

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #383

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 Rapid Chess League (September 22)



There are fewer players than there appear to be, the walls of the studio are mirrored ...

Now in its eighth season, the first matches of this year's [Vancouver Rapid Chess League](#) have taken place at the league's new home, the BC Dance studio at 877 Hamilton Street, Vancouver (also the location of the newly-formed [Vancouver Chess Club](#)). Ten teams are competing in a series of Scheveningen matches (each team member plays everyone on the opposing team) to determine the qualifiers for the playoffs next spring. The next round is scheduled for Sunday October 20 at 3pm.

Victoria Chess Club Active (September 21) by Roger Patterson

The September 2019 version of the Victoria Chess free active tournaments was won by Foad Mazidi on tiebreak over Reza Sadari. Foad is a recent arrival in Victoria and works in the same building as the library - no excuse for missing club nights!

Pre-tournament favourite Roger Patterson got nicked for a draw against Reza in the fourth when he blundered an exchange in a winning position. A second draw against Foad relegated him to third. Other class prize winners were Phillip Boyle (U1700), recently returned from the Maritimes, Fred Wisseman (U1500), recently returned from Thailand, and Justin Ge (U1300).

Many thanks to those who made the event possible, Bernie Stanley (organizer), Nigel Hanrahan (Tournament Director), the Broughton branch Library (sponsor), Thrifty Foods (sponsor), and Victoria Chess. This [report](#) with full standings.



Prize winners (left to right) Phillip Boyle, Nigel Hanrahan (TD), Foad Mazidi, Fred Wisseman. Missing: Justin Ge

Valeria in Moscow

WFM Valeria Gansvind participated in a number of fast time control tournaments in Moscow recently, two rapid, two blitz. The two rapid events were both held at the [VDNKh](#), a vast exhibition and amusement park complex which originated in the Soviet era. The VDNKh does have its own chess club housed in a striking building (below); it is not clear from the sources whether these were club events or open to the public.



On August 11 was the [VDNKh Cup August](#); Valeria was clear first in the forty-three player field with 6.5/7. Two weeks later the [Vdnch Cup](#) took place (the same name, allowing for capitalization/

spelling/transliteration); this time Valeria shared first with Ilya Ratataev on 6.0/7, twenty-eight players took part. The time control in both cases was a brisk 10 + 3.

The other two events were part of the Moscow Women's Blitz Championship, played at 3 + 2. In the [First Semifinal](#), held on August 27 at the VDNKh Chess Club, Valeria scored 6.5/11 and was tied for fifth among twenty players. The [Final](#) was a component in a blitz chess festival which combined various championships by gender and age group, held outdoors at the Luzhniki Olympic Complex on September 7. Here Valeria could only score 5.0 points in the eighteen-player round robin, but had the satisfaction of beating the eventual winner Polina Shuvalova. The overall winner of the Men's division was Daniil Dubov.



BC Closed and Women's Championship

It's that time of year again – the BC Championship and Women's Championship will be taking place on the Thanksgiving weekend, this time in conjunction with the [New West Fall Open](#). The fields have not quite been finalized, but this is who is playing so far:

Closed:

Neil Doknjas (Langley Open)
Brian McLaren (ratings list)
Arpak Worya Mohammed Qanee (ratings list)
Grigorii Morozov (2018 co-champion)
Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj (BC Open)
Tanraj Sohal (2018 co-champion)
Brandon Zhu (ratings list)

Women's: (all from ratings list)

Stephanie Gu
Veronica Guo
Kate Jiang
Uranchimeg Nyamdorj
Larysa Plostak

All the action takes place at the New Westminster campus of Douglas College, fourth floor, room N4360. The Closed begins on Friday October 11 at 5pm, with the following rounds at 10am and 3pm each day; the Women's starts on the Saturday morning, as does the New West Fall Open at the same site. A participant in the latter will be GPO winner GM Andrey Gorovets, who is also giving a simultaneous display on the Friday evening, details [here](#).

TAKE RISKS AND EXPRESS YOURSELF – PART II by Nick Beqo

For Part II I am choosing the first game I ever played in a BC Championship.

