

## BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #406

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](mailto:swright2@telus.net)); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

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### HERE AND THERE

#### **Canadian University Chess Championships** (January 16-17)

As with so many other events of late, this annual collegiate team championship adopted a very different approach for this year's competition. Rather than traditional team versus team pairings, the tournament utilized the [arena](#) format on lichess.org in a more casual event at a faster time control. Players participated as individuals with no limit to the number of players on a team, but only the top five individual scores counted toward the team total. In an arena tournament there are no set rounds, competitors attempt to play as many games as they can within a set time limit (in this case, four hours). 2 points are awarded for a win, 1 for a draw and 0 for a loss, but these amounts can be doubled if a player establishes and maintains a winning streak. An additional point is also available if the player chooses to play in berserk mode, i.e., giving up half the initial time on their clock (time control was 10 + 5).

The competition was held in two stages, three preliminary groups on January 16 which involved three hundred and seventy-six players in twenty-three teams. The resultant point totals were used to assign the teams to final playoff groups (Gold, Silver, and Bronze) on January 17. The [Group B](#) preliminary included teams from both SFU and UBC; they finished third (200 points) and sixth (129) respectively behind group winners University of Toronto (305 points) and Western University (210). Based on these results SFU was seeded into the [Gold Division](#) final where they finished sixth with 196 points; the overall winners were Université de Montréal (252 points) ahead of University of Toronto (248) and University of Waterloo (239). UBC placed third in the [Silver Division](#), also scoring 196 points, behind Wilfrid Laurier University (230) and University of Alberta (198). User names were employed throughout which makes determining the real names of the participants difficult, but we believe John Doknjas, Joshua Doknjas, Brandon Zhu, Ryan Leong, Devin Lu, Oliver Schulte (faculty were allowed to play?), and Nhut Huynh represented SFU, while the UBC team included Hou Ji Yao, Prayus Shrestha, Jeremy Hui, and Navid Samiei. [Tournament Facebook page](#)

#### **2021 BC Championship Qualification**

Normally participants in the BC Closed Championship either earn their spots through qualifying events or are invited from the ratings list which involves an activity requirement of ten CFC regular-rated games in BC in the previous year ([full regulations](#)). The pandemic has resulted in the cancellation of most qualifiers, plus the online events which are occurring are not regular rated. Therefore, for the 2021 BC Championship (which we hope will take place in October) the BCCF executive has voted to allow CFC-rated online events to count toward the ten-game activity requirement, even though such events can only be Quick rated rather than regular. Currently qualified: Grigorii Morozov (BC Closed), Neil Doknjas (BC Junior), Keith MacKinnon (BC Open).

## YOUTH PREVAILS AT THE VICTORIA OPEN, ANOTHER RECORD TURNOUT by Paul Leblanc

The sixth annual Victoria Open was held on chess.com during the weekend of 2-3 January 2021. The original Victoria Open in 2016 was a side-event during a challenge match between Victoria and Vancouver (won 14.5 to 10.5 by Vancouver). From 2017 to 2020, the event was a side-event during four matches between BC and Washington. The tournament settled into a pleasant site at the Comfort Inn on Blanshard Street and grew steadily in size from forty-five players in 2016 to seventy-five players in 2020.

Monumental changes were in store for this year's Victoria Open. Starting in March, 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of all over-the-board chess tournaments indefinitely. In May, 2020 the Comfort Inn was sold to the Province and converted to a shelter for the homeless. The only option was to hold the tournament online. Furthermore, there was no advantage to sharing a playing site with the BC vs Washington match so the Victoria Open came of age as a stand-alone tournament in 2021.

The response from the players was most encouraging. Limited to one hundred players for technical reasons (actually we squeezed in one hundred and four), the previous attendance record was once again shattered. Many players who would not ordinarily have made the long and expensive trek to Victoria were able to play in the tournament on chess.com without leaving their homes. A substantial number of players from out-of-province and isolated parts of BC were "present".



Peter Yong Qiu



Taylor Waite

Two juniors swept the Premier and U1400 sections. Peter Yong Qiu of Surrey scored 6.0-0.0 in the Premier Section as did Taylor Waite of Newmarket, Ontario in the U1400 Section. Other prize winners were Dinusha Jayawardena of Maple Ridge, BC (Top U1700), Jonathan Toews of Coquitlam, BC (Top U900), and Justin Gelinias of Sidney, BC (Top Unrated). Matthew Freitag (4.0-2.0) was the highest scoring player from Victoria and will have his name engraved on the Victoria Cup. Trophies were awarded to the other winners.

Our Tournament Director was Brendan Woodroff of Chilliwack who did an amazing job overseeing one hundred and four players, getting the pairings and standings posted as fast as humanly possible and getting every round started on time. The Victoria Open was again organized by Paul Leblanc of Victoria Chess with assistance from Victoria Chess Club President Roger Patterson. A surplus of \$500 was donated to the Chess Foundation of BC. [Tournament website](#)

**Haines, Duncan – Qiu, Peter Yong [E14] Victoria op (online) chess.com (3.3), 02.01.2021**  
*[Qiu]*

The game that I remember the most is from round 3. We both played a solid game. I won a pawn in the middle game but made a positional mistake and had to give up a pawn later on. At that point I was fighting for a draw in a rook pawn endgame. After we traded the rooks the position got trickier. As we began to push our pawns I noticed a winning pawn break. I was able to execute it and created a situation where his king is overloaded. In the end I managed to win the game.

