



February 2024

\$3.95

Northwest Chess

February 2024, Volume 78-02 Issue 913

ISSN Publication 0146-6941

USPS publication 422390

Published monthly by the *Northwest Chess* Board.

To see the games from this issue online click:

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To see photos from this issue click:

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POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to the Office of Record:

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

Periodicals postage paid at Seattle, Washington
USPS periodicals postage permit number (0422-390)

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governing bodies of the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

Advertising & Copy Deadline

Ads and submissions must be received by the fifth of the
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February 5 for the March issue; March 5 for April.

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

Business Manager

Northwest Chess c/o Orlov Chess Academy
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Redmond, WA 98052-5164

businessmanager@nwchess.com

<https://www.nwchess.com>

**Judged Best Magazine/Newsletter for 2009 and
2014-2023 by Chess Journalists of America!**

Front Cover

Zoey Tang, Oregon Junior Closed Champion.
Photo credit: Wilson Gibbins.

Back Cover

(L) Emel Bayrambeyli and (R) Pace Lykins,
co-champions Oregon Junior Closed Challengers section.
Photo credit: Wilson Gibbins.

Submissions

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

Jeffrey Roland, NWC Editor

1514 S. Longmont Ave.

Boise, Idaho 83706-3732

or via e-mail to:

jeffreyyroland9@gmail.com

Subscriptions / Premium Memberships

Individual residents of WA/OR only.

Washington residents please add sales tax.

Idaho residents see

<https://www.idahochessassociation.com/>

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

Online Subscriptions / Basic Memberships

Individual residents of Oregon only.

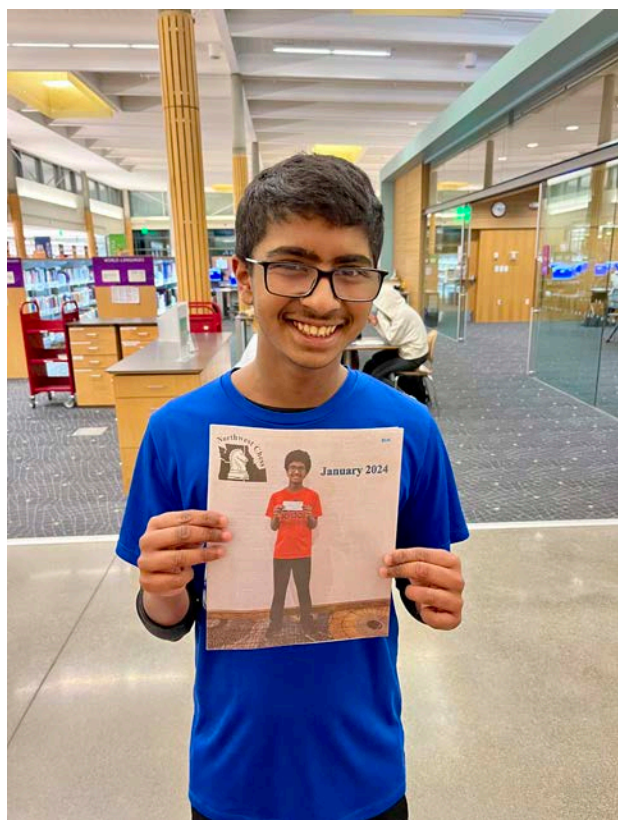
		Rate
Adult	1 year	\$ 17.50
	Junior (U/21 at expiration) 1 year	\$ 10.00
Senior	1 year	\$ 17.50
Additional Family Members	1 year	\$ 5.00

Non-Member Subscriptions

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

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Reader Appreciation

Hi Jeff,

Please find enclosed a photo of Stephen Willy with the January 2024 issue! This was taken January 9, 2024 at the Plateau Youth Chess Club in Sammamish by Su Lim.

Please feel free to post on the *NWC* website, social media pages, etc. as desired.

Cheers,

Josh

Hi Josh,

I love it! In my “editor’s cave,” I don’t always know how things are received out there. It’s great that he seems to love it too, and I take this picture and the look on Stephen’s face as a big “thank you,” and it pleases me to see this.

I just have to share it!

—Jeffrey Roland, Editor

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLASTIC

CHESS TOURNAMENT

President's Day Monday, February 19th, 2024

Chinook Middle School

2001 98th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004



DUAL RATED

SECTIONS

K-2 Open, 3-12 U1200,

3-6 Open, 7-12 Open

A 5-round G/25; +5 Swiss. For advanced beginner to advanced players. Dual Northwest and US Chess Rated. US Chess membership required. **Clocks and notation required.** All equipment is provided.

NORTHWEST-ONLY

SECTIONS

Kindergarten, 1-2 U700,

3-4 U700, 5-12 U900

A 5-round G/30 Swiss. For novice to intermediate players. Northwest rated only. US Chess membership not required. No clocks used from the start, but a 10-minute clock with 5-sec increment will be placed into the game after 35 minutes of play.

SCHEDULE

Rounds: 9:15am, 10:45am, Lunch Time, 12:30pm, 1:45pm, 3:00pm. Awards presentation ~ 4:30pm or asap.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to all students in grades K-12. Out-of-state players welcome!

ENTRY FEE

\$45 by Feb. 12th, \$55 after. Room for 250 players.

AWARDS

Section Prizes: Amazon e-gift cards awarded in each section:

1st – 10th: \$65-\$60-\$55-\$50-\$45-\$40-\$35-\$30-\$25-\$20.

Team Prizes: Plaques awarded to the top 5 finishing teams (top 4 scores from same school comprise team score) across all sections.

Special Prizes (per section): Medals for first-time players, best female player (by TPR), and biggest upset win.

RATING

Higher of US Chess February regular or current NWSRS rating used to determine section and pairings.

