

# TEXAS KNIGHTS

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May-June 2007



## Warren Harper

### 2007 Texas High School Champion

=1st HS teams: Hanna/Brownsville, Westwood/Austin

**Middle School**     **George Qi**  
**Alexander Balkum**  
**Grant Powell**  
**Matthew Liu**

Middle School team: Canyon Vista/Austin

**Elementary**     **Fernand Mendez**  
Elementary team: H.H. Rogers/Houston

**Primary**     **Raymond Sun**  
Primary team: Canturbury/Edinburg

**K-1**     **Alex Liu**  
K-1 team: Cash/San Benito

**SW Collegiate**     **Daniel Fernandez**  
**John Bartholemew**  
Collegiate team: UT-Dallas

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**Nominations for TCA office are due June 15**

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Game annotations if not attributed are a collaboration of NM Selby Anderson and Fritz 5.32.  
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Correction to Jan-Feb 2007: The back cover problem needs a White pawn on h4.  
 Correction to Mar-Apr 2007: Page 13 is a duplicate of p. 19. A patch can be downloaded at [www.texaschess.org](http://www.texaschess.org).

# A Message from the President

In the last issue of *TK*, I mentioned that I'd weigh in on the debate about whether there should be class prizes in chess. There seems to be no consensus about this issue; I know both high and low rated players who favor class prizes, and who oppose them. There are valid arguments on both sides. But I believe class prizes are bad for chess in the long run. Alexey Root did a good job of making the case against class prizes in the September/October issue, and I have little to add to it. It should be noted that before I forgot how the pieces move, my rating maxed out at 2179, and I was ineligible for most class prizes as a result. (Now that I'm back below 2000, I have a better chance of winning U2000 prizes, for example, except that I would actually have to win a game here and there to accomplish that.) I want to emphasize one of her points: playing chess at higher levels is emotionally and physically exhausting.

I remember playing in the Gulf Coast Open in 1992, in which my lowest rated opponent over three days was practically a master (I was an A-player on the wall chart, with an actual rating just above 2000). While it is very rewarding to play at that level, it is hard work. I was physically exhausted when I finally flew back to Austin on the last night. As an A-player, I was glad to do it; I was playing, not with any expectation of winning money, but of getting to play very good players [including both Texas champion Miles Ardaman and Louisiana champ Alfred Carlin, not to mention my first (lucky) win against Selby Anderson] The Gulf Coast Open was also the first tournament I played in that had a grandmaster; in fact, two: Patrick Wolff and Walter Browne. But unlike me, they did not come to New Orleans so they could play five A-players. It took a good prize fund to attract them to that tournament. I can only imagine the effort they had to expend to split first prize. They each have more talent than I do, of course, but they also had years of experience and preparation invested in the game.

What about club tournaments? I am now playing in a weekend tournament at the Austin Chess Club that cost \$15 to enter. For \$15 I get four rated games, which is not a bad price. I'm board 6, which means I will probably play up twice and down twice and will finish out of the

money. There are two sections – one for anyone and one for U1600. The person who wins the U1600 section will get more money than the person who finishes third in the Open section, despite arguably not playing as well. Now I grant you I would rather have sections instead of class prizes – this keeps the average rating of my opponents higher – but still, a class section provides an incentive to keep your rating down in exchange for additional prize money. Is anyone playing in the lower section with the hope of winning the prize money? I don't know, but I hope not; I'd rather they all played for the chance to improve their game by playing four opponents with slow time controls. That's the reason I'm playing. And I would rather that prize money have gone to increasing the first prize, with the chance of attracting stronger players.

I like the idea of having class sections with low entry fees and trophies for prizes. I think it is a bad idea to play chess for the class prizes, anyway, and if there are class players who only enter tournaments for the class prizes, that's too bad because they are not likely to see their game improve, which I thought was the point of playing. (I understand that one of the reasons for sections is so players can avoid losing as often. While I disagree with that sentiment, I am more sympathetic to it than the notion that one should only enter tournaments to try to win \$100 for being the best B player during the weekend.)

I will close by addressing the notion that one's worth is determined solely by his rating. Obviously, one's personal worth is dependent on more than his ability as a chess player. But I see nothing wrong by determining one's chess ability solely by his rating, since that's what they're for. I've not heard anyone argue that a class player is less hallowed or noteworthy than an expert or master, but I will argue myself that the expert or master is the better chess player, and is more deserving of winning a prize based on his performance against all comers than a class player is of a class prize based on his performance as compared to other players of his caliber.

There are very few people who make a living at chess. For the vast, vast majority of chess players, chess should be considered a game, or a hobby, but not a secondary source of income. Consider your expenses as the cost of doing something you enjoy, rather than an investment in a prize that will prove elusive anyway. And see if you can enjoy the game for its own sake, rather than the illusory reward of some cash.

Michael M. Simpson

# 2007 Texas Scholastic Championships

This year 1,521 players competed in twelve sections at the Texas Scholastic Championships, held Mar. 17-18 at the Adams Mark in Dallas.

Chief organizer Luis Salinas of Southwest Chess headed a staff that included Gary Gaiffe, George John, Susan Breeding, Fred Roper, Lakshmana Viswanathan, Darrel Knoblock, Benjamin Wheeler, Jennifer James, Selby Anderson, Francisco Guadalupe, Briza Jones, Brad Bradford, Carmen Chairez, Barb Swafford and Lori Balkum.

Sponsors (besides TCA) included the University of Texas at Dallas, Forest Printing, Think Like a King Software and the Dallas Chess Club.

The Collegiate more than doubled in attendance from last year. Thirteen schools were represented, of which seven fielded teams.

## Southwest Collegiate Championship

(44 players, 5 rounds)

1 IM Daniel Fernandez	2449	UTB	4.5
2 IM John Bartholemew	2476	UTD	4.5
3 IM Jacek Stopa	2414	UTD	4.0
4 FM Ali Morshedi	2287	UTD	4.0
5 Yashodhan Gogte	2102	UTD	3.0

## Southwest Collegiate Team

1 University of Texas at Dallas	16.5
2 University of Texas at Brownsville	14.0

## High School Championship

(122 players, 7 rounds)

1 Warren Harper	6.5	Tenney	Houston
2 Francisco Guadalupe	6.0	Clear Lake	Clear Lake
3 Stanley Yang	6.0	Jasper	Plano
4 Deepyman Datta	5.5	TAMS	Denton
5 Karthik Ramachandran	5.5	Clark	Plano
6 Abshishek Mallela	5.5	Coppell	Coppell
7 William Ong	5.5	Bellaire	Houston
8 Artur Safin	5.5	Lamar	Houston
9 Sachary Haskin	5.5	Rider	Wichita Falls

## High School Team

1 Hanna High School	Brownsville	19.0
2 Westwood	Austin	19.0
3 Science Academy	Mercedes	16.5
4 Porter	Brownsville	16.0

## High School JV (U1000)

(90 players, 7 rounds)

1 Jose Villarreal	6.5	San Benito	San Benito
2 Edward Wong	6.0	MacArthur	Houston
3 Hector Lara	6.0	Ysleta	El Paso
4 Joseph Garcia	6.0	MacArthur	Houston
5 Vy Truong Nguyen	5.5	W.T. White	Dallas
6 Paulo Del Barrio	5.5	United	Laredo

## High School JV Team

1 San Benito	San Benito	21.0
2 MacArthur	Houston	20.5
3 Hanna	Brownsville	19.5

## Middle School Championship

(159 players, 7 rounds)

1 George Qi	6.0	Canyon Vistas	Austin
2 Alexander Balkum	6.0	AAHS	Austin
3 Grant Powell	6.0	Robinson	Plano
4 Matthew Liu	6.0	Canyon Vistas	Austin

## Middle School Team

1 Canyon Vista	Austin	22.0
2 Robinson MS	Plano	21.0
3 Rogers MS	Houston	20.0
4 John Cooper School	The Woodlands	18.5
5 Vela MS	Brownsville	18.0

## Middle School JV

(98 players, 7 rounds)

1 Felipe Santana	6.5	Berta Cabaza	San Benito
2 Ethan Murphy	6.0	Ford	Allen
3 Ronnie Abolafia-Rozenzweig	6.0	SBMS	Spring Branch
4 Edward Valencia	5.5	Desert View	El Paso
5 Jake Boots	5.5	Pershing	Houston
6 Taylor Lathrop	5.5	SBMS	Spring Branch
7 Alexis Garcia	5.5	Lucio	Brownsville
8 Carlos Solis	5.5	Sharyland	McAllen
9 Rohan Reddy	5.5	Canyon Vista	Austin

## Middle School JV Team

1 Pershing MS	Houston	19.5
2 Besteiro MS	Brownsville	17.0
3 Garcia MS	Brownsville	16.5
4 Truatman MS	Laredo	16.5

### Middle School Novice

(98 players, 7 rounds)

1 Ernesto Perez	6.5 Guillen	El Paso
2 Greg Bustamante	6.0 Desert View	El Paso
3 John-Paul Pigion	6.0 homeschooled	Richland Hills
4 Kerui Huang	6.0 Pershing	Houston
5 Dancie Jones	6.0 Pershing	Houston
6 Hayden Matz	5.5 Coakley	Houston
7 Andres Lerma	5.5 Guillen	El Paso

### Middle School Novice Team

1 Guillen MS	El Paso	22.0
2 Pershing MS	Houston	21.0
3 Coakley	Harlingen	19.5
4 Desert View	El Paso	19.0

### Elementary Championship

(180 players, 7 rounds)

1 Fernand Mendez	6.5 Garden Park	Brownsville
2 Jarod Pamatmat	6.0 All Saints	Tyler
3 Dylan James	6.0 AAHS	Austin
4 Vincent Zhang	6.0 T.H. Rogers	Houston
5 Jonathan Chin	6.0 Denton Creek	Denton
6 Jason Jia	6.0 Anderson	Allen
7 Fernando Spada	5.5 Paredes	Brownsville
8 James Ukoli	5.5 Paredes	Brownsville
9 Jeffrey Hung	5.5 Villareal	Los Fresnos
10 Sarah Chiang	5.5 Carroll	Southlake
11 Elliot Cheung	5.5 Village School	Houston
12 Victoria Zhang	5.5 T.H. Rogers	Houston

### Elementary Team

1 T.H. Rogers	Houston	21.5
2 Paredes Elementary	Brownsville	21.0
3 Laurel Mountain	Austin	18.5
4 Garden Park	Brownsville	18.5
5 The Village School	Houston	17.5

### Elementary JV

(141 players, 7 rounds)

1 John Gutierrez	7.0 Noreth Alamo	Alamo
2 Rohith Kaliyur	6.5 Spicewood	Austin
3 Alexander Yang	6.0 Colony Meadows	Sugarland
4 Zack Westenhaber	6.0 Village School	Houston
5 Rushi Challa	6.0 Coulson Tough	Woodlands
6 Francisco Velez	6.0 Garza	San Benito
7 Arjun Reddy	5.5 Village School	Houston
8 Matthew Valencia	5.5 Dealey	Dallas
9 Jose Ramirez	5.5 Victoria Hts.	Brownsville
10 Mark Trujillo	5.5 Castaneda	Brownsville

### Elementary JV Team

1 The Village School	Houston	20.5
2 Garza Elementary	San Benito	20.5
3 North Alamo	Alamo	20.0
4 Laurel Mountain	Austin	17.5
5 Cash Elementary	San Benito	17.5

### Primary Championship

(93 players, 7 rounds)

1 Raymond Sun	7.0 Barksdale	Plano
2 Jonathan Chiang	6.0 Carroll	Southlake
3 Edgar Santoyo	6.0 Paredes	Brownsville
4 Austin Jiang	6.0 Steiner Ranch	Austin
5 Daniel Ng	5.5 Harmony	Houston

### Primary Team

1 Canterbury	Edinburg	16.0
2 Canales	Brownsville	15.5
3 St. Andrew's	Austin	15.5
4 Wyatt	Plano	15.0
5 Paredes	Brownsville	15.0

(Continued on page 18)

## *An Unforgettable Experience*

BY SYLVIA YANG

I read the list of the people that had made it to the world youth. As I skimmed down the list, I reached the gold! I had made it to the U10 section at the World Youth in BATUMI, GEORGIA?? I thought it was probably like last year in France when there were no air conditioners!

