

Montana Chess News



Montana Chess Association

APRIL 17-18

69TH MONTANA OPEN

THIS YEAR'S LUCKY HOSTS
MSU-INTERNATIONAL CHESS CLUB



(from left) Sergiy Dzyuban, Spencer Olmsted, Kyungmin Min, Richard Knaff, Brandon Baines, Steve Scarff, Satchit Panse, Conrad Donovan, Emil Mammadov, Eric Hongisto, Steve Fusselman (center) Presiding Poobah—Haluk Beyenal Photo courtesy Eric Hongisto

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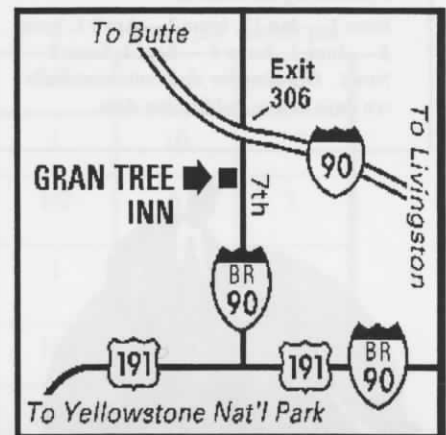
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Two Roads to the Final Six at the State Closed:
The Grand Prix — 2 places
The Montana Open — 3 places

The 2003-2004 Grand Prix standings
(as of the Lewis & Clark Open)

- Jim Skovron 40.9
- Sergiy Dzyuban 40.4
- Ron Erickson 27.2
- Eric Hongisto 26.4
- Bob Martin 22.8
- Haluk Beyenal 22.2

(Roughly calculated by the editor. A more refined calculation will follow in the next issue.)





Montana Chess Association

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Issue 1—Jan 12, Issue 2—April 1, Issue 3—June 1, Issue 4—Sept 1, Issue 5—Nov 1. Deadline for most submissions is ten days before publication date.



The 2004 Montana Open will be held in the Best Western GranTree motel in Bozeman, April 17-18. Steve Scarff of the hometown University Chess Club will be the tournament director.

The GranTree is a very nice motel with easy access from Exit 306 off I-90. There is a restaurant, casino, and fitness center under the same roof as the playing site for those who want to be self-contained throughout the weekend. Downtown Bozeman is a short, easy drive for those others who need to get away from chess for awhile. Details follow on page 8.

In conjunction with the Open, the annual MCA Business Meeting will be held shortly following the conclusion of round four. The meeting agenda will be headed up by officer reports and the elections of new officers.

In addition, this year's agenda will include a proposal to replace the MCA Constitution. Western Vice-President, Bill McBroom, has submitted a draft document which can be viewed and downloaded from the website www.montanachess.org. MCA members go to the website and "login". Then under "member", go to "constitution". If you have problems logging on, email Spencer Olmsted at spencer@latelateblues.com.

Those persons who can't access the website can contact Bill McBroom for a hardcopy through the US Mail. Bill's phone and mailing address are listed in the **MCA Board Members** immediately to the left of this column.

Doug Hansen also has proposed an amendment to the Constitution which reads as follows:

As an affiliate of the United States Chess Federation (USCF), the MCA fully recognizes the Bylaws of the USCF, including its Code of Ethics. Any questions regarding membership eligibility and benefits not otherwise fully described by the MCA Constitution and Bylaws must be referred to the USCF.

No "official" proxy form is being mailed out this year. If you can't be at the meeting you can have someone be your proxy by clearly stipulating in writing who you are and who your proxy is. Sign and date the document and mail it to the "entries" address listed for the Open or give it to someone to hand carry to the event. Please have all proxy forms delivered to the Secretary no later than the end of round three, Saturday night.

See you there!

May your games be...interesting!!

—————Dan McCourt

SKOVRON, MCBROOM TOP MIDWINTER; HOSHAW DOMINATES G/15 GROUNDHOG



Montana Chess Association

On Saturday, January 31, eight players traveled to Bozeman to join six local players for the Midwinter Open, a G/45 event that qualified for Montana Grand Prix points for the first time this year. Two out-of-towners split the 1st and 2nd place prize money, as Jim Skovron and Bill McBroom tied with 4.0 scores. Bill earned the (non-provisional) Upset prize by beating Jim in round 3, then finished with draws against Eric Hongisto and Stephen Tamang. Stephen's 3.5

score earned a tie with Haluk Beyenal for 3rd, as well as the Under 1600 prize.

