

ALBERTA CHESS REPORT

A Newsletter Published by the Alberta Chess Association May 1992 Vol. 17 No. 2



1992 Calgary Closed

by Greg Huber (TD)

This year's Calgary Closed had the worst turnout in recent memory, both in terms of strength and in number of players. In the three years that I've been directing it, the attendance has gone from 32 to 24 to 18 players (this seems to be a trend throughout much of the country, not just in Calgary - ed.).

Tony Peredo managed to beat Jim Daniluk in their crucial last round game, thereby securing first with 5.5 out of 7. Good luck to Tony in the Alberta Closed! Daniluk had to be content with second place, but still had a good tournament with 5/7.

The best relative score was easily that obtained by Jim Van Wyck, who was rated near the bottom of the top section. He surprised many players, and finished in third place with a remarkable total of 4.5 points.

In the second section, **Dan Bolianatz** proved he was a class above his competition, never even getting nicked by anyone for a mere half-point!

Following this amazing 7/7 was Ben Vandermeer, who played solidly and scored second with 5/7. Ted Lockert proved he can keep up with the best of them, clinching third with his imaginative play.

On a bright note, the tournament had four newcomers. Of these, Nick Podalchuk won the hard-fought battle of the unrateds. Hopefully we'll see Nick in more tournaments!

T. Peredo - J. Van Wyck (annotated by Van Wyck)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 d6 6.e4 Nge7 7.Be3 O-O 8.Qd2 Nd4 9.Nce2 Nec6 10.Rc1 a5 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Bh6 f5 13.Bxg7 Kxg7 14.Ne2 Nxe2 15.Qxe2 f4 =/+ 16.O-O Qf6 17.f3 b6 18.Rfd1 Be6 19.g4 Rh8 20.Qf2 h5 21.h3 Rh7 22.d4 exd4 23.Qxd4 Qxd4+ 24.Rxd4 Kf6 25.Rd2 Rah8 26.Kf2 hxg4 27.fxg4 Perhaps yielding the file with hxg4 was better, but surely an ending with only B's will be lost for White. 27... Ke5 I felt Rxh3 could not be prevented (27.... Rxh3!? 28.Bxh3 Rxh3 with compensation). 28.b3 Rf7 29.Kf3 Rfh7 30.a3? A weakening move that "guarantees" Rxh3 wins. 30... Rxh3+31.Bxh3 Rxh3+ 32.Kg2 Rg3+?? 32... Rxb3 -/+ 33.a4 (33.Rh1 Rxa3 34.Rh7 Bxc4 35 Rxc7 b5-+) Ra3 and the R's will not contain P's on both sides, 34 Rh1 Rxa4 35 Rh7 Rxc4-+. 33.Kf2 Rxg4??33...Rxb3-/+ 34.Rh1 Rg3 35.Rb2 g5 36.Rh7 g4 37.Rxc7 Rh3 38.Kg1 forced Re3?? 38... g3 -+, with the idea of f3 winning, 39.Rc6f340 Rxb6f2+41 Kg2 Rh2+42.Kxg3f1=Q43 Rxh2 Qd3+. 39.b4 g3 40.Kg2 Bg4 41.c5 Bf3+ 42.Kf1 Rxa3 43.Rb1 dxc5?? 43... bxc5 44.bxc5 Ra2!, with the idea Rh2 -+ (44... Bxe4 also wins, e.g. 45 Re7+ Kf5 46.Rel Bd3+ 47.Kgl dxc5 48.R7e5+ Kg4 49.Rxc5 f3 -+) 45.Rh7 (45.Re7+ Kf6 46.cxd6 Rh2 -+, or 45.cxd6 Rh2 -+) 45... Rh2! -+. 44.bxc5 bxc5 45.Rxc5+ Kxe4 46.Re1+ Kd3 47.Rf5 Kd2 48.Rfe5 a4? 48... Re3 -+ 49.R1xe3? fxe3 50.Rxa5 (50.Kg1 e2 -+) 50... e2+ -+. 49.Re8 Rd3? 49...Re3-+ wins like on move 48, but not as nicely, e.g. 50.Rd8+Kc2 51 Rc8+ Kb2 52.Rb8+ Ka2 -+. 50.Ra1 Kc2 51.Ree1 a3 52.Rec1+ Kd2 53.Rc4 Be2+ 54.Kg2 Ke3 55.Ra4 Bf3+ 56.Kg1 Rd1+ 57.Rxd1 Bxd1 58.Rxa3+ Ke4 Draw after another 12 moves.

(continued on page 4)

1992 Edmonton Closed

by Rodney Thiel (TD)

Unfortunately, the Edmonton Closed did not have some of the pre-tournament favorites in the race, i.e Frialde (2261) and new-comer Torsten Linker (2359). Also, Willis (2160) decided at the last moment not to participate. This left four-time champion Rob Gardner eclipsing the field by almost 200 points. As we will see, he had some stiff competition as he captured his fifth Edmonton Championship and a spot in the Alberta Closed.

		1	2	3	4	5	<u>6</u>	7	8	
1 R Gardner	2275	X	=	1	1	1	1	=	1	6.0
2 R Plante	2082	=	x	=	=	1	=	1	1	5.0
3 S Purewal	1943	0	=	X	1	=	=	1	1	4.5
4 A Wu	1957	0	=	0	X	1	=	1	1	4.0
5 S Sia	1938	0	0	=	0	X	1	1	1	3.5
6 G Newton	1963	0	=	=	=	0	X	=	0	2.0
7 E Schocat	1928	=	0	0	0	0		x	1	2.0
8 J Baser	1950	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	X	1.0

Round 1: Gardner playing the Closed Sicilian versus Alberta Junior Champ Adam Wu lead to the early advantage of an exchange and Rob ground him down in a tough endgame. By move 28 Plante had a winning game versus Purewal but blundered on move 29 to blow his advantage, then Purewal gave Plante the advantage back a couple of moves later but managed to hold on for a draw. The blunder(s) of the tournament went to Geoff Newton, who had a simple win in a pawn ending versus Baser, but gave it up and then tried too hard to win a drawn game and lost. Sia-Schocat was an interesting struggle, with Sam winning a difficult rook ending.

Round 2: As Black in a 3.Bb5+Sicilian (Moscow Var.), Rob won an interesting Q+N vs Q+B ending with Purewal. Two of Edmonton's foremost Dragon theoreticians battled it out, with Wu cashing in the point against Schocat. Newton unsoundly gave up a knight for three pawns and got punished by Sia. Plante was White in a 1... e5 English and was badly outplayed by Baser, yet won on time.

Round 3: Rob played the Closed Sicilian (lame opening) again, but came up against a well-prepared Réjean, and after 54 moves they agreed to a draw. John Baser was trying to defend a difficult game with Sam Sia, but left a rook en prise. Schocat sacrificed a bishop against Purewal, but Sardul defended accurately to pocket the victory. Geoff looked like he was going to get his first victory (against Adam), but fell into a trap which left him with R+B vs Q, and Adam graciously offered a draw.

After two days Sia was leading by a half-point, but had not played any of the top players. Rob was a half-point back, but his play did not look that fearful (almost like the Rocket wasn't armed). Réjean also wasn't in good form, but managed to stay in contention with 2 points. Adam and Sardul were at 1.5. John was noticeably rusty after not playing any chess in 6 months. Newton was playing reasonably well, but blundered twice. Eric was not playing with any confidence and his results showed that.

(continued on page 4)

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

The Alberta Chess Report (ACR) is published by the Alberta Chess Association (ACA). Uncredited articles were written by the Editor. Opinions expressed hereindo not necessarily represent those of the ACA.

Editor: Len Steele

ACA Board of Directors

Ford Wong

President:

Vice-President: Mike Sekuloff
Secretary: Mike Barkwell
Treasurer: John Quiring
Past-President: Fred McFaul
Directors: Bill Bentley, Bruce Kiely, Phil
Lefkowitz, Brian Murdoch, Steven Peter,
Réjean Plante, Paul Usselman, Brad Willis.

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. Chess Federation of Canada membership includes ACA (required for Albertans): senior-\$30; junior-\$18; partic.-\$8/year.

Provide player's full name, address and CFC number (if previous member). Birthdate required for junior and participating members. Please state if a member is female. If submitting fees to ACA, phone number optional, but appreciated. Where applicable include school and grade, if possible.

ACR Deadline

Material for inclusion in the next ACR should be received by: June 20. Items received after that date may be delayed to a later ACR. (Up to 5 ACR's are published each year.)

Reminder to Tournament Directors

CFC regulations require a report to be submitted within 7 days of the end of an event. You owe it to your participants to send in rating and membership reports to the CFC as soon as possible. A written report can be sent then or a little later to both En Passant and the ACR (please support the ACR too!).

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)

CALGARY CC

Meets: Rosemont Community Assoc. Hall 2807-10 St NW. Tues., 7:00-11:00. Info: Barney Fegyverneki (243-6351; mail: c/o 1724-49 Ave SW, Calgary T2T 2T9).