To my surprise, it was not what I had expected! When I took my first glance at the hotel, before I almost fainted with my eyes popped out, I knew that there was air conditioning!

Most of the days I would sit in the lounge and wait for my coach to help me. One day, the roof was leaking and then there was a puddle on the floor, except nobody had noticed UNTIL I slipped and fell on the stone floor and hit my head. Some famous chess players nursed me until I was feeling better.

I had felt better after and started my way back to the top of the mountain. I ended up with 6 points out of 11, so I felt kind of bad. After the tournament, I had improved greatly and met so many new people even though we didn't speak the same language, I knew we shared something in common: CHESS.

# GAMES FROM THE Texas High School Championship

*Sicilian Najdorf B90*

Francisco Guadalupe II 2218

Warren Harper 2267

*Texas High School Chp. (5)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.a4 e5 7.Nf3 Be7 8.Bg5 Be6 9.Bxf6 Bxf6 10.Nd5 0-0 11.Bc4 Nd7 12.0-0 Nb6 13.Bb3 Nxd5 14.Bxd5 Qd7 15.c3 Rac8 16.Ra3 Bxd5 17.Qxd5 Rc5 18.Qd3 Qe6 19.Rd1 Be7 20.b4 Rc7 21.Qe3 Rfc8 22.Ne1 f5 23.Qh3 g6 24.Nc2 Bg5 25.Rd3 Bc1 26.Ra1 Bb2 27.Rb1 Rxc3 28.Rxc3 Bxc3

28...Rxc3 29.Ne3 Bc1 30.exf5 Qa2 31.fxg6 hxg6 32.Qg4.

29.Ne3 Qa2 30.Rf1 Rf8 31.exf5 Bd4 32.fxg6 hxg6 33.Ng4 Qd2 34.Qb3+ Kg7 35.Qe6 Qxb4 36.h4?

36.Qe7+ Rf7 37.Qg5 Bxf2+ 38.Nxf2 Qxa4 39.Qe3 (39.h4 b5 40.h5 Qc2 41.Qxg6+ Qxg6 42.hxg6 Kxg6 43.Ra1 Ra7) 39...Rf4 40.Qb6 Qc6 41.Rb1±.

36...Qd2 37.Kh1 Qd3

37...Qf4 38.a5 Qf5±.

38.Rc1



38...Rf7 39.h5?

39.Nh6! Kxh6□ 40.Qxf7 Qf5 41.Qxf5 gxf5 42.Kg1±.

39...Qf5 40.Qxg6+ Qxg6 41.hxg6 Kxg6 42.Kg1

42.f3 Rh7+ 43.Nh2 Bf2 44.Rc4 b5 -+; 42.Kh2 Bxf2 43.Nxf2 Rxf2 44.Kg3 Ra2 45.Rd1 Rxa4-+.

42...Kg5 0-1

*Ruy Lopez C64*

Francisco Guadalupe II 2218

Kevin Lu 1712

*Texas High School Chp. (3)*

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5 4.0-0 d6 5.c3 a6 6.Bc4 Bg4 7.h3 Bxf3 8.Qxf3 Nf6 9.b4 Bb6 10.d3 h6 11.Qg3 Nh5 12.Qg4 g6 13.Na3 Qf6 14.g3 Nd8 15.Bb3 Ne6 16.Nc4 Ba7 17.Ne3 c6 18.Kh1 Nhg7 19.f4 exf4 20.d4 Nh5 21.Ng2?

Better is 21.gxf4, as the f4-pawn is indigestible.



21...Nxg3+??

21...Nxg3+?? has the point that 21.cxd4 Bxd4 both attacks the rook and defends the queen again, so as to enable ...Nxg3+ with advantage!

On 22.Nxf4 Black has 22...Nxb3 23.axb3 Qxc3 24.Nxh5 gxh5 25.Qxh5 Qxb3 with two clean pawns to the good.

22.Qxg3 fxg3 23.Rxf6 Ke7 24.Rf3 Raf8 25.Rxg3 c5 26.bxc5 dxc5 27.Ba3 Kd7 28.Rd1 Kc8 29.Bxe6+ fxe6 30.Rxg6 Rf2 31.Bc1 Rxa2 32.Bf4 Rc2 33.Rg7 cxd4 34.Rc7+ Kd8

35.Rxb7 Rg8 36.Rxa7 Rgxf2 37.Rxd4+ Ke8 38.Rb4 Rgf2

A mutual mate in one problem for the kiddos.

39.Rb8#

1-0

*English Opening A36*

Edward Rodriguez 1739

Warren Harper 2267

*Texas High School Chp. (3)*

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.e3 Nf6 6.Nge2 0-0 7.d4 cxd4 8.exd4 d6 9.0-0 Nd7 10.Be3 Nb6 11.b3 Bg4 12.h3 Bxe2 13.Nxe2 d5

Now 13.c5 Nc8 14.b4 is a well-known treatment.

14.Rc1 e6 15.Re1 dxc4 16.bxc4 Na5 17.c5 Nd5 18.Nf4 Nxe3 19.fx3 Rc8 20.Qe2 b6 21.cxb6 axb6 22.Rxc8 Qxc8 23.Qb5

Better is 23.Rb1 Qc7 24.Qb2 =.



23...Qc3 24.Qe2

24.Kf2 Nc4 25.Qb3 is equal except for 25...Bxd4!! 26.exd4 Qxd4+ 27.Ke2 Qe5+ 28.Kf2 (28.Kf1 Nd2+) 28...Qc5+ 29.Ke2 Rd8 30.Qc3 Rd2+ 31.Rxd2 Nxd2 32.Kxd2 Qf2+ and the Q+3P outweigh R+B+N.

24...Nc4 25.Nd3??

Overlooking a wicked pin in the position. 25.Kh2 is close to equal.

25...Nxe3! 26.Rc1 Qxd4 27.Kh2 Rd8 28.Ne1 Nxg2 29.Nxg2 Bf8 30.Rc2 Be5

1-0

## GAMES FROM THE Southwest Collegiate

In Round 5, tournament leaders John Bartholemew and Daniel Fernandez had an early draw and split the title.

Board 2 saw a real fight, where Black overreached and got invaded:

### *Pirc Defense B07*

Jacek Stopa 2414

Axel Bachmann 2600

### *SW Collegiate 2007 (5)*

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Be2 0-0 6.h3 c6 7.a4 a5 8.0-0 Qc7 9.Be3 Na6 10.Qc1 Rd8 11.Rd1 Nb4 12.Bc4 d5 13.exd5 Nbx d5 14.Nxd5 cxd5 15.Bd3 Qb6 16.Ra3 Bd7 17.Bf4 Rac8 18.Re1 Re8 19.Be5 Bc6 20.Nh2 Nd7 21.Bxg7 Kxg7 22.Nf3 f6 23.Re6 Nf8 24.Re2 Nd7 25.Qe1 Kf7 26.Rb3 Qc7 27.Bb5 e6 28.Qd2 Bxb5 29.Rxb5 b6 30.Rb3 Qd6 31.Qh6 Nf8 32.Rbe3 Rc4 33.b3 Rc7 34.Ne1 Rec8 35.Rf3 Rc3 36.Nd3 Qe7 37.Ne5+ Ke8 38.Rxc3 Rxc3 39.Qd2 Rc7 40.Ng4 h5 41.Ne3 Qd6 42.g3 Kf7 43.h4



43...Qb4 44.Qd1 b5?!

44...Rc3=

45.axb5 a4

45...Qxb5 46.c4 dxc4 47.bxc4 Qd7 48.d5±.

46.bxa4 Qxa4 47.Qd3 Qa1+

47...Qb4 48.Kg2 Rc3 49.Qd2 Qxb5 50.Qxc3 Qxe2 51.Qc7+ Kg8 52.Qe7 f5 53.Qf6±

48.Kg2 Qb1 49.Rd2 Qb4 50.Rd1 Nd7 51.Ra1 Rc3 52.Qd2 Rb3 53.Qc1 Rc3 54.Ra7 Ke8?

54...Qxb5 55.Nd1 Rc4 56.Qh6 Ke7 57.Qxg6 Rxd4 58.Qxh5±.

55.Nd1!

An unusual move to begin a final assault.

55...Rc8 56.Qh6 Rd8

Of course, 56...Nf8 57.Qg7 is also woefully inadequate.

57.Qxg6+ Ke7

57...Kf8 58.Ra6 Qxd4 59.Rxe6! Qxd1 60.Qh7+.

58.Qg7+ Ke8 59.Ra6

1-0

59...Qe7 60.Qh8+ resumes picking Black apart.

Fire on board, as Morshedi turns in an entertaining attacking game.

### *London System A48*

Andrew Whatley 2344

Ali Morshedi 2287

### *SW Collegiate 2007 (3)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bf4 Bg7 4.e3 0-0 5.Be2 c5 6.c3 b6 7.0-0 Bb7 8.a4 d6 9.h3 Nbd7 10.Qb3 Ne4 11.Rd1 e5!!

Not only bold, but sound! This puts White's elaborate prophylactic program in a poor light.

12.dxe5 dxe5 13.Bxe5 Bxe5 14.Nxe5 Qh4!



15.Nd3

15.Ng4 h5 16.Nd2 (16.Rxd7 hxg4 17.g3 Qf6-) 16...hxg4 17.Nxe4 gxh3 18.Ng3 hxg2 19.f3 Qxg3 20.Rxd7 Bxf3+. This is a case of Fritz slowly "seeing the light" and changing its evaluation drastically.

15...c4

15...Ne5! 16.Qc2 c4 17.Na3 cxd3 18.Bxd3 Ng5+.

16.Qxc4 Ne5 17.Nxe5?

17.Qc7 Nxd3 18.Bxd3 Qxf2+ 19.Kh2 Qxb2 20.Bxe4 Bxe4 21.Nd2 Bxg2! 22.Rab1 Qa2 23.Ra1 Qd5+ 17...Qxf2+ 18.Kh2 Qg3+ 19.Kg1 Qxe3+ 20.Kh2 Qg3+ 21.Kg1 Nf2! 22.Nf3 Nhx3+ 23.Kh1 Nf4 0-1

A curious complaint at the start of the tournament gets resolved when a B player, after performing far above his rating, permits a pretty swindle.

### *English Opening A31*

Danil Safin 1747

IM Daniel Fernandez 2449

### *SW Collegiate 2007 (1)*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 a6 3.g3 c5 4.Nf3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Qc7 6.b3 Nc6 7.Bg2 g6 8.Nc3 Bg7 9.e3 0-0 10.0-0 Rb8 11.Bb2 Nxd4 12.exd4 b5 13.Rc1 bxc4 14.Qe2 d6

14...Bb7 15.Bxb7 Qxb7 16.Qxc4 Rfc8 17.Qe2 e6±.

15.Nd5

15.bxc4 Bb7 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.cxd5 Qd7 18.Rfe1 Rfe8 19.Ba1 e6=.

15...Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Bh3 17.Rfe1 Qa5

17...e6 18.Bxc4 Qb7 19.f3 Qb6=.

18.Bxc4 d5?

18...e6 19.Bc3 Qf5 20.d5±.

19.Bc3! Qd8 20.Bxa6 e5?

20...Qb6 21.b4 (21.Red1 h5)

21...Bxd4 22.Bxd4 Qxd4 23.b5 ±.

21.dxe5+- d4 22.Red1 Qd5 23.f4

Qe6

About this point Fernandez approached me to complain that his

opponent had been playing perfect chess and was three pawns up! I pointed out that Safin had not been leaving the room, nor was he wearing headphones. (Chip implant?)

I should mention that Safin, who resembles a young Gata Kamsky, has a diligent, unassuming demeanor at the board; he takes his time and works for what he gets.

24.Rxd4 Rbd8 25.Bc4 Qb6 26.Qf2 Qb7 27.Rcd1 Rxd4 28.Bxd4 Rd8 29.Bf1 Bg4 30.Be2 Bf5 31.Bf3 Bc4 32.Be3 Rc8 33.Kg2 Bf8 34.Rd4 Bxf3+ 35.Qxf3 Qa6 36.Rd2 Rc3 37.Qe2??

