

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #326

Your editor welcomes any and all submissions – news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to BC 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

Vancouver Open (October 8-10)

This year's Vancouver Open, organized, directed, and hosted by Eugenio Alonso Campos at his Surrey home, attracted twenty-four players, the majority juniors. And it was juniors who took the top three places: Alec Chung and Callum Lehingrat tied for first with 5.0/6 each, closely followed by Chuyang Gu with 4.5 points. Another junior who did well was Lucian Wu, whose 4.0/6 translated into a rating gain of 140 points. He tied for fourth with top-ranked Paul Leblanc (who lost to Wu), Ulvi Ibrahimov, and Jonathan Steif. We are uncertain about other prizes as a complete list of winners is not available, but other making significant ratings gains were Ethan Su and Kevin Tang. [CFC crosstable](#)

3rd Millionaire Chess (October 6-10)

There were a number of changes to this year's edition of Maurice Ashley's Millionaire Chess tournament. Apart from moving from Las Vegas to Atlantic City, the entry fees were lowered (beginning at \$549!) and the prize fund was also smaller, guaranteed at \$300,000 rather than the namesake million, with a first prize of \$30,000 (down from \$100,000 last year). This was an attempt to keep the event commercially viable, but with only 450 entrants the tournament lost money again and it seems likely this will be its last year. Moving to Atlantic City to be closer to East Coast population centres did not have the desired effect, and a scheduling conflict with the Isle of Man International (below) didn't help either.

Winner of the overall first prize was Dariusz Swiercz (Poland), who beat Gawain Jones (England) in the final (the tournament consists of a seven-round Swiss to produce four finalists who then play a knockout on 'Millionaire Monday' for the top prizes in each section). Players from this province who made the journey were Houshyar Ghandi, Patrick Huang, and Davaa-Ochir and Uranchimeg Nyamdorj; other entrants included H.G. Pitre and Josh Sinanan from Washington State. Last year Davaa placed fourth in the U2200 Section; this year his sister Uranchimeg tied for fourth place in the U2000 Section with 5.5/7 but lost the playoff to move on to Millionaire Monday. However, this was still worth \$940, plus she won one of the female prizes for an additional \$300. The section prizes went down to fortieth place, and Houshyar Ghandi tied for twenty-third in the U1800 Section, also worth \$300. [Tournament website](#)

Isle of Man International (October 1-9)

One of the strongest swiss events this year has just taken place on the Isle of Man, an island in the Irish Sea between England and Ireland. Sponsored by the chess.com website, the Scheinberg Family and various local organizations, the one hundred and thirty-three player Masters Section

included forty-eight grandmasters, seven of them rated over 2700. Pavel Eljanov and Fabiano Caruana tied for first with 7.5/9 with Arkadij Naiditsch third. Also participating was Brian McLaren; he drew with Indian GM Shardul Gagare in the first round, and was subsequently paired with sixteenth-ranked UAE GM Saleh Salem in the second. Brian scored 3.5/9, including a half-point bye. [Tournament website](#)



**McLaren, Brian - Gagare, Shardul [B24]
Isle of Man Masters Douglas (1.44), 01.10.2016**

1.e4 e6 2.d3 c5 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nd4 7.Nce2 Ne7 8.c3 Nxe2 9.Nxe2 d6 10.Qd2 0–0 11.Rd1 e5 12.0–0 Be6 13.b3 b6 14.d4 Qc7 15.f4 exd4 16.cxd4 Rad8 17.f5 gxf5 18.Bh6 f6 19.d5 Bd7 20.Bxg7 Kxg7 21.Nf4 Kh8 22.Nh5 Be8 23.Nf4 Bd7 24.Nh5 Be8 25.Nf4 Bd7 26.Nh5 ½–½

World Youth Chess Championship (September 22 – October 3)

In the U16 Section of the Khanty Mansiysk WYCC James Li had 4.0 points out of seven games but could only draw one of his last four games. Nevertheless his final score of 4.5/11 equated to a 2105 performance rating. Best Canadian scores were achieved by Michael Song and Maili-Jade Ouellet (6.0 points each) but they both underperformed. [Canadian results](#) [Canadian blog](#)



