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Northwest

Chess



GM Yasser Seirawan sharing a humorous anecdote at the Seattle Chess Club's fundraiser earlier this year. Yaz, on his way to the U.S. Championship in St. Louis, his first tournament since 2007, stopped in Seattle and helped the club raise more than \$2500! He posted an even score in the Championship, but his interest was piqued. He then turned in an excellent performance on Board Four for the U.S. at the World Team Championship in China in July. Now he has tied for first in a strong round-robin in Spain. In a post-tournament interview, he shares his thoughts on time controls, the World Championship, 'Seirawan' Chess and other topics.

**Inside: Oregon Open, Oyster Bay,
Southern Idaho Open and more!**

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Games from the 60th Oregon Open

by Neil Dale

Another round number for a chess tournament in Oregon. A few weeks after the Portland Chess Club Centennial, it was time for the six-round Oregon Open (3-5 September) in Gresham. The organizer (Portland CC) was a bit worried about a drop in the attendance, but it turned out to be near normal.

Ninety players came to the tournament (43 in the Open Section and 47 in the Reserve). In the top section, FM Nick Raptis was the winner with five points, despite not playing the last round. Five players shared second through sixth with 4.5 points: Steve Breckenridge, Daniel Gay, David Rupel, Peter Lessler, and Michael Wang. Robert Fisette lost his first game, but was undefeated after that, and took clear first U2000 with 3.5 points.

Gordon Higbie was a clear winner in the reserve section with 5.5 points. James Mc Aleer, Philip Placek, and Aaron Pikus shared second through fourth with 4.5 points apiece. Gabriel Skoro and Jeremy Coste shared the top spots in the U1400 group on four. Sebastian Clark and Venkat Doddapaneni shared the top prize money for U1200s at three. Junior players in the Reserve Section also had the opportunity to play at a \$15 entry fee for non-monetary prizes. The winner here with 4.5 points was Dillon Murray. I wonder if he wishes he had paid the higher entry fee? Second in this category went to Leonardo Sun on three.

Mt. Hood Community College once again provided the playing site. The tournament was directed by Grisha Alpernas and yours truly assisted, i.e., the Baltic Mafia at work again. The organizers would like to thank all who came to play and made this tournament a success.

A80 Dutch ♘g5

Curtis Brooks (2118)

Mike Janniro (2062)

Gresham, Oregon Open (6) 2011

Annotations by FM Ralph Dubisch

1.d4 f5 2.♟f3 ♞f6 3.♙g5 e6 4.e3
♙e7 5.♞bd2 O-O 6.♙d3 ♞c6 7.c3
h6 8.♙h4 d5 9.♞c2 ♞e4 10.♙xe7
♞xe7 11.♙b5 ♞d8 12.♞xe4 fxe4
13.♞e5 ♞f6 14.f3 a6 15.♙a4 exf3
16.♞xf3 b5 17.♙b3 c5 18.♞e2
♞c6 19.O-O ♙d7 20.♞e5 ♞xe5
21.dxe5 ♞xf1+ 22.♞xf1 ♞f8 23.
♞xf8+ ♞xf8 24.e4 c4 25.♙c2 ♙c6
26.♞f2 ♞b8 27.♞c5 ♞b7 28.♞d6
♙f7 29.exd5 ♙xd5 30.♙h7 ♞a7+

30...♙xg2 31.♞d8 with attack.

31.♙h1 ♞e3 32.♞d7+ ♙f8 33.
♞d8+ ♙f7 34.♞g8+ ♙e7 35.
♞xg7+ ♙d8 36.h3 ♞c1+

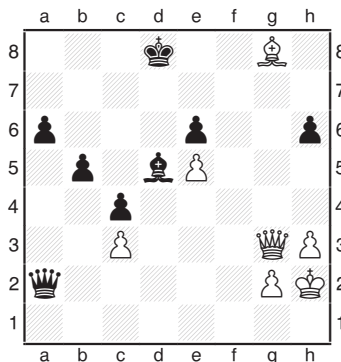
36...♞xh3

37.♙h2 ♞xb2 38.♙g8 ♞d2 39.
♞g3

39.♞f8+

39...♞xa2

39...♙c7-b6-a5



40.♙xe6!?

40.♞g6!?

40...Bxe6 41.♞h4+ ♙c8 42.♞xh6
Bd7 43.♞d6

42.♞f8+ Kb7 43.♞d6

43...♞a5 44.h4 b4 45.h5 bxc3

44...♞c7

46.h6 ♞d8 47.♞xa6+ ♙b8 48.
♞d6+ ♙c8 49.♞a6+ ♙b8 50.♞xc4
♞c7 51.♞b4+ ♙a7 52.♞d4+ ♙b7
53.♞b4+

53.h7 c2 54.h8=♞ c1=♞

53...♙a7 54.♞a3+ ♙b7 55.h7?

55.♞b4+

55...c2??

55...♞xe5+

56.h8=♞ c1=♞ 57.♞na8+ ♙b6 58.
♞3a5 mate

B07 Przbyl Defense

LM Viktors Pupols (2203)

Preston Polasek (2004)

Gresham, Oregon Open (5) 2011

1.♞f3 c6 2.e4 d6 3.c3 ♞f6 4.♞c2
♙g4 5.♙e2 e6 6.d3 ♙e7 7.♞bd2
O-O 8.h3 ♙xf3 9.♞xf3 d5 10.♙f4
c5 11.O-O ♞c6 12.e5 ♞d7 13.d4
cxd4 14.cxd4 ♞c8 15.♞d2 ♞a5 16.
a3 ♞xd2 17.♙xd2 a6 18.♞fc1 f6 19.
exf6 ♞xf6 20.♙e3 ♞a5 21.♞xc8
♞xc8 22.♞c1 ♞xc1+ 23.♙xc1
♞e4 24.♞e5 ♙f6 25.♙g4 ♙xe5
26.♙xe6+ ♙f8 27.dxe5 d4 28.
♙d5 ♞c5 29.♙d2 ♞ab3 30.♙b4
♙e8 31.♙xc5 ♞xc5 32.♙f1 ♞d3
33.♙xb7 a5 34.♙e4 ♞xb2 35.
♙xh7 ♞c4 36.f4 ♞xa3 37.♙e2
♞b5 38.♙d3 a4 39.♙g8 a3 40.g4
♞c3 41.♙xd4 a2 42.♙xa2 ♞xa2
43.h4 ♞b4 44.h5 ♞c2+ 45.♙e4 ♙f7
46.f5 ♞e1 47.g5 ♞g2 48.e6+ ♙e7
49.h6 gxh6 50.gxh6 ♙f6 51.h7 1-0

B22 Sicilian Alapin

NM Steven Breckenridge (2266)

Daniel Gay (2153)

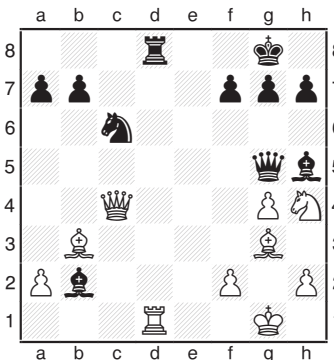
Portland, Oregon Open (6) 2011

Annotations by FM Ralph Dubisch

1.e4 c5 2.c3 ♞f6 3.e5 ♞d5 4.d4
cxd4 5.♞f3 ♞c6 6.♙c4 ♞b6 7.
♙b3 d6 8.exd6 ♞xd6 9.O-O ♙f5
10.cxd4 e6 11.♞c3 ♙e7 12.♞e2
O-O

12...♞xd4 13.♞xd4 ♞xd4 14.♞b5
♞d7 15.♞d1 ♞c6

13. ♖d1 ♗f6 14. d5 exd5 15. ♘xd5 ♘xd5 16. ♖xd5 ♜e7 17. ♗e3 ♗g6 18. ♞d2 ♖fd8 19. ♗c5 ♖xd5 20. ♞xd5 ♞c7 21. ♗d6 ♞a5 22. ♞c4 ♗xb2 23. ♖d1 ♖d8 24. ♘h4 ♗h5 25. g4 ♞g5 26. ♗g3



26... ♖xd1+

26... ♞xg4 27. ♖xd8+ ♘xd8 28. ♞c7 (28. ♞b5 ♞e2 29. ♗c4 ♞d1+ 30. ♔g2 ♗a3) 28... ♗f6

27. ♗xd1 ♗g6 28. ♞e2 ♗a3 29. f4 ♗c5+ 30. ♗f2 ♗xf2+ 31. ♞xf2 ♞d8 32. ♗f3 ♗d3 33. ♔g2 h6 34. ♔g3 ♞e7 35. ♞d2 ♗e4 36. ♗xe4 ♞xe4 37. ♘f5 ♞h1 38. ♞b2 Draw

A51 Fajarowicz Gambit

John Julian (2009)
Paul Motta (1925)

Portland, Oregon Open (5) 2011

1. d4 ♘f6 2. c4 e5 3. dxe5 ♘e4 4. ♘f3 ♗b4+ 5. ♘bd2 ♘c6 6. a3 ♘xd2 7. ♘xd2 ♗e7 8. ♘f3 f6 9. ♞d5 d6 10. exd6 ♗xd6 11. ♞e4+ ♞e7 12. ♞xe7+ ♔xe7 13. ♗d2 ♘e5 14. ♘xe5 ♗xe5 15. O-O-O a5 16. e4 ♖d8 17. b3 c5 18. ♗e2 ♗e6 19. ♗e3 b6 20. a4 ♖xd1+ 21. ♖xd1 ♖d8 22. ♖xd8 ♔xd8 23. f4 ♗d6 24. g3 ♗d7 25. ♗d3 h6 26. ♔d1 ♔e7 27. ♔e1 ♗c6 28. ♗d2 ♗c7 29. ♔e2 ♔f7 30. ♔e3 ♔e6 31. ♗c3 ♗b7 32. ♗f1 ♗c6 33. ♗h3+ ♔e7 34. ♗g4 g5 35. ♗f5 1-0

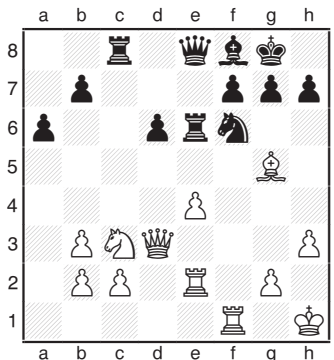
B86 Sicilian Sozin

Maxwell Sun (1749)
Jerry Sherrard (1978)

Gresham, Oregon Open (6) 2011

1. e4 c5 2. ♘f3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. ♘xd4 ♘f6 5. ♘c3 a6 6. ♗c4 e6 7. ♗e3 ♗e7 8. ♗b3 ♞a5 9. O-O O-O 10. f4

♘c6 11. ♞f3 ♘xd4 12. ♗xd4 e5 13. ♗e3 exf4 14. ♗xf4 ♞b6+ 15. ♔h1 ♗e6 16. h3 ♗xb3 17. axb3 ♖ac8 18. ♖ad1 ♞c6 19. ♖fe1 ♖fe8 20. ♖e2 ♗f8 21. ♖f1 ♖e6 22. ♗g5 ♞e8 23. ♞d3



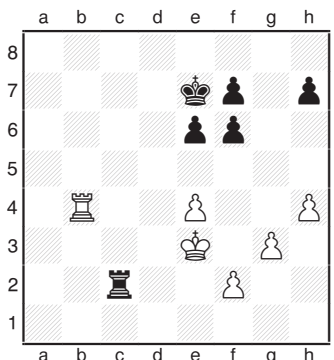
23... ♖xc3 24. ♞xc3 ♘xe4 25. ♖xe4 ♖xe4 26. ♞c7 ♖e1 27. ♞c4 h6 28. ♗h4 ♖e4 29. ♞d5 ♖xh4 30. ♞xb7 a5 31. ♞a7 ♖h5 32. ♞d4 ♞c6 33. ♞d3 ♖g5 34. ♞e2 ♞d5 35. ♞f2 g6 36. c4 ♞b7 37. ♔h2 d5 38. c5 ♞c7+ 39. ♔h1 ♗xc5 40. ♞e2 ♗a7 41. ♞e8+ ♔g7 42. ♞e2 ♗b8 43. g4 h5 44. gxh5 ♞g3 45. h6+ ♔xh6 0-1

A05 King's Indian Attack

FM Nick Raptis (2246)
Michael Wang (2084)

Portland, Oregon Open (5) 2011

1. ♘f3 d5 2. g3 ♘f6 3. ♗g2 e6 4. O-O ♗e7 5. d3 b6 6. ♘bd2 ♗b7 7. e4 dxe4 8. ♘g5 ♘bd7 9. ♘dxe4 ♞c8 10. a4 ♘c5 11. ♘xc5 ♗xc5 12. ♗e3 ♗xg2 13. ♔xg2 ♞b7+ 14. ♞f3 ♞xf3+ 15. ♔xf3 ♗d6 16. ♘e4 ♗e7 17. a5 ♔d7 18. ♗d4 ♘xe4 19. dxe4 ♗f6 20. ♗xf6 gxf6 21. ♖fd1+ ♔e7 22. ♖d3 ♖hd8 23. ♖xd8 ♖xd8 24. axb6 axb6 25. ♔e3 ♔f8 26. ♖a7 ♖d7 27. b4 ♔e7 28. h4 c5 29. ♖a6 cxb4 30. ♖xb6 ♖c7 31. ♖xb4 ♖xc2



32. ♖b8 ♖c5 33. ♖h8 ♖h5 34. ♔f4 f5 35. e5 f6 36. ♖b8 ♗xe5+ 37. ♔xe5 ♖h6 38. ♖b7+ ♔f8 39. h5 ♔e8 40. f3 ♔f8 41. g4 fxd4 42. fxd4 ♔e8 43. ♖b2 ♔f7 44. ♖f2+ ♔g7 45. ♖f3 ♔g8 46. ♖h3 1-0

B01 Center-Counter

Philip Placek (1688)
Luke Robson (1796)

Portland, Oregon Open (R-6) 2011

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 ♞xd5 3. ♘c3 ♞a5 4. ♗c4 ♘f6 5. d3 c6 6. ♗d2 ♞c7 7. ♞e2 ♗g4 8. f3 ♗h5 9. g4 ♗g6 10. f4 h6 11. f5 ♗h7 12. ♘h3 ♘bd7 13. O-O-O ♘b6 14. ♗b3 ♘bd5 15. ♘e4 O-O-O 16. ♞f3 e5 17. ♗xe6 ♗xe6 18. ♘xf6 gxf6 19. ♗xd5 exd5 20. ♞xf6 ♗g7 21. ♞f4 ♞d7 22. ♖hg1 ♖hf8 23. ♞g3 ♖de8 24. ♖de1 ♖xe1+ 25. ♖xe1 ♖e8 26. ♘f4 ♖xe1+ 27. ♗xe1 ♞e7 28. ♞f2 ♗e5 29. ♘e2 ♞g5+ 30. ♗d2 ♗xb2+ 31. ♔xb2 ♞xd2 32. ♞f8+ ♔c7 33. ♞f7+ ♔b6 34. ♘c1 d4 35. ♞xh7 ♞c3+ 36. ♔b1 ♞b4+ 37. ♘b3 ♞e1+ 38. ♔b2 ♞c3+ 39. ♔a3 a5 40. ♞xh6 ♞b4+ 41. ♔b2 a4 42. ♞d2 ♞b5 43. ♞a5+ 1-0

B42 Sicilian Kan

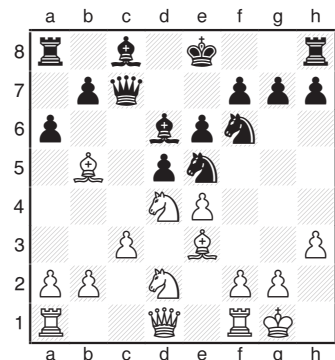
Brian Esler (2021)
Nick Pazderic (1823)

Gresham, Oregon Open (5) 2011

Annotations by FM Ralph Dubisch
1. e4 c5 2. ♘f3 e6 3. d4 cxd4 4. ♘xd4 a6 5. ♗d3 ♞c7 6. ♗e3 ♘f6 7. O-O d5 8. ♘d2 ♗d6 9. h3 ♘c6 10. c3 ♘e5

10...e5 poses an interesting question to the Knight.

11. ♗b5+!?



An aggressive gambit. White tries to take advantage of his slight lead in development by entering complications.

11...axb5 12.♖xb5 ♖c6 13.♗xd6+ ♖xd6 14.f4 dxe4?

Probably the losing move. Necessary was 14...♗c6 15. e5 ♗xe5 16. fxe5 ♖xe5, when Black will still face a significant White initiative, but will retain a measure of King safety and may even find a way to keep the extra pawn for awhile.

15.fxe5 ♖xe5

15...♖d3 16.exf6 ♖xe3+ 17.♖f2! (17.♗h1 gxf6 18.♗c4 ♖d3±) 17...gxf6 18.♗c4 ♖d3? 19.♖d2, winning.

16.♗c4 ♖c7 17.♗b6 ♖d7 18.♗d6+ ♗f8 19.♗c5 ♗g8 20.♖xf6! ♖a5 21.♖xf7 ♖c6 22.♖xg7+! ♗xg7 23.♖g4+ ♗f6 24.♖f1+ ♗e7 25.♖g5+ ♗d7 26.♖f7 mate

A powerful display by Brian Esler.

