

# BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #232

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](mailto:swright2@telus.net)) or sign up via the BCCF webpage ([www.chess.bc.ca](http://www.chess.bc.ca)); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

---

## HERE AND THERE

### Tradewise Gibraltar Festival (January 22 - February 2)

Now in its tenth year, the Gibraltar Festival has grown from humble beginnings into one of the most prominent international opens on the circuit. As far as I am aware the only Canadian in the festival is Leon Piasetski, who had a win and a loss heading into the third round. [Tournament website](#)

### John Schleinich Memorial (January 20-22)

Held in Calgary, this tournament commemorating the life of organizer and arbiter John Schleinich consisted of eight six-player round robins. The lone B.C. participant, Doug Sly, was the lowest-rated in Section F but nevertheless finished fourth with 2.0/5. [Tournament website](#)

### Canadian Junior (January 5-8)

The hometown advantage proved decisive in the Canadian Junior, as Calgarians David Zhang and Regina-Veronicka Kalaydina won their respective sections, thus qualifying for the World Junior later this year. David was only ranked fifth going into the competition, but overcame his higher-rated peers to take first with an undefeated 6.5/7 score. Richard Wang was second and former champion Shiyam Thavandiran third. B.C. representatives Jason Cao and John Doknjas finished with 3.0 and 2.5 points each. In the Girls' Section Regina-Veronicka Kalaydina out-rated the rest of the field by a wide margin and was an unsurprising winner, although she was nicked for a draw by second ranked Melissa Lee. However, Melissa had been beaten in the first round by Victoria's Jill Ding, which meant Jill finished second overall by half a point. [Tournament website](#)

### **Cao, Jason - Doknjas, John [B90] CAN jun Calgary (5), 07.01.2012**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.f3 Be7 9.Qd2 0-0 10.0-0-0 Nbd7 11.g4 b5 12.g5 b4 13.Ne2 Ne8 14.h4 a5 15.Kb1 a4 16.Nbc1 Nb6 17.Ng3 d5 18.Bxb6 Qxb6 19.exd5 Rd8 20.Bd3 Rxd5 21.h5 Nd6 22.Rdg1 a3 23.Nb3 axb2 24.g6 Nc4 25.Qe2 Na3+ 26.Kxb2 Rxd3 27.Qxd3 Rd8 28.gxh7+ Kh8 29.h6 g6 30.Qe4 Qc7 31.Ne2 Bf5 32.Qe3 Nc4+ 33.Kb1 Nxe3 0-1

### **Lee, Brendon - Cao, Jason [B92] CAN jun Calgary (6), 07.01.2012**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be6 8.Be2 Nbd7 9.Qd2 b5 10.a3 Be7 11.Rd1 Qc7 12.0-0 0-0 13.f3 Rfc8 14.Rc1 Nb6 15.Bxb6 Qxb6+ 16.Kh1 Bc4 17.Rfd1 h6 18.Bd3 Rd8 19.Qe2 Rac8 20.Nd2 Be6 21.Nf1 Nh5 22.g3 Nf6 23.Ne3 Re8 24.a4 b4 25.Ncd5 Bxd5 26.exd5 a5 27.Bb5 Red8 28.Nc4 Qa7 29.b3 Nh7 30.f4 exf4 31.gxf4 Bf6 32.Rd3 Nf8 33.Rg1 Ng6 34.Qf1

Qc5 35.Rg2 Nh4 36.Re2 Nf5 37.Qh3 Nd4 38.Rg2 Kh8 39.Ne3 Nxb5 40.Nf5 Re8 41.Rd1 Qc3 42.Rg3 Re1+ 43.Rxe1 Qxe1+ 44.Rg1 Qe4+ 0-1

### **Northern California International** (January 2-8)

Leon Piasetski finished with 4.0/9 in this norm event in Fremont, California. Overall winner was Sam Shankland on 7.0, while Alejandro Ramirez, Josh Friedel, and Marc Arnold tied for second. Of the other Canadians, Michael Kleinman scored 4.5 and Dale Haessel 2.0. [Tournament website](#)

