Subject: Bulletin #131
From: Stephen Wright <swright2@telus.net>
Date: Mon, 05 Nov 2007 12:16:40 -0800
To: Stephen Wright <swright2@telus.net>

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #131

Your editor welcomes welcome 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) or sign up via the BCCF webpage (www.chess.bc.ca); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

[Back issues of the Bulletin are available on the above webpage.]

HERE AND THERE

Island Junior Open #3 (November 4)

Results can be found at http://victoriajuniorchess.pbwiki.com/Results+from+recent+Tournaments.

THE STATE OF TOURNAMENT CHESS IN THE LOWER MAINLAND

This has been a problem for several years, but the situation at the moment is particularly acute. There are no adult tournaments scheduled in the Greater Vancouver area until the Keres Memorial next May. This is due to a lack of organizers: those who were previously organizing have stopped, and they have not been replaced. If tournament chess is to revive in Vancouver, new blood is required. If you are willing to organize or help out at an event, please let me or any other member of the BCCF executive know. We will provide whatever assistance we can - mentorship, TDs or TD courses, publicity, equipment. Please consider this carefully - without organizers, there will be no tournament chess.

2007 B.C. - WASHINGTON MATCH

This year's match is scheduled to be played on December 2, with a site here in B.C. If you are rated over 2200 and are interested in playing in the match, please contact Dan Scoones (via your editor, swright2@telus.net) if you have not already done so.

Entirely coincidentally to the above we were sent the deciding game from last year's match, annotated by Roman Jiganchine. Roman has joined the ranks of B.C. chess bloggers: this game, along with other annotated games and comments, can be found at http://roman-chess.blogspot.com/. Thanks, Roman!

Koons, Nat - Jiganchine, Roman [C02] BC - WA m (board 3), Bellingham, 28.10.2006
[Jiganchine]

This was a bit of a crazy game, where I made a serious mistake in the opening, and then struggled the next five hours to stay alive. My opponent played very well, but when he was just a few moves away from a forced win he made two mistakes in the Bishop vs. Knight endgame, and that allowed me to save the game.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c4 e6 5.Nf3 [5.cxd5] **5...Nc6 6.Nc3 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Bc5 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.Bd3 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Bxf2+?**

I rather naively missed the fact that my remaining pieces would be hard to develop, and the White king will be in no danger at all. Better was the simple 10...Qxd1+ 11.Nxd1 Ne7=. **11.Kxf2 Qh4+ 12.g3 Qxc4 13.Qd6+/-**

The compensation for the pawn is terrific. **13...f6!** Pretty much the only way to combat the threats of Rd1 and Bg5. 13...Ne7 14.Rd1+-; 13...Bd7 14.Rd1 Rd8 15.b3!! (a computer move) 15...Qxc3 16.Ba3+- and mate will happen on the dark squares. **14.Rd1 Kf7 15.Rd4 Qa6 16.Qc7+ Ne7 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Ne4 e5**

The only move again. 18...Qb6 19.Nd6+ Kg6 20.Qxe7 Qxd4+ 21.Be3 Qxb2+ 22.Kf3 Rf8 23.Qxf8 Qe2+ 24.Kxe2 Ba6+ 25.Ke1 Rxf8 26.Bxa7 Rd8 27.Bc5 Rb8 28.Ba3 c5 29.Ne4 Bc4 30.Nd2 Bd5 31.Bxc5 Kf5 32.a4 Kg4 33.a5 Kh3 34.Ra4 Kg2 35.a6 Rc8 36.Ra5 h5 37.Nf1 Be4 38.a7 f5 39.Nd2 Bd5 40.Nf1 Be4 41.h4 Bc6 42.Ra2+ Kf3 43.Bd6 Rd8 44.Ra3+ Kg2 45.Ne3+ Kh3 46.Nc4 Be4 1-0 Iordachescu,V-Arkell,K/Port Erin 2003. **19.Rd6 Qb6+ 20.Qxb6 axb6 21.Rxf6+ Ke8 22.Nd6+ Kd7 23.Nf7+-**

I had overlooked this maneouvre, but even if I did see it, there was little I could change after taking that poisoned pawn on move 14. White wins a pawn and Black is still struggling to develop, so the position is objectively winning for White from here on. **23...Re8 24.Nxe5+ Kc7 25.Bf4 Kb7 26.Nc4 Ka6 27.a4 Bd7 28.b4 Nd5 29.b5+**

