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



**Dewain Barber, Owen McCoy, Dylan Denker
at the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions**

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Breaking news:

Northwest Chess was selected as 2015's Best State Magazine/Newsletter — for the second consecutive year — by the Chess Journalists of America!

On the front cover:

Owen McCoy (center) with Dewain Barber (left, founder of the Barber tournament) and Dylan Denker (right, grandson of Arnold Denker, the founder of the Denker tournament). Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

On the back cover:

Alex Machin taken at the Boise Chess Club on July 6, 2015. Photo credit: Jim Berezow.

Chesstoons:

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

Northwest Chess Knights

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Denker/Barber/NGIT 2015

By Owen McCoy

Every year since 1985, each state (and the District of Columbia) sends its top high school chess player to compete in a special tournament that is held in conjunction with the US Open: the Denker tournament for high school champions. In recent years, two more tournaments were added in the same format: the Barber tournament for K-8 champions (initiated in 2011), and the National Girls' Invitational for the top female chess players in K-12 (initiated in 2013). Due to its size, California is allowed to send two representatives to each tournament, from Northern California and Southern California. This year, these three tournaments were held at the Arizona Biltmore Resort in Phoenix, Arizona on [August 1-4, 2015](#).



Owen McCoy represented Oregon at the Barber K-8 Tournament.
Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

The festivities began with an opening ceremony on [August 1](#), during which each state's representatives were called up to the stage, carrying their state flag, so that they could receive a commemorative medal recognizing their participation. (A few participants had to do a little research before coming so that they would know which flag was theirs!) An interesting feature of this event is that each state is eligible to win a special prize based on the combined performances of its three representatives. There were six rounds with time controls of 90 minutes + 30 second increment, so most of the games lasted more than three hours.

Oregon's representatives were Yogi Saputra (2086) in the Denker, Owen McCoy (1840) in the Barber, and Andrea Botez (1786) in the NGIT.

Washington's representatives were Noah Fields (2103) in the Denker, Neo Olin (2029) in the Barber, and Sangeeta Dhingra (1909) in the NGIT.

Idaho's representatives were Nathan Jiang (1785) in the Denker, Justin Siek (1172) in the Barber, and Dylan Porth (1038) in the NGIT.

The Denker tournament was won by FM Alexander Velikanov (2391-2408) with 5.0/6. second was a 5 way tie, but IM Andrew Tang (2475-2481) was favored on tie-breaks. Noah Fields (2103-2133) was among these players with 4.5/6, earning him fifth individual. Oregon's Yogi Saputra (2086-2075) made an acceptable 2.5/6, while the Idaho representative,

Nathan Jiang, (1785-1814) scored 2.0/6 while managing to defeat a strong expert in the process.

In the Barber tournament, NM Advait Patel (2378-2391) won the house for the second year in a row with 5.5/6. (Which, I might mention, has never happened before in any of the three.) Second place was a tie between Ryan Sowa (2159-2194) and Evan Meyer (2123-2163) both of whom got 5.0/6. Washington's Neo Olin (2029-2043) scored 4.0/6, and Owen McCoy (1840-1916) from Oregon (me) fell just short of that with 3.5/6, but I did manage to topple a 2264 in the process, as well as a 2088. Idaho's Justin Siek only got one point, but it happened to be the biggest upset overall!



Andrea Botez represented Oregon in the National Girls' Invitational Tournament.
Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

WFM Jennifer Yu (2293-2286) emerged as the winner of the NGIT by the narrowest margin. Literally. Four players had 5.0/6, and Jennifer won on tiebreaks. Also with 5 points were Anupama Rajendra, Evan Xiang, and Veronika Zilajeva. Washington's Sangeeta Dhingra (1907-1909) and Oregon's Andrea Botez (1764-1777) each got 4.0/6, and Idaho's Dylan Porth (1038-1018) scored 1.5/6.

Here is my round 5 game from the tournament. This one was quite pleasurable!

Owen McCoy (1840) –
Truman Hoang (2088) [C89]
Dewain Barber
Tournament of K-8 Champions
Phoenix, AZ (R5), August 3, 2015
[Owen McCoy]



A view of Camelback Mountain from the Arizona Biltmore Resort. Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6
5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.c3 d5
9.exd5 e4!?

Truman arrived to the game three minutes late, but played the opening very quickly. I was unfamiliar with this line, so I had to improvise.

10.Ng5!?

This move seems to do well for Black in the chess.com database. Truman must have been surprised, because he played the little known

10...Na5!?

After which followed

11.Bc2!?

The game Wang Pin vs. Peng Xiaomin, Beijing 1996 went 11.Nxe4, and the game was eventually drawn.

11...Bg4 12.f3



Position after 12.f3

Looking back, 12.Re2!?. Would've been interesting. 12...Nxd5 13.Nxe4 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 When White controls the light squares, but is slightly behind in development.

12...exf3 13.Nxf3 Nxd5 14.d4 Bd6
15.Qd3 f5!?

White is better after 15...Nf6?! 16.Bg5! and is probably slightly better after 15...g6 16.Bh6 Re8 17.Nbd2

16.Bg5 Qd7 17.Nbd2 h6!

Forcing White to weaken f4 with...

18.Bh4

18.Be3 Rae8 is no better as the bishop will have to move anyway.

18...Nf4! 19.Qf1



Position after 19.Qf1

19...g5??

WOW! He's really going for it! This move is leaving his king out to dry. Indeed, he ended up regretting that move at the end of the game.

20.Bg3

My plan is to open up the center and queen-side so I can attack his open king.

20...c5?

I guess it's his plan too! (Note his awesome pawn structure right now.)

21.dxc5 Bxc5+
22.Kh1 Bd6

I then noticed his undefended knight on a5, and hence played...



Yogi Saputra represented Oregon in the Denker Tournament.
Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

23.a4!

This is a standard move in the Ruy Lopez, which is aimed at opening the a-file and leaving him with a weak b-pawn. Although this is not exactly a standard Ruy Lopez position, the same strategies apply.

23...Rfb8

My knight on d2 is not well placed, so...

24.Nb3 Nc4?!

I might have traded that knight, because it actually proved to be quite annoying for him.



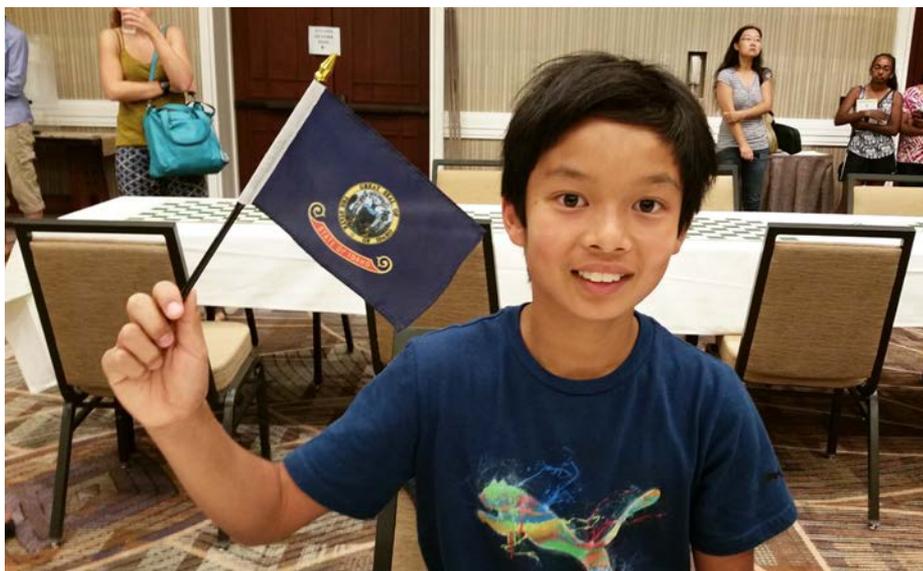
Position after 24...Nc4

25.Nbd4!

That sure beats d2!



Noah Fields from Washington won 5th place in the Denker.
Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.



Justin Siek from Idaho played in the Barber Tournament and won a prize for the biggest overall upset. Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

25...Kh8

Stepping off the a2-g8 diagonal. Grabbing b2 would not even win a pawn after 25...Nxb2 26.axb5 axb5 27.Rxa8 Rxa8 28.Qxb5.

26.axb5

I already had my idea in mind with this move.

26...axb5 27.Rxa8 Rxa8

Black seems to be holding together, but...

28.h3!!

I am very proud of this move. It destroys Black's coordination, and allows White to unravel.

28...Nh5

Definitely Black's best try. However, it proves to be insufficient after...

29.Bxd6 Qxd6 30.Kg1!

Suddenly Black has no threats and his position collapses.

30...Ng3 31.Qf2 Bxf3 32.Qxf3 Rf8 33.Re6 Qf4?!

Trying for a last stand.

34.Rxh6+ Kg8



Position after 34...Kg8

34...Kg7 35.Ne6+ Kxh6 36.Nxf4 gxf4

37.Qxf4+ Kh7 38.Qxg3

35.Qd5+!

Trying to transpose to the above variation.

35...Rf7?

Black was lost anyway, but he missed a mate in three!

36.Rg6+! Kh8!

36...Kf8 37.Qd8#

[Diagram top of next column]

37.Qd8+!

37.Qxf7?? would be disastrous (allowing a draw) or even 37...Qc1+ 38.Kh2 Nf1+ 39.Kg1 Ng3+ 40.Kf2?? Qe3#.

37...Kh7 38.Qg8#

See? He ended up regretting 19... g5!

1-0



Position after 36...Kh8

Overall, the competition was very tough, and all participants can be proud of being selected to attend. It was a great opportunity to enjoy the company of others who love the game of chess!



Neo Olin was the Washington representative in the Barber tournament. Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.



What do the Barber contestants want to do after playing 6 grueling rounds of chess? Play some bughouse, of course! Owen McCoy plays with Henry Li from Delaware, Grant Giovanetti from Nevada. Photo credit: Sarah McCoy.

Oregon Chess News

Newport June Open

By H.G. Pitre

Newport, OR — June 13-14, 2015

The Newport June Open 2015 concluded about 6:20 p.m. as the last game, which lasted a half-hour longer than the others, was decided in Greg Freeze's favor. Greg was a co-champion of last year's event. Just about all the players were on their respective ways home by this time, unless they were staying in Newport another night. The overall winner of the event was Aaron Grabinsky who won all of his games in the Open/Premier section (Aaron was the other returning co-champion).

This section combined the Open section, which had received only five entries, with the Premier, which had ten, to make a single field that was better suited for swiss-system pairings. By the end of four rounds Yogi Saputra and Tres Roring tied for second in the Open with three points. There was a three-way tie for first among the Premier players. Those winners were David Murray, Chris Wade, and Joshua Grabinsky, all of whom had scored 2.5 points.

First in the Reserve section of 11 players was Patrick Huang of Victoria, B.C. with a perfect score. We are very glad that he came with his sister and parents to experience the natural beauty of Newport and to increase his USCF rating.

First in the Booster section was Bradley Larson. He topped a field of eight players.

The prizes won by these players ranged from \$88 up to \$200 for a total of \$949 of the \$1201 that was paid in prizes. The balance was also paid, but they were lesser amounts, and some were shared, so there were a lot of smaller checks written. We had promised to pay at least 80% of the \$1500 total prize fund that was based on 52 players. The event was rated the next day, and can be found on the USCF rating site. The event was also a Northwest Chess Grand Prix event with a multiplier of three so it helped some in their quest for accumulating those points.

The NJO 2015 was held by the Central Coast Chess Club of Newport, Oregon. The club has been doing so annually since 1992 except for two years. There have now been 22 Newport June Open events.

Let me digress to tell a little more of the history of the CCCC. In the spring of 1990, Dick Sharwood placed an ad in the Newport News-Times asking for people who were interested in starting a chess club. From that ad, five other men responded forming the six founding fathers. They were Dick Sharwood, who would become the club's first president, Charles Steinhauer, John Ward, Bob Seltzer, Mike Vinyard, and Bill Barrese. Dick Sharwood was president from August, 1990 through 2002. Roy Benson served as president from 2002-2005, Dennis Hoefler next served from 2005-2008, and Bill Barrese took over in 2008 and currently serves as president. So the club is nearing the celebration of its 25th anniversary.

The City of Newport initially was a sponsor, and the club met at the Naterlin Center, which had been the location of a former school and the city hall. In June of 1992 the first chess tourney was held at the current PUD building. In 2008 the city changed the agreements about rent with the club, and the club began meeting in the Newport Fine Arts Building for a few months. Soon afterwards the club was permitted to use the PUD building as a home for their regular Saturday club meetings as well as its special events. Those events have been of three types: the Newport June Opens, the Newport Fall Opens, of which 14 were held, the last in 2005, and the more recent Run or Bike/Chess Championships annual events held in the summer. This August 1 will be the seventh time this event has been conducted.

The playing site has been the meeting rooms of the Public Utility District of Lincoln County for all these years. That is a pretty amazing fact, an accomplishment due to the leadership of the club over all these years.

And now to return to this year's event: These rooms have very pleasantly tiled floors with a wall of windows to the north admitting a soft light. It also features sturdy tables and chairs, and plenty of space for up to about fifty players. We had a skittles area in an adjoining hallway, and outside as well on benches and tables. We received a comment that there was noise from the skittles area that occasionally entered the playing room. We'll have to address that for next year. In fact, we'll look for new ideas from various players to



*Newport area scenery.
Photo credit: John Fox.*

improve all aspects of next year's event. There was always time between rounds to get away from chess if that was a player's preference, and to eat, or explore along the ocean shore. Everyone seemed to be in good spirits as a result.

Morgan the Dog was there, as well as Jerrold Richards, his owner. They have come to Newport each of last four years. I am unable to tell you their insights about the event. Maybe we can ask that journalist, raconteur, Brian Berger, (see NWC May 2015) to attend next year to secure an adequate take on the noted pair's exploits and recommendations for others to enjoy while here.

The weather came through for us this weekend. It was a bit windy, but most of the time the sun prevailed, and it was bright and very enjoyable.

We had a contingent of scholastic players from Coquille brought by Dr. Nancy Keller. Sarah Reed was the only female player in field. We would like to have more girls in the future.

We would have liked just three more players in the Open to make it a very closely rated swiss of eight players. Did not happen this time. Maybe next year it will again, as in the two most recent years. Along with those missing players, to have had three more players in the Booster would have been just about

what we needed to be comfortable on the financial side of putting on the event. A couple of minor clock incidents occurred due to unfamiliarity with either setting the clocks or using them. There was also a coffee spill onto a game in progress that seemed like a flood at the time. But overall, all playing considerations flowed smoothly for the duration of the tourney. Not one cellphone ring intruded during the play whether by player or spectator. Well done by all. Everyone who had a full-point bye got an extra rated game if he wanted. Even Mike Vaughn told me of the good luck he had in getting his car radiator repaired while in Newport for the tourney. Though perhaps it makes an odd recommendation, come to Newport June 2016 for the auto, radiator, brake, and tire service in town! If it works, why not?

Another remarkable thing happened this year. Every round started on time. Please remember this for next year. Get here on time for a great time playing chess and enjoying some of the best natural settings along the Oregon coast. We would love to have you tell the organizers, Central Coast Chess Club, what would convince you to come next year. Or ask: How can you help out?

