

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #274

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.

Best wishes for the holiday season - Stephen Wright

HERE AND THERE

WYCC (December 17-29)

This year's World Youth Chess Championship is about to start in Al Ain, located in the United Arab Emirates. Canada has sent forty-one players including Alexandra Botez, Ryan Lo, Jeremy Hui, Alice Xiao, Luke Pulfer, Ashley Tapp, Kai Richardson, James Rowan, and Ethan and Kevin Low from this province (apologies if I missed anyone). Games begin on December 18; results and standings are usually carried by the [Chess-Results](#) website, although that has yet to be confirmed. There is plenty of information at the [tournament website](#), and team Canada also has its own [blog](#).

December Active (December 8)

Thirty-three players took the opportunity to participate in the last open active tournament in these parts for the year, including six rated above 2000. Highest-ranked by a considerable margin was three-time BC Active Champion Mayo Fuentebella, and he tied for first with recent arrival Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj – they drew with each other and won the rest of their games. Nyamdorj has now found himself at the top of the crosstable in his last four events. Third with 4.5 points was Alice Xiao, ahead of Brian McLaren, Butch Villavieja, Jason Kenny, and Richard Ingram on 4.0. Despite the presence of many ambitious juniors it was two veterans, Peter Yee and George Kim, who won the U1800 and U1500 prizes respectively; David Jiang was the U1200 winner, and Stephen Brock took the Biggest Upset prize. This was the last open active at the Vancouver Chess School for 2013, but on December 29 there will be an invitational tournament of champions, featuring the monthly winners from the past year.



From Nick Beqo:

Here is something for Bulletin #274 that I think might be of interest to BC players. I have posted an introduction of my first course of Queen versus Rook Endgame – The Philidor's Patterns, on Beqo Chess Training facebook page, under Albums. Comments and Critique are welcome :) The link is https://www.facebook.com/BeqoChessTraining/photos_albums

WORLD SENIOR REDUX

[Many thanks to Brian McLaren for providing the following report.]

The 23rd World Senior Chess Championships were held this year in the Croatian resort town of Opatija, located on the Adriatic Coast. Having turned sixty this year, I made the long trip there (over twenty-four hours), arriving in the middle of a horrific storm. Many huge trees were blown down and there was a warning to not go outside. The tournament was held in the Milenij Hotels (which is comprised of a collection of remodeled older buildings). To get to my building I had to drag my suitcase through the storm and across a courtyard. I survived and the next day, as I walked around Opatija I saw the destruction from the storm.



Tree blown down by storm.

Opatija (formerly known by its Italian name - Abbazia) was a summer resort for the Austrian nobility in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The famous 1912 gambit tournament was held there at the Hotel Kvarner. I was told that they have a picture of the tournament on the wall there so I went to check it out. Unfortunately it was closed for renovations.



Hotel Kvarner – Site of 1912 gambit tournament

This year's tournaments (men's and women's) attracted 226 players from around the world, including five Canadians - fellow B.C.'er Leon Piasetski, William Doubleday, Andre Zybura, and Istvan Kiss. For Leon (who has previously beaten a number of the GMs and IMs in attendance) the tournament had a special significance - the winner would receive the International Grandmaster title (if not already one).



William Doubleday, Brian McLaren, Leon Piasetski

The first thing I learned at this tournament is that, when travelling, always consult 'Trip Advisor' before booking your room. My first room was small, hot, had a small window (suitable height for a five year-old child), an old tube TV, a really small shower (I was afraid to sneeze in it) and was on a busy street. I assumed that was a normal hotel room for Croatia. Then Leon arrived and I got to see his room ... twice the size, huge bathroom, LCD TV, housecoat and slippers in a little package and a balcony with a magnificent ocean view. I quickly got switched to a nicer room.

The two tournaments (men's and women's) had eleven Grandmasters, including Gaprindashvili, Vaissar, Kupreichik, Suba, Hulak and two of Mark Taimanov's seconds for his ill-fated 1971 match with Bobby Fischer in Vancouver, Evgeny Vasiukov and Yuri Balashov. After playing Vasiukov in the Blitz tournament I mentioned to him that I was at the first game of that match... but he either he didn't speak English or was still too traumatized to answer.