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 e6 5.b3 Bd6 6.Bd3 0–0 7.0–0 b6 8.Nbd2 Nbd7 9.Bb2 c5 10.Qe2 Bb7 11.e4 cxd4 12.Nxd4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Bxh2+ 15.Kxh2 Qh4+ 16.Kg1 Qxe4 17.Qxe4 Bxe4 18.f3 Bg6 19.Rfd1 Nc5 20.Ba3 Rfe8 21.Bxc5 bxc5 22.Nb5 Red8 23.Rxd8+ Rxd8 24.Nxa7 Bc2 25.Rc1 Ra8 26.Rxc2 Rxa7 27.Kf2 h5 28.Ke3 Ra3 29.Kd3 Kf8 30.Kc3 Ke7 31.Kb2 Ra7 32.Rd2 h4 33.a3 Rd7 34.Rxd7+?? [34.Re2=] 34...Kxd7 35.b4 g5 36.Kc2 Kc6 37.Kd2 f5 38.Ke2 e5 39.Kf2 g4 40.fgx4 fgx4 41.Ke3 h3 42.gxh3 gxh3 43.Kf3 e4+ 44.Kg3 e3 0–1

**Waite, Taylor – Gelin, Justin [A43] Victoria op U1400 (online) chess.com (4.3), 03.01.2021**  
*[Waite]*

**1.d4 c5 2.d5 Nf6 3.c4 b5** The Benko Gambit. This opening is suspicious however it remains popular at the club level. I was happy to face this in the game. **4.cxb5 a6 5.f3** This is the system I like to play against the Benko gambit. This system aims to get an early grip on the e4-square while maintaining flexibility with the pieces. This move has been played by many top players including Kasparov, Bareev, Nakamura and Mamedyarov. Black has two major options, the critical and sharp 5...e6 and 5...axb5. If Black attempts to develop in normal Benko style, for example, with 5...g6 and 6...d6, he gets into trouble quickly. **5...axb5 5...g6 6.e4 d6 7.Na3 Bg7 8.Ne2 0–0 9.Nc3** White is already much better and the flexibility of his pieces after 5. f3 is seen. [Compare also 5...e6 6.e4 exd5 7.e5 Qe7 8.Qe2 Ng8 9.Nc3 Bb7 10.Nh3 d6 11.Nf4 dxe5 12.Nfxd5 Qd6 13.Bf4 Nd7 14.Rd1 Ngf6 15.Nxf6+ Qxf6 16.Qd2 Qe7 17.Bg5 f6 18.Be3 Nb6 19.bxa6 Bxa6 20.Nd5 Nxd5 21.Qxd5 Bb7 22.Bb5+ 1–0 Macskasy – Basanta, Vancouver 1987] **6.e4 Qa5+** This is one of Black's critical attempts to equalize, and it is a good one. This system was a favourite of strong players such as Evgeny Bareev and Boris Gelfand. **7.Bd2** 7.Bd2 is semi-forced or White is forced to enter some unfavourable positions. For example: 7.Nc3 b4 8.Nb5 d6 9.a4 Nbd7 where it's not clear what White has achieved. Black has easy development and White will have a hard time developing while dealing with Black's threats. **7...b4 8.Na3** Taking advantage of the pin to place our knight on a brilliant square. **8...d6 9.Nc4 Qd8 10.a3** An attempt to undermine Black's overextended pawn structure. It is also possible to play slower with 10.Ne2 or 10.Nh3! **10...Na6?** This is a tactical mistake as seen after the next move, where his knight will be pinned. More critical is 10...e6! where Black starts to make his own counter chances as is required in such a position. **11.axb4** The knight is now pinned to the rook and cannot move. **11...Bd7 12.b5?!** Unfortunately a rather obvious tactic was missed with 12.Nxd6+, however this move is fine to maintain a strong advantage. I was focused on pushing the passed pawn of course. 12.Nxd6+ exd6 13.Bxa6.

**12...Nb4 13.Rxa8 Qxa8 14.Bxb4?! An attempt to eliminate the strong knight. The computer has pointed out a stronger continuation, maintaining our dark-squared bishop with 14.Nb6 where the bishop comes to c3 and argues it's better than the knight. 14.Nb6 Qa7 15.Nxd7 Nxd7 where White maintains a winning advantage and may switch to playing in the centre. 14...cxb4 15.b6** Pushing the pawn yet again where it will be defended by the knight. In hindsight this is a bit of a reach and I should have continued developing my kingside faster. However, the b6–pawn will forever be a threat to the Black position. **15...g6** After this move it's clear White is still better but I couldn't help but feel I misplayed the position. Which was confirmed in post-game analysis. **16.Ne2** Developing the kingside and attempting to castle as soon as possible. **16...Bg7 17.Nd4** When there is a strong vacant central square it should be occupied by a knight! This also frees our bishop so we can develop and castle. **17...0–0 18.Be2 e6?** While it is important for Black to start creating counter attacks, this is a tactical mistake. **19.dxe6 fxe6 20.Nxd6 Qa5** Black attempts to gain more activity with his pieces. However this is likely premature and the queen is now far from the rest of Black's pieces. **21.Nc4** Best to retreat with a tempo whilst simultaneously defending the pawn. There are some tactics associated with 21.Bc4 as well which I considered, but was unable to find anything concrete. **21...Qc5** A very reasonable move. The queen is on a strong square after all. **22.Nb3** It's unclear what my knight is doing on d4 since the light squares are all covered. I wanted my knight to one day appear on a5 and support the pawn push. **22...Qg5 23.0–0 Ba4** This move looks slightly unpleasant but there is a simple solution which was noted prior to 23.0–0. **24.Qd2 Qb5 25.Nd4** The knight returns to d4. This comes with a tempo but more importantly, it's clear the queen has found a home on the 5th rank and Na5 will be unlikely. The bishop on a4 is also a questionable piece now as e6 is left hanging and it's not clear what its purpose is. **25...Qc5 26.Kh1** Breaking the pin of course. **26...Bd7 27.g3** Always a reasonable move. My position is strong and I was in no hurry to rush, I wanted to make sure my king would not be mated on the back rank. **27...Rb8 28.Qf4** Activating the queen and hitting the rook. 28...Qxd4 is not an option because the rook is hanging and 28...Rxb6 is very well met by 29.Nxb6 where I will be up an exchange and a pawn with a very much winning position. **28...Rb7 29.Rd1** My worst piece finally enters the game (and defends the loose knight). **29...g5** A very reasonable move to put a question to the queen. The following tactical shot was a nice reply:



