

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #119

Your editor welcomes welcome any and all submissions - news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to B.C. players. Thanks to all who contributed to this issue.

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Stephen Wright

[Back issues of the Bulletin are available on the above webpage.]

RECENT EVENTS

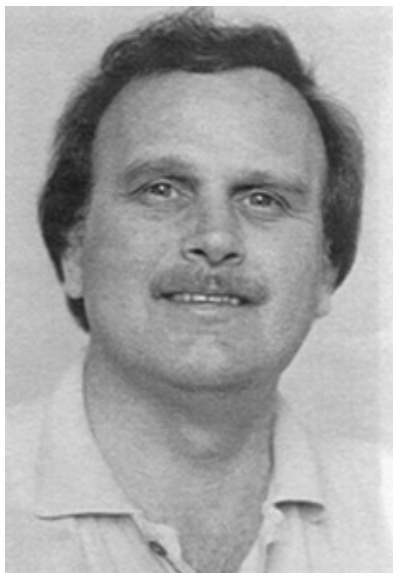
Sprott-Shaw April Junior Open (April 22)

Fifty-five players participated in the latest junior open in the lower mainland - results and photos at <http://www.bjdy.com/juniorchess/news.html>.

High School Team Championship (April 21)

Perennial challenger Winston Churchill won their fifth championship in six attempts: <http://www.bjdy.com/juniorchess/news.html>

CLARK HARMON (October 18, 1942 - April 12, 2007)



Clark Harmon at the time of the Northwest Invitational, Vancouver 1989

Northwest chess personality Clark Harmon has passed away from cancer at the age of sixty-four. A ten-time Oregon state champion who played sporadically in B.C. events (most recently the 2001 Keres), Clark was also an organizer - he sponsored the 2004 Arthur Dake Memorial event which included Jonathan Berry and Mike Standford.

Obituary and reminiscences:

http://www.nwchess.com/articles/people/Clark_Harmon.htm

From Jonathan Berry:

Clark Harmon was a kind man, and a fierce competitor. We met twice over the board. At the 1973 Northwest Open everything went my way in a grubfest, the kind of game where one side is totally intent upon winning pawns. Thirty-one years later, we met again. I thought that I was on the road to exploiting a microscopic advantage, but Clark proved me wrong. If heart-thumping time pressure had not intervened, he might have avoided the repetition.

The latter game took place in McMinnville, Oregon (a place more famous as the resting

place of Howard Hughes's Spruce Goose) at the Arthur Dake Memorial, an event conceived and sponsored by Clark Harmon. Yes, there was an entry fee, but Clark put up the players. I was happy to be a mole in somebody's basement, but Clark kindly put Mike Stanford and me up in a motel, and lent me his son's bicycle to get to the tournament site, which was in the offices of his greenhouse construction business. There I also met Clark's wife Sherry, who was also very kind to us chess addicts. So I cherish good memories of the Harmons. May Clark rest in peace.

Zuk, Robert - Harmon, Clark [B09] Northwest Invitational Portland (6), 07.03.1971

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3 c5 6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.Bxd7+ Nfxd7 8.Be3 Nc6 9.Qd2 cxd4 10.Nxd4 0-0 11.0-0 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Bxd4+ 13.Qxd4 Qb6 14.Rfd1 Rfc8 15.Qxb6 Nxb6 16.Rd3 Rc5 17.a4 Rc7 18.a5 Nd7 19.Rad1 Nc5 20.Rd4 Ne6 21.Nd5 Rxc2 22.Rb4 b6 23.axb6 axb6 24.Nxe7+ Kf8 25.Nd5 Ra2 26.Rb1 Nc5 27.Nc3 Ra6 28.Rd1 Nb7 29.h3 f6 30.Nd5 Ra2 31.Rxb6 Raxb2 32.Rxb2 Rxb2 33.Nxf6 h6 34.Ng4 h5 35.Nf2 Ke7 36.Nd3 Rb5 37.Kf2 Nc5 38.Nxc5 dxc5 39.Rc1 Kd6 40.Rc3 Rb4 41.Kf3 c4 42.Ke3 Kc5 43.g4 hxg4 44.hxg4 Rb1 45.e5 Rg1 46.f5 1/2-1/2

