

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #186

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) or sign up via the BCCF webpage (<http://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

World Amateur Chess Championship (March 19-25)

We have the spectacle of the Anand - Topalov world championship match to look forward to next month, but did you know there is a FIDE-sanctioned world championship going on right now? This is the World Amateur Championship, currently taking place for the first time in North America (at Skokie, Illinois). The first two such championships were held in 1924 and 1928 respectively and were won by Hermanis Matisons and Max Euwe. The tournaments were held concurrently with the Olympic Games as an attempt to promote amateur chess, but the concept quickly died out. Until 1995 that is, when the championship was resurrected. In its current incarnation the tournament is a 9-round Swiss for players with a FIDE-rating under 2000, and has a \$20,000 prize fund (including class prizes). The recent history of the event is not well documented, but there is a partial list of winners on [Wikipedia](#). As befitting its amateur status I only recognize one name, that of Jessie Gilbert, who won the women's title at age eleven in 1999 but died tragically in July of 2006. Further digging reveals that the second-place finisher in the same year on the men's side was Dan Erichsen of Denmark, presumably the same player who lived in Vancouver several years ago and played in the 2007 and 2008 Keres Memorials.

Back to this year. Among the 120-odd participants are three Canadians, all juniors: Agasta Kalra, Regina-Veronicka Kalaydina, and our own Richard Huang. The results have not been updated for a couple of days, but after six rounds Richard was tied for second with 5.0/6 while Agasta and Regina were part of a large group with 4.0 points.

<http://www.worldchesschamps.com/world-amateur/general-information/>
<http://www.worldchesschamps.com/world-amateur/pairings/>

Budapest Spring Festival (March 19-27)

After several months of rest and study Michael Yip has returned to tournament play in Budapest, this time in the Spring Festival. After five rounds he has 50% in the 74-player field; the only other Canadian, Nicholas Arsenault, has 3.5/5. The number three seed in the tournament is [Kristof Juhasz](#), a name familiar from B.C. junior circles some six years ago.

<http://firstsaturday.hu/> (scroll down to the bottom)

Canadian Chess News

Normally the monthly CFC newsletter is only available to members, but the March issue due out shortly will be generally accessible via the CFC website (<http://www.chess.ca/CCN.shtml> - be patient, the March issue is a few days late). So if you are not a CFC member, or you are a CFC member but haven't been receiving the newsletter, take the opportunity to see what you've been missing. The inaugural issue from last September is also available for viewing free of charge.

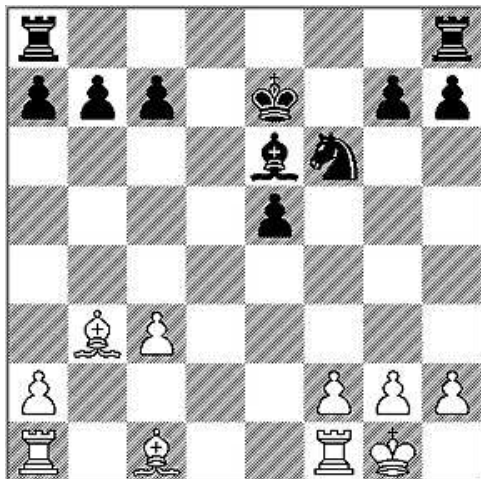
ENDGAME STUDY

Between tournaments Michael Yip spent some time brushing up on his endgame knowledge. This is one of the games he studied: "Smyslov is well known for his high level of endgame play so I looked in detail at some of his games."