Five die-hard players returned the next day (Super Bowl Sunday) for the Groundhog Open, joined by Fred Hoshaw from Butte, who won the round robin with a 4.5 score. Fred ambushed everyone with his provisional quick chess rating of 1202, which jumped to 1599 after this tournament. The half-point that escaped him went to Dan McCourt in round 4.

All the locals who had played the previous day were mysteriously absent, with the exception of the director. Perhaps they had partied to hard on Saturday night? Kirk Lundby took second place with only two losses.

.....Steve Scarff, TD

- J. Skovron, 1817
 - H. Beyenal, 1757
- Midwinter Rd4 Sicilian

Groundhog Open - February 1, 2004 - Bozeman, MT

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	Fred Hoshaw	1202	W6	W2	W4	D3	W5	4.5
2	Kirk O Lundby	1540	W3	L1	W5	W4	L6	3.0
3	Dan McCourt	1681	L2	W5	W6	D1	L4	2.5
4	Bill McBroom	1676	L5	W6	L1	L2	W3	2.0
5	Stephen Tamang	1507	W4	L3	L2	W6	L1	2.0
6	Steven R Scarff	1565	L1	L4	L3	L5	W2	1.0

(game notes...Eric Hongisto) 1.e4 c5 2.f4 d6 3.Nf3 g6 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.d3 Bg7 6.0-0 0-0 7.c3?! handing Black the opportunities to attack...e5 was ok as was Nc3... a6?! more passive than White!! too slow for this system 8.a4?! e5 was deadly...even now... Be6? 9.Bxe6 fxe6 10.Qb3 Qd7 11.Ng5! d5 12.e5 Ne8 13.Qb6 bonk!! Nc6 14.Qxc5 h6 15.Nh3? missing the stronger Nf3... Nh3 is out of play here... Rc8 16.Qe3 d4 17.Qg3 dxc3 18.bxc3 white has a 1.5 advantage here...black is doomed Kh7 19.Ba3 Nc7 20.Nd2 Nd5 21.Ne4 Nxc3! even!!! it works...tactically 22.Nxc3 Qd4+ 23.Kh1 Qxc3 24.Rfc1 Qd4 25.Bc5 Qd5 26.Bb6 Nd4 27.Qe3? Nc2 28.Qd2 Nxa1 29.Rxa1 Rc6 30.Be3 Rfc8 31.Nf2 finally getting the lonely piece into play Rc2 32.Qb4 Qc6 Re2 was killer...missing this now allows white to find defense 33.h3 Qc3 34.Rb1 Qxb4 35.Rxb4 R8c7 36.Kg1?! Ra2 37.g3 g5 38.Kg2 white is getting a fortress in place...black should hurry up Rd7 39.fgx5 h5 40.Kf3 Ra3 41.h4 a5 42.Rc4 Rb3 43.Bd2 b5 44.axb5 Rxb5 45.Nh3 White goes on to win 1-0

Midwinter Open - January 31, 2004 - Bozeman, MT

#	Name	Rtng	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Tot	TBrk[S]
1	James J Skovron	1817	W8	W12	L2	W3	W5	4.0	14.5
2	William H McBroom	1517	W14	W6	W1	D5	D4	4.0	14
3	Haluk Beyenal	1757	W4	D7	W11	L1	W9	3.5	14
4	Stephen Tamang	1406	L3	W13	W12	W11	D2	3.5	11.5
5	Eric Hongisto	1870	W6	D11	W7	D2	L1	3.0	15
6	Steven R Scarff	1500	L5	L2	W13	W10	W7	3.0	12.5
7	Spencer Olmsted	1566	W1	D3	L5	W8	L6	2.5	13
8	Kirk O Lundby	1438	L1	W10	D9	L7	W11	2.5	12.5
9	Matthew L Kauffman	1352	L1	W14	D8	W12	L3	2.5	9.5
10	Kyungmin Min	1330	L12	L8	W14	L6	W13	2.0	8.5
11	Daniel J McCourt	1686	W9	D5	L3	L4	L8	1.5	15
12	Conrad K Donovan	1671	W10	L1	L4	L9	H--	1.5	12
13	Nick J Doulas	1321	L7	L4	L6	W14	L10	1.0	11.5