**30.Nxe6 Bxe6 30...gxf4?? 31.Nxc5 Rb8 32.Nxd7 Nxd7 33.Rxd7. 31.Rd8+ Kf7 32.Qd6 32.Ne5+** followed by Qxg5 was also an option. But I wanted to exchange queens and consolidate my position. **32...Qxd6 33.Nxd6+ Ke7 34.Nxb7** The knight very conveniently defends the rook. This was calculated from 30.Nxe6 of course. White is now up an exchange and two pawns. **34...Nd7 35.Bb5 Bxb2 36.Bxd7** I am ready to exchange material and convert my advantage. **36...Bxd7 37.Rg8 Bd4 38.Nc5!** Black's only source of counterplay is the b4–pawn, it's important not to lose sight of it with for example 38.Rxg5?? where b3 wins. This move also has the added benefit of trading down material and is only possible because the b7–square is currently out

of Black's sight. 38.Na5 or 38.Nd6 were alternatives. **38...Bxc5 39.b7 Bd6 40.b8Q Bxb8 41.Rxb8** The conversion is rather elementary from here on. **41...h5 42.Rxb4 Bh3 43.f4 gxf4 44.gxf4 Kd6**



45.Kg1 Kc5 46.Ra4 Bd7 47.Ra5+ Kc4 48.Rxh5 Bg4 49.Rg5 Bh3 50.f5 Kd4 51.f6 Be6 52.Rg7 Ke5 53.f7 Bxf7 54.Rxf7 Kxe4 55.h4 Kd3 56.h5 Kc4 57.h6 Kd3 58.h7 Ke4 59.h8Q Kd3 60.Qe8 Not the fastest mate... but it gets the job done. 60...Kc2 61.Rd7 Kb3 62.Qc8 Ka2 63.Rb7 Ka1 64.Qa8# 1-0

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## BC DEFEATS WASHINGTON 37.5 TO 22.5 by Paul Leblanc

This year's BC vs Washington match took place on the weekend of 16-17 January. This was the fifth year for this series of matches and Team BC, after being outscored in the first two years, has now pulled ahead 3-2. During the first two years the match was conducted in a Scheveningen format of two five-person teams on each side with each team member playing the five opponents. In subsequent years that format was replaced by the more flexible and familiar Swiss pairings with the exception that team members were prevented from being paired against each other.

The 2021 match was unique in several ways. Most importantly, it was held on chess.com due to the public health precautions to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Secondly, this match was organized by the Washington Chess Federation rather than Victoria Chess which had organized and hosted all previous matches. And finally, the teams were expanded to twelve players each.

BC was able to field a very strong team, led by two IM's, Quang Long Le and Raymond Kaufman and out-rated Washington by an average of about 200 points. However, the real stars of the event were not the FIDE titled players. Andrew Hemstapat with a perfect 5.0-0.0 and Jason Kenney with four wins and a draw provided the one-two knockout punch that ensured the victory. Next came Ray Kaufman and Sherry Tian at 4.0-1.0 allowing Team BC to tally up the four top individual spots in the cross-table. Top Washington player was Joseph Levine with three wins, a draw against Kenney and a loss to Hemstapat. Tim Moroney was next with 3.0 points.

The games were broadcast live on chess.com by our brilliant TD Rekha Sagar, a FIDE Arbiter and Trainer based in Seattle and watched in real time by many BCCF members. The games were very entertaining with lots of thrills and spills, unlike many of the dull contests found in professional chess. The event also used ZOOM technology which worked out very well not only for the games but for the players' meeting before round one and the wash-up after round five.

There was a guaranteed \$1,000 US prize fund which was distributed to the top four players on each team. In the case of Team BC this was Hemstapat, Kenney, Kaufman and Tian, for Washington the prizewinners were Levine, Moroney, Rushaan Mahajan and Sophie Velea, Advait Vijayakumar, Brandon Jiang and Ryan Min (tied). The prize fund also included an upset prize for each team: Gabriel Brown was the Team BC recipient, Aditya Ramkumar won for Washington.

Sponsors were the Washington Chess Federation, the BC Chess Federation and Mr. Sridhar Seshadri of Washington State. The co-organizers for the match were WCF President Joshua Sinanan and Paul Leblanc of Victoria Chess. [Standings](#)

[Three of the games from the match featured the somewhat unusual Closed Caro-Kann, 1.e4 c6 2.d3, and coincidentally two of these were among the submitted annotated games – we present all three below.]

**Levine, Joseph – Kenney, Jason [A05] 2021 BC-WA Match (online) chess.com (3.1),  
16.01.2021  
[Kenney]**

**1.e4 c6 2.d3 g6** I hadn't seen my opponent's other games, but when 2.d3 appeared, I figured it was either preparation specifically for me, or my opponent was very familiar in this off-beat line. Since I knew nothing about it at all, I figured I'd fall back on my old (old) repertoire and shift to a Pirc/Modern. I haven't played these openings since I've moved to BC, but they were the most common opening I played as Black (and White!) for a number of years back East as was typically the case pre-Internet, the top players in a region were highly influential among other players. As it happens, those players were no doubt influenced by BC players – GM Suttles and Berry, in addition to some others – Dzindzichashvili and some UK players. 2...g6 is also a logical move to me anyway – White really has no way to pretend that 2.d3 is anything other than a loss of a tempo in any kind of Pirc/Modern line. After the tournament I saw my opponent did show he can play this line very well in the game Levine-Le with a wonderful piece sacrifice in the opening, which I highly recommend playing through [see below]. **3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 d6 5.Bg2 Nf6 6.0–0 0–0 7.Re1 e5 8.Nc3 Nbd7 9.d4 Qc7** The opening has gone very well for Black. He's achieved e5 effortlessly, White has admitted 2.d3 was just a loss of whole tempo, and additionally White has chosen a g3 variation, which is perhaps the least threatening of all White options (even when not losing a tempo). These positions can be dangerous to those uninitiated - often the Nc3 is worse placed than a knight on d2 would be - it's a target for an eventual b5–b4 pawn push, and on c3 it is highly restricted by Black's pawns, so has nowhere to hop, whereas a knight on d2 can often find an annoying and pressuring home on c4, if White restricts with a4, or uses a4 to force the b5 pawn ahead. This is the same positional imbalance that can be the main fight in quieter lines of the Queen's Gambit Accepted. My opponent was quite strong, so I'm sure he would be familiar, but it's not uncommon for 1.e4 stalwarts to be a bit lost at sea here. White should definitely play 10.a4 preventing Black from playing b5. Likewise, 9...Qc7 was inaccurate as b5 immediately was possible. After the nebulous h3, Black is probably already for choice. White now lacks anything constructive to do, and very often White players here start to drift. Black has more useful moves to build his position further, whereas White generally hasn't yet accepted he's worse, and it becomes increasingly hard to find something useful to do. **10.h3 b5 11.a3 Bb7 12.Be3 a6 13.Qd2 Rfd8 14.Rad1 Nf8** 14.Rad1 marks the end of the typical White constructive moves. Developing and centralizing come naturally, but importantly they do not constitute a plan alone. After 14...Nf8 Black removes the possibility of the typical freeing/pressuring sequence dxe5 dxe5 Qd6, and puts the knight on the route to e6 and d4. In this sort of position it's typical for Black to play on the dark squares. Notice d4 cannot be defend by a pawn because of the Nc3. At the same time, White's pieces don't have a single thing to attack, and are so restrained by the black pawn wall their only sensible moves would be to be move backwards, but... to where? Meanwhile, Black holds all the pawn breaks possible in the position still which White has to react to: a5 and b4, c5, or even d5 in some cases can all be good, and White needs to keep making moves, but still remain reactive to all those plans. **15.Qc1 Ne6 16.dxe5 dxe5 17.Rxd8+ Rxd8 18.Rd1 Nd7** Keeping a pair of rooks for the moment, and preparing Nd4. Curiously, the computer's first suggestion for White here is h4, which is hard to understand. White instead opts for full retreat to defend his weak squares, and Black advances. The play from here gets increasingly messy. **19.Ne2 Ndc5 20.Ng5 Nd4** 19.Ne2 was a clear signal White has accepted he has nothing to do and shifted to defence. 19...Ndc5?! was illogical since White has much less space, so Black should avoid trading additional pieces. For the same reason 20.Ng5?! allows Black to retain his pressure by avoiding the rook trade. **21.Nxd4 exd4 22.Bf4 Qe7 23.b4** Highly committal, but Black did have some unpleasant ideas with d3 or h6 and eyeing the e4–pawn, although nothing immediately clear. This is typical of the Modern - for a long time there may