Penrose, Jonathan - Smyslov, Vassily [C44] Munich ol (Men) fin-A (8), 1958

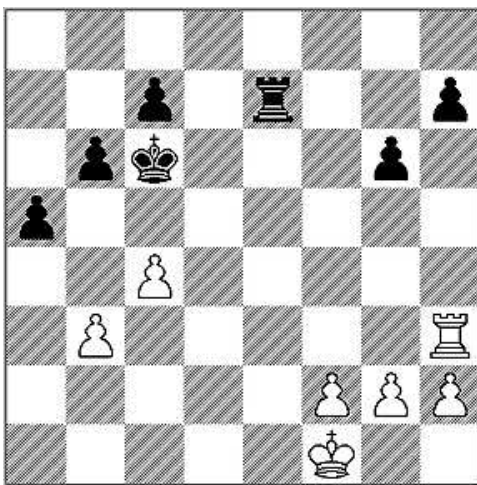
[Yip/Smyslov]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.c3 The Goring gambit. Defenders of open games have to face the prospect of a seemingly endless number of gambits that White can play. This is one of them. Black needs to know (at least) deeply to be assured that no accidents will occur. For this reason, this old game is of particular interest. **4...dxc3 5.Nxc3 Bb4 6.Bc4 d6 7.0-0 Bxc3!** Black is not afraid to part with a bishop to break up White's pawns. **8.bxc3 Nf6 9.Ba3** 9.e5 'More energetic' 9...Nxe5 10.Nxe5 dxe5 11.Qxd8+ The resulting endgame is good for Black although on a casual look at this position, this would be hard to guess. (11.Qb3!? White's chances lie in a middlegame so the best decision is to keep the queens on. 11...Qe7 12.Ba3 c5 13.Bb5+ Bd7 14.Bxd7+ Qxd7 15.Bxc5 Qc6 16.Ba3 Nd5 17.Rae1 0-0-0 18.Rxe5 Rhe8 Black has a good game) 11...Kxd8 Deep analysis of this endgame revealed many interesting and subtle points. 12.Bxf7 Ke7 13.Bb3 Be6 14.Re1 Logically attacking Black's isolated e-pawn.



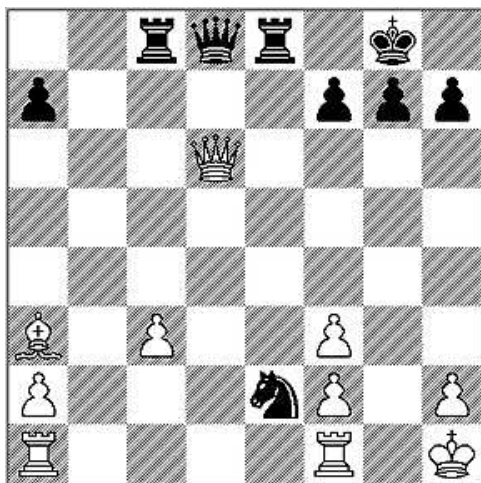
14...Bxb3! This paradoxical exchange is best. Black repairs White's pawn structure but takes away his strong bishop pair. The main idea is for the king to be able to defend the e-pawn when needed. 15.axb3 Nd7=/+ 16.c4!? Preparing to attack the e-pawn again. (16.Ra5 Ke6 White cannot exploit the isolated e-pawn with a direct attack. 17.Bf4?! (17.f4 b6 18.Ra2=/+ (18.Rb5? c5!-+)) 17...b6 18.Ra2=/+ (18.Rb5? c5! 19.Bxe5 Kf5 20.Bxg7 Rhd8 White loses his trapped rook to ...a6.)) 16...a5 An important move that limits the mobility of the queenside pawns and lays the seeds of queenside

counterplay based on the 3-2 majority. 17.Bb2 Kd6! Heading for the queenside. Black is willing to part with his extra pawn to mobilize his king. (17...Rhe8 is also possible. 18.f4 Kf7 19.Rad1 Rad8 (19...Red8 20.Bxe5 Nxe5 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.Rxe5 Rd3 23.Rxa5 Rxb3= is the same as the main line.) 20.Bxe5 Nxe5 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.Rxe5 Rd3 23.Rxa5 Rxb3 Material equality has been established but Black keeps some chances with the outside majority and a slightly more active king.) 18.Rad1+ Kc6 19.Bxe5 Nxe5 20.Rxe5 . RR-RR ending Phase. Black's trumps are his strong king position and outside mobile 3-2 majority. White's defence will be based on his active rook pair. For now the defence is severely hindered by the distant Kg1 which will take several tempi to activate. 20...Rhe8! Black must trade one rook pair to reduce counterplay. 21.Rxe8 (21.Rde1? This allows Black a large edge because his king is more active and close to the weak queenside pawns. 21...Rxe5 22.Rxe5 a4!-/+) 21...Rxe8 Black is well positioned. The rook prevents the king from crossing over to the kingside while the king prevents Rd7. 22.Kf1 b6 23.Rd3 Re7! The rook guards the 2nd rank against any possible rook invasions so that the king can be freed to harass White's queenside pawns. 24.Rh3 g6



