

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #287

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); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

HERE AND THERE

WYCC (September 20-29)



Team Canada; Uranchimeg seated second from left, Davaa-Ochir standing second from right

Last year it was Harmony Zhu, this year Canada has another World Youth Champion in the person of Qiyu Zhou, who entered the U14 girls' section as the fourth seed and emerged tied for first, taking the title on tiebreak. This was the brightest Canadian performance in Durban, although for a while it appeared that Maili-Jade Ouellet (U12G) might also medal. She was tied for third after seven rounds, but unfortunately only scored one more point from her remaining four games and placed fifteenth. No other Canadian managed a top-thirty finish in their section. The two B.C. representatives, Uranchimeg (U16G) and Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj (U18), ended the tournament with 5.5 and 4.5 points respectively; Davaa-Ochir gained 84 FIDE rating points, although it should be mentioned this is with the new K-factor of 40 introduced by FIDE on July 1 for those under the age of eighteen who have not yet reached 2300. [Official website](#); many photos can be found on the Chess-South-Africa [Facebook](#) page; [composite Canadian results](#).

Marx, Inge - Nyamdorj, Uranchimeg [C53] WYCC U16G Durban (4.22), 22.09.2014

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d3 0-0 6.Nbd2 d6 7.Bb3 Ne7 8.Nf1 Ng6 9.Ng3 c6 10.0-0 a6 11.Qe2 Be6 12.Bc2 Ba7 13.Kh1 h6 14.b4 Re8 15.Bb2 Qd7 16.a4 Bg4 17.Bd1 Nf4 18.Qd2 g6 19.d4 h5 20.dxe5 dxe5 21.Qxd7 Nxd7 22.h3 Be6 23.Bc2 Rad8 24.Kg1 f6 25.Rfe1 Bc4 26.Nd2 Bd3 27.Bb3+ Kg7 28.Rad1 h4 29.Nh1 Be2 30.Rb1 Bh5 31.Kh2 Nc5 32.bxc5 Rxd2 33.Bc1 Rd7 34.Be3 Nd3 35.Rf1 Bxc5 36.Bxc5 Nxc5 37.f3 Rd3 38.Rfc1 Rd2 39.Bd1 Red8 40.Kg1 b5 41.Nf2 Nd3 42.Nxd3 R8xd3 43.axb5 axb5 44.Kf1 f5 45.exf5 gxf5 46.c4 bxc4 47.Be2 Re3 48.Bxc4 e4 49.Rb7+

Kf6 50.fxe4 Rxe4 51.Rb6 Kg5 52.Rxc6 Be2+ 53.Bxe2 Rxe2 54.R6c3
Rxc2 55.Ke1 Rde2+ 56.Kd1 Ra2 57.Re3 Rg1+ 58.Re1 Rg3 59.Rh1
Rag2 60.Rc8 Rg1+ 61.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 62.Ke2 Rg3 63.Rg8+ Kf4 64.Rxc3
Kxc3 65.Kf1 Kxh3 66.Kg1 Kg3 67.Kh1 h3 68.Kg1 f4 0-1

Nyamdorj, Uranchimeg - Bashaer, Khalil [B40] WYCC U16G Durban (7.21), 25.09.2014

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Qe2 Nc6 5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Rd1 b6
8.d4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 cxd4 10.Rxd4 e5 11.Rd1 Qc7 12.c4 Bb7 13.b3 a6
14.Bb2 Bc5 15.Nc3 Rfe8 16.Rac1 Rac8 17.h4 h6 18.Bh3 Bb4 19.Nd5
Nxd5 20.cxd5 Qd6 21.Qg4 Rxc1 22.Rxc1 Rd8 23.Qf5 f6 24.Qg6 Qe7
25.Rc7 Bc8 26.Bf5 Qf8 27.Bc1 Bd6 28.Rc2 Qf7 29.Qg4 Kh8 30.Be3 b5
31.f4 Bb8 32.Bb6 Rf8 33.Bc7 Bxc7 34.Rxc7 Rd8 35.d6 exf4 36.gxf4 a5
37.Qg6 Kg8 38.Qh7+ Kf8 39.Bg6 Qg8 40.Qxc8+ Kxc8 41.Kf2 Kf8 42.Ke3
b4 43.Ra7 Kg8 44.Kd4 Rf8 45.Rxa5 Bb7 46.Rb5 Bc6 47.Rxb4 Ra8 48.a4
1-0