THE DETAILS

100% pre-registered, no on-site entries or payments. Entry + payment deadline Sun. Feb. 18th @ 5:00pm. Unpaid players by the deadline will be withdrawn from the tournament.

WA State Elementary Qualifier!

This event is a **qualifier for the WA State Elementary Championship** on May 4, 2024, in Kennewick. Players scoring 3.0+ points will qualify for State.

Online Registration:

NWchess.com/OnlineRegistration/
Pay by Credit/Debit/PayPal.

Pizza lunch and other concessions will be available for purchase on site.

Questions?

Contact Rekha Sagar, WCF Vice President: rekha4chess@gmail.com or

Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206.769.3757, washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com

The Inland Classic

February 24 – 25, 2024

Presented by the Spokane Chess Club

Location: Lakeland Junior High

15601 N. Highway 41, Rathdrum, ID

I-90 to Exit 7 Post Falls, ID. Head north on Highway 41 (10 minutes) to Rathdrum

Registration: via telephone or email only; **CLOSES** 10 pm February 22, 2024.

Rounds: 10-2:30-7; 9-1:30 or ASAP. **Time control:** G/115, d5. **Entry fee:** \$30 adults, \$25 under 19. Telephone and email entries accepted (can pay at door – cash or check only). All registrants must check in by 9:40 unless a first-round bye was granted.

\$1750 GUARANTEED prize fund. Class prizes based on at least 5 per class; classes may be reconfigured if less than five class entries. Only one prize per player (excluding biggest upset). NS, NC, W. One ½-point bye available if requested by end of round 3. Director reserves the right to use class pairings in final round.

PRIZES

FIRST -- \$400

SECOND -- \$270

THIRD -- \$150

Class Prizes: Top Expert \$100

\$100 first, \$70 second: A; B; C; D & under/unrated.

Biggest Upset prizes: \$100 & \$50 (non-provisional ratings).

Entries: Spokane CC, c/o Kevin Korsmo N. 9923 Moore, Spokane, WA 99208-9339.

For information or to enter please call (509) 270-1772 or write kmkorsmo@comcast.net

Check website for updates: www.spokanechessclub.org



St. Anne Celtic Challenge Fall 2023

Josh Sinanan

The Fall 2023 edition of the St. Anne Celtic Challenge scholastic tournament took place on Sunday, November 19, at St. Anne School in the swanky Queen Anne neighborhood of Seattle. A robust showing of 155 scholastic chess players in grades K-9 participated across five sections parsed by grade level and chess rating: K-1 U800, 2-3 U800, K-3 Open, 4-8 U900, and 4-12 Open.

For forty intrepid youngsters, it was their very first rated chess tournament! The St. Anne Celtic Challenge has become a regular tournament on the “circuit” for many, as it offers a fast-paced schedule on a Sunday afternoon, instead of the traditional day-long affair hosted on a Saturday, which is the norm for most scholastic tournaments in the greater Seattle area. The tournament attracted players from throughout the West Coast, including parts of Redmond, Kirkland, Sammamish, Bellevue, Seattle, Issaquah, Yarrow Point, Everett, Woodinville, Cupertino (CA), Lake Stevens, Monroe, Bellingham, Clyde Hill, Auburn, Bothell, University Place, Marysville, Snohomish, Olympia, Milton, Shoreline, and Mercer Island.

The atmosphere was calm and welcoming, with many displays of good sportsmanship and genuine friendship throughout the afternoon! The chess spoke for itself, with many entertaining encounters created by the wild cast of characters taking part in the proceedings!

The event was hosted by St. Anne School, organized by St. Anne Chess Coordinators Carlee Thorrington & Arlene Kelly, and

directed by WCF President and St. Anne Chess Coach Josh Sinanan with assistance from judges Ani Barua, Gabriel Razmov, Rishi Ramaswamy, and Sebastian Clemente. The tournament was held in memory of Coach Chris Hurley (1965-2020), who founded the St. Anne Chess Club and built up the chess programs at

St. Anne and Seattle Preparatory School, which his kids Jane and George attended.

Many thanks to the amazing chess families and volunteers who contributed to this fantastic event!

Congratulations to the trophy winners:

Individual Trophies					
Place	K-1 U800	2-3 U800	K-3 Open	4-8 U900	4-12 Open
1st	Skylar Qin	Ren Wadhvani	Alisa Rachiba	Vihaan Gupta	Joshua Van Gorkom
2nd	Vincent Gu	Andrew Yang	Vayu Kakkad	Spencer Han	Ziliang Ma
3rd	Eric Yu	Aadya Karanam	Daniel D Yun	Russell Jaeger	Gavin Shi
4th	Felicity Mei	Alice Li	Edgar Li	Oliver King	Isaac Friedenson
5th	Leonard Bach Hoang	Siana Razmov	Bowen Zhang	Owen Nelson	Rian Raja
6th	Elina Khudyev	Abigail Lew	William Zhao	Riddhima Chauhan	Snehil Ghosh
7th	Kaiyi Han	Emma Li	Aditi Sembium	Benjamin Don	Abhay Lizon
8th	Suryen Charuvil Vinu	Lucas Kim	Skandha Raj	Niko Elmieh	Yang Xu
9th	Edda Wang	William Wang	Natalie Xu	Lakshmanan Nachiappan	Atharv Rao
10th	Kristina Velichko	Shrihan Bayya	Sambuddha Sekhar Das	Aryash Singhal	Mike Tie

