it for several years.

The lecture usually lasts between 45 minutes and an hour followed by some kind of fun chess activity such as casual play, or a simul.

All this takes place every Monday between 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM at the Garden City Public Library at 6015 N. Glenwood St., Boise, ID 83714. Everyone is invited to attend this free chess activity, get some free pointers, talk chess, make friends, etc.

Since I normally work Mondays between 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM it is not usual for me that I could attend, however, on November 18, 2019, the day I hoped to get this issue to the printers, I did in fact attend the lecture and even took some pictures. It was very well presented and enjoyable.

This week's lecture was on the Alex Machin vs Brett Hamilton game from the Norman Friedman Memorial, which turned out to be a very instructive game indeed!

— Jeffrey Roland, Editor



Alex Machin. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



Alex Machin. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

Norman Friedman Memorial

By Jeffrey Roland

Boise, ID—October 11-13, 2019

This year marked the ninth Norman Friedman Memorial chess tournament held over National Chess Day weekend. Actually, while Norman Friedman was alive, it was called the Wood River Weekend Swiss (2009) or Wood River Weekend Progressive (2010, 2012, 2014, and 2015), but the tournament was renamed Norman Friedman Memorial in 2016 to honor the late Norman

Friedman. Norman Friedman was a chess philanthropist who originally came from New York City, moved to Sun Valley, and continued to support local chess groups. He worked very closely with current ICA President Adam Porth to run and organize tournaments in central Idaho circa 2009 until he passed away. Norman Friedman was inducted into the ICA Hall of Fame, along with 13 others, to become among the first people so honored in 2017.

For the last couple years, the Norman Friedman Memorial Chess Tournament is considered the biggest money tournament of the year in Idaho, thanks in large part to donations by the sponsor, Joyce Friedman and family/friends, who guaranteed the

\$750 prize fund and has taken an active interest in continuing her late husband's passion and legacy through this event.

This year's event was played in Boise at the Riverside Hotel on Chinden Boulevard. The chief tournament director was Alise Pemsler and Jef Leifeste was the assistant tournament director. The event was split into two main portions—Friday night blitz (six-double-round Swiss with a Game/5;d0 time control and the classic main event, which is a five-round Swiss played in one section, taking place over Saturday and Sunday with a time control of Game/120;d5. Additionally, the main event was considered a US Chess Grand Prix and this was also a Northwest Chess Grand Prix event.

Twenty-one players participated in the blitz tournament. James Wei and Cody Gorman tied for first-second places with a score of 9.0/12, splitting first and second prizes and giving each player \$62.50 each. Closely following them in third-place was Seth Machakos with 8.5/12 points and winning \$25.00. I feel that the Friday night blitz gives players a chance to have fun and meet the other players before hunkering down for serious games in the main event. While the blitz was not required in order to play in the main event, it certainly is fun and is well worth the entry.

Thirty-six players participated in the Classic Main Event of the tournament. First-place was Alex Machin (1854-1871—4.5/5) who took home the top prize of \$200.00. James Inman (1903-1906—4.0/5) was second place a won \$150.00. There was a six-way tie for third-eighth places, but because of class prizes sometimes being involved the prize distribution was a bit tricky. In order of tie-break we have Cody Gorman (1942-1931—3.5/5) winning \$37.50, Justin He (1413-1515—3.5/5) winning \$37.50, Joshua Price (1198P-1456—3.5/5) winning \$50.00 (because the Class E prize was larger) and adding 258 US Chess points to his rating, Christopher Pentico (1468-1503—3.5/5) taking home \$37.50, Caleb Kircher (1788-1786—3.5/5) getting \$50.00 (because the Class B prize was larger), and Seth Machakos (1547-1577—3.5/5) and \$37.50.

William Wang (1325-1356—3.0/5) secured first place Class D, netting him \$50.00. Darren Su (936-951—3.0/5) won first place Class F also worth \$50.00. Hanford Chong (643-779—2.5/5) won the Class G prize of \$50.00. And the final two prize winners were Josh Nelson (464P-592P—2.0/5) and Christian Del Toro (437P-515P—2.0/5) tying for first-



Frank Niro speaking to the players in the tournament before the commencement of round two.
Photo credit: Alise Pemsler

second Class H, I, and splitting the money at \$25.00 each.

**Joshua Price (1198) –
Alex Machin (1854) [C02]**
Norman Friedman Memorial
Boise, ID (R4), October 13, 2019
[Alex Machin and Jeffrey Roland]

1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5

In round two versus Justin He, I played the Sicilian Dragon and I got into trouble, so I decided just to go with what I know.

3.e5

I loved seeing that move. I think the Advance Variation is one of the worst of all the main options. Compared to the 3.Nc3 variation, it doesn't even gain tempo.

3...c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Bb5?

I think this is a mistake because he needs this piece for attacking chances on the kingside.

5...Bd7 6.Bxc6

Black was threatening 6...Nxe5 and then if 7.Bxd7+ recapturing with the knight, winning a pawn.

6...bxc6 7.Ne2

I think that's a very interesting move. I thought during the game he wanted to get his f-pawn moving. Maybe he is also thinking of moving the other knight from b1-d2-f3 over-protecting d4.

**7...Qb6 8.0-0 Ne7 9.b3 Ng6 10.Be3 Be7
11.Nd2 0-0**

I was very happy because he doesn't have a light-square bishop to pressure my castled king.

12.Rc1 Rac8 13.Re1

Now that I'm castled, and my rooks are connected, I want to open the position for my bishops, so that's what my new moves were doing.

13...cxd4 14.cxd4 c5

This is why I took with the b-pawn on move 6... so now I have this new lever to open things up!

15.g3

I don't know why he did this. I don't know what to say!

15...Bb5

I didn't see any long-term prospects for this bishop on d7, so I felt exchanging it off for a knight would be an equal trade.

16.Nf3 Bxe2 17.Rxe2 cxd4 18.Bxd4 Qa6

The reason I didn't play 18...Bc5 19.Bxc5



(L) Joshua Price playing Alex Machin. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

Rxc5 20.Rxc5 Qxc5 was because of 21.Rc2 gaining tempo. And how am I ever going to contest the c-file in this line?

**19.Rec2 Rxc2 20.Qxc2 Ba3 21.Re1 Rc8
22.Qe2**



Position after 22.Qe2

Here White offered me a draw. I decided to decline because I thought he had already made some inaccurate moves.

22...Qxe2 23.Rxe2

If you look at the pawns, I thought the pawn structure benefits me in the endgame because I have a protected passed pawn and he has a queenside majority. It takes more time for him to get a passed pawn, and when it is passed it's not protected.

23...a6 24.h4

I actually do like his pawn formation because it prevents my knight from going to f4.

24...Rc1+

The idea is if he blocks with the knight, then that knight is pinned which would be uncomfortable for him, and if he blocks with the rook, then I play ...Rc2 and he can't contest it with Re2.

25.Kg2

Right here I decided to reposition the knight because where it is it only hits e5, but that's not going to go anywhere, but after Ne7-c6 it still hits e5, hits the bishop, and has potential to eventually go like to b4 putting pressure on his pawn.

25...Ne7 26.Ne1 Nf5

Switching plans now that he's moved his knight, if I played ...Nc6 as previously mentioned, then he could play Be3 hitting my rook, from f5, I prevent that and am still threatening to take the white bishop.

27.Be3 Nxe3+ 28.Rxe3 g6

I didn't know if this was necessary, but I thought maybe just in case, get it over.



Position after 28...g6

29.b4?

This gives up the one thing he had in his position, the queenside pawn majority, and for what? I didn't know what to do, but after I examined the position, I decided to take it.

29...Bxb4 30.Nd3 Rc4 31.Nxb4 Rxb4 32.Ra3 Rb6 33.Kf3 Kg7

The idea being to play ...f6 and then have two passed center pawns.

34.g4?

34.Ke3 is needed since then after 34...f6 35.f4 White has better chances to draw.

34...f6 35.Kf4 Rb4+ 36.Kf3 fxe5 37.Rxa6 Kf6 38.Ra7 h6 39.a4 e4+ 40.Ke3

40.Kf4 g5+ 41.hxg5+ hxg5+ 42.Ke3 Ke5 looks winning.

40...Ke5

White had an advantage on the clock, I was under five minutes, he had more than an hour. He attempted to blitz me, keeping my clock running instead of using his time to figure out the position. Experienced players know that this tactic does not usually work. However, on the other hand, maybe he felt he was losing and this was desperation, so why not?

41.f4+ exf3 42.Kxf3 Kd4 43.Kf4 e5+ 44.Kf3 Kd3 45.a5 e4+ 46.Kf4 e3+



Position after 46...e3+

White made an illegal move here. White being in check instead of getting out of check moved his rook to d7. I summoned the TD and got two additional minutes added to my clock, which really helped given my time trouble. Had he not been blitzing, he likely wouldn't have made the illegal move.

47.Kf3 e2 48.Re7 Re4 49.Rxe4 dxe4+ 50.Kf4 e1Q 51.a6 Kd4 52.g5 Qe3+ 53.Kg4 0-1

Joshua Price (1198) –
James Wei (1834) [D53]
Norman Friedman Memorial
Boise, ID (R1), October 12, 2019
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 Be7

5...h6 6.Bxf6 Qxf6 7.e3 Nd7

6.Bxf6

6.e3 Nbd7 7.Bd3

6...Bxf6 7.e4

7.e3

7...0-0

7...dxe4 8.Nxe4 Qa5+ 9.Qd2 Qxd2+ 10.Kxd2 Be7

8.e5 Be7 9.Bd3

9.Qc2

9...dxc4 10.Bxc4 b5

10...c5 11.d5 exd5 after any recapture.

11.Bd3 a6

11...Nd7

12.0-0

12.Qc2 h6 (12...g6 13.h4±. Hard to defend.) 13.Qe2 Nd7 14.Qe4 f5 15.exf6 Nxf6 16.Qe2±

12...Bb7 13.Be4 Nd7 14.Qd3

14.Qe2

14...h6 15.a3 Qb6

15...Nb6

16.Rac1



Position after 16.Rac1

16...Rac8

16...c5 17.Rfd1 (17.d5 c4 18.Qe2 f5 19.exf6 Bxf6 20.dxe6 Nc5) 17...Rad8 18.Bxb7 Qxb7 19.Qe4 Qxe4

17.h3

17.Qe2 gives the bishop more breathing room on the b1-h7 diagonal.

17...Rfd8

17...c5 18.dxc5 (18.d5 c4 19.Qe2 exd5 20.Nxd5 Bxd5 21.Bxd5 Nc5±; 18.Bxb7 Qxb7 and Black is fine.) 18...Nxc5 19.Qe3∞

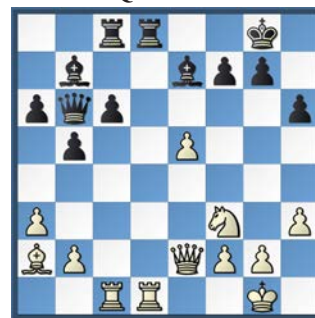
18.Rfd1

18.b4!?

18...Qc7

Another chance for the break 18...c5.

19.Qe2 Nb6 20.d5!? exd5 21.Nxd5 Nxd5 22.Bxd5 Qb6 23.Ba2



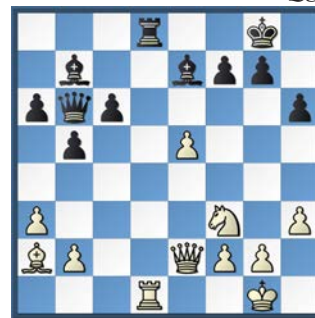
Position after 23.Ba2

23...Rxd1+?

