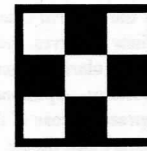


ALBERTA CHESS REPORT



A Newsletter Published by the Alberta Chess Association
August 1995

Vol. 20 No. 4

The 1995 Canadian Open

by John Quiring

The 1995 edition of the Canadian Open was held in Toronto from July 9-17. It was won jointly by Kevin Spraggett (first on tiebreak), Eduardas Rozentalis, Ron Livshits, Bryon Nickoloff and Deen Hergott, who all scored 8/10. Following closely behind in 101st spot was your author, with 5.5/10.

This was a mammoth tournament, with 303 players spread over 3 playing rooms at the Primrose Hotel. The top 16 boards were up on the 23rd floor. The next 100 boards were in the main playing room on the 2nd floor, and an overflow room accommodated the last 30 or so boards. This was an inconvenient set up, and I saw virtually nothing of the top games. I'm sure the top players appreciated the solitude, but I felt it detracted from the tournament.

The hotel is only one block from Maple Leaf Gardens, between Church and Jarvis Streets. I had no idea this area had a reputation, but I was quickly educated. I walked down Church Street late one evening, and saw some sights which someone of my gentle, innocent disposition should never have to see. Let me put it this way: if you love your pets, don't walk them on Church Street.

The typical summer Toronto weather was certainly evident, especially in the latter part of the tournament. One evening I stepped out of the air-conditioned hotel into a scorching sauna on the street (it was after 11:00 p.m.!). The last two rounds were played during the day on Saturday and Sunday, and the air conditioner just laughed at us when we asked for a 20 degree temperature in the main playing room.

My score of 5.5/10 was an expected result. My rating was 1980, my performance was 1996, and I hauled 12 rating points back to Alberta to share with my friends. I grabbed a master scalp in round 6 against Ang Meng (who beat Rocket Rob Gardner in the Ontario Open a few months earlier), but this was not a win to be proud of, as Ang made horrible moves in a vastly superior position.

Instead, here is a master scalp I failed to grab, despite several opportunities. It is my most memorable game of the tournament, consisting of a solid opening, wild and com-

plicated middle game tactics, the outcome swinging back and forth, and the heart-pounding excitement of a time scramble, with gross blunders by both players. Now that's chess!

John Quiring [1980] - Bryan Lamb [2228]

1.e4 e6 *I have had some poor results and uncomfortable positions against the French in the past year, so I studied up on a couple of lines.* **2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 Qb6 9.Nf3 f6 10.exf6 Nxf6 11.a3 Bd6 12.O-O O-O 13.Re1?! I felt uncomfortable leaving f2 undefended against an open f-file, but I didn't want to tie my pieces down to defensive positions. I wasn't sure how to solve the b2 weakness, but the only line given in ECO shows the way: 13.b4 e5 14.Qb3 Kh8 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Bxe5 17.Bb2 with a slight advantage to White. This is from Gorskov - Scerbakov, Czechoslovakia, 1957; I guess that game slipped my mind.** **13...Bd7 14.Bf4** *This is really complex. Bryan spent about 45 minutes on the next move.* **14...Bxf4 15.Nxf4** *The important pawn on d4 is safe: 15...Nxd4 16.Nxd4 Qxd4 17.Bxh7+ wins the queen.* **15...Ne4 16.g3** *I chose to weaken my defenses in order to keep the knight on an aggressive post.* **16...Qxb2** *The pawn on d4 is still taboo: 16...Nxd4 17.Bxe4 wins a piece. The last 4 moves have taken an amazing toll. I have used 1 hour 21 minutes, Bryan has used 1 hour 56 minutes. I truly felt I had the game won, with a 39 to 4 minute clock advantage for the next 24 moves.* **17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Rxe4 Ne7 19.Re2 19.Ng5**, *hitting the e6 pawn, is clear and logical, but I was worried about my weak f2 square, so I drove the queen away first. But watch out for 19.Nxe6? Rxf3 20.Qxf3 Qxa1+.* **19...Qb6 20.Rb1 Qa6 21.Ng5 Qxa3 22.Rxb7?** *I start to play faster to keep pressure on my opponent, which is a foolish strategy. Taking the e6 pawn is better. Now Black gets a free move, developing his rook with a big threat.* **22...Rac8 23.Rc2 Ba4** *Oops. This was like a punch in the stomach. By the time I realized it wasn't as bad as it looked, I was in serious time trouble too.* **24.Rxc8 Bxd1 25.Rxf8+ Kxf8 26.N4xe6+** *I thought 26.Rb8+ Ne8 27.Rxc8+ left White with too many weaknesses for Black's queen to exploit, and that the text led to a perpetual check.* **26...Ke8 27.Nc7+ Kd8 28.Nb5?**

Canadian Open Championship in Calgary in 1996 !!

At the Annual General Meeting of the Chess Federation of Canada, the CFC Governors awarded the 1996 Canadian Open Chess Championship to an organizing committee in Calgary, headed by Ted Wilson, President of the Calgary Chess Club. (It has been 20 years since Calgary hosted the Canadian Open.)

Plans are under way to secure the attendance of several Grandmasters and of other titled players.

A minimum prize fund of \$10,000 is expected.

The 1996 Canadian Open will provide Albertans an opportunity to play in a premier chess tournament. It should be one of the largest tournaments held in the West in years—over 150 entrants are expected, including players from all parts of Canada. Albertans will have a chance to face some of the best players in the country in a major tournament.

The ACA is a major sponsor, contributing over \$10,000 from casino revenues.

We hope you'll show your support by attending—we'll need around 100 or more Alberta entrants to ensure a success. Please enter in advance (on-site entry fee higher).

Details will be printed in future ACRs. Late this year or early in 1996, there will also likely be a mailing of packages containing full details, entry form, hotel information, etc.

Mark your calendar now
to plan your vacation for:

♣ JULY 13-21, 1996, CALGARY ♣

Despair; in my mind I have given up. There is no perpetual check. However, there is 28.Nf7+ Kc8 29.Nb5!, simultaneously threatening the queen and Nbd6+, forcing Black to give up the queen for the rook. What a neat web this is, woven by rook and knights. **28...Qa1?? 28...Qa2** *is necessary, to cover the e6 square. Now 29.Ne6+ leads immediately to checkmate, but the player with the white pieces failed to see that, and resigned two moves later. A roller coaster of exhilaration and gloom. I love it. (0-1)*

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

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ACA Board of Directors

President: Ford Wong
Vice-President: Paul Usselman
Secretary: Dale Haessel
Treasurer: John Quiring
Past-President: Ted Wilson

Directors: Jim Daniluk, Tom McKay, Art Milne, David Ottosen, Brian Starkes, Bernie Tynan, Jason Ventura, Warrick Walker.

Membership Fees

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

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

ACR Deadline

Material for inclusion in the next *ACR* should be received by **October 31st**. Items received after that date may be delayed to a later *ACR*.

Reminder to Tournament Directors

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

Clubs

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

Organizers of Events

Please send *ACR* details well in advance.

Always Get a Receipt

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

ALBERTA CHESS CLUBS

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

CALGARY CC

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

EDMONTON CC

Meets: Oliver Community Hall, 10326-118 St, Thurs., 7:00-11:00.
Info: Kurt Lauterwald (434-7536; mail: c/o 4736-105A St, Edmonton T6H 2P3).
Schedule:
Aug 31 - Sep 6: ECC Back to School Active, 2 rds/day (8:30 start Sep 6 after AGM).
Sep 6: Annual General Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Sep 13 - Oct 11: Edmonton Open.

GRANDE PRAIRIE CC

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

HINTON CC

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

MEDICINE HAT CC

Info: Bill Taylor (526-5484).

NORTHERN COMMUNITIES CC

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

PEACE RIVER CC

Meets: Peace Valley Inn (Rose Room), 9609-101 St. Saturdays, 9:00-4:00; dates: Sept 9, Oct 21/22 (Peace Valley Classic; open tourn.), Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 30 (Spring Active; open tourn.), Apr 27, May 25, Jun 22.
Info: Todd Seitz (624-3256; mail: Bag 1200, Peace River, AB T8S 1V1).

