

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #169

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.

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Stephen Wright

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

HERE AND THERE

Tromsø (August 1-9)

If the heat is getting you down, this tournament might be ideal. The Arctic Chess Challenge begins this weekend in Tromsø, Norway, which lies almost four hundred kilometres within the Arctic Circle. IM Leon Piasetski will be one of the participants.

<http://www.chessbase.com/newsdetail.asp?newsid=5603>

Canadian Amateur (July 31 - August 3)

Also this weekend, Paul Leblanc is playing in the U2000 Section of the Canadian Amateur in Kitchener, Ontario. This runs concurrently with the Canadian Women's Championship (July 30 - August 3), and will be followed by the Canadian Championship (Guelph, August 7-16).

<http://www.chessfest.ca/>

<http://www.chess.ca/misc2009/2009%20Canadian%20Closed.pdf>

VICTORIA CHESS FESTIVAL (July 20-28)

Previously held in Victoria in 2005, this year the CYCC returned to the B.C. provincial capital. The organizers used the event as the centrepiece of a full-blown chess festival, incorporating both the B.C. Open and the Canadian Junior into the mix, along with numerous side events. GMs Mark Bluvshstein and Hikaru Nakamura were both part of the festivities, giving simultaneous displays along with contesting a live chess game which ended diplomatically in a draw.

Bluvshstein, Mark - Nakamura, Hikaru [E50] Live chess game Victoria, 20.07.2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nf3 e6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.e3 0-0 6.Bd2 d6 7.Bd3 e5 8.Qc2 exd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4
10.exd4 Re8+ 11.Kf1 Bxc3 12.Bxc3 d5 13.c5 b6 14.f3 bxc5 15.dxc5 d4 16.Bd2 Nd5 17.Bxh7+ Kh8
18.Be4 Ba6+ 19.Kf2 f5 20.Bd3 Ne3 21.Bxe3 dxe3+ 22.Ke2 Qh4 23.Rhf1 Bxd3+ 24.Qxd3 Rad8

25.Rad1 Rxd3 26.Rxd3 Qxh2 27.Rxe3 Qxg2+ 28.Rf2 Rxe3+ 29.Kxe3 f4+ 30.Ke2 Qxf2+ 31.Kxf2 Kg8 32.Ke2 Kf7 33.Kd3 Ke6 34.Ke4 g5 35.c6 Kf6 36.b4 Ke6 37.a4 a6 38.b5 a5 39.Kd4 Kd6 40.Ke4 Ke6 41.Kd4 1/2-1/2

Kudos to organizers Bryan Raymer, Paul Leblanc, and Roger Patterson, chief arbiter Mark Dutton and all the other staff and assistants for putting on such a great show. Apart from the festival websites on pbwiki (see link under B.C. Open below) individual event sites were hosted by Monroi; there you will find games, photos, videos, and other materials related to each tournament.

Canadian Youth Chess Championships

This year's CYCC attracted a total of one hundred and twenty-nine players, competing in two-year age categories further divided by gender. The trophy winners were as follows; additionally B.C.'s Joanne Foote and Janak Awatramani tied for fourth in their respective sections but lost the playoffs. The below players qualify for the world competition, returning this year to Kemer-Antalya, Turkey, in November.

U08

- 1 Kevin Wan (ON)
- 2 Daniel Zotkin (ON)
- 3 Yuanchen Zhang (ON)

U10

- 1 Dezheng Kong (BC)
- 2 William Graif (US)
- 3 Oliver Kenta Chiku-Ratte (PQ)

U12

- 1 Richard Wang (AB)
- 2 James Fu (ON)
- 3 Jack Qian (BC)

U14

- 1 Thomas Kaminski (AB)
- 2 David Zhang (AB)
- 3 David Itkin (ON)

U08G

- 1 Jiaxin Liu (ON)
- 2 Maggie Rose MacInnis (BC)
- 3 Constance Wang (ON)

U10G

- 1 Melissa Giblon (ON)
- 2 Aleksandra Milicevic (ON)
- 3 Janet Peng (ON)

U12G

- 1 Rebecca Giblon (ON)
- 2 Jackie Peng (ON)
- 3 Zhanna Sametova (ON)

U14G

- 1 Alexandra Botez (BC)
- 2 Regina-Veronicka Kalaydina (AB)
- 3 Tina Fang (ON)

U16

- 1 Karoly Szalay (ON)
- 2 Alexander Martchenko (ON)
- 3 Avinaash Sundar (ON)

