

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #329

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

Washington Class Championships (November 23-25)

Held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Lynnwood, WA on the American Thanksgiving long weekend, this traditional event drew a few entrants from this province, including Severo Caluza, John, Joshua, and Neil Doknjas, Richard Lapenna, and Roger Patterson. Of these the only prizewinner was Roger, who tied for second in the Expert Section and found himself in the somewhat unfamiliar role of receiving a prize rather than giving them out. The overall winner was Ignacio Perez with 5.5/6, ahead of Roland Feng (second) and Bryce Tiglon and Joshua Sinanan (tied for third). Photo by Victoria Jung-Doknjas; more photos, including the crosstables, can be found at the Washington Chess Federation [Facebook](#) page.



DDC FIDE Open XIV (November 24-27)

At the same time Paul Leblanc was also in the U.S., but considerably further south. Paul played in a seven-round FIDE-rated tournament at the Dallas Chess Club, the fourteenth such event, and scored 2.5 points in a forty-three player field which included eight rated over 2500. The overall winner was IM Rui Feng Li with an undefeated 6.0/7; Li is the current North American U20 champion, and was until recently the highest-ranked player in the world born in 2001 or later.

[USCF crosstables](#)

JACK TAYLOR MEMORIAL (November 18-20)

The 2016 Jack Taylor Memorial, the 31st annual, was held in Victoria on November 18-20. The event, which has historically drawn fifteen to twenty players, improved on last year's near record turn out of twenty-eight by more than doubling that to fifty-seven players, including representatives from Ontario, Alberta, and Washington. A number of changes were made to the event although it's not clear which changes drove the increase in numbers – the prize fund was increased, rounds were spread over three days not two, two sections, and a full court press was put on in recruiting players. It seems that chess on the Island is picking up improved attendance and more events. In that vein, readers are encouraged to support the Nanaimo Winter Open next month.

This year's event was once again generously sponsored by the descendants of the Jack Taylor family – for which many thanks are due. They provided us with photos of Jack Taylor's gold medals

from the 1928, 1929, and 1930s (see link below). We believed them all to be for BC Chess Championships but our resident historian, Stephen Wright, tells us the 1928 medal is for some other event. Ten carat gold medals for the BC Champion – those were the days!



The tournament itself was won by BC Champion FM Jason Cao and NM Brian McLaren. They drew each other and won all their other games for a fairly steady win as top seeds in the section. The U1600 section was another story – ratings were not a very good predictor of final result with a large number of upsets and 1100 rated players took the top two spots. The U1600 winner, Elliot Lupini, won with what appears to be a clean 5-0 sweep but in fact, his last round win against Andrew Xu was from a decidedly lost position over many moves and a crime against the chess gods. Other prize winners were U1800: Rick Martinson and U1400 Matthew Dearle.

All Prize Winners: (\$1000 guaranteed)

1st-2nd: FM Jason Cao, NM Brian McLaren \$250 each

U1800: Rick Martinson \$200

U1600: Elliot Lupini \$200

U1400: Matthew Dearle \$100

Once again: Thanks to our sponsors, the Jack Taylor Family, Paul Leblanc, and all those who helped out. Organizer and TD: Roger Patterson

[This report, plus crosstables and more photos](#)

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Harper, Bruce - Opponent [B24] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

This game actually isn't very good, but it's funny at the end. **1.g3** [0:02:40] **1...c5** [0:03:00] **2.Bg2** [0:02:37] **2...e6** [0:03:00] **3.d3** [0:02:36] **3...Nf6** [0:02:59] **4.Nc3** [0:02:36] **4...a6** [0:02:58] **5.e4** [0:02:57] **5...d6** [0:02:57]



Ships passing in the night – White is playing a Closed Sicilian and Black is playing an Open Sicilian, whether White plays one or not. **6.f4** [0:02:35] **6...Be7** [0:02:56] **7.Nf3** [0:02:34] **7...Qc7** [0:02:55] **8.0–0** [0:02:33] **8...Nc6** [0:02:55] **9.h3** [0:02:32] The start of White's attack. I told you things happen slowly in this game. **9...0–0** [0:02:54] **10.g4** [0:02:31] **10...b5** [0:02:53] **11.Ne2** [0:02:30]



A good way to lessen the effect of an opposing pawn advance is to get your pieces out of the way [cf. the Taimanov-Suttles game later this issue]. White's c3-knight is headed for the kingside anyway. **11...Bb7** [0:02:51] **12.Ng3** [0:02:30] **12...d5** [0:02:46] Black fixes the centre rather than advancing his queenside pawns. **13.e5** [0:02:28] **13...Nd7** [0:02:45] **14.g5** [0:02:21]