**Villca, Julian - Li, James [E63] WYCC U16
Khanty Mansiysk (7.28), 29.09.2016**

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0–0 5.0–0 d6 6.d4 Nc6 7.Nc3 a6 8.b3 Rb8 9.Bb2 b5 10.cxb5 axb5 11.Rc1 b4 12.Nb1 Na7 13.Qc2 Nb5 14.e4 d5 15.Ne5 Bb7 16.Qc5 Ba8 17.exd5 Nxd5 18.Nc6 Bxc6 19.Qxc6 e6 20.Rfd1 Rb6 21.Qc5 Qa8 22.Nd2 Re8 23.Nc4 Rbb8 24.Ne3 Qxa2 25.Nxd5 exd5 26.Rc2 Nc3 27.Rdd2 Re1+ 28.Bf1 Qb1 0–1

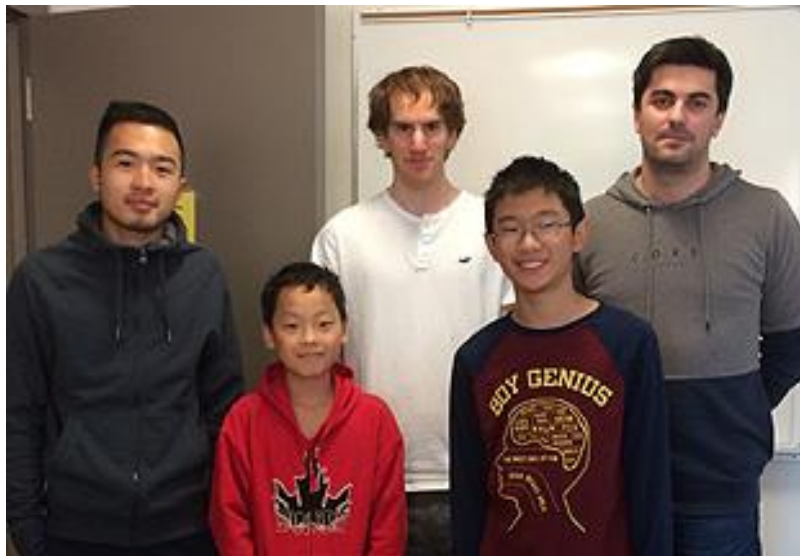
Mammoth sculptures in the Archeopark

Li, James - Roshka, Yevgeniy [B90] WYCC U16 Khanty Mansiysk (9.26), 01.10.2016

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 g6 7.g4 Bg7 8.g5 Nfd7 9.Be3 b5 10.Qd2 Bb7 11.f3 Ne5 12.f4 Nc4 13.Bxc4 bxc4 14.h4 Nd7 15.h5 Rg8 16.Rf1 Nc5 17.e5 dxe5 18.fxe5 Bxe5 19.Qf2 Rf8 20.0–0–0 Qc7 21.Nf5 Nd7 22.Nd4 0–0–0 23.Kb1 Bd6 24.Ka1 Nc5 25.Nde2 Qa5 26.Nf4 Bc6 27.Nfd5 Kb7 28.Qh4 Bb5 29.Qf2 Rc8 30.Qg2 Bc6 31.Qg4 Bb5 32.Rfe1 gxh5 33.Qf3 Bc6 34.Qxh5 Nd7 35.Qh4 Bb5 36.Qf2 Bc6 37.Qh4 Bb5 38.Qh1 Qd8 39.Qe4 Kb8 40.Qg2 Bc6 41.Qe2 Bb7 42.Bg1 e5 43.Ne3 Bb4 44.Qg4 Bxc3 45.bxc3 Qa5 46.Qxd7 Qxc3+ 47.Kb1 Qb4+ 48.Ka1 Qc3+ 49.Kb1 ½–½

Vancouver West Open #11 (October 1-2)

The eleventh edition of the Vancouver West Open had the usual tripartite format: a two-day open section, a two-day junior section, and a one-day junior section. The first two were both CFC-regular and CMA rated, the latter only CMA rated. Twenty players registered for the Open Section but most of the highly-rated usual suspects were missing, Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj being the only player rated over 2000. However, Davaa did not have everything his own way – in round five he lost to rising junior Andrew Hemstapat, who also had a good result at the recent Langley Open. This resulted in Davaa and Andrew tying for first with 5.0/6; as a consequence Andrew pushed his rating over 2000 for the first time. Ulvi Ibrahimov won the first U1700 prize, Jonathan Steif the second (although he's actually rated under 1300), and Jerry Wang won the U1300 prize.



