



\$3.95

July 2018

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

GM Andrey Gorovets



Northwest Chess

July 2018, Volume 72-07 Issue 846

ISSN Publication 0146-6941

Published monthly by the Northwest Chess Board.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Office of Record:
Northwest Chess c/o Orlov Chess Academy 4174 148th Ave NE,
Building I, Suite M, Redmond, WA 98052-5164.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Seattle, WA
USPS periodicals postage permit number (0422-390)

NWC Staff

Editor: Jeffrey Roland,
editor@nwchess.com

Games Editor: Ralph Dubisch,
chesscoaching@gmail.com

Publisher: Duane Polich,
publisher@nwchess.com

Business Manager: Eric Holcomb,
eric@holcomb.com

Board Representatives

David Yoshinaga, Josh Sinanan,
Jeffrey Roland, Adam Porth, Chouchanik Airapetian,
Brian Berger, Duane Polich.

Entire contents ©2018 by Northwest Chess. All rights reserved.
Published opinions are those of the contributors and do not necessarily
reflect the views of the editor or the Northwest Chess Board. Northwest
Chess is the official publication of the chess governing bodies of the
states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

Event Announcement Rates (Upcoming Events listings)

Grand Prix events: \$35 for three consecutive listings of the same event. \$25 for two consecutive listings of the same event. \$20 monthly for events held every month (may include dates for current month and next month).

Other events: \$20 for one listing. \$30 for two listings. \$35 for three listings. (Must be consecutive listings of the same event.)

Please arrange payment for ads and Grand Prix fees of \$1.00 per player with the Business Manager.

Advertising & Copy Deadline

Ads and submissions must be received by the 5th of the month for the items to appear in the next issue (e.g., **July 5 for the August issue; August 5 for the September issue**).

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

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

On the front cover:

2018 Washington Open Winner GM Andrey Gorovets.
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

On the back cover:

Isaac Vega *really* likes penguins.
Photo credit: Josh Sinanan.

Chesstoons:

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

Submissions

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

Jeffrey Roland, NWC Editor
1514 S. Longmont Ave.
Boise, Idaho 83706-3732
or via e-mail to:
editor@nwchess.com

Northwest Chess Knights

Please donate today to help Northwest Chess!

Patrons, 2014-2018

Dale R. Wentz, Stephen Buck, Murlin Varner, Jennifer Sinanan in honor of Josh Sinanan, Gerard Van Deene, Washington Chess Federation, Idaho Chess Association, Ralph Dubisch, Russell Miller, August Piper, Jr., Catherine Smith.

Subscriptions / Memberships

(State membership included for individual residents of Washington, Oregon or Idaho.)

		Rate
Adult	1 year	\$ 30.00
	3 years	\$ 80.00
Junior	1 year	\$ 24.00
<i>Age U/21 at expiration</i>	2 years	\$ 43.00
Scholastic	6 months	\$ 14.00
Senior	1 year	\$ 25.00
<i>Age 65 or over</i>	3 years	\$ 65.00
Additional Family Members	1 year	\$ 10.00
<i>Residing at same address</i>	2 years	\$ 18.00
	3 years	\$ 25.00
Tournament/Trial	1 month	\$ 12.00
Canada	1 year	\$ 40.00
Foreign	1 year	\$ 60.00

Washington residents please add sales tax.

**Judged Best State Magazine/Newsletter
for 2009 and 2014-17 by Chess
Journalists of America!**



Table of Contents

2018 Washington Open Winner GM Andrey Gorovets	
Jeffrey Roland.....Front Cover	
Friday Night Blitz In Twin Falls	
Adam Porth.....3	
Seattle GM Summer Chess Camps (Full-Page Ad)	
Seattle, WA June - August.....4	
GM Hou Yifan Visits Seattle	
Josh Sinanan & Xuhao He.....5	
Washington Open (A Personal Account)	
Andrey Terekhov.....6	
Raelund Wins Inland Empire Open	
Kevin Korsmo.....15	

Washington vs. Oregon Challenge Match (Half-Page Ad)	
Seattle, WA Jul 13-15.....	15
Chess - It's More Than Just A Game (Full Page Ad)	
Jim Egerton.....	16
2nd Seattle Chess Classic (Full-Page Ad)	
Seattle, WA Aug 15-19, 2018.....	17
The Anatomy Of A Blunder	
Cleveland Ray Johnson.....	18
Vancouver Open (Half-Page Ad)	
Vancouver, WA Aug 11-12, 2018.....	19
Penguin Extravaganza	
Brian Berger.....	20
2018 BCC #18	
Jeffrey Roland.....	22
May 2018 PCC Game 60	
Brian Berger.....	24
68th Annual Oregon Open (Full-Page Ad)	
Portland, OR Sep 1-3, 2018.....	25
Northwest Chess Scanning Project	
Jeffrey Roland.....	26
2018 NW Grand Prix Report	
Murlin Varner.....	28
Seattle Chess Club Tournaments.....	30
Upcoming Events.....	31
Isaac Vega <i>really</i> likes penguins.	
Josh Sinanan.....	Back Cover

Friday Night Blitz in Twin Falls

By Adam Porth

Twin Falls—May 18, 2018

It was loud, it was fast, it was caffeinated. It was game night at Twin Beans in Twin Falls. The Idaho Chess Union hosted a Friday Night Blitz where 21 players gathered and played G/5; d0 amongst other folks playing Magic, Spender, and other card games.

Twin Beans, located in old downtown, was a nice venue where players could consume specialty crepes and coffee drinks throughout the evening. Barry Eacker was chief TD and was thrilled to be running an event which attracted scholastic, regular, and senior players.

After four hours of play, it was all Pocatello players at the top with Dib-Dab- Do DeWayne Derryberry winning first place and Nobel Ang winning second place. Both earned endgame books. This was very impromptu and very fun. We would like to encourage clubs to host events such as this to offer more chess opportunities.

Note: This game was submitted by DeWayne Derryberry. It was not from the tournament itself, but was from a warm-up game played minutes before the tournament started.—Editor.

**DeWayne Derryberry (1700) –
Nobel Ang (1250) [D00]**
Casual 5-Minute Blitz Warmup
Twin Falls, ID, May 18, 2018



Position after 16...Nxe5

17.Nxe5 Bxg4 18.Nxf7+ Kg7 19.Bh6#
1-0

**Please
remember
to keep
submitting
games,
articles,
photos, etc. to
editor@
nwchess.com.**

Seattle GM Summer Chess Camps

Camp 1, June 25 - 29: GM Gorovets
Camp 2, July 9 - 13: GMs Gorovets + Sadorra
Camp 3, July 30 - August 3: GM Mikhalevski
Camp 4, August 6 - 10: GM Mikhalevski

All camps conducted at Seattle Chess Club: 2150 N 107th St. Seattle, WA 98133

		
GM Andrey Gorovets	GM Julio Sadorra	GM Victor Mikhalevski
USCF 2607/FIDE 2515	USCF 2647/FIDE 2546	USCF 2643/FIDE 2582
Federation - Belarus	Federation - Philippines	Federation - Israel
1 st place or tie for first place in – 2013 U.S. Class Championship 2014 US National G-30 and G-60 Championship 2015 Southwest Open, Dallas, TX 2015 PanAm Intercollegiate Championship 2017 Manhattan Open	#1-ranked player of the Philippines Philippine's board 1 in World US Open Co-Champion (2013) Chess Olympiad (2014, 2016) World Cup Qualifier (2017)	Earned the IM title in 1993 and the GM title in 1996. Member of Israel Olympiad Team. Won or shared 1st place in many North American and European tournaments. Member of the Seattle Sluggers chess team in 2017+2018.

Tuition:	Fee per student: 2 days (minimum): \$200/day, 3-4 days: \$180/day, 5 days: \$150/day. Half-days: \$100 each, 3 days minimum. 10% Siblings discount. Max of 50 entries/camp. Payments do not roll over between camps.
Registration:	Register online at nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration and pay with credit/debit. Open to both juniors and adults, recommended US Chess rating of 1500+. Please specify dates in notes section when registering online. Cash or check made out to "WCF" accepted at site. Email and at-site registration also available.
Schedule:	8:30-9:00am: Arrival, warm-up games. 9:00-11:30am: Lectures, opening theory, puzzles, & training positions. 11:30am-12:30pm: lunch break, many food options available close by. 12:30-4:00pm: Games with GM analysis, middlegame strategy, endgame studies.

Questions? 206-769-3757 Josh Sinanan, WCF President joshsinanan@gmail.com

GM Hou Yifan Visits Seattle

By Josh Sinanan & Xuhao He

Grandmaster Hou Yifan, a four-time Women's World Champion and the current number one ranked female chess player, visited Seattle over the weekend of June 2-3, 2018. She gave three presentations to chess fans at Microsoft, Medina Elementary, and Amazon, including analysis of her games against World Champion Magnus Carlsen.

Throughout her talks, Ms. Hou emphasized the life lessons she has learned playing chess, the importance of dedication and hard work in pursuing her dreams, and the evolving role that chess continues to play in her life. Junior and adult attendees alike found inspiration in Ms. Hou's life story and personal journey from child prodigy to World Champion and chess ambassador.

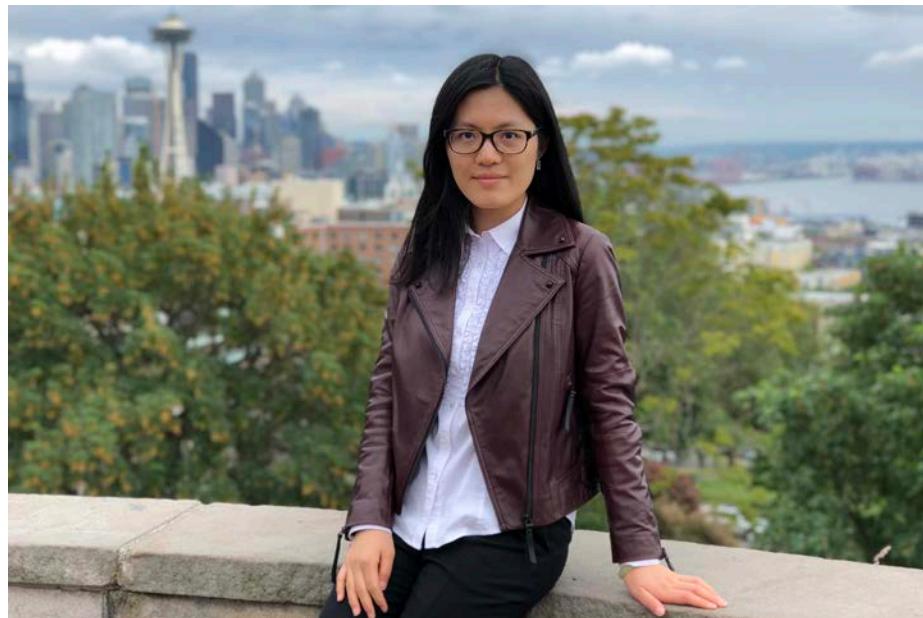
Here is some information about GM Hou Yifan:

The 24-year-old from China is the current World top-rated woman chess player with FIDE 2658.

She is the youngest ever female to qualify for the title of Grandmaster at age 14 and the youngest ever to win the Women's World Championship at age 16.

Recently Ms. Hou was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship and will continue her study of International Relations at Oxford University.

After her lectures and some time for Q&A, Ms. Hou played two simultaneous exhibitions and one blitz tournament during her first visit to Seattle.



GM Hou Yifan. Photo credit: Xuhao He.

Simuls:

Forty-eight players took part in the simul at Microsoft, which lasted two hours. About 20 moves in each game were played before games had to be adjourned due to time constraints. FM Anthony He, the highest rated participant at 2340, was the only player to claim an advantage against his illustrious opponent by winning a piece out of the opening in a tricky Rossolimo Sicilian.

The simul at Medina Elementary consisted of 22 players and lasted also for two hours, but with most games going the distance. Despite several high-rated players in attendance including Joseph Levine (1999), no one was able to score even half-a-point against the World Champion.

Blitz Tournament:

By comparison with the oversold Microsoft event the day before, the turnout at Amazon was quite a bit smaller, with only 20 players attending the lecture and the ensuing nine-round blitz tournament. Ms. Hou showed her class and dominated the field with a 9-0 performance, including wins over FM Anthony He, a two-time WA State Blitz Champion, Michael Shaw (1906), and Owen Xuan (1839). For their efforts, the top three finishers received modest cash prizes:

- 1st Place, 9 points, GM Hou Yifan \$300
- 2nd Place, 8 points, FM Anthony He \$200
- 3rd Place, 7 points, Michael Shaw \$100

The events at Microsoft and Amazon were a huge success and raised over \$3,000 for the Seattle Chess Club, a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation that promotes the educational benefits of chess in the Seattle area. The planning for these events was a joint effort between Xuhao He (Microsoft), Josh Sinanan (Washington Chess Federation), Florian Helff (Amazon), Gulin Goktepe and Miao Zhang (Medina Chess Club). Special thanks to the players, parents, and volunteers who came out to support these amazing events!

Special thanks to the organizers:



GM Hou Yifan. Photo credit: Xuhao He.



Washington Open

(A Personal Account)

By Andrey Terekhov

Seattle, WA—May 26-28, 2018

I found myself in Seattle during a long weekend — Monday was Memorial Day in the US. I was in the middle of a long business trip that spanned ten days and two countries, with my work schedule in the US starting only on Tuesday. Initially, my plan was to explore the great outdoors of the Pacific Northwest — mountains, forests, islands and all that. However, a few days before departure I found out that my trip coincided with the 2018 Washington Open and I decided that this opportunity was simply too good to pass.

I have never played chess in the US before, so I did not know what to expect. I knew that American tournaments were different. For example, I heard that the players are expected to bring their own board, pieces, and clock, but that did not sound like a big problem to me.

What I did not realize is how intense the American tournaments are. I have a theory that this has to do with the smaller number of vacation days that people generally get in the US. No one can afford the luxury of spending nine days in a row at a chess tournament if you only get 10-14 days of paid leave for the whole year! And so the 2018 Washington Open crammed seven primarily long-control games into three days.

I was uneasy about such a frenetic pace. I imagined thousands of ways in which the tournament could spiral out of control for me. I am not that young anymore... I did not play serious chess for several years... and I was supposed to start the tournament the next morning after a grueling ten-hour flight from Korea. But the urge to play chess outweighed all concerns and so I signed up.

Day 1

I arrived to the tournament venue early, when there were still precious few people in the hall other than the organizers. My first impressions were all positive. The tournament was held in a nice hotel in a small town Lynnwood, about an hour drive from Seattle. I was prepared to buy a clock, board, and a set of pieces, but the organizers provided plenty of spare ones, so I ended up either using those or relying on what my opponent brought.

The first round was the only rapid game of the tournament, 40 minutes per game with ten seconds delay per move. Now that “delay” seems to be a uniquely American thing, I have never seen it in my



Andrey Terekhov. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

35 years of playing chess, and I cannot say that I have completely adjusted to it throughout the tournament. More on that later.

Amazingly, in the first round I was paired with the only person I kind of knew in the field — WCM Mary Kuhner (1894). This and all other ratings quoted in this post are USCF, as not all of my opponents had FIDE ratings. My impression is that USCF ratings are on average slightly higher than FIDE ones. I did not have USCF rating prior to this tournament, so my FIDE rating was used as a proxy.

**Andrey Terekhov (2309) –
Mary Kuhner (1894) [A13]**
Washington Open Lynnwood
(R1), May 26, 2018
[Andrey Terekhov]

1.Nf3

Surprisingly, I knew that my opponent likes to play Stonewall—she published a few blog posts about last year’s Washington Open and I happened to read them! This explains the opening that is slightly unusual for me.

1...e6 2.c4 d5 3.g3 c6 4.b3 Bd6 5.Bb2 f6?

Wow, did not expect that! 5...Nf6 6.Bg2 Nbd7 and most likely White has to play 7.d4 anyway.

6.d4 Ne7

6...f5 Stonewall a tempo down might still have been a better option.

7.Bg2 0–0 8.0–0 Nd7 9.Nbd2 e5?

Did not expect it either!

10.e4

Computer evaluates this as close to winning.

10...exd4 11.Nxd4 Nb6 12.exd5 cxd5 13.Qc2??

