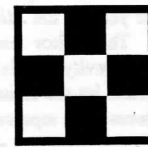


ALBERTA CHESS REPORT



A Newsletter Published by the Alberta Chess Association
August 1994
Vol. 19 No. 3

1994 CANADIAN OPEN

by John Quiring, Brad Willis & Ford Wong

John Quiring:

Canada's premiere tournament, held in Winnipeg this year, was a superb event. The site was well lit, and very roomy. Hotel accommodations were excellent and inexpensive. There were many extra-curricular activities (lectures, simuls, childrens' tournament). Every morning, a bulletin of the previous night's games was available. And the strength of the players was nothing short of astounding. Imagine this: IM Tom O'Donnell starts on board 10; Alberta champ Rob Gardner starts on board 21. Yikes!

I drove to the Open with two regular travelling buddies, Ford Wong and Rob Gardner. There were only 8 Albertans entered (an embarrassingly low turnout, I would say), and you know how these things always work—you drive for 13 hours to play chess and you end up paired against the guy in the back seat.

J. Quiring - R. Gardner (round 2)

Knowing I'd be paired up, with White against a tough opponent, I studied some Sicilian lines the night before. Roommate Rob pulled out his reference material and showed me some Najdorf variations, concentrating on attacking themes against Black's king. We were more than a little surprised to find ourselves paired the next day...

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 Avoids the Najdorf ...a6 which we had studied the night before. 6.Be3 Be7 7.Be2 0-0 8.g4 My career successes against the Rocket consist of 1 draw in 7 games. I felt I generally played too passively, and decided to change this in what will likely be our last encounter for a while (the Rocket has shot off to eastern Canada for at least a year). 8...d5 9.e5 Nd7 10.f4 Bh4+ I thought at the time this move wasn't going to be a problem, since the B must soon retreat with a loss of time. Meanwhile I'd unwind the Queen-side pieces and castle "really long", i.e. move the King one step at a time, and in the long run still have my fierce kingside attack. This turned out to be a dream, as my king quickly became poorly placed. 11.Kd2 g5 12.Nf3 d4 13.Bxd4 gxf4 14.g5 Nxe5 15.Kc1 Nxf3 16.Bxf3 These exchanges give me two powerful bishops bearing down on an exposed king, but the

undeveloped rook on a1 is a serious drawback. The problem: develop the rook without giving Black time to counter-attack. 16...Nd7 17.Be4 f5 18.gxf6 e.p. Nxf6 19.Rg1+ Kh8 Time used by White 1:14, Black 1:26. Black's pieces are tied up. Now is the time for White to play b3 and Kb3 to get the rook out. 20.Qd3? Qe7 21.Be5 At move 20, I thought this would keep Black bottled up, completely overlooking his next move. 21...Qc5 22.Bd4 Qh5 23.Bf3 Qh6 24.Ne4 a5 Black gets his rook into play; so should White. But I thought I saw something better. White has 9 minutes left, Black 8. 25.Be5 a4 26.Rg4 Ra5 27.Bxf4 Qh5 Now 28.Rg8+ wins Black's queen, but the price is too high. 28.Qc3 Rf5 29.Rg8+? The winning move is 29.Rg1, chasing Black's queen, for example: 29.Rg1 Qe8 30.Nd6 Qd8 31.Nxf5 exf5 32.Bh6 Rf7 33.Qc4 attacks rook and bishop. 29...Rxc3 30.Bxc3 Rxf4 31.Nxf6 Bxf6 32.Qc5 b6 33.Qe3 Bg5 34.Qe5+ Rg7 35.Qb5 Rf1+ (0-1). In desperate time trouble, neither Rob nor I could record the last 5 moves, which is very unusual for us.

After 8 rounds, I had 5 wins and 3 losses, which put me near the top of the Under 2000 group. Then in round 9 I grabbed my second ever master scalp, against Jack Lee of B.C.

J. Quiring - J. Lee (round 9)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.Bc4 0-0 8.f3 Nc6 9.Qd2 Ne5 10.Bb3 Bd7 11.g4 Rc8 12.h4 Nc4 13.Bxc4 Rxc4 14.0-0-0 Qc7 15.h5 Rc8 16.hxg6 fxg6 17.Nde2 Finally out of ECO. "The Book" gives 17.Kb1 Qa5 18.Nb3 Qe5 19.Bd4 Qe6 20.Qh2 Qf7 21.e5 dxe5 22.Bxe5 Be6 with advantage to White. 17...b5 18.e5! This move disrupts the coordination of Black's pieces. If 18...dxe5, 19.g5 forces away the Knight, after which the Bishop on d7 dies. 18...Nxc4 Attempts to keep up the pressure on the a1-h8 diagonal, but Black's position has too many holes. 19.exd6 exd6 20.fxg4 Bxg4 Or 20...b4 21.Qd5+ Kh8 22.Rxh7+ Kxh7 23.Rh1+ Bh6 24.Qf7+ wins. 21.Qd5+ Qf7 22.Qxf7+ Kxf7 23.Rd2 Bf5 24.Nd4 a6 25.Nxf5 gxf5 26.Nd5 Re4 27.Rxh7 Kg6 28.Rh3 R8e8 29.Rg2+ Rg4 30.R3g3 Re4 31.c3 Be5 32.Rxg4 fxc4 33.Kd2 Kh5 34.Kd3 Rc4 35.b3 Rc8 36.Bf4 (1-0). I was thinking to myself, "After 36...Bxf4 37.Nxf4+ Kh4 I haven't got a clue how to win this endgame", when suddenly my opponent re-

signed. Upon reflection, though, I think it wouldn't be too tough to win. It's not easy for Black to make progress with his dangerous pawn; for example, 38.Rg1 g3? 39.Ne2 Rg8 40.Rh1+ Kg4 41.Nxg3.

Now, with one round to go I have 6 wins and 3 losses and am alone in first in the Under 2000 group (first prize: \$550.00). Needless to say, I have happy feet. My reward for success is to be paired against Gary Basanta in the last round. Rated near 2400, Gary is one of the top 20 players in the country.

G. Basanta - J. Quiring (round 10)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.b4 That's it, I'm out of book. I knew this was the Evan's Gambit, but that was the extent of my knowledge. For the next 15 moves, I felt totally buried. It was quite exhausting; I felt I'd be resigning at any moment. 4...Bxb4 5.c3 Be7 6.d4 exd4 7.0-0 d6 8.cxd4 Nf6 9.Qb3 0-0 10.e5 dxe5 11.dxe5 Ne4 12.Rd1 Qe8 When you have to make moves like this, you know your position is pathetic. 13.Bd5 Nc5 14.Qc4 Be6 15.Nc3 Rd8 16.Ba3 Na5 17.Qe2 c6 18.Bxe6 Nxe6 As the pieces come off, Black frees his position. 19.Bb2 Bc5 20.Ne4 Qe7 21.g3 b6 22.h4 Rxd1+ Black can force even more trades, because White cannot let Black have the d-file. With each trade, Black's position gets better. 23.Rxd1 Rd8 24.Nxc5 Rxd1+ 25.Qxd1 Nxc5 26.Qc2 h6 Now look what has happened. Black is suddenly winning; in fact, with the 3-on-1 pawn majority on the queenside, he probably has a won game. This was very disorienting, because I felt I was lost up until now. And, as usual, I'm in time trouble, with only 20 minutes left until move 40. 27.Kg2 Qd7 28.Bd4 Ne6 29.Qf5 c5 30.Bc3 Nc6 31.Qe4 b5 32.g4 b4 33.Bd2 Ncd4 I had to decide whether to play for the win, or offer a draw. A draw would guarantee me at least a tie for first place in the Under 2000 category, which would be worth hundreds of dollars. A win would give me first place outright, but a loss would be worth almost nothing. On the other hand, how often do you get the chance to squeeze a very strong player? With my move, in effect I asked my opponent whether he would settle for a draw. 34.Qa8+ Kh7 35.Qe4+ My opponent will settle for a draw; I repeat the position again

(Continued on page 3...)

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

Editor: Len Steele

Alberta Chess Association
Box 11839 Main P.O.
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3K9

ACA Board of Directors

President: Ted Wilson
Vice-President: Barney Fegyvermeki
Secretary: Dale Haessel
Treasurer: John Quiring
Past-President: Ford Wong
Directors: Rand Dodd, Phil Lefkowitz, David Ottosen, Len Steele, Brian Starkes, Bernie Tynan, Paul Usselman, Warrick Walker.

Membership Fees

ACA-Senior \$5 per year
ACA-Junior \$3 per year
ACA-Participating \$1 per year

* (CFC dues increase Sept. 1)

'Junior' & 'Participating' memberships to those 17 years of age or less (submit birthdate). Participating members don't get *En Passant* or *ACR*. Life memberships available. Yearly CFC membership includes ACA (required for Albertans): sr-\$30 (\$35 Sept. 1); jr-\$18 (\$23 Sept. 1); partic.-\$8 (\$11 Sept. 1). Provide player's full name, address and CFC number (if previous member). State if female. If sending info to ACA, phone # appreciated.

ACR Deadline

Material for inclusion in the next *ACR* should be received by: **October 21**. Items received after that date may be delayed to a later *ACR*.

Reminder to Tournament Directors

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

Clubs

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

Organizers of Events

Please send *ACR* details well in advance.

Always Get a Receipt

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

ALBERTA CHESS CLUBS

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

CALGARY CC

Meets: Sandman Inn (Blackgold Room), 7th Ave & 8th St SW, Tues. 7:00-11:00.
Info: Barney Fegyvermeki (243-6351; mail: c/o 1724-49 Ave SW, Calgary T2T 2T9).

Regular Tournaments

Sept 6 - Oct 18, Fall Open
(TD Chuck Mousseau; 248-9271)
Nov 1 - Dec 13, Club Championship
(TD Tim McMurphy; 269-2783)

Speed Tournaments (Grand Prix series)

(TD: Ted Wilson, 547-3441)
Oct 25—#1; Dec 20—#2.

