

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #144

Your editor welcomes 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.

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.]

HERE AND THERE

Las Vegas International Chess Festival (June 5-8)

Held at the Riviera Hotel and Casino, the Las Vegas Chess Festival is one of the major events on the US tournament calendar. Centred around the National Open, it also includes many side events: a blitz championship, a game/10 championship, scholastic trophy tournaments, Susan Polgar World Open events for boys and girls, simuls, chess camps, workshops, etc. Participating in the National Open were BC players Juni Caluza, Marionito Jose, Jingzhou Lai, Paul Leblanc, Hugh Long, Dylan Parker, Brian Sullivan, Donovan Zhao; WCM Alexandra Botez and a group from St. John's school (Amrinder and Surbinder Bolina, Alex and Stuart Kay, Eric Lerer, William Rewcastle, and Hang Xie) were entrants in the various scholastic events.

National Open crosstables:

http://main.uschess.org/assets/msa_joomla/XtblMain.php?200806087901

Event website: <http://www.vegaschessfestival.com/>

Washington Open (May 24-26)

A number of BC players took part in this 'twin' event to the Keres, held in Redmond, WA on the American Memorial Day long weekend immediately following the Canadian Victoria Day weekend. These included Robert Brewster, Charles Cadman, James Chan, Sam Churchill, Jonah Lee, Arik Milner, Neale Monkhouse, Luc Poitras, and Ian Skulsky. Notable results were achieved by Charles Cadman (an American currently teaching mathematics at UBC) who tied for first in the Open with Ignacio Perez, Michael Lee, Nick Raptis, Mark Naus, and Andy May (all with 4.5/6); Luc Poitras, who was a half-point off the pace in the Open; and Arik Milner, who tied for first (5.0/6) with Peter Lessler in the Premier Section.

Crosstables: <http://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?200805264901.0>

The Washington Open also contains an adjunct scholastic tournament; BC juniors Jiwhan Moon and Iain Ang participated.

Crosstables: <http://whsca.org/WAOpenSchol.html>

CFC TROUBLES

Wondering when the latest issue of the CFC magazine will appear? At this point, the answer is unknown. As you may or may not be aware, the CFC has been having financial difficulties, to the point where its survival as an organization has been brought into question. The executive of the CFC approved the adoption of a package of measures, including the outsourcing of the CFC's day-to-day operations and the replacement of the print magazine with an online version. A company headed by Robert Hamilton, Three Knights Services, was contracted to handle these issues, but then a subsequent vote by the governors annulled the proposed measures. See Governors' Letters 7 and 8 for this year (<http://www.chess.ca/governorsletters.htm>) for the gory details. The contract for outsourcing has since gone to public tender, which has left Three Knights Services in limbo. Hamilton, also editor of the CFC magazine, has threatened/is proceeding with legal action for breach of contract; since the conversion of the magazine to an online source was part of the disputed contract, the magazine itself is now also in limbo. From the *Scarborough Chess Club Newsletter*, edited by Bob Armstrong:

"Our sources tell us that TKS has prepared the CFC May magazine Issue, but is waiting to be paid by CFC before processing it further. The Executive is divided on whether to pay for the May magazine, with President Hal Bond ordering it to be paid and another Executive saying it shouldn't. E.D. Bob Gillanders is caught in the middle and can't do anything about issuing the cheque at the moment until instructions clarify. If the magazine is being processed under the old CFC-TKS contract only for the magazine (and not under the alleged " outsourcing CFC-TKS contract), then we see no reason the contract shouldn't be honoured and paid by CFC, and TKS should then deliver it to the members as expected. Future Issues of the magazine will depend on the contract terms, and whether either side is terminating the magazine contract."

Stay tuned for future developments ...

LIVING CHESS IN VANCOUVER, 1905

"Considerable interest is being taken in living chess games that are to be played in the Drillhall next Saturday evening. There will be two games played, and in connection with each the orchestra will play an overture, entrance march and exit march. The entertainment is under the auspices of the Vancouver Chess and Checker Club, and the

games will be between Mr. J. McA. Cameron and Mr. P. Dunne, and Mr. A. C. Brydone-Jack and Mr. W. Francis.

The pieces will be represented as follows: Kings, Master H. Minchin and Master Harold Hall; queens, Miss Connie Lucas and Miss Zella Hawe; bishops, Miss Lyndall de la Capilaine, Miss Violet Gardiner, Miss K. Trendall and Miss Maude Ferguson; knights, Miss Ida Gardiner, Miss E. Burns, Miss M. Burns and Miss C. Trendall; Castles, Miss L. Hawe, Miss Alodia Heffing and the Misses Mawdsley; pawns, boys of Christ Church Boys' Brigade.

The master of ceremonies will be Mr. J. Schmerl, and the costumes are being prepared by Miss Hicks." [*Daily Province*, Thursday, May 18, 1905]

"A fair attendance greeted the interesting and elaborately prepared human chess match played in the Drillhall on Saturday evening.

The board was laid out on the floor of the large hall, white cardboard squares alternating with the dark of the natural floor. On these squares were stationed the living chessmen. The players were Messrs. J. McA. Cameron and P. Dunne for the red, and Messrs. A. C. Brydone-Jack and W. Francis for the white. The players occupied stations on the galleries at each end of the hall and as one moved on a small chessboard the other called the play and it was duplicated on the gigantic board on the floor below. Mr. Jacob Schmerl acted as master of ceremonies.

In forty-six moves the first game went to the whites, and after fifty moves the second game was won by the reds. To save time both games had been previously played out on small boards. It took the players in the original instance four hours to play the first and six hours to play the second game.

The band of the Sixth Duke's Own Regiment was in attendance, and its music greatly enlivened the proceedings. The kings, queens, bishops, knights and castles were becomingly attired in robes of crimson and white. With the exception of the two kings, the figures were represented by young girls. The pawns were boys who wore sashes of red and white." [*Daily Province*, Monday, May 22, 1905]

UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior events

July 14-17 National CYCC, Quebec City

UBC Thursday Night Swiss

6:30 pm, **Thursdays**, Buchanan Building room D 214, University of British Columbia
Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca

June Active

June 14, Vancouver Bridge Centre

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events3.html#LucMayActive> (I assume they are similar or the same)

Ogopogo Summer

June 21-22, Vernon

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events3.html#Ogopogo>

July Active

July 6, Vancouver Bridge Centre

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events3.html#LucMayActive> (I assume they are similar or the same)

Rod Planas Memorial

August 2-4, Kelowna

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events3.html#Planas>

Labour Day Open

August 30 - September 1, Langley

Details: <http://www.langleychess.com/2008-Open.htm>