It was the first time I played in this tournament and it was right after Keres Memorial 2002. In the first round I was paired against the BC Champion! My opponent was rated 2437 ELO at the time. I was playing with White pieces and the game reached the first critical moment.



In this position Black played 14... Qd7.

Normally Black plays a6, b5, and a5, attacking White's King but my opponent's move was an improvement since Black will be faster in his attack against my King by playing b5 and then a5 rather than a6, b5 and a5.

What should I do? It's clear that my opponent is well-prepared!

According to the Middlegame theory, in opposite side castling situations who gets first to the opponent's King is normally the player that has the advantage. In this position it means that White should start attacking the Black King with moves g4, h4, h5, etc. and Chess Databases have many games that continue with 15.g4 in this position.

The question for me was, should I follow the guidelines of the chess theory and play the kind of chess others expect of me, or should I take risks and have the courage to play chess true to myself?

My mindset at that moment was, "Take risks and do not be afraid, otherwise you will never win! Be creative and bring something new to the chessboard, the only way to beat a 2400+ ELO player"! In this position I decided to take risk and played **15.c4!**



In such a position with opposite castling, the move I played looks like counterintuitive because

- it seems it weakens my King's position
- it is risky to play on the side where my opponent is attacking rather than counter attacking on the opposite side
- it's waste of time (Tempi) in the race to each other's Kings.

However, I felt brave and decided to face Black's attack heads-on by controlling the space in front of my King, and neutralizing Black's attack before starting my attack against Black's King.

After the game I checked chess databases and could not find this move. Normally the first moves out of the Openings Books that cannot be found in Databases are either mistakes or novelties. Based on the way the game developed I believe that the move 15.c4 should be a novelty.

Ten moves later I was quite happy with my position – see diagram below.



White has exchange up for a pawn, active pieces and no weaknesses. Black has central pawns and if d6-pawn makes it to d4 then the position might become unclear. The game continued

25. Rd1 Rd8 26. Ba5! ...

At this point my opponent played the move **26... Rd7** and offered a draw.



In this position Black offered a draw.

Yes, it's an honour when a much higher rated player offers you a draw, but if you think about it, why would (s)he do that? The answer is in one of the tournament tips that I give my students regarding draw offers,

"Neither offer, nor accept a draw. Normally opponents offer draws because they are afraid of losing. If you need a draw to win the tournament then the best way to play for a draw is to play for a win."

I was determined to win so I continued playing and finally managed to reach a completely winning position.



In this position my opponent resigned!

I was not as happy with the win as I was with the new idea I found in the game, and the risk I took to execute it.

Beqo, Besnik – Yoos, Jack [B76] BC ch Victoria (1), 11.10.2002

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0–0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0–0–0 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 Be6 11.Kb1 Qc7 12.Nd5 Bxd5 13.exd5 Rac8 14.Rc1 Qd7 15.c4 b5 16.g4 Qb7 17.h4 a6 18.h5 bxc4 19.Bxc4 Rxc4 20.Rxc4 Qxd5 21.Qe2 e5 22.Bc3 Qb5 23.a4 Qb7 24.hxg6 hxg6 25.Rd1 Rd8 26.Ba5 Rd7 27.Rb4 Qa8 28.Rb6 Nd5 29.Rxa6 Qb7 30.Qb5 Ne3 31.Qxb7 Rxb7 32.Ra8+ Bf8 33.Rxd6 Kg7 34.Rdd8 Be7 35.Rg8+ Kf6 36.Ra6+ Kg5 37.Bb6 Kf4 38.a5 Kxf3 39.Ra7 Rxa7 40.Bxa7 Nd5 41.Rg7 f5 42.gxf5 gxf5 43.Bg1 Bd8 44.a6 Bb6 45.Bxb6 Nxb6 46.Rb7 Na8 47.Kc2 e4 48.a7 e3 49.Kd3 f4 50.Rf7 Nb6 51.Rf6 e2 52.Re6 1–0

[Beqo Chess Academy](#)

BROWSING FOR ENDGAMES by Dan Scoones

Endgames with each side having a rook and some pawns are the most common ones in practice. They are also the most difficult to play correctly. Today we will see two rook endings in which losing the game required a major lapse from the defending side.