Team Trophies			
Place	School	Players	Score
1st	Open Window School	Skylar Qin (689) 4.5, Alice Li (742) 4.0, Vincent Gu (369) 4.0, Abigail Lew (726) 3.5, Arnab Kannapiran (844) 3.0, Theodore Lew (201) 2.0	16
2nd	Somerset Elementary	Eric Yu (538) 4.0, Kaiyi Han (440) 3.5, Atharv Rao (1249) 3.0, Zhibo Zhang (1024) 3.0, Austin Liu (532) 2.5, Aadvik Rao (385) 2.0	13.5
3rd	Bellevue Children's Academy	Felicity Mei (379) 4.0, Aditi Sembium (1063) 3.0, Sai Karthik (963) 2.0, Aarika Singh (345) 2.0	11
4th	St. Anne School	Russell Jaeger (709) 4.0, James Thorrington (742) 3.0, Liam Kelly (486) 2.0, Thomas Doyle (unr.) 2.0, Joseph Santiago (unr.) 2.0, Mason Whittaker (490) 1.0, Sophia Mahapatra (unr.) 1.0, Cyrus Cooney (100) 0.5	11
5th	Ben Rush Elementary	Guru Harshith Reddy Avula (1320) 3.0, Dhvani Deepesh (203) 3.0, Devashreetha Reddy Mallu (unr.) 2.5, Rushank Reddy Mallu (377) 2.0, Devyan Thakur (unr.) 1.0, Rutvi Navya Jeevan (142) 0.0	10.5

Al Forthan Memorial Scholarship Chess Tournament Fundraiser!

Please join us and enjoy a competitive chess tournament while raising funds for Oregon High School seniors impacted by addiction and poverty. Meet our participating Alumni, clients, affiliates, supporters, and help support our **community in the journey toward recovery.**



One-day tournament: Saturday, March 23, 2024
at Matt Dishman Center, 77 NE Knott St, Portland 97212

Schedule:

Day of Registration: 9:00 – 9:50am

Rounds: 10:00am – 7:00pm

Prizes and Awards: 7:30pm



Entry Fee: \$50

****At least half of all proceeds will fund the Al Forthan Scholarship for students impacted by poverty and addiction.****

Registration: Pre-register by emailing dbreckenridge@voaor.org or register day of from 9am-9:50am. Additional Information emailed after registration. For additional assistance with registration call: **(503) 802-0313**

Rounds times: 6 rounds, **(25 min + 5 sec increment)** ~Net 30 minutes per side, from 10:00am – 7:00pm

3 Sections: Scholastic (Under 1600/Unrated), Reserve (Under 1800/Unrated), Open (1800+ Rated)

Food & Recreation: Matt Dishman Center has recreations, including a pool & hot tub for family and supporting members to enjoy while waiting for rounds. We will also have food and drink available for additional support to the scholarship. *A voucher will be provided for players bringing their own tournament chess set & clock.

Prizes: Adjusted proportionally if there are a different number of players, with increasing gift cards and movie tickets for lower attendee scaling. *Must have USCF rating to compete for Open section prizes.

~60 Sponsored. We will email updates for when pre-registration entries meet the projected 120 participants.

Sections	Prizes for placement	Additional Prizes
Open (1800+ Rated)	1 st : \$1000 2 nd : \$500 3 rd : \$250 4 th & 5 th : \$100 Nike Gift cards 6 th -10 th : 2 Regal tickets	Raffle opportunity for additional prizes
Reserve (Under 1800/Unrated)	1 st : \$500 2 nd : \$250 3 rd : \$100 4 th & 5 th : \$50 Nike Gift cards 6 th -10 th : 2 Regal tickets	Raffle opportunity for additional prizes
Scholastic (K-9: Under 1600/Unrated)	1 st : \$225 2 nd : \$125 3 rd : \$50 4 th & 5 th : \$50 Nike Gift cards 6 th -10 th : 2 Regal tickets – 10 th +: \$5 Burgerville Gift card	Raffle, Trophies, Medals, & chocolate chess pieces!

11th Annual Reno Larry Evans Memorial Open

May 3-5 or May 4-5, 2024, 3 Day or 2 Day Schedule

US Chess
150 GPP (Enhanced)

\$27,500!! (b/275)

\$17,000!! (Guaranteed)

F.I.D.E. Rated
OPEN Section

NEW LOCATION: CIRCUS CIRCUS RENO

500 N. Sierra Street, Reno, NV 89503 (Downtown Reno)

6 Rd Swiss ♦ 6 Sections ♦ 40/2, Game/1 - d5 ♦ (Open Section) 40/2, Game/55 - d5 ♦ 2 Day (Rds 1-3) G/1 - d5

Open Section (2200 & above) EF: \$194, (2000-2199) \$250, (1999/below) \$300; GMs and IMs free but must enter by 4/5 or pay late fee at door. Guaranteed Prizes; (1-7 in Open Section plus 1/2 of all other prizes).

Open Section \$2,000 - 1,000 - 900 - 800 - 700 - 600 - 500, (2399/below) \$1,000 - \$500, (2299/below) \$1,000 - \$500 (If there is a tie for 1st then a playoff for \$100 out of prize fund plus trophy).

Section Expert (2000-2199) EF: \$194 (2-day EF: \$190) \$2,000-1,000-500-300-200

Section "A" (1800-1999) EF: \$193 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,800-900-500-300-200

Section "B" (1600-1799) EF: \$192 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,700-800-400-300-200

Section "C" (1400-1599) EF: \$191 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,500-700-400-300-200

Section "D/Under" (1399-below) EF: \$180 (2-day EF: \$190) \$1,000-500-300-200, (1199/below) \$400-200-100

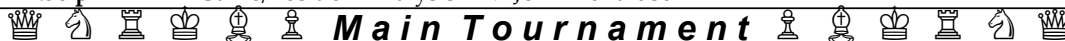
Top Senior (65+) - \$200; Club Championship - \$600 - 300.

