BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #308

Your editor welcomes any and all submissions - news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to B.C. players. Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. To subscribe, send me an e-mail (swright2@telus.net); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

HERE AND THERE

World Senior (November 10-21)

The 25th World Senior Championship is currently taking place in Acqui Terme, a city in the Piedmont region of northern Italy. There are a total of four sections, for ages 50+ or 65+, further subdivided as open or for women. Canada has four representatives, David Cummings, Andre Zybura, and B.C.'s Brian McLaren (or in this case Mc Laren) in the open 50+ and William Doubleday in the open 65+. After four rounds Brian has 3.0 points. Results

McLaren, Brian - Bosca, Valter [B26] World sen ch 50+ Acqui Terme, (4), 13.11.2015

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.d3 d6 6.Be3 e5 7.Qd2 Be6 8.Nh3 f6 9.f4 Qd7 10.Nf2 Nge7 11.h3 0–0 12.g4 exf4 13.Bxf4 Ne5 14.0–0–0 b5 15.Bh6 b4 16.Nd5 Bxd5 17.exd5 Qa4 18.Bxg7 Qxa2 19.Qh6 Nf7 20.Bxf8 Nxh6 21.Bxe7 Qa1+ 22.Kd2 Qxb2 23.Ne4 b3 24.Rc1 f5 25.Bf6 Qa2 26.Nxd6 fxg4 27.Ne4 c4 28.d6 1–0

UBC Round Robin (November 6-8)



Round 4, Nyamdori vs. Kenney – nothing like keeping a respectful distance from your opponent

A six-player invitational round robin was held at UBC on the weekend of November 6-8. Organizational details do not appear to be available, but Max Gedajlovic was the TD and we assume the UBC Chess Club was involved. Jason Kenney scored an undefeated 4.0/5 to take first place, a point ahead of second place finisher Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj; the average rating was 2052. CFC crosstable

November Active (November 1) by Joe "Throwback" Roback



This month's tournament gathered a respectable forty-six players, perhaps due to the surprise appearance of Russian FM Grigoriy Morozov (2379 FIDE). Thanks for registering several days early, Grigoriy! He is pictured left with local favourite, Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj; they tied for first with 5.5/6. Class prizes winners for the Open Section this month were Jofrel Landingin, Victor Zheng, Alec Chung, Boya Yang, Daniel Wang, Lucian Wu, and Kai Wang.



In the Junior Section there was a four-way tie with 4.0/5 points in order of computer tiebreaks: Jemelyn Reyes, Sophia Yu, Jerry Wang, and Borna Amjadi. The following juniors earned medals for their performance of 2.0 points or above: Patrick Wang, Bill Wang, Jenny Jiang, Nicholas Yang, Matthew He, Jacob McBride, Ryan Yang, Vincent Guo, Ethan Song, Jeremy Reyes, Jocelyn Reyes, and Jacky Tang.

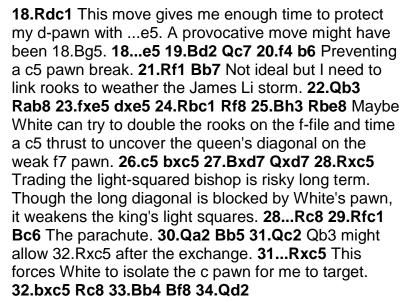
Thanks to Stephen, Maxim, parents, players, and everyone who made this event happen. Results

Li, James – Roback, Joe [A36] November Active (6), 01.11.2015

1.c4 James usually plays 1.e4 against me. It's good to see him try a new opening. **1...c5** Though I usually play other variations, I thought I'd test out a line that I'm prepping for Gavin Steininger in a FIDE Round Robin at UBC. What are the odds he'll see this in time? [Non-existent – ed.]

