

# BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #304

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](mailto:swright2@telus.net)); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

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## HERE AND THERE

### Langley Open (September 5-7)

Now in its tenth year after moving to Langley from Victoria, this traditional Labour Day weekend event is the last major tournament in B.C. in only one section, plus is the last qualifying event for the upcoming provincial championship. As a result the competition is perhaps a bit keener, aided this year by the participation of IM Raymond Kaufman. However, Kaufman only tied for second; first place was won by Tanraj Sohal, adding another tournament victory to an already impressive list. Tanraj won his first five games and then drew in the last round for a final score of 5.5/6. A half point back was the trio of James Chan, Jason Kenney, and Kaufman. James has had some excellent results of late and this one, including handing Kaufman his only loss, resulted in him going over 2200 for the first time ever. James also won the qualifying spot for the B.C. Closed. Joe Roback, Jofrel Landingin, and Richard Ingram tied for the U2000 prizes with 4.5 points, while Robert Hamm, Andrew Hoyer, Callum Lehingrat all scored 3.5 in tying for the U1700 prizes. Finally Daniel Wang was recipient of the upset prize for beating H.G. Pitre in the first round, a difference of some 800 points. The tournament was organized by the Langley Chess Club (Hugh Long, President), promoted by Andrew Hoyer, and directed by Brian Davidson with pairings by Joe Roback. A total of fifty-three players participated. [Standings](#)

### **Sohal, Tanraj - Doknjas, John [A61] Langley op (5), 07.09.2015**

The renewal of a long theoretical battle between these two opponents in the Benoni. Coincidentally(?) the system here adopted by White is recommended in *The Kaufman Repertoire for Black and White*, the Kaufman in question being former World Senior Champion GM Larry Kaufman, father of IM Raymond Kaufman who tied for second in the tournament.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 a6 8.a4 Bg7 9.h3 0-0 10.e3 Qe7 11.Be2 Nbd7 12.0-0 Ne8 13.Re1 Ne5 14.Nd2 f5 15.Bh2 Nf6 16.a5 Bd7 17.Qb3 Rab8 18.f4 Nf7 19.Bf3 Rfe8 20.Nc4 Qd8 21.Nb6 Re7 22.Bg3 Qe8 23.Nc4 Bb5 24.Nxb5 axb5 25.Na3 b6 26.Qxb5 Qxb5 27.Nxb5 bxa5 28.Rxa5 Reb7 29.Na7 Rxb2 30.Nc6 Re8 31.Ra4 Rd2 32.Bh4 Kf8 33.Bxf6 Bxf6 34.Rb1 Rxe3 35.Ra8+ Re8 36.Ra7 Rb2 37.Rxb2 Bxb2 38.Ra4 h6 39.g4 fxg4 40.Bxg4 Re1+ 41.Kf2 Ra1 42.Rc4 Ra2 43.Rc2 Nd8 44.Ke2 Nb7 45.Bc8 c4 46.Bxb7 c3 47.Bc8 Ra1 48.Be6 Rh1 49.Nd4 Rg1 50.Kf2 Rc1 51.Rxc1 Bxc1 52.f5 Ba3 53.Nc2 1-0

### **Chan, James - Kyriakides, Saavas [B12] Langley op (5), 07.09.2015**

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 c5 6.0-0 Nd7 7.c4 Bxb1 8.Rxb1 Ne7 9.Qa4 cxd4 10.Nxd4 a6 11.b3 Qc7 12.Bf4 Ng6 13.Bg3 dxc4 14.bxc4 0-0-0 15.Nb3 Ngxe5 16.c5 Nxc5 17.Nxc5 Bxc5 18.Bxa6 Rd4 19.Qb5 bxa6 20.Qxa6+ Kd7 21.Rb7 Bd6 22.Rxc7+ Bxc7 23.Qb5+ Nc6 24.Rc1 1-0

## **Oregon Open** (September 5-7)

Organized by the Portland Chess Club, this year's Oregon Open attracted one hundred and three players, of whom only one was from British Columbia. However, IM Leon Piasetski's score of 5.0/6 left him in a four-way tie for first place with Carl Haessler, Michael MacGregor, and Clemen Deng.