Before the start of Round 4

The results of the five Canadians pretty much followed rating order throughout the event. Final scores Leon – 7.0, Brian – 6.0, William – 5.0, Andre – 4.5, Istvan – 4.5. Leon was near the top until Round 8 when he lost to IM Mishuchkov.

In the second round I played the following game versus a Russian FM:

Vikulov, Alexander - McLaren, Brian [A80] Wch Seniors 23rd 2013 Opatija (2.26), 13.11.2013

1.d4 f5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bg5 c6 4.e3 e6 5.Bd3 Be7 6.Nf3 b6 7.Ne2 Na6 8.a3 0-0 9.c4 Nc7 10.Qc2 Bb7 11.0-0-0 d5 12.Nf4 Rc8 13.c5 bxc5 14.dxc5 Ne4 15.Bxe7 Qxe7 16.b4 Qf6 17.Bxe4 fxe4 18.Nd2 Ba6 19.Qb2 Qxb2+ 20.Kxb2 e5 21.Nh3 Be2 22.Rde1 Bg4 23.Rhf1 Bxh3 24.gxh3 Ne6 25.f3 exf3 26.Nxf3 e4 27.Ne5 Rf6 28.Rxf6 gxf6 29.Rg1+ Kf8 30.Ng4 Ke7 31.Nh6 Ng5 32.h4 Nf3 33.Rg7+ Ke6 34.Rxa7 d4 35.exd4 e3 36.d5+ Kxd5 37.Re7 Ne5 38.Nf5 e2 39.Ne3+ Ke4 40.Nc2 Rd8 41.Ne1 Rd1 42.Ng2 Rg1 0-1

In the third round, Leon played this thematic game:

Altshul, Raffael - Piasetski, Leon [B41] Wch Seniors 23rd 2013 Opatija (3.28), 14.11.2013

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 Qc7 7.a3 b6 8.Bd3 d6 9.0-0 Be7 10.Be3 0-0 11.Rc1 Nbd7 12.b4 Bb7 13.f3 Rfe8 14.Nb3 Rac8 15.Be2 Qb8 16.Qd4 Rcd8 17.Rfd1 Nc5 18.Rb1 Nxb3 19.Rxb3 Nd7 20.Qd2 Qc7 21.Rbb1 Rc8 22.Rbc1 Qb8 23.Bf1 Bc6 24.Qf2 Rc7 25.Bd4 Rec8 26.Be3 b5 27.cxb5 axb5 28.Ne2 Ne5 29.Nd4 Be8 30.Rxc7 Rxc7 31.Rc1 Nc4 32.Bxc4 bxc4 33.Qe2 Qa8 34.Nc2 Qa4 35.Bd4 Qb3 36.Qe3 Ba4 37.Qc3 e5 0-1

Residency at the tournament hotel included three buffets a day. My normal breakfast was polenta, salami, prosciutto, cheese, olives, salad, plums, and coffee. In addition to the occasion for considerable weight gain there was the opportunity to meet players from all over the world, such as an Irish player who doesn't drink Guinness, a German player named C. Hess, and a Brazilian player who had his chess book printed in Canada. The highlight for me was having two extended chess discussions with Mihai Suba. His books *Dynamic Chess Strategy*, *The Hedgehog*, and *Positional Chess Sacrifices* are all worth reading. His forthcoming book will be about Nimzovich's *My System*.



Leon Piasetski, Mihai Suba, Brian McLaren

The winner of the Men's section was French GM Vaissier (who doesn't speak French) and made a humorous thank you speech in limited English ("Thank you to the hotel, it was very, very OK"). The Women's section winner was Kazakhstan WFM Ankudinova who thereby gained the WGM title. An

interesting sidenote: the tournament was played with zero tolerance; you had to be at the board by the start of the round or you would forfeit the game. The last round started one hour earlier than normal and two veteran Grandmasters (Kupreichik and Vasiukov) both forfeited – the latter result handing third place to Hulak.



