

NASPA Bulletin

The monthly news bulletin of the North American SCRABBLE® Players Association

March 2011:Vol. 3, No. 3

Can-Am in Calgary: Competition & Camaraderie

By Chris Cree

In golf, pressure has been defined as trying to make a five-foot putt for \$10 when one only has \$5 in one's pocket.

What goes through one's mind when getting ready to make a SCRABBLE play?

This will win the game. This can lose the game. If he has the Z it is all over. Is this word good? If I win this game my rating will be at its highest. I just cannot open the triple at this stage." Etc.

When playing in the Can-Am SCRABBLE Challenge, add these thoughts to the mix: "This is for my country and my team. My country and my teammates are depending upon me. I cannot let them down."

Seven players from the U.S. faced seven players from Canada in the 2011 Can-Am. Dave Wiegand (Portland, OR), Brian Bowman (Villa Hills, KY), Marty Gabriel (Charleston, IL), Sam Kantimathi (Sacramento, CA), Jerry Lerman (Foster City, CA), Bradley Whitmarsh (Attleboro, MA) and I faced off against Adam Logan (Ottawa, ON), Eric Tran (Calgary, AB), Ron Hoekstra (Vancouver, BC), Tony Leah (Toronto, ON), Robin Pollock Daniel (Toronto, ON), Dean Saldanha (Richmond, BC) and Sinna Vijayakumar (Mississauga, ON).

Each player played his or her counterpart twice, and each went first one of those games. Thus, each player played 14 games and there were 98 possible wins. The U.S. held the cup going into the match and needed 49 wins to retain the cup while Canada needed 49½ to take possession of the cup.

After 12 rounds, the US held a commanding 46–38 lead with Captain Dave Wiegand leading the team.

After 13 rounds, it was all but over as the US led 48–43. All it would take was one win in the final round to retain the cup. The first result came in. Dave Wiegand edged Adam Logan and the US, with its 49th win, would retain the cup. Then the other results started coming in: Tran over me, Vijayakumar over Lerman, Hoekstra over Bowman, Saldanha over Whitmarsh, Daniel over Kantimathi, and finally, Leah over Gabriel. The Canadians had taken the final 6 games to tie the match at 49 wins each!

One thing I love about hockey is the way the players talk about each other. The words "grit" and "competitor" seem to be used the CAN-AM CONCLUDED continued on p. 3



Wanda Fleming from Washington D.C. was the SCRABBLE Flash winner at the Bethesda, M.D. Tournament that took place March 20, 2011.

Dallas Open VI

by Sherrie Saint John

Like a well-oiled machine, the sixth annual Dallas Open took place on a bright spring March weekend at the Crowne Plaza Dallas Park Central. The SCRABBLE world has seen a lot of change since Chris Cree founded this event five years ago, but this event remains a jewel on the calendar. Mary Rhoades did her usual bang-up job directing, John Chew did his tsh pairing and web thing with me, and the best annotation duo ever — Dee Segrest (Highland Village, TX) and Kate Watson (Bedford, TX) — brought on a third annotator, Chris Canik (Austin, TX). It was wonderful to have Chris on hand to relieve Kate since her real job beckoned for part of the DO, and his attention to detail was fantastic!

What makes the DO special is a combination of Southern hospitality, terrific players from all over the US, fantastic culinary choices, and the open format itself. Call it a throwback to the old days when opens were the only kind of tournaments held, but the growing popularity of one big division isn't just for the elites who want to win all the cash: there are fifteen other open events on the calendar in the first half of this year. The

DALLAS STORIES continued on p. 3

NSC 2011 Update

by the Championship Committee

The National SCRABBLE Championship (NSC) returns to the Hotel InterContinental Dallas on August 6-10. Online registration is now available at the NASPA website, and will remain open through July 20; a late fee will apply after June 22. The Championship Committee has been hard at work reviewing last year's event and the helpful suggestions on the hundreds of comment cards received from players and staff. Here are some of the changes we've made for this year's event.

The most major change is that we are reducing the number of divisions from 5 to 4, split at (OWL) ratings 1700, 1400 and 1100. Unlimited play-up continues to be in effect. We hope this will help balance the sizes of the divisions and our staff workload.

Regular entry fees remain unchanged at US\$175 for Division 1 and \$150 for all other divisions, but we are adding a special youth rate of only \$50 for players who are under 18 as of the start of the championship.

We had a large number of requests to bring back Activity Director Robin Gates, who amazed us all with her tireless efforts to act as the event's concierge, arranging afterhours events for out-of-town visitors and

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NSC News

from NSC 2011 Update, p. 1

coordinating airport transfers. Some people asked us to ask Robin to also post sign-up sheets for group dinner outings and lunchtime carpooling; these sound like excellent ideas to us.

We're also very happy to have been able to bring back most of the rest of the NSC 2010 staff, who inspired the most positive comments we received, such as: "I was very impressed with the excellent organization and the patience and kindness of the Division Leaders" and "Smooth as silk! Wonderfully run!"

We had a few requests to switch from four games in the morning and three in the afternoon to three in the morning and four in the afternoon. We are going to stay with our current schedule, because starting the lunch break at 1:00 lets our players avoid the rush at local restaurants.

We had many requests to shorten the lunch break from two hours to one, and some to play more than seven games a day or to have more side events. We have to keep the two-hour lunch, because it's the only time for our several dozen committee members to hold valuable face-to-face meetings. However, we are adding an optional "Lunch Bird": a four-round side event, held in the second half of each lunch break. We will also be having an after hours trivia competition. Details about side events be posted on the main NSC website.

We will not be lengthening the event (a few diehard players wanted a much longer schedule), nor will we change the Wednesday half-day schedule: we need to have the time and space to hold a prize ceremony, and the hotel would not be happy to give it to us if our players were not occupying their guest rooms Tuesday night.

Although most people really liked the playing area, the most common complaints were about the temperature, the distance to restrooms, shortages of scrap paper and pencil sharpeners, and the beverage rule. As most tournament directors know, the only way to keep a large playing room from overheating in the afternoon from body heat is to keep it a little chilly in the morning; experienced players know to dress in layers, and one of them wrote "The air conditioning was perfect this time!" We will make sure that all players with mobility issues have fixed table assignments as close as possible to the restrooms; please be sure to let us know when you register online if you require this accommodation. We will provide scrap paper at all tables, and make sure there are more pencil sharpeners. We will not provide flat-bottomed cups or coffee service in the playing area; the pointy cups are to prevent people from spilling open-top beverages onto playing tables. In the past, we had to call for fresh tablecloths every session;

last year, there were no spills. Free coffee service would be nice for coffee drinkers, but given the availability of hotel coffee and Starbucks coffee on the premises, together with the high cost of hotel-catered coffee service, we prefer not to have non-coffee drinkers subsidizing their coffee-drinking friends.

Many people praised the more than 200 restaurants within two miles of the event. Some hotel restaurants were closed due to renovation last year, but their reopening will give more choice for people who want to eat on site.

Some people complained about problems with the hotel WiFi service. We have been told that their service has been upgraded, as their customer base shifts away from WiFiaverse security-conscious government sector guests to more general business travellers. Some players were also disappointed that their discounted online hotel stays did not include WiFi access or other amenities specifically negotiated for our group; please be careful to read the fine print when trying to find the best deal.

Finally, some people complained that Dallas is too hot in August, too far from New England, and the hotel too far from the airport. All of these factors have a significant impact on the cost of the event and therefore its entry fees. We welcome suggestions for affordable venues that our site searches may not yet have identified, and will examine each one carefully. We are committed to providing players with events that live up to the prestigious history of the National SCRABBLE Championship. We look forward to seeing you in Dallas this August.

CNSC 2011 Qualification

by the Canadian Committee

Hasbro Canada sponsors the 2011 Canadian National SCRABBLE Championship (CNSC) at the Bond Place Hotel in Toronto on June 10-13, when the 52 best players in Canada will compete for over C\$12,000 in prizes. Defending champion Adam Logan automatically has the right to defend his title. As we go to press, the top 47 players who will qualify for this event based on peak rating are about to be determined when the qualification period ends on March 31st.

Four additional spaces are available through two qualifying tournaments to be held in Cambridge, ON and Calgary, AB in May. There are some restrictions on who can play in these events; interested players should consult NASPAWiki and register with the qualifying tournament directors.

Mystery Word

by John Chew

I'm thinking of a word in TWL2. You can add -LY or -NESS to the end of it, or you can add DO- at the beginning. What is it? MYSTERY WORD CLUE 2 continued on p. 3

WSC Goes to Warsaw

by the Championship Committee

Philip Nelkon (London, GBR) announced this month that the 2011 World SCRABBLE Championship (WSC) would be held on October 12–16, 2011 at the Hilton Hotel in Warsaw, Poland, with a record prize fund of US\$50,000, up from \$30,500 in 2009. This is the first time that the event has been held in continental Europe, and the first time since 2001 in Las Vegas# that the event has been held in a city whose name is acceptable in SCRABBLE play. NASPA Copresident John Chew has been confirmed as the event's webmaster and assistant director, and registration at the event website is now live

Based on their past performance, the United States is entitled to send a 15-player team and Canada an 8-player team. As explained in the previous issue and on NASPAWiki, U.S. players must register with the NASPA International Committee by May 31st; Canadian players wanting to qualify based on peak rating must do so by April 30th. In the 20-year history of the biennial event, North Americans have won six of the ten titles. We wish them good luck again this year.

