

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #122

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.

For the past few years the Bulletin has come out consistently every second Thursday, but due to work constraints your editor now experiences considerable difficulty keeping to a Thursday schedule. Instead, the Bulletin will come out every second Sunday or Monday for the foreseeable future.

To subscribe, send me an e-mail (swright2@telus.net) or sign up via the BCCF webpage (www.chess.bc.ca); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

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

RECENT EVENTS

B.C. players have been and are active south of the border:

National Open (June 8-10)

B.C. players Jofrel Landingin, Juni Caluza, Marionito Jose, Brian Sullivan, and Hugh Long are taking part in the National Open, the centrepiece of the Las Vegas International Chess Festival.

Tournament website: <http://www.monroi.com/tournamentgate/LasVegas07/index.html>

Washington Open and Scholastic (May 26-28)

Held the weekend after the Keres, the Washington Open attracted Ian Skulsky, Arie Milner, Changhe Li, Louie Jiang, Joe Oszvald, Juni Caluza, and Jack Cheng from B.C.; in the associated Scholastic event Jonah Lee won an upset prize in the Grade 4-6 Section (he's only in grade 1!), while Jacob Jensen came second in the K-3 Section.

Washington Open: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?200705289981.0-13199304>

Scholastic: <http://whsca.org:80/WAOpenSchol.html>

SEIRAWAN CHESS SIMULTANEOUS WITH JACK YOOS

On Saturday, May 26, 2007, former B.C. (Classic) Chess Champion Jack Yoos gave a ten-board Seirawan-chess simultaneous exhibition at the Vancouver Chess Centre. 'Seirawan-chess' ('s-chess') adds a knight-bishop (the 'Hawk') and knight-rook (the 'Elephant') to classic chess. The Elephant and Hawk begin play off the board and are introduced into the game as the squares on the back ranks for both players are vacated. The pieces are added on the same move that a back-rank square is vacated and it takes two moves to introduce both pieces.

Jack's task was not easy, for a variety of reasons. First of all, the new game is tactically difficult to play and unexpected combinations abound. Secondly, there is really no opening theory and someone giving a simultaneous exhibition must think all the time. Thirdly, almost all the players had some experience playing the new game, and are rapidly improving. Fourthly, co-inventor Bruce Harper kibitzed at crucial moments in several of the games.

Finally, and most importantly, Grandmaster Yasser Seirawan bet that Jack couldn't score more than 50% - with dinner at Yasser's expense being on the line. This wager was announced to the participants at the start of the event. Jack considered this a 'bounty', but that was a misleading characterization, as Yasser didn't promise everyone who beat Jack a free dinner. Had he done so, the dinner tab would have been higher. Jack got his free dinner, but only barely, scoring 5.5-4.5. Jack lost to Noam Davies and Lucas Davies (both of whom declared prior to the event that they would beat him, so no complaint of ambush can be made) and to Tiffany Tang and Lara Heppenstall. Jamie Harper drew a difficult game.

The afternoon was fun for everyone. No entry fee was paid by the players and no rent was required by the Vancouver Chess Centre (donations were invited and received). The support of the Chess Centre's management, especially Toni Deline, was appreciated, and on Saturday, June 23, 2007, the first s-chess tournament will be held at the Chess Centre. Samples of the new pieces have now arrived in Vancouver and will be available for use in that event.



Here are nine of the ten games (the score of Jack's win against Paul McNichol is unavailable). Jack played in an aggressive, challenging style and all the games are interesting, with both sides having chances in most of them. Let's start with the losses, and go from there.

