



ALBERTA CHESS REPORT

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(Editor: Leonard Steele)

■■■■■ 3rd Annual ■■■■■

NORTHERN ALBERTA OPEN ←*

Edmonton March 4&5, 1978

Room 559 General Services Building
116 Street and 91 Avenue
University of Alberta Campus

Entry Fee: Senior \$10.00
Junior (under 18) \$ 7.00
Junior (under 15) \$ 4.00

Proof of membership in both the Chess Federation of Canada and the Alberta Chess Association must be presented. These memberships will be available at the tournament site.

Registration: 8:30 - 9:15 a.m.
Saturday, March 4

Two sections to accommodate all levels of players!! Open -- anyone may enter. Reserve--restricted to those rated below 1600 or unrated (the 1600 line might be slightly adjusted if entries warrant).

Rounds: 3 Saturday and 2 Sunday
Exact times will be posted.

Pairings: The Swiss System will be used. Players with equal points meet each round. Everyone plays five games.

Prizes: Cash prizes (from entry fees) to the top finishers in each section. There will also be class prizes where warranted. Prize amounts depend on the number of entries.

Please bring your chess clock, if you have one! You might also wish to bring along a chess set (optional).

There were over 50 entrants in each of the last two Northern Alberta Opens! Won't you come out and help make this year's event even bigger?

If you wish to have your chess event advertised on the ACR cover, all you need do is send us details in advance!

WE NEED YOU!!

This spring (April 29-May 7) the Western Canada Open will be held in Edmonton. We hope that by now all of you know that this event's going to take place. Probably you have decided that you will play, but have not yet actually entered. Do so now!! Please!

To date the interest shown has been quite encouraging. However, the response from outside Alberta has been almost greater than that from within the province. We've heard that players of all strengths (including Masters such as Jon Berry, Camille Coudari, and Peter Biyiasis, Canadian Champion and an International Master) are either considering playing or have already decided to come. This includes players from as far east as Quebec and as far southwest as Oregon. If players from so far away think it is worth coming to play, surely you can come a much shorter distance to play. IT WILL BE WORTH YOUR WHILE!!

Having a good tournament requires that many, many Alberta chess players participate to form the backbone of the tournament. Why let all that prize money go to players from elsewhere? WE NEED YOU! Come and gain valuable experience and try to win one of the available prizes. Please put this tournament on your calendar as a must!

It is impossible to over stress the potential benefit this tournament can provide to chess in Alberta, but this benefit can only come about if we get a large turnout. Again it's up to YOU. Do a favor both for yourself and for all chess in Alberta by coming to play in the big Western Canada Open!

I'll see YOU there! -- Murray Frank, T.D.

(See the back cover for full details. Edmonton area players: note the evening starting times!)

Edmonton Chess Club -- Coming Events!

Annual General Meeting, March 27th, for the purpose of electing Executive and discussing matters of importance to the club. All members are asked to attend. Please consider whether you might wish to serve on the Executive!

TOURNAMENTS: Register March 27th for the Abe Shnitka Memorial (for players rated below 1600), and the new Walter Holowach Challenge event (for those rated 1600 and up). A trophy and \$50 prize have been donated for the latter tournament by Rack Sales. The "Abe Shnitka" has always been very popular. Now that it is combined with the Holowach tournament, the Club feels it has a very attractive package to offer to its members. Come out and play!

Alberta Chess Association, Membership Fees

Senior -- \$3.00
 Junior (under 18) -- \$2.00
 valid to Dec. 31, 1978

Each membership submitted should include the member's full name and address, and CFC (Chess Federation of Canada) number, if it is known.

"Family" memberships (one ACR per household) are available at the rate of one membership at the regular rate (must be a Senior membership if a senior is involved), with others at only half price.

CFC memberships, which are valid for 1 year from date of purchase, can be obtained through the ACA. Rates, not including ACA dues, are \$10 Senior and \$6 Junior (family rates also).

An ACA membership that is valid for most of the CFC period must also be obtained! This is not just an ACA rule, but is a CFC rule. We ask that all organizers, be they directly involved in the ACA or not, please sell ACA memberships along with all CFC memberships that they sell!

Tournament Directors should note that ALL of the participants in CFC rated tournaments must also be ACA members. Please check for CFC and ACA cards!

We hope that ALL Alberta chess clubs and organisations will make ACA membership a part of their membership! Please support Alberta chess!

NOTICE TO TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS: At its last Annual General Meeting, the ACA voted to make it an ACA regulation that TD's send in a copy of their CFC rating reports to the ACA office. (Postage and duplicating costs will be refunded on request). You are asked to cooperate so that ALL Alberta chessplayers can be informed of events throughout the Province. Please take the small amount of time and trouble required to fulfill this request! Thank you!

Material for inclusion in the next ACR should reach us during the first week of April.

Back issues of the ACR are only 25¢ each! Fill in your missing issues of Volumes 1 & 2!

DROPOUTS -- those who simply up and drop out of a tournament, without even bothering to inform the T.D., must pay a \$5 FINE before they can enter another Alberta tournament. Please post this message during all tournaments, so that players will be aware of it. Organizers will be provided with ACA membership lists that list those fined to date. If you have a new dropout, let us know. \$2.50 of any of the fines you take should be sent to us, and you can keep the rest for your trouble.

1978 Alberta Closed -- entrants must have been in and completed their games in at least two tournaments since the 1977 Closed. A minimum rating of 1900 is required, as the winner will go to the Canadian Closed (it has a minimum rating requirement). So far qualified are: Chris Evans (last year's winner), Gordon Campbell (Alta Open winner), and Jim Cummins (Edmonton Champion). The Calgary Closed top finisher should get in. Two others will come via rating.

Last ACR I pointed out that it would cost over \$10,000 to send Canada's team to the 1978 Olympiad! Since the Federal Government does not seem to want to grant one penny to chess, the only way the money can be raised is donations from Canadian chess supporters. The request that concerned Alberta players help out did not, as far as I know, cause anyone AT ALL to donate even \$1.00!! Come on out there -- care! HELP!

Tournament Organizers! The ACA wishes to stress that any significant deviations from announced conditions of tournaments should NOT be made at the last minute!! The ACR is not interested in publishing incorrect and misleading advertisements! (See later under the "smoking" title).

Recently, an opinion was expressed by one or more Alberta chessplayers that "those b*st*rds" in Edmonton were more or less doing what they wanted with the ACA, without regard for the opinions or welfare for other areas. Well, let me set that straight right now! At least once a week, and usually twice, I, as ACA Secretary, talk about matters of interest to the ACA with John Schleinich of Calgary, the ACA President. Virtually no actions are taken without some consultation between the two main areas in the province, namely, Edmonton and Calgary. Our weekly telephone conversations keep us informed of events in each other's area. So, let those with the "evil Edmontonian" opinion be aware that there "ain't no such animal". None of these protestors were at the Annual Meeting, nor did they volunteer their services. They might consider what's really going on before meting out unjust criticism!

(so, a "letter" from the Editor!) Those who have ever tried to help keep chess going at any organized level realize just how difficult it is -- witness the number of organizers and directors who have fallen by the wayside over the years! After a while, the insensitivity, lack of cooperation, and downright hostility of some chessplayers (and even other organizers!) takes its toll, and we lose another valuable worker. I would suggest that those who seem to only want to criticize and make life difficult for those trying to keep chess afloat at least first find out what's really going on. Do you really know how much time, energy, attention to detail, etc, that must go into many of the background and supportive areas of chess? If not, please think twice before contributing to the amount of flak directed at organizers! There always seems to be an extreme shortage of help, and an overabundance of criticism! The best way to see things happen "your way" is to pitch in and help! Always, it seems that the few do the work of many. Please do not let some truly petty little incident cause you to instantly take great offense, and forever damn the person(s) who you believe wronged you and yours. Organizers are human. They make mistakes. They get flustered. Etc. However, the best (only?) way to solve a "problem" is to communicate, and to do it as objectively as possible. We really wish to avoid events that snowball out of proportion, causing hardship not only to the couple of people directly involved, but, potentially, to many others. Please try and put the good of chess first, and not let minor incidents balloon into major situations that need not have occurred if a little discussion was held!

Where there's smoke, there's fire?