Player Accommodations

by Dallas Johnson

A list of accommodations granted to players with special needs is now available to NASPA directors. The page can also be accessed by directors from a link on the NASPA Member Services page. Players to whom an accommodation is granted are still required to notify the director of a tournament in advance of the event, but this page should help directors to verify the accommodation and its scope. This list is intended to be comprehensive, listing all specifically granted accommodations. In addition to these, Orthodox Jews are granted an accommodation if they are not permitted to operate the clock or write during their Sabbath. The approved methods associated with this accommodation can also be found online.

NASPA accepts accommodations previously granted by the National SCRABBLE Association (NSA). While we believe that we have listed all of these grandfathered accommodations, directors should accept an NSA letter of accommodation presented by a player, and forward that letter to the NASPA Tournament Committee at naspatourney@yahoogroups.com, so that the accommodation can be added to the list online.

NASPA is committed to accommodating players with disabilities or other special needs. Players in need of accommodation should submit a request to the NASPA Tournament Committee at naspa-tourney@yahoogroups.com.

Can-Am Concluded

from CAN-AM CALGARY, p. 1

most when making a positive observation about an opponent. Well, let me tell you, take those words and add "determination" and "talent." A demonstration of all of those attributes was put on by Team Canada in those final two rounds.

NASPA, Team USA and Team Canada all wish to thank all of the members of Calgary's NASPA Club #374, the hosts of the 2011 Can-Am SCRABBLE Challenge, who made this possible.

Siri Tillekeratne, Betty Bergeron, Randall Thomas, Wayne Clifford, Allan Simon and Juraj Pivovarov lent their organizational, directorial and annotation skills to the event.

In addition, the club hosted a wonderful dinner Saturday night at a local Indian restaurant, where the teams got to enjoy the camaraderie that makes this event so very special.

[Next year's Can-Am Challenge will be back in the USA. If your club is interested in hosting the event, please let us know at info@scrabbleplayers.org.]

You Make the Call!

By Bryan Pepper

I've written other articles about directing, but for a much smaller audience. I've been asked to write a series of articles about situations that arise during gameplay# that aren't exactly covered by the rules.

But first, I want to examine the one rule that most directors would agree is the call they handle the most. The overdraw rule is one that has not changed for more than five years now, but yet remains misunderstood. The genius of the rule is its inherent fairness.

First, it does NOT matter whether you have seen the overdrawn tiles. It DOES matter if you have mixed at least one of the new tiles with your previous rack's remaining tiles.

If you have not mixed at least one tile, then the replacement tiles are kept separate. Opponent chooses "X+2"... what that means is simply this: if you were supposed to draw two tiles and you drew four instead, then the opponent chooses two more tiles than the number overdrawn by... so in this case, the overdraw was by two more, so the opponent looks at all four tiles (2+2 = 4). The opponent has one minute to give you his choice of two tiles to complete your seven tile rack.

If you were replacing less than two tiles, then your opponent would look at all of the replacement tiles you drew and then make his choice from them.

If you have mixed at least one new tile with your old tiles, then the opponent follows the above procedure from ALL of your tiles.

If you still have questions, CALL THE DIRECTOR: that's what we are there for!

Next month: "my opponent started my clock by mistake"....

Dallas Stories

from DALLAS OPEN VI, p. 1

Dallas Open group was broken into 6 prize classes based on pretournament rating: Open, A, B, C, D, E. Prizes were awarded to players who placed first and second in each class, and a high turn prize was also given out in each class. The point is, all the players vied for the top prizes and if they didn't quite reach the top, they were still rewarded for a great showing in a strong field.

A feature that one-division events provide that more segmented tournaments don't is the chance to play the big dogs. At this year's DO, John Chew once again paired the first three rounds taking one player from each of the event's four quartiles (the players are broken up into four groups, by rating, and the computer randomly picks one person from each of the four groups) and had them play a round robin. This randomized start gave Andrea Salinas (Bastrop, TX) a chance to play Brian Cappelletto (Chicago, IL) at the annotated Board 1 in Round 1. It was his win, but she got to see him wend his magic (CANTERED, SENSIBLY, and tRITOMA were his bingos) and she got down her own: BUTTErS, hooking to make BEWAILS. In this 70-player tournament, Andrea was seeded 66th and Brian was seeded 1st.

The event did have its share of upset wins. In round 2, Samantha Nelson (Houston, TX), rated 547, had one against John Dalton (Dallas, TX), rated 1645. They both had a couple of bingos: hEISTER and LIMBERED for her and LARDIER and TOASTED for him. Despite playing an endgame phoney which cost her a turn, Samantha later hooked an FOXING-S and drew a challenge from John (it is good: it's part of a shoe) and that won her the game, 455–401.

Also in round 2, Phyllis Vargas (Katy, TX), rated 961, beat Marilyn Wilkins (Richmond, BC), rated 1626, 363–290. For these wins, Samantha and Phyllis received SamBoards!

In round 3, first place was held by 45th seed, Mariah Smith (Liberty Hill, TX), 3–0 +524. By round 7, she had defeated Matt Canik (Austin, TX) and Chris Lipe (Rome, NY), too. Of her win against Matt Canik, Mariah pointed out that they both made blank bingos that designated the V as the blank! Her DEvOTEE for 67 and his STUIVER for 87. Unusual indeed. In the end, she went 11–9, but she had a fun run at the top!

The event was full of fantastic plays and personal firsts. Lindsey Dimmick (Baton Rouge, LA) had her first bingo, bango, bongo (playing three bingos in a row) against Fran Silver (Frisco, TX, late of Montreal, QC). They were LOOSENS for 76, sPANNED for 76, and EXERTION for 92. A 423–353 win for Lindsey.

In a game against Keith Smith (Austin, TX), Dave Wiegand (Portland, OR) attached EFFA to the front of CEMENT: EF-



Samantha Nelson receiving a SamBoard from Chris Cree for the greatest rating upset at DO6

FACEMENT, a gorgeous 10-letter word! To Keith's DROUGHTS, Dave played WHISPERY, COOPTING, NONUSES, and WEIGELIA. A 506–367 Dave win.

Derek Martinez (Spring Lake Park, MN) had two fun big word games. In an OVER/UNDER game with Caesar Jaramillo (Seagraves, TX), he played two 9s: OVER-BAKED and UNDERbITE! Later on, in a game with Paul Mulik (Joplin, MO), Derek got down CONVICT and later added an ING for CONVICTING. Derek also played CoUNTER and Paul front-hooked it to create DISCoUNTER! So, two 10-letter words in that game!

Derek won this second game and said it was due to finding SPOILAGE with one tile left in the bag!

Nancy Scott (Schert, TX) confessed an oops. Her opponent play ESTATIC*, which she challenged off, saying "it takes a C." Forgetting this sage advice, she then played a C and her opponent, David S. Adams (Houston, TX), played ECSTATIC for 86! She won the game by 6.

ABOIDEaU was on a game between Prashanth Seetheram (Plainview, MA) and Mike Baker (Portland, OR); Prashanth played SEXTAIN, hooking to make ABOI-DEaUX for 98!

Wes Eddings (Bryan, TX) played RE-READING through the AD for 72. Pretty word and "one bright spot" in game he lost, 331–375

Chris Lipe was pretty sure he was going to win, but Neil DeWitte (Birmingham, AL) got a wonderful late-game bingo: HEAD-IAMP to the P on the triple for 101. A 462–376 win for Neil.

In an endgame Paul Mulik had EIISTU? and he was poised to play UvEITIS/EMES on the bottom triple row. While he sat praying that his opponent didn't block, down went SYNC/EMES, blocking his original play. Paul then found jESUITIC to that C!

DALLAS PRIZES continued on p. 4

Dallas Prizes

from DALLAS STORIES, p. 3

A big change this year was seeing Bryan Pepper (Bedford, TX) on the list of players and not in his codirector chair. At one point, he was in 5th place, and when asked if he preferred playing to directing, he said, "Today I sure did! Going 5-3, winning my last three games by spreads of 12, 11, and 8 have a little bit to do with that." Against Caesar Jaramillo the game "ended" when Caesar bingoed out to lose by two points. They decided to recount and found a 2-point undercount for Caesar, which meant a tie game. As they continued the recount, Brian was both embarrassed and delighted to see that he'd failed to double one of his bingos, which gave him 12 more points. He said, "however it comes, I'm pleased to take a 12-point win."

In round 11, the highest-scoring DO 6 game was a 667-328 win for Rob Robinsky (Spring Lake Park, MN) vs. Bruce D'Ambrosio (Los Angeles, CA), this despite a 98-point POSHEST for Bruce! However, one minute later, Marty Gabriel (Charleston, IL) exclaimed audibly: he'd FINALLY had a tournament 700 game! This is the third 700 game of his career, the last being, he thinks, in 2000. Both of the previous 700 games were club games and this is a tournament game against a real player, Debbie Scholz (Houston, TX). His first play was SIRUPED and his next was FOBS for 43. The first impressive play, according to him, that he made was PULVERIZe through the ER for a 138-point double-double. His next play was GORAL/PULVERIZeR for 34. In the endgame, holding ADQUETL, he saw many options, but he was playing the unseen 6 in the bag. So, he played off he L to create another hook and picked an A. The clouds parted, the angels sang, and Marty next played ADEQUATE to the E on the triple, creating TA/GOD/ODE for 150 points! He also got down ROSARIAN and ZINGS and more. When their paperwork was finished and they were cleaning up, Marty discovered three tiles in the bag! He'd been so crazed to reach 700 that he said, "and out" when he played and Debbie, also overwhelmed by the scene, didn't catch it. So, he might have had even MORE points!