B01 Center-Counter

Fred Davis (1557)

Luke Robson (1796)

Gresham, Oregon Open (R-3) 2011

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♖xd5 3.♗c3 ♖a5 4.♗f3 ♗f6 5.d4 c6 6.♗d3 ♗g4 7.♗d2 ♖b6 8.♗a4 ♖c7 9.h3 ♗xf3 10.♖xf3 e6 11.O-O-O ♗bd7 12.♗c3 ♗d6 13.♗e4 ♗xe4 14.♗xe4 ♗f6 15.g4 ♗xe4 16.♖xe4 O-O-O 17.f4 h6 18.♖hf1 ♖he8 19.f5 e5 20.dxe5 ♗xe5 21.♖f3 ♖b6 22.♗c3 ♖xd1+ 23.♖xd1 ♗xc3 24.♖xc3 ♖e3+ 25.♖xe3 ♖xe3 26.♖d3 ♖xd3 27.cxd3 ♗d7 28.♗d2 ♗d6 29.d4 ♗d5 30.♗d3 g6 31.fxg6 fxg6 32.h4 g5 33.hxg5 hxg5 34.b3 b6 35.♗e3 a5 36.♗d3 b5 37.♗e3 c5 38.dxc5 ♗xc5 39.a3 a4 40.bxa4 bxa4 41.♗e4 ♗c4 42.♗f5 ♗b3 43.♗xg5 ♗xa3 44.♗h5 Draw

C80 Ruy Lopez Open

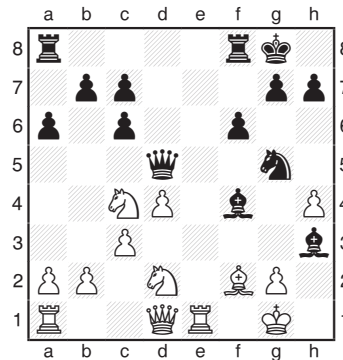
David Cohen (1300)

Mike Terrill (1571)

Portland, Oregon Open (R-5) 2011

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♗b5 a6 4.♗a4 ♗f6 5.O-O ♗xe4 6.♖e1 ♗c5 7.♗xc6 dxc6 8.♗xe5 ♗e7 9.d4 ♗e6 10.c3 O-O 11.♗e3 ♗d6 12.f4 f6 13.♗c4 ♗xf4 14.♗f2 ♖d5 15.

♗bd2 ♗g5 16.h4 ♗h3



17.♗f3 ♗xf3+ 18.♖xf3 ♖xf3 19.gxf3 b6 20.b3 ♖ae8 21.♗e3 ♗f7 22.♖e2 ♖e7 23. ♖ae1 ♖fe8 24.a3 g5 25.h5 g4 26.fxg4 ♗xg4 27.♗xg4 ♖xe2 28.♖f1 ♖g8 0-1

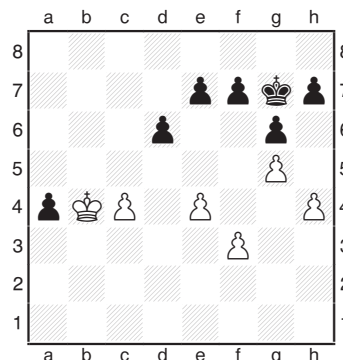
B79 Sicilian Dragon

Fred Davis (1557)

Daniel Hua (1714)

Gresham, Oregon Open (R-2) 2011

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 g6 6.♗e3 ♗g7 7.f3 ♗c6 8.♖d2 O-O 9.♗c4 ♗d7 10.O-O-O ♖a5 11.♗b1 ♖ac8 12.♗b3 ♗e5 13.g4 ♗c4 14.♗xc4 ♖xc4 15.♗b3 ♖a6 16.h4 ♖fc8 17.♗d4 b5 18.g5 b4 19.♗d5 ♗xd5 20.♗xg7 ♖xc2 21.♖xd5 ♗e6 22.♖d4 ♖2c4 23.♖d2 ♗xg7 24.♖c1 ♖xc1+ 25.♖xc1 ♖xc1+ 26.♗xc1 ♖c4 27.b3 ♖c5 28.♗d3 ♖d4 29.♖b2 ♖xb2+ 30.♗xb2 a5 31.a3 bxa3+ 32.♗xa3 ♗d7 33.♗b2 ♗b5 34.♗c4 a4 35.♗b4 ♗xc4 36.bxc4



36...f5 37.♗xa4 fxe4 38.fxe4 ♗f7 39.♗b5 ♗e6 40.♗c6 ♗e5 41.♗d7 ♗xe4 42.♗xe7 ♗e5 43.♗d7 d5 44.cxd5 ♗xd5 45.♗e7 ♗e5 46.♗f7 ♗f5 47.♗g7 ♗g4 48.♗xh7 ♗xh4 49.♗xg6 ♗g4 50.♗f6 ♗h5 51.g6 ♗h6 52.♗f7 ♗g5 53.g7 ♗f5 54.

g8=♖ ♗e5 55.♖d8 ♗f5 56.♖d4 ♗g5 57.♖e4 ♗h5 58.♖g2 ♗h4 59.♗f6 ♗h5 60.♖g5 mate

D36 QGD Exchange

Peter Lessler (2095)

LM Viktors Pupols (2203)

Portland, Oregon Open (6) 2011

Annotations by FM Ralph Dubisch

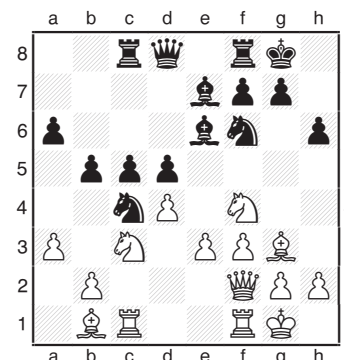
1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.♗g5 ♗e7 6.e3 h6 7.♗h4 O-O 8.♖c2 c6 9.♗d3 ♗e8?! 10.♗g3

10. ♗xe7!, removing Black's good Bishop for White's bad Bishop, seems right. 10...♖xe7 11.♗xd5!? cxd5 12. ♖xc8 is the kind of combination White should be looking at after an odd, back-rank clogging move such as 9...♗e8. Here, though, Black can create an interesting material imbalance with 12...♗c6 13.♖xa8 (13. ♖f5!? ♖b4+ 14.♗f1 ♗f6∞) 13...♖b4+ 14.♗f1 ♗f6 15. ♖xf8+ ♗xf8. One line showing Black's chances is 16.♖b1 ♖d2 17.♗f5 g6 18. ♗f3 ♖a5 19.♗d3 ♗b4.

10...♗d7 11.♗ge2 ♗df6 12.f3 c5 13.O-O a6 14.♖d2 b5 15.a3

15. dxc5 ♗xc5

15...♗e6 16.♖ac1 ♖c8 17.♗b1 ♗d6 18.♗f4 ♗c4 19.♖f2



19...♗xe3?

Apparently, Black missed the *intermezzo* that refutes this combination. 19... ♗d6 is at least equal for Black.

20. ♗xe6!

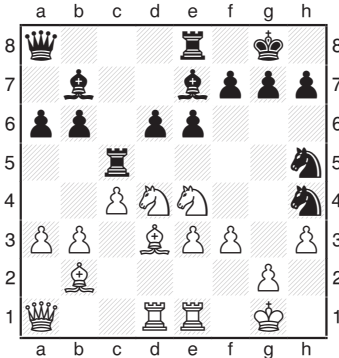
20. ♖xe3 cxd4 21.♖xd4? ♗c5 was Pupols' tactical idea.

20...fxe6 21.♖xe3 cxd4 22.♖xe6+ ♗h8 23.♗e2 ♗c5 24.♖xc5 ♖xc5 25.♗f4 1-0

E14 Queen's Indian

Peter Lessler (2095)
 NM Steven Breckenridge (2266)
 Portland, Oregon Open (5) 2011

1.d4 ♖f6 2.♗f3 e6 3.e3 c5 4.♗d3
 b6 5.O-O ♗e7 6.b3 ♗b7 7.♗bd2
 O-O 8.♗b2 d6 9.♗e1 ♗bd7 10.c4
 ♗e8 11.♖c2 ♗c8 12.♗ad1 ♖c7
 13.♖b1 ♖b8 14.h3 ♖a8 15.a3 ♗f8
 16.♖a1 ♗g6 17.♗f1 cxd4 18.♗xd4
 ♗h4 19.f3 ♗h5 20.♗d3 ♗c5 21.
 ♗e4 a6



22.♗e2 ♗f5 23.♗f4 d5 24.cxd5
 exd5 25.♗d2 ♗g5 26.♗xh5 ♗xg2
 27.h4 ♗xh4+ 28.♗f2 ♗g2+ 29.♗f1
 ♖c8 30.♗f4 ♗d6 31.♗xg2 ♖h3
 32.♗xh7+ ♗xh7 33.♗e2 ♗xg2 34.
 ♗d3 ♖f5+ 35.e4 dxe4+ 36.fxe4
 ♗f4+ 37.♗c2 ♗xe4+ 38.♗xe4
 ♗xe4 39.♗h1+ ♗g8 40.♗b1 ♗e2+
 41.♗a2 ♗d3 42.♗xd3 ♖xd3 43.
 ♖c1 ♗c2 44.♖b1 ♗e5 45.♗d1
 ♖xd1 0-1

B24 Sicilian Closed

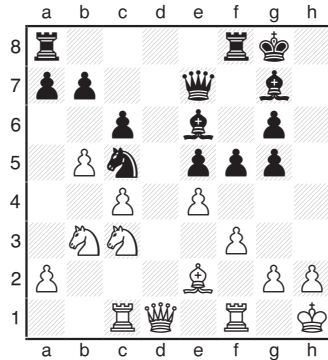
Mike Morris (2047)
 Becka Lampman (1772)
 Gresham, Oregon Open (6) 2011

1.e4 c5 2.♗c3 e6 3.g3 ♗c6 4.♗g2
 ♗f6 5.d3 ♗e7 6.f4 d6 7.♗f3 O-O
 8.O-O ♖c7 9.h3 a6 10.g4 b5 11.
 a3 ♗b7 12.f5 b4 13.axb4 cxb4 14.
 ♗e2 d5 15.g5 ♗d7 16.exd5 exd5
 17.♗f4 ♗d6 18.♖d2 ♗fe8 19.
 ♗xd6 ♖xd6 20.♗ae1 ♗c5 21.
 ♗ed4 ♗xd4 22.♗xd4 ♖b6 23.♗h1
 a5 24.b3 a4 25.bxa4 ♗xa4 26.♖f4
 ♗c3 27.f6 g6 28.♗e7 ♗b5 29. ♗f5
 ♗xe7 30.♗h6+ ♗h8 31.fxe7 ♖e6
 32.♖xf7 ♖xf7 33.♗xf7+ ♗g7 34.
 ♗d8 ♗d6 35.♗xb7 ♗xb7 36.♗xd5
 ♗e8 37.♗f7+ 1-0

E61 King's Indian

Benjamin Pikus (1442)
 Mike Morris (2047)
 Gresham, Oregon Open (5) 2011

Annotations by FM Ralph Dubisch
 1.d4 ♗f6 2.♗f4 d6 3.♗f3 g6 4.e3
 ♗g7 5.c4 O-O 6.♗c3 ♗bd7 7. ♗e2
 c6 8. O-O ♗h5 9.♗g5 h6 10.♗h4
 ♖e8 11.♗d2 ♗hf6 12.b4 ♗h7 13.
 ♗c1 f5 14.b5 e5 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.
 f3 ♗c5 17.e4 ♗g5 18.♗xg5 hxg5
 19.♗b3 ♖e7 20.♗h1 ♗e6



21. ♗xc5?!
 21.bxc6 bxc6 22.♗d5! cxd5 23.
 ♗xc5 throws a bit of a wrench into the
 works.
 21...♖xc5 22.bxc6 bxc6
 Now Black controls the position and
 builds up a serious advantage.
 23.♖c2 ♗fd8 24.♗fd1 ♗d4 25.
 ♗d3 f4 26.♗a4 ♖e7 27.♗c3 ♗ad8
 28.♗e2 ♗d7 29.♗d2 ♖c5 30.
 ♗cd1 g4 31.♗c1 gxf3 32.gxf3
 ♖e3 33.♗f1 ♗h3 34.♗e2 ♗xf1!?

The right idea, but a clearer execu-
 tion is 34...♖xd3! 35.♗xd3 ♗xf1.
 35.♗xe3 fxe3 36.♗xf1 ♗d1 37.
 ♗d3!
 37. ♗g1 ?
 ♗d2 brings
 home the point
 right away.
 37...♗xf1+ 38.
 ♗g2 ♗a1 39.
 ♖b3? e2 40.
 ♗f2 ♗xd3 41.
 ♖b8+ ♗h7 42.
 ♗xe2 ♗d7 43.
 ♖c8 ♗xa2+ 44.
 ♗e1 ♗dd2 45.
 ♖h3+ ♗h6 46.

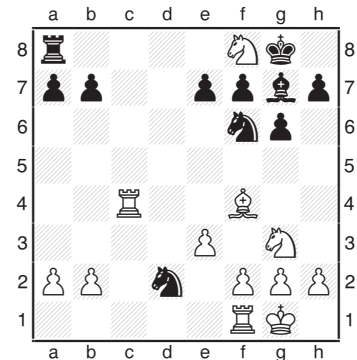
f4 ♗xh2 47.♖d7+ ♗g7 48.♖d3
 ♗a1+ 0-1

D82 Grunfeld

John Julian (2009)
 Jason Cigan (1934)
 Gresham, Oregon Open (6) 2011

Annotations by FM Ralph Dubisch
 1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 g6 3.♗c3 d5 4.♗f4
 ♗g7 5.e3 c5 6.dxc5 ♖a5 7.♗c1
 dxc4
 7...♗e4!?

8.♗xc4 O-O 9.♗ge2 ♖xc5 10.
 ♗b5 ♗e6 11.♖b3
 11.♖a4 ♗xc4 12.♗xc4± may take
 away some of the counterplay Black
 found with forks on a5.
 11...♗xc4 12.♗xc4 ♖f5 13.O-O
 13.♗g3 ♖d7 14.♗c7 ♖d8 15.
 ♗xb7±
 13...♗c6 14.♗g3 ♖e6 15.♗c7
 ♗a5 16.♗xe6 ♗xb3 17.♗xf8 ♗d2



18.♗xg6
 18.♗c7 ♗xf1 19.♗xf1 ♗xf8 20.
 ♗xb7±
 18...hxg6 19.♗cc1
 19.♗c7! ♗xf1 20.♗xf1±

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19...xf1 20.xf1 d5 21.e2
 f8 22.b3 e5 23.g3 e4 24.d4
 b4 25.h4

25. c7±—White has consistently
 avoided playing this; I'm not sure why.

25...d7 26.a3 xd4 27.exd4 c6
 28.b4 xd4 29.b5 e5 30.f6
 c4 31.xc4

31. d1 d3 32.f3±

31... xc4 32. a4 Draw

C06 French Tarrasch

Noah Fields (1792)

Mike Janniro (2062)

Gresham, Oregon Open (5) 2011

Annotations by FM Ralph Dubisch

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3. d2 f6 4. e5
 f7 5. d3 c5 6. c3 c6 7. e2
 b6 8. O-O b7 9. f4 c7 10. f3 O-
 O-O 11. g5 db8 12. f5 h6 13.
 f3 a6 14. e3 b7 15. xa6+
 xa6 16. c2 cxd4 17. cxd4 cb4
 18. xc7+ xc7 19. e1 exf5 20.
 xf5 d7 21. a3 c6 22. d3 g6
 23. f3 g7 24. af1 d8 25. df4
 e8 26. g3 de7 27. c3 d7
 28. d3 c8 29. gf3 ee7 30.
 e2 e6 31. ef4 e8 32. c1
 b7 33. cf1 ce6 34. xe6
 xe6 35. d2 c6 36. c3 f8
 37. f4 e7 38. d3 xa3 39.
 bxa3

39. e6! fxe6 40. e5∞

39...xc3 40. c5+ xc5 41. dxc5
 bxc5 42. xf7 xf7 43. xf7+ xf7
 44. e6 d6 45. f2 d4 46. e2 c4 47.
 d2 c6 48. a4 d5 49. e7 e6
 50. a5 xe7 51. a6 e6 52. h4 e5
 0-1

B10 Caro-Kann

Michael Wang (2084)

Samir Sen (2109)

Gresham, Oregon Open (4) 2011

1. c4 c6 2. e4 e6 3. d3 d5 4. exd5
 exd5 5. cxd5 cxd5 6. b5+ c6 7.
 a4 d6 8. d4 f6 9. f3 d7 10.
 O-O e7 11. e1 O-O 12. e5 a6
 13. xd7 xd7 14. d3 fe8 15.
 d1 h6 16. e3 ad8 17. h3 b4
 18. c1 e4 19. f3 e7 20. ed1
 de8 21. b1 f5 22. a3 f4 23. xf4
 xc3 24. bxc3 xa3 25. c2 e1+

Northwest Chess

26. h2 xd1 27.
 xd1 d6 28. f3
 xf4+ 29. xf4 f8
 30. g3 a5 31. e2
 f6 32. g6 f8 33.
 c2 f7 34. d3 g5
 35. e6 f4+ 36. h1
 c1+ 37. d1 f7
 38. g6+ f8 39.
 xh6+ 1-0



A46 Queen Pawn

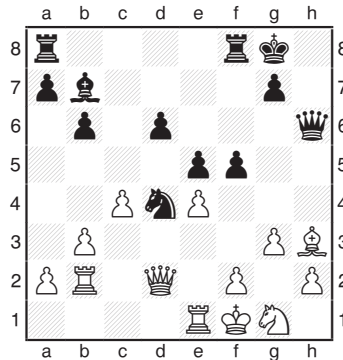
Mike Janniro (2062)

NM Steven Breckenridge (2266)

Gresham, Oregon Open (4) 2011

Annotations by FM Ralph Dubisch

1. d4 f6 2. f3 e6 3. e3 c5 4. e2
 b6 5. bd2 b7 6. O-O e7 7. b3
 O-O 8. b2 d6 9. c4 bd7 10. e1
 e8 11. f1 f8 12. e4 cxd4 13.
 xd4 g6 14. c2 c8 15. ac1
 e5 16. e3 g4 17. g3 xe3 18.
 xe3 h5 19. g2 h4 20. d1 h3
 21. h1 f8 22. f1 e6 23. g1
 h6 24. f3 e6 25. c2 g5 26.
 e1 d4 27. b2 f8 28. g4 f5
 29. xh3 xd2 30. xd2



30...f4?!