We had players coming from North Bend, Corvallis, Albany, Eugene, the greater Portland area, and Hermiston, all in Oregon; from Vancouver, Lyle, Olympia, and Seattle, all in Washington; and from, as mentioned earlier, Victoria, British Columbia. If they could come some great distances and enjoy NJO 2015 this year, we think there will be more fun awaiting you next year.

One club member, Lon Brusselback, played in the event and did most of the setting up of the playing area, and maintaining the cleanliness and supplies of the bathrooms, during the tournament. The president of the club, Bill Barrese, helped at the start and returned for the last round pictures. Not least, he performed the very important function of writing the checks for the winners. Charles McCallister, from West Virginia by way of Hermiston, donated his winnings of \$24 to the Coquille Scholastic chess team.

We hope to regale you with a selection of games from the event with some annotated by the players themselves.

We have some pictures from the site, and maybe of a special Newport attraction or two. Make 2016 your time for the NJO and enjoy the beauty of the central Oregon coast right along with our great pastime. Chris Wade suggested that we emphasize that there are also inexpensive motels in Newport. See you at NJO next year!

Aaron Grabinsky (2340) – Mike D West (1812) [B23]
2015 NJO Open/Premier
Newport, OR (R1), June 13, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.e4 g6 2.Nc3 Bg7 3.f4 d6 4.Nf3 c5 5.Bb5+ Bd7 6.Bc4 Nc6 7.d3 Nf6 8.h3 Na5 9.Bb3 Nxb3 10.axb3 Bc6 11.0-0 12.Qe1 Nd7 13.f5 Ne5 14.Ng5 h6 15.Nf3 Nxf3+ 16.Rxf3 gxf5 17.Rxf5 e6 18.Rf1 18.Rh5± 18...f5 19.exf5 exf5 20.Qe6+? Kh7 21.Nd5



Position after 21.Nd5

21...Bxd5??

21...Qh4!! with a big attack.

22.Qxd5 Qe7 23.Bf4 Bxb2 24.Rae1 Qf7 25.Qxd6 Qf6 26.Re7+ Kh8 27.Qc7 Rae8 28.Rh7+ Kg8 29.Rxh6 Qg7 30.Qd6 Qd4+ 31.Kh1 Qxd6 32.Bxd6 Rf6 33.Rxf6 Bxf6 34.Rxf5 1-0

David Rupel (2085) – Aaron Grabinsky (2340) [E41]
2015 NJO Open/Premier
Newport, OR (R2), June 13, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nge2 cxd4 7.exd4 d5 8.0-0 Be7 9.a3 a6 10.b4 dxc4 11.Bxc4 b5 12.Bb3 Bb7 13.Bb2 Bd6

After some slightly suspect opening play by both players, Black redeploys to allow ...Ne7 controlling the key d5 blockade point.



Position after 13...Bd6

14.Qd3

Isolated pawn positions require active play and precise timing. Here White

needs to cross-up Black's repositioning plan, eliminate the isolani, and perhaps open some lines while the black king is still uncastled. Best is the thematic 14.d5! exd5 (14...Bxh2+? 15.Kxh2 Ng4+ 16.Kg3!



(#Diagram-analysis after 16.Kg3)

16...Qg5 **a)** 16...Nce5 17.dxe6 Qg5 18.exf7+ Ke7 19.f4 Qg6 20.Bc2 Qh5 21.fxe5; **b)** 16...h5 17.dxc6 Qc7+ 18.Nf4 Bxc6 (18...g5 19.Qd7+!) 19.Ncd5!; 17.Ne4 Qg6 18.Nd6+ Ke7 19.Nf4 Qg5 20.Ne4 Qf5 21.dxc6 when Black has invested an absurd amount of material for nothing.) 15.Nxd5 Be5! (15...Nxd5 16.Qxd5±; 15...Bxh2+? 16.Kxh2 Ng4+ 17.Kg3+-) 16.Nd4!



(#Diagram-analysis after 16.Nd4)

16...Nxd4 **a)** 16...Nxd5 17.Nxc6 Bxc6 18.Bxe5±; **b)** 16...Bxd4 17.Re1+ Kf8 18.Bxd4 Nxd4 (18...Nxd5 19.Bc5+! Nde7 (19...Kg8 20.Bxd5) 20.Qh5! g6 (20...Qe8 21.Rxe7 Nxe7 22.Re1) 21.Qf3 f5 22.Qc3+-) 19.Qxd4 transposes.; 17.Bxd4 Bxd4 18.Re1+ Kf8 19.Qxd4 Nxd5 20.Rad1



(#Diagram-analysis after 20.Rad1)

White regains his piece with a small plus in the form of active rooks, since 20...Qd6 21.Bxd5 Rd8?? (21...Qxd5 22.Qxd5 Bxd5



Aaron Grabinsky.
Photo credit: H.G. Pitre.

23.Rxd5 g6±, though this appears to be heading for a drawn rook ending.) 22.Qe3 (or the cute 22.Bc6!!) 22...Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Qf6 (23...Qxd5 24.Qe7+ Kg8 25.Qe8+ mates.) 24.Qc5+ Kg8 25.Rd6!! (among others) is decisive.

14...Ne7 15.f3 Qc7

15...Qb8!??

16.g3 Bd5 17.Ne4

17.Nxd5∞

17...Bxb3 18.Nxf6+ gxf6 19.Qxb3 h5̄
20.Rac1 Qb8 21.f4 h4 22.Qf3 hxg3
23.hxg3 Kd7

23...Qa7

24.Kg2

24.d5! Nxd5 25.Rfd1 Rc8 26.Rxc8 Qxc8
27.Nc3 Nxc3 28.Bxc3 Qc6

24...Qb6

24...Nd5

25.Nc3

25.d5! Nxd5 26.Bd4! Qb7 27.Nc3∞

25...Rag8 26.Ne4 Nd5 27.Nc5+ Bxc5

Or 27...Ke7 when the bishop contributes to the pressure on f4.

28.Rxc5

28.dxc5 Qc6 29.Rcd1 Kc7 30.Bc1 Rh4!?

28...Qb7 29.Bc1 f5 30.Rg1



Position after 30.Rg1

30...Nxf4+!

30...Ne3+! 31.Kf2 (31.Bxe3 Rh2+ 32.Kxh2 Qxf3 mates shortly.) 31...Ng4+ 32.Ke2 Rh2+ is also very strong.

31.Bxf4 Rh2+ 32.Kxh2 Qxf3 33.Be5 Rg6 0-1

David Rupel (2085) –
David Edward Murray (1877) [D02]
2015 NJO Open/Premier
Newport, OR (R3), June 14, 2015
[David Murray]

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bf4 e6 4.e3 Be7
5.Nbd2 Nbd7

My standard response to the London is to cover my ears and pretend that there's a white pawn on c4 and Bishop on g5 and I'm playing a QGD. It's nonsense, but until I don't get a decent position doing it the nonsense will continue.

6.Bd3 c5 7.c3 0-0 8.h3 a6 9.a4 Qb6

Starting a sequence aimed at pushing ...b5 while protecting the Rook on a8.

10.b3

Attendees at the NJO may recall this as the move played just before a large cup of coffee was spilled all over my set and pieces. I've learned to suppress my emotions during games — annoyance and anger in particular almost always precede a blunder for me. I was able to slowly stand up and take a few Zen-like steps away before noticing that my friend Jazon Samillano was falling out of his chair laughing at my predicament. In the end, I'm (possibly too) excited about the way my cleaner-than-ever board looks after a few minutes in the dishwasher.

10...Qc6 11.Ne5 Nxe5 12.dxe5 Ne4
13.Bxe4 dxe4 14.Qg4?!

14. Qc2 would have won a pawn, but Black would have some compensation from White's inactive pieces.

14...f5 15.Qe2



Position after 15.Qe2

I thought that 15.exf6 was unplayable because after 15...Bxf6 Black has the dual threats of ...Bxc3 and ...e5. But after 15.exf6 Bxf6 White would have had the clever 16.Qg3 Bxc3 17.Be5, when after 17...Bxe5 18.Qxe5 White regains the

pawn, or 17...Bxd2+ 18.Kxd2 and Black has traded his active Bishop and has to live with a crippled pawn structure.

15...b5 16.0-0

Not 16.axb5 axb5 17.Rxa8 Qxa8 18.Qxb5 Qa1+.

16...Bb7 17.c4 b4 18.f3 exf3 19.gxf3 g5 20.Bg3 Kh8 21.Kh2 f4 22.exf4 gxf4 23.Bf2 Rf5 24.Ne4 Qc7 25.Rad1 Rxe5??

Losing, if White plays the best moves. This begins a sequence where both sides miss their winning shots and then play them on later moves. Luckily (and I emphasize that word) for me, when my opponent found his shot it was no longer winning, but when I did it was.

26.Qb2 Bxe4



Position after 26...Bxe4

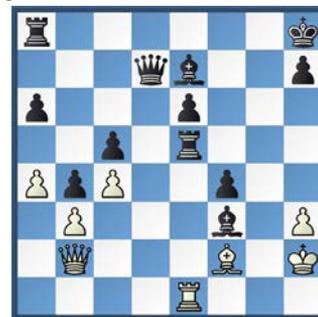
27.Rfe1??

27.Rd7!! would have won. Both 27...Qg8 28.Rxe7 with Bxc5 coming and 27...Qxd7 28.Qxe5+ Kg8 29.Qxe4 Rf8 30.Rg1+ Kh8 31.Bxc5 are most unpleasant for Black.

27...Bxf3! 28.Rd7

Speaking of emotions, my opponent was visibly impressed/disgusted after 27...Bxf3, granting me about five seconds of feeling like I'd won the game, before he whipped out 28.Rd7 which appeared to be a crushing move of his own. It isn't, but not because of my response...

28...Qxd7??



Position after 28...Qxd7

... but 28...Rg8!! After 29.Rxc7 Rg2+ 30.Kh1 Rxf2+ 31.Kg1 Rxb2 32.Rxe5 Bh4 White is getting mated, or 29.Qxe5+ Qxe5 30.Rxe5 Rg2+ 31.Kh1 Rg5+ 32.Kh2 Rxe5 33.Rxe7 and then the cruel 33...Rg5, going back to the well.



Patrick Huang.
Photo credit: H.G. Pitre.

29.Qxe5+

Now the position seems unclear, but only if I find the only defense:

29...Bf6

Grateful that I have a spare piece to give back!

30.Qxf6+ Qg7 31.Rxe6??

The last mistake. With the smoke sufficiently clear, I can now see the move that I should have played on move 28.

31...Qxf6 32.Rxf6 Rg8!! 33.Bxc5 Rg2+ 0-1

Patrick Huang (1627) –
Sean Zlatnik (1623) [B19]
2015 NJO Reserve
Newport, OR (R1), June 13, 2015
[Patrick Huang]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5
5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 Nd7 8.Bc4
Ngf6 9.c3 Qc7 10.h5 Bh7 11.Be3 e6
12.Qd2 Bd6 13.Ne2 Ne4 14.Qd1 0-0
15.Nd2 Ndf6 16.Bd3 Rad8 17.Qc2 Nxd2
18.Bxh7+ Nxh7 19.Qxd2 e5 20.Rd1 Nf6
21.f3?!



Position after 21.f3

Not a good move! I should have played Rh3.

21...e4 22.Qc1?!

Another mistake — f4 would be better. I was down three points here.

22...exf3 23.gxf3 Nd5 24.Bxh6 Kh7?

Black should play 24...Rfe8 instead. Advantage is gone.

25.Bg5 Rde8 26.Qc2+ f5 27.c4 Ne3
28.Bxe3 Rxe3 29.Kf2?

29.Rd3 is much better.

29...Bf4 30.Rd3 Re6 31.d5 cxd5
32.Rxd5 Be3+ 33.Kg2 Re5 34.Rhd1
Rxd5 35.Rxd5 Qf7 36.Ng3 g6?!

A better move would be 36...Kg8 to get King safety.



Position after 36...g6

37.hxg6+ Qxg6 38.Rd7+ Kg8 39.c5 Bf4??

Black was under time pressure. 39...Rf7 will continue the game.

40.Qc4+ 1-0

To PE or not to PE?

By Moshe Rachmuth

Venkat Doddapaneni (1707) –
Moshe Rachmuth (1835)
2013 PCC October G60
(R4), October 26, 2013
[Moshe Rachmuth]

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e5 d4
5.exf6 dxc3 6.fxc3 cxd2+ 7.Qxd2 Qxd2+
8.Bxd2 Bxg7 9.0-0-0 Bg4 10.Be2 0-0-0
11.Rhe1 Rd7 12.Ng5 Bxe2 13.Rxe2 h6
14.Nf3

14.Nxf7 Rf8 15.Nxh6 Nd4 16.Ree1 Rxf2

14...Rhd8 15.Rde1 e6 16.Bf4 Nd4
17.Nxd4 Rxd4 18.Be5 Bxe5 19.Rxe5
Rh4 20.h3?! Rg8 21.Rg1 Rxh3 22.Re2
Rh2 23.g3 Rd8 24.Rge1 Rd5 25.Rd1
Rxd1+?!

25...Ra5 26.a3 b6 27.Red2 h5

26.Kxd1 Kd7 27.Ke1 h5 28.Re4 f5
29.Ra4 a6 30.Rb4 b5 31.a4 c5 32.Rf4
Ke7 33.axb5 axb5 34.Rf3 h4 35.gxh4
Rxh4 36.Ra3 Kf6

[Diagram top of next column]

37.Re3

To enter a pawn endgame or not to enter a pawn endgame? That is the question



Position after 36...Kf6

White poses to Black. This is always a tough question and I find that usually I answer it incorrectly. Here I thought that after 37...Re4 38.Rxe4 fxe4 I enter a pawn endgame with doubled pawns so this is as good as losing a pawn. This is the wrong way of thinking about this. A pawn endgame should be entered (or not) based on a concrete calculation and not general principles. If you insist on thinking in general terms, though, I would say that more pawns mean more tempi and this is what matters. After 37...Re4 38.Rxe4 fxe4 39.Ke2 Ke5 40.Ke3 Kf5 White will eventually run out of pawn moves and will have to let White's king penetrate through f4. For example 41.c3 Ke5 42.b4 cxb4 43.cxb4 Kf5 44.Kd4 Kf4 and Black will queen first.

37...e5? 38.b3

White could go to a drawish rook endgame with 38.Ra3. Instead he offers the rook exchange again. To PE or not to PE? The answer, again, is "yes" although this time it is more complicated as Black blocked his king from getting to e5. 38...Re4 39.Rxe4 fxe4 40.Ke2 Kf5 41.Ke3 b4 42.Kd2 Kf4 43.Ke2 Now what? It seems like Black is out of moves but in fact Black has 43...e3! 44.fxe3+ Kg3!! and Black is in White's camp and will soon capture the e-pawn. For example, 45.Kd3 Kf3 46.Kc4 Kxe3 and Black queens first.

38...Rd4? 39.Rc3

This move draws but so would 39.Rg3 39.Rh3 and even 39.Ke2. The reader is invited to check the pawn endgame after 39.Ke2 Re4 40.Rxe4 fxe4 and see why it is drawn, unlike the two pawn endgames analyzed above. After 39.Rc3 the game lasted for another twenty moves but ended in a draw.