In a Rob Robinsky vs. Steve Glass (Dade City, FL) game, Rob played six bingos, four of them in a row: DOORNAIL for 80, VIEWDATA for 86, MISERIES for 83, and METRAZOL for 90. Rob also played BOI-SERIE for 83 on the triple lane that Steve opened when he had too many vowels (he played OUZO though the Z) and GAy-ETIES for 70. A huge 613–329 win for Rob.

A most imbalanced game took place between Chris Lipe and Steve Glass. All vowels: POORI, OOTID, TOEA, OOH, AALIIS, TEEPEES. Would they play in Czechoslovakian by the end! When the vowel dust set-

tled, it was a 377–289 win for Chris. They explain that they BOTH were swamped with vowels at the same time. Steve said he arguably could have thrown in each of his first 10 racks; they were that bad. At about the 3/4 mark in the game, Chris played POORI and counted, "There were 5 unseen vowels and 23 consonants! I still don't know where they went...."

Two inspirational games took place at top tables in round 15. At table 1, Bryan Pepper "scared" Dave Wiegand. At one point, it was a 6-point game. When the cloud cleared, Dave looked up at me and said it was a very good game, but a 418-386 win for him. I see MISTRACE, JERKILY, and FETA-TION. Then I point at one word and ask the blank. As if I'd asked him what time it was, Dave said, "...an M?" The funny thing, at the very same time, annotator Kate Watson and Bryan Pepper both said something akin to, "yeah, just an M, you know, everyone plays that word all the time!" Kate and Bryan might know each other too well: they are beginning to sound like each other! Dave's word: ENDAmEBAE.

The other inspirational game was between Mary Ellen Weisskopf (Huntsville, AL) and Rob Robinsky. Mary Ellen's husband, Martin Weisskopf, watched from across the room, he didn't dare get too close. Though at one point, she was behind by about a bingo, it ended as a 436–312 win for Rob. I see STARVERS, EARNESTS, and ARMREST on their board. Martin finally ventured over to talk about the completed game. Rated higher than her, Martin hadn't yet had a chance to play at table 2, so this was a great moment for Mary Ellen!

It was pretty clear by the midway point who was leading the pack at the DO. Dave Wiegand, Brian Cappelletto, and Geoff Thevenot (Austin, TX) shuffled between 1st, 2nd, and 3rd from round 12 to 20. Though the top spot was mostly Dave's, both Brian and Geoff had their chance to lead on day three. In the end, despite defeating Dave at table 1, Geoff ended up in 3rd. These three players each had 16-4 records at the end of the DO. Dave won first place and \$3,000 on spread: +64 more spread than Brian, who collected \$900 for his second-place finish. In a 20-game tournament, that is amazingly close! An additional \$3,000 in cash prizes were awarded, as well as SamBoards, Sam-Tiles, FlipTimers, Mike Baron's Wordbook, SCRABBLE FLASH and NASPA renewals.

This year it was "Get you kicks at DO 6" and all sorts of bets are being cast for some "A Little Piece of Heaven at DO 7." Maybe some of you will even join in on the promised angelic fun!

This event was covered live, so if you want to see the twenty annotated board 1 games, more photos, and color, please check it out dallasopen.com!



Winner Dave Wiegand receives a check for \$3,000 from Chris Cree at the prize ceremony for the 2011 Dallas Open in Dallas, TX (all DO photos by Sherrie Saint John)



Runner-up Brian Cappelletto receives a check for \$900 from Chris Cree at the prize ceremony for the 2011 Dallas Open in Dallas, TX



Marty Gabriel's 702–246 blowout win over Debbie Scholz at the 2011 Dallas Open in Dallas, TX: Marty bingo-ed SIRUPED, PULVERIZe, ADEQUATE and ROSARIAN, but forgot to draw the last three tiles remaining in the bag.

NASPA in the News

compiled by the Bulletin Committee

BroadwayWorld.com reported on March 2nd that "International SCRABBLE celebs" Robin Pollock Daniel (Toronto, ON) and Joel Wapnick (Montreal, QC) will be on hand at the \$500/table SCRABBLE With The Stars fundraiser, where paid guests will get a chance to play in a good cause with stars like Colin Mochrie and Gordon Pinsent, and hear a SCRABBLE anthem performed by David Warrack.

The Andover Townsman reported on March 3rd that 2008 NSC Division 6 Champion and 2010 National School SCRABBLE Champion Bradley Robbins (Windham, NH) gave a simultaneous SCRABBLE demonstration at a local retirement home.

The NorthShore Sun reported on March 8th that our partner organization, the National SCRABBLE Association, was switching to an all-online format for their newsletter, the SCRABBLE News.

Centretown News reported on March 11th about local resident and high school alumnus Adam Logan's (Ottawa, ON) plans to represent Canada at the Can-Am SCRAB-BLE Challenge, quoting Logan, John Chew (Toronto, ON) and Jeremy Hildebrand (Ottawa, ON).

92Y Online reported on March 15th about a one-sided match between Joe Edley (Port Jefferson, NY), on site to teach a popular SCRABBLE Master class, and local hero and recent Jeopardy! champion Jonathan "Game Show Guy" Corbblah. Corbblah resigned after seven moves each.

On March 22nd, the Times-Standard profiled NASPA director Terence Marlow (Trinidad, CA) and his club in Arcata (NAS-PA Club #566) in an unusually well-written general interest piece.

We welcome submissions to this column.

Mystery Word Clue 2

From MYSTERY WORD, p. 3

You might be thinking of any of four words, but the one I want also fits between PE- and -GED.

MYSTERY WORD CLUE 3 continued on p. 7

Top Active Players

The following are the top 50 active rated members in the NASPA (TWL) rating system, as of March 1, 2011.

- 1. 2140 Richards, Nigel (MYS)
- 2. 2102 Gibson, David (SC)
- 3. 2047 Cappelletto, Brian (IL)
- 3. 2047 Matsumoto, Kenji (HI)
- 5. 2037 Logan, Adam (ON)
- 6. 2034 Swift, Orry (TX)
- 7. 2014 Appel, Scott (NJ)
- 7. 2014 Bassett-Bouchard, Conrad (CA)
- 9. 2006 Sherman, Joel (NY)
- 10. 2004 Johnson, Carl (OR)

- 11. 1999 Stern, Rafi (WA)
- 12. 1989 Wiegand, Dave (OR)
- 13. 1968 Benedict, Nathan (AZ)
- 14. 1958 Cohen, Laurie (AZ)
- 15. 1955 Weinstein, Ian (FL)
- 16. 1948 Nemitrmansuk, Pakorn (THA)
- 17. 1941 Mallick, Joey (ME)
- 17. 1941 Thevenot, Geoff (TX)
- 19. 1939 Koenig, David (MD)
- 20. 1936 Tiekert, Ron (FL)
- 21. 1934 Gabriel, Marty (IL)
- 22. 1929 Leong, James (BC)
- 23. 1928 Okosagah, Sammy (MD)
- 23. 1928 Sujjayakorn, Panupol (THA)
- 25. 1922 Meyer, Nick (CA)
- 26. 1919 MacNeil, Rod (MA)
- 27. 1918 Edley, Joe (NY)
- 28. 1914 Cree, Chris (TX)
- 29. 1913 Tran, Eric (AB)
- 30. 1912 Clinchy, Evans (MA)
- 31. 1911 Dackman, Joe (NV)
- 31. 1911 Wapnick, Joel (QC)
- 33. 1909 Lerman, Jerry (CA)
- 34. 1905 Daniel, Robin Pollock (ON)
- 34. 1905 Epstein, Paul (MI)
- 34. 1905 Frentz, Mike (WA)
- 37. 1901 Mancine, Dominick (CO)
- 38. 1900 Day, Jesse (CA)
- 38. 1900 Walton, Noah (OR)
- 40. 1899 Rosin, Sam (NJ)
- 41. 1894 Le, Cecilia (MA)
- 41. 1894 Saldanha, Dean (BC)
- 43. 1892 Withers, Ben (TX)
- 44. 1891 Kramer, Jim (MN)
- 45. 1888 Sykes, Christopher (ON) 46. 1887 Armstrong, Peter (WI)
- 47. 1883 Leah, Tony (ON)
- 47. 1883 Winter (TX)
- 49. 1879 Martinez, Lewis (CA)
- 50. 1876 Glass, Steve (FL)
- 50. 1876 Luebkemann, John (VA)

The following are the top 20 active rated members in the NASPA (CSW) rating system, as of February 1, 2011.