It sure does seem so! A couple of tournaments in Edmonton that rashly imposed a ban on smoking, without prior announcement (see the 'notice' on page 2 for our policy on that), resulted in a couple of letters being fired off to the ACR. We mentioned one last issue, and did not have space to properly deal with it -- we will do so a bit later. First, a portion of a letter from Chris Evans:

"On two recent occasions so-called 'no smoking' tournaments have been held in Edmonton. In neither case was the ban on smoking in the tournament hall advertised prior to the registration time. During the first such tournament (the 1977 Canada Day Open) several players, including the undersigned, complained but without effect. The report of the tournament in the ACR contained a statement that on future occasions a prior announcement would be given. (yes, but the organizer didn't tell us! In the future the ACR will do its best to be sure that advertisements are correct! However, it still is so that the organizer must be sure to list ALL conditions!--ed) This assurance was proved valueless in the case of the U of A Winter Open ... (Mr. Evans then said that he would probably not play in any announced no smoking events, and that if an unannounced no smoking rule was instituted he would ignore it, and, if expelled, "seek legal advice" -- I would agree that he should have been able to smoke at the Winter Open!) ... None can question the right of clubs or associations to organize tournaments in which smoking is disallowed in the playing room but I consider it both discourteous and a breach of good faith when such a major deviation from established practice is instituted without prior notice. I personally cancelled two engagements to be free to play in the Winter Open and players travelling long distances in response to an advertisement in the ACR would be justified in feeling even more annoyed ..."

Once again, I would direct organizers to see the 2nd paragraph in column 2 of page 2!!

Right, now back to the letter of last issue from Robert Short of Calgary. First off, he enclosed an interesting diagram for the ACR, but it was not published since no idea was given as to whose move it was -- we apologize for any inconvenience caused to Mr. Short.

Another enclosure was, of all things, a petition: "We the undersigned hereby announce our intention to boycott any ACA tournament at which smoking is prohibited". There were 14 names (collected "during a 5 minute period") on the petition -- even the ACA President signed! The ACA has never officially talked about nor contemplated a smoking ban at "ACA" tournaments. No mention at all was made of such a proposal at the Annual Meeting. Let me point out that "ACA tournaments" as such are only the Alberta Open, Alberta Senior & Junior Closeds, Southern & Northern Alberta Opens, and that's about it! Those are the tournaments that the ACA is committed to hold each year. While other events must see that all participants are ACA members, this does not mean that the ACA is in total control of what goes on! If someone wishes to hold a tournament, and they ensure that all players are CFC & ACA members, that is fine!

A "no smoking" rule is not specifically prohibited by the ACA, but we do insist that no last minute rule be imposed! We will try and make sure that no major deviations from announced or standard procedures take place. If someone wants a no smoking event, then they must realize that a number of smokers might not show up -- if that is not of concern to them, fine. I repeat, however, that the ACA does NOT have a "no smoking" policy!

There was another part of Robert's letter that I did mention, but I ran out of space and only made a few, perhaps, unwise comments, at least unwise without clarification. So, here is the segment again: "... if smoking is indeed a health hazard, then the real victim is the smoker and the non-smoking opponent should be happy to have the advantage of playing a distracted, debilitated nicotine addict!"

I will attempt to express my personal opinion on the whole issue of smoking and chess: First off, the idea that the non-smoker should be glad to face a cigarette puffing opponent because the smoker is the one being damaged is not exactly true! Nonsmokers could, maybe, be concerned for the health of smokers (who risk early visible signs of aging, generally poor circulation, get 90% of all lung cancer, etc, etc), but that is not really why the nonsmokers are speaking up more and more. While I am not one of the people with asthma or some other respiratory affliction, who cannot tolerate smoke, I am one who is quite bothered by the stuff. In the past, it was not "socially acceptable" to object to the smoking of cigarettes anywhere, let alone chess tournaments. However, it now is, and more and more people are speaking up. When I have to face a smoker, my eyes begin to water and sting, making it a bit difficult to concentrate on chess! I am not the only one with this problem. Also, the very smell of smoke is bothersome. Furthermore, though it may not be obvious, the amount of oxygen available in one's blood goes down in an atmosphere of smoke (which there often is at a tournament), making physical and mental activity more difficult and less efficient. So, there are some good reasons for eliminating (or at least decreasing) smoking at tournaments.

I also have another general objection to smoking at chess tournaments. It stems from the role of director or organizer. A fair number (I don't say all) of smokers make one heck of a mess -- ashes and butts on the floor, spilling out of ashtrays, in cups half filled with coffee, etc. We, the organizers, have to clean that mess up!

What I would at least like to see is not no smoking, but "controlled smoking". It really must be possible to at least cut down on the number of cigarettes smoked in a given period of time, and to do as much smoking as possible out of the playing room! If smokers would at least occasionally show some interest in attempting to consider the real physical discomfort they cause to some, and try to cut down on heavy smoking, I would consider it enough, at least in general. Smokers, please try not to over-smoke. Please try not to surround both you and your opponent with a cloud of smoke. If you must smoke, and you cannot break the habit, then at least try and smoke less during tournaments, and smoke less in the playing room. I thank you! And I'm sure many others do too!

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A letter (not on smoking!) was also sent to the ACR by Maurice Ormon, Tournament Director of the Black Knight Chess Club. Here it is:

"Re: your letter dated May 13, 1977. The Black Knight Chess Club does not feel that it is not worthwhile, but not proper to send reports to the Alberta Chess Report. While the Club was in the midst of a crisis, the Alberta Chess Report was in the midst of insulting the Club in its pages. ... I had just begun tournament directing; we had no executive, hence, I was doing everything that was necessary to launch the Club; we were having some very serious financial problems, especially pertaining to past records, etc.; there was a real chance that Mount Royal College would be lost to us as a meeting place; and on top of all that I was returning to University after an absence of a year. You proceed to insult our Club in your publications and you ask me why I don't submit any reports to you? ... I might also point out that we, at the Club, never received your letter requesting the information about meeting places, times, etc., for all clubs. We had no contact with our past President and he did not see fit to forward the letter to someone within the Club. Fortunately, that is now behind us; you now know who to contact should you have any inquiries. ... The Black Knight Chess Club will not, I repeat, will not send the Alberta Chess Report any sort of tournament report until it receives an apology in the same pages it was insulted in. We feel that this is only just and correct. It is a privilege for the Alberta Chess Report to receive reports from chess clubs around the province, and no matter what you wish to believe, you cannot legislate that privilege."

Since this situation has resulted in the receipt of no news directly from the Black Knight Chess Club to the ACR, and may have had (I say may) some negative effects in other areas, I will attempt to expand upon the whole issue, no matter how many columns of the ACR I have to use! Mr. Ormon is quite welcome to a rebuttal, if he desires one, in the next ACR.

I will begin by giving excerpts of every item in the ACR that dealt with matters that may have caused the "insult" which Mr. Ormon feels was directed at his Club. Some of these items may have appeared before Mr. Ormon came to be active at the Black Knight, but I must include them so that the issue can also be viewed from my side of the coin.

March '76: "Whenever a chess tournament is held, whether or not it is a rated event, please send us the results and game scores to publish. ... We would like to compile a list of Alberta Chess Clubs and publish it in the ACR. Please send us details as to location, meeting times, membership requirements, executive, etc on your Club, and/or any club we may not otherwise be informed of."

April '76: "Last issue we made a request for information to be sent to us on the various chess clubs throughout the province. We received exactly zero letters on this subject, so the following list is the best we can do. Please try and get the Executive of your Club to send us the necessary information. (We then gave information on 9 clubs that we thought were in existence, at least at one time. The Black Knight was mentioned, giving playing time and place, as best we knew it.)"

(From this point I assumed direct editorship of the ACR; previously a group was "editor".)

May '76: nothing pertinent to this matter.

June '76: "The next issue of ACR will appear in August. In that issue we hope to have at least preliminary details of all tournaments that will be held in Alberta during the following year ... and we asked that details be sent in."

July/Aug '76: After reporting on a U of A tournament and the Black Knight Spring RR, I said. "Reports on the above two tournaments had to be based upon those in the July-August CFC Bulletin. This was so because the Alberta Chess Report did not receive copies of the results, or written reports from either of the two Clubs involved. The only way, obviously, that we can report on an event is for someone to tell us what happened. It can't really take that much effort to write to us. PLEASE send the ACR reports on all Alberta tournaments, be they rated or not! Would tournament directors and organizers please see that the ACR receives such reports as soon as possible after the completion of tournaments. 'Extra' comments OK!" and "On August 10th we sent out letters in an attempt to secure information on all known major clubs in the province. A copy was sent to the last known President of each club (to Mr. Zingeler, former BK President, who did not, indeed, answer it), with two other copies sent to individuals in each locale who we hoped might help us out. We asked that each person attempt to forward the letter to someone who could help us out. The letters were long, but very clear and simple in their requests. It really should not have taken anyone very long to reply. Nevertheless, as of August 29th, replies have poured in from just the Calgary, Edmonton, and Slave Lake Chess Clubs? Where are the replies from the other clubs? Can it be they don't desire any new members? Do they wish to exist in secrecy? Hopefully not! We will give what info we can on the Clubs from which we did not get any reply." That info on the BK was: "We think the club meets Tuesday nights in the E Library at Mount Royal Junior College, but ...?"