What have I learned from this endgame?

1. PEs with an extra doubled pawn are not necessarily drawn because the extra pawn allows extra tempi.

2. When deciding whether or not to enter a PE, concrete calculation is more important than general principles.

I will be happy to read your thoughts and comments at m_rachmuth@yahoo.com.

PCC Summer Open

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — July 11-12, 2015

THEY came. THEY played. THEY conquered. I say THEY, because I wasn't one of THEM. I've been trying for years to be more THEY, but find myself spending most of my time being just ME. Somehow, THEY are always able to find the right move, while I have no trouble doing the opposite.

The weekend of the Portland Chess Club's Summer Open, saw the THEY players dominate. I'd ask, "Who won?" The answer was, "THEY did. How about you?" One of these days I hope to become more of a THEY, but for now, I find I am more ME, with just a little THEY thrown in from time to time to make ME think I might still have some possibility of breaking into the THEY set on a more regular basis.

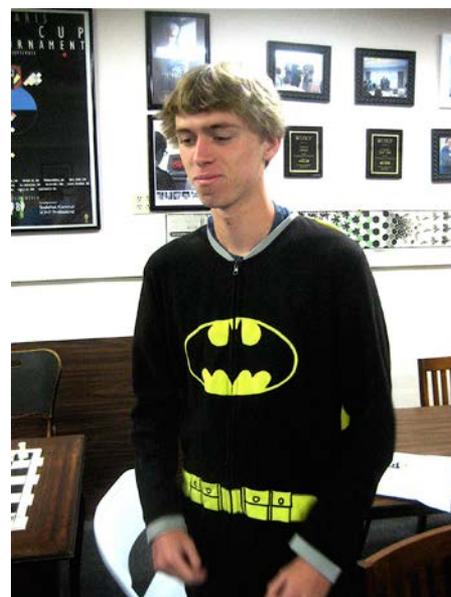
But hey, this isn't about ME, it's about THEY! But before I get into what took place game-wise, I want to say a few words about a man who has given a great deal of his time and energy to the task of TDing during his years with the Portland Chess Club, Korneljis Dale—better known as Neil Dale. As tournament directors' go, Neil has been one of the best! The older players know him as a no-nonsense, this-is-the-way-it-is-done kind of guy, who can be relied on to run a by-the-book tournament. Whereas the younger crowd, and some new older players, might recall

him as depicted in some of my stories, where I reveal his extraordinary animal taming ability—whether it be wrestling crocodiles in the muddied waters of some African river, fending off packs of berserk, blood-seeking hyenas, or just tussling with a grizzly now and then to keep in shape.

Needless to say, it is just this innate ability which has made him the perfect tournament director for these many years—knowledgeable about the rules and regulations, yet with the physical attributes to control any controversy that might arise among disgruntled players—once-and-for-all! Sadly, Neil has decided to retire from further TDing, leaving those duties in the capable hands of Mike Morris, Mike Janniro, and at times, Grisha Alpernas (recently moved to the Salem area), and backed by a new crop of TDs (active and in training) in the persons of Mike Lilly, Micah Smith, Lennart Bjorksten and Jason Cigan.

So as a tribute to Neil, the Summer Open was used as a platform to say some kind words about this man (Neil was invited to attend but declined the invitation; perhaps because of his curmudgeon status, or, as is most likely, being kept busy saving villagers from tigers turned man-eaters.) A number of those in attendance wrote out some nice words for Neil, and these and a plaque will be presented to him on his return from the wilds. Have fun in your retirement, Neil; you will be missed!

Oh, and speaking of noteworthy individuals in the chess community—



James Hansen wearing his Batman outfit, perhaps hoping to intimidate the competition. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Morgan the Dog was once again on hand to help Jerrold Richards (the guy Morgan chose to live with after traveling the world for many years) reach his goal of being a 1600 player before time and attrition take their terrible toll. And as amazing as Morgan the Dog is in his understanding of the game, coaching Richards has been a task, taxing body and soul. "It's like one step forward, two steps back," said Morgan, when I chanced to have a chat with him between rounds. "Even if I give him treats for doing well in a lesson, he seems resistant to long-term retention." (After many talks with Morgan and Richards, I have learned to communicate with Morgan in his special language.)

Sad to say, but evidence of Morgan the Dog's difficulties in improving Richards' game long-term seemed apparent in this tournament, when both Richards and I posted lower scores than hoped for. But, like myself, "hope springs eternal" with Richards, each of us still having dreams of becoming a THEY.

The tournament was split into two main sections—Open and Reserve—with the option of playing-up if one felt frisky. Time control was 40/90, SD/30, with a 5 second delay, prizes being based on 40 players attending—a figure that was nearly met by an actual number of 38, and so 95% of the projected monies were handed out to the winners. And first with their hands out for some "Dough-re-mi" were a couple of the Big Boys in the Open Section, Steven Breckenridge (2403-2414) and Nick Raptis (2401-2409)—a section, by the way, that had a third Master in attendance, the young Aaron Grabinsky (2338-2328), who traveled all



(L) Jerry Sherrard goes over a game he played with Joshua Grabinsky. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



(L) Jeremy Harlin vs Greg Markowski.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

the way from Coquille, Oregon, with his younger brother Joshua—each vying for what was essentially, entrance, lunch and gas money.

Due to some unforeseen circumstance, Nick “The Raptor” Raptis had to take a bye in the 5th round, leaving just enough room for Breckenridge (who is here from Texas for part of the summer) to take first place with 4.5 points, and allowing him to afford a sit-down lunch, rather than peruse a drive-thru menu. Whereas Raptis, having to settle for second place and \$95, instead of the \$142.50 first place money, probably decided that a 7-11 special, heavy on the ketchup, was more in his ballpark. And one must not overlook the youngster, Gavin Zhang (1737-1792) who, choosing to play-up, turned in a respectable 3.5 points, giving him first under 2000 and \$71.25 in prize money.

The Reserve Section saw 16 players vying for various prizes, first place and \$95 going to Roland Eagles (1774-1784), who turned in a perfect score with 5.0 points. Splitting second place prize money were Jazon “The Phillipino Phenom” Samillano (1614-1599) and Geoff Kenway (1343-1386), each with 3.5 points. And coming in first U1400 was Jeremy Harlin (1337-1410) who, with his 3.0 points, elevated his rating 73 points and pocketed \$47.50 for his fine effort. And lastly, the winner of the U1200/unrated category was Henry Romero (879p-1255p), who not only won \$47.50, but gained nearly 400 points in the process!

Thanks must go to Chief TD Mike Lilly (who has been much put-upon lately due to Neil Dale’s retirement, and the move by Grisha Alpernas to the Salem area) and Assistant TD Mike Janniro, for their efforts; and to Mike Morris for his assistance in the registration process.

Steven Breckenridge (2403) – Michael Goffe (1925) [C10]
2015 PCC Summer Open Portland, OR (R2), July 11, 2015
[Steven Breckenridge]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bd7 5.Nf3 Bc6 6.Bd3 Nd7 7.0-0 Ngf6 8.Ng3 Bd6

8...Be7 is theory 9.b3 0-0 10.Bb2 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 c6 12.c4 Re8

9.b3 Nd5?



Position after 9...Nd5

Whenever your bishops are sandwiched between two knights behind enemy pawns, you know you’ve done something wrong! 9...0-0! 10.Bb2 b6 11.c4 Bb7 12.Qe2 should have been the game.

10.c4 Nf4 11.Bc2

Threatening c5 or d5.

11...Ng6 12.d5 exd5 13.Re1+ Kf8 14.cxd5 Bb5

That is how you punish misplaced minor pieces!

15.Bg5 f6 16.Nd4 Kf7

Simply backing up the bishop would be best.

17.Qg4

Making the game a little more interesting.

17...Ba6 18.Ne6 Qc8 19.Nxg7



Position after 19.Nxg7

Plenty of winning ideas, but after some calculation I found this to be the most aesthetically pleasing line.

19...Nde5

19...Kxg7? would be mate in 20.Bh6+ Kxh6 (20...Kf7 21.Qe6#) 21.Nf5#.

20.Qh5

20.Qe6+ looked pretty interesting, but Black defends 20...Qxe6 21.dxe6+ Kxg7 22.Nf5+ Kf8 23.Bxf6 Rg8 24.Nh6 Rg7?

20...Bd3

20...Qg4 21.Bxf6! Kxf6 22.Qh6 threatening N7h5 or N7f5.

21.Bxd3 Nxd3

Three pieces are now hanging!

22.Qf3!

Clinching the win.

22...Nxe1

22...Be5 23.Rxe5!; 22...Kxg7 23.Qxf6+ Kg8 24.Nf5 Bf8 25.Bh6 Nxe1 26.Bxf8 Qxf8 27.Qe6+! Qf7 28.Nh6+.

23.Qxf6+ Kg8 24.N3f5!

Heading to h6. 24.N7f5 Bf8

24...h6 25.Ne6!

Unstoppable checkmate. After a good think, Mike drops his queen on f7 to defend checkmate, sticks out his hand, and says “I offer a resignation.” I was really hoping he would continue on with Bxh2+ and obviously moving the king to f1 or h1 is best and will still give me checkmate the next move, but I was going to take the bishop and allow the discovered check hxg5+ and then Kg3! Still having the unstoppable checkmate!

1-0



Morgan the Dog keeping a sharp eye on Jerrold Richards.

Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Nick Raptis (2401) – Steven Breckenridge (2403) [A29]
2015 PCC Summer Open Portland, OR (R3), July 11, 2015
[Steven Breckenridge]

Going into the third round, there was only Nick, Aaron, and me with 2/2. Unfortunately for me, every tournament I’ve played since I got back, I’ve started the tournament with black on board 1, which pairs me with black against Nick each tournament in Rd 3.

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bg2 Nb6 6.Nf3 Nc6

Some familiar territory for Nick in this reversed dragon.

7.0-0 Be7 8.d3 0-0 9.Be3 Be6 10.Qc1?!

Rc1 or a3 are mainline, but Qc1 is has some nuances of its own, overprotecting

the g5 square and still preparing Ne4-c5
10...f6

10...Nd5 is an improvement 11.Ng5
(11.Nxd5 Bxd5 12.Bc5 Re8) 11...Bxg5
 12.Bxg5 Qd7=

11.Ne4 Nd4?

Some slight miscalculation with the game
 continuation 11...Rb8 12.Bc5 *(12.Nc5
 Bd5)* 12...Nd7 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 would be
 stronger.

**12.Bxd4 exd4 13.Nc5 Bd5 14.Nxd4!
 Bxg2**



Position after 14...Bxg2

15.Nde6

15.Nce6 Qd6 16.Kxg2 c5! 17.Nxf8 Qxd4
 18.Nxh7 *(18.Ne6 Qd5+)* 18...Kxh7

15...Qd6

15...Qe8 Wins the pawn back but gives
 White a strong initiative and better pawn
 structure 16.Kxg2 Bxc5 17.Nxc5 Qxe2
 18.Nxb7 Qxd3 19.Qc6 Rae8 20.Rad1
 Qe4+ 21.Qxe4 Rxe4±

16.Kxg2 Rfe8

My concern has been growing ever since
 I played Nd4. It seems like I should be
 better if I can just move my knight and
 threaten b6, but I can't. Qc4 is coming, so
 White retains his advantage 16...Rf7 may
 have been a little better 17.d4 *(17.e4)* 17...
 f5 18.Qf4 Qc6+ 19.Qf3 Nd5 20.Rac1 Re8
 21.Nf4 Nxf4+ 22.gxf4.

17.e4! f5

17...Qc6 I was considering 18.d4 Bxc5
 19.Nxc5 Rad8 20.Qe3

18.Qf4



Position after 18.Qf4

18.Qc3 Bf6 19.Qb3 Kh8 20.exf5 is

winning; 18.exf5 Qd5+ 19.Kg1 Qxf5
 would improve my position.

18...Nd7!

A strong defensive idea he missed that
 forces trades in my favor because of some
 tactics.

19.Nxd7

19.Qxd6 Bxd6 20.Rac1 a) 20.Nxd7
 Rxe6 21.e5 *(21.exf5?* loses a piece *21...
 Re7)* 21...Bxe5 22.Rae1 Rae8 23.Nc5
 R6e7 24.Nxb7 Bxb2; b) 20.Nxc7 Nxc5
 21.Nxa8 Rxa8 22.Rfd1 Ne6 23.Rac1 Kf7
 24.exf5 Nd4 25.g4; 20...fxe4 21.dxe4
 Nxc5 22.Nxc5 b6 23.Na6 Rxe4 24.Nxc7
 Rd8 25.Nb5; 19.Rac1 Nxc5 20.Nxc5
 Qxf4 21.gxf4 Bxc5 22.Rxc5 fxe4 23.dxe4
 Rxe4 24.Rxc7 Rxf4 25.Rxb7 a5.

**19...Qxe6 20.Qxf5 Qxf5 21.exf5 Rad8
 22.Ne5 Bf6 23.Nf3 Bxb2 24.Rab1 Re2
 25.Rfd1 Ba3**

I moved too fast. I saw b6-Rde8 a second
 after I moved 25...b6 26.Kf1 Rde8 and
 I should be close to equal *(26...Rc2?
 27.Ne1)*

26.Rxb7 Bc5 27.Rd2!

27.d4 Bb6 28.a3 h6

27...Rxd2 28.Nxd2 Rxd3 29.Rxc7 Bxf2

29...Rxd2 30.Rxc5 Rxa2 I didn't know if
 I could draw this position. It looked much
 more difficult than if I don't trade my
 bishop 31.g4

30.Ne4

30.Rc8+! Kf7 31.Nf3 was the winning
 combination! 31...Bd4 32.Rd8

30...Bb6 31.Rb7 Ra3 32.Ng5

White is really close to winning, but I
 barely had defense.

**32...Rxa2+ 33.Kh3 Rd2 34.Ne6 Bd4
 35.Rd7 Bc3 36.Rxa7 Bf6**

This endgame isn't so easily won for
 White. His king is stuck on h3, and if he
 plays g4 I have Be5.

**37.Ra8+ Kf7 38.Rf8+ Ke7 39.Rh8 h6
 40.Nf4**

Setting up a possible mate threat with
 Ng6.

40...Bd4 41.Ng6+ Kf6! 42.Rf8+

42.Kg4 Bc5! 43.Re8 Bd6 *(43...Rd4+?
 44.Kh5!±)* 44.Re6+ Kf7

42...Kg5 43.Nh4 Rf2

I finally achieved equality for a drawn
 position. All of his pieces except his rook
 are now stalemated!

44.Rd8 Bf6 45.Rd5 h5

I can now get my king to h7 in time.

46.Rb5 Kh6 47.Ng6 Bg5

Stopping Nf4. 47...Kh7 48.Nf4 Kh6

49.Rb8 gives White some chances.

48.Rb6 Kh7

48...Rxf5? 49.Ne7+ Rf6 50.Ng8+ wins
 the exchange 50...Kg6 51.Nxf6 Bxf6 and
 this should be easily won.

49.Nf8+ Kg8 50.Ne6 Rxf5 51.g4

Last winning chance.

51...Re5

51...hxg4+?? 52.Kxg4+-

52.gxh5

The rest is just technique.

