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



**GM Timur Gareyev gives
12-board blindfold simul at
the Portland Chess Club**

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NWC Staff

Editor: Jeffrey Roland,
editor@nwchess.com

Games Editor: Ralph Dubisch,
chesscoaching@gmail.com

Publisher: Duane Polich,
publisher@nwchess.com

Business Manager: Eric Holcomb,
eric@holcomb.com

Board Representatives

David Yoshinaga, Josh Sinanan,
Grisha Alpernas, Jeffrey Roland,
Jim Berezow, Chouchanik Airapetian

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

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Selected Best State Magazine/Newsletter in 2014 and 2015 by Chess Journalists of America!

On the front cover:

L-R: GM Timur Gareyev (blindfolded), Henry Romero, Sean Zlatnik, Santiago Tenesaca, Moshe Rachmuth. Photo credit: Mike Morris.

On the back cover:

2015 Run or Bike/Chess Championship held in Newport, Oregon on August 1.
L-R: Geordyn Allyn, Nancy Daily, Bob Allyn, Jordan Henderson, Bill Barrese, Alex Mueller-Warrant, Calvin Parnon, and Jed Wright. "Group start of the run."
Photo credit: Dianne Barrese.

Chesstoons:

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

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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:
editor@nwchess.com

Northwest Grand Prix Administrator

Murlin Varner
13329 208 Ave NE
Woodinville, WA 98072
MEVjr54@yahoo.com
425-882-0102



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Featuring Oregon, Idaho and
Washington Chess News



2015 CJA honorable mention award winner for Best Photojournalism. Photo credit: Adam Porth.

2015 Chess Journalists of America Awards

Northwest Chess has won the award for Best State Magazine/Newsletter for the second year in a row. My understanding is that we compete not only with printed magazines (which are few), but also with online publications (which are many). The panel of judges comes from all over the country. This truly is a great honor. We are one of the last publications to continue not only in printed form, but also on a monthly basis.

We also received an honorable mention presented to *Northwest Chess* and Adam Porth of Bellevue, Idaho for Best Photojournalism for the December 2014 cover of Darwin Porth. I actually had to crop the picture considerably to fit on the cover...I think the original picture is even better, but even the “key hole” view as seen on the cover is quite nice.

I often read old issues of *Northwest Chess* because I like to study the historical aspects of chess in our region. I also like to see other editors’ styles and get ideas for my own issues.

You don’t see a lot of editorial statements or opinions from me. I like to let the work speak for itself, to let people think for themselves, and to let each issue flow naturally based on the material the people want to contribute. There is no set formula for these issues, each one is quite different and unique.

Thanks to great contributions from the people of the Northwest, I truly believe the issues are getting better and better. Let’s keep those contributions of material coming!

— Editor



CJA
Chess Journalists of America

The CJA is proud to present to

Jeffrey Roland, editor

The 2015 Chess Journalist Award for

Best State Magazine/Newsletter

Northwest Chess

Joshua M. Anderson

Chairman CJA Awards Committee

Idaho Chess News

BCC #9 Chess Tournament

The Boise Chess Club (BCC) #9 Chess Tournament was held at All About Games on Overland Road in Boise, Idaho on August 29, 2015. Jeffrey Roland was the Tournament Director. Jeffrey also took pictures and video footage that was made into a video that was posted on YouTube lasting 14 minutes and 15 seconds. See http://youtu.be/YRF_mkBMcVM to view it.

As is always the case with a BCC tournament, everything was completely free, with no memberships or entry fees. The only requirement was that all the players had to have current US Chess memberships so that the event could be officially rated by the U.S. Chess Federation. The time control was game/30 +30 seconds increment per move.

Free entry meant there were also no prizes. The players were not distracted by money. Everyone seemed focused on simply playing chess and enjoyed the competition of good and friendly players in officially rated games over-the-board.

This event turned out to be the biggest BCC tournament to date, doubling the attendance of last month's event



Jean Mikel Etulain.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



Caleb Paul Kircher.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

and setting the new BCC record at 16 players—breaking the previous record of 15 players set on November 22, 2014 at BCC #5. Two players came all the way from Idaho Falls, which is 282 miles away, clear across the southern part of the state.

Caleb Paul Kircher (Nampa, 1840-1879) won the event with a perfect score of 4 points. There was a 3-way tie for 2nd through 4th places between Jarod N. Buus (Nampa, 1723-1747), Nicholas B. Hawkins (Boise, 1671-1692), and David Zaklan (Twin Falls, 1474-1495) each scoring 3 points. Chris Amen (Boise, 1683-1698) was fifth place with 2.5 points.

Tied for 6th-10th places were James Inman (Nampa, 1823-1798), Alex James Machin (Boise, 1692-1675), Andrea Chimenton (Boise, 1901P-1780P), Corey Kenneth Longhurst (Boise, 1503-1481), and Kenneth Sanderson (Boise, 1458-1438) each scoring 2 points.

The Boise Chess Club meets Monday nights at All About Games on Overland Road in Boise, Idaho from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. All are welcome, it's completely free, there is nothing to join, just come and play chess.

**Chris Amen (1683) –
Caleb Paul Kircher (1838) [B01]**
BCC #9 Boise, ID
(R4), August 29, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nxd5 4.d4 Bg4
5.h3 Bh5 6.c4 Nb6 7.Be2 Nc6 8.c5**

8.d5 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Ne5 10.0-0 Nxf3+
11.Qxf3 Nxc4 12.Re1 White has definite compensation for the pawn.

8...Nd5 9.0-0 e6 10.Nc3 Be7 11.g4

11.Qb3± Rb8 (The attempt to win material by 11...Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Nxd4 backfires after 13.Qa4+ Nc6 14.Nxd5 exd5 15.Rd1±, when White either regains the pawn with evident positional advantage, or has continuing highly-favorable gambit play: 15...Bxc5?! 16.Rxd5 Bd6 17.Bg5 intending Re1+.)

11...Bg6 12.Qb3 Na5?

12...a6! 13.Re1 (13.Qxb7?? Na5 traps the queen. This is a tricky idea worth knowing.) 13...0-0 and play is about even.

13.Qa4+ c6??

13...Nc6 14.Ba6! (14.Ne5?! 0-0 15.Nxc6 (15.Nxg6∞) 15...bxc6∞ 16.Qxc6?! Nb4±) 14...bxa6 15.Qxc6+ Kf8 16.Ne5 with a distinct plus for White:



(#Diagram-analysis after 16.Ne5)

16...Nb4 17.Qa4 Qxd4 (17...Nd3 18.Rd1 Nxe5 19.dxe5 Qe8 20.c6±) 18.Nxg6+ hxg6 19.Be3 Qc4 (19...Qe5 20.Qxb4 Rxh3 21.Qf4 Qxf4 22.Bxf4 Bxc5 23.Kg2) 20.a3+-



Position after 13...c6

14.b4??

14.Bd2! wins material.

14...Nxc3 0-1

**Jarod N. Buus (1703) –
Andrea Chimenton (1901) [C42]**
BCC #9 Boise, ID
(R4), August 29, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4
5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Be7 7.Nc3

7.0-0 intending 8.c4.

7...Nxc3 8.bxc3 0-0



Position after 8...0-0

9.h3

I don't see any compelling reason for h3.

Worried about ...Bg4? Don't be: 9.0-0 Bg4?! 10.Rb1 b6 11.h3 Bh5 12.c4 and White has some initiative.

9...c5 10.dxc5!

Taking on tripled pawns, even temporarily, isn't intuitively obvious, but it's the only way White stays fairly level here. 10.Bf4 c4 11.Be2 Nc6±

10...h6

10...Nd7 11.0-0 Nxc5 Black is probably a tiny bit better, and there's no obvious threat to the g5-square or the h7-pawn... So what was ...h6 all about?

11.Ba3

11.0-0?

11...Nd7 12.Qd2

Delaying castling doesn't strike me as much of an attempt to finesse extra from the position. It's more like taking extra risks. 12.0-0 is indicated.

12...Nxc5 13.Bxc5?!

13.0-0 Qc7±

13...Bxc5 14.0-0 Be6

The bishop is a bit of a target. 14...Qd6 15.Nd4 a6, intending to develop the bishop to d7 instead, gives Black a small edge.



L-R: Jarod Buus, Andrea Chimenton
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

15.Nd4 Rc8 16.Rfe1 Qf6 17.Re3 Qg5
18.Qe2 Bxd4

Black seems to have had little in the way of a plan during the last few moves, and any advantage from having the bishop-pair and possible play against doubled, isolated pawns has dissipated.

19.cxd4 Qf6 20.c3 Kh8 21.Rf3 Qg5
22.Qb2 Qe7 23.Re1 Qc7

23...Rc6±

24.Bb1 Qd7 25.Qc2 f5



Position after 25...f5

White's queen maneuvers seem to have had more effect than Black's.

26.Rfe3

26.Re5 Rce8 27.Qe2±

26...Rce8?! 27.Qe2 Bf7 28.Qf3 Rxe3
29.Rxe3 Be6 30.g4?

30.Bc2

30...f4?

30...Rf6∞

31.Re5 g5?

31...Qd6±

32.Qd3?!

32.Qe2! Bg8 33.Re7 Qd6 34.Bf5 looks pretty dominating.

32...Qf7??

32...Rf6 leaves White clearly better, but Black is still in the game.

33.Rxe6 1-0



This picture was taken at the BCC #9 as a belated "victory pose" for Andrea Chimenton winning the ICA Spring Open in Pocatello on April 18. Nobody took any pictures at that event, so few people knew what the new unrated winner of the event looked like. That oversight was corrected here with this picture. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

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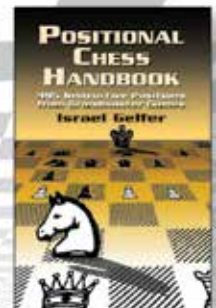
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Oregon Chess News

Miscellaneous Game

Aaron Grabinsky (2338) –

Nick Raptis (2401) [B09]

2015 PCC Summer Open

Portland, OR (R4), July 12, 2015

[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 g6 2.Nc3 Bg7 3.f4 d6 4.Nf3 Nf6
5.d4 c5 6.dxc5 Qa5 7.Bb5+ Bd7 8.Qe2
Nxe4 9.Bxd7+ Nxd7 10.Qxe4 Bxc3+
11.bxc3 Qxc3+ 12.Kf2 Qxa1 13.cxd6
0-0 14.dxe7 Rfe8 15.Re1 Qxa2



Position after 15...Qxa2

16.f5

16.Qd4! Qxc2+ 17.Kg3



(#Diagram-analysis after 17.Kg3)

17...Qc6 (17...Qf5? 18.Bb2 f6 19.Qc4+ Kh8 20.Qf7+- threatening Ng5, e.g. 20...h6 a) 20...h5 21.Rd1; b) 20...g5 21.fxg5 Rg8 (21...Qg6 22.Bxf6+ Nxf6 23.Qxg6 hxc6 24.gxf6; 21...Qc5 22.Bxf6+ Nxf6 23.Qxf6+ Kg8 24.g6 hxc6 25.Qxg6+ Kh8 26.Qf6+ Kg8 27.Ng5) 22.e8Q Raxe8 23.Rxe8 Rxe8 24.Qxe8+ Kg7 25.gxf6+ Nxf6 26.Qe7+ Kg8 27.Bxf6; 21.Rd1 (or 21.Re6 intending Rxf6.) 21...Ne5 22.Nxe5+-) 18.Bb2 f6

[Analysis Diagram top of next column]

19.Ng5! Rac8! (19...h6 20.Re6 Qb5 21.Rxf6) 20.Ne4 (20.Re6? Qc4! 21.Qxd7 fxc5 22.Be5 gxf4+ and Black has weathered the storm.) 20...Rxe7 21.Nxf6+ Qxf6 22.Qxf6 Nxf6 23.Rxe7 Nh5+ 24.Kf3 Rf8 25.Be5 Rf7 26.Re8+

Analysis



(#Diagram-analysis after 18...f6)

Rf8 27.Re7

16...Rac8 17.Re2 Nf6 18.Qh4 Rxc2
19.Bd2 Qb2 20.fxc6 hxc6 21.Kg1 Nh7
22.Qa4 Qb6+ 23.Be3



Position after 23.Be3

23...Rc1+! 24.Kf2 Qc6! 25.Qd4 Rc2
26.Rxc2 Qxc2+ 27.Bd2 Qc6 28.Bb4 Nf6
29.Ng5 Qc2+ 30.Kg1 Qc1+ 0-1

GM James Tarjan at Politiken Cup

By James Tarjan

In late July and early August of 2015, I traveled to Helsingør, Denmark and played in the 2015 Politiken Cup. Held since 1979, the current version is a 10 round Swiss, open to all. This year had the largest participation ever, 429 players, all in one big Swiss tournament. The venue was Konventum, an attractive convention center set in the countryside about a mile from the center of Helsingør. The room I stayed in was small and spartan, yet entirely functional, like a very well maintained college dormitory. But the public spaces: the dining room, meeting rooms, sitting rooms, billiards room, exercise room, sauna, etc., all these were really quite lovely, built in an elegant Danish Modern style. The grounds and surrounding area are also very scenic. There is a golf course

adjacent, and a forested nature preserve close by. From the windows of the dining room one views the Oresund, and the shore of Sweden beyond. There is some sort of connection between Konventum and the Danish contemporary art scene. The walls are covered in various styles of contemporary art, and sculptures adorn the grounds outside. Even a modern art skeptic such as I found some of the art intriguing. The buffet style meals were excellent.

