BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #328

Your editor welcomes any and all submissions – news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to BC 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

European Excursions

(photo by Carlos Dias)

Leon Piasetski finished the **10th Figueira da Foz Open** (October 30 – November 6) with 5.0/9, tying for fifteenth (there were fifty players). Early leader Vladimir Petrov coasted home to take first place with 7.0 points, just ahead of Aleksander Mista and Krzysztof Jakubowski. Expatriate Canadian Kevin Spraggett was one of the nine players who scored 6.0 points. Meanwhile Leon had played in an earlier event which we overlooked, the **14th Cap d'Agde Open** (October 21-29); Agde is on the French Mediterranean coast south-west of Montpellier. Here Leon scored 6.0 points to tie for fifteenth again, but this time in a field of one hundred and fifty-seven; he won 90 euros and a chess clock for his efforts. There was a six-way tie for first between Martyn Kravtsiv, Sergey Fedorchuk, Christian Bauer, Jules Moussard, Alberto David, and Marcel Kanarek with 7.0/9.

November Active (November 5)

The November VCS active attracted a total of thirty-three players; the Open had twenty-three, one more than in October, but for whatever reason the Junior Section had an unusually low turnout of only ten players. In the Open Section there were three players over 2000, with Edward Tang trying this format for the first time. For the second event in a row Andrew Hemstapat defeated Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj to claim sole first place (they tied for first at the Vancouver West Open #11); Davaa won his remaining games and was clear second. Lucian Wu continued his excellent results of late by taking the first U1800 prize, despite being rated only 1460. There was a four-way tie for the

second U1800 prize between George Kim, Maven Zheng, Jonathan Steif, and Boya Yang, while Nathan Wu and Ryan Yang split the U1400 prize.

In the Junior Section top-ranked Andrew Xu had an off-day, and it was Eric Jiang who won the U1300 trophy. The other trophies went to Joseph Yan (U1000) and Benjamin Wu (U600), while Samuel Taplin and Borna Amjadi were awarded medals.

Watch for the next active at Columbia College (Terminal and Main) on December 3.

Intermat Qualification

Unlike previous years the 2017 Intermat BC Team members will not be qualified through the CMA Chess Challenge due to insufficient lead time to form the BC Team and preparation work for the 2017 Intermat. The 2017 Intermat BC Team members will be qualified mainly by CFC rating with reference to other rating systems.

The Intermat Organizing Committee ("Committee") has the authority on the selection and forming of the Intermat BC Team, in general the Committee will follow the guidelines below:

1. Team BC will be composed of two players per grade from kindergarten to grade twelve.

2. In each grade both players will be invited based on the last CFC regular ratings list published at least eight weeks preceding the Intermat. CMA or other ratings may be used as a reference if a

player either does not have a CFC rating or their CFC rating is judged inaccurate due to being based on too few games.

3. If it is not possible to fill both spots after the top five players per grade have been invited, the Committee reserves the right to invite players from lower grades to fill the remaining place(s), based on rating and merit.

4. Residency Rule - all Team BC players in the Intermat must reside in B.C. and: a) have resided in B.C. for a total of at least six months in the twelve months prior to the start of the Intermat or b) have resided in B.C. for the three months prior to the start of the Intermat.

John Doknjas FM

The normal method of gaining a FIDE Master title is to obtain a FIDE rating of 2300. John Doknjas accomplished that feat during the Kings versus Princes III event in Seattle at the end of August (see Bulletin #324). Note the rating doesn't have to be published on one of the monthly lists – it can be attained in the middle of an event and subsequently drop, but the peak still counts. This has now been confirmed and the FM title officially awarded to John – congratulations!

BC JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP (November 11-13)

Held for the third time under the under the auspices of Chess2Inspire, organizationally this year's BC Junior Championship was very similar to the previous two. The tournament took place at Lansdowne Centre, Richmond in three sections, Championship, Reserve, and Booster. All sections consisted of five rounds, but the Championship and Reserve were spread over two and a half days with a time control of 90 + 30, while the Booster was a one-day event at 25 + 5 per player.