**52...Be3 53.Rb8+ Kf7 54.Nd8+ Kf6
 55.Kg4 Rg5+ 56.Kf3 Bg1 57.h4 Rxh5
 58.Rb1 Bd4 59.Kg4 g6 60.Ne6 Bf2
 61.Rf1 Rxh4+ 62.Kf3 g5**

Draw agreed. The rooks will be traded
 after Rf4.

1/2-1/2

**Aaron Grabinsky (2338) –
 Steven Breckenridge (2403) [C54]**
 2015 PCC Summer Open Portland, OR
 (R5), July 12, 2015
[Steven Breckenridge]

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5
 5.c3**

We've reached the same starting position
 as my first game against him. Only my
 second game with him and we have the
 same opening! The time control is a bit
 slower this time which helped me.

5...a6

5...d6 was my choice in our first game.
 I remember being afraid of Be3 at some
 point if I would play the a6-Ba7 line.
 6.Bb3 Bb6 7.Qe2 Ne7 8.Nbd2 c6 9.Nf1
 Ng6 10.Be3 I gave up my middlegame
 advantage after this, but still managed to
 win in tremendous time trouble. At the
 very end of the game both clocks read
 only one second with the five second
 delay!

6.Bb3 Ba7 7.Qe2

Not the best developing idea. He is hoping
 that I will castle now so he can play Bg5
 for a bigger kingside attack. 7.h3 is an
 improvement, as the queen is better
 placed on d1.; 7.Be3 I first thought may
 be good for White because Black would
 waste a tempo after moving my bishop
 twice already and then trading on e3.
 However, this game I figured the waste
 of the tempo would be worth the central
 control after the following variation. 7...
 Bxe3 8.fxe3 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Qe2 0-0
 11.0-0 h6.

7...h6 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.0-0 b5

Stopping Nc4-Ne3. 9...d5 I was
 considering, but I thought he may be able
 to get away with winning e5. 10.exd5
 Nxd5 11.Nc4 Re8 12.Ncxe5 Nxe5

13.Nxe5 f6 (13...c6 14.c4) 14.Qf3 Rxe5 15.d4 Rf5 16.Qe4.

10.Re1 d6 11.Nf1 Ne7

Also heading to the kingside.

12.h3

12.Nh4 stops Ng6, but without h3 played 12...Bg4 is strong.

12...Ng6 13.Be3 c5

Trading is probably a better idea, but I've had more success when I don't trade the bishop.

14.Qd2

Was not very impressive. 14.a4 Bb7 15.Ng3 would be best.

14...Kh7 15.Bc2

15.Ng3 stops Nh5 15...d5; 15.a4! Is always a good idea when White's a1 rook will be stronger than Black's a8 rook.

15...Nh5 16.d4 Qf6 17.d5?

Closes the position for my kingside attack. At this point, I've already achieved a big psychological edge—my ideas are flowing much easier than White's, and I'm already set up for a winning attack on his kingside. 17.Bd1 seems a little awkward, but is the best defensive idea.

17...Ngf4!

Threatening Qg6. After just three inaccuracies, Black almost looks winning. 17...Bxh3?? would be a blunder 18.Ng5+ wins at least a piece.

18.N3h2

Was another inaccuracy. 18.N1h2 appeared to be losing after Bxh3 18...Bxh3 However, White can get a perpetual! (18...Qg6 19.Nh4 is holding 19...Nhx3+ 20.Kh1 Qf6 21.Nf5 Ng5 22.g4 g6 (22...Nf4 23.Bxf4 exf4 24.Qxf4 Rd8 25.Kg2 g6 26.Rh1! gxf5 27.gxf5 Qe5 28.Qh4+-) 23.gxh5 gxf5 24.exf5 comfortable position for White) 19.g4! (19.gxh3? loses 19...Qg6+ 20.Ng4 Nhx3+) 19...Qg6 (19...Ng2 20.gxh5 Nxe1 21.Rxe1 White is better) 20.Nh4 Qg5 21.N4f3 Qg6=.

18...Qg6 19.Ng3 c4

Trying to trade off one of his defenders. 19...Nxc3 is obviously better, however I overestimated the compensation he gets for the pawn 20.fxg3 (20.Bxf4? He said he would probably play, in which case I definitely should have taken g3... 20...Nh5! wins a clear pawn 21.Be3 Bxh3) 20...Qxc3 21.Bxf4 exf4 22.e5+ Kg8 23.e6 and I thought White had some holding chances, but Black is much better.

20.Nhf1 Bxe3 21.Qxe3 Nf6

Threatening N6xd5.

22.Qf3

22.Ra1 I thought was best. Protecting

the bishop 22...h5 23.h4 (23.Qxf4?! unfortunately doesn't work 23...exf4 24.e5 dxe5 25.Bxg6+ Kxg6) 23...Qg4

22...N6xd5

Ideally I want to keep the position closed, while keeping pressure on the kingside, but it seemed White was defending now.

23.Rad1 Ne7 24.Nf5?

24.Ne3 was much better 24...Rd8 25.Ngf5 Ra7; 24.Rd2 doubling is also good.

24...Nxf5 25.exf5 Bxf5 26.Bxf5 Qxf5 27.Rxd6 Rfd8!

Trade...since I am up a pawn and because White's rooks are better than Black's.

28.Red1 e4 29.Qe3 Rxd6 30.Rxd6 Qe5 31.Rd7

31.Ng3 f5 32.Rd7

31...Kg8!

I don't need to play f5 if I don't have to.

32.Nd2 Re8 33.Rd4 f5 34.Rd7 Nd3 35.f3 Nc5?

I played too quickly 35...exf3 36.Qxf3 Qe3+ Is by far the simplest way to win. 37.Qxe3 Rxe3 38.b3 b4 39.Nf1 (39.Nxc4 Re1+ 40.Kh2 bxc3 41.Na3 Nf2) 39...Re1 40.cxb4 c3 41.Rc7 Rc1 42.a3 c2; 35...Qc5?? would be a big blunder 36.Rxd3!

36.f4 Qe6 37.Rc7 Nd7 38.Qa7

38.Nf1 stops Qb6 immediately.

38...Qb6+ 39.Kf1 Qxa7 40.Rxa7 Nc5+ 41.Ke2 Nd3 42.g3 Nxb2 43.Nf1 Na4 44.Ne3 Nxc3+ 45.Kd2 Rd8+

45...Nxa2 is a bit simpler 46.Nxf5 (46.Rxa6 c3+) 46...c3+ 47.Kc2 e3.

46.Kc2 Ne2 47.Nxf5 Nd4+ 48.Nxd4 Rxd4 49.Rxa6 Kf7

49...e3 50.Re6 Rd2+ 51.Kc1

50.Rb6 Rd5

White should play g4 and try to keep checking the king to try and hold this.

51.a4

51.g4 e3 52.Rb7+ Ke8 53.f5 e2 54.Rb8+ Ke7 55.Rb7+ Rd7 56.Rxd7+ Kxd7 57.Kd2 Kd6 58.Kxe2 Kd5+ is a winning endgame.

51...bxa4 52.Rb4



Position after 52.Rb4

52...a3!

52...e3 is probably still winning, but White can play on for another 20 moves 53.Rxa4 Rd2+ 54.Kc3 Rd3+ 55.Kc2 e2 56.Ra1 Rxc3 57.Kd2 c3+ 58.Kxe2 Rxh3.

53.Rxc4 a2

White resigned. After 54. Kb2 Rd2+ 55. Ka1 e3 or 54. Ra4 e2 wins.

0-1



(L) Aaron Grabinsky vs Steven Breckenridge. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

July 2015 PCC Quad 45 and Breckenridge Simul

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — July 18, 2015

Once again the weather threatened a grueling grilling for anyone brave enough to opt for an outdoor activity, the temperature expected to push near the 100 degree mark on the day of the Portland Chess Club's Quad 45 tournament. But as has been mentioned in a previous article, and as known to those who have attended tournaments at the two-story older home, the club is located in the first floor section, buffered nicely by the upper floor from the worst the sun can throw at it. Add a small air-conditioner, and you have fairly comfortable playing conditions on even the hottest day of the year.

And so it was that the only heat experienced indoors that day was generated by the burning-desire to win—the eventual conquerors priding themselves on mission-accomplished; the losers thinking about taking up checkers as their next option. Unfortunately, one young player's brush with a loss was more traumatic than thinking about taking up checkers, when his temper got the better of him and he went (what some might term) ballistic—requiring his parent (who was also entered in the tournament) to withdraw both he and his son from further play.

I mention this only as a learning experience for other young players who might feel an overwhelming urge to overreact to a loss of expectations, and also to those who are much older, because the loss of a game is perhaps the most minor of losses in the course of a life, but is the starting point to accepting that losses will occur. And the game of chess, for most of us, has taught us that we can turn a loss into a learning experience (discovering what went wrong and the ways to correct our mistakes), and learn that the world does not end with the loss of a game, nor for that matter, the greater losses we will most likely encounter.

And as to losses, perhaps the biggest upset of the tournament occurred when Nick "The Raptor" Raptis (2409-2399) placed 3rd, in a Quad whose balance of players were all in the 1800's! Not having direct knowledge of the circumstances in which Raptis suffered a loss and a draw (I was trying not to do the same at the time), I can only speculate as to the reasons. For under normal circumstances, the reputation of "The Raptor" is enough to crumble the competitive drive of the competition long before they have even touched a piece. Not so for the soft-spoken and knowledgeable Moshe Rachmuth (1878-1905), whom I would guess was less intimidated and more fixated on the task at hand—managing to stay away from the toothed maw of "The Raptor" long enough to devise a winning plan, and earn 2.0 points in the process.

The draw occurred when "The Raptor" was matched against an intensely competitive Steven Witt (1845-1882),

a player with a ready smile and a keen wit (pun intended), who always can be counted on to give a game the best he's got, resulting in gaining him 2.0 points, and a tie for first place with Rachmuth; a deed most likely observed by his younger brother, Matthew Witt, who I believe idolizes his older sibling and has been trying hard to emulate him, but still has a great deal to learn.

Taking first in Quad 2 was the always dangerous Dagadu Gaikwad (1833-1851), whose intensity over the board seems trance-like. This day that intensity earned him 2.5 points against some very tough opponents. Unfortunately Andrea Botez (1786-1769) and David Yoshinaga (1717-1708) were deprived of playing the Quad's 4th opponent, the father of the boy who was withdrawn from the tournament after the first round, and so each settled for 1.5 points after taking a mandatory bye.

The young James "Batman" Hansen (1427-1524) proved his mettle in taking first in Quad 3, besting two players of higher rating: Brian "Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1488-1520) and Mike "Am I Ever Going To Get Off This Floor?" Hasuike (1500-1500), and drawing with the even higher-rated Karl Stump (1651-1629), a feat which earned him 2.5 points and a rating gain of nearly 100 points! So if any of you higher-rated players see a guy running around in "Batman" Pajamas—beware!

Ryan Billingsley (1393p-1415p) ended a full point ahead of his competition in Quad 4, racking up 2.5 points, against Marcus Leung (1418-1394)—the player one would have bet on to take this Quad—John Anderson (1310p-1257p), and Kushal Pai (1120-1138), whom I met just recently as he was dismantling my attack against him.

Because of a substantial ratings gap between the 12 lower-rated players, it was decided the best way to be fair to this group was to have a Small Swiss, composed of 6 players each. Small Swiss 1 was won by David Roshu (857p-967p) with a score of 2.5, who is one of three players at these Quads who train at the Silver Knights Chess Club housed in Happy Valley, Oregon; the other two being the well recognized Andrea Botez and David's sister, Cassandra Roshu (946p-888p).

Swiss number 2 saw Carlos Ferrer-Perry (233p-546p) turn in a perfect 3.0 points, getting in an extra game that his competition was denied, by the sudden withdrawal of the aforementioned young player and his father.



(L) Steven Witt vs Nick Raptis. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

**Moshe Rachmuth (1878) –
Nick Raptis (2409) [C11]**

2015 July PCC Quad 45 Portland, OR
(R3), July 18, 2015
[Moshe Rachmuth]

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e4 e6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4
c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.dxc5
Bxc5 10.Nd4**

From my database it seems that 10.Bxc5
is the main line.

10...Qb6 11.0–0–0 0–0 12.Kb1 f6

12...Bb7

13.Nxe6!?

So far Black used less than one minute
on his clock so White tries to complicate
things. 13.exf6 would have been more
solid.

13...Bxe3 14.Qxd5 Ne7



Position after 14...Ne7

Black was still in the first minute of
thinking. This move, however, should
have gotten Black into trouble after
15.Qb3 Kh8! (worse would have been
15...Rf7? 16.Rd6 Qa5 17.exf6 gxf6 18.
Bd3) 16.Nxf8

14...Rf7

15.Qxa8?!

Missing 15.Qb3 and misplacing the queen
for material. After this move the position
is equal.

15...Qxe6 16.Rd6 Qf5

This move should have lost the game (see
the note after White's 19th move). 16...
Qg4 would have been equal. Now White
returns his queen to the game by taking
advantage of the fact that the knight on
e7 and the bishop on e3 are both hanging.

17.Nd5 Nxd5 18.Qxd5+ Kh8 19.g3

[Diagram top of next column]

White would win after 19.Bd3 (that was
the problem with 16...Qf5: had Black
played 16...Qg4 White would not have
been able to play 19.Bd3 with a tempo).
19...Qh5 (19...Qxf4 20.e6! — this is what
I missed) 20.g4 Qe8 (20...Qf7 21.e6)
21.Qe4.

19...fxe5 20.Bd3 Qh3

Better would have been 20...e4 21.Qxf5
Rxf5 22.Bxe4 Rf8 23.Rhd1 Nf6 24.Rd8



Position after 19.g3

Kg8 25.Rxf8+ Kxf8 26.Bxh7 with an
endgame that is unpleasant for Black but
far from losing.

21.fxe5 Bb6

The last practical chance would have been
21...Bc5 22.Rxd7 Bxd7 23.Qxc5 with a
position that is objectively winning for
White but still demands some technique.

22.e6 Nf6 23.e7 Re8

23...Rg8 24.Rxf6 gxf6 25.Qxg8+ Kxg8
26. e8=Q+ +-

24.Qf7?!

White could have forced a checkmate
with 23.Rxf6, but the text is good enough
to win.

24...Bd7

or 24...Qh5 25.Rxf6 or 24...Bc5 25.Rxf6.

25.Rxf6 gxf6 26.Qf8+ 1–0

Of late it has been the usual format of the
Quad 45 to include a Blitz tournament,
immediately following the finish of the
Quads. But this day saw many players
awaiting a simul to be given by visiting
Master Steven Breckenridge, who has
been busy helping to promote chess while
here for the summer.

Expectations were that as many as 30
players might pay the \$10 required to
enter the Breckenridge simul, to have
an opportunity to play against a 2400+
master. But for whatever reason (possibly
not enough advance advertising), the final
adversarial count came to 18 entrants,
and a tough bunch they were. All except
this writer, whose days of being “tough”
are long past, but who dreams the dream
of most old, used-to-be-tough-guys,” of
somehow resurrecting (even if only for
a short time) their glory days. That said,
I managed to hang on until the last 6
players—which I take to mean that, I still
know who I am and where I'm at.

