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## Selected Best State Magazine/Newsletter in 2009, 2014, 2015, and 2016 by Chess Journalists of America!

## On the front cover:

The Oregon Scholastic Champions in Indianapolis, Indiana on August 2, 2016. L-R: Gavin Zhang (Barber Qualifier), Aaron Grabinsky (Denker Qualifier), and Neena Feldman (Girls Qualifier). Photo credit: Nancy Keller.

## On the back cover:

“Intimidation Factor”—Jesse Batten at the Boise Chess Club on July 18, 2016.

## Chesstoons:

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

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**Thursday 10/20** - 6 -7:30 pm FREE lecture by IM John Donaldson - FREE  
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**Saturday 10/22** - 3-4:30pm - IM John Donaldson Clinic (Game/Position Analysis) - FREE

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**Room Reservations:** Sands Regency Casino Hotel, 1-866-386-7829 - Ask for code: USCHESS1016

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Mail to: Sands Regency Casino Hotel - 345 N. Arlington Avenue - Reno NV 89501

PRINT Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ USCF / FIDE Rating \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

USCF I.D. Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ All pre-registered players please check in at tournament desk on arrival.

ENTRY FEE ENCLOSED: (CIRCLE SECTION AND FEE BELOW)

BYE(S) REQUESTED FOR ROUND(S): (CIRCLE) 1 2 3 4 5 6

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

GM/IM 2000/above 1999/Below 1800-1999 1600-1799 1400-1599 1399/Below

Free \$135 \$200 \$134 \$133 \$132 \$70

Free With USCF Dues

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- ☐ \$30 Wednesday GM Kudrin Clock Simul
- ☐ \$20 Thursday GM Lenderman Simul
- ☐ \$25 Thursday Blitz (G/5 d0)
- ☐ USCF Dues (Circle: \$25 Junior/\$49 Adult)
- ☐ -\$10 +65 Senior DOB \_\_\_\_\_

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- ☐ Please Make Me a Reservation\*
- Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_
- Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ One Bed ☐ Two Beds ☐ S ☐ NS

\*Send \$41.71 for weekday arrival, \$71.22 for Friday arrival.

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# The 2016 Richard Gutman Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

## Murlin Varner, Administrator

July provided us with many changes in Washington, a few changes in Oregon, and just one change in Idaho. That one change was when Jarod Buus went up a rating class (congratulations!) and as a consequence, fell out of the leader board (bummer!). Oregon saw just a few changes, in Classes A, C and D, only one which involved a money spot. In that case, in Class A, Moshe Rachmuth took over the number two spot. Ethan Wu also moved up a place, knocking Raymond Fletcher all the way to fourth. Since only two points separate these three players, further volatility is to be expected. Elsewhere in Oregon, Konner Feldman was replaced in the standing by the famous "Two Tied At", in this case being James Tsai and Sean A Uan-Zo-Li. Finally, in Class D, Kushal Pai moved up to third in Class D, just a point and a half behind the money spot.

Washington had changes in all six classes. Among the Masters, Ignacio Perez was also replaced by "Two Tied At" (Roland Feng and Curt Collyer). In the Expert Class, we have new leaders Jason Yu and Cameron Leslie. Former leader Neo Olin dropped all the way to fourth. Joseph Truelson joined the leader board at fourth place in Class A, and Alec Beck joined at fifth in Class B. Kyle Zhang moved up two spots to third in Class C and Jeffrey Kou and Raymond Bai took over fourth and fifth in Class D.

Either there has been a mass exodus of foreign-born players from the US, or US Chess has changed something in their ratings reporting system. I determine which state a person resides in by the listings on the web site, but this month, many of our players were showing their FIDE country instead of their state of residence, unless they all really DID move away. So, if any of the following people really didn't move away, please drop me an email and I will restate you within the appropriate state: Jan Buzek, Nikita Chetrari, Costin Cozianu, Florian Georgi, Marcel Milat, Badamkhind Norovsambuu, Radu Roua, Dmitry Skorchenko, and Maximilian Vaintroub.

September will offer eight Grand Prix events in four cities (Portland, Seattle, Spokane, and Tacoma), including two multiplier events (Oregon Open-6x and Seattle Fall Open-2x). And then, October 1-2 will have two more 2x events, the Eastern Washington Open in Spokane and the Norman Friedman Memorial in Hailey, ID (the town where all the celebrities fly into Friedman Memorial Airport on their way to Sun Valley). If I only had a private jet....

All data is current through August 4.

## Northwest Grand Prix Standings

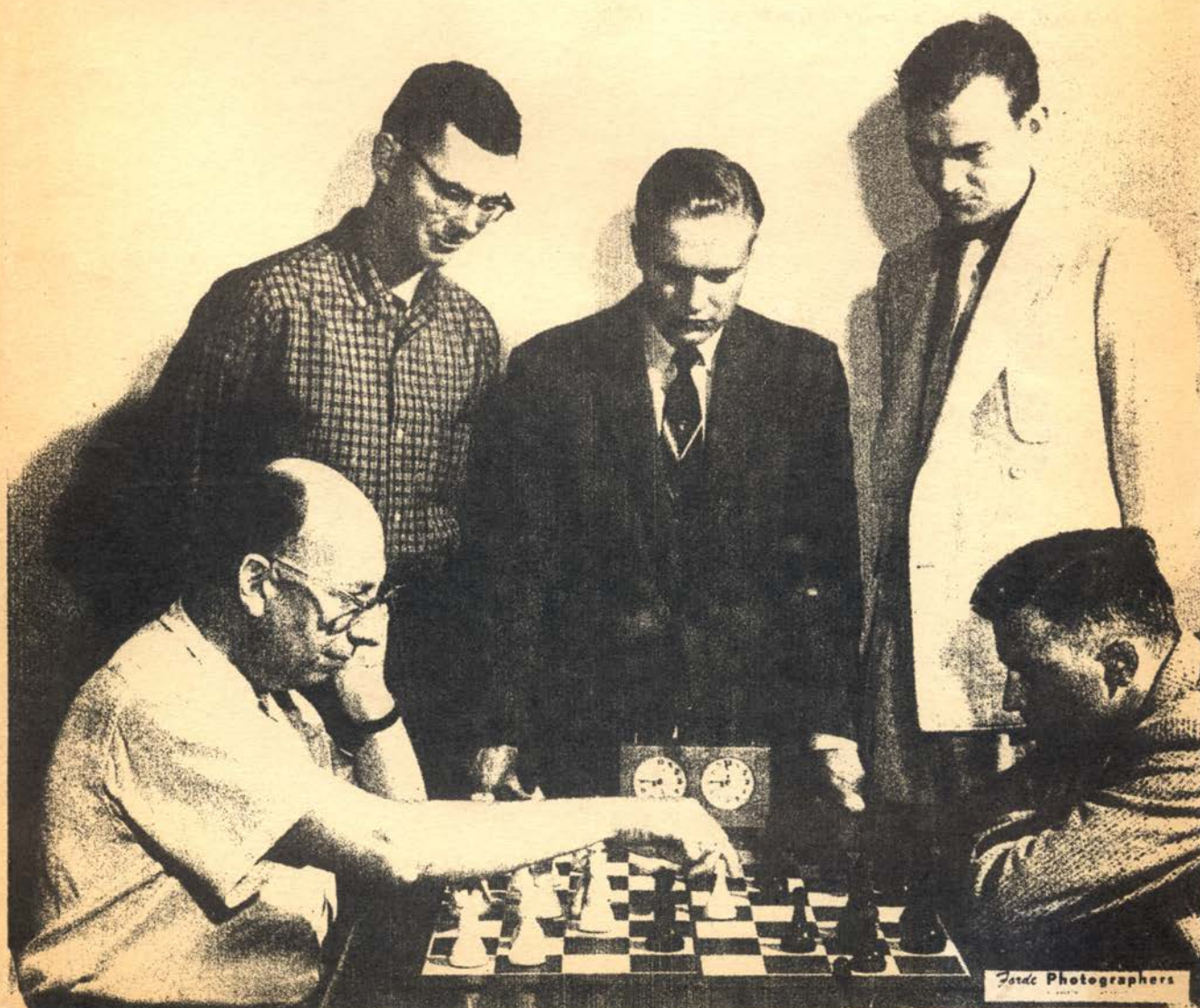
| Idaho       |       |              | Oregon  |           |                | Washington |                  |                |
|-------------|-------|--------------|---------|-----------|----------------|------------|------------------|----------------|
| last        | first | pts.         | last    | first     | pts.           | last       | first            | pts.           |
|             |       |              | Masters |           |                | 1          | Pupols           | Viktors 132    |
|             |       |              | 1       | Haessler  | Carl A 41      | 2          | Raptis           | Nick 107.5     |
|             |       |              | 2       | Tarjan    | James 32.5     | 3          | Tiglon           | Bryce 84.5     |
|             |       |              | 3       | Grabinsky | Aaron 30       | 4          | He               | Anthony B 82.5 |
|             |       |              |         |           |                | 5          | Two Tied At 55.5 |                |
| M/X/Class A |       |              | Experts |           |                | 1          | Yu               | Jason 52.5     |
|             |       |              | 1       | Cigan     | Jason 60.5     | 2          | Leslie           | Cameron D 51.5 |
|             |       |              | 2       | Hawkins   | Nicholas B 48  | 3          | Bashkansky       | Naomi 46.5     |
|             |       |              | 3       | Cambareri | Michael E 36.5 | 4          | Olin             | Neo E 40.5     |
|             |       |              | 4       | Bodie     | Brad 30.5      | 5          | Arganian         | David G 39.5   |
| 5           | Maki  | James J 19.5 | 5       | Bjorksten | Lennart 30     |            |                  |                |