Mohammed Qanee, Arpak Worya – Patterson, Roger [B85] BC sen Surrey (5.1), 01.07.2019

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Be2 Be7 7.0–0 0–0 8.Be3 a6 9.a4 Nc6 10.f4 Qc7 11.Nb3 b6 12.Bf3 Bb7 13.Qe2 Rfe8 14.Rad1 Nd7 15.Rd2 Nc5 16.Nd4 Bf6 17.Qc4 Rac8 18.Rfd1 Red8 19.b4 Nxa4 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Qxe6+ Qf7 22.Qxf7+ Kxf7 23.Nxa4 Nxb4 24.Bxb6 Re8 25.c3 Bc6 26.cxb4 Bxa4 27.Rb1 Ke7 28.Bd4 Rc4 29.Bxf6+ gxf6 30.Rbb2 Rb8 31.Rd5 Bc6 32.Rh5 Bxe4 33.Re2 Rxb4 34.Rxh7+ Ke6 35.Ra7 Ra4 36.Bxe4 Rxe4 37.Rxa6 Rxe2 38.Rxa4 d5



White to play

A tense position. Black has a passed

pawn and more active king, but White is a pawn up and is on move. To maintain winning chances, White should take the opportunity to start his pawns rolling with 39.g4! Black can meet this in several ways:

a) 39...Re4? 40.Rxe4 dxe4 41.Kf2 and White wins;

b) 39...Rc2 40.h4 Rc4? 41.Rxc4 dxc4 42.Kf2 and White wins;

c) 39...f5 40.g5 Kf7 41.h4 Kg6 (41...Re4? 42.Rxe4 and now both 42...fxe4 43.f5 and 42...dxe4 43.h5 are winning for White) 42.Ra6+ Kh5 43.Kf1 Rb2 44.Rh6+ Kg4 45.Rh8! Kf3 46.Ke1 Ke3 47.Kd1 Rb1+ 48.Kc2 Rb7 49.g6 d4 50.Re8+ Kxf4 51.Re1 Rg7 52.Rg1 Ke5 53.h5 Kf6 54.Kd3 f4 55.Kxd4 Rd7+ 56.Ke4 Kg7 57.Ra1 with a technical win for White;

d) 39...Kf7! (the toughest defence) 40.f5 Rd2! 41.h4 Kg7 42.Kf1 d4 43.Ra7+ Kf8 44.Rd7 Ke8 45.Rd5 Rd3 46.Kf2 (premature is 46.g5?! Rh3 47.g6 (or 47.Rxd4 Rf3+) 47...Rxh4 and Black can hold the draw) 46...Rh3 47.h5 Rd3 48.Rd6 (48.Ke2?! Re3+ 49.Kd2 Re4 wins the g-pawn) 48...Kf7 49.Rd7+ Kg8 50.Kf1 Rd2 51.Ke1 Rd3 (51...Ra2 52.Rxd4) 52.Rd8+ Kg7 53.Ke2 Re3+ 54.Kf2 Rd3

55.h6+ Kxh6 56.Rg8 Kh7 57.Rg6 Rh3 58.Rxf6 Kg7 59.Rg6+ Kf7 60.Rd6 with a technical win for White.

Whether or not this analysis is fully correct, White's next move must be wrong on principle. Rooks belong behind passed pawns, not in front of them.

39.Rd4?! Kd6 Here Black could try the crafty 39...Rc2! Then if White's king moves too far to the kingside, Black will acquire the tactical resource ...Rc4!, which will either skewer the White f-pawn or create a dangerous passed pawn on c4. As we have already seen, 39...Re4? is quite wrong: 40.Rxe4 dxe4 41.Kf2 with a winning pawn ending for White.

40.h4 Kc5 41.Ra4 Or 41.Rd1 d4 42.Kf1 Rc2 and White cannot win.

41...d4 White's decision to blockade the d-pawn with his rook has not helped his cause. Black's passed pawn and active pieces give him enough counterplay to draw.

