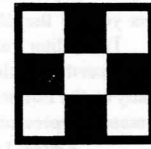


# ALBERTA CHESS REPORT



A Newsletter Published by the Alberta Chess Association  
April 1995 Vol. 20 No. 2

## 1995 Calgary January Open TD & Org: Paul Usselman Report by John Quiring

The CJO was held January 28-29 in the Lord Nelson Inn. The site has an abundance of the three most important factors in a chess tournament: light, elbow room, silence. On the down side, ventilation from the adjoining 'smoking area' is very poor, and the room rental is more than the ACA has budgeted.

Dale Haessel's last round draw with Jim Flemming gave him clear first with 4.5/5. Jim and I shared second at 4 ("they are experts currently in sheep's clothing"-Paul Usselman). This was the first ACA tournament where I didn't lose a game. Sharing the Under 1800 prizes with 3/5 were old Cor Dewindt and young Jordan Davies (they "bracketed their opponents chronologically"-Paul). Jordan, rated 1481, had a terrific tournament and is becoming a dangerous opponent. Top Unrated went to Tedge Davies. Top Junior was Gerard O'Reilly.

Thanks to Paul for organizing & directing.

## Neil...Sharp...in Red Deer by David Ottosen

The first tournament of the club scene in Red Deer since last year's Closed was held the first two weeks of January. It was one of the strongest in memory, with four former Closed champs (Sharp, Ottosen, Kaastrup, and Vandervaart), and a 1775 average rating.

Neil Sharp extended his Red Deer winning streak to 39 games, relying on his ability to squeeze us to death (as *The Rocket* might say, you're the squeezees, Neil's the squeezer-ed.). David Ottosen returned from a several month layoff with a loss to Gord Cannon. However, in the end, Ottosen managed to defend his second rated status and finish behind Sharp. The critical game was in the last round, with Sharp White against Ottosen. Like nearly all games played in Red Deer, it was a battle of opening preparation, following book until move 24, when it entered a slightly better endgame for White. Slightly better became much better, which eventually became 1-0. The tournament ran mostly as expected, except that about 25% of the games were under 20 moves, and I don't mean draws!

Here's a wild and wooly last round game:

T. Davies [unrated] - J. Quiring [1914]  
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 d5 4.Bb5 Bg4 5.Qa4 Qd6 6.d4 Bxf3? Black is in trouble. ECO gives 6...exd4 7.e5 Qe6 8.Nxd4. 7.dxe5 Qe6 8.Bxc6 Qxc6 9.Qxc6 bxc6 10.gxf3 O-O-O Both sides have poor piece development and bad pawns. I think both enjoy these types of positions. Black is obviously losing. 11.Bg5? Chases the R to a better square. I prefer 11.Be3, blocking the e-file and attacking a7. 11...Re8 12.f4 h6 12...f6 13.Bh4 fxe5 wins the P back, but I wanted to unwrap my K-side first. I felt I'd win the P later. 13.Bh4 g5 14.Bg3 gxf4 15.Bxf4 Bg7 16.Nd2 dxe4 17.Nc4 White chooses to protect his own P and worry about the weak P on e4 later. 17...Ne7 18.O-O-O Ng6 19.Be3 Nxe5 20.Nxe5 Rxe5 21.Rhg1 Bf6 22.Rg4 Bg5 23.Bf4 Rf5 Better is 23...Ra5, threatening 23...f5 to chase the R and win the B. 24.Be3 Rxf2? Black misjudges the position after the upcoming exchanges. Three connected passed Ps don't always win. 25.Rxg5 hxg5 26.Bxf2 Rxf2

27.Bxa7 f5 Black is lost. White can attack the Ps with K, R and B, whereas Black can only defend with the R. If Black's K tries to help the Ps advance, the threat of the a-pawn's advance will cause a quick diversion. 28.a4? The wrong plan. The threat won't go away—Black's Ps require immediate attention, e.g. 28.Rg1 g5 29.Rf1 g6 30.Rxf5 g7 31.Rg5 and Black has nothing. 28...f4 29.a5 g4 30.a6 e3 31.Re1 g3 32.Rg1 Re2 The Ps look very dangerous, but Black must be careful or the pawn roller will grind to a halt., e.g. 32...g2? threatening 33...Rh1 loses to 33.Kc2 f3 34.Bxe3 Rh1 35.Kd3 etc. 33.Bd4 g2 34.Kb1 f3 35.Ka2 White gets the K off the back rank, but it's too late. 35...f2 36.Rxg2 f1(Q) 37.Rg8+ Kd7 38.Rg7+ Kd6 39.a7 Re1 40.Rg6+ Kd5 41.Rg5+ Ke4 42.Re5+ Kf4 43.Kb3 Ra1 44.Rxe3 Qb5+ 45.Kc2 Qa4+ 46.Kd3 Rd1+ 47.Ke2 Qc2# (0-1)

## The Trumpeter Classic by Phil Lefkowitz, TD

With 21 entrants, the 12th annual Trumpeter Classic, 3rd event in the Peace River Grand Prix, resembled the tournament in its mid-1980's heydays. The 15 out-of-towners included the Edmonton road warrior crew (Ford 'Mr. Big' Wong, John Quiring, David Ottosen, Ravi Trikha, and Peter Alderton).

A tremendously improved David Ottosen took clear first in the open, settling some old scores with Mr. Big and John (not to mention the Classic two years ago when he went home with half a point). John tied for second with Ravi for some saving grace. Gary Ockert and Peter Belleau saved the GP club face as they tied with Peter A. for First under 1750.

Angie Seitz (9) of Peace River was the story in the junior section. She scored 3 of 4 to take clear first. Scott Boyer (9) was second with 2/4. I have a suspicion there will be many more battles between these two youngsters.

See page 10 for another report...

## 1995 Northern Alberta Open by Len Steele, TD

Nigel Fullbrook consumed dozens of Len's free cookies to get the sugar his brain needed to restore it to full chess working order, and he scored a sweet 4.5/5 to grab first (take lots of cookies to the Alberta Closed, Nigel!). Sasha Grumic (lost to Nigel) and Bill Bentley (Top 1800-1999; the lone entrant from the deep south; lost to Sasha) were =2nd-3rd with 4/5. Geoff Newton was 2nd 1800-1999, and David Ottosen 3rd. Brady Ficko, Harold Climenhaga, and Jeff Cummer headed 1600-1799. Daryl Bertrand was 1st Under 1600. (The entry of 22 was the lowest in many years—for an Alberta Closed qualifier yet!—where were y'all? Thanks to those who submitted games! I'll try to fit some into a future ACR.)

## 1995 Alberta Closed

The 1995 Alberta Closed is stacking up to be an unofficial and evenly matched battle of Alberta, with four Calgaryans (Jim Daniluk, Greg Huber, Farzan Nazarian, Arthur Odachowski) and four Edmontonians (Chris Dartana, Nigel Fullbrook, Hafiz Karmali,

Adam Wu). The Closed takes place April 14-16 in Calgary at the Quality Inn, 2359 Banff Trail NE (in Motel Village). Maybe this year an Edmontonian will rip the crown from the grasp of Calgaryans who have dominated for several years. Spectators are welcome and may play alongside these players by entering the Alberta Reserves. Sat-Sun, April 15-16.

The *Alberta Chess Report (ACR)* is published 4-5 times per year by the *Alberta Chess Association (ACA)*. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles for brevity and clarity. Uncredited articles are usually by the Editor—opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the ACA.

Editor: Len Steele

**Alberta Chess Association**  
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ACA-Senior \$5 per year  
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ACA-Participating \$1 per year

'Junior & Participating' memberships to those 17 years of age or less (submit birthdate). Participating members don't get *En Passant* or *ACR*. Life memberships available. Yearly CFC membership includes ACA (required for Albertans): sr-\$35; jr-\$23; partic.-\$11. Provide player's full name, address and CFC number (if previous member). State if female. If sending info to ACA, phone # appreciated.

**ACR Deadline**

Material for inclusion in the next *ACR* should be received by: **19 May 95**. Items received after that date may be delayed to a later *ACR*.

**Reminder to Tournament Directors**

 The CFC requires a rating report to be submitted within 7 days after an event—you owe it to your participants to send in rating and membership reports ASAP. Also send a written report to the *ACR* (please support your Alberta newsletter!)—prize list, crosstable, and/or game(s) an asset.

**Clubs**

Please ensure that your listing is **correct**. Also, **your members** likely appreciate reports in the *ACR* on **your activities**.

**Organizers of Events**

Please send *ACR* details well in advance.

**Always Get a Receipt**

When you pay for a CFC/ACA membership, be sure to get a dated receipt signed by the person who collected your money. Retain the receipt until your new CFC card arrives.

**ALBERTA CHESS CLUBS**

- not including junior and school clubs
- this is the latest info provided to the ACR
- you may wish to call before attending

**CALGARY CC**

**Meets:** Sandman Inn (Blackgold Room), 7th Ave & 8th St SW, Tues. 7:00-11:00.

**Info:** Barney Fegyvermeki (243-6351; mail: c/o 1724-49 Ave SW, Calgary T2T 2T9).

**EDMONTON CC**

**Meets:** Oliver Community Hall, 10326-118 St, Thurs., 7:00-11:00.

**Info:** Kurt Lauterwald (434-7536; mail: c/o 4736-105A St, Edmonton T6H 2P3).

**Schedule:**

Apr 13 - May 4: ECC Capablanca, 4 rds.

May 11: Speed Chess.

May 18 - 25: ECC Spring Active, 2 rds/day.

Jun 1 - 29: ECC Memories of Fischer, 5 rds.

Jul 6 - Aug 3: ECC Summer Open, 5 rds.

Aug 10 - 24: ECC Summer RRs, 3 rds each.

Aug 31 - Sep 6: ECC Back to School Active, 2 rds/day (8:30 start Sep 6 after AGM).

Sep 6: Annual General Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Sep 13 - Oct 11: Edmonton Open.

**GRANDE PRAIRIE CC**

**Meets:** Royal Canadian Legion, 9912-101 Ave, Tues., 7:00 p.m. (Sept. 1 - Apr. 30).

**Info:** Phil Lefkowitz (538-1903; mail: c/o 9305-74 Ave, Grande Prairie T8V 6G2).

**HINTON CC**

**Info:** Peter Bundscherer (c/o Queen's Bakery & Cafe, PO Box 3217, Hinton T0E 1C0).

**NORTHERN COMMUNITIES CC**

**Info:** Bernie Tynan (771-3757; mail: c/o Box 90, Wandering River T0A 3M0).

**PEACE RIVER CC (new club!)**

**Meets:** Kick-off fulltime in Sept/95. Planning monthly Actives, Grand Prix event(s), etc.

**Info:** Todd or Tammy Seitz (624-3256); Keith Lavalley (624-5232); Joe McDonald (835-2155).

**RIMBEY CC**

**Info:** Cameron McLean (843-3736; mail: c/o Box 733, Rimbey T0C 2J0).

**RED DEER CC**

**Meets:** Red Deer College, room 907, Thurs., 7:00-11:00 (Sept. to May long weekend).

**Info:** Henry Vandervaart (341-3415, mail: c/o #307, 40 Cardinal Ave, Red Deer T4P 2T1).

**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA CC**

**Meets:** SUB (basement), approx. 11:00-4:00 weekdays, September-April.

**Info:** David Bullas (440-3966; mail: Box 92, SUB, U of A, Edmonton T6G 2J7).

**Top-Rated Albertans**

(as of February '95)

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Greg Huber .....         | 2346     |
| Dale Haessel .....       | 2273     |
| Nigel Fullbrook .....    | 2224     |
| Arthur Odachowski .....  | 2221     |
| Sardul Purewal .....     | 2215     |
| Ante Zaradic .....       | 2188     |
| Ted Wilson .....         | 2177     |
| Hafiz Karmali .....      | 2172     |
| Neil Sharp .....         | 2167     |
| Chris Demers .....       | 2154     |
| Farzan Nazarian .....    | 2147     |
| Dale Haukenfrers .....   | 2102     |
| Paul Usselman .....      | 2088     |
| Warrick Walker .....     | 2088     |
| Adam Wu .....            | 2077     |
| Christiaan Dartana ..... | 2072     |
| Wilf Lahrkamp .....      | 2056     |
| Jim Daniluk .....        | 2050     |
| Barney Fegyvermeki ..... | 2045     |
| Gerald Aspler .....      | 2028     |
| John Parrott .....       | 2018     |
| Grant Brown .....        | 2004     |
| Sasha Grumic .....       | 2289/5*  |
| Lev Gorelik .....        | 2248/10* |
| Nandor Tot .....         | 2146/24* |
| Sé (Shay) Randall .....  | 2129/9*  |
| Walter Watson .....      | 2065/21* |
| Tim Pradzinski .....     | 2024/11* |

\* = provisional rating/games played (min. 5)  
Current or recent (expired in about the past year) Alberta ACA members only. Those not known (by the editor) to have played in a regular-rated Alberta tournament in about the past year: R. Hawkes 2362; A. Frialde 2260; B. Brebrich 2225; G. Campbell 2160; M. Rabljenovic 2145; Z. Baunok 2126; B. Willis 2111.

**"Battle of Alberta"**

The ACA has scheduled an "official Battle of Alberta" for June 17th. Teams from Calgary, Edmonton, and Red Deer are expected to duke it out to determine team chess supremacy in Alberta.

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Manny Migicovsky  
RR #1, L'Original, ON, K0K 1K0



**1995 Edmonton Closed**  
by David Ottosen

This 8-player round robin, was held at the Edmonton CC from January 12 to February 23. Most had participated in the Closed before, except for myself and (I think) Alex Kuti. All games were hard fought—I don't recall any short draws, other than my last round game. **Hafiz Karmali** was just that much stronger than the field, clinching clear first with a round to spare (as Ravi Trikha wrote, he "overwhelmed the opposition"—ed.). Having already qualified for the Alberta Closed via the Alberta Open (on tiebreak over Dale Haessel), perhaps he can take 2 spots, and play simultaneously (round 7: Karmali-Karmali?). Second was in doubt until the last round, when Ottosen finally caught up to tie Dartana (Dartana's better tiebreak qualified him for the Alberta Closed, since Karmali had qualified via the Alberta Open-Trikha).

**Round 1:** Borloi crashed through Schocat's kingside in a Sicilian. Kuti trapped Newton's rook with Geoff in time pressure. Quiring achieved a great KID position against Karmali, but miscalculated and lost. Ottosen's kingside play was faster than Dartana's queenside attack, culminating in a knight sac.

**Ottosen-Dartana**

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Be3 Nf6 5.f3 0-0 6.Bc4 Nc6?! The more usual plan is c6, b5, Nbd7, and Nb6. 7.Nge2 e5 8.d5 Ne7 9.g4 a6 10.Ng3 c5?! Now the centre is locked, so the game will be decided on the wings. With 11.a4, White slows Black's Q-side attack by several moves. However, on the K-side... 11.a4! Bd7 12.Qe2 Qb6?! 12...Qa5 pins one defender of b5 and, in view of the game continuation, saves a tempo. Black overlooked White's response. 13.Kd2! Qa5 13...Qxb2?? 14.Rhb1 14.h4 Nc8 15.h5 Nb6 White is blasting open the K-side, and Black is getting nowhere on the Q-side. 16.b3 Nxc4+ 17.bxc4 Qc7 18.Rag1 b5 19.Nf5!! No points for other moves. 19...bxc4 19...gxf5 20.gxf5 and the threats of h6, Bh6, or Qg2 win at least a piece back, and that piece is likely to be the black king. 20.h6 Bh8?? 20...Bxf5 21.hxg7 Kxg7 22.Bh6+ Kg8 23.Bxf8 Bxg4 24.fxg4 Rxf8 25.Qxc4 leaves White a rook up, but doesn't allow... 21.Ne7# (1-0)

**Round 2:** Quiring and Newton had a short, but exciting draw. Karmali's French tied-and-gagged Borloi. Schocat ground Ottosen in a rook ending. Dartana accepted Kuti's counter gambit and made the extra pawn decisive.

**Round 3:** A weird round. Newton held a draw a piece down to Dartana, and Quiring was a piece down to Borloi, but made it within

two moves of 50 before losing. Ottosen dropped an exchange to Karmali after an exciting opening. The only 'normal' game was Kuti's win over Schocat, where Eric learned the danger of a kingside fianchetto.

**Newton-Dartana**

Annotated by Newton

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.f4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 0-0 8.e5 Ne8 9.Qxb7?! Nd7 10.Bc4 e6 11.Qc6 11.0-0! c5 12.d5 exd5 (12...Nb6 13.dxe6 fxe6 14.Bxe6+ Kh8 15.Be3 is good for White) 13.Bxd5 Nb6 14.Rd1 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 Kh8 16.Ne3 and White is having a little fun. 11...Nb6?! 11...Qh4+ 12.Kf1 Nb6 looks better. 12.Be3 12.0-0 loses material due to the weak d4 square. 12.Ne2 dxe5 13.dxe5 Bxe5 14.Bxe6 Bg7 15.Bb3 Nd6 16.0-0 Re8 and Black has some play 12...Qh4+ Black should eliminate the white-squared B; 12...Nxc4 13.Qxc4 Qh4+ 14.Bf2 Qxf4 15.Ne2 Qg5 16.0-0 dxe5 17.Rae1 Rd8 18.dxe5 Bxe5 19.Nd4 Nd6 20.Qd3 Bg7. 13.Bf2 Qxf4 14.Ne2 Qg5 15.0-0 dxe5 16.Bxe6? 16.dxe5 Rd8 and Black is fine. 16...Bxe5 17.Bxb6 Nd6 18.Bxc7 Nxc4 19.Bxe5 Nxe5 20.Qe4 leaves a few chances for White. 16.d5 exd5 17.Bxb6 (17.Bxd5 Nf6 18.Bb3 looks sad for White) 17...axb6 18.Qxa8 dxc4 19.Qc6 Qe3+ 20.Rf2 Nd6 is also bad. Perhaps I should've gone for the endgame a P down. 16...fxe6 17.Qxe6+ Kh8 18.Bg3? 18.Rae1 Nd6 19.h4 Qd2 20.dxe5 Rxf2 21.exd6 (21.Kxf2 Rf8+ 22.Kg1 Qe3+ 23.Kh1 Rxf1+ 24.Rxf1 Qxe2) 21...Raf8 -+ 18...Nd6? 18...Qe3+ 19.Kh2 Rxf1 20.Rxf1 Qxe2 21.Rf8+ Bxf8 22.Bxe5+ Qxe5+! is better. 19.Bxe5 Bxe5? 19...Rfe8! 20.Qxe5+ Qxe5 21.dxe5 Ne4 21...Ndc4 22.Rxf8+ Rxf8 23.e6 Re8 24.Nd4 c5 22.Nd4 Rfe8 22...Rfd8 23.Rad1 Nc4 24.Ne6 Rxd1 -+ 23.Rae1 Rxe5? 23...Ng3 24.Rf3 (24.Rf7 Rad8 25.Nb5 Rd2 26.Kh2 Ne2 27.Rxc7 Nf4 28.Nxa7 Nxc2 29.Re4 Ne1+ 30.Kg1 Ng3+ 31.Kf1 Rf8 32.Re1 Ng5+ 33.Kg1 Nch3+ 34.Kh1 Rf8? with mate to come) 24...Nh5 25.e6 Ng7 26.b4 Re7 27.Rf7 Rae8 and White can't progress. 24.Rf4 Rae8 25.Nc6 R5e6 26.Nd4 (draw) 26...Ng5 27.Nxe6 Rxe6 28.Rxe6 Nxe6 29.Rf7 Nd5 30.Rd7 N5f4=

**Round 4:** Karmali won another exchange, against Kuti, and cruised to victory. Dartana refined his Pirc, and this time his queenside attack beat Quiring. Ottosen and Borloi had a supersharp game, where the last blow went to Ottosen. Schocat squeezed Newton to death in a knight ending after Newton missed earlier wins.

**Borloi-Ottosen**

Annotated by Ottosen

1.e4 c5 2.f4 d5 3.exd5 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6?! 5.Bb5+ Nbd7 6.dxe6 Qe7 7.Qe2 fxe6 8.a4 a6 9.Bc4 Nb6 10.Ba2 Bd7 11.Nf3? 11.a5 Nbd5 12.Nxd5 Nxd5 13.Bxd5 exd5 14.Qxe7+ Bxe7 and Black's 2 B's, development and centre may give compensation for the pawn. 11...Nxa4 12.Nxa4 Bxa4 13.Bxe6 Bxc2 14.d3? Bxd3! 15.Qe3 Rd8 16.f5 g6 Challenging White's centre and opening a line for the B/f8. 17.Ne5?! Tempting—there's a shocking refutation: 17...Rd4!! Decides the game. I get a laugh out of this position—6 pieces on the e-file, and the winning move threatens to add a 7th! 18.Kf2 Bxf5 19.Bf7+ 19.Bxf5 gxf5 and the threat of 20...Re4 is hard to meet. 19...Kd8 20.Re1 The threat was 20...Qxe5 21.Qxe5 Ng4+. White's best chance was probably the cheapo 20.Rxa6, but 20...Qxe5 21.Ra8+ Kd7 wins easily. 20...Ne4+ 21.Kg1 Qxe5 22.Bd2 Bd6! 23.Ba5+ Ke7 24.Qb3? Allows mate in 4, but a good alternative to resignation. 24...Qxh2+ 25.Kf1 Qh1+ 26.Ke2 Qxg2+ 27.Ke3 Qf2# (0-1)

**Round 5:** Quiring tried to squeeze Ottosen in a N vs B endgame, but settled for a draw. Kuti's massive kingside attack buried Borloi. Karmali used a typical French counterpunch to defeat Newton. Schocat and Dartana traded advantages until Dartana asserted his material superiority. Current standings: Karmali 5, Dartana 3.5, Kuti 3, Ottosen 2.5, Schocat 2, Newton 1, Quiring 1.

**Round 6:** The critical matchup Dartana-Karmali saw Dartana win a rook, but give it back. The eventual draw clinched first for Karmali. Newton sacked an exchange to open up Borloi's king. Ottosen and Kuti blocked the position before Ottosen sacked a knight to get into the queenside. Schocat and Quiring fought right to the last pawn before drawing.

**Borloi-Newton**

Annotated by Newton

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.Be2 Bd6 6.0-0 Ne7 7.h3 Bh5 8.Qd3 Nbc6 9.Be3 Bg6 10.Qb3 0-0 11.c3 Re8 12.Nh4 Nf5 13.Nxf5 Bxf5 14.Bf3 Rxe3 15.fxe3 Qg5 16.Bxd5 16.Qxb7 Qxe3+ 17.Kh1 Rb8 18.Qxc6 Qf4 19.Kg1 Qe3+ and

|              | 1    | 2                | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | Pts |
|--------------|------|------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| 1 H. Karmali | 2172 | X                | 1 | = | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5.5 |
| 2 D. Ottosen | 1932 | 0                | X | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | = | 4.0 |
| 3 C. Dartana | 2085 | =                | 0 | X | 1 | 1 | 0 | = | 4.0 |
| 4 E. Schocat | 1948 | 1                | 1 | 0 | X | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3.5 |
| 5 A. Kuti    | 1843 | 0                | 0 | 0 | 1 | X | 1 | 1 | 3.0 |
| 6 F. Borloi  | 1972 | 0                | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | X | 0 | 3.0 |
| 7 G. Newton  | 1961 | 0                | = | = | 0 | 0 | 1 | X | 2.5 |
| 8 J. Quiring | 1940 | 0                | = | 0 | = | 1 | 0 | = | 2.5 |
|              | 1982 | (average rating) |   |   |   |   |   |   |     |

Black can take a perpetual. 16...Qxe3+ 17.Kh1 Qg3 18.Bx17+ 18. Kg1 Qe3+ = 18...Kh8 19.Kg1 Be4 20.Rf2 Bd3? 20...Bxg2! (21.Rxg2 Qe1#) 21.Re2 Bxh3+ 22.Kh1 Qf3+ 23.Rg2 Qxg2# is faster. 21.Re2 Bxe2 22.Na3 Qh2+ 23.Kf2 Ba6 and (0-1) in five moves.

**Round 7:** Borloi won Dartana's center pawns in a French, then won an exchange, allowing Ottosen to take a quick draw with Newton to assure a tie for 2nd. Schocat crushed Karmali in a Dutch, depriving Karmali of his master title. Finally, near 1 a.m., Quiring converted his exchange-up ending with Kutli.

### Edmonton Reserves gets Two Masters

In an 'amusing twist', the two highest-rated ECC members played in the Reserves, not the Closed. Sasha Grumic was technically unrated, so ineligible for the Closed. Nigel Fullbrook missed registration week, so had to settle for the Reserves (round 1 bye). Not surprisingly, their fourth round game was the critical one, with Fullbrook taking revenge for his defeat at the Weekend Before Xmas Open, and finishing with 4.5/5. Grumic was also held to a draw by the revitalized Art Skeel in round 2, allowing Rob McCullough to slide

into 2nd with 4/5 (loss to Grumic). 'Sprightly' Art Skeel took the under 1702 (he was 1701) prize with 3.5/5. As I was busy in the Closed, I couldn't watch this event that closely, but I am left with several memories: Fred Linnemann annihilating Daryl Bertrand, several players violating a cardinal chess rule (NO losing to Aaron!), Ahmet Yamach scalping a 'grandmaster', and most of all, the entire club feeling good that Art Skeel performed so well. Thanks to Rob McCullough, who graciously withdrew without complaint from the Closed after a higher-rated player showed up as pairings were being made.

### 1995 Calgary Closed

by Greg Huber & Walter Watson, TDs

The 30-player 1995 Calgary Closed was divided into 3 sections, with each having at least one 'strange' result. In the 8-player top section (ratings 1989 to 2346) **Jim Daniluk** bounced back from a first round loss to win with an impressive 6/7. Greg Huber's two losses left him second with 5/7. Farzan Nazarian was third with 4.5. The strange result in one game occurred when Dale Haessel resigned after realizing he had allowed a perpetual check while up significant material!

Section 2 also had 8 players (ratings 1617 to 1978). **Jeff Chrumka** dominated with 4 wins and 3 draws for 5.5/7 and a well-earned first place. In a critical last round game, Dave Gomboc missed winning a piece against Bill Bentley and instead had to draw an inferior ending. This left Dave tied with Art Milne for second/third with 5/7.

Section 3 was a 7-round Swiss, with none of the 14 players rated over 1600. Unheralded **Steve Brown** won first prize, dominating the field with 6.5 points. His only lost half-point came when he captured a 'poisoned' rook with his extra queen, resulting in an immediate stalemate! Larry Ries chased Brown until the last round, and took second with 5 points. Gary Bruckner was third with 4.5. Keith Jones, Ken Bourassa, and Dwight Dunn split 'top under 1400' with 4 points. It was good to see the newcomers play, and good sportsmanship (and sportswomanship!) prevailed.

### Rod Weis - Jeff Chrumka

Dutch Defence - Stonewall Variation  
(annotated by Chrumka)

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.a3!/? Not entirely a poor move. More regular is 4.g3, planning Bg2 and O-O, with intentions of a Q-side attack. Since White generally tries to acquire space and counterplay on the Queenside, this move, although played early, isn't inexact. 4...Be7 5.Nc3 d5 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Qc2 c6 8.Bg5 O-O 9.e3 Ne4 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Ne2 Nd7 12.Nf4 Ndf6 13.Be2 Ng4!/? 14.O-O? Allows the tactical shot 14...Nexf2, where Black gets 2 pawns and a R for his 2Ns. Correct was 14.Nd3, with equal chances. 14...Nexf2 15.Qc1!/? 15.Rxf2 Qxe3 16.Nd3 Nxf2 17.Nxf2 Re8 with advantage to Black. 15.h3? is very weak as 15...Nxe3, followed by 16...Nxb3+ and 17...Nxf1, would give Black another pawn and basically rip White's K-side apart. 15...Ne4 15...g5 was tempting, but I deemed it an unnecessary weakening of the K-side and chose to complete my development before undertaking such operations. 16.Nd3 Nd6 17.Nfe5 Nxe5 18.Nxe5 Be6 19.Qc5 a6!/? Weakens the dark Q-side squares to the point where Black's Q-side is immobile. Better was 19...Nc8 or 19...Rf8 and leaving some defence of b6. 20.Rae1 Rae8 21.Bd3 Ne4 22.Qxe7 Rxe7 23.Bxe4 fxe4!/? Very poor! 23...dxe4 at least gives the B a hope of being somewhat active. The text is a result of 2 things; 1—generally it is better to capture toward the center; 2—it was attractive to tie the N/e5 up as, even though it has reached an

excellent outpost, it cannot move anywhere without being captured. However, this isn't important because the N is menacing despite having no immediate targets. 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.Rc1 g5 Attempts to gain space on the K-side create room for the Black monarch to operate. Since the B on e6 had zero activity and prospects were dim, I figured I'd probably have to get my K to f6 and sacrifice the rook for the knight and d4-pawn in order to have winning chances. 26.Kf2 Kg7 27.Kg3?! White should try to limit any play on the Q-side by means of 27.b4, intending 28.a4 and 29.a5. Also, the K is better placed at e2 than g3, as the text will show. 27...Re8 28.Rc3 Rf8 29.Rb3?! This cost White an important tempo getting the R back into play after Black defends the b7-pawn. It was necessary to make the infiltration of Black's rook as difficult as possible. 29...Bc8 30.Rc3 Rf1! 31.Rc2 h5 Threatening 32...h4# 32.h3?! 32.h4 offered more of a fight as the text commits the K to h2 after 32...h4+. 32...h4+! Best as it deflects the White K to the unfavorable h2 square, allowing easier target practice on the e3 pawn. 33.Kh2 Re1 34.Nxc6? Despair? Probably. White should have tried 34.Rc3 and, if 34...Re2, 35.b4, making Black earn the full point. The text gives Black the game without too much difficulty. 34...bxc6 35.Rxc6 Bf5 36.Rxa6 Rxe3 37.Rd6 Rb3 38.Rxd5 Kg6 39.Rd6+ Kf7 40.Rd5?! Ke6 41.Re5+ Kf6 42.a4 Rxb2 43.a5 Ra2 44.Rb5 e3! 45.Rb6+ Ke7 46.Rb5 e2 47.Re5+ Kf6 48.a6 Bd3 49.a7 Rxa7 (0-1)

### Questions... from Ford Wong

Chess seems to be growing in the rest of Canada, but Alberta membership stays about the same. Participation in our clubs is growing, but attendance at weekend tournaments during the past year declined. Why? Is weekend chess 'dying'? Why don't more experts and masters play? Are prize funds too small? Is it boring playing the same opponents? What would it take to get our top players out? Are some organizers and directors too slow in reporting events, etc? Is there

some 'Calgary-Edmonton antagonism'? Do we host too many tournaments? What do you think we can do?

We are also interested in your ideas about what we should be doing overall. Do you have some good, practical, and workable ideas? An important area is what to do with about \$15,000 in casino funds (use of casino funds requires approval by the Alberta Gaming Commission—they can't be spent on 'just anything'). The casino in May will make another major cash infusion. The ACA in-

tends to use (and is using) casino funds to:

- assist with travel to the Canadian Chess Challenge National Finals;
- assist with travel for our reps to the Canadian Closed, Junior, Cadet and Women's Closed.
- assist with room rental costs of the Calgary and Edmonton Chess Clubs;
- plan for a major National event (e.g. Canadian Open) and perhaps a FIDE-rated tournament.

ACA Board members welcome your comments and suggestions. You can either write to the ACA address or call me at 481-6474.



### March of Kings

TD & Org: Paul Usselman  
Report by John Quiring

The ACA (*its Treasurer, anyway - ed.*) has decided to hire a folk singer to write a ballad about the good old days when Calgary players actually showed up to play in Calgary tournaments. Eleven travelling souls took on the six locals and, as expected, the masters took the loot. **Sasha Grumic** won all 5 for first. Nigel Fullbrook was 2nd. Under 2000 prizes went to Geoff Newton and Ravi Trikha with 3.5. First Under 1800 with 3 was G. Singh, who upset Grant Brown in round 1. Second Under 1800 went to Cor Dewindt (also won 'longest drive to play chess'). Top Unrated was Ken Bourassa. Your author won a cup of pity for being the only player to play both masters.

A unique event occurred in this tournament as a player, overcome with excitement at seeing his opponent leave a bishop en prise, accidentally captured *his own knight* instead of the bishop. This violates the rules of chess, and the pieces were replaced. After further contemplation, the player captured his own knight again. It still wasn't permitted, as the rules of chess hadn't changed in the interim. Unfortunately the "touch move" rule applied, so the player couldn't capture the hanging bishop, and eventually lost.

#### A. Milne - L. Danglapan

(1994 Calgary Fall Open)

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 4...Nf6 5.e4 Maroczy Bind. 5...Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.f3 O-O 8.Nc3 a6 9.Be2 Qc7 10.O-O d6 11.Rc1 *With the idea* 12.Nd5! 11...e6 12.Qd2 Bd7 13.Rfd1 Rad8? 13...Rfd8 and the Rf8 comes into play without being obstructed by the Ne8. 14.Kh1 *Avoiding checks.* 14...h5?! 15.Nxc6! Bxc6 16.Bf4 Ne8 *See note at Black's 13th.* 17.e5! Qa5! 17...d5? 18.cxd5 exd5 19.Qd4 and White is better because of the d-pawn. 18.exd6 e5 19.Bg5 Rxd6 20.Qe3 f6 21.Bh6! 21...Bh4, the White B isn't very active. 21...Rf7 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.c5! Rdd7 23...Rd8! 24.Rxd8 Qxd8 25.Rd1 Rd7! 24.Bc4 Rfe7 25.Nd5! Bxd5 26.Bxd5 Qb5 27.Qe3 Nc7 28.Bb3 Qe2 29.Qc4! Qf2 30.Rd6! Kh6 31.Qg8? 31.Rcd1 with the idea 32.Qc1+!; if 31...Qe3 32.h3! wins. 31...Re8 32.Rxd7 Rxd8 33.Bxg8 Nb5 34.Rxb7 Qe3 35.Rg1 Qxc5 36.h4 g5 37.hxg5+ Kxg5 38.Rg7+ Kh6 39.Rd7 Qf2 40.Rgd1 Nd4 41.Bc4 Qxb2 42.Bxa6 (draw)

#### A. Milne - A. Zaradic

(1994 Southern Alberta Open)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 *Rubinstein variation.* 4.Nxe4 Nf6! Usual is Nd7. 5.Nxf6+ Qxf6 6.Nf3 h6 7.Bd3 Bd6 8.Qe2 O-O 9.Qe4 Re8 10.Qh7+ Kf8 11.O-O Nc6

From Bob Mcfie:

In the March of Kings, I managed to lose through carelessness and win only by good fortune. Each of my games demonstrated at least two grievous errors on my part, but the fact that each of my opponents was in serious trouble at some point gives me some cause for hope. If there's anything I might've learned here, it's the importance of a single move.

#### Bob Mcfie - Bill Bentley

*Before the game Bill gave me valuable advice on not making time-wasting opening moves. Ironically, a small miscalculation on his part left him unable to follow his own advice. This isn't to criticize Bill—after all, I needed this break to even pose a threat to him. 1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.Nc3 c6 4.e3 f5 5.Qc2 Nf6 6.Bd3 Ne4 7.f3 Perhaps unwise, but I felt that, if the N on e4 retreats, I'd have time to get my K safely out of the centre (rule #1 on how to beat Bob: I usually wait too long to castle). Instead 7...Qh4+ 8.g3 Nxc3 9.Qf2. Not pretty for Black, but at least there's 9...f4 10.hxg3 Bill thought 10.exf4 Nf5 11.Bxf5 Qxf2+ 12.Kxf2 exf5 13.cxd5 c5 14.dxc5 Bxc5+ 16.Be3 Bxe3+ 16.Kxe3 O-O 17.Nge2 followed by centralizing the Rs and striving to drop the d-pawn on the 8th rank, was probably better. I rejected this as I felt sacrificing the exchange was better than playing with the pawn structure after 10.exf4 (rule #2 when*

12.c3 Bd7?! 12...e5 13.Re1 Ke7!? 13...e5 14.Qe4 Kd8 15.Ne5 Qe7 16.Nc4!? f5!? 17.Qe2 g5!? 18.Nxd6 Qxd6 19.Qc2 *Restraining* 19...e5. 19...Ne7! *Idea* Ne7-g6-h4, Bc6, with the attack. 20.Qb3!? Ng6!? 21.Bb5?! 21.Qxb7! Bc6 22.Qb3 Nh4 23.Bf1! and Black's attack stalls. 21...Qb6 22.Bxd7 Qxb3?? 23.axb3?? 23.Bxe8!! (Walker)+-. 23...Kxd7 24.Bd2 a6 25.Rad1? 25.Ra5! (Odachowski). 25...Rad8 26.c4 Kc6 27.Bc3 b6 28.Kf1 Rb8 *Idea* b5-b4. 29.Re3 h5 30.Rde1 Kd7 31.Rd3 *Idea* 32.d5. 31...c6 32.Rdd1 b5 33.Ra1 Ra8 34.Ra5 Kc7 35.Rea1 Kb7 36.Re1 g4 *All Black's pawns are on light squares—White must struggle for a draw.* 37.Raa1 Rad8 38.Rad1 Rd7 39.Rd2 e5 40.dxe5 Rxd2 41.Bxd2 Rxe5 42.Rd1 *Forced; after Rxe5 it is uphill all the way for White.* 42...Re4 43.Ba5! *Threatening perpetual with 44.Rd7+ etc.* 43...Re7 43...Ne5 44.cxb5 axb5 45.Rd6 and White is OK. 44.Rd6 Ne5 45.Rd4 Nd7 46.Bd8 Rf7 47.cxb5 47.Rd3 Nc5! *wins a pawn, e.g.* 48.Rc3 b4 49.Re3 f4 50.Re5 Nxb3 51.Ke1 Rd7. 47...axb5 48.b4! *This pawn is a fixed weakness, but at least it protects c5.* 48...Ne5 49.Ke2 Kc8 50.f3! *It's important to have pawns defending light squares.* 50...Rd7 51.Rxd7 Kxd7 52.Bg5 Ke6 53.b3 *See note to move 50.* 53...gxf3 54.gxf3 Kd5 55.Ke3 Ng6 56.Bf6 f4+ *Black must do something to restrict White on the*

*trying to beat Bob: I'm probably more eager to play a sacrifice than I'm able to carry it off), but Bill was able to show me workable lines. 10...Qxh1 11.gxf4 Be7 12.Nce2 Qh4 13.Ng3 Bb4+ 14.Bd2 Bxd2+ 15.Kxd2 Qe7 16.c5 Nd7 17.Rc1 Nf6 18.Nh3 Bd7 19.Rh1 O-O-O *Okay, good, he's finally committed his K to one side. I intended over the next few moves to lock the centre and storm the Q-side. I'd like to think my success here was at least partly due to good play, not just good fortune.* 20.e4 Rdf8 21.e5 Ne8 22.Ne2 g6 23.b4 Ng7 24.Rb1 Nf5 25.a4 a6 26.b5 cxb5 27.axb5 Bxb5 28.Bxb5 axb5 29.Kc3 Qh4 30.Qf1 Ne3 31.Qc1 Qxh3 32.Qxe3 g5 33.Kb4 gxf4 33...g4 34.Ng1 Qg3 or 34.Qa3 Kd7 is better. *The move played merely forces my Q where she next wants to be, as well as depriving this nasty little P from posing any immediate threats.* 34.Qa3 Kb8 *Also seems to play right into my hands.* 35.Ra1 Qh4 36.Qa7+ Kc8 37.Qb6 *Okay folks, by making this move I've clearly won the game.* 37...Qd8 *doesn't stop* 38.Ra8+ Kd7 39.Qd6+ Ke8 40.Qxe6 *mate, and the only other move preventing 38.Ra8+ followed by 39.Qxb7 mate is 37.Qe1+, but this leaves Black in a hopeless mess anyway.* Still, Bill followed Rule #3 for beating Bob: when all else fails, there's always prayer. 37...Rd8 38.Ra8+ Kd7 39.Qxb5+?? *Arghh! What on earth caused me to think I needed to play this before Qxb7+, when 39.Qxb7+ Ke8 40.Ra7 mates after 40...Rd7 41.Qxd7+ Kf8 42.Qf7 mate, or 40...Rf8 41.Qxb5+ Rd7 42.Qxd7 mate? Other attempts by Black lose faster, and only 40...Qe1+ 41.Nc3 delays matters any longer. Instead, I let him slip away. Ah well, it's not over yet.* 39...Ke7 40.Rxd8 Rxd8 41.Qxb7+ Kf8 42.c6 Qe7+ 43.Kb5 Qe8 44.Qc7 Rb8+ 45.Kc5 Re8 46.Qd6+ Kf7 47.Nxf4 Qe7 48.Kb6 Qe8 49.Qd7+?? *Now, it's over.* 49.c7 is best. 49...Qxd7 50.cxd7 Rd8 51.Kc6 Ke7 52.Nxd5 exd5 53.f4? (53.Kxd5 is my only chance, but even it's too slow against the h-pawn; if anyone sees a draw here, please show it to me) 53...Rxd7 54.f5 Rd8 (0-1)*

*dark squares, or else White will simply shuffle his B. Unfortunately for him, Ps on dark squares are fixed targets for White's B.* 57.Ke2 Nf8 58.Kd3 Nd7 59.Bh8 Nf8 60.Bg7 Nd7 61.Bh8 c5!? *Inevitable, but this simplifies White's defence.* 62.bxc5 Nxc5+ 63.Kc3 Na6 64.Bf6 b4+ *See note to move 56.* 65.Kc2 Nc7 66.Kd3 Ne6 67.Bh8 h4 68.Bf6 h3 69.Bh8 Ng5 70.Ke2 Nf7 71.Bf6 Nd6 72.Be7! Nf5!? 73.Bxb4 Nd4+ 74.Kf2 Nxb3 75.Bc3 Nd4 76.Ba5 Ne6 77.Ke2 Kc4 78.Bb6 Kc3 79.Ba7 Kc4 80.Bb8 *See note to move 56.* 80...Kd4 81.Bd6 Kc4 82.Bb8 Kd5 83.Kf2 (draw) *White's K & B shuffle, Black has K moves only.*



# ALBERTA JUNIOR CHESS REPORT

(A special section of the Alberta Chess Report, April 1995)



## 1994-95 Canadian Junior Report by Adam Wu

The Canadian Junior was held in the beautiful town of Prince George, BC, December 27 to January 3. The rating spread was amazingly tight, with 6 (!) players in the 2100-2200 range and 4 in 2000-2100. There was no clear pretournament favourite—at least 7 players had a decent shot at the championship, and everyone had a fighting chance.

I finished with 4.5/11 (+2, -4, =5) to tie for 8th, half a point and one place lower than my personal best (last year). I was undefeated with 5 Whites, but only managed to win once. I was quite satisfied with most of my play, but was plagued by a disturbing inability to nail opponents when I had them, losing 3 points in 4 games this way. Strangely, this year I felt I played better and more consistently overall against a weaker field, but still scored less!

With no clear favourite, an intensely competitive race developed. After several of the many pre-tournament 'favourites' put themselves out of contention with slow starts, there emerged the possibility of a 4-way tie for first between Marc-Olivier Moisan-Plante (Quebec), Andrew Ho (B.C.), Jim Ferguson (Hull, Quebec, but born in New Brunswick and studying at the Univ. of Ottawa), and Lefong Hua (Quebec). Marc-Olivier, highest ranked by a hair and known to us as "The Plant", leapt into an early lead, defeating his two principal pre-tournament rivals, John Hall and Jim Ferguson in consecutive rounds, from both sides of the Philidor's Defence. His lead was slowly whittled away, however. When he dropped his first loss in a time scramble to Howard Wu in round 7, 11-year-old Andrew pulled into clear first by a point. Andrew had, however, yet to consecutively face Moisan-Plante, Hall, and Ferguson. Andrew drew the first two games, and saw his lead cut to 0.5. Thus with two rounds to go, Andrew had 7/9, Moisan-Plante 6.5/9, and Jim, who had fallen behind when he gave up a draw and a loss from superior positions to myself and Lefong respectively early on, had caught up and stood with 6/9. It was also noticed that Lefong had "sneaked" up on the leaders and had 6/9 too. Only he knew how he got his points, for they were garnered quietly, with a discreet combination of good skill and good fortune. I think Lefong was very lucky this time around, but then again, luck is often useless without the skill necessary to take advantage. Thus, if Moisan-Plante dropped a half-point, Andrew lost one, and Jim and

Lefong both won two, there would be a 4-way tie for first. In round 10, Jim did beat Andrew, while both Lefong and Moisan-Plante won. Guess who got to play The Plant in round 11? So it was that I entered my final round game against the only master in the field with Lefong begging me in his most compelling voice to win. Jim was slightly more realistic, encouraged me to try to draw, and Mr. Ho (Andrew's father) offered all sorts of psychological advice. Marc-Olivier succumbed to a case of nerves and dropped a pawn in the early opening, but got some compensation (though certainly it should not have been enough) in the form of two tempi. When I essayed an inaccurate idea, the resulting fury of his pieces came quite unexpectedly. So Marc-Olivier Moisan-Plante, by virtue of his last round win, became the new Canadian Junior Champion with 8.5/11. Despite all the speculation of a tie for first, when the dust finally settled over the last round, with Andrew winning against Matthew Grabove without too much difficulty, Jim being unable to convert a subatomic advantage against Ian Martinovsky, and Lefong losing to Howard Wu, there were no ties for any position all the way down to 8th (where I was).

In round one I played Manitoba's rep, Dan Federkevic, who moved to Edmonton the day before he left for Prince George and whose car was, at that moment, sitting on my family's driveway back home. Dan had earned the title of 'Rock' for his 7 draw performance last year. I equalized without too much difficulty with Black but didn't get anything more (common when one has Black against Dan).

In round two I faced John Hall and went into the same Philidor with which John was destroyed by The Plant the previous round. John gained the better position in the opening, but set off on a false path in the middlegame, allowing me to gradually outplay him. When I picked off a piece with time pressure looming, the win was sealed. Little did I know that, despite not losing two games in a row in this tournament (a first!), it would be seven more rounds before I won again!

Disaster struck in round three that night. I sat opposite Howard Wu, my 'brother' from B.C., with Black. In a KID, Howard allowed a pawn to get stranded in my territory. I was cheerfully preparing its annihilation when he dropped an exchange and handed me a crushing position on a silver platter. Tragically, I began to see illusions and soon returned the exchange with two pawns interest. In a losing endgame, I missed sacrificing two pieces to

ensure perpetual check, but sacrificed one piece anyways and was sunk soon after.

The next morning in round 4 I had White vs. Jim Ferguson. He played a Najdorf Sicilian. I went into a line I'd learned over the summer, not knowing he also had the book, and knew it better! Soon, he took over most of the board and was preparing to squeeze me slowly into submission. Inexplicably, he dropped a pawn, but managed to force a draw by repetition.

Since I knew that my round 5 opponent, Andrew Ho, was an excellent KID Classical player, I considered playing another line, but chose the KID anyways to see how much a summer of study had improved one of the weaker links in my opening repertoire. This was a big mistake. Late in the opening, I allowed a transposition of move order which gave Andrew an extra tempo. Then he uncorked an inspired exchange sac that removed my light-squared bishop from the board and solidified his K-side. Faced with a choice between passive defence and sacrificing more (lots more!) material to break Andrew's fortress, I chose, in the mistaken belief that the extra exchange gave me winning chances, to try the former. This was a VERY BIG MISTAKE, as I was slowly ground into powder. Thus, my record of futility against the KID Classical continues with two more losses (the game with Howard was also a KID Classical).

In round 6, as White against Matthew Grabove of New Brunswick, I achieved a decisive advantage very early, but when I balked at a sound piece sacrifice, Matthew found a saving resource and offered a draw. Shaken at the sudden turn of events, I accepted (though I probably shouldn't have).

What followed on New Year's Eve in round seven can only be described as the most brutal massacre I've ever suffered. With Black against Ian Martinovsky, I should have expected something violent from so dangerous an attacker, but for some reason played the opening blissfully unsuspecting. It would perhaps be more accurate to replace the word 'opening' with the word 'game,' but in this round, the opening WAS the game. After my series of boneheaded pawn pushes on the Q-side, he maneuvered his h-pawn to h3 and then to h4, and I discovered that against the threat of h4-h5, hxg6, Bg6xg7, Qh6+, etc., followed by mate and other gruesome consequences, I had no defence! It was not yet move fifteen. I didn't even manage to reach the second column of the scoresheet before I was faced with mate in one.



In round 8, my opponent was Lefong Hua. Earlier, Nathan Steingart, after seeing the Alberta Open game N. McLean - A. Wu in the ACR, uncorked the Bg5 line against Lefong's Dragon. Lefong seemed utterly stunned, and Nathan was soon crushing. Somehow, Lefong won. I found it strange that Lefong would not know the Bg5 Dragon, since he always plays Nathan McLean at the Canadian Chess Challenge. I suppose it's possible Lefong only had White against McLean (I know I've always had Black against him, an annoying pattern to say the least!). Around this time, we noticed that Lefong was in the race for first, and Jim Ferguson lent me some material on Dragon slaying to prepare with. I soon achieved a completely winning position, but Lefong's defence was inspired. I was certain I was winning during the game, but my post-mortem analysis showed things to be much more complicated. After missing a very tricky win, in the ending I had a N and Lefong a B, with all pawns on one side of the board. I had a tiny advantage due to Black's shattered pawns. Lefong blundered horribly, allowing a ludicrous cheapo involving a N-fork, but I didn't see it. I looked for a win for several more moves, but he uncharitably saw through all my transparent tricks.

In round 9, with Black against Nathan Steingart, I played into an opening he had been booking up on (for someone else, I think). Soon, he had the B-pair on an open board and what appeared to be a crushing position. Yet, after the game, when we failed to find wins for White. Black had resources in White's shattered pawns. It was a bizarre game. With the choice of remaining in a superior middlegame, or exchanging into a superior ending, Nathan chose the latter. However, he mistakenly traded a B for my N, giving me near-equality. While we were contesting the only open file, he erred, allowing me to infiltrate. After exchanging Rs, I got a good N vs bad B ending and won without difficulty.

In round 10 I had White versus Peter Marshall. I used a move order transposition in the Svesnikov I had prepared for a summer match with Dave Ottosen. Peter transposed into an accelerated fianchetto, and I transposed into a Classical Dragon. I probably should have tried for the Yugoslav, but was edgy about the effect of Black's extra tempo in the accelerated lines. At any rate, I started seeing illusions and allowed the d5 thrust (the only thing he was playing for, and so quite obvious), thinking it was not possible. He achieved a superior position, and converted it to a pawn-up ending. I managed to conjure up some counterplay, creating a difficult ending where both K's were exposed. This favoured me, since I could care less how many times he

checked me. After an inaccurate thrust by Peter, I got perpetual check. This time, I not only saw it, I actually played it!

Round 11 I've already described. After winning the pawn in the opening, I got paranoid about Marc-Olivier's ephemeral counterplay and tried to build a rock. Being unschooled in this art, I ended up with pumice. It was a bit sour to finish with my 4th missed win. At least I got the honor of being the first to congratulate the new Champion!

On the evening of December 29 in a speed chess championship I scored 7.5/15, getting the honor of knocking off The Plant in round 1 (rapid chess is one of Marc-Olivier's 'weaknesses': witness his loss to Howard Wu, where he dropped a Q in the time scramble), and also drew the winner, Lefong Hua, who must have benefited from all the active chess in the Canadian Chess Challenges. It seems that the faster the time control, the stronger he plays.

John Hall phoned in sick for his round 7 game with Dan Federkevic and had it postponed. Apparently John and Jim had been up VERY late the night before analyzing opening theory (they swear there was no beer involved) and John caught a bug. The running joke was that they were frantically studying the Philidor after The Plant had beaten them both, in successive rounds, from both sides of that opening. Dan phoned to offer a draw, but John declined and managed to win to postponement. J. Ferguson-M. Grabove was the only adjournment. Matthew put up a valiant defence in a lost Q+P ending before succumbing.

On New Year's Eve organizer David Adamson offered a tour of the new University of Northern B.C. I went, as did Howard, Nathan, Ian, and CFC President Yves Farges, who stayed to watch the completion of the tournament. Afterwards, there was a New Year's Eve party featuring a Siamese Chess Championship (informal). After our discussions on the finer points of Siamese Opening theory, involving creatures such as the Johnstone pawn, there was the traditional poker game. I didn't play, but taught the game to Lefong ('je ne suis pas un séparatist') Hua, who really wanted to play but was afraid to risk his money. He finally played several days later when Nathan graciously donated some of his pot. We played lots of Siamese, and I got into the habit of letting my partner play my openings for me. It was the only way I managed to survive, having not been brought up with exposure to Johnstone pawns.

I would like to thank the ACA for paying a portion of my airfare, David Adamson for all his efforts (the playing site was actually warm!), Francisco Cabanás, the TD, with whom I had several enlightening discussions

on chess rules (did you know that, if an illegal move is played that results in checkmate, there is nothing in the rules that allows anyone to do anything about it, since the rules governing illegal moves assume that the game is not over yet, or that a great number of Canadian arbiters are following American rules for adjudicating time scrambles, which are different from the Canadian ones; or that a player in active chess low on time can request a draw from the arbiter if he can demonstrate either that he is winning or that the position is theoretically drawn?), and my billet, the Viray family, who can only be described as wonderful.

The venerable art of Dragon slaying was a hot topic in many of my games, despite the fact I never essayed a single Dragon myself, and played the Sicilian defence only once. The idea of shooting the h-pawn at Black's fianchettoed K-side, supported by the Qd2/Be3-h6 formation, was a common visitor to this tournament. This kind of attack can only be described as crude, but effective, just as rolling a five tonne boulder on someone's head is crude, but effective. Aside from more modern applications (get it?), Dragon slaying ideas crop up in the Saemisch KID, the Pirc, and even the sturdy Philidor. Moisan-Plante was the first victorious knight when he destroyed John Hall's Philidor in round 1, and I was the second with my win over John in round 2. Hall applied a similar idea with the KID Classical setup against Andrew Ho in their critical matchup. I was on the receiving end against Ian Martinovsky, and Nathan Steingart used a similar attacking idea against me to gain space and open lines, even though my king was on the Q-side.

The following game is one of the cleanest I played (it helps, of course, when one knows the book theory 20 moves deep!):

#### A. Wu - L. Hua

Dragon Sicilian, Yugoslav Attack

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.B3 Nc6 *In the delayed-castling Dragon, as I later learned, Black has some insidious alternatives. I was prepared for tricks, having played Lefong in the speed tournament. The Quebec Chess Challenge team, of which Lefong is a veteran member, has a well-stocked arsenal of such tricks, some much more insidious than this one, which they tend to spring in droves once their opponent's clocks dip past the "5 minutes remaining" mark.* 8.Bc4 O-O *Transposes back into mainline Dragon.* 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.O-O O-O Rc8 11.Bb3 Ne5 *It will be in the crucible of the Yugoslav attack that survival or extinction of the race of Dragons will be determined. I believe Black is lost in several main lines, but an opening based on such*

sound principles as the Dragon can't possibly be bad. Nevertheless, the Dragon-slayers currently have the theoretical war upper hand. 12.h4 Nc4?! A line weaker than some alternatives, although my opponent's play helped restore some of my faith in what used to be my pet line. 13.Bxc4 Rxc4 14.h5 Nxb5 15.g4 Nf6 16.Nb3! Stronger than Nde2. In the Dragon, any move that puts your opponent out of his book while staying in yours is good. 16...Re8 Bestreplay. 17.e5 Nxc4 18.fxc4 Bxc4 19.Rdgl h5 20.e6! Still theory for me, but my opponent was getting quite uncomfortable. 20...Bxe6 is standard, where White is better. 20...f5! Now we're both on our own. 21.Nd5 Qc8 22.Nf4?! Until now, we were both still in theory, but didn't know it. After 22.Nd4 Kh7? 23.Rxc4! fxc4 24.Qd3 White is winning (Nunn). During analysis, my opponent uncorked the improvement 22...Be5! White's still better, though. 22...Kh7? Missing 22...Rxf4! 23.Bxf4 Qxe6 when Black has 4 powerful connected passers for his R, and may even be winning. 23.Rxc4! fxc4 24.Qd3 Rxf4 Forced. 25.Bxf4 Rf8! Stronger than Qxe6. 26.Rxh4+! Kg8 27.Qxc6 Rxf4 28.Qh7+? Now the game is drawn. 28...Kf8 29.Rf5+ Amazingly, White has no win here. If 29.Rg5 Qxe6! (29...Rf1+? 30.Kd2 Rf2+ 31.Kd1! Rf1+ 32.Ke2 Rf4 33.Qxc7+ Ke8 34.Qg8+ Rf8 35.Qg6+ Kd8 36.Rxc5 clearly winning.) 30.Qxc7+ Ke8 31. Qg8+ Qxc8 32.Rxc8 Kf7! 33.Rg5 Kf6! and White must take a draw by repetition. In the post-mortem with Lefong and Andrew, we thought the winning line was 29.Qh8+? Bxh8 30.Rxh8+ Kg7 31.Rxc8 g3 32.Rc3 Rg4 33.Nd2 g2 34.Nf3 g1(Q)+ 35.Nxc1 Rxc1+ 36.Kd2 because the R/c3 cannot be prevented from infiltrating via c7. However, this line loses to 34...Rf4! The winning chance occurs on move 28, where the interpolation 28.Nd2! makes the Qh7+ threat real instead of illusory. With the N closer to the K-side, Black has no counterplay in the g-pawn, and no defence against the threats created by Qh7+ 29...Rxf5 30.Qxf5+ Kg8 31.Qf7+ Kh8 32.Qxe7 Qf8! The 'last' necessary accurate move, disregarding the one blunder that's coming a little later. 33.Qxf8 Bxf8 34.Kd2 Kg7 35.Ke3 Kf6 36.Nd4?! Kf4 draws, but I was still in win mode. 36...d5 Better 36...Bh6+! 37.Kf4 Bh6+ 38.Kxc4 Be3?? 39.c3? Missing the cheap, but strong e7! (...Kxe7 40.Nf5+) which wins. This was suggested by Andrew Ho, who pointed out many of the various cheapos I missed this tournament (a lot of them!) I guess I'm just an honorable player (not!). 39...Bc1 40.b3 Bb2 41.Ne2 Kxe6 42.Kf4 a5 43.a4 Kd6 44.Kf5?! Kc5 45.Ke5 (draw) 44.Ke3 was much safer. In the final position Lefong has high cheapo potential if I keep boneheadedly playing for a win, but he accepted my draw offer.

### 1995 Canadian Chess Challenge

#### Edmonton Regional

by Ford Wong

Seventy-one youngsters battled to make it to the Provincial Finals. Most events finished earlier than normal. Some players were so eager they refused to take a lunch break.

The lone entries in Grades 1 and 11 took gold. **Jeremy Wright** (Lynnwood) and **Robert Huston** (Ross Sheppard) played with Grades 2 and 12, respectively (but their games did not count in the totals).

**Kevin Mayo** (gold) and **Scott Mayo** (silver), from Steinhauer School, topped Grade 2. After the 7-player round robin (RR), two RR playoffs between Kevin, Scott and Ryan Lay were needed before the winners emerged.

**Stuart Wright** (Lynnwood) took gold in Grade 3, winning the 3-player double RR. **Joshua Fanaeian** (Lynnwood) earned silver (won a playoff with David Rutledge).

**Justin Pagliaroli** (Lago Lindo) won the 6-player RR to take Grade 4 gold. **Spencer Whelan's** (St. Richard) playoff win over **Brandon Wong** gave him silver.

In Grade 5 first (gold) went to **Paul Kirvan** (Georges P. Vanier) and second (silver) to **Alim Merali** (Lynnwood). **Greg Whelan** (St. Richard) also got a silver (won a playoff with **Steven Rutledge** and **David Murray**).

Grade 6 was a 6-player RR. **Pierre Escalona** (St. Richard) took gold, **Karsten Chipeniuk** (Lago Lindo), silver.

Grade 7 was an 8-player RR lead by **Rishi Patel** (Grandview Heights; gold) and **Kris Steinbach** (Cloverbar, silver).

In the tough Grade 8 group, 'unknown' **Tim Van Aerde** (Grandview Heights) took gold. **Bernie Kan** (Vernon Barford) and **Douglas Wu** (St. Richard) each got a silver.

Grade 9 was an 8-player RR won handily by 1994 Grade 8 Alberta rep., **Louis Lim** with a perfect 7-0. **Stevenson Aung** took silver. Both are from Grandview Heights.

After the 4-player Grade 10 double RR, there was a playoff. **Cynthia Wu** (Old Scona) got gold, **Dmitri Shefer** (Ross Shep.) silver.

Grade 12 was a 4-player double RR won by **Beatrice Wu** (gold; Old Scona). Silver went to **Matthew Wong** (Old Scona) who won the playoff with **Arthur Kan**.

Thanks to the volunteers (**John Quiring**, **John MacNab**, **Wayne Mendryk**, **Adam Wu**, **David Ottosen**, **Kurt Lauterwald**, **Chris Dartana**, **David Ludwig**, **Tom Karpa**, **Peter Alderton**), and to the players. Special thanks to **John MacNab** and to **Grandview Heights Elementary & Junior High** for the facilities.

**Edmonton High School Team Championship** being organized for **May 13**—contact **Beatrice** (or **Adam**) **Wu** at 462-0838.

### 1995 Canadian Chess Challenge

#### Provincial Championships

by Jim Daniluk

Eighty-six players took part in the Provincial Championships at St. Clement School in Edmonton March 25th. The tournament ran very smoothly. Thanks to **Ford Wong**, who helped organize, and **Neil Sharp**, who so ably handled the duties of Tournament Director. Thanks also to **Kevin Whelan**, who provided the excellent site, and to the many volunteers who helped with setup and result taking. The top finisher in each grade qualified for the National Championships in Toronto May 21-22 (if that person can't go, the second place finisher qualifies, etc.-ed.). Congratulations to all participants! Here are the top 3 finishers (trophy winners) in each grade:

**Grade 1**—1. **Matthew Lavalley**;

2. **Graeme Kempthorne**; 3. **Nigel Sharp**

**Grade 2**—1. **Stephen Hazeltine**;

2. **Scott Mayo**; 3. **Chip Boyer**

**Grade 3**—1. **Wendy Lavalley**;

2. **Angie Seitz**; 3. **Stuart Wright**

**Grade 4**—1. **Gerard O'Reilly**;

2. **Scott Boyer**; 3. **Joel Adolph**

**Grade 5**—1. **Jeff Huang**;

2. **Alec Mills**; 3. **Brent McLean**

**Grade 6**—1. **Jordan Davies**;

2. **Michael Hazeltine**; 3. **Pierre Escalona**

**Grade 7**—1. **Nathan McLean**;

2. **John Rajchel**; 3. **Kris Steinbach**

**Grade 8**—1. **Douglas Wu**;

2. **Bernie Kan**; 3. **Tim Van Aerde**

**Grade 9**—1. **Niño Caoile**;

2. **Louis Lim**; 3. **Aung Stevenson**

**Grade 10**—1. **Gurbakhsh Singh**;

2. **Cynthia Wu**; 3. **Dmitri Shefer**

**Grade 11**—1. **Robert Huston**;

2. **Corry Baum**; 3. **Aaron Ferguson**

**Grade 12**—1. **Beatrice Wu**;

2. **Matthew Wong**; 3. **Tony Zaradic**

#### CALGARY JUNIOR CHESS CLUB

Site: McDougall United Church, 8516 Athabasca St SE. Selected Saturdays. Entry fee \$3. Registration 9:30 a.m. (rd 1 at 10:00). Interested in playing or helping out?—contact **Andrew Beingsner** (249-3384).

Tournaments: **Apr 22** **May 27**

#### EDMONTON JUNIOR CHESS CLUB

Tourneys some Saturdays. Site: Heritage Room, City Hall, 1 Sir Winston Churchill Square. 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Due to limited time, tournament registration is promptly at 11:00. Low entry fees. Usually active chess (30 minutes per player). CFC/ACA memb. needed. Equipment is supplied. Interested in playing or helping?—call **Ford Wong** (481-6474) or **Mark Kirvan** (939-5986).

Tournament: **May 13** (NOT the 6th!)



**COREL Canadian Youth Chess Festival — Edmonton Qualifier**  
by Ford Wong

The Under 10 was an 8-player round robin won by **Wendy Lavalley** with 5-0-2. She played solid, steady chess, drawing only Kevin and Scott Mayo. Kevin Mayo was second with 5-1-1, losing only to Angie Seitz.

**Brent McLean** cruised to first in the 14-player Under 12, notching a perfect 5-0. Alim Merali was second with a last round win over Kenny Chow. Chris Bond took the last spot in the provincials, winning a playoff with Alex Beharry, Kenny Chow and Karsten Chipeniuk.

**Douglas Wu** won the 9-player Under 14 with 4-0-1, drawing Nathan McLean. The other qualifying spot was earned by Duncan Campbell, but he couldn't make it, so Alberta Cadet Champion Nathan McLean got in.

**Beatrice Wu** overcame her nemesis Matthew Wong to take first in the 7-player Under 18. Matthew also qualified for the Provincials.

All participants got a COREL Professional Photos CD-ROM Sampler and a COREL poster. Section winners got an impressive knight-shaped onyx trophy. Others qualifying for the Alberta Finals received a medal.

Thanks to the participants, the parents who patiently waited, and my assistants, John Quiring, Jeff Cummer and Chris Dartana. Special thanks to Jeff, who did most of the pairings, enduring close and noisy scrutiny from the many players who crowded around.

Besides providing great participation prizes and awards, a big thank you to COREL for promoting junior chess through sponsorship and for bringing support to GEMS (all entry fee money goes to GEMS, Global Ed-Medical Supplies, a charitable organization helping people in developing countries overcome poverty, disease, malnutrition and illiteracy).

I hope the COREL Youth Chess Festival is a tremendous success and that it continues so in subsequent years. The people at COREL and Jeff Coakley, National Coordinator, did a tremendous job. I'm sure the participants can hardly wait until next year to get back at it.

**February 'Iron-Juniors'**  
by Ford Wong

Duncan Campbell (St. Albert) and Angie Seitz (Peace River) were very busy in February, playing first at the Edmonton Jr Chess Club, then the Corel Draw Edmonton Qualifier the next weekend. The 3rd weekend Duncan was at the Chess Challenge Edmonton Regional, and Angie played in Dawson Creek. Finally, Duncan entered the N. Alta Open, and Angie the Chess Challenge Grande Prairie Regional. Kudos to their 'iron dads', who accompanied them. It's almost like living in Ontario...

**EJCC Jumping January Active**  
by Adam Wu

A record 20 (22, if the match is counted) turned up at City Hall. This allowed us to create two sections of nearly equal size. It also created a noise problem, as some younger children kept forgetting to keep their voices down. It'd be nice if we had a skittles room, but we're too poor to rent 2 rooms. Oh well.

Section B included the 9 players who were both under 10 years old and rated under 1000. Clearly the class of the field were **Kevin** and **Scott Mayo**, who tied for first with 4.5/5, a full 2 points ahead. Rather than meet in a playoff, they chose to share the book prize.

Section A included 9-year-old Angie Seitz, by virtue of her rating. Actually, if anyone from Section B had asked to play in A, they likely would have been allowed to. With the sudden return of the Wu sisters and of multiple winner Matthew Wong, this was also the strongest tournament of the season.

**Matthew Wong** emerged victorious with 4/4, defeating both Beatrice and Cynthia in harrowing time scrambles. Beatrice and Cynthia tied for second with 3/4. Angie caused quite a stir with a round 1 upset of Duncan Campbell, and finished quite well with 2/2.

The new accommodations were comfortable, and the beige swivel chairs evoked recollections of the Fischer-Spassky-swivel-chair-fly-in-the-ventilation-scam. (Here's the story: it's well known that Fischer put up quite a fuss about accommodations and such for his 1972 match with Spassky. He insisted he be allowed to use his \$500 black leather swivel chair. Spassky said he didn't mind, but the Icelandic fans felt that Fischer in a swivel chair and Spassky on a wooden stool was too great an inequality, and raised about \$500 to buy Spassky an identical chair. Later, when Spassky was losing badly, the Soviets levelled a ridiculous accusation: they alleged that the Americans were releasing chemicals into the room from some hidden source, biological poisons that affected Spassky's concentration. The Soviets were allowed to search the room while play was adjourned. They reportedly took apart both chairs, and found nothing but two dead flies in the ventilation. Legend has it that these two flies were flown back the Moscow for further tests.)

The tournament was also graced with the presence of Aaron Lovi and Douglas Wu, who were playing a grudge rematch (Aaron won round one 3-1). There was no decision this time, however, as it ended 2-2, with both players promising more to come.

*(Adam had 'chess lessons' as part of his January and February reports. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough space this issue, so they had to be postponed to a later ACR-ed.)*

**EJCC Fantastic February Active**  
by Adam Wu

On this chilly day, 21 players showed up, breaking the record that had just been set in January. Despite the absence of defending champ Matt Wong, this was again an immensely strong tournament (by club standards) featuring Beatrice Wu, Aaron Lovi, Cynthia Wu, and Douglas Wu as the top four seeds. Dave Ottosen made the trip up from Red Deer, and was all set to join the tournament and make it even stronger before it was noted that, at age 21, Dave was just a tad too old to play in a 'junior' chess tournament.

Once again, the tournament was divided into two sections, the 'B' section for the Under 10, Under 1000 players, and another for everyone else. Seven players participated in a round robin in the younger section. The Mayo twins were the class of that field (at this rate, they will soon break the 1000 rating barrier and 'graduate' to the higher section). **Kevin Mayo** edged out his brother Scott by a half point to win with 5.5/6. Brian Chan claimed third with 4/6.

The 'A' section was a dramatic affair. Consisting of fourteen players, this section offered two prizes, one for first (of course) and one for the top under 1200. A curious *déjà vu* occurred when, in the first round, Duncan Campbell was once again paired with Angie Seitz, and Angie won again (though this time it was on time). In the second round, Beatrice and Douglas meet, and Douglas shocked us all by playing for a draw. This draw allowed Cynthia Wu and Aaron Lovi to take the lead. In the third round, Beatrice bested Aaron in a wild game where, in a winning position, Beatrice hung a piece two moves in a row, and Aaron failed to take it. Meanwhile, Douglas regained a share of the lead by reverted to his normal style, defeating sister Cynthia in a brutal massacre. This set up the dramatics in the last round, where Cynthia scored her first ever tournament victory over Beatrice, allowing **Douglas Wu**, by virtue of his victory over Aaron, to claim clear first with 3.5/4.

In the under 1200 group in 'A', **Alim Merali** captured the prize with 2.5/4. An upset draw with Duncan Campbell (this was not Duncan's tournament) gave Alim a 0.5 point lead going into the last round, and a dramatic last round win over David Murray clinched the prize. Scoring two points in this group were Marc Dowdell, Angie Seitz, and unrated Mark O'Neil.

The "tradition" of sideline matches continued with a 4-gamer between Adam Wu and Dave Ottosen, which saw the quality of play decay exponentially as the games progressed. Fortunately for me, Dave started his slide sooner and I managed to win 4-0.

**\* ALBERTA RESERVES \***

**April 15-16 Calgary**

Quality Inn  
2359 Banff Trail NW (in 'Motel Village')  
5 round Swiss System  
Register: 9:00-9:45 am  
(Rd 1: 10:00 am)  
Entry Fee: \$20 senior \$15 junior  
(CFC/provincial membership required)  
Time Controls: 40/1:50 15/30  
☎ Paul Usselman (282-0419)

**U of A OPEN**

**May 6-7 Edmonton**

Univ. of Alberta; Students' Union Bldg.  
(114 St & 89 Ave); Main Function Room  
(room 021: basement, behind arcade)  
5 round Swiss System  
Register: 9:00-9:45 am (Rd 1: 10:00 am)  
Entry Fee: \$20 senior \$15 junior  
(CFC/provincial membership required)  
Time Controls: 40/1:50 15/30  
☎ Ford Wong (481-6474)

**☆ RED DEER OPEN ☆**

**June 3-4 Red Deer**

Sorry, folks—details weren't available at "press time", so you'll have to call for info:  
☎ Ford Wong (481-6474)

**>>>> Alberta Active Cancelled <<<<**  
The 'Alberta Active', originally April 14th, has been cancelled (the Alberta Reserves is still on for April 15-16; see the ad on this page).

**More on the Trumpeter Classic**

**D. Ottosen - F. Wong (round 3)**  
*annotated by Ottosen*

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 Nf6 5.f3 Nbd7 6.Bc4 e5 *Usually c6 and b5 are played first, with the idea of Nb6.* 7.Nge2 c6 8.d5! Nb6 *Because of 8...b5 9.dxc6.* 9.Bb3 c5 10.a4 Nh5 11.a5 Nd7 12.Nb5?! Nb8?! *Both are making weird moves.* 13.Ba4 O-O 13.Ba4 *was to induce castling so I could attack on the K-side.* 14.g4 Nf6 15.Bb3 a6 16.Na3? Qxa5+ *Oops.* 17.Kf2 Qd8 18.Ng3 Bd7 19.h4 b5 20.c4 b4 21.Nb5!? *Risks allowing 21...Bc8 22.Qd2 Bb7 23.Rag1 axb5, but I planned 24.Nf5! with a big attack.* 21...Bxb5 22.cxb5 a5 23.Qd2 Nbd7 24.Rag1 *Planning Nf5.* 24...Kh8? 24...Ne8 25.h5 a4 26.Bc2 a3 *and Black's Q-side play comes faster than White's K-side.* 25.h5 Rg8 26.g5 Nxb5 27.Nxb5 gxh5 28.Rxb5 Bf8 29.Rgh1 Rg7 30.Ke1 f6? 30...Be7! 31.Qh2 Nf8 *and White's only attacking chance is Bd1-e2-f1-h3-f5, but I doubt he had time.* 31.g6 Rxb6?? 32.Rxb7+ Kg8 33.Rh8+ Kf7 34.R1f7+ Rg7 35.Rxb7+ Kxg7 36.Qh2 (1-0) 36...Kf7 37.Qh5+ Ke7 38.Rh7+ Bg7 39.Rxb7+ Kf8 40.Qf7#

**John Quiring:**

In 1994 a snow storm prevented a trip to Grande Prairie for the Trumpeter Classic (I was looking forward to visiting the rating points I'd left behind in '93). This year, the weather cooperated and a carload of fearsome (fearless?-ed.) chess players headed north late Friday afternoon. You have to be tough to take this trip; 5 hours of driving with nothing to do but listen to Ford's stories of a misspent youth...and only one washroom break along the way (the rule is "don't get into the car if you can't last until Valleyview").

Added excitement came this trip in the form of a large metal frame bouncing off a dump truck right in front of my car, which forced a quick lane change (luckily there was no oncoming traffic). Dave Ottosen had the best view—he was sitting in the front passenger seat as the metal frame bounced right at him. I think Dave will sit in the back next year, he can't stomach my driving. He espe-

cially hates the way I make U-turns (wait until he sees how I parallel park!).

We pulled into town and had to find the address where Ravi was staying. How far apart can 102 Ave and 103 Ave be? If you say less than 1 km, join me in the corner wearing a dunce cap. They are at LEAST 2 km apart. Who is in charge of town planning up there, Larry, Darryl and Darryl? We finally found the place and dropped him off.

We checked into the posh Trumpeter Hotel, and in the lobby gathered around the splendid Trumpeter Classic trophy, adorned with plaques honouring a decade of winners. It was a nostalgic moment as we thought back to 1993 and The Rocket Rob Gardner's thrilling victory, which Ford, Dave and I personally witnessed.

Because of the disparity of playing strengths, there were 2 sections. In the upper section, I took the early lead with the only perfect score after two rounds, with this 2nd round victory over a former Classic winner.

**J. Quiring [1914] - G. MacTavish [1984]**  
1.e4 e5 2.f4 Bc5 3.Nf3 d6 4.d3 *The quiet, steady approach. Or would you say boring and stodgy?* 4...Nc6 5.Nc3 Bg4 6.Be2 Nf6 7.Na4 Bb4+? *Lets White grab space on the Q-side.* 8.c3 Ba5 9.b4 Bb6 10.Nxb6 axb6 11.O-O O-O *Now White is poised to attack the K.* 12.fxex5 dxe5 13.Bg5 Qd6 *I now kept looking for brilliant sacrifices, but couldn't find any, so settled for trying to create threats each move.* 14.Nh4 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 *Threat is 16.Bxf6 gxf6 17.Nf5 attacking the Q, then 18.Qg4* 15...Nd7 16.Nf5 Qe6 17.Qg4 *Now Black can't chase White's pieces with pawns, e.g.: 17...f6 18.Nh6+ leaves Black's Q hanging; or 17...h6 18.Bxh6 simply loses the P; or 17...g6 18.Nh6+ Kh8 19.Nxf7+ leaves Black's Q hanging (if instead after 18.Nh6+ Black tries 18...Kg7 19.Rxf7+ Black's Q goes).* 17...Nf6 18.Qh4 *Threat of 19.Nxg7, leaving the N on f6 hanging.* 18...Ne8 19.Rf3 f6

**ACA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE for the next few months**

(Check future issues for updates. Contacts given can verify details.)

| All events: <u>no smoking, no computers.</u> |                                  |          |
|--|----------------------------------|----------|
| Apr 14-16                                    | Alberta Closed                   | Calgary  |
| Apr 15-16                                    | Alberta Reserves (open event)    | Calgary  |
| May 6-7                                      | University of Alberta Open       | Edmonton |
| Jun 3-4                                      | Red Deer Open                    | Red Deer |
| Jun 17                                       | Battle of Alberta (invitational) | (tba)    |
| Jul 1-3                                      | Calgary July Open                | Calgary  |
| Aug 12                                       | Calgary Active                   | Calgary  |

20.Rh3 Kf7 *If 20...fxg5 the following combination is forced:* 21.Qh7+ Kf7 22.Rf1 Nf6 23.Qxg7 Ke8 24.Rh8 Rh8 25.Qxh8 Qg8 26.Qxf6 *with a winning advantage. And I saw the whole combination during the game—that's mysterious and I'm sticking to it.* 21.Qh5+ Kg8 22.Qxh7+ Kf7 23.Qh5+ Kg8 24.Qg6 Rf7 25.Qxh7+ (1-0)

I met the top seed on board 1 in round 3:

**J. Quiring [1914] - T. Pradzinski [2080]**  
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Be3 Be7 8.g4 *Recommended by Ottosen, so I knew it was good.* 8...Qc7 9.Bb3 Nc6 10.g5 Ng8 11.Qh5 g6 12.Qd1 Bf8? *Both sides have wasted time maneuvering, but the result is bad for Black. His K-side development suffers severely and the B must protect the d6-pawn, so what is the Non g8 to do?* 13.Qd2 Nge7 14.O-O O-Ne5 15.Ndb5! axb5 16.Nxb5 Qa5 17.Nxd6+ Kd7 18.Nxf7 Qxd2+ 19.Rxd2+ Kc7 20.Nxe5 *White's up 3 pawns with a crushing position. Th' th' that's all, folks.* 20...Nc6 21.Nxc6 bxc6 22.Bf4+ Kb7 23.Be5 Rg8 24.Rd8 Ra5 25.f4 h6 26.Rxc8 Kxc8 27.Bxe6+ Kb7 28.Bxg8 *nd Black resigned on move 36* (1-0)

I was alone in first with a round to go. Dave Ottosen was a half point back and we played for all the marbles in round 4. He kicked me in the knees in only 16 moves using an opening trap, so I made him walk back to Edmonton.

That makes two trips to the Trumpeter for me, and it's already one of my favourites. The hotel is good, the playing conditions are good, and the people are great. Thanks for organizing and directing, Phil. See you next year. Congratulations to tournament winner Dave Ottosen, whose hard work has paid off.