Well there might have been a little overzealousness displayed above, I see nothing that could have caused great insult to any one club, and, specifically, to the Black Knight. Also in that issue: "Would the President or Secretary (admittedly, I did not say TD) for each chess club in Alberta please send the ACA a complete list of their executive for the coming year -- include addresses and telephone numbers, of course. We would also like details from those clubs which have not yet sent in any information on their operation during the coming year."

Sept '76: "We know that the Black Knight Chess Club has met to elect a new executive, but, despite public requests in the ACR, no information has reached us. Perhaps they are operating underground this year?"

Could this be the place where "the Alberta Chess Report was in the midst of insulting the Club in its pages"?

Oct-Dec '76: "The Report will publish information about clubs, tournaments, etc, but only if someone sends us such information! If you want us to publish something for others to see, you must send it to us." "Results of club tournaments which were completed in December

will be published in the January ACR, this is, of course, if the clubs concerned send in reports now (this ACR came out 'late'). Please remember that the quality of the report printed depends on the quality of the report submitted!"

"Next issue we will include information on Alberta chess clubs, but only if these clubs send something in! Send us a list of your 1977 executive, tournaments, playing site, etc, if you have any desire at all for others to read about your club."

Jan-Feb '77: "The ACR will publish any material of relevance to chess in Alberta. However, we can only publish what we get -- obviously! If there does not seem to be anything written about your area, you can assume it is because nothing was sent in. We would like to request that Tournament Directors send us a copy of any rating reports sent in to the CFC. We would also like to receive, if at all possible, a written report on the tournament, and, hopefully, a few games."

Mar-Apr '77: (a part similar to that in Jan-Feb is not repeated here) "Those of you who are CFC members may have noticed that 4 Calgary tournaments were reported in the last CFC Bulletin. The ACR did not get reports on those tournaments, and we do not want to continually reprint CFC Bulletin items, so we won't! The Calgary Chess Club is now doing a very good job in seeing that we get reports on their events, but it is unfortunate that the same cannot be said for the Black Knight Club. We can only hope that they will send us some reports in the future. Surely, the effort is not too much!!"

I think you will agree that, from the point of view of the material printed in previous ACR's, that the above comment was not a grave insult, nor was it insulting per se. In any event, though I have no way of knowing for sure, it would seem that the insult must have occurred prior to this time.

Further ACR's did not specifically mention difficulties with any particular club. There were the usually pleas for tournament reports and games, but no insults. The July-August '77 ACR did its best to give information on clubs, one of which was the Black Knight (I gave the President's, Mr. Rusk's, name and address).

(I apologize to any of you who have reached this point, wondering why so much has been printed on this one subject. Perhaps I am overdoing it, but I want all details I can think of to be revealed. There is still a fair bit more to come!)

OK, now I will get away from quotes from the ACR's of the past, and into other events.

Maurice's letter, dated January 29, 1978, is said to be an answer to my letter dated May 13, 1977. If I remember correctly, that "letter" was a note requesting him to let me know why I was not receiving any news from the Black Knight, and I sent him a self-addressed stamped envelope for his use in replying (this envelope was in fact used for his reply in 1978!). No letter was sent to me to explain his point of view. John Schleinich, ACA President, attempted to find out from Mr. Rusk why the BK did not send in any news, but the situation remained unclear.

Therefore, on July 7, 1977 I sent a letter to Mr. Rusk (with a copy to Maurice Ormon). I will give some segments from that letter:

"... I am given to understand that something I wrote, either in the ACR or directly in a 'letter', caused your Tournament Director (Maurice Ormon) some offense. I assure you that, if something was said to unjustifiably cause him to have been personally offended, such was not my direct intention. However, a very negative situation seems to have occurred, and this is very regrettable. I hate to see the Black Knight CC members (and the rest of Alberta's chessplayers) missing out on news from a very active chess club, and one which is the third largest in the entire Province. The fact that one person feels offended, justifiably or not, should not result in a total lack of communication. ... At no stage did I, as ACR editor, ever receive anything from Maurice that said I had written something very improper to him. So even if my desire to secure information caused me to use some term or terms that seemed harsh, how was I to know? From my side the problem "simply" appeared to be that the Black Knight (or at least the person who reported its tournaments to the CFC) did not seem at all interested in even sending a copy to the ACR. ... (I then mentioned the letter sent to clubs in August/76 that requested info) ... Why was the Black Knight not responding? I knew its members got the ACR, but none of them wrote to me. Finally, I decided to write to Mr. Ormon. I wrote a very short note on a little piece of paper (i.e., I did not write a pompous official letter with copies to the entire ACA executive). The note as I recall it requested him to reply to a question that was more or less "Why can I not get any response from the Black Knight?", and I believe I enclosed a stamped self-addressed envelope for his use. I did not use foul language, or make a malicious personal attack. Nevertheless, there was no reply, not even one telling me to "go jump in the lake". As you can see, I was at least trying to open lines of communication. Surely, if I had in some way acted improperly, I should have been so informed. The situation should not have been allowed to progress so far. ... Well, the above is what I remember, and is how I see it. I did not and do not want to unjustifiably criticize any one individual. I understand Maurice is doing an excellent job at your club, and the last thing I want to do is turn him off chess. There are few enough workers as it is! ... I hope the situation can now be cleared up. The ACR would like to publish most anything the Black Knight submits about itself -- results and reports, games, announcements, etc. If at least copies of CFC rating reports could be sent to the ACR, I would be most happy to publish the results. ... I would appreciate hearing from you and/or Maurice. Thank you for your patience in reading this letter."

I believe that letter indicates that I made a sincere, honest, and open attempt to get at the roots of the problem. Though I could not deduce what had caused the situation to develop, I did most definitely try to get it corrected, and I tried to do it in the only way really possible -- by communicating. However, the communication remained one way.

In his letter of January 29th, 1978, Maurice said "Fortunately, that is now behind us; you now know who to contact should you have any inquiries." My previous letters to him and to Mr. Rusk indicate that I knew "who to contact" (Maurice) for almost a year before! In fact, and I thank Maurice for sending them in, he had, a number of times in 1977, sent in ACA memberships to me, but never was there any explanation of the "problem" that has now been dealt with at great length in the ACR.

Maurice mentions the great difficulties he had getting things going at the Black Knight, and I sympathize greatly. However, I do not believe anything of sufficient seriousness was ever said against him or the Black Knight Club to cause what almost seems a permanent rift. I do not know how much the members of that Club know of this issue -- perhaps the second sentence in the letter, "The Black Knight Chess Club does not feel that it is not worthwhile, but not proper to send reports to the Alberta Chess Report.", is more the feeling of an individual than a "Club". I do know that at least one member of that Club wrote to me wondering at the absence of news, and stating he would try and get Maurice to send some in, so at least that person did not know why nothing was submitted.

The ACA Annual Meeting did pass a regulation that Tournament Directors had to send in copies of rating reports to the ACA office. This is the thing referred to when Maurice said that "It is a privilege for the Alberta Chess Report to receive reports from chess clubs around the province, and no matter what you wish to believe, you cannot legislate that privilege." Anyone who was at the Meeting knows that the regulation was, indeed, passed as a direct result of the apparent refusal of the Black Knight Club to send in any reports whatsoever. This was done completely in the open, as all who were at the Meeting could attest. I will not go into whether or not the ACA can "legislate that privilege"; that is a question that can only be answered by some future action.