Someone looking for a European chess vacation would do well to consider the Politiken Cup. This would be particularly true for someone rated, say, 1900 to 2200, though much stronger players would find plenty of competition. Many of the big European opens are more geared to masters. Someone with a strength of 2000, let us say, will find themselves in a separate section from the top players. At this year's Politiken Cup, a FIDE 2200 rating would put you at 89th at the start. 1900 put you at number 245, still almost in the middle, with plenty of stronger (and weaker) competition, depending on how things go.

(You would not need a FIDE rating to play: the organizers are happy to estimate your strength based on your USCF rating.)

Politiken is the name of a major Danish newspaper which has been sponsoring the tournament for decades.

One round was played each day, with one exception. On the second day of the tournament, two rounds were played. So, ten rounds in nine days, Saturday to the following Sunday. No alternate, accelerated schedules, to my knowledge no half point byes. Everyone playing the same schedule.

One side effect of this one-round-a-day schedule is that there is always time after the game for as detailed and prolonged a post-mortem analysis as the players have the inclination for. I like the post mortem. There were dedicated rooms for this purpose, always filled with the din of analysis. If all the sets were taken when one happened to finish one's one game, then one moved on to the other sitting areas, or outside on the patio. All available surfaces are covered with chess sets, and eventually an available one is found.

Sets, boards, and clocks were provided

for all the players. Most remarkable to me were the number of those rather expensive electronic sets and boards. The top 59 boards used electronic boards, pieces, and clocks, so the games could be transmitted live over the Internet, and friends back home could watch live. Some of mine were watching.

Let me talk about my chess, and then I want to share a couple of games.

I was rated 23rd and, of course, my hope was to have a chance to play the higher rated players, or at least those close to my own rating. However, with over 400 players, in one big section, those of you familiar with Swiss System pairings will understand that before I could earn that privilege I would need to defeat a number of lower rated players. I am very much aware that for me, at this point in time, there are no easy opponents. They were playing good chess, at least some of them. A pattern emerged: I won with White, and drew with Black. This does not sound so bad and, indeed, things certainly could have been much worse. (Two of those I drew with, 15-year-old Eivind Olav Risting of Norway and 16-year-old Ravi Haria of England, achieved international master title norms in the event.) However, this alternate winning and drawing was not likely to propel me to the top. The best at the top were displaying their skills most impressively, winning all their games, White or Black. I watched it being done, but could not quite manage it myself. After four rounds such stars as Markus Ragger, Daniel Naroditsky, Tiger Hillarp-Persson, Jan Timman, and others had won all four games.

Then the top players began to be paired with each other. They started to draw or even lose to each other. And some of the rest of us could catch up: with 429 players in one section, people can jump up from below with a victory or two.

My pattern continued to the ninth round: five wins with White, four draws with Black. I can't recall ever having such a symmetrical performance. Finally, in the very last round, I was paired up. With Sune Berg Hansen, grandmaster. Winner of the 2015 Danish Championship, and of many prior Danish Championships. My symmetrical performance of wins and draws came to an end. Although, as you will see below, I had my chances.

**Jim Tarjan –
Peter Thorsbro [A21]**

Politiken Cup (R5), July 28, 2015
[Tarjan,James]

1.c4 f5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 e5 4.d4

It makes positional sense for White to

try to force some change in the pawn structure right away, even at the cost of spending time moving his queen around.

4...exd4 5.Qxd4 Nc6 6.Qd1

6.Qe3+ was played in a very similar position by Gelfand (White had played Bg2 instead of Nc3). Gelfand-Shirov, Tilburg Fontys, 1996. Gelfand won the game, and in his notes gives 6.Qe3+ an "!" : White aims to force Black's bishop to a more passive square on e7, or otherwise disrupt Black's development. During the game with Thorsbro I was already on my own, and simply bringing the queen back to d1 was my intention. If both sides continue developing normally, White hopes to claim a positional advantage based on the square d5 and Black's drafty kingside. White's N will ideally develop Nh3 to f4.

6...Bb4

This aggressive placement of the bishop certainly looks right.

7.Bd2

To prevent the weakening of White's pawn structure, but ideally this bishop would have preferred to be aiming down the long diagonal on b2.

7...0-0 8.Bg2 Ne4



Position after 8...Ne4

White has postponed his development, though, as explained above, if nothing dramatic happens over the next few moves, White will get his king safely castled on the kingside and hope for a long-term advantage. So, Black decides to "strike while the iron is hot." During the game I could not quite believe this was correct play, and hindsight does not change my opinion. Nonetheless, Black's reasoning is quite typical. As he explained to me after the game, rather than be ground down slowly and methodically (as he apparently assumed would happen under normal circumstances, facing a much higher rated player) better to throw caution to the wind and play gambit style. And, he noted, his opponent did not play for 30 years; perhaps his tactical skills are a tad rusty? At least on this particular occasion, I passed the test.

9.Nxe4 fxe4 10.Bxb4

10.Bxe4 is the alternative. My thought was that after: 10...Qf6 11.Nf3 Qxb2 12.0-0 Bxd2 White's advantage is less convincing.

10...Nxb4 11.Bxe4 Qf6 12.Nf3

Now, if 12...Qxb2 13.O-O Black is in trouble, with his N and Q dangling out in space and subject to attack. Therefore, Black might as well continue in his gambit style.

12...d5 13.Bxd5+



Position after 13.Bxd5+

Here 13.cxd5 is certainly a good option; my computer seems to prefer it. But the position is more messy. White must deal with moves such as 13.cxd5 Bh3.

13...Nxd5 14.Qxd5+ Kh8 15.0-0

So I am able to castle. Even if our computer programs don't mind more unique methods of achieving king safety, humans, especially those raised in the old school, find comfort in the traditional castled king. Black is two pawns down. His bishop may cause some discomfort around White's kingside. The pawn on b2 is hanging, and White's queen may well be chased around. But all in all, it is hard to believe that Black will accomplish more than winning back one pawn at the cost of trading queens or otherwise losing his initiative.

15...Bh3 16.Rfe1 Rae8 17.Rad1 Qxb2?



Position after 17...Qxb2

Now the tactical tide, as well as the material one, turns against Black. He had to try something like 17...c6 or 17...h6.

18.Ng5

30 year gap or no, this I will not miss.

18...c6 19.Nf7+ Rxf7

I trust I need not spell out to the readers the continuation after 19...Kg8.

20.Qxf7 Qe5 21.Rd3

Threatening 21.Re3 and setting up the conclusion.

21...Qe4 22.Qxe8+ 1-0

Sune Berg Hansen –

Jim Tarjan [E14]

Politiken Cup (R10), August 2, 2015

[Tarjan,James]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.e3

I was glad to see my opponent choose this. To Hansen, it is an old system he is reviving, but to me it seems contemporary as it was popular 30 to 40 years ago. At least I had some idea what to do, and some experience to fall back upon.

4...Bb7 5.Bd3 Be7

In the post mortem Hansen recommended instead 5...d5, with the idea of following with 6...Bd6.

6.Nc3 d5 7.0-0 0-0 8.cxd5 exd5 9.b3 Nbd7 10.Bb2 c5 11.Rc1 Bd6

So Black has spent an extra tempo getting his bishop to this active square. A standard sort of hanging pawn position. Many players will prefer White, with Black in danger of quickly losing the c- or d-pawn to some combination of moves. In the long run, White can look forward to playing against a pawn target or two in the center.

12.Qe2 a6 13.Rfd1 Qe7 14.Bf5

White threatens 15.Bxd7 winning a pawn or otherwise messing Black up.

14...Rad8

And this meets the threat.

15.Bh3

White found nothing better than to reposition his bishop, rather circuitously, back to g2.

15...Rfe8 16.g3 c4!?



Position after 16...c4

Seizing the moment to liven things up and obtain counterplay. Tactically, this is based on the fact that the N on f3 is only guarded by the queen, and thus the c4 pawn is indirectly protected, for now.

And Black has the clear plan of following with ...b5, unleashing a pawn onslaught on the queen side. The evaluation of such positions often rests on whose pieces are properly placed, and, at this moment, White's seem a bit misplaced. Nonetheless, in my mind I hear the voice of my training partner John Watson: "Jim, don't you know that center pawns are stronger than wing pawns?" White's e3-d4 pawn bastion is a positional asset that should not be underestimated.

17.bxc4 dxc4 18.a4

White inhibits ...b5, and hopes within a few moves to simply win the c4 pawn. So Black plays to exchange the Nc3, to follow with ...b5.

18...Nd5

Hansen suggested the alternative method of exchanging the Nc3: 18...Bb4. Black has to exchange bishop for knight, but the B on d6 was not doing much anyway, and Black gets in his ...b5. The resulting position is very complicated. However, my 18...Nd5 need not have turned out badly, as we will see.

19.Nxd5

Houdini plays instead 19.Nd2, with complicated lines it judges to be approximately equal.

19...Bxd5 20.Rxc4



Position after 20.Rxc4

Hansen had prepared this exchange sacrifice, which, as far as he was concerned, refuted my play. Even if White only gets back one pawn for the exchange (at least right away) his B on h3 becomes a fabulous piece. And the center pawns indeed show their strength. However, Black has a tactical resource which completely flips the evaluation. At least it would have, had I seen it.

20...Qe4

If Black is going to miss what you're about to see, then he ought to play 20...Bxc4 21.Qxc4 b5 22.axb5 Rb8. This is much better for Black than as the game went, though White's center pawns and two bishops apparently give White the edge.

21.Bg2 Bxc4?

21...Ne5! Towards the end of our post mortem, one of the commentators of the live broadcast came to us and showed Hansen and me this move. "Jim, you were thinking a long time here, we assumed this was your idea." Hansen and I, stared dumbfounded at the board. After 21...Ne5! White must play 22.dxe5 Bxc4, then White moves his queen to e1 or d2, and Black moves his attacked bishop from d6. White has a pawn for the exchange, but now his center pawns are broken up. Black is clearly better, and it is White who must struggle to make a draw. And my opening, and my play up to this point, looks fine.

22.Qxc4 b5?



Position after 22...b5

By this point I had seen Qxf7+ coming. I should have adjusted to a difficult position and put up a better fight. This move, and my next, are far from the best. Here 22...Qe6 is most resourceful.

23.axb5 Rc8?

23...axb5 should be played. White can play his combination with 24.Qxf7+, but Black is better off than in the game. Hansen said he intended 24.Qxb5, with a clarified position clearly in White's favor. However, then there is still chess to be played; White would have to carefully time the advance of his pawns, and Black can resist.

24.Qxf7+ Kxf7 25.Ng5+ Ke7 26.Nxe4 axb5 27.Nxd6 Kxd6 28.Ba3+

White's bishops are too strong, and Hansen knows precisely what to do with them.

