

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #306

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); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

HERE AND THERE

Millionaire Chess (October 7-12)

Back for a second year, Millionaire Chess is currently taking place in Las Vegas until next Tuesday. Organized into six sections (Open, U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600, Unrated), the main portion of the tournament is a seven-round Swiss to determine the top four in each section, who then participated in knockout playoffs to decide their final placing. For the Open section only, the remaining players finish the event with two extra Swiss rounds to make norms possible (usually nine rounds is the minimum necessary for a norm). There are a number of players from this province participating, including Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj, Jofrel Landingin, Severo Caluza, Doug Sly, Kai Wang, and Daniel Wang. [Tournament website](#)

October Active (October 4)



Maxim, Mayo and The Hat

It was business as usual for Mayo Fuentebella, who racked up yet another first prize in an active event with a perfect 6.0/6 score. Second was the only other player over 2000, Brian McLaren, while Maven Zheng and Jofrel Landingin tied for third. Top U1500 was Kai Wang, Brandon Zhu came second and third place was split between Ping Yu and Brian Butchart. In the junior active Jerry Wang, Angelina Yang, and Bruce Zheng, while medals were won by (deep breath) Bill Wang, Matthew He, Veronica Guo, Andrew Xu, Jim Jiang, Terry Xu, Jenny Jiang, Vincent Guo, Stanley Jiang, Jacky Tang, Emily Warman, and Justin Zhao. A total of thirty-eight players participated in the two sections. Watch for the next active coming up on November 1. [Standings](#)

Vancouver West Open #7 (September 26-27) by Joe "Throwback" Roback



This month's West Vancouver Open was greeted by International Master Raymond Kaufman (2316 CFC). He won the guaranteed \$600 prize conceding, a single draw in the 5th round. This was Raymond's fourth tournament in BC: he placed clear second in the 2013 Keres and narrowly missed winning the Langley Open earlier this month. Raymond is the son of Grandmaster Larry Kaufman who is a celebrated author. It is always fun to see strong travelling players and we hope to see you again soon, Raymond.

The U1900 prize of the open section was awarded to VCS's highest rated student Kevin Low with 4.5 points. Ryan Leong earned the U1700 prize for \$100. Don't spend it all on candy, kids!

Connor Chai won the first place trophy and a lot of rating points for his perfect 6.0/6 result in the Junior 2-day event. Congratulations to our remaining trophy winners listed in order: Sherry Tian, Angelina Yang, Jenny Jiang, Jim Jiang, and medalist Samuel Taplin.

Our 1-day Junior section featured the eighteen kids and offered three trophies and a medal for any performance over 2.0. Veronica Guo and Johnny Zhou tied for 4 points out of 5. Veronica won on tie-breaks for the first place trophy and Johnny earned the second place trophy. Terry "Zhiren" Xu won the third place trophy on tiebreaks. The following players received medals for their performance: Vincent Guo, Jason Chen, Eric Zhang, Stanley Jiang, Pavni Santosh Lebade, Ray Zhang, Alvin Li, Kevin Liu, Baiobiaoboyong Guo, Matthew Ji, and Brian Shao. [Standings](#)

Finally, rather than focusing the drawn games from the titled masters, I thought I'd annotate an up-and-coming player who caught me off guard with a drawing resource. He also displayed excellent etiquette and over-the-board manner.

Chen, Daniel - Roback, Joe [B85] Vancouver West op #7 (2), 26.09.2015

[Joe Roback]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 I played a Najdorf last time but Daniel played a very capable English Attack (B90) so I decided to try a different move order. **5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Be2 Nf6 8.0-0 Be7 9.f4** I was hoping to alternate the move order to expose a weakness in preparation but White developed naturally. **9...d6** This takes away pesky e5 lines for White which guards my f6 Knight. **10.Bf3 0-0 11.Qe1 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 e5** Because this is a fork now, it takes away White's possibility to play f5 and decline the pawn break. **13.fxe5 dxe5 14.Qg3** This move caught me off