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 August, 1995, *En Passant*)

Greg Huber	2352
John Ferrar	2301
Nigel Fullbrook	2258
Sasha Grumic	2226
Dale Haessel	2198
Hafiz Karmali	2196
Neil Sharp	2196
Ted Wilson	2177
Chris Demers	2154
Arthur Odachowski	2150
Farzan Nazarian	2148
Ante Zaradic	2143
John Parrott	2125
Paul Thibodeau	2109
Adam Wu	2100
Warrick Walker	2088
Jim Daniluk	2074
Arthur Milne	2072
Paul Usselman	2060
Wilf Lahrkamp	2056
James Flemming	2052
Walter Watson	2052
Gerald Aspler	2028
<u>Barney Fegyvermeki</u>	<u>2020</u>
Jeff Chrunka	2006
Lev Gorelik	2248/10*
Victor Maric	2191/5*
Nandor Tot	2146/24*
Tedje Davies	2057/12*
Tim Pradzinski	2024/11*

* = provisional rating/games played (min. 2)

Current or recent (expired in about the past year) Alberta ACA members only. Those not known (by the editor) to have played in a regular-rated Alberta tournament in about the past year:

R. Hawkes 2362; A. Frialde 2260; B. Brebrich 2225; S. Purewal 2215; G. Campbell 2160; M. Rabljenovic 2145; Z. Baunok 2126; B. Willis 2111.

Qualifying for the 1996 Alberta Closed

— full rules available from the ACA —

Entrants need at least 2 participation points since the previous Alta Closed. Qualifying events (except the previous Closed) are worth 1 pt; all other reg.-rated Alberta events 1/2 pt.

Canadian Correspondence Chess Assoc.

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Manny Migicovsky

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

CCCA-rated games by e-mail: contact George Huczek (ghuczek@gdipa.unibase.com).

1995 ACA Annual General Meeting
 Sunday, October 8—1:30 pm at the site of
 1995 Alberta Open (i.e. after round 3)

Agenda

1. Call to Order, Introduction of Officers
2. Minutes of 1994 AGM
3. President's Address
4. Financial Report & Statement (see below)
5. Planning Committee Report
6. Presentation & Discussion of Plan
7. Amendments to the Bylaws
8. Other Business
9. Election of Officers & Directors
 Positions up for election (2 year terms):
 President Treasurer 4 Directors
 Interested in helping to direct organized
 chess in Alberta? — run for a position!
10. Adjournment

ACA Balance Sheet (31 Dec 94)

Assets

Cash	12,859.43
Investment Certificate	15,000.00
Accounts Receivable	1,445.90
<i>Total</i>	<i>29,305.33</i>

Liabilities and Unspent Revenues

Accounts Payable	700.32
Special Fund	2,975.00
Unspent Revenue	25,630.01
<i>Total</i>	<i>29,305.33</i>

ACA Receipts & Disbursements (31 Dec 94)

Revenues

ASRP&W Grants	11,100.00
City of Edmonton Grant	1,494.00
Programs	5,353.27
Sales	1,669.47
Memberships	1,442.10
Donations	145.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>21,203.84</i>

Disbursements

Programs	19,534.56
Administration	1,033.70
Leadership	1,248.28
<i>Total</i>	<i>21,816.54</i>

Excess of Receipts over Disbursements (612.70)

ACA Casino: Final Score +\$16,319.41

This year's Edmonton casino "made" \$35,385.79, but that was pooled with 24 other organizations with lesser profits (pooling assures that each organization will not "take a bath" on its own casino days). This money is a tremendous boost for us. Casino revenues will help fund ACA projects (as approved by the Alberta Gaming Commission), e.g. paying half the rent of the Edmonton and Calgary Chess Clubs, and supporting travel of our representatives to some national events. Funds have also been set aside for sponsoring the 1996 Canadian Open in Calgary. Again, thanks to all the volunteers who helped at our Calgary and Edmonton casinos!

**"Mr. Big" is Leaving the Office,
 i.e. New ACA President Wanted
 by Ford Wong (he's "Mr. Big")**

President is one of the positions open for election at the ACA Annual General Meeting in Calgary on October 8th. I'm tempted to carry on in the position, but feel it's time for a change and time for someone else to reap the benefit and experience of being President. I definitely will not run again for President. Being ACA President, coordinating junior chess in Edmonton, and playing in as many Alberta chess tournaments as I can have placed a tremendous burden on my social life and a break is needed. I look forward to extra time to spend with my family and friends, especially my kids, who are growing up quickly, and time to study chess. I intend to pursue a lesser role in organizing chess. I'll still be on the ACA Board of Directors as Past-President, where my role will be to provide advice to the new President. I intend to continue organizing the next casino, and to volunteer whenever I can.

The past five years, since I became ACA President in 1990, have provided a rewarding and learning experience. I take tremendous pride in what I and those on my Board of Directors have **accomplished**. I am proud of the volunteers who came out to help the ACA, and thank everyone who supported our tournaments (I hope you continue to do so). One of the reasons I became ACA President was that I wanted to put back something into organized chess in Alberta, which has always been very good to me. I feel that I've done that. Things which I am especially proud of are: the casinos in Calgary and Edmonton; the "Time For Chess" Project; reviving the Edmonton Junior Chess Club; travel support to the Alberta Canadian Chess Challenge Teams; hosting of the Canadian Chess Challenge Finals in Edmonton.

I hope that a motivated individual will step forward to take on the challenge of being ACA President, and that he does it not just for the sake of being the President, but for the sake of "getting things done" (it's better to try than to sit by and do nothing). There is a lot which can be done. The position of President should not be difficult. All that is required is an understanding of what needs to be done (i.e. what the ACA Plan is all about and what is in it), knowing how Government funding works, being a good delegator (i.e. the President does not have to do everything, he just needs to ensure that it gets done), and being a good listener. There is a large base of dedicated individuals willing to help out. On occasion, the President may have to attend Alberta Government meetings. Above all, the President should be responsible, both to the

ACA members and to getting the job done. The President must always remember that he often acts upon the wishes of the ACA Board of Directors and that not all the decisions are his to make. If the President does need to make a decision, then it is done with the best intentions of the Association and of organized chess in Alberta.

The ACA is in very good financial shape. I hope that the new President will be prudent with ACA funds, spending wisely and striving to maintain a reasonable bank balance.

I have some people to thank for helping me out during my years in office: John Q, ACA Treasurer, who unselfishly stepped forward to fill the vacancy after the 1991 elections, and has been there since. John has done a super job keeping the ACA's finances in order and keeping me from spending it all (e.g. he stopped me from investing it all in a poi factory in Hawaii). I also thank John for doing all the driving. He's a good road buddy and has a tremendous sense of humor (moo, moo!). John is a valuable asset to the Board of Directors and the President. It was great working with him. Len Steele, whom I consider to be the great chess guru as an organizer (it is said that he also can play a mean game of chess), has always been a source of advice from TD questions to what-to-do questions. Len introduced me to the intricacies of how the ACA ran when I first became President. He has been around for many years and is always willing to share his wisdom. Other people to whom I am thankful are Craig Vokey, Paul Usselman, Wayne Mendryk, Barney Fegyvermeki (my main Calgary connection), Rob Gardner (for coordinating Junior Chess), Phil Lefkowitz, Dave Ottosen, Adam Wu, and Jim Daniluk. I'm especially thankful to all the volunteers who stepped forward to help out the ACA.

It was fun being President, at times trying, but overall I feel that it was worth it. I made a few mistakes, but learned from them (dealing with people can sometimes be difficult). The President must understand that not everyone will be happy with the decisions made. It was a learning experience (especially about fundraising, and tuning up meeting and organizational skills). I got to work with and meet many dedicated "chess people". Of all the things which impressed me, the most was seeing players come out to ACA tournaments. I hope everyone continues to do so. I'm doubly happy when people come out in full force—the Alberta chess player has never let me down.

Lastly, I will always remember that I was once "Mr. Big" (you can now stop throwing games to me, because I'll no longer be Mr. Big; for those who didn't respect this, I'm still gunning for you!). Thank you.

Letter to the Editor
from Grant Brown (Lethbridge)

I must say that I find the ACA to be a well-run organization, and Alberta chess players to be very courteous and sporting. Nevertheless, there is room for improvement in everything, so I would like to make a few observations and suggestions to that end.

(A) In most cases, games between players with a rating difference in excess of 350 points are neither much fun nor very instructive, for either player. Chess players perform at their best, and thus benefit most, from games with opponents who provide them a competitive challenge. The ACA should promote this kind of competition. The problem is that in our one-section tournaments, it's common to play 3 or 4 games out of 5 against players rated 300+ points higher or lower. My first suggestion, then, is that a higher proportion of ACA-run tournaments adopt the Over/Under format — i.e. one section for players 1800+ (or 1900+), and another for those under that rating.