42.Ra8 d3 43.Rd8 d2 44.Kh2 Kc4 45.h5 Kc3 46.h6



46...Re7?! Stronger was 46...Re8!, forcing White to grab the emergency handle with 47.Rxe8 (or 47.Rd7 Rh8, etc) 47...d1Q 48.Re3+! Kc4 49.Rh3! After 49...Qd8 50.h7 Qh8 51.g4 Kd5 52.Rh6 Ke4 53.Kg3, and neither side can reasonably hope to win. But the move in the game does not let the draw slip away.

47.g4 Kc2 Also possible was 47...Re2+, but after 48.Kg1 Re1+ 49.Kf2 Black must find the 49...Re8! trick.

48.g5 fxe5 49.fxe5



49...d1Q? The losing error. Black can still draw with 49...Re2+! 50.Kg3 (or 50.Kg1 Re5) 50...Re3+ 51.Kg4 Rd3 52.Rc8+ Rc3 53.Rd8 and neither side can reasonably avoid a repetition.

50.Rxd1 Kxd1 51.g6 Two connected passed pawns on the sixth rank are usually too much for a rook, and that is the case here.

51...Re6 52.h7 Rxe6 53.h8Q Rd6 54.Qa1+ Kd2 55.Qa5+ Kd1 56.Qa4+ Ke2 57.Qg4+ 1-0

Petrov, Ivan – Du, Daniel [E18] Langley op Langley (6.3), 02.09.2019

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.d4 d5 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0–0 6.0–0 b6 7.Nc3 Bb7 8.Ne5 Nbd7 9.Qa4 c5 10.Nxd7 Qxd7 11.Qxd7 Nxd7 12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.cxd5 exd5 14.Nxd5 Rac8 15.Bf4 Bxd5 16.Bxd5 Nf6 17.Bb7 Rce8 18.Bf3 Ne4 19.Rad1 f5 20.e3 h6 21.h4 Rd8 22.Bxe4 fxe4 23.a3 a5 24.Rfe1 Rfe8 25.Kf1 Kf7 26.Ke2 Kf6 27.g4 g5 28.hxg5+ hxg5 29.Bc7 Rc8 30.Bd6 Re6 31.Bxc5 Rxc5 32.Rd2 Kg6 33.Red1 Kf6 34.Rd8 Rc2+ 35.R1d2 Rxd2+ 36.Kxd2



After many complications White has managed to obtain a rook ending with an extra pawn. Black's situation is difficult because his pawns are fixed and can be targeted by White's king and rook. If White plays accurately it is difficult to see how Black can save the game.

36...Kg6 37.Rg8+ Kf6 38.Rf8+ Kg6 39.Kc3 Rc6+ 40.Kd4 Rc2 41.b4 axb4

If 41...Ra2 then 42.b5! Rxa3 43.Rb8 Ra2 44.Rxb6+ Kf7 45.Ra6 and White must be winning; for example, 45...Ke7 46.Kxe4 Rxf2 47.Rxa5, etc.

42.axb4 Rb2

Black to play



43.Kxe4? A fundamental error. White's b-pawn is far more dangerous than Black's e-pawn, so White should not acquiesce to this indirect exchange. After 43.Kc4! Kg7 44.Rf5 Kg6 45.Kb5! Black is in zugzwang and must lose his b-pawn at the least. Once White has an outside passed pawn, the game will end very quickly.

43...Rxb4+ 44.Kf3 Rb3 45.Ke2 b5 46.Kd2 Rb1 47.Rf5 b4 48.Kc2



48...Re1? Too slow. Black should immediately counterattack White's pawns, starting with 48...Rg1!; for example, 49.f3 Re1 50.Re5 Rf1 51.Rf5 Re1 52.Kd2 (or 52.e4 Re3 53.Kd2 Rc3, etc.) and now:

a) 52...Rf1 53.Ke2 Rb1 54.Rb5 b3 55.Kd2 b2 56.Kc2 Rf1 followed by ...Rxf3 and Black reaches a drawable position;

b) 52...Rb1 53.Kd3 b3 54.Ke4 b2 55.Rb5 Kf6 56.Rb6+ Kg7 57.Kf5 Rf1 58.Rxb2 Rxf3+ 59.Kxg5 Rxe3 60.Rb7+ Kg8 61.Kf6 (61.Kg6 Re6+ 62.Kf5 Ra6) 61...Ra3 with a well-known drawing position.