In the Junior 2-day Andrew Xu dominated, taking the U1300 trophy with a score of 5.5/6, a point and a half ahead of the field. Ryan Yang won the U1500 trophy, Gillian Mok the U1000, and medals were awarded to Henry Yang, Ethan Song, Brian Yang, Bill Wang, and Veronica Guo. And in the Junior 1-day trophies went to Raymond Zhang (U800), Aaron Vickers (U600), and Edward Jeong (U400), and medals to Codrin Pompas, Jermey Liang, Kirill Zubo, and Kiran Sun. [Two-day standings](#) [One-day standings](#)



BC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Vancouver, 9-12 October 2016	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1 Cao, Jason	2400	*	½	½	1	1	½	1	1	5.5
2 Gentes, Kevin	2350	½	*	½	1	½	1	½	1	5.0
3 Sohal, Tanraj	2393	½	½	*	0	½	½	1	1	4.0
4 Doknjas, Joshua	2215	0	0	1	*	1	½	½	½	3.5
5 Morozov, Grigorii	2368	0	½	½	0	*	½	1	1	3.5
6 Doknjas, John	2292	½	0	½	½	½	*	½	½	3.0
7 Kenney, Jason	2204	0	½	0	½	0	½	*	1	2.5
8 Salcedo, Daniel	1996	0	0	0	½	0	½	0	*	1.0

Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, UBC
Average rating 2277

This year the BC Closed Championship, now one hundred and one years old, returned to the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at UBC, where it was also held in 2009 and 2012. The field included four FMs rated 2350 or above: defending champion Jason Cao, former champion Tanraj Sohal, Russian Grigorii Morozov, currently living in Richmond, and former many-time Manitoba champion Kevin Gentes (now a resident of Surrey). Unsurprisingly the race for first was between these four, and they were the only players who led the tournament at some point, as indicated in red on the cumulative score table below:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Cao, Jason	0.5	1.5	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.5	5.5
2 Gentes, Kevin	1.0	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	5.0
3 Sohal, Tanraj	0.5	1.5	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0
4 Doknjas, Joshua	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5
5 Morozov, Grigorii	1.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.5
6 Doknjas, John	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0
7 Kenney, Jason	0.5	0.5	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.5
8 Salcedo, Daniel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.0	2.0

With one exception all the games between Cao, Sohal, Morozov, and Gentes were drawn. The exception was Cao's win over Morozov, which proved decisive in deciding the final standings. However, the player who had the biggest influence on the results was the youngest, Joshua Doknjas. He defeated Morozov in round two and Sohal in round four (although had Tanraj found 28...Nxd4! the tournament may have been very different). This left the outcome largely as a two-man race. In round six Cao won over Morozov but Gentes was unable to convert a favourable position against Sohal (he also missed chances against Jason Kenney in round three (32.Bxe6!)). Both won in the last round, leaving Cao as the deserved winner with Gentes second by a half point. This also means Cao has completed a hat-trick by winning the last three championships in a row; he is quietly establishing a dynasty, and is still only fifteen years old.



Vancouver, 7-9 October 2016	1	2	3	4	5	6	
1 Gansvind, Valeria	2258	*	1	1	1	1	- 4.0
2 Gu, Stephanie	994	0	*	1	½	½	- 2.0
3 Van, Anna	1178	0	0	*	1	1	- 2.0
4 Tian, Sherry	1520	0	½	0	*	1	(1) 1.5
5 Guo, Veronica	989	0	½	0	0	*	- 0.5
6 Zhou, Annika	1522	-	-	-	(0)	-	* -

Held concurrently alongside the Closed was the BC Women's Championship, using the recent new regulations for [qualification](#). For various reasons a number of players declined their invitations, leading to a rather lopsided field, compounded by the withdrawal of a competitor after one round due to illness. As expected WFM Valeria Gansvind was the winner with a perfect score, and most of the interest developed around who would come second. In another demonstration that rating of juniors can sometimes be rather inaccurate, Stephanie Gu and Anna Van shared second ahead of the higher-rated Sherry Tian.

