

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #346

Happy Birthday – this Bulletin first saw the light of day on 4 September 2002. 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

2017 BC Closed Championship

The BC Championship will take place at the Accent Inn (room 168), 3323 Maple Street, Victoria on the Thanksgiving weekend, October 6-9: further [details](#). Here is the field:

John Doknjas (from BC Junior)
Joshua Doknjas (ratings list)
Valeria Gansvind (ratings list)
Andrew Hemstapat (from Langley Open)
Grigorii Morozov (ratings list)
Alfred Pechisker (from BC Open)
Tanraj Sohal (from GPO)
Howard Wu (ratings list)

(Defending champion Jason Cao was forced to withdraw due to a scheduling conflict with a SAT test.)

North American U20 (August 31 – September 5)

While coastal communities in Texas were dealing with the devastation wrought by Hurricane Harvey, further inland the Sheraton DFW Airport Hotel in Irving (just northwest of Dallas) was hosting the 4th North American Junior (U20) Championship. Theoretically the tournament is open to players from the national chess federations of the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, but as far as I know no one from Mexico has ever participated (and presumably the Trump presidency is not helping that cause). This year's edition included our own Jason Cao in the twenty-eight player field, still seeking his elusive third IM norm; as a continental championship the event offered direct titles, including the IM title for first and IM norms for the top three finishers. Jason was ranked seventh at the beginning of the tournament; his final score of 5.5/9 left him in a tie for fourth place, but unfortunately outside the prizes. (Also participating were Bryce Tiglon and Naomi Bashkansky from Washington State; Bryce finished with 4.0 points but Naomi won the [girl's division](#) with 8.0/9. [Standings](#))

Cao, Jason - Tiglon, Bryce [B90] North American jun Irving (9), 05.09.2017

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.h3 Be7 9.Qf3 0-0 10.0-0-0 b5 11.g4 b4 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.exd5 Bc8 14.Bd3 a5 15.h4 Ba6 16.Qe4 Bxd3 17.Qxd3 Qc8 18.Nd2 Qxg4 19.h5 Qc8 20.f4 f5 21.fxe5 f4 22.Bf2 Nd7 23.e6 Ne5 24.Qe4 a4 25.Kb1 b3 26.cxb3 axb3 27.Nxb3 Qa6 28.Nc1 Rfc8 29.Bd4 Rc4 30.Rhg1 Ra4 31.Rxg7+ Kxg7 32.Rg1+ Bg5 33.Rxg5+ 1-0

Seattle Chess Classic (August 16-20)



(photo: Victoria Jung-Doknjas)

Advertised as the first annual, this new Seattle tournament was a nine-round event in two sections with the top section rated by FIDE as well as the USCF. This inaugural edition attracted seventy-four players, including from this province the brothers Doknjas (John, Joshua, and Neil), Tanraj Sohal, the brothers Su (Michael and Ethan), and Raymond Zhang. Tanraj tied for second with Raymond Kaufman and Daniel He, each scoring 6.5 points; the overall winner was current WA co-champion Roland Feng with 7.0/9. And in the Reserve Section Raymond Zhang won the second U1150 prize. The tournament was organized by Josh Sinanan, directed by Fred Kleist, and held at the Seattle Chess Club. [USCF standings](#) [Facebook photos](#)

Langley Open (September 2-4)

Celebrating its twelfth anniversary this year, the Langley Open is the last major BC tournament in only one section and the last qualifying event for the BC Championship at Thanksgiving. This normally means the competition is fiercer than on average; however, despite maintaining its record turnout from last year (sixty-two compared to sixty-one in 2016) the tournament was somewhat weaker than usual, with only six players over 2000 and only one previous winner in the field (Brian McLaren). Allowing for some major and minor upsets, on paper it appeared the race for first would be between the two 2200 players, John and Joshua Doknjas. They played in round five; a one-move blunder in a tense position gave the victory to John, who also won his last game to take the first prize with 5.5/6. The biggest interest in the last round was who would come second and claim the qualifying spot (John and Joshua were already qualified for the Closed). Andrew Hemstapat won to score 5.0 points (this after botching a winning ending against Tristan Taylor in round two) which left two critical games, Joshua Doknjas vs Brian McLaren and Joe Soliven vs Jofrel Landingin. After being under pressure for most of the game Brian salvaged a draw against Joshua, leaving both with 4.5; Joe achieved a winning advantage but the position was too difficult to handle and Jofrel eventually won. This left Andrew and Jofrel tied for second place with 5.0 points; due to a proviso that qualifiers to the Closed must have achieved a regular rating of 2000 or above the qualifying spot went to Andrew. Ironically Andrew was passed over for the qualifying spot last year for precisely the same reason - he has since crossed that hurdle.