White should not cede the long diagonal; now it gets tricky. Better is 37.Qe4 Rc1 38.Qd3 Qc8 39.h3 Re1 40.Bd4 Bb4 41.Rf2 Qd7 42.Rf3 Ba3 43.Bc3+-.

37...Qc6+ 38.Kg1??

Walking into a pin combination. Not easy but winning is 38.Kf2 Qh1 39.Rd1 Qxh2+ 40.Kf3 Qh5+ 41.g4 Qh3+ 42.Ke4 h5 43.Qf3 Qxf3+ 44.Kxf3 Bc5 45.Re1 hxg4+ 46.Ke4+-.



38...Rxe3! 39.Qxe3 Bc5 40.Rd4 Qb6 41.Kf1 Bxd4 42.Qe2 Qc6 43.Qc4?

Black must work a little after 43. Qd3 Qh1+ 44.Ke2 Qxh2+ 45.Kd1 Qg1+ 46.Ke2 Qf2+ 47.Kd1 Kg7 48.a4 Be3+-.

43...Qf3+ 44.Ke1 Bc3+ 0-1

Safin later defeated expert Nelly Estrada. He finished with 2.5/5.

### John Bartholemew 2476

Vicente Flores 1821

SW Collegiate 2007 (1)

A petite queening combination:



34.Nd6+! 1-0

34...Rxd6 35.Rxb7+ Nxb7 36.a8Q+-.

### IM Jacek Stopa 2414

Victor Flores 1774

SW Collegiate 2007 (1)



Stopa has played for this ending. Black to move would now equalize with ...f5, so White plays

31.g4! Kd7 32.b5

The configuration of the pawns makes them immune to attack.

32...Ke6 33.a4 f5

33...f6 34.g5! fxg5 35.Kf3 Ke7 36.Kg5 Kg6 37.a5 +-.

34.gxf5+ gxf5 35.exf5+ Kxf5 36.a5 Ke6 37.c6! bxc6 38.b6 1-0

Morshedi strikes again:

Nimzovich Attack A05

Bradley Sawyer 2205

Ali Morshedi 2287

SW Collegiate 2007 (5)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.b3 c5 3.e3 g6 4.Bb2 Bg7 5.d3 0-0 6.Nbd2 Nc6 7.Be2 d5 8.0-0 Qc7 9.c4 d4 10.exd4 Nh5 11.g3 cxd4 12.b4 Bh3 13.Re1 Nxb4 14.a3 [14.Bxd4=] 14...Nc6 15.Ng5 Bf5 16.Bxh5 [16.g4 h6 17.gxf5 (17.Nh3 Bd7+)] 17...hxg5 18.Bxh5 gxh5 19.Qxh5 Qf4 20.Rad1 Qxf5 21.Ne4 f6+ 16...gxh5 17.Nb3 [17.Nge4 Bg4 18.f3 Bf5 19.Qe2+] 17...Rad8 18.f4 [18.Ne4 Ne5 19.f3 h4μ] 18...Bg4 19.Qc2 h6 20.Ne4 e5 21.Bc1 f5 22.Nf2 e4 23.h3 Bf3 24.Nd2 h4 25.Nxf3 exf3 26.Kh2 Rde8 27.Bd2 Re3!?

27...hxg3+ 28.Kxg3 Re3! 29.Bxe3 dxe3 30.Rab1 Nd4 31.Qc1 exf2 32.Kxf2 Qd8+-.

28.Rab1??

28.Rg1 Rf6 (28...hxg3+ 29.Rxg3 Qxf4 30.Rag1 Rf7 31.Qc1 Rfe7 32.Kh1 Kh8 33.Qd1 Be5+-) 29.c5 Rg6 30.gxh4 Qxf4+ 31.Kh1 Rg2 32.Rxg2 fxg2+ 33.Kxg2 Qg3+ 34.Kf1 Rf3 35.Be1 Ne5 36.Rd1 Qxh3+ 37.Ke2 Re3+ 38.Kd2 Qf1 -+.

28...hxg3+ 29.Kxg3

Mate in two. What is the move?



29...Qxf4+!

0-1

(Continued on page 20)



# Bachmann wins Lone Star Open

IM-elect Axel Bachmann of Paraguay won the Lone Star Open, held March 2-4 in Houston. The UT-Brownsville student scored 5-0, defeating IM Amon Simutowe in the last round.

Tied for 2nd-4th with 4 points each were Alfonso Almeida, Amon Simutowe and Ali Morshedi. Fifth prize was won by Francisco Guadalupe II, who tied with expert winner Robert Plunkett with 3.5. Second expert was shared by Salvador Infante, Jeffrey De Jesus, Lawrence Cohen and Quaitemes Williams with 3.

Mariano De Medina won the U2000 section with 4.5, followed by Fernando Spada with 4. Tied for 3rd-4th were Giancarlo Castiglioni and George Qi with 3. Mark Dixon won fifth with 3.

Matthew Liu won U1800 with 4.5. Bryan Taylor and Jordan Smith shared 2nd-3rd with 4, and 4th-5th was divided among Clayton Swafford, Danil Safin, Antonio Oliva and Gary Joe, each with 3.5.

In U1600, Daniel Simmons and Bobby Roberts tied for 1st-2nd with 4.5. Patrick Lee and Doyle Lobaugh shared 3rd-4th with 4, and fifth prize went to Stevn Chen, Ken Baker, Ted Ingram and Michael Huang with 3.5.

Bruce Ham won in U1300 with 4.5. Sidish Venkataraman and Ralph Hennings tied for 2nd-3rd with 4. Noah Cryan, Hannes Brueckner and Alex Gayle shared 4th-5th with 3.5.

Franco Guadalupe directed for Cajun Chess, with assistance from Corey Kormick. A total of 151 players competed in five sections, and a total of \$6,500 was paid out in prizes.

The final match on top board went to an exciting sudden death finish.

## Sicilian B43

**Axel Bachmann 2472**

**Amon Simutowe 2454**

## Lone Star Open (5)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 a6 3.Nf3 e6 4.d4 cxd4  
5.Nxd4 Qc7 6.Bd3 Bc5 7.Nb3 Ba7  
8.0-0 Ne7 9.Kh1 0-0 10.f4 f5 11.a4  
Nbc6 12.Qe2 d5 13.e5 Bd7 14.Bd2  
d4 15.Nb1 g5 16.Na3 gxf4 17.Nc4  
Ng6 18. Bxf4 Nxf4 19.Rxf4 Ne7  
20.a5 Rad8 21.Re1 Bc6 22.Nd6



22...Ng6

22...Nd5 23.Rf2 Ne3 24.Bc4  
Kh8 25.Bxe6 Rxd6 26.exd6 Qxd6  
27.Qd2! (27.Bc4 Ng4+) 27...Qxe6  
28.Nxd4 Qd5 29.Nxc6 bxc6

23.Rf2 Nxe5 24.Qxe5 Qxd6 25.  
Qxe6+ Qxe6 26.Rxe6 f4?

26...Be4 27.Re2 Bxd3 28.cxd3  
Rd5=.

27.Re7 h6 28.Re6 Rde8 29.Rg6+  
Kf7 30.Rxf4+ Ke7 31.Rxf8 Rxf8  
32.Rxh6 Rf2 33.Rg6(?)

33.h4! and the g2 pawn is  
doubly taboo: 33...Rxc6? 34.Rxc6  
or 33...Bxc6? 34.Kg1.

33...Be4!

Surprise!



Keep in mind that the final phase  
was played at a blitz pace. How cool  
would you stay after Black's last  
move, with the clock ticking and  
spectators gathered around?

34.Kg1! Bxd3?

34...Rxc2! 35.Bxc2 d3+ 36.Kf1  
Bxg6 37.Bd1 ±.

35.Rg7+ Kf6 36. Kxf2 Be4 37.Rg4  
Bxc2 38.Nxd4 Ke5 39.Ke3 Bf5  
40.Rf4 Bg6 41. g4 1-0

A young Texas Tal's speculative  
piece sac overwhelms the former  
Louisiana state champion:

## Caro-Kann B15

**Ali Morshedi 2266**

**Alfred Carlin 2209**

## Lone Star Open (4)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e5 Bg7  
5.Nce2 Na6 6.h3 h5 7.g3 Nh6 8.Bg2  
Nc7 9.Nf3 Bf5 10.a4 Qd7 11.Nh4  
Ne6 12.Ra3 g5 13.Nxf5 Nxf5 14.  
Qd3 Nh6 15.0-0 f5 16.exf6 Bxf6  
17.c4!?

White sacs a pawn to mine the  
diagonal leading to the black king's  
future home.

17...dxc4 18.Qxc4 Nxd4 19.Nxd4  
Qxd4 20.Qe2 0-0-0 21.Bxc6!?

A very dangerous practical try.

White may also try 21.a5(!) when the best defense is 21...a6! (21...Rd6 22.a6 b5 23.Rc3 Qe5 24.Be3 Nf5 25.Bxc6 Kb8 26.Bxb5±) and now the bishop sac 22.Bxc6 bxc6 23.Qxa6+ Kc7 24.Be3 (27.Rb3 Nf5) allows only one save: 24...Ra8! 25.Qxa8 (nothing better) Rxa8 26.Bxd4 Bxd4 27.b4=.

**21...bxc6 22.Qa6+ Kc7 23.Rb3**

23.Be3 Qb4 24.Qxa7+ Qb7 25.Bb6+ Kc8 26.Qxb7+ Kxb7 27.Bxd8 Rxd8.



**23...Rb8?**

Black has a miracle defense that buys time for his king's safe escape: 23...Qd5! (a tempo move that denies White the tempo with Be3) 24.Rb7+ Kd6 25.b3 Nf5 26.Ba3+ Ke6 27. Rxa7 Kf7-+. How often do you see the queen screen for the king's journey across the board?

**24.Be3 Qe5**

24...Rxb3 25.Bxd4 Bxd4 26.Qc4 Rxc3+ 27.Kh2 Rg4 28.hxg4 Nxc4+ 29.Kg2±.

**25.Qxa7+ Kc8 26.Bb6! Rb7 27.Qa6 Qe6**

27...Qd5 28.Rb4 Nf7 (28...c5 29.Rc1+-) 29.Ba5 Nd6 30.Rxb7 Nxb7 31.Qa8+ Kd7 32.Qxb7+ Ke8 33.Bc3+-.

**28.Qa8+**

28.Rd1 c5 29.Rb5 Bd4 30.Rxd4 Qe1+ 31.Kg2 cxd4 32.Rc5+-.

**28...Rb8 29.Qa6+ Rb7**

29...Kd7 30.Re3 Qxh3 31.Qa7+ Ke8 32.Rxe7+ Bxe7 33.Qxb8+ Kf7 34.Qxh8 Ng4 35.Qh7+ Kf8 36.Qf5+ Ke8 37.Rd1+-.

**30.Rb4 c5 31.Rc1 Bd4 32.Rxd4 Qxb6 33.Qa8+ Rb8 34.Qd5 Qd6 35.Rxc5+ Kd7 36.Qc6+ 1-0**

*Sicilian B23*

**Axel Bachman 2493**

**Ali Morshedi 2266**

*Lone Star Open (3)*

**1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nd4 4.Bc4 e6 5.Nge2 Nf6 6.0-0 b5?!**

This looks sharp, but fails to deliver. Worse is 6...Nxe4?? 7.Nxe4 d5, losing to 8.Nxd4 cxd4 9.Bb5+.

However, the slow-looking 6...a6! is just what the doctor ordered, e.g. 7.a4 Nxe4! (now it works); 7.e5 d5! . Best is 7.d3 (or 7.Bb3 transposing) b5 8.Bb3 Nxb3 7 8.axb3 d5 = with easy play for Black.

**7.Nxd4 bxc4 8.Nf3 d5 9.exd5 exd5 10.Re1+ Be7 11.Qe2 Rb8**

11...Bf5 12.Ne5 Rc8 13.b3 0-0 14.bxc4 d4 15.Nb5±.