Doknjas, Joshua - Morozov, Grigorii [C16] BC ch 101st Vancouver (2.3), 08.10.2016

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 Qd7 5.a3 Bf8 6.Nf3 b6 7.Bb5 c6 8.Ba4 Ba6 9.Ne2 Bb5 10.Bb3 Bc4 11.Bxc4 dxc4 12.Nd2 Qd5 13.0-0 c5 14.Nc3 Qd7 15.dxc5 Bxc5 16.Nxc4 Nc6 17.Qf3 Rd8 18.Be3 Nd4 19.Bxd4 Qxd4 20.Rad1 Qh4 21.Qc6+ Kf8 22.Rxd8+ Qxd8 23.Rd1 Qb8 24.Na4 g6 25.Nxc5 bxc5 26.Qxc5+ Kg7 27.Rd7 Nh6 28.Qe7 Re8 29.Qd6 Qa8 30.Ne3 a5 31.h3 Qe4 32.Qd4 Qc6 33.c4 Rb8 34.Qd6 Qb6 35.c5 Qxb2 36.c6 Nf5 37.Qxe6 Rf8 38.Nxf5+ gxf5 39.Qf6+ Kg8 40.Qg5+ Kh8 41.Qf6+ Kg8 42.Kh2 Qc1 43.Rd3 f4 44.Rf3 Rc8 45.e6 Qxc6 46.Qxf7+ Kh8 47.Qf6+ Kg8 48.Rxf4 1-0

Gentes, Kevin - Kenney, Jason [E63] BC ch 101st Vancouver (3.1), 08.10.2016

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.0-0 0-0 5.d4 d6 6.c4 Nc6 7.Nc3 a6 8.b3 Rb8 9.Bb2 b5 10.cxb5 axb5 11.Rc1 b4 12.Na4 Na7 13.Qc2 c6 14.e4 Qa5 15.Rfe1 Ba6 16.Rcd1 Bb5 17.Nd2 Rfc8 18.Nc4

Qc7 19.Bh3 Rd8 20.Ne3 e6 21.e5 dxe5 22.dxe5 Rxd1 23.Rxd1 Nd7 24.f4 Nb6 25.Nxb6 Qxb6
26.Bd4 Qa5 27.Bc5 Bf8 28.Bxf8 Rxf8 29.Qd2 c5 30.a4 Ba6 31.Qd7 Nc8 32.Bg2 c4 33.Nxc4 Bxc4
34.bxc4 Nb6 35.Qb5 Qxa4 36.Rb1 Qa7 37.c5 Na4 ½–½

Doknjas, Joshua - Sohal, Tanraj [C12] BC ch 101st Vancouver (4.2), 09.10.2016

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Bb4 5.e5 h6 6.Bc1 Ne4 7.Qg4 g6 8.Nge2 c5 9.a3 Bxc3+ 10.Nxc3
Nxc3 11.bxc3 Qa5 12.Bd2 Qa4 13.Bd3 c4 14.Be2 Qxc2 15.Qf4 Nc6 16.0–0 Bd7 17.Rfb1 0–0
18.Bd1 Qf5 19.Qe3 g5 20.Rb2 Qg6 21.Bc2 f5 22.exf6 Qxf6 23.Qg3 Rhf8 24.Be3 Rde8 25.Rab1 b6
26.Rb5 Qd8 27.f4 gxf4 28.Bxf4 Qf6 29.Be3 Rg8 30.Qf4 Qxf4 31.Bxf4 e5 32.dxe5 Nxe5 33.Rxd5
Bc6 34.Bf5+ Kb7 35.Be4 Rg4 36.Rxe5 Bxe4 [Black offered a draw.] 37.Rxe8 Bxb1 38.Bxh6 Be4
39.g3 Kc6 40.Bf4 Bd3 41.Re5 a5 42.Kf2 Rg8 43.h4 b5 44.Re6+ Kc5 45.Be3+ Kd5 46.Ra6 Rf8+
47.Bf4 a4 48.Rb6 Kc5 49.Re6 Rf5 50.Ke3 Kd5 51.Re8 Bb1 52.g4 Rf7 53.Re5+ Kc6 54.h5 Rd7
55.Re6+ Kc5 56.Re5+ Kc6 57.Ke2 Rd3 58.Re3 Kd5 59.g5 Rxe3+ 60.Kxe3 Bc2 61.g6 Ke6 62.Bg5
Ke5 63.Bf4+ Kf6 64.Kd4 Kg7 65.Kc5 Bd1 66.Be5+ Kh6 67.Kxb5 Bxh5 68.g7 Bf7 69.Kxa4 Kg6
70.Kb5 Kf5 71.Bd4 Ke6 72.Kb6 Kd7 73.a4 Kc8 74.Be5 Bd5 75.a5 Bg8 76.a6 Bd5 77.a7 1–0