2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.e4 This gains space but creates a knight outpost on d4 for Black. It kind of reminds me of the Zagreb variation of the Sicilian but with c4. 5...e6 To connnect my knights on c6 and d4. This also keeps White's knight out of d5. 6.Nge2 Nge7 7.0–0 0–0 8.d3 a6 9.Be3 Nd4 10.Rb1 Nec6 11.a3 d6 12.b4 Qc7 13.Bf4 Ne5 14.Nxd4 cxd4 This gains space in the centre but the d4-pawn could become a liability. 15.Ne2 Qb6 16.Qc2 Rd8 17.Rfd1 Nd7 This is where James' advantage changed hands a bit.







34...Qh3 35.Kh1 White was in severe time pressure. My engine recommends Re1 or Ra1 to avoid the skewer. **35...Bh6 36.Qe1 Qh5** White either drops the rook exchange or gets mated. James is a smart guy and very hard working. I thought I'd annotate this one was because he was polite in defeat though frustrated. He would have won \$100 if he had won this round. Keep up the good work James. **0–1**

World Youth and Cadet Chess Championship (October 24 – November 6)

The WYCCC at Porto Carras in Greece has now come to a close. Canadian sent its largest number of participants ever, fifty-six, including fourteen from this province. Top Canadians were Razvan Preotu (U16) with 8.0/11, Nameer Issani (U10) on 7.5, and five with 7.0 points, including last year's U14G champion Qiyu Zhou. Aiden Zhou (U10) was the top B.C. player with 6.5 points, followed by John Doknjas (U16) and Kevin Low (U10) (both with 6.0). Congratulations to all the

players, and many thanks to the coaches, parents, and other supporters of junior chess who make participation in these events possible.

<u>Tournament website</u>; the CFC's <u>facebook</u> page; ChessBase <u>report</u>; <u>Canadian results</u>.

Some of the B.C. players (photo Toto Surya)



Doknjas, John - Nikitenko, Mihail [E94] WYCC Open U16 Porto Carras (9.15), 03.11.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 0–0 5.Nf3 d6 6.Be2 e5 7.0–0 Nbd7 8.Be3 c6 9.d5 c5 10.Ne1 Ne8 11.Nd3 f5 12.f4 Nb6 13.Nf2 Bh6 14.Qc1 exf4 15.Bxf4 Bxf4 16.Qxf4 fxe4 17.Qd2 e3 18.Qxe3 Ng7 19.Bd3 a6 20.Rae1 Qh4 21.g3 Qd4 22.Qxd4 cxd4 23.Ne2 Bf5 24.b3 Bxd3 25.Nxd3 Rxf1+ 26.Rxf1 Nf5 27.Rf4 Re8 28.Nxd4 Nxd4 29.Rxd4 Re2 30.c5 dxc5 31.Nxc5 Re5 32.Nxb7 Nxd5 33.Nc5 Nc3 34.Rc4 Nd1 35.Rd4 Rxc5 36.Rxd1 Rc2 37.a4 Rb2 38.Rd3 Kg7 39.Rd7+ Kh6 40.Rb7 Kg5 41.b4 Kf6 42.b5 axb5 43.Rxb5 Ra2 44.a5 h6 45.h3 Ra3 46.Kg2 Ra2+ 47.Kf3 Ra3+ 48.Kf2 Ra2+ 49.Ke3 Ra3+ 50.Kf2 ½-½

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Opponent - Harper, Bruce [A41] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

1.d4 [0:03:00] **1...g6** [0:03:00] **2.Nf3** [0:02:56] **2...Bg7** [0:03:00] **3.c4** [0:02:54] **3...d6** [0:02:59] **4.Nc3** [0:02:52] **4...Bg4** [0:02:58] **5.e3** [0:02:40] **5...Nc6** [0:02:57]