(B) At one tournament I played in this year, a Master showed up late for the first round. There was some question whether the TD would give him a 1/2-point bye and let him play, as there was an even number of players registered (though one had requested a bye in the first round). When he was allowed to enter, there ended up being 6 players with 1/2 point after round 1. But the TD arbitrarily paired the late-registering Master against someone with 1 point (he didn't want to give the Master the pairing "benefit" of a first-round bye!), and he paired the lowest of the remaining 1/2-point players (i.e. the 1500 player) against the highest-rated player with 0 points. Then he swapped the pairings of the remaining four players to match colours. All this gerrymandering resulted in the 2nd- and 3rd-ranked players meeting in round 2 (I beat Sasha Grumic for my first "Masters scalp", so I'm not complaining about the result!). A few suggestions: (1) TDs should try to keep the *ad hoc* pairing decisions to a minimum, since the more this is done, the greater the perception of favouritism (or vengeance, as the case may be). Follow the rule book! (2) Whether a late-comer may register should never be in doubt; odd-player tournaments happen half the time, anyway, and there's no guarantee that someone else won't withdraw later in the tournament and create an odd number. And (3) when a player is *forced* to take a bye by the TD, as opposed to requesting one, he should be given a full point. It is unfair to punish a player, and ruin his chances at a prize, merely because there is an odd number of players in a tournament. [There are arguments for the

1/2-point forced bye, too. It is given to the lowest-rated player with the lowest number of points. I would suggest that chances are that player, given the "top half vs bottom half" nature of a Swiss, would be "more likely" to lose a game than to win it. Giving that player a 1-point bye elevates him into a higher point group than he might "naturally" achieve, with tougher opposition, thus perhaps decreasing that player's chance for more points. Furthermore, dishing out a 1-point bye could "unfairly" give that player more points than might be considered likely on his own, thus making it unfair to others competing for the same prize. My choice is to take the middle road and always give 1/2-point byes, forced or optional. — ed.]

(C) It would benefit the ACA to find ways of encouraging new blood, as well as greater Master and Expert participation. Having more tournaments of the Over/Under format might be a step in the right direction, but other steps might be considered as well. For example: (1) The ACA might adopt a policy of paying the CFC dues for the first year for all (completely) new members, or at least set aside a few hundred dollars for the first "X" new members each year. (What else do we do with the thousands of dollars earned at the casinos [regulations likely prohibit use of casino funds in this way—ed.] and from membership fees?) (2) To encourage participation of new players, the tournament entry fee for unrated players should be only \$5, to cover rating fees; and since nobody really knows their playing strength, unrateds should not be eligible for class prizes (it takes only one tournament to get a provisional rating). (3) The tournament entry fee for Masters could be set at \$5 as well, to encourage more of them to play and teach the rest of us more often. (4) The ACA could donate \$25 per tournament for a "best game" prize.

(D) I find that playing over mere moves from games does not improve my chess abilities much. A useful feature which the ACR could include each issue would be a relatively detailed analysis of a recent game by one of our Masters. (It needn't be the same Master doing the analysis in each issue.) Surely there are enough interesting and instructive Master games played in Alberta that we could commission a mere six per year. Again, the ACA might consider donating a small honorarium of \$25 as a token of appreciation for giving ACR readers a useful chess lesson.

I'm fairly isolated down here in Lethbridge. I don't have inside knowledge of what has been tried in the past or what those in the major centres might think about these suggestions. I hope they are perceived as constructive, and that other ACA members

will discuss them and let their ACA Directors know what they think of them. Perhaps others will come up with better ideas to pass on as well. My intention here is merely to set the ball in motion. And to show that I'm also willing to do my part to carry the ball, I have offered to direct tournaments in the future, and to donate the honoraria for tournaments I direct to a "best game" prize, or toward the CFC membership of the "top unrated" player, or some such worthy chess cause. I also include a commentary on one of my recent games. I can't pretend that it represents Master-class analysis, but I hope that some ACR readers will find it instructive anyway.

Jim Daniluk - Grant Brown

Canada Day Open

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c5 3.g3 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Bg2 d5 I considered 5...Bg7 6.c4 O-O 7.O-O Nc6 8.Nc3, but couldn't foresee an easy way to continue, in light of the pressure on the N/c6. However, 8...Nxd4 9.Qxd4 d6 is perfectly OK, although White retains his typical opening initiative. Perhaps 8.Nc2 or 8.Nb3 are worth trying. The drawback to these moves is the release of tension on the N/c6, allowing Black to develop easily with ...d6, ...Rb8, Bd7-c6 (or ...Be6; ...Bf5; ...Bg4, as circumstances dictate), ...Qd7, etc. The move played aims to create a cover for the weak point at c6, to contest the centre, and to wrest the initiative. I think it sets White more difficult opening problems to solve, since his development strategy after 5...d5 is not as clear as in the line given above. 6.O-O Bg7 7.Nd2 Not a mistake, but I think a better plan of development would have been 7.c3 Nc6 8.Bf4, followed by N/b1-d2-f3, keeping firm control of e5. 7...Nc6 8.Nxc6?! This is a mistake. After the game Jim said he thought it was the only way to prevent my e7-e5 push. However, after 8.N2f3 Nxd4?! (8...e5? 9.Nxc6) 9.Qxd4! O-O 10.Rd1 e6 11.Bg5, White stands very well. If 8...O-O, White can transpose into the line suggested in the previous note with 9.Bf4 or 9.c3. The text move must be dubious, since White consumes 3 tempi to exchange his N, and lets Black capture toward the centre. Now Jim must play carefully to equalize, while my moves come more naturally. This might account in part for Jim's eventual time pressure. 8...bxc6 9.c4 O-O 10.Re1 Jim thought this was a mistake, misplacing the R. I'm not so sure; it is difficult to suggest a better plan. If 10.Qa4, I don't play 10...Qd6 as in the game, since 11.Rd1 might embarrass the Q. Instead 10...Bd7 (or even 10...Qb6), intending to meet e2-e4 with c6-c5 and d5-d4. 10...Bf5 11.Qa4 Qd6 It was either this or 11...Qb6. Jim thought the latter was better, aiming at f2 and b2, but in that case White could equalize in a way that we hadn't consid-

ered during the game: 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.e4 dxe4 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 Bxe4 16.Qxe4 Bd4 17.Be3. I chose 11...Qd6 because it reinforces the central points in my position, whereas the Q/b6 could actually interfere with my designs on the P/b2 (since taking it with the B/g7 could result in a pin on the b-file). Given the equalizing line noted above, as well as the game continuation, I think my intuition proved correct. 12.e4?! A better try for equality is first 12.cxd5 cxd5, then 13.e4 dxe4 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 Bxe4 16.Qxe4 Rfd8. Black might still retain an edge here, since 17.Qxe7? loses to 17...Qxe7 18.Rxe7 Rd1+ 19.Kg2 Rc8; and if 17.Bf4 or 17.Rb1, 17...Qa6 with uncomfortable pressure on White's Q-side pawns. After the text move, my advantage is clear: a small lead in development, a stronger position in the centre, and pressure on the Q-side compensates for the separated pawns. Jim's Q remains somewhat offside, too. 12...dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Bxe4 15.Rxe4 Rfd8 16.Re1 Bd4 17.Bg5 f6? After finding two good moves, I make a mistake which gives away my advantage, and even hands my opponent the edge. It is strategically bad to weaken the K-position with Qs and Rs still on the board, but I wanted to reinforce the central push e7-e5. This was unnecessary. The right way was 17...Rd7!, defending the 7th rank and preparing to bring the R/a8 into play. I had overlooked that on 18.Rad1? Qc5! is good for Black. E.g.: (a) 19.Bxe7 Bxf2+ 20.Kg2 (20.Kf1 Qf5! 21.Rxd7 Bxe1+ 22.Kxe1 Qxd7, or 21.Re2 Bxg3+! 22.Kg2 Rxe7 23.Rxe7 Qf2+ 24.Kh3 Qxh2+ 25.Kg4 f5+ 26.Kf3 Qf2#) 20...Rxe7 21.Rxe7 Qxe7 (21...Bxg3, intending 22.Re2 Bxh2, doesn't work on account of 22.Kxg3) 22.Kxf2 Re8! (ai) 23.Qxc6 Qe3+ 24.Kg2 Qe2+ 25.Kh3 Qh5+ 26.Kg2 Re2+; (aii) 23.Qc2 Qe3+ 24.Kf1 (24.Kg2 Qe2+) Qf3+ 25.Kg1 Re2. (b) 19.Be3 Bxe3 20.Rxe3 (20.Rxd7? Bxf2+ 21.Kf1 Bxg3!) 20...Rxd1+ 21.Qxd1 Qxc4 22.Rxe7 Qxa2 23.Qd7 Qxb2 24.Rxf7 or 24.Qxc6 Qb8 25.Qf6 Qf8 and Black stands better, though a win is difficult to demonstrate. Nor could White play 18.Be3? Bxb2, so it looks like he has to go for 18.Rab1 Qc5 19.Be3 Bxe3 20.Rxe3 Rd2 21.b3 Rad8, when Black stands better in view of his more active pieces. He could now consider trading off a set of Rs on d1 and penetrate with the R+Q battery, or playing the advance of the e- and f-pawns. 18.Be3 c5 Obviously the P/b2 is taboo: 18...Bxb2? 19.c5 Qd5 20.Rad1 Qf7 21.Qxc6 and White has a clear plus. White also comes out on top after 18...Qc5 19.b4 Qxc4 20.Rac1 Qd5 21.Bxd4 Qxd4 22.Rxe7. The difficult decision was which pawn to protect the B with. My thinking in choosing the c-pawn was that, if White were to exchange Bs, I would be able to cut his position in half with a pawn

