

Subject: Bulletin #137
From: Stephen Wright <swright2@telus.net>
Date: Mon, 04 Feb 2008 20:35:30 -0800
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BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #137

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 (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

Guelph Pro Am (February 2-3)

Former B.C. residents Richard Ingram and Max Reznitsky participated in the Pro and U1800 sections respectively.

Final standings: <http://www.chessexpress.ca/guelphproam/gwpa2008/gwpa2008.htm>

Island Junior Open #5 (February 3)

See <http://victoriajuniorchess.pbwiki.com/Results+from+recent+Tournaments>

International Chess Jam (February 2)

B.C. players Alexander Tsang, Tanraj Sohal, and Jonah Lee won trophies at this Ferndale, WA event.

Crosstables: <http://whsca.org/ChessJam.html>

Vancouver Elementary School Team Competition (February 2)

See <http://www.bjdy.com/juniorchess/news.html>, also links to detailed results and photos.

Gibtelecom Masters (January 22-31)

Held at Gibraltar, in six short years this tournament has grown to become one of the strongest open events on the international circuit; one indication of this is they now offer an U2600 class prize! This year's Master Section was won by Hikaru Nakamura after a playoff with last year's Canadian Open champion Bu Xiangzhi - both scored 8.0/10 from the regular games. Also in the Masters' Section was former Vancouver resident Dan Erichsen; Dan was here on a one-year work permit, and played in the 2007 Vancouver January Open and Paul Keres Memorial.

Tournament website: <http://www.gibraltarchesscongress.com/>

Gurevich, M - Erichsen, D [D23] 6th Gibtelecom Masters Gibraltar ENG (3), 24.01.2008

It's not often one gets to play an Excelsior theme (a pawn progressing from its second to eighth ranks on successive moves) in the early middlegame, let alone against a world-class GM (Mikhail Gurevich, now of Turkey). Unfortunately for Dan, he got outplayed in the resultant simplified position:

1.c4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.Qc2 dxc4 5.Qxc4 Bf5 6.Nc3 e6 7.g3 Nbd7 8.Bg2 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Re1 Bg6 11.e4 b5 12.Qxc6 b4 13.e5 bxc3 14.exf6 cxb2 15.fxe7 bxa1Q 16.exd8Q Raxd8 17.Bg5 Qb2 18.Bxd8 Rxd8 19.d5 Nf8 20.Ne5 Qd2 21.Qc1 Qxc1 22.Rxc1 exd5 23.Nc6 Rd7 24.Bxd5 h6 25.Rc5 Ne6 26.Ra5 Kh7 27.h4 Nc7 28.Bb3 a6 29.Ne5 Rd6 30.Nxf7 Rb6 31.h5 Bd3 32.Rc5 Ne6 33.Rc8 g6 34.Ne5 Bf5 35.g4 Bb1 36.Nd7 Rxb3 37.axb3 gxh5 38.gxh5 Nf4 39.Rc7 Nxh5 40.Nf6+ Kg6 41.Nxh5 Kxh5 42.Rc5+ Kg4 43.Rc6 Bd3 44.Rxh6 Be2 45.Re6 Bd3 46.Kg2 Kf4 47.f3 Bb5 48.Re4+ Kf5 49.Kg3 Bd3 50.Re3 Bb5 51.f4 1-0

Erichsen, D - Edvardsen, I [B33] 6th Gibtelecom Masters Gibraltar ENG (8), 29.01.2008

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.a4 a6 8.Na3 Be6 9.Bc4 Rc8 10.0-0 Na5 11.Bd3 Be7 12.f4 0-0 13.f5 Bd7 14.Kh1 Bc6 15.Bg5 d5 16.exd5 Nxd5 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Nxd5 Bxd5 19.f6 gxf6 20.Bxh7+ Kg7 21.Qg4+ Kxh7 22.Rf5 Bxg2+ 23.Kxg2 Rg8 24.Rh5# 1-0

K-12 Open (January 27)

See <http://www.bjdy.com/juniorchess/news.html>

Sprott-Shaw Junior Open (January 20)

See <http://www.bjdy.com/juniorchess/news.html>

Seattle City Championship (January 18-20)

Paul Leblanc and Arie Milner both scored 50% in the top section of this weekend Seattle event.