This definitely helps White, essentially losing a tempo in the battle of rooks on the open file. Instead, 23...c5 has the point 24.e6 Bxf3 25.exf7+ Kf8 26.Qxf3 Qf6!, which isn't obvious, but if White exchanges queens, Black regains the pawn: 27.Qxf6 Rxd1+ 28.Rxd1 Bxf6 29.Be6 (29.Rd2 c4; 29.Rd6 c4 30.Rxa6 Bxb2 31.Ra7? c3+; 29.b3 Kxf7) 29...Rc6 30.Bd5 Rd6 31.b3 Bd4 32.Bf3 Kxf7 and Black may even stand a bit better in this ending.

24.Rxd1 Rd8??

Now 24...c5 25.e6! Bxf3 26.exf7+ Kf8 27.Qxf3 c4± (27...Qf6 doesn't have the same effect as in the last note, since White can hit the loose rook on c8. 28.Qg4±)



Position after 24...Rd8

25.Rxd8+?

Much stronger: 25.e6! Rxd1+ (25...fxe6 26.Qxe6+ Kh8 27.Rxd8+ Qxd8 28.Ne5+-; 25...f6 26.Rd7 Re8 27.Qc2 heading for g6.) 26.Qxd1 and White has d7 for the queen, e5 for the knight, and big threats on the a2-g8 diagonal. Examples: 26...f6 (26...Kh7 27.Ne5 Qc5 28.Nd7 Qd6 29.Qxd6 Bxd6 30.exf7+-) 27.Qd7 Qc5 (27...Kf8 28.Nh4) 28.Qxb7 Qc1+ 29.Kh2 Qf4+ 30.Kh1 Qc1+ 31.Ng1+-

25...Qxd8 26.e6! fxe6?

Black probably needs to try 26...c5.

27.Qxe6+ Kh7 28.Ne5 Qe8 29.Bb1+ Kh8 30.Nf7+ Kg8 31.Nd6+ 1-0

Christopher Pentico (1468) – Ronald Kirsch (1804) [C01]
Norman Friedman Memorial
Boise, ID (R4), October 13, 2019
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.c4 e6

3...c6 tends to transpose into lines of the Caro Kann, Panov-Botvinnik Attack.

4.d4

4.dxe6 Bxe6 5.Nf3 (5.d4?! Bb4+ 6.Bd2 Qe7 7.Bxb4 Qxb4+ 8.Qd2 Nc6∞) 5...Nc6 (5...Qe7 6.Qe2 Nc6 7.d4) 6.d4 White's extra pawn appears to have some value.

4...exd5 5.Nc3 Nc6

5...Be7

6.Nf3 Bb4 7.a3

7.Bg5!?

7...Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 0-0 9.Bg5

9.Bd3

9...Re8+ 10.Be2 dxc4 11.0-0 Qd6

11...Be6!? 12.Nd2 Na5∞

12.Bxc4 Ne4 13.Qb3! Qg6 14.Rae1± Na5?! 15.Qb5 Bg4 16.Ne5!



Position after 16.Ne5

This is like a tactical set piece. Everyone seems to be hanging.

16...Rxe5 17.Qxe5 Nd6

17...Nxc4 18.Qxe4 Qxe4 (18...Qxg5?? 19.Qe8+) 19.Rxe4 Be6 20.Rfe1±

18.Qxa5

18.Ba2 is also strong. 18...Qc2 (18...Nc6 19.Qe3) 19.Bxf7+

18...Nxc4 19.Qxa7! Rf8 20.Qc5 Nb2?

20...Be6 21.Bf4 (21.Qxc7!? Qxg5 22.Rxe6) 21...c6 22.a4

21.Re3 h6 22.Be7 Re8 23.Qxc7

23.Qb5 is a fork.

23...Be6 24.Rg3 Qf5 25.Qc5 Qc2 26.Bf6 g6 27.Qb5 Rc8 28.Qxb7 1-0

Kaustubh Kodihalli (1605) – Justin He (1413) [D02]
Norman Friedman Memorial
Boise, ID (R4), October 13, 2019
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 e6

The second most common move in this position. By far the most popular is 3...c6, when 4.0-0 Bg4 leads to fun roughly equal play.; One can also try to avoid locking in the light bishop with 3...Bf5 4.0-0 (4.c4 may be more enterprising for White.) 4...e6.

4.0-0 Bd6

Quite unusual, and probably for good reason. 4...Be7 also develops the bishop and prepares casting, but takes any sting out of a subsequent Bg5 and doesn't present a possible target for e4-e5 or Nb5.; 4...c5 is also quite natural and good.

5.d4 0-0 6.c3

Quite unnecessarily passive. Moves like c3 are played if the d-pawn is under pressure, or if something like ...Nb4 needs to be prevented. Here it just uses a move and takes away the c3-square from the b1-knight. 6.c4±

6...c5 7.b3?!

I'm not sure what to suggest as an improvement for White here, as this kind of structure, with c3, d4, and a kingside fianchetto, is fairly solid but also rigid. It can be hard to put together an active plan. My computer suggests 7.c4, but it's a bit hard to picture someone human playing this immediately after choosing 6.c3.; Perhaps 7.Bg5!?

7...Nc6 8.Bb2 cxd4 9.cxd4 b6 10.Nbd2 Bb7 11.Rc1 Qe7 12.Re1 Rac8 13.e3

Black is starting to maneuver toward taking advantage of the slightly weakened queenside dark squares. White should probably try 13.Ne5, intending to bring the other knight to f3, and possibly retreat this one to d3 as needed.

13...Ba3

13...Nb4!?

14.Rb1!?

14.Bxa3 Qxa3 15.Ne5∞

14...Bxb2 15.Rxb2 Qa3

15...Ba6

16.Qa1

16.Rc2, and if Black tries to force the action with 16...Nb4 (Playing it cool and keeping the queen centralized is still decent for Black: 16...h6 17.Nb1 Qd6 18.Nc3 Ba6∞) 17.Nb1! makes things quite

murky. 17...Qa5 18.Rxc8 Rxc8 19.a3∞

16...Nb4

Black now becomes a boa constrictor on the c-file.

17.Rd1 Nd3 18.Rbb1 Rc2 19.Bf1 Rxa2 20.Qc3 Nxf2!

Very nice!

21.Rdc1

Of course 21.Kxf2 Ne4+ is out of the question.

21...N6e4 22.Nxe4 Nxe4 23.Qc7 Ba6 24.Qxa7 Bxf1

24...Qb4! 25.Bxa6 Nd2 26.Nxd2 Qxd2-+

25.Qxa3 Rxa3 26.Kxf1 Ra2 27.Kg1 h6 28.Rc6 Rb8 29.b4 Ra3 30.Ne5 Rxe3 31.Nd7



Position after 31.Nd7

31...Rb7??

A serious bobble. 31...Rd8 32.Nxb6 Nc3 and Black is still on top.

32.Nxb6??

Favor returned. 32.Rc8+ Kh7 33.Nf8+ Kg8 34.Ng6+ Kh7 35.Nf8+ is a draw. The rest of the game is relatively drama-free.

32...Nc3 33.Rb2 Re2 34.Rb3 Nb5 35.Rc8+ Kh7 36.Na4 Ra7

36...Nxd4

37.Nc3 Rc2

37...Ra1+ 38.Rb1 Rxb1+ 39.Nxb1 Re1+

38.Rb1 Rxc3 39.Rb8 Nxd4 40.b5 Rb3

40...Ra2 41.b6 Nf3+ 42.Kf1 Rcc2 43.b7 Rf2#

41.Rxb3 Nxb3 42.Kf2 Kg6 43.Ke3 Kf5 44.Kd3 Nc5+ 45.Kc3 Nd7 46.Rd8 Ke4 47.Kb4 Ke3 48.Rc8 d4 49.Rc6 d3 50.Rd6 Ne5 51.b6 Rb7 52.Kb5 Nd7 53.Kc4 Nxb6+ 54.Kc3 Nd5+ 55.Kc4 Rc7+ 56.Kb3 d2 57.Kb2 d1Q 58.Ra6 Rb7+ 59.Ka2 Qb3+ 60.Ka1 Qb2#

Quite nice positional strategy by Black in the early middlegame.

0-1

Washington Blitz Championship

By Josh Sinanan

The Washington Blitz Championship took place on Saturday October 12 at the Seattle Chess Club and attracted just ten players in one section. The tournament was held in honor of National Chess Day, which has been celebrated annually on the second Saturday of October since 1976, with the intent of recognizing chess as a national pastime.

NM Alikhan Irgaliyev and FM Ignacio Perez, both from Seattle, tied for first place with an impressive 13.0/14 points in the seven-round double-Swiss. The two speed chess wizards completely trounced the rest of the field and split only with each other, much like two fully grown men running over a herd of



*(L) Alikhan Irgaliyev and Ignacio Perez, 2019 WA State Blitz Co-Champions.
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.*



*(L) Deeptanshu Kapur vs Alikhan Irgaliyev in the final round.
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.*

sheep! US Chess Expert Thanh Nguyen, who recently relocated to Seattle from California, won third place with 8.5/14 points. Seattleites Alan Corey-Derrah and Jeff L'Heureux won the U1800 and U1600 class prizes, respectively. Chad Boey and Alan Corey-Derrah rounded out the prize winners by virtue of scoring the two largest upsets as determined by the US Chess blitz ratings.

Many thanks to tournament director Fred Kleist, organizer Washington Chess Federation, and host Seattle Chess Club.

Washington Game/60 Championship

By Josh Sinanan

The Washington Game/60 Championship was held on Sunday, October 13, at the Seattle Chess Club, a second tournament in celebration of National Chess Day weekend. Thirty-six chess enthusiasts took part in two sections — Open and Reserve U1600.

FM Ignacio Perez, originally from Cuba but now residing in Capitol Hill, won the 26-player Open section with an undefeated 3.5/4 score, drawing only against young phenom Advaith Vijayakumar in the final round. Five players tied for second place half-a-point back: CM Rushaan Mahajan of Redmond, Thanh Nguyen of Seattle, Brandon Jiang of Bellevue, Advaith Vijayakumar of Bothell, and Eddie Chang of Clyde Hill. Isaac Liu of Issaquah captured U1700 honors with an impressive 2.5 points.

Pasha Kuznetsov of Newcastle won the ten-player reserve section



Ignacio Perez, 2019 WA State G/60 Champion. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.



Reserve section players at the WA State G/60 Championship. Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

with a perfect 4.0/4 score! Aleksander Mohmand-Borkowski of Mercer Island and Emerson Wong-Godfrey of Seattle tied for second place, each with three points. Upset prizes were awarded to Vineesh Nallabothula of Redmond and Emerson Wong-Godfrey.

The tournament was hosted by the Washington Chess Federation, organized by WCF Tournament Coordinator Jacob Mayer and WCF Treasurer Robert Allen, and directed by Senior TD Fred Kleist.

Corporate/Collegiate Tournament

By Florian Helff

On Saturday November 2, WCF and the Amazon Chess Club hosted the Fourth Corporate and Collegiate Team

Chess Tournament. Congratulations to all participants for playing some excellent chess and making new connections.

Special congratulations go to Team A of the University of Washington for winning the team section with a flawless score in front of Amazon Team A and UW-B!

As best placing collegiate team, the University of Washington Chess Club also won a sponsorship by Amazon to attend this year's PanAmerican Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship in Charlotte, NC!

