

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #397

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

PNWCC World Online Open (July 4-6)

The Pacific Northwest Chess Centre continued its series of high-level events on the July 4 holiday weekend with the World Online Open, a nine-round Swiss at a time control of 60 + 5. Held in one section, there was a theoretical rating cutoff of 2200 USCF but a limited number of places were allotted for lower-rated players. Among the one hundred and thirty entrants were forty-three grandmasters and fourteen above 2700 (USCF). Four Canadians participated: GM Kaiqi Yang, GM Razvan Preotu, and from BC Andrew Xu and Veronica Guo. Tying for first overall were Jeffery Xiong and Samuel Sevian with 7.0/9, a half-point ahead of Nikita Vitiugov, Maxim Matlakov, Dariusz Swiercz, Vladimir Fedoseev, Parham Maghsoodloo, Jose Alcantara, and Aleksandar Indjic, GMs all. Veronica scored 3.0 points, Andrew 2.0. [Results](#)

Guo, Yu Han (Veronica) – Kunka, Harshid [D23] PNWCC World Online op chess.com (2.62), 04.07.2020

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 d5 3.g3 c5 4.c4 dxc4 5.Qa4+ Nc6 6.dxc5 Be6 7.Bg2 Qa5+ 8.Qxa5 Nxa5 9.Bd2 Nc6 10.Nc3 0–0–0 11.Ng5 Nd4 12.Rc1 g6 13.e3 Nc6 14.Nxe6 fxe6 15.Bh3 Ne5 16.Bxe6+ Kb8 17.Rc2 Bh6 18.f4 Nd3+ 19.Ke2 Nxc5 20.Bxc4 Rc8 21.Nd5 Rhe8 22.Rhc1 Nce4 23.Bb4 a6 24.Nxf6 exf6 25.Bf7 Rxc2+ 26.Rxc2 Rd8 27.Ba5 Rd7 28.Be6 Re7 29.Bd5 Nd6 30.Bb4 Rd7 31.Be6 Rd8 32.Ba5 Re8 33.Bd5 Nf5 34.Bb6 Re7 35.Kf2 Bg7 36.Rd2 Rd7 37.Ke2 Bf8 38.Bg8 Nd6 39.Be6 Rg7 40.Bc5 Kc7 41.Rc2 Kb8 42.Rd2 Kc7 43.e4 Be7 44.Ba3 h5 45.e5 fxe5 46.fxe5 Nf5 47.Rd7+ Kc6 48.Bxf5 1–0

Sun, Ryan – Xu, Andrew [C55] PNWCC World Online op chess.com (6.53), 05.07.2020

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7 5.c3 0–0 6.0–0 d6 7.a4 Be6 8.Bxe6 fxe6 9.Re1 Qd7 10.Nbd2 h6 11.Nf1 Rf7 12.Ng3 Raf8 13.b4 a6 14.Bb2 Nh7 15.b5 Nd8 16.c4 Ng5 17.Nxg5 Bxg5 18.Rf1 Qe7 19.Qe2 Rf6 20.Ba3 Nf7 21.Qc2 Nh8 22.c5 Ng6 23.bxa6 bxa6 24.cxd6 cxd6 25.Nh5 R6f7 26.Qc6 Rd8 27.Qxa6 Nf4 28.Nxf4 exf4 29.f3 Rf6 30.e5 Rg6 31.Bxd6 Qd7 32.Rac1 Bh4 33.Rc7 Qe8 34.Rb1 Ra8 35.Ra7 Rc8 36.Qxc8 Qxc8 37.Rb8 Qxb8 38.Bxb8 Bd8 39.a5 Rg5 40.a6 Bb6+ 41.Kf1 Bxa7 42.Bxa7 Rxe5 43.Bb6 Rb5 44.a7 Rb1+ 45.Ke2 Ra1 46.d4 Kf7 47.Kd3 Ke7 48.Kc4 Kd7 49.Kb5 Kc8 50.Kc6 Rc1+ 51.Kd6 Kb7 52.Bc5 Re1 53.Ke7 Re2 54.Kf7 g5 55.g4 Re3 56.Kf6 Rxf3 57.Kxe6 Re3+ 58.Kd7 f3 59.d5 f2 60.Bxe3 f1Q 61.d6 Qf7+ 62.Kd8 Qe6 63.Bc5 Qd5 64.Bb4 Kxa7 65.d7 Kb7 66.Ke8 Qe6+ 67.Be7 Qc6 68.Bd8 Qb5 69.Ke7 Qe5+ 70.Kf7 Kc6 71.Bf6 Qd5+ 72.Kg6 Qxd7 73.Kxh6 Qxg4 74.Bxg5 Qh3+ 0–1