wedge from h7-d3. In fact, I didn't think it was wise for White to exchange on d4 for this reason, and proposed a draw on the assumption that Black was slightly better here. However, I underestimated the speed with which White's Q-side pawns can advance. After the game Sasha Grumic suggested that 18...e5 19.Bxd4 exd4 was winning for Black, but with the benefit of home analysis this appears doubtful: 20.c5! (20.b4?! a5 21.c5 Qd5) 20...Qxc5 (20...Qd5 21.Qa5) 21.Rac1 Qd5 22.Rxc6 ±. 19.Bxd4! cxd4 20.b4! e5 Another defensive try is 20...a5 21.c5 Qc7 22.Qb3+ Kf8 23.a3 ±. 21.c5 Qd5 22.c6 Rdc8 23.Rac1 d3? My last chance was 23...Rc7, intending to activate the R/a8. It is not clear how Jim could break through in that case. I played 23...d3 under the illusion that the P/c6 would become weak after I captured the b-pawn, but forgot to consider the power White's Rs suddenly attain... 24.Rc5 d2 25.Rd1 Qe4 26.Qc2 Qxb4 27.Rxd2 Rc7 28.Rd6?! 28.Rd7 Rac8 29.a3! wins. 28...Rf8 29.Rd7 Rf7 30.a3? Played with only about 3 minutes left on his clock. The idea is right (to deflect the Q from defense of the g8-a2 diagonal), but the timing is wrong. White is still winning after 30.Rd6. 30...Qe1+ 31.Kg2 Rfxd7 32.cxd7 Rxd7 33.Rc8+ Kg7 34.Qc4 Qd2?? Missing the obvious. Black has winning chances after 34...Rf7, but not 34...Rd4? 35.Qg8+ Kh6 36.Qf8+ Kg5 37.h4+ Kf5 38.Rc7 (threatening Qc8+). 35.Rg8+ (1-0) A disappointing loss, but one with lessons to be learned.

ECC Alekhine ("Summer") Active by Aaron "Evil Man" Lovi

The Edmonton CC Alekhine Active was a 2-week, 6-round event. Somewhat surprisingly, Peter Pisz and newcomer Igor Shefer finished first with 5-1 scores, drawing their individual game in an early round. Also notable was John Quiring's second place performance with 4.5/6.

David Ottosen, in submitting the following score for his final round game, said: "The highlight of the tournament was my homage to the ACR editor against Aaron Lovi, where I added an exclamation point to his recent comment that the opening is called the Hammerschlog ATTACK!" (righto! — ed.)

D. Ottosen - A. Lovi

1.f3! e5 2.Kf2!! e4 3.Nc3 exf3 4.Nxf3 Nf6 5.e3 Bc5 6.Bd3 O-O 7.Rf1 d6 8.b3 Nbd7 9.Bb2 Ne5 10.Nxe5 dxe5 11.Kg1 Ng4 12.h3 Bxe3+ 13.dxe3 Nxe3 14.Qh5 g6 15.Qh6 Nxf1 16.Rxf1 Qd4+ 17.Kh2 Qd6 18.Ne4 f5 No other way to defend all the mate threats. 19.Nxd6 cxd6 20.Bc4+ Rf7 21.Rf4! Insult to injury! 21...e4 22.Qg7# (1-0)

ECC Summer Open by David Ottosen

The appearance of all four Wu's sent ripples of fear through the ECC, and deservedly so, as Adam and Douglas ended up on Board 1 in the last round. However, when all the dust (pocket lint? - ed.) cleared, Adam Wu and David Ottosen had tied for first at 4.5-0.5, a full point ahead of the rest of the field.

For unclear reasons, many members of the top half of the crosstable chose to score badly and lose rating points. These points were eagerly gobbled up by players like Cynthia Wu, Peter Alderton, and Dennis McNamara.

As for this tournament's "TriKha Files" addition, in round three, after a crushing opening which resulted in an extra piece, Ravi sacked it back for a won ending. Regrettably, he missed the chapter in BCE where it explains that leaving your rook en prise in a R+N ending is not a good thing...

A. Wu - D. Ottosen

annotated by David Ottosen

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e3 e5 White's passive reaction allows Black to hit the center and open both bishop's diagonals; normal is 3.Nf3. 4.Bxc4 exd4 5.exd4 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bd6 7.Nf3 O-O 8.O-O Bg4 9.Bg5 Be7 10.Re1 Nbd7 11.Be2 Nb6 After the game, someone asked us what we were doing. Our main concern was the white d-pawn. As e4 players, neither of us really knew the principles of playing with or against the isolated queen pawn (IQP). All I remembered was seeing a bunch of tactics books where the IQP advanced to d5, opening lines and destroying Black's position, so I tried to place my pieces where I could occupy d5, while preventing the push. Adam, however, believed that the way to use the IQP was to occupy e5, using a possible pin on the d-file to make it difficult for me to effect exchanges on e5. Both players succeeded, to an extent. 12.Ne5 Be6 13.Bf3 c6 At this point, I felt I was ready to play Nbd5, which would force exchanges and highlight the weakness of the IQP. However, Adam has allowed this position, thinking his tactical sequence will win. Amazingly, the rest of the game is forced. 14.Bxc6!? bxc6 15.Nxc6 Qd7 16.Nxe7+ Qxe7 17.d5 Rad8 I had analyzed this far after 13...c6, and thought I was winning, but there was one more surprise... 18.Qf3! Adam in turn had gotten this far, and thought HE was winning. 18...Nbx5 19.Nxd5 Rxd5 20.Qxd5 Nxd5 21.Bxe7 Nxe7 22.Rac1 Rc8 At this point we decided that neither of us was winning. (draw)

ECC Memories of Fischer Open
by David Ottosen

Thirty one turned out, including two new ECC members, Adam Wu and Yuri Vasylev. They then made us wish they'd go away by each scoring 4 wins and a bye to share first. Despite this, most of my time went to a bunch of weird disputes, including: touch move (after touching an opponent's piece, must you capture it?—yes); triple repetition of a position (does it have to be consecutive?—no); noisy blitz players (can I stop them?—only with duct tape); and forfeits (can I fine people for not showing up?—regrettably, no). Other excitements were the 25 move Pisz-Trikha time scramble, where big material was hanging before Trikha lost on time, and the Lovi rating donation machine in full power.

6th Annual Medicine Hat & Area Chess Championship (April/95)

Bill Taylor cruised to a perfect 7-0 to capture first a full 2 points ahead of Gary Martinez and Gary Eberhardt at 5-2. Luc Barton won his match 8-0 in the 2-player junior section.

The Big June ACR
by Ford Wong

The June ACR was 14 pages long and included 54 games. This was a special treat to satisfy the appetite of our game-starved members and to give people something to play over on those hot summer nights. The ACR is normally 10 pages to minimize costs (mostly to meet the lowest postal rate). The ACA encourages everyone to send in games. Annotations are very welcome and, if there is a place where you feel that a diagram would be appropriate, please specify it. We try to print as many games as possible.

Internet, WWW, E-Mail...

The ACR editor's e-mail address is len.steele@ualberta.ca (you can even submit articles by e-mail, if you wish).

Interested in rated "correspondence chess" by e-mail?—see the CCCA ad on page 2.

If you have Internet access, Dean Mah has an Alberta chess info page. The URL is: <http://www.cs.ualberta.ca/~mah/ACA/>

If you want to, you can check out other pages he has, such as the one with many chess-related links to make surfing the Internet easier, or his "home page".