This instructive endgame position deserves a close analysis. White has achieved an 'active rook v passive rook' position but this is not enough. The difference is Black's king activity and the speed it can approach the weak queenside pawns. Black's rook is very strong as it guards any points of counterattack on its 2nd rank and stops White from using his king to defend the queenside. Overall, Black's advantage in greater king activity is temporary so the onus is on Black to act quickly and energetically to exploit his lead in king 'development'. 25.f4 b5! This is the most efficient way to get a passed pawn going. Black must ignore the fact that he is creating 'weak' isolated pawns for the concrete consideration that he will quickly create a passed a-pawn while White is still quite far from creating his own. (25...Kc5 26.g4 Kb4 27.Kf2 a4 28.bxa4 Kxc4 29.f5 gxf5 30.gxf5 Kb4?! Chasing after White's queenside pawns with the king is an effective winning attempt. 31.Kf3 c5 32.Rh6! White must activate his rook to successfully defend. 32...c4 33.Rxb6+ Kxa4 34.Rc6! Kb3 35.f6 Re1! Keeping White's king cut off from the queenside holds. 36.Kf2 Re5 37.Kf3 c3 38.Kf4 Re1 39.Rb6+ Ka2 40.Rc6 Kb3 41.Rb6+ Ka4 42.Rc6 Kb3= White must keep checking and Black must avoid putting his king in front of the pawn.) 26.cxb5+ Kxb5 27.Kf2 Kb4 28.g4 c5 29.f5 gxf5 30.gxf5+- The race has reached its height and it seems like White has an acceptable position with a passed pawn already on the 5th rank. In fact White is already lost. 30...c4 31.bxc4 a4! This is a key moment in the mutual passed pawn queening race. Every tempo is sacred in this sharp position so the priority is the advance of the passed pawn. (31...Kxc4? would turn a win into a draw although it is not immediately apparent how the draw will happen. Black has no time to take the pawn. 32.f6 Rf7 33.Rf3 a4 34.Kg3 Kb4 35.Kg4 a3 36.Rf2 Kb3 37.Kg5 a2 38.Rxa2! (38.Rf1 Delaying the capture of the a-pawn does not change the result. 38...Ra7 39.Ra1 Kb2 40.Rxa2+ Kxa2 41.Kf5 Kb3 42.Ke6 Kc4 43.f7 Ra8 44.Ke7 Kd4 45.f8Q Rxf8 46.Kxf8 Ke4

47.Kg7= h5 48.Kg6 h4 49.Kh5 h3 50.Kh4 Kf5 51.Kxh3 Kg6 Black has achieved the standard drawn ending.) 38...Kxa2 39.Kf5 Rb7 40.Ke6= Black will shower White's king with checks for a perpetual or can always give up his own rook for a drawn king and pawn ending. 40...Rb2! Black now must accept the draw. 41.f7 Re2+ 42.Kd7 Rf2 43.Ke7 Re2+ 44.Kd7 Rf2=) 32.f6 Rf7 33.Rf3 The rook is tied to the defence of his own pawn because the White king is not sufficiently active. 33...a3! Neatly exploiting the fact that Kf2 blocks off his own rook from retreating to the first rank. 34.Ke2 a2 35.Rf1 Kxc4 Now is the correct time to take the pawn and Black is winning. (35...Kb3 also wins but the procedure is long and involved. 36.Kd3 Kb2 37.Rf2+ Ka3 38.Rf1 Kb3 39.h4 Kb2 40.Rf2+ Ka3 41.Rf1 Kb3 42.h5 Kb2 43.Rf2+ Ka3 44.Rf1 Kb3 45.h6 Kb2 46.Rf2+ Ka3 47.Rf1 Kb3 Now White must move his other pawn. 48.c5 Kb2 49.Rf2+ Ka3 50.Rf1 Kb3 (zugzwang). White has run out of useful pawn moves and will soon have to make a fatal rook move that allows Black to queen. 51.c6 Rxf6 52.Rc1 (52.Rxf6 Hoping to create technical difficulties with the rook and passed c-pawn. This however proves to be a dream. 52...a1Q 53.Rf3!?) White's last hope is to set up some kind of fortress. On f3, White will be answering any check by Black with his own discovered check. (53.Rf7? A desperate attempt to complicate matters by attacking the last Black pawn but it loses the rook in the process. In general the rook should be kept close to the king in Q v R battles. 53...Qc3+ 54.Ke4 (54.Ke2 Qc4+ also wins the rook.) 54...Qc4+ wins the rook.) 53...Qe5!?) Dominating the center, preventing the advance of the pawn and cutting the White king off from his own pawns. A very useful non-checking move. 54.Re3 Qd6+! Targeting both pawns. The win is in sight. 55.Ke4+ Kc4 56.Kf5 Qg6+ 57.Kf4 Qxh6+-+ 58.Kf3 Qxc6+ The win should be easy now.) 52...Kb2 53.c7 A last attempt to confuse matters. (53.Rc2+ Kb1 54.c7 Rf8 55.c8Q Rxc8 56.Rxc8 a1Q The win should be no problem as White has a weak h-pawn too which Black should be able to win without much trouble. Tablebases claim it's mate in 25 at the most.) 53...Rf8 54.c8Q Rxc8 55.Rxc8 a1Q 56.Rc7 Qa6+! Wins the pawn too. 57.Ke4 Qxh6-+) 36.Kd2 Rxf6 37.Rc1+ (37.Re1 Rf2+-+) 37...Kb3-+. Black's king shoulders away White's king and assists in the decisive promotion effort. A useful rook endgame to analyze. **9...Bg4 10.Bb5 0-0 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.e5 Nd5 13.Qd3 Re8-/+** Black has completed development and secured his king. Now White has no attack to speak of and Black tends to the task of converting his advantage. **14.exd6** Black has a critical decision to make. **14...Nf4!** With the initiative. The immediate recapture 14...cxd6 is possible but allows White to escape to a pawn down ending: 15.c4 Nf4 16.Qxd6 Ne2+ 17.Kh1 Bxf3 18.Qxd8 Bxg2+ 19.Kxg2 Raxd8-/+ . **15.Qc4 Ne2+ 16.Kh1 Bxf3!** Breaking up White's king position to get attacking chances. **17.gxf3 cxd6 18.Qxc6 Rc8 19.Qxd6**