Wed. 5/1: 7:00 pm - GM Sergey Kudrin Clock Simul w/ complete analysis of YOUR Game (Only \$30!-bring clock)

Thursday 5/2: 6 - 7:15 pm - Lecture by IM John Donaldson (FREE)

7:30 pm - GM Melikset Khachiyani Simul (\$20); Blitz (G/5 d0) Tourney \$25 - 80% of entries = Prize Fund

Saturday 5/4: 3 - 4:30 pm - FREE Game/Position Analysis - IM John Donaldson



Registration: Thursday (5/2) 5 - 8 pm. - Friday (5/3) 9 - 10 am. - Saturday (5/4) 9 - 10 am.

Round Times: (3-day Schedule) Friday - 12 Noon - 7 pm; Saturday - 10 am - 6 pm; Sunday - 9 am - 4 pm
(2-day Schedule) Sat.- Rd 1 - 10:30 am, Rd 2 - 12:45 pm, Rd 3 - 3 pm, Rd 4 merge with regular schedule - 6 pm

For more information: Call, Write or E-mail Organizer and Chief TD, N.T.D. Jerome (Jerry) Weikel,
(H) 775-747-1405 OR (Cell) 775-354-8728 • 6578 Valley Wood Dr., Reno, NV 89523 • wackyykl@aol.com

Room Reservation: Call Circus Circus Reno, 1-800-648-5010, Group Reservation Code: SRLEM4

Hotel Rates \$87.00 Sun-Thu / \$166.45 Fri-Sat, single or double occupancy, tax included.

Reserve by 4/16 • Best way to reserve is Hotel Link: <https://book.passkey.com/go/SRLEM4>

For TLA and to confirm receipt of entry see player list at: www.renochess.org

ENTRY FORM - 11th Annual Larry Evans Memorial Open - Reno, Nevada - May 3-5 OR May 4-5, 2024

Mail to: WEIKEL CHESS, 6578 Valley Wood Drive, Reno NV 89523

PRINT Name _____ Phone# _____ USCF Rating _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

USCF ID# _____ Exp. Date _____ All pre-registered players check in at TD desk on arrival.

ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED: (CIRCLE SECTION AND FEE BELOW) BYE(S) REQUESTED FOR ROUND(S): (circle) 1 2 3 4 5 6

----- OPEN SECTION -----

EXPERT "A" "B" "C" "D/Under" UNRATED

GM/IM • Masters • 2000-2199 • 1999-Below

2000-2199 1800-1999 1600-1799 1400-1599 1399-Below Free With

3-Day EF	Free	•	\$194	•	\$250	•	\$300		\$194	\$193	\$192	\$191	\$180	USCF Dues
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2-Day EF	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$190	USCF Dues
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FEES ALSO ENCLOSED FOR:

- ☐ \$30 Wed. Clock Simul GM Kudrin
- ☐ \$20 Thu. Simul GM Khachiyani
- ☐ \$25 Thursday Blitz (G/5 d0)
- ☐ \$20 Discount - Sr 65+ Age _____

POSTMARK BY April 5, 2024. Add \$11 after 4/5. Add \$22 on site.

Do not mail after 4/26 or email after 4/30. Make check / m.o. payable to WEIKEL CHESS or provide credit card info and signature. \$5 service charge on credit card entries. ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ Am.Ex
Expiration Date _____ Zip Code _____
Credit Card# _____ CVV Code _____
Signature _____

- ☐ Check Enclosed
- ☐ Charge My Card

TOTAL FEES: \$ _____

WASHINGTON PRESIDENT'S CUP



SAT-SUN, FEBRUARY 24-25TH, 2024

LAKE SIDE UPPER SCHOOL

14050 1ST AVE NE, SEATTLE, WA 98125

Highest finishing Washington resident in the Open section seeded into the 2025 Washington State Championship – Invitational section.

Format: A 5-round Swiss in two sections:

Washington (1600+): NWSRS, US Chess & FIDE Tri-Rated.

Lincoln U1600: NWSRS & US Chess Dual-Rated.

Schedule: Saturday 9:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 5:30 PM; Sunday 10 AM, 3:30 PM. Closing Ceremony: Sunday ~ 7pm or asap. Players whose games run long may request a late start for the next round.

Time Control: Rd. 1: G/60; +15. Rds. 2-5: 40/100, SD/30, +15. Late default: 60 min.

Prize Fund: \$3,500 (based on 100 paid entries)

Washington: 1st–6th: \$450-375-300-225-150-125.
1st U2000/U1800: \$100

Lincoln: 1st–4th: \$325-250-175-125.
1st U1400/U1200/U1000: \$100; 1st Unrated: \$70

Special Prizes (per section): **Biggest Upset Win:** \$10/round, **Best Female Player** (by TPR): \$25, **Best Dressed:** \$20/day, **Best Senior Player** (65+, by TPR): \$25, **Biggest USCF Rating Gain:** \$25, **Best Annotated game:** \$25. Minimum of 3 qualifying players per section for best female/senior player to be awarded.

Entry Fee: \$70 by 2/17, \$80 after. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs & WIMs. Players rated 1400+ (in both NWSRS + USCF) may pay an extra \$40 play-up fee to play in Washington section. Maximum of 150 players – please register early to guarantee your spot.

Memberships: Current US Chess and WCF membership/Northwest Chess subscription required. Memberships must be paid at time of registration.

Byes: Two half-point byes available. If interested, request before end of round 2.

Rating: US Chess and NWSRS Rated. Open section is also FIDE Rated. Higher of February US Chess Regular or current NWSRS rating used to determine section, pairings, and prizes. If ratings differ by >200 pts., the avg. of current NWSRS and Feb. US Chess regular rating will be used.