**12.b3 d4 13.Na4 cxb3 14.axb3 Nd5 15.Qe5!**

Even stronger than the pawn grab 15.Nxc5 0-0, this takes Black right out of his comfort zone. The collapse is total.

**15...Be6 16.Qxg7 Bf6 17.Qg3 d3 18.c3 Ra8 19.Ba3 Qe7 20.Nd4 cxd4 21.Bxe7 Kxe7 22.c4 Nb4 23.Nc5 1-0**

A typically wild Yugoslav Dragon, with neither side giving quarter in the money round, gains Plunkett a master scalp:

*Sicilian Dragon B79*

**Mikhail Langer 2354**

**Robert Plunkett 2179**

*Lone Star Open (5)*

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.0-0-0**

**Qa5 11.Kb1 Rfc8 12.Bb3 Ne5 13.Bg5 Rab8 14.h4 b5 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.h5**

16.Nd5 is a standard maneuver to get the better pawn structure: 16...Qxd2 17.Nxf6+ exf6 18.Rxd2. Maybe Langer was holding out for a bigger advantage than he'd get after 18...Nc4 19.Bxc4 bxc4 20.c3 h5 21.Nc2 Rb6 22.Nb4 Kg7 23. Rhd1 Ba4! 24.Re1±.

**16...Bg7 17.Qg5**

17.hxg6 hxg6 (17...Nxc6 18.Nf5±) 18.Nd5 Qxd2 19.Rxd2 Re8=] **17...Rxc3 18.bxc3 Qxc3 [18...Qxc3] 19.Qd2 Qc5 20.c3 [20.hxg6 hxg6 21.Qg5 Qc3=] 20...a5 21.f4 Ng4! [21...Nc4 22.Bxc4 Qxc4] 22.hxg6 hxg6**



**23.f5 a4 24.Bd5**

No better is 24.fxg6 axb3 25.gxf7+ Kxf7 26.axb3 Ra8-+.

**24...gxf5**

Also strong is 24...b4 25.c4 gxf5 26.Qg5 b3 27.Qxe7 Be8-+.

**25.Nxf5**

25.Qg5 Qxc3 26.exf5 Qb4+ 27.Ka1 a3-+

**25...Bxf5 26.exf5 Ne5?**

Fritz gives Black a clear plus after 26...b4! 27.c4 b3-+; 26...Ne3 27.Rh3 Nxd1 28.Qxd1 b4-+.

**27.f6?**

27.Rh4! stymies the attack: 27...Nc4 28.Bxc4 bxc4+ 29.Ka1 Qxf5 30.Rxc4 a3=. The finish is muddy, Black pulls through for the win.

27...Bxf6 [27...b4] 28.Rh5 [28.Rh3 e6 29.Qh6 Qf2 30.Be4 Bg7+] 28...e6? [28...b4!-+] 29.Bf3?

White's last chance is 29.Qh6 Qf2! (29...Bg7 30.Rg5 Ng6 31.Rxg6! ±) 30.Be4 b4 31.Bh7+= 29...b4 [29...Nxf3!] 30.c4 Nxc4 [30...b3] 31.Rxc5 Nxd2+ 32. Rxd2 dxc5 33.Rd7 c4 34.Bh5 Rf8 [34...b3 35.Bxf7+ Kh8 36.Rd1 c3 37.axb3 axb3-+] 35.Rc7 c3 36.Rb7 Rc8 37.Kc2 [37.Bxf7+ Kf8 38.Bg6 Be7 39.Bc2 Rd8-+] 37...Rd8 38. Bxf7+ Kf8 39.Bxe6 Rd2+ 40.Kc1 Bg5 41.Rf7+ Ke8 42.Rf5 Rxd2+ 43. Rxd2 Rxd2 44.Bc4 Ke7 0-1

*Sicilian Dragon B70*

Francisco Guadalupe II 2218  
Mark Dejmek 2202

*Lone Star Open (5)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bg5 Nc6 9.Nb3 b6 10.f4 h6 11. Bh4 Bb7 12.Bf3 Na5 13.Nxa5 bxa5 14.Qd2 Nd7 15.Rab1 Nb6 16.b3 Qc7 17.Ne2 a4 18.c4 a5 19.Nd4 axb3 20.axb3 a4 21.Nb5 Qd7 22. Bf2 Qd8

22...Nc8! 23.bxa4 Rxa4 24.Qc2 Ra5 25.Nd4 Na7=.



23.Qb4! axb3 24.Qxb3 Ba6?

24...Nc8 25.Nd4 Bxd4 26.Bxd4 Bc6 27.Ra1±.

25.Rfd1 Rb8 26.e5 Qc8

26...Nc8 27.Qa3 ±.

27.exd6 exd6 28.Nxd6 Nxc4 29. Nxc8 Rxb3 30.Ne7+ 1-0

My lifetime record against Carlin is a sad story of scissors meets rock, and this is no exception:

*Polish Defense A40*

Selby Anderson 2223

Alfred Carlin 2202

*Lone Star Open (2)*

1.d4 b5 2.e4 Bb7 3.Nd2 b4 4.Ngf3 e6 5.Bd3 Nf6 6.c4 bxc3 7.bxc3 e5 8.Rb1 Qc8 9.0-0 cxd4 10.cxd4 Nc6 11.Bb2 Nb4 12.Rc1 Qd8 13.Bb1 Ba6 14.Nc4 [14.Re1 Nd3 15.Bxd3 Bxd3 16.Re3 Bb5 17.d5±] 14...Rc8 15.Nfe5 Be7 16.Re1 [16.Qa4 0-0 17.Ba3 Bxc4 18.Nxc4 Rb8 19.Bxb4 Bxb4 20.a3 Be7 21.e5±] 16...0-0 17.a3 Nc6 18.d5 [18.Qa4 Bb7=] 18...Nxe5 19.Nxe5 Qb6 20.Qd2 [20.Rxc8 Rxc8 21.Bd3 (21.Bd4 Qa5) 21...Qxb2 22.Bxa6 Rc2 23.d6 Bd8 24.Nd3=] 20...Be5 [20...Rxc1 21.Qxc1 Be5 22.Qc2 (22.Qd2 Rb8 23.Bc3 Qxb1) 22...Rc8-+] 21.Rc3 [21.Bd3 Bxd3 22.Nxd3 Bd4 23.Rb1=] 21...Rb8 22.Rg3?? [22. Rc2 exd5 23.exd5 Rfe8 24.Recl Bd6 25.Nd3 Ne4 26.Qd1 Bxd3 27.Qxd3 Be5±] 22...Bxf2+!? [22...Qxb2 23. Rxd2 Kh8-+] 23.Qxf2 Qxf2+ 24. Kxf2 Rxb2+ 25.Kg1 exd5 26.exd5 Re8 27.Bf5 d6 28.Nf3 Rxe1+ 29. Nxe1 Re2 30.Nc2 Nxd5 31.h3 g6 32.Nd4 Re1+ 33.Kh2 Ne3 0-1

*Ruy Lopez C63*

Francisco Guadalupe II 2218

Alfonso Almeida 2472

*Lone Star Open (3)*

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.exf5 e4 6.Qe2 Qe7 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.Nd4 c5 9.Nb3 d5 10.Qb5+ Qd7 11.Qa5 Qc6 12.Na4 Rb8 13.0-0 Bxf5

13...Rb4 14.Naxc5 Rb5 15.Qc3 Rxc5±.

14.Naxc5 Bc8

14...Rb5 15.Qxa7 Rxc5=.

15.Qc3 [Qd6 16.d4 Be7 17.Qg3

17.f3 0-0 18.fxe4 dxe4 19.Bf4 Qc6 20.Be5 Be6 21.Na5 Qd5 22.Nxe6 Qxe6 23.Nc6+-.

17...Nh5 [17...Qxg3 =] 18.Qxd6

18.Qe5! Qxe5 19.dxe5 0-0 20. Be3 Nf4 21.Rfe1 Ng6 22.e6 Re8 23. Nd7 Rb7 24.Rab1 c6 25.Nd4 ±.

18...Bxd6 19.Bg5 0-0 20.Bh4 Nf4

21.Rfe1 Bf5 22.Bg3 g5 23.Re3 Rf7

24.Rae1 h5 25.h3 Rg7 26.Bh2 h4

27.Rc3 g4 28.Bxf4 Bxf4 29.hxg4

Bxg4 30.Kh1 Rb6 31.Rg1 [31.f3

exf3 32.gxf3 Bf5 33.Nd3 Bxd3

34.cxd3 h3 35.Rc2 Rbg6 36.Rf2

(36.Nc1 h2 37.Ne2 Be3-+) 36...Kh7

37.Nc5 Bg3 38.Rfe2 Bxe1-+]

31...Rbg6 32.Na5 Bf3?

32...h3! (or 32...Bd2 first) 33.g3

Bd2 34.Ra3 h2 35.Rg2 Bf3 36.Rxf3

exf3 37.Rxh2 Bxa5-+. Another way

to win is by preparing the text move

with 32...Kh8 and 33...Rg8, taking

away White's next. Curiously, there

isn't much White can do as Black

gets ready to lower the ...Bf3 ax.



33.Ne6! h3

Or 33...Rxe6 34.gxf3 Rxd1+ 35.

Kxd1 h3 36.Nc6 exf3 37.Ne5 =.

34.Nxf4 hxg2+ 35.Kh2 Rh6+ 36.

Nh3 Kf8 37.Rc6 Rh5 38.Re1??

A miracle save is 38.Rf6+ Ke7

39.Rxf3! exf3 40. Nc6+ Kf6 41.Ne5

Rgh7 42.Nxf3 Rxh3+ 43.Kxg2 =.

Amazing!

38...Rgh7 39.Rf6+ Kg7

0-1

# UTD takes Final Four

by WGM Jennifer Shahade  
(from [uschess.org](http://uschess.org))

March chessboard madness went down over the weekend at the Final Four of College Chess (Dallas, March 24-25). University of Texas at Dallas, University of Maryland Baltimore County, Miami Dade College and Duke University all qualified for the round robin by placing in the top four at the Pan-American Championship (December, 2006).

The competition began with an opening dinner, allowing the players some time to socialize before the gloves came off.

Ratings favorite UTD began strongly, with a clean endgame victory by GM Magesh Panchanathan over Duke's Lev Milman:

*Reversed Gruenfeld D02*

**Magesh Panchanathan 2452**  
**Lev Milman 2539**

*Final Four 2007*

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 d5 4.O-O Nc6 5.d4 e6 6.b3 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Bc5 8.Bb2 O-O 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.Nd2 a5 11.a4 Ba6 12.Re1 e5 13.e4 d4 14.Bf1 Bc8 15.Kg2 Qe7 16.Nc4 Bb4 17.Ba3 Bxa3 18.Nxa3 Qc5 19.Qd2 Rd8 20.Nc4 Be6 21.Nb2 Qe7 22.Bc4 Bc8 23.Nd3 Ne8 24.Qc1 Nd6 25.Qa3 Kf8 26.Rab1 f6 27.Qc5 Nxc4 28.bxc4 Ba6 29.Rb6 Qxc5 30.Nxc5 Bxc4 31.Rb7 Kg8 32.Reb1 h6 33.R1b6 Rdc8 34.f3 h5 35.f4 f5 36.exf5 e4 37.Ne6 Bxe6 38.fxe6 c5 39.Rd7 Rab8 40.e7 Ra8 41.Re6 Re8 42.Rxc5 Kf7 43.Re5 Rac8 44.Rxd4 Rxc2+ 45.Kh3 Rxe7 46.Rxe7+ Kxe7 47.Rxe4+ Kf6 48.Re5 g6 49.Rxa5 Ra2 50.Ra8 Kf7 51.a5 Kf6 52.a6 Kf7 53.a7 Kg7 54.g4 hxg4+ 55.Kxg4 Ra3 56.h4 Ra5

Magesh showed fine technique in this endgame, sacrificing the h-pawn in order to quickly ram down the f-pawn and get the Black king out of the "safe zone."



57.h5 gxh5+ 58.Kh4 Kh7 59.f5 Kg7 60.f6+ 1-0

If 60...Kf7, 61.Rh8! and Black cannot take on a7 in view of Rh7+. If 60...Kf6, 61.Rf8+ wins on the spot.