B. McBroom, 1517—J. Skovron 1817 Midwinter Open Round 3 King's Indian Attack

1.e4 d6 2.Nf3Nf6 3.d3 c5 4.g3 Nc6 5.Bg2 g6 6.0-0 Bg7 7.Re1 0-0 8.Nbd2 e5 9.a4 Be6 10.Ng5 Bd7 11.Nc4 Qc7 12.Nf3 a6 13.Bg5 b5 14.Ne3 Ne7 15.a5 Be6 16.h3 Nc6 17.Qd2 Nd7 18.Nf1 b4 19.c3 Rfb8 20.cxb4 Rxb4 21.Ne3 h6 22.Nd5 hxg5??[Bxd5!] 23.Nxc7 Ra7 24.Nxe6 fxe6 25.Nxg5 Nf8 26.f4 Nd4 27.Qf2 Rab7 28.Rab1 Nh7 29.Nf3 exf4 30.gxf4 Rxb2 31.Rxb2 Rxb2 32.Qxb2??[Qh4 or Qf1] Nxf3+ 33.Bxf3 Bxb2 34.Rb1 Bc3 35.Rb6 Bxa5 36.Rxa6 Bc3 37.Rxd6 Nf8 38.Rc6 Kf7 39.Kg2 Bd4 40.e5 Ke7 41.Rc8 g5 42.Rxf8??[Bh5!] Kxf8 43.fgx5 Bxe5 44.Be4 Bf4 45.h4 Kf7 46.Kf3 Bd2 47.Kg4 Bc3 48.Kh5 Kg7 49.Kg4 Kf7 50.Kf4 Bd4 51.h5 Bc3 52.Bg6+ Kg7 53.Be8 Bd2+ 54.Kg4 Kf8 55.Bd7 Ke7 56.Bc8 (score sheets end) white goes on to win



Position after 32.Qxb2??

BEYENAL TOPS 2004 JANUARY THAW

MARTIN AND ERICKSON TAKE 2ND AND 3RD PLACES



Joyce's January Thaw 2004 -- Standings

# Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total	TBrk[S]	TBrk[C]	TBrk[H]	TBrk[A]
1 Haluk Beyenal	1743	W12	W9	W4	W2	D3	4.5	14	14.5	100	1610.5
2 Robert Martin	1636	W14	W3	W5	L1	W8	4.0	13.5	13	100	1533.5
3 Ron Erickson	1752	W8	L2	W13	W4	D1	3.5	15	10.5	100	1444
4 Henry Pallares	1606	W11	W6	L1	L3	W9	3.0	15	10	100	1748.5
5 James Skovron	1817	W6	W7	L2	D8	H---	3.0	12.5	10.5	100	1530
6 Emil Mammadov	1513	L5	L4	W10	W13	W14	3.0	9	6	98	1327.5
7 Brent Lashinski	1611	W13	L5	D11	W12	H---	3.0	7.5	9	99	1520
8 Stephen Tamang	1361	L3	W14	W9	D5	L2	2.5	12.5	8	100	1580.5
9 Douglas Hansen	1703	W10	L1	L8	W11	L4	2.0	14	7	100	1617.5
10 Kirk O. Lundby	1346	L9	L11	L6	W14	W13	2.0	8	3	99	1423.5
11 Eric Hongisto	2033	L4	W10	D7	L9	U---	1.5	10	5.5	100	1566.5
12 Nick J. Doulas	1356	L1	L13	W14	L7	H---	1.5	8.5	3.5	100	1306
13 Gavin Drake	875	L7	W12	L3	L6	L10	1.0	13	4	100	1515.5
14 Glen D. Dower	995	L2	L8	L12	L10	L6	0.0	13	0	100	1442



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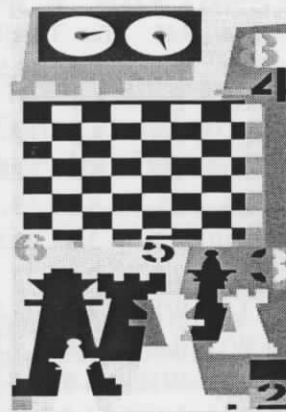
Haluk Beyenal won his first four games and settled for an easy "grandmaster" draw in the fifth round to take clear 1st place in the 2004 January Thaw. Bob Martin scored 4.0, losing only to Beyenal, to finish second. Ron Erickson's 3.5 tally placed 3rd, just ahead of a pack of 3.0 scores.