Morozov, Grigorii - Cao, Jason [D82] BC ch 101st Vancouver (6.4), 10.10.2016

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 c5 6.dxc5 Qa5 7.Qa4+ Qxa4 8.Nxa4 Bd7 9.Nc3 Ne4
10.Nxd5 Na6 11.f3 Nexc5 12.Rb1 e6 13.Nc7+ Nxc7 14.Bxc7 Na4 15.b3 Nc3 16.Rc1 Nxa2 17.Rd1
a5 18.Ne2 a4 19.bxa4 Rxa4 20.Nd4 0–0 21.Bd3 Rc8 22.Bd6 Nc3 23.Rc1 b5 24.c5 Bxd4 25.exd4
Rxd4 26.Be2 b4 27.Be7 e5 28.Rc2 Bf5 29.Rd2 b3 30.Bd6 Nxe2 31.Bxe5 Rxd2 32.Kxd2 Rxc5 0–1

Gentes, Kevin - Sohal, Tanraj [D61] BC ch 101st Vancouver (6.3), 10.10.2016

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.d4 Nbd7 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 0–0 7.Qc2 a6 8.cxd5 exd5 9.Bd3 Re8
10.0–0 c6 11.h3 g6 12.Bf4 Nf8 13.Na4 Ne6 14.Bh2 Ng7 15.Qb3 b5 16.Nc3 Bf5 17.Ne5 Bxd3
18.Nxd3 Nd7 19.Rac1 Ne6 20.Nb1 Qb6 21.Nd2 Bf8 22.Nf3 Bg7 23.Rc2 a5 24.Rfc1 Rac8 25.Nfe5
Nxe5 26.Nxe5 Bxe5 27.Bxe5 Nf8 28.Qd3 Nd7 29.Bf4 Re6 30.f3 a4 31.Qa3 Rce8 32.Qb4 Kg7
33.Re2 h6 34.Rce1 g5 35.Bg3 f5 36.Bf2 Nf6 37.Qd2 Nh5 38.g4 fxg4 39.hxg4 Nf6 40.Bg3 Nd7
41.Kg2 Qd8 42.Qd3 Qe7 43.Bf2 Nf6 44.Bg3 Nd7 45.Bf2 Nf6 46.Bg3 Nd7 ½–½

Tian, Sherry - Gansvind, Valeria [A41] BC wom ch Vancouver (3.1), 08.10.2016

1.d4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.Bf4 d6 4.e3 c6 5.Bd3 Nd7 6.c3 e5 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Bg3 Qe7 9.Nbd2 Ngf6
10.Be2 0–0 11.h3 Nd5 12.0–0 h6 13.Rc1 Rd8 14.Qc2 Re8 15.Rfd1 e4 16.Nd4 Be5 17.Qxe4 Bxg3
18.Qxe7 Bxf2+ 19.Kxf2 Rxe7 20.e4 N5f6 21.Bf3 Nc5 22.Nc4 Ncxe4+ 23.Bxe4 Nxe4+ 24.Kf3 c5
25.Nb3 Ng5+ 26.Kf2 Be6 27.Nd6 b6 28.h4 Nh7 29.Re1 Nf6 30.Rcd1 Rd7 31.Nb5 Rad8 32.Rxd7
Rxd7 33.Nc1 Rd2+ 34.Re2 Rd1 35.Re1 Ng4+ 36.Ke2 Rd7 37.Kf3 h5 38.b3 a6 39.Na3 Rd2 40.Kg3
Bd5 41.Re2 Rd1 42.Re8+ Kg7 43.Ne2 Rd3+ 44.Kf4 Bxg2 45.Nc4 Rf3+ 46.Ke4 Rxc3+ 47.Kf4 Rf3+
48.Ke4 Re3+ 0–1