- 1. 2155 Richards, Nigel (MYS)
- 2. 2080 Nelkon, Philip (GBR)
- 3. 2041 Benedict, Nathan (AZ)
- 4. 2037 May, Chris (AUS)
- 5. 2028 Nemitrmansuk, Pakorn (THA)
- 6. 2015 Logan, Adam (ON)
- 7. 2008 Johnson, Carl (OR)
- 8. 2007 Eldar, David (AUS)
- 9. 1986 Thevenot, Geoff (TX)
- 10. 1977 Wapnick, Joel (QC)
- 11. 1968 Wiegand, Dave (OR)
- 12. 1956 Adamson, Tim (MN)
- 13. 1955 Linn, Robert (MD)
- 15. 1933 Lilli, Robert (MD)
- 14. 1919 Boys, David (QC)
- 15. 1907 Leah, Tony (ON)
- 16. 1906 Bowman, Brian (KY)
- 17. 1903 Olaughlin, John (MA)
- 18. 1901 Panitch, Max (ON)
- 19. 1895 Ball, Nick (BC)
- 20. 1891 Cree, Chris (TX)

Monthly Leaders

by the Ratings and Recognition Committee
This section lists the players with the best results in February 2011.

Most Rated Wins

- 1. 31 D'Ambrosio, Bruce (CA)
- 2. 30 Weinstein, Ian (FL)
- 3. 28 Cree, Chris (TX)
- 4. 27 Hopkins, Matt P (NC)
- 4. 27 Steffy, Heather (OH)

Most Games Played

- 1. 49 D'Ambrosio, Bruce (CA)
- 2. 47 Milton, Daniel (VA)
- 3. 46 Cree, Chris (TX)
- 4. 45 Berg, Verna Richards (NY)
- 4. 45 Steffy, Heather (OH)
- 4. 45 Bassett, Michael (OH)

Most Games Undefeated

- 1. 8 Glass, Steve (FL)
- 1. 8 Heartberg, Mervet (NY)
- 3. 6 Latis, George (AB)
- 3. 6 Sealy, Trevor (ON)
- 3. 6 Riblet, Doug (TX)
- 3. 6 Godfroy, Jason (MD)

Biggest Rating Gains

- 1. +216 = 802 Rivard, Alexander (TX)
- 2. +173 = 1250 Heartberg, Mervet (NY)
- 3. +152 = 1102 Blake, Daniel (NY)
- 4. +151 = 1094 Dickens, Nandini (MD)
- 5. +138 = 1445 Seetharam, Prashanth (MA)

Highest Initial Rating

- 1. 1246 Isaac, Demetrius (PA)
- 2. 1199 Collier, Phillip (TX)
- 3. 1115 Godfroy, Jason (MD)
- 4. 1030 Flashner, Rochelle (FL)5. 894 Kvinnesland, Robert (PA)

Recent Results

by the Ratings and Recognition Committee

This section lists all players who finished in the top three places in their division in a rated tournament ending in February 2011, together with their wins, losses, cumulative spread, old and new ratings. Out-of-state winners are identified with their home state (or province).

Akron, OH LCT: February 3

(6 players)

3–1 +449 1575 1577 Zeigler, Pete 3–1 -12 1197 1205 Johnson, Dallas

2-2+150 1679 1673 Stock, Daniel

Salado, TX: February 4

Texas State Championship (Early Bird)

Division A (6 players)

4-1 +418 1688 1736 Dick-Onuoha, Sam

4-1 -28 1641 1697 Early, Michael

3-2 +243 1914 1912 Cree, Chris

More Recent Results

from RECENT RESULTS, p. 5				
Division B	(6 PLA	yers)	_	
4–1 +174	1604	1628	McArthur, Jean	
4-1 -1	1523	1560	Lewis, Robin	
2-3 +88	1444	1443	Jaramillo, Caesar	
Division C	(6 PLA	YERS)		
4-1 +342	1389	1417	Pastore, Mary	
3-2 +396	1319	1332	Smith, Mariah	
3-2 +20	1435	1437	Thornton, Paul	
Division D (6 players)				
4-1 +411	942	990	Gaudier, Deborah	
4-1 +92	757	836	Muhich, Dolores	
3-2 + 44	944	961	Major, Dennis	

Catonsville, MD: February 5

Charm City SCRABBLE Tournament				
Division A	(12 PL	AYERS)		
5-2 +288	1529	1568	Engelhardt, David	
5-2 +242	1464	1515	Fyr, Jacquelyn (IN)	
4-3 +415	1738	1726	Davis, Tim	
Division B	(12 PL	AYERS)		
6-1 +313	1298	1375	Gest, Ted (DC)	
5-2 +257	1309	1343	Fialkow, Marty (NJ)	
4-2 +149	1411	1422	Stewart, Edward	
DIVISION C (12 PLAYERS)				
6-1 +298	1213	1243	Fine, Adam	
6-1 +199	1248	1277	Stewart, Gwen	
5-2 +185	1095	1114	Fleming, Wanda (DC)	
Division D (13 players)				
7-0 +475	0	1115	Godfroy, Jason	
5-2 +592	642	693	Blood, Karen	
5–2 +465	715	765	Gold, Martin (VA)	

Seven Hills, OH: February 5

Super SCRABBLE Saturday			
Division A (8 players)			
7-1 +732	1673	1706	Stock, Daniel
6–2 +69	1415	1475	McCarthy, Kevin, Sr
5-3 +20	1562	1571	Steffy, Heather
Division B (8 players)			
6-2 -38	1178	1188	Popich, Eileen
5-3 +348	912	940	Stock, Joyce
5-3 +287	1128	1125	Konicki, Walter

Boston, MA: February 5-6

CSW-rated		•	
(12 players)			
9-3 +752	1906	1943	Bowman, Brian (KY)
7-5 +484	1919	1926	Boys, David (QC)
7–5 +321	1778	1822	Buck, Richard

Salado, TX: February 5-6

Texas State Championship (Main Event)				
Division A	(14 PL	ayers)		
10-3 +845	1941	1970	Thevenot, Geoff	
9-4 +341	1719	1786	Whitley, David (CA)	
8-5 +229	1912	1913	Cree, Chris	
Division B	(18 PL	AYERS)		
10-3 +680	1573	1620	Hopper, Chad	
9-4 +810	1622	1639	Dyer, Becky	
9–4 +719	1422	1485	DeWaelsche, Matt	
Division C (10 players)				
9–4 +78	1306	1336	McCarley, April	
8-5 +257	1280	1297	Randolph, Jason	
8-5 +141	1295	1303	Gordon, Edward	

Division D (11 players)			
10-2 +497	0	1222	Collier, Phillip
9-3 +362	586	784	Rivard, Alexander
8-5 +324	836	857	Muhich, Dolores

Berkeley, CA: February 6			
Monthly one	e-day et	vent	
Division A	(7 PLA	yers)	
6-1 +413	1763	1793	Berahovich, Leesa
6-1 +227	1669	1718	Ward, Bruce
4-3 +163	1720	1715	Morgan, Chris Patrick
Division B (10 players)			
5-1 +337	1198	1255	Sampath, Bharat
5-1 +268	1377	1402	Whitman, Alan
4-2 +427	1354	1357	Unger, Dan
			-

Laguna Woods, CA: February 6

Monthly one-day event				
1567 1583	D'Ambrosio, Bruce			
1714 1698	Knapp, Rachel			
1366 1381	Moss, Gary			
	1567 1583 1714 1698			

Edmonton, AB: February 12

Bi	Bimonthly one-day event					
D	ivision A	(6 PLA	yers)			
6-	0 +626	1335	1409	Latis, George		
3-	3 +31	1209	1212	Anderson, Timothy		
3-	-3 -91	1363	1354	Larocque, Matthew		
Division B (6 players)						
5-	1 +163	1041	1050	Settle, Ben		
4–	2 +215	891	900	Millington, Troy		
4–	2 +63	788	799	Middleton, Ken		

Guelph, ON: February 13

Monthly one-day event				
Division A	(6 PLA	yers)		
5-1 +422	1883	1901	Leah, Tony	
5-1 +121	1740	1787	Kaufman, Zev	
3-3 -81	1565	1578	Pengelly, Allen	
Division B	(8 PLA	yers)		
6-0 +599	1363	1419	Sealy, Trevor	
4-2 -33	1134	1159	Petrie, Shauna	
3-3 +12	1009	1030	Poulter, Maggie	
Division C (6 players)				
4-2 +245	950	966	Blake, Daniel (NY)	
4-2 +62	743	824	Spanier, Crayne	
3-3 -42	959	954	Krook, Dave	

Philadelphia, PA: February 13

	Philadelphia, PA: February 13			
	DIVISION A (12 PLAYERS)			
	6-1 +456	2006	2014	Sherman, Joel (NY)
	5-2 +591	1769	1787	Popper, Richard (DE)
	5-2 +222	1581	1630	Petree, Joe
	Division B	(12 PL	AYERS)	
	5-2 +562	1277	1325	Barrett, Ted (NJ)
	5-2 +473	1454	1486	Meller, Mack (NY)
	5-2 +203	1422	1446	Stewart, Edward (MD)
	Division C	(12 PL	ayers)	
	5-1 +475	1238	1278	Allen, Drew
	5-2 +332	1260	1283	Zurav, Edward H (NJ)
	5-2 +317	1273	1296	Shaw, Frances (NJ)
Division D (12 players)				
	6-1 +462	879	941	Brower, Ruth (DE)
	6-1 +377	1010	1040	Dlugosz, David
	5-1 +232	0	1246	Isaac, Demetrius