Dean is listing ACA members' e-mail addresses—if you want to be listed, send him yours (mah@cs.ualberta.ca).

1995 Calgary CC Spring Open
by Walter Watson

John Ferrar marked his (probably permanent) return to Calgary chess by tying for first, at 5.5-1.5, with John Parrott in the Spring Open (May 2 - June 13). [Until it's corrected, Ferrar is listed as "John Ferrara" in the Foreign players section of the rating list -ed.] Ferrar beat Parrott in a crucial 6th-round game, but could only draw with Farzan Nazarian in the last round. Parrott showed great tenacity in drawing his last round game with Art Milne from a lost position, to earn the tie. Milne played solid chess and Tedge Davies played exciting chess as they shared the top "under 2000" prizes at 5-2.

An exciting feature of the tournament was the entry of five juniors aged about 9-12: Jordan Davies, Jeff Huang, Alex Mills, Gerard O'Reilly, and John Rajchel. Whenever one of them had an adult in trouble, the others would cluster around the board hoping for a "kill". The juniors scored 7-15-3 versus adults, and have the talent to become top players if they continue. The big upset was Jordan Davies' (1573) win against Jim Daniluk (2170). Davies and Jose Managase took the top "under 1600" prizes with 4 points. Huang won the top junior prize with 3 points; Rajchel was second with 2.5.

There were 28 entries, with 24 completing the tournament. Lee Nagle was a very cooperative and pleasant tournament director.

J. Parrott - J. Ferrar

annotated by John Ferrar

1.d4 d5 Dubious, when Black required a win!
2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Be7 4.Nf3 c6 5.cxd5 exd5
6.Bf4 Nf6 7.e3 Bf5 8.Be2 Passive. Better is Bd3, to fight for e4. 8...Qb6 Black tries to take advantage of White's lack of control of the b1-h7 diagonal. The Q is misplaced. 9.Qb3 Forced, but good. 9...Nbd7 10.O-O O-O
11.Rac1 Rac8 12.h3 h6 13.Na4 Qb4 14.Nc5 Qxb3 15.axb3 This way of capturing blocks the Q-side and removes White's traditional initiative. Better Nxb3. 15...Nxc5 16.dxc5 Ne4 17.Bd3 Bg6 18.Bxe4 Bxe4 Black's plan is now to double rooks on the e-file and

advance the K-side pawns. 19.Nd4 Bf6 20.Rfd1 Rfe8 21.b4 a6 22.Rd2 Bg6 23.Nb3 Re4 24.Nd4 Rce8 25.Rcd1 Bh7 26.g4 Bg6 Better g5 immediately. 27.Kg2 Bh7 28.Kg3 g5 29.Bc7 Amistake. Black now forces the bishop out of the game. Better was Bd6. 29...Be7 30.Re2 Rc8 31.Ba5 Bf6 32.f3 Re7 33.Nf5 Bxf5 34.gxf5 Rce8 35.Rd3 Better was Rde1, to support the other rook and, in some variations, to support e4, e5. 35...h5 Black's plan is now to put pressure on the f5-pawn and infiltrate White's position with his king. 36.Kg2 Kg7 37.Bb6 Be5 38.e4 Bf4 39.Rd4 Kf6 40.Re1 Ke5 41.Rd3 d4 42.Kf2 g4 The final breakthrough into White's position, via a temporary pawn sacrifice. White has been playing a piece down since move 29. 43.fxg4 hxg4 30.hxg4 Rh8 45.Kg1 f6 46.Red1 Be3+ 47.Kg2 Kxe4 48.b5 Reh7 (0-1)

J. Chrumka - A. Milne

annotated by Art Milne

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bc4!? 3.Bb5 (Ferrar-Milne, Calgary Spring Open 1995)
3...Nf6 4.Nc3 Bg4 5.d3 e6 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 Ne5 8.Qe2 Nxc4 9.dxc4 Be7 10.Be3 Qd7 11.O-O O-O 12.Rad1 Qc6 Only move. 13.f3 Now White's dark squares are weakened, but what's the alternative? 13...a6! Preventing Nb5-d4. Now White thinks for 10 minutes. 14.Nb1?! The N functions better on c3 than d2, but already White's position lacks dynamism. 14...Rfd8 15.Rfe1?! This hands Black a tempo to trade the dark-squared B's. 15...Nd7 16.Nd2 Bh4 17.Bf2 Bxf2+ 18.Qxf2 Qa4! A pawn must fall. 19.b3 Qxa2 20.Nf1 Qa5 21.Ne3 Qb6 22.Qg3 Nf6 23.Kh2 a5! Threatening to open a line for the QR with 24...a4! 24.e5 dxe5 25.Rxd8+ Rxd8 26.Qxe5 Qd6 Forcing the exchange of Q's. The game enters a new phase. 27.Qxd6 Rxd6 28.Re2 Otherwise 28...Rd2 ties up White's pieces. 28...Nd7 29.Kg3 f6 30.f4 Kf7 31.f5 Nc5 32.fxe6+ Rxe6 33.Kf3 c6 34.Rd2 g6 35.Rd8 Re7 36.Ra8 Na6 37.g4?! Ke6 With the idea Kd6-c7. 38.Rd8 Ke5 39.c3 Nc5 40.b4 axb4 41.cxb4 Ne6! 42.Rd1 Ng5+ 43.Kg3 f5 44.gxf5 gxf5 45.Ng2 Ne4+ (-+) 46.Kf3?! 46.Kh2. 46...Rg7! 47.Ne3? Only move was Ne1. 47...Rg3+ (0-1) If 48.Ke2 Nc3+ 49.Kf2 Rxe3 wins a piece.

Calgary CC June-July Active
by Walter Watson, TD

Jim Daniluk and Tedge Davies came from behind to win a very close June-July Active at the Calgary Chess Club. After 5 rounds the leading scores were John Parrott and newcomer Scott Beesley 4 points; Daniluk, Davies and Leo Danglapien 3.5. Daniluk outlasted Parrott in the final round, and Davies out-

combined Beesley. The two winners finished at 4.5-1.5. Danglapien could only draw with Jeff Chrumka, and so tied with Parrott and Beesley 1/2 point back.

Jordan Davies continued his campaign of terror against higher-ranked players by beating Art Milne in the first round en route to winning the top "under 1800" prize with 3.5 points; Lenny Leung and visitor Jay Serdula tied for second with 3. There were 18 entries.

Calgary CC 1994-95 Grand Prix
by Walter Watson

Art Milne continued his success at the Calgary club by taking first in the 94-95 Grand Prix ("speed chess") with 136.5 points, winning \$34. Jim Daniluk edged out Jeff Chrumka for 2nd, 121.5 to 120.5. Jim won \$25.50, Jeff \$17. Branimir Brebrich was 4th (\$8.50) with 108 pts. Max Carcamo (83.5), Ted Wilson (82.5) and Roy Yearwood (82) won glory but nothing more. Next year we hope to attract enough <1800-rated players to award an "under 1800" prize. [TDs: Ted Wilson, Barney Fegyvermeki, Walter Watson.]

#1 (Sept/94): Ted Wilson dominated a 9-player double RR with 14.5-1.5. Other leaders: Jim Daniluk 11.5; Dave Gomboc and Art Milne 10; Max Carcamo 9.

#2 (Oct/94): This strong 17-player double RR ended half-way through due to the late hour. Top scores: **Branimir Brebrich** 15-3; Roy Yearwood 14; Chris Demers 13; Norbert Chitrit 12; Paul Usselman 11.5; John Ferrar 11; Ted Wilson 10.5; Harold Skroblinnis, Jeff Chrumka and Art Milne 9.5; Jim Daniluk 8.

#3 (Jan/95): Jeff Chrumka scored 9.5-1.5, losing only to his "nemesi", Art Milne, and drawing Jim Daniluk. Branimir Brebrich gained 9 points, Daniluk 8.5, Milne 7, Dave Gomboc 6.5, Max Carcamo 5.5.

#4 (Feb/95): A 12-player single RR notable for winning streaks. **Harold Skroblinnis'** amazing 11-0 showed the results of all his speed chess practicing. Roy Yearwood had 8.5/9 before drawing Jeff Chrumka and losing to Skroblinnis, to finish with 9. Chrumka started out 8-0, but then lost to Skroblinnis, drew Yearwood, and lost to Art Milne, to end at 8.5 points. Milne lost his first 3, but won his last 8. Max Carcamo (6 points) was 5th.