29.Rd6!? was probably more secure, keeping pawns on the board and continuing to terrorise my disorganized pieces. 29...Be6 30.b5+ cxb5 31.Nxb6! (another computer idea) 31...Nxb6 32.a5! Bc4 33.Rxb6+ Ka7 34.Be3! Rad8 35.Rh6+ Ka8 36.Rxh7+-. **29...cxb5 30.axb5+ Kxb5 31.Nd6+ Kb4 32.Rb1+ Kc3** 32...Kc5 33.Nxe8 Bxe8. **33.Nxe8 Bxe8** It is quite amusing how, with all my pieces half-hanging and king fully exposed, Black can still have some remote chance for a draw - due to the reduced material and opposite coloured bishops. **34.Be5+ Kc4 35.Rc1+ Kb5 36.Rd6 Ra2+ 37.Kf3 Nb4 38.h4 Bc6+ 39.Kg4 Re2 40.Bf6 Bg2 41.Kg5 Nd5 42.Bd4 Be4 43.Re6 Bd3 44.Rxe2 Bxe2 45.Rb1+ Kc6 46.Rb3 Bc4** 46...h5!? **47.Rf3 b5 48.Kh6 Be2 49.Rf7 Bd3 50.Rxh7!** This is one of the ways to bring the point home. **50...Bxh7 51.Kxh7 b4**

52.Kg7? The first key mistake, although it appears that the win is still just possible with accurate play. 52.h5! Nc3 53.h6 Kd5 54.Bg7 Kc4 55.Kg6 b3 56.Bxc3! Kxc3 57.h7 b2 58.h8Q++-; 52.g4? Nc3 53.g5 Kd5 54.g6? *(54.Bf6!)*
54...Kxd4 55.g7 (in my calculation I had assumed that this was the main line, but only saw b3 which loses) 55...Nd5!= *(55...b3 56.g8Q b2 57.Qg1+ Kc4 58.h5 b1Q+ 59.Qxb1 Nxb1 60.Kg6 Nc3 61.h6+-).* 52.Bb2! was winning as well, since now Nc3 no longer cuts off the bishop from the pawn. Fritz : 52...Kb5 53.h5 Kc4 54.h6 Nc3 *(54...Kb3 55.Bd4 Kc2 56.Kg7+-)* 55.Kg8 Kb3 56.Ba1 Ka2 57.h7 Kxa1 58.h8Q+-. **52...Nc3 53.h5 Kd5 54.Bf6?** 54.h6!! - this line is too long for the computer to appreciate why it wins: 54...Kxd4 55.h7 b3 56.h8Q b2 57.Kf8+ Kd3 58.Qh7+ Kc4 59.Qf7+ Kd3 [During the game I considered the bishop sacrifice (I had no alternative to Kd5 though, so it did not matter much): I thought that this is probably just a draw, but in my 2007 analysis I realized that it is not!!] 60.Qf5+ Ke3 61.g4 b1Q 62.Qxb1 Nxb1 63.g5 and now the knight cannot catch up with the pawn: 63...Nd2 64.g6 Ne4 65.g7 Nf6 66.Kf7 Ng4 67.Kg6+-. **54...Ne4!=**

I think this move came as a surprise to my opponent. It leads to a theoretical draw, although of course there is still a lot of excitement ahead in the queen endgame. **55.h6** 55.Bb2 Nxg3 56.h6 Nf5+ 57.Kg6 Nxh6= was probably what he missed. **55...Nxf6 56.Kxf6 b3 57.h7 b2 58.h8Q b1Q**

