



# TEXAS KNIGHTS

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1977

This special issue of Texas Knights consists entirely of the tournament book on the Texas Championship and Texas Open Tournaments held earlier this year in Denton, Texas. The tournament book was prepared by TK games columnist and USCF master Gary M. Simms of Amarillo, Texas. The typing was done by Mrs. Simms. I hope all TCA members are as grateful as your editor.

Your editor hopes that the June issue of Texas Knights will follow in about two weeks or so. It will concentrate on tournament announcements, LoneStar RoundUp, other TCA games, a list of clubs (send it in if you haven't) and certified TDs, etc.

1977 TEXAS CHAMPIONSHIP CROSS TABLE

Player	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Total
1. Milburn	L3	W8	D5	W7	W6*	3 1/2
2. Bradford	L6	D7	W8	D4	W3	3
3. Smith	W1	L4	W7	W6	L2	3
4. Thomas	W8	W3	L6	D2	D5	3
5. Brieger	D7	D6	D1	D8	D4	2 1/2
6. Simms	W2	D5	W4	L3	L1*	2 1/2
7. R. Orton	D5	D2	L3	L1	D8	1 1/2
8. W. Orton	L4	L1	L2	D5	D7	1

\*Forfeit

1977 TEXAS CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRESSIVE CROSS TABLE

Player	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Total
1. Milburn	0	1	1 1/2	2 1/2	<u>3 1/2</u>	3 1/2
2. Bradford	0	1/2	1 1/2	2	3	3
3. Smith	<u>1</u>	1	2	<u>3</u>	3	3
4. Thomas	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	2	<u>2 1/2</u>	3	3
5. Brieger	<u>1/2</u>	<u>1</u>	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	2 1/2
6. Simms	<u>1</u>	1 1/2	<u>2 1/2</u>	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2
7. R. Orton	<u>1/2</u>	1	<u>1</u>	1	1 1/2	1 1/2
8. W. Orton	0	0	0	1/2	1	1

The 1977 Texas Championship and Texas Amateur Chess Tournaments were held January 29-30 on the campus of North Texas State University in Denton, Texas. The site and playing conditions were among the best that these tournaments have ever enjoyed. Held on the fourth floor of the Student Union Building, the tournaments took place in an environment that was well-lighted, quiet, and spacious. Besides having the two tournaments in separate rooms, the beautiful site provided rooms for skittles and for the tournament directors' business. The fact that no elevator was available and negotiating three flights of stairs was a regular necessity only slightly detracted from the very pleasing impression left by the playing site.

1977 TEXAS CHAMPIONSHIP

Participation in this annual tournament is restricted to those having current USCF or FIDE ratings of 2000 or higher. The highest placing

resident of Texas is declared State Champion for the year and receives the Gordon Bone Memorial Trophy for one year. As is the usual custom, this year's tournament was a 5-round, two-day Swiss System event. There were eight players with less than 200 points separating the top and bottom players.

Following is a list of the players in order of rating:

Kenneth Smith	2243
Joe Bradford	2219
Robert Brieger	2207
David Thomas	2174
Jerry Milburn	2139
Gary Simms	2129
Ruth Orton	2090
William Orton	2074

This year's tournament had the distinction of having a woman participate. Ms. Orton had already distinguished herself by very commendable results in both national and international competition. Also unusual was the fact that a husband and wife team were entered.

Some interesting notes about the tournament: the average rating of the participants was 2159, a rather strong field for this part of the country. Out of 19 games played, eight were drawn, slightly above 42%. Of the eleven decisive games, nine were won by Black, a rather startling proportion of almost 88%!

Following is a copy of the information disseminated to the players by the tournament director, Bill Snead.

#### TEXAS CLOSED CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

January 29-30, 1977

Thank you for your participation in this traditional TCA event. I hope you win the tournament.

In the event an uneven number of players register in this section, the highest-rated (willing) Class A player will be invited to play in this section so that byes can be avoided.

Time control, as announced, is 50/2. Secondary time control is 25/1. Please set clocks at 3:59 (A.M., not P.M.). Clocks should be placed on Black's right. I'm not concerned with all clocks facing the same direction, but players paired against each other should sit at the same board.

At the termination of each game each player should turn in to me a scoresheet signed by both players, with the result of the game clearly indicated.

I will not assist any player in the claim of a win on time. USCF TOURNAMENT RULE ART. 17.1 (2B) (a) will be observed, i.e., I will permit up to three incomplete move lines on your score sheet when your opponent's flag drops, providing you have "a reasonably legible, reasonably accurate, and reasonably complete score of the game...." "Reasonably" is at the judgment of the tournament director.

Official Rules of Chess will be used as a guideline for pairings. The Variation of Rule 21 will be followed, to wit: "Neither transpositions nor interchanges, as described in Rule No. 12b, should be made simply to preserve alternation of colors. If both players are due for the same color, the higher-ranked player has priority in getting his due color, whether white or black." Of course, transpositions or interchanges will be made as needed to provide equalization of colors (Rule 20).

There will be no permanent adjudications. Rounds 1 and 5 will be played to conclusion without adjournment. Round 1 will be adjourned after four hours, Round 2 after  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours, round 4 after five hours. Adjourned games will be played off as soon as possible. Adjourned games will be temporarily scored as a draw for pairing purposes. In order to avoid the delays and inconvenience caused by adjournments, I encourage you to win quickly.

Tiebreak systems will be used for the awarding of the Bone Cup only. All cash prizes will be divided evenly among tied players. Tiebreaks will be calculated in the following priority: Cumulative, Median, Solkoff, Sonnenborn-Berger, Kashdan.

If you plan to withdraw from the tournament, please notify me at least thirty minutes before the start of the next round, so that pairings can be adjusted.

The top one or two boards may possibly be displayed on demonstration boards. If you are involved in one of these games, please make moves that will be enjoyable to the spectators.

Bill Sneed, ITD

This type of tournament is always a shock to the Expert or Master who is accustomed to the "average" weekend Swiss. The usual format of such a tournament is for the Expert or Master to be ranked number one (or at least two or three) on the wallchart, for the first three rounds play opponents rated 300 - 700 points below him, and in Round Four face a tenacious Class A player who plays the game of his life and only succumbs to a very subtle trick, at the crucial moment. Then, leading the pack with 4-0, our hero plays a very strong opponent in Round Five in the game that makes the weekend either a success or a failure. So, in essence, he plays a one or two-game tournament with a few fairly enjoyable warm-ups.

The above description may give one an idea of the difficulty a strong player has in accepting the fact that he will be playing, in effect, five "last round games" all in one weekend. The strain is sometimes too much, and many blunders can be attributed to this.

ROUND ONE

Players	Opening	Result	Moves
Milburn-Smith	Sicilian	0-1	34
Bradford-Simms	Sicilian	0-1	54
R. Orton-Brieger	French	1/2	51
Thomas-W. Orton	Benoni	1-0	42

Smith overcame Milburn after teetering on the edge of disaster for most of the game. One surprise (28...Qd4) turned the tables. Simms baffled Bradford but barely beat the time control. Ruth Orton drew Brieger after having the better game for some time. Thomas proved his calculational ability in winning a nice game against William Orton.

White - Jerry Milburn 2139

Black - Ken Smith 2243

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 a6 5 Be3 b5 6 Bd3 Bb7 7 0-0 d6 8 a4 b4 9 c3 Nf6 10 f3 d5 11 e5 Nfd7 12 f4 Nc6 13 Nd2 Nd4 14 cd4 f5 15 ef Nf6 16 f5 ef 17 Bf5 Be7 18 Nf3 Bc8 19 Bd3 Bg4 20 Qc2 Bf3 21 Rf3 0-0 22 Rh3 h6 23 Bf5 (Postgame analysis showed that White had a win either here or on the next move by Bh6) 23...Qd6 24 Re1 Ne4 25 Be4 de4 26 Qe4 Bf6 27 Kh1 Rae8 28 Qg6 Qd4! 29 Qb1 Qb2 30 Bc5 Bc3 31 Rc3 bc3 32 Bf8 Qb1 33 Rb1 c2 34 Rcl Rd1 0-1

White - Joe Bradford 2219

Black - Gary Simms 2129

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Be3 Be7 7 f4 Nc6 8 Qf3 a6 9 0-0-0 Qc7 10 Be2 0-0 11 g4 Nd4 12 Bd4 e5 13 fe de 14 Qg3 Bd6 15 Be3 Be6 16 g5 Nd7 17 Bg4 b5 18 g6 hg 19 Be6 fe6 20 Qg6 Rf6 21 Qg4 b4 22 Rhg1 Bf8 23 Na4 Rc8 24 Rg2 Qc6 25 b3 Rf7 26 Bg5 Nf6 27 Bf6 Rf6 28 Rdg1 Rc7 29 Qg5 Rf4 30 Qe5 Re4 31 Qg5 Qd5 32 Qd5 ed5 33 Rd1 d4 34 Nb6 Bc5 35 Nd5 Rf7 36 Rg6 Rf2 37 Rc6 Bf8 38 Ra6 Rh2 39 Rf1 Ree2 40 Rc6 d3! 41 Ra6 Rc2 42 Kb1 Rhf2 43 Rd1 Rcd2 44 Rd2 Rd2 45 Rb6 Bc5 46 Rb8 Kh7 47 Nb4 Rd1 48 Kb2 Bd4 49 Ka3 d2 50 Rd8 Bc3 51 Nd5 Be5 52 Ne7 Bf6 53 Rd7 Be7 54 Re7 Rcl 0-1

White - Ruth Orton 2090

Black - Robert Brieger 2207

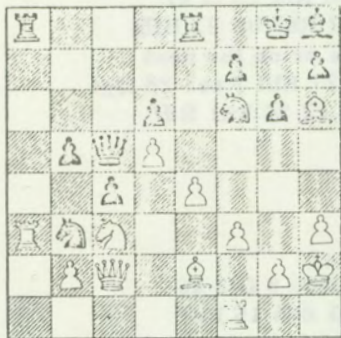
1 e4 c5 2 c3 e6 3 d4 cd 4 cd d5 5 e5 Nc6 6 a3 Qb6 7 Nf3 Bd7 8 b4 Rc8 9 Be2 Nce7 10 0-0 Bb5 11 Nbd2 Nf5 12 Bb5 Qb5 13 Nb3 (White has developed her pieces in a sensible, organized manner, while Black's maneuverings have left him seriously behind in development. 13 g4! would have left Black's pieces badly tangled) 13...h5 14 Be3 Nge7 15 Racl Rcl 16 Qcl Nc6 17 Qc3 Be7 18 Bg5 0-0 19 Be7 Nce7 20 Ng5 Qc4 21 Qf3 Nd4 22 Nd4 Qd4 23 Qh5 Qd3 24 Rd1 Qg6 25 Qh4 Nf5 26 Qf4 Rc8 27 Rcl Ne7 28 Qd2 Qf5 29 f4 f6 30 Nf3 Qe4 31 Rc8 Nc8

White - Ruth Orton 2090 (continued)  
 Black - Robert Brieger 2207

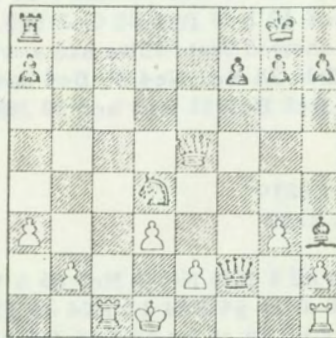
32 Qc1 Nb6 33 ef gf 34 Qc7 Qe3 35 Kf1 Qa3 36 Qe7 Qd3 37 Kf2 Qc2 38 Kf1  
 Qd3 39 Kf2 Qc2 40 Kf1 Qf5 41 Qb7 Qf4 42 Qa7 Qb4 43 Qb8 Kf7 44 Qb7 Kg6  
 45 Qb8 Qc4 46 Kf2 Qc2 47 Kg3 Qc5 48 Qg8 Kh6 49 Qh8 Kg6 50 Qg8 Kh6  
 51 Qh8 Kg6 1/2

White - David Thomas 2174  
 Black - William Orton 2074

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 Nc3 ed 5 cd d6 6 e4 g6 7 Nf3 Bg7 8 Be2 a6 9 a4  
 Bg4 10 h3 Bf3 11 Bf3 0-0 12 Bf4 Re8 13 0-0 Qc7 14 Qd2 Nbd7 15 Bh6 Bh8  
 16 Qc2 c4 17 Be2 Nc5 18 f3 Nb3 19 Ra3 Qc5 20 Kh2 b5? 21 ab ab (diagram)  
 22 Nb5! Qb5 23 Bc4 Nd4 24 Bb5 Nc2 25 Be8 Na3 26 Bc6 Rb8 27 ba3 Nh5  
 28 f4 f5 29 Bd7! Bg7 30 Bg7 Ng7 31 e5 Kf8 32 Rcl Nh5 33 ed Nf4 34 Bc6 Rd8  
 35 d7 Nd3 36 Rb1 Nc5 37 a4 Nd7 38 a5 Nc5 39 Rb5 Na6 40 Rb6 Nc7 41 a6 Na8  
 42 Rb7 1-0



Thomas - W. Orton



Smith-Thomas

ROUND TWO

Players	Opening	Result	Moves
Smith (1) - Thomas (1)	English	0-1	20
Simms (1) - Brieger (1/2)	Sicilian	1/2	21
Bradford (0) - R. Orton (1/2)	Sicilian	1/2	39
W. Orton (0) - Milburn (0)	Sicilian	0-1	44

The surprise of this round was Thomas' quick win over Smith. Thomas managed to keep Smith's King in the center by giving up some material and achieved a very speedy return on his investment. Simms and Brieger had a short draw. Bradford, after winning a pawn from Ruth Orton and maneuvering at length, suddenly offered a draw. Ms. Orton, accepting, found only too

soon the source of Bradford's eagerness to reach a peaceful conclusion! Milburn got on the scoreboard with a win over William Orton.

White - Ken Smith 2243  
Black - David Thomas - 2174

1 c4 e5 2 Nc3 Nf6 3 g3 Bb4 4 Bg2 0-0 5 d3 c6 6 Qb3 Na6 7 a3 Ba5 8 Bd2 d5! 9 cd cd 10 Nd5? (Acceptance of the gambit is almost immediately fatal) Bd2 11 Kd2 Be6 12 Nf6 Qf6 13 Qb5 Qf2 14 Bt7 Nc5 15 Ba8 Ra8 16 Nh3 Bh3 17 Rac1 Ne6 18 Qe5 Nd4 19 Kd1 (diagram) Bf1! 20 Rf1 Qf1 0-1

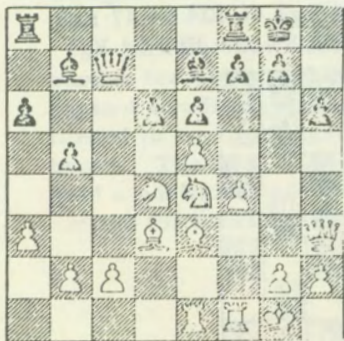
White - Gary Simms 2129  
Black - Robert Brieger 2207

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 e5 6 Ndb5 d6 7 Bg5 a6 8 Na3 Be6 9 Nc4 Rc8 10 Ne3 Nd4 11 Bd3 Be7 12 Bf6 Bf6 13 Ncd5 Bg5 14 c3 Be3 15 Ne3? (According to Thomas in a brief post-game analysis, 15 fe3! is better here) Nc6 16 0-0 Ne7 17 Qa4 Qd7 18 Qd7 Kd7 19 Bc2 Rhd8 20 Rfd1 g6 21 g4 f6 22 Bb3 1/2

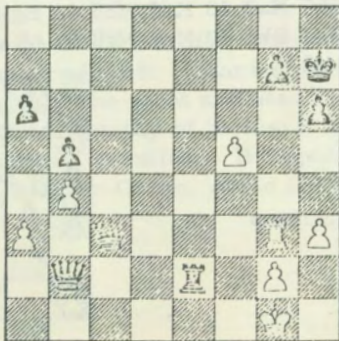
White - Joe Bradford 2219  
Black - Ruth Orton 2090

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cd 4 Nd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 a6 6 f4 Qc7 7 Bd3 b5 8 0-0 Bb7 9 Qf3 e6 10 Be3 Nbd7 11 a3 Be7 12 Rael Nc5 13 Qg3 0-0 14 e5 Nfe4 15 Ne4 Ne4 16 Qh3 h6 (diagram) 17 Ne6! fe6 18 Qe6 Kh8 19 Be4 Be4 20 ed Bd6 21 Qe4 Rae8 22 Qd3 Re3 23 Re3 Bc5 24 Kh1 Be3 25 Qe3 Qc2 26 Qe5 Rd8 27 f5 Rd1 28 Kg1 Rd2 29 Qe8 Kh7 30 Qg6 Kg8 31 h3 Rd1 32 Qe8 Kh7 33 Qe5 Rd2 34 Qg3 Qc6 35 b4 Qf6 36 Qe3 Rc2 37 Rf3 Qb2 38 Rg3 Re2 39 Qc3?? 1/2 (diagram)

Another case of White having an extra pawn but Black's active pieces on the seventh holding the balance? After making his last move, Bradford quickly offered the draw and Ms. Orton, no doubt tired of the cat and mouse game, accepted. At that point, it was quickly demonstrated by Bradford that Rg2 wins outright!!



Bradford - R. Orton



Bradford - R. Orton

White - William Orton 2074

Black - Jerry Milburn 2139

1 e4 c5 2 c3 Nf6 3 e5 Nd5 4 d4 cd 5 Qd4 e6 6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Qe4 f5 8 Qe2 a6  
9 g3 Be7 10 Bg2 0-0 11 0-0 b5 12 Rd1 Qc7 13 Nd4 ?! Qe5 14 Qe5 Ne5 15 Nb5  
Rb8 16 N5a3 Bb7 17 c4 Nb4 18 Bf4 Nbd3 19 Rd2 Nf4 20 gf4 Ng6 21 Nc3 Nf4  
22 Bb7 Rb7 23 Rad1 Ba3 24 ba3 Rc8 25 Ne2 Ne2 26 Re2 Rc4 27 Rd6 Kf7 28 Ra6  
Rg4 29 Kf1 Rb1 30 Re1 Re1 31 Ke1 Rh4 32 Rd6 Ke7 33 Rd3 Rh2 34 a4 Rh4  
35 Ra3 Rc4 36 a5 Rc7 37 Kd2 Kd6 38 f4 h6 39 Kd3 Kd5 40 Rb3 Ra7 41 Rb5 Kc6  
42 Kc4 d5 43 Kb4 Rb7 44 a4 h5 0-1

### ROUND THREE

<u>Players</u>	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Moves</u>
Thomas (2) - Simms (1 1/2)	QGD	0-1	56
R. Orton (1) - Smith (1)	Sicilian	0-1	23
Brieger (1) - Milburn (1)	Sicilian	1/2	22
W. Orton (0) - Bradford (1/2)	French	0-1	44

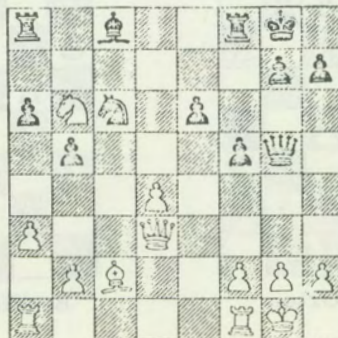
Thomas, now alone in the lead with two wins, overpressed and lost to Simms in a mad timescramble. Smith capitalized on his opponent's mistakes in the opening as he notched a win over Ruth Orton. Brieger managed to entangle Milburn in a typical Brieger position and scored his third draw. Bradford beat William Orton with a neat combination.

White - David Thomas 2174

Black - Gary Simms 2129

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 c5 4 e3 Nf6 5 Nf3 Nc6 6 a3 cd 7 ed dc 8 Bc4 Be7 9 0-0  
0-0 10 Qd3 a6 11 Bg5 b5 12 Bb3 Nd5 13 Bc2 f5 14 Nd5 Bg5 15 Ng5 Qg5 16 Nb6  
(diagram) Bb7! 17 Qe3 (17 Na8 Nd4 18 f3 Rd8!) Qe3 18 fe3 Rad8 19 d5 ed 20 Rf5  
Rf5 21 Bf5 d4 22 Be6 Kf8 23 Nd5 Ne5 24 Rf1 Ke8 25 Nc7? Ke7 26 ed Rd4 27 Bh3  
Rd2 28 Re1 Kd6 29 Ne8 Kd5 30 Ng7 Nd3 31 Rf1 Rb2 32 Rd1 Kd4 33 Nf5 Kc3  
34 Ne3 Rd2 35 Rf1 Re2 36 Nd1 Kb3 37 Rf7 Re1 38 Rf1 Rf1 39 Kf1 Nf4 40 Bf5  
Bg2 41 Kf2 Bd5 42 Bh7 Ka3 43 Ke3 Nh5 44 Bg6 Nf6 45 h4 Bg8 46 Kf4 b4 47 Kg5  
Nh7 48 Kh6 Nf6 49 Kg7 Bb3 50 Ne3 Ng8 51 h5 a5 52 h6 Nh6 53 Kh6 Kb2 54 Kg5  
a4 55 Kf4 a3 56 Ng4 a2 0-1

Thomas-Simms





White - Ruth Orton 2090  
Black - Ken Smith 2243

1 e4 c5 2 c3 Nf6 3 e5 Nd5 4 d4 cd4 5 Qd4 e6 6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Qe4 f5 8 Qe2 Qc7  
9 g3 b5 10 a4 ba 11 Na3 Ba3 12 Ra3 a5 13 Bg2 Ba6 14 c4 Ncb4 15 Nh4 Bc4  
16 Qh5 g6 17 Ng6 0-0-0 18 Nh8 Qe5 19 Be3 Qb2 20 Nf7 Nc2 21 Kd1 Qa3  
22 Qg5 Nce3 23 fe3 Qd3 0-1

White - Robert Brieger 2207  
Black - Jerry Milburn 2139

1 e4 c5 2 c3 Nf6 3 e5 Nd5 4 d4 cd 5 cd d6 6 f4 e6 7 Nf3 Be7 8 Nc3 Nc3  
9 bc3 d5 10 Bd3 Qc7 11 Bd2 Nc6 12 Ng5 g6 13 Qg4 Bd7 14 h4 h5 15 Qg3 Rg8  
16 0-0 Rg7 17 Qf3 Na5 18 Rfb1 a6 19 a4 Qc6 20 Qd1 Rb8 21 Ra2 Nc4 22 a5 1/2

White - William Orton 2074  
Black - Joe Bradford 2219

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 f4 c5 6 c3 Nc6 7 Ndf3 Qa5 8 dc Qc5  
9 Ne2 Qb6 10 Ned4 Bc5 11 g3 Bd4 12 cd4 Qb4 13 Kf2 f6 14 ef Nf6 15 a3 Qb6  
16 b4 0-0 17 Kg2 Bd7 18 Bb2 Ng4 19 Qd2 Ne7 20 h3 Nf6 21 Bd3 Bb5 22 Bc2  
Nf5 23 Rael Rae8 24 a4 Bc4 25 b5 Nh5 26 Ba3 Nfg3 27 Bf8 Rf8 28 Ng5 Ne4  
29 Be4 de4 30 Kh2 Nf4 31 Ne4 Qd8 32 Rhg1 Qh4 33 Re3 Nd5 34 Qg2 g6 35 Rf3  
Rf4 36 Rf4 Qf4 37 Ng3 Ne3 38 Qb2 h5 39 Qb1 Qf2 40 Kh1 Bd5 41 Ne4 Qf3  
42 Kh2 Be4 43 Rg6 Kf7 44 Rg3 Qf2 0-1

#### ROUND FOUR

<u>Players</u>	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Moves</u>
Simms (2 1/2) - Smith (2)	Sicilian	0-1	41
Bradford (1 1/2) - Thomas (2)	Sicilian	1/2	28
Milburn (1 1/2) - R. Orton (1)	Sicilian	1-0	22
Brieger (1 1/2) - W. Orton (0)	Sicilian	1/2	36

Simms, now clear leader with 2 1/2 out of 3, immediately found the burden too heavy and turned it over to Smith. Thomas defended tenaciously against Bradford and managed to split the point and stay in contention. Milburn turned in an effort against Ruth Orton worthy of inclusion in future combinational books. The final King-side attack was beautiful. Brieger, despite having held a positional advantage over William Orton, could not break through and settled for a half-point.



ROUND FIVE

Players	Opening	Result	Moves
Smith (3) - Bradford (2)	English	0-1	30
Milburn (2 1/2) - Simms (2 1/2)		1-0 (forfeit)	
Thomas (2 1/2) - Brieger (2)	QGD	1/2	18
R. Orton (1) - W. Orton (1/2)	Ruy Lopez	1/2	24

Saturday night and Sunday morning four to six inches of snow fell in the Denton area. Visibility was poor, streets were slick; in general, road conditions were hazardous. Mrs. Simms, after having let Gary out at the tournament site, was returning to the motel when her car was hit broadside by another car. Obviously the driver of the other vehicle was not prepared to cope with a car moseying down a one-way street the wrong way. Fortunately, no one was hurt, but the Simms' car was incapacitated. Being an obedient chess widow, Mrs. Simms, upon her release from the slammer, made her way back to the tournament site. Exercising great control over her emotions, she sat with a cheery look on her face while her husband struggled in a losing cause against Ken Smith. Mind you, she hadn't mentioned a word about the wreck. Upon the completion of the Simms-Smith game, however, she could hold back her pent-up emotions no longer. A tearful recitation followed. Frantically trying to contact insurance agents (on Sunday, Ha!), auto repair shops, bus lines, etc., before the fifth round started, Gary and Dorothy decided that to get back home (Amarillo) by Monday evening, they had to catch the 6:00 P. M. bus from Denton. It was decided that Simms would withdraw from the tournament. During this time, the fifth round pairings had already been made and some games had started. Therefore, Milburn, who was paired with Simms, got a point without playing. By winning his game against Bradford, Smith could have taken clear first place; however...

The big game of the fifth round was the wild and wooly melee' which ended in an abrupt mate of Smith's King just when he had penetrated to Bradford's first rank. Thomas could have shared first place with a win over Brieger. Brieger had other ideas, however, and scored his fifth half point (Brieger has now played at least 36 tournament games without a loss! No, he did not draw all 36!). The Ortons battled to a standstill in a game that indicated they had not agreed to the outcome beforehand.

When the smoke cleared, Milburn's 3 1/2 points had withstood the onslaughts, and he was the 1977 Texas Chess Champion. C'est la guerre!

White - Ken Smith 2243  
Black - Joe Bradford 2219

1 c4 e5 2 Nc3 Nf6 3 Nf3 e4 4 Ng5 b5 5 cb d5 6 d4 Bd6 7 g3 a6 8 Nh3 0-0  
9 Bg2 c6 10 ba Re8 11 0-0 Qb6 12 Na4 Qb5 13 Nc3 Qa6 14 Bf4 Bb4 15 Kh1 Nbd7  
16 Bd2 Qc4 17 Qb3 Nb6 18 Rfc1 Ng4 19 e3 Re6 20 Qd1 Rh6 21 Kg1 Be7 22 Bf1  
(diagram - see Page 11) Rh3!! 23 Bc4 Nc4 24 Ne4 de4 25 Rc4 Nh2 26 Ra4 Ra4

White - Ken Smith 2243

(continued)

Black - Joe Bradford 2219

27 Qa4 Nf3 28 Kf1 Rh1 29 Ke2 Ral 30 Qa8 Ng1 0-1 (At first glance it appears that White's 30th move is a terrible blunder, but as he is lost anyway, it doesn't make much difference. e.g. 30 Bb4 Bb4 31 Qb4 Ba6 or 30 Bc3 Bh3! Qa8 Bf8 32 Bb4 Bf1).

White - David Thomas 2174

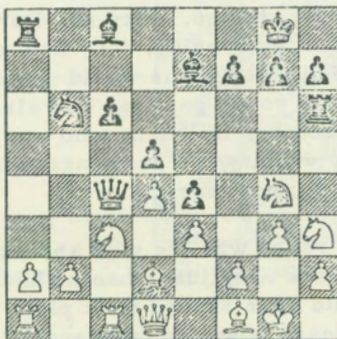
Black - Robert Brieger 2207

1 d4 d5 2 c4 Bf5 3 Nc3 e6 4 Nf3 c6 5 Qb3 Qb6 6 Qb6 ab6 7 e3 Be7 8 Be2 Nd7 9 0-0 h6 10 Bd2 Ngf6 11 a3 0-0 12 Nel Ne4 13 Ne4 Be4 14 cd ed 15 Bd3 Bd3 16 Nd3 Ra4 17 Rac1 Re8 18 Rfd1 Bd6 1/2

White - Ruth Orton 2090

Black - William Orton 2074

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 Bc5 4 c3 f5 5 d4 fe 6 Ne5 Ne5 7 dc5 Nf6 8 0-0 0-0 9 Bg5 c6 10 Be2 Qe8 11 Nd2 Qg6 12 Bf4 Nfg4 13 Bg3 d6 14 cd Be6 15 h3 Nf2 16 Rf2 Qg3 17 Qe1 Qe3 18 Bf1 Qf2 19 Qf2 Rf2 20 Kf2 Nd3 21 Ke3 Rd8 22 Ne4 Nb2 23 Rb1 Nc4 24 Bc4 1/2



Smith-Bradford

1977 TEXAS AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

The Amateur Championship (open to anyone with a rating under 2000 or unrated) drew 106 players this year. It was won by Mason Dickson (1912) of Austin with a perfect score of 5-0. He played some very interesting games. He was closely followed by J. C. Thompson (1977) of Richardson, Kevin Embrey (1797) of Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, and Steve Wolff (1793) of Ft. Worth. They tied for second with 4 1/2 - 1/2. Thompson was second on tiebreaks. Embrey and Wolff tied for the Class B prize, with Embrey on top in tiebreaks. Class C was won by Lavalley Watson (1599) of Wichita Falls with 3 1/2. "Smokin' Jerome" Campbell (1362) of Abilene won Class D over several others tied with 2 points. Some of the games are given below.

White - Mason Dickson  
Black - James Rohrbaugh

1 e4 d6 2 d4 Nf6 3 Nc3 g6 4 Nf3 Bg7 5 Bd3 Bg4 6 h3 Bf3 7 Qf3 Nbd7 8 Ne2 c6  
9 a4 a5 10 0-0 0-0 11 g4 h6 12 c3 e5 13 Qg2 Re8 14 f4 Qe7 15 Ng3 Nh7 16 de  
de 17 f5 g5 18 Nh5 Ndf6 19 Ng7 Kg7 20 Be3 Nd7 21 f6 Nhf6 22 Rf5 Nc5 23 Bc2  
Rad8 24 Raf1 Ne6 25 Rf6 Nf4 26 Bf4 Qf6 27 Be3 Qe6 28 Bb6 Ra8 29 Rd1 Ra6  
30 Bc5 Qc4 31 Qf2 b6 32 Bd3 Qb3 33 Rf1 Ra7 34 Qf6 Kh7 35 Be3 c5 36 Bb5  
Ree7 37 Qb6 Qb2 38 Rf6 Qb1 39 Kf2 Qc2 40 Kg3 Re6 41 Re6 fe6 42 Qa7 Kg6  
43 Be8 1-0

White - Mike Burns 1596  
Black - J. C. Thompson 1977

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 Bc5 4 0-0 Qf6 5 d3 d6 6 h3 h6 7 Nc3 Be6 8 Nd5 Qd8  
9 d4 ed 10 Nd4 Bd7 11 Be3 Nf6 12 Nc6 bc6 13 Nf6 Qf6 14 Bc5 cb5 15 Bd4 Qg6  
16 Qf3 0-0 17 Rfe1 c5 18 Bc3 Rae8 19 Re3 b4 20 Bd2 Re5 21 Rael f5 22 Qg3  
Qf6 23 ef Rf5 24 R3e2 Rf7 25 c3 a5 26 b3 d5 27 cb ab 28 f3 Kh7 29 Re5 Qa6  
30 Rf5 Bf5 31 Ral (31 Re8! threatening 32 Bh6! and 32 Qb8) Qd3 32 Qf2 d4  
33 Qel Rf6 34 Rd1 Re6 35 Qf1 Qc2 36 Qf2? Qd1 0-1

White - Lorenzo Gaskill 1936  
Black - Dennis Ward 1344

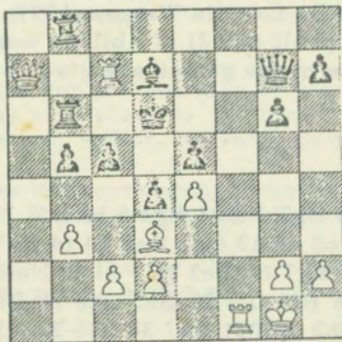
1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 d4 ed 4 e5 Nd5 5 Qd4 c6 6 Bd3 Qa5 7 Bd2 Qb6 8 0-0  
Bc5 9 Qg4 0-0 10 Bh7 Kh7 11 Qh5 Kg8 12 Ng5 Bf2 13 Kh1 Re8 14 Qf7 1-0

White - W. Brady  
Black - Curtis Lucas

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d3 g6 4 g3 Bg7 5 Bg2 e6 6 0-0 Nge7 7 Nbd2 0-0 8 Re1 Re8  
9 c3 Rb8 10 Nf1 d6 11 Be3 b6 12 d4 cd 13 cd Bb7 14 Bf4 e5 15 de de 16 Bd2 Nd4  
17 Nd4 ed4 18 Bf4 Rc8 19 Qd3 Qd7 20 f3 Nc6 21 Ne3? Nb4 22 Qd2 Qb5 23 Bf1  
de3 24 Bb5 ed2 25 Bd2 Bc6 0-1

White - P. Hallmark 1792  
Black - Dean Yarbro 1958

1 f4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 e3 e6 4 b3 Be7 5 Bb2 a6 6 Bd3 Nbd7 7 Nc3 c5 8 a4 b6  
9 Ne2 Rb8 10 Ng3 b5 11 ab ab 12 Ne5 Rb6 13 Nh5 g6 14 Nd7! Bd7 15 Nf6  
Bf6 16 Bf6 Qf6 17 Ra8 Ke7 18 Ra7 d4 19 Qa1 Rbh8 20 0-0 Qg7 21 Rc7 Kd6  
22 Qa7 f6 23 e4 e5 24 fe fe (diagram) 25 Rd7! (25 Rf6!! Qf6 26 Rd7 Ke6 27 Rh7  
Qd8 28 Qf7 Kd6 29 Qd5) Qd7 26 Rf6 Qe6 27 Re6 Ke6 28 Qh7 Kf6 29 g4 Kg5  
30 Kg2 Kg4 31 Qh6! g5 32 Qh3 1-0



Hallmark-Yarbro



# TEXAS KNIGHTS

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TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION is a non-profit organization of chess players dedicated to the encouragement and growth of this royal game, art, and sport through education. We believe chess quickens the mind, teaches forethought and planning, and is wonderful fun.

Membership in the TCA is available to all at the rate of \$4/year, but out-of-state residents do not have voting rights at the annual TCA business meeting. The special rate for juniors (under 18) is \$3/year. Any member of a family that already has one full TCA member may join for \$1/year; in that case, only one Texas Knights will be mailed to the family. These payments and all address changes should be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer.

The TCA is a democratic organization and members are urged to participate, especially at the business meeting (Saturday before Labor Day) when officers are elected and tournament sites decided. Contributions of chess-related material to be published in Texas Knights are encouraged and should be mailed to the Editor. Advertising rates are \$35/page, \$20/half page. Deadline for the next issue is May 1, 1977.

# TEXAS KNIGHTS

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