not be a specific concrete threat, but the flexible pawn structure means many ideas remain in the position, and it's very difficult to play in kind with an inflexible pawn structure of your own. Usually - as here - White eventually does something active to relieve the tension, at the cost of some weakening. It's not always bad necessarily - it can be freeing to define your weakness clearly so it's easier to play the resulting position. 23.b4 weakens the c3 square and b4/a3 pawns severely, but it's very difficult to find a useful alternative. **23...Na4 24.h4 c5 25.Qd2 Nc3?! It seems 25...Nb2 and 26...c4 was better as the knight can find a strong position on c4 after an eventual c3. 26.Re1 cxb4 27.axb4 Qxb4?! The b4-pawn is not going anywhere, so here taking time to play 27...h6! first is very strong as White must either give up the e4-pawn as well, or play the knight to the dreadful h3-square. The remaining moves are generally all sub-par on both sides, but for distasteful analytical reasons and not many positional ones I can lecture about. I'll give a question mark where the move shifts the computer evaluation approximately 1.5 or more points in either direction. There might an important lesson for me here in thinking more positionally even in tactical positions: perhaps doing that would have guided me more easily to the correct solutions, as my calculation was too rusty after a year off to put much faith in, and my previous positionally orientated play had paid nice dividends so far. Although I've also let many games slip for not being decisive and concrete enough at critical moments. One of the hardest balances to get right in chess. 28.Bc7? Rc8 29.Qf4 Qc4? 30.Be5 Ne2+? 31.Rxe2 Bxe5 32.Qxe5 Qxe2 33.Qe7? Bd5 I had seen this pin to save the Bishop and defend f7 when opting for Ne2+. However, it looks like we both missed 33.Ne6! with an immediate draw. 34.Qf6? I had also overlooked 34.Qd7 winning the piece back anyway, as 34...Rxc2 35.Qe8+ Kg7 36.Qe5+ is yet another perpetual. 34...Qd1+? 34...Qd1+ is wrong for a simple position reason - White's only source of counterplay is based on opening Black's king with e6, so the queen should stay defending the square. 35.Kh2**



been forced to play Kh7–h8 and back for a few moves, and it's unnatural if mandatory to give the g5 pawn with check, as in this exact moment 43...Kh8 is a losing blunder, as my intended 44.Be4 Rc7 allows 45.Qf8#. **44.Qf6+?? Kh7 45.Qf7+ Kh8 46.Qf6+** Game drawn by repetition. ½–½

**Kenney, Jason – Nguyen, Thanh Tien [D85] 2021 BC-WA Match (online) chess.com (4.4), 17.01.2021**  
*[Kenney]*

This was my favourite game played during the tournament, as in addition to being highly thematic, according to computer "I was never in trouble" which was a welcome change from my usual Grünfeld situation of being lost in 20 moves. My score against the Grünfeld is by far the worst of all openings on the White side - I've had better results playing it as Black against 2400 opposition than as White against 1800. Perhaps it's not surprising then that of all the games I played this weekend, according to the chess.com computer this was the least accurate!

