

Alberta Chess Report



Publication of the Alberta Chess Association ♦ April 2013

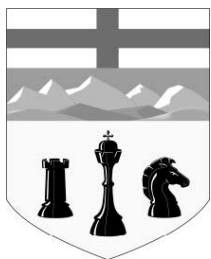


The Fort McMurray Chess Club has its one year Anniversary! It is now one of the most active Chess Clubs in the Province with a large participation of Women and Juniors! *(photo: Jina Burn)*



Alberta Juniors play in Regional
and Provincial Youth
Championships

Edmonton and Calgary
International 2013
editions promise to be
some of the best ever!



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The Alberta Chess Association in partnership with the Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation, provides a more active lifestyle to Albertans by providing programs to enhance living through playing chess. The ACA greatly acknowledges the support provided by ASRPWF

Government of Alberta



ALBERTA CHESS REPORT

The ACR is published 4 times each year. Publication months are April, June 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:
vrekhson@yahoo.ca
Or call 403.970.8032

Editor: Vlad Rekhson, #1110 73 Glamis Dr. SW -Calgary, Alberta, T3E 6S9

The articles contained in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Alberta Chess Association.

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The ACR is online at
www.albertachess.org
(requires Adobe Acrobat)
Call the ACA by phone
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The Alberta Chess Association



To find out more about chess in Alberta visit www.albertachess.org
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30th Annual Trumpeter Classic

**June 1 - 2, 2013
at the Sandman Hotel**



Organizer: Wade Caughlin
Email: wade.caughlin@sunlife.com

Tournament Website:
<http://www.gpchessclub.com/trumpeterclassic>

**Estimated Prize fund: \$1700,
\$1000 guaranteed!**
(Based on \$1000 plus 20 paid adults minus \$5 ACA dues).

Open

- 1) \$500 (Guaranteed)
- 2) \$300
- 3) \$200

Best under 2000:

- 1) \$240
- 2) \$120

Best under 1700:

- 1) \$220
- 2) \$120

(prizes may change based on entries).

Entry fees: \$40 adults, \$30 juniors 20 and under.

Free: GM/IM/FM

CFC Membership required (May be purchased on-site). \$43 adults, \$28 Jrs.

Format: 5 round Swiss.

CFC/FIDE rated

Time Control: G90+30 seconds.

Register: 8:45-9:45 am, June 1.

Round times: Saturday-10 am, 2:30 pm, 7 pm

Sunday: 9 am, 1:30 pm.

Byes: Up to two byes in rounds 1-4 if requested before start.



The Trumpeter Classic is
an official ACA Road
Warrior event!



Sponsored by ACA

Sponsored by Wade Caughlin Financial and the Alberta Chess Association

Alberta Youth Championship

By: Vlad Rekhson

The 2013 Alberta Youth Championship took place in the Edmonton Chess Club on the weekend of March 2-3. The annual event is played in six different age bound sections of: Under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18. The winners of each section received \$1000 sponsored by the ACA, towards expenses for the trip to Ottawa, for the Canadian Youth Championship, scheduled for July.

A new feature this year included a special second place prize. Second place finishers received \$100 towards professional chess coaching, from ACA instructors.

The tournament was ran by a first time Arbiter, International Master Edward Porper. Edward did a good job running the event, and helped out some participants by going over their games. The event organizer was Harris Wang, who decided to concentrate on the organizational aspects instead of participating in the u-18 section which he was eligible for.

The tournament itself had a good attendance of 40 players. There was a somewhat disappointing turnout of Edmontonians, as only 13 locals came to play, yet almost all the top players competed. An amazingly great crowd came to the event from Fort-McMurray. Jina Burn did an outstanding job organizing the trip and 13 players travelled south. Of course, the Fort McMurray participants were out-classed by their more experienced counterparts from Edmonton and Calgary, but the experience will surely help with their chess development going forward. Calgary had a nice attendance of 12 players, while Lethbridge was represented by two players.

The Under 8 section had five players, that played in a Round-Robin format. There was no rival to the now veteran of this section-Ian Zhao. The Calgarian scored a perfect 4/4. Second was shared by Edmontonians Alex Tolton and Julian Lau with 2/4 each. As Alex won their head to head match, he earned the second spot. The Under 10 section was the largest of the competition with 12 participants. Edmontonians won the top three prizes, as Lenard Grossmann won first place with 4/5. Second was shared by Kaixin Wang and Sean Mah with 3.5/5 each. Since their head-to-head match was drawn, they had to play a play-off which was won by Kaixin. The Under 12 section had 5 par-



Under 10 section

ticipants, playing in a Round-Robin. First place was taken by Andre Angelo Tolentino from Calgary with 3.5/4. Second was won by David Yao from Edmonton (3/4). Third went to another Calgarian, Chen Wu (2/4).

10 participants competed in the u-14 category. The section was tightly contested and ended with a three way tie for first, with all the games among the winners being drawn. This lead to a play-off, after which, Calgarian Diwen Shi took the first place, Edmontonian Jamil Kassam finished second and Calgarian Nicholas Lee finished third. All the winners scored 4/5 in regulation.



Nicholas Lee (u-14) found a unique way to finish one of his games

The under 16 section had five participants and it was combined with the under 18 section that only had three players, while the prizes were contested separately. It started with a huge upset as Tristan Tran-Ly defeated IM Richard Wang, after Richard missed a checkmate tactic. Richard made a comeback and finished with 4/5 and first in the u-16 section. Second place was taken by Chenxi Zhao from Calgary with 3/5. Third went to Fort McMurray, as Rick Du won it by scoring 2/5. Best in the u-18 went to the 2012 Canadian Junior Champion, NM David Zhang 4/5 (only loss against Richard). Second went to Jafar Faraji from Lethbridge (3/5), while third went to Tristan Tran-Ly (1/5, but what a point!)

I would like to thank all the participants for coming to the event and I hope that they had some fun!



IM Richard Wang with Johnny Burn

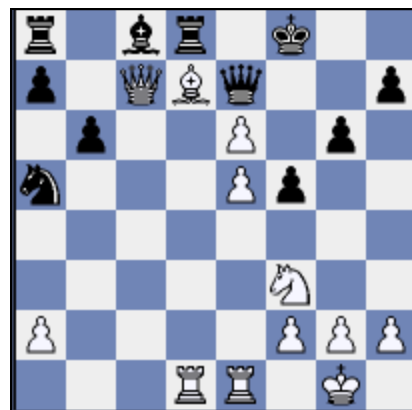
Full results are available at:

<http://albertachess.org/AB%20Youth%20Final%20Standings.pdf>

IM Richard Wang (2469)-NM David Zhang (2283)

Alberta Youth Chess Championship (u-18)

d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. c4 Bg7 4. Nc3 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6. e4 Nxc3 7. bxc3 c5 8. Rb1 Nc6 9. d5 Bxc3+ 10. Bd2 Bxd2+ 11. Qxd2 Na5 12. Bb5+ Kf8 13. Qc3 f6 14. Qxc5 Kg7 15. O-O Qd6 16. Qc3 b6 17. Rfe1 e5 18.dxe6 Qe7 19. e5 f5 20. Bd7 Rd8 21. Rbd1 Kg8 22. Qc7 Kf8



23. Nd4 Bb7 24. Qc1 Bc8 25. Nc6 Nxc6 26. Qxc6 Rb8 27. Rd3 Kg8 28. Red1 Ba6 29. R3d2 Kf8 30. Rc1 Rbc8 31. Bxc8 Rxd2 32. Bxa6 1-0



IM Richard Wang (2013 Can Jr. Champ vs. NM David Zhang (2012 Can Jr. Champ)

UofA/ Richard Wang win the University Battle of AB/

By Vlad Rekhson

The University Battle of Alberta took place in the Edmonton Chess Club on the weekend of February 23-24. The event which is now in its fifth year brings together universities from around the province together with the chess community at large. A total of 36 players took part in this event. This year the tournament was run in a Swiss format with 10 rounds of Active time control. The top university was the The University of Alberta team that scored 22.5 points. Their four top players were : Harris Wang - 6 , Alex Neame - 5.5 , Logan McLeod - 5.5 , Shandy Booth - 5.5 (\$50 each) Second went to University of Calgary (18 points) and third was taken by the University of Lethbridge with 11 points. 1st place individually went to IM Richard Wang with 9.5/10. 2nd- Aaron Sequillion 9/10, 3rd FM Vladimir Pechenkin 8.5/10. Best under 2000 was taken by Sardul Purewal (6/10) and best under 1700 went to Armine Arzumanyan (5.5/10). Best Unrated was Tatu Koizumi from Lethbridge who finished with 6/10. A special thanks goes to Ali Razzaq for directing the event, ECC President-Terry Seehagen for helping with the organization, as well as, University Presidents :TJ Zhang (UofA), Michael Wanless (UofC), Gregory Holmes (UofL).

New ACA Junior Chess Program and events

The Alberta Chess Association is introducing a revised junior program which will enhance support for families by offering more financial support for junior travel within Alberta and more financial support for coaching.

The new programs will replace ACA support for the Alberta Chess Challenge, including ACA funding for travel to the national championship. Unfortunately, the group which runs this event in Alberta withdrew from the ACA more than a year ago and will not run these events as ACA tournaments. Beginning in 2013 the Alberta Chess

Association will support three streams of junior chess:

1. The existing Youth Chess Championships (Sections by age for under 8/10/12/14/16/18) will continue to get support.
2. So will the existing Junior Chess Championships (Under 20 championships).
3. The new program will be a Scholastic Championship, involving both individual and team competition (for elementary, junior high and high school), following a very successful model from the United States.

Prizes for the new junior competitions will include: travel support and coaching as well as trophies or medals, for players winning regional and provincial tournaments, as well as reserve events. Top juniors will not be the only ones to win prizes. Winners will include juniors just starting their journey into the world of chess.

Each of the three streams will include regional events and provincial championships. In the case of youth and junior championships, the provincial winners will receive travel funding towards the national championship courtesy of the ACA.

Please check the ACA schedule at: <http://albertachess.org/Tournaments.html> for tournament dates and event schedules. The exact details of these events are still being worked out and more information will be posted in due course.

Please note that total ACA spending on junior chess in the province will remain roughly the same as before (approximately \$16,000 per year).

The ACA will try to avoid scheduling junior events at the same time as Provincial Chess Challenge events.

ACA Board of Directors

Southwest Calgary Scholastic Club

This is a not-for-profit group for the Southwest Calgary kids chess club. We meet on Saturdays at 12:00 noon at South Fish Creek Recreation Complex, Bobcat Room (33 Shawville Blvd SE) for our kids to study and play chess. Instructed by: Roy Yearwood and Janna Poliakov Radioukova

ACA Instructors

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

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

Registered Instructors:

GM Eric Hansen-Calgary
IM Edward Porper-Edmonton
NM Robert Gardner-Edmonton,
NM Roy Yearwood-Calgary
Andre Angelo Tolentino
Frank Kluytmans-Calgary

Other Instructors:

Calgary Junior Chess Club
Lethbridge Junior Chess Club
Edmonton Junior Chess Club

Contact Vlad Rekhson at:
vrekhsn@yahoo.ca to be added to the list.

ACA Annual General Meeting

By: Vlad Rekhson

The 2012 ACA General Meeting took place in the Edmonton Chess Club on October 28th. A new board of directors was elected. We would like to thank the outgoing directors: Len Steele and Tim Pradzinski for their service and welcome the newcomers: Mike Zeggelaar from Edmonton (Vice-President) and Jina Burn from Fort-McMurray (Director).

The board established new membership criteria. From now on affiliate club members who are not also CFC members would become ACA members by only paying \$2 for adults and \$1 for juniors. (\$5 for adults and \$3 for juniors is the normal rate). ACA also changed the junior criteria to 20 from 18, to follow CFC. Additionally, ACA took out the participating membership option also to follow CFC.

Lastly, ACA established a new anti-harrasment policy to follow government requirements.



Photo: Ali Razzaq

GM Short is back for the 8th Edmonton International!

By: Vlad Rekhson

It seems like the 7th edition of the Edmonton International was just concluded, but organizer Micah Hughey is already getting ready for the 8th edition of the event. At this point, one wonderful piece of news is that GM Nigel Short will be back!

Just like last year (and almost every other year) the top section will be a 10 player Round-Robin with norm chances. What will be new this year is the fact that the event will be extended to nine days, meaning that only one game will be played per day. The International section is going to take place on June 23-July 1st. The Reserves event will take place on the Canada Day, Long Weekend.

In order to whet your appetite, here is Nigel's game with annotations; from the 7th edition of the event.

Wang, Richard (2307)- Short, Nigel (2702) [A43]

Edmonton Edmonton (7), 01.07.2012
[Nigel Short]

Edmonton 2012 was a delightful tournament organised by great people in a warm ambience. Thank you very much, guys! I sincerely hope to be back soon. My chess in Alberta was generally unconvincing, but I eventually staggered over the finishing line in first place. The following game was my best effort. Nevertheless, as you shall see, it was far from flawless...

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5

Despite a lengthy career, spanning three decades of professional chess (with a good few years of serious tournament play before that), I have never really acquired a suitable repertoire for winning with Black in must-win situations - particularly against 1.d4. After a little preparation, I decided to take a few risks...

3.d5

The only critical move, but not one that

had hitherto featured in my young opponent's repertoire. He played it rather quickly, but it soon became apparent this was not based upon any theoretical knowledge.

3...b5

Not a great move, but at least consistent with the preceding one...

4.Bg5 Qa5+ 5.Bd2N

Richard seemed rather taken aback by the sudden check, although it has featured dozens of times at the master-level. His response is timid, but not downright bad... [Instead 5.c3 is the main move which scores a healthy 70%.]

5...Qb6 6.c4

Now it was my turn to think. White has slightly mishandled the opening, but these sort of structures do not usually occur in my games and so I didn't really have any compass to guide me. All sorts of moves are possible including 6...e6 or even 6...b4!? because the bishop clumsily occupies the square for the b1 knight. After some thought though I decided to head for a Benko Gambit.

6...g6 7.cxb5 a6 8.bxa6 Bg7

[8...Nxd5 was also possible, capturing an important central pawn, but I didn't like to lose time after 9.Nc3]

9.Nc3 Bxa6 10.e4 Bxf1 11.Kxf1 0-0

[Again Black had various critical options at his disposal, such as the materialistic 11...Qxb2 but I was unhappy with my lack of co-ordination after 12.e5 Ng4 13.Rb1 Qa3 14.Qe2 when the g4 knight is out on a limb.]

12.Rb1

The White bishop is not optimally placed on d2 and therefore he has to waste a tempo guarding the b-pawn. Clearly Black has obtained a favourable Benko Gambit, although that still does not mean it is any good!

12...e6

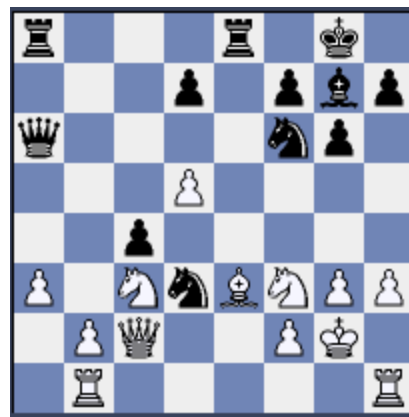
It appeared most logical to strike at the centre directly in view of White's lag in development. I was already picturing combinations on the a8-h1 diagonal... **13.g3 exd5 14.exd5 Na6 15.Kg2 Nb4 16.Qb3 Qa6**

Thematically placing the queen on the weakened white squares.

17.a3 Nd3 18.h3?!

[Thankfully 18.Nb5 is well-met by 18...Rfc8 19.Qxd3 c4 regaining the piece with perfectly adequate compensation. Nevertheless, that was probably White's simplest and safest option, removing the troublesome knight.]

8...c4 19.Qc2 Rfe8 20.Be3



20...Rxe3!

I made this sacrifice on general principles, although that does not imply it was made without calculation either. White's kingside is seriously weakened - in particular the g3 square.

21.fxex3 Re8 22.Rbd1 Rxe3

Obvious and good. However, had my tactical skills been stronger, I might have preferred [22...Nh5! 23.g4 Rxe3! 24.gxh5 Rxf3! After which the acceptance of the gift leads to annihilation e.g. 25.Kxf3 Qf6+ 26.Kg2 Qg5+ 27.Kf1 Qf5+! 28.Kg1 Bd4+ 29.Kh2 Qf4+ 30.Kg2 Qg5+ 31.Kf1 Qf5+ 32.Kg2 Nf4+]

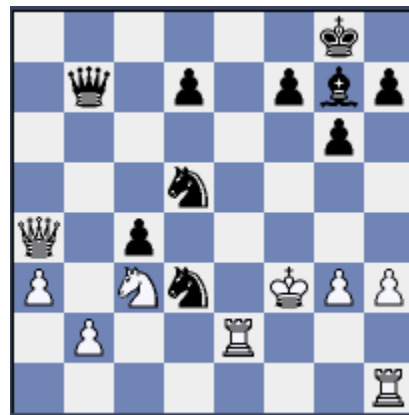
23.Rd2 Qa8?

A very poor move, which throws away the fruits of Black's dynamic strategy at a stroke. [23...Qb7! was the correct idea, which leads by force to 24.Re2 Rxf3 25.Kxf3 Nxd5, after which White is fighting to save his life.]

24.Re2 Rxf3 25.Kxf3 Nxd5 26.Qa4!

I could have died of embarrassment here because I had completely failed to take into account this obvious queen sortie. By a miracle Black is not losing although I hadn't fully appreciated this at the time.

26...Qb7



27.Qb5?

I believe Richard, rather optimistically, thought he was just winning here. [The correct continuation was, of course, 27.Re8+ Bf8 28.Qa8! Black now has only one move, but fortunately it saves his bacon 28...Ne5+! 29.Kf2 (During the game I had been concerned about the wildly confusing 29.Ke4? but perhaps it is not that surprising that it falls into a mating net. 29...f5+! 30.Kxe5 Qc7+! 31.Kd4 Qc5+ 32.Ke5 Qe3+ 33.Kxd5 Qc5#) 29...Qb6+ 30.Kf1 Ne3+ 31.Ke2 Qxb2+ 32.Kxe3 Qxc3+ 33.Ke2 Qd3+ 34.Kf2 with a perpetual check.]

27...Nb6+

totally missed by my opponent. Perhaps he just expected me to resign?

28.Nd5

[28.Ne4 f5 was certainly no better and perhaps even worse.]

28...Qxd5+?

Greatly relieved that I was no longer losing (which, as we have seen was a misapprehension anyway) I promptly blundered back. The right way was [28...Qa8!µ with the intention of gunning down the White king in the centre of the board.]

29.Qxd5 Nxd5 30.Re8+

obvious and by no means bad, but missing a clever tactical way to take advantage of the undefended knight on d5. [Simply 30.b3 was good enough to draw. A possible continuation could be 30...cxb3 31.Ke4 N3b4! 32.axb4 Nc3+ 33.Kd3 Nxe2 34.Kxe2 Kf8 35.b5 Ke7 36.b6 Kd6 37.Rd1+ Kc6 38.b7 Kxb7 39.Rxd7+ Kc6 40.Rxf7 b2 41.Rf1 Kd5=]

30...Bf8 31.a4 f5 32.Rb8 Kf7 33.a5

The a-pawn is rather dangerous, so the Black forces need to scurry back. **33...Ne5+ 34.Ke2 Nc6 35.a6?!**

Trying to be clever, but in fact probably a serious error. [35.Rb7! is, if anything, better for White. 35...Nxa5?! is met by 36.Rb5]

35...Nc7!

Once the a-pawn is removed, White faces an uphill task to save the game.

6.Rb7 Nxa6 37.Rxd7+ Be7 38.Rc1 Ne5 39.Rd5 Ke6 40.Rb5

[My strong feeling is that 40.Rxe5+ Kxe5 41.Rxc4 provided the best chance to save the game. The outside passed b-pawn is a damned nuisance and material is reduced further. To make matters worse, the rook's pawn is of the wrong colour, substantially increasing drawing chances.]

40...Nc5 41.Ra1 Bd6 42.Ra7 h5

The Black forces are now beautifully coordinated and it is impossible for White to

generate real counter-play. Dismayed by the turn of events, he collapses in short order.

43.Kf1 Ne4 44.Kg2 Nxe3!

The decisive blow.

45.Ra6

[If 45.Kxg3 Nc6+]

45...Ne4 0-1

Current pre-registered list for the 8th Edmonton International

1. GM Lazaro Bruzon (2707)
2. GM Nigel Short (2681)
3. GM Eric Hansen (2577)
4. GM Victor Mikhalevski (2551)
5. IM Edward Porper (2423)
6. IM Rodney Perez Garcia (2381)
7. IM Richard Wang (2365)
8. NM Robert J. Gardner (2217)
9. FM Dale Haessel (2171)
- 10.

For the first time, the main event will be played in a one game per day format. This will allow the participants to have an opportunity to have ample time for preparation and relaxation before their games. Such format brings the tournament to a new level and puts it on the same footing as some of the top tournaments in the world.

Organizer Micah Hughey is looking for companies and individuals to help sponsor the tournament in order to help continue grow Edmonton's top annual event!

Contact Micah Hughey at:

mhughe@rocketmail.com

Canadian Junior Final Standings

#	Title	Name	CFC	FIDE	Tot
1	IM	Wang Richard	2454	2370	6.5
2		Qin Zi Yi (joey)	2449	2263	6
3	FM	Kleinman Michael	2368	2307	5.5
4		Preotu Razvan	2300	2109	5
5	FM	Jiang Louie	2406	2328	5
6	FM	Sapozhnikov Roman	2440	2334	4
7		Kraiouchkine Nikita	2351	2245	3.5
8		Song Michael	2322	2177	3.5
9		Szalay Karoly	2392	2159	3.5
10		Chiku-Ratte Olivier Kenta	2187	2064	2.5

Richard Wang wins 2013 Canadian Jr. Championship

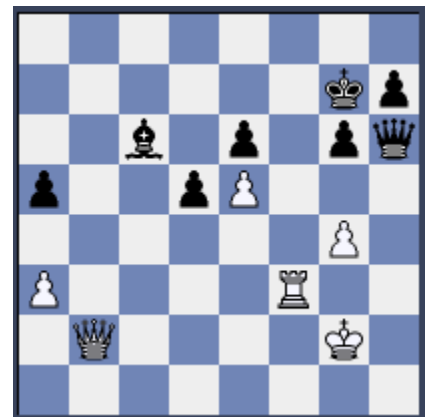
By: Vlad Rekhson

One interesting fact about the 2013 Canadian Jr. Championship was that it actually took place in 2012! The event took place on December 26-31 in Toronto. The competition this year, featured 10 of the best players age 20 and under in the country. The competitors played in a Round-Robin format of all play all. Despite only being 14, IM Richard Wang from Edmonton was the pre-event rating favourite. Still, as with most junior events, the competition was fierce and unpredictable. None of the participants escaped without a loss, but in the end Richard was the most consistent and took home the first prize with 6.5/9! The following round 8 victory against one of the main rivals, went a long way to help Richard win the title.

IM Richard Wang (2454)- FM Michael Kleinman (2368)

Canadian Jr. Championship 2013 (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.h3 0-0 6.Be3 c6 7.a4 a5 8.Be2 Na6 9.0-0 Qc7 10.Nd2 d5 11.e5 Ne8 12.f4 f6 13.Nb3 Nb4 14.Qd2 b6 15.g4 fxe5 16.fxe5 Rxf1+ 17.Rxf1 Be6 18.Bf3 Qd7 19.Ne2 Nc7 20.c3 Nba6 21.Nf4 Bf7 22.h4 Ne6 23.Nh3 Nac7 24.Bd1 Rf8 25.Rf2 Be8 26.Rg2 c5 27.Nc1 b5 28.h5 bxa4 29.Nd3 a3 30.bxa3 Nb5 31.Ba4 Qb7 32.h6 Bh8 33.Bxb5 Qxb5 34.Ndf4 cxd4 35.cxd4 Bd7 36.Nxe6 Bxe6 37.Nf4 Bd7 38.Qa2 e6 39.Qb2 Qa4 40.Kh2 Bxe5 41.dxe5 Rxf4 42.Bxf4 Qxf4+ 43.Rg3 Qxh6+ 44.Kg2 Bc6 45.Rf3 Kg7



46.Qb8 Qd2+ 47.Kh3 Kh6 48.Qf8+ Kg5 49.Qe7+ Kh6 50.Rg3 0-1

In Memoriam

Geoff Newton

19 December 1972 - 23 Jan 2013

By: Vlad Rekhson

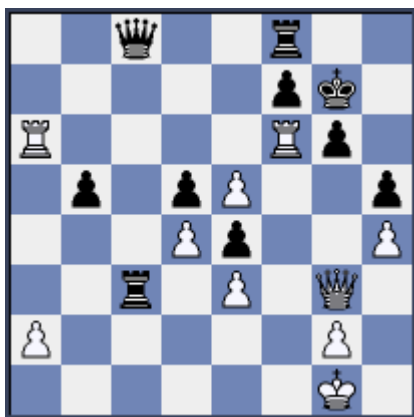
Geoff has been a regular at the Edmonton Chess Club for a period of time spanning two decades. This January he succumbed to Melanoma which was diagnosed last April. Geoff was a multi-talented individual. He was a professional tree planter as he spent his summers planting trees. He planted over 2 million trees in his life time. He was also a talented singer song-writer with numerous songs to his name. You can hear some songs at: <http://www.broadjam.com/artists/songs.php?artistID=46129> On the chess front, Geoff was an active player, playing openings like the King's Gambit. He was also a volunteer and served on the board of the Alberta Chess Association. Geoff has remained active through his ailment and among other activities he continued playing chess. His last event took place in the end of October when he participated in the Edmonton Fall Sectional.. The Alberta Chess Association would like to commemorate Geoff by renaming the 2013 event to: "Geoff Newton Memorial Sectional." The tournament will take place on November 1-3 at the Edmonton Chess Club. Rest in peace my friend.



Newton, Geoff (1944) - Rekhson, Vlad (2210) [E14]

Northern Alberta Open (2), 20.02.2010

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 Be7 5.e3 0-0 6.Bd3 b6 7.cxd5 exd5 8.0-0 Bb7 9.Ne5 Nbd7 10.f4 Ne4 11.Nxe4 dxe4 12.Bc4 Nxe5 13.fxe5 Bd5 14.Qb3 c6 15.Bd2 b5 16.Bxd5 cxd5 17.Bb4 Bxb4 18.Qxb4 Qg5 19.Qb3 Rac8 20.Rf4 Rc4 21.Raf1 a6 22.Rf5 Qh6 23.h3 Qc6 24.Qd1 Rc2 25.Qh5 g6 26.Qg5 h6 27.Qg3 Rxb2 28.Rf6 Qc7 29.Rxa6 Rc2 30.Rff6 Rc3 31.Qf4 Kg7 32.h4 Qc8 33.Qg3 h5



34.Rxg6+! fxxg6 35.Qxxg6+ Kh8 36.Qh6+ Kg8 37.Rg6+ Kf7 38.Rg7+ Ke8 39.Qg6+ Kd8 40.Qg5+ 1-0

Dr. Ronald Hinds

March 6, 1954 - October 30, 2012

By: Vlad Rekhson

(with excerpts from obituary)

Ron was very active and hard-working in the Calgary chess scene for over 20 years. Besides his terms as president, he was also the ACA treasurer and organized some of the CCC casinos. He achieved an expert level in his play, and was Calgary team captain on some of the Battle of Alberta teams. Ron's health was visibly failing in the last few years, but he still came out to the Club when he could.

By profession, Ron was a geologist in the oil and gas industry. He was an active member of various professional associations. He is survived by his wife Jessica Jaramillo.

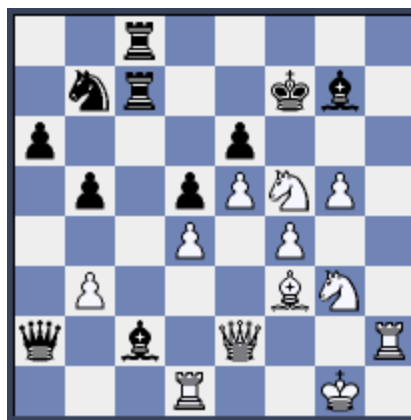
The Calgary Chess Club honoured Dr. Hinds' memory by naming the November Tuesday night tournament in his honour.



Gardner, Robert (2275) - Hinds, Ronald (1942) [B20]

Alberta op Edmonton CAN, 13.10.2003

1.g3 g6 2.Bg2 Bg7 3.f4 c5 4.e4 d6 5.d3 Nc6 6.Nf3 e6 7.c3 Nge7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 Rb8 10.d4 cxd4 11.cxd4 f5 12.e5 d5 13.Nc3 Bd7 14.h3 a6 15.g4 b6 16.Ne2 Na5 17.Ng3 Bh6 18.g5 Bg7 19.h4 Bb5 20.Rf2 Qd7 21.h5 Rfc8 22.Nh4 Kf7 23.Bf3 Rc7 24.Rh2 Rbc8 25.b3 Nb7 26.Bc1 Bd3 27.Ba3 Bc2 28.Qe2 b5 29.Bxe7 Qxe7 30.hxxg6+ hxxg6 31.Nxxg6 Qa3 32.Nh4 Qb2 33.Rd1 Qxa2 34.Nhxf5



Qxb3 35.Rd2 Qb1+ 36.Kg2 Bxf5 37.Nxf5 Qxf5 38.Bg4 Qb1 39.f5 exf5 40.Qf2 Ke6 41.Rh7 fxxg4 42.Rxxg7 Qe4+ 0-1



GM Eric Hansen destroys the American Continent

By: Vlad Rekhson and Eric Hansen

Eric Hansen became our province's first ever GM in September. While the title wasn't officially approved by FIDE until January, Eric had no intention of stopping and he had some amazing results in the latter parts of 2012. First Eric qualified to the World Cup after an amazing comeback at the Pan-American Continental Championship. He then travelled to Mexico where despite not playing his best, he managed to tie-for third place. The most amazing result came in Panama. There, assisted by some relaxing conditions, Eric absolutely took apart the competition and finished with an amazing 8.5/9 and a performance rating of 2900!

Eric started a nice blog at: hansenchess.com

Here are Eric's comments about the events in the Americas from his blog:

Continental

I found myself in Mar Del Plata, Argentina playing in the Pan-Am championships with World Cup spots on the line. The tournament started off quite badly and I really seemed out of rhythm but as usual by the second half of the eleven round event I turned up the jets and tied for first in the end with a **lot** of luck. Since there were 5 tied for first and 4 spots we played a rapid round-robin playoff and I managed to squeak in with a final round victory to claim the 4th and final spot. Nice country, and a nice final result but a lot of holes in my game were exposed.



Photo: Graciela Manteiga
<http://www.ajedrezcontinental2012.com>

Mexico and Panama

I travelled with some Canadians for another latin trip about a month after Argenti-

na. Alexandra Botez, Liza Orlova, Aman Hambleton, and myself were the Canadian contingent. One event in Mexico followed by one in Panama. They were both extremely fast schedules (5 day and 6 day) for a nine rounder. Unfortunately I followed my usual pattern of starting off bad and embarrassing myself a bit until I finally woke up and scored 4/4 in what were pretty good games. Same story: a disastrous start and a miraculous comeback. I finished with 7/9 and won a decent prize while minimizing my rating loss. I was quite upset with myself for quite some time as it had been far too often an occurrence that I was having disastrous starts. Not only do you have worse tie-breaks but you also play lower rated opponents. I was really looking forward to Panama as as a chance to redeem myself. I was even more pleased when I arrived at the hotel and saw that the organizers and provided Aman and I with a spacious room equipped with a nice kitchen and balcony. The weather was nice and hot while the tournament itself was small and cozy. The playing hall was beside a swimming pool, just like in Isthmia. Ideal conditions for me! All I can say is something clicked from start to finish: I played extremely focused and objective. I was patient and methodical in every game. My openings were turning out well and my clock management was improving. After I beat GM Cordova I got the feeling it was just going to be my tournament. I played for a win every game and just went with the momentum. 8.5/9 and a 2900 performance. I will publish some of the games here as they did not make it onto the internet.

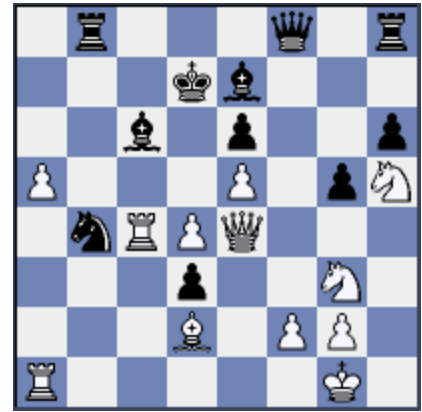
Summary

I gained over 100 rating points, achieved the GM title in three weeks, and qualified for the World Cup in a span of 6 months. I beat a dozen GM's along the way and couldn't have asked for much more. Next stop: 2600!

Hansen, Eric (2539) - Marin, Mihail (2547) [C16]
Panama Open II (6), 30.11.2012

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 b6 5.a3 Bf8 6.Bb5+ c6 7.Ba4 Bd7 8.Nce2 c5 9.Bb3 c4 10.Ba2 b5 11.c3 a5 12.Nf3 Nc6 13.0-0 Nge7 14.Bb1 Nc8 15.Ng3 g6 16.Ng5 Nb6 17.h4 Qe7 18.h5 0-0-0 19.Nh3 Qe8 20.Qf3 h6 21.hxg6 fxg6 22.Qf6 Rg8 23.Nf4 g5 24.Nfh5 Be7

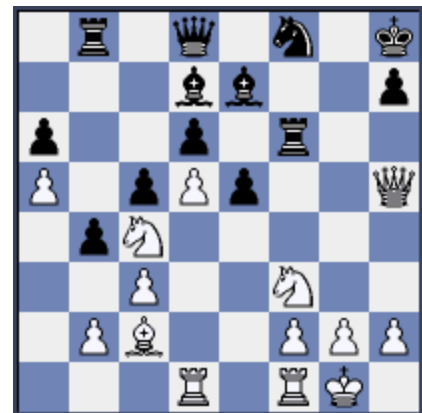
25.Qf3 Qf8 26.Qg4 Kb7 27.Bd2 Na4 28.Bh7 Rh8 29.Bc2 Nxb2 30.Rfb1 Nd3 31.Bxd3 cxd3 32.Rxb5+ Ka7 33.c4 dxc4 34.Qe4 Rb8 35.a4 Nb4 36.Rxa5+ Kb6 37.Rc5 Bc6 38.a5+ Kc7 39.Rxc4 Kd7



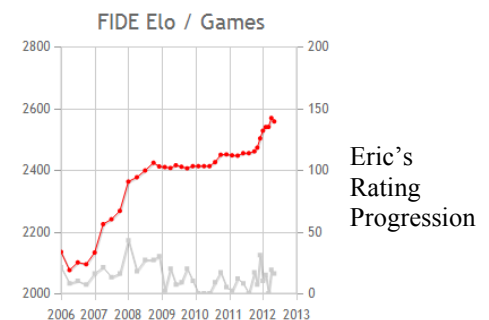
40.Rxc6 Nxc6 41.d5 exd5 42.Qxd5+ Kc7 43.Rc1 Qe8 44.Ng7 1-0

Hansen, Eric (2539) - Bacallao Alonso, Yusnel (2580) [B51]
Panama Open II (8)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.c3 Ngf6 5.Qe2 a6 6.Ba4 b5 7.Bc2 e5 8.d4 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.d5 Nh5 11.a4 b4 12.a5 g6 13.Bh6 Ng7 14.Nbd2 f5 15.exf5 gxf5 16.Nc4 Rb8 17.Rad1 Rf6 18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.Nh4 Nf8 20.Qh5 Ng6 21.Nxf5+ Kh8 22.Nh4 Nf8 23.Nf3 Bd7



24.Nfxe5 Be8 25.Qe2 dxe5 26.d6 bxc3 27.Qxe5 1-0





Nicka Kalaydina

IM Richard Wang (right) receiving the bronze medal at the World Youth Championship

IM Richard Wang wins Bronze in World Youth Championship

By: Vlad Rekhson

Three years ago, Richard Wang became the first Albertan to win a medal at the World Youth Championship. Fast forward to 2012 and many more records later, IM Richard Wang repeated his success and finished third at the Under 14 section of the World Youth Championship which took place in Maribor, Slovenia. Richard had a strong start, as he was perfect after 4 rounds. Then came a mid-tournament lull, as he only scored 1.5 points in rounds 5-8 with no wins. At this point it seemed like Richard's chances for a medal seemed quite remote, but Richard did not give up. Richard won in rounds 9 and 10 leading up to a last round showdown against a dangerous, but lower rated opponent from Poland. A win would bring him close to the top, but tie-breaks would still be important. In this game, draw seemed unlikely from quite early on and Richard proved his skills in the complications.

Gajek,Radoslaw (2250) - IMWang,Richard (2356) [B19]
Wch U14 Maribor (11.2), 18.11.2012

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.Nf3 Nd7 7.h4 h6 8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6 11.Bd2 Ngf6 12.0-0-0 Be7 13.Ne4 Qb6 14.Ne5 Qb5 15.Nxd7 Nxd7 16.Qg3 0-0-0 17.Qxg7

Qf5 18.Ng3 Qxf2 19.Rhf1 Qxg2 20.Qxf7 Bd6 21.Rg1 Qd5 22.Kb1



Rdf8 23.Qg6 Rhg8 24.Qxh6 Rxg3 25.Rge1 Rf6 26.Qh8+ Kc7 27.Qa8 a6 28.h6 Rf8 29.Qa7 Kc8 30.Rf1 Rgf3 31.Rxf3 Qxf3 0-1

Richard's final result was 8.5/9 which tied him with two other players for third place. As it turned out, Richard's tie-break was best thus he became an Under 14 Bronze medalist and got to take a photo with Garry Kasparov!

Richard was not the only Albertan at the event. Calgarian, Nicka Kalaydina is the Canadian under 16 champion among girls. At the world's she was ranked 45th at the start, among 105 participants. Her final result of 6/11, was good enough for 39th place and an improvement from her starting position.

Calgarian Diwen Shi, had the misfortune to enter the Alberta and Canadian Championship in the same category as IM Richard Wang. He performed admirably and finished second in both events. At the World Championship Diwen was ranked 117th out of the 174 participants of the under 14 section. Diwen finished with 5.5/11 and 78th place. A significant improvement from the starting position! Aside from the players, Alberta was represented on the coaching staff, as IM Edward Porper served as one of the two team Canada coaches.

Kalaydina,Regina Veronicka (1934) - Shamatava,Ana (2051) [E11]
Wch U16 girls Maribor (3.9), 10.11.2012

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 c5 5.Bxb4 cxb4 6.g3 0-0 7.Bg2 d6 8.Nbd2 Qe7 9.0-0 e5 10.e4 a5 11.a3 Na6 12.e5 dxc5 13.dxe5 Nd7 14.Nc4 b5 15.Qd6 Re8 16.Qxe7 Rxe7 17.Nd6 Nxe5 18.Nxe5 Rxe5 19.f4 Re7 20.e5 Rb8 21.axb4 Nxb4 22.Rxa5 Bd7 23.Rfa1 g6 24.Ra7 Kf8 25.Rc7 Bc6 26.Raa7 Rxc7 27.Rxc7 Bxg2 28.Rxf7+ Kg8 29.Kxg2 Nd3 30.Ra7 Nxb2 31.Ne4 Rb6 32.Nxc5 Rc6 33.Ne4 b4 34.Rb7 Nd3 35.Nf6+ Kf8 36.Nxh7+ Ke8 37.Nf6+ Kf8 38.Nd5 Rc2+ 39.Kf3 Rc3 40.Ke2 Nc1+ 41.Kd1 Rd3+ 42.Kxc1 1-0

Shi,Diwen (1777) - Voloshin,Pavel (1932)
Wch U14 Maribor (10.45), 17.11.2012
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bd3 c6 6.Nge2 Ne7 7.Ng3 0-0 8.0-0 Nd7 9.a3 Bd6 10.Nce2 Re8 11.f4 Nf6 12.f5 h6 13.Nf4 Kh8 14.Kh1 Neg8 15.Ngh5 Nxh5 16.Qxh5 Qc7 17.Qh4 Qe7 18.Qh3 Nf6 19.Bd2 Qf8 20.Nh5 Nxh5 21.Qxh5 f6 22.Rf3 Bd7 23.Rh3 Re7 24.Rf1 b6 25.Qf3 Rae8 26.Qg4 Rc8 27.Rh4 Rce8 28.Qg6 Qf7 29.Qg4 Qf8 30.Rf3 Bc8 31.Kg1 Rc7 32.Rfh3 Ree7 33.Qg6 Qf7 34.Rxh6+ gxh6 35.Qxh6+ 1-0

Calgary Chess Club News



Calgary Championship January-February

The Calgary Closed Championship was played in an eight player RR format with the top eight participants eligible for the event. NM Gary Ng was the highest rated player going into the tournament and he didn't disappoint, winning the tournament with 5/7. Second was shared by: Itohan Gold, Hamid Abdelrhman and Vlad Rekhson with 4.5/7 each.

The Reserves section was played alongside the Open. 14 participants competed in the event, and Atheer Jawad emerged as the champion with the perfect 7/7! Second place was shared by Ted Borowski and Tournament Director, Frank Kluytmans with 5/7 each.

Ron Hinds Memorial

CCC commemorated the passing of its past president Ron Hinds by naming its November Tuesday night event after him. 19 players took part in the tournament which was won by Vlad Rekhson with 4/4. Second was shared by: Hamid Abdelrhman, Itohan Gold and Brandon Eshleman with 3/4 each.

All previously noted Calgary events were directed by: Frank Kluytmans



The Edmonton Chess Club

Edmonton Championship/Reserves January/February

The annual Edmonton Championship tournament takes place in two sections. The Closed Championship was a 16 player Knock-out among all those who came to the club on the second Thursday of January. The event was one of the strongest in history, as it included 2 IMs, an FM and 4 National Masters. The semi-Finals already featured matches among the very top participants. And the rating favourites emerged as the finalists as IM Edward Porper defeated Belsar Valencia and IM Richard Wang defeated FM Vladimir Pechenkin. Both won with 1.5-0.5. The final was very intense. In game 1, Richard defeated Edward, but wasn't able to repeat the success in game 2. After

the regulation tie, the competitors entered the tie-break stage with shorter time controls. An intense battle ensued with Edward emerging as the victor of 3.5-2.5. Along with the cash award, Edward earned \$1800 for his chess travels, while Richard earned \$700 for his.

The Reserves section was an Open Swiss with 8 rounds. Participants who were knocked out of the Championship, had the right to join the Reserves with a 50% score. A total of 41 players competed in the Reserves. Aaron Sequillion was the class of the field as he scored 7.5/8! Second place went to Mike Zeggelaar 6/8. Third was shared by: NM Rob Gardner, FM Vladimir Pechenkin, NM Micah Hughey and Ali Razzaq with 5/8 each. Micah Hughey was the tournament organizer.

Christmas Open

The December ECC Thursday night event attracted 35 players. NM Rob Gardner won the second tournament in a row with 3.5/4. Second was shared between FM Vladimir Pechenkin, NM Peter Kalisvaart and Aaron Sequillion with 3/4 each.

Cor Dewindt Memorial

The November edition of the Edmonton Thursday night event was named after the past club president who passed away this summer-Cor Dewindt. 35 players took part in the event which was won by NM Rob Gardner with a perfect 5/5! Second went to FM Vladimir Pechenkin (4/5) and third was shared by NM Peter Kalisvaart and Armine Arzumanyan with 3.5/5 each.

All Edmonton events were organized by Micah Hughey

La Crete Chess Club

Chris White organized a few events in the Northern community of La Crete.

North of 58

Carlito Somera from Chateh was perfect 5/5 in an 8 player Active tournament which took place on November 4th. There was a four way tie between John Friesen, John Krahn, Logan Friesen, Jake Krahn and Rock Borger with 3/5 each.

Stan Fidler Memorial

10 players competed in the Stan Fidler Memorial Active tournament on January



Carlito Somera-Rock Borger in La Crete
Photo: Chris White

12. The competition was held in 2 sections, Open and Jr. The Open section had 6 participants and it was won by Carlito Somera with 4/5. Second place went to Chris White (who did not play the last two rounds but managed to score 3/3 before that). Third was shared by John and Jake Krahn with 2/5 each.

The Junior section had 4 players. James Somera and Karmen Friesen shared first with 3/4. Third was taken by Jessica Somera with 4th going to: Dalton Derksen.

Fort McMurray Chess Club

The Fort McMurray Chess Club celebrated its 1 year anniversary with a Valentine's Day tournament. The event was held in two junior sections and one Open. Club President Jina Burn organized and directed the events.

The Open section had 8 participants. Johnny Burn won first after tie-breaks. Second went to Dumo Denni-Fiberesima, third went to Robert Gibson. All the winners finished with 4/5 in regulation. A tie-break was also played for players finishing 4-6. In tie-break Francois Marais edged out Harry Fraser and Maria Dziarkach, all of whom finished with 2/5. The A Jr. section. had four players. Sujit Velmurgan finishing first with 3/3 ahead of Daniel and Andrey Tarasenco, as well as, Samy Mikes. Four more participants took part in the Jr. B Section with Danniial Chaudhery finishing first with 3/3. Behind him were: Sai Shankar, Anirudh Shankar and Chenrayan, Thirusutharasan.

2013 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
March 29-31	AB Closed/Reserves*	NA Atheer	Calgary
Apr 6-7	Lethbridge Open*	Dr. Paul	Lethbridge
Apr 27-28	Alberta Senior	Rick Pedersen	Edmonton
May-04	Scholastic Regionals	Various	
May-05	Alberta Active*	Alexey Taranik	Red Deer
May 14-20	Calgary International*	Jim Daniluk	Calgary
May-25	Alberta Scholastic	TBA	
June 1-2	30th Trumpeter Classic	Wade Caughlin	Grande-Prairie
Jun 23-Jul1	Edmonton International*	Micah Hughey	Edmonton
July 6-7	Fort McMurray Open/AB Women's*	Jina Burn	Fort McMurray
Aug 31-Sep 1	Over/Under 1800*	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
Sep 7/8	Regional AB Jr. Championship		Edm/Calg
Sep 21-22	Medicine Hat Open*	Dr. Bill Taylor	Medicine Hat
Oct 12-14	AB Open*	Rick Pedersen	Edmonton
Nov 1-3	Geoff Newton Memorial Sectional*	Mike Zeggelaar	Edmonton
Nov 9-10	AB Jr. Championship	Paul Gagne	Calgary
Nov 23-24	Southern AB Open*	Frank Kluytmans	Calgary
Dec 14-15	WBX Team Tournament*	FA Ali Razzaq	Edmonton

*The Renert School (Calgary) is looking for chess instructor(s) on a full time basis. The right candidate **MUST have at least 2 years of experience of teaching the Alterman Chess System in a school setting to children and youth ages 4-15**, and has great level of familiarity with the system's manuals, workbooks, and all class activities. Ideally, in addition to working with children, you have also trained and supervised junior instructors in the delivery of classes based on the Alterman Chess System. Preference given to candidates that in addition to being fluent in English (mandatory) also speak Russian and/or Hebrew. To express interest and for further inquiries, please email aaron@renertonline.com*

Road Warrior Update



The Road Warrior competition awards players who participate in open ACA events with points based on the distance of their travel. For example, if you travel from Edmonton to Calgary, 3 points are awarded for travel. A trip from Grande Prairie to Edmonton will earn you 5 points. An additional point is awarded to all the tournament participants.

The 2012 edition had a total of 175 Albertans earning Road Warrior points.

The prize winners were as follows:

1st: Chris White (La Crete) \$200

2nd: David Miller (Grande Prairie) \$100

3rd: Aaron Sequillion (Edmonton) \$50

A special draw prize was won by Mike Zeggelaar from Edmonton. A total of 24 players were part of the draw which was among the players who played in at least two open ACA events outside of their region. Mike won \$150!

The 2013 will see the same exact regulations and prizes as in 2012.

Full details and regulations can be found at: www.albertachess.org/Road_Warrior.html

2013 Road Warrior Standings

#	Road Warrior	Home	Pts
1	Terry Chaisson	Lloydminster	12.0
2	Carlito Somera	Chateh	11.5
3	Chris White	La Crete	10.0
4	Aaron Sequillion	Edmonton	8.5
5	Adam Harris	Calgary	7.5
6	Bill Bentley	Calgary	7.5
7	Lukas Beaudry	Calgary	7.5
8	Vlad Rekhson	Calgary	6.5
9	Mike Zeggelaar	Edmonton	6.5
10	Jim Daniluk	Calgary	6.0
11	Collin McCattrey	Lethbridge	6.0
12	Gregory Holmes	Lethbridge	6.0
13	Josh Sorell	Lethbridge	6.0
14	Tafu Koizumi	Lethbridge	6.0
15	Trevor Robertson	Edmonton	5.0

2013 WBX Team Tournament

By Terry Seehagen

Congratulations to the team of Jamin Gluckie, Lukas Beaudry, and Jason Danner, the winners of the 6th annual WBX Team Tournament, which concluded on Sunday. Entering the final round, 7 teams had a chance to finish 1st, but the winners scored 3/3 in the last round to pull ahead of the pack.

Jamin, Lukas, & Jason travelled from Lloydminster, Calgary, and Saskatoon to play in the tournament. Jamin also became the first 3-time winner of this tournament, having previously been on winning teams in 2006 and 2008.

The winning team received \$390 of prize money (\$130/player), and will have their names engraved on the permanent trophy at the Club. The two 2nd place teams each received \$105 (\$35/player), as well as half-price entry to next year's tournament.

The complete list of team results is as follows :

NM Jamin Gluckie + Lukas Beaudry + Jason Danner - 11 points

FM Jack Yoos + Micah Hughey + Zack Kirsch - 9.5 pts

IM Edward Porper + Jamil Kassam + Armine Arzumanyan - 9.5 pts

FM Vladimir Pechenkin + Rob Brazeau + Joseph Young - 9 pts

Peter Kalisvaart + Rick Pedersen + Arnold McKay - 9 pts

Mike Zeggelaar + Aaron Sequillion + Phil Holmstrom - 8.5 pts

IM Richard Wang + Willy Majaducon/ Harris Wang + Tristan Tran-Ly - 8 pt

Kevin Smith + David Ludwig + Michael Ludwig - 5 pts

NM Rob Gardner + Terry Chaisson + David Yao - 3.5 pts

Terry Seehagen + George Sponga + Andu Mihulescu - 1 pt

Tom Asquith, Robert Davies, and Ron Eriksson each played one game for players that needed a bye.

George Sponga had to withdraw during the 2nd round, because of a health problem.

I can report that he has returned home after staying one night in the hospital for tests.

There were also individual board prizes.

The two IM's, Richard Wang and Edward Porper, tied for 1st on Board 1, with 4.5/5, each receiving \$50. Richard won the trophy on tie-break.

On Board 2, there was also a tie, between Lukas Beaudry and Aaron Sequillion, with 4.5/5, each receiving \$50. Lukas won the trophy by tie-break.

Jason Danner took the Board 3 trophy, along with \$70, for a score of 4/5.

Phil Holmstrom, Arnold McKay, & Joseph Young all tied at 3.5/5, each receiving \$10.

Thanks to everyone for the great turnout, and we hope to see you again next year, at the same time.

Porper,Edward (2416) - Gluckie,Jamin (2115) [A96]

WBX- 2012 (1), 15.12.2012

(Comments by Vlad Rekhson)

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.b4 a5 8.b5 Ne4 9.Bb2 a4 10.a3 c6 11.Nc3 Nxc3 12.Bxc3 Nd7 13.Qd3 Nf6 14.Nd2 d5 15.Rfb1 Ne4 16.Bb4 Nd6 17.b6 Bd7 18.Qe3 Rf6 19.Qf4 Be8

IM Edward Porper used the following position in his Saturday monthly lectures at ECC. Participants were supposed to take 20 minutes to come up with the correct plan and move. Can you do it?



20.c5!

(it looks strange to block the bishop, but it also cramps down black's position preparing the invasion on the h2-b8 diagonal)

Nf7 21.Nf3 Rh6 22.Qc7 Qd7 23.Bd2 g5 24.h4 Rg6 25.hxg5 Bxg5 26.Bxg5 Nxg5 27.Ne5 Qxc7 28.bxc7 Rg7 29.Rxb7 Rc8 30.Rab1 Rgxc7 31.Rxc7 Rxc7 32.Rb4 Bh5 33.Kf1 Nf7 34.Nd3 Ng5 35.Rxa4 Rb7 36.Rb4 Ra7 37.a4 Kf8 38.Ne5 Be8 39.Ke1 Ke7 40.Kd2 Kd8 41.Kc3 Kc7 42.Kb3 Bh5 43.f3 Be8 44.Kc3 Bh5 45.Kd2 Nf7 46.Nd3 Bg6 47.Ke3 Ra8 48.Kf4 Re8 49.Bf1 1-0

1st Alberta Seniors Championship

Edmonton Chess Club: #204 10840 124 st
Edmonton, AB T5M-0H3

April 27-28

**Eligibility: Everyone born
before Jan 1, 1953.**

Organizer: Rick Pedersen

Prizes:

**Winner receives \$1,000
towards trip to Kitchener,
ON for Canadian Senior's
Championship (Aug 2-5,
2013)**

Cash prizes will include: Entries less \$5
ACA dues.

Entry fees: \$30 on-site. \$25 if registered
by April 25th. In Edmonton Register with
Rick Pedersen, or Terry Seehagen, In Cal-
gary, register with Frank Kluytmans or
Vlad Rekhson. You can also register by
sending a cheque to the Edmonton Chess
Club (address at the top).

Light lunch will be provided on Saturday!

Format: 4 rounds Swiss.

Time control: Game 90+30 seconds
increment.

Schedule:

Saturday: On-site registration: 9:15-9:45

Round 1: 10 am

Lunch: 2 pm

Round 2: 3 pm

Sunday: Round 3: 10 am

Round 4: 1:30 pm or ASAP.

Byes: 1 half point bye available in rounds
1-3.

**CFC membership is required and may
be purchased on-site. Annual member-
ship is \$43. Non-members add \$21.**

Sponsored by the Alberta Chess
Association





Five way tie at 2013 Northern Alberta Open

By Vlad Rekhson

Going into the 2013 edition of the Edmonton edition of the Alberta Championship qualifier, it appeared that the competition at the top would be fierce. The starting list included 2 IMs, 1 FM and five National Masters.

The tournament took place as always on the February Family Day Long weekend. With the exception of veteran Bill Bentley upsetting NM Jamin Gluckie, the first couple of rounds saw things advance according to the expectations, as the favourites won their games. This set up some interesting match-ups in round 3. IM Edward Porper was facing NM Jeff Reeve and IM Richard Wang faced off the newly resurgent NM Peter Kalisvaart. Both matches ended in draws, in fact it appeared that the lower rated players achieved the draw from the position of power, as in the case of Jeff he was up a pawn in the final position (even though it was a drawn endgame) while Peter missed some chances to achieve more than a draw.

Since quite a few of the top players took a third round bye, going into day 2, there was no one left with a perfect score. IM Edward Porper managed to obtain a quick win over “the Rocket” Rob Gardner after a peculiar looking opening, while IM Richard Wang was once again not able to win, this time against NM Jeff Reeve. With a nice win over NM Peter Kalisvaart, FM Vladimir Pechenkin joined IM Edward Porper at the lead. The two leaders would meet in round 5 to determine the champion. Only half a point behind the leaders was the pursuing pack of six players. IM Richard Wang, NM Jeff Reeve, NM Vlad Rekhson, Aaron Sequillion, Jamil Kassam and Suresh Kadavil had 3 out of 4. FM Pechenkin optically was taking over the game against

Edward, but enterprising play from the IM lead to him having 4 pawns for a piece. Just as Vladimir was thinking that his position was likely losing, a surprise draw offer was extended leading to both players scoring 4/5. This meant that as many as three more players could join the winning pack! NM Jeff Reeve had to absorb Aaron Sequillion’s attack. It seemed like Aaron’s attack which resulted from a pawn sacrifice had some hope, but a sacrifice of a second pawn led to his demise. Jamil Kassam was fighting bravely against the mighty Richard Wang, and at one point it appeared as if Jamil had a chance to enter a drawing looking endgame, but a mistake caused him to miss his chance. Lastly, possibly the surprise of the tournament Suresh Kadavil, rated only 1219 was defeated by yours truly. This led to a five way tie for first. Tie-breaks were applied after which IM Edward Porper emerged as a winner and the official qualifier for the 2013 Alberta Closed Championship. The other players who tied for first were: NM Jeff Reeve, IM Richard Wang, FM Vladimir Pechenkin and NM Vlad Rekhson.

Class prizes were fought hard for as well. The under 2000 section had a tie for first between Terry Chaisson, Dennis Bell and Chris White. All the winners scored 3/5. The best participants rated under 1600 scored 3/5 as well. The two players for best under 1600 were; tournament’s only



Best u-1600 Armine Arzumanyan

female participant: Armine Arzumanyan and Suresh Kadavil. Best Junior Prize was

taken by Jamil Kassam who scored 3/5 with second junior shared by Edmonton under 10 players: Lenard Grossmann and Kaixin Wang with 2/5 each. This year’s event had a total of 36 participants hailing from: Edmonton and area, Calgary, Lloydminster, La Crete, Chateh and Dawson Creek, BC. A special thanks has to be extended to Ali Razzaq for running the event and Terry Seehagen for helping with the organization.

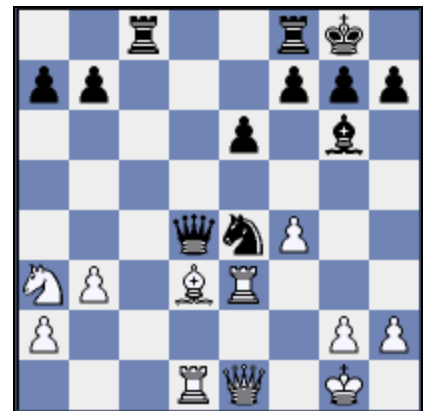
Selected games from the tournament are now available at:

<http://albertachess.org/2013NAopen.html>

NM Gardner, Robert J (2355) - IM Porper, Edward (2490) [A50]

2013 Northern AB Open (4), 17.02.2013

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 Nc6 3.f4 d5 4.Nf3 Bf5 5.e3 e6 6.Be2 Nb4 7.Na3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.b3 c5 10.Bb2 Ne4 11.dxc5 Bxc5 12.Nd4 Nd6 13.Rf3 Bg6 14.cxd5 Nxd5 15.Rc1 Ne4 16.Bd3 Nxe3 17.Rxe3 Bxd4 18.Bxd4 Qxd4 19.Qe1 Rac8 20.Rd1



Nc3 21.Rd2 Nd5 0-1

Lethbridge Chess Club

Contact Paul Viminitz
Email vimipo@uleth.ca

Pemican Lodge 102 5th Avenue South
(on the second floor in the games room)

6:00pm until 9 or 10pm
www.lethbridgechess.ca



Interview with IM Edward Porper

By: Vlad Rekhson

IM Edward Porper moved to Edmonton in the end of 2008 and immediately becoming the city's and province's strongest player. Since then, our province has experienced a real boom in strength with Eric Hansen becoming a GM and Richard Wang becoming an IM. Still, Edward remains the highest rated player in Edmonton. Currently he is involved in several projects with divergent ambitions.

VR: Let's start from the beginning. When did you learn how to play chess?

EP: I was 5 a usual story, more or less my dad was playing someone (maybe my grandfather), and I was watching... It went from there, nothing to write home about! Did you begin receiving formal instruction shortly after?

Edward: sort of but it was nothing worth mentioning. I haven't had a real coach until 1990 or so.

VR: By then you must have been quite a strong player, did you work on the game by yourself?

EP: I wasn't strong by then - and didn't really understand the game. It took that very coaching to set my brains straight and to open my eyes. That lost time in my youth still echoes in my insufficient tournament results. The early schooling is of a paramount importance miss it, and you are guaranteed a lot of sweat and tears to catch up and your limit will be lower than otherwise, too.

VR: So who has opened your eyes and what did he open your eyes to?

EP: First it was GM Dorfman, then GM Khuzman. They brought my attention to the intrinsic principles of the game the

concept of weaknesses, the real value of pieces... All that stuff that I am teaching today!

VR: Some people believe that the knowledge of the game of chess is something that may enrich a person life. Do you believe in that and if so how?

EP: I do. And not because it's knowledge of chess but rather because it's knowledge. Full stop. Ancient Greeks believed that science is such a powerful enjoyment that stoics should stay away from it. Feeling "in the know" is a truly elevating state of mind - and the whole body. Be it language, science, chess, music...

VR: Would you then say that knowledge of chess may also improve a person's ability to understand some of the other fields that you mentioned?

EP: Increase confidence that whatever he/she undertakes, the hunt will be successful. The chain is simple: knowledge brings success, success brings happiness, happiness empowers.

VR: You are obviously a very experienced coach, do you utilize some of the aspects of how you believe chess can enrich a person's life as a whole in your teaching technique?

EP: Absolutely. I teach first and foremost to think - and only then to apply thinking to chess in particular. likewise it can be applied elsewhere.

Vlad: You are still quite an active player, do you have personal goals that you would like to achieve in chess?

EP: The GM title is the obvious number 1 goal. I wouldn't mind to follow Eric's example and qualify for the World Cup!

VR: You have already achieved quite a bit and I am sure that you have played many interesting games through the years. What would you say is your most memorable game?

EP: It's really hard to say. Of the latest, it would be my win against Shabalov at Calgary International (2012). My best memories come from Canadian Open - 2009 - so, Shirov, Adams, Mikhalevski it was nice beating Spraggett in 1990 or Van Wely in 1998. The latter is probably the most spectacular victory.

VR: We talked quite a bit about chess, besides it what do you do and what are some of your other interests?

EP: Traveling - and travel writing, to start with. That's combining business and pleasure, so-to-say. I am a natural gamesman, so I enjoy playing any competitive game. Music is often an

important part of my background. A good book can keep me awake through most part of the night. Sports are huge for me - I would never miss an Olympic event if I could help it. Many World Championships are quite of interest to me as well. Lately I got a taste of a good work-out! Certain people are infectious to share a room with, you know! I lived in the same room with Eric during the Olympiad. He reinforced it. I thought about it earlier but now I have developed a real taste.

VR: Whatever Eric is doing sure seems to work especially lately, as his rating is approaching 2600! Speaking of other talented Albertans. Since you moved here in 2008, I have an impression that there quite a few strong players who either came to or were developed in the Province. Do you get a sense that chess here became stronger?

EP: well, judging by the beating I am getting every now and then, it has to be the case!

Many tournaments have become really competitive, no more walks in the park and a lot of potential - if only people realize that one does need a professional approach to succeed the problem is still the same - the lack of incentives. People don't see the benefits of becoming really good at chess Mark's example is pretty telling in this respect. *(GM Mark Bluvshstein recently quit competitive chess to pursue a financial services career. VR)*

That's what I am trying to change so desperately - in a hope that if not the current teens, at least the next wave will actually consider chess as an occupation, not only a part-time leisure.

VR: Canada still has a long way to go to become a chess powerhouse.

EP: Even if that's the case, one has to actually travel this way to reach the goal at the end of it. By enhancing amateurship we are threatened to be pushed to the opposite direction. Success should be rewarded - both socially and financially.

Eric has singlehandedly done a lot to change the image of chess in Canada but the question is, will he be able to stay both a successful elite player AND in Canada?!

VR: In terms of the approach to chess of young players in particular how would you define the difference between being amateurs and professionals?

EP: Time-investment, to start with. Many youngsters and their parents believe that by practicing once a week for 2 hours they

might expect results. That's absurd, to say the least! Saving on coaching is the next step in the same direction. Learning is important if you learn the right things, not just ANY things. We need at least two backbones to build upon to turn Canada into a chess country: professional youth coaching and a professional National League. That provided, our numerous crop of talent will be bound to bloom. VR: This brings the interview to an end. I would like to thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and I hope to see you in our Province's events for many years to come!

EP: thanx, Vlad. Our hopes are not exactly dissimilar in that respect :)

Van Wely,Loek (2605) - Porper,Edward (2440) [D43]
Lost Boys op Antwerp (3), 1998

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 dxc4 7.e4 g5 8.Bg3 b5 9.Be2 Nbd7 10.d5 Bb7 11.dxe6 fxe6 12.Nd4 Nc5 13.0-0 Qd7 14.e5 0-0-0 15.exf6 Qxd4 16.Qxd4 Rxd4 17.Be5 Rd2 18.f7 Rh7 19.Bh5 Rd7 20.Rae1 Rhxf7 21.Bxf7 Rxf7 22.Bd4 Kd7 23.Rd1 Kc7 24.Rfe1 b4 25.Bxc5 Bxc5 26.Ne4 Bb6 27.Rd2 Rf5 28.Red1 Rd5 29.Nf6



29...c3 30.Nxd5+ exd5 31.Rd3 d4 32.Rh3 Ba6 33.bxc3 bxc3 34.Rc1 Ba5 35.Rxh6

Calgary Junior Chess Club

Runs monthly tournaments at the Calgary Chess Club. \$5 entry fees with \$5 annual membership. Prizes for all.

The club also runs events in Calgary libraries, of Shawnessy and Forrest Lawn
Contact Paul Gagne for more info: paul39gagne39@hotmail.com



2013 Lethbridge Open

April 6-7



Lethbridge Lodge, 320 Scenic Drive (right downtown)

Organizer: Paul Viminitz vimip0@uleth.ca
or call 403 331-3295 (home) 403 329-2505 (office)

5 round swiss, CFC/FIDE 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 Vlad Rekhson vrekhsn@yahoo.ca

Times: Saturday 10am, 2:30 pm, 7 pm; Sunday 9am, 1:30pm or asap

Entry fee: \$35 adults, \$25 Junior (20 and under). Free to GMs and IMs. \$5 off for registration if paid prior to April 6th. Payments in person to Paul in Lethbridge or Vlad Rekhson in Calgary Chess Club.

Byes: 2 half point byes for rounds 1-4.

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

Free wine, beer 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

Sponsored by the Alberta Chess Association
www.albertachess.org

This is a *Road Warrior* event



2013 Red Deer Open

By: Vlad Rekhson

It has been more than 15 years since the last locally organized CFC event in Red-Deer. Luckily, along came Alexey Taranik, who decided to bring change to such a misfortune. First, Alexey organized a local chess club in the fall of 2012. The club is already building up pace and while it mostly caters to kids, adults are slowly but surely making their way back to the boards in Red-Deer. The return of the Red Deer Open was scheduled for January 26-27. A total of 15 participants battled at the Red-Deer Lodge, a sight familiar to those who have attended the Battle of AB competition in recent years. With Red-Deer having such a central location, participants came from Calgary, Edmonton, Lloydminster and of course Red-Deer.

I happened to be the pre-tournament favourite, but from the get-go it appeared that this was not going to be my event as I was upset by Adam Harris already in round 1. It also became quite evident that the locals were not going to be taken down by out of towners, as Harry Peralta outplayed Bill Bentley.

After day 1, the lead was shared by Experts: Lukas Beaudry, Aaron Sequillion and the surprising Adam Harris. In round 4, Lukas outplayed Adam, while Aaron defeated me. Since Aaron and Lukas already drew their game in round 3, they both played opponents ranked below them. Lukas defeated Expert Itohan Gold, while Aaron was involved in a pretty crazy looking game against Terry Chaisson. Terry's king was walking all over the board, but it wasn't clear how Aaron would finish the job. And then a disaster struck as he simply blundered a rook allowing Lukas to win the tournament with 4.5/5. Second was shared by: Aaron Sequillion, Adam Harris and Terry Chaisson with 3.5/5 each. Terry and Adam shared the under 2000 prize. Best under 1700 went to Atheer Jawad who scored 3/5 despite a 0/2 start.

The inaugural tournament was not too big, but I hope that it will inspire many more to come. In May, the Alberta Active will take place in the same location, which hopefully will allow for the progression of the local club. In either case, see you at the 2014 Red-Deer Open!



Left to right: Alexey Taranik, Aaron Sequillion, Terry Chaisson, Lukas Beaudry

Edmontonian; Mike Zeggelaar, had a pretty tough tournament in Red Deer, but in the following game he got the opportunity to win in his usual, attacking style.

Zeggelaar, Mike (1989) - Scholz, Mike (1444) [B06]

Red Deer 1st Open Red Deer Lodge (5),

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 Nh6 4.f4 e6
5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be3 d6 7.Qd2 b6 8.0-0-0 c6
9.g3 f5 10.e5 d5 11.Be2 Ba6 12.Rd1
Bxe2 13.Qxe2 Nd7 14.g4 c5 15.g5 Nf7
16.h4 Nh8 17.h5 Rf7 18.Rh2 Bf8
19.Rgh1 c4 20.Rh3 Bb4 21.Qh2 Nf8
22.hxg6 Nhxg6 23.Nh4 Qe7 24.Nxg6
Nxg6 25.Rh6 Rg7 26.Ne2 c3 27.Ng3 Ba3
28.bxa3 Qxa3+ 29.Kd1 Qxa2



30.Rxg6 Qb1+ 31.Bc1 h5 32.Qxh5 Kf7
33.Rxg7+ Kxg7 34.Qh7+ 1-0

Red Deer Chess Club

Dawe Centre Library
Tuesday nights, 6 pm start
Contact Alexey Taranik for more
information
Phone: 403-8721062
email: taranik1978@yahoo.ca

Alberta Active Championship

Red Deer Lodge (Pine
Lake Room)
May 5, 2013

Organizer: Alexey
Taranik
taranik1978@yahoo.ca



Entry fees: \$20 adults, \$15 juniors (20 and under). **GM/IM/FM free**
Non-CFC members, add \$13 for adults and \$7 for juniors.
CFC Membership available on-site.

Registration: Advanced registration in Red-Deer with Alexey Taranik; in Calgary with Vlad Rekhson.

Prizes: 100% of entries less \$3 ACA dues.

Estimated based on 20 paid participants:

Open/Unr	Under 1900	Under 1600
1) \$150	1) \$80	1) \$60
2) \$75	2) \$40	2) \$30

(Prizes will change based on actual entrants and number of participants.)

Schedule:

On-Site registration: 11:15-11:45 am
Rounds 1-3: noon; 1 pm; 2 pm
Break
Rounds 4-5: 4 pm; 5 pm.
Closing Ceremony: ASAP

Time control: 25+5 seconds increment.

Byes: up to 2 half point byes in rds. 1-4 if announced before the start.

Sponsored by:
**The Alberta Chess
Association**



This is a *Road Warrior* event.



Regional Youth Chess Championships

By Vlad Rekhson

In 2013 the ACA started having regional events for its Youth tournaments (Under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18) sections. Regional events were held in Calgary, Edmonton, Fort McMurray and Lethbridge. Winners of events received a free entry to the 2013 AB Youth Championship, as well as, \$100 towards professional coaching.

Calgary Regional

The Calgary Chess Club was the hosting site of the 2013 Calgary Youth Regionals. The event was held on January 19th and organized by Paul Gagne. The under 8 section was quite tough even though only 12 players participated in it. First went to last year's champion-Ian Zhao who was perfect with 4/4 second place went to Khino Tolentino who scored 2/4 and will still be eligible to participate next year. Stephen Zheng scored a perfect 5/5 in the under 10 section. Second With 12 participants the under 12 section was the largest of the event. It was dominated by the Tolentino family as Andre Angelo was first with 4.5/5 while Patrick Angelo finished with 4/5. Arguably the biggest upset occurred in the under 14 section as last year's Canadian under 14 runner-up, Diwen Shi lost to Nicholas Lee. Nicholas finished the event with a perfect score of 5/5! Diwen made a come back and finished with 4/5. The under 16 section was won by Chenxi Zhao with a perfect 5/5. Second was shared by Elvin Limpin and Tobias Schmidt with 3/5 each, but Elvin won the tie-break that followed. The under 18 section was the strongest and the smallest. It was originally supposed to have 3 participants, but on the morning of the event we learned that one of the participants couldn't make it. The 2012 Canadian Junior Champion-David Zhang won his match against the talented Yuekai Wang by a score of 2.5-0.5. Thank you for all who participated and helped organize and run the event!

Perfect winners at Edmonton Regionals

The Edmonton Youth Championship attracted a total of 31 participants on Saturday, February 9. The players participated in five categories: u8/10/12/14/16. Possibly due to an

interesting coincidence, all the winners scored perfect scores. The under 8 section was won by Daniel Kim with 5/5. Under 10 went to Kaixin Wang 5/5, Under 12 was won by David Yao 5/5, under 14 was taken by Jamil Kassam 5/5 and finally under 16 was not surprisingly won by IM Richard Wang 4/4. All the winners received a free entry to the [Alberta Youth Championship](#), scheduled for March 2-3, as well as \$100 towards professional chess instruction. A special thanks goes to Harris Wang who organized and directed the event.

Fort McMurray Regional

The Fort McMurray Regional attracted 15 participants in the under 16 and under 12 sections. The under 18 section had a total of 7 participants, 4 of which were under 14 and 3 of were under 16.

Lethbridge Regional

By: Peter David-Imhof

A total of 11 players took part in the tournament and it was a good mix of veterans of the Lethbridge Jr. Chess program, players from the school where I teach lunch hour chess, and some new faces. There was good energy, players eager to learn more in between rounds and respect for each other.

The tournament was played in two sections, under 18 and 12.

Under 18

Winner: Jafar Faraji (Mojtaba)

Runner up: Josh Oba

Under 12:

Winner: Ruolei Han

Runner Up: Steven Yang

Fort McMurray Chess Club

Open on: Thursday 6:30-10 PM

Sunday 2-4 PM

Address : Westwood YMCA

221 Tundra Dr

Contact: Jina Burn fmchess-club@hotmail.com

or call Jina at 780.715.9332

Web: <http://fmcc.shawwebspace.ca/>

IM Richard Wang wins 2012 AB Junior Championship

By: Vlad Rekhson



IM Richard Wang was the class of the field in the 2012 AB Junior Championship. The tournament featured the best players in the province under 20 years of age. Unfortunately, several top players couldn't make it to the tournament, including the 2011 champion-National Master David Zhang. Still, in order for Richard to win the title he had to overcome Grande-Prairie's David Miller, who defeated Richard in the 2011 edition of the event. This time around it was different, as Richard took home the title with a perfect 5/5. David went undefeated in his other matches and finished with 4/5. Talented Calgarian, Nicholas Lee finished third with 3/5 losing only to the top two players. Richard Pua did a good job running the event in a smooth fashion.

Banff Chess Club

Pioneer Room, 107 Bear St.

The new club meets every Thursday at 7 pm.

banffchess.com



2012 Edmonton Fall Sectional

By: FM Vladimir Pechenkin

Over the course of the weekend of October 26-28 Edmonton Chess Club held a third edition of the annual Fall Sectional. Contrary to a typical weekend open tournament that usually features people of all levels and therefore requires a swiss pairing system, a sectional is designed specifically to encourage competition among players of similar strength. All participants are sorted out by their rating and then slotted into groups of six. Each group then determines a winner in an independent round-robin tournament, where no easy games are to be expected.

This year's attendance was good enough to fill in 4 full sections, the top one with the average FIDE rating of 2328 being the strongest in the history of the tournament so far. A special flavor was added by the participation of a rising Canadian star FM (now IM elect) Aman Hambleton who currently resides in Ottawa. It seems that a chance of scalping Aman provided quite a bit of extra motivation for the local players, who tried very hard but couldn't pull the trigger. The following game from the first round may serve as an illustration.

Hambleton, Aman (2348) - Porper, Edward (2413) [A84]
Edmonton Fall Sectional -2012 A (1),
26.10.2012

(Notes by IM Edward Porper)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 e6 4.e3 f5 5.g4

I didn't expect Aman to play that because I didn't think this move would fit his playing style

Nf6 6.gxf5 exf5 7.Qb3 dxc4 8.Bxc4 Qe7?!

Objectively not a good move, of course, but I decided to be creative 8...Bd6 is normal and provides Black with an easy game.

9.Nge2

9.a4 might be interesting 9...Nbd7 10.a5 Qb4 11.Qa2

9... b5 10.Bd3 Be6 11.Qc2 g6 12.Nf4 Bf7
That's where the Bishop belongs.

13.Bd2

and there is absolutely nothing for White after 13.Nxb5 cxb5 14.Qc8+ Qd8 15.Bxb5+ Nbd7

13...Bh6

My instincts were shouting for 13...Bg7 but I was being lazy to calculate to make sure 14.Nxb5 cxb5 15.Qc8+ Qd8 16.Bxb5+ Nbd7 17.Qc5 Qe7 was favouring Black as heavily as on the previous move. Curiously, the engine prefers the text – because of 14 h4!

14.0-0-0 0-0 15.Kb1 Na6 16.Nce2 Rac8 17.Rhg1 Kh8

17...Bg7 18.Ng3 would be unpleasant

18.Rc1 Qd7

Providing for ...c5.

The computer-generated 18...Qb7 with the same idea seemed to me less natural

19.Ng3

19.Qc3 Bg7 20.Qa5 is the substantiation support the engine's train of thought. I would like to see a human reasoning in a similar way!

19... Nd5 20.Nxd5 Bxd5 21.h4?!

Braving it while it could be wiser to go on the defensive by moves like 21.b3 or 21.Ka1

21...Qe6

Sticking to the safe side. Yet after 21...c5 22.dxc5 Rxc5 23.Bc3+Bg7 24.Qd2 Rxc3! 25.Rxc3 Rd8 Black's advantage could have become significant.

22.b3 c5 23.e4

Almost forced. After 23.dxc5 Rxc5

24.Bc3+ Rxc3! a recurrent motive

25.Qxc3 +Bg7 the "living hell" on "g7" just can't be tolerated!

23...fxe4 24.Bxh6 exd3 25.Qxd3 Rf3 26.Qe2

26.Be3?? Rxg3!-+

26... Qxe2 27.Nxe2

Hard to believe Black isn't simply winning but in fact, it remains far from simple

27...Be4+

an immediate 27...Rxf2 is probably better 28.Nc3 Be6 29.dxc5 Nb4

28.Ka1 Rxf2 29.Nc3

From now on there is very little explanation and too much calculation to keep the game instructive – almost to the very end.

29...Bd3 30.dxc5 Nb4 31.Be3 Rc2?

I just wasn't comfortable with 31...Nc2+

32.Rxc2 Rxc2 33.Nd5 yet Black is

probably winning after 33...Re2

32.a3 Rxc1+ 33.Bxc1 Ne2+ 34.Kb2 b4

35.axb4 Nxb4 36.Be3 Bf5 37.Na4 Re8

38.Bd4+ Kg8 39.Kc3 a5 40.Rg2 Re4

41.Rh2 h5

Once again a solid move instead of a good one! After 41...Nd5+ 42.Kc4 Be6 43.Nb6!

Nb4+ (not falling into a neat trap

43...Nxb6+ 44.Kd3 Bf5 45.cxb6 Rxh4+

46.Kc4 Rxh2 47.b7) 44.Kc3 Nc6 45.Bg1

Rb4 Black gradually comes on top

42.Nb6 Kf7 43.Bf2 Re2 44.Nc4 Ke6 45.Nxa5 Nd5+ 46.Kc4 Ne3+ 47.Bxe3 Rxh2 48.Bg5 Rg2 49.Nc6 Be4

Attributing too much significance to the pawns. According to the machine, Black is simply winning after 49...Rg4+ 50.Nd4+

(50.Kb5 Rxc5 51.hxc5 Be4) 50...Ke5

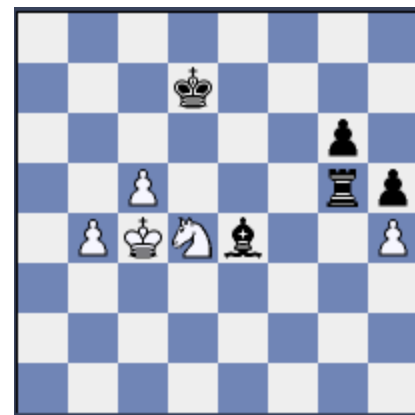
51.Be3 Rxh4

50.Nd4+ Kd7 51.b4?

51.Bf6 was an absolute must but now Aman went astray

51...Rxc5

Obviously. The only problem was that I didn't realize my position was being completely winning!



52.hxc5 h4 53.Ne2 h3 54.Ng3 h2 55.b5 h1Q 56.Nxh1 Bxh1 57.Kb4 Bf3 58.Ka5 Kc7??

An inch away from a weighty point! A very basic outflanking 58...Ke6 59.Kb6 Kd5 60.c6 Kd6 61.Kb7 Kc5 62.Ka6 Bxc6 would have forced an immediate resignation.

59.Ka6 Be2 60.Ka5 Bf1 61.Ka6 Be2
½-½



Ottawa FM (now IM), Aman Hambleton

Predictably, Section A was tightly contested as four players had a chance to win or share first before the last round. In the end, IM Edward Porper emerged victorious with 3.5/5 followed

closely by IM Richard Wang along with FMs Aman Hambleton and Vladimir Pechenkin, all three scoring 3/5.

On the contrary, Section B was a one-player show as Peter Kalisvaart dominated the field and secured clear first with one round to go. His final score was 4.5/5, while Mike Zeggelaar finished second with 3/5, and David Miller was third (2.5/5).

The last round of Section C featured two leaders, Arnold McKay and Robert Davies, facing each other.

The game was drawn, which meant a tie for the first place between the two of them. Both winners scored 3.5/5, and third went to Brian Phillips with 3/5. Section D was also decided in the last-round battle between the top two finishers. Vladimir Blyznyuk was leading with 3.5 points but couldn't hold a draw against Armine Arzumanyan, and a newcomer to the Edmonton chess scene leapfrogged him scoring 4/5 and claiming the first prize. Prayus Shrestha finished third with 3/5. In conclusion, I would like to thank Edmonton Chess Club for organizing the tournament and I certainly hope that the Fall Sectional becomes a traditional competition in October.

Medicine Hat defeats Lethbridge in 7th annual match

The rivalry which was rekindled 7 years ago, has quite deep roots and it was started approximately 50 years ago. Since the restart, the score has been 3-3; but this time around the 8 board battle finished with a score of 9.5-6.5 in favour of Medicine Hat. The teams battled for bragging rights and the opportunity to keep the trophy in their club. Many of the new comers were youngsters who were participating in their first battle, and some of the veterans stepped aside to allow the youngsters to play.

Medicine Hat Chess Club
Next Step Residential Services
Building
 Rm. 5, 826 - 11th St. S.E.
Wednesdays
mid-September to mid-June
Contact: Bill Taylor 403.526.5484
403.527.3574,
taylormw@shaw.ca

2012 Southern Alberta Open

By: Frank Kluytmans

SAO Final Results and Prize Winners				
Pos.	Name	Rtng	Pts	Prize
1 st -4 th Open	Vladislav Rekhson	2142	4	Qualifier to 2013 AB Closed and \$87.50
1 st -4 th Open	Gary Ng	2234	4	\$87.50
1 st -4 th Open	Brandon Eshleman	2000	4	\$87.50
1 st -4 th Open	Dale Haessel	2288	4	\$87.50
1 st U2200	Itohan Gold	2019	3.5	\$70
2 nd -3 rd U2200	Hafiz Karmali	1895	3	\$15
2 nd -3 rd U2200	Brian Miller	1825	3	\$15
1 st -4 th U1800	Adam Harris	1795	3	\$25
1 st -4 th U1800	Andrew Wallbank	1759	3	\$25
1 st -4 th U1800	Chris White	1758	3	\$25
1 st -4 th U1800	Hanna Almasso	1588	3	\$25
1 st -2 nd U1400	Derek Zhang	1010	2	\$50
1 st -2 nd U1400	Robert Wilson	1386	2	\$50

Description

The 2012 Southern Alberta Open was sponsored by the ACA and hosted by the Calgary Chess Club during the weekend of Nov 17-18, 2012. The field included: 1 FM, and 3 NMs. The total field included 28 players, including 6 juniors and 2 women.

Round 1 Summary

Most of the top rated players won, but there was one major upset when junior Nicholas Lee rated only 1703 had a draw with NM Martin Robichaud rated 2218.

Round 2 Summary

Six players completed this round and remained undefeated all with 2.0 points.

Round 3 Summary

With the top players drawing their games,

and a couple taking a bye, no one had a perfect score, 6 people now had 2.5 points.

Round 4 Summary

There were now only 2 players with 3.5 points, with 4 close behind with 3.0, making for an exciting final 5th round.

Round 5 Summary

The final round resulted in 4 players tying for 1st place with 4.0 points. By virtue of a better tie-break, Vladislav Rekhson qualified for the 2013 AB Closed.

Conclusion

The head arbiter and author of this report

Frank Kluytmans thanks all the participants.

NM Daniel Kazmaier wins 2013 March of Kings

By: Frank Kluytmans

29 people participated in this year's annual March of Kings tournament, 3 came down from Edmonton.

NM Daniel Kazmaier took a bye in Round 2, but still finished 1st, winning all his games with a final score of 4.5 points. The major performance star in the tourney was our improving junior Diwen Shi. He finished tied for 2nd-3rd overall with 4.0 points, after defeating expert Aaron Sequillion, class "A" Mike Zeggelaar, and NM Kim Nguyen, plus drawing with NMs Martin Robichaud and Gary Ng,

Prize Winners

1st Open NM Daniel Kazmaier 4.5 points \$200

2nd Open NM Gary Ng 4.0 points \$100

3rd Open NM Martin Robichaud 3.5 points \$27.50

1st U2200 Diwen Shi 4.0 points \$100

2nd-4th U2200 Jim Daniluk 3.5 points \$27.50

2nd-4th U2200 Itohan Gold 3.5 points \$27.50

2nd-4th U2200 Yassen Bogoev 3.5 points \$27.50

1st-3rd U1800 Hemant Persaud 3.0 points \$51.66

1st-3rd U1800 Joshua Willie 3.0 points \$51.66

1st-3rd U1800 Trevor Robertson 3.0 points \$51.66

1st U1400 Tamir Bulga 2.5 points \$70

2nd-3rd U1400 Zeling Li 2.0 points \$20

2nd-3rd U1400 Raphael Libre 2.0 points \$20

2012 Alberta Open Final Report

By: Frank Kluytmans

Description

The 2012 Alberta Open was an historical event, as this was the first time a Grand Master attended and won. The tournament was sponsored by the ACA and hosted by the Calgary Chess Club during the week-end of Oct 6-8, 2012. The field included: 1 GM and 1 FM with a total of 12 players over the CFC rating of 2000. In addition we had 20 adults, and 12 juniors, including 1 female. The total field included 44 players.

Round 1 Summary

The majority of higher ranked players performed as expected, with a couple of exceptions. Tom McKay rated 1505 defeated expert Behrooz Ebrahim-sherazi rated 2051, a 546 point difference. Chris McKim rated only 1488 beat one of our star juniors Nicka Kalaydina rated 1993, a 505 point difference.

Round 2 Summary

Only 9 players remained undefeated after 2 rounds. The major upset in this round was when FM Dale Haessel lost to Patrick Porter, a rating difference of 425 points. Chris McKim continued his upsetting ways, when this round he defeated expert Geoff Newton.

Round 3 Summary

Now the list of players with 3.0 points became 5. Chris McKim the major star upsetter of the tournament, now defeated his second expert Itohan Gold and was still undefeated.

Round 4 Summary

There were only 2 people left with a perfect score of 4.0 points, GM Eric Hansen and NM Alex Yam, naturally they were due to be paired in round 5. The 2 other undefeated players clashed this round, when NM Dan Kazmaier beat the start upsetter Chris McKim, Dan's score became 3.5 points (having takend a bye in round 3).

Round 5 Summary

Alex Yam lost his only game of the tournament, when he lost to GM Eric Hansen this round. The other remaining undefeated player Dan Kazmaier lost to FM Dale Haessel. The field now included: GM Eric Hansen with 5.0 points, 3 players

with 4.0, and 8 with 3.5 points.

Final Round 6 Summary

The final round of the tournament allowed for a distinct 1st and 2nd place finisher. GM Eric Hansen was undefeated and took 1st place with 6.0 points. Alex Yam finished in 2nd all by himself, after losing only to Eric. There was a 3-way tie for 3rd-5th between Knut Neven, Roy Yearwood and Behrooz Ebrahim-shirazi. The top U2000 finishers all tied with 4.0 points and split their prize money. The top finisher in the U1400 class was Mike Scholz, who also qualified in the U1700 section, but took 1st in the U1400 with 3.5 points. The top 2 finishers in the U1700 division with 3.0 points were junior Nicholas Lee and star upsetter Chris McKim with 3.0 points, splitting their prizes. And finally the 2nd-4th finishers of the U1400 class were all improving young juniors: Tamir Bulga, Ian Zhao and Bryan Ma.

Conclusion

The head arbiter and author of this report Frank Kluytmans, thanks all the participants of this year's AB Open, coming from: Edmonton, Red Deer, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge and Calgary.

Beaudin, Jesse (1963) - GM Hansen, Eric (2579) [B43]
2012ABOpen (2.1), 19.11.2012

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 Bb4 7.Qd3 Nf6 8.f3 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Bd2 Bxc3 11.bxc3 0-0 12.Qc4 Qd8 13.Bd3 Nd7 14.0-0-0 b5 15.Qc6 N7b6 16.Nb3 Ra7 17.Be3



Bd7 18.Bxb6 Qg5+ 19.Kb2 Bxc6 20.Bxa7 Ra8 21.h4 Qg3 22.Bd4 a5 23.Rhe1 Qc7 24.Be5 Qb7 25.Nc5 Qa7 26.Ne4 b4 27.c4 Ne3 28.Rd2 Bxe4 29.Bxe4 Nxc4+ 30.Kc1 Nxd2 31.Bxa8 Nc4 32.Bc6 Qc5 33.Rd1 Qe3+ 34.Kb1 Na3+ 35.Kb2 Qxe5+ 36.Kc1 Qe3+ 37.Kb2 Qc3+ 38.Kc1 Qxc2# 0-1

Final Results and Prize Winners

Pos.	Title	Name	CFC Rtnng	Pts	Prize
1 st Open	GM	Eric Hansen	2579	6	\$400
2 nd Open	NM	Alex Yam	2373	5	\$200
3 rd -5 th Open	NM	Knut Neven	2250	4.5	\$66.66
3 rd -5 th Open	NM	Roy Yearwood	2129	4.5	\$66.66
3 rd -5 th Open		Behrooz Ebrahim-shirazi	2051	4.5	\$66.66
1 st -3 rd U2000		Patrick Porter	1870	4	\$73.33
1 st -3 rd U2000		Brian Toth	1857	4	\$73.33
1 st -3 rd U2000		Diwen Shi (Jr.)	1844	4	\$73.33
1 st -2 nd U1700		Nicholas Lee (Jr.)	1618	3	\$110
1 st -2 nd U1700		Chris McKim	1488	3	\$110
1 st U1400		Mike Scholz	1303	3.5	\$150
2 nd -4 th U1400		Tamir Bulga (Jr.)	1294	2.5	\$23.33
2 nd -4 th U1400		Ian Zhao (Jr.)	1103	2.5	\$23.33
2 nd -4 th U1400		Bryan Ma (Jr.)	827	2.5	\$23.33

Calgary Chess Club schedule:

Tuesdays: Standard time controls (90+30) each tournament starts on the first Tuesday of the month. \$5 per week entry fee 80% going to prizes. CFC rated. Doors open at 7 pm.

Thursdays: unrated Active chess, one tournament per week. \$5 entry fee. Doors open at 7 pm.

Saturday: Junior drop in centre. Free with a purchase of an annual junior club membership \$20. Doors open at 12:30 pm.

Sunday: Rated Active tournaments on selected Sundays. See the website for full details.

www.calgarychess.com



Endgame Study

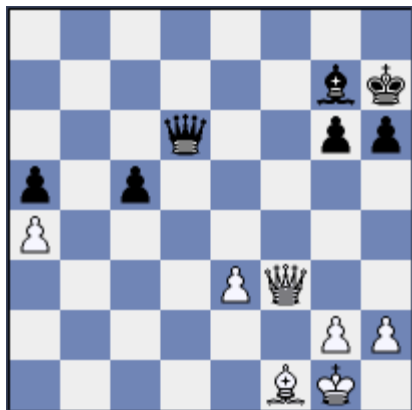
The following analysis was conducted by Calgary Master: Knut Neven, following his game in the 2012 AB Open.

Knut Neven previously published several Chessbase DVDs on the French Defense, the Gruenfeld and the Classical Nimzo Indian.

Bentley, Bill (1900) - Neven, Knut Guenther (2227) [D95]

AB op Calgary (2), 06.10.2012

[Neven, K]



35.Qe4

After reaching a somewhat promising position out of the opening, Black had played rather uneven chess and allowed his opponent to reach a well deserved and completely drawn ending. Taking stock, it is clear that letting White continue with Bd3 next ends up permanently pinning the pawn on g6 in a most unpleasant way. Tied up like that, Black would have less than no chances to play for more. And thus...

35...Qe5!? 36.Qxe5 Bxe5

Surely now, with opposite colored bishops on the board, this position must be drawn? And that assessment certainly holds true here, but at least with the queens off Black is now able to test his opponent's technical skills a little. Not much happens at first, but White has to watch out for one dangerous idea that comes into play in just a few more moves. Before continuing, I should ask readers to follow along without the benefit of an analysis engine. The point is that having an engine provide a constant safety net is never a substitute for independent thinking. If you want to learn something here, or in any other game you are trying to understand, the best way is to engage the analysis engine in your own head! Ready?

37.g3?!

Before White's king can move closer to the center he must first do something to cover the pawn on h2. The text is absolutely logical, given that normally one should place pawns on squares opposite the color of one's bishop. That way, in theory at least, we restrict the mobility of the opponent's bishop and don't restrict the movement of our bishop! And yet, very soon, this reaction proves the source for some fairly serious problems.

37...Kg7 38.Bd3 g5 39.Kf2

[With 39.g4! White remains comfortably in the drawing zone. Black's passed c/pawn alone cannot decide the game, and there is no forced way for the Black king to enter White's defensive position on the kingside.] **39...g4!** Now things are getting interesting! Black has fixed his opponent's pawn structure on the kingside in a way that is potentially dangerous for White. If we return for a moment to the position after Black's 36th move, and imagine White had played 37.h3 instead, then White draws trivially by marching his king towards the center. Black's passed c/pawn is then easily blocked, and none of White's pawns can be attacked. White would have a secure fortress.

40.Bf5 h5

White is by no means forced to play

41.h3

at this moment, but once again in many endgames reducing material is a good way for the defending side to edge closer towards a draw. Imagine, also, some hypothetical future position with White pawns still on h2 and g3. Say that Black's king has made the journey to the center, which means that White's king will have to be nearby to cover any potential entry squares, and suddenly White has to consider tactical shenanigans on the kingside involving ...h4 followed by gxh4 Bxh2 when Black suddenly has two passed pawns on opposite wings. More about that theme later!

41...gxh3

[There was also the tactical try 41...h4 42.gxh4 g3+ 43.Kf3 c4 44.h5 c3 when Black again has two passed pawns. Objectively that's not yet a won position, no more so than the main continuation, but here again White's defensive task in a practical game is no longer a trivial one.]

42.Bxh3 Kf6?

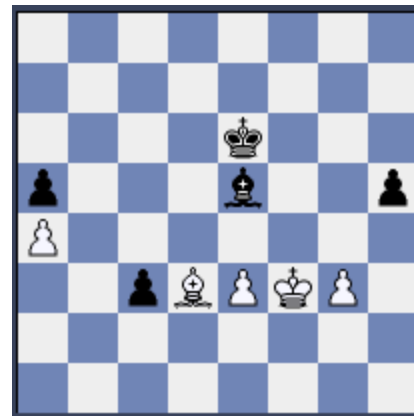
[More precise is 42...c4 43.Kf3 c3 44.Bf5 Kf6 45.Bc2 Ke6]

3.Kf3?!

[With 43.Bf1 White keeps the c/pawn from advancing, since after something like 43...Kf5 44.Be2 (even easier is 44.Bd3+) 44...Ke4 45.Bxh5 Kd3 46.Bg6+ Kc3 47.g4 Kb3 48.Ke2 Kxa4 49.Kd3 Kb4 50.Bf7 White's defense on the light squares holds. This would be a typical way for an endgame with opposite colored bishops to end. Everyone would just shrug their shoulders and dismiss the entire ending as trivial and boring. Well, maybe with an engine running in the background that's an easy thing to say ... but you all did turn of Rybka at the start of this analysis, didn't you?]

43...c4 44.Bf1 c3 45.Bd3 Ke6

By this time, White definitely has practical problems to solve. His king is tied to the defense of the pawn on g3 and the bishop



can no longer give up contact with square c2. Meanwhile, Black's king is free to poke around for a decisive entry square into the opponent's position.

46.g4?

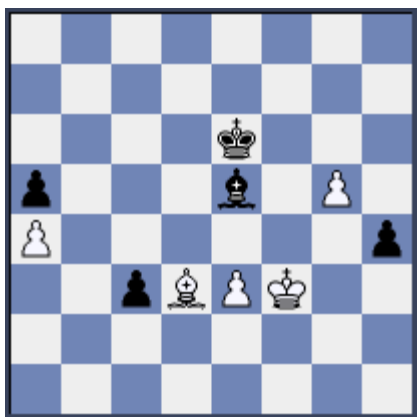
The losing move, but an understandable one. White desperately wants to liquidate his kingside weakness, but this doesn't work after [As dangerous as it looks to do nothing while Black's king freely roams the board, White had to settle for a waiting strategy with 46.Bg6 Kd5 47.Ke2 Kc4 when (47...Bxg3 48.Kd3 Be5 49.Bxh5 Kc5 50.Kc2 Kb4 51.Be8 is nothing) 48.Bf7+ (48.Bxh5? loses to 48...c2 49.Kd2 Kb3) 48...Kb4 49.Kd3 Kxa4 50.Bxh5 and now the accurate 50...Kb3 51.Bd1+ Kb4 52.g4 a4 53.Bf3 Kc5 54.Bd1 a3 55.Bb3 Kb4 56.Ba2 just manages to hold for White. But in a practical game, playing on increment, this is not an approach many players would be willing to take when deciding on a defensive approach ten moves earlier!]

46...h4

Now Black wins for sure, even with the opposite colored bishops. But before you play through the remaining moves, ask yourself why this is the case? White, after all, also has two passed pawns! Try to formulate a plan for Black that wins, or a defensive plan that holds for White. Any suggestions?

47.g5

[Try to calculate the way through for Black if White stops the immediate advance of the pawn with 47.Kg2 when I will even give the hard to spot 47...Bf6 as Black's most accurate next move!]



47...h3 48.g6 Kd5 49.Kf2 Kc5 50.g7 Bxg7 51.Kg3 Kb4 52.Bc2 Ka3 53.Kxh3 Kb2 54.Bd3 c2 55.Bxc2 Kxc2 56.Kg4 Kb3 57.Kf5 Kxa4

I hope that at least some of you tried to answer the question I posed after 46...h4 because here are the general guidelines to follow when assessing endgames like this one in your own games: opposite colored bishops often provide a large drawing margin, so it is important to create multiple threats or attack multiple weaknesses at the same time. In the position after 46...h4 for example, it is no longer possible for White to defend against passed pawns on the c/file and h/file. But note how Black's bishop, also faced with multiple passed pawns, has no trouble defending. This is because his bishop is able to cover both pawns from a single diagonal. White's bishop, unable to do the same, needs the help of the king. That's the decisive advantage! So make no mistake, opposite colored bishop endings very often hold more subtle strategic ideas and surprising tactical tricks than are apparent at first glance, especially in practical games where a perfect defense is much more difficult. 0-1

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July 6-7, 2013

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Prizes may be altered slightly

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Best Under 1200: \$200

Best Under 1000: \$100

Prizes may be altered slightly

Organized by: Jina Burn, Fort McMurray Chess Club and Alberta Chess Association

Pre-registration: FMCC President Jina Burn, office [780.715.9332](tel:780.715.9332) cell [780.713.5501](tel:780.713.5501) Email: fmchessclub@hotmail.com

Fort McMurray Chess Club <http://fmcc.shawwebspace.ca>

Or to ACA Executive Director Vlad Rekhson: vrehkson@yahoo.ca



Tournament Details: **CFC/FIDE Rated, 5 Rounds.**

2 sections, Open and Women

Schedule: Saturday, July 6

Registration: 9:15-9:45 am

Rounds: 10 am; 2 pm; 6 pm

Sunday, July 7

9 am; 1 pm or ASAP. Awards immediate after rd. 5.

30 minute break between rounds is guaranteed.

CFC/FIDE Rated

CFC Membership is required and may be purchased on-site.

Time Control: 90+30 seconds inc.

Byes: Up to 2 half point byes if announced prior to round 1.

Entry fees: \$30 adults, \$25 Juniors 20 and under. Add \$5 if entering on-site. Add \$21 if non-CFC rated adult, \$11 junior.

Lunch will be provided on Saturday!





Visit to 2012 Euro Club Cup

By Vlad Rekhson

Normally, the European Club championship will not find its way to this publication. The reason it is now found here, is due to the fact that your humble reporter was a part of it. Now this does not mean that I was playing board one for a top Russian team, as my rating is not quite in the same stratosphere, yet I was actually part of the team that ran the tournament. I was chosen to be a match Arbiter. What this meant was that I would be the Arbiter of a couple of matches per round. When I received an invitation to take part in this event, I viewed it as a great opportunity to help me understand how world class events are being run. Even though I already had experience of directing two Canadian Opens, several Edmonton International and numerous other Alberta based events, I felt that my experience was a bit too locally based and I was interested in seeing how things were done elsewhere. Now to the tournament itself. The event might seem a bit strange to a regular Canadian Chess Player, not used to the European system. This annual event brings together top clubs from Europe. Now the fact that clubs represent a certain geographical area or town, doesn't mean that their players are in fact from there. The top clubs pay substantial amount of money to have top talent play for their team. In fact, unlike the European National Team Championship, this tournament doesn't have a geographical restriction on players, thus Americans: Hikaru Nakamura and Gata Kamsky, Chinese Hou Yifan and several other non-Europeans took part in the event. While such an arrangement certainly benefits the Grandmasters as they receive salaries for playing in those events, the benefit for clubs to buy foreign players to then send them to another foreign country to supposedly represent their club

would probably be quite controversial in North America. Nevertheless, the result was quite a terrific line up of 110 GMs! Now on to the competition; it took place in Eilat, Israel from October 11-17, 2012. This was literally the most southernmost point where the European Champion could take place. So, while most of Europe was in preparation for winter, we were treated to a daily temperatures ranging from 22 at night to 35 in the day! The south Israel resort town is located on the Red Sea and allows for some nice sunbathing, water sports and desert sightseeing.

The competition itself had 7 rounds where teams of six players played each other. A score of 3.5-2.5 was enough for a team victory and the full two matchpoints. A total of 34 teams entered the Open section and 8 played in the Women's. There was quite a diversity among teams, as it was clear that some teams came to try and win the first prize, while others came to have some good games and do some sunbathing in the process. Before the start the favourites included team Socar-Azerbaijan (Radjabov, Mamedjarov, Topalov, Grischuk, Kamsky, Sutovsky and subs: Gadirov and Mamedov). There were four strong Russian teams, Baden-Baden from Germany and several other teams that could provide for an upset or two. In the first round a fairly substantial upset occurred as the top ranked Socar lost to a local team, from Ashdod. Ashdod were not the favourites in this encounter, but they were a fairly strong team in their own right, as Israeli players: Ilya Smirin, Boris Avrukh and Artur Kogan were reinforced by powerful Ukrainians: Vassily Ivanchuk, Andrei Volokitin and Pavel Eljanov.

Socar made a slow but steady comeback as they won all their games leading up to the last round decisive match against the Russian team from Tomsk. (Ruslan Ponomariov, Alexander Areschenko, Viorel Bologan, etc...).

Before the last round, the tournament was going quite well for me as well. I got to be match Arbiter for some terrific players and in general there were almost no incidents. There were some minor issues to deal with, some of which were quite amusing. For example: the fact that this competition had a plethora of top players, created some confusion for me as at one point I almost kicked out a 2700! During the first round, some guys were bugging me by entering the area assigned for the players and then



refusing to leave. I then noticed a guy who looked like an outsider. He seemed somewhat confused and did not wear a badge indicating that he was a participant. Just as I was about to approach him and use my mighty presence to ask him to leave, he sat at a board and continued his game. As it turned out, I was about to kick out the reigning Ukrainian Champion-GM Anton Korobov (2702!)

Another almost incident occurred when GM Arkadij Naiditsch (2706) lost to a player rated 2389. After the game the famous GM said that his opponent was "playing like a computer." I quickly got both of them to sign the scoresheet to indicate agreement with the result.

Looking at the game, I couldn't imagine a computer playing like that, so to me GM Naiditsch was just venting.

Still, to me the most exciting event took place on the last round. I was assigned to be the match Arbiter of board 1, where the aforementioned Socar, Azerbaijan took on Tomsk. At this point the lead was shared by four teams, as in addition to the board one participants, the Svidler lead St. Petersburg shared the lead with Ashdod. Tie-breaks heavily favoured St. Petersburg so it seemed like unless someone on board one would manage a large win, a victory for the Russians would guarantee them first. St. Petersburg did their part as they defeated Ashdod with a score of 4-2. This meant that the chances for Socar and Tomsk were minimal. Still, even as the players arrived, it was quite evident that the players from Socar received a real inspiration from their captain and two time Canadian Open winner GM Tukmakov. They came to destroy. Tomsk players came concentrated as well, but no where near the level of the Azerbaijani team. To be honest, I don't remember seeing chess players so intense. The final result of 5-1 in favour of Socar was just enough for the favourites to win the title.

Final Results: <http://tinyurl.com/bx4ltw6>



John Schleinich Memorial Sectional

By: Edward Porper

Knut Neven managed to win the strongest round-robin section of the Schleinich Memorial in Calgary despite losing against the rating-favourite Dan Kazmaier. Neven scored 4/5 by winning the rest of his games while Dan gave a couple of points away way too generously and finished second with 3/5. Sean Perron and Gary Ng tied for third with a 50% 2.5/5 score.

The winner of the B –section, Jim Daniluk, also managed to upset the rating favourite, Itohan Gold and sweep through the field to score 4.5/5. Gold's 2.5/5 proved to be enough only for the 4th place while Hafiz Karmali and Bill Bentley managed to achieve 3/5 and tie for second. A member of Canadian WYCC squad Diwen Shi had no trouble securing the first place in the C-section. His 4/5 sufficed for a comfortable margin over the second placed Chris Kuczaj (3/5). Arthur Milne came third with 2.5/5.

The D-section saw the only tie for first, when both Chenxi Zhao and Steve Smith scored 4/5. Robert Wilson's 3/5 was good for but third.

Finally, the E-section provided yet another clear winner as Tamir Bulga produced the popular 4/5—half a point ahead of Derek Zhang and a full point above Zeling Li who came third.

Perron, Sean (2146) - Neven, Knut (2229) [C06]

2013JohnSchleinich (5.1), 06.01.2013

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Nf3 Bd6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Bg5 Qc7 13.Rc1 h6 14.Bh4 Nh5 15.Bg6 Nf4 16.Nxf4 Bxf4 17.Bg3 Qb6

18.Rc2 Bd7 19.Re1 Bxg3 20.hxg3 Rf6 21.Bd3 Raf8 22.Rd2 Be8 23.Bb1 Bh5 24.Re3 g5 25.Qa4 Bxf3 26.gxf3 Qc7 27.Qc2 Qg7 28.Kg2 h5 29.Qd3 Rh6 30.Re1 Rff6 31.Rdd1 h4 32.Bc2 Kh8 33.a3 Rf7 34.Ba4 Nd8 35.Rc1 Qf6 36.Rh1 h3+ 37.Rxh3 Rxh3 38.Kxh3 g4+ 39.Kg2 gxf3+ 40.Kf1??



Up to here white was doing quite well. After the text move he is lost. The correct continuation was kg1!

Qh6 0-1

Daniluk, Jim (1979) - Gold, Itohan (2030)

2013JohnSchleinich (5.2), 06.01.2013

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Bb5+ c6 8.Ba4 b5 9.Bc2 b4 10.Ne2 bxc3 11.Be3 0-0 12.0-0 Ba6 13.e5 Qc7 14.f4 Rd8 15.Rf2 Bxe2 16.Qxe2 Nd7 17.f5 c5 18.fxg6 fxg6 19.Qc4+ Kh8 20.Rf7 Nb6 21.Qe6 cxd4?



After the correct 21... Qc8! Black would likely be able to defend the position. The text move allows white to conduct a nice attack to finish the game.

22.Bh6! Bxh6 23.Rxh7+ Kxh7 24.Qxg6+ 1-0

(Comments: Vlad Rekhson)

TOP 40 CFC RATED ALBERTANS

As Of March 14, 2013

1	GM Hansen, Eric	2588
2	IM Porper, Edward	2494
3	IM Wang, Richard	2460
4	FM Pechenkin, Vladimir	2428
5	Yam, Alex	2380
6	Gardner, Robert J.	2340
7	Reeve, Jeff	2326
8	Valencia, Belsar	2306
9	Kazmaier, Daniel	2296
10	Haynes, Nicolas	2282
11	Zhang, David	2280
12	FM Haessel, Dale	2272
13	Neven, Knut	2258
14	Grumic, Sasa	2227
15	Booker, Brad	2214
16	Robichaud, Martin	2204
17	Gluckie, Jamin	2200
18	Kalisvaart, Peter	2199
19	Perron, Sean	2163
20	Nguyen, Kim	2160
21	Tam, Erik	2153
22	Yearwood, Roy	2137
23	Kostadinov, Georgi	2136
24	Rekhson, Vladislav	2136
25	Miller, David	2133
26	Beaudry, Lukas	2117
27	Hughey, Micah	2109
28	Willis, Bradley J.	2100
29	Wen, Jean-Francois	2098
30	Sequillion, Aaron	2082
31	Pua, Richard	2077
32	Kazakevich, Anastasia	2074
33	Shi, Diwen	2072
34	Daniluk, Jim	2067
35	Ottosen, David	2067
36	Gold, Itohan	2058
37	Tot, Nandor	2044
38	Eshleman, Brandon	2043
39	Ebrahim-Shirazi, Behrooz	2031
40	Hamid Abdelrhman	2025

TOP 10 FIDE RATED ALBERTANS

AS OF March 1, 2013

1	GM Hansen, Eric	2557
2	IM Porper, Edward	2418
3	IM Wang, Richard	2376
4	FM Pechenkin, Vladimir	2357
5	Yam, Alex	2275
6	Reeve, Jeff	2245
7	Leuchanka, Siarhei	2221
8	Gardner, Robert J.	2217
9	Valencia, Belsar	2214
10	Kazmaier, Daniel	2184

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.
Thursday nights from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Saturday from 12:30-5 pm.
phone: 403.264.9498
website: www.calgarychess.com

Calgary Junior Chess Club
Contact: Paul Gagne
email: paul.gagne@cssd.ab.ca
website: www.calgarychess.com

University of Calgary Chess Club
email: mwanless@gmail.com

Edmonton Chess Club
#204 10840-124 St
Mondays and Thursdays 6:30 p.m. to 11
p.m.
Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
phone: 780.424.0283
website: [http://www.facebook.com/
TheEdmontonChessClub?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/TheEdmontonChessClub?fref=ts)

Grande Prairie Chess Club
Contact Tim Pradzynski
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

University of Alberta
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/>

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

Red Deer Chess Club
Contact: Alexey Taranik
phone: 403-8721062
email: taranik1978@yahoo.ca

La Crete Chess Club
Contact: Chris White
Phone or Text: (780) 821-0044 (Cell)
Email: cwnlca@gmail.com

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

University of Lethbridge Chess Club
e-mail:
gregory.d.holmes.1@facebook.com

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
826 - 11th St. S.E 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





Grande Prairie Chess Club

Contact us:

Wade Caughlin
Email :
wade.caughlin@sunlife.com
www.gpchessclub.com

Calgary Chess Club



**Tuesda274 3359 27th St.
NE
Tuesdays, Thursdays
from 7 p.m.
Saturday Junior program
1-4pm
Lessons available**

Edmonton Chess Club
#204, 10840-124 St.



**Mondays & Thursday
7-11 p.m.
Saturdays
1-5 p.m.
Phone 780.424.0283
Website
[http://www.facebook.com/
TheEdmontonChessClub?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/TheEdmontonChessClub?fref=ts)**

National Master Roy Yearwood

Calgary, AB

Chess lessons for all

A meeting with either a youth or adult student will include a goal setting session and evaluation test in order to find out where you want to go with the lessons as well as your foundation of knowledge. I think that this will help in you in getting the knowledge you need in order to play an enjoyable game of chess. This session is free and included in your lesson package.

Lesson packages are available in groups of 3, 5 and 10 sessions.

Sessions will cover topics such as position evaluation and move selection, practice in the use of tactics, analysis of your games where possible.

My rates are \$30/hr. for adults, \$20/hr. for youth (under 18) School instruction \$15/hr. per student participant with a min. of 8 participants in the class and the purchase of the 5 session package.

Participation in all sessions assumes a complete knowledge of the moves and rules of the game. If you need help in this regard you can go to www.chesskids.com and watch the video and do the introductory lessons there. School sessions will include the introduction of new material on openings and middlegame strategy and evaluation tests where necessary, a tournament where games played and recorded will be analysed and possibly rated by both The Chess Federation of Canada and The Chess and Maths Association of Canada.

I have had a recent Criminal records check with the Calgary Police Service, so if school sessions are desired, that area of security is no problem.

I realize that each of us learns a skill in our own way so instruction will include lots of questions and answers so participants should be self motivated confident and willing to give their ideas about what's going on in a position if asked. Chess when played with knowledge is quite enjoyable and challenging. I sincerely hope that I can help you in getting that knowledge. Contact me by email for more information.

fredandorroy@live.ca



Play Chess in Alberta's Universities!



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Chess Association

Contact Michael Wanless
mwanless@gmail.com



**University of Lethbridge
Chess Club**

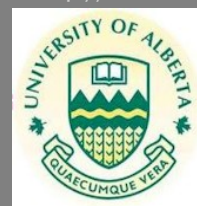
Contact Gregory Holmes
Email

gregory.d.holmes.1@facebook.com



- ◇ 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/>



2013 Calgary International Chess Classic



May 14 - 20

Best Western Village Park Inn, 1804 Crowchild Trail NW



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Calgary Chess Club



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International Section

May 14-20

GM/IM Norms possible

Format: 9 round swiss, CFC/FIDE rated

Time Control: 40/90, Game in 30 + 30 seconds, from move 1

Special Rule: No agreed draws before move 30

Arbiter: FA Ali Razzaq ali_alnajmi@hotmail.com

Chief Organizer: Jim Daniluk sacrat@shaw.ca

Confirmed participants:

1. GM Wesley So (Philippines, 2701)
2. GM Leonid Kritz (Germany, 2613)
3. GM Robin Van Kampen (Netherlands, 2592)
4. GM Eric Hansen (Canada, 2557)
5. IM Edward Porper (Canada, 2418)
6. IM Richard Wang (Canada, 2376)
7. FM Adarsh Jayakurmar (USA, 2294)
8. NM Steven Peter (Canada, 2234)
9. NM Robert J. Gardner (Canada, 2217)
10. FM Michael Langer (USA, 2211)
11. FM Dale Haessel (Canada, 2171)
12. Rob Mc Entee (USA, 2131)
13. Kim Nguyen (Canada, 2102)

More to come...

Reserves Section

May 18-20

Format: 6 round swiss, CFC/FIDE rated

Byes: Up to 2 half point byes available in rounds 1-5 and must be requested prior to start of tournament

Time Control: Game in 90 + 30 CFC membership is required and can be purchased on-site

Chief Organizer: Frank Kluytmans (fekluytmans@gmail.com)

Side events:

Lecture by: GM Leonid Kritz (At CCC)

Simul by: GM Robin Van Kampen (At CCC)

Blitz Championship

Visit to Banff

Visit the tournament website at:

www.calgaryinternationalchessclassic.com