The simul went much as expected,
Breckenridge stopping for an instant at
each board, making his move and moving
on to the next victim, with the exception
of two players, who drew more of his
time and attention—Santiago Tenesaca
and Prashant Periwal—two players this
writer has not gotten to know as yet, but
gets the feeling that he soon will.

In the case of Tenesaca, who I found at
the moment carries an 1824 provisional
rating, and a 2055 Blitz, provisional
rating, there are a lot of unknowns. But
one thing is for certain, he plays a mean
game of chess, becoming the only one of
the 18 players to take a game from the
Master. As for Prashant Periwal, who
carries a regular rating of 1894, his draw
against Breckenridge shows him to be no
slouch in the thinking-department either,
and might indicate higher expectations
from him in the future.

Thanks must go once again to Chief
TD Micah Smith, and his Assistant TD
Mike Lilly, who have made this monthly



(L) Shruti Gaikwad vs Perry Rachmuth. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Steven Breckenridge Simul. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

tournament a much awaited one by young and old alike. Unfortunately, during the writing of this article, Mike Lilly informed me that he will have to suspend his duties as a TD for the foreseeable future, due to some health issues, but still hopes to be able to play his favorite game as he recovers. That leaves Micah Smith looking to fill some mighty big shoes, which we are all hoping he can do, to keep this tournament on the Portland Chess Club's schedule of fun events.

PCC July 2015 G60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — July 25, 2015

July's Game 60 at the Portland Chess Club drew one of the largest turnouts this year, with 38 players taking advantage of the cooler scattered-rain change in the weather, to attempt to work wonders over the chess board.

Included in this number was a sizable contingent of younger players, many new to the game, who came with a parent or parents who also played, thus making it a family affair. And one was reminded of how many young folk were there by more than a few boisterous outbursts erupting now and then signaling someone was having a good time—a distraction needing to be policed by a parent to lessen the noise for other players.

Because of the number of players attending, the tournament was broken

into two sections, allowing a better distribution of the higher and lower players, the top half containing 20 players, the lowest rating being in the 1500's, and maxing out at 2200. The lower half held 18 contestants, from unrated to a top of 1410.

Two celebrities were on hand also, the much awaited smoocher-moocher (at least towards this writer), Morgan the Dog, and a long time absent Becca Lampman (2121-2139), three months

separated from her winning performance at the Kasparov Chess Foundation All-Girls National Championships held in Chicago where she secured the Under 18 Championship prize (See *Chess Life*, July 2015 issue, for a more complete story on Lampman's win).

Morgan the Dog, as always, seemed happy to be in familiar surroundings after just recently giving a simul for some of the world's leading Grandmasters in Dubai, at the Burj Khalifa tower (the world's tallest at 2,717 feet). Facing 50 Grandmasters, Morgan proceeded to carry out a feat never before recorded in the history of chess simul, that in beating all 50 of his Grandmaster opponents! Stunned by the accuracy of Morgan the Dog's play, many were later seen going over their games in the tower's lobby, finding that their sophisticated chess-engines got lost in the intricacies of Morgan's attacks, and self-terminated their programs, less they have a complete meltdown.

And obviously, no moss had grown on Lampman since her tournament win in Chicago, as she tied with visiting Master Nels Truelson (2200-2204) out of South Dakota, for first place in Section 1, their game together ending in a draw, and giving them a final score of 3.5 points each. Prize money split two-ways amounted to \$79. And following just within a footstep of the top winners were Jason Cigan (2163-2156), Jazon "The Phillipino Phenom" Samillano (1599-1729) and Luke Robson (1853-1869), all with 3.0, and all planning for a night on the town with \$11 each—which should pay for a hamburger and the



Becca Lampman receives her prize money from TD Mike Janniro. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

chance to view a favorite movie on one of the wide-screen TV sets at Walmart.

Interestingly, Samillano started off this tournament by not showing up for the first game, leaving Luke Robson pacing up and down awaiting his opponent. It seems Samillano awoke around 8:00 that morning, giving him plenty of time to make the first round; but as he stared at the clock preparing to rise, one eyelid (the left I believe) gave way to gravity, and Samillano, a man never given to doing things only halfway, allowed the other eyelid to be affected by the same gravitational pull, thus finding himself with two closed eyelids. Thinking it wouldn't hurt to just rest a minute or two more before committing himself to an erect position, the next thing he was aware of was that one more hour had elapsed while resting his gravitationally impaired eyelids.

Lesser men would have called it a day, perhaps thinking this to be an omen—and not a good one. Fortune must have granted him an extra hour of sleep for a reason, Samillano surmised, and so he was off to the Portland Chess Club to test his theory, ending in one of the best tournaments he has had in a long while. After the last three rounds he had taken out a 1600 plus, a 1700 plus, and an 1800 plus player, and boosted his rating 130 points! A fairy-tale ending for “The Phillipino Phenom.”

The Section 2 standings saw Henry Romero (1255p-1321p), David Morris-Diaz (1208-1310) and Andrei Kleshchev (925P-1130p) all tie for first place with 3.5's, which netted each of them \$64, allowing them to giggle a bit at the aforementioned \$11 handouts, and know they could, if they wanted to, forgo fast-food and look perhaps to a steak done rare, thereafter to enjoy plush seating and a movie at a major multiplex. Oh it's good to be a THEY! (See other article in this issue that explains the “THEY” concept).

And mention must be made of Morgan the Dog's companion, Jerrold Richards, and also Megan Cheng, both turning in



(L) Jazon Samillano receives his winnings from TD Mike Janniro. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

3.0 points, Richards perhaps inspired by Morgan's play in Dubai, and Cheng showing what most girls who play chess already know, that you need not be a male to be good at chess.

Mike Janniro, Chief, and only TD, did a fine job of directing, with some additional help from Jason Cigan during registration and the pairings.

Oregon Senior Open Championship

By Brian Berger

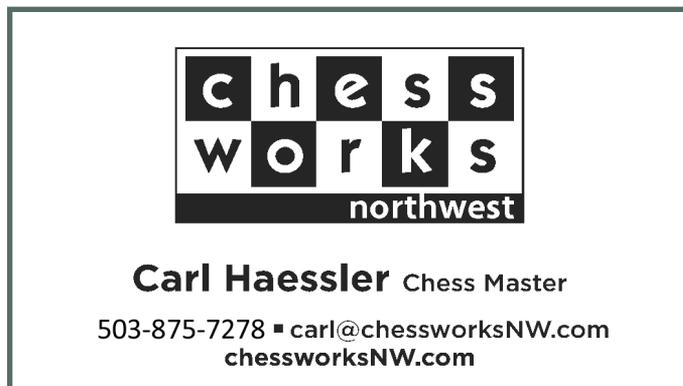
Portland, OR — August 1-2, 2015

It had finally arrived, the fifth annual Oregon Senior Open Championship, devoid of players under 50 years old! It was a tournament I might have a good showing in, un-peopled as it was by walking 10-year-old computers. A tournament devoted to the old-school of

chess players, born pre-Shredder, pre-Houdini, pre-YouTube, pre-Digital—and in some cases, pre-plastic chess sets!

But let me digress a bit before I reveal any of the tournament results. The Oregon Senior Open Championship originated with Frank Niro, onetime President of the U.S. Chess Trust, in 2011, and was sponsored by The Geezer Gallery, an art gallery owned by Frank and his wife, Natasha, as a venue for older artists looking for a place to exhibit their work.

Motivation for organizing such a tournament was the passing of Dr. Ralph Hall, in 2011. Dr. Hall was a well known figure on the Oregon chess scene, and helped to bring the U.S. Open to Portland in 1987, where the venue chosen was the Hilton Hotel in the downtown area—an event that attracted 532 players! And Dr. Hall was also the founder of the Oregon City Chess Club in 1976, that for many years met at the Pioneer Community Center in Oregon City, and had a number





Carl Haessler receives his winner's trophy from TD David Yoshinaga. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

of interim venues over a number of years, before eventually arriving full circle to again meet in the basement area of the same building.

It was this building that first served as the venue for the Senior Open, this year to be moved to the Portland Chess Club, after the departure of Niro and his wife to Lexington, Kentucky. Also, it was decided by Brian Berger, after talking with Niro, that the Senior Open should be an event run under the sponsorship of the Oregon Chess Federation, the Federation eagerly accepting such a sponsorship proposal.

Today, the club meets on Sundays from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at Singer Hill Cafe in Oregon City, a venue offered to the club by the building's owner, Philip, who enjoys chess and chess players, and gathers in the summer in the back area that contains a vertical garden, and in the winter months in the Loft. The club's name has changed a bit over the years, to reflect the different locations it has met, and now is known as the Oregon City/West Linn Chess Club, that meets at Singer Hill Cafe—a venue given over to casual chess, good food and friendly chess players of all ages, and now run by Brian Berger and Carl Koontz.

As a result of the recent loss of two excellent TD's—Neil Dale and Mike Lilly—and the fact that other of the Club's TD's were engaged in other activities, a search was enacted to find a stand-in to run this year's tournament. When it was discovered that David Yoshinaga had been a TD in hiding for many years (the last time he directed being when adjournments were still allowed), he was put upon to come out of the closet and assume his past TD duties—which

he acceded to by being promised a steak & lobster dinner! Luckily, the early hand-illuminated version of the Rules of Chess that Yoshinaga had used as his working text had been of recent years newly translated into English, with all its updates.

Even so, it was thought best to have a backup TD, lest Yoshinaga should suddenly act as if he had awoken from a nap, and wonder where he was. To that end, Gregori (Grisha) Alpernas, who was interested in playing in said tournament and who traveled from his new home in Salem, Oregon, offered to assist. Seeing that the last time Yoshinaga had paired a tournament they were using pairing cards, Alpernas' expert assistance with the new pairing technology I am sure saved Yoshinaga a big headache, and kept the tournament humming along.

This year 20 players participated, a sort of old-goats' reunion, where could be heard the rheumatic and arthritic moans of an aging populace as they arose from sitting too long, combined with tales of daring-do, in chess battles fought and opponents crushed when youth ruled the day—but to be fair, it was mostly heard among the true geezers, myself included. You know you are getting old when they offer prizes based on age—that is, for still being here!

I might mention that Morgan the Dog's companion, Jerrold Richards, was on hand also, delighted that his number one nemesis would not be attending this tournament—that is, anyone 12 years

of age or younger! Come to think of it, the very same reason I was delighted! But unfortunately, Morgan the Dog had to sit-out this one, as he fell one year short of meeting the age requirement in dog years—8 and over (an arbitrary age choice based on his appearance, for as was earlier revealed in a cover story about Morgan's life, he is vastly older).

This year's overall winner was the same as the winner last year—Master player Carl Haessler (2209-2222), who went 5.0 for a perfect finish, rewarded for his fine performance with again having his name engraved on the Dr. Ralph Hall Memorial Trophy and pocketing the \$100 prize. And tying for the second and third place prizes monies at 3.5 points each were, Carl Koontz (1958-1961) and Marc Braverman (1919-1924), both receiving \$37.50. Koontz, by the way, had been inactive on the tournament scene for quite some time, and this tournament was a test-run to see if some extensive reassessment of his game during that time had improved his chess skills—I would think he was pleased.

Taking the U1800 prize was Greg Markowski (1426-1534), also with a 3.5 score. Markowski is a regular at the Singer Hill Cafe venue, and has been a member of the Oregon City Chess Club for many years, and has recently retired from his job as a sheet-metal worker. The almost 100 points added to his rating this tournament attests that retirement has been a good thing for his game. Way to go, Greg!



(L) Greg Markowski vs Geoff Kenway. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Mike Morris (2018-2022) posted a 3.0, and was awarded the best over 60 prize, amounting to \$37.50. And a combination of prize monies were awarded to Brian “Glad To Be Here” Berger (1551-1558), Tony Midson (1399-1480) and Geoff Kenway (1404-1425), taking the U1600, U1400 and age prizes, that when tallied, added up to \$45.83 each.

Mike Hasuike (1522-1537) and Jerrold Richards (1368-1397) of Morgan the Dog fame, shared second U1600, entitling them to \$12.50 each; while Roland Eagles and James Nelson (1717-1710) claimed the U1800, second place prize, that when split also gave each \$12.50. Converted to coins, all these prize recipients’ winnings would be enough to hear it jingle in their pockets. And lastly, Harry Bauer (1246-1229) with an 0.5 finish, somehow managed to win \$25, probably for just being there.

So remember, next year, when the Senior Open rolls around, all of you soon-to-be over-the-hillers have a golden opportunity to escape the wrath of the recently born, and enter the tournament of old-timers—where you know ratings are for real, and you won’t be facing USCF unrated younger players, with provisional ratings in the 1800’s!

Evolution of the Portland Chess Club Quad 45

By Micah Smith

In March of 2014, Mike Lilly and I took over running the Saturday Quads at the Portland Chess Club. The main thing we altered was the time control, changing it from G/90;d5 to G/45;d5. Nick Raptis had suggested the PCC should have a G/45 time control tournament at the annual PCC membership meeting in January. We thought it would be popular to have a PCC tournament that didn’t last all day. Mike thought it would be good to have a different name for the tournament to differentiate it from the previous Saturday Quads and came up with the name “Quad 45”. Truthfully, I didn’t like the name at first but have grown to like it a lot.

Due to the disappointing attendance of the Saturday Quads in the past, we knew we would have to heavily market the tournament in order for it to succeed. The main sites we advertized it on were on the PCC website, NWChess website, NWSRS calendar, and Facebook. We also put out flyers at the PCC and several local clubs, and recruited players to play.

Nick Raptis helped recruit players for the first Quad 45. We had a nice turnout of fourteen players for the first ever Quad 45 on March 15, 2014.

We kept the same prizes for the Saturday Quads, which was awarding discounted entries into one of the next three PCC Saturday or Tuesday Quad tournaments. We got feedback from parents of some of the scholastic players that the kids would like some sort of tangible prize. In August, we began awarding medals that PCC had in storage to any scholastic player who won or tied for first in their section in addition to the discounted entry prize. I also donated some of the medals I had won as a scholastic player.

In September, we added a Blitz side event after the Quads. There had been discussion about how to improve the poorly attended Blitz tournaments at the PCC, which at the time were happening at night on the second and fourth Thursdays each month. One idea was to have Blitz after the Quad 45 tournament and we decided to try that idea. We thought Blitz might be more successful if it was on the weekend. Also, some players who enjoy Blitz might not want to travel to the PCC just for a Blitz tournament, especially if they live farther away. If players were already at the PCC for the Quads, then they might

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stay on and play in the Blitz afterwards. We hoped that adding the Blitz would also increase attendance at the Quad 45. There has slowly been a trend to use Blitz time controls with increment or delay, including the World Blitz Championships which are now G/3+2, and we decided to use G/3;d2. Eight players competed in the first Blitz tournament on September 20, 2014.

Blitz tournaments, at least in the Portland area, have often been made up of mostly higher-rated players. After the initial Saturday Blitz tournament, we decided to split up the Blitz into multiple sections to encourage more lower-rated players to play. After a few months of not getting enough players to have the Blitz, we have been getting enough players to have one section. We hope to continue to build up the Blitz to the point where we can consistently have multiple sections.

In January, we began rating the Quads in the NWSRS and added trophies to the prizes for scholastic players. I had the idea of rating the tournament in the NWSRS mainly as another incentive for scholastic players to play. It's hard to say how much this has increased attendance but one player told us he came because he needed an OSCF state qualifier (which most of the PCC tournaments are) that was NWSRS rated in order to qualify for the Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation State Championship.

