

BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #343

Your editor welcomes any and all submissions – news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to BC 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

Susan Polgar Foundation Girls' Invitational (July 22-27)

Two years ago the twelfth edition of the SPFGI, the most prestigious all-girls tournament in the U.S., was the first to formally accept entrants from countries comprising the American continent, in addition to representatives from U.S. states as previously. Last year that privilege was extended to individual Canadian provinces, and that practice continued this year. BC's representative was Sophia Yu, who won the right in a qualification tournament held under the auspices of the Golden Knights Junior CC last April. Sophia tied for fifty-first in the sixty-eight player field with 2.0/6; the overall winner was Nastassja Matus, just twelve years old, a half-point ahead of Thalia Cervantes, Anahi Ortiz Verdezoto, and Julia Sevilla. Other Canadians included Qiyu Zhou, Maili-Jade Ouellet, and Svitlana Demchenko. Sophia won the first round upset prize for drawing with a player 637 rating points higher than herself. In addition to the FIDE-rated tournament there were also training sessions, along with tactics, blitz, and bughouse competitions. A new feature this year was the return of several alumni of the event to describe what chess has meant in their lives; one of those chosen to speak was Alexandra Botez, while her sister Andrea was a participant in the tournament.



[Standings and prize-winners](#)

July Active (July 22)

Just as last year, a few days before the July Active there were barely a dozen people registered for the event, but by Saturday morning the field had more than tripled to thirty-eight players, split evenly between the Open and Junior sections. There were five players rated over 2000 in the Open, including the newly-arrived 2016 Manitoba Closed champion Arvin Dawa, but the battle for first place was a continuation of the ongoing rivalry in these events of Andrew Hemstapat and Davaa-Ochir Nyamdorj. And as has been happening more often than not of late, Andrew won their individual game to claim the first prize with a perfect score; Davaa was second with 5.0/6. Gilberto Igharas and George Kim tied for the U1900 prizes, newcomer Woosung Lee from Korea took the top U1500, and the second U1500 was split between Jonathan Steif and brothers Ashton and Tristan Taylor.



The Junior section was dominated by third-ranked Aaron Young, who took first place and the U1300 trophy without undue difficulty. Second and winner of the U1000 trophy was Gillian Mok, while Andrew Xue was awarded the U600 trophy. Medals went to KaiXin Wang, Justin Jin, Bill Wang, Matthew He, Bruce Chen, Austin Chen, and Codrin Pompas. Organized by Maxim Doroshenko, the tournament was held at Columbia College near Terminal and Main; Ryan Leong helped with the directing duties. The next event is on [August 12](#). [Standings](#)



BRUCE HARPER ANNOTATES

Harper, Bruce - Opponent [A00] ICC 3 0 Internet Chess Club

This game illustrates a simple, but important, point. The chess board isn't a large as it seems.

1.g3 [0:03:00] 1...d5 [0:03:00] 2.Bg2 [0:02:59] 2...c6 [0:02:59] 3.d3 [0:02:57] 3...Nf6 [0:02:59] 4.Nc3 [0:02:54] 4...Bg4 [0:02:57]



5.h3 [0:02:52] I always play this move, because it creates immediate problems for Black (and White too, but I at least have some awareness of them). **5...Bh5** [0:02:56] **6.f4** [0:02:51] Threatening to trap Black's h5-bishop. **6...e6** [0:02:54] **7.Bd2** [0:02:49] **7...h6** [0:02:52] 7...d4 is probably the best way for Black to play. **8.g4** [0:02:45] **8...Bg6** [0:02:51] **9.e4** [0:02:45] **9...dxe4** [0:02:45] **10.dxe4** [0:02:45] **10...Bh7** [0:02:43] **11.Qf3** [0:02:41]



White is happy and objectively has an advantage - Black's h7-bishop is out of play and, perhaps without realizing it, Black has "surrendered the centre" by exchanging on e4. **11...Nbd7** [0:02:41] **12.Nge2** [0:02:39] **12...Qb6** [0:02:39] **13.0-0-0** [0:02:36]



In some variations castling long can expose White's king to an attack, but here White's lead in development makes that a tall order for Black. **13...a5** [0:02:33] Black tries anyway. **14.f5!?** [0:02:26] Aimed at Black's h7-bishop, but 14.h4!?, intending 15.g5, was arguably stronger. **14...Ne5** [0:02:26] **15.Qg3** [0:02:22] **15...Nc4** [0:02:23]



Threatening mate on b2, while also hitting White's d2-bishop. But White has an answer. **16.Na4!** [0:02:07]
16...Qb5?! [0:02:14] **17.Nec3** [0:02:03] **17...Qe5?** [0:01:55]