Left to right: Documentary photographer (for Jude Acers), politician, GM Kristiansen – 2nd place, GM Hulak – 3rd place, GM Vaissier – 1st place, politician, IM Golubovic – organizer



Left to right – 3rd place – Khmiadashvili, 2nd place – Gaprindashvili, 1st place - Ankudinova

One of the more colourful entrants was Jude Acers (USA). He is a very well-known master (he once played a two-game match against Bobby Fischer) and sports a red beret wherever he goes. The reason he wears it is interesting. He plays chess for money in New Orleans where there are a number of people doing the same thing. His red beret enables him to stand out from the crowd. With him at this tournament was a film crew doing a documentary (*The Man in the Red Beret*) on him. They had raised the money through Kickstarter. For more information, visit <http://www.judeacers.com>.

The tournament was very well organized and run by IM Boris Golubovic and the Rijeka Chess Club. I would highly recommend future tournaments (<http://www.riekachess.com>) that they will be organizing.

BROWSING FOR ENDGAMES by Dan Scoones

In today's instalment we will examine the concluding phase of the game between Matthew Herdin (White) and Jason Cao (Black) from the recent B.C. Junior Championship in Vancouver. Cao tied for first in the tournament, while his opponent finished in a tie for fifth place.



It is Black to play in the diagram position. Earlier in the game the young FIDE Master from Victoria had been under some pressure from his opponent but had managed to escape by sacrificing a pawn to activate his pieces. He is now ready to carry out a counterattack against the pawn on h2, and this induces White to exchange queens and go into an endgame.

25...Rh3 26.Qe4 Re8 27.Qf5 Qxf5 28.Rxf5 Re2 29.R1f2

Of course not 29.Rxf7? because of 29...Bxh2+ 30.Kh1 Bf4+ 31.Kg1 Be3+, and Black wins.

29...Bxh2+ 30.Kg2 Rxf2+ 31.Rxf2



31...Rh4!?

Black has recovered the sacrificed pawn but his pieces have ended up in awkward positions. Here he could take the opportunity to tie White to the defence of his g-pawn by playing 31...Rh5!; for example, 32.Rf5 Kf8 33.Kf3 Bc7 34.Bd2 Ke7, with no real problems for Black.

32.Rf5

After 32.Re2!? Bf4 33.Bb4+ Kg8 34.Re8+ Kh7 35.Ra8, Black would have to defend accurately to keep the draw in hand.

32...Bd6 33.Rd5 Be7 34.Bd2

Interesting is 34.Kg3 Rh1 35.Rd7!? Bxg5 36.d5 but Black maintains the balance after 36...Rh6! 37.Ra7 Rd6 38.Rxa6 Bd8!? 39.Bd4 f5!

34...Kf8 35.Kf3 Rh2 36.Ke3 Ke8 37.Kd3 g6 38.a4 Rf2 39.b3 Rf3+ 40.Kc2 Rg3 41.a5!?



With this move White sets a small trap.

41...b5?!

This does not lose, but it certainly complicates Black's defensive task. Simpler was 41...bxa5 42.Rxa5 Rg2 43.Re5 Kd7 44.Re4 a5!? (intending ...Bb4) and there should be no serious problems for either side.

42.Rxb5! Rg2?

White's last move has apparently given Black a shock and caused him to reply quickly – perhaps too quickly. After the cold-blooded 42...axb5! 43.a6 Black must tread a narrow path: 43...Rg1! 44.Bc1 Bxg5 45.Bb2 (not 45.Bxg5? Ra1 and wins) 45...Rg2+ 46.Kb1 Bf6! (setting up the threat of 47...Rxb2+) 47.a7 Rxb2+ 48.Ka1! Rxb3 49.a8Q+ Ke7 50.Qd5 Rc3 51.Qxb5 Kd6! Now 52.Qb4+ Kd6 53.Qxc3? is met by 53...Bxd5 and wins, so Black will get to play 52...Bxd5 next and make a positional fortress that cannot be breached.



43.Rd5?