30... h7 31. exf5 f3 32. xf3
 xh3+ 33. e2 h5 34. e3 xf5—+

31. f3?

31. d3 f6 with initiative.

31...xf3 32. xf3 xh3+ 33.
 g2 h7 34. be2 fxg3 35. hxg3
 xf3+ 36. xf3 f8 37. xf8+
 xf8 38. g2 e7 39. e3 g5 40.
 e2 g4 41. a4 d7 42. f2 h1
 43. e1 h2+ 44. f1 c6 45.
 e2 h1+ 46. f2 c5 47. e1
 h2+ 48. f1 a6 49. e2 h1+
 50. f2 b5 51. cxb5 axb5 52. axb5

xb5 53. b4 a6 54. b3 h2+
 55. e1 xe2+ 56. xe2 a4+
 57. d3 xb4 0-1

B90 Sicilian Sozin

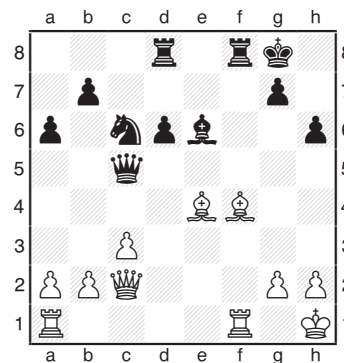
Mike MacGregor (2157)

FM Paul Bartron (2098)

Gresham, Oregon Open (3) 2011

Annotations by FM Ralph Dubisch

1. e4 c5 2. f3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. xd4
 f6 5. c3 a6 6. c4 e5 7. de2
 e7 8. O-O O-O 9. g3 c6 10.
 h5 xh5 11. xh5 d4 12. d1
 e6 13. d5 c8 14. d3 f5 15.
 c3 c6 16. f4 f6 17. xf6+ xf6
 18. fe5 xe5 19. f4 c5+ 20.
 h1 fe4 21. xe4 cd8 22. c2
 h6



23. g3

23. xh6! gxh6 (23... c4 24. h7+
 h8 25. xg7+ xg7 26. g6+ h8
 27. h6, winning) 24. xc6

23...d5 24. d3 d4 25. e2 d5
 26. g4 c4 27. b4 d5 28. e4
 g5 29. xf8+ xf8 30. xg5
 hxg5 31. cxd4 d8 32. xc6 bxc6
 33. e5 f7 34. a3 g6 35. c1 b5
 36. c3 e6 37. g1 f8 38. h3
 f1+ 39. h2 f5 40. g3 a4 41.
 e3 b5 42. g7 1-0

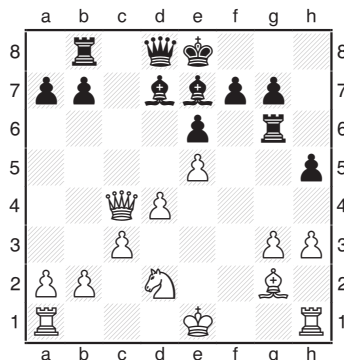
December 2011

B20 Sicilian Closed

Bill Heywood (2008)
Noah Fields (1792)

Gresham, Oregon Open (4) 2011

1.e4 c5 2.d3 ♖c6 3.g3 ♗f6 4.♗g2 e6 5.f4 d6 6.♗f3 ♗e7 7.c3 c4 8.e5 dxe5 9.fxe5 ♗g4 10.d4 h5 11.h3 ♗h6 12.♗xh6 ♗xh6 13.♗fd2 ♗a5 14.♗xc4 ♗xc4 15.♖a4+ ♗d7 16.♖xc4 ♗b8 17.♗d2 ♗g6



18.♖d3 ♗h4 19.♗e4 ♗xg3+ 20.♗f1 ♖h4 21.♗xg3 ♗xg3 22.♖e4 ♗b5+ 0-1

A48 Torre Attack

Curtis Brooks (2118)
Jason Cigan (1934)

Gresham, Oregon Open (4) 2011

1.d4 ♗f6 2.♗f3 g6 3.♗g5 ♗g7 4.♗bd2 O-O 5.e4 d5 6.♗xf6 exf6 7.exd5 ♖xd5 8.♗e2 ♗c6 9.c3 f5 10.O-O ♖d8 11.♗b3 a5 12.a4 g5 13.♗e1 g4 14.♗fd2 ♗e7 15.f4 ♗d5 16.g3 ♗e3 17.♖c1 ♖d5 18.♗f3 gxf3 19.♗xe3 b6 20.♗f2 ♗b7 21.♖c2 ♗fe8 22.♗ae1 ♗xe3 23.♗xe3 ♗c6 24.♗c1 ♗e8 25.♗xe8+ ♗xe8 26.♗xf3 ♗c6 27.♖d1 ♖c4 28.♗e5 ♗xe5 29.dxe5

♖e4 30.♖d8+ ♗g7 31.♗e2 ♗xa4 32.♖d4 ♗c6 33.♖xe4 ♗xe4 34.♗d4 c6 35.♗e3 h5 36.c4 ♗g6 37.♗b3 ♗c2 38.c5 bxc5 39.♗xa5 ♗a4 40.♗b7 c4 41.♗d4 h4 42.gxh4 1-0

A58 Benko Gambit

LM Viktors Pupols (2203)
Ethan Gottlieb (1943)

Gresham, Oregon Open (4) 2011

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.♗c3 ♗xa6 7.f4 d6 8.♗f3 ♗g7 9.e4 ♗xf1 10.♗xf1 ♗fd7 11.♗f2 ♖a5 12.♗d2 O-O 13.♖e2 ♖b4 14.a3 ♖b3 15.♗ab1 ♗b6 16.♖b5 ♖xb5 17.♗xb5 ♗8d7 18.♗c3 ♗c4 19.♗xg7 ♗xg7 20.♗fc1 ♗db6 21.♗c2 ♗a5 22.♗c3 ♗b8 23.♗e1 ♗a4 24.♗xa4 ♗xa4 25.♗ee2 ♗a5 26.♗d2 ♗b3 27.♗xb3 ♗xb3 28.♗e3 ♗b7 29.♗d2 ♗a8 30.♗e1 ♗ab8 31.♗ee2 ♗b3 32.♗d1 ♗8b7 33.♗c1 ♗b8 34.♗c2 ♗8b7 35.♗c4 ♗b8 36.♗a4 ♗8b7 37.♗b1 ♗d3 38.g4 ♗db3 39.♗a2 ♗3b6 40.♗c4 ♗b3 41.♗c3 ♗xc3 42.bxc3 ♗a7 43.c4 ♗f8 44.g5 e6 45.♗b2 exd5 46.♗b8+ ♗g7 47.exd5 ♗e7 48.♗b6 ♗e4 49.♗b3 ♗xf4 50.♗xd6 ♗g4 51.♗c6 ♗xg5 52.♗xc5 ♗f6 53.a4 ♗g1 54.♗c7 ♗f1 55.a5 ♗e5 56.a6 ♗a1 57.♗xf7 ♗xa6 58.♗xh7 ♗d4 59.♗c7 ♗b6+ 60.♗a4 ♗f6 61.♗c6 ♗f2 62.d6 ♗e5 63.c5 ♗e6 64.♗c7 ♗xh2 65.♗e7+ ♗f6 66.♗e8 ♗d2 67.♗b5 g5 68.♗c6 ♗f7 69.♗e1 g4 70.♗c7 ♗a2 71.d7 ♗a7+ 72.♗d6 ♗a8 73.c6 g3 74.♗e3 g2 75.♗f3+ ♗g6 76.♗g3+ ♗f6 77.♗xg2 ♗a1 78.♗f2+ 1-0



Club Championships

Portland, OR

FM Nick Raptis and expert Steven Deeth both posted scores of four points in the five-round Portland CC Championship to tie for first-second. Deeth beat Raptis in Round Three, but drew in the first and fifth rounds to Robert Lundin (1786) and Jeremy Waterman (1859). Lundin finished clear third on 3.5 in the thirteen-player event. The tournament was played on five Tuesdays from November 1 through 29 at time controls of 40/90 and SD/30.

Courtesy pdxchess.org

Seattle, WA

Expert Fred Kleist won the Seattle CC Championship with a score of 6.5/7 after escaping from a terrible position with a draw in Round One against David Kelly (1562). Tianlu Peng (1671) scored four points, good for clear second. Tied for third through fifth were Joe Davis (1675), Michael VanScyoc (1586), and Brian Raffel (1475), who all had even scores in the seven-round event. The seventeen-player tournament was held on seven Fridays from September 9 through November 11 at time controls of 35/100 and 25/60.

Spokane, OR

It took a few evenings of make-up games, but the club's Fall Championship is finally over. Top seeds John Julian and Michael Cambareri, who drew in their fourth round encounter, each scored 4.5 to top the field. Loyd Willaford and Pat Kirilin each finished on three to win the section prizes for the over and under 1400 categories. Nathan Sacpopo and Tristen Udby finished second in the U1400 category with two points each.

Continued on back cover

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Oysters on the Half-Minute Shell

Chess on the West Side of Puget Sound

by David Rupel

The Oyster Bay Inn Classic in Bremerton, October 1-2, gave me an opportunity to try my luck once again with 30-second increments—and I confess I had extraordinary luck in finishing clear first with two wins and two draws to finish 3-1 in the ten-player open section.

My wins (against Michael MacGregor and Viktors Pupols) were rightfully no better than draws. My draws (versus Paul Bartron and Randy Dean) were rightfully lost.

Games with a 30-second increment are standard in Europe nowadays, with game in 90 minutes plus 30 seconds the norm. In 2007, I played in three events featuring this time control in Costa Rica and Spain. In my opinion, it makes for a better game.

Each time a player makes a move he adds an extra 30 seconds to his clock. Hence, it reduces the likelihood of ridiculous howlers when both flags are on the hinges. One always has at least 30 seconds to make a move.

It may not be entirely coincidental that my only other clear first in a Northwest chess tournament since Methuselah was the 2009 Green Open in Seattle, also a 30-second increment affair. Better late than never to find one's niche!

Organizers Kris Dietsch and Joe Eversole deserve credit for promoting and conducting a well-run, innovative event. USCF Master Bill McGeary conducted a lecture for novices and intermediates.

The premier section with eleven players was won by Matthew Nill, with a score of 3.5-.5. Nine players took part in the reserve section with Thomas Taylor finishing with a perfect 4-0.

A fitting tribute was made on behalf of Darby Monahan of Everett, 68, who passed away July 16, 2011.

Growing up in Darby's hometown of Yakima, I had known him for something like 50 years. I recall we caught a train from Seattle to Yakima together after drawing our last-round game in the 1964 Woodpushers, held at the Seattle Center Food Circus. He always had a great smile and a great exuberance for the royal game. RIP.

I seldom find myself paired against the old master, "Uncle" Vik Pupols, in the first round of a tourney. But this was a surprisingly strong event. The previous weekend, Viktors had finished clear first (4.5-0.5) against a strong field in the Seattle Fall Open.

Viktors and I have locked horns countless times over five decades and he has a respectable plus. But this was a good day for me in finding a cute sacrifice leading to a win in the Knight ending.

A90 Dutch Stonewall

LM Viktors Pupols (2203)

David Rupel (2111)

Bremerton, Oyster Bay Inn Classic (1) 2011

Annotations by NM Bill McGeary and

David Rupel (DR)

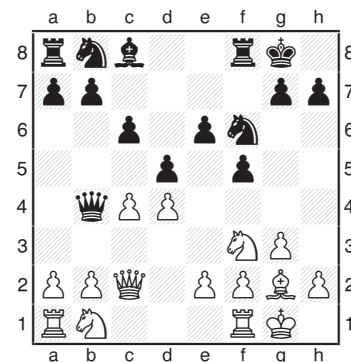
1. ♖f3 e6 2. g3 d5 3. c4 c6 4. ♖c2 f5 5. d4

In a regular Stonewall, the White Queen on c2 is unusual, as it only watches the f5-pawn. White could instead choose to play d2-d3, ♖bd2 and e2-e4 at some point when the Queen is actually quite useful, the risk is that Black might play a quick ...e6-e5 and gain activity as White prepares. Bearing in mind that it is likely that the first Pupols – Rupel game occurred shortly before the discovery of Oyster Bay, I suspect that Pupols had something special in mind. Or, it was the morning round and he was just getting moves out?

5... ♖f6 6. ♖g2 ♖b4+

6... ♖e7 and 6... ♖d6 are both more logical and more common.—DR

7. ♖d2 ♖e7 8. O-O O-O 9. ♖xb4 ♖xb4



Traditional thinking placed the Black dark-squared Bishop on a high pedestal in the Stonewall, making the previous maneuver questionable for Rupel. That thinking is now very *passee* and Black seeks exchanges to ease the position, as long as both dark-squared Bishops go off. Still, I think in the current circumstances it was a mistake. After 10.c5, the Black Queen is quite far from anywhere relevant and is likely to get bumped a few times, e.g., 10... ♖a5 11. ♖c3 ♖c7 12. b4 ♖bd7 13. a4 sees White getting things going, while Black is dancing back.

10. cxd5?! cxd5 11. ♖bd2 ♖c6 12. e3 ♖d7 13. a3 ♖e7 14. b4 ♖ac8 15. ♖b2 ♖e4

Equal. White could try to claim an advantage because of the better Bishop, yet it has no real bite. Black is ready to contest the c-file and play ♖e8-h5.

16. ♖fd1 ♖d8 17. ♖dc1 ♖f7 18. ♖f1 ♖fd6 19. ♖e5 ♖b5 20. a4 ♖xc1 21. ♖xc1 ♖c8 22. ♖b2 ♖xf1 23. ♖xf1 ♖xd2+ 24. ♖xd2 ♖c7 25. ♖d3 ♖e4 26. ♖a2 ♖c2 27. ♖xc2 ♖xc2 28. ♖e1 ♖f7 29. ♖c1 ♖xc1+ 30. ♖xc1 b6

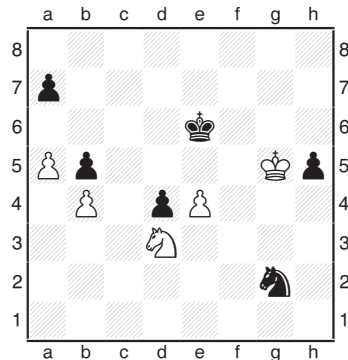
Objectively this is very equal. Each side has a desire to prove something—Pupols has won plenty of games like this before, Rupel doesn't want to be on that list. So, they play on. I think White should

play 31. ♖a2 here to prevent ... ♗c3, then, with some combination of f2-f3, b4-b5, and ♖b4, press Black.

31. ♖d3 ♖e7 32. f3 ♗c3 33. ♖b2 b5 34. a5 ♖b1 35. ♖d3 ♖a3 36. ♖e2 ♗c4 37. ♖e5 ♖d6 38. ♖d3 g5 39. ♖f2 e5 40. dxe5+ ♖xe5 41. h3 ♗c6 42. ♖d3 d4 43. e4 fxe4 44. fxe4 h5 45. h4 gxh4 46. gxh4 ♖e6 47. ♖f3?

A case of trying too hard to win; any other King move holds.—DR

47... ♖e5+ 48. ♖e2 ♖g6 49. ♖f3 ♖xh4+ 50. ♖f4 ♖g2+ 51. ♖g5



51... ♖e1!

Winning.—DR

52. ♖xe1 ♖e5 53. ♖xh5 ♖xe4 54. ♖g4 d3 55. ♖f3 ♖e3 56. a6 d2 57. ♖xd2 ♖xd2 58. ♖f4 0-1

Both players are to be commended for their efforts with a special bit to the eventual winner. This was a typical example of the fighting spirit present at Oyster Bay. With any luck, it will be this tough again next year.—BM

D80 Grunfeld Makagonov

David Rupel (2111)

Michael MacGregor (2157)

Bremerton, Oyster Bay Inn Classic (1) 2011

Annotations by David Rupel

1. d4 ♖f6 2. c4 g6 3. ♖c3 d5 4. e3 ♗g7 5. b4

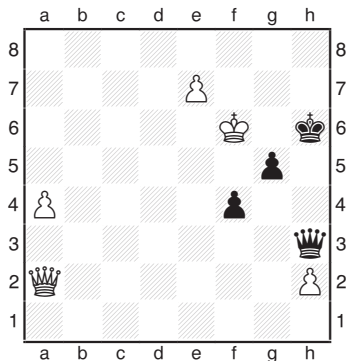
My most frequent weapon against the Gruenfeld. The usual approach to the Makagonov variation is 5. ♖f3 0-0 6. b4. But the great Tigran Petrosian tried this preemptive thrust more than once.