28...Kc7 29.Rb1 Rb8 30.e4 Ra8 31.Bb4 Nb6 32.e5 Rad8 33.Rc1+ Kb8 34.Rc6 Nc4 35.Ra6 Kc7 36.Ra7+ Kc8 37.f4 Kb8 38.Bc5 Ne3 39.Bc6 Re6 40.Bxb5 g6 41.Bd7 1-0

2015 Run or Bike/ Chess Championship

By Bill Barrese

On August 1, 2015 the seventh Bike or Run/Chess Championship was held in Newport, Oregon. The previous six



(L-R): Lon Brusselback and Brumas Newstead at the start of a two- person bike heat. Bill Barrese is keeping time. Photo credit: Dianne Barrese.

championships were shared by two men, Calvin Parnon won the first three and Alex Mueller-Warrant won the last three. Both showed up for this year's event and most people thought that the tie would be broken when one of them won this year's event. The question was which one would it be?

The question was answered after the fifth round of chess. Neither won the championship. Instead the clear champion this year was Brumas Newstead. Brumas is an avid cyclist from Seattle. He said that he had read about the event last year and really liked the concept. Then, this year when he found out the championship was opened up to bicycles, he said he just couldn't resist.



Group playing chess.
Photo credit: Dianne Barrese.

miles on a bike is equivalent to the one mile that the runners traditionally do to determine their opponents time in chess. His bike time subtracted from 25:00 gave him a "run or bike rating" of 18:41 or 1841. This was averaged with his "chess rating," 1698, to give him a "Total Rating" of 1770. This "total rating" is entered into the computer as "rating" and is used for pairing. 1770 was the top "total rating" this year.

Newstead finished the five rounds of chess a clear champion with 4 ½ points. He won four rounds and drew past champion Calvin Parnon, from Corvallis. Calvin finished with 3 ½ points and tied for second place overall with Lon Brusselback, the first person from Lincoln County to place in the top three ever.

Other trophy winners were Jordan Henderson from Coquille for Top High School, Bob Allyn from Salem for "Second Place Over 50," Nancy Daily from Coquille for "Top Female," and Geordyn Allyn from Salem for "Top Middle School".

Newstead burned up the track and recorded a time of 6:19 for the 2.12 miles bikers were required to do. That turned out to be the fastest time bike or run and meant that each opponent he would face in the five rounds of chess that would follow would only have 6:19 for the entire game.

Since this was the first year for cyclist, the distance they are required to go was a point of interest. It was determined using the ratio of world's best times that 2.12

The organizer of the event, Bill Barrese, was extremely pleased with the quality and competitiveness of this year's Championship and he was happy that the biking went well. He just wishes that more people would participate.

"I started this when I was a scholastic chess coach and I wanted to stress to the kids that exercising your body is as important as exercising your mind. It



Bill Barrese (left) handing Brumas Newstead the "First Place" trophy.
Photo credit: Dianne Barrese.

is meant to be a fun event. Besides the large first place trophy, we award many small trophies for grades, age groups, and whatever else we can think of. I keep threatening to award one to “Top With A Replaced Knee” so I can win one! I just want a lot of people to come out and have fun!”

My First US Open

By Jake Winkler

It was blistering hot, 103 degrees, when our plane landed in Phoenix Arizona on August 5, 2015! I came to play chess in my first US Chess Open and I was ready to give it my all. What I soon realized was that there were 11 GM’s included in the 496 chess players from around the nation. I knew the competition would be intense. Among the players, I was happy to see some familiar faces from Portland including Carl Haessler, Yogi Saputra, and Gavin Zhang.

The tournament was held at the Arizona Biltmore Hotel in the McArthur Conference Center. The tournament ran from August 1st through the 10th. I opted to play the 4-day version which I will not do again due to the shorter time controls on the first games. Frank Lloyd Wright



Jake Winkler. Photo credit: Tawni Winkler.

influenced much of the design throughout the many acres of the amazing property. I mention this because I have played in a lot of chess tournaments, but never one at a hotel that was so aesthetically interesting. I think there were actually nine swimming pools scattered throughout the property! I only had time to go swimming twice though since I was busy playing chess.

Overall I had a really great experience at the US Open. Although I didn’t come up on top in the tournament nor my rating class, I still learned a lot from my games and improved a lot in the tournament. I played multiple players who were significantly higher-rated than me, and in a couple of games I was disappointed I didn’t walk away with a win. My final score was 4/9, which is a reasonable score seeing that I am playing against players much higher-rated than me, in some cases by over 400 points. I feel like if I had another shot at it, I might end up with a higher score. The winner of the whole US Open Tournament was Alexander Shabalov, a 2600-rated player who ended the tournament with a solid 8.5/9 points.

August 2015 PCC Quad/45 & PCC Saturday Blitz

By Brian Berger

Perfect chess playing weather was in the forecast for the Portland Chess Club’s Quad 45 and Blitz tournaments, both tournaments running back-to-back at the

club house on August 15th. Missing was Assistant TD Mike Lilly, who, with Chief TD Micah Smith, made up the team of Mike & Mike—popular TDs who have made these 3rd Saturday of the month tournaments a much awaited event.

As has been noted in the previous issue of *Northwest Chess*, Mike Lilly had to call a halt to his TD activities due to health and other considerations. So, acting as a surrogate Mike Lilly, this reporter gave Chief TD Micah Smith a hand during the registration process, and somehow managed not to foul-up the works.

For whatever reason, this month’s Quad 45 did not draw as large a playing field as has been seen in the recent past, 13 participants being the final count as game time neared. Not wanting an uneven number to interfere with the pairings, Micah offered to be the 14th player. The final format became two quads, with the six lowest rated players contesting in a Small Swiss. And one would expect, based on the ratings, that Micah’s expert rating would have assured his dominance in Quad 1, whose next highest rated player was in the low 1700s, but such was not the case.

What WAS the case, was that Micah had stepped into a nest of rating-sucking vipers, at least two of whom, Karl Stump (1633-1651) with a draw, and Jack Woo McClain (1562-1598) with a win, inflicted enough damage to drain nearly 30 points from his pre-tournament, (2048-2019) rating. And though Ethan Wu (1727-1729) tried, but could not sink his fangs



(L) Erin Cheng vs Daniel Anderson.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Micah Smith vs Karl Stump.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

into Micah, even he managed to add a couple of points to his rating, leaving Micah to wonder why he had volunteered to be the 14th player. Surprisingly, all four players tied for first place, each with a score of 1.5.

Quad 2 saw John Anderson (1257P-1397P) post a 2.5 score, just edging out Brian “Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1558-1555), who managed to finish with 2.0 points in a two draw, one win ending, by holding Anderson to a draw—not a mean feat, considering Anderson’s provisional rating belies his real playing strength, as



Kushal Pai wins a trophy in the six player Swiss. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

does the rating of Nicholas Brown (1466-1461), who turned in 1.5 points after returning to the tournament scene many years beyond his last rated game. It will be no surprise to soon see these two in the 1600s.

The Small Swiss was led by the young Kushal Pai (1138-1160) with two wins and a draw, the draw, surprisingly (and not surprisingly), coming in the first round against the last place finisher Erin Cheng (930-917). Erin and her sister Megan Cheng (954-945), are new to USCF-rated tournaments, but both have shown a disciplined approach to their games, and Megan’s tie for fourth with Seth Chaffee (1196P-1136P) at 1.0 each, and Erin’s sixth place finish in this tournament, only indicate they came upon some very stiff competition in the persons of Pai, Chaffee, Daniel Anderson (1133P-1108P) and Hadrian Demaoribus (573P-883P), the last two tying for second place with 2.0s.

Although Micah Smith found himself in trouble in the Quad 45, he eclipsed a tough competitive field of 10 players in the Blitz tournament held immediately after the Quads by scoring a 9.0 in the 10 rounds. He was dogged by his stiffest competition, Benedict Smail (2087-2078), who finished with a 7.5 and is a Master player who has just moved into the area from Wisconsin and holds a regular rating of 2245.

Ethan Wu (1712P-1716P), showed he could hold his own with some of the Big

Boys by coming in third with 6.0 points, followed closely by three players who tied for fourth with 5.0s—Moshe Rachmuth (1908P-1861P), Jeff Austin (1745-1759 and Nicholas Brown (1449P-1436).

We are hoping that Mike Lilly will one day feel well enough to return to TDing, if only for occasional tournaments, as Micah Smith and the Portland Chess Club miss him already.

August 2015 PCC G60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—August 29, 2015

You would think that two days of intense chess at the Vancouver Open would be an excuse to rest up and recharge the neurons and ease the information flow thru the dendrites—apparently not. Throw in some cooler, rainy weather, offer four games with a 60 minute time control, and the Portland Chess Club looked like a miniature Vancouver, with many of the same faces seen at the larger event.

Perhaps they were looking for the satisfaction that eluded them in the Open, or perhaps they did well over the two days and, buoyed by their victories, believed they were on a roll to ratings nirvana. Whatever the reasons, a 31-player field made this month’s Game 60 a well-attended tournament. And in attendance were such luminaries as Nick “The Raptor” Raptis (Oregon State Champion—2377-2376), fresh off a tie for first with Jason Cigan in the Vancouver Open; Becca Lampman (Girls Under 18 National Champion—2129-2136); and of course, Morgan the Dog, who finds the Portland Chess Club a venue that is dog-friendly, filled with people who have followed his famed adventures, and are willing to scratch his chin, rub his tummy, slip him treats, and in general treat him in the manner a dog of his status deserves.

Once again the large turnout necessitated a two-section event, the upper level



The Portland Chess Club.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Moshe Rachmuth vs Steven Witt.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

players' section containing 16 entrants, the lower 15. As has been my luck of late, my latest rating had fallen low enough that I was deemed unworthy to play with the Big Boys; instead, I, Brian Berger (1530-1519), along with Masakazu Shinada (1552-1549), Mike Hasuike (1523-1500) and Arliss Dietz (1518-1500), were thrown in with the low and unrated (meaning under-rated!) munchkins of little-mercy, and other underrated poseurs—in effect, to just fight to not lose more rating points.

And so, pitted against said antagonists, the four of us fought bravely, parrying pawn thrusts and ducking bishop barrages, but to little avail. Even posting 3.0/4 as Shimada and I did, against the eventual winner, Jeremy Grove (1400-1492) with his 3.5 points (earning him the top prize of \$65), lowered our ratings. Our only compensation was to share a three-way tie for second with Marcus Leung (1340-1417), the prize for which amounted to

\$11.67 each—money I am in no hurry to spend, as I need it for part payment on the next Game 60, so that I can lose more rating points.

Capturing the last of the Lower Section prize fund were Matthew Witt (711P-871P) and Kushal Pai (1160-1224), tying for first U1400 with 2.5s, each walking away \$25 richer and many rating points happier.

As was expected, the Upper Section first place winner was Nick “The Raptor” Raptis—but barely. It seems that Becca Lampman had ideas of her own on who should collect the \$80.25 being offered, and so set about giving “The Raptor” near heart failure in a hard-fought game in which, at one point, she had a queen after the trading of some minor pieces, threatening to use its greater mobility to do “The Raptor” some major damage.

But “The Raptor” has not earned his



Morgan the Dog acts as an arm rest for Jerrold Richards.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

rating and reputation by meekly submitting to what others would think inevitable, and in a nicely orchestrated use of his black knights, took Lampman's queen off the board, which led to her immediate resignation. And though it is little compensation for Lampman now, in a discussion I had with Raptis a couple of days later, he pointed out that Lampman still had good drawing possibilities, but at the time, was probably too traumatized to see them.

As if one scare was not enough to put the Raptor's win in jeopardy, Steven Witt (1882-1903), for the second time in a row, battled “The Raptor” to a draw in the second round, leaving “The Raptor” with a final score of 3.5 points, and with the understanding that there are a lot of young-guns out there, all looking to make a reputation for themselves by



Waiting for pairings.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Carl Haessler Chess Master

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



besting the best, and that even the best can be wounded by lesser opponents if he continues to take on all comers.

Last of the Upper Section money was portioned out three ways, in a tie for second place, with Becca Lampman, Michael Goffe (1935-1956) and Ethan Wu (1758-1820), posting 3.0 points each, and each the recipient of \$26.75.

Lennart Bjorksten, Chief TD, is to be commended for running a smooth tournament, I believe his first nearly entirely on his own, helped along by Assistant TD Mike Morris.

GM Timur Gareyev Blindfold Simul

By Brian Berger

I saw something wonderful, near magical, happen at the Portland Chess Club the night of [September 3rd](#)—and I was a participant in it. It was a young man (27) dressed in casual attire, sporting a rather unusual hair style, who had come to demonstrate his ability at blindfold chess.