Hackner, Oskar A - Nyamdorj, Davaa-Ochir [E25] WYCC U18 Durban (2.26), 21.09.2014

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.cxd5 exd5
8.e3 c4 9.Ne2 Nc6 10.Ra2 0-0 11.g4 Na5 12.Ng3 Nb3 13.Bg2 b5 14.g5
Ne8 15.e4 Nxc1 16.Qxc1 a5 17.0-0 Ra6 18.Rb2 Rb6 19.Qb1 Nc7 20.f4 Qd6 21.Qa1 b4 22.e5 Qe7
23.axb4 axb4 24.h4 Ra6 25.Qc1 bxc3 26.Rc2 Nb5 27.Qe3 Rd8 28.f5 Qa7 29.Ne2 Ra1 30.Rxa1
Qxa1+ 31.Rc1 Qb2 32.e6 fxe6 33.fxe6 Qd2 34.Qe5 Nxd4 35.Qxd4 Qxe2 36.Bxd5 Rxd5 37.Qxd5
Qe3+ 38.Kh2 Qf4+ 39.Kg2 Qd2+ 40.Qxd2 cxd2 41.Ra1 Bxe6 42.Kf3 c3 43.Ke3 Bg4 44.Kd3 d1Q+
45.Rxd1 Bxd1 46.Kxc3 Kf7 47.Kd2 Bg4 48.Ke3 Kg6 49.Kf4 Kh5 50.Kg3 Bd7 0-1

Qiyu Zhou



Nyamdorj, Davaa-Ochir - Abe, Mahiro [C42] WYCC U18 Durban (5.22), 23.09.2014

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Be7 7.Be3 Nc6 8.Qd2 Bg4 9.0-0-0
Qd7 10.h3 Bxf3 11.gxf3 Qe6 12.Kb1 Ne5 13.Qe2 a6 14.h4 0-0 15.f4 Ng4 16.Bg2 Nxe3 17.fxe3 c6
18.e4 Bf6 19.h5 Rfe8 20.Rde1 Rab8 21.Bh3 Qe7 22.Bf5 Qc7 23.Reg1 Qa5 24.Qd3 Rbd8 25.Rg3
Qb5 26.Qf3 Kh8 27.Qg4 Qc5 28.Bxh7 Kxh7 29.e5 dxe5 30.Qf5+ Kg8 31.Qxf6 Kf8 32.Rxc7 Qd5
33.Rc1 Rd6 34.Qg5 f6 35.Qh6 1-0

East Vancouver September Active (September 21)

The latest in the series of active events held at the Vancouver Bridge Centre saw the return of four-time B.C. active champion Mayo Fuentebella to the winner's circle, taking the first prize with a perfect score. Perennial rival Butch Villavieja could only tie for second after having a slow start, drawing with junior Nathan Shao and losing to organizer Luc Poitras – this meant he never had the chance to play Fuentebella. Poitras also tied for second with 3.5 points, while the U1800 prizes went to Shao and Paul Clarkson respectively. [Crosstable](#)

MICHAEL YIP ANNOTATES

A former resident of Vancouver, Michael has resided in Hungary for the past several years. Here is one of his games from the recent Budapest Open. N.B., due to space considerations the following does not include the extensive computer-generated variations and game references in Michael's original notes – these can be found in the accompanying PGN file.