Not the best. 13.cxd5 Nbxsd5 14.Qe2 is apparently best for White.

13...Be5?

13...Be5! 14.cxd5 Bxd4 15.Bxd4 Bf5! 16.Qb2 Nbxsd5, although it is still very good for White.

14.c5 Nd7??

14...Bxd4 15.Bxd4 Bf5!± Did not see this move at the board.

15.Ne6+ Qa5 16.Nxf8

Computer suggests 16.a3!! as best, but the variation 16...Rf7 17.b4 Qa6 18.Bxe5 Qxe6 19.Bd6 would be the easiest way to get disqualified for cheating.

16...Kxf8 17.Bxe5?

Bad technique. 17.Rfe1! Bxb2 18.Qxb2 Qxc5 19.Nf3 Nc6 20.Rac1 Qd6 21.Qe2 Nde5 22.Nxe5! fxe5 23.Qf3+ Ke7 24.Qxd5+-; 17.Rfb1!! is nice prophylaxis: 17...Qxc5 18.Qxh7 Bxb2 19.Rxb2+-.

17...fxe5 18.Rac1?

Even worse technique. 18.Rfe1! preventing both Nf6 and Nc6.

18...Nf6 19.Nf3 Nc6 20.Qb2 e4 21.Ne5 Qc7 22.Nxe6 bxc6 23.f3 Ba6 24.Rfe1 Bd3 25.Bf1+- Bxf1 26.Rxf1 Kg8 27.Qd4 Nh5?

Cannot be right.

28.Rc2 Re8 29.fxe4 Rxe4 30.Qf2

30.Rcf2 Nf6 31.Rxf6! gxf6 32.Qxf6 Qe7 33.Qxc6+– is something that I briefly considered, but did not dare to play at the

end of a rapid game.

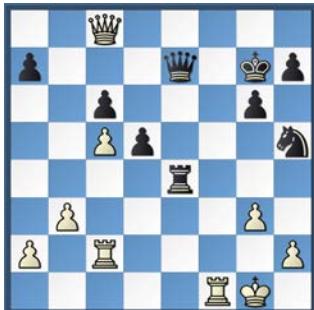
30...Qe7

□30...Nf6 and conversion is still not easy, especially in rapid.

31.Qf5 g6

31...Qe8□

32.Qc8+ Kg7



Position after 32...Kg7

33.Rcf2?

Must admit that I missed the opponent's next move. 33.Qxc6+—.

33...Qxc5 34.Qf8+

Fortunately, the position is still won.

34...Qxf8 35.Rxf8 d4 36.R8f7+ Kh6 37.Rxa7

Just grab the pawns while black knight is out of the game.

37...Ng7 38.Rc7 Nf5 39.Rxc6 Ne3 40.Rf4 Rxf4 41.gxf4 Kh5 42.Rd6 Nf5 43.Rd7 h6 44.a4 Kg4 45.a5 Kf3 46.a6 Ke3 47.a7 1-0

After the end of round one, I met IM Leslie Leow in the hallway, another person whom I knew only virtually. Leslie is originally from Singapore, the place where I live at the moment. A year ago I was proofreading a book, "Singapore Chess: A History, 1945-1990," and many of its pages were devoted to Leslie. I was surprised to find his name in the starting list, as I knew that Leslie quit chess many years ago. But there he was, playing again after a long hiatus. I thought, "What are the chances of two people with Singapore connection meeting at an American tournament?!" So I introduced myself and we shared many interesting conversations during and after the tournament.

Starting from the second round, the play switched to long control, two hours for 40 moves, followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game, plus that famous ten seconds delay starting from move one. I was paired with David Arganian (2051), a man about my age. He played a super-solid fianchetto against my Paulsen Sicilian and came up with an interesting plan, Nc3-e2 followed by c2-c4 and b2-b3. Somehow I have never seen it before and thus started burning time in the opening. I played some reasonable

moves and we reached a position that has occurred in many other games before, but I am sure neither of us knew it during the game.

**David Arganian (2051) –
Andrey Terekhov (2309) [B80]**
Washington Open Lynnwood
(R2), May 26, 2018
[Andrey Terekhov]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.g3 a6 7.Bg2 d6

7...Nf6 8.0–0 h5?! might be worth studying, specially for playing against weaker players in opens.

8.0–0 Be7

8...Bd7 might be a more precise move order: 9.Nce2 Nf6 10.b3 (10.c4 Nxd4 11.Qxd4 e5 12.Qd3 Rc8 13.b3 b5±) 10...b5. Delchev, Semkov, "The Most Flexible Sicilian." However, computer thinks White is better after either 11.a4 or 11.Bb2.

9.Nce2!?

Never saw this concept before, even though it is a good one. White wants to build b3+c4.

9...Nf6 10.c4 0–0

10...Nxd4!? to force 11.Qxd4.

11.b3 Bd7 12.Bb2 Rac8 13.Rc1 Qb8

At this point I was quite optimistic about my chances, since White cannot prevent b7-b5. However, my opponent played

14.Nxc6 Bxc6 15.Nf4!?

15.Re1! with the same idea as in the game — the pawn is untouchable! 15.Nc3 b5 is the only thing I considered during the game.

15...Nd7?

Panic. 15...b5! Somehow I did not seriously consider this move, but in fact White does not really threaten anything on the kingside, e.g. 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Nh5 Be7 (17...Bg5 18.Qg4 Bh6 19.Nf6+ Kh8 20.Qh5 bxc4 21.Rxc4 Bb5 22.Rxc8 Rxc8). But I got scared.

15...e5?! 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.exd5 Bd7± was the other line that I considered during the game. Better than the text; 15...Nxe4? 16.Bxe4 Bxe4 17.Bxg7! is of course not a great idea, although even here Black is not immediately lost: 17...Kxg7 18.Qd4+ Kg8 19.Qxe4 Rc5!±.

16.Nd5! Bxd5 17.exd5??

Surprisingly, 17.cxd5!± promises more for White, thanks to the fact that h3-c8 diagonal opens up for the bishop.

17...e5□ 18.f4 f5 19.g4??

Looks energetic, but now Black has a good game. 19.fxe5 Nxe5 20.Re1 Bf6 21.c5?! is computer's crazy idea, but even

then Black seems to hold.

19...exf4 20.gxf5 Ne5

At this point I only had about 20 minutes left to move 40. Note that there was no increment, only ten seconds delay on each move. 20...b5?! 21.Rxf4 Bg5 22.Qg4 Bf6 23.Bxf6 Nxf6. I did not see it in time trouble, and probably would not have believed it even if I did.



Position after 20...Ne5

21.Bxe5?

Releasing the tension too early. 21.Be4 Bf6! (21...b5!?) ; 21.Kh1!±.

21...dxe5 22.Be4 Bc5+ 23.Kh1 Qd6

Surprisingly, computer evaluates this as almost -/+!

24.Qh5 Rf6 25.Rc2 Rh6 26.Qg4 Rc7 27.Rg2 Qf6 28.Rd1 Rh4?!

Inaccurate. 28...b6 or 28...Rd7, but still not clear how Black can break through.

29.Qg5?

29.d6! Rd7□ Still OK for Black, but why allow this?

29...Rh6?

29...Qxg5 30.Rxg5 Kf7! 31.Rg2 Kf6= and suddenly Black has real winning chances. The moment White moves the rook away from g-file, Black will push g7-g5.

30.Qxf6

30.Qxf6 Rxf6=

1½-1½

I was not particularly happy with my play in this game, but there was no time to dwell on this, as there was still one more round to go! I was playing with Viktors Pupols (2204), who is sort of a legend in the US. His main claim to fame is beating Bobby Fischer in 1955 US Junior championship. Yes, you read that right, it happened 63 years ago!

Despite crossing into octogenarian territory, Mr. Pupols is still going strong. He had the same number of points as I did prior to the last round with a convincing victory over IM Leslie Leow in Round 5 among other achievements.

Fortunately, I knew none of that going into the game. I tried to get on

offensive early and just as in the previous game, this unmotivated aggression scared Black.

**Andrey Terekhov (2309) –
Viktors Pupols (2204) [D41]**
Washington Open Lynnwood
(R3), May 26, 2018
[Andrey Terekhov]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 Nxd5!?

During my 5-minutes preparation to the game I found out that my opponent was playing Queen's Gambit, but in the games that I saw he was taking with the pawn (and indeed, he would do that in the 7th round of this tournament). Semi-Tarrasch was a surprise.

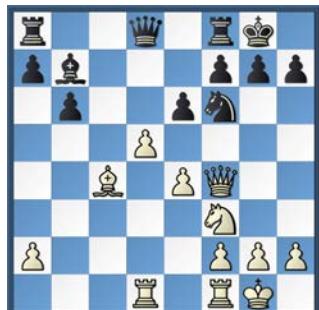
One might suppose that this is another connection of my opponent to Fischer, as the line that occurred in this game was introduced by the 11th World Champion.

**5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 e5 7.Nf3 cxd4 8.cxd4
Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 0–0 11.Bc4
Nd7 12.0–0 b6 13.Rad1 Nf6**

An unusual move order. Usually people start with 13...Bb7, so I decided to look for “refutation.” There is not any, but what I did was enough to confuse my opponent.

14.Qf4 Bb7 15.d5

This advance does not promise White much, but neither do any other continuations.



Position after 15.d5

15...e5??

I was shocked to see this move on the board. It is a highly imaginative concept, but it just does not work. There was nothing wrong with 15...exd5! 16.Bxd5 Qb8! A standard move in this variation. Apparently, even 16...Bxd5 17.exd5 Re8 works for Black.

16.Nxe5 Qd6 17.Bb5

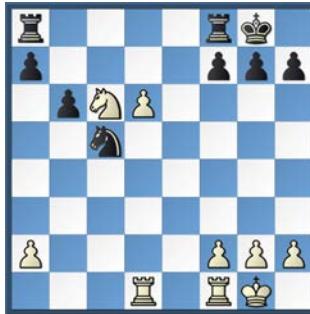
17.f3! was also good enough and might have been even simpler. I did not see that after 17...Rfe8 (17...b5 18.Bb3 a5 is the best option for Black, but with two connected pawns in the center the win should be a matter of time for White) 18.Nd3+ Black does not have a check on c5.

17...Qb4?

This move leads to an endgame with equal material, which is very difficult for Black.

17...Rac8. White still needs to untangle his pieces, and doing this might be tricky. 18.Rfe1 Rc5 19.Rb1! is computer's idea of how to do it.

**18.Bc6 Bxc6 19.Nxc6 Qxe4 20.Qxe4
Nxe4 21.d6 Nc5**



Position after 21...Nc5

22.d7?!

Computer suggests 22.Rd2! to make sure that White can defend the pawn on d7 if Black sacrifices an exchange on d8. It did not cross my mind, because I did not see that he can win d-pawn by voluntarily sacrificing an exchange on d8.

22...Ne6?

Much stronger was 22...Rfd8! 23.Nxd8 Rxd8 24.Rfe1 Kf8. White must be winning in the long run, but there is still a lot of work to be done; I was thinking that 22...Nb7 was the most tenacious defense. At least White cannot land a rook on eighth rank.

23.Rfe1!++

Now I am getting an extra tempo thanks to Rxe6 threat.

23...Nd8 24.Ne7+ Kh8



Position after 24...Kh8

25.Nc8?

Here and two moves later I could save myself two hours of extra work: 25.Rc1! was winning on the spot. 25...Nb7 26.Rc8 g6 27.Nxg6+! hxg6 28.Ree8+ and Black is doomed by the lack of coordination between his rooks.

25...g6 26.Re8 Kg7 27.Rxf8?

I could still save myself a lot of time

by playing 27.Rde1 Nb7 28.Rc1!— returning to the idea of landing a rook on c8.

**27...Kxf8 28.Re1 Nc6 29.Re8+ Kg7
30.Ne7 Rd8 31.Nxc6 Rxd7 32.g3 Rc7
33.Nd4 Rc4 34.Nf3 Rc2**

During the game I thought that 34...Ra4!? 35.Re2 Ra3, cutting off White's king access to third rank, was more tenacious.

**35.a3 Ra2 36.Re3 b5 37.Nd4 a6 38.Nc6
Rc2 39.Nb4 Rc1+ 40.Kg2 a5 41.Nd5
Rc5**

The rook is quite passive here. I was more concerned about 41...Rb1 but perhaps my opponent did not want to allow an attack on fifth rank, such as 42.Nc7 a4 43.Re5 b4 44.axb4 Rxb4 45.Ra5 and a-pawn will fall sooner or later.

**42.Rd3 Kf8 43.h4 Kg7 44.Kf3 h5 45.Ke4
Rc4+ 46.Ke3 Rc5 47.f4 f6 48.Nc3 Kf7**

48...b4 49.axb4 axb4 50.Na2+—.

49.Ne4 Rc1 50.Nd6+ Ke6 51.Nxb5

Now White is a full piece up, so the rest of the game was not really necessary. However, it seems to be a common practice in the US to play things out to the bitter end.

**51...Rg1 52.Nd4+ Kf7 53.Ke4 a4 54.Nb5
Ke6 55.Nc3 Re1+ 56.Re3 Rc1 57.Nxa4
Rc8**

57...Rc4+ does not win back the knight because of discovered check: 58.Kd3+! Kd5 59.Nb6+.

**58.Nc3 Ra8 59.a4 Kd6 60.Kd4 Kd7
61.Ke4 g5 62.fxg5 fxg5 63.hxg5 Ra5
64.Rd3+ Ke6 65.Rd5 Ra7 66.a5 Rf7
67.a6 1–0**

Day 2

I finished first day with 2.5 points out of three and hoped that I would be finally playing against stronger opponents. There were three Grandmasters participating in the tournament and my personal goal for this tournament was to meet one of them over the board, but that was not to be.

At the end of the previous day, I asked organizers whether they are publishing the pairings for the next round in the Internet, but it turned out that they generally don't do that. I arrived to the tournament venue about half an hour before the game, and found out that I had Black pieces vs David Rupel (2090), another veteran player. I was hoping to score a full point in this game and was very close to victory for many moves, but unfortunately I never managed to land the final blow. On the other hand, I completely bungled the early middlegame and found myself in the same situation as round two — on the defensive in a worse position, with barely any time left.

This is a good moment to talk about that delay time control. In Europe and Asia most tournaments are played with various forms of increment, such as 1.5 hours + 30 seconds per move. If you are like me (i.e. not great at time management), you might find yourself in time trouble rather often, but it would never require you to blitz out 20 moves in two minutes, as regularly happened in the “good old days” of analog clocks. One might argue that delay is serving a similar purpose, but the differences are many and far-reaching. First of all, ten seconds is a very, very short time, which does not really give you time to think. I was told that in the past it was even worse, as the standard delay was five seconds! Next point is that if you are down to seconds (like I was in this game), then overstepping that ten seconds means losing the game. Finally, and most importantly, delay does not accumulate time, so even if you are making a move in one-two seconds instead of ten, you are still in exactly the same time trouble on the next move!

This becomes especially critical in the “sudden death” mode. Repeating moves does not get you anywhere, and the chances of dropping a flag after even moderately surprising move are very real. Holding a slightly worse position on delay time is next to impossible, as I have witnessed first-hand in several games of this tournament. Fortunately, I did not have to face this particular scenario in “sudden death,” but in round four I had to make 10-12 moves with less than one minute left on the clock until the second time control, and this experience was nerve-wracking. I can tell that it was not only nerve-wracking for me — one of the kibitzers later told me that watching my mad dash to the time control was one of the most exhilarating things he saw in the tournament!

Here is the game that generated so much excitement.

David G. Rupel (2090) – Andrey Terekhov (2309) [E14]
Washington Open Lynnwood
(R4), May 27, 2018
[Andrey Terekhov]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.e3 Bb7 5.Nc3 d5

5...Bb4 6.Bd3 Ne4 is a different way to play this.

6.cxd5 exd5 7.Bb5+ c6 8.Bd3 Bd6 9.Ne5

This felt premature, but my reaction was not good enough to prove it.

9...0–0 10.f4 c5 11.0–0 Nc6 12.Bb5 Ne7?!

The knight has no future here. I did consider the strongest 12...Rc8??...but for some inexplicable reason did not play it.

13.Qa4 Na5! I mostly focused on 13...Qc7 which is also OK.