Harmon, Clark - Taylor, Gordon [E48] Seattle fut #2 Seattle, 08.06.1983

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 c5 6.Nge2 d5 7.a3 cxd4 8.exd4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Be7 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.Qd3 Nb6 12.Ba2 Bd7 13.Rd1 Bc6 14.Qh3 Nbd5 15.Bg5 Rc8 16.Rd3 Re8 17.Rad1 Nxc3 18.Nxc3 Nd5 19.Bxe7 Rxe7 20.Rg3 Nxc3 21.bxc3 Bd5 22.Bb1 f5 23.Re3 Rec7 24.Qg3 Qf6 25.f4 Qf8 26.Rf1 Bc4 27.Rfe1 Qxa3 28.d5 Qc5 29.dxe6 Bxe6 30.Kh1 Bf7 31.Qg5 g6 32.h4 Qa5 33.Re5 Qxc3 34.Bxf5 Rb8 35.h5 Rc6 36.hxg6 hxg6 37.Be6 Rxe6 38.Rxe6 Qh8+ 39.Kg1 Bxe6 40.Qxg6+ Qg7 41.Qxe6+ Qf7 42.Qe5 Rf8 43.Re3 Qf6 44.Rg3+ Kh7 45.Qe4+ Qf5 46.Qe7+ Kh6 47.Qg7+ Kh5 48.Rg5+ 1-0

Harmon, Clark - Basanta, Gary [A59] Northwest inv Vancouver (4), 09.05.1989

1.d4 c5 2.d5 Nf6 3.c4 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 Bxa6 6.Nc3 g6 7.e4 Bxf1 8.Kxf1 d6 9.h3 Bg7 10.Nf3 0-0 11.Kg1 Na6 12.Kh2 Nb4 13.Be3 e6 14.a3 Na6 15.Qd2 exd5 16.exd5 Re8 17.Bh6 Bxh6 18.Qxh6 Rb8 19.Rab1 Nc7 20.Rhd1 Nb5 21.Qd2 Nxc3 22.bxc3 Ne4 23.Rxb8 Qxb8 24.Qc2 h6 25.c4 Qa7 26.Rd3 Qd7 27.Re3 f5 28.Qe2 Rb8 29.Ne1 Qg7 30.Nd3 g5 31.f3 Ng3 32.Re8+ Rxe8 33.Qxe8+ Kh7 34.Kxg3 f4+ 35.Kh2 Qc3 36.Qe4+ Kg8 37.Qg6+ Kf8 38.Qxd6+ Kf7 39.Ne5+ Black lost on time 1-0

Moore, Harry - Harmon, Clark [B19] West Seattle Int Seattle (1), 15.09.1990

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 Nd7 8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Qc7 11.Bd2 e6 12.0-0-0 0-0-0 13.Qe2 Ngf6 14.Ne5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Nd5 16.f4 c5 17.Qf2 Kb8 18.Ne4 c4 19.Rh3 Be7 20.Re1 Rhe8 21.Qg3 Rg8 22.Qf3 Qd7 23.Rhh1 b5 24.Nc3 Nxc3 25.Qxc3 b4 26.Qe3 Qa4 27.Kb1 Rd5 28.Qe2 Rc8 29.b3 Qa6 30.Rh3 Rc6 31.Rf3 Qc8 32.Be3 Ra5 33.Bd4 Qa6 34.a4 bxa3 35.Ka2 Rd5 36.Bf2 Bb4 37.bxc4 Bxe1 38.Rb3+ Kc8 39.Bxe1 Qxc4 40.Qxc4 Rxc4 0-1

Harmon, Clark - Orlov, Georgi [E61] Keres mem 26th Vancouver (5.1), 20.05.2001

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.h3 d5 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.e4 Nxc3 8.bxc3 c5 9.Be3 Qa5 10.Qd2 Nc6 11.Rc1 cxd4 12.cxd4 Qxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Rd8 14.Kc3 Be6 15.Bc4 Bxc4

16.Kxc4 a6 17.Kc5 Nxd4 18.Kb6 Rab8 19.Rhd1 Rd6+ 20.Kc7 Rbd8 21.Kxb7 R8d7+
22.Kc8 Rd8+ 23.Kb7 a5 24.e5 R8d7+ 25.Kc8 Rd8+ 26.Kb7 1/2-1/2

BRIAN MCLAREN ANNOTATES

Our new B.C. Champion has kindly provided light notes to his games from the championship - thanks Brian!