Yip, Michael - Lam, Daniel [E67] Budapest Open (5.10), 20.08.2014

My opponent was Daniel Lam, the Champion of Hong Kong, who was visiting Budapest on a chess vacation.

1.Nf3 Usually, I play 1.d4 but it is useful to shuffle move-orders to avoid concrete preparations sometimes. Here it made no difference as my opponent played quickly and was a regular King's Indian player. **1...Nf6 2.c4** Again a move-order nuance just in case my opponent was going to surprise me with a Grünfeld. **2...g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.g3 0–0 5.Bg2 d6** Now I was sure that King's Indian was coming. **6.d4** Back to my regular repertoire. **6...Nbd7 7.0–0 e5 8.e4 a6** Now I was not too sure what was going on but was confident that I had not made a mistake. 8...c6 is more like a main line. **9.Re1 exd4 10.Nxd4** Here I was feeling OK but my opponent paused briefly and bashed out his next move. **10...Ng4!?** There is quite a lot of theory on this tricky move. The knight goes into yonderland being guarded indirectly by the fact that Qd1 is overloaded. I was taken back when this move was played and thought it was just a cheeky blitz game bluff but it turned out there was some meat supporting the idea. **11.h3** An acceptable move based on common sense and ignorance of the line. I gave the position serious consideration but somehow missed the move played. 11.f3 is very solid and avoids any tricks based on f2 tactics. I did not take this move seriously as Bg2 would be quite passive. 11.Qxg4 is also playable but I did not like the idea of allowing a strong piece to the center and the inevitable tempo loss by Qg4 once Nd7 moved. **11...Qf6** I completely missed this. It never occurred to me that Black would break the 'rules' for normal development and bring his queen out early. However, Black makes a threat and play takes concrete form. **12.Nf3** After some thought, I found an acceptable move. The knight moves again which loses time but Black will also inevitably have to move Qf6 again so the mutual tempo losses will cancel each other out. 12.hxg4 Taking the knight was playable but I did not like volunteering for doubled pawns for no obvious gain. 12...Qxd4 13.Nd5 White plays concretely, making threats to gain time. 13...c6 14.Qxd4 Bxd4 15.Rd1 Bg7 16.Ne7+ Kh8 17.f4 Gaining useful kingside space while the weakness of the doubled g-pawns is purely optical. **12...Nge5** Attacking the c4 pawn, which was one of the original ideas behind the ..Ng4 sortie. **13.Nd5** Defending the c-pawn indirectly by making a bigger threat keeps the momentum. Black is now forced to undevelop the queen but Nd5 is unstable and will also be forced to retreat as the mutual hitting game continues. 13.Bg5?? was my initial idea but is a silly blunder. 13...Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Qxg5→ **13...Qd8** Both sides have traded tempo-gaining moves and now I had a hard time coming up with a sensible idea. Black has two ideas-taking on c4 -..f5 White has to think prophylactically and find a way to meet both Black's threats. **14.Ne3!** This voluntary retreat meets both Black's threats at the cost of a tempo eating retreat. However I would have been forced to retreat after the thematic ..c6 anyway so there is no real time loss. Now Black cannot free the queen with ..c6 as the d-pawn would drop, so despite the retreat, White has made positional progress. 14.Nxe5 The simplifying exchange has also been played. **14...Nc5=** Attacking the e-pawn but the real threat is ..Nd3 which would deprive White of a valuable bishop. The position is roughly equal as both sides are fighting hard for the initiative. **15.Nxe5** I found the best move quickly but what transpired on the board was a nasty surprise. **15...dxe5** It never occurred to me that Black would entomb the Bg7. My opponent played

this almost instantly and seemed quite confident. As I sank into thought I had the impression that White was about to be rolled off the board on the wrong side of a dark square bind as White cannot easily contest the d4 outpost. 15...Bxe5 I only counted on this. Black's pieces remain active but are unstable which suited me. **16.Qxd8** Otherwise Black has ..Nd3 ideas. **16...Rxd8=** Black's idea was to play for the d4 outpost and I started to panic and worry about a long-term dark-square massage.



