

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #347

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

Isle of Man International (September 23 – October 1)

Held in Douglas on the Isle of Man, an island in the Irish Sea between England and Northern Ireland, this event was sponsored by chess.com, the Scheinberg Family, and other local organizations. Last year's edition was already one of the strongest open tournaments but this year's version was even stronger, bolstered by the participation of World Champion Magnus Carlsen. The one hundred and sixty player Masters Section included sixty-seven grandmasters, thirteen of whom were over 2700. There were two Canadians in the field, our own Leon Piasetski and Chessbrah Aman Hambleton, still seeking the elusive GM title.

A novelty at this year's event was the initial use of random pairings, resulting in the spectacle of Kramnik (second seed) playing Caruana (third seed) in the first round; the tournament reverted to normal Swiss pairings thereafter. Occupying board one throughout was Magnus Carlsen, whose 7.5/9 final score secured him clear first place and his first tournament win at regular time controls in over a year. Close behind were Hikaru Nakamura and Vishy Anand, tied for second. Aman finished with 5.0 points, on par for his rating but no GM norm alas, while Leon's 3.5 points will result in a modest rating loss. Another significant result, in this age of increasingly younger players, was that of sixty-five year old James Tarjan, winner of the 1st Keres Memorial in 1976, who beat former champions Vladimir Kramnik and Alexandra Kosteniuk in achieving a performance rating of 2671. [Tournament website](#)



Leon Piasetski with Lawrence Trent (his last round opponent) and Hou Yifan

Piasecki, Leon – Mai, Aron Thor [A07] Isle of Man Masters Douglas (6.72), 28.09.2017

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Bg4 3.Bg2 c6 4.h3 Bxf3 5.Bxf3 e5 6.d3 Bd6 7.e4 d4 8.Nd2 Ne7 9.c3 Na6 10.cxd4 exd4 11.0–0 Ng6 12.Nc4 Bc7 13.a4 0–0 14.Bg2 Nb4 15.Qb3 a5 16.Bd2 Qe7 17.f4 Rfe8 18.h4 Nf8 19.Bh3 h5 20.Kg2 Ra7 21.Rf2 Na6 22.Re1 Nc5 23.Qc2 b5 24.axb5 cxb5 25.Na3 Rb8 26.Rc1 Na4 27.Nxb5 Rxb5 28.Qxa4 Rxb2 29.Qxd4 Rbb7 30.Bc3 f6 31.Rb2 Rxb2+ 32.Bxb2 Bd8 33.Qd5+ Qf7 34.Qxd8 Kh7 35.Qd5 Qe8 36.Rc8 Qe7 37.Rxf8 Qxf8 38.Qxh5+ Kg8 39.Be6+ 1–0

International School Team Championship (September 27-29)

Also known as 2017 the First Chongqing “The Belt And Road” International School Team Chess Championship. Chongqing is a major city in southwest China; [“The Belt And Road”](#) is a Chinese development strategy focusing on cooperation between China and the countries associated with the land and maritime versions of the silk road. What exactly this has to do with chess is not entirely clear (English-language information on the event is scarce), but the tournament was an event for schoolchildren, defined in this case as U12, between teams from Australia, Canada, China, France, Hungary, India, Iran, Poland, Qatar, Russia, Singapore, and the USA. The Canadian team consisted of Patrick Huang, Kevin Low, and Eric Jiang from this province and Jonathan Zhao from Toronto. They scored 4.0, 5.5, 1.5, and 4.0 points respectively in the seven-round competition, with Kevin's score being the second-best on board two. The overall winners were India, China 1, and Hungary; Canada finished sixth out of fourteen teams, ahead of both Russia and America, with three wins, two draws, and two losses. The time control was 15 + 5.