McLaren, Brian - Jiang, Louie [B26] BC ch Victoria (1.1), 06.04.2007

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 d6 4.Bg2 g6 5.d3 Bg7 6.Be3 e6 7.Qd2 Nge7 8.Bh6 The standard Closed Sicilian sequence ... Black can play 8...O-O and fend off White's 9.h4, 10.h5 attack; or 8...Bxh6 followed by queenside castling; or the text move. **8...Bf6 9.h4 Nd4 10.Nd1 e5 11.c3 Ne6** The black knight is well posted here as it helps to defend the kingside. **12.Nh3 Bd7 13.Ng5 Ng8 14.Nxe6 Bxe6 15.Be3 Ne7 16.O-O Nc6** Else White opens the center with d2-d4. **17.Bh6 Rg8** Now that White has chosen a side for his king, Black prepares to open the kingside. **18.a3** Black can't castle kingside so White prepares to open the queenside with b2-b4. However, I overlooked Black's reply which causes some temporary annoyance. **18...Na5 19.Qe2 Nb3 20.Rb1 g5?!** There is no need to rush this move. A better plan was to castle queenside, play d6-d5 and bring the knight back into play. **21.hxg5 Bxg5 22.Bxg5 Qxg5 23.Ne3 O-O-O** If 23...h5, White planned 24.Bf3 h4 25.g4 ... ugly, but solid. **24.Bf3 Bh3 25.Rfd1 Rg6?** This invites White's reply. A better try was 25...Kb8 followed by support for h7-h5-h4. **26.Bh5 Rg7 27.Kh2 Be6 28.Kg2 Kb8 29.Rh1 Rf8 30.Bf3 f5 31.Rh5 Qg6 32.exf5 Bxf5 33.Nxf5 Rxf5 34.Rxf5 Qxf5 35.Rh1** After the simplifications on the kingside, Black's knight is badly out of play. **35...Na5 36.Be4 Qd7 37.Qh5** Now white is just winning. **37...Qb5 38.Qf5 Rg8 39.b4 Nc6 40.Rxh7 cxb4 41.axb4 Rd8 42.Rd7 Qb6 43.Qe6 Rxd7 44.Qxd7 Qc7 45.Bxc6 bxc6 46.Qxc7+ Kxc7 47.Kf3 e4+ 48.Ke3 Kd7 49.Kd2 Ke6 50.g4 c5 51.bxc5 1-0**

McLaren, Brian - Wu, Howard [B26] BC ch Victoria (2.4), 06.04.2007

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 d6 6.Be3 e5 In preparing for this game, one thing I noticed about Howard's games is that he very often has pawns on c5, d6 and e5 as the basis of his formation. **7.Qd2 Nd4 8.Nce2 Nf6 9.h3 O-O 10.c3 Nc6 11.f4 Be6 12.Nf3** Considering Black's reply, maybe 12.b3 was more prudent. **12...c4!** This move caught me by surprise. In the post-mortem, Harry Moore stopped by and said (to Howard), "That must be your patented move ... you played that two or three times last year." Oops, I hadn't noticed that. **13.O-O** If 13.Ng5 Black retreats the bishop and White still has a problem with his e-pawn (playing 14.h4 to retreat the knight to h3, leaves a gaping hole at g4). **13...Qd7 14.g4** This creates a position where each side has an isolated pawn but I assessed it as better for White. **14...cxd3 15.Qxd3 exf4 16.Bxf4** Overlooking Black's 18th move ... better was 16.Nxf4. **16...d5 17.e5 Ne4 18.Rad1?** In view of Black's reply, better was 18.Ng3. **18...Qc7!** Threatening 19...Qb6+ and a frightening array of tactics on the black squares. **19.Ned4 Nxe5 20.Nxe5 Bxe5 21.Bxe5 Qxe5 22.Rfe1** Now White has regained equality. **22...Qc7 23.Nxe6 fxe6 24.Bxe4 dxe4 25.Qxe4 Qb6+ 1/2-1/2** In the post-mortem, Howard and I were trying to work out if White had winning chances after 26.Kh1 Qxb2 27.Qxe6+ Kh8 28.Rd7 when Harry Moore stopped by and ruined the fun with 26...Rad8.

Pechisker, Alfred - McLaren, Brian [A07] BC ch Victoria (3.2), 07.04.2007

1.g3 d5 2.Bg2 c6 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.d3 Nd7 5.Nbd2 e5 Previously against Alfred, I have been successful with Dutch-type setups. This slow opening was his attempt to avoid those positions. **6.c4 Ngf6 7.h3 Bh5 8.cxd5 Nxd5** I preferred this move as after 8...cxd5 Black's position looks a little loose. **9.O-O Bc5 10.d4!?** An interesting temporary pawn sacrifice which doesn't cause Black problems. Some possible alternatives were 10.Nc4 or 10.Qc2. **10...exd4 11.Nb3** Over the board 11.Ne4 looked scarier ... however, Alfred thought that Black might keep the pawn with Qb6 (e.g., 11...Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Qb6). **11...Bb6 12.Nbxd4 O-O 13.Nf5 Nc5 14.N3h4 Re8 15.g4 Bg6** White's main trump is his e-pawn. However, even without the blunder he now makes, it is difficult for White to make progress without creating weak squares for Black's active pieces to exploit. **16.Qc2??** Blundering a piece ... the rest is not interesting. **16... Qxh4 17.e4 Bxf5 18.exf5 h5 19.Qc4 hxg4 20.a4 a5 21.Ra3 Nf6 22.hxg4 Qxg4 23.Qxg4 Nxg4 24.Rg3 Nf6 25.Bf3 Nce4 26.Rg2 Nd6 27.Bg5 Nfe4 28.f6 Nxg5 29.Rxg5 g6 0-1**