Active Tournaments ('Summer Fun' series)

[6 rounds, 3/night; TDs to be announced]
Aug 16 & 23—#4

Skittles: Aug 30, Dec 27.

EDMONTON CC

Meets: Oliver Community Hall, 10326-118 St, Thurs., 7:00-11:00. [There may be a tournament beginning the 1st or 2nd (?) Thursday in September—be there or call ahead... - ed.]
Info: Kurt Lauterwald (434-7536; mail: c/o 4736-105A St, Edmonton T6H 2P3).

GRANDE PRAIRIE CC

Meets: Royal Canadian Legion, 9912-101 Ave, Tues., 7:00 p.m. (Sept. 1 - Apr. 30).
Info: Phil Lefkowitz (538-1903; mail: c/o 9305-74 Ave, Grande Prairie T8V 6G2).

HINTON CC

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

NORTHERN COMMUNITIES CC

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

RIMBEY CC

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

RED DEER CC

Meets: Red Deer College, room 907, Thurs., 7:00-11:00 (Sept. to May long weekend).
Info: Henry Vandervaart (341-3415, mail: c/o #307, 40 Cardinal Ave, Red Deer T4P 2T1).

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA CC

Meets: SUB (basement), approx. 11:00-4:00 weekdays, September-April.
Info: David Bullas (440-3966; mail: Box 92, SUB, U of A, Edmonton T6G 2J7).

Top-Rated Albertans

(as of June 27/94 rating supplement)

Rob Hawkes	2353
Greg Huber	2347
Rob Gardner	2303
Arniel Frialde	2260
Arthur Odachowski	2220
Sardul Purewal	2215
Dale Haessel	2195
Ted Wilson	2177
Chris Demers	2168
Neil Sharp	2152
Warrick Walker	2139
Dale Haukenfrers	2131
Hafiz Karmali	2112
Adam Wu	2078
Paul Usselman	2075
Wilf Lahrkamp	2074
Farzan Nazarian	2046
Barney Fegyvermeki	2032
Jim Daniluk	2021
John Parrott	2007
Lev Gorelik	2248/10*
Sé (Shay) Randall	2129/9*
Nandor Tot	2121/14*

* = provisional rating/games played (min. 5)

Only current or 'recent' (expired in about the past year) Alberta ACA members are included. Members not known (by the *ACR* editor) to have played in a regular-rated Alberta tournament in about the past year are: G. Campbell 2160; M. Rabljenovic 2145; Z. Baunok 2131; B. Willis 2111; O. Farid 2058; K. Salmon 2013.

Qualifying for the 1995 Alberta Closed

Players who want to be sure they meet qualification requirements should check the rules published on page 3 of the February/94 *ACR* (or write the ACA for info). Your written registration must be received by March 10, 1995—invitations are not issued.

Canadian Correspondence Chess Assoc.

Young/old, experts/beginners can enjoy chess by mail! A wide variety of tournaments is available, in your class and in open events leading to the Canadian Championship. You can also play in our international program. Make friends and enjoy yourself in the comfort of your home! Exciting and instructive games plus 6 issues of *CHECK!* for an annual membership fee of only \$21 regular, or \$18 if under 18 (junior) or over 65 (senior). For more info and/or a sample copy of *CHECK!* (only \$4), write:

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

Tournament Schedule
• see the back page •

(1994 Canadian Open, continued...)

to get closer to time control before I have to make the crucial decision. 35...Kg8 36.Qa8+ Kh7 37.Qe4+ 37...g6 would play for a win, and 37...Kg8 repeats the position for the third time. I had 3 minutes to make 4 moves, and a big prize wrapped up, so I claimed a draw by repetition. (0.5-0.5)

I finished with 6.5/10, in a 3-way tie for first in the Under 2000 category, worth \$450.00. Fellow Albertan Neil Sharp had watched the game, and said to me, "So you chickened out? Wise chicken."

The Spraggett Lecture

Of the numerous lectures by GMs and IMs, I could only attend Kevin Spraggett's, along with Ford and Rob. [I got quite a surprise before the tournament's first round, when Ford and I were in the cavernous playing hall. Ford had once mentioned he had previously met Kevin, and wondered if Kevin would remember him. Suddenly we see Kevin walking purposefully toward us, thrusting out his hand, and saying, "Hi Ford, how are you? How are the kids, you have a daughter, Stephanie, right?" "Yes", said Ford, "and a son named Kevin". "Good name", said Kevin.]

Kevin Spraggett is, arguably, Canada's best chess player ever. In his fascinating talk, which lasted almost 2 hours, Kevin discussed his fifth round game against David Ross. He talked more about general principles than deep variations, and mentioned psychological precepts on many occasions. Here's the game and some of Kevin's comments (direct quotes or paraphrases of his comments):

K. Spraggett - D. Ross

1.c4 Kevin had been planning on opening with 1.e4, but was afraid that Dave, perhaps with the aid of his roommates, was preparing some French Defense lines, so he changed his mind at the last minute. 1...f5 Kevin thinks that 1...f5 as a response to both c4 and d4 will become increasingly popular in the future, as players become bored with the heavily analyzed d4 and e4 lines. 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 "I looked into the eyes of my opponent to see if he was happy. After 5.d3, he looked less happy." Kevin stressed the importance of self control while at the board. It is the only thing you have full control over during the game. Never give your opponent any information by showing discomfort, surprise, etc. 5.d3 0-0 6.e4 e5 This is the "Botvinnik" position, and Kevin likes it for White. It suits his quiet, manoeuvring style of chess and provides a flexible pawn structure supported from behind by the pieces. White

has an ongoing option to play for d4 or f4. 7.Nge2 d6 8.0-0 c6 9.exf5 gxf5 10.d4 Be6 11.b3 Na6 12.Rb1 This is strictly a waiting move to see what Black wants to do. "You should always have a plan. In this position, waiting to see what your opponent will do is a very logical plan." 12...Bf7 13.Bg5 Nc7 14.d5 c5 15.Qc2 Bh5 Kevin spoke in general terms about quiet, boring positions, saying that some players hate "dull" moves. But sometimes a boring move is the best move there is, and even apparently boring positions often have a bit of venom. Besides, you don't win by making good moves. "No matter how many good moves you make, you only win because of the mistakes of your opponent." 16.Rbe1 Qd7 17.f4 e4 18.h3 Rae8 19.Kh2 Bg6 20.Nd1 b5 21.Ne3 bxc4 22.bxc4 Rb8 23.Rb1 h5 Both sides stand badly, the question is who stands less badly. 24.Bh4 Kf7 25.Rfd1 Na6 26.Bf1 Rb6 27.Nc3 Rfb8 28.Rb3 Nc7 29.Rdb1 Nfe8 30.Be2 Bd4 31.Qd2 Kg8 32.Bd1 Qg7 33.Ne2 Rxb3 34.Rxb3 Rxb3 35.axb3 Na6 36.Nc2 Bb2 37.Qa5 Qb7 38.Qa4 Nac7 39.Ne3 Qb4 40.Qxb4 cxb4 41.Nc2 Na6 42.Ncd4 Nc5 43.Nc6 Nd3 44.Nxa7 Bf6 45.Kg2 Kf7 46.Nb5 Ke7 47.Nbd4 Nc7 48.Bxf6+ Kxf6 49.h4 Na6 50.Nc2 Nac5 51.Ned4 Be8 52.Ne3 Bg6 53.Kf1 Na6 54.Ke2 Ndc5 55.Bc2 Bh7 56.Kd2 Bg6 57.Bd1 Nd3 58.Be2 Ndc5 59.Kc2 Nb8 60.Kb1 Nba6 61.Kb2 Nb7 62.Nc6 Be8 63.Nc2 Bxc6 64.dxc6 Na5 65.Nxb4 (1-0)

Ford Wong:

The 1994 Canadian Open, held in Winnipeg, July 9-17 was very classy and well run. Everything was top notch. My compliments to Peter Stockhausen and his organizing committee. The entire week was filled with chess activities: lectures (Spraggett, Petursson, Finegold, Arnason, Hergott, O'Donnell), simul (Tukmakov, Hodgson, Ivanov), and additional specialized tournaments (speed chess, siamese chess, a Junior's only) and the CFC Annual General Meeting. All players were given a package containing a Canadian Open brochure, rules to be used, information on Winnipeg, etc. There was a daily news bulletin with the results of the previous night's games, including most of the game scores from the top twenty boards. The CFC had its entire stock of equipment and books for sale—I took advantage of the opportunity, as did many others, to add to my chess book collection, saving on shipping and handling costs.

There were 187 players including 6 Grandmasters, 6 International Masters, and 11 FIDE Masters. The average rating of the 171 rated players was 1855. The average

rating of the top 10 players was 2531. The average rating of the top 20 players was 2451. Geographical origin: MB-88, ON-46, BC-15, SK-10, AB-8, USA-8, PQ-4, NWT-1, NB-1, NS-1; plus 2 GMs from Iceland, and 1 GM each from England, Ukraine, and Phillipines. I'm somewhat disappointed with the low turnout of Albertans—with such a high calibre event so close to Alberta, I expected more.

With so many top notch players, the 1994 Canadian Open gave everyone a chance to play a GM, titled players, masters and experts. It allowed me to put faces to the names in *En Passant*, to renew acquaintances with people I'd not seen for many years, and gave me a chance to make new friends.

The 1994 Canadian Open was won by GM Vladimir Tukmakov, followed by GM Julian Hodgson. There was an 8-way tie for third. The Speed Chess tournament was won by IM Ben Finegold.