U18

- 1 Eric Hansen (AB)
- 2 Victor Kaminski (AB)
- 3 Kevin Me (SK)

U16G

- 1 Dalia Kagramanov (ON)
- 2 Samantha Powell (ON)
- 3 Karen Lam (BC)

U18G

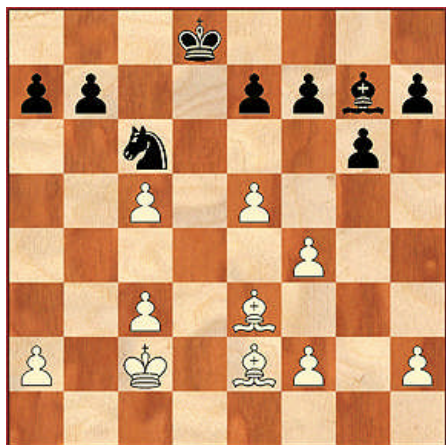
- 1 Jasmine Du (NS)
- 2 Sonja Xiong (ON)
- 3 Marguerite Yang (PQ)

Monroi site: <http://monroi.com/2009-canadian-youth-chess-championship-home.html>
CFC crosstables: search under B.C. at <http://www.chess.ca/crosstables.htm>

There are many games on the Monroi site for your viewing pleasure. I will only highlight the following example from the U10 Section, which I found particularly impressive. Jason Cao, rated 1032, playing in only his fourth tournament, and giving up 700 rating points, demonstrates that he has a pretty good idea of what to do on the black side of a Grünfeld:

Doknjas, John - Cao, Jason [D85] CYCC U10 Victoria (6), 23.07.2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Be3 c5 8.Rb1 0-0 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Bc4 Qa5 11.Qd2 Rd8 12.Rb5 Qa3 13.Rxc5 Qxc5 14.dxc5 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg4 16.Kc2 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Ne5 18.Be2 Kf8 19.Rb1 Rb8 20.f4 Nc6 21.e5 Ke8 22.Rd1 Rd8 23.Rxd8+ Kxd8



24.Kb3 Kc7 25.h4 h5 26.Bd3 e6 27.Kc2 Bf8 28.Kd2 Be7 29.Ke2 Bxh4 30.Kf3 Be7 31.Kg3 a6 32.Kh3 Na7 33.Bc4 Nb5 34.Bxb5 axb5 35.Kg2 Kc6 36.Kf3 Bxc5 37.Bd2 Kd5 38.Ke2 Kc4 39.f3 b4 40.cxb4 Bxb4 41.Be3 Bc3 42.Bg1 Kb4 43.Kd3 Be1 44.Bh2 b5 45.Kc2 Ka3 46.Kb1 h4 47.Ka1 Bg3 48.Bg1 h3 49.Bc5+ b4 50.Bg1 h2 0-1

B.C. Open

Dormant since 2006, the tournament was topped by Alberta champion FM Eric Hansen with a perfect 5.0/5 score; a full point back were the trio of Roy Yearwood, Howard Chen, and Tanraj Sohal. Forty-nine players took part.

Monroi site: <http://monroi.com/bc-open-chess-championship-home.html>

Tournament report, games: <http://victoriachessclub.pbworks.com/2009-BC-Open-Results>

CFC crosstable: <http://www.chess.ca/xtable.asp?TNum=200907030>

Findlay, David - Cao, Jason [C01] BC op Victoria (1), 24.07.2009

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.c3 Bg4 7.0-0 Qd7 8.Re1+ Nge7 9.Nbd2 0-0-0 10.b4 Bh5 11.a4 Bg6 12.Bf1 h5 13.a5 h4 14.h3 Bf5 15.Nb3 Rdg8 16.Nc5 Qd8 17.Qa4 f6 18.b5 Nb8 19.Bd3 Bd7 20.Rb1 g5 21.Ne6 Bxe6 22.Rxe6 Qd7 23.Rxf6 g4 24.Ng5 gxh3 25.gxh3 Qxh3 26.Rf8+ Kd7 27.b6+ c6 28.Bf5+ Nxf5 29.Rf7+ Ke8 30.f4 Rxc5+ 0-1

