

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #276

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

HERE AND THERE

Tradewise Gibraltar Chess Festival (January 27 – February 6)

Now in its twelfth year, the Gibraltar Chess Festival is regarded as one of the most important open tournaments on the international circuit. This year's Masters' section has ten players rated over 2700, headed by England's Michael Adams; also among the participants are the husband and wife team of Juan Bellon Lopez and Pia Cramling, pictured here with their daughter Anna. Readers may remember the family from the Western Canadian Open in 2004; since that time Anna has taken up chess, and indeed has just won a prize in one of the Amateur sections in Gibraltar ([Chessbase article](#)).



There are also a smattering of Canadians playing, including GMs Hansen and Spraggett, IMs Hambleton and Porper, and from this province Jason Kenney; in round five Jason won his first game against an IM in fine style, while the big Canadian news was Kevin Spraggett's demolition of former world championship challenger Nigel Short in twenty-two moves. The [tournament website](#) includes reports, photos, PGN files, live games and commentary, and masterclasses – well worth a visit.

Spraggett, Kevin – Short, Nigel [C72] Tradewise Gibraltar Chess Festival (4.14), 31.01.2014

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.0–0 Bd7 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 exd4 8.c3 dxc3 9.Nxc3 Na5 10.e5 Nxb3 11.axb3 Be7 12.Re1 Kf8 13.Bf4 Be6 14.Nd4 d5 15.Qf3 h5 16.h3 Ke8 17.Red1 Qd7 18.Ndxb5 Rb8 19.Nxd5 axb5 20.Nxe7 Qxe7 21.Ra8 Rc8 22.Qb7 1–0

Lederman, Leon - Kenney, Jason [B19] Tradewise Gibraltar Chess Festival (5.76), 01.02.2014

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.Nf3 Nd7 8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3
10.Qxd3 e6 11.Bd2 Ngf6 12.0-0-0 Be7 13.Qe2 0-0 14.Kb1 c5 15.c4 cxd4 16.Nxd4 Rc8 17.Bc3
Qc7 18.b3 a6 19.Bb2 Nc5 20.Nf3 b5 21.cxb5 axb5 22.Qxb5 Ra8 23.Rd2 Rfb8 24.Qc4 Qa5 25.Bd4
Nxb3 26.axb3 Qa3 27.Rc1 Rxb3+ 28.Bb2 Nd5 29.Kc2 Rxb2+ 30.Kd1 Bb4 31.Rxb2 Qxb2 32.Ne4
Rd8 33.Ned2 Bxd2 0-1

B.C. Active Championship (January 18-19)

Organized by Eugenio Alonso Campos at the Guru Angad Dev Elementary School in Surrey (the site of the Vancouver Open last Thanksgiving), this year's championship attracted twenty-two players but the result was the same: Mayo Fuentebella cruised through the tournament to claim the title of Active Champion for the fourth year in a row. His score of 7.5/8 was a full point ahead of second-placed John Doknjas, while a further half-point behind was James Chan who was alone in third. Other prize-winners were Joshua Doknjas and Eugenio Alonso Campos (U2000), Peter Yee, Luke Pulfer, and Brian Sullivan (U1700), Leo Qu (U1400), and Ryan Leong (1100). [Standings](#)

Seattle City Championship (January 10-12)

Local players Brian McLaren and Brian Sullivan took the opportunity to participate in the Seattle City Championship, a five-round Swiss in two sections held at the Seattle Chess Club on the second weekend of 2014. McLaren placed clear second in the Championship section, beating eventual winner Roland Feng but finishing behind him due to two draws and a half-point bye, while Sullivan scored 50% in the Reserve section. [USCF crosstables](#)

Vancouver Rapid Team Championship by Konstantin Pyryaev and Roman Jiganchine



After five rounds of the Vancouver Rapid Chess Team Championship two teams secured their participation in the final and two more have a comfortable advantage. Only if teams UBC and Wildcard will be demolished in last two rounds and team Vancouver Chess School-2 (VCS-students) or Chigorin-1 will win absolutely everything, then something can change in the standings. So far all matches finished with more or less predictable results, and we saw only a couple of upsets in some games, but not in matches.

VCS-1 and BC Juniors are leading in the regular season, and we have a big chance to see them not only in semi-finals, but also in the final battle as it was last year. Even the line-up of our juniors is very impressive; in the fifth round their team added even one more strong player - Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj. Leading VCS-1 has their own secret weapon for final matches - FM Maxim Doroshenko.

Everyone who will not be able to play in the final match is welcome to participate in a blitz tournament at same time with the final, which is scheduled for April 13th. Current standings, schedule, results and archive of last season are available on web-site www.VancouverRapid.ca

B.C. Open (February 8-10)

A friendly reminder to those who are intending to play in the B.C. Open (coming up on the Family Day weekend) but who have yet to enter: the last deadline for early bird registration is Wednesday, February 5. After that date the price of admission will be \$15 extra, so save yourself some money and register early. [Tournament website](#)

BROWSING FOR ENDGAMES by Dan Scoones

In this instalment we will look at two more bishop and pawn endings that were misplayed by the defending side just when the draw was at hand. Sad... but that's how things go sometimes.



White to play

Our first example comes from the game **A. Muir – A. Hambleton, Reykjavik Open 2013**. Black is a pawn up, but the presence of bishops of opposite colour presages a draw. Black's main trump is his outside pawn majority on the queenside. In chess, as in bridge and in life, you must use your trumps.

32.Bd5 f5 33.g4

Interesting is 33.f3 e3 34.Kf1 f4 although after 35.Bc6 b4 36.Ke2 Kg6 37.gxf4 Kf5 38.Be8 Kxf4 39.h4 Kg3 40.h5 a draw is the likely result.

33...Kf6 34.gxf5 Kxf5 35.Bc6 b4 36.Kf1 Ke5 37.Ke2 Kd4 38.h4 h5 39.Be8 Be7 40.Bxh5 a4 41.Bf7 Bxh4

The exchange of pawns on the kingside has brought White a step closer to making a draw.

42.Be6 Bg5 43.Bf7 Kc3 44.Bd5 Kb2 45.Ke1



One last trick

Black's pieces have attained maximum activity. There is nothing to be gained by further manoeuvring, so he plays his last trick and hopes for the best.

45...b3!? 46.axb3 a3!? 47.b4 a2 48.Bxa2 Kxa2

White has been forced to give up his bishop, but that does not mean he is losing.

49.Ke2 Kb3



The losing moment

50.f3?

A serious error that is also rather difficult to understand. It was not too late for White to save the game: 50.b5! (passed pawns must be pushed) 50...Kc4 51.b6 Bf4 52.b7 Kd4 53.Ke1! and now: a) 53...Kc5 54.Ke2 Kc6 55.f3! (the right moment) 55...e3 56.b8Q Bxb8 57.Kxe3 and draws; or b)

53...Kd3 54.Kd1! Bd6 55.Ke1 Be5 56.Kd1 and, surprisingly enough, Black can make no progress. The text move gifts Black a protected passed pawn and with this asset in hand he soon forces White to resign.

50...e3 51.b5 Kc4 52.b6 Kd4 53.b7 Bf4 54.Kd1 Kd3 55.Ke1 Bg3+ 0-1

* * *

Our second example comes from the game **H. Catozzi – L. Joyner, Munich Olympiad 1958**. For many years Lionel Joyner (1932-2001) of Montreal was one of Canada's strongest masters. Besides the Munich Olympiad, he represented Canada in the first World Junior Championship in 1951 (won by Borislav Ivkov) and in the Hollywood international tournament of 1952 (won by Svetozar Gligoric). In 1961, Joyner was crowned Canadian Champion at Brockville ON, and he was runner-up in the 1965 championship in Vancouver.



White to play

White is a pawn down, but his pieces are active and he has prospects of counterplay against Black's kingside. Black for his part gets right to the task of creating a passed pawn on the queenside.

**44.f4 Ka5 45.f5 Bd7 46.Kf4 b5 47.cxb5
Bxb5 48.Bc2 Bc4 49.e5 dxe5+ 50.Kxe5 Bb3
51.Be4 Kb5**



The losing moment

So far so good – for both players. But now White goes seriously wrong.

52.Kf6?

As in the previous example, the losing error is rather difficult to understand. White should not allow the exchange of his dangerous f-pawn but should instead play 52.f6! when he is drawing easily: 52...Be6 (not 52...c4? 53.Kd4 and *White* is winning!) 53.Bc2!. With this move White attacks the a-pawn and also threatens 54.h5 followed by hxg6 and Bxg6. Black can make absolutely no progress in that case, but after the unfortunate text move he is winning by force because his c-pawn advances with tempo.

52...c4 53.Kxf7 gxf5!

Perhaps White overlooked this move.

54.Bxf5 c3+ 55.Kf6 c2 56.Bxc2 Bxc2 57.Ke5 Kc4 58.h5 Kb3 59.Kd4 Bb1 0–1

Learning to handle bishop and pawn endings properly is like getting to Carnegie Hall: practice, practice, practice!

* * *

Please send all feedback on this column to dscoones@telus.net.

COMMISSION ON THE UNION CLUB, ELKS CLUB, EUREKA CLUB, CHESS CLUB, PLAYGOERS CLUB AND RAILWAY PORTERS' CLUB

In 1905 a commission was established to investigate the activities of various clubs, the City of Vancouver alleging that the clubs were not carrying out "any objects contemplated by the Benevolent Societies Act or Charitable Associations Act, but are being conducted in a manner adverse to the intention of the said statutes."

In his report of September 29, 1905, Commissioner Hugh Archibald MacLean (Deputy Attorney-General) had the following to say about the Vancouver Chess Club:

"This Club was incorporated under the Benevolent Societies Act in September, 1901. Notice of the incorporation appears in the Gazette of the 19th of September 1901. The objects of the association were stated to be to promote social intercourse, rational recreation and good fellowship among the members. According to the evidence of Mr. Sass, who has been secretary of this Club since it was first organized, the Club has been practically out of existence for a year and a half. On the 13th of June, 1905, thirteen men were convicted, in the Vancouver Police Court, of gambling in the Chess Club rooms. It appears that in March, 1904, the Club had ceased to occupy the rooms in question and had practically gone out of existence.

The evidence presented before the commission, however, convinced me that gambling was extensively carried on at the Chess Club rooms while the Club was in existence. One witness testified that, before March, 1904, the Club was frequented by all classes of men and by men of

different races, such as Chinese, Japanese, and Negroes. The same witness, who was made use of by the police to obtain information as to the character of these clubs, states that games, such as poker and blackjack, were generally played, and that, although he frequently visited the place, he never saw a chess board there. I would recommend that the charter of this Club be revoked and that the society or association be dissolved."

[From the original report, now in the B.C. Archives. We hasten to add that this report in no way reflects on the other entities which have held the name 'Vancouver Chess Club' since 1905!]

BI-WEEKLY BAFFLER by Valer Eugen Demian



Baffler #21:

After a game featuring an interesting theoretical battle between two GMs Black resigned: 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 Nxe4 4.Bd3 d5 5.Nxe5 Nd7 6.Nxd7 Bxd7 7.O-O Bd6 8.c4 c6 9.cxd5 cxd5 10.Nc3 Nxc3 11.bxc3 O-O 12.Qh5 g6 13.Qxd5 Qc7 14.g3 Be6 15.Qf3 Qxc3 16.Rb1 Qxd4 17.Be4 Qc4 18.Bb2 Be7 19.Rfc1 Qxa2 20.Rc7 Bd8 21.Rxb7 Rc8 22.Qe3 f6 23.Ra1 Qc4 24.Rc1 Qa2 25. Rxc8 Bxc8 26.Rxa7 Qe6 27.Ba3 1-0 Can you figure out why he did that instead of playing on?

#20 Answer



The small but hugely relevant detail is White's attack is faster/ more direct. The simple 1.Rg3!! decides the game. A one square shorter move and commendable restraint against the urge to give a check; now Black will be mated regardless:

1...Qc7 2.Qxg6+ Kh8 3.Rh3+ Qh7 4.Qxh7#
 1...Rc7 2.Qxg6+ Kh8 3.Rh3+ Rh7 4.Qxh7#
 1...Rg8 2.Rh3+ Kg7 3.Qf6#
 1...Rf6 2.Rh3+ Kg8 3.Qxf6 Qf8 4.Rh8#

UPCOMING EVENTS

UBC Thursday Night Blitz (note the change of format)

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Henry Angus Building, University of British Columbia
Entry fee \$10+, depending on number of players and whether rated or not
Contact Aaron Cosenza, xramis1@yahoo.ca, or see <https://www.facebook.com/UBCChess>

Vancouver Rapid Team Ch. 2013-14

September 2013 - April 2014
Details on web-site
www.VancouverRapid.ca

BC Open

February 8-10, 2014, Richmond
[Details](#)

February Active

February 23, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

March Active

March 16, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

Knightmare Hexagonals #5

March 29, Vancouver
[Details](#)

April Active

April 13, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

Grand Pacific Open

April 18-21, Victoria
[Details](#)

May Active

May 10, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

Keres Memorial

May 17-19, Richmond
[Details](#)

June Active

June 8, Vancouver Chess School
[Details](#)

B.C. Senior Championship

June 20-22, Surrey
[Details](#)