17.Nd5! Active and concrete play is the only way to stay in the game. **17...Ne6** Again my opponent moved quickly whilst I struggled to find the most precise moves. The knight performs double duty, guarding the c-pawn and preparing to occupy d4. I was happier than before as the knight seemed less active than on c5. **18.Be3** Completing development and now White has leveled the game despite the prospect of conceding the d4 outpost. 18.Bd2!? was also possible with the idea of following up with Ba5 to massage Black's queenside pawns. **18...c6** Kicking away the central knight comes at a cost as White can

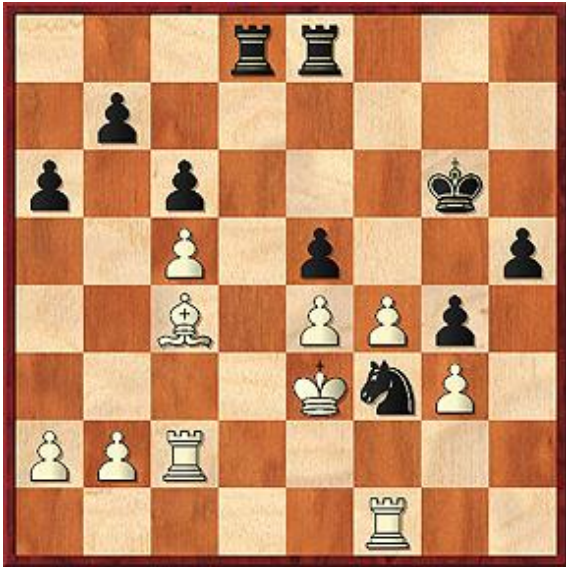
exploit Black's loose queenside dark squares. **19.Nb6** I was happy with the position now as I understood the queenside was under control. 19.Ne7+ is also equal. 19...Kf8 20.Nxc8 Raxc8= **19...Rb8** The endgame is quite complicated but I felt at home. **20.c5!?** This is a key part of White's defensive plan. Now the passive Bg2 has some hope of gaining activity and Black's queenside is fixed. **20...Nd4** Black can also be happy with control and occupation of d4. However, White is fully in the game. **21.Nxc8** Taking off the bishop as I did not want to worry about ..Bxh3 shots. **21...Rbxc8 22.Rac1=** The only way to avoid nasty knight forks. **22...h5** Ambitiously trying to massage the kingside with ..h4 or so I thought. Black was only trying the logical plan of trading off the bad bishop with ..Bh6. **23.f3?** Clearing the way for the king to reach the center is sensible but imprecise. Here I was clearly guilty of only considering my own ideas and ignoring my opponent's possibilities. I could see no tactical tricks and Black already taken the d4 outpost so my guard was down as there seemed nothing else for Black to threaten. However, this was careless lazy thinking and wrong. White has seriously weakened the kingside pawns without a care in the world and only some luck saved me. Better is 23.h4= White must first prevent ..h4 before doing anything else. **23...Kh7?** Much too routine. Black misses a great chance to fix the kingside. My opponent again was playing quickly while I held my breath and hoped for a careless slip. 23...h4!+= Offering a temporary pawn sacrifice to soften up the kingside pawns and dark squares would have been strong. **24.h4** Better late than never as ..h4 is now prevented but Black still has a light pull. **24...Bh6** Forcing off the dark bishops to remain with a good knight vs bad bishop is Black's idea but my bishop is not so bad thanks to the early c4-c5 advance. **25.Kf2** Centralizing the king is generally useful in the ending but here is mildly double-edged as White remaining pieces are geometrically aligned for potential knight forks. **25...Bxe3+ 26.Kxe3** True the king is centralized but White is on the defensive with the inferior minor piece. Black remains with various knight fork tricks based on the poor position of Ke3/Re1. **26...Rc7** Black can play for ..Nc2+ forks or ..f5. **27.Kf2=+** White retreats the king to avoid possible ..Nc2+ forks and discourage ..f5 by unmasking Re1. **27.Bf1** Activating the passive bishop is also a reasonable plan. **27...f6** Clearing the 7th rank for rook play and securing e5. Black also improves his structure by taking a pawn off the dangerous

light squares giving one less potential target for the bishop. 27...Kg7 Improving the king was also good.