McLaren, Brian - Patterson, Roger [C23] BC ch Victoria (4.3), 07.04.2007

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Bc5 3.Qe2 d6 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qe7 6.d3 I gleaned this opening setup from studying some Steinitz games from the 1800's. It was preferable to reading 200 pages of Ruy Lopez theory. **6...a6 7.b4 Ba7 8.Nbd2 Nf6 9.Bb3 h6 10.Nc4 Be6 11.h3 Qd7 12.Be3 O-O 13.O-O Rfe8 14.Bxa7 Rxa7 15.a4 Raa8 16.Rfd1 Ne7 17.d4 exd4 18.Nxd4 Ng6 19.Nxe6 Qxe6 20.Nd2** At this point, I burned up a lot of my time trying to make a fantasy variation work: 20.Rd4 Nxe4 21.Nxd6. There are lots of ways for Black to go wrong but finally gave up after 21...Nxc3 22.Bxe6 Nxe2+ 23.Kf1 Nxd4. However, I plugged it into Fritz and it gave 22.Qb2 with advantage. Also, Black doesn't have to take the e-pawn right away. **20...Qe5 21.Qc4 Re7 22.Re1 Nf4 23.Re3 Qg5** Threatening 24...Nxh3+ (and 25...Nxh3+ ... and 26...Nxh3+). **24.Qf1 Rae8 25.Rae1 1/2-1/2** Feeling uncomfortable with my position and seeing that my opponent was getting very low on time, I made my best move of the game by offering a draw. Fortunately for me, he accepted it because as soon as we finished Jonathan Berry walked in and said to Roger "You took the h-pawn?" We both overlooked the obvious 25...Nxh3+ 26.Rxh3 Qxd2. White cannot trap Black's queen with 27.Rhe3 because of the weakness of the e-pawn. Time to learn the Ruy Lopez.

Scoones, Dan - McLaren, Brian [A90] BC ch Victoria (5.3), 08.04.2007

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 c6 3.c4 e6 4.Qc2 f5 5.g3 Nf6 6.Bg2 Bd6 7.Bf4 Bxf4 8.gxf4 O-O 9.Nbd2 b6 10.e3 Bb7 11.Ne5 Nbd7 12.Nxd7 Qxd7 13.O-O c5!? I felt my two alternatives were to allow c4-c5 and suffer through a long grind with the bad bishop or to gain active play with the text move at the cost of a weak pawn on c5. **14.dxc5 bxc5 15.cxd5 Bxd5 16.Nf3?** This allows Black to get an attack - the queen and knight enter quickly, the rook can join the attack either via f6 or g8 (followed by g7-g5). After the game, Dan suggested 16.Nc4 as stronger. **16...Qb7 17.Ne1 Bxg2 18.Nxg2 Qf3** Black is threatening 19...Ng4, 20...Qh3. **19.Ne1 Qh3 20.f3 Nd5 21.Qe2 Rf6 22.Rf2 Rc8** I was not sure how to proceed so played a useful move to buy some time on the clock. 22...c4 might be a better way to hold the queenside. **23.b3 Rg6+ 24.Rg2 Rxg2+ 25.Nxg2 Qh6 26.Rc1 g5?** Mistakenly persisting with the kingside initiative. It was time to switch gears and regroup in the center. Now Black gets in serious trouble. **27. Qa6! Re8 28. Rxc5 Qg7 28...gf? 29.Rxd5. 29.fxg5 f4!?** Striving for active play before running out of pawns. **30.Qc6 Re7 31.exf4 Qd4+ 32.Kf1**

Nxf4 33.Nxf4 Qxf4 34.Rc2 Rf7 35.Kg2 Qxg5+ 36.Kh1 Qf5 37.Qe4 Rd7 38.Qxf5 exf5 39.Rc5? This allows Black to simplify the position to a theoretical draw. It was necessary to maintain the queenside pawns ... it was much better to bring the king into the game (39.Kg2). **39...Rd1+ 40.Kg2 Rd2+ 41.Kg3 Rxa2 42.Rxf5 a5 43.Rf4 Rb2 44.Ra4 Rxb3 45.Rxa5 Kg7 46.h4 Rb1 47.Kg4 Rg1+ 48.Kf5 Rh1 49.Ra7+ Kh6 50.Ra4 Rf1 51.Kg4 Rg1+ 52.Kf5 Rf1 53.Rf4 Re1 54.Rg4 Ra1 55.Kf4 Kh5 56.Kg3 Rg1+ 57.Kh3 Rh1+ 58.Kg3 Rg1+ 59.Kh3 1/2-1/2**