[Standings](#)

## **Vancouver Open** (August 22-23)

Vancouver Washington, that is. Located on the north side of the Columbia River across from Portland, Oregon, the city hosted this eighty-two player event in two sections. The overall winners were Nick Raptis and Jason Cigan with 4.5/5; also playing in the Open Section was junior Patrick Huang of Victoria. And winner of the Reserve Section, also with 4.5/5, was a familiar player to those from the province – Andrea Botez. [Standings](#)

## **Kings vs. Princes** (August 14-16)



(photo by Victoria Jung-Doknjas)

This FIDE-rated Scheveningen event (the players on one team meet all the members of the opposing team) was designed to give experience to junior players before the upcoming WYCC competitions at the end of October. Held at the Seattle Chess Club and organized by Josh Sinanan of the Washington Chess Federation, the tournament pitted a team of experienced masters ("The Kings" – David Roper, Curt Collyer, Nick Raptis, William Schill, and Viktors Pupols) against a team of rising junior stars ("The Princes" – Noah Fields, Joshua Doknjas, John Doknjas, Bryce Tiglon, and Anthony He).

In this case youth won out over experience by the score of 14.0-11.0, while the best individual results were posted by John Doknjas (4.5/5), Bryce Tiglon (4.0), Curt Collyer (3.0), and Viktors Pupols and Noah Fields (2.5). An adjunct FIDE Round Robin was won by Eric Zhang (2.0/3) while Neil Doknjas and Naomi Bashkansky tied for second (1.5). [Northwest Chess Blog Report](#)

## Roper, David - Doknjas, John [B90] Kings vs. Princes Seattle (3), 15.08.2015

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Be3 Be7 9.g4 d5 10.g5 d4 11.gxf6 Bxf6 12.Na4 Bd7 13.Bf2 Bxa4 14.h4 Nd7 15.Qd2 0-0 16.0-0-0 a5 17.Kb1 Bc6 18.Bd3 Be7 19.Rdg1 Kh8 20.Rh2 a4 21.Nc1 Qb6 22.Rhg2 Bb4 23.Qe2 Bc3 24.Nb3 axb3 25.cxb3 Bb4 26.f4 Rg8 27.Rg5 Bf8 28.fxe5 Re8 29.Bg3 Nc5 30.Bh2 Nxd3 31.Qxd3 Re6 32.Rf5 Be8 33.h5 Qb5 34.Qf3 Qa5 35.Bf4 h6 36.Qg3 Bc6 37.Qg2 Bb5 38.Qg3 Qa6 39.a4 Be8 40.Rd1 d3 41.Rxd3 b5 42.axb5 Qxb5 43.Bd2 Qb7 44.Rd4 Qa7 45.Bc3 Qb6 46.Kc2 Rc6 47.Rd5 Qa6 48.Rf2 Bb4 49.Rd3 Bxc3 50.Rxc3 Rxc3+ 51.Qxc3 Bd7 52.Kd2 Be6 53.Ke3 Qb6+ 54.Kf3 Qxb3 55.Qxb3 Bxb3 56.Rd2 Be6 57.b4 Rc8 58.Rb2 Rc3+ 59.Kf4 Rb3 60.Rxb3 Bxb3 61.b5 Ba4 62.b6 Bc6 63.e6 fxe6 64.Ke5 Kg8 65.Kxe6 Bxe4 66.Ke7 g5 0-1

## 6<sup>th</sup> LUC Open (May 4-10)

Back in May, Brian McLaren participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> LUC Open in Lille, France (LUC being an acronym for Lille Université Club). He has kindly submitted a report, which can be viewed at this [link](#) – many thanks, Brian!

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## BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

### Opponent - Harper, Bruce [A41] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

1.d4 [0:03:00] 1...g6 [0:03:00] 2.Nf3 [0:02:58] 2...Bg7 [0:02:59] 3.g3 [0:02:56] 3...d6 [0:02:59] 4.Bg2 [0:02:55] 4...Nc6 [0:02:58] The "Suttles System" reversed.] 5.d5 [0:02:44] The most direct attempt at a refutation. Positionally, though, White blocks the h1-a8 diagonal for his g2-bishop, while opening the corresponding a1-h8 diagonal for Black's g7-bishop. On such subtleties were Duncan's openings based.] 5...Ne5 [0:02:56] 6.Nd4 [0:02:39] At this point I began to become more interested in the game. This has been seen before! 6...h5!? [0:02: 48]



It took me a few seconds to remember that Black can play this provocative, all-purpose move. 7.h3 [0:02:27] Curiously, in both (!) stem games, White answered 6...h5 with 7.h3. No one has ever tried 7.f4, but how many people have ever had the chance? Interestingly, Suttles himself recommends 7.f4. 7...Bd7!? [0:02:45] Seemingly an error. 8.f4 [0:02:17] 8...c5! [0:02:26] Still in "theory", if you want to call it that. 9.fxe5 [0:01:45] 9...cxd4 [0:02:12]