Crosstables: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?200801200081.0-12844827>

Corus (January 11-27)

Last year at this time we reported on James Taylor of North Vancouver, who played in one of the amateur events connected with the Corus tournament at Wijk aan Zee, Holland. It appears James made the same trip this year, participating in a nine-player round robin:

Crosstables: <http://www.xs4all.nl/~lveeken/cct/cct08tien.html> (scroll down to group 6A)

Tournament website: <http://www.coruschess.com/>

Also see the (older) news reports at <http://www.chessbase.com/>, which include many photos, videos, and annotated games from

BC MASTERS' FORUM

Welcome to this second B.C. version of Masters' Forum, a popular exercise where several players are given the same (anonymous) game to annotate. This was suggested by current B.C. Champion Brian McLaren, who also pressed the following players into service: Dan Scoones, Howard Wu, and Roger Patterson. Many thanks to everyone for contributing. The participants were honour bound to not use computer assistance or other resources; the comments by Fritz 8 were added by your editor, and only where they differed substantial from the rest of the panel's comments (i.e., moves 29 and 46).

For those who wish to compare their thoughts with those of our panel, here is the bare game score:

1.e4 c5 2.b3 b6 3.Bb2 Bb7 4.Qe2 d6 5.f4 Nd7 6.Nf3 a6 7.Nc3 e6 8.0-0-0 b5 9.g4 Qa5 10.g5 Ne7 11.f5 e5 12.f6 Ng6 13.fxg7 Bxg7 14.Qe3 b4 15.Ne2 Qxa2 16.Ng3 Nb6 17.Nh5 Rg8 18.Nxg7+ Rxg7 19.h4 Rg8 20.Rh2 Bc6 21.d4 exd4 22.Nxd4 cxd4 23.Qxd4 Nc8 24.Qf6 Qa5 25.Bc4 Ra7 26.Rf2 Rf8 27.h5 Ne5 28.Rxd6 Ng4 29.Rxc6 Nxf6 30.Rxc8+ Kd7 31.Rxf8 Qxg5+ 32.Kb1 Nxe4 33.R2xf7+ Kc6 34.Rf5 Qg1+ 35.Ka2 Rd7 36.Rf1 Qh2 37.Bd3 Nc3+ 38.Bxc3 bxc3 39.Rb8 Kc7 40.Rbf8 Rxd3 41.R1f2 Rd2 42.Rxh2 Rxh2 43.Rf7+ Kb6 44.Rxh7 Rxc2+ 45.Ka3 Rh2 46.Rh8 Kb7 47.b4 c2 48.Kb2 Kb6 49.Rb8+ 1/2-1/2

1.e4 c5 2.b3

BM:

White wants to avoid mainline theory ... that narrows it down to a previous generation of BC players.. right away I am thinking Berry or Fullbrook.

DS:

Because the Sicilian move 1...c5 is strategic in nature and does not immediately contribute to Black's development, it allows White the largest choice of playable replies of any defence to the king pawn opening. Besides the developing moves 2.Nf3 and 2.Nc3 [**Editor:** The chameleonic 2.Ne2 or Zvjaginsev's 2.Na3 are also options], White can also play 2.b3, 2.b4, 2.c3, 2.c4, 2.d3, 2.d4, 2.g3, or 2.f4, although some of these are better than others. The text move is an interesting and perhaps underrated option, one idea of which is challenging Black on the dark squares.

2...b6

DS: More direct is 2...d6 3.Bb2 Nc6 and if 4.Nf3 then 4...e5.

3.Bb2 Bb7 4.Qe2

BM: My money is definitely on Berry now.

DS: The Russian grandmaster Mikhail Chigorin liked to play this move against the semi-open defences. Perhaps this is a Chigorin game.

Editor:

4.d3 e6 5.Nd2 Nc6 6.f4 d5 7.g3 Nf6 8.Bg2 Be7 9.e5 Nd7 10.Ngf3 f5 11.h4 h5 12.c3 b5 13.Ng5 Bxg5 14.hxg5 g6 15.Nf3 Qb6 16.0-0 Kf7 17.Rf2 a5, Boris Spassky vs. Danny King, Bundesliga 1985 - drawn in 55 moves.

4...d6 5.f4 Nd7**BM:**

Not sure what Black's plan is here ... is this knight intended for b6 and a queenside pawn expansion? Otherwise, it looks better on c6 to keep an eye on the central black squares.

RP:

?! Not to my taste. Presumably Black is worried about Nf6 being hit with Bxf6. However, the knight really belongs on c6. I suppose a subsequent e6, Ne7-c6 may amount to the same thing eventually but as I say, not to my taste.

6.Nf3 a6

DS: After 6...Ngf6 White should play 7.Nc3 since the complications after 7.e5 Nd5 aren't as good for him as they appear.

HW: ?! This isn't necessary, Qb5 isn't a threat, and ...b5 can be played later. More flexible is ... e6.

RP:

Development is so old fashioned. Per se, it is not a bad thing to play a single move like a6 as it will be necessary to cover Nb5 when you get around to playing Qc7 or expanding on the Qside. It's just that Black seems to have a policy of not developing.

7.Nc3**DS:**

Black can meet 7.e5 with 7...e6 8.exd6 Ndf6 9.Be5 Bxd6 10.Bxd6 Qxd6 with equal chances, and he also seems fine after 7.d4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 e5 9.Nf3 Ngf6 10.fxe5 dxe5 11.Nbd2 Qc7.

7...e6 8.0-0-0**DS:**

More incisive was 8.d4; for example 8...cxd4 9.Nxd4 Ngf6 (better is 9...e5 followed by 10...Ngf6) 10.e5 dxe5 (or 10...Nd5 11.Nxd5 Bxd5 12.c4 with a dangerous initiative for White) 11.fxe5 Nd5 12.Ne4 Nxe5 13.Nxe6. Over the next few moves White has several opportunities to open things up with d2-d4, but he resolutely ignores all of them until... well, you will see.

8...b5 9.g4**BM:**

It is shaping up to be a standard Sicilian of White expanding on the kingside and Black expanding on the queenside. However, I would prefer 9.d4 to open the center. Black is way behind in development.

9...Qa5**RP: ?!**

Black goes on a hunt to win a pawn while sidelining his queen and losing yet more time. I think I would prefer to play the position like a regular Sicilian with some combination of c4 (as a 'sacrifice' or not), Rc8, and Ne7-c6.

10.g5**DS:**

If White protects his a-pawn with 10.Kb1 then Black has 10...b4 11.Na4 Bc6 followed by 12...Bxa4, but the alternative 10.a3 may be preferable and not quite as risky as it looks. Over the next several moves, driving off the knight and capturing on a2 is always a threat, one that Black eventually executes in unclear circumstances. At this point it's hard to see what the follow-up will be, but a pawn is a pawn.

HW:

?! The g-pawn might be better on g4 for now, in case f5 becomes the more worthwhile pawn break. The text makes it easier for Black to blockade the pawn storm.

10...Ne7**RP:**

b4 now forces the N to b1 instead of to a more active square which it goes to later on. This is not bad for White as the knight has a future via d3, Nd2-c4.

11.f5**BM:**

I still prefer 11.d4 ... the text move allows Black to block the centre so that his slow development is less of a problem. His king can find shelter on the queenside.

DS: In combination with the queenside fianchetto this is a very double-edged manoeuvre. It allows Black to set up a wall of pawns on the central dark squares, but the wall is somewhat rigid and with the Black king in the centre White will have chances of smashing his way through with a timely piece sacrifice. White had another possibility here, that of developing a piece with 11.Bh3. If Black then castles queenside the advance f4-f5-f6 will have added force.

11...e5

HW: ! See my previous note on the blockade. The B/b2 now has much less potential

12.f6

RP: White decides to go kamikaze. The downside to this forcing line is that he coughs up the f4 square for Black's knight.

12...Ng6**DS:**

The alternative 12...gxf6 13.gxf6 Nxf6 also deserves attention; for example, 14.Bh3 Ng6 (14...b4 15.Nd5 Nfxd5 16.exd5 Bxd5 17.Nxe5 is dangerous for Black but he may well survive with his extra piece intact) and with Ng6-f4 in the air Black must be doing fine.

HW: ?! 12 ... gxf6 13. gxf6 Ng6 is more flexible as the B/f8 might be more active on h6 later on.

RP:

12...gxf6 13.gxf6 Nxf6 wins a pawn but at the cost of time compared to the game. f7 is very weak as is the knight on f6. I'm not so sure that Fritz wouldn't take both pawns and laugh at me but practically speaking, it is very difficult for Black.

13.fxf7 Bxg7 14.Qe3 b4

BM: I'm not sure that winning the pawn is the best idea here. Black has a lot of plusses in this position. I would prefer either 14... O-O-O or 14... Ndf8 (followed by 15... Ne6). White's kingside play has only succeeded in ceding the f4 square.

DS: Now that this move has finally been played, it looks somewhat fishy. It is still hard to see how Black can link up with the queen or profit from his extra a-pawn in the near future. White's only real difficulty is that exchanging his dark-squared bishop will force him to contend with the threat of Qa1 mate. Since Black obviously cannot castle kingside, and leaving his king in the centre is just inviting trouble, it was time to play 14...0-0-0 with a complicated struggle ahead.

RP: ?!

15.Ne2

HW: This is better than Na4, as black was threatening ...Bc6.

15...Qxa2 16.Ng3 Nb6

HW: ? This doesn't do anything. ... Nf4 is more active.

RP: ? The knight is hanging here so allows a combination.

17.Nh5

DS:

Stronger than 17.Nf5 Bf8 18.h4 (if 18.d4 cxd4 19.N3xd4 exd4 20.Qxd4 Nc8 with an adequate defence for Black) 18...0-0-0 19.h5 Ne7 when Black is consolidating and has an extra pawn for his trouble.

17...Rg8 18.Nxg7+

HW: ? There is no need to do this right away, especially when the B/g7 isn't going to be active any time soon. Bh3 was better.

18...Rxc7 19.h4

RP:

?!; 19.d4! works now as 19...cxd4 20.Nxd4 exd4 21.Qxd4+-; alternatively, 19.d4 c4 is a little chaotic but I think White is winning. 20.bxc4 (20.dxe5 c3 21.Bxc3 bxc3 22.Qxc3 Rc8 23.Qd3 Nf4-+) 20...Nxc4 21.Bxc4 Qxc4 22.dxe5 Rc8 (22...Qxe4 23.Qxe4 Bxe4 24.exd6 Bxf3 25.Bxg7 Bxh1 26.d7+-) 23.Rd2 Qxe4 (23...Bxe4? 24.exd6; 23...Nxe5 24.Nxe5 dxe5 25.Bxe5 Rg6 26.Bf6 followed by a likely mate on d8 or loss of material. e.g. 26...b3 27.Qb6) 24.Qxe4 Bxe4 25.Re1 Bxf3 26.exd6+ Kf8 27.d7 Rd8 28.Bxg7+ Kxg7 29.Re8+- That's a lot to see and it's easy to be wrong so it is easy to see White doesn't take the opportunity.

19...Rg8

BM: ?; Black should just castle and then open the kingside with f6. It would be difficult to find a good plan for White.

DS: If Black castles queenside then 20.h4 Ne7 21.Nxe5 dxe5 22.Qxc5+ recovers the piece with a winning game for White. Black's next

move attempts to address this particular difficulty.

20.Rh2 Bc6

BM: ?; 20... O-O-O ... king safety should be Black's number one concern.

RP: ? In view of the lines given after a possible 19 d4, it's easy to understand White's moves - his Rh1 is no longer hanging loose on the long diagonal and the possible mate on c2 is protected against. Black's moves however have been less purposeful. Bc6 puts another piece on a loose square and does not deal with the hanging b6 knight.



21.d4

BM:

!; This desperate move has a chance because Black has failed to solidify his position: his Queen is out of play, his King has not found shelter and his development is poor.

DS: The right idea, but at the wrong moment. White should first drive the knight on g6 away with 21.h5 Ne7 (stronger than 21...Nf4 22.d4 cxd4 23.Nxd4 exd4 24.Qxf4 and White breaks through without having to sacrifice material). After this bit of preparation the pawn break 22.d4 looks quite promising; for example, 22...cxd4 23.Nxd4 exd4 24.Qxd4 Nbc8 25.e5 d5 26.e6 fxe6 (other moves are no better) 27.g6 h6 (27...hxcg6 28.h6 Nf5 29.Qxb4 Nxc6 30.Rxc6 is better for White) 28.Qe3 with a double attack on e6 and h6. It is ironic that White has held his d-pawn in reserve for 20 moves only to advance it at an inappropriate moment. Perhaps next time he will rely on his memory rather than his judgement and play d2-d4 on the second or third move.

HW: ? Giving black a clear advantage. h5 offered better hope for activity

RP: !

21...exd4

BM:

?!; In view of all the play that White gets now, it is more prudent to decline the sacrifice with 21...c4, although 22.bxc4 Nxc4 23.Bxc4 Qxc4 24.de Qxe4 25.Qxe4 Bxe4 26.Nd2 is not bad for White.

RP: 21...c4 22.dxe5 (22.bxc4 Nxc4 23.Bxc4 Qxc4 24.dxe5 dxe5 25.Nxe5 is similar to the previous lines and might be better) 22...c3 23.Bxc3 bxc3 24.Qxc3 Rc8 (24...Qa3+ 25.Kb1 Rc8 26.exd6) 25.Qb4 Nd7 26.exd6 (26.Qxd6? Qxb3).

22.Nxd4 cxd4 23.Qxd4 Nc8

BM:

What does White have for his sacrificed piece? He has two strong bishops, active rooks, weak points to attack (f7, d6,h7) and Black's king is a little exposed. Black has to find the right squares for his knights, find shelter for his king and get his major pieces into play.

24.Qf6

RP:

? 24.Qc4 looks very strong, moving with tempo on the Bc6, hitting f7, a subsequent possible Bh3 hitting c8 and allowing a potential e5 shot e.g. 24...Nge7 (24...Bb5 25.Qd5 Rb8 26.e5) 25.Rf2 Rf8 26.Bg7 Nb6 27.Qxb4.

24...Qa5 25.Bc4 Ra7

DS: Of course Black is rushing his pieces over to defend the squares around his king.

26.Rf2 Rf8 27.h5

RP: Chasing the knight to good squares but 27.Rxd6 Nxd6 28.Qxd6 Qc7-+

27...Ne5

DS: If White had played correctly on his 21st turn, this move would not have been possible.

FRITZ: 27...Nh8, distinctly better for White.



28.Rxd6

BM:

! My money is definitely on Fullbrook now. This is the part of the game I expect computer analysis to shine. However, here goes:
 28...Nxd6 29.Bxe5 Nxc4 30.Qxc6+ Rd7 31.Bf6 ; 28... Nxc4 29.Rxc6 N5d6 or N5b6 30.Rxc8+ Nxc8 31. Rxc8+ and 32. Qc6+ ... either way, an outstanding attack. Black chooses a response that causes White the most trouble.

DS: If 28.g6 hxg6 (and not 28...Ng4 29.Bxf7+) 29.hxg6 Nxc6 30.Rxd6 Nxd6 31.Qxd6 Qc7 and Black is better.

RP: 28.g6 hxg6 29.hxg6 Nxc4-/+ (29...Nxc6 30.Rxd6 Nxd6 31.Qxd6 Qc7 32.Bxf7+ Rxf7 33.Qxg6 looks like it might be OK - I'm not sure what black does about Qg8+)

28...Ng4

DS:

Correctly avoiding 28...Nxd6 29.Bxe5 Nxc4 (or 29...Rd7 30.Bxd6 Rxd6 31.Qxd6 Qxg5+ 32.Kb1 etc.) 30.Qxc6+ Kd8 31.Bf6+ Re7 32.bxc4 and White wins. The text move begins a forced tactical sequence that ends in Black's favour.

FRITZ: ??

RP: 28...Nxd6 29.Qxd6 Qc7 30.Bxe5.

29.Rxc6

BM: !? The question now becomes whether White will be able to deliver the coup de grace before he runs out of material.

FRITZ: ??; 29.Re6+! Ne7 30.Rxe7+ Rxe7 31.Qxc6+ Rd7 32.Rd2 winning.

RP: White scrambles to avoid losing but Black is still better.

29...Nxf6 30.Rxc8+ Kd7 31.Rxf8 Qxg5+ 32.Kb1 Nxe4 33.R2xf7+ Kc6 34.Rf5

BM:

If 34.Rxa7, then 34... Qg1+ picks off the a7 rook ... I wonder if White foresaw this... or did he just go ALL IN with a middle pair (you Texas Hold 'em fans will understand)?

DS:

No better was 34.Rxa7 Qg1+ 35.Ka2 Qxa7 36.Rf7 Qc5 37.Rxh7 Qa5+ (stronger than 37...Nc3+ 38.Bxc3 bxc3 39.Rh6+ followed by 40.Rxa6 and the White king can escape the mate threats via a3) 38.Kb1 Nd2+ 39.Kc1 Nxc4 40.bxc4 Qg5+ 41.Kb1 b3 42.Rg7 Qf5 and Black has a winning attack.

RP: 34.Rxa7 Qg1+ 35.Ka2 Qxa7 36.Rf7 Qe3 37.Rxh7 Nc3+ 38.Bxc3 bxc3 with threat of Qc1.

34...Qg1+ 35.Ka2 Rd7

BM:

Even though he has a big material advantage, Black's problem is still his king. If 35... Nd2, White gets at least a draw (probably a mate). The text move at least provides hope of shelter.

36.Rf1 Qh2

HW:

?! ...Qb6 looks like it keeps the initiative longer, i.e., 36...Qb6 37. R1f6+ (the threat was ...Qa5+ followed by ...Ne2+) Nxf6 38. Rxf6+ Rd6 and Black is clearly better.

37.Bd3 Nc3+

DS:

Here Black should play 37...Rxd3 38.cxd3 Nc3+ 39.Ka1 Qc2 40.R8f6+ Kc5 41.R6f5+ Nd5 42.Ka2 Kd6; for example, 43.R5f2 Nc3+ 44.Ka1 Qxb3 45.Rf6+ Ke7 46.Bxc3 Qxc3+ 47.Kb1 Qxd3+ followed by 48...Qc3+ and 49...Qxf6 and wins.

RP: 37...Rxd3 38.cxd3 Nc3+ 39.Ka1 Qc2 40.R8f6+ also looks like a draw by perpetual.

38.Bxc3 bxc3 39.Rb8

BM: ?? Presumably this is time trouble and flaws an otherwise very interesting game ... 39...Qxb8.

DS: This looks like a misprint, especially in view of Black's pointless reply. I suspect the actual moves were 39.Rc8+ Kb7 40.Rcf8 with eventual transposition to the game. In this variation 40.Rxc3 appears to lose to 40...Rxd3 but in fact White has a simple perpetual check after 41.Rf7+ Kb6 42.Rf6+ Kb5 43.Rf5+. Black must repeat moves because 43...Kb4 allows 44.Rc4, when the checks are over but so is the game.

HW: ??

RP: ??

39...Kc7

DS: I can see missing 39..Qxb8 in time pressure, but surely 39...Rxd3 was completely obvious. I still think we're dealing with a misprint.

HW: ?? ...Qxb8

RP: ??; 39...Qxb8 mutual time pressure presumably.

40.Rbf8



40...Rxd3

BM:

The final time trouble error? I don't think anyone would have predicted a rook and pawn ending 10 moves ago. Maybe the computer will find a clever line in the ensuing position. I don't see a good way for either side to make progress.

HW: ? It may be tough to win this for Black, but this throws away ANY chances.

RP: ?! Black decides to draw. He can play on with 40...Qxh5.

41.R1f2

DS: This is a mistake because it allows Black's queen to get to d1 and support the passed c-pawn. The right way was 41.R8f2 Qxh5 42.cxd3 Qa5+ 43.Kb1 Qa3 44.Rf7+ and White has an unstoppable perpetual check. If Black's king is dumb enough to go to b4 it will just get mated.

41...Rd2

DS:

Black wins after 41...Qxh5 42.cxd3 Qd1 43.R8f7+ Kd6 44.R7f6+ Kd5 45.R6f5+ Kd4 46.R5f4+ Ke3 and with the checks at an end White is helpless against the advance of Black's c-pawn. But after the text move the game becomes simplified and a draw is practically unavoidable.

42.Rxh2

RP: =

42...Rxh2 43.Rf7+ Kb6 44.Rxh7 Rxc2+ 45.Ka3 Rh2 46.Rh8

FRITZ: ??; 46.b4 c2 47.Kb2 Kb5=

46...Kb7

FRITZ: 46...Rh1 wins (47.Rc8 Ra1+ 48.Kb4 a5+; 47.Rb8+ Kc7 and 49.Rb4 is unplayable because of 49...Ra1 mate.)

47.b4 c2 48.Kb2 Kb6 49.Rb8+ ½-½

DS: A strange and unsatisfying game in which both players failed to take their chances.

HW:

My guess is that time control accounted for the blunders immediately before move 40, otherwise, neither player appeared to be overly strong, although I believe Black may have been slightly stronger (possibly by 100-200 rating points).

RP:

Assessment: White is a caveman but he was sorely provoked by Black's lack of development. Black was very lucky to survive. I would guess expert to weak master strength with White being stronger.

Editor:

The game was played in round 7 of last year's Canadian Open in Ottawa; White was Ukrainian IM Alexander Reprintsev, Black was B.C. junior Louie Jiang (although he has since moved to Westmount, Quebec). At the time of the game Reprintsev was rated 2410 FIDE, Jiang 2072 FIDE (2231 CFC). Judging by his other games at the Canadian Open Reprintsev has a liking for unorthodox openings: as White he played 2.b3 against three Sicilians and a Caro-Kann, and also caused considerable amusement at the tournament site by essaying the Grob (1.g4) against Polish GM Kamil Miton (2648 FIDE), with the expected result. The time control was game in 100 minutes, with a 1 minute increment. In terms of the double blunders/potential misprint at move 39, Monroi devices were used at the tournament, but it is not known whether either of the players in this game was using one. Alternately the game could have been keyed in incorrectly at a later time by the Monroi operator.

BOOK LAUNCH

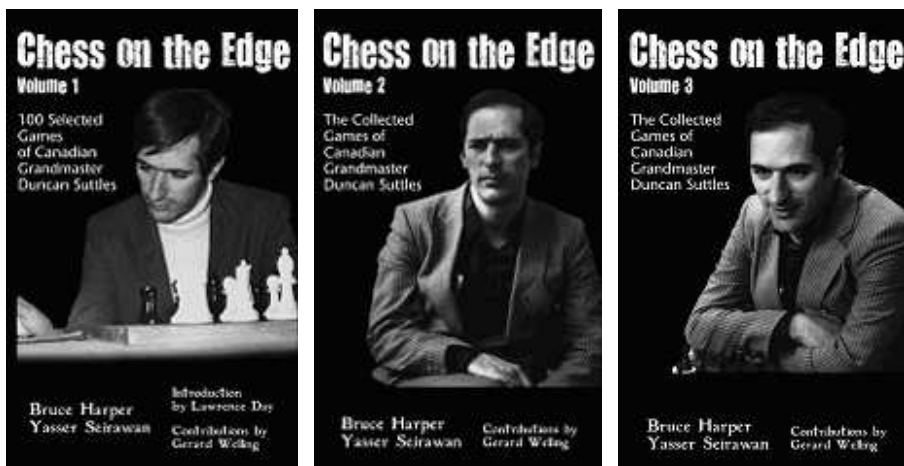
March 15, 2008

Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 East Broadway, Vancouver B.C.

Chess on the Edge

is a three-volume work which contains all of Canadian Grandmaster Duncan Suttles' tournament games found as of the time of writing. The first volume contains 100 games organized by theme ("The Suttles Style", "Pawns", "The Center", etc.), plus 7 supplemental games. The second and third volumes contain another 513 games organized by opening (219 games in Volume 2, 294 games in Volume 3), plus 3 and 4 supplementary games, respectively.

All the games are annotated in depth. Each volume is about 350 pages, for a total of about 1,000 pages. There are 628 diagrams in Volume 1, 585 diagrams in Volume 2 and 472 diagrams in Volume 3.



You are invited to join us at a book launch for *Chess on the Edge* on March 15, 2008. The following events are planned:

1. At 12:00 noon, a hot dog and pop/juice lunch will be provided for juniors.
2. At 1:00 pm, Grandmasters Duncan Suttles and Yasser Seirawan will give a tandem (alternating move) simultaneous against juniors rated under 1800.
3. At 3:30 pm, Grandmasters Duncan Suttles and Yasser Seirawan will give a tandem (alternating move) simultaneous against adults, selected juniors and juniors who won or drew in the first simultaneous.
4. At 7:00 pm, a social gathering (business attire) will convene, for both chess players and non-chess players. Food will be provided. Chess players may continue to play in the front area of the Bridge Centre.
5. Pre-ordered books will be available for pickup and signing. Books may be ordered at a pre-release discount at <http://chesstalk.com/boutique/store/>.
6. The books, s-chess kits, sets and boards will also be available for purchase.

All of the above is covered by the purchase of one ticket per person for \$10.00 each. In the evening, there will be a draw for door prizes.

Reserve your ticket at <http://www.suttlesbook.com/>

33rd PAUL KERES MEMORIAL



Dates Friday, May 16 to Monday, May 19, 2007

Location Hungarian Cultural Centre, 728 Kingsway, Vancouver BC

Sections Open, Under 2000, Under 1600

Time Control Game/90 + 60 second increment or game/150

Rounds Open: 7 Rounds; U2000, U1600: 6 Rounds

Round Times Friday 5:30 (Open Section only); 10, 5 / 10, 3:30 / 9, ASAP

Prizes Based on entries. Unrated players may play in any section, but are only eligible for prizes if they play in the Open section. Unrated players who place in the other sections will have their entry fee returned.

Entry Fees	(Open / U2000 / U1600)
Before or on March 28, 2008	\$110 / \$95 / \$80
Before or on May 2, 2008	\$130 / \$110 / \$90
After May 2	\$150 / \$125 / \$100

Discounts	Born after May 20, 1988:	50% (proof of date of birth required)
	Born before May 20, 1943:	50% (proof of date of birth required)
	FIDE rated players w/o Titles	25%

FIDE Titled Players

Free entry

- Surcharge** \$25 extra for those players who wish to play in the Open Section, but who have a lifetime highest rating under 2000
- Registration** please mail cheques (payable to BCCF) to: British Columbia Chess Federation, PO Box 15548, Vancouver, BC V6B 5B3. Please do not mail entries after May 9, instead register at site.
- On-site** Open Section: Friday, May 16, 4:00 to 5:00 pm
U2000 and U1600: Friday, May 16, 4:00 to 10:00 pm
 Saturday, May 17, 9:00 to 9:30 am

Those registering after the respective deadlines (5:00 pm Friday for the Open, 9:30 am Saturday for the other sections) may receive pot-luck pairings or a half-point bye in the first round

- Miscellaneous** CFC rated, Open Section also FIDE rated; half-point byes may be requested for all but the last round; sets and boards provided, **please bring clocks**.
 The BCCF Annual General Meeting will be held between rounds on Saturday, May 17.

Contact Stephen Wright, swright2@telus.net, (604) 221-7148

Monashee Open Chess Challenge

5 Rnd Swiss, February 15-17, Vernon, B.C.

New Site: The People Place 1402 27th Ave. (The site is across the street from the Tiki Village Motel and next to Canadian Super Store.

If coming from Kelowna it's a left turn at the first traffic light when you get to Vernon. Close to restaurants and accommodation: Tiki Village \$79; Travel Lodge \$75 double occupancy with fridge and microwave. Midway Motel and Hillside Motel are several blocks away for \$69.

Round 1: Feb 15 5:00 p.m.; Rnds 2 - 5 Feb. 16 10:00 & 4:00, Feb. 17 10:00 and asap.

T/C 30/90 then game/60.

Byes available for rnds 1-4 if requested in advance. Bring sets and clocks.

Registration: On site at 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Fri. Feb. 15. Or phone Wally 250 545 6677 email wsteinke@gmail.com in advance.

Entry: \$35 for all players. Must be CFC member or pay extra \$12.

Prizes: BEN.

Ralph Lavalee – Adult Chess Tournament

Saturday - February 16th, 2008

All day Event to be held at Coquitlam Grill

Suite #108 – 2635 Barnett Highway

Open to Under 1600 or Unrated Players

No Cost to enter but must contact Ralph to preregister or for more information @ (604) 461-1752

I believe they are hoping to play 4 games throughout the day. Seating is limited so register asap!

Flex RR

From Ben Daswani:

I will be organising a double-RR in Vancouver. It will be a flex event. Everyone will have everyone else's contact information and players play their games where/whenever they and their opponents agree. For the sake of competitiveness, this event will be open to players rated from 1800-2200. The entry fee is \$3 (to pay for the CFC rating fee). There are no prizes. So far two players are signed up. Both are in the 2000-2100 range (I'm one of them).

Email bdaswani@interchange.ubc.ca if you're interested.

Leap Year Open

Dates: February 29 – March 2, 2008

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

Rounds: 5

Times: February 29th, 6 pm; March 1st and 2nd, 10 am and 3:30 pm

Type: regular Swiss

Time Controls: game/90 with a 60 second increment (digital), or game/150 (analog)

Byes: Rds. 1-4

Entry Fee: adults \$35, masters/juniors/seniors \$25 (non-CFC members add \$10 for tournament membership)

Prizes: \$\$BEN

Registration: in advance or at site 5:30 – 5:50 pm, February 29th

Tournament Director: Stephen Wright

Miscellaneous: two sections, Open and U1600

For more information please contact the organizer: Stephen Wright: 604-221-7148, swright2@telus.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior events

Feb. 16 Chess Challenge Regional, Burnaby

Feb. 17 Chess Challenge Regional, Fraser Valley

Feb. 24 Chess Challenge Regional, Victoria

Mar. 8 Chess Challenge Provincials, Burnaby

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

Victoria Chess Festival

March 21-24

Details: <http://victoriachessclub.pbwiki.com/2008+Victoria+Chess+Festival>

33rd Paul Keres Memorial

May 16-19