13.Bd3

I was expecting 13.Qf3 Ne4 with the point that 14.Nd7? is refuted by 14...a6.

13...cxd4?

Horrible move, giving life to bishop c1. 13...Ne4 14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.dxc5 Bxe5 16.fxe5 bxc5??.

14.exd4 Ne4 15.Qe2??

Not a great move objectively, but it threw me off my game. I was counting on 15.Qf3 f6. After 15.Qe2 it does not work, and I kind of panicked.



Position after 15.Qe2

15...f5??

The move by itself might not be so terrible, but it does lead to a rather unpleasant position for Black. There is no obvious counterplay and all of my pieces are misplaced. White's previous move actually justified my Nc6-e7 maneuver. I should have played 15...Nf5! 16.Nxd5 (16Nb5 a6 17.Nxd6 Qxd6 is good for Black) 16...Bxd5 (For some reason, I only saw 16...Nxd4?? 17.Qxe4) 17.Bxe4 Nxd4 18.Qd3 Bxe4 19.Qxe4 Rc8?? With accurate play White might be able to hold this, but only two results are possible. There were other reasonable moves as well, such as 15...Bb4!??; and 15...Rc8 16.Nxe4 Bxe5!=.

16.Bd2 Nc6?!

This only pushes White bishop in the right direction. I did not like the looks of 16...Rc8 17.Nb5 Bb8 18.Bb4?! but in reality it did not promise White anything tangible.

17.Be3 Nxc3??

Another concession. 17...Rc8 was still the best move, as pawn on d5 was not yet hanging.

18.bxc3± Rc8 19.Rac1 Rc7

At this stage I was down to 20 minutes + ten seconds delay until move 40. My position looked grim, but I found a reasonable defensive regrouping, and fortunately for me, my opponent played too directly.

20.Rf3 Bc8 21.Rh3?? g6 22.Bf2??

The idea of activating a bad bishop is

natural, but I saw a tactical sequence that puts it into question.

22...Nxe5

Maybe I should have started with 22...Ba3 23.Rc2 Nxe5 forcing White to play 24.dxe5. With this move order 24.fxe5 is just bad in view of 24...f4! 25.e6 Qd6.

23.fxe5

23.dxe5 was still safer, but my opponent did not see my threat yet.

23...Ba3 24.Re1



Position after 24.Re1

24...Rxc3?!

A good practical decision. I saw White's reply, but thought that given my time pressure, simplifications are not such a bad idea. 24...f4! was best and probably gave Black some advantage, but variations such as 25.e6 Re8 26.Bh4 felt too scary in the time trouble.

25.Bxf5 Rxh3 26.Bxh3 Bxh3 27.gxh3 Bb4!

Good move. The rook is pushed off e-file, taking e5-e6 advance off the agenda.

28.Rd1

28.Rc1?? Qg5+

28...Qc8

I considered 28...Qg5+ 29.Qg4 Qxg4+ 30.hxg4 Rc8= but did not want to help opponent fix his pawn structure.

29.Rd3

29.e6 Re8 30.Qb5 a5 31.Qxd5 Qxe6=.

29...Qe6

29...Qc4?! is recommended by computer, but I was not going to move the queen away in time trouble (I was down to one minute at this time).

30.Bh4 Be7! 31.Bf2

31.Bxe7 Qxe7 32.e6 Rf4 was my plan.

31...Re8! 32.Rf3 Rf8

The urge to simplify in the time trouble is too strong! 32...Rcl+ 33.Kg2 Rc4??.

33.Kg2 Rxf3 34.Qxf3 Kg7 35.Be3 a5?!

I certainly should have started with 35...b5!

36.Bc1?

Here my opponent started to drift and quickly landed in a lost position, despite being good 20–30 minutes up on the clock. 36.a4! Qc6=.

36...b5!± 37.Bd2 b4 38.Qb3? Qf5! 39.Qe3

My opponent almost took the pawn, 39.Qxd5??, but in the last moment he saw 39...Qc2+.

39...Qc2 40.h4 Qf5?

The last move in the time trouble, made with seven seconds left...

I could have grabbed the pawn 40...Qxa2!+ 41.e6 Qc2 42.Qe5+ Bf6. What I did not see is that c7 is covered!

41.Kg3 a4

The position is still winning for Black anyway.

42.Qe2 h5 43.h3 Kf7

I was calculating 43...b3 but could not find any of the two winning variations: 44.axb3 and a sublime: 44...a3!! (A normal 44...axb3! 45.Bc1 Qb1 46.Qe3 (46.Qb2 Qd3+ 47.Kh2 Bxh4) 46...b2 47.Qh6+ Kg8 48.Bxb2 Qg1+! I did not see this check: 49.Kf3 Bxh4) 45.Bc1 Qb1 46.Qe3 a2.

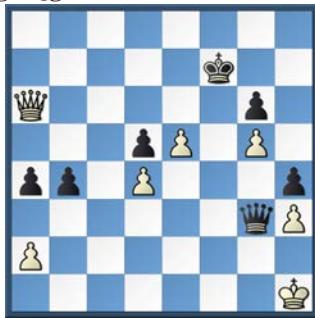
44.Qe3 Ke6 45.Qe2 Qe4

45...b3 46.axb3 axb3 47.Qb5 Qc2 48.Bg5 b2! 49.Qa6+ Kf5 50.Qf1+ Ke4 was too much for me to even consider.

46.Qa6+ Kf7 47.Bg5 Bxg5 48.hxg5 h4+ 49.Kh2 Qf4+ 50.Kh1 Qf3+

I should have started with picking up a2-pawn: 50...Qc1+! 51.Kh2 (51.Kg2 Qxg5+) 51...Qb2+ 52.Kh1 Qb1+ 53.Kg2 Qxa2+ 54.Kf3 Qb3+; I saw the same motive with 50...Qe4+ 51.Kh2 (51.Kg1 Qxd4+) 51...Qc2+

51.Kg1 Qg3+ 52.Kh1



Position after 52.Kh1

52...Qxh3+?

Strangely enough, once Black takes this pawn, much of his advantage is gone! The combination of h3 and h4 pawns works as a barrier for White king.

53.Kg1 Qe3+ 54.Kh1 Qe4+ 55.Kh2 Qf4+ 56.Kh1 Qc1+ 57.Kh2 Qb2+ 58.Kh1 Qc1+ 59.Kh2 Qxg5 60.Qb7+ Kf8??

This does it. I was concerned about White's connected pawns in the variation 60...Qe7 61.Qxd5+ Kg7. Apparently Black can win this, but it is already not trivial: 62.e6 Qc7+! 63.Kh1 Qc1+ 64.Kh2 Qd2+ 65.Kh1 Qe1+ 66.Kh2 Qe2+ 67.Kh1 h3!

61.Qxb4+ Kg7 62.Qb7+ Kh6 63.Qxd5 Qg3+

Zero time on the clock and equal position — time to finally offer a draw!

½-½

I was rather upset about the outcome of this game, as I knew that I must have missed more than one win. However, there was no time to stew in the disappointment. My game in round four was literally the last to finish, so I only had time for a quick bite before the next round started.

Andrey Terekhov (2309) – Michael Cambareri (2060) [C40]
Washington Open Lynnwood
(R5), May 27, 2018
[Andrey Terekhov]

1.Nf3 f5 2.d3

I did not have any time to prepare for this game and thus I decided to take my opponent away from his regular Dutch Defense into a modernized version of Lisitsyn Gambit. This line has scored well for me in blitz and rapid. However, even in this line one needs to know the theory—and even then I am not sure that White's whole concept is completely sound!

2...Nc6 3.e4 e5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.exf5 d5 6.d4 exd4!

The best reaction, after which White can hardly claim any advantage. At this point I was quite unhappy with my opening choice... 6...e4?! is worse: 7.Ne5 (Computer likes 7.Nh4!?) 7...Bxf5 8.Bb5 Qd6. (8...Bd7? 9.Bg5 Be7 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Nxd7 Qxd7 12.Qh5+ Qf7 13.Qxd5 Qxd5 14.Nxd5 0–0–0 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Nxf6 gxf6 17.c3±) Here everyone plays 9.Bf4± but I suspect that there are moves that are even stronger.

7.Nxd4 Nxd4 8.Qxd4 Bxf5



Position after 8...Bxf5

9.Bd3

"Old man's" move. I did not remember anything about the complications that start with 9.Bg5!? Bxc2 10.Rc1 and decided that I cannot risk re-inventing them over the board. Maybe it was for the best, since in the home analysis I found out that the most famous game in this line can be improved for Black: 10...Bg6 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 12.Qe3+ Kd8!N (The tactical justification of White's whole operation is that after 12...Kf7? 13.Nxd5 Bb4+ 14.Nxb4 Rxe8 15.Bc4+ Kf8 16.0–0!!± Black's queen suddenly finds itself in danger too — Taimanov-Zaichik, USSR 1989) 13.Nxd5 Bb4+ 14.Kd1□ Qd6! 15.Qg5+ Kc8 16.Rxc7+ Kb8 17.Bc4 Rd8 18.Rxg7 a6 19.Rxg6□ hxg6 20.Kc2 Ka7±. Of course, finding this over the board is completely impossible.

9...Qe7+?!

Too smart! Black is trying to speculate on c7-c5 followed by d5-d4, but it turns out that White can ignore the threat and thus Black only creates problems for his own development with this check. 9...Bxd3 10.Qxd3 c6 is about equal, but if anyone has to be careful, it's White.

10.Be3! Bxd3

Here my opponent realized that the planned 10...c5 runs into 11.Qxc5!±.

11.Qxd3 0–0–0 12.0–0–0 Kb8 13.Qd4!?

This looked like the most active plan, and it worked out brilliantly in the game!

13...c5?

Too optimistic. I did not seriously consider this move, thinking that it gives White too many tactical motives — and it does! However, after 13...b6□, rather surprisingly White does not have anything serious, e.g. 14.Bg5 c6 15.Rhe1 Qf7=.

14.Bf4+ Ka8 15.Qa4±



Position after 15.Qa4

It is already difficult to find a good defense. It seems that Black's best is to part with d5 pawn in order to exchange a couple of pieces.

15...Qf7??

Loses on the spot. Good or bad, Black had to play 15...a6, when White has not one, but two ways to come up with

material advantage: 16.Nb5 (16.Qa5!?) Rd7 (16...Rc8 17.Rxd5!+) 17.Na4 Qd8 18.Qxd8+ Rxd8 19.Bc7 Re8 20.Nb6+ Ka7 21.Nxd5 Nxd5 22.Rxd5±) 16...Rc8 (16...Qe4 17.Rxd5! Rxd5 18.Nc7+ Ka7 19.Qxe4 Nxe4 20.Nxd5 Bd6 21.Bxd6 Nxd6 22.Rel±) 17.Qa5 Rc6 (17...Qe4 18.g3 Qb4 19.Qxb4 cxb4 20.Nc7+ Ka7 21.Be3+ Kb8 22.Nxd5±) 18.Nc7+ Ka7 19.Nxd5 Nxd5 20.Rxd5 Qf7 21.Qd2±.

16.Nb5 a6 17.Qa5

Only now my opponent noticed 17.Qa5 Qd7 18.Qb6! axb5 (18...Qxb5 19.Qxd8+ Ka7 20.Bb8+ Ka8 21.Bc7+ Ka7 22.Qb8#) 19.Qa5# There is no defense, so Black resigned.

1-0

Day 3

With four points out of five going into the last day I was sure that I would be finally playing against a Grandmaster. However, I was to be disappointed again, as prior to round six the tournament merged in the players that followed an accelerated two-day schedule (which, by the way, is another uniquely American practice; I don't recall anything like that in Europe).

The "reinforcements" included a number of strong players, including IM Orlov and a reigning Washington state champion, FM Feng, who both had higher rating than me.

As a result, I was paired with another youngster, Samuel He (2258). This game was not especially colorful, even though at a certain point I started to worry whether I would be able to hold a draw...

Samuel He (2258) – Andrey Terekhov (2309) [D94]
Washington Open Lynnwood
(R6), May 28, 2018
[Andrey Terekhov]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4

Finally, it was my turn to struggle with the tricky move orders by White! I was preparing Nimzo-Indian for this tournament, but now it does not seem likely. One option was to play 2...c5 and probably it was a more consistent reply, but at the spur of the moment I decided to go for Schlechter Slav. My friends can probably guess where it comes from!

2...c6 3.e3 d5 4.Nc3 g6 5.d4 Bg7 6.Be2 0-0 7.0-0 Bg4

The most popular plan, although Black has many others moves at his disposal: 7...dxc4 8.Bxc4 Bg4; 7...b6; 7...Nbd7.

8.Qb3 Qb6 9.Qxb6 axb6 10.cxd5 cxd5?!

An inaccuracy. It is important to exchange the knights first, as in the following game: 10...Nxd5 11.Nxd5 cxd5 12.Bd2 Nc6

13.Rfc1 Rfc8 14.Kf1 Na7 15.Rxc8+ Rxc8 16.Rc1 Rxc1+ 17.Bxc1 Bd7= Larsen-Smyslov, Las Palmas (izt) 1982

11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 e6±

Black's main problem is that he does not have any active plans

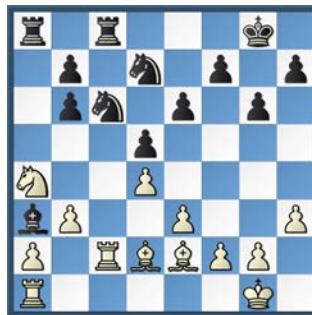
13.Bd2

13.b3!?

13...Nc6 14.Rfc1 Rfc8 15.b3?!

I was surprised to see this move, as it weakens a3 square, which could be used by Black for the fight for c-file. Stockfish suggests capturing more space on the kingside with 15.g4!%; I was mostly concerned with 15.Nb5.

15...Bf8 16.Na4 Nd7 17.Be2 Ba3 18.Rc2



Position after 18.Rc2

18...Na7?!

I was quite pleased when I discovered this move, as it allows me to fight for c-file and prevent Bb5 at the same time. 18...Nb4 runs into 19.Rxc8+ Rxc8 20.Bxb4 Bxb4 21.Bb5 winning the pawn. However, computer claims that after 21...Nf6 22.Nxb6 Rc2= Black has sufficient compensation for the pawn. Indeed, it is difficult for White to defend all of his pawns at once.

19.Nc3!

The only way for White to avoid yielding c-file.

19...b5 20.Bd3 Rc7

I was trying to choose between the game move and 20...Rc6. It was difficult to guess where the rook would be better placed. 21.Rb1 b4 (21...Nb6!?) 22.b4 Nc4 23.Be1 Rb6 24.Rb3 Nc6 25.Nb1 Rba6 is a typical computer gibberish; 21...Bd6 22.a4 b4 23.Ne2 Rxc2 24.Bxc2= Computer evaluates it as better for White, but this should be generally holdable.) 22.Ne2 I was worried about bishop a3 being cut off from the game 22...Rac8 (22...Nb5!?).

21.Bc1

During the game I was mostly worried about 21.Rb1! Perhaps the simplest path is 21...Bd6 (My opponent rejected 21.Rb1 because of 21...Bf8 22.Rbc1 Ba3?? but this fails tactically because

of 23.Nxb5!+-. Computer also points a nice knight maneuver 21...Nb8!! 22.b4 Na6 23.Rb3 Nxb4 24.Nxb5 Rxc2 25.Bxc2 Nxb5 26.Bxb4 Bxb4 27.Rxb4 Nd6=) 22.Rbc1 Rac8.



Position after 21.Bc1

21...Bxc1?!

This exchange only helps White. A cleaner equality was 21...Bd6 22.a3 b4! 23.axb4 Bxb4 24.Bb2 Rcc8!=, a move I did not see.

22.Raxc1 Rac8?!

I did not want to yield c-file and so I finally settled on this move, even though I did not like the endgame that White could now steer the game into. Computer insists on 22...b4!, the move that I considered but rejected because of 23.Nb5! Nxb5 24.Rxc7 Nxc7 25.Rxc7.

Apparently Black can survive, but it requires finding a lot of only moves. 25...Nf6 26.Rxb7 Rxa2 27.Rxb4 Rd2! 28.Ba6 Ne4 29.f3 Ng3 30.Rb8+ Kg7 31.b4 Nf5 32.b5 Ra2! 33.Bc8 Nxe3 34.b6 Kf6 35.b7 Rxb2+ 36.Kh1 Rf2 37.Ra8 Rf1+ 38.Kh2 Rf2+ and Black barely survives.

