

# The Montana Chess Newsletter

The Montana Chess Association

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## MONTANA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP: DUKE AND LUNDELL CO-CHAMPIONS BY: BILL MCBROOM



The 2007 Montana State Championship

David Duke and Jens Lundell tied for first place, each earning 3 1/2 points in the Montana Closed Championship.

Not only do they both get bragging rights, but they are also guaranteed a seat in next year's Closed Championship. The MCA Constitution provides for a ten-person Swiss format in the event of co-champions. The other eight will be the best three grand prix finishers and the first five plus-score finishers from the 2008 Open in Billings next April—in that order. The Executive Board is currently in the process of securing a site for 2008 championship event. It

will be sometime in June.

The 2007 Closed tournament, held in Butte on June 9 and 10, saw a very evenly matched field—less than 150 rating points separated the players. As might be expected considering this, no one got skunked.

Jim Skovron, finishing with three points, was in the hunt up to the last round when Mike Jensen, as White, essayed a “track-down-the-Bishop” variation of the Classical Caro-Kann

Continued on page 5

## BARTO MEMORIAL A SUCCESS



A passing traveler, Mike Corrigan from Vermont, collecting his first place prize from the Barto Memorial.

The Barto Memorial tournament, which is held concurrently with the Closed state championship, drew eight players this year. This is slightly up from previous years, said tournament director Bill McBroom, who also participated in the tournament. He hopes that advanced notice will produce even higher numbers next

year.

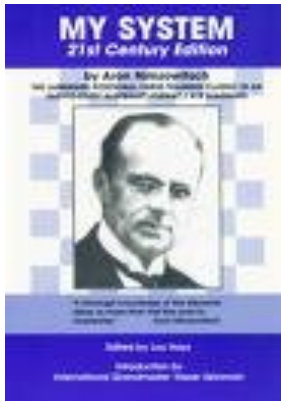
Michael Corrigan, visiting from Vermont, had seen the Chess Life TLA and came to play. He did well, scoring 4 1/2 for the modified first prize of \$40. With three points apiece, Thad Suits and Murray Long split the \$28 second prize.



White to play and win from Corrigan-Nguyen from round 2 of the Barto (Answer on Page 9).







“...to show the student the danger lurking in indiscriminate bartering, we propose to enumerate the cases in which an exchange seems to be indicated. If an exchange does not come under one or another of these, it is bad.”

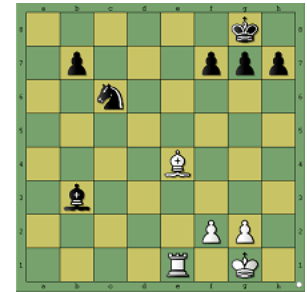
## NIMSOWITSCHIAN NOOK - A FOUR PART SERIES OUTLINING WHEN ONE SHOULD TRADE PIECES AND WHEN TO CUT AND RUN ACCORDING TO CHESS GIANT, ARON NIMSOWICSH.

To trade or not to trade? That is the question that haunts many chess players at the club level. Personally, my tendency is to trade off pieces as fast as possible so as to reduce my chances of hanging one later (though I lose more than I win with that strategy). In his canonical volume “My System” Aaron Nimsowitsch spells out when a player should trade and, by process of elimination, when a player

should not. The first case:

**“We exchange in order to seize (or open) a file without a loss of time.”**

The figure to the right illustrates this principle simply and well. When a piece is captured, it is almost always a good idea to exact justice on the offending piece and capture it back. However, if your opponent is unable to recapture the piece due to a greater threat, you have



traded with tempo.

1. Bxc6! does not allow black to take back due to the threat of mate with 1...bxc6
2. Re8#. Definitely a good idea to trade here!

## 1ST ANNUAL KALISPELL CHESS TOURNAMENT

A modest six people turned out for the 1st Annual Kalispell Chess Tournament on May 19th. The tournament was held at Kalispell Christian Church, who offered the playing hall for free. The plan was to have a four round swiss-style tournament at varying time controls, but the limited number of people offered the opportunity to have a single round robin of 30 minute games. The players all agreed that five games are better than four, so the pairings were reorganized and off they went. The two ringers, Dan McCourt of Missoula and Ed McLaughlin of Anaconda (both with a rating of about 1700) faced each other in the first round. Dan mixed things up a little bit by playing 2. f4!? in response to Ed’s Sicilian defense. Unfortunately Ed’s flag fell at move 31 in a relatively equal position. From here on out Dan and Ed seemed unstoppable, beating most of the local Kalispell talent, sharing first prize with 4 points apiece and splitting the \$150 in guaranteed prize money.