guard. It was reminiscent of a Tal game that I had seen as White. **14...Re8** It would have been nice if White captured the e-pawn. Though it is "hope-chess," ...Re8 is a useful move. **15.Kh1 Bc5** I figured that I should force a trade of White's good bishop for my less-exceptional one. **16.Bxc5 Qxc5 17.Be2 Kh8** This king move breaks the pin on the g-file and protects the vulnerable knight by guarding Rxf6. **18.Bd3 Be6** I was tempted to play b5 and fianchetto the bishop on b7. I felt it would give White counterplay on the queenside with an a-pawn break. **19.Rf3 Rad8 20.Rc1** This was an interesting choice. I felt that the a-rook could double on the f-file. There might be motifs of Rxf6. **20...Re7 21.Ne2 Red7 22.h3 Bc4** I wasn't too sure what to do here, to be honest. My engine recommends a bizarre re-routing of my knight to c5, targeting the d3 bishop. I was at less than 5 minutes with Daniel at more than 15 mins. **23.a3 Nxe4 24.Bxe4** I was happy to win a pawn here but it activated White's trapped bishop. **24...Bxe2 25.Qh4 g6**



26.Bxg6 Yup, a perpetual. This was worse than I thought. Props to Daniel and his coach... whoever he may be :) **26...fxg6 27.Qf6+ Kg8 28.Qe6+ Kg7 29.Qf6+ Kh6 30.Qh4+ Kg7 31.Qf6+ Kg8 32.Qe6+ Kg7 33.Qf6+ 1/2-1/2**

Victoria Active Fundraiser (September 26) by Roger Patterson

Twenty one players showed their support for the 10th annual Grand Pacific Open by turning out for a five-round active chess event on Saturday, September 26. \$327 was raised to help offset expenses for the [2016 Grand Pacific Open](#), to be held March 25-28, 2016. The tournament was hosted by Laith Bahjat, owner of the Cecilia Creek eatery in the Ramada Inn on Gorge Road. A convention room in this hotel will be the site for the 2015 Jack Taylor Memorial, November 14-15.

In addition to the local players, Frank O'Brien, who has recently re-located to B.C., made the trek from Nanoose Bay for the event and Levi Kirkby who was visiting friends in Victoria travelled here from Squamish. First place was shared by Jason Cao and Roger Patterson with 4.5 points over 5 rounds. Their individual encounter was a fourth round draw. Cliff Jones captured the U1700 trophy with 3.5 points followed by Bill Tate and Matthew Geng with 3 points each. The U1400 prize was taken by Fred Wissemann. Second place in the U1400 was shared between Garth Edgar and Anthony Xu.

Li Geng donated his time as tournament director, a much appreciated show of support. The event was organized by Roger Patterson and Paul Leblanc. [Report and standings](#)

B.C. Closed Field

The one hundredth B.C. Championship begins play tonight in Surrey – here are the competitors:

Jason Cao (defending champion)
James Chan (Langley Open)
John Doknjas (B.C. junior champion)
Joshua Doknjas (ratings list)
Harry Moore (ratings list)
Alfred Pechisker (ratings list)
Tanraj Sohal (B.C. Open)
Howard Wu (ratings list)

The Vancouver Open and B.C. Women's Championship will also be taking place at the same location, so there is plenty of chess to either play or watch. [Details](#)

BCBASE Supplement

It is now over eighteen months since BCBASE, the games database featuring B.C. players and content, was last updated. Many games have been played in that period, and over 1100 of these have been added to BCBASE. Rather than updating the full database at this time, these games are contained in a supplementary database, available via the [B.C. Chess History](#) website.

BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Opponent - Harper, Bruce [B06] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

1.e4 [0:03:00] 1...g6 [0:03:00] 2.h4 [0:02:51]



"Here's a move you don't see every day!" Actually, if you play enough on ICC, you probably will. The move has an honourable pedigree - Peter Biyiasas played 2.h4 against Duncan Suttles in the 1970 BC Championship and won. **2...d5!** [0:02:57] This is better than Suttles' 2...Bg7, and is even recommended in the notes to the Biyiasas-Suttles game (*Chess on the Edge* (Volume 1, page 165). Who knew? Not White, apparently. **3.e5** [0:02:50] **3...h5** [0:02:55] Black's idea is to save two tempos by not playing ...Bf7-g7-f8. **4.d4** [0:02:49] **4...Nh6** [0:02:52] A waiting move - Black wants White to play Nf3 so he can pin it withBg4, then play ...e6. It's probably fine to develop the c8 bishop to f5, but Black has to be careful that his bishop doesn't become a target. **5.c3** [0:02:48] White should

probably play 5.c4!, to take advantage of Black's slightly artificial development. **5...c5** [0:02:50] **6.Nf3** [0:02:47] **6...Bg4** [0:02:48] **7.Nbd2** [0:02:46] **7...e6** [0:02:46]



7...cxd4 was more ambitious, but Black is happy. He will exchange his g4 bishop for one of White's knights, and has natural pressure on d4. **8.Qb3!?** [0:02:39] An interesting idea, but probably bad. **8...Qb6!?** [0:02:35] **9.Bd3** [0:02:25] **9...Bxf3** [0:02:32] This exchange might be premature, as it lets White develop his c1 bishop. **10.Nxf3** [0:02:24] **10...c4** [0:02:25]



This was my idea when I exchanged on f3. I'm not claiming it is good. **11.Qa4+** [0:02:19] White decides to avoid exchanging queens on b6, because then he is too slow to stop ...b5-b4 (he has to spend a move saving his d3 bishop from attack, so he doesn't have time for a3 and Rb1). **11...Qc6** [0:02:22] **12.Bc2** [0:02:17] **12...b5** [0:02:19] **13.Qa5** [0:02:16] **13...Qb6** [0:02:10]



But it comes out the same, or does it? **14.b4?** [0:02:11] A mistake which costs White a pawn. **14...Qxa5** [0:02:05] **15.bxa5** [0:02:09] **15...a6** [0:02:04]



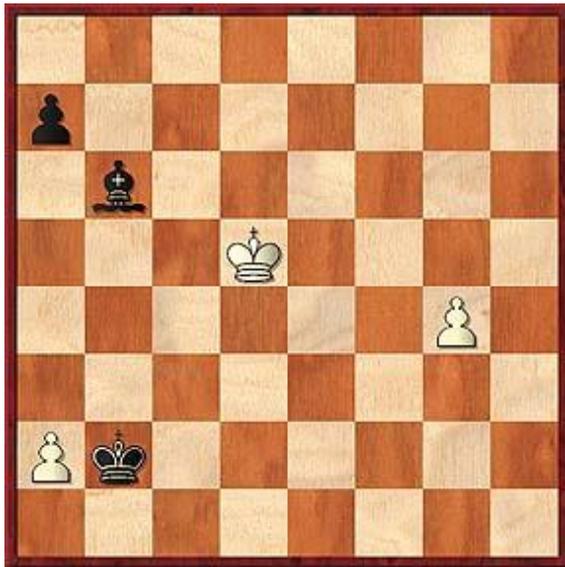
16.a4?! [0:02:07] This must have been White's idea, and if Black couldn't reply 16...b4 it would be positionally justified. But he can, so White just ends up with a bad game. **16...b4** [0:02:03] **17.cxb4** [0:02:06] **17...Bxb4+** [0:02:01] **18.Bd2** [0:02:06] **18...Bxd2+** [0:01:58] **19.Kxd2** [0:02:03] **19...Nc6** [0:01:57] **20.Rhb1** [0:02:01] **20...Nxa5** [0:01:52] **21.Rb6** [0:02:01] **21...0-0** [0:01:48] 21...Kd7 was better, but I wasn't sure if Black's king should work on evicting White's b6 rook or should defend the key f7 pawn from a possible Ng5, freeing Black's h6 knight. **22.Kc3** [0:02:00] **22...Rfc8** [0:01:43] **23.Rab1** [0:01:59] **23...Ng4!** [0:01:41]