UTD followed up their first round victory over Duke with wins against UMBC and Miami Dade.

"Our players and coach [Rade Milovanovic] turned in an incredible performance," said Jim Stallings, director of the UT Dallas chess program. "When last December's Pan Am is included, UT Dallas players have not lost a single time in 60 games - in the two biggest college chess tournaments of the season. That's mind-boggling!"

Coming in second place was University of Maryland Baltimore County, led by Bruci Lopez who scored 2.5/3. Here is a tactical smash by Bruci over Miami Dade's Charles Galfore.

Miami Dade finished just behind UMBC with 4.5 points, with Duke another half point behind with 4.

The MVP of the event was Drasko Boskovic of UTD, who scored a perfect 3/3. In the following fascinating endgame, Drasko shows the strength of the knight in closed endings.

*Sicilian Paulsen B47*

**Katerine Rohonyan 2346**  
**Drasko Boskovic 2529**

*Final Four 2007*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.g3 a6 7.Bg2 Nf6 8.O-O h6 9.Re1 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Bc5 11.Qd1 d6 12.Be3 e5 13.Qd2 Be6 14.Rad1 Ke7 15.Bxc5 Qxc5 16.h3 Rac8 17.Kh2 h5 18.Re3 b5 19.a3 Rhd8 20.Rf3



20...a5 21.Rd3 b4 22.axb4 axb4 23.Na4 Qxc2 24.Rxd6 Qxd2 25.R6xd2 Rxd2 26.Rxd2 Rc6 27.Bf1 Bb3 28.Bb5 Rd6 29.Rxd6 Kxd6 30.f3 g5 31.g4 h4 32.Kg1 Bxa4 33.Bxa4 Kc5 34.Bb3 Kd4 35.Kf2 Nd7 36.Bxf7 Nc5 37.b3 Nd3+ 38.Ke2 Nf4+ 39.Kf2 Nxf3+ 40.Kg2 Nf4+ 41.Kf2 Kd3 42.Bg8 h3 43.Bc4+ Kd2 44.Kg3 Ke3 45.Bb5 h2 46.Kxh2 Kxf3 47.Bc6 Kxg4 48.Bd7+ Kf3 49.Bf5 g4 50.Kg1 g3 0-1

# Fernandez wins Spring Open

Fifty-nine players competed in the Spring Open, held Mar. 31-Apr. 1 in San Antonio. IM Daniel Fernandez, a student at UT-Brownsville, won the Open section with 4-0 for \$200. NM Selby Anderson was clear second (\$100) with 3-1, losing in the last round to Fernandez. Tied at 2.5 were Shawn Noland, Jesse Lozano, Randall Schwarz, Daniel Hung and Fernando Spada, splitting U2200 and U2000 prizes to win \$30 each.

In the Reserve, Michael Croyle (ranked tenth with a 1556 rating) won first prize of \$100 with a perfect score, 4-0. Steven Chen and Paul Webb tied with 3.5, splitting second plus U1600 prizes and each receiving \$75. Fernando Spada, Sr. won the U1400 prize of \$50 with 3 points, and Jovan Watford won the unrated prize of \$50 with 1.5.

Martin Gordon directed for the San Antonio Chess Club. See [www.gordonmd.com:80/spring07.html](http://www.gordonmd.com:80/spring07.html)

The first round of the Open was unusual in that almost every pairing involved a junior playing up. The exception: Dr. Jaime Estrada was paired up against Daniel Hung, a high school player. On board one, IM Daniel Fernandez played his own student, Fernando Spada!

I self-destructed against Fernandez in a most unexpected way:

*Trompovsky Attack A45*

**IM Daniel Fernandez 2449**

**Selby Anderson 2234**

*Spring Open 2007 (4)*

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 Ne4 3.Bf4 c5 4.f3 Qa5+ 5.c3 Nf6 6.d5 Qb6 7.Bc1 e5**

I'm at the end of what I remembered from a quick look at this opening months ago, so I'm burning time after this.

**8.e4 d6 9.Nd2 Qd8 10.a4 Be7 11. Bd3 Na6**

Probably a better plan is 11... Nbd7 with Nf8-g6 to follow, as played by Joseph Friedman against Pixton in the 2002 US Championship.

**12.Ne2 Nc7 13.Nc4 0-0 14.0-0 Nfe8 15.b4**



**15...cxb4?**

A fundamental error, surrendering a key point; better is 15...b6. Note how easy it is now for White to get at c6 with a knight (via b4).

**16.cxb4 f5 17.b5 f4**

Somewhat better is 17...Bg5 18. Ba3 Qf6.

**18.Rb1 b6 19.Nc3 Bd7 20.Na2 a6?**

The specter of Nb4-c6 caused me to overlook the obvious shortcomings of this move.

**21.Nxb6 axb5 22.Nxa8 Qxa8 23. axb5! Qxa2 24.Rf2??**

24.b6! Na6 25.Rf2 Qa5 26.Bxa5 + is the right move order.

**24...Qa5 25.b6 1-0??**

I resign under the illusion that the above variation is still in force, but 25...Nb5! holds! Neither 26. Bxb5 Bxb5 27.b7 Nc7 28.Rc2 Qa7+ 29.Kh1 Qxb7, nor 26.Qf1 Qxb6 27. Bxb5 Bh4!, gives White more than a sliver of advantage.



**IM Daniel Fernandez**

*KI Attack A08*

**Anthony Guerra 1879**

**Fernando Spada 1826**

*Spring Open 2007 (4)*

**1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 c5 4.0-0 Nc6 5.d3 e5 6.e4 d4 7.Nbd2 Be7 8.Kh1 0-0 9.Ng1 b5 10.f4 exf4 11. gxf4 Bb7 12.Ne2 Qd7 13.Nf3 Rfd8 14.Ng3 c4 15.Bd2 Bb4 16.Bxb4 Nxb4 17.a3 Nc6 18.Rg1 Ng4 19. Qe2 Qc7 20.Bh3 Nf6 21.Nf5 g6 22.Ng5 cxd3 23.cxd3 Rf8 24.Qf3 Kh8 25.Nh6 Kg7? [25...Ng8!]=]**



**26.Nhx7! Rae8**

26...Qe7 27.Be6 Nd8 (27...h6  
28.Qh3! h5 29.f5+-) 28.Nxd8 Raxd8  
29.Bb3 Rd6 30.f5+-.

**27.f5?**

27.Ne6+ Rxe6 28.Bxe6 Rxf7 29.  
Bxf7 Qxf7 30.Rg2 Qb3 31.Rc1+-.

**27...Rxf7 28.Nxf7 Kxf7**

28...Qxf7 29.fxg6 hxg6 30.  
Rxc6+ Qxc6 31.Rg1 Qxg1+ 32.  
Kxg1 Ne5 33.Qf2 Kf7 34.Bf5=.

29.fxg6+ hxg6 30.Raf1 Qe7 31.  
Rg5?

31.Bd7! Rg8 32.Qf4 Ne5 33.  
Bxb5 ±.

**31...Ne5 32.Qg3?**

32.Qg2 Rg8 33.Rg3 Nxd3 34.  
Rxd3 Bxe4 35.Rdf3 Bxf3 36.Qxf3  
Kg7+.

32...Nxd3 33.Bf5!? Bxe4+ 34.Bxe4  
Qxe4+ 35.Qf3 Qxf3+ 36.Rxf3 Ne5  
37.Rf4 d3 38.Rd4 Nf3 0-1

*Nimzovich Defense B00***Selby Anderson 2234****Daniel Hung 1830***Spring Open 2007 (3)*

1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5  
Nd7 5.Nce2 e6

A typical Nimzovich treatment  
by a former Texas champion is 5...  
Nb6 6.Nf4 e6 7.c3 Bd7 8.Nf3 Qe7  
9.a4 f6 10.a5 Nc4 11.a6 b6 12.b3  
N4a5 13.b4 Nc4 14.Bxc4 dxc4 15.  
Qe2 b5 16.0-0 0-0-0 17.Re1 Re8  
18.d5 Nxe5 19.dxe6 Bc6 20. Nxe5  
fxe5 21.Qxe5 Qd6 22.Qe3± Bryan  
G. Smith - Miles Ardaman,  
Hendersonville 2006.

**6.f4 Ne7 7.Be3 c5 8.c3**

An onlooker might guess this  
was a Steinitz French.

**8...Nf5 9.Bf2 Qb6 10.Qe2**

One reason for going here (in-  
stead of d2) is that I want to take at  
d4 with a piece, allowing ...Nc5-e4,  
after 10...cxd4! 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.  
Bxd4 Qc7. 13.Nf3 Nc5 =. However,  
in the game Black puts off ex-  
changing and gets a bad cramp.

10...Be7 11.Nf3 h5 12.dxc5 Bxc5  
13.Ned4 Nh6 14.b4! Bxd4 15. Nxd4  
Ng4 16.Bg1 Qd8 17.g3 h4??

17...a5 18.Rd1 Nh6 19.Bh3 ±.



18.Nxe6! fxe6 19.Qg6+ Kf8 20.  
Qxg4 Qc7 21.Bd4 Rh6 22.Bd3 a5  
23.0-0 Kg8 24.f5! Nxe5?

24...exf5 25.Qxf5 Nf6 26.Qf3  
Nh7 27.Be3 Bh3 (27...Re6 28.  
Bxh7+ Kxh7 29.Qf5+ Kg8 30.Qf8+  
Kh7 31.Rf7+-) 28.Bxh6 Bxf1 29.  
Rxf1 gxh6 30.Qxd5+-.

25.Qf4 hxg3 26.hxg3 Qf7 27.Qxe5  
exf5 28.Bxf5 Bxf5 29.Rxf5 Re8  
30.Rxf7 Rxe5 31.Rxg7+ 1-0

*Modern Defense A43***James Lozano 1955****James Ukoli 1793***Spring Open 2007 (3)*

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.f4 Bg7 4.Nc3 Nd7  
(4...Nf6) 5.Nf3 c5 6.d5 a6

6...Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 Qa5 8.Bd2 Qa4  
9.c4 Nb6 10.c3 =.

7.a4 Qc7 8.Bc4 Ngf6 9.Qe2 0-0  
10.0-0 Nb6 11.Ba2 Bg4 12.h3 Bd7  
13.e5 Ne8 14.a5 Na4 15.Nxa4 Bxa4  
16.Bc4 Bd7 17.Bd2 Bf5 18.Bc3 Bd7  
19.Rae1 b5 20.axb6 Qxb6 21.Ng5  
dxe5 22.fxe5 e6 23.dxe6 Bxe6 24.  
Bxe6 fxe6 25.Rxf8+ Bxf8 26.Rf1  
Ra7 27.Qg4 Re7

27...Bh6 28.Nxe6 Re7 29.Ng5  
Nc7 30.Nxh7 Kxh7 (30...Rhx7 31.  
Qc8+ Kg7 32.Qf8#) 31.Rf6+-.

**28.Nxh7! Kxh7**

28...Rhx7 29.Qxg6+ Rg7 30.  
Qxe8 c4+ 31.Kh1 Qc5 32.Qxe6+  
Kh8 33.Rf7+-.

29.Rxf8 Kg7 30.Rf6 Nxf6 31.exf6+  
Kf7 32.fxe7 Kxe7 33.Qxg6 c4+ 34.  
Kh2 Qd6+ 35.Qg3 Qd5 36.h4 Ke8  
37.Qg6+ Kd7 38.Qg7+ Ke8 39.Bf6  
Qd6+ 40.Kh3 1-0

*Sicilian B42***Daniel Hung 1830****Jesse Lozano 1955***Spring Open 2007 (4)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4  
a6 5.Bd3 Qc7 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nxc6  
bxc6 8.c4 Nf6 9.Qe2 d6 10.b3 Be7  
11.Bb2 0-0 12.e5 Nd7 13.exd6

13.Qh5 f5! 14.exf6 Nxf6 15. Qe2  
e5 =. Now comes a two bishop sacri-  
fice - shades of Lasker-Bauer, 1889.