Steve Tamang snagged the biggest upset with a 342 point spread in a 3rd round victory. Kirk Lundby and Glen Dower took the top Junior trophies.

Emil Mammadov's 3.0 score gave him best U/1600 while Steve Tamang also collected the prize for best U/1400. Gavin Drake won in the 2nd round over an opponent 481 points higher but he lacked several games of the 25-game non-provisional mark. Gavin did get the best U/1200 trophy.

Without as many junior entries as in 2003, the turnout was down from last year's very good showing.

Thanks again to Mel Drake for finding the playing site and lining up refreshments.
.....Dan McCourt, TD



○ H. BEYENAL 1743
● B. MARTIN 1636
QUEEN'S GAMBIT
ROUND 4 ♣



Position after 14. ♖b7!

A key game as each player had 3 points

In this Queen's Gambit, Black loses time and gets a badly cramped position with his 15th move. It's the famous "germ of defeat".

White's queenside pawns storm across the board and soon the heavy artillery is operating in Black's territory.

1. d4 ♖f6 2. ♗g5 e6 3. c4 ♗e7 4. ♖c3 d5 5. ♖f3 O-O 6. e3 h6 7. ♗h4 c6 8. ♗3 ♖bd7 9. O-O ♖b6 10. c5 ♖bd7 11. b4 b6 12. ♗g3 a5 13. b5 ♗b7 14. cxb ♗b4 15. ♖a4 ♖xb6 16. a3 ♖x♖ 17. ♖x♖ cxb 18. ♗xb5 ♗d6 19. ♖fc1 ♗x♗ 20. hx♗ ♖ac8 21. ♖e5 ♖e4 22. ♖b3 ♖f6 23. ♖f3 g5 24. ♗d3 ♖d6 25. ♖e5 ♖fd6 26. ♖g4 ♖g7 27. ♖x♖ ♗x♖ 28. ♖b6 ♖f8 29. ♖xh6+ ♗g7 30. ♖g4 ♗d7 31. ♖e5 ♖e7 32. ♖c1 f5 33. ♖c7 ♖c8 ♖b7 Black resigns



Missing from the upcoming events pages are the details of the 2004 Triple-Header. It's always a task to plan a summer chess event—the weather's fine but chess events usually play second fiddle to other summer activities. Still, we can usually count 12-15 diehards showing up for a chance at three different championships in one weekend.

There is a growing core of scholastic members in the Great Falls and Helena areas. It might be a good year to move this tournament back to it's ancestral homeland in the Electric City. Maybe have a dual Triple Header featuring scholastic tourneys along side of the regular events. Food for thought.

Scott Young has experienced a dynamite return to chess after spending the 2003-2004 winter playing basketball. Scott scored upset wins over Dan McCourt and Ron Erickson on his way to a 2-0-1 showing in his first rated event of 2004. A few days later, Scott rolled up 5 straight wins in the Montana Junior Championships to win the 2004 Junior title. The following weekend he scored 4-0-1 on 3rd board for his team in Greg Nowak's 11th Annual Team Chess Tournament.

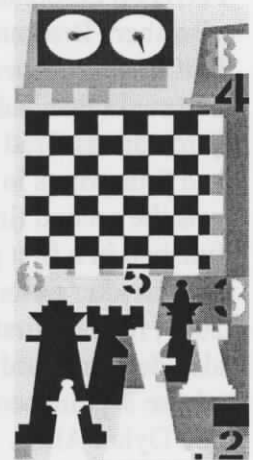
Fourteen Montana wood pushers joined the record sixty-two entrants, February 21-22, at the 12th Annual Dave Collyer Open in Spokane. International Master John Donaldson and Spokane expert Curt Collyer shared first place with 4.5 scores. Six players tied for 3-8 at 4.0

For the Montana delegation, it was a "good experience" which is a diplomatic way of saying we only collected four scores in the plus column. Dave Reinhold of Missoula did, however, bring back \$25 for sharing a class prize. It's back to the books for the rest of us.