But don’t get the impression that we are a bunch of slouches here in Kalispell.

The tournament drew three local players, Ray Muhm from Columbia Falls, Al Steiner from Kalispell and Adam Milligan from Somers. Ray and Al showed significant skill in the endgame under time pressure, each beating both Brett Thomas-Dejongh, from Missoula and Adam after falling behind in the middle game. And Dan’s only loss of the day came at the hands of Adam Milligan in the third round. So hopefully the Kalispell faction will be a force to be reckoned with at future tournaments.

Speaking of the Kalispell faction, the three locals have begun talking about an organized chess club in Kalispell to meet weekly. Best of luck with that!

Player	Score
Dan McCourt	4
Ed McLaughlin	4
Al Steiner	3
Ray Muhm	2
Brett Thomas-Dejongh	1
Adam Milligan	1

## A CLUB IS FORMED

With a core group of four members, the Kalispell Chess Club is well on its way to being a permanent fixture in the Flathead Valley. Though summer is proving a difficult time to get something started, the club is plowing its way on.

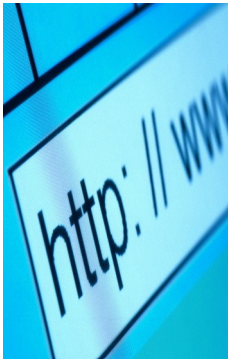
The club so far consists of the three local players from the Kalispell tournament held in May along with Lee Huestis, also of Kalispell.

“Thus far the most difficult challenge has been figuring out a day and time that works for everyone involved ,” admits club organizer Adam Milligan. Al Steiner comments, “Summer is a challenging time for such things. Fall should see things pick up.”

Currently the Kalispell Chess Club, which just sent out its USCF Affiliate application, meets every Monday evening from 6:00-9:00 at Kalispell Christian Church at 1075 Foy’s Lake Rd. in Kalispell.

For more information, contact Adam Milligan PO Box 319 Somers, MT 59932 857-3206 milligan@bresnan.net.

## INTERVIEW WITH WEBMASTER SPENER OLMSTED



Check out Spencer's work on the MCA website at: [www.montanachess.org](http://www.montanachess.org)

**"He spoke of a key principle in chess called "Noblization." I was fascinated that this game of kings and queens had some kind of noble order. I read books and never found anything about it. Later I realized he had said "mobilization."**

The MCA has an incredible website, but how? The Montana chess news recently got in touch with MCA webmaster Spencer Olmsted for an interview about the website. We covered everything from the website to technology, Bobby Fischer, and a new concept in chess called "Noblization"!?

MCN: How long have you been the webmaster for the MCA website? Did you help to create it or did you take over for someone else?

SO: I created the website in 2003 and arranged the purchase of the new domain montanachess.org. There was a previous MCA site, but because it was static and the webmaster moved away that one died. (It still exists, but holds no current info)

MCN: Do you maintain websites for a living or is this just a "hobby" of yours?

SO: I worked as a professional developer for a software consulting company for six years before I went back to school to become a teacher. My experience was mainly in web based programming languages that interfaced with databases, which is a perfect fit for the MCA's needs. After I finished my degree at MSU in Bozeman, I moved out to Olympia Washington where I got a job. I just finished my first year of teaching 5th grade today!

MCN: What is your chess background? For example: How long have you been playing? Who taught you? Do you have a favorite player and why? What is your best tournament experience? Your worst?

SO: I have been playing and studying the game on and off for about 12 years. I knew how the game was played at a younger age, but never looked deeply at it until I was a senior in college. One of my friends was teaching another and I poked my head in and began to see hidden dimensions in that tiny 8 by 8 board. He spoke of a key principle in chess called "Noblization." I was fascinated that this game of kings and queens had some kind of noble order. I read books and never found anything about it. Later I realized he had said "mobilization," so now I always teach people about noblization first.

My favorite player is Bobby Fischer because his great games are masterpieces of basic chess strategy. I also love Capablanca for similar reasons, although he seems less dynamic. I haven't studied too many recent masters, but all in good time.

My best tournament experience was my last, Joyce's January Thaw 2006 in Helena where I tied for first and played some tough games against some good opponents. I don't have a worst in mind.

MCN: Are you solely responsible for all of the content on the website or do other people write some of the content.

SO: The content is dynamic, meaning members and administrators add, update, and remove content on their own. I am solely responsible for the programming features.

MCN: What are some of the newer features on the website that MCA members may not be aware of?

SO: Alas, there is a great deal of functionality which is probably underutilized. The big one in my eyes is that the site can be used to manage membership data (expirations, ratings, and addresses) and will export member data to spreadsheets for printing. It does seem that the MCA is doing more and more with the site than they did a few years ago, so I am happy to see that.