28.Bf1! The bishop is White's worst piece and is regrouped. **28...Rg7** Switching attention to the kingside to create a second front is an interesting plan. Black cannot break my position with the d4 outpost also and seeks to create another weakness to play against. **29.Bc4?+=** Now the bishop is just as active as Nd4 but Black is still calling the shots. 29.f4 is the optimal move but I made the human move instead. **29...g5!** Initiating concrete play. During the game I thought this was artificial activity. **30.hxg5** Accepting the challenge but taking a considerable risk. The idea is to unbalance the structure for winning

chances. The alternatives also favored Black. **30...fxg5** Now Black always has the ..h4 advance to create a passed h-pawn. White has only one attackable weakness (the weak f3 pawn) which can easily be defended so Black remains with the task of further weakening White's position. **31.Rh1** Activating the rook defending against the threat of a kingside pawn advance. White is still locked in a defensive position. Another benefit is that Black loses the ..Nc2+ fork idea so White can play Ke3 safely. **31...Kg6?=-** Natural but gives away all of Black's advantage. 31...Kh6! is correct and White is suffering. This supports the h-pawn and leaves Rg7 to support the g-pawn but choosing not to centralize the king is somewhat counter-intuitive and certainly anti-human. **32.Ke3** Recentralizing again. White is doing absolutely nothing special except waiting and preventing the most dangerous threats. 32.f4! immediately opening up the kingside is also possible. **32...Rf8** **33.Rcf1** Protecting the f-pawn the most economical way. White remains on the defensive but is still in the game. **33...Rd7=** Black starts to drift now, unable to find a convincing plan. **34.Rh2!** Defending against any ..Nc2+ ideas. **34...Rdd8?+=** **35.Rg2?=-** Routine and missing a good chance. 35.f4! Now is a good time to break. 35...exf4+ 36.gxf4 Rxf4 37.Rxf4 gxf4+ 38.Kxf4± White has the more active king and the RB are very active. Black's knight has lost its pawn support and is now unstable so White has the advantage. **35...Rfe8** Using the e-file x-ray to discourage f4. **36.Rd2** Taking away the Nc2+ idea and continuing to defend against any threats. **36...Rf8** Black continues to maneuver around, unable to find a decisive break. **37.Rg2** Setting up a g-file x-ray to prepare the f4 advance. **37...g4** Increasing the pressure on f3 but relaxing the grip on f4. **38.f4** Now this break is just equal. **38...Nf3** The knight is well-placed and White must be careful. **39.Rc2** The rook was passive on g2. White anticipates ..Rd4 and guards Bc4 in advance. **39...Rfe8** Creating an x-ray on the e-file.



40.b3? I did not see the threat and overprotected Bc4. 40.f5+ Closing the position was better but I did not want to fix the pawn structure for the knight to maneuver against. **40...Rd4?** Is the right idea but in the wrong move-order. 40...exf4+! 41.gxf4 Rd4!-/+ White loose central pawns are a problem, for example. **41.fxe5** Is the only way to survive. 41.f5+? is a mistake. 41...Kf6 42.Rxf3 gxf3 43.Kxf3 Rh8 44.Rg2 Kg5 45.Rf2 h4 46.gxh4+ Rxh4 47.Rg2+ Kh5 48.Bf7+ Kh6 49.Rg6+ Kh7 50.Kg3 Rhxe4 51.Bg8+ Kh8 **41...Rxe5** White would love to play Rxf3 but ..Rxe4+ is the key intermediate move that ends the dream. **42.Bd3** It took me a while to