Congratulations also go to Carlos Huertas of Amazon for winning the individual section in front of Ralph Anthony of Boeing and Pranav Chiplunkar of Microsoft!

We are looking forward to hosting more of these tournaments in 2020 and growing the corporate and collegiate chess community.

Washington Challenger's Cup

By Josh Sinanan

The Washington Challenger's Cup took place October 26-27 at Seattle Chess Club and attracted 60 players in two sections — Open and Reserve U1800. The strong turnout maxed out the SCC's site capacity and reflected the growing demand in the Northwest for accessible and affordable FIDE-rated competition, especially by ambitious juniors preparing for World Youth events.

Women's International Master Megan Lee of Bellevue won the open section with an undefeated 4.5 points from 5 games, taking home the \$500 first place prize. For her efforts, Megan is directly seeded into the 2020 Washington State Championship, set to take place over the second and third weekends in February.

Veteran FM Ignacio Perez of Seattle and young up-and-comer Ryan Min of Bellevue tied for second with four points. Four players shared U1900 honors with three points apiece: Brent Baxter of Olympia, Sophie Velea of Sammamish, Davey Jones of Seattle, and Eddie Chang of Clyde Hill. In the reserve section, Corey Bloom of Seattle scored a perfect five points and collected the first place prize of \$350.

Rating underdogs Michelle Williamson of Issaquah and Joe Bruckner of Seattle showed some teeth and tied for second place with 4 points each.



(L) Aidan Chen plays the Caro-Kann Defense vs Megan Lee during round one.
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

Young Michelle Zhang of Medina won U1400 honors with 3.5 points. Three players shared U1200/Unrated honors half a point back: Kylie Zhang of Mercer Island, Nihanth Tatikonda of Bothell, and Sid Siddem of Redmond.

The tournament ran successfully largely thanks to the efforts of legendary Tournament Director Fred Kleist and WCF Tournament Coordinator Jacob Mayer.

**Megan Lee (2255) –
Thanh Tien Nguyen (2094) [B07]**
WA Challenger's Cup
Seattle, WA (R3), October 26, 2019
[Megan Lee]

**1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Be3 Nf6
5.Qd2 Ng4**

More typical is 5...c6 or 5...0-0

6.Bg5

Delaying e5 for Black and allowing for the potential f4 idea.

6...h6 7.Bh4 g5 8.Bg3 e5 9.Nf3

9.d5 Slightly better as it limits the scope of Black's g4 Knight and g7 Bishop 9... f5 (9...h5 10.h4 Bh6 11.Qd3) 10.exf5 Bxf5 11.h4 Qe7 12.f3 Nf6 13.hxg5 hxg5

14.Rxh8+ Bxh8 15.Qxg5 Bxc2 16.Rc1 Bh7 17.Bh4 And White's pieces are more active.

**9...exd4 10.Nxd4 Nc6 11.Bb5 Bd7
12.Nf5**

Not the strongest move, as White creates a weakness on f5 after the trade of pieces 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.0-0-0 completing development.

12...Bxf5 13.exf5 Qe7+ 14.Kf1

White's king is in no danger, and moving the king maintains the initiative.

14...0-0-0 15.Nd5

Moving the Knight to a stronger square while gaining tempo.



Position after 15.Nd5

15...Qd7??

An unsuspecting fatal error. 15...Qe4 the only saving grace, maintaining equality 16.Re1 Qd4 17.Qxd4 (17.Ne7+ Nxe7 18.Qxd4 Bxd4 19.Rxe7 Bxb2 20.Bc4) 17...Nxd4 18.Ne7+ Kb8 19.Ba4=.

16.Qe2 Nf6

16...Nge5 17.Bxe5 dxe5 (17...Rde8 18.f6 Bf8 19.Nb4 Rxe5 20.Bxc6) 18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Qa6+ Kb8 20.Nb4 as in the game.

17.Bxc6 bxc6 18.Qa6+



Position after 18.Qa6+

With the unstoppable follow-up of Nb4, threatening Nxc6 followed by mate or loss of Black's Queen

1-0

Garrett Casey (2024) – Ryan Min (1871) [C73]

WA Challenger's Cup
Seattle, WA (R4), October 27, 2019
[Ryan Min]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.d4 f6

6...exd4 7.Nxd4 c5 (7...Bd7 8.0-0 Nf6 9.Nc3 Be7 10.Re1 0-0 11.Qf3 Re8. This is another way to play but it leads to a passive position for black.) 8.Ne2 Nf6.

7.Be3

7.Qe2 Ne7 8.dxe5 fxe5 9.Bg5 Be6 10.0-0 Qd7 11.Nc3 h6 12.Bh4 Ng6. This position white would be worse because black would get the f-file.

7...Ne7 8.Nc3 Ng6 9.Qd2

9.Qe2 This is the main line 9...Be7 10.0-0 Be6 11.h4 h5 12.dxe5 fxe5. This would lead to a position where White attacks on the kingside and black attacks on the queenside.

9...Be7 10.0-0-0 0-0 11.h4 Be6 12.h5 Nh8 13.Nh4 d5! 14.f3

14.exd5 cxd5 15.dxe5 fxe5 16.Nxd5 Bxh4. This is what would happen if White went for the pawn.

14...Rb8 15.Nf5 Bxf5 16.exf5 Qd6 17.Na4 Qb4?

17...Qa3!!+- 18.bxa3 Bxa3+

18.Qxb4 Rxb4 19.b3



(L) Edward Li vs Thanh Nguyen.
Photo Credit: Josh Sinanan.

In this endgame, it is only white who can push for the win. My pawns in the center can beome targets.

19...h6 20.g4 Nf7 21.Rhe1 Bd6 22.c3 Rb5 23.Kc2 Rfb8 24.Rb1 a5?!

This move only creates a weakness for myself.

25.Nb2 Re8 26.Bd2 Ng5 27.Bxg5 hxg5 28.Nd3 Rbb8 29.Nc5 Bxc5 30.dxc5 Rb5 31.b4 axb4 32.cxb4 Ra8 33.Kb3 Rab8 34.a3!

A good sacrifice. White gets a lot of play with his rook, pawn, and king.



Position after 34.a3

34...Rxc5 35.Rbc1 Rxc1 36.Rxc1 Rb6 37.a4 Kf7 38.a5 Ra6 39.Ka4 Ke7 40.b5

Here my opponent was already in time

trouble with only five minutes on his clock.

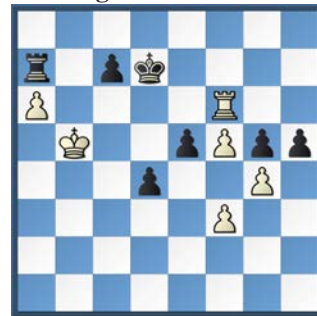
40...cxb5+ 41.Kxb5 Ra7 42.Rc6 Kd7?!

This allows h6

43.a6?!

Missing h6 43.h6! breaking through! Black is one move slow with his d-pawn.

43...d4 44.h6 gxh6 45.Rxf6 h5



Position after 45...h5

46.Re6??

This allows me to easily win. If he had not played this move the game still would have been drawn.

46...d3 47.Rxe5 c6+ 48.Kb6 Rxa6+ 49.Kxa6 d2 50.f6 d1Q 51.f7 Qa4+ 52.Ra5 Qc4+ 53.Kb6 Qb4+ 54.Ka6 Kc7 0-1

Northern Idaho Open

By Adam Porth

Coeur d'Alene, ID—October 19-20, 2019

Ever since the president of the Idaho Chess Association has moved to North Idaho, the ICA has been sponsoring events and tournaments in the north region of Idaho. Previously, there were no ICA tournaments available for players there. This past year, there have been six tournaments, including the Northern Idaho Open. And Michael Camberari (2057) has dominated them all, including the recent Northern Idaho Open where Michael handily scored 4.0/4 points in the four-round event that attracted eleven players from four states.

Murlin Varner, Northwest Grand Prix Guru, traveled all the way from Seattle! Alan Rhoades traveled from Oregon and Antonius Raelund traveled from Helena, Montana. Antonius Raelund (1904) played a solid game against Camberari in the last round, but failed to secure a means of promoting a pawn in an endgame after a dire blunder, losing his rook en prise. He resigned.

Most of the action was in the 1600 - 1800 level with Griffin Herr (1764) being upset by Sam Rainey (1598) in round three. Otherwise, all games played out as the ratings indicated. Upsets are usually more common in ICA tournaments. Three unrated players enthusiastically absorbed the wealth of knowledge that Antonius and Michael provided in-between rounds and other players engaged in rated blitz games.

The tournament was held at Calypso's Coffee Roasters, Coeur d'Alene in a two-day event that "wowed" customers as they could spectate behind large windows. Calypso's lets the ICA host events in their SMART room that is usually available for hosting meetings. The visibility allows the public to see that Idaho has a chess organization, and the public appreciates being able to ask questions about chess and where to play. In this way the ICA is trying to inform and educate people about this sport that is so dear to many.

The next tournament in northern Idaho will be the Winter Solstice in the North tournament held on Dec 21 at Calypso's Coffee Roasters in Coeur d'Alene.

Visit idahochessassociation.com for details.



Photo credit: Adam Porth.

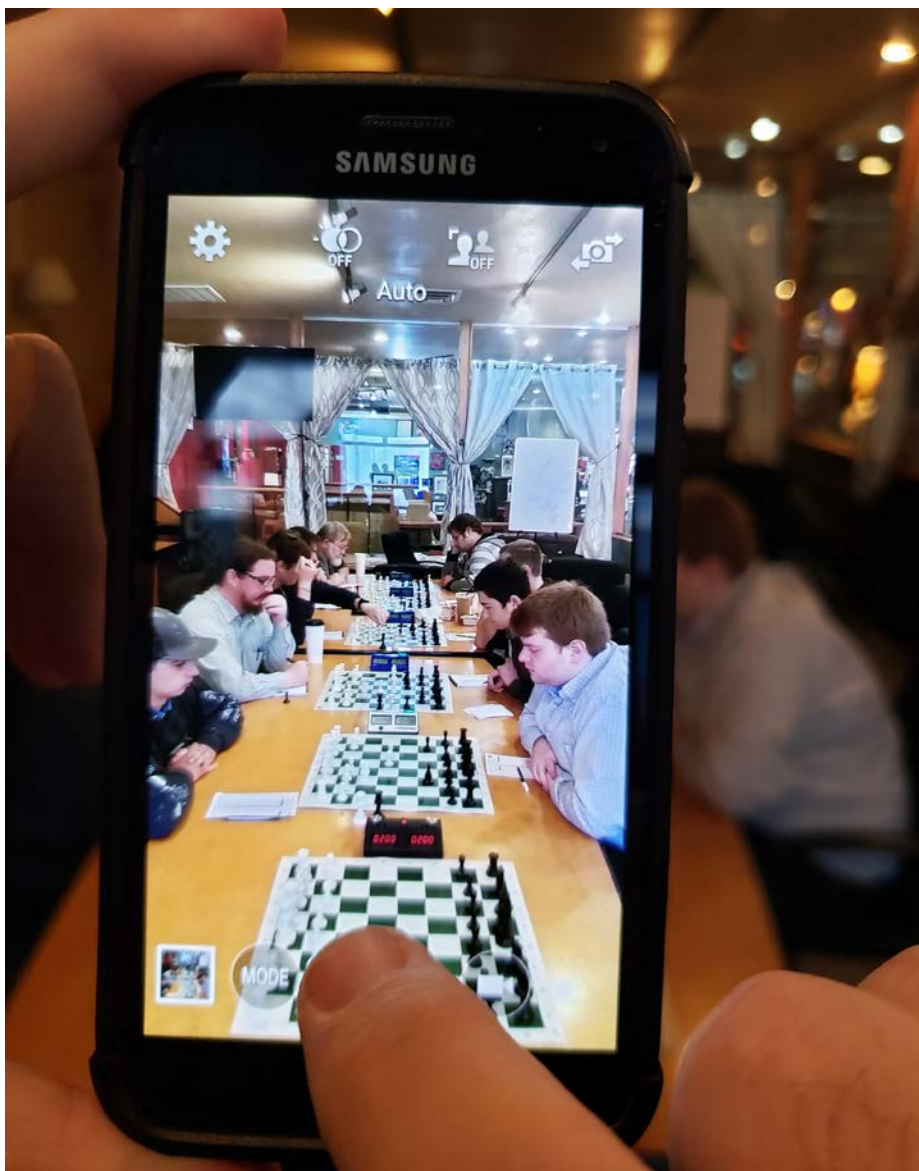


Photo credit: Adam Porth.