Aquino, Manfredi - Chen, Howard [D35] BC op Victoria (4), 25.07.2009

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Bf5 6.Bg5 Be7 7.Bxe7 Qxe7 8.e3 Nf6 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Nbd7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Rab1 Ne4 13.b4 b5 14.Rfc1 Nd6 15.Re1 f5 16.Nd2 Rae8 17.f3 Nf6 18.Re2 Qf7 19.Rbe1 Re7 20.Nb3 Qg6 21.Nc5 Rfe8 22.Nd1 Nh5 23.Nf2 Nc4 24.Nh3 Nd6 25.Nf4 Qh6 26.Nxh5 Qxh5 27.h3 Qh4 28.Qc3 Nc4 29.Qd3 Qg3 30.Kf1 g6 31.Qb3 Rxe3 32.Qd1 Qh2 33.Kf2 f4 34.Nd7 Rxf3+ 0-1

Yearwood, Roy - Wu, Howard [B17] BC op Victoria (4), 25.07.2009

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.d4 Ngf6 6.Bd3 Nxe4 7.Bxe4 Nf6 8.Bd3 Bg4 9.c3 e6 10.h3 Bh5 11.Bf4 Nd5 12.Bh2 Bd6 13.Be2 Bxh2 14.Nxh2 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Qg5 16.0-0 Nf4 17.Qf3 h5 18.Rae1 0-0-0 19.Re4 Nd5 20.Qxf7 Rhf8 21.Qxe6+ Rd7 22.h4 Qd2 23.Re2 Qd3 24.Qe4 Qc4 25.Nf3 Qxa2 26.Ne5 Re7 27.g3 Qa6 28.Rfe1 Rf6 29.Qh7 Rh6 30.Qg8+ Kc7 31.Nf7 1-0

McLaren, Brian - Hansen, Eric [B07] BC op Victoria (5), 26.07.2009

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.dxe5 dxe5 5.Qxd8+ Kxd8 6.Bg5 Be6 7.0-0-0+ Nbd7 8.Nge2 Be7 9.f3 c6 10.Ng3 Kc7 11.Nf5 Bf8 12.Bd3 h6 13.Bd2 g6 14.Ne3 b5 15.a3 Nc5 16.Be2 a5 17.Nb1 Nfd7 18.b3 f5 19.exf5 gxf5 20.g4 fxg4 21.fxg4 Ne4 22.Be1 h5 23.Nf5 hxg4 24.Bxg4 Ndf6 25.h3 Nxg4 26.hxg4 Rxh1 27.Bxa5+ Rxa5 28.Rxh1 Bxf5 29.gxf5 Nf6 30.Kb2 Ra8 31.Re1 e4 0-1

Ozkan, Charlie - Sohal, Tanraj [A26] BC op Victoria (5), 26.07.2009

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nf3 d6 5.d3 e5 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.Rb1 Bg7 10.b4 0-0 11.0-0 Ne7 12.b5 f5 13.Qc1 Be6 14.Nd2 c6 15.Qa3 Qd7 16.bxc6 bxc6 17.Rb3 Qc7 18.Rfb1 Rab8 19.Qa6 Rxb3 20.Rxb3 Bc8 21.Qa4 Bd7 22.Qa6 Rb8 23.h3 Rxb3 24.Nxb3 e4 25.Nd1 d5 26.Qa5 Qxa5 27.Nxa5 Be6 28.Bf1 Be5 29.e3 Bc7 30.cxd5 Bxd5 31.Nc4 Bxc4 32.dxc4 Be5 33.Be2 c5 34.Kf1 Kf7 35.Ke1 Ke6 36.Kd2 Nc8 37.Nc3 Bxc3+ 38.Kxc3 Nd6 39.f3 exf3 40.Bxf3 Ke5 41.Kd3

g5 42.Bd5 Ne8 43.Bf3 Nf6 44.a4 a5 45.Bc6 g4 46.hxg4 fxg4 47.Bb7 Nh5 48.Bc8 Nxc3 49.Bxc4 h5
50.Bh3 Nf5 51.Bg2 Nh4 52.Bc6 Ng6 53.Ke2 Kf6 54.Bd5 Ne5 55.Kf2 Nd3+ 56.Kg3 Nb2 57.Kh4
Nxa4 58.Kxh5 Ke5 59.Bf3 Nb2 60.Bc6 a4 61.Bxa4 Nxa4 62.Kg4 Ke4 63.Kg3 Kxe3 64.Kg2 Nb6
65.Kf1 Kd2 0-1