18.Bf4! [0:01:57]



Oh no! Black's "active queen" is suddenly trapped in the middle of the board! Black played one more move, then resigned before White could respond. **18...Nxe4** [0:01:46] Black resigns. **1-0**

MACSKASY – ZUK MATCH

In 1970 the qualifiers that year's B.C. Championship included: Duncan Suttles, the reigning Canadian champion; Peter Biyiasas, winner of the last two B.C. championships; Elod Macskasy, a six-time B.C. champion; and Ante Zaradic, winner of the B.C. Open with a perfect score. Yet despite all this accumulated talent, the winner was twenty-three year old Robert (Bob) Zuk, who had been quietly improving his game since moving to B.C. from Manitoba a number of years earlier. Nevertheless Zuk had his detractors, as evidenced by remarks published in the July 1970 issue of *Chess Canada*:

Suttles - If I were in form I could beat Zuk 9 to 1 in a match.

Zaradic - Out of 100 games with me, Zuk would be lucky to get one draw.

Macskasy - Zuk was just lucky - I could beat him 7 to 3 in a match, I would like to play Zuk a match for \$300.

Biyiasas - I could beat him 7 to 3.

Such remarks may seem strange compared to the generally placid relations between our current top players, but B.C. and Pacific Northwest chess had a number of polarizing personalities in those days – try looking at some of the parodies and cartoons in the back issues of [Northwest Chess](#) from the early 1970s. The situation is also reminiscent of an incident some seventy years earlier, when former Vancouver resident Magnus Smith won the Canadian championship for the first time in 1899. Victoria player Thomas Piper challenged Smith to a match for money (it never took place), not believing the Smith he knew from the 1895 Vancouver – San Francisco telegraph match was worthy of being Canadian champion (see [Bulletin #158](#)).

In light of the expressed comments Zuk played a series of matches. In what was supposed to be a ten-game match with Biyiasas Zuk lost the first games, but Biyiasas abandoned the contest after Zuk won five games in a row. Zuk also played an eight-game match with Dr. Elod Macskasy during August and September of 1970. Macskasy was leading 2.5-0.5 after three games, but Zuk came back to tie the match and eke out a narrow victory 4.5-3.5. The games are given below, with light annotations from Canadian Chess Chat.



Elod Macskasy

Macskasy, Elod - Zuk, Robert D. [D02] Macskasy - Zuk m (1), 1970

1.d4 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 e6 4.Nf3 c5 5.0-0 Be7 6.c4 dxc4 7.Qa4+ Bd7 8.Qxc4 Bc6 9.dxc5 Nbd7 10.b4 a5 11.b5 Bd5 12.Qc2 Bxc5 13.Bb2 Rc8 14.Qa4 0-0 15.Nc3 Nb6 16.Qh4 Be7 17.Nxd5 Nfxd5 18.Qg4 Bf6 19.Ne5 Rc2 20.Bd4 Qd6 21.Qe4 Rfc8 22.Rfd1 Qa3 23.Bh3 Qd6



24.Nxf7 Kxf7 25.Bxf6 Kxf6 26.Qxh7 Qe5 27.Bg4 R2c4 28.f4 Qe3+ 29.Kf1 Qe4 30.Qh4+ Kf7 31.Bf3 Qf5 32.Kf2 Rc2 33.Bg4 Qf6 34.Qh7 Qh6 35.Qxh6 gxh6 36.f5 exf5 37.Bxf5 Kf6 38.Bxc8 Rxc8 39.e4 Rc2+ 40.Kg1 1-0

Zuk, Robert D. - Macskasy, Elod [B18] Macskasy - Zuk m (2), 1970

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.Nf3 Nd7 7.Bc4 e6 8.0-0 Ngf6 9.Qe2 Be7 10.Bb3 0-0 11.Rd1 Qc7 12.Ne5 Better might be 12.Nh4. 12...Nxe5 13.dxe5 Nd7 14.Bf4 Nc5 15.c3 Nxb3 16.axb3 Rfd8 17.Ne4 If 17.Rxd8+ Rxd8 18.Rxa7 Qb6 wins back a b-pawn. 17...Bxe4 18.Qxe4 Rd7 19.b4 Rad8 20.Qe2 a6 21.Rxd7 Qxd7 22.Be3 Qd5 23.Bd4 Qb5 If 23...Bxb4 24.Bb6!; or if 23...Rd7 24.Ra5 with equality. 24.Qxb5 cxb5 25.Kf1 Rd5 Black has a clear advantage for his pawns are on white and the white pawns are targets. Black now threatens ...Bxb4. 26.Rd1 g5 27.Ke2 Kg7 28.Ke3 Kg6 29.Ke4 Bf8 30.Rd3 Bg7 Threatening 31...Bxe5 32.Bxe5 f5+ 33.Ke3 Rxe5+. 31.Rf3 h5 32.h3 Rd8 33.Rd3 Rd5 34.Rf3 1/2-1/2