13...Bxd6 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.  
Qh5+ Kg8 16.Bxg7, Draw agreed

Lozano later said he wished he  
had played on with 16...f6!? Fritz  
gives 17.Qh8+ Kf7 18.Qh8+ Kf7 19.  
Bxf8 Bxf8 20.Qh5+ Kg7 21.Qg4+  
Kf7 as approximately equal.

*Sicilian Sveshnikov B33***Zhaosu Ye 1553****Michael Croyle 1556***Spring Open Reserve 2007 (4)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.  
Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6

(Continued on page 21)

## TCA Treasurer's Report

Sept. 1, 2006 checking account balance \$ 10,584.81

### Income

SW Open tmt. fee and memberships - Sept 2006	\$426.50
Texas Grade Tournament - November 2006	705.00
Texas Masters memberships - January 2007	100.00
Paypal acct. memberships 7/06-1/07, less fees	199.70
September memberships	404.00
October memberships	303.00
November memberships	142.50
December memberships	120.00
January memberships	105.00
February memberships	112.50
March memberships (some monies in state checking account)	461.00
April memberships (so far)	52.50
Region 2 2007 Scholastic- Jan. 2007	179.00
Region 5 2007 Scholastic - Feb. 2007	231.00
Region 6 2007 Scholastic - Feb. 2007	305.00
Region 7 2007 Scholastic - Feb. 2007	<u>155.00</u>
Total	\$ 4,001.70

### Expenses

Texas Knights Sept-Oct issue	\$ 900.00
Texas Knights Nov-Dec issue	1194.98
Texas Knights Jan-Feb issue	1075.89
Texas Knights March-April issue	1215.06
mailing charge - Nelda Rogers	24.49
James Widener - Webmaster - Sept 2006	800.00
TCA Affiliate membership with USCF (2 years)	80.00
bank charge	3.00
Anjali Datta 2006 Polgar attendee	600.00
Darwin Yang - 2006 World Youth attendee	599.00
Ellen Dai - 2006 World Youth attendee	599.00
Sylvia Yang - 2006 World Youth attendee	599.00
Evan Xiang - 2006 World Youth attendee	599.00
Ellen Xiang - 2006 World Youth attendee	599.00
"seed money" for 2007 state scholastic tmt	1000.00
Event Insurance for 2007 March 2007	939.00
Texas Masters Tournament - January 2007	1000.00
Chess In Education Workshop March 2007	<u>500.00</u>
Total	\$ 12,327.42

April 18, 2007

checking account balance \$ 2,095.59  
Savings account balance \$ 33,890.90

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Swafford  
April 18, 2007

## TCA Spring Minutes

People signed in, and the Board took TCA renewals. TCA President M. Simpson announced that all are welcome to attend the Business Meeting, but noted that only TCA members were eligible to vote during the meeting.

Attendees included TCA President Michael Simpson, Vice-president Clemente Rendon, Treasurer Barbara Swafford, Secretary Drew Sarkisian, Lakshmana Viswanath, Eddie Rios Sr., Carmen Chairez, Leah Dagher, Daa Mahowald, Jim Stallings, Luis Salinas, George John, Martha Jenkinson, Nelda Rogers, Irma Pena, Dr. Alexey Root, J.J. Guajardo, James Code Pemberton, Edena Garcia, R. Lynn Leone, Stephen Shul, James A. Stallings, Minerva Peña. Please forgive the Secretary for any spelling errors and for missing names...the sign-in sheet was nearly illegible in places, and I do not know everybody by sight.

M. Simpson started the meeting (at the Adams Mark in Dallas) on March 17, 2007, at 8:35 p.m. He introduced the TCA officers to the meeting attendees.

M. Simpson thanked Dr. Alexey Root for transcribing the previous Minutes (2006 Fall Business Meeting).

The first order of business was the reading of the minutes from the 2006 Fall TCA Business Meeting. Mr. James brought up a motion to waive the reading of the minutes; the motion was seconded, the reading of the previous minutes waived. B. James moved to approve the minutes, Mr. Rendon seconded, the minutes from the previous Business Meeting were approved.

B. Swafford presented the Treasurer's Report. Please refer to the March-April 2007 issue of *Texas Knights* for the report. An updated report should be available on the TCA web site by the time the May-June issue of *Texas Knights* is in the mail. M. Simpson brought up a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by V. Lakshmana. There was no discussion, nor dissent; the Treasurer's Report was accepted.

M. Simpson presented the President's Report. TCA is spending more money than it is taking in at this point in time. The TCA spent money for the World Youth Championships attendees from Texas, and was very happy to do so. M. Simpson wants to spend more on youth chess. The cost of publishing *Texas Knights* is the TCA's biggest expense. We had a Webmaster fee of \$800 that covered eight months, and expenses did not include money spent for the Denker Tournament of Champions.

L. Salinas expects fewer Texas children to attend the World Youth due to various rule changes.

M. Simpson: At some point, TCA needs to consider the question, "Do we have enough revenue to cover expenses?" A dues increase may be appropriate, and we should look towards other avenues for TCA to raise money. He also noted that all TCA memberships have been extended by eight months, and our current rate of membership renewals appears to reflect that. Income from TCA dues has been going down; he hopes that it is due to the eight-month membership extension. M. Simpson plans on examining the financial situation more closely. He also noted that the TCA Treasury has been inflated for the past two years, and that we should find constructive ways to spend the money.

M. Simpson concerning the TCA presence on the Internet: The webmaster has too many professional demands on his time; the President has appointed Peter Kappler as the new TCA webmaster. He explained some of the reasons for the technical choices the new webmaster has made (using Google Blogs for the web site, requires less technical expertise, i.e. others will be able to help maintain the site more easily, we get automatic backups of the data, etc.). D. Sarkisian added that the technical part of the web site should be secondary to the content, rather than requiring one single individual to handle all updates, etc. The Board also wants feedback on the site. The new site was scheduled to be up and running by the end of March. This ended the President's Report.

G. John asked for a current TCA membership count: as of the Business Meeting, the count was 447 paid memberships..

E. Rios was curious about the new website, and definitely wanted a forum system to be maintained. Many of the TCA Regional Representatives have been taking advantage of the ability to post tournaments directly on the forum, across regions, etc. D. Sarkisian mentioned the new site would be using a "groups" system rather than a traditional forum, but the setup and capabilities would be similar. D. Sarkisian reiterated that the Board would support what the organizers needed.

L. Dagher suggested that the TCA should offer scholarships for summer chess camps, endorse certain quality programs. Costs would be typically \$200-\$300 per student for a week of instruction.

C. Rendon encouraged the members to keep offering suggestions towards TCA support of scholastic chess.

S. Shul, of Brownsville expressed the view that he wants to support TCA, and wants to cooperate with other regions, esp. in the lower valley, and he plans on supporting the TCA he expects similar support for Brownsville programs from the TCA.

L. Salinas pointed out that several years ago, TCA approved scholarships for this tournament, noted that nobody seems to apply for them and suggested that perhaps nobody knows about such opportunities.

B. James expressed concern about the TCA not spending enough money, and perhaps should find ways to sponsor high quality instructors for the chess camps.

Another member noted that in the entry forms for this year's tournament, the PDFs were inconsistent concerning TCA fees required, etc. L. Salinas asked to have the specific forms pointed out, since the mistake(s) are probably being propagated from year to year due to copying old material from the previous Scholastic event.

M. Simpson reiterated his email address (msimpson@gmail.com), and encouraged TCA members to contact him with any and all problems and questions.

M. Simpson moved on to new business, out of order, in order to accommodate L. Salinas's advance motion, so that L. Salinas could leave the meeting to attend to the administrative duties of running the tournament. L. Salinas posted the following Advance motion in the March-April 2007 issue of *Texas Knights*:

The Middle School section will include fifth through ninth grade. Fifth and sixth graders in a middle school are not allowed to play down into the Elementary section. Ninth graders will be allowed to play up into the High School section, ~~and play for the school they would be attending upon entering the tenth grade.~~ **No player may play for a school that the player does not attend.**

The change would be to remove the text marked with a strike-through, and add the bold text. This would affect Article IX, Section I.E.

G. John stated he was in favor of the motion. He also thought Luis had made the same motion at the previous Spring Business Meeting and that it had passed.

C. Rendon asked what B. James (Chair, Bylaws committee) thought of the change.

E. Rios asked whether or not the motion should go to the Scholastic Committee. He then made a motion to commit L. Salinas' motion to the Scholastic Committee; the motion did not receive a second and died on the floor.

L. Salina "warned" the attendees that scholastic motions are often deferred to the Scholastic TCA Business meeting, so if this motion goes off into committee with the Scholastic or Bylaws groups, a vote might again be deferred during the Fall Business Meeting, asking to wait until the next Spring (Scholastic) Business Meeting. M. Simpson promised Luis that if the Chair (M. Simpson)



has any say in the matter that it will be brought to a vote at the Fall Meeting.

B. James stated that the Bylaws Committee hasn't had a chance to look at this particular motion, but they are currently looking over general scholastic issues, and the motion this would be a reasonable matter of discussion. B. James was not seeking a motion to commit L. Salinas' motion to the Bylaws Committee.

C. Rendon brought up a point of information and felt that any such change should be carefully examined to prevent unintended consequences with other bylaws.

V. Lakshmana stated he was in favor of the motion. He said he was tired of coming to the TCA Business Meetings and constantly having votes on motions deferred. He felt it was a detrimental cycle and felt that the current meeting should be sufficient to vote on L. Salinas' motion at this time.

M. Simpson called the motion to a vote. Twenty-three TCA members were available for vote: twenty-two were in favor, the motion passed by 2/3 majority.

M. Simpson opened the meeting to Old Business. C. Rendon presented a motion to allow college sections of TCA Scholastic events to allow the participation of non-Texas residents; any individual or team titles could only belong to Texas residents.

J. Stallings, representative of University of Texas, Dallas' Chess Program, felt that such a move would help promote the events, strengthen the competition and keep college players involved in chess, perhaps after graduation.

Much discussion covered the term "resident"; the intent was for players representing a Texas college, regardless of their state of origin / residence, would be eligible for Texas titles. It was pointed out that the college section has no individual Texas title, only a Texas Collegiate Team title.

The motion was amended: highest finishing Texas College Team shall be awarded the Texas College Team title. The motion was passed by acclamation.

M. Simpson closed Old Business, and opened the floor to New Business.

V. Lakshmana presented information concerning potential changes to the Texas Scholastic sections. He noted that he has received many complaints concerning section divisions, etc. Please refer to his excellent forum post that covers the full details of various suggestions:

[http://groups.google.com/group/texaschess/browse\\_thread/thread/91e55368d2e6365b/00fc2cb1d171b7e4#00fc2cb1d171b7e4](http://groups.google.com/group/texaschess/browse_thread/thread/91e55368d2e6365b/00fc2cb1d171b7e4#00fc2cb1d171b7e4)

A major discussion issue included children "moving" from one school to another to play for another team. V. Lakshmana suggested a child must attend a school for 15 days before he / she would be allowed to represent a particular school. He would like clear language concerning precisely when a child would be eligible to play for a particular school, i.e. he wants to prevent "temporary transfers" or recruiting of kids to play for a particular team.

There was also much discussion covering whether students should be allowed to "play up" a section, division of school teams based on grades, special cases, etc.

Mr. Simpson noted that while everybody at the meeting seemed to be reasonable people, he also pointed out that decisions eventually made will not make everybody happy. He also pointed out that the membership can discuss these issues and vote on them during the Southwest Open TCA Business Meeting as Old Business and that there was nothing in the Bylaws preventing motions that affect Scholastic chess from being decided at the Fall meeting. M. Simpson suggested the membership discuss the points on the TCA forums, and send email to M. Simpson, V. Lakshmana, etc. with suggestions.

C. Rendon made a motion to have the previously approved collegiate motion to take effect immediately; his motion was seconded, dissent, the being no discussion or dissent offered, the motion passed by acclamation.

There was a discussion on current voting age for TCA members, it was suggested we perhaps have a motion to require a minimum voting age for TCA members: for example, "voting member shall be at least 16 years of age". C. Rendon brought up a point of information mentioning that the TCA currently doesn't keep track of members' date of birth, TCA sells Family and School memberships, etc. G. John pointed out that such a requirement would create extra administrative work, while M. Simpson stated that TCA could put the burden of proof concerning age to any member wishing to vote. Ms. Pena suggested that some of the younger children who may be brilliant chess players should be able to vote, while M. Simpson stated that he felt we would have to draw a strict line based on age.

G. John brought forth a motion to put the age limit for voting privileges question to the Bylaws Committee. His motion was seconded, the motion was put to the question and it passed.

Dr. Alexey Root reported on the TCA *Chess in Education* workshop. TCA sponsored the event, which was held for the first time this year at the Texas Scholastic Championships. Lecturers were given token fees any-

where from \$25 local speakers to \$75 for speakers from out of the area. Approx. \$500 was paid out to the speakers, etc. Approximately \$450 was collected from the 25 attendees, so the event had a small financial loss. People appeared to enjoy the event and expressed the desire to hold another. Dr. Root asked if TCA had any interest in seeing this event held every year at the Texas Scholastics. The PowerPoint slides from the event will be posted on the USCF site.

M. Simpson suggested that attendance of the workshop wasn't higher due to the fact that few were aware that it was being held. He also felt that the TCA should sponsor the workshop every year at the Texas Scholastic Championships. He brought forth a motion to have TCA sponsor the workshop for the 2008 Texas Scholastic Championship; the motion was seconded, and was passed by a majority vote.

Some final discussion took place concerning inaccuracies with the TCA membership list, members missing issues of *Texas Knights*, etc. Another suggestion to have voting take place on the TCA Web site was brought up.

G. John moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded and passed. The next Business Meeting of the Texas Chess Association will be Sunday, Sept. 2 at the 2007 Southwest Open. The Business Meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Drew Sarkisian,  
April 19, 2007

## Texas Scholastics (continued from page 5)

### Primary JV

(165 players, 7 rounds)

1	Kenneth Matthews	7.0	Hexter	Dallas
2	Jestin Saucedo	6.0	Cash	San Benito
3	Michael Wille	6.0	Village School	Houston
4	Alex Leng	6.0	Skaggs	Plano
5	Clarissa Martinez	6.0	Aiken	Brownsville
6	Joshua Hennen	6.0	Hexter	Dallas
7	Alejandro Garcia	5.5	Downs	San Benito
8	Rohith Karur	5.5	Village School	Houston
9	Danian Tabares	5.5	Villa Nueva	Brownsville
10	Gabriela Gonzalez	5.5	Cash	San Benito
11	Omar Betts	5.5	La Paloma	San Benito
12	Steven Hodge	5.5	Canterbury	Edinburg
13	Aaron Soliz	5.5	Cash	San Benito
14	Margaret Siu	5.5	Lamplighter	Dallas

### Primary JV Team

1	Cash Elementary	San Benito	21.0
2	Canterbury	Edinburg	20.5
3	Downs	San Benito	19.5
4	Aiken	Brownsville	19.0

### K-1 Championship

(170 players, 7 rounds)

1	Alex Liu	7.0	Village School	Houston
2	Kyle Zhang	6.0	St. Mark's	Dallas
3	William Winchell	6.0	Green	Austin
4	Ricardo Santoyo	6.0	Paredes	Brownsville
5	Brianna Mendez	6.0	Garden Park	Brownsville
6	Daniel Artuelles	6.0	Paredes	Brownsville
7	Jorge Gonzalez	6.0	Canales	Brownsville
8	John Coudsi	6.0	Village School	Houston
9	Eduardo Gonzalez	6.0	Hudson	Brownsville
10	Kimberly Ramirez	5.5	St. Patrick	Corpus Christi
11	Sarai Guillen	5.5	Egly	Brownsville

### K-1 Team

1	Cash	San Benito	21.0
2	Canterbury	Edinburg	20.5
3	Downs	San Benito	19.5
4	Aiken	Brownsville	19.0
5	Garza	San Benito	17.0

### TCA Postal Chess

Contact Mario Leal, [mleal@spamcop.net](mailto:mleal@spamcop.net)

**NOTICE:** In the March-April *TK*, p. 13 is a duplicate of p. 19. You can download a copy of the correct p. 13 at [www.texaschess.org](http://www.texaschess.org). The diagrams require fonts that you download free with ChessBase Light, linked at our site.

**Solution** (back cover problem): **1.exd4!** (not 1.d8(N)? Bf5; 1.Nd8? Rd5!; 1.Qe2 [or 1.Qf1] Re5!), threatening 2.Nd3#: If 1...Re5 2.Qd4#, or 1...Rhx2 2.Qd5#.

## TCA Nominations

Candidates for TCA office must have nominations in writing to the *TK* Editor (POB 501, Helotes, TX 78023 or [schachlied@yahoo.com](mailto:schachlied@yahoo.com)) by **June 15**. The positions are president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Both nominator and nominee must be TCA members. Each candidate gets a free 100 word statement in the magazine, more at the ad rates posted on page 2. Candidates running as a 'slate' may pool their allotments of free space.

# Intuition in Chess

by Billy Patteson

In Volume V of Garry Kasparov's history of the world chess champions (*My Great Predecessors*), he begins the book with a virtual paean to intuition in chess mastery. He says that after a careful review of all the great champions, "...when analyzing the old games with a computer, I discovered that many intuitive decisions by the classics were correct and that far more mistakes were made in later analysis." He concludes, "Intuition truly is the tsarina of the chess-board!"

In the following game, I relied heavily on intuition and was rewarded by the "tsarina" with one of my very best wins!

*Ruy Lopez C77*

**B.L. Patteson 2006**

**Paul Ward 1728**

*HCC Wednesday, 2-7-07*

**1.Nf3 Nc6**

Yes, it really started this way.

**2.e4 e5 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.d3 b5 6.Bb3 Be7 7.c3 d6 8.Nbd2 Na5 9.Bc2 c5 10.Nf1 Bb7 11.Qe2 0-0**

I have chosen an old closed line of the Ruy once favored by Steinitz. Bobby Fischer won a famous game against Smyslov in the Havana, 1965 tournament with this setup.

**12.Ng3 g6 13.Bh6 Re8 14.0-0-0**

My play was influenced by a foggy memory of a Steinitz-Chigorin game from their world championship match in 1892. But there are a number of differences between that game and mine, not the least of which, Steinitz knew what he was doing! In that game, Steinitz first opened the h-file and only later castled queenside. Also, when he castled Tchigorin still had not touched the a, b or c pawns. In the current position, Black is just as close to opening lines as

White, so perhaps 14.0-0 was more circumspect.

**14...Qc7 15.Kb1 Nc6**

Black's last two moves are too slow; he should have begun immediate pawn action on the queenside. A storm is about to break over the Black king position.

**16.h4 Ng4?! 17.h5!**



Naturally I had no intention of backing off now. An open h-file and a pawn or two should be plenty comp for the bishop.

**17...Nxb6 18.hxg6 Kg7**

If 18...Bf8, 19.gxh7+ Kh7 20.Nf5 followed by Rh5 and R1h1 and the attack crashes through.

**19.Rxb6?!**

After the game my opponent pointed out an easier win: just play 19.Qd2. For instance: 19...Ng4; 20.Rxb7+ Kg6 21.R1h1 threatening 22.Qh6+ Nh6; 23.R1h6 mate. I considered the queen move but ultimately was more enamored by the rook sac.

**19...Kxb6 20.Nf5+ Kxg6 21.Rh1?!**

Again there was a more prosaic way to play. 21.Qe3 wins quickly as Black's next move would have been ruled out.

**21...h5**

Here I became discouraged. I had been intending: 22.Nxe5+ Nxe5 23.Qxh5+ Kf6 24.Qh6+, but now realized he would have 24...Ng6 and the king escapes.

What to do? I'm a rook down

and he is about to get away.

**22.Rxh5!!**

This sacrifice of another rook is really the only reasonable move left. I thought that I could find a mate if he takes the rook. And indeed he cannot take the rook on pain of mate in three: 22...Kxh5 23.N3h4+ Kg5 24.Qe3+ Kf6 25.Qh6#; or 24...Kg4 25.Bd1#, where the Spanish bishop delivers the *coup de grace!*



Can Black defend this position? Apparently not. During the game I thought 22...Rh8 would kill my attack, but computer analysis shows that even then, White has a win: 22...Rh8 23.N3h4+ Bxh4 White has a mate in ten moves. 24.Qg4+ Kf6 25.Qxh4+ Ke6 26.Ng7+ Kd7 27.Qh3+ f5 (27...Ke7 28.Nf5+ Kd7 29.Ne3+ Ke7 30.Nd5+) 28.Qxf5+ Ke7 29.Qe6+ Kf8 30.Rf5+, etc.

In this line, if instead of 23...Bxh4 Black plays 23...Kf6, the beautiful move 24.Ng7! guarding the e6 escape square wins. If then 24...Be8 cover lwhite squares, White has mate in five beginning 25.Qf3+.

And if 24...Rxb5 there is a mate in four: 25.Nxb5+ Kg5 26.Qe3+ Kxh4 27.Ng7 and 28.Qg3#.

In the game, Black played

**22...f6**

Now it's all over. I clearly saw I had a mate in four.

**23.Rh6+ Kf7 24.Ng5+**

# Picnic in the Park

The San Angelo Chess Club Chess Buddies participated in the 2nd Annual Picnic in the Park. This is an event that brought over forty local businesses and organization together in Recognition of April, Child Abuse Prevention Month. The event was free to the public.

On the crisp beautiful Saturday morning, Chess Buddies set up numerous chess sets and two large mini giant chess boards, and together with Baskin-Robbins a duck pond, to give away numerous prizes and free Baskin-Robbins gift cards for products. Baskin-Robbins also provided free Ice Cram and Bold Breezes to the over 600 guests, that also received free picnic lunches provided by a large number of local business and organization. Live music, numerous activities and demonstrations provided an enjoyable event.



Chess action was fast and furious, as local club players pitted their skills against all comers. Local families like the Dallases, three generations of the Carrizales family led

by Tony, and the Sturgeon family enjoyed chess and manned the area. We look forward to the many new friends we made to come to our local chess events! — Robert Sturgeon

## SW Collegiate (cont'd from p. 8)

**Phillip Irwin 1919**  
**Alexander Chua 2273**

*SW Collegiate 2007 (2)*

Black pursues a mating attack with great economy of means:



47...Rb7+! 48.Kxa4 Rb2 49.Bh4 Kc5! 50.Bxf6 Rb4+ 51.Ka3

51.Ka5 Nc4+ 52.Ka6 Kc6 53. Ka7 Ra4+ 54.Kb8 Nb6.

51...Nb5+ 52.Ka2 Nc3+ 53.Ka3 Kc4! (53...Rb3# is next) 0-1

**IM Jacek Stopa 2414**  
**NM Bradley Sawyer 2205**

*SW Collegiate 2007 (3)*



27.Bxd5! 1-0

## Chase Watters (1859)

**IM Alex Bachmann (2600)**

*SW Collegiate 2007 (3)*



36...Nd4! 37.cxd4 Rxe4+ 38.Kd2 Re2+ 39.Qxe2 [39.Kc3 Qxf1] 39... fxe2 40.Kxe2 Qh5+ 41.Ke1 exd4 42.Ng3 Qd5 43.Re7 Kg6 44.Ne4 Qxa2 45.Rxb7 Qb1+ 0-1

## OCF Winter NAO FIDE Open

Stillwater, OK Feb. 17-19

GM Val Aveskulov won with 6.5 out of 7. In a mega-tie for second were IM Irina Krush, GM Alex Shabalov, GM Pascal Charbonneau, IM Peter Vavrak, GM Magesh Panchanathan, WIM Nadia Ortiz, and WGM Camilla Baginskaite. There was one big section with 111 players.

Alexey Root reported on her experience in the last issue. Here are a couple of highlights from other Texas players at the event.

### *Sicilian Dragon B78*

**Renard Andersson 2222**

**Ali Morshedi 2287**

### *OCF Winter NAO FIDE Open (6)*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.0-0 Rc8 11.Bb3 Ne5 12.h4 h5 13.Bh6 Bxh6 14.Qxh6 Rxc3 15.bxc3 Qc7 16.Kb1 Rc8 17.g4 Qxc3 18.gxh5 Nxb5 19.Rhg1 Nf6 20.h5

20.Rxg6+! Nxg6 21.Qxg6+ Kh8 22.Qxf7 Qe3 23.Qxe7 +-.



20...Nc4 21.Bxc4 Rxc4 22.Rd3

22.hxg6 Rb4+ 23.Nb3 Qxf3 24.gxf7+ Kxf7 25.Rdf1+ e.g., 25...Qxe4 26.Rg7+ Ke6 27.Rxe7+! Kxe7 28.Qxf6+ Ke8 29.Qf8#.

22...Qb4+ 23.Nb3 Qb6 24.Rg2 Bh3 25.Rg5 Qf2 26.Rd2 Qf1+ 27.Kb2

Qxf3 28.hxg6 Qc3+ 29.Kb1 Rxe4 30.gxf7+ Kxf7 31.Qg6+ 31...Rg7+ Ke8 32.Rd3 Qe1+ 33.Kb2 Rh4 34.Qg6±.

31...Ke6= 32.Rd1 b6 33.Rg3 Re3 34.Nd4+ Kd7 35.Rxe3 Qxe3 36.Qf7 Be6 36...Ne4 37.Rd3 Qg1+ 38.Kb2 Nc5 39.Rxh3 Qxd4+.

37.Nxe6 Qxe6 38.Qf8 Qc4 39.Qb8 Qc7 40.Qa8 a5 41.Kb2 Qc5 42.Rd3 Qb4+ 43.Rb3 Qd4+ 44.Ka3 Ke6 45.Qc8+ Kf7 46.Qc6 Nd5 47.Qb5 e5 47...Ke6 48.Rd3 Qb4+.

48.Qd7+ Ne7 49.Rf3+ Kg6 50.Qe6+ Kg5 51.Qxe7+? 51.Rg3+ Kh5 52.Rh3+ Kg5 53.Qxe7+.

51...Kg4 52.Qf7?? [52.Rb3 Qc5+]= 52...Qb4# 0-1

The top Amarillo player is the beneficiary of an endgame swindle:

### *Sicilian Dragon B78*

**Gary Simms 2200**

**Movses Movsisyan 2288**

### *OCF Winter NAO FIDE Open (7)*

1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.d3 Nf6 6.e4 0-0 7.Re1 d5 8.exd5 Nxd5 9.Nbd2 b6 10.Nc4 Bb7 11.a4 a6 12.c3 b5 13.Nce5 Qc7 14.d4 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Bc6 16.axb5 axb5 17.Bd2 17.Rxa8 Rxa8 18.e6 =.

17...Rxa1 18.Qxa1 Qb7 19.Ng5 Nb6 20.Bxc6 Qxc6 21.Qa7 Nc4 22.Bf4 h6 23.Ne4 g5 24.b3 Nb2 25.Bd2 c4 26.bxc4 Nxc4 27.Qxe7 Nxd2 27...Nxe5! 28.Re3 Re8 29.Qc5 Qd7 30.Nd6 Rd8 31.Rxe5 Bxe5 32.Nxb5 Qf5+.

28.Nxd2 Qxc3 29.Qd6 b4 30.Re3 Qa1+ 31.Kg2 Qa8+ 32.f3 Qb8 33.Qxb8 Rxb8 34.f4 gxf4 35.gxf4 Bf8 36.Nb3 Rc8 37.Kf3 Kg7 38.f5 h5 39.Ke4 Rc4+ 40.Kd5 Rf4 41.Rg3+

Kh7 42.Nd4 Rf1 43.Kc4 Be7 44.f6 Bf8 45.Kb3 Re1 46.Nf3 Rd1?? 46...Re3+ 47.Kc4 Re4+ 48.Kd5 Rg4 49.Nd4 Rxc3 50.hxg3 Kg6=.



47.Ng5+ Kg6 48.Ne6+ Kf5 49.Nxf8 Kxe5 50.Rf3 Rd8 51.Nh7 Rg8 52.h4 Rg4 53.Ng5 Rxh4 54.Nxf7+ Ke6 55.Ng5+ 1-0

### Spring Open (cont'd from p. 14)

7.Nd5 Nxd5 8.exd5 Nb8 9.c4 a6 10.Nc3 Bf5 11.Bd3 Bxd3 12.Qxd3 Be7 13.h4 Nd7 14.Qg3 g6

Black had nothing to fear from castling: 14...0-0 15.h5 f5 16.Bh6 Rf7=. After the text White should play 15. h5! with initiative: 15... g5 16.Qg4 0-0 17.Qf5 Rc8 18.b3 b5 19.Ne4! with complex play. 15.Ne4 Qc7 16.b3 f5 17.Ng5 Bxg5 18.Bxg5 Kf7 19.Rc1 Qa5+ 20.Qc3 Qxc3+ 21.Rxc3 f4 22.h5 Nf6 23.Bxf6 Kxf6 24.Ke2 b6 25. Rch3

White can't lose with 25.hxg6 hxg6 26.Rch3 =. 25...g5 26.f3 h6 27.Re1 Rhe8 28.Kd3 b5 29.Rb1 bxc4+ 30.bxc4 Rab8 31.Rhh1 Kf5 32.Rb3?

32.Rhe1 Rxb1 33.Rxb1 e4+ 34.fxe4 Rxe4 35.Rb8=. 32...Rxb3+ 33.axb3 e4+ 34.fxe4+ Rxe4 35.b4

35.Ra1 Ke5 36.Rxa6 Re3+ 37.Kd2 Rxb3. 35...Ke5 36.Rh3 Re1 37.Kd2 Ra1 38.Kc2 Ra2+ 39.Kd3 Rxc2 0-1

## VOTE JIM BERRY for USCF Executive Board

In June you will be sent a ballot from USCF. **Please** read my candidate statement in the June issue of *Chess Life*. I am from OKLAHOMA and a Patron member of the TCA, and it has been many years since the Southwest was represented on the USCF Executive Board. If you have never voted before, this is a very important election FOR YOU to start. It will be the best 41 cents you have ever spent.

The Executive Board has had members who are lawyers, doctors, accountants, educators, and businessmen, but we have never had a member who is a banker. I am a banker. I will bring a real life understanding of money: its production, its uses, and its very nature. I sit on the board of directors of a \$2 billion bank, Southwest Bancorp, Inc. (OKSB on the NASDAQ exchange).

Income from dues needs to be spent wisely and judiciously. That's what bankers do. I will insist that we set a USCF budget with care and then I promise not to allow that budget to be compromised. Some emergency monies will be part of that budget and there will be no surprises. I don't like surprises. You don't deserve surprises. All financial moves should be calculated...like in a chess game. My goal is to end each fiscal year with at least a slight surplus, to help our affiliates provide more activity for our members, to encourage the formation of affiliates in areas now lacking them, and to continue the recent increases in USCF membership. Expenses incurred while serving on the Executive Board by Jim Berry will be paid out of my own pocket. I will accept no reimbursement for transportation, food, per diem ... nothing ... nada. Chess is my passion.

The USCF needs both financial expertise and professionalism as well as an abiding love of chess, which it will get if you elect me. I am a US military veteran, married 38 years (same gal), an active tournament player (227 events since 1991), active director (72 events since 1991) and I play golf four times a week. I support junior chess by coaching four recent Denker representatives from Oklahoma. **Below is a list of endorsers/supporters for my campaign:**

"In June my 41 cent stamp will be used to vote for Jim Berry."

– **US champion GM Alexander Onischuk.**

"Electing my friend Jim Berry will help all USCF members, not just the professional players."

– **US Open Champion GM Yury Shulman**

"Jim Berry is the only candidate that I am campaigning for across the country."

– **IM John Donaldson**

"Jim Berry will bring to the USCF Executive Board an unusual combination of qualifications: business experience, active player, director/organizer of many enjoyable and prestigious events."

– **Bill Goichberg**

"Jim and Frank Berry are great lovers of chess, who have become legendary for the generosity and gracious hospitality enjoyed by those in their tournaments."

– **Jerry Hanken**

US Women's Champion WGM Anna Zatonskih, GM Gata Kamsky, WGM Rusa Goletiani, GM Sergy Kudrin, GM Alexander Stripunsky, GM Alexander Shabalov, IM Irina Krush, Bob Holliman, IM Ron Burnett, Joe Wagner, Tom Braunlich, Carl Haessler, Larry Cohen, Bill Orton, Ron Pasik, Tim Steiner, Tim McEntee, B.G. Dennison (B.G. has played tournament chess in 49 states. HE wants me to go with him to Wyoming for his 50th because I played in his first tournament in OK 35 years ago.), Pieta Garrett (Denker 2004 Champ), Trevor Jackson (Denker 2005 Champ), Nelson Lopez (Denker 2006 Champ), Stephanie Pitcher (Polgar 2004), **PLUS Texans FM Michael Langer, NM Selby Anderson, WIM Alexey Root and NM Gary Simms.**

I humbly ask for your vote. **CHECKMATE!** We win.

[This is a paid advertisement, and does not represent an official endorsement by the Texas Chess Association.]

# Texas State and Amateur Championship

May 25-28, 2007

7 Round Swiss

Hilton Americas Hotel, 1600 Lamar, Houston, TX 77010

Rates: \$85 (reserve by 5/11 and ask for chess rates), 800-774-1500 or 713-739-8000.

## \$ 8,350 prize fund (b/175)

### Championship (2000+)

### Amateur (U2000)

	U2400	U2200		U1800	U1600	U1400	U1200	U1000	
<b>First</b>	\$1,000	\$300	\$800	\$800	\$600	\$500	\$500	\$400	\$300
<b>Second</b>	\$500		\$400	\$300	\$250	\$250			<b>Unr.</b>
<b>Third</b>	\$200			\$200	\$150	\$125	\$125		\$200

#### Time Controls

Rds 1-3 G/90 with 30 sec increment  
Rds 4-7 G/120 with 30 sec increment  
FIDE rated with USCF rules

#### Time Controls

Rounds 1-7 : 30/90 SD/60  
(Round 1 of 3 day schedule is G/120)  
Foreign unrated must play in Championship section

**Schedule:** 4-day: Fri. 7:45 p.m.; Sat. 2:30 - 8:30; Sun. 10 - 4; Mon. 9 - 2:30

3-day: Round 1 Sat. 10 a.m., then merge with 4-day schedule

Up to two ½ point byes available if requested before round 2.

Byes for both round 6 and 7 not permitted.

**Entry Fees:** \$69 if received by 5/17. \$80 at site. Add \$5 for CC phone entries.

\$45 junior (under 19), senior (over 65), handicap. \$55 if received after 5/17.

**Mail entries** (with payment) to Dallas Chess Club c/o Susan Breeding,  
7909 La Guardia Dr., Plano, TX 75025.

**K-12 Scholastic Event** (Sat. May 26): 5-rd. Swiss (Rds 1-3 G/30, Rds 4-5 G/45)

Entry fee: \$26 by 5/18, \$39 after. CC phone entries add \$5. Onsite registration

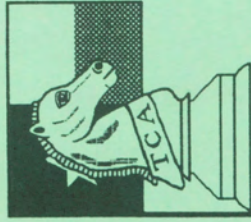
8:15-8:45 a.m. Round 1 at 9:30 a.m., rest ASAP with short lunch break.

Sections: K-12 Championship and K-12 under 750.

Prizes: Trophies to top 12 individuals, 5 teams in each section.

Medals to plus scores who do not win a trophy.

For more information, contact Susan Breeding, 214-632-9000.



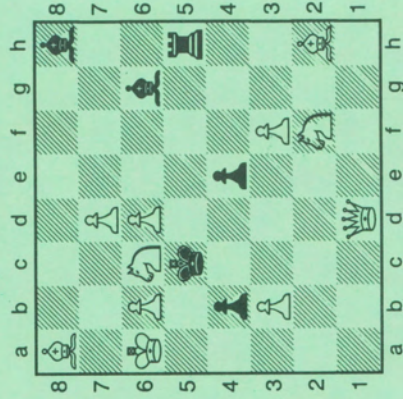
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See inside front cover for TCA membership information.



**Rauf Aliovsadzade**  
*StrageGems, 2003*



**White to move, mate in two**  
Solution: p. 18