I have played this position, which slightly favours White, many times. In 3-minute chess, familiarity can make up objective defects - up to a point. Some players extend this logic to tournament chess, but I have my doubts about that. 6.Qb3!? [0:02:37] An interesting move which Igor Ivanov played against me in the Canadian Closed in 1981, if memory serves. [A similar but not identical position - 1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 Bg4 5.e3 Nc6 6.Be2 e5 7.d5 Nce7 8.Qb3 Bc8 9.e4 Bh6 10.c5 a6 11.0-0 Kf8 12.Qa3 Rb8 13.b4 Bxc1 14.Raxc1 Nf6 15.Nd2 Kg7 16.Nc4 Ne8 17.cxd6 cxd6 18.b5 Ra8 19.Qb2 g5 20.a4 Ng6 21.a5 axb5 22.Nxb5 Nf4 23.Rfe1 Qf6 24.Nb6 Bh3 25.Bf1 Bxg2 26.Bxg2 Rxa5 27.Rc3 h5 28.Nc4 Ra6 29.Ne3 Rb6 30.Rb3 Kg6 31.Nf5 g4 32.Qc2 Qd8 33.Qc8 Nf6 34.Qxd8 Rxd8 35.Ng3 Ra8 36.Bf1 Ra2 37.Rbb1 h4

38.Nf5 Nxe4 39.Ne7+ Kf6 40.Nc8 Nxf2 41.Re3 Rba6 42.Nc3 Rc2 43.Bxa6 N2h3+ 44.Kh1 Nf2+ 45.Kg1 N2h3+ ½—½] It seems to have become more popular in recent years. Black can now take with 6...Bxf3, and after 7.gxf3 play 7...Qc8, or play 6...Qc8 right away. 6...Qc8 [0:02:55] 7.Nd2?! [0:02:35] This retreat seems too artificial to be good. White clearly intended it as the follow up to 6.Qb3, as he played it more or less instantly. 7...e5 [0:02:54] 8.d5 [0:02:32] 8...Nce7 [0:02:52] 9.f3?! [0:02:30] This seems unnecessary, since Black's g4–bishop has to withdraw anyway. 9...Bd7 [0:02:51] 10.e4 [0:02:28] 10...Bh6!? [0:02:49]



Objectively no better or worse than the more direct 10...f5, but sometimes it's good to play moves like this in order to try to make your opponent think he's done something wrong. In this case, the supposed "mistake" is blocking the diagonal of White's c1–bishop, so Black can trade his "bad bishop". Of course, Black's g7–bishop isn't really that bad (in countless games Black's "King's Indian bishop" has delivered the death blow to White's king), and the time taken for this trade may not be well spent. 11.Bd3 [0:02:23] 11...f5 [0:02:47] I actually considered the move recommended by the engine - 11...Be3!? This deals with the worst defect of 10...Bh6!?, which is the weakening of Black's central pawn chain. Now, and for a number of moves to come,

White could have profitably played c4...c5!, initiating an attack in the centre, even at the cost of a pawn. White never hits on this idea, and Black is able to carry out his strategic ideas unmolested. **12.0–0** [0:02:13] **12...Nf6** [0:02:44] **13.Ndb1** [0:02:08] **13...Bxc1** [0:02:40] **14.Rxc1** [0:02:05] **14...a6** [0:02:27]



The engine suggests advancing the c7–pawn instead, but Black has a radical idea that relies in part on the naivete of his opponent: occupy the g1–a7 diagonal with his queen, then advance his kingside pawns and deliver mate. Surprisingly, this plan works. **15.Nd2** [0:02:03] **15...Qb8!** [0:02:26] The (slightly) hidden idea behind 14...a6. Black's control of the b5–square is useful, but what he really is aiming for is to bring his queen to a7, which is a much better square than c8. **16.a4** [0:01:58] As mentioned earlier, this is one of several moments where 16.c5! would have kept the balance. **16...Qa7+** [0:02:24] **17.Kh1** [0:01:52]



17...f4 [0:02:22] Objectively 17...0–0 was better. Now we enter a phase of the game where each player ignores the other's plan, intent on carrying out his own. White's plan pressures Black's queenside; Black's plan mates. 18.a5 [0:01:47] 18...g5 [0:02:19] 19.Na4 [0:01:24] 19...g4 [0:02:01] 20.c5 [0:01:22] 20...Bxa4 [0:01:54] 21.Qxa4+ [0:01:20] 21...Kf7 [0:01:53] 22.b4? [0:01:15] White stands better after 22.cxd6, but Black was counting on his opponent trying to maintain his pawn on c5 to block the g1–a7 diagonal. 22...h5!? [0:01:51] Can this really work? 23.Nc4 [0:01:05] 23...h4 [0:01:49] 24.cxd6 [0:00:54] 24...h3 [0:01:47]