Tian, Sherry - Van, Anna [D15] BC wom ch Vancouver (4.3), 09.10.2016

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 Bg4 4.Be2 Nbd7 5.0–0 e6 6.c4 c6 7.Nc3 Bd6 8.b3 0–0 9.Bb2 a6 10.Rc1 b5
11.cxd5 cxd5 12.h3 Bh5 13.Qd2 Qe7 14.Rfd1 b4 15.Na4 a5 16.Ne5 Bxe5 17.dxe5 Ne4 18.Qe1
Bxe2 19.Qxe2 Qg5 20.f4 Qg3 21.Rc7 Rfd8 22.Rdc1 f6 23.Qf3 fxe5 24.Qxg3 Nxg3 25.fxe5 Ne2+
26.Kf2 Nxc1 27.Rxc1 Rac8 28.Rd1 Rf8+ 29.Kg3 Nc5 30.Nb6 Ne4+ 31.Kh2 Rc2 32.Na4 Rff2

33.Rg1 Nd2 34.Kg3 Nf1+ 35.Kh4 Nxe3 36.g4 Rf4 37.Kg3 g5 38.Bc1 Nf1+ 39.Rxf1 Rxf1 40.Bxg5 Rxa2 41.Nc5 Kf7 42.Be3 Rc2 43.Na4 Rd1 44.Kf3 d4 45.Bf4 d3 46.Ke3 Re2+ 47.Kd4 d2 48.Kd3 Rg2 49.Nb6 Rb1 50.Bxd2 Rxd2+ 51.Kxd2 Rxb3 52.h4 Rh3 0-1

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Harper, Bruce - Opponent [A00] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

1.g3 [0:03:00] 1...d5 [0:02:58] 2.Bg2 [0:02:59] 2...Nf6 [0:02:57] 3.d3 [0:02:58] 3...g6 [0:02:55] 4.Nc3 [0:02:57] 4...Bg7 [0:02:54] 5.Bd2 [0:02:57]



We've seen this before - I christened this the "Suttles system". It's not actually that bad. 5...d4 [0:02:51] The direct approach. Positionally White's h1-a8 diagonal is opened, while Black's a1-h8 diagonal is closed. Naturally chess isn't really that simple, but from White's point of view 5...d4 is a step in the right direction. Tactically, White's response invites a trade of knights, which removes a defender from Black's kingside. But a defender against what? 6.Ne4 [0:02:55] 6...Nxe4 [0:02:50] 7.Bxe4 [0:02:55] 7...0-0 [0:02:48] 8.Qc1 [0:02:54]



Part of White's opening idea. He takes control of the c1-h6 diagonal and "threatens" to trade off Black's dark-squared bishop. Black spends a tempo preventing this. 8...Re8 [0:02:46] 9.Bh6 [0:02:52] 9...Bh8 [0:02:45] 10.h4! [0:02:51] Here is the start of White's attack! Shockingly, the engine agrees that 10.h4! is White's strongest move. Black doesn't panic - yet. 10...Nd7 [0:02:37] 11.h5 [0:02:49] 11...Nf6 [0:02:36] 12.hxg6 [0:02:48] 12...hxg6 [0:02:32] It's always hard to choose between a permanent structural weakness (12...fxg6) and more immediate danger (12...hxg6). Black decides, probably rightly, that the risk of being attacked down the h-file is acceptable. 13.Bg2 [0:02:46] 13...c6 [0:02:26]



14.Qg5 [0:02:40] A normal move like 14. Nf3 was better, but this was a three-minute game and White was already ahead on time. Since Black took 20 seconds on his reply to 14.Qg5, it's hard to criticize White's choice. **14...e5** [0:02:06] **15.Qh4** [0:02:37] Now White might be threatening something, although it's more accurate to say he's threatening to threaten something. **15...Nh5?!** [0:02:00] NOW Black starts to panic. White actually didn't yet have anything concrete on the h-file, but sometimes it's enough to look scary. **16.Bg5** [0:02:15] Of course White doesn't want to trade queens. **16...Bf6** [0:01:58] **17.Nf3** [0:02:13] **17...Bf5?** [0:01:39]



A fatal mistake. Black didn't miss White's next move, but instead misjudged the position, as he took 20 seconds to play 17...Bf5 and only three seconds on his reply to White's next move. **18.g4!** [0:02:08] **18...e4** [0:01:36]



This appears to be clever, but it's not. **19.dxe4** [0:01:48] This works, but the simplest refutation was 19.Bxf6! Qxf6 (19... Nxf6? 20.Qh8 mate) 20.gxh5, and since Black's queen is hanging he is forced to play 20...Qxh4, allowing White's f3-knight to nimbly save itself with 21.Nxh4, which also attacks Black's f5-bishop (21...exd3 22.Bf3 ends Black's dreams of attack). **19...Rxe4** [0:01:33] **20.Bxf6** [0:01:47] **20...Qa5+** [0:01:16] **21.Kf1** [0:01:43] **21...Rgx4** [0:01:15]