This is a draw according to tablebase, but of course with about 10-20 SD minutes remaining for each side, it would not be so easy to play this correctly for either side. **59.Qh5+ Kc4 60.Qf5 Qb2+ 61.Qe5 Qg2 62.Qe6+ Kb4 63.g4 Qf3+ 64.Kg7 Qc3+** Still a draw (TB). **65.Qf6 Qc7+ 66.Kh6 Qh2+ 67.Kg6 Qc2+ 68.Kh5 Qh2+ 69.Qh4 Qe2 70.Qf6 Qh2+ 71.Kg5 Kb3= 72.Kg6 Qc2+ 73.Kg7 Ka4 74.Qe5 Qd1 75.g5 Qd7+ 76.Kg6 Qd3+ 77.Qf5 Qd6+ 78.Kf7 Qc7+ 79.Ke8 Qb8+ 80.Ke7 Qb4+ 81.Ke6 Qb6+ 82.Ke5 Qb2+ 83.Kf4 Qf2+ 84.Kg4 Qg2+ 85.Kh4 Qh2+ 86.Qh3 Qf2+ 87.Qg3 Qd2 88.Kh3 Qc1 89.Qg2 Qe3+ 90.Qg3 Qe1** Typo in the record [maybe 90...Qc1 - ed.] **91.Qg4+ Ka5 92.Qf5+ Ka4 93.Qe4+ Ka5 94.g6 Qf1+ 95.Kh4 Qf6+ 96.Kg4** This position is now lost (TB). **96...Ka6 97.Qf3 Qd4+ 98.Kg5 Qg1+ 99.Kh6 Qh2+ 100.Kg7 Qc7+ 101.Qf7 Qg3 102.Qf6+ Ka5 103.Kf7 Qb3+ 104.Qe6 Qb7+ 105.Kf8 Qb4+ 106.Qe7 Qb8+ 107.Kg7 Qb2+ 108.Kh7 Qh2+ 109.Kg8 Qa2+ 110.Qf7 Qg2 111.Qa7+ Kb5 112.Qd7+ Ka5** It is guess work from here as to what moves we made in time trouble. **113.g7 Qa8+ 114.Kf7 Qf3+ 115.Kg6 Qg3+ 116.Kh7 Qh4+ 117.Kg8 Qc4+ 118.Kf8 Qf4+ 119.Qf7 Qb8+ 120.Qe8 Qf4+** This position (if it ever occured) is actually a draw due to perpetual. My opponent was down to a few seconds on the clock, so we agreed to a draw - this meant that the BC-Washington 2006 match was tied as well (5-5). **1/2-1/2**

THE B.C. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - A HISTORY

(The 2007 B.C. Junior Championship will be played this coming weekend in New Westminster (http://www.bjdy.com/juniorchess/events.html).)

Junior chess in British Columbia, like junior chess elsewhere, is a relatively recent phenomenon. Before the Second World War there were certainly young players who were considered prodigies, e.g., the Polish-American Samuel Reshevsky or our own Abe Yanofsky, but tournaments for juniors were rare. Such events as did take place were often linked to an adult competition: Yanofsky's first tournaments, the rounds played at different times on the same days, were a Boys' Championship and Major (i.e., adult) Championship held in conjunction with the Canadian National Exhibition in 1936. This was also the case on the West Coast: the first recorded junior event in B.C., a Boys' Championship (apparently girls did not play chess), was held in 1947 in association with the B.C. Major and Minor Championships and a womens' contest. The winner is variously given as Harold or Herman or Howard Mitchner, depending upon which newspaper source is consulted. The age limit or criterion used for the event is not indicated. (For the sake of completeness it should be mentioned that North Vancouver fielded a junior squad in the Greater Vancouver Chess League during the 1918-19 season; the team was led by one Leslie Buckley, presumably one of B.C.'s earliest junior stars. This appears to have been an isolated case, but much of B.C.'s early chess history is difficult to establish due to a paucity of sources - all we have are occasional glimpses to work with.)

In 1950 Vancouver's City Chess Club began an initiative "to stimulate interest in chess amongst younger players" by sponsoring an inter-school individual championship: each high school was invited to send one representative to compete in the tournament, the top players to be awarded club memberships. Players from Prince of Wales, John Oliver, Magee, King Edward, Kitsilano, and Point Grey took part, with seventeen-year-old Harold Hatt of King Edward emerging as the eventual winner. There was talk of making this an annual event, but there is no further mention of the event in subsequent years. By 1956 B.C. had its first officially sanctioned junior individual championship, the B.C. High School Chess Championship, organized by Paul Smith of Qualicum Beach High School and sponsored by the BCCF. Mr. Smith ran the tournament in Qualicum Beach for the next five years, until he was transferred to Victoria; at that point a Mr. H.D. Bentley undertook to take over, and the competition moved to the Lester Pearson High School in New Westminster. The Championship continued in this form (for high school students) until 1970: here is a list of the known winners.