No punctuation marks for Black's last two moves, which really represent the triumph of hope over reality. **25.dxe7??** [0:00:49] After six seconds' thought. Black's incredibly crude approach to the position now pays big dividends. After 25.Nxe5+! Kg7 26.Ra2! (the idea Black missed, as several moves ago White's d2–knight blocked the second rank), Black's centre would be gone and he would have no real attack. **25...hxg2+** [0:01:46] **26.Kxg2** [0:00:48] **26...Rxh2+!** [0:01:45] Not rocket science, but the "!" is just because Black managed to actually make this work. **27.Kxh2** [0:00:41] **27...Qf2+** [0:01:43] **28.Kh1** [0:00:41] **28...Rh8#** [0:01:42] White checkmated. **0–1**

BACKTALK by Dan Scoones

"Chess is the art of analysis." – Mikhail Botvinnik (1949)

The World Champion's laconic observation can be refined: *competitive* chess is the art of out-analysing the opponent over the board within the prescribed time limit. Home analysis lacks the stress of the time factor but the competitive factor is always present to some degree. We want our analysis to be accurate because accuracy leads to success. But even in home analysis, the possibility of error cannot be ruled out.

In this instalment of Backtalk we continue our tradition of uncovering errors in published analysis. Our first example comes from the well-regarded book *Lessons with a Grandmaster*, by GM Boris Gulko and Dr Joel Sneed.

Taimanov, Mark E. - Gulko, Boris F. [A48] URS-ch44 Moscow (1), 27.11.1976

1.Nf3 g6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.Nbd2 c5 5.e3 0–0 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.Ne4 Qb6 8.Nxf6+ Qxf6 9.c3 d6 10.Be2 b6 11.0–0 Bb7 12.a4 cxd4 13.exd4 a6 14.Re1 Nd7 15.Nd2 Rfc8 16.Bf3 Bxf3 17.Nxf3 e6 18.Qd2 Kg7 19.h4 h6 20.Re4 b5 21.Ree1 Qf5 22.Qe2 Nf6 23.Nd2 Qc2 24.axb5 axb5 25.Rxa8 Rxa8 26.Ne4 Qxe2 27.Rxe2 Ra1+ 28.Kh2 Nxe4 29.Rxe4 d5 30.Re3 Ra2 31.Re2 b4 32.cxb4 Ra4 33.Rd2 Rxb4 34.Kg3 Kf6 35.Kf3 h5 36.Ke2 e5 37.dxe5+ Kxe5 38.g3 Ke4 39.f3+ Ke5 40.Kd1 Rb3 41.Rf2



Black obviously has some advantage but as always the question is whether he can increase it. The indicated plan is two-fold: attack White's kingside pawns, and advance the passed d-pawn. The game continued: 41...Kd4 Here Gulko writes that it was "hopeless" for White to play 42.Rd2+ Ke3 43.Rxd5 Rxb2. But is that really true? Let's take a look:



With **44.Rd7!** White counterattacks the Black pawns and will pick up one of them by force. Meanwhile Black's passed d-pawn has disappeared and he can only try to create winning chances on the kingside. Now there are three main variations:

A. 44...f5 45.Rd6 Rg2 46.Rxg6 Rg1+ 47.Kc2 Kxf3 48.Rg5 Rxg3 49.Rxf5! Simpler than 49.Rxh5 f4, when the only move to draw is 30.Rd5!! (so that 30...Ke3 can be met by 31.Rd3+!) 50...Ke4 51.Rd8 f3 52.Kd2 Rg1 53.Rf8! and Black cannot make further progress. 49...Kg4 50.Rf8! Not the only way to play the position, but controlling the f-file for the moment is the simplest way. 50...Kxh4 Or 50...Re3 51.Kd2 Re7 52.Rf1 Kxh4 53.Re1! Rf7 (or 53...Rxe1 54.Kxe1 Kg3 55.Kf1=)

54.Ke2 Kg3 55.Rg1+ Kh2 56.Rg8 with a drawing position for White. **51.Kd2 Kh3 52.Ke2 h4 53.Kf1** and the draw is not far off.