Charlotte, NC: February 18-21

Early Bird 1 (18 players)			
5-1 +869	1955 1955	Weinstein, Ian (FL)	
5-1 +404	1772 1780	Polatnick, Steve (FL)	
5-1 +113	1583 162	D'Ambrosio, Bruce (CA)	

Charlotte, NC: February 18-21

	EB2 Division N (12 players)					
	6-0 +538	958	1003	Dickens, Nandini (MD)		
	5-1 +648	898	916	Poole, Cathy		
	4-2 +217	650	676	Powers, Michael		
EB2 DIVISION O (12 PLAYERS)						
	6-0 +810	1955	1982	Weinstein, Ian (FL)		
	5-1 +222	1436	1509	Hopkins, Matt P		
	4-2 +368	1621	1631	D'Ambrosio, Bruce (CA)		

Phoenix, AZ CSW: February 19-21

(8 players)			
19-2 +14682	2041	2075	Benedict, Nathan
15–6 +1160	1853	1888	Kenas, Mark (WI)
14–7 +700	1833	1859	Gabriel, Marty (IL)

Charlotte, NC: February 19-21

CSW Division (8 players)					
15–6 +1049 1611 1860	Bernadina, Matthew				
13–9 +83 1874 1887	Kantimathi, Sam (CA)				
12-9 -185 1840 1866	Polatnick, Steve (FL)				
Division A (16 players)					
16-6 +673 1941 2002	Mallick, Joey (ME)				
15-7 +399 1918 1964	Edley, Joe (NY)				
14-8 +846 1939 1964	Koenig, David (MD)				
Division B (32 players)					
18–4 +974 1540 1653	Rauppius, Dave (GA)				
14-8 +606 1375 1435	Scott, Will (KY)				
14-8 +505 1509 1535	Hopkins, Matt P				
Division C (22 players)					
16–6 +701 962 1102	Blake, Daniel (NY)				
15-6 +1052 1177 1211	Bassett, Michael (OH)				
	Daobett, minerater (C11)				

Charlotte, NC: February 19-20

NIGHT BIRD (10 PLAYERS)					
7–1 +557	1987 2002	Sherman, Joel (NY)			
6-2 +328	1962 1961	Weinstein, Ian (FL)			
5-3 +268	1523 1540	Berg, Verna Richards (NY)			

Austin, TX: February 26

	Division A (8 players)				
	6-0 +643	1607	1690	Riblet, Doug	
	4-2 +352	1581	1597	Canik, Matt	
	4-2 +93	1678	1689	Early, Michael	
Division B (8 players)					
	6-0 +686	1297	1377	Randolph, Jason	
	4-2 +390	1363	1369	Fenske, Robert	
	4-2 + 17	1330	1342	Solis, Ruben	

Bayside, NY: February 26

Dayside, 111. Tebruary 20					
Division A (6 players)					
6-2 +251	1540 1	1574	Berg, Verna Richards		
5-3 +443	1544 1	1561	Mendoza, Froilan (NJ)		
4-4 +176	1641 1	1619	Avrin, Paul		
Division B	(8 PLAY	ers)			
6-2 +338	1265 1	1297	Sikorski, Steve		
6-2 +265	1181 1	1230	Schneider, Frederick		
5-3 +306	1366 1	1362	Konipol, Nancy		
STILL I	MORE I	RESU	ILTS continued on v. 7		

Still More Results

from MORE RECENT RESULTS, p. 6
Monthly one-day event
DIVISION C (7 PLAYERS)
8-0 +586 885 985 Schuman, John
6-2 +567 817 830 Newman, Barbara
6-2 +399 735 763 Conlon, Mary Jane

Fort Lauderdale, FL: February 26

Monthly one-day event DIVISION A (5 PLAYERS) 6-2+338 1530 1608 Scalzo, John (NY) 6-2 +263 1936 1938 Tiekert, Ron 5-3 -139 1721 1731 Payne, Trip DIVISION B (8 PLAYERS) 6-2 +363 1124 1199 Marques, Sophie 6-2 +172 1325 1353 Rogers, George 5-3 +377 1328 1335 Druskin, Nancy (NY) DIVISION C (10 PLAYERS) 1077 1250 Heartberg, Mervet (NY) 8-0 +485 1048 1091 Berkelhammer, Harriett 6-2 + 2105-3 +192 1057 1074 Feigin, Pat DIVISION D (10 PLAYERS) 6-2 + 230783 820 Hynes, Geraldine 5-3 +222 829 840 Lenzen, Polly 5-3 +120 850 852 Shaw, Maxine

Pinellas Park, FL: February 26

Canton, MI: February 26–27

February Fury III
(32 PLAYERS)
12–3 +1387 1868 1886 Berofsky, Evan (ON)
11–4 +853 1905 1916 Epstein, Paul
11–4 +679 1752 1806 Panitch, Max (ON)

Johnston, IA: February 26-27

Fireside SCRABBLE Fest III

DIVISION A (14 PLAYERS)

10–2 +625 1699 1760 Pellinen, Steve (MN)

9–3 +260 1440 1565 Riordan, Chuck

8–4 +685 1842 1842 Odom, Lisa (MN)

DIVISION B (12 PLAYERS)

10–2 +411 1177 1251 Salas, Lesley (WI)

8–4 +167 1189 1214 Gauthier, Kevin (NY)

7–5 +253 938 1037 Boddy, Pat

DIVISION C (22 PLAYERS)

9–3 +867 842 900 Mojica, Avery (KS)

9–3 +313 791 841 Troutman, Kirk (NE)

Mystery Word Clue 3

from MYSTERY WORD 2, p. 5

8-4 +452 949 933

You might be thinking of any of four words, but the one I want also fits between PE- and -GED.

Cann, Kathi (KY)

MYSTERY WORD CLUE 4 continued on p. 9

Upcoming Tournaments

by the Tournament Committee

New with this Bulletin is a new regular feature: a list of upcoming tournaments, just like in the old NSA SCRABBLE News. Thanks to the many readers, most recently Estelle Matthews (Calgary, AB) who contacted us to ask for its return.

This condensed calendar is made automatically from the database of sanctioned tournaments. Please check the online calendar for updates after press time, and always confirm details with your tournament director.

Abbreviations: BreaKfast, COMMuter, ConTact, DIVision, Early Bird, Entry Fee, Handicapped-Accessible, Hotel Package, LUNch, Main Event, RounDs, RooM.

APRIL 1–3, BLOOMINGTON, MN: Fri: 6:00 PM, 4 RDS. Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 8:30 AM, 6 RDS. EF: \$200. Entry fee incl. two deluxe buffet LUN. on SAT. and SUN. Registration deadline is March 25th. 60 player maximum. Radisson Hotel, 1700 East American Boulevard, Bloomington MN 55425, 952-854-8700. HP: \$119/night, 1-4 people/RM., mention "Twin Cities SCRAB-BLE Tournament." Must purchase by 3/2/11 for discounted rate. CT. Dawn Gewecke or Scott Jackson, 810 Thornton St. SE #1206, Minneapolis, MN 55414, 612-860-8130, <scjackson36@gmail.com>. HA.

APRIL 2–3, MOOSE JAW, SK, CAN: Sat: 8 RDS. Sun: 4 RDS. R-R/K-H. EF: \$55 (CAN). Entry fee incl. 2 LUN. Deadline for entries — March 30, 2011. Timothy Eaton Gardens, 510 Main St., Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan S6H 3K3. CT. Joyce Gurnsey, 1007 Laurier St. Moose, Sk, S6H 2W6, 306-692-0731, <mb4jgaa@shaw. ca>. HA.

APRIL 3, BERKELEY, CA: Viceroy Indian Restaurant, 21 Shattuck Square, Berkeley CA 94704. CT. Pat Diener, 408-858-8034, <patriciadiener@comcast.net>. HA.

APRIL 3, LAGUNA WOODS, CA: EF: \$45. Late Fee \$10, after Fri before event. Modified round robin. Prizes: 1st \$90; 2nd \$50 in every group of 8. Laguna Woods Village, Clubhouse 5, Rm 1, 26252 Punta Alta, Laguna Woods, California 92637. CT. Gary Moss, 949-510-1673, <jftsoi.moss@gmail.com>. HA.

APRIL 7, LCT - AKRON, OH: Thu: 6:00 PM, 4 RDS. Free event. Typically paired with 3 rounds of modified Swiss and 1 round of KOTH, minimizing repeats as much as possible. The Highland Square Apartments, Party Room (basement level), 733 W. Market Street, Akron, OH

44303. CT. Dallas Johnson, 330-676-1723, <dallas@neoscrabble.com>. HA.

APRIL 8-10, BOSTON AREA TOUR-**NAMENT, MA:** Early Bird: Fri: Noon, 5 RDS. EF: \$50. Commuter fee: \$0. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. NAST qualifier. One open DIV. Main Event: Fri: 8:00 PM, 3 RDS. Sat: 9:30 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 9:00 AM, 4 RDS. EF: Div. 1: \$150, Div. A: \$90, Div. B: \$80, Div. C: \$70, Div. D: \$60. Commuter fee: \$15. The top-rated 15 players from A will play in Premier (shown as DIV. 1 above) with the 2010 DIV. A winner, Amit Chakrabarti. Newcomers: Sat: 10:30 AM, 6 RDS. EF: \$30. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. in Salem RM. No COMM. fee. Westford Regency Inn & Conference Center, 219 Littleton Road, Westford, MA 01886, 800.543.7801 or 978.692.8200. HP: Rates — Double \$149.79; Single \$263.87; Triple \$119.00 — include two overnights in a deluxe guest RM., buffet DIN. on SAT. night, and all associated RM. and meal taxes and gratuities. CT. Sherrie Saint John, 2 Tanglewood Road, Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944, 978.526.7876, <saint@pobox. com> or John Chew, 416.876.7675, <poslfit@gmail.com>. HA.