| Idaho                     |               |               | Oregon            |       |             | Washington    |       |      |             |           |       |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|-------|-------------|---------------|-------|------|-------------|-----------|-------|
| last                      | first         | pts.          | last              | first | pts.        | last          | first | pts. |             |           |       |
| Class B                   |               |               | Class A           |       |             |               |       |      |             |           |       |
| 1                         | Derryberry    | Dewayne R     | 13.5              | 1     | Phipps      | Danny         | 46    | 1    | Baxter      | Brent L   | 102.5 |
| 2                         | Roland        | Jeffrey T     | 10.5              | 2     | Rachmuth    | Moshe S       | 34    | 2    | Lee         | Addison   | 88    |
| 3                         | Carr          | John B        | 6                 | 3     | Wu          | Ethan         | 32.5  | 3    | Zhang       | Brendan   | 74.5  |
| 3                         | Amen          | Chris         | 6                 | 4     | Fletcher    | Raymond R     | 32    | 4    | Truelson    | Joseph    | 74    |
| 3                         | Naccarato     | Savanna       | 6                 | 5     | Murray      | David E       | 25.5  | 5    | Zhang       | Eric M    | 71.5  |
| Class C                   |               |               | Class B           |       |             |               |       |      |             |           |       |
| 1                         | Martonick     | Nick          | 18.5              | 1     | Hasuike     | Mike L        | 136   | 1    | Buck        | Stephen J | 193   |
| 1                         | Weyland       | Ron           | 18.5              | 2     | Berger      | Brian F       | 68.5  | 2    | Pothukuchi  | Revanth V | 114.5 |
| 3                         | Jaroski       | Jeffrey A     | 16                | 3     | Vega        | Isaac         | 61    | 3    | Jiang       | Brandon   | 79.5  |
| 4                         | Courtney      | Caleb         | 13.5              | 4     | Moore       | Michael       | 48    | 4    | Xuan        | Owen      | 78    |
| 5                         | Nyblade       | Wesley        | 10                | 5     | Burris      | Christopher E | 39.5  | 5    | Beck        | Alec W    | 70.5  |
| Class D                   |               |               | Class C           |       |             |               |       |      |             |           |       |
| 1                         | Bodie         | Arlene        | 24.5              | 1     | Dietz       | Arliss        | 56    | 1    | Piper       | August    | 106   |
| 2                         | Porth         | Adam          | 15                | 2     | Kenway      | Geoffrey W    | 38    | 2    | Richards    | Jerrold   | 80    |
| 3                         | Ang           | Ching-E N     | 9.5               | 3     | Lancaster   | Carter D      | 27.5  | 3    | Zhang       | Kyle      | 67    |
| 4                         | Nyblade       | Wesley, III   | 9                 | 4     | Wentz       | Dale R        | 18    | 4    | Cordero     | Rowland   | 64.5  |
| 5                         | Porth         | Desmond       | 5                 | 5     | Two Tied At |               | 17.5  | 4    | Lawler      | Aidan     | 64.5  |
| Class E and Below         |               |               | Class D and Below |       |             |               |       |      |             |           |       |
| 1                         | Callen        | Gregory D     | 27                | 1     | Roshu       | David L       | 23.5  | 1    | Munsey      | Michael R | 80    |
| 2                         | Porth         | Darwin A      | 13                | 2     | Roshu       | Cassandra M   | 22    | 2    | Jiang       | Andrew    | 75    |
| 3                         | Bauman        | Christopher J | 6                 | 3     | Pai         | Kushal        | 20.5  | 3    | Pogrebinsky | Ethan     | 55.5  |
| 3                         | He            | Justin        | 6                 | 4     | Zhang       | Ethan Y       | 20    | 4    | Kou         | Jeffrey   | 54.5  |
| 5                         | Three tied at |               | 5                 | 5     | Bowden      | Robert E      | 17    | 5    | Bai         | Raymond   | 54    |
| Overall Leaders, by State |               |               |                   |       |             |               |       |      |             |           |       |
| 1                         | Miller        | Travis J      | 55.5              | 1     | Hasuike     | Mike L        | 136   | 1    | Buck        | Stephen J | 193   |
| 2                         | Hawkins       | Nicholas B    | 48                | 2     | Berger      | Brian F       | 68.5  | 2    | Pupols      | Viktors   | 132   |
| 3                         | Cambareri     | Michael E     | 36.5              | 3     | Vega        | Isaac         | 61    | 3    | Pothukuchi  | Revanth V | 114.5 |
| 4                         | Bodie         | Brad          | 30.5              | 4     | Cigan       | Jason         | 60.5  | 4    | Raptis      | Nick      | 107.5 |
| 5                         | Callen        | Gregory D     | 27                | 5     | Dietz       | Arliss        | 56    | 5    | Piper       | August    | 106   |
| 6                         | Bodie         | Arlene        | 24.5              | 6     | Richardson  | Ryan          | 51.5  | 6    | Baxter      | Brent L   | 102.5 |
| 7                         | Maki          | James J       | 19.5              | 7     | Moore       | Michael       | 48    | 7    | Lee         | Addison   | 88    |
| 8                         | Martonick     | Nick          | 18.5              | 7     | Phipps      | Danny         | 46    | 8    | Tiglon      | Bryce     | 84.5  |
| 8                         | Weyland       | Ron           | 18.5              | 9     | Haessler    | Carl A        | 41    | 9    | He          | Anthony B | 82.5  |
| 10                        | Joshi         | Kairav R      | 16.5              | 10    | Burris      | Christopher E | 39.5  | 10   | Richards    | Jerrold   | 80    |
| 11                        | Jaroski       | Jeffrey A     | 16                | 11    | Kenway      | Geoffrey W    | 38    | 11   | Munsey      | Michael R | 80    |
| 12                        | Three tied at |               | 15                | 11    | McCoy       | Owen          | 37.5  | 12   | Jiang       | Brandon   | 79.5  |

**Advertising Space is available! Contact Eric Holcomb, Business Manager (see page 2)**

# WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER

SEPTEMBER 1958



Front cover of the September 1958 issue of *Washington Chess Letter*. Original Caption inside the cover:

#### ON OUR COVER

Charles Joachim (left) is playing Dr. A.A. Murray in the 4th round of the Seattle Seafair Open. In the background from left to right are Jim McCormick, Ivars Dalberg, and Vic [should be spelled Vik—editor] Pupols. (Photo donated by Forde Photographers, Lloyd Bldg. Seattle)



# Washington Chess News

## Seattle Seafair Open Attracts 92 Players!

By Carol Kleist and Fred Kleist

Seattle, WA—July 22-24, 2016

We Board members at the Seattle Chess Club have often asked ourselves what the magic is that propels the Seafair tournament onto center stage in terms of attendance. Is it the season with its warm weather? Or perhaps it is the one-section format? Is it the name, with its echoes of fun and good times? I'm voting for the powerful shaping force of tradition. The first Seafair Open was in 1952 as documented, and perhaps earlier. Names like Viktors Pupols, Jim McCormick, Elmars Zemgalis shine forth in connection with Seafair. It is surmised that Viktors would have played this year also, in accordance with tradition, had he not been visiting Latvia just then. The well-known organizer and enthusiastic chess supporter, Rusty Miller, tells how he received a memorable gift in connection with the Seafair of 1967, when his opponent designated the game he lost to Rusty as his wedding gift to him; whereupon Rusty won the 2<sup>nd</sup> section, collected his prize money, and married Kathy, also a true chess supporter, the following week. According to my arithmetic then, we can all wish them Happy 50th Anniversary, Happy Golden One, at next year's Seafair time!

We were expecting a good turnout for the Seafair this year, but 92 players, many of them registering at site, far exceeded our expectations. So what does the TD do in such a case? He keeps cool and has wonderful chess parents and colleagues who jump in and help. Space is no problem, there being ample extra space available, but tables and chairs are too few! So August Piper, Club President, and the stalwart and always-helpful Cameron Leslie rise to the occasion, and while the Saturday A.M. quick round is being played, they volunteer and depart for Fred Meyer, returning successfully with new tables, while Vijay Sankaran, Advait's dad, simultaneously proceeds to Target and returns with shiny new chairs as if by magic. Thus we have the happy ending of the story, or rather the happy beginning of this year's Seafair, as the sections merge for round two, and all players have table space to house their chess boards,

pieces, scoresheets, and water cups—and even chairs to sit on! Among the positive effects of the large turnout was that T.D. Fred Kleist was able to increase the prize fund by the generous percentage of approximately 30%.

After the fifth and final round of the Seafair's one-section battle, three players emerge as 1<sup>st</sup> place winners. This triumvirate is formed by FM William Schill, 2209, Cale McCormick, 2199, and Luke Xie, 2196, splitting the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Under 2200 prize. Nine players join the prize winners to split the third place prize along with some compensating Plus Pool money, here listed in rating order: FM Roland Feng, 2434, FM Curt Colyer, 2306, NM Kyle Haining, 2273, NM Peter Lessler, 2256, FM David Bragg, 2200, Michael Lin, 2156, Cameron Leslie, 2057, Aaryan Deshpande, 2035, and Benjamin Brusniak, 2003.

It is Pradeep Bomlapura, Oscar Petrov, and Angelo Bravo, who win the U1800 prize and the U1600 divides five ways among Ralph Anthony, Kerry VanVeen, Alan Beck, Evan Ruan, and Jason Zhang.

Solo winner Munkhbilig Munkh-Erdene takes the U1400 prize, while Andrew Jiang and Amog Kaistha share the U1200 prize. Upset prizes were also awarded, one each the first four rounds: Ralph Anthony, Victor Zhang, Gavin Burt, and Andrew Jiang achieving the largest upsets. And the prize-winning doesn't quite stop there. The \$375 Plus Pool was divided nine ways among those who had a plus score (3 or more), and did not otherwise receive a prize. So all told, more than one-third of all the 92 players, or more precisely, 43% of the players, captured a prize. So watch for this event next summer!

At the conclusion of the last round, again helpful fathers, including Wei Feng and Xuhao He, i.e., Roland Feng's dad and Anthony He's dad, and Vijay, Advait's dad, brought back the tables and chairs and sets from the extra rooms, and also some female helpers were evident and appreciated, including Carrie, Alec Beck's mom and Mary Kuhner. There were more helpful parents, whose names I didn't catch, but their help is also much appreciated!

Contrasting the Seafair of the "old days" with the present, one would surely notice the preponderance of youth today,

including young children, but the mature men are still holding their own in securing top prizes. Last year, however, two young students were the sole winners of Seafair's first place: Roland Feng and David Golub. Speaking of former times, I would like to honor those former champs with the list of Seafair winners printed below. If one doesn't know a player, one should not despair, for you may soon come across his name in connection with a game, or a quote, or other reference, as so often happens, when one has become aware of a name. The list from 1952 till 1968 is by way of the courtesy of Kathy and Rusty Miller. The rest I have attempted to gather from former publication sources.

IM John Donaldson, Chess Historian of the Northwest, among his other accomplishments, shared the following observations, when I asked for his commentary on the Seafair.

"Dan Wade, who did such an outstanding job editing the *Washington Chess Letter* and *Northwest Chess Letter* (Northwest Chess under another name in its earlier years), was passionate about documenting tournaments in Washington and frequently published lists of the winners over the years.

"The November 1958 issue of the *Washington Chess Letter* (page 9) lists the first winner as O.W. Manney in 1952. This information is confirmed in the *WCL*, August 1952, page 3. 13 players played in the event and at least one player is still with us - Jim McCormick. I believe Jim, who would have been around 16, learned the game relatively late and this might have been one of his first events. Ted (Eugene) Warner also played.

"I can add that Manney, who was an Expert-rated player in his prime (1950s) was a hard-worker for chess. He worked as an immigration officer for the US government and lived at various times in Arizona, Texas, Alaska and Nevada (in addition to several years in Seattle in the early 1950s) and was the champion of several states. Manney was the WCF President when he won the Seafair in 1952. Note Uncle Vik only goes back to about 1954. I'm pretty sure Jim (and Ted if he is still alive) go back to 1952.

"You can find the report on the first Seafair at [http://www.nwchess.com/articles/history/WCL/WCL\\_scans.htm](http://www.nwchess.com/articles/history/WCL/WCL_scans.htm).

The 1953 Seafair was won by Elmars Zemgalis who had arrived in Seattle the previous year. The 18 players who played in the first two groups of the event that year paid a \$3 entry and \$35 (the equivalent of \$316 in 2016) of the \$48 collected went to Elmars to help defray the cost of his travel to the US Open in Milwaukee in August of 1953.”

Thank you, John, and congratulations to amicus Jim McCormick, and now, returning to our report, here is the promised list of winners of Seafair over the years since 1952.

1952 O.W. Manney  
1953 Elmars Zemgalis  
1954 Ivars Dalbergs  
1955 William Bills  
1956 Robert Edberg  
1957 Viktors Pupols and James McCormick  
1958 Ivars Dahlbergs  
1959 Viktors Pupols  
1960 Viesturs Seglins  
1961 Viesturs Seglins  
1962 Duncan Suttles  
1963 Viktors Pupols  
1964 Viktors Pupols  
1965 Elod Macskasy  
1966 (None due to 67th U.S. Open being in Seattle August 14-26)  
1967 James McCormick  
1968 Viktors Pupols  
1969 John Braley, Viesturs Seglins  
1970 Robert Zuk  
1971 Mike Franett  
1972 Peter Biyiasas, John Walker, Jonathan Berry  
1973 Peter Torkar  
1974 Dennis Waterman, Andrew McDaniel  
1975 Robert Zuk  
1976 Leo Stefurak  
1977 Jeff Reeve

1978 Rajan Ayyar, Roger Hanson, John Donaldson, Leo Stefurak  
1979 Eric Tangborn  
1980 Larry Musa  
1981 John Donaldson  
1982 Eric Tangborn  
1983 Nikolay Minev, Ken Tomkins  
1984 Bill McGeary, Michael Schemm  
1985 Dan Marshall, Kent Pullen  
1986 Matthew Edwards, Neil Salmon  
1987 Hugh O'Donnell  
1988 Magdy Assem, Ken Tomkins  
1989 Elena Donaldson  
1990 Elena Donaldson  
1991 Elena Donaldson  
1992 Georgi Orlov  
1993 Viktors Pupols, Michael Oshiro  
1994 Slava Mikhailuk, Jim McCormick, David Arganian  
1995 Georgi Orlov, Elena Donaldson, Jerry Prothero  
1996 Federico Gonzales  
1997 Georgi Orlov, Slava Mikhailuk, David Roper, Mark Knight  
1998 Georgi Orlov, David Roper, Viktors Pupols, William Schill, Joel Barnes, Jim McCormick, David Arganian, Jeffrey Hipolito  
1999 Yevgeniy Rozenfeld  
2000 Nat Koons, Paul Bartron, David Rupel, David Zick  
2001 Slava Mikhailuk, Viktors Pupols  
2002 Slava Mikhailuk, David Roper, William Schill  
2003 Slava Mikhailuk  
2004 Nat Koons, David Bragg, Curt Collyer  
2005 David Bragg, Josh Sinanan  
2006 Nat Koons  
2007 John Readey, Benjamin Calpo  
2008 William Schill, Dereque Kelley

2009 David Wyde  
2010 David Bragg, Peter Lessler  
2011 Howard Chen, David Golub, Nathan Lee  
2012 Peter Lessler, Igor Ummel  
2013 Tian Sang, Josh Sinanan  
2014 Tian Sang  
2015 Roland Feng, David Golub  
2016 William Schill, Cale McCormick, Luke Xie

With this brief look at the history of the Seafair, we will close by recommending that you come to the next Seafair tournament and become a part of history!