Canadian Junior

As an event the Canadian Junior has languished in the last decade. The last time it was held in B.C. was just over ten years ago; that occasion also marked the last time it was held as a round robin, won by Pascal Charbonneau. Since then much of the event's prestige seems to have transferred to the CYCC, and here has been a steady decline both in the number and quality of players willing to participate. This year the tournament drew twelve players, exactly the same number as the last round robin in 1998-99; at least two more B.C. juniors were preregistered, but chose instead to play in the parallel B.C. Open. Perhaps potential entrants were daunted by the presence of last year's champion IM Artiom Samsonkin and his 2600 rating, but in the event it turned out to not be his year. He miscalculated and lost in the second round to Arthur Calugar, gained ground by beating his main rival FM Raja Panjwani in round four, but on the third day Samsonkin was held to draws by Roman Sapozhnikov and Alexander Martchenko, whereas Panjwani beat both of them. This left Panjwani a point ahead of the field and he wrapped up the title with a quick last-round draw. He now qualifies to represent Canada at the World Junior at Mar del Plata, Argentina (famous as the name of a King's Indian variation) in October. Congratulations!

Monroi page: <http://monroi.com/2009-canadian-junior-chess-championship-home.html>

Canadian Junior history by Jonathan Berry: <http://members.shaw.ca/berry5868/jun.htm#canjun>

CFC crosstable: <http://www.chess.ca/xtable.asp?TNum=200907032>

Samsonkin, Artiom - Calugar, Arthur [B49] CAN jun Victoria (2), 25.07.2009

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 a6 7.0-0 Nf6 8.Be3 Bb4 9.Na4 Be7
10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.Nb6 Rb8 12.Nxc8 Qxc8 13.e5 Nd5 14.Bc1 c5 15.f4 0-0 16.f5 f6 17.exf6 Bxf6
18.c3 Rb6 19.Qc2 Qc7 20.fxe6 dxe6 21.Bd3 g5



22.Bxc5 c4 23.Bh6 cxd3 24.Qxd3 Rf7 25.Rad1 Bg7 26.Bxc7 Rxc7 27.Qe4 h6 28.c4 Ne7 29.Qa8+
Kh7 30.Rd8 Ng6 31.b3 Rd6 32.Rxd6 Qxd6 33.Qe4 e5 34.h3 h5 35.Rf5 Kh6 36.g4 hxg4 37.hxg4

Nf4 38.Qh1+ Kg6 39.Qe4 Qd1+ 40.Kf2 Kh6 41.Rf6+ Rg6 42.Rxg6+ Nxg6 43.Qe3+ Nf4 44.Kg3 Qf1 45.Qb6+ Ng6 46.Qe6 Qf4+ 47.Kg2 e4 48.c5 Qf3+ 49.Kh2 Kg5 50.c6 Qf2+ 51.Kh1 Qh4+ 52.Kg1 Qg3+ 53.Kf1 Qd3+ 54.Ke1 Qc3+ 55.Kd1 Ne5 56.Qf5+ Kh4 57.Qxe4 Nxc6 58.Qe1+ Qxe1+ 59.Kxe1 Kxg4 60.Kd2 Kf5 61.Kc3 Ke5 62.Kc4 Kd6 63.b4 Ne5+ 64.Kd4 Nf3+ 65.Ke4 Ng5+ 66.Kd4 Kc6 67.a4 Kb6 68.Kd5 Nh3 69.Ke4 Nf2+ 70.Kd4 Nd1 71.Kc4 Nb2+ 72.Kb3 Nd3 73.Kc4 Ne5+ 74.Kd5 Nd7 75.Kd4 Kc7 76.Kc4 Nb6+ 77.Kb3 Kd6 78.Ka3 Kd5 79.Kb3 Kd4 0-1

Panjwani, Raja - Samsonkin, Artiom [E70] CAN jun Victoria (4), 26.07.2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Bd3 0-0 6.Nge2 e5 7.d5 c6 8.0-0 a5 9.a3 Nbd7 10.Rb1 cxd5 11.exd5 a4 12.Nxa4 Rxa4 13.Qxa4 Nc5 14.Qd1 Nxd3 15.Be3 e4 16.Nc3 Ng4 17.Qe2 Qh4 18.h3 Nge5 19.g3 Qxh3 20.Nxe4 Ng4 21.f3 Nxe3 22.Qxe3 Ne5 23.Qf2 Nxc4 24.Rbc1 Nxb2 25.Qh2 Qd7 26.g4 Nd3 27.Rc2 f5 28.Ng5 Bd4+ 29.Kh1 Be5 30.f4 Nxf4 31.Rxf4 Bxf4 32.Qxf4 fxg4 33.Qe4 Qf5 34.Qe7 Qxd5+ 35.Kh2 g3+ 0-1