#5 (Apr/95): The TD rashly scheduled a 20-player RR on a night when time was also used for a book sale, so there were some withdrawals during the evening. **Branimir Brebrich** won his second GP event with 15-2, losing only to Victor Maric (a master who withdrew after 6 rounds) and Jeff Chrumka. Other leading scorers: Chrumka 13-3; Roy Yearwood 13-4; Art Milne 11-3; Jim Daniluk 11-6; John Ferrar 10-6; Richard Bahalovich 9.5-7.5; Max Carcamo 9-7; John Waring 8-6; Wilf Lahrkamp 8-8.

#6 (June/95): Arthur Odachowski and Branimir Brebrich each won his first 9 games before Arthur won their decisive 10th-round encounter to finish with 12-1, losing only to Jim Daniluk. Jeff Chrumka, Ted Wilson and Brebrich also had strong results, finishing with 11, 10.5 and 10 points, respectively. The other leaders: Art Milne 8, Daniluk and Scott Beesley 7.5, Dale Haessel 7, John Parrott 6.5.

Calgary CC July 25/95 "Speed"
by Walter Watson, TD

Branimir Brebrich reversed the result of the previous speed tournament when he defeated Arthur Odachowski in the 11th round on the way to a perfect 13-0 in this non-Grand Prix event. Odachowski finished at 12-1. Third place with 10-3 was shared by Jeff Chrumka, Jim Daniluk and Art Milne. John Rajchel and Jay Serdula both impressed in sharing the "under 1800" prize with 6 points each.

Calgary CC July Active
by Ken Bourassa, TD

Even during Stampede and in the heart of vacation season, the July Active had a good turnout. The hardcore chess addicts turned up with glazed eyes and sharpened teeth.

After a good start of 2/3, John Ferrar had to withdraw. This left Jim Daniluk and John Parrott to duke it out for the top seat (they met in round 4). **John Parrott** took first with 5.5/6, and Daniluk second with 5/6. What can be said for Jeff Chrumka? Even after donating a point to the top 3 players, he still managed 3rd place (sorry, no cash, Jeff).

In the under 1750 division, Jay Serdula and Tom McKay tied for first.

Canada Day Open - Calgary
by Walter Watson, TD

Seventeen Calgary players did battle with twelve invaders from Edmonton and one from Lethbridge in the Canada Day Open. Second-seeded **Nigel Fullbrook** and third-seeded **Sasha Grumic** each won his first four games. They then drew their last round match to split the top prizes with 4.5 points. Earlier, Fullbrook had won the most exciting game of the tournament, playing an Evans Gambit as White against top-seed Yuri Vasylev.

Leo Danglapan and Jim Daniluk tied for third with 4 points. In the last round Daniluk wore down Jeff Chrumka in a bitterly contested game where a win by either player meant 3rd prize and a draw would leave both out of the money. Danglapan won the top "under 2000" prize, while Ford Wong was second with 3.5.

The other prize winners were: "under 1800"—Jeff Cummer, Cor Dewindt, and Dmitri Shefer; "under 1600"—Daryl Bertrand, Colin Chrumka, and John Rajchel; "under 1400"—Gerard O'Reilly Jr. Shefer and Bertrand were the top juniors. Rajchel and Jeff Huang shared the top "age 12 and under" prize as O'Reilly Jr. had taken "under 1400".

A. Milne - J. Daniluk
annotated by Art Milne

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 *Rossolimo Variation. 3...e5!?* The position resembles a Ruy Lopez; 3...e6; 3...g6. 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.O-O Qc7 6.d3 Be7 7.Nbd2 Be6 8.b3 Bf6 *Intending Ne7-g6-f4. 9.Nc4 Bxc4 10.bxc4 Ne7 11.Be3 b6 12.a4 O-O 13.Qd2 Ng6 14.a5 14.g3 would be a poor alternative. Black's real aim is Nd4. After 14.g3, Black simply moves the Rf8 and reaches d4 via f8 and e6. 14...Nf4 15.Ra2 To double R's on the a-file. 15...Ne6 axb6 Now or never; Black threatened b5, with the Q-side initiative. 16...axb6 17.Rfa1 Rxa2 18.Rxa2 b5! Now Black gets counterplay on the Q-side anyway, but at least White has the open a-file. 19.Qc3 Rb8! Threatening 20...bxc4. 20.Nd2 Bg5 Exchanging off the bad B, but it does relax Black's pressure with the N; 20...Nd4!?* 21.Bxg5 Nxe5 22.Qa1! *Coordinating pressure against e5 with control of the a-file. 22...h6 23.Ra7 Qd8 23...Qd6!?* [Daniluk: I played 23...Qd8 hoping for 24.Qxe5 bxc4 25.dxc4? Rb1+!] 24.h3? *Now Black rips open White's K position with: 24...Nxb3+! 25.gxb3 Qg5+ 26.Kh1 Qxd2 27.Qxc5 Rf8 28.Qxc5 bxc4 29.dxc4 Qe1+ 30.Kh2 Qxe4 31.c3 Intending 32.Qd4. 31...Rd8 32.Re7 Qf4+ 33.Kg2 Rd3 34.Re8+ Kh7 35.Qxc6 Rd6 36.Qe4+ Rg6+! 37.Kf1 Qc1+ 38.Qe1 Qg5 39.Qe3 Qg1+ 40.Ke2*

Rf6 41.c5!? White's best chance is to coordinate the advance of the c5 pawn with threats against Black's K. 41...Qa1 42.Qd3+ g6 43.Re3? 43.Qd4 and Black probably must take a perpetual check. 43...Qb2+ 44.Kd1?? *This loses on the spot; at least 44.Ke1 survives for the time being. 44.Qd2? Rxf2+. 44...Rxf2 (0-1) White is getting mated.*

R. Trikha - A. Milne
annotated by Art Milne

1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 e5 3.d5 *King's Indian Defence; 3.dxe5; 3.Nf3. 3...Nce7 4.c4 d6 5.Be2 Nf6 6.Nc3 g6 7.h4!?* h5 *Black can't afford to allow h5-h6. 8.Be3 Neg8!?* After this, it becomes difficult to distinguish the QN from the KN. 9.Nf3 *White has four pieces developed to Black's one. 9...Ng4 10.Bg5 f6 11.Bd2 Bh6 12.Bxh6 Better 12.Qb3. Let Black exchange on d2 and lose a tempo developing the Ng8-h6. 12...N8xh6 13.Qb3 O-O 14.Nd2 Threatening 15.f3 and, if 15...Ne3, 16.Kf2. 14...f5 Now that the White N has left f3, g5 is less of a worry. 15.f3 Nf6 16.O-O-O c6?!* Probably better to remove the Black K from the diagonal a2-g8 before ...c6. Now White becomes very active. 17.dxc6 bxc6 18.c5+ Nf7 19.Nc4?! 19.cxd6 Qxd6 20.Nc4 Qc5 21.Rd2, with advantage for White. 19...d5 20.exd5 cxd5 21.Nxe5? Nxe5 22.Nxd5 Be6 23.Nxf6+ Qxf6 (0-1)



ALBERTA JUNIOR CHESS REPORT



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

1995 Canadian Corel Chess Championships

by Nathan McLean

The Canadian Corel Chess Championships were held in Ottawa on April 22-23, 1995. I was on the Alberta team, which also included Matthew Wong, my brother Brent McLean, and Jeff Huang. My dad accompanied my brother and I on the trip. Upon arrival we were picked up by CFC staff and driven to the stately Lord Elgin Hotel. The first night featured a simul starring the number two player in Canada, Deen Hergott. Out of about 25 competitors, three beat him. I was one of them, and that made my day. The next day the 5-round Swiss began.

Round 1: I played Igor Zugic (2026; Ontario), who emigrated from Yugoslavia. He acquired a better position and had no trouble winning the resulting rook vs rook endgame.

Round 2: The game against Garret Chin (1799; Saskatchewan) was a disaster and I lost in 22 moves. Just about every move I made after move 5 was forced.

Round 3: I played Franco Franette (1664; New Brunswick). I used an opening trap that David Ottosen taught me the hard way to crush him in 15 moves.

Round 4: Facing Xin Guo (2101; Ontario), the highest-rated player in the under 14 category, I went on an attack aimed at his king, but shirked defensive responsibilities and soon reaped the consequences.

Round 5: I played a struggling Shahin Mohammad Nabi (1915; B.C.), who, like me, only had one point. After he controlled most of the game, I got some counterplay aimed at his king and, when he made a few mistakes in time trouble, the game was soon over.