B. 44...Kxf3 45.Rxf7+ Kxg3 46.Rf6 g5 47.hxg5 h4 48.g6 Rb4 49.g7 Rg4 50.Rf7 h3 51.Ke2 and draws.

C. 44...Rb1+ 45.Kc2 Rg1 46.Rxf7 Rxg3 47.Rf6 Ke2 48.Kb2 Kd3 49.Kc1 Rg2 50.Re6 and draws.

Instead of 42.Rd2+, Taimanov played 42.g4?!, with the continuation 42...Ke3 43.Re2+ Kxf3 44.gxh5 gxh5 45.Re5 Kg4 46.Rxd5 Rxb2 47.Ke1 Kxh4



Black has reached the notorious ending of R+RP+BP vs R. In this exact situation there is only one drawing idea for White:

48.Rf5! Rb7 49.Ra5!=

Black's king will be bombarded with checks from the side, and because of this interruption he will not be able to force a win. Instead Taimanov went wrong with **48.Rd7?** and lost quickly after the reply **48...f6!**.

Before getting to our next example I would invite the reader to play through the following opening moves: 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0–0 5.g3 d6 6.Bg2 Nbd7 7.0–0 e5 8.e4 exd4 9.Nxd4 Re8 10.h3 Nc5 11.Re1 a5 12.Qc2!?



Black to play

Back in the 1950s this was a topical line in the King's Indian Defence. The trick you have to know here – as White or as Black – is that White's e-pawn is immune from capture. After 12...Nfxe4?! 13.Nxe4 Bxd4, White has the strong shot 14.Bg5! with a serious disruption of Black's kingside. There are a number of positions in this variation where capturing the e-pawn is dangerous for Black, but there is also some danger for White: the immunity of the pawn depends on the specific features of the position.

The game M. Filip – G. Szilagyi, Marianske Lazne 1956, began as follows: 1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0–0 5.d4 d6 6.Nf3 Nbd7 7.0–0 e5 8.e4 c6 9.h3 Re8 10.Be3 exd4 11.Nxd4 Nc5 12.Qc2 a5 13.Rab1 Qe7 14.Rfe1!?



Compared with the last position, both sides have two extra moves in: Rb1 and Be3 for White, and ...c6 and ...Qe7 for Black. How does this affect the security of the e-pawn? In his annotations to the game (in the September 1956 issue of *Shakhmaty v SSSR*) Filip wrote: "The pawn is indirectly defended. Black cannot take on e4 because of 14...Nfxe4 15.Nxe4 Nxe4 16.Bxe4 Qxe4 17.Bd2!"



Is this correct? It's pretty clear that Black cannot take the queen: 17...Qxc2? 18.Rxe8+ Bf8 19.Bh6 Qxb1+ 20.Kh2! Bd7 21.Rxa8 and mates. It's also clear that giving up the queen for two pieces isn't great either: 17...Qxe1+ 18.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 19.Bxe1 Bxd4 20.g4!? followed by 21.Bc3 with a big advantage for White.

But take another look at the diagram and ask yourself if Black has any other candidates. How about the multipurpose 17...Bf5!!? After the forced 18.Rxe4 Bxe4 19.Qc1 Bxb1 20.Qxb1 Bxd4, Black has two rooks for the queen instead of rook and bishop, which is a huge improvement for him. Add to this the looming takeover of the e-file and I would rate White's position as critical.