The obvious 43.Rb8+ Kd7 44.Rb7+ Ke8 45.Kc3 gives White very good winning chances; for example, 45...Bxg5 46.Bxg5 Rxg5 47.b4 Rg3+ 48.Kc4 f5 49.Rb6 f4 50.Rxa6 f3 51.b5 Kf7 52.Ra7+ Ke6 53.Ra8 Kf7 54.Kd3 Rg5 55.Ke3 Rxb5 56.a6 f2 57.Kxf2 Kg7 58.a7 Ra5 and now 59.d5! wins for White since 59...Rxd5 is met by 60.Rg8+ and 61.a8Q, while 59...Kf7 is met by 60.Rh8 Rxa7 61.Rh7+, and otherwise the pawn just goes on to queen. Instead, White unfortunately hangs a piece and after that Black has only minor difficulties to overcome.

43...Bb4 44.Kd3 Rxd2+ 45.Kc4 Be7 46.Re5 Kd7 47.b4 Bd6 48.Re3 Rb2 49.Rb3 Rxb3 50.Kxb3 Kc6 51.Kc4 Bf4 52.d5+ Kd6! 53.Kd4 Bxg5 54.b5 axb5 55.a6 Bd8 0-1

* * *

All reader feedback on this column is welcome. Email the writer at dscoones@telus.net.

DAVID ("DAVE") CREEMER (5 October 1902 - 21 December 1953)

Sixty years ago, in the space of a few months, B.C. chess experienced two grievous losses. In September Canon Henry Roy passed away (see [Bulletin #269](#)), followed in December by Dave Creemer. This is his story.

Born in Bessarabia, Russia (now largely Moldova). Trained as a tailor, Creemer emigrated to Canada in 1920 and first lived in Toronto, working for Tip Top Tailors, etc. He married in 1927; shortly thereafter the couple moved to Winnipeg, where Creemer started his own tailoring business. In October 1941 the family moved to Vancouver, where Creemer's brother and sister already lived. He started the Fashion Garment Co., a made-to-measure ladies tailoring establishment whose clientele included visiting celebrities such as Martha Rae and Ella Fitzgerald. Tailoring seems to have been the family trade: Dave's brother Max was also in the profession, as president of the Reliable Garment Co. Dave Creemer died at age fifty-one of complications from an ulcerated stomach.



Creemer learnt to play chess in Russia; while in Toronto he was secretary of the Judean Chess Club, and played against Emanuel Lasker in a simul. He won the Manitoba championship in 1934 and the Winnipeg championship in 1937, and was an early coach for Abe Yanofsky. After moving to Vancouver Creemer won the Vancouver Chess Club championship in 1942 and was instrumental in the founding of the Vancouver Jewish Chess Club; he was Vancouver champion 1946-48, but his greatest achievement as a player was winning the Open tournament held to celebrate the Vancouver Diamond Jubilee in July 1946.

Although Creemer was a strong player, his lasting legacy lies in the realm of chess organization and promotion. He held various positions on the BCCF Executive, including president, secretary, and publicity manager, and was chairman of the organizing committee which brought the Canadian Championship to the West Coast for the first time in 1951. From the summer of 1947 until his death Creemer wrote a weekly chess column in the *Vancouver Province* newspaper: each Saturday the column included a chess problem ladder, news from local, Canadian, and international events, and usually several games. This did much to publicize the BCCF and chess in general throughout B.C.

The current trophy for the B.C. Junior Championship is the Dave Creemer Trophy. After his death a Dave Creemer Memorial Fund was established "for the purpose of introducing and encouraging chess in the schools of Vancouver and throughout B.C., also in high schools and among other youth groups or organizations" (BCCF Special Meeting, 13 January 1954). Monies from the fund were used to supply chess sets to schools and trophies for school competitions; in 1967 a BCCF motion was passed which stated "that the Trustees of the Dave Creemer Fund be instructed to wind up the Fund and to make the money left in the fund available to the Junior Chess Co-ordinator, and that the Junior Chess Co-ordinator ensure that the name of Dave Creemer is suitably perpetuated in the field of Junior Chess." This was done by holding the 2003 junior championship and naming the current trophy in his memory, on the fiftieth anniversary of his passing.