Registration: Online at nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration
Registration and payment **deadline: Fri. 2/23 @ 5pm.**
Payment via Zelle/PayPal (ID: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com) or Venmo (ID: @WACHess) available.

In case of a tie for 1st place, a future follow-up playoff match will determine the seed for the Invitational section of the 2025 Washington State Championship.

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

Mail To: Washington Chess Federation
c/o Orlov Chess Academy, 4174 148th Ave. NE,
Building I, Ste. M, Redmond, WA 98052

Contact: Josh Sinanan, WCF President

Phone: 206-769-3757

Email: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Blast From The Past!

By Viktors Pupols

Kingston, WA—December 27, 2023

As I write this, there are late-year tournaments running, some arranged so that hometown favorites can gain a couple of rating points and qualify for the CANDIDATES.

This reminded me of a 2002 tournament which was a qualifier for the U.S. Championships.

My last round opponent was Ms. Anna Levina; I am enclosing the game. As a result of it, I finished with 4.0/6 and did not qualify.

Georgi Orlov finished with 4.5/6; he did not qualify either.

Ms. Levina scored 3.0/6; she did qualify.

—Happy New Year, Unkel Vik

Viktors Pupols (2248) –
Anna Levina (2080) [D46]

2002 National Open
Las Vegas, NV (R6), March 10, 2002
[Viktors Pupols]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.e3 Nd7 5.Nf3
Ngf6 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.h3 0-0 8.Be2 dxc4
9.Bxc4 e5

This generally equalizes in the Meran.

10.0-0 exd4

GM Walter Browne (and others) did not mind an isolated d-pawn.

11.exd4 Nb6 12.Bb3 h6

A natural move, but it should be preceded by ...Nbd5. Now I'm following Browne.

13.Bxh6 gxh6 14.Qg6+ Kh8 15.Qxh6+
Kg8

Better is 15...Nh7. The most natural attack is 16.Ne4 Be7 17.Nf6 Bf5! preventing Bc2; and the bishop should stay on the b1–h7 diagonal even if ...Bd3 and ...Bxf1 won material.

16.Bc2 Be6 17.Ng5 Re8 18.Bh7+ Nxh7
19.Qxh7+ Kf8 20.Nce4 Nd5 21.f4 Bxf4
22.Rxf4 Nxf4 23.Qh8+ Ke7 24.Qf6+
Kd7?

24...Kf8 is stronger; White can perpetual check immediately or continue with space advantage.

25.Qxf4 Ke7 26.Nf6 Qb8 27.Qf2 Rh8
28.Re1 Qc8



Position after 28...Qc8

29.d5?

Not bad, but 29.Nd5+ is more immediate.

29...cxd5 30.Nxd5+ Kd7 31.Rd1 Ke8
32.Qf6 Qc5+ 33.Kh1 Rh5 34.Nxe6 fxe6
35.Qxe6+ Kf8 36.Qf6+ Ke8 37.Qg6+
Kd8 38.Qxh5

1-0

Presidential Blitz Championship



Sunday, February 25th, 2024

Lakeside Upper School

14050 1st Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125

Contact: Josh Sinanan,
WCF President, 206-769-3757
WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Registration: Online at
nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration.
Online registration and
payment **deadline @ 5 PM on**
Saturday, February 24, or else
register at site.

Eligibility: Open to all junior +
adult players.

Format: A 9-Round single Swiss in one
section.

Time Control: G/3; +3 sec. increment.

Schedule: At-site registration: Sun.
6:45-7:30 PM.
Rds.: 7:45 PM, 8, 8:15, 8:30, 8:45, 9, 9:15,
9:30, 9:45 PM. Awards ~ 10 PM.

Prize Fund: \$600 (based on 50 paid
entries).

1st – 3rd: \$130-100-70. 1st Unrated: \$50.
1st U2000/U1800/U1600/U1400/U1200:
\$50

Entry Fee: \$20 if postmarked or online by
2/18, \$25 by 2/24, \$30 at-site. Free entry
for GMs, IMs, WGMs, WIMs.

Byes: Three half-point byes available; if
interested, request before end of round 2.

Memberships: Current US Chess and
WCF membership/Northwest Chess
subscription required. Memberships
must be paid at time of registration.

Rating: US Chess Blitz Rated. Higher of
February US Chess or current NWSRS
rating will be used to determine pairings
and prizes.

Harmon Memorial Chess Tournament



MARCH 2-3, 2024

LAKE SIDE UPPER SCHOOL

14050 1ST AVE NE, SEATTLE, WA 98125

Highest performing WA players (by TPR) in the Open and Reserve sections seeded into the 2025 Washington State Premier + Challengers sections, respectively.

Format: A 5-round Swiss in two sections:

Open: NWSRS, US Chess & FIDE Tri-Rated (except for rd. 1, which is not FIDE rated)

Reserve U1700: NWSRS & US Chess Dual-Rated.

In case of a tie for 1st place, follow-up playoff games will determine the seed for the Premier or Challengers section of the 2025 Washington State Championship.

Schedule: Saturday 9 AM, 12:30 PM, 6 PM; Sunday 10 AM, 3:30 PM. Closing Ceremony: Sunday ~ 8 PM or asap. Players whose games run long may request a late start for the next round.

Time Control: Rd. 1: G/60; +15.

Rds. 2-5: 30/90, SD/30; +30. Late default: 60 min.

Prize Fund: \$3,600 (based on 90 paid entries)

Open: 1st-6th: \$450-375-300-225-150-125.

1st U2100/U1900: \$100

Reserve: 1st-4th: \$325-250-175-125.