49.Kb2? It is not clear why White rejected the natural 49.Kb3, attacking Black's b-pawn.

Black has two defences, both of which are inadequate:

a) 49...Rg1 50.f3 Re1 51.e4 (White has consolidated his kingside pawn mass and can now round up Black's b-pawn) 51...Rb1+ 52.Kc4 b3 (52...Kh6 53.Rd5 Kg6 54.Rd3 Rc1+ 55.Kxb4 Kf6 56.Rc3) 53.Kc3 Kh6 54.Kc4 b2 55.Kc3 Rc1+ 56.Kxb2 Rc8 57.Rd5 and White wins.

b) 49...Rb1+ 50.Kc4 Kh6 (50...Rb2 51.f3 Re2 52.Kd3 Rf2 53.Ke4 b3 54.Rb5 b2 55.f4 gxf4 56.exf4 with a winning ending for White) 51.f3 b3 52.e4 b2 53.Kb3 Kg6 54.Kc2 Rc1+ 55.Kxb2 and wins.

49...Kh6?! This should not lose, but much simpler was 49...Rg1! 50.f3 Re1 51.e4 Re3!, cutting off the king and leaving White with great technical difficulties.

50.Kb3 Rb1+ 51.Kc4 b3 52.Kc3 b2?!

Simpler is 52...Rg1 53.f3 (53.Kxb3 Rxc4 is similar to the game) 53...Re1 54.e4 (54.Kxb3 Rxe3+ 55.Kc4 Kg6, etc.) 54...Re3+ 55.Kb2 Kh7 and White cannot win.

53.Kc2?!

The alternative 53.Rb5 Rg1 54.Rb6+ Kg7 55.Rxb2 Rxc4 56.Kd3 is similar to the game, but more interesting is 53.f4!? Rg1! (definitely not 53...gxf4 54.exf4 Rg1 55.g5+ Kg6 56.Rf6+ Kg7 57.Kxb2 and White wins) 54.Kxb2 gxf4 55.Rxf4. White now has two extra pawns but his pieces are awkwardly placed, and this allows Black to draw with accurate play: 55...Rd1! (55...Kg5 56.Kc3) 56.Kc2 Rd8 57.Rd4 Rc8+ 58.Kd3 Kg5! 59.Ke2 Rf8! White cannot make progress without giving up his g-pawn, but that will leave Black an easily drawable position with his king in front of White's remaining pawn.

53...Rg1 54.Kxb2 Rxc4

White has kept an extra pawn but it is not enough to win if Black defends accurately. There is little hope of winning Black's g-pawn for nothing, so the best White can get is an ending of R+P vs R with Black's king in front of the pawn.

55.Kc3 Kg6 56.Rf8 Kg7 57.Rf3 Re4 58.Kd3 Ra4 59.Rf5 Kg6



60.e4 Slightly better is 60.Rc5 but after 60...g4! 61.Rc4 Ra3+ 62.Ke2 (62.Ke4 Ra2 63.Kf4 Rxf2+ 64.Kxg4=) 62...Kf5 63.Rc5+ Kf6 64.Kf1 g3! Black is out of danger.

60...Ra3+ 61.Ke2 Ra2+ Also possible is 61...g4!?, fixing White's pawns and practically forcing an indirect exchange.

62.Kf1 If 62.Kf3 then 62...Ra4! with a counterattack on White's e-pawn. **62...Ra4! 63.f3 g4!** With this exchange Black reaches a clearly drawable version of the ending R+P vs R.

64.Kf2 gxf3 65.Kxf3 Ra1 66.Ke3 Re1+ 67.Kd4 Rd1+ 68.Kc5 Ra1 69.Rf2 Rc1+ 70.Kd6



White seems to be doing well: Black's king is cut off from the pawn, and White's king is ready to help it promote. But it is not enough to win!

