



## Washington Elementary Chess Champions Goals for 2006 and Beyond

Since its founding in 2003 as a non-profit charitable organization, Washington Elementary Chess Champions (WECC) has made many contributions in the growth of elementary chess in the Tri-Cities and surrounding mid-Columbia community. In April 2005, WECC was awarded the 2006 Washington State Elementary Chess Championships. It is our intention to use proceeds from this tournament and combine it with corporate contributions to continue this growth in 2006 and beyond.

Some of the goals that we have identified for 2006 and beyond are:

- ◆ To support the 6 local tournaments, WECC will maintain a full tournament set. This will include 200 chess sets, 30 chess clocks, lap top computer to run tournament software, printers to print pairings, walkie-talkies for tournament coordination and other items.
- ◆ To continue our support to the establishment of new school teams, WECC will continue to provide chess sets, clocks and demonstration boards to new programs at no cost.
- ◆ To continue to expand the chess knowledge of players in the region, WECC will sponsor chess classes through the library programs and to sponsor a more formal chess camp during the summer vacation.
- ◆ It is our belief that chess can be integrated into the curriculum in schools and to promote this development, we will offer chess lessons and free chess equipment to teachers that are willing to utilize chess in their classes.
- ◆ We will work with the schools and districts to recognize the value of chess in developing critical and creative thinking. In doing so we will hope that they provide faculty advisers to begin chess programs in their schools and districts.

We seek the support of individuals and corporations in developing critical thinking skills in the leaders of tomorrow by engaging in the fun, lifetime sport of chess. If you would like to explore ways to support these objectives, please contact Alex Corsten at (509) 375-8463 or Dave Merrill at (509) 375-8408.