

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #398

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

Washington Events



The Washington Chess Federation has continued holding online versions of its regular long-time control tournaments. First up was the [Seattle Seafair Open](#), held on the weekend of July 18-19 as a five-round Swiss at 90 + 10. The single section event attracted ninety-six players including GM Aleksandr Lenderman, but it was multiple Oregon champion FM Nick Raptis who took first place with a perfect score ahead of GM Jose Martinez Alcantara (Peru), IMs David Shahinyan and Tigran Petrosyan (both Armenia) and Joseph Levine (WA) on 4.5 points. Veronica Guo was the top-scoring BC player (3.0 points), Richard Ingram had 2.5/5. The following weekend (July 25-26) it was the [Vancouver Open](#) (that's Vancouver WA, north of the Columbia River opposite Portland OR, rather than 'our' Vancouver), another five-round Swiss but this time at 75 + 10 and in two sections, Open and Reserve (U1700). Four grandmasters entered but it was IM David Shahinyan (Armenia), winner of the previous Emerald City Open, who was first with 4.5/5, a half point in front of GMs Aleksandr Lenderman (NY), Vitaliy Bernadskiy (Ukraine), Jose Martinez Alcantara (Peru), and James Tarjan (OR). Notably Lenderman has been an almost constant fixture in these online events but has yet to find himself in the winner's circle. Richard Ingram scored 50% in the Open. Vidip Kona was the perfect winner of the Reserve Section, Andrew Martin and Don Hack from this province also played. The total number of entries was seventy-four.

Guo, Yu Han (Veronica) – Vo, Ian [E72] Seattle Seafair op (online) chess.com (5.24), 19.07.2020

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0–0 5.c4 d6 6.0–0 Nbd7 7.Nc3 c6 8.e4 e5 9.b3 exd4 10.Nxd4 a6 11.Bf4 c5 12.Nde2 Ne5 13.Rc1 Nh5 14.Be3 Ng4 15.Bd2 b5 16.cxb5 axb5 17.Nxb5 Ba6 18.a4 Bxb5 19.axb5 Ne5 20.Nc3 Ra3 21.Ra1 Qa8 22.Rxa3 Qxa3 23.Nb1 Qa7 24.Bc3 Qb6 25.f4 c4+ 26.Bd4 Qxd4+ 27.Qxd4 Nf3+ 28.Bxf3 Bxd4+ 29.Kg2 cxb3 30.Rd1 Bc5 31.Rd3 Ra8 32.Rxb3 Ra2+ 33.Kh3 Bb6 34.Nc3 Rf2 35.Nd5 Ba7 36.b6 Bb8 37.Bxh5 gxh5 38.Ne7+ Kg7 39.Nc6 d5 40.Nxb8 dxe4 41.Nd7 h4 42.b7 e3 43.b8Q hxg3 44.Qe5+ Kg8 45.Rb8# 1–0

Ingram, Richard – Bagchi, Sounak [C95] Vancouver op (online) chess.com (5.11), 26.07.2020

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0–0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0–0 9.h3 Nb8 10.d4 Nbd7 11.Nbd2 Bb7 12.Bc2 Re8 13.Bd3 Bf8 14.a4 c6 15.Nf1 g6 16.Bg5 h6 17.Bd2 Bg7 18.Ng3 Qc7 19.Qc2 c5 20.axb5 c4 21.Bf1 axb5 22.Rxa8 Rxa8 23.b3 Re8 24.d5 Nb6 25.Be3 Nfd7 26.Bxb6 Nxb6 27.Nd2 Bf6 28.bxc4 bxc4 29.Be2 Ra8 30.Qb2 Bg5 31.Ngf1 f5 32.Rb1 Bd8 33.Bxc4 Bc8 34.Bb3 f4 35.Nf3 Nd7 36.N1d2 Rb8 37.Qc2 Kh7 38.Ba2 Bb7 39.Nc4 Nc5 40.Nfd2 Qe7 41.Nb3 Nxb3 42.Rxb3 Qc7 43.Nd2 Ba6 44.Rxb8 Qxb8 45.Qa4 Qb5 46.Qxb5 Bxb5 47.c4 Ba6 48.Kf1 Kg7 49.Ke2 Bb6 50.f3 Kf7 51.Kd3 Ke7 52.Nb3 Bc5 53.Kc3 Kd7 54.Nxc5+ dxc5 55.Kb3 Kc7 56.Ka4 Kb6 57.Bb3 Bc8 58.Bd1 ½–½

Juniors to Masters Sunshine Open (July 25)

The latest online event from the Juniors to Masters organization was the Sunshine Open on July 25. Duplicating the format of the previous Summer Open (a five-round Swiss in two sections with a 15 + 10 time control on chess.com), the tournament attracted a total of seventy-one players. In the [Open Section](#) there were seven “A” players but none of them finished in the top six places; it was eighth-ranked Samuel Heran-Boily who took first with 4.5/5, a half-point in front of Tiam Koukpari, Alexander Pawelko, William Landstrom, Carina D'Souza, and Harrison Liu who all tied for second. This was matched in the [U1200 Section](#) where ninth-ranked Samuel Zheng scored 4.5 points to finish ahead of the four-way tie for second between Aiden Leong, Tan Le, Hancy Jiang, and Leonardo Zhou. See also the feature article by Jason Feng below – many thanks, Jason!



Heran-Boily, Samuel – Monkhouse, Neale [B31] JtM Sunshine op (online) chess.com (4.1), 25.07.2020

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.c3 Bg7 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 Nf6 7.Nc3 0–0 8.0–0 d6 9.h3 a6 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.Bf4 Bb7 12.Qd2 Qa5 13.Bh6 Rac8 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.e5 dxe5 16.dxe5 Nd5 17.Rac1 Nxc3 18.Qxc3 Qxc3 19.Rxc3 Rfd8 20.Rfc1 Rd5 21.Kf1 a5 22.Rc5 Rcd8 23.Ke1 Rxc5 24.Rxc5 Rd5 25.Rxd5 cxd5 26.Nd4 e6 27.Nb3 a4 28.Nc5 Bc6 29.Kd2 Kf8 30.Kc3 Ke8 31.Kb4 Kd8 32.Nxa4 Kc7 33.Nc5 Kb6 34.a4 h6 35.a5+ Ka7 36.Nb3 Ka6 37.g3 Be8 38.Nc5+ Ka7 39.Kc3 Bb5 40.b4 Kb8 41.Kd4 Ka7 42.Nb3 Bc4 43.Nd2 Bb5 44.Kc5 Ka6 45.Nb3 Bf1 46.h4 h5 47.Nd4 Bd3 48.Kd6 g5 49.hxg5 Bg6 50.Ke7 h4 51.gxh4 Bh5 52.Kf6 Bg6 53.Kg7 Bh5 54.Kh6 1–0

**Pawelko, Alexander – Qian, Jessica [D45] JtM Sunshine op (online) chess.com (4.4),
25.07.2020**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Be7 6.Qc2 h6 7.Be2 Nbd7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Rd1 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Nb6 11.Be2 Nbd5 12.Bd2 Nxc3 13.Bxc3 b6 14.e4 Bb7 15.Rac1 Rc8 16.a4 a5 17.Ne5 Qc7 18.Bf3 Rcd8 19.Nd3 Ne8 20.h3 Nf6 21.b3 Nh7 22.g3 Ng5 23.Bg2 f5 24.exf5 exf5 25.Bb2 Bd6 26.Kh2 f4 27.Ne5 fxd3 28.fxd3 Bxe5 29.dxe5 Rxd1 30.Rxd1 c5 31.h4 Nf3+ 32.Bxf3 Rxf3 33.Qe2 Qe7 34.e6 Bc6 35.Ba1 Rxb3 36.Qe5 Ra3 37.Rd8+ Be8 38.Rxe8+ 1-0

Romania – Canada Junior Rematch (July 25)

Back on May 30 an online junior team match took place between Canada and Romania on eight boards; for this return match on July 25 the number of boards was increased to forty, with the players being chosen via the two-year age categories corresponding to the CYCC. Six BC players made the team: Veronica Guo, Patrick Huang, Kate Jiang, Gillian Mok, Ethan Su, and Sherry Tian. After two rounds at 15 + 10 the Romanian team won by the absolute minimum margin, 41.5-39.5. A significant portion of Canada's points were the perfect scores achieved by Kate, Gillian, Ethan, and Sherry, while Veronica had 1.5/2. [Standings](#)

International Chess Day (July 20)



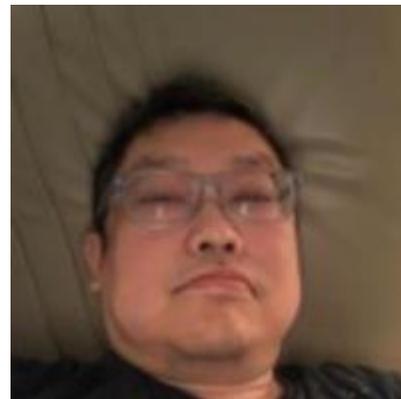
Konstantin Pyryaev and friends celebrated International Chess Day (actually the day before, Sunday July 19) with games on the outdoor giant chess board at Concord Community Park near Science World in Vancouver. The (borrowed) pieces didn't quite match the board but the players certainly got a workout running across the board to press the chess clock. [Further photos](#)

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](#)

SUNSHINE OPEN by Jason Feng

It was only this April that I returned to the online chess world. During the pandemic, I found myself watching some Youtube videos on chess. Some were instructional videos but I also discovered many videos are of players streaming their games and discussing their thought process during play. By far the strongest player to have a strong streaming presence is GM Hikaru Nakamura. There are also other popular channels from Canadians such as Chessbrah (featuring Canadian GM's Eric Hansen and Aman Hambleton) and BotezLive (featuring the Botez sisters). One of my favourites is IMRosen, with a lot of great content from IM Eric Rosen. He has a soothing, calming voice and has been dubbed the Bob Ross of chess.



Youtube and Twitch have allowed players from all over the world to get together and learn from the comfort of their own home. There are many tournaments now that are held online. Chess.com has a Titled Tuesday tournament where the best in the world get together for a ten-round Swiss followed by the top eight players fighting it out for prizes. I am not titled but I am able to watch the games live and learn a lot. There are a number of players who use Twitch to stream their games. One can spend hours watching games. I wish all this existed back when I was an avid chessplayer. A few weeks ago I finally decided to play in a tournament, the Juniors to Masters Sunshine Open. I didn't know what to expect as the last tournament I attended was one at the Vancouver Chess Club where I played very badly. This online tournament was 15 minutes with a 10-second increment each move. I humbly submit my five games below. The ratings are the CFC ratings for rapid chess, which in some cases were considerably different from the respective chess.com ratings. At the start of the tournament, my CFC Active rating was 1597 but my chess.com rating was only 1390.

Feng, Jason (1597) – Cerovina, Milan (1244) [B50] JtM Sunshine op (online) chess.com (1.17), 25.07.2020

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 I have always shied away from 3.d4 against all forms of the Sicilian as I always worry my opponent knows some opening fifteen moves deep. I also play 3.Bb5+ here.
3...Nf6 4.Be2 By moving very quickly I always hope my opponent falls into the 4...Nxe4? 5.Qa4+ trap. **4...e6** Things could have gotten crazy with the line 4...Nc6 5.d4!? cxd4 6.cxd4 Nxe4 7.d5 Qa5+. Instead we have a quiet line so for now it will be tougher for me to blunder pieces. **5.d3 Be7 6.0-0 b6 7.Re1 Bb7 8.Bf1** I'm just a 1600 player with no plan after I get out of book. My only idea was to prepare for d4 which may or may not be good. **8...Nbd7 9.a4 Qc7 10.Nbd2 h6 11.d4 g5?** Black is the first to start an attack but Stockfish didn't like this and suggests 11...cxd4 12.cxd4 0-0. **12.e5 dxe5 13.Nxe5** 13.dxe5 was better. **13...Nxe5 14.dxe5** At this point I was down to just over 7 minutes while my opponent had close to 11. I did not mind my position and planned to get my knight to either d6 or f6. **14...Nd5 15.Bb5+** Even though I'd planned on getting my knight to a good outpost I threw in a check because that is what 1600 players do. "Always check, it might be mate," which is of course silly. **15.Nc4. 15...Bc6** 15...Kf8 looks better but Black wanted to keep the chance to castle on either side. **16.Bxc6+ Qxc6 17.Ne4 0-0-0 18.Qe2** I was down to six minutes and didn't want to forget my Queen is on the same file as Black's Rook.



Rb4 39.Rxb4 axb4 40.Ke2 Ka7 41.Kd3 Kb6 42.Kc4 Ka5 43.Kb3 1-0

I even ended up with more time than about ten moves ago due to the increment. It was a good start for me as it got rid of a lot of nerves I had. My second round opponent had a CFC rating of 1981 but online his rating was 1585. I wasn't sure what to expect.

Sharma, Vishruth (1981) – Feng, Jason (1597) [C65] JtM Sunshine op (online) chess.com (2.2), 25.07.2020

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 I can play like Kramnik too. **4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 0-0?** But Kramnik doesn't drop a pawn on move 5 with little compensation. **6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.Nxe5** I thought briefly about resigning here as it was just a stupid mistake but decided to wait until I dropped a second pawn before giving up. **7...Bd6 8.Nf3 Bg4 9.h3 Bh5 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Nc3 Rad8** If I hadn't dropped the pawn on move 5 then I would almost certainly have played **13...Bxf3** here but while down a pawn the last thing I would want to do is get into an endgame with a higher rated player. Then again with doubled pawns around the King **13...Bxf3** would have perhaps been the



best chance to get a draw. **14.g4 Bg6 15.a3 Bf4 16.Kg2 h5 [diagram] 17.Ne2?** This is a strange move which surprisingly gives the initiative back to me due to the pin of White's Queen on the d-file as well as the hanging b-pawn. At this point we were both down to just under seven minutes so even though I suddenly liked my position I was afraid we would just alternate blunders. **17...hxc4 18.hxc4 Bxe4 19.Nc3 Bd5 20.Rxe8+ Rxe8 21.Nxd5 cxd5 22.c3 Qg6 23.Nd4 Qh7 24.Nf3** Ah, White is happy with a draw. He was down to two minutes while I had five. In most cases I probably would have played on and hope for another blunder, but that could very well be me making that blunder. **24...Qg6 25.Nd4 Qh7 26.Nf3 Qg6 1/2-1/2** Magnus Carlsen could win the position but I was happy to be 1.5/2 after two rounds.

Feng, Jason (1597) – D'Souza, Carina (1484) [B01] JtM Sunshine op (online) chess.com (3.7), 25.07.2020

After my second-round draw I was happy to receive an easier pairing as my opponent was listed as 1484. But then when the game started I realized that she had an online rating of 1882. Once again, I did not know what to expect. Perhaps they should hold an online tournament where you do not know the identity or strength of your opponent and you only play the game.

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Bb5+ This is one of the lesser-known lines in the Scandinavian that strives to keep the pawn advantage. **3...Nbd7 3...Bd7** is a better response. With **3...Nbd7** Black gets less compensation for the pawn. **4.Nc3 a6 5.Be2 g6 6.d3 Bg7** Against most lines of the Modern/Pirc I always set a goal to play **Be3, Qd2** and **Bh6** to capture the Bishop, whether it is good for the position or not. This would be something I would like to learn: when is it good and when is it not? **7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 b5** Black has a simple threat to win back a pawn which I totally ignored. That is often how we 1600 players play. You do what I want and I do what I want. I should have played **Bf3** earlier to take advantage of the diagonal. **9.Bh6 b4 10.Bxg7 Kxg7 11.Ne4 Nxd5** At this point my opponent already had a four-minute time advantage. I was down to eleven minutes while she still had over fifteen minutes. **12.Bf3 Bb7 13.h4 f5** My clear goal now is to take advantage of the weakened Kingside and go for the King. Black's b-pawn is also weak. **14.Ng5 Rf6 15.h5 h6 16.Bxd5 Bxd5 17.N5f3 g5 18.Qxb4 e5** Surprisingly my opponent offered a draw here. I was down to seven minutes while she still had thirteen. The Kingside is now closed off and I really couldn't find a plan now even though I am up a pawn. I decided to play as anti-online chess as possible and wait until next round. There is a lot of play left but the time disadvantage scared me. $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

So after three rounds I was still undefeated but not playing really good chess. My time management was not going well as my opponents always seemed to be moving faster. But at least I hadn't made any monumental blunders as I had worried about doing.

Tang, Edward (1957) – Feng, Jason (1597) [E26] JtM Sunshine op (online) chess.com (4.5), 25.07.2020

My fourth-round opponent was a name I'd recognized, Edward Tang. I couldn't recall offhand if we had played over-the-board back when I played but I remembered he is a strong 1900 player.

1.d4 Nf6 I had not really planned what to play against 1.d4 this tournament. In Blitz or faster time controls, I sometimes play 1...e5 the Englund Gambit, which is a silly opening unless your opponent "falls into" **2.dxe5 Nc6 3.Nf3 Qe7 4.Bf4 Qb4 5.Bd2 Qxb2 6.Bc3?** (against 6.Nc3 fans of Chessbrah will probably know that GM Hambleton loves to play **6...Bb4 7.Rb1 Qxc3!** Sacrificing the Queen for two minor pieces and a pawn. That was something that I would like to play one day but not today.) **7...Bb4!** **2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.a3 Bxc3 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.Bd3 e5 8.Ne2 e4 9.Bc2 d6 10.0-0 0-0 11.Ng3 Bg4 12.f3 exf3 13.gxf3 13.Qd3** perhaps? **13...Bh3** Sadly there isn't a fianchettoed Bishop to capture here. **14.Re1 Re8 15.e4 Nd7** Normally by this time I would be running into minor time trouble but at this point White had twelve minutes and I had ten. White's King is a bit weaker but his Bishop on c2 has a nice diagonal. Black has a menacing Bishop on h3 but with no support. With no real plan, I decided to go after the weak-looking c4 pawn. **16.Be3 Nb6 17.Bd3 Na5 18.f4** I expected White to try to save a pawn with **18.Qe2** but I'd also spent a lot of moves with my two Knights to go after the c4-pawn. White can definitely start a Kingside attack now as his e and f-pawns can advance easily. **18...Nbx4 19.Qh5** Nobody likes to see Qh5, especially when there is a Bishop lurking on d3. At this point White had six minutes and Black had

nine. **19...Bd7 20.e5 g6 21.Qh6 f5 22.Bf2 22.exf6** would have continued the attack. **22...dxe5 23.fxe5 Be6 24.Kh1** This is a weird move that pretty much invites a check from Black. Perhaps White was planning an eventual Rg1. White was down to two minutes while Black still had seven. **24...Qd5+ 25.Kg1 cxd4 25...Nb3** White had the confusing 25.Nh5 which would have made things too complicated for Blitz. **26.cxd4 Qd7 27.h4 Qg7 28.Qf4 Rad8 29.Kh2**



At this point White offered a draw. He was down to a minute and I had five. Every indication was that I should have played on as we were barely out of the opening and Black was up a pawn. But these were the type of positions that confused me as I really didn't have a good plan, and White is the one that is on the attack. White will be playing h5 soon and he can even do damage on the Queenside. So I played a blunder and took the draw. ½–½?

Sorry chess fans, it hasn't been exciting so far. The optimist would say I was undefeated and hadn't made any major blunders but the pessimist would say I'd only won one game and taking draws with better positions both on the board and on the clock.

Feng, Jason (1597) – Bi, Karui (1350) [B22] JtM Sunshine op (online) chess.com (5.8), 25.07.2020

Again I was playing an opponent with a big difference in CFC vs online rating (CFC 1350 vs. 1760 online). I had about ten minutes to go over his online games and saw that he played the Sicilian with 2...e6. **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3** In the past I have played 3.Nc3. **3...Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 4...d5 5.e5** could have transposed to the French Advance. **5.cxd4 Bb4+ 6.Nc3 Nf6 7.Bd3 0-0 8.0-0 d5?** Sometimes natural moves turn out to be mistakes. Black had to tend to his weakness on h7. **9.e5 Nd7** Black should have tried 9...Ng4 10.h3 (10.Bxh7+ is also possible but not as powerful as in the game) Nh6. The game is now easy to play as in the last round I wasn't going to pass up a chance to offer a Greek gift and make amends for my passive play in the last four rounds. **10.Bxh7+ Kxh7 11.Ng5+ Kg6 12.Qd3+ 12.Qg4 f5 13.Qg3** transposes. **12...f5 13.Qg3 Qe7 14.Ne2** There is no need to complicate matters with 14.Nxe6+Kf7 15.Nxf8. **14...f4 15.Nxf4+ Rxf4 16.Bxf4 1-0**

It was a quick and satisfying ending to my first CFC-rated tournament in a long time. I hope to see some of my chess friends from the past online soon. I don't think I will be playing over the board for a while.

WALTER DE HAVILLAND

Recently entertainment news noted the passing of Olivia de Havilland in Paris at the age of one hundred and four. One of the last iconic actresses from Hollywood's golden age, Olivia was the last surviving star from *Gone with the Wind* (1939) and also had a tempestuous relationship with her sister, fellow Oscar-winner Joan Fontaine. Their father was Walter de Havilland, who lived the last two decades of his life in this province and counted chess as one of his hobbies:

de Havilland, Walter Augustus (August 31, 1872 - May 20, 1968)

Born in Lewisham, Kent (England), into a distinguished family which traces its roots back to the time of the Norman conquest; the aircraft designer Sir Geoffrey de Havilland was a nephew. Brought up on the Channel Island of Guernsey, de Havilland attended Harrow before reading theology at Cambridge University; he won his Blue as a participant in the annual Oxford-Cambridge rowing match. After graduation de Havilland moved to Japan; he taught at missionary schools and universities, learnt Japanese and Chinese and became an expert on oriental patent law, writing several books on the subject.



De Havilland married Lilian Ruse in 1914 and the couple settled in Tokyo; they had two daughters, Olivia (b. July 1, 1916) and Joan (b. October 22, 1917). The marriage failed: Lilian discovered that her husband was having an affair with the household maid, Yoki. She and her two daughters left de Havilland for California in 1919, but the couple was not officially divorced until 1925; de Havilland subsequently married Yoki in 1927. Olivia and Joan did not even see their father again until 1933; at that point it was decided that Joan should finish her schooling in Japan, but she left in 1934 after her father behaved improperly towards her. The sisters remained largely estranged from their father from then on; after they became famous film stars de Havilland tried to contact them (seeking unnecessary support), but they always refused to see him. They did eventually visit again but not until after the War.

De Havilland and Yoki fled Japan just before World War 2 and went to the US; since Yoki was Japanese she had to be interned during the war, but de Havilland arranged accommodations for them at the Broadmoor resort in Colorado Springs. Following the end of the conflict the couple moved to Victoria, where Yoki died in 1958. In 1960 de Havilland married for the third time, to Rosemary (Mary) Beaton of Victoria; eight years later the couple was residing in North Vancouver when de Havilland passed away at the age of ninety-five.

It is not known when de Havilland learned to play chess, but considering the limited number of opportunities to play in Japan, it seems likely that he was familiar with the game at least as early as his studies at Cambridge. Apart from learning oriental languages de Havilland also adopted some Asian pastimes, including go: Joan Fontaine reported that when she was living with her father in Tokyo, he spent much of his time at his chess and go clubs. He was proficient enough to author *The ABC of Go*, published in 1910. It is not known whether he learned Japanese chess (shogi), although he certainly knew some shogi players.



The first specific references to de Havilland and chess come from 1933. In January World Champion Alexander Alekhine visited Tokyo and gave a 14-board blindfold simultaneous at the Imperial Hotel, which was where de Havilland happened to be living. One of Alekhine's opponents was the shogi champion Yoshio Kimura; Alekhine thought highly enough of their game to later include it in one of his volumes of best games. However, this was not their only meeting; a few days before the

simultaneous the same opponents played an offhand game, which Alekhine apparently won with ease (Kimura knew the moves of occidental chess, but had had hardly any practice). The umpire on this occasion was listed as being "assisted by Mr. de Havilland, the well-known British resident of Tokyo." [*Japan Times & Mail*, January 20, 1933, pp. 1-2] The newspaper noted there were two umpires for the simultaneous proper, "one a foreigner and one Japanese," but did not name them: perhaps the foreigner was de Havilland. There are two photographs of the event in the *Japan Times* of January 22, 1933; one of them shows the umpires(?) standing next to a seated Alekhine, but the microfilmed images are not clear enough to attempt positive identifications.

After moving to Victoria chess seems to have become one of de Havilland's major pastimes, as go was during his years in Japan. He played on board 17 (out of 49) in the 1948 BC - Washington international team match, and was a participant in the 1950 BC Championship in Victoria, scoring a respectable 3.0/7 - this at the age of seventy-seven!



de Havilland plays Maurice Pratt, 1950 BC Championship

During the 1950s he regularly took part in the Victoria and District Championship, generally finishing around the 50% mark, and in 1957 he sponsored a Swiss event at the Victoria Chess Club. Exactly one year before his death both de Havilland and his wife were participants in the [1967 Centennial BC Open](#) where he was accorded the privilege of playing in a private room.

Postscript: despite having to watch her father play go and chess, it is not known whether Joan Fontaine ever took an interest in either game. However, Olivia de Havilland was a chess player, although it seems highly unlikely she learnt the game from her father (she was largely estranged from him from the age of two onwards). There is a memorable scene in *The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex* (1939) in which Olivia (as Lady Penelope Gray) plays a game with Queen Elizabeth (Bette Davies); Penelope manages to capture the Queen's knight (symbolic of Essex/Errol Flynn), but this action is met by Elizabeth imperiously sweeping the pieces off the board.





Olivia de Havilland and Errol Flynn on the set of *They Died with Their Boots On* (1942)

H.H. BURRELL

July 28 would have been the one hundred and fiftieth birthday of Herbert Heckford Burrell, a pioneering figure in Manitoba Chess who subsequently moved to British Columbia:

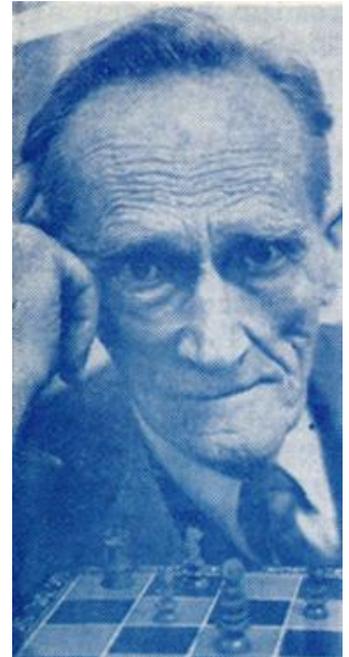
Burrell, Herbert Heckford (July 28, 1870 - March 23, 1956)

Born in Cawnpore, India (his father was a missionary). At age twenty-one Burrell completed a Bachelor of Music degree at Cambridge, remaining there as a tutor for two more years. In May 1898 he immigrated to Winnipeg, where he was employed by the municipal tax department. Apart from music (composing and playing the piano) Burrell was also an artist of some ability; he was a member of sketch clubs in both London and Winnipeg and had work published in *Punch*. Burrell volunteered for the army in July of 1916 and served until 1919; he was asked to be a war artist but refused, preferring to contribute in the more practical role of stretcher bearer (he sketched at the front lines anyway). He said of his military service, "After the war they say the question will be asked what did you do in the Great War? To us out here the question rather arises what have you done with your LIFE, any moment it may have gone from you."



In 1935 Burrell retired and moved to North Vancouver to provide a better climate for his son Arnold, who was asthmatic. Arnold took his initial piano and art lessons from his father and subsequently developed into a [notable artist](#) in his own right. The senior Burrell passed away in North Vancouver at the age of eighty-five and is interred in the military section of the North Vancouver Cemetery.

Burrell was taught chess at age eleven by his father. After immigration he joined the Winnipeg chess club, and seems to have been an active club player for the rest of his life. He came second in the Northwest Championships of 1901 and 1903 but did not win the event until 1916, subsequently repeating as champion in 1927. In later life he said he received his best training from Magnus Smith, a frequent opponent until the latter left for New York in 1907. Burrell played Géza Maróczy and Emanuel Lasker when they visited Winnipeg, and while on leave during the war he had the chance to cross swords with Blackburne. Burrell participated in the [1904 Canadian Championship](#) in Winnipeg, scoring 5.0/11; his other championship appearance was in [1941](#), where he finished last - however, it should be remembered that by that point Burrell was seventy-one years old. He was representing BC by that time, so must have done well in the BC championship for that year, although we have no information about the tournament except the winner (Leo Duval). Burrell was thus the second player from BC to take part in the Dominion championship, after John Ewing in 1924.



In the 1940s Burrell was a member and sometime treasurer of the Vancouver Chess Club and would walk from his home to the club and back via the Lions Gate bridge, there being no club in North Vancouver at the time. This changed in 1952 with the formation of the North Vancouver chess club, and despite his advanced age Burrell won the club championship in 1952, 1953, and 1955, only relinquishing it temporarily to Byron Arden in 1954. Burrell was also active in the BC - WA matches, and still played as high as board 15 (out of 30) in his last match in [1955](#). Around this time he said, "I have wasted many hours playing chess. She is a fascinating mistress. Keep her in check!" This may have upset the jealous Caissa, or perhaps it's just the vagaries of history, but for whatever reason we unfortunately have only one published win by Burrell, otherwise losses and two draws.

Burrell, Herbert Heckford – Smith, Magnus Magnusson [D55] 1906

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Be7 5.Bg5 0–0 6.e3 b6 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Qb3 Bb7 9.Be2 Nbd7 10.Bxf6 Nxf6 11.0–0 Ne4 12.Rfd1 Bd6 13.Rac1 Re8 14.Nd2 Bxh2+ 15.Kf1 Nxc3 16.Qxc3 Bd6 17.Bd3 Qh4 18.Ke2 c5 19.Rh1 Qg4+ 20.Kf1 g6 21.Nf3 Rac8 22.Qd2 cxd4 23.Rxc8 Bxc8 24.Nxd4 Bb7 25.Qe2 Qxe2+ 26.Kxe2 Rc8 27.a3 Be5 28.Kd2 f5 29.b4 Bxd4 30.exd4 h5 31.Re1 Kf7 32.f4 Re8 33.Re3 Rxe3 34.Kxe3 h4 ½–½

Burrell, Herbert Heckford – Naas [D02] BC - WA m Mount Vernon (11), 17.08.1947

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nbd2 Nf6 4.Nb3 Nbd7 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 0–0 7.c3 Ne4 8.Bxe7 Qxe7 9.Be2 b6 10.0–0 c5 11.Nbd2 Nxd2 12.Nxd2 c4 13.a4 Nf6 14.b3 cxb3 15.Qxb3 Bb7 16.Rab1 Rac8 17.Rfc1 a6 18.Qxb6 Rb8 19.Qa5 Qd6 20.c4 dxc4 21.Rxc4 Qd5 22.Qxd5 Bxd5 23.Rxb8 Rxb8 24.Rc1 a5 25.Bb5 g6 26.f3 Kg7 27.Kf2 Ng8 28.Rc7 Kf8 29.Nc4 Ne7 30.Nxa5 Ba8 31.Rxe7 Rxb5 32.Rxf7+ Kxf7 33.axb5 Ke7 34.b6 Kd7 35.b7 1–0

Burrell, Herbert Heckford – Yates, Bertram Arthur [B12] 10.10.1952

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5 5.Nf3 exd4 6.Qxd4 Qxd4 7.Nxd4 Nf6 8.Bd3 Bd6 9.0–0 h6 10.Nd2 Nbd7 11.Nc4 Bc7 12.Nf5 0–0 13.Ne7+ Kh8 14.Nxc8 Raxc8 15.Bf4 Bxf4 16.Rxf4 b5 17.Nd6

Rcd8 18.Nf5 Ne5 19.Rd1 Rd7 20.Nxh6 Ng6 21.Rff1 Rfd8 22.Rde1 Ne5 23.h3 Kh7 24.Nf5 Nxd3
25.cxd3 Rxd3 26.e5 Nd5 27.Nd6 f6 28.exf6 Nxf6 29.Nf7 R8d5 30.Ne5 Rd2 31.Rf2 Rxf2 32.Kxf2 c5
33.Nf3 a5 34.Re5 c4 35.Rxd5 Nxd5 36.Nd4 b4 37.Ke2 ½–½

UPCOMING EVENTS

Normally this section highlights upcoming BC tournaments, but in this time of pandemic and the rise of online events the concept of geographical boundaries has largely become irrelevant. We are therefore going to include links to two lists of online events which may be of interest to BC players:

[Northwest chess](#)

[Fred McKim's list of upcoming CFC online tournaments at chess.com](#)

As many of you have likely found out by now the CFC website has succumbed to malware attacks (cue the [Parrot Sketch](#)). A (temporary) replacement has been produced but this is currently being blocked by Google. Hopefully the site and its list of upcoming events can be accessed in the not too distant future.

BC Active Championship (online)

August 15-16, chess.com

[Details](#)