70...Rd1+? After 70.Ra1! Black holds the draw by checking White's king from the side. If White sends his rook over to block the checks, then Black's king can get in front of the pawn. If White's king approaches Black's rook, then the rook can attack the e-pawn and force White's king to defend it. This will also enable Black's king to get in front of the pawn.

71.Ke6 Kg7 If Black tries to re-establish the drawing mechanism with 71...Ra1, White drives away the Black king with 72.Rg2+, allowing his own king to go to the f-file and find shelter behind his e-pawn.



72.e5? This throws away the win. The right way forward is 72.Ke7! Re1 72.Rg2+! Kh6 73.Kf6! (*threatening mate*) 73...Rf1+ 74.Ke6, etc. As before, with Black's king cut off by two files instead of one, White's e-pawn will provide shelter from Black's checks.

72...Re1 73.Kd6 Or 73.Rg2+ Kf8, etc.

73...Ra1 74.Rc2 Kf8 75.Rc8+



75...Kf7? And this throws away the draw. Black should not allow White to advance his pawn with tempo. After 75...Kg7! White cannot win: 76.e6 Ra6+ 77.Rc6 Ra8! 78.Rc7+ Kf8 79.Kd7 Kg7! 80.Rc8 Ra7+ 81.Rc7 Ra8! 82.Rc8 Rc7+ and now both 83.Kd8 and 83.Ke8 are met by 83...Kf6! Of course Black must play this ending accurately, but the drawing method is in all the books and can be studied and learned.

76.e6+ Kf6 77.Rf8+ Kg7 78.e7 It is all over now.

78...Ra6+ 79.Kc5 Ra5+ 80.Kb6 Re5 81.e8Q 1-0

BC CHAMPIONSHIPS 1992 AND 1993

With this year's BC Championship coming up shortly at Thanksgiving, we here look at the previous occasions the tournament was held in New Westminster. As far as we know this occurred twice just over twenty-five years ago, in 1992 and 1993. This corresponded to the peak years of Gary Basanta; after winning the BC Junior Championship four years in a row (1984-87), he moved on to the adult event, earning the provincial title four times out of five during the years 1989-93 and for a fifth time in 1998.

77th BC Championship, 2-5 January 1992

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	Basanta, Gary	2368	*	½	1	1	1	1	1	6.5
2	Berry, Jonathan	2379	½	*	½	1	1	1	½	5.5
3	Fuentebella, Mayo	2278	0	½	*	1	1	½	1	5.0
4	Herder, David A.	2226	0	0	0	*	½	1	1	3.0
5	Burke, Paul	2269	0	0	0	½	*	½	1	3.0
6	Gladu, Pierre	2247	0	0	½	0	½	*	1	2.5
7	Cabanas, Francisco	2114	0	½	0	0	0	0	*	1.5
8	Storey, Carl	2216	0	0	0	½	0	½	0	1.0

"This year's BC Closed took place at Douglas College in New Westminster from January 2-5. It was an eight-player round robin tournament, with two rounds taking place each of the first three days, and one round on the last day, in order to allow time for our out-of-town players to return home. This year's tournament was one of the strongest ever, with an average rating of approximately 2260. Seven out of eight players were masters!

Despite the strength of the field, Gary Basanta recorded possibly the best result in BC Closed history, with 6.5 out of 7. This was Gary's second consecutive Closed win, as well as his third (out of three) in four years. This tournament puts him close to, if not over, the 2400 mark. Not to be overlooked, Jonathan Berry also had a fine tournament, going undefeated en route to a 5.5-1.5 mark. He was the only player to take any points from Basanta. Mayo Fuentebella came through

with a strong third place result of 5.0-2.0, performing well above his rating. It should be noted here that either Berry's or Fuentebella's records would have fared much better last year, as Basanta won clear first then with just 5.0 points! Dave Herder and Paul Burke finished the tournament with a respectable 3.0 points each. The field was rounded out by newcomer Pierre Gladu with 2.5, Francisco Cabanas with 1.5, and Carl Storey with 1.0.