### **Piasetski, Leon - Rabin, Evan [B38] Northern California int Fremont (5), 05.01.2012**

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.Nc3 g6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7 6.e4 d6 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Be3 Ng4 10.Bxg4 Bxg4 11.Qd2 Bd7 12.Rad1 Ne5 13.b3 Ng4 14.Bg5 h6 15.Bh4 Bxd4 16.Qxd4 e5 17.Bxd8 exd4 18.Be7 Rfe8 19.Nd5 Bc6 20.Bxd6 Rxe4 21.f3 Re6 22.Bc5 Ne3 23.Nc7 Nxd1 24.Rxd1 Rd8 25.Nxe6 fxe6 26.Rxd4 Rxd4 27.Bxd4 a6 28.Kf2 Kf7 29.h4 Ke7 30.Bg7 h5 31.Be5 Be8 32.Ke3 Kd7 33.Kd4 Kc6 34.Bf4 b5 35.c5 a5 36.Bd6 e5+ 37.Kxe5 Bd7 38.Kf6 Bf5 39.g4 hxg4 40.fxg4 Bb1 41.a3 b4 42.axb4 axb4 43.h5 gxh5 44.gxh5 1-0

---

### **KARACSONYI OPEN** (December 27-31, 2011) by Michael Yip

Szepes, Tamas and Cserba, Andras won with 6.0/7 in the fiercely contested tournament. I managed to scrape through with a modest 4.5/7 after a silly scheduling mishap. I just couldn't finish off my lower rated opponents with any reliability to get a performance in line with my initial seeding.

No.	PNo.	Name	Score	WP	SB	PS	rat.	TPR	W-We
1.	3	Szepes, Tamas	6.0	31.0	25.75	25.0	2145	2289	+1.12
	4	Cserba, Andras	6.0	30.0	26.00	22.5	2131	2209	+0.66

All in all a great Xmas tournament. I made some new friends, entry fee was modest (2,500HUF/10.5 CAN/10.3 USD/8 EUR). I did get the Rakosliget team discount though. But really 10 CAN\$ for seven games of FIDE-rated chess is a true bargain! Seventy-two players took part with the top boards being fiercely contested. Players were quite serious with preparation even with two games per day. Even kids seem to bring laptops with them. Farkas, Richard has blossomed into a serious force (FIDE 2111) and was not out of place amongst the elite top board regulars.

### **Orosz, Andras - Yip, Michael [A85] Christmas Open (G/90) (3), 28.12.2011**

**1.d4 f5 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Nbd7 5.Nf3 g6 6.Qc2 e5?+/-** 6...Bg7 The fast e4 plan should not be feared. 7.e4 This was the plan I was afraid of. 7...Nxe4 (7...fxe4 8.Nxe4 c5 9.0-0-0 Qa5 10.Kb1 cxd4 11.Nxf6+ Nxf6 12.Rxd4 0-0 13.Bd3 e5 14.Rxd6 e4 15.Rxf6 Bxf6 16.Bxf6 exd3 17.Qc3 Qxc3 18.Bxc3 Bh3 19.Ne5 Bxg2 20.Ng4 Rf4 21.Nh6+ Kf8 22.Rg1 Rxf2 0-1 Ladron de Guevara,F-Lopez Martinez,J /Donostia 2008) 8.Nxe4 fxe4 9.Qxe4 The gaping hole on e6 is not as bad as I thought. 9...Nf6 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.Bd3 c5 with counterplay, 12.0-0 Qb6 13.dxc5 Qxc5 14.Rae1 0-0 15.Qe2 Qh5 16.Be4 Kh8 17.Qd2 Rb8 18.b3 b5 19.cxb5 Rxb5 20.Nd4 Rb6 21.Bf3 Qg5 22.Qxg5 Bxg5 23.Ne6 Bxe6 24.Rxe6 Rc8 25.Rd1 Rb5 26.g3 Rbc5 27.Re2 Kg7 28.Kg2 Bf6 29.Rd5 Rc2 30.Rdd2 Rc1 31.Bd5 R8c3 32.Bc4 g5 33.Rd5 Ra1 34.h3 Rcc1 35.Kf3 h5 36.Ra5 Rh1 37.Be6 Be5 38.Rxa7 Kf6 39.Bd7 Rhc1 40.Ra8 Rc7 41.Rf8+ Kg7 42.Rd8 0-1 (56) Degerman,L-Agrest,E /Sweden 1998 **7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Rd1 Bd6 9.Nd5 h6? 9...Be7+/- 10.Bxf6 Nxf6 11.c5 e4 12.Ng1?+/-** White is the first to miss a win. 12.Qc3!+- **12...Be5** Forced.