Michael Cambareri. Photo credit: Adam Porth.

Place	Name/Team	Rate	Score
1	Cambareri, Michael (1)	2057	4.0
2	Raelund, Antonius (2)	1904	3.0
3	Rainey, Sam (6)	1598	2.5
4	Burnett, Jeremy (5)	1678	2.0
5	Herr, Griffin (3)	1764	2.0
6	Rhoades, Alan (4)	1750	2.0
7	Varner, Murlin (7)	1530	2.0
8	Porth, Adam (8)	1401	1.5
9	Fellegy, Michael (9)	nnnn	1.0
10	Leviloff, Benjamin (10)	nnnn	1.0
11	Ng, Poshu (11)	nnnn	0.0

Arliss Dietz (1936-2019)

By Brian Berger

The Portland Chess Club recently lost a valued member. Arliss Dietz was a well-recognized face in the Portland chess community, nearly always in attendance at the area's major tournaments, as well as the monthly Tuesday Quads and Game 60s held at the Portland Chess Club.

Although 83 when he passed this October due to renal failure, he was, in the months' leading up to his death, still an opponent not to be taken lightly. One never knew which Arliss might show up for a tournament: the one who could lose to a lower-rated player or the one who could make a 1700, 1800, 1900, or 2000 player wish they had not sat across from him that day.

Sporting a 1706 rating in the early 90s, he later became a player who bounced from his floor of 1500 to the 1600s more often than a Harlem Globetrotters' basketball—a flaw which is not unique among some of us older players. Still, he was intense in his play, and could surprise you at any minute with a well thought-out combination.

Having spent 30 years working for the Weather Service in Birmingham, Alabama, Arliss subsequently moved to Oregon where he soon joined the Portland Chess Club. It was much later that this writer first swapped pawns with him. Through the years I always looked forward to being matched against him, never knowing what rating-level he would be bringing with him that day.

Arliss was buried at Willamette National Cemetery and is survived by his sister, Sue Ellen Irving. She mentioned that he was educated at Roosevelt High and at Oregon State, and he participated in track and football—which is probably why some of his opponents might have



Two miscellaneous recent photos of Arliss Dietz. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

felt run over and punted after encountering him.

The Portland Chess Club's upcoming Winter Open tournament will be dedicated to Arliss Dietz.

**Arliss Dietz (1638) –
Jeffrey T. Roland (1877) [C47]**
High Desert Open
Bend, OR (R5), August 15, 1993
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 d6 6.Be2 Be7 7.Be3 Bd7 8.Qd2
0-0 9.0-0 Ne5 10.a4 c5?**

Creating a long-term weakness on d6.

**11.Ndb5 Bxb5 12.axb5 Re8 13.f3 Nfd7
14.Nd5 Nb6 15.Nxe7+ Qxe7 16.b3**

16.Bf2±, taking the bishops off the e-line, keeps the White positional bind intact.

16...Ng6

Black's only chance to escape some of the pressure: 16...d5! 17.Bg5 (17.exd5?! Ng6 18.Kf2 Nxd5∞) 17...f6 18.Bh4 dxe4 19.fxe4 c4 The knights have found useful posts in this messy pawn structure, and they have decent chances against the bishop-pair.

17.c4!

The rest is a positional romp for White, with rooks, queen, and bishop-pair putting pressure on the a7 and d6 pawns.

**17...f5 18.Bd3 Nd7 19.Rfe1 Qf7 20.exf5
Nh4 21.Bf2 Nxf5 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8
23.Bxf5 Qxf5 24.Qxd6 Re6 25.Qd2
Ne5? 26.Qd5!**

Delightful!

1-0

FIDE Grandmaster Emil Jozsef Anka

Intl. Arbiter, Univ. Degree Chess Coach, USCF Tourn. Dir.

Grandmaster Camps, Private lessons,

Group lessons, After School Clubs

Chesssport
.com

gm.emilanka@chesssport.com, gm.emilanka@gmail.com

Kirkland, WA, www.chesssport.com (360-255-9392)



**Strategy.
Satisfaction.
Success.**



Supporting and promoting chess related activities
throughout Washington State since 1946.

Josh Sinanan
President
joshsinanan@gmail.com

(206) 769-3757

4174 148th Ave NE, Building I, Suite M, Redmond, WA 98052



2019 PORTLAND WINTER OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT December 14-15, 2019

Portland Chess Club
8205 SW 24th Ave
Portland, OR 97219

Prize Fund: \$650 based on a minimum of 40 players –additional prizes as entries permit
2 Sections: OPEN, RESERVE (U1800)

Rounds: 4 Round Swiss System

Time Control: G/90; INC 30

Schedule: 10am and 2:45pm each day. Rounds 2 and 4 can be started earlier if both players agree. Players who have a game go long can request extra time off before the next round.

Byes: one half point bye is available if requested before round one.

Entry Fee: \$35, \$25 for Portland Chess Club members. Pay during registration with cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club. US Chess membership is required. State membership is required for residents of Oregon.

Registration: On-site Reg: 9-9:45am Players may enter late with a bye in round 1.

Advance entries to: Frank Niro, certified tournament director, 8515 SW Curry Dr, Unit B, Wilsonville, OR 97070 [Cell # 503-347-0750]. Please make all checks payable to Portland Chess Club. Advance entries are optional, but will save time at the start of the tournament and will be much appreciated by the TD. Call the number above if you would like to pay in advance via PayPal.

E-mail questions to: ChessSafari@yahoo.com with copy to email@pdxchess.org.

Prizes: OPEN SECTION: 1st-\$150, 2nd-\$100, 1st U2000-\$75;

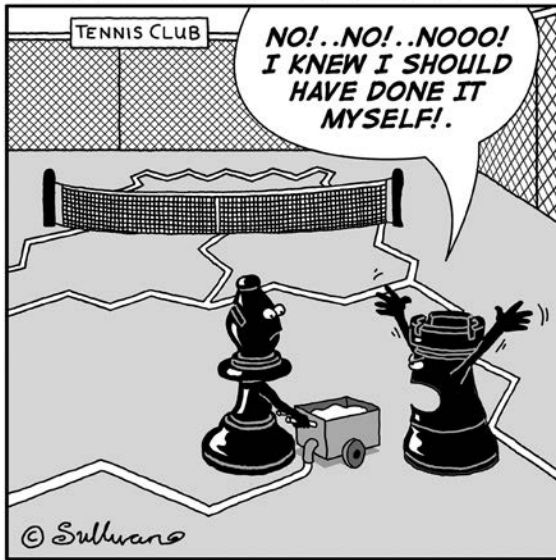
RESERVE SECTION: 1st-\$100, 2nd-\$75, 1st U1600, 1st U1400, 1st U1200/unrated-\$50 each

The tournament is a qualifier for the Challengers section of the Oregon Closed, qualifier for the Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation State Championship, and an Oregon Grand Prix event. Bring a digital clock. A few digital clocks are provided at this tournament but please do not always rely on the club to provide a digital clock (boards, pieces, notation sheets, and pens/pencils are provided).

NOTE: *This will be the last open tournament at the old PCC site on SW 24th Ave. This year's Winter Open will be held in memory of Arliss Dietz, who recently passed away. Club members and friends are invited to pay their respects and share memories of Arliss Dietz prior to the start of round 1.*

Chess Peace: Cartoons by Tony Sullivan

CHESS PEACE



Cartoons by Tony Sullivan.

CHESS PEACE

by Tony Sullivan



"Maybe you need to accept that you are just a pawn in the grand scheme of things!"

CHESS PEACE

by Tony Sullivan



A King's dilemma.

CHESS PEACE

by Tony Sullivan



You can buy Tony Sullivan's book "Chess Peace: Cartoons by Tony Sullivan" by just going to [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/Chess-Peace-Cartoons-Tony-Sullivan-ebook/dp/B07VFYXMK8/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=chess+peace&qid=1574034143&sr=8-1) and typing that in the search box. Or click the following link:

https://www.amazon.com/Chess-Peace-Cartoons-Tony-Sullivan-ebook/dp/B07VFYXMK8/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=chess+peace&qid=1574034143&sr=8-1

There are 70 cartoons in the book. Tony Sullivan also has an online facebook community www.facebook.com/chesspeacecartoons/

Tony has given us permission to print samples of some of the cartoons in his book, which we do on these two pages.

CHESS PEACE

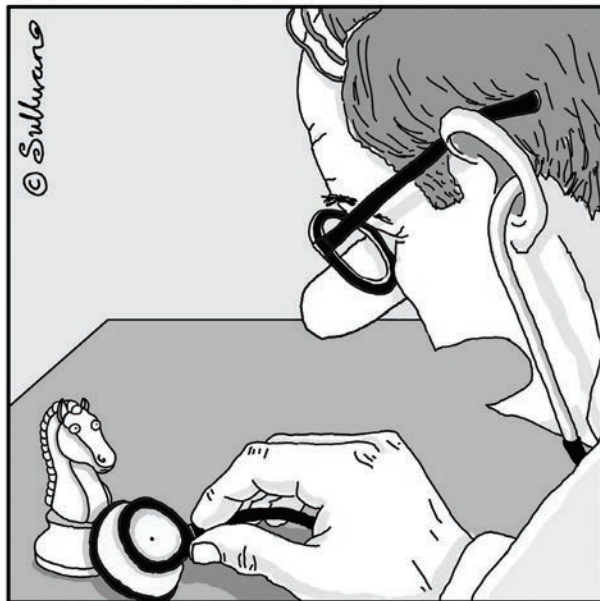
by Tony Sullivan



"Hello, operator, please send an ambulance urgently, my husband is experiencing severe chess pains!"

CHESS PEACE

by Tony Sullivan



"Everything's fine - you're just a little horse!"

CHESS PEACE

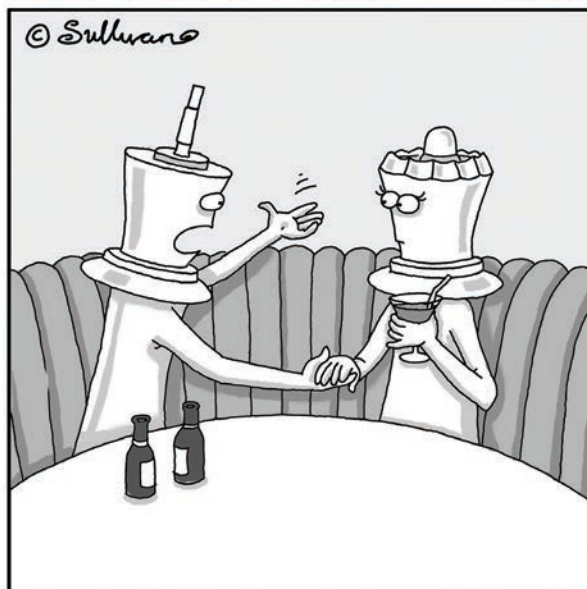
by Tony Sullivan



IT'S JUST A GAME, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD, PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER MAN!