**Trevor Jung (1705) – Benjamin Brusniak (2003) [C01]**  
Seattle Seafair Seattle, WA  
(R2), July 23, 2016  
[Benjamin Brusniak]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 Bd6 6.h3 c6 7.Nf3 h6 8.Ne5 Nbd7 9.f4

White has control over the center, but Black has pressure with moves such as Qb6 and c5 at his disposal.

9...0-0 10.Ne2?!

Better was 10.0-0 Qb6 11.Kh1=

10...Ne4 11.Bxe4 dxe4 12.Be3 Qb6

Better was 12...Nb6 13.0-0 f6 14.Ng6 Re8 15.f5 Nc4 16.Bc1 b5. Black's bishop pair and active pieces gives him the advantage.

13.b3



Position after 13.b3

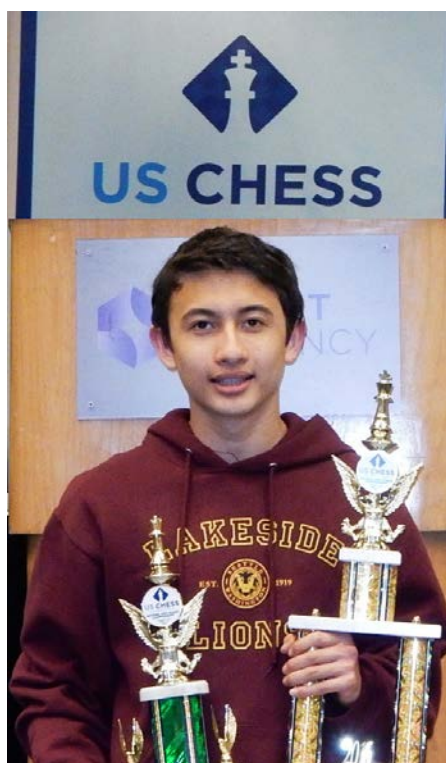
13...Nxe5? 14.dxe5 Bb4+ 15.Kf2

Black has relieved the pressure in the center and has let White achieve an equal position.

15...Bc5 16.Nd4?

White adds tension to the center by self pinning his knight to the bishop on e3. Better was 16.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 17.Qd4 Qxd4 18.Nxd4 and now White is better due to the weak pawn on e4.





Benjamin Brusniak taken at the High School Nationals four months ago where he got 16th place in the High School Championship and also won the Blitz.

Photo credit: Mi-Youn Brusniak.

## 16...f6!?

Black takes advantage of White's mistake and is now piling on the pressure.

## 17.exf6 Rxf6 18.c3 g5!? 19.g3 Qc7

White has defended well up to this point, but he needs to be wary of the pressure on f4.



Position after 19...Qc7

## 20.h4?

White is not aware of the danger and blunders. Better was 20.Qh5 gxf4 21.gxf4 Bxd4 22.Rag1+ Kh7 23.Bxd4 Qxf4+ 24.Ke2 Qf3+ 25.Qxf3 exf3+ 26.Kf2 Rg6=

## 20...gxf4 21.gxf4 Rxf4+! 22.Bxf4??

White's only hope was to play 22.Ke1, but after 22...Rg4 Black is simply a pawn up.

## 22...Qxf4+ 23.Ke1

White's best try was 23.Kg2 Bd6 24.Qg1 Be6 but his exposed king ensures that Black will get back his material and more.

## 23...Qg3+ 24.Kd2 Qd3+ 25.Ke1 Qxc3+ 26.Kf1 Bxd4 27.Rc1 Bh3+

White resigned because of 28.Rxh3 Qxh3+ 29.Ke1 Qg3+ 30.Kd2 Qe3+ 31.Kc2 Qc3+ 32.Kb1 Qb2#

0-1

David Bragg (2200) –  
Ralph Anthony (1580) [B09]  
Seattle Seafair Seattle, WA  
(R3), July 23, 2016  
[Bragg David]

## 1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Be2 Bg7 5.f4 c5 6.d5 Qa5 7.Bd2 Qb4

Chasing the poisoned pawn is dangerous.

## 8.a3 Qxb2



Position after 8...Qxb2

## 9.Bb5+

Also good was 9.Rb1 Qxa3 10.Nb5 Qa4 11.Nxd6+ Kf8 (11...exd6 12.Bb5+) 12.Bb5 (12.Nxc8 Nxe4 13.Rxb7 Nd7 14.c4± [F. Kleist]) 12...Qa2 13.Bc3±, intending 14.Ra1. [Unfortunately, Black escapes by 13...Nxd5! — FK]

## 9...Bd7 10.Ra2

10.Rb1 Qxa3 11.Bxd7+ Nbx7 (11...Kxd7 12.Rxb7+ Black is way behind in development.) 12.Nb5 followed by 13.Nc7+.

## 10...Qxb5!

Black gets two minor pieces, while White's pieces are awkwardly placed. When entering this line, I thought I would be able to untangle.

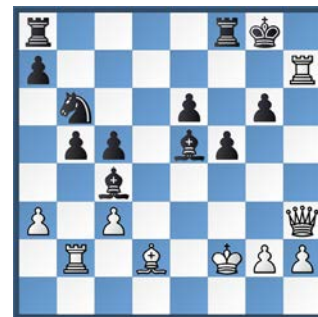
## 11.Nxb5 Bxb5 12.c3??

12.Bc3! was the right way to untangle.

## 12...Bd3!

Destroying the e4/d5 center.

## 13.e5 Nxd5 14.Rb2 b5 15.Nf3 Nd7 16.Kf2 0-0 17.Re1 dxe5 18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.fxe5 e6 20.Qf3 Bc4 21.Re4 Nb6 22.Qh3 f5 23.Rh4 Bxe5 24.Rxh7



Position after 24.Rxh7

## 24...Bg7?

Up until here, Black has played very well, keeping the center under control and the white queenside pieces out of the game.

## 25.Rxg7+!

A nice simplification. White is not winning, but now has good chances to hold.

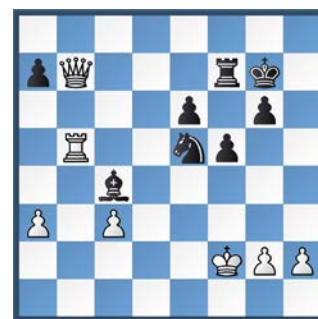
## 25...Kxg7 26.Bh6+ Kg8 27.Bxf8 Rxf8 28.Qg3 Kg7 29.Qc7+

29.Qe5+ may be an improvement, since the Rook is not provoked to f7, the square it wants to go to.

## 29...Rf7 30.Qxc5 Nd5 31.Qd4+ Kg8 32.Qe5 Nf6 33.Qb8+ Kg7 34.Rxb5 Nd7!

Offering a perpetual on the Queen.

## 35.Qb7 Ne5



Position after 35...Ne5

## 36.Qxf7+?!

The draw is objectively the right choice. The capture is an attempt to continue the fight, but 36.Qa6 is a better try.

## 36...Nxf7

White will shuffle his rook around, trying to work a passer. It should not be enough. Black must keep in mind the defensive resource of sacrificing his Bishop (or Knight) to liquidate White's last pawn

and reach a drawn endgame.

**37.Rb7 a6 38.Rc7 Bb5 39.c4 Ba4 40.Ra7 Bb3 41.c5 Bd5 42.Rxa6 Ne5 43.Ke3 Kf6 44.g3 Nc6**

44...g5!, intending ...e6-e5 and ...f5-f4.

**45.h4 Ke5 46.Ra8 Be4 47.Re8 Nd4 48.a4 Bc6 49.Rg8 Bxa4 50.Rxg6 Bd1 51.Rg8 Nc6 52.Rh8 Kd5 53.h5**



*Position after 53.h5*

**53...Kxc5?**

53...Bxh5 54.Rxh5 Ne5 with excellent drawing chances. [FK]

**54.h6 Bh5 55.Rg8 Ne7 56.h7 1-0**

**William Schill II (2200) –  
Jason Yu (2023) [E05]**  
Seattle Seafair Seattle, WA  
(R3), July 23, 2016  
[William Schill]

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 dxc4 7.Qc2 Nc6**

7...a6 is what I expected to see, so that after 8.Qxc4 Black can play 8...b5 and Bb7.

**8.Qxc4 Ne4 9.Ne5 Nd6 10.Qa4 Nb8**

**11.e4**

Strange to say this is not the best move! Now Black gets some play against the center.

**11...f6 12.Nd3 Nf7 13.Be3**

A larger inaccuracy.

**13...e5 14.d5 Nd7 15.Nc3 Nb6 16.Qc2 Nc4**



*William Schill selfie. Photo credit: William Schill.*

This invader will get kicked out eventually.

**17.Bc1 a6 18.a4**

Maybe I did not need to keep that knight out of 18.a3?!

**18...f5 19.b3 Ncd6 20.Nc5 Ng5 21.h4 Ngxe4 22.N5xe4 Nxe4 23.Nxe4 fxe4 24.Bxe4 h6**

[Diagram next column]

White has quite a strong attack now, and indeed if I had bothered to analyze a sacrifice, things would have ended



*Position after 24...h6*

quickly.

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25.Bb2 Bd6 26.Rfe1! Re8 27.Re3

27.f4 was my plan and it DOES work, but only if I had noticed Bxg7+! after Bh7+

27...b6 28.b4 a5 29.b5 Bb7 30.Rae1 Bb4 31.R1e2 Bc5 32.Bh7+ Kh8 33.Rxe5 Rxe5 34.Rxe5 Bd6 35.Rh5 Qe8 36.Rxh6 Qe1+ 37.Kh2 Be5



Position after 37...Be5

38.Be4+

Finally some fun.

38...gxh6 39.Bxe5+ Kg8 40.Bh7+ Kf8 41.Qf5+ Ke8 42.Bg6+ Kd8 43.Qf8+ Kd7 44.Bf5# 1-0

Addison Lee (1914) –  
Cameron Leslie (2055) [E32]  
Seattle Seafair Seattle, WA  
(R4), July 24, 2016  
[Cameron Leslie]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0 5.Nf3

I wasn't too sure what to play exactly after this so I decided to open the position as rapidly as possible.

5...d5 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Bg5 c5

Here I continued with the aforementioned policy of opening the position ASAP.

8.a3 Bxc3+ 9.Qxc3

[Diagram top of next column]

9...h6?!

I've played several games in the Qc2 Nimzo line and I've experienced how dangerous the Black initiative can be so I decided to jettison the c-pawn. Objectively probably dubious. 9...c4 This



Position after 9.Qxc3

is what everyone else in my database has played. I still like my move, offering the pawn for development and the bishop pair.

10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Qxc5 Nc6 12.e3 Qg6

Offering a second pawn to keep the White king in the center.

13.Rc1

13.Qxd5, taking looks very dangerous. The computer thinks White can get away with it but my chess sense tells me that in a practical game this wouldn't be very prudent. 13...Be6 14.Qb5 a6 15.Qxb7 Qc2. After some natural moves the position becomes quite critical and only computer lines are saving White.

13...Re8



Position after 13...Re8

14.b4?!

I thought that during the game this was just a little too much. White needs to get developed pronto. 14.Be2 Good idea to get castled although I don't think my opponent was ready to play with his king in the middle after... 14...Qxg2 15.Rg1

Qh3 16.Qxd5 despite the king in the middle White is much better here and Black's initiative has petered out.

14...Be6 15.Qd6

It seems like my opponent had planned to play b5 to dislodge the knight but it doesn't work due to...15.b5 Rac8 16.bxc6 (16.Rd1 b6 17.Qc3 Na5+) 16...Rxc6+

15...Rac8

Now Nxd4 is threatened.

16.Rd1 Qc2

The queen enters with decisive effect.

17.Bd3?

Panic. The sober Qc5 was better.

17...Qc3+18.Ke2?

Another panic move. Rd2 was better although still tough for White. 18.Rd2 Qxa3 19.0-0 with a slight edge to Black.

18...Bg4?

This is an understandable move, dialing up the pressure but probably inaccurate. 18...Qxa3 19.Rb1 Bg4 20.Qc5 Qa2+ 21.Kf1 Ne5+

19.Kf1?

Now it's all over.

19...Nxd4! 20.Qxd5



Position after 20.Qxd5

Loses instantly to a mate in five if you want to try and solve it. No real hope in other moves though, White is busted.