22.Qxh5! [0:01:39] I actually saw this when I played 18.g4! The prosaic 22.Qh2 also was winning, as White is a piece ahead and his f6-bishop is taboo (22...Nxf6 23.Qh8 mate). **22...gxh5** [0:01:13]

23.Rxh5 [0:01:37] **23...Rg7** [0:01:03] 23...Kf8 was better, but the real point is that 23...Bh7 is impossible because of 24.Rxa5. Chess sometimes is played on the entire board! **24.Nxd4!** [0:01:20] The engine and I are getting along this time. White's pieces are coordinating beautifully. Black's pieces, in contrast, are disappearing. **24...Qd2** [0:00:35] **25.Nxf5** [0:01:14]



Threatening 25.Ne7+, with a quick mate. **25...Re8** [0:00:34] **26.Bf3** [0:00:58] Overly cautious - 26.Nxg7 was simple enough. **26...Re6?** [0:00:32] By this time Black was groggy. He had 26...Rh7, but with three pieces, a pawn and an attack for his queen, White is still winning. **27.Bxg7** [0:00:55] **27...f6** [0:00:25] **28.e4?** [0:00:41] Missing 28.Rh8+ Kf7 29.Bh5 mate. I often play badly when I'm irritated that my opponent hasn't resigned. **28...Kf7** [0:00:23] **29.Rh8** [0:00:36] Threatening 29.Bh5 mate. Where was this tactical acumen last move? **29...Kg6?!** [0:00:16] **30.Bh5+** [0:00:35] **30...Kg5** [0:00:14]



31.Bh6+ [0:00:34] When it comes to material I seem to see stuff... **31...Kxh5** [0:00:10] **32.Bxd2+** [0:00:34] **32...Kg6** [0:00:09] **33.f3** [0:00:32] Black resigns. Apparently both 33.Rh6+ and 33...Rg8+ force mate in eight moves. I don't mind missing that kind of mate. **1-0**

BROWSING FOR ENDGAMES by Dan Scoones

Today's browsing comes from the January 1964 issue of *Shakhmatny Bulletin*, which featured a selection of games from the 1963 Capablanca Memorial tournament in Havana. This hard-fought, marathon event was won by the current Soviet Champion Viktor Korchnoi, half a point ahead of his compatriots Efim Geller and Mikhail Tal and the Czech grandmaster Ludek Pachman. In his report in the November 1963 issue of *Chess Review*, Petar Trifunovich offered the opinion that Efim Geller had played the best chess in the tournament. In particular he singled out Geller's long endgame win over Borislav Ivkov in which the Soviet grandmaster ended up playing with a rook against five pawns. Unusually for this column, we will analyze the entire game because the initial part was in many ways a leadup to the endgame that followed.

Geller, Efim P. - Ivkov, Borislav [C97] Capablanca Memorial Havana (18), 1963

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.h3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.d4 Qc7 12.Nbd2 Bd7 The so-called Yugoslav Wall was a favourite of Ivkov as well as his compatriot Svetozar Gligoric. Black develops a piece to a central post and waits to see what his opponent will do. **13.Nf1 Rfe8 14.b3 g6 15.Bg5 Be6 16.Ne3 Rad8 17.Rc1** Interesting was 17.d5 Bd7 18.Nxe5!? fxe5 19.d6 Qxd6 20.Qxd6 Bxd6 21.Bxf6 Rc8 22.Nd5 with an edge for White. **17...Nh5 18.b4 Nc4 19.Bxe7 Rxe7 20.Nxc4 Bxc4 21.bxc5 dxc5 22.d5 Qc8?** A serious error. It was time for 22...Nf4! 23.Qd2 (23.Nd2 Nd3) 23...f5!? with interesting complications. **23.Nd2! Bxa2 24.Ra1 Bxd5** This piece sacrifice is more-or-less forced since 24...Bc4 25.Nxc4 bxc4 26.Qe2 Nf4 27.Qxc4 left White with a near-decisive advantage. **25.exd5 Rxd5 26.Qe2 Qd8 27.Nf1** Here White had the option of returning the material with 27.Ne4!? f5 28.Rxa6 fxe4 29.Bxe4 Rd2 30.Qxb5. **27...Re6 28.Red1** Also possible was 28.g3!? c4 29.Ne3 Rd2 30.Red1 Rxd1+ 31.Rxd1 Rd6 32.Rxd6 Qxd6 33.Qf3 Nf6 34.g4 with advantage to White. **28...Rxd1 29.Rxd1 Rd6 30.Re1 Re6 31.c4 Nf4 32.Qe3 Qd4 33.Rd1 Qxe3 34.fxe3 Ne2+ 35.Kf2 Nc3 36.Rd8+ Kg7 37.Rc8 b4**