MCN: If time, money, and expertise were not an issue at all, what additional features would you like to see on the website? Be as creative as you'd like.

SO: I would like to the features that are there used more completely, and to have more people contributing. It would be nice to have correspondence chess through the site, but why reinvent the wheel?

The MCN would like to offer a special thanks to Spencer Olmsted not only for the hard work and wonderful job he has done on the website, but also for taking the time to answer all of our questions. As a treat for Spencer, here is one of his impressive wins from his best tournament experience:

Spencer Olmsted-Bob Martin

Joyce's January Thaw 2006

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. Nf3 Nf6 5. Bg5 Be7 6. Be2 O-O 7. Nbd2 Bf5 8. O-O c6 9. c3 Nbd7 10. Re1 h6 11. Bh4 Ne4 12. Bxe7 Qxe7 13. Bd3 Rae8 14. Qc2 Ndf6 15. Nh4 Qd7 16. Nxf5 Qxf5 17. f3 Ng4 18. Bxe4 dxe4 19. fxg4 Qxg4 20. Rxe4 Qg6 21. Rae1 Re6 22. Qd1 Rfe8 23. Rxe6 Rxe6 24. Rxe6 Qxe6 25. Nf3 Qxa2 26. b3 Qb2 27. c4 g5 28. h3 Qc3 29. d5 Qe3 30. Kf1 Kf8 31. d6 Ke8 32. Qe2 Qxe2 33. Kxe2 f6 34. c5 a6 35. Nd4 Kd7 36. Nf5 h5 37. Kd3 b6 38. cxb6 c5 1-0

## MONTANA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP (CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)



(6. Nge2 . . . with the idea of 7. Nf4). It only takes a small error in an unfamiliar sharp-edged position to be lost: Jim soon was. At least he can have the satisfaction of finishing ahead of Mike (with 3 points, fractionally besting Mike's 2 ½), who is last year's champ. Romie Carpenter, of Missoula, earned two points and Ana-

conda's Edward McLaughlin settled for a half point.

All of the games from the 2007 Montana State Championship have been uploaded to the MCA website at:

[www.montanachess.org](http://www.montanachess.org).

Check them out!



Jim Skovron sporting his good luck beard again.

## FEATURE GAME: ONE FALSE STEP

THIS ISSUE'S FEATURE GAME SHOWS WHY JENS LUNDELL AND DAVID DUKE HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE CROWNED MONTANA STATE CO-CHAMPIONS. LUNDELL PLAYS A NEARLY PERFECT KING'S INDIAN TO GAIN A CLEAR ADVANTAGE IN THE OPENING. ONE MISSED OPPORTUNITY IN THE MIDDLEGAME, THOUGH, AND DUKE PULLS A RABBIT OUT OF HIS HAT FOR A WIN.

Lundell-Duke: Round 3

2007 Montana State Championship

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Nf3 O-O 6. Be2

{The King's Indian Defense}

6...Nc6 7. O-O e5 8. d5 Ne7 9. b4 Nd7 10. Be3 f5 11. Ng5 Nf6 12. f3 [Diagram 1]

{White has completely dominated the opening. He has a major space advantage which will give his pieces great mobility in the middle game. Furthermore, White has a beautiful outpost for his knight on e6. Black looks cramped and is underdeveloped on the queenside. Also, his "Indian Bishop" on g7, the best thing going for the King's Indian, is locked in and gets almost no play.}

12...a5 13. a3 h6 14. Ne6 Bxe6 15. dxe6

{This lone pawn on e6 looks like a liability for white, but in fact is not so easy to attack.}

15...c6 {removing the d5 outpost from the knight}

16. Qd2 Kh7 17. Rad1 axb4 18. axb4 Ra3 19. Qb2 Qa8?

{A blunder that should lose a pawn, but not immediately. After 20 Bc1, the Rook must move off of the 3<sup>rd</sup> rank which takes away the opportunity for the tactic that is played in the game.}

20. Rxd6 fxe4 21. fxe4 [diagram 2]

21... Rxc3!! {A great move that gets back equality in the game.}

22. Qxc3 Nxe4 23. Qd3 Rxf1 24. Bxf1 Nxd6 25. Qxd6 Nf5 26. Qd7?

{A daring sacrifice that, unfortunately, does not work. White's idea is to gain a tempo while black captures the bishop and then drive the pawn to Queenhood like he is driving a thumbtack with a sledgehammer. Black, however, has plenty of resources.}