20...Qxd3+ 21.Rxd3 Rc1+ 22.Ne1 Be2+ 23.Kg1 Rxe1#

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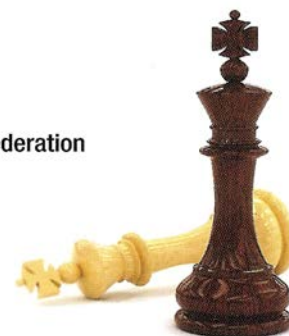
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**Joshua C. Sinanan**

National Master  
President, Washington Chess Federation

3610 218th St. SW  
Brier, WA 98036

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





**0-1**

1.d4 a6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Bg5 Nf6  
5.e3 h6 6.Bf4 Bb4+ 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.a3  
Be7 9.Bd3 dxc4 10.Nxc4 b5 11.Nce5 c5  
12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.Rc1 Bb6 14.0-0 Bb7  
15.Qe2 Nh5 16.Ng5

## 16...Nxf4?

### Accepting the challenge.

**17.Bh7+ Kh8 18.exf4 Qe7 19.Qd3 Qf6**  
[Diagram top of next column]

## 20.h4?

Losing his advantage. White should play 20.Bg6!! 20...Nc6 (20...fxg6 21.Nxg6+ Kg8 22.Ne7+ Qxe7 23.Qh7#) 21.Bxf7 Qxg5 (21...hxg5 22.Ng6+ Qxg6 23.Qxg6 Rxf7) 22.fxg5 Nxe5 23.Qd6 Rxf7 24.Qxb6 Bd5, winning.

20...Nc6



Position after 19...Oxf6

20...hxg5 21.hxg5 Qxf4 22.Qh3 Qxg5  
23.Be4+ Qh6 24.Bxb7 Qxh3 25.gxh3  
Ra7 $\bar{e}$  leaves Black with a tiny edge after  
26.Nxf7+ Rxf7 27.Rc8+ Kh7 28.Be4+  
Kh6 29.Rxb8 Bd4.

21.Nxc6 hxc5 22.hxc5 Qxf4 23.Qh3  
Bxf2+??

23...Oxg5 24.Be4+ Oh6+

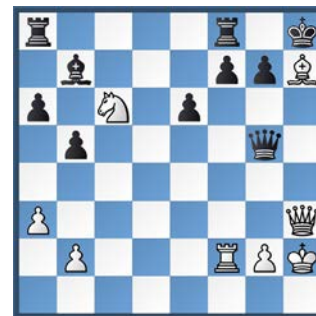
**24.Rxf2 Qxc1+ 25.Kh2 Qxg5**

**[Diagram top of next column]**

## 26.Rf6!!

The move Bryce missed, perhaps? If Black wishes to fight on, he can try 26...Qg4 27.Qxg4 gxf6 28.Be4 though White's advantage is quite large.

1-0



*Position after 25...Oxg5*

## 2016 Pan American Youth

**By Monica Olaru**

Sophie Velea is the 2016 Pan American Youth chess champion for girls under age eight. The tournament took place in Montevideo, Uruguay, July 24-31, 2016.

With this win she earns the title Woman Candidate Master (WCM) and becomes the official USA representative at this year's World Cadets' Championship in Batumi, Georgia, as well as at the Pan American 2017 in Costa Rica!

## Washington Women's Championship

September 17-18, 2016

### Highest finishing Washington resident seeded into the Invitational Section of the 2017 Washington State Championship

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

**Format:** 4 Round Swiss. One Section.

**Time Control:** 30/90, SD/30, d10.

US Chess September 2016 rating supplement will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating.

Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion.

**Prize Fund:** \$975 (based on 20 paid entries).

1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100, 1st U1800 \$75, 1st U1600 \$75, 1st U1400 \$75, 1st U1200 \$75, 1st U1000/Unr \$75.

**Entry Fee:** \$50 if postmarked or online by 09/14, \$60 after 09/14 or at site. Free entry for WGMs.

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

**Rounds:** Saturday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM.

**Byes:** One half-point bye available. Request before end of round 2.

US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted.

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

**Entries:** Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

**Mail To:** Joshua Sinanan, 3610 218th Street SW, Brier, WA 98036-8087.

**Phone:** (425) 776-1626. **E-mail:** [joshsinanan@gmail.com](mailto:joshsinanan@gmail.com).

**Online Registration:** [www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration](http://www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration).



*Sophie Velea at the 2016 Pan American Youth Championship. Photo credit: Monica Olaru.*

It was a tough competition with representatives from 18 countries. Sophie played against national representatives from Honduras, Peru, Bolivia, Columbia, Mexico, and the USA.

Also playing were Stephanie Velea, who finished in fifth place in the U10 girls, and Anne-Marie Velea, twelfth place U12 girls.

## Chess Vignette

By Karen Schmidt

In January 2014 *Seattle Weekly* ran a story about chess in Westlake Park, in downtown Seattle. (“**In the Disquiet of Downtown, a Community of Chess Players Thrives.**”) It was a long and interesting story, which I recently enjoyed reading since Westlake is one of my new haunts.

I have been a Chess Mom for many years while my son was playing scholastic chess in Seattle. More recently I’ve been a lone female chess player — especially the past year in Pioneer Square, and the past two months at Westlake Park. I am happy to report that coffeehouse and street-chess are alive and well in downtown Seattle.

I had been looking for a place to play casual chess games for a long time. In May 2015 I stumbled upon a casual chess club at a Starbucks in Pioneer Square. I was killing time for an hour while waiting for a book to be repaired; the bookbinder had suggested I go have coffee or go shopping and return in an hour to pick up my book. After I paid for my Pike Place Roast and turned around to get cream, I was stunned and thrilled to see three

chess games in progress in the cafe — and about six more guys watching. I stood and watched the games for about half an hour — players come and go to play the winner — then I advanced to sitting at the table watching for another fifteen minutes or so. Finally I took a big breath of courage and asked the group of twelve or so men, “Can girls play?” They got a huge kick out of that — and invited me in to play. I have been playing there at least one day on the weekend for the last year. To my knowledge, I am the only girl in their boys’ club. If I did not have to work fulltime to support myself and my house, I would probably be there every day!

This year of casual chess play has resulted in many benefits to me and my chess game: the making of great chess friends; huge improvement in my chess game, even though I often learn from losing games; the ability to see the board and move more quickly; and the acquaintance of several extremely interesting chess players.

The players at Occidental Park, the Pioneer Square Starbucks, and Westlake Park (at 4<sup>th</sup> and Pike) encompass a wide range of personalities, skill levels, and ethnicities: young kids, 20- and 30-somethings, retired, Hispanic, Filipino, Asian, Russian, Danish, WASP,

### Vancouver Open

October 22-23, 2016

**Site:** Hilton Vancouver Washington, 301 West 6th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660. (855) 213-0582.

**HR:** \$159.00 Single/Double, \$179.00 Triple, \$199.00 Quad until 10/01. 1-360-993-4500, mention Chess Tournament.

**Format:** 5 Round Swiss. **Two Sections:** Open and Reserve (under 1800).

**Time Control:** Rd 1 G/60, d10, Rds 2-5 40/120, SD/30, d10.

US Chess October 2016 rating supplement will be used to determine pairings and prizes.

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

**Prize Fund:** \$1,630 (based on 60 paid entries).

**Open:** 1st \$380, 2nd \$280, 1st U2000 \$120, 1st U1800 \$120

**Reserve:** 1st \$280, 2nd \$180 1st U1600 \$90, 1st U1400 \$90, 1st U1200/Unrated \$90

**Entry Fee:** \$75 if postmarked or online by 10/19, \$85 after 10/19 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

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

**Rounds:** Saturday 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 6:00 PM; Sunday 10:00 AM, 3:30 PM.

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

US Chess and WCF/OCF/ICA memberships required, other states accepted.

Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 6. US Chess Junior Grand Prix event.

Northwest Chess Grand Prix event. NS. NC. W.

**Entries:** Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

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

**Online Registration:** [www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration](http://www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration).

and more. (No women!) As virtually the only female player, it occurs to me that I might eventually find a boyfriend or — God-forbid, another husband — in this manner. However, as the saying goes, “The odds are good, but the goods are odd.”

Chess players tend to be quirky, myself included. They also tend to be highly intelligent, good at math, and musical.

In these chess vignettes for *Northwest Chess Magazine*, I will be writing brief sketches about several of the most interesting chess characters I have met in the past year or so. They will include: an 80-year-old Latvian chess legend who beat Bobby Fisher in real life when they were both teenagers; a young African-American who improved his chess game while recovering from a bullet wound to the neck (the bullet will be forever lodged in his neck, but Eddy seems to have turned his life around); a young film director who lived in Pioneer Square and daily came to play chess during his lunch hour; a Seattle park manager who plays chess on his lunch and breaks; a Russian-immigrant professional classical guitarist who plays chess on the side, and holds Bobby Fischer as his idol... and others.

I decided a few months ago that these stories need to be told. I am excited about sharing them with the *Northwest Chess* readership. Think of the highly-recommended 1993 movie, “Searching for Bobby Fischer,” and the wonderful true-life people portrayed in the movie. It was the true story of Josh Waitzkin, at the time a ten-year-old chess prodigy in NYC who was the highest-ranked in the United States for his age. Max Pomeranc played young Josh in the movie based on the book written by Josh’s father, Fred Waitzkin. Laurence Fishburn playing Vinnie in Washington Square Park was my personal favorite. Josh is now an International Master, martial artist, and author.

I myself plan to keep on playing chess — improving my mind, strategy and confidence — as long as I live! I am looking forward to sharing these personal stories with you.



**Keep  
submitting  
articles,  
games, and  
photos!**

## **Washington Challenger's Cup** October 29-30, 2016

**Highest finishing Washington resident in the Open Section seeded into the 2017 Washington State Championship**

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

**Two Sections:** Open and Reserve (under 1800).

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

**Reserve:** 5 Round Swiss. **Time Control:** Rd 1 G/60, d10, Rds 2-5 40/120, SD/30, d10.

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

**Prize Fund:** \$1,700 (based on 60 paid entries).

**Open:** FIDE rated 1st \$400, 2nd \$275, 1st U2100 \$125, 1st U1900 \$125.

**Reserve:** 1st \$250, 2nd \$180, 1st U1600 \$115, 1st U1400 \$115, 1st U1200/Unrated \$115.

**Entry Fee:** \$75 if postmarked or online by 10/26, \$85 after 10/26 or at site. Free entry for GMs, IMs, WGMs.

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

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

Reserve: Saturday 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 6:00 PM; Sunday 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM.

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

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

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

**Entries:** Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

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

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

**Online Registration:** [www.nwchess.com/online/registration](http://www.nwchess.com/online/registration).



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Prizes \$300, \$200, \$125, U1900 \$100, \$75

**Class B (1600-1799)** EF \$90 / \$100 / \$110  
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$125, U1700 \$100, \$75

**Class C (1400-1599)** EF \$90 / \$100 / \$110  
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$125, U1500 \$100, \$75

**Class D (1200-1399)** EF \$90 / \$100 / \$110  
Prizes \$300, \$200, \$125, U1300 \$100, \$75

**Class E (1199 & Under)** EF \$80 / \$90 / \$100  
Prizes \$200, \$125, \$100, U1000 \$100,  
U800/Unrated \$75

**Medal Only** EF \$55 / \$65 / \$75  
Medals awarded to top two in each class.  
(Juniors Under age 21 only)

Reentry for 1/2 of your original entry fee.

Rated players add \$45 to play up one class  
only (can't play up two classes).

Free entry to GMs, IMs, and WGMs.

Canadians may pay C\$ at par (no coins) for  
entry fee only.

**Entries/Information:**

**Send entries to:** Dan Mathews  
WCF Tournament Coordinator  
749 Somerset Lane  
Edmonds, WA 98020-2646  
**Phone:** (425) 218-7529

**E-mail:** [danomathews01@gmail.com](mailto:danomathews01@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to  
Washington Chess Federation.

**Embassy Suites Seattle North/Lynnwood**  
20610 44th Avenue West

Lynnwood, WA 98036-7701, Phone (425) 775-2500

**Online Registration at** [www.nwchess.com/online/registration](http://www.nwchess.com/online/registration)  
**Pay by credit/debit or PayPal.**

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

**Rating:** US Chess rated. Master/Expert/Class A sections also FIDE rated (except G/60 games). US Chess November rating supplement will be used to determine class sections. Higher of US Chess or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Foreign ratings used for players with no US Chess rating. Unrated players may only win 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes in Master section, or unrated prize in Class E.

**Registration:** Friday 9:00-10:00 AM for 3-day schedule, or 3:00-3:30 PM if entering with one half-point bye. Saturday 8:00-8:30 AM for 2-day schedule, or 8:30-9:30 AM if entering 3-day schedule with two half-point byes. Two half-point byes available at registration or before end of round 2. Play any two days, if taking two half-point byes.

**Rounds:** 3-day schedule: Fri: 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Sat 11:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Sun 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM. 2-day schedule: Sat 9:00 AM, 11:45 AM, 2:30 PM, then join 3-day schedule with round 4 at 5:30 PM.

**Time Controls:** 3-day schedule: 40/120 and SD/30 with 10-second delay. 2-day schedule: G/60 with 10-second delay (rounds 1-3), rounds 4-6 same as 3-day schedule. Please bring tournament chess set, board, and digital clock.

**Miscellaneous:** Current US Chess membership and WCF/OCF/ICA membership required in all sections. Other States Accepted. Memberships may be paid at time of registration. NW Grand Prix event. Trophies Plus Grand Prix Points: 20. US Chess Junior Grand Prix. No Smoking. No Computers. Wheelchair accessible.

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

**Hotel Info/Rates:** \$139 Run of the house. Call (425) 775-2500 and request the WCF 2016 Washington Class Championship block. Group Code: 374388. The cut-off date for reservations at the discount is November 11, 2016 at 5:00 PM local time.

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

**Washington Class Scholastic (Nov 25):** A separate flyer/entry form/online registration link will be published on the NWC website for this event, or contact: David Hendricks, WCF Scholastic Coordinator, 2439 220th Place NE, Sammamish, WA 98074-6418, phone: (425) 868-3881, e-mail: [DavidCHendricks@comcast.net](mailto:DavidCHendricks@comcast.net).

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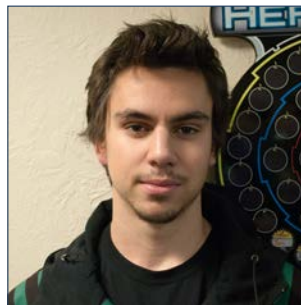
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# 2016 Best State Magazine/ Newsletter

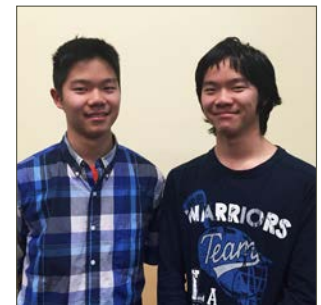
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**Kibitz all you want, Rudyard, only those  
 two guys are allowed to move the pieces.**



**2016 Barnes & Noble Blitz Round Robin**

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# Oregon Chess News

## Oregon Senior Chess Championship

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—July 9-10, 2016

So here I was—in my element, so to speak—grown men doing grownup chess. At last, this was my chance to escape the pitfalls awaiting the unwary older player who tries to hold his own against younger players and quick time controls, the

Senior Open, where ratings are real and many of the players remember the 50's!

Did it make a difference? Not the least. Pumped by having won the Portland Chess Club's monthly, Tuesday Quads, wherein I regained 102 recently lost rating points, I imagined surging once again into the 1700's, my face on the cover of *Northwest Chess* with prize money in hand—a short lived dream that, in reality, turned out to be a nightmare.

When I awoke, I found I had managed only one win and a draw (both to lower

rated players), and those only by the purest of luck. Gone were the wild dreams of appearing on the cover of *Northwest Chess*, clutching a fistful of money—and gone were 48 of my rating points (1654-1606—1.5/5). My only consolation during this tournament was winning a prize for what I am good at—being old!

It seems being over 70 has its perks when playing in senior tournaments, where prizes for just being old are given to those who no longer can play chess—sort of to ease the pain of being non-competitive (not in all cases). And so I received \$47 for just showing up, as did Arliss Dietz (1510-1500—1.0/5), whose final score was a half point lower than mine, and who, at the age of 80, is judged of less value than someone a decade younger, taking home a \$31.25 prize.

If we extrapolate the thinking on this, I should be worth about \$19 and change if I live to be 90—which I hope to do, just to take home the free cash. But as I mentioned, not all age prizes equate with sympathy awards, Carl Koontz (1937-1957—3.5/5) being a case in point, as he tied for second/third place with six other players (that's right! Six!)—Mike Janniro (2014-2021—3.5/5), David Bannon (1832-1859—3.5/5), David Yoshinaga (1731-1758—3.5/5), William Gagnon (1608-1662—3.5/5) and Geoff Kenway (1381-1506—3.5/5). But prizes are awarded based on the greater amount, and as Koontz would have received less (\$46.87) were he to have taken tie money, he was instead awarded \$47 for being over 60—and 13 cents is nothing to sneeze over!

As for the other players who turned in 3.5/5 scores, each received an award based on his rating—thus, Janniro and Bannon split the second/third prizes to the tune of \$46.87; Yoshinaga and Gagnon split the U1800 first/second for 46.87 each; Kenway walked away with \$62.50 as the sole winner of the U1600 prize; while Antonio Artuz (1595-1607—2.5/5), Mike Hasuike (1607-1618—2.5/5) and Jerrold "I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It's Over" Richards (1479-1523—2.5/5) split second place in the U1600, each wondering how to invest the \$10.42 bonanza.

The U1400 prize money went to two players—\$62.50 to Harry Buerer (1227-1240—2.0/5) for taking first, and \$31.25



Carl Haessler holding the championship cup. Photo credit: Brian Berger.





*Morgan The Dog keeps an eye on the competition while listening to Jerrold Richards' concerns.  
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

to Ian Fudalla (1257P-1175P—0.0/5) for being the only other U1400 player. And here is hoping that Fudalla will not get the impression that losing all of his games in other senior tournaments will still guarantee him a payoff—I mean, like just being old.

Having gotten to the first place winner through the back door, so to speak, I shall now reveal that it was for the third time in a row—that-ever-late-for-any-date, Carl

Haessler (2200-2205—5.0/5), who found his opponents' resistance futile in the face of such a GIGANTIC force of nature looming over them—and also a couple of tables nearby.

Being that all prizes were adjusted downward for the less than hoped for 40 player attendance (25 was the actual figure, up from last year's 18), Haessler had to settle for \$125 (not \$200) for his five-win rout, and the satisfaction of knowing his name will again be engraved on the Senior Open trophy for the third time—a fact that some future archaeologist will undoubtedly unearth when digging through the remains of the site of the once Portland Chess Club.

A couple congratulations are in order. Geoff Kenway, who took the U1600 first place prize, also upped his rating by 125 points! Kenway, who is himself a TD, and runs some fun quick-chess tournaments at Coffee Time and the Lucky Lab in the downtown Portland area, has in the past struggled with pushing his rating to a higher level, might have found the formula to do so if his performance at this tournament is any indication of his developing skills.

Secondly, the man who lives with the world's best chess player, Morgan The Dog (rated FIDE 3100), showed in this tournament that his not-so-secret wish to reach 1600 before it's too late, might just become a reality. His score of 2.5 translated into gaining 44 more rating

points towards that goal—some of them being mine, by outplaying me in a very well orchestrated endgame that even grabbed Morgan's attention. Other victims being a 1676 player that he held to a draw, and a 1500+ player whom he beat.

The tournament was handled nicely by Chief TD Mike Morris, with some assistance from Mike Janniro. And I plan to be there next year, even if only to collect some money for being old (older).

**David Thomas Bannon (1832) –  
Mike L. Hasuike (1607) [B23]  
PCC Senior Open Portland, OR  
(R1), July 9, 2016  
[Ralph Dubisch]**

**1.f4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Bc4 e6 5.0–0 c5 6.Qe1**

6.d4!? cxd4 7.Nxd4, when the position is perhaps very slightly favorable to White. Black's attempt to turn a greedy profit with the tactical maneuver 7...Qb6 backfires badly: 8.Be3!



*(#Diagram-analysis after 8.Be3)*

8...Qxb2 (8...Nc6 9.Nf5 Qxb2 10.Nxd6+! Kf8 11.f5! with a very nasty attack.) 9.Nb5 Qxa1 (9...Ne7 10.Nxd6+ Kf8 11.Nxc8 Nbc6 12.Nxe7 Nxe7 13.e5 Qxa1 14.Bd4 Rd8 15.Bxa1 Rxd1 16.Rxd1+-) 10.Nc7+ Ke7 (10...Kd7 11.e5 Bf8 12.Nxa8 Nc6 13.Qd3 Nh6 14.Nd2 Qb2 15.Rb1) 11.e5!



*(#Diagram-analysis after 11.e5)*

11...Bxe5 (11...d5 12.Bd4) 12.fxe5 Qxe5 13.Bd4 White is winning.

**6...Ne7 7.Nc3 Nbc6 8.a3 0–0 9.d3 d5 10.Ba2 d4?!**

10...b6

**11.Ne2 h6 12.Ng3 Kh7 13.h4 Ng8**



*(L) Mike Janniro vs Raymond Fletcher III.  
Photo credit: Brian Berger.*



Position after 13...Ng8

#### 14.Qe2

14.e5 favors White: 14...Nge7 15.h5 Nd5 16.Ne4 b6 17.b4! with play ranging across the board.

#### 14...Bf6?

14...e5 15.f5±

#### 15.Kf2?

15.h5 Bh4?! (Or 15...Bg7, but if this is best, what was 14...Bf6?) 16.hxg6+ fxg6 17.Nxh4 Qxh4 18.Rf3± The main effect of the bishop maneuver to h4 has been to split the black pawns and open the h-file against the black king.

#### 15...e5

15...Bxh4!? 16.Nxh4 Qxh4 17.Rh1 Qd8 when White certainly has enough compensation, but at least Black has the pawn to show for it.

#### 16.f5 Nce7?

16...Bd7

#### 17.Ng5+! Kg7



Position after 17...Kg7

#### 18.Qg4?

18.Kg1 Qe8 19.Nh5+! gxh5 20.Qxh5 and the rook lift, Rf3, makes life very difficult for Black.; 18.Nh5+ immediately is also strong.

#### 18...Qe8 19.Ke2?

19.Kg1

#### 19...Kh8 20.Nh5 Bg7?

20...Bd7 21.Qf3 gxh5 22.Qxh5 Bxg5 23.hxg5 Nxf5! 24.exf5 e4!∞ highlights the problem with 19.Ke2.

#### 21.Nxg7 Kxg7 22.Nf3

22.Qg3!?

#### 22...Nf6 23.Qg3 Nh5?

23...Nxf5!? 24.exf5 Bxf5 25.Kd1 e4 is very complicated.

#### 24.Qxe5+ f6 25.Qh2?

25.Qxc5 Nxf5 (25...Ng3+ 26.Kf2 Nxf1 27.Kxf1 gxf5 28.Nxd4 fxe4 29.Bf4. White has good activity for the exchange.) 26.Kf2±

#### 25...Nxf5! 26.Kf2?

26.Qc7+ gets the queen out of the kingside tomb.

#### 26...Nfg3



Position after 26...Nfg3

#### 27.Re1 Bg4

27...g5∞; 27...Be6!?

#### 28.Bd5?

28.Bf4! Nxf4 29.Qxg3 Bxf3 30.Qxf4 Bh5 31.Qc7+ (31.g4 g5) 31...Kh8 32.Qxc5 Rc8 33.Qxd4 Rxc2+ 34.Kg1±

#### 28...Rb8

28...Qa4!?

#### 29.Bf4 Nxf4 30.Qxg3 Bxf3?

30...Nxd5! 31.exd5 Qd7 32.Nd2 Rbe8 33.Rxe8 Rxe8 34.Re1

#### 31.Qxf4 Bh5



Position after 31...Bh5

#### 32.g4

32.Qc7+ Kh8 33.Qxc5 (33.g4 Bxg4 34.Qf4 Qd7 35.Qxh6+ Qh7 36.Qxh7+ Kxh7 37.Kg3?) 33...Qe5 34.Qxa7 likely favors White, but is not without risk.

#### 32...g5 33.Qc7+ Bf7 34.h5

34.hxg5 fxg5

#### 34...Qe5 35.Qxe5 fxe5 36.Bxf7

36.Kg3

#### 36...Rxf7+ 37.Ke2 ½-½

Carl A. Haessler (2200) –  
Brent Lee Baxter (1912) [A13]  
PCC Senior Open Portland, OR  
(R3), July 9, 2016  
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 b6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.0-0 Nbd7 6.Nc3 Be7 7.d3 0-0 8.e4 dxe4 9.dxe4 e5 10.Qe2 c6 11.Rd1 Qc7 12.Nh4 g6 13.f4 Re8?!

13...exf4 14.Bxf4 Ne5∞

#### 14.f5 Ba6 15.g4

15.Bg5±

#### 15...Rad8

15...Nxe4? 16.Qxe4 Bxh4 17.g5+—

#### 16.Bf3?! Nc5

16...Nxg4! 17.Bxg4 Bxh4

#### 17.g5 Rxd1+ 18.Nxd1 Nfd7



Position after 18...Nfd7

#### 19.b4?!

19.Nf2

#### 19...Nb7 20.a3 Nd6 21.Nb2 Bc8?!

21...c5

#### 22.Bd2 Nf8 23.Bg4 c5 24.b5 Bb7 25.Bf3 gxf5?

25...f6!??

#### 26.exf5 e4 27.Bh5 e3 28.Bxe3 Ne4

28...Bd8!?

#### 29.g6?

29.f6!?

#### 29...fxg6 30.fxg6



Position after 30.fxg6

#### 30...Bxh4?



30...hxg6! 31.Nxg6 Bd6 32.Nh4 (32. Nxf8 Rxf8 33.Rd1 Bxh2+! 34.Qxh2 Qg7+ 35.Qg2 Ng3!-+) 32...Qg7+ 33.Qg4 (33. Ng2 Re5+.) Black has a tremendous amount of activity, while White's forces are having coordination issues.) 33... Qxg4+ 34.Bxg4 Nf6 White's minor pieces are in trouble.

### 31.gxh7+ Qxh7??

Either of the other two recaptures is superior. For example, 31...Nxh7 32.Bxe8 Qg7+ 33.Qg2 Nhg5! 34.Bc6! Bxc6 35.bxc6



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 35.bxc6)

35...Bf2+!! 36.Kh1! (36.Bxf2?? Nh3+ 37.Kf1 Nd2+! snags the queen.) 36... Ng3+! (36...Bxe3 37.Rf1 is also equal, but; 36...Qxb2?? 37.Rf1 wins for White.) 37.hxg3 Qh7+ 38.Qh2 Qe4+ 39.Qg2 Qh7+ with a draw by repetition.; 31... Kxh7 32.Bxe8 Qg7+ 33.Qg2 Qc3! 34.Qh3 Qg7+ 35.Qg2 Qc3

### 32.Qg4+??

32.Bxe8 Qg7+ 33.Qg2 Bf6 34.Qxg7+ Kxg7 35.Rf1+-

### 32...Ng5 33.Bxg5



Position after 33.Bxg5

### 33...Qe4??

33...Re4 34.Bf4+ Qg7 35.Qxg7+ Kxg7 36.Rf1 Ng6 White's pawns are too vulnerable.

34.Bxh4+ Qxg4+ 35.Bxg4 Re4 36.Bf3 1-0

## July 2016 PCC Quad 45

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—July 26, 2016

It was 23 players in five sections that filled half the playing room at the Portland Chess Club's July Quad 45 tournament—with so many young players in attendance that it looked to be a scholastic event. This in fact, is partially true, as this was a dual-rated tournament. And as such, popular among the younger players who also like the fast time control, which is Game 45 with a 15 second delay.

This time control equates to a substantial perk for the young crowd, seeing as how their neural-pathways are unclogged by years of accumulated residue that we oldsters have to force our thoughts through—the one main reason that I fear these hyperactive munchkins. It seems all my most embarrassing defeats have come at the hands of these seemingly benign entities. It makes one want to yell, "Is there a neural-pathways Roto-Rooter in the house?" Not really—but you get my drift.

Alright, enough venting, let's get on with the meat-and-potatoes of this article—who did what to whom, and how badly! No, that would make it too personal; let's just cover who the winners were, and maybe a subjective comment or two on my part. Subjective I do very well, especially when I have little idea of what I am talking about.

Leading the roster of winners was none other than that "irresistible force," and one can also say, "immovable object,"

Nick "The Raptor" Raptis (2389-2390—3.0/3), who won the upper quad, and who gives munchkins nightmares and the older player concerns about approaching dementia. How's that for subjective?!

One wonders, also, what could possibly attract a master-rated player to such an event, given that he has near zero competition, and near zero compensation?—with a great deal to lose if he makes a slip with a low-rated player. My guess is, that it is not the chess book that each winner is allowed to select, or the \$10 discount on his/her next entry, but something I have known since I first met the man—he loves the game, and he does not mind sharing his knowledge with even the lowest-rated of players.

Quad two saw three players tie for first place—Stephen Buck (1731-1730—2.0/3), Konner Feldman (1584-1617—2.0/3 and the guy who is relating all of this to you, Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1606-1630—2.0/3). It was something of a get-even match for this writer, in that both Feldman and Mike Hasuikie (1617-1568—0.0/3) cleaned my clock at our last meeting. And although it was sweet revenge, I owe a great deal to luck, as I felt I was being outplayed in my game against Hasuikie—who supplied all three of us with a win.

James Tsai (1570-1585—2.5/3), one of the friendliest of guys, but lately a tiger over the board, came in as the winner of the third quad, earning the above mentioned book, plus a \$10 discount



(L) Neena Feldman vs Nick Lafond. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

# Portland Rapid and Blitz Championship

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—July 23, 2016

Two new annual events have been added to the Portland Chess Club's schedule of tournaments, the brain-child of Micah Smith, who was Chief TD at this first ever Portland Rapid and Blitz Championship, held on Saturday, the 23rd of July. And helping in the registration process was Mike Janniro, who also participated as a player in the blitz half of this fun event.

Attendance is always hard to calculate with new events, but one would have thought the Rapid portion of this offering might have gotten the competitive juices flowing in more than just the fair turnout of the younger crowd that appeared. Their numbers, added to the whole, made for a rather anemic field of twelve players. Nonetheless, though this event lacked in numbers, it did not lack in aggression, with fierce battles fought throughout the five rounds.

Given that I am no longer young, or even reasonably old, but of an age at which most young people would wonder what keeps me upright and breathing, this event—and especially the Blitz—are not strong draws for me to participate, as I need more calculating time than the seeming nano-seconds between moves that is the handiwork of the younger set. As it is, even tying my shoelaces taxes my calculating skills.

But the need for keeping the chess world informed of the latest important happenings—what Morgan The Dog is up to, how Jerrold Richards is coming along in reaching his lifetime goal of 1600, what the weather is like on tournament days, and how I got beaten in my last game—necessitated my being at this gathering. So, while being on hand to report these things, I bravely entered the fray.

To my surprise, I somehow made it through my first two games unscathed—the second against the master of mysterious moves, David Yoshinaga (1600-1600—3.0/5). Showing a respectful benevolence to his elder opponent, but mostly the miscalculation of a queen exchange, he allowed me to finish the game with a few more fanciful flourishes, leaving him somewhat flustered. But alas, time-driven oversights on the subsequent games eliminated any hope of a prize. (Note: all rating gains or losses in the Rapid are Quick ratings only.)



(L) Ryan Richardson vs Nick Raptis. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

on his next entry. And David Ma (1271-1327—1.5/3), this quad's lowest rated player, came in second, his prize being a substantial jump in his rating (56 points), by drawing and winning a game against players hundreds of points above him. Nice job, David!

Besides Raptis coming in with a perfect score, Marcus Leung (1200-1301—3.0/3) kicked his rating up 101 points by doing the same in the fourth quad, with Megan Cheng (1208-1203—1.5/3) and Ian Fudalla (1175P-1178P—1.5/3) tying for second place. Along with winning his choice of a chess book, he was also eligible for one of the big trophies given to scholastic players, but decided to opt for one of the smaller ones, normally given to scholastic players who win or tie their quad by at least a score of 2.5/3. Now how humble is that?

Because of the uneven turnout (23 players) and a number of unrated and very low rated players, a seven-player Swiss was formed to handle this group. Mike Lilly, Assistant Chief TD, offered to play those players needing to take a mandatory one point bye, with players in rounds two and three taking him up on his offer. And the winner of this cobbled together group was Nick Lafond (Unrated-1300P—3.0/3), who also turned in a perfect score and was playing in his first US Chess rated tournament.

Tying for second place were Erin Cheng (867-875—2.0/3), Neena Feldman (833-843—2.0/3) and Gabe Needham (602P-619P—2.0/3). Second place

winners normally get a \$5 discount on their next entry, so this was split 3-ways, giving each \$1.75 to lessen the monetary burden of their next entry fee. And Micah Smith, Chief TD, would like it to be known that Ben Needham (Unrated-583P—1.0/3), Kevin Wu (Unrated-324P—1.0/3) and Christopher Morrissey (Unrated-100P—1.0/3) were also playing in their first US Chess rated event. Welcome to the Portland Chess Club, guys!

A blitz tournament is usually scheduled (if enough players are interested) right after the Quads, but as a change, it was decided that a simul would be a nice replacement for one Saturday of the year. And seeing that Lifetime Master Carl Haessler, recently the winner of the Oregon State Championship (who has now won this five times) was available for the asking, it was arranged that he would take on all comers on this particular Saturday.

Perhaps because of not enough pre-press about the event, or the ennui of summer, the turnout was less than hoped for—only three players showed. But Haessler was still game, and to make it more exciting for him, it was agreed to set a time control of G/45;d15, the same as the quads. The end result being two wins and a loss, that being to Michael Moore (who just happens to be taking lessons from the “Raptor” himself—Nick Raptis) who took home a trophy to remember the day.

Thanks to the team of Mike & Mike (Micah Smith and Mike Lilly) for a fun tournament.





*David Yoshinaga giving Brian Berger the -evil eye. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

Although having mentioned his intention to play in a tournament in Washington, Nick "The Raptor" Raptis (2320-2321—5.0/5) must have thought the \$39 he won for taking first in the Rapid was too good to pass up. His nearest competitor rating-wise was Michael Parsons Jr. (1818-1798—3.0/3), who tied with David Yoshinaga, Maxwell Barnes (1157-1303—3.0/5) and Gregory Battis (1105-P-1192P—3.0/5) for third place. But the prizes awarded were for U2000, going to Parsons and Yoshinaga (\$10.50 when split), and the U1700 and U1400 for Barnes and Battis, each winning \$16.50—so they might as well have mailed Raptis his check, allowing him to still play up in Washington.

Alex Yeo, who came in with a rating of 1498, emerged the second place winner with a score of 4.0/5, and a gain in rating of 35 points (1533), allowing him the whole of the prize fund (\$27) for his win.

Next up was the Blitz tournament, that drew players from the Rapid, and three extra players who dropped in just to play the Blitz. Needless to say, "The Raptor" could not turn down a first place prize of \$35.75, so decided to dominate the eleven players who entered. And so, for 16 of the 16 games played, Nick "The Raptor" Raptis showed the competition why his blitz rating on entering was 2422, by winning all 16 of his games! But again, his rating reflected a slightly over 400 points advantage from his closest rated competitor!

Second place and first U2000 were won in a tie by Jeff Austin (1759-

1835—11.0/16) and Steven Witt (1864-1899—11.0/16), both winning eleven of their 16 games, and both receiving \$22 for their efforts. And it was Chris Burris (1725P-1706—8.0/16) who took the U1800 prize of \$16.50 for dominating half his games, followed by Maxwell Barnes (1388-1413—7.0/16) taking the last of the prize fund money (\$13.75) for his seven wins, which placed him first in the U1500 category.

Next year it is hoped that these new events will bring a larger turnout, as word-of-mouth is spread about how much fun was had at this year's tournament.

## July 2016 PCC Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—July 30, 2016

It was still early in the registration process (9:30 am), and already there were nearly 20 players wandering around the playing room of the Portland Chess Club, waiting for the start of the monthly Game 60 tournament. It was somewhat of a surprise, given that usually only eight or nine players would have normally arrived by that time, the rest waiting until nearly the deadline to enter.

Seeing that some recent Game 60s have had attendance figures not much higher than the 20 who had already registered (probably due to family vacations during the summer), this was a good sign. And sure enough, by the time the games were in progress, 35 players were facing off with each other—except for one mandatory bye given to the youngest and lowest rated player in the Lower Section, Liam Lancaster (332P-329P—0.0/4), who unfortunately found himself outclassed in the balance of his games.

Not so his brother, Carter Lancaster (1542-1657—3.0/4), who played in the Open Section, and tied for second and third with Arjun Thomas (1977-1990—3.0/4),



*(L) Chris Burris vs Michael Parsons. Photo credit: Brian Berger.*

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(L) Carter Lancaster vs Aaron Nicoski. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

Ryan Ackerman (1942-1947—3.0/4), Moshe Rachmuth (1934-1944—3.0/4) and Brent Baxter (1865-1882—3.0/4)—each receiving \$18 for their three wins. The overall winner being Jason Cigan (2170-2183—4.0/4), who powered his way through four wins and danced away with a \$90 first prize.

The young Lancaster has shown steady improvement in every tournament he has chosen to enter (gaining a huge 115 rating points this time out, propelling him from a C-class player to a B-player), exhibiting great positional awareness and tactical savvy. As one of his victims this time (1626-1623—2.0/4), I can attest, you cannot give this lad a minute advantage without paying the price—which I did, when I decided to try for a win out of a drawn game. Bad decision!

As has been mentioned in previous Game 60 articles, when there are more than 30 players, those players are broken into two sections—this time designated as

the Open Section and the Lower Section, the first containing 18 contestants and the latter, 17. And falling into that Lower Section as the highest rated player was none other than the now semi-famous companion to Morgan The Dog—Jerrold “I Just Want To Make 1600 Before It’s Over” Richards (1523-1508—3.0/4).

Having missed some tournaments because of pressing obligations in the mid-west, Richards looked hale & hearty and ready to get a little closer to his wish of becoming a 1600 player. Morgan The Dog also looked in good form, considering the late hours he keeps in his ongoing attempts to raise the level of Richards’ play—a task that may very well entail the entire amount of time Richards has allotted himself to obtain his goal. And although this time out he tied for second with Ian Olsen (Unrated-1522P—3.0/4) and Geoff Kenway (1504-1515—3.0/4) by finishing with two draws and two wins, his success was against much lower rated players—but not necessarily easy

ones, making it hard to gauge his progress this time around.

As an aside here, I would like to mention that Richards had a letter published in the August edition of “Chess Life,” concerning rating floors. I’ll not go into what he said in this article, but if you are interested, check out the issue and see what was on Richards’ mind. And I can say, from personal experience, that whatever is on Richards’ mind, it is ALWAYS interesting.

And before I get completely off the subject of the Lower Section, tribute must be given to the section’s first place and U1400 winner, Ian Fudalla (1130P-1277P—3.5/4), who gained substantial rating points while earning \$74 for doing so.

A personal note here: Mike Lilly, the Chief TD for this tournament (who also was being assisted by Danny Phipps, a member who has volunteered to learn the ropes of a TD), and one of the mainstays of the Portland Club’s volunteer TDs, decided give up his TD activity, informing the Board of such. It seems that, during the course of this tournament, peopled as it was with so many players, some complaints were aired, and there was some confusion about those who received prize money.

These incidents troubled Lilly in a very personal way—and so the letter to the



(L) Liam Lancaster vs Patrick Morrissey. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



**Carl Haessler** Chess Master  
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chessworksNW.com



Board. To lose a much-liked TD, who at every chance sought to recruit new members for the club, gave of his time willingly, and will be much missed, is a sad occasion. Let us hope at some point Mike Lilly will reconsider his roll as TD. But for now, it seems Lilly will be content to play in more tournaments, and meet and greet new faces on casual chess nights at the club.

## Aaron Grabinsky at the Denker Tournament of High School Champions

By Nancy Keller

Indianapolis, Indiana—July 30-August 2, 2016

Only the state top high school players are invited after nominations by the state chess representatives. Aaron Grabinsky, a senior, is at least 300 rating points above all the other high school players in Oregon and won the right to attend after winning the Oregon Scholastic Chess Federation State Tournament in April. Thus the small town of Coquille earned the distinction of supplying the 2016 Oregon Denker representative.

In Indianapolis, Indiana, there was no racing for Aaron in chess. He had to play six intense chess games lasting at least four hours with some moves requiring sometimes up to 30 minutes of thinking. The tournament was held over four days and was concurrent with the Barber Middle School National Championships and Girls Tournament of champions who also had single state representatives. For Oregon, the middle school champion was Gavin Zhang and girls representative Neena Feldman, both from Portland.

Aaron (2361) started with a misstep as he drew with a lower rated Jason Zhou (2075) from Missouri. Then rounds two and three he was back in his groove as he beat Abhinav Suresh (1955) from Nebraska and Ryan Sowa (2214) from Rhode Island. Fourth round, he was paired up against the slighter higher-rated Washington Champion, Bryce Tiglon (2376). The last time they clashed in Washington Open in Seattle, they ended in a draw. With methodical skill, Aaron managed to outplay Tiglon and won this time.

He entered the fifth round ranked #3 in the rankings and had high hopes as he faced John Burke (2503) from New Jersey in round five. Aaron had an edge as

he worked through the middle game and then one subtle mistake turned the tables and he ended the round in defeat. Hopes for the \$5,000 scholarship were dashed.

However, Aaron was determined to still finish with as many wins as he could. In the last round, he was paired once again against another competitor from the west coast, Michael Wang (2282) from Northern California and won. The competition had been so brutal and tight that the first place finisher did not come out unscathed. He had only five out of six points which put Aaron's 4.5/6 points in second place with five other players. The top players had each taken bites out of each others' scores so Aaron ended up

in the top. He won \$234 to be used for college.

The "Oregon Team" also did well as the scores from all three Oregon players were added together. Oregon won first place in the U1900 class (scores were averaged between the three state chess players to give a team rating).

Now Aaron and the other two best Coquille chess players are about to enter the US Open Chess Tournament also being held in Indianapolis followed by the North American Youth Chess Tournament held in neaby Windsor, Canada (4.5 hours is a short drive to a major chess tournament for Coquille players). Stay tuned!

**Note:** Aaron leaves for college to study with Susan Polgar at Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri (he got chess scholarships to attend there). He was back in Oregon August 13, 2016 for a short week before moving to St. Louis for college.



**TRY AS HE MIGHT, GEORGE'S POWERS OF OBSERVATION  
COULD NOT REACH HIS OPPONENT'S SIDE OF THE BOARD.**

# Idaho Chess News

## 2016 Idaho Blitz Chess Championship

The 2016 Idaho Blitz Chess Championship was held at the LaQuinta Inn & Suites in Boise, Idaho on July 16. Twenty-one players attended the event, which is a sharp decline from 2015 when the event was held on the first Saturday of January and brought 37 players.

The Organizer and Chief Tournament Director, Jeffrey Roland, thought that having the event in the summer plus having guaranteed prizes and low entry fees would make things better for everyone, including and especially for out-of-state players. Last year, on January 3, 2015 two players drove around 500 miles from Bellingham, Washington over snow and ice for much of the way to play in the event, and they said they wanted to come back again!

The decision to have this event in mid-July was mainly to consider travel. Logically, it would seem to be easier to travel great distances in better weather. But it seems that summer also means vacations, camping, fishing, hiking, all things outdoors, and most students are not in school either, which means no busloads of kids from Hailey (or anywhere else).

The event lost \$303.00 bottom line (for ICA this is actually a pretty large sum),

owing to a high cost of the site combined with guaranteed prizes, low entry fee of only \$10, and low turnout. Still, blitz chess (five-minute with no time delay) is fun. It is for those who participate that events are held anyway, so if one looks at this event in the big picture, realizing that chess is a game to make men and women happy, this event was a big success because it did just that—made the players happy! But if one measures success only in terms of numbers and money alone, it was not.

## Results

This was a single-section tournament with players with US Chess ratings from 2378 to 109 (a very wide range) and one unrated player. FM David Lucky (Eagle, 2378-2380) won the event with a perfect score of 16.0/16 and \$75.00. Cody Gorman (Eagle, 1792-1804), who was also Assistant Tournament Director, was second place with 13.0/16 and taking home \$50.00. James Wei (Boise, 1285-1556) and Kevin Xu (Boise, 1291-1400) each tied for third-fourth place and split the third prize to win \$12.50 each, which was still more than the entry fee.

## Games

Did someone say games? How could this be for a blitz tournament? Well it turns out that Jeffrey Roland placed his

video camera on select games throughout the event and was able to capture ten complete games for consideration in this issue.

**FM David Lucky (2378) –  
Cody Gorman (1792) [B00]**

Idaho Blitz Chess Championship  
Boise, ID (R4.1), July 16, 2016  
[Ralph Dubisch]

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 b6 3.Nf3 Bb7 4.Bd3 Nf6**



*Position after 4...Nf6*

**5.Nbd2**

5.e5!? probably produces a fairly reliable advantage for White, for example if 5... Nd5 6.c4 Nb4 7.Be2 Black's knights are getting clogged up on the queenside and White's space edge looks useful. Other black knight retreats also have evident issues.

**5...c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Ne4 d6**

**8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Be7**

**9.Bg5 Qc7 10.exd6 Bxd6 11.dxc5 bxc5 12.0-0**

**12.Nxd6+ Qxd6 13.0-0±**

**12...Be7 13.Qa4?!**

White embarks on a highly suspect queen adventure that could have ended up costing him the game. 13.Bxe7±

**13...Nb6 14.Qb5??**

**14.Qc2 c4 15.Be2**

**14...a6 15.Qb3**



*Position after 15.Qb3*



*L-R: Justin He, Kevin Xu, August Mussler-Wright, Christopher Baumann..  
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland*



15...Na5??

Black misses winning a piece here: 15...c4! 16.Bxc4 Na5-+

16.Qa3 Nbc4 17.Bxc4 Nxc4 18.Qa4+ Qc6 19.Qxc4 Qxe4 20.Qxe4 Bxe4 21.Bxe7 Kxe7



Position after 21...Kxe7

22.Rfd1?!

22.Ne5

22...Bxf3 23.gxf3 Rhd8

23...Rab8

24.b3 Rxd1+

24...a5

25.Rxd1 Rd8?!

With all the entry points along the d-file well-covered, this might be a good time for Black to activate the rook elsewhere, perhaps with ...a5-a4.

26.Rxd8 Kxd8 27.Kf1 Kd7 28.Ke2 Kd6 29.Kd3 f5 30.Kc4 e5 31.b4



Position after 31.b4

31...cxb4

Not forced. 31...g5 32.a3 (32.bxc5+?? Kc6 33.Kb4 a5+! 34.Kxa5 (34.Kc4 looks to lose more slowly, as Black has more pawn moves and White will shortly need to abandon the extra forward c-pawn — after which Black's structural advantages and better king position are decisive.) 34...Kxc5-+ Black can force a passed pawn very quickly, while White's a-pawn has to deal with obstructions and opposition.) 32...Kc6 33.Kb3 Kb5 34.c4+ Kb6 A draw is the logical result here.

32.cxb4 g5 33.a4 h5 34.b5 axb5+ 35.Kxb5

[Diagram top of next column]



L-R: FM David Lucky (1st place), Kevin Xu (3rd-4th place tie), James Wei (3rd-4th place tie), Cody Gorman (2nd place). Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland



Position after 35.Kxb5

35...e4??