find this but now White stays in the game. 42.Rxf3?? 42...Rxe4+ 43.Kf2 gxf3 44.Kxf3 Re5—+ **42...Rd8=** Back to equality again. 42...Rdd5!/? is likewise unproductive. 43.b4 a5 44.a3 axb4 45.axb4= **43.Rc4?+=** Is active but careless. Here I lost touch with Black's threats and put myself in grave danger. 43.b4 Guarding the c-pawn again to release Rc2 is equal and should have been played. 43...Ree8 44.Be2 Ng5 45.Bd3 Nf3=0.00/5 **43...Rde8?=-** Both sides miss the key idea as Black continues to play against the e4 pawn. 43...h4!+= This break frees the g-pawn and escaped both players' attention. 44.gxh4 Nxh4 45.Rg1 Kg5 Black has the more dangerous passed pawn. 46.Be2 Nf5+ 47.Kf2 Nh6 48.Ke3 Re7 49.Rg2 a5 50.Ra4 Re5 51.Rc4 Ree8 52.Rg1 Re7 53.Rf1 g3 54.Rd4 Rxd4 55.Kxd4 (-0.32) **44.Be2** Challenging the knight indirectly prevents ..h4. **44...Ng5** **45.Bd3** White continues to defend any direct tactical threats. 45.Rf4? drops material. 45...Ne6-/+ **45...Ne6=** Black slowly loses thread of the game now. **46.Rf5!?** Challenging the e5 blockade is the first threat White has made for a long time. Black is under slight pressure now. **46...Nf8?+=** Is too passive. My opponent resumed the habit of moving rather quickly. 46...Ng5= keeps the game level. **47.Rxe5** Trading off one pair of rook reduces Black's potential to make trouble. 47.Kf4! is the most precise but I was anxious to simplify to reduce Black's threat making ability. **47...Rxe5** **48.Kf4?+=** Quite careless. Here I forgot to make a blunder check. Better is 48.Rc1 **48...Kf6** Passing up the chance to make a fork to win a P, this may be the best after all. 48...Rxc5 exploits the poor position of Kf4 is not as strong as I thought. 49.e5+ Kf7 50.Rxc5 Ne6+ 51.Kf5 Nxc5 52.Bc4+ Ke7 53.b4 Nd7 54.Bd3 Nb6 55.a3 Nd5 56.Kg5 Black has an extra pawn but White's active king gives just enough compensation. **49.b4?-/+** Both sides started to play really awful moves. White reinforces the loose c-pawn to free the rook and does not see any danger. 49.Ke3 is better and the game remains equal. 49...Kg6 **49...Ne6+?+=** Wrong check. 49...Ng6+! is correct and Black can again play for the ..h4 break to release the g-pawn. **50.Ke3 Kg5** The king advances to support the ..h4 break. **51.Rc1!** The rook needs to find a more useful job and is now ready to swing over to the kingside if needed. **51...Kg6?** A defensive retreat to cover the f-file in anticipation of Rf1. 51...h4! results in a tense equality. **52.Rf1!** The rook is very active now and Re5 is a sorry sight.



52...Ng5?± 52...Kg7 53.Kd4 Again White sticks to the basics and keeps centralizing with a purpose. Now the blockade is challenged and cannot be maintained. **53...Re7 54.e5++-** Now the bishop is released and has a great future with all Black's pawns as potential targets. **54...Kg7 55.Rf5!** Attacking the unstable Ng5 and guarding the e-pawn. **55...Nf3+ 56.Ke4** The centre belongs to White and the h5-pawn is very vulnerable. **56...Kh6 57.Kf4!** Taking away the..Ng5 retreat strands Nf3. **57...Rd7 58.Rf6+** The most precise. **58...Kg7 59.Rd6 59.Rg6+!** The preliminary check is best. **59...Rf7+ 59...Rxd6? 60.cxd6+- 60.Bf5!**