The winner in my category was Eugene Cormos (Quebec). Other winners were: Marc

Fortin (under 10, Quebec); Andrew Ho (under 12, B.C.); and Anthony Castillo (under 18). No Albertans got into the trophies, but anyway here's how we did: Jeff Huang 2; Brent McLean 1/2; Nathan McLean 2; Matthew Wong 1. The tournament was well run and the bountiful supply of junk food was great. On behalf of the Alberta team I would like to thank: Yves Farges, for being tournament director; Jeff Coackley, for organizing the entire event; and, lastly, Corel for their financial support.

Also while in Ottawa we went to the Museum of Science and Technology, and toured the Parliament Buildings, sitting in on question period. Before starting the Cadet in London, we took time to visit with relatives, see Niagara Falls, watch a ship go through the locks, and have a look at Glen Abbey, where the Canadian Open golf tournament is played.

1995 Canadian Cadet

by Nathan McLean

The Canadian Cadet was held in London, Ontario, May 4-8 at the Galleria Mall. Due to organizational problems in Toronto, this year's Cadet was nearly cancelled. Much thanks to Hans Jung, who at the last minute took on the responsibility of organizing and running the event.

Round 1: I played Eric Bertrand (1750; New Brunswick). My goal in this tournament was to get two points, which I wouldn't achieve if I only beat players rated lower than me, so naturally I wanted to win this game as his rating was not much higher than mine. Things went well until move 20, when I lost a couple of pawns. Gradually, the pieces came off and I was soon looking at a lost pawn ending. After the game, Ray Stone showed me a missed win, which didn't make me any happier. The big game this round was between two pre-tournament favorites, Lefong Hua and Meng Lou — Meng won.

Round 2: Playing my scholastic rival, Lefong Hua (2184; Quebec), the highest-rated player in the Cadet, I was doing okay until the late middle game, when he made a good move and broke me open. From then on it was down hill.

Round 3: My opponent was Shahin Mohammad Nabi (1915; B.C.). In the opening I lost a pawn, but had a little bit of compensation in the form of him having

doubled pawns, one over-advanced. So, when all the pieces came off, my king struck off to win the over-advanced pawn. The cost of winning the pawn was that he got a centralized king, which soon proved decisive.

Round 4: Quite an easy game as I used opening preparation to totally annihilate Joshua Henson (1650; Saskatchewan) in 24 moves. The big game this round, between the two highest-rated players, Lefong Hua and Peter Johnson, ended in a draw.

Round 5: I played the rowdy Xin Guo (2101) and his green sunglasses. This was probably my worst game of the tournament (I guess those green sunglasses were just too hard to face) as I left my king stranded in the center (against my queen's advice) and was beaten soundly in 31 moves. Meanwhile, Igor Zugic made quick work of pre-tournament favorite Peter Marshall.

Round 6: I had the black pieces against pint-sized Stephen Glinert (2036; Ontario). Right away he played an obscure move in the Scotch which took me out of my book knowledge. The pieces came off in a flurry and I found myself in an endgame where he had the advantage. He offered me a draw and I accepted. Now that I look back on the game, I should have played for a win, but you can judge that for yourself. This round held a very important game between Igor Zugic and Meng Lou, who at the time were in a tie for first. It was a long game, which Meng won in a pawn ending.

S. Glinert - N. McLean

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.Qd4 d5 7.Nc3 Be6 8.Bd3 dxe4 9.Qxd8+ Rxd8 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Bxe4 Bd5 12.Bxd5 cxd5 13.O-O Bd6 14.Re1+ Kd7 15.Be3 c5 16.Rad1 Kc6 17.Rd3 c4 18.R3d1 a5 19.Bd4 f6 20.Bc3 Bb4 21.Bxb4 axb4 22.Re7 Ra8 23.Rg7 Rxa2 24.Rb1 Rha8 25.Kf1 Ra1 26.Re1 Rxe1+ 27.Kxe1 Ra2 28.Rf7 Rxb2 29.Rxf6+ Kc5 30.Kd1 c3 (draw)

Round 7: I played Igor Zugic (Ontario). He soon acquired a superior middle game, quickly converting it into a winning endgame.

Round 8: Playing Meng Lou (2114; Ontario), we got into a closed position in which he had a spacial advantage. After slowly squeezing me back, he busted my queenside open and got a passed pawn on d6 which eventually became decisive. This was my longest game at 5 1/2 hours.

Round 9: My opponent, the every cocky Peter Marshall (2178; Ontario), blundered badly in the middle game and dropped the exchange, whereupon I offered him a draw, which he accepted.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Hans Jung and Erin Matthews for the time and effort that they put into the Cadet. They did a great job on such short notice. Lastly, thanks to the ACA for the financial contribution towards my trip.

EJCC May Mockery
by Aaron "Bad Guy" Lovi

This, the first tournament I have directed, has led me to believe that we should thank the many competent TDs who volunteer their time to serve us. That being said, the EJCC May Mockery was a 5-round active tournament with an average attendance and a fairly mocking atmosphere towards the TD. I must have been told countless times: "You Goof, go ask Ford and John!"

All in all, the tournament went smoothly, and **Bernie Kan** mocked all of his opponents (but especially his scoresheets) on the way to a perfect score. Other notable performances were Sebastian Sieber's second place, Steven Rutledge's first under 1000, and Karsten Chippeniuk's second under 1000.

I noticed that only Bernie, Sebastian and Steven kept game scores, and they finished, respectively, in first, second and third. The Bernie-Sebastian game was submitted, but the scoresheet was so mocked/mucked that very little past move five could be retrieved.

NEW CALGARY JUNIOR CHESS PROGRAM

There is no long a junior chess club as such, rather it has been replaced by a chess program for juniors, starting in October. *For more information contact Jim Daniluk (248-7456).*

EDMONTON JUNIOR CHESS CLUB

NEW site: Food Concourse, Eaton Centre, lower floor by the "giant chess set" (note: this is for a 4-month trial period). **Registration:** 9:30-10:00 a.m. Low entry fees. Usually active chess (30 minutes per player). CFC/ACA memb. needed. Equipment is supplied.

Organizers: Adam Wu 462-0838
Mark Kirvan 939-5986
Dave Ottosen 436-5321

Tournaments (Saturdays):

September 9 Sizzling September Sacrifice
October 14 Outstanding October Outpost
November 4 New November Knockdown
December 2 Delightful December Dustup

Video Tapes for Borrowing

The following VHS tapes are free to ACA members to borrow on a three-week basis:

For beginners:

Opening Principles (Bruce Pandolfini)
Understanding Chess (Bruce Pandolfini)

For "advanced" players:

How To Visualize Combinations; and
Pawn Structures (both by Danny Kopec)
Middlegame Analysis (Edmar Mednis)
Middlegame Planning (Patrick Wolff)

If you are interested, contact Ford Wong (481-6474), John Quiring (468-9173), or Jim Daniluk (248-7456). [The CD-ROM "Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess" is not available.]

For the tournaments listed in this column, "junior" and "cadet" are defined as follows:

Junior: Born after January 1, 1976. Player must not have reached 20 years of age on Jan. 1, 1996 (i.e. the year of the World Junior).

Cadet: Born after January 1, 1980. Player must not have reached 16 years of age on Jan. 1, 1996 (i.e. the year of the World Cadet).

For the *Northern and Southern Alberta Junior and Cadet*, the following applies:

Entry Fee: \$2.00.

CFC and ACA membership required.
Format depends on number of players.

Register: 9:00-9:45 a.m.

Time Control: tba (may be 40/2, 20/1)

Organizer-north: Ford Wong (481-6474)

Organizer-south: Jim Daniluk (248-7456)

Northern Alberta Junior

Sept 30-Oct 1 Edmonton (location tba)

Southern Alberta Junior

Sept 30-Oct 1 Calgary (location tba)

Each event determines 2 players to qualify for the Alberta Junior. Open to junior-aged players.

Northern Alberta Cadet

Oct 21-22 Edmonton (location tba)

Southern Alberta Cadet

Oct 21-22 Calgary (location tba)

Each event determines 2 players to qualify for the Alberta Cadet. Open to cadet-aged players.

Alberta Junior

Oct 28-29

Location tba (Edmonton or Calgary)

Winner becomes Alberta Junior Champion and qualifies for the Canadian Junior (Christmas holidays). The ACA will provide partial travel funding to the Canadian Junior.

Format: 6-player round robin

Organizer: Ford Wong (481-6474)

Alberta Cadet

Dec 9-10

Location tba (Edmonton or Calgary)

Winner becomes Alberta Cadet Champion and qualifies for the Canadian Cadet (Spring 1996). The ACA will provide partial travel funding to the Canadian Cadet.