Bob Zuk

Macskasy, Elod - Zuk, Robert D. [E70] Macskasy - Zuk m (3), 1970

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nge2 0-0 6.Ng3 e5 7.d5 c6 8.Be2 cxd5 9.cxd5 Na6
10.0-0 h5 11.Bg5 Qe8 12.Nb5 Qd7 13.Na3 Nc5 14.f3 Nh7 15.Be3 h4 16.Nh1 f5 17.Qc2 Qe7
18.Rac1 Na6 19.Bxa6 bxa6 20.Qc7 Qf6 21.Rc6 f4 22.Rxd6 Qg5 23.Bd2 Necessary to pin Black's
f-pawn. 23...Bh3 24.Rf2 Rfc8 25.Qa5 Bf6 26.Qxa6 Rab8



27.Kf1 Rxb2 28.gxh3 Rcb8 29.Qc4 Be7 30.Ra6 Bxa3 31.Rxa3 Rb1+? Much better was 31...Rxd2
and if 32.Rxd2 Rb1+ 33.Ke2 Qg2+. Nevertheless with 32.Qc1! White would still win. 32.Bc1 Qd8
33.Rc2 1-0

Zuk, Robert D. - Macskasy, Elod [B04] Macskasy - Zuk m (4), 1970

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 g6 5.Bc4 Nb6 6.Bb3 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Qe2 d5 9.h3 Nc6 10.c3
f6 11.Bf4 fxe5 12.Bxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.Qxe5 Rf5 15.Qe3 Qf8 16.Nd2 Bd7 17.Nf3 Re8
18.Ne5 Bc8 19.Rae1 c6 20.f4 Qg7



21.Kh2 Rff8 22.g4 e6 23.g5 Kh8 24.Ng4 a5 25.h4
Nd7 26.Kg3 Qe7 27.Rh1 Rf7 28.h5 gxh5 29.Rxh5
Rg7 30.Reh1 Nf8 31.Bc2 e5 32.Nxe5 Qe6 33.Rh6
Qe7 34.Bxh7 Rxh7 35.Rxh7+ Qxh7 36.Rxh7+ Kxh7
37.Qd3+ "and White won." 1-0

Macskasy, Elod - Zuk, Robert D. [E04] Macskasy - Zuk m (5), 1970

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 dxc4 5.Nf3 Nbd7 6.0-0 c6 7.Qc2 b5 8.b3 cxb3 9.Qxc6 Rb8
10.axb3 Bb7 11.Qc2 Rc8 12.Qd3 a6 13.Nbd2 Be7 14.Bb2 0-0 15.Rfe1 Nd5 16.Rac1 Nb4
17.Qb1 Qb6 18.e4 Rfd8 19.Re3 Qa7 Too slow. 20.Bc3 Rc7 21.Bb2 Rdc8 22.Rxc7 Rxc7 23.h4
Qb8 24.d5!? exd5 25.exd5 Nxd5 26.Re1 Bf6 27.Ng5 g6 28.Nde4 Bxb2 29.Qxb2 Rc8



30.Nxf7 Kxf7 31.Ng5+ Much stronger is 31.Qd4!
31...Kg8 32.Qd4 A very interesting position. If 32.Ne6
Nc3 33.Qd2 Nf6 34.Qh6 Nh5; or if 32.Bxd5+ Bxd5
33.Re7 Nf6! and now if 34.Qxf6 Rc1+ 35.Kh2 Rh1#!
32...N5f6 33.Bh3 Qc7 34.Bxd7 Nxd7 35.Nxh7 If
35.Ne6 Qc3. 35...Qc6 36.Kf1 Qg2+ 37.Ke2 Re8+
38.Kd2 Rxe1 39.Kxe1 Qe4+ 40.Qxe4 Bxe4 41.Ng5
Bd5 42.b4 Kg7 43.Kd2 Ne5 44.Ke3 Nc6 45.Nh3
Nxb4 46.g4 This tied the match up. 0-1