Juniors to Masters Summer Open (July 4)



The Juniors to Masters organization continued its series of online events on 4 July with the Summer Open and also another team match, this time against Vancouver Island players. The Summer Open was a five-round Swiss in two sections with a 15 + 10 time control which attracted fifty-two players. Surprise winner of the [Open Section](#) was Anni Guo, who despite being ranked thirteenth initially defeated much higher-rated opponents to take clear first with 4.5/5; second was eleventh-ranked Tiam Koukpari. The [U1000 Section](#) had joint winners, Ethan Shen and Jackie Hao, who also scored 4.5 points each. And finally the [team match](#) was also held as a five-round Swiss, ten players on each side, with the results between opponents going toward the team totals. The Juniors to Masters team edged Vancouver Island 26.5-23.5; top scorers for each team were Harrison Liu (4.5) and Li Geng (4.0) respectively. [Full report](#) Next up is the Junior to Masters [Sunshine Open](#) on 25 July (open to all).

Guo, Anni – Tang, Edward [C68] JtM Summer op (online) chess.com (1.1), 04.07.2020

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.d3 Qd6 6.Be3 Bg4 7.h3 Be6 8.0–0 0–0–0 9.Nbd2 f6 10.Nb3 Kb8 11.Bc5 Qd7 12.Bxf8 Rxf8 13.Nc5 Qd6 14.Nxe6 Qxe6 15.a4 Ne7 16.b4 g5 17.Nd2 h5 18.b5 cxb5 19.axb5 axb5 20.Qb1 c6 21.c4 h4 22.cxb5 g4 23.bxc6 Nxc6 24.Kh2 Rfg8 25.Qb6 g3+ 26.Kh1 Nd4 27.Qa7+ Kc7 28.Rfc1+ Nc6 29.Rab1 Rb8 30.Rb6 Rhc8 31.Rbxc6+ 1–0

Guo, Anni – Kagaoan, Jose [C01] JtM Summer op (online) chess.com (4.1), 04.07.2020

1.e4 e6 2.d4 a6 3.Nf3 b5 4.Bf4 Bb7 5.Bd3 c5 6.dxc5 Bxc5 7.0–0 h6 8.Nbd2 Nc6 9.c4 g5 10.Bg3 h5 11.cxb5 axb5 12.Bxb5 h4 13.Bxc6 Bxc6 14.Be5 f6 15.Bd4 Qb6 16.Nc4 Qa7 17.Nd6+ Ke7 18.b4 Bxd4 19.Nxd4 Rd8 20.Rc1 Ba4 21.Qd2 Nh6 22.e5 Ng4 23.exf6+ Nxf6 24.Rfe1 Rhg8 25.Rc5 g4 26.N4f5+ 1–0

Susan Polgar Foundation Girls' Invitational (June 20-21)

This year would have been the seventeen edition of this prestigious all-girls tournament; it was cancelled due to the pandemic, but as with many other events it was restructured as an [online championship](#). Previously the SPFGI has been restricted to individual participants from the US states and other North American countries, but the virtual version was open to all girls from any

country born after 1 January 2001. The competition, held on the chess.com platform, was in two stages, a preliminary seven-round Swiss, followed by knockout playoffs for the top four finishers; the time control was 15 + 2, or 5 / 4 for tiebreaking Armageddon games as needed.

Two hundred and thirty-eight players entered the Swiss; among them were twenty-five Canadians, including WGM Maïli-Jade Ouellet and WIM Svitlana Demchenko and from this province WFM Sherry Tian, Kate Jiang, and Veronica Guo. At the end of the seven rounds the top four were WIM Priyanka Nutakki (India), WIM Anna M. Sargsyan (Armenia), FM Gergana Peycheva (Bulgaria), all 6.5 points, and WCM Asel Lesbekova, (Kazakhstan), 6.0 points. Sherry finished thirteenth on tiebreak with 5.5, Kate scored 4.5 points. The knockout portion left the four finalists in the order listed, with Priyanka Nutakki the overall winner. [Preliminary standings](#) (Apologies for the lack of a few real names in the accompanying PGN file, despite this being a prestigious event the organizers chose not to make this information readily available.)