Jack Yoos - Noam Davies

1.e4 e5 A surprise from Noam, who always plays 1...c5 in classic chess. 2.f4 Jack is true to his classic chess opening repertoire, but of course the game quickly varies from the normal paths. 2...exf4 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bc4 Nh6 5.0-0/Ee1 Be7 6.d4 0-0/Eh8 7.Bxf4/Hc1 Eg6 Black's position is probably as bad as it looks. 8.Nc3 d5?! What can you say about a move like this? 9.Nxd5 White could also play 9.cxd5, follow by 10.Ne5, attacking Black's g6-elephant. 9...Bh3/Hc8 10.Bg3 Unnecessary, because White's e1-elephant protected g2. 10...Be6 11.Nf4 Eg4 12.d5? White has so many good continuations it's hard to list them. Opening the g1-a7 diagonal is dangerous though. After the modest 12.Be2, Black's g4-elephant is in trouble, and White can also reinforce his centre with c2-c3. But how does one try to play when you have nine other games to worry about? 12...Hb6+! Forking White's g1-king and c4-bishop, but White has his own threats. 13.Kh1 Bc5!? 14.dxe6? White could reinforce almost every important square with 14.Hd3!? (14...Nb4 15.He5). 14...Bf2! Beginning an almost incomprehensible attack. 15.exf7+ If 15.Bxf2? Exf2+ 16.Rxf2 Hxf2 mate. And 15.Nd3 Bxe1 is losing. 15...Kh8 16.Ne6 16.Ee2 fails to 16...Bxg3 17.Exg3 (17.hxg3 Qxd1 18.Rxd1 Hf2+) Exg3+ 18.hxg3 Qxd1 18.Rxd1 Hf2+ 19.Kh2 Ng4 mate. But does Black have better than a perpetual check after 16.Ed3 Bxg3 17.hxg3 Exg3+ 18.Kh2? 16...Bxg3! 17.Ed3 Qxd3 18.Hxd3 Ne5!! This move is impossible to meet in a simul, and maybe in any other game as well. 19.Hc5 Nxc5 20.Nxc5 Nxc4 21.Qd7 Bd6 The smoke has cleared and Black has a decisive material advantage. 22.Nxb7 Rxf7 23.Qe6 Ne3 24.

Nxd6 cxd6 25.Rf2? Exf2+ 0-1 An inspiring game, which show what kinds of mind-boggling combinations can occur in s-chess.

Jack Yoos - Lucas Davies

1.e4 c6 Lucas also won his game, but (not surprisingly) in a completely different style from his brother. 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.c4!? e6 5.Nc3 Bb4/Hf8 6.g4 Who's to say? 6...Bg6 7.h4 h5 8.Bg5/Hc1 f6!? 9.exf6 gxf6 10.Bf4 Nd7 11.Qe2/Ed1 Qa5 12.Bh3 0-0-0/Ee8 Black has developed well, covering all his weaknesses. White seems to be overextended. 13.Hb3 Qa6 14.Ee3 Bd6 15.Bxd6 Hxd6 16.0-0-0 hxg4 17.Bxg4 f5 18.Bf3 Hf4! Forking White's e2-queen and e3-elephant. 19.Nh3 Hxe2+ 20.Bxe2 Qb6 21.Nf4 Bf7 22.Nd3 Ngf6 23.Nc5?! Nxc5 24.Hxc5 Qxc5! 25.dxc5 d4 26.Ee5 dxc3 27.Exf7 cxb2+ 28.Kxb2 Ne4 29.Rxd8+ Exd8 30.Exd8+ Kxd8 Now it's (almost) chess. Black is winning, and only has to watch out for White's h4-pawn. 31.Rh2 Ke7 32.f4 Nxc5 33.Kc3 Ne4+ 34.Kd4 Kf6 and Black won by a preponderance of pawns on move 53. 0-1

Jack Yoos - Tiffany Tang

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5/Ec8 4.c4!? e6 5.Nc3 Bb4/Hf8 6.g4 The same position as in Yoos - Lucas Davies, except that Black has developed her elephant on c8. 6...Be4?! 7.f3 Qh4+? 8.Ke2/He1! One of the oldest tricks in the book (about a year old, I believe). Black's h4-queen and e4-bishop are both attacked, and Black loses material. 8...Qxe1+ 9.Qxe1/Ed1 To get White's elephant into the game, but 9.Kxe1 might be better. 9...Bg6 10.cxd5 cxd5 11.Nh3 Hd7 12.Nf4 Ne7 13.h4 Bc2 14.Ee3 Ba4 15.Nh5! Black's g6-bishop has escaped to the queenside, at the cost of several tempos. White has a dominating position. 15...Rg8 16.Kf2 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Nbc6 18.Bd3 Hf8 A sad return. 19.Ba3 Na5 20.Nf6+!? Probably the right decision, in view of Black's imminent invasion of c4. 20...gxf6 21.exf6 Nf5!? A kubitized move, and the only chance. Black breaks the pin on her f8-hawk, but at the cost of exposing her king. 22.gxf5 Hxa3 23.fxe6 Hd6! Threatening 24...Hg3+! 24.exf7+? Much stronger was 24.Rg1!, challenging Black's control of the g-file without releasing her king. Exd5 is then in the air. 24...Kxf7 Black's king is now surprisingly safe. 25.Rg1 Rxd1 26.Kxg1 Eg8+ 27.Eg4 Re8 28.Qf2 Bd7! 29.Bxh7 Bxg4 30.Bxg8+ Rxd8 31.fxd4 Rxd4+ 32.Kh1 He4+! 0-1 Only after White resigned did Black realize that her powerful final move was also check!