1956 - Tony Dare
1957 - Robert Bugge
1958
1959 - John Chapman
1960 - John Chapman
1961
1962 - Duncan Suttles
1963 - P. Nixon
1964 - Philip Lum
1965 - Philip Lum/Eugene Danyluk/Randy Johnson
1966 - Alan Hill
1967 - Peter Biyiasas
1968 - Peter Biyiasas
1969 - Harry Satanove*/Jonathan Berry
1970 - Bruce Harper

At the same time a championship for younger students was instituted, designated the "Junior" Championship. Organized intially by Mr. C.J. Littlewood and also held in New Westminster, the tournament was limited to those aged either twelve or thirteen or below, depending upon the year. Winners:

1960 - Pierre La France
1961 - Ken Costain
1962 - Ken Costain
1963 - John Cahill
1964 - Daniel Scoones
1965 - Daniel Scoones
1966 - Daniel Scoones
1967 - Jonathan Berry
1968 - William Macskasy*
1969 - William Macskasy
1970 - John Boates
1971 - John Boates

The existence of both these events is indicative of the rise of interest in the nuturing and developing of younger chess players. The first World Junior Championship ("Junior" defined as under twenty) took place in Coventry and Birmingham in 1951, the Canadian representative (future B.C. resident Lionel Joyner) being decided in a match. The third World Junior was held in Toronto in 1957; this was the catalyst for the first Canadian Junior Championship, held in Quebec City in July of that year to decide the Canadian entry to the Toronto event (see Jonathan Berry's webpages http://members.shaw.ca/berry5868/jun.htm for much more information). Frank May, UBC Chess

Champion took part for B.C., but was selected by the BCCF rather than being the winner of a particular competition. In 1960 the CFC and subsequently the BCCF offered for the first time a reduced membership rate for juniors; the number of junior BCCF members grew from 4 in 1962 to 55 by 1968. 1962 was the first year in which BCCF executive postions existed whose mandates dealt specifically with chess for younger players, filled by Bentley for High School Chess and Littlewood and Hudson for Junior Chess. Previously a Dave Creemer Memorial Fund (see http://chess.bc.ca/Bulletins/bccfbulletin31.pdf - yikes, 100 issues ago!) had existed to promote chess in shools, which had been used to provide sets and trophies for school competitions. These activities culminated in the late 1960s with programs developed by Wayne Crookes, the first BCCF executive member to hold the title of Junior Coordinator.

1970 was a watershed year for junior chess in this country. During the 1960s the Canadian representative to the World Junior was decided by the top eligible finisher in the Canadian Open. In 1970 it was decided to hold instead the "First" Canadian Junior Championship (the initial 1957 Quebec City event having been forgotten by that point); this time B.C. decided its representative by holding the first "modern" B.C. Junior Championship. ("Junior" by this point generally meant U20, but perhaps out of inertia the U12 Junior Championship still continued in B.C., just to confuse the issue.)

The 1970 B.C. Junior (Final, as designated by *Northwest Chess*) was a six-player round robin. Bruce Harper was seeded in as High School Champion, Dan Scoones and Harry Satanove qualified by rating, and Robert Chow, Ken Baker, and Charles Balmer earned entry via a qualifiying tournament. Chow was unable to play and was replaced by Bob Iriwn:

			1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	**Bruce Harper**	1843	*	1	1	½	1	1	**4.5**
2	**Dan Scoones**	1884	0	*	½	½	1	1	**3.0**
3	**Harry Satanove**	1853	0	½	*	½	½	1	**2.5**
4	**Bob Irwin**	1641	½	½	½	*	1	0	**2.5**
5	**Ken Baker**	1694	0	0	½	0	*	1	**1.5**
6	**Charles Balmer**	1628	0	0	0	1	0	*	**1.0**

Leaving semantics aside, this is the starting point for the line of champions currently listed on the B.C. Junior Championship plaque, the Dave Creemer Memorial Trophy. This list can also be found on the BCCF website, http://chess.bc.ca/bcchamps.html. There is a gap from 1970 to 1974; at that time the Canadian Junior was a biennial event, and in 1972 the B.C. representation was decided by rating. The Canadian Junior became an annual event in 1974, as did the B.C. Junior.