The U2000 prizes were split between Callum Lehingrat, Lucian Wu, and Chuyang Gu with 4.5 points each. Lucian was one of the players with major upsets, having beaten Brandon Zhu and Kai Richardson, and his only loss was to John Doknjas in the last round. Despite this, Lucian gained 129 rating points for his performance. The U1700 prizes were also split, Jerry Wang and Elvin Sun being the happy recipients, while Ethan Song was the top U1300. The three of them are in grades 7, 6, and 3 respectively, and they all gained 140+ rating points. They showed scant respect to their more aged opponents - maybe we need to start invoking the laws against elder abuse. Jerry also won the biggest upset prize for defeating a player rated 809(!) points above him. The only other non-junior prize winner apart from Jofrel was Stephen Drake, who had more than his fair share of upsets in taking the second U1300 prize. The tournament was organized by the Langley Chess Club (Hugh Long, President), promoted by Andrew Hoyer, and co-directed by Brian Davidson and Stephen Wright. [CFC crosstable](#); [standings](#)

Zhu, Brandon - Wu, Lucian [E61] Langley op (3.3), 03.09.2017

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.e3 d6 6.Be2 Bf5 7.Qb3 Qc8 8.h3 Na6 9.g4 Bd7 10.Bd2 Bc6 11.d5 Nc5 12.Qc2 Be8 13.b4 Na6 14.Rb1 c6 15.g5 Nd7 16.Nd4 c5 17.bxc5 Naxc5 18.h4 e5 19.dxe6 fxe6 20.Ncb5 d5 21.cxd5 exd5 22.Bf3 Ne5 23.Bxd5+ Kh8 24.Bc4 Bc6 25.Rf1 Be4 26.Qd1 Nxc4 27.Ra1 Nd3+ 28.Ke2 Qg4+ 29.f3 Qg2+ 30.Rf2 Qxf2# 0-1

Angelvette, Duane - Leblanc, Paul [A01] Langley op (5.13), 04.09.2017

1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 Bf5 3.f4 e6 4.d3 Nf6 5.Nf3 h6 6.g3 c5 7.h3 d4 8.c4 Nc6 9.Bg2 Qc7 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Na3 a6 12.Nc2 0-0-0 13.b4 Nh5 14.b5 axb5 15.cxb5 Ne7 16.Ncxd4 Nxc3 17.b6 Qxb6 18.Nxf5 Nxf5 19.Ne5 Nxf1 20.Nc4 Qc7 21.Qxf1 Bxf4 22.Qf3 Nh4 23.Qe4 Nxc2 24.Qxc2 Rd5 25.Qe4 Rg5+ 26.Kf1 Bh2 27.Ke1 Qg3+ 28.Kd1 Qc7 29.Kc2 Rd8 30.Bc3 Qc6 31.Qe3 Rg3 32.Qf2 Rg2 33.Qe3 Bc7 34.Rb1 Rg3 35.Qf2 f6 36.Nb6+ Kb8 37.Ba5 Rg2 38.Qe3 Bxb6 39.Bxb6 Qa4+ 40.Rb3 Qxa2+ 41.Rb2 Qa4+ 42.Rb3 Qc6 43.Bxc5 Rc8 44.d4 e5 45.Rb6 Qa4+ 46.Kc3 exd4+ 47.Qxd4 0-1

Wu, Lucian - Doknjas, John [A70] Langley op (6.1), 04.09.2017

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.Bd3 Bg7 8.h3 0-0 9.Nf3 Nh5 10.0-0 Nd7 11.Bd2 Re8 12.Re1 Ne5 13.Be2 Nxf3+ 14.Bxf3 Nf6 15.Bf4 Nd7 16.Qe2 Ne5 17.Rab1 Qf6 18.Bg3

Bd7 19.Bg4 Bxg4 20.hxg4 Qg5 21.f4 Qxg4 22.Qxg4 Nxg4 23.Nb5 Rad8 24.Nxa7 Bd4+ 25.Kh1 Bf2 26.Bxf2 Nxf2+ 27.Kg1 Nxe4 28.Nb5 f5 29.Re2 Nf6 30.Rxe8+ Nxe8 31.Re1 Nf6 32.Re6 Nxd5 33.g3 Kf7 34.Rxd6 Ke7 35.Rxd8 Kxd8 36.Kf2 Kd7 37.Ke2 Kc6 38.Na3 Nb4 39.Nc4 Nxa2 40.Kd3 Nb4+ 41.Kc3 Nd5+ 42.Kd3 Nf6 43.Na5+ Kb6 44.Nc4+ Kc7 45.Ne3 b5 46.b3 Kd6 47.Nf1 Ne4 48.Ke3 Kd5 49.Kd3 c4+ 50.bxc4+ bxc4+ 51.Kc2 Kd4 52.Kd1 Kd3 53.Ke1 c3 54.Kd1 c2+ 55.Kc1 Nc3 56.Kb2 Ne2 57.Kb3 c1Q 58.Kb4 Qc6 59.Kb3 Qb5+ 60.Ka2 Kc3 61.Ka1 Qb2# 0-1