CHESS PEACE

by Tony Sullivan



"Of course I love you Katherine. But you know me, I just like to take things one step at a time."

Oregon Chess News

By Frank Niro

Portland Fall Open

The Portland Fall Open, held October 12-13, 2019, was won by Shunkai Peng with 3.5/4.

Peng finished a half-point ahead of four players: Nick Raptis, Joshua Grabinsky, Lennart Bjorksten and Zoey Tang. The 33-player tournament was held at the Portland Chess Club with a time control of game-90, plus a 30 second increment per move. Michael Moore was the top finisher rated under-2000 and Ryan Lu finished first among players under-1800 in the open section. David Yoshinaga swept the reserve section with a perfect 4.0/4 score.

The event was directed by Mike Janniro.

Portland CC moving to new location

Effective December 21, 2019, the Portland Chess Club will be moving to new quarters in the Lloyd Center Mall, 2025 Lloyd Center, 3rd floor, Portland, OR 97232. The last open tournament at the old site will be the Portland Winter Open on the weekend of December 14-15. This year's Winter Open will be held in memory of Arliss Dietz, who recently passed away (see obituary written by Brian Berger, elsewhere in this issue of *Northwest Chess*). Club members and friends are invited to pay their respects and share memories of Arliss Dietz prior to the start of round one. The first tournament in the new space will be Game/60 on December 28.

The Portland Chess Club was founded in 1911. For the past 108 years, PCC has provided a venue for chess players to gather while hosting national tournaments and World Champions. The club has been housed in multiple locations over the years, including its present location on 8205 SW 24th Street since 1997.

The new club playing hall is conveniently located in a quiet area of the mall near the food court and rest rooms. There is plenty of parking and easy access by public transportation. The larger space will provide room for tournaments up to approximately 80 players. It is expected that membership

rates, which can be found on the PCC web site (www.pdxchess.com), will remain unchanged for the foreseeable future. Players of all ages are welcome to visit and play at the club. If you are in the Portland area and can help with the move, especially packing and/or unpacking on the Saturday before Christmas, please contact Sean Tobin (STobin2015@gmail.com). Volunteers are needed.

Update: Aaron Grabinsky's quest for the IM title

Aaron Grabinsky, 21, has obtained all of the necessary norms for his International Master title, but is still chasing the elusive FIDE rating threshold of 2400 to formally receive the coveted IM title. Grabinsky is a senior at Webster University in St. Louis, where he has maintained a "straight-A" average throughout his first three years at Webster. According to his coaches, he is expected to return to Oregon after

graduation to pursue an advanced degree in engineering. His focus on academic studies is perhaps one of the reasons for the delay in climbing the FIDE rating ladder. But there is no doubt that has the talent to achieve his goal before long. He is considered by his competitors as a very dangerous player who can defeat anyone at any time.

During October, Aaron finished with wins in each of the last four rounds of the annual SPICE Cup, a strong nine-round international tournament organized annually by the Susan Polgar Institute for Chess Excellence. Two of the games below are from rounds eight and nine of the 2019 SPICE Cup. The other two games are recent gems against titled players. Ratings shown are FIDE ratings at the beginning of each tournament.

**Aaron Grabinsky (2292) –
Karen Movsziszian (2489) [B40]**
Benasque International Open
(R6), July 9, 2019



Aaron Grabinsky. Photo courtesy of the Susan Polgar Foundation.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.b3 b6 4.Bd3 Nc6 5.0-0 Bb7 6.Re1 d6 7.Bb2 Nf6 8.e5 dxe5 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.Bxe5 a6 11.a4 Bd6 12.Qe2 Bxe5 13.Qxe5 Qd5 14.Qg3 Nh5 15.Qg4 Nf6 16.Qg3 Nh5 17.Qg4 Nf6 18.Qh3 Rd8 19.Na3 0-0 20.Nc4 b5 21.axb5 axb5 22.Ne5 g6 23.Bxb5 Qxd2 24.Qh4 Kg7 25.Bd3 Rd4 26.Qg3 Rfd8 27.Nc4 Qh6 28.h3 Nh5 29.Qe5+ Kg8 30.Be4 Bxe4 31.Rxe4 Rd1+ 32.Re1 Rd5 33.Qc3 Qf4 34.Ne5 Nf6 35.Ra4 Qd2 36.Qa1 Qxc2 37.Nc6 Rf5 38.Ne7+ Kg7 39.Nxf5+ gxf5 40.Rc4 Qxb3 41.Rc3 Qb4 42.Rg3+ Kf8 43.Rxe6 Rd1+ 44.Qxd1 fxe6 45.Qd6+ Kf7 46.Qc7+ Ke8 47.Rg7 1-0

Yasser Quesada Perez (2572) –
Aaron Grabinsky (2324) [B50]
St. Louis District Championship
(R2), September 21, 2019

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 dxe5 5.Nxe5 Nbd7 6.Bb5 a6 7.Bxd7+ Nxd7 8.d4 Nxe5 9.dxe5 Qxd1+ 10.Nxd1 b6 11.Bf4 Bb7 12.Ne3 e6 13.0-0-0 b5 14.Bg5 h6 15.Bh4 c4 16.Rd2 Be5 17.Rhd1 0-0 18.Ng4 Rfc8 19.Ne3 c3 20.bxc3 Bb6 21.c4 bxc4 22.Be7 c3 23.Re2 Be4 24.Bd6 Ra7 25.Kb1 Rb7 26.Ka1 Bxe3 27.fxe3 Rb2 28.Rb1 Rxc2 29.Rxc2 Bxc2 30.Rb8 Rxb8 31.Bxb8 Be4 32.g3 g5 33.Bd6 Kg7 34.Bb4 c2 35.Kb2 Kg6 36.Bf8 g4 37.Kc1 h5 38.Kd2 Kf5 39.Bd6 Bd3 40.Ba3 Ke4 41.Bd6 h4 42.Be7 h3 43.Ba3 Bc4 44.Bb2 Bxa2 45.Kxc2 Kxe3 46.Bc3 Bb3+ 47.Kc1 Kd3 48.Ba5 Ke3 49.Bb6+ Kd3 50.Ba5 f5 51.exf6 e5 52.Kb2 Bf7 53.Kc1 Ke2 54.Kc2 e4 55.Bb6 e3 56.Kc1 Kf2 57.Kd1 Kg2 0-1

Kevin Wang (2427) –
Aaron Grabinsky (2339) [A05]
SPICE Cup Open 2019
Saint Louis USA (R8), October 26, 2019

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 b6 3.Bg2 Bb7 4.0-0 c5 5.d3 d5 6.c4 dxc4 7.Qa4+ Qd7 8.Qxc4 Nc6 9.Bg5 g6 10.Nc3 Bg7 11.Rfd1 0-0 12.Qh4 Rfd8 13.Bh3 Qe8 14.Bh6 Bh8 15.Ng5 Rd4 16.e4 Ne5 17.Qf4 Nxd3 18.Qc7 Bc6 19.Ne2 Rd6 20.Nf4 Nxf4 21.gxf4 Qd8 22.Qxd8+ Raxd8 23.Rxd6 exd6 24.e5 dxe5 25.fxe5 Ne4 26.Nxe4 Bxe4 27.Re1 Bd5 28.Rd1 Bxe5 29.Bg2 Bd4 30.Bg5 Rd7 0-1

Aaron Grabinsky (2339) –
Brandon Jacobson (2452) [B06]
SPICE Cup Open 2019
Saint Louis USA (R9), October 27, 2019
1.e4 g6 2.Nc3 Bg7 3.f4 c6 4.Nf3 d5 5.e5

Nh6 6.d4 0-0 7.Bd3 f6 8.0-0 Bg4 9.Ne2 Qb6 10.Kh1 Bxf3 11.Rxf3 fxe5 12.fxe5 Rxf3 13.gxf3 Na6 14.c3 c5 15.Bg5 e6 16.Qd2 Nf7 17.Be3 cxd4 18.cxd4 Nb4 19.Bb1 Nc6 20.h4 Qd8 21.h5 Nfxe5 22.dxe5 Nxe5 23.Bd3 Nxf3 24.Qb4 d4 25.Bf2 Qg5 26.hxg6 Qh5+ 27.Kg2 Ne5 28.gxh7+ Kh8 29.Qxb7 Rf8 30.Ng3 Rxf2+ 31.Kxf2 Nxd3+ 32.Kg1 Qg6 33.Qb8+ Kxh7 34.Kg2 Qf7 35.Rf1 Qd7 36.Ne4 Qc6 37.Rh1+ Bh6 38.Qxa7+ Kg6 39.Qxd4 Nc5 40.Qf6+ 1-0

Zoey Tang wins age 13 and under prize (and more!) at 2019 SPFGI

With apologies for the belated report (your reporter was packing and moving across the country from Kentucky back to Oregon), the Northwest region representatives at the 2019 Susan Polgar Girls' Invitational performed well again this year. Zoey Tang of Oregon and Anne-Marie Velea of Washington each finished within a half point of the tournament winner, Mitzy Caballero of Peru, in the 16th Annual Susan Polgar Foundation Girls' Invitational held June 22-27 on the campus of Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri. Caballero compiled 5.5/6 in the event, finishing a half-point ahead of three other contenders: Arya Kumar of North Carolina, Anne-Marie Velea of Washington, and Zoey Tang of Oregon. Caballero defeated Emily Nguyen of Texas in an exciting final-round battle to take the championship.

The second, third, and fourth place finishers each received a Webster University partial scholarship worth approximately \$18,000 per year for four years, plus a trophy and \$1,170 cash prize. Additionally, Zoey Tang won the \$500 age 13-and-under prize for the second year in a row as well as the "best dressed player" recognition. Cassandra Roshu of Oregon won an upset prize and was presented with the award for best-written essay about the SPFGI experience. Andrea Botez of Oregon (representing Canada) finished with four points. The Idaho representative, Temi Aderogba, finished with a respectable 2.5 points. Three Velea sisters from Washington were invited to participate. In addition to Anne-Marie's second-place finish noted above, Stephanie Velea scored 2.5 and Sophie Velea finished with 1.5 points.

Eleven different countries were represented in this year's event including the United States, with participants from 38 states plus the District of Columbia. The girls competed for \$320,000 in scholarships and cash prizes. The Champion received a Webster University full tuition and fees scholarship worth approximately \$28,500 per year for four years, plus the Champion's Cup and a special SPICE training package valued at \$4,000.

The brilliancy prize of \$100 was awarded to Martha Samadashvili of New York for her round two victory over Omya Vidyarthi. Upset prizes were awarded for each round. In addition to Cassandra Roshu, upset prizes were won by Kate Jiang (Canada), Ayleen Ramirez Toledo (Mexico), Hailey Holmquist (ME), and Viktorija Zilajeva (OK). Since 2003, the Susan Polgar Foundation, through its supporters, donors, and partners, has awarded nearly six million dollars in scholarships and prizes. The 2019 SPFGI was directed by Chief Arbiter Judit Sztaray of California, assisted by Andrei Botez of Oregon.