I played three masters: Sasata, Dougherty and ex-Alberta's own Rob Gardner, and was 0-3. Except for Sasata, I felt that I had good positions but fell short. Overall, I realized I still have a long way to go if I want to become a master class player. It became very obvious, after hanging around a few of them, how many light years ahead they were with respect to understanding the game. It was interesting to see how they viewed aspects of a game, such as after the opening has been completed (with the various lines played, etc.), the rest is viewed as: "and now a game of chess breaks out". I was also privy to some very interesting chess stories which a lot of the players seemed to have. That's where I learned about "Zuk Year", "Zuk Point", etc.

I was disappointed with my performance and on one occasion very embarrassed (a horrible showing at the Hodgson simul). This comes from not having played any real "GOOD" games and an inability to reach "Zuk point" (phrase I learned from FM Ray Stone). I only managed to score 5/10 (including a 1 point bye which originally was a 1 point default win, but was changed when the TD remembered my opponent had asked for a bye). When paired up, I played well but was unable to collect any scalps. In the later rounds, I played poorly and without inner patience. Perhaps attending 3 days of CFC meetings, fighting a cough, the late nights and a general lack of sleep took their toll on my play. The ultimate disappointment came in round 9 when I allowed myself to stoop to the level of my opponent (B class) and played his coffee house type of game—I had no worse than a draw but fell asleep in the endgame. Scalping me made his day. After the game, a master, to remain nameless, said I should have played like the "Yipean" python.

There was only one complaint about the tournament—the computer program which was used to make the pairings. It came up with several very strange pairings. An obvious problem with the program was an inability to change things when one needed to.

Other than my poor showing, I was very happy to see my travelling companion and fellow “mooer” John Quiring have an exceptional tournament and capture a share of first in the under 2000 Class. Brad Willis, another Edmontonian, also had a good tournament. Brad and Rob Gardner played several of their games at the “red tables” where us mere mortals were not allowed (John made it to a red table for his last round game). I know that my other regular travelling companion, the Ottomieser, would love to have played as there were lots of good scalps to collect. I told some masters and experts, including a GM, that they were lucky we didn’t bring him, but they didn’t seem the least bit worried. Oh, well!

To conclude, I’d like to thank my wife, who took on the kids by herself for a week, for letting me go to this tournament.

Ford Wong (1960) - Mike Dougherty (2259)

In this round 4 game, I managed to secure a long term advantage, but could not get my pieces coordinated and ran low on time.

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.e4 Nf6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 Nbd7 7.Qd2 c5 8.d5 a6 9.Bd3 Ne5 10.Nge2 e6 11.0-0 exd5 12.exd5 Qa5 13.Ng3 Bd7 14.a3 Rae8 15.b4 Qc7 16.bxc5 dxc5 17.Bf4 Qa5 18.Rab1 Bc8 19.Rfd1 Nfg4! 20.Nge4?! [better 20.Nge2] Nxd3 21.Qxd3 Bd4+ 22.Kf1 f5 23.Nxc5 Bxc5 24.d6 Rf7 25.Re1 Rd8 26.Re7 Rxe7 27.dxe7 Bxe7 28.Nd5 Qxa3 29.Qxa3 [White’s flag has fallen.] 29...Bxa3 30.fxg4 fxg4 (0-1)

Mike Shpan (1753) - Ford Wong (1960)

A B-class round 7 game where my opponent used strictly minor league tactics and ignored positional elements. I got lucky in the end-game to win. It took over 6 hours to do so! 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Qxd4 Nc6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bxf6 gxf6 10.Nh4 Rg8 11.g3 Qc8 12.Qd3 Rb8 13.b3 Bh3 14.f3 h5 15.Ne2 Qc7 16.Nf4 Bd7 17.Qc3 Rg5 *Protecting the h-pawn, however, I thought White would eventually play f4, taking away a valuable square for his knight.* 18.Nd5 Qb7 19.f4 Rg8 20.Ne3 e6 21.Rd1 d5 22.Qd4 c5 23.Qd2 d4 24.Neg2 Qxe4+ 25.Qe2 Qd5 25...f5. *I played Qd5, figuring he’d play 26.c4, giving me a protected passed pawn.* 26.c4 Qc6 27.Qxh5 f5 28.Qe2 Be7 29.0-0 Bc8 30.Nf3 Bb7 31.Ne5 Qc7 32.Qh5 Bd6 33.Qh7 Rf8 34.Qg7 Bxe5 35.Qxe5 Qc6 *Thinking he might go for 36.Qxb8+ Ke7 37.Qxf8+ followed by Rd2, but I planned 36..Kd7!* 36.Rd2 Qc8 37.Nh4

Be4 *Threatening to trap the Queen.* 38.Qg7 a5 39.Nf3 Bxf3 40.Rxf3 Qc6 41.Kf2 a4 42.Qe5 Kd7 43.h4 43.bxa4 *followed by 44.Rb3 is better.* 43...axb3 44.Rxb3 Rxb3 45.axb3 f6 46.Qe3 Ra8 47.Qf3 Qxf3+ 48.Kxf3 Ra3 49.Rb2 e5 50.h5?! e4+ 51.Kg2 Ke6 52.b4 cxb4 53.Rxb4 Ra2+ 54.Kh3 d3 55.Rb6+ Kf7 56.Rd6 d2 57.g4 Ra3+ 58.Kh4 Rd3 59.Rb6 d1=Q 60.Rb7+ Rd7 61.Rxd7+ Qxd7 *White played to the bitter end.* 73. (0-1)

Simul with GM Julian Hodgson

The ‘94 Canadian Open featured several simul (by Tukmakov, Hodgson and Ivanov). Ford Wong and John Quiring played in the 20 player simul by English GM Julian Hodgson. The first participant eliminated was none other than Alberta’s own Ford Wong, who was very embarrassed, as he overlooked a mate in 1. His elimination was accompanied by several thank you’s from other players for saving them from being the first. Hodgson finished with +18 -1 =1. The only draw went to John Quiring when Hodgson played into John’s backyard: a King’s Gambit. Several days later, in a casual conversation with Hodgson, he paid John a compliment about their game: “After you played h6, I thought I could come over and eat up all your kingside pieces, and then you played an ingenious move that really “explicative deleted” me off. Funny, how GMs can remember all their games! He even remembered mating Ford!

I. Hodgson - J. Quiring

Annotated by John Quiring

I was just barely able to squeeze in this, my first simul, what with seemingly endless CFC Governor and Executive meetings. Fortunately, CFC Pres. Yves Farges wanted to play in the simul too. I expected Hodgson to play aggressively and try to wipe me off the board. 1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.d4 Bg7 5.h4 h6 6.hxg5 hxg5 7.Rxh8 Bxh8 8.g3 g4 ECO lists only 8...d5, leading to a small advantage for Black. 9.Ne5 Bxe5 10.dxe5 f3 *I was very happy with this position; my pawns are dangerous, his are a mess.* 11.Nc3 Nc6 12.Bf4 Nge7 13.Nd5 Nxd5 *Wins another pawn, but at the expense of development. White’s pieces are finding good squares.* 14.exd5 Nxe5 *I think I surprised him with this move, as he spent over 30 seconds studying the position. That’s a long time in a simul. If 15.Bxe5 Qe7 16.Qd4 d6 wins the piece back.* 15.d6 cxd6 16.Qxd6 Ng6 17.0-0 Qe7 18.Bd3 *The threat 19.Bf5 is difficult to answer.* 18...Nxf4 19.Qxf4 d5 *Now ...Be6 followed by ...0-0-0 solves a lot of Black’s problems, but unfortunately White gets to make moves too.* 20.Rh1 *Suddenly checkmate looms.* 20...a6 21.Rh8+ Kd7 22.Qxg4+ Kc7 23.Qf4+ Kb6 24.Kd2

Ka7 *Protecting the rook, to free the bishop.* 25.c3 b6 26.Qxf3 *My dangerous pawns are gone, as are his messed up ones. I was thinking that a draw would be a good result now.* 26...Be6 27.Rh4 Qg5+ 28.Qf4 Rg8 29.Qxg5 Rxg5 30.Ra4 Rxg3 31.Bxa6 Rg2+ 32.Be2+ Kb7 33.Rf4 Kc6 34.a4 Rh2 35.Ke3 Kd6 36.Rb4 Kc5 37.Rf4 Kd6 38.b4 Ke5 39.Rf2 Rh3+ *Against White’s centrally-placed king, the passed f-pawn didn’t look very threatening. On the other hand, I was unsure how dangerous White’s threat of creating a passer by a5 was. I didn’t have to find out.* 40.Rf3 Rh1 *“Do you want a draw?” he asked.* “Yup”, I said. *He signed my scoresheet and the game was over.* (0.5-0.5)

Julian Hodgson (2570) - Ford Wong (1960)

Annotated by Ford Wong

An embarrassment. 1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 g6 *I was not prepared to play against the Trompovsky— thanks to whoever it was that told me after the game that this is one of Hodgson favorite openings!* 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.h4 d5 5.h5 Nc6 6.e3 Bf5 7.c4 Bb4+ 8.Nc3 Qd7 9.Nge2 0-0? *I thought I could wrestle the open h-file from him!* 10.hxg6 hxg6 11.Nf4 Ne7 *For some reason I thought 11...Kg7, with the idea of...Rh8, failed to 12.Nh5+ 12.Qf3 Be4 13.Qg3 Bxc3+ 14. bxc3 Nf5?? 15.Qh3 Rfe8 16.Qh8+# Oops!* (1-0)

Brad Willis:

During the Canadian Open I learned, or in some cases re-learned, and in a few cases even inculcated for the benefit of others, the following lessons:

1. *Watch out for any player who:*

(a) *has his own chess store*—like Fred Lindsay, who wears a t-shirt that reads “Lindsay Chess Supplies Ltd.” Maybe he just had the t-shirt made up to intimidate guys like me. If so, it worked. As White against the French Defence I was in deep trouble after the 8th move [Willis (2111) - Lindsay (2301), round 3: 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qb6 6.Be2 cxd5 7.cxd5 Nh6 8.b3?]. 8.Nc3 was obligatory, as I found out later when I looked it up. Even Victor Kupreichik, the expert in this line, suffered a “brutal” loss (according to Soltis) when he essayed ‘8.b3?’.

(b) *has a name ending in “ic”*—like Djordje Vlaovic, a personable FM now living in Winnipeg, who unfortunately knows the White side of the Vienna game rather well [Vlaovic (2324) - Willis (2111), round 5: 1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 Bb4 4.Bg2 O-O 5.Nge2 Re8 6.O-O c6?! 7.d4 d6 8.h3 exd4 9.Qxd4 Bc5 10.Qd1 Be6? (had to try 10...a6) 11.b3 d5 12.e5 Ne4 13.Bxe4 dxe4 14.Qxd8 Rxd8 15.Bg5 Rd7 16.Nxe4, when Black found he’d

given up a pawn for the tautological compensation of being a pawn down].

(c) *speaks Russian*—like WIM Nava Starr. In the last round, on the principle of “no guts, no glory”, I tried for a “brilliancy”, and was left contemplating my entrails:

B. Willis (2111) - N. Starr (2223)

1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 Nf6 3.f4 c5 4.e3 Nc6 5.Bb5 Bf5 6.Nf3 e6 7.Ne5 Qb6 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.O-O Bd6 10.Kh1 O-O 11.Nc3 Rfd8 12.Ne2 Bxe5 13.fxe5 Nd7 14.Ng3 Bg6 15.h4 h6 16.h5 Bh7 17.Qg4 Qb4 18.Rf4 Qxd2 19.Raf1 Rf8 20.R1f2 Qa5 21.Rf6 Qe1+ 22.Nf1 Nxf6 23.exf6 g5 24.hxg e.p. Bxg6 25.Qf4 Kh7 26.g4 Rg8 27.Be5 Be4+ 28.Kg1 Rxc4+ 29.Qxc4 Rg8 30.Qg7+ Rxc7 31.fxc7 Bg6 32.Rf4 Qe2 33.Ra4 Be4 34.Rxe4 fxe4 35.c3 Qg5+ 36.Ng3 f6 (0-1)

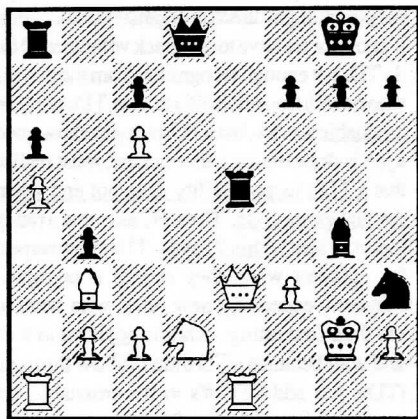
Why, instead of the evidently unsound p-sac 18.Rf4?!, did I not play 18.d4, with a crushing bind and Bc1 or e4 or both to follow in due course (18...Nxe5 loses to 19.Qf4)? Answer: *hubris*. More proof that it was this, not the salad, that did in the ancient Greeks. In this tragedy, I'd have preferred to see Ms. Starr in the role of Iphigenia at Aulis rather than Hera.

2. Theorem: The best way to beat a superior opponent is to mix it up tactically. Corollary: Never underestimate a man who overestimates himself.

Going into round 8, I was 5-2 and was once again on one of the top 20 boards. Remembering the above-cited theorem, I decided to make sure there was hand-to-hand combat. It proved to be a tremendous battle, going right down to the wire in the endgame:

D. Kirton (2239) - B. Willis (2111)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 O-O 8.a4 b4 9.a5 d5 10.exd5 e4 11.dxc6 exf3 12.d4 Bg4 13.Bf4 Re8 14.Qd3 Nh5 15.Be5 Bf6 16.Nd2 Bxe5 17.dxe5 fxc2 18.f3 Nf4 19.Qe3 Nh3+ 20.Kxg2 Rxe5



21.Qxe5 Qxd2+ 22.Re2 Nf4+ 23.Kf2 Nxe2

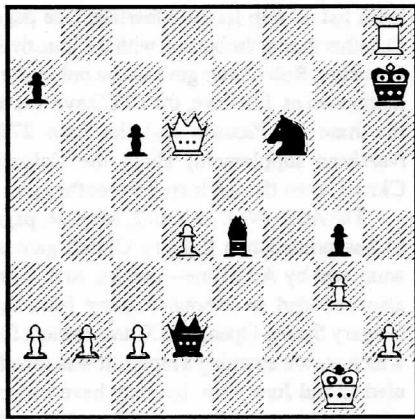
24.Qxe2 Qd4+ 25.Qe3 Qxe3+ 26.Kxe3 Re8+ 27.Kf2 Be6 28.Ba4 g6 29.Rd1 Kg7 30.Rd4 Rb8 31.Ke3 Kf6 32.Kd2 Ke5 33.c3 bxc3+ 34.Kxc3 Bd5 35.f4+ Ke6 36.b4 h6 37.Bb3 Rb5 38.Ba4 Rb8 39.Bb3 Rb5 40.Bc4 Bxc4 41.Kxc4 Rh5 42.Rd7 Rxh2 43.Rxc7 Rc2+ 44.Kb3 Kd6 45.Rxf7 Rxc6 46.b5 axb5 47.Kb4 Ke6 48.Kxb5 Rc1 49.Rb7 Rb1+ 50.Kc6 Rc1+ 51.Kb6 Rf1 52.a6 Rxf5 53.a7 Ra4 54.Rb8 Rxa7 55.Kxa7 Kf5 56.Kb6 h5 57.Kc5 h4 58.Kd4 Kf4 59.Rf8+ Kg3 60.Rg8 Kf2! (draw)

During the game, I couldn't see a clear win after 23.Kg3, and in our post-mortems White's king always got away, sometimes as far as h6, aiding a back-rank mate by covering g7. “Hey!” said Dale, “I trusted you!” I was astonished at how many good ideas he had to keep White's winning chances alive; e.g., I didn't consider 28.Ba4!?!; nor did I anticipate 46.b5!. Fortunately, I was able to find the tricks that held the draw. Toward the end, I got too cute with 56...h5 (56...g5 was the easy way), and almost came a cropper. In the final position, he spent 45 minutes looking at 61.Ra8 h3 62.Ra2+ Kg1 63.Ke3 h2 64.Kf3 h1=Q+ 65.Kg3, when 65...Qh8 prevents the threatened mate on a1 and, despite the g6-pawn's interference, Black's queen can always get to a square that prevents mate. He should get extra points for artistic merit, just for *thinking* of such an idea.

In the next round, a tactical shot also held the fort against Gary Basanta:

B. Willis (2111) - G. Basanta (2379)

1.f4 e5 2.fxe5 d6 3.exd6 Bxd6 4.Nf3 g5 5.d4 g4 6.Ng5 f5 7.e4 h6 8.e5 hxg5 9.exd6 cxd6 10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.Qe2+ Kf7 12.O-O Qf6 13.Nc3 Kg7 14.g3 Nc6 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.Qd2 Rh5 17.Ne4 Qh6 18.Nxg5 Kg6 19.Qb4 Rxc5 20.Qxd6+ Nf6 21.Bxg5 Qxc5 22.Rae1 Re8 23.Re5 Qd2 24.Rf1xf5 Bxf5 25.Rxe8 Be4 26.Rg8+ Kh7 27.Rh8+



Kg6 28.Rg8+ Kh7 29.Rh8+ Kg7

30.Qe7+ Kg6 31.Rg8+ Nxg8 32.Qxe4+ Kf7 33.Qh7+ Kf8 34.Qf5+ Ke7 35.Qh7+ Kf8 36.Qf5+ Ke8 37.Qg6+ Kf8 38.Qf5+ [White claimed 3-fold repetition] (draw)

The subtext to this game was interesting. Basanta evidently didn't want to risk letting me play the unclear sacrificial line 8...Be7 9.Nh3 gxh3 10.Qh5+ Kf8 11.Bc4 etc., perhaps (wrongly) thinking that I had subjected it to a thorough analysis. This is a typical mistake made by superior players: they're booked up on *their* pet lines, so figure *you'll* be booked up on what they assume are *your* pet lines. So, as in this case, they play something inferior, trusting you'll reply with something even more inferior. Basanta's trust was not misplaced here. After 10.Bd3, instead of 10.Bb5+?, he would've been in for a very rough time (can't say for sure; young Gary was understandably disappointed after the game and wouldn't analyze it). As it was, I still got a pretty good position: but though I avoided tricks like the threat of 14...Rhx2!, I could see nothing better than 17.Ne4, hoping something decisive would turn up after 18...Kg6. Nothing did, unfortunately, but my position retained lots of tactical juice, though (it appears) only enough to draw. I'm morally certain that Basanta thought, when I played 24.Rf1xf5, that I was envisaging 26.Rxe4 in response to 25...Be4; in which case 26...Qd1+ followed by 27...Qf3+ picks up the rook. Note that only Black has winning chances in the N vs Ps ending that follows the tempting 33.Qf4+; Black's g-pawn acts as a decoy and White is in danger of being rolled up on the q-side.

I like to think that this game softened Basanta up for John Quiring in the last round, although John was evidently playing well enough that he did not need any preliminary ministrations from me to handle his opponents.

I also won 5 games, most in decent style after a good fight. The tournament organization was first-rate, the atmosphere was pleasant, and it was rather exciting to be so close to Olympus—even if only the foothills thereof—in the form of all those GMs, IMs and FMs.

Thanks to John Quiring, Ford Wong and Brad Willis for their excellent reports on the 1994 Canadian Open! (Don't you wish you could have been there?)

The ACR's 'main job' is to report on events within Alberta, but we are happy to bring to you stories of the activities of Albertans outside the province.