[Standings](#)



Team Canada with Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, although as far as we can tell this was not an official FIDE event

WYCC (September 17 – September 26)

Back in [Bulletin #345](#) we reported on the World Cadet Championships, the U8-U12 Sections from the old WYCC; now the U14-U18 Sections, constituting the renamed World Youth Championships,

have taken place in the Uruguayan capital of Montevideo. Sixteen Canadians participated in the tournament, including in the U18 Open Brandon Zhu and James Li from this province, plus the Chief Arbiter was Hal Bond from Ontario. The best Canadian scores were achieved by Svitlana Demchenko (U14 Girls) and Richard Chen (U16 Open), 7.5/11 each, leaving them with a final rank of sixth and seventh in their respective sections. Brandon scored 5.0 points for a modest rating increase, while James had a sub-par event and only scored 4.0 points, amplified by the K=40 factor for juniors. (U18 is a tough section – among the sixty-two players were one GM, six IMs, and seventeen FMs.) [Canadian results](#) [Facebook posts and photos](#)



Zhu, Brandon – Goncalves, Davi Sulzbacher [A62] WYCC U18 Montevideo (5.18), 20.09.2017

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.g3 Bg7 8.Bg2 0–0 9.0–0 Re8 10.Bf4 Ne4 11.Nxe4 Rxe4 12.Nd2 Rxf4 13.gxf4 Bxb2 14.Rb1 Bg7 15.a4 Na6 16.Nc4 Nb4 17.Qd2 b6 18.Rfe1 Ba6 19.Na3 Qd7 20.Nc2 Na2 21.Rb3 Qxa4 22.Ra3 Qc4 23.Ne3 Qb4 24.Rxa2 Bc3 25.Qc2 Bxe1 26.Rxa6 Qxf4 27.Bf3 Qg5+ 28.Kf1 Bb4 29.Qe4 h5 30.h4 Qf6 31.Nc4 b5 32.Nb6 Rd8 33.Rxa7 c4 34.Nd7 Qg7 35.Qe7 Rc8 36.Nf6+ Kh8 37.Qxf7 1–0

Li, James – Haria, Ravi [A13] WYCC U18 Montevideo (1.12), 17.09.2017

1.c4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.g3 Nf6 4.b3 Be7 5.Bb2 0–0 6.Bg2 a5 7.a3 c5 8.0–0 a4 9.cxd5 axb3 10.d6 Qxd6 11.Qxb3 Nc6 12.Nc3 e5 13.Nb5 Qb8 14.e3 Be6 15.Qc2 Ra5 16.a4 Nd5 17.d4 exd4 18.exd4 c4 19.Ne5 Nxe5 20.dxe5 Ra6 21.Rfd1 Nb4 22.Qe4 Nd3 23.Bc3 Nc5 24.Qe2 Nxa4 25.Bd4 Nb6 26.Rab1 Bf5 27.Be4 Bxe4 28.Qxe4 Qc8 29.Nd6 Bxd6 30.exd6 Nd7 31.Bc3 Rc6 32.Qg4 f6 33.Qe6+ Kh8 34.Rb5 Re8 35.Qh3 Nc5 36.d7 Nxd7 37.Rxd7 Rd6 38.Rxb7 Rd1+ 39.Qf1 Rxf1+ 40.Kxf1 Qc6 41.Kg1 Rg8 42.Rbc7 Qf3 43.Rxc4 h6 44.Rcc7 Rb8 45.Re7 Rb1+ 46.Be1 h5 47.h4 Qa8 48.Rcd7 Qc8 49.Kf1 Qc4+ 50.Kg1 Qb4 51.Re8+ Kh7 52.Rde7 Qc5 53.Re4 Qc6 ½–½

Seattle Fall Open (September 22-24)

For the second week in a row Kate Jiang (along with brother William) played in a Seattle event, this time the Fall Open. In the twenty-seven player Reserve Section Kate again scored 50%; the section winner was Lorenzo Patton, while the overall winner was Steven Breckenridge. [USCF rating report](#)

September Active (September 23)

The back-to-school edition of the monthly active saw a couple of important changes. To accommodate the Vancouver Rapid Chess League matches happening immediately afterwards at the same location the active was shortened to five rounds from its usual six, and also began at 9 am rather than the previous 10:30 am start. Nearly everyone got the memo, so to speak, and only a couple of players missed the first round because of the time change. This also meant that some of the team players could also chose to take part in the active, hence the participation of the two highest-rated players, Tanraj Sohal and Grigorii Morozov. They were joined by Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj (almost a house player at these events) as the only ones rated over 2200. Not surprisingly they took the lion's share of the prizes: Tanraj was clear first with 4.5/5, and Grigorii and Davaa shared second. Tanraj gave up a single draw to Grigorii but beat Davaa, while Grigorii also drew with Ryan Leong. The U1700 prizes were split between Richard Ingram and William Bremner.