CCC 1992-93 Schedule
In progress: Spring Open.
Jun 16: Grand Prix Speed. Rd 5.
July 7 & 14: Summer Active # 1. 6 rds.
(TD: Ted Wilson 240-1419).
July 21 & 28: Summer Active # 2. 6 rds.
(TD: Jim Van Wyck 265-0098).
Aug 4 & 11: Summer Active # 3. 6 rds.
(TD: Nick Podolchak 239-6898).
Aug 18 & 25: Summer Active # 4. 6 rds.
(TD: Arthur Odachowski 236-7853).
Sept 1: Pre-registration for Fall Open.
Sept 8 - Oct 20: Fall Open. 7 rds.
(TD: Tim McMurphy 253-9683).
Oct 27: Grand Prix Speed # 1. (TD for the

Oct 27: Grand Prix Speed # 1. (TD for the series: Ted Wilson 240-1419).

Nov 3 - Dec 15: Calgary CC Championship. 7 rds. (TD: Jim Daniluk 248-7456).

Dec 22: Grand Prix Speed # 2.

Dec 29: Fun and/or Speed Night.

Jan 5/93: Pre-registration for Calgary Closed. Jan 12 - Feb 23/93: Calgary Closed. 7 rds.

(TD: Greg Huber 286-1873).

Mar 2/93: Grand Prix Speed # 3. Mar 9 - Apr 20/93: Calgary Open. 7 rds.

(TD: Brian Starkes 243-2026).

Apr 27/93: Grand Prix Speed # 4. May 4 - Jun 15/93: Spring Open. 7 rds.

(TD: Jim Van Wyck 265-0098).

Jun 22/93: Grand Prix Speed # 5.

EDMONTON CC

Meets: Oliver Community Hall, 10326-118 St, Edmonton T5K 2K9, Thurs., 7:00-12:00. Info: George Heagle (425-1471), Arniel Frialde (481-2552).

ECC 1992 Schedule

In progress: So-You-Want-To-Leave-At-10:30 Open.

May 28: Speed Chess Tournament. Also: instruction by one of the club's top players. Jun 4-Jun 25: Memories of Fischer Open. 4 rds. Low entry fee: \$10 sr (\$13 non-ECC memb.), \$7 jr. Prizes: choice of trophies, books, cash.

<u>Jul 2-Jul 9</u>: Summer Active. 4 rds. \$10 sr (\$13 non-ECC memb.), \$7 ir.

Jul 16-Jul 30: Summer Round Robins. 3 rds. Groups of 4 by rating. \$12 sr (\$16 non-ECC memb.), \$8 jr.

<u>Aug 6-Aug 27</u>: August Open. 4 rds. 40/100, 15/30. \$12 sr (\$16 non-ECC memb.), \$8 jr. Sep 3: Annual General Meeting.

Sep 10: Edmonton Open begins.

(1992-93 schedule in a future ACR)

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

Meets: Hinton Municipal Library. "Group play" Wed., 5:00-8:00. "Casual play" during regular library hours.

Info: Bob McIntyre (865-2778; mail: 270 Eaton Dr. Hinton TOE 1B0).

NORTHERN COMMUNITIES CC

Meets: at Branko's home (near Boyle). Info: Branko Georgijevic (689-2476; mail: Box 558, Boyle TOA 0M0).

RED DEER CC

Meets: Monday evenings at the home of Jens Kaastrup (call Jens for directions). Info: Jens Kaastrup (346-6380 evenings) or Brian Murdoch (343-6664 daytime).

RIMBEY CC

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

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA CC

Meets: SUB 030D (basement), approx. 11:00-4:00 weekdays, September-April. Info: Louis Wang (430-9706; mail: Box 92, Students Union Bldg, U of A, Edmonton T6G 2J7).

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY CC

Meets: It appears that the club has "folded". Hopefully, it will restart in September!

(We rely on clubs to keep this information current. You may wish to confirm details.)

* CLUBS *

Please ensure that info on this page is correct. Remember, your members would like to see reports on your club's tournaments and activities in the ACR!

* ORGANIZERS *

Planning "weekend" tournament(s)?

Please send in details well in advance.

* TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS *

We would appreciate a copy of your En Passant report (or a story written for your fellow Albertans). Prize list, crosstable, and/or game(s) an asset. THANKS in advance!

NEWS FROM THE ACA

by Ford Wong, ACA President

Alberta Open again in Red Deer

The Alberta Open will be held in Red Deer for a second consecutive year. Traditionally, it alternates between Edmonton and Calgary, but last year the ACA Board of Directors chose to have it, for a change, in Red Deer. 1992 was supposed to be Calgary's turn, however, the Board again chose Red Deer.

This probably comes as a surprise and disappointment to some Calgarians but it was felt that the Red Deer chess community needed a boost and that having this prestigious event there again would stir up more local interest. Last year's Alberta Openin Red Deer brought out some "closet chess players". I encourage everyone, especially locals, to attend and help make it a success. I hope to see all of you there in Red Deer.

For Calgarians, you may rest assured that the Alberta Open for 1993 will definitely be in Calgary and then you can be home team.

Community Outreach Chess Challenge / Education

The ACA is running a new project in 1992, entitled "Community Outreach Chess Challenge / Education". It is aimed mainly at rural communities in an effort to promote rural chess and aid local chess clubs. A Recreation, Parks and Wildlife grant will allow the ACA to host several "Amateur (non-rated) chess tournaments" and "training sessions" in rural communities (Red Deer included) in the late summer and fall of '92.

The project consists of two parts: a "tournament side" and an "education side". For the "tournament side" several communities will be targetted to host tournaments, which will be free to participants and only for unrated/low-rated players. This will provide opportunities for chess players in rural Alberta to play in an organized tournament against other local players. For the "education" side of the project, communities may write to the ACA to request that a strong player visit to give chess lessons — this will also provide a training opportunity for teachers who sponsor players to the Canadian Chess Challenge.

If you want to *help out* or are interested in having the ACA run one of these events in your community, please contact the ACA (mailing address on page 2).

"Chess Training"

The ACA will be hosting some formal chess training, with expert players to present the training in Edmonton and possibly Calgary. Each course will consist of a 3 hour session on a specific topic (such as endgames, tactics, specific openings, etc.). For many of you who would like to learn more about playing chess and who do not have time to study chess books this will be a perfect opportunity to learn. There will be a nominal charge to cover costs. The first course given will be a pilot course for future courses to come. Watch for announcements next ACR.

ACA Questionnaires

Thanks to everyone who sent in a completed ACA questionnaire (results in a future ACR). The draw for a copy of the latest *Informant* will be held soon and the winner will be announced in the next ACR.

Co-Champions Declared in the 1992 Alberta Closed

Greg Huber and Arnie Frialde are the 1992 Alberta Closed Co-Champions. Greg, by virtue of a better tie-break score, received the benefits normally awarded to a "sole champion", including travel to the Canadian Closed, and entry into the 1993 Alberta Closed. (The ACR expects to receive a full report for publication in the next issue.)

Volunteer Recognition

The ACA would like to recognize the following individual for his volunteer effort in promoting chess in Alberta:

Barney Fegyverneki

In addition to his organizing and directing achievements in Calgary and at the Calgary Chess Club, Barney has recently helped the ACA by arranging for playing sites for the Alberta Closed and ACA-sponsored weekend tournaments in Calgary. Thanks, Barney!

(If you know of someone who has made continuing and/or specific contributions to the promoting of chess in Alberta, the ACA would like to recognize them in the ACR—please submit details to the ACA.)

Qualifying for the 1993 Alberta Closed

A summary of rules for participation in the Alberta Closed was printed in the February 1992 ACR (vol. 17, no. 1, page 3) and will be reprinted from time to time. Potential entrants should be familiar with the rules.

Official Notice by the CFC regarding Roy Yearwood

As stated on page 3 of the previous ACR (Vol. 17, No. 1) there were problems with submission of memberships and rating reports associated with three tournaments run in 1991 in Calgary by Roy Yearwood. Two have been rated (Heritage Day, Labour Day)—crosstables for them had been provided to the CFC by the ACR. However, it does not appear that Mr. Yearwood fulfilled his obligations as the following notice appeared in Northern, the official organ of the Chess Federation of Canada, #51, March 1992, in the "Blacklist" section:

Those organizers who have been barred from running CFC rated tournaments: ... Roy Yearwood, Calgary. (Omitted herein are two persons in Ontario.)

If an official change in the status of Mr. Yearwood occurs, the ACR will let Albertans know as soon as possible. In the meantime, be aware that events organized or directed by Mr. Yearwood will not be recognized by the CFC as long as the "ban" remains in effect.

A Short, Short Editorial

This issue was delayed waiting for tournament notices. I squeezed in all I could in the allotted maximum 10 pages, but had to omit diagrams and some games, plus ACA Questionnaire results (those results and perhaps some of the games in future ACR's).

Canadian Correspondence Chess Assoc.

Have you had the pleasure of chess by mail? Young/old, experts/beginners take part. A wide variety of tournaments is available, both in your own class and in open events leading to the Canadian Championship. Play people all over the world in our international program. Best of all, you can make friends and enjoy yourself in the comfort of your own home! Exciting and instructive games plus 6 issues of CHECK! for an annual membership fee of only \$19 adults or \$16 if under 18 or over 65. For free details and a sample copy of CHECK! (only \$3) write:

Manny Migicovsky RR #1, L'Original, ON, K0K 1K0 J. Van Wyck - W. Lahrkamp (annotated by Van Wyck)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 d6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 c6 5.Nf3 Nd76.Be2e57.O-O Ne78.dxe5dxe59.Bg5 f6 10.Be3 Oc7 11.b4 O-O 11... c5? 12.Nb5 Qb6 13.Nd6+ Kf8 14.bxc5 Nxc5? 15.Rb1 -/+ Qc7 16.Bxc5 Qxc5 17.Nxb7 Bxb7 18.Rxb7 -/+. 12.c5 Kh8 13.Qb3 a6 14.Rfd1 h6 15.Nd2 f5 16.f3 Nf6 17.Nc4 Be6 18.Rd6 Bg8 19.Rad1 Rae8 20.Qc2 f4 21.Bf2 Nc8 22.R6d2 Bxc4 23.Bxc4 g5 24.Na4 Re7 25.Nb6 Rfe8 26.Nxc8 Qxc8 27.Rd6 Nh7 28.R1d3 g4? 28... Nf8, with the idea Ne6, Nd4; I'd likely have to capture it on e6. 29.Bh4 Ng5 30.Qd1? Unclear, and allows Black the 30 ... gf3! freeing shot. 30.Bxg5 hxg5 31.fxg4 -+ Bf8 (forced) 32.Qdl and only now 32... Qc7 33.Rg6 Kh7 34.Rxg5 Bh6 35.Rh3 Rd7 36.Qe1 and the threat Rxh6 cannot be met. 30... Kh7?? -+ 30... gxf3! 31 Bxg5 Qg4 32.Qxf3 Qxg5! 31.Bxg5 hxg5 32.fxg4 Bf8 forced 33.Qf3? Not as fast as 33.Rh3+ Kg7 34.Rhh6 +-. 33... Kh8 34.Rg6 Kh7 35.Rdd6 Re636.Rdxe6 Rxe637.Rxe6 Qd8 38.Qh3+ Kg7 39.Qh6+ Kf7 40.Qg6++ (1-0).

W. Bentley - A. Milne (annotated by Milne)

1.d4 d6 To play this, Black must be willing to play the Pirc after 2.e4. 2.c4 Bill sticks to QP openings. 2... e5 3.Nf3 e4 4.Ng5 f5 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.e3 Be7 7.Nh3 c6 8.Be2 O-O 9.d5 c5 10.0-O Na6 Heading for c7 to support b5 and protect e6. 11.a3 Nc7 12.b4 b6 To keep the Q-side pawn barrier intact. 13.Bb2 Nd7! 14.f3 exf3 15.Rxf3/? Ne5 16.Rf1 Bf6 17.Nf4 Nf7 To restrain e4 directly & indirectly. 18.Bd3 Ng5 19.Qc2 Be5 Pressuring f4, temporarily stopping e4. 20.Rae1 g6 21.Bc1 Finally threatening e4. 21... Qf6 22.Nce2 Qg7 23.e4 At last! 23... Nxe4 24.Bxe4 fxe4 25.Ng3 Bd7 26.Nxe4 Rae8 Now that he's fully developed, Black offers a draw ... 27.Nd3?! ... which White refuses. 27... Rxf1+28.Kxf1?! 28.Rxf1 Bxh2+ and Black should carry the day despite his weakness on the long black diagonal. 28... Bd4 29.Bb2? 29 Nef2 is OK. 29 ... Rf8+ Blackrefuses White's draw offer. 30.N4f2 If 30 Ke2 Bg4+ 31 Kd2 Qh6+. 30... Bf5 31.Bxd4 Qxd4 (0-1) The N/ d3 is lost, e.g. 32.Rd1 Bxd3+ 33.Rxd3 Rxf2+ 34.Qxf2 Qxd3+, forcing the exchange of Q's.

Alberta Women's Closed by Craig Vokey (TD)

Urmila Das won the 1992 Women's Closed with a score of 3/4. Good luck to Urmila in the Canadian Championship! Beatrice Wu and Dianna Palamarek tied for 2nd-3rd with 2.5/4. Cynthia Wu provided Urmila's only loss, finishing fourth with 2/4. Amanda Dodd-Flower, while not scoring a win, played well, and we can expect to see her name more often in the future.

1991 Southern Alberta Open by Barney Fegyverneki (TD)

Greg Huber had to share first place with Andrew Paduch when he made an error in a won position against Andrew in the last round. Top Under 2000 prizes were split by Jim Daniluk and our illustrious President, Ford Wong, each with 3/4. Jim played well, losing only to Huber, while Ford could've taken first with a last round win against Rocket Rob Gardner — alas, this was not to be, although it must be admitted (begrudgingly) that Ford played strongly this tournament. Top Under 1800 went to long-lost Tony Hamilton, who came back to knock off Alberta Open Champion Azmat Hussain. Ben Vandermeer took 2nd Under 1800.

J. Van Wyck - J. Daniluk (comments by Van Wyck)

To be publishable, a chess game should be beautiful, instructive, or funny. This is none of the above, but at least it's only 15 moves long. 1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 Bg7 5.e3 Ne4 6.Qd3 c6 7.Ne5 O-O 8.f3 Nd6 9.Qd2 f6 10.Nd3 e5 11.dxe5 fxe5 12.Nxe5 Qe7 13.Nd3 Nc4 14.Qe2 Nxb2 15.Nxd5 Pure spite. 15.cxd5 (0-1). Another reason to publish a game may be when an obscure player impresses a strong player with an opening system. One thinks of MacCutcheon defeating Lasker, or Caro and Kann convincing Botvinnik. Huber-Paduch, with the tourney on the line, began with 1.d4 2.Nf3 3 Nc3 4 Bf4 5.e3 — Mr. Huber failed to appreciate the strength and subtlety of 6.Qd3 and played something else.

O. Farid - W. Lahrkamp 1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.c4 d6 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Be2 O-O 6.Nf3 Na6 7.O-O c5 8.d5 Nc7 9.Bf4 Nh5 10.Be3 e5 11.Qd2 a6 12.Ne1 Qe8 13.Bxh5 gxh5 14.Bh6 f5 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.f4fxe417.Nxe4Qg618.Qe3exf419.Rxf4 Bf5 20.Ng3 Rae8 21.Qc3+ Kg8 22.Nf3 Bg4 23.Rxf8+ Rxf8 24.Rf1 b5 25.Nd2 Rxf1+ 26.Ngxf1 bxc4 27.Qxc4h4 28.Ne3 h5 29.Qe4 Kf7 30.h3 Bd7 31.Qxh4 Ne8 32.Ne4 Bb5 33.Qf4+ Ke7 34.Nf5+ Kd7 35.Nh4 Qh7 36.Oxd6+ Nxd6 37.Nf6+ Ke7 38.Nxh7 Bc4 39.Ng6+ Kf7 40.Ne5+ Kg7 41.Nxc4 Nxc4 42.b3 Nb6 43.Ng5 Kf6 44.Ne4+ Ke5 45.Nxc5 a5 46.d6 Kxd6 47.Nb7+ Kc6 48.Nxa5+ Kb5 49.Nc4 (1-0).

Calgary Chess Club Championship by Barney Fegyverneki (TD)

Last round upsets created a 4-way tie for first among John Parrott, Wilf Lahrkamp, Farzan Nazarian, and Jim Daniluk, all 5-2. Jim chose the Top Under 2000 prize, and tiebreak gave John 1st and Wilf 2nd. Art Milne was Top Under 1800 at 4.5/7, while Scott Wallace was Top Under 1600 with 3.5 points, and David Leikeim had 2.5 points to finish as the Top Unrated player.

Edmonton Closed, continued from page 1 ...

Round 4: Out of the opening Rob inflicted structural weaknesses on Eric's position in exchange for development, and after 75 moves and 7.5 hours, which included an adjournment, they agreed to a draw. Plante crushed Sia to keep his hopes alive for first. This loss seemed to affect Sam badly as he was only able to score a half-point in the remaining three rounds. Sardul dropped a pawn in the opening, but Geoff was not able to make any progress and accepted a draw. Baser gained an advantage over Wu in a Najdorf Sicilian, but missed some tactical threats and got mated.

Round 5: Rob inflicted an attack on himself by pawn grabbing and barely managed to hold on, but got an easily winning endgame versus Newton. Eric was greatly disappointed that Réjean avoided his Smith-Morra Gambit, so punished him with the longest game - close to 8 hours — in which he forced Réjean to queen a pawn before he resigned (by the way, I'd like to thank Eric for such a long day, finishing at 1 a.m., and with his adjournment with Gardner at 8 a.m. the next morning). John's trouble continued when he turned down a draw offer by Sardul and abruptly misplayed a better endgame, to lose. As a student of M. Yip, Sam was taught that the KID loses by force — unfortunately, things are not so easy. Sam ended up losing one of the most interesting games of the tourney to Adam Wu.

