

Chess from C1

Grove assistant coach Taylor Wilhour. “We have some players who are really motivated to get better and we have some players who played for us last year who we lost because they got too busy with school work – players who said they intended to come back next year. So if that happens, we expect to have a pretty decent year next year.”

The coaches for the Cottage Grove chess team are not faculty, which Wilhour says is a barrier to recruitment, and he hopes to expand the program in the future to offset this challenge.

Boards are ranked 1 to 5, with board 1 representing the top players of each team.

Westview team members were: Konner Feldman (board 1); Fedya Semenov (2); Kushal Pai (3); Kyle Liu (4); and Thomas Schuff (5).

Clackamas High School (Andrea Botez, David Roshu, Ishaan Rao, Cassandra Roshu, Patrick Jacob) dropped to tie for third place with Lincoln High School (Gavin Zhang, Marshal Xu, Nikhil Samudrala, Nick Diana and Mitchell Kenny). Catlin Gabel High School (Sean Uan-Zo-Li, Duncan Soiffer James Masslen, Arlo



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Participants in the Oregon High School Chess Team State Championship compete on Feb. 29 at Harrison Elementary School.

Maslen and Advay Koranne) won second place with their only loss coming against Westview in the third round.

Junior varsity teams were invited to the event as they would be future players for their high schools. Oregon Episcopal Middle School (Calvin Change, Alexandre Boyce, Parker McCoog and Jack Andres) won first place in the JV division with Coquille Junior High (Sawyer Bergstedt, Riley Jones, Jason Herker, Frank Morse and Cole Brown) winning second place.

Individual awards for

23 players were also given out for best results at each board.

**Most Valuable player awards:**

- Overall board 1: Andrea Botez from Clackamas
- Overall board 2: David Roshu from Clackamas
- Overall board 3: Fedya Semenov from Westview
- Overall board 4: Arlo Maslen from Catlin Gabel
- Overall board 5: Kyle Liu from Westview
- Class 6A/5A board 1: Gavin Zhany from Lin-

coln

- Class 6A/5A board 2: Michael Schuff from Wilson
- Class 6A/5A board 3: Ishaan Rao from Clackamas
- Class 6A/5A board 4: Aidan Cagle from Willamette
- Class 6A/5A board 5: thomas Schuff from Wilson
- Class 4A/3A/2A board 1: Joshua Grabinsky from Coquille
- Class 4A/3A/2A board 2: Dustin Herker from Coquille
- Class 4A/3A/2A board 3: James Maslen from Catlin Gabel
- Class 4A/3A/2A board 4: Colton Berry from Junction City
- Class 4A/3A/2A board 5: Advay Koranne

from Catlin Gabel

Executive Director of the Oregon High School Chess Team Association State Championships Dr. Nancy Keller noted that, if such an award existed, Cottage Grove should win the best championships site award.

“We definitely want to use Cottage Grove again in the future,” said Keller.

Keller stated that over her 20 years of attending and then directing the championships, Cottage Grove had the most spacious set up for the tournament room and the “skittles” room.

The skittles room, she said, is vital for decompressing between rounds, going over games, eating and get-

ting ready for the next round.

Harrison Elementary Schools large outdoor chess board also served to allow energy to be burned off after sitting and concentrating for the grueling two-hour games.

“The hospitality of the school district and the Cottage Grove chess team was amazing,” she said.

Wilhour was pleased with how smoothly the event progressed and looks forward to more Cottage Grove-hosted tournaments.

“The set up really was great,” he said. “I would certainly consider doing it again.”



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 www.cgbible.org

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 Worship Service 10:30am  
 Youth Wednesday 6:30pm  
 cgfirstbaptist.com

**First Presbyterian Church**  
 3rd and Adams St  
 541-942-4479  
 Rev.: Karen Hill  
 Worship: 10:00am  
 Sunday School: 10:00am  
 fpcgrove.com

**Hope Fellowship**  
 United Pentecostal Church  
 100 S. Gateway Blvd.  
 541-942-2061  
 Pastor: Dave Bragg  
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 Sunday 8:30 AM

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 Rev. Lawrence Crumb  
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 Worship: Sunday 10:30am  
 All Welcome

**Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
 820 South 10th Street  
 541-942-5213  
 Pastor: Kevin Miller  
 Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am  
 Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40  
 Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
 6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373  
 Pastor: James L. Markus  
 Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am  
 Sunday Worship 10:30 am  
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 tlccg.com

**United Methodist Church**  
 334 Washington 541-942-3033  
 New Pastor Craig Pesti- Strobel  
 Worship 10:30am  
 umcgrove.org

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 Pastor: Barbara Dockery  
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 Message: “WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES”

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