In the Junior Section there was a three-way tied for first: Gillian Mok won the U1300 trophy, Mihailo Misic the U1000, and Justin Jin received a medal. Luo Zhiheng was the U600 trophy winner, and medals also went to Rohan Wessels and Alexander Jin. A total of thirty entered the tournament, now held in room 450 at Columbia College (near Terminal and Main). The next event is [October 21](#).



WA Women's Championship (September 15-17)

After a short internet search your editor could not find a comprehensive history of the Washington Women's Championship. However, USCF rating records tell us the 2015 event was a four-round Swiss involving seven players, won by Chouchanik Airapetian, while in 2016 Badamkhand Norovsambuu was the winner in a field of fifteen. Which brings us to this year. Opened to players from the Pacific northwest as well as from Washington, including BC, the field swelled to twenty-three and the number of rounds to five. Participating from this province was Kate Jiang, while another entrant from Oregon, Andrea Botez, is no stranger to BC. Repeating as this year's champion was Chouchanik Airapetian with 4.5/5; second was Andrea, losing only to the winner. Kate finished with 50%, giving her an initial USCF rating of 1562 and a share of the U1400/U1200 prizes. The tournament was held at the Seattle Chess Club, organized by WCF President Josh Sinanan and directed by Fred Kleist. [USCF rating report](#) [photos](#)



Andrea Botez and Kate Jiang

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

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

I had a quite different take on this game when I went through it in detail than when I played it.

1.g3 [0:03:00] **1...c5** [0:03:00] **2.Bg2** [0:02:57] **2...d5** [0:03:00] **3.d3** [0:02:56] **3...Nc6** [0:02:59] **4.Nc3** [0:02:55] **4...Nf6** [0:02:57] **5.Bg5** [0:02:54] **5...d4** [0:02:53] Black responds to White's provocations. The main alternative is 5...e6. **6.Bxf6** [0:02:52] **6...gxf6** [0:02:52] There is a lot to be said for 6...exf6, after which Black can play to get his f8–bishop on the a1–h8 diagonal. **7.Ne4** [0:02:52]



Having surrendered his dark-squared bishop, White is counting on its light-squared counterpart to carry the load. White's impressive e4-knight won't be there for long. **7...f5** [0:02:50] **8.Nd2** [0:02:51]



8...e5 [0:02:47] **9.c3** [0:02:47] **9...Bd6** [0:02:45]
10.Ngf3 [0:02:49] Interestingly, the engine seriously recommends 10.Bxc6+ at this point - but its favourable assessment tends to peter out after a few more moves... **10...Be6** [0:02:43] **11.0-0** [0:02:47] **11...0-0** [0:02:42] **12.a3** [0:02:46] A waiting move, but next time I will play 12.e3!? **12...a5** [0:02:38] **13.cxd4** [0:02:45] **13...cxd4** [0:02:37] **14.Rc1** [0:02:43]



Here I was just playing on general principles, trying to get as many White pieces active as possible, in the hope that something good would happen. This isn't that bad a way to play, actually - you might want to try it. **14...a4** [0:02:31] Black, a Grandmaster, plays positionally here, but there are dynamic considerations that should be taken into account as well. **15.e3!**? [0:02:35] **15...dxe3** [0:02:29] **16.fxe3** [0:02:35] **16...Qb6** [0:02:23] Believe it or not, I saw this. 15.e3!? was a pawn sacrifice, to get at the weakened light squares around Black's king. **17.Nc4** [0:02:24] **17...Bxc4** [0:02:21] **18.Rxc4** [0:02:24] **18...Qxe3+** [0:02:16] **19.Kh1** [0:02:23]