5... 0-0 6. ♗b2 b6 7. c5 c6 8. ♖f3 a5 9. a3 ♗a6 10. ♗xa6 ♖xa6 11. ♖a4 bxc5 12. bxc5 ♖e4 13. ♖c1 e5 14.

O-O exd4 15. ♖xe4 dxe4 16. ♖xd4 ♖b8?

16... ♖c7 with a slight edge for White.

17. ♖xc6 ♖xc6 18. ♗xg7 ♖xg7 19. ♖xc6 ♖e8 20. ♖fd1 ♖h4 21. ♖d7 ♖ac8 22. ♖d5 ♖e7 23. ♖d4+ ♖g8 24. ♖d8+ ♖e8 25. ♖xe8+ ♖xe8 26. c6 ♖e7 27. ♖c5 ♖c7 28. g3 ♖e6 29. ♖d7 ♖e7 30. ♖d5 ♖e6 31. a4 ♖f8 32. ♖c4 ♖g7 33. ♖g2 ♖f6 34. ♖xe4 ♖xc6 35. ♖xe6+ ♖xe6 36. ♖xa5 ♖e4+ 37. ♖h3 ♖e6+ 38. g4 h5 39. ♖c3+ ♖e7 40. ♖d4 hxg4+ 41. ♖xg4 f5 42. ♖b4+ ♖f7 43. ♖g3 g5 44. ♖d4 ♖c6 45. ♖e5 ♖g6 46. f3 ♖c2 47. e4 f4+ 48. ♖h3 ♖f2 49. ♖f5+ ♖h6 50. ♖g4 ♖f1+ 51. ♖g2 ♖e1 52. ♖a2 ♖f1+ 53. ♖g4 ♖g1+ 54. ♖f5 ♖c5+ 55. e5 ♖f8+ 56. ♖g4 ♖e8 57. e6 ♖h5+ 58. ♖f5 ♖xf3 59. e7 ♖h3+ 60. ♖f6



60... ♖d7?

If instead 60... ♖c3+, it appears Black can salvage a perpetual, e.g., 61. ♖f7 ♖g7+ 62. ♖e8 ♖h8+ 63. ♖d7 ♖d4+.

61. ♖e6 ♖e8 62. ♖h3+ 1-0

Mike Murray was a veteran of many years when I came on the scene in 1972. Here he displays a bit of what he learned in the 60's (I hope Mike doesn't mind the age reference!).—BM

B23 Sicilian Closed

Michael Murray (2004)

Michael Yocum (1492)

Bremerton, Oyster Bay Inn Classic (1) 2011

Annotations by NM Bill McGeary

1. e4 c5 2. ♖c3 d6 3. g3 ♖c6 4. d3 ♖f6 5. ♗g2 e6 6. f4 ♖b8 7. ♖f3 ♗e7 8. 0-0 0-0 9. h3 e5

A common motif for White in these formations is a kingside pawn storm. Yocom takes some action in the center as a distraction, but White is too well anchored.

10. ♖h2 exf4 11. gxh4 g6 12. ♖e2 ♖h5 13. c3 ♗h4

This foray seems unfounded, affording White more time to push forward. The Knight on h5 is stuck.

14. ♗e3 ♖e8 15. ♖f3 ♗f6 16. ♖e1 ♖e7 17. ♖f2 ♗e6 18. ♖g3 ♖xg3 19. ♖xg3 ♖g7 20. ♖f2 ♖bd8

Failing to note that the Bishop on f6 is short of squares.

21. d4

Thud!

21... cxd4 22. cxd4 ♗c4 23. e5 dxe5 24. dxe5 ♖g8 25. exf6 ♖xf6 26. ♖e1 ♗xa2 27. ♖fe2 ♖d6 28. ♖f2 a6 29. ♖d2 ♖b8 30. ♖ed1 ♗b3 31. ♖xd8 ♖xd8 32. ♖d2 ♖e7 33. ♖d4 ♗d5 34. f5 ♗xg2 35. ♖xg2 ♖d5 36. ♗g5 f6 37. fxg6 hxg6 38. ♖e6 ♖e8 39. ♖xd5 ♖xe6 40. ♗xf6 ♖e8 41. ♖h4 ♖e2+ 42. ♖f3 ♖h2

Black looks to sneak in the back way, but White is first!

43. ♖h8+ ♖f7 44. ♖g7+ ♖e6 45. ♖g8+

White is under three minutes and missed 45. ♖d7+ ♖xf6 46. ♖d6+ ♖g5 47. ♖g4+ and mate on g6. Typically in time pressure situations you think you hear a lot of thinking going on while you try to will the players to play good moves. Murray didn't panic or rush here, he just steadily worked his way around to the winning idea.

45... ♖xf6 46. ♖h8+ ♖e6 47. ♖g8+ ♖e7 48. ♖d8+ ♖e6 49. ♖d7+ ♖f6 50. ♖d6+ ♖g5 51. ♖g4+ ♖h6 52. ♖xg6 mate

Mr. Yocom deserves a great deal of credit for obtaining the chances he got. Murray just kept things in perspective and found the proper way. We should all have the spirit that both players displayed. ■



Idaho Chess News

by Jeff Roland

Eighteen players assembled at the Obenchain Insurance Building in Twin Falls on November 12 to play the Southern Idaho Open chess tournament. There were nine players in the Open Section, and nine players in the Reserve (U1400) Section. Jeff Roland was the tournament director.

In the Open Section, there was a tie for first-second place between Caleb Kircher (Nampa) and Fred Bartell (Twin Falls) with scores of three points each, followed by a three-way tie for third-fifth place among Jeffrey Roland (Boise), Tom Booth (Caldwell), and Brett Hamilton (Meridian) with 2½ points each.

In the Reserve (U1400) Section, first place went to Adam Porth (Bellevue) with 3½ points, followed by second place to Desmond Porth (Bellevue) with three points, and third place to Kevin Patterson (Meridian) with 2½ points. Nick Bruck, rated 1340, elected to "play up" to the Open Section.

Four chess books were donated by the late Glen Buckendorf, Jr., to give out as prizes. These went to the highest placing players in each section who didn't win a prize. In the Open Section, first choice went to Patrick T. Kirk (Boise) with two points, followed by Kim Barney

(Kaysville, UT) with 1 point. In the Reserve (U1400) Section, first choice went to Aleksandr Vereshchagin (Twin Falls), followed by Jacob Nathan (Idaho Falls) both having scored two points.

With the time control set at G/60 + 5-second delay, play was intense and exciting. Kevin Patterson kept everyone up to date on the BSU-TCU college football game that was happening by posting point-by-point results as they happened on the blackboard.

ICA would like to thank Obenchain Insurance for the use of their site for our chess tournaments. Their meeting room is perfect for our events, and the lighting is excellent for the games.

D52 QGD Cambridge Springs

Brett Hamilton (1904)
Tom Booth (1638)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (1) 2011

1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♗c3 ♗bd7 5.♕g5 c6 6.e3 ♖a5 7.a3 ♗e4 8.♖a4 ♖xa4 9.♗xa4 ♗xg5 10.♗xg5 ♕e7 11.♗f3 O-O 12.c5 ♕f6 13.g4 g6 14.g5 ♕g7 15.h4 e5 16.O-O-O exd4 17.exd4 ♖e8 18.♕h3 ♗f8 19.♗c3 ♕xh3 20.♖xh3 ♖e7 21.h5 ♖ae8 22.hxg6 fxg6 23.♖dh1 ♗h8 24.♗d2 ♗g8 25.♗d3 ♗h8 26.♗h4 ♗g8 27.f4 ♗e6 28.♖f3 ♗xd4 29.♖fh3 ♗e6 30.♗g2 ♗xc5+ 31.♗c2 ♕xc3 32.♗xc3 0-1

A01 Larsen's Opening

Fred Bartell (1606)
Caleb Kircher (1781)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (1) 2011

1.c4 e5 2.♗c3 ♗c6 3.b3 ♗f6 4.♕b2 d5 5.cxd5 ♗xd5 6.e3 ♕e6 7.♗f3 f6 8.♕b5 ♗db4 9.O-O a6 10.♕xc6+ ♗xc6 11.d4 ♕g4 12.d5 ♗b8 13.h3 ♕xf3 14.♖xf3 ♕d6 15.♗e4 O-O 16.♖ac1 f5 17.♗xd6 ♖xd6 18.♖g3 ♗d7 19.f4 ♖ae8 20.♖fd1 ♖f7 21.♖d3 ♖fe7 22.b4 exf4 23.exf4 ♖xb4 24.♕a3 ♖e1+ 25.♗h2 ♖a5 26.

♕b2 ♖1e7 27.d6 cxd6 28.♖xd6 ♖b4 29.♕a3 ♖a5 30.♖b3+ ♗h8 31.♖d5 ♖d8 32.♕xe7 ♖xe7 33.♖c7 ♖e4 34. ♖dxd7 ♖xf4+ 35. ♖g3 1-0

D20 Queen's Gambit Accepted

Jeff Roland (1723)
Nick Bruck (1340)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (1) 2011

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e3 e6 4.♕xc4 c6 5.♗f3 ♗f6 6.O-O ♕d6 7.♗c3 O-O 8.♕d3 ♖c7 9.♕d2 ♗bd7 10.♖c1 a6 11.a3 e5 12.d5 ♗c5 13.♕b1 e4 14.♗e1 ♕xh2+ 15.♗h1 ♕e5 16.b4 ♕g4 17.f3 exf3 18.gxf3 ♕h3 19.♖f2 ♕g3 20.♖g2 ♕xg2+ 21.♗xg2 ♗cd7 22.f4 cxd5 23.♗e2 ♖d6 24.♗xg3 ♗e4 25.♕xe4 dxe4 26.♗xe4 ♖h6+ 27.♗g1 ♗f6 28.♗xf6+ ♖xf6 29.♕c3 ♖d8 30.♖g4 f6 31.♖d1 ♖c8 32.♖xc8 ♖axc8 33.♕e1 ♖c2 34.♖d7 ♖b8 35.f5 ♖a2 36.♗f4 ♖xa3 37.♗d5 ♗f8 38.♕g3 ♖c8 39.♕d6+ ♗e8 40.♖xg7 ♖a2 41.♗xf6+ ♗d8 42. ♖d7 mate

B06 Modern Defense

Nedzad Imamovic
Kim Barney (1677)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (1) 2011


1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♕g7 3.c3 d6 4.g3 ♗f6 5.♕d3 ♗c6 6.♕g5 O-O 7.♗a3 a6 8.♖d2 ♖e8 9.O-O-O b5 10.♗c2 ♕b7 11.f4 h6 12.♕xf6 exf6 13.d5 ♗e7 14.c4 c6 15.h4 ♖b6 16.♗f3 bxc4 17.♕xc4 cxd5 18.exd5 f5 19. ♖b4 ♖c7 20.h5 ♖ab8 21.hxg6 ♗xg6 22.♖he1 ♖xe1 23.♖xe1 ♖xc4 24.b3 ♖c5 25.♖d2 ♖c8 26. ♗b1 ♕xd5 27.♗fd4 ♕e4 28.♖c1 ♕xd4 0-1

A23 English Opening

Katie Patterson (911)
Kevin Ness (1304)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (1) 2011

1.c4 e5 2.♗c3 ♗f6 3.g3 c6 4.♕g2 d5 5.b3 ♕f5 6.e3 e4 7.♗ge2 ♗bd7 8.O-O ♗e5 9.♗d4 ♕g6 10.f3 exf3 11.♗xf3 ♕d3 12.♖e1 ♕d6 13. cxd5 cxd5 14. ♗xe5 ♕xe5 15. ♕a3 ♖a5 16.♖c1 ♖c8 17.♖b2 ♕xc3



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18.dxc3 ♖xc3 19.♗xc3 ♜xc3 20. ♜ac1 ♜c2 21.♙h3 ♜c6 22.♜xc6 bxc6 23.♜c1 ♙b5 24.♙b4 ♘d8 25.♙a5+ ♘e7 26.♙b4+ ♘d8 27. ♙a5+ Draw

B10 Caro-Kann

Jacob Nathan (384)

Adam Porth (1271)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (1) 2011

1.e4 c6 2.d3 e5 3.♘f3 ♖c7 4. ♘bd2 ♙c5 5.g3 ♗b6 6.d4 exd4 7. ♙g2 ♘f6 8.O-O O-O 9.♘g5 h6 10. e5 ♘d5 11.♘c4 ♗d8 12.♗f3 hxg5 13.♗h5 ♙e7 14.♙e4 f5 15.exf6 ♘xf6 16.♗f3 ♘xe4 17.♗xe4 d5 18.♗g6 dxc4 19.b3 ♙h3 20.♜e1 ♗d5 21.♜e4 ♙f5 22.♗xg5 ♙xg5 23.♜e1 ♙h3 24.f3 ♗xf3 25.♜e2 ♗f1 mate

B12 Caro-Kann Advance

Aleksandr Vereshchagin (1281)

Desmond Porth (765)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (1) 2011

1.e4 c6 2.♘f3 d5 3.e5 ♙f5 4.d4 e6 5.c3 ♘d7 6.♙d3 ♙xd3 7.♗xd3 c5 8.dxc5 ♙xc5 9.♘bd2 ♗b6 10. O-O ♘e7 11.b4 ♘xe5 12.♘xe5 ♙d6 13.♘d3 ♘g6 14.♜e1 ♖c7 15.♗b5+ ♘e7 16.♘xg6+ hxg6 17. ♗d3 ♙xh2+ 18.♘f1 ♜ac8 19. ♙d2 e5 20.♗xd5 f6 21.♜ac1 ♗c4+ 22.♗xc4 ♜xc4 23.♜c2 ♙f4 24.♙e3 ♙xe3 25.♜xe3 e4 26. ♘d2 ♜h1+ 27.♘e2 ♜c7 28.♜xe4+ ♘f7 29.♜c4 ♜e7+ 30.♘f3 g5 31. ♘e4 f5 32.♘xg5+ ♘g6 33.♘h3 ♘h5 34.♜e2 ♜d7 35.♜d4 ♜c7 36. c4 g5 37.g4+ fxg4+ 38.♜xg4 ♜xh3+ 39.♜g3 g4+ 40.♘g2 ♜xg3+ 41. ♘xg3 ♜xc4 42.♜e5+ ♘g6 43.a3 ♜c3+ 44.♜e3 ♜xe3+ 45.fxe3 ♘f5 46.♘f2 ♘e4 47.♘e2 g3 48.♘f1 ♘f3 49.e4 ♘xe4 50.♘e2 g2 51. ♘f2 ♘d3 52.♘xg2 0-1

D94 Grunfeld

Tom Booth (1638)

Jeff Roland (1723)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (2) 2011

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.e3 c6 5.♘f3 ♙g7 6.♙d2 O-O 7.cxd5 cxd5 8.♙e2 ♘c6 9.a3 ♜e8 10.