The moment of truth, which brings us to the real point of the game. Here White thought for 27 seconds and saw only two options: abject retreat and loss of the b-file with 24.Rf1; or a suicidal attack with his king (the game continuation). In fact he could hang on with 24.Ng5!, threatening sacrifices on g6 and e6, followed by 25.Nh3. **24.Kb4?** [0:01:32] The start of a disastrous king walk. **24...Nc6+** [0:01:38] **25.Kc5?** [0:01:30]



White continues his plan. **25...Ncxe5+** [0:01:37] **26.Kd6** [0:01:29] There's no point in questioning this move - it was the whole idea of White's last few moves. **26...Rd8+** [0:01:18] **27.Kc7** [0:01:20]



Here is the moment where accuracy is required from Black. If she plays the obvious capture 5...Kxa2, then White will achieve a miracle draw after 6.g5! Bd8 7.g6 Bf6 8.Kc6!. Suddenly Black's one remaining pawn cannot be protected: 8...a5 9.Kb5 Bc3 10.g7 Bxg7 11.Kxa5, and despite being a piece up, Black cannot win. But in the diagram position a win is still possible, and Volpert is up to the task.

5...Ka3! With this move Black assures the survival of her important a-pawn. White's a-pawn will eventually be taken by force, so there is no need to take it right away. The remaining moves were: **6.g5 Bd8 7.g6 Bf6 8.Kc5 Ka4 9.Kc4 Ka5 10.Kc5 Ka6 11.Kc6 Bg7 12.Kc5 Kb7 13.Kb5 a6+ 14.Kc5 Kc7 15.Kd5 Kb6**

16.Kc4 a5 17.Kb3 Kb5 18.Ka3 Bf8+ 19.Kb3 a4+ 20.Kc3 Bg7+ 21.Kc2 Kb4 22.Kc1 Ka3 23.Kb1 Bf6 24.Kc2 Kxa2 25.Kc1 Kb3 0-1

Our second example is a little more complicated, but it illustrates the same important points.



A. Dreev – V. Artemiev, Nutcracker Classical, Moscow 2014

White to play

Despite the bishops of opposite colour, Black has a winning position. All he has to do is push his queenside pawns, win White's bishop for one of them, and then mop up. Alexei Dreev sees one last chance to distract his opponent Vladislav Artemiev from this program. **45.Be8!?** To understand the correct strategy in this ending, one must know three bits of endgame lore. The first is that a single bishop can make the advance of a passed pawn duo on the a- and b-files very difficult – even when they are supported by their own king – if it can operate from behind the pawns.

The second is that two unsupported, isolated pawns can be held up by a single bishop if it can operate along one diagonal. The third is that when both sides have passed pawns, the game often deteriorates into a straight race, either to promote a pawn or to capture the opponent's pawns.

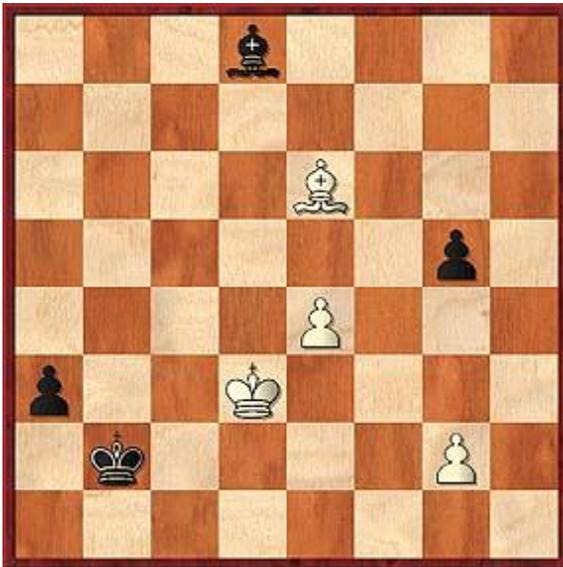
Black temporarily forgets these bits of lore, and decides to save his g-pawn from capture by White's bishop. But in the end the same g-pawn will become a target for White's king.

45...g5? Somewhat unbelievably, this natural move throws away the win. Correct was 45...a6!, protecting the b-pawn and allowing Black's king to advance to a3 and thereby take control of the key squares along the b-file. The game might continue 46.Bxg6 Ka3 47.Kc2 b4 48.Bf7 a5 49.g4 a4 50.g5 hxg5 51.hxg5 b3+ 52.Kb1 Kb4 53.g6 a3, and White is soon mated.

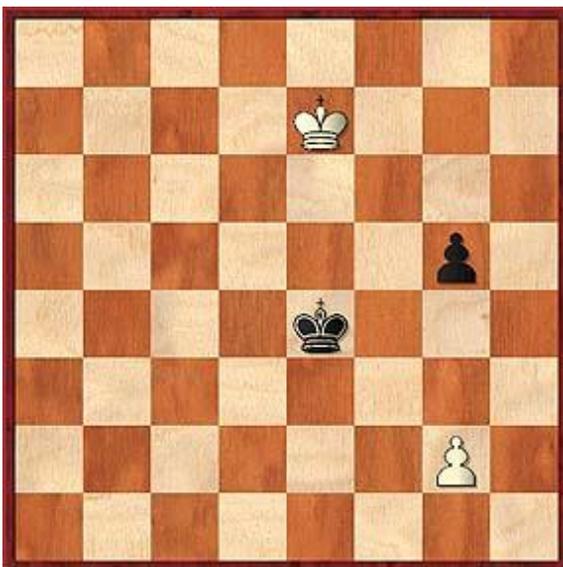
46.hxg5 hxg5 47.Bd7! a6



48.Bc8! An important device. White attacks the a-pawn and induces it to advance so that it no longer protects the b-pawn. **48...a5 49.Bd7! a4 50.Kd3 Ka5 51.Bg4 Kb6 52.Bd7 Kc5 53.Be8 Kb4 54.Bd7** The dance of White's bishop makes an artistic impression. **55...Kb3** The alternative 54...a3 is met by 55.Be6!, followed by 56.Kc2, taking control of b3 and stopping the two pawns in their tracks. After the move in the game Black will eventually win White's bishop for a pawn, but then he must contend with White's counterplay. **55.Bxb5 a3 56.Bc4+ Kb2 57.Bf7 Bf6 58.Be6 Be5 59.Bf7 Bf6 60.Be6 Bd8!?** Black too has one last trick up his sleeve.



61.Kd4! It was not too late to go wrong with 61.e5?, giving Black an extra tempo in the race to the base: 61...a2 62.Bxa2 Kxa2 63.Ke4 Kb3 64.Kd5 Kc3 65.Kd6 Kd4 66.e6 g4!, and Black wins. **62.Bxa2 Kxa2 63.Kd5 Kb3 64.Kd6 Kc4 65.Kd7 Kd4** Or 65...Bf6 66.Ke6 Bc3 67.Kf5 Bd2 68.e5 and Black must surrender his g-pawn in order to stop White's e-pawn. **66.Kxd8 Kxe4 67.Ke7**



Things might look a bit dangerous for White, but in fact he is drawing easily. **67...Kf5 68.Kf7 g4 69.Kg7 Kf4** Or 69...Kg5 70.g3! and Black can even lose if he is not careful, as the reader may verify. **70.Kg6 Kg3 71.Kg5 Kxg2 72.Kxg4** 1/2-1/2

B.C. CLOSED TRIVIA

Last issue we offered a trivia quiz, historical in nature, to focus attention on the centenary of the B.C. Championship and on our champions. Here are the answers.

1. name the three players who between them have won the most championships. **John Ewing (7), Miervaldis Jursevskis (6), Elod Macskasy (6)**
2. which champion was the youngest ever? **Jason Cao** at age 13
3. which champion was the oldest ever? **B.A. Yates** at age 71 (**Dragoljub Milicevic** is a close second)
4. when was the first championship won with a perfect score? **1920**

Which champions were born in

5. Glasgow? **Jack Taylor**
6. London? **W.E. Frank Fillery**
7. Manchester? **Max Enke**
8. San Francisco? **Duncan Suttles**
9. Athens? **Peter Biyiasas**
10. Montreal? **Colin Aykroyd**
11. Nazareth? **John Ewing**
12. Winnipegosis? **Bob Zuk**

13. which champion shares a birthday (day, not year) with Capablanca? **Peter Biyiasas**

14. which champion won the title on his 39th birthday? **Elod Macskasy**

15. which championship's last game was played on the ferry from Victoria to Vancouver? **1922**
"The games were played in the Capital City during the holidays, but were not concluded when the mainland competitors had to leave last evening for this city. Accordingly, the final game, between Mr. Ewing and Mr. Stark, also of North Vancouver, was played on the boat on the way over last evening." [*Daily Province*, 18 April 1922]

16. which champion served time for fraud and embezzlement? **B.A. Yates**, who in 1910 did "fraudulently and feloniously embezzle" several cheques from his employer Lloyds Bank in Birmingham and was sentenced to 12 months by Mr. Justice Darling. On his release he emigrated to B.C., where apparently his criminal past did not become publically known.

17. who was the first champion to be born in Canada? **William Barker**, in Palmerston, Ontario

18. who was the first champion to be born in B.C.? **Bruce Harper**, in West Vancouver

19. in which year was the championship held as a match? **1926**, between **William Barker** and **Max Enke**



John Ewing



Miervaldis Jursevskis

Which B.C. champions have also won

20. the Canadian Championship? **Duncan Suttles, Peter Biyiasas**

21. the Canadian Open? **Elod Macskasy, Duncan Suttles, Gordon Taylor, Dave Ross**

22. the Canadian Junior? **Nigel Fullbrook** (**Gary Basanta** tied for first but lost the playoff; **Duncan Suttles** represented Canada at the 1965 World Junior but there was no actual Canadian Junior at the time – he was the highest-placing junior in the previous Canadian Open)



Elod Macskasy

23. championships of other provinces? **Abe Helman and Jack Yoos** (Manitoba), **Nigel Fullbrook** (Alberta), **Tom O'Donnell** (Ontario and Quebec)

24. which champion's grandfather also participated in a (previous) B.C. Closed? **Gary Basanta**; Lionel Basanta placed third in the 1950 championship

25. which champion is the basis for the P.G. Wodehouse character Lord Uffeham? **Max Enke**

26. how many perpetual trophies for the Closed have there been? **Five**: the Bowser Shield, the Ewing Cup, the Millar Cup, the Chris Spencer Cup, and the current trophy

27. how many individual champions have there been in the last 100 years? **Forty-seven**



The Ewing Cup

27. who will win this year's Closed? That would be telling ...

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>

“Any interested parties that would like to take over the TD duties at UBC please contact me [Aaron]. It would be preferred that interested parties be able to take over on a long term basis.

Thank you.

Vancouver Rapid Chess League 2015-16

Ongoing, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

Vancouver Open/ B.C. Women's Ch.

October 10-12, Surrey

[Details](#)

LakeCity Open

October 24, Williams Lake

[Details](#)

November Active

November 1, Vancouver Chess School

[Details](#)

Woodpusher Junior Quads

November 1, Burnaby

[Details](#)

Jack Taylor Memorial

November 14-15, Victoria

[Details](#)

Knightmare Quads for kids

November 29, Burnaby

[Details](#)