S. Sia - A. Wu (annotated by Sia)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 O-O 6.Be3 e57.d5 a5!? This game transposes to main lines, but this move may be too committal. More flexible is 7... c6, with the idea of 8... cxd5 or 8... b5. 8.Bd3 Na6 9.Nge2 Bd7 10.Qd2 Nc5 11.Bc2 b6?! Allows a pin on the h4-d8 diagonal and loses a tempo should Black decide to play b7b5 later on. The immediate 11... Nh5, with the idea of 12... f5, is more consistent. The position is +/-12.Bg5! Qe8 13.g4 b5 14.h4?! 14.cxb5 is more solid, with a possible continuation being 14... Bxb5 15.h4. This variation is the same as the text, except that the text loses a pawn, and because of the excellent placement of Black's pawn on c4, allows more counterplay. 14... bxc4 15.h5 a4! The quickest way of gaining Q-side counterplay. The position has diminished to only a slight advantage for White. 16.Ng3 Rb8 16...a3 17.bxa3 Rxa3 takes advantage of what would be an overworked White Queen should White play 18.Bh6. 16... Qb8 17. Rb1 is unclear. 17.0-0-0!? The centre may be the safest place for White's King, but he must first find a way to protect b2. 17 Rb1 is not as favourable here because Black has not committed his Queen to the b-file. 17... Rb6 18.Nf5 18.Bh6 Qb8 Bxf5 forced 19.exf5!? This move is played with the idea of 20 Bxf6 Bxf6 21.g5, followed by f5-f6 and hxg6, with a forced win. However, it allows a crucial and gamesaving central break. 19.gxf5 maintains the tension. 19 ... e4! 20.Bxf6? It is difficult to see how Black would defend his position after 20.Qh2! Qb8 21.Bb1 Nfd7 (or else 22 Bxf6, 23.hxg6 +-) 22.f6! Bxf6 (or 22... Nxf6 23.Bxf6 Bxf6) 23.hxg6 +-. 20... Bxf6 21.g5 Now, 21.Qh2 fails to 21 ... g5! 21... Bxc3!? 21... e3! gives Black a huge advantage. For example, 22.Qh2 e2! 23 Rde1 Qe3+ 24.Kb1 Bxc3 -+. 22.bxc3?? After opening up the b-file completely, White loses by force. 22.Qxc3 Qe5 is favourable for Black, but White can hold on for a little longer. 22... Nd3+! 23.Bxd3 exd3 24.hxg6 fxg6 24... Qb8 or 24... Qb5 also win. 25.Qh2 Qf7 26.Qh4 Rfb8 27.Qxc4 Qxf5 28.f4 Rb1+ 29.Kd2 R8b2+ 30.Ke3 Re2+ 31.Kf3 Rxd1 32.Rxh7 Rf1+ 33.Kg3 Re3+ 34.Kg2 Qg4+ 35.Kxf1 Qf3+ (0-1).

After 5 rounds the race for first was very tight. Rob and Réjean both had 4 points. (I was hoping there'd be a clear winner because nobody had said if there would be a match or tiebreak in case of a tie, and I didn't want the added responsibility.) Adam Wu was a halfpoint back and was playing strongly. Sia was floundering badly after losing two in a row. Tied with Sam at 3 points was Sardul, who was playing solidly. Geoff and John each had 1 point. Eric was at the bottom with 0.5, but after drawing Rob he gained in confidence and played better.

Round 6: Rob reeled off another win with the Closed (ugh!) Sicilian, over John Baser. Réjean got lucky for the second time, as Adam misplayed a won opposite-B ending up two pawns, and drew. Sia got a good game playing Black in a Panno KID against Sardul and drew. Geoff won an exchange against Eric, but Eric's pieces were well placed and Geoff had to give the material back, which resulted in an easy draw.

Round 7: Sam unwisely let Rob play the Benko and lost in a difficult rook ending. Réjean went pawn grabbing, quickly getting into a lost position, but he managed to defend, with help from Geoff, and a draw was agreed. Eric got his first win of the tournament, over John, in an exciting Dragon Sicilian. Adam fell into an opening trap on the White side of a Petroff and lost quickly to Sardul.

S. Sia - R. Gardner (annotated by Gardner)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 A blunder. Now White loses by force. Amazingly, some foolish players insist on preferring the White side of the Benko. 3... b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.Nc3 Bxa6 7.e4 Bxf1 8.Kxf1 d6 9.g3 Bg7 10.Kg2 0-0 11.Nf3 Nbd7 12.Qc2 Nb6 Fedorowicz gives a line which seems to lead to the elimination of the a-, b-, and c-pawns, resulting in a dull position. Since I didn't like this line and could not remember

control of the long diagonal. 14... Qc8 15.h3 Ne5 16.Nxe5 An alternative is 16 Nd2. Maybe Black would reply with 16 ... c4, aiming to create a d3-outpost or to break up White's queenside pawnstructure. 16... Bxe5 17.Bb2 f5 This pawn push aims to open the f-file for the Black rook and to weaken White's central pawns for the endgame. With White's kingside knight traded off, it is not as risky to give White an e6-outpost. 18.14 I expected 18.f3, supporting the central pawn structure, followed perhaps by the maneuver Ne2-f4e6. 18... Bd4 An active outpost from which the bishop can shield White's d-pawn from being protected along the file. 19.exf5 White could play something like 19.04 so that, if Black captures on e4, White can centralize his queen. Note that after 19.exf5 all five of Black's pieces are well placed for captures and that captures are often crucial inforcing sequences. 19... Qxf5 20.Qxf5 Rxf5 The absence of White's e-pawn makes d5 a target. 21.Rxe7 Nxd5 Not 21... Bxc3 22 Bxc3 Nxd5 23.Rg7+ Kf8 24.Rxh7. 22.Nxd5 Bxb2 23.Rb1 Rxa2 I considered 23 ... Bd4, hoping for something like 24 Nb6 Rxa2+ 25 Kf3? Rf2+ 26.Kg4 (26.Ke4 Re2+) 26... h5+ 27.Kh4 Bf6++. After 24 Ne3 Rxa2 + 25 Kf3 I felt that it might be hard to activate my rook on f5 and I was concerned that his knight might be an effective blockader on d5. I also felt that, if I was going to trade off minor pieces, I would prefer to also trade off one pair of rooks to limit his chances at counterplay. 24.Re2 Forced to counter the threats of 24... Rxd5 and 24... Bf6+. 24... Rxd5 25.Rbxb2 Rxb2 26.Rxb2 Rd3 I played this fairly quickly based on the following reasoning: I felt that Black's rook was active and White's was passive. White's king must protect some pawns, whereas Black can centralize his king. Black already has a passed pawn and has prospects of getting connected passed pawns, which can be very important in rook endings. However, 26... Rd4, covering b4, may have been better. 27.K12 27.b4 makes White's rook look active. White threatens to trade off one of Black's pawns or to get a strong passed pawn of his own. After 27... c4 28.b5 the continuation 28... c3 29 Rb1 looks drawish since Black cannot support his c-pawn while stopping White's b-pawn. Another plausible drawing continuation is 28... Rb329 Rd2 (rather than the move I had predicted, 29.Rc2, which just loses a pawn to 29 ... d5) 29 ... Rxb5 30.Rxd6 Rc5 31 Rd2 c3 32.Rc2 Kf7 33 Kf3 Ke6 34.Ke4 Rc4+ 35.Kd3 Kd5 36.Rxc3 Rxc3+ 37.Kxc3 Ke4 38.Kc4 Kf3, 39.Kd4 Kxg3 40.Ke5 Kxh3 41.f5 gxf5 42.Kxf5 h5 43.Kf4. 27... Kf7 28.Rb1 If 28.b4, then 28... c4 29.b5 Rb3 30 Rd2 Ke6. Only around this point did I realize that crossing the e-file with my king would give White the chance to shift his rook to the third rank. 28 ... Ke6 29.Re1+ Kd7 I was concerned about 29 ... Kd5 30.Re7 Rxb3 31.Rxh7, giving White counterplay, and I'm too lazy to figure this line out now. 30.Re3 Rd2+ In my confused calculations after 30... Rxe3, I was not able to find a win. 31.Re2 Rd4 32.Kf3 Rb4 33.Re3 d5 Now White seems to be passive, while Black is making a bit of progress. 34.Rc3 Maybe White should

it anyways, I decided to try something different.

13.Re1 Ng4 14.b3 Preparing Bb2 to fight for

aim for a line like 34 Rd3 Kd6 35.g4 d4 36.Ke4 Rb8 37.f5 gxf5 38.gxf5 Re8+39.Kf4 Kd5 40.Rg3, but then 40... Re4+41.Kg5 Re3 looks good. 34... Kd6 35.g4 d4 The attack on the rook gains time, preventing White from occupying e4 with his king. 36.Rd3 Kd5 37.h4 White is getting close to zugzwang. 37... Rb8 38.f5 The rest is easy. I preferred 38.g5, enabling White to follow up 39.f5 gxf5 with 40.Kf4 (since 40... fxg4 is no longer possible). The continuation 38... Re8 looks good after 39.f5 gxf5 40.Kf4 Re4+41.Kxf5 Re3 or 39.h5 gxh5 40.f5 Ke5 41.f6 Rg8. 38... gxf5 39.gxf5 Ke5 40.Kg4 Rg8+ 41.Kh5 Kxf5 42.Kh6 Ke4 43.Kxh7 Rb8 44.Rd1 d3 (0-1).