O-O e5 11.dxe5 ♘g4 12.♘d4 ♘gxe5 13.♜c1 ♙f5 14.♘xf5 gxf5 15.b4 ♘c4 16.♘b5 a6 17.♙xc4 dxc4 18.♘c3 ♗d3 19.♗c2 ♜ad8 20.♗xd3 ♜xd3 21.♜fd1 ♜ed8 22. ♙e1 b5 23.♘f1 ♙xc3 24.♜xd3 ♜xd3 25.♙xc3 ♘e7 26.♘e2 ♘d5 27.♙d4 ♜xa3 28.♘f3 f6 29.g4 fxg4+ 30.♘xg4 ♘f7 31.h4 a5 32. bxa5 ♜xa5 33.e4 ♘e7 34.f4 ♘c6 35.♙c5 ♜a4 36.♜d1 ♘e8 37.♜d6 Draw

B34 Sicilian Accelerated Dragon

Kim Barney (1677)

Fred Bartell (1606)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (2) 2011

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4 4. ♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 g6 6.♘xc6 bxc6 7.♙d3 d6 8.O-O ♙g4 9.♙e2 ♙xe2 10.♗xe2 ♙g7 11.♙d2 O-O 12. ♜ad1 ♗b6 13.b3 ♘d7 14.♘a4 ♖c7 15.♙f4 ♜ad8 16.♗e3 ♘e5 17. ♙h6 ♘g4 18.♗g3 ♘xh6 19.♜fe1 ♖c8 20.h3 ♗b8 21.♗e3 ♘h8 22. ♜e2 ♘g8 23.♜ed2 ♙h6 24.f4 e5 25.g3 ♖c8 26.♘g2 exf4 27.gxf4 ♗e6 28.♜e2 f5 29.♖c3+ ♗f6 30. e5 dxe5 31.♜xd8 ♜xd8 32.fxe5 ♗g5+ 33.♘h2 ♗f4+ 34.♘g2 ♜d1 35.♜f2 ♗e4+ 36.♗f3 ♗e1 37.♜f1 ♗xf1+ 38.♗xf1 ♜xf1 39.♘xf1 ♘e7 40.♘c5 ♘g8 41.♘g2 ♘d5 42. c4 ♘c3 43.a4 ♘f7 44.♘f3 ♙f8 45. ♘d3 ♘e6 46.♘f4 ♙h6+ 47.♘f3 ♘e4 48.b4 ♘d2+ 49.♘g2 ♘xc4 50. b5 cxb5 51.axb5 ♘xe5 52.♘b4 ♙e3 0-1

B46 Sicilian Paulsen

Patrick Kirk (1640)

Brett Hamilton (1904)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (2) 2011

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4 4. ♘xd4 a6 5.♘c3 e6 6.a3 g6 7.♙e3 ♙g7 8.♗d2 ♘xd4 9.♙xd4 ♘f6 10. e5 ♘g4 11.♗f4 ♘h6 12.♙c5 ♘f5 13.♘e4 ♖c7 14.g4 ♙xe5 15.♗g5 h6 16.♘f6+ ♘d8 17.♘d5+ hxg5 18.♘xc7 ♘xc7 19.gxf5 gxf5 20. O-O-O b6 21.♙g2 d5 22.♙e7 f6 23.c4 ♙b7 24.cxd5 exd5 25.♙xd5 ♙xd5 26.♜xd5 ♜h7 27.♙b4 a5 28.♙d2 ♜d8 29.♜b5 ♘c6 30.a4 ♜xh2 31.♜xh2 ♙xh2 32.♙e3 ♙c7

33.♜xf5 ♜d6 34.♘c2 ♜e6 35. ♙d4 ♙e5 36.♙xe5 fxe5 37.♜xg5 ♘d5 38. f4 ♘e4 39. ♜xe5+ ♜xe5 40.fxe5 ♘xe5 41.♘c3 ♘d5 42.b4 axb4+ 43.♘xb4 ♘c6 44.♘c4 ♘c7 45.♘b5 ♘b7 Draw

B50 Sicilian Closed

Caleb Kircher (1781)

Nedzad Imamovic

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (2) 2011

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d3 ♘f6 4.g3 g6 5.♙g2 ♙g7 6.O-O O-O 7.c3 ♙g4 8.h3 ♙d7 9.♘bd2 ♖c8 10.♘h2 ♘c6 11.♜e1 ♘h5 12.♘f1 ♘e5 13. d4 cxd4 14.♘xd4 ♘c6 15.♙e3 ♙e5 16.f4 ♙g7 17.♘d2 e5 18. ♘e2 f5 19.♘c4 exf4 20.♙xf4 ♙e5 21.♘xd6 ♗b8 22.♗d5+ ♘g7 23. ♙xe5+ ♘xe5 24.♗xe5+ ♘g8 25. exf5 ♗d8 26.♙d5+ 1-0

C00 French Advance

Adam Porth (1271)

Kevin Patterson (1192)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (2) 2011

1.e4 e6 2.c3 ♘c6 3.d4 d5 4.e5 ♘ge7 5.♘f3 ♘f5 6.g4 ♘h4 7.♘xh4 ♗xh4 8.♙e3 g6 9.♘d2 ♗e7 10. ♘f3 h6 11.♗a4 ♙d7 12.♗b3 ♘a5

Errata

The following three paragraphs were omitted by the printer from the November issue. They are part of Jeff Roland's tribute to Glen Buckendorf and the introduction to their game.

He was a great sport and maintained composure and dignity at all times. No matter what the result, at the conclusion of every game, he would always extend a sincere heartfelt handshake in honor and appreciation of his opponent and of the game itself for the value both had to him.

I had the pleasure of playing Glen Buckendorf 17 times in competition between July 9, 1983 and July 9, 2011. I won three, lost six, and drew eight, for a lifetime score of minus three.

The following game shows Glen in good form in the first ICA President's Cup tournament that was held in 1992. Both of us had fought our way through the Qualifying, Eliminator, and now were in the Final Four stage of this tournament. Black lost on time in a lost position.

13. ♖c2 b6 14. ♙a6 ♗g7 15. a4
 ♘c6 16. ♙b5 ♘b8 17. h3 ♙xb5 18.
 axb5 c6 19. ♖b3 O-O 20. O-O ♗d7
 21. h4 cxb5 22. ♖c2 ♘c6 23. h5 g5
 24. ♙xg5 hxg5 25. ♘xg5 ♙h6 26.
 ♖h7 mate

C46 Three Knights' Game

Riley Clark
 Aleksandr Vereshchagin (1281)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (2) 2011

1. e4 ♘c6 2. ♘c3 e5 3. ♘f3 ♙c5 4.
 ♙c4 h6 5. d3 ♘g7 6. O-O ♘g6 7.
 ♙d2 a6 8. ♘d5 d6 9. ♙c3 ♙g4 10.
 h3 ♙e6 11. d4 ♙a7 12. ♙e1 ♘ce7
 13. dxe5 c6 14. exd6 ♖xd6 15. a3
 cxd5 16. exd5 ♙d7 17. ♙xg7 ♙g8
 18. ♙xh6 O-O-O 19. ♙g5 f6 20.
 ♙e3 ♙b8 21. b4 ♘h4 22. ♘xh4
 ♙xh3 23. ♙c5 ♖h2+ 24. ♘f1
 ♙xg2+ 25. ♘xg2 ♖xg2+ 26. ♘e2
 ♖e4+ 27. ♙e3 ♖xc4+ 28. ♖d3
 ♖xd5 29. ♙ad1 ♖h5+ 30. f3 ♙xd3
 31. ♙xd3 ♖h2+ 32. ♙f2 ♘c6 33. c3
 ♙g3 34. ♙f1 ♙e8+ 35. ♙e3 ♙xe3+
 36. ♘xe3 ♙f4+ 37. ♘e4 ♙e5 38.
 ♘d3 ♖g2 39. ♙e1 ♖xf2 40. ♙e4
 ♖xf3+ 41. ♙e3 ♖d5+ 42. ♘e2
 ♖a2+ 43. ♘f3 ♖xa3 44. ♘e4 ♖c1
 45. ♙f3 ♙xc3 46. ♙xf6 ♙xf6 47. ♘f5
 ♖f1+ 48. ♘e6 ♘d8+ 49. ♘d6 ♖f4+
 50. ♘c5 ♙e7+ 51. ♘b6 ♖xb4+
 52. ♘a7 ♖c5+ 53. ♘a8 ♘d7 54.
 ♘b8 ♖c8+ 55. ♘a7 ♙c5 mate

B38 Sicilian Maroczy Bind

Fred Bartell (1606)
 Jeff Roland (1723)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (3) 2011

1. c4 c5 2. ♘c3 ♘c6 3. ♘f3 ♘f6 4.
 b3 g6 5. ♙b2 ♙g7 6. e4 ♘xe4 7.
 ♖c2 ♘xc3 8. ♙xc3 O-O 9. ♙xg7
 ♘xg7 10. h4 e6 11. h5 h6 12. hxg6
 fxg6 13. ♖c3+ ♖f6 14. O-O-O d5
 15. cxd5 exd5 16. ♙d3 ♘b4 17.
 ♙b1 ♙e6 18. ♘e5 d4 19. ♖g3 ♙f5
 20. ♖h2 ♙h8 21. d3 ♘d5 22. g4
 ♙e6 23. ♙df1 ♖f4+ 24. ♖xf4 ♘xf4
 25. ♘d2 ♙ae8 26. ♙e1 ♘g2 27.
 ♙e2 ♙d5 28. f3 ♘e3 29. ♘c4
 ♙xf3 30. ♙xe3 dxe3+ 31. ♘xe3
 ♙xh1 32. ♘c4 ♙f3 33. g5 hxg5 34.
 ♘c3 g4 35. ♘d2 ♙d5 36. d4 ♙h3+
 O-1



(L to R): Kim Barney, Brett Hamilton, Tom Booth, Jeff Roland, Nick Bruck, Riley Clark, Jay Simonson, Caleb Kircher, Desmond Porth, Jacob Nathan, Fred Bartell, Katie Patterson, Aleksandr Vereshchagin, Kevin Patterson, Patrick Kirk, and Adam Porth just before the start of Round 4.

D05 Colle

Caleb Kircher (1781)
 Tom Booth (1638)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (3) 2011

1. d4 e6 2. ♘f3 d5 3. e3 ♘f6 4. ♙d3
 ♘bd7 5. b3 ♙b4+ 6. c3 ♙d6 7.
 ♘bd2 c5 8. O-O e5 9. e4 O-O 10.
 exd5 exd4 11. cxd4 cxd4 12. ♘c4
 ♘c5 13. ♙g5 ♙g4 14. h3 ♙h5 15.
 g4 ♙g6 16. ♙xg6 fxg6 17. ♖xd4
 ♘ce4 18. ♙xf6 ♘xf6 19. ♘g5 ♙c8
 20. ♘e6 ♖d7 21. ♘xd6 ♖xd6 22.
 ♘xf8 ♙xf8 23. ♙ad1 b6 24. ♙fe1
 g5 25. ♙e6 ♖d7 26. ♖e5 ♖c8 27.
 d6 ♘d7 28. ♖d5 ♘h8 29. ♙e7 ♘f6
 30. ♖xg5 ♙g8 31. d7 ♖d8 32. ♖e5
 h6 33. ♖e6 ♖b8 34. ♙e1 ♖f4 35.
 ♖xg8+ ♘xg8 36. d8=♖ ♘h7 37.
 ♙e8 ♖b4 38. ♖d3+ ♘h8 39.
 ♙xg8+ ♘xg8 40. ♖e2 ♖f4 41.
 ♖e8+ ♘h7 42. ♖e4+ 1-0

B27 Sicilian Hyper-Accel. Dragon

Kim Barney (1677)
 Patrick Kirk (1640)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (3) 2011

1. e4 c5 2. d4 cxd4 3. ♘f3 g6 4.
 ♖xd4 f6 5. ♙b5 ♘c6 6. ♙xc6 bxc6
 7. c3 ♙g7 8. ♙e3 ♘h6 9. h3 O-O 10.
 O-O ♘f7 11. ♖d2 ♘d6 12. ♖d3 a5

13. ♙e1 ♙a6 14. ♖c2 ♙b8 15. b3
 f5 16. exf5 ♘xf5 17. ♙f4 ♘d4 18.
 ♘xd4 ♙xf4 19. ♙d1 ♖b6 20. ♘f3
 ♖c7 21. ♘bd2 ♙bf8 22. ♙e1 d5 23.
 ♙ad1 e5 24. c4 e4 25. ♘xe4 dxe4
 26. ♙xe4 c5 27. ♙de1 ♙b7 28.
 ♙e7 ♖c8 29. ♖d1 ♙xf3 30. gxf3
 ♙d4 31. ♙1e6 ♖d8 32. ♖c2 ♙f6
 33. ♙b7 ♖d4 34. ♘g2 ♙xf3 35.
 ♙e2 ♙h4 36. ♙b6 ♙xf2+ 37. ♘h1
 ♖a1+ 0-1

A45 Grunfeld

Nick Bruck (1340)
 Brett Hamilton (1904)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (3) 2011

1. d4 ♘f6 2. e3 g6 3. ♙d3 ♙g7 4.
 ♘f3 d5 5. c4 O-O 6. cxd5 ♘xd5 7.
 O-O ♘c6 8. ♙d2 e6 9. ♘c3 ♙e8 10.
 ♖c1 e5 11. ♙b5 ♘xc3 12. ♙xc3
 exd4 13. ♙xc6 dxc3 14. ♙xe8 cxb2
 15. ♙xf7+ ♘xf7 16. ♖c4+ ♙e6 17.
 ♖f4+ ♘g8 18. ♙ad1 ♖e7 19. ♖e4
 ♖f6 20. ♘d4 ♙xa2 21. ♖xb7 ♙d8
 22. ♖xb2 ♙c4 23. ♙fe1 c5 24. ♖c3
 ♖f7 25. ♖a5 ♖d5 26. ♖xa7 cxd4
 27. exd4 ♙xd4 28. ♖xd4 ♖xd4 29.
 ♙xd4 ♙xd4 30. h3 ♘f7 31. f3 ♙d2
 32. ♘h2 ♘f6 33. ♘g3 ♙d5 34. ♙a1
 g5 35. ♙a6+ ♙e6 36. ♘h2 ♘e5 37.
 ♙a5+ ♙d5 38. ♘g3 h5 39. h4 g4 40.

f4+ ♖f5 41. ♖xd5+ ♖xd5 42. ♖f2 ♖xf4 43. g3+ ♖e4 44. ♖e2 ♖a5 45. ♖f2 ♖a2+ 46. ♖g1 ♖f3 47. ♖h1 ♖xg3 48. ♖g1 ♖a1 mate

B30 Sicilian

Riley Clark
Jacob Nathan (384)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (3) 2011

1. e4 c5 2. ♖f3 ♖c6 3. ♖c4 e5 4. ♖c3 ♖f6 5. d3 d5 6. exd5 ♖d4 7. ♖xd4 exd4 8. ♖b5 ♖e7 9. O-O O-O 10. ♖d2 ♖g4 11. f3 ♖h5 12. d6 a6 13. ♖c7 ♖c8 14. ♖a5 ♖xd6 15. ♖e6 ♖b8 16. ♖e1 b6 17. ♖xa6 ♖a8 18. ♖xb6 ♖xb6 19. ♖c4 ♖fe8 20. ♖e2 ♖xe2 21. ♖xe2 ♖e8 22. ♖f2 ♖f4 23. ♖h4 ♖d6 24. c3 ♖e5 25. ♖f2 ♖e3+ 26. ♖f1 ♖g5 27. ♖e1 ♖f4 28. ♖xc5 ♖xe1+ 29. ♖xe1 ♖h4 30. ♖e7 ♖d2 31. ♖c7 ♖f2 mate

D43 QGD Semi-Slav

Jeff Roland (1723)
Caleb Kircher (1781)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (4) 2011

1. d4 ♖f6 2. ♖f3 d5 3. c4 c6 4. ♖c3 e6 5. ♖f4 ♖b4 6. a3 ♖xc3+ 7. bxc3 ♖e4 8. ♖c2 ♖a5 9. ♖d2 O-O 10. e3 ♖d7 11. cxd5 exd5 12. c4 ♖xd2 13. ♖xd2 ♖f6 14. ♖d3 dxc4 15. ♖xc4 ♖g5 16. ♖e4 ♖xe4 17. ♖xe4 ♖a5+ 18. ♖e2 ♖f5 19. ♖f4 ♖g6 20. f3 ♖a4 21. ♖hc1 b5 22. ♖d3 ♖xd3+ 23. ♖xd3 b4 24. axb4 ♖b3+ 25. ♖e2 ♖xb4 26. ♖ab1 ♖a5 27. ♖a1 ♖b5+ 28. ♖f2 ♖b2+ 29. ♖g1 ♖fe8 30. ♖ab1 ♖a3 31. ♖a1 ♖xe3+ 32. ♖xe3 ♖xe3 33. ♖xc6 g6 34. ♖f2 ♖d3 35. ♖ca6 ♖b8 36. ♖1a2 ♖xd4 37. ♖xa7 ♖g7 38. ♖e3 ♖h4 39. g3 ♖b3+ 40. ♖d2 ♖xh2+ 41. ♖c1 ♖xa2 42. ♖xa2 ♖xf3 43. ♖g2 ♖f6 0-1

B20 Sicilian

Patrick Kirk (1640)
Fred Bartell (1606)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (4) 2011

1. e4 c5 2. ♖c4 ♖c6 3. ♖f3 e6 4. ♖c3 b6 5. d4 cxd4 6. ♖xd4 ♖b7 7. ♖e3 ♖xd4 8. ♖xd4 ♖f6 9. ♖d3 ♖c5 10. ♖xc5 bxc5 11. f3 O-O 12. O-O ♖b6 13. e5 ♖d5 14. ♖e4 ♖b4 15.