**10.exd6?! [0:01:39]** In both Forintos-Suttles, Tel Aviv Olympiad, 1964, and Pelts-Harper, Canadian Open, Ottawa, 1980, White played 10.e6!?! fxe6 11.Qd3 e5 12.Qxg6+ Kf8, and the pawn structure alone makes it worthwhile for Black to go into this position. Both games are given in full, with notes, in *Chess on the Edge*, Volume 1 (pages 41–47). I took 33 seconds to play 9...cxd4 because I was trying to find the games. By the time I did, White had diverged... 10.exd6?! is inferior to 10.e6!?! , as it leaves White without compensation for his structural weaknesses. Black stands better - and now I had two minutes to prove it. **10...exd6 [0:02:07] 11.Bf4 [0:01:30] 11...Qb6 [0:02:01]** Probably it wasn't even necessary to defend the d6-pawn, but b6 looked like the right square for Black's queen. **12.Nd2 [0:01:27] 12...Rc8 [0:01:57]** Another

sensible move, which happens to prevent 13. Nc4, if that needed to be prevented. **13.Ne4 [0:01:26] 13...Be5! [0:01: 53]**



The engine now gives Black a big advantage, and I never argue when it says nice things about my positions. **14.0-0? [0:01:20]** Understandable, but now White's king gets in trouble. **14...f5!?! [0:01:49]** A reasonable alternative to 14...d3+! and 15...dxc2, which I didn't play because I didn't see it. **15.Ng5 [0:01:17] 15...Nf6 [0:01:47]** 15...d3+! was still winning, but I have sometimes gotten in trouble for not developing my pieces, and I didn't mind if White's king went to the h-file. I also had a big time advantage and wanted to keep the game confusing. **16.Kh2 [0:01:05]**



**16...h4 [0:01:45]** Maybe this could be termed the "positional approach", as Black further weakens his opponent's pawn structure, rather than going for mate with the surprising 16...Ng4+ (no, that's not surprising, but what follows is, at least to me) 17.hxg4 hxg4+ 18.Kg1 d3+ 19.e3 Rxc2! 20.Qxd3 (to defend the e3-pawn) Qxb2, and White collapses along the second rank, of all places. **17.e4?! [0:00:50]**



After this it's all over. 17.Bf3 was better, but White's position is still falling apart. 17...dxe3 [0:01:40] 17...hxg3+ won as well. 18.Rf3 [0:00:38] 18...hxg3+ [0:01:27] 19.Bxg3 [0:00:37] 19...Ng4+ [0:01:15] 20.Kh1 [0:00:29] 20...Bxg3 [0:01:10] 21.Qe2 [0:00:21] 21...Be5 [0:01:01] 22.Kg1 [0:00:16] 22...Bb5 [0:00:55] 23.Qxe3 [0:00:14] 23...Nxe3 [0:00:53] White resigns. Black won without ever playing ...Qxb2, even though it was the best move for the past three or four moves. Still, a pretty convincing (and violent) vindication of Suttles' fifty-year old positional concept! 0-1

## BROWSING FOR ENDGAMES by Dan Scoones [dscoones@telus.net](mailto:dscoones@telus.net)

Here is another four vs three rook ending very similar to the one analysed in Bulletin #303. Our source today is the Endgame section of *Informant* #62.

### Svistunov, K (2295) - Vlassov, Nikolai (2425) [B00] Moscow-ch, 1994

1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 e5 4.dxe5 d4 5.Nd5 f5 6.exf6 Nxf6 7.Bb5 Nxd5 8.Qh5+ g6 9.Qxd5 Bb4+ 10.Bd2 Bxd2+ 11.Kxd2 Qf6 12.Ne2 Bd7 13.f4 0-0-0 14.Qg5 Qxg5 15.fxg5 Ne5 16.Bxd7+ Rxd7 17.Raf1 Nc4+ 18.Kc1 Re8 19.Rf4 Ne3 20.g4 c5 21.b3 Nd5 22.exd5 Rxe2 23.h4 Rxd5 24.h5 Re7 25.hxg6 hxg6 26.Rh8+ Kc7 27.Rg8 Rxc5 28.Rf6 Rxc4 29.Rfxg6 Rge4 30.a4 Re1+ 31.Kb2 R1e2 32.R8g7 Rxc7 33.Rxc7+ Kb6 34.Kb1 Ka6 35.Rg5 b6