Known to the chess world as GM Timur Gareyev, he has made a name for himself giving blindfold exhibitions at many venues, and is rated among the elite of grandmasters, with a current USCF rating of 2656, down somewhat from a high of 2766.

Born in Uzbekistan in 1988, Gareyev is a graduate of the University of Texas



*Seth Talyansky (left) and Mu Lin (right). These two players drew against the Grandmaster.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

at Brownsville, and currently lives in Southern California, where he teaches chess. His goal for a number of years has been to beat the world record for games played and won while blindfolded, a goal he is quickly closing in on, as witnessed by a 33-board simul he gave in St. Louis, in which he won 29 games and drew four— his eventual goal being to play against 50 players, with the hope of defeating at least 40 of them.

This night, however, were gathered a more modest assemblage, 12 players of

various ratings, who dreamed of adding a Grandmaster victim to their list of chess accomplishments.

That he was playing blindfolded, was just icing on the cake...or so they thought. Many of those signed on to play I'm sure had heard of such players as Gareyev, but few, I would guess, had ever had the experience of watching, or participating in such an event. It would be an experience few would be apt to forget, and was a lesson in the wonders' of the human brain, and what it means to be really excellent at something.

I believe chess is an artistic expression of man's search for beauty and perfection in this life, as surely as painting, sculpture, architecture, or any other of the various art forms that fulfill some deeper longing, or sense of aesthetic pleasure; one that transcends the mundaneness of our daily task of just maintaining our corporeal being. I know it has proven so to me.

And so I was excited to observe first hand a man who has devoted his life to exploring the depths of what can be achieved by training his inner vision to see more acutely, and melding that with his exceptional gift for chess. And I can tell you, no one that night was disappointed, as hour by hour passed and the playing field was slowly whittled down to a die-hard few, who must have felt that their very thoughts were being read before they themselves could visualize them—the outcome of which, after six and a half hours of play, coming to 10 wins and two draws.



*Gareyev in thought.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



*A view of GM Gareyev concentrating.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

As for GM Gareyev, he looked as fresh as when he had first sat down and placed a blindfold over his eyes, in contrast to most of the players, many of whom (including myself) felt, and looked, as if they had crammed two days of chess into those six-plus hours.

Two to walk away with something to tell their peers were Mu Lin (1667) and Seth Talyansky (2040), both finding a way to draw against this amazing Grandmaster. Both are fast-rising young players who, after this experience, might themselves explore the mysteries of blindfold chess, perhaps finding in the process new ways to improve their own inner visions.

Making up the balance of the playing field were Henry Romero (1208P), Sean Zlatnik (1575), Santiago Tenesaca (1824P), Moshe Rachmuth (1883), Brian Berger (1519), Elias Stern-Rodriguez (2047), John Anderson (1397P), Jerry Sherrard (2053), Dave Murray (1840), and Jeff Austin (1891). And although Sean Zlatnik did not score against

GM Gareyev, I was told that Gareyev recommended including Zlatnik's game in any report about the simul, as he felt it was perhaps the best game of the evening. How about them apples, Sean?

Lastly, thanks must go to Lennart Bjorksten and Mike Morris for their help in organizing this fantastic display of chess legerdemain, and to the man himself, GM Timur Gareyev, for a memorable performance.

Sean Zlatnik – Timur Gareyev [A03]

PCC 12-board Blindfold Simul
Portland, OR September 4, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.f4 d5 2.Nf3 g6 3.e3 Bg7 4.Be2 c5
5.0-0 Nc6 6.d3 Nf6 7.Ne5 Bd7 8.Nc3 d4
9.Nxd7 Nxd7 10.Ne4 0-0 11.Qe1 dxe3
12.c3 e6 13.Bxe3 b6 14.g4 Ne7 15.Qg3
Qc7 16.Qh4 Rae8 17.Rf3 Qc6 18.Rh3**

[Diagram Next Column]

18...h5



Position after 18.Rh3

18...h6 is not a big improvement. 19.f5! exf5 20.Bxh6! fxe4 21.dxe4! leaves White with a strong attack for the piece: 21...— **a)** 21...Nf5 22.gxf5 Rxe4 23.Bf4 Rfe8 24.Bf3; **b)** 21...c4 22.Rf1 f5 23.Bxg7 Kxg7 24.Qh6+ Kf7 25.exf5 Qc5+ (25...gxf5 26.Rxf5+! Nxf5 (26...Nf6 27.Bxc4+!) 27.Qxc6+—) 26.Re3 Rh8 (26...gxf5 27.Qh7+ Kf6 28.g5+ Kxg5 29.Qg7+ Ng6 30.h4+ Kxh4 31.Qh6#) 27.fxg6+ Kg8 28.Qf4 Rf8 29.Qe4 with favorable complications.; **c)** 21...Qxe4 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Qh6+ Kf6 24.Rf1+

Nf5 (24...Ke6 25.Re3) 25.gxf5 and White should win.

19.Rf1?

Better is the natural 19.gxh5. Yes, it gives up f5 to a knight — but it wins a pawn. 19...Nf5 20.Qf2±

19...f5! 20.Ng5 fxe4 21.Bxe4 Nf5 22.Bxf5?!

22.Bf3!??

22...exf5 23.Qf2 Nf6 24.Qc2 Ng4 25.Bf2?!

25.Bc1±

25...Bf6

25...Bh6

26.d4

26.Nf3

26...Bxe4 27.fxe4 c4

27...Re4!?

28.Rg3 f4 29.d5

[Diagram top of next column]

29...fxg3! 30.dxc6 gxf2+ 31.Kh1 Re1 32.Qxg6+ Kh8 33.Qxh5+ Kg7 34.Kg2



Position after 29.d5

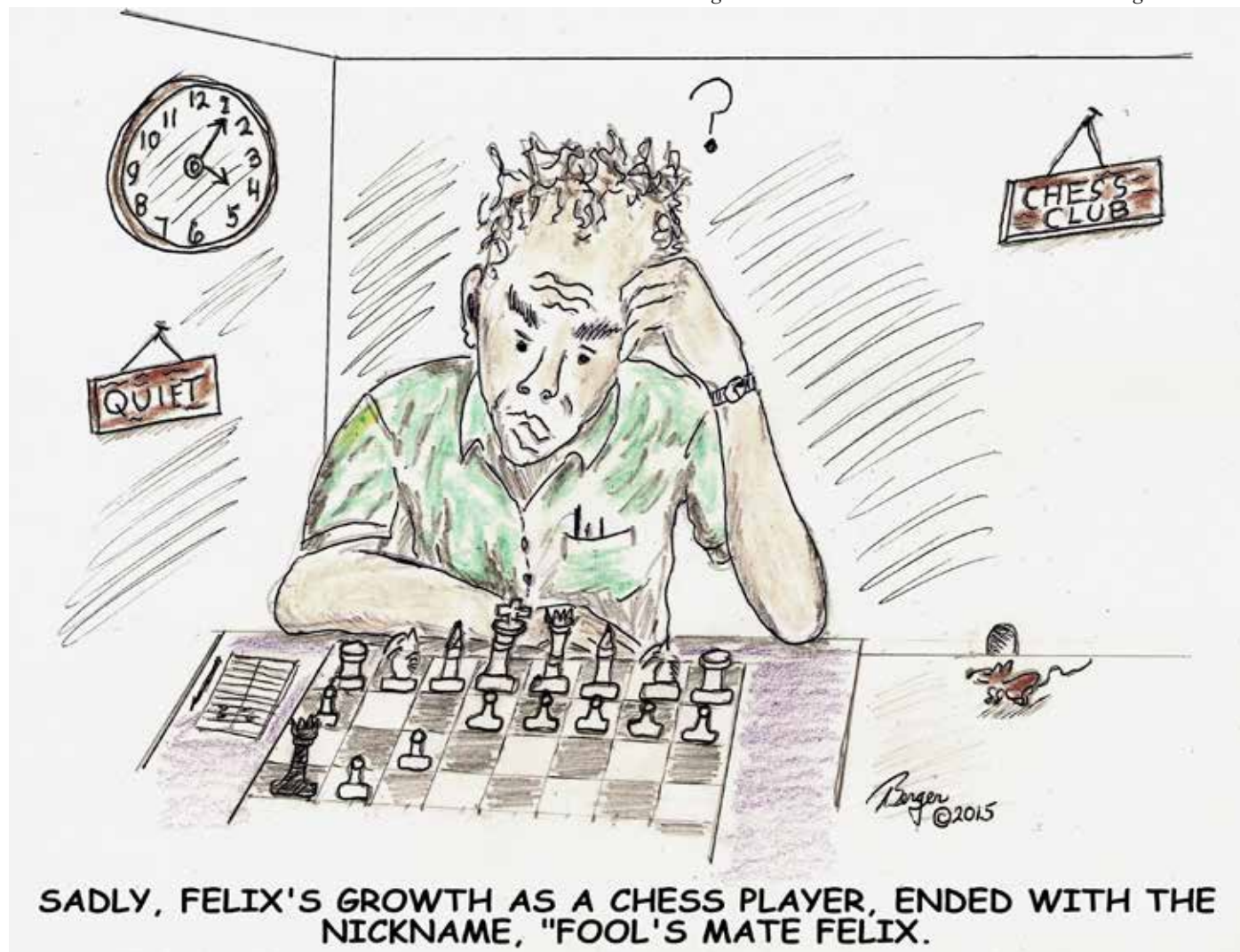
Rxf1 35.Kxf1 Ne3+ 0-1



*GM Gareyev in concentration.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



*(L) Jeff Austin with GM Timur Gareyev.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



Oregon Class Championships

Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2015

Lloyd Center Double Tree Hotel

Dedicated to the memory of Richard Gutman

5-round Swiss in 5 sections—All players must play within their class

M/X (2000+); Class A (1800-1999); Class B (1600-1799);

Class C (1400-1599); Under 1400

Prizes in each class: \$200-100-50, based on 10 entries in that class

Entry Fee: \$50; \$45 if received by October 29

Time control: rounds 1-3 40/90, SD 30, d5; rounds 4-5 40/120, SD 60, d5

Rounds: Saturday, 10, 2:30, 7:00; Sunday 9, 4:00

The top Oregon finisher in the Master-Expert section is seeded into the 2016 Oregon Closed Championship. Second Oregon finisher in M/X is seeded into the 2016 Oregon Invitational.

Site: Lloyd Center Double Tree Hotel

1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, OR 97232; Free parking

Registration: Saturday 9:00 am- 9:45 am. **Other:** OCF/WCF/ICA & USCF memberships required. OSA. NW Grand Prix. Classes may be combined if less than 8 in a section. One half-point bye allowed if requested before round 1. Official November ratings will be used.

Information: mikejmorris@earthlink.net

Name _____

Address _____

USCF ID # _____ USCF Exp _____ OCF/WCF Exp _____ Rating _____

Email _____ Section _____ Bye Rds _____

Entries: Payable to Oregon Chess Federation; mail to Mike Morris, 2344 NE 27th Ave., Portland, OR 97212

Washington Chess News

In the September 2015 issue of Northwest Chess we stated that Noah Fields finished in 5th place in the Denker Tournament of High School Champions. He actually tied for 2nd-6th. — Editor

Noah Fields (2103) –
Ashkay Malhotra (2255) [B76]
Denker (R6), August 4, 2015
[Noah Fields]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0
9.g4 Be6 10.0-0-0 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Qa5
12.Kb1 Kh8

12... Kh8 is a mistake, mainline continues
12...Rfc8 13.a3 Rab8

13.h4 h5 14.gxh5

14.Qg5 is better for white 14...b6 (14...
Qc7 15.gxh5 Nh7 16.Bxg7+ Kxg7
17.Qg2) 15.Nd5 Rac8 16.c3 Rfd8 17.Rg1

14...Qxh5

14...gxh5 15.Rg1 b6 16.Rg5+; 14...
Nxh5 15.Qh6+ Kg8 16.Bxg7 Nxg7
17.h5+ gxh5 18.Bb5!!

15.Be2 Rac8 16.Rdg1 Bc4

is the best move here, followed by...



Position after 16...Bc4

17.Bd1

Keeping this light-squared Bishop was important in order to keep the pressure on Black. 17.Rg5 is the best move in this position, and it is followed by... 17...Qh6 (17...Qh7 18.Bxc4 Rxc4 19.h5 e5 20.Bxa7 Nxh5 21.Qxd6+-) 18.Be3 Qh7 19.h5 Nxh5 20.Bxc4 Rxc4 21.Qd5+-

17...e5 18.Be3

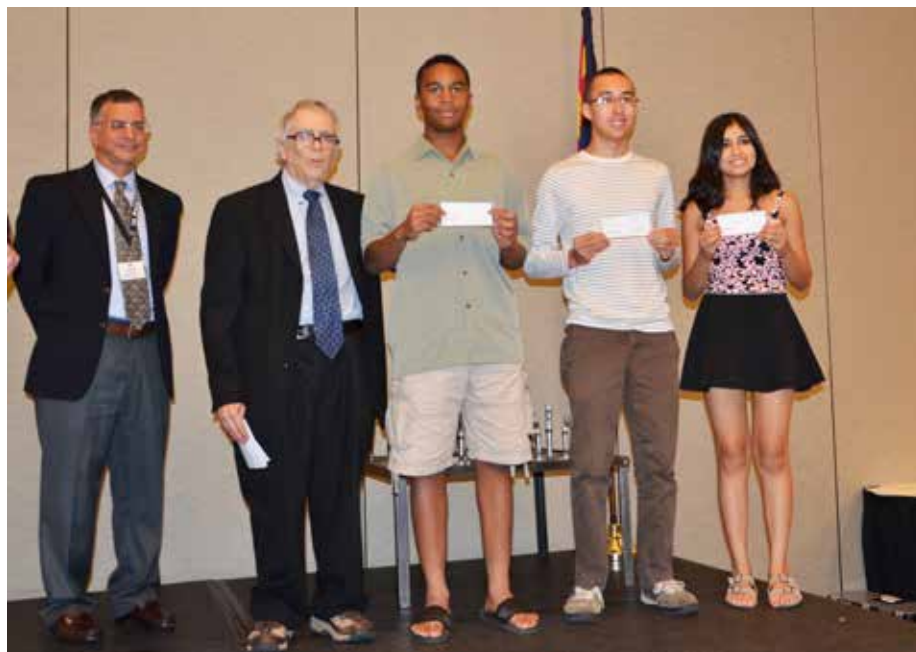
Bxa7 is actually better.

18...Be6 19.Bg5

19.f4 is still winning but it is not as good as Bg5 which prepares f4.

19...Qh7

19...Rg8 20.f4 Ng4 21.Ne2 Qh7 22.h5 gxh5 23.Ng3+-



L-R: USCF officials Jon Haskel and Harold Winston pose with WA Denker High School rep Noah Fields, WA Barber K-8 rep Neo Olin, and WA National Girls rep Sangeeta Dhingra at the awards ceremony. Team WA combined to score 12.5 points, which placed them in 3rd place among the states that had players in all three events. Photo credit: Angela Fields.

20.h5±

20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.h5 g5 22.h6±

20...Nxh5

20...gxh5 21.f4 exf4 22.Bxf6 Bxf6
23.Rxh5+-

21.f4 exf4 22.Bxh5 gxh5 23.Qe2 f3
24.Qxf3 f6

24...Bxc3 25.Bf6+ Bxf6 26.Qxf6+ Qg7
27.Qxg7#

25.Rxh5 fxe5 26.Rxh7+ Kxh7 27.Qh5+
Bh6

27...Kg8 28.Qxg5 Rf7 29.Nd5 Bxd5
30.Qxd5 Rc6 31.c3+-

28.Rh1

28.Rxg5 Rf1+ 29.Nd1 Rxd1+ 30.Qxd1
Bxg5=

28...Rf6 29.e5

29.Qxg5?? Rf1+ 30.Rxf1 Bxg5+-

29...dxe5 30.Ne4 Rg6 31.Nxg5+ Kg7
32.Nxe6+ Rxe6 33.Qg4+ Kf7

33...Rg6 34.Qxc8+- . This is the line that I saw in the game, but Kf7 loses the Bishop on h6 after Qf5+.

34.Qf5+ 1-0

Seattle Kings vs. Princes Match

By Josh Sinanan

From August 14-16, the Seattle Chess Club played host to a special match between a rising generation of young chess players and adult Northwest chess legends. The purpose of the match was to support local junior players seeking FIDE experience in preparation for World Youth competitions.

The match followed the Scheveningen-style format, in which each of the five team members played each of the opposing team members once. All of the games, which were dual USCF and FIDE-rated, were played at a rate of 90 minutes for the whole game with an increment of 30 seconds per move. The match was organized by WCF President Josh Sinanan and directed by Fred Kleist under the supervision of International Arbiter Grandmaster Emil Anka.

The Princes were represented by NM Bryce Tiglon (age 14, from Redmond, rated 2305 USCF), CM John Doknjas (16, Surrey BC, 2155), Noah Fields (15, Tacoma, 2105), NM Joshua Doknjas (13,

Surrey BC, 2096), and Anthony He (10, Sammamish, 2010).

The Kings team was composed of FM Nick Raptis (40, Portland, 2389), FM Curt Collyer (30, Seattle, 2320), FM William Schill (58, Seattle, 2315), FM David Roper (44, Lynnwood, 2248), and LM Viktors Pupols (81, Kingston, 2200).

Round 1

The oldest player in the match, LM Viktors Pupols, scored the first point for the Kings by sacrificing a piece against Anthony He, which resulted in a decisive king hunt!

The Princes leveled the score with a win by their highest rated player, NM Bryce Tiglon, who simplified into a pawn-up ending from a complicated King's Indian Petrosian variation, which seemed to have been thoroughly prepared by both players. Fighting draws on the other three boards left the match tied after the first round.

Round 2

The second day started poorly for the Kings, who may have still been recovering from the long evening games on Friday. Bryce was lucky to score his second consecutive win on the white side of the King's Indian, this time against Oregon State Champion Nick Raptis, with a tricky knight invasion on move 27.

Young Canadian Master John Doknjas took advantage of an opening misstep by FM Curt Collyer to put the Princes firmly in control, for which he was awarded the Prince's brilliancy prize. Current Washington State High School Champion Noah Fields was able to beat Unkel Vik with a bad bishop vs. good knight after an inexplicable exchange by White allowed the bishop to be unleashed along the long diagonal.

FM Bill Schill managed to score the only point of the round for the Kings team with a forfeit win over Anthony He, who was



L-R: (rear) Kings Team: David Roper, Curt Collyer, William Schill, Viktors Pupols, Nick Raptis. (front) Organizer: Josh Sinanan. Princes Team: Bryce Tiglon, John Doknjas, Anthony He, Joshua Doknjas, Noah Fields. Photo credit: Victoria Jung-Doknjas.

penalized (somewhat controversially) for playing video games on an i-pad while his tournament game was in progress.

Round 3

The Princes extended their lead in the third round by another point thanks to wins by Noah Fields and John Doknjas, both their second victory in a row! Fields' attack seemed to come out of nowhere against Schill's Sicilian, thanks to a brilliant queen transfer on move 20 that led to a decisive kingside breakthrough.

John Doknjas once again displayed his excellent opening preparation and won a piece against the out-of-form FM David Roper, eventually converting the full point in a long endgame. Viktors Pupols was the only victorious King of the round after he tricked Joshua Doknjas in a dead equal four minor piece endgame.

Round 4

The Kings, now trailing by three points, had their work cut out for them heading into the final day of play. They made up

some ground in round 4, easily the bloodiest round of the match, led by wins from Raptis, Collyer, and Schill.

Nick Raptis, the highest rated player on either team, scored his first and only victory of the match in grandiose style, launching an all-out attack against Fields' French Defense, for which he was awarded the King's brilliancy prize. FM Curt Collyer, who had been quiet so far in the match, also scored his first victory by grinding down young Anthony He in a Tarrasch French that lasted nearly 100 moves.

Schill switched up his opening and played a Reti system against Joshua Doknjas' Slav Defense, eventually gaining a strong initiative which he successfully converted into the full point. If it weren't for the efforts of John Doknjas and Bryce Tiglon, the leaders of the Princes team, the Kings may well have mounted a major comeback in this crucial round.

John took over control of the light squares and won a nice strategic game against Vik's King's Indian. Bryce castled long

Joshua C. Sinanan

National Master
President, Washington Chess Federation

3610 218th St. SW
Brier, WA 98036

Cell: (206) 769-3757
joshsinanan@gmail.com



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against Roper's Leningrad Dutch and consolidated his material advantage after defending against a speculative piece sacrifice that just seemed to fizzle out.

Round 5

Heading into the final round, the Kings trailed by two points, which meant that they would need to score 3.5/5 to tie, and 4 or more to win the match. Unfortunately for the Kings, it was just not meant to be, as the Princes came out swinging and won the final round of the match.

Despite obtaining a clear edge from the opening, David Roper was unable to convert against Anthony He, and the game fizzed out to drawn bishops of opposite color ending. Victories by both of the Doknjas brothers, Joshua over Raptis and John over Schill, sealed the match for the Princes.

Curt Collyer's second consecutive win on the black side of the French was the only bright spot for the beleaguered King's team. With first place individual honors and perhaps the FM title on the line, Bryce Tiglon pressed for 112 moves trying to win K+R+B vs. K+R versus Pupols, but had to eventually concede a draw.

Brilliancy Prizes:

Princes:

As judged by FM Roland Feng

1st, \$100) John Doknjas vs Curt Collyer 1-0

I liked this game because once Curt slipped up with 16...Bc8, White never gave him a chance to recover. Over the next 30 moves, John demonstrated good attacking and conversion, and managed to obtain the full point against strong opposition.

2nd) Joshua Doknjas vs Nick Raptis 1-0

This game was also in contention for the top spot due to how clean it was against a very strong opponent. It wasn't quite clear where Nick went wrong, and for his part, Joshua played good positional chess (notably 25.f5!), eventually grinding out the Oregon FM.

3rd) Noah Fields vs William Schill 1-0

This game featured a nice attack from White, who turned his passive looking position into one that was in control with the move 20.Qh3!. I liked this game because after Qh3, Noah continued to slowly build up his attack while Schill had no counterplay. He was finally able to break through Schill's defenses with 33. Bxf5.

4th) Bryce Tiglon vs William Schill 1-0

In this game, Bryce nicely defused a dangerous looking attack by Schill, and ended the game with a cute tactic. I couldn't rank this any higher because it just looked like Schill went for an attack that didn't really exist, but still a good show of conversion.

5th) Bryce Tiglon vs David Roper 1-0

As before, Bryce defuses a dangerous looking attack, and goes on to convert his material advantage.

For the same reason, I can't rank this any higher because it looked like Roper went for broke (18...Bxd4??) and it did not work out.

Honorable Mentions:

Bryce Tiglon vs Nick Raptis 1-0

While this game contained a dangerous attack that virtually appeared out of nowhere, it did not make the cut because Raptis was just pressing the whole game until his oversight with 27...Rc3, which allowed a decisive queen penetration.

William Schill vs John Doknjas 0-1

This game also featured a nice little combo near the end, but it didn't make the cut for the same reason. Schill was simply much better until he tried to execute an idea along the 7th rank using his 2 rooks. While this was a good idea, it inadvertently allowed Black to activate both rooks, after which a further slip allowed an interesting mating net to be formed around White's king.

Kings:

As judged by NM David Golub

1st, \$100) Nick Raptis vs Noah Fields 1-0

Liked e5-e6-e7 and Bxg6. Good attack and breakthrough.

2nd) Anthony He vs Viktors Pupols 0-1

Nice Bxh3 sac and attack.

3rd) Noah Fields vs Curt Collyer 0-1

Nice rebuttal of White's kingside attack and Be4!

4th) Viktors Pupols vs Joshua Doknjas 1-0

Surprising how Pupols was able to win in a seemingly equal endgame.

5th) Anthony He vs Curt Collyer 0-1

Although b3? seemed to be the blunder that lost the game, I liked Black's plan of Rd8-Nf8-Bd7-g6 and exchanging the bad light-squared bishop.

Team Results:

Final Score of the match: Kings 11 - Princes 14

Individual Results:

Kings:

ERNST RASMUSSEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY & PORT TOWNSEND CHESS BONANZA

OCTOBER 24, 2015

Format: 4 Round Swiss; Game/60; d5. Not rated.

Prize Fund: \$900. **Entry fee:** \$10.

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FM Curt Collyer (2320, 2262, USA) 3.0 \$300 3rd

LM Viktors Pupols (2200, 2025, USA) 2.5 \$125 =4th-5th

FM Nick Raptis (2389, 2335, USA) 2.0

FM William Schill (2315, 2201, USA) 2.0

FM David Roper (2248, 2237, USA) 1.5

Princes:

CM John Doknjas (2155, 2116, CAN) 4.5 \$600 1st

NM Bryce Tiglon (2305, 2227, USA) 4.0 \$450 2nd

Noah Fields (2105, 1896, USA) 2.5 \$125 =4th-5th

NM Joshua Doknjas (2096, 2096, CAN) 2.0

Anthony He (2010, 1752, USA) 1.0

Junior FIDE RR

A four-player Junior Round Robin was held alongside the Kings vs. Princes Match August 15-16 at the same venue.

The quad consisted of several young up-and-coming players: Jothi Ramesh (14, Shoreline, 1853), WCM Naomi Bashkansky (12, Bellevue, 1824), Eric Zhang (9, Sammamish, 1795), and Neil Doknjas (10, Surrey BC, 1727). The event unfortunately did not qualify to be FIDE-rated since only two of the players had FIDE ratings. On the bright side, the players enjoyed playing with the incremental time control and appreciated the strong competition.

Congratulations to Eric Zhang who won the Junior Round Robin tournament undefeated with a score of 2.0/3 games! TD Fred Kleist graciously awarded each of the participants with a Toblerone chocolate bar.

Results:

Eric Zhang (1795, 1512, USA) 2.0 1st

WCM Naomi Bashkansky (1824, 1554, USA) 1.5 =2nd-3rd

Neil Doknjas (1727, UNR, CAN) 1.5 =2nd-3rd

Jothi Ramesh (1853, UNR, USA) 1.0 4th

**David Roper (2248) –
John Doknjas (2155) [B9]
Kings vs. Princes Seattle, WA
(R3), August 15, 2015
[John Doknjas]**

In this game I had scored 1.5 points in the previous two rounds against Nick Raptis and Curt Collyer. I considered them to probably be the most dangerous competitors, so at this point in the tournament I was playing to finish somewhere in the top places. Therefore in this game I tried to play for a win by employing a sharp variation.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Be3 Be7 9.g4?!

It is better for White to castle Queenside first and then play g4. The first reason is to get the white King to safety, and the second is to stop Black from pushing ...d5 by having a Rook on d1.

9...d5

The only way to take advantage of the early g4 push. All other moves are just bad for Black. 9...0-0? 10.g5 Nh5 11.Qd2 Nd7 12.0-0-0 b5 13.Nd5 White's game is far more pleasant due to his total control of d5.

10.g5 d4 11.gxf6 Bxf6 12.Na4

12.Bf2 This move is a bit better, accepting a worse endgame. 12...dxc3 13.Qxd8+ Bxd8 14.bxc3 Nd7± White's defensive task is difficult due to his five pawn islands, but this position is objectively better than the alternatives. However, keeping the Queens on does give White some counter chances.



Position after 12.Na4

12...Bd7!

I thought for fifteen minutes before playing this move. This was a fairly difficult idea to find. The idea behind it is to capture the e3 Bishop without exchanging Queens, leaving White's King in danger. If White moves his Bishop away as in the game then I would take the a4 Knight and remain a clear pawn up. 12...Bh4+ I thought for a while on this move just in case I had a mate. However, I soon realized that this fizzles out to a draw. 13.Bf2 Bxf2+ 14.Kxf2 Qh4+ Now White can move his King in any direction and draw. 15.Ke2 (15.Kg2 Qg5+ 16.Kf2 Qe3+ 17.Kg2 Qg5+=) 15...Bc4+ 16.Kd2 Qg5+ 17.Ke1 Qh4+ (17...Qe3+? 18.Be2±) 18.Kd2 Qg5+=; 12...dxe3 There have been two games after 12.Na4 and both continued with this move. While this promises some advantage, it is not as promising as 12...Bd7. 13.Qxd8+ Bxd8 14.Nac5 Bc8 15.0-0-0± I didn't want my pieces to be passive and I figured that e3 would soon drop.

13.Bf2

Both of the alternatives to this move lose. 13.Bxd4? exd4 14.Nac5 (14.Nxd4? Bxa4) 14...Bh4+ 15.Ke2 Bb5+ 16.Nd3 Nc6+ While there is no forced win yet, I see no good way for White's King to get out of the center. Black will castle and then open the 'e' or 'f' files with ...f5. Threats like ...Qg5 and then ...Qe3 are also hard to meet.; 13.Nac5? dxe3 14.Nxd7 Nxd7 It is not that clear how to win the e3-pawn and White still has to worry about his King. Threats like Bh4+ are extremely unpleasant.

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13...Bxa4 14.h4!

This move is good and accurate. It prevents ...Bh4, exchanging dark squared Bishops which would weaken White's dark squares. In addition, this move begins an attack on the Kingside.

14...Nd7 15.Qd2 0-0 16.0-0-0



Position after 16.0-0-0

16...a5!

This might look odd, considering how most people are used to seeing the ...b5 thrust in the Sicilian. However, in this concrete position ...b5 makes no sense because there is no Knight on c3. A pawn on b5 or b4 would even block my heavy pieces on the b-file.

17.Kb1 Bc6 18.Bd3!

This d3-square looks somewhat passive for White's Bishop. However, it has a

lot of dynamic potential here. White will eventually play f4, which has two purposes. It attempts to undermine e5 and weaken d4, and more importantly it aims to open up Bd3.

18...Be7

I was preparing to move my Bishop to b4 or even a3 after I played a4 and Qb6, pinning the b2-pawn. I didn't want to play a4 right away because that might let White understand all my plans quicker.

19.Rd1 Kh8

Qh6 was threatened.

20.Rh2 a4 21.Nc1 Qb6 22.Rhg2 Bb4

This move took some calculation.



Position after 22...Bb4

23.Qe2?

This move is too passive and allows

Black to attack with Bc3. 23.c3 Bxc3! This capture is correct. (23...dxc3?? This move might look good if White takes my Queen. 24.Qg5!+- Mate on g7 and Qb6 are both attacked.(24.Bxb6?? cxd2-+)) 24.Qxc3 dxc3 25.Bxb6 Nxb6 26.Rxg7 cxb2 27.Kxb2 Rg8 28.Rxg8+ Rxg8 29.Rxg8+ Kxg8 30.Ne2 White needs to prevent Black from playing Kh5 and taking on h4. 30...Kg7 31.Ng3 Kg6 I looked at this position in my calculations during the game. I did not see a clear win but I figured than an extra pawn and a slightly better Bishop would be enough.; 23.Qg5! This was the best move. 23...Rg8 24.Bc4! Suddenly Black has a difficult problem: How to defend f7? The Bishop on c4 also makes room for the Knight to go to d3, which defends b2 and puts pressure on e5. 24...Raf8 25.Nd3 White has excellent compensation for his missing pawn. His attack has grown to be far more threatening than Black's.

23...Bc3 24.Nb3!

An interesting piece sacrifice which promises great practical chances (especially because I was down to a few minutes here). It is also the best move since 24. b3 will get White checkmated soon. 24.b3? Qb4 25.Bc4 Qa3 26.Nd3 Qxa2+!! 27.Kxa2 axb3+ 28.Kxb3 (28. Kb1 Ra1#) 28...Ba4+ 29.Ka3 Bxc2+ 30.Ba6 Rxa6#

Washington Speed Chess Championship

October 17, 2015

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

Two Sections: Open and Scholastic (K-6).

Format: 7 Round Double Swiss. **Time Control:** G/5, d0.

Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating. Higher of USCF or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.
USCF Blitz Rated (Open Section).

Prize Fund: \$700 (based on 40 paid entries in Open Section).

Open: 1st \$175, 2nd \$140, 3rd \$105, 1st U1800 \$70, 1st U1600 \$70, 1st U1400 \$70, 1st U1200/Unr \$70.

Scholastic: Trophies to top finishers.

Entry Fee – Open Section: \$30 if postmarked or online by 10/14, \$35 after 10/14 or at site.

Entry Fee – Scholastic Section: \$20 if postmarked or online by 10/14, \$25 after 10/14 or at site.

Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

Registration: Saturday 11:00 - 11:45 AM.

Rounds: 12:00 PM, 12:30 PM, 1:00 PM, 1:30 PM, 2:00 PM, 2:30 PM, 3:00 PM.

USCF and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted (Open Section).

Northwest Chess Grand Prix event (Open Section). NS. NC. W.

Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

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

Phone: (425) 218-7529. **E-mail:** danomathews01@gmail.com.

Online Registration: www.nwchess.com/online/registration.

24...axb3 25.cxb3

25.bxc3?? Of course this move loses.
25...Rxa2-+

25...Bb4 26.f4!

Now I have to worry about Bd3 finally being opened up on the diagonal. If White can push his e4 pawn then his attack will become very strong.

26...Rg8 27.Rg5 Bf8 28.fxe5 Re8 29.Bg3 Nc5!

It was important to eliminate Bd3 in case White somehow opened up the b1-h7 diagonal.

30.Bh2 Nxd3 31.Qxd3



Position after 31.Qxd3

31...Re6!

Another good defensive move. This does not allow White to push his e-pawns and

open up Bh2 and the b1-h7 diagonal for Qd3.

32.Rf5 Be8

My defensive setup is very solid. My goal now is to look for tactics and opportunities to get my pieces on the 8th rank back into the game.

33.h5 Qb5 34.Qf3 Qa5 35.Bf4 h6 36.Qg3 Bc6 37.Qg2 Bb5 38.Qg3 Qa6 39.a4 Be8 40.Rd1 d3

40...b5 This move immediately was more accurate, but when I played d3 I was down to something like five seconds (there was a 30 second increment).

41.Rxd3 b5 42.axb5 Qxb5 43.Bd2 Qb7 44.Rd4 Qa7 45.Bc3 Qb6 46.Kc2 Rc6 47.Rd5 Qa6 48.Rf2 Bb4

I am able to start getting my pieces back in the game since most of White's pieces are no longer putting pressure on my Kingside.

49.Rd3 Bxc3 50.Rxc3 Rxc3+ 51.Qxc3 Bd7 52.Kd2 Be6

Now the rest of the game is simple.

53.Ke3 Qb6+ 54.Kf3 Qxb3 55.Qxb3 Bxb3 56.Rd2 Be6 57.b4 Rc8 58.Rb2 Rc3+ 59.Kf4 Rb3 60.Rxb3 Bxb3 61.b5 Ba4 62.b6 Bc6 63.e6 fxe6 64.Ke5 Kg8 65.Kxe6 Bxe4 66.Ke7 g5 0-1

**Noah Fields (1896) –
Curt D. Collyer (2320) [C05]
Kings vs. Princes Seattle, WA
(R5), August 16, 2015
[Curt Collyer]**

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4

This ambitious variation leads to richer positions than the more prosaic 5.Bd3.

5...c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ndf3 cxd4 8.cxd4 f5

This structure is slightly better for White, but the position remains complicated. The question is whether White will be able to crash through on the kingside before Black takes over the queenside.

9.a3

A spectacular game between two future stars was played at the World U20 Championship in 2006. 9.Bd3 Be7 10.Ne2 Nb6 11.Rg1 a5 12.g4 0-0 13.a3 Bd7 14.Nc3 a4 15.Qe2 Na5 16.Be3 Rc8 17.Kf2 Be8 18.Qc2 Bg6 19.Rg3 Nbc4 20.Rag1 Bh4 21.Nxh4 Qxh4 22.gxf5 Bxf5 23.Bxf5 Rxf5 24.Nxd5 Rcf8 25.Ke2 Qh5+ 26.Ke1 exd5 27.Rxg7+ Kh8 28.Qg2 Here Black appears to be in huge trouble, but he had prepared a stunning counterstrike. 28...Qd1+!! 29.Kf2 Qc2+ 30.Kf3 Rxf4+! 31.Bxf4 Qe4+ 32.Kg4 Rxf4+ 33.Kh5 Rh4+ and White resigned in David Howell - Wang Hao, Yerevan 2006.

Washington Bughouse Chess Championship

October 17, 2015

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

Two Sections: Open and Scholastic (K-6).

Format: 5 Round Double Swiss. **Time Control:** G/5, d0.

Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating. Higher of USCF or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

Prizes: Trophies to top teams.

Entry Fee: \$20 if postmarked or online by 10/14, \$25 after 10/14 or at site.

Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

Registration: Saturday 3:30 - 4:15 PM.

Rounds: 4:30 PM, 5:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 6:00 PM, 6:30 PM

WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted (Open Section).

Northwest Chess Grand Prix event (Open Section). NS. NC. W.

Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

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Phone: (425) 218-7529. **E-mail:** danomathews01@gmail.com.

Online Registration: www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration.

9...a5

Black needs stake a claim on the queenside to avoid being squeezed across the entire board.

10.Bd3 Be7 11.Ne2 Nb6 12.0-0

This might be a loss of tempi, as the king and rook will soon have to move again.

12...a4

Securing outposts for the knights on the squares c4 and b3.

13.Bd2 Bd7 14.Qe1

Preparing to swing the queen to the kingside while simultaneously stopping Na5.

14...0-0 15.Kh1 Na7

Black would like to trade the bishops and invade on the light squares. 15...Nc4!? would provoke an immediate exchange, but Black is not well positioned to control the d5 square. 16.Bxc4 dxc4 17.Nc3 Be8 18.Be3 looks unclear, as White will soon play d4-d5. For example, 18...Bf7 19.Rd1 Na5 20.d5!? exd5 21.Nd4 with some compensation for the sacrificed pawn.

16.Nc3

Preventing Bb5.

16...Rc8 17.Rg1

Clearly White must arrange the g4 break

as soon as possible.

17...Nc4



Position after 17...Nc4

18.Bxc4?

This exchange is a strategic mistake, as the bishop should be retained for the kingside attack. Now White will have difficulty creating serious threats to Black's king, and the subsequent g4 break will further weaken the light squares around White's own king.

18...Rxc4 19.g4 Be8!

Since its white counterpart has been traded, this bad bishop has suddenly become Black's best piece.

20.Qg3 Bg6

Now it is not clear how White will make any progress with his attack.

However, after a long think, Fields finds an interesting idea.

21.gxf5 Rxf5 22.Nd1!?

Redeploying the knight towards the kingside in an effort to break with f5 and create complications.

22...Rf7

Not seeing a favorable way to sacrifice the exchange, Black retreats the rooks from danger.

23.Ne3 Rc6 24.h3 Nb5



Position after 24...Nb5

25.f5!

A strong practical move, opening squares for White's bishop and knight and closing down Black's dangerous light-squared bishop.

25...exf5

Washington Challenger's Cup

November 7-8, 2015

Highest finishing Washington resident in the Open Section seeded into the 2016 Washington State Championship

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

Two Sections: Open and Reserve (under 1800).

Open: 4 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** 40/120, SD/30, d10.

Reserve: 5 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** Saturday 30/90, SD/30, d10; Sunday 40/120, SD/30, d10.

Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating. Higher of USCF or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

Prize Fund: \$1,550 (based on 50 paid entries).

Open: FIDE rated 1st \$350, 2nd \$250, 1st U2100 \$125, 1st U1900 \$125.

Reserve: 1st \$250, 2nd \$150, 1st U1600 \$100, 1st U1400 \$100, 1st U1200/Unrated \$100.

Entry Fee: \$65 if postmarked or online by 11/04, \$75 after 11/04 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

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

Rounds: Open: Saturday 10:00 AM, 4:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM.

Reserve: Saturday 10:00 AM, 2:30 PM, 7:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM.

Byes: One half-point byes available (Open Section), two half-point byes available (Reserve Section).

Request before end of round 2. USCF and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted.

Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 6. USCF Junior Grand Prix event. Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. NS. NC. W.

Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

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Phone: (425) 218-7529. **E-mail:** danomathews01@gmail.com.

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November 27-29, 2015

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North Seattle Community College
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Format: Seven class sections as shown at left, six round Swiss system. Sections may be combined if less than 12 players in a section. Late registrations may receive half-point byes for first round.

Rating: USCF rated. USCF November rating supplement will be used to determine class sections. Higher of USCF or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Foreign ratings used for players with no USCF rating. Unrated players may only win 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes in Master section, or unrated prize in Class E.

Registration: Friday 8:30-9:30 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. 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: 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM, Sat 10:30 AM and 5:30 PM, Sun 9:00 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 5:30 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 USCF 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. Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 10. Chess Magnet School JGP. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

Entries/Prizes/Info: See left column. Please use entry form (available on NWC website) for a list of all discounts and fees, and to indicate schedule, section, side events, and byes requested – or use online registration.

Washington Class Blitz Championship: Friday 11/27 at 8:30 PM. Format: 5 round Double Swiss in one section. Registration: 7:30-8:15 PM. Rounds: 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00 and 10:30 PM. TC: G/5 (no delay). EF: \$25. Prize Fund: \$400 based on 20 entries. 1st \$130, 2nd \$90, 1st U2000 \$60, 1st U1700 \$60, 1st U1400 \$60. Miscellaneous: USCF Blitz rated. Current USCF membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required.

Washington Class Scholastic (Nov 27): A separate flyer/entry form/online registration link will be published on the NWC website for this event, or contact: David Hendricks, WCF Scholastic Coordinator, 2439 220th Place NE, Sammamish, WA 98074-6418, phone: (425) 868-3881, e-mail: DavidCHendricks@comcast.net.

25...Bxf5 26.Nxf5 Rxf5? 27.Qxg7#

26.Qf4?

However, this follow-up is wrong. Best was 26.Ng2 and 27.Nf4, with some compensation for the sacrificed pawn.

26...Nc7!

Probably White simply missed this response. The knight comes to its ideal blocking square on e6.

27.Ng2 Ne6 28.Qg3



Position after 28.Qg3

28...f4!

The winning move as White is too late to establish the blockade on f4.

29.Qe1

Unfortunately for White, the natural 29.Nxf4? Nxf4 30.Bxf4 Qf8! wins material for Black.; Similarly, 29.Bxf4? Qf8! also wins for Black.

29...Be4 30.Rf1 Qd7!

An annoying move to meet in time pressure, as the queen eyes the pawn on h3. White's position quickly collapses.

31.Kh2 Bxf3 32.Rxf3 Nxd4 33.Rc3

If 33.Rd3 then simply 33...Nc2 forking the queen and rook.

33...Rxc3 34.e6 Nf3+ 35.Kh1 Nxe1 36.exd7 Rxb3+ 37.Kg1 Nf3+ 38.Kf2 Nxd2 39.Re1 Ne4+ 0-1



The start of round 3 of the Kings vs Princes Match. (front to back): David Roper vs John Doknjas, Curt Collyer vs Bryce Tiglon, Viktors Pupols vs Joshua Doknjas, Anthony He vs Nick Raptis, Noah Fields vs William Schill. Photo credit: Victoria Jung-Doknjas.

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Chess Groovies

By NM Daniel He and NM Samuel He

Hi readers!

The Sinquefeld Cup in St. Louis from August 22 to September 3, 2015 brought together ten of the world's top players into a round robin, including World Champion Magnus Carlsen. The tournament featured many exciting games, and we especially liked Magnus Carlsen's win against Wesley So in the 5th round.

Magnus Carlsen (2853) – Wesley So (2779) [B90]
3rd Sinquefeld Cup
(R5), August 27, 2015
[Daniel He]

This win illustrates Carlsen's playing style very well. He will use a small advantage and slowly squeeze out a win, giving his opponent no chances for counterplay.

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

This is the very popular Najdorf Sicilian, seen frequently at the top GM levels.

6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.f3 Nbd7 9.Qd2 b5 10.0-0 Be7 11.g4 b4 12.Nd5 Bxd5 13.exd5 Nb6 14.Na5



Position after 14.Na5

This is a common idea in the Najdorf, gambiting the d5-pawn to open the position up to increase the power of White's bishops.

14...Nbx d5 15.Nc4 Nxe3 16.Nxe3 0-0 17.Bc4 Nd7 18.h4

Carlsen seems to be getting enough compensation for the pawn, with an eventually attack on the kingside coming up slowly.

18...a5 19.g5 Rc8 20.Bd5 Nb6 21.Kb1

Though the bishop on d5 has great potential to attack the king, Carlsen is going for more of a small, long-lasting advantage of a good knight vs. a bad bishop if Black ever takes on d5.

21...Qc7 22.Rhf1 Nxd5

At first glance, this move seems puzzling because this is just what White wants, but it turns out Black doesn't have any other option. White has the fixed plan of advancing the kingside pawns and opening lines on the kingside, while Black's pieces are immobilized.

23.Nxd5 Qb7 24.f4 f5 25.Qe3 e4 26.h5 Rc5 27.h6!



Position after 27.h6

A great move by Carlsen! Black cannot capture on d5 due to Qb3. 27.h6 forces g6, which is weakening Black's king.

At the same time, the pawn serves as a long term benefit. With the h6-pawn being so far advanced, it has the potential to be a useful resource in the endgame, as it did in the game.

27...g6 28.Qb3 Rf7 29.a4 Bd8 30.Rd4 Kf8 31.Rfd1 Rc6

Black is trying hard to activate his bishop, but Carlsen is prepared, as seen in the next few moves.

32.Ne3 Bb6 33.Nc4 Bxd4 34.Nxa5 Qb6 35.Nxc6 Bc5 36.Qd5



Position after 36.Qd5

This is a good time to evaluate the current position. White has regained his pawn at the cost of letting Black activate his bishop. Black's king position looks risky, while White's king is totally safe. White has a passed a-pawn, while Black has a

passed e-pawn. Both pawns could become potential threats later in the game.

36...e3 37.a5 Qb5 38.Nd8 Ra7 39.Ne6+ Ke8 40.Nd4

The White queen is prepared to get in Black's territory and start taking pawns, which will create another serious threat to Black: the h6 pawn!

40...Qxa5 41.Qg8+ Kd7 42.Qxh7+ Kc8 43.Qg8+ Kb7 44.c3 bxc3 45.Qb3+ Qb6 46.Qxb6+ Kxb6 47.bxc3



Position after 47.bxc3

Carlsen's h-pawn is so strong, Black's rook has to stay back to stop it from advancing. After the trade of queens, White should be winning easily. The finish is quite nice.

47...Bxd4 48.Rxd4 Kc6 49.Kc2 Ra2+ 50.Kd1 Rf2 51.Ke1 Kd7 52.Ra4 Ke6 53.Ra8 Rh2



Position after 53...Rh2

54.c4!

Stopping any possibilities of the king moving forward.

54...Kf7 55.Rb8!

If Black's rook leaves the h-file, White plays h7 and queens. If Black's rook leaves the 2nd rank, White's king goes up. Brilliant finish by Carlsen.

55...Ke6 56.Rg8 1-0

The 2015 Elmars Zemgalis Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

By Murlin Varner, Administrator

One of the consequences of playing often to be a leader in the Grand Prix, is that your rating is likely to improve. A benefit of practice, but a mixed blessing for GP standings. In our standings this month we can see this effect in a number of Washington leaders. Brent Baxter and Sophie Tien both experienced a benefit of ratings going up. Not because theirs did, but because people who were ahead of them moved up to the next rating class. In Baxter's case, Jason Yu moved from 1st place in Class A to 2nd place in the Expert Class. This left the top Class A position open for Baxter to take over. In Tien's situation, she was able to move from third to first in Class D because both the players ahead of her moved up a class. For those two, however, the result was not so good. Owen Xuan moved from 1st Class D to 5th Class C, while Garret Casey fell off the leaderboard, going from 2nd Class D to an also-ran in Class C. Samuel Deng had a more neutral move, going from 5th Class C to 4th Class B. Still, prize considerations aside, it is always good to show progress by moving up a class, so, congratulations for all those who are in a higher class this month.

There weren't a whole lot of other changes to the standings, except that we have a new leader in Idaho again, as Ron Weyland attended a couple of events in Spokane to bypass Brad Bodie. No other changes in Idaho, since in August, there were no GP events to help the point totals of most Idaho players. This will change, as there was the Eastern Idaho Open in Pocatello in September and we will be having the Wood River Progressive in Hailey, October 10th.