♖xd7 ♖xc2 16. ♖b5 ♖xa1 17. ♖xa1 ♖xe4 18. ♖xe4 ♖fd8 19. b3 ♖ab8 20. ♖xb6 axb6 21. a4 ♖d4 22. ♖e1 ♖bd8 23. ♖f2 ♖d2+ 24. ♖f3 ♖c2 25. h3 ♖dd2 26. ♖e2 ♖xe2 27. ♖xe2 ♖c3+ 0-1

B40 Sicilian Paulsen

Brett Hamilton (1904)
Kim Barney (1677)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (4) 2011

1. e4 e6 2. ♖f3 c5 3. d4 cxd4 4. ♖xd4 ♖c5 5. ♖e3 ♖f6 6. ♖d2 ♖c6 7. c3 ♖ge7 8. ♖b5 ♖xe3 9. ♖d6+ ♖d8 10. ♖xe3 e5 11. ♖d2 ♖c7 12. ♖a3 a6 13. ♖d1 b5 14. c4 b4 15. ♖c2 a5 16. c5 ♖a6 17. ♖b5+ ♖xb5 18. ♖xd7+ ♖b8 19. ♖xb5 ♖a7 20. ♖d6+ ♖xd6 21. cxd6 ♖b7 22. ♖a4 ♖a7 23. dxe7 ♖xe7 24. O-O ♖c8 25. ♖e3 ♖c5 26. ♖d8+ ♖b7 27. ♖fd1 ♖ec7 28. ♖d5 ♖c1 29. ♖xc7 ♖xd1+ 30. ♖xd1 ♖xc7 1-0

D26 Queen's Gambit Accepted

Tom Booth (1638)
Nick Bruck (1340)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (4) 2011

1. d4 d5 2. c4 dxc4 3. e3 e6 4. ♖xc4 ♖f6 5. ♖f3 ♖d6 6. ♖c3 c6 7. O-O O-O 8. a3 b5 9. ♖a2 ♖c7 10. h3 ♖bd7 11. e4 a6 12. e5 ♖xe5 13. ♖xe5 ♖xe5 14. dxe5 ♖xe5 15. ♖e3 ♖b7 16. ♖d4 ♖xd4 17. ♖xd4 ♖d7 18. b4 ♖ac8 19. ♖e4 g6 20. ♖c5 ♖xc5 21. ♖xc5 ♖fd8 22. ♖ad1 ♖g7 23. ♖b6 ♖e8 24. ♖d7 ♖a8 25. ♖e1 ♖f6 26. ♖d4+ ♖g5 27. ♖xf7 h6 28. ♖e5+ ♖h4 29. ♖f4 mate

C41 Ponziani

Adam Porth (1271)
Aleksandr Vereshchagin (1281)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (4) 2011

1. e4 e5 2. ♖f3 d6 3. c3 ♖f6 4. d4 exd4 5. ♖a4+ ♖c6 6. cxd4 ♖d7 7. d5 ♖e5 8. ♖d4 ♖xf3+ 9. gxf3 h6 10. ♖c3 a6 11. ♖e3 c6 12. ♖c4 c5 13. ♖d2 b5 14. ♖e2 b4 15. ♖d1 a5 16. ♖c4 ♖b8 17. b3 ♖b5 18. ♖b2 ♖xc4 19. ♖xc4 ♖e7 20. ♖f4 ♖b5 21. ♖xd6 ♖a6 22. ♖d3 ♖d7 23.

♖g1 g6 24. ♖e5 ♖xe5 25. ♖d6+ ♖xd6 26. ♖xb5+ ♖d7 27. ♖c1 O-O 28. ♖xa5 1-0

B12 Caro-Kann Advance

Jay Simonson (627)
Desmond Porth (765)

Twin Falls, Southern Id. Open (4) 2011

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 ♖f5 4. ♖f3 e6 5. ♖f4 ♖d7 6. ♖c3 c5 7. ♖b5 a6 8. ♖xd7+ ♖xd7 9. O-O cxd4 10. ♖xd4 ♖c5 11. ♖a4 ♖xa4 12. ♖d2 ♖xd4 13. c3 ♖a7 14. ♖ac1 ♖e7 15. a3 O-O 16. ♖g5 ♖g6 17. ♖fe1 ♖c6 18. h3 h6 19. ♖e3 ♖xe3 20. ♖xe3 d4 21. cxd4 ♖d5 22. ♖c5 ♖d7 23. ♖ec1 ♖ac8 24. ♖1c4 ♖xc5 25. ♖xc5 b6 26. ♖c3 ♖b7 27. ♖g3 ♖e4 28. ♖e3 ♖xe3 29. ♖xe3 ♖d8 30. ♖c3 ♖xd4 31. ♖c8+ ♖h7 32. ♖c6 ♖xe5 33. ♖xb6 ♖d3 34. b4 g5 35. a4 ♖c4 36. b5 axb5 37. axb5 g4 38. h4 g3 39. fxg3 ♖g4 40. ♖a6 ♖d1 mate

Idaho Chess Association

Upcoming Tournaments

Meridian Invitational
Meridan, ID January 7, 2012
Idaho Closed
Boise, ID February 18-20, 2012

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Interview with GM Yasser Seirawan

by IM (and WGM) Ana Matnadze

The Magistral Casino Barcelona tournament took place from October 12 through 20. It was a nine-player round robin with all nine bearing the title of Grandmaster (ten players were due to play, but GM Eduardo Iturrizaga had a car accident on his way to the airport and had to withdraw)...

The biggest sensation of the event was the return of GM Yasser Seirawan to competitive chess. The 51-year-old U.S. Grandmaster had stopped playing in 2007, but recently surprised the chess world by taking part in the World Team Championship in China, as part of the U.S. team. He had significant results, including wins against GMs Judit Polgar and Shakhriyar Mamedyarov, both active and much higher rated players.

Seirawan finished the Barcelona event in joint first with Ivan Salgado Lopez at 5.5/8 points, with a narrow tie-break advantage to the Spaniard.

Hello Mr. Seirawan, welcome to Barcelona.

Thank you very much. It is a pleasure to have been in sunny Barcelona, as I live in Amsterdam where it was windy and chilly when I left.

Could you please describe to us your preparation process for the Magistral Casino Tournament? What chess analyzing program do you use?

I use three programs RYBKA, FRITZ 12 and HOUDINI. I like HOUDINI best. The majority of the players in Barcelona were unknown for me. My preparations were mostly to review their most recent games, last two-three years, and to get a feel for their style of play—what types of positions they excel in—and to see if they have favorite openings that I like to play as well.

Whom were you expecting to be the most difficult opponent? Are you happy with your play here? Which was the best and the worst game and why?

Again, I wasn't familiar with the players. Before the start, I thought that Smirin was the clear favorite. Overall, I'm sat-

isfied with my play. It was consistent. My game with Smirin was my worst for sure, as I made a howler when I missed his ♖f4-d5 stroke, which wins on the spot. My best game was versus Peralta. We played a main line Pirc and I played a very powerful strategic idea ♖c3-b5, which my computer doesn't find, but [which] gives me a long-term advantage of the two Bishops. I kept a grip on the position and played very well throughout. Really, Fernando was never given a chance to get into the game.

You told me on the first day you had been to Barcelona before. Tell me more about that, please. Did you plan any sightseeing now? Has Barcelona changed much?

I played in Barcelona for the first time in 1989 during one of the GMA World Cup events. It was extremely well organized and I had wonderful memories of the city. That event was much longer, with several free days. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to do any sightseeing during the Magistral event, as there were no free days. I did, however, enjoy my walks along the beach boulevard to and from the hotel to the casino. If possible, Barcelona has become more beautiful than I remembered.

Back to your extensive bio: you were born in Damascus. Do you still keep roots, family connection, there? What are your childhood memories?

Yes, I have an extensive family of Seirawans living in Damascus. This comes from my father's side of the family. Unfortunately, when I was nine years old my mother and father divorced and I lived with my mother; so much of my knowledge of my Syrian background has been lost. Through my father I'm kept informed of what is happening there. The family left Syria when I was four years old. I have only two memories of Syria, which I wrote in detail in my book *Chess Duels*. Those memories were of pain and pleasure, an interesting twinning.

Your career has been tremendously successful in all aspects. Apart from winning a lot of prestigious tournaments and having been the ninth highest rated player in the world,

you succeeded in chess writing, publishing, organizing, founding, as a commentator. I'm already lost. Do you ever sleep? What is your primary occupation?

I've always enjoyed being busy and like working on projects. These days, I mostly do reading and writing and fewer projects. I do some financial investing, advising others, but I'd say my primary occupation today is as a writer.

"Seirawan Chess"

How good are you at S-Chess? (Tell us more about that).

S-Chess or (Seirawan Chess) is a joint effort between Bruce Harper, a friend and strong chess master from Vancouver, B.C., Canada, and me. It happened by accident: I was visiting Bruce and, while we were in his kitchen preparing something to eat, I was lamenting about the state of chess. Specifically, the awesome advances taking place in opening theory. Nowadays, it is rather common to see elite players playing a theoretical line that is twenty moves deep and even longer. In a recent game, Javocenko made a novelty, h2-h3, around the 34th move as White against Gelfand.

My goodness! What is that? I complained to Bruce that the creativity possible in a game between two elite players was being inexorably reduced because of theoretical advances. I also complained to him that, as Black, against a well-prepared opponent, it was becoming increasingly hard to create play where the second player has a chance for victory.

While complaining, I also noted my admiration for what Capablanca had called, "Capablanca Chess." He had created two additional pieces, what he called a "Marshall" and a "Chancellor." These two pieces had the power of a Rook and Knight in one case and the power of a Bishop and a Knight in the other. Capablanca created a 10x10 board, which I don't like. I much prefer the 8x8 board. Trinity College in Dublin suggested a 10 x 8 board, which Capablanca accepted. Otherwise, the armies are simply too far apart. "Capablanca Chess" never really

caught on—you don't see to many 10x8 chessboards, do you? Yet I loved the movements of Capa's pieces.

Bruce and I started to think how to place Capa's pieces on an 8x8 board. From the starting chess position, should we 'push' the a2-pawn to a3 and tuck one of the new pieces on the a2-square? And do the same for the h-pawn? Well, one look, and you see what an artificial construction that becomes.

So we began to think that the starting position for chess is just fine—perfect in fact. Capa's pieces would have to remain off the board at the start of the game and be introduced into play as pieces come off the back rank and are developed. As we understand from chess, it is very natural that all the pieces start from the back rank, protected by a pawn in front and then come into play. In no time, we realized that was a perfect introduction for the new pieces. A player would have eight opportunities to bring the two new pieces into play. There would be no symmetry of play, as one player need not copy the opponent. Each game would be unique. We immediately became enthusiastic about our new find.

The next thing we did was to rename Capa's pieces. I mean, think about it. What exactly are a Marshall and a Chancellor? When I try to create an image in my mind of these two titles, I think about men. Specifically, in the case of a Marshall, a military general, and as for a Chancellor, a politician wearing a huge necklace of office. Reducing these images into a chess piece is simply confusing; so we had to rename the pieces and create easily identifiable images.

[W]e began to think that the starting position for chess is just fine —perfect in fact. Capa's pieces would have to remain off the board at the start of the game . . .

Once you start along these lines, and recalling the history of chess, you immediately start to think of an elephant. Chess

ought to have an elephant! Since, Bruce and I thought that the piece with the powers of Rook and Knight would be stronger than Bishop and Knight, we called it an Elephant.

The second piece, a Bishop and Knight, becomes more tricky. What is it? What should it become? What image should we create? Thanks to the power of the Bishop, in one sense, it can 'fly' across the board. This conjured up the image of a raptor or an eagle, if you like. The image of a bird is, of course, universal and some birds are fantastic predators. I liked the image of an eagle, but eagles are mostly scavengers, preying on the dead or dying; so we settled for a Hawk.



The Hawk and the Elephant

Then we began to play the new game and discovered that it was really great. Seriously, we enjoyed ourselves immensely. Virtually no draws as well. Theoretically, the new game could feature nine Hawks or nine Elephants, as pawns could promote to any piece, except the King. The great thing about the new game is that nothing in chess has to change. Same board, same armies, just the addition at the start of four new pieces, two for each side.

Bruce and I commissioned the making of kits for the new game and away we went. Today, we have been a bit blocked, as we need to make the new game available for play on the Internet. Once we manage that, I'm confident the game will explode in popularity.

Lastly, what to name the new game? Clearly, it is a derivative of "Capablanca Chess," but both Bruce and I felt uncomfortable about using or, dare I say, abusing his cherished name. I liked "Sharp Chess." The first word being a mixture of our last names, Seirawan and Harper.

We wanted to copyright the name, but discovered the Sharp Stores chain of retail outlets had already claimed "Sharp Chess." As Bruce and I expanded our name search, we discovered that all kinds of names for chess games had been made. For example, "Animal Chess" was taken by Disney, and so on. We were stuck.

Even worse, we discovered that practically nothing appropriate for our efforts existed at all. In order to avoid becoming a target of a lawsuit, we called our joint effort "Seirawan Chess," which we've reduced to calling "S-Chess," for now. We want to have a future name-the-game contest, when it becomes more popular. Too, I'm uncomfortable with "Seirawan Chess" for the simple reason it overlooks the contribution of Bruce altogether.

I'm very good at S-Chess. I've played with many Grandmasters and do extremely well.

Popularity of chess

Tell us about your family.

I'm married to a Dutch lady, Yvette Nagel, who is an FM. We live in Amsterdam, where Yvette works for the city in Mayor's office. We don't have children, but we have brothers and sisters who do. Our parents are all alive and in good health; so we travel often, visiting our relations wherever they may be.

Being a chess pro is tough. We are constantly traveling. What is your secret to deal with jet lag?

Sadly, I have no secret for jet lag. Throughout my career, it has had a negative impact on my play at the start of events. Terribly so, I might add.

And your secret as to how to recover from a bitter loss?

One can never overcome a bitter loss. The way to deal with a loss is before the tournament. I think most professional

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players simply have to accept that when they play in a tournament, to win it, they will have to take risks. So, if before a tournament a player mentally girds himself and says, "Okay, I'm going to lose a game, two or three, but I'm going to play hard for a victory," then accepting a loss is easier. Although the bitterness is long-lasting. Secondly, losing is part and parcel of the game. Get used to it. It will happen! Instead, we have to learn to take our losses in stride and learn from them. What did we do wrong? Why did we make the mistake we did? And so on. Losses will help us learn, if we make the correct deductions.

The number of chess fans all over the world is growing every day. However, it is not yet as popular a sport as, for example, [soccer] or tennis. What do you think would be necessary to do to make chess more popular? What would be your strategy or ideas to attract more sponsors?

My approach is far different than the questions imply. In terms of athletic sports, one doesn't have to be a golfer to understand the game. Through simple observation, we see there is a ball and a club. The golfer uses his club to smash the tiny ball into a hole that is two hundred meters away. Most athletic sports are simple to understand. Soccer, the world's most popular sport, is simplest of all. Chess, on the other hand, is too complex for the public. Someone may observe for hours and hours and still not understand the basic rules. So we should not only accept, but embrace, this limitation. Chess is a complex game appealing to a small, but significant, segment of our populations.

[W]e need one hundred players who play and understand the game, to produce one USCF member

Where chess fails is on several levels. My experience tells me that in the case of the United States Chess Federation, for example, we need one hundred players who play and understand the game, to produce one USCF member. The reality is that we 'lose' ninety-nine players, because, somehow, on the orga-

nization level, we are not doing enough to appeal to the ninety-nine players we lose. In short, our retention levels for those who learn the game is simply abysmal failure. We need to better understand how we can make organized chess more appealing.

Recently, in August, I visited my sister in Phoenix, Arizona. While there, I hooked up with my friend Scott Frenaux, who organizes a scholastic chess network. Scott and his staff reach out to hundreds of schools and teach chess to about 25,000 children a year. By the second year, half have dropped out. By the third year, another forty percent. Those that stay in the program eventually become champions and USCF members, but the attrition and turn-over rates are staggering, if not, at times, depressing for the coaches. Still, for all that effort, many lives are positively impacted.

The truth is that there really are untold millions of people worldwide who have, at times, found chess to be enormously interesting. We need to make greater efforts at recapturing those who have left our sport and bring them back into the fold. If we are successful at that, chess would be, instantly, the most popular board-game in the world.

As regards sponsors, I think this is a top-down approach. Here, what I have in mind is the crown jewel of chess, the World Chess Championship title, universally acknowledged to be one of the most important intellectual titles in the world. This title has been the province of FIDE for some time. Here, FIDE has made a hash of its own title. When the rules are without sense, the sponsors flee. So, even to begin to think about how do we attract sponsors to chess, we must first realize that our most important events, world and national championships, must have sensible rules, sensible regulations, and attract the

best players. Failure in this most obvious top-down approach means no, or limited, sponsorships for lesser events.

Short draws and cheating

What do you think about the "short draws phenomenon?" What would be the mechanism to avoid them?

Funnily enough, I don't share the concern that short draws are a problem. Really, I see it as overblown hysteria. The obvious solution is what was used in the Magistral event: no draw offers before move forty. Simple. End of discussion.

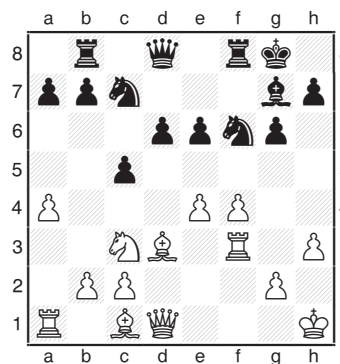
The greater concern is actually getting games with content. Again, I refer back to my complaints regarding the advancement of opening theory. Let us say to the players, okay, play till move forty at least! Both players show us their homework coming out of a long theoretical dispute of, say, thirty moves, a late middlegame, endgame evolves where the

B09 Pirc Austrian Attack

GM Yasser Seirawan
GM Fernando Peralta

Barcelona (3) 2011

1.e4 d6 2.d4 ♘f6 3.♘c3 g6 4.f4 ♙g7
5.♘f3 O-O 6.♙d3 ♘a6 7.O-O c5 8.d5
♙b8 9.♘h1 ♙g4 10.h3 ♙xf3 11.♙xf3
♘c7 12.a4 e6 13.dxe6 fxe6



14.♘b5 d5 15.e5 ♘e4 16.♙e3 g5
17.fxg5 ♘xb5 18.axb5 ♙xe5 19.♙xe4
dxe4 20.♙xf8+ ♗xf8 21.c3 ♙d8 22.
♗e2 ♙b8 23.♙f1 ♗d6 24.♙g1 ♗e5
25.♗h5 ♗g7 26.♗g4 ♗e5 27.♗h5
♗g7 28.♙xc5 ♗g6 29.♗g4 h5 30.♗e2
♗xg5 31.♗xe4 ♙e5 32.♗xb7 ♘h8
33.♙xa7 1-0

machines have judged a small pull for White. The players continue playing correctly and, by the end of another ten, twenty moves, the game is clearly drawn. Well, that was nice. Right? Correct play by both players led to a draw. But was the game either fun for the players or enjoyable for the spectators? Were the players just going through the motions for the last ten or twenty moves to meet the expectations of the rules?