23.Ne2?

After making this move my opponent offered a draw, which I immediately accepted. Indeed, after 23.Ne2 Rxc2 24.Rxc2 Rxc2 25.Bxc2 b4= the endgame is equal; I was much more concerned about 23.a3!±. I was planning to transfer the knight to d6 via 23...Nf6. However, the weakness on b5 means that White can continue squeezing Black for as long as he wants. Especially given the fact that I only had 14 minutes left for the next 18 moves, White definitely should have played on.

1/2-1/2

With 4.5 points out of six I was in a good position going into the final round. However, with 78 players in the tournament and only six rounds to separate them, it was really crowded at the top. Three Grandmasters led the table with 5/6, followed by no less than eight players with 4.5/6, including myself.

For the first time in the tournament I was paired against a stronger player, Washington State Champion Roland Feng (2492). The stakes were as high as

it gets, as only by winning this game one could expect to land in the prizes.

My final round game could be divided into two almost independent parts. In the opening I was playing very passively and slowly drifted into a worse position, and then set a “trap” that should have lost the game, but somehow my opponent missed exactly the swindle that I was counting on! Two moves later I offered a draw, thinking that an equal endgame was inevitable, but then my opponent came up with a highly creative tactical operation that set the whole board on fire. Starting from move 24 we both walked through the field of landmines, trading a blow for blow along the way, and in the end it was Black who overstepped the limits of acceptable risk. At the end of complications I was a bishop up and managed to convert the resulting endgame into a win.

**Andrey Terekhov (2309) –
Roland Feng (2492) [D46]**
Washington Open Lynnwood
(R7), May 28, 2018
[Andrey Terekhov]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3

In my ten-minutes prep before the game, I learned that my opponent played Nimzo-Indian and so I went for the move order that takes this option out. Meran variation was a big surprise for me, but it seems that none of us knew any theory in it!

**3...d5 4.d4 c6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 Bd6
7.0-0 0-0 8.e4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 b5?!**

A rare move, and for a good reason 9...e5 10.Bg5 is the main line

10.Be2??

For the next few moves my play was inexplicably passive, which resulted in Black overtaking the initiative. White could exploit the inaccurate move order by playing 10.Bb3! e5 11.d5! cxd5 (11...b4 12.dxc6±) 12.Bxd5! Nxd5 13.Qxd5 Nb6 14.Qxb5 Be6 15.b3± Bluebaum,M (2640)-Esserman,M (2468) Stockholm 2017.

10...e5 11.a3??

Another move that might not be too bad by itself, but simply does not pose any problems for Black. 11.Bg5 Bb7 12.Qc2?! h6 13.Bh4 exd4 14.Nxd4 Qb8 15.Bg3 Bxg3 16.hxg3 b4 17.Na4 Qe5 18.Nb3 c5 19.Nbxc5 Rac8 20.Nxd7 Nxd7 21.Qd2 Bc6 22.Qxb4 Rb8 23.Qc4 Bb5 24.Qc2 Bxa4 25.Qxa4 Rxb2 26.Qxd7 Rxe2 27.Qxa7 Qxe4 28.a4± Jakovenko,D (2737)-Petrosian,T (2629) Dresden (ol) 2008.

11...Qc7 12.h3??

Black’s previous move was almost inviting 12.d5, which did not promise White any tangible advantage, but at the same time reduced the danger of landing

in a worse position; Computer also suggests a counterintuitive 12.Kh1!? with the idea of meeting 12...a6 with 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Bf4!∞.

12...a6 13.Bc3??

I can’t recall why I rejected the more active 13.Bg5.

13...Re8 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Rc1??

This move worked better without the inclusion of 14.dxe5. 15.Qc2 was still decent for White.

15...Bb7 16.b4

Trying to stop c6-c5. This is a highly committal move, as Black now gets another target for attack.

16...Nxf3+ 17.Bxf3 Qe7 18.Qb3 a5 19.Rb1

Continuing the defensive strategy. 19.Rfd1!? axb4 20.axb4 Bxb4 21.e5 Bxc3 22.Rxc3 Qxe5 23.Bxc6 Bxc6 24.Rxc6=+. Computer thinks White can hold it without too much trouble, but it is clear that the game goes for two results only.

19...axb4 20.axb4 Bc8! 21.Qb2??

In anticipation of Bc8-e6 White sets a “trap,” which actually worked during the game. Unfortunately, I did not see a better version of the same idea: 21.Bd4 Be6 (21...Nd7 22.Be2 Ne5 23.f4 Be6 24.Qb2 Ne4 25.Bxc4 Bxc4 26.e5!∞) 22.Nd5! cxd5 23.e5 Bxe5 24.Bxe5= with good compensation for the pawn; A quiet 21.Rfd1 Be6 22.Qb2 Be5 23.Bc5 Qc7 24.Bd4= is also not that bad for White.

21...Be6??

A turning point of the game.



Position after 21...Be6

Upon making my move, I realized that Black can play 21...Qe5! and it’s more or less over. My opponent saw this move, but thought that White can get counterplay with 22.g3 Bxh3 23.Bf4 However, 23...Qe6 24.e5 Bxe5 25.Bxe5 Bxf1 is decisive.

22.Nxb5!

With this exchange “combination” White restores the balance.

22...Ra2 23.Qd4

Here I offered a draw, but my opponent

found an ingenious way to continue the fight.

23...exb5 24.e5



Position after 24.e5

24...Bb8!?

A move that I did not see and that leads to enormous complications! From here and until the end of the game it’s pure mayhem, which objectively should have resulted in a draw anyway. 24...Bxe5 25.Qxe5 Bc4 26.Qxe7 Rxe7 27.Rfd1 is slightly more pleasant for White, but very drawish, of course.

25.exf6 Qc7 26.g3 Ba7

This nice geometric reorganization of Black pieces is the point of the maneuver.

27.Qe4!

The most principled and best response. I did not like being a pawn down in the variation 27.Qf4 Qxf4 28.gxf4 Bxe3 29.fxe3 Bxh3= even though computer thinks that it’s not a big deal.

27...Bd7??

Somewhat speculative (although still objectively correct) attempt to turn the game into Black’s favor. Obviously, Black did not start the complications to play something like 27...gxf6=.

28.Rbc1??

I saw 28.Qd5!? Bxe3 (28...Rxe3! is stronger, but even here the idea from the game still works: 29.Rbc1! Rc3□ 30.Rxc3□ Bxf2+□ 31.Rxf2□ Qxg3+□ 32.Rg2 Rwg2+ 33.Bxg2 Qxc3 34.Qxd7 and the game should probably end with some kind of perpetual, although Black has to be careful in finding the right squares). 29.Qxa2 Qxg3+ and stopped analyzing, but the computer shows that 30.Bg2! Bxh3?? (30...Bd4 is best, but it offers only practical chances for Black) 31.fxe3! is winning!

28...Qxg3+!!

Fortunately, I saw this move beforehand, otherwise I would have had a heart attack. After 28...Qd8 I was already prepared to play 29.Qd5! since there are no checks on g3: 29...Bxe3 30.Qxa2 Bxc1 31.Rxc1 Qxf6 should end in a draw; 28...Qb8?? does not work because 29.Bxa7+ hits the queen; 28...Qd6 29.Bc5= was my

plan. Not sure if I would have found the best. 28...Qd6 29.Rfd1! forcing the queen back to b8: 29...Qb8 30.Bxa7 Qxa7 31.Qd4 Qxd4 32.Rxd4 Bxh3 33.fgx7 and White is better.

29.fgx3 Bxe3+ 30.Qxe3!

30.Kh1? Rxe4 31.Bxe4 Bxc1 32.Rxc1 gxf6+ cannot be right for White.

30...Rxe3 31.Rcd1!

Hinting at the weakness of back rank in Black's camp.

I was first tempted to play 31.Rfd1? with a trap: 31...Ra7?? 32.Rxd7!, but then I noticed that Black can play 31.Rfd1 gxf6! 32.Rxd7 Rxf3 and it's curtains for White.

31...Be8??

The decisive mistake — the opponent missed my 34th move. Note that it was not due to time trouble, as we both had about 15 minutes left at the time. Black simply wanted to win too much! 31...Ra7! was the only move that allowed Black to stay in the game. After 32.Kf2 Re8= the position is completely equal.

32.Rfe1! Raa3

32...Re6 33.Rxe6 fxe6 34.Rd8 Kf7 35.fgx7+-.

33.Rxe3 Rxe3



Position after 33...Rxe3

34.Rd8!

A move that clinches the victory for White.

34...gxf6

34...Kf8 35.Bc6 gxf6 36.Bxb5!+- and Black has to give up the bishop to avoid simplification into a lost pawn endgame.

35.Bc6 Rxe3+ 36.Kh2 Kg7!?

A nice trick in a lost position.

37.Bxe8

This might be best objectively, but it does help Black to muddy the water, if only for a few moves. 37.Rxe8 was probably a better technique, to make sure that White can always defend b4-pawn from e4.

37...Re3!

The best practical chance — Black is trying to use a certain lack of coordination of White pieces to attack b4-pawn.

38.Bc6!

38.Bxb5? Re4 would be a terrible blunder — without b4 pawn White's victory would be much more difficult, if at all possible.

38...Re6

38...Rc3 39.Bxb5! Rb3 40.Rd4+-.

39.Bg2!

So that Black rook cannot get to b2 with tempo, making sure that White is winning b5-pawn without losing his own passer on b-file.

39...f5 40.Rd5+-

The rest is easy.

40...Kg6 41.Kg3!

Cutting off black king.

41...Re2 42.Bf3 Rc2 43.Rxb5 Rc4 44.Rb6+ Kg5 45.b5 Rb4 46.h4+!

The most forcing. I calculated the winning variation to the end and went for it.

46...Rxh4 47.Rb8 Rb4 48.b6 f4+ 49.Kf2 Rb2+ 50.Ke1 Kh4 51.b7 Rb1+ 52.Kd2

I was expecting Black's resignation somewhere around this moment, but it seems that in the US players prefer to play it out until the checkmate.

52...f5

52...Kg3 53.Bd5! f3 54.Rg8+.

53.Rg8 Rb2+ 54.Kc1 Rb3 55.b8Q Rxf3 56.Qf8 h5 57.Qf6+ 1-0

With this victory I found myself in the lead for the tournament, although

it did not last too long. By that moment most games of the last round were over, but the fight on the top two boards, which involved 3 GMs and an IM, was still raging on. The winner in these games was going to overtake me in the standings, so I was rooting for two draws, which would have landed me into shared 1st to 5th place. Alas, I only got a half of my wish.

In the end, the game Orlov-Sevillano ended up in a draw, but GM Gorovets overcame a fellow GM Sadorra with black pieces, and thus secured himself a sole first place with 6.0/7. The second place was divided between GM Sevillano, FM Sohal, and myself with 5.5/7. This was clear cut, as there were only four major prizes set in the tournament. We were followed by ten players who scored 5.0/7.

I was really happy about scoring a prize. As mentioned in the introduction, I did not play for a long time and thus did not have any expectations going into the tournament. In fact, I was seriously considering the option of paying a smaller entrance fee in order to play "for the medals only!"

I waited until the final game in the tournament concluded, only to find out that there was no award ceremony, no speeches and no trophies. Instead, it was all business — the winners were asked to provide their postal addresses, so that the prize check could be mailed to them. In a way, the end of the tournament felt anti-climactic, but it also felt very American. By this point I have already come to terms with the fact that American chess tournaments are totally different from what I was used to — not better or worse, just different. In a way, it reflects the broader cultural differences between "the Old World" and America.

Playing in 2018 Washington Open was an interesting experience and, of course, winning a prize in a strong field was a pleasant bonus. I would like to thank Washington Chess Federation for a very well organized tournament and everyone who read this report to the end for your time and attention!



20405 123rd Ave NE
Bothell WA 98011

Classes are also available in Naperville, Illinois

We train kids with age groups 6 and above.

Monday to Friday 6:30pm-8:00pm
Saturday and Sunday 9am-9pm

Contact: Sridhar Seshadri, Ph 425-492-4176
Email: SSeshadri@srichessacademy.com

Chess4Life™

- Premium Center Classes
- Rated Tournaments
- Private Chess Lessons
- Chess Camps
- After School Clubs
- Workbooks & Materials

LEARN LIFE | IMPROVE CHESS | HAVE FUN

KIDS@CHESS4LIFE.COM | 425-283-0549 | WWW.CHESS4LIFE.COM

**Julio Catalino Sadorra –
Andrey Gorovets [E68]**
Washington Open Lynnwood
(R7), May 28, 2018
[Gorovets,Andrey]

1.Nf3 d6!?

Already a tricky move

2.d4

2.e4 Bg4! 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Be2 Be7
6.0–0 0–0 7.Be3 d5= with improved French for Black.

2...Nf6 3.c4 Nbd7 4.Nc3 e5 5.g3 g6 6.Bg2 Bg7 7.0–0 0–0 8.e4 c6

This line is extremely complex both positionally and tactically. Grandmaster understanding of this line is based on the very famous book “Zurich 1953” by Bronstein.

9.Qc2!?

9.Be3!? favorite line of Mikhail Botvinnik.
9...Ng4 10.Bg5 Qb6 11.h3 exd4 12.Na4 Qa6 13.hxg4 b5∞ 0–1 (33) Botvinnik,M-Smyslov,V Moscow (Russia) 1954; 9.h3 is the main line which could lead to crazy complications after: 9...Qb6 10.c5 dxc5 11.dxe5 Ne8 12.e6 fxe6 13.Ng5 Ne5 14.f4 Nf7 15.Nxf7 Bd4+! 16.Kh2 Rxf7 17.e5∞ 1/2–1/2 (47) Shirov,A (2670)-Kasparov,G (2805) Linares 1993.

9...exd4 10.Nxd4 Re8 11.Rd1 Qe7!? 12.b3 Nc5 13.f3 a5

So far we played all reasonable moves, and I got a very elastic position, my opponent has a little bit more space, however it's all right—I am playing the King's Indian Hedgehog!

14.Ba3 Nfd7 15.Rd2 f5! 16.Re1

16.exf5?? would be a terrible blunder:
16...Qe3+ 17.Kh1 Bxd4 18.Re2 Qxc3
19.Qxc3 Bxc3 20.Rxe8+ Kf7+-.

16...f4!?

A typical pawn push, happens a lot in the Dutch Leningrad. 16...Nf6 17.e5 dxe5 18.Na4 Nfd7 19.Ne2∞ I don't like the way the black pieces are pinned. 16...a4!?

[Diagram top of next column]



Position after 16...f4

17.gxf4 Qh4 18.Rf1 Qxf4 19.Nde2 Qh6
20.Nd1 g5 21.Ne3 Nf8 22.Ng3 Be5
23.Nef5 Bxf5 24.Nxf5

Julio decided to gamble. I think Black's chances are not worse by any means.
24.exf5∞.

24...Qxh2+! 25.Kf2 Ng6 26.Rh1 Qf4
27.Bc1!



Position after 27.Bc1

Now White wants to trap the queen.

27...Rf8!

The only move.

28.Kg1!

28.Re2 Nxe4+! 29.Qxe4 Qxf5+-.

28...Rxf5! 29.Rd1

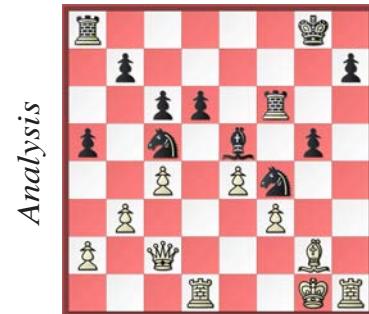
At this point I had a lot of temptation to sac my queen.

29...Bd4+

29...Rf6! 30.Bxf4 Nxf4∞

[Diagram-analysis top of next column]

This position is just beautiful, Black has a lot of compensation.



(#Diagram-analysis after 30...Nxf4)

30.Rxd4 Qe5 31.Rd1

31.Qd2! Rf6 32.Bb2∞ is very unclear.

31...Rf4 32.Bb2

I knew that Julio wouldn't take the rook; he likes the initiative too much.