McLaren, Brian - Moore, Harry [B26] BC ch Victoria (6.2), 08.04.2007

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 d6 6.Be3 Nd4 I have had problems against this variation before. Continuing normally with 7.Qd2 can allow tactics involving f3 and h3. Also, Black could then continue 7...Qa5 which makes it difficult for White to dislodge the knight from d4. I therefore decided to avoid the sharper variations. **7.h3 Rb8 8.Qc1 Bd7** After the game, Harry said that he saw this move in a book and liked it. It can either go to c6 and support d6-d5 or (in conjunction with Qc8) restrain kingside castling for White. When I saw the move, I wondered if he intended to move it to a4. **9.Nce2 Qc8 10.c3 Nxe2 11.Nxe2 Nf6 12.Bh6 O-O 13.g4 Bc6 14.O-O c4 15.Bxg7** A little chess blindness ... Harry only saw 15.g5. **15...Kxg7 16.g5 Nh5 17.d4 Qe6** Discouraged by his previous oversight, Harry blunders (overlooking White's 19th move). Now White wins a piece and the rest of the game is not very interesting. **18.d5 Bxd5 19.Nd4 Qe5 20.exd5 Nf4 21.Qe3 Qxg5 22.Qg3 Qf6 23.Rae1 Rbc8 24.Be4 Kh8 25.Ne2 Nh5 26.Qe3 Rc5 27.Rd1 Kg8 28.Bf3 Ng7 29.Ng3 Qh4 30.Bg2 f5 31.f4 g5 32.Rd4 g4 33.hxg4 Qxg4 34.Kf2 Rf7 35.Bf3 Qg6 36.Rg1 Kh8 37.Nh5 Qh6 38.Nxg7 Qh4+ 39.Kf1 Rxg7 40.Rxg7 Kxg7 41.Rd2 Qf6 42.Rg2+ Kf8 43.Kg1 Qh6 44.Qe6 1-0**

Berry, Jonathan - McLaren, Brian [D31] BC ch Victoria (7.4), 09.04.2007

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.cxd5 exd5 Jonathan always manages to get me into an opening I don't want to be playing. For this last round game I wanted to keep my options open by having a complex, double-edged game. Defending the QGD Exchange Variation and waiting for the inevitable minority attack didn't fit the bill. **5.Bf4** Because of the move order (3...c6 rather than 3...Nf6) White does not have the usual Qb3 method (eg. 1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cd ed 5.Bg5 Bf5 6.Qb3) of stopping Black's problem piece (the QB) from developing to this strong diagonal. Therefore, as Jonathan pointed out, better was 5.Qc2. **5...Bf5 6.e3 Nf6 7.Be2 7.Bd3** is more usual. **7...Be7 8.Nf3 Nbd7 9.h3 h6 10.O-O O-O 11.Bd3 Bxd3 12.Qxd3 Re8 13.Rab1 a5** I decided to use the a5, b5, c6, d5 pawn structure. The black knight goes to c4 if White plays b2-b4. **14.Rfc1 Bf8 15.Qd1 Ne4 16.Nd2 Bd6** Both players foresaw the position that would arise after White's 21st move. However, we differed on the assessment of the current position. I thought the text move freed Black's game (rather than waiting for the minority attack to get rolling) and Jonathan thought that it was more helpful to White. **17.Ndxe4 Bxf4 18.exf4 dxe4 19.d5 cxd5 20.Qxd5 Nf6 21.Qxb7 Qd6** When I played my 16th move I saw that Black would have a choice of either the text move or 21...Qd2, winning back the pawn with active play. As it turns out, 21...Qd2 is answered by 22.Qc7 which holds the f-pawn. Now Black is threatening 22...Rfb8, trapping the queen. **22.Rd1 Qxf4 23.Nd5 Nxd5 24.Qxd5 Qe5 25.b3 Rac8 26.Qxe5 Rxe5 27.Rbc1 Rec5?** An inaccuracy ... wrong rook. 27...Rcc5 would have prevented White's next move which allows him to establish two connected passed pawns. **28.Rd8+ Rxd8 29.Rxc5 Rd1+ 30.Kh2 Rd2 31.Rxa5 Rxf2 32.Kg3 e3** Now White

has to stop Black's pawns (f7-f5-f4 is threatened) and a drawish position results. **33.Re5 Rxa2 34.Rxe3 Rb2 35.Kf3 f5 1/2-1/2**

1967 B.C. CHAMPIONSHIP II

Last issue we began examining the B.C. championship tournament from forty years ago, in particular the "A" Section; now we complete our coverage with reminiscences from two of the players, Dan Scoones (A Section) and Jonathan Berry (B Section). Thank you, Dan and Jonathan! (Apologies for the picture quality, they are taken from old newspapers and photocopies of same.)