Tian, Sherry – Maltsevskaya, Aleksandra [A48] SPFGI ch (online) chess.com (7), 20.06.2020

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bf4 Bg7 4.e3 0–0 5.Be2 d6 6.h3 Nbd7 7.0–0 b6 8.c3 Bb7 9.Nbd2 Ne4 10.Nxe4 Bxe4 11.Nd2 Bb7 12.Bh2 e5 13.a4 a6 14.Qb3 Qe7 15.Qa3 Rae8 16.Rfe1 f5 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Rad1 h5 19.Bxe5 Bxe5 20.Bf3 Bxf3 21.Nxf3 Kg7 22.Nxe5 Qxe5 23.Qb4 Qc5 24.Qd4+ Kh7 25.Qxc5 bxc5 26.b4 cxb4 27.cxb4 Re4 28.Rc1 Rc8 29.Rc6 Rxb4 30.Rxa6 d5 31.Rc6 Rxa4 32.Rec1 Rc4 33.R6xc4 dxc4 34.Rxc4 c5 35.Kf1 Kg7 36.Ke2 Kf6 37.Kd3 Ke5 38.Ra4 Rd8+ 39.Kc2 Kd5 40.Ra6 Rd6 41.Rxd6+ Kxd6 42.h4 Kd5 43.Kc3 Ke4 44.Kc4 f4 45.exf4 Kxf4 46.Kxc5 Kg4 47.Kd4 Kxh4 48.Ke3 Kg4 49.Ke2 Kf4 50.Kf1 g5 51.Kg1 Ke4 52.Kh2 Kd3 53.Kg3 Ke4 54.f4 gxf4+ 55.Kh4 Ke3 56.Kxh5 Kf2 57.Kg4 Kxg2 58.Kxf4 ½–½

Salamon, Julia – Jiang, Kate [D48] SPFGI ch (online) chess.com (3), 20.06.2020

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5 8.Bd3 a6 9.0–0 Be7 10.Qe2 0–0 11.Rd1 Qc7 12.e4 h6 13.h3 c5 14.d5 exd5 15.exd5 Bd6 16.Bb1 Bb7 17.Be3 Rfe8 18.Qc2 Nb6 19.a3 Rad8 20.Ba2 Bf4 21.Bxf4 Qxf4 22.Qd2 Qd6 23.Rac1 Rd7 24.Rc2 Red8 25.Qd3 c4 26.Qd4 Nbx5 27.Ne4 Nxe4 28.Qxe4 Qb6 29.Qd4 Qg6 30.Rcd2 Nb4 31.Qe3 Rxd2 32.Rxd2 Rxd2 33.Qxd2 Bxf3 34.Qd8+ Kh7 35.g3 Nxa2 0–1

Emerald City Open (June 20-21)



Latest in the series of Washington State regular tournaments held online was the Emerald City Open (Emerald City referring to Seattle rather than the capital of the Land of Oz). One of the advantages of playing online is tournaments can attract any player with an internet connection, rather than being restricted to those who can be physically present. Sixty players participated in the

Emerald City Open in two sections, many of them from outside Washington State and one from as far away as Armenia. The latter, IM David Shahinyan, won the five-round event with 4.5 points while GM Aleksandr Lenderman and Derek Jin tied for second. The field included Richard Ingram, Andrew Martin, and Don Hack from this province; Andrew tied for second and Don won one of the upset prizes in the Reserve (U1700) Section. [Full report](#)

Bailey, Daniel – Ingram, Richard [E32] Emerald City op (online) chess.com (4), 21.06.2020

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0–0 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 d5 7.e3 b6 8.g3 Bb7 9.Bg2 Nbd7 10.Nf3 c5 11.0–0 Ba6 12.b3 Rc8 13.Nd2 cxd4 14.Qxd4 dxc4 15.Nxc4 Bxc4 16.bxc4 Qc7 17.Bb2 Qxc4 18.Rac1 Qxd4 19.Bxd4 Nc5 20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.Rfd1 Rc7 22.Rd6 Rfc8 23.Bf1 Kf8 24.Be2 f5 25.h4 Ke7 26.Rdd1 Ne4 27.Rxc7+ Rxc7 28.Bf3 Rc3 29.Bxe4 fxe4 30.a4 Rc4 31.a5 b5 32.a6 Rc6 33.Rb1 Rb6 34.Rb4 f5 35.f3 exf3 36.Kf2 Kd6 37.Kxf3 Kc5 0–1

Martin, Andrew – Liotta, Nicholas [C00] Emerald City op res (online) chess.com (3), 20.06.2020

1.e4 e6 2.e5 d5 3.exd6 Bxd6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 0–0 6.Bc4 Nc6 7.0–0 e5 8.dxe5 Nxe5 9.Be2 Nfg4 10.h3 Nxf3+ 11.Bxf3 Nh2 12.Re1 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Re8 14.Be3 Qg5 15.Nd2 Qe5 16.Bf4 Qxe1+ 17.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 18.Kh2 Bxf4+ 19.Qxf4 c6 20.Qc7 Re8 21.Nc4 Be6 22.Nd6 Red8 23.Nxb7 Rdc8 24.Qa5 Rcb8 25.Nc5 Rxb2 26.Nxe6 fxe6 27.Qe5 Rxc2 28.Qxe6+ Kh8 29.f4 c5 30.Qe4 Rxc2+ 31.Kxg2 Rc8 32.Qc4 1–0