MARTIN SCORES 5.0 AT LEWIS & CLARK INAUGURAL SKOVRON'S 4.0 BRINGS MINUTE EDGE IN GRAND PRIX STANDINGS DOULAS NAILS BIGGEST UPSET—407

SwissSys Standings. Lewis and Clark Open

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	Martin, Robert	1729	W10	W2	W3	W6	X9	5.0
2	Skovron, James	1817	W5	L1	W10	W7	W6	4.0
3	Hansen, Doug	1679	W11	W9	L1	W5	U--	3.0
4	Mitchell, Robert	1536	L9	L6	W12	W11	W8	3.0
5	Furdell, William	1384	L2	W8	D9	L3	W7	2.5
6	Doulas, Nick	1249	H--	W4	W7	L1	L2	2.5
7	Pallares, Henry	1656	W8	W12	L6	L2	L5	2.0
8	Hunt, Scott C	1101	L7	L5	W11	W10	L4	2.0
9	Hongisto, Eric	1870	W4	L3	D5	H--	F1	2.0
10	Newhouse, Ryan	1347	L1	W11	L2	L8	U--	1.0
11	Stuckey, Richard	1113	L3	L10	L8	L4	B--	1.0
12	Shields, Walter	1272	H--	L7	L4	U--	U--	0.5



Electric City Checkmates Chess Club

Meetings:

Monday evenings 6:30-8:00pm

West Gate Mall

No entrance fees; refreshments served

Bring equipment if you have it

Info: 1-406-727-5968 email kirk123L@aol.com



Missing the Games???

The next issue will feature many more games. There just wasn't enough time in my personal budget for a big issue before the Open. The late May-early June issue will feature all the upsets and brilliancies from January thru April.

❖ Scholastic Scene ❖



MONTANA JUNIOR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP



Scott Young won his second Montana Junior Championship with a five-victory performance, March 13. Defending champion Kirk Lundby took second-place losing only to Young in their pivotal third-round matchup. Jeff Phillips edged Nathan Clevidence on tie-breaks for the 3rd place trophy. Their scores and performances were so closely matched that the differentiation did not arise until the 4th set of tie-breaks was applied.

Lucas Minnick's 5-0-0 mark matched his 2003 showing and gained for him a second straight championship in the 6-8 grade section. Ethan Marvick took second-place, also for a second consecutive time. Bryce Cox slipped past Kevin Ferris on tie-breaks for third-place.

Brothers Brad and Dustin Romain each placed first in their respective sections. Once again, tie-breaks decided the distribution of the hardware as Brad Romain and Ethan Tilley each had four points in the 4-5 section. For Tilley, it was the second time in three years he had finished in a first place tie only to drop to second after tie-breaks were considered. In 2003, he took first place outright. Tie-breaks also decided third-place for Matt Capozzoli whose 3-point score was equaled by Gage Hunt and Dylan Allen.

Dustin Romain won all of his games to gain the 1st place trophy in the K-3 section. Chris Howard and Cem Beyenal finished 2nd and 3rd.

The event was held once again in the cafeteria building of the University of Great Falls. Unlike 2003, the weather was not so hostile. The early March storms left the roads snow-packed and icy but much more drivable. Which probably accounts for the drop in participation. The worse the weather, the more people seem to turn out for chess events!! Thanks to all the

many helpers who moved and set up tables, directed sections and pitched in on the cleanup. Thanks also to everyone who pitched in on the pizza that we all enjoyed during the lunch break!

Lundby-Young Round 3 Sicilian

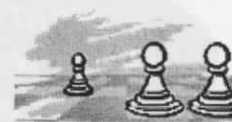


Position after 7....Qa5+

SCOTT YOUNG 2004



LEWIS AND CLARK SCHOLASTIC



Ten competitors played in the 2004 Lewis & Clark Scholastic tournament, March 27. The two-sections were set up by general age groups using a round-robin, game/29 format. USCF quick ratings were used.

Kirk Lundby swept the "seniors" with five points. Jacob Hansen finished second with a 3.5 score after pushing Lundby hard in the

final round. Lucas Minnick had three points to finish just behind Hansen.