In the Championship Section there were sixteen entrants, compared to ten last year. The main contenders were the returning champions, John and Joshua Doknjas, who along with Andrew Hemstapat and Luke Pulfer were the only players over 2000. Luke was handicapped by taking a half-point bye in the first round, which when coupled with losses to Joshua Doknjas and Victor Zheng left him out of contention. Victor held Joshua to a draw in round one, while Andrew lost controlled of a double-edged King's Indian to Lucian Wu and lost in round two. After three rounds John was alone in first with 3.0 points, followed by brothers Joshua and Neil (the latter had taken a half-point bye in round two). John and Joshua drew in round four while Neil defeated Lucian, so

going into the last round John and Neil led with 3.5, closely followed by Joshua and Brandon Zhu. John and Neil drew quickly and there was the distinct possibility of all three brothers tying for first, but it was not to be; Brandon defeated Joshua to also achieve 4.0 points and share the championship with John and Neil. On tiebreak John was first and qualifies for the 2017 BC Closed, Neil was second and Brandon first U1900 (although Neil is also under U1900). Sherry Tian was the only girl, but was nevertheless a worthy winner of the top girl trophy for her score of 50% (she was the lowest-rated in the section). Lucian Wu, the second lowest-rated, beat Brandon Zhu and Andrew Hemstapat and gained 120 rating points; Brandon gained 90.

The thirty-three player Reserve Section was won by Danny Liu with 4.5/5, a half-point ahead of Leo Chung, An Yu, Anna Van, and Andrew Yu. Danny also won the Reserve Section last year, but has not played in a CFC event in the interim. After computer tiebreaks were applied An was awarded the second place trophy, Anna the third, Leo received a medal and Andrew was the first U1200. Aiden Madokoro was the second U1200, while Elaine Fan and Stephanie Gu won prizes as the top placing girls.

In keeping with the increased numbers over last year, the Booster had ninety-eighty(!) entrants, many of whom were playing in their first tournament. Top-ranked Luka Spasojevic and Borna Amjadi took the top two places respectively, with Benjamin Wu third, Zhengyuan (Frank) Zhou fourth, and Alvin Li fifth after the application of tiebreaks. The U800 trophies went to James Lu, Gideon Tang, Justin Jin, Duncan Miller, and Alex Zou, while the unrated prizewinners were Steven Feng, Isaac Trenton, Thidas Luka Bogahawattage, Yikai Zhao, and Angus Chung. Gillian Mok, Kate Jiang, and Jessica Qian were the top girls, Gwendolyn Tang, Lyvia Shan, and Ivy Ye the top girls U800, and Zi Xuan (Amanda) Yang, Joyce Zhang, and Erin Walshaw the top unrated girls. Many thanks to all the organizers and volunteers who helped make the event happen: Ron Hui, Glen Lee, Peggy Lee, Lara Lo, Michael Lo, Beau Pulfer, Stephen Wright. And a special thank you to site sponsors Lansdowne Centre and all the players and parents. Standings and more photos.

With his win this year John Doknjas joins select company: he has won the BC Junior four times (2011, 2014-2016), a feat only accomplished by two other people – Tanraj Sohal (2008, 2010, 2012, 2013) and Gary Basanta (1984-1987). Of course juniors only have a limited amount of time to win this event, as they become ineligible in the year they turn twenty years old. Notably John and Tanraj are from a time, unlike thirty years ago, when players become stronger at an earlier age.

Wu, Lucian - Hemstapat, Andrew [E99] BC jun Richmond (2.2), 12.11.2016

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0–0 6.Be2 e5 7.0–0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1 Nd7 10.Be3 f5 11.f3 f4 12.Bf2 g5 13.Nd3 Nf6 14.c5 Ng6 15.cxd6 cxd6 16.Rc1 Rf7 17.Qb3 Bf8 18.Nb5 g4 19.Nxa7 Bd7 20.Bb6 Qe7 21.Rc7 Nh4 22.Nb4 Rg7 23.Rxb7 Nxg2 24.Kf2 Nxe4+ 25.fxe4 Qh4+ 26.Kxg2 f3+ 27.Bxf3 gxf3+ 28.Kh1 Rg2 29.Bg1 Bg4 30.Nc2 Re2 31.Ne3 Bh5 32.Rc7 f2 33.Ng2 fxg1R+ 34.Rxg1 Qxe4 35.Rc4 Qf3 36.Rc3 Qf2 37.Nf4+ Kh8 38.Nxe2 Bxe2 39.Rcg3 Bh6 40.Nc6 Bf4 41.R1g2 Qe1+ 42.Rg1 Qd2 43.R3g2 Re8 44.Ne7 h5 45.Ng6+ Kg7 46.Nxf4+ Kf6 47.Nxh5+ Kf5 48.Rf2+ Ke4 49.Ng3+ Kd4 50.Nxe2+ Kc5 51.Rc1+ Qxc1+ 52.Nxc1 e4 53.Rc2+ Kd4 54.Qc3+ Kxd5 55.Qc4+ Ke5 56.Ne2 d5 57.Qd4+ Kf5 58.Qxd5+ Re5 59.Nd4+ Kf4 60.Rf2+ Ke3 61.Qxe5 Kxf2 62.Qg3+ Kf1 63.Qg2+ Ke1 64.Qe2# 1–0