**13.Nb6?!** This wins the queen but now the chances pass to Black as White loses his active pieces. 13.Nf4 Nd7 14.Nxg6 Qf6 15.Nxh8 Bxb2 16.f4 Qc3+ 17.Qxc3 Bxc3+ 18.Kf2 Bxh8+/= **13...Qxd1+** Forced. **14.Qxd1 axb6=** White has undeveloped his army but Black has to strike quickly before White can get organized. **15.Qb3 Ke7?!+/=** Trying too hard. 15...bxc5=  
**16.e3 Bd7?+-** A subtle blunder. 16...bxc5+/= **17.Bb5?=-** Neither side notices the f4 plan the whole game. 17.f4! exf3 18.Nxf3 Ng4 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.cxb6 cxb6 21.Be2+-  
**17...c6?+/=** Too slow. 17...Bxb5 18.Qxb5 Rxa2 19.cxb6 Nd7 20.Qc4 Rxb2 21.Ne2 Nxb6 22.Qc1 Ra8-/+ **18.Be2?=-** Missing another promising chance. 18.f4! Bb8 (18...Bxf4 19.Bc4 b5 20.Bxb5 cxb5 21.exf4 Rxc8+/= ) 19.Be2 bxc5= **18...b5?+/=**

Better is 18...bxc5= ; 18...Be6? 19.Bc4 Bxc4 20.Qxc4 b5 21.Qb3 Nd7= **19.a3** 19.f4 Bc7 20.a3 Ba5+ 21.Kf2 Be6 22.Qc2 b4 unclear. **19...Be6 20.Qc2 b4!?**



Unclear. Pressing for the win. Black want to open lines for infiltration before White can get his kingside pieces out. **21.a4?--+** Allows the queenside to fall. Now Black is winning for the next ten exciting moves but does not come away with the full point. 21.Bc4 holds the balance. 21...Bxc4 22.Qxc4 bxa3 23.bxa3 Rxa3 24.Ne2 Ra1+ 25.Nc1 Rd8 26.0-0 Rd2= ; 21.Qc1 bxa3 22.bxa3 Nd7= **21...b3!** Cutting off the a-pawn with tempo. 21...Rhd8=/+ is also possible. **22.Qc1 Rxa4** **23.Nh3 Ra2!--+** 23...g5 is even stronger. 24.f4 exf3 25.gxf3 Ra2 26.0-0 Bxb2 27.Qe1 Be5 28.Nf2 Rd8--+ **24.Nf4 Bxb2--+** 24...Bf7! Also winning. 25.0-0 g5 26.Bc4 Bxb2 27.Ng6+ Bxg6 28.Qd2 Be5 29.Qb4 Rb8 30.Rb1 Ra1 31.Rxa1 Bxa1 32.Bxb3 Bf7 33.Bxf7 Kxf7--+ **25.Nxg6+ Ke8** 25...Kf7! is even stronger.

