

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #264

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

HERE AND THERE

Las Vegas Chess Festival (June 6-9)

This year's Las Vegas International Open attracted at least a couple of B.C. players, Brian McLaren and Constantin Rotariu, but neither finished in the money. The Open ended with a six-way tie for first between GMs Wesley So, Jaan Ehvest, Varuzhan Akobian, Alejandro Ramirez, Manuel Leon Hoyos, and Enrico Sevillano; they each earned \$2,175 for their efforts. [Tournament website](#)

Capo d'Orso Open (Palau, Sardinia, June 1-8)

Continuing on his European excursion, B.C. junior Max Gedajlovic played in the Capo d'Orso Open on the Italian island of Sardinia; he scored 5.0/9 for a performance rating of 2068. The tournament was won by IM Axel Rombaldoni with 7.0/9, a half point ahead of second-place GM Marin Mihail. The field also included Scottish GM and author Jonathan Rowson, three time winner of the British Championship, who won the Capo d'Orso Open in 2008, and Australian WIM Arianne Caoili (of Turin Olympiad party fame) – Max got to play her in round 7. [Crosstable](#)

Valet, Richard - Gedajlovic, Max [B25] Capo d'Orso op 5th Palau (6), 05.06.2013

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 d6 6.f4 e6 7.Nf3 Nge7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 b6 10.Bf2 Bb7 11.Qd2 Nd4 12.Nh4 f5 13.Nd1 Qd7 14.c3 Ndc6 15.Ne3 Rad8 16.Rad1 Rfe8 17.h3 d5 18.e5 g5 19.Nf3 gxf4 20.gxf4 Ng6 21.Bg3 Bh6 22.Nh4 Ncxe5 23.Qe2 Nxe4 24.Bxe4 Ng6 25.Bxd8 Rxd8 26.c4 Nxf4 27.Rxf4 Bxf4 28.Rf1 Bxe3+ 29.Qxe3 Kh8 30.Re1 Qg7 31.Qe5 Qxe5 32.Rxe5 Ba6 33.cxd5 exd5 34.Rxf5 Bxd3 35.Rxd5 Rxd5 36.Bxd5 Kg7 37.Kf2 Kf6 38.Ke3 Ke5 39.Bg8 Bf5 40.a3 a5 41.h4 h6 42.Bf7 b5 43.Be8 b4 44.axb4 axb4 45.Bf7 Bd7 46.Bg8 Bb5 47.Bf7 Bc6 48.Bg8 Kf5 49.Kd3 Ke5 50.Kc4 Kd6 51.Bf7 Bg2 52.Bg8 Bf1+ 53.Kb3 Ke5 54.Bf7 Kd4 55.Be6 Be2 56.Ka4 Ke3 57.Ka5 Kd2 58.b3 Kc3 59.Ka4 c4 60.bxc4 Bxc4 61.Bf5 Bb3+ 62.Ka5 Bd1 63.Bg6 b3 64.Ka4 b2+ 65.Ka3 Bc2 0-1

BRITISH COLUMBIA CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

This Bulletin has previously examined the life and chess contributions of [C.F. Davie](#), founder of the first Canadian correspondence championship. But correspondence chess has always been particularly well suited to bridging the expansive distances and far-flung communities that make up British Columbia. In fact one provincial body, the British Columbia Correspondence Chess Club (BCCCC), operated for twenty years on a fully independent basis before finally merging with the Canadian Correspondence Chess Association in 1968. Here is its story.

Fittingly enough, the BCCCC came into existence through a piece of correspondence. [Dave Creemer](#) #31) began his chess column in the *Vancouver Province* during the summer of 1947. In November 1948 he published a letter from Steve Jackson of Ladysmith, who suggested the setting up of a provincial competition:

Correspondence chess is my reason for writing this letter, as I have often thought that this branch of the game would be a great method of chess promotion in B.C. In your columns I see names of players from all parts of the province, and I would welcome the opportunity to meeting them in correspondence play. Even clubs could play matches by correspondence. In fact I remember playing in a correspondence match, Vancouver vs. Powell River, about ten years ago. Just as a random suggestion - suppose you announce a B.C. correspondence chess championship to commence Jan. 1, 1948 (rules as per CCCA), sections of six each - winners of each section to play off. I am sure you would get many entries. The fee could be arranged to cover prizes and membership in the BCCF, etc."

The competition duly commenced on February 1, 1948, with a total of 77 players in 11 sections; the sectional winners qualified for the final which determined the provincial champion and possessor of the Vancouver Daily Province Trophy for that year:



There were also other prizes, including books and at least one framed chess photograph; in subsequent years the section winners had their choice of a subscription to either *Canadian Chess Chat* or the *British Chess Magazine*. The entry fee was initially \$1, which rose to \$2 by 1955; participants had to join the BCCF but were given a reduced membership rate (as long as they did not take part in any OTB events). [Although for the first few years a list of players and finalists was published in the *Vancouver Province*, the BCCCC soon set up its own Bulletin; unfortunately I have seen very few issues of this publication, so the (incomplete) information I am presenting has had to be drawn largely from other sources.]