Red Deer Open
by John Quiring

The Red Deer Open is held every year in Red Deer (which probably accounts for the name of the tournament). It is a five-round, two-day event, and twelve players competed this year. Neil Sharp was both organizer and tournament director.

Edmontonians dominated from beginning to end, taking the top five places. They were led by Rob Gardner, who won five straight games (ho, hum). Second place went to Gerald Aspler with 3.5/5. Top Under 1800 was captured by Gordy Cannon with 2.5, followed by Cor Dewindt and Jens Kaastrup at 2. Top Junior was Nathan McLean.

D. Ottosen - R. Gardner (Round 2)

Notes by Ottosen

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 d6 In an attempt to avoid another not so wonderful experience against the Rocket (see Gardner - Ottosen, NAO), I decided to play a solid positional game. 4...d6 is described by GM Soltis as 'an example of how Black used to play in the Neanderthal Era'. 5.Bg2 Be6 6.d3 Be7 7.a3 h6 Each side is making preparations for wing attacks; usually this is only done after the centre has stabilized. However, whereas White is thinking only of pawn storms, Black is also thinking of using pieces, as 7...h6 prepares Qd7-Bh3. 8.0-0 Qd7 9.Re1 0-0 The immediate 9...e4 is answered by 10.Nd2 exd3 11.exd3, when White has control of the open file, an open

diagonal, and is ready to play d4. 10.b4 e4 11.b5 exf3 12.bxc6 bxc6 12...Qxc6 13.Bxf3 d5 could also be considered, but the pin on the pawn keeps Black slightly uncomfortable. 13.Bxf3 Ng4!? A strange looking move, but with several merits: 1. Black can take the a1-h8 diagonal; 2. The knight can be repositioned on e5; 3. It confused me, and I started to worry about phantom sacrifices on f2 and h2. However, this leads to a sequence that allows White to gain more space. 14.Rb1 Bf6 15.Ne4 Bd4 16.e3 Bb6 17.d4! This is the position I had in mind after 13...Ng4. The freeing d4 is now possible because of 17...Bxc4?? 18.Bxg4. 17...d5 18.cxd5 cxd5 19.Nc3 Nf6 20.Bd2 Bf5 21.Rc1 Bg4? Oncoming time pressure may have had a hand in this move (Black has 20 minutes to reach move 40). A move such as Rfe8, aiding in the domination of e4, would likely be better. In a recent ACR (Vol. 19, No. 2, May/94; page 7), John Quiring described Sicilian positions as ridiculously complex. I, however, would prefer calculating tactics to evaluating positional pros and cons. Here, I considered that White has a hole on e4 and a bad dark-squared B. As compensation, he has a target in the backward c7 pawn. I initiated here a plan where I attempted to improve my bad B, while removing one of the key defenders on c7, Black's dark-squared B. All this positional planning is wonderful, but... 22.Bxg4? Of course, 22.Nxd5! Nxd5 23.Bxg4 is a vastly superior position for White: an extra pawn, the two B's, and Ford distracting Rob by

constantly dropping his pen cap. 22...Nxc4 23.Na4 Nf6 24.Bb4 Rfe8 25.Nc5 Bxc5 26.Bxc5 Ne4 Continuing the plan mentioned on move 21. I felt at that time that I could always eliminate the hole on e4 with a timely f3. Now, though, visions of a knight dancing through me via g5-h3 started. In fact, 27.f3 Ng5 28.Qe2, with the ideas of Qg2 and e4, looks fine for White. 27.Qh5 Re6 28.f3 Ng5 29.h4?? Nh7? Again, probably due to time pressure (8 minutes left). 29...g6 30.Qxh6 Nxf3+ or 29...g6 30.Qg4 f5 both win for Black. I'm not sure what my excuse is. 30.e4 Rg6 31.Kh2 dxe4 32.fxe4 Nf6 33.Qf5 Qb5! 33...Qxf5 34.exf5 Rg4 35.Re7 looks favourable for White. 34.Rb1? Faced with invasion on the Q-side and a siege against g3, White panics. 34.e5 was best, with 33...Qb3 34.Rg1 Nd5 leaving White at least in one piece. 34...Qd3 35.Qh3?? Nxe4 36.Rg1 Nd2! 37.Rbd1 Nf3+ 38.Kh1 Nxc1! 39.Rxg1 Qf3+ 40.Kh2 Re8 41.Bxa7 Qxa3 (0-1) Oh, well!

G. Aspler - R. Gardner

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 c5 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.Nf3 Qb6 5.b3 Nc6 6.e3 d5 7.Be2 cxd4 8.Nxd4 g6 9.c3 Bg7 10.0-0-0 11.Nd2 Nxd4 12.cxd4 Bf5 13.g4 Be6 14.Bd3 Rac8 15.Qe2 Rc3 16.h3 Rfc8 17.Rad1 a6 18.Rfe1 Bf8 19.Nb1 R3c7 20.Qb2 Qc6 21.Kg2 Qd7 22.Rc1 f5 23.Rxc7 Rxc7 24.f3 fxg4 25.hxg4 Bxg4 26.Qf2 Bf5 27.e4 Be6 28.Rh1 Bg7 29.Qh4 h5 30.e5 Rc8 31.Na3 Bf5 32.Bxf5 Qxf5 33.Qe7 Bf8 34.Qxb7 Bxa3 35.Qxa6 Rc2+ 36.Kg3 Qg5+ (0-1)

Chess Simuls
by John Quiring

A 'simul' is an event where a strong chess player plays simultaneously against many opponents. This is a lot of fun for everyone. The strong player gets enjoyment from winning most of the games, and the opponents have the best chance they'll ever have of beating a good player.

This is also a good way to promote chess, as simuls can often be held in malls and other public places. In Alberta there have been a number of simuls recently. In Calgary, at least three simuls have been held at the Stampede grounds and in malls, put on by Barney Fegyverneki, Ted Wilson, Chuck Mousseau and Lee Nagle. In Edmonton, Alberta Junior champ Adam Wu played against participants in the Junior High School Championship, after the tournament was over.

Anyone willing to organize a simul can usually find a mall willing to help out, and strong players can be found at the local club—or contact the ACA and we'll find one for you.

1994 Calgary Closed

Rob Hawkes is the 1994 Calgary Closed Champion. Rob is busy articling (law), but found some time at the start of the year to play in this Calgary Chess Club tournament.

Fortunately, Rob mentioned his win within a personal letter, so he is now atop the main list of Top-Rated Albertans (see page 2), rather than at the bottom with the 'inactive' members. Rob's letter gave us the only information we or, I believe, the CFC have (as of the June *En Passant* and the June 27th *Northern* supplement) about the Calgary Closed, even though it ended months ago.

The ACR (Vol. 19, No. 2, May/94; page 8) has printed two Calgary Closed games, annotated by Art Milne—thanks, Art! [Art also included an annotated game from the Calgary Spring Open, a CCC tournament for which we are awaiting a report. It was scheduled to end June 14th, but may have had an adjourned game or two, so it is understandable that the rating report had not made it into the June 27th supplement in *Northern*.]

Calgary July Open

Dale Haessel won, Arthur Odachowski was 2nd in this 12-player Swiss (thanks, Ford!-ed.).

It's always with some trepidation...
...that the Editor writes about responsibilities of a tournament director (TD). We have few enough people willing to direct (or organize) tournaments. It's not like we have to turn back volunteers! Nor do TDs get enough recognition from the players who benefit from their efforts. Yes, TDs perform a valuable service, but a TD, no matter how good a job is done during a tournament, must realize that a TD's responsibility does not end when the last game ends. The CFC asks that a rating report be sent within 7 days—TDs show respect for players when they submit it promptly. Players—especially new ones, who want to see their first rating—should not have to wait and wait because a TD didn't follow through. (TDs: just add CFC #'s to the crosstable, list memberships taken, mail with a cheque for rating & memb. fees.) Send written reports (ACR & *En Passant*) then, or not long thereafter.

The Rocket has left the Building
by Ford Wong

Rob Gardner, one of Edmonton's (and Alberta's) most active and strong players has moved east to get a fresh start on life. Rob will stop in Toronto before moving to Montreal, to stay with two other chess Masters, and will be working part-time as a teacher for Larry Bevand with Chess 'N Math. He eventually hopes to catch on to something, while improving his chess at the same time. Next year, Rob plans an extensive European chess tour with several other chess playing friends.

With Rob's departure, Edmonton and Alberta have lost one of their strongest and most active players. Also, many Calgarians and out of town chess players have lost a place to stay in Edmonton—Rob and his parents were always willing to put up chess players for a weekend or two, and sometimes this meant a houseful. I'm sure all are grateful for the Gardner's hospitality over the years.

Rob was not only an active player, but also a very active volunteer. For many years, he was Junior Chess Coordinator looking after all the Alberta Junior chess events, Alberta's Canadian Chess Challenge Coordinator, Edmonton Junior Chess Club coordinator, and teacher for many Edmonton juniors.

Rob is Alberta Closed Co-Champion and will still represent Alberta at the Canadian Closed. We wish him success and luck in his future endeavors and a great big 'Thank You' for his many years of supporting Alberta chess as a player and as a volunteer.

Here are some of Rob's games played at the Canadian Open in Winnipeg in 1994:

Ford Wong (1960) - Rob Gardner (2300)

A game where I should have got no worse than a draw, but allowed a decisive Queen and Rook penetration into my position.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.Nc3 Bxa6 7.e4 Bxf1 8.Kxf1 d6 9.g4 h5

10.g5 Nfd7 11.Kg2 Bg7 12.Nge2 Na6 13.Rb1 0-0 14.b3 Ne5 15.f4 Nd7 16.Rf1 Qa5 17.Bb2 Rfb8 18.Na4 Bxb2 19.Rxb2 Qb4 20.Qc2 Nc7 21.Nec3 Nb6 22.Nxb6 Rxb6 23.Rf2 Nb5 24.Nxb5 Rxb5 25.Qc4 [Perhaps playing 25.f5 would have given me more play than in the game.] Qa5 26.Qe2 Rb4 27.Rc2 Rab8 28.Rc4 Rxc4 29.Qxc4 [bxc4 may have been better] Rb4 30.Qe2 Rd4 31.Qc2 Qe1 32.Kf3 Qh1+ 33.Ke3 Rd1 34.Rg2 Qe1+ 35.Re2 Qg1+ 36.Rf2 Re1+ 37.Kf3 Qg4+# (0-1)

Rob Gardner - IM Igor Ivanov

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 Rb8 6.Be3 b5 7.Qd2 b4 8.Nd1 d6 9.Ne2 Nf6 10.h3 0-0 11.0-0 e5 12.c3 bxc3 13.bxc3 Qa5 14.f4 exf4 15.gxf4 Nd7 16.Nf2 Nb6 17.Rab1 Ne7 18.Qc2 d5 19.Bd2 dxe4 20.Nxe4 c4 21.dxc4 Ba6 22.N2g3 Nxc4 23.Rxb8 Rxb8 24.Rb1 Rxb1+ 25.Qxb1 f5 26.Qb8+ Nc8 27.Bf1 Qxa2 28.Nc5 Bf8 29.Nxa6 Nxd2 30.Be2 [Not 30.Qxc8?? Nf3+] Qa1+ 31.Kh2 Qxc3 32.Nc7 Nd6 33.Qxa7 N6e4 34.Nh1 Nf3+ 35.Bxf3 Qd2+ 36.Nf2 Qxf4+ 37.Kg1 Qxf3 38.Qa2+ Kh8 39.Qb2+ Qc3 40.Qxc3+ Nxc3 41.Ne6 Be7 42.Kg2 Kg8 43.Nd3 Kf7 44.Nd4 Kf6 45.Nf3 Bd6 46.Nb2 g5 47.Nd3 Nd5 48.Nd2 Nf4+ 49.Nxf4 Bxf4 50.Nc4 Bc1 51.Kf3 h5 52.Na5 g4+ 53.Kf2 Kg5 54.Nb3 Bb2 (0-1)

Chris Chu - Rob Gardner

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 Nc6 8.Be3 Be7 9.f3 0-0 10.Qd2 Na5 11.0-0-0 Nxb3 12.axb3 Bd7 13.g4 b5 14.h4 b4 15.Nce2 a5 16.h5 a4 17.bxa4 Rxa4 18.Nb3 Qa8 19.Qd3 Rb8 20.Ned4 Bc8 21.g5 Ba6 22.Qd2 Bc4 23.Qg2 Ne8 24.Rdg1 Rc8 25.Kd1 Ra2 26.Bc1 d5 27.e5 Bxb3 28.Nxb3 d4 29.f4 d3 30.Qxa8 dxc2+ 31.Kd2 Rxa8 32.Rg3 Rc4 33.Rf1 Nc7 34.Rd3 Nd5 35.Rd4 Rxd4 36.Nxd4 Nxf4 37.Kxc2 Rc8+ 38.Kb3 Nd3 39.Bd2 Nxe5 40.Bxb4 Rb8 41.Nc2 Nd3 42.Rd1 Nxb4 43.Nxb4 Bxb4 44.Kc4 Be7 45.Rd7 Bxg5 46.b4 Kf8 47.b5 Be7 48.Rc7 f5 49.Rc6 Kf7 50.b6 Bd8 51.Kb5 Rxb6+ (0-1)

Edmonton Chess Club Report
by David Ottosen

Alekhine Active

Sixteen participated in the ECC Alekhine Active, held May 19 to 26. Joe Tumpek (aka "the Big Flamenco") took time off from his busy schedule of speed chess and snappy patter to score 3.5/4 and finish clear first. Coming equal second were Luc Serra, Christiaan Dartana, TD David Ottosen, and Jason Ventura, all at 3/4. Ventura, who scored several impressive upsets, was first Under 1600, after entering the tournament as lowest rated, with an active rating of 1258! Several other interesting games included the clever endgame defence of Daryl Bertrand, as he held off Wayne Mendryk in a K+R+R vs K+R until Wayne lost on time. However, the next round was even more ridiculous as Ottosen, down a ton of material and staring forlornly at mate in two, took advantage of the fact that Dartana forgot to press his clock, and eventually won on time. With games like these, who says active chess isn't "really" chess?

Memories of Fischer Open

The Memories of Fischer Open was yet another ECC tournament to be eerily affected by the choice of names. The ECC Summer Open was the first (May ACR), and now the "Ghost of Bobby" haunted the club. No, I don't mean there was a \$5 million prize fund, but no less than 1/3 of the 24 players withdrew prematurely ("chessus interruptus"? - ed.), causing many "panic pairings" for the TD, Mike Beaulieu. Fortunately, most of the top players stuck around, with Christiaan Dartana pulling into first with 4.5/5 (4 wins and a bye). Finishing second was David Ottosen, with 4/5. In the Under 1600 category, Kurt Lauterwald and Aaron Lovi each scored 2.5/5 to finish equal first. Also with a notable performance was new player Pierre Desormiers, who scored 2/5.

**Chess Movie
Now on Video**
by John Quiring



The movie 'Searching For Bobby Fischer' is now out on video tape. Based on my experience in Edmonton, I would say not many people saw it in the theatres, but the critics liked it, and so did I. The movie is based on the true story of child chess prodigy Joshua Waitzkin, and has an all-star cast (Ben Kingsley, Joseph Montegna, Lawrence Fishburne).

Swan City Active
by Phil Lefkowitz

[This time, the delay in printing a report is my fault...not a TD's. My excuse: it was in the form of a letter to Ford Wong, and got into the 'letters pile', not the 'ACR pile'. Oops! - ed.] Due to a number of unforeseen coincidences (circumstances), only 6 players took part in the Swan City Active. John Seaman of G.P. kicked butt, going four-zip, to take first Over 1650. Larry Stutzman, of Ft. St. John, B.C., was second. Tying Larry for second Overall, but first Under 1650, was Paul McGinnis of G.P. Rick Scott of G.P. was second Under 1650. Thanks to all who attended.

Summer Scorcher

The ECC Summer Scorcher was another triumph for Christiaan Dartana, who rolled to his second consecutive tournament win, scoring 3.5/4. The only "anti-Christiaan" was TD Cor Dewindt, who held a draw in round 2. Finishing equal second were top seed Dale Haukenfrers, Ravi Trikha, and Art Skeel, all with 3/4. Art also took Top Under 1700. Ahmet Yamach had the chance to finish equal first, but lost a pawn ending to Skeel in the last round. Special thanks go to the perpetual TD of the ECC, Cor Dewindt, who runs the majority of the tournaments, and is only a little cranky when you call him for next week's pairings.



ALBERTA JUNIOR CHESS REPORT

(A special section of the Alberta Chess Report, August 1994)



Canadian Women's Open by Beatrice and Cynthia Wu

On June 29, 1994, two Alberta women embarked on a journey seeking better—certainly sunnier—skies. After four hours of flying they found themselves half-way across Canada at the Primrose Best Western Hotel in Toronto. After a harrowing flight through dark musty corridors, creaky metallic elevators, and a false stop on the 2nd floor, they reached the 23rd floor, the Starlight room. And they realized that this was where their chess adventures would begin...

The 1994 Canadian Women's Open was held in Toronto July 1-3, in conjunction with the Toronto Open. The spacious sunny room could have housed a multitude, but when only seven players showed up, the troubles began. A round robin would mean 7 rounds, with the distasteful possibility of 3 games in a day. Yet a Swiss would give every woman, except for one, a bye. Following a heated discussion, we finally settled on a Swiss. The players came from Quebec (Diane Mongeau, Penka Apostolova, Manon Léger), Ontario (Stephanie Chu, Jolanta Kozakowski), and Alberta (us). The mood was tense and, while the higher-rated women were battling it out over the chess board, the lower ranked roped in the TD Terry Coulombe, opened a pack of cards, and played bridge. The atmosphere thickened when we received a vase of roses with a suspicious note that read:

To all the women chess players.
From the men downstairs.

After five rounds, the seven man (or shall we say woman) Swiss inevitably fell apart. The TD was faced with three possibilities:

1. cancel the last round (?)
2. give three byes (?)
3. or give the lowest-ranked, youngest player from the far west (Alberta)

ANOTHER bye.

Take a wild guess which one he picked!?! As the last round commenced, Cynthia Wu (alas!) found herself keeping her mother company in their 14th floor room. And Beatrice Wu, who should have had the last round bye, was completing her list of opponents played. While feverishly awaiting the results of the last game of the last round of the last day (between Diane and Penka), the two Albertans found themselves entangled in yet another round of cards (this time hearts, with one of 'The Men Downstairs'). After the smoke cleared, Beatrice happily found herself in first place with five points, tied with Diane Mongeau.

Beatrice:

I was White against Manon Léger in round 1. She launched an early kingside offensive and I was feeling quite pressed. Then, after maneuvering the pieces into position, I pushed a pawn in the center. The pawn dropped, but I opened the g1-a7 diagonal for my queen. I forked off her knight on c6 by checking at c5 (she had already pushed f5). She wasn't suspicious about my dropping a pawn; after all, I was just a low-rated person from Alberta. After that it was my turn to attack and the game ended at move 24.

Second round I played Cynthia. It was a rather uneventful Sicilian where there was an early trade off of pieces in the center. Cynthia was left with an isolated pawn which she eventually lost. We weren't really in the mood to play each other since we could play anytime at home.

My round 3 game against Diane Mongeau was the scene of my most tragic slip-up. I played Black in a KID. It was an anything goes game since neither of us really knew all the book lines. Though we both tried to maneuver to an advantage, an end game was reached after the fight for an open file eliminated rooks. Pawns were symmetrical and we each had a knight. However, with the preconception that I should get my king over to support my pawns, I blindly walked into a knight fork. It was over shortly after.

The fourth round went as follows:

Beatrice Wu - Penka Apostolova

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 *I should have just pushed d4; now I have to waste a move playing d3 first.* 3...g6 4.Bc4 Bg7 5.d3 a6 6.Be3 d6 7.d4 cxd4 8.Nxd4 e5 *I don't think this is good. The backwards d-pawn proves to be a problem and I get a nice potential outpost.* 9.Nf3 Nge7 10.Ng5 d5 *I win a pawn now. If 10...O-O, 11.Nd5 (11...Qa5+ is bad because 12.c3 ... 13.Qb3 threatens the f7 pawn and Bb6.)* 11...Nxd5 12.Qxd5 Qe7 13.O-O-O Nd4 14.c3 *and either the d6 pawn or the f7 pawn drops.* 11...h6 12.Nf3 Nxd5 13.Bxd5 Nb4 14.Qd2 Nxd5 15.Qxd5 Be6 16.Qd2 h5 (or Kh7) 17.O-O-O and the d6 pawn is indefensible. If 16...d5 17.Bxh6 dxe4 18.Bxg7 Qxd2+ 19.Nxd2 Kxg7 20.Nxe4. Or if 16...d5 17.Bxh6 Bxh6 18.Qxh6 dxe4 19.Ng5 Re8 20.Qh7+ Kf8 21.Nxe4. *So instead of castling, Penka played d5 right away.* 11.Bxd5 Nxd5 12.Nxd5 O-O 13.c3 h6 *I didn't want a pinned knight on f3 so...* 14.Nb6 Rb8 15.Qxd8 Rxd8 16.Nxc8 Rbxc8 17.Nf3 Rd3 18.Ke2 Rcd8 19.Rhd1 Rxd1 20.Rxd1 Rxd1

21.Kxd1 Kf8 22.Kd2 Ke7 23.Ne1 Na5 24.b3 f5 25.f3 *This was to create a good bishop and a locked up pawn position on the kingside so I could work with my pawn majority on the other side.* 25...Kd6 26.Bb6 *This blocks the Black king momentarily and gives my king some time.* 26...Nc6 27.Kd3 Bf6 28.Nc2 f4 *Probably not good. Her bishop is on the black squares, so she should keep her pawns on white squares.* 29.Kc4 h5 30.Nb4 Nxb4 31.Kxb4 g5 32.h3 Kc6 33.Ka5 Be7 34.b4 Bf6 35.a4 Be7 36.b5+ axb5 37.axb5+ Kd7 38.c4 Ba3 39.Ka4 Bc1 40.Bc5 Be3 41.Bf8 Bb6 42.Kb4 Bd8 43.c5 Bc7 44.Kc4 Ke6 45.b6 *I think c6 would have been stronger.* 45...Bd8 46.Bd6 Bxb6 47.Bxe5 Bxc5 48.Bxf4 Be7 49.Bc7 Kd7 50.Ba5 Kc6 51.Bb4 Bf6 52.Bc3 b5+ 53.Kb3 Bd8 54.g3 Bc7 55.h4 *If 55...Bxg3, 56.hxg5 Kd7 57.e5 h4 58.g6 Ke6 59.g7 Kf7 60.e6+ 55...gxh4 56.gxh4 Bf4 57.Bb4 Bg3 58.Be7 Bf4 59.Bg5? Now Black is lost. If Bxg5, Black's king can get into the queening square. I didn't have the slightest idea at the time, and as it turned out, neither did Penka. Maybe we were both thinking back to move 55.* 59...Bd6 60.f4 Kd7 61.e5 Bc5 62.f5 Ke8 63.e6 Bd6 64.f6 Bc5 65.f7+ Kf8 66.Bh6+ (1-0)

In Round 5, I played the Najdorf Sicilian as Black against Stephanie Chu:

Stephanie Chu - Beatrice Wu

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 b5 8.f3 Bb7 9.Be3 Nbd7 10.Qd2 Nc5 11.O-O-O *It dawned on me she was playing the Yugoslav attack, but at the time it didn't make sense since I thought the Yugoslav was for slaying dragons.* 11...Rc8 12.Kb1 h6 13.h4 13.g4 *is probably better.* 13...Nxb3 *I was paranoid about a sac on e6.* 14.Nxb3 Qc7 15.g4 Nd7 16.Nd4? *A mistake. Stephanie gives me e5 and then c4 for my knight. I think she should've tried 16.Bf4 e5 17.Be3 Nb6 18.Na5.* 16...Ne5 17.Rc1 Nc4 18.Qf2? Nxb2 19.Ncxb5 axb5 20.Nxb5 Qa5 21.Kxb2 *She might have tried 21.Nxd6+ so she'd have another pawn for the piece, but then she'd open up yet another line for me.* 21...Qxb5+ 22.Ka1 Qa5 23.Bb6 Qc3+ 24.Kb1 Rc4 25.Rcd1 d5 26.Bd4 Qa3 27.c3 dxe4 28.Qg3 Bd6 29.Be5 Bxe5 30.Qxe5 Qxc3 31.Qb5+ Bc6 *I could allow the check since, if she took my rook, I'd mate.* 32.Qb8+ Ke7 33.Qd6+ Kf6 34.a3 Qe5 35.Qd2 Rb8+ 36.Ka2 Bd5 *Mate is unstoppable. Soon, White ran out of checks.* 37.g5+ Kg6 38.h5+ Kh7 39.g6+ fxe6 40.hxg6+ Kg8 (0-1)

In round 6 I was White against Jolanta Kozakowski. I played badly, having expected a bye. I started shuffling pieces around the tenth move. Luckily Jolanta seemed to be playing for a draw. After she dropped a pawn I eventually won, though I suspect she may have been able to draw, since our bishops were of opposite color.

It was a wonderful tournament. We suppose there's no pressure when one is so low rated. The ladies were nice, Toronto was exciting and the card games were great. Thanks to the ACA for paying 75% of my plane ticket and to our TD Terry Coulombe. By the way, of course Dave Ottosen (I suppose) should be mentioned (?) Thanks Dave (big red bear with the tiny cerebrum) for sticking up for women's chess in Alberta!

Cynthia:

I arrived at the Toronto airport June 29th. Being in pretty poor condition from the long plane ride, I gladly welcomed the one and a half days grace before the tournament began. When that day came, I was rested and ready to play, but I discovered I'd run into a minor road block—the first round bye. Oh, well! I guess that's what you get for being the lowest ranked. So, my mother and I went outside to witness the Canada Day parade (not bad compensation, if I do say so myself). I came back for the second round just to find someone up there was out to get me. My pairing: Cynthia Wu vs Beatrice Wu

After spending hundreds of dollars on a plane ticket, giving up the first week of summer vacation, and sitting through a first round bye, I had to play my very own sister! Terry!!!!!! The game unfolded in a Najdorf Sicilian. I dropped a miserable pawn and lost. So much for a good start. Third round, second day, I found myself seated opposite to Penka Apostolova (2004). I was Black and moved blithely into a KID. This, in my opinion, was my best game (even though I lost). I missed many good, possibly winning, moves in the middlegame, messed up a draw, and lost. A more detailed analysis will be given later. All I can say is that it was a very sad loss. When my six hour long game with Penka finally dissolved into my loss, I was in no condition to play another game. Did I get any sympathy? Nope. Round 4: Cynthia Wu vs Jolanta Kozakowski (1611). To put it briefly, I played like a moron. I really didn't know what I was doing during the opening. Luckily, neither did Jolanta. After she missed a chance to fork off my rook for nothing, I proceeded to win my first and only victory. Three cheers for me! Round 5, day 3. Diane Mongeau (1946) vs. Cynthia Wu. Another KID. To say my position was a sorry sight would be an understatement. Putting it lightly, ALL my

queenside pieces had not moved an inch until move 16. Pathetic? Have some pity on a poor kid! When I finally mobilized my queen's knight and bishop, I promptly dropped an exchange to a cheap knight fork. Things went rapidly downhill after that (even though the game lasted 68 moves).

Last round. The final round. Will I win again? Problems arose. The TD was frantic. Things weren't working out!! Pairings: Cynthia Wu-BYE...WHAT?!?...AGAIN?!? What's going on here!!! (Terry and the Someone from above have struck again). So much for my chess life in Toronto!

On the whole I played pretty well and learned many things (including how to play Hearts). I didn't come out last, I didn't get 0 points (even though I had 2 byes for 2 points out of three, which isn't very flattering), and I had a great time. I look forward to coming back next year, playing better (hopefully), and maybe even learning some more card games! Thanx to all the organizers!

Penka Apostolova (2004) - Cynthia Wu (1576)
 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 d6 5.e4 O-O 6.Be2 Nfd7 *A strange move? Eventually, things worked out.* 7.Be3 e5 8.d5 a5 9.Qd2 Na6 10.Na4? *Waste of time.* 10...b6 11.O-O Ndc5 12.Nc3 f5 13.exf5 Bxf5 *Better was gxf5, which constricts White's pieces.* 14.Ne1 Qe7 Nb4 *gives White many problems.* 15.Nc2 h5?! *Probably the beginning of a dubious plan.* 16.Rae1 Bf6 17.f4 Qh7 18.fxe5 Bxe5 19.Nd4 Ne4 20.Nxe4 Bxe4 21.Ne6 Rxf1 + 22.Rxf1 Bf5 23.Ng5 Qh8 24.b3 Rf8 25.Bd3 Nc5 26.Bxf5 gxf5 *Now Black's King looks a little airy, although it's difficult to see how White can exploit this.* 27.Qc2 Qf6 28.Qe2 Qg6 29.Qd2 Ne4 30.Nxe4 fxe4 31.Rxf8+ Kxf8 32.Qf2+ Qf6 33.Qxf6+ Bxf6 *White has an edge in her better B, but it is probably drawn.* 34.Kf2 Kf7 35.Kg3 Kg6 36.h3 Kf5 37.Kf2 Be7 *Maybe Be5 would be better.* 38.Ke2 Bf6 39.Bh6 Bh8 *Be5 was better.* 40.Ke3 Bf6 41.g4+ hxg4 42.hxg4+ Kxg4 43.Kxe4 Bh8 44.Bd2 Be5?? *Black is now lost.* 45.c5! Bf6 46.cxb6 cxb6 47.a4 Bd8 48.Bc3 Bh4 49.Bg7? *After Bd4, the win is much easier.* 49...Bf2 50.Bf8? 50.Bc3 Bc5 51.Bd2 *White wins.* 51...Bc5 51.Be7 Bb4 52.Bd8 Bc5 53.Bc7 Kg5 54.Kd3 Kf5 55.Kc4 Ke4 56.Bd8 Ke5 57.Bc7 Ke4 58.Kb5 Kxd5 59.Bxb6 Bxb6 60.Kxb6 Ke4 *Ke5 was better.* 61.Kxa5 d5 62.Kb4 d4 63.a5 d3 64.a6 d2 65.a7 d1=Q 66.a8=Q+ Ke5 67.Qh8+ Ke6 68.Qg8+ Ke7 69.Qg5+ Ke6 70.Qe3+ Kf6 71.Qc3+ Ke7 72.Kb5 Qe2+ 73.Qc4 Qd1 74.b4 Kd8 75.Kb6 Qd6+ 76.Ka5 Qe5+ 77.Qc5 Qa1+ 78.Kb6 Qf6+ 79.Ka7 Qf7+ 80.Ka6 Qf1+ 81.Qb5 Qg2 82.Qb8+ Ke7 83.Qb7+ Qxb7 84.Kxb7 Kd7 85.b5 Kd8 88.b6 Kd7 87.Ka7 Kc8 88.b7+ (1-0)

Canadian Chess Challenge 1994

by Jim Daniluk

Here's the line-up for Team Alberta (Provincial Champions, unless otherwise stated):

- Grade 1 Adam Sherman
- Grade 2 Angie Seitz
- Grade 3 Gerard O'Reilly
- Grade 4 Alim Merali
(Champion: Brent McLean)
- Grade 5 Michael Hazeltine
(Champion: Jordan Davies)
- Grade 6 John Rajchel
(Champion: Nathan McLean)
- Grade 7 Douglas Wu
- Grade 8 Louis Lim
- Grade 9 Cynthia Wu
- Grade 10 Sherwin Chan
- Grade 11 Beatrice Wu
- Grade 12 Adam Wu

The national finals of the Canadian Chess Challenge were held in St. John's, Newfoundland on the Victoria Day weekend (May 22-23). The Alberta Team was missing three provincial grade champions due to the financial burden of the trip, but a special thanks goes to the Wu family for sending all four kids plus the parents! The new faces were very enthusiastic, but found the more experienced opposition to be rather daunting. Fortunately, the people in Newfoundland were very hospitable and a good time was had by all.

Overall, Alberta finished fifth, one place back from our usual fourth. We were beaten by those upstart Newfoundlanders, who moved from eighth last year to fourth this year. Quebec won first in even more overwhelming style than usual, with an amazing 95 out of 108 games. Ontario and B.C. were second and third, respectively.

Our top finisher was Sherwin Chan, who came in an impressive second in grade 10, before losing a playoff and falling to third. Third place finishes were notched by Adam Sherman in grade 1, and by Cynthia Wu in grade 9. Beatrice Wu just missed a medal in grade 11 after losing a playoff game.

I'd like to thank the players and parents for making this long trip. Thanks also to the organizations which helped fund travel costs:

- the Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation;
- the City of Edmonton (for the Edmonton players);
- the Alberta Chess Association.

Next year's event is tentatively in Saskatoon, which would be a good site for us.

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

Tournament Schedule
 Oct 8 Nov 19 Dec 17

EDMONTON JUNIOR CHESS CLUB
 Tournaments some Saturdays at the Main Library (south of Churchill Square; Edmonton Room, left of checkout area, as you enter). Low entry fees. Usually active chess (30 minutes per player). CFC/ACA memb. needed. Equipment supplied. Interested in playing or helping out?—contact *Ford Wong (481-6474)*.

Tournament Schedule
 Sept 10 Oct 8 Nov 19 Dec 3
 "Chess Training"
 Nov 27

♣ **1994 ALBERTA OPEN** ♣
 October 8-10 Edmonton
 * Alberta's Premier Open Tournament *

Site
 East Room, Regency Hotel
 7230-Argyll Road (403)-249-3181
 [Single room: \$43 + tax]

6 round Swiss, CFC Rated
 2 per day [round 1: 10:00 a.m. Saturday]

Register
 9:00-9:45 a.m. Saturday [please be on time]

Entry Fees
 Advance: \$20 senior \$15 junior
 At site: \$25 senior \$20 junior
 Advance entries to: ACA/Alberta Open
 Box 11839 Main P.O.
 Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3K9
 [cheque payable to 'Alberta Chess Assoc.'; entry must arrive by October 1st]

Membership
 CFC + Provincial Membership required
 [CFC+ACA: Senior—\$30 (\$35 Sept 1); Junior—\$18 (\$23 Sept 1); Participating (jrs)—\$8 (\$11 Sept 1); 'Tournament'—\$11]

Time Control
 40/2 [supplementary controls 'tba']

Prize Fund
 Cash Prizes overall and in 'rating divisions' [all but \$6 of each entry fee goes to prizes]

Boards, sets, clocks & scoresheets provided.

TD/Organizer
 Ford Wong (403)-481-6474
 [Sponsor: Alberta Chess Association]

ACA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

[This is the latest info we have (you can phone to verify; check next ACR for updates). It's believed all are: no smoking, no computers.]

August 20 Calgary
CALGARY ACTIVE
 ↑
Quality Inn
 2359 Banff Trail NW (in 'Motel Village')
 Info: *Barney Fegyverneki (243-6351)*
 ↓
 September 17-18 Calgary
ALBERTA 1800 and OVER
ALBERTA UNDER 1800

September 24-25 (OPEN events)
 Northern Alberta Junior—Edmonton *
 Southern Alberta Junior—Calgary *

October 8-10 Edmonton
ALBERTA OPEN (see detailed ad)

October 15-16 (OPEN events)
 Northern Alberta Cadet—Edmonton *
 Southern Alberta Cadet—Calgary *

October 29-30 Calgary
Alberta Junior (qualification required) *

November 12-13 Calgary
SOUTHERN ALBERTA OPEN

December 10-11 Edmonton
Alberta Cadet (qualification required) *

December 17-18 Edmonton
WEEKEND Before CHRISTMAS OPEN

* Attention Juniors and Cadets!

To get into the Alberta Junior or Cadet, if you can't get in with a high rating, requires taking one of the top two positions in the respective Southern or Northern qualifying tournaments. For info: Calgary—*Jim Daniluk (248-7456)*; Edmonton—*Ford Wong (481-6474)*.

Next ACA Casino in Edmonton July - September 1995

The ACA will host its second casino, in Edmonton, sometime during July-September 1995. We must rely on members, especially Edmontonians this time, for support. We need volunteers to work the casino. Signup forms will soon be posted at the Edmonton and Calgary Chess Clubs. If you can help, please sign up or call *Ford Wong (481-6474)*. *Volunteers must register several months in advance.*

A casino can raise a lot of money with very little effort. The ACA's first casino, in Calgary, raised over \$21,000. Great support was shown by our Calgary members. We hope the same will be true of Edmonton-area members. (See the August 1993 ACR for more info on casinos.)

Developments in the ACA by Ford Wong, Past-President

The 1994 ACA Plan was completed mainly through the hard work of *John Quiring*, who improved its appearance immensely and performed some of his last minute heroics. Other members of the 1994 Plan Committee were *Ford Wong* and *Len Steele*. The 1994 ACA Plan called for a \$4,400 deficit based on an expected government grant of \$6,000 (cut-back from \$7,500 the previous year). It was hoped that casino funds could be used to cover the deficit (e.g. for travel to national tournaments, and some new projects). For 1994, contrary to what was expected, the ACA received government support equal to the previous year. (Note: funding to recreation and sports organizations has passed to the Alberta Sport Council.) In addition to regular activities, 1994 planned activities include:

- financial support for rent to the Edmonton and Calgary Chess Clubs, using Casino funds;
- bid to the CFC to host the 1995 Canadian Open in Calgary (postponed);
- financial support to the Calgary and Edmonton Junior Chess Clubs;
- a blitz tournament to determine the Alberta speed chess champion. Originally planned for June, it may be held later in the fall;
- "Time for Blitz": similar to the 1993 project "Time For Chess", the ACA applied for RPW funding to purchase speed chess clocks to be given to the Calgary and Edmonton Chess Clubs (the ACA was awarded \$300 for this project and 5 clocks will be distributed to the two clubs in the near future);
- \$100 to each of Alberta's representatives to the Canadian Chess Challenge in St. John's, Newfoundland, using Casino funds;
- RPW Funding For Travel Support To Canadian Chess Challenge Finals. In addition to the \$100 each mentioned above, the ACA applied for and received \$3300.
- the Southern Alberta Cadet/Junior and Northern Alberta Cadet/Junior will now be open events to allow everyone a chance to qualify for the Alberta Cadet/Junior.

If you would like to see the 1994 ACA Plan, contact a member of the ACA Board.

1994 ACA Annual General Meeting

Sunday, October 9, Edmonton
 (at the site of the Alberta Open,
 between rounds 3 and 4)

• Positions Available on the Board •

All members are invited to attend. For anyone interested in helping to guide chess in Alberta, the positions below are open for election at the Annual General Meeting:
 Vice-President; Secretary; 4 Directors
 (all for 2-year terms)