26.Nxh8+ Kg7 27.Qd2 Be5 28.f4 b2 29.0-0 b1Q 30.Rxb1 Rxd2 31.fxe5 Nd7 32.Bh5 Kxh8--+ Black emerges up a piece. **26.Qd2 Nd5--+** Winning but not the strongest. 26...Rg8--+; 26...Ba1--+ **27.0-0 Bc3--+** 27...Rg8 also wins and is possible best. 28.Bh5 Bc3 29.Qd1 Ra1 30.Qe2 b2--+ 31.Qc2 Nb4 32.Nf4+ Ke7 33.Qxc3 Rxf1+ 34.Kxf1 b1Q+--+ **28.Qd1 Rg8** **29.Bh5 b2?=-** Loses a vital tempo as the pawn does not need protection. 29...Ra1 should win. 30.Qe2 (30.Qxb3?? I plainly missed that the pawn could not be taken. 30...Rxf1+ 31.Kxf1 Nxe3+ 32.fxe3 Bxb3--+ ) 30...b2--+ **30.Qb3 Ra1**



**31.Qxb7?** Quickly played but should lose. 31.Nf4+ Ke7 32.Nxe6 Kxe6 33.Qxb7 Ke5=/+ **31...Kd8?=-** Missing the win. 31...Rxc6! was the last winning chance. Black simplifies down to a position where three minors and passed pawn on the seventh rank are stronger than the queen. 32.Bxg6+ Kf8! The only way to escape the perpetual. (32...Kd8 is only a draw. 33.Qb8+ Ke7 34.Bh5 (34.Qb7+? Kf6 35.Bh5 (35.Qb8 Nb4 36.Qh8+ Kxg6 37.Qxc3 Rxf1+ 38.Kxf1 b1Q+ 39.Ke2--+ ) 35...Rxf1+ 36.Kxf1 Nb4--+ ) 34...Be5 35.Qe8+ Kf6 36.Qg6+ Ke7 37.Qe8+= ) 33.Bxf5! (33.Qb8+ Kg7 34.Bh5 Nb4--+ ) 33...Bxf5 34.Qb8+ Kg7 35.Qb7+ Kf6 36.Qb3 (36.Qxc6+ Be6 37.Qb5 Bb4--+ ) 36...Bc8! (36...Rc1 also wins. 37.Qb8 Bc8 38.g3 Rxf1+ 39.Kxf1 Be5 40.Qb3 Ba6+ 41.Ke1 Bd3--+ )

37.Rd1 Ba6 ...Be2 cannot be stopped. 38.Qc2 (38.h3 Most other moves are met the same way. 38...Be2+) 38...Bd3! **32.Qb8+ Bc8 33.Qd6+ Bd7 34.Qb8+ ½–½**

---

## BACKTALK by Dan Scoones

Here we go again with a batch of positions from *The Encyclopaedia of Chess Middlegames: Combinations* (1980) – my favourite sourcebook for analytical errors and corrections. The first example comes from the game **A.Lukin-Y.Balashov, USSR 1967**. It is White to play and win.



Black's position was already uncomfortable, but his last move ...Qf6-e7 has given White the chance for a very dangerous attack involving a sacrifice of his queen for two rooks.

**1.Qxa6! bxa6 2.Nxc6 Qd7 3.Nxd8**



**3...Nxc3 4.Rxc3 Qxd8 5.Rdc1 Bd7 6.Bb7!** I'm pretty sure that Black had overlooked this clever shot. Both his king and his queen are vulnerable and there is just not enough time to get both of them off the back rank.

**6...g6 7.Rc8** In this hopeless position Black correctly resigned (1:0).

Let's go back to the position after White's move 3.Nxd8. Instead of 3...Nxc3?!, recapturing on d8 is a better defensive try.

**3...Qxd8 4.Bxa5 Qf8!?** ECM gave only 4...Qd7, which fails to 5.Bxd5 exd5 6.Re1!, forestalling ...Qe8 as a reply to White's next move Rc7. White wins after 6...h5 (there is nothing better) 7.Rc7 Qd8 8.Rc5 Qd7 9.Rec1 Bb7 10.Rc7 Qxa4 11.Bb6. The bishop is lost and the Black queen will be no match for White's remaining pieces.

**5.Rc5 Bd7** Unfortunately, Black must give up his d-pawn, but that must be better than losing his queen or getting mated.

