



Alberta Chess Report

Publication of the Alberta Chess Association ♦ August 2009

GM Bluvshstein



Canadians share 1st at the Canadian Open 2009

In spite of a host of international players, Canadians ruled the day. Mark has gotta love Edmonton, and Ed's feeling right at home.



By most accounts, this was one of the best Canadian Open's in history. Complete with super GM's, live internet game coverage of all top boards, lectures and simulms from the featured players, it will be pretty tough to beat in the future. Even Chessbase jumped on board to provide coverage!

IM Porper



Calgary Chess Club Live!

Who says we're not street performers? Roy gave a blindfold demonstration, and Bob did a mini simul, while everyone enjoyed the big set in the sun! Thousands of people enjoying the best that Calgary and chess have to offer.



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REPORT**

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Submissions are acceptable in any electronic text form, while pictures can be submitted in the following formats: tiff, jpeg, bmp, gif. All articles are written by the editor unless otherwise credited.

Submit your request by email to: tficzere@telus.net or fax to: 403.568.7178 To speak to the editor, call toll free outside of Calgary 866.971.2437, in Calgary call 403.568.2773

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EDITORIAL

The Canadian Open was an event to remember. Not only did Canadian's share top honours, they had an amazing time. I have yet to speak with anyone who claimed they had a lousy tournament. Even if you finished at the bottom, it was all good.

On the horizon we will see the Battle of Alberta, Over/Under 1800, and the Medicine Hat Open. All will be interesting. If you're in the hunt for a Road Warrior prize, you'd better not miss any event you can play in.

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Canadian Open 2009

By Tony Ficzer

If you were one of the lucky players at this year's classic, you probably got your fill of chess experiences. Whether you attended one of the many lectures, simuls, or simply took part in the main event, you were treated to a first class event with a veritable smorgasbord of GM's from around the world. Who could pass up the likes of Shirov, Ni, Adams, Ganguly, Mikhalevski, Perelshtyn, Bluvshstein, and the list goes on and on. Maybe you were one of the lucky players who got to sit opposite one of the tournament stars. Any way you look at it, you had a memorable chess tournament worthy of any held in Canadian history. Chief organizer Micah Hughey submitted the bid at the CFC AGM at last year's Canadian Open held in Montreal. The governors of the CFC voted unanimously to accept the bid. The site would be the Delta Edmonton Centre Suite Hotel, smack in the middle of downtown Edmonton. The event would be nine rounds with one game per day. The dates were set for July 11 to 19. Now the work would begin.

The organizing committee consisted of Micah, Vlad Rekhson, Terry Seehagen, Mike Sekuloff, Bruce Thomas, and myself. Vitaly Motuz and Anastasia Kazakevich were Assistant Arbiters. Volunteer support was also given by Mike Zeggelaar, Aaron Sequillion, Jim Daniluk, Rob Gardner, Ali Razzaq, who helped with airport runs, Wayne Mendryk who was the "bye" man. Rob McCullough helped with set up and manning the registration/information desk. Wayne and Aaron helped with set up as well, while Aaron, Tony, Terry, Vlad, the Nadeau's and Hugh Brodie helped with tear down.

Micah enlisted the services of MonRoi to host the tournament website, as well as provide live game broadcasts for the duration of the event. This turned out to be an excellent decision as MonRoi proved that

not only could they do all of that, but they also generated interest from other chess websites around the world. Even Chessbase.com had the event front and centre on their website for several days.

There are countless details that go into organizing an event like the Canadian Open. After securing the finances, the organizers had to assemble the lineup of featured players. This appeared to go quite smooth and there were only a couple of little snags along the way. GM Nakamura was signed early, but as the event approached, he decided to play in another tournament. GM Shabalov was also signed, but was unable to attend for personal reasons. So, instead of having Shabalov in person, the organizers hired him to provide game analysis for five games each round. Another smart decision. Mr. Shabalov's analysis was featured on Chessbase.com, as well as in the tournament bulletins produced during the event.

The last couple of weeks leading up to the tournament were hectic to say the least. We wanted to be sure nothing was overlooked. The committee put in long hours making arrangements, making phone calls, and sending literally thousands of emails between us. On Saturday, July 11, we were ready to begin.

Micah and crew treated a few of the featured players to some leisure time before the tournament started. On the agenda was a trip to historic Fort Edmonton Park, Canada's largest living museum.

By the time registrations had closed, we were at 199 players. Ouch! No worries, just add my name to the list to hit that magical 200 mark! Within minutes there were a few last minutes entries which put the list at a cool 203 players (minus me). This was down slightly from Edmonton 2005 when there were 222 players. Last year's event in Montreal pulled in 315, but when you consider Edmonton's location within Canada, and add the recession to the equation, our numbers looked pretty good. You also have to consider that the CYCC was not part of this event, and that does have an impact on registrations.

I had the role of the pairing monkey. Basically that meant that I entered the players and results, printed the crosstables and standings, and passed this info to MonRoi to post on the website. Chief Arbiter Vlad Rekhson reviewed the pairings for each round and made changes when necessary. I liked being the monkey. Nobody yells at a monkey.

Vlad Rekhson adds the following: *"As the tournament director of the 2009 Canadian Open I can report that this event was very*



GM's Shirov and Mikhalevski doing something you won't see while they are at the board... smiling! Photo courtesy of MonRoi

short on controversy. Of course, different, minor issues came to my attention at all times, but there was really nothing major. I had the privilege of directing the 2005 Canadian Open and back then I thought that it was a relatively controversy free event; however, either because I gained more experience since then, or because of some other reason; this time around was even more easy going. I think that this was a result of everyone's positive attitude and a desire to enjoy the game that they love, have a good time and come home satisfied regardless of the result. That's the way it should be done. Thanks guys!"

After a few brief remarks at the opening ceremonies by Micah and Vlad, the first round was ready to begin. If I recall, the round started about 15 minutes late. Not bad at all. We might have started right on time, but the monkey slipped on a banana peel! All the other rounds started right on time, and pairings were always up on the website no later than 11 pm each night after the round had ended.

If you didn't pay to play, you could still attend the lectures at no cost! Lectures were given by Shirov, Bluvshstein, Ganguly, and Piasetski. All were well attended, and the attendees were more than satisfied. Being rather busy myself, I was not able to attend any of the lectures in full, however I did catch bits and pieces of all of them. I would say that GM Ganguly's and GM Shirov's lectures were the most popular in the series, while IM Piasetski gave a more informal type of lecture, sitting at the board with about 20 onlookers, answering questions and giving his opinion to anyone who asked. Lecturer's had the option of using a computer projector and chessbase, microphone, a demo board, or simply a few chess sets.

There were several simul to choose from. For a small fee you could play against the cream of the crop at the Canadian Open. GM Adams took on 26 players, giving up a single draw to Ivan Gonzalez. WIM Irina Krush faced 11 players without a single loss. GM Ni Hua and GM Zhao Xue gave simul at the same time. GM Hua challenged 15 players giving up only 2 draws

to Allan Wu and Tanraj Sohal, while GM Xue went 8-0! GM Kovalyov also did a simul at West Edmonton Mall, but the results of that event are not available at the time of this writing.

The now annual Bughouse tournament was here again. Ben Daswani took on the role as director, and player. Eight teams registered and in the end, Eric Hansen and Dale Haessel emerged victorious.

The Canadian Open Blitz Championship had 29 entries. Taking top honours was Eric Hansen with 10, ahead of Anton Kovalyov and Leonid Gerzhoy at 9.5.

One thing that I noticed with the featured players was their willingness to speak to anyone, at any time. The gap in rating was not evident. After the games, players were mingling together at local restaurants, or sharing a beer at a near by pub. The Delta Hotel proved to be a good site for this year's event, but there were a few snags along the way. The biggest problem was with their internet service which proved to be very poor at the best of times. MonRoi had to work twice as hard to get information on the web as the available connection was just not up to snuff. The playing room



GM Ganguly gives a lecture to over 40

Photos courtesy of MonRoi

itself was excellent, carpeted with good lighting. The Arbiter's biggest challenge was keeping the crowd quiet in the adjacent hall.

The CFC AGM took place in the hotel on July 13-14. There was a changing of the guard as many of the current members either lost or did not repeat their positions. The new CFC president is Eric Van Dusen of Ottawa who narrowly defeated David Lavin by a single vote. Other executive members are: VP Stijn de Kerpel of Ottawa; Treasurer, Maurice Smith of Scarborough; Secretary Lyle Craver of Winnipeg; FIDE Rep. Hal Bond of Guelph; Woman's Co-ordinator Bela Kosian; Rating Auditor Bill Doubleday of Ottawa; Junior Co-ordinator, Michael Barron of Toronto.

I did my best to provide tournament bulletins for each round. The previous round bulletin was usually available just prior to the beginning of the next round. Sometimes the bulletins were a little late as their printing relied on the arrival of GM Shabalov's daily analysis. Mr. Shabalov provided analysis of five games from each round, and his notes usually arrived an hour or two prior to the next round. Several of his annotations also made it to Chessbase, and as a result Chessbase provided his analysis, combined with photos from



Chief Arbiter Vlad Rekhson

Photo courtesy of MonRoi

MonRoi on their website. The bulletins also contained all upsets for each round, and brief results from side events.

For reasons I can't explain, the game sheets from round 2 went missing. They were left somewhere in the tournament room and were gone the next day. Possibly the cleaning staff thought they were trash, and threw them away. MonRoi had broadcast about 25 games from the round, and a few players made copies and handed them in. I am still looking for the bulk of the

games so if you are reading this, please get me your round 2 game. You can send it by snail mail, fax, or email (pgn preferred, but any format will be accepted). Please send them as follows:

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I made a huge blunder at the beginning of round 8. I had just finished the round 7 bulletin and noticed my printer was out of paper. I left to get another pack from the VIP room, and took a phone call while I was there. When I returned about five minutes later, my laptop was gone! Fortunately I had backed everything up the night before from the tournament, and my backup system kept the tournament running (we were using the laptop for the pairings, bulletins, and several other duties). I am really going to miss that laptop. Almost everything was backed up, with the exception of my photos from the last year or so, and much of my email. My own fault, and a lesson learned.

We will be putting together a tournament book which will contain all available games, many will be annotated. We will also include photos, crosstables, statistical analysis, stories, side event reports, etc. If



WFM Dina Kagramanov vs an absent Alexei Shirov from Round 2

Photo courtesy of MonRoi

you have a game, or an interesting story from the tournament, please feel free to send it my way. All submissions will be considered. Deadline for submissions will be September 30, 2009, and we are aiming at a publication date no later than October 31, 2009. The book will be published by the Alberta Chess Association with a cost of \$35 within Alberta, and \$40 outside of Alberta. Shipping is included. Make your cheque payable to “The Alberta Chess Association” and send it to my personal address. Shipping included. For Alberta residents, we ask that you pick up your copy at your local club. Please include your complete mailing address, along with your email address. The book will be a historical record of the tournament.

This is not a money making venture and we hope to recover the cost of printing with the book sales. At this time we plan on printing between 150-200 copies. Both the 2000 and 2005 books were well received, and I will do my best to live up to the standards of these fine tournament publications.

From the start, the organizers decided to hold a one section tournament. This was done so that the average player could have a shot at one or two of the featured players. Of course you could argue that the tournament could be held in sections, or that the arbiter should have used accelerated pairings for x number of rounds. You can argue from both sides of the issue, no question about it. The intent of the organizers was to provide an enjoyable chess experience for as many players as possible, and I believe they accomplished this task admirably.

It was good to see a number of female players taking part. IM Irina Krush finished tied 3-7 with 7/9, and GM Xue Zhao took the top female prize with 6.5/9. There were a number of other ladies who provided ammunition throughout the tournament. WFM Dina Kagramanov also put in a credible performance, finishing with 6/9 (as we go to press, Dina has just won the Canadian Women’s Championship in Kitchener Ontario) with her younger sister Dalia taking home prize money as well,



Round 7: IM Porper vs GM Mikhalevski

Photo courtesy of MonRoi



Bluvshtein and Chief Organizer Michah Hughey hard at work

Photo courtesy of MonRoi

finishing with 5/9. WIM Alisa Melekhina scored 5.5/9, just out of the money in her rating range.

From a purely chess perspective, the Canadian Open provided a few surprises. The top finishers were two Canadian players. GM Mark Bluvshtein and IM Edward Porper shared 1-2, both putting in excellent performances with 7.5/9, ahead of all the other GM’s and IM’s in the field. GM Bluvshtein also tied in Edmonton in 2005 if you may recall, defeating GM Shirov in that event. This time around, they drew their encounter. IM Edward Porper’s per-

formance is most notable. Not only did he go undefeated, he also notched wins against GM’s Mikhalevski and Ganguly, while splitting the point with GM’s Shirov and Adams. His performance was certainly at the GM level, but recent changes in title regulations make him ineligible for a GM norm. It seems he was one titled player short for the norm. Chief Arbiter Vlad Rekhson will submit the GM norm paperwork on behalf of IM Porper and hopes that an exception will be made. A total of 13 nations were represented (granted some of these players are living in

CANADIAN OPEN 2009 PRIZE WINNERS

OPEN SECTION			TOP UNDER 2200			TOP UNDER 1800		
PNTS	PLC	WINNER(S)	PNTS	PLC	WINNER(S)	PNTS	PLC	WINNER(S)
7.5	1-2	Mark Bluvshstein	6	1-3	William Doubleday	5.5	1	Rory Sillador
7.5	1-2	Edward Porper	6	1-3	Dina Kagramanov	4.5	2-5	Ford Wong
7	3-7	Irina Krush	6	1-3	Tanraj Sohal	4.5	2-5	Francois Nadeau
7	3-7	Alexei Shirov	5.5	4-5	Sasa Grumic	4.5	2-5	Mario Moran-Venegas
7	3-7	Michael Adams	5.5	4-5	Kevin Me	4.5	2-5	Ken Einarsson
7	3-7	Eugene Perelshteyn	5.5	4-5	Aaron Sequillion	4.5	2-5	Trevor Robertson
7	3-7	John Yoos	5.5	4-5	Jim Monaghan	TOP UNDER 1600		
6.5	8	Ni Hua	5.5	4-5	Rick Pedersen	PNTS	PLC	WINNER(S)
6.5	8	Surya Ganguly	5.5	4-5	Bradley Willis	4.5	1-2	Marlon Araullo
6.5	8	Victor Mikhalevski	5.5	4-5	Elias Oussedik	4.5	1-2	Piotr Pisanski
6.5	8	Artiom Samsonkin	5.5	4-5	Daniel Abrahams	4	3-5	Elroy Deimert
6.5	8	Leonid Gerzhoy	5.5	4-5	Jim Daniluk	4	3-5	Derek Thomas
6.5	8	Zhe Quan	5.5	4-5	Richard Wang	4	3-5	David Miller
6.5	8	Dmitry Zilberstein	TOP UNDER 2000			TOP UNDER 1400		
6.5	8	Raja Panjwani	PNTS	PLC	WINNER(S)	PNTS	PLC	WINNER(S)
6.5	8	Theo Hommeles	6	1	Richard Huang	4	1	Mike Houston
TOP UNDER 2400			5.5	2-3	Vlad Gaciu	3.5	2	Jamil Kassam
PNTS	PLC	WINNER(S)	5.5	2-3	Omaray Shah	3	3	Dinesh Dattani
7	1	Jonathan Tayar	5	4-5	David Zhang	3	3	Rick McCleary
6.5	2-3	Michael Barron	5	4-5	Brendan Fan	3	3	Rishi Durupala
6.5	2-3	Avinaash Sundar	5	4-5	Anthony Boron	OTHER PRIZES		
6	4	Vladimir Pechenkin	5	4-5	Tim Dean	PNTS	PLC	WINNER(S)
6	4	Michael Langer	5	4-5	Dalia Kagramanov	TOP SENIOR		
6	4	Victor Plotkin	5	4-5	Jonathan Farine	6	1	Leon Piasetski
6	4	Zhichao Li	5	4-5	Dezheng Kong	TOP JUNIOR		
6	4	Nicholas Moloney	5	4-5	Brian Miller	6.5	1	Anton Kovalyov
6	4	Noam Davies	5	4-5	Paul Usselman	TOP FEMALE		
Total Prize Fund \$25,300			5	4-5	Gordon Ritchie	6.5	1	Xue Zhao
Note: SACK also presented several prizes to top finishing Alberta Juniors. The list of winners is in the "Juniors at the Canadian Open" article by Bruce Thomas elsewhere in this issue.			5	4-5	Jered Fokkema	TOP UNRATED		
			5	4-5	Ali Razzaq	5	1	Behrooz Ebrahim-Shirazi
			5	4-5	Wade Caughlin	5	1	Simon-Pierre Desjardins
			5	4-5	Bill Bentley			

Canada or the USA under different FIDE flags). Almost half the players were from Alberta as would be expected, but there were players from almost all provinces in Canada, BC and Saskatchewan were heavily represented (especially Saskatchewan who could boast that more than 1/3 of their CFC membership was there!), as were Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Bruns-

wick, and Nova Scotia. Exact figures will be given in the tournament book. There were a number of individual game upsets. The biggest upset of the tournament goes to Mike Houston's (1269) win over Kim Nguyen (2140), good for 871 upset points! Mike also posted the most cumulative upset points for the tournament with a total of 2,165!!

In total there were 76 players splitting the money, plus a few more Alberta Juniors whose received special "SACK" awards. SACK is the the "Society of Alberta Chess Knights" and have a reputation of helping with a variety of chess needs in Alberta. The prize fund was forked out shortly after the conclusion of the final round, after the closing ceremonies. I'm sure Terry Seehagen suffered from writer's cramp in his

position as treasurer, making sure everyone received their share of the loot. I have never played in a Canadian Open. I have attended six or seven over the years, mostly as a spectator. This one has been my favourite, not only because I was a part of it, but because I had such a good time. The atmosphere was always friendly. Even though I worked most of the time, somehow it still felt like I was on vacation. If the team asked me to do it again, I wouldn't hesitate to say yes. To conclude this article, I leave you with a couple of games.

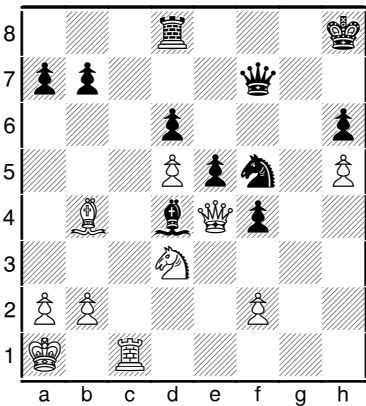
Sardul Purewal was very pleased with the following game against FM John Yoos.

□ Purewal, Sardul (2057)

■ Yoos, John C (2442)

2009 Canadian Open Edmonton, Round 2
12.07.2009

1.d4 d6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.e4 ♘c6 5.♗e3 e5 6.d5 ♘ce7 7.c5 f5 8.♗b5+ ♔f7 9.cxd6 cxd6 10.♘f3 h6 11.♖b3 f4 12.♗d2 g5 13.h3 ♘g6 14.0-0-0 ♘f6 15.♘e1 ♗f8 16.♔b1 ♗e7 17.g3 ♔g7 18.♗e2 ♖f8 19.♔a1 ♗d8 20.♘d3 ♗b6 21.♖b4 ♖b8 22.gxf4 gxf4 23.♗d1 ♔h7 24.♗g4 ♖e7 25.♗f5 ♗xf5 26.exf5 ♔h4 27.♘e4 ♘xf5 28.♘xf6+ ♖xf6 29.♖e4 ♗d4 30.♗b4 ♖bd8 31.h4 ♖hg8 32.♖xg8 ♔xg8 33.h5 ♔h8 34.♖c1 ♖f7



35.♗xd6 ♘xd6 36.♘xe5 ♗xe5 37.♖xe5+ ♖g7 38.♖xf4 b5 39.♖c6 ♖f8 40.♖c1 ♖f6 41.a3 ♖g2 42.♖c3 ♖h1+ 43.♔a2 ♖xd5+ 44.♔a1 ♔g7 45.♖a6 ♔f7 46.♖xa7+ ♔e6 47.♖a6 ♖f5 48.♖e3+ ♔f7 49.♖xh6 ♖xh5 50.♖a7+ ♔e8 51.♖g6+ ♔d8 52.♖f6+ 1-0

IM Edward Porper climbed a notch up the crosstable after this win against GM Mikhalevski.

□ Porper, Edward (2510)

■ Mikhalevski, Victor (2631)

2009 Canadian Open Edmonton, Round 7
17.07.2009

Notes by Alexander Shabalov

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.e4 ♘xc3 6.bxc3 ♗g7 7.♗c4 c5 8.♘e2 ♘c6 9.♗e3 0-0 10.0-0 ♗d7 11.♖b1 ♖c7 12.♗d3 ♖fd8?!

Less popular, but not a necessarily lesser alternative to the mainline 12...♖ad8 13.♖c1 ♗c8 14.♖d1 b6 15.h3 ♗b7 16.f4 cxd4 17.cxd4 e6 18.♖b3 ♖d6 19.♗b1 ♗a6 20.e5 ♖d7 21.♘g3 ♘e7 22.♘e4 ♘d5 23.♗f2 ♖c8 24.♖d2 ♖c6 25.g4 f5 26.cxf6 ♘xf6 27.♘xf6+ ♗xf6 28.♖c3 ♖xc3 29.♖xc3 ♗b7 30.♖e1 ♗g7 31.♖d2 ♖d6 32.♗e4 ♗xe4 33.♖xe4 ♖c8 34.♖e3 ♖d5 35.♖xc6 ♗xd4 36.♖e8+ ♖xe8 37.♖xe8+ ♔g7 38.♖e7+ 1/2 Aronian, L (2754)–Vachier Lagrave, M (2684)/Paris FRA 2009.

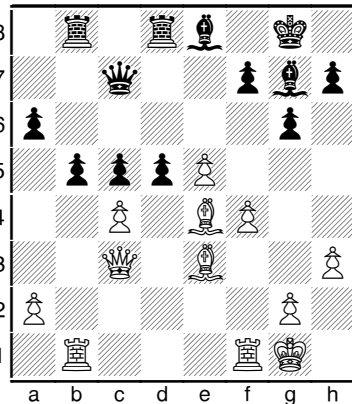
13.h3 ♗e8 14.d5 ♘e5 15.c4 a6!?

This may have been an improvement over 15...e6 16.♘f4 ♖ab8 17.♗e2 ♖d6 18.♖c2 ♖a6 19.♖b5 ♗f8 20.a4 ♗xb5 21.cxb5 ♖d6 22.♖c3 ♗g7 23.♖xc5 ♖c8 24.♖xa7 b6 25.♖xc7 ♖xc7 26.♖d1 ♗f6 27.dxe6 ♖xd1+ 28.♗xd1 fxc6 29.♗b3 1-0 Topalov, V (2791)–Svidler, P (2727)/Nanjing 2008.

16.♘c1 ♖ab8?

Black should follow with 16...e6!/? now that the white knight is away from the f4 square. Now he falls into a very passive position.

17.f4 ♘d7 18.♖c2 ♘b6 19.♘e2 ♘a4 20.e5 b5 21.♘c3 ♘xc3 22.♖xc3 e6 23.♗e4 exd5?!



This loses control over f5 square and

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black succumbs to a direct attack.
24.cxd5 e4
Blacks passers are no match for white's moveable center
25.♗d4 f5?!
Victor panicks. 25...♖b7 with the idea Rxd5 would distract white from the immediate f4–f5 breakthrough.
26.exf6 ♗f8 27.♗e5 ♖c5+ 28.♔h1 ♖b7 29.f5 ♖xd5 30.♗xd5+ ♖xd5 31.♖bd1 ♖c6 32.♖d8 b4 33.♖g3 c3 34.♗d6!
Exchanging the most important defender.
34...♗xd6 35.♖xd6 ♖b5 36.♖e1 ♖b8 37.♖e3 c2 38.♖e7 ♖b7 39.♖xb7 ♖xb7 40.♖xe8+ ♔f7 41.♖c8 1-0

The organizers would like to thank the many sponsors who made this event possible:

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- The Edmonton Chess Club
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- Dub Architects Limited
- Sardul Purewal
- Roy Yearwood
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No official word on the next Canadian Open is available. Calgary plans on hosting the next Canadian Open in Alberta in 2012 or 2013.

Juniors at the Canadian Open

By Bruce Thomas

Like most other sports, youthful domination of chess competitions continues to grow.

The July FIDE listing of the top 100 players in the world - all Grandmasters naturally - included seven players born in 1989 or later with Carlsen Magnus of Norway, born in 1990, being in third place.

The youngest on the top 100 list was Wesley So of the Philippines who was born in 1993 and was ranked 92nd. If you consider the number of top players on the same list who were born in 1984 or later, the number soars to 35. And if you consider older players on the top 100 list, it seems that less than 10% are older than 40 and some of them are no longer active and are just hanging on with ratings earned years ago.

The youth aspect of chess was rather apparent at the 2009 Canadian Open in Edmonton where there were over 40 junior players which the organizing committee designated would be 18 years or under instead of the normal criteria in chess of being under 20.

The young players were scattered throughout the field of ratings - from a few unrated elementary school age kids playing in their first CFC-rated tournament to 17-year-old Grandmaster Anton Kovalyov.

With over 20 per cent of the entrants being under 18 and perhaps another 20 per cent being under age 25, this Canadian Open was definitely a youthful affair. Definitely, the youngsters greatly outnumbered the over age 50 crowd, and there were more younger players than older

players with higher scores. There were many examples at the Open of older players who despite decades of chess playing, had to admit defeat to players many years younger.

The hosting committee was assisted in its drive for entries by The Society of Alberta Chess Knights which encouraged Edmonton and region juniors to enter the nine-day event, and as a result, the number of local juniors was 15. A special prize fund was added for the local juniors and additional cash prizes were won by players in various rating categories: Richard Wang, Derek Thomas, Jamil Kassam, Naveed Virji and Dennis Situ.



Adam Mawani Photo courtesy of Adam's Mom



Mark Plotkin Photo courtesy of MonRoi



Keith MacKinnon Photo courtesy of MonRoi

Road Warrior

A record number of new entries registered Road Warrior points. The Battle at the Border and the Canadian Open brought in scores of players.

Aaron Sequillion still has the lead but the possibilities are many. You still have time to play in the Battle of Alberta, Over Under 1800, Medicine Hat Open, and the list goes on.

Here are the top 15 after the Canadian Open.

1	Aaron Sequillion	Edmonton	33.5
2	Roy Yearwood	Calgary	29.5
3	Nicholas Moloney	Calgary	19.0
4	Rick Pedersen	Edmonton	18.0
5	Shanker Raman	Calgary	17.5
6	Mike Zeggelaar	Edmonton	17.5
7	Chris White	La Crete	16.0
8	Ali Razzaq	Edmonton	14.0
9	Bill Bentley	Calgary	13.5
10	FM Eric Hansen	Calgary	13.5
11	Tim Pradzinski	Grande Prairie	13.0
12	David Miller	Grande Prairie	13.0
13	Micah Hughey	Edmonton	12.0
14	Jim Daniluk	Calgary	12.0
15	Terry Chaisson	Lloydminster	10.5

2009 Remaining Road Warrior Events

DATE	NAME	LOCATION
Sept 6-7	Over / Under 1800	Calgary
Sept 12-13	Medicine Hat Open	Medicine Hat
Oct 10-12	Alberta Open	Edmonton
Nov 21-22	Southern Alberta	Calgary
Dec 19-20	4th Edmonton International Chess Festival	Edmonton
Dec 20-21	WBX Team Tournament (part of EICF)	Edmonton



Calgary Chess Club at Inglewood Sunfest

By Tony Ficzer

“There’s nothing better for your soul than lying in the sun with your chess set” (almost a quote from Sunny Days by Lighthouse)

That’s how it felt on Saturday, August 1st at the Inglewood Sunfest, the kick-off to the Calgary Fringefest.

Inglewood is one of the older parts of Calgary. When you drive down 9th Ave, just over the bridge, its like stepping back into the 50’s. Red brick building, antique shops, pubs, restaurants, furniture stores clutter each side of the street.

In my new position as director of the Calgary Chess Club, my job is to promote the club around town. How better to promote the club than to have it placed front and centre in a street festival. I did some searching over the internet in June and found this festival’s website. I contacted the organizers by email to see how we could be a part. Several emails were exchanged back and forth, and I was able to arrange a free space for our giant set in exchange for supplying a few volunteers for the festival tear down.

When the big day arrived, the weather forecast for the day was HOT, and I mean really hot, with a high of about 30 celcius. We didn’t have any shade (will look into this next time) and we would be baking under the sun.

I arrived at 9 am and started to set up. By 10 am I was up and running, a full hour before the festival was slated to begin. No worries, I took a walk down the street and handed Calgary Chess Club business cards to dozens of vendors, showing them where we were. By 11 am, I was joined by Samer

Louise, and we opened the day with a couple of games of speed. This attracted a few curious onlookers, and it wasn’t long before I was challenged by one of them. This older gentlemen who I had never seen before opened the game with e4, and play began. It was clear that he didn’t know the openings very well, and before long, I was up a solid pawn. As the game progressed, I ate another pawn, thinking the rest would be easy. Before long, I was getting mated! Never underestimate your opponent.

Throughout the day, several former and current CCC members dropped by to chat and play. The streets were filled with thousands of festival tourists, with hundreds stopping by for information, a game, or a friendly conversation about chess. The giant chess set was very popular, and was one of the most photographed attractions

of the day. A shot of a small baby sitting on the board was featured the next day on page 3 of the Calgary Sun. At one point, two attractive young ladies wearing nothing but body paint weer drawn to the board. They stood on the board and several photographers snapped pictures of the two players on the giant set. No doubt these photos won’t make the website!

The whole idea of setting up at these types of events is to attract attention and promote the game. We certainly got lots of attention, and the club has seen new faces since that day. We will be setting up at a variety of festivals, malls, and other locations throughout the city.

Special thanks to Stephan Vasilev, Roy Yearwood, and Bob Macfie for helping tear down. See you at the next event!



A father and sun enjoy a friendly game at Inglewood Sunfest

Battle at the Border

By Jamin Gluckie

The third annual BATB took place over the June 27/28 weekend and once again it was a success. 16 players from Alberta and Saskatchewan participated in the 4-round event, and in the end top seed Andrew Boik finished first with a perfect 4/4. Roger Blum also had a great result with 3/4 - losing only to Boik and defeating Roy Yearwood in the last round - to finish

in second place. The U1800 prize was split between Jon Drury and Mike Zeggelaar, who both had 2/4.

The next Battle at the Border is tentatively scheduled for September 2010, and if everything goes according to plan there will be world-class players in attendance. Stay tuned for more details!

Lethbridge Chess Club

Contact Kent Karapita
Email
kentkarapita@hotmail.com

BEYOND ALBERTA

Albertans at the Canadian Junior Championship

By Richard Wang

The Canadian Junior Chess Championship was held in Victoria, starting from July 25-July 28. There were 7 rounds and 12 players in the tournament, including IM Artiom Samsonkin and FM Raja Panjwani. There were many Canadian masters and experts in the tournament. Two players from Alberta: David Zhang and I participated in the tournament.

There were a few upsets, with Marinkovic beating Martchenko and me drawing Roman in the first round. In the next round Arthur Calugar crushed IM Samsonkin and ended up tied first with FM Raja. Raja led the third round by beating Arthur. Samsonkin beat Raja in the next round so they were tied again for first. In the fifth and sixth round Samsonkin drew each time, while Raja earned two wins. Last round Raja played me, offering a quick draw to secure the win of the tournament.

(Richard submits a couple of his games from this tournament, see page 12)

Canadian Youth Chess Championships

By David Zhang

The Canadian Youth Chess Championships were held in Victoria, British Columbia, as qualifiers for the World Youth Chess Championships. Albertan juniors, Richard Wang, David Zhang, Thomas Kaminski, Jan Lazo, Victor Kaminski, and FM Eric Hansen participated in the tournament. As expected, the top seed of the U12 section, Richard Wang, rated 2102 CFC, scored 6.0/7, and winning in a play-off match, took home \$1000 for the WYCC in Kemer-Antalya, Turkey. David Zhang, ranked 8th in his section, rated 2026, managed to tie for 1st place along with Thomas Kaminski (Both undefeated throughout the tournament.), but lost to Thomas in the tie-breaks. Both players performed at a 2250 CFC level. In the U16 section, Jan Lazo, rated 1990 got some great positions with the white pieces, and scored 3.5/7 in a very tough section. Victor Kaminski and Eric Hansen both came into the U18 section as the top two seeds. Victor, rated 2328, scored 5.0/6, only losing to the CYCC U18 Champion, Eric Hansen, with a perfect score. The Alberta Juniors claimed 3 champions, and two runner-ups.

US Tournaments

By Tony Ficzero

Albertans have been on the road quite a bit this summer. Eric Hansen has participated in an impressive list of events. Victor Kaminski has also been travelling.

Las Vegas International Chess Festival

June 4-7

6 round swiss

Bill Bentley of Calgary finished with 3/6 in the U2000 section.

Brian Starkes of Calgary finished with 2/6 in the U1400 section

Philidelphia International

June 25-29

9 round swiss

Eric Hansen scored 4.5/9, withdrawing after round 8.

World Open, Philadelphia

June 29-July 5

9 round swiss

Victor Kaminski scored 4.5/9

Eric finished with 3.5/9, withdrawing after round 8.

If I have missed anyone, its because I didn't know you were there!

2009 CANADIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - VICTORIA BC											
	Name	ID	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	FM Panjwani, Raja	121202	2454	W11	W7	W3	L2	W6	W4	D5	5.5
2	IM Samsonkin, Artiom	146305	2612	W9	L3	W5	W1	D4	D6	W8	5.0
3	Calugar, Arthur	130889	2242	W10	W2	L1	D6	D8	W11	W12	5.0
4	Sapozhnikov, Roman	138609	2360	D5	W8	L6	W7	D2	L1	W10	4.0
5	Wang, Richard	142949	2102	D4	D11	L2	D10	W9	W12	D1	4.0
6	Martchenko, Alexander	132495	2302	L7	W10	W4	D3	L1	D2	D9	3.5
7	Marinkovic, Mate	141393	2045	W6	L1	D8	L4	W12	D9	D11	3.5
8	Rakov, Pavel	140487	2147	W12	L4	D7	D9	D3	D10	L2	3.0
9	Li, Changhe	139187	2106	L2	W12	D11	D8	L5	D7	D6	3.0
10	Zhang, David	145883	2023	L3	L6	W12	D5	W11	D8	L4	3.0
11	Cheng, Jack (kun)	133192	2064	L1	D5	D9	W12	L10	L3	D7	2.5
12	Zhu, Zheng	USCF	1762	L8	L9	L10	L11	L7	L5	L3	0.0

Play Chess At The Calgary Chess Club



274 3359 27th St. NE
 Every Tuesday &
 Friday from 7 p.m.
 Youth program on some
 Saturdays
www.calgarychess.com

Richard Wang annotates the following two games from the Canadian Junior.

□ Wang, Richard (2045)
 ■ Sapozhnikov, Roman (2358)
 Notes by Richard Wang

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.♙g5 ♙g7 4.♘bd2 d5
 5.e3 0-0 6.c3 c6

Perhaps Roman should have played 6...♙f5 right away to prevent my next move.

7.♙d3 ♙f5

I toyed with the thought of ♙f5, but ruled it out because even though his pawns are doubled, they are extremely powerful and after a future ...♘e4 or ...e6 he will have a very solid position.

8.♙c2 ♙xd3 9.♙xd3 ♘bd7 10.0-0 c5

Maybe ♙b6?

11.♙fe1 ♙e8 12.♘e5? ♘xe5?

A bad mistake, giving Black a chance to seize the initiative with 12...c4! 13.♙c2 ♘xe5 14.dxe5 ♘d7 15.♘f3 (If 15.f4 ♙b6! 16.♙ab1 f6! 17.exf6 exf6 18.♙h4 ♘c5 with a crushing position) 15...♘xe5 16.♘xe5 ♙xe5 and Black is a pawn up.

13.dxe5 ♘g4

13...♘d7 was also possible here, with an equal position.

14.f4 f6 15.exf6 exf6 16.♙h4 g5!?

An interesting move and it makes perfect sense. It pushes my bishop back, opens up his diagonals and gets rid of the f6 pawn.

17.♙f2

I also considered 17.fxg5 fxg5 18.♙f5?! ♘xe3 19.♙xc3 ♙xc3 20.♙xg5 ♙e8 21.♙xe3 ♙xc3+ 22.♙f2 ♙xf2+ 23.♘xf2 but Black has a superior piece and more space.

17...♙d7 18.h3??

Dropping a pawn, but fortunately for me, my opponent didn't spot it.

18...♘xf2 19.♘xf2 gxf4?

19...c4 20.♙c2 ♙h6! wins a pawn unless I play the ugly ♘f3.

20.exf4 f5 21.g3 ♙ad8 22.♙ad1 ♙e6?!

I don't see the point of this move. 22...♙xe1 followed by ...c4 seems to give Black an edge. The next few moves are pointless maneuvering by both sides. 23.♘f3 ♙d6 24.♘h4?! ♙f8 25.b3 b5 26.♘f3 a6 27.♘e5 ♙b7 28.♙d2?

Perhaps 28.♙f3.

28...d4 29.c4?

Better is 29.♘g1.

29...♙h6! 30.h4 ♙e6?

Better is 30...♙d6. Now it's roughly balanced again. I decided to break Black's queenside pawn structure.

31.♙de2 ♙e7 32.cxb5 axb5 33.a4 ♙xe5?!

I don't understand why Black would give up his bishop like that.

34.♙xe5 ♙xe5 35.♙xe5 bxa4 36.♙c4+ ♙f7

37.♙xf7+ ♙xf7 38.♙xc5 axb3 39.♙b5 ♙c7

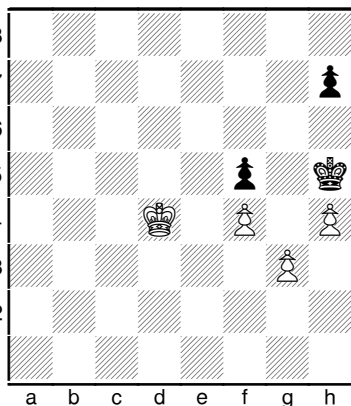
40.♙xb3 ♙c2+ 41.♘f3 ♙c3+??

Allowing White into a king and pawn ending where he is a pawn up.

42.♙xc3 dxc3 43.♘e3 ♘g7?

It was still a draw after 43...♘f7! eg. 44.♘d3 ♘e6 45.♘xc3 ♘d5 46.h5 (46.♘d3 h5=) 46...♘e4 47.h6 ♘f3 48.♘d4 ♘xg3 49.♘e5 ♘g4 50.♘f6 ♘xf4 51.♘g7 ♘g5 52.♘xh7 f4 53.♘g7 f3 54.h7 f2 55.h8 ♙f1 ♙44.

44.♘d3 ♘g6 45.♘xc3 ♘h5 46.♘d4?? ½-½



Accepting a draw is something I don't understand. It's a clear win. In this game there were a lot of ups and downs and strategic planning. An interesting game!

□ Wang, Richard (2045)

■ Li, Changhe (2106)

Notes by Richard Wang

1.d4 d5 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.♙g5 c6 4.e3 a6!?

An interesting move, no doubt trying to get into the Slav defense if I played 5.c4.

5.c3 ♙f5 6.♙d3 ♙e4

6...♘e4 was a better way to reach equality. 7.0-0 ♘bd7 8.♘e5?

This allows Black to take the initiative. Instead maybe 8.c4?

8...♙xd3?

8...♘xe5 9.dxe5 ♙xd3 10.♙xd3 ♘e4 11.♙h4 g5! 12.♙g3 ♙g7 gives Black powerful play.

9.♙xd3

Better was ♘xd3 to preserve my knight.

9...♘e4

9...♘xe5

10.♙f4 ♘xe5 11.♙xe5 f6?!

Black wants to chase the bishop away, but this is not the right way to do it. 11...e6

followed by ...♙d6 is a better way, as the text weakens Black's kingside.

12.f3

Better than ♙g3. White avoids exchanging pieces.

12...♘d6

Not 12...fxe5 13.fxe4 and Black's position is a mess.

13.♙g3 ♙b6 14.b3 ♙b5 15.♙c2 e6 16.e4 0-0-0?!

16...0-0-0 looks impressive, but castling kingside is much safer.

17.♘d2 ♙b6

Preventing c4.

18.♙d3 dxe4?

It is not evident why Black should release the tension in the centre, because after this, White has a clear advantage.

19.♘xe4?

19...fxe4 would have been better.

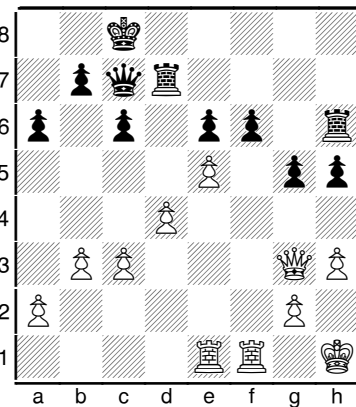
19...♘xe4 20.fxe4 ♙d6 21.♙xd6 ♙xd6

Black manages to exchange pieces. There are threats of c5 and e5 to put pressure on my d4 pawn.

22.♙g3 ♙d7 23.♘h1 h5?

Black isn't going to go anywhere with the kingside, so again he should concentrate on breaking down my centre with 23...c5.

24.h3 ♙h6 25.e5 ♙c7 26.♙ae1 g5??



This just drops a pawn. 26...h4 keeps White's advantage to a minimum.

27.♙e3! ♙d8 28.exf6 ♙xf6 29.♙xf6 ♙xf6 30.♙xe6 ♙xe6 31.♙xe6

And I emerge a pawn up in the rook ending. The rest is irrelevant.

31...♙d5 32.♘g1 ♙f5 33.♙e3 c5 34.dxc5 ♙xc5 35.♘f2 a5 36.g4 hxg4 37.hxg4 a4 38.♙f3 axb3 39.axb3 ♘d7 40.c4 ♘e6 41.♘e3 b5 42.♘d4 ♙c8 43.cxb5 ♙c1 44.♙f5 ♙d1+ 45.♘c4 ♙c1+ 46.♘b4 ♙g1 47.♙xg5 ♘f6 48.♙f5+ ♘e6 49.♙f4 ♘e5 50.♙c4 ♘d6 51.b6 1-0

In this game I played mostly accurate moves starting from the opening to secure a win. I pressured him and my opening was a success.

Meet George Sponga

By Bruce Thomas

Before escaping an oppressive Hungarian government and arriving in Canada in the early 1970's, George Sponga always enjoyed playing chess with family and friends. He was also into weightlifting and chess was a mental activity the lifters at the gym used between their workout sessions.

Establishing a life in Canada for himself, wife Helen and young son George Jr., was Sponga's main priority and chess had to be forgotten. George put his abundant energy and friendly nature to work in Edmonton and became a successful type-writer repairman and eventually established his own business that branched into office furniture. It was only a few years ago, that George, now in his 60's and having survived a serious bout with cancer, decided he wanted to get re-involved in chess.

What Sponga and I did not realize at the time was that we were operating our businesses only a few blocks apart until Sponga spotted a Roving ChessNuts sign almost two years later and stopped in - this time things clicked. I took Sponga to Edmonton Chess Club and Sponga's love of chess blossomed and now just a few years later, Sponga has become not only one of Edmonton's most active tournament players, but also a major supporter of chess - making donations of furniture and other

items to the Edmonton Club, making cash donations towards smaller tournaments as well as bigger ones like the 2009 Canadian Open, and helping The Roving ChessNuts with various junior chess events, including successful events like the 2009 Alberta Chess Challenge which Sponga arranged to have held in the Hungarian Society hall. Sponga barely misses any of the Thursday night tournaments at ECC and enters in as many weekend and major tournaments as he can and despite his sometimes unusual openings, he is aiming to get his CFC rating up to 1800. More importantly for the development of chess, Sponga has turned his store into a chess information centre and in his many business trips around the city, he is always talking about chess and thinking of ways to get other individuals and potential sponsors involved. I made signs for Sponga's store windows, saying customers could get a 10% discount for playing chess with George, and a 20% discount if they beat him. Sponga fell victim to a prank for a day or two when I snuck into the store and changed the signs to say a 100% discount for playing and a 200% discount for beating him - the wheeling-dealing furniture salesguy did not notice the sign change, but did wonder why some immigrant customers were gesturing at the sign and talking in a language he could not understand - obviously they were trying to figure out if they knew how to play chess so they could either get free furniture or get Sponga to pay them to take some furniture out of his store! Edmonton Chess Community has come to love George Sponga as a one of its friendliest chess ambassadors - always ready to

play and talk about chess, and also always ready to tell a story about his interesting life experiences. Sponga loves chess and his contributions towards the chess community continue.

(If you've never met George, you don't know what you're missing. A perfect gentleman with a great sense of humour. Ed.)



Always joking around, chess player and chess promoter George Sponga decided one day that a cowboy hat he picked up at an auction would give him a new image. Notice the Canadian flag pin on his shirt - he loves the country which gave him an opportunity to become a successful businessman in a society free of oppression.

Over/Under 1800

September 5-6
 Calgary Chess Club
 #274, 3359-27th St. NE (Parma Tech Centre, North Building)

5 Round Swiss, CFC rated (CFC membership required, can be purchased on site)
 TD: Tony Ficzer
 Time Control: Game in 90 + 30 seconds
 Round Times: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm, 7 pm Sunday 10 am, ASAP
 Entry Fee: \$30 Adult, \$25 Junior
 Registration: Advanced email tficzer@telus.net or leave message 866-971-2437.
 On site Saturday 9-9:45 am
 Prize Fund: Based on entries



This is a *Road Warrior* event!

ACA AGM ANNOUNCEMENT

This year the AGM will take place in Edmonton during the Alberta Open, October 10-12. We will be looking at filling the following positions:

ACA President
 ACA Treasurer
 4 Directors

Each of these positions are for 2 years.



If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above positions, please contact Tony Ficzer at tficzer@telus.net

WHERE TO PLAY CHESS IN ALBERTA!

<p>Calgary Chess Club #274, 3359-27th St. NE (Parma Tech Centre, North Building) Tuesday nights from 6:30-11 p.m. Friday nights from 6:30-11 p.m. Phone 403.264.9498 Website: www.calgarychess.com</p>	<p>Grand Prairie Chess Club 1st Apostolic Church, 9932 91 Ave Tuesdays from 6-10 p.m. Contact: Tim Pradzinski 780.518.2281 Email database@telusplanet.net Website: www.gpchessclub.com</p>	<p>Okotoks Chess Club Contact: Richard Bradley Email: richard.bradley@shaw.ca</p>
<p>Calgary Junior Chess Club #274, 3359-27th St. NE (Parma Tech Centre, North Building) Contact: Simon Ong Email: simong89@yahoo.ca Website: www.geocities.com/calgarychess4juniors/home.html</p>	<p>Hanna Chess Club United Church on Centre St. Contact Jon, 403.854.3412</p>	<p>Sherwood Park Second Cup on Baseline Road Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to closing time Contact: Les Jones, 780.467.7393</p>
<p>University of Calgary Chess Club Contact: Adie Email: chess@ucalgary.ca</p>	<p>Hinton Queen's Bakery and Café, 124 Market St. Contact: Peter Bundscherer, 780.865.5050</p>	<p>Wainwright Chess Club Showtime Video, #701 10 Main St. Thursdays 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact: Allen Tinio, 780.842.4123 Email: amtinio@telus.net.</p>
<p>Edmonton Chess Club #204, 10840-124 St. Mondays & Thursdays, 7-11 p.m. Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. Phone 780. 424.0283 Website: edmontonchessclub.org/</p>	<p>Lethbridge Contact: Kent Karapita Email: kentkarapita@hotmail.com</p>	<p>EDMONTON CASUAL CHESS For general information or if you are interested in setting up a new casual site in Northern Alberta. Contact: Bruce Thomas 780.474.2318 Email: rovingchessnuts@shaw.ca</p>
<p>Edmonton Castle Downs Castledowns Public Library program room, 106 Lakeside Landing, 15379 Castle Downs Road Tuesdays 1-4:30 p.m. Casual chess - no clocks, no ratings; open to all ages, up to 16 players involved.</p>	<p>University of Lethbridge Contact: Thomas Fox Email: thomas.fox@uleth.ca Website: people.uleth.ca/~chess.club/</p>	<p>Edmonton-Blackspot Café 15120 Stony Plain Road Sundays, 2-10 p.m. Sets are available.</p>
<p>University of Alberta Student Union Building @ Avenue Pizza Restaurant/Lounge September through April (excluding Dec), Thursdays from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Contact: Stephen Stone Email: StephenRStone@gmail.com Website: uachess.wetpaint.com</p>	<p>Lloydminster Contact: Terry Chaisson H. 780.875.8186 Or cell: 780.871.3995</p>	<p>Edmonton-ChessMart 12015-76 St Open weekdays 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and some evenings and weekends. Casual games can be arranged and evaluation of players of all ages.</p>
	<p>Medicine Hat Chess Club Southridge Village, 550 Spruce Way SE Mid September to mid June, Wednesdays, 7-10:30 p.m. Contact: Bill Taylor, 403.526.5484 Email taylorlmw@shaw.ca</p>	<p>Edmonton-Millwoods Seniors Drop-in Centre inside Millwoods Town Centre Mall Thursdays, starting 1 p.m. For changes, corrections, or additions to this listing email tficzere@telus.net</p>
	<p>Medicine Hat Junior Chess Club 1015 3rd St. N.W. End of October to early March, Saturdays 1:30-4 p.m. Contact: Bill Taylor, 403.526.5484 Email taylorlmw@shaw.ca</p>	

Upcoming ACA Events at a Glance

DATE	NAME	ORGANIZER	LOCATION
Sept 6-7	Over/Under 1800	Tony Ficzere	Calgary
Sept 12-13	Medicine Hat Open	Bill Taylor	Medicine Hat
Sept 26	Battle of Alberta	Jim Daniluk/Micah Hughey	Red Deer
Oct 10-12	Alberta Open	Ford Wong	Edmonton

CHESS 4 Kids

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TOP 40 CFC RATED ALBERTANS

As of August 11, 2009

1	Porper, Edward	2556
2	Hansen, Eric	2498
3	Gicev, Blagoj	2380
4	Kaminski, Victor	2334
5	Huber, Gregory	2306
6	Reeve, Jeff	2306
7	Peter, Steven	2294
8	Kazmaier, Daniel	2284
9	Haessel, Dale	2276
10	Ristovic, Nenad	2262
11	Neven, Knut	2254
12	Moloney, Nicholas	2250
13	Hughey, Micah	2212
14	Schaeffer, Jonathan	2206
15	Booker, Brad	2188
16	Kaminski, Thomas	2183
17	Rehson, Vladislav	2172
18	Kazakevich, Anastasia	2142
19	Wang, Richard	2138
20	Kalisvaart, Peter	2138
21	Vasilev, Stephan	2136
22	Robichaud, Martin	2132
23	Yearwood, Roy	2125
24	Zhang, David	2110
25	Pedersen, Rick	2100
26	Sequillion, Aaron	2088
27	Gold, Itohan	2087
28	Yam, Alex	2085
29	Perron, Sean	2081
30	Monaghan, Jim	2080
31	Daniluk, Jim	2079
32	Campbell, Gordon	2077
33	Gorelik, Lev	2076
34	Purewal, Sardul	2074
35	Gluckie, Jamin	2073
36	Karmali, Hafiz	2073
37	Willis, Bradley J.	2064
38	Tot, Nandor	1997
39	Lazo, Jan Edmund D.	1994
40	MacIntosh, John J.	1974

TOP 10 FIDE RATED ALBERTANS

As of July 1, 2009

1	Porper, Edward	2448
2	Hansen, Eric	2423
3	Pechenkin, Vladimir	2346
4	Kaminski, Victor	2268
5	Peter, Steven	2234
6	Reeve, Jeff	2233
7	Huber, Greg	2207
8	Haessel, Dale	2204
9	Ristovic, Nenad	2203
10	Gardner, Robert	2171

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Funded by Play Chess Alberta

Academic & Chess Excellence Chess Scholarship

\$5,000

Open to all students age 21 or under throughout BC, Alberta, Sask, and Manitoba

Awarded in June & December each year

Given to applicants who fulfill the following requirements:

1. Must have academic performance of 80% or better in the year of application.
2. Must achieve a CFC or FIDE rating of 2400 or greater in the year of application.
3. Must at time of application be teaching a minimum of 5 students and provide us with your teaching program.
4. Must organize & have in operation a school chess club with at least 10 CFC members in the year of application.
5. Must organize at least 2 CFC rated events in the year of application.
6. Must write a weekly or by-weekly chess column in their school newspaper in the year of application.
7. Must participate in at least 4 of the following tournaments:
 Alberta Open, Northern Alberta Open, Southern Alberta Open, Medicine Hat Open, Alberta Junior, Alberta Closed, Alberta Over/Under 1800 (for players outside of Alberta and Sask, contact Roy for details on this condition).

For more info, contact Roy Yearwood in writing at
 603 40th St. NE, Calgary AB T2A 6S1 or email fredandorroy@live.ca

2009 Medicine Hat Open

September 12-13

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites, 9 Strachan Bay SE

Featured Players: **GM Anton Kovalyov & GM John Fedorowicz**

Lecture by GM Fedorowicz Friday, September 11, time and location TBD

Simul by GM Kovalyov Friday, September 11, time and location TBD

Chess game on the giant chessboard downtown between the GM's Friday, September 11, time TBD.

5 Round Swiss, CFC & FIDE Rated (CFC membership required, can be purchased on site)

TD: Tony Ficzer

Time Control: Game in 90 + 30 seconds

Round Times: Saturday 10 am, 2 pm, 7 pm, Sunday 9 am, ASAP.

Cost: \$40 adults, \$35 juniors, \$15 U14 years of age (not eligible for prizes)

Prizes: Based on entries

Space is limited, register early!

Registration: Advanced email tficzer@telus.net or phone and leave message 866-971-2437. On site 9-9:45 am

Organizer: Dr. Bill Taylor, email: taylormw@shaw.ca

Watch the ACA website for further updates

www.albertachess.org

This is a *Road Warrior* event



In Edmonton:



Roving ChessNuts Summer Chess Camp

Monday - Friday

August 24 through 28

Roving ChessNuts Training Centre, 12013 - 76 Street

Full Week - Full Day - Half Day - 1 to 5 Days

Go to www.rovingchessnuts.com

and register your interest and a flyer
will be e-mailed to you or call 780-474-2318

Also, inquire about our evening and weekend classes
and private lessons resuming during September

Over 20 students
of various levels
enjoyed our July
Chess Camp!

Enrollment
will be
limited,
so indicate
your interest
now!

ChessMart

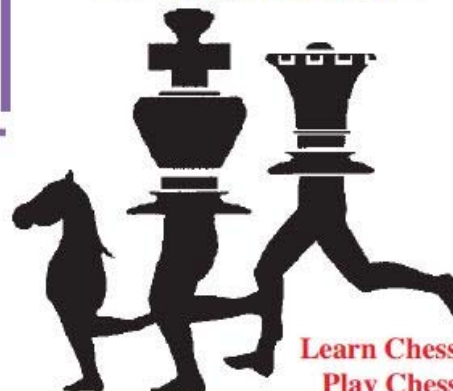
12015 76 Street, Edmonton
780-474-2318

stocks a variety of chess clocks
including DGT's and SAITEK;
wooden boards and pieces;
plastic tournament sets; vinyl boards
chess books; demo boards

More items coming early September;
watch for an Early Xmas Sale

Also our online store arrives
in September and will offer
many specials

www.rovingchessnuts.com



Learn Chess ...
Play Chess!

Edmonton Borden Park Outdoor Chess & Picnic

Sunday, August 16 (rain date of August 23) 1 - 5 p.m.

Borden Park Picnic Site along 112 Avenue (around 77 Street)

Regular Round Robin Chess Tournament played outside, followed by soccer,
bocce, water gun fights, etc. and then a potluck picnic where each family is asked
to bring a dish or snack - ChessNuts provide barbecued foods and juices

Register on website: www.rovingchessnuts.com