Hack, Don – Tembhare, Santoshkumar [E00] Emerald City op res (online) chess.com (3), 20.06.2020

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Nc6 4.Nf3 b6 5.Bg2 Bb7 6.0–0 d5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.a3 a5 9.e4 Nde7 10.Nc3 Ng6 11.Be3 Be7 12.Qc2 0–0 13.Rfd1 Rc8 14.d5 exd5 15.Nxd5 Qe8 16.Nxe7+ Qxe7 17.Rac1 h6 18.Nd4 Nxd4 19.Bxd4 Rfe8 20.f3 c5 21.Be3 Ne5 22.Kf2 Qf6 23.Bf4 c4 24.Bxe5 Rxe5 25.f4 b5 26.Qc3 Re6 27.e5 Rxe5 28.Qxe5 Qb6+ 29.Qd4 Qc7 30.Bxb7 Qxb7 31.Qd5 Qb6+ 32.Rd4 Rf8 33.Rcd1 b4 34.a4 c3 35.bxc3 bxc3 36.Qb5 Qc7 37.Rc4 Qa7+ 38.Qc5 Qb7 39.Rxc3 Qb6 40.Qxb6 1–0

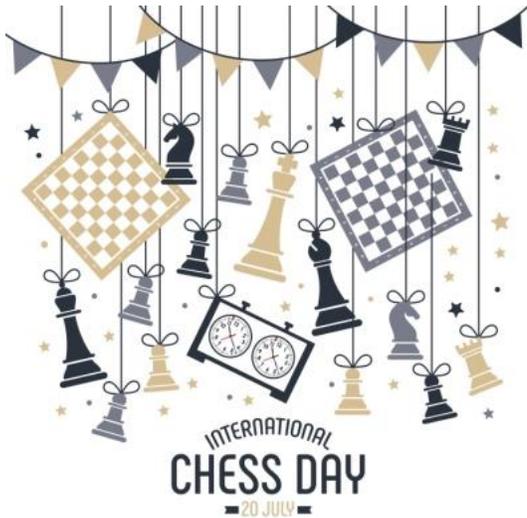
Cancellations

To the ever-growing list of cancelled tournaments can now be added the Canadian Junior Championship and the Langley Open. FIDE have also postponed all their major championships (with one exception) for a year, for example, the WYCC scheduled for this September will now be held in 2021. The exception is the World Championship; FIDE is still planning to finish the Candidates' Tournament in the fall with the Championship Match against Carlsen being delayed until next spring.

International Chess Day

The Fédération Internationale des Échecs (FIDE) was founded in 1924; this occurred on 20 July, and since 1966 this day has been recognized as International Chess Day. Konstantin Pyryaev has previously held friendly chess meetings on an outdoor giant chess board and will do the same this

year but on 19 July (Sunday). Location is the downtown Vancouver Concord Community Park next to Pacific Boulevard, directly north of Science World ([map](#)), time is 5pm.



For its own part FIDE is proposing to celebrate the day by encouraging an educational outreach: “Our plan for the International Chess Day 2020 is simple but ambitious: we want to make an appeal to the members of our chess community and ask you to **teach someone how to play chess** to mark this day.” Detailed instructions are presented in the [FIDE news release](#).

CFC Rating Incentive

As face-to-face chess events are not possible for the foreseeable future, the CFC has instituted an incentive program whereby participation in CFC quick-rated online events may result in the potential increase of a player's regular CFC rating. [Program details](#)

THE BCCF FOUNDATION by Paul Leblanc

Perhaps some of you have not heard of the BCCF Foundation. The purpose of this article is to make its history and rationale more widely known to BCCF members.

The BCCF Foundation is modeled on the Chess Foundation of Canada, a much larger trust fund that manages the CFCs investments. The source of the funds in both cases is derived from the sale of life memberships and the income from the investments is handed over to the Federations each year. Each has a group of trustees who oversee the management of the funds. The trustees are elected at the BCCF AGM with one of the three trustee positions coming up for election each year. At the moment, my fellow trustees are Roger Patterson and Howard Wu.