Slowly White inches up the board. **60...Re7 61.Rd7** Trading rooks leaves all the queenside pawns vulnerable. **61.Rg6+** is even better. **61...Kf8 62.Rxe7** Not the only way. **62...Kxe7 63.Bc8** Inducing immediate resignation as the queenside pawns fall. **1-0**

SAN FRANCISCO VS. VICTORIA – THE RETURN MATCH



The 1895/1897 telegraph matches between Victoria, Vancouver, and San Francisco have been discussed in previous issues and can also be found [online](#), but now we can present the above pictorial memento of the occasion. While engaged in ongoing historical research earlier this year your editor came across a reference in the *Vancouver Daily World* newspaper of March 16, 1897 to a newly-published sporting periodical, *Western Recreation*. As it turns out the magazine only lasted three issues before sliding into oblivion, but the initial issue (dated April 1897) included a large article on chess by Thomas H. Piper (1857-1938), one of the most important figures in the early history of chess in this province; this photograph headed the article. It is here reproduced from the magazine copy held by Rare Books and Special Collections, University of British Columbia Library.

From left to right the figures are named as C. Schwengers, B. Williams, T.H. Piper, W. Chapman, and C.A. Lombard. Ostensibly this was the Victoria team in the return match against San Francisco in 1897, although news reports indicate Dr. Griffith Hands played instead of Schwengers. Piper is well-known to us (e.g., see [Bulletin #149](#)), while the Schwengers family was discussed in [Bulletin #73](#). Parisian-born Charles Amand Lombard (1846-1938) was the son of Madame Louise Balagny, a famous opera singer. He moved to Victoria with his remarried mother in 1858, and remained when she returned to France ten years later. Lombard was heavily involved in the musical life of Victoria, as proprietor of Lombard's Music Store, as conductor of the St. Andrew's Cathedral Choir, and was also renowned as a soloist in various Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. In the return match he was a timekeeper, hence the pocket watch in his hand. Less is known of the other two individuals; Williams invariably has the rank major attached to his name in contemporary accounts, while Chapman was a lance corporal and 'compounder of medicines' (a military pharmacist). Chapman had only arrived the previous summer from London (England), and was said to be the strongest player in Victoria other than Piper. Below we reprint the story of the return match:

The rematch between Victoria and San Francisco) took place on New Year's Day 1897. It was agreed to play one game, beginning at 7 pm with a time limit of ten moves per hour. Each city had timekeepers who kept track of the elapsed time for both teams: C.A. Lombard and Thomas Lawrie for Victoria, Dr. Benjamin Marshall for San Francisco. Playing for Victoria were Thomas H. Piper, W.C. Chapman, Major B. Williams, and Dr. Griffith Hands. To facilitate transmission a direct cable was run into the Driard Hotel, the Victoria site of the match, where numerous spectators also gathered to follow the game on their own boards. The San Francisco players, Walter S. Franklin, Oscar Samuels, Rodney Kendricks, and Valentine Huber, were all members of the Mechanics' Institute, and all except Kendricks were champions of the MI chess club in various years. The C.P.R. Telegraph Co. and the Pacific Postal Telegraph Co. gave the clubs free use of their wires for the occasion; the chief operators were W. Christie and Tom Martin respectively. The day before the match the *Victoria Daily Colonist* noted "In San Francisco the match is exciting especial interest, a young 'prodigy' having lately appeared in the Bay City, who it is predicted, will before many years eclipse Pillsbury himself. The California club is confident of success, and pins its faith on the youthful champion." Presumably this reference is to Franklin, a medical student who when he won the MI club championship in May 1896 was "not yet 18 years of age."