Postscript: the older U12 Junior Championship died out in the early 70s, but at the end of that decade a new event appeared for those considerably younger than twenty. FIDE instituted a Cadet Championship, generally but not always restricted to those under sixteen years of age; Canada and subsequently B.C. followed suit with their own Cadet Championships (again, see Jonathan Berry's http://members.shaw.ca/berry5868/cad.htm for more information, particularly for all the vagaries of the FIDE competition). B.C.'s Cadet Champions, like the Junior Champions, are listed on the BCCF website (http://chess.bc.ca/bcchamps.html); the competition ran from 1980 until 1999, when it was subsumed as an age category of the CYCC. The gap in the list from 1984 to 1987 seems to indicate a lack of interest, as in 1984 the tournament had only four entrants. In 1987 West Vancouver marked its 75th anniversary, and as part of the celebration several chess events took place, including a large

junior event incorporating both the B.C. Junior and Cadet at the Park Royal shopping mall.

2008 BC CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Entries are now being taken for the 2008 Championship, which will be the third annual running of this event in recent times. However, the Canadian Correspondence Chess Association (CCCA) has apparently added a new stricture for this year, that the tournament must include at least ten participants or it will be cancelled. Therefore, if you are at all interested in entering this championship, please let Vas Sladek know at the below address.

Contact: Vas Sladek, 604-562-3736, vas@chessfirst.com
Date: January 1, 2008 start
Rounds: all games are played on the ICCF webserver (no e-mails, no postcards!)
Type: Round Robin, CCCA rated
EF: $15
Prizes: clear 1st software prize from chessfirst.com
Registration By December 1, 2007**,** Vas Sladek, 604-562-3736, vas@chessfirst.com
Misc BC residents ONLY and CCCA membership required $30/year; CCCA requires 10 participants to run the event so please consider joining.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior events

Nov. 10-12 BC Junior
Dec. 2   Sprott Shaw Junior Open
Dec. 9   Greater Victoria City Championship

Silver Star Challenge (Qualifier for BC Closed)

Date: November 10-12, 2007
Site: Best Western Vernon Lodge - 3914 32nd St., B.C. 545-3385
Type: 6 Round Swiss
Fee: $40, $35 senior, $30 junior (must be CFC member or pay $15 extra). First time ever players can play for reduced entry.
Time: 30/90 sd/60
Rounds: Saturday and Sunday (November 10 and 11): 10:00am, 5:00pm. Monday November 12: 9:00am and ASAP
Registration: On site 9:00am - 10:00am Saturday November 10.
Prizes: BEN
Bring sets and clocks.
TD: Wally Steinke
Organizer: Wally Steinke (250) 545-6677

Westbank 3-Rounder

CFC-rated
Date: Sat., Nov. 17/07

Site: Mt. Boucherie Secondary School cafeteria, 2751 Cameron Rd., Westbank, BC
Registration: 8.30 a.m. at site
Format: 3 rd. swiss
TC: 30/90, SD/30
Rds.: 9.00 a.m., 12.00 noon, 3.00 p.m. or ASAP
Entry: adults $15, jr. $5
Prizes: based on entries
Misc.: Bring pen, chess set, clock; no smoking, no alcohol. Cafeteria service not available at site
Info: George Hara (250) 452-6625; e-mail: geohara@hotmail.com

Jack Taylor Memorial

A 5 round CFC rated Swiss
EF: $25; $5 discount to CFC members, $10 late fee (after Nov. 19)
Prize Fund: 1st $75, Top under 1850 $50
Location: University of Victoria, Human and Social Development Building, Room HSD-A264 See Map
Time Control: Game/90 + 30 sec. increment
Rounds: Nov. 24 at 9:30 am, 1:30 pm, 6:00 pm; Nov. 25 at 9:30 am, 2:00 pm
Registration:
* On site Nov. 24 8:30-9:15 am (late fee applies)
* At the Victoria Chess Club, regular meeting nights
* By email to victoria_chess@shaw.ca
Misc:
TD: Lynn Stringer
Org: Roger Patterson
Parking Map (Note: Parking at U Vic is no longer free on Saturdays)
http://victoriachessclub.pbwiki.com/2007+Jack+Taylor+Memorial

UBC Thursday Night Swiss - NOTE CHANGE OF DAY!

6:30 pm, **Thursdays**, Henry Angus Building room 417, University of British Columbia
Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca