

A Champion from the Past. And Champions of the Future?



Left to right—the U-14 medal winners

Kayden Troff (USA),
Chitambaram Aravindh (India),
Richard Wang (Canada)

Towering in the middle: Gary Kasparov

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From the Editor

Within less than 2 months of the Chess Olympiad Canada has participated in another major event - a World Youth Chess Championship (WYCC) in Maribor (Slovenia). While Olympiads are the pinnacle of the chess world, WYCCs are its very foundation. Considering that many a youth world champion has built a stellar career and become an elite player, it would be most unwise to underestimate the results shown at this magnificent summit.

Fortunately for Canada, everybody who proudly wore the Team Canada red shirt, came to Slovenia to serve the team and help it to do the best it could. Many members of this great group agreed to share their experience with the reading public, and that enabled me as the editor to devote the whole first half of this double issue to the most important competition of the year - as far as the future of the game is concerned.

Canada has won yet another WYCC medal - so we can consider our journey to Slovenia as a definite success. I am delighted to emphasize that it's not our last success to report in this issue. A "Wonder of Canada" Eric Hansen has continued his fairy-tale string of conquests by adding a World Cup qualification to his recent Olympiad deeds and freshly acquired GM title. FM Vladimir Pechenkin describes Eric's journey through the Argentinian chess pampa in Mar-del-Plata.

It is not exactly surprising that Canadian women's results do not exactly match those achieved by their male counterparts - yet even participating in an event like a World Championship can be considered an important milestone in one's career. Deen Hergott covers the details of this yet another top competition. Finally, the "history class" of the month reminds us, what is there to achieve for players like Eric Hansen or Richard Wang. 40 years ago one Robert James Fischer blazed the trail for the North American chess, and Stephen unearths the roots of Fischer's meteoric rise to the throne.

Merry Christmas to all of you and Happy 2013!

Edward Porper

Canadian Chess News

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Chess Game Symbols

!! Excellent move	♙ Pawn	⊞ Centre	♜♝ Bishops of same colour
? Interesting move	- Attack	× Weak point	≡ With compensation for material
?! Dubious move	<i>f</i> Initiative	□ Only move	± White has the upper hand
? Mistake	= Counterplay	L with	± White stands somewhat better
?? Blunder	△ With the idea	└ without	∞ Unclear
♔ King	○ Space	《 Queenside	≠ Black stands somewhat better
♚ Queen	⊕ Zeitnot (time trouble)	》 Kingside	≠ Black has the upper hand
♞ Knight	○ Development	∨ Endgame	△ Better is
♝ Bishop	= File (line)	♝♞ Pair of bishops	½ Draw
♖ Rook	↗ Diagonal	♞♝ Bishops of opposite colour	♙ Passed pawn
			○ Zugzwang

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Effective May 1, 2009: Single tournament memberships - Adult \$20, Junior \$10. Provincial portion of dues are \$4 and \$2 respectively. For now, there are no taxes on tournament memberships.

Canadian Chess Links

We can't list them all, but here you will find a good selection of active Canadian chess links. If you would like to add your site to this list or report a broken link, email the editor at sherlok7@gmail.com

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New Brunswick Chess <http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/crgraves/nb-chess/>

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Nova Scotia Chess Association <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Recreation/NSChess/nschess.html>

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Maritime Chess Centre <http://reallyhightech.com/chess/>

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Newfoundland and Labrador Chess Association <http://www.chess.nl.ca/NLCA/>

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2012 World Youth Chess Championships

by IM Deen Hergott



Photo credit: Jonathan Dumaresque

Roughly a year ago, I wrote a lengthy report on last year's WYCC event, held in Caldas Novas, Brazil. It featured a history of youth chess, dating back to the first World Junior in 1951 and described the explosion and expansion of world youth championship events in years since. That event featured 1,120 young talents battling wits for nearly two weeks - a huge event by any standards. Only Chess Olympiads and very large international team events can boast these kinds of numbers, and they are a considerable challenge to any organization considering the role as host. A large contingent of 40 Canadian youths participated, nearly double our usual number.

This year's WYCC was held in *Maribor, Slovenia*, and the number of participants increased to a whopping 1,584, nearly 500 more than last year, and several hundred more than the previous two European events in Porto Carras, Greece (2010) and Antalya, Turkey (2009). 92 different countries were represented, and 8,712 games were played - I'll only be providing you with a handful, no worries!

Maribor is the second largest city in Slovenia, and shares the impressive title of 2012 European Capital of Culture with Guimaraes, Portugal, but only boasts a population just shy of 100,000 - not such a large city for such a big task. A definite highlight of this year's event was the appearance of former World Champion Garry Kasparov at the closing ceremony, where he gave away the prizes to the top three finishers in each category. He also complimented the organizers and city of Maribor on a fantastic job, so I'm guessing the event ran as smoothly and as professionally as the Website and live transmission - he has travelled the world for chess and does not hand out compliments frivolously. The event featured live video feeds and live transmission of games on 90 electronic boards, and there wasn't a single breakdown during the entire event! He was in Maribor on business as well, and opened a chess academy during his visit.

Canada sent 28 youths this time out, and on paper it appears we did not have as successful a performance as last year - only two top ten finishes (compared with four in Brazil), and only one other in the top twenty in their division. We were missing a couple of players that

performed well last year, Michael Song, of North York, most notably, but most players did finish in a higher position than their pre-tournament seeding, including both our rated and unrated reps. And we did capture one medal, for the fourth year running - **IM Richard Wang of Alberta repeated his 3rd place finish from 2009** by virtue of wins in the final three rounds. His final 8.5/11 score in the Under-14 Open section was just half a point behind reps from India and the United States. I'm sure he was very thrilled to receive his medal from none other than Garry Kasparov himself!

Other notable performances: **Harmony Zhu**, of Ontario in the Under-8 Girls with 7.5/11, finished 8th, originally unrated, and **Razvan Preotu**, of Burlington, in the Under-14 Open with 7/11 (no draws!), finished 23rd, seeded 49th. **Qiyu Zhou**, also Ontario, maintained her initial top twenty seeding to finish 17th in the Under-12 Girls, also with 7/11.



I'm also pleased to see that Ashley Tapp, 12, of Vancouver was able to make her way to Maribor with the team despite the financial burden. She made quite a story for herself on the ChessBase Website earlier in the year, as she described her situation and her ambition to participate in Maribor. It appears enough people were listening to help her take part in this wonderful opportunity.



Full results of our squad available here: <http://chess-results.com/tnr84660.aspx?art=25&fedb=CAN&lan=1&fed=IRI&flag=30>.

The one notable disappointment was Jason Cao's 50% score of 5.5/11, which placed him in the middle of the pack at 87th, despite an initial seeding of 22nd. Even though the section had 30 players rated over 2000, I'm sure he had much higher hopes. Well, we all have those tournaments, and even though he's only graduated one division, the competition is becoming increasingly difficult at all age groups. One of his games featured theory well past move 20! And he ran into some terrific attacks in a few losses as well - frankly it was hard to believe these were young boys playing. I'm sure Jason will shrug this off and continue to improve - and to think, I didn't even know how to play chess at his age!

Some general highlights from the event:

Russia and India were the top performing countries, with eight medals each (3 Golds each), while the United States was third with four medals.

The Under-18 Girls division was won by a 14-year-old Grandmaster (GM), Aleksandra Goryachkina, from Russia!

The Under-10 Open division featured something rarely ever seen - the winner, FM Nguyen Anh Khoi, of Vietnam, seeded 13th, scored a perfect 11/11.

The top sections generally field the strongest players, and Maribor set all kinds of records on overall numbers and strength. The Under-18 Open boasted 43 players rated 2300 FIDE or more, of which 23 were over 2400.

Top finishers in each section (scores out of 11):

Under-18 Open: GM Dariusz Swiercz (Poland), 9

Under-18 Girls: WGM Alexandra Goryachkina (Russia), 9.5

Under-16 Open: IM Urii Eliseev (Russia), 9

Under-16 Girls: WFM Anna Styazkhina (Russia), 9

Under-14 Open: FM Troff Kayden (USA), 9

Under-14 Girls: WFM Mahalakshmi (India), 9

Under-12 Open: Sevian Samuel (USA), 9

Under-12 Girls: R. Vaishali (India), 9

Under-10 Open: FM Nguyen Anh Khoi (Vietnam), 11

Under-10 Girls: N. Priyanka (India), 9.5

Under-8 Open: Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzbekistan), 10

Under-8 Girls: Motahare Asadi (Iran), 10.5

Some of these players may become future stars of our game, but it's becoming very clear that chess is flourishing on a global level at a very young age. All of our Canadian representatives should be commended on

qualifying to such a prestigious event, and hopefully they were afforded a memorable and valuable learning experience - my international experiences were always very special to me. We have a long way to go to become competitive at the highest levels, but as they say, onwards and upwards! I look forward to future Canadian endeavours on the world stage, and to the continued growth of our game's future.

Gajek,Radoslaw (2250) - Wang,Richard (2356) [B19]

World Youth Championships 2012 - U14 Open (11), 18.11.2012

1.e4 c6!?

Interesting choice for decisive last round. Both players had 7.5 and a shot at a medal.

2.d4 d5 3.♘d2 dxe4 4.♗xe4 ♙f5 5.♗g3 ♙g6 6.♗f3 ♗d7 7.h4 h6 8.h5 ♙h7 9.♙d3 ♙xd3 10.♞xd3 e6 11.♙d2 ♗gf6 12.0-0-0 ♙e7 13.♗e4 ♞b6 14.♗e5



Likely designed to pressure f7 and prevent long castling. The drawback is the increased likelihood of many exchanges – in principle, White with more space would like to keep pieces on.

14...♞b5!?

Black offers a queen exchange, which would open the c-file and potentially hand the d5-square to Black if c2-c4 can be effectively held back. There is a problem with the concept, but it's well hidden. Greed does not pay here, as the illustrative line shows: 14...♗xe5 15.dxe5 ♗xe4 16.♞xe4 ♞xf2 17.♞g4! and Black has no good way to defend his ♗-side.

15.♗xd7 ♗xd7 16.♞g3?!

Keeping queens on looks like the right way to play for advantage, but the complications are not good for White. Ironically, the simplest way to get an edge is probably 16.♞xb5 cxb5, and now the surprising, but logical 17.d5!, foiling Black's intended ...♗b6-d5. After 17...exd5 18.♗c3, White has a nice positional edge.

16...0-0-0

Of course. If Black can convince himself of this active defence, it must be the right move.

17.♞xg7



17...Qf5!

Defending the f7–pawn with tempo shuts the trap against White's queen. Suddenly White's position has become very loose.

18.♖g3 ♜xf2

White's problems haven't gone away – the position of the queen and undefended knight spell big trouble.

19.♞hf1 ♜xg2 20.♜xf7 ♙d6! 21.♞g1

Nothing better to suggest.

21...♜d5



22.♗b1??

White is clearly disheartened, but this just loses a piece very simply. Relatively best was 22. ♗e2, but it's not an encouraging position for White. 22. ♗e2 ♞df8 23. ♜g6 ♜xa2 24. ♗c3 ♜a1+ 25. ♗b1 ♞f6 and Black remains a clear pawn ahead because 26. ♜g7 ♞hf8 27. ♗xh6?? allows 27...♞xh6! 28. ♜xh6 ♙f4+.

22...♞df8 23. ♜g6 ♞hg8 24. ♜xh6 ♞xg3

Of course the h–pawn is not nearly enough compensation for a full piece.

25. ♞ge1 ♞f6 26. ♜h8+ ♗c7 27. ♜a8 a6 28. h6

A mistake, but it's academic at this point anyways.

28...♞f8 29. ♜a7 ♗c8!

Cute. White's queen is suddenly trapped on the other side of the board!

30. ♞f1 ♞gf3 31. ♞xf3 ♜xf3

The ♞/d1 is hanging, and ...♙b8 and ...♗b6 is winning the queen.

0-1

Lagarde, Maxime (2501) - Swiercz, Dariusz (2611)
[C10]

World Youth Championships 2012 - U18 Open (7),

14.11.2012



1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♗c3 ♗f6 4.♙g5 dxe4!?

Not a bad system and alternative to the Classical or MacCutcheon, if Black doesn't play too passively.

5.♗xe4 ♗bd7 6.♗f3 h6 7.♗xf6+ ♗xf6 8.♙e3

Always a question in this variation of where to put this bishop. 8.♙h4 has been played, naturally, but it does relegate the bishop to the ♗–side. The text is more common, but also has a drawback.

8...♗d5 9.♙d2 c5 10.♙b5+ ♙d7 11.♙xd7+ ♜xd7 12.c4 ♗b6 13.dxc5



13...♙xc5

13...♗xc4!? is a worthy option, and if 14. ♙c3 there is transposition to the game. The text allowed White the option of 14. ♜c2, to keep queens on.

14.♙c3

14.♜c2!?

14...♜xd1+ 15. ♞xd1 ♗xc4 16. ♙xg7 ♞g8

The complications favour Black as both of White's knight pawns are now vulnerable.

17. ♞c1 b5 18. ♙d4?!

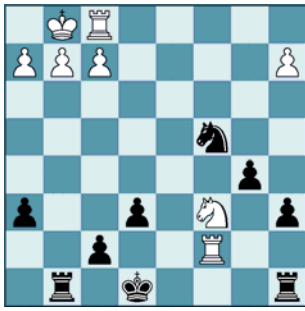
White gets some activity for a pawn, but not enough.

18. ♙xh6 ♞xg2 19. ♞c2 (19.b3!? ♗b2! 20. ♞xc5 ♗d3+ 21. ♗f1 ♞xf2+ 22. ♗g1 ♞xf3 is also a bit better for Black), and Black has structural advantage and some edge, but White can fight more than in the game.

18...♙xd4 19. ♗xd4 ♗xb2 20.0-0

Only now did White realize that while moves like 20. ♞b1 will likely win back a pawn on the ♜–side, White's King and ♗–side rook will suffer significant awkwardness in many lines. Either that, or White will have to cough up the g–pawn. So, the bid for activity instead.

20...a6 21. ♞c7 ♗c4 22. ♗c6



22...♖g5!

An excellent move, which stops White's initiative dead in its tracks. The rook is heading to c5 where it will interfere with White's most active plan of ♖/f1-d1-d7.

23.♞d1 ♜c5 24.♞a7

The more natural 24.♞d7 meets with the shot 24...♜d6!!, when mate on the back rank as well as 25...♞xc6 is threatened. White looks active, but it is an illusion. Black is coordinating, and has an extra pawn.

24...♞c8 25.♜e7 ♞8c7 26.♞xc7 ♞xc7 27.♜g8 f5

Tightening the noose around the errant knight by controlling g4. Of course, White could extract it now with ♜/g8-f6+, then to h5, but Black would have a simple technical task of converting his ♞-side majority to a full point. Instead White bites the bullet and regains material equality, with its obviously incumbent risk.

28.♞e1 ♜f7 29.♜xh6+ ♜f6 30.f4

A clever try, to meet 30...♞h7? with 31.g4!, but Black deals with this very effectively.

30...♜d2!

Clearing the c-file, centralizing the knight on the powerful e4-square, and eyeing f3 to prevent the advance of the g-pawn. Some moves do everything!

31.♞d1 ♞c2

Without g2-g4 as a resource, White is paralyzed. The simplest plan for Black now is to simply create a passed b-pawn and run it to promotion. White's knight is hopelessly placed to offer any resistance. A powerful positional game by the champion and an all-important win with the Black pieces.

0-1



Schut,Lisa (2281) - Goryachkina,Aleksandra (2378) [B96]

World Youth Championships 2012 - U18 Girls (6), 12.11.2012

Although the U-18 Girls division was ultimately a runaway victory for the young Russian GM, this game almost certainly decided matters. Both sides had chances in a sharp struggle.

1.e4 c5 2.♞f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♜xd4 ♜f6 5.♜c3 a6 6.♞g5 e6 7.f4 ♜bd7 8.♞e2

There are an astonishing number of Sicilians played in these youth championships, and the Najdorf is popular right across all divisions. White opts for a sideline, hoping to avoid critical preparation.

8...♞c7 9.0-0-0 ♞e7 10.g4 b5 11.a3 ♞b8!

A stronger idea than the wooden ...♞b7 – counterattack on the b-file is much more threatening.

12.♞xf6

12.♞h4!?, planning g4-g5, is a sharp option, keeping extra pieces on the board. 12...♜xe4 may be possible, although 13.♜xe4 ♞xh4 14.♜xe6!? fxe6 15.♜xd6+ looks quite dangerous.

12...♜xf6 13.g5 ♜d7 14.♞e1?!

This prevents the immediate 14...b4? 15.axb4 ♞xb4 16.♜d5!, but still feels too slow. The more consistent 14.h4 b4 15.axb4 ♞xb4 16.♞h3!?, with some ideas of lateral defence makes a stronger impression.

14...♜c5 15.h4 ♞b7



Maybe an over finesse. 15...0-0 is probably simplest, bringing the other rook to the ♞-side. Black may have overlooked White's next.

16.b4!

Well-timed. Sometimes this move is necessary and strong, despite the obvious weakening of the ♞-side. Preventing ...b4 keeps Black's majors much less active.

16...♜a4 17.♞d3?!

Both 17.♜xa4 bxa4 and 17.♞h3!? were more harmonious. The ♞/d3 is not well placed, interfering on the d-line and along the 3rd rank.

17...♞d7 18.h5

Again, capturing on a4 should be considered, although the text is natural enough too.

18...a5 19.g6!

Things are heating up.

19...axb4



A typically sharp opposite flank attack Sicilian. White's move here, the recapture on b4, looks pretty obvious, but post-mortem analysis indicated that White missed an extremely dangerous alternative here in 20.h6!!

20.axb4?!

20.h6!! fxg6 21.hxg7 ♖g8 22.axb4 makes a huge difference to the game – White's position is preferable.

20...fxg6?!

Also an error, but in such a sharp position, it often boils down to who makes the more serious mistakes. 20..hxg6 21.hxg6 ♖xh1 22.♖xh1 ♜xc3 23.♖h8+ ♔f8 24.♖g8! fxg6 25.e5!, and perpetual check is the likely end. The text capture weakens e6 too much, but White failed to exploit this.

21.hxg6 h6 22.f5

White misses another shot in 22.♗xb5! ♜xc3 23.♗xd7+ ♔xd7 24.♖xc3 ♖hc8 25.♖b3!, with advantage. The practical difficulty of playing precisely in such a sharp game cannot be underestimated. Both sides should be applauded for their ambitious play.

22...♗g5+ 23.♔b1 0-0?!

Here 23...e5 was necessary, despite the weakening of d5. At least the position would be kept more closed.

24.fxg6 ♖a7!? 25.♜xa4

25.exd7 and 25.♜cxb5!? look like possibilities too. The emergence of this pawn on e6 seems to give White the edge now, but there are still lots of moves and complications to get through.

25...♖xa4 26.♖c3 ♖a8 27.♖b2 ♗e8 28.♖hg1

Not bad, but 28.♜f5! was recommended after the game, when 28...♗f6 29.c3 ♗xg6 30.♗c2! does a good job of securing White's king position.

28...♗f6 29.♖df1 ♗e5 30.♖xf8+ ♔xf8 31.c3 ♔e7 32.♗c2 ♖a3



Black is willing to enter the endgame with the bishop pair. White will be hard pressed to keep the extra pawn.

33.♗b3?

A serious tactical oversight, after which Black has the option of keeping queens on. Instead, 33.♖xa3 ♖xa3 34.♔b2 ♗xd4! 35.cxd4 ♖c3! 36.d5 h5!, and the h-pawn will eventually force White's rook to abandon g6, when ...♗xg6xe4 should lead to rough equality: 37.♖h1 ♗xg6 38.♖g1 ♗xc4 39.♖xg7+ ♔e8.

33...♗xd4! 34.cxd4 ♖xb4

White's King is more exposed than Black's now, but 35.♖c1! was probably enough to hold the balance. Instead....

35.d5 ♖xe4+ 36.♗c2 ♖e5 37.♖xe5 dxe5

The endgame is probably lost.

38.♔b2 ♔d6 39.♖g4

Preventing the advance of Black's pawns and guarding d5 through the tactic of ♗c4+.

39...♖c8 40.♗b3 ♖c5 41.♖g1



41...♖xd5!

Very nice, and likely the fastest way to realize Black's advantage.

42.♗xd5 ♔xd5 43.e7 ♔e6 44.♖a1 ♔xe7 45.♖a6 h5!

Now this is the problem – White's rook is overworked.

46.♖b6 h4 47.♖b7+ ♗d7

A complex game, one very much worthy of both players.

0-1

Nguyen, Anh Khoi (1923) - Ram, Aravind L N (1983) [D78]

World Youth Championships 2012 - U10 Open (10), 17.11.2012



This is the game that gave White a virtually untouchable 9-0 lead in the U-10 Open section. The

winner actually went on to a perfect score!

1.♠f3 ♀f6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 ♁g7 4.♁g2 0-0! 5.0-0! d5 6.d4 dxc4 7.♠a3 c6

I prefer the more active 7...♠c6 here, but Black's position is solid enough.

8.♠xc4 ♁e6 9.♠c5 ♁d5 10.♁f4 ♠bd7 11.♖c1

All quite logical. White seeks to exchange off Black's fianchetto. The queen on d2 would run into a ...♠e4 tempo, so in that sense c1 is a safer square.

11...♖c8 12.♁h6 c5

This makes sense too, and leads to a small, but irritating White edge after a series of trades.

13.♠xd7 ♠xd7 14.♁xg7 ♠xg7 15.dxc5 ♖xc5 16.♖e3

White's king is safer, the rooks can centralize quickly, and White's queen eyes a7 and e7.

16...e5 17.b4 ♖b5 18.a3 ♖b6 19.♖c3!

Naturally White doesn't trade queens. Black's rook on b5 makes an awkward impression, and his position is the tougher one to play.

19...♖f6 20.♖fd1 e4 21.♠d4 ♖b6

White's advantage is increasing little by little. It would be easy to forget that these players aren't even ten years old yet!

22.♖ac1 ♠e5



23.♠f5+ ♖xf5

23...gxf5 was possible, but I can understand Black not wanting to accept another potential weakness. The trouble with the piece capture is the weakness of the overextended e-pawn.

24.♖xd5 ♖c6 25.♖c5 ♖xc5 26.♖xc5 ♠c6 27.♖c4 ♖e8 28.b5

Something is finally dropping. White's play has been like clockwork.

28...♠b8 29.♖d4+ ♠g8 30.♖c5 ♖e6 31.♖d5

The simple 31.♖c7 nets a pawn, but the text plays to simply dominate the knight.

31...♖e7

Black should have tried 31... a6, but there is no disputing White's significant advantage.

32.♖xa7 ♖c7 33.♖c5 ♖a5 34.e3 ♖e1+ 35.♁f1

Black is playing without a piece.

35...b6?? 36.♖xb6 ♖c8 37.♖d8+

Wins the useless knight. A technically mature game for such a young player – his astounding 11-0 result virtually ensures that his name will be one to watch for in future.

1-0

Troff, Kayden W (2350) - Aravindh, Chithambaram Vr (2311) [E18]

World Youth Championships 2012 - U14 Open (11), 18.11.2012



1.d4 ♠f6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.♠f3 ♁e7 5.♁g2 0-0 6.0-0 b6 7.cxd5

This was another key last round matchup with medals on the line. The American, Troff, playing White, had won in rounds nine and ten, and was looking for the hat trick. His opponent, Aravindh of India, had a tremendous 9/10, but a loss would allow Troff to catch him. The text should be relatively harmless. 7.♠e5 immediately, maintaining tension, is preferred. I've had a few games continue 7...♁b7 8.♠c3 c6 9.e4, which is somewhat similar, and now 9...dxc4 10.♠xc4 ♁a6 11.b3 b5 12.♠e3 b4 13.♠e2, and now 13...♁xc2 14.♖xc2 ♖xd4 15.♁b2 gives White excellent compensation, so White is given the theoretical nod here. The American's choice is safer, but certainly less ambitious as well.

7...exd5 8.♠c3 ♁b7 9.♠e5 c6

Solid, but with less immediate pressure against d5 (no c4-pawn), Black could have entertained other options, 9...♖e8 for example.

10.e4 dxe4 11.♠xe4 ♠d5 12.♠c3

I like this retreat, identifying the d5-square as a key battleground. Anything that makes ...♠/b8-d7 awkward will hinder Black's natural development. 12.♖e1 was possible too, but I prefer the text.

12...♠a6 13.♠xd5 cxd5



White has a tiny edge in a symmetrical pawn structured middlegame. White's rooks are likely to go to e1 and c1, bishop to e3 or f4, and queen most likely to head to the ♖-side, g4 or h5. Because it's not really clear where White's bishop will be better placed, I would opt for 14.♖e1 here – a small point, but this is the type of position where the tiny details may ultimately have a significant bearing on things later in the game.

14.♗f4

Playing to equalize through simplification, but this increases White's ♖-side initiative. 14...♗c7!? en route to e6 is worth considering, though 15.♗h3!?, controlling e6 is an equally interesting reply. 15...♗e6 16.♗xc6 fxe6 gives White strong command of e5, so Black would probably be looking for something else to prepare ...♗e6. 14.♖e1!?

14...♗g5?! 15.♖g4

With Black's minors posted far from the ♖-side, it makes sense to bring White's queen to that flank with tempo. The more forcing 15.♗xg5 ♖xg5 16.f4 was also worth considering and looks better for White as well.

15...♗xf4 16.♖xf4

White is still very slightly better – more activity, less hindered bishop.

16...♗b4 17.a3 ♗c6



18.♗g4!?

An ambitious choice, and a fairly logical one too. White's knight still has a real future on squares like e3 and f5, so avoiding the trade while Black's is blocking defence of d5 makes sense. Trading on c6 should also keep some small edge for White, who would be left with good bishop against bad, but further trades may also increase Black's chances of getting a draw. White's chances would be better, unquestionably, but there would be serious technical work to be done to squeeze out a win.

18...♗a5

This looks like the wrong direction to me – White is focused on d5 and the ♖-side, and for that reason the knight should consider e7 as a possible home. A cute computer recommendation here: 18...♖b8!?, hoping to exploit the attack against d4 and force the queen away, 19.♖f3!? ♗xd4 20.♗h6+ gxh6 21.♖g4+ ♗h8 22.♖xd4+, and White will surely regain one of Black's shattered pawns with positional advantage.

19.♗e3! ♗b3 20.♖ad1 ♗c8 21.♖fe1

White's advantage has grown over the past few moves. All of his pieces are better than Black's with the exception of the ♗/c8. Black's knight in particular makes a poor impression, far from the action and without much realistic hope of winning the d4-pawn it has its sights on.

21...♖e8?

Natural enough, but Black's problems become even more critical after this. 21...g6, to control f5, was probably necessary, but I don't like Black's position. 22.♗g4, eyeing the newly weakened dark squares looks very unpleasant for starters.

22.♗f5!

Suddenly the knight is coming to d6, and there appears to be very little to do about it.

22...♗c6 23.♖xe8+ ♗xe8

23...♖xe8?? 24.♖g4! ♖f8 25.♗e7+

24.♗xd5! ♗a5 25.♖e1 ♗c6



26.♖e5

Completely winning, but 26.♗h6+! gxh6 27.♖xf7+ ♗h8 28.♖e8+!!, leading to checkmate, would also have been a fine way to end the tournament. Still, one win is as good as another – Black is busted after the text move chosen as well.

26...♖xd5??

Of course this is a blunder, but the punctuation is a bit harsh – defending mate with 26...♖f6 or 26...♖f8 still costs a full rook after 27.♗e7+, so it's not as if Black had any good moves left at his disposal.

27.♖xg7#

A tremendous effort by the American who managed to pip the Indian player on tiebreak and take home the gold medal.

1-0

Pictures in this article are credited to

- 1) The tournament official site gallery <http://wycc2012.smugmug.com/>
- 2) Wikipedia
- 3) Team Canada Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/TeamCanadaAtWYCC2012>
- 4) FIDE Chess Profiles <http://ratings.fide.com/>

Team Canada— Behind the Scenes

By Victoria Jung-Doknjas



In order for teams to succeed, they need to work hard, apply their talent, and have a great support system in place, including taking care of many of the non-chess issues to enable them to focus on their chess. We don't often hear about the "behind the scenes" people, so it might be interesting to know what kind of support this year's Team Canada at the WYCC 2012 received both prior to the actual tournament and on-site.

Most countries provided only one Head of Delegation and one coach. Some countries had enough funding and/or sponsorship and a large number of players to warrant more than one coach. For example, even though Team USA fielded 89 players and had 8 to 10 coaches onsite, they only had one Head of Delegation and no "Press" people taking photos of their players. In fact, thanks to Andrew Giblon, Canada was one of the only countries to have "press" people allowed in the tournament hall.

This year's Team Canada at the WYCC 2012 fielded 28 players and was very fortunate to have many experienced people as part of their "Support Team". They included a Head of Delegation (Andrew Giblon), an Assistant Head of Delegation (Victor Itkin), two coaches (Andrew Peredun and Edward Porper), three photographer/press people (Victoria Doknjas, Zhixiang Wang, and George Zhou), an arbiter (Rene Preotu), Canadian Youth Coordinator (Patrick McDonald) and CFC President Michael von Keith.

Andrew Giblon, Team Canada 2012 Head of Delegation



(aka Melissa and Rebecca's Dad) is an experienced HoD (with multiple years serving as either HoD or assistant HoD). He helped to coordinate the Team prior to leaving for Maribor, Slovenia, (which included pre-WYCC training camps with Team coaches) as well as

kept the Team up to date on important information and news dealing with the WYCC, the Canadian Team, etc. Andrew also helped to resolve issues on site, including accommodation problems, Team Members' illnesses, complaints, etc. Besides, the Head of Delegation serves an important role in filing (timely) official appeals on behalf of Team Canada players, should an occasion arise. Andrew is also a proponent of Team spirit –so a few years back, he came up with an idea of the *Team Canada Awards* which remains a popular and fun farewell Team gathering.

Victor Itkin, Team Canada 2012 Assistant Head of Delegation



(aka David's Dad) helped to compile interesting stats and info about the Team during each round to send out as part of the Team updates; Victor also provided general support, such as stepping up to pick up and distribute the Team IDs (and - because there was 400+ Euros outstanding before the Team IDs would be released – he paid the amount in order for the Team to get their IDs on a timely basis). Victor was a key contributor to creating the Team Canada awards categories, too (the awards were presented by Andrew to each of the 28 Team Canada players on the last day of the tournament).

Andrew Peredun, Team Canada 2012 Coach, is an accomplished chess coach and high rated player; He had some previous coaching experience with Team Canada. Prior to the WYCC, Andrew compiled a WYCC database with games from different countries as a helpful reference tool for our Team Canada players in preparing for their opponents. Andrew also conducted pre-WYCC training camps for Team Canada players

and provided post-game analysis and preparation onsite.



Edward Porper, Team Canada 2012 Coach,



**Victoria Jung-Doknjas,
Team Canada 2012**

Lead Photographer and Journalist



(aka John, Joshua and Neil's Mom) took a third tour of duty as a Team Canada Photographer. She created and managed the well-liked "*Team Canada at WYCC 2012*" Facebook page, which included interviews with IM Richard Wang, FM Jason Cao, Qiyu Zhou, and GM Eric Hansen. Victoria also designed this year's logo for the Team Canada's polo shirts and shared photo/upload duties with Zhixiang Wang and George Zhou in covering both tournament halls (including other areas of general interest); as well, she was on hand to help with Team Canada award presentations.

**George Zhou, Team Canada 2012
Photographer**



(aka Lily's Dad) served as a Team Canada Photographer for the second time. George captured excellent shots of the U8 Open/U8 Girls, and U10 Girls sections throughout the WYCC and always uploaded photos on a timely basis to the *Team Canada at WYCC 2012* Facebook page for all to enjoy.

**Zhixiang Wang,
Team Canada 2012
Photographer**



(aka Richard's Dad) served as a Team Canada Photographer for the second time. Zhixiang has an excellent eye for details, which is apparent in the photos that he took of the U10 Open, U12 Open/Girls, U14 Open/Girls, U16 Open/Girls, and U18 Open/Girls; he uploaded on a timely basis to the *Team Canada at WYCC 2012* Facebook page.

Rene Preotu, FIDE Arbiter for WYCC 2012,



(aka Razvan's Dad) is an experienced FIDE Arbiter and, unofficially, he was Canada's sole contact in the Sports Center Dras tournament hall in case our Canadian kids have had a problem or fallen ill and needed some Canadian help—as the WYCC Organizers decided not to allow any Head of Delegations in the tournament hall.

Patrick McDonald, CFC Youth Coordinator,



has had many years of experience as CFC Youth Coordinator, and is an experienced tournament director. He organised and assembled Team Canada and was the liaison (along with the Team's HoD) for the Team with the WYCC Organizers.

Michael von Keith, the CFC President



provided his support and encouragement for Team Canada; and along with the CFC Youth Coordinator, provided input to the formation of Team Canada for the World Youth Chess Championships 2012 in Maribor, Slovenia.

This year's Team Canada Support Team worked well together and held the common goal of creating a supportive team environment that would enable Team Canada players to focus on what they do best – play chess and play chess well.

Pictures in this article are credited to the author and Team Canada Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?#!/TeamCanadaAtWYCC2012>



Team Canada—a View from the Head of Delegation

By Andrew Giblon



This year it was again an honour and a privilege for me to serve as Head of Delegation for Team Canada at the WYCC (World Youth Chess Championships), as I had done last year in Brazil. Edward Porper (in his capacity as CCN Editor) asked me if I could write an article about our experiences, and I naturally agreed. My focus in this article will be on the WYCC as an event, Team Canada, what went well vs. challenges we encountered, our results, and lessons learned. Edward Porper (in his separate capacity as WYCC coach), and possibly Andrew Peredun, will provide separate expert commentary from a pure chess perspective.

The WYCC and Host Country Slovenia

The WYCC is one of the largest sporting events in the world, and this year was the largest ever WYCC, with 1584 players (vs. about 1100 last year in Brazil) from 91 countries.

The largest contingent was naturally from Slovenia (150 players) as the host country, with other large teams from Russia (106), USA (89), India (55), South Africa (42), Germany (40), Kazakhstan (39), Mongolia (38), China (34), England (34), and Turkey (32), with Canada (28) having the 12th largest team. The strongest youth chess countries include Russia (8 medals out of 36 possible), India (8 medals), and USA (4 medals). See the attached photo of just one section of one of the two playing halls (in a very large gymnasium), in the mayhem just before round one.



Slovenia is a country of about 2 million in population, which seceded from Yugoslavia in 1991. It borders on Italy, Austria, Croatia, and Hungary. Slovenia is part of the European Union, and uses the Euro as its currency. Slovenian is the unique local language – not like Serbian or Croatian which are similar to each other. Maribor is a small town of about 100 thousand in population. The weather there was a little warmer than Toronto – daily highs around 10-15C, with lows around 0-10C.

Team Members



Our team consisted of 28 players (see photo), most of whom were Top 3 finishers at the CYCC held in Surrey, BC this past July. Players marked “(J)” were in their junior year of their respective sections.

Girls U8: Kylie Tan, Harmony Zhu (J)

Open U8: Neil Doknjas (J), Arhant Washimkar

Girls U10: WCM An Nguyen, Lily Zhou

Open U10: Joshua Doknjas

Girls U12: Qiyu Zhou, Ashley Tapp

Open U12: FM Jason Cao, Lukas Cheung

Girls U14: Agniya Pobereshnikova (J), Melissa Giblon (J)

Open U14: IM Richard Wang, Razvan Preotu (J), Mark Plotkin, John Doknjas (J), Diwen Shi (J), Kajan Thanabalachandran

Girls U16: Nicka Kalaydina, Alice Xiao, Rebecca Giblon (J)

Open U16: Konstantin Semianiuk, David Itkin, Tanraj Sohal, Alexandru Florea

Girls U18: Melissa Lee

Open U18: Benjamin Blium

Players with the most WYCC experience were: Qiyu Zhou (7), Nicka Kalaydina (5), Rebecca Giblon (5), Melissa Giblon (5), Richard Wang (4), David Itkin (3), Tanraj Sohal (3), Mark Plotkin (3), and John Doknjas

(3). We also had 5 players attending for their second time, and 14 players attending for their first time.

Geographically, we had 13 players from the Toronto area, 7 from the Vancouver area, 3 from Windsor, 2 from Calgary, and 1 each from Edmonton, Ottawa, and Fredericton. Unfortunately, we had no players from Quebec, as none had participated in the CYCC or applied for an exception. Interestingly, 4 of our players, covering 4 different age / gender sections, attend the same high school – Thornhill Secondary School – Ben Blium (Open U18), David Itkin (Open U16), Rebecca Giblon (Girls U16), and Mark Plotkin (Open U14) – a Canadian WYCC team record. Our players were accompanied by 27 parents and 1 sibling, along with 2 official coaches and 1 private coach, for a total delegation size of 59 people.

There were two multi-player families – Giblon (2), and Doknjas (3!).

Volunteers

A team and delegation of this size can function effectively only with a strong team of volunteers to fulfill key roles. We were fortunate to have several experienced and capable volunteers again this year to help run things smoothly:

CFC Youth Coordinator – Patrick McDonald (who has done this more years than I can count) – responsible for team and coach selection, hotel bookings, and team finances.

Head of Delegation – Andrew Giblon (5th WYCC, and 2nd WYCC as HoD). Responsible for team leadership, co-ordination, communication, and advocacy for any issues that arose.

Assistant Head of Delegation – Victor Itkine (3rd WYCC). Helped tracking everyone's arrival and rooms, compiled daily statistics, arranged logistics around bag lunches and transportation, compiled player accomplishments.

Coaches – IM Edward Porper (1st WYCC as coach) and **FM Andrew Peredun** (2nd WYCC as coach). Prior to the WYCC, they each analyzed games and provided feedback to their assigned players, and they each conducted a mini training camp in Toronto. During the WYCC, they each worked long hours every day doing pre-game preparation and post-game analysis. In addition, IM Miodrag Perunovic was privately funded as a coach for a few of our top players, which in turn freed up our official coaches to provide more time to other players.

Photographers / Journalist – Victoria Doknjas (3rd WYCC as photographer / journalist), **Zhixiang Wang** (2nd WYCC as photographer), and **George Zhou** (2nd WYCC as photographer).

WYCC as photographer). They were relentless in taking and posting more photos of our team than any other country did for their team

Arbiter – Rene Preotu (3rd WYCC, and 2nd WYCC as Arbiter). He always remained available to help any Canadian inside the main playing hall.

Preparation

Prior to the WYCC, the two coaches and I organized several activities:

Players were given a chance to indicate their preference of coach. Fortunately, the choices were fairly balanced, and every player got their first choice.

Players were asked to submit a PGN file of about 30 of their recent games. The coaches provided feedback about openings, areas of improvement, and games of relevant top players to review.

Edward also sent out some end game and tactical puzzles to solve.

Andrew also compiled and circulated a reference database of games of international youth players.

Each coach conducted a 1 or 2 day training camp in Toronto for a few of their assigned players.

What Went Well

It's always helpful to look back at what was done well by our team, and by the WYCC organizers:

Hospitality. The hotel staff and the WYCC organizers were friendly and always quick to respond to our requests, and to do their best to address challenges.

Coaching. Our two professional coaches worked hard to maximize the potential of those players who chose to take advantage of their free services both before and during the WYCC. A typical day for the coaches involved individual prep with players in the morning and early afternoon, then a break for the first couple of hours of the round, then back to work with individual or group post-game analysis in the evening, and then once the next day's pairings were up some late night prep! It was not unusual for me to email Andrew Peredun at midnight with sample games I had found of Rebecca's and Melissa's opponents, and to get a response from him at 1 am with possible suggested opening lines and game plan!

Meeting Rooms. The WYCC organizers agreed to my request for rooms at three hotels (Tisa, Merano, Arena) for Team Canada to meet as a team, to conduct coaching, and to hold our Awards ceremony. This meant that we always had available and private space,

which was invaluable.

Organization of Rounds. These were run professionally, on time, with minimal incidents.

Level of Competition. The level of competition against our players was high, giving them tremendous experience.

Waiting Facilities. Rooms for parents during rounds were excellent – big screens with live video streaming, live internet 10 top boards from most sections, and near real-time results on the web site. The waiting areas also all had snack bars nearby.

Tours. During the one “free” day, tours were arranged to Maribor, Ljubljana, and Vienna. I heard a very positive feedback from Edward and others about the tour of the Postojna Cave in Ljubljana. Melissa and I very much enjoyed the long day trip to Vienna – see photo of Hofburg, the winter residence of the Habsburg family which ruled Austria and several nearby countries for about 600 years, from 1276 until the end of World War I in 1918.



Team Canada Awards ceremony. This was an opportunity to recognize each and every player, regardless of how many points they earned. Each player and volunteer had their biggest accomplishment announced, and they were given a small local souvenir of Maribor. I got lots of positive feedback about this event from players, parents, and coaches, including this unsolicited email from one parent “The most memorable was the Canada team award ceremony as you made every player feel that he/she was a winner.”

Closing Ceremonies. Garry Kasparov gave an inspiring speech, and handed out awards to the Top 8 finishers in all 12 sections. What a thrill to see Richard Wang up on the podium (see photo on the cover) to receive his 3rd place award, draped in a Canadian flag that I had just given to him, with Garry Kasparov’s arm around him. Richard was also the only one of 36 medal winners to have the initiative / nerve to ask Garry for his autograph, which he got! Our other thrill was to see our youngest player, Harmony Zhu, also up on stage to get her 8th place award from Garry (see photo at the end of this article).

Challenges

Similarly it’s helpful to look at the challenges we experienced, to understand what we can do better, and what we can ask future WYCC organizers to do better.

Hotels. This was our single greatest challenge. By the time our team members had been firmed up, all of the nearby hotels had been booked. As a result, the only remaining hotel, Tisa, was at the top of a nearby ski mountain. Making things worse, when we arrived, the delegation from Albania had taken two of the rooms that Canada had paid for in advance, and had threatened to pull out of the competition if their demands were not met. Unfortunately, the hotel agreed before we had secured all of our rooms, and on the first night, two of our families, Lee and Washimkar, had to sleep in poorly heated cabins down the road. By the second night, the Cheung family had invited the Lee family to stay in their room. By the third day everyone was in a room that was acceptable to them, or they had been given an option for a room in another hotel. A few families were not thrilled with the cable car ride, especially in the dark after each round, although ultimately only one family decided to move out of Tisa.

Transportation. Issues with transportation to and from the playing hall went hand in hand with hotel issues. Although the WYCC organizers had originally told us that Hotel Tisa was a 6 minute cable car ride from the playing hall, the truth is that it took about an hour each way – a bus ride that ran only hourly, followed by a cable car ride, followed by a 5-10 minute walk.

Internet. Overall, internet access was reliable and fast at our hotels and at the playing sites. However, at my hotel, Arena, we usually had either zero or one of our three laptops able to access the internet, as the number of concurrent users at the hotel exceeded the limits of the hotel’s system. This made it very challenging at times for me to stay in contact in real time with our team.

Playing Halls. The main playing hall was overcrowded, and the tournament was split across two playing halls. Because of the large and unexpected number of players, the main playing hall was arranged in rows that were too close to each other, and seats that were too close to each other, for players to easily move around. As well, a second playing hall needed to be set up in a separate hotel a block away, just for Open U8, Girls U8, and Girls U10. That created logistical challenges for some parents, for coaches, and for me as Head of Delegation.

Access to the Playing Halls. In every previous year that I have attended, the WYCC organizers allowed Heads of Delegation into the playing hall at all times. This is important because issues can and do arise – for example, last year I needed to be inside the playing hall

to help two players who got sick, one player whose opponent wrote the wrong result on their score sheet (and couldn't be found for another hour and a half), and one player who was considering a protest which must be filed within one hour of the completion of the game. In some years, the WYCC organizers also allowed a limited number of parents and coaches as well. However, this year, the WYCC organizers initially did not allow anyone except players and arbiters inside the playing hall, despite early protests from several Heads of Delegation, including me. Eventually, the WYCC organizers slightly relaxed their position, and allowed photographers inside the playing hall, but only for the first 15 minutes of each round. Fortunately, there were no serious incidents that arose as a result of lack of access inside the playing hall.

Sick Children. At one point, two of our girls got quite sick, one with diarrhea, and one with vomiting. There was definitely some type of virus going around the hall – I read a memo from the tournament doctor that several players had gotten so sick that they were barred from entering the playing hall for 1 or 2 rounds, until they were given a doctor's clearance to re-enter. For one of the rounds, the WYCC organizers required every person entering the hall to first clean their hands with a sanitizer gel – the single file lineup also delayed that round by about 10 minutes.

Kasparov Lecture. The WYCC web site had advertised for months about Kasparov's visit, including a free lecture – “He will visit the participants on the last playing day when he will also hold lecture in town. The participants with accreditation will be able to listen to the lectures for free!” This turned out to be misleading at best – his lecture occurred one day after the last playing day had finished, and after most players had left. One of the WYCC organizers told me that the city had taken complete control from the WYCC organizers of the entire Kasparov appearance.

Highlights of Team Canada Results

Canada overall scored 149 points out of 308 games, or 48.4%, which is comparable to our team totals in prior years.

Below are some of the biggest accomplishments of each team member:

IM Richard Wang (Open U14) – 3rd place with 8.5 points (best on the team), his second WYCC medal, and the first time a Canadian has won more than one WYCC medal.

Harmony Zhu (Girls U8) – 8th place with 7.5 points (best of any girl on the team), including one amazing win on her birthday, while sick, after throwing up on the

board!

Qiyu Zhou (Girls U12) – 7 points, with 5 wins out of 6 games as white (tied for most on the team), including 4 games against WIM/WFM titled players (most on the team).

Razvan Preotu (Boys U14) – 7 points, with 5 wins out of 5 games as white (best on the team).

Rebecca Giblon (Girls U16) – 4 major upset wins (most on the team) against players rated about 150-200 points higher, and won Andrew Peredun's “brilliancy prize” for her round 4 upset.

Nicka Kalaydina (Girls U16) – took points from 6 players rated 100 points or more above her (most on the team), with 2 wins and 4 draws.

Diwen Shi (Open U14) – biggest single upset win on the team (rated +367 points), a total of 3 upset wins (second most on the team), and a major upset draw (rated +299 points).

Joshua Doknjas (Open U10) – jumped from unrated to FIDE 1802 (biggest rating jump on the team).

John Doknjas (Open U14) – 4.5 points out of 5 games as black (best on the team).

Mark Plotkin (Open U14) – 5.5 points out of 6 games as white (most on the team).

Lily Zhou (Girls U10) – 3 wins and 3 draws out of 6 games (undefeated) as black.

Lukas Cheung (Open U12) – won Edward Porper's “brilliancy prize” for his round 7 game.

Melissa Lee (Girls U18) – 2 biggest upset draws (rated +343 points, and +307 points).

Ben Blium (Open U18) – 1 major upset draw (2225 rated FM), and 1 major upset win (2055 rated).

WCM An Nguyen (Girls U10) – 6 points against very tough opponents (5 rated over 1600, including a WFM and 2 WCMs)

Kylie Tan (Girls U8) – 6 points in her first WYCC after dropping her first 2 games.

Neil Doknjas (Open U8) – 4 points out of 5 as white.

Melissa Giblon (Girls U14) – 6 draws (tied for most on the team), including one neat perpetual after being down -12 on computer analysis, with only 1 loss in her final 8 games.

Tanraj Sohal (Open U16) – 6 draws (tied for most on the team), with only 1 loss in his final 9 games.

Arhant Washimkar (Open U10) – 3 wins out of 5 games as black.

Agniya Pobereshnikova (Girls U14) – 3 wins out of 5 games as black.

Alice Xiao (Girls U16) – 3 game winning streak, including 2 major upset wins (rated +247 and +172 points).

Konstantin Semianiuk (Open U16) – 3 upset draws

(rated +190, +171, and +98 points).

Kajan Thanabalachandran (Open U14) – 3 wins out of 5 games as white.

Ashley Tapp (Girls U12) – scored 4.5 points against 11 players rated above her CFC rating.

Alexandru Florea (Open U16) – 1 upset draw (rated +197 points).

FM Jason Cao (Open U12) – 3 game winning streak early in the tournament.

David Itkin (Open U16) – within one move of a winning position against the highest rated opponent of any Canadian player this WYCC (rated 2425).

Lessons Learned for Future Years

These are a few things I observed, and heard from other parents, to consider for future Canadian WYCC team.

Objectives. We need to define our objectives as a team. I had an interesting philosophical discussion with Victoria Doknjas during one of the rounds of the WYCC – what is the goal of Canada’s participation in the WYCC? In reading many of the posts on Chesstalk, the chess playing community is primarily focused on medal chances, and the next great hope for Canada to produce an emerging prodigy. For many WYCC parents I have spoken with, it’s an opportunity for their children to represent Canada and to play their best chess in a prestigious, high caliber tournament – chances for medals are not even part of the conversation. I think it would be valuable for the CFC to weigh in and define clear objectives, since we expend considerable time and money preparing for and participating in this event every year.

Player Development Program. We need a year-round program with coaches to develop youth players. Having coaches review games and conduct a one or two day camp in the few weeks before the WYCC is great, but not enough.

Player-Coach Ratio. We need a lower ratio of players per coach in order to provide the highest quality game preparation, e.g. UK had 4:1, US had 7:1, vs. Canada had 14:1.

Fundraising. We need fundraising at a team-wide level, in order to fund a year-round coaching program, or at the very least enough coaches during the WYCC. Individuals are still welcome to do private fundraising, but we need a program in place to benefit the entire team.

Hotels. We need to book hotels as early as possible, even before players and Head of Delegation are selected. This will help ensure that we are housed as close as possible to the playing hall, and that we can

remain together as a team.

Volunteers. We need a strong team of volunteers to help out and deal with issues – as our teams have grown (40 last year, 28 this year, vs. around 20 historically), and the size of the WYCC has grown, the number of issues has grown.

Summary

In summary, I think that this WYCC was overall a success for Team Canada from an organizational point of view, and a positive chess experience for our players, despite numerous challenges thrown our way. As well, we again proved that our best players can compete for top spots against the best youth players in the world.



Pictures in this article are credited to the author and Team Canada Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?#!/TeamCanadaAtWYCC2012>



The WYCC from the perspective of the Youth Coordinator.

By Patrick McDonald



Over the years of being Youth Coordinator, I have been involved in organizing many delegations going to the World Youth Chess Championships (WYCC).

From the perspective of youth chess, Canada has been and continues to be a very active country as evidenced by being, for several years now, among the largest delegations of players at the WYCC.

I first became involved in youth chess organizing when my son got interested in chess and when attending events, I saw a big requirement for capable people to “pitch in” and help.

I have been organizing youth chess tournaments for about 12 years now. I started with local kids tournaments and moved on to bigger events. I assisted with a couple of the first North American Chess Challenges with the Chess’n Math organization in Boston and New York. I have also helped with one North American Chess Championship in Florida and have, for 10 years, organized the Ontario Youth Chess Championships.

I actually went to the WYCC (again, with my son) twice – both times in Greece – and at one of these events was an arbiter.

Well, my son is now much more involved in his University studies but I carry on being very involved in Youth Chess. My wife and I have seen the benefits of learning and playing chess in many many kids, not only the many kids that we have seen in clubs and tournaments, but many foster kids that have lived with us have seen tremendous gains in their life – in large part due to learning chess.

This year, I am again Youth Coordinator for the CFC and the largest job of the position is helping to organize our delegation to the WYCC. The WYCC is over now, and I owe a HUGE debt of gratitude to the Head of Delegation that went with the team to Slovenia – Andrew Giblon. This is the second year that Andrew has been the Head of Delegation and both last year in Brazil and this year in Slovenia, without Andrew, the members of the group would not have had nearly as

nice an experience, and I would most certainly have had a MUCH bigger job.

Andrew also recruited other help for the delegation and I can be sure that we all owe a big THANK YOU to people like: Victor Itkin as Andrew’s assistant, Victoria Doknjas as not only a photographer, but for creating and maintaining the Facebook page for the team AND many, many other tasks assisting Andrew. Along with Victoria taking photos, we had Zhixiang Wang and George Zhou, so that all of us back here in Canada could get more of the experience that the team was having.

While we did not have a budget that could afford the 3 coaches we had last year in Brazil, we were able to support having 2 coaches that – by all accounts – were of tremendous assistance to the kids.

Returning for his second time as a coach for the Canadian team, Andrew Peredun was at last year’s WYCC in Brazil, and Edward Porper had his first experience as a Team Canada coach at the WYCC.

Unfortunately, from an organizers point of view, organizing this group, going to the WYCC is quite a chore every year. Most parents are wanting to do things their own way and don’t see the benefit of doing things as a group ... that is until they experience it.

So, in many ways, organizing this group every year is like trying to herd cats.

I have to say that I am quite worried about how we are going to deal with the 2013 WYCC. This event will be held in Dubai, but the date has been moved up substantially to August! This will give our team only ONE MONTH after the CYCC to arrange their trip! Unfortunately, the organizers of the 2013 CYCC (this year in Ottawa, Ontario) have already told the CFC that it will be impossible to change the dates on the CYCC. This may mean that we will have to use ratings instead of the CYCC to choose our team for the WYCC.

I know that you will be reading the article by Andrew and that will highlight the accomplishments of our team, but I do want to give the entire team my Hearty Congratulations! I hope that you all got a lot out of the experience! I know that you all worked your hardest.

Of course, I would be remiss if I did not give a huge shout out to Richard Wang for being a medalist for a second time at this amazing international championship!
Congratulations Richard for your second Third Place Medal!!!

WYCC from a coach's perspective Or Can Curiosity Cure the Cat?

By IM Edward Porper



It was curiosity that prompted me to apply for a coaching position with Team Canada at the WYCC. I was aware of the problems mentioned by Andrew Giblon in the article you have just read—and I was wondering, how on Earth can one coach at all under those circumstances. So I decided to give it a try and to find out.

This year CFC could afford but two coaches. When both of us were approved, I was contacted by the Head of Delegation Andrew Giblon.

Andrew already described what he had had to cope with during the Championship. In fact, his workload had started long before the first Canadian landed in Maribor. For one, he had to connect between the two coaches and 28 players literally scattered all over the country. In practical terms, that meant suggesting steps and sending reminders, identifying problems and trying solutions—or in short, keeping an eye on everything that moved or...was about to move!

At least, initially, those were Andrew's visible efforts that gradually turned 30+ (if we count the support group mentioned in Victoria Doknjas' article) individuals into a team—and from the moment it happened, we intended to act as team. Our very first task was to establish certain working principles of interaction—so-to-say, a "modus operandi". It was easy in many ways: for instance, we immediately agreed that neither coach would prepare his charges against a fellow Canadian whoever he or she was coached by. Yet there were at least several issues meriting a more profound discussion—none of them bigger than deciding which players should be assigned to which coach.

On the one hand, it seemed reasonable that I - as a titled and higher-rated player - would work with older and higher-rated players. On the other hand, my fellow coach Andrew Peredun could claim some knowledge of this particular type of event, WYCC, as he had already served Canada in the very same capacity a year ago in Brazil. As a result, he actually worked with some of the players—and it would be as natural if he continued to do so in Slovenia. There were other pros and contras as well - so we had to choose one criterion and artificially prioritize it over the rest of them. To do so, we had to

consider the very nature of the country we were about to represent.

So far, Canada is not a chess powerhouse by any stretch of imagination, and whatever we would do, we were not destined to dominate such an event as a WYCC. If following an example of such countries as Russia and China could produce results similar to theirs, it might have been worth discussing this option—and even in that case it would feel wrong to compel our players to work with someone they don't necessarily want to. For sure, it was important for everyone to do well—yet it's an almost paramount part of our culture to let kids and teenagers enjoy life, first and foremost. Given proper incentives, they might **choose** to work hard but "all the hard work and no fun" is hardly a success recipe for a free-spirited Canadian kid. All that meant that to strike a right note in the "coaches –players" relationships, we had to let the players choose who was going to assist them.

That's what we did - and the results turned out to be pretty surprising. I was preferred by most of the younger kids (below 12 years old), while the majority of our teenagers chose Andrew. Hardly any of our charges-to-be could be considered a contender as those who were, either decided to stick to their private coach from the start or switched later. We fully expected that because being a contender by definition means having to face a much stronger opposition—a tougher challenge requiring a lot of time for a much deeper preparation. As official coaches, none of us could possibly devote that much time to any given individual.

Our squads confirmed, the next step was to get acquainted with my charges chess-wise. For that purpose I sent out two sets of exercises and asked the players to get back to me with the solutions. A vast majority of them (8 out of 11) tried—and most succeeded. The task was pretty easy as the sets consisted of rather simple tactics and basic endgames—so I couldn't infer too much from the players' rate of success. Yet some of the endgames were a bit trickier (you can find them in "Coach's Corner on page 58), and they –combined with the players' earlier games sent to me for a review - allowed me to draw at least some conclusions. To get a better idea of what our representatives at the world scene were capable of, I would have to work with them in person. So I suggested conducting a training camp. After rounds of negotiations about where and how it could be done, Andrew and I agreed on Toronto, right before the WYCC. A word went out, and three players (or rather families) decided they were interested. One of them offered to host the camp.

As far as I am concerned, this camp was the real beginning of my WYCC coaching. We worked over 2 days, 6 hours a day, and the emphasis shifted from the simple "what" ("how would you play here?" or "you should play that-and that") to the all-important "why". I made it my absolute priority to ensure that the three

players in front of me would actually **understand** (and not only memorize) what they were doing.

To start with, I was explaining to them, why those very exercises they had grappled with before worked the way they did. I had to emphasize that one wouldn't be able to pull off a beautiful combination because "the weather is nice, it feels great, and I want to go for it!" There must be **objective** reasons hinting at a possibility of a combination and allowing for its execution. The more they listened the better they coped with the next example—and then the next one, and the next one... Soon enough it was obvious that I would be justified to go deeper and introduce to them the basics of the most fundamental part of the game - namely, its strategy.



The Campers!

From left to right: Kylie Tan, Arhant Washimkar and Agniya Poberesnikova. At the background: an autumn garden with squirrels!

12 hours over two days sounds like a very long span of time if you are trying to be productive while keeping a young audience riveted to what you have to say. So we had to intersperse study with relaxation, and games as well as jokes and squirrels (and jokes about squirrels!) played a vital part in keeping the camp afloat. As a result, the group glued and cottoned as I spoke. Later on, in Slovenia, it was really touching to see the three of them together - be it the two tiny kids engaged in a lively discussion accompanied by a lot of laughter or the somewhat older Agniya exchanging "high fives" with the little Kylie. The team spirit was running high among the three, and that was as important as the knowledge I was trying to impart. In particular, because the same 12 hours is but a tiny speck when you try to get someone acquainted with a Science.

Quick wits as these children are, it was the very science of chess that they were lacking really badly. It seems like the very concept of the game had been presented to them as a combination of certain opening variations, tactical tricks and a couple of exact endgame positions. I had a strong suspicion that the rest of the team (or, at least, the most of it) would be in a similar situation. I had about 12 days to try and bring about improvements. In Maribor itself it all started with a nice room.



Due to Andrew Giblon's efforts, it had been at our disposal 24/7 - and the space there was aplenty



Canada Team, as indicated above! Players, a parent and a coach

Opportunity provided, I was now facing one more big decision: how should I schedule my work?

I knew what had been done in previous year: coaches would wait for players to come out of the tournament hall and analyze their freshly played game for 20 minutes or so. I didn't like this approach because I didn't see how it could help our goals either in a short or in a long run. Any game is a priceless learning material but...only on a certain condition. Namely, the players must analyze it first on their own and come to their own conclusion before presenting the analysis to the coach for advice and corrections. Obviously, during the Championship that was out of question, and the best a player could come up with right after a game would be a half-baked opinion. It meant that the onus of doing the talking would be on the coach, in any case - and a possibly tired, emotional and hungry player would try to understand and remember something. Not a bargain I would approve of!

I knew a different solution was needed - and I reasoned that, if I were to explain to a player what he/she should have done in the game, more than one person could benefit from it. It was worth postponing the analysis until after supper to deal with calmer, more rested and more settled players who would hopefully be able to concentrate on the analysis of whoever's game it was—for at least a couple of hours. And if they knew what to

look for, they could really learn something.

In short, what I had to do, was to tell the players what to look for. To achieve that, I called for a team meeting in the morning of the first round day and distributed a so-to-say, chess strategy checklist. Then I explained that each and every time I would analyze someone's game, I will emphasize those particular skills mentioned on this list. In other words, I aimed at turning each analysis into an additional practice session—and I provided an example of an in advance prepared game to show how it would work. The only difference was that this time I kept asking the players around what they would suggest and why. That was the first time I saw an U-14 Razvan Preotu "at work". Even though I knew Razvan had managed to draw 2 GMs in 2012, I couldn't help being impressed by this 2100+ player (so far!) who simply aced the whole exercise, move by move! Later in the article you'll see what this teenager can already do in chess...



Razvan—a fully relaxed rising star in dark-blue

To jump ahead of myself, I must say that the analysis plan worked really well in most cases. Normally, at least 3-4 players of all ages would be present at post-mortems - and learn from it. Sometimes the number would rise to 6 and more.

Initially I planned to apply the same approach to preparation but soon enough I realized that it was destined to fail. The pairings would normally get released pretty late in the evening—and even if the analysis was done by then, everybody was tired enough. We had therefore to prepare in the morning, before the round—and that changed the whole disposition as conservation of energy would necessarily become the highest priority. Apart from extremely rare occasions when two players would need literally the same preparation, each piece of work was highly specialized. Sometimes someone might prefer to watch "just in case" but in most cases I would recommend everybody to rest, relax, take a nap or a walk—in short, to do as little chess before the round as possible (apart from their own preparation, of course). So, essentially it was a one-on-one fine-tuning. Or—more often than not—brick-laying!

I am about to crack open the door to my workshop

where my both most inspiring and excruciating experiences stem from. If we talk of game preparations, it's supposed to be the very fine-tuning I mentioned above. When it does work, it's a pure and overwhelming joy! Here is but one WYCC example.

One of my charges, a U-10 Lily Zhou had had a topsy-turvy tournament: time problems, health problems - you name it! Despite that and despite being ranked 126 and last in her age group, Lily drew three in a row much higher rated opponents in the first three rounds - only to lose a winning position in the fourth! She managed to bring her tournament back on track by scoring 1,5 out of the next 2 points and entered Round 7 with 3/6 - to meet the highest-rated so far opponent, and Lily was to be Black in this game.

Gorti,Akshita - Zhou,Lily [D41]

Wch U10 girls Maribor (9.37), 16.11.2012

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6

not necessarily a new move in this position but...it was new for Lily.

3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.cxd5

This natural continuation was the key to this game

4...♘d5!?

While looking through the opponent's games, I paid attention that she favoured the 4...exd5 5.♙g5 ♙c7 6.c3 c6 7.♞c2 0-0 8.♙d3 ♘bd7 9.♘ge2 ♞e8 10.f3 line. If Black doesn't know how to react, White's central pawns get going and simply roll over Black's defences. I presumed that Gorti would stick to her weapon - only to be surprised by Lily's 4th move!

5.e4 ♘xc3 6.bxc3 c5 7.♘f3 cxd4 8.cxd4 ♙b4+ 9.♙d2 ♙xd2+ 10.♞xd2 0-0 11.♙c4 ♘d7

So far it's all theory, and the text is actually less popular than 11...♘c6. I liked this fact!

12.0-0 b6



13.♞ac1

A usual tough choice for White: where to bring the ♞s. Gorti missed the presumably better move by one square - yet the text looks perfectly natural 13.♞ad1 ♙b7 14.♞fe1 ♞c8 (14...♞f6) 15.♙b3 ♞f6 is the main continuation

13...♙b7 14.♞fe1 ♞c8 15.♙d3 ♞f6

provoking White's next move

16.e5 ♞e7 17.♘g5 h6 18.♘e4

Quite logical: the ♖ heads for an outpost...



18...♙xe4!

...never to get there! During the preparation I brought Lily's very special attention to this move and made sure to drive this point all the way home.

19.♙xc4 ♖fd8 20.♞e3 b5

Still within the pool of ideas mentioned in preparation: the ♖ reaches for "d5"

21.♙d3 a6



22.a4?!

White loses her way. Either now or on the previous move she should have traded all the ♖s on the c-file

22...bxa4 23.♙xa6 ♖a8 24.♙c4

24.♞d3 might have been a better attempt. From now on it's a sheer pleasure to see how the 10-year-old converts her passed pawn



Lily Zhou

24...♖b6 25.♙a2 a3 26.♞c3 ♖d5 27.♙xd5 ♖xd5
28.♖a1 ♖b5 29.h3 a2 30.♞cc1 ♞b7 31.♞c3 ♖b2 32.♞c2

♞b1+ 33.♞c1 ♞b2 34.♞xb2 ♖xb2 35.♙h2 ♖xf2 36.♙g3 ♖b2 37.h4 ♖ab8 38.♞c4 ♖8b3+ 39.♙h2 ♖a3
40.♞cc1 ♖d3 41.♞c4 ♖dd2 42.♙h3 ♖xg2 43.♞c3 ♖gd2
44.♞c4 h5 45.♙g3 ♖b1 46.♞c1 ♖b3+ 47.♙f4 g6 48.♙g5
♙g7 49.♞c4 ♖b1 50.♞c1 ♖xa1 51.♖xa1 ♖xd4
52.♖xa2 ♖g4#

0-1

A truly elevating experience—and this victory brought Lily to 4/7 and provided her with a much weaker opponent and white pieces.

Zhou,Lily - Tejasvi,M (1426) [D00]

Wch U10 girls Maribor (10.28), 17.11.2012

1.d4 ♖f6 2.♙g5

This time I saw no reason to stay away from Lily's usual opening.

2...d5 3.♙xf6 exf6 4.e3 ♙d6 5.c4 dxc4 6.♙xc4 0-0
7.♖c3 c6 8.♞f3



This position was on our preparation board, and once I again I was able to ensure that Lily would surprise rather than get surprised. The text is much less popular than the usual 8 ♖f3 but it's pretty solid and not without ideas. White manages quite a favourable statistics in all variations but one

8...♞b6

chosen by the opponent! I must admit I hardly believed that a 1467 kid would know this move – yet I had to consider this possibility. So I told Lily she would have to castle long, keep an eye on Black's ♞-side attempts and try to develop some ♙-side initiative..

9.0-0-0 ♞c7 10.♙d3 b5 11.h4

Of course, 11.♙xb5? cxb5 12.♞xa8 b4 would be a bad blunder; 11.♙b1 followed by a preventive ♞c1 would be more prudent

11...b4

Black rushes things by trying to attack without her pieces being developed first. 11...♙e6 12.♙b1 ♖d7 is more balanced

12.♖e4 ♙a6 13.♙c2!

An excellent choice! Almost every normal move – such as ♙xa6, ♙b1, ♖e2 would be equally good but...Lily was told to develop a ♙-side initiative. So she need her ♙ alive.



13...c5??

And that's the consequences – Black blunders the game hardly 4 moves out of the opening!

14.♟f5?

It's weird to mark as bad a move that wins a pawn for no compensation – yet if you compare it with 14.♞xf6+! ♔h8 (14...gxf6 15.♟g4+ ♔h8 16.♟f5 mates by force) 15.♟c4 g6 16.♟xa8 ♞c6 17.♞e8 and the ♟ stays alive leaving White with a ♟ up...I would not necessarily conclude that Lily's tactical vision is poorly developed: to keep checking after she saw she could win a pawn requires much more of special skills rather pure tactical abilities

14...g6 15.♟xf6 ♞e7



16.♟f3??

But this move is truly disastrous as it shows a complete lack of understanding of the very basic principles pertaining to the game. Black is a pawn down, and her only chance is to launch a counterattack against the somewhat weakened white ♔. 16.♟e5 would have forced the ♟ trade depriving the opponent of her only chance. The text immediately hands the advantage over to Black

16...cxd4 17.♟xd4?

Another bad move granting Black two extra tempi to launch an all-out offensive.

17...♞c6 18.♟d1 ♞e5 19.♟g3 ♟ac8 20.♟d2 ♞d3

And the game is over. It took White four moves to proceed from a near winning position to a totally lost one!

21.♔b1 ♞xc2+ 22.♔a1 ♞xe4 23.a4 bxa3 24.♞e2 axb2+ 25.♔xb2 ♞c4+ 26.♔a2 ♟a5+ 27.♔b3 ♟a3#

0-1

Even though converting an extra-material might seem intuitive, in fact, it requires a very particular technique. It is therefore a special skill, one of a multitude. The following game features another such skill

Zhu,Harmony - Juhash,Judit [A45]

WYCC -2012

1.d4 ♞f6 2.♞g5 e6 3.e4 ♞e7 4.♞d3

What happened in the opening of this game should, in a way, be considered my fault. While preparing Harmony for the game, I failed to adapt my thinking to a level of, so-to-say, a typical 8-year-old. That is, I showed her all the main ideas after the "normal" 3...h6 but it never occurred to me that anybody might consider a move like 3...♞e7! Of course, it doesn't lose by force but after a straightforward 4.e5 ♞d5 5.♞xe7 ♟xe7 6.c4 ♞b6 7.♞c3 d6 8.♞f3 ♞c6 9.a3 dxe5 10.dxe5 White dominates the centre and exerts a very unpleasant pressure for free – as opposed to a two-♟s advantage Black obtains as a compensation in the main variation. Subconsciously I perceived all that as so obvious that I forgot to explain it to Harmony. So this game happened to be my personal learning curve as well.

4...c5 5.dxc5 ♟a5+ 6.♞d2

6.♟d2 ♟xc5 (6...♟xd2+ 7.♞xd2 ♞xc5 8.e5 ♞g4 9.♞e4 is terrible for Black) 7.♞c3 a6 also renders the game an unmistakable Sicilian flavour but looks much more natural for White.

6...♟xc5 7.♞e3 ♟c7 8.♞e2 0-0

8...♞g4?! 9.♞f4 ♟b6 10.0-0 ♟xb2 11.♞c4 ♟b4 12.♟b1 ♟c5 13.♟b5 is suicidal for Black

9.0-0 ♞c6 10.h3 d5

To sum up the opening, Black is very comfortable. With both ♞s on the 2d rather than the 3d rank, White doesn't have even a sniff at an advantage

11.c3 dxe4 12.♞xe4 ♟d8

Black has a variety of options but she would probably feel most comfortable after 12...♞d5 13.♞g5 f5 14.♞xe7 ♟xc7 15.♞d2 e5 followed by ♞e6. Black's space advantage would inevitably put White on the defensive

13.♞xf6+ ♞xf6



14.f4!?

Quite a few young players excel at tactics but it takes a rare exception to be able to apply chess strategy at an

early age. Harmony Zhu is one such exception – and then some! Here she could have equalised by playing ♖c2 and ♗ad1 but she prefers to leave her ♙ pinned for one more move to restrict Black's options.

14...♖a5?!

Going astray. Whatever Black does, she should mind her ♙ on c8. 14...b6 15.♗c2 g6 16.♗ad1 ♙b7 17.♙c4 would keep the game within the boundaries of equality]

15.♗c2 g6 16.♗ad1 ♖c6

admitting the waste of time

17.♙e4 ♖e7 18.♗xd8+ ♗xd8 19.♗d1 ♗c7 20.♙d4 ♙xd4+ 21.♗xd4



21...♗b6?

Wasting time seems to become Black's trademark in this game. It's hard to understand why she wouldn't develop her ♙ through a natural ♙d7

22.♙h1 ♖f5 23.♗d3 ♗c7 24.♗d2!

Now the ♙ stays put, and Black definitely had it coming!

24...♙g7 25.♗d8 ♗c4 26.♙xf5 exf5 27.♗d4+ ♗xd4



28.cxd4?

One wrong capture had essentially prevented Harmony from scoring 5/5 and possibly changing her tournament destiny by avoiding Black against a very dangerous Russian opponent in the next round. After 28.♖xd4 b6 (28...♙f6 29.♖b5 ♖e7 30.♗h8 h5 31.♖xa7 ♗xa7 32.♗xc8 ♖d7 33.♗b8 ♖c7 34.♗f8 ♗xa2 35.♗xf7+ ♖b8 36.♗f6 ♗xb2 37.♗xg6 ♗c2 38.♗f6) 29.♖b5 ♙b7 30.♗xa8 ♙xa8 31.♖xa7 the game is over

28...♙f6 29.♙g1 ♖e7 30.♗h8 h5 31.♙f2 b6 32.♙e3

Harmony hasn't even tried to prevent her opponent from breaking the pin. After Black's next move the draw is decided as there is nothing to play for for either side.

32...♙b7 33.♗xa8 ♙xa8 34.g3 ♖e6 35.♖d3

35.♖c3

35...b5 36.♖c3 a6 37.a3 f6 38.h4 ♖d6 39.b3 ♙b7 40.b4 ♙c6

½-½



Harmony Zhu

The last two games are quite telling - even though in a very different way. Lily knew exactly what to do in the opening, she capitalized on the opponent's lack of understanding and got a completely winning position due to her blunder. Then our young player failed to convert through a lack of two very particular skills - tactical scanning and a material advantage technique. Harmony initially fell a victim to my oversight but held her position with confidence due to her natural strategic intuition. Then she completely outplayed her less strategically gifted opponent - only to choose a wrong capture in an utterly winning position. Once again—as a result of lacking a particular skill (in this case, a skill of determining the pieces' relative importance and strength). The most disturbing aspect of this situation - as far as the coaching staff should be concerned - is that any such skill should be explained in detail and practised on a carefully chosen set of exercises, and none of it can possibly be done during a major championship. In particular, at youth competitions even preparing for a specific opponent may sometimes become an impossibility. In fact, the above games are not really telling because we were fortunate to have enough information about the opponents. In many cases there would be none! No games in the database or even online—as simple as that. If it comes to that, the only way to prepare is to polish a variation you don't play that often - to upset the opponent's possible preparations. To add to the problem, many of our players simply didn't have this option as they wouldn't know more than one variation—and even that one would be rather innocuous! In other words, there would be nothing to prepare at all, and all a coach could do is to analyze the game after it has been played. Sometimes the consequences proved to be disastrous but every now and then I was in for a refreshing surprise.

Cheung,Lukas - Machlik,Endre (1625) [B19]

Wch U12 Maribor (7.68), 14.11.2012

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.♖c3 dxe4 4.♖xe4 ♙f5 5.♖g3 ♙g6 6.♖f3 ♖d7 7.h4 h6 8.h5 ♙h7 9.♙d3 ♙xd3 10.♗xd3 e6 11.♙f4 ♖gf6 12.0-0

An unusual but playable move. Its main disadvantage is a possible vulnerability of the h-pawn.

12...♖d5

Also playable – even though a regular 12...♗e7 looks more natural

13.♗e5 ♘xe5 14.♘xe5 ♗d6

Once again 14...♗e7 is probably safer

15.♖ae1



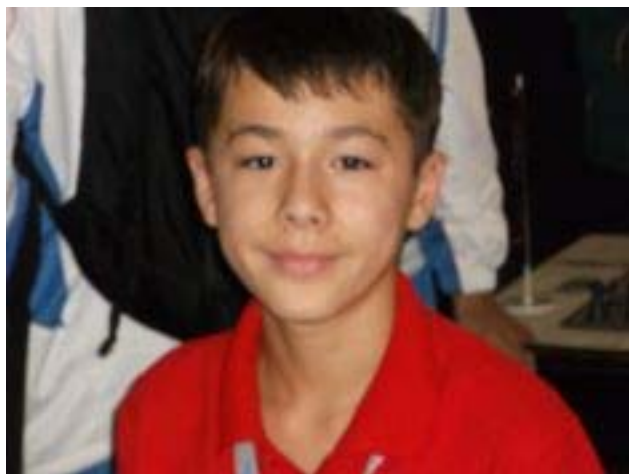
15...♗e7??

essentially, Black concedes the game in one move by violating the basic principles of development. It's inexplicable why he wouldn't simply castle and keep the position about equal. 15...0-0

16.♗f5! ♗f8 17.♗g6!



Hats off before an unrated player who is able to produce this ♗s' fireworks!



Lukas Cheung

17...fxg6 18.♖xe6+ ♗e7 19.♗xe7 ♘xe7 20.♖fe1 ♗d7 21.♖xe7+ ♗xe7 22.♖xe7+ ♗xe7 23.♗e4+

A sign of maturity: White actually plans ahead before taking the pawn

23...♗d7 24.♗xg6 ♖hg8 25.♗f7+

With the ♗ on "e7" that wouldn't be possible

25...♗d6 26.c4 b6 27.b4 c5 28.bxc5+ bxc5 29.♗d5+

Over and done with!

29...♗e7 30.♗xc5+ ♗f7 31.♗f5+ ♗e7 32.d5 ♖gd8 33.c5 ♖ac8 34.d6+ ♗e8 35.♗e6+ ♗f8 36.♗e7+ ♗g8 37.d7 ♖xd7 38.♗xd7 ♖xc5 39.♗xa7 ♖c1+ 40.♗h2 ♖c4 41.a4 ♖h4+ 42.♗g1 ♖xh5 43.a5 ♖b5 44.♗d7 ♖b1+ 45.♗h2 ♖a1 46.♗e6+ ♗h7 47.a6 ♖a5 48.♗b6 ♖h5+ 49.♗g1 ♖h1+ 50.♗xh1

1-0

Talk of talent! Unfortunately, it wasn't supported by consistency that is a product of systematic knowledge: Lukas lost the next two games and finished below 50% overall. Yet this one game shows what he could achieve with a good guidance and systematic training.

The above-mentioned Razvan Preotu seems to have at least some of it. **The next game annotated by Razvan himself** is an example of a deep, fully professional analysis which is paramount for one's improvement.

Kozionov, Kirill (2263) – Preotu, Razvan (2086) [E71]

WYCC 2012 Maribor (7), 14.11.2012

[Razvan Preotu]

This was the 7th round game, after the free day. I was very disappointed after losing the round 6 game in a equal endgame. I played 2 very long games (almost 11 hours) in the double round day so we decided to rest instead of going to see the famous Postojna cave.

1.d4

I was expecting my opponent to play 1.e4 as he only played few games with 1.d4 before WYCC

1...♗f6 2.c4 g6 3.♗c3 ♗g7

Offering a Kings Indian.

4.e4 d6 5.h3!?

An unusual opening choice, but still shouldn't be taken lightly. This sideline doesn't have lots of games compared with the main line 5.♗f3 and the Zemish with 5.f3, but several strong players had played this during their chess careers. These players include Karpov, Ivanchuk, Ponomarev, Radjabov, Wang Yue, Morozevich and Kasparov.

5...0-0 6.♗e3!?

Another unusual opening move. The main line here by far was 6.♗g5.

6...e5 7.d5

This natural space gaining move is the only way to an advantage. The endgame which arises after 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.♗xd8 ♖xd8 leaves White with no edge at all. Black will easily finish his development and might use the d4 square for one of his knights. The developing move 7.♗f3 also doesn't give him an advantage. After 7...cxd4

8.♟xd4 ♞e8, the e4-pawn will remain weak for the whole middlegame, as f3 can never be played because it weakens the dark squares on the kingside too much.

7...a5

A typical Kings Indian idea. Black secures the c5 square for the future by preventing b4 and attends to play ...♟a6 followed by ...♟c5. In this type of pawn structures, the knight belongs to c5. From there it would prevent the break c4-c5 and put pressure against e4.

8.g4

This might look like a strange move at first, but it's actually quite logical. White sees that his play on the queenside will take to long to organize, and Black's plan for activity with a future f5 will take less time. After ...f5 White will have to do something about the e4 pawn, and the normal supporting move f3 will leave the dark squares way too weak on the kingside. 8.c5!? opening the queen side for play before Black can stop it with ♟a6 was a serious alternative. The only problem with it is that White is starting to play before he even started developing his kingside pieces. Black can take advantage of this by opening up the centre and simplifying the position 8...dxc5! 9.♟xc5 ♞e8 10.♟f3 c6! Challenging the centre before White has the option to support it. 11.dxc6 ♟xc6 12.♟c4 ♟e6 13.♟xc6 ♞xe6 14.0-0 ♟d4 15.♞e1 a) 15.♟xd4? cxd4 16.♟xd4 ♟xc4 17.♟xg7 ♟xg7 18.♟xe4 ♞xc4 is equal.; b) 15.♟xd4? cxd4 16.♟xd4 ♞e8 and White cannot guard the e4 pawn, as 17.♞e1 leaves him tactically exposed to ♟xe4 because the ♟ on d4 hangs in the end. 17.♞e1 ♟xe4 18.♟xe4 (18.♞xe4 ♞xe4 19.♟xe4 ♞xd4) 18...♞xd4; 15...♟xf3+ 16.♞xf3 ♞c8 17.♞ad1 ♞c8 Black intends to play b5-b4 gaining space on the queen side, as well as ♟f8 or ♟h6 activating the dark squared bishop. I'd say White has a small edge here because of his better dark squared bishop for the moment and having the option to put a knight on d5 in the future.

8...♟a6

Continuing the idea that a5 introduced by consolidating the knight on c5.

9.♟ge2 ♟c5 10.♟g3 c6!?

Creating some tension in the centre and opening the way for the queen to join the queenside. Since White has restricted Black from playing on the kingside, he must play on the queenside.

11.♟e2

11.dxc6 wins a pawn 11...bxc6 12.g5 ♟fd7 (12...♟e8?? 13.♟xc5; 12...♟h5 13.♟xh5 gxh5 14.♞xh5 a4 leaves Black with some compensation, but it's for sure better for Black to give up the d6 pawn rather than the g6 pawn.) 13.♞xd6 ♞b6 leaves Black with some play because of White's weak king and undeveloped pieces. I'm not sure if it's enough compensation for the pawn, but the position is going to be a bit difficult to play as White. 14.0-0-0 ♞b8 15.♞d2

(15.b3 ♟xb3+ 16.axb3 ♞xb3 17.♞d3 ♟a6



Looks way too dangerous for White. Black is for sure much better here, no lines needed.)

15...♞b4 16.♟e2 ♟a6 17.♞xc6 ♞fc8 leaves Black with lots of play. These types of positions are really difficult to play over the board, there is a lot of potential for White to go wrong. I fully understand why my opponent didn't want to go for this.

11...♟d7 12.h4

12.g5 might been a better choice, kicking my knight back. It would take a longer time to get my rook into play.

12...cxd5 13.cxd5 ♞b6 14.♞b1

14.g5 was also possible as White can't take on b2 without loosing a piece. 14...♟e8 would be better. With the rook on f8, Black might consider playing f6 at some moment. Also he can play ♟c7 and ♞fc8 developing the rook to the queen side. (14...♞xb2 15.gxf6 ♞xc3+ 16.♟d2 ♞d4 17.fxg7 ♟xg7)

14...♞fc8 15.g5 ♟e8 16.h5

It's not clear what White is trying to do. During the game I was thinking that he doesn't have a plan and he was just pushing his kingside pawns. He won't be able to mate me since it would take a long time to get the queen to the kingside and the queen has to stay back to guard the queenside.

16...♞b4 17.♟f1 a4

gaining more space on the queenside and also threatening 18...a3

18.a3 ♞b3

An endgame would leave Black well placed and White without play.

19.♟g2

19.♞e1 was to be considered. Although this leaves Black with the option to play b5. 19...b5 20.♟d1 ♞c4+ 21.♟e2 ♞b3 22.♟d1 ♞c4+ 23.♟e2 ♞b3 White has the option to force a draw as he has no play in this position.

19...♞xd1 20.♞hxd1 ♟b3

heading to d4.

21.hxg6 hxg6 22.f3 ♟c7

heading to a6 then c5.

23.♟f1 ♟d4 24.♟d3 ♟a6 25.♟d2 ♟c5 26.♟f1

White didn't want to give his bishops for the knights, which, I think, was a good choice. Although Black's knights are very well placed, White would rather trade his knights for them.



26...dxc3?

A mistake, Black's knights are more active than White's. 26...b5! would have been much stronger stopping the idea of dxc3 and preparing for b4. I wasn't sure of this because White can snag a pawn. 27.gxd4 exd4 28.dxb5 but after 28...e5 Black is clearly better and the knight on b5 is in serious danger of being trapped. In this game the activity difference has always been a major factor.

27.dxc4 Ba6

Forced.

28.d2 dxd2

28...Bb6 would have been stronger. The rook might be oddly placed but it's very active. I was getting low on time and still needed 12 more moves to make the time control. From this point on I just trusted my instincts instead of calculating lines. Getting in time trouble has always been a bad habit of mine and I need to learn how to manage my time more effectively.

29.Bxd2



29...Baa8

29...Bb6! was also to be considered and again probably stronger than retreating since the rook is for sure much more active on b6. The only problem is that it can be misplaced if White has time to rearrange his pieces. 30.gd3 stopping the threat of Bxc3 30...Bb3 31.dxa2 intends to kick the rook back to b6 with dxc1, then go to e2 and trade the strong black knight. If White can accomplish this he can claim a small but lasting advantage because of his better dark square bishop. ((31.f2 is just a waste of time since White can play 31. dxa2 without defending the bishop. Black has

several options here, but in my opinion 31...f5! 32.gxf6 (32. dxa2?? is refuted with the tactical shot 32... dxf3! 33. dxf3 Bxd3 34. Bxd3 fxe4+ 35. dxe4 Bf5+ winning back the rook with an extra pawn and an easily winning endgame. This means that White has to take on f5 using en passant.) 32...Bxf6 leaves Black doing well. Bh4+ followed by Bf8 is an idea as well as Bd8 heading to b6, bringing the bishop to the best diagonal on the board.) Black has several options here but in my opinion 31...f5 is the strongest. Black has an annoying option of playing f4 anytime he wants, blocking White's bishop protection to the g5 pawn, then playing Bg7-f8-e7, where it would become really awkward for White to defend the pawn. White pretty much has to take on f6 using en passant. 32.gxf6 Bxf6 and White has only 2 real plans here while 33.dxc1 is his only attempt to get an advantage. ((33.Bc1 makes lots of sense, trading the rooks will for sure benefit White. The only problem is that Black has a strong but natural 33...Bf8 Already threatening dxf3, as dxf3 Bg5+ leaves White's king unable to protect the bishop on e3, since de2 runs into Bg4+. The only way to stop 33...dxf3 is to play 34.Bf1 The rook on f8, in my opinion, is better than on c8. The open file is nice, but Black can't really do anything with it, as there are no invading squares. Here Black has several good options. 34...dxe2 winning the bishop pair seems quite strong here as White can't allow the d to go to f4. The question is which B to give up? 35.Bxe2 Bxd3 36.dxc1 doesn't win an exchange because of 36...Bb5 The rooks and one minor piece from each side are forcefully traded. 37.dxd3 (37. Bh1 doesn't win material because 37...Bb3 38. dxb3 Bxe2 39. d2 Bc8 leaves Black with better chances, although the most likely result is a draw. White should get rid of Black's bishop pair advantage by playing 37.dxd3) 37...Bxd3 38.Bfe1 (38. Bde1 Bxf1+ 39. Bxf1 Bc8 40. Bc1 is an attempt to trade the rooks and not let Black control the far away c-file. But after 40...Bxc1 41. Bxc1 Cf7 a level endgame ensues where neither side has any real chances to win.) 38...Bxe2 39. Bxe2 Bc8 Also brings about a level endgame. White has the better dark-square bishop, but Black's active rook compensates for it. Again, neither side can really play for a win here.) 33...Bb6 34.dxe2 That intends to trade the knight without giving up the bishop which would benefit White greatly, but still not enough for an advantage. (34. Bxd4 isn't a good choice for White, the dark square bishop is more valuable than the black knight. 34...exd4 35. Bc2 Offering an exchange or the rooks which is good for White, but Black is still doing well after 35...Bxc2+ 36. Bxc2 Bg5 The bishop pair and activity compensate for the damaged pawn structure and long term weaknesses) 34...Bb3 Heading back to the active square and getting out of the pin. Black is perfectly fine after this since White can't coordinate his pieces in an effective way, even after the exchange on d4. 35.dxd4 exd4 36.Bf4 Be5 37.Bg3 intending f4 is a serious idea. (37. Bxe5 dxe5 leads to an equal endgame, although for this one,

Black is the only one with chances to play for the win. Both passed pawns are very strong but for the moment they can't move. White has everything guarded and Black can't effectively make progress, although he can for sure try.) But here Black has a strong exchange sacrifice



37...Rxd3! 38.Rxd3 Rxc2+ 39.Qf2 Qb5 lets Black move the pawn forward. 40.Rdd1 d3 already leaves White in a difficult position. Black's domination is compensating for the lack of material. 41.f4 giving the king the f3 square and if Black doesn't take, having the idea of e4–e5 break. 41...Qd4 42.Rf1 d2 looks strong (43.Qxd4 d1 ♖+-+). White has a defence 43.Rfd1 43...Qxb2 44.Qf3 Qd3 intending to advance the b pawn. 45.Qe3 (45.Qe3 b5 46.Qxd2 Qxa3 leaves Black better placed.) 45...Qa6 Black's last 2 moves might seem strange (Qb5–c4–a6) but now the b–pawn is guarded and white doesn't have the move Qe3, which would have won the d–pawn in a better fashion since the bishop intends to activate itself to b4. White should give up the exchange to win the d2 pawn, since it's impossible for the moment. 46.Rxb2 (46.Rxd2?? runs into 46...Rc3+) 46...Rxb2 47.Rxd2 Rb3+ 48.Qd4 Rxa3 49.e5 leads to an interesting “rooks with opposite coloured bishop” endgame. I would evaluate this as equal because of White's strong central pawns and the presence of the opposite coloured bishops. A draw would for sure be the most likely result, although either side could still mess up.

30.Qa2 Qb3

Kicking the rook and getting away from any Qxd4 ideas, although giving the bishop for the knight wouldn't benefit White.

31.Rf2 f5

Starting to play on the kingside. This has been a common theme for Black in this endgame.

32.gxf6

...f4 was a a serious threat, as now the bishop can't retreat to the f2 square.

32...Qxf6 33.Qg3 Qg7 34.Qh3??

A serious blunder, that I wasn't able to take advantage of during the game. White would benefit from the exchange of the light square bishop, but it's just tactically refuted.



34...Qxf6??

34...Qxf6+! 35.Qxh4 Rf8+ 36.Qg3 (36.Qg5?? Rf5#)

36...Qxh3+ 37.Qg2 Rf8 leaves Black with a huge advantage. Black's activity is very close to being decisive. White does hold on with 38.Qc3 The only move that doesn't lose material. The rook on b1 is out of squares. (38.Rg1?? Qb5 winning the rook as it has to move to give the king the g1 square. Mate is threatened with 39...Rf2+ 40.Qg3 Rf8h3+ 41.Qg4 Qd7+ 42.Qg5 Rf5#; 38.Rd1?? Rf2+ 39.Qf1 Rf1+ 40.Qe2 Qb5+) 38...Qd4 is a strong move, putting pressure on f3 and not letting the king to escape to f1. 39.Rg1 Rf8h5 Preparing a g5–g4 advance. Black is completely dominating and should be very close to winning with such active pieces. I'm not sure how I missed this combination.

35.Qxh3 Rf8+ 36.Qg2 Rf4

36...Rf5 would be better, threatening to trade the dark square bishop. 37.Rf1 doesn't stop 37...Qg5 Black forces the trade of the dark square bishop and reaches an equal endgame. 38.Rf5h5 Qxc3 39.Rf2 Qxf2 40.Qxf2 Qd4 41.Qc3 Rf8 42.Rf2. White will be able to trade the knight on d4 with Qc3–e2, and the rook endgame is an easy draw.

37.Rf1 Rf8h5 38.Qxh1 Rf8 39.Qc3 Qh4!

This might seem strange at first, but Black has an idea in mind

40.Rh2 Qg3 41.Rg2 Qf4

The plan is revealed, the trade of the bishop will for sure benefit Black.

42.Qxf4 exf4



By this time we reached the time control and were trying to understand this new position. White has an option of grabbing a pawn, but that would mean letting the rook through. The pawn structure has changed in a

big way. Now both sides can create a passed pawn, White – with e4–e5, Black – with g5–g4. During my calculations at this position, I thought it would be equal, and I was correct with my evaluation. Black's activity compensates his weaknesses.

43.♖b5

A good move in my opinion, although it's still equal. This leaves Black with some troubles, since now ♖d4 is not a possibility and d6 is under attack. Defending the pawn with ♖d8 is out of question, just way to passive. Black has to be active here, defending would leave White with a big advantage.

43...♖c1+ 44.♗h2 ♗f6!

The only move to reach equality, although it's a natural move to play. Black also has to activate his king, since in the endgame, the king is a valuable piece. Black is waiting for White to take d6, since that would allow ♖d4. White is very limited here and has only one move that does something.

45.♖xd6 ♖d4

Putting pressure on f3, and making White's rook defend the pawn in a very passive position.

46.♖f2 b6!

Another good move. Black saves the pawn and restricts the mobility of the knight. Black has a sneaky idea in mind.

47.♗g2

The only natural move.

47...♗e7

47...♖c2! is a stronger move. The knight intends to go to e3 forcing the king back to the edge of the board. 48.♖b5 ♖e3+ 49.♗h2 ♗e5 Black is down a pawn, but stands very well, even with a big advantage! Black's pieces activity is just overwhelming. Black intends to play ♖d1 stopping the d–pawn, then play g5–g4. White has absolutely no play and the rook on f2 is completely out of the game. Trapped, it is only able to move back and forth between f2–e2. 50.♖e2 (50.♖a7 g5 51.♖c6+ ♗d6 52.♖e2 (52.♖d4 g4) 52...♖d1! Stopping ♖d4. White is still completely helpless.) ; 50...♖d1 not letting the knight activate itself is far more superior to 50...♖f1



51.♖d4!! The knight nobly gives himself up to guard f3 and let the d–pawn free. 51...♗xd4 (51...g5 52.♖c6+ ♗d6 53.♖d4 g4 Only attempt to break through. 54.fxg4 ♗e5 55.♖c2 ♗xe4 56.g5! After this move, White

seems to hold on. 56...♖d1 57.g6 ♖xd5 58.♖xe3 fxe3 59.♖g2 Following a famous principle "Rooks belong behind the passed pawns" 59...♖d8 60.g7 ♖g8 61.♗g1 ♗f3 62.♖g6 e2 63.♖f6+ ♗e3 64.♖e6+ ♗d3 65.♖d6+ ♗c2 66.♗f2 b5 (66...♖e8 67.♗e1; 66...♖xg7 67.♖xb6 ♖g2+ 68.♗e1 ♖g1+ 69.♗xe2 ♖b1 70.♖b8 ♖xb2 71.♖xb2+ ♗xb2 72.♗d2 ♗xa3 73.♗c3) 67.♖b6 ♗d2 68.♖d6+ ♗c2 69.♖b6 Black can't make progress, it's a draw.) 52.♖d2+ ♗e5 53.d6 ♖xf3 54.d7 ♖f1+ 55.♗g1 ♖xd2 56.d8♖ ♖f1+ 57.♗h2 ♖f2+ 58.♗g1 (58.♗h3 Also leads to a draw. 58...♖xe4 59.♖e8+ ♗d5 60.♖a8+ ♗e5 61.♖e8+) 58...♖xe4 (58...♖f1+ If Black doesn't take the perpetual, then White will force it on black) 59.♖e8+ ♗d5 60.♖d8+ ♗e5 61.♖e8+) 51.d6 g5 52.♖c3! White has nothing else to do, every other move is just completely lost. He is almost in zugzwang. (52.♗h3 ♖h1+ 53.♖h2 ♖g1 54.♖f2 ♖f1; 52.♖f2 g4) 52...♖xd6 53.♗g1 (53.♖d5 tries to trade the knights, but it loses quicker than the other lines. 53...g4 54.fxg4 ♗xe4 55.♖c3+ (55.♖xe3 fxe3 56.♗g2 ♖d2 57.♗f1 ♗f3) 55...♗f3 56.♗h1 ♖xg4) 53...♖d3 54.♖h2 (54.♖xa4 ♖d1+ 55.♗h2 g4 56.fxg4 ♖xg4+ 57.♗g2 ♖d3) 54...♖c4 55.♖xa4 ♖d2 56.♖h8 ♖xf3+ 57.♗f1 ♗xe4 58.♖c3+ ♗f5

48.e5 ♖c5

48...♖c2 Is also a good move. It will just transpose to the game.

49.♖d2



49...♖xd5??

A horrible move! The simple ♖c2 would have won the pawn and get a drawn endgame. We were both in time trouble, but still, ♖c2 was an obvious move. At this point we've been playing for more than 5 hours, so I guess fatigue finally got to me. Now white gets to collect the queenside pawns. 49...♖c2! Forcefully wins back the pawn. 50.♗h3 (50.♗f2 ♖e3 51.♗e2 ♖xd5 52.♖b7 ♖b5 53.♖d6 ♖c5 54.♖b7 ♖b5) 50...♖e3 51.♗h4 ♖xd5 52.♖xd5 ♖xd5 53.♗g5 ♗e6 54.♖c4 b5 55.♖d6 ♗xe5 56.♖xb5 ♖b6 57.♖c3 ♗d4 58.♗xf4 ♗d3 59.♗g5 ♗c2 60.♗xg6 ♗xb2 61.♖b5 ♗b3 leads to a completely drawn endgame. 62.f4 ♗c4 63.♖c7 ♗b3 64.f5 ♗xa3 65.f6 ♖d7 66.f7 ♖e5+

50.♖c8+ ♗e6 51.♖xb6 ♖b5 52.♖xa4 ♗xe5 53.b4 g5??

The final mistake of the game, although things were already bad anyway. 53...♖b7 was better, getting the

rook out of trouble. Even here, White has to do some work, since Black can create some quick play pushing the g-pawn forward. 54.♖b2 g5 55.♗c4+ ♔d5



56.♗d6! Leads to an interesting rook endgame where black has some drawing chances, but White still should be winning. (56.♗a5 ♖c7 57.♗b3 ♖c2 Leads to an interesting knight endgame, where I think It's a draw! 58.♗h3 ♖xd2 59.♗xd2 ♗c2 60.a4 (60.♗g4 ♗xa3 61.♗xg5 ♗c2 62.b5 ♗c5 63.♗xf4 ♗xb5) 60...♗xb4 61.♗g4 ♗d4 (61...♗d3 62.♗xg5 ♗c6) 62.♗e4 ♗d3 63.a5 ♗d5 64.♗xg5 ♗c6 65.♗f5 ♗b5 66.♗c4 (66...♗e1 draws on the spot—EP)♗b4 67.♗xf4 ♗xa5 68.♗c5 ♗b6 69.f4 (69...♗d3+ –EP) ♗c7 70.f5 ♗d8 71.♗e6 ♗d3 72.f6 ♗c5+ 73.♗f7 ♗d7) 56...♗xd6 57.♖xd4+ ♗e5 58.♖e4+ ♗f6 59.a4 ♖c7 60.b5 ♖c2+ 61.♗h3 ♖f2 62.♖b4 ♖xf3+ 63.♗g2 Now the white pawns are promoting. 63...♖c3 64.b6 ♖c8 65.b7 ♖b8 66.a5

54.♗c5

Now the rook is trapped! a4 is a serious threat, as anywhere the rook goes there will be a knight fork. Black is completely lost here, as the king has to guard the knight and can't get out of the fork. The rest of the game was just to see if he will blunder in time trouble.

54...♗f5

54...♗d5 doesn't help as 55.♗b3 wins the knight

55.a4 ♗e3+ 56.♗f2 ♖xb4 57.♗d3+ ♗d4 58.♗xb4+ ♗c3 59.♖a2 ♗xb4 60.a5 ♗d1+ 61.♗e1 ♗c3 62.a6

This was a very tough loss to handle, losing now 2 games in a row. After this game I had 4/7 and I managed to finish the tournament with a very decent result, 7/11 sharing 20th place (23rd on tie-breaks). This was the most interesting game I had at WYCC, and it shows the importance of activity in endgames.

1-0

I hope you have followed this game with a chess-board while carefully going through all the variations suggested by the young annotator. It is definitely worth it!

To sum up: Canada has a lot of talented youth, and the quality of this talent justifies hopes/expectations for multiple medals at WYCCs rather than a single one. Some of these medals may well be gold, too. Yet, to make that happen we must provide our elite youth with proper opportunities. I can but quote Andrew Giblon:

We need a year-round program with coaches to develop youth players. Having coaches review games and conduct a one or two day camp in the few weeks before the WYCC is great, but not enough.

I should add that we need at least 2 coaches (maybe even 3) who would be full-time professionals able to introduce to the players the all-needed System (rather than let them rely exclusively on their talent as it's mostly the case now) and provide them with sets of carefully chosen exercises developing their special skills. For instance, Razvan mentions in his annotations that time-trouble preventing him from seeing a winning combination is his old and well-rooted problem. As I already indicated, time-management is also a special skill, and it can be improved considerably by following a particular program. Such an improvement would bring our players lots of points, and that's but one example.



Razvan Preotu

In conclusion, I must admit that my trip to Slovenia has turned out to be an inspiring experience and a great pleasure. I must also thank Team Canada (as presented in various articles preceding and including this one) for their support and collaboration. We all have tried our best - and we have done reasonably well. More important, we can and should do better next time!



Northbound: Hansen-Express!

By FM Vladimir Pechenkin



The FIDE World Cup will be one of the major events on the chess calendar in 2013. Over the course of about four weeks 128 players will compete in a knockout tournament for the top three spots that grant the winners a right to participate in the 2014 Candidates tournament. As we know, such a playoff format was introduced in 1998 by the FIDE president Kirsan Ilyumzhinov. The knockout championships have been held more or less regularly ever since, although their status has changed over the years.

For the second straight time Canada will be represented by at least two players, GMs Bator Sambuev and Eric Hansen. The former qualified through winning the Canadian Closed and Zonal tournament in a crushing style in August, as reported in the September issue of the CCN by IM Jean Hebert. The route of the latter was more dramatic, and the main purpose of this article is to highlight a few critical moments of Eric's journey to Norway.

The Canadian Closed championship has been a standard way to determine one Canadian representative at the World Cup. Winning such a tournament is usually hard for any Canadian player, although this year the defending champion GM Sambuev made it look easy. Curiously, the co-winner of the 2011 edition, IM Eric Hansen, did not participate in 2012. It turns out that the World Junior U20 Championship was held in Greece at the same time, and Eric decided to use his last opportunity to participate in this prestigious event instead. The decision proved to be a good one as he had quite a successful tournament in Athens finishing in the top 10.

It seemed to me at that point that Bator would be Canada's only representative in Tromso. However, my ignorance was soon put to shame as there actually exists another avenue of qualification open to Canadians that I wasn't aware of. In fact, GM Mark Bluvshstein had successfully pursued that route in 2011 and qualified for the World Cup in Khanty-Mansiysk. The tournament in question is called the America's Continental Championship, and it is an official FIDE qualifier for the World Cup. This year featured the 7th edition, which was held in Mar del Plata (Argentina) in October. Over the course of 10 days and 11 rounds 206 players from South, Central and North America competed for the coveted top four spots.

At first glance it may seem that the history of this tournament is relatively short. However, if we look more carefully, we'll find out that it actually goes back

to 1945. The very first Pan American Chess Championship was organized by the Hollywood Chess Group and the Los Angeles Times at the end of World War II, and the winner was no lesser a player than Samuel Reshevsky. During the 20th century the tournament was held sporadically at various locations including Winnipeg in 1974. With the advent of the FIDE knockout championships, both the name and the status of the tournament changed, and the enumeration started anew in 2001. Several Canadian top players participated since, including Mark Bluvshstein in 2011 (tied for the first place) and Pascal Charbonneau in 2003 (tied for the third place).

GM-elect Eric Hansen was the only but aspiring Canadian representative at the 2012 edition of the Continental Championship. He was ranked #14 on the starting list, which made his task of finishing in top four difficult but far from impossible. Having won his first two games, Eric slowed down giving away draws to lower rated opponents. Perhaps, the Canadian hero of the last Olympiad was not in his best shape this time. Nevertheless, he kept on hovering around the top boards and after a nice win in round 8 was a legitimate contender. There followed a draw with a strong Argentinean GM and a roller-coaster in round 10, where Eric somehow managed to create a neat mating net around the enemy king with almost no pieces left on the board.



The ever restless Eric Hansen paces around

Finally, the stage was set up for the last-round battle, in which both opponents clearly needed a win to finish in the top four.

Felgaer,Ruben (2579) - Hansen,Eric (2527) [C18]

7mo Continental de las Americas - 2012 Complejo Hotel Provincial - S (11.5), 21.10.2012

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 ♗b4

Both players must have been satisfied with the

opponent's opening choice. The Winawer variation naturally leads to complex, unbalanced positions where both sides have their share of winning chances.

4.e5 c5 5.a3 ♟xc3+ 6.bxc3 ♞a5

Although this move isn't as popular as the official main lines, White was definitely ready for it. Eric had played this position before both as Black and as White.

7.♟d2 ♞a4 8.♞b1

This is White's most common approach. In the final round of the 2012 Canadian Open Eric himself opted for 8.h4 ♟c6 9.h5 which is now a standard idea in the Winawer. However, we can hardly make any meaningful conclusions from that game as it was shortly agreed drawn securing the first place for Eric.

8...c4 9.♟e2 ♟c6 10.g3 ♟d7 11.♟f4

11.♞xb7? ♞b8 12.♞c7 ♞xc2+ in in Black's favor

11...0-0-0 12.♟h3

As is typical in the Winawer, the kingside now becomes the main arena of the action. Up to a certain point, White plays more vigorously and achieves an overwhelming position.

12...f5 13.g4 fxg4 14.♟xg4 ♞e8 15.♞g1 ♞e7 16.♟h3 ♟h6 17.♞g3 ♞f8



18.♟h5!

White exploits a temporary lack of coordination among the black pieces and wins an important pawn.

18...♟f5 19.♟xf5 ♞xf5 20.♟xg7 ♞f8 21.♟h6 ♞ef7 22.♟h5 ♞d8 23.♟f6 ♟e7 24.♟d2 ♟f5 25.♞h3 ♟d6?

While this looks like a cute move, White finds a refutation.

26.♞b4! ♟e4+ 27.♟xe4 dxe4 28.♟e3

Fortunately for Eric, White is obliged to play for a win and avoids an endgame with opposite-color bishops. After 28.♞xa4 ♟xa4 29.♟e3 Black would have no winning chances but, on the other hand, White's technical difficulties in converting an extra pawn may be significant.

28...♞g8

Black underestimates White's attack. Better is 28...♞c6 29.a4 ♞d5 blockading everything in the center even though such a continuation doesn't look very inspiring.

29.♞c5+

Also strong is 29.♞h6 threatening to win the e6-pawn.

After 29...♞e8 30.♟g1 White literally controls the whole board.

29...♟b8



30.d5!

This breakthrough should be decisive.

30...♟a8

30...exd5? loses material to 31.e6 ♟xc6 32.♞d6+

31.♞h6 ♞e8 32.♞g1

At this point Black's position looks hopeless and it really is, according to the computer. However, the battle isn't over yet.

32...b6

This is the only reasonable way to solve the back rank problems.

33.♞d4

33.♞d6 crushing through Black's defences of the e6-square would be ruthless

33...♞b5

Black is desperately trying to hold on to the light squares.



34.dxe6?

34.♞f6! is decisive. Black doesn't have an adequate defence against a multitude of threats, e.g., 34...♞ff8 35.♞g7 exd5 36.a4!+-

34...♟xe6 35.♞xe4+ ♟d5

Suddenly, Black's control over the light squares has increased, and his position is no longer so bad despite the material deficit.

36.♞d4 ♟e6!

White is reminded that his king may also have problems.

37.♞e4+ ♟d5 38.♞d4 ♟e6 39.♟c1

White has repeated the moves to save time on the clock and resumes his quest for a win.

39...♖a4

It is tempting to create at least some threats against the enemy king just before the time control. However, with precise play White can win by force. Better is 39...♙f5 taking the e4-square away from the white queen

40.♖e4+ ♔b8 41.♙xe6!

The time control passed, and White got another 30 minutes to calculate the consequences of this objectively strong exchange sacrifice.

41...♙xe6

41...♖xa3+? loses immediately to 42.♔b1 ♙xc6
43.♖xc4

42.♙g8+ ♔c7 43.♖a8

This infiltration must be decisive.

43...♖xa3+ 44.♔b1 ♖a6

The critical position of the game.



45.f4?

White misses a winning continuation once again. It must be emphasized, however, that the winning lines are very hard to calculate without a computer. White is obliged to make long sequences of the only moves, many of which are nontrivial. 45.♖b8+ ♔c6 and here 46.♙e8! presents Black with insurmountable problems, e.g., 46...♙g6 47.♙c8+ ♔d5 (47... ♔b5 is refuted by 48.♙c5+! ♔a4 49.♖e8+) 48.♙d8+ ♔e4 49.♙d4+ ♔f3 50.♖e8 ♙g1+ 51.♙c1 ♖b7 52.e6 ♙f5 53.c7 ♙e1 54.♖f8

45...♖b7

Now the black king escapes the checks and hides on a6.

46.♖d8+ ♔c6 47.♖d4 ♔b5! 48.♙d8 ♖c6 49.♔b2 ♔a6

The dust has settled, and the position has suddenly become approximately equal.

50.♙d5 ♙g6 51.h4 h5 52.♔a3

The problem for White is that his own king's safety is now a significant positional factor that severely restricts his winning ambitions.

52...♙g3 53.♙d6 ♖b5 54.♙d5

It turns out that neither side can make any progress, while both players are in a desperate need of a win... For example, 54.e6? loses to 54...♙f5 and the white king will not escape unscathed.

54...♖c6 55.♙d6 ♖b5

Black can hardly avoid a repetition without severely compromising his position.

56.♖e4

White courageously declines the draw even though the position does not warrant such a decision.

56...♙c7 57.♔a2 ♙cg7



The problem for White here is that most of his natural moves have some kind of a tactical flaw. For example, 58.f5? runs into 58...♙7g4

58.♙d1?

White cracks under pressure and loses immediately.

58...♙g2

The winning move. The c2-pawn is pinned making Qb3+ a serious threat, while Black is also ready to bring his other rook to the second rank.

59.♙d2

59.♔a3 doesn't help either because of the simple 59...♙c2 60.e6 ♙gg2+

59...♙xd2!

The most elegant solution.

60.♙xd2 ♖a4+ 61.♔b2 ♙g1

The white king is in a mating net. A hard-fought game by both sides, and a well deserved victory by Eric.

0-1

Eric finished with 8.5/11 and shared the first place with GMs Julio Granda Zuniga, Alexander Shabalov, Diego Flores and Gregory Kaidanov. Interestingly enough, each of them had to win in the last round as well. Such a five-way tie implied that one of the winners would actually have to go home empty-handed. The tie-breaking procedure involved a separate round-robin tournament with the time control 15 min/game plus 10 sec/move. It was played on the same day as round 11 of the main event and lasted almost 5 hours. Even though this looks like quite an ordeal, things could have been worse. In 2007, for example, 8 players had contested only 2 spots on such a tie-breaker, while one can easily imagine, say, a 20-player round-robin additional tournament, just for the sake of determining one lucky winner...



Chief Arbiter Leandro Plotinsky (left) explains the tie-break procedure and drawing of lots

Eric got a bye in the very first round. On the one hand, this didn't look good as he was behind the peloton right off the start. On the other hand, getting a bye in the last round would have been worse. After a solid draw against GM Granda Eric then lost to GMs Shabalov and Kaidanov and suddenly found himself on the brink of a cliff. Fortunately, his destiny was still in his own hands. In the final game of the tournament Eric had to beat GM Flores with Black to qualify, while his opponent needed only a draw. The stage for a dramatic last-round battle was set up for the second time on the same day.

Flores, Diego (2598) - Hansen, Eric (2527) [A16]

7th Continental play-off Mar del Plata (5), 21.10.2012

1.c4 ♖f6 2.♗c3 g6 3.e4

This move is clearly directed against the Grunfeld defence.

3...d6 4.g3 ♕g7 5.♕g2 0-0 6.♗ge2 ♗c6

6...c5 is objectively good. However, after 7.0-0 ♗c6 8.d3 White completes an ultra-solid Botvinnik's setup limiting Black's winning chances.

7.0-0 a6

The principal continuation is 7...c5 but, again, after 8.d3 White's position is very hard to crack.

8.d4

White finally transposes to the King's Indian structure, and the real battle begins.

8...e5 9.d5 ♗e7 10.h3 ♗h5 11.g4

Who would have thought at this point that this objectively fine move could become the main reason of White's downfall? In the game Solleveld – McShane, 2003, White preferred 11.♕e3 allowing 11...f5 After 12.♖d2 the position remained complex, with Black having his share of chances on the kingside.

11...♗f6

Black doesn't have enough compensation for a pawn after 11...♗f4 12.♗xf4 exf4 13.♕xf4

12.♗g3

12.♕e3 is more circumspect

12...b5!

Black seizes his chance to initiate complications.

13.b3

13.cxb5 axb5 14.♗xb5?! ♕a6 costs White an exchange

13...♕d7

A slight inaccuracy. An immediate 13...c5!? is possible since 14.dxc6 ♗xc6 15.cxb5 axb5 16.♗xb5?! is still no good because of 16...♕a6

14.♕e3 c5 15.dxc6 ♕xc6

Unfortunately, now Black has to take with the bishop to defend the d6-pawn leaving his e7-knight passive.

16.♗d5

White is playing it safe. A straightforward and simple plan 16.♖d2 ♖d7 17.♗fd1± looks more promising.

16...bxc4 17.bxc4 ♗d7

Black initiates a logical but time-consuming knight maneuver.

18.♗b1 ♗c5 19.♖d2 ♗e6 20.♗fd1

White threatens to win the d6-pawn but Black has a strong reply. White should have struck from a different direction 20.♗b6! creating serious tactical problems for Black



20...♕a4! 21.♗dc1 ♗xd5 22.cxd5 ♗f4

A good practical choice. After 22...♗d4 White can favorably simplify the position 23.♗e2 ♗xe2+ 24.♖xe2 leaving Black with fewer chances to complicate matters

23.♗b7

Under the circumstances, initiative is more important than material. Accepting the sacrifice 23.♕xf4 exf4 24.♖xf4 is the principal continuation although Black clearly has a lot of play for the pawn thanks to his bishop pair and a complex of weakened dark squares in the enemy camp.

23...♕b5 24.♗c7

A curious situation. Even though White's rooks appear to be very active, they cannot find a good target to attack.

24...♗c8

Black trades his passive rook and equalizes.

25.♖c2 ♕h6 26.♗h2

At this point, the clock becomes a factor. White doesn't see a way to develop his initiative on the queenside and just plays an allegedly useful move to save time.

26...♖xc7 27.♞xc7 ♞f6

Black must avoid an exchange of queens to keep his winning hopes alive.

28.♞b8

Interestingly enough, returning the queen home 28.♞c2 is the safest continuation. It's very hard for either side to make progress.

28...♖xb8 29.♞xb8+ ♔g7

Black indicates his intention to attack the white king. Objectively better is 29...♗f8 overprotecting d6.

30.♗b6

White has an interesting maneuver 30.♗c1!? at his disposal with an idea to quickly attack the d6-pawn after 30...♗g5 31.♗a3

30...♗e2?

The critical position of the game. 30...♗g5= is necessary to defend the d8-square.



31.♗xe2?

When your opponent just needs a draw, it can be a blessing in disguise sometimes. Had White been in a must-win situation, he would have probably gone for 31.♗f5+! gxf5 32.♗d8 even though the consequences of this piece sacrifice might be hard to evaluate with seconds on the clock. It turns out that after 32...♗f4+ 33.♗h1 ♞g6 34.♗e7+- Black cannot avoid major material losses and then checkmate.

31...♗xe2

Now the position is close to dead equality if White defends correctly.

32.♞c7?

White loses the thread of the game and then the game itself. Correct is a prophylactic 32.♗g1 and then 32...♞f4 is useless because of the simple 33.♗e3

32...♞f4+

Now the queen infiltrates with a check, and White's position suddenly becomes critical.

33.♗g1?

33.♗h1 is more tenacious even though Black is in the driver's seat after 33...♞d2 34.♗e3 ♗xe3 35.fxe3 ♞xe3 (now this move comes without a check!) 36.♞xd6 ♞g3+

33...♞d2!

White must be regretting his 11th move at this point as

the dark-square weaknesses created by 11. g4 decide the game.

34.h4

34.♗e3 is the only way to continue although White's position is hopeless after 34...♗xe3 35.fxe3 ♞xc3+

34...♞d1+ 35.♗h2 ♗f4+

It's checkmate next move.

0-1

The tie-breaker was won by GM Kaidanov with 3/4. However, GM Julio Granda Zuniga was declared the official winner of the Continental Championship, since his Buchholz coefficient of the Swiss tournament turned out to be the greatest. Curiously, the main event featured only one game between the top five finishers, and it is annotated below.

Granda Zuniga,Julio (2647) - Shabalov,Alexander (2570) [A04]

7mo Continental de las Americas - 2012 Complejo Hotel Provincial - S (8.3), 18.10.2012

1.♗f3 c5 2.g3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗g7 5.♗g2 ♗c6 6.♗b3



The top four winners: Julio Granda Zuniga, Diego Flores, Alexander Shabalov and Gregory Kaidanov

The opening choice is quite an interesting one for both players. White plays the Grunfeld defence with an extra tempo, while Black opts for an anti-Grunfeld line that has a good reputation in the original.

6...b6

GM Shabalov intends to further unbalance the position, where his creativity and tactical skill will play a major role. Instead, 6...d6 is a "normal" developing move.

7.0-0 ♗a6

Another nontrivial decision.

7...♗b7 looks very natural

8.♞e1 ♗f6 9.e4 0-0 10.f4

This looks overly optimistic. Over the course of the next few moves White neglects development, and such a violation of the basic principles of chess doesn't remain unpunished this time. After 10.e5 ♗e8 11.♗f4 ♞c8 12.♗c3 White develops his queenside pieces and

has a good game.

10...♞c8

An experienced Alekhine defence player, GM Shabalov invites the e4–pawn to advance as Black is ready to immediately undermine it.

11.♘c3

White declines the invitation. Nevertheless, 11.e5 is a better move. After 11...♘e8 12.♘c3 d6 White will find it hard to hold on to his center but the position remains approximately equal.

11...d6

Now that the c6–knight is defended, Black stops White's expansion in the center.

12.h3

White overprotects the g4–square when there is no real need to do so. The natural 12.♙e3 is better.

12...♘d7

A nice move emphasizing that White's previous was a waste of time.



13.♞e3?!

It is hard to believe that the e3–square was occupied by the rook and not the bishop. Apparently, White wanted to overprotect the c3–knight and to avoid potential doubling of his queenside pawns. However, the price turns out to be too high. White's pieces lose coordination, while the adventurous rook will soon get hit by Black's minor pieces and pawns. 13.♙h2 is a good waiting move inviting Black to execute his "threat" 13...♙xc3 14.bxc3 Black is a little better here but White has his own trumps.

13...b5

Black immediately wants to take advantage of the awkward position of the rook on e3.

14.♙h2

White continues his slow play. Perhaps, he doesn't feel the danger yet. 14.♙f1 is the only reasonable way to slow Black's plan down.

14...♘b6 15.a3 ♘c4 16.♞f3 e6

Black gets ready to utilize his pawn majority in the center.

17.♞e1

White finally realizes that he has a serious problem

with his queenside development and tries to regroup.

17...♞e8 18.♘d1 ♙b7

The bishop has done its job on a6 and is relocated to a more promising diagonal.

19.c3 f5

Once again, Black wants to exploit a vulnerable position of the white rook.

20.♞d3 e5

Black is going to open the game up because his pieces are clearly more prepared for that.

21.♘c5

This understandable attempt to muddy the waters is refuted by Black's calm reply. 21.exf5 looks depressing for White after 21...e4 although his position may not be so bad after 22.♞e3

21...♙a8 22.b3

This allows Black to win quickly in crushing style. White should continue his desperate play 22.exf5 even though the complications after 22...exf4 23.♘c6 ♞f6 are objectively in Black's favor.



22...♘6a5! 23.b4

After 23.bxc4 ♞xc5 24.fxe5 Black has a wide choice of winning continuations, for example, 24...♘xc4 25.exd6 fxe4+ hitting the unfortunate rook once again

23...fxe4

A triumph of Black's strategy. White's position collapses.

24.♘xe4

24.♙xc4 exf4 25.♙xf4 ♞xc5 26.bxc5 ♙xe4 is equally hopeless

24...♘b3 25.fxe5

If 25.♞b1 then simply 25...♘c1 26.♞xc1 exf4 and the pin along the e–file will decide matters.

25...♘xe5

0-1

In conclusion, it may be inspiring to know that the 8th edition of this tournament will also be a qualifier so, perhaps, the Canadian delegation to the 2013 World Cup isn't finalized yet.

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A New World Women's Champion, Version 2012

By IM Deen Hergott



Photo credit: Jonathan Dumaresque

The 2012 Women's World Chess Championship was staged by the Ugra Chess Academy in the eastern Russian town of Khanty-Mansiysk from November 11 to December 2. The event featured 64 of the best female chessplayers in the world in six rounds of knockout matches - with the winner going on to face FIDE Women's Grand Prix Champion (Hou Yifan of China) in a Women's World Championship match next year to defend her title.

Khanty-Mansiysk, an oil boom town of nearly 80,000 people situated 3,500 kilometres east of Moscow, is no stranger to world-class chess events. Both the 2010 World Chess Olympiad and 2011 World Chess Cup were held here, and a hotel, *the Olympic*, was built specifically to house visiting participants as part of the 2010 Olympiad bid. It may be remotely situated, but they are certainly well prepared to host international events.

The lineup at this year's event was formidable, with very few no-shows amongst the top-rated list. The notable exception, of course, was Judit Polgar, but she has never competed in exclusive women's events. In addition to top-rated and previous World Championship cycle participants, top representation from Europe, the Americas, Asia, Oceania and Africa were also present - a true international competition. The Championship had a total prize fund of \$450,000 U.S., with every player receiving \$3,750, and that figure increased as one survived to later rounds. The final match was \$60,000 for the champion, and \$30,000 for the Silver medalist.

There has long been an interesting question of whether women's chess is qualitatively different than that in men's competitions. I have touched on this point before - I think it is, clearly in terms of overall strength if the rating system is to be trusted, but perhaps not as much as one would be led to believe. The primary difference, to my mind, is the depth of theoretical preparation. More male chessplayers in the top echelons have support teams and theoreticians to aid them, and they

tend to work harder, and have the infrastructure to be able to do so. Some women do as well, but far fewer I would suspect.

As far as chess style is concerned, however, women are just as capable of sharp battles and fighting chess as men, and there were many examples of this at this event. In fact, the battling was so fierce that never before in an elimination event have I witnessed the felling of so many giants straight from the early rounds. If a betting scenario had been established at the beginning of the event, the payoff would have been spectacular to anyone putting their money on the eventual winner! To have the top three players, including the former World Champion, out of the event by the third round is seriously unthinkable, and yet it happened. And by the finals, the top fifteen seeds had been eliminated - amazing! Naturally, the results raised questions as to the efficacy and appropriateness of an elimination-style event for the World Championships - long, classical style matches are certainly objectively better, but there are practical issues of cost and length of such matches to be addressed as well. No one could complain about lack of excitement at least!

Let's take a look at the highlights round by round, and see how the competition unfolded:

Round 1

The only round of this wild event in which the favourites pretty well all did their jobs with a minimum of fuss. The biggest upset was the 1.5-2.5 loss of #13 seed (players seeded by rating at the beginning of the event) Bela Khotenashvili (Georgia) to #52, Maritza Arribas Robaina (Cuba). American Irina Krush (#23) and Mariya Muzychuk, of Ukraine (#20) went through by virtue of holding a draw with the black pieces in their final Armaggedon game over Li Ruofan (Singapore, #42) and Christian-Adela Foisor (Rumania, #45) respectively.

Canadian representative, Natalia Khoudgarian, of Toronto, was the #61 seed with a FIDE rating of 2138 - and, as such, had a very tough first round pairing versus the #4 seed, Zhao Xue, of China, a 2565-rated GM. Like many other underdogs in the first round, she went under 2-0 to a much stronger and more experienced opponent. But being part of such a classy world-level event has its own rewards - I'm sure Natalia treasures every opportunity like this she is able to participate in.

The format of each match was two games over two days of classical time controls: 40 moves in 90 minutes, 30-minute add-on at move 41. In the event of a 1-1 tie, playoff games were held, as necessary: two rapid games (25 minutes, plus 10 second increment), two further rapid games (10 minutes, plus 10 second increment), two blitz games (5 minutes, plus 3 second increment),

and finally an Armageddon game - White required to win, a draw for Black gets through to the next round (5 minutes for White, 4 for Black, 3 second increment beginning move 61).

Live coverage of the event was exemplary, with Grandmaster (GM) analysis in three languages, English, Russian, and Chinese(!), and full length streaming of each tournament session from start to finish. It is estimated that several hundred thousand viewers were present for the final days of the event.

Round 2

An incredible round by any standards. The top three seeds, Hou Yifan (China), Humpy Koneru (India), and Anna Muzychuk (Slovenia) are all eliminated by players more than 150 rating points below them. Zhao Xue of China (#4) squeaks through, but Kateryna Lahno (#5, Ukraine) is also knocked out, and Nadezhda Kosintseva (#6, Russia) requires four rapid games to get through to the third round.

Other top players that didn't make it to round three: Viktorija Cmilyte (Lithuania, #7), Valentina Gunina (Russia, #9), Pia Cramling (Sweden, #10), and Alexandra Kosteniuk (Russia, #14). In fact, only six of the top fifteen seeds remained after the smoke cleared this round, and it must have been clear to everyone that it was now a completely wide open guess as to who would ultimately be the last woman standing.

Hou, Yifan - Socko, Monika [B53]

WWCC 2012 Khanty-Mansiysk (22.1), 15.11.2012



1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♙xd4

I'm always curious in these two-game matches of elimination events whether the player's repertoire is tweaked to aim for certain results. It makes a certain amount of sense, but also entails some risk. Certainly White's forte is in sharper mainline Open Sicilians, not a "safer" sideline.

4...♗f6

Lots of moves here: 4...♗c6, 4...a6, and the text are all reasonable.

5.♗c3 ♗c6 6.♙b5 ♗d7

6...♙d7 is most natural, but the text is certainly fine too.

7.♙d2

White took a fair bit of time deciding on this retreat. 7.♙a4!? looks possible too. White's advantage is very tiny, and while safe, this is certainly not the kind of position the Chinese player excels in.

7...g6 8.b3

Another 20 minutes, which seems a bit odd given that ♙/d4-d2 blocks the c1-h6 diagonal for White's queen's bishop - I would have thought this was the idea.

8...♙g7 9.♙b2 0-0 10.♗a4

This, however, was played quickly. It's hard to believe White has anything here. 10.0-0-0!? might have been considered, given the absence of the f6-knight. Maybe White could consider a crude h2-h4-h5 advance. This isn't really consistent with White's "safe" approach to the game though. It seems like she isn't pushing for more than a draw, which as we all know can be a very dangerous approach to take.

10...♗f6!

I like this, leaving the a4-knight sidelined, avoiding the trade of the fianchetto, and pressuring e4.

11.♙xc6 bxc6 12.e5 ♗e4 13.♙b4

A little awkward, but I understand White's trepidation in leaving the e1-a5 diagonal open for Black to check at a5. There's little question that Black has solved her opening problems more than adequately, and has a small plus now with the bishop pair.

13...d5 14.♗d2

It's sensible to want to challenge this knight. 14.♗c5 is strongly met by 14...♙b6!, as 15.♙xb6 axb6 16.♗xc4 dxe4 17.♗d2 ♙f5 gives Black a nice simple position with a working bishop pair. Too bad, as White would love to solve the problem of the a4-knight at the same time if possible.

14...♙f5 15.♗xe4 ♙xe4 16.0-0



16...♙xc2

Black has options, but I like this decision...the c6-pawn is weak in any case and the creation of a passed d-pawn for Black can't be underestimated as the game will show all too clearly.

17.♙fc1 ♙e4 18.f3

Unfortunately 18.♖xc6 ♜d7! 19.♖fc1 ♜g4 20.f3 ♙xf3! picks up a pawn for Black. The text is a bit weakening, but the alternative 18.♘c5!? has the drawback of blocking the c-file.

18...♙f5 19.♖xc6 ♜d7 20.♖ac1

Natural, but this hands Black a strong and natural initiative. Oddly enough a move like 20.♖c5, and only ♖/a1-c1 if the c-file is challenged, is tougher for Black because there is no tempo gain against a rook on c1.



20...♙h6!

With the e3-square now vulnerable, Black's bishops control a lot of squares and White's control of the c-file loses a lot of its immediate relevance. In the face of these surfacing difficulties, Hou starts to drift and lands in serious trouble.

21.♖c7?!

Natural, as the c1-rook has no good squares, but 21.f4! was much better, despite providing e4 for the other bishop. After 21...♙e4, intending .. ♜g4 again, 22.e6! fxc6 23.♜d4, White can stir up just enough counterplay to hold the balance.

21...♙e3+ 22.♘h1 ♜d8 23.♖1c6

White is struggling to find places for her rooks – computer engines actually want to just give up an Exchange. White's rooks just prove to be no match for the bishops in this position.

23...♙d7! 24.♖c2



24...d4!

Excellent timing. White's rooks continue to be embarrassed, and now there's a new problem: the back rank weakness. Socko has handled the position extremely well, and is essentially winning now.

25.♖2c4

The d-pawn is taboo, but this doesn't really help either. 25.♙xd4 ♙xd4 26.♜xd4 ♙xa4! and an eventual check

on d1 will be fatal.

25...♙e6

Advancing the d-pawn is Black's winning plan and she can play it pretty well anywhere along here. White is simply too uncoordinated to deal with it.

26.♖4c6 ♙d5 27.♖c5 d3 28.♙d4

White predictably continues to try to hold onto the Exchange, but playing an Exchange down isn't going to offer much hope either, is it? White merely has a choice of ways to lose now.

28...♖b8! 29.♜xb8

Relatively best, but completely hopeless of course.

29...♜xb8 30.♙xe3 ♜a8!

With a serious threat of ...♙xf3.

31.♘g1 ♙xf3! 32.♖c3

It hasn't mattered for some time. 32.gxf3 ♜xf3, and the queen and passed d-pawn will be overpowering.

32...♜e4 33.♙d2 ♜d4+

And mate follows soon. An excellent game by Socko, who lost game 1 with the White pieces, and needed this win to level the score and continue the match. Hou certainly was not at her best in this outing, but her choice of variation also seems odd. The rapid games were fluctuating affairs, but Hou's confidence seemed gone and she made uncharacteristic blunders in both games – to be fair, the elimination format ratchets up the tension to a high level, so almost anything is possible. The overall results from Round 2 tend to support this as well.

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Koneru, Humpy - Zhukova, Natalia [D34]

WWCC 2012 Khanty-Mansiysk (21.2), 14.11.2012



1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.♘f3 ♘c6 6.g3 ♘f6 7.♙g2 ♙e7 8.0-0 0-0 9.♙g5 c4

A lesser played alternative to the usual 9...♙e6, but Black's results are not so bad. White is generally forced to play for some complications if they want to achieve anything.

10.♘e5 ♙e6 11.♘xc6 bxc6 12.b3

Logically trying to break down Black's pawn structure. Despite my comment concerning theoretical preparation earlier, both players clearly knew something about this line as they followed theory until well past move 20!

12...♖c8 13.♘a4 ♖a5 14.e3 ♜fd8 15.♗xf6



15...gxh6

Looks terrible, but allowing the ♘/a4 an easy route back into the game is worse. Strangely enough, a similar problem faced White in the first featured game from this round as well... something about "knights on the rim"...

16.♗h5

Hoping to exploit the fractured K-side. White will follow with the tricky 17.♗e4! if allowed to, relying on a 5th rank pin.

16...c5 17.dxc5 ♗xc5 18.♘xc5 ♖xc5

White has a structural advantage, Black's passed c-pawn is strong. Theoretically it seems Black is doing OK in this position.

19.♜fd1 e3 20.♜ac1 e2 21.♜d2 ♖c3

All logical, and still theory. Here it seems White should settle for the obvious 22.♜dx2, but after 22...♖xc2 23.♜xc2 ♜xc2, White hasn't been able to demonstrate much in the way of winning chances in tournament praxis. Black's king is open enough for perpetual to be a likely finish to the game, but if White tries for more, the Black rooks can be very dangerous if allowed to coordinate.

22.♖e2

This has been tried, but is a bit riskier. The longer the pawn stays on the 7th rank, the greater the chance that a tactical trick will work for Black.



22...♗f5!

Perhaps new? 22...d4 has been played in several

correspondence games, with a draw the most common result. The text keeps that all-dangerous c2-pawn and forces White to answer the question, "Why didn't I just take this pawn when I had the chance?"

23.♗d4! ♖b2 24.♖d2 ♖xa2

The last few moves have been pretty much best play for both sides. Here either 25.♜xd5 or 25.♗xd5 are pretty much equal. White has to be a bit careful because of the annoying c-pawn, but Black's open king provides enough long-term compensation. Either this position was new to Koneru, or she just miscalculated something down the road, but the plan she came up with was seriously flawed.

25.e4 ♗g6

Now 26.exd5 ♖xb3, and 26.♜xd5 ♜xd5 27.♖xd5 ♖b1 28.♖d2 ♖xb3 are both quite a bit better for Black. The c2-pawn remains monstrous and Black's passed a-pawn will begin to march forward as well. Still, these are both better than White's actual choice. It looks like White may just have overlooked something in her calculations, especially if this was now new territory for her.

26.f4?

This looks to threaten mayhem with f4-f5, but Black's tactical tricks are surprising in view of that thorn on White's 2nd rank.

26...♖xb3! 27.exd5

27.f5 can actually be met by 27...♗h5 and ...♗d1 if necessary, but the real problem is 27...♖b6! and 28...dxc4, when White is simply down material for no compensation. In this light, it is clear that the tempo spent on f2-f4 is a costly one as it only succeeds in weakening White's position.

27...♖b2!?

Setting up tactics along White's first rank.

28.♜b4



28...♖xc1+!

Not the only way, but the quickest and prettiest.

29.♖xc1 ♜b8 30.♗e4

As good as anything. The c-pawn is having its say. 30.♜b2 ♜xb2 31.♖xb2 ♜c8 32.♖c1 ♜b8 doesn't help either.

30...♜xb4 31.♗xc2 ♜c4 32.f5!

A neat trick, hoping to avoid losing even more material,

but unfortunately the resulting queen vs. two rooks endgame is still hopeless for White.

32...♙xf5

Sufficient, but 32...♞dc8! is even stronger, when 33.fxg6 hxg6 34.d6 ♞xc2 wins for Black, but does require some care and calculation.

33.♞f1 ♞xc2 34.♞xf5 ♞d2 35.♞g4+ ♔h8

Not 35...♔f8?? 36.♞b4+...careful to the end.

36.♞f4 ♞8xd5 37.♞xf6+ ♔g8

Perhaps a bit early for resignation, but White really doesn't have much to do – Black can put her rook pawns on h5 and a5 and then figure out how to make progress from there. Two rooks for queen is often enough to win. Here Black has an extra pawn to boot. Koneru missed chances in her 2nd game and eventually lost, so she had to leave early as well — a tough day for the top seeds!

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Round 3

Where many would agree that Round 2 was the most dramatic of the event, the third round was arguably the most exciting with many decisive games and hard fights.

I was particularly impressed with the match victory of Bulgarian GM Antoaneta Stefanova (#16) over GM Monika Socko (#32), of Poland, who had just ousted the World Champion in round two. After a rather lucky win with the Black pieces in their first game, Stefanova went into the second with guns blazing - no quiet draw for her. She made an aggressive and somewhat speculative pawn sacrifice but had plenty of positional compensation for it. Eventually, after pressuring her opponent for some time, she was rewarded with the win of an Exchange and she ultimately converted this to a full point.

Normally I would give this game, but Stefanova will feature later in the report. Instead I will give a clean victory by the top-rated player remaining in the event at this stage, GM Zhao Xue, of China (#4 seed).

(12) Zhao,Xue - Muzychuk,Mariya [A15]

WWCC 2012 Khanty-Mansiysk (32.4), 18.11.2012



1.c4 ♘f6 2.♘f3 g6 3.♘c3 d5 4.cxd5 ♘xd5 5.♞a4+

White has many, many options in this flexible position: 5.d4, 5.e4, 5.g3, 5.♞b3, 5.♞c2, and the text are among the main ones.

5...♘c6 6.♘e5 ♘xc3

This gives White an easy game. 6...♞d6! is a tougher cookie to crack as 7.♘xc6 ♞xc6 8.♞xc6+ bxc6 is really only optically better for White. 8.♞d4 might give White a little something in this line, but certainly not the easy play achieved in the game.

7.bxc3 ♙d7 8.♘xd7 ♞xd7 9.♞b1 b6



White's position is fluid, with the bishop pair a long-term asset. There are many approaches to such a position. The Chinese player decides to take a page from Larsen and "goes forth" with her rook pawn.

10.h4!?

With no ♘/f6, this advance has to be taken somewhat seriously.

10...h5 11.e4

Interesting. I admit that I would have likely been looking to bring the light-squared bishop to the long diagonal with 11.g3, but White's approach causes some awkwardness in Black's camp as well.

11...♘a5

In view of 12.♙b5, but Black will have trouble with this piece until the end of the game – our third loss involving a knight on the side of the board!

12.♙b5! c6 13.♙e2 ♙h6 14.0-0 0-0

14...e5, to forestall the White f-pawn, still looks pleasant for White after 15.d4.

15.f4

Notice how White's light-squared weaknesses on d3 and g4 are carefully under watch from the bishop on e2. Meanwhile there is that knight on a5 to worry Black.

15...e6 16.d4 ♞fd8



17.♙e3

The sharper 17.f5!? is also good enough for advantage but White prefers to slow down ...c5 and develop her forces a bit more before the breakthrough on the ♖-side.

17...♞c7 18.♞c2 b5?!

I don't understand the point of this move. Does Black want to play ...♘c4? It may be possible in some positions, but often it will just lose a pawn. I'd prefer ...♘b7 over the move chosen – at least that supports a pawn advance that does make sense, ...c6–c5, and sends the knight back towards the centre of the board.

19.♞f3 a6

This is awfully slow. White is quick to open lines against Black's king now.

20.f5! ♙xe3+ 21.♞xe3 e5

An attempt to keep White's queen off the light squares. 21...♞f4 looks active, but the cool 22.♞h3!, simply guarding the h4–pawn leaves Black's queen vulnerable to attack on the open f–file.

22.fxg6 fxg6 23.♞g3 ♖h7**24.♞g5!**

Very nice, pressuring the key defensive point, e5, and also adding tactical pressure to Black's pawn shelter.

24...exd4

Not a happy choice, but 24...♞c8 25.♙xh5! gxh5 26.♞f2!?, with ♞/b1–f1 coming soon looks extremely unpleasant for Black with the knight unable to offer any defensive help. Black elects to try for counterplay, but the freeing of White's queen on the light squares proves too powerful.

25.e5! ♞g8 26.♙xh5 d3 27.♞xd3

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Round 4:

Down to eight players, and three of the matches went into playoffs. Only IM Anna Ushenina (#30, Ukraine) managed to get through in regulation time, winning 1.5-0.5 against Nadezhda Kosintseva (#6, Russia).

Zhao Xue was not so lucky this round, losing to the talented Indian GM, Dronavalli Harika (#12). She held some advantage with the White pieces, but drifted and

allowed some nasty tactics. In the second game, the Indian player found a nice liquidation to a clearly drawn endgame from a position of some small advantage, enough to get through to the semis.

Stefanova beat French GM Marie Sebag (#8) 3-0 after a very wild rapid playoff, and WGM Ju Wenjun went through versus WGM Huang Qian in an all-China affair by a score of 3.5-2.5.

Zhao,Xue - Harika,Dronavalli [E92]

WWCC 2012 Khanty-Mansiysk (43.3), 22.11.2012

**1.d4 d6 2.♘f3 ♘f6 3.c4 g6 4.♘c3 ♙g7 5.e4 0-0 6.♙e2 e5 7.♙e3 exd4**

This line is more frequently played against 7.0-0, but the positions reached are often identical. The early release of tension tends to favour White, but some discoveries have given Black new ideas for counterplay.

8.♘xd4 ♞e8 9.f3 c6 10.♙f2 d5 11.exd5 cxd5 12.0-0 ♘c6 13.c5

This is a known idea, playing for a ♞-side majority with a firm grip on Black's passed, but isolated d–pawn.

13...♙f8 14.♘b3 ♙h6 15.♞e1 a6

This is one of these moves that gains and loses at the same time. Keeps a knight out of d6 (through b5), but creates a hole on b6.

16.♘a4 ♙e6 17.♘b6 ♞b8

Black obviously felt that this one could be tolerated more. White is a tiny bit better, but Black is still reasonably active.

18.♙f1 ♘h5

Oh oh, a knight on the rim again — four in a row?

19.♘d4 ♘xd4 20.♞xd4 ♙g7 21.♞d2 ♞f6!? 22.♞ab1 d4 23.b4 ♞bd8

The position continues to be sharp. Black is well centralized and has managed to advance her d–pawn. White's majority is on the move, and has the better structure, with only two pawn islands.

24.♞e4



24...g5!?

Obviously a bit ugly, but also consistent with Black's dark-square strategy. You'll find similar moves played in the Benoni sometimes, bordering on positionally unsound, but not always so easy to control.

25.♞d1 d3!?

Continuing to play actively. This type of all-or-nothing approach can be extremely dangerous, but it also puts a lot of pressure on one's opponent. White's clearest path to advantage is often a narrow and very precise one.

26.♞e3

26.♞c3 looks more logical.

26...♟f4 27.a4?

Matters on the ♖-side are reaching a head and should be addressed. The direct 27.g3 looks critical as ...♟h3+ cannot be played while there is a pin along the e-file. So 27.g3 ♟e2+ 28.♞xe2 dxe2 will cost Black a pawn, but win her the d-file and the bishop pair. Probably not enough, but it will cause White some technical problems at least.

27...♞f8?!

Prepares to move the ... e6-bishop, but infiltrating with the Black queen on c3 or b2, intending to get the d-pawn one square closer to promotion, would have caused White very serious problems. 27...♞b2 was a more promising alternative.

28.g3 ♟h3+

At least the black knight can go this way now, although this had to be calculated carefully, with the trap shutting behind it.

29.♞xh3 ♞xh3 30.g4?!

This looks OK to rule out any ...♞f5 ideas, but it also lets Black activate her pieces further while White's knight is still out of play on b6. 30.♟c4 was more circumspect, though Black can now claim some advantage, with 30...♞f5, say.

30...♞c3! 31.♞xg5

Again the timing for this is costly, and once again it is a dangerous passed pawn that is causing all the hardship for the defender.

31...d2



32.♞e3??

The only move was 32.♞e3, then 32...♞c2 33.♞e2 f5! gives Black a definite advantage, but White can still fight at least. The game comes to an abrupt end after the Chinese player's final error.

32...♞b3! 33.♞xd2 ♞xd2

and with ...♞xf3 and mate following soon, White resigned.

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Round 5:

Only two matches this round: Stefanova beat Harika 1.5 -0.5 and Ushenina won against Ju Wenjun 2.5-1.5. The Ushenina match was decided in the first rapid game:

Ushenina, Anna - Ju, Wenjun [E86]

WWCC 2012 Khanty-Mansiysk (53.1), 25.11.2012



1.d4 ♟f6 2.c4 g6 3.♟c3 ♞g7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.♞c3 e5 7.♟ge2 c6 8.♞d2 ♟bd7 9.0-0-0 a6 10.h4 b5

An opposite flank attack – both sides are up for the challenge in this first rapid game.

11.h5 ♞c7

11...♟xh5!?! is possible but would play into White's hands to a large degree. 11...exd4 and 11...b4 are interesting too.

12.hxg6 fxg6 13.g4?!

This is impatient though. 13.dxe5!, opening the d-file is much better. 13...♟xe5 14.♟f4 favours White, and if Black recaptures with the pawn, she loses a lot of dynamic opportunities on the long diagonal.

13...b4

13...exd4 14.♖xd4 ♖e5 provides greater counter-chances, as the c4-pawn is more vulnerable.

14.♖a4 exd4 15.♖xd4 ♖e5**16.c5!**

A big difference compared to the last note.

16...d5 17.♖b6 ♖b8 18.♖xc8 ♗xc8?

Black was worse, but this capture is just poor for tactical reasons. Black tries to keep the position as messy as possible, but White keeps control.

**19.♗h2!**

With e5 undefended, Black is forced to take on desperate measures.

19...b3!? 20.axb3 ♖xf3 21.♖xf3 ♖xb3 22.e5!

Only forward. White has to keep her initiative going as well.

22...♖xe3 23.exf6 h5 24.fxg7 ♖xf3

Black has made a valiant effort, but a piece is a piece. Black's king is not particularly safe either.

25.♗e2 ♖h3 26.♗f2 ♖xh1 27.♖xh1 ♗e8 28.♗d1 ♖xg7 29.gxh5 ♗e7 30.hxg6 ♗xc5+ 31.♖b1

And Ushenina is into the finals!

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Round 6:

And so the World Championship finals are contested between the #16 and #30 seeds, Stefanova of Bulgaria, and Ushenina of Ukraine - who could have predicted this?! Stefanova, the higher-rated, and with a World Championship title already behind her, was the clear favourite, but anyone who had reached this stage of elimination obviously was not to be trifled with.

After two draws in the first two (of four) regulation time control games (two were added to the schedule for the finals), Ushenina struck hard with a well-earned victory with White in Game 3 to put Stefanova to the test. And to her credit, she rose to the challenge, and also won with the White pieces to level the match and force a rapid playoff. The first rapid game was a tiny bit better for Stefanova, playing White, for most of the game, but despite trying to squeeze out a win for 89 moves, the game ended in a draw. Ushenina had better luck with her White, however, and managed to seal the match with a grinding 94-move win in a rook endgame. Congratulations to Anna Ushenina, the 2012 Women's World Champion - she will defend her title against Hou Yifan sometime in 2013.

Ushenina,Anna (2452) - Stefanova,Antoaneta (2491) [D15]

FIDE WCh Women World Cup Khanty-Mansiysk (63.1), 29.11.2012

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♖f3 ♖f6 4.♖c3 a6

A fashionable system. White has tried many things, 5.c5 is thought to be one of the better lines.

5.c5 ♖bd7 6.♗f4 ♖h5 7.♗d2 ♖hf6

This little dance is not unusual in this line. White has gained the modest ♗d2 for her efforts, but c1 will be useful to the rook for defending c5, and b2-b4 if played will have additional support now from d2 as well. Black, on her part, will be looking for a way to get in ...c5 at a propitious moment.

8.♖c1 g6 9.h3

Potentially useful to keep Black's minors from the g4 square.

9...♗c7 10.g3

Renewing the ♗f4 idea.

10...♗g7 11.♗f4 ♗d8 12.♗g2 0-0 13.0-0 ♖h5 14.♗d2**14...f5**

There seems no reason to refrain from the more typical 14.. .e5, now that it appears fully playable. 14...e5 15.dxc5 ♖xc5 16.♖a4!? ♖xf3+ 17.exf3 ♗e6 18.♖a4 ♖a7 (18...♖b8 19.g4! and 20.♗f4), and Black will untangle with ...♖/h5-f6-d7, and should stand OK.

15.♗b3 e5!?

Bold play, but definitely entailing some risk.

16.♖g5 exd4 17.♖xd5 cxd5 18.♗xd5+ ♖h8 19.♖e6

Much better than 19.♖f7+.

19...♞f6 20.♜xf8 ♞xf8?!

A tough position with many imbalances, but 20...♜xf8 seems more coordinated. After 21.♙xb7 ♞b8 22.c6 ♞e5!?, Black looks OK. 21.c6!? is sharp too, but 21...bxc6 22.♞xc6 ♞e5 again, and there is nothing clear for White.

21.♙xb7 ♞b8 22.c6 ♜c5 23.♞b6 ♜xb7?!

The surprising 23...♜e4 was Black's only real chance now, but White is clearly better in any case.

24.♞a7!

Very nice. White plays this part of the game excellently.

24...♙e5



25.c7!

White is winning now. Black's forces are too scattered and the c-pawn is a monster.

25...♞a8 26.♞xa8 ♞e8 27.♞xa6 ♜c5 28.♞a8 ♜e4 29.♞c2 ♜xd2 30.♞xd2 ♜g7 31.♞c2 ♜h6 32.b4 ♙d6 33.♞d5 ♜xg3 34.♞xd6! ♜xf1 35.♞xd4 g5 36.♞f6+ ♜h5 37.♞c6

The last moves were momentum only, but still a fine effort by Ushenina, particularly after move 20.

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Stefanova,A (2491) - Ushenina,A (2452) [D45]
FIDE WCh Women World Cup Khanty-Mansiysk RUS (6.4), 30.11.2012



1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♜c3 ♜f6 4.e3 e6

And yet another variation of the Slav – the Semi-Slav. Systems with ...d5 and ...c6 continue to be popular across the full spectrum of chessplayers these days.

5.♜f3 ♜bd7 6.♞c2 ♙d6 7.♙d3 0-0 8.0-0 dxc4 9.♙xc4 b5 10.♙d3 ♙b7 11.a3 a5 12.e4 e5

All fairly typical. The inclusion of a3 and ...a5 is a small nuance, but it does mean that Black will find it much harder to organize an eventual ...c5 if the b-pawn is loose.

13.♙d1 ♞c7 14.h3 ♞fe8 15.♙e3 exd4 16.♜xd4 ♙h2+!?

A simpler approach would be 16...♞ad8, bringing the last piece to the centre and making room for a later ...♞b8 if need be without shutting in the a8-rook. The text isn't bad though.

17.♜h1 ♙f4 18.♙xf4 ♞xf4 19.♜ce2!?



19...♞b8

The only sensible square on the diagonal, as 19...♞c7?? loses the b-pawn. And 19...♞xf2 looks awfully greedy, 20.♞f1 and an upcoming ♜f5, eyeing d6 and Black's king, should give White plenty of ideas for a pawn.

20.♜g3 ♜e5

This is where Black starts to drift horribly. 20...♞e5 or even 20...♞f4! again appears much better, followed by bring the a8-rook into the game. The text leaves Black's ♞-side congested, and the knight, while well centralized, is not stable on e5.

21.♙f1 ♞c8

Now Black is clearly worse, maybe losing. With most of Black's army huddled on the ♞-side it is not surprising that Stefanova decides to take aim at the other flank. 21...♜g6 or even ...g6 were better choices.

22.♜df5 ♞c7 23.♞c3 ♙d7 24.f4 ♞xd1 25.♞xd1 ♜g6



26.♜h6+

A pretty obvious tactic – White's initiative on the ♜-

side is just too strong now.

26...gxh6

26...♟f8 27.♞c5+ leaves Black with no good moves.

27.♞xf6 ♞f8 28.♟f5

28.♞d7! is even stronger.

28...c5 29.♞xb5 ♞xe4 30.♟d6 ♞d8 31.♞d2! ♞b1??

Allowing a final combination. 31...♞a8 survives a bit longer, but White will almost certainly win in any case, despite having loosened her grip somewhat in the past few moves.



32.♟xf7! ♞xd2 33.♟xh6+

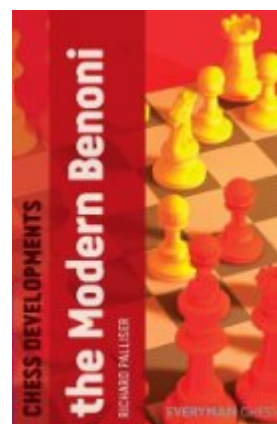
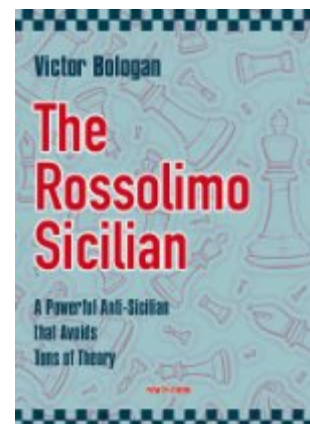
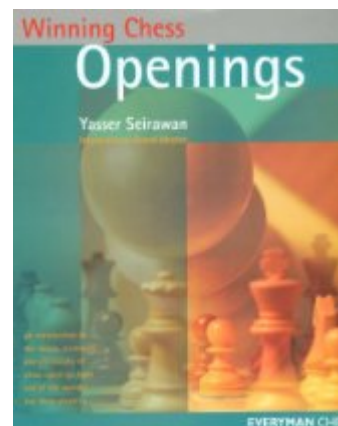
34.♞c4+ with mate in 2 is coming up. This wouldn't work with Black's bishop on a8 as there would be an interposition possible on d5. And so Stefanova managed to send the match into overdrive with rapid games to decide the World Champion. Ushenina was ultimately successful after two long hard fought battles, bringing a remarkable event to a conclusion for another cycle. It will be interesting to see if she can hold her own against much-higher rated Hou Yifan next year...

1-0



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<http://chess2012.ugrasport.com/ru/?cat=16>



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The World Champions in Canada: Fischer

By Stephen Wright



Photo Credit: Romy Cooper

Robert “Bobby” James Fischer (1943-2008), the eleventh world champion, came to this country to play chess on three occasions: for the first Canadian Open in 1956, as part of his 1964 simul tour, and most famously for his Candidates’ Match against Mark Taimanov in 1971. Given that Fischer was the only world champion to date to have been born in North America and that he lived here for most of his life it might seem strange that he only came to this country three times, but it should be remembered that even before winning the world championship Fischer spent lengthy periods of time in semi-retirement, away from competitive chess (e.g., 1964-65 and 1968-69). However, the main reason he didn’t come here more often is that he quickly outgrew any tournament Canada could offer – he only came to Vancouver in 1971 because it was the first stepping stone on the road to the world championship.

In Bobby Fischer’s own words, 1956 was the year he “got good.” In March of that year he turned thirteen and was rated 1726 on the USCF’s tenth national ratings list, published on May 20. By the time the eleventh list was issued a year later his rating had risen over 500 points to 2231. Fischer came to national prominence by first winning the U.S. Junior Championship in July, 1956, still the only thirteen-year-old ever to do so. Next, he played in the U.S. Open at Oklahoma City, tying for fourth place behind winner Arthur Bisguier. At the end of the summer Fischer travelled to Montreal to play in the inaugural Canadian Open. In the field of eighty-eight players he scored 7.0/10 which left him in a tie for eighth place with the likes of Abe Yanofsky and Frank Anderson. Larry Evans and William Lombardy scored 8.0 points to place first, with Evans taking the title on tiebreaks. The full [crosstable](#) for the tournament.

The sensation of the fourth round was Fischer’s game with the redoubtable Maurice Fox (1898-1988), who won eight Canadian Closed titles between 1927 and 1949. The battle between the generations did not disappoint:

Fischer, Robert - Fox, Maurice [A05]

CAN op 1st Montreal (4), 1956

1.♘f3

Surprise! In those years this opening move was not uncommon for Fischer, as he headed for a reversed version of the King’s Indian. This was part of his repertoire in later years too, but normally beginning with 1.e4.

1...♗f6 2.g3 d6 3.♙g2 g6 4.0-0 ♗g7 5.d3 0-0 6.e4 e5 7.♗bd2 c6 8.c3 ♖c7 9.♗h4

Fischer has only one goal in mind – checkmate the Black king. Obviously more positional plans are also possible, e.g., ♗c4 and a4.

9...a5 10.f4 ♗bd7 11.f5 ♗c5 12.♗b3 ♗xb3 13.axb3 ♗d7 14.g4 ♗e8 15.♖f3 ♗c5 16.f6?!

16.♗a3 would leave White with more options on the kingside.

16...♙f8



17.♗f5?

Going all in. Houdini thinks Black is just winning after this, but it’s not so easy to defend the position with a clock ticking.

17...d5!?

A human response, opening up the centre in response to the flank attack. After 17...gxf5 18.gxf5 White’s pieces quickly get over to the kingside.

18.♖g3?!

18.♗e7+ is objectively best.

18...dxe4 19.dxe4 ♗h8

Houdini prefers 19...♗xb3, when White’s attack runs out of steam.

20.♖h4 ♖d8?!

20...♗xb3

21.♗g7 ♙xg7 22.fxg7+ ♗g8 23.♖f2 ♖e7 24.♙g5 ♗d3 25.♖d2 ♖d7



26.♖ad1?!

Simplest is 26.h3,with approximate equality.

**26...♗xg4 27.♗h6 ♘f4 28.♗xf4 exf4 29.♗xf4 ♗h5
30.♗df1 ♗e6 31.♗f2 ♗e7 32.c4 ♗e5 33.♗f6 ♗xg7**

Black has survived the storm but was in terrible time trouble (first control at move 50).

34.h4 ♗f5 35.♗xf5?

35.♗xc6 bxc6 36.exf5

**35...gxf5 36.exf5 f6 37.♗h1 ♗e3 38.♗c2 ♗d8 39.♗f3
♗e1+ 40.♗h2 ♗d2 41.♗c3 ♗xh4+ 42.♗h3 ♗xg2+
43.♗xg2 ♗e2+ 44.♗g1 ♗e1+?**

Missing mate in two, but the ending is still winning.

**45.♗xe1 ♗xe1+ 46.♗f2 ♗b1 47.♗e3 ♗xb2 48.♗d4 b6
49.♗c3 ♗f2 50.♗h5 ♗f3+**

Apparently Fox made the time control with three seconds to spare.

**51.♗b2 ♗g3 52.♗h2 ♗g5 53.♗f2 ♗f7 54.♗c3 ♗e7
55.♗e2+ ♗d7 56.♗d2+ ♗c7 57.♗f2 ♗d6 58.♗d4 ♗g4+
59.♗d3 ♗e5 60.♗h2 ♗g3+ 61.♗c2 ♗g7 62.♗h6**

62.♗h5 ♗f4

62...♗xf5

0-1

Fischer's round nine opponent was fellow American [Sidney Bernstein](#):

Bernstein,Sidney - Fischer,Robert [D00]

CAN op 1st Montreal (9), 1956

1.d4 ♘f6 2.♗f3 g6 3.♗c3 d5 4.♗f4

We now know this opening as the Barry Attack, but it had been played against the King's Indian long before Mark Hebden forged it into a dangerous weapon in the 1990s, e.g., Capablanca–Yates, New York 1924.

4...♗g7 5.e3 0-0 6.♗e2 ♘h5

6...c5 with play in the centre is now regarded as the best antidote to White's setup.

7.♗g5 h6 8.♗h4 g5 9.♗g3 ♗xg3

As an inveterate King's Indian player Fischer was presumably happy to eliminate White's dark-squared bishop, at the expense of a somewhat loose kingside.

**10.hxg3 c5 11.♗d3 e6 12.♗e5 f5 13.g4 f4 14.0-0-0
♗c6**

**15.♗xh6?**

Far too impetuous, or perhaps Bernstein felt the young Fischer's defensive technique would be unable to cope.

15...♗xh6 16.♗g6+ ♗g7 17.♗d3 ♗xe5

17...♗f6 18.♗h7+ ♗f8 19.♗g6+ ♗xg6 20.♗xg6 cxd4
21.exd4 ♗f6 is also sufficient.

**18.dxe5 ♗f7 19.♗b5 ♗f8! 20.♗d6 ♗d7 21.♗b5 ♗xd6
22.exd6 ♗d7 23.♗xd7 ♗xd7**



24.♗xg5

Bernstein chooses to play on but the result is not in doubt.

**24...fxe3 25.♗f4+ ♗g8 26.fxe3 ♗f8 27.♗g5 ♗xd6
28.♗h1 ♗e5 29.♗h4 ♗xb2+ 30.♗d1 ♗b1+ 31.♗d2
♗b4+ 32.♗d1 ♗e4 33.♗h5 ♗f2**

0-1



Fischer playing alongside Edmar Mednis in the last round of the 1st Canadian Open

Following the tournament Fischer gave a simultaneous display on nineteen boards at the Montreal YMHA, and only William Oaker escaped with a draw. Fischer got a ride back to New York with Larry Evans: "After I won the Canadian Open in Montreal he asked me to drive him back to America. I wish I could claim some kind of premonition, but I had no inkling my passenger would become world famous. Bobby scarcely said a word to my wife during the 400-mile trip. All he wanted to do was talk about chess, chess, and more chess."

[Larry Evans, Foreword to *Bobby Fischer* by Karsten Müller]

By 1964 Fischer was a much stronger player than he had been in 1956. In the interim he had won six of the eight U.S. Champion titles he would win in his career, the most recent (1963-64) sensationally with a perfect 11.0/11 score; had played in two Olympiads (Leipzig and Varna), two Interzonals (Portoroz and Stockholm), and two Candidates' Tournaments (Belgrade/Bled/Zagreb and Curacao), incidentally acquiring the grandmaster title along the way; and had won numerous other national and international events. As U.S. Champion, he qualified for the 1964 Amsterdam Interzonal but declined to play, and also refused to join the U.S. team at the Tel Aviv Olympiad later that year. Instead, from February to May Fischer embarked on a transcontinental simultaneous tour, giving exhibitions in forty cities and playing over two thousand games. As we have seen, similar tours were conducted by Capablanca and Alekhine, among others, but what was precedent setting was Fischer's fee, \$250 for a lecture and fifty-board exhibition. As the December 1964 *California Chess Reporter* commented: "Relatively few years ago, the best players were lucky to get \$50 for a simultaneous display. Recently, a fee in the order of \$100 was in order. Our hat is off to Bobby for setting his fee at \$250 and for making it stick!" The tour was organized by Harry Evans, father of Larry, who also ran the business side of the *American Chess Quarterly*; Fischer was a contributor to the journal, and his famous 'bust' to the King's Gambit had been published in its first issue.

Fischer began his tour in Detroit on February 9; by the end of February he was in Canada for the second time, beginning with two displays in Montreal. On Sunday, February 23 he gave an exhibition on fifty-six boards in the Student Common Room at Sir George Williams University, scoring +48 =3 -5; the playing fee was \$5 with \$1 for spectators. The following evening Fischer took on ten opponents in a clock simul (40 moves in 2 hours), winning all the games; the playing fee on that occasion was \$15. Regularly scheduled games in the Montreal Chess League were postponed, to give everyone the opportunity to either play against Fischer or spectate.

Apart from keeping up with the latest Soviet analysis, Fischer had a surprising interest in games and writings from the nineteenth century, in particular those of William Steinitz. Andrew Soltis has opined [in *Bobby Fischer* by Karsten Müller] that "Fischer believed that good ideas from Steinitz's era had simply been forgotten." In a five-part series in *Chess Life* during 1964 Fischer analyzed in detail the games from the Steinitz-Dubois match of 1862(!), the first game of which was a Bishop's Gambit. Considered by Fischer the only correct way of playing the King's Gambit, he would occasionally take the variation out for a spin, including in his simultaneous displays:

Fischer, Robert - Zaly, Ignas [C33]

Simul Montréal, 23.02.1964

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.♗c4

"I consider this, the Bishop's Gambit, to be more promising than 3.♗f3 which is refuted by 3...d6!"

3...♟f6

3...d5 ("Probably the strongest continuation.") 4.♗xd5 c6 5.♗b3 ♖h4+ 6.♟f1 g5 7.♗f3 ♖h5 was the course of Dubois–Steinitz game 1 with Steinitz coming out on top in the complications, while 3...♖h4+ 4.♟f1 d6 5.♗c3 ♗e6 6.♖e2 c6 7.♗f3 ♖e7 8.d4 ♗xc4 9.♖xc4 g5 10.e5 d5 11.♖d3 was Fischer's game against Larry Evans from the 1963–4 U.S. Championship (1-0 in thirty-eight).

4.♗c3 c6 5.♗b3 d5 6.exd5 cxd5 7.d4 ♗d6 8.♗ge2



8...f3

Despite being Houdini's preference White has scored well against this rare move, including a win against Jan Timman. 8...0-0 9.♗xf4 ♗xf4 10.♗xf4 ♖c8+ 11.♗fe2 ♗g4 is the mainline as analysed by Fischer in conjunction with Dubois–Steinitz game 1, while 8...♗c6 was Kasparov's choice against another grandmaster who occasionally likes to resurrect nineteenth-century openings, Nigel Short, in their 2011 Leuven blitz match – Short won in thirty-five moves.

9.gxf3 ♗h5?!

As White can deal easily with the threatened check it would be better for Black to develop some of his other pieces.

10.♗e3 ♗b4 11.a3 ♗a5 12.♖d3 a6 13.0-0-0 ♗e6 14.♗g3?!

White has a significant lead in development but it seems better to keep the g-file open, rather than closing it with the text move.

14...♗xg3 15.hxg3 h6 16.f4

16.g4!?

16...♗xc3 17.♖xc3

The zwischenzug 17.f5 ♗c8 18.bxc3 offers better chances for an initiative.

17...♗d7 18.g4

18.♖d3!?

18...♗xg4 19.♖dg1

19.♞d1 would set Black more problems.

19...♟f6 20.♙f2 ♘e4 21.♞b4 ♞d7

21...♟xf2 22.♞e1+ ♙e6 23.♞xf2 ♞f6 24.f5 ♞xf5

25.♞xf5 ♙xf5 26.♞xg7 is presumably the tactical justification of White's last move.



22.♙h4?

After this the advantage permanently shifts to Black. White had to try 22.♞xg4 ♞xg4 23.♙xd5 ♞xf4+ 24.♟b1, even if it's not the sort of position to relish while playing many other opponents at the same time.

22...a5 23.♞e1 f5

23...h5

24.♟b1 b5 25.♞g3 h5 26.♙g5 ♟f7 27.♞e3 ♞he8 28.c3 ♞a6 29.♙c2 ♞ae6 30.♟a1

30.♙xc4 ♞xc4 31.♞xc4 fxe4 is prospectless, but the text simply blunders a piece.

30...♟xg5

0-1

One opening Fischer struggled to find a good response to was the Caro-Kann. Initially he was loyal to the Two Knight's Variation, but after some bad experiences with it at the 1959 Candidates' Tournament he looked around for other methods. On the 1964 tour he tried the unusual 5.Nc5!?, these days associated more with David Bronstein:

Fischer, Robert James - de Gruchy, P [B18]

Simul Montréal, 23.02.1964

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.♟c3 dxe4 4.♟xe4 ♙f5 5.♟c5



5...b6

"On tour (1964) I experimented with the weird 5.♟c5!? Most of my opponents countered with 5...e5 6.♟xb7 ♞xd4 (if 6...♞b6 7.♟c5 ♙xc5 8.dxc5 ♞xc5 9.c3 White's better, Fischer-Petrosian, five-minute game,

Bled 1961) 7.♞xd4 exd4 8.♙d3 with the better ending. Some replied 5...b6 6.♟a6 ♟xa6 7.♙xa6 ♞d5! Still others 5...♞c7 6.♙d3 ♙xd3 7.♟xd3 e6. White has more space, but only experience can tell whether he has the edge; however, the knight discourages the normal freeing maneuver ...c5 and/or ...e5. At least it's something to break the monotony." – Fischer in *My 60 Memorable Games*.

6.♟a6 ♟xa6 7.♙xa6 ♞c7

As mentioned by Fischer in the previous note, 7...♞d5 is best, threatening ♞xg2 and ♞a5+.

8.♞f3 b5

8...e6 is simplest.

9.♙d2 ♞b6 10.♞xf5 e6 11.♞d3 ♞xa6 12.a4 ♟f6

13.♟f3 ♙e7 14.0-0 ♞b7 15.axb5 cxb5

15...♞xb5 would leave the queenside defenceless – 16.♞xb5 cxb5 17.♞a5 a6 18.♞fa1

16.♞a5 a6 17.♞fa1 0-0 18.♙g5 ♙b4

18...h6

19.♙xf6! gxf6

19...♙xa5? 20.♟g5 and White gains two minor pieces for a rook.

20.♞5a2 ♟h8 21.c3 ♙e7 22.♟d2 ♞g8 23.♞f3 ♞b6

24.g3 f5



25.b4

Fixing the a6-pawn and building an outpost for the knight on c5.

25...♙g5 26.♟b3 ♙e7 27.♟c5 ♞a7 28.♟g2

Fischer could simply win the a-pawn, but prefers to manoeuvre in hopes of a bigger advantage.

28...♞ga8 29.♟d7 ♞c7?

29...♞b7

30.♟e5 ♙d6 31.♟c6 ♞b7 32.♞xa6 ♞xa6 33.♞xa6 ♞b6

34.♞xb6 ♞xb6 35.d5 ♟g7 36.dxe6 fxe6 37.♟d4 ♙e5

38.♞e3 ♙xd4

The pawn ending is lost, but if he avoids it Black will lose even more material.

39.♞xd4+ ♞xd4 40.cxd4 ♟f6 41.♟f3 e5 42.dxe5+ ♟xe5 43.♟e3 ♟d5 44.♟d3 h5 45.f4 ♟c6 46.♟d4 ♟d6 47.h3

1-0

Fischer, Robert James - Allan, Denis [C57]

Clock simul Montréal, 24.02.1964

Fischer annotated this game in detail for the *American Chess Quarterly*.

1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♙c4 ♗f6 4.♗g5 d5

"More usual is 4...♗e7? 5.♙xf7+ ♖d8 6.♙b3 h6? 7.♗f7+ and 8.♗xh8 – in simultaneous exhibitions, at least!"

5.exd5 ♗d4

"After 5...♗xd5 6.d4! and White already practically has a won game! I guess I must have won, at the very least, 100 games or so with this line on my first chess tour, which took me across Canada and the United States. "

6.c3 b5 7.♙f1 ♗xd5 8.cxd4

8.♗xf7 is another alternative, once essayed by Nigel Short, while 8.♗e4 is considered the mainline.

8...♗xg5 9.♙xb5+ ♖d8 10.♗f3



10...e4?

Normal is 10...♙b7 which incidentally sets a trap: 11.0-0 exd4 12.♗xf7?? ♗f6 0-1 was the course of Fischer–Burger, San Francisco 1964.

11.♗xe4 ♙d6 12.0-0 ♙b7

"Note the ominous portent of four Black pieces read to explode in White's face! As an old chess friend once explained to me, 'Three pieces are a mate – but four pieces!'"

13.d3?

Allowing a winning tactic. 13.♙e1 c6 was necessary, relieving some of the pressure on White's position.

13...♗f4?



"Brilliant! Brilliant! The only trouble is that it loses! With 13...♙xh2+!! Black could have pulled off a neat win." The continuation 14.♗xh2 ♗f4 15.♙xf4 ♗h4+

16.♖g1 ♙xc4 17.dxc4 ♗xf4 leaves White behind too much material.

14.♙xf4

Black's idea was 14.♗xb7? ♗h3+ 15.♗h1 ♗xf2+ with a perpetual.

14...♗xb5 15.d5 ♗xb2?

Donaldson suggests that 15...♙e8 was Black's last chance to put up strong resistance.

16.♙xd6 cxd6 17.♙e1! ♗f6?

Attempting to reach an ending with 17...♗e5 would last longer.

18.♗c3 ♙c8 19.♗b4! ♙e8?

Losing at least an exchange, but Black is lost anyway.

20.♗a5+ ♖d7 21.♗a4+

1-0

"After the simul, I was in *Ben's Delicatessen* (an institution in Montreal) with Fischer, Leslie Witt and Moe Moss, a chess columnist who was involved in the organization of the Montreal visit. We looked briefly at the game and Fischer commented that 10...e4 was a new move. It certainly was to me ... I had little knowledge of the Two Knights at that time, other than that ...b5 and ...♗d4 were playable. Consequently, I had used a great deal of time before ... playing ...♗f4, which I did fairly quickly, as it seemed obvious and strong." [Denis Allan, quoted in John Donaldson's *A Legend On the Road*, 2nd ed.]

After Montreal Fischer moved on to Quebec City, giving a forty-eight board display on February 25 and winning all the games in three hours. "Several of the players, especially the younger ones, had better positions or were actually ahead in material at one time or another. However, they eventually became disconcerted by the speed with which Fischer was playing. There were two hundred admiring spectators watching this unequal match between quality and quantity." [Paul Nadeau in *Canadian Chess Chat*, March 1964]

Fischer, Robert James - Tordion, M [B32]

Simul Québec City, 25.02.1964

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗xd4?!

Exchanging off Black's only developed piece while giving White's queen a commanding post in the centre.

5.♗xd4 e6 6.♗c3 ♗c7?

The queen is only a target here. 6...a6 or 6...♗c7 intending ...♗c6 are better options.

7.♗b5 ♗xc2?!

Black should probably grovel with 7...♗b8

8.♙f4?

Fischer gets sloppy – 8.♙d3 and only then Bf4 would

leave White well in command.

8...♙c5 9.♚d2?!

9.♙d3 ♙xd4 10.♙xc2 ♙b6 would still leave White with excellent compensation.

9...♚xe4+ 10.♙e2

10.♙d1

10...♙b4 11.♘d6+ ♙xd6 12.♙xd6



12...♙f6

After 12...♚xg2 13.0-0-0 Black's three(!) pawn advantage roughly balances White's lead in development.

13.0-0 ♚d5 14.♚f4 ♚e4 15.♚g3 ♚g6 16.♚a3 ♚g5?

16...b6 intending ...♙e4 ...♙b7 and ...f5.

17.♚ac1

17.♙f3

17...♙e4 18.♙b4 a5 19.♙f3 ♘d2?!

Houdini points out the shot 19...♙xf2! (if 20.♙xf2 ♚h4+).

20.♙xd2 ♚xd2 21.♚c5 ♚b4?!

21...d5



22.♚xc8+! ♚xc8 23.♚xc8+ ♙e7 24.♚xh8 h6?

24...♚xb2 would keep Black in the game.

25.♚b8 b6 26.♚b7 ♚xb2 27.♚d1 ♚xa2 28.♚dx7+ ♙e8?

28...♙f6 is forced.

29.♚e7+ ♙d8 30.♚bd7+ ♙c8 31.♙b7+ ♙b8 32.♚e8+ ♙a7 33.♚a8#

1-0

The last Canadian stop on the tour was in Toronto at Hart House, where Fischer lectured on his game against

Benko from the 1963-64 U.S. Championship before taking on fifty opponents simultaneously, scoring +40 =6 -4. The only available game score is Fischer's loss to Prof. Lister, but if the score is correct Bobby resigned in a winning position:

Fischer, Robert James - Lister, M.W [B81]

Simul Toronto, 27.02.1964

1.e4 c5 2.♙f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♙xd4 ♙f6 5.♙c3 e6 6.g4

Fischer was better known for using Sozin formations but also scored heavily with the text, the Keres Attack, on the few occasions he employed it in tournament games.

6...e5 7.♙f5 g6 8.♙e3 ♙c6 9.h3

Despite the aggressive opening Fischer seems content to rely on his control over d5 and never advances his g-pawn to g5 (which could also be part of a strategy aimed at the d5-square). For his part Black steadfastly refuses to make any use of the d4-square until much later in the game.

9...♙e6 10.♙ed5 ♙g7 11.♙e3 0-0 12.♚d2 ♚c8

12...♙d4 – White can never seriously consider giving up his dark-squared bishop with 13.♙xd4, even if it does win a pawn.

13.0-0-0 ♙e8?!

Presumably worried about the d-pawn, but passive – 13...♙d4 is still the best way of dealing with that problem.

14.f3 f5?

Simply opening up too many lines against Black's own king.

15.gxf5 gxf5 16.♙g5

16.♚g1; 16.♚g2

16...♚d7 17.♙h6?

17.♙b5 develops another piece, allows White to take aim at the weak e7 square, and prevents ♙d4 for the moment.

17...f4?!

17...♙d4

18.♙xg7 ♚xg7



19.h4?!

Fischer continues positionally, intending to trade light-squared bishops, but he never really gets anything

going along the g-file and the initiative shifts over to Black.

19...♖h8 20.♗h3??

20.♗e2

20...♗xh3 21.♗xh3 ♖d4 22.♗f2 ♖f6 23.♗g1 ♗d7
24.♗h2 ♖xd5 25.exd5 b5! 26.♗f1 b4 27.♖e4 ♗a4



28.♗d3??

28.♖b1 is absolutely forced, when one computer-generated continuation is 28...♗xc2 29.♗d1 b3 30.axb3 ♗c1+ 31.♗xc1 ♖xb3 32.♗f1 ♗a1+ 33.♖c2 ♖d4+ 34.♖d3 ♗a6+ 35.♖d2 ♗a2 leading to a perpetual. The text should lose.

28...♗xa2 29.♖g5

Perhaps the best practical chance ...

29...♗xc2+??

... which Black falls for. 29...♖b3+ 30.♗xb3 (30.♖d1 ♗b1+ 31.♖e2 ♗xc2+) 30...♗xb3 is the correct continuation. However, something very strange happened here – Fischer resigned! It's not clear what he missed, after 30.♗xc2 ♖b3+ 31.♖d1 ♗a1+ 32.♖c2 Black is defenceless against the twin mating threats of ♗xh7 or ♖f7+ followed by ♗c8+.

0-1

“Fischer took his losses very gracefully. In fact he conceals a very pleasant personality behind the Fischer ‘image.’ Fundamentally, I believe he feels insecure and lacks self-confidence. He feels that the world is out to show him up. He must realize what harm some of his press interviews have done him. The press is invariably hostile. They think of him as at best an *idiot savant* and at worst a freak....All in all I found Fischer quite impressive. Above all he has the ability to laugh at himself.” [David Grimshaw in *Canadian Chess Chat*, April 1964]

Fischer visited Canada for the last time in 1971 for his Candidates’ Match with Mark Taimanov. Long-time CFC President and FIDE official John G. Prentice arranged for the match to be played in Vancouver, coincidentally(?) just a few months before World Champion Boris Spassky would be in town for the Canadian Open.

Controversy often followed Fischer in the wake of his demands over playing conditions, and this match was no exception. He originally wanted no spectators present, but: “The match was scheduled to be played at the UBC Graduate Centre, but on the 12th [of May] the Russians vetoed it. Besides disagreeing with the no spectators rule of Fischer, Taimanov felt claustrophobic in the 20' x 35' room: ‘I can't breathe...’ Discussions between the USSR, the USA, and the CFC went on until midnight. On the 13th the factions toured UBC, searching for another spot. One was almost found at the Centre’s library, but Classics dean McGregor vetoed this. This prompted a flood of anti-UBC, anti-CFC, anti-Canadian rhetoric from Kotov, who declared that Canada was a poor country, for chess especially. ‘Spain, yes, Belgrade, yes. But Canada, no, no.’ After Fischer rejected Taimanov’s proposal of the Education faculty auditorium, the S.U.B. theatre was agreed upon. For Fischer, this meant spectators; for the Russians, the only victory they won in the match. ‘Let’s play,’ said Fischer, ‘I’m willing to play anywhere.’” [*Northwest Chess*, June 1971]

Fischer's subsequent 6-0 demolition of Taimanov is now the stuff of legend, but the games were a lot closer than the final score indicates. Taimanov's play was marred by several blunders, brought on through a combination of Fischer's intense will to win and the pressure of being the first Soviet road-block on Fischer's path to the world championship. Taimanov complained of suffering from high blood pressure, but as Harry Golombek noted, “Fischer's play is calculated to give any opponent high blood pressure.” Božidar Kažić was the chief arbiter, Elod Macskasy his assistant. B.C. Champion Peter Biyiasas operated the onstage demo board, while Ken Morton performed similar duties with a secondary demo board. [In 1981 Fischer stayed with Biyiasas for four months after the latter had moved to San Francisco, but that lies outside the scope of this article.] The ending of the fourth game of the match has since acquired classic status and appears in many endgame texts.

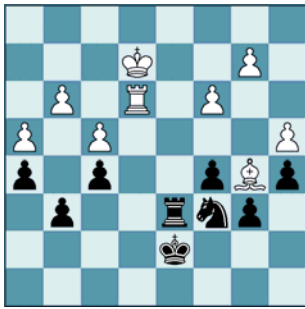
Fischer, Robert - Taimanov, Mark [B47]

Candidates 1/4-fin Vancouver (4), 25.05.1971

1.e4 c5 2.♖f3 ♖c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♖xd4 ♗c7 5.♖c3 e6
6.g3 a6 7.♗g2 ♖f6 8.0-0 ♖xd4 9.♗xd4 ♗c5 10.♗f4 d6
11.♗d2 h6 12.♗ad1 e5 13.♗e3 ♗g4 14.♗xc5 dxc5
15.f3 ♗e6 16.f4 ♗d8 17.♖d5 ♗xd5 18.exd5 e4 19.♗fe1
♗xd5 20.♗xe4+ ♖d8 21.♗e2 ♗xd1+ 22.♗xd1+ ♗d7
23.♗xd7+ ♖xd7 24.♗e5 b6 25.♗f1 a5 26.♗c4 ♗f8
27.♖g2 ♖d6 28.♖f3 ♖d7 29.♗e3 ♖b8 30.♗d3+ ♖c7
31.c3 ♖c6 32.♗e3 ♖d6 33.a4 ♖e7 34.h3 ♖c6 35.h4 h5
36.♗d3+ ♖c7 37.♗d5 f5 38.♗d2 ♗f6 39.♗e2 ♖d7
40.♗e3 g6 41.♗b5 ♗d6

The sealed move.

42.♖e2



42...♔d8?

This allows White to exchange rooks, after which Black will inexorably be pushed back via zugzwang; 42...♖f6 was necessary, with an uncomfortable but defensible position.



June 1st, 1971: game 6, after Black's 13th move [Northwest Chess]

43.♖d3 ♕c7 44.♗xd6 ♔xd6 45.♔d3 ♖e7

45...♔d5 results in a lost pawn ending: 46.♗xc6+ ♔xc6 47.♕c4 ♔d6 48.♕b5 ♕c7 49.♔a6 ♕c6 50.c4 ♕c7 51.♔a7 ♕c6 52.♕b8 (Müller)

46.♗e8 ♔d5 47.♗f7+ ♔d6 48.♕c4 ♕c6 49.♗e8+ ♕b7 50.♕b5 ♖c8 51.♗c6+

Avoiding Black's mate threat.

51...♕c7 52.♗d5 ♖e7 53.♗f7 ♕b7 54.♗b3 ♔a7 55.♗d1 ♕b7 56.♗f3+ ♕c7 57.♔a6 ♖g8 58.♗d5 ♖e7

58...♖f6 59.♗f7 ♖c4 60.♗xg6 ♖xg3 61.♗e8 ♖c2 62.♗xh5 ♖xf4 63.♗f3 (Müller).

59.♗c4 ♖c6 60.♗f7 ♖e7 61.♗e8



The Black king is finally forced to abandon the queenside, allowing Fischer to sacrifice his bishop for some unstoppable passed pawns.

61...♔d8 62.♗xg6 ♖xg6 63.♕xb6 ♔d7 64.♕xc5 ♖e7 65.b4 axb4 66.cxb4 ♖c8 67.a5 ♖d6 68.b5 ♖e4+ 69.♕b6 ♕c8 70.♕c6 ♕b8 71.b6

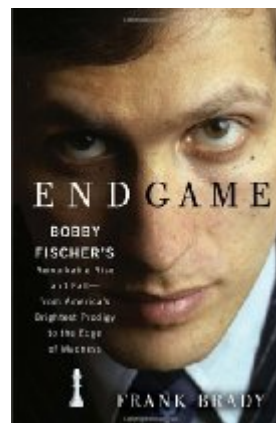
1-0

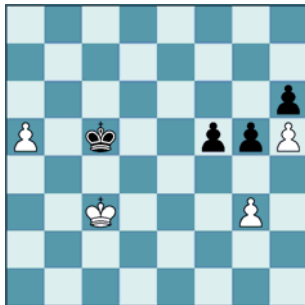


Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess
By Bobby Fischer, Stuart Margulies, Don Mosenfelder

This book is essentially a teaching machine. The way a teaching machine works is: It asks you a question. If you give the right answer, it goes on to the next question. If you give the wrong answer, it tells you why the answer is wrong and tells you to go back and try again. This is called "programmed learning". The real authors were experts and authorities in the field of programmed learning. Bobby Fischer lent his name to the project. Stuart Margulies is a chess master and also a recognized authority on programmed learning. He is a widely published author of more than 40 books, all in the field of programmed learning, especially in learning how to read. For example, one of his books is "Critical reading for proficiency 1 : introductory level". Don Mosenfelder is not a known or recognized chess player, but he was the owner of the company that developed and designed this book. He has written more than 25 books, almost all on basic reading, writing and math.

<http://astore.amazon.ca/chesfedeofcan-20/detail/0553263153>





As mentioned on p.22, the positions featured at the current lesson were offered to some of Canadian WYCC participants. I must admit that what you see on the diagram above, turned out to be a tough nut to crack for many of them.

The first part of the solution is obvious as White is sending the ♔ to destroy the opponent's pawns. The a-pawn serves as a distraction.

1.a6 ♖b6 2.♔d4 ♖xa6 3.♕e5 f4

Yet the pawns strike back...

4.gxf4 g4 5.♕e4 ♖b6 6.♕e3

6.f5 ♕c5 7.♔f4 ♔d5 8.♔xg4 ♕c5=...and White has to slow down as 6.f5 would transpose into a side variation drawish position we'll discuss below

6...♕c6 7.♔f2 ♔d6 8.♔g3 ♔d5!

White had to waste enough time to allow Black's ♔ to interfere with the adversary's farther advancement. Yet Black should watch his step very carefully 8...♕e6 9.♔xg4 ♕f6 10.♔f3 ♕f5 11.♕e3 ♕f6 (11... ♔g4 12. ♕e4 ♔xh5 13. ♕f5 ♔h4 14. ♔g6 ♔g4 15.f5 h5 16.f6+-) 12.♕e4 ♕e6 13.f5+ ♕f6 14.♔f4 ♕f7 15.♕e5 ♕e7 16.f6+ ♕f8 17.♕e4 ♔g8 18.♔f4 ♕f8 19.♕e5+-

9.♔xg4 ♕e4

blocking the path so far

10.♔g3 ♔d5!

This square has up to this moment been a true blessing for Black! Perched on "d5", the ♔ controls his counterpart's every movement

11.♔h4!!

...but this one! nothing else helps White to break through. 11.f5? ♕e5 12.♔g4 ♔d6! 13.♔f4 ♔d5= produces a mirror-image of the previous position but there is no threat to use "g5" to land on "f6" as the "g5" square is controlled by the pawn on "h6". In any other case Black manages to come to an exactly right square

at an exactly right time – namely, his ♔ arrives at "e4" when White's one is on "g4", and the same is true regarding the "d4" and "f3" squares. Those are the very strings – invisible but powerful – I mentioned at the end of the last lesson: by appearing on a certain square, a ♔ triggers the counterpart's appearance on a **corresponding square**. It's not exactly an opposition as there is no shaped geometrical form (like a straight line or a diagonal) between the two – yet their interdependence is obvious. By moving aside, White breaks this invisible string

11...♔d4

Every other move loses on the spot 11...♕e6 12.♔g4 ♕f6 13.♔f3 and Black can't make it to the corresponding "d4" square in one move.; or 11...♕e4 12.♔g4 and now the correspondence favours White – just like in a case of opposition.

12.♔h3

the moment of truth as the role-reversal is inevitable now. Wherever Black moves (e4 or d5) it will be White sealing the correspondence. Alas for Black, he can't travel to the 3d rank because the pawn will bid good-bye and just fly away to promotion.

12...♔d5 13.♔g3+-

Another exercise I offered to my young charges was similar to one had analysed at the previous lesson—namely, based on calculation, and with the king's reverse movement as a “punchline”



1.♕c6

If the ♔ tries to stop the g-pawn, it will be late for the "c1" "harbour" 1.♕e5 ♔g7 2.♔f4 ♕f6 3.♔g4 ♕e5 4.♔g5 ♔d5 5.♔xg6 ♕c5 6.♔f5 ♔xb5 7.♕e4 ♕c4 so seemingly it has to go for another pawn

1...g5 2.♔d5!

...for one move, that is – because by moving in the same direction, it stays late 2.♔b7 g4 3.♔xa7 g3 4.b6 g2 5.b7 g1♖+

2...♔g7 3.♕e4 ♔g6 4.♔f3 ♕f5 5.♔g3 ♕e5

5...g4 6.♔g2 ♔f4 7.♔f2 g3+ 8.♔g2 ♔g4 9.♔g1 ♔f3 10.♔f1 g2+ 11.♔g1 ♔g3 12.b6=

6.♔g4

but now suddenly it makes right on time!

6...♔d5 7.♔xg5 ♕c5 8.♔f4 ♔xb5 9.♕e3 ♕c4 10.♔d2 ♕b3 11.♕c1=

Around the Chess Globe



Magnus Carlsen is here to stay, and for a long time. I could therefore turn his story into an endless saga by devoting to him column after column of the *Chess Globe*. Tempted as I am to do so, I have to reconsider, and for a simple reason: I am just running out of superlatives! I feel unable to come up with any new description of his accomplishments - so I have to take a break from the topic, disregard his yet another “goes without saying” victory in a super-tournament (this time it was “London Chess Classic”) and switch my attention to mere mortals who have competed in the second **Grand Prix Tournament** in Tashkent.

With no Magnus around, one wouldn't expect any miracles—and essentially, there were none. A pretty typical competitive tournament where 9 out of 12 players finish within a point of each other—and any of the remaining three could have easily finished much higher. Boris Gelfand might be still suffering from an aftermath of his gigantic effort at the very pinnacle of his career—the World Championship match. His vast experience allows him to hold in most cases but right now he lacks this extra push necessary to beat an equally elite opponent. In Tashkent he was also unfortunate enough to blunder against Gata Kamsky. For Kamsky himself this success came way too late. His whole tournament could have soared to an altogether different height had he only managed to beat Morozevich after having essentially outplayed him in round 1. Yet, Moro who is renowned for his high-risk fighting chess came on top in this—as it turned out to be in retrospect - fateful game, and the opponents parted ways from there on. For Gata it was all downhill while Moro stayed at or near the very top for the rest of the tournament - and it definitely was nothing like a fluke. When this unpredictable player is at his best, his most unorthodox style may be utterly frustrating for just anyone. In yet another pivotal game against the highest-rated participant in Tashkent Morozevich almost out-Magnus-ed Magnus himself by producing a big “something” out of literally nothing. It is hard to believe that a 2786 player can lose a game like that:

Morozevich,A (2748) - Caruana,F (2786) [C65]
FIDE GP Tashkent Tashkent UZB (2.6), 23.11.2012



1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗b5 ♘f6 4.d3 ♗c5 5.♗xc6 dxc6
6.h3 ♗e6 7.♞e2 ♘d7 8.♗e3 ♞e7 9.♗xc5 ♞xc5 10.♘c3
♞d6 11.0-0 c5 12.♘h4 0-0-0 13.♘f5 ♗xf5 14.exf5
♘f6 15.♞he1 ♞he8 16.♞f3 ♞d4 17.g4 h6 18.a3 a6
19.♞e3 ♞e7 20.♘b1 ♘d5 21.♘xd5 ♞xd5 22.♞xd5
♞xd5 23.♞de1 f6 24.f4 ♘d7 25.c3 b5 26.♘c2 ♘d6
27.b3 ♞e8 28.♞e4 ♞e7 29.b4 ♞e8 30.c4 bxc4 31.dxc4
♞d4 32.fxe5+ fxe5 33.bxc5+ ♘xc5 34.♞xe5+ ♞xe5
35.♞xe5+ ♘xc4 36.♞e7 c5 37.♞xg7 ♞d3 38.h4 ♞f3
39.♘d2 ♘d4 40.♘e2 ♞xa3 41.f6 ♞a2+ 42.♘f3 ♞a1
43.♘g2 ♞a2+ 44.♘g3 ♞a1 45.g5 hxg5 46.hxg5 ♞f1
47.♞c7 a5 48.f7 a4 49.g6 a3 50.♞a7 ♞f6 51.g7

1-0

While as White, Morozevich frustrates his opponents in that fashion again and again, as Black he tends to overstep the boundaries. His pieces are still bursting with energy but at the same time his whole position is riddled with weaknesses. For a skilled opponent that might be enough to reap the harvest—literally speaking.

Ponomariov,R (2741) - Morozevich,A (2748) [C07]
FIDE GP Tashkent Tashkent UZB (5.4), 27.11.2012
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘d2 c5 4.♘gf3 cxd4 5.♘xd4 ♘c6
6.♗b5 ♗d7 7.♘xc6 bxc6 8.♗d3 ♗d6 9.♞e2 ♞c7
10.♘f3 dxe4 11.♞xe4 ♘f6 12.♞h4 h6 13.0-0 c5
14.♘d2 ♘d5 15.♘c4 ♗f4 16.♞e1 ♞b8 17.♗e4 ♗xc1
18.♞axc1 ♘b6 19.♘e3 0-0 20.b3 f5 21.♗d3 e5 22.f3
♞be8 23.♞cd1 ♘h8 24.c3 ♞f6 25.♗c2 ♗e6 26.♞d2 a5
27.c4 ♘c8



28.♗xf5! ♞xf5 29.♘xf5 ♗xf5 30.♞h5 ♞f8 31.♞d5 ♘h7
32.♞dxe5 ♗g6 33.♞h4 ♞d8 34.♞g3 ♗f7 35.♞f4 ♗g6
36.h4 ♞d4 37.♞f8 ♞d7 38.h5 ♗f7 39.♞xc5 a4 40.♞e7
♘xe7 41.♞xc7 ♞d1+ 42.♘h2

1-0

The second-rated Sergey Karjakin seems to be Morozevich's direct opposite as he is, in fact, everything Moro isn't! Karjakin is spending plenty of time working on his openings, and he has since quite a while turned them into a deadly weapon. Besides, he is solid, patient and ready to compromise when necessary—that's why he almost never loses. And if manages to squeeze his opponent in his vise grip...

Karjakin, Sergey (2775) - Ponomariov, R (2741) [B33]
FIDE GP Tashkent Tashkent UZB (11.4), 04.12.2012



1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 e5
6.♘db5 d6 7.♙g5 a6 8.♘a3 b5 9.♘d5 ♙e7 10.♙xf6
♙xf6 11.c4 b4 12.♘c2 0-0 13.g3 ♙e6 14.♙g2 ♙g5
15.0-0 ♗b8 16.b3 a5



17.f4 ♙d8 18.♔h1 ♖a7 19.♗h5 f6 20.♖ad1 ♘e7
21.♘ce3 ♙b6 22.♘xb6 ♗xb6 23.♖d3 ♗c5 24.♗d1 ♖d8
25.f5 ♙f7 26.g4 a4 27.g5 axb3 28.axb3 ♔f8 29.♗g4
♖da8 30.gxf6 gxf6 31.♗h4 ♘g8 32.♘g4 ♔e7 33.♗xh7
♖a1 34.♘e3 ♔f8 35.♗h4 ♖8a2 36.♗g3 ♗c6 37.h3
♖xf1+ 38.♘xf1 ♖a1 39.♔h2 ♖a2 40.♗e1 ♙h5 41.♘g3
♙e8 42.♗xb4 ♗c5 43.♗e1 ♙c6 44.♘f1 ♘h6 45.♗h4
♘f7 46.♗e1 ♔e7 47.h4 ♘h6 48.♖d2 ♗a5 49.♔h3 ♖a3
50.♗g3 ♘f7 51.♖d3 ♗a8 52.♘e3 ♗h8 53.c5 ♖a2
54.cxd6+ ♘xd6 55.♘d5+ ♙xd5 56.♖xd5 ♗c8 57.b4
♖c2 58.♔h2 ♗c4 59.♖c5 ♗e2 60.♗g8 ♘f7 61.♖xc2
♗xc2 62.♗b8 ♖d2 63.♗a7+ ♔f8 64.♗c5+ ♔g7 65.b5
♘h6 66.♗e7+ ♘f7 67.♗a3 ♘d6 68.b6 ♘xe4 69.♗f3
♘d6 70.b7 ♗b4 71.♗h5 ♘f7 72.♙d5 ♘h8 73.♔h3
♗b1 74.♗g4+ ♔h6 75.♗f3 ♗b6 76.♗b3 ♗f2 77.b8♗
♗xf5+ 78.♔h2

1-0

It took Karjakin but Black's slight inaccuracy on move 13 to produce a novelty at the diagrammed position. The engines actually believe that Black should have taken the pawn, check on "a7" and even had an upper hand in the ensuing complications. Yet White's initiative along the "g-file" looks scary—so Ponomariov chickened out...and never returned to the game after that!

The third co-winner of the tournament was determined in the very last round when Wang Hao beat ever dangerous Shakhriyar Mamedyarov. The Chinese player had been "nothing special" for the first 8 rounds (he beat the struggling Kamsky only to lose in the very next round to the local representative Rustam Kasymzhanov) but literally exploded in the last three when he scored 2,5 points

Wang Hao (2737) - Mamedyarov, S (2764) [D12]
FIDE GP Tashkent Tashkent UZB (11.3), 04.12.2012



1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.e3 ♙f5 5.♘c3 e6 6.♘h4
♙e4 7.f3 ♙g6 8.♗b3 ♗c7 9.♙d2 ♙e7 10.♘xg6 hxg6
11.0-0 ♘bd7 12.cxd5 cxd5 13.♔b1



13...♗b6?! 14.♗a4 a6 15.g4 ♗c6 16.♗xc6 bxc6
17.♘a4 e5 18.♙e2 g5 19.♖c1 ♖h6 20.♖xc6 ♘e4
21.♖xh6 ♘xd2+ 22.♔c2 gxh6 23.♔xd2 exd4 24.exd4
♙d6 25.h4 ♔e7 26.hxg5 ♙f4+ 27.♔c2 ♙xg5 28.b4 a5
29.♙b5 ♘f8 30.♘b6 ♖b8 31.bxa5 ♘e6 32.♔d3 ♔d6
33.a4 ♘f4+ 34.♔c3 ♘e6 35.♔d3 ♘f4+ 36.♔c3 ♘e6
37.♖e1 ♙f6 38.♖xe6+ fxe6 39.a6 ♖h8 40.a7 ♔c7 41.a8
♗ ♖xa8 42.♘xa8+ ♔b7 43.♙d7 e5 44.dxe5 ♙xe5+
45.♔d3 d4 46.a5 ♔xa8 47.a6

1-0

All pictures are credited to the tournament official site gallery <http://tashkent2012.fide.com/en/component/content/article/40-static-content/132-photo-gallery>



Across

British Columbia

Langley Chess Club Championship 2012

Text and picture are sent by Andrew Hoyer

The Langley Chess Club, located in Langley, BC, holds a tournament to determine a Club Champion each year following its annual AGM. The tournament is typically a five-round Swiss tournament played over five weeks, and the 2012 event was the largest in recent history. Sixteen players registered for the Championship tournament this year, many of them regular club members, a few from the local area, and one first-time tournament player.

The question in everyone's mind was: "Could Savvas win the Championship for the fourth straight year?" Savvas Kyriakides is the Langley Chess Club's highest rated player (2024), and winner of the Championship for the past three years. With the addition of a few players, including John Doknjas (2019) and Matthew Herdin (1986), the level of competition was raised, and the overall results were interesting as a result.

The first three rounds of the tournament showed expected results, although there were a few upsets. The fourth round brought together the two top players, Savvas Kyriakides and John Doknjas, for game that would likely decide the Championship.

Kyriakides,Savvas (2024) - Doknjas,John (2019) [A14]

Langley Club Championship 2012 Langley Chess Club
(4), 22.10.2012

1. ♖f3 ♗f6 2.g3 d5 3.c4 e6 4. ♕g2 c5 5.0-0 ♗c6
6. ♖c2 ♗e7 7.d3 0-0 8. ♗f4 d4 9. ♗e5 ♗xe5
10. ♗xe5 ♗d6 11. ♗xd6 ♖xd6 12. ♗d2 ♖b8 13.a3
b6 14. ♖a4 ♖c7 15.b4 ♗d7 16. ♖c2 ♗c6 17. ♗xc6
♖xc6 18. ♖fb1 e5 19.bxc5 bxc5 20. ♖xb8 ♖xb8
21. ♖b1 ♖xb1+ 22. ♖xb1 ♖b6 23. ♖b5 ♖xb5
24.cxb5 ♗d5 25. ♗c4 ♗c3 26. ♗xe5 ♗xe2+ 27. ♗
f1 ♗c3 28.a4 ♗xa4 29. ♗c6 ♗f8 30. ♗xa7 ♗e7
31. ♗c6+ ♗d6 32. ♗a5 f6 33. ♗c4+ ♗c7 34.h4
♗c3 35.b6+ ♗c6 36.b7 ♗xb7 37. ♗d6+ ♗c6
38. ♗e8 c4 39.dxc4 ♗c5 40. ♗xg7 ♗xc4 41. ♗h5

Canada



d3 42. ♗e1 ♗e4 43.f3 ♗c3 44.fxe4 ♗c2 45. ♗xf6
d2+
0-1

After winning the game against Savvas, John went on to win the tournament with a perfect 5.0/5.0 score.



Congratulations to **John Doknjas**,

the 2012 Langley Chess Club Champion! We look forward to having you come back again in 2013 to defend your title!

For more information on the Langley Chess Club and its tournament schedule, please visit

langleychess.com

Alberta

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

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

Hambleton, Aman (2348) - Porper, Edward (2413) [A84]

Edmonton Fall Sectional -2012 (1), 26.10.2012
[Porper]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 e6 4.e3 f5 5.g4

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

5...♗f6 6.gxf5 exf5 7.♖b3 dxc4 8.♙xc4 ♖e7?!

Objectively not a good move, of course, but I decided to be creative 8...♙d6 is normal and provides Black with an easy game

9.♗ge2

9.a4 might be interesting 9...♗bd7 10.a5 ♖b4 11.♖a2

9...b5 10.♙d3 ♙e6 11.♖c2 g6 12.♗f4 ♙f7

That's where the ♙ belongs

13.♙d2

and there is absolutely nothing for White after 13.♗xb5 cxb5 14.♖c8+ ♖d8 15.♙xb5+ ♗bd7

13...♙h6

My instincts were shouting for 13...♙g7 but I was being lazy to calculate to make sure 14.♗xb5 cxb5 15.♖c8+ ♖d8 16.♙xb5+ ♗bd7 17.♖c5 ♖e7 was favouring Black as heavily as on the previous move. Curiously, the engine prefers the text – because of 14 h4!

14.0-0-0 0-0 15.♗b1 ♗a6 16.♗ce2 ♖ac8 17.♖hg1 ♗h8

17...♙g7 18.♗g3 would be unpleasant

18.♖c1 ♖d7

Providing for ...c5. The computer-generated 18...♖b7 with the same idea seemed to me less natural

19.♗g3

19.♖c3 ♙g7 20.♖a5 is the substantiation support the engine's train of thought. I would like to see a human reasoning in a similar way!

19...♗d5 20.♗xd5 ♙xd5 21.h4?!

Braving it while it could be wiser to go on the defensive by moves like 21.b3 or 21.♗a1



21...♖e6

Sticking to the safe side. Yet after 21...c5 22.dxc5 ♖xc5 23.♙c3+ ♙g7 24.♖d2 ♖xc3! 25.♖xc3 ♖d8 Black's advantage could have become significant.

22.b3 c5 23.e4

Almost forced. After 23.dxc5 ♖xc5 24.♙c3+ ♖xc3! a recurrent motive 25.♖xc3+ ♙g7 the "living hell" on "g7" just can't be tolerated!

23...fxe4 24.♙xh6 exd3 25.♖xd3 ♖f3 26.♖e2

26.♙c3?? ♖xg3!-+

26...♖xe2 27.♗xe2

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

27...♙e4+

an immediate 27...♖xf2 is probably better 28.♗c3 ♙e6 29.dxc5 ♗b4

28.♗a1 ♖xf2 29.♗c3

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

29...♙d3 30.dxc5 ♗b4 31.♙e3



31...♖c2?

I just wasn't comfortable with 31...♗c2+ 32.♖xc2 ♖xc2 33.♗d5 yet Black is probably winning after 33...♖e2

32.a3 ♖xc1+ 33.♙xc1 ♗c2+ 34.♗b2 b4 35.axb4 ♗xb4

36.♙e3 ♘f5 37.♘a4 ♖e8 38.♙d4+ ♗g8 39.♗c3 a5
40.♖g2 ♖e4 41.♖h2 h5

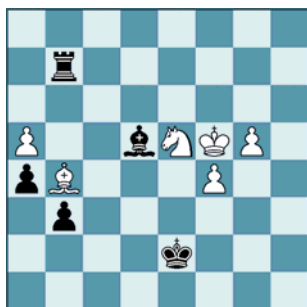
Once again a solid move instead of a good one! After 41...♘d5+ 42.♗c4 ♙e6 43.♘b6! ♘b4+ (not falling into a neat trap 43...♘xb6+ 44.♗d3 ♙f5 45.cxb6 ♖xh4+ 46.♗c4 ♖xh2 47.b7) 44.♗c3 ♘c6 45.♙g1 ♖b4 Black gradually comes on top

42.♘b6 ♗f7 43.♙f2 ♖e2 44.♘c4 ♗e6 45.♘xa5 ♘d5+
46.♗c4 ♘e3+ 47.♙xe3 ♖xh2 48.♙g5 ♖g2 49.♘c6 ♙e4

Attributing too much significance to the pawns. According to the machine, Black is simply winning after 49...♖g4+ 50.♘d4+ (50.♗b5 ♖xg5 51.hxg5 ♙e4) 50...♗e5 51.♙e3 ♖xh4

50.♘d4+ ♗d7 51.b4?

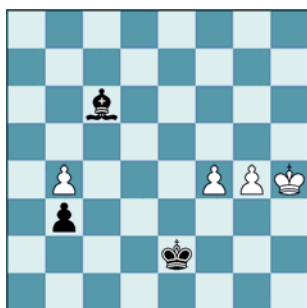
51.♙f6 was an absolute must but now Aman went astray



51...♖xg5

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

52.hxg5 h4 53.♘e2 h3 54.♘g3 h2 55.b5 h1♖ 56.♘xh1
♙xh1 57.♗b4 ♙f3 58.♗a5



58...♗c7??

An inch away from a weighty point! A very basic outflanking 58...♗c6 59.♗b6 ♘d5 60.c6 ♘d6 61.♗b7 ♘c5 62.♗a6 ♙xc6 would have forced an immediate resignation.

59.♗a6 ♙e2 60.♗a5 ♙f1 61.♗a6 ♙e2

Alas! Calculation was my undoing in this game...

½-½

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

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

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

The last round of Section C featured two leaders, Arnold McKay and Robert Davies, facing each other. The game was drawn, which meant a tie for the first place between the two of them. Both winners scored 3.5/5, and third went to Brian Phillips with 3/5.

Section D was also decided in the last-round battle between the top two finishers. Vladimir Blyznyuk was leading with 3.5 points but couldn't hold a draw against Armine Arzumanyan, and a newcomer to the Edmonton chess scene leapfrogged him scoring 4/5 and claiming the first prize. Prayus Shrestha finished third with 3/5.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Edmonton Chess Club for organizing the tournament and I certainly hope that the Fall Sectional becomes a traditional competition in October.



Aman Hambleton managed to keep his scalp intact!

The report is written by Vladimir Pechenkin
The picture is credited to Vlad Rekhson.

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

Round 1 Summary

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

Round 2 Summary

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

Round 3 Summary

With the top players drawing their games, and a couple taking a bye, no one had a perfect score, 6 people now had 2.5 points.

Round 4 Summary

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

Round 5 Summary

The final round resulted in 4 players tying for 1st place with 4.0 points. By virtue of a better tie-break, Vladislav Rekhson qualified for the 2013 AB Closed. Gary Ng, Brandon Eshleman and Dale Haessel followed suit with 4/5, each of the four winning 87.50

The head arbiter and author of this report Frank Kluytmans thanks all the participants.

Ontario

Back from the West, Aman Hambleton returned to his winning ways by sweeping the field at the **2012 Ottawa Winter Open**. The list of Aman's victims includes the current Canadian Champion Bator Sambuev who came second with 4/5. Mihnea Voloaca, John Upper and Robert Gelblum tied for 3d with 3/5. Adam Adriaanse won the **U-1900** section with 4,5/5, a whole point ahead of Ryan Yang and Herb Langer. Srikanth Rapaka enjoyed a similar advantage in the **U-1600** section. His 4,5/5 saw him a full point ahead of Curtis Barlow-Wilkes, while Keven Eyre, Shreyas Sreeraman and Terrence Ju tied for 3d with 3/5.

Prince Edward Island

Ali Faramarzi edged the rating-favourite Fred McKim to win UPEI Dec Quick Tnmt. Ali scored 4/5, while Fred managed only 3/5. Gordon L. Waddell came 3d with 2/5.

Coming Events

2013 GTCL League (Toronto Premier League)

Four-on-four matches for Toronto chess teams.

Format: Round Robin tournament for 4-player teams, team board decided by the team captain.

Dates: Tuesdays, starting from January 8, 2013 - as long as necessary.

Location: all matches at Willowdale Chess Club, 4169 Bathurst, Toronto.

Arbiter: Fred Kormendi

Organizer: Vladimir Birarov

Time Control: game in 60 minutes, with 30-second increment from move 1.

Registration: By email to vldy0101@yahoo.com; teams of 4 players and unlimited number of reserves, should be registered by December 31, 2012.

Entry Fee: FREE

Prizes: trophies for winning team (to be provided by GTCL)

CFC-Rated: To be rated with the CFC. CFC Membership Required (GTCL to cover rating fees).

**Register your tournament
on the CFC website
Its FREE!
Go to
www.chess.ca/tournaments.htm
to submit your event**

Attention CFC Members!
Notify the CFC if you have changed your email address!
Send your new address to
info@chess.ca

Top Fide				Top Canadian			
#	Name	Prov	Rtg	#	Name	Prov	Rtg
1	Kovalyov, Anton	QC	2593	1	Sambuev, Bator	QC	2694
2	Bluvshstein, Mark	ON	2590	2	Kovalyov, Anton	QC	2638
3	Spraggett, Kevin	ON	2579	3	Noritsyn, Nikolay	ON	2605
4	Le Siege, Alexandre	QC	2528	4	Hansen, Eric	AB	2588
5	Hansen, Eric	AB	2527	5	Krnan, Tomas	ON	2576
6	Sambuev, Bator	QC	2524	6	Gerzhoy, Leonid	ON	2571
7	Charbonneau, Pascal	QC	2517	7	Samsonkin, Artiom	ON	2547
8	Castellanos, Renier	QC	2500	8	Hambleton, Aman	ON	2521
9	Tyomkin, Dimitry	ON	2486	9	Panjwani, Raja	ON	2517
10	Roussel-Roozmon, Thomas	QC	2476	10	Thavandiran, Shiyam	ON	2514
11	Noritsyn, Nikolay	ON	2470	11	Castellanos, Renier	QC	2501
12	Gerzhoy, Leonid	ON	2469	12	Cheng, Bindi	BC	2483
13	Zugic, Igor	ON	2462	13	Porper, Edward	AB	2475
14	Biyiasis, Peter	BC	2450	14	Hebert, Jean	QC	2464
15	Teplitsky, Yan	ON	2448	15	Wang, Richard	AB	2450
16	Quan, Zhe	ON	2431	16	Qin, Zi Yi (Joey)	ON	2449
17	Rabinovich, Alex	ON	2423	17	Cummings, David	ON	2443
18	Suttles, Duncan	BC	2420	18	Sapozhnikov, Roman	ON	2440
19	Krnan, Tomas	ON	2420	19	Hartman, Brian	ON	2438
20	Pelts, Roman	ON	2417	20	Pechenkin, Vladimir	AB	2438
21	Porper, Edward	AB	2413	21	O'Donnell, Tom	ON	2434
22	Adam, Dr. Valerian	BC	2407	22	Calugar, Arthur	ON	2429
23	Kriventsov, Stanislav	BC	2406	23	Jiang, Louie	QC	2408
24	Panjwani, Raja	ON	2402	24	Piaseski, Leon	BC	2405
25	Cheng, Bindi	BC	2399	25	Martchenko, Alexander	ON	2400
26	Samsonkin, Artiom	ON	2397	26	Szalay, Karoly	ON	2392
27	Hebert, Jean	QC	2395	27	Milicevic, Goran	ON	2390
28	Hergott, Deen	ON	2385	28	Sasata, Robert	SK	2385
29	Hartman, Brian	ON	2374	29	Yam, Alex	AB	2380
30	Lawson, Eric	QC	2373	30	Kleinman, Michael	ON	2378
31	Wang, Richard	AB	2356	31	Gardner, Robert J.	AB	2366
32	Amos, Bruce	ON	2355	32	Hamilton, Robert	ON	2360
33	O'Donnell, Tom	ON	2350	33	Yoos, John C. (Jack)	BC	2360
34	Glinert, Stephen	ON	2349	34	Vincent, Trevor	MB	2353
35	Hambleton, Aman	ON	2348	35	Kraiouchkine, Nikita	QC	2348
36	Tayar, Jonathan	ON	2344	36	Stevens, Christian	ON	2348
37	Pechenkin, Vladimir	AB	2340	37	Song, Michael	ON	2341
38	Yoos, John C. (Jack)	BC	2340	38	Yuan, Yuanling	ON	2336
39	Thavandiran, Shiyam	ON	2338	39	Plotkin, Victor	ON	2336
40	Livshits, Ron	ON	2336	40	Voloaca, Mihnea	QC	2327
41	Doroshenko, Maxim	BC	2336	41	Peredun, Andrew	ON	2323
42	Sapozhnikov, Roman	ON	2334	42	Lee Jr., Vicente	BC	2321
43	Jiang, Louie	QC	2329	43	MacKinnon, Keith	SK	2320
44	Cummings, David	ON	2327	44	Fuentebella, Mayo	BC	2318
45	Coudari, Camille	QC	2325	45	Gansvind, Valeria	BC	2309
46	Stone, Raymond	ON	2321	46	Gusev, Nikita	ON	2309
47	Vranesic, Zvonko	ON	2320	47	Preotu, Razvan	ON	2307
48	Kleinman, Michael	ON	2307	48	Ochkoos, Jura	ON	2306
49	Jurasek, Miroslav	ON	2306	49	Villavieja, Butch	BC	2304
50	Calugar, Arthur	ON	2299	50	Valencia, Belsar	AB	2301

Top Women

#	Name	Prov	Rtg
1	Yuan, Yuanling	ON	2336
2	Gansvind, Valeria	BC	2309
3	Khoudgarian, Natalia	ON	2284
4	Peng, Jackie	ON	2236
5	Agbabishvili, Lali	ON	2108
6	Du, Jasmine	NS	2084
7	Belc, Daniela	ON	2054
8	Botez, Alexandra	BC	2038
9	Roy, Myriam	QC	2024
10	Zhou, Qiyu	ON	2019
11	Lacau-Rodean, Iulia	ON	2014
12	Kalaydina, Regina-Veronicka	AB	1962
13	Xiao, Alice Huanyi	BC	1890
14	Serbanescu, Natasa	ON	1845
15	Liu, Jiaxin	ON	1808
16	Foote, Joanne	BC	1725
17	Todd, Adie	AB	1723
18	Renteria, Manuela	ON	1682
19	Giblon, Rebecca	ON	1662
20	Sametova, Zhanna	ON	1644

Top Under-20

#	Name	Age	Prov	Rtg
1	Kovalyov, Anton	20	QC	2638
2	Hansen, Eric	20	AB	2588
3	Hambleton, Aman	20	ON	2521
4	Thavandiran, Shiyam	20	ON	2514
5	Jiang, Louie	19	QC	2408
6	Martchenko, Alexander	19	ON	2400
7	Szalay, Karoly	19	ON	2392
8	MacKinnon, Keith	19	SK	2320
9	Chung, Kevin	20	ON	2286
10	Laceste, Loren Brigham	19	BC	2280

Top Under-18

#	Name	Age	Prov	Rtg
1	Sapozhnikov, Roman	18	ON	2440
2	Calugar, Arthur	18	ON	2429
3	Kleinman, Michael	18	ON	2378
4	Kraiouchkine, Nikita	17	QC	2348
5	Yuan, Yuanling	18	ON	2336
6	Gusev, Nikita	17	ON	2309
7	Zhang, David	17	AB	2283
8	Ivanov, Mike	17	ON	2270
9	Marinkovic, Mate	17	ON	2238
10	Cheng, Jack (Kun)	17	BC	2206

Top Under-16

#	Name	Age	Prov	Rtg
1	Qin, Zi Yi (Joey)	16	ON	2449
2	Knox, Christopher	15	ON	2276
3	Li, Kevin	15	MB	2227
4	Semianiuk, Konstantin	16	ON	2219
5	Lo, Ryan	15	BC	2217
6	Sohal, Tanraj S.	16	BC	2192
7	Florea, Alexandru	16	ON	2179
8	Itkin, David	16	ON	2146
9	Fu, James	15	ON	2127
10	Wu, Ruining (Ray)	15	BC	2042

Top Under-14

#	Name	Age	Prov	Rtg
1	Wang, Richard	14	AB	2450
2	Song, Michael	13	ON	2341
3	Preotu, Razvan	13	ON	2307
4	Awatramani, Janak	13	BC	2240
5	Peng, Jackie	14	ON	2236
6	Lin, Tony (Juntao)	14	ON	2165
7	Dorrance, Adam	14	NS	2159
8	Plotkin, Mark	14	ON	2097
9	Kong, Dezheng	13	BC	2090
10	Li, Yinshi	13	ON	2084

Top Under-12

#	Name	Age	Prov	Rtg
1	Cao, Jason	12	BC	2212
2	Bellissimo, Joseph	12	ON	2107
3	Zhang, Yuanchen	11	ON	2077
4	Zhou, Qiyu	12	ON	2019
5	Wan, Kevin	11	ON	1996
6	Song, Sam	12	NB	1963
7	Xu, Jeffrey	11	ON	1944
8	Kassam, Jamil F.	12	AB	1901
9	Zotkin, Daniel	11	ON	1865
10	Liu, Jiaxin	11	ON	1808

Top Under-10

1	Zhao, Yuetong (Davy)	10	ON	1966
2	Noritsyn, Sergey	9	ON	1936
3	Doknjas, Joshua	10	BC	1841
4	Ming, Wenyang	9	ON	1700
5	Wolchock, Theo	10	MB	1688
6	Su, Michael	10	BC	1682
7	Yie, Kevin Yi-Xiao	10	ON	1633
8	Pulfer, Luke	9	BC	1619
9	Yao, David	10	AB	1570
10	Guo, Thomas	9	ON	1478

151621	Du, Daniel	878	892	151629	Low, Ethan	831	843	154142	Wang, Jackie	432	11
148849	Edgar, Garth	xxxx	24	151636	Low, Kevin	941	941	151764	Wang, Leroy	867	885
154399	Eirew, Milo	571	7	154136	Luan, Zhen Shu	1050	12	153390	Wang, Tim	768	7
148781	Eirew, Pepi	941	941	151917	Luo, Roger	xxxx	23	152091	Wu, Brenden	933	933
122461	Enns, Edward	1110	1472	150798	Luttin, Shaun	xxxx	16	105433	Wu, Howard	2259	2264
145706	Erichsen, Dan	2103	2110	152471	Ma, Lan	1738	10	154394	Wu, James	626	7
137035	Escandor, Manuel Omana	1641	1824	101642	MacDonell, Paul	1501	1573	150768	Wu, Ruining (Ray)	2042	2042
154139	Fan, Elaine	251	5	152687	Madokoro, Aidan	930	14	153391	Wu, Norman	838	4
104431	Fodor, John	1925	2093	152098	Mann, Kabir	359	359	148766	Xiao, Alice Huanyi	1890	1890
143555	Foote, Joanne	1725	1725	120558	McKim, Chris	1677	1677	132997	Xie, Frank	xxxx	6
151971	Forde, Stephen	1805	11	100088	McLaren, Brian	2174	2300	147339	Xu, Jingzhi (Edwin)	1274	1373
123040	Forman, Ken	xxxx	1836	152692	Menbari, Hiva	xxxx	24	154160	Xun, Tony	796	10
150623	Fox, Dylan	602	602	151691	Mendoza, Paul	995	10	101701	Yee, Peter	1666	2023
146036	Friesen, Yascha	1789	1789	154387	Millar, Sophia	636	7	138549	Yonkman, Trevor	1433	1481
152941	Ganea, Mihai	1633	1633	148456	Milonas, Nikolas	1329	1329	107994	Yoos, John C. (Jack)	2360	2483
144102	Gaudreau, Sylvain	1693	1717	154470	Mitchell, Kenneth	xxxx	5	154132	Yoshino, Alexander	628	10
149515	Ge, Alex	1026	1026	104818	Molden, Leonard	1953	2100	130361	Yousefzadeh, Mehrdad	1943	2048
153166	Gedajlovic, Max	1782	1818	101144	Moore, Harry	xxxx	2365	150248	Yu, Rinna	1192	1192
150799	Geng, Li	1433	1433	134335	Mousavi, Payam	1662	1742	150227	Yu, Robin	1509	1527
147851	Geng, Matthew	1297	1297	153680	Murray, Sarah	652	13	151933	Zeng, Paul	842	19
147673	Geng, Tian Tian	xxxx	1548	154158	Narusis, Nathan	884	6	154424	Zhang, Clark	1013	7
108706	Gibbs, Richard	1692	1720	152273	Nolt, Nicholas	894	24	154141	Zhang, Arthur	612	10
126640	Gjorgjevik, Kristijan	xxxx	1555	106910	North, Robert	1910	2188	154152	Zhang, Yutong	1536	12
153173	Goldblatt, Taylor	595	12	154379	Nylen, Drew	689	6	152237	Zhao, Cindy Ziyi	753	753
137749	Goodman, Kevin	xxxx	2029	153849	Oesel, Kunga	xxxx	5	150532	Zheng, Victor	836	846
153841	Griffin, Simon	1422	6	153170	Olechko, Nikita	905	12	140424	Zheng, Kyle	1333	1349
153850	Grover, Arpan	xxxx	14	153163	Orsetti, Trevan	1169	18	154392	Zheng, Tim	1431	7
153739	Haines, Duncan	1496	15	143389	Ozkan, Charlie	2041	2041	149220	Zheng, Maven	984	984
108361	Hamm, Robert	1588	1721	153383	Pan, Nicholas	633	11	153140	Zhou, Aiden	768	768
142320	Han, YiFei	2129	2173	103043	Patterson, Roger	2127	2305	154369	Zhou, Winston	672	9
147578	Han, Lionel	1630	1643	128609	Paulson, Stewart	1429	1667	150552	Zhou, Annika	988	1003
142321	Han, Yiming	1926	1999	104330	Pechisker, Alfred	2242	2294	154368	Zhou, Alison	432	9
153851	Hannan, Kelsey	1670	13	153162	Pennington, Peter	1229	17	154138	Zhou, Felix	861	17
102670	Hanrahan, Nigel	xxxx	1835	133193	Peters, Nicholas	1376	1376				
112311	Harris, Philip	1760	2105	101297	Piasetski, Leon	2405	2487				
108381	Harris, John	xxxx	1709	151623	Pulfer, Rachel	xxxx	791	CFC#	Name	Rtng	High
112513	Haukenfrers, Dale	1999	2216	153854	Pulfer, Robert	977	11	150773	Afolabi, Damola	1500	1545
151972	Hayer, Gopal Singh	1487	1487	149297	Pulfer, Luke	1619	1667	107743	Avena, Danilo	1759	1794
153004	He, Roy	1031	1031	151941	Pulfer, Ben	580	580	102141	Babb, Jeff	2209	2257
143881	Herdin, Matthew	1986	1986	143523	Pyryaev, Konstantin	1637	23	102014	Baragar, Fletcher	2278	2382
149229	Hou, Frank	1234	1240	152399	Qu, Leo	867	867	152320	Baron, Cody	1778	1778
146635	Hoyer, Andrew	1600	1600	109957	Radic, Dejan	1814	1814	108289	Bince, Rolando	2026	2160
149169	Hu, Kevin	xxxx	1192	151924	Rahemulla, Adam	1433	1433	101126	Boron, Anthony	2000	2091
152240	Huang, Patrick	891	891	154155	Ramesh, Jothi	xxxx	6	146063	Campbell, Gary	1720	1735
145233	Hui, Jeremy	1936	1936	145899	Rathburn, Hector	1650	1689	124453	Campbell, Jamie	1704	1704
153852	James, Rowan	1006	1006	127485	Raymer, Elliot	2023	2023	111659	Cleto, Sam	1839	1992
152395	Javid, Mavaddat	1792	1860	152090	Ren, Jared	507	14	111091	Currie, James	1999	2026
150387	Jayaweera, Lahiru	1281	1281	154137	Reny, Alex	940	17	106887	Czarny, Keith	1658	1739
141224	Jensen, Jacob	xxxx	1680	111115	Richardson, Ross	1836	2078	137876	de Groot, Steven	1987	1987
137587	Jessa, Omar	1760	1859	152020	Richardson, Kai	xxxx	1605	154490	Dykman, Tony	1213	4
143713	Ji, Yu (Henry)	1787	1787	152939	Richardson, Scott	647	12	106554	Einarsson, Ken	1717	1819
154393	Jiang, David	486	6	153231	Ritchie, Charlie	1611	17	105641	Gannon, Keith	1638	1725
154135	Jiang, Jerry	555	11	143038	Roback, Joe	1801	1921	112445	Gentes, Kevin	2263	2395
123082	Jiganchine, Roman	2217	2255	154140	Rondinone, Deneb	727	5	142429	Green, Aaron	2005	2021
154146	Jin, Eric	743	12	153691	Rostainjad, Tariq	xxxx	4	105246	Green, Jim	1714	1851
143506	Karavai, Algerd	1173	1296	152476	Rotariu, Constantin	1735	1778	112606	Hemphill, Jim	1729	1729
153139	Katz, Matthew	683	17	153927	Ruan, Coco	548	20	153219	Huston-Earle, Joshua	1352	3
110204	Kenney, Jason	2260	2260	154133	Saini, Sankaip	562	3	149935	Iomdina, Alex	1457	1471
126000	Kikstra, Henk	1511	1614	152790	Saremi, Yekta	1381	1381	153597	Iyer, Chandrashekar	2096	6
147246	Knox, Nathaniel	1358	1377	111472	Schwarz, Heiner	1558	1800	112549	Kaptsan, Aron	2077	2300
146641	Kong, Dezheng	2090	2124	153169	Seyfi, Agata	683	17	101127	Kernetsky, Myron	2068	2079
106565	Kosinski, George	1840	2011	148208	Shao, Nathan	1439	1439	131214	Kwiatk, Jordan	xxxx	1988
154134	Ksinan, Nicholas	738	4	146600	Skala, Gregory	718	4	106957	Le Dorze, Phil	1703	1703
154148	Ksinan, Alexander	549	4	154398	Smith, Alex	502	7	152654	Leaden, Bruce	1595	1595
154143	Ksinan, Matteo	480	4	154157	Smith, Don	798	4	145127	Letain, Cory	1583	1649
137615	Kyriakides, Savvas	2024	2111	135830	Sohal, Tanraj S.	2192	2214	152422	Li, Kevin	2227	2238
150823	Lacoste, Loren Brigham	2280	2280	144472	Soliven, Joe	2001	2156	105377	Lipnowski, Samuel	2222	2294
144566	Lai, Jingzhou (Peter)	2029	2029	124063	Stainer, Joel	1532	1656	149822	Ma, Derek	1738	24
141991	Landingin, Jofrel	1881	1969	144558	Steinmetz, Fred	1418	1419	125303	Magnusson, Saul	1869	1869
141992	Landingin, Primero	1821	23	134340	Stephenson, Chris	xxxx	22	154319	Mascarin, Shannon	1279	2
120304	Lane, Travis	xxxx	2037	142413	Stewart, Deron	1707	1715	136900	Melamedoff, Gustavo	2083	2141
102089	Lapi, Louis	1496	1642	154380	Stoilova, Olivija	779	9	123323	Milward, Dave	1704	1797
133205	Lathwell, Jordan	xxxx	746	147629	Straka, Petr	1324	1453	153217	Moleta, Johan Kenneth	1928	10
104186	Leblanc, Paul	1819	2136	149622	Su, Michael	1682	1682	152424	Moncal, Danilo	2125	2166
129739	Lee, Daniel	xxxx	1226	103750	Sullivan, Brian	1670	1866	153840	Morris-Damian, Ty	1240	4
149900	Lee, Andrew Quinton	1866	1866	150517	Sun, Ziyao	1354	1354	103336	Mundwiler, Les	2054	2100
100313	Lee, Mau-Seng	1758	2100	154144	Tam, Jesse	532	3	112475	Nikouline, Alexandre	2050	2149
139333	Lee Jr., Vicente	2321	2369	154397	Tang, Qiwen	680	12	140818	Obertone, Daniel	xxxx	2039
103595	Lefkowitz, Phil	1762	1800	150538	Tapp, Ashley	1345	1355	108926	Ott, Richard	xxxx	1728
151923	Lei, Kevin	880	880	105952	Tate, Bill	1593	2002	154308	Palanichamy, Anandakumar	1252	3
150533	Leong, Ryan	592	592	100325	Taylor, James	1351	1800	143100	Pang, Michael	1945	1945
154419	Li, Kevin	725	7	147575	Taylor, Ashton	826	857	152986	Platt, Alex	1829	9
151615	Li, James	936	936	146358	Taylor, Tristan	1266	1266	124202	Pottinger, Carl	1816	1920
153382	Liang, Albert	688	11	140212	Thompson, Peter	1795	1865	131407	Reimer, Bruce	1568	1672
153738	Lin, Alex Y.	1603	1603	154400	Thomson, Noah	622	7	104699	Remillard, John	1770	1770
150317	Liu, Danny	1028	1028	153387	Tjia-Gan, Nicholas	783	11	109227	Repa, Jason	2148	2148
154367	Liu, Richard	472	9	152137	Toi, Andrew	1544	1544	132113	Rutter, Blair	1838	1958
154145	Liu, Lucas	552	4	143763	Trochtchanovitch, Pavel	1919	2100	153379	Samson, Larry	1555	12
145788	Lo, Ryan	2217	2217	101209	Trotter, Don	xxxx	1768	106687	Schulz, Waldemar	2009	2132
110351	Long, Hugh	1739	1955	150719	Van Duynhoven, Michael	1066	18	154467	Sharma, Gautam	1358	4
154159	Lormetti, Vincent	849	6	149108	Venables, Darren	1396	1396	143093	Swift, Ryne	1879	1924
153353	Lornie, Alex	1646	15	151916	Villavieja, Butch	2304	2350	109419	Towns, Barry	1694	1766
153853	Los, Zdenek	1051	11	153389	Wan, Justin	662	21	103193	Trueman, Francis	1491	1566

Table with chess player names and ratings (e.g., Valentino, Marcos; Villeneuve, Gabrielle).

New Brunswick

New Brunswick section with columns for CFC#, Name, RtnG, and High (e.g., Bai, Yang; Balabhaskaran, Vishnu).

Ontario

Ontario section with columns for CFC#, Name, RtnG, and High (e.g., Abbarin, Shabnam; Ab-barin, Hooshang).

Newfoundland

Newfoundland section with columns for CFC#, Name, RtnG, and High (e.g., Bradbury, Dennis; Butt, Kasey).

Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia section with columns for CFC#, Name, RtnG, and High (e.g., Arsenault, Yves; Boyle, Philip).

153213	Carriere, Alexia	481	15	149761	Dawson, Mitchell	1468	1468	138594	Florea, Alexandru	2179	2179
150390	Carroll, Billy	1224	1429	153783	De Giovanni, Tyler	1065	2	151664	Floriano Willick, Wesley	1056	8
153950	Carss, Scott	1125	5	102011	De Kerpel, Stijn	2120	2245	154127	Forgette, Jake	490	6
151524	Carter, Riley	837	837	147936	DeForest, David	1352	1406	147929	Forshaw, Erica	1254	1254
146639	Casareno, Erwin	2110	2264	154237	DeKoe, Tristen	769	6	125485	Forsyth, Barry	1602	1681
151027	Casey, Christopher	884	18	147289	Del Duca, Giuseppe	1270	1423	128427	Forsyth, Garrett	1948	1948
153666	Cassels, Marshall	837	5	103023	Deline, Ralph	1770	2089	150570	Fotic, Bodizar	xxxx	1687
129405	Catona, Stefan	1153	1180	153939	Dell'Ambrogio, Edy	xxxx	5	108748	Fournier, Ron	2164	2172
154415	Cayaban, Aaron	xxxx	7	154036	Del-Pivo, Darren	857	6	146307	France, Kyle	1478	1577
154414	Cayaban, Erik	1091	7	109477	Denmery, Steve	2143	2242	106109	Franke, Raymond	1522	1775
148473	Cayouette, Maxime	706	22	150003	Denbok, Daniel	1343	22	145458	Fraser, Kyle	1027	1027
120758	Cejvan, Sadik	xxxx	1296	149411	Deng, Yi	1132	1132	126498	Friedman, Alexander	1945	2125
154087	Chabot, Marc-Andre	829	6	154101	Denomme, Philippe	831	6	102447	Frilles, Ruperto	2034	2302
152617	Chachcha, Vivek	1166	14	154092	Depeltau, Marianne	869	6	145427	Fritzsche, Helmut	2008	2060
145594	Chan, Edward	1734	1734	149021	Deras, Alfredo	1540	1577	146319	Fritzsche, Philipp	1202	1253
153287	Chan, Florence	1139	5	132393	Derraugh, Geordie	2235	2250	147873	Fu, James	2127	2178
149364	Chan, Bill	1027	10	154110	Desilets, Daphnie	667	6	152981	Furman, Eugene S.	1915	13
154008	Chaput, Bradley	652	6	126960	Desjardin, Michel	1323	14	152762	Gabert, Luke	621	10
152582	Chaput, Chelsea	717	12	154109	Desjardins, Jonathan	680	6	102701	Gaffney, Kevin	1594	1685
150814	Charbonneau, Christian	xxxx	6	153947	Desouza, Jordan	786	6	141552	Gagne, Cory	945	1129
153981	Charbonneau, Brayden	606	5	154122	Despres, Lucas	664	6	152551	Gagne, Zacharie	1139	12
141911	Charette, Romain	1267	8	147637	Desrochers, Charlie	861	861	141545	Gagne, Eric	1172	1217
154007	Charette, Patricia	703	6	148430	Dhaliwal, Jatinder	xxxx	1461	142359	Gagnon, Justin	1809	1824
148271	Chen, Richard	1766	1880	154247	Di Pietro, Luke	1029	6	153945	Gainey, Abdul Rahman	1186	11
151444	Chen, Tony	1211	1268	153538	Diemer, Ulli	1619	1619	153838	Gaisinsky, Adam	xxxx	19
149895	Chen, George	1291	1297	149490	Ding, Jack	1822	1822	152614	Gao, Michael	970	15
148950	Chen, Simon	1093	11	154119	Dissanayake, Eric	610	6	106367	Garcia, Lawrence	1437	1503
152616	Chen, Mandar	1025	8	143574	Donev, Danail	2070	2102	104173	Gareau, Don	1791	1838
153902	Chen, John	1402	4	153904	Dong, Sinclair	1084	4	151001	Gareau, Mathieu	927	18
153975	Chen, Daniel	599	4	146023	Dorrance, Bradley	1179	1179	105218	Garel, Richard	1777	2049
154240	Cheng, Victor	955	6	103754	Doubleday, William G.	2013	2250	149320	Gariaev, Gleb	xxxx	1319
147784	Cheong, David	917	14	153105	Doucet, Nicholas	655	21	112426	Gashgarian, Rob	1863	2061
149932	Chernik, Dmitry	1969	2049	100294	Dougherty, Michael	2275	2404	154044	Gaudette, Samuel	854	6
152233	Chertkow, Sasha	826	836	101619	Dougherty, Douglas	1739	2100	150992	Gaudreault, Angelina	490	490
152227	Chertkow, Matthew	895	895	112688	Dowling, Bruce	1731	1852	146177	Gaudreault, Gaetan	1068	1068
151207	Cheung, Lukas	1469	1469	152998	Downie, Peter	1160	20	137273	Gauer, Kai	1213	1357
154235	Cheung, Ocean	1090	4	125528	Dragasanu, George	1616	1815	144587	Gauthier-LeCoz, Loic	1124	1124
153982	Cheung, Damien	1080	5	102868	Drkulic, Vladimir	2041	2236	131241	Geaman, Horia	2109	2109
149332	Cheung, Quentin	702	9	153890	D'Souza, Justin Quinn	1517	14	153893	Geetan, Aaron	1035	4
143649	Cheung, Darren	1218	1218	152756	Dubeau, Ethan	793	9	104272	Gelblum, Robert	2236	2256
151748	Cheung, Benedict	1193	22	149971	Duggal, Miles	1231	9	123384	Geley, Shawn	xxxx	1704
108085	Chidley-Hill, John W	1858	2002	154076	Duhaime, Yannick	1000	6	154051	Genesse, Corey	757	6
153114	Chinnick, Colin	1356	3	149507	Dukic, Zachary	1915	1947	151099	George, Selina	719	12
145307	Chow, Ian	887	962	103373	Dumontelle, Joe	1731	1993	147006	Georgiev, Anton	xxxx	1774
153283	Chow, Alex	928	7	153788	Duncan, Sebastian	1730	4	142916	Gerzhoy, Leonid	2571	2647
147910	Chuchin, Sasha	1806	1849	150559	Dunk, Russell	1311	15	149177	Ghiacy, Jelani	xxxx	18
136657	Clark, Robert	1698	1812	154102	Dunlop, Caleb	700	6	153983	Ghods, Soroush	xxxx	19
106389	Clarke, Brian	1653	1829	146453	Dunne, Francesco	1846	1888	142624	Giblon, Melissa	1462	1528
137007	Cliff, Scott	1983	2071	142054	Dunne IV, James	1205	11	141076	Giblon, Rebecca	1662	1670
154111	Cloutier, Marie-Eve	387	6	144921	Dupuis, Jared	972	1046	148421	Giblon, Andrew	1414	1480
153095	Cloutier, Emily	446	21	153200	Duquette, Randy	663	16	134920	Gibson, Kevin	2196	2244
149703	Cloutier, Laurent	1088	1088	154072	Durette, Dylan	1026	6	151101	Gillan, Rahma	703	24
152549	Cloutier, Martin	979	11	153958	Durocher, Justice	794	5	108202	Gillanders, Robert	1836	2140
140163	Cockburn, Denton	2265	2265	154096	Dutrisac, Keegan	777	6	111022	Gillis, Doug	1434	1849
100234	Cohen, David	1844	2067	153412	Dutta, Utsav	1346	1346	154027	Gingras, Brandon	1024	6
154227	Colatosi, Alec	647	5	107233	Eberle, Mark	1808	1980	152115	Girard, Robert	925	17
152767	Cole, Tailyne	298	9	153225	Echavarria-Hidalgo, Fernando	1774	1820	154061	Girard, Eric	851	6
110578	Coleman, Mike	1923	2179	154445	Efemuai, Martins Oteri	2237	6	154006	Girouard, Mathieu	963	6
111183	Coles, Ron	xxxx	1718	110299	Egorov, Mikhail	2039	2232	134912	Givogue, Corbett	1377	1444
154040	Comtois, Davin	675	4	106512	Ehrman, Carl	2067	2202	132497	Gladstone, Simon	2197	2197
154028	Conrad, Elora	851	6	153944	Elanko, Amirutha	1129	6	153901	Glatiano, Vlad	591	4
126311	Cooke, Mathew G	1830	2082	149560	Elez, Matija	1949	1949	128756	Glew, Richard	1794	1965
150504	Coren, Daniel	1808	1821	108293	Ellis, John W.	1729	1848	152647	Gonsalves, Ryan	1667	19
149091	Cormier, Adam	2109	2109	101459	Ellis, Joe T.	1902	2017	108832	Gooding, Gordon	2156	2156
148621	Cornelius, Calvin	1414	1414	153091	Emery, Chloe	517	21	106629	Gordon, David	2287	2329
110316	Cote, Richard	1666	1868	145637	Ensor, Tyler	1483	1597	154082	Gour, Danina	667	5
145202	Cote, Jessy	1146	1157	103011	Erickson, John	1684	1976	150333	Goutkin-Egiadzaryan, Johnny	1119	1119
152107	Coulibaly, Abdoul Karim	1307	10	103309	Evans, Bill	1989	2300	134497	Graham, John	1405	1671
153227	Cova, Ramon J.	1940	1940	153664	Everitt, David	1237	5	151209	Granville, Matt	737	737
123726	Crichton, Laurence	1957	2035	135113	Eyre, Keven	1446	1668	105393	Greco, Marco A.	1729	1842
103526	Crnilovic, Grisha	1493	1840	101981	Fabris, Al	1679	1987	152752	Greeson, Vincent	1198	21
154013	Croke, Jessica	1060	6	153951	Fahimnia, Hadi	1173	1	153096	Grenier, Alyssa	481	21
154046	Cronin, Zoe	643	6	153973	Fahimnia, Mahdi	594	4	153914	Grewall, Sach	907	4
134050	Crooks, Israel	xxxx	1872	153913	Fan, Raymond	880	4	154052	Grewall, Ryan	648	6
150846	Croucher, Rebecca	982	19	101722	Fan, Yibing	1686	1866	154074	Griffith, Hana	943	6
101349	Crowley, Gerry	1745	2020	138591	Farhang, Arvin	xxxx	1626	153518	Groat, Brian	666	11
107146	Cseryenyi, Zoltan	1601	1646	154231	Farhat, Omar	903	6	152220	Grynszpan, Alexander	xxxx	1229
154212	Csoka, Marcell	xxxx	9	154218	Farhat, Walid	926	6	131247	Gu, Liwen	xxxx	24
143700	Cui, Gordon	1338	1420	153482	Faris, Anas Ahmad	1446	10	154073	Guenette, Jacob	995	6
123161	Cummings, David	2443	2490	153905	Femia, Joey	612	4	154095	Guerin, Jasmine	900	6
150817	Cvetkovic, Milan	1257	1290	151059	Feng, Richard	1163	1185	147287	Guerra, Luis	1158	16
153894	Cziriak, Atian	552	3	127516	Ferreira, Alex T.	2065	2134	146780	Gugel, Brett	1344	1506
151542	Dai, Max (Jing Hong)	1328	1400	101805	Fiedler, Brian	2045	2300	151219	Gula, Lorne	1327	1386
153835	Dai, Shuhan	647	5	108098	Field, Christopher	1221	1636	152077	Gunaseelan, Dylam	903	17
100059	Dale, Steven	1744	1902	103521	Filipovich, David	2212	2370	151453	Guo, Haotong Hazel	xxxx	889
146170	Dallaire, Samuelle	1171	1171	140379	Finelli, Joe	1583	1599	152313	Guo, Thomas	1478	1478
149683	Dallaire, Olivier	948	972	101866	Finlay, Ian	1946	2005	105318	Guo, Josh	xxxx	2324
152753	D'Amore, Tyler	xxxx	24	153408	Finlay, Connor	1080	13	148117	Guo, Richard	1515	1546
101895	Danilov, Alex	1821	2100	153088	Fischer, Ryan	782	21	150063	Guo, Tan	1634	1642
153093	Daoust, Logan	534	21	112308	Fleming, Derrick	1603	1811	153912	Gupta, Ashotosh	716	4
105729	D'Aoust, Marc	1202	1600	154062	Fleurimond-Rancy, Jonathan	920	6	128168	Gusev, Nikita	2309	2309
134499	Dattani, Dinesh	1327	1464	152750	Fleury, Tyler	971	9	154019	Gutwillinger, Rogan	1110	6
151900	David, Jean-Marc	1260	1260	108498	Flitton, David	1627	2004	154058	Halabiski, Bianca	742	6

153959	Hamami, Mohamad Burhan	586	3	106764	Jubenville, Mark	1684	1813	152768	Lavi, Jordan	490	9
129797	Hambleton, Aman	2521	2521	100182	Jung, Hans	2293	2346	154038	Lavigne, Zacharie	1057	6
102629	Hamilton, Robert	2360	2443	153839	Jurasek, Miroslav	2278	3	154129	Lavigne, Ryan	478	6
137230	Hammarstrom, Orjan	1642	1723	154124	Kahn, Shan	669	6	150753	Law, Aaron	874	11
152674	Han, Byoung Hoon	767	12	137927	Kalra, Agastya	1997	2018	111318	Le, Ken	1577	1937
135151	Hansen, Troy	1612	1612	149319	Kaneshalingam, Mathanhe	1311	1311	101017	Lebrun, Roger	1899	2100
152758	Hanson, Wyatt	721	9	153900	Kang, Daniel	1233	4	150053	Leduc, Alex	560	560
153984	Hanxu, Richard	520	5	153790	Kaniselman, Manasa	927	6	154228	Leduc-Dale, Damien	900	2
154309	Harding, Nick	1195	6	152769	Kao, Victoria	601	16	148761	Lee, Andrew	641	8
132423	Hardy, Pierre	1080	1474	153797	Karim-Picco, Ibrahim	786	6	150309	Lee, Shannon	589	11
130594	Hardy, Nicholas	1095	6	153782	Karim-Picco, Zakaria	532	7	139352	Lee, Melissa	1534	1594
123559	Hare, Scott	1897	1967	109746	Karpik, Steve	1486	1678	153833	Lee, Stefano	893	19
102700	Hartman, Brian	2438	2487	153963	Kathirkamar, Janani	632	5	146793	Lee, Jeffrey	1441	1441
154059	Harvey, Jake	835	6	153745	Kathirkamar, Vaanie	913	5	139350	Lee, Brendon	1870	1936
111177	Hassain, Mahmud	2040	2120	153928	Katz, Jacques	900	6	146757	Lee, Frank	1471	1592
154401	Hastings, Luke	896	7	153892	Kee, Sean	856	4	149068	Leenus, Alvin	1131	6
152644	Hayes, Richard	xxxx	16	154243	Keiser, Addison	786	6	148610	Lefebvre, Gavin	1080	1080
153130	He, Francis	959		153124	Keren, Yoni	2001	22	105108	Lehmann, James E.	1559	1852
145088	He, Henry	1284	1294	153949	Kesavan, Arthithan	786	6	154120	Lemieux, Gabrielle	618	13
154090	He, Oliver	762	8	153948	Kesavan, Arthman	557	6	154030	Lemieux, Maxine	961	6
154018	Hebert, Gabriel	1117	6	154060	Ketzshmin, Belizaire	918	6	121831	Lentini, Joseph	2097	2186
147288	Heijm, Ed	1310	1394	145219	Khairullah, Ammar	1492	1517	140864	Lepage, Marcel	934	989
141022	Helis, Petr	xxxx	14	153800	Khan, Omar	1373	6	140863	Lepage, Draven	978	1106
105731	Hendon, Lee	1712	1811	133986	Khayutin, Constantine	1956	2005	139771	Leveillee, Philippe	1815	1815
152314	Henry, Nadia	982	19	150856	Kho, Jingle A.	2100	2100	154041	Levesque, Nykola	886	6
127769	Henry, Liam	2253	2321	109626	Khoudgarian, Natalia	2284	2306	139572	Levesque, Brale	1280	1326
152985	Heran, Samuel	1214	1241	130347	Killi, Steve	1226	1389	153403	Levin, Jackson	1019	13
152221	Hewson, Andrew	942	15	154037	Kilroy, Evan	1063	6	153898	Lewin, Jamar	1100	9
154395	Hewson, Scott	825	6	153930	Kim, Noah	554	3	153129	Li, Dennis	952	984
145659	Highcock, Bruce	1748	1784	153033	King, Brian	1373	10	139599	Li, Hongyi	1922	1986
108908	Hillyard, Larry	1558	1756	129790	Kiraly, Istvan	2245	2263	134898	Li, Ruokai (David)	1935	2024
150868	Ho, Nhan	1436	21	129789	Kiraly, Zoltan	2188	2248	154224	Li, Jim	786	6
154233	Ho, Wilson	1056	6	107850	Kirby, Patrick	2214	2229	152763	Li, Jack	697	21
154223	Hogan, James	900	6	101198	Kiss, Istvan	1782	2083	145235	Li, Michael	1730	1730
154088	Hokbergen, Dante	961	6	153458	Kitaygorodsky, Alex	1676	1676	152637	Li, Catherine	973	1059
149498	Honarvar, Faraz	1017	12	102471	Kitich, Zeljko	1680	1741	145175	Li, Yinshi	2084	2084
145915	Hong, Ryan	781	781	107467	Klamer, William	2046	2248	153120	Li, Amy	555	555
150466	Hsing, Deborah	651	651	132631	Kleinman, Michael	2378	2415	150870	Li, Brian	1032	1032
153121	Hsing, Devland	242	242	106376	Knechtel, Tim	1667	2087	153118	Li, Kevin SV	799	801
150465	Hsing, Derek	828	828	153005	Knight, Graeme	1310	20	152636	Li, Kristen	1241	1241
149744	Hu, Henry	1023	1118	136503	Knox, Christopher	2276	2276	154417	Li, Justin	1497	8
153507	Hu, Stone	675	5	141510	Knul, Morris	1745	1838	149642	Li, Robert	1526	1580
153971	Hu, Bill	961	12	152760	Kolobaric, Nikola	923	17	152234	Li, Edward Sian	1011	10
154197	Hua, Eugene	1152	1152	152380	Konarev, Ivan	1344	9	147097	Lian, Bright	1372	1372
154420	Hua, Gary	1492	22	153974	Kong, Brandon	884	5	147959	Liang, Eric	883	883
150326	Huang, Jeffrey Ting-Jun	1260	1260	153960	Kong, Aaron	554	5	149333	Liang, Lakes	1553	1616
152884	Huang, Patrick L.	960	24	109412	Kormendi, Fred	xxxx	1640	152948	Liang, Hairan	851	18
152690	Huang, Immanuel	1441	1441	101486	Kornmann, Max	1686	1880	149315	Liang, Phillip	1670	1731
151287	Huang, Michael	1371	12	154455	Koverko, Tyler	723	4	152068	Liao, Jacky	1264	1264
147811	Huang, Jimmy	1088	1122	153204	Koza, Jake	604	16	152703	Liaw, Clement	xxxx	8
147781	Huang, Thomas	1119	12	146833	Koza, Zoe	684	684	147447	Lin, William	1315	1456
107565	Hubley, Roger	1927	2100	101982	Krajcovic, Dominik	1660	1804	150193	Lin, Raymond	xxxx	976
152897	Hummari, Mutas	xxxx	13	152067	Krishnakumar, Agahash	859	21	148229	Lin, Tony (Juntao)	2165	2165
131628	Humphreys, Michael	2269	2345	152757	Krishnamohan, Vithushan	847	10	151128	Lin, Benjamin	1410	1410
144578	Huneault, Nicholas	1108	18	152672	Kristipati, Kamal	1030	12	151161	Lippai, Michael	xxxx	5
144585	Huneault, Marc-Andre	932	10	132215	Krnan, Tomas	2576	2576	144648	Liu, Leo	xxxx	1511
154396	Hunter, Harold	1154	7	120860	Krolczyk, Jacob	1867	1867	149747	Liu, Jiaxin	1808	1849
153891	Hur, Tony	695	4	102648	Krupka, David	1921	2307	154503	Liu, Sam	1254	4
112109	Hurst, Bruce	xxxx	1580	131331	Kudelka, Ivan	1537	1660	152607	Liu, Zelin	1014	8
107357	Hush, John	1490	1708	153952	Kuehfuss, Noah	1166	11	154347	Liu, David (Dayou)	1144	4
149172	Huston, Scott	1726	1857	110732	Kuehl, Scott	1859	2120	154214	Liu, Ray	1091	6
151918	Iansavitchous, James	1494	1494	153887	Kukathasan, Utthami	833	12	151979	Liu, Ryan	xxxx	883
153920	Inga, Terry	525	4	153985	Kuo, Webster	594	5	128762	Liu, David	1135	1248
136995	Inigo, Aquino	2193	2201	104537	Kurkowski, Ken	1577	1900	153397	Liu, Daniel	1214	1243
147074	Ip, Raymond	1130	14	151235	Kuttner, Amos	1794	1906	101686	Loadman, Ian	2106	2218
142274	Itkin, Victor	1707	1884	151236	Kuttner, Simon	1695	1826	135360	Longo, Tyler	2065	2115
140216	Itkin, David	2146	2212	153799	Kwong, Luke	700	5	154422	Lopez, Elijah	xxxx	5
141306	Ivanenko, Anthony	1841	1841	154033	Labelle, Nathaniel	866	6	154020	Lord, Xero	1000	6
140557	Ivanov, Mike	2270	2270	152759	Lacasse, Noah	870	10	152502	Lu, Leo	941	973
100030	Jackson, David	1858	2302	144348	Lacau-Rodean, Iulia	2014	2100	146765	Lukezich, John I.F.	1503	1512
146311	Jackson, Nicholas	1693	1717	154078	Lachance, Tristan	984	13	146597	Luo, Fangyi	1476	1650
151360	Jafarov, Amin	1252	20	154043	Laforce, Ryan	773	6	153818	Luo, Michael	1159	4
137034	Jedral, Derek	1533	1578	152552	Laing, MacKenzie	868	12	151126	Luong, Brian	890	21
154221	Jeszka, Michal	729	6	153054	Lajeunesse, Andrew	753	21	153535	Lupan, Radu	1229	22
108115	Jew, Harold	1868	1988	153298	Lakatos, James	969	6	153889	Ly, Gordon	950	4
151119	Jewell, Trevor	1073	13	154236	Lam, Jasper	640	6	149982	Ma, Timothy	1068	1110
147906	Jeyapragasan, Kuhan	1581	1581	106974	Lamb, Bryan	2111	2350	134697	Maaser, Andy	1405	1471
151036	Ji, Hyeon Shik	985	17	149784	Lambert, Francis	524	524	153094	Maccoy, Brooke	598	21
145943	Jimenez, Michael	903	903	101831	Lambie, Khary	xxxx	17	153918	Machado, John-Kelly	669	4
154217	Jin, Dean	1291	6	127519	Lambruschini, Alex	1820	1849	152900	Macias-Luevano, Nathan	1282	8
153669	Jin, Jerrick	700	1	153104	Lamothe, Brendan	490	21	152663	MacIntosh, Jay D	880	12
149589	Jin, Kadie	872	877	148613	Lamothe, Jordan	956	959	152566	MacIvor, Mac	916	18
148713	Jing, Ryan (Rui Yuang)	xxxx	1104	154123	Landry, Alexandre	568	6	154047	MacIvor, Kieme	870	13
125520	Jizan, Masoud	1642	1819	154017	Landry, Samantha	945	6	153000	MacLean, Tyriq	848	5
150171	Jodhi, Edmond	1640	1737	127300	Langer, Valerie	1184	1184	128146	MacLeod, Neil	1545	1718
154084	Johnson, Damian	973	6	100319	Langer, Herb	1795	1991	154056	MacMillan, Kendra	792	6
154039	Johnston, Kyle	861	6	107995	Langlands, Ian	1495	1674	153924	MacMillan, David	1535	5
154226	Johnston, Robin	1026	17	154055	Langlois, Dalton	787	6	153922	MacMillan, Josh	1195	5
121181	Jones, Avery	1432	1713	154104	Lapointe, Cassie	724	6	154068	MacNeil, James	745	6
104534	Jordan, John	1668	1863	154029	Larivee, Nathan	1020	6	125677	MacNeill, Danny William	1811	1840
152352	Joshi, Arjavkumar	1233	1288	153206	Larocque, Bianca	325	16	129952	MacNevin, Dave	1450	1654
151370	Ju, Lawrence (Larry)	1105	1133	104270	Laszlo, Robert	1783	2051	154023	Mageau, Aidan	937	6
151396	Ju, Terrence (Terry)	1306	1327	154103	Laurin, Yanik	795	6	154064	Mageau, Nadia	757	6

153232	Magee, Bruce	989	989	108540	Mourgelas, James	1318	1700	150177	Pedersen, Rune	2294	2365
153500	Magee, Michael	1029	14	153692	Moya, Joseph	1332	6	122223	Peev, Pavel	2216	2216
145625	Magiskan, Taylor	590	24	134493	Muir, Tom	1695	1726	147212	Peevor, Brianna	950	976
140956	Magiskan, Megan	781	781	151140	Muntaner, Daniel	1265	1323	106982	Pejovic, Mike	1673	1923
144604	Maguire, Jack	1551	1575	153736	Murphy, Jamie	1662	10	151197	Pelekeekae, Oanathata	1844	24
150471	Mahalingam, Nithushah	867	969	134894	Murray, Adam	1944	1966	154112	Pelland, Rayden	688	6
150470	Mahalingam, Priethan	897	959	128144	Murray, Brian	1436	1598	154031	Pelletier, Tommy	869	6
153895	Mahanathan, Arun	703	3	146836	Murray, Benoit	1089	1089	151218	Penagos, Jorge	1280	20
153400	Mahendran, Sujeev	1590	24	130557	Nadeau, Emmanuel	1829	1867	147928	Peng, Janet	1505	1505
105147	Maheux, Pierre	xxxx	2050	154098	Nadeau, Sophie	811	6	142388	Peng, Jackie	2236	2273
154002	Mahon, James	1136	6	153079	Nadler, Calina	593	21	100049	Percival, Stan	1691	2000
154005	Mahon, Elyse	729	6	123265	Nahutin, Yevgeni	2044	2212	101770	Peredun, Andrew	2323	2340
153399	Mahoney, Sean	1016	24	152675	Nakagawa, Seiji	1278	12	146258	Perelman, Leon	xxxx	2112
101824	Maister, Martin	1734	1952	153946	Nanthakumaran, Nivetha	900	6	109785	Perger, Dennis	1497	1615
100196	Malmsten, Erik	1905	1917	154053	Nardi, Luca	919	6	153962	Perico, Christian	1053	5
148953	Mamyshev Jurievic, Ruslan	1139	9	148198	Nasir, Zehn	1915	1925	148274	Perl, Josh	1104	1104
112277	Manalo, Pepin	1844	1999	151201	Nasirov, Ilyas	2024	2045	150849	Permasilici, Lorenzo	1083	24
153943	Mangaleswaran, Thakeshon	970	12	153396	Nasirov, Ildar	1071	16	154114	Perras, Mathieu	244	6
153942	Mangaleswaran, Mathuran	1087	12	153656	Nazari, Sepehr	1024	6	154069	Perreault, Alex	739	6
153355	Mano, Alesia	960	16	154311	Neira, Fabian	1753	5	152580	Perrin-Arcand, Melodie-Rose	651	12
154280	Marais, Richard	1159	3	130676	Nemati, Omid	1756	1884	135706	Peters, Romy	1687	1816
153294	Marcelino, Daryl	1001	1001	154312	Neyra, Alex	1213	3	153955	Pham, Anthony	847	3
107391	Marghetis, Aris	1863	2048	133879	Ng, Joseph	1434	6	111407	Phillip, Andrew	1714	2032
153807	Marin, Daniel	1234	2	154024	Ng, Jewell	793	5	137068	Phillips, Shawn	1831	1933
141393	Marinkovic, Mate	2238	2248	153965	Ng, Rachel	337	5	101917	Phillips, Patrick	1743	1953
154105	Marion, Nolan	615	6	153915	Ngo, Stephen	476	4	125815	Picana, Andrew	2139	2206
109180	Marks, Richard	1725	2000	153820	Nguyen, Alexander	1124	4	149970	Piccinin, Mario	1895	1895
132495	Martchenko, Alexander	2400	2412	153401	Nguyen, Minh	1486	23	104880	Pierre, Roland	1589	1674
145855	Martel, Nicolas	1033	1075	148663	Nicholson, Matthew	2097	2117	151283	Pigeau, Mia	326	20
149508	Martens, Stephanie	1492	1507	108201	Nickoloff, Steve	1712	1912	151282	Pigeau, Nicholas	798	798
103276	Martin, Spencer	1938	2028	154032	Nielsen, Joshua	941	6	154045	Pigeon, Alex	894	6
153986	Martin-Chase, Sam	796	5	154215	Nitu, Vlad	1146	6	153784	Pinarbasi, Ali	1293	4
153964	Martin-Chase, Rose	539	5	153752	Niu, Daniel	1394	5	154034	Pinard, Frederic	1091	6
150851	Martinez, Erick	808	8	132534	Noritsyn, Nikolay	2605	2661	145686	Pirvu, Stefan	1276	1334
147942	Mastronardi, Liam	1120	15	146893	Noritsyn, Sergey	1936	1936	146931	Pishdad, M. Hassan	1259	1442
153362	Mateescu, Cristina	990	17	136693	Noukhovitch, Michael	1544	1560	142063	Plotkin, Victor	2336	2436
149807	Mathews, Joshua	1219	1219	154085	Nova, Trista	749	4	141086	Plotkin, Mark	2097	2103
149806	Mathews, Jeremy	1348	1357	152007	Novakovic, David	839	21	154021	Plouffe, Michelle	886	6
145845	Maulucci, Anthony	1264	1324	153828	Nucci, Daniel	700	5	151017	Plourde, Nicholas	648	11
152069	Maurer, Hans	852	945	154427	Nunes, Marc Antonio	1144	5	152382	Pobereshnikova, Agniya	1259	1259
154100	Mbarki, Marwa	812	6	102646	Nunes, Garvin	1891	1972	154086	Polson, Shayna	771	6
100298	McClelland, Tom	1775	2000	152745	Oberoi, Gitin	1633	9	129950	Popa, Larry	1602	1719
154222	McDaniel, Kevin	1035	6	139824	O'Brien, Frank	1721	1816	154094	Pope, Lydia	786	6
125585	McGilly, Craig	1482	1519	151261	O'Bumsawin, Nicholas	1735	1831	153774	Popov, Alexey	826	3
111714	McKendry, Bruce	1868	1916	102669	Ochkoos, Jura	2306	2437	146059	Posaratnanathan, Juliaan	1930	1962
153961	McMahon, Michael	956	5	154238	O'Connor, Thomas	926	6	152363	Posluns, Gil	1038	9
154106	McNamara, Jeremy	547	6	106245	O'Donnell, Tom	2434	2500	106619	Posylek, Caesar	1619	1968
106141	McNelly, Peter	1582	1800	152587	Oganesyan, Hayk	1881	1881	154070	Poulin, Miguel	978	6
153953	McQuiggan, Austin	786	5	146103	Olden-Cooligan, Ben	1969	2014	154118	Poulin, Samia	334	6
147693	McShane, Dylan	xxxx	1402	101400	Olheiser, Gordon	2214	2214	154065	Poulin, Braeden	874	6
110766	McTavish, David	2210	2300	152923	Oliveira, Rodrigo	1937	18	150999	Pouliot, Marc-Andre	936	23
153090	Melanson, Jordan	849	21	154054	Olivier, Sebastien	835	6	137961	Powell, Samantha	1659	1668
153919	Mema, Ivo	500	4	153679	Omarhassan, Abdishakur	1238	6	149550	Prem, Ashwin Bernard	928	24
154015	Memard, Joshua	1066	6	151116	O'Neil, Michael	1346	1359	146124	Preotu, Razvan	2307	2317
100297	Mendinos, Ari	1250	1763	147324	O'Neill, Brendon	xxxx	1496	141376	Preotu, Rene	1815	1907
151266	Menon, Kiran	799	799	122416	Orlov, Sergiy	xxxx	2107	146708	Presseau, Kyle	1203	1203
143033	Merrick, Lee	xxxx	1560	148825	Orozco, Joey	xxxx	1689	153588	Prittie, Ian	1203	1203
107489	Mesiti, Silvano	1582	1930	103144	Ortiz, Hugo	1604	1807	150444	Profit, Brian	1994	2200
149314	Metcalfe, Drew	1324	1324	149557	Osagie, Enoruwa	538	13	105432	Prost, Bernie	1649	1721
152770	Michaelis, Jackie	408	13	113031	Osborne, Christopher	1164	1210	143026	Pufan, Peter	1477	1535
145698	Michaelis, Luke	853	889	149300	O'Sullivan, Patrick	1760	1856	152744	Pulogarajah, Kaarthic	xxxx	998
149568	Michelasvili, Alexandre	1523	1523	147767	Oxman, Daniel	1151	1171	108329	Puschke, R.F.	1536	1890
154009	Milczarek, Stas	1080	6	141391	Pace, Nicholas	1485	1550	154219	Putnick, Michael	1129	6
105291	Milicevic, Goran	2390	2429	141390	Pace, Christopher	2122	2224	153813	Pyke, Jordan	1229	4
135164	Milinkovic, Mate	1676	1751	141389	Pace, Anthony	1878	1878	127287	Pyykka, John	1820	1820
154016	Miller, Joshua	1000	6	103715	Pacey, Kevin	2207	2406	148880	Qian, Owen	2025	2025
154083	Miller, Bradley	1064	6	149914	Pagan, Katie	1030	12	134989	Qin, Zi Yi (Joey)	2449	2453
153151	Ming, Qing	1083	1104	153153	Pakerathan, Thurvan	997	1020	153536	Qu, Jerry	854	8
150565	Ming, Wenyang	1700	1700	154126	Pakin, Isabelle	420	6	151105	Quan, Daniel	699	21
152229	Mirabelli, Aidan	933	22	153127	Palmer, Adam	1171	21	153716	Quarin, Luca	813	6
153935	Mirza, Cyrus	xxxx	1	106856	Palsson, Halldor Peter	2021	2244	154220	Quasdorf, Robert	567	5
104248	Mitchell, Joe	1480	1534	152009	Palumbo, Matteo	727	9	153097	Quevillon, Coralie	561	21
153665	Moffat, Trayton	1037	5	107543	Pancer, Jeff	1230	1400	129944	Raats, Dan	1911	2135
108272	Moffat, Andrei	2181	2321	121202	Panjwani, Raja	2517	2525	153154	Rado, Mate	1302	15
149745	Moghtader, Amirhossein	1196	22	109984	Pantazi, Emanuel A.	1441	9	149018	Radpey, Abdolreza	1442	1710
148521	Moghtader, Amirreza	1242	1242	154050	Paquette, Mireille	753	6	153823	Rajkumar, Andrew	983	4
153970	Mohan, Saisorupan	1044	3	150463	Parapan, Varshini	1246	1277	150726	Rajsic, Branislav	1868	24
146800	Molev, Daniel	1514	1514	154116	Paré, Shaelyn	664	6	154234	Rak, Mackenzie	915	6
133157	Mollison, William J.	xxxx	1482	151521	Parent, Maxime	1026	1026	154042	Ranger, Calin	799	6
100167	Monaghan, Jim	2077	2100	152563	Parent, Fleurange	751	12	151908	Rapaka, Srikanth	xxxx	18
153907	Moon, Andrew	909	4	150866	Parikh, Poojan	902	20	152225	Rapin, Calvin	xxxx	23
120895	Moonias, Raymond	1740	14	127521	Pastor, Andrew	1907	1944	152231	Rapin, Oliver	xxxx	21
151002	Moore, Liam	821	821	151612	Patel, Saiyam	799	910	154012	Rashed, Zakhary	943	6
153092	Moore, Brooklyne	711	21	153911	Patel, Prit	782	4	153358	Raveendran, Tharuveen	936	15
102805	Moorehouse, Daniel	1550	1865	153909	Patel, Jay	846	4	153884	Ravichandran, Janooshan	896	14
143315	Moran-Venegas, Mario	1757	1864	152664	Patel, Dhruv	961	12	153885	Ravichandran, Jarsheni	693	14
152606	Moreno, Gerry	1017	12	150305	Patel, Alay	915	915	153941	Ravichandran, Jathavan	1121	13
154230	Morenz, Julie	857	6	153897	Patel, Ashish	814	4	152749	Raymond, Alexander	1094	11
122106	Morgan, Bryan	1694	1738	102570	Paterson, Jim	1771	2127	146716	Regan, Dale	896	896
108896	Morra, Lui	1652	1963	154363	Patrusev, Alex	xxxx	9	152604	Ren, Haoming	1153	14
135889	Morrison, Richard	1418	6	153459	Patterson, Jeremy	1258	11	152626	Renteria, Rolando	2229	2289
154416	Motta, Vinicius	xxxx	8	143382	Pavlishyn, Eric (Arkadiy)	1262	1408	152628	Renteria, Alejandro	1364	1433
154067	Moumen, Ali	850	6	153987	Peddie, Joshua	344	4	152627	Renteria, Manuela	1682	1743

154048	Riess-Lindsay, Austin	822	6	151471	Spiliotopoulos, Yakos	1669	1778	102136	Ungor, Imre	xxxx	1864
110972	Ritchie, Gordon	1798	1899	146416	Sreeramam, Shreyas	1247	15	153677	Vallada, Adrian	859	5
153560	Rivet, Jacob	795	6	152660	Srikanthan, Manan	1046	12	131301	Van Aalst, Kees	1353	1386
149919	Robillard, Eric	751	11	151433	Stajov, George	1549	23	106830	Van der Velde, W. H.	1811	1975
154113	Robinson, Noemie	474	6	108628	Stavropoulos, Greg	1739	2220	147912	Van Dusen, Colin	957	957
152983	Rochon, Frederic	1336	10	105756	Stein, Mickey	1910	2042	154246	Van Hauwaert, Eric	835	6
152365	Rodrigues, Joshua	1165	9	108627	Stein, Jacob	xxxx	1748	152635	Van Rooy, Jake	1528	19
154428	Rodriguez, Enrique	1171	6	154080	Stephen, Hannah	667	5	154025	Van Schie, Peter	1021	6
149480	Rodriguez, Joshua	982	17	120171	Stevens, Christian	2348	2408	152754	vandenEnden, Aaron	418	10
153988	Rodzic, Cameron	487	12	153103	St-Jean, Kolby	580	21	112660	Vanderlee, Chris	1681	1823
100126	Rohanchuk, Ed	1998	2087	149993	St-John, Dakota	562	562	151891	Vasiloi, Nadejda	xxxx	1827
111209	Roller, Robert	1880	2020	154097	Stone, Preston	798	6	151904	Vasquez, Michel	1585	1634
153956	Romanowich, Alexander	1358	5	153954	Street, Rachel	510	5	148446	Vasquez, Jose Luis	1903	22
153128	Romero Alfonso, Carlos	1849	1864	112436	Stroempl, Hedi	1041	1079	112357	Veacock, Carl	1267	1678
105994	Rosales, Diego	1292	19	153126	Strongtharm, Rick	822	10	148344	Velle, Maurice	1274	9
113055	Roschman, Paul	1628	1859	151677	Strugach, Alexander	1964	1964	153302	Venkatarao, Adithya	1185	6
152581	Roussel, Mason	896	12	110170	Struthers, Matthew	2018	2178	107979	Vera, Jesus	1200	1675
152666	Rowe, Matthew	1189	11	152651	Stubberfield, Adrian	733	10	108688	Verde, Pino	1748	2014
153078	Rowell, Andrew	480	21	152650	Stubberfield, Sebastian	779	10	151783	Vermont, Michael	1194	3
101799	Rowles, Christopher	1620	1910	147067	Su, Stanley	1777	1807	146760	Verny, Thomas R.	1822	1822
144777	Roy, Paige	663	6	154057	Summerville, Cindy	603	6	154199	Vettese, Nicholas	821	7
154063	Roy, Jared	769	6	154232	Sun, Alex	1055	2	138963	Viger, Torin	1236	1236
150858	Roy, Harrison	852	939	142224	Sun, Mike	1948	1948	153006	Vignarajah, Muralie	1233	1233
150860	Roy, Lawrence	914	1053	108550	Super, Russell	1366	1800	153938	Vigneswaramoorthy, Vinorth	1328	14
150283	Roy, Nicholas	846	846	152286	Supol, George	1401	1419	153781	Vilchynsky, Alex	1241	6
148472	Roy, Kendra	834	18	142366	Supsup, Ferdinand	1817	1951	153099	Villeneuve, Kayla	456	21
152398	Rozin, Elizabeth	432	14	153755	Surya, Benito	1368	1368	152560	Villeneuve, Justin	734	12
153989	Ruan, Colin	1139	5	153882	Suthaharan, Anojan	938	6	153795	Vince, Jeffrey	600	6
100198	Runstedler, Albert	1900	2092	151225	Sutton, Michael	1695	1695	150456	Virtusio, Charles	1441	1457
105208	Rutherford, William	1601	1915	153718	Sutton, Richard	699	6	150850	Vivekanantha, Prushoth	1040	1060
102198	Rutherford, John	1432	1625	143414	Svensson, Andrew	1190	1220	153883	Vivekanantha, Vickram	903	14
153519	Rutt, Dave	953	6	150646	Svitilnikov, Vlad	1082	1105	154508	Vlasenko, Ksenia	1468	5
142958	Sabourin, David	694	17	154383	Swaine, Justin	1531	9	101891	Vlasov, John	1827	2036
152618	Sachdev, Saksham	745	8	153906	Ta, Kevin	590	4	153541	Vo, Long	1590	20
139655	Sadeghi, Saaid	2013	2179	153932	Takaacs, Robert	1199	4	128800	von Keitz, Michael	1679	1806
106541	Sadoway, Steven	1970	2037	150843	Talukdar, Rohan	xxxx	1254	147070	Vyravanathan, Sobiga	1581	1581
151262	Sakka, Louay	xxxx	1754	153364	Tamang, Neon	910	16	154421	Wagner, David	1394	7
149014	Salem, Joseph	1384	15	154225	Tambakis, George	900	6	152661	Waller, Matt	1067	12
148267	Salgeuro, Francisco	xxxx	1443	153990	Tan, Dylan	914	5	147685	Wan, Steven	995	9
154099	Salt, Kepler	789	6	153607	Tan, Kylie	960	960	147460	Wan, Kevin	1996	1996
145911	Sametova, Zhanna	1644	1676	143225	Tang, Keith	1401	1401	153279	Wang, Sophie	1209	1209
154241	Sampson, David	786	6	149395	Tang, David	1215	1218	149748	Wang, Constance	1384	1493
146305	Samsonkin, Artiomi	2547	2624	153827	Tansil, Sebastian	1388	6	146295	Wang, Justin	865	23
138609	Sapozhnikov, Roman	2440	2535	151102	Tao, Ellen	938	938	150777	Wang, Frank	1365	1412
153407	Satchu, Nikhil	1130	13	146055	Tao, Rachel	1367	1367	139566	Wang, Jesse B	xxxx	2124
154390	Saul, Jaime	638	7	153991	Tebbens, David	232	4	143998	Wang, Frank T.	1322	1389
154429	Schaefer, Dave	1493	4	153224	Tellez, Guillermo	1458	16	151867	Wang, Jack	1366	1411
151208	Schneider, Corin	1616	1616	107314	Teram, Eli	1254	1539	149398	Wang, Eric Zechen	1788	1788
142900	Scott, Matthew G	1591	1596	106474	Termeer, Ted	1385	1721	153779	Wang, Hongyu	943	6
140559	Scott, James	1638	1724	150303	Thanabalachandran, Kajan	1618	1638	149379	Wang, Denny	1618	1618
154423	Secord, Spencer	xxxx	5	150302	Thanabalachandran, Luxiga	862	935	151267	Wang, Edward	1051	1160
153284	Seeman, Davey	1294	7	127431	Thavandiran, Shiyam	2514	2514	153398	Wang, Yanning	1180	1180
153804	Sehayek, Dan	1300	6	154117	Theriault, Martine	452	6	152485	Warburton, Brian	1222	1304
144799	Sejdic, Sejad	xxxx	11	153098	Thiffault, Brianna	491	21	102060	Ward, Dean	1655	1842
146856	Sekar, Varun	1246	1294	153903	Thirunavukkarasa, Abeyan	624	3	152782	Warner, John	1094	24
152372	Selivanov, Artyom	673	8	149987	Thomas, Amber	715	715	153286	Washimkar, Arhant	1146	23
153803	Selmar, John	914	6	122409	Thomas, Dan	2045	2201	153285	Washimkar, Atharva	1356	1356
153916	Selvakumaran, Kohilan	911	4	148612	Thomas, Danika	737	737	107497	Wasmund, Lee	xxxx	18
144290	Semianjuk, Konstantin	2219	2222	106868	Thompson, Ed G.	1536	1545	107494	Wasmund, Miles	1673	1673
111320	Serbanescu, Natasa	1845	1900	120060	Thomson, Bruce W.	1575	1739	154089	Waye, Tyler	900	5
103877	Serdula, Jay	1772	1958	153777	Thomson, Jared	1222	5	147270	Webster, Thomas	1246	1269
153921	Shahbazi, Shabahat	1061	4	131181	Thornton, Bill	1536	1658	151679	Wehrfritz, Chris	1662	1688
146428	Shamroni, Dima	xxxx	20	153721	Tikhonov, Andrea	819	7	150810	Wei, Martyn	971	20
149741	Shamroni, Dennis	1469	1494	148985	Tismenko, Dennis	1635	1635	154091	Wen, Leslie	671	9
153886	Shanhough, Amit	1004	19	153616	Todi, Johan	867	7	112769	Whissell, Mavros	2093	2185
152222	Sharma, Vinay	1195	6	153615	Todi, Kris	1203	20	153156	Whitehead, Bazil	1332	9
100349	Sharpe, Sam	1970	2153	154457	Todi, Arben	xxxx	1	153159	Whittaker Lee, Stefan	853	6
100280	Sharpe, Michael D.	1563	1849	126875	Tolnai, David	1592	1592	132137	Wiede, Daniel	2028	2041
148432	Shebetah, Wajdy	2155	2246	112353	Tomalty, Alan	1767	2000	151109	Wiede, Ricky	962	17
150566	Shen, David	881	24	150629	Tonakanian, Stephan	2107	2113	102934	Wight, Keith	1969	2208
153787	Shi, Daniel	1193	6	149090	Torres, Aleksandr Tuxanidy	2212	2215	102713	Wilker, Marcus	1633	1875
120619	Siddeley, Hugh	1928	2211	152608	Tran, David	1102	14	105942	Williamson, James	1148	1637
109543	Sinclair, Jason	1742	1742	146171	Tremblay, Karolyne	922	922	153662	Wilson, Vincent	1170	5
153936	Sinclair, Kyle	xxxx	1	154001	Tremblay, Richard	822	6	103265	Wing, Richard	1599	1978
145245	Singh, Raymond	1931	2002	149915	Tremblay, Anna-Charlotte	779	779	142252	Wong, Evan	1054	1122
145096	Sirkovich, Daniel	1663	1692	154130	Trepannier-Giroux, Matthieu	691	6	153917	Wong, George	1048	4
146628	Siu, Wayne	1568	1568	110865	Triefeldt, Jack	1785	2000	141177	Wong, Nicholas	1103	1214
154003	Slattery, Jean-Christopher	616	6	154107	Trottier, Martin	473	6	151781	Wood, Monika	1083	1206
111290	Smilovici, Emil	2048	2079	154077	Trottier, Michel	950	6	154216	Wu, James	901	6
153754	Smith, Curtis	843	5	154125	Trudel, Vincent	560	6	153578	Wu, Stanley	1540	1540
101793	Smith, Maurice	1414	1967	153644	Truong, Ethan	713	6	141397	Wu, Aaron	2064	2064
150259	Smyth, Ryan	1004	1132	153617	Truong, Kyle	906	6	141912	Wu, Kevin	2046	2157
152976	Sobrepere, Josep	1538	1538	154213	Tsang, Ron	1229	5	151052	Wu, Mark	977	1053
102297	Solis, Jaime	1703	2011	147017	Tse, Matthew	1018	6	148653	Xi, Jason	1332	1362
144236	Song, Michael	2341	2353	144091	Tseluiko, Oleg	1928	2007	146340	Xie, Peter	xxxx	1693
144418	Song, Eric	1704	1704	141066	Tseng-Tham, Joshua	1329	1332	148513	Xu, Jeffrey	1944	1944
146052	Song, Guannan Terry	1984	1984	153717	Tu, Eric	1213	6	154229	Xu, William	820	6
146772	Song, Lin (Xin)	1892	1954	107103	Tukonic, Steve	1480	1480	150199	Xu, Bill	xxxx	737
137703	Song, Guang Yu	1399	1399	153801	Tumbokon, Justin	1016	5	144916	Yang, Yimang	1782	1789
148499	Sottile, Claudio	1525	1545	150779	Twesigye, Derick Joshua	2095	2111	153606	Yang, Kai Wen	765	5
145490	Souchko, Larissa	1084	1258	152024	Uddin, Mohammad Zaki	1647	1826	151154	Yang, Frank Guizhen	1627	1667
102535	Southam, David	2206	2347	151196	Ugodnikov, Jennifer	1140	1161	151429	Yang, Ryan	xxxx	1881
106383	Spicer, Christopher	1820	2018	146626	Ugodnikov, Arkady	1800	1902	141088	Yang, Bryant	1736	1736

110329	Morabito, Matthew	1909	2046
154449	Mu, Joshua	xxxx	2195
132150	Murray, Michael A.	xxxx	1941
125626	Nakamura, Hikaru	xxxx	2745
154410	Naroditsky, Daniel	xxxx	2511
153844	Novak, Frantisek	xxxx	1980
154409	Oliva Castaneda, Kevel	xxxx	2399
103005	Orlov, Georgi	xxxx	2614
153586	Orso, Miklos	xxxx	2368
144115	Pendergraft, Troy	xxxx	1749
126336	Perelshteyn, Eugene	xxxx	2580
146570	Perez Garcia, Rodney Oscar	xxxx	2442
153845	Phillips, Ryan	xxxx	1972
110863	Pitre, H. G.	1755	2078
151130	Rohonyan, Katerina	xxxx	2351
104611	Rozentalis, Eduardas	xxxx	2649
125483	Saidy, Anthony F	xxxx	11
153722	Sanetullaev, Alisher	2169	2169
154448	Schmakel, Sam A	xxxx	2138
105603	Shabalov, Alexander	xxxx	2630
152480	Sharan, Praveer	xxxx	12
154402	Shi, Jasper YC	1088	7
112373	Short, Nigel	xxxx	2689
154374	Smith, Andrew M.	xxxx	9
126396	Smith, Bryan G	xxxx	2386
139796	Smith, Catherine	xxxx	1671
141170	So, Wesley	xxxx	2724
150019	Sowa, Aidan	1673	1698
150020	Sowa, Ryan	1725	1725
153485	Sturt, Raven	xxxx	2294
154408	Sumets, Andrey	xxxx	2646
153848	Talyansky, Seth David	xxxx	1496
154454	Tarwid, Jan	xxxx	3
154447	Ulrich, Thomas M	xxxx	2201
154373	Ummel, Igor	xxxx	9
153521	Valencia, Adrian David	1958	20
143973	Vavrak, Peter	xxxx	23
120030	Vera, Reynaldo	xxxx	2559
153842	Vining, Cronin B.	xxxx	2128
154151	Vrana, Rudy C.	xxxx	6
122840	Wagner, Bernd	xxxx	2074
103813	Weller, Tony	xxxx	1893
152472	Witt, Steven Alexander	xxxx	12
150795	Wright, Polly P.	xxxx	18
138986	Xu, Haizhou	xxxx	2295
154452	Yan, Gaibo	xxxx	2106
154411	Yang, Darwin	xxxx	2498
154371	Zierk, Steven C.	xxxx	2490