By 1955 the competition had become so popular (and the finals so crowded) that the tournament was split into two groups: winners from Group B moved into next year's Group A, and only the Group A winners advanced to the finals. In the early years it appears the BCCCC only ran the provincial championship, but by 1959 its members were involved in a few other events:

The Director of the B.C. Correspondence Chess Club reported that apart from the yearly Correspondent [sic] Tournament a Team from his club was participating in a Canadian Inter-city Tournament with Montreal, Toronto and Victoria, (the B.C. Team was leading 9 : 0), and in an International Correspondence Tournament in which Neufahrt was doing very well. [Minutes of BCCF AGM, September 25, 1959.]

Unfortunately this was also the year when misunderstandings led the BCCCC to strike out on its own:

Mr. Russell read the report of the Editors of Canadian Chess Chat to the Annual Meeting of the CFC. A discussion ensued how to increase the number of subscribers. Mr. Schulz pointed out that the success of *Chess Review* (the U.S. magazine) was to his mind partly due to the Correspondence Chess Tournament, arranged by *Chess Review*. Mr. Bryant reported that co-operation between the Editors of Canadian Chess Chat and Mr. Tanner, the Director of the B.C. Correspondence Chess Club, looked promising in the fall of 1959, but through a series of misunderstandings came to nothing. This failure was chiefly responsible for the withdrawal of the B.C. Correspondence Chess Club [from the BCCF]. [Minutes of BCCF AGM, September 30, 1960.]

Despite this administrative rift, the club continued independently until 1968, when it was merged into the CCCA by Russ Isaac. The provincial championship ran continuously for the twenty years of the BCCCC's existence; here are the champions (as listed on the trophy):

1948 J. Rist, Osoyoos
1949 Wm. Lott, Langley
1950 P. Tjebbes, Grand Forks
1951 Harold Ostrom, Saturna
1952 Erica White, Vancouver
1953 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1954 Eric A. Cox, Victoria
1955 Eugene Butkov, Vancouver
1956 H. Christiansen and Fred Schulz
1957 John Rist, Osoyoos
1958 Fred Schulz, Nanaimo

1959 Fred Schulz, Nanaimo
1960 Art Sproson, Vancouver
1961 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1962 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1963 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1964 Fred Schulz, Nanaimo
1965 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1966 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1967 H. Christiansen, Vancouver
1968 Fred Schulz, Nanaimo



Mrs. Erika White

**White, Erika - van Norden, D [D16] BC
corres ch, 1952**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4
Nd5 6.e4 Nxc3 7.bxc3 b5 8.Ne5 e6 9.Qf3 Qe7
10.Be2 Bb7 11.0-0 Nd7 12.Nxd7 Qxd7
13.Rd1 a6 14.Qg3 f6 15.Bf4 Qf7 16.axb5
cxb5 17.d5 Qg6 18.Qh3 Qxe4 19.d6 Kd7
20.Bf3 Qxf4 21.Bxb7 Rb8 22.Bc6+ Kxc6
23.Qxe6 Qe5 24.Rxa6+ Kc5 25.Qd7 1-0

CYCC TACTICS (from last year's event in Surrey, as chosen by Max Gedajlovic)



Joh. Doknjas – Plotkin, U14

1...d2 2.Bxd2 exf4+ 3.gxf4 Rxd2 4.Kxd2 Bxf4+ 5.Kc2 Bxc1 6.Kxc1 Ke6 +-



Lin – Gedajlovic, U12

1...hxg3+ 2.Nxg3 Nf4! intending Nh5



Song – Gedajlovic, U12

1...Bxg4! wins material, if 2.fxg4 Nxg4



Gedajlovic – Cao, U12

1...Bxe2 2.Nxe2 Bxd4 3.Rxd4 Nxd4 4.Nxd4 Qxd4 5.Qxd4 c1/Q+



Knox – Song, U12

1.Qc3 Ra4? (1...Rxd5 2.Rxd5) 2.Rc7!



Rathburn – Rahemtulla, U14

1.Nfxh6! gxh6 2.Rxf6 Qxf6 3.Nxf6 Rg3 4.fxg3 +-

BROWSING FOR ENDGAMES by Dan Scoones

The young FIDE Master Jason Cao continues to impress. Most recently, he notched an excellent result at the 2013 Calgary International, scoring 4.5 points from 9 rounds for a 2300+ performance rating. Today we will look at the ending from his third-round encounter with hometown player Behrooz Ebrahim-Shirazi. The latter also had an excellent tournament, gaining 170 rating points and breaking the 2200 barrier for the first time.



Ebrahim-Shirazi vs Cao
Calgary International 2013
White to play

In the diagram position White has been pressing for many moves, but all that will change if Black manages to capture the advanced d-pawn without giving up too much in return.

42.f5

The alternative 42.h4 was a more reliable way of making a draw; for example, 42...Nf8 43.Re5+ Kd6 44.Re8 Kc7 45.Re7 Nxd7 46.Bb7 Rf8 47.Bd5 Kd8 48.Rxf7 Rxf7 49.Bxf7 Nf8 50.h5 gxh5 51.Bxh5 and neither side can realistically hope to win.

