

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #300

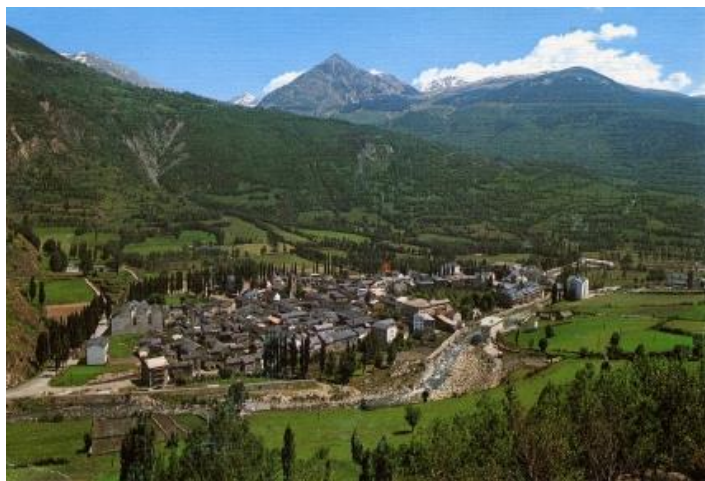
The first issue of the Bulletin was published on September 4, 2002, and here we are at issue three hundred – where did all the time go? There have been many changes in B.C. chess in the last thirteen years, some good, some not so good, but as we approach the hundredth B.C. Closed this year and the hundredth anniversary of the federation next year we will continue to report on and encourage the B.C. chess community as best we can.

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

35th Benasque Open (July 3-11)



IM Leon Piasetski is now in the Spanish Pyrenees, among the field of four hundred (including thirty-four grandmasters) currently taking part in the annual Benasque Open. After five rounds Leon has 3.0 points. [Standings](#)

World Open (June 30 – July 5)

Now in its forty-third year, the \$210,000 total prize fund for the World Open may have been eclipsed by Maurice Ashley's Millionaire Chess but the World Open remains for the time being the larger event. Five players from this province made the trek to Arlington, Virginia for the tournament (although the first two were there already for the DC International, see below): Jason Cao and Tanraj Sohal (Open), James Chan (U2200), and Patrick Huang and Severo Caluza (U2000). The only prize winner was Patrick Huang, who took first on tiebreak in the Under 13 Open (one of the side events). As is often the case, the World Open itself finished with a logjam at the top, with GMs Smirin, Mamedov, Edouard, Bachmann, Nyzhnyk, Lenderman, Ipatov, and Maghami all scoring 7.0/9. Lenderman took the title after a playoff. [Tournament website](#). N.B., beginning with this issue we will include extra games in the PGN file which will not appear in the Bulletin itself.

Tarhon, Brian - Cao, Jason [B95] World op 43rd Arlington, Virginia (6), 04.07.2015

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.f3 e6 8.Qd2 b5 9.a3 Bb7 10.h4 Be7 11.0-0-0 0-0 12.g4 Rc8 13.Be2 Nb6 14.Kb1 Nc4 15.Bxc4 Rxc4 16.Be3 Qc7 17.h5 Rc8 18.g5 Nd7 19.g6 Rxc3 20.gxf7+ Kxf7 21.Qxc3 Qxc3 22.bxc3 Rxc3 23.Bc1 Nb6 24.Nb3 Rxf3 25.Rhf1 Rxf1 26.Rxf1+ Bf6 27.Bg5 Bxe4 28.Nd2 Bf5 29.Bxf6 gxf6 30.Rg1 e5 31.Nf3 h6 32.Kb2 d5 33.Kc3 d4+ 34.Kb4 Bxc2 35.Ka5 Nc4+ 36.Kxa6 Nxa3 37.Ka5 Be4 38.Nh4 d3 39.Kb4 d2 40.Kxa3 Bc2 41.Nf5 d1Q 42.Nxh6+ Ke6 43.Rxd1 Bxd1 44.Kb4 Bxh5 45.Kxb5 f5 46.Kc5 Bf7 47.Kc6 e4 0-1

Sohal, Tanraj - Shetty, Atulya [D36] World op 43rd Arlington, Virginia (8), 05.07.2015