I donated some small trophies that I had won as a scholastic player as prizes. We took Travis Olson's suggestion of awarding the trophies to scholastic

players who went 3-0 in their section and continued awarding medals to scholastic players who won or tied for first in their section but didn't go 3-0. The trophies were originally going to be for a limited time (until we ran out of the supply I donated) but they were very popular with the scholastic players that we decided we will continue awarding trophies permanently.

In March of 2015, we expanded the time control from G/45;d5 to G/45;d10 based on my suggestion. There is slowly being a trend to use time controls with a longer delay or increment to help mitigate time pressure. For example, the Continental Chess Association, which runs most of the big money tournaments in the US such as the World Open and North American Open, has been using ten second delay for most of their tournaments the last several years. Using ten second delay also makes things closer to the FIDE "standard" for rapid time controls (which FIDE currently defines as more than G/10 through less than G/60 including increment or delay), which is to use a ten second increment. The ten second delay has helped mitigate time pressure at the Quad 45 without expanding the length of the rounds much at all. We had gotten feedback from some players that they would prefer a slightly longer time control than the G/45;d5 so the increase in the delay was overall a welcome change.

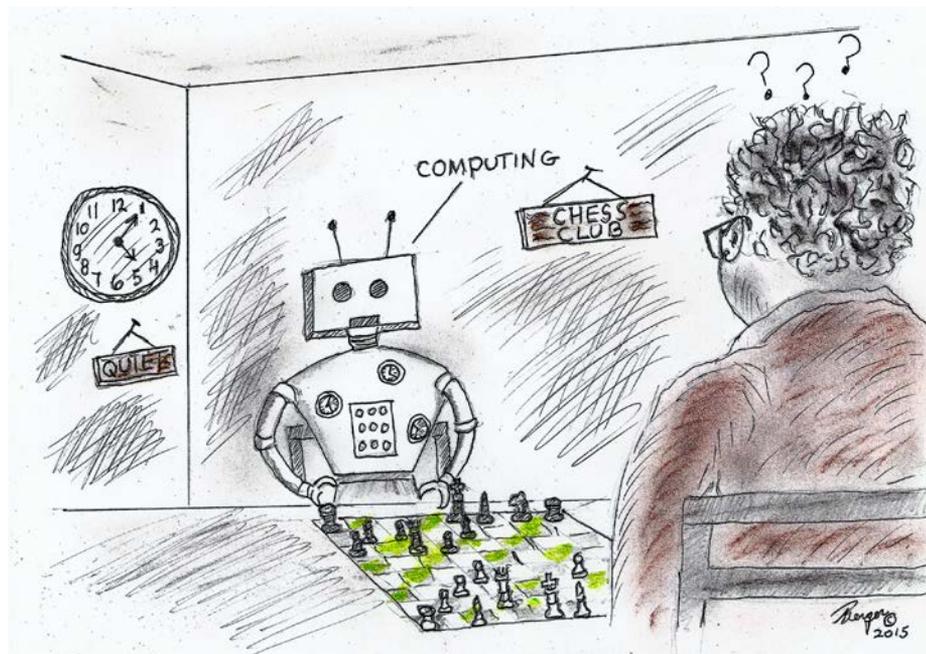
Mike had the idea of organizing simul with some of the top local players. We took advantage of the fact that FM Steven Breckenridge was in town for the summer. In July, he gave a simul after

the Quad 45 in place of the Blitz. Steven went 16-1-1 against an 18-player field. Congratulations to Santiago Tenesaca for winning and Prashant Perival for drawing in the simul. Stay tuned for information about future simul with other top players.

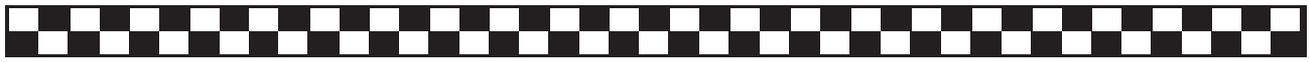
Through lots of marketing and constantly thinking of new ideas, we turned the Saturday Quads from a tournament that had poor attendance into a popular tournament that is now regularly getting 20+ players. One thing the tournament has been very successful in is getting a number of up and coming scholastic players to get introduced to the PCC and transition from playing solely in scholastic tournaments to also playing in open ("adult") tournaments. I think there are several reasons for this. The tournament allows them to compete against similarly rated opponents rather than getting crushed by a bunch of much higher rated players (which I've seen been happen in the past). The faster time control and a tournament that doesn't last all day appeals to many scholastic players (and their parents!). The lower cost also helps. The \$15 entry fee, combined with no NWChess membership requirement and free entry to players who are unrated USCF (which many up and coming scholastic players are), makes it much cheaper than many other tournaments. After getting introduced to the PCC through the Quad 45, a good number of the scholastic players have become regular PCC tournament players, playing in other PCC tournaments as well, such as the Game in 60.

Mike and I made an excellent team. Mike always handled the registration and money while I handled the pairings. Due to health issues, Mike has been forced to step down from running tournaments for the foreseeable future. I would like to thank Mike for his help in starting and building up the Quad 45 into a popular tournament as well as his many other contributions to the PCC, including running many other tournaments and often hosting casual chess on Wednesday nights. We would not have the Quad 45 tournament today if it wasn't for Mike Lilly. I will continue to run and hopefully build up the Quad 45, as well as the blitz and simul side events, even more.

In Memoriam - We regret to announce the passing away of Richard Gutman on July 25, 2015. Richard was one of Portland's strongest players. In 2013 he tied for first place in the Oregon Open. He played in the Oregon Closed many times and will surely be missed by all who knew him. Reported by Allen Chalfen.



FELIX WAS FEARFUL OF THIS NEW BREED OF YOUNG CHESS PLAYERS.



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Registration: Thursday (5-8 pm) - Friday (9 - 10 am)

Round Times: 10/16 (Fri.) - Noon - 7 pm • 10/17 (Sat.) - 10 am - 6 pm • 10/18 (Sun.) - 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

For a flyer, call or e-mail: Chief TD N.T.D. Jerome V. (Jerry) Weikel, (775) 747-1405 / wackyykl@aol.com

Room Reservations: Sands Regency Casino Hotel, 1-866-386-7829 - Ask for code: USCHESS1015

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Open Section (2000 & above) EF: \$149, (1999 & below) EF: \$200, GMs & IMs free but must enter by 9/21 or pay late fee at door. Open Section Guarantee (Prizes 1-10 plus 1/2 of all other prizes).
Prizes: \$2,000, 1,300, 1,000, 700, 500, 400, 200, 200, 200, 200; 2399/below \$1,000; 2299/below \$1,000, 2199/below \$1,200, \$800, \$500, \$400; 2099/below \$600 (If a tie for 1st then \$100 out of prize fund plus trophy). (Note: GM/IM w/free entry not eligible for class prizes 2399 and below; may elect to pay entry fee and become eligible).

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PRINT Name _____ Daytime Phone _____ USCF/FIDE Rating _____
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ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED: (CIRCLE SECTION AND FEE BELOW)				BYE(S) REQUESTED FOR ROUND(S): (CIRCLE)									
----- OPEN SECTION -----				"A"	"B"	"C"	"D"/Under	1	2	3	4	5	6
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*Send \$41.71 for weekday arrival, \$71.22 for Friday arrival.

Washington Chess News

Oscar Petrov wins U1700 at the Pacific Coast Open

By Sofia Petrov

Oscar Petrov recently won first place in the Under 1700 Section of the Pacific Coast Open in Agoura Hills, California, July 16-19, 2015. Oscar (11 years old) is currently going into 6th grade at Overlake school in Redmond, Washington.

He finished with 5 points: four wins and two draws, tying for the first place and getting a \$626.00 monetary prize.

He has been playing chess actively for only a few years, starting at Chess4Life (Hristo Arabajiev was his coach who taught him that chess can be fun) when he initially moved to Washington from New Jersey in 2013. His coach now is GM Gregory Serper, without whom this victory would not be possible!

He also had an opportunity to participate in a one-week camp with GM Wesley So after the tournament was over. Great experience to remember.

Seattle Seafair Open

By Josh Sinanan

The Seattle Seafair Open, Seattle Chess Club's largest annual tournament, took place July 24-26 amidst the summer festivities occurring throughout the Northwest. The event attracted 70 players, slightly up from last year, all of whom participated in one big open section. This year's field was the strongest in recent memory and included nine Masters: FM Nick Raptis, FM Steven Breckenridge,



Oscar Petrov at the Pacific Ocean (Pacific Coast Open). Photo credit: Sofia Petrov.

FM Roland Feng, NM David Golub, FM Bill Schill, FM David Roper, LM Viktors Pupols, FM David Bragg, and NM Nathan Lee. Fred and Carol Kleist co-organized and directed the event, which they have continued to pair by hand using note cards as is the tradition.

FM Roland Feng and NM David Golub emerged victorious after five rounds, each scoring a perfect 5/5 and winning \$247.50. Their toughest test came in the last round, in which they agreed to play against FIDE Masters Steven Breckenridge and Nick Raptis, each a half point behind them, instead of against each other. Since Raptis and Breckenridge had traveled all the way from Oregon to compete in the tournament and were not too keen on playing against each other, TD Fred Kleist and the four players sportingly agreed to stage a Washington vs. Oregon mini-match on the top boards in the final

round. As it turned out, Washington's home field advantage was the deciding factor and Feng/Golub won two closely contested games.

FM Bill Schill, Anthony He, and Badamkhand Norovsambuu tied for Third/U2200 with 4-1, each winning \$85.

Three players split the U2000 prize with 3.5 points and took home \$45: Toshihiro Nagase, Pratik Padhi, and Jason Yu. Trevor Jung and Ethan Pogrebinsky shared the U1600/U1800 prize also with 3.5 points and won \$127.50 apiece.

Young Samuel Deng from Woodinville beat two players rated over 400 points above him to capture the U1400 prize with 3.0 points, good for \$120.

Four young up-and-comers tied for the U1200 prize with 2.0 points and each won



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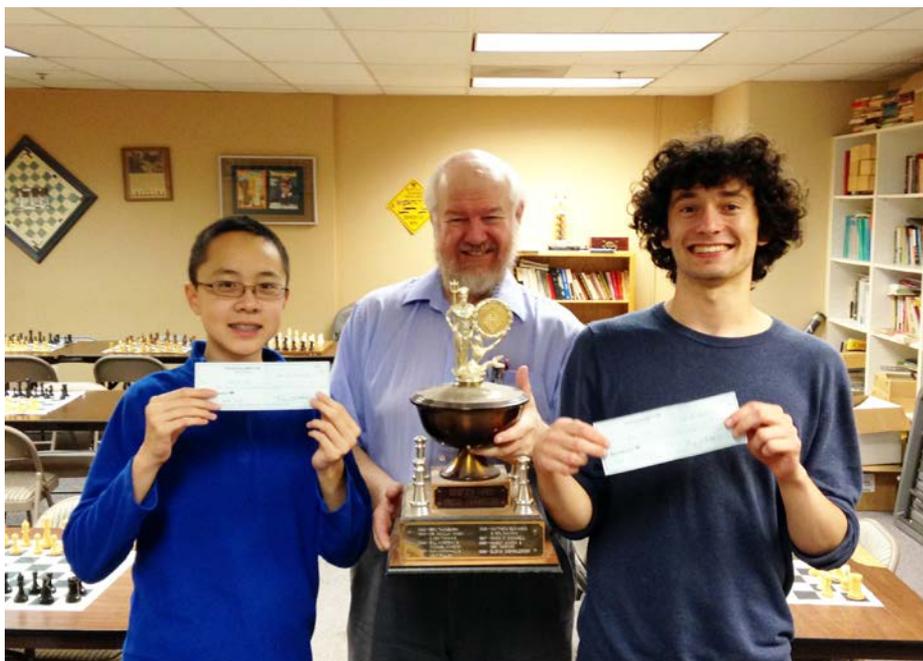
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L-R: Roland Feng, Fred Kleist, David Golub. Roland and David tied for 1st-2nd place overall. Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

\$15: Andy Huang, Brandon Jiang, Jeffrey Kou, and Sophie Szeto. Newcomer Phuong Ha won the unrated prize of \$45 with 2.0 points, which raised his rating nearly 300 points in the process.

The tournament was marked by many entertaining games, surprising results, and numerous upsets in each and every round. The most notable upset winners were: Phuong Ha (737), Andy Tien (687), Samuel Deng (538), and Jeffrey Kou (406).



L-R: Fred Kleist, U2000 co-winner Jason Yu, 3rd/U2200 co-winner Anthony He. Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

William Schill II (2316) – Anthony Bi He (2028) [B57]
Seattle Seafair Seattle, WA
(R3), July 25, 2015
[William Schill II]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bc4

This is a very unusual next move.

6...e5

Not what I expected of course. Qb6 is what I used to play, Bd7 has been tried and e6 is by far the most common. And yet, what about this move? At first I thought it must be just bad. Unlike 6...g6? there isn't any

quick tactical punishment. It seems like the white squares should be my target and so I chose Nde2 planning Ne2-g3-f5 at some point.

7.Nde2

7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.0-0 the choice of engines.

7...h6

7...Be6 White does not look very impressive here.

8.0-0 Be7 9.Ng3 0-0 10.Nh5 Be6
11.Nxf6+ Bxf6 12.Nd5 Bg5 13.c3 Bxc1
14.Rxc1 Ne7 15.Rc2 Rc8 16.Bb3

I suspect that Black can hold this ending with just one weakness if he takes off all the minor pieces. For instance;

16...Rc5

16...Nxd5 17.Bxd5 Bxd5 18.Qxd5 Qb6
19.Rd1 Rc6

17.Ne3 Qd7 18.Rd2 Rd8 19.Qh5 Bxb3

This helps White quite a bit, the extra b-pawn will be useful.

20.axb3 Qe6 21.b4 Rcc8 22.Rfd1 Kh7
23.Nd5 Nc6? 24.Qf5+! Qxf5 25.exf5

I doubt this can be saved any longer.

25...Rd7 26.Ne3 Rcd8 27.Nc4 Kg8

27...d5 28.b5

28.b5 Nb8 29.Rxd6 f6 30.Kf1 Kf8
31.Rxd7 Nxd7

31...Rxd7 32.Rxd7 Nxd7 33.b4 Ke7
34.Na5

32.Na5 Ke7 33.Nxb7 Rb8 34.Nd6
Nb6 35.Ne4 Rc8 36.b3 Rc7 37.c4 Nd7
38.Ke2 Nc5 39.Nxc5 Rxc5 40.Ra1 Rc7
41.Ra6 Kf7 42.Kd3 Rd7+ 43.Kc3 Ke7
44.c5 Kd8 45.b6 axb6 46.Rxb6 Kc7
47.Ra6 Rd5 48.b4 Kb7 49.Re6 Rd1
50.Kc4 Rd4+ 51.Kb5 Kc7 52.Re7+ Kd8
53.Rxg7 e4 54.c6 Rd5+ 55.Kb6 1-0

Errata

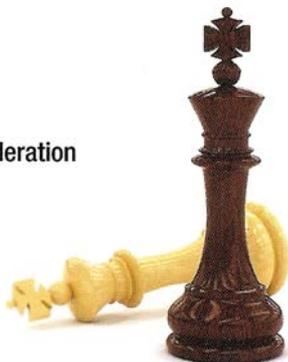
On page 21 of the August 2015 issue the game between Travis James Olson and Arjun Thomas was actually from Round 3, not Round 1.