Doknjas, Joshua - Doknjas, John [B81] BC jun Richmond (4.1), 13.11.2016

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 e6 7.g4 Be7 8.g5 Nfd7 9.Be3 b5 10.a3 Bb7 11.h4 0–0 12.Qd2 d5 13.exd5 Nb6 14.Rh2 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 Bxd5 16.0–0–0 Qc7 17.f4 Be4 18.Bg2 Qb7 19.f5 Rd8 20.Qe2 exf5 21.Nxf5 Rxd1+ 22.Qxd1 Bxg2 23.Rxg2 Nc6 24.Qd5 Rc8 25.g6 hxg6 26.Rxg6 Bf8 27.h5 Nd8 28.Qxb7 Nxb7 29.Nh6+ Kh7 30.Nxf7 Nc5 31.Bxc5 Bxc5 32.Rxa6 Be3+ 33.Kb1 Rc5 [Black offered a draw.] 34.Re6 Bf4 35.b4 ½–½

Wu, Lucian - Doknjas, Neil [D37] BC jun Richmond (4.2), 13.11.2016

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.Bf4 0–0 6.e3 c5 7.Be2 Nc6 8.0–0 b6 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Bb5 Bb7 11.Rc1 Rc8 12.Ne5 Nxe5 13.Bxe5 c4 14.Ba4 a6 15.Bc2 b5 16.Bf5 Ra8 17.Qc2 g6 18.Bh3 Ne4 19.f3 Ng5 20.Kh1 Nxh3 21.gxh3 Qd7 22.Qg2 Bc8 23.Rg1 b4 24.Ne2 Qxh3 25.Ng3 Qxg2+ 26.Rxg2 f6 27.Bf4 Kf7 28.e4 Bb7 29.e5 g5 30.exf6 Bxf6 31.Bd6 Rfe8 32.Bxb4 Bxd4 33.Rd1 Be5 34.Nf5 d4 35.Nxd4 Bxd4 36.Rxd4 Bxf3 37.Bc3 Re2 38.Rdg4 Rd8 39.h3 Rxg2 40.Rxg2 Rd3 41.Kh2 Bxg2 42.Kxg2 h5 43.a3 Ke6 44.Ba5 Kf5 45.Be1 g4 46.hxg4+ hxg4 47.Bf2 Rd2 0–1

Zhu, Brandon - Doknjas, Joshua [A37] BC jun Richmond (5.2), 13.11.2016

1.c4 c5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 e5 6.d3 d6 7.0–0 Nge7 8.Bg5 f6 9.Bd2 Be6 10.a3 0–0 11.Rb1 a5 12.Qc2 Rc8 13.e3 b6 14.Rfe1 Qd7 15.Na4 Rb8 16.b4 axb4 17.axb4 b5 18.cxb5 Nxb4 19.Bxb4 cxb4 20.Rxb4 Nd5 21.Rb2 Rxb5 22.Rxb5 Qxb5 23.Qc4 Qd7 24.Nxe5 dxe5 25.Nc5 Nxe3 26.fxe3 Bxc4 27.Nxd7 Bxd3 28.Nxf8 Bxf8 29.Bd5+ Kg7 30.Rc1 h5 31.h4 Bf5 32.Rc7+ Kh6 33.Kf2 Bg4 34.Rf7 Bg7 35.e4 Bh3 36.Bc6 Bg4 37.Bd7 Bxd7 38.Rxd7 g5 39.Rd6 gxh4 40.gxh4 Kg6 41.Rd1 Bh6 42.Kf3 f5 43.Rd6+ Kg7 44.exf5 Bf4 45.Ke4 Kf7 46.Rd7+ Kg8 47.f6 1–0

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Harper, Bruce - Opponent [A00] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

This game features an attack. And, as the engine will reveal, not a particularly well-played one.

1.g3 [0:03:00] **1...Nf6** [0:03:00] **2.Bg2** [0:03:00] **2...g6** [0:02:59] **3.d3** [0:02:59] **3...Bg7** [0:02:59] **4.Nc3** [0:02:58] **4...0–0** [0:02:58] **5.e4** [0:02:58] **5...d5?** [0:02:57]
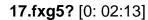
A gambit? Or maybe Black didn't expect 5.e4 and moved too quickly? **6.e5!?** [0:02:56] The engine is materialistic and suggests just taking Black's d5–pawn. **6...Nfd7** [0:02:55] **7.f4** [0:02:55] **7...e6?!** [0:02:53]
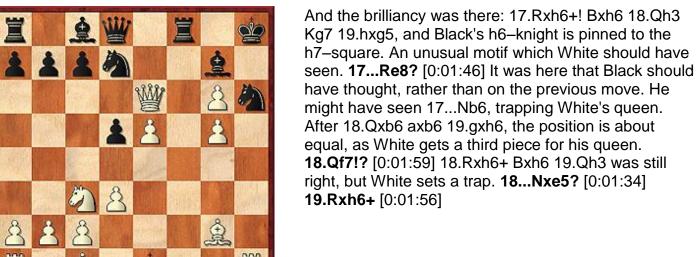

Probably the worst way to defend the d5–pawn. **8.h4!?** [0:02:52] 8.d4 gives a nice plus, but chess is supposed to be fun. **8...h5?!** [0:02:50] This actually helps White's attack. **9.Nf3** [0:02:50] 9.g4!? was also possible. **9...Nc6** [0:02:47] **10.Ng5** [0:02:47] **10...Ne7?** [0:02:46] 10...Nd4! was the right route to f5. 11.g4?! hxg4 12.Qxg4 Nxc2+ and 13...Nxa1, sacrificing a rook, is extremely dubious. White's position is good, but not that good. **11.g4!** [0:02:44] **11...hxg4** [0:02:43] **12.Qxg4** [0:02:43] **12...Nf5** [0:02:42] This doesn't help. **13.h5** [0:02:41] **13...Nh6** [0:02:26] **14.Qh3** [0:02:39] **14...f6** [0:02:13]

15.Qxe6+ [0:02:35] Of course 15.Nxe6 is right, but White is trying for a brilliancy. **15...Kh8** [0:02:10] **16.hxg6** [0:02:29] **16...fxg5** [0:01:46]

17.fxg5? [0: 02:13]

And the brilliancy was there: 17.Rxh6+! Bxh6 18.Qh3 Kg7 19.hxg5, and Black's h6–knight is pinned to the h7–square. An unusual motif which White should have seen. **17...Re8?** [0:01:46] It was here that Black should have thought, rather than on the previous move. He might have seen 17...Nb6, trapping White's queen. After 18.Qxb6 axb6 19.gxh6, the position is about equal, as White gets a third piece for his queen. **18.Qf7!?** [0:01:59] 18.Rxh6+ Bxh6 19.Qh3 was still right, but White sets a trap. **18...Nxe5?** [0:01:34] **19.Rxh6+** [0:01:56]

Black resigns – 19...Bxh6 20.Qh7 is mate. **1–0**

BROWSING FOR ENDGAMES by Dan Scoones

Today's browsing comes from the game between Bozidar Ivanovic and Srdjan Cvetkovic played in the 23rd Yugoslav Championship at Cateske Toplice 1968. It appeared in the endgame section of *Chess Informant* #5 (1968) and in the later publication *Encyclopaedia of Chess Endings*, Volume 5 (1993).

(The initial moves were: 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 b5 8.0–0 b4 9.Na4 Nxe4 10.f4 Nf6 11.f5 e5 12.Ne6 fxe6 13.fxe6 d5 14.Be3 Bxe6 15.Nb6 Nbd7 16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Bxd5 Rc8 18.Bg5 Qb6+ 19.Kh1 Qd6 20.Bb3 Qxd1 21.Raxd1 Nc5 22.Bc4 Nce4 23.Bxa6 Rxc2 24.Rde1 Nxg5 25.Rxe5+ Kf7 26.Rxg5 Bd6 27.Bd3 Rc5 28.Rg4 Rc1 29.Rxg7+ Kxg7 30.Rxc1 Be5 31.g4 Rd8 32.Bf5 Rd2 33.h4 Rh2+ 34.Kg1 Rxh4 35.a3 bxa3 36.bxa3 Nxg4 37.Rc4 h5 38.a4 Kf6 39.Bc8 Kg5 40.a5 Ne3 41.Rxh4 Kxh4 42.a6 Bd4 43.Kh2 Ng4+ 44.Kg2 Ba7 45.Bb7 Kg5 46.Kf3 Bb6 47.Bc8 Bc5 48.Ke4 h4 49.Kf3 Ne3 50.Bd7 Ba7 51.Bc8 Nd1 52.Bd7 Nf2 53.Bc8 Kf6 54.Kg2 Ke5 55.Kf3 Kd5 56.Bb7+ Kc4 57.Bc8 Kd3 58.Bd7 Kd2 59.Bc8 Ke1 60.Kg2 Ke2 61.Bd7 Ke3 62.Bc8 Kf4 63.Bd7 Ne4 64.Kh3 Kg5 65.Bc8 Bb6 66.Bd7 Nf2+ 67.Kg2 Nd3 68.Bc8 Kh5 69.Bb7 Nf4+ 70.Kh2 Kg4 71.Bc8+ Kf3 72.Bb7+ Ke3 73.Bc8.)