Section B (for the Section A crosstable, see Bulletin #118)

#	Name	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Tot
1	Emil Abolash	W21	W17	L15	W29	W16	W6	5.0
2	David Ratkowsky	W10	D4	W13	W21	D3	D7	4.5
3	Dave Shapero	D8	D5	W31	W18	D2	W11	4.5
4	Jonathan Berry	W30	D2	W22	W15	D6	D5	4.5
5	J Thomson	W28	D3	W11	D16	W15	D4	4.5
6	Russ Vogler	W26	W29	D16	W7	D4	L1	4.0
7	G Woodsworth	W20	D11	W8	L6	W19	D2	4.0
8	N Borowski	D3	W14	L7	D17	W21	W15	4.0
9	D Tompkins	L11	W20	D12	D13	W18	W17	4.0
10	F Rosman	L2	W30	L17	X33	W23	W16	4.0
11	C Lewis	W9	D7	L5	W27	X29	L3	3.5
12	Bruce Harper	W23	L16	D9	W14	D17	D13	3.5
13	Russell Isaac	W34	D22	L2	D9	W26	D12	3.5
14	Harry Satanove	D19	L8	W28	L12	W31	W24	3.5
15	Bob Eldridge	W27	W24	W1	L4	L5	L8	3.0
16	H Jamieson	W31	W12	D6	D5	L1	L10	3.0
17	A Sandhaus	W32	L1	W10	D8	D12	L9	3.0
18	N Forbes	L22	W28	W26	L3	L9	W27	3.0
19	John McCharles	D14	L26	W27	W22	L7	D21	3.0
20	E Nelson	L7	L9	W25	L23	W30	W26	3.0
21	P Darlington	L1	W33	W24	L2	L8	D19	2.5
22	Doug Brabner	W18	D13	L4	L19	L24	W31	2.5

23	Eric Mintz	L12	W32	L29	W20	L10	D25	2.5
24	B Miller	W25	L15	L21	D31	W22	L14	2.5
25	J Nightingale	L24	L27	L20	W28	X33	D23	2.5
26	C Muschik	L6	W19	L18	W32	L13	L20	2.0
27	S Pedersen	L15	W25	L19	L11	W32	L18	2.0
28	D Whitemore	L5	L18	L14	L25	X34	W32	2.0
29	E Reid	W33	L6	W23	L1	F11	F34	2.0
30	R Buckberry	L4	L10	L32	W34	L20	X33	2.0
31	R Lew	L16	W34	L3	D24	L14	L22	1.5
32	B Rieckhoff	L17	L23	W30	L26	L27	L28	1.0
33	R Neetz	L29	L21	W34	F10	F25	F30	1.0
34	G Bowerman	L13	L31	L33	L30	F28	F29	0.0



Dan Scoones

My first weekend tournament was the 1967 B.C. Closed, which was held at Easter at a recreation centre in North Vancouver. I had already played in the Victoria championship (finishing third) but that event was played once per week over a number of months. My traveling companions for this event were Ray Kerr and Alan Lane. Ray Kerr was of course the well-known chess writer for the *Victoria Daily Colonist*. He was from Yugoslavia, and his original name was Krznicar. At the time he was a rated expert, but due to rating deflation he would be ranked as a master by today's standards. Kerr's most recent event had been the 1965 Canadian Closed in Vancouver, which was won for the last time by D.A. Yanofsky. Alan Lane was a young and talented Victoria player who had tied for first with Ed Seedhouse in the aforementioned championship tournament. He was a baker by trade, and besides chess he had a keen interest in yoga and astrology. To this day I can still see him doing shoulder stands in our hotel room, and sniffing baked goods trying to determine their ingredients!

We left Victoria early on the morning of the event, aiming for the 7:00 a.m. sailing to Tsawwassen. Traffic was heavy and we were extremely fortunate to be the last car on the ferry - otherwise we would not have made it in time. We arrived at the rec centre to find registration still in progress and a huge number of players milling about. I remember Kerr assuring the tournament director that "young Danny" (I was 14) was strong enough to play in the top section. The tournament was a six-round Swiss with two games per day. The rec centre had a chess club that had its own equipment including beautiful French wood

sets made by Lardy. Of course players could bring their own sets and some of them had done so. While registration was still going on I reconnected with Jonathan Berry and Harry Satanove, with whom I had competed in junior tournaments. They were both playing in the B section, and later I wished I had done the same because the A section was a bit beyond my ability.

Eventually both tournaments got underway. Through the indirect influence of Duncan Suttles (via Ed Seedhouse) I had recently taken up the Rat Defence (1...g6) in place of my normal Sicilian Dragon or 1...e5. This was a Bad Idea because I actually had no clue how to handle the resulting positions, and I went down to rapid defeat in the first game. No matter - it was great to just be there. I wandered over to look at the top boards to see the strongest players in action. I clearly recall that Dr. Elod Macskasy was paired against a fellow named Roy Cummings, and they were conducting their game on the biggest wooden tournament set I had ever seen. It had come down to a queen and pawn ending. Cummings was down several pawns but was delivering a series of checks to Dr. Macskasy's king. Harry Satanove and I went into the hallway and tried to figure out if Macskasy could win. Of course he did, and quite easily.

After the first day of play we got a motel room near the tournament hall. I flipped on the TV and began watching a Bugs Bunny cartoon that was based on the opera *The Barber of Seville*. To my great astonishment, Ray Kerr began singing along with the aria, and very beautifully. It turned out he had had some opera training as a young man, and it definitely showed. While I think of it, I was impressed by another display of his abilities. He gave me the score of a Fischer game from Havana 1966 that had been published in Isaac Kashdan's chess column. While Ray was unpacking his suitcase I began to analyse this game. What astonished me here was that he was able to analyse it along with me from the other side of the room, without seeing the board and pieces. And of course he saw a number of things that I missed! After we got settled in our hotel room Kerr wanted to sleep, so Alan Lane and I went out for some fried chicken. Afterwards he wanted to do some exploring, so we drove over to Grouse Mountain, took the chairlift up to the ski hill, and wandered around on the packed snow for an hour or so. Because this was my first tournament I acquired the belief that a little sightseeing should be part of every tournament expedition. Of course this doesn't always happen!

As the tournament progressed my fortunes went up and down. After losing my first two games I managed to win against a local player named Payne. This brought me up against stronger players in the next two rounds, and I again lost two in a row. In the final round I defeated the local player Byron Arden to finish the tournament with 2 points out of 6. It wasn't until some time later that I understood how the Swiss system worked and what lay behind my experience. My companions also struggled in this tournament. I remember Ray Kerr winning material against David Hladek, but getting his king into an awkward position that left him unable to play for a win. Alan Lane had a very difficult game with Ernest Krzyzowski. At one point our guy missed a standard winning manoeuvre in a rook and pawn ending and allowed his opponent to escape with a draw.

One of the more interesting games of the tournament saw Ray Kerr lose to an unknown player from Winnipeg named Peter Biyiasas. Having already lost my game in that round to Otto Rasmussen I was able to watch most of this encounter while it was being played. Kerr played the Rat and had unwisely allowed his young opponent to capture a piece on e6, saddling him with doubled e-pawns. Following that error Black was in serious trouble and

never had a chance against White's excellent technique. After the game Biyiasas said something I found memorable: "I would rather have a big centre than one to shoot at." The loss did not upset Kerr unduly, and in fact he and Biyiasas became lifelong friends. A couple of years later in the 1969 B.C. Closed they tied for first with Allan Ludgate from Ireland. Ludgate defeated Biyiasas in an early round and was apparently somewhat uncomplimentary towards him. This was all the incentive Kerr needed to grind down Ludgate in a long queen and knight endgame. After my loss to Rasmussen Ray Kerr was helping me analyze the game. A young boy with red hair and freckles stood to one side watching this post-mortem. At a key moment he interrupted us to point out something we had both missed: a forced mate for White. This was my introduction to Bruce Harper.

In the second-to-last round I lost to a player named Zuk, but I remember being told that he was not the "strong" Zuk but a relative - a brother, I believe. In this encounter I was on the White side of a Spanish Game and tried to combine two different plans but without success. In the last round Dr Macskasy played his favourite Caro-Kann Defence against Colin Aykroyd, eventually winning a long endgame. This brought him up to a tie with Aykroyd, and they shared the title. One of the other stories of the tournament was the third-place finish of B.C. High School Champion Alan Hill. He lost to Colin Aykroyd but scored 4 wins and a draw in his other games to nose out many higher-rated players.

Finally the tournament had come to an end, and we traveled back to Victoria. Despite modest results, the event was good experience for all of us. Less than two months later Ray Kerr won the B.C. Centennial Open in convincing fashion, defeating Dr. Macskasy with a scintillating kingside attack. And I won the B section with 4.5 points from 6 games, defeating a number of very strong rivals and losing only to the master Viktors Pupols from Bremerton, Washington.



Jonathan Berry

The 1967 B.C. Championship, an open tournament, took place over the Easter weekend at the North Vancouver Rec Centre, in the big hall where a few months later Spassky would give a simul to a packed room and in later years the North Vancouver Chess Club would hold its weekly meetings. As a thirteen-year-old whose first adult tournament experience had been less than six months earlier, I decided to play in the "B" section, though my rating was close to the cutoff for the "A" section. The result was some fiendishly dull chess. Perhaps the high point was against Doug Brabner, where I lost a piece to the only tactic on the board. Later in the, ah, endgame, I managed to trap his knight, and instead of liquidating it for a pawn or two up, he put his head in the lion's mouth. Chomp.

My first round opponent was Bob Buckberry, who, as we were filling in the scoresheets before play, asked "What's your first name ... Buck?" Decades later I found out that Bob had been a mentor to prairie Master, Knut Neven. At the end of a

mutually uninspiring game against David Ratkowsky, I allowed a pawn-winning pin, which he played, and then offered a draw. In disbelief I accepted the draw and asked why he didn't want to play on. "I guess I don't have the killer instinct". In the post mortem, we had a wide-ranging discussion about chess. It turned out that we had both recently read Nimzowitsch's *My System*, but had taken away different merits from it. David said that he understood Part I, but had trouble with Part II. I was the opposite. Another dull game with an interesting opponent came in round 4, against Bob Eldridge. He was sometime associate of *Canadian Chess Chat*, and edited the erudite BC section of *Northwest Chess* magazine for years.

It was at this tournament that I first saw Peter Biyiasas, then 16 and recently arrived from Winnipeg, playing in the "A" section. Playing Peter was to become the acid test for all of BC's ambitious juniors. I guess that we all failed that test, because he became a FIDE grandmaster and we didn't. In particular, he became a nemesis for me, because although he was always the higher rated, his score in 40-odd tournament games was much higher than statistics would have predicted. Another guy I had trouble with was Mike Kindret, against whom I believe I have 1 win versus 3 losses. True, two of those losses were when our ratings were similar, but the other came when I was an Expert. I'm sure glad he moved to Kelowna.

Easter can be a four-day weekend, and as there were "only" six games in the B.C. Championship, somebody had kindly arranged that the B.C. Junior (ages 13 and under) take place on the same weekend in New Westminster. Thanks to the kindness of our parents and my brother Chris, who chauffeured us around, Bruce Harper and I made a point of playing in both tournaments. I won our game and went on to win the tournament with 6.5 points out of 7, thus gaining possession of the Adrian Russell trophy for a year. The plaques for the previous three years all read "Dan Scoones" who was now 14 and thus had to content himself with a mere singleton that weekend. Newspaper accounts say that fifty players took part, but to me it seemed more like five hundred. The pace was frantic, and there were no chess clocks.

In those days, B.C. was the only place where six games were regularly attempted over a short, two-day weekend. So, when I'm successful, I have B.C. chess in the 1960s to thank for my stamina. And when I fail, I can point to B.C. chess as the font of superficial thinking. Aaah, the blameless life. I mention this here because, if my records are correct, it seems that the two events in question were played over a three-day weekend.

THIS WEEKEND!

Apple Blossom, April 28-29

Site: Best Western Vernon Lodge 3914 32nd St. Vernon B.C. Tel: 545-3385

Type: 5 round Swiss

Fee: \$35, \$30 sen., \$25 junior. (must be CFC member or pay \$15 extra).

First time ever players can play for reduced entry.

Time: 30/90 sd/60

Start Times: 9:15am, 2pm, 7pm; 10am, ASAP: Registration 8:30 - 9:00 Sat. Apr. 28.

TD: Wally Steinke Org. Wally Steinke 250.545.6677

UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior Events

May 5-6 BCYCC, New Westminster

UBC Tuesday Night Swiss

My apologies for the incorrect information in the last Bulletin; these tournaments ARE STILL taking place at UBC on Tuesday evenings, IN ADDITION to a one-round-a-week event at the Vancouver Chess Centre (<http://www.vanchess.com/>) on Thursday evenings. For further information on either event, contact Aaron Cosenza: 604-327-4714, Email: xramis1@yahoo.ca

Vancouver Chess Centre

Sunday Active Tournaments: April 29, May 06, 13 and 27th

Start Time: 1:00 PM

Type: 5-round Swiss

Info: <http://www.vanchess.com/>

Apple Blossom Open

Date: April 28-29

Location: Best Western Vernon Lodge

Type: 5-round Swiss

Paul Keres Memorial

Date: May 18-21

Location: Hungarian Cultural Centre, 728 Kingsway, Vancouver

Type: 7 or 6 round Swiss