APRIL 8-10, SAN DIEGO, CA: Fri: 9:30 AM, 8 RDS. Sat: 9:30 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 9:30 AM, 4 RDS. 1 open DIV. limited to 158 players. EF: \$110. Commuter fee: \$25. COMM. Fee applies to players not staying at the Crowne Plaza. Local players excepted. Crowne Plaza Hotel Mission Valley, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108. HP: 1K or 2Q rooms \$105 +tax/ night. Book your hotel RM. here (if viewed electronically) or call (888)-233-9527. CT. Mark Milan, 949-280-2391, <scrabble@ cox.net>, Conrad Bassett-Bouchard, 1660 School Street #104, Moraga, CA 94556, 925-323-4423, <conradbb@gmail.com> or Chris Patrick Morgan, 415-573-5926, <xpmorgan@gmail.com>. HA.

APRIL 9, BATON ROUGE, LA: Sat: 8 RDS. R-R/K-H. EF: \$50. Entries Due April 6th. 3 DIVS. dependent upon number of entries. At least 80% of entries returned as prizes. Baton Rouge Bridge Club, 3033 Old Forge Road, Baton Rouge LA 70808. CT. Mike Waugh, 40285 Abby James Rd, Prairieville, LA 70769, 225-252-4352, <mikewaughbr@gmail.com>. HA.

APRIL 9, FENTON, MI: Spring Solstice Tournaments. Sat: 9:00 AM, 7 RDS. R-R/8. EF: \$40. Entry fee increases to \$45 after 4/1 and before 4/9. \$50 (cash only) at the door. Limit: 24 entrants. Holiday Inn Express, 17800 Silver Pky Fenton, MI, 810-714-7171. HP: Call 810-714-7171 to request special rate. CT. Margaret Sutherland, c/o Red Dragon Hobbies, PO Box 399, Otisville, MI 48463, 810-653-0152, <drav

APRIL continued on p. 8

April Tournaments

from UPCOMING, p. 7 gonlady317@charter.net> or Jeff Clark, 810-347-0571,
hgscrabble@aim.com>. HA.

APRIL 9, LUBBOCK, TX: Sat: 11:30 AM, 5 RDS. EF: \$25. Round robin groups of 6 (the bottom DIV. may have more or less). Preregister by THU. 7 April. Market Street, 3405 50th Street (at Indiana), Lubbock, TX 79413. CT. Caesar Jaramillo, 1117 12th St., Seagraves, TX 79359, 806-332-9212, <scrab55@yahoo.com>. HA.

APRIL 9–10, EDMONTON, AB, CAN: Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 9:00 AM, 6 RDS. EF: \$60 (CAN). Round robin (or modified Round robin) and King-of-the-Hill. 3 DIVS. based on latest available ratings. Chateau Louis Hotel and Conference Ctr, 11727 Kingsway Avenue, Commercial Room (Conference Centre). HP: Check club website for hotel information. CT. Huguette Settle, 112 Clareview Road NW, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5A 3Y3, 780-476-8019, hetel@hotmail.com. HA.

APRIL 10, FENTON, MI: Spring Solstice Tournaments. Sun: 9:00 AM, 7 RDS. EF: \$30. \$30 before 4/9. \$35 (cash) at the door. Format: 1 Div. with Mod. Swisspairing & Class prize. Limit: 24 entrants. Holiday Inn Express, 17800 Silver Pky Fenton, MI, 810-714-7171. HP: Call 810-714-7171 to request special rate. CT. Margaret Sutherland, c/o Red Dragon Hobbies, PO Box 399, Otisville, MI 48463, 810-653-0152, <dragonlady317@charter.net> or Jeff Clark, 810-347-0571,

bgscrabble@aim.com>. HA.

APRIL 15–17, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK: SoonerScramble. EB: Fri: 2:00 PM, 5 RDS. Entry fee: \$30 (\$25 if postmarked by March 15). Limited to the first 16 entrants. DIVS. and pairings will depend on number of entrants. ME: Sat: 10:00 AM, 7 RDS. Sun: 10:00 AM, 6 RDS. Entry fee: \$90 (\$80 if postmarked by March 15). 13 games; modified Swiss pairing; three equally-sized DIVS. Bricktown Hampton Inn and Suites, 300 East Sheridan, Oklahoma City, OK 73104. CT. Matthew Hodge, 732 NW 15th Street, Moore, OK 73160, 405-388-8867, <moh@me.com>. HA.

APRIL 16, BAYSIDE QUEENS, NY: Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. R-R/K-H. EF: \$64. Deadline 5 days before tournament. Entry fee incl. RM.rental, NASPA participation fee, LUN., coffee & tea all day, cash prizes, and fun prizes (puzzles, games,etc.). ADRIA Hotel & Confrence Center, Northern Blvd, Bayside Queens, NY, 1-800-27-ADRIA. CT. Ginger White, 631-399-2579, <kewlcatz@optonline.net>. HA.

APRIL 16, DANVILLE, IL: Sat: 10:30 AM, 7 RDS. R-R/8. EF: \$40. Danville Area Community College, Lincoln Hall/Student Union, 2000 E.Main St., Danville, IL 61832. CT. Marty Gabriel, 2941 Whitetail

Drive, Charleston IL 61920, (H)217-348-9230 (C)217-508-9035, <daivamart@mchsi.com>. HA.

APRIL 16, PINELLAS PARK, FL: Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. R-R. EF: \$30. Registration 08:40-08:55; DIVS. of 6-8. The Auditorium, 7690 59th St N, Pinellas Park FL 33781. CT. JC Green, 727-278-2030, <jcgreen00@tampabay.rr.com>. HA.

APRIL 16, RICHFIELD, OH: Return of the NEOSCRABBLE Spring Fling. Sat: 10:00 AM, 7 RDS. EF: \$35. Entry fee increases to \$45 if received after March 30 and before April 15. No on site registration is permitted under Metro Park rules. Entry fee incl. BK., LUN., and snacks. Limited to the first 48 entrants. Furnace Run Metro Park, Brushwood (indoor) Pavilion, 4955 Townsend Road, Richfield, Ohio. CT. Dallas Johnson, 4880 Heights Drive, Stow, OH 44224, 330-676-1723, <dallas@neoscrabble.com>. HA.

APRIL 16–17, COEUR D'ALENE, ID (TCC): NW USA vs. W Canada. 14 rounds. Entry restricted to U.S. residents of ID, OR, MT, UT, WA, and WY, and Canadian residents of AB, BC, MB, and SK. Coeur d'Alene Resort, 115 S. 2nd Street, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814. CT. Siri Tillekeratne, <sirit@shaw.ca> or Mike Baker, 4225 SE 57th Avenue, Portland, OR 97206, 503-775-2987, <mikebob@pacifier.com>. HA.

APRIL 17, DANVILLE, IL: Sun: 10:30 AM, 7 RDS. R-R/8. EF: \$40. Danville Area Community College, Lincoln Hall/Student Union, 2000 E.Main St., Danville, IL 61832. CT. Marty Gabriel, 2941 Whitetail Drive, Charleston IL 61920, (H)217-348-9230 (C)217-508-9035, <daivamart@mchsi.com>. HA.

APRIL 17, GUELPH, ON, CAN: Sun: 2:30 PM, 6 RDS. EF: \$30 (CAN). DIVS. of 6–11 players set at director's discretion. Register by 11:30 AM on day of tournament. Food purchase strongly encouraged. Squirrel Tooth Alice's, 649 Scottsdale Drive, Unit 5, Guelph, ON. CT. Andy Saunders, 82 Clairfields Drive West, Guelph, ON, N1G 5H8, 416-668-7500, <andy@andysthoughts.com>. HA.

APRIL 22–24, (CSW/OCTWL) GAT-LINBURG, TN: Fri: 9:30 AM, 8 RDS. Sat: 9:30 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 9:30 AM, 4 RDS. EF: \$120/\$100/\$90/\$85. DIVS.: 1: Open; 2: <1700; 3: <1300; 4: <900. Collins DIV. will also be offered (1 open DIV., \$120 entry fee, 10 point challenge rule). Entry fee increases by \$20 if not received by April 16. Edgewater Hotel, 402 River Road, Gatlinburg, TN, 800-423-9582. CT. Ryan Fischer, <rayan@charlottescrabble.com>. HA.

APRIL 23, SEATTLE, WA: Sat: 10:00 AM, 8 RDS. R-R/K-H. Groups of 8, max 40 players. EF: \$30. Last day to register, pay, or cancel: 5pm, April 21. Horizon House - Sky Lounge, 900 University. CT. Jane Bis-

sonnette, 7213 Palatine Ave N, Seattle, WA 98103, 206-683-3071, <gqbison@comcast.net>. HA.