White's plan is simple (and simplistic) - to attack on the right half of the board and ignore the left half. While this isn't that great a plan, at least it's easy to follow. **14...Nd4** [0:02:37] **15.Nh2?!** [0:02:19] **15...Nf5?!** [0:02:31] **16.Nxf5** [0:02:17] **16...exf5** [0:02:31] **17.h4** [0:02:07] Consistent, but White could have played 17.d4!, with a slight edge. **17...d4** [0:02:24] **18.Qe2** [0:02:05] **18...Bxg2** [0:02:16] **19.Qxg2** [0:02:04] **19...Nb6** [0:02:10] **20.Bd2** [0:01:58] **20...g6** [0:02:06] **21.Ba5** [0:01:54]



This is mildly annoying, but White has no advantage and no realistic hope of gaining one. **21...Rad8** [0:02:04] **22.h5** [0:01:49] The "attack" continues. **22...c4?!** [0:02:03] A bit ambitious, but Black may have thought there was a race between White's kingside attack and his counterplay. **23.Rf2** [0:01:43] **23...Bc5** [0:02:00] **24.Re1** [0:01:35] **24...Rfe8** [0:01:57] **25.Nf1** [0:01:31] **25...Re6** [0:01:46] **26.Qh3** [0:01:17] White is trying to line up his pieces on the h-file, although just how that's supposed to do something is a mystery. It certainly was to me during the game. But sometimes you just have to play moves that look reasonable and hope for the best. Actually, come to think of it, this is probably how most people play chess most of the time. **26...Qc6** [0:01:36] **27.Bxb6** [0:01:16] **27...Qxb6** [0:01:32] **28.Rh2** [0:01:11] **28...Qb7** [0:01:25]

Stopping White's first threat of the game. **29.Ree2** [0:01:08] **29...a5** [0:01:03] **30.Reg2** [0:01:05] **30...a4** [0:00:59] **31.Ng3** [0:01:02]



White has created a fearsome array of pieces, all in the bottom right corner of the board. Black has played more intelligently and has developed nice play on the queenside. He should continue with **31...c3!** **31...a3?!** [0:00:45] **32.b3** [0:00:55] **32...Bf8?** [0:00:21]



Missing White's second threat of the game. To be fair, it doesn't look as though much could happen in this position, as **33.Nxf5** doesn't lead to anything concrete. Black must have spent his time figuring out those variations, because he completely misses the real threat. **33.hxg6** [0:00:53] **33...fxg6** [0:00:20] **34.Ne4!** [0:00:52] Whoops! White's e4-knight is immune from capture, because Black's f5-pawn is pinned to his e6-rook. Undefended pieces are always a source of danger! **34...cxb3** [0:00:13] Black took 40 seconds on this move, which was like resigning. **35.cxb3** [0:00:50] **35...Rc8** [0:00:10] **36.Nf6+** [0:00:38] **36...Rxf6** [0:00:09] **37.gxf6** [0:00:38]



Now comes a nice kingwalk. 37...Rc1+ [0:00:06]
38.Kf2 [0:00:37] 38...Rc2+ [0:00:04] 39.Kg3 [0:00:36]
39...Rc3 [0:00:02] 40.Kh4 [0:00:30]



Black forfeits on time. White's king is strangely safe.
1–0

BACKTALK by Dan Scoones

In this instalment of **Backtalk** we continue our tradition of uncovering errors and missed resources in published game analyses. Today's example comes from the late stages of the classic encounter between **Akiba Rubinstein** (White) and **Siegbert Tarrasch** (Black) played in the great Karlsbad tournament of 1923. The game was annotated by Hans Kmoch in his German book *Rubinstein Gewinnt!* (later published in English as *Rubinstein's Chess Masterpieces*), and by Yuri Razuvayev in his Russian book *Akiba Rubinstein* (which has so far not appeared in English). These annotations were collated by John Donaldson and Nikolai Minev and published in their book *The Life & Games of Akiba Rubinstein, Volume 2: The Later Years*.

Rubinstein, Akiba - Tarrasch, Siegbert [D34] Karlsbad (9), 09.05.1923

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.g3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0–0 0–0 9.Bg5 Be6
10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Ne1 d4 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Ne4 Qe7 14.Nxc5 Qxc5 15.Nd3 Qb6 16.Nf4 Qxb2
17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Rb1 Qxa2 19.Rxb7 Qa6 20.Qb3 Nd8 21.Rd7 Rc8 22.Qb2 e5 23.Ra1 Qf6 24.e3

dxe3 25.fxe3 Nc6 26.Qd2 Nb8 27.Rdx a7 Rcd8 28.Qe2 h6 29.Be4 Rd7 30.Ra8 Rdd8 31.Rf1 Qd6 32.Rxf8+ Rxf8 33.Kg2 Qb4 34.Qd3 Kh8 35.Ra7 Qb2+ 36.Kh3 Qb6 37.Ra8 Rd8 38.Qc4 Nd7



White to play

In our starting position, Black has been under pressure for some time. His last move was 38...Nd7, aiming to ease the defence by exchanging rooks. Rubinstein is ready to acquiesce to the exchange, but at a price: he wants to deflect Tarrasch's pieces away from the kingside and then use the insecure position of the Black king to obtain further concessions.