26...Nxe3 27. e7 Qa1

{White is never able to gain the single tempo needed to queen his pawn due to the omnipresent mate threat on f1.}

28. Qd3 28...Qa8

{e4 immediately wins the game with 29. Qxe3 Bd4, winning the queen. Or, if you'd



Diagram 1: Great Opening Play



Diagram 2: Black is behind in this game. Do you see the move that will save his bacon?

like, 29 Qe2 Nxf1 30. Qxf1 Bd3+, winning the queen again. But no harm done, he finds it at the next opportunity.}

29. Qd8 {Why not take the knight?}

29...Qa1 30. Qd3 e4 [diagram 3]

{There it is! And the rest is history.}

31. Qe2 Nxf1 32. Kf2 Bd4 33. Qe3 Bxe3 34. Ke2 Qe5 0-1



Diagram 3: Game over



Jens Lundell: In good spirits despite his 3rd round loss to David Duke.



## Summer Lightning

### Summer Lightning

**Date/Time:** July 28th Registration at 10:00-10:30

**Style:** Single or Double round robin depending on entries

**Time Control:** Game/10

**Location:** Spokane Valley Library 12004 E. Main St. (Take elevator to the basement) Spokane, WA 99206

**Entry Fee:** \$11

**Prize Fund:** If more than 10 people register, \$100 will be added along with other prizes. 100% of entries paid out in prizes.

**Contact:** David Griffin

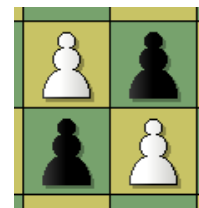
PO Box 631

Spokane Valley, WA 99037

(509) 928-3260

dbgrffn@hotmail.com

## Qualchan Quads



### Qualchan Quads

**Date/Time:** August 4th Registration 8:30-9:30  
Rds. 10:00, 2:30, 7:00

**Style:** Single round robin for each Quad

**Time Control:** G/2Hr

**Location:** Gonzaga University Schoenberg Center Rm. 201  
N. 900 Pearl Street  
Spokane, WA

**Entry Fee:** E.F. \$16 .

**Prize Fund:** \$50 up for grabs in each quad.

**Other:** (USCF) rated & (NWGP) event.

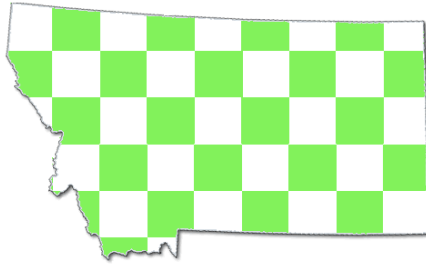
Spokane City Contender's Championship will be taking place at this time as well at the site and continue through the 5th. The winner of the six person round-robin will face John Julian for the city Championship on Aug(17-19) during the 2007 Spokane Falls Open. This new event is replacing the Auntie's Open as the playing site was sold for office space. Coffee & snacks provided

**Contact:** David Griffin

P. O. Box 631

Spokane Valley, WA 99037

dbgrffn@hotmail.com



## The Montana Chess Association

### MCA Membership

The Montana Chess Association has three levels of membership: junior, regular and family. MCA membership is required for participation in any MCA sponsored tournament. The membership fees also help the association hold tournaments throughout the year and provide for a quarterly newsletter (like the one you are reading), which is mailed or e-mailed to all active members.

To join the Montana Chess Association or to renew your membership, print this page, fill out the form and send it with a check made out to "MCA" to the address below.

Dan McCourt  
 MCA Secretary/Treasurer  
 608 West Central  
 Missoula, MT  
 59801

**Annual Fees:**  
 Junior \$6 (19 and younger)  
 Regular \$12  
 Family \$15

Name:	
Mailing Address:	
Address Line 2:	
City, State Zip:	
Email:	
Phone Number:	
How would you like to receive the newsletter? (Circle One)	<p>By E-Mail (Make sure you have a valid e-mail address above)</p> <p>By post (available only to current MCA members)</p>
Type of membership (Circle One)	<p>Junior</p> <p>Regular</p> <p>Family</p>

Check this box if you are renewing your membership.