Zoey Tang (2023) –
Ellen Wang (2120) [A45]
2019 SPFGI (R3), June 25, 2019
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 Ne4 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3

Unusual. Far more common is 4.f3 Qa5+ (4...Nf6 5.dxc5 Qa5+ 6.Nc3 Qxc5 7.e4 is another line.) 5.c3 Nf6 6.Nd2 (6.d5 Qb6 7.Bc1!? is yet another type of position, where White counts on the space provided by her advanced pawns — clearly development isn't the priority,) 6...cxd4 7.Nb3 (7.Nc4!?) 7...Qb6 8.Qxd4 Nc6 9.Qxb6 axb6, and White can choose 10.Be3 (or 10.Nd4.)

4...Qb6 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.bxc3 g6



Position after 6...g6

It isn't immediately clear if Black overlooked the reply, or is in fact inviting the game continuation. 6...e6 seems the normal move here; something like 6...



(L) Susan Polgar, Zoey Tang. Photo courtesy of the Susan Polgar Foundation.

Qb2!? 7.Kd2!? would certainly give the game an independent character.

7.Be5! f6 8.Bg3 Bg7

8...d5!?

9.h4 cxd4 10.exd4

Or 10.cxd4±

10...d5 11.h5 Qe6+ 12.Be2 0-0 13.hxg6 hxg6 14.Nh3 Qc6 15.Qd2

15.Nf4!?

15...Bf5 16.Nf4 g5 17.Nd3

Or 17.Nh5 Nd7 18.Bd3±

17...Na6 18.Nb2!?

18.Rb1 Rac8 19.Rb3; or 18.a4 Rac8 19.Ra3 are other ways to deal with c-file threats.

18...Qe6?!

It would be interesting to know what White intended for 18...Rac8. 19.Nd1 perhaps?(The alternative 19.c4 dxc4 20.Bxc4+ e6 21.d5 is starting to feel a bit stretched, but a refutation doesn't immediately present itself.)



Position after 18...Qe6

19.c4!?

Forcing, but unclear. 19.Nd1! bringing the knight back toward the center and kingside,; or 19.Kf1±, unpinning and waiting, both seem safer alternatives.

19...Qe4

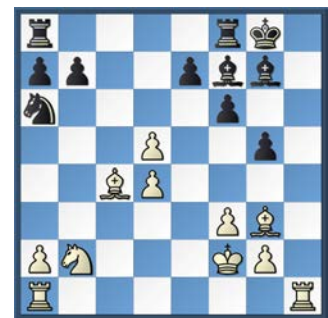
19...Rac8!? 20.c5 Qe4∞

20.f3?!

20.c3! Qxg2 21.Rh2 Qg1+? (21...Qe4 22.f3 Qc2 23.cxd5±) 22.Bf1 White threatens to castle queenside! 22...Bg4 23.cxd5 and Black just can't open lines to the white king before her own queen is toast following maneuvers such as Qe3, Kd2. For example, the attempt 23...e5 24.dxe5 Rae8 runs into 25.d6! Rxe5+ (25...Rf7 26.Qd5 Kf8 27.Kd2 Be6 28.Qa5 fxe5 29.Re1+-) 26.Bxe5 Re8 27.Qd5+ Kf8 28.d7+-

20...Qxc2 21.Qxc2 Bxc2 22.cxd5 Bg6 23.Be4 Bf7 24.Kf2?!?

24.d6!?



Position after 24.Kf2

24...Rfd8

24...Nb4! causes some trouble: 25.d6!?

Rfc8 26.Rac1 a) 26.d7?! Rd8 27.Bxf7+ Kxf7 28.a3 Nd5 29.Nd3; b) 26.dxe7 Rxc4 (26...Bxc4 27.e8Q+ Rxe8 28.Nxc4 Rac8) 27.Nxc4 Bxc4 28.Bd6 Nd3+ 29.Ke3 Re8∞, though the two minors should play a bit better than rook and pawn here.; 26... f5 27.Be5 exd6, and Black may escape the complications with an edge.

25.Rae1 Kf8?!

25...Bxd5

26.d6 exd6 27.Bxf7 Kxf7 28.Nc4 Kg6 29.Nxd6 Rd7

29...Bf8 30.Nxb7 Rxd4

30.f4 gxf4 31.Bxf4 Nb4??

Black chooses entirely the wrong moment to activate the knight. 31...Bf8 32.Nb5 Rc8∞

32.Re3!

Suddenly there's a mating net.

32...Rxd6

32...f5 33.Re6+ Bf6 34.Rh6+ Kg7 35.Nxf5+ Kg8 36.Rexf6

33.Bxd6 Nd5 34.Rg3+ Kf7 35.Rh5 Nb6 36.Rh7 Rg8 37.Bf4 Kf8 38.Rgxf7 Rxf7 39.Bh6 1-0

Martha Samadashvili (2283) – Omya Vidyarthi (1883) [C54]
2019 SPFGI (R2), June 25, 2019

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.0-0 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.c3 a6 7.a4 h6 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.h3 Ba7 10.Re1 Ne7 11.Nf1 Be6 12.Bb3 Ng6 13.Ng3 Qd7 14.d4 c6 15.Be3 Bxb3 16.Qxb3 exd4 17.Bxd4 Bxd4 18.Nxd4 Ne5 19.Rad1 Qc7 20.Qc2 g6 21.Qc1 Kh7 22.Qf4 Ng8 23.h4 Qd7 24.Ndf5 gxf5 25.Qxe5 dxe5 26.Rxd7 f4 27.Nf5 b5 28.a5 h5 29.f3 Rac8 30.Red1 Nh6 31.Ne7 Rce8 32.Nxc6 Re6 33.Nb4 Rg6 34.R1d6 Rg3 35.Nd5 b4 36.c4 Kg7 37.c5 Rb8 38.Rb6 Rc8 39.c6 Ng8 40.c7 Rg6 41.Rxg6+ Kxg6 42.Rd8 Rxc7 43.Nxc7 Ne7 44.Nd5 Nc6 45.Rd6+ Kg7 46.Rxc6 b3 47.Rxa6 1-0

Mitzy Caballero (2090) – Emily Nguyen (2297) [E11]
2019 SPFGI (R6), June 27, 2019

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.b3 Ne4 9.Bf4 c6 10.Qc2 g5 11.Bc1 Bf6 12.Bb2 Bg7 13.Ne5 Nd6 14.Nd2 f5 15.Nd3 Nf6 16.f3 f4 17.g4 dxc4 18.bxc4 b5 19.Ne5 Bb7 20.a4 bxc4 21.Ndxc4 Nxc4 22.Qxc4 Nd5 23.a5 a6 24.Rfc1 Qc7 25.Qd3 Rfd8 26.h4 gxh4 27.Kf2 Qe7 28.Qa3 Qg5 29.Bh3 Rac8 30.Qb3 Rc7 31.Nd3 Bc8 32.Nc5 e5 33.Ne4 Qe7 34.Ba3 Qe6 35.Rh1 exd4 36.g5 Qe5 37.Bxc8 Rxc8 38.Rad1 Qe6 39.Rxh4 Nc7 40.Qxe6+ Nxe6 41.Rdh1 c5 42.Rxh7 Kf7 43.Rb1 Kg6 44.Rhh1 Rc6 45.Rb6 Rdc8 46.Rhb1 Be5 47.Bxc5 Nxc5 48.Nxc5 Kxg5 49.Nd3 Kf6 50.Rxc6+ Rxc6 51.Rb6 Rxb6 52.axb6 Bd6 53.b7 a5 54.Ke1 Ke6 55.Nc5+ Kd5 56.Na6 a4 57.Kd2 Kc4 58.Kc2 a3 59.b8Q Bxb8 60.Nxb8 d3+ 61.exd3+ Kd4 62.Nc6+ Ke3 63.Ne5 Kd4 64.Ng4 a2 65.Kb2 Kxd3 66.Kxa2 Kc2 67.Ka3 Kc3 68.Ka4 Kc4 69.Nh2 Kd3 70.Kb4 Ke2 71.Kc4 Kf2 72.Kd4 Kg3 73.Ke4 1-0



WIM Mitzy Caballero (left, white pieces) faces off against WIM Emily Nguyen (TX) in crucial round six encounter from the 16th SPFGI June 27, 2019 in St. Louis. WFM Anne-Marie Velea of Washington, on board two, can be seen in the background. Photo courtesy of the Susan Polgar Foundation.

2019 Turkey Open

By Mike Murray

Seeded third, I won the 2019 Turkey Open held in Missoula, Montana, November 2-3, with a last round win over top-rated Michael Cambareri of Idaho. Cambareri finished tied for second with fellow Idahoan Griffin Herr and Montana's Will Strickland at 4.0/5. I had four wins and a strategic half-point bye, taken after an exhausting third round win over Herr, where both of us played out the ending with about a minute left (time control was G105, delay 5).

The annual Turkey Open is a venerable Missoula event going back to the early 1980s, always well run in pleasant venues (usually the Grant Creek Inn), and low key. Having grown up in Montana with relatives in Helena, Kalispell, and Roosevelt County, I often take the opportunity to combine a chess tournament with a family visit. This year was my eighth Turkey.

Michael Cambareri (2044) –

Mike Murray (2012) [C64]

Turkey Open Missoula, MT (R5),
November 3, 2019

[Mike Murray]

1.e4 e5

Going into the fifth round, my opponent was leading the tournament with 4-0 while I followed with 3.5 (one half-point bye). So, I had to win to take first. A draw would have landed me in a multiple tie for second. I believe Cambareri also was playing for a win. I assumed he was primed for the Nimzovich Defense, which I essayed the only other time we met (2016 Inland Empire Open). I almost played the French, but went for some really old stuff instead.

2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5

The Classical Defense.

4.c3 f5

The Cordel Gambit. I had prepped this for Dr. Lapiken in the 1967 Montana Open! We met in the last round of that event, but he used the Four Knights instead of the Ruy.

5.Bxc6

A fairly rare sideline. The main line is 5.d4 fxe4 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.Nxe5 Bd6 8.Qh5+ g6 9.Qe2 not going for the capture on g6, (which is, however, playable: 9.Nxg6 Nf6 10.Qh6 Rg8 11.Ne5 Rxc2 12.Bf4 Bxe5 13.Bxe5 Rg6=)

5...dxc6 6.Nxe5 Bd6 7.Qh5+

In for a penny. Evidently, Cambareri is hard to bluff. That can be a strength or a weakness, depending on the position. Superficially, it might seem Black is getting crushed, but, no. The main alternative, 7.d4 Bxe5 8.dxe5 Qxd1+ 9.Kxd1 fxe4 doesn't seem that attractive, but White has some plusses in this position and should be at no great risk of losing.

7...g6 8.Nxg6

In for a pound. White has no choice but to keep charging.

8...Nf6 9.Qh6?!

9.Qh4 is correct. After 9...Rg8 White should play 10.e5 but is still worse after 10...Rxc6 11.exf6 Be6!±

9...Rg8 10.Nh4?

10.Ne5 is better, but it probably loses too.; Obratzov, Y (2111)-Lebedev, S (2217) Nizhnij Novgorod 2007 continued 10.Nf4 Bf8 11.Qh3 fxe4 12.Qe3 Bh6 13.g3 and now Black should have played 13...Bh3-+. After Black missed this, the game was ½-½ (48).

10...Bf8!

The stock move when the queen goes to h6. Here, it's better than usual and White's game falls apart.

11.Qf4

11.Qe3 Ng4 12.Qg3 fxe4 with ...Be7 coming, is crushing.