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bd2 Bg7 6.e4 Nb6** I've tried more than a dozen systems by now with equally dismal results, but 5. Bd2 has the distinct benefit of often trading several minor pieces early on, which leaves me with fewer pieces to leave hanging later. 6...Nxc3 is also possible and might seem to be playing into White's twist, but is still an entirely satisfactory move, although usually leading to a different classic Grünfeld pawn structure. **7.Be3 0–0 8.h3 Nc6 9.Nf3 e5 10.d5 Nb8** This all seems normal up until Black's last move. Ne7 is clearly a better route for the knight as it's both more active, and also prepares to blockade on d6 via c8. After c6 we get one of the major pawn structures that arise in some Grünfeld variations - perhaps the 5.Qb3 variation is the most common way to reach this passed but isolated d-pawn situation. These positions tend to result in short but important tactics for both sides to acquire positional gains, with everything depending on that d-pawn. It's dangerous if advanced and can be highly cramping, but also can block white's own piece activity or end up a weak liability if too many or the wrong pieces are traded. **11.Be2 c6 12.0–0 cxd5 13.exd5 Na6** Here I considered the computer's first choice 14. Qb3 as well, as it applied more pressure to black's position - the rook will be behind the d-pawn directly, and the Queen puts pressure on b7 by pinning the knight. However I decided on Qd2 as it seemed more harmonious and as I had missed the direct idea of 14...Bd7? 15.a4! I wasn't sure how to follow up. Strangely, black's knight also ends up a target on a6. I don't think I had realized it at this moment yet, but in most lines white will want to trade his bishop on e2 for the knight. This rids white of his least useful piece, removes a potential blockader, and importantly weakens the c6 square, which might allow a rook invasion in the spirit of Karpov – Kasparov Lyon/New York 1990, a wonderful game in the theme of "short tactics." [1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Be3 c5 8.Qd2 0–0 9.Nf3 Bg4 10.Ng5 cxd4 11.cxd4 Nc6 12.h3 Bd7 13.Rb1 Rc8 14.Nf3 Na5 15.Bd3 Be6 16.0–0 Bc4 17.Rfd1 b5 18.Bg5 a6 19.Rbc1 Bxd3 20.Rxc8 Qxc8 21.Qxd3 Re8 22.Rc1 Qb7 23.d5 Nc4 24.Nd2 Nxd2 25.Bxd2 Rc8 26.Rc6 Be5 27.Bc3 Bb8 28.Qd4 f6 29.Ba5 Bd6 30.Qc3 Re8 31.a3 Kg7 32.g3 Be5 33.Qc5 h5 34.Bc7 Ba1 35.Bf4 Qd7 36.Rc7 Qd8 37.d6 g5 38.d7 Rf8 39.Bd2 Be5 40.Rb7 1–0] **14.Qd2 f5** 14...f5 was a welcome sight as it weakens Black's kingside, which seems like a poor decision in light of both knights being far away on the queenside. Additionally the e5-pawn may also become weak as the Bg7 is the only defender. Therefore, I played Bh6 quickly on those positional grounds. It's also possible to ignore the "activity" as f4 is a positionally ugly move and not a threat - White should be perfectly content to play Bxb6 and make use of the e4-square. **15.Bh6 Re8 16.Rfd1 Qd6**





**17.Rac1** Here 17.Nb5 is the first move that catches the eye, as an obvious tempo move to challenge the blockade and advance with d6. However, I was quite a bit shorter on time by now, and had an obvious final developing move in Rac1, with the game continuation in mind with a simpler position. Analyzing with the computer, it looks like Nb5 is nearly winning by force, but Black has many possible tries, and I wasn't ready to either trust any long calculation after a year lay off, or to push all my chips in on intuition just yet. One possible (computer-aided) continuation I thoroughly enjoyed highlighted the inaccurate Nb8 entombing the Ra8 unnecessarily: 17.Nb5 Qf8 18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.a4 Nd7 20.d6 Rd8 21.Nc7 Nxc7 22.dxc7 Re8 23.Bb5 Re7 24.Qb4?! a6 25.Bxd7 Rxd7 26.Rxd7 Bxd7 27.Qd2 Qe7

28.Rd1 Bc6 29.Qd8 with the surprising end of winning the rook on a8 which was buried in the opening. However, the computer now points out instead of 24.Qb4, the queen sacrifice 24.Bxd7 Bxd7 25.Qxd7+ Rxd7 26.Rxd7+ is decisive as after 26...Kf6 27.Rad1 he is mated with the two rooks, or 26...Kg8/h8 27.Rad1 and Rd8 will be decisive, although it seems white can do even better with 27...Rc8 Ng5-xh7-f6+. **17...Bd7 18.Nb5 Bxb5 19.Bxb5 Rec8 20.Bxg7 Kxg7 21.Bxa6 bxa6** I played this sequence fairly quickly with the above Karpov – Kasparov game on my mind and having seen the next tempo move Ng5 with some irresistible ideas.



**22.Ng5** The computer's suggestion of 22.Rc3 fighting for and winning the c-file is also beautiful and has more short, but important tactics. A sample: 22.Rc3 Rxc3 23.Qxc3 Nxd5? 24.Qa5! Rd8 25.Nxe5 winning a pawn and leaving Black pinned and in shambles; 22.Rc3 h6 23.Nxe5!! Qxe5 24.Re3 and amazingly Black cannot defend his king against the rooks coming in: 24...Qf6 25.Rde1 (threatening Re7+ and Qh6) 25...Rc7 26.d6 Rd7 27.Re7+ Kg8 28.Rxd7 Nxd7 29.Re7 and White has the time to bring his Queen to e6 to shepherd the d-pawn in while the Black pieces are frozen defending the mating threats, or 26...Rg7 27.Re7 (threatening Rxg7 and Re7) Kg8 28.R1g6 with the unstoppable threat of simply Rf6, Rxg7 Re6+ and Re7+ winning the queen. Amazing! My justification for

Ng5 was of an entirely different nature: 22.Ng5 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Rc8 24. Ne6+ This zwischenzug was my idea, installing the knight where it dominates all the squares the rook can attack d5 from, d8 and c5, leaving White time to exploit the weakened kingside with h4, h5 and Qg5 or Qh6. However, my intended line has a large flaw: 24...Kg8 25.Rd1? Re8! with the threat of Qxd5 and Rxe6 reaching an equal ending in light of the useless extra a-pawn. White still has a likely winning continuation after 25.Rxc8 Nxc8 26.Qg5! which in light of the Qf6 threat forces Black's king to run the gauntlet: 26...Kf7 27.Qh6 Qxd5 28.Ng5+ Ke8 and Qxh7 or the more cunning Qg7 intending