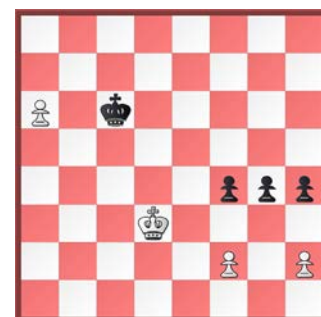
35...f4! (or 35...g4) 36.Kc4 g4



(#Diagram-analysis after 36...g4)

a) 37.Kd3 Kd5 38.Ke2 e4! 39.fxe4+ (39.fxc4 hxc4) 39...Kxe4 40.a5 (40.f3+ Kd4 41.fxc4 hxc4 42.Kf2 Kc4 43.Kg2 Kb4 44.h4 gxh3+ 45.Kxh3) 40...Kd5 41.Kd3 h4 42.a6 Kc6

[Analysis Diagram top of next column]



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 42...Kc6)

43.Ke4 g3!; b) 37.a5 e4! 38.fxe4 h4 39.a6 Kc7 40.e5 g3 41.fxg3 hxg3 42.hxg3 fxg3 43.e6 g2 44.a7 g1Q 45.a8Q



Analysis

(#Diagram-analysis after 45.a8=Q)

45...Qc5+! 46.Kd3 (46.Kxc5 A somewhat unusual stalemate.) 46...Qd6+ 47.Kc3 Qxe6; c) 37.fxg4 hxg4 38.a5 e4 39.a6 Kc7 40.Kd4 e3

[Analysis Diagram top of next page]



L-R: Paul Smit, James Inman. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

Analysis



(#Diagram-analysis after 40...e3)

41.Kd3 exf2 42.Ke2 Kb6 (42...g3?? 43.h4+-) 43.Kxf2 Kxa6 44.Kg2 Kb6 45.h4 gxh3+ 46.Kxh3;

**36.fxe4 f4**

36...fxe4 37.Kc4+-

**37.Kc4**

37.a5 also works. 37...Kc7 (37...g4 38.a6 h4 39.a7) 38.a6 g4 39.a7 Kb7 40.e5 h4 41.e6 g3 42.a8Q+ Kxa8 43.Kb6 g2 44.e7 g1Q 45.e8Q#

**37...g4 38.Kd3 h4 39.Ke2 Ke5 40.a5 g3 41.fxg3 fxg3 42.hxg3 Kxe4 43.gxh4 Kd5 44.h5 1-0**

**Cody Gorman (1792) –  
FM David Lucky (2378) [C01]**  
Idaho Blitz Chess Championship  
Boise, ID (R4.2), July 16, 2016  
[Ralph Dubisch]

1.d4 d5 2.e4 e6 3.Be3 dxe4 4.Nd2 Nf6  
5.c3 b6 6.f3 Bb7 7.fxe4 Nxe4 8.Ng3 Be7  
9.Bd3 Nxd2 10.Bxd2 Nd7 11.0-0 0-0  
12.Qe1 c5 13.Qg3 cxd4



Position after 13...cxd4

**14.cxd4**

14.Ng5! Bxg5 a) 14...Nf6? 15.Rxf6! with attack.; b) 14...g6 15.Nxh7! Bh4 (15... Kxh7 16.Rxf7+!! Rxf7 17.Qxg6+ Kh8 18.Qxf7 Nf6 (18...Qg8 19.Qh5+ Kg7 20.Bh6+ and mate in two.) 19.Bg5 Qg8 20.Bxf6+ Bxf6 21.Qh5+ Kg7 22.Qg6+ Kf8 23.Qxf6+ Qf7 24.Qxd4+-) 16.Qh3

Kxh7 17.Rf4 Kg7 18.Rxh4 Rh8 19.Bh6+ Rxh6 20.Rxh6 with complications and a material imbalance that appears to favor White.; 15.Bxg5 f6

(15...Qb8 16.Bf4 e5 17.Bh6)

Analysis



(#Diagram-analysis after 15...f6)

16.Qh3 g6 17.Qxe6+ Kg7 (17...Rf7? 18.Bc4; 17...Kh8 18.Bb5! fxg5 19.Bxd7 Qc7 20.cxd4±) 18.Bf4

[Analysis Diagram top of next page]

18...Nc5 (18...dxc3 19.Rad1 White gives away all his pawns for piece activity... What century is this, anyway?) 19.Qh3 Nxd3 20.Bh6+ Kg8 21.Bxf8 dxc3 22.Qe6+ (22.bxc3 Kxf8 23.Qxh7 Be4 24.Rad1 f5 25.Qxg6 Qd5±) 22...Kxf8 23.Rxf6+ Kg7 24.Raf1 Qd4+ 25.Kh1 c2





L-R: Kitt Gorman, Samir Saltaga. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

Analysis



(#Diagram-analysis after 18.Bf4)

and White's attack appears to produce a perpetual check but no more.

14...Bf6 15.Bg5 Bxf3 16.Bxf6 Nxf6  
17.Rxf3 Qxd4+ 18.Kh1 Rad8 19.Raf1

Rd5 20.Bb1 Nh5 21.Qh3 g6 22.g4 Ng7  
23.Qg3 Qe5 24.Qf2 Rd7 25.h4 Qd4  
26.Qg3 h5



Position after 26...h5

27.gxh5

Two alternatives are marginally more promising: 27.Rf4 Qd5+ 28.Be4 Qc5 29.Bxg6 hxg4 30.Qxg4; 27.Bxg6 hxg4 28.Rxf7 (28.Bxf7+ Rfxf7 29.Rxf7 Nf5) 28...Rdxf7 29.Bxf7+ Kh8

27...Nxxh5 28.Qxg6+

(Time Forfeit)

28.Qg5 Rd5 29.Rxf7 Rxxg5 30.Rxf8+ Kh7 31.R8f7+ Ng7 32.hxg5 Qh4+ 33.Kg2 Qxg5+ Black must be happy, but there's still stuff going on.

0-1

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## 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.

## Seattle Fall Open

### September 23-25 or September 24-25

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:** \$35 by 9/21, \$45 at site. SCC members—subtract \$10. Members of other dues-req'd CCs in BC, OR, & WA—subtract \$5. Unrated players FREE with purchase of 1-yr US Chess & 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.:** US Chess & WCF required. NS. NC.

Sept. 11, Oct. 9

**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:** US Chess, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

Sunday Tornado

Sept. 17, Oct. 15 [date change]

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

Saturday Quads

October 8

**Format:** 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 10/5, \$16 at site. (-\$2 SCC mem., -\$1 mem. other NW dues-req'd CCs). **Prizes:** Memb (SCC, WCF, US Chess). **Reg:** 9-9:45a.m. **Rds:** 10-12:45-3:30-6. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4—commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess memb. req'd. NS, NC.

SCC Novice

October 21-23

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

SCC Team in Reno!!

## 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:** 9/2, 9, 16, 23, 30.

**Autumn Leaves:** 10/7, 14, 21, 28.

**November Rains:** 11/4, 11, 18.

**Package Express:** 12/2, 9, 16.

*Insanity is coming to the SCC in  
December*

## SCC

## Championship

Sept. 9, 16, 30; Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov. 4

**Format:** 7-rd Swiss held on Friday evenings. **TC:** 35/100 and 25/60. **EF:** \$32 if rec'd by 9/7, \$40 thereafter. SCC memb. req'd—\$30 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 9/14 through 10/12. **Byes:** 4 (1 in rds 5-7, commit by 10/14). **Misc:** SCC/US Chess memb. req'd. NS. NC.

# Upcoming Events

♠ denotes 2016 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

♠ **Sep 3-5** 66th Annual Oregon Open, **Portland, OR.** <http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/TA.htm>.

♠ **Sep 10** Tacoma CC Tornado, **Tacoma, WA.** Place: Uncle's Games in the Tacoma Mall across hall from JC Penny. Format: 5 round Swiss. Time Control: G/30;d5. Entry fee: \$25.00 in advance, \$30.00 at site, \$22.00 for TCC members. Prize fund: 1st \$45.00, 2nd \$40.00; Top Half & Bottom Half. Registration: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Rounds: 10:00, 11:15, 12:30, 2:00, 3:30. 2 half point byes available. US Chess and WCF or other state membership required. NS NC W. Entries/Info: Gary J. Dorfner, 8423 E. B St., Tacoma, WA 98445, phone (253) 535-2536, email [ggarychess@aol.com](mailto:ggarychess@aol.com) or web [tacomachess.org](http://tacomachess.org).

♠ **Sep 15,22,29 and Oct 6,13** Spokane Fall Championship, **Spokane, WA.** Site: Gonzaga University (Jepson Rm. 108). Registration: 6:15-6:45, Sept 15. Rounds: All rounds start at 7 p.m. E.F. \$16. US Chess rated. Format: 5 round Swiss. Time Control: G/90 (with 5 second delay). Contact: David Griffin, [dbgrffn@hotmail.com](mailto:dbgrffn@hotmail.com).

**Sep 17-18** Washington Women's Championship, **Seattle, WA.** (See Half-page Ad page 12)

♠ **Sep 17/Oct 15** Portland CC Quad 45, **Portland, OR.** Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. 3-round quads, G/45;d15. Some/all sections may run as a 3-round Swiss with more than four players. The most current ("live") US Chess regular ratings are usually used for section placement. On-site registration runs from 9-9:45am. Rounds are scheduled for 10am, 12:15pm, and 2:30pm. Rounds 2 and 3 can be started earlier if both players agree. Players who have a game go long can request extra time off before the next round. EF: \$15, PCC members \$10, \$5 discount for each additional family member who lives in the same household, free entry for players who are unrated in US Chess. US chess and NWSRS rated. US Chess membership is required and can be purchased during on-site registration. Winner of each section receives \$10 discount on the entry fee for one of the next three PCC Quad 45 or Tuesday Quads. If there is a six or seven player Swiss, the runner-up receives \$5 discount. Scholastic awards: trophy for winning section with 3 points; smaller trophy for winning or tie for first with 2.5; medal for winning or tie for first with 2 or 1.5. OSCF State Qualifier. Optional blitz tournament afterwards.

♠ **Sep 24/Oct 29** Portland CC Game in 60, **Portland, OR.** Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR. 4SS, G/60;d5. If 30 or more entries the field will be divided into 2 sections by ratings. EF: \$20, \$5 discount for PCC Members. US Chess rated; OCF/WCF/ICA and US Chess membership required, OSA. No advance entries. Reg: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Byes: 1/2 point bye if requested at reg. Players who have a game go around the full time can request extra time off before the next round. Prizes: If one section (\$200/b20) \$60-\$40-\$30; U1800, U1500/unrated \$35 each. If two sections - upper section \$75-50-25 (b/15); lower section \$65-35; U1400/unrated \$50 (b/15). No tiebreakers (prizes split). OSCF State Qualifier. Info: email [email@pdxchess.org](mailto:email@pdxchess.org), phone 503-246-2978, website [www.pdxchess.org](http://www.pdxchess.org).

♠ **Oct 1-2** Norman Friedman Memorial Tournament & National Chess Week Celebration, **Hailey, ID.** Hosted by: BCSD Chess Club and ICA. Site: Community Campus, 1050 Fox Acres Rd., Hailey, Idaho. 5 SS, TC: G/120; d5. One Section: Open, US Chess rated. EF: \$25.00 (\$45.00 Family); IMs, FMs, GMs free. Reg & check in: 8:30 - 10 am or online at [idahochessassociation.org](http://idahochessassociation.org). US Chess & ICA/OCF/WCF mem req., can be purchased at reg. Opening Cer. 9 am, Rd times: 10/1 10 am, 2 pm, 7 pm, 10/2 9 am, 1 pm. Byes: Rd 1-4. Prizes: \$500 guaranteed! 1st - 2nd place Overall \$150, \$100, U1800, U1600, U1400, U1200, U1000 each: \$50/class. Side events: 9/30 Blitz, unrated, 8SS, G/5; d0. EF: \$10. Reg: 6-7pm, Rnds continuous begin 7 pm, trophy awards. 10/1 Scholastic, unrated, 5 SS, G/30; d0, EF: \$10. Reg: 8:30 - 9am, Rnd times: 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm, 4 pm. Trophies: 1st place each grade. Info.: ICA, [www.idahochessassociation.org](http://www.idahochessassociation.org). Contact: Adam Porth, SCHS, 1060 Fox Acres Rd., Hailey, ID 83333.

♠ **Oct 1-2** Eastern Washington Open, **Spokane, WA.** Location: Jepson Center, Rooms 108-109, Gonzaga University (one block southwest from St. Al's church). 5 round Swiss System. Registration: 8:30-9:30, Oct. 1. Rounds: 10-2:30-7; 9-1:30. Time control: Game/120; d5. Entry fee: \$21 if received by 9/30, \$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](http://www.spokanechessclub.org).

♠ **Oct 8-9** National Chess Day Portland Fall Open, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR. Format: US Chess rated, two days, two sections (Open and U1800), 5-round Swiss. Time Control: 40/90, SD/30, d5. Byes: 2 half-point byes available if requested before 1st round. Entry fee: \$35, \$10 discount to PCC members. Registration: 9:00-9:45 a.m. on Saturday. Limited to first 50 entrants. Rounds: Saturday 10:00, 2:15 & 6:30; Sunday 10:00 & 2:15. Players who have a game go around the full time can request extra time off before the next round. Prizes: \$650 based on 40 total entries. Open: 1st \$150, 2nd \$100, U2000 \$75; Reserve: 1st \$100, 2nd \$75; U1600, U1400, U1200/unrated each \$50. No tiebreakers used, prizes split between players with the same results. Memberships: US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA required and can be purchased or renewed at registration, OSA. OCF Invitational Qualifier. OSCF State Qualifier.

**Oct 21-23** 34th Annual Western States Open, **Reno, NV.** (See Full-page Ad page 3)

♠ **Oct 22-23** Vancouver Open, **Vancouver, WA.** (See Half-page Ad page 13)

♠ **Oct 29-30** Washington Challenger's Cup, **Seattle, WA.** (See Half-page Ad page 14)

♠ **Nov 25-27** Washington Class Championships, **Lynnwood, WA** (See Full-page Ad page 15)



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