APRIL 30, (CSW/OCTWL) AUSTIN, TX: Sat: 10:30 AM. EF: \$20. In addition to TWL DIVS., a 10-pt challenge penalty Collins DIV. will be offered provided if at least 4 players are interested. Salvation Army Corps Community Center, 1001 Cumberland Road, Austin TX 78704, 512-442-3212. CT. Geoff Thevenot, <gwthevenot@gmail.com> or Jean McArthur. HA.

APRIL 30, BERLIN, NJ: Sat: 10:00 AM, 7 RDS. R-R/K-H. EF: \$59. Registration fee incl. continental BK. and LUN. RSVP to Wayne Ollick, 117 Washington Ave., Berlin, NJ 08009. 6 RDS of round robin plus 1 round KOTH, in groups of 8 or more. Bud Duble Senior Center, 33 Cooper Folly Road, Atco, NJ. CT. Herb Lewis, herblewisl@comcast.net, Wayne Ollick, scrabblerl@comcast.net or Betty McDaniel, 856-728-9446. HA.

APRIL 30, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL: Sat: 8 RDS. EF: \$35. Add \$5 late fee after April 19, 2011. Round robin pairings - 2 to 4 DIVS., determined by number of entrants. Fort Lauderdale Bridge Club, Holiday Park, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304. CT. Tim Wise, 954-942-6319, <wise9778@gmail.com>. HA.

APRIL 30, SOUTH LYON, MI: 8 games. RR pairings (subject to change at director's discretion). TBA. CT. Jeff Fiszbein, <fiszbein@sbcglobal.net>. HA.

APRIL 30-MAY 1, OTTAWA, ON, CAN: 5th Annual John Weston Memorial SCRABBLE Tournament. Sat: 8:30 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 9:00 AM, 5 RDS. EF: Div. A: \$80 (CAN), Div. B: \$70 (CAN), Div. C: \$60 (CAN). DIV. A: 1500 and up; DIV. B: 1000-1499; DIV. C: under 1000. Play up to within 100 points at director's discretion. Pairings: Chew pairings (tsh, modified Swiss + KotH). Royal Canadian Legion-Stittsville Branch, 1481 Stittsville Main St., Ottawa ON, K2S 1A7. HP: The nearest hotels are 10-15 minutes away in Kanata. See flyer for details. Book early due to possible Ottawa Senators playoff game. CT. Matthew Tunnicliffe, 482 Landswood Way, Ottawa ON, K2S 0A5, 613-836-0518 (H) or 613-322-0009 (C), <oohntschte@hotmail.com> or Donna Balkan, (613) 314-1032 (C). HA.

APRIL 30–MAY 1, SIOUX FALLS, SD: 18th SIOUX FALLS SCRABBLE TOUR-NAMENT. Sat: 9:00 AM, 7 RDS. Sun: 9:00 AM, 5 RDS. EF: \$45/\$45/\$35. DIV. 1: Over 1600; DIV. 2: 1200–1600; DIV. 3: Less than 1200. Due to size restrictions of facility, registration is limited to first 40 players. Country Inn and Suites, 200 East 8th Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57102, 605-373-0153. HP: Special discounted RM.rates available if you call the hotel di-

APRIL/MAY continued on p. 9

April/May Tournaments

from APRIL TOURNAMENTS, p. 8 rectly and mention the tournament. Call soon: rooms may sell out. CT. Mark Oppenheimer, 4704 South Pasque Circle, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57105, 605-332-8404 (CDT), <mejoppen@sio.midco.net>. HA.

APRIL 30-MAY 1, WINNIPEG, MB, CAN: Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 9:00 AM, 6 RDS. EF: \$55 (CAN). Deadline for registration will be no later than April 28, 2011. If after registering you are unable to attend, you must inform us by April 28, **2011 for a full refund.** Kenaston Village Recreation Centre, 516 Kenaston Boulevard, Winnipeg MB (northeast corner of Grant and Kenaston, behind the mall). CT. Linda Pearn, 25 Sherwood Place, Winnipeg, MB net> or Julie Kading, 89 St. Michael Road, Winnipeg, MB R2M 2K8, 204-257-4742, <jkading@shaw.ca>. HA.

MAY 1, BERKELEY, CA: The Viceroy Indian Restaurant, 21 Shattuck Square, Berkeley CA 94704. CT. Edward De Guzman, 415-335-6926, <edwardd@gmail. com>. HA.

MAY 1, LAGUNA WOODS, CA: EF: \$45. Late Fee \$10, after Fri before event. Modified round robin. Prizes: 1st \$90; **2nd \$50 in every group of 8.** Laguna Woods Village, Clubhouse 5, Rm 1, 26252 Punta Alta, Laguna Woods, California 92637. CT. Gary Moss, (949) 510-1673, <jftsoi.moss@ gmail.com>. HA.

MAY 1, PHILADELPHIA, PA: 7 RDS, **3 place prizes per DIV.** Center-City Philadelphia, Venue TBA. CT. Connie Creed, 215-238-1880, <partygrl@verizon.vet>. HA.

MAY 7, NORWALK, CT: Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. EF: \$60. Reduced entry fee of \$40 for first-time players. Main Event 2: Sat: 9:00 AM, 4 RDS. EF: \$20. Youth DIV. (restricted to players under 18 as of January 1, 2011). Main Event 3: Sat: 2:00 PM, 4 RDS. EF: \$20. Youth DIV. (restricted to players under 18 as of January 1, 2011). Chess Club of Fairfield County, 710 West Avenue, Norwalk, CT, 06850, 203-644-3037. CT. Cornelia Guest, 203-244-5324, <corneliasguest@gmail.com>. HA.

MAY 7, THE COLONY, TX: Sat: 10:30 AM, 6 RDS. EF: \$30. Entry fee incl. buffet LUN. Round robin groups (with director discretion predicated upon mix of field). LUN. after 2 games. Walk-ins okay. Golden Corral, 4675 Hwy 121, The Colony, TX 75056. CT. Chris Cree, 3708 Bryn Mawr Dr., Dallas, TX 75225, 214-701-4681, <chris.cree@yahoo.com> or Carla Cree, 3708 Bryn Mawr Dr., Dallas, TX 75225, 214-701-4680, <cc.cree@yahoo.com>. HA.

MAY 7, YORK, PA: Sat: 8 RDS. R-R/K-H. Entry fee: \$60 (\$25 for neophyte DIV.). LUN. incl. in Registration fee. Elks Club -B P O No. 213, 223 N. George Street, York, PA 17401. CT. Don Hake, 18 S. George Street #44, York, PA 17401, 717-764-0792, <donhake@comcast.net>. HA.

MAY 8, GUELPH, ON, CAN: Sun: 2:30 PM, 6 RDS. EF: \$30 (CAN). DIVS. of 6-11 players set at director's discretion. Register by 11:30 AM on day of tournament. Food purchase strongly encouraged. Squirrel Tooth Alice's, 649 Scottsdale Drive, Unit 5, Guelph, ON. CT. Andy Saunders, 82 Clairfields Drive West, Guelph, ON, N1G 5H8, 416-668-7500, <andy@andysthoughts.com>. HA.

MAY 10, LCT - INDEPENDENCE, OH: Tue: 6:00 PM, 4 RDS. Sponsored by NASPA Club #164 (Independence, OH). Angie's Pizza, 6932 Hillside Road, Indepenence, OH 44131. CT. Christopher Sheppard, <mshep@core.com>. HA.

MAY 13–15, PORTLAND, OR: Oregon Tile. Early Bird: Fri: Noon, 5 RDS. EF: \$50. 1 Open DIV. Registration closes 10 minutes before game time. Main Event: Fri: 6:30 PM, 4 RDS. Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 9:00 AM, 4 RDS. Pre-registration required; no walk-ins. Late fee of \$20 applies after 5/1/11. 2 DIVS.: TILE (open / unlimited playup) and LITE (under 1300 only). Entry fees: TILE \$130; LITE \$80. Student discount (players under 21): \$90 (**TILE**) or \$60 (**LITE**). Late Bird: Sun: 3:00 PM, 4 RDS. EF: \$20. 1 open DIV. Registration closes 10 minutes before game time. Chew pairings. Holiday Inn Portland Airport, 8439 NE Columbia Blvd, Portland OR, 503-256-5000. HP: RM.rate \$89/night ñ use code OTS. CT. Dave Wiegand, 3104 NE Fremont St, Portland OR 97212, 971-404-5205, <davewiegand@gmail.com>. HA.

MAY 14, BAYSIDE, NY: Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. R-R/8+KOTH. EF: \$64. Entry fee incl. player participation fee, deli LUN., coffee & tea all day, RM.rental & prizes. ADRIA Hotel & Confrence Center, 221-17 Northern Blvd, Bayside Queens, NY, 1-800-27-ADRIA. CT. Ginger White, 631-399-2579, <kewlcatz@optonline.net>. HA.

MAY 14-15, HUDSON, OH: Sat: Noon, 7 RDS. Sun: 12:30 PM, 4 RDS. EF: \$55. Pay \$5 more at door (cash) or \$15 more at door (check). Clarion Inn, 240 Hines Hill Rd., Hudson, OH 44236. CT. Christopher Sheppard, 2237 Fairway Blvd., Hudson, OH 44236, 330-656-2476, <mshep@core.com>. HA.