Martchenko, Alexander - Panjwani, Raja [B07] CAN jun Victoria (5), 27.07.2009

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.g3 g6 6.Bg2 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.h3 c6 9.a4 Qc7 10.Be3 b6 11.Qd2 a6 12.Rfd1 Re8 13.dxe5 dxe5 14.Bg5 Bb7 15.Qe1 b5 16.Nd2 Nc5 17.Be3 Ne6 18.Nb3 b4 19.Na2 c5 20.c3 Nxe4 21.cxb4 Nd4 22.Na5 Bd5 23.Rac1 Qd7 24.Kh2 Nf6 25.Qh1 Bxg2 26.Qxg2 Qxa4 27.Ra1 cxb4 28.Bxd4 Qxa5 29.Be3 Qb5 30.Nc1 a5 31.Nd3 Nd5 32.Rac1 e4 33.Nc5 Nxe3 34.fxe3 Rad8 35.Nxe4 Rxd1 36.Rxd1 Rxe4 37.Qxe4 0-1

CANADIAN OPEN (July 11-19)

This year's Canadian Open had a story-book ending as two Canadians tied for first despite the presence of several super-GMs in the field. GM Mark Bluvshstein and IM Edward Porper were the only players to win on the top boards in the last round, defeating FM Theo Hommeles and GM Surya Ganguly respectively to achieve scores of 7.5/9; Bluvshstein took the Canadian Open title on tiebreak. A half point back six players tied for third place, including GMs Alexei Shirov, Michael Adams, and Eugene Perelshteyn, IM Irina Kush, and FMs Jonathan Tayar and our own Jack Yoos. Jack had a slow start to his tournament but entered the winner's circle by beating Alberta champion FM Eric Hansen in the last round. The remaining GMs (Ganguly, Mikhalevski, Ni, Zhao, and Kovalyov) were among the thirteen who scored 6.5. As far as I am aware a list of prizewinners has yet to surface, but based on the pre-tournament advertising it appears a number of B.C. players won money. Apart from the already mentioned Jack Yoos, Noam Davies tied for fifth in the U2400 prizes (assuming such a prize existed - the tournament did not achieve the two hundred paid entrants the prize fund was based on), Tanraj Sohal tied for first in the U2200 category, and Richard Huang won the U2000 prize outright while Vlad Gaciu tied for second. Other notable B.C. scores: IM Leon Piatetski (6), FM Ian MacKay, Lucas Davies, and Eduardo Moura (5.5), and Edward Tang and Dezheng Kong (5 - strong Winnipeg connections in both cases).

As with the Victoria Festival, all reports indicate the tournament was a superlative event in terms of organization, playing site, side events, etc. This was due to the hard work of Chief Organizer Micah Hughey and Chief TD Vlad Rekhson and their collaborators. All website duties were

handled by Monroi, in addition a number of reports appeared on the Chessbase site. The last one, linked below, includes a short profile of Noam Davies, along with a PGN of available games from the event and links to all the other Chessbase reports.

Monroi site: <http://monroi.com/2009-canadian-open-chess-championship-home.html>

Last Chessbase report: <http://www.chessbase.com/newsdetail.asp?newsid=5604>

CFC crosstable: <http://www.chess.ca/xtable.asp?TNum=200907015>

Henry, Liam - Sohal, Tanraj [B33] CAN op Edmonton (7), 17.07.2009

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 Be6 9.Nc4 Rc8 10.Ne3 Be7 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.Ncd5 Bg5 13.g3 Ne7 14.Nxe7 Bxe7 15.c3 Bg5 16.Nd5 0-0 17.Bg2 Rc5 18.Nb4 Bc4 19.Bf1 a5 20.Nd3 Bxd3 21.Bxd3 d5 22.0-0 d4 23.f4 Bf6 24.c4 Qd7 25.Kg2 Be7 26.b3 f6 27.Qe2 Bd6 28.f5 Rcc8 29.g4 Kf7 30.g5 Ke7 31.Qh5 Rh8 32.Rf3 Qe8 33.Qg4 Bc5 34.Kh1 Qf7 35.Rg1 h6 36.gxf6+ gxf6 37.Rfg3 b6 38.R1g2 Rcf8 39.Kg1 h5 40.Qh4 Rfg8 41.Rg6 Rxc6 42.Rxc6 Rh7 43.Kf2 Rg7 44.Qxh5 Rh7 45.Qg4 Rxh2+ 1/2-1/2