In the "junior" section, Bryce Cox twice slipped out of the chess equivalent of a "headlock" to draw dead lost positions and post a 4.0 score for first place. Patrick Fish and Joe Marra both played Cox to a draw but finished at 3.5 — good for a split of the second place

prize. Ethan Cox helped out his older brother with a surprising upset over Patrick Fish.

Because of the short preparation time for this tournament, the prizes were cash instead of the usual trophies.

The top scorers received \$25 and the second place finishers got \$15.

This was the MCA's second venture into the world of scholastic rated chess. Six new USCF members signed up for the event.

Having reached a good base of USCF youth memberships in the Helena/Great Falls area, the next challenge is to provide a steady schedule of rated events so that these young players can make the most of their USCF memberships.

Lewis and Clark Scholastic Round 1

○ Kirk Lundby, 1540

● Luke Minnick, 1035

☞ Sicilian defense

(Smith-Morra declined)

In this hard-fought, first-round game, both players used most of their 29 minutes by move 13 and the score sheets are incomplete.

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 g6

4.cxd Bg7 5.Nf3 d6 6.Bc4 Qb6
7.b3 e6 8.O-O Ne7 9.Re1 Nc6
10.Bb2 Na5 11.Na3 Bd7 12.Qd2
O-O 13.d5 BxB 14.Qxb2.....

(Diagram) 1-0

At this point, both players put their score sheets away. Black achieved a substantial advantage in the waning minutes. Then, in his haste to get the queens off the board, black allows an exchange that gives white an unstoppable passed pawn and defeat is

snatched from the jaws of victory.



Position after 14.Qxb2.....

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	Lundby, Kirk	1540	W3	W5	B---	W4	W2	5.0
2	Hansen, Jacob	unr.	W4	B---	W3	D5	L1	3.5
3	Minnick, Lucas	1035	L1	W4	L2	B---	W5	3.0
4	Marvick, Ethan	735	L2	L3	W5	L1	B---	2.0
5	Leveque, Jared	unr.	B---	L1	L4	D2	L3	1.5

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	Cox, Bryce	unr.	W5	B---	W4	D2	D3	4.0
2	Fish, Patrick	716	B---	W3	L5	D1	W4	3.5
3	Marra, Joe	unr.	W4	L2	B---	W5	D1	3.5
4	Hunt, Gage	unr.	L3	W5	L1	B---	L2	2.0
5	Cox, Ethan	unr.	L1	L4	W2	L3	B---	2.0



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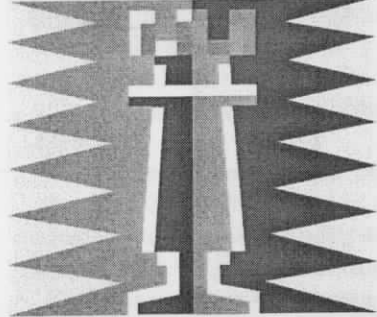
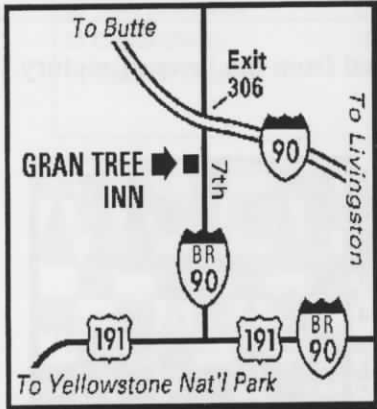
"Seniors"

"Juniors"

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April 17-18**

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69th MONTANA OPEN

Location: Aspen Room, Grantree Inn, Bozeman
Format: Five-round Swiss System, Computer pairings
Registration: 8:30-9:30am. Player meeting at 9:45
Rounds: Sat—10:00am, 2:30pm, 7pm
Sun—9:00am, 3:00pm (ASAP after MCA annual meeting)
Time Controls: Game/120
Entry: \$25 if received by 4/16, \$30 at the door, juniors at 1/2.
Misc: Wheelchair access, No smoking, No computers
Prizes: 1st...\$75; 2nd...\$55; 3rd...\$40 2 Biggest Upsets...\$25,\$20
Trophies to top MT senior and Top MT junior
\$\$based on 25 players, more per entries
Entries: University CC, SUB Box 23, Bozeman, MT 59717
Checks payable to MCA
Information: Nick Doulas, 406-899-4664, or doulas41@bresnan.net
Dan McCourt, 406-721-0254, or dmcc@rmttnet.com
or visit: www.montanachess.org