Joshua C. Sinanan

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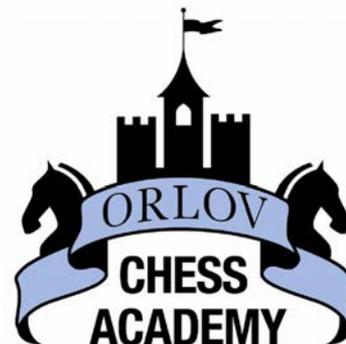


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Idaho Chess News

BCC #8 Chess Tournament

The Boise Chess Club (BCC) held the BCC #8 chess tournament at All About Games on Overland Road in Boise, Idaho on July 25, 2015. Jeffrey Roland was the tournament director. The format was a four round Swiss tournament with a time control of Game/30 +30-second increment per move. Entry was free, and prizes were nothing. As with all BCC chess tournaments, it's not about money, it's all about chess!

The final point count placed James Inman (Nampa, 1815-1823) on top with 3 points. Caleb Kircher (Nampa, 1838-1840) and Jarod Buus (Nampa, 1703-1723) tied for 2nd-3rd places with 2.5 points each. John Glenn (Mountain Home, 1895-1868), Fred Bartell (Twin Falls, 1604-1603), and David Zaklan (Twin Falls, 1453-1474) tied for 4th-6th place with 2 points each. Alex James Machin (Boise, 1700-1692) was seventh place with 1 point, and Justin Siek (Boise, 1172-1163) was 8th place with 0 points.

Results were interesting in that the top three places: James Inman beat Jarod Buus, Jarod Buus beat Caleb Kircher, and Caleb Kircher beat James Inman—Rock, Paper, Scissors!

Top-rated John Glenn who moved to Idaho only one week before the event and



(L) Alex Machin vs. John Glenn. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

who came to Idaho from Albuquerque, New Mexico said that he was “worn out” in the first round when he had to play the hard-fought first round game against Alex Machin. The event was pretty close in that even up to the last round, John Glenn could have tied James Inman for first place, but then he was beaten in the final round by David Zaklan.

It is not set in stone, but it is the general idea and goal of Jeffrey Roland to hold a USCF-rated tournament each month in Boise between the Idaho Chess Association (ICA) and the BCC.

**Alex James Machin (1661) –
John Dennis Glenn (1906) [A90]**

BCC #8 Boise, ID (R1), July 25, 2015

[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.c4 f5 2.d4 e6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 d5 5.Nc3
c6 6.Nf3 Bd6 7.Bg5 Nbd7 8.cxd5 exd5
9.0-0 0-0 10.Qc2 h6 11.Qxf5 Ne5
12.Bxf6 Qb6**

12...Rxf6 13.Qc2 Nxf3+ 14.Bxf3±

13.Bxe5

13.Qh5!? Nxf3+ 14.Bxf3 Rxf6
15.Bxd5+! cxd5 16.Nxd5 Qd8 17.Nxf6+
Qxf6 18.Qe8+ Qf8 19.Qxf8+ Kxf8 20.e4.
Rook and three pawns should have the
edge over two bishops in this ending.

13...Rxf6

13...Bxf5 14.Bxd6 Qxb2 15.Bxf8 Rxf8
16.Rfc1±

14.Bxd6 Qxb2 15.Rfc1 Qb6 16.a4 Qd8

16...Rxf6!? 17.Bxf3 Qxd4 18.a5±

17.Be5

There's something to be said for keeping
the bishop on the a3-f8 diagonal. On e5, it
can be a target for exchange sacs; f8 and
e7 could be useful to black major pieces;
e5 may be a good square for a white
knight. 17.Ba3!

**17...a5 18.Rab1 Rf7 19.Nd1 Bf5 20.Rb2
Qe7 21.Rc3 Rd8 22.Rb6 Qe6 23.Nb2**

23.Ne3!?

**23...g5 24.Nd3 Qg6 25.Nc5 Bc8 26.Kf1
Qf5 27.Nd3 Qg6 28.Ke1 Rdf8**



David Zaklan. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



Position after 28...Rdf8

29.Rc1?

29.h3±

29...Bf5 30.Nc5 Bc8 31.Nd3 Bf5

Here or on move 29, 31...Rxf3! 32.Bxf3 Rxf3 33.Kd2 (33.exf3 Qxd3 and Black dominates the light squares.) 33...Rxd3+ (33...Rf7∞) 34.exd3 Qh5 and Black does not stand worse.

32.Nc5 Bc8 33.Kd2 Qf5 34.Rf1 Re8

34...g4 35.Nh4 Qg5+ 36.Kd1 Rxf2∞

35.Kd1 g4 36.Nh4 Qg5

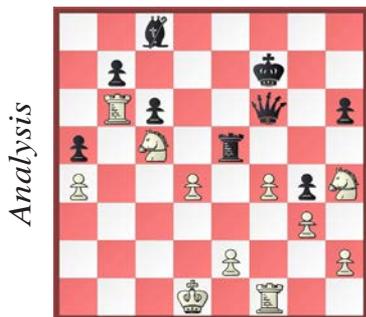


Position after 36...Qg5

37.Nd3

37.Bxd5! Rxe5! (37...cxd5 38.Rg6+) 38.Bxf7+ Kxf7 39.f4! Qf6

(39...gxf3 40.Nxf3+-)



Analysis

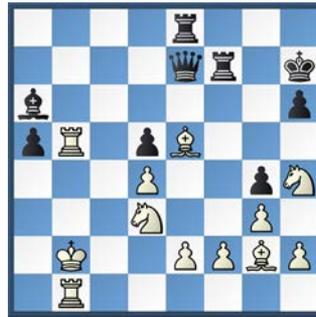
(#Diagram-analysis after 39...Qf6)

40.Nd7!! The main point is to avoid ...Qd8+ when the d-file opens. (40.dxe5 Qd8+ 41.Nd7 Qxd7+ 42.Ke1 Qd4 and Black's queen is too active for White's taste.) 40...Bxd7 41.dxe5±

37...Qe7 38.Rb3 Kh7 39.Kd2 Qg5+ 40.Kc2 Qd8 41.Rfb1 Qe7 42.Kb2 b5 43.axb5 cxb5 44.Rxb5

44.Bxd5!

44...Ba6



Position after 44...Ba6

45.Rxa5??

45.Kc2! Bxb5 46.Rxb5. White will pick up another pawn or two, and seems to have enough blockers to prevent the black major pieces from rolling up the king.

Four minors and five pawns against queen, rook, and two or three... who knows? Sounds like fun!

45...Bxd3-+

Now it's all over. The rest of the annotations show faster wins, but Black's way worked fine.

46.exd3 Qb4+ 47.Kc2 Qxa5

47...Rxf2+ 48.Kc1 Qd2#

48.f4 gxf3

48...Qa2+

49.Bxf3 Rc8+ 50.Kd1 Qa4+

50...Qa2

51.Ke1 Qc2 52.Rb6 Qxd3

52...Qc1+ 53.Bd1 Qe3+ 54.Be2 Rc1#

53.Bf4 Re7+ 54.Be5 Rc1+ 55.Kf2 Qf1+

55...Rc2+ 56.Ke1 (56.Kg1 Qe3+ 57.Kh1 Qe1#) 56...Qd2+ 57.Kf1 Qf2#

56.Ke3 Rf7 57.Rb8 Rc3+

57...Qe1+ 58.Be2 Rc3#

58.Kd2 Qc1+ 59.Ke2 Rc2+ 60.Kd3 Qd2# 0-1

James Inman (1799) –
Caleb Paul Kircher (1863) [A40]
BCC #8 Boise, ID (R2), July 25, 2015
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c5 4.e3 d6
5.Nge2 Nf6 6.dxc5 dxc5 7.Qxd8+ Kxd8



Position after 7...Kxd8

8.g3

8.b3±

8...Nc6 9.a3?!

White's last two moves create weak light squares in his own camp.

9...Bf5

9...Ne5∞

10.Bg2 Bd3 11.Bxc6

11.b3 Bc2 (11...Na5 12.Bb2 Bc2 (12...Nxb3? 13.Rd1) 13.Nc1 Nxb3 14.Nxb3 Bxb3 15.Nd5 Nxd5 (15...Bxc4 16.Rd1



(L) James Inman vs. Caleb Kircher. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

Bxd5 17.Bxd5 Kc8 18.Bxf7∞) 16.Bxg7 Rg8 17.Bxd5 Rxg7 18.Rb1 e6 19.Rxb3 exd5 20.Rxb7±) 12.Bd2 Bxb3 13.Rb1 Bxc4 14.Rxb7∞

11...bxc6 12.b3 Ne4 13.Bb2 Bxe2 14.Kxe2 Bxc3 15.Bxc3 Nxc3+ 16.Kd3 Nd5 17.cxd5 cxd5 18.Rac1 Rc8



Position after 18...Rc8

19.Rc3

White gets better play by striking in the center while the black king is still on the center back rank, interfering with the communication between the black rooks. 19.e4! dxe4+ (19...e6 20.exd5 exd5 21.b4 cxb4 22.axb4 White's activity should recover the pawn with equality.; 19...d4 20.Rc4 e5 21.Rhc1 Rb8 22.b4 cxb4 23.axb4 Re8 24.f4 f6 25.Ra1 Rb7 26.Ra6 and White has more than enough activity for the pawn.) 20.Kxe4±

19...Kd7 20.Rhc1 Kd6 21.f4 f6 22.e4 e6 23.e5+ fxe5 24.fxe5+ Kxe5 25.Rxc5 Rxc5 26.Rxc5 Rb8 27.b4 Rb7 28.b5 Rb6 29.a4



Position after 29.a4

29...a6?

The accurate move order for this idea is 29...Kd6 30.Rc8 a6±.

30.Kc3?

30.a5! Rb8 31.b6 , and White can round up the a6-pawn with advantage. A sample line: 31...Kd6 32.Rc7 h5 33.Ra7 e5 34.Rxa6 Kc6 35.Ra7 Rb7 36.Ra8 Kb5 37.h4!+- (zugzwang)

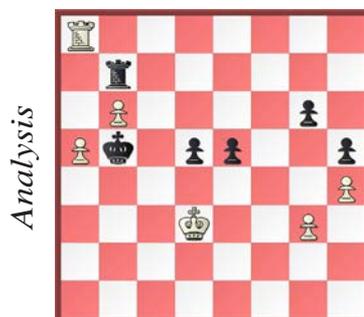
[Analysis Diagram next column]

37...Kc6 38.a6 Rxb6 39.Rc8+ Kd7 40.a7.

30...Kd6+ 31.Kb4?? a5+ 0-1

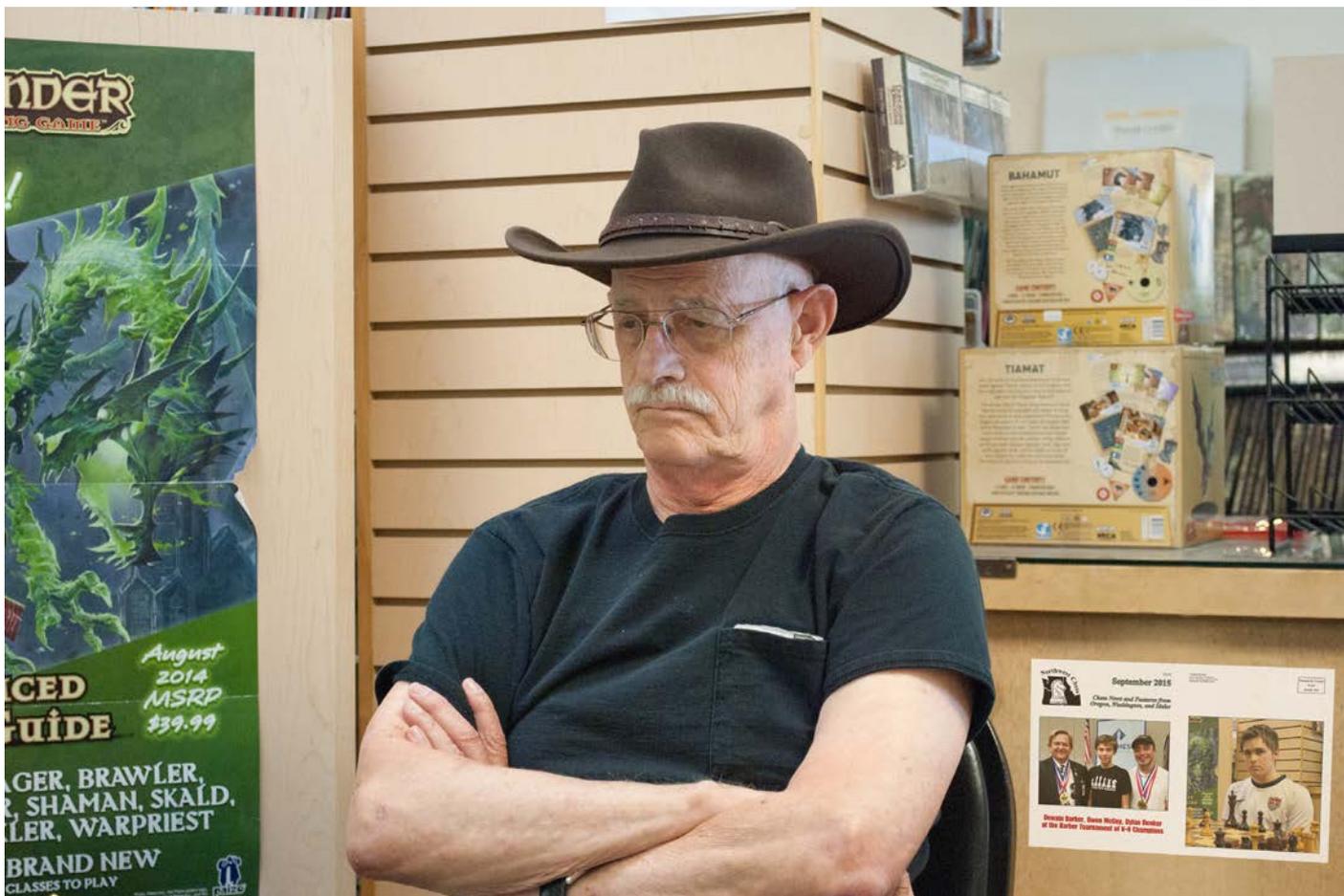


Justin Siek. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



(#Diagram-analysis after 37.h4)

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John Glenn. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



Jarod Buus. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

The 2015 Elmars Zemgalis Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

By Murlin Varner, Administrator

The Grand Prix has had a number of visitors from outside the region this year. A total of 35 players NOT hailing from the Northwest have made the trip to one or more of our tournaments. Some are former residents, such as FM Steven Breckenridge, and others are regular visitors, such as many of our friends from British Columbia, Montana and Wyoming. Those 35 players come from 13 states plus Canada. The states represented include AK, AR, CA (4), GA, IA, IL, MN (2), MT (8), SD, TX, WI, WV, and WY(2). A total of ten players have come to visit from Canada. Although summer is the best time for this kind of thing, these numbers will continue to grow as the year progresses. Patrick Huang of Canada is our leading visitor with 53 Grand Prix points.