San Francisco - Victoria [C67] Telegraph Match, 01.01.1897

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Be7 6.d5 Nd6 7.Be2 e4 8.dxc6 exf3 9.cxd7+ Bxd7 10.Bxf3 0-0 11.Bf4 Be6 12.Nc3 c6 13.Re1 Re8 14.Bg4 Nf5 15.Qf3 Nd4 16.Qh3 Bxg4 17.Qxg4 Qc8

"Victoria missed a good chance to secure an advantage at the seventeenth move, by not capturing White's pawn with the knight. Victoria evidently scented a trap in this taking move, and such it was intended to be by White, but careful analysis has since shown that this would have been a sound move on the part of Black and given the Northerners a superior game." [From the *San Francisco Examiner*, quoted in the *Victoria Daily Colonist* of January 7, 1897]

18.Qxc8 Raxc8 19.Rad1 Ne6 20.Bg3 Bb4 21.Re3 Rcd8 22.Kf1 Rxd1+ 23.Nxd1 Rd8 24.Rd3 Rxd3 25.cxd3 f6 26.f3 Kf7 27.a3 Bc5 28.Bf2 Ke7 29.Bxc5+ Nxc5 30.Ke2 Ke6 31.Ke3 1/2-1/2

"Although they did not win the match and by it the championship of the Pacific Coast, on New Year's Day, the Victoria Chess Club by that important contest supplied an advertisement of the city

that is worth very considerable.... People who have thought of Victoria as little more than a frontier town cannot but find their opinion changing and their respect for British Columbia's Capital increased when they find that it has a chess club superior to any other in Canada and second to none on the Pacific coast. Such matches as that of New Year's Day go far to remove the impression – drawn from the pictures on the cans of salmon, which are perhaps the greatest advertisers this province has ever had – that British Columbia is a land of sea and siwash and salmon." [Ibid.]

BI-WEEKLY BAFFLER by Valer Eugen Demian



Baffler #27:

The famous American illusionist David Copperfield has been described by *Forbes* as the most commercially successful magician in history. One of his tricks I will forever remember is making the Statue of Liberty disappear in front of a live audience. I do not think he has ever tried chess tricks but if he did, this one feels to be down his alley! White to move and win. How's your magic?

Answer #26:



The most straight forward choice is the one we should start with:

a) 2.Qxg6+ Qxg6 3.Rxg6+ Kxg6 4.Kxe1 Kf5 5.Ke2 Ke4 (opposition) 6.Kf2 Kf4 0-1

All moves are pretty much forced and in the end White is simply losing the basic king and pawn endgame. Of course this is not acceptable, so we turn our attention to:

b) 2.Rxg6+ Qxg6 3.Qd7+ The idea behind this check is simple: Black either has to play a very difficult to win queen and pawn endgame (already an improvement over the other line), or the king will be one step behind in its quest

to reach the center and win the opposition. 3...Qf7+ 4.Qxf7+ Kxf7 5.Kxe1 Ke7 (distant opposition) 6.Kf2 Kf6 (distant opposition) 7.g4 hxg3+ 8.Kxg3 1/2-1/2. Each side has one passed pawn left and they cancel each other out.

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 Championship

September 2014 - May 2015, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

VCS October Active

October 5, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

BC Closed

October 10-13, Victoria

[Details](#)

Vancouver Open

October 11-13, Surrey

[Details](#)

Lake City Open

October 18, Williams Lake

[Details](#)

East Vancouver October Active

October 19, Vancouver Bridge Centre

[Details](#)

Knightmare October Quads

October 19, Burnaby

[Details](#)

VCS November Active

November 2, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

Knightmare November Quads

November 9, Burnaby

[Details](#)

Jack Taylor Memorial

November 15-16, Victoria

[Details](#)

Knightmare November Quads

November 30, Burnaby

[Details](#)

VCS December Active

December 7, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

East Vancouver December Active

December 14, Vancouver Bridge Centre

[Details](#)

Knightmare Christmas Quads

December 28, Burnaby

[Details](#)