Nxh7 and Nf6+. The d5 pawn remains immune due to some "short tactics," either the simple 23.Rxc1 Qxd5 24.Rc7+ or the more hidden 23.Rxc1 Nxd5 24. Rc7+!! (Nxc7 loses the Queen, and Qxc7 runs into the fork Ne6+) and White will eventually win with the rook cemented on the seventh rank. **22...h6 23.Ne6+ Kh7 24.h4** I considered the superior and direct 24.g4 also as it is natural to break the light squares as f5 cannot be defended, but it's hard to expose your own king when the win is too far over the horizon to spot. 24.h4 is played with the same idea (h5 next), but gives Black one additional tempo to defend. The d-pawn is still safe due to similar tactics as before, the difference now being that Rc7+ is followed by Qxh6 with mate. Black's try is not up to the task as it's clear his pieces need to be defending his king, and not eyeing pawns on the opposite corner of the board. **24...Rab8 25.h5 Nc4 26.Qe2 Nb6** Retreating with the knight may be the computer's choice, but is hopeless as White has his choice of how to crash through and is firing on all cylinders now. I had seen 26...Rxb2 27.Qd3 was very strong, with the dual threats of 28.Rxc4 and also to invade on g7 after 28.hxg6+ Kxg6 29.Qg3+. However, I had convinced myself to instead play 26...Rxb2 27.Qxb2?! Nxb2 28.Rxc8 Rxd1 29.Rc7+ and either 29...Kg8 30.hxg6! with a picturesque back-rank mate looming, or 29...Qxc7 30.Nxc7 and I thought the combined passed pawns (d-pawn) or g-pawn if the king spends a tempo trying to reach it would win. The computer shows I had missed Black can bring his knight and fight a bit longer with 30...Nc3 31.d6 Ne2+ 32.Kf1 Nd4 32.d7 Nc6 33.hxg6+ Kxg6 34.Ne6 and White emerges a knight ahead, but Black has a remote chance to salvage something. **27.Qxa6 Qe7 28.hxg6+ Kxg6 29.a4 Kf7 30.Rxc8 Nxc8 31.Qe2 Qf6 32.Rc1 Ne7 33.Rc7 Kg8 34.Qh5 Nxd5 35.Rg7+ Kh8 36.Rg6 Rxb2 37.Qxh6# 1-0**

**Hemstapat, Andrew – Mahajan, Rushaan [B10] 2021 BC-WA Match (online) chess.com (5.1), 17.01.2021 [Hemstapat]**

**1.e4 c6 2.d3!?** I have played my opponent before and I wanted to change things up a bit. **2...d5 3.Nd2 e5 4.Ngf3 Bd6 5.d4!?** An interesting move played before by Carlsen against So. [The stem game for paradoxically opening the position after previously pushing the pawn only one square was (after 4...Nd7) Tal – Smyslov, Bled/Zagreb/Belgrade Candidates' 1959: 5.d4 dxe4 6.Nxe4 exd4 7.Qxd4 Ngf6 8.Bg5 Be7 9.0-0-0 0-0 10.Nd6 Qa5 11.Bc4 b5 12.Bd2 Qa6 13.Nf5 Bd8 14.Qh4 bxc4 15.Qg5 Nh5 16.Nh6+ Kh8 17.Qxh5 Qxa2 18.Bc3 Nf6 19.Qxf7 Qa1+ 20.Kd2 Rxf7 21.Nxf7+ Kg8 22.Rxa1 Kxf7 23.Ne5+ Ke6 24.Nxc6 Ne4+ 25.Ke3 Bb6+ 26.Bd4 1-0] **5...exd4 6.exd5 c5?!** An inaccuracy that allows White a good game. 6...cxd5 or 6...Nf6 was better. [6...Nf6 7.Nc4 Bb4+ 8.Bd2 Bxd2+ 9.Qxd2 cxd5 10.Nce5 0-0 11.0-0-0 Nc6 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Qxd4 Bg4 14.Bd3 Qb6 15.Qxb6 axb6 16.a3 Rfe8 17.Rhe1 Kf8 18.Be2 Ne4 19.Nd4 Bd7 20.f3 Nd6 21.Bf1 g5 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.b4 Ra8 24.Kb2 Ke7 25.Nb3 Bc8 26.b5 Bd7 27.bxc6 Bxc6 28.Nd4 Bb7 29.Bd3 h6 30.h4 Ra4 31.c3 Ba6 32.Kb3 b5 33.hxg5 hxg5 34.Nxb5 Bxb5 35.Bxb5 Rh4 36.Rxd5 f5 37.a4 Rh2 38.c4 1-0 (38) Carlsen – So chess.com INT 2017] **7.Ne4! Be7 8.Bc4!** A somewhat counter-intuitive move blocking the bishop behind the pawn. This was the key move prepared before the round. Discoveries involving d6! appear in many variations as will be seen. 8.c4 or 8.Bb5+ were sound alternatives. **8...Bf5 9.Ng3 Bg6 10.h4!?** The last piece of home preparation. Virtually forces black to give up bishop pair and White also gains space. An improvement on another game where 10.0-0 was played: 10.0-0 Nf6 11.Re1 0-0 12.c3 dxc3 13.bxc3 Bd6+/- **10...Nf6 11.h5!?** The logical follow up. 11.Qe2 might be an even better alternative, for example 11.Qe2! Nh5 (11...h5?! 12.Ne5! Bh7 13.d6!+- The c4 bishop comes alive!) 12.Ne5! Nxd3 13.fxd3 0-0 14.h5 Bf5 15.0-0! Bc8 16.h6! g6 17.d6!+- Here too! **11...Be4 12.Nxe4 Nxe4 13.Qd3 Nd6 14.Bf4 Nxc4 15.Qxc4 Na6?!** Black is getting too greedy, going after the d5-pawn. 15...0-0 is recommended but White has the initiative after 16.h6 g6 17.0-0 Bd6 18.Bxd6 Qxd6 19.c3 dxc3 20.Qxc3 f6 21.Rfe1! Qxd5 22.Rad1 Qf7 23.Nd2 Nc6 24.Ne4 Rae8 25.Rd6 Re6 26.Rxe6 Qxe6 27.Nxc5 Qf7+/- **16.0-0-0 Nb4??** The logical expected follow-up, but it is a mistake. It wasn't too late to play 16...0-0 17.h6

g6 18.Rhe1+/- **17.h6!?** Perhaps the wrong move order! I wanted my opponent's kingside to be even weaker so I threw in this move first. The immediate 17.d6 is stronger and limits Black's options: 17.d6!! Bxd6 18.Rhe1+ Kf8 19.Bxd6+ Qxd6 20.Ne5 Nd5 21.Qxc5 Qxc5 22.Nd7+ Kg8 23.Nxc5+-. Essentially identical to the variation on move 21 except Black has more options but the kingside pawn structure is not fixed. **17...g6?** Now Black is just lost. Black should try either 17...g5, 17...Qxd5, or 17...0-0 with super-slim chances of surviving: 17...g5! 18.d6 gxf4 19.dxe7 Qd5 20.Qxd5 Nxd5 21.Rh5! Nxe7 22.Rxc5+/-; 17...Qxd5!? 18.hxg7 Rg8 19.Qb5+ Qc6 20.Qxc6+ Nxc6 21.Rxh7+/-; 17...0-0!? 18.hxg7 Re8 19.Rh5! +/-