Finally, I will sum up. I have given you great amounts of information on which to base any conclusions you might reach on this entire subject. I do not feel that I have anything to apologize for; certainly not anything of such a magnitude that it has caused the Black Knight Club to never be heard from in the pages of the ACR! I honestly believe that this is a case of innocent (I should hope) over-reaction by one individual, rather than a concerted reaction of an entire club. If I am mistaken, I apologize. I do not now, nor have I ever, believe that such a situation should be maintained to the detriment of the Black Knight Club in particular, and all of Alberta chess in general. I trust that this giant article will explain my point of view and feelings, or at least indicate them, not only in this matter, but all related areas. I do not feel that a public apology to Maurice is called for, nor will I give it. I will, however, apologize to the members of the Black Knight Club for any negative effects they have received from the whole situation, and to the readers of the ACR for waxing at length on this subject.

Here is a reprint from the Edmonton Journal:

"Chess record set with 575 consecutive games"

"Branimir Brebrich's head ached, his feet were throbbing and he had a cold.

He'd been on his feet for more than 28 hours, playing about 25 games of chess per hour since Friday morning.

But at 1:55 p.m. Saturday, the haggard-looking Calgary chess expert sat down and smiled -- he'd just completed his 575th consecutive chess game to set a world record.

The feat was gruelling.

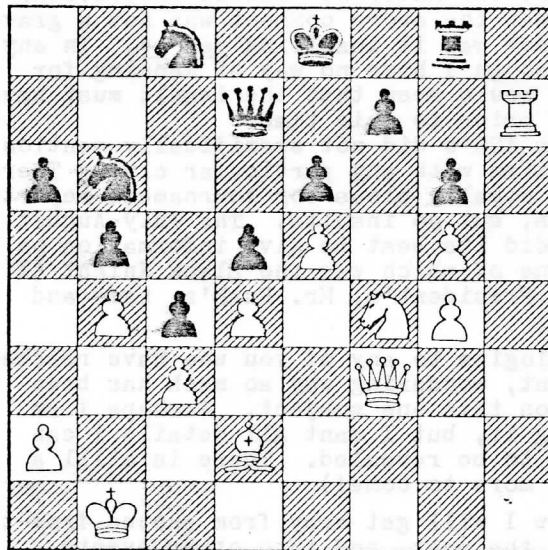
Playing 22 opponents simultaneously, Mr. Brebrich took only one five-minute break to go to the washroom during his 28-hour marathon. His only nourishment was small sips of orange juice and a bite of a hamburger. But the lack of sleep and food didn't seem to blunt the new record holder's skill -- he lost only 15 games and drew 27.

Mr. Brebrich had failed in Calgary in 1976 and 1977 to top the previous world record of 550 consecutive games, set by Czechoslovakian Grandmaster Hort, because he ran out of opponents.

But there was a steady flow of eager players both days at Kingsway Garden Mall to help him finally achieve his much-desired title."

We join with the rest of Alberta's chessplayers in applauding Branimir for his new record!!

(A letter from Chris Evans:) "Regarding the position Campbell-Zissos, p.4 of the Sept-Oct, 1977 ACR, which indeed seems to have been the result of unenterprising play:"



I wonder if, instead of 63. Ng6, which should lead to a draw, White can play 63. Nh5. This threatens supercheck on f6, so Black must take the N; then White can play 64. gh5, with two mobile pawns, and hopes of having a real bishop again. The immediate threats are 65. g6, followed by gf, or g7 and Rh8, as appropriate, or 65. h6, followed with 66. Rg7, 67. h7, and 68. Rg8. The knights seem irrelevant and White should win. Of course Black could have avoided this by placing his knights on better squares.

Edmonton Chess Club Championship - 1977

We reported the results of section C in the last ACR. Sections A and B are now finished:

Jim Cummins qualified for the Alberta Closed by winning section A on tiebreak over Chris Evans. Both scored $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$. The section began as a 10 player round-robin, but Willis and Steele soon abandoned ship, leaving eight to fight it out. The average rating was over 1900.

1. J. Cummins	x	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	1	1	$5\frac{1}{2}$
2. C. Evans	0	x	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	$5\frac{1}{2}$
3. G. Campbell	0	0	x	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	1	$4\frac{1}{2}$
4. E. Long	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	x	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	4
5. I. Loadman	1	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	x	1	1	0	$3\frac{1}{2}$
6. H. King	0	0	0	0	0	x	1	1	2
7. G. Raletich	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	x	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$
8. N. Fullbrook	0	0	0	0	1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	x	$1\frac{1}{2}$
L. Steele			0	0				0	
B. Willis									0

G. Campbell - J. Cummins (annotated by Cummins)

1. e4 e6, 2. Nc3 d5, 3. Nf3 d4, 4. Ne2 c5, 5. c3 Nc6, 6. cd cd, 7. Qa4 b5! (other moves will lose the d-pawn and leave Black with a pathetic position) 8. Qb5 Bd7, 9. Qg5 f6, 10. Qg3 (An unfortunate square, as it's the only square, apart from g1, that the N on e2 can move to. However, Qh4 isn't great either) 10. ... e5, 11. a3 Qa5, 12. Rb1 Nb4, 13. ab4 (After the game Gordon suggested Neg1 was better. However, Black's position is still winning: 13. ... Nc2+, Kd1, 14. Rc8 Bd3, 15. Be6! Bc2, 16. Rc2! Kc2, 17. Qc5+ Kd1, 18. Bb3+ Ke1, 19. Qc2) 13. ... Qa2, 14. Nc3 (Overlooking Black's 15th move) 14. ... dc3, 15. Bd3 c2!, 16. Bc2 Rc8, 17. Ne5? (White's best chance is 17. Bd3 Qb1, 18. Bb1 Rc1+, 19. Ke2 Rh1, 20. Ba2. However, despite his poor Kingside development, Black's material advantage should be enough) 17. ... Rc2, 18. Qd3 Ba4, 19. Qa3 Qa3, 20. ba3 fe5, 21. 0-0 Nf6, 22. f4 Bb5, 23. Rf3 ef, 24. e5 Nd5. (0-1).

J. Cummins - C. Evans

1. c4 e5, 2. Nc3 Nc6, 3. g3 g6, 4. Bg2 Bg7, 5. e4 d6, 6. Nge2 Nge7, 7. 0-0 0-0, 8. d3 f5, 9. f4 Be6, 10. Nd5 Qd7, 11. Be3 Rf7, 12. Rc1 Raf8, 13. c5 fe, 14. de Nc8, 15. b4 Bh3, 16. b5 Bg2, 17. Kg2 N3e7, 18. Ne7+ Qe7, 19. Qd5 b6, 20. cd6 Nd6, 21. a4 ef, 22. Rf4 Kh8, 23. Bd4 Rf4, 24. Bg7+ Qg7, 25. gf4 Qb2, 26. Kf3 Qa3+, 27. Rc3 Qa4, 28. Rc7 Qa3, 29. Nc3 Ne8, 30. Qe5+ Kg8, 31. Qe6+ Kh8, 32. Qe5+ Kg8, 33. Qd5+ Kh8, 34. Qd4+ Kg8, 35. Qc4+ Kh8, 36. Rd7 Nf6, 37. Rb7 Nn5, 38. Qd4+ Kg8, 39. Qd5+ Kh8, 40. Qe5+ Kg8, 41. f5 Qc1, 42. Qe6+ Kh8, 43. Rh7+ Kh7, 44. Qg6+ Kh8, 45. Qh5+ Kg7, 46. Qg4+ Kh7, 47. Qh4+ Kg7, 48. Nd5 Qf1+, 49. Kg4 Rg8, 50. Ne7 Qd1+, 51. Kg5 Qg1+, 52. Qg3 Qg3+, 53. hg3 Ra8, 54. e5 and White won. (1-0).

E. Long - C. Evans

1. e4 e5, 2. Nf3 Nc6, 3. Bb5 a6, 4. Ba4 Nf6, 5. 0-0 Be7, 6. c3 b5, 7. Bc2 d5, 8. ed5 Qd5, 9. Bb3 Qd3, 10. Bc2 Qd6, 11. d3 0-0, 12. h3 Re8, 13. Nbd2 Be6?, 14. Ng5 Bf5, 15. Qf3 Bg6, 16. Nde4 Ne4, 17. Ne4 Qd7, 18. Bb3 Na5, 19. Rd1 Nb3, 20. ab3 c5, 21. Be3 Qc7, 22. d4 cd4, 23. cd4 Qc2, 24. Nc5 ed4, 25. Rac1 de3, 26. Rc2 Bc2, 27. Rd7 ef2+, 28. Qf2 Bg6, 29. Kh2 Bf6, 30. Nd3 h5, 31. h4 Re4, 32. g3 R8e8, 33. Nf4 Bf5, 34. Rd2 Bg4, 35. Qc5 Be5, 36. Qc6 Bf4, 37. gf4 R8e6, 38. Qc8+ Kh7, 39. Rf2?? Re2, 40. Re2 Re2+ (0-1) White blew his Q in time trouble.

Rick Douziech outclassed the opposition in section B to take first with $8\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$, a full $1\frac{1}{2}$ points ahead of F. Borloi and F. Buenaventura, who tied for second:

1. R. Douziech	x	1	1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. F. Borloi	0	x	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
3. F. Buenaventura	0	0	x	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
4. C. Domier	1	0	0	x	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	$5\frac{1}{2}$
5. I. Drummond	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	x	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	$5\frac{1}{2}$
6. B. Knudskov	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	x	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5
7. K. Sawyer	0	1	0	1	0	1	x	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	$4\frac{1}{2}$
8. A. Skeel	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	x	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4
9. E. Culham	0	0	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	x	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	$3\frac{1}{2}$
10. T. Stochinsky	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	x	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	$3\frac{1}{2}$
11. T. Marsland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	x	1	1	1	1	1	2
S. Ali											1	0	0							

F. Buenaventura - R. Douziech (Benko Gambit)

1. d4 Nf6, 2. c4 c5, 3. Nf3 g6, 4. g3 Bg7, 5. Bg2 0-0, 6. 0-0 d6, 7. Nc3 Nbd7, 8. d5 a6, 9. Qc2 b5, 10. cb ab, 11. Nb5 Ba6, 12. Nc3 Qb6, 13. Re1 Rfb8, 14. e4 Ng4, 15. h3 Nge5, 16. Rd1 c4, 17. Na4 Qb7, 18. Be3 Nf3, 19. Bf3 Ne5, 20. Bg2 Qb5, 21. Rab1 Nd3, 22. Nc3 Qa5, 23. Qd2 Rb2, 24. Rb2 Bc3, 25. Qc2 Nb2, 26. Rb1 Rb8, 27. Rc1 Bf6, 28. Bd2 c3, 29. Bc3 Bc3, 30. Qc3 Qc3, 31. Rc3 Na4, 32. Rc1 Nc5 Black won.

Harvey King directed the Club Championship and supplied crosstables and some of the games.

Calgary Open -- Calgary Chess Club 1977

Jan Kralovic, a 66 year old veteran, came in first with almost 100%. Jan was born in Bratislava (Slovakia) on the 9th of May 1911. He started to play chess relatively late in his life. As a 17 year old youth he had to hide in the barn to play the game because his parents believed he should do more useful work than pushing wood. But he was no woodpusher! When he was 29, he played in his first tournament; soon after he captured the top place in his native city. In 1965 he emigrated to Canada and settled in Calgary as a dental mechanic. He has done well in the Canadian chess world. His highest rating was 1965. Jan always placed in the top section with the strong players of Alberta. In 1970 he played in the Canadian Open in Vancouver. That year there was an exceptionally strong crowd present -- 12 masters and some Grandmasters. Jan placed 36th, which was quite good considering the competition. Now he is over 65, and he has won the Calgary Open ahead of some very strong Calgary players. He is a likeable person, always willing to contribute his time and effort toward guidance of young chess players. (We thank John Schleinich, the T.D., for this personal sketch of Jan Kralovic!).

J. Kralovic - W. Coppin (Dutch Def.)

1. d4 f5, 2. Nc3 Nf6, 3. Bg5 Ne4, 4. Ne4 fe4, 5. e3 c6, 6. Bh4 Qa5+, 7. c3 d5?, 8. f3 Bf5, 9. fe Be4, 10. Nf3 Nd7, 11. Bd3 0-0-0, 12. 0-0 h6, 13. b4 Qc7, 14. Bg3! e5, 15. de5! Nb6, 16. Nd4 Nc4, 17. Qg4+ Kb8, 18. e6 Bd6, 19. Rf7 Qc8, 20. Bc4 h5, 21. Bd6+ Rb6, 22. Qf4! (1-0)

Thirty-nine players started in the Calgary Open, and only four were lost in the battle. See the top of the next column for the complete crosstable.

1. J. Kralovic	+37	+6	+23	+2	+5	=4	5½
2. W. Coppin	+24	+38	+14	-1	+9	+5	5
3. J. Flemming	+34	+19	+10	-5	+14	+11	5
4. K. Kuczaj	+21	+8	-5	+10	+7	=1	4½
5. R. Pedersen	+31	+33	+4	+3	-1	-2	4
6. D. Maguire	+12	-1	+36	-11	+18	+15	4
7. A. Zissos	+18	-10	+17	+16	-4	+13	4
8. R. Hawkes	+20	-4	-12	+33	+16	+14	4
9. G. Donaldson	+35	-22	+25	+23	-2	+17	4

- 3½: 10-13: J. Chalupnick, J. Kassay-Farkas, J. Belak, J. Weitman;
 3: 14-22: R. Short, T. Patten, A. Lindquist, N. Falls, H. Bovbjerg, Y. Veillette, D. Mulligan, T. Schulz, R. Castle(/3);
 2½: 23-26: A. Wong, D. Enevoldsen, A. Menzel, J. Solis;
 2: 27-32: W. Rusk, A. Marcotte, R. Slood, C. Fallis, J. Skolblack, K. Wilson(/3);
 1: 33-36: T. Lockert, D. Young, F. May, R. Holmes;
 0: 37-39: R. Nephew(/2), J. Nemeth(/1), P. Allan(/0)

On January 11th and 18th the Calgary CC ran a speed chess tournament in which 22 took part. B. Brebrich won both days, ahead of K. Kuczaj, A. Zaradic, R. South, and other veteran speed players.

U of A Winter Open Edmonton Jan 14&15

Bruce Thomas directed this 24 player tournament which attracted a number of new members to the CFC and the ACA. Murray Frank had a perfect score, defeating Chris Evans among others. Evans led a group of 6 players who got 3½-1½.

1. M. Frank	+21	+13	+10	+2	+3		5
2. C. Evans	+17	+5	+7	-1	=4		3½
3. T. Kolenchuk	+20	+12	+4	=6	-1		3½
4. C. Domier	+14	+9	-3	+10	=2		3½
5. K. Tilly	+8	-2	+14	+12	=7		3½
6. S. Purewal	-9	+15	+17	=3	+8		3½
7. D. Cokleski	+23	+18	-2	+9	=5		3½

3: 8-11: H. Ducasse, G. Booth, J. Rovelli, D. Jesse;
 2½: 12-13: D. Leflar, J. Cenkovic;
 2: 14-17: R. Anderson, G. Hastings, J. Smit, Z. Sykora;
 1½: 18-19: K. Affek, G. Wetmore;
 1: 20-22: G. Benedict, Wita, I. Loadman(/2);
 0: 23-24: S. James, G. Dunlop(/2).

The "surprising" showing of Evans might be attributable to the no smoking rule that was discussed on page 3! Anyway, a game:

M. Frank - C. Evans (annotated by Frank)
 1. d4 Nf6, 2. c4 e6, 3. Nf3 d5, 4. Nc3 c6,
 5. e3 Nbd7, 6. Bd3 dc, 7. Bc4 b5, 8. Bd3 a6,
 9. e4 c5, 10. Bg5?! cd, 11. Nd4 Qb6!, 12.
 Nb3 Bd6, 13. O-O b4!?, 14. Na4 Qc6, 15. Na5?!,
 Qc7, 16. Nc4 Bh2+, 17. Kh1 Bf4!+, 18. Bf6 Nf6?!,
 19. Nab6! Rb8, 20. Nc8 Qc8?!, 21. e5+- Qd7,
 22. ef gf, 23. Bc2 Qe7, 24. Qg4 Bh6, 25. Rad1
 Kf8, 26. Qg3 Rc8, 27. Bb3 Rc5, 28. Qd6 Rh5+,
 29. Kg1 and White won, eventually.

If you have missed some ACR issues that you should have received, or you bought an ACA membership, but never got your card, or whatever, then please write us and we will try to straighten things out!

The 1977 Canadian Junior Chess Championship
 Report by Andrew Zissos, Alta Junior Champion

The Canadian Junior Chess Championship was held from Dec 26-Jan 1 at the University of Toronto. Lodging and playing conditions were both excellent, and the tournament was run quite smoothly by Michael Kremer. The winner was Michael Rohland of Ontario with a score of 7 out of 10. The field was quite strong, and as it was my first experience of such a competition, I was disappointed rather than upset with my score of 3½/10.

1. Mike Rohland	2039	Ontario	7.0
2. Phil Morenz	2026	"	6.5
3. Brett Campbell	2008	"	6.5
4. Martin Buchholz	2078	"	6.0
5. Curtis Materi	1888	Sask.	5.5
6. Glen Morin	2022	B.C.	5.5
7. Mike Armiento	1989	Ontario	4.5
8. Daniel Provost	1684	Quebec	4.0
9. Terry Mackay	1834	B.C.	3.5
10. Andrew Zissos	1795	Alberta	3.5
11. M. Giovannetti	1864	N.B.	2.5
12. B. Fiedler	1992	Ontario	0.5(/3)

My own rather meagre score reflected more my inexperience and away-from-the-board stupidity than a significantly weaker grasp of the game. This stupidity was most evident in the first 3 rounds, all of which I lost:

In round 1 against Buchholz (White) I missed a reasonably obvious drawing move in a time scramble after having been an hour ahead on the clock after 15 moves.

In round 2 against Armiento (Black) I went up a clear exchange and then proceeded to lose the rook while scrambling to make the second time control.

In round 3 against Morenz I played an inferior opening line, but fought well in the middle game and gained an advantage by sacrificing the exchange for two pawns. This done, I lost my concentration and dropped a piece.

Morenz - Zissos (A typical loss): 1. d4 Nf6, 2. c4 e6, 3. Nc3 Bb4, 4. Qc2 c5 (4. ... d5 is more solid, but I was completely unfamiliar with this variation) 5. dc Na6 (Commonly played, but 5. ... Nc6 is better) 6. a3 Bc3+, 7. Qc3 Nc5, 8. b4 Nce4, 9. Qd4 d5, 10. c5 h6 (10. ... b6 is the "book" move, which leaves Black crushed) 11. f3 Ng5, 12. Bf4 Bd7, 13. e3 (Otherwise ... Bb5 is threatened) 13. ... a6 (Threatening ... Bb5 again) 14. a4 O-O, 15. Bd3 Ne8, 16. h4 Nh7, 17. Bc2 f5!, 18. g4?! fg, 19. O-O-O Nhf6, 20. Qd3 gf (Clearing e4 for the knight) 21. Nf3 Ne4, 22. Rhg1 Rf4!, 23. ef4 Qf6, 24. Qd4 Qf4+, 25. Nd2 N1f6??? (After 25. ... Bc6, Black is winning. The text obviously loses a piece and demonstrates the unfortunate lack of concentration that caused three of my five losses) 26. Be4 de4, 27. Rdf1 (1-0).

Clearly, I was lacking mental discipline both in regards to making the time control and maintaining my concentration. I believe this tournament has helped me significantly in both respects.

I did not play in the fourth round, as my intended opponent (Fiedler of Toronto) was so disappointed with his ½/3 score that he dropped out of the tournament. This action had the unfortunate effect of leaving me with 4 whites and 6 blacks for the tournament, but on the other hand it gave me time to regain my composure.

I met Rohland (White), the eventual winner, in round 5, and after quite vigorously out-playing him in the opening and early middle-game, I succumbed to his offer of a draw. This may seem quite cowardly, but I am sure that had I played on a lost (certainly not an inconceivable outcome), the tournament would have been ruined for me. My first half point was very important.

In round 6 I faced Morin and won quite convincingly in 17 moves. Of course, I was greatly helped by some generous and well-timed blunders, but it certainly seemed a more reasonable outcome than any of my previous losses.

Zissos - Morin (This was to my knowledge the shortest decisive game of the tournament.)

1. e4 c5, 2. c3 (I won 2 out of 3 games with this opening system. In the only loss, I won a clear exchange, but later blundered a rook in a time scramble.) 2. ... Nf6, 3. e5 Nd5, 4. d4 Nc6, 5. Nf3 cd, 6. cd d6, 7. Nc3 Nc3 (Also possible is 7. ... de, 8. de Ndb5=) 8. bc3 Bg4 (Inexact. 8. ... e6 is better. On 8. ... de?, 9. d5! e4, 10. Ng5±) 9. ed ed, 10. d5 (This seemed the best try for advantage.) 10. ... Ne5, 11. Bb5+ Nd7. (11. ... Bd7 seems better) 12. 0-0 Be7 (Black was certainly in a bind, but this loses a pawn. Perhaps 12. ... a6) 13. Qd4 Bf3, 14. Qg7 Bf6?, 15. Re1+ Qe7, 16. Re7+ Ke7, 17. Bg5 (1-0). (It is clear that Black loses in all continuations, e.g., 17. ... Rag8, 18. Re1+ Kd8, 19. Bf6+ Kc7, 20. Qh8+-)

In round 7 I played Materi (White), and for the first time I felt that I was clearly outplayed. My opening was weak and my middle-game seemed without purpose. I felt very tired during this game, and much more so after it.

In round 8 I played Giovannetti (Black), and after an inexcusably poor opening (I blundered on the sixth move of a line which I was totally familiar with) I rallied in the middle-game and won the end-game.

In round 9 I played Provost (White) and we drew after a long tedious game in which he held every winning chance on the board. I felt very tired, and was suffering from back-ache and throat problems from this time on.

In round 10 I played Mackay (White) and after a suicidal opening (at this point I knew my play was deteriorating) I warded off his almost overwhelming middle-game threats and drew a two-pawns-down rook ending.

In the final round I offered no resistance to Campbell (Black) and was soundly beaten in 27 moves.

I learned a number of important things from this tournament, aside from gaining the actual experience of playing in such a strong field.

Firstly, from the purely physical point of view, I realized that I have insufficient stamina for such a tournament, and, if I qualify for the Canadian Junior again, I will have to consider preparing myself physically. I also for the first time appreciated the importance of eating and sleeping properly during a long tournament.

Secondly, I found ratings to be an inaccurate guide to playing strength, and in the first half of the tournament I believe I paid more attention to them than I should have.

I also learned that, to my surprise, I found myself capable of playing reasonably well in unfamiliar openings, whereas this

proved to be a weakness among most of the other players, especially those who memorized the opening.

Aside from this, I also learned mental techniques for such things as time consumption from the other players.

I feel that this tournament was an excellent and novel experience for me, and I have benefitted greatly from it. As I am the only player from this year's junior eligible to play in the tournament again, I should be able to represent Alberta quite strongly, if I were to manage to re-qualify in the next two years.

All in all it was a pleasant holiday and a valuable experience, and I would like to thank the Alberta Chess Association for their financial support.

World Student Team Championship Mexico 1977
Part III by Stephen Ball, Canadian Captain

Guatemala was unlucky enough to meet us in the third round: in the finals, we won every third round by a score of 4-0. Here's the game of Taylor (Canada) vs Bheshlubhayahadt (Guatemala):

1. e4 e5, 2. Nf3 Nc6, 3. Bb5 a6, 4. Ba4 Nf6, 5. 0-0 Be7, 6. Re1 b5, 7. Bb3 d6, 8. c3 0-0, 9. h3 Nd7, 10. d4 Bf6, 11. a4 Rb8, 12. ab ab, 13. Be3 g6, 14. Nbd2 Bg7, 15. Nf1 Ne7, 16. Qd2 c5, 17. dc Nc5, 18. Bc2 f5, 19. Red1 Ne4, 20. Be4 fe, 21. Ng5 Nf5, 22. Qd5+ Kh8, 23. Nf7+ Rf7, 24. Qf7 Bb7, 25. Ra7 Ne3, 26. Ne3 Qb6, 27. Rdal Qc6, 28. R1a6 Qa6, 29. Ra6 Ba6, 30. Qa7 (1-0).

I have been selecting short games from my notes on the progress of the other teams. This one finishes suddenly when White miscalculates a combination:

Gomez (Mexico) - Szymczuk (Poland) 1. e4 e6, 2. d4 Bg7, 3. Nc3 d6, 4. Be3 c6, 5. Qd2 b5, 6. g3 Nd7, 7. Bg2 Nb6, 8. b3 Nf6, 9. e5 Nfd5, 10. Nd5 Nd5, 11. f4 0-0, 12. Nf3 Ne3, 13. Qe3 Bf5, 14. 0-0 Qb6, 15. c3 Rac8, 16. Rfe1 Rfd8, 17. Rad1 c5, 18. d5 e6, 19. ed ed, 20. Ne5 d4, 21. cd Rd6, 22. dc Rc5, 23. Nf7?? Rd1, 24. Rd1 Rc1! White resigned (0-1)

We fared less well against Scotland the second time around: the score was 2-2. Nurmi and Buchholz drew. Baragar lost a very nice game, while Taylor murdered Upton.

Swanson (Scotland) - Baragar (Canada) 1. e4 e6, 2. d3 d5, 3. Nd2 Nf6, 4. Ngf3 b6, 5. e5 Nfd7, 6. d4 c5, 7. c3 f6, 8. ef Qf6, 9. Bd3 Bg6, 10. Nf1 0-0, 11. Bg5 Qf7, 12. Bh4 h6, 13. Qe2 cd, 14. cd e5, 15. de Ne5, 16. Ne5 Be5, 17. Ne3 Qf4, 18. Be7 Re8, 19. Nd5 Qd4, 20. Rd1 Qb2, 21. Qe4 Bc3+, 22. Kf1 Bd7, 23. Qh7+ Kf7, 24. Bg6+ Ke6, 25. Be8 Be8, 26. Qg8+ (1-0).

Taylor (Canada) - Upton (Scotland) 1. d4 d5, 2. c4 e6, 3. Nc3 Be7, 4. Nf3 Nf6, 5. Bg5 0-0, 6. e3 h6, 7. Bh4 b5, 8. Rc1 Bb7, 9. Bf6 Bf6, 10. cd ed, 11. Qb3 c6, 12. Bd3 Nd7, 13. 0-0 Be7, 14. e4 de, 15. Ne4 c5, 16. Rfd1 cd, 17. Nd4 Rc8?!, 18. Rc8 Qc8?!, 19. Nf5 Bf6, 20. Nf6+ Nf6, 21. Ne7+ (1-0).

Round five paired us against Ecuador. I drew very quickly against Hidalgo, and shortly thereafter refused the first (and only) "bargain"

which was offered. Ecuador offered us four draws. I thought Nurmi might lose, but Taylor and Stone both looked like they might win. They did, and Nurmi drew without much difficulty; with a 3-1 score as a result.

Taylor (Canada) - Perez (Ecuador) 1. d4 Nf6, 2. c4 e6, 3. g3 Bb4+, 4. Bd2 Bd2+, 5. Qd2 d5, 6. Bg2 O-O, 7. Nc3 c6, 8. b3 Nbd7, 9. Nf3 Qe7, 10. O-O Nb6?, 11. Ne5 c5, 12. dc Qc5, 13. cd ed, 14. Nd3 Qe7, 15. Nf4 Bg4, 16. Ncd5 Nbd5, 17. Nd5 Nd5, 18. Qd5 Rab8, 19. Qd4 Bh5, 20. e4 b6, 21. Rac1 Rfe8, 22. Rfe1 Rbd8, 23. Qc3 h6, 24. e5 Rc8, 25. Qe3 Qa3, 26. Rc8 Rc8, 27. e6! Qe7, 28. Bd5 Kf8, 29. h4 fe, 30. Qf4+! Bf7, 31. Re6 Rc1+, 32. Kh2 Qc7, 33. Rd6 Ke7, 34. Qe5+ Kf8, 35. Bf7 Kf7, 36. Qe6+ Kf8, 37. Rd7 Black resigned. (1-0).

Jamaica managed to lose all 4 games against us in round 6, while Colombia obtained only a 2½-1½ score against Guatemala. This put us in second place, one point behind Colombia. Taylor warned me before the round that if he got White just one more time, he might do something desperate (I don't understand why, but he seemed to want to have Black!). Here is the result of a Queen pawn player gone mad -- every time I walked by, Gordon was putting a piece en prise:

Taylor (Canada) - Wong (Jamaica) 1. e4 c5, 2. Nf3 d6, 3. d4 cd, 4. Nd4 Nf6, 5. Nc3 a6, 6. Bg5 e6, 7. f4 Be7, 8. Qf3 Qc7, 9. O-O-O Nbd7, 10. Bd3 b5, 11. Rhe1 Bb7, 12. Qg3 h6, 13. Bh4 b4, 14. Nd5! Nd5, 15. ed5 Bh4, 16. Qh4 Bd5, 17. Ne6!! fe6, 18. Bg6+ Kf8, 19. Rd5 Nc5, 20. Rc5! dc5, 21. Qg4 Rd8, 22. Qe6 Qf4+, 23. Kb1 Black resigned. (1-0).

Meanwhile, Dorfman continued to play very impressively for the Soviet Union:

Dorfman (USSR) - Fernandez (Mexico) 1. Nf3 Nf6, 2. c4 g6, 3. Nc3 Bg7, 4. e4 d6, 5. d4 O-O, 6. Be2 e5, 7. O-O Nc6, 8. d5 Ne7, 9. Ne1 Ne8, 10. f3 c5, 11. Rb1 f5, 12. g4! h5, 13. g5 h4, 14. Nd3 f4, 15. Kh1 Kf7, 16. Rg1 Rh8, 17. b4 b6, 18. bc bc, 19. Qa4 Bf8, 20. Nb5 Ng7, 21. Bb2 Nh5, 22. Nd6+! Kg8, 23. Be5 Bg7, 24. Kg2 (1-0).

Round 7 was almost a day of rest: Nurmi, Taylor, and Stone all drew in less than 25 moves, while Buchholz secured the full point, to give us a 2½-1½ edge over Costa Rica:

Arraya (Costa Rica) - Buchholz (Canada) 1. Nf3 d5, 2. b3 Bf5, 3. Bb2 Nd7, 4. e3 Ngf6, 5. Be2 e6, 6. O-O Bd6, 7. Nh4 Bg6, 8. f4 Qe7, 9. d3 Bc5, 10. d4 Bd6, 11. c4 c6, 12. Ng6 hg6, 13. Nd2 g5, 14. h3 gf, 15. ef Nf8, 16. Bd3 O-O-O, 17. c5 Bb8, 18. Rf3 Nh5, 19. Qf1 f5, 20. Re1 Qh4, 21. b4 Nf4, 22. a4 Ng2!, 23. Re6 Ne6, 24. Qg2 g6, 25. Qf2 Ng5, 26. Qe2 Rde8, 27. Re3 Nh3+, 28. Kf1 Qf4+ White resigned. (0-1).

We weren't expecting to have any serious problems with the Honduras in round 8. Everybody was a bit tired, and there were many volunteers to take the day off. Nurmi and Stone were the lucky ones, and the rest of us had a hard day. Baragar had a difficult position, and looked as though he was positionally quite lost -- luckily, his opponent blundered horribly in Baragar's time trouble (!), after which

Baragar was playing a bishop ending with an extra pawn. This was not quite enough to win, and the game was agreed a draw at move 65 -- games in the eighth round were played to completion. This earned Baragar a bye in the last round. Taylor was back on track with the White pieces, and won nicely. I overplayed my superior position, and eventually had to settle for a draw. Buchholz won, luckily, very nicely, but not quickly. So much for an easy round!

Buchholz (Canada) - Luque (Honduras) 1. c4 Nf6, 2. Nc3 g6, 3. g3 Bg7, 4. Bg2 O-O, 5. e4 d6, 6. Nge2 e5, 7. O-O Bc6, 8. d3 Nc6, 9. f4 Qd7, 10. Nd5 Bg4, 11. Ne3 Bh3, 12. f5 Bg2, 13. Kg2 Nd4, 14. g4 Bh6, 15. Nd5 Bg7, 16. Nf6 Bf6, 17. Bh6 Bg7, 18. Bg7 Kg7, 19. f6+ Kh8, 20. Nd4 ed4, 21. g5 Rfe8, 22. Qf3 Re5, 23. Qg3 a5, 24. Kh1 a4!, 25. h4 h5, 26. Kg2 b5, 27. b3 bc, 28. bc Rb8, 29. Rab1 R5e8, 30. Qh3! Qc6, 31. Rb8 Rb8, 32. Rb1! Qe8, 33. Rb8 Qb8, 34. Qd7 Kg8, 35. a3 Qb2+, 36. Kf3 Qb8, 37. c5!! dc, 38. e5 Qb7+, 39. Kf4 Qb8, 40. e6 c6+, 41. Kf3 Kh8, 42. e7 Kh7, 43. e8=Q Qf4+, 44. Kf4 Black resigned. (1-0).

Dorfman won quickly, as usual, this time against Skrobek of Poland:

Skrobek (Poland) - Dorfman (USSR) 1. e4 c5, 2. Nf3 Nc6, 3. d4 cd, 4. Nd4 Nf6, 5. Nc3 d6, 6. Bc4 e6, 7. Be3 a6, 8. Bb3 Be7, 9. f4 O-O, 10. Qf3 Qa5, 11. O-O-O Nd4, 12. Rd4 Nd7, 13. g4 Nc5, 14. g5 Nb3, 15. cb3 Bd7, 16. b4 Qc7, 17. f5 Rfc8, 18. f6 Bf8, 19. h4 a5, 20. b5 a4, 21. b6 Qc6, 22. a3 Qb6!, 23. Rd2 Qb3, 24. Bd4 e5, 25. fg Be7, 26. Be5 de5, 27. Rd7 Ba3, 28. Rh3 Bb2+, 29. Kd2 Bc3+, White resigned. (0-1).

The Canadian team needed to win against Colombia in the last round -- they were leading us by ½ point. We made sure by winning the match 4-0, which actually dropped Colombia to third place in the final standings. The only game I have from that round is:

Nurmi (Canada) - Zapata (Colombia) 1. e4 c5, 2. Nf3 e6, 3. d4 cd, 4. Nd4 a6, 5. Bd3 Nf6, 6. O-O d6, 7. c4 Be7, 8. Nc3 O-O, 9. f4 Nc6, 10. Nf3 Qc7, 11. Kh1 Rfd8, 12. Qe2 Nd7, 13. Be3 Nc5, 14. Bc2 b6, 15. Rael Bb7, 16. Bc1 b5!, 17. b3 Qe5?!, 18. Bb2 b4?, 19. Nd5 Bf8, 20. e5! h6, 21. Nf6+ gf6, 22. ef6 d5, 23. Ng5! d4, 24. Qg4! d3, 25. Ne6 Kh8, 26. Nf8 Black resigned. (1-0).

The final standings in the two sections were: (top 3 teams given):

A Final: 1. U.S.S.R.
2. Cuba
3. England

B Final: 1. Canada
2. Ecuador
3. Colombia

New members wishing to get the first two parts of Stephen's story can send us 50¢ for the previous two issues of the ACR (Volume 2, Numbers 5 and 6).

After typing this much of this ACR, we got a letter from Gerry Donaldson of Calgary:

"I hope this arrives in time to be inserted into the next ACR. I have persuaded Calgary's local educational television station to put the entire twenty games of Check and Mate on two consecutive Sundays, March 12 and 19, to be viewed at 1:30 in the afternoon."

"The series consists of 20 famous encounters between the strongest players who ever lived. Ten games will be shown each Sunday."

"Each programme is 13 minutes long. Each begins with a brief biography of the combatants and a few comments on the significance of the game to be played. Pictures of both players and the location of play are shown."

"The games themselves are animated and in colour, with each move finding the piece moving on its own, the commentator giving the moves and analysis in descriptive notation. If there is one shortcoming, it is that insufficient time is given to analysis of variations, but admittedly much more than what is given would be too much for nontournament players."

"The list of games is as follows:

March 12 at 1:30 p.m.

1. Tchigorin -- Mackenzie
2. Botvinnik -- Tal
3. Steinitz -- Blackburne
4. Capablanca -- Alekhine
5. Korchnoi -- Geller
6. Stein -- Uhlmann
7. Tchigorin -- Gunsberg
8. Petrosian -- Gligoric
9. Geller -- Kotov
10. Napier -- Teichmann

March 19 at 1:30 p.m.

1. Spassky -- Bronstein
2. Keres -- Reshevsky
3. Lasker -- Thomas
4. Bird -- Morphy
5. Pillsbury -- Lasker
6. Alekhine -- Euwe
7. Petrosian -- Fischer
8. Reti -- Bogolyubov
9. Spassky -- Larsen
10. Smyslov -- Botvinnik

"I almost forgot to mention the station. It is the:

Calgary Educational Television Consortium / Channel 13 Cable"

"Please try to get this out to everyone in time for them to be notified."

I guess it pays sometimes to be a little late in typing the ACR! We did manage to get the notice in (obviously). I have seen Check and Mate in Edmonton on the Access Channel on Cable -- interested chessplayers in Edmonton might consult their TV schedules to see when it is on here, assuming that it is in fact on at this time.

Calgary players should get out their chessboards, whip up a bowl of popcorn, and watch their sets on March 12 and 19!!

Another item we came upon at the last minute:

Chess Workshop -- Edmonton March 1978

If there is sufficient interest, the ACA and the University of Alberta Chess Club will host a weekend chess workshop in mid-March at the U of A.

The workshop, with instruction by two of the better local players, will be of interest to experienced players up to a rating of about 1400.

THIS WORKSHOP WILL BE FREE, AS LONG AS YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE ALBERTA CHESS ASSOCIATION!

If you would like to attend this workshop, or would like further information, then you can contact Bruce Thomas, either at the U of A or Edmonton Chess Clubs, or by phoning him at 466-5383.

Well, I seem to have arrived at this point unprepared -- I've got more than half a column to fill, and I left almost all of my "extra" material at home! No problem. As you already must know, I can crank on "forever" with the words, if need be; so, here are some more little bits of information:

John Schleinich sent us a letter that he got from Gerry Donaldson. The letter (almost four pages) was the complete story of Brebrich's cracking of the world record for number of chess games played simultaneously and consecutively. Unfortunately, the letter arrived too late for it to be included with the story that we gave on page 6. However, I can print a few of the details which Gerry listed:

"I must say that Brebrich displayed an endurance which I found flabbergasting. As if taking but one five minute break in the entire twenty eight hours weren't enough (which, incidentally, prompted some rather humorous comments as to the disposition of one's bladder), Brebrich had but a cheeseburger in the second hour of play, and nothing more to eat until after returning to Calgary late Saturday. Drinking naught but orange juice due to suffering from a sore throat and cold, I estimate that Brebrich walked approximately eight miles in rounding a fifty foot oval over 800 times -- all this in a pair of leather boots on a concrete floor -- in his 28 hour marathon."

"He actually averaged 19.75 games per hour over the last eight hours, giving a performance rating over 96% in that period."

"To my great astonishment we actually had a crowd of forty to fifty players until perhaps 5:30 a.m. the next morning (Saturday, January 28, 1978)."

Final reminder:

Please consider playing in the Western Canada Open. Many players will travel over a thousand miles to play in this type of event; and you have it in your "backyard"!!

Also, we hope to see you at the Northern Alberta Open! (details on the cover).

1978

WESTERN
CANADA
OPEN
!

WESTERN CANADA OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 1978

Edmonton, Alberta April 29 - May 7, 1978

↪ \$ 4,000.00 Estimated Prize Fund

(Based on about 150 players, not an exaggerated estimate in view of the more than 200 players at the Canadian Open in Calgary 1975.)

- | | | |
|-----------|---|----------|
| 1. \$1000 | Class Prizes for Classes A, B, C, D & unrated | |
| 2. \$ 650 | in each class : | 1. \$150 |
| 3. \$ 450 | | 2. \$100 |
| 4. \$ 300 | | 3. \$ 50 |
| 5. \$ 200 | Top under age 18 -- | \$100 |
| 6. \$ 100 | | |

Note: Your entire entry fee, less 50¢ per player will go into the prize fund !!!

- ★ Time control: 40 moves / 2 hours, then 20 moves / hour.
Games will be adjourned after 6 hours play in the first 7 rounds.
- ★ Membership requirements: C.F.C. valid to May 15, 1978 and A.C.A. (or other provincial association) valid up to the end of May.
Do Not Forget **Your** Membership Cards !
- ★ Entry fee: \$ 25 if postmarked **prior to April 1, 1978**
\$ 30 if later than April 1, 1978
Free entry for all players rated over 2200 CFC.
(Most recent available rating list to be used.)
- ★ Playing Site: Dinwoodie
Student's Union Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta.

∫ One round per day, 9 round open Swiss system tournament.
Registration is either **by mail** or in person on Saturday April 29 from **10 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.** Late registrants may be given 1/2 point byes in the first round. Rounds 1 to 7 will start at **6:00 P.M.** with adjourned games completed the next morning. Rounds 8 and 9 will start earlier. There will be a speed chess tournament on May 3 at 11:00 A.M.

★ To enter or to get more information, write to:

Western Canada Open
Box 119, University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada. T6G 2E0

* Remember to bring Chess sets, boards, and clocks.
We look forward to meeting you!