### 6.Bxd5 exd5



Black has survived the first wave, but if White looks closely and thinks clearly he will surely find the second wave:

**7.b4! g5 8.b5!** Black cannot take this pawn: 8...axb5 9.axb5 Bxb5 10.Rxd5 Ba4 11.Ra1 Be8 12.Re1 and the Black bishop is not going to survive more than a couple of moves. And if Black doesn't take the b-pawn, look for it to land on the back rank sometime soon. Okay, I didn't say Black could save the game with 4...Qf8, but it was certainly a better try than 3...Nxc3?, giving White an extra tempo for doubling rooks on the c-file. In a position that is objectively lost, the defender's task is to find the strongest line of resistance. If he can do that consistently, the attacker may become demoralised, play inaccurately, and lose the greater part of his advantage.

Now for something a little more clear-cut. The next example comes from the game **M.Bartrina-T.Ghitescu, Olot 1974**. According to ECM, it is again White to play and win.



This one frustrated me because I actually set it up on the board, put 15 minutes on my clock, and played it for White just as one would do in a tournament game. I found the first move all right, but could not see a forced win no matter how hard I tried. I must be getting old... or there's something wrong with the diagram...

It was obvious that White's first move was going to be 1.Bg7!, clearing the back rank and threatening a deadly rook check on d8. Black is then very restricted in his choice of replies. In fact there are only two that do not lose immediately: 1...Bf2+ and 1...f6.

After 1...Bf2+ White cannot play 2.Kxf2? on account of 2...Rxb2+, when Black either mates quickly or simplifies to a winning endgame after 3.Rd2 Rxd2+ 4.Qxd2 Kxg7. Therefore White has to meet the bishop check with the move 2.Kf1. Black must then be careful. If he gives another check with 2...Bb5+, he loses control over the squares b2 and g2, allowing White to play a safe 3.Kxf2. This is in fact how the game went. Black tried 3...Qe2+ but resigned after 4.Kg3 Qxd1 5.Bh8! Qd6+ 6.Kf2, when Black must give up his queen to avoid mate.

Instead of 2...Bb5+?, Black should play 2...f6!, meeting the threat to his queen and also creating a flight square on f7 for his king.



This is where I got stuck in my efforts to solve the position and meet the stipulation. I just could not find a win for White here. If 3.Bh8 then 3...Bb5+ 4.Kxf2 Qe2+ 5.Kg3 Qe5+ and Black draws immediately. Repetition... perpetual check... call it what you like... it's still a draw.

The other thing I noticed after 1.Bg7 was that 1...f6 also draws, since there is an immediate transposition to the previous variations after 2.Bh8 Bf2+.

Time to look up the solution in *ECM*. There was absolutely no mention of the move ...f6, either immediately or after the preliminary 1...Bf2+. Yes, as Petrosian correctly observed, the books are full of mistakes.

So far we have seen an example where the defender could have prolonged the game (though perhaps not successfully), and an example where the defender could have forced a draw with best play. Now we're going to look at a position where the defender has a resource that actually turns the tables, one that the players and the later analysts failed to spot.



Our final example today comes from the game **J.Littlewood-L.Lengyel, Hastings 1963/64**. The stipulation in *ECM* is the same as before: White to play and win.

First, let's see the game continuation.

**1.Nxf4 gxf4 2.Qh5 Ng6 3.Rxf4 Bxb2** If 3...Rxe4 then 4.Rxf6! is decisive.

**4.Rxf7 Bd4+ 5.Kh1 Bg7 6.Bxg6 h6 7.Rxg7 Kxg7 8.Bxe8** Black's position is hopeless and he resigned a few moves later. Now let's peel back to the position after White's second move 2.Qh5.



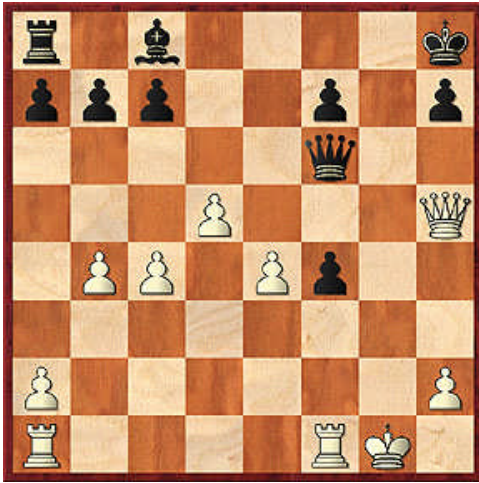
Does Black have something better than 2...Ng6? Yes, he does.

**2...Nf3+!** After this shot Black is threatening to capture the bishop on e4, killing off the mating attack. White has only one good reply.

**3.gxf3** The mate threat is back on so Black must continue to play actively.

**3...Rxe4!** Again White has only one reply – otherwise he loses a piece for no compensation.

**4.Bxf6+ Qxf6 5.fxe4**

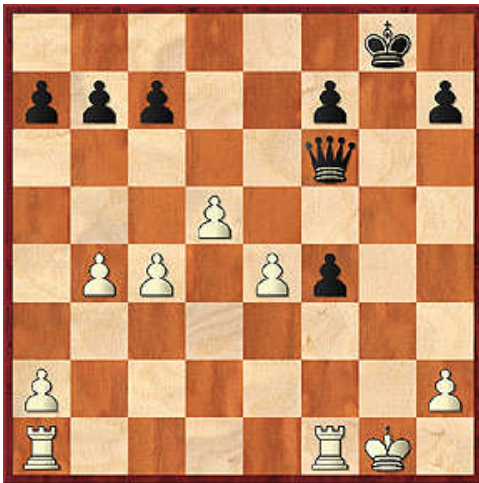


After a forced series of moves Black is down the exchange and apparently standing much worse. But in fact there is more ammunition left in the chamber!

**5...Bg4!** White's queen is trapped, so he is forced to take the bishop.

**6.Qxg4 Rg8!** The final key to the combination. Black pins and wins the White queen.

**7.Qxg8+ Kxg8**



The tables have been turned almost completely. Perhaps with best play White can defend this endgame and make a draw, but it is clear that Black has the advantage.

I hope the reader has enjoyed our latest mini-tour through the *Encyclopaedia of Chess Middlegames*. The moral is the standard one: do not take anything on trust!

## BC Active Championship 2012

Date: Saturday January 28 and Sunday January 29

Location: Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 East Broadway (at Kaslo), Vancouver

Rounds: 7, Bye available for Round 1 to 4 only

Round Times: Saturday Rd1: 11:00 Rd2 1:00 Lunch Rd3: 4:00 Rd4: 6:00 Sunday Rd 5 11:00

Lunch Rd6 1:30 Rd7 3:30



Type: Regular Swiss.

Time Controls: G/40 + 10 sec. increments or G/45.

Entry Fee: \$40 (If email by Thursday January 26th or \$45 on site)

Prizes: 1st \$400 (The 1st Prize is guaranteed) 2nd \$300 3rd \$150

BU2100 \$125

BU1900 \$125

BU1700 \$125

Upset \$50

Based on 35 entries.

The Vancouver Active rating will be used or the CFC regular.

Registration: On site at 10:00am or contact Luc Poitras at (778) 846-0496. Save \$5 on registration by email me your registration.

Email: [lucque@shaw.ca](mailto:lucque@shaw.ca)

Bring your chess set and clock if you have one. No membership required

---

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Junior**

<http://www.bcjuniorchess.com/calendar/>

<http://victoriajuniorchess.pbworks.com/Tournament-Schedule>

### **UBC Thursday Night Swiss**

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre room 158, 1961 East Mall, University of British Columbia entry fee \$21 adult, \$16 junior Contact Aaron Cosenza, [xramis1@yahoo.ca](mailto:xramis1@yahoo.ca)

For details of the following see [www.chess.bc.ca](http://www.chess.bc.ca)

**B.C. Active Championship** January 28-29, Vancouver Bridge Centre

**EAC Chess Arts Open #11** February 11-12, Surrey

**March Active** March 18, Vancouver Bridge Centre

**EAC Chess Arts Open #12** March 24-25, Surrey

**Grand Pacific Open** April 6-9, Victoria

**Paul Keres Memorial** May 19-21, Richmond

**Canadian Open** July 8-13, Victoria

**U.S. Open** August 4-12, Vancouver WA