MacKay, Ian - Gerzhoy, Leonid [D00] CAN op Edmonton (8), 18.07.2009

1.d4 d5 2.Bg5 Nd7 3.c4 dxc4 4.e4 Nb6 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Nc3 g6 7.h3 Bg7 8.Qd2 h6 9.Bf4 c6 10.a4 a5 11.Be2 Be6 12.0-0 g5 13.Bh2 0-0 14.Rad1 Nfd7 15.g4 f6 16.Qe3 Bf7 17.h4 Qc8 18.hxg5 fxg5 19.Bg3 Be6 20.Nh2 Bf7 21.Kg2 c5 22.Nf3 cxd4 23.Nxd4 Qc5 24.Rh1 Bxd4 25.Rxd4 e5 26.Rd2 Qxe3 27.fxe3 Kg7 28.Rd6 Bg6 29.Rhd1 Rf7 30.Re6 Rf6 31.Bxc4 Nxc4 32.Rxd7+ Rf7 33.Ree7 Raf8 34.Rxb7 Nxe3+ 35.Kh3 Rxe7 36.Rxe7+ Rf7 37.Bxe5+ Kh7 38.Rxf7+ Bxf7 39.Bc7 Nc4 40.b3 Nd2 41.Bxa5 Bxb3 42.Bc7 Nxe4 43.Nxe4 Bxa4 44.Ng3 Kg6 45.Nh5 Bd1 46.Be5 Be2 47.Bg7 Bd1 48.Bf8 Be2 49.Ng3 Bd1 50.Ne4 h5 51.gxh5+ Bxh5 52.Be7 Bd1 53.Nxg5 Kf5 54.Kg3 Bh5 55.Nh3 Be8 1/2-1/2

Sohal, Tanraj - Gardner, Robert [E33] CAN op Edmonton (8), 18.07.2009

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 Nc6 5.Nf3 d6 6.Bd2 0-0 7.a3 Bxc3 8.Bxc3 Qe7 9.e4 e5 10.d5 Nb8 11.Nd2 Nh5 12.g3 f5 13.0-0-0 fxe4 14.Nxe4 Bg4 15.Be2 Bxe2 16.Qxe2 Nf6 17.f4 Nxe4 18.Qxe4 Nd7 19.fxe5 dxe5 20.d6 cxd6 21.Qd5+ Rf7 22.Qxb7 Qg5+ 23.Kb1 Nb6 24.Qe4 Rc8 25.Rxd6 Nxc4 26.Rc6 Rxc6 27.Qxc6 Qf5+ 28.Ka2 Ne3 29.Re1 Rf6 30.Qe8+ Rf8 31.Qxe5 Qf7+ 32.b3 Ng4 33.Qe2 Qf2 34.Bb2 Nxh2 35.Qc4+ Kh8 36.Re7 Rg8 37.Qc7 1-0

Yoos, Jack - Hansen, Eric [B42] CAN op Edmonton (9), 19.07.2009

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Nf6 6.Qe2 d6 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.c4 g6 9.Nb3 Bg7 10.Bf4 Qe7 11.Nc3 0-0 12.Qd2 Rd8 13.Rad1 e5 14.Bg5 Nb6 15.Rc1 Be6 16.Na5 Rdc8 17.b3 h6 18.Be3 Nbd7 19.Nxb7 Ng4 20.Nd5 Qh4 21.h3 Nxe3 22.Qxe3 Bf8 23.Na5 Rab8 24.a3 h5 25.b4 Kh7 26.Rc2 Bh6 27.Qf3 Rf8 28.Nc7 Qd8 29.Nxa6 Ra8 30.c5 Nxc5 31.Nxc5 dxc5 32.Rxc5 Qd4 33.Rd1 Qb2 34.Bc4 Rad8 35.Rxd8 Rxd8 36.Bxe6 Qb1+ 37.Kh2 Bf4+ 38.g3 Rd3 39.Ba2 Qxa2 40.Qxd3 Qxf2+ 41.Kh1 Be3 42.Qd1 Bxc5 43.bxc5 Qxc5 44.Qe1 Qxa3 45.Nc4 Qc5 46.Qe2 Qd4 47.h4 Kg7 48.Kg2 Kg8 49.Nd2 Qb2 50.Kf2 Qd4+ 51.Qe3 Qb2 52.Ke2 Qa1 53.Qc5 Qb2 54.Qd5 Qc3 55.Nf3 Qb2+ 56.Kf1 Qa1+ 57.Kg2 Qb2+ 58.Qd2 Qa1 59.Ng5 Qa6 60.Qb2 Qc4 61.Qb8+ 1-0

STEPHEN FRANCIS SMITH AND THE FOUNDING OF FIDE

This month FIDE celebrates its eighty-fifth birthday. In 1924, in conjunction with the Olympic Games in Paris, a chess team event was organized. Unlike future chess olympiads, this event followed the ideals and organization of the Olympic Games: only non-professionals were allowed to take part, and everyone competed as an individual, the number of players on a "team" being variable. Dr. Stephen F. Smith played in the tournament as the sole representative of Canada; he scored only one draw in his qualifying group, but did respectably well in the Consolation Final. The winner of the Championship Final was Hermanis Matisons of Latvia - details at [Olimpbase](#).