Jack Yoos - Lara Heppenstall

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.c5 It is not clear whether this is the best continuation for White. In later blitz games Jack was playing the Four Pawns variation against me (4.d4 d6 5.f4), with mixed results. Theory marches on! 4...Nd5 5.Nc3/Hb1 e6 6.d4 Nc6/Hb8 7.Bc4 Nxc3 8.bxc3 d6 9.cxd6 cxd6 10.exd6 Bxd6 11.Qg4/Ed1?! To get his elephant into play, but White is overplaying his hand. 11...0-0/Ee8 12.Bg5? f6! This move was kubitized. 13.Qh5 g6 14.Qh6 Only now did White see that his intended 14.Hxg6? hxg6 15.Qxg6+ fails to 15...Eg7! 14...fxg5 15.Nf3 Rxf3! This move was also kubitized, and not easily, as Lara tends to resist giving up

material of any sort. This exchange sacrifice demolishes White's kingside, while clearing f8 for Black's d6-bishop. 16.gxf3 Na5! 17.Bd3 Bf8! The immediate 17...e5, threatening to trap White's h6-queen with 18...Bf8, was also possible, but White might then have 18.Bxg6. 18.Qh3 e5 19.Qg2 exd4+ 20.Be4 Hf4! 21.Qf1 Bh3 In s-chess the initiative can be a terrible thing to behold. 22.Qg1 Bg2 23.Hd3 Bxf3 24.Eb2 Hxd3+ 25.Exd3 Exe4+ 0-1 After 25.Kf1 Be2+, White loses his d3-elephant.

Jack Yoos - Jamie Harper

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.c4 Nb6 4.c5 Nd5 5.Nc3/Hb1 Nxc3 6.dxc3 e6 7.Qg4/Ed1!? An interesting pawn sacrifice which Black could decline with 7...b6!? 7...Bxc5/Hf8!? 8.Nf3 Nc6 9.Bb5 a6 9... Ne7!? was possible, to bring the e7-knight to the kingside and continue with 10...a6 and 11... b5, although then White would have targets on the queenside. 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.0-0 h6 To prevent 12.Bg5, but now it's difficult for Black to get his hawk into play, as ...Hf8-g6 is impossible. 12.b4?! Be7 13.Bb2 a5 14.a3 Ba6/Ec8 15.Re1 c5 16.h4 axb4 17.axb4 cxb4 18.cxb4 Bb7! Seizing a key diagonal. White's b4-pawn is not important. 19.h5 Rxa1 20.Bxa1 Bxb4?! Black takes the second pawn, but it was better to leave it and play 20...Eb6!, followed by 21... Qa8! Black would then control the only open file on the queenside, and could take White's b4-pawn and a more suitable moment, when it forced the right exchanges. 21.Bc3 Be7 22.Ed4 Eb6 23.Ef4 Ed5 24.Exd5 White didn't even consider 24.Exf7?!, which Black spent considerable time analyzing. 24...Bxd5 25.Nd4 Qa8?! Because of the time lost taking White's b4-pawn, Black is now under pressure on the queenside. 25...Qb8!?, keeping White's d4-knight out of b5, looks better. 26.Nb5 Qb7 27.Hd3 Bd8?! 27...Bc6!? seems like a better try. 28.Bb4! Be7 29.Ba5 Bd8 30.Rb1 White plays to win. 30...Qc8 31.Rc1 Bc6 32.Nd4 Qa8 33.Nxc6 dxc6 34.Bb4 Be7 34...Qa4! was interesting, pinning White's b4-bishop to White's g4-queen. After 35.Rc4 Qa1+ the position is murky. 35.Bxe7 Hxe7 36.Qxg7 Rg8 37.Qh7 c5 38.He4 Qa3 38...Qxe4!? 39. Qxe4 Hd5 40.Qxd5! exd5 41.Rxc5 leads to a typically unusual 'chess' ending, where Black should draw after 41...Rg5 42.Rxd5 f6 43.f4 Rxh5. This seems typical in s-chess - when all the new pieces are traded, the resulting positions are somehow different from those which arise in classical chess games. 39.Rd1 Qa4 40.Rb1 Kd7 41.Hf3 Qf4 42.Qd3+! Hd5 42...Qd4 43.Qb5+ is hard to meet. 43.Hxd5+ exd5 44.Qxd5+ Ke7 45.Qxc5+ Ke6 In this near-chess position ('near' because there is always the esoteric possibility of promoting to an elephant or a hawk), White must be winning, but sturdy defence by Black (first Jamie, until he had to go to work, then Noam Davies) holds the position. 46.Qc6+ Kf5 47.Qf6+ Kg4 Black's king is surprisingly safe and Black's activity gives him good drawing chances. 48.Qe7 Kxh5 49.Rb4 Qf5 50.Rh4+ Kg6 51.Qxc7 Kh7 52.Qc1 Qg6 53.g3 Rb8 54.Kg2 Re8 55.Qc7 Qe6 At this point Noam took over. 56.Rf4 Re7 57.Qc2 Qg6 58.Qb3 Kg7 59.Qe3 Qg5 60.Qf3 Qxe5 61.Rg4+ Kh7 62.Qd3+ f5 and after another 17 moves the game was drawn. 1/2-1/2