The origin of the BCCF Foundation goes back to 1983 when the BCCF made the decision to set up an investment fund with revenue from life memberships and donations. Contributions started in 1985. I have the original receipt book and constitution. The first life member was Mr. John Prentice, co-founder of Canadian Forest Products and President of the Chess Federation of Canada from

1955 to 1971. Mr. Prentice was an officer of the Order of Canada and a vice-president of FIDE. The second life membership was purchased by Paul Brown, who had been BCCF president in 1975. The third life member was Rodolfo Planas, a well-known and well-loved player who resided in Kelowna, BC. There is a list of still living life members on the BCCF website.

1. Mr Prentice	10000	June 21 85 B.C. Chess Federation & Foundation Lynn Stringer
2. Mr P. Brown	17500	
3. Mr R Planas	10000	

The founder of the BCCF Foundation was Mrs. Lynn Stringer who managed the investments from 1983 to 2009. Lynn retired as Chairman of the Foundation that year although she stayed on as a trustee for two years while handing over her responsibilities to me.

In 2008 the decision was made to stop selling life memberships. This was part of a re-organization of the BCCF membership fees that saw the elimination of BCCF annual dues in favour of a fee levied on tournaments. Today only three of the life members are still active in tournaments – Brian McLaren, Mau-Seng Lee and Joe Oszvald. From time to time the BCCF contributes small amounts to the Foundation in years when there is a budget surplus.

It should be noted that the title “BCCF Chess Foundation” was never legally adopted. In 2009 the BCCF adopted the more correct term “BCCF Investment Committee” and formalized the procedure for electing trustees.

The Foundation trustees manage a modest investment portfolio of about \$35,000 which contributes approximately \$1,200 in dividends and interest to the BCCF operating budget each year.

The 2020 BC Active Chess Championship, to be held online on the weekend of 15-16 August, will be the first event ever held to raise money for the “Foundation.”



EACH PIECE TELLS A STORY by Nathan Divinsky

The Tale of the White Queen Knight

The white queen knight was an immense fellow, much more powerful a figure than I had imagined. I immediately dubbed him 'Ivanhoe.' He wore a short tunic of light green cloth which I could not identify. His superb leg muscles stood out firmly, almost haughtily. His metal helmet had long coloured plumes, each with its own label. But the most striking symbol about him was the sign on his sword arm, and repeated on the scabbard of his sword, which read: 'Vienna Game,' in red letters. This was no ordinary red but some strange mixture of colours that reminded one immediately of blood.

He strode about for some time, bowing and chatting. Then he saluted the White king and bowed very low to the queen, kissed her hand and strode confidently toward me. He took off his white gloves slowly, finger by finger. Planting himself firmly in front of me, he began:

"Trying to choose one particular exploit from the vast numbers I have participated in is perhaps a more difficult task than executing some of the great chess board feats I have accomplished. For example it is difficult to suppress the fact that I was the first knight to execute the knight's tour of the board!" There was mild applause. "But one thing you may be sure about Dr. D. and that is that I shall not bore you with any Muzio Gambits!" Here followed a few quiet chuckles but I could see that something about the Muzio bothered him and that his attempt at laughter was not entirely genuine. He sensed my curiosity and was pleased to explain. "When some of your fellow mortals came to the conclusion, the outrageous conclusion, that the Muzio Gambit was sound if I was not on the board, I was beside myself with outrageous anger. This is not to say that I despise all games at odds. Not at all. You may have noticed that when odds of a knight are given it is invariably I who am removed to make the odds more difficult of course. I have no objection to games at odds. Not at all. But when someone suggests that without me, that hated Muzio is sound! Why balderdash!"

The good knight walked about in a rage and took time off to chat, in an angry voice, with various friends. During this break in the proceedings, the white queen knight pawn surreptitiously handed me a soiled piece of paper. It read:

'In Sergeant's *Morphy's Games of Chess*, it is written, page 315: The danger of accepting the Muzio Gambit when receiving the odds of queen knight is notorious. The game, indeed, has been roundly declared a win for White, owing to his additional ease in bringing his queen rook into the game. On page 336 the game Morphy-Maurian, New Orleans 1869, Muzio Gambit, White playing without his queen knight, is given as follows

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.Bc4 g4 5.d4 gxf3 6.Qxf3 d6 7.0-0 Be6 8.d5 Bc8 9.Bxf4 Qd7 10.e5 Qg4 11.Qe3 Be7 12.exd6 cxd6 13.Rae1 h5 14.Bxd6 Qd7 15.Bxe7 Nxe7 16.Bb5 1-0

An excellent example of the unwisdom of accepting the Muzio when receiving the odds of queen knight.'