1st U1500/U1300/U1100: \$100; 1st Unrated: \$70

Special Prizes (per section): **Biggest Upset Win:** \$10/round, **Best Female Player** (by TPR): \$50, **Best Dressed:** \$20/day, **Best Senior Players** (50+ & 65+, by TPR): \$50, **Biggest USCF Rating Gain:** \$25, **Best Annotated game:** \$25. Minimum of 3 qualifying players required per section in contention for each best female/senior prize to be awarded.

Entry Fee: \$80 by 2/24, \$95 after. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMS & WIMs. Players rated 1500+ (in both NWSRS + USCF) may pay an extra \$40 play-up fee to play in Open section. Maximum of 100 players – please register early to reserve your spot.

Memberships: Current US Chess and WCF membership/Northwest Chess subscription required. Memberships must be paid at time of registration.

Byes: Two half-point byes available. If interested, request before end of round 2.

Rating: US Chess and NWSRS Rated. Open section is also FIDE Rated (except for rd. 1). Highest of March FIDE, March US Chess Regular, or current NWSRS rating used to determine section, pairings, and prizes. If ratings differ by >200 pts., the avg. of current NWSRS and March. US Chess regular rating will be used.

Registration: Online at nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration
Pay by Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing.

Registration and payment deadline: Fri. 3/1 @ 5pm. No registrations accepted or refunds offered after the deadline. Payment also available via Zelle (ID: WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com) or Venmo (ID: @WACChess).

Questions?

Josh Sinanan, WCF President,
206-769-3757,
WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Sridhar At North American Open

Sridhar Seshadri

Sridhar Seshadri came back from a great vacation in Switzerland at the Top Of Europe.

He came on back from Switzerland on December 25, and on December 26, with lot of jet lag, went the very next day to play in the US North American Open in Las Vegas.

He started his first round with the white pieces and started with 1.d4 and confused the CM Nikhil Pavarthaneni with the second move e3, followed by Be2, and developing the same bishop to f3, followed by h4.

This is an aggressive attack Sridhar planned to demolish his opponent's kingside early, which ended in both sides castling on queenside. After queens got exchanged, Sridhar took over control of the e-file.

The move 7...e5 was too early. This gave White the opportunity to push the h-pawn further with a deadly Nc4 that attacked the black bishop on d6. Black

cannot take the knight because bishop on b7 is hanging.

Sridhar set a small trap with the temporary sacrifice of the a2-pawn, only to remove opponent's bishop from the active play where Sridhar had an idea to bring the rook to a file attacking his bishop when it comes back to b1 to eye the f5 pawn.

Here the opponent offered a draw, and since Sridhar was tired from his Switzerland trip, he was not sure if there was really a win for him as he thought the opponent will only play his bishop since opponent king and rook has no play.

Sridhar felt that this was a game that needs to be analyzed by readers.

**Sridhar Seshadri (1458) –
Nikhil Pavarthaneni (2012) [A45]
North American Open 2023
Las Vegas (R1), December 26, 2023
[Ralph Dubisch]**

1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 e6 3.Be2 b6 4.Bf3!?

This is a bit time consuming, and it takes away the natural square for the knight, but it has the benefit of leading to unusual, one might even say unique, positions.

4...d5 5.Nd2?!

A little too quirky. White has already used up the grace tempo supplied by having the first move, so should now avoid weird passive moves that interfere with other development. 5.c4 uses the pressure of the pin created by the bishop on f3.

5...Bb7

5...c5

6.c3 Nbd7

6...c5

7.h4?! e5! 8.h5

The ubiquitous plan inspired by AlphaZero: when in doubt, push the h-pawn. It doesn't make a great deal of sense here, however.

8...exd4?

Releasing the central tension, and at the same time opening a line for the c1-bishop to escape from the cage White built for it. Almost any normal developing move is better, such as 8...Rc8 or 8...Be7. Even a waiting move like 8...h6 doesn't give anything away.

Stockfish suggests active play with 8...c5 or 8...e4 as well.

9.exd4 h6 10.Qc2?!

It isn't yet clear where the queen wants to develop, so in general it's more appropriate to develop something else first. 10.Ne2 seems natural, or White could begin the trek of the other knight to the kingside with 10.Nf1. Even 10.Nh3 and 10.Nc4 are candidates that should be considered before the game move, since normal play by Black, such as ...Rc8 and ...c5, could cause a queen on c2 considerable discomfort.

10...Bd6?! 11.Nc4!

Demonstrating the drawback of Black's

Page 23



bishop development.

11...Ne4

11...Be7

12.Nxd6+ Nxd6 13.Bf4 Qf6 14.Bxd6

Not terrible, but I would prefer to keep the bishop-pair unless there is a compelling reason to part with it. 14.Nh3±

14...Qxd6 15.0-0 0-0

15...0-0∞

16.Ne2 Nf6 17.Ng3 Qf4+

17...Ne4!?



Position after 17...Qf4+

18.Qd2!

Good judgment. The ending favors White, who has more space and the better bishop.

18...Qxd2+ 19.Kxd2± g6 20.hxg6

20.Rde1

20...fxg6 21.Rhe1

21.Rde1

21...Kd7

21...h5!? 22.Re5 h4 23.Ne2∞

22.Re5 Rde8 23.Rde1 g5?! 24.Nh5 Nxb5

24...Ne4+!?

25.Bxb5 Rxe5 26.Rxe5 Rf8 27.Ke3 Kd6

28.g3 Bc8 29.f4 gxf4+ 30.gxf4 Bf5 31.b4

31.Kf3 c5 (31...Be4+ 32.Kg3 Rg8+ 33.Bg4± intending Kg3-h4 and f4-f5.) 32.Bg4±

31...c6 32.Bf3 b5

32...Be6±

33.Kf2 Bb1?! 34.Kg3 Bxa2?

The opening of the a-file for White's rook is far more dangerous than Black's "extra" a-pawn.