So here we are. Black has his pawn, but his position is suddenly not so easy to play. Black's a4–pawn is hanging and his f5–pawn is weak, and 19...Ne7 can be met by 20.Re1, switching the attack to Black's e5–pawn. At the end of it all, White's king is safe, while the same can't be said for Black's king. Once the dust settles and the mutual pawn massacres are over, king safety may well be the most important factor in the position. **19...Rad8?! [0:02:12] 20.Nh4 [0:02:23]**



Attacking Black's f5-pawn, but also opening a path for White's queen to go to h5. **20...Ne7 [0:02:05] 21.Nxf5 [0:02:12] 21...Nxf5 [0:02:01] 22.Rxf5 [0:02:12]**



A typical position with bishops of opposite colours - White has a big advantage, because his play on the light squares is stronger than any potential Black play on the dark squares. **22...b5?! [0:01:56] 23.Re4!? [0:02:01]** The direct 23.Rh4! was stronger. I saw it, but decided to set a trap. Since Black fell into it, who's to say 23.Re4!? wasn't a good move? **23...Qc5? [0:01:53]**



23...Qa7 was the only move, so that Black's queen could defend along the second rank. **24.Qh5?!** [0:01:56] Winning, but 24.Rg5+ Kh8 25.Rh4 mated. **24...f6** [0:00:39] Black allows the mate, after thinking for more than a minute and a half. 24...Qc1+ 25.Rf1 would cost Black his queen in order to postpone mate. It's hard not to be unimpressed by Black's play. He played quickly, confidently and badly, missing most of the ideas in the position, then sulked for a minute and a half once it was obvious he was in deep trouble. **25.Rg4+** [0:01:49] **25...Kh8** [0:00:38]



26.Qxh7+! [0:01:47] Black resigns. A queen sacrifice! I can play tactically too sometimes... **1-0**

GEORGE ADLKIRCHNER FOUND ALIVE by Paul Leblanc

Victoria champion missing for 40 years

A chance meeting in a senior care home in James Bay led to the discovery of George Adlkirchner, 1972 Victoria City Champion. George was born near Munich, Germany in 1924. He had a rather normal and uneventful youth until drafted into the German Army in 1944. George had been trained as a machinist and was put into service working on German tanks and artillery pieces but the tide had already turned in the war and within a year, George found himself a prisoner of war in the USA. Chess was apparently very popular among the German P.O.W.s and George learned the game in captivity.

At the end of the war, George was repatriated to Germany but post-war Germany was a pretty rough place and George set about getting himself to a place he had always dreamed of – Canada. In 1950, George was accepted as an immigrant to Canada and settled immediately in Victoria where he worked for the next twenty-five years as a machinist at Victoria Machinery Depot, a firm

that did a lot of work for the Canadian Navy. George learned about the Victoria City Chess Club soon after his arrival and remembers being a regular at the club in various downtown locations.

I first met George at the Gordon Head Chess Club in 1973 where we both competed in club tournaments. I left Victoria a year later and by the time I returned in late 1976 George had left competitive chess. I never saw him again. Then last week, I was informed by another Gordon Head Club veteran, Al Holzknacht, that he had encountered George in the Beacon Villa senior home where Al's girlfriend, Marion had recently moved. George, aged ninety-three, still keeps a chess set and board in his room and he was quite pleased to be re-united with his old chess adversaries.



George Adlkirchner, Alois Holzknacht, and Paul Leblanc

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vancouver Rapid Chess League

Monthly until May 2018, Columbia College

[Details](#)

New West Open

October 7-9, New Westminster

[Details](#)

Battle of the Queens

October 14, Pasco WA

[Details](#)

October Active

October 21, Columbia College

[Details](#)

Jack Taylor Memorial

November 17-19, Victoria

[Details](#)

November Active

November 18, Columbia College

[Details](#)