MCA Business Meeting Follows Rd 4
Agenda:
Officer reports; Elections; Proposed amendment to
Constitution; Proposed new Constitution; Any
other business brought forward by the membership

Inland Empire Open
Site: Richland Community Center, 500 Amon Park Drive, Richland, WA
Format: 5 Rd SS, G/120 **Registration:** 8:30-9:30am.
Rounds: Sat—10:00am, 2:00pm, 6pm and Sun—9:30am, 2:00pm or ASAP
Entry: \$26 if received by 2/20, \$31 at the door, under 19 \$5 less
Prizes: 1st...\$200; 2nd...\$150; 3rd...\$100 Biggest Upset=\$50
Class Prizes: \$75 first, \$50 second: A; B; C; D/E/unrated
Entries: Gary Younker Foundation, PO Box 1233,
Richland, WA 99352 More info at: www.spokanechessclub

**May Day
Madness**

3-4 Rds, G/30, Action 1/2K
followed by 3-4 Rd, G/15, Quick-
rated, \$10 each, 100% entries to
prizes, D. Griffin, 509-928-3260
or dbgrffn@hotmail.com
May 1st
Spokane, Washington

11th Northwest Team Championship goes to Chess Meltdown Loren Meierding takes top score among 1st Boards

by TD Greg Nowak

The 11th Annual Northwest Team Championship was held March 20, Saturday, at the popular "Inn on Broadway" in Missoula. Six teams vied for the cherished title.

The eventual winners, the Chess Meltdown, got off to a shake start by drawing its match with underdog northern Knights. Key to the contest was Doug Hansen's draw with top rated Greg Nowak. The Meltdown recovered in time and whittled away the competition to finish up with four match points out of a possible five.

The Bloodthirsty Bishops came in second with 3.5 match points and also nicked the Meltdown for a half match point. Key to holding the draw for the Meltdown was Nowak's victory over Mike Jensen. Paving the way for the Bishops were Missoula Sentinel sophomores, Scott Young and Jared Schantz with a combined score of 8-1-1.

The other teams in order of finish were: Chess Noblemen, Missoula Salad Company, Northern Knights, and Bikes not Bombs. Missoula Salad Company was the 2003 champion. Though the team was again comprised of Bozeman players, most of the faces were different.

Six cities were represented in all: Missoula (14), Bozeman (4), Great Falls (3), and one each from Butte, Hamilton and St. Ignatius.

The best board winners were:

Board 1—Loren Meierding of Missoula with 4 points (Chess Noblemen)

Board 2—Paul Mitchell of Missoula with 4 points (Chess Meltdown)

Board 3—Scott Young of Missoula with 4.5 points (Bloodthirsty Bishops)

Board 4—Jared Schantz of Missoula with 4 points (Bloodthirsty Bishops)

The tournament was an unrated, Game/30, event promoted and directed by Greg Nowak. Fourteen current MCA members took part.

Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	game pts	match pts
Chess Meltdown	X	1	1	1/2	1	1/2	14.5	4
Chess Noblemen	0	X	1/2	0	1	1	10	2.5
Bikes not Bombs	0	1/2	X	0	0	1/2	6	1
Bloodthirsty Bishops	1/2	1	1	X	0	1	12	3.5
Missoula Salad Co.	0	0	1	1	X	1/2	11	2.5
Northern Knights	1/2	0	1/2	0	1/2	X	8.5	1.5

Montana Chess News



Montana Chess Association

69th MONTANA OPEN April 17-18 Bozeman

GranTree Inn, 1325 North 7th Ave

Registration: 8:30-9:30am. Player meeting at 9:45am

Entry: \$25 if received by 4/16, \$30 at the door, juniors at 1/2.

Prizes: 1st...\$75; 2nd...\$55; 3rd...\$40 2 Biggest Upsets...\$25,\$20

Trophies to top MT senior and Top MT junior

\$\$based on 25 players, more per entries

More info inside on page 8!!

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