Jack Yoos - Len Molden

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5/Ed8 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.Rb1 c6 This isn't really consistent with Black's initial plan of quick development. 5.b4 Qc7 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Nf3 Bg4/Hc8 8.0-0/Ee1 e6 9.d3 Be7 Yasser

pointed out the interesting possibility of 9...b5!?, playing to win White's b4-pawn. 10.Bf4/Hc1 Bd6 11.Bxd6 Hxd6 12.Ne4?! Nxe4 13.dxe4? One of the few outright blunders of the day. 13... Hxc4 14.Qxd8+ Qxd8 15.Hf4 Bxf3 16.Exf3 Qf6? Well, maybe there were two outright blunders... 17.Hc7+ Ke7 18.Exf6 gxf6 19.Hxa8 Nd7 20.Hxb7 Ne5 21.Nc5+ Ke8 22.Rbd1 He2 + 23.Kh1 Ng6 24.Hxa7 Hh5 25.Hxc6+ Kf8 26.Hd7+ Kg7 27.Rfe1 Ra8 28.Hb5 Ne5 29.He2 Hg6 30.f4 Nc6 31.Hd3 Rxa2 32.b5 Nb8 33.Ra1 Rxa1 34.Rxa1 Hh4 35.Ra7 f5 36.Rb7 e5!? 37. Rxb8 exf4 38.exf5 f3!? An ingenious attempt at a swindle. 39.He5+ f6 40.Rb7+ Kg8 41.Hc4 +?! 41.Hxf3! was safer. Now Black has a surprisingly dangerous attack, given the scant material available to him, but it turns out that White has a series of checks which allow him to bring his rook back to shore up his defenses. Presumably White had carefully calculated the following seven or eight moves... 41...Kf8 42.He6+ Ke8 43.Rb8+ Ke7 44.Hc5+ Kf7 45.Rb7+ Ke8 After 44...Kg8, White mates with 45.He6+! Kh8 46.Rb8. 45.Re7+ Kd8 45.Rg7 45.Rd7+ was simpler. 45...f2 46.Rd7+ Ke8 47.Rd1! Hxf5 48.Hxf2 1-0

Jack Yoos - Brent McLean

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.f4 This, and White's next move, were the product of five minutes of pre-game preparation. When was studying classical chess openings ever that much fun? 5...Qb6/Hd8 6.Nf3/Hg1 cxd4 7.cxd4 Bd7 8.a3 a5 9.Nc3/Eb1 a4 10.Bd3 Nce7 11.He3 h5 12.0-0 Nh6 13.Nh4 Ng4 13...g6 was safer, although White has a more comfortable position. 14. Hc2 Rc8/Ea8 15.h3 Nc6 16.hxg4 hxg4!? 17.Ng6!? This attempt to refute Black's interesting combination leads to complex play. 17...Nxd4 18.He3 Bc5 19.Nxh8 Nf3+? 19...Nb3! was much better. 20.Rxf3 gxf3 21.Qxf3 Bc6 Yasser suggests 21...Hh4!? 22.Qf2 d4 23.Hc4 dxc3 24. Be3 Bxe3 25.Hxe3 Qxe3 26.Qxe3 Hb6 27.Qxb6 Exb6 28.bxc3 The smoke has cleared, at least somewhat, and White still has an extra piece. 28...Ed5 29.Be4 Ee7 30.Bxc6 Rxc6 31.Ed2 Ed5 This simplification spells the end. Black cannot corral White's h8-knight. 32.Exd5 exd5 33.Rb1 Rc7 34.Rb5 Rd7 35.Ra5 d4 36.cxd4 Rxd4 37.f5 Rf4 38.e6 fxe6 39.fxe6 Rf6 40.Rxa4 Rxe6 41. Ra7 Rb6 42.a4 g5 43.a5 Rb1+ 44.Kf2 Kf8 45.Ng6+ Kf7 46.Ne5+ Ke6 47.Nd3 1-0 (in 64)