**18.d6!! Bxd6 19.Rhe1+ Kf8 20.Bxd6+ Qxd6 21.Ne5!** The point. White threatens mate with 22.Qxf7# which Black does not have a sufficient defence for. **21...Nd5** 21...Qd5 22.Qxd5 Nxd5 23.Nd7+ Kg8 24.Nxc5+- Even with equal material, Black's king and as a result the h8-rook are permanently trapped. Effectively, White is up a full rook and is just winning. **22.Qxc5! Rd8** 22...Qxc5 23.Nd7+ Kg8 24.Nxc5 transposes to the previous variation. **23.Qxd4! f6 24.Nc4! Qd7 25.Qc5+ Kf7 26.Rxd5!** Black resigns. The game would've ended: 26...Qxd5 27.Qe7+ and 28.Qg7#.

A short and sweet game that shows what happens when Black acted a bit too chill... and mainly didn't castle!!! **1-0**

**Levine, Joseph – Le, Quang Long [B10] 2021 BC-WA Match (online) chess.com (5.2), 17.01.2021**

1.e4 c6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 e5 4.Ngf3 Nd7 5.g3 h5 6.Bg2 Be7 7.0-0 h4 8.Re1 hxg3 9.hxg3 d4 10.c3 c5 11.Nc4 f6 12.cxd4 cxd4 13.Nh4 Nb6 14.Ng6 Rh7 15.Ncxe5 fxe5 16.Qb3 Nf6 17.Nxe5 Qd6 18.Qf7+ Kd8 19.Bf4 Be6 20.Qg6 Nbd7 21.Nf7+ Bxf7 22.Qxf7 Ne5 23.Qb3 g5 24.Bxg5 Qb6 25.Bxf6 Qxb3 26.Bxe7+ Kxe7 27.axb3 Nxd3 28.Red1 Nb4 29.Rxd4 Nc2 30.Rc4 Nxa1 31.Rc7+ Kd6 32.Rxh7 Rb8 33.f4 Nxb3 34.e5+ Ke6 35.Rxb7 Rxb7 36.Bxb7 Nc5 37.Bc8+ Kd5 38.Kg2 a5 39.Bf5 Na4 40.b3 Nc5 41.Bc2 Kd4 42.Bd1 Ke3 43.f5 Kd4 44.e6 Ne4 45.e7 Nf6 46.Bh5 1-0

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### **IN MEMORIAM LUBOMIR (LUBOSH) KAVALEK** (9 August 1943 – 18 January 2021)

With sadness we note the passing of the Czech-American grandmaster [Lubomir Kavalek](#) at the age of seventy-seven. A player, coach, organizer, author and columnist, Kavalek was Champion of Czechoslovakia in 1962 and 1968 and U.S. Champion in 1973 and 1978; his highest world ranking was tenth in 1974. An unofficial second for Bobby Fischer in the latter's 1972 match with Spassky, Kavalek was also an award-winning chess columnist whose work appeared in the *Washington Post* and *Huffington Post*. Apart from competing against BC players internationally (olympiads and interzonals) Kavalek had two connections to Canada. In 1971 he was one of the four grandmasters (there were only eighty-three in the world at the time) who participated in the [Canadian Open](#) in Vancouver, the others being Pal Benko, Walter Browne, and World Champion Boris Spassky; he tied for sixth with 8.0/11, a point behind winners Spassky and Hans Ree. The other reason Canada



has to be grateful to Kavalek is as the originator and main organizer of the great [Montreal 1979](#) tournament, a ten-player double round robin featuring half of the world's top twenty, and at the time among the strongest events ever held. The eventual winners were World Champion Anatoly Karpov and former champion Mikhail Tal with 12.0/18. Kavalek also played and had a bizarre result: in the first half, perhaps as a reflection of his organizational duties, he placed last with 1.5/9, but Kavalek 'won' the second half by scoring 6.5/9 including winning three games in a row at one point. This left him in an overall tie for seventh with Vlastimil Hort and Robert Hübner.



Montreal 1979: Svetozar Gligorić (Chief Arbiter) with Kavalek

**Gufeld, Eduard – Kavalek, Lubomir [C64] WchT U26 fin-A 09th Marianske Lazne (7), 20.07.1962**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5 4.c3 f5 5.d4 fxe4 6.Ng5 Bb6 7.d5 e3 8.Ne4 Qh4 9.Qf3 Nf6 10.Nxf6+ gxf6 11.dxc6 exf2+ 12.Kd1 dxc6 13.Be2 Be6 14.Qh5+ Qxh5 15.Bxh5+ Ke7 16.b3 Bd5 17.Ba3+ Ke6 18.Bg4+ f5 19.Bh3 Rhg8 20.Nd2 Bxg2 21.Bxg2 Rxg2 22.Rf1 Rd8 23.Ke2



23...Rxd2+ 24.Kxd2 e4 25.Bf8 f4 26.b4 Rg5 27.Bc5 Rxc5 28.bxc5 Bxc5 29.Rab1 f3 30.Rb4 Kf5 31.Rd4 Bxd4 32.cxd4 Kf4 33.Rxf2 e3+ 34.Ke1 exf2+ 35.Kxf2 0-1



**Kavalek, Lubomir – Suttles, Duncan [B08] La Habana ol prel La Habana (7), 1966**

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Nc3 c6 5.a4 Nf6 6.Be2 0–0 7.0–0 Bg4 8.h3 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Nbd7 10.Be3 Qc7 11.Be2 Kh8 12.f4 e6 13.g4 Ng8 14.Kh1 Rad8 15.f5 c5 16.Nb5 Qb8 17.Bf4 e5 18.dxe5 dxe5 19.Bg5 Ndf6 20.Qe1 h6 21.Be3 Nxe4 22.Bd3 Ngf6 23.Bg1 gxf5 24.Rxf5 Nd6 25.Rxf6 Bxf6 26.Bxc5 Rfe8 27.Nxd6 Rxd6 28.Bxd6 Qxd6 29.Qe4 Qc6 30.Qxc6 bxc6 31.Be4 c5 32.Rd1 Rd8 33.Rxd8+ Bxd8 34.Kg2 Kg7 35.Kf3 Kf6 36.Bd5 Ba5 37.c3 Bc7 38.Ke4 Ke7 39.Bc4 Bd6 40.Kd5 Kd7 41.Bb5+ Kc7 42.Be8 f6 43.Ke6 e4 44.Kxf6 Bf4 45.Bg6 e3 46.Bd3 a5 47.h4 Kd6 1–0



Kavalek and Biyiasas, Canadian Open 1971

**Biyiasas, Peter – Kavalek, Lubomir [B78] CAN op 9th Vancouver (6), 29.08.1971**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.Qd2 Nf6 8.f3 0–0 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.Bb3 Rc8 11.0–0–0 Ne5 12.h4 h5 13.Bg5 Nh7 14.Bh6 Bxh6 15.Qxh6 Rxc3 16.bxc3 Qa5 17.Kb2 Rc8 18.Qe3 Qb6 19.Ka1 Qc5 20.g4 hxg4 21.f4 Nc4 22.Bxc4 Qxc4 23.Rd3 e5 24.Nb3 Nf6 25.Nd2 Qa4 26.f5 Qxc2 27.fxg6 Be6 28.gxf7+ Kxf7 29.c4 Bxc4 30.Nxc4 Qxc4 31.Rf1 Qe6 32.Qxa7 Rc2 33.Qa3 Rc6 34.Qb4 Kg6 35.Qxb7 Rc2 36.Rb3 Qc4 37.Rd1 Nxe4 38.h5+ Kh6 39.Qb8 Rc1+ 40.Rxc1 Qxc1+ 41.Rb1 Qc3+ 42.Qb2 Kxh5 43.Qxc3 Nxc3 44.Rb3 0–1

**Portisch, Lajos – Kavalek, Lubomir [E80] Hoogovens Wijk aan Zee (11), 27.01.1975**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 c6 6.Be3 a6 7.Bd3 b5 8.e5 Nfd7 9.f4 0–0 10.Nf3 Nb6 11.b3 N8d7 12.a4 bxc4 13.bxc4 c5 14.a5 cxd4 15.Nxd4 dxe5 16.Nc6 Qe8 17.axb6 exf4 18.Nd5 fxe3 19.Nc7 Bc3+ 20.Kf1 Bb7 21.Nxe8 Bxc6 22.Nc7 Rad8 23.Rc1 Bd2 24.Nd5 Bxd5 25.cxd5 Nxb6 26.Rc5 Nxd5 27.g3 Rd6 28.Kg2 Rfd8 29.Rxd5 Rxd5 30.Bc4 Rf5 31.Qb3 Rf2+ 32.Kh3 Rd6 33.Qb8+ Kg7 34.Qa7 g5 35.Qxe7 g4+ 36.Kxg4 Rg6+ 37.Kh3 Rh6+ 38.Kg4 Rg6+ ½–½

**Kavalek, Lubomir – Ljubojevic, Ljubomir [E18] Montreal 1979 (13), 28.04.1979**

*[Kavalek]*

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 d5 6.0–0 Be7 7.Ne5 0–0 8.Nc3 Na6** A new way of handling the Queen's Indian Defence, which was introduced in 1976. Black's basic idea is to play

...c7–c5, and, if necessary, ...Nc7. **9.cxd5 exd5 10.Nd3** Directed mainly against 10...c5, but Ljubojevic nevertheless considers this move possible. **10...c5 11.dxc5 bxc5 12.Bg5 Rb8 13.Qa4 c4** Too active. 13...Qe8 was preferable. **14.Bxf6 Bxf6 15.Nf4 Nc5** After the game Ljubojevic suggested that 15...Qd6 would have been better, but then 16.Nfxd5! Bxd5 17.Nxd5 Bxb2 18.Rad1 leads to an advantage for White. **16.Qxa7** This move required accurate calculation, to make sure that the queen would not be trapped. **16...Qd6 17.Ncxd5** At the worst the queen can escape via b6. **17...Bxb2 18.Rad1 Nd7** An unfortunate choice in a difficult position. Black should have tried for a draw in the ending after 18...Ra8 19.Qb6 Qxb6 20.Nxb6 Bxg2 21.Kxg2 Rxa2 (21...c3 loses to 22.Nxa8 Rxa8 23.Rd4 followed by 24.Rc4.) 22.Nxc4 , when all the remaining pawns are on the same wing. **19.Ne3 Qb6 20.Qa4 Nc5 21.Qxc4 Ba6 22.Qc2 Rfc8** It looks as though Black has some counterplay, but the white pieces make an effective switch to the opposite wing. **23.Qf5 g6 24.Qg4 Re8** I think that 24...Bg7 was stronger. **25.Rb1** Now it is apparent that one pair of rooks will be exchanged. **25...Qa7 26.Bd5** This centralized bishop, attacking f7 and defending the pawn at a2, is a significant factor. **26...Kh8 27.Nc4** Bad, of course, is 27.Nxg6+ fxg6 28.Rxb2 Rxb2 29.Qd4+ in view of 29...Qg7. **27...Bxc4** More or less forced. If the bishop moves from b2 (for example, 27...Bg7), then 28.Nd6. **28.Bxc4 Ne4 29.Nd3 f5 30.Qf4 Qd4** Black is unable to avoid further simplification. **31.Rxb2 Rxb2 32.Nxb2 Qxb2 33.Rd1** A strong move. White intends to invade the seventh rank with his rook, and 33...Qc2 is bad in view of 34.Rd8. **33...Qb6 34.Rd7** The rook reaches the seventh rank, and the threat of Qh6 is in the air. **34...Qc5 35.Rc7 Qd4 36.Bd3 Qa1+** Black is in severe time trouble, and in addition his position is hopeless. **37.Kg2 Qf6 38.Bxe4 Rxe4 39.Qh6 1–0**

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### BC Open

20-21 February

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