32...Qe7 33.Rh6 Qf8 34.Rh5 h6 35.Bh3 Ne5 36.Bf5

Next is just a time trouble mess.

36...Qf6 37.Kh1 Kf7 38.Qh2 Rh8
39.Qd2 Rxf5 40.exf5 Qxf5 41.Qe2 Qg6

At this point I offered a draw, Julio declined and made a losing move instead.

42.f4?

42.Rh2! Re8∞

42...Ne4 43.Rg1 Nf2+! 44.Kg2 Nfd3!–+

The only winning move, it's going to be a huge fork on f4. 44...Ned3 45.f5! Qxf5 46.Bxh8 Nf4+ 47.Kxf2 Nxe2+ 48.Kxe2∞ it is just crazy.

45.Bc1 Nxc1 46.Rxc1 gxf4+

46...Nd3–.

47.Kh1 f3 48.Qh2 Ng4 49.Qf4+ Ke7
50.Rh2 Nxh2 51.Rg1 Qf6 52.Re1+ Kf7
53.Qxh2 Qf5 54.Qxd6 Qh3+

What a fight! In this game I just followed the two key ideas of the King's Indian: first of all, being brave, and second, controlling the dark squares. That's all I know about this opening.

0–1

More games from the Washington Open are planned for next month!—Editor.

Orlov Chess Academy
IM Georgi Orlov
2540 US Chess

Offers time-tested program,
challenge and quick progress!

Chess Camps, Tournaments
Chess Classes, Private Lessons

info@chessplayer.com
www.chessplayer.com
(206)-387-1253



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



(206) 769-3757
4174 148th Ave NE, Building I, Suite M, Redmond, WA 98052

Josh Sinanan
President
joshsinanan@gmail.com

Raelund Wins Inland Empire Open

By Kevin Korsmo

Spokane—April 28-29, 2018

Fourth seed Antonius Raelund of Kalispell won this year's Inland Empire Open with a perfect 5.0/5 score. Second place (4.0/5) was shared by Steve Merwin and Sam Rainey. Rainey, the 17th seeded player, also won the biggest upset — all four of his victories were upsets! There were lots of other winners: the class A second prize was shared by Braxton Casey and Mika Mitchell. James Inman was tops in class B (3.5/5), with Walter van Heemstede Obelt (3.0/5) second. Due to Rainey sharing second, the class C first place went to teenager Jonathan Geyman (3.0/5), while Louis Blair and Sam Comi (2.5/5) shared the second place prize. William Merry (2.0/5) won the D/E section, with Bill Rottmayer and Zihan Wang (1.5/5) sharing second in that section.

The tournament began with a pair of upsets in the first round, with Rainey's first upset vs Mika Mitchell the largest of the tourney. The trend continued in rounds two and three. Raelund topped Michael Cambareri in a board one time-scramble

slugfest that was highly entertaining. Neither player was interested in drawing despite their mutual difficulties and each played for the win. Raelund achieved a mate with Cambareri's king in the middle of the board after first pinning the pawn that was preventing a fatal rook check! When the first day's action had ended, the only two perfect scores belonged to Raelund and Rainey. That pair was scheduled to meet on board one in round four.

The fourth round had a bizarre start, with six of the 23 players missing in action, including both on board one! Raelund, who was staying in Coeur d'Alene, took a wrong turn and entered the east-bound freeway back towards Montana rather than heading west to Spokane. He arrived at 10:00; Rainey, who was confused over the starting time, likewise arrived at 10, and a double forfeit was avoided. Dividing up the remaining time, the two played a G/90 event with Raelund racing to the victory. While the other late arrivals had varying difficulties, an extremely unusual problem sidelined Sam Comi. He went to the parking lot in his apartment building only to find that police had closed the street (and most of his neighborhood) for a cancer fundraising run. Officers removed barrier and opened the roads at 11, too late to avoid a forfeiture! Meanwhile, top seeds

Steve Merwin and Michael Cambareri drew in their board two encounter. James Inman of Nampa, Idaho, followed up his strong results in the 2018 Collyer Memorial with another good outing. After claiming victory in round four, he was the only player with a 3.5 score and found himself facing Raelund on board one. Raelund won out, as did both Merwin and Rainey in their contests to claim second place.

There were 23 players in this year's event, which again was played at Gonzaga's Jepson Center.

A
**subscription
to Northwest
Chess makes a
great gift!**

Washington vs. Oregon Challenge Match



July 13-15, 2018

Seattle Chess Club



Format: Two 5-round Scheveningen team matches. All games will be dual US Chess and FIDE rated.

Sections:

- WA vs. OR A (2000+)
- WA vs. OR B (1600-1999)

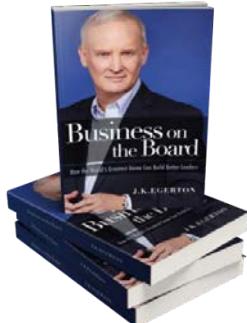
Register: nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration

Each team will be comprised of the top 10 highest rated players (US Chess June supplement) from WA + OR who confirm by the deadline of June 30th.

Organizers: Josh Sinanan on behalf of WA, Isaac Vega on behalf of OR.

TD: Fred Kleist, Senior TD, FIDE NA

Questions? Josh Sinanan, (206) 769-3757, joshsinanan@gmail.com



Chess – It's More Than Just a Game

A Presentation to the Seattle Chess Club on

July 25, 2018



By Jim Egerton, MBA

Speaker, Best-Selling Author, Teacher, & Chess Coach

Chess has been played for centuries all over the world. It's a board game that fascinates everyone who has ever played it. This professional development presentation is for anyone interested in building career-enhancing skills that they practice on the chessboard while in school, in business, or in athletic competition.

What You Will Learn in this Session:

- Teachers: *The benefits of chess in the classroom*
- Parents: *Why you want your children to play chess*
- Students: *How chess gets you ahead in school*
- Business: *How playing chess is like running a business*
- Athletes: *How chess develops the mental side of your game*
- *Practice leadership, strategic thinking, decision-making, visualization & risk management*

Entry Fee:

\$45 – Presentation & Simul only.

\$60 – Presentation & Simul + autographed copy of *Business on the Board*.

A limited quantity of books will be available for purchase at site for full price of \$20.

Agenda:

- Check-in: 7:00 - 7:15pm
- Introduction & Background: 7:15 - 7:25pm
- Presentation: 7:25 - 7:55pm
- Q&A + pizza (provided complimentary for all paid participants): 7:55 - 8:10pm
- Bachler vs. Egerton chess game tying it all together: 8:10 - 8:35pm
- Teaching Simultaneous Chess Exhibition: 8:35 - 9:15pm

Jim Egerton is the CEO and founder of *Business on the Board*®. He taught math for 4 years, was in corporate America for 24 years and has been an entrepreneur for 14 years. He's played tournament chess for 42 years, while training and coaching championship teams.

Business on the Board® is leading the way to better thinking, better decisions and better results. We are a talent development company that uses a game-based approach to teach business strategies and tactics to companies that want to be at the top of their game. By using keynote speaking, workshops and our #1 Best Selling business management self-development book, we teach leaders to play chess like they are running a business. An approach the competition isn't even thinking about.

For more detailed information on Jim's presentation topics or to book him for your next event, please contact us at:

Phone: 800-785-0420

Email: jkege@businessontheboard.com

Web: www.businessontheboard.com

[Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#)

2nd Annual Seattle Chess Classic

August 15-19, 2018



Seattle Chess Club

2150 North 107th Street, Seattle, WA 98133

A 9-round Swiss in two sections: Open and Reserve (U2000)

Entry fees:

Open:

Rating	Entry Fee before 8/8	After 8/8 or at site
US Chess Rating 2400+ or GM/IM/WGM/WIM	Free entry	\$100
2000-2399	\$200	\$250
1999 and below	\$400	\$450

Reserve: \$150 by 8/8, \$175 after or at site.

Schedule:

Wednesday 8/15	Check-in & Round 1	6:45pm & 7pm
Thursday 8/16	Round 2 & 3	11am & 6pm
Friday 8/17	Round 4 & 5	11am & 6pm
Saturday 8/18	Round 6 & 7	11am & 6pm
Sunday 8/19	Round 8 & 9	11am & 6pm
Sunday 8/19	Closing Ceremony + Blitz Tournament	~10pm & ASAP

Time Control: 100 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an addition of 30 seconds per move starting from move one. Late Default: 60 minutes.

Rating: Higher of US Chess August 2018 supplement or foreign ratings used at TD discretion. Both sections US Chess rated, Open section also FIDE rated. Maximum capacity of 60 players.

Prizes: (based on 60 paid entries)

Open: 1st \$1000, 2nd \$750, 3rd \$550, U2400/U2250/U2100: 1st \$500, 2nd \$350

Reserve: 1st \$600, 2nd \$450, 3rd \$350, U1900/U1750/U1600/U1450: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200

Special prizes: Top Female & Top Senior: \$150 per section, Biggest upset & Best game: \$50 per round
Best dress for man, woman & junior (under 18 years old): \$25 per day.

Byes: 2 half-point byes available for rounds 1-9 if announced before the start of round 2.

Registration: Please register online at <http://nwchess.com/OnlineRegistration/>. The deadline to register is Tuesday 8/14.

Chief Organizer: Josh Sinanan, WCF President, 206-769-3757, joshsinanan@gmail.com

Tournament Director: Fred Kleist, US Chess Senior TD, National FIDE Arbiter

The Anatomy Of A Blunder

By Cleveland Ray Johnson

The following miniature is from the recent 2018 Washington Open in Lynnwood, Washington. While I suppose that most people would run and hide from a game with this result, after giving it some time I think this game contains an important lesson that every chess player can benefit from. So, I'm nailing myself to the cross here and putting it out there with an important lesson learned.

As I'm sure you've already deduced, I blundered away my Queen in this game — the first time in my life that I've ever blundered a Queen. Once I got over the shock and humiliation, I did what most people in this situation do: I questioned HOW could I have ever done that? It was such a blatantly obvious beginner's mistake, and not in any way a hidden danger. WHY did I miss it?! My search for the answers to how and why proved to be very instructive — and they highlight something every chess player can benefit from.

Cleveland Ray Johnson (1569) – Derin Goktepe (1485) [D02]
Washington Open (R5), May 27, 2018
[Cleveland Johnson]

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 c5 5.c3 Nc6 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.Bg3 0–0 8.Nbd2 Re8 9.Bh4 e5 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Bc2 Bg4 12.0–0 h6 13.h3 Nxf3+ 14.Nxf3



Position after 14...Bh5

Here I quickly saw that Black's d5-pawn is available after 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 16.Qxd5 from where White's queen then simultaneously attacks the black bishop on h5 and the pawn on b7. To avoid losing more material Black has little choice but to follow with 16...Bxf3 17.Qxf3 Qxf3 18.gxf3 Rad8 19.Rfd1 and White has a good game, up a pawn. (Later on, I found that Fritz comes up with the same continuation.) I spent about ten minutes working this out over the board and so, confident that things were turning my way, I played...

15.Bxf6 gxf6?

Given that this recapture violates a



Cleveland Johnson. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

number of elementary positional ideas that most 'C' level players and above are well aware of, this is a continuation that I hadn't even considered. Also, as I will show you later, this recapture loses immediately. But that's not where my head was at. I was still caught up in the continuation that I had worked out for 15...Qxf6. Therefore, when Black played 15...gxf6, I was initially surprised, and then confused. I remember thinking, "Why would he do that? I'm sure he knows better than that!" But, seeing this violation of "principle" I gave it all of about 15 seconds, and then I continued along my calculated variation, still seeing only that Black was now going to have to deal with the double-attack against h5 and b7, and that now he has only worsened his position, doubling his pawns on the f-file. So, with little hesitation, I played...

16.Qxd5??

And then came the quick rebuttal

16...Bh2+!!

And that's the end of the game! I sat there

in shock, turning about ten shades of red. Then I went to the bar...

0–1

So, what happened?! It's easy to dismiss this blunder as a simple, elementary chess textbook mistake and then move on without giving it any more attention. But that's the wrong way to approach these things. Since this was my first blunder of a queen, and the most serious piece blunder I've committed in at least 30 years, I became somewhat obsessed with discovering how I set myself up for this. I felt there had to be "more going on" and I wanted to know what that was. The remainder of this article outlines what I discovered.

First, make note of the position of Black's bishop on d6. While it is centrally placed, all of the activity that follows the main continuation after 15...Qxf6 swirls around that Bishop, but does not involve that Bishop. Imagine that Bishop as the eye of a storm — a calm central spot in the middle of a lot of other activity.

With that in mind, then in all of my calculations prior to Black's 15th move *the black Bishop on d6 was never a factor*. In the variations I worked out over the board, *that Bishop is a "static" piece* — essentially a non-factor in the variations I worked out. Therefore, throughout those calculations that static bishop went "off the radar." As a result (and this is important), that static bishop became "invisible" to my mind's eye — *a blind spot that had cemented itself in place*.

Since I hadn't factored that Bishop into the continuations I worked out over the board (because the Bishop wasn't a factor in THOSE continuations), I was unconscious to the new reality that, after 15...gxf6, the bishop on d6 is no longer a static piece. It is now a dynamic piece and —quietly— back on the radar. Thus, I didn't hesitate to continue with my plan and I just forged ahead... and straight through death's door!

Let me add: I wasn't "in a hurry" in the usual sense that we mean it. There was no time-trouble. I was relaxed and seemingly alert, and there were no distractions in the air. It was as simple as that I already "saw" the continuation the position called for after move 14, and I failed to see that ...gxf6 changed the dynamics of the position significantly, dramatically altering the role of Black's

bishop *in the new position*. Frankly, all I saw after 15...gxf6 was that it was a "bad" move (which it is) and that Black hadn't helped his situation.

So, what's the lesson to take away from this unfortunate blunder, and how does one keep from repeating something like this again?

The answer is simple: whenever one encounters a move over the board that comes as a completely unexpected surprise, no matter how dubious or ill-advised that move at first appears, STOP!! Press pause and reevaluate what's just happened.

This is particularly important for any player accustomed to playing (and seeing play) along well-established positional principles. When such a player sees a move that is clearly dubious and compromises positional elements then (depending on the situation) the temptation is to often discount such a move out of hand. One may get away with this for a long time, but sooner or later (as in this game) it's going to catch up with you and when it does it's going to sting!

Every move creates a new position.

Had I taken a moment to stop, press pause, and clear my head, then the correct continuation isn't hard to see:

After 15...gxf6, then comes 16.g4 Bg6 17.Bxg6 fxg6 18.Qxd5+ Kg7 19.Rfd1 Bc7 20.Qxc5 Qe7 21.Qxe7+ Rxe7 and after the smoke clears White is up *two pawns* and clearly winning.

Later on I took solace in discovering that such queen blunders, although rare, have happened to far better players than any of us! Petrosian, Karpov, Topalov, Kramnik (twice!), and a host of other Grandmasters have committed queen blunders in even simpler circumstances than this one! After my game, more than one highly-rated player in attendance at the Washington Open shared their own "queen blunder" stories with me. No one is immune!

But I was compelled to not dismiss my blunder as "just one of those things" and then blow it off. There was more to learn here than to just be more careful. Intuitively, I felt that there was an underlying reason leading to my vulnerability to this blunder, and I wanted to know what that was. Figuring this out has given me some new insights into the dynamics of any given chess position and how we "see" (or don't see) positions as we calculate variations. As I've shared my discovery with you I hope I've been able to offer something for players of any level to learn from.

EVERY move creates a new position.

Vancouver Open

August 11-12, 2018

Site: Hampton Inn & Suites, 315 SE Olympia Drive, Vancouver, WA 98684. 360-891-3000.

HR: \$169 Standard King/Double Queen.

Format: A 5-round Swiss in two sections: Open and Reserve (under 1800).

Time Control: Rd 1: G/60, d10, Rds 2-5: 40/120, SD/30, d10. US Chess August 2018 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: \$2,500 (based on 60 paid entries).

Open: 1st \$400, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$250
1st U2200/U2000: \$150, Biggest Upset: \$75

Reserve: 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$150
1st U1600/U1400/U1200: \$150, Biggest Upset: \$75

Entry Fee: \$75 if postmarked or online by 8/5, \$85 after 8/5 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. US Chess Grand Prix Points: 6. US Chess Junior Grand Prix event. Northwest Chess Grand Prix event.