During the event meetings and discussions took place with regard to the formation of an International Chess Body. The Federation was duly inaugurated at the end of the Paris tournament, with fifteen countries signing the roll on July 20th, 1924 as first members; Dr. Smith signed on behalf of Canada. The other countries were Argentina, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Great Britain, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia. The first president was Dr. Alexander Rueb of Holland, who had lost to Smith in the Consolation Final. I have yet to determine by whose authority Dr. Smith represented Canada in the competition and signed the FIDE charter.

According to obituaries in the *British Chess Magazine* (BCM) and the [London] *Times*, Doctor Stephen Francis Smith died in London on May 12th, 1928, at age sixty-seven. This would place his date of birth around 1861. Census records give his place of birth as Ontario, Canada; he had a younger sister who was born in Seaforth in 1870. It is almost certain he was the son of the Doctor William R. Smith of Seaforth who played in the first completed Canadian Championship in 1873; presumably Stephen's introduction to chess was via his father. Sometime in the mid-1870s Smith's family emigrated to London, England. Following in his father's profession Smith trained as a doctor, eventually becoming a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons and a Licentiate of the Apothecaries' Society, the normal qualifications to be a general practitioner at the time. However, census records describe both Smith and his father as homeopathic medical practitioners, this at a time when considerable friction and antagonism existed between the traditional medical community and homeopathy.

Little else is known for certain about the rest of Smith's life; his profession would have made him a man of means, which allowed him to travel fairly frequently in later life. He visited both Ostende and Paris for tournaments, and seems to have left the British Isles for much of the duration of World War One. This time he appears to have spent in North America. Perhaps he still had family in Ontario, but it is known Smith was in Vancouver from late 1914 till at least April 1915, and was also in Southern California in 1917.



The City of London Chess Club team which fought a team from Yorkshire in a radio match, played December 18th, 1897. The umpire was Leopold Hoffer (standing, second from the left), Joseph Blackburne was the referee (standing at the right), Dr. Smith is seated, second from the right. On the evidence of this photo he was a large, imposing man.

As a chessplayer Dr. Smith was a strong amateur who was bested by the lower echelon of professional masters. For example, Smith often played in the British Championship but nearly always in one of the minor sections; he played several times at Hastings but never in the Premier. The Minor "Tourney" of the 1899 London International is typical - Smith scored 50% to finish seventh out of twelve, behind the likes of Marshall, Marco, and Mieses. A long-time member of the City of London Chess Club (he joined in 1887), Smith won its championship in 1895 and placed second in 1905-06. His best individual games were wins against a young Max Euwe in the 1919 Hastings Victory Congress and Vera Menchik at Hastings 1927-28; at his worst he suffered from the tactical oversights which John Nunn believes were a common feature of play in that era.

Dr. Smith's first B.C. mention was in the [Vancouver] *Daily News Advertiser* of December 6th, 1914, which noted he would give a simultaneous exhibition on the following Wednesday at the Vancouver Chess Club. Smith went on to win the club championship in the spring of 1915, along with giving a lecture on endings (February 2nd) and drawing with Frank Marshall in a Vancouver simul by the latter on February 17th. After this he seems to have left B.C.: there is no further mention of his presence in local sources.