In **Stein – Hartston** (Bulletin #303), the attacker's rook was on the sixth rank, but here it is already on the seventh rank. This is slightly dangerous for the defender because the move Kb2 could run into the shot ...d4-d3, piling up on White's c-pawn. Armed with the knowledge acquired last time we should not have much trouble spotting a reliable drawing method for White: 36.Rg3! Ka5 37.Kb2 Kb4 38.Rg4!, pinning Black's d-pawn from the side and preventing its advance. Then Black's only try for progress is 39...a6 40.Rg6! b5 41.axb5 axb5 42.Rd6 Rd2 but, as we saw during the analysis of **Stein – Hartston**, after 43.Rd8 the attacker (Black in this case) is stymied because 43...c4 runs into 44.Rxd4! followed by 45.c3+ with an immediate draw. In today's game White decides to play for further adventures, which was somewhat risky.

White to play



### 36.Rg7!? Ka5! 37.Rxa7+ Kb4 38.a5!

In this position, timely counterplay is the only way to draw. Black wins easily after 38.Rh7? Kc3 39.Rh3+ Re3 40.Rh1 d3 41.cxd3 Kxb3 42.a5 bxa5 43.Kc1 Rxd3, etc.

### 38...d3!?

After 38...bxa5 White has the reply 39.Kb2!, threatening mate and forcing Black's king to retreat, when there follows 39...Kb5 40.Rd7! Kc6 41.Rd8 Kc7 42.Rd5!, and Black can make no progress. The second alternative 38...b5 will be examined later as a **Peelback**.



### 39.cxd3?

The *Informant* annotators Sergei Shipov and Nikolai Vlassov believed that the sequence 39.axb6 d2 was winning for Black and punctuated it accordingly, but they had missed a clever defensive trick: 40.Ra4+! Kb5 (40...Kc3?? 41.Rc4#) 41.c4+! Kxb6 42.Kc2!, stopping Black's d-pawn. Here Black has one last try: 42...Rh2!? with the idea 43.Kd1?! Kc6 44.Ra2?? Rh1+ and wins, but much simpler is 43.Ra8! when the draw is clear.

### 39...Kxb3 40.Kc1



### 40...b5?

The right idea, but the wrong execution. The two Russian annotators did not notice that Black can win with 40...Kc3!! (forcing White's king into a much worse position before advancing the b-pawn) 41.Kd1 (or 41.Kb1 b5 42.Rc7 Re5 43.a6 b4 44.a7 Re1+ 45.Ka2 b3+ 46.Ka3 Ra1#) 41...Rd2+ 42.Ke1 b5 and now:

a) 43.a6 Ra2 44.Rc7 c4 45.Rc5 (45.dxc4 b4) 45...Kxd3 46.Rd5+ Kc3 47.Rxb5 Rxa6 48.Ke2 Kc2 49.Rb8 c3 and and Black will soon arrive at the Lucena position with an easy technical win;

b) 43.Rc7 43...Rxd3 44.Rxc5+ Kb4 45.Ke2 Rd8 46.Rc1 Kxa5 47.Ra1+ Kb6, with a technical win for Black. White's king is cut off along the file and his lone rook cannot stop Black from queening his pawn.

**41.Rc7 c4 42.dxc4 b4 43.a6 Kc3 44.Rd7!**

The only defence, but a completely adequate one. It is well-known that a knight's pawn does not win in this situation because the attacker cannot drive the defender's king away from the queening square.

**44...b3 45.Rd1! Re6 46.Kb1 Rxa6 47.Rc1+ Kd2 48.Rh1 1/2-1/2**

### Peelback

Let's go back to the position after **38.a5**.



Because 38...bxa5 leads to a draw, Black can instead try to keep things going with **38...b5**, when there are two main variations:

a) 39.a6? d3 40.cxd3 Kxb3 41.Kc1 Kc3! (The same trick as before, and much stronger than 41...Ra2 42.Rc7 Ra1+ 43.Kd2 Rxa6 44.Rxc5 b4 45.Rb5 Ka3 46.Kc2 Rc6+ 47.Kb1 and White draws, as given in *Informant*) 42.Kd1 Ra2 43.Rc7 c4 44.dxc4 b4 45.Rh7 Ra1+ 46.Ke2 b3 47.Rh3+ Kc2 and Black wins;

b) 39.Rc7! Re6 40.Kb2 Ra6 41.Rh7 Kxa5 (41...Rxa5?! 42.Rh4 Ra6 43.c3+ Ka5 44.cxd4 cxd4 45.Rxd4 with complete equality) 42.Rh5 Rc6 43.c3 dxc3+ (or 43...d3 44.Rd5, etc.) 44.Kxc3 and although White is still a pawn down he should be able to hold the draw.