The little white queen knight pawn made it clear to me that I should destroy that paper. I therefore carefully relit my pipe and in the process destroyed the paper. It was now clear why the name Muzio threw Ivanhoe into a rage. He had calmed down a bit and had returned to face me. He looked at me and continued fervently:

"Besides, let us assume that the Muzio is sound without me. Then we have an example of an arithmetical situation, counted out by some of the machinelike brains that exist in your world. In this way they count themselves out of beauty, art and perhaps happiness. It is no secret Dr. D. that we thirty two spirits have vowed to Caissa that we shall never participate in another game as soon as your arithmeticians with their confounded machines have solved the mysteries of our finite but almost unbounded game." I did so want to interrupt at this point, but I held myself in and Ivanhoe took off his helmet, shook his blond locks free and continued: "I have decided not to choose an endgame in which I am often the central hero, even though some of these have great charm. You may remember the famous Bobotsov-Bohatirchuk encounter at the chess olympics in Amsterdam 1954, where Bobotsov was able to defeat your fellow Canadian having only myself and my brother knight, because 'Bogo' still had one pawn. I must say that I was pleased when your team of analysts failed to find the drawing line, for my brother knight and I have always suffered a great deal from this outrageous stalemate law which creates a situation in which we two cannot alone effect mate. A great deal of derision, particularly from the ecclesiastics! It is curious how often bishops are more bloodthirsty than true soldiers. But because we knights are oversubtle and are more interested in beauty and art than in actual killing, this curse of stalemate is something we must bear. The one compensation is that we can participate in such beautiful endings as Bobotsov-Bohatirchuk. Oh when will you mortals see the iniquities of your stalemate law!

But no matter, let me tell you of a struggle in which I entered the battle at its height and made five brilliant moves in a row, never tiring, each a model of the soldier's art. It was an experience I shall not soon forget and even though you are arithmetically inclined, I am sure you will enjoy the grandeur and sweep of the conception.

Levenfish, Grigory – Liublinsky, Victor Alexandrovic [A56]

The 17th USSR Championship was in its early stages and after three rounds, Smyslov, Keres, and Flohr led with 2.5–0.5. It was the fourth round, 20 October 1949, and that grand old veteran Levenfish was to play the younger master Liublinsky. I knew that Levenfish had extremely youthful ideas but after ...

1.d4 ... I settled down to watch another dull, spiritless, trench-like, arithmetical contest. It is really a matter of fashion that the glorious debut, that pearl of exciting romance, to wit, the Vienna Game, is now seldom played. There will come a time when its beauty will conquer the present day blindness and perhaps with Strauss waltzes as a background" and here there appeared a twinkle in his eye, "glory will return to the checkered board. But to return to the game, both gladiators had an even score at the time and were probably apprehensive about slipping below that 50% mark. Oh you computational mortals! **1...Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e5 4.Nc3** At least Levenfish realizes that it is desirable to bring me out first. **4...d6 5.e4 Be7 6.Nge2 0–0 7.Ng3** It was obvious, after the first few moves, that our primary concern was control of the light-coloured squares. What I was able to do in one firm step, my brother knight required two side-like steps." This comment drew a fierce glance from the king knight and shouts of 'rubbish' from the king side pawns, but 'Ivanhoe' shrugged these off with a smile and continued: **7...Ne8 8.h4!** A most interesting move by which Levenfish gives the game an extremely sharp turn. If now **8...Bxh4 9.Qh5 g5 10.Bxg5 Qxg5 11.Rxh4** and we have won our pawn back with much the better game. **8...g6!** A fine defence. First it avoids any premature counter like **8...f5** which would yield us a strong king side attack. Secondly it actually threatens our king rook pawn. **9.h5** This looks very powerful indeed but as so often happens, a successful king side attack can only exist with the help of the queen side officers. "This brought forth more calls of 'rubbish' from somewhere, but I had become too absorbed in the position to notice precisely where they came from. Ivanhoe sensed that I was completely captivated and he took a slightly warmer

tone than before. **9...Bg5!** As you see, in conjunction with his previous move, the text prevents our attack from maturing. We certainly don't want to bring the Black queen into the action with **10.Bxg5 Qxg5**, but otherwise we can proceed no further along the dark coloured squares. **10.Bd3 a6 11.Bd2 Nd7 12.Qc1** Levenfish treats the situation in a classical way and it seems as if something fruitful must develop. But again we see that ALL the queen side officers must be used to obtain success! **12...f6!**