However, this does not end his associations with Canada. At the end of 1920 the BCM reported that a match for the "championship of Canada has been arranged between Sidney E. Gale, the

Canadian champion, and Dr. S.F. Smith, late champion of Vancouver and ex-champion of the City of London Chess Club, England." The match was to be the best score out of nine games, draws excluded. Gale lived in Hamilton; if Dr. Smith still had relatives in Ontario, this may explain how the match came to take place. In any event, the match was abandoned after each player had scored one victory, "Mr. Gale being obliged to withdraw because of business reasons." [*Victoria Daily Colonist*, February 6th, 1921]

Smith, Stephen Francis - Holloway, Elizabeth [C64] Paris f-B Paris (2), 1924

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5 4.Nxe5 Bxf2+ 5.Kxf2 Nxe5 6.d4 Ng6 7.Nc3 N8e7 8.Rf1 c6 9.Bd3 d5 10.Be3 0-0 11.Kg1 f5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Nxd5 cxd5 14.c3 Be6 15.Qh5 Qd7 16.Rae1 Nh8 17.Bf4 g6 18.Qd1 Nf7 19.Qd2 Nd6 20.Bxd6 Qxd6 21.Re5 Kg7 22.Rfe1 Rae8 23.Bb5 Bd7 24.Rxe8 Rxe8 25.Rxe8 Bxb5 26.Re5 h5 27.Qg5 Kf7 28.h3 Bc6 29.Qf4 Qf6 30.b3 b5 31.Re3 Qd8 32.g4 hxg4 33.hxg4 Bd7 34.Qd6 fxd4 35.Qxd5+ Kg7 36.Qd6 Kf7 37.c4 bxc4 38.bxc4 1-0

Smith, Stephen Francis - Duchamp, Marcel [B03] Paris f-B Paris (4), 1924

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.f4 dxe5 5.fxe5 Bf5 6.c3 e6 7.Bd3 Bxd3 8.Qxd3 Nc6 9.Nf3 Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nbd2 f6 12.Ne4 fxe5 13.Neg5 Bxg5 14.Nxg5 Rxf1+ 15.Kxf1 Qf6+ 16.Kg1 Qf5 17.Ne4 g6 18.Bh6 exd4 19.Rf1 Qh5 20.Qd2 dxc3 21.bxc3 Ne5 22.h3 Nf7 23.Be3 Qh4 24.Nc5 Nxe3 25.Qxe3 Qg5 26.Qf2 Qe7 27.Nxb7 Nd6 28.Nc5 e5 29.Re1 Rf8 30.Qe2 Re8 31.Ne4 Kg7 32.Qf2 Nxe4 33.Rxe4 Qa3 34.Qe3 Qa5 35.c4 Qxa2 36.Rh4 h5 37.g4 Qb1+ 38.Kh2 Qc2+ 39.Kg3 Qxc4 40.gxh5 Qe6 41.hxg6 Rh8 42.Rxh8 Qxg6+ 43.Kh2 Kxh8 44.Qxa7 Qc2+ 45.Kh1 Qe4+ 46.Kh2 Qf4+ 47.Kh1 e4 48.Kg2 Kg7 49.Qd4+ Kh7 50.Qd7+ Kh6 51.Qe6+ Kg7 52.Qe7+ Kh6 53.Qe6+ Kg5 54.Qe7+ Kf5 55.Qc5+ Ke6 56.Qc6+ Ke7 57.Qc5+ Qd6 58.Qg5+ Kd7 59.Qf5+ Qe6 60.Qb5+ c6 61.Qb7+ Kd6 62.Qb8+ Kc5 63.Qa7+ Kd5 64.Qa2+ Kd6 65.Qd2+ Qd5 66.Qf4+ Kc5 67.Qc1+ Qc4 68.Qa3+ Kd5 69.Qa5+ c5 70.Qd8+ Kc6 71.h4 Qe2+ 72.Kg3 Qf3+ 73.Kh2 Qf4+ 74.Kh3 e3 75.Qe8+ Kd5 76.Qd7+ Ke4 77.Qc6+ Kd4 78.Qa4+ c4 79.Qd1+ Ke4 80.Qb1+ Kd4 81.Qb2+ Kd3 82.Qb1+ Ke2 83.Qb2+ Ke1 84.h5 Qf3+ 85.Kh4 Qf2+ 0-1

UPCOMING EVENTS

UBC Thursday Night Swiss

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre room 191, 1961 East Mall, University of British Columbia

Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca

Lighthouse Country Chess Tournament

August 15, Bowser

Details: <http://bowserchess.pbworks.com/2009-Lighthouse-Country-Chess-Tournament>

2009 Langley Chess Club Open

September 5-7 (Labour Day long weekend), Langley

Details: <http://www.langleychess.com/>

September Active I

September 13, Vancouver Bridge Centre

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#SepActive1>

September Active II

September 27, Vancouver Bridge Centre

Details: <http://chess.bc.ca/events.shtml#SepActive2>

B.C. Championships Active Fundraiser

September 27, Victoria Chess Club

Details: <http://victoriachessclub.pbworks.com/BC-Championships-Active-Fundraiser>