

Alberta Chess Report



Publication of the Alberta Chess Association ♦ January 2012



Road Warrior

The 2012 Road Warrior will have more prize money, as well as, a new type of prize.



Calgarians David Zhang and Nicka Kalaydina win the 2012 Canadian Junior

An event held at the Calgary Chess Club was very successful for the locals as both sections were won by Calgary representatives.

Large attendance at 2012 John Schleinich Memorial

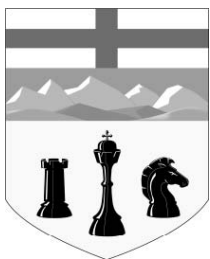
48 players took part in the annual sectional event which was boosted by a silent sponsor. A total of over \$5000 were up for grabs.



Record attendance at the 2011 AB Junior



2012 John Schleinich Memorial Section A
Photo courtesy: Tony Ficzer



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ALBERTA CHESS REPORT

The ACR is published 5 times each year. Publication months are January, April, July, September and December. Contact the editor for submission deadlines and changes. We want your submissions! We are always looking for articles on chess as they relate to Alberta. 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:
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The Alberta Chess Association

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Affiliated with the Chess Federation of Canada www.chess.ca

The ACR is printed by
Scan Copy Print
5529 Gateway Boulevard, NW
Edmonton AB T6H 2H3
Phone: 1-888-732-2218
Fax: 780-436-3141

Alberta Youth Shines at World's

By: Richard Wang

The 2011 World Youth Chess Championships were held in Caldos Novas, Brazil this year. A total of more than fifteen hundred youth players, each the best for their age and representing eighty different countries, gathered here to play in this very high standard tournament. The tension was noticeable as each player was determined to prepare and fight to the very last moment for each game. The tournament this year consisted of 9 rounds, instead of the usual 11, which meant that each game was much more important! This year Canada sent 39 strong youths to participate, and 8 of them had a FIDE rating of over 2000! Canada's team was strong this year, and there were definitely a few Canadian players who had a goal of getting a medal or trophy in mind. Indeed, I should give special mention to Michael Song, an U-12 open player, originally seeded 12th, who managed to get 3rd place overall, with 7/9! Four other Canadians were able to get 6/9 points and more. I managed to finish this year's championship with 6.5/9, a respectable score that was able to get me to tenth place, 5 higher than my original seed, in the U-14 open section. Two other Albertans, David Zhang and Kalaydina Regina Veronicka, finished with 5/9 in the U-16 open and 4.5/9 in the U-16 girls section, respectively. Not a bad outing at all!

The following is a game that I played in round 5 against 2nd highest rated IM Antipov, Mikhail. He had a FIDE rating of 2428, and I was white on board 2.

**2011 WYCC, Caldos Novas, Brazil
Wang, Richard (2256, CAN) – Antipov,
Mikhail (2428, RUS)**

Round 5, Board 2

(Notes by: Richard Wang)

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 c5

I was counting on my opponent to play 2...d5 here, and I was caught off guard by his opening choice. I didn't want to take lines into a benoni type variation, hence my passive response:

3. e3 cxd4!?

I've never believed that this line was a critical test for this variation. After the exchange of pawns, my position is considerably freer, now that there is less pressure on d4 and that my dark squared

bishop has a brighter future on either f4 or g5. I think that Black should play 3...g6 with a comfortable position.

4. exd4 d5

5. Bd3 Nc6

White has a nice edge

6. c3?!?

This move is inaccurate. White should prevent Black from playing ...Bg4 by playing h3, either on this move or the last. Black doesn't waste his chance to put his light-squared bishop outside the will-be pawn chain on e6 and d5. Black should now be equal after my mistake.

6...Bg4 7. 0-0 e6 8. Bf4

I considered putting my bishop to g5 instead, but decided that on f4 my bishop would exert better control over the e5 square, as well as preventing Black from play ...Rb8 to support his minority attack or to play ...Bd6 with control over the h2-b8 diagonal.

8...Bd6

8...Be7 is too passive and much worse. My bishop on f4 prevents Black from properly implementing his usual minority attack here, and the e5 square is now firmly under my control. After the exchange of bishops, both sides develop sensibly.

9. Bxd6 Qxd6 10. h3 Bh5 11. Re1 0-0

12. Nbd2 Rab8

Black is definitely preparing to play ...b5-b4, cracking open my Carlsbad structure. My next move is aimed to prevent that plan

13. Qe2

Black obviously cannot play 13...b5 anymore. This natural move also reinforces my control over the e5 square and connects the rooks.

13...Rfe8 14. Qe3

Preventing Black from playing 14...e5

14...Bg6

I guess Black should consider 14...b5 here, since it is in sync with his previous moves. However, the threat of ...b4 doesn't cause White too much troubles. A good way to meet it is simply 15. Ne5!, and White is well prepared to meet 15...b4 with 16.c4!, blasting Black away in the center.

15. Ne5 Bxd3 16. Qxd3 Nd7 17. Nxc6?!?

This is inaccurate, because it gives Black unnecessary counterplay. 17. Ndf3, retaining better control over the e5 square, is a superior alternative, with 18. Ng5 in the offing.

17...Qxc6?

Black misses his chance. He should play

17...bxc6! 18. b4 f6!, and White has no satisfactory way to prevent Black from playing 19...e5 with a strong center.

18. a4

Preventing Black from playing 18...b5

18...a6

While this prepares for ...b5, it allows me to take advantage of this position and fix Black on the queenside. White is well prepared for 18...e5 19. dxe5 Nxe5 20. Qd4 with an excellent position due to Black's isolated queen pawn.

19. a5

Now Black can no longer go for his minority attack, since a ...b5 will always be met by en passant, and Black must defend his weakness on a6. Furthermore, after 19.a5, White has a choice of options on the queenside. He could either go for c4 or play b4 followed by nb3-c5, which is the option that I employed in the game

19...Rbc8 20. Rac1 Qc7 21. b4

Further restricting Black on the queenside.

21...Nf6

Black plans to play ...Ne4 after any Nb3, followed by ...Nd6-c4 or simply just capturing on c5. I didn't know if I wanted to allow this, so I shuffled my rook around a bit to see if I could stir up some activity on the kingside

22. Re5 h6 23. Re3 Red8 24. Nb3

Finally playing it. I decided that delaying this move did not bring me anything. Playing 24. f3 weakens my dark squares too much, and Black can capitalize on this by simply playing 24...Nh5, eyeing the holes on g3 and f4.

24...Ne4 25. Nc5 Nxc5

Another possible move here is 25...Nd6, but it looks like White's knight on c5 is doing more than Black's knight on c4, and after 26. Rce1, White has a clear edge.

26. dxc5 Rd7

I'm not too sure what this move does.

Critical here is 26...e5, because if Black doesn't play this now he won't ever have another chance. I planned to play 27. Rce1 f6 28. Rg3, and while this is equal, White does have some chances against Black's king.

27. Rce1

Preventing ...e5 once and for all

27...Qf4!?

Trying to cause White some problems with Black's active queen, but I can easily repel it.

28. Rf3 Qh4 29. Qd4 Qxd4 30. exd4

After I played this move, I offered a draw.

I might be better here, due to my superior dark square control and space on the

queenside. Playing b5 next would be a serious option. However, as long as Black knows what he's doing it isn't too hard for him to defend, and I decided that a draw would be a good enough result against an IM rated 2428

½ - ½

Congratulations to all the chess players who represented Canada at the 2011 WYCC!

Kazmaier crushes through 2011 Southern Alberta Open

By Vlad Rekhson

The 2011 Southern Alberta Open took place at the Calgary Chess Club on November 19-20. Last year I was fortunate enough to win this event which qualified me for the Alberta Closed, but even before it started it was quite obvious that repeating last year's success would be much harder. The 2011 edition was headlined by IM Edward Porper who was followed by an array of Masters, (6 in total) as well as several strong experts. Following Eric Hansen's departure from Alberta to attend University in Texas, Edward Porper has been the dominant force on the Alberta chess scene, but this tournament was the exception to the rule. In the past three years, Edward has only lost to one Albertan-Eric Hansen, but in the 2011 Southern Alberta Open for whatever reason he was defeated twice! Both times the losses came against players rated below 2200. It was probably a perfect storm as a worse than usual play by Edward was coupled with a superb play by Jean Francois Wen and Lukas Beaudry to create the upsets.

With IM Porper being out of contention, the top spot and the qualification to the 2012 Alberta Championship was up for grabs. In the end NM Dan Kazmaier was simply unstoppable as he scored a very impressive 5/5 including wins over NM Rob Gardner, NM Martin Robichaud, and the giant killers; Jean Francois Wen and Lukas Beaudry. Lately, Dan has been

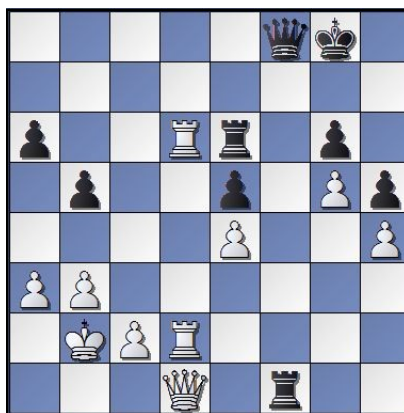
showing a very high level of play and his rating continues to climb. He will be a welcome edition to this year's Alberta Championship. Second place was shared by FM Dale Haessel and NM Martin Robichaud with 4/5 each.

Special thanks goes to the organizer of the event Tony Ficzero. Besides organizing the main event, Tony organized a Blitz tournament on Friday, November 18th which was won by IM Porper with a perfect score. That was followed by the viewing of the new Bobby Fischer move; "Bobby Fischer Goes to War."

Kazmaier, Dan (2279) - Robichaud, Martin (2211)

2011 Southern Alberta Open

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 Nd4 5.Nf3 Nxf3+ 6.Qxf3 d6 7.0-0 Bg4 8.Qe3 Qd7 9.d4 Bh3 10.dxe5 Bxg2 11.Kxg2 dxe5 12.Rd1 Bd6 13.Qf3 h6 14.Be3 a6 15.Bc5 Qc6 16.Bxd6 cxd6 17.Rd3 0-0 18.Rad1 Rad8 19.R1d2 Rd7 20.g4 Re8 21.h4 Re6 22.Kf1 Qc8 23.Ke1 Qd8 24.Kd1 b5 25.a3 Qa5 26.Nd5 Nxd5 27.Rxd5 Qa4 28.Qd3 Qa5 29.Qb3 Qd8 30.Qg3 Qf6 31.Kc1 Qg6 32.f3 h5 33.g5 f5 34.Qh3 fxe4 35.fxe4 Rf7 36.b3 Rf4 37.Re2 Qf7 38.Kb2 Rf3 39.Qh1 Qf4 40.Qd1 Qf8 41.Red2 g6 42.Rxd6 Rf1



Dan shows how to win with two rooks vs. a queen.

43.Rxe6 Rxd1 44.Rxd1 Qc5 45.Rxg6+ Kf7 46.Rf6+ Ke7 47.Rd5 Qe3 48.Rxe5+ Kd7 49.Rd5+ Ke7 50.Rff5 Qe1 51.g6 b4 52.axb4 Qxh4 53.g7 1-0

TOP 40 CFC RATED ALBERTANS

AS OF January 30, 2012

1	Hansen, Eric	2594
2	Porper, Edward	2495
3	Pechenkin, Vladimir	2425
4	Gicev, Blagoj	2370
5	Wang, Richard	2337
6	Reeve, Jeff	2335
7	Kazmaier, Daniel	2317
8	Haynes, Nicolas	2314
9	Gardner, Robert J.	2308
10	Valencia, Belsar	2306
11	Haessel, Dale	2300
12	Yam, Alex	2296
13	Zhang, David	2285
14	Ristic, Nenad	2252
15	Neven, Knut	2235
16	Grumic, Sasa	2227
17	Robichaud, Martin	2219
18	Nguyen, Kim	2208
19	Hughey, Micah	2183
20	Kaminski, Thomas	2182
21	Booker, Brad	2170
22	Gold, Itohan	2165
23	Yearwood, Roy	2158
24	Gluckie, Jamin	2156
25	Wen, Jean-Francois	2148
26	Tam, Erik	2134
27	Miller, David	2101
28	Ebrahim-Shirazi, Behrooz	2086
29	Tot, Nandor	2084
30	Perron, Sean	2082
31	Kalisvaart, Peter	2063
32	Stark, Mark	2053
33	Newton, Geoff	2050
34	Willis, Bradley J.	2048
35	Beaudry, Lukas	2047
36	Pua, Richard	2037
37	Sequillion, Aaron	2037
38	Pivovarov, Juraj	2019
39	Rekhson, Vladislav	2004
40	Regimbald, Adrien	1996

TOP 10 FIDE RATED ALBERTANS

AS OF January 1, 2012

1	Hansen, Eric	2446
2	Porper, Edward	2441
3	Pechenkin, Vladimir	2320
4	Gicev, Blagoj	2305
5	Reeve, Jeff	2244
6	Wang, Richard	2240
7	Valencia, Belsar	2218
8	Yam, Alex	2203
9	Ristic, Nenad	2198
10	Gardner, Robert J.	2195



Big Prizes at the 2012 John Schleinich Memorial

By: Vlad Rekhson

The 2012 John Schleinich Memorial sectional was not another run of the mill chess tournament. A silent sponsor decided to contribute up to \$5000 to support this event which attracted a great number of participants. As in previous years, the John Schleinich Memorial was run in the round-robin format with sections of six players determined by ratings. The prizes were divided equally among sections. Each section had a total of \$540 in prizes with \$270 going to first, \$180 to second and \$90 to third place finisher. If that's not enough, two random draws were held to determine the recipients of funding for chess equipment. Newcomer from Morley, AB-Robert Wilson won \$500 which he will likely use to start up a new chess club in his community. The second draw for \$300 went to Itohan Gold from Calgary.

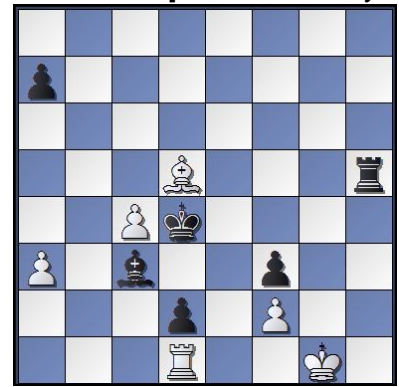
With such nice prizes it was clear that attendance in this event would be quite high. Since the Calgary Chess Club can only accommodate 48 players, the registrations were coming fast and in fact the tournament was sold out with two weeks to go! Towards the end there was quite a race to register as the last few entrants were in competition to make it into the 48.

Section A was an all master affair. After three rounds, Dan Kazmaier (2317) and Alex Yam (2296) were perfect with 3/3. After a fourth round draw, it seemed that this event was destined to end in a tie for first place, but FM Dale Haessel (2300) acted as the spoiler as he beat Dan in the last round. Alex won his last game and finished with an incredibly impressive 4.5/5! The strong start was enough for Dan Kazmaier to finish second with 3.5/5. FM Haessel finished third with 3/5.

Robichaud , Martin (2219) - Yam, Alex (2296)

2012 John Schleinich Memorial A

1. e4 g6 2. d4 c6 3. Nf3 Bg7 4. Be3 Qb6 5. b3 d5 6. e5 Bg4 7. c4 e6 8. Nbd2 Ne7 9. Bd3 O-O 10. h3 Bf5 11. Be2 Nd7 12. g4 Be4 13. Nxe4 dxe4 14. Ng5 c5 15. Nxe4 cxd4 16. Bxd4 Qc7 17. Nf6+ Nxf6 18. exf6 Nc6 19. Bc3 Bh6 20. h4 Bf4 21. Qc2 Rad8 22. Qe4 e5 23. O-O Qd6 24. g5 h6 25. Bg4 hxg5 26. h5 gxh5 27. Qh1 Qxf6 28. Bxh5 Kg7 29. Rfd1 Qf5 30. Qf3 Qc2 31. Rd5 Nd4 32. Bxd4 exd4 33. Rxd8 Rxd8 34. Qxb7 Qf5 35. Qf3 d3 36. Bg4 Qe5 37. Rd1 d2 38. Qe2 Qb8 39. Qe4 Qb6 40. Kg2 Rh8 41. Kg1 Rh4 42. Qf3 Qd4 43. Kf1 Rh2 44. Bh3 Qb2 45. Bg2 Qc2 46. Kg1 Rh6 47. Bf1 g4 48. Bd3 gxf3 49. Bxc2 Re6 50. Kf1 Re5 51. Bd3 Kf6 52. b4 Rh5 53. Kg1 Bh2+ 54. Kh1 Bd6+ 55. Kg1 Bxb4 56. Be4 Rh3 57. Bd5 Ke5 58. Bxf7 Kd4 59. a3 Bc3 60. Be6 Rh5 61. Bd5



After 61. Bd5

Rxd5!! 62. cxd5 Kd3 63. d6 Ke2 64. d7 Ba5 65. Rb1 d1=Q+ 66. Rxd1 Kxd1 67. Kf1 Bd8 68. a4 a5
0-1

Section B was the closest from the get-go as the rating difference between the highest and lowest rated players was only 69 points. If the lowest rated player was going to win a section, the likelihood that it would happen in Section B was amongst the highest and that's exactly what happened. The fast improving junior-David Miller (2101) won the event with an impressive 4/5. Second went to veteran NM Roy Yearwood (2158) with 3.5/5 and third was taken by Erik Tam (2134).

Miller, David (2101) -Gold, Itohan (2165)

2012 Schleinich Memorial B

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.f4 Qc7 8.Qf3 Be7 9.0-0 Nc6 10.Nxc6 Qxc6 11.Bd3 h6 12.Bh4 Qc7 13.Rhe1 g5 14.fxg5 Nd7 15.g6!



After 15.g6!

fxg6 16.Nd5 exd5 17.exd5 g5 18.Qh5+ Kd8 19.Rxe7 Nf6 20.Rxc7 Nxe5 21.Rf7 Bd7 22.Bf2 Kc7 23.Bf5 Rad8 24.Bxd7

Rxd7 25.Rxd7+ Kxd7 26.g3 Re8 27.Re1 Rxe1+ 28.Bxe1 Ke7 29.Kd2 Kf6 30.Ke3 Kf5 31.Bb4 Nf6 32.c4 Ne4 33.g4+ Ke5 34.Bc3+ Nxc3 35.bxc3 b6 36.a4 a5 37.h3 Kf6 38.Kd4 Ke7 39.c5 dxc5+ 40.Kd3 Kd8 41.Kc4 Kc7 42.Kb5 c4 43.Kxc4 Kd6 44.Kb5 1-0

I was able to win Section C, but not without help. My final score was 3.5/5 which normally would not be enough to win first, but due to my opponents beating each other I managed to sneak in for the top spot. There was a three way tie for second between Sean Perron (2082), Aaron Sequillion (2037) and Jim Daniluk (1995) with 3.5/5 each.

The lone female participant was able to snatch Section D. Nicka Kalaydina (1935) exhibited solid play as she won this section with 4/5 after winning three games and drawing the other two. Second place went to Hafiz Karmali (1947) with 3.5/5 while third was shared by Bill Bentley (1938) and Medicine-Hat junior Jordan Schibler (1829) with 2.5/5 each.

Section E featured another pile up on top as first was shared by Yassen Bogoev (1821) and Phil Holmstrom (1766) with 3.5/5 each. Third was taken by Calgary Junior Diwen Shi (1783) with 3/5.

Possibly the biggest surprise of the tournament occurred in Section F. Going into the event, Calgary junior Nicholas Lee (1474) was the lowest rated according to the overall ratings and second lowest according to FIDE. In fact, this section

featured one of the biggest gaps between the top rated player and the lowest rated one (252 points). Nicholas was not deterred and confidently took this section with 5/5! Second place went to Garth Dunn from Lethbridge (1726) with 3.5/5. Third place went to another representative of Lethbridge-Jack Davies (1640) with 2.5/5.

Section G was dominated by another Calgary Junior-Chenxi Zhao (1456) who also scored 5/5. Unlike Nicholas Lee, Chenxi was the highest rated player in his section but 5/5 can't be overlooked and he certainly couldn't have done any better! Second place went to Phil Evans (1320) with 3.5/5 and third went to Robert Wilson from Morley (1364) who scored 3/5.

Section H was dominated by kids as five out of the six participants were juniors. The winner was the very young and talented Xuyan Zhang (804) who scored 4/5. Second was shared by Bryan Ma (527) and Chen Wu (620) with 3/5 each.

The tournament was organized and directed by Tony Ficzero who did a good job of running this trouble free event. A special thanks must also go to Frank Kluytmans, Paul Usselman and Deweese Wood without whom this event wouldn't have been the same.

Full results are available at: <http://calgarychess.com/Schleinich.html>

2012 Alberta Closed/Reserves and Women's championships

Edmonton Chess Club, 10840 124 st, Phone: 780-424-0283

Dates: Closed, Apr 6-8, Reserves and Women's Apr 7-8

Organizer: Closed and Reserves Brad Willis: bradleywillis9@gmail.com
Women's: Rick Pedersen: rpedersen@interbaun.com

Closed is a 6 player Round-Robin. Reserves will be open to all Swiss.

All interested female players should contact Rick Pedersen by March 7, 2012.

More Details will be available soon at www.albertachess.org



2012 Calgary Closed/Reserves

February 14-March 27
Calgary Chess Club
274 3359 27th St. NE

<http://calgarychess.com/Tournaments.html>




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Chess Association

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University of Lethbridge Chess Club

Contact Thomas Fox
Email chess.club@uleth.ca
Website <http://people.uleth.ca/%7Echess.club>




UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
Chess Club

- ◇ All skill levels welcome to attend!
- ◇ Blitz once each month in CAB 373 or 369

Email uachess@ualberta.ca for info
<http://uachess.wetpaint.com/>






2012 University Battle of Alberta Open to everyone including community members

Feb 4-5 2012

Calgary Chess Club 274-3359 27 St NE Calgary, AB T1Y 5E4 (403) 264-9498 CFC/FIDE Active Rated

Tournament Director: Frank Kluytmans, CCC President/CJCC Coordinator

ALL UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS SHOULD EMAIL THEIR LIST OF PLAYERS TO FRANK (fekluytmans@gmail.com) by January 31st @ 6 P.M, so Frank may prepare the pairings for round 1 ahead of time! The results of the top 4 finishers of each University team will count toward the score in determining the winner of the University Battle of Alberta. A trophy will be awarded to the winning university and be displayed in their university for a year. In case, it is a draw, the defending champion (University of Alberta) will keep the trophy! Entry fees will be used as cash prizes (community members will be eligible for cash prizes!)
Format: 10 Rounds Active-Rated Chess (Game in 25 minutes + 10 seconds per move). Six rounds on Saturday Feb 4, 2012 and four rounds on Sunday Feb 5, 2012.

This will be the first FIDE Rapid play rated tournament in Canada.

Schedule of rounds Saturday:

R.1 10-11 R.2 11-12 LUNCH 12-1:30 R.3 1:30-2:30 R.4 2:30-3:30 R.5 3:30-4:30 R.6 4:30-5:30

DINNER will start from 7 to 11 at a place booked by the U of C Organizer (i.e. in the past years, Joey's Tomato, Boston Pizza)

Schedule of rounds Sunday:

R.1 10-11 R.2 11-12 LUNCH 12-1:30 R.3 1:30-2:30 R.4 2:30-3:30 All games finished by 4:00 pm. Award Ceremony finished by 5:00 pm!

Barred pairings such that players from the same University cannot play against each other! Up to 3 half point byes are permitted from round 1 to 5 (byes do not count toward score in determining winner of the University Battle of Alberta). CFC Memberships can be purchased at the CCC.

Entry Fees will be as followed:

- \$10 to University students, professors, and staff with current CFC membership (must show their school I.D.)
- \$30 to community members with current CFC membership, \$10 discount (\$20) for junior community members
- \$35 to University students, professors, and staff who want to purchase one-tournament CFC fee.
- \$55 to University students, professors, and staff who want to purchase annual membership.



2012 Lethbridge Open

April 14-15, 2012

Lethbridge Lodge

320 Scenic Drive (right downtown)

TD: Frank Kluytmans Email: fekluytmans@gmail.com

Phone: 403-999-2092

5 round Swiss, CFC rated

CFC membership required (available on site)

Time Control: Game in 90 minutes + 30 seconds per move

Registration: 9:15-9:45 Saturday at site.

Register in advance by email to either:

Paul Viminitz vimip0@uleth.ca or

Frank Kluytmans fekluytmans@gmail.com

Times: Saturday April 14, 2012 10am, 2:30pm, 7pm

Sunday April 15, 2012 9am, 1:30pm or ASAP

Entry fee: \$35 adults, \$30 Junior (18 and under). Free to GMs and IMs.

Byes: A maximum of 2 half point byes available in the first 3 rounds if notified before the start of round 1.

All fees returned as prizes (Organizer will cover ACA fees)

Free wine and cheese at home of Paul Viminitz, 1313 4th Av. S., after last game on Saturday!

Some billets available

For reservations at Lethbridge Lodge call 1-800-661-1232

Hotel Website: www.lethbridgelodge.com

For more info contact Dr. Paul Viminitz at vimip0@uleth.ca

or call 403 331-3295 or 403 329-2505



Alberta Youth Chess Championship 2012

February 25-26, 2012
Calgary Chess Club
#274, 3359 27 St. N.E.
Calgary, Alberta
T1Y 5E4

CCC Phone (403) 264-9498
TD Cell (403) 999-2092

Tournament Director: Frank Kluytmans

This is an ACA sponsored event. The winners of the various age groups will get partial expenses paid towards the CYCC 2012 in Surrey, B.C. July 3-6, 2012.

Sections:

Under Age 8 (Born after January 1, 2004)
Under Age 10 (Born after January 1, 2002)
Under Age 12 (Born after January 1, 2000)
Under Age 14 (Born after January 1, 1998)
Under Age 16 (Born after January 1, 1996)
Under Age 18 (Born after January 1, 1994)

CFC membership is required and can be purchased at your local chess club or on-site. \$28 for one year junior membership or \$10 for single tournament membership.

Entry Fee: \$25 for pre-registrations if paid before February 1, 2012, can be paid by cheque written to Calgary Junior Chess Club.

For late entries after January 31, 2012 fee becomes \$30. Cheques are acceptable up to February 24, 2012. Entries paid on-site the day of the tournament must be paid in cash.

Registration on-site: From 9:00 AM – 9:45 AM on Saturday Feb 25, 2012.

Prizes: 75% of entry fees will be paid back per section minus \$5 per player to the ACA and the remainder to CJCC. Estimated prizes will be based on the number of entries per section. Trophies for winners of each section will be given out.

Format: Round Robin if 6 players or less per section. Swiss if 7 players or more per section.

2012 Northern Alberta Open

Dates: Feb 18-19
Edmonton Chess Club, 10840 124 st,
Phone: 780-424-0283

Tournament Director: FA Ali Razzaq
ali_alnajmi@hotmail.com

5 Round Swiss, CFC & FIDE rated

CFC membership is required and available at the door

Entry fee: \$30 before February 9, \$35 after.

May be paid by cheque to the ECC address above, at ECC, or in Calgary by paying Vlad Rekhson.

Free for GMs IMs and FMs

On-Site Registration: 9:00-9:45 AM
Saturday, Feb. 19

Round times: Saturday, 10 am, 2:30 pm, 7 pm. Sunday, 10 am, 2:00 pm or ASAP

Time controls: G/90 + 30 seconds

Byes: Up to two half point byes are available for rounds 1-4 if announced before the start.

Prize fund: Guaranteed \$600 in prizes. More prizes if there are 25+ paid entries

First prize guarantee: \$200!

Miscellaneous: The winner qualifies for the 2011 Alberta Chess Championship (if an Alberta Resident)

Limit of 60 players so register early to guarantee your spot!
Default late time is 60 minutes.

Sponsored by the Alberta Chess Association.

This is a *Road Warrior* event!



2012 March of Kings

March 24-25
Calgary Chess Club
274 3359 27th St. NE
Parma Tech Centre, North Building

**5 Round Swiss, CFC & FIDE Rated,
ONE SECTION**

CFC membership required, can be purchased on site
Note: CFC membership (if expired) must be renewed prior to start of round 1

TD: Frank Kluytmans

Time Control: Game in 90 + 30 second increment

Round Times: Saturday 10am 2:30pm 7pm, Sunday 10am & ASAP after round 4

Byes: Max 2 half point byes available in first 3 rounds if notified before start of round 1

Entry Fee: Adult \$30 before Tuesday, March 20, \$35 after including on-site. \$10 off for juniors (20 and under and females) Free entry to I.M.'s & G.M.'s.

Registration: Advanced entries encouraged. Email Frank Kluytmans at: fekluytmans@gmail.com

On-site Registration: Saturday, March 5, 9am to 9:45am

Advanced entries required to check in at registration desk by 9:45 a.m. or you will not be paired for first round.

CASH ONLY AT SITE, NO CHEQUES

Sponsored by the Alberta Chess Association.

This is a *Road Warrior* event



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GM Victor Mikhalevski
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GM Jesse Kraai
GM Pascal Charbonneau
IM Lawrence Day
IM Edward Porper
IM Raja Panjwani
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Contributors include:
IM Lawrence Day
IM Deen Hergott
NM Kevin Pacey
IM Edward Porper
IM Eric Hansen
GM Victor Mikhalevski
... and many more!

5th Calgary International Chess Classic May 15-21, 2012



Ramada Inn Calgary Downtown
708 8 Avenue Southwest, Calgary, AB

Special rates: \$120 per night plus tax.

Two sections: International (May 15-21), 9 round Swiss.
Reserves (May 19-21), 6 round Swiss.

GM/IM norm possibilities in the International section
More details to be available soon at: www.albertachess.org



Road Warrior



Calgary International Chess Classic

2012 ACA Tournament Schedule

All tournaments subject to change by the ACA and/or Organizer. For updated info, visit our website: www.albertachess.org/

Tournaments noted with a star are eligible for Road Warrior Points.

Date	Event	Organizer	Location
Feb 4-5	University Battle of AB*	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
Feb 18-19	Northern Alberta Open*	FA Ali Razzaq	Edmonton
Feb 25-26	Alberta Youth Championships	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
March 18	Calgary Regional Chess Challenge	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
March 18	Edmonton Regional Chess Challenge	Bruce Thomas	Edmonton
March 18	Medicine Hat Regional CC	Dr. Bill Taylor	Medicine Hat
March 24-25	March of Kings*	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
April 6-8	Alberta Closed*	Brad Willis	Edmonton
April 7-8	Alberta Reserves*	Brad Willis	Edmonton
April 7-8	Alberta Women's*	Rick Pedersen	Edmonton
April 14-15	Lethbridge Open*	Dr. Paul Viminitz	Lethbridge
April 21	Alberta Chess Challenge Finals	Bruce Thomas	Red Deer
April 28-30	Edmonton International Qualifier*	FA Ali Razzaq	Edmonton
May 15-21	Calgary International Chess Classic*	Tony Ficzero	Calgary
May 19-21	Calgary International Reserves*	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
June 2-3	Trumpeter Classic*	Tim Pradzinski	Grande Prairie
June 10	Alberta Active*	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
June 27-Jul 2	7th Edmonton International*	Micah Hughey	Edmonton
June 30-Jul 2	Edmonton International Reserves*	Micah Hughey	Edmonton
August	Battle of AB	Hughey/Daniluk	Red Deer
Sep 1-2	Over/Under 1800*	FA Ali Razzaq	Edmonton
Sep 15-16	Medicine Hat Open*	Dr. Bill Taylor	Medicine Hat
Oct 6-8	Alberta Open*	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
Oct 26-28	Edmonton Fall Sectional*	Rick Pedersen	Edmonton
Nov 3-4	Alberta Junior Championship	Richard Pua	Edmonton
Nov 17-18	Southern Alberta Open*	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
Nov 18	Northern AB Scholastic	Bruce Thomas	Edmonton
Dec 2	Christmas Youth Open	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
Dec 15-16	WBX Team Tournament*	FA Ali Razzaq	Edmonton

Road Warrior Update



The 2012 Road Warrior competition is on its way but first the 2011 results.

1st place and \$150 went to Vlad Rekhson from Calgary.

2nd place went to Roy Yearwood from Calgary who earned \$100.

3rd place was taken by Chris White from La Crete. Chris won \$50.

The 2012 competition will see several changes.

The prizes will be as follows:

1st: \$200

2nd: \$100

3rd: \$50

Special prize: \$150

The special prize will be drawn randomly and it will go to one player who will travel to at least two ACA Road Warrior tournaments outside of their region (minimum one hour drive) in 2012.

After the John Schleinich Memorial the Road Warrior is led by David Miller and Tim Pradzinski from Grande Prairie with 9 points each.

Full details and regulations can be found at:

www.albertachess.org/Road_Warrior.html

Final 2011 Standings

Place	Road Warrior	Home	Pts
1	Vlad Rekhson	Calgary	31.0
2	Roy Yearwood	Calgary	25.0
3	Chris White	La Crete	23.0
4	David Miller	Grande Prairie	22.0
5	Alex Yam	Calgary	19.0
6	Sean Perron	Cochrane	18.0
7	Paul Viminitz	Lethbridge	18.0
8	Stephen Stone	Edmonton	17.0
9	Jim Daniluk	Calgary	16.0
10	IM Edward Popper	Edmonton	15.0

Calgary Chess Club News



Calgary Fall Open

September 6-October 4

This Tuesday night event attracted a total of 17 participants and was organized by Tony Ficzer. First was shared by Itohan Gold and newcomer Arth Dizon with 4/5 each. Third was a tie between Vlad Rekhson, Bill Bentley and Brian Miller with 3.5/5 each.

CJCC Halloween Junior

October 29

A total of 14 juniors took part in the pre-Halloween event. The top prizes went to the Tolentino brothers as Andre Angelo took first with 4.5/5 and Patrick Angelo won second with 4/5. Third place went to Ian Zhao who scored 3.5/5.

CJCC November Junior Active

November 12

This was an 8 player event organized by Frank Kluytmans. First went to: Derek Zhang with 4.5/5 second went to Ian Zhao with 4/5 and there was a tie for third between Xuyan Zhang and John Vaganov as they scored 3.5/5 each.

CJCC Nov 26 Junior Active

November 26

The second November Active was attended by 7 juniors. The winner this time was Xuyan Zhang who was perfect with 4/4, second place went to Chen Wu with 3 points.

CCC Team Tournament

October 25-November 29

The traditional CCC tournament was played in a double RR format of four teams made up of four players each. The winning team was the "Vladinators" (Vlad Rekhson, Brian Miller, Ted Borowski, Ali Abdelmanan) with 14.5/24. Top board winners were: Erik Tam 4.5/6 (Board 1), Jim Daniluk 4.5/6 (Board 2), Frank Kluytmans 5/6 (Board 3), Ali Abdelmanan 5/6 (Board 4).

CJCC Xmas Scholastic

Dec 3-4

10 participants attended the 2011 Xmas Scholastic. The top prize went to Chenxi Zhao who scored 4.5/5. Second went to second grader Xuyan Zhang with 4/5. The best of 4 participating girls was Chantel Bustos with 2/5.

CJCC Active Grand Prix #1

January 14

The first of the Active Grand Prix events at the CJCC was attended by 18 participants and organized by Frank Kluytmans. The first place went to: Yuekai Wang who was perfect with 5/5. Second went to Chenxi Zhao with 4/5 and third was shared by: Raphael Libre, Derek and Ian Zhao with 3/5 each.



The Edmonton Chess Club

ECC Halloween Open

October 6-27

The October Thursday night tournament at the Edmonton Chess Club was attended by 32 participants. The pre-tournament favourite FM Vladimir Pechenkin was leading the event with 3/3 going into the last round, but he had to take a last round bye which lead to a 6 player tie for first as it was shared by: FM Vladimir Pechenkin, NM Micah Hughey, Jamil Kassam, Jason Winhon, Robert Davies and Willy Majaducon. All the winners scored 3/4.

ECC Autumn Open

November 3-23

29 participants took part in the November ECC Thursday Night event. First place went to FM Vladimir Pechenkin who scored 4/4. Second was shared among Terry Seehagen and Micah Hughey with 3/4 each.

ECC Christmas Open

December 1-29

The December ECC event had 29 participants with ratings ranging from 815 to 2440. The final result was a five way tie for first. The winners were: NM Micah

Edmonton Blitz Championship

Nov 26

10 participants attended the annual Edmonton Blitz championship. The tournament was run by a double round-robin format and going into the last round the undisputed leaders were: IM Edward Porper and NM Nic Haynes with 15.5/16. The two had to face each other in the last round and in the first game Nic upset Edward, but wasn't able to hold off an IM in game 2 which resulted in a tie for first place and a share of \$75. Third place and best under 1900 went to Willy Majaducon who earned \$30 after scoring 12/18. Veteran NM Sardul purewal finished fourth with 10.5/12 and earned \$25. Terry Seehagen directed the tournament and special thanks also goes to the Edmonton Chess Club that boosted the prize fund by \$100.

ACA Instructors

Visit the ACA Instructors directory to find out full details on instructors listed below.

<http://albertachess.org/Instruction.html>

IM Edward Porper-Edmonton
 NM Robert Gardner-Edmonton,
 Aaron Sequillion-Edmonton
 Calgary Junior Chess Club
 NM Roy Yearwood-Calgary
 Lethbridge Junior Chess

Lethbridge Chess Club

Contact Kent Karapita
 Email

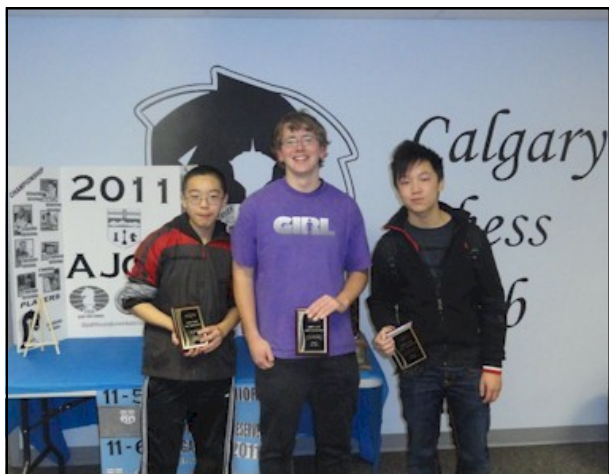
kentkarapita@hotmail.com

Medicine Hat Chess Club

Next Step Residential Services
 Building

402 Maple Avenue SE
 Wednesdays

mid-September to mid-June
 Contact: Bill Taylor 403.526.5484
 403.527.3574, taylormw@shaw.ca



Open section winners (From left to right: NM Richard Wang, David Miller, NM David Zhang)



Girls Section

NM David Zhang wins Alberta Junior, Nicka Kalaydina wins the girls

By Vlad Rekhson

The annual Alberta Junior Championship took place at the Calgary Chess Club on November 5-6, 2011.

In an amazing coincidence, three of the four sections were won by players with the last name of Zhang!

The championship section was won by David Zhang. The Intermediate Reserves (u-1400) was won by Derek Zhang and the beginner reserves (u-800) was won by Xuyan Zhang.

The girls section was no surprise as Nicka Kalaydina took first place.

This was the largest attended Alberta Junior in recent memory with 37 total participants. 11 played in the Championship section, 12 in the Intermediate Reserves, 8 in the Beginner Reserves and 6 in the Girls.

The main event winner, David Zhang has already had a good year before this event as he won the Canadian u-16 championship. Going into this event; however, David was preparing for an important school exam which put his participation in this tournament in jeopardy. Even on the morning of round 4, David was so swamped with school work that he seriously considered withdrawing from the tournament before playing a crucial game against the pre-tournament favourite NM Richard

Wang. Richard was nice enough to agree for a slight game postponement which allowed David to still play and come up with an upset win. The final result for David was 4.5/5 as his only half point drop was a bye in round 3. It was quite surreal to see David in heavy exam preparation mode right after winning this tournament but if anyone can multi-task he definitely showed that he can!

Wang, Richard (2329) - Zhang, David (2186)

2011 Alberta Junior

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.Nbd2 d5 5.e3 0-0 6.c3 Bf5 7.Qb3 b6 8.c4 dxc4 9.Bxc4 Nc6 10.Qa3 Na5 11.Ba6 Bc8 12.Bd3 Qd6 13.Qa4 Bd7 14.Qc2 Qc6 15.Rc1 Qxc2 16.Rxc2 Nd5 17.a3 Ba4 18.Rc1 h6 19.b4 hxg5 20.bxa5 g4 21.Ne5 c5 22.axb6 axb6 23.g3 Rfd8 24.Ke2 Bxe5 25.dxe5 Bc6 26.Nb1 Nc3+ 27.Nxc3 Bf3+ 28.Kd2 Bxh1 29.Kc2 Bc6 30.Rb1 Rxa3 31.Rxb6 Ba4+ 32.Kb2 Rb3+ 33.Rxb3 Bxb3 34.Bxg6 c4 35.Bf5 Rd2+ 36.Ka3 Rxf2 37.Bxg4 Rxh2 38.e6 Rg2 39.exf7+ Kxf7 40.Bh5+ Kg7 41.Kb4 Rxc3 42.e4 Kf6 43.Be8 Ke5 44.Bc6 Re3 45.Bd5 Kd4 46.Nb5+ Kd3 47.Nc3 Rh3 48.Be6 Rh8 49.Bd5 Rb8+ 50.Nb5 Ba2 51.Ka4 Rxb5 52.Kxb5 c3 0-1

Second place was another surprise as David Miller from Grande Prairie was fearless in round 5 as he defeated NM Wang after declining a draw offer. Third place went to NM Richard Wang from Edmonton.

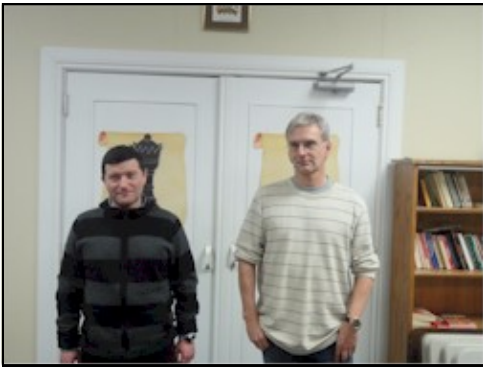
Miller, David (2066) - Wang, Richard (2329)

2011 Alberta Junior

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 Bd7 9.Bc4 0-0 10.Bb3 Rc8 11.0-0-0 Ne5 12.Kb1 a5 13.g4 b5 14.g5 Nh5 15.f4 Nc4 16.Bxc4 Rxc4 17.b3 Rc8 18.Ndx5 Bxb5 19.Nxb5 Qd7 20.a4 Qh3 21.Rhf1 f6 22.f5 fxg5 23.Nd4 Bxd4 24.Bxd4 Nf4 25.Qxa5 Qxh2 26.Rd2 Qh3 27.Rxf4 gxf4 28.Qd5+ Rf7 29.a5 gxf5 30.e5 dxe5 31.Qxe5 Rf6 32.Qxe7 Rg6 33.Qe5 Rf8 34.Bc3 Qh6 35.Rd7 Rgf6 36.Qd5+ R6f7 37.Rd6 Qg5 38.Qe5 Rg7 39.Qxg7+ Qxg7 40.Bxg7 Kxg7 41.Rd4 Kg6 42.Rxf4 Kg5 43.Rf1 Rb8 44.Kb2 f4 45.Rg1+ Kf5 46.Rh1 Rb7 47.Ka3 Ke4 48.b4 Kd5 49.Rh5+ Ke4 50.a6 Ra7 51.b5 f3 52.Ka4 f2 53.Rh1 Kf3 54.Rf1 Re7 55.b6 Re4+ 56.Kb5 Re5+ 57.Kc6 Re6+ 58.Kb7 Re7+ 59.Kb8 Re6 60.Ka7 1-0

Organizers; Simon Ong, Paul Gagne, as well as, all those who assisted with the tournament did a great job making it an enjoyable event for all the participants. The club was very nicely decorated by Simon and lots of treats including pizza were made available to the players. Tim Pradzinski and GP Chess Club generously donated a permanent trophy to be used in future events.

The full prize winners list and the final crosstable is available at: <http://albertachess.org/2011AJr.html> You can view some of the pictures of the tournament by going to: <https://picasaweb.google.com/home> Games from the event can be viewed at: <http://albertachess.org/11AJ.html>



IM Porper/ NM Reeve win the 2011 Alberta Open

By Vlad Rekhson

The Alberta Open is one of the most important events on the ACA schedule and a qualifier for the next year's Alberta Closed. The 2011 edition took place in the Edmonton Chess Club on October 8-10. The attendance this year was a bit small compared to other years as a total of 34 players attended the event. Nevertheless, the total rating spread was over 1900 points ranging between 620 to 2521! Besides some exciting games, the tournament was full of all sorts of excitement not all positive, as a total of 3 cellphone forfeits occurred. Unfortunately, I was one of the "lucky" participants in the forfeit fest as my good friend sent me an untimely message asking whether the round was over? It was now! It was quite painful as my position at the time was completely winning, but rules are rules... A special thanks goes to Tournament Director Rick Pedersen who had quite a lot of work. As often happens with tournament directing, it goes from events with not much going on to plenty of work and Rick did a good job of handling all sorts of issues. Still, the tournament was quite exciting all the way to the end as IM Edward Porper proved his superiority of Alberta Chess and won the tournament with: 5/6. He wasn't alone though, as veteran Edmonton Master, Jeff Reeve was able to recover after a shaky start and tie for first with a strong finish. Unfortunately, the two winners did not get to play each other due to their different paths for first, yet Edward won on tie-break as a result of playing against stronger opposition. By winning first place, Edward qualified for the 2012 Alberta Closed which of course was fairly

obvious anyway.

Third place was shared by FMs Vladimir Pechenkin and Dale Haessel with 4.5/6. There were a total of three class prizes and their winners each scored 4/6. The winners were: Arth Dizon from Calgary (u-2000), Jeff Anthony De Guzman from Edmonton (u-1800) and David Miller from Grande-Prairie (best junior).

IM Porper, Edward (2449) - NM Yam, Alex (2214)

Alberta Open - 2011

(notes by IM Edward Porper)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.h3 a6 8.Nf3 Bg7 9.Bd3 Nbd7 10.Bf4 Qe7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Re1 Ne8

[12...Nh5 13.Bh2 Ne5 14.Nxe5 dxe5 (14...Bxe5 15.Bxe5 Qxe5 16.Bf1 and sooner or later White will start his pawn-offensive (Qd2, Rad1, g3, f4)) 15.Na4 (15.Be2 Nf6) 15...Rd8 (15...Nf6 16.Rc1 Nd7 17.Qc2 b6 18.b4 leaves Black's pieces in a complete disarray) 16.Qc2 Bf8 17.Rac1 Bd7 18.Nb6 Rab8 19.b4! and the absence of the knight in the right area is grievously felt]

13.a4 Ne5 14.Be2?!

[14.Nxe5!? dxe5 15.Be3]

14...Rb8 15.Qd2 Nxf3+ 16.Bxf3 b5 17.axb5 axb5 18.Bh6 Bxh6 19.Qxh6 Qe5 20.Qd2 b4 21.Nd1 Nc7 22.Ne3 Nb5 23.Nc4 Qf6 24.Bd1 Nd4 25.f4

it seemed like it was only a matter of time before White would get fully prepared for the crucial central breakthrough but...

25...Qd8!

An extremely strong move stopping the "e" pawn at the very last moment

26.Qf2?!

[missing the point but 26.b3!? wouldn't really help 26...Bb7 (26...Re8 27.Ra5 f5 28.e5 dxe5 29.Rxc5+-; 26...f5 27.e5 dxe5 28.Rxe5) 27.Ra5 f5 and 28.e5 is impossible because of 28...Bxd5; 26.e5 dxe5 27.Rxe5 f6]

26...b3!

turning the tables on White.

27.Ra3 Rb4 28.Qf1

[28.Na5 Qb6]

28...Re8 29.Nd2

preparing for the fist-fight: the knight heads for "e4" rather than eyes the "b" pawn

29...Bd7 30.e5 Bb5 31.Qf2 dxe5 32.fxe5 Nc2!

[32...Qxd5 33.Ne4 Qxe5 (33...Ne2+ 34.Bxe2) 34.Nf6+ Qxf6 35.Rxe8+ Kg7 36.Rg8+-]

33.Bxc2 bxc2 34.Qxc5

[34.Ne4?? Rxe4+-]

34...Rxe5! 35.Rc1

[35.Rxe5 Rc4!!]

35...Qe7?!

[35...Rxb2 36.Qd4 Qf6 37.Ne4! Qf4 38.Qxb2 Rxe4 39.Ra8+ Be8 40.Qxc2+-; 35...Rxd5!! Rybka 36.Qxb4 Rxd2+- 37.Rxc2 Rxc2 38.Qxb5 Qd4+ 39.Kh2 Rxb2]

36.Qxe7

[36.Ra8+ Kg7 37.Qc3 f6 38.Nf3 Rxd5 39.Qxc2 is a double-edged sword, while I preferred to test a lower-rated player in a technical position]

36...Rxe7 37.Rxc2 Rd7

a possible choice- even though this pawn seems to be more important than its colleague on the "b" file because the king would have to go too far to support the latter [37...Rd4!? 38.Nf3 (38.Rc5 Rxd2 39.Rxb5 Ree2 40.Rg3 Rxb2 41.Rxb2 Rxb2 42.Rd3 Kf8 favours Black rather White) 38...Rxd5 39.Kf2 Bd3 followed by Be4 and f5, and Black should be able to cope with the pawn]

38.Rc5 Rxb2 39.Nf3 Rd8 40.Ra7 Be8 41.Kh2 Rb5 42.Ra5 Rxc5 43.Rxc5 f5

[43...f6!? 44.Nd4 Bf7 45.Nc6 Rd6 46.Kg3 Kf8 47.Nb4 Ke7 48.Kf4 and it's hard to see, how White can improve his position 48...Rb6 49.Rc7+ Kd6 50.Rxf7 Rxb4+ 51.Kf3 Kxd5 is a clear draw]

44.Ng5 h6

[44...Bf7? 45.Rc7 Bxd5 46.Nxh7 Rd6 47.Kg3 Be4 48.h4 Bd5 49.Kf4 Bxg2 50.Kg5+]

45.Ne6 Rd7??

[45...Rd6 46.Nc7 Bd7 (46...Bf7 47.Rc6 Rd8 (47...Rxc6 48.dxc6 Kf8 49.Nb5 Ke7 50.c7 Kd7 51.Nd6+-) 48.Kg3 (48.d6 Kg7) 48...Bxd5 49.Rxg6+ Kh7)]

46.Rc8+ Kf7 47.Nc7 Rd6

[47...g5 48.Kg1 (48.Nxe8 Rxd5 49.Nc7 Rc5=) 48...h5 49.Kf2 h4 50.Kf1 and that's a Zugzwang].

48.Rxe8 Rxd5 49.Nxd5 Kxe8 50.Kg3 Kf7 51.Kf3 Ke6 52.Nf4+ Kf6 53.Ke3 g5 54.Nd3 h5 55.Kd4 h4 56.Kd5 g4 57.Nf4 gxh3 58.gxh3 Kg7 59.Ke5 1-0



IM Edward Porper Master Classes at the ECC

By: Vlad Rekhson

IM Edward Porper is the highest rated player in Edmonton and with Eric Hansen going to school in Texas, he is the top player in the province. Besides playing chess, Edward is a very experienced chess instructor, among others he has worked with the German Grandmaster Georg Meier who is rated 2671 and participated in the 2011 Dortmund super-tournament.

Starting in 2011 Edward has been giving classes once a month at the Edmonton Chess Club. The class takes place on one of the Saturdays and lasts from 1 pm-3 pm. The first few sessions were held at a seminar/ lecture format where Edward was presenting positions, or games and every so often Edward stopped and asked the audience to find moves as he was showing the games. Over the last few months the instructional format has changed somewhat as it is now run under the "Master Class" format, whereby positions are presented and then discussed by participants in groups of 4-5 over a 30 minute period. The results of those discussions are then presented to the entire audience and a deep discussion about those positions ensues.

The positions that are discussed are usually not highly tactical in nature, instead they present a test for the chess understanding of the members of the group.

Here is an example of a position that was provided in a "Master Class."



After 20.Bc3

Haynes, Nicolas (2339) - Porper, Edward (2521)
Edmonton Fall Sectional A ECC
30.10.2011

After discussing this position for 30 minutes the group came to the conclusion that the best move for black is probably 20... g6 followed by a relocation of the knight from e8-g7-e6-f4. This plan was actually chosen by Edward during the game and in fact his position became very good. Nevertheless, it turned out that this plan wasn't actually the best as the game continuation shows:

20..g6 21.Ne3 Ng7 22.Rfd1? (here Edward suggested that Rf1 would have been much stronger. In the ensuing lines the rook on c1 targeting the queen on c7 is placed much better than it was on d1 where it wined up being exchanged giving black an advantage. After placing the rook on c1 the g2 bishop would then move to f1 from where he would control the knight on f4 quite effectively. This would eventually result in a position where neither side would have a clear path for improvement. Of course, there were many nuances in this position which had to be analyzed but in the end Edward concluded that his 20... g6 wasn't the best and in fact he probably needed to play on the queenside with a move like 20...c5 followed by potentially remanuevering the bad d7 knight to c6.

The game continued with:

Ne6 23.Nf3 Nf4 24.Qb2 Nb6 25.Rxd8

Qxd8 26.a5 Nc4 27.Nxc4 Bxc4 28.Qc2 Qd3 29.Qxd3 Bxd3 30.Bf1 Bxe4 31.Nd2 Bd5 32.g5 fxg5 33.hxg5 Ne6 34.Nc4 Nxe5 35.Nxe5 Bg7 36.Bg2 Bxg2 37.Kxg2 Ne4 38.Bb2 Rf8 39.f3 Rd8 40.fxe4 Rd2+ 41.Kf3 Rxb2 42.Nd3 Rxb4 43.Nxb4 Bxa1 44.Ke3 Bc3 45.Nxc6 bxc6 0-1

Edward analyzes positions quite deeply but he relies on his understanding of chess more than on engine analysis in his explanations which makes it more understandable for the audience.

The Master classes are attended by a variety of players, as so far the participants ranged from 1300 to 2300 in strength. As the seminars are subsidized by the ECC the cost is really minimal and comes to only \$5 per session for the participants. The next seminar will take place on Saturday, February 11. The one after that is currently scheduled for March 10; however, since ECC is considering holding a tournament on that date, the seminar may be moved to another Saturday in March. To find out the actual dates you can call the chess club at: 780-424-0283 or visit the yahoo newsgroup at: <http://games.groups.yahoo.com/group/edmontonchessclub/>

Edward Porper is currently giving private lessons in Edmonton, as well as, by Skype to other regions. All those interested in learning from Edward can contact him directly at: sherlok7@gmail.com

Fort McMurray Chess Club

Fort McMurray Chess Club is open at Westwood Family YMCA: 221 Tundra Drive.

Every Thursday for adults 6PM -10PM and for kids every Saturday 1-4PM.

For more information call Jina at: 780.715.9332 or e-mail at: swp@shaw.ca





Albertans take the 2012 Canadian Junior

By: Vlad Rekhson

The 2012 Canadian Junior Championship was the first national event to take place in Alberta since the 2009 Canadian Open in Edmonton.

The Calgary Junior Chess Club has been planning to take upon this responsibility for several years now, but recognizing that an event of this magnitude requires some serious dedication, in past years it just didn't feel right. That has changed in 2011 as a Calgary organizing committee headed by Frank Kluytmans was formed. It had quite a few responsibilities ranging from figuring out accommodations of participants through getting hotel deals and private family accommodations, securing funding, figuring out the tournament schedule, creating the website, setting up side events, and more.

The 2012 event was held early in the year and we were somewhat worried that early January Alberta weather would not be conducive to sightseeing in Calgary and fun events outside the tournament room. Luckily enough, the weather stayed in and around zero for the duration of the event so visiting the Calgary Zoo was a fun getaway for several out of town participants.

Besides crowning the national under 20 champion, the Canadian Junior has the responsibility of providing funding to the winner to go to the world u-20 championship which this year will take place in Greece. Unlike previous years, the 2012 Canadian Junior determined champions and funding recipients in

separate boys and girls sections, where both winners received equal funding for the world event.

Some of the nation's best came out to Calgary to take part in this event; representing the provinces of BC, Ontario, Manitoba Saskatchewan and of course Alberta. A total of twelve players took part in the Boys section and six participated in the Girls.

Despite being only the 5th highest rated player in the Boys section, NM David Zhang from Calgary took off with a blazing start and never got derailed from his amazing performance as in the 7 rounds he allowed only 1 draw against the pre-tournament favourite FM Shiyam Thavandiran. Second place went to another Albertan; 13 year old NM Richard Wang from Edmonton scored a very impressive 6/7 losing only to the unstoppable David. Third place was taken by FM Shiyam Thavandiran who scored 5.5/7. Shiyam didn't have a great tournament by his high standards but he showed great class regardless of the result of his games and we hope to see him in Alberta again.

The girls section didn't have too many surprises as the pre-tournament favourite, Nicka Kalaydina from Calgary was able to take it all with 4.5/5. Nicka was held to a draw by Melissa Lee from Ontario, but managed to outplay her other opponents. Second went to the significantly underrated Jill Ding from BC with 4/5 while Melissa Lee finished third with 3.5/5. Albertans Rachel and Hope Gagne, as well as, Chantel Bustos were not able to compete for the top spots, but managed to gain a very valuable experience by playing in a tournament of this magnitude.

It was a great pleasure to assist with the organization of the Canadian Junior and hopefully we can have more such tournaments in Alberta. The organizing committee and all those who assisted with running the event deserve a lot of credit. The following people were instrumental in putting together this event: Chief Organizer and TD: Frank Kluytmans, CJCC President Paul Gagne, Angelo Tolentino, Alex Kalaydin and Deweese Wood.

Zhang, David (2227) - Li, Kevin (2238)

2012 Canadian Junior Calgary
(notes by: David Zhang)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.c3 e5 6.d3 Nge7 7.Nbd2

This should be all according to theory, although I didn't prepare much for this line, my idea was to potentially play Nb3 hitting c5 and breaking the center with d4.

7. ... 0-0 8.Nb3 d6 9.a4

Since I was expecting a6, a4 allows me to play Bc4 without any b5 tricks. Also, white is trying to open up the position so the bishop pair would be most favourable.

9. ... Be6

In preparation for 10. ... a6, 11. Bc4 Bxc4, 12. dxc4 and c4 and e4 become major weaknesses.

10. Ng5 Bxb3 11.Qxb3 h6 12.Nh3?!

Here I thought that Nh3 would allow me to potentially push f4 and gain a kingside initiative but here black can equalize by

12. ... Na5 13.Qa2

I can't let the pawns double after 13. ... a6 14. Bc4 Nxc4.

13. ... a6 14.Bc4 Nxc4 15.Qxc4 g5

Now white's h3 knight is misplaced and I have to slowly play with the plan f3 Nf2 to bring my knight back into the game.

16. f3 Kh8 17.Be3

White plans to play either b4 or d4 to create lines against the queenside or kingside depending on black's response.

17. ... Rc8 18.Qb3 Qd7

Here I realized that black is gaining space and opportunities, especially with f5 and potentially g4. I wanted to lock off the center so that my opponent couldn't play d5 and I would play on the queenside.

19. c4 f5 20.Nf2 f4 21.Bd2 h5

Black's attack looks aggressive but with correct play white should be able to find ways to create a weakness especially because of black's bad bishop.

22.Nd1 Nc6

The biggest weakness in white's position is the d4 square, my plan is to bring my knight onto d5 and bishop to c3. If the position can be achieved without any problems, white will be able to play b4 and break open the queenside while holding the a1-h8 diagonal and cautioning black from aggressing on the kingside.

23.Nc3 Nd4 24.Qd1 Rf7?!

Here, 24. ... g4 should be played so that black can start opening lines against my king. Rf7 gives me time to defend and further develop.

25.Ne2

I overlooked black's threat of playing g4 then f3 and gave in to defense. Also, I wanted to be able to move my queen because if white moves his queen off of the d1-a4 diagonal, black can play Nb3 with strong black square domination. I should have played Nd5 and carried on with my original plan with Bc3.

25. ... Ne6 26.b4

Since black is playing against my king, I have to find counterplay and wait for a chance to break his attack and position.

27. Rg8 27.b5 Bf6 28.Nc3 Bd8?!

Played probably to create space in his king's corner for his queen and rooks, but is wasting his initiative and allows me to further extend control over the center.

29. bxa6 bxa6 30.Nd5 g4 31.Bc3

Grabbing the diagonal and pinning the e5 pawn. The f4 pawn will soon become a weakness if black's king does not move to a safer square.

31. ... Rfg7

Threatening 32. h4 or 32. gxf3 Qxf3 33. Ng5 with a strong attack.

32. Ra2 Qe8 33.fxg4 Rxf4 34.h3

A slight mistake since I create a weakness on g3 and potentially allow black's bishop on h4 or g3. I thought I could play Be1 but realized it was passive and soon Ng5 would create problems.

34. ... R4g7 35.Kh1 Kh7 36.Rb2 Rg5 37.Rff2 Qg6 38.Qf1

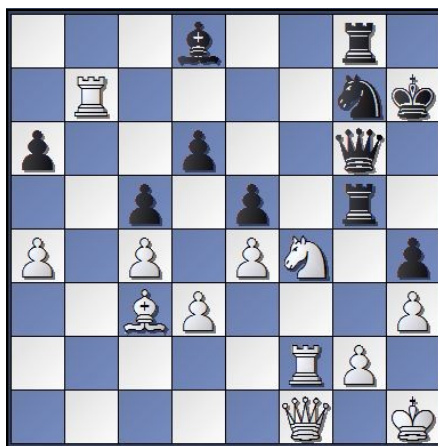
Since black's plan is to play Rg3 and Ng5 with the threat f3 or even Nxh3 and leaving the g1 square for mate, white can easily with Qf1 and start building rooks on the b-file.

38. ... h4 39.Rb7+ Ng7

Black wants to play Kh6 and Nh5 but...

40. Nxf4!?

A direct shot to the center which interrupts any of black's plans. It took me a while to



After 40. Nf4!?

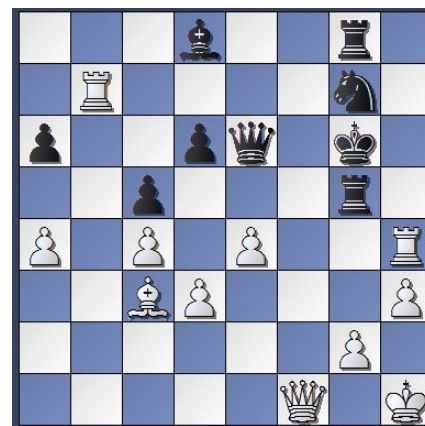
find this move, and a lot of it was based on intuition. If I opened the diagonal for my bishop, I could put a tremendous amount of pressure on g7 and his king. Also, I realized that after 40. ... exf4 Rxf4, the h4 pawn has to be defended and I could played Rf7 right away and lock the kingside with a strong initiative where black can easily make mistakes.

40. ... exf4 41.Rxf4 Qe6??

Probably played to make room for his king, but there is a tactical blow after:

42. Rxh4+ Kg6

Can you find the finish?



After 42...Rg6

43. Rxf7+!

At a first look, 43. Qf8 almost looks winning because if 43. ... Rxf8 44. Rxf7#. But black can play 43. ... Bf6 and completely defends against the attack and his king even becomes active. I definitely thought the position had a tactical win, and calculated many variations but attempts such as 43. Rxf7? are futile because of 43. ... Rxf7 44. Qf8 Bf6 and black defends without any problems. I found that 43. Rxf7+ could not be stopped by 43. ... Rxf7 44. Qf8 Bf6 because of my bishop on c3, but there was one problem after 44. Qf8 Qd7 45. Bxg7 Qxg7 46. Qxd8 Qa1+ and black achieves a perpetual check.

43. ... Rxf7 44.Qf8 Qe7 45.Bxg7 Qxg7 46.Qe8+!

Instead of the original calculations where I play 46. Qxd8 directly, this intermezzo either forces his king to f6 where I can take on d8 with check, or he blocks with the queen and cannot play the perpetual check.

47. ... Qf7 47.Rh6+ 1-0

Black is forced to take on h6 and loses his queen. Since white is also up 3 pawns, there should be no problem converting. Black resigned.

Zhang, David (2227) - Thavandiran, Shiyam (2479)

2012 Canadian Junior Calgary [notes by: Eric Hansen]

A very important game testing to see if Zhang was capable of holding his tournament pole position. Thavandiran was the last of the top players yet to face Zhang.

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 The advance variation. A fairly safe choice given the situation.

3...c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Nh6

Not uncommon, however Qb6 and Bd7 are

much more popular. There are quite a few options for black in this position as he's not in a hurry. He's hoping for a dynamic position in case of bxc6 or otherwise a quick center break with f6 followed by nf7.

6.Bd3

The most logical move in my opinion. [6.a3 f6 7.Bd3 Nf7=; 6.Bxc6 gxh6 7.Be2]

6...f6

The best move in this position. Black was suffering quite a bit with the main move cxd4. [6...cxd4 7.Bxc6 gxh6 8.cxd4 Qb6 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.Be2 Bg7 11.Nc3 0-0 12.0-0 Ne7 13.Bd3 Kh8 14.Ne2 Bb5 15.Bxb5 Qxb5 16.Nf4 Ng6 17.Nh5 Rac8 18.Rac1 Qd7 19.h4 Rxc1 20.Rxc1 Rc8 21.g3 Rc6 22.Rxc6 Qxc6 23.Nh2 Ne7 24.Qf4 Nf5 25.g4 Qc2 26.Nf3 Ne7 27.Qxf7 Qg6 28.Qxe7 Qxg4+ 29.Kh2 1-0 Svidler,P (2739)-Nguyen Ngoc Truong Son (2637)/Khanty-Mansiysk RUS 2011]

7.0-0 Nf7

White is developing quick while black is placing his pieces optimally to break the center.

8.exf6

White finally takes on f6 as he needed to avoid unfavorable exchanges on e5. [8.Re1?! fxe5 9.dxe5 (9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.dxe5 c4 11.Bc2 Bc5=) 9...g5!≠ The e5 weakness allows black too much activity.]

8...Qxf6 9.Re1

Fighting over the e5 square. The one thing to be weary of when playing re1 in these structures is the f2 pawn and tactics against d4 after black castles.

9...Bd6 10.Be3 c4

Seemingly correct move in a critical position. It's not natural but otherwise white is threatening dxc5. [10...cxd4?! 11.cxd4 0-0 12.Nc3 The whole problem here is black's bishop cannot get out. The standard French e5 breakthrough is not possible due to the d5 pawn hanging no matter what. Without e5 black is plan-less and will have inferior pieces.]

11.Bc2

Keeping options open for both the b1-h7 diagonal and also possible queenside maneuvers after the expected b3 next move.

11...0-0 12.b3 cxb3?!

[12...b5! 13.a4 what else? 13...cxb3 14.Bxb3 b4! 15.c4 Na5 16.cxd5 Nxb3 17.Qxb3 Qf5≠ Passed pawn, bishop pair, better placed pieces and development.]

13.axb3±

The open a-file, and the c4 push coming soon should give white an advantage.

13...Kh8?!

Standard french move g6 seems like the way to go. The king does not belong on h8

14.Qd3

Not a big fan of this move. I feel like g6 will be played anyways. [14.c4 Nb4 15.Nc3 With lots of pressure and problems for black to solve.]

14...g6 15.Nbd2 b6 16.b4

White is comfortable here and just waiting for black to decide what to do. I don't think Zhang was focused too hard on going for a win as it was not necessary. [16.h4!? A much more aggressive attempt if needing a win and h5 is hard to prevent. 16...e5? 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Qxd5+-]

16...Kg8

Black notices he can never open up the position with his king on h8 due to the diagonal.

17.Nb3 Bb7

Black finally develops his bishop. It also has e5 ideas at the same time

18.b5±

Zhang so far has played quite accurate and not allowed his opponent to get anything. [18.Rad1 e5 19.dxe5 Nxe5 20.Nxe5 Bxe5]

18...Ne7 19.Qe2 Nf5

Hoping white allows the bishop to be captured. [19...e5? 20.Bh6! Nxc6 21.dxe5 Bxe5 22.Nxe5 Black is positionally and tactically inferior (22.Qxe5 Qxe5 23.Rxe5 Nef5 24.Nbd4± With no winning chances for black.) 22...Qd6 23.Nd4 Nef5]

20.Bd2 Rfe8

It's a standard position arising from the french where the fight is over e5. Unfortunately, black lost a couple tempi moving his king.

21.Ne5 Another strong move by white allowing black nothing.

21...Bc7

[21...Bxe5 22.dxe5 Qe7 23.Nd4 Nxd4 24.cxd4 Rec8 25.Bd3+-]

22.Ra4

Partly a waiting move but there are a-file ideas.

22...Re7

[22...Nxe5 23.dxe5 Qd8 24.Re1 Bb8 25.g4 Ne7 26.Nd4 Qc8 27.f4+- Nothing for black..]

23.Bd3? N5d6

[23...N7d6 24.Ng4 Qg7 (24...Qh4 25.g3+-) 25.Bg5+-]

24.f3 Nc8 25.f4

Black was really not enjoying the cramped position and took a draw here. I'm a bit surprised due to the tournament situation where black needed to win. But being

down tempi and with white playing well he decided not to risk it. White is clearly better after all

½-½

Thavandiran,Shiyam (2479) - Wang,Richard (2306) [D12]

2012 Canadian Junior Calgary

[Notes by: Eric Hansen]

Every game between leaders was huge in this event as a loss can take you out of contention in a 7 rounder.

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 Bf5 4.c4 c6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Nh4

This line is extremely popular right now in theory. Black is supposed to be fine. White has a tiny long term advantage of the bishop pair.

6...Bg6 [6...Be4 7.f3 Bg6 Also playable.]

7.Nxg6 hxg6 8.g3 Nbd7 9.Qc2!?

Haven't seen this move before. But almost any move is ok for white. It's a slow positional opening normally.

9...Bd6 10.b3

[10.Bg2? dxc4 11.Qe2 Nb6]

10...Qe7 11.Bg2

Both sides are making absolutely standard moves.

11...0-0 [11...Bb4 12.0-0±]

12.0-0 Rac8

Preparing for any c-file opening possibilities. Unfortunately, white really won't allow that.

13.c5 Bb8 14.f4!?

This committing move isn't normally played but in this case white wants to squeeze black completely. The way black's pieces are, white can do this on both sides.

14...b6 15.b4 Ng4

Normally black has some sort of easy counterplay. But he misplayed the opening somewhere and is left fishing for something.

16.Qe2 f5 17.e4 Rfe8 18.e5

[18.exd5 exd5?? 19.Qxe7 Rxe7 20.b5!+- bxc5 (20...cxb5 21.Bxd5+) 21.bxc6; 18.exd5 cxd5 19.Bd2 Ngf6 20.Rac1 Ne4±

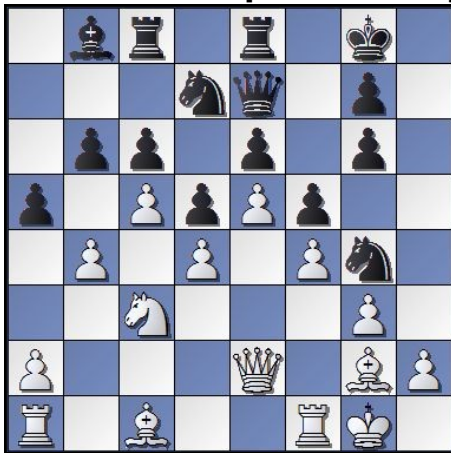
White has a clear advantage due to queen majority and protected passed pawn but it's a sharp position and not easy to convert.]

18...a5

Critical point of the game. [18...bxc5 19.bxc5 Nxc5? 20.Ba3+- (20.dxc5? Qxc5+≠)]

19.a3?!

Complications, probably not what white desired. [19.Na4 b5 20.Nb2 a4 21.Nd3± White has more space to slowly maneuver and try to break open on the kingside.;



After 18...a5

Down an exchange and a weak king. There's not much hope here as black has no tricks to worry about.

34.Rb1 Rh8+ 35.Kg3 Rb8 36.Rxb8 Rxb8 37.e6 Qe3+ 38.Bf3 Qg1+ 39.Bg2 Qe3+ 40.Bf3 Qe1+ 41.Kh3 Rh8+ 42.Kg2 Qh1+ 43.Kf2 Rh2+ 44.Kg3 Qg1+ 45.Bg2 Rxf2+ 46.Qxg2 Qxg2+ 47.Kxg2 Kf6 48.Kf3 Kxe6 49.Ke3 Kd5 50.Kd3 a4 51.Ke3 Kc4 52.Ke2 Kd4 53.Kf3 Kd3

Black took his only chance at an advantage and extracted the full point after that. Well played. 0-1



Girls section

19.b5!? The only move that I can see for white to keep his advantage. Otherwise black gets to break free from a bad position with good chances! Such is chess..... 19...cxb5? (19...bxc5 20.bxc6 Rxc6 (20...Nb6 21.Ba3! Rxc6 22.Bxc5 (22.Rac1!± Nc4?? (22...Qd7 23.Bxc5 Nc4 24.Bf3 Nge3 25.Rfe1 Ba7 26.Na4) 23.Nxd5+- exd5 24.Bxd5+) 22...Rxc5 23.dxc5 Qxc5+ 24.Kh1 Qxc3) 21.Nxd5 exd5 22.Bxd5+ Re6 23.h3 Nh6 24.Ba3± Kh8 25.Rab1!) 20.c6 Rxc6 21.Nxd5 exd5 22.Bxd5+ Re6 23.Qxb5± Nf8 24.h3 Nh6 25.Bb2± Black has two pieces but they aren't doing much.] 19...bxc5 20.bxc5 Nxc5 Forced otherwise black has really no counterplay.

21.h3

[21.dxc5 Qxc5+ 22.Kh1 Qxc3±; 21.Rb1∞]

21...Nb3 22.hxg4 Nxa1∞ 23.gxf5 gxf5 24.g4?

The full exchange down and weak d4 pawn means white is in dire straits.

[24.Qb2 This is probably what white had planned and miscalculated. 24...Ba7

25.Rd1 The best move. (25.Qxa1 Bxd4+ 26.Kh2 Kf7-+ 27.Bh3 Rh8 28.Kg2 Qc5

29.Bb2 Rb8-+; 25.Be3 c5 26.Nxd5 Qf7 27.dxc5 exd5 28.Rxa1 Bxc5 29.Bxc5 Rxc5

30.Rd1 Rec8 31.Qd4-+ Qh5 32.Bxd5+ Kh7 33.Bg2 Rc1) 25...c5 26.Nb5 cxd4

27.Qxa1 d3+ 28.Nxa7 (28.Nd4 Rc4 29.Rxd3 With surviving chances. 29...Rec8

30.Bd2 Qc5 31.Be3±) 28...Qxa7+ 29.Kh2 Kf7-+]

24...Nb3 25.Be3 Ba7 26.Qd1 Qb7 27.gxf5 exf5 28.Qd3 Qf7 29.Nxd5

[29.Nb5 One last try. Black has a few ways to go wrong. 29...cxb5 30.Qxb3 Red8 (30...Rc4 31.Qxb5=; 30...Kf8

31.Bxd5 Qd7±) 31.Qxb5=; 29.Rb1 Rb8] 29...Nxd4 30.Bxd4 cxd5 31.Bxa7 Qxa7+

32.Kh2 g6 33.Qxd5+ Kg7

Boys

Pos.	Name	Prov	Title	CFC Rating	FIDE Rating	Score
1 st	David Zhang	AB	NM	2227	2059	6.5
2 nd	Richard Wang	AB	FM	2306	2240	6.0
3 rd	Shiyam Thavandiran	ON	FM	2479	2304	5.5
4 th -5 th	Kevin Li	MB	NM	2238		4.0
4 th -5 th	Keith MacKinnon	SK	FM	2349	2202	4.0
6 th -7 th	Jason Cao	BC	FM	2053	1993	3.0
6 th -7 th	Jeff Anthony de Guzman	AB		1750	1992	3.0
8 th -9 th	John Doknjas	BC		2063	1887	2.5
8 th -9 th	Diwen Shi	AB		1735	1783	2.5
10 th -11 th	Brendan Lee	ON		1869		2.0
10 th -11 th	Chenxi Zhao	AB		1413		2.0
12 th	Zachary Lintott	SK		1359		1.0

Girls

Pos.	Name	Prov	CFC Rating	Score
1 st	Regina-veronicka Kalaydina	AB	1947	4.5
2 nd	Jill Ding	BC	1280	4.0
3 rd	Melissa Lee	ON	1594	3.5
4 th	Rachel Gagne	AB	1372	1.5
5 th	Hope Gagne	AB	1238	1.0
6 th	Jyaree (Chantel) Bustos	AB	490	0.5



“The Road Warriors” (from right to left) Phil Holmstrom, Aaron Sequillion, Mike Zeggelaar and event co-organizer Terry Seehagen (courtesy Ali Razzaq)

“The Road Warriors” win the 2011 WBX Team Tournament

By Vlad Rekhson

The WBX Team tournament is a nice pre-Christmas tradition on the Edmonton chess scene. This year’s event took place on December 17-18 at the Edmonton Chess Club. The tournament is run in a pretty unique team format, as teams of three (with option of one substitute) are formed with the maximum average rating of 2000. For the second year in a row the newly minted Alberta FIDE Arbter-Ali Razzaq took upon the responsibility of running and organizing this tournament with the help of Terry Seehagen. Aside from some cash prizes, the winning team has the players names engraved on the permanent trophy which is present at the Edmonton Chess Club.

The 2011 edition was won by “The Road Warriors” made up of Mike Zeggelaar, Aaron Sequillion, Ali Razzaq and Phil Holmstrom. They won the event with 13/18.

Second place went to the defending champs: “Two Ricks and an Arnie.” This team (not surprisingly) was made up of: Rick Pedersen, Richard Pua and Arnold McKay. Their final score was 9.5/18 Third went to the “Sponganators” (NM Nic Haynes, Sardul Purewal, George Sponga and Ron Johnson). They scored 7.5/18

Fourth went to the “Nightmare at Noon” (NM Rob Gardner, Terry Seehagen, Andu Mihulescu and Wayne Mendryk) who scored 6/18.

The board prize winners were:

Board 1: NM Rob Gardner 4.5/5

Board 2: Aaron Sequillion 5/6

Board 3: Phil Holmstrom 3.5/4

Many pictures from the tournament are provided courtesy of Ali Razzaq at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/72396996@N04/?saved=1>

IM Porper takes the 2011 Edmonton Fall Sectional

By Vlad Rekhson

The Edmonton Fall Sectional first came onto the ACA tournament schedule in 2010, thus the 2011 edition was its second. The big difference was that in 2010 the Alberta Open was in Calgary, yet in 2011 it took place in Edmonton only two weeks before this tournament. The close proximity of the two events probably didn’t contribute to the attendance of either, still 18 enthusiastic participants showed up to play at the Edmonton Chess Club between October 28-30.

The sectionals are played in a round-robin format where players play in sections of sixth participants allocated by rating. IM Edward Porper won the A section with 4.5/5 In the last round he played against NM Alex Yam as they both had 3.5/4. It was quite a seesaw battle but eventually Edward emerged victorious. Even though Alex lost this game his score was good enough to claim second place.

IM Porper, Edward (2521) - NM Yam, Alex (2293)

“Edmonton Fall Sectional A”

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 e6 4. Nc3 exd5 5. cxd5 d6 6. e4 g6 7. h3 Bg7 8. Nf3 O-O 9. Bd3 a6 10. O-O Nh5 11. Bg5 Bf6 12. Bh6 Bg7 13. Bxg7 Kxg7 14. Qd2 Nd7 15. Rfe1 Ne5 16. Be2 Nf6 17. Nxe5 dxe5 18. a4 b6 19. Rab1 Qd6 20. Bf1 Re8 21. b3 Bd7 22. Qb2 Rec8 23. Re3 c4 24. bxc4 Rab8



What’s whites best move?

25. Qa1! Rc5 26. Nd1 Ra5 27. Nb2 Re8 28. Nd3 Bc8 29. Rb4 Nd7 30. Qb2 f6 31. h4 Qc7 32. Qb1 Kg8 33. Be2 Rf8 34. h5 Kg7 35. Rg3 Nc5 36. Nxc5 bxc5 37. Rb6 Rxa4 38. Rc6 Qa5 39. Kh2 Ra1 40. Rxc5 Qxc5 41. Qxa1 Qxf2 42. Qf1 Qd4 43. Bd3 f5 44. Qg1 Qxg1+ 45. Kxg1 fxe4 46. Bxe4 Rf4 47. Re3 Bf5 48. Bxf5 gxf5 49. c5 Rc4 50. c6 Kf6 51. Rb3 Ke7 52. Rb7+ Kd8 53. Rxh7 a5 54. Rd7+ Kc8 55. h6 Rh4 56. h7 a4 57. Rg7 a3 58. d6 Kb8 59. Rb7+ 1-0

Section B was very tightly contested and the winner-Richard Pua scored 3.5/5. Second was shared between Mike Zeggelaar and Hafiz Karmali with 3/5 each.

Section C originally had only five participants, but the sixth spot was taken by the much higher rated Aaron Sequillion who played with no prize option. In the end there was a tie for first between the talented junior Jeff Anthony De Guzman and Aaron Sequillion with 4.5/5 each. Since Aaron was playing with no prize option the actual winner was Jeff Anthony while second went to Mark Nie who scored 2/5.

A special thanks goes to TD Rick Pedersen for running the event!

Full results are available at: <http://albertachess.org/2011EFS.html>

Tournament games are available at: <http://albertachess.org/11EFS.html>

WHERE TO PLAY CHESS IN ALBERTA!

Airdrie Chess Club

Airdrie Public Library
111 304 Main Street Contact: Larry
Besplug (president) email:
besplug@shaw.ca or Dennis Young:
panaspor@hotmail.com

Calgary Chess Club

274 3359 27th St. NE
Parma Tech Centre, North Building
Tuesday nights from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Friday nights from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.
phone: 403.264.9498
website: www.calgarychess.com

Calgary Junior Chess Club

Contact: Simon Ong
email: simong89@yahoo.ca
website: <http://sites.google.com/site/calgaryjuniorchessclub>

University of Calgary Chess Club

email: chess@ucalgary.ca
website: <http://sites.google.com/site/calgaryjuniorchessclub>

Edmonton Chess Club

204 10840-124 St
Mondays and Thursdays 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
phone: 780.424.0283
website: www.edmontonchessclub.org

Grande Prairie Chess Club

Contact Tim Pradzinski
phone: 780.518.2281
email: database@telusplanet.net
website: www.gpchessclub.com

Fort McMurray Chess Club

Westwood Family YMCA: 221 Tundra
Drive. Thursday for adults 6PM -10PM
and for kids every Saturday 1-4PM.
For more information call Jina at:
780.715.9332 or e-mail at: swp@shaw.ca

University of Alberta

Student Union Building, 8900 114th St.
Open area tables in the food court, main
floor. Casual games between 3:30 p.m.-
6:30 p.m. email: uachess@ualberta.ca
website: <http://uachess.wetpaint.com>

Lethbridge Junior Chess

Family Centre, Suite 225, 200 - 4th
Avenue South, Lethbridge Centre
Towards a Brighter Future Presentation
Room. 2:30-4:00 pm Fridays
Phone: 403.320.4232
Website: <http://www.famcentre.ca/>
Contact: Kent Karapita
kentkarapita@hotmail.com
Peter Davis-Imhoff:
peter.davisimhof@gmail.com

La Crete Chess Club

Contact: Chris White
H: (780)9283523 W: (780)9283632
email: fagandrivepark@hotmail.com

Lethbridge Chess Club

Pemican Lodge 102 5th Avenue South
(on the second floor in the games room)
6:00pm until 9 or 10pm
Contact: Paul Viminitz vimip0@uleth.ca

University of Lethbridge Chess Club

e-mail: chess.club@uleth.ca
website: <http://people.uleth.ca/%7Echess.club>

Lloydminster

Contact: Terry Chaisson
phone: 780.875.8186 or 780.871.3995

Okotoks Chess Club

Contact: Richard Bradley
Email: richard.bradley@shaw.ca

Medicine Hat Chess Club

402 Maple Avenue SE
Wednesdays 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Contact: Bill Taylor phone: 403.526.5484
email: taylormw@shaw.ca

Medicine Hat Junior Chess Club

Earl Kitchener School, Community Room
211 4th St. S.E. End of October to early
March, Saturdays 1:30-4 p.m.
Contact: Bill Taylor Ph:403.526.5484
email: taylormw@shaw.ca

Sherwood Park

Strathcona County Library, 2nd Floor
Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to closing
Contact: Les Jones phone: 780.467.7393

Wainwright Chess Club

Showtime Video 701-10 Main St.
Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Contact: Allen Tinio phone: 780.842.4123
email: amtinio@telus.net

The Alberta Chess Association is pleased to help out our existing chess clubs with any support they may require. We also encourage the formation of new clubs through our Chess Club seeding program. If you would like to start a chess club in your town, please contact the ACA to see if you qualify for the program.

Email

vrekhsen@yahoo.ca
for more information



Contact us:

Tim Pradzinski 780-518-2281
Email database@telusplanet.net

www.gpchessclub.com

Calgary Chess Club



274 3359 27th St. NE
Tuesdays, Thursdays
from 7 p.m.
Saturday Junior program
1-4pm

Lessons available
www.calgarychess.com

Edmonton Chess Club

#204, 10840-124 St.



Mondays & Thursday

7-11 p.m.

Saturdays

1-5 p.m.

Phone 780.424.0283

Website

www.edmontonchessclub.org



"The Pawn" by
Renata Sajko