11...Rg4 12.Qe5+ Kf7!



Position after 12...Kf7

Now Black threatens to win the queen with ... Re5 as well as winning the knight. There is no defense to both threats.

13.f3 Rxh4 14.Qg3 Nh5 15.Qf2 Bd6

Threatening ...Bg3, winning everything in sight. Komodo also likes 15...Nf4 16.Kd1 fxe4 17.d4 exd3 18.Bxf4 Rxf4

16.Kd1 Bxh2

Komodo likes 16...fxe4 but the text is also fine. I wanted the material comfort.

17.g4

I hadn't considered this move and it gave me a start, but after a couple minutes, my nerves settled back down. 17.Kc2 Bg3 18.Qf1 and now simplest is 18...Rxf4 19.Qxh1 Kg6-+

17...Bg3 18.Qf1 fxc4 19.fxc4+ Nf4 20.Rg1

20.Rxf4 Qxh4 is hopeless

20...Bxc4+ 21.Kc2 Be2 0-1

**Happy Holidays
from Northwest
Chess!**

Chess4Life™

- Premium Center Classes
- Private Chess Lessons
- After School Clubs
- Rated Tournaments
- Chess Camps
- Workbooks & Materials

LEARN LIFE | IMPROVE CHESS | HAVE FUN

KIDS@CHESS4LIFE.COM | 425-283-0549 | WWW.CHESS4LIFE.COM

The brand new chess center in Kirkland,
Pacific Northwest Chess Center (PNWCC) is offering -

Weekly Rapid tournaments
on Friday night
(except the week of FIDE Open)

Monthly GM events such
as simul and lectures

Monthly FIDE Open, USCF Open,
G60 Medal, G45 Transformer,
Blitz and Scholastic Open

Many more
interesting events!



PNW CHESS CENTER
Quality Chess for All

Visit their website for details:

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

Seattle Kings vs. Princes Match VII

December 14-15, 2019



Site: Seattle Chess Club, 2150 N. 107th 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: 1st \$250, 2nd \$150, 3rd \$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

Chess Vignette “Yuri”

By Karen Schmidt

On May 5, 2016, also known as “Cinco de Mayo,” I was at Westlake Park in downtown Seattle, playing casual chess. It was a lovely spring day. There were 25 or 30 chess players there...of all ages and from all walks of life. With the exception of myself, they were all males.

I had discovered chess at Westlake a few days earlier that week. I had just finished a game — I believe I won that game. A couple minutes later a good-looking man with a charming accent came over to my table and asked me if I would like to play. I responded, “Of course.” He had a small wooden chess set with him, but I suggested we play on my larger standard vinyl board with classic Staunton pieces. As we were setting up the pieces, he casually remarked, “No women play chess here.” I commented, “Well, that is quite true here in the United States, but if you were somewhere like Russia, there would be a lot of women playing chess.” He looked quite surprised. As we began the game, I could tell he was a skilled player. Making conversation — because I could not place his accent — I asked, “So where are you from?” When he answered “Russia,” I couldn’t help laughing. We proceeded to play, and he won the game.

As we were playing the endgame, another older man came by and asked for “next game.” I said sure; of course he wanted to play the winner of our game. Somehow after our game ended in my loss, the Russian fellow engineered it so that the Croatian had to play me. I am sure he was disappointed, but he was a good sport about it. I played well and somehow managed to get a draw. (Incidentally, the Croatian man has never been willing to play me again.)

My new acquaintance and I sat and talked for an hour or so at one of the many

cafe tables. It appeared that he had led a very interesting life. I learned that he had immigrated to the US from Russia in the 1990s, that he played classical guitar and taught lessons for a living, that he enjoyed reading and literature, and was in fact very well-read. We had quite a lot in common: a love of chess; I play the flute; and I had been in a book group for over twenty years. He also happened to mention something his fortune-teller had told him. I am afraid I looked quite shocked, having never met anyone in my life who had a fortune teller! We exchanged names and phone numbers, and that was the beginning of a great friendship.

Over time and chess games, I learned more about Yuri’s life. His home town was on the far eastern coast of Russia, near Vladivostok, just across a narrow body of water from Japan. He had stayed in the small town of Chehalis, Washington, when he first arrived in the States, and supported himself by playing guitar at small venues, such as restaurants, coffee shops, and banks. Some months later he moved from Chehalis to Seattle, where he began teaching Russian language classes at one of the local community colleges as well as continuing to teach classical guitar.

I learned that Yuri had lived through some terrible traumas as a child and throughout his teenage years. His maternal grandfather had been executed by Stalin’s men in 1938 in his home town. His mother, who was only 22 years old at the time, had begun having extreme bouts of bipolar disorder after the murder of her father. She spent parts of many years in psychiatric hospitals, and Yuri went to live in an orphanage during the periods when his mother was absent from their apartment. He was a gifted student, and he also had intensive chess instruction during these years. His mother was also a guitarist, playing a traditional Russian style seven-string guitar. When she was not in the hospital, she enjoyed playing guitar and singing at home, smoking

cigarettes, telling fortunes (with cards), and visiting with friends and relatives.

At the age of 23, Yuri began attending the well-known Gnessin Academy of Music in Moscow, where he honed his excellent classical guitar skills for several years. After graduation from music school, he taught guitar lessons back in his home town of Khabarovsk.

In the 1990s the atmosphere was oppressive in Russia. Many times there were food shortages, and people were forced to wait several hours in line just to buy a loaf of bread. Buying a bottle of wine was unheard of, unless you were a foreign tourist, in which case you could purchase just about anything at the shops catering to tourists only.

Over the past couple years I have played many chess games with Yuri, almost always losing...but improving my game! He is a high-level player but has never played in a US Chess tournament — so his rating is unknown. Interestingly, his favorite chess player of all time is Bobby Fischer. He is an avid fan of Fischer and enjoys playing and analyzing Fischer’s games — especially those with Boris Spassky in 1972, when Fischer beat the Russian and became World Champion. He and I have played through many of Fischer’s games, using Yuri’s well-worn paperback book written in Russian. I am happy to play through the games, but I am no help when it comes to following along with the analysis in Russian!

Chess at Westlake is always great fun; one meets people from all over the world — mostly local chess players, but sometimes just tourists enjoying the sunshine and the downtown Seattle camaraderie. Be sure to come check out the chess scene at Westlake Park! I have recently learned that in the fall and winter, and in inclement weather, the Westlake chess players move to the second floor of the Convention Center a few blocks away. I plan to visit that chess venue soon!

Orlov Chess Academy
IM Georgi Orlov
2540 US Chess

Offers time-tested program,
challenge and quick progress!

Chess Camps, Tournaments
Chess Classes, Private Lessons

info@chessplayer.com
www.chessplayer.com
(206)-387-1253



20405 123rd Ave NE
Bothell WA 98011

Classes are also available in Las Vegas, Nevada

We train kids with age groups 6 and above.
Monday to Friday 6:30pm-8:00pm
Saturday and Sunday 9am-9pm

Contact: Sridhar Seshadri, Ph 425-492-4176
Email: SSeshadri@srichessacademy.com



An excuse to show this picture!

Did somebody mention Bobby Fischer? (See Karen Schmidt's Chess Vignette on page 24!)

Recently, Sridhar Sheshadri visited Iceland and happened to get his picture taken at the grave of Robert James Fischer.

Here he is on April 11, 2019.

Photo courtesy of Sridhar Sheshadri.

— Editor.

Washington President's Cup

February 15-16, 2020

Highest Finishing WA resident in Open section seeded into the 2021 Washington Invitational

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

Format: 5 Round Swiss. Two Sections. Open and Reserve (U1600).

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

US Chess February 2020 rating supplement will be used to determine pairings and prizes. Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

Prize Fund: \$2,000 (based on 50 paid entries).

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

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

Entry Fee: \$60 if postmarked or online by 02/09, \$70 after 02/09 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs. \$40 play up fee if U1600 playing in Open section.

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

Rounds: Saturday 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 5:30 PM; Sunday 10:30 AM, 3:30 PM.

Byes: Two half-point byes available, request before end of round 2. US Chess and NWC subscription required. Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. NS. NC. W.

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

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

Email: jvictormayer@yahoo.com.

Online Registration: nwchess.com/onlineregistration.

The 2019 Buz Eddy / Glen Buckendorf Memorial Northwest Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator (mevjr54@outlook.com)

The end is nigh. Just three Grand Prix events await in December. These include the Seattle Chess Club Quads (December 14) and Seattle Chess Club Tornado (December 22) in Seattle and the Western Idaho Open (December 14) in Boise. That gives us just a few points available to end the year, with a maximum of five and six in Seattle and six in Boise. Since the SCC quads and the WIO are both on the same day, you can get no more than two events in December. This is the first December in a number of years without a multiplier event.

What's missing from any calculations, of course, is most of the month of November, which had a total of five events, culminating in the Washington Class Championships, which had a 6x multiplier. The SCC Quads from November 2 are already in these standings, but the other four are yet to come, and the last one of the month could shuffle the standings significantly.

I set out this year thinking that I could try to compete for a prize, now that I am semi-retired. I haven't attended as many events as I'd have liked, but enough so that I have lead the Washington Class C for most the year. However, my lead is in jeopardy. I am not going to be able to attend the Washington Class, foregoing that big 6x multiplier. My father's 90th birthday is that weekend, and I have my priorities. Therefore, those chasing me have a golden opportunity to close the gap. The maximum points a person could earn at the Class is 48. My lead is 34. Danger, danger, Will Robinson! (Or Murlin Varner!, to be more precise.) I will strive to make it to as many of the other events as possible, and try to hold on by my fingernails. (I suppose that I could make it easier by winning some of my games, something that didn't happen last weekend.)

The standings below show three new class leaders. In Idaho, Finn Belew took over the top spot in Class D and Darren Su now leads Class E and below. In Washington, Advait V Vijayakumar is the new leader in Class A. Our most active players are Griffin Herr in Idaho, with five tournaments, and Lois Ruff in Washington with 25. Although we do not have any Oregon events this year, we hit the 500 player mark with the Washington Challenger's Cup, October 26-27. Last year we ended with 796 players for the three states, so this compares favorably.

If anyone has a suggestion for a person to be honored in 2020, please send your suggestions to myself or Eric Holcomb. The standings below are current through November 3.