Doknjas, Joshua - McLaren, Brian [B03] Langley op (6.2), 04.09.2017

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 Nb6 5.exd6 exd6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.Bd3 0-0 8.Nge2 Bg4 9.0-0 c6 10.Qc2 g6 11.Be3 Bxe2 12.Nxe2 d5 13.c5 Nc8 14.b4 Re8 15.a4 Bf6 16.Rab1 Nd7 17.b5 a6 18.bxc6 bxc6 19.Rb7 Nf8 20.Rfb1 Ne6 21.Qd2 Re7 22.Rb8 Rea7 23.Rxa8 Rxa8 24.Qb4 Ne7 25.Nf4 Nc7 26.Qa5 Qc8 27.h3 h5 28.Rb6 Kg7 29.Qd2 a5 30.Qd1 Ne6 31.Nxe6+ Qxe6 32.Qf3 h4 33.Qf4 g5 34.Qf3 Qd7 35.Qh5 Rh8 36.Qe2 Qe6 37.Ra6 Rb8 38.Rxa5 Ng6 39.Ra6 Qc8 40.Rb6 Ra8 41.Bc2 Bd8 42.Rb1 Bf6 43.Qg4 Qxg4 44.hxg4 Nf8 45.Rb4 Ne6 46.Kf1 Ra7 47.Ke2 Kf8 48.Kd3 Ke7 49.Rb1 Kd7 50.Bb3 Rb7 51.Bc2 Ra7 52.Rb3 Kc7 53.Ra3 Ra5 54.Bd2 ½-½

Soliven, Joe - Landingin, Jofrel [A03] Langley op (6.4), 04.09.2017

1.f4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.b3 Bg4 4.e3 c6 5.Bb2 Nbd7 6.Be2 Bxf3 7.Bxf3 e6 8.0-0 Bc5 9.Kh1 Qc7 10.d4 Be7 11.Nd2 0-0 12.Qe2 Kh8 13.Rf2 Rg8 14.g4 g5 15.fxg5 Rxg5 16.h4 Rg7 17.g5 Ng8 18.Rg1 f5 19.Rfg2 Qd8 20.e4 Nf8 21.e5 Ng6 22.Qf2 Nf8 23.Nf1 Rc8 24.Ng3 Rc7 25.Nh5 Rg6 26.Bc1 c5 27.Be3 cxd4 28.Bxd4 Qc8 29.Nf4 Rg7 30.h5 Bc5 31.h6 Rg6 32.Bxd5 Bxd4 33.Qxd4 Ne7 34.c4 Kg8 35.Bf3 b6 36.Rd1 Rd7 37.Qa1 Qc5 38.Rxd7 Nxd7 39.Bd5 Nf8 40.Nxg6 Nexg6 41.Rd2 Qe3 42.Qd1 exd5 43.cxd5 Nxe5 44.Rc2 Qe4+ 45.Kg1 Qe3+ 46.Kf1 Qf4+ 47.Rf2 Qe4 48.d6 f4 49.Qc2 Qh1+ 50.Ke2 f3+ 51.Kd2 Qa1 52.b4 Qd4+ 53.Ke1 Nd3+ 54.Kd2 Nxf2+ 55.Ke1 Nd3+ 0-1

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

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

Sometimes one side loses so horribly the game just has to be shared. In today's offering, White goes wrong in the opening and gets a really, really bad position. How bad, you ask? Really, really bad.

1.d4 [0:03:00] **1...g6** [0:03:00] **2.c4** [0:02:59] **2...Bg7** [0:03:00] **3.Nc3** [0:02:59] **3...d6** [0:02:59] **4.Nf3** [0:02:58] **4...Bg4** [0:02:58]

[Diagram]

5.Bf4?! [0:02:53] This move, in itself, is not all that bad, but when combined with White's next move as part of a scheme of development, it's very dubious. **5...Nc6** [0:02:56] **6.e3?** [0:02:52] White should play 6.d5.