Thomas, Sir George Alan - Creemer, Dave [E61] Simul Winnipeg, 19.11.1930

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 e6 5.e3 0-0 6.Bd3 b6 7.0-0 Bb7 8.e4 d6 9.Bg5 Nbd7 10.Qd2 Qc8 11.Bh6 c5 12.Qg5 cxd4 13.Nb5 Qc5 14.Qh4 e5 15.Ng5 Rfe8 16.Rae1 Nf8 17.f4 a6 18.Na3 Bxh6 19.Qxh6 Ng4 20.Qh3 Ne3 21.Rf2 f6 22.Nf3 exf4 23.Nc2 Bxe4 24.Bxe4 Rxe4 25.Nd2 Nxc2 26.Nxe4 Qxc4 27.Nxd6 Qc6 28.Rc1 Qxd6 29.Rfxc2 Re8 30.Qd3 Re3 31.Qc4+ Ne6 32.Qc8+ Kg7 33.Qxa6 Kh6 34.Rd1 Nc5 35.Qc8 f5 36.Rcd2 Ne4 37.Rd3 Qb4 38.Qc1 g5 39.Rxd4 Re1+ 40.Rxe1 Qxd4+ 0-1

Yanofsky, Abe - Creemer, Dave [E00] Winnipeg City ch (2), 1937

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.e4 Bb4 5.Qc2 d5 6.e5 Ne4 7.Bd3 f5 8.Nge2 Qh4 9.0-0 0-0 10.f3 Ng5 11.a3 Be7 12.Be3 b6 13.cxd5 cxd5 14.Nb5 Bd7 15.Qd2 Nc6 16.Rac1 Nf7 17.g3 Qh3 18.Nf4 Qh6 19.Nc7 g5 20.Nxa8 Rxa8 21.Ne2 Qh3 22.f4 h6 23.Bb5 Ncxe5 24.Bxd7 Nxd7 25.Rc7 Rd8 26.Rfc1 Nd6 27.Rxa7 Ne4 28.Qe1 Bd6 29.Qf1 Qh5 30.Nc3 Ndf6 31.Nxe4 dxe4 32.Rc2 Nd5 33.Bc1 gxf4 34.gxf4 Kh8 35.Rg2 Bc7 36.Kh1 e3 37.Qe2 Qxe2 38.Rxe2 Bxf4 39.Kg2 Rc8 40.Re1 Rc2+ 41.Kh1 Rxh2+ 42.Kg1 Rc2 43.Bxe3 Bxe3+ 44.Kh1 f4 45.Ra8+ Kg7 46.Re8 Kf7 47.Rh8 f3 48.Rf1 f2 49.Rb1 Bc1 50.Kg2 Ne3+ 0-1

Creemer, Dave - Taylor, Jack [D11] Diamond Jubilee tournament Vancouver, 07.1946

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 c6 4.Bf4 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Nc3 e6 7.e3 Bb4 8.Bxc4 Ne4 9.Qb3 Qa5 10.Rc1 0-0 11.0-0 Bxc3 12.bxc3 b6 13.Rfe1 h6 14.Qb4 Qxb4 15.cxb4 Nd7 16.Ba6 c5 17.Bb7 Rae8 18.Bxe4 Bxe4 19.Bd6 Bxf3 20.gxf3 Rc8 21.Bxf8 Kxf8 22.dxc5 bxc5 23.bxc5 Rxc5 24.Rxc5 Nxc5 25.Rc1 Nxa4 26.Rc8+ Ke7 27.Rc7+ Kf6 28.Rxa7 Nb6 29.f4 Nd5 30.Kg2 Kg6 31.Kf3 f5 32.Kg3 Nf6 33.f3 Nh5+ 34.Kh4 Nf6 35.Re7 Kh7 36.Rxe6 Kg6 37.Rd6 Kf7 38.Rxf6+ Kxf6 39.Kh5 Kf7 40.e4 fxe4 41.fxe4 Kf6 42.h4 Kf7 43.e5 g5 44.hxg5 hxg5 45.Kxg5 1-0