19...Qh4! With an attack. Black has chosen to be a pawn down in a middlegame with an attack rather than a slightly better ending with a better pawn structure. 19...Qxd6 20.Bxd6 Nxc3=/+ White can easily protect his kingside pawns with Kg2 while the bishop has an open board to roam over so Black's chances for a win seem minimal. **20.Rfd1** 20.Qd7 'Was a tougher defence'. This removes

the ...Qh3 option from black. 20...Qf6 21.Qh3 (21.Kg2 Nf4+ 22.Kh1 Qxc3 23.Qg4 Nd3 24.Bd6 Nxf2+-+) 21...Qxc3 22.Bd6 Re6 23.Rad1 h6!/+ Black still remains with a clear advantage. **20...Qxf2 21.Rf1 Qh4 22.Rad1 Re6 23.Qd7** Black to play and win. **23...Ng3+! 24.Kg1 Rce8 25.Rf2 25.hxg3 Qxg3+ 26.Kh1 Re2** mates or wins decisive material. **25...Ne2+ 0-1**

TACTICS

The following positions are all from games played in the 2009 Grand Pacific Open.



1. Black to play



2. White to play



3. Black to play



4. Black to play



5. White to play

2010 B.C. CHAMPIONSHIP

1. The 2010 B.C. Championship will be an 8-player round robin, held on the Thanksgiving weekend in Victoria (Saanich).at the Howard Johnson at 4670 Elk Lake Drive.

2. The following players qualify for the Championship:

- a. The 2009 B.C. Champion.
- b. The 2009 B.C. Junior Champion (subject to 2c below)
- c. The highest finisher in each qualifying tournament who has not already qualified for the Championship and who has held a regular CFC rating of 2000 or higher at some point.

Qualifying events:

Grand Pacific Open
Paul Keres Memorial
Langley Labour Day Open

d. The remaining qualifying spots will be filled from the last CFC rating list to be published at least six weeks before the Championship. To qualify by rating, a player must have played in at least one regular-rated tournament since the 2009 Championship.

e. If a player who has qualified through criteria 2.a.-d. is unable or unwilling to play in the Championship, additional players would be taken from the rating list as set out in 2.d.

3. All participants in the Championship must have resided in B.C. for at least six months prior to the start of the Championship.

4. The following prizes will be provided by the BCCF:

- a. First place: \$300.
- b. Second place: \$200.

"Participants in the BC Closed must be members of the CFC. A tournament membership is not allowed for this tournament."

BC - WA MATCH

Joe Oszvald is attempting to revive the adult BC - WA match:

BC Select team - Washington State team. Site Seattle Northgate Chess Club. Date August 14th 2010. If you are interested in playing, please contact Joe Oszvald, oszisakk@telus.net, or phone: 604-980-4249 (evenings are the best time). I will be renting a van and drive the team together. The games will be not rated and 90 minutes sudden death. Everybody needs to have valid passports!!