Speaking of October GP events, this will be a sparse month. Only five events are scheduled. To the above mentioned event in Hailey, ID, there are two events each in Seattle and Portland. Even worse, those five events occur on only two weekends of the month. The big one is the Portland National Chess Day Fall Open (waaay long name), which has a \$1300 guaranteed prize fund, and a 3x multiplier. That tournament is on the 10th and 11th, the same weekend as the Wood River event and the Quads at SCC. Then after an empty weekend, we finish the month with one-day events in Seattle and Portland. These occur on different days, so you could attend both should you desire.

The data below is current through September 1st. Big changes will come in next month's report, because the Oregon Open is beginning as I write.

Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
			Masters								
			1	Raptis	Nick	141.5	1	Pupols	Viktors	106	
			2	Bjorksten	Lennart	53.5	2	Schill	William J	94	
			3	Grabinsky	Aaron	40	3	Feng	Roland	56	
			4	Seitzer	Phillip	26.5	4	Bragg	David R	50	
			5	Two Tied At		11	5	Tiglon	Bryce	46.5	
M/X/Class A			Experts								
1	Bodie	Brad	20	1	Saputra	Yogi	71	1	He	Anthony B	115.5
2	Lucky	David	15	2	Cigan	Jason	66	2	Yu	Jason	94
3	Joshi	Kairav R	11	3	Talyansky	Seth D	52	3	Haining	Kyle	69.5
3	Kircher	Caleb P	11	4	Heywood	Bill	38	3	Nagase	Toshihiro	69.5
5	Inman	James	8.5	5	Roring	Tres	35	5	Moroney	Timothy M	48.5
Class B			Class A								
1	Griggs	Glenn	18	1	Murray	David E	74	1	Baxter	Brent L	77.5
2	Buus	Jarod N	11.5	2	Phipps	Danny	67	2	Zhang	Eric M	63.5
3	Roland	Jeffrey T	11	3	Goffe	Michael P	45	3	Deshpande	Aaryan H	62
3	Machin	Alex J	11	4	Wade	Chris H	38.5	4	O’Gorman	Peter J	61.5
5	Two Tied At		9	5	Grabinsky	Joshua	32.5	3	Kuhner	Mary K	60.5

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
Class C			Class B								
1	Weyland	Ron	26	1	Hasuike	Mike L	126	1	Puri	Ishaan	76
2	Naccarato	Savanna	16.5	2	Samillano	Jazon	84	2	Anthony	Ralph J	67
3	Lombardi	George	13.5	3	Eagles	Roland	69.5	3	Buck	Stephen J	66
4	Zaklan	David A	12.5	4	Zhang	Gavin	57	3	Deng	Samuel	62
5	Nathan	Jacob A	8.5	5	Wu	Ethan	44.5	5	Kannan	Aditya	59
Class D			Class C								
1	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	1	Berger	Brian F	76.5	1	Munsey	Michael R	140.5
2	Porth	Desmond	5	2	Dietz	Arliss	41.5	2	Piper	August	104.5
3	Porth	Adam	4	3	Kenway	Geoffrey W	39	3	Richards	Jerrold	90
4	Dominick	Matthew T	3	4	Hansen	James J	26	4	Anand	Vignesh	81
4	Nyblade	Wesley, III	3	5	Booth	Liam K	18	5	Xuan	Owen	72.5
Class E and Below			Class D and Below								
1	Fister	Joel S	9	1	Gupta	Rohit	27	1	Tien	Sophie	51
2	Hiatt	Arlene	7.5	2	Kypriotakis	Kyriakos	23	2	Mahajan	Rushaan	49
2	Naccarato	Chris D	7.5	3	Romero	Henry G	21.5	3	Casey	Braxton W	47
4	Nathan	Oliver E	5	4	Larson	Bradley J	19.5	4	Huang	Andy	44
5	Courtney	Caleb	4.5	5	Jewell	Nathan	18	5	Tien	Andy	43.5
Overall Leaders, by State											
1	Weyland	Ron	26	1	Raptis	Nick	141.5	1	Munsey	Michael R	140.5
2	Bodie	Brad	20	2	Hasuike	Mike L	126	2	He	Anthony B	115.5
3	Griggs	Glenn	18	3	Samillano	Jazon	84	3	Pupols	Viktors	106
4	Naccarato	Savanna	16.5	4	Berger	Brian F	76.5	4	Piper	August	104.5
5	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	5	Murray	David E	74	5	Schill	William J	94
6	Lucky	David	15	6	Saputra	Yogi	71	5	Yu	Jason	94
7	Lombardi	George	13.5	7	Eagles	Roland	69.5	7	Richards	Jerrold	90
8	Zaklan	David A	12.5	8	Phipps	Danny	67	8	Anand	Vignesh	81
9	Buus	Jarod N	11.5	9	Cigan	Jason	66	9	Baxter	Brent L	77.5
10	Joshi	Kairav R	11	10	Zhang	Gavin	57	10	Puri	Ishaan	76
10	Kircher	Caleb P	11	11	Bjorksten	Lennart	53.5	11	Xuan	Owen	72.5
10	Roland	Jeffrey T	11	12	Talyansky	Seth D	52	12	Haining	Kyle	69.5

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Facebook**

Also, check out nwchess.com/blog/

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

→ Address ↖
→ 2150 N 107 St, B85 ↖
Seattle WA 98133
↗ Infoline ↖
206-417-5405
www.seattlechess.org
kleistcf@aol.com
Address for Entries
SCC Tnmt Dir
2420 S 137 St
Seattle WA 98168

How to Find the SCC

Look for the Northway Square East Building, just across I-5 from Northgate Mall, with a large sign proclaiming "Northwest Kidney Centers." The main entrance is reached by turning east on N. 107th Street from Meridian Ave. N. The club is on the lower level.

October 11

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 10/7, \$16 at site. (-\$2 for SCC mem., -\$1 for mem. of other NW dues-req'd CCs). **Prizes:** Memb (SCC, WCF, USCF). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4-commit at reg.). **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Oct. 10, Oct. 31 NEW DATE

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

October 16-18

Join the SCC Team(s) in Reno at the Western States Open. We will be competing against six to ten teams from other clubs in Reno, Sacramento, San Francisco, etc. The tournament is multi-section (Open, U2200, U2000, . . .) and teams consist of ten players from a club.

Oct. 25, Nov. 22

Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/60; d5 (or G/64; d0). **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 from each EF goes to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

Sunday Tornado

SCC Fridays

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

Autumn Leaves: 10/2, 9, 16, 23, 30.

November Rains: 11/6, 13, 20.

CLOSED (Go to WA Class): 11/27.

C.B. Bagley Mem.: 12/4, 11, 18.

WCF @ SCC

Oct. 17 — WA Blitz Ch

Nov. 7-8 — WA Chal. Cup

8th SCC Extravaganza!!

November 13-15, 2015

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 **\$1000** is based on 60.

Open: \$200-140, U2200 100, U2000 100

Reserve (U1800): First \$140-100, U1600 70, U1400 70, U1200 60, UNR 20

Entry Fee: \$40 by 11/11 (\$30 for SCC members, \$35 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, OR, & BC), \$48 at site (\$36 for SCC members, \$42 for members of other dues-required CCs in WA, OR, & BC).


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 for rounds 5-7, must commit before round 3.

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


Ent/Info: SCC Tnmt Dir, 2420 S 137 St, Seattle WA 98168. 206-417-5405 (recorded message); kleistcf@aol.com.

Upcoming Events

 denotes 2015 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

 **Oct 10** Wood River Weekend Progressive Open Chess Tournament & National Chess Day Celebration, **Hailey, ID.** Site: Community Campus, Hailey, Idaho. 4SS. Game/30;d5, Game/45;d5, Game/60;d5, Game/90;d5. Everyone/All Levels welcome to play in tournament! 2 Sections, Open & Scholastic. Prizes: Open (based on 15): \$100, \$75, \$50. Scholastic: trophies, 1st-3rd place. Entry Fee: \$30 (\$25 if under 18 or 60+ years old) (K-12 students \$10 in either section) if registered by October 7, 2015. E-mail entry will lock in advance entry rate. USCF Membership required. Boards and clocks provided. Tie-break order: Head-to-head, Solkoff, Cumulative Opposition, Modified Median, Cumulative. Half-point byes: Rounds 1-3, Maximum 1, commit by round 2, (0-point bye available for round 4). Pre-registration preferred. Mr. Adam Porth, Silver Creek High School, 1060 Fox Acres Rd., Hailey, Idaho 83333 (208) 450-9048 or email bscdchessclub@gmail.com. Make all checks payable to Idaho Chess Association. www.idahochessassociation.org, No Computer, No Smoking, Wheelchair access.

Oct 10-11 Millionaire Chess Open, **Las Vegas, NV.** (See <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/index.htm>)
Northwest Chess receives a fee for each registration using the link to the tournament registration found on that page.


 **Oct 10-11** National Chess Day Fall Open, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR. Format: USCF-rated, two days, two sections (Open and U1800), 5-round Swiss. Time Control: 40/90, SD/30, d5. Byes: 2 half-point byes available if requested before 1st round. Registration: 9:00-9:45 a.m. on Saturday. Limited to first 50 entrants. Rounds: Saturday 10:00, 2:15 & 7:00; Sunday 10:00 & 2:15. Prizes: \$1,300 Guaranteed! Open: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, U2000 \$150; Reserve: 1st \$200, 2nd \$150; U1600, U1400, U1200/unrated each \$100. No tiebreakers used, prizes split between players with the same results. Entry Fee: \$40; \$30 for PCC members. Memberships: USCF and OCF/WCF required and can be purchased/renewed at registration, OSA. OCF Invitational Qualifier. OSCF State Qualifier.


Oct 16-18 Western States Open, **Reno, NV.** (See <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>)

Oct 17 Washington Speed Chess Championship, **Seattle, WA.** (Half-page ad on page 22)


Oct 17 Washington Bughouse Championship, **Seattle, WA.** (Half Page ad on page 23)

Oct 24 Ernst Rasmussen's 90th Birthday and Port Townsend Chess Bonanza, **Port Townsend, WA.**
(Quarter-page ad on page 20)

 **Oct 24/Nov 21** Portland CC Game in 60, Portland, OR. 4SS, G/60;d5. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR - Map. If 30 or more entries the field will be divided into 2 sections by ratings. EF: \$20, \$5 discount for PCC Members. OCF/WCF/ICA and USCF membership required, OSA. No advance entries. Reg: 9:00-9:30 a.m. Byes: 1/2 point bye if requested at reg. Prizes: If one section (\$200/b20) \$60-\$40-\$30; U1800, U1500 \$35 each. If two sections - upper section \$75-50-25 (b/15); lower section \$65-35; U1400 \$50 (b/15). No tiebreakers (prizes split). OSCF State Qualifier. Info: e-mail email@pdxchess.org, phone 503-246-2978, website www.pdxchess.org.

 **Oct 31-Nov 1** Oregon Class Championship, **Portland, OR** (Full-page ad on page 17)

 **Nov 7-8** Washington Challenger's Cup, **Seattle, WA.** (Half-page ad on page 24)

 **Nov 14** Southern Idaho Open, **Twin Falls, ID.** Site: Best Western Twin Falls, 1377 Blue Lakes Blvd N, Twin Falls, Idaho. Contact Amy Perkins for room rates, 208-736-8000. DO NOT RESERVE ROOMS ONLINE OR NO ROOM RATE DISCOUNT. 4SS. Game/60;d5. 2 Sections: "Open" and "U1400 Reserve" (Sections may be combined based on entries). Prizes (based on 30): Open: \$150, \$125, \$100, \$75. U1400 Reserve \$100, \$75, \$50. Entry Fee: \$30 (\$25 if under 18 or 60+ years old) if registered by November 8, 2015. Special Family Rate of \$60. \$5 more for all if received after November 8, 2015. E-mail entry will lock in advance entry rate. USCF Membership required. Registration: 8:00-8:30 a.m. Saturday, November 14, 2015. Round Times: Saturday 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. Half-point bye (maximum 1) available rounds 1-3 only. First round byes must notify TD before round is paired, all others, before round 2 is paired. Entries: Barry Eacker, 963 Delmar Dr., Twin Falls, ID 83301. 208-733-6186 or email: mol64@cableone.net, www.idahochessassociation.org. Make all checks payable to Idaho Chess Association. No Computer, No Smoking, Wheelchair access.

 **Nov 27-29** Washington Class Championships, **Seattle, WA.** (Full-page ad on page 25)

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