Let's go back to the position after 17...Nfxe4 and see if we can find an improvement for White. Taking on e4 didn't work, so how about the desperado shot 18.Nxc6!? It looks like things level out quickly after 18...bxc6 19.Bxc5 Bf5!? 20.Nxe4 dxc5 21.Rbd1 (or even 21.g4!?). The conclusion is that the e-pawn **was** indirectly defended, but not for the reason cited by Filip.

Our last piece of backtalk today concerns the game **Kozlov – Gorshkov, Moscow 1955**, which appeared in Peter Clarke's ground-breaking work *100 Soviet Chess Miniatures* (1963). The exact

identities of both players are uncertain because the games of several Gorshkovs and many Kozlovs are scattered throughout the standard databases. But that small mystery is irrelevant to our theme so we will let it go unsolved.

The opening moves were: 1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 Be7 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nxe4 6.Ne5 Nd6 7.Bb3 Nc6 8.d4 0–0 9.0–0 Nxe5 10.dxe5 Ne8 11.Bxf4 d6 12.Qh5 dxe5 13.Bxe5 Be6 14.Rad1 Qc8, reaching the following position:



White has given up a pawn for active pieces and decent attacking chances. For the moment Black has not weakened his kingside position but that could change as soon as White makes a concrete threat. **15.Nd5 Bc5+** Interesting was 15...Bd8!?, controlling some key squares and intending 16...c6, driving off the knight.

16.Kh1



16...Bg4?

Here Clarke appended the following note: "I doubt whether Black had much faith in this, but it had to be tried. The attempt to drive White back by 16...c6 meets an overwhelming refutation in 17.Rf4! cxd5 18.Rh4 h6 19.Bxg7!"



In fact this is no refutation at all. White is pretty well lost after 19...Nxg7 20.Qxh6 f5! 21.Rxd5 Kf7.

Instead of 17.Rf4, White can keep some advantage with 17.Nf6+!? Nxf6 18.Bxf6 gxf6 19.Rd3 Bd6 20.Rxd6 Qc7 21.Rd3 Kh8 22.Rdf3, although Black should be able to defend successfully. Also interesting was the immediate 17.Bxg7!?

Back to the game, where Black has just weakened the important square f7:



White to play and win

17.Rxf7! Be6 17...Bxh5? is crushed rather neatly by 18.Ne7+! Bxe7 19.Rxg7+ Kh8 20.Rg8#. 18.Rdf1 c6 19.Rxf8+ Also possible was 19.Nf6+! Nxf6 20.Rxg7+ Kxg7 21.Rxf6 Rxf6 22.Qg5+ Kf8 23.Qxf6+ Ke8 24.Bxe6 and wins. 19...Bxf8 20.Bxg7 cxd5 21.Bxf8 Qc7 22.Bxd5 Bxd5 23.Qxd5+ Kh8 24.Bh6 Nd6



Here White piled up on the knight with **25.Bf4**, and Black immediately resigned. **1–0**

Dedicated backtalkers everywhere will see that White could have forced a quick mate with 25.Qe5+! Kg8 26.Qg5+ Kh8 27.Qf6+ Kg8 28.Qf8+! Rxf8 29.Rxf8#.

Peter Clarke's book is unfortunately out of print, but used copies surface from time to time. If you can manage descriptive notation it is a very worthwhile acquisition.

All feedback on this column is welcome. Email the author at dscoones@telus.net.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UBC Thursday Night Blitz (note the change of format)

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Henry Angus Building, University of British Columbia Entry fee \$10+, depending on number of players and whether rated or not Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca, or see https://www.facebook.com/UBCChess

"Any interested parties that would like to take over the TD duties at UBC please contact me [Aaron]. It would be preferred that interested parties be able to take over on a long term basis.

Thank you.

Vancouver Rapid Chess League 2015-16

Ongoing, Vancouver Chess School Details

Jack Taylor Memorial

November 14-15, Victoria Details

Vancouver West Open #8

November 14-15, Vancouver Chess School Details

Knightmare Quads for kids

November 29, Burnaby Details

December Active

December 13, Vancouver Chess School Details