There were a few changes within the leader board during July. Brad Bodie has taken over the lead in Idaho due to his attendance at a tournament in Spokane. Nick Raptis has broadened his lead in Oregon. Michael Munsey continues to lead in Washington, but is doing so from a new class, having crossed the Class C barrier this month. Playing a lot will do that to you.

August will have added an additional 7 tournaments, including the 2x Vancouver Open, sponsored by the Washington Chess Federation. September is going to be a great month to gather mass quantities of GP points. There are 8 tournaments scheduled in the month, including three with multipliers. The biggest opportunity starts off the month in Portland, at the Oregon Open, a 4x event. (I may have given a tiny bit of misinformation last month, as Rusty Miller informs me that the Portland light rail no longer has a free ride zone. That doesn't change the fact that it is a great way to get from the Amtrack station to the playing site near Lloyd Center.)

Following the opening weekend of the month, the next weekend offers the SCC Quads in Seattle. The Seattle Fall Open is the third weekend of September and offers double points. The final weekend of the month will have a plethora of tournaments, headlined by the Eastern Washington Open in Spokane, another 2x event. Also occupying that weekend are 1x tournaments in Tacoma (G/60), Portland (G/60) and Seattle (Tornado). Rounding out the month is the Spokane Fall Championship, a one game a week event that will commence the middle of September and run until the middle of October.

The data below is current through August 5, 2015.

Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington		
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
Masters								
			1 Raptis	Nick	123	1 Pupols	Viktors	92
			2 Bjorksten	Lennart	44.5	2 Schill	William J	84
			3 Grabinsky	Aaron	40	3 Feng	Roland	56
			4 Seitzer	Phillip	15.5	4 Bragg	David R	50
			5	Two Tied At	11	5 Tiglon	Bryce	46.5
Experts								
			1 Saputra	Yogi	71	1 He	Anthony B	110
			2 Cigan	Jason	53	2 Haining	Kyle	57.5
			3 Talyansky	Seth D	41	3 Nagase	Toshihiro	56.5
			4 Roring	Tres	35	4 Moroney	Timothy M	48.5
			5 Heywood	Bill	28	5 Bishop	Alan	40.5
Class A								
			1 Phipps	Danny	63	1 Yu	Jason	94
			2 Murray	David E	61	2 Baxter	Brent L	74
			3 Goffe	Michael P	40	3 Deshpande	Aaryan H	62
			4 Wade	Chris H	38.5	4 Kuhner	Mary K	60.5
			5 Grabinsky	Joshua	32.5	3 Zhang	Eric M	54.5
M/X/Class A								
1	Bodie	Brad	20					
2	Lucky	David	15					
3	Kircher	Caleb P	11					
4	Inman	James	8.5					
5	Maki	James J	6					
Class B								
1	Griggs	Glenn	18					
2	Buus	Jarod N	11.5					
3	Roland	Jeffrey T	11					
3	Machin	Alex J	11					
5		Two Tied At	9					

Idaho			Oregon			Washington					
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.			
Class C			Class B								
1	Naccarato	Savanna	16.5	1	Hasuike	Mike L	104.5	1	Puri	Ishaan	76
1	Weyland	Ronald M	16.5	2	Samillano	Jazon	65	2	Buck	Stephen J	62
3	Lombardi	George	13.5	3	Eagles	Roland	62.5	3	Anthony	Ralph J	59
4	Zaklan	David A	12.5	4	Zhang	Gavin	49	3	Kannan	Aditya	59
5	Nathan	Jacob A	8.5	5	McClain	Jack W	40	5	Tu	Robin L	49.5
Class D			Class C								
1	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	1	Berger	Brian F	57	1	Munsey	Michael R	130.5
2	Porth	Desmond	5	2	Kenway	Geoffrey W	33.5	2	Piper	August	90.5
3	Porth	Adam	4	3	Dietz	Arliss	23	3	Richards	Jerrold	76
4	Dominick	Matthew T	3	4	Booth	Liam K	18	4	Anand	Vignesh	71
4	Nyblade	Wesley, III	3	5	Tang	Jimmy	14	5	Deng	Samuel	54
Class E and Below			Class D and Below								
1	Fister	Joel S	9	1	Gupta	Rohit	27	1	Xuan	Owen	65
2	Hiatt	Arlene	7.5	2	Kypriotakis	Kyriakos	23	2	Casey	Garrett W	52.5
2	Naccarato	Chris D	7.5	3	Larson	Bradley J	19.5	3	Tien	Sophie	43
4	Nathan	Oliver E	5	4	Jewell	Nathan	18	4	Casey	Braxton W	42
5	Courtney	Caleb	4.5	5	Buerer	Harry F	12.5	5	Jiang	Brandon	40.5
Overall Leaders, by State											
1	Bodie	Brad	20	1	Raptis	Nick	123	1	Munsey	Michael R	130.5
2	Griggs	Glenn	18	2	Hasuike	Mike L	104.5	2	He	Anthony B	110
3	Naccarato	Savanna	16.5	3	Saputra	Yogi	71	3	Yu	Jason	94
3	Weyland	Ronald M	16.5	4	Samillano	Jazon	65	4	Pupols	Viktors	92
5	Jaroski	Jeffrey A	15.5	5	Phipps	Danny	63	5	Piper	August	90.5
6	Lucky	David	15	6	Eagles	Roland	62.5	6	Schill	William J	84
7	Lombardi	George	13.5	7	Murray	David E	61	7	Puri	Ishaan	76
8	Zaklan	David A	12.5	8	Berger	Brian F	57	7	Richards	Jerrold	76
9	Buus	Jarod N	11.5	9	Cigan	Jason	53	9	Baxter	Brent L	74
10	Kircher	Caleb P	11	10	Zhang	Gavin	49	10	Anand	Vignesh	71
10	Roland	Jeffrey T	11	11	Bjorksten	Lennart	44.5	11	Xuan	Owen	65
10	Machin	Alex J	11	12	Talyansky	Seth D	41	12	Two tied at		62

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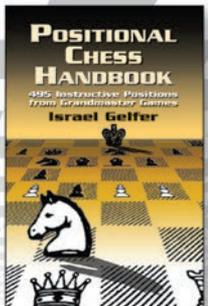
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 ↗ Infoline
 206-417-5405
 seattlechess.club
 kleistcf@aol.com
Address for Entries
 SCC Tnmt Dir
 2420 S 137 St
 Seattle WA 98168

How to Find the SCC

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

SCC

Championship

Sept. 11, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 23, 30, Nov. 6

Format: 7-rd Swiss held on Friday evenings.
TC: 35/100 and 25/60. **EF:** \$30 if rec'd by 9/3, \$37 thereafter. SCC memb. req'd—\$25 special tnmt memb. **Prize fund:** 75% of EFs. **Prizes:** 23%-16%, U2000 9%, U1800 8%, U1600 7%, U1400 6%, Unrated 3%, Endurance 3%. **Reg:** Fri. 7-7:45 p.m. **Rds:** Fridays 8 p.m. **Make-up Games for Rds 1-4:** G/75;d5 make-ups may be scheduled for any Wednesday 9/30 through 10/14. **Byes:** 4 (1 in rds 5-7, commit by 10/14). **Misc:** SCC/USCF memb. req'd. NS. NC.

☞ **Sept. 12, Oct. 10**

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

☞ **Sept. 27, Oct. 25***

Sunday Tornado ☞
Format: 4-SS. **TC:** G/60;d5. **EF:** \$18 (+\$7 fee for non-SCC). **Prizes:** 1st 35%, 2nd 27%, Bottom Half 1st 22%, 2nd 16% (\$10 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 memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

*Date may change to Nov. 1

☞ **Oct. 11**

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

SCC Fridays

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

Close Ratings 2: 9/4, 11, 18, 25.

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

November Rains: 11/6, 13, 20.

Package Express: 12/4, 11, 18.

Seattle Fall Open

September 18-20 or September 19-20

A 2-section, 5-round Swiss chess tournament with a time control of 40/120 & SD/60 and a 5-second delay (except Rd 1 of 2-day option — G/60;d5) with a prize fund of \$1000 based on 62 paid entries, 6 per prize group.

A Northwest Grand Prix event

Open: **\$180 gtd-\$120 gtd, U2200**

\$100, U2000 \$95, U1800 \$90

Reserve (U1700): **\$110-\$80, U1550**

\$70, U1450 \$65, U1350 \$60, UNR \$30

Entry Fees: \$33 by 9/16, \$42 at site. SCC members—subtract \$9. Members of other dues-req'd CCs in BC, OR, & WA—subtract \$4. Unrated players FREE with purchase of 1-yr USCF & WCF. **Add \$1 for 2-day option.** Make checks payable to SCC.

Registration: Fri. 7-7:45 pm or Sat. 9-9:45 am. **Rounds:** Fri. 8 pm, Sat. (10@G/60;d5)-12:30-6:45, Sun. 11-5.

Byes: 2 available. Rounds 4 or 5 must commit at registration. **Misc.:** USCF & WCF required. NS. NC.

Upcoming Events

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

♣ **Sep 5-7** 65th Annual Oregon Open, **Portland, OR.** (See <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>)

♣ **Sep 17, 24, Oct 1, 8, 15** Spokane Fall Championship, **Spokane, WA.** Site: Gonzaga University (Herak Rm 121). Format: 5 round Swiss. Time Control: G/120 (with 5 second delay). Registration: 6:30-7:15, Sept. 17. Rounds: Rd. 1 will start by 7:30; Rds. 2-5 games can start at 7:00 but no later than 7:30. E.F. \$16. USCF rated. Contact: David Griffin, dbgrffin@hotmail.com.

♣ **Sep 19-20** Eastern Idaho Open, **Pocatello, ID.** Site: Idaho State University (ISU), Pond Student Union (Building 14), 3rd Floor, 1065 S 8th Ave, Pocatello, Idaho. 5SS. Game/120;d5. 2 Sections: "Open" and "U1400 Reserve". Prizes (based on 30): Open: \$175, \$85, \$65. Reserve \$75, \$50, \$35. Entry Fee: \$30 (\$25 if under 18 or 60+ years old) if registered by September 14, 2015. Special Family Rate of \$60. \$5 more for all if received after September 14, 2015 and at door. E-mail entry will lock in advance entry rate. ICA and USCF Membership required, OSA. Register & check in: 7:30-8:30 a.m. Saturday, September 19, 2015. Those not paid and checked in by 8:30 a.m. may not be paired in first round. Round Times: Saturday 9:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.; Sunday 9:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. Half-point bye (maximum 1) Rounds 1-4 only. Must commit by end of Round 2. 0-point bye available for round 5. Entries: Jay Simonson, 391 Carol Ave., Idaho Falls, ID 83401, 208-206-7667. E-mail: rooknjay@yahoo.com, www.idahocheessassociation.org. Make all checks payable to Idaho Chess Association. No Computer, No Smoking, Wheelchair access.

♣ **Sep 26** Washington Game/60 Championship, **Tacoma, WA.** Site: Metro Parks Community Center, 3513 Portland Ave. E., Tacoma, WA. Format: 4 round Swiss in 1 section. Time Control: G/60;d5. Dual rated, Reg. & Quick. Prize Fund: (B/16) 1st \$85.00, 2nd \$80.00, 1st U1800, U1600, U1400 \$75.00 each. Entry fee: \$30.00 in advance by 9/25, \$35.00 at site. Reg.: Sat. 9:00-9:45 am. Rounds: 10:00 am, 12:45 pm, 3:30 pm, 6:15 pm. Byes: 1 half point bye available. USCF/WCF memberships required. NC, NS, W. Make checks payable to Gary J. Dorfner. Info/Entries: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445. Phone (253) 535-2536 or email ggarychess@aol.com.

♣ **Sep 26-27** Eastern Washington Open, **Spokane, WA.** Location: Schoenberg Center, Room 201, Gonzaga University, N. 900 Pearl St., Spokane (southwest corner of GU campus – one block east of Division/Ruby couplet off DeSmet Ave.). 5 round Swiss System. Registration: 8:30-9:30, Sept. 26. Rounds: 10-2:30-7; 9-1:30/ASAP. Time control: Game/120 (d5). Entry fee: \$21 if received by 9/25, \$26 at the door; under 18 \$5 less. \$615 prize fund GUARANTEED. Additional classes and class prizes may be created if entries exceed 30 players. Class prizes based on at least 5 per class; classes (and class prizes) may be reconfigured if less than five class entries. Only one prize per player (except biggest upset). NS, NC, W. One 1/2 point bye available if requested by end of previous round; Sunday bye must be requested by end of round 3. Director reserves right to use class pairings in final round. PRIZES: FIRST -- \$125; Class Prizes: \$75 first, \$35 second; A; B; C; D/E/unrated, Biggest Upset (non-provisional) -- \$50. Entries: Kevin Korsmo, 9923 N. Moore St., Spokane, WA 99208. For information please call (509) 270-1772 (cell). Club website: www.spokanechessclub.org.

♣ **Sep 26/Oct 24** Portland CC Game in 60, **Portland, OR.** 4SS, G/60;d5. Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR - Map. If 30 or more entries the field will be divided into 2 sections by ratings. EF: \$20, \$5 discount for PCC Members. OCF/WCF/ICA and USCF membership required, OSA. No advance entries. Reg: 9:00-9:30 a.m. Byes: 1/2 point bye if requested at reg. Prizes: If one section (\$200/b20) \$60-\$40-\$30; U1800, U1500 \$35 each. If two sections - upper section \$75-50-25 (b/15); lower section \$65-35; U1400 \$50 (b/15). No tiebreakers (prizes split). OSCF State Qualifier. Info: e-mail email@pdxchess.org, phone 503-246-2978, website www.pdxchess.org.

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

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

♣ **Oct 10-11** National Chess Day Fall Open, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR. This USCF-rated, two-day tournament is played in two sections (Open and U1800), has five rounds, and offers long time controls and lots of cash prizes: Time Control: 40/90 SD/30, 5 second delay if clock allows. Two half point byes available for Rounds 1-4 if requested at registration. Entry Fee: \$35; members of the Club get \$10 discount. Memberships: USCF and OCF/WCF required and can be purchased/renewed at registration (other state memberships OK for out-of-area players). Registration: 9:00-9:45am on Saturday. Rounds at 10:00, 2:30 and 7:00 on Saturday, 10:00 and 2:30 on Sunday. Prizes: based on 40 entries and adjusted proportionally if different number of players, total prize fund is \$650 (each section's prize fund \$325). Open section: 1st place - \$150, 2nd place - \$100, best result for rated under 2000 - \$75. Reserve section: 1st place - \$100, 2nd place - \$75, best results for rated under 1600, under 1400, and under 1200 or unrated - \$50 each. No tiebreakers used, prizes split between players with the same results. OCF Invitational Qualifier. OSCF State Qualifier.

Oct 16-18 Western States Open, **Reno, NV.** (Full-Page Ad on Page 21)

Oct 24 Ernst Rasmussen's 90th Birthday and Port Townsend Chess Bonanza (4-round G/60), **Port Townsend, WA.** Details/ad in October.

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