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Nbd7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.e3 c6 7.Bd3 Bd6 8.Qc2 Nf8 9.Bh4 Ng6 10.Bg3 0-0 11.Nf3 Re8 12.Bxd6 Qxd6 13.0-0 Bd7 14.Rab1 Re7 15.b4 a6 16.a4 Rae8 17.b5 axb5 18.axb5 Ne4 19.bxc6 bxc6 20.Bxe4 dxe4 21.Nd2 Bf5 22.Ne2 Nh4 23.Ng3 Qd7 24.Kh1 Re6 25.Nxf5 Nxf5 26.Rg1 h5 27.Nf1 h4 28.h3 Ne7 29.Nh2 f5 30.Qe2 g6 31.Rb3 Nd5 32.Qb2 R6e7 33.Rb8 Qa7 34.Rxe8+ Rxe8 35.Rb1 Kf7 36.Nf1 Ra8 37.Nd2 Qa6 38.Nc4 Kg7 39.Ne5 Kh6 40.Nf7+ Kg7 41.Ne5 Kh6 42.Rc1 Qb5 43.Qd2 Qb4 44.Qc2 Ne7 45.Nxc6 Nxc6 46.Qxc6 Qb2 47.Qxa8 Qxc1+ 48.Kh2 Qc7+ 49.Kg1 Qc1+ 50.Kh2 ½-½

D.C. International (June 25-30)

Held in Arlington, Virginia, the 3rd D.C. International offered a \$10,000 guaranteed prize fund and the chance to obtain GM and IM norms. One who achieved the latter was current B.C. champion Jason Cao, who earned his second IM norm with a round to spare – congratulations!

+ Gary De Fotis	1957	- GM Jianchao Zhou	2597
= GM Axel Bachmann	2626	+ IM Kassa Korley	2435
+ WFM Rachel Ulrich	2181	= GM Sam Sevian	2578
= IM Nico Georgiadis	2479	= FM Michael Bodek	2425
+ IM Odion Aikhoje	2274		

Overall winners of the one hundred and twenty-two player event were GMs Luke McShane, Ehsan Ghaem Maghami, Magesh Panchanathan, and IM Andrey Gorovets with 7.0/9, while top Canadian was Anton Kovalyov who tied for fifth. The field also included former B.C. champion Tanraj Sohal, who scored 50%. [Standings](#)

Bachmann, Axel - Cao, Jason [A13] DC International 3rd Arlington, VA (2), 26.06.2015

1.g3 e6 2.Bg2 Nf6 3.Nf3 d5 4.0-0 c5 5.c4 d4 6.e3 Nc6 7.exd4 cxd4 8.d3 Bd6 9.a3 a5 10.Bg5 0-0 11.Nbd2 e5 12.Re1 Re8 13.Rc1 Bf5 14.Ne4 Be7 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.c5 Be7 17.Nfd2 Rb8 18.Nc4 Bxe4 19.Bxe4 Bxc5 20.Bxc6 bxc6 21.Nxe5 Qd5 22.Nc4 g6 23.Qa4 Bf8 24.Rxe8 Rxe8 25.Nxa5 Re2 26.Nxc6 Rxb2 27.Qxd4 Qxd4 28.Nxd4 Bxa3 29.Rc8+ Kg7 30.Nc2 Be7 31.Kf1 h5 32.h4 Kf6 33.Rc6+ Ke5 34.Ne3 Ra2 35.Kg2 Ra7 36.Kf3 Kd4 37.Ke2 Ra2+ 38.Nc2+ Kd5 39.Rc4 Rb2 40.Kf3 Bc5 41.Rc3 Rb6 42.d4 Bxd4 ½-½

Cao, Jason - Korley, Kassa [B01] DC International 3rd Arlington, VA (7), 28.06.2015

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 c6 8.Be3 e6 9.Bd3 Nbd7 10.0-0 g6 11.Ne4 Nxe4 12.Bxe4 Bg7 13.Rad1 0-0 14.c4 Qa5 15.Bb1 Rad8 16.b3 f5 17.Bg5 Rde8

18.Bd2 Qc7 19.Bb4 Rf7 20.Rfe1 e5 21.dxe5 Bxe5 22.Bd6 Qc8 23.c5 Rf6 24.Bd3 Bxd6 25.Bc4+ Kg7 26.cxd6 Qd8 27.Qc3 Nc5 28.Rxe8 Qxe8 29.Qd4 Nd7 30.Kf1 Qf8 31.Be6 Qd8 32.b4 a6 33.f4 h5 34.h4 Nf8 35.Bb3 Qd7 36.Qe5 1–0