B. Ivanovic - S. Cvetkovic, Yugoslavia (ch) 1968
Black to play

What could be of interest here – isn't Black is a whole piece up? Yes, but there is a technical problem. If Black sends his king and knight back to capture White's pawn, then White will just play bishop takes knight, leaving himself with a lone king. The position will then look something like this:

Positional draw

Despite Black's extra material he cannot win because his bishop is of the wrong colour for promoting the h-pawn. Readers who are unfamiliar with this bit of endgame lore are encouraged to consult one of the standard textbooks for confirmation. A more subtle approach is required from Black. Cvetkovic duly finds the right plan:
1. Send the king back to a7 to attack White's pawn and tie White's bishop to its defence;
2. Carry out a general advance on the kingside, and by various threats force White's bishop to abandon the a-pawn;
3. Capture the a-pawn and then send the king back to the kingside;
4. Win the bishop for the h-pawn and then execute the bishop+knight mate!

73...Ke4 74.Bb7+ Ke5 75.Bc8 Kd6 76.Bf5 Kc7 77.Bg4 Bf2 78.Bf5 Kb8 79.Bd7 Bg3+ 80.Kh1 Nd5 81.Bh3 Nc7 82.Bf1 Ne6 83.Bh3 Ng5! The right square, and an important link in the winning plan.

84.Kg2 After this White must play his bishop to the relatively short a6-c8 diagonal in order to protect the pawn. If he plays the bishop to the other, longer diagonal with 84.Bf1 then the following continuation is likely: 84...Ka7 85.Bb5 Bc7 86.Be2 h3 87.Bb5 Ne4 88.Bc6 Nf2+ 89.Kg1 Bg3 and Black wins.

84...Ka7 85.Bc8 Bd6

Zugzwang

86.Bd7

White is clearly lost after this, so the question is whether the alternatives were any better: A. 86.Kf2 h3 87.Kg1 Be5 88.Kh1 h2 89.Bb7 Nf7 90.Kg2 (or 90.Bc8 Nd6 91.Bb7 Nf5 92.Kg2 Kb6 93.Bc8 Ne3+ as in the main line) 90...Nd6 91.Kh1 Nf5 92.Kg2 Bc7 93.Kh1 Ne3! 94.Bc8 Nd1! 95.Kg2 Nf2 and Black wins; B. 86.Bb7 h3+ 87.Kg1 Bg3 88.Kh1 h2 89.Kg2 Bc7 90.Bc8 Nf3 91.Bb7 Nd4 92.Bc8 Nc2 93.Bb7 Ne3+ 94.Kh1 Bb8 95.Bf3 Kxa6 96.Be4 Nd1 97.Kg2 h1Q+! 98.Kxh1 Nf2+ 99.Kg2 Nxe4 and Black wins.

86...Kxa6

Cue the tablebases
After 86...Kxa6 the tablebases show that White can stave off mate for 40 moves at most. Things went more quickly in the actual game.

87.Bf5 Kb6 88.Bc8 Kc5 89.Bd7 Kd4 90.Bc8 Bg3 91.Bd7 Ke3 92.Bg4 Kf4 93.Bc8 Nf3 94.Kh3 Ne1 95.Bf5 Ke3 96.Bg4 Kf2 97.Bf5

Or 97.Bc8 Nd3 98.Kg4 Nf4 99.Kg5 h3 100.Bxh3 Nxh3+ and wins.

97...Ng2 98.Be4 Nf4+ 99.Kg4 h3 100.Bf3 h2

Now Black is threatening 101...Ng2, cutting off the bishop from the queening square. But since 101.Bh1 Kg1! either wins the bishop or forces through the ...Ng2 maneouvre, White decided he had seen enough. White resigns (**0–1**).

Time to resign

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vancouver Rapid Chess League 2016-17

2016 - 2017, various locations
Details

Junior Knightmare Quads

November 20, Burnaby
Details

December Active

December 3, Columbia College
Details

Nanaimo Winter Open

December 17-18, Nanaimo
Details

Winter Active/Blitz

December 17, Columbia College
Details Active Blitz

Junior Knightmare Quads

December 18, Burnaby
Details

Victoria Open and BC-WA Match

January 13-15, Victoria
Details

Junior Knightmare Quads

January 15, Burnaby
Details