Best regards Joe Oszvald

GIANT CHESS SETS

We have a small chess club at the Brock House Society for Seniors, 3875 Point Grey Road, Vancouver B.C. V6R 1B3. We are looking to purchase an outdoor chess set. We have a space outside roughly 8 feet by 8 feet and would like the board to be portable - perhaps a roll up mat or plastic squares that can be taken up and stored away after use. If the set included checkers pieces so much the better - not mandatory however. Can anyone help us with any information as to how we could buy a set like this? We would greatly appreciate any advice and information. Please contact Bill Fry, fryinfo@shaw.ca

March Active

Date: Sunday March 28, 2010

Place: Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 East Broadway (at Kaslo), Vancouver

Rounds: 6

Round Times: 11:00am Rd 2-6 12:20, 1:30 Lunch 2:55, 4:00, 5:05

Type: Regular Swiss.

Time Controls: G/25 + 5 sec. increments or G/30.

Entry Fee: \$20

Prizes: 1st \$150 2nd \$100 BU2000 \$100 BU1700 \$100 Biggest Upset \$30 Based on 30 entries

Registration: On site at 10:30am or contact Luc Poitras at (778) 846-0496 email queluc@lynx.net

Bring your chess set and clock if you have one. No membership required

Grand Pacific Open

\$4000 GUARANTEED Prize Fund

Dates: April 2-5, 2010

Location: Hotel Grand Pacific, 463 Belleville St, Victoria, BC

Round Times: Fri. 6:00pm, Sat. 12:00 / 6:00pm, Sun. 12:00 / 6:00pm, Mon. 10:00am

Time Control: Game in 90 minutes plus 30 second per move increment.

Entry Fees: Open: \$70 by Mar. 1, \$80 by Apr. 1, \$90 on site. U1400: \$50 by Mar. 1, \$60 by Apr. 1, \$70 on site. Non-CFC members add \$16 for CFC Tournament Membership

Prizes: \$1,000/\$600/\$400 U2000 \$400/\$300. U1700 \$350/\$250 U1400 \$350/\$250 Upset \$100

Registration: on line at www.grandpacificopen.com or by cheque payable to Victoria Junior Chess Society. Mail to Brian Raymer, 2386 Dalhousie St., Victoria, BC V8R 2H6

Side Events: Free to GPO players, \$10 otherwise for an all side event pass. Scholastic, Active, Midnight Blitz, Bughouse

Transportation: Clipper jet boat from Seattle and Coho ferry from Port Angeles both dock across the street from the playing site. Round times are set up to match the sailing schedule. The Pacific Coach Lines bus terminal is two blocks away.

Misc: Sets, boards and clocks provided. Special \$99 room rate at Hotel Grand Pacific 1-800-663-7550 (rate code "Chess2010") See website for further details and side events. FIDE and CFC rated. BCCF membership included in entry fee.

Further details: www.grandpacificopen.com

Answers:

1. Hill - Wu 10...Bxh3 wins a pawn.
2. Pitre - Lee 19.Qh3! (Threatening to move the B/h6 with tempo) g6 20.Bxf8
3. Wild - Daswani 27...Nh4 28.Qg3 Rxf4
4. Huang - Patterson 32...f3 33.Nxf3 Rxe4 34.Qd3 Be3+ 35.Kf1 Rxf3+
5. Patterson - Ozkan 30.f6 Bxf6 31.Rxd6 Qa8 32.Rxf6 gxf6 33.Bh6 Kh8 34.Qxd6

UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior events

- | | |
|----------|---|
| March 28 | Central Island Regional Chess Challenge, Qualicum Beach |
| April 2 | Victoria Regional Chess Challenge |
| April 11 | Provincial Chess Challenge, Richmond |

April 24-25 BCYCC, New Westminster

UBC Thursday Night Swiss

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre room 191, 1961 East Mall, University of British Columbia

Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca

March Active

March 28, Vancouver

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#MarchActive>

4th Grand Pacific Open

April 2-5, Victoria

Details: <http://grandpacificopen.pbworks.com/>

Nelson Spring Open

April 10, Nelson

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#Nelson>

Frozen Custard Active

April 18, Vancouver

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#AprilActive>

May Active

May 16, Vancouver

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#MayActive>

35th Paul Keres Memorial

May 22-24, Richmond

Details: <http://keresmemorial.pbworks.com/>

June Active

June 6, Vancouver

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#JuneActive>