Sevian, Samuel - Cao, Jason [B90] DC International 3rd Arlington, VA (8), 29.06.2015

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.f3 Be6 9.Qd2 0–0
10.0–0–0 Nbd7 11.g4 b5 12.Rg1 b4 13.Nd5 Bxd5 14.exd5 a5 15.g5 Nh5 16.Kb1 f5 17.gxf6 Rxf6
18.Bb5 Nf8 19.Bc6 Rc8 20.Qe2 Ng6 21.Nd2 Nh4 22.Qf2 Nf5 23.Bb6 Qf8 24.Ne4 Rh6 25.Bxa5 Nd4
26.Bxb4 Nf4 27.Rgf1 Nxc6 28.dxc6 d5 29.Bxe7 Qxe7 30.Nc3 d4 31.Ne2 Nd5 32.Nxd4 exd4
33.Qxd4 Ne3 34.Rfe1 Re6 35.Rd3 Nf5 36.Rxe6 Qxe6 37.Qd5 Rxc6 38.Qxe6+ Rxe6 39.a4 Kf7
40.b4 Rd6 41.Rc3 Rd4 42.Rc7+ Ke6 43.c3 Rd7 44.Rc6+ Rd6 ½–½

7th Carlos I Open (June 20-28)

Held in the Galician Spanish town of Sanxenxo (just north of Portugal on the Atlantic coast), the seventh edition of the Carlos I open attracted some one hundred and thirty players including B.C.'s Leon Piasetski. Leon finished tied for sixth place with 6.5/9; the overall winner was Spanish GM Angel Arribas Lopez with 8.0 points. [Standings](#)

Piasetski, Leon - Hoffman, Alejandro [B38] Carlos I op 7th Sanxenxo (4.5), 23.06.2015

1.Nf3 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.d4 c5 4.e4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3 0–0 8.Be2 d6 9.0–0 Nxd4
10.Bxd4 Bd7 11.Qd2 Bc6 12.f3 a5 13.b3 Nd7 14.Be3 Nc5 15.Rac1 Qb6 16.Rc2 Rfc8 17.Rb1 h5
18.Bf1 Kh7 19.Bf2 Qd8 20.Rd1 b6 21.h3 Be5 22.g4 e6 23.Ne2 hxg4 24.hxg4 Qe7 25.g5 Rh8
26.Bg2 Kg8 27.f4 Nxe4 28.Qe1 Bg7 29.Nd4 Bb7 30.Nb5 e5 31.Bxb6 exf4 32.Nxd6 f3 33.Bxf3
Qxg5+ 34.Rg2 Qh6 35.Nxe4 Qh1+ 36.Kf2 Qh4+ 37.Kf1 Re8 38.Qxh4 Rxh4 39.Nf6+ Bxf6 40.Bxb7
1–0

June Active (June 21)



The June edition of the monthly actives held at the Vancouver Chess School was, as usual, split into two components, one for adults and stronger juniors, the other for juniors rated below CFC 1100/CMA 1200. The fifteen-player field was headed by Luc Poitras, but whether from rust or other reasons he did not have a great event, finishing with 3.0 points. Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj scored a perfect 6.0/6 to take the first prize, while second/third was shared by newcomer Igharas Gilberto,

James Li, and Daniel Wang's father Kai (it was Father's Day, after all). The spot for the year-end Grand Prix tournament goes to James Li on tiebreak.



The junior portion of the June Active consisted of two sections, Open and U600. In the Open trophies were awarded to Jemelyn Reyes, Xuanying Yu, Bill Wang, Jiayi Shi, Alexander Lu, and Andrew Xu and a medal to Anna Van, while the U600 Section winners were Ryan Yang, Jeremy Reyes, and Ethan Zheng; in addition, Ray Zhang, Alex Chen, Matthew Ji, Yiguo Song, Adrian Zheng, and Andy Huang earned medals. A total of twenty-two players took part in the two sections.