Entries: Make checks payable to Washington Chess Federation.

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

Phone: 425-218-7529. **Email:** danomatthews01@gmail.com.

Online Registration: www.nwchess.com/onlineregistration.

Penguin Extravaganza

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR — May 5-6, 2018

Probably the most asked question during the signup for May's Penguin Extravaganza tournament that took place over the weekend of May 5-6 was, "What's a penguin got to do with chess?"

It was also the question I had asked myself when first hearing of this brain-child of organizer and Chief TD Isaac Vega, a soft spoken and always smiling member of the Portland Chess Club. Up to now, my only familiarity with an animal capable of playing chess has been Morgan the Dog (not on hand for this tournament as he and his companion Jerrold Richards were not yet back from attending the U.S. Championships in Saint Louis, where Morgan was acting as a second for Wesley So), whom I have always assumed was unique in the animal kingdom.

The mystery was quickly solved upon questioning Vega, who stated a preference for this species, finding them cute and interesting in their habits, and not for their chess prowess, which he assumed was not one of their strong points. And I'm sure that this will come as somewhat of a relief for Morgan, who already has all he can handle in trying to make his live-in companion, Jerrold "I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It's Over" Richards, a better player—having no extra time to show that he can kick the tail end of any upstart



(L) David Murray vs. Steven Breckenridge. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

penguin brave enough to challenge him.

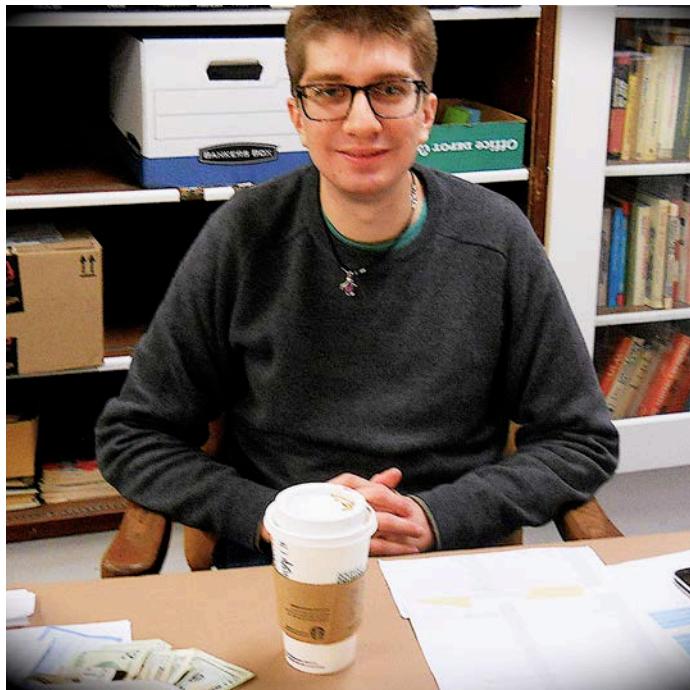
The format for this tournament was a six-round Swiss, broken into two sections. The upper section, labeled as the Premier, was made up of 1700+ players, and the Reserve, of players under 1700, and no playing up was allowed. Only "live" ratings were used to make the pairings, with the option of taking a half-point bye in two rounds if requested before round one. Three rounds a day were scheduled, those being conducted at a time control of game 60, with increment 30—allowing a plentiful buffer for the time-challenged.

On hand to help Vega (1764-1768—2.5/6), who was also playing in the tournament, was Micah Smith, a TD of long experience

who had helped Vega work out the format for this tournament and was now acting as Chief Assistant TD. Smith made the pairings painless and got the first round going pretty much on time, splitting the 25-player field into 12 Premier players, and 13 in the Reserve.

Although I, Brian "I'm Just Glad To Be Here" Berger (1595-1571—4.0/6), had recently been having some luck upping some long-sagging ratings, allowing me to get back into the mid-1600s, my latest encounters had dropped me once again into the 1500s, where playing in the Reserve threatened yet again a further loss of points.

That threat became reality when I lost my first game to Jon Strohbehn (1426-1437—3.5/6) and my fourth game to Austin Tang (1473-1465—3.5/6). Winning the other four games did nothing to change the fact that I would see more rating points subtracted; my only consolation being that I tied for second



Chief TD Isaac Vega. Photo credit: Brian Berger.





(L) Laszlo Szalvay Jr. vs Will Holloran III. Photo credit: Brian Berger.

with Jacob Hoglund (1582-1566—4.0/6), each of us receiving \$25—an amount that did little to ease the pain of dropping 24 more points off my rating.

The Reserve's overall winner was Havish Sripada (1430-1456—4.5/6), a young player who has added almost 1000-points to his rating from where he was about a year ago. His four wins and a draw earned him \$65, 26 more points, and bragging rights.

Patrick Morrissey (1069-1210—4.0/6), a dentist from the Lake Oswego area who is fairly new to the world of chess (and who, during this tournament, added 141 points to his rating), is beginning to show a real feel for the game, this time tying for second with Berger and Hoglund, but taking the greater payout of \$35 for coming in first U1500. While in the U1300, the young Egan Wong (1208-1251—3.5/6) earned the same amount for his first place prize.

In the Premier Section, LM Steven

Breckenridge (2419-2415—5.5/6), made nearly a clean sweep, marred only by an unexpected draw with Will Holloran (1845-1848—3.0/6) in the sixth round, his prize money amounting to \$80, down from the advertised \$125 that was based on 40 players attending.

A l t h o u g h eligible for the first U2100 prize, Karl Cosner (1982-1982—4.0/6) also placed second overall, taking the \$65 payout as the larger of the two prizes. And splitting the first U2100 and first U1900 prizes were Michael Moore (1863-1880—3.5/6),



Isaac Vega's penguin necklace.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

David Murray (1804-1839—3.5/6) and Chris Burris (1704-1772—3.5/6)—Burris gaining nearly 70 rating points, in addition to the \$35 each player received in the split.

The six-round format for the Penguin Extravaganza seemed to be well received, and it is predicted that next year's tournament will undoubtedly draw a greater audience when the word gets out about the fun had here this year.



A glass of surrealism. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Carl Haessler Chess Master

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

2018 BCC #18

By Jeffrey Roland

Boise, ID—May 6, 2018

The 2018 BCC #18 Chess Tournament was held at All About Games on Overland Road in Boise, Idaho on Sunday, May 6, 2018. Jeffrey Roland was the Chief Tournament Director who also played at the request of all the players to make the playing field an even number. The time control was Game/30 plus 30 seconds per move and was rated by US Chess. Entry to the tournament was free and open to everyone.

There were fourteen players in the event, which is about the average for a Boise Chess Club tournament. Ages of the participants range from 12 to 73, with an average age of 33.071 years old. Five cities or towns were represented in the event, Boise (9), Caldwell (1), Eagle (2), Nampa (1), and Star (1). There were 13 males and one female. Four players played in their first BCC tournament on this occasion.

In first place was Idaho State Chess Champion Alex Machin, Boise (1818-1844—3.5/4). Alex was the only player to go undefeated in the event. Since entry was free, as is the case with every BCC event, the first prize is simply to get your picture taken to commemorate the occasion. This is the second time Alex has won a BCC tournament, the first time being BCC #14 from August 2017 and on that occasion Alex tied for first whereas this time it is first place outright. Alex stated after the tournament that he felt this event was a great way to prepare for the Washington Open.

James Inman, Nampa (1793-1794—3.0/4), was clear second place with three points, losing only his third round to Alex Machin. James has been playing a lot of chess throughout the Northwest lately and currently has 37 *Northwest Chess Grand Prix* points, placing him in solid first place for Idaho so far in that category. His next rival at this point is Michael Cambareri with 29 (see Murlin Varner's report on page 28-29 of this issue for more details).

Third-Sixth place was tied between Cody Gorman, Eagle (1925-1907—2.5/4), Jeffrey Roland, Boise (1702-1700—2.5/4), Seth Machakos, Boise (1502-1598—2.5/4), and Brian Lange, Boise (1337P-1382P—2.5/4) each with 2.5 points.

Reggie Holmquist, Boise (1694P-1590P—2.0/4) played in his second-ever tournament here, his first being the 2010 Idaho Closed State Championship more than eight years prior. (Most players in this event had never heard of him, or couldn't remember him,



Cody Gorman (L) versus Alex Machin. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

as in chess events eight years is a long time to be gone.) Tom Booth, Caldwell (1500-1500—2.0/4), Justin Siek, Boise (1144-1141—2.0/4), and Bryce Leifeste, Eagle (889P-1037P—2.0/4) rounded out those players tied for seventh-tenth places.

The last four players to mention are Graeme Faulkner, Boise (1558-1490—1.0/4), Joetta Faulkner, Boise (936-894—1.0/4), Parker Sailor, Star (668P-650P—1.0/4), and Steven Qiu, Boise (431P-516P—1.0/4).

**Alex James Machin (1818) –
Cody Gorman (1925) [A00]**
2018 BCC #18 Boise, ID
(R4), May 6, 2018
[Alex Machin]

**1.e4 e6 2.d3 b6 3.Nf3 Bb7 4.g3 c5 5.Bg2
Nc6 6.0–0 Nf6 7.Nbd2 Be7 8.Re1 d5
9.c3 Qc7 10.a3**

I was planning on playing e5 followed by d4. I wanted to protect the b4 square to prevent a possible Nb4.

**10...0–0 11.h4 Ba6 12.e5 Nd7 13.d4
cxd4 14.cxd4 Na5 15.b4!**



Position after 15.b4

I need to act fast before he gets going on the queenside. There are two main sources of counterplay for Black. He can either occupy the c4-hole with the knight or play Rc8 followed by Qc2. 15.b3? Trying to protect the c4-square is too slow. 15... Rac8 16.Bb2 Qc2

15...Nc4 16.Nxc4 Bxc4



Position after 16...Bxc4

16...Qxc4? 17.Bf1 Qc8 18.b5 Bb7 19.Bg5; 16...dxc4? Creates a passed pawn, but cuts off any counterplay through the c-file and allows White to pursue his attack on the kingside with gain of time. 17.Ng5 Rac8 18.Qh5 h6 (18...Bxg5? Giving up the dark squares seems impractical. With a quick rooklift, Black will have a tough time defending his kingside. 19.Bxg5) 19.Ne4.

17.Bg5 Rfe8

If Black had one more move, he would play Bf8 and avoid the exchange.

18.Bxe7 Rxe7 19.h5 Rc8 20.h6

This idea wouldn't be possible if there was a black bishop on f8. Even at the "cost" of a pawn, it's seems best to weaken Black's king in any way.

20...g6 21.Qd2 Qd8 22.Bh3 b5 23.Re3

Qf8 24.Kg2 Qxh6?

Winning a pawn but offering White the h-file to play with.

25.Rh1 Qg7 26.Bg4 f5 27.exf6 Qxf6 28.Ne5 Nxe5 29.Rxe5

Black has weak dark squares, an immobile bishop and a backward pawn. White is clearly better.

29...Bb3 30.Rc1 Rxc1 31.Qxc1 Be4 32.Qe3 Kf7 33.Qh6 Kg8 34.Qh3 Bd3 35.Bxe6+ Kg7 36.Bxd5 Bf5? 37.Rxe7+ Qxe7 38.Qh4 g5 39.Qh5 h6 40.Qf3 Qf6 41.Qe3 Bd7 42.Qe5 Qxe5 43.dxe5 g4 44.f4 gxf3+ 45.Kxf3 Kg6 46.Kf4 Be8 47.Be6 Bc6



Position after 47...Bc6

With the pawns on e5/g3 and the bishop

on e6 there is a wall that guards all the squares. The plan for White is to bring the king up to c5 to support his passed pawn or win the queenside pawns. Unfortunately, I thought my king had to stay and guard the g5 square to prevent his king from coming up.

48.Bc8 Be8 49.e6? Kf6 50.Bd7 Bg6 51.Ke3 Ke7 52.Kd4 Kd6 53.Bxb5 Kxe6 54.Kc5 Be4 55.Bc6 Bd3 56.b5



Position after 56.b5

There's still a chance to win. The plan here should be Kb4, Ka5, Ka6, Kxa7.

56...Bc2 57.b6? axb6+ 58.Kxb6

The game is drawn. With ideas of sacking the bishop for the a-pawn and winning the g-pawn with the king, it isn't too hard to defend as Black.

58...Kf5 59.Bd7+ Kg5 60.Kb5 h5 61.Bc6 Bd3+

61...Kg4 62.Be8 Kxg3 63.Bxh5

62.Kb4 Bc2 63.Bd7 Bd1 ½-½



Alex Machin in "victory pose."
Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.



All fourteen players in the tournament. Note the ambiance of the room is perfect for gaming. Photo credit: Jef Leifeste.

May 2018 PCC Game 60

By Brian Berger

Portland, OR—May 12, 2018

With the temperature predicted to be in the 80s, it was difficult to guess what the greater draw might be—the Portland Chess Club's May Game 60, or “tip-toeing thru the tulips” for those who might want to take advantage of a beautiful Saturday. So it was surprising that, what at first seemed a win for the tulips (many of those registering waited until the last minute), instead turned out to be a sizable showing for an indoor activity, numbering 37 players at final count.

Having missed the Penguin Extravaganza tournament the previous weekend, Morgan the Dog seemed happy to be back from Saint Louis, where he (in company with Jerrold Richards) had spent time with Wesley So, helping him in his preparation for the U.S. Championships. Rubbing elbows with the chess world's elite players is always fun for Morgan, but his fan base in Oregon makes the Portland Chess Club his preferred venue—a place for quality back-scratches, belly-rubs, and some guy who surreptitiously slips him chicken nuggets and french fries when Jerrold Richards is otherwise occupied.

And speaking of Jerrold “I Just Want To Reach 1600 Before It's Over” Richards (1344-1346—2.0/4), who played in the Lower Section (30 or more

players requires two sections), his second round win against a player slightly over 200-points his better, and one much lower rated, was enough to give his rating a two-point nudge, and was cause for celebration. (At this stage in life—both Richards' and mine—**anything** in the plus column is a cause for celebration.)

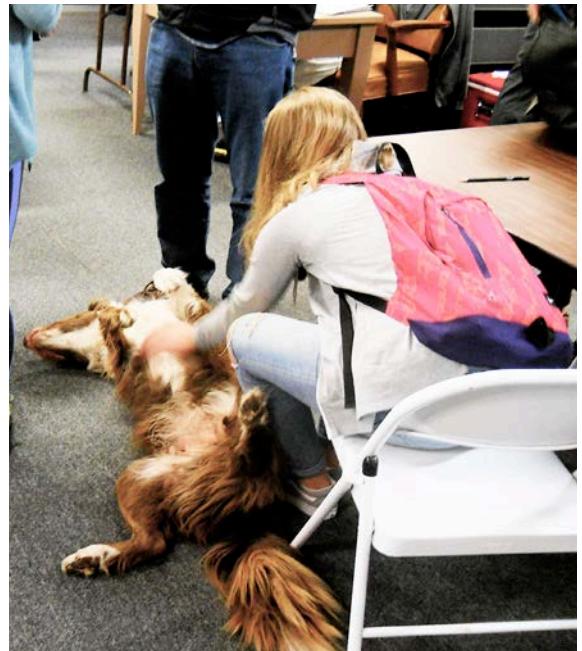
Unfortunately, this was not a day of celebration for me, Brian “I'm Just Glad To Be Here” Berger (1571-1552—1.0/4), who played in the Main Section and suffered a first-round defeat at the hands of Roshen Nair (1871-1853—2.0/4), and then again in round three against Kushal Pai (1629-1667—2.5/4)—those games and two draws left me with a 19-point loss in rating, and a mild bruising to my ego.

Those in the Main Section better informed than myself in the finer points of the game were Isaac Vega (1768-1823—3.5/4) and Steven Witt (1906-1924—3.5/4), both tying for first/second overall, with three wins and a draw. Besides the \$66 each received after the split, there was also a substantial bonus for Vega—a 55-point gain in rating.

The other prize money in the Main Section went to Brian Lee (1726-1772—



(L) Chad Lykins vs Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet. Photo credit: Brian Berger.



Cassandra Roshu giving Morgan the Dog a belly rub.
Photo credit: Brian Berger.