Gary Basanta

The tournament generally went smoothly, with the exception of a shortage of clocks at the beginning of the tournament. I should mention that Dave Herder and Francisco Cabanas were called on at the last minute to play in this tournament, and thus their performance looks that much better in light of their lack of time to prepare. Thanks to them for playing on such short notice, and to all those who participated for making the Closed a memorable event, and an easy one to run. By the way, who says three's a crowd? Try four! (Those who slept on my living room floor know what I mean!)” [Report by Bob Holmes in *Counterplay* February 1992]

Basanta, Gary – Storey, Carl [B92] BC ch New Westminster (1.2), 02.01.1992

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 g6 7.Bg5 Bg7 8.0–0 0–0 9.Kh1 Nbd7 10.f4 Qc7 11.Bf3 e6 12.Qe1 h6 13.Bh4 Re8 14.Rd1 Nh7 15.Nde2 b5 16.Qd2 Bf8 17.e5 d5 18.Nxd5 exd5 19.Bxd5 Ra7 20.Qd3 Kh8 21.e6 Nc5 22.exf7 Re7 23.Qxg6 Rxf7 24.Bxf7 Qxf7 25.f5 Rd7 26.Rxd7 Qxd7 27.f6 Qg4 28.Qxg4 Bxg4 29.Nd4 Ne4 30.Rf4 1–0

Gladu, Pierre – Berry, Jonathan [C60] BC ch New Westminster (7.2), 05.01.1992

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.d4 exd4 5.Bg5 Be7 6.Bxe7 Qxe7 7.0–0 Nf6 8.Nxd4 0–0 9.Re1 Qb4 10.c3 Qc5 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.Nd2 d5 13.e5 Nh5 14.g4 Ng7 15.Qf3 Bd7 16.Re3 Rae8 17.Rae1 Qe7 18.Qg3 c5 19.Ne2 c6 20.f4 f5 21.g5 Rb8 22.b3 a5 23.Qf2 Ne6 24.Rh3 a4 25.Rh6 Rb7 26.h4 Ra8 27.h5 Be8 28.Nc1 axb3 29.axb3 Ra1 30.hxg6 Bxg6 31.Qh4 Qd8 32.Kg2 Rg7 33.Rh1 Kf7 34.Qg3 Qa5 35.R6h4 Kg8 36.b4 Qa3 37.Qe1 Rb7 38.bxc5 [time] 0–1

78th BC Championship, 2-5 January 1993

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1	Basanta, Gary	2398	*	½	1	1	0	1	1	1	5.5
2	Berry, Jonathan	2401	½	*	½	0	1	1	1	1	5.0
3	Piassetski, Leon	2429	0	½	*	0	1	1	1	1	4.5
4	Storey, Carl	2216	0	1	1	*	½	0	0	1	3.5
5	Neufahrt, Gerhard	2182	1	0	0	½	*	1	0	½	3.0
6	Moore, Harry	2343	0	0	0	1	0	*	1	1	3.0
7	Fullbrook, Nigel	2231	0	0	0	1	1	0	*	0	2.0
8	Oszvald, Joe	2214	0	0	0	0	½	0	1	*	1.5

“This year's BC Closed was certainly the strongest in recent memory, and arguably the strongest ever! The average rating of 2302 was the highest that Henry Chiu, BC's closest thing to a chess historian, could recall. It was an extremely well-contested tournament, with the possibility of a four-way tie for first still possible going into the last round!

This year's tournament was held at Douglas College in New Westminster, as it was last year. Other than the 'blizzard' on Saturday night, and a severe lack of scoresheets, the tournament went off more or less without a hitch. Going into the tournament, there had to be three favourites – Leon Piasetski, Jonathan Berry, and the defending champion, Gary Basanta. These three were over 50 points higher than the next highest rated player, and only 31 points separated the three of them. Basanta and Berry finished one-two last year, while Piasetski did not play. Carl Storey was also a returnee from last year. Harry Moore, Nigel Fullbrook, Joe Oszvald, and Gerry Neufahrt, last year's Reserves champion, rounded out the field.