In conclusion, I would like to congratulate Rob Gardner on winning the Edmonton Closed, and the rest of the players for great fighting spirit and cooperation, making it an enjoyable weekend. I also wish Rob good luck in the Alberta Closed.

Top-Rated Albertans (as of March 14/92) Torsten Linker 2379 Robert South2336 Greg Huber2300 Fred South 2272 • Arniel Frialde2266 Rob Gardner 2240 Andrew Paduch 2237 Roy Yearwood2212 • Dale Haessel 2207 Zoltan Baunok2194 • Brad Willis2160 Gordon Campbell 2160 • Milan Rabljenovic2145 • Wilf Lahrkamp2138 Arthur Odachowski2128 Farzan Nazarian2126 Réjean Plante2120 Neil Sharp2118 Paul Thibodeau2109 Barney Fegyverneki 2095 John Parrott2082 Chris Demers2077 Paul Usselman2073 Andrew Dudek2061 Omar Farid2058 Ted Wilson2043 Lev Becker2037 • Bob Bosenius2035 • Tony Dy Reyes2029 • Darse Billings.....2027 Chris Kuczaj2023 • Vincent Young2015 • Ken Salmon......2013 Jim Daniluk2011

"•" = not known (by ACR) to have played in a regular-rated <u>Alberta</u> event in approx. the past year. Only current or "recent" (expired in the past year) ACA members are included.

Red Deer Chess Club Championship by Brian Murdoch (TD)

Playing in only his second rated tournament, Henry Vandervaart's 6.5/7 score made him the Club Champion. The event was a single round robin with 8 players competing. The winner was held to a draw in the 4th round by the ultimate 3rd-place finisher, Dave Krajca, recently arrived in Canada. This set up a great final round meeting of Vandervaart and Jens Kaastrup, having 5.5/6 and 6/6, respectively, going into the game. With characteristic good sportsmanship, Jens presented Henry with the local club trophy after the game.

Rounding out the field were Skylar Longley in 4th (he could easily have been among the contenders if not for a couple of early round blunders), followed by Don Johnson, Peter Simieritsch, Mike McMarthy, and Irvin Daae.

The Red Deer Chess Club looks forward to hosting a bigger and better Alberta Open during the Thanksgiving weekend in October, so mark your calendars now!

1992 Northern Alberta Open by Len Steele (TD)

Torsten Linker, a German import studying chemistry at the U of A, lengthened his string of victories by notching a perfect 5-0. Réjean Plante (also Top 1900-2099) and Greg Huber finished at 4-1, losing to Torsten in rounds 5 and 4, respectively. Following with 3.5 were Eric Schocat (2nd 1900-2099), and Rod Thiel and Tim Philip (shared 1700-1899). The 1500-1699 leaders were Mike Zukiwski and Paul Jachowicz, while John Westfall and Randy Gouge tied for the Under 1500 prize. Nathan Steingart received a book prize as the Top Junior.

```
2359 +18 + 8 + 4 + 2 + 3 5.0
1 T Linker
2 G Huber
              2257 +12 +19 +10 - 1 + 8 4.0
              2082 +25 +23 +14 + 7 - 1 4.0
3 R Plante
4 T Philip
              1885 + 24 + 13 - 1 + 10 = 5 3.5
             1928 + 27 - 14 + 9 + 6 = 4 3.5
5 E Schocat
              1887 + 31 = 7 + 21 - 5 + 19 3.5
6 R Thiel
7 R Gardner 2275 +11 = 6 +15 - 3 = 13 3.0
8 J Sheahan 1914 +26 - 1 +17 +23 - 2 3.0
9 M Zukiwski 1696 -13 +24 - 5 +28 +20 3.0
             1815 +32 +22 - 2 - 4 +25 3.0
10 U Das
11 N Steingart 1734 - 7 +31 =22 =20 +21 3.0
12 P Jachowicz 1688 - 2 = 20 = 27 + 24 + 23 3.0
13 A Frialde 2261 + 9 - 4 bye +14 = 7 3.0
2.5: 14 H Climenhaga; 15 C Dewindt;
16 G Woodward; 17 B Dagenais; 18 S Ricketts
2.0: 19 R Emo; 20 R Gouge; 21 M Beaulieu;
22 S Fairbairn; 23 B Knudskov; 24 J Westfall;
25 A Sun; 26 R Trikha
1.5: 27 S Chan; 28 S Longley; 29 S Das
```

1.0: 30 W Steingart

0.5: 31 P Montambault; 32 W Mendryk

Mukluk Open by Phil Lefkowitz

Another excellent Peace River Grand Prix event was staged, this time in Ft. St. John, B.C. Top-rated **Joseph Herodek**, of Prince George, took first place with a fine 3.5 points out of 4.

Host Larry Stutzman (Ft. St. John) and Phil Lefkowitz (Grande Prairie) tied for second with 3.

The Under-1600 prize was taken back to Grande Prairie in the hands of Paul McGinnis and Gerry Scherer, who tied with 2 points.

A very special thanks to the crew from Prince George, who travelled 300+ miles to bang heads, and to Larry Stutzman (TD) and Jim Kanester (Organizer).

Swan City Active by Phil Lefkowitz (TD & Organizer)

Jim Kanester of Dawson Creek, thirdhighest rated in the tournament, ended his Peace River Grand Prix season with a bang, scoring a perfect 4-0. As good as this result was, it was not quite good enough to boost his GP total sufficiently to net him a prize when the final overall Grand Prix results were computed.

Cliff Turner (Grande Prairie) took second Over-1600 with a 3-1 performance.

The Under-1600 category resulted in a 3-way tie between Jim Roy, of the Swan City, and Marcus Laing and Brian Waldie, both of Dawson Creek.

Thanks to Jim Kanester for helping to organize the Grand Prix and running some of the events.

1991-92 8th Annual Alberta-B.C. Peace River Grand Prix

by Jim Kanester

The 8th Annual Peace River Grand Prix was completed on March 28th at the Swan City Active in Grande Prairie. Congratulations to Grant MacTavish, of Dawson Creek, who won our Grand Prix for the second year in a row with 13.5 of a possible 16 points. Larry Stutzman (Ft. St. John) finished second with 12 points. In the Under-1650 rating class, Ray Irwin (Dawson Creek) was first with 10 points, and junior Jim Roy (Sexsmith) was second at 8 points. Prizes to the winners included cash and a large perpetual trophy to the overall winner.

There were may successes of the Grand Prix this year. Our extra advertising paid off, with each of the three regular tournaments attracting three expert-rated players from outside the area. The average number of participants per tournament was 13, an excellent turnout for our small population base compared to large city tournaments. Only 7 players qualified for the Grand Prix by playing in 4 of the 6 tournaments, but 26 local players and 7 out-ot-towners participated. Competition was fierce, as usual, with 5 different players winning Grand Prix events. Our next project is to raise our profile by getting some of our players' games in the national and provincial chess magazines. Organizers of the GP series were the chess clubs of Dawson Creek, Ft. St. John and Grande Prairie.

For those of you who missed our Grand Prix events this time, we are planning another full season again next year (see back page). See you September 26 and 27 at Dawson Creek's Golden Harvest Open!

U of A S.M.H. Open #2 by Craig Vokey (TD)

Eighteen people came to play in this 4-round Swiss held on March 21-22 at the University of Alberta. This tournament was held jointly with the Alberta Women's Closed.

Torsten Linker notched a perfect 4-0 to claim top spot. Torsten showed why he is almost 2400 as he was never in any serious trouble during the tournament, defeating masters Greg Huber and Rob Gardner along the way.

Eric Schocat went 3/4 to claim Top Under 2000 and Lloyd Yeudall was Top Unrated with an identical 3/4 score.

Thanks to those who came from far away, and to Robby Gardner and Len Steele for covering for me while I was unavailable (he was off at a karate tournament or class! - ed.).

L. Erdos - G. Huber

1.Nf3 g6 2.g3 Bg7 3.Bg2 d5 4.d3 d6 5.O-O f5 6.c3 Nf6 7.Re1 O-O 8.Qb3+ Kh8 9.Ng5 d5 10.c4 c6 11.Nc3 d4 12.Na4 h6 13.Nf3 Re8 14.e3 dxe 15.Bxe3 Nbd7 16.Rad1 Qe7 17.Bf4 e4 18.dxe fxe 19.Bd6 Qf7 20.Nd2 Ng4 21.Nxe4 Rxe4 22.Rxe4 Qxf2+ 23.Kh1 Nf6 24.Bc5 Qf5 25.Rf4 Qh5 26.Rd8+ Kh7 27.Bg1 b5 28.cxb Be6 29.Qxe6 Rxd8 30.Bf3 cxb 31.Nc3 Re8 32.Bxg4 Rxe6 33.Bxh5 Nxh5 34.Rf7 b4 35.Nd5 Re1 36.Rd7 g5 37.Kg2 Kg6 38.Bxa7 Re2+ 39.Kf3 Rxb2 40.g4 Nf6 41.Rd6 Rxa2 42.Bd4 Rxh2 43.Nxf6 Bxf6 44.Kg3 Rh1 45.Rxf6+ Kh7 46.Rf7+Kg8 47.Rg7+Kf8 48.Rh7 b3 49.Rb7 (draw).