Jack Yoos - Hugh Long

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.f4 Bd7 6.Nf3/Hg1 cxd4 7.cxd4 Bb4+/Hf8 8.Nc3/Eb1 Nge7/ Eg8 Black has a definite idea in mind, but it doesn't work out very well. 9.Bd3 a6 10.He3 h6 11.0-0 Qc7 12.f5 0-0-0 13.fxe6 Bxe6 14.a3 Ba5 15.b4 Bb6 16.b5 White decides to forgo the more positional 16.Na4-c5 and go right for the throat. 16...Nxd4? Overlooking that White's b1-elephant defends his c3-knight. 17.Nxd4 Hd7 18.bxa6 Hxe5 19.axb7+ Kb8 20.Nf3! An elegant simplification! 20...Bxe3+ 21.Bxe3 Hxc3 22.Exc3 Qxc3 23.Bf4+ 23...Ka7 24.Qx4+ is deadly. Black's intended kingside pawn advance never got going, and his elephant languished on g8. 1-0

Jack Yoos - Edward Enns

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6/Hb8 5.f4 Bd7 6.Nf3/Hg1 Qb6/Ed8 7.a3 cxd4 8.cxd4 a5 9.Nc3/

Eb1 An almost standard position, at least in this event, has been reached. 9...Na7!?! 10.Bd3 Ne7 11.He3 Nf5!?! 12.Bxf5 exf5 13.Nxd5 Qa6 Black has sacrificed a pawn in order to weaken the light squares in White's position and to get pressure down the d-file. Black's piece activity soon pays dividends. 14.Ec3?! Nb5 15.Ec2? Be6 16.Nc3 Bb3 17.0-0 Bxc2 Premature. 17...Nxc3 18. bxc3 Hc6 was superior, according to Yasser.

18.Qxc2 Nxc3 19.bxc3 Black is clearly winning, but now loses his way. 19...Hd7?! 20.Hxf5 He6 21.He4 g6?! 22.Ng4 Hc4 23.Rf2 Bh6?! 24.f5 0-0? Black is asking for trouble, and White is happy to oblige. 25.Nxh7! Kxh7 26.Bxh6 Kxh6 27.Qc1+ Kg7 28.f6+ Kg8 29.Qh6 Ee6 30. Hg5 Black's defences are overloaded. 30...Rac8 31.Qh7 mate 1-0

BCCF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The BCCF AGM took place between rounds on Saturday May 19 at the site of the Keres Memorial. The full minutes plus executive reports will be available on the internet shortly, but for the time being here is the new BCCF Executive for 2007-2008:

President, Stephen Wright
Secretary/Treasurer, Lyle Craver
Vice-President (Vancouver Island), Roger Patterson
Vice-President (North), John Niksic
Vice-President (Interior), Wally Steinke
Tournament Coordinator, Toni Deline
Junior Coordinator, Ken Jensen
Clubs Coordinator, Len Molden
Member at Large, Norman Batisse
Member at Large, Katherine Davies
Member at Large, Bruce Harper
Member at Large, Paul Leblanc
Member at Large, Alfred Pechisker
Member at Large, Howard Wu

S-CHESS MODIFIED SWISS

1-5 pm, Saturday, June 23, 2007
Vancouver Chess Centre, 201 - 1050 Kingsway, Vancouver
Seirawan Chess - 4 round modified Swiss, modified scoring
Time control: rd. 1 G/10, rd. 2 G/20, rd. 3 G/30, rd. 4 G/40
EF \$12, prizes - see website for full tournament details and S-chess rules.

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

VCC CANADA DAY OPEN

June 30 - July 2, 2007

Vancouver Chess Centre, 201 - 1050 Kingsway, Vancouver

Six Round Swiss--CFC Rated

Time Control: G/90 + 30 sec. move (analog G/120)

On-site Registration: Sat., June 30 9 - 9:45 a.m.

Round Times: Sat & Sun 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Mon. 9:30 and ASAP

Entry fee: \$40;

Masters, Srs, Jrs & Women \$30;

Advance entries (min. 7 days) and VCC members \$10 off

Sections and cash prizes based on entries.

A few billets may be available, contact Toni @ 604-910-8349

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

UBC Tuesday Night Swiss

Contact Aaron Cosenza: 604-327-4714, Email: xramis1@yahoo.ca

VCC Canada Day Open

Dates: June 30 - July 2

Location: Vancouver Chess Centre, 210 - 1050 Kingsway, Vancouver

Type: 5-round Swiss

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