This is what I worry about, that the opening theory has become so deep that the level of sophistication for the defender is reaching so high, it becomes harder and harder for the elite to gain victory. I'm not saying that chess is played out. No, no, no, not at all. I do, however, worry that theory has made such rapid advances: half the players' armies are reduced before the players are playing on their own.

What is your opinion about cheating? It is becoming a very serious problem.

Cheating has always been a concern, long before computers ever became strong, that is, players receiving advice/information during a game. In truth, at the most elite level, charges of cheating are simply ridiculous and don't exist. On the amateur levels, however, cheating—again, even before the computer—could have been a problem, a coach telling his student what move to make. Now, with electronic devices, such charges are far more worrisome.

Here, I think, there is a disconnect. Again, at the elite level, cheating is not a problem, but there is a public perception that there could be a problem and then it gets blown well out of proportion. A possible problem becomes a problem that doesn't exist.

It was terribly unhelpful for the image of chess when Topalov accused Kramnik of cheating during 'toilet-gate.' Without any proof or any evidence whatsoever. Just a charge of, "my opponent is a cheater!" When Kramnik won in rapid play, without leaving the board, Topalov explained that Kramnik's method of cheating had simply been improved! My goodness, how silly was that? Topalov damaged his own image and brought chess into disrepute. What sponsor wants such an association?

Cheating is an image problem for chess. If the world perceives that computers are better than humans and that humans could get help at the board, it would mean that there would be less and less interest in chess—even if no cheating at all is taking place.

In my view, chess authorities should take a pro-active stance to convince the public that there is simply no possibility of cheating at all. Some simple suggestions include no electronic devices of any type by the player (a security wand before the start of play); as well as a time delay for the relaying of the moves. These should more than suffice.

The World Championship cycle

What does Yasser Seirawan think about World Championship cycle and matches?

I don't like the FIDE cycle at all. I think it is foolish, without sense, which is negative for sponsors, the public and for the players.

Let us start with the obvious, chess does not have a Premiere League, a Grand Prix, or a World Cup. We are without a season, which exists in most sports. What we do have is a World Chess Championship. In my view, this should be an annual event. Full stop! Once you think about this, and reach the same conclusion, questions start popping into mind, such as, "How would an annual cycle work?" As well as other questions.

So let us step back and think of how would we create an annual cycle with the tools that we have in hand today. First, we come to the obvious question, "What would the final competition look like?" Should we have a traditional one-on-one match? Or should the final competition feature a tournament with a double-round-robin or quadruple-round-robin final? If you stop and choose one or the other, there will be complaints from one set of fans who prefer one type (strongly) over the other. Once that awareness seeps in, the answer is obvious, you have both.

Today, we have a strange cycle, to say the least. Let us be generous, and say that today's cycle is a fixed two-year cycle where we have continental championships bringing qualifiers who compete

in a 128-player knockout event, the World Cup. The top three players qualify for a Candidates Tournament, alongside the three highest rated players (other than the existing World Champion), the runner-up to the previous Championship match, and a nominee 'wildcard' from the Candidates Tournament organizer. From the Candidates Tournament a Challenger emerges and then a match is played. All of these events are staged in a two-year cycle (or so). It is what it is, and these are the tools we have today. I think the cycle is stupid. Why?

First of all, let us think about the role of the World Champion. Let us presume that the World Champion is the strongest, most interesting chess player in the world, that the fans, the public, the media all love him/her and thrill to every contest! How exciting! Well, guess what, in this entire two-year cycle the World Champion does nothing! He/she does not play. Not in the National Championship, the Continentals, not in the Knockout, not in the Candidates. The World Champion waits. When a Challenger is 'born' at long last, the World Champion comes out of the cocoon to play a twelve-game match. Doesn't that strike you as a silly system? It certainly does me!

I would have an annual World Championship . . . a double-round-robin of the eight players . . . Every other year there would be a twelve-game World Championship match. It would feature the world's N^o 1 rated player and the world's N^o 2 rated player.

Imagine, if Barcelona won the Premiere [soccer] League in Spain and was declared so good, they wouldn't have to play in the League anymore. No, the team would wait for a challenger, and Barcelona would play a match against the challenger. That's all. The public would be confused. It is with a similar confusion as this example that I, a professional player, look at the world of

chess. We have a stupid system for determining the World Champion. If it makes no sense to me, then how can I sell the system to a sponsor? For chess, it gets even worse!

Let us look at the World Chess Championship and the elite world of chess today. We all know and love Viswanathan Anand. We couldn't ask for a better chess ambassador. Vishy is a prince and a deserved World Champion! No questions. But is he head and shoulders above his colleagues and nearest rivals? I don't think that even Vishy would make such a claim, rather the contrary, that he does feel that he is an elite player with a few very close rivals. Yet Vishy is separated out of this elite group and put on a pedestal and removed from playing.

The world's number one player, Magnus Carlsen, considers the system unfair and withdrew from the cycle. This is terrible for chess, for the public, for sponsors. This is important to understand: Magnus is right! Vishy is but one player in an elite circle of company that includes Carlsen, Anand, Aronian, Kramnik, Topalov . . . It is simply wrong that by winning this or that event the World Champion is put on a pedestal above all the rest!

Again, if I were chess dictator, I'd change the system dramatically. First, I would have an annual World Championship title event. I would keep the two-year cycle as is, with the following changes: I would make the Candidates Tournament, a double-round-robin of the eight players, a World Championship tournament. In this case, what I'd have in mind is that the World Championship plays in this event, alongside seven other players—three from the Knockout

(World Cup), three from the rating list, one organizer nominee (eventually, I'd scrap the nominee and include the winner of the Grand Prix). All players would be encouraged to play in the World Cup.

Every other year there would be a twelve-game World Championship match. It would feature the world's number one rated player and the world's number two rated player. Full stop.

Before we stop and complain, let us think about the above for a moment and elaborate things in greater detail. First, let us suppose the winner of the World Championship tournament is neither the number one or number two player in the world by the rating list. That means the (tournament) World Champion would not play in the following World Championship match next year. The privileges of the World Champion don't exist. To win, defend, or keep the title the World Champion has to compete and perform! If the World Champion falls out of form and is surpassed by others, this is sport! With an annual championship event, the player will have opportunity to get back into shape and compete soon again.

So, every second year, there would be a twelve-game match for the World Championship, for, say, one million Euros, minimum, featuring number one and number two. A fine payday. The entire public would understand: number one versus number two. Simple. In sport, if a player is unable to compete, due to physical injury, the player is scrapped and replaced. Simple. If number one or number two doesn't want to compete, number three is invited and so on. There must be a competition!

Some will complain that the above match is "too elite" or perhaps doesn't feature the existing World Champion. They are wrong. Becoming one of the highest rated players in the world is the most democratic thing in chess! Everyone, everyday, has opportunities to raise their rating. Just go out

and compete! Win a high number of games—and you, too, may one day become the highest rated player in the world! No one is stopping you. Everyone has a chance to gain a high rating!

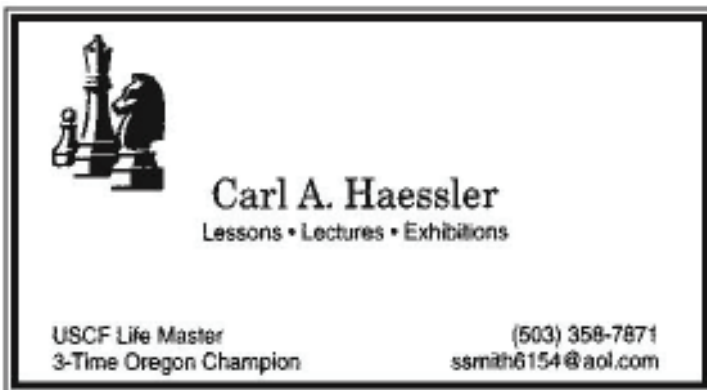
Next, I'd put in the rules, that a high rated player could not 'sit' on their rating. An activity requirement of at least thirty games, played three months prior to the match is needed to be eligible to accept an invitation to the match. A player must be active. Indeed, thirty games in a twelve-month period can hardly be considered onerous.

*Everyone, everyday,
has opportunities to raise
their rating. Just go out
and compete! Win a high
number of games—and
you, too, may one day
become the highest rated
player in the world!*

Too, I'd require that any player, in either the Match or the Tournament for the world title, . . . compete in their national championship—only if the national championship is a round robin—as well as for their nation's Olympiad team. This is a *quid pro quo* agreement. A player that is able to play in the Tournament and Match will be very well paid. It is not too much of an 'ask' that such players support their national championships and national team. This is a 'give back' to their own countrymen and colleagues!

So the way the World Championships would work is that one year a double round robin of various top ranked players and qualifiers would play for the World Championship. This would mean that every person would have two clear pathways of qualifying: become one of the top three rated players in the world or win the Continentals and place in the top three of the World Cup and you are in.

This type of cycle is what the world of chess needs and what sponsors would support! Knowing that there is a World Championship every year at stake is wonderful for chess. The chess world wants to see a showdown between the top two



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players; the world wants to see opportunities for their national champions to compete and to know who is the world's best tournament player as well as best in match play.

The system is fair to everyone. In time, the process for the Tournament World Championship should be clarified and made more uniform, but if we go in this direction, chess will grow and more sponsors will be discovered along the way.

There are emerging younger and younger chess geniuses every day. What do you think about this?

Marvelous! The more the merrier! And I totally agree, new talents are emerging from all over the world and they are better and stronger and younger than ever before. Welcome!

Which of these young players have the potential, in your opinion, to become World Champions, if any?

Well, my goodness, all of them have the potential. Seriously, to mention just a few names without slighting in any way those not mentioned—Magnus Carlsen, simply will be World Champion one day, Sergey Karajakin of Russia, Timor Radjabov (Azberjian), Hikaru Nakamura (USA) Le Quang (Vietnam), Anish Giri (Holland)—all of these names and many others stand out in my mind as likely World Champions.

About time controls, Mr. Seirawan thinks that . . .

I'm disgusted with the time controls! My chief complaint is that they are not standardized. To my mind, there are three types of chess tournaments: Classical, Rapid, and Blitz. Honestly, I don't care what the time controls for these three disciplines are, only that they should be the same for all tournaments! Today, a "Classical" tournament will have all kinds of different time controls. It is terrible. For a professional, they are constantly recalibrating themselves for all these controls which can be different from event to event in the extreme. This, too, has been a failure from FIDE, official federations, and the professional players. In fact, it is just stupid!

If I were chess dictator, I would say: "For the next two years, we will play our three disciplines with these and only

these standard time controls. Full stop. At the end of two years, we will review the results. If we discover that some tweaking is necessary, we will change the standard and practice them for two years . . ." And so forth and so on, eventually settling on the three standards that we all like best, which works for all parties, including organizers.

I would start with a classical time control of 90 minutes for 40 moves with a thirty-second bonus for all moves made from move one. For the second time control, 30 minutes for 20 moves (with the thirty-second bonus); for the third time control, 15 minutes (with the thirty-second bonus) for the rest of the game. My reasoning for this time control is that a classical game will obviously be the longest of the three disciplines. A player has physical needs, such as nutrition, drinks, visiting the restroom, and so on. The three distinct time controls allow the player to comfortably meet their physical needs. It is simply intolerable to be sitting at the board with a strong physical need to go to the restroom and be unable to do so, because you are playing on increment time only.

For Rapid Chess, I'd start with 20 minutes for all the moves of the whole game with a 10-second bonus for each move made. For Blitz Chess, I'd start with three minutes for all the moves of the whole game with a two-second bonus for each move made. Again, at the end of a two-year period, the results should be reviewed and tweaked, if necessary. If no tweaking is deemed necessary, the standards are kept for the next two years. The whole point is that such a banal thing as time controls should be standardized around the world.

What would be your advice to young people who are just starting to play chess and take it seriously?

Have fun. Enjoy what you are doing. Take your work seriously. If you get too stressed, take a break. If you apply yourself, you will get mentally tougher, much more disciplined, feel a greater sense of personal empowerment, and learn to succeed in anything you want to do. Believe in yourself.

You have played so many interesting and legendary opponents that others only

dream to meet. Which player impressed you the most, both chesswise and in personality matters?

My goodness! So many to mention. Bent Larsen was my personal hero, and I'm much indebted to Viktor Kortchnoi, just to mention two. The board manners of Alexander Beliavsky, Jan Timman, and Judith Polgar are simply exemplary. In terms of writers, Mikhail Tal, John Nunn, and Jeremy Silman are all superb. There are so many others as well. Chess is full of fascinating personalities and interesting people!

Do you coach people? If so, who are your pupils, if it is not a secret?

In general, no. I've trained with Viktor Kortchnoi and Jan Timman; I've done some work with Daniel Stellwagen and, recently, Ivo Timmermans. Much of this work is on a friendly, although serious, basis. Perhaps in the future, I'll become a chess coach, but, for now, it hasn't happened.

What are your plans for the future, besides passing the 2700 hurdle?

I'd like to help the USA team at next year's Olympiad.

A thousand thanks, Mr. Seirawan, for the indescribably interesting interview. I could not miss your numerous fans' chance to ask you a few questions as well. Got many, chose three. So, here they go . . .

Bonus questions from fans

Mr. Seirawan, are the supposed hypnotic forces of Mihail Tal over his opponents a mere legend or did you also feel them?

They are both! More legend and, yes, I did feel them as well. When I played against Karpov and Kasparov both, you could feel their energy and determination to defeat you. At times, they would look in my direction, not necessarily to disturb, but, at such moments, you understood they wanted to win!

What is your opinion of Viktor Korchnoi and chess longevity in general; how is it possible to play so well at 80? What would be your explanation of the phenomenon?

Sadly, I have no answers. Viktor is just fantastic. As, by the way, was Smyslov. They just knew where the pieces had to go and put them there! Perhaps Victor doesn't have the same energy at the board as he did decades

ago, but anyone who plays against him today knows that he is burning with desire to win the game!

Taking the golden opportunity that you are so familiar with these two great men, could you please make a comparison between Fischer and Kasparov, their weak and strong sides, the key of their successfully dominating in their times, respectively?

Sad to say, Bobby gave up the game when I started to play, so my comparison of Fischer versus, say, Karpov or Kasparov wouldn't be helpful. I can say that Bobby had an extraordinary capacity for hard work and probably spent more time honing his game than anyone previously had. He was truly professional in his choice of openings and so on. People like to say, "Bobby was the best chess player ever!" Such words make them feel good, or even knowledgeable. I might ask them: "Really?" In which time frame was Bobby the best player ever?" Think about it for a moment. Before Bobby entered the cycle that culminated in his historic 1972 World Championship match victory,

by his own agreement, in 1970, he allowed Bent Larsen to play board one ahead of him in the match versus the Soviets. To repeat, in 1970, the great Bobby Fischer, himself, thought it correct that Larsen play ahead of him.

Before Bobby defeated Boris Spassky in their match, he had never beaten Boris and, in fact, had a bad score against this rival. If we are generous, we could say that Bobby was the best player in 1971 and 1972, and then he quit. Hmm. That doesn't sound like solid grounds to me to make the claim that he was the best ever.

Where Bobby impressed, truly amazing, was his incredible Candidates Matches results as well as the final margin of victory in the 1972 match. Bobby was always good against the lower half of the field in round-robin events. He wasn't always dominating against the top half of the field at all.

Anatoly Karpov was a remarkable World Champion. It always seemed to

me that victory came too easy for Anatoly. From 1975 to 1985, essentially, Karpov won everything. For Anatoly, gold was important and he accepted it with minimal effort. He wasn't trying for "Fischeresque" results, he was happy to simply win first prize. And win he did! People don't really understand how good Anatoly truly was. Just consider that, while I believe that Garry Kasparov was the greatest player ever, in 1984 Anatoly was giving him a drubbing of 5-0 before the match was aborted. Imagine, leading the greatest player ever 5-0 after thirty games. Furthermore, imagine it was only a chess genius like Garry Kasparov that prevented Karpov from dominating for another decade!

My goodness! Thanks and thanks again, Mr. Seirawan...

You're welcome.

This piece was written for the official magazine of the Catalan Chess Federation *El Butlletí d'Escacs* and is republished courtesy of chessbase.com. ■

49th Annual Canadian Open

C\$15,000 GUARANTEED Prize Fund

July 8-13; Victoria BC

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

Rounds: 11:00am-6:00pm; 11:00am-6:00pm; 11:00am-6:00pm; 6:00pm; 6:00pm; 6:00pm

Time Control: Game in 120 minutes plus 30 second per move increment.

Sections: Premier (FIDE and CFC rated); U2000 (CFC rated), U1600 (CFC rated)

Entry Fees: C\$175 by June 1, C\$195 by June 29, C\$215 on site. C\$20 to play up a section.

Prizes: C\$15,000 guaranteed.

Play a GM!: 1st round games against GMs for sale. See website for details.

Registration: on line on website; by cheque payable to Victoria Chess c/o Paul Leblanc, 1012 Spiritwood Place, Victoria BC V8Y 1C6. by email: cochess2012@gmail.com

Transportation: Seattle Clipper and Coho ferry from Port Angeles dock across the street.