Bever, V.W. - Creemer, Dave [C59] BC - WA m Washington, 08.08.1948

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 e5 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Na5 6.Bb5+ c6 7.dxc6 bxc6 8.Be2 h6 9.Nf3 e4 10.Ne5 Qd4 11.Ng4 Nd5 12.c3 Qb6 13.d4 Bd6 14.0-0 Qc7 15.g3 0-0 16.Nd2 f5 17.Ne5 Bxe5 18.dxe5 Qxe5 19.Nc4 Nxc4 20.Bxc4 Be6 21.Qe2 Rad8 22.f3 Kh8 23.fxe4 Nxc3 24.bxc3 Qc5+ 25.Qe3 Qxc4 26.exf5 Bxf5 27.Qe5 Bh3 28.Rxf8+ Rxf8 29.Bf4 Qd3 30.Re1 Kh7 31.Qd4 Qf3 32.Qd2 Re8 33.Qc2+ g6 34.Qf2 Rxe1+ 0-1

Duval, Leo M. - Creemer, Dave [A18] Interclub team match Vancouver, 02.1953

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.e4 d5 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nf3 d4 6.Nxd4 Nxe5 7.Nf3 Nxf3+ 8.Qxf3 Nc6 9.Be2 Nd4 10.Qd3 c5 11.0-0 Bd7 12.Bf3 Qc7 13.Ne2 Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Bd6 15.Ng3 h5 16.h3 Bc6 17.Qe3 Bf4 18.Qc3 h4 19.Ne2 Bh2+ 20.Kh1 0-0-0 21.f4 Bg3 22.d4 Be4 23.Be3 Qd7 24.dxc5 Qc6 25.Rg1 Rd3 26.Qxg7 Qe8 27.Nxg3 Rg8 28.Nxe4 Rxg7 29.Nd6+ Rxd6 30.cxd6 Qc6 31.Bd4 Rg3 32.Kh2 Qxd6 33.Be5 Qd2 34.c5 f6 35.Bd6 Qxb2 36.Rae1 Qxa2 37.f5 e5 38.Re4 Qf2 39.Rxh4 Rxg2+ 40.Rxg2 Qxh4 41.Rg8+ Kd7 42.Rg7+ Kc6 43.Rc7+ Kd5 44.Rxb7 Qf2+ 45.Kh1 e4 0-1

BI-WEEKLY BAFFLER by Valer Eugen Demian



Baffler #20:

White to move. In the real game White managed to score a draw with 1. Rh3+. Do you agree this is the best White can get or not? Put together a relevant variation to support your answer.

19 Answer:



Black must hold onto the d6-pawn in order to win. The Nc3 gets this assignment and all you need is to calculate with precision if the black knight can hold onto it long enough for the black king to eliminate the g6-pawn and reach a won king and pawn vs. king endgame. The calculation looks like this:

1...Nb5+ 2.Kc4 (If 2.Kd5 Kxg6 3.Kc6 Kf5 4.Kxb5 Ke4 0-1) **2...Kxg6 3.Kxb5 Kf5 4.Kc4 Ke4 0-1**

UPCOMING EVENTS

UBC Thursday Night Blitz (note the change of format)

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Henry Angus Building, University of British Columbia
Entry fee \$10+, depending on number of players and whether rated or not
Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca, or see <https://www.facebook.com/UBCChess>

Vancouver Rapid Team Ch. 2013-14

September 2013 - April 2014

Details on web-site

www.VancouverRapid.ca

Knightmare Junior Hexagonal

December 28, Vancouver

[Details](#)

Active Grand Prix (invitational)

December 29, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

January Active/Blitz

January 5, 2014, Vancouver Bridge Centre

[Details](#)

BC Active Championship

January 18-19, 2014, Surrey

[Details](#)

UBC SUO Active Championship

January 25, 2014, Kelowna

[Details](#)

BC Open

February 8-10, 2014, Richmond

[Details](#)