39.Qc6!? **Rxa8** Razuvayev notes that Black loses a piece after 39...Qxc6? 40.Rxd8+ followed by 41.Bxc6.

40.Qxa8+ Nb8!? Rubinstein has seen that after 40...Qb8 41.Qxb8+ Nxb8 he wins Black's e-pawn by force with 42.Kg4 Nd7 43.Bc6 Nf6+ 44.Kf5 Kg8 45.h3 Kf7 46.Kxe5. Here is the position:



Black is defending (analysis)

White is a pawn up and has a bishop against Black's knight, but after 46...Ke7 it is not certain that White can turn these nominal advantages to account. Black's defensive perimeter is highly compact and if he maintains a dark-square blockade then White's extra pawn is never going to get close to the queening square. This level of defensive technique is very common in modern chess but it was not so common 100 years ago, even among leading players. Of course it may be that after 40...Qb8 Rubinstein would have avoided the queen exchange – but that seems unlikely because Black could then play 41...Nf6 with a relatively solid position. Back to the game, where it all went much more quickly... **41.Qd5**



41...Qc7 Or 41...Qf6 42.Kg2 Qe7 and if Black just sits tight, White's only active plan consists in trying to win Black's e-pawn. But as we have seen, Black can just exchange queens and play the minor piece ending a pawn down but with every chance of making a draw. **42.Bf5 Nc6 43.Qc4**



The losing moment **43...Qd6?**

Black hurries to break the pin, but there was no urgent need to do so because 44.Be4 can be met by 44...Qd7+ followed by moving the knight. Razuvayev recommends 43...Qb7 as the most stubborn defence, but based on the assessment of the minor piece ending there is also an argument for 43...e4!? After the text move White's queen invades on the kingside and Black must give up a piece to stave off mate. **44.Qf7! Qd8 45.Qg6** Black resigns. **1-0**

Peelback

Both Razuvayev and Kmoch gave Rubinstein's 39th move an exclamation mark and did not take note of any alternatives. Well, this is a column that asks questions, and the question here is: what about **39.Ra6**, maintaining the pressure?



Position after 39.Ra6



From the diagram, the game would most likely continue as follows: **39...Qb8** Pretty well forced. If 39...Qxe3? then 40.Rd6! sets up a decisive pin on the knight. **40.Qf7 Nf8** If 40...Nf6? then 41.Rxf6!, etc. **41.Ra7 Ne6 42.Kg4! Qb5!** The best chance. Quite hopeless would be 42...Re8 43.Qg6 and mate is not far off. **43.Qxe6 Qe2+**



Black finally gets a semblance of counterplay, but it is too little and too late. **44.Bf3! h5+ 45.Kh3! Qxf3 46.Qg6! Qg4+** Or 46...Rg8 47.Rf7 Qe2 48.e4 Qd1 49.Rf5 and Black must exchange queens in any case. **47.Qxg4 hxg4+ 48.Kxg4**

The outcome of the long forcing line with 36.Ra6 is that White cannot be prevented from adding another pawn to his collection. After that he should have only minor difficulties in scoring the full point.

What I took from this game:

1. When you have more active pieces, be cautious about trading them for your opponent's inactive ones unless you see a way to make further progress.
2. It is good to study typical endgame positions because their correct assessment affects one's decision-making at earlier stages of the game.

IN MEMORIAM MARK EVGENIEVICH TAIMANOV (7 February 1926 – 28 November 2016)



Fischer and Taimanov test out the equipment ahead of their 1971 Candidates' Match, observed by arbiter Bozidar Kazic

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Mark Taimanov at the age of ninety. One of the world's top players for some twenty-five years, Taimanov became a grandmaster in 1952 and tied for first in the Soviet Championship twice; in 1952 he lost the playoff to then world champion Botvinnik, but in 1956 he emerged victorious over Spassky and Averbakh to claim the title. He was also a candidate twice. In 1953 he tied with Alexander Kotov for eighth place in the famous Zürich Candidates' Tournament. Taimanov again qualified in 1970 for the Candidates' Matches by tying for fifth in the Palma de Mallorca Interzonal; his fate was to play Fischer in the quarter-finals, and unfortunately the subsequent 6-0 loss in Vancouver is Taimanov's best known result. (See [Bulletin #320](#) for an article on the match; that issue also reports on Konstantin Pyryaev's thematic event last May in commemoration of the match, and includes a photo of Taimanov with Victor Korchnoi.)