Left to right: Fullbrook, Basanta, Berry, Piasetski, Storey, Oszvald, Neufahrt, Moore

All in all, a very successful and competitive tournament. Basanta won again, and Berry had a very solid second-place finish. Piasetski overcame a rough start to finish very well. Storey, while having a disappointing finish, has to be pleased with his overall performance, avenging his demise last year (perhaps he slept better this year, not being on the floor of the TD's dingy apartment). Neufahrt put in an excellent performance, ranked eighth, but finishing tied for fifth. The others, Moore, Fullbrook, and Oszvald, may not have been happy with their results, but all played well, and certainly have nothing to be ashamed of. Just getting to the Closed is a feat in itself! Remember, there's always next year!" [Report by Bob Holmes in *Counterplay* April 1993]

Basanta, Gary – Piasetski, Leon David [B40] BC ch New Westminster (1.3), 02.01.1993

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.b4 cxb4 4.d4 b6 5.Bd3 Ba6 6.0–0 Bxd3 7.Qxd3 Nf6 8.c4 bxc3 9.Nxc3 d6 10.Bf4 Be7 11.Nb5 0–0 12.Rac1 a6 13.Nc3 b5 14.Ne2 Nbd7 15.Rc6 Nb6 16.Nd2 d5 17.e5 Ne8 18.Rc2 Nc4 19.g4 f6 20.Bg3 Qb6 21.Kg2 Ra7 22.h4 a5 23.h5 a4 24.Kh2 Bd8 25.Rb1 fxe5 26.dxe5 Rxf2+ 27.Kh3 Raf7 28.Nxc4 dxc4 29.Qe4 R2f3 30.Nd4 Rf1 31.Rxb5 Qc7 32.Nxe6 Qd7 33.Nd4 Qe7 34.Nf5 Qg5 35.Bh4 Rf4 36.Bxg5 Rxe4 37.Bxd8 Rd7 38.Bh4 Kf7 39.Bg3 g6 40.hxg6+ hxg6 41.Nd6+ Nxd6 42.exd6 Ke6 43.Rb8 Rh7+ 44.Kg2 Rxd4 45.Re2+ Kd5 46.Re7 Rxd4+ 1–0

Moore, Harry – Berry, Jonathan [A57] BC ch New Westminster (3.1), 03.01.1993

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.Nc3 axb5 6.e4 Qa5 7.Bd2 b4 8.e5 bxc3 9.Bxc3 Qb6 10.exf6 gxf6 11.Bc4 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.Ne2 Qd6 14.0–0 Nc7 15.Ng3 Qxd5 16.Qc2 Ne6 17.Rfd1 Qc6

18.Qf5 h5 19.Nxh5 Ra4 20.b4 cxb4 21.Bb2 Rg8 22.Ng3 Rg5 23.Qd3 Nf4 24.Qf1 Rc5 25.Bd4 Rc2
26.Be3 Nd5 27.Nf5 Raxa2 28.Nd4 Nxe3 29.Nxc6 Nxf1 30.Nxb4 Rxa1 31.Rxa1 Rc8 32.Kxf1 e6
33.Nd3 Bd6 34.h4 f5 35.Ra4 Ke7 36.g3 Rc2 37.h5 Kf6 38.Rd4 Rc6 39.f4 Ke7 40.Ne5 Bxe5 41.fxe5
Rc8 42.Kf2 Rh8 43.Rh4 f6 44.exf6+ Kxf6 45.Kf3 d5 46.Rh1 Kg5 47.Re1 Re8 48.Re5 Kf6 49.Re1
e5 50.g4 f4 51.Rd1 Rd8 52.Re1 Ra8 53.g5+ Kf5 54.g6 e4+ 55.Kf2 Ra2+ 56.Kf1 Kf6 57.Rd1 f3
58.Rd4 Rh2 59.g7 Kxg7 60.Rxd5 e3 61.Kg1 f2+ 0-1

UPCOMING EVENTS

New West Fall Open

October 12-14, New Westminster

[Details](#)

Jack Taylor Memorial

October 25-27, Victoria

[Details](#)

BC Junior Championship

November 9-11

[Details](#)

Banff Open

November 9-11, Banff, AB

[Details](#)