2011 Robert Karch Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

by Murlin Varner, slide ruler

Every weekend is important! The standings below include all events through November 6, and so many races are so very close. By the end of November (still 20 days away at this writing), and additional six events will be in the books, including the last big event of the year, the Washington Class Championships. If you cannot wait for January's magazine to see where you are in the standings, check on-line at nwchess.com, I intend to update there within days of the conclusion of the Class. There are also six more events in December before we finish out the year, in Portland, Spokane, Tacoma, and Seattle.

As of early November, both states have their overall leadership very up for grabs. In Oregon, Steven Breckenridge leads Nick Raptis by only 4.5 points. When you consider that a good outcome at the Washington Class could bring in 30 or more points, this lead is no better than the margin of error on all those political polls we see daily. It is even closer in Washington, where Dan Kramlich, Noah Fields and Stephen Buck are all within that same 4.5 point margin. Examine for yourself the leads in the various classes, including the tie at the top of Oregon's Expert Class. In only three cases does a leader have more than a 30 point edge, and in those, second place is still well in play. One thing is clear, if any of these leaders misses the Washington Class in Seatac, they are likely not going to be a leader when you see the January issue of *NWC*.

Play, get points, win! And then start all over in January with the Gresham Open.

(The final ratings update for 2011 has been completed; there will be no further class changes for this year.)

Oregon Washington

Masters	
Breckenridge, Steven	157.5
Raptis, Nick	153.0
Haessler, Carl	90.5
Roua, Radu	44.0
Russell, Corey	15.0
Experts	
Botez, Alexandra	123.0
Esler, Brian	123.0
Gay, Daniel	104.5
Brooks, Curtis	88.5
Janniro, Mike	83.0
Heywood, Bill	56.5
Class A	
Sherrard, Jerry	128.0
Wen, David	118.0
Cigan, Jason	108.5
Fisette, Robert	94.5
Witt, Steven	87.5
Sun, Maxwell	83.0
Class B	
Shimada, Masakazu	80.5
Robson, Luke	74.5
Terrill, Michael	67.0
Burriss, Christopher	55.5

Bragg, David	153.5
Pupols, Viktors	127.0
Sinanan, Joshua	93.5
Golub, David	90.5
Orlov, Georgi	79.5
Chen Howard	67.5
Experts	
Bartron, Paul	148.5
Ummel, Igor	131.0
Feng, Roland	111.5
Sen, Samir	95.5
Lessler, Peter	92.0
Lee, Nathan	78.5
Class A	
Fields, Noah	181.0
Buck, Stephen	179.5
Haining, Kyle	143.0
Lampman, Becca	136.0
McAleer, James	132.5
Szabo, Marcell	119.0
Class B	
Kramlich, Dan	184.0
Walk, Alan	153.0
Davis, Frederick	125.5
Nicoski, Aaron	105.0

Dalthorp, Matt	55.0	Ambler, Dennis	94.5
Malone, Robert	49.5	Soetedjo, James	76.5
Class C			
Murray, Dillon	100.5	Piper, August	109.0
Gaikwad, Dagadu	65.0	Hanna, Mark	99.5
Chatterjee, Dhruva	63.0	Dhingra, Sangeeta	97.0
Pettengill, Stephen	54.0	Varner, Murlin	91.5
Stevens, Matthew	51.0	Monahan, Darby	89.5
Skoro, Gabriel	51.0	Ramesh, Jothi	84.0

Class D and Below			
Cohen, David	73.0	Richards, Jerrold	127.5
Sharan, Praveer	61.0	Haining, Breck	77.0
Jewell, Nathan	56.0	Jones, Davey	76.0
Sharan, Pranav	55.0	Thomas, Arjun	69.5
Booth, Liam	51.0	Cherepakhin, Olga	63.5
Doddapaneni, Venkat	50.5	Buzek, Jan	59.5

Overall Leaders, by State			
Breckenridge, Steven	157.5	Kramlich, Dan	184.0
Raptis, Nick	153.0	Fields, Noah	181.0
Sherrard, Jerry	128.0	Buck, Stephen	179.5
Esler, Brian	123.0	Bragg, David	153.5
Botez, Alexandra	123.0	Walk, Alan	153.0
Wen, David	118.0	Bartron, Paul	148.5
Cigan, Jason	108.5	Haining, Kyle	143.0
Gay, Daniel	104.5	Lampman, Becca	136.0
Murray, Dillon	100.5	McAleer, James	132.5
Fisette, Robert	94.5	Ummel, Igor	131.0
Haessler, Carl	90.5	Richards, Jerrold	127.5
Brooks, Curtis	88.5	Pupols, Viktors	127.0
Witt, Steven	87.5	Davis, Frederick	125.5
Janniro, Mike	83.0	Szabo, Marcell	119.0
Sun, Maxwell	83.0	He, Daniel	112.5

Most active players (# of tmnts.)			
Esler, Brian	14	Walk, Alan	24
Sherrard, Jerry	14	Buck, Stephen	23
Raptis, Nick	13	Piper, August	22
Botez, Alexandra	12	Kramlich, Dan	21
Brooks, Curtis	12	Fields, Noah	20
Cigan, Jason	12	Ummel, Igor	19
Shimada, Masakazu	12	Szabo, Marcell	19

Players from Other Places

	state	rating	pts.
Havrilla, Mark	ID	1935	50.0
Cheng, Kun	CAN	1883	45.0
Sly, Douglas	CAN	1527	42.5
Laceste, Loren	CAN	2493	42.0
Cheng, Bindi	CAN	2396	42.0
Patterson, Roger	CAN	2179	39.0
Landingin, Jofrel	CAN	1902	39.0
Joshi, Kairav	ID	1887	38.0
Doknjas, Joshua	CAN	1770	36.5
Lee, Andy	CA	2317	36.0
Bugaoan, Jenesis	CAN	1890	36.0
Le Blanc, Paul	CAN	1855	36.0
Five tied at			33.0

Players in Database 2011

	Oregon	Washington	Other	Total
Master	5	14	4	23
Expert	19	31	7	57
Class A	34	66	18	118
Class B	26	63	15	104
Class C	33	51	12	96
Class D & Below	49	118	4	171
Total	166	343	60	569

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

Address
 2150 N 107 St
 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 large signs proclaiming "Northwest Kidney Centers" and "City University." The main entrance is reached by turning east on N. 107th Street from Meridian Ave. N. The club is on the lower level.

Darby Monahan Memorial Grand Prix

Leaders 10/1-12/3

Michael VanScyoc	94.0	Jothi Ramesh	60.5
<i>Fred Kleist</i>	88.5	Catherine Smith	58.5
August Piper	82.5	James Wade	56.0
<i>Kerry VanVeen</i>	82.5	Viktors Pupols	54.0
<i>David Kelly</i>	79.5	<i>Trevor Jung</i>	45.5
<i>Carol Kleist</i>	77.5	<i>Drayton Harrison</i>	44.0
Alan Walk	68.5	<i>Roland Heimisch</i>	43.0

Bolded players are new to the top 14. Players in italics gained less than 11 points since 10/31. All non-italicized people, except Wade, played in the Extravaganza (min. 11 pts). Piper made the biggest jump from 14th to 3rd-4th. Next big event is the **Insanity**. The G.P. continues through 5/31/12. The prize(s)—free entry to the 2012 Canadian Open or 2012 U.S. Open.

Attendance at 2011's events

Novice (4)—ave. 4; *Quads* (12)—ave. 22.75;
Tornados (12)—ave. 19; *3-Day Wknd Tnmts*
 (5)—ave. 50.6; **Yaz Lecture/Book-signing**
 (4/10)—60, **Adult Swiss** (4/30-5/1)—10, **SCC**
Extravaganza (11/4-6)—32.

Dec. 31, Jan. 28

Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sections by rating. **TC:** G/120. **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 memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

Saturday Quads

Dec. 31

Format: 3 interconnected events (Quick Chess/FischeRandom/Chess Variants). **TC:** Quick-G/14; FR-G/24; CV-G/27. **EF:** \$33 if rec'd by 12/28 (\$24 SCC memb., \$29 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW), \$42 at site (\$33 SCC memb., \$38 memb. of other dues-required CCs in the NW). *For indiv. events:* \$14 at site (+\$3 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Based on entries for each event and overall. For overall prize(s), QC counts 0.78, FR-0.86, CV-0.98. \$0.99 for stupidest question to TD. **Reg:** 10:00-10:32 p.m., 1:00-1:10 a.m., 4:05-4:20 a.m. **Rds:** (QC) 10:47-11:21-11:56-12:31-(FR) 1:12-2:19-3:16-(CV) 4:22-5:21-6:20 **Byes:** 3 available all rounds if requested 23 min. before. **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd for Quick Chess. Breakfast for all who go the distance. NS, NC.

3rd SCC Insanity

Jan. 8, Feb. 5

Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/64. **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 memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

Sunday Tornado

Jan. 13-15 Seattle City Championship

Format: 2-sec., 5-rd. Swiss. **TC:** 40/2, SD/1 (Rd.1 2-day option - G/64). **EF:** **Championship** \$42 (\$33 for SCC mem., \$38 for mem. of other NW dues-req'd CCs) by 1/11, \$50 (\$39, \$44) at site; GMs, IMs, WGMs free. **Reserve (U1800)** \$33 (\$24 for SCC mem., \$29 for mem. of other NW dues-req'd CCs) by 1/11, \$42 (\$33, \$38) at site. **Unrateds** free w/purch. 1-yr USCF & WCF. **Add** \$1 for 2-day schedule (Rd 1-Sat. 10 a.m., G/64). **Prize Fund:** \$1000 (b/52, 5/prz gp). **Prizes:** **Championship** \$225-140, X 90, A 70; **Reserve (U1800)** \$125-80, C 60, D 50, E & under 40, Unr. 20. **Reg:** Fri. 7-7:45 p.m. or Sat. 9-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** Fri. 8, Sat. (10 @ G/64)-12:30-6:30, Sun. 11-5. **Byes:** 2 available. Rounds 4 or 5 must commit at registration. **Misc:** USCF, WCF/OCF memb. req'd, OSA, NS, NC.

January 21

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and unrated. **TC:** G/75. **EF:** \$11 by 1/5, \$16 at site. (-\$2 for SCC mem., -\$1 for mem. of other NW dues-req'd CCs). **Prizes:** Memb (SCC, WCF, USCF). **Reg:** 9-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4—commit at reg.). **Misc:** USCF memb. req'd. NS, NC.

SCC Novice

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.

C.B. Bagley Memorial: Dec. 2, 9, 16.

Package Express (G/10, 5-SS): Dec. 23.

Patzer's Challenge: Dec. 30.

January Thaw: Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27.

Cabin Fever: Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24.

SCC G/15 Champ. (EF: \$8): Mar 2.

March Winds: Mar. 9, 16, 23, 30.

April Showers: Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27.

Close Ratings: May 4, 11, 18.

Pre-WAO Blitz (G/5): May 25.

It's Summertime: June 1, 8, 15, 22.

December 17

TCC Novice

Site: Tacoma Chess Club, 409 Puyallup Ave E, 2nd floor, Room 11 in the DTI Soccer Store Building across from Alfred's Café (two blocks down the hill from the Tacoma Dome). **Format:** 4SS. **TC:** G/75. **EF:** \$10. **Prizes:** Trophies 1st, 2nd, 3rd, U1100, U1000. **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10-1-4-7 or ASAP. **Byes:** two half-point byes avail. **Misc:** No memb req'd. NS. NC. NW. **Entries/Info:** Gary J. Dorfner 8423 E 'B' St, Tacoma WA 98445; 253-535-2536; ggarychess@aol.com.

December 17-18

Christmas Congress

Site: Tacoma Chess Club, 409 Puyallup Ave E, 2nd floor, Room 11 in the DTI Soccer Store Building across from Alfred's Café (two blocks down the hill from the Tacoma Dome). **Format:** 4SS, one section. **TC:** 40/90, SD/60. **EF:** Adults \$25 in advance, \$30 at site; juniors \$20; economy \$10. **Prize Fund:** \$225 b/16. **Prizes:** \$75, U2000 50, U1700 50, U1400 50.00 (min. 4/prz. gp.). **Reg:** 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** Sat. 10-4, Sun. 10-4 or ASAP. **Byes:** two half-point byes avail. **Misc:** OCF/WCF and USCF memb req'd. NS. NC. NW. **Entries/Info:** Gary J. Dorfner 8423 E 'B' St, Tacoma WA 98445; 253-535-2536; ggarychess@aol.com.

December 17-18

Portland Winter Open

New Dates! (TA based on previous events and may be subject to change.) **Site:** Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24 Ave, Portland OR. **Format:** 5SS, two sections. **TC:** Rds 1-3 (Saturday) 40/90, SD/30; Rds 4-5 (Sunday) 40/120, SD/60. **EF:** \$35, PCC members – \$10 discount. **Prize Fund:** \$650 b/40. **Prizes:** *Open* — \$150-100, U2000 75; *Reserve* — \$100-75, U1600 50, U1400 50, U1200 or UNR 50. **Reg:** opens at 9:00am on Saturday. **Misc:** USCF and OCF/WCF req'd and can be purch'd/renewed at reg. Note—This event is now an OSCF (scholastic) qualifier event. See www.oscf.org for more information.

December 31

Portland Chess Club G/60

Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24 Ave, Portland OR. **Format:** 4SS. **TC:** G/60. (TD may switch to 5SS and G/45 if more than 25 entries.) **EF:** \$20, \$5 discount for PCC Members. No advance entries. **Prize Fund:** \$200/b20 **Prizes:** \$60-40-30 U1800, U1500 35 each. **Reg:** 9-9:30. **Byes:** Half-point bye if requested at reg. **Misc:** OCF/WCF and USCF memb req'd, OSA. **Info:** portlandchessclub@gmail.com, 503-246-2978, www.pdxchess.com.

January 16

MLK G/45

Site: Zion Lutheran School, 2800 NW Tyler Ave, Corvallis OR 97330. **Format:** 5SS. **TC:** G/45. (TD may switch to 5SS and G/45 if more than 25 entries.) **EF:** \$15 by 1/14. No at-site entries! **Prize Fund:** \$350/b25 **Prizes:** \$150-90-60 U1700 50 each. **Reg:** 9-9:30. **Byes:** Half-point bye if requested at reg. **Misc:** Limited to first 32 players. USCF/NWSRS rated, USCF memb req'd. There'll be a scholastic tournament in a different part of the campus, but all will share the same skittles room. **Entries/Info:** Send name and USCF ID# to Dan Dalthorp at onco111@yahoo.com or call 541-791-4939.

February 25-26

20th Dave Collyer Memorial

Site: Basement Conference Room, St. Anne's Children's Center, 25 W Fifth Ave, Spokane WA. **Format:** 5SS. **TC:** G/115. **EF:** \$27 if rec'd by 2/24, \$33 at site; under 19, \$5 less. Phone entries accepted. All registrants must check in by 9:30 (exceptions—rd 1 bye or "Sleep-In" option). **Prize Fund:** \$2000 gtd. **Prizes:** \$400-250-175, X 100, A 100-75, B 100-75, C 100-75, D 100-75, E/UNR 100-75, Biggest Upsets 100-50-50 (no prov. rtgs). Class prizes b/5 per class; classes may be reconfigured if less than five. *Extra donated prize:* \$200 Stephen Christopher Memorial Perfect Score Prize. Special door prize for every entrant! **Reg:** 8:30-9:30 a.m. (till 11:40 a.m. for "Sleep-In"). **Rds:** 10 (or 12)-2:30-7; 9-1:30 or ASAP. **Byes:** One ½-point bye avail. if req'd by end of prior r'd; Sunday bye must be req'd by end of rd 3. **Special "Sleep In" option:** Rd 1—noon (G/60). **Misc:** Mandatory player meeting at 9:45 (except for sleep in). Director reserves right to use class pairings in final rd. NS, NC, W. **Entries:** Spokane CC, c/o Kevin Korsmo, N 9923 Moore, Spokane WA 99208-9339. **Info:** 509-270-1772. www.spokanechessclub.org. **Simul and Talk:** Feb. 24 at 6:00 p.m. - IM John Donaldson lecture at Kress Gallery – Riverpark Square, downtown Spokane. 6:45 p.m. - Donaldson Simul, \$10 per board.

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A total of 18 participated in this year's event, which began on September 23 and was completed on October 29.

This event largely played out according to ratings with few upsets—an unusual occurrence for a club championship tourney. The field was augmented by five provisionally-rated youngsters making their first club appearances, which accounts in part for the lack of major upsets. All showed good sportsmanship and a nice grasp of the game—and a strong future in chess!

Courtesy spokanechessclub.org

Tacoma, WA

The Tacoma CC Championship was held on seven Fridays September 16

through October 28. There were 16 players in all. The winners were: 1st (Club Champion for 2011) **Mike MacGregor**; Class A—Joe Kiiru; Class B: 1st—Steve Buck, 2nd—Daniel Reisinger; Class C: 1st—Rich Raymond, 2nd—Bill Rogers; Class D/E: 1st—Rich

Sewell, 2nd—Mike Mellott; TCC Senior Champion—Paul Bartron; and TCC Junior Champion—Peter Marriott. Those who finished first in each class are the 2011 TCC Class Champions. The prizes were trophies, medals, and plaques. TD—Gary Dorfner. *Courtesy Gary Dorfner* ■

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