National Open (June 18-21)

Part of the Las Vegas International Chess Festival, this year's 50th National Open included three participants from this province, Constantin Rotariu (U2000), Patrick Huang (U1800), and Conrad Burgert (U1400). The latter tied for second in his section, winning \$750. The open winners were GMs Aleksey Dreev, Gata Kamsky, Illia Nyzhnyk, and Axel Bachmann with 5.0/6. [Tournament website](#)

Newport June Open (June 13-14)

Organized by the Central Coast Chess Club and directed by Hanneign Pitre, this four-round Swiss in Newport, Oregon attracted thirty-five players in three sections. The overall winner was Aaron

Grabinsky with a perfect score, while Patrick Huang started his continental road trip by accomplishing the same feat in the Reserve Section. [USCF crosstable](#)

2015 B.C. SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP by TD Joe "Throwback" Roback



(photos by Victoria Jung-Doknjas)

This year's B.C. Senior Championship was another great success thanks to co-organizers Victoria Doknjas and Paul Leblanc. It is easily the smoothest (and possibly the friendliest) tournament to organize every year. This marks the third annual Senior Championship (the previous year's championship was held at the same venue, and the first was hosted at the SFU Burnaby Campus). Though the prizes were modest, this was the strongest and largest turnout of the event yet. The opening ceremony was attended by BC Minister of Education and MLA for Surrey-Fleetwood, Peter Fassbender (wearing the yellow shirt in photo).

NM Mayo Fuentebella (2298 CFC) won the event with a clear first place (4.5/5). Despite Mayo's death-grip on the Vancouver tournament scene, he rarely plays in longer standard-time, CFC-rated tournaments. Instead he opts more for local active events which he excels at on a consistent basis (for example he placed first in the B.C. Active Championships for 2011, 2012, 2013, as well as dozens of monthly actives).

Mayo was off to a strong start, defeating fellow Filipino migrants and 2014 B.C. Senior co-champions Joe Soliven and Jose Kagaoan. However, in round four Mayo played the key game of the tournament. He was paired with Roger Patterson who is a prolific B.C. Closed qualifier who also had a perfect 3.0/3 score. Roger played white in what looked like a Dutch Defence. In the middle game Roger seemed to have an advantageous, if not winning, position. Roger's bishop-pair controlled the promising open queen-side minority attack while Mayo was stuck with a bad bishop and questionable king-safety. Towards the end of the game Mayo managed to trade off a key bishop and neutralize white's trumps, converting to a draw. Roger went on to place clear second, conceding a second draw in the final round to the mysterious dark-horse Graham Swett (2075 CFC).

Resident-photographer, organizer, and mother of the talented Doknjas brothers Victoria Jung-Doknjas earned the top female prize with a series of upsets. Though Neil Monkhouse defeated a two-time B.C. Champion in an early round, he was narrowly edged out of the U1800 prize by co-

section prize winner George Kim. Our top octogenarian prize (80 years or better) was awarded to Case Dekker.



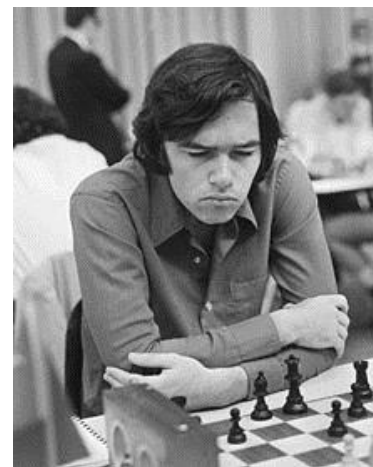
Special thanks to Neil Doknjas for stepping up as a floater and thank you to all of our generous donors who keep entry fees low and help make this event possible.

Patterson, Roger - Fuentebella, Mayo [A89] BC Senior ch 3rd Surrey (4), 28.06.2015

1.c4 f5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.d4 g6 4.g3 Bg7 5.Bg2 0–0 6.Nf3 d6 7.0–0 Nc6 8.b3 Ne4 9.Bb2 e6 10.Rc1 d5 11.e3 h6 12.Ne1 Kh7 13.Nd3 Re8 14.Qc2 Ne7 15.f3 Nd6 16.Ne5 Bxe5 17.dxe5 Nf7 18.cxd5 exd5 19.Ne2 c6 20.f4 Rg8 21.Rfd1 Qe8 22.Nd4 Nd8 23.b4 a6 24.a4 Ne6 25.Qb3 Bd7 26.Nxe6 Bxe6 27.Bd4 Rg7 28.Bf1 g5 29.b5 axb5 30.axb5 Ng6 31.Kh1 Rc7 32.bxc6 bxc6 33.Rc5 Qc8 34.Rb1 Nf8 35.Qd1 g4 36.Rbc1 Nd7 37.R5c2 c5 38.Bb5 c4 39.Bxd7 Qxd7 40.Ra1 Rb8 41.Rb1 Rcb7 42.Rxb7 Rxb7 43.Qa1 Kg7 44.Rb2 Rxb2 45.Qxb2 Qa4 46.Qb7+ Kg6 47.Qe7 ½–½