MAY 14-15, PORTSMOUTH, NH: Sat: 9:30 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 10:00 AM, 4 RDS. EF: \$125/\$95/\$95. **Div A: 1500+**; Div B: 1000-1499; Div C: Under 1000. Unlimited play ups. Chew pairings + 1 round KOTH. Entry fee incl. two catered LUN. and optional brewery tour. \$10 discount to players under 18 and newcomers. Redhook Brewery, 1 Redhook Way, Portsmouth, NH, 603-430-8600. CT. Tim Fukawa-Connelly, <mthgeek@yahoo.com> or Kate Fukawa-Connelly, 301-466-2955, <katefc@gmail.com>. HA.

MAY 14-15, SASKATOON, SK, CAN: Sat: 8 RDS. Sun: 6 RDS. R-R/K-H. EF: \$60 (CAN). Deadline for entries: May 11th, 2011. Cheques/checks to be made to the Saskatoon SCRABBLE Club. Heritage Inn Hotel, 102 Cardinal Cr. (Corner of Airport Dr.), Saskatoon, SK. S7L 6B6, 306-665-8121. HP: Special hotel rate of C\$99. for participants. CT. George MacAulay, 106 Smith Road, Saskatoon, Saskatoon, 306-683-0771, <g.macaulay@shaw.ca> or Wanda Drury, 714 29th Street W., Saskatoon, SK, Canada S7L 0N1, 306-244-9924, <wldrury@gmail.com>. HA.

MAY 21, PINELLAS PARK, FL: Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. R-R. EF: \$30. Registration 08:40-08:55; DIVS. of 6-8. The Auditorium, 7690 59th St N, Pinellas Park FL 33781. CT. JC Green, 727-278-2030, <jcgreen00@tampabay.rr.com>. HA.

MAY 21, TUCSON, AZ: The Teeny Tiny Tournaments #11. Sat: 9:30 AM, 8 RDS. R-R/8+KOTH. EF: \$35. Entries limited to the first 48 PAID players. ALL entries must be PAID and received by May 18, 2011. No entries accepted at the door. cancelled entries are subject to a \$5.00 cancellation fee. NO REFUNDS for cancellations made after 9:00 PM on 5/19/11. The Highlands Community Clubhouse, 10700 N. Highlands Drive, Oro Valley, AZ 85737. CT. Ed Saunders, 223 W. Weisshorn St., Oro Valley, AZ 85737, 520-575-6734, <ed@tucsonscrabble.com>. HA.

MAY 21–22, LAGUNA WOODS, CA: 21st Annual Orange County SCRABBLE Tournament. Sat: 7 RDS. Sun: 6 RDS. EF: \$75. Modified Round Robin pairings. DIVS. of 14, when appropriate (no **KOTH in DIVS. of 14).** Laguna Woods Village, Clubhouse 5, Rm 1, 26252 Punta Alta, Laguna Woods, California 92637. CT. Gary Moss, (949) 510-1673, <jftsoi.moss@gmail. com>. HA.

MAY 21-23, KELOWNA, BC, CAN: Sat: 8 RDS. Sun: 8 RDS. Mon: 4 RDS. EF: \$100. Commuter fee: \$25. Entry fees postmarked after April 25 incur a \$20 late fee, all entry fees must be received by May 2. Maximum 100 players. TBA. CT. Jesse Matthews, 250-575-7396, <jesse@jessematthews.com>. HA.

MAY 28-29, (CSW/OCTWL) COTE ST. LUC, MONTREAL, QC, CAN: 30th Annual Montreal SCRABBLE Tournament. Sat: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 9:00 AM, 6 RDS. Div A: 1500+ (\$75); Div B: 1000-1499 (\$65); Div C: Under 1000 (\$65); Collins Word List DIV.: 1 Open DIV. (\$75). Collins DIV. will be offered if a minimum of 4 players enter that DIV., and will be NASPA/WESPA rated. Pierre Elliott Trudeau Park Chalet #1, 6975 Mackle Road, Cote St. Luc, Montreal - (acce-

MAY continud on p. 10

May Tournaments

from APRIL/MAY, p. 9

sible by buses #161, 162 & 103). CT. Sary Karanofsky, <skaranofsky@jpps.ca>. HA.

MAY 28–30, COLLEGE PARK (AT-LANTA), GA: Atlanta Memorial Tournament. Sat: 9:30 AM, 8 RDS. Sun: 9:30 AM, 8 RDS. Mon: 9:30 AM, 4 RDS. EF: \$85. Three DIVS. divided at 1600 and 1100. Play up within 100 points allowed at Director's discretion. Hyatt Place Atlanta Airport South, 1899 Sullivan Road, College Park, GA 30337, 888-492-8847. HP: Group rate of \$75.00/ night (sngl or dbl). Reserve by April 27. CT. Cynthia Seales, 4456 Heavitree Court, Stone Mountain, GA 30083, D 404-639-4648, N 404-936-0854, <cseales@comcast.net>. HA.

MAY 28–30, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL: EF: Div. 1: \$100, Div. 2-4: \$80. \$25 late fee after May 14, 2011. Entry due May 14, 2011. 20 games. 4 DIVS. Fort Lauderdale Bridge Club, Holiday Park, Fort Lauderdale, FL. CT. Tim Wise, P. O. Box 11533 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339–1533, 954-942-6319, <wise9778@gmail.com>. HA.

MAY 28–30, HOUSTON, TX: Bayou Bash SCRABBLE Tournament. Sat: Noon, 6 RDS. Sun: 9:00 AM, 8 RDS. Mon: 9:00 AM, 4 RDS. EF: \$100/\$90/\$80/\$75. Div 1: 1600+; Div 2: 1300-1599; Div 3: 1000-1299; Div 4: Under 1000 (unlimited play-ups). Entries must be received or postmarked by 5/25/11 - NO WALK-INS! Mandatory Check-in from 10:30-11:30 a.m. on SAT. Door prize drawing at 8:45 a.m. on Suday. Houston Marriott North, Greenspoint, 255 N. Sam Houston Parkway E, Houston, TX 77060. CT. Judy Newhouse, 8007 Sunset Falls Ct., Spring, TX 77379, 281-379-1601, <jnhouse@aol.com>. HA.

MAY 28-30, SKOKIE, IL: 10th Annual ArdenCup Memorial SCRABBLE Tournament. Sat: 8 RDS. Sun: 8 RDS. Mon: 4 RDS. EF: Div. 1: \$115, Div. 2 and lower: \$105, Div. C: \$125. Five standard DIVS. divided at 1800, 1550, 1300, 1000 (entry fee of \$115 for top DIV. and \$105 for DIVS. 2 - 5) and 1 rated Collins DIV. (entry fee of \$125). Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street, Skokie, IL 60076, 847-674-1500. HP: Holiday Inn 5300 W. Touhy Ave. Skokie, IL 60077 847-679-8900 or 866-750-3369. \$99+tax s/d/t/q — Mention "ArdenCup SCRABBLE" — incl. complimentary transportation to/from tournament site. CT. Jason Brooks, 847-445-7183, <scrabbleclub340@aol.com>. HA.

Mystery Word Clue 4

From MYSTERY WORD CLUE 3, p. 7

There's only one word that fits all the clues so far, but here's one extra clue: the word also fits between JUN- and -YM. Answer to appear next issue.

Challenge Contest 3

by the Bulletin Committee

This month's challenge ("Poor Rack Management") is to make the highest-scoring solitaire game where: (1) each turn, tile tiles played are either all vowels (AEIOU) or all consonants (the rest of the alphabet), and (2) the game ends after six turns with no penalty for unplayed tiles. As usual, every play must be acceptable in the OTCWL+LL lexicon. In the sample solution, SyZYGY, ZOA, HM, MIAOU, BUMPH and EAU are played for a total of 163 points.



To enter the contest, enter your game position into Quackle (assigning alternate moves to each player), and save and upload a .gcg file through Member Services at the NASPA website, before midnight EDT on the evening of April 15th. The winning solution will be published in the next issue of the Bulletin, and the winner will receive a year's membership renewal. Ties will be broken in favour of the solution which is received first.

We asked last month for the highest score legally playing five tiles at a time, and saw a lot of creativity: max one 90-point Q for 300, focus on parallel plays for 350, or hook the first play as far as the TWS for 360. Congratulations go to Vail Palmer (Albany, OR), who managed 380 points (see diagram below) and wins a year's extension to his NASPA membership.



Bulletin Back Issues

by the Bulletin Committee

This is the ninth issue of the Bulletin, and the third since we switched to a regular monthly schedule. NASPA Rules Committee chair Jan Cardia (formerly Jan Dixon, of Newark, DE) recently asked us where she could find back issues of this newsletter.

If you're reading an electronic copy of this issue, you can just click on the word archive in this sentence to get to them.

If not, you can go to our website and click on the word Bulletin in the navigation bar on the left or click on Member Services in the same area and look for the Bulletin link there. We hope you enjoy your browsing through our young organization's history, regardless of how you get there!

If you have any other questions about the Bulletin, or would like to contribute it, please email info@scrabbleplayers.org.

Game Position

by the Bulletin Committee

Evan Berofsky's (Thornhill, ON) opponent had just played DIFF and trailed Evan 147-291 in the position shown, when Evan found himself with ABEHQUY on his rack. Evan made the best play. What was it? (Last month's answers: the actual play was HOMED and the ideal play would have been HOMERED.)



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