3.0/4), Zoey Tang (1679-1718—3.0/4), and James Nelson (1622-1720—3.0/4), who all tied for first U1800, generating a payoff of \$16 each and a 46-point gain in rating for Lee.

The Lower Section saw another tie for first/second overall, this time a three-way tie, with \$44 each being the amount distributed to Havish Sripada (1456-1488—3.5/4), Cassandra Roshu (1369-1436—3.5/4), and Pierre-Hadrien Beauchet (1323-1408—3.5/4). A nice boost in rating was the icing-on-the-cake for all three winners, with Beauchet gaining the most points (85), followed by Roshu's 67, and Sripada's 32.

Lastly, the U1200/Unrated went to Vimal Adiraju (649P-839P—2.0/4), who not only collected \$48 in winnings, but gained some 190-points on his provisional rating—his two wins being against players rated 1100+ and 1200+.

It must be noted that, although not a prize winner, Egan Wong (1251-1336—2.5/4) must have felt like one, by winning against two players who out-gunned him by 200+ and nearly 150-points respectively. And Sophie Beauchet (214P-287P—1.0/2), though not registered to play in this tournament, acted as a house player, drawing both of her games—the result of which added a substantial 73-points to her provisional rating.

Thanks must go to Chief TD Mike Hasuiken and Chief Assistant TD Geoff Kenway for a great TDing job, and to Mike Morris for his help during registration.

68th Annual Oregon Open

September 1-3, 2018

\$10,000 Guaranteed

Sponsored by the Portland Chess Club and Oregon Chess Federation

FORMAT: 6-round Swiss in three sections, Open, U2000, and U1600. The official US Chess regular ratings are generally used. Unofficial US Chess regular ratings based on at least four games or foreign ratings (with adjustment if necessary) are generally used for players with no official US Chess regular rating. There is a choice between a 3-day and 2-day schedule. Up to two half point byes are available if requested before round one.

TIME CONTROL: 40/120, SD/30; d10, first three rounds of the 2-day schedule are played at G/60; d10. **Please bring digital clocks as well as sets and boards (none supplied).**

SCHEDULE: **3-day:** A players meeting is scheduled to start at 10:30am on Saturday. The rounds are scheduled to start at 11am and 5pm on Saturday, 10am and 6pm on Sunday, and 9:30am and 3:30pm on Monday. **2-day:** A players meeting is scheduled to start at 8:45am on Sunday. The first three rounds are scheduled to start at 9am, 11:45am, and 2:30pm on Sunday then the schedule merges with the 3-day for round four at 6pm on Sunday.

ENTRY FEE: \$105 if you pre-register by Thursday, August 30, \$125 on-site. Free entry to GM's and IM's if pre-registered by August 30 (\$105 is deducted from any prize won). Players under the age of 19 in the U1600 section may pay a lower rate (\$25 if pre-registered by August 30, \$35 on-site) and compete for trophies instead of cash prizes. Players in the 3-day may withdraw and re-enter into the 2-day by paying \$105. **US Chess & OCF/WCF/ICA** memberships are also required (other states accepted).

RATED: All the sections are US Chess rated. The Open section is also FIDE rated except for the first three rounds of the 2-day schedule. FIDE rules are used in the Open section (including the first 3-rounds of the 2-day schedule; see the US Chess-FIDE rule differences at pdxchess.org). US Chess rules are used in the U2000 and U1600 sections.

REGISTRATION: **Please pre-register.** To do so, we must receive your registration information at nwchess.com/onlineregistration and your entry fee and any membership fees either online or through the mail by August 30. If you don't pre-register, on-site registration is available from 9-10:30am Saturday for the 3-day schedule and 8-8:45am Sunday for the 2-day schedule (only cash or check is accepted on-site).

OPEN SECTION PRIZES

1ST, 2ND, 3RD: \$2000-1000-500; **U2200:** \$500-300-200

U2000 SECTION PRIZES

1ST, 2ND, 3RD: \$1000-600-400; **U1800:** \$500-300-200

U1600 SECTION PRIZES

1ST, 2ND, 3RD: \$500-300-200; **U1400:** \$500-300-200

U1200: \$300 **UNR:** \$200

Unrated players are limited to the place prizes in the Open section and the unrated prize in the U1600 section. Players winning \$600 or more must complete an IRS form with SSN before payment. Foreign players may be subject to withholding taxes. Players under 19 in the U1600 section choosing the lower entry fee option will compete for trophies instead of cash prizes based on points. Players rated 1400 or higher will win a trophy if they score at least 5, players rated between 1200 and 1399 will win a trophy if they score at least 4, and players rated under 1200 or unrated will win a trophy if they score at least 3.5.

OTHER: The tournament is a Northwest Chess, US Chess, and US Chess Junior Grand Prix event and a qualifier for the Oregon Championship, Oregon Invitational, and OSCF State Championship. See the people who have helped sponsor the tournament at pdxchess.org. Send an email to email@pdxchess.org if you have questions regarding the event.

SIDE EVENTS: **Scholastic**-see all the information at pdxchess.org. **Blitz**-registration runs on Sunday from 3-3:20pm. Play starts at 3:30pm Sunday and will likely last until around 5:30pm. 5-round double Swiss in one section. The higher of a player's official US Chess regular and blitz rating is generally used. Unofficial US Chess regular or blitz ratings based on at least four games or foreign ratings (with adjustment if necessary) are generally used for players with no official US Chess regular or blitz rating. G/3;inc2, US Chess blitz rated, \$20 entry fee, prize fund: \$220 based on 20-1st \$65, 2nd \$45, U2100-\$35, U1900-\$30, U1700-\$25, U1500-\$20; unrated players are eligible for all the prizes. **OCF annual membership meeting**-Sunday at 4:30pm.

LOCATION: Lloyd Center DoubleTree Hotel, 1000 NE Multnomah St, Portland, OR 97232. There is free parking at the hotel. A limited number of hotel rooms are available at a special chess rate of \$109 plus tax for single or double occupancy. **The rate lasts until the block of rooms sell out or until August 1, whichever comes first.** Call 1-800-996-0510 to reserve a room.

Northwest Chess Scanning Project

Last new scans added: June 9, 2018.

This project was initiated in the fall of 2009 by Russell (“Rusty”) Miller, Mark Turner, IM John Donaldson and NWC Business Manager Eric Holcomb. Idaho representative Jeffrey Roland joined the project in August 2011. Eventually complete scans of all NWC magazines (and older WCL magazines) will be available on this website. All scans have been optimized and converted to Adobe PDF format. Some scans have also been “cleaned up” to remove stray marks and/or improve contrast.

To the extent allowed by applicable laws, Northwest Chess (a registered nonprofit corporation) retains copyright on all issues of *Northwest Chess*, *Northwest Chess Letter*, and *Washington Chess Letter*. Permission is given for private, non-commercial use, including chess club use. For other uses including republication in any form, please contact the NWC Business Manager.

Scans of 1970, 1972-73 and 1987 issues by Jeffrey Roland, edited and compiled by Eric Holcomb.

Scans of 1971 and 1974 issues by Russell Miller, edited and compiled by Eric Holcomb.

Scans of Aug 2004-Aug 2008 issues by Mike MacGregor of the Tacoma Chess Club,
edited and compiled by Eric Holcomb.

Beginning Sep 2008, PDF files are made directly from the print production files, and are of higher quality. More scans will be posted as they become available. Since the 750th issue was printed in June 2010 (and the 800th in September 2014), this project will take some time to complete, but has reached the 50% mark as of June 2, 2018!

For older *Washington Chess Letter* issues, see the [WCL scans page](#) in the history section.

Also see [Puget Sound Chess News](#), Sep. 1946 to Feb. 1947 (PDF file of scans).

WCL scans (1947-1964)	155
NWCL scans (1965-1968)	24
NWC scans (1968-2018)	247
Total scans available	422
Total issues to date (to 5/2018)	844
% of total scanned	50.5%

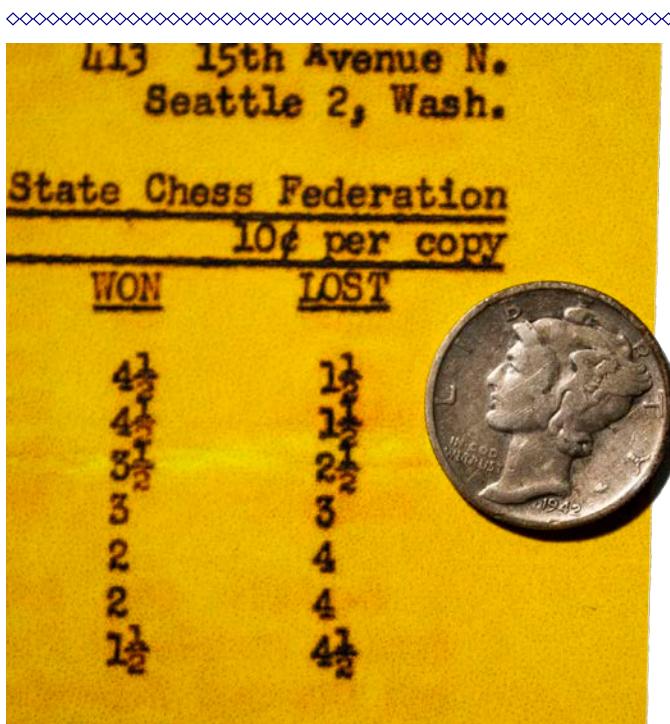


Image of the first page of Volume 1, Number 1, November 1947 and a 1942 Mercury Dime. Photo credit: Jeffrey Roland.

What a privilege it is to be alive and to be part of *Northwest Chess*! Cleaning my house a few weeks ago, I ran across this 1942 “Mercury” dime! And today while looking at the issues on the website in the scanning project, I noticed it was ten cents to purchase the first issue, so I took the picture to the left.

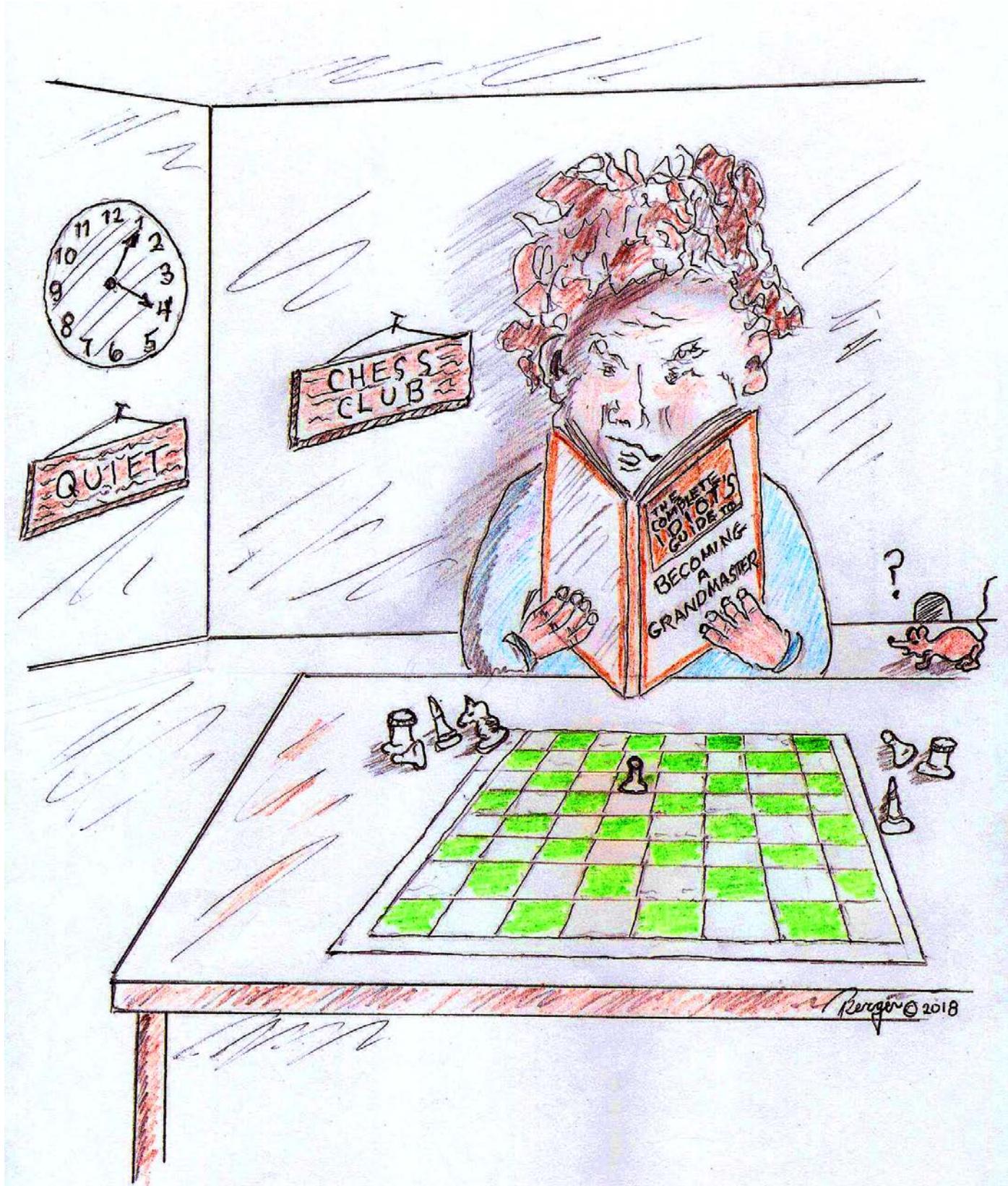
In 1946 Roosevelt was put on the dime, so it “could” have been a Roosevelt dime, but they were new and only two years minted. So in all likelihood, dimes like these were used to buy the first issue of *Northwest Chess*!

And 71 years ago is actually not all that long ago. There are probably still people alive today who remember getting this first issue and the ones that followed.

There are some other issues I have scanned too that aren’t yet online, but Eric Holcomb has them and will get to them (1975, 1988-1989). I think it’s great that we are right now concentrating more on the older issues as they are much rarer.

In addition to the fantastic magazine we have had in its three names (*Washington Chess Letter*, *Northwest Chess Letter*, and *Northwest Chess*) since November 1947, the fact that we are scanning them, preserving them, and that we realize how truly valuable they are—because today’s events become tomorrow’s history—I invite everyone to go to the old issues and take it all in!

And I hope to see all the issues available soon too. It does take time, but we can definitely get it done! Today, we are 50.5% and I think that’s great! — Jeffrey Roland, Editor



WILBUR BELIEVED THAT, EVEN THOUGH HE HAD BEEN A D-PLAYER FOR THE LAST 20-YEARS, ONE DAY, HE COULD BECOME A GRANDMASTER. HE ALSO BELIEVED IN THE "TOOTH-FAIRY," "SANTA CLAUS," "BIG FOOT," "UFO'S," AND THE WEATHER PREDICTION OF A GROUNDHOG!

The 2018 John Braley Memorial Northwest Chess Grand Prix

Murlin Varner, Administrator

mevjr54@outlook.com

Well, the Washington Open has come and gone. With 200 entries and a 6x multiplier, it has made a large number of changes to our standings, not just in Washington. Idaho was well represented, with five players. Those five now hold five of the top six spots in Idaho. Ten players came up from Oregon, and they, too, occupy some of the top spots in their state as a result. The 175 Washington players now hold most of the leadership spots on the standings, below. But not your faithful author. I found myself quite able to gain the advantage in the openings and quite incapable of holding on to the advantage once gained. Perhaps I should play more frequently. I am always telling my readers that they will play better chess if they play more often, AND gain more Grand Prix points. I should listen to myself.

May ended with the above mentioned tournament, and our statistics are up to date as of the end of that tournament. June, which is just starting for me and about finishing up for you, had another seven tournaments, with three in Seattle, three in Portland and one in Mountain Home. Only one, the Emerald City Open in Seattle had a multiplier (2x), so the effects of June's tournaments will not be as dramatic as May's. For your upcoming chess pleasure, July will offer you an additional six events, in Seattle (2), Portland (3) and Boise. The Rose City Sectionals in Portland on the first weekend of July will be the only offering with a multiplier (2x). But play anyway, all events give points, at least two if you finish your schedule. Remember, the two point bonus, which is added before the multiplier is applied, is only earned if you complete the tournament without any U or F rounds in your score.