In the endgame there is no substitute for accurate analysis and concrete knowledge.

## TWO VICTORIAN GAMES

Your editor recently searched an online database of Nineteenth-Century British Newspapers and received a citation to the *Leeds Mercury* of June 17, 1893. Opening the actual document revealed a chess column, part of which was the following:

No. 1,071.—Another specimen of the Giuoco Piano, played between Messrs. G. W. Blythe and E. T. Fletcher, at Victoria, British Columbia.

White,		Black,	
G. W. Blythe.	E. T. Fletcher.	G. W. Blythe.	E. T. Fletcher.
1 P to K 4	P to K 4	17 P takes Kt	P to Q B 4
2 Kt to K B 3	Kt to Q B 3	18 Q R to Q sq	P to B 5
3 B to Q B 4	B to Q B 4	19 Q to E 5	P to B 4
4 P to Q B 3	Kt to B 3	20 K R to K sq	P takes P
5 P to Q 4	P takes P	21 P takes P	B to K 4
6 P takes P	B to Kt 3	22 R to K 2	Q to Kt 3
7 B to K Kt 5	P to K Kt 3	23 P to K 6	P to B 3
8 B to K 4	P to Q 3	24 Q to Kt 6, ch	K to R sq
9 Castles	B to Kt 5	25 P to K 7	K R to K sq
10 B to Q Kt 5	P to Kt 4	26 Q to B 7	B to Kt 5
11 B to Kt 3	Castles	27 R to K 6	Q takes R
12 B takes Kt	P takes B	28 Q takes Q	B takes K P
13 Kt to B 3	P to Q 4	29 B to Q 6	B takes B
14 P to K 5	Kt to K 5	30 Q takes B P, ch K to K 2	
15 Q to Q 3	B takes Kt	31 Q takes B, and wins after several more moves.	
16 P takes B	Kt takes Kt		

White carries on his attack in very good style in this game. Black's best move is 6 B to Kt 5, ch, in this variation of the opening. Later on Black strengthened his Q's side at the expense of his King's side, and when White played on his K's Pawn, he really had no defence, and was powerless against the move of R to K 6. If Black for his 51st move tries Q R to Q sq, White plays his Queen to Q Kt 4, and follows by R to K sq, either exchanging another piece or getting command of the whole situation. The player of Black was one of the best players in British Columbia.

Who were Messrs. Blythe and Fletcher, not familiar names in terms of B.C. chess history, and why was a game played in Victoria published in a chess column in a Yorkshire newspaper?

Canadian census records from 1891 led to the name George William Blythe, a twenty-three year old law student living with his parents Augustine and Emily Blythe in the Johnson Street Ward of Victoria. Further research revealed that George was born in Harrogate, Yorkshire; his father was the Rev. Augustine Blythe, who "resided at Harrogate, without cure (i.e., without his own parish) for many years;" but for the years 1890-91 Rev. Blythe was assigned as naval chaplain at Esquimalt in British Columbia. So the game was from the period when George Blythe lived in Esquimalt; the family then moved back to England, when George thought sufficiently highly of the game to send it to the chess column he was most familiar with (Harrogate is 15 miles north of Leeds).

Blythe's opponent turned out to be Edward Taylor Fletcher (1817-1897), a figure important enough to be included in the [Dictionary of Canadian Biography](#). Surveyor, civil servant, writer, Fletcher spent most of his life in Eastern Canada (Toronto and Quebec City) before retiring to Victoria in 1887 where he lived with one of his sons. He subsequently resided with a second son in New Westminster, which is where he passed away a few months short of his eightieth birthday.



Fletcher had a prominent role in the Quebec City chess scene. Apart from club and intercity match play, he scored against Johannes Zukertort in simultaneous and blindfold displays when the latter visited the city in 1884, and was also a participant in the [6<sup>th</sup> Canadian Championship](#) in 1877. Despite his advanced age at the time, Fletcher may well have been “one of the best players in British Columbia,” as the above column puts it; he was made an honorary member of the New Westminster Chess Club when it was founded in 1895, indicating the high regard in which he was held.

### **Blythe, George William - Fletcher, Edward Taylor [C54] Victoria, 1891**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 d6 9.0–0 Bg4 10.Bb5 g5 11.Bg3 0–0 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Nc3 d5 14.e5 Ne4 15.Qd3 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Nxc3 17.bxc3 c5 18.Rad1 c4 19.Qf5 c5 20.Rfe1 cxd4 21.cxd4 Ba5 22.Re2 Qb6 23.e6 f6 24.Qg6+ Kh8 25.e7 Rfe8 26.Qf7 Bb4 27.Re6 Qxe6 28.Qxe6 Bxe7 29.Bd6 Bxd6 30.Qxf6+ Kh7 31.Qxd6 "... and wins after several more moves." 1–0

Further perusal of the *Leeds Mercury* column reveals a second Giuoco Piano played by Mr. Blythe had been published the previous week (but not detected by the search mechanism’s optical character recognition), this time against A.J. Rowbotham, who also had “quite a little repute as a player.” Arthur James Rowbotham was a Victoria merchant, the proprietor of a grocery store. In 1893 there was a [severe economic downturn](#) which left Rowbotham’s business in difficulties; he became morose and depressed, made a failed attempt to commit suicide in August 1894, and unfortunately succeeded a year later – he was forty-two years old.

### **Blythe, George William - Rowbotham, Arthur James [C56] Victoria, 1891**

[James West]

Mr. Blythe informs us he played the game about two years ago with one of the best players in Victoria, British Columbia. He plays it very steadily, keeping up the attack in good style.

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb6 7.Nc3 d6 8.h3 h6 9.0–0 0–0 10.Be3 Qe7 11.Re1** Mr. Blythe bore in mind at move 11 Mr. Blackburne's advice about attacking the queen, no matter how many pieces intervene, and in this case it turned out well. **11...Nxe4 12.Bxh6 Nxc3 13.bxc3 Qf6 14.Bg5 Qg6 15.Qd2 Bf5 16.Nh4 Qh7 17.Nxf5 Qxf5 18.Bd3 Qd5 19.Bc2 Na5 20.Qd3 f5 21.Qg3 c5 22.Re7 Rf7 23.Rae1 Raf8 24.Bf6 f4 25.Qg6** The ending is very interesting. Instead of 25.Qg6, Mr. van Vliet suggested that Mr. Blythe could have made himself memorable by 25.Qxg7+ Rxc7 26.Rxc7+ Kh8 27.Rc7+ Rxf6 28.Re8+ Rf8 29.Rxf8+ Qg8 30.Rh7# This is all very pretty, but as Mr. Blythe's play was equally effective in fewer moves, it was preferable to that suggested by Mr. van Vliet. **25...Rxe7 26.Rxe7** ... and wins. The game was well played by Mr. Blythe. **1–0**

[James West](#) (1835-1907) was the long-time editor of the chess column in the *Leeds Mercury* – it ran from 1879 until 1906. And [Louis van Vliet](#) (1854-1932) was a Dutch chess master who spent most of his life in England, where he wrote several chess columns. Whether the comments about the above game were through one of his columns or given in person to Blythe is not known. A further cursory examination of the *Leeds Mercury* chess column has not resulted in any more games from these shores, although the column in July included two “sprightly gambits” played by Blythe in London. G.W.B. were the initials of a correspondent to the column, one assumes Mr.

Blythe; in a May column West responded to G.W.B. "News to us that you had been abroad. Pleased at your return in safety"- presumably a reference to Blythe's sojourn in Esquimalt.

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## **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](mailto: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.

### **Knightmare Quads for kids**

September 13, Burnaby

[Details](#)

### **September Active**

September 13, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

### **Vancouver Rapid Chess League 2015-16**

September 13, 2015 - April 20, 2016

Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

### **Victoria Active Fundraiser**

September 26, Victoria

[Details](#)

### **Knightmare Quads for kids**

October 4, Burnaby

[Details](#)

### **October Active**

October 4, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

### **Vancouver Open**

October 10-12, Surrey

[Details](#)

### **LakeCity Open**

October 24, Williams Lake

[Details](#)

### **Knightmare Quads for kids**

November 1, Burnaby

[Details](#)

### **November Active**

November 1, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

### **Jack Taylor Memorial**

November 14-15, Victoria

[Details](#)