Format: 6-player round robin

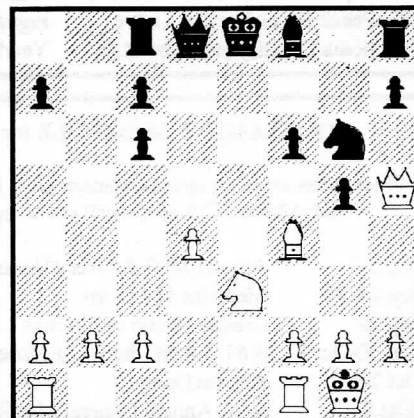
Organizer: Ford Wong (481-6474)

Fishin' for g's
by Ford Wong

The previous time I was on holidays in the States, while wearing my 1986 Canadian Open Chess T-shirt, someone approached me and started talking chess. This happened while in a lineup at McDonalds in Seattle. I had bumped into a member of the Seattle Chess Club ("Yas", it was not).

So this year, sporting my brand new 1995 Canadian Open T-shirt (thanks Johnnn), I thought I'd try trolling for g's during my 9-day trip to LA and Disneyland. On my second attempt wearing the shirt, while outside the men's room beside Pirates of the Carribean, I caught one (not a big G) from L.A. Other than this brief encounter, there wasn't even a nibble. Perhaps, I should have used a red devil? Anyway, if you're planning to visit the USA, and want to meet g's, why not try fishing? You never know who you might meet. It just might turn out to be Rob J. Fish, in disguise.

To conclude, here's another fishing story (about the big G who got away?). While strolling along in Venice Beach (a very busy drop-in area for tourists, basketball, body building, roller blading, etc.), I stumbled across someone sitting alone at a chess board. Fearing a hustle, I walked by, but when I came back, a game was underway so I stopped to watch for a few minutes...



This was the position when I left, with White to move. Given the position, I asked myself: "How strong was the first player, was this just a setup, and what was at stake for this game?" Judge for yourself. I guess I'll never know. Maybe someone else will find out, as he is probably still sitting there playing chess. [I had to ask Ford what "g's" were (sorry, you'll have to guess!), and must admit the gist of some of the above eludes me... however, this is the last article from "Mr. Big" before he becomes a private citizen (will he be "Mr." or "Big" then?), so I had to print it! Too bad this meant I had to leave out a game annotated especially for the ACR by Kasparov... - ed.]

*** Alberta 1800 & Over / Under 1800 ***

September 2-3 Edmonton

City Centre Inn, room B395
109 St & 113 Ave (opposite Kingsway Mall)
[rooms \$59 single/double; 1-800-528-1234]

Two sections: 1800 & Over, Under 1800
(by rating; each a 5-round Swiss System)

Register: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Saturday
(rds Sat.: 10:00 14:00 16:30; Sun.: 9:00 13:30)

Entry Fees: \$20 senior \$15 junior
(CFC/provincial membership required)

Time Controls: 40/1:50 15/30

☎ John Quiring (468-9173)
Sponsored by Alberta Chess Assoc.

*** Medicine Hat Open ***

September 23-24

Medicine Hat Lodge
1051 Ross Glen Drive SE

5-round Swiss

Register: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Saturday

Entry Fees: \$20 Senior \$15 Junior
(CFC/provincial membership required)

Time controls
40/1:50 (confirm at site;
supplementary control tba)

☎ Bill Taylor (526-5484)

Sponsored by Alberta Chess Assoc.

*** ALBERTA OPEN ***

October 7, 8, 9 Calgary

Lord Nelson Inn, 1020 - 8 Avenue SW

*Alberta's Premier Open Tournament
Winner qualifies for 1996 Alberta Closed*

6 round Swiss, CFC Rated

Register: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Saturday
(Please be on time!)

Entry Fees

Advance: \$20.00 Senior \$15.00 Junior
At site: \$25.00 Senior \$20.00 Junior

Save \$5 — mail advance entries to

ACA/Alberta Open
Box 11839 Main P.O.
Edmonton, AB T5J 3K9

[cheque payable to Alberta Chess Assoc.
— entry must arrive by October 2nd]

CFC+Provincial membership required

CFC+ACA: Sr—\$35 Jr (under 18)—\$23
Participating (Jrs)—\$11; Tournament—\$10

Time Control

40 moves/2 hr [supplementary times 'tba']

Prize Fund: Cash prizes in all 'rating divi-
sions' [all but \$6 per entry fee goes to prizes]

Boards, sets, clocks & scoresheets provided

Tournament Director: tba

Organizer/Sponsor: Alberta Chess Assoc.

1995-96 12TH ANNUAL ALTA-B.C. PEACE RIVER GRAND PRIX

Sept. 30 Grande Prairie Fall Active

Grande Prairie [Phil Lefkowitz (403) 538-1903]

Oct. 21 & 22 Peace Valley Classic

Peace River [Todd Seitz (403) 624-3256]

Nov. 18 & 19 Golden Harvest Open

Dawson Creek [Grant MacTavish (604) 782-1170]

Jan. 13 & 14 Trumpeter Classic

Grande Prairie [Phil Lefkowitz (403) 538-1903]

Feb. 10 Dawson Creek Spring Active

Dawson Creek [Jim Kanester (604) 782-5637]

Mar. 30 Peace River Spring Active

Peace River [Keith LaValley (403) 624-5232]

4 rounds, rated: active (30 min/game) or
regular (Time controls: 45/2 then 30/1). To
qualify for GP prize (points based on sum of
4 best scores), *must play in at least 4 of the 6
GP events*. No one may win more than one
prize. Based on \$1.50 fee/entrant/event: 1st
overall 30% of prize fund, 2nd overall 20%;
1st under 1700 30%, 2nd under 1700 20%.
Jim Williams Memorial Trophy to overall
winner. Ratings used for GP purposes are
regular ratings as per the 1995 *En Passant*
Yearbook (i.e. August).

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE for the remainder of 1995

Check future issues for updates (contacts given in separate ads can verify details)
All Alberta (ACA-sponsored) events: no smoking, no computers.

Sep 2-3	Alberta 1800 & Over / Under 1800	Edmonton
Sep 23-24	Medicine Hat Open	Medicine Hat
Sep 30	Grande Prairie Fall Active	Grand Prairie
Sep 30-Oct 1	S./N. Alberta Junior Qualifiers	Calgary/Edmonton
Oct 7-9	Alberta Open	Calgary
[Oct 8	ACA Annual General Meeting	Calgary]
Oct 21-22	Peace Valley Classic	Peace River
Oct 21-22	S./N. Alberta Cadet Qualifiers	Calgary/Edmonton
Oct 28-29	Alberta Junior	(tba)
Nov 18-19	Golden Harvest Open	Dawson Creek, BC
Nov 25-26	Southern Alberta Open	Calgary
Dec 9-10	Alberta Cadet	(tba)
Dec 16-17	Two Weekends Before Xmas Open	Edmonton

(also see the preliminary listing for 1996 on this page)

Clocks, vinyl boards, chess pieces for sale. The ACA plans to make
them available at as many as possible of the ACA-sponsored tournaments.

Interested in Tournament Directing?

The ACA still needs TDs for some events, and pays a \$25 per day honorarium. Contact us if
you want to give it a try. (Note: for some events, especially the more 'major' ones, it's desirable
to have a TD who has some previous experience, and/or has taken one of our TD workshops.)

1996 Tournament Schedule

(some dates/sites not finalized)

Trumpeter Classic	Jan 13-14, Grande Prairie
January Open	Jan, Calgary
DC Spring Active	Feb 10, Dawson Creek
N. Alberta Open	Feb, Edmonton
March Open	Mar, Calgary
PR Spring Active	Mar 30, Peace River
Alberta Closed	Apr 5-7, Edmonton
Alberta Reserves	Apr 6-7, Edmonton
U of A Open	May, Edmonton
Red Deer Open	Jun, Red Deer

Canadian Open July 13-21, Calgary

August Active	Aug, Edmonton
Over/Under 1800	Sep, Calgary
Northern Alberta Junior	Oct, Edmonton
Southern Alberta Junior	Oct, Calgary
Alberta Open	Oct 12-14, Edmonton
Northern Alberta Cadet	Oct, Edmonton
Southern Alberta Cadet	Oct, Calgary
Alberta Junior	Oct, site 'tba'
Southern Alberta Open	Nov, Calgary
Alberta Cadet	Dec, site 'tba'
Wknd before Xmas	Dec 21-22, Edmonton