If you want to look to the not so distant future, make plans to play multiple weekend in August. There are two multiplier events on subsequent weekends for those who don't play in the U. S. Open in Madison, and then September first, the Oregon Open will jumble up the standings with another 6x behemoth. Save some time for these and rack up some major points.

Data below is current through May 31, except for the Pierce County Open.

2018 Memorial Northwest Grand Prix Standings

Idaho			Oregon			Washington		
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
Masters								
			1 Breckenridge Steven J		25.5	1 Perez		Ignacio 103.5
			2 Grabinsky Joshua		13.0	2 Pupols		Viktors 89.5
			3 Zavortink Matt		12.0	3 Schill		William J 47.5
			4 McCoy Owen		11.0	4 Six Tied At		42.0
			5 Cigan Jason D		7.0			
Experts								
1 Cambareri	Michael E	65.0	1 Richardson	Ryan	46.5	1 Mahajan		Rushaan 73.5
2 Machin	Alex J	45.5	2 Gatica	Jose M	37.5	2 Yu		Jason 69.5
3 Inman	James	37.0	3 Kelley	Dereque D	20.0	3 Arganian		David G 54.0
4 Nathan	Jacob A	8.0	3 Cosner	Karl	20.0	4 Truelson		Joseph 49.5
5 Kircher	Caleb P	7.0	5 Donnell	Brian G	15.0	5 Zhang		Eric M 46.0
Class B								
1 Roland	Jeffrey T	35.5	1 Moore	Michael	79.5	1 Fagundes		Frank 100.0
1 Wei	James	35.5	2 Nair	Roshen S	78.0	2 Levine		Joseph R 90.0
3 Rainey	Samuel W	24.0	3 Vega	Isaac	73.0	3 Beck		Alec W 76.0
4 Geyman	Jonathan P	23.5	4 Rachmuth	Moshe S	35.5	4 Anand		Vignesh 74.0
5 Martonick	Nick	16.5	5 Botez	Andrea C C	24.5	5 Tien		Sophie J 69.5
Class A								

Idaho			Oregon			Washington		
last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.	last	first	pts.
Class C						Class B		
1 Weyland	Ron	13.5	1 Tang	Zoey	82.5	1 Kaelin	Alex	69.0
2 Mason	Dusty G	9.5	2 Kodithyala	Raj	67.5	2 Buck	Stephen J	68.5
3 Owen	Gary	5.5	3 Wu	Abbie	37.5	3 Roberts	Theodore (Teddy)	53.0
3 Looney	Daniel S	5.5	3 Berger	Brian F	37.5	4 Cross	Jason	49.5
5 Nyblade	Wesley	5.0	5 Erard	Eric C	26.5	5 Lee	Brian	49.0
Class D						Class C		
1 Merry	William A F	20	1 Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	84.5	1 Gupta	Anand	76.0
2 Porth	Adam	10.5	2 Tang	Austin	84.0	2 Min	Ryan	75.0
2 Shepard	River C	10.5	3 Sripada	Havish	42.0	3 Piper	August	72.0
4 Zaklan	David A	7	4 Dietz	Arliss	37.0	4 Goktepe	Derin	71.0
5 Kitterman	Andrew N	5	5 Roshu	Cassandra M	26.0	5 Hua	Anthony	69.5
Class E and Below						Class D and Below		
1 Wei	Luke B	25.0	1 Morrissey	Patrick W	28.5	1 Li	Edward	59.5
2 Geyman	Josiah B	15.0	2 Kenway	Geoffrey W	26.0	2 Richards	Jerrold	58.5
3 Porth	Darwin A	9.0	3 Wong	Egan	24.0	3 Vemparala	Nikash	55.5
3 Wetmur	Harold R	9.0	4 Kong	David	15.5	3 Kou	Jeffrey	55.5
3 Mason	Brandon	9.0	4 Three Tied At		15.0	5 Chen	Aiden	54.0
Overall Leaders, by State								
1 Cambareri	Michael E	65.0	1 Beauchet	Pierre-Hadrien	84.5	1 Perez	Ignacio	103.5
2 Machin	Alex J	45.5	2 Tang	Austin	84.0	2 Fagundes	Frank	100.0
3 Inman	James	37.0	3 Tang	Zoey	82.5	3 Levine	Joseph R	90.0
4 Roland	Jeffrey T	35.5	4 Moore	Michael	79.5	4 Pupols	Viktors	89.5
4 Wei	James	35.5	5 Nair	Roshen S	78.0	5 Beck	Alec W	76.0
6 Wei	Luke B	25.0	6 Vega	Isaac	73.0	5 Gupta	Anand	76.0
7 Rainey	Samuel W	24.0	7 Kodithyala	Raj	67.5	7 Min	Ryan	75.0
8 Geyman	Jonathan P	23.5	8 Richardson	Ryan	46.5	8 Anand	Vignesh	74.0
9 Merry	William A F	20.0	8 Sripada	Havish	42.0	9 Mahajan	Rushaan	73.5
10 Martonick	Nick	16.5	10 Gatica	Jose M	37.5	10 Piper	August	72.0
10 Geyman	Josiah B	15.0	10 Wu	Abbie	37.5	11 Goktepe	Derin	71.0
12 Weyland	Ron	13.5	10 Berger	Brian F	37.5	12 Three Tied At		69.5

FIDE Grandmaster Emil Jozsef Anka

Intl. Arbiter, Univ. Degree Chess Coach, USCF Tourn. Dir.

Grandmaster Camps, Private lessons,
Group lessons, After School Clubs



ChessSport
.com

Strategy.
Satisfaction.
Success.

gm.emilanka@chesssport.com, gm.emilanka@gmail.com
Kirkland, WA, www.chesssport.com (360-255-9392)

Neil Salmon

Professional Chess Coach

USCF Life Master
5-time Washington State Champion
45 years experience



Private Lessons, Group Lessons
Scholastic Chess Clubs
Camps & Workshops

(253) 229-9646
neilsalmon@gmail.com

Seattle Chess Club Tournaments

Address

→ 2150 N 107 St, B85 ←
Seattle WA 98133

Infoline

206-417-5405

seattlechess.club
kleistcf@aol.com

Address for Entries

SCC Tnmt Dir
2420 S 137 St
Seattle WA 98168

July 8, Aug 12 **New Date**

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. **Byes:** 1 (Rd 3/4-commit at reg.). **Misc:** US Chess, WCF/OCF/ICA memb. req'd, OSA. NS, NC.

July 28 **New Date**, Aug 25

Format: 3-RR, 4-ply 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.

July 29 **New Date**

Format: 4-SS. Open to U1200 and UNR. **TC:** G/75; d5. **EF:** \$11 by 7/25, \$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

WCF @ the SCC

Seattle Masters Series	<i>July 7</i>
GM Summer Camp 1	<i>June 25-29</i>
Kings vs Princes 6	<i>June 30-July 1</i>
GM Summer Camp 2	<i>July 9-13</i>
OR vs. WA Match	<i>July 13-15</i>
GM Summer Camp 3	<i>July 30-Aug. 3</i>
GM Summer Camp 4	<i>Aug. 6-10</i>
Seattle Classic	<i>Aug. 15-19</i>

Seattle Seafair

July 20-22 or July 21-22

A one section, five-round Swiss with time controls of 40/120 & SD/60; d5 [Two-day schedule – Rd. One, G/60; d5]. The prize fund of \$1500 is based on 60 paid entries, 6 per prize group. Limit, 60 players.

a Northwest Grand Prix event

First	\$300 gtd.	U1800	\$115
Second	\$200 gtd.	U1600	\$110
Third	\$100 gtd.	U1400	\$105
U2200	\$125	U1200	\$50
U2000	\$120	Unrated	\$35
Best Upset (Rds 1-4)		\$10/rd	
Plus Score Pool		\$200	

Entry Fees: \$44 if received by 7/18, \$55 at site. **GMs, IMs, & WGMs–FREE.** **Unrated–Free** with purchase of 1-yr US Chess & 1-yr WCF. **SCC Members**—subtract \$12. Members of other dues-required CCs in BC, ID, OR, or WA—subtract \$6. **Add \$1 to any EF for 2-day schedule.** You can register online at www.seattlechess.club.

Registration: Fri. 7-7:45 p.m., Sat. 9-9:45 a.m.

Rounds: Fri. 8, Sat. (10 @ G/60)-12:30-6:45, Sun. 11-5.

Byes: 2 (Sunday rounds, commit at reg.) **Misc:** US Chess & WCF memb. req'd. OSA. No smoking. No computers.

Upcoming Events

☒ denotes 2018 Northwest Grand Prix event; for Seattle Chess Club events see page 30

Jun 25-29, Jul 9-13, Jul 30-Aug 3, Aug 6-10 Seattle GM Summer Camps, **Seattle, WA.** (Full-Page Ad page 4)

☒ **Jul 7-8** 4th Annual Rose City Sectionals, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave, Portland, OR 97219. 4-round Swiss in four sections, Open, U1900, U1600, U1300. The “live” US Chess regular ratings are usually used for section eligibility, pairings, and prize eligibility. If there are multiple players with a full point bye, these players will be paired together for a rated game which counts for tournament score purposes for the player in the higher section. TC: G/90;inc30. One half point bye is available if requested before round one. US Chess and NWSRS rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45am. Rds: 10am and 2:45pm each day. Rounds 2 and 4 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: \$45, \$35 for PCC members. Add \$10 for each section you play up. Pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club. US Chess membership is required and can be purchased during registration. Prizes (\$1500 b/50): Open: 1st-\$185, 2nd-\$115, 3rd-\$75, 1st U2050-\$75; U1900: 1st-\$160, 2nd-\$100, 3rd-\$65, 1st U1750-\$65; U1600: 1st-\$140, 2nd-\$90, 3rd-\$60, 1st U1450-\$60; U1300: 1st-\$120, 2nd-\$80, 3rd-\$55, 1st U1150-\$55. Unrated players are eligible for all of the prizes. Bonus prizes: Any player who goes 4-0 will receive a \$35 discount on the entry fee into next year’s Rose City Sectionals. Any scholastic player who scores at least 2.5 will be able to select a trophy. OSCF State qualifier. More info. at pdxchess.org, (503) 246-2978.

Jul 13-15 Washington vs. Oregon Challenge Match, **Seattle, WA.** (Half-Page Ad page 15)

☒ **Jul 14** ICA Summer Classic, **Boise, ID.** 4SS, Time Control: G/45; d5. Sections: Open (USChess rated). Site: Simplot Ballroom, Student Union Bldg. Boise State University, 1910 University Dr., Boise, Idaho 83725. US Chess and ICA membership req’d. Other states acceptable. EF: Free for pre-registration! \$10 at door. Check in: 9-9:30 am. Rd. times: 10am, continuous until 6pm. Maximum one half-point bye, Rounds 1-3, commit before round is paired. 0-point bye round 4. Prizes: 1st - 3rd place prizes. Top Scholastic & Raffle prize!! Tie-break Order: Solkoff, Median, Opponent’s Cumulative, Modified Median. Chess Sets & clocks not provided. No Insufficient Losing Chances rule. TD: Jeffrey Roland & Alise Pemsler. Details: idahochessassociation@gmail.com, Online registration at www.idahochessassociation.com.

☒ **Jul 15/Aug 19** Portland CC Sunday Quads, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR - Map. 3-round quads. Some or all the sections may run as a 3-round Swiss with more than four players. The “live” US Chess regular ratings are usually used for section placement and pairings. G/50;inc15, US Chess and NWSRS rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45am, Rds: 10am, 12:30pm, 3pm. 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 (pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club), free entry for players who are playing in their first US Chess rated tournament. US Chess membership is required and can be purchased during registration. Winner of each section receives \$10 discount on the entry fee to one of the next three PCC Sunday or Tuesday Quads. If there is a six or seven player Swiss, the runner-up receives \$5 discount. Bonus scholastic awards: trophy for winning section with 3 points; smaller trophy for winning or tying for first with 2.5; medal for winning or tying for first with 2 or 1.5. OSCF State qualifier. More info. at pdxchess.org. Phone: (503) 246-2978.

Jul 21 Bend Summer Quads, **Bend, OR.** Site: Whispering Winds, 2920 N.E. Conners Ave., Bend, OR 97701. Format: Open Quads sections (U.S. Chess rated, 3-RR or bottom section may be 3-SS). TC: G/60; d5. Entry Fee: \$20; free to first-time U.S. Chess members joining at site. Reg.: 9:00-9:30. Rounds: 9:30, 1:00, 3:00. Prizes: \$40 first place in each section. Entries/Info: Paul Shannon, NTD, 60958 Targhee Dr, Bend, OR 97702, email countdune@netscape.net. Misc: U.S. Chess memb. req’d., W, NS, NC. Sponsored by Central Oregon Chess Club.

Jul 25 Chess It’s More Than Just A Game presentation by Jim Egerton, MBA, **Seattle, WA.** (Full-Page Ad page 16)

☒ **Jul 28/Aug 25** Portland CC Game in 60, **Portland, OR.** Site: Portland Chess Club, 8205 SW 24th Ave., Portland, OR - Map. 4-round Swiss. If there are less than thirty players it’s played in one section. If there are at least thirty players it’s split into two sections at the mid-point of the field based on rating except that both sections will start with an even number of players if possible. G/60;inc5, one half point bye available if requested before round 1, US Chess rated. On-site reg: 9-9:45 am. Rds: 10am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm, 4:30pm. Players who have a game go around the full time can request extra time off before the next round. EF: \$20, \$15 for PCC members (pay by cash or check payable to Portland Chess Club). US Chess and OCF/WCF/ICA memberships are required and can be purchased during registration (OSA). Prizes: If one section (\$200/b20): 1st-\$60, 2nd-\$40, 3rd-\$30; 1st U1800/unrated, 1st U1500/unrated-\$35 each. If two sections, upper section (\$150/b15): 1st-\$70, 2nd-\$40, 1st U1800/unrated-\$40; lower section (\$150/b15): 1st-\$70, 2nd-\$40, 1st U1200/unrated-\$40. OSCF State qualifier. More info at pdxchess.org. Phone: (503) 246-2978.

Aug 11-12 Vancouver Open, Vancouver, WA. (Half-Page Ad page 19)

Aug 15-19 2nd Annual Seattle Chess Classic, **Seattle, WA.** (Full-Page Ad page 16)

☒ **Aug 18-19** Spokane Falls Open, **Spokane, WA.** Site: Gonzaga University, Jepson Center, Rm. 108 & 109. Registration: Sat. 8:30-9:45 a.m. Rounds: Sat. 10:00-2:30-7:00, Sun: 9:00-1:30 or ASAP. Time Control: G/120 (with 5 second delay). E.F.: \$20 if received by 8/18, \$3 less for 18 year olds and under, \$25 for all at the site. Telephone entries accepted. Early entries can be paid at the club or call or email and I will honor the early entry fee at the site if contacted prior to 8/18. US Chess rated. \$500 prize fund based on 25, Class prizes based on at least five per section. Only one prize per person (excluding biggest upset - both players must have established ratings). NS, NC, W. One ½ point bye if requested before proceeding round; Sunday byes must be requested before the end of round 3. Director reserves the right to use class pairings in the final round. Prizes: 1st Overall: \$150, 2nd Overall: \$100. Class Prizes: 1st (U/1800; U/1600; U/1400) \$50, 2nd (U/1800; U/1600; U/1400) \$25, Biggest Upset: \$25 (non-provisional ratings). Cookies & coffee provided. Entries: Spokane CC, c/o James Stripes. For information: cell (509) 251-2737, email: jdstripes@gmail.com.

Aug 26 Boise Chess Club #20, **Boise, ID.** All About Games, 7079 W. Overland Road, Boise, Idaho 83709. 4SS, US Chess Rated, Game/30 + 30 second time increment per move. Jeffrey Roland will be Chief TD. Please register by e-mailing jroland@cableone.net. Email pre-registration is appreciated to speed up registration. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Registration will be from 8:30-9:00 a.m. First round “should”/“could”/ probably will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. Those coming late may get a first-round half-point bye. 90-minute break for lunch taken after round 2. Estimated time for end of tournament is 7:30 p.m. Entry is Free. Donations gladly accepted!

Sep 1-3 68th Annual Oregon Open, **Portland, OR.** (Full-Page Ad page 25)

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

Periodicals Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA

