

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #80

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Stephen Wright

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

B.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS: CLOSED AND OPEN

Both of B.C.'s adult individual championships were held at the Hebb Building, UBC, on the Thanksgiving long weekend; many thanks to Marina Milner and the UBC Physics and Astronomy Department for providing a site on short notice.

CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIP

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1 Yoos, Jack	*	0	½	1	1	1	1	1	5.5/7
2 Pechisker, Alfred	1	*	½	0	½	½	1	1	4.5
3 Davies, Lucas	½	½	*	½	0	½	1	1	4.0
4 McLaren, Brian	0	1	½	*	½	½	½	1	4.0
5 Wright, Stephen	0	½	1	½	*	0	½	1	3.5
6 Tegzes, Laszlo	0	½	½	½	1	*	0	½	3.0
7 Berry, Jonathan	0	0	0	½	½	1	*	1	3.0
8 Phonchiangkong, Chai	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	*	0.5

CFC Crosstable: <http://www.chess.ca/xtable.asp?TNum=200510124>

For the third time in as many years Jack Yoos is the B.C. Champion. Jack quickly built up a commanding lead and it wasn't until the last round, when the title had already been decided, that he lost to a determined attack from Alfred Pechisker. However, the outcome of the tournament could have been very different had Brian McLaren not blundered in the first round. Playing Black against Jack Yoos, he employed his beloved Alekhine's Defence and reached a rook ending up a pawn, only to lose his rook to a skewer.



With first place in little doubt, attention switched to who would place second. Initially the race was between McLaren and Wright, but in the later stages Pechisker and Davies came to the fore, with Alfred taking the honours as a result of his dramatic last-round victory; McLaren and Davies tied for third.

Lynn Stringer presided over the proceedings; the complete games and a few photos can be found at <http://www.chess.bc.ca/reportsOct053.htm>

This was the ninetieth running of the B.C. Championship, an event which has been held continuously since 1916. With his three wins Jack now joins some illustrious predecessors:

7-time winner:

John M. Ewing (1916, 1919-23, 1936)

6-time winners:

Miervaldis Jursevskis (1949, 1950, 1954-57)

Elod Macskasy (1958-62, 1967)

5-time winners:

Jack M. Taylor (1929, 1930, 1938, 1945, 1953)
Bruce Harper (1973, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1980)
Gordon Taylor (1977, 1979, 1981-83)
Gary Basanta (1989, 1991-93, 1998)

4-time winners:

Bertram A. Yates (1917, 1918, 1921, 1940)
Charles F. Millar (1931-33, 1937),
Leo M. Duval (1941-43, 1946)
Peter Biyiasas (1968, 1969, 1971, 1972)

3-time winners:

William J. Barker (1924, 1926, 1928)
Dragoljub Milicevic (1997, 2000, 2001)
Jack Yoos (2003-2005)



Miervaldis Jursevskis with the trophy in 2002. Incidentally, in former years the trophy was given outright to a player who won the championship three years in succession - we no longer follow this procedure. Besides which, Jack doesn't have room for the trophy in his apartment.

Tegzes,L - Berry,J [B13] BC ch Vancouver (1.2), 07.10.2005

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3 Nc6 5.c3 g6 6.Nf3 Nh6 7.0-0 Bf5 8.Bf4 Bg7 9.Re1 0-0 10.Qd2 Bxd3 11.Bxh6 Be4 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Qe3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 b5 15.Nd2 b4 16.Re3 bxc3 17.bxc3 Rb8 18.Qf4 Qd6 19.Qh4 Rb2 20.Rh3 h5 21.Qg5 Qf6 22.Qe3 Rfb8 23.Rf3 Qd6 24.g3 a5 25.c4 dxc4 26.Nxc4 Rb1+ 27.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 28.Kg2 Qd5 29.Ne5 Nxd4 30.Qd3 Rc1 31.a3 Rc7 0-1

Wright,S - Davies,L [B06] BC ch Vancouver (1.3), 07.10.2005

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c6 4.Be3 d6 5.Qd2 Nd7 6.Nf3 Qc7 7.a4 b6 8.Be2 a6 9.0-0 Ngf6 10.h3 Bb7 11.e5 dxe5 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Qxe5 14.Bxb6 Nd5 15.Nxd5 cxd5 16.c3 Qd6 17.a5 0-0 18.Rfd1 Rfc8 19.Rac1 Bc6 20.Bf3 e6 21.b3 Qa3 22.c4 Qxb3 23.cxd5 Bxd5 24.Bxd5 exd5 25.Rxc8+ Rxc8 26.Qxd5 Qc2 27.g3 Bb2 28.Kg2 Ba3 29.Rd3 Bb4 30.Rf3 Qc4 31.Qb7 Rf8 32.Rf4 Qb5 33.Qc7 Qd5+ 34.Kh2 Qb5 35.Qc4 Bd2 36.Qxb5 axb5 37.Rd4 Bc3 38.Rd3 b4 39.a6 Kg7 40.a7 Bf6 41.Bd8 1-0

Yoos,J - McLaren,B [B05] BC ch Vancouver (1.4), 07.10.2005

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.Be2 c6 6.c4 Nb6 7.exd6 exd6 8.0-0 Be7 9.Nbd2 0-0 10.Qc2 Re8 11.Bd3 g6 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Nxf3 N8d7 14.Bf4 Nf8 15.a4 Ne6 16.Bg3 d5 17.c5 Nd7 18.a5 a6 19.Qb3 Qc8 20.Qb4 Ndf8 21.Ne5 Nc7 22.f4 f6 23.Nf3 f5 24.Bf2 Nb5 25.Ne5 Bf6 26.Be3 Bg7 27.Kh1 Nd7 28.Rg1 Nf6 29.Raf1 Qd8 30.Qe1 Ne4 31.g4 Rf8 32.Rg2 Nc7 33.gxf5 Rxf5 34.Bg1 Qe7 35.Nc4 Raf8 36.Nd6 Rxf4 37.Rxf4 Rxf4 38.Nxe4 dxe4 39.Bh2 Rf3 40.Bxe4 Rxh3 41.Re2 Qh4 42.Qxh4 Rxh4 43.Kg2 Nd5 44.Bxd5+ cxd5 45.Re8+ Kf7 46.Rb8 Bxd4 47.Rxb7+ Ke6 48.c6 Be5 49.Bxe5 Kxe5 50.c7 Rc4 51.b4 Kd6 52.c8Q Rxc8 53.Rxh7 Ke5 54.Re7+ Kf4

55.Re6 Rc2+ 56.Kf1 Rb2 57.Rxg6 Rxb4 58.Ke2 Ke4 59.Rg4+ 1-0

Pechisker,A - McLaren,B [D30] BC ch Vancouver (2.1), 08.10.2005

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.b3 f5 5.Nbd2 Nf6 6.Bb2 Bd6 7.e3 Nbd7 8.Ne5 0-0
9.Bd3 Ne4 10.0-0 Qh4 11.Ndf3 Qh6 12.Qe2 Ndf6 13.a3 Bd7 14.b4 Be8 15.Bxe4
fxe4 16.Nd2 Bh5 17.f3 exf3 18.gxf3 Ne4 19.Rad1 Bxe5 20.dxe5 Rf5 21.Nxe4 dxe4
22.Rd7 Bxf3 23.Rxf3 exf3 0-1

Phonchiangkong,S - Tegzes,L [B40] BC ch Vancouver (2.4), 08.10.2005

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.c3 d5 7.Nd2 Be7 8.0-0 Bd7
9.Re1 Nxd4 10.cxd4 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Bc6 12.Bc2 Qb6 13.Ba4 0-0 14.Bxc6 Qxc6
15.Nxf6+ Bxf6 16.Be3 Rfd8 17.Qg4 Qd5 18.Red1 Rac8 19.b3 Rc2 20.Qf3 Qxf3
21.gxf3 Rdc8 22.a4 Kf8 23.Rab1 a6 24.b4 R2c4 25.d5 exd5 26.Rxd5 Be7 27.Rd7
R8c7 28.Rxc7 Rxc7 29.b5 axb5 30.Rxb5 Bf6 31.a5 Ke7 32.Kg2 Kd6 33.f4 Be7 34.f5
Kd7 35.Bb6 Kc6 36.Rb3 Rd7 37.Kf3 g6 38.Be3 Rd5 39.Rb6+ Kc7 40.fxg6 hxg6
41.a6 ½-½

Pechisker,A - Davies,L [A65] BC ch Vancouver (4.1), 09.10.2005

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Qd2 exd5 9.cxd5
a6 10.a4 Re8 11.g4 h6 12.Bf4 h5 13.h3 Qc7 14.Bh6 Bh8 15.Nge2 Nbd7 16.Nf4 Ne5
17.Be2 hxg4 18.hxg4 Bd7 19.Nd3 Nc4 20.Qg5 Nh7 21.Qh4 Bf6 22.Qh2 Nxb2
23.Nxb2 Bxc3+ 24.Bd2 Bxb2 25.Qxh7+ Kf8 26.Bh6+ Ke7 27.Bg5+ Kf8 28.Qh4 Kg7
29.Qh6+ Kg8 30.Kf2 c4 31.Qh7+ Kf8 32.Rh6 Bg7 33.Rah1 Qb6+ 34.Kg2 Qb2
35.Kg3 b5 36.Rxg6 fxg6 37.Qxg6 Qe5+ 38.f4 Qxe4 39.Rh8+ ½-½

Tegzes,L - Wright,S [B02] BC ch Vancouver (4.4), 09.10.2005

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.c5 Nd5 5.Bc4 c6 6.Nc3 e6 7.d4 b6 8.cxb6 axb6 9.Nf3
Ba6 10.Bxa6 Nxa6 11.0-0 Be7 12.Qe2 Nac7 13.Ne4 0-0 14.Rd1 f6 15.exf6 Nxf6
16.Neg5 Qe8 17.Ne5 Rd8 18.Rd3 h6 19.Nh3 Ncd5 20.Bxh6 Qh5 21.Qxh5 Nxh5
22.Bd2 Bd6 23.Re1 Nhf6 24.Ng5 Bxe5 25.dxe5 Ng4 26.f3 Nh6 27.Ne4 Ra8 28.Bxh6
gxh6 29.a3 Kf7 30.Nc3 h5 31.g3 Rg8 32.Kf2 Ra5 33.f4 Rc5 34.Red1 Ke7 35.Kf3
Rc4 36.Ne4 Rc2 37.R3d2 Rxd2 38.Rxd2 b5 39.Nf6 Nxf6 40.exf6+ Kxf6 41.Rxd7 Rc8
42.Ke4 c5 43.Rb7 c4 44.Rxb5 h4 45.Kd4 1-0

Yoos,J - Tegzes,L [B07] BC ch Vancouver (5.2), 09.10.2005

1.g3 g6 2.Bg2 Bg7 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Nge2 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.h3 c6 9.a4
Qc7 10.Be3 exd4 11.Bxd4 Re8 12.g4 Nc5 13.Ng3 Ne6 14.Be3 b6 15.Qd2 Rd8
16.Bh6 Bh8 17.f4 Ba6 18.Rfe1 d5 19.e5 d4 20.Nce4 Nd5 21.f5 Nc5 22.e6 Ne3
23.exf7+ Qxf7 24.Bf4 Nc4 25.Qf2 d3 26.c3 d2 27.Red1 Nd3 28.Qf3 Ndxb2 29.Ng5
Qd5 30.Qe2 Qc5+ 31.Kh2 Re8 32.Ne6 Nxd1 33.Qxd1 Qf2 34.Ne4 Qh4 35.Nxd2
Bxc3 36.Ne4 Rad8 37.Qb1 gxf5 38.Bg5 Rxe6 39.Bxh4 Rd4 40.Nxc3 1-0

Davies,L - Berry,J [B38] BC ch Vancouver (5.4), 09.10.2005

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Bg7 5.c4 Nc6 6.Be3 d6 7.Be2 f5 8.exf5 gxf5
9.Bh5+ Kf8 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Nc3 Nf6 12.Be2 Rb8 13.b3 Qa5 14.Bd2 h5 15.0-0 h4
16.h3 Bd7 17.Qc2 Qc7 18.Bd3 e6 19.Rad1 Kf7 20.Bf4 e5 21.Bg5 Rh5 22.f4 e4
23.Be2 Rh7 24.Qd2 Be6 25.Qe3 Qa5 26.Rxd6 Ne8 27.Nxe4 Qxa2 28.Nc5 1-0

Yoos,J - Pechisker,A [B12] BC ch Vancouver (7.1), 10.10.2005

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 Nd7 6.a3 c5 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.b4 Bb6 9.Nbd2
Ne7 10.c4 Ng6 11.cxd5 exd5 12.Nb3 0-0 13.Nfd4 Be4 14.f3 Ndx5 15.fxe4 Qh4+
16.g3 Qxe4 17.0-0 Rac8 18.Rf2 Rfe8 19.Bf1 Rc3 20.Nc5 Bxc5 21.bxc5 Nd3 22.Bb2
Nxf2 23.Kxf2 Rxc5 24.Rc1 Rxc1 25.Bxc1 Ne5 26.h3 Rc8 27.Bf4 Rc3 28.Bxe5 Qxe5
29.Nf3 Qe3+ 30.Kg2 d4 31.Nxd4 Qxg3+ 32.Kh1 Rxa3 33.Qc2 g6 34.Ne2 Qf2
35.Qd1 Ra2 36.Qd8+ Kg7 37.Qd4+ Qxd4 38.Nxd4 Kf6 39.Nb5 a6 40.Nc3 Rc2
41.Ne4+ Ke5 42.Ng5 Kd4 43.Bg2 b5 44.Nxf7 b4 45.Ng5 b3 0-1

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Meanwhile, in the classroom next door, thirty-four players were competing to decide the B.C. Open Championship. A reasonable turnout considering the lack of advanced advertising (the site was only confirmed in mid-September), the field was well balanced and included representatives of all the regular classes, from "E" to "Master." Over 60% of the participants were juniors, causing one adult player to quip that he was playing in the B.C. Junior Championship; a number of juniors had good tournaments, including Noam Davies, Richard Huang, Aviv Milner, and Joshua Wild, but the adults also got their licks in as well.

In the end it was former B.C. resident Vicente Lee who took first prize with 5.5/6; both he and Roger Patterson were undefeated, but Roger gave up an additional draw and thus finished in second place. Third place was shared by two juniors, Noam Davies and Andrey Kostin. The first U1800 prize was won by a revitalized Ernie Krzyzowski, with second being shared by Mike Westbrook and Robert Hamm. Richard Huang won the U1600 category and Aviv Milner came second. And in a possible portent of the future of B.C. chess, the last game to finish in the entire tournament was between the two youngest participants: grade 3 rivals Donovan Zhao and Alex Sabaratnam fought for three and a half hours before Donovan finally won, giving him the U1200 prize. Directorial duties were carried out by Stephen Wright (while simultaneously playing in the Closed) and Katherine Davies, with assistance from Lynn Stringer.

Crosstable: <http://www.chess.ca/xtable.asp?TNum=200510111>

Davies,N - Cheng,B [C67] BC op Vancouver (3), 09.10.2005

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5
8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 h6 10.Bd2 Be6 11.Rad1 Kc8 12.Rfe1 b6 13.Ne4 c5 14.b3 Kb7
15.c4 Rd8 16.Bc3 Be7 17.Bb2 Rxd1 18.Rxd1 Rd8 19.Rxd8 Bxd8 20.Kf1 Kc6 21.Nc3
a6 22.a4 g5 23.h3 h5 24.Ne4 g4 25.hxg4 hxg4 26.Nfg5 Bxg5 27.Nxg5 Nd4 28.Bxd4
cxd4 29.Nxe6 fxe6 30.Ke2 Kc5 31.f4 gxf3+ 32.gxf3 Kb4 33.f4 Kc3 34.Kd1 Kxb3
35.f5 exf5 36.e6 Kxa4 37.e7 Kb4 38.e8Q c5 39.Qe6 b5 40.cxb5 axb5 41.Qxf5 c4
42.Kd2 Ka3 43.Qxb5 1-0

Hamm,R - Harris,P [E21] BC op Vancouver (4), 09.10.2005

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nf3 b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Bb7 7.e3 d6 8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.Qc2 Qe7 10.e4 e5 11.Bg5 Nf8 12.0-0 Ng6 13.Rfe1 0-0 14.a4 a5 15.Rab1 Rfe8 16.Nd2 h6 17.Be3 Ng4 18.Nb3 Bc6 19.Nd2 Rab8 20.Nf1 Bd7 21.Bc1 Nh4 22.Be2 Rf8 23.Bxg4 Bxg4 24.Ne3 Be6 25.Ba3 Qg5 26.Kh1 f5 27.f3 fxe4 28.fxe4 Rf6 29.dxe5 Qxe5 30.Nd5 Rf7 31.c5 Rbf8 32.Qd3 dxc5 33.c4 Nxg2 34.Rg1 Rf3 35.Ne7+ Kh7 36.Bb2 Qg5 37.Qe2 Rf2 38.Qd3 Qxe7 39.Rxg2 Rxg2 40.Kxg2 Qg5+ 41.Kh1 Bg4 42.Rf1 Rxf1+ 43.Qxf1 Qe3 44.h3 Bf3+ 45.Kh2 Qf4+ 46.Kg1 Qg3+ 0-1

Lee,V - Davies,N [C02] BC op Vancouver (5), 10.10.2005

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.c3 d5 4.e5 Nc6 5.d4 Qb6 6.a3 c4 7.Nbd2 Na5 8.g3 f6 9.Bh3 fxe5 10.Nxe5 Nf6 11.0-0 Bd6 12.Qe2 0-0 13.Re1 Re8 14.Ndf3 Nb3 15.Rb1 Qc7 16.Bf4 b5 17.g4 a5 18.g5 Ne4 19.Nh4 Qe7 20.Qh5 Bxe5 21.Bxe5 Qxg5+ 22.Qxg5 Nxg5 23.Bg2 Bb7 24.Re3 Re7 25.Rbe1 Nf7 26.Bg3 Ra6 27.Nf3 Rb6 28.Bh3 Bc8 29.R3e2 h6 30.Nh4 Ng5 31.Bg2 Bb7 32.Ng6 Re8 33.f3 b4 34.h4 Nf7 35.Bh3 bxc3 36.bxc3 Kh7 37.Bxe6 Nd8 38.Bf5 Rxe2 39.Rxe2 Rxg6 40.h5 1-0

Patterson,R - Jiang,L [B77] BC op Vancouver (6), 10.10.2005

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.Bc4 Bd7 10.h4 Rb8 11.0-0-0 b5 12.Bb3 Na5 13.Bh6 Nc4 14.Qg5 Bxh6 15.Qxh6 a5 16.Ndxb5 Nxb2 17.Kxb2 Bxb5 18.h5 Bc4 19.e5 Bxb3 20.exf6 Be6+ 21.Ka1 exf6 22.hxg6 1-0

BACKTALK by Dan Scoones

The other day I was browsing through an old issue of *Chess Informant* looking for some interesting positions when this one caught my eye:



The diagram arose in a 1991 correspondence game between Mikhail Tseitlin and Stefan Letic. The stipulation is "White to play and win material." Translated into English, this means that White can gain a decisive material advantage (usually a piece) but also that White cannot force an early mate if Black defends correctly. In analysing this position I found some things that the Informant analyst (Tseitlin) either missed or did not think worthy of mention. At the risk of causing amusement to my higher-rated colleagues, I will try to describe the steps I went through in solving this position in the hopes that the more general reader will find it interesting and perhaps instructive.

Two positional factors stand out immediately:

1. Black's king is under pressure from White's active pieces;
2. White's own back rank is weak and the attack on his queen restricts his options.

So what does White have? Because his queen is hanging, it obvious that he must act quickly. The first candidate moves that come to mind are 1. Qxc8, 1.Rxh6+ and 1.Nxh6.

The first two can be dismissed right away. 1.Qxc8 Qxc8 obviously leads nowhere. If 1.Rxh6+ Black simply captures the rook with 1...Rxh6 and there is no follow-up since 2.Nxh6 fails to 2...Rxc3 3.bxc3 Kxh6 and White's queen has gone missing in action.

How about 1.Nxh6? Black has to take the knight since 1...Rxc3 allows 2.Nxg8+ (check!) followed by 3.Rxc3 and White is up the exchange for no compensation, thus meeting the stipulation. However, there is nothing particularly unusual or aesthetic about this variation, so it is unlikely to be the reason for publishing the position in Informant. In fact the difficulty with 1.Nxh6 is 1...Rxh6. After 2.Rxh6+ Kxh6 3.Qh3+ or 3.Qf6+, White appears to have nothing more than perpetual check. Once his queen goes to the kingside he cannot strengthen his attack in any meaningful way due to the persistent threat of ...Rc1 mate.

One thing that often makes an Informant combination special is a relatively quiet key move, in other words, a move that significantly improves the position but which does not capture or sacrifice material. Such a move is available here: 1.Qe3, saving the queen without allowing mate, and also increasing the pressure on h6. This looks quite promising; let's see if it stands up to analysis. A random move such as 2...a5 will be met by 2.Rxh6+ Rxh6 (forced) 3.Qxh6 mate, so Black has to react to this. How about 1...f4? The obvious reply is 2.Qd3+, and what does Black do then? If 2...Rf5 White mates immediately with 3.Rxh6, so that leaves only 2...Nf5. Unfortunately for Black, moving the knight from g7 sets up a discovered attack from White's rook on e7, and in fact White has the very strong continuation 3.Nxh6+, attacking Black's queen.

Perhaps you are thinking, "What about the threat of ...Rc1+?" Well, it's a threat in name only, since there's no time for execution: Black is in check. Where to go with the king? 3...Kh8 is a total disaster after 4.Nxf5+. The queen must now interpose (with 4...Qh7), after which White takes with the e7-rook (5.Rexh7+) and then mates quickly after 5...Kg8 6.Rg7+ Kf8 7.Rh8 mate. Very nice.

So 3...Kh8 doesn't work, but how about 3...Kg6? We can dismiss that pretty quickly as well. After the simple 4.Nxg8! Rc1+ 5.Qf1 Rxf1+ 6.Kxf1 Nxe7 7.Nxe7+ White ends up a piece ahead for almost nothing, again satisfying the stipulation. Is there anything else Black can do after 3.Nxh6+? 3...Rf7 is about all that's left, but it's a non-starter because of 4.Qxf5+, winning a cartload of material and then delivering a quick mate. So Black's goose appears to be well and truly cooked after 1.Qe3 f5 2.Qd3+.

Is there any other defence available? Yes; Black can meet 1.Qe3 with 1...h5, trying to block the h-file, and also giving his king a bit of breathing room. But now that his queen is no longer attacked and the mate on c1 is defended, White can play 2.Nxd6. This move does two things: it attacks Black's rook, and it sets up a pin on Black's knight, which means Black's h-pawn is no longer defended. The threat now is 3.Rxh5+ Kg6 4.Qg5 mate, which is hard to meet. In fact, if Black moves his attacked rook anywhere but c1 with check (a pure suicide mission) White just executes the threat. This leaves Black very few options. He can vacate g8 with his queen and give his king a flight square, but after 2...Qd5 3.Nxc8 Qd1+ White has the simple defence 4.Qe1 since his queen is supported by the rook on e7. The only other try is the line-blocking 2...f4 but as before this allows 3.Qd3+ and regardless of Black's reply White captures the rook on c8 next move and wins on material, thus satisfying the stipulation.

Well, the results of this analysis seem quite clear. The combination demonstrates the power of the key move 1.Qe3, which leaves Black tied up and unable to defend against White's attack. It is useful to develop an awareness of such methods since in practice they arise more often than one would think. After working through training books such as Fred Reinfeld's *1001 Winning Chess Sacrifices and Combinations* it is easy to conclude that all decisive tactical operations must consist

entirely of checks, captures and sacrifices, but many times that just isn't the case.

So now it was time to turn to the solution as given in Informant. When I did that I got a bit of a surprise. There was no mention of the variations shown above. Tseitlin played 1.Nxh6, which was met as predicted by 1...Rxh6. But then instead of settling for perpetual check, he uncorked a deflection sacrifice with 2.Rxg7+! This diverts Black's queen and leads to the sequence 2...Qxg7 3.Qxc8. Now if Black captures with 3...Rxh3 White has the intermediate move 4.Qxf5+! recovering the rook and picking up a pawn as well. After 4...Kg8 the most accurate way is 5.Qe6+! either capturing the rook with check and using the tempo to defend his queenside, or exchanging queens after 5...Kf8 6.Qc8+ followed by 7.Qc7+ and then capturing the rook with an easily winning pawn ending (White uses both h-pawns as decoys and if necessary captures all of Black's remaining pawns.) In the game Black played the stronger 3...Qf7 instead of 3...Rxh3. After the further moves 4.Re3 Rg6 5.g3 he decided to throw in the towel. He is a pawn down and the weakness of his king's position means that simplification to a lost queen or rook ending is not far off.

Is it meaningful to ask if one or the other solution is better? Both lead by force to winning positions for White. Frankly speaking, I did not take the stipulation to mean that White would settle for winning a mere pawn, and so I did not look past 1.Nxh6 Rxh6. On the other hand, despite the modest win of material, the associated simplification destroys all trace of hope for Black. At the master level this is the easiest of wins for White. I think I prefer my solution to that given by Tseitlin, but I'll leave it to the reader to form his or her own conclusions.

Finally, what does Fritz have to say about these lines? Well, it immediately finds both my analysis and the game continuation; however, these are ranked second- and third-best respectively. According to our German friend, the strongest continuation for White is 1.Qd2! This looks like an improvement over 1.Qe3 because there is no hit on the queen after 1...f4. White does not have to play 2.Qd3+, but can sacrifice the knight in an improved situation with 2.Nxh6! Now 2...Rxh6 leads to a quick mate after 3.Qd3+ Kh8 4.Rxh6, while trying to make room for the king with 2...Qc4 leads to mate all the same after 3.Nf5+ Kg6 (or 3...Kg8 4.Rxg7+ Kf8 5.Rh8 mate) 4.Rxg7+ Kxf5 5.Rh5+ Ke6 6.Qe1+ Qe4 7.Qxe4.

After 1.Qd2 h5 2.Nxd6 f4, White again does not have to move his queen, but instead can play 3.Rxh5+ Kg6, and now 4.Rh4! with two extra pawns and a very strong attack is considered best by Fritz. This attack is rated more highly than any of the winning lines that I discovered.

The latter variation highlights some real differences between human analysis and computer analysis. A program such as Fritz is tactically perfect within a short range and will therefore prefer winning a rook after eight moves to winning a knight after three moves. I am sure that most strong human players would take the knight if it led to a clear-cut win. This is a practical decision because with every further move analysed on the mental chessboard, the possibility of error increases. Even after consulting Fritz, I still prefer my solution.

Here is another position from Chess Informant illustrating our theme. White has two different ways to win, only one of which was found by the analyst. Your task is to find both of them.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior Events

- Oct. 16 Island Junior Open #2 (Victoria)
- Oct. 16 Vancouver Junior Open
- Nov. 11-13 BC Junior Championship, Vancouver
- Nov. 20 Island Junior Open #3 (Victoria)
- Nov. 20 Vancouver Junior Open
- Dec. 10 BC -WA Scholastic Match, BCIT
- Dec. 11 Greater Victoria City Championship

See <http://www.chess.bc.ca/juniorevents.html>

October Sunday Open

Date: October 16

Site: Vancouver Bridge Centre , 2776 East Broadway

Pre-registration (recommended): by e-mail to swright2@telus.net or mail-for-katherine@telus.net;

Registration: 9:30 - 9:50 am on site; 778-882-7139 (cell) for last-minute entries or cancellations

Entry Fee: \$12

Format: open to all adults or juniors; unrated, no membership required - 3 games @ 60 mins./ea.; cash prizes

UBC Tuesday Night Swiss

Date: Tuesdays

Location: Room 417, Henry Angus Building, UBC

Format: 5-round Swiss

Time control: 2 hours sudden death

Time: 6:30 sharp

Entry fees: \$15 for adults, \$12 for juniors and UBC club members, \$10 under 1100

(excluding unrated)

TD info.: Aaron Cosenza, 604 327-4714, xramis1@yahoo.ca

Kamloops Fall Classic

Date: October 22-23, 2005

Location: Village Square, 349 Tranquille Road, Kamloops, B.C.

Prizes: \$BEN\$

Type: Swiss

Rounds: 6

Round Times: 9:30, 2, 6:30; 9, 1:30, 6 or ASAP

Time Controls: 20/60, SD/60

Entry Fee: \$25 juniors, \$30 seniors, \$35 adults

Registration: 8:45 - 9:15 am, October 22 at tournament site

TD/Organizer: Peter Kerek

Contact Info: 250-851-0014, kerek@shaw.ca

Misc: please bring sets and clocks; 2 byes allowed in first 5 rounds if requested during registration; TD fee \$2/player.

Silver Star Classic (BC Open Qualifier)

Date: November 11-13

Site: Best Western Vernon Lodge 3914 32nd St. 545-3755

Type: 6 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: 11:00 am, 4:00 pm; 10:00 am 4:00 pm; 10:00 am, ASAP.

Registration: 10:00 - 11:00 Friday Nov. 11.

TD & Org. Wally Steinke 250.545. 6677

The Vernon Lodge site has a great closed inner courtyard which makes it ideal for a family holiday as well as a pleasant place for a chess tournament. Room rates at the Vernon Lodge are \$81 up to 4. Next door at the Hillside (ph 549-1211) and the Midway (ph549-1241), rates are \$49 single, \$59 double.

Jack Taylor Memorial

Date: November 26-27

Site: Victoria

WA Class Championships and Chess Festival, Bellevue

Date: November 26-27

http://www.nwchess.com/calendar/WA_Class_flyer_2005.pdf