42...Nf8 43.fxg6

This move gets rid of White's isolated f-pawn, but it also gets rid of the corresponding target on f7. After 43.Re5+ Kd6 44.Re8 Kc7 45.f6!? Nh7 46.Re7 Nxf6 47.Rxf7 Nxd7 48.Bxd7 Rxd7 49.Rf6 Rd3+ 50.Ke4 Rxc3 51.Kd5 Rd3+ 52.Ke5 Rd4 53.Rf7+ Rd7 54.Rf6, White's king and rook are both active and this will make it very difficult for Black to make progress.

43...fxg6 44.Re5+ Kd6 45.Re8 Kc7 46.Re7 Nxd7 47.Bb7

If 47.Bxd7 Rxd7 48.Re6 Rd3+ 49.Ke2 Rxc3 50.Re7+ Kd6 51.Rxa7 Rxc4 52.Rg7 (or 52.Rh7 h5 53.Rg7 Ra4 54.Rxg6+ Kc7 55.Rg5 h4 56.Rg7+ Kc6 57.a7 b5 58.Rh7 Kb6 59.Rxh4 Rxa7 and Black is winning) 52...g5 53.Rg6+ Kc7 54.Rxh6 Ra4 55.Rh7+ Kc6 56.a7 b5 and Black's queenside pawns are a force to be reckoned with.

47...Kd6 48.Rg7

A bit stronger was 48.Rh7, but after 48...Ne5+ 49.Kf4 Nxc4 50.Rxh6 Ne5 51.Be4 Rf8+ 52.Kg3 Rf1 53.Rh7 Nc6 54.Bxc6 Kxc6 55.Rxa7 Rc1 56.Kf4 Rxc3 57.h4 Kb5 it is difficult to see how White can save the game.

48...Ne5+ 49.Kg3 g5 50.Rh7 Nxc4 51.Rxh6+



51...Kc7?!

Black has been defending for a long time, and in this situation it can be psychologically difficult to notice an opportunity to play for a win. Such an opportunity has presented itself here. After 51...Ke5! White is in grave difficulties; for example, 52.Rh7 Rd3+ 53.Kf2 Rxc3 54.Bf3 Rc2+ 55.Kg3 Nd2 56.Bg2 (or 56.Rxa7 Rc3 57.Rf7 Ra3 58.a7 Nxf3 59.Rxf3 Rxa7 and wins) 56...Rc3+ 57.Kf2 Ne4+ 58.Bxe4 Kxe4 59.Rxa7 Ra3 60.Ra8 Kd4 61.a7 Kc3 62.Rb8 Rxa7 63.Rxb6 c4 and Black must be winning.

After the move in the game, White regains the initiative on the kingside, and it now requires accurate defence from Black to save the draw. However, this task poses no difficulties for the young master from Victoria.

52.Kg4 Nd6 53.Rh7+ Rd7 54.Rxd7+ Kxd7 55.Kxg5 b5 56.Bd5 Ke7 57.h4 b4 58.cxb4 cxb4 59.Kg6 Ne8! 60.h5 Nf6! 61.Bb3 Nxb5! 62.Kxh5 Kd6 63.Kg4 Kc5 ½-½

A draw was agreed in view of the line 64.Kf4 Kb6 65.Bc4 b3, etc. A great fighting game.

* * * * *

Feedback from readers is always welcome. Email the writer at dscoones@telus.net

BI-WEEKLY BAFFLER by Valer Eugen Demian



Baffler #12:

A beautiful example of the complexity of chess, even when things look simple. What can be simpler than this one? White does not have sufficient mating material. Black has sufficient potential mating material (for whom?). White to move. What is the most likely result of this endgame?

#11 Answer:



1. One dangerous habit younger or less experienced players might have is playing fast when they feel their position is winning. It feels natural to want to finish the game faster, but that means finding the shortest path to the finish line and not playing fast! This position is a good example: Black missed the shortest path to victory! He won anyway, but the advice still has full face value.

Since White is pretty much tied up and anything he might be forced to do could lead to disaster, the key here is to create such a position:

1... Kg7!! Now White is in zugzwang. **2.Qe7** 2.Qc3 Nf2+ 3.Bxf2 Qf1+ 4.Bg1 h3 or 2.Qe2 hxg3 3.Qg2 Qxg2+ 4.Kxg2 gxh2 5.Bxh2 Ne3+ 6.Kf3 Nc2v**2... Nf2+ 3.Bxf2 Qf1+ 4.Bg1 Qf3#**

2. All 3 bafflers (9, 10 and 11) use "zugzwang" in their solution.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UBC Thursday Night Swiss

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Henry Angus Building, University of British Columbia
entry fee \$21 Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca

June Active

June 23, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

EAC Open #23

June 29-30, Surrey

[Details](#)

Bowser Builders Supply Open

August 11, Bowser (Vancouver Island)

[Detail](#)

Langley Labour Day Open

August 31 – September 2, Langley

[Details](#)