Zuk, Robert D. - Macskasy, Elod [B04] Macskasy - Zuk m (6), 1970

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 g6 5.Bc4 Nb6 6.Bb3 Bg7 7.Qe2 Nc6 8.0-0 0-0 9.c3 dxe5
10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.dxe5 Bf5 12.Rd1 Qc8 13.Bf4 c5 14.c4 An interesting idea. The white knight
now threatens to enter the game powerfully via c3 to d5. And if Black plays ...e6, his B/f5 is
awkwardly placed. 14...Bxb1 15.Raxb1 Qe6 16.Qe4 Rab8 17.Rd3 Too automatic. Better is
17.Rdc1. 17...Rfd8 18.Rbd1 If 18.Rxd8+ Rxd8 19.Qxb7 Qf5! 18...Rxd3 19.Qxd3? A blindspot.
Correct was 19.Rxd3. 19...Bxe5 20.Re1 Qd6 This is the move White overlooked. 21.Qxd6 Bxd6
22.Bd2 Though Black is a full pawn up, White has the two bishops and Black must prevent a
bishop of opposite colours endgame. In spite of these dangers Black should win. 22...f6? This
makes things difficult. Better was ...Nd7 or even ...Na8. 23.Bc3 Kf7 24.g3 e5 25.Kg2 Na8 26.Bd1
Nc7 27.Bf3 b6 28.Bc6 Rd8 29.a3 Bf8 30.Kf1 Rd6 31.Bg2 Bg7 32.Bb7 Ne6 33.Bd5 Kf8 34.f4 Nc7
35.fxe5 fxe5 36.Bb7 Re6 37.b4 Re7 38.Bf3 Bf6 39.bxc5 bxc5 40.Rb1 Re6 41.Rb8+ Ke7 42.Be4
A good active defence by Zuk. ½-½

Macskasy, Elod - Zuk, Robert D. [E73] Macskasy - Zuk m (7), 1970

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Be2 0-0 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 Nbd7 8.Bf3? Ne8 9.g4 f5 10.gxf5
gxf5 11.exf5 Nc5 12.Ne4 Nxe4 13.Bxe4 Qh4 14.Bd3 If 14.Qc2 Nf6 and the white B/e4 must
move. 14...e4 15.Bc2 Bxb2 16.Ne2 White's position is bad. The text is a desperate shot to find
counterplay. 16...Bxa1 17.Qxa1 Bxf5 18.Nf4 Bg6 19.Ne6 Rf7 20.Qb2 b6 21.Bd1 Ng7 22.Bg5
Qh3 23.Nf4 Qf5 24.Rg1 Re8 25.Rg3 e3 26.fxe3 Qe4 27.Bg4 Re5 28.Be2 Nf5 29.Nxg6 hxg6
30.Rh3 Qg2 31.Bf4 Qxh3 32.Bxe5 dxe5 33.Qxe5 Qxe3 An off-day for Macskasy. This gave Zuk
the lead for the first time. 0-1

Zuk, Robert D. - Macskasy, Elod [B06] Macskasy - Zuk m (8), 1970

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 c6 5.f4 Nf6 6.Nf3 Qb6 7.Rb1 0–0 8.Qd2 Bg4 9.Be2 d5 10.e5 Ne4 11.Nxe4 dxe4 12.Ng5 Bxe2 13.Qxe2 Qa5+ 14.c3 14.Kf2 looks good. 14...Qxa2 15.0–0 f5 16.exf6 exf6 17.Nxe4 Re8 This perfectly natural looking move gets Black into trouble. 18.Nd6 Re7 19.Nc8 Re8 Perhaps 19...Re4 20.Ra1 Qe6 was better. 20.Ra1 Qb3 21.Ra3 Qe6 22.Nb6 Qxe3+ 23.Qxe3 Rxe3 24.Nxa8 Na6 25.Kf2 Re8 26.Rxa6 bxa6 27.Nc7 Rb8 28.b4 a5 29.Ra1 White should have winning chances but he only needed a draw to win the match. Perhaps 29.Rb1 was good. 29...axb4 30.Na6 Rb6 31.Nxb4 Bf8 ½–½

Zuk did not have everything his own way – he lost a subsequent match against Alan Hill by the same minimum score, 4.5-3.5. However, this was before the “Zuk Winter;” after that, there were no more questions about his playing strength ... but that’s for another article.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Semiahmoo Open

August 5-7, Surrey

[Details](#)

August Active

August 12, Columbia College

[Details](#)

9th Bowser Builders Tournament

August 13, Bowser (Vancouver Island)

[Details](#)

Woodpushers' Challenge

August 20, Burnaby

[Details](#)

Langley Open

September 2-4, Langley

[Details](#)