35.f5± Rf6 36.Kf4 Kd7 37.Bg4 Bb1?

An unfortunately timed idea for Black, allowing the rook to vacate e5 with tempo. 37...Kd6

38.Re1! Be4 39.Ra1

White does have a significant advantage here at the end, but even stronger would have been 39.Ke5! Rf8 (39...Ke7 40.Ra1 Rf7 41.f6+) 40.f6+ Kd8 41.Be6+-, intending Rg1-g7 if the king stays on the back rank, and possibly f7 and Rg8 if it tries to run far away.

1/2-1/2

Steven Loring (1920) –
Sridhar Seshadri (1458) [D00]
North American Open 2023
Las Vegas (R6), December 28, 2023
[Ralph Dubisch]

This game features a nice concluding sacrifice by Black.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 d5 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.e3 Bf5

After 4...Bd6, practice suggests Black should be very pleased to have the bishop-pair and no weaknesses.

5.Bd3 Bg6 6.Ne2 Bd6 7.Bxg6?!

7.h4!?

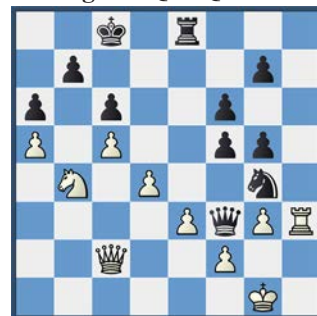
7...hxg6 8.Qd3 Na6!?

8...c6 9.Nd2 Nd7

9.Nd2 c6 10.c3 f5 11.g3 Qe7 12.b4 Nc7 13.a4 a6 14.Nb3 Ne6 15.Nc5

White should probably at least challenge the coming occupation of f3. One line (completely not forced) would be 15.Kf1 Ng5 16.Kg2 Qe4+ 17.Qxe4+ fxe4 18.h4 Nf3 19.Ng1, when Black would have to exchange on g1 with rough equality.

15...Ng5 16.a5 Nf3+ 17.Kf1 Rxb2 18.Rxb2 Nxb2+ 19.Kg2 Ng4 20.Rh1 Nh6 21.Nf4 0-0-0 22.Qc2 Re8 23.c4?! Bxc5 24.bxc5 dxc4 25.Qxc4 Qe4+ 26.Kg1 Qb1+ 27.Kg2 Qe4+ 28.Kg1 g5 29.Nd3 f6 30.Nb4 Ng4 31.Qc2 Qf3 32.Rh3



Position after 32.Rh3

32...Nxe3!!

The other sacrifice on e3 is similarly extremely strong: 32...Rxe3!! 33.fxe3 Nxe3 34.Qf2 (34.Qd2 Qf1+ 35.Kh2 Ng4#) 34...Qd1+ 35.Kh2 Ng4+ 36.Kg2 Nxf2 37.Kxf2 Qd2+ 38.Kg1 Qxb4+

33.fxe3 Rxe3 34.—

The threats of ...Re1 and ...Re2 win the queen: 34.Qf2 Qd1+ 35.Kg2 Re2, and the loose knight on b4 will also fall in short order.

0-1



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

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WA State Barber/Rockefeller

OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT

Saturday, March 16, 2024

Chinook Middle School

2001 98th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004



CLASSICAL SECTIONS

K-5 Rockefeller Open (Qualifier for Rockefeller Closed Event)

6-8 Barber Open (Qualifier for Barber Closed Event)

A 4-round Swiss. Longer time control for Intermediate to Advanced players. Dual NWSRS and US Chess Rated; US Chess membership required. Time Control: G/60; +10, except for rd. 1 (G/25; +5). Rounds: 9am, 10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm. Awards ~ 6:45pm.

RAPID SECTIONS

K-1 U700, 2-3 U800, K-3 Open, 4-12 U1000, 4-12 Open

A 5-round G/25; +5 Swiss. Shorter time control for players of all levels. Rounds: 9am, 10:30am, 11:45am, Lunch Time, 1:15pm, 2:30pm. Awards ~ 4pm.

ALL SECTIONS

NWSRS Rated. Open sections are also US Chess Rated, which requires clocks, notation, and US Chess membership. **All equipment is provided.** The U700, U800, and U1000 sections don't require clocks or notation, but a clock set for 10 mins +5 sec increment will be placed in unfinished games after 35 minutes of play.

ENTRY FEE

\$45 by March 9th, \$55 after.

Room for 250 players.

AWARDS

Section Prizes: Amazon Gift Cards awarded in each section:

1st – 5th: \$90-80-70-60-50.

Team Prizes: Amazon Gift Cards awarded to the top 4 players from the top 5 finishing teams (top 4 scores from same school comprise team score) across all sections:

1st – 5th: \$30-25-20-15-10.

Special Prizes (per section): Medals for first timers, best female player, and biggest upset win.

FOLLOW-UP INVITATIONAL EVENT

Top 12 finishing WA State residents in the K-5 Rockefeller Open and 6-8 Barber Open section (by tiebreaks) will qualify for the Rockefeller and Barber Closed Events on March 31 in Redmond. The winners of the 12-player closed (4-Round Swiss) events will earn a \$750 travel stipend (donated by the WCF) and will be the WA State representatives at the National Rockefeller (K-5) and Barber (6-8) Tournament of Champions, respectively, held concurrently with the US Open in early August.

THE DETAILS

Online Registration:

NWchess.com/OnlineRegistration/

Pay by

Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing.

100% pre-registered, no on-site entries or payments. **Entry + payment deadline Fri., March 15th @ 5pm.** No registrations accepted or refunds offered after the deadline. Unpaid players will be removed from the roster and waitlisted players will be offered a spot.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to all students in grades K-12 as of the 2023-24 school year. Out-of-state players welcome!