WALTER SHAWN BROWNE (January 10, 1949 – June 24, 2015)

We are saddened to learn of the sudden death of six-time U.S. champion Walter Browne, who passed away in his sleep at the home of his friend Ronald Gross after participating in the Las Vegas International Chess Festival. Born in Australia and a representative of that country until settling in the States in 1973, Browne was one of the dominant figures in U.S. chess in the 1970s and 80s. Apart from his string of U.S. championship wins (between 1974 and 1983), Browne had international tournament victories and five bronze Olympiad medals to his credit, along with winning the National Open eleven times, the American Open seven times, and the World Open three times. Known for deep calculation and resultant severe time scrambles, Browne founded the World Blitz Chess Association and in later life made a career playing poker and other games. In 2012 Browne produced *The Stress of Chess ... and its Infinite Finesse*, an autobiographical games collection.



Browne in 1971, sans his trademark moustache

In terms of this country, Browne played in the Canadian Open several times but only won it once ([Windsor 1991](#)). He did win the first [Pan-American Individual Championship](#), held in Winnipeg in

1974. Browne played twice in this province. In the [1971 Canadian Open](#), held at the Ponderosa Café at UBC, Browne shared third/fifth places with Zvonko Vranesic and Duncan Suttles, each receiving \$250 (reigning World Champion Boris Spassky and Dutch Champion Hans Ree won \$800 each in tying for first – the entry fee was \$25). And as we saw in [Bulletin #298](#), Walter Browne was Paul Keres' last opponent at [Vancouver 1975](#); his loss in that game dropped him down to a tie for sixth, behind Keres himself, John Watson, Elod Macskasy (to whom he lost on time), Gyoza Forintos, and Duncan Suttles. Given that Browne's years of dominance coincided with Suttles' time as an active grandmaster and Biyiasas' rise to that title, there were a number of games between the three of them. Suttles played Browne in [San Antonio 1972](#), the event which led to Suttles being granted the GM title, and Browne was the co-winner of Suttles' last international tournament, the massive [First Lady International](#) in Indonesia (1982 – a twenty-six player round robin!). Biyiasas was part of the field at Winnipeg 1974, and also played at Hoogovens/Wijk aan Zee 1980, where Browne tied for first with Yasser Seirawan ahead of Victor Kortchnoi (Biyiasas tied for fourth) and Greenville 1980, Browne's fourth win of the U.S. championship (Biyiasas himself had moved to the U.S. by this point). Unfortunately for Browne, his most memorable game with a Canadian was his loss to Duncan Suttles in the last round of the 1973 U.S. Open in Chicago, discussed in detail in volume 1 of *Chess on the Edge*. [ChessBase article](#)

Requiescat in pace

Browne,Walter S. - Suttles,Duncan [B06] US op Chicago (12), 24.08.1973

1.e4 g6 2.d4 d6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 c6 5.Be2 b5 6.a3 a6 7.0–0 Nd7 8.Bg5 Bb7 9.Re1 Qc7 10.Qd2 h6 11.Bh4 c5 12.Rad1 Rc8 13.a4 b4 14.Nd5 Qa5 15.Bc4 cxd4 16.b3 g5 17.Bg3 e5 18.Nxd4 exd4 19.Bxd6 Ne5 20.Be2 Nc6 21.Bg4 Nge7 22.Nxe7 Nxe7 23.Bxc8 Bxc8 24.Bxb4 Qc7 25.e5 0–0 26.Qxd4 Nf5 27.Qc3 Qxc3 28.Bxc3 Nh4 29.f3 Bf5 30.Bb4 Rb8 31.c3 Bc2 32.Rd6 Bxb3 33.Rxa6 Ng6 34.Ra5 Nf4 35.g3 Nd3 36.Re3 Nb2 37.Rc5 Rd8 38.a5 Rd1+ 39.Kg2 Rd2+ 40.Kf1 Bc4+ 41.Kg1 Rd1+ 42.Kg2 Bf1+ 43.Kf2 Kh7 44.f4 g4 45.Rc6 Bb5 46.Rd6 Bf8 47.Re1 Bxd6 48.Rxd1 Nxd1+ 49.Ke1 Bxb4 50.cxb4 Ne3 0–1

Watson, John L. - Browne, Walter S. [A24] Vancouver 1975 Vancouver (9), 24.05.1975

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0–0 5.e4 d6 6.Nge2 e5 7.0–0 Nbd7 8.f4 c6 9.h3 b5 10.cxb5 cxb5 11.a3 Bb7 12.Kh2 a5 13.d4 b4 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.exd5 Nc4 18.Qb3 Ba6 19.axb4 Rb8 20.Rf4 Rxb4 21.Qxb4 axb4 22.Rxa6 Nxb2 23.Bxb2 Bxb2 24.Rxb4 Be5 25.Rb7 Qc8 26.Rab6 Qc4 27.Bf3 Ra8 28.Rb4 Qd3 29.Rb3 Qd2 30.d6 Bxd6 31.Rd7 Re8 0–1

Browne, Walter S. - Biyiasas, Peter [E69] US ch Greenville (10), 06.1980

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.g3 0–0 5.Bg2 d6 6.Nc3 Nbd7 7.0–0 e5 8.e4 c6 9.h3 Qb6 10.b3 exd4 11.Na4 Qa5 12.Nxd4 Nb6 13.Bd2 Qh5 14.Nc3 Bxh3 15.Qxh5 Nxh5 16.Nxc6 Bxg2 17.Ne7+ Kh8 18.Kxg2 Rae8 19.Ned5 Nxd5 20.exd5 a6 21.Rac1 f5 22.Rfe1 Kg8 23.Ne2 Bb2 24.Rcd1 Be5 25.Bh6 Bg7 26.Bc1 Be5 27.Bh6 Bg7 28.Bc1 Be5 29.Nd4 Bxd4 30.Rxe8 Rxe8 31.Rxd4 Kf7 32.Ba3 Ke7 33.f3 Kd7 34.Kf2 Nf6 35.Bb2 h5 36.Rh4 Ng8 37.g4 fxg4 38.fxg4 Rf8+ 39.Kg3 Nf6 40.Bxf6 Rxf6 41.gxh5 gxh5 42.Rxh5 Rf1 43.Rh7+ Kc8 44.Kg4 Rf2 45.a4 a5 46.Re7 Rf1 47.Rh7 Rf2 48.Rh3 Kc7 49.Rf3 Rb2 50.Kf5 Re2 51.Rh3 Kb6 52.Rh8 Re3 53.Rc8 Re5+ 54.Kf6 Re3 55.Kf7 Re1 56.Kf6 Re3 57.c5+ dxc5 58.d6 Rd3 59.Ke7 Re3+ 60.Kf6 Rd3 61.Ke7 Re3+ 62.Kd8 1–0

Coincidentally we have learned of the passing of another strong American player from the 1970s, IM Kim Commons (1951-2015), who died shortly before Walter Browne after suffering a major stroke the previous weekend. His best chess result was at the 1976 Haifa Olympiad, where he had the highest percentage result, 83.3%, including a win over a young English IM named John Nunn. Commons gave up chess for a career in real estate; at the time of his death he owned Club Red, a music venue in Mesa, Arizona.

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Harper, B - Opponent [A00] Internet Chess Club Internet Chess Club

1.g3 [0:03:00] 1...d5 [0:03:00] 2.Bg2 [0:02:59] 2...c6 [0:03:00] 3.d3 [0:02:58] 3...g6 [0:02:59] 4.Nc3 [0:02:57] 4...Bg7 [0:02:59] 5.Bd2 [0:02:56] 5...e5 [0:02:59] 6.e4 [0:02:55]



This is a common variation. Black can't be worse, but somehow often gets a worse position. 6...Ne7 [0:02:58] 7.f4 [0:02:54] Play like you're winning! 7...0-0 [0:02:57] 8.Nf3 [0:02:53] 8...exf4 [0:02:55] 9.gxf4 [0:02:52] 9...d4 [0:02:55] It is probably better to maintain the tension, or even to exchange with 9...dxe4.] 10.Ne2 [0:02:50]



10...f5?! [0:02:54] Black has taken only six seconds to this point, but maybe some thought was justified. 10...f5?! is a bit paranoid, as White wasn't threatening to advance his pawn duo. 11.e5 [0:02:43] 11...c5 [0:02:53]



12.h4! [0:02:42] This gets the nod from the engine as well. White hasn't castled, so his h1–rook is perfectly placed to support an immediate advance of the h-pawn. White's real goal is to weaken g5, so his f3–knight can go there. **12...Nd5?!** [0:02:51] Going for the e3–square like a dog to a bone, but with Black's g7–bishop safely buried, White shouldn't have any real problems on his dark squares. **13.h5!** [0:02:40] **13...Nc6** [0:02:50] **14.hxg6** [0:02:38] **14...hxg6** [0:02:50] **15.Ng5** [0:02:32] I knew when I played this that 15.c3(!) was more subtle, as White would like to create pressure along the a2–g8 diagonal to supplement the attack down the now-open h-file. The idea of mating down the h-file is a fantasy, but sometimes fantasies come true. **15...Ne3?!** [0:02:42] Continuing a bad plan. **16.Bxe3** [0:02:29] **16...dxe3** [0:02:42]



17.Bxc6?! [0:02:14] A sort of sick idea that is probably typical of the way I play. Exchanging on c6 is super-positional and super-tactical at the same time, and not that great in reality. 17.c3 was simpler, threatening 18.Qb3+. Black would then have to give up the exchange with 17...Nxe5 18.fxe5 Qxg5 19. Bd5+. But the engine gives us an even better alternative - 17.d4!, which I have to admit I had to look at closely before I could even understand it. The idea is that once Black has a pawn on d4 (after either 17...cxd4 or 17...Nxd4 18.Nxd4 cxd4) White plays 18 (or 19)...c3!, and the queen check on b3 is devastating. Black can't stop this with ...Qb6, because then White has an equally horrible check on d5 with his g2–bishop. Who would have thought? **17...bxc6** [0:02:40] **18.Qc1** [0:02:13] **18...Qd5?!** [0:02:29] The natural move, which White was expecting. The immediate 18...Bxe5 is better. **19.Rh2** [0:02:11] **19...Bxe5** [0:02:24] **20.Qxe3** [0:02:09] It actually didn't occur to me that I could have taken on e5, with an extra piece - although after 20.fxe5 f4, I would have had to give it back soon. **20...Bxb2** [0:02:08] **21.Qh3** [0:02:03]



All White's efforts have been directed at getting his queen to the h-file. Will it be mate? Not yet - there are still some adventures coming. **21...Re8** [0:01:59] **22.c4?** [0:01:43] I have a very good excuse for playing this instead of the natural 22. Rb1. I didn't see that Black's queen could move to a square that covered f7 (and h7 too, come to think of it). After 22.Rb1! Bd4 23.Qh7+ Kf8 24.Kd2!, White just wins. **22...Qd7** [0:01:25] Oops! Now White has to start all over again... **23.Rb1** [0:01:28] **23...Bf6** [0:01:23] **24.Qh6** [0:01:21] **24...Qg7** [0:01:18] **25.Kf2** [0:01:12]



25...Qxh6? [0:01:13] As expected, except there was no reason at all for Black to expose his g6-pawn to attack. But psychologically, after being under attack for a number of moves, it's difficult to resist the impulse to trade queens. **26.Rxh6** [0:01:12] **26...Bxg5?** [0:01:13] **27.fxg5** [0:01:10]



Let's look at the position from a purely strategic point of view. Black's c8-bishop is in danger of become completely irrelevant after Ne2-f4, and White controls the all-important h-file. Finally, Black's g6-pawn is weak. Taking all of this into account, Black panics. **27...f4?** [0:00:54] 27...Kf7 was the only chance, but not much of one. **28.Rxg6+!** [0:01:05] **28...Kh7?** [0:00:52] **29.Nxf4** [0:00:59]



29...Bh3 [0:00:35] After a 17 second think, Black decides to lose without honour. **30.Rh1** [0:00:55]
30...Re6 [0:00:29]



31.Rxh3# [0:00:27] I waited for almost 30 seconds, but Black didn't seem to know how to resign, so ... mate.
1-0

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>

“Any interested parties that would like to take over the TD duties at UBC please contact me [Aaron]. It would be preferred that interested parties be able to take over on a long term basis. Thank you”

July Active

July 19, Vancouver Chess School

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Vancouver West Open #6

August 1-2, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

7th Bowser Builders Supply Open

August 9, Bowser

[Details](#)

August Active

August 16, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)