6...e5 [0:02:54] **7.dxe5** [0:02:51] **7...dxe5** [0:02:54] **8.Qxd8+?** [0:02:49] The queen exchange makes things worse for White. **8...Rxd8** [0:02:54] **9.Bg5?!** [0:02:47] **9...f6** [0:02:50] **10.Bh4** [0:02:47] **10...Nge7** [0:02:49]



A lot has already gone wrong for White. He now mistakenly defends against the threat of 11...Nb4, although his real problem is his wayward h4–bishop.] **11.a3?!** [0:02:38] **11...Nf5** [0:02:47] **12.Bg3** [0:02:36] **12...h5!** [0:02:40]



Now Black threatens to get the advantage of the bishop pair, while wrecking White's kingside pawns. White's next move avoids ceding the two bishops, but the cure is much worse than the disease. **13.Nd2?** [0:02:35] **13...h4** [0:02:38] **14.f3** [0:02:28] **14...hxg3** [0:02:32] **15.fxg4** [0:02:27] **15...Rhx2** [0:02:30] I learned this trick as a young lad, I've always had a fondness for it. Of course it's even better when White's knight is still on g1. **16.Rg1** [0:02:22] **16...Nxe3** [0:02:26]



The engine quite rightly awards Black a decisive advantage at this point, as White is two pawns down, his king is trapped in the centre of the board and few of his pieces have good squares available to them. Over the next few moves, all of these problems get worse. **17.Ke2** [0:02:21] **17...Nxf4** [0:02:20] Good enough, but Black also had 17...Nd4+ 18.Kxe3 Bh6+ 19.Ke4 f5+, and if White's king continues forward with 20.Kxe5, then 20...Nc6+ 21.Kf6 Rd6 is mate. **18.Nf3** [0:02:15] **18...f5** [0:02:13]



Now Black sets to work on White's only two decent pieces - his knights. **19.Nd5** [0:02:13] **19...e4** [0:02:08] **20.Ng5** [0:02:05] The charge of the Light Brigade... **20...Nd4+** [0:02:01] **21.Kd1** [0:02:04] **21...c6** [0:01:56] This simple, positional move, dislodging White's d5-knight, completely collapses what's left of White's position. **22.Nc7+** [0:02:00] **22...Ke7** [0:01:51] White's c7-knight isn't worth going after with **22...Kd7**, **23.Kc1** [0:01:55] **23...Bh6** [0:01:47] White resigns.



23...Nb3+ was also very strong. As I said earlier, White's position is really, really bad. His g1-rook can't move and his a1-rook isn't much better. His f1-bishop also can't move without being captured. His "active knights" are in trouble as well – White's c7-knight is trapped and his g5-knight is fatally pinned. As for White's king...Having fully experienced the joys of chess, White called it a day. **0-1**

B.C. CHESS CLUB OF THE MONTH: the Victoria Chess Club

Wednesdays 5:30pm to 8:45pm, Greater Victoria Public Library, 735 Broughton Street

The club's ancestry dates back to 1892 when it commenced regular meetings in downtown Victoria. In 125 years the Victoria Chess Club has had over thirty different addresses including such exotic locales as the Maccabees Hall, the Westholme Hotel, the Knights of Columbus building, Kresge's department store, the Crystal Pool and McDonalds Restaurant. Further details regarding the club's history can be found on its website.

Over the years, the Victoria Chess Club has produced one world champion (Jason Cao, world under-10) and eight provincial champions, the likes of Colin Aykroyd, Dan Scoones, Harry Moore, Gary Basanta (five-time champion), Howard Wu and Jason Cao, the current BC champion. There have also been three Women's champions – chess legend Lynn Stringer, Jackie Brien and current champion Valeria Gansvind. The Canadian under-12 champion, Patrick Huang, is also a club member.

In 2015 the club was struggling to cope with a doubling of its rent at the Silver Threads Service that had hosted the club for twenty years. At that time, there had been some joint chess ventures with



Victoria Chess Club Executive: from left to right – President Roger Patterson, Treasurer Paul Leblanc, Vice-President Alois Holzknacht, and Secretary Garth Edgar. On the right is Duncan Haines and in the foreground Marc Moisan. They both assist with running club tournaments. (photo: Mike Stanford)

the Central Branch, Victoria Public Library and this relationship led to an invitation for the club to move permanently to the library on Broughton Street. The library was most welcoming, even to the extent of buying new chess sets and clocks and setting up the equipment for club use every Wednesday evening. There is no rent to pay, hence no nightly fee for the players – even library building parking is free after 5pm. Activities include casual play – always an option – as well as structured competitions. Attendance is generally between a dozen and twenty players and the club occasionally holds one-day Active Chess tournaments that attract twenty-thirty players.

The club has an excellent [website](#), courtesy of President Roger Patterson and even boasts its own rating system. The chess club is now sponsored by Thrifty's grocery stores which provides a grant to assist with expenses such as trophies and tournament costs.



Members of the Victoria chess club in 1897

UPCOMING EVENTS

September Active

September 23, Columbia College

[Details](#)

New West Open

October 7-9, New Westminster

[Details](#)

October Active

October 21, Columbia College

[Details](#)

Jack Taylor Memorial

November 17-19, Victoria

[Details](#)

November Active

November 18, Columbia College

[Details](#)