RATING

Highest of US Chess Regular March supplement, or current NWSRS rating used to determine section and pairings.

WA State Elementary Qualifier!

Questions?

Contact Josh Sinanan, WCF President at 206.769.3757 or WashingtonChessFederation@gmail.com

Issaquah Highlands Chess Club & Washington Chess Federation Present...



Eastside Open

Sat. March 30, 2024



Blakely Hall – 2550 NE Park Dr. Issaquah, WA 98029

Format: A 5-round Swiss tournament in three sections: **Open**, **Reserve** U1600, and **Rising** (unrated).

Entry fee: \$45 by 3/23, \$55 after. \$25 play-up fee if rated under 1600 and playing in Open section. Free entry for players rated 2000+. Maximum of 100 players, please register early to reserve your spot!

Schedule: Registration & Check-in: 9-9:45am. Rounds (5): 10am, 11:30am, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:30pm. Closing Ceremony + Blitz Tournament: ~ 6:00pm or asap.

Time Control: G/30; +5 sec. increment per move starting from move 1.

Rating: Open and Reserve U1600 section are Dual NWSRS + US Chess Rated. Higher of March US Chess or current NWSRS rating will be used to determine section, pairings, and prizes. Rising section is unrated, with no memberships required.

Memberships: US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required for Open and Reserve sections, other states accepted. No memberships required for Rising section.

Prize Fund: \$2,500 based on 100 paid entries.

Open: 1st – 3rd: \$250-200-150. 1st U2000/U1800: \$100

Reserve U1600: 1st – 3rd: \$225-180-150, 1st U1400/U1200/U1000: \$100

Rising (unrated): 1st – 4th: \$200-150-125-100.

Special Prizes (per section):

Biggest Upset Win: \$35, Best Female Player (by TPR): \$35, Best Dressed: \$20.

Byes: Up to 2 half-point byes available if requested before the end of round 2.

Registration: Online at nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration. Pay by Credit/Debit/PayPal/SettleKing.

Registration + payment deadline: Fri, Mar 29 @ 5pm. Unpaid players will be removed from the roster after the deadline, and players from the Waitlist will be offered a spot. At-site registration: 9-9:45am.

On-site payment available by cash, check made out to "WCF", Zelle (ID: washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com), or Venmo (ID: @WACHess).

Blitz Tournament: Time: 7-9pm (after rd. 5 of main tournament). Entry Fee: \$20. Format: A 7-Round Single Swiss in one section, 2 half-point byes available. US Chess Blitz rated. TC: G/4; +3. On-site registration: 6:00-6:45pm. Rds. @ 7pm, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8, 8:15, 8:30. Closing Ceremony ~ 8:45pm or asap. Current US Chess membership required. Higher of March 2024 US Chess Blitz or Regular rating used to determine pairings and prizes. Prize Fund: **\$500** (based on 50 pd. entries)

1st – 3rd: \$120-80-50, 1st U1900/U1700/U1500/U1300/U1100/Unrated: \$30. Biggest upset win: \$10/rd.



Questions – Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, washingtonchessfederation@gmail.com

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

→ Address ↖
 7212 Woodlawn Ave NE ↖
 Seattle WA 98115
 ↗ Info ↖
 www.seattlechess.club
 Addresses for Entries
 SCC Tnmt Dir
 2420 S 137 St
 Seattle WA 98168
 —or—
 contact@seattlechess.club

Mar 16 *New Date* **SCC Novice**
Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/60;+15. **EF:** \$20 (-\$2 SCC members). **Prizes:** SCC membership(s). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4—commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Wednesdays are for casual play

Feb 3, Mar 9 *New Date*, Mar 30 **Saturday Quads**
Format: 3-RR, 4-plyr sec. by rtg. **TC:** G/100;+15. **EF:** \$9 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** Free quad entry. **Reg:** 9-9:45 a.m. **Rds:** 10:00-2:15-6:30. **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Feb 4, Mar 17 *New Date* **Sunday Tornado**
Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/50;+10. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 per EF to prize fund). **Reg:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Rds:** 11:30-1:50-4:10-6:30. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4—commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Mar 10 *New Date* **G/20 Hexes**
Format: 5-RR in 6- or 5-player sections. **TC:** G/20;+8. **EF:** \$12 (+\$6 fee for non-SCC). **Prize Fund:** \$54 b/6. **Prizes:** \$36-18. **Reg:** 12-12:45 p.m. **Time Frame:** 1 to ~6:30 p.m. **Byes:** 0. **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

Weekends, April 2024—June 2024

G/20 Hexes:	May 5, Jun 30.
Novice:	Apr 28, Jun 29.
Quads:	Apr 27, Jun 1.
Tornado:	Apr 14, May 12, Jun 9.
Adult Swiss	20-21 April
Adult Swiss	1-2 June
Emerald City Open	22-23 June

Seattle Spring Open

March 23-24, 2023

A five-round Swiss with a time control of G/100 with a 15-increment. The prize fund of \$500 is based on 24 paid entries, 3 per prize group.

First	\$150	Second	\$100	U1900	\$70
U1700	\$60	U1500	\$50	U1300	\$40
		Unrated	\$30		

Entry Fees: \$40 if rec'd by 3/20 (\$28 SCC memb.), \$52 after the 20th (\$38 SCC memb.). **Unrated**—Free with purchase of 1-yr US Chess & 1-yr WCF.

Registration: Sat. 9-9:45am. **Rounds:** Sat. 10-2:30-7, Sun. 11-3:30.

Byes: 2 (Sunday rounds, commit at registration). **Miscellaneous:** US Chess & WCF membership req'd. No smoking.



Oregon Junior Closed (Challengers)
Co-Champions!