# 1st Spokane Falls Open

## 1st Spokane Falls Open

**Date/Time:** August 18th Registration 9:00-9:40 Rds: Sat: 10, 1:30, 5:30 Sun: 9:30, 1:30

**Style:** 5 Round Swiss

**Time Control:** G/90

**Location:** River Park Square W. 808 Main Spokane, WA (Kress Gallery) 3rd floor past food court.

**Entry Fee:** \$18 by 8/17, 18 & under \$15. \$25 at the site unrated play for free.

**Prize Fund:** 1st: \$100, 2nd \$60

B/2000 \$60, B/1700 \$60, B/1400 \$60

Biggest Upset: \$60 (both players must have established ratings)

**Other:** One 1/2 point bye can be requested for Saturday's games prior to the conclusion of the

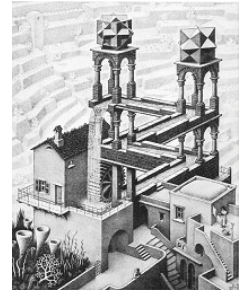
previous round. Any Sunday byes MUST be requested before the end of round three.

A special event will be taking place as John Julian will face off against a challenger TBD for the Spokane City Championship. The first game for the Spokane City Championship will take place in the Kress Gallery on Aug. 17th at 4:30. The Spokane City Championship games will all be a game in 2/Hr. event. Coffee & snacks provided

**Contact:** Adam Attwood  
macrohistorian@gmail.com

**2nd Contact:** David Griffin  
dbgrffn@hotmail.com  
(509) 928-3260

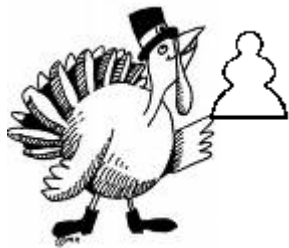
Mail entries to  
David Griffin  
P.O. Box 631  
Spokane Valley, WA 99037



### Answer to puzzle on front page:

**1. Nd4! forking the Queen and the pawn on f5.**

**If 1...Qxc4 then 2. Bb3! pinning the Queen to the King.**



# The UCCC Turkey Open

## UCCC Turkey Open

**Date/Time:** November 3 & 4.  
Registration Sat: 9-10 RDS 10:30,  
2:00, 6:30 Sat.; 9:00 & 1:30

**Style:** 5 Rd. Swiss

**Time Control:** Rds. 1 and 2 = G/90, RDS 3-5 = G/120; Full K; Senior (55+) Only Section, given interest

**Location:** Best Western Grant Creek Inn; Missoula 1/4 mile north of I-90 on Reserve St., exit 101.

**Entry Fee:** \$25 if rec'd by November 1. \$30 at site. REG. 9:00-10:00 Sat.; Sun.; MCA memb. required \$12. OSA, NC WCA Given interest there will be a special section for seniors, trophies for 1st and biggest upset

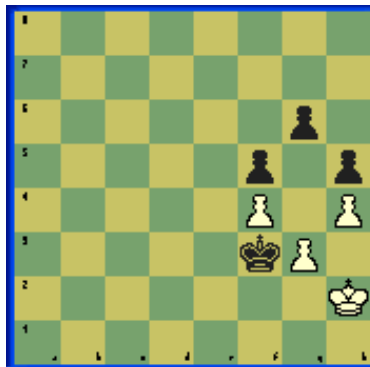
**Prize Fund:** \$420 b/30 adults (1st=\$120, 2nd=\$90, 3rd=\$70, plus class prizes).

**Contact:** William H. McBroom  
2321 Raymond Ave  
Missoula, MT 59801  
(406.728.4654)

## ERRATA

In the last issue of the MCN Newsletter there was a short article on a disputed game in the Montana Open. That article showed a diagram (right) at a critical stage of the game. I nonchalantly added the comment "Black to move-A draw is inevitable after 1...Kf2" under the diagram.

Thank you to Thad Suits of Great Falls for pointing out that after 2. Kh3 Kg1!, it



is in fact Black who wins the game since white is now forced to advance his g-pawn.

This is a good place to point out that any and all recipients of the MCN newsletter are welcome to point out errors or suggestions for future issues. E-mail any comments to Adam Milligan at milligan@bresnan.net or drop me a note the old fashioned way at PO Box 319 Somers, MT 59932

Let's make this everyone's newsletter!

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**M o n t a n a   C h e s s   N e w s**

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Visit the website !  
[www.montanachess.org](http://www.montanachess.org)

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**Promoting a love of the game in  
Montana!**

## THE MONTANA CHESS ASSOCIATION



### From the MCA Constitution

“The purposes of the Montana Chess Association are to support interest in chess, further chess education, and promote activities that enhance members’ enjoyment of the game.”

### Executive Board:

*President:*

William McBroom

*Executive Vice President:*

Bob Martin

*Eastern Vice President:*

David Duke

*Western Vice President:*

Adam Milligan

*Secretary/Treasurer:*

Dan McCourt

*MCN Editor:*

Adam Milligan

### Current Grand Prix Standings

No Grand Prix points yet.  
Look for them after the Turkey Open in November!