Chess, though, was only half of Taimanov's professional life – the other half was music. A concert pianist, Taimanov was especially known as a duo pianist with his first wife Lyubov Bruk (although they began studying piano duo repertoire together at the age of twelve). Such was their stature that when Philips in conjunction with Steinway issued the one hundred-volume CD series *Great Pianists of the 20th Century*, the only piano duo included was Bruk and Taimanov. [Youtube](#) has video of the duo performing together; the piece is "Brazileira," the third movement of the *Scaramouche Suite* by Darius Milhaud. [ChessBase tribute](#)

Taimanov played Suttlies twice, with the latter advancing all of his kingside pawns to the fourth rank on both occasions:

Taimanov, Mark - Suttles, Duncan [A41] Palma de Mallorca izt (18), 03.12.1970

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Nf3 Nd7 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 f5 7.e3 g5 8.Bg3 e5 9.Qe2 Kf8 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.h3 c6 12.0–0 Qe7 13.Qc2 Qe6 14.Be2 Ngf6 15.Rd2 Ne8 16.Rhd1 Bf6 17.Bh2 h5



18.Ne1 Nc5 19.Nd3 Na6 20.f4 e4 21.Ne5 Bxe5
22.fxe5 Kg7 23.Rd8 Nac7 24.Bf1 h4 25.Ne2 Qf7
26.R8d2 Ne6 27.Qc3 Rf8 28.g3 hxg3 29.Nxg3 Kg8
30.Be2 N8g7 31.Rd6 c5 32.Rf1 Qg6 33.Rg1 Qh7
34.Bf1 Ne8 35.Rd5 b6 36.Qd2 Rf7 37.Ne2 Kh8 38.Nc3
N8c7 39.Rd6 Ba6 40.Nd5 Qh6 41.h4 g4 42.Bf4 Qg6
43.h5 Qg8 44.Be2 Bc8 45.Bg3 Ne8 46.Nf6 Qf8
47.Nxe8 Qxe8 48.Bh4 Rb8 49.Bf6+ Rxf6 50.exf6 Qf8
51.Rf1 g3 52.Rd5 f4 53.exf4 Qxf6 54.Rd6 Rb7 55.f5
g2 56.Rg1 Qxf5 57.Rxg2 Rg7 58.Qh6+ Kg8 59.Rxe6
1–0

Suttles, Duncan - Taimanov, Mark [B26] Sukhumi (4), 20.08.1972

(In this post-Candidates' Match tournament Taimanov placed third behind Mihail Tal and Vladimir Savon; Suttles tied for thirteenth with Hans Ree, the co-winner of the Vancouver Canadian Open held the previous summer.)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.d3 d6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.h3 0–0 8.Qd2 Nd4 9.Nd1 d5 10.c3 Ne6 11.f4 d4 12.Bf2 Rb8 13.c4 a6 14.b3 b5 15.g4 bxc4 16.bxc4 Rb4 17.Ne2 Nd7 18.h4



18...Bb7 19.Rh2 Qb6 20.h5 Rb8 21.hxg6 fxg6 22.Bg3
Nef8 23.Bf3 Bc6 24.Kf2 Ba4 25.Kg2 Bxd1 26.Qxd1
Rb2 27.g5 Qa5 28.Be1 Qa3 29.Kg3 Nb6 30.e5 Na4
31.Be4 e6 32.Bc6 Nb6 33.Kg4 Nc8 34.Kh3 Ne7
35.Be4 Nf5 36.Qc1 Qa4 37.Ng3 Rxh2+ 38.Kxh2 h6
39.gxh6 Bxh6 40.Bd2 Nd7 41.Bf3 Kf7 42.Nxf5 gxf5
43.Kg3 Ke7 44.Kf2 Rh8 45.Bd1 Qc6 ½–½

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vancouver Rapid Chess League 2016-17

2016 - 2017, various locations

[Details](#)

December Active

December 3, Columbia College

[Details](#)

Nanaimo Winter Open

December 17-18, Nanaimo

[Details](#)

Winter Active/Blitz

December 17, Columbia College

Details [Active Blitz](#)

Junior Knightmare Quads

December 18, Burnaby

[Details](#)

Victoria Open and BC-WA Match

January 13-15, Victoria

[Details](#)

Junior Knightmare Quads

January 15, Burnaby

[Details](#)