Very fine play. Now the obvious **13.Bxg5 fxg5 14.hxg6 hxg6**, though it leaves Black with two weaklings on the king knight file, yields him the king bishop file with sufficient compensation. **13.hxg6 hxg6 14.Nce2!** My pressure on the interfering black king bishop will finally make him yield his 'Horatio-at-the-bridge' attitude. **14...Ng7 15.Ng1!** It isn't often that I visit my brother knight's home, but whenever I am there I usually find it quite cozy and warm. However, I seem always to be on some critical mission and haven't enough time to really enjoy the visit. I am heading for king bishop three. The Black bishop sees my decisive entry and yields his ground. But because I was not brought into action sooner we have only equality, and this again proves my earlier opinion about the use of all the forces and in particular the queen side officers. **15...Bxd2+ 16.Qxd2 Kf7** There is now nothing in **17.Rh7 Rg8 18.Qh6 Nf8** - in fact less than nothing. And so we must begin all over again. But now I can contribute directly to the battle. It always pains me to see inexperienced players ruin a perfectly good position by trying to reach out for an advantage that has already disappeared. More chess games are lost on this account than people suppose. "Ivanhoe had become quite friendly now and he leaned forward to inhale the tobacco aroma from my pipe. "But perhaps the situation is balanced," he continued while he took out some snuff from a superb pure white snuff box, "because the player who was under the pressure relaxes as soon as he has achieved equality, and often falls deeper into trouble than before. **17.Nf3! Rh8 18.Ke2** There is no point in **18.0-0-0**, when things may get very breezy for his majesty after Black's **b7-b5**. Besides, near me his majesty always feels safe and comfortable. **18...Rxh1 19.Rxh1 Nf8** Threatening to have me pinned with **Bg4**, and what is worse, to have me exchanged. It is clear to everyone that I must be preserved, even at the cost of tempi.



20.Ne1! Bg4+ 21.Kf1 Much better than 21.f3 for the king bishop pawn is to be used as a battering ram. **21...b5** Black hope to open a file and thus get his rook into play. **22.f4 bxc4 23.Bxc4 exf4?** At last Liublinsky gives us a chance and I gird myself for real action - this lazing about in the warm waters of the back row does not suit the true soldier's temperament. Liublinsky should have protected his king pawn with 23...Nd7, but the text appealed to him because of our weak king pawn. He underestimated what I could do. **24.Qxf4 Qd7 25.Nd3!** The alternate 25.Nf3 would threaten 26.Ng5+ as well as 26.e5, but this would be overbalanced by Black's being able to exchange me. The text threatens only 26.e5 but it brings me to the centre of the stage and very shortly you will see, Dr. D., a brilliant tour that will dazzle you. **25...g5 26.Qf2 Ng6 27.Rh6** Some of your analysts, who were influenced I am sure by the king knight, have suggested 27.e5 Nxe5 28.Nxe5+ dxe5 29.Ne4 Bf5 30.Nxf6 Kxf6 31.Rh6+ Ke7 32.d6+ Kd8 33.Rh8+ Ne8 34.g4, but after 34...Bd3+ 35.Bxd3 Qxd6 Black has a good game - if 36.Bc4 Qd1+. My role here is clearly indispensable. **27...Qe7** The king bishop pawn must be protected so that the knight at g6 can move to e5. Now watch carefully, Dr. D.



28.Nxc5! Ne5! In terms of details, which you mortals thrive on, there should be no difficulty here - I cannot be taken for if 28...dxc5 29.d6+ wins the queen.; Nor does 28...Rc8 29.b4 help Black.
29.Ne6! Passive players would lose out here because after 29.Bb3 Rc8 30.Kg1 The point is I cannot move for ...Rc1+ win our queen) 30...Rxc5 31.Qxc5 dxc5 32.d6+ c4! 33.dxe7 cxb3 and Black has two minor pieces for the rook. **29...Nxc4?** It is at this juncture that Liublinsky erred - by not removing me from the board. And to be sure, without me, the attack loses much of its vigour. After 29...Nxe6 30.dxe6+ Kg7 31.Be2! Kxh6! 32.Bxg4 Nxg4 33.Nf5+ Kh7 and now 34.Qb6



a) If 34...Qf8 35.Qb7+ Kg6 36.e7 Qh8 37.Qxa8! Qxa8 (if 37...Qh1+ 38.Ke2 Qxg2+ 39.Kd3 Ne5+ 40.Kc3 and Black has only a few more checks, after which he is lost.) 38.Nxd6 wins;

b) If 34...Ne3+ 35.Qxe3 Qxe6 36.Qh3+ Kg6 (if 36...Kg8 37.Nh6+ wins the queen) 37.Qh6+ Kf7 38.Qg7+ Ke8 39.Qh8+ wins the rook;

c) If 34...Qxe6 35.Qb7+ Kg6 36.Qg7+ Kh5 37.Qh7+ Nh6 38.Ng7+ wins;

d) However with 34...Qa7 35.Qxa7+ Rxa7 36.e7 Ne3+ 37.Kg1 Rxe7 38.Nxe7 Nd1 Black could obtain something like an even position, though we would still have the edge. It is this last line that Liublinsky should have selected.

30.Nxg5+! Kg8 31.Nh7! Rf8 You will have seen by now that Black must give up the exchange, for if 31...Ne8 32.Rg6+ Kxh7 33.Rxg4 Ng7 34.Nf5 Nxf5 35.Qxf5+ Kh8 36.Qf4 and Black has no defence. **32.Nxf8! Qxf8** Truly a Herculean task, an artistic whole. I hope I have satisfied your analytic temperament, Dr. D.," he said. It was then that I noticed that he had been reading these variations from notes. He blushed slightly when he saw that I had seen the notes. I suppose he had assumed that I would have been completely engrossed in the position and this was a sound assumption for I did find the position uncommonly interesting. The sequence of five knight moves had indeed dazzled me. My glancing up was purely accidental. He explained that soldiers did not cultivate their memories and he had written down the variations so that the narrative would go smoothly. "But do not worry about my having notes," he continued, "I want you to sense the whole grand march as a unit. Now the game is won for us - I had done my labours well. But let us look briefly at the denouement. **33.Rg6 f5 34.exf5 Bxf5 35.Nxf5 Qxf5 36.Qxf5 Ne3+ 37.Kf2 Nexf5 38.g4** The crusher. Notice how inept those black knights are. It's training that counts, sir! **38...Ne7 39.Rxd6 Kf7 40.Rxa6 Nxd5 41.Rd6 1-0.**"

The applause was so loud and long that Ivanhoe felt he could not stop, He smiled at me, raised his hand for silence, and continued: "If you will allow me sir, I should like to tell you about one more adventure, one that is closer to us in time and to you in particular because it was played between two of your friends. I am sorry that one of them had to lose.

Spassky, Boris V. – Bronstein, David I. [C36] URS-ch27 Leningrad, 1960

Both Bronstein (8.5–6.5) and Spassky (7.5–7.5) were far behind the leaders (Korchnoi and Petrosian, each 11–4). However, Spassky won the first brilliancy prize with this game.

1.e4 e5 2.f4 For a moment I had horrible visions of a Muzio, but that just couldn't happen in 1960!
2...exf4 3.Nf3 d5 4.exd5 Bd6 Some prefer 4...Nf6. **5.Nc3** The usual line is 5.d4 g5 6.c4, but Spassky wisely decides to bring me out early. **5...Ne7 6.d4 0–0 7.Bd3 Nd7 8.0–0 h6** This has been criticized and 8...Ng6 or 8...Nf6 have been suggested, but who is to argue with the great Bronstein!
9.Ne4 Nxd5 10.c4 Ne3 Bronstein knows how to fight. **11.Bxe3 fxe3 12.c5 Be7 13.Bc2 Re8 14.Qd3 e2** Of course 14...Nf8 is safer but Bronstein hopes to lure Spassky into overplaying his hand. **15.Nd6** This is just the sort of advance outpost in which I love to fight.



Nevertheless 15.Rf2 was perhaps safer. The danger of course is that I will be removed from the battle by an overwhelming force. **15...Nf8?** In fact Bronstein could now have played 15...exf1Q+ 16.Rxf1 Bxd6 (a sad move for our side) 17.Qh7+ Kf8 18.cxd6 cxd6 19.Qh8+ Ke7 20.Re1+ Ne5 21.Qxg7 Rg8 22.Qxh6 Qb6 23.Kh1 Be6 24.dxe5 d5 and Black cannot lose. Observe how off-key the attack is without my presence. Bronstein decides to play it safe but in doing this allows me to execute a fine piece of swordplay. **16.Nxf7! exf1Q+** **17.Rxf1 Bf5** I dare not be taken now for if 17...Kxf7 18.Ne5+ Kg8 (if 18...Ke6 19.Bb3+ Qd5 20.Qf5#) 19.Qh7+ Nxh7 20.Bb3+ Kh8 21.Ng6# **18.Qxf5 Qd7 19.Qf4 Bf6 20.N3e5 Qe7 21.Bb3 Bxe5 22.Nxe5+ Kh7 23.Qe4+** After 23.Qe4+ Kh8 24.Rxf8+ Qxf8 25.Ng6+ Kh7 26.Nxf8+ Kh8 27.Qh7# **1–0**

[This game was the basis for the Kronsteen-McAdam game in the James Bond film "From Russia with Love"]

UPCOMING EVENTS

Seattle Seafair Open (online)

July 18-19, chess.com

[Details](#)

BC Active Championship (online)

August 15-16, chess.com

[Details](#)

JtM Sunshine Open (online)

July 25, chess.com

[Details](#)