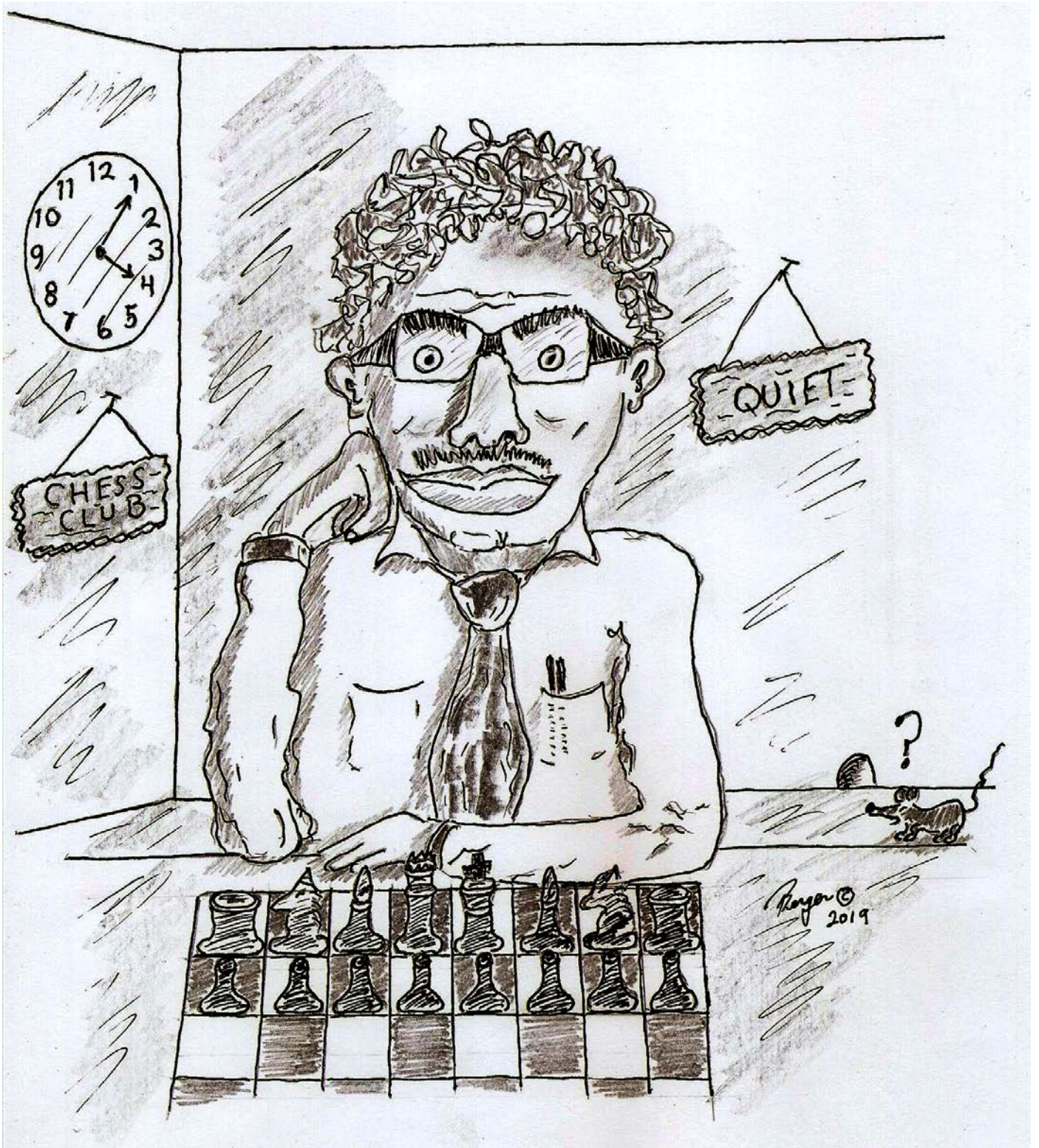
2019 Memorial Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Washington			Other Places						
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	state	pts.			
			Masters									
			1	Pupols	Viktors	140.5	1	Truelson	Joseph	MN	78.0	
			2	Perez	Ignacio	99.0	2	Raptis	Nick	OR	19.5	
			3	Sinanan	Joshua C	58.5	3	Donaldson	W John	CA	18.0	
			4	Schill	William J	53.5	4	Cigan	Jason D	OR	16.5	
			5	Haining	Kyle	48.0						
M/X/Class A			Experts									
1	Cambareri	Michael E	47.5	1	Frantz	Joseph K	115.0	1	Nair	Roshen S	OR	42.0
2	Geyman	Jonathan P	34.5	2	Mahajan	Rushaan	114.0	1	Huang	Patrick W	CAN	42.0
3	Kircher	Caleb P	16.5	3	Casey	Garrett W	102.5	3	Omori	Michael J	HI	36.0
4	Wei	James	16.0	4	Whale	Nicholas M	87.0	3	Tang	Zoey	OR	36.0
5	Bodie	Brad	15.0	5	Anand	Vignesh	83.0	5	Moore	Michael	OR	33.0

Idaho			Washington			Other Places						
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	state	pts.			
Class B			Class A									
1	Herr	Griffin G	39.0	1	Vijayakumar	Advaith	98.5	1	Vega	Isaac	OR	61.5
2	Daigle	Adrian P	18.0	2	Kaelin	Alex	80.5	2	Murray	David E	OR	45.0
3	Roland	Jeffrey T	15.0	3	Lee	Brian	75.0	2	Sripada	Havish	OR	45.0
3	Martonick	Nick	15.0	4	Chen	Aidan	74.5	4	Pitre	H G	CA	36.0
5	Derryberry	Dewayne R	14.5	5	Chang	Eddie	71.5	5	Wu	Abbie	OR	33.0
Class C			Class B									
1	Porth	Adam	27.5	1	Buck	Stephen J	145.0	1	Kodarapu	Ishaan K	OR	51.0
2	Ang	Ching-E N	19.0	2	Anthony	Ralph J	139.5	2	Tang	Austin	OR	36.0
3	Leifeste	Bryce	15.5	3	Lainson	Silas	122.5	2	Lykins	Pace	OR	36.0
4	Price	Joshua J	15.0	4	Gupta	Anand	94.5	4	Qu	Jayden	CAN	33.0
5	Three tied at		11.0	5	Li	Edward	93.0	5	Stacey	Darren	MT	26.0
Class D			Class C									
1	Belew	Finn C	16.5	1	Varner	Murlin E	114.5	1	Yang	Arnold T	OR	48.0
2	Shepard	River C	15.5	2	Chen	Angela Z	80.5	2	Morrissey	Patrick W	OR	39.0
3	Glass	Evan M	14.0	3	Chinni	Rishabh	77.5	3	Lykins	Chad	OR	30.0
4	Merry	William A F	10.5	4	Johar	Mudit	75.0	4	Buckner	Moises H	OR	15.0
4	Bodie	Arlene	10.5	5	Johnson	Cleveland R	74.5	5	Strong	Murray	MT	13.5
Class E and Below			Class D And Below									
1	Su	Darren	19.5	1	Ruff	Lois A	138.0	1	Sripada	Anisha	OR	46.5
2	Porth	Darwin A	14.5	2	Karukayil	Johan	81.0	2	Sripathi	Prajna	OR	39.0
3	Van Law	Quentin	14.0	3	Li	Emma	75.5	3	Rickert	Samuel	CA	33.0
4	Daigle	Micah J	12.0	4	Tatikonda	Ninanth	72.0	4	Morrissey	Christopher	OR	30.0
4	Sherwood	Jax L	12.0	5	Zhou	Leonardo H	70.0	4	Yang	Arthur T	OR	30.0

Overall Leaders, by State

1	Cambareri	Michael E	47.5	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	39.0	2	Pupols	Viktors	140.5	
3	Geyman	Jonathan P	34.5	3	Anthony	Ralph J	139.5	
4	Porth	Adam	27.5	4	Ruff	Lois A	138.0	
5	Su	Darren	19.5	5	Lainson	Silas	122.5	
6	Ang	Ching-E N	19.0	6	Frantz	Joseph K	115.0	
7	Daigle	Adrian P	18.0	7	Varner	Murlin E	114.5	
8	Belew	Finn C	16.5	8	Mahajan	Rushaan	114.0	
8	Kircher	Caleb P	16.5	9	Casey	Garrett W	102.5	
10	Wei	James	16.0	10	Perez	Ignacio	99.0	
11	Leifeste	Bryce	15.5	11	Vijayakumar	Advaith	98.5	
11	Shepard	River C	15.5	12	Gupta	Anand	94.5	



**JOSE'S UNCHANGING, PENETRATING GAZE
WON HIM MANY A GAME.**



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
Nov 2	USCF Beginners Tournament (Canceled)	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.

WCF @ the SCC

Kings vs. Princes

Dec. 14-15

Dec 14, Jan 4

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

Dec 22, Jan 26

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 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.

Saturday Quads

Sunday Tornado

SCC Adult Swiss #4 December 7-8, 2019

A 4-round Swiss open to those born before 12/9/1998 with gtd.

prizes of \$225 (5 per prize group).

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

Time Control: G/120; +30. **Entry Fees:** Free for SCC members. Others — \$10. **Reg.:** 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). NS. NC.

Seattle City Championship

January 17-19 or January 18-19

A two-section, five-round Swiss with a time control of 40/120 and SD/60; d5 (Two-day schedule – Round 1, G/60; d5). The prize fund of \$1010 is based on 52 paid entries, 6 per prize group.

a Northwest Grand Prix event

Championship

First	\$250
Second	\$150
Expert	\$100
Class A	\$80

EF: \$45 (SCC mem.—\$35, \$40—mem. of other NW dues-req'd CCs) by 1/15 \$53 (\$41, \$46) at site; GMs, IMs, WGMs free.

Reserve (U1800)

First	\$140
Second	\$90
Class C	\$70
Class D	\$60
Class E & Under	\$50
Unrated	\$20

EF: \$36 (SCC mem.—\$26, \$31—mem. of other NW dues-req'd CCs) by 1/15, \$4 (\$35, \$40) at site. **Unrateds** free w/purch. 1-yr US Chess & WCF.

Both Sections: Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.

Reg.: Fri. 7-7:45pm, Sat. 9-9:45am.

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

Byes: 2 (Sun. rds, commit at reg.).

Misc.: US Chess & ICA/OCF/WCF memb. req'd. NS. NC.

Upcoming Events

♣ denotes 2019 Northwest Grand Prix event.

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

♣ **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 Portland Winter Open, **Portland, OR.** Full-Page Ad page 15

Dec 14-15 Seattle Kings vs. Princes Match VII, **Seattle, WA.** Full-Page Ad page 23.

♣ **Feb 15-16** Washington President's Cup, Seattle, WA. Half-Page Ad page 25.

Feb 21 IM John Donaldson Simul and Lecture, Spokane, WA. Site: Kress Gallery, River Park Square, 808 West Main, Spokane. Lecture at 6 p.m., Donaldson Simul starts at 6:45 p.m. Fee: \$10 per board (bring your own equipment). Blitz Tournament: 2:30–3:00 registration at Kress Gallery (2nd level River Park Square). Blitz event will end by 6:00. Format depending upon entries.

♣ **Feb 22-23** The 28th Dave Collyer Memorial, **Millwood, WA.** Location: Millwood Presbyterian Church Community Center, 3223 N. Marguerite, Millwood, WA. I-90 Exit 287; north on Argonne Road to light at Euclid; turn left, two blocks. Format: A computer-paired, five-round Swiss System event. Registration: Sat. 9:30-10:30. Rounds: 11-2:30-7; 9-1:30 or ASAP. Time control: Round 1: G/90,d5; Rounds 2-5: G/115,d5. Entry fee: \$28 if received by 2/20, \$35 at the door; under 19 \$5 less. Telephone entries accepted (pay at door). All registrants must check in by 10:40 unless a first-round bye was granted. \$1,800 GUARANTEED prize fund. Class prizes based on at least 5 per class; classes may be reconfigured if less than five class entries. Only one prize per player (excluding biggest upset). NS, NC, W. One ½-point bye available if requested by end of prior round; Sunday bye must be requested by end of round 3. Director reserves the right to use class pairings in final round. PRIZES: First \$350, Second \$225, Third \$125. Class Prizes: Top Expert \$100; \$100 first, \$70 second each in A, B, C, D, and E/unrated. Jim Waugh Biggest Upset prizes: \$100 and \$50 (non-provisional ratings). Entries: Spokane CC, c/o Kevin Korsmo, N. 9923 Moore, Spokane, WA 99208-9339. For information please call (509) 270-1772. Check website for updates: www.spokanechessclub.org.

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

Periodicals Postage

PAID

Seattle, WA



**Happy Holidays from
Northwest Chess!**