ALBERTA JUNIOR CHESS REPORT

(A special section of the Alberta Chess Report, May 1992)

The 1992 Canadian Junior by Adam Wu

Due to the dates (Dec 27 to Jan 2), I wasn't sure if this was the 1991 or the 1992 Junior. It was held in Scarborough, Ontario, after the original tournament organizers backed down at the last moment. Yves Farges, organizer and TD, did a great job of picking up the pieces, considering the short notice.

With 9 of the top 10 juniors in the country, this was one of the strongest Juniors ever, although not the strongest, as Yves informed us. (No doubt partially due to the participation of yours truly.) Unlike other strong Juniors, however, which were close dogfights to the very end, this was a cakewalk. Alexandre Lesiège only mildly surprised everyone by ploughing through the field. He finished with 10.5/11, a record score, and came within inches of achieving a perfect score before Peter Olszewski held him to a draw in the last round. Alexandre clinched first prize with three rounds to spare.

He was aided by Ron Livshits, considered to be his closest challenger, having a subpar tournament. Ron finished with 7/11, tied for 3rd-4th with Andrew Paduch of Calgary, whom I felt had a pretty good tournament. Second place was taken by Adam Littke, who finished with 8/11. Also having a very good tournament were Sherwin MohammadNabi of B.C., who finished with 5.5/11 after starting 3rd-lowest ranked, and Peter Ferguson, who was in the race for second up till the end. He finished with 6.5/ 11. The race for second, incidentally, provided most of the interest in the tournament. Another sidelight was one in which I participated directly - the race to avoid last.

I finished with 3.5/11, good enough for 10th place. Yves considered this to be a very good result, all things considered. I have to admit that I was pleased, but should have done much better. My play was marred by inconsistency. I played some games very well, but in others I played extremely poorly.

The first round set a trend, whereby Lesiège systematically pulverized his closest rivals in their individual games, polishing off Littke. The other games went much as expected, with White winning 5.5 out of 6. I had the honor of pulling off the first upset.

The astronomical luck through which I qualified for this tournament left residues all over my first few games. I have analyzed this strange trend and certain patterns begin to emerge. I seemed especially lucky in sharp,

tactical games where my opponents were in severe time trouble. For some reason, they always seem to fall into one or two move traps which I set for them (traps, incidentally, which I don't set intentionally).

My first round game proved to be no different. I had white against Peter Olszewski. Playing my normal 1.e4, Peter chose to respond with the Scheveningen Sicilian. Having never faced this opening, I responded with the Keres Attack, an opening I had never studied. Not surprisingly, I left the main book lines on the very next move. Two moves later my opponent played what he claimed to be a blunder. In the post mortem, he convinced me that it was not the best move, but I still don't see where the blunder comes in. Suffice to say that he spent loads of precious time trying to remedy the situation. By move 10 he had used up 1:14 compared to my 0:10, and by move 20 he had less than a minute left to reach time control (move 40). Throughout the previous 10 moves of the middlegame I had held a definite initiative, but I had nothing concrete. Two moves later my opponent found an ingenious way of dropping an exchange.

The second round went as expected again, but Olszewski drew Livshits and Ferguson defeated Bryan Lamb. Considering Bryan's track record in junior and cadet events, this should not be considered an upset.

In my second round game, an opening error in the black side of a Classical King's Indian against Adam Littke (as Yves said while telling us our pairings before the round, Adam plays Adam, and Adam gets white) left me with the book position one tempo behind. I was able to pick up the pieces, but due to my opening mistake my position remained far from desirable. After missing an opportunity to gain some counterplay by saccing a pawn, Littke gave a textbook demonstration on how to use outposts. The rest was too horrible to describe, although I did get the chance to try a cheapo at the end.

The next big upset occurred in round 3. Refusing to accept the reality of a drawn position against Littke, Livshits sacced a piece and ended up losing. With Lesiège leading Bryan to the slaughterhouse (no pun intended), only Andrew Paduch and Peter Ferguson stayed close to Alex.

I had white against Eduard Nunes. This time, it started out as a Najdorf, which transposed into a Polugaevsky. My opponent felt that it was possible that I was not versed in the intricacies of this somewhat obscure

opening — he was right. Aside from the fact that I can neither spell nor say the name, I deviated on the next move. Once again, however, I was able to steer the game into tactical complications just as my opponent was getting into time pressure. I got a marked advantage, but played wishy-washy afterwards, allowing my plus to dissipate. By move 30 my opponent had a won game, but his time pressure saved my skin. He blundered after missing a clear win, allowing me to squeak out a draw.

Ron got a chance to recover from his loss in the next round when Eduard Nunes forgot the round times and forfeited. Meanwhile, Peter Ferguson beat Andrew, letting Lesiège coast into sole possession of first place, where he stayed for the rest of the tournament. The other perfect scores (Danny Federkevic and Bryan Lamb had zero going in) also ended. Danny held Peter O. to a draw. My own game with Bryan helped determine my play for the next five games.

Bryan Lamb - Adam Wu 1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.Nge2 Nf6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Apparently, Bryan plays this move order in hopes his opponent will fianchetto and transpose to a Dragon. I was happy to oblige. 5... g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 O-O 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.O-O-O Rc8 11.Bb3 Ne5 12.h4 Nc4 13.Bxc4 Rxe4 14.Nde2!? Usually, h5 is played immediately, but this should transpose eventually. 14... Re8 15.Bg5?! There is no purpose to this move. It is likely the cause of White's subsequent difficulties. h5 transposes back into the book, and e5 is also interesting. 15... Qa5! He who hesitates is lost. The hesitant Bg5 must be answered by violent means. After the game, Bryan told me he had analyzed to a win for White in all variations following Bg5, but had missed looking at the move I actually played. I can't say that I agree with such tactics. Analysis that far ahead is not likely to be accurate unless you are a Super GM, and it wastes time. If he wishes to succeed, a chess player must be confident enough of his abilities to trust his instincts in unclear positions and mix it up. 16.g4 Rec8 17.h5 Be6 18.hxg fxg 19.Bh6 Bh8 20.Qe3 R4c5 21.Kb1 Nxg4!? I had been eyeing this sacrifice for a long time. At this moment, however, it leads only to a draw with accurate play. White's attack has gotten nowhere, whereas Black has 2 B's, 2 R's and a Q poised to blow White's king position to dust. Nxg4 appeared to be a strong, forcing continuation, but I overlooked that by forcing White to clear his own f-file, I was giving him a ready-made avenue for counterattack. The simple b5! leaves White helpless to do anything but watch his Q-side disintegrate. 22.fxg4 Rxc3 23.Nxc3 Rxc3 24.Rhf1? Should lose. After 24.bxc3 Bxc3 25.Qxc3! Qxc3 26.Rfd1! Black has nothing better than taking a perp with Qb4+. 24... Qxa2+ 25.Kc1 Rc8 White is in deep trouble. 26.c3 Bb3 27.Qd3 The best practical chance. 27... Bxd1? In any skittles game I would have played Qa1+, winning, without hesitation. The B is far more powerful than the rook in this instance. So why did I play this? If God decides to answer my question, I'll let you know. 28.Kxd1 Qe6 29.Qf3 Bg7 30.g5 All of a sudden I find myself in a position where I don't know how to proceed. 30... Bxh631.gxh6 Qf6?? 32.Qh3 Oops! Qxf1+ 33.Qxf1 Rf8 34.Qc4+ Rf7 35.Qe6 (1-0).

Suffice to say that I spent the rest of the morning in a daze. In the next few games my play became very erratic. It almost seemed that I changed to a completely different player between games. If I were now to be given some of those games to look at without being told who played them, I might not be able to recognize them.

Round 5 witnessed the closest any player came to beating Lesiège. After obtaining a crushing positional grip against Andrew, Alexandre relaxed a bit and dropped a pawn. His position, however, remained superior. Andrew later blundered back his pawn and the game was history. Coupled with Federkevic holding Ferguson to a draw and Littke unable to defeat Olszewski, Alexandre's lead widened.

Perhaps spurred by the tough loss to Lamb, I tried to make up for it in my Round 5 game against Sherwin MohammadNabi. Maybe I went too far. On the white side of a Najdorf Sicilian, my play was not so much foolhardy as it was suicidal. By move 12 I had overextended to the point of dropping an exchange.

In round 6 Alexandre extended his lead by defeating Ferguson. There were no upsets. My game featured a Battle of Alberta. Having embraced one extreme of the spectrum of chess stupidity, I now decided to attempt the other. My play was passive beyond the point of anemic. In a desperate bid for counterplay on move 20, I miscalculated a "freeing thrust", losing a piece.

Lesiège's closest rivals continued to destroy each other while Alex nonchalantly coasted away from the pack. Round 7 witnessed Livshits defeat Paduch to put himself back in the race for second. Things brightened up slightly for me in this round, but the psychological effects of round 4 lingered. Playing White against Peter Ferguson, I chose the exchange variation of the Ruy Lopez! My opponent took the opportunity to initate a variation that was supposed to be inferior, but which left me with the task of facing a perpetual attack. Not surprisingly, I somehow found a way of dropping a pawn. How-

ever, I managed to create an endgame where Peter had two sets of doubled P's, an isolated P, and a crippled majority. The position, as everyone considered it, was a dead draw. Of course, here my brilliant endgame technique got a chance to display itself and the losing streak was at 4 games.

Round 8 witnessed one of the most sensational games in the tournament as Peter Ferguson mangled Ron Livshits. Littke was held to a draw by Lamb. Andrew defeated McTavish to stay marginally in the hunt. Having partially regained my confidence in my previous game, I had the supreme honor of being given the opportunity to try sustaining this confidence through my next game — I had Black against Lesiège. Having had no luck with my typical KID, I decided to experiment. I misplayed the opening on move 8, playing a natural looking developing move when a more active continuation was needed. The rest of the game was history.

This game was another turning point for me. In the Canadian Cadet last year, after playing poorly in my first round game, I faced Lesiège in the second. After losing to him, I went on to go undefeated in my next six, playing some of the best chess of my life. This time it was no different. By merely not losing in under 20 moves, I was able to regain my confidence.

Round 9 sealed Alexandre's victory. In a must win game, Ron Livshits played a Maroczy Bind and tried to hang on to the entire chess board. Alexandre played patiently and won a Q for an R and B. The game took an amusing turn when Alex overlooked and Ron allowed an opportunity to fork off the rook 5 moves in succession. After this victory Alex had all but clinched first place with three rounds to play.

My troubles were not completely over when I played Danny Federkevic, who had yet to win a game. It was another Ruy Lopez, and this time I didn't play the exchange. I had not, however, been well versed in the most recent theory, as I had not had the need to play a Ruy more than once in a year. I blundered a pawn in the opening, but like the Ferguson game my opponent had to severely compromise his own pawn position to take it. The game seesawed almost to midnight before I finally pulled off a draw.

Round 10 saw Littke and Paduch draw, and Ferguson lose to Olszewski. Lesiège, for his part, officially clinched the title by dusting off McTavish. I got to play Ron Livshits, who chose to go into another Ruy. Ron's play lacked conviction, however, and I picked off a pawn with a neat tactical trick. In doing so, I gave up two B's for two N's. I played the rest of the game under the delusion that the B's gave Ron equality. I offered a draw in an

extremely advantageous position, which Ron refused. I offered several more times, each time in a better position than the last. Ron refused 5 times. In trying to pull off a swindle, Ron twisted all his pieces into unbelievably pathetic positions. Finally, almost at midnight, he offered a draw. Still unaware that his two B's were now completely ineffective, and that his rook had managed to trap itself in a corner, I accepted immediately.

The only final round games of note were Littke's victory over Ferguson to clinch 2nd, and Alexandre's draw against Olszewski. My game gave me a lot of satisfaction.

Dale McTavish - Adam Wu 1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.O-O Bg7 5.d3 O-O 6.Nbd2 Nc6 7.e4 d6 8.c3 e5 Much of the opening play is revolving around the d4 square. 9.Nb3 Qc7 10.Re1 Manoeuvering in preparation for the d4 central break. 10... b5 The most logical square for the B/c8 in this pawn formation is e6, but after ... Be6, d4 causes problems. With the concentration on d4, the pawns on e5 and c5, and the placement of the minor pieces, the position was becoming more and more reminiscent of the Ruy Lopez situations. Avoiding these positions was what motivated me to adopt Sicialian defences almost 2 years ago. 11.Qc2 Bb7 12.d4 The break comes, but Black is well placed to meet it. 12 ... cxd 13.cxd Rac8 14.Qe2? A waste of time. As a result of his manoeuvering, White is slightly behind in development. It was necessary to remedy the situation with Bd2 before the center disintegrates. 14... Nb4! Confronting White with some nasty tactical problems which stem from the undeveloped state of his Q-side. 15.Bd2 Nc2 16.Rac1 Qe7 In trying to twist out of the annoying forks, White has placed his pieces in awkward positions. Black's pieces are actively pressuring the center and keeping out of each other's hair. White's are holding the balance, but due to the difference in mobility, it is a precarious one. 17.Red1 Nxe4 18.dxe Trying to relieve the central tension by liquidating the region. Nxe5 and Qxb5 both drop a pawn. 18 ... dxe 19.Qxb5 Nxd2 Securing the B-pair. White has the following options. A: 20 Rxd2 Nd4 21 Nfxd4 (Nbxd4 exd4 22 Rd1 Bxf3 23.Bxf3 Rb8 picks up the P/b2) 21 ... exd4 22.Rxc8 Rxc8 23 Bxb7 Rb8 and Black's hold on the central files, and the uncomfortable threat of Qel + keep White's pieces tied up. Objectively best is B: 20 Nfxd2 Bxg2 21 Kxg2 Nd4 22 Nxd4 exd4 and, although Black is more actively placed, White has compensation in Black's slightly compromised pawn structure. 20.Nbxd2? Losing to the following forced continuation. 20 ... e4! Chasing away the defender of d4. This square is still critical. 21.Ne1 Nh4 doesn't change a thing. 21... Nd4! Odysseus returns from his travels. The result is devastating. 22.0f1 Rxc1! Deflecting the R to a vulnerable square, and leaving it hanging there. 23.Rxc1 e3! (0-1) White's pieces drop like flies under the barrage of forks on e3, d2 and e2.

1992 CANADIAN CHESS CHALLENGE

Edmonton Regional

by Rob Gardner

Fifty-nine players took part in contesting for the right to play in the Provincials. The smooth running of the tournament was due to the many volunteers. Thanks are owed to Grandview Heights School for once again hosting the tournament. John Macnab obtained the site and helped out as a director. Other directors included Wayne Mendryk, Nancy Emack, David Ludwig, Mr. Big (aka

Ford Wong) and Sherwin Chan (who decided to help after finding out that he had no competitors in his grade). Qualifiers to the provincials, by grade, were: 1-Spencer Whelan; 2-Gregory Whelan & Paul Kirvan; 3-Pierre Escalona & Stephen Rollins; 4-Haven Roy & Kris Steinbach; 5-Douglas Wu & Bradley Gee; 6-Louis Lim & Jordan LaRue; 7-Vijay Rai; 8-Sherwin Chan; 9-Raymond Cheung; 10-Adam Wu; 11-Mark Roth; 12-Igor Gorelik & Calvin Li.

Provincial Finals by Phyliss Flower

With approximately 430 students in grades 1-12 participating in school tournaments across Alberta, the Canadian Chess Challenge has been a big success. In February qualifiers from the school tournaments participated in one of the 6 Regionals (Peace River, Wandering River, Edmonton, Rimbey, Lethbridge and Calgary). All reportedly ran smoothly, even in Peace River where flooding necessitated relocating the tournament site to a hotel.

On March 14, 87 qualifiers from the Regionals gathered in Red Deer for what turned out to be an exciting Provincial Tournament. Competently directed by Neil Sharp and assisted by many enthusiastic parents and teachers, the day progressed well. A reporter from the Red Deer Advocate was present, gathering news for an article and taking many photographs.

Most grades played a round robin (RR) format, with the top 4 players going on to play another RR to determine clear first, second and third place winners. Points won during the first RR were carried through and totaled with points from the second RR. There were two exceptions to this format. One was grade 11, which had only 3 participants and was played as one RR. The other was grade 1, which was divided into two sections of 4 each for an RR. The top 2 players of each section then played another RR. Upper grades played with clocks. The lower grades did not, and some players did get involved in some very long games.

By far the "cutest" section was grade 1, where friendly opponents wanted to assist one another in their games. These same young chess players ran into some unusual difficulties, such as "How do I mate with just a king remaining?" Play lasted 7 hours, with

the few remaining players staying to help clean up the remnants of a long day, including chocolate-smeared ACA chess boards. We all went home tired, happy and satisfied.

Of the 12 qualifiers to the Nationals, 7 were repeats from last year. Tournament results were as follows:

Grade 1: 1-Gerard O'Reilly (Calgary); 2-Navid Taba-Tabai (Calgary); 3-Spencer Whelan (Edmonton).

Grade 2: 1-Paul Kirvan (Morinville); 2-Brent McLean (Rimbey); 3-Christopher Bond (NW region).

Grade 3: 1-Michael Hazeltine (Calgary); 2-Pierre Escalona (Edmonton); 3-Seth Dodd-Flower (Calgary).

Grade 4: 1-Nathan McLean (Rimbey); 2-Jonathan Sawan (NW region); 3-Robert Ramchuk (Benalto).

Grade 5: 1-Douglas Wu (Edmonton); 2-Hetty Hatch (Wandering River); 3-Bradley Gee (Edmonton).

Grade 6: 1-Amanda Dodd-Flower (Calgary); 2-Louis Lim (Edmonton); 3-Byung Il Chun (Athabasca).

Grade 7: 1-Michael Eng (Calgary); 2-Glen Hatch (Wandering River); 3-Vijay Rai (Edmonton)

Grade 8: 1-Sherwin Chan (Edmonton); 2-Skylar Longley (Red Deer); 3-Gordon Hatch (Wandering River).

<u>Grade 9</u>: 1-Danny Kiely (Calgary); 2-Raymond Cheung (Edmonton); 3-Kevin Schade (Calgary).

Grade 10: 1-Adam Wu (Edmonton); 2-Jim Roy (Sexsmith); 3-Andrew Masterson (Calgary).

Grade 11: 1-Mark Roth (Edmonton); 2-Bernie Batchelor (Redwater); 3-Sylvester Lachowski (Calgary).

Grade 12: 1-Igor Gorelik (Edmonton); 2-Calvin Li (Edmonton); 3-Charles Mousseau (Calgary).

Junior Chess Outreach

Utilizing a 1991 grant from the Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation, the ACA provided chess pieces and boards, School Chess Handbooks, chess teaching books, copies of A Passport to Chess, etc. to about 20 "rural" schools to assist with starting clubs and teaching chess. This may seem a small number, but represented an expenditure of \$2,780! By such "small" steps each year the ACA has helped to introduce chess as a recreation to many school children.

EJCC February Frolic by Cheery Rob Gardner

Beatrice Wu romped into first in one round robin. A second RR saw Cynthia Wu merrily play her way into first place. Paul Kirvan was the happy victor in a third RR.

EJCC Magic March Active

by Rob "Merlin" Gardner

Beatrice Wu left her opponents spellbound by winning all her games. Magician Rob Curtis scored 4/5. Wizard Paul Kirvans's 2.5 was good enough to give him the elementary school prize.

EJCC April Ambush

by Highwayman Rob Gardner

Sherwin Chan attacked his competitors to place first with 2.5/3 in one round robin. In another RR Paul Kirvan snuck into a tie at 4/5 with Damien Siefert before winning the book prize in a playoff game. Newcomer Chris Gignac scored 5/6 in a double RR to surprise his competitors.

1992 Edmonton High School Team Chess Championship by Rob Gardner

The Old Scona A team of Adam Wu, Valentine Pui, Jerome Wong, and Freddy Kong scored a convincing victory (17/20). The tough battle turned out to be for second place. McNally A and Ross Sheppard (13/20) remained tied after two playoff rounds of speed chess before Ross Sheppard claimed the second place trophies with a victory in the 3rd playoff round. Congratulations to the Ross Sheppard team of Igor Gorelik, Haran Thanigasalan, Duong Bach, and Geoff Allan. Other team scores: Archbishop MacDonald 8; McNally B 7.5; Old Scona B 1.5.

1992 Edmonton Junior High School Team Chess Championship

by Rob Gardner

Grandview Junior High was the early favorite simply because it supplied four of the six competing teams. The surprise of the tournament was that the 17 points (out of 20) scored by the Grandview B team of Vijay Rai, Joel Butterwick, Henry Du, and Jay Rai placed them ahead of the 14.5 points scored by the Grandview A team of Sherwin Chan, Raymond Cheung, Bernard Kim, and Hamish MacLean. Third place was claimed by the St. Clement team of Beatrice Wu, Cynthia Wu, Athir Ayoub, and Brian Nguyen with 12 points. Other teams included Grandview D at 8 points, Grandview C with 7, and the hosting Dan Knott team with 1. Thanks to Don MacDonald for organizing.

Calgary Junior Chess Club

Meets: Selected Saturdays, Hounsfield Hts./ Briar Hill Community Hall. 1928-14 Ave NW. Close to North Hill Shopping Centre. Right by Lion's Park LRT Station.

Info: Ian Drummond (288-4034). Prizes (trophies, books, etc.) awarded. Membership open to anyone born after 1973-01-01. Need \$1 participating ACA memb. (\$3 for full ACA, i.e. get Alberta Chess Report). Fees: \$2 elementary age; \$2.50 jr high; \$3 sr high. Players grouped by strength. New members welcome - bring a friend.

CICC Schedule of Events

May 16: Elementary Team of 4 Champ.

Register: 9:30 a.m. Play 10:00 a.m. to approx. 3:00 p.m. (depends on number of players). Bring lunch (no official break).

If you can help with the CJCC in 1992-93, please do contact the ACA!

Edmonton Junior Chess Club

Meets: Edmonton Room (main floor beside checkout counters), Main Library (downtown, south of Churchill Square).

Info: Rob Gardner (469-4925).

EJCC Schedule of Events
June 6: Mercury Active
July 18: Venus Invasion
Aug 15: Mars Mission

Who can play: Anyone not yet turned 19 on January 1 of current year (for memberships, see below - those 18 & older pay adult fees). Time: Register 9:30-10:00 a.m. Tournaments may last to 5:30 p.m. (usually finish earlier). Format: Round-robins or active Swisses. Round-robins: groups of 4, 5 or 6 based on age & rating, each playing all others. Active event: each has half an hour for the game (i.e. total game time maximum 1 hour) - makes it easier to have all players in one large group. Active events will be 5 rounds, with players facing opponents with similar records (e.g. a player with one win and one loss will usually play someone with the same score). Equipment: Sets, clocks & scoresheets supplied. Use of clocks and recording of games are encouraged.

Cost: Must be members of Chess Fed'n of Canada (CFC) & Alta Chess Assoc. (ACA). One-year CFC+ACA membership (aged 17 or less) is \$18 (with CFC & ACA magazines) or \$8 (no mags). Entry fee \$3 per event. First-time tournament players get free entry. Prizes: Chess books.

What to bring: Pen/pencil; lunch (Edmonton Center, with food kiosks, is a block away); entry fee and/or membership fee.

Leduc Junior Chess Club Info: August Hangartner (986-0459).

* Weekend Tournaments in Calgary *

The following details apply to all of the tournaments listed below:

Site: Room 129, Building Science A
University of Calgary
5 round Swiss (3 Saturday, 2 Sunday)
Time Control: 40/1:50 15/0:30
Entry Fees: \$20 senior \$15 junior
(CFC/ACA membership required)
Register: 9:00-9:30 a.m. Saturday.
Round 1 at 9:30 a.m.
No smoking No computers
TD: Jim Van Wyck (265-0098).
(all gamescores must be provided to TD)
Sponsored by the ACA

Calgary May Open May 23 - 24

Calgary July Open July 4 - 5

Alberta 1800-and-Over and Alberta Under-1800 September 19 - 20

Southern Alberta Open

November

TD and dates to be announced
— not Grey Cup weekend!
(a qualifier for the 1993 Alberta Closed)

Calgary January Open January 16 - 17, 1993

Chess Hacker's Open

May 23-24, Edmonton
Students' Union (114 St & 89 Ave), UofA, in the L'Express Lounge (room 142)

5 round Swiss

Entry Fee: \$20 Senior, \$15 Junior (CFC/ACA membership required) Register: 8-9:00 a.m. Saturday (advance:

Bruno Knudskov 457-1348, 6-10 pm)
Rounds: 9, 1:30, 6:30 Sat./9, 1:30 Sun.

Time Control: 40/1:50 15/0:30
No smoking No computers
TD: Craig Vokey

Sponsors: Chess Hacker's BBS & UACC

1992 ALBERTA OPEN October 10-12 Red Deer

6 rounds (Swiss System), 2 per day
(a qualifier for the 1993 Alberta Closed)
Details will be printed in a future ACR. This
is Alberta's most important regular open
tournament — plan now to join all the rest
of us going to Red Deer (sponsors are being
sought to help boost the prize fund; don't be
lured out-of-province to some other event,
support Alberta chess). The ACA Annual
General Meeting will be on-site October 11.

1992-93 9th Annual

Alta-B.C. Peace River Grand Prix

Sept 12 Grande Prairie vs Dawson Creek Team Match. Grande Prairie. Contact: Jim Roy (403)-568-3961.

Sept 26-27 Golden Harvest Open. Dawson Creek. Contact: Forrest Nelson (604)-782-1119.

Oct 24 Ft. St. John Fall Active. Ft. St. John. Contact: Larry Stutzman (604)-785-7830.

Nov 28 <u>Dawson Creek Fall Active</u>. Dawson Creek. Contact: Grant MacTavish (604)-782-7349.

Jan 16-17 <u>Trumpeter Classic</u>. Grande Prairie. Contact: Phil Lefkowitz (403)-538-1903.

Feb 20-21 Mukluk Open. Ft. St. John. Contact: Larry Stutzman (604)-785-7830.

Mar 6 Dawson Creek vs Ft. St. John Team Match. Dawson Creek. Contact: Gordon MacDonald (604)-782-4264.

Mar 27 Swan City Active. Grande Prairie. Contact: Jim Roy (403)-568-3961.

Apr 24 Ft. St. John vs Grande Prairie Team Match. Ft. St. John. Contact: Larry Stutzman (604)-785-7830.

Underlined events in the Grand Prix (4-rd; active or regular rated). To qualify for GP pts (sum of 4 best scores), must play in at least 4 GP events. Based on \$1.50 fee/entrant/event: 1st overall & 1st under 1700, each 30% of prize fund; 2nd overall & 2nd under 1700, each 20% (using regular ratings as of Aug/92 En Passant). No player may win more than one prize.

U of A Open

June 20-21, Edmonton

Students' Union (114 St & 89 Ave), UofA, in the L'Express Lounge (room 142)

Site tentative — phone Ford Wong (481-6474) in advance for confirmation!

5 round Swiss (3 Saturday, 2 Sunday)

Time Control: 40/1:50 15/0:30
Entry Fee: \$20 Senior, \$15 Junior (CFC/ACA membership required)
Register: 9:00-9:45 a.m. Saturday
No smoking No computers
Sponsors: UACC & ACA