38.Nd2?! Although Black has three pawns for the piece, White has a big advantage here. The text move complicates his task unnecessarily because it allows Black's rook to become active. Stronger was 38.Ke1! a5 39.Ra8 a4 40.Bxa4 e4 41.Ra5; for example 41...Re5 42.Bc2 h6 43.Nd2 Rg5 44.Bxe4 Nxe4 45.Nxe4 Rxc5 46.Rxc5 b3 47.Rb5 b2 48.Nd2 Rh2 49.Rxb2 Rxh3 50.Ke2, and White's c-pawn will eventually cost Black the game. Note in passing that 38.Rxc5? would be a serious blunder on account of the reply 38...b3!, recovering the piece and winning for Black in all variations.

38...a5 39.Ra8 Rd6 40.Ke1 a4 41.Bxa4 Rd3 42.Nf1 Nxa4 43.Rxa4 Rc3 44.Nd2 Rxe3+ 45.Kd1 f5 46.Ra5 Rg3 47.Rxc5 e4



48.Rc7+ Both sides have been working hard -- White to increase his advantage and Black to neutralize it. Here it was probably better to eliminate Black's b-pawn right away: 48.Rb5 Rd3 49.Ke2 Rg3 50.Rxb4 Rxc2+ 51.Ke1 Rg1+ 52.Nf1 Rg2 53.Ne3 Rg1+ 54.Kf2 Rc1 55.Nd5 and White should be winning. **48...Kf6 49.c5 Rxc2 50.c6 e3**



51.Nc4? After his previous small inaccuracies, White must now find the sharp line 51.Nf3!? Rf2 52.Rc8! Ke7 53.Rb8 Kd6 54.Nd4! in order to win. For example, 54...Rd2+ 55.Ke1 b3 56.Nxb3 Kc7 57.Rb4 Rb2 58.Rb7+ Kc8 59.Nd4! Rxb7 60.cxb7+ Kxb7 61.Ke2 f4 62.Ne6 Kc6 63.Nxf4 and Black has to resign. But the summer heat of Havana is also affecting White's opponent... **51...f4?** Black has been presented with a golden opportunity to stay in the game with 51...Rg1+! 52.Ke2 Rc1! 53.Nxe3 b3! Now White has nothing better than 54.Rb7 Rxc6 55.Rxb3. After this he still has a nominal material advantage, but with all of the pawns on one side of the board it will be difficult for him to make further progress. Here it helps to know that the endgame of rook and knight vs rook is usually a draw unless some clever tactic arises.

52.Rc8! Rg1+ 53.Ke2 Rc1 54.Rf8+ Kg5 55.c7 Rxc4 56.c8Q Rxc8 57.Rxc8



Black has almost enough pawns for the rook but unfortunately he is positionally lost. **57...Kh4 58.Kf3 g5 59.Rc6 Kh5** After 59...h5 60.Re1! White will eventually win all of Black's pawns, which Black can postpone only by allowing an immediate mate. **60.Rb6 h6 61.Rxb4 Kg6 62.Rb6+ Kh7 63.h4 Kg7 64.h5 Kh7 65.Rg6 1-0**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vancouver Rapid Chess League 2016-17

September 2016 - April 2017, various locations

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3rd Annual LakeCity Open

October 15, Williams Lake

[Details](#)

October Active

October 15, Columbia College

[Details](#)

Junior Nightmare Quads

October 16, Burnaby

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November Active

November 5

[Details](#)

BC Junior Championship

November 11-13, Richmond

[Details](#)

Jack Taylor Memorial

November 18-20, Victoria

[Details](#)

Junior Nightmare Quads

November 20, Burnaby

[Details](#)

Junior Nightmare Quads

December 18, Burnaby

[Details](#)