

# TEXAS KNIGHTS

The official publication of the Texas Chess Association

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Jan. - Feb. 2015

## It's a New Year!!!



**FM Ruifeng Li - *The #1 13-year old in the United States***

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Contributors: Tim Brennan, Peter Kappler, Robert Myers, Eddie Rios, Luis Salinas, Lakshmana Viswanath  
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Send submissions by e-mail to **texasknightsed@gmail.com**, or mail to **P.O. Box 151804, Ft. Worth, TX 76108**  
(please include contact information). Deadline next issue: **March 15th!**

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## From the Desk of The Editor

Hello again,

Well, it's a new year AND it's time for the next issue of *Texas Knights*. This issue made it to the printers a little later than I would have liked. Unfortunately, life (and work) get in the way sometimes.

This entire issue is about Texas. Only stories related to Texas and tournaments played in Texas are present. There are no national tournaments included this time around.

We have results, games and a nice collection of photos (taken by **Luis Salinas**) from the **Texas Masters 2015 Tournament**. We have an article about the **Texas Team Championship**, I was able to add the results and games thanks to content provided by **Eddie Rios**. We have results and games from the **5th Annual Austin Club Championships**. We have a new article from **Robert Myers**, and we have a new set of Tactics challenges from **Tim Brennan**.

What we DON'T have this issue is a *Spotlight On...* article. In order to publish any content, I need a copy of the content. If you like reading about our young Chess stars, please consider contacting them (or send me contact information) so we can continue the *Spotlight On...* articles in future issues.

Also, here's a call out to our Regional Directors. I like having issues that just cover Texas Tournaments. Stories, etc., but when I don't have enough for a full issue, I go looking for other Chess-related content. It would be nice to have a paragraph or two, possibly some games, photos, and/or tournament results, from each Region in EVERY issue. Please consider providing me with content from your Region (even pointing me in the right direction ... to a web page, for example, would do).

The deadline for the next issue is March 15th.

Take care. The next issue should be on its way around the first week of April.

— **Jeff French**



## From the Desk of the TCA President

Hello Chess Enthusiasts,

How are you all doing? Thanks to Jeff, we are now promptly bringing out our *Texas Knights*. As we start this new year, I would like to say 'Happy New Chess Year' to all our friends and family.

The next major event for us is the State Scholastics. This year it is held at the McAllen Convention Center, on March 28 and 29<sup>th</sup>. I encourage all to attend.

A committee was formed to discuss Luis Salinas' recommendations, and to make a recommendation to agree, disagree, or make changes to the proposal. The final vote will happen during the Spring 2015 TCA Meeting.

We still need to fill some positions on the Executive Board. We need Regional Directors and Scholastic Committee Members for Regions. Please send me an e-mail nominating yourself or someone else from those areas. If you would like to volunteer, I would be happy to accommodate you in some position. Please help.

Thank you all. Have a great Chess year.

### TCA Treasurer's Report - January 15, 2015

Income		Expenses	
September memberships	\$75.00	Region 10 Start-up Chess Sets	\$500.00
October memberships	\$10.00	Texas State Amateur Trophy Cub	\$163.00
November memberships	\$50.00	Texas Knights Sept-Oct 2014	\$872.72
December memberships	\$57.50	Texas Knights Nov-Dec 2014	\$873.34
January memberships (so far)	\$10.00	Affiliates Dues (2 years)	\$80.00
2014 SW Open memberships	\$469.00	2014 Denker Representative - Austin Jiang	\$300.00
2014 Texas Girls State Championships	\$70.00	World Junior Chess in India - Claudia Munoz	\$500.00
2014 Texas Grade & Collegiate memberships	\$309.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,289.06</b>
2015 Texas Masters memberships	\$46.00	<b>January 15, 2015</b>	
Binny Nanavati Dell Volunteer Contribution	\$150.00	<b>WF checking account balance</b>	<b>\$17,917.61</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,246.50</b>	<b>BOA checking account balance</b>	<b>\$11,079.31</b>

# Texas Masters Tournament 2015

For additional info: <http://www.dallaschess.com/2015TexasMasters/index.htm>

The **Texas Masters Tournament** was played between January 17th and 19th in Richardson. The Tournament was a 5 Round Swiss System. Time controls were Game 90 with 30 second increments. **GM Elshan Moradiabadi** and **IM Andrey Gorovets** shared the top spot with a total score of 4.0/5.0 each. Below are some of the games played in the Tournament.

**IM Jeffrey Xiong (2563) -  
NM Atulya Vaidya (1859) [C63]**

Texas Masters 2015 (3), 18.01.2015

**[C63: Ruy Lopez: Schliemann/Jaenisch Defense]**

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f5 4.d3 fxe4  
5.dxe4 Nf6 6.Qd3 Bc5 7.Nc3 [last book  
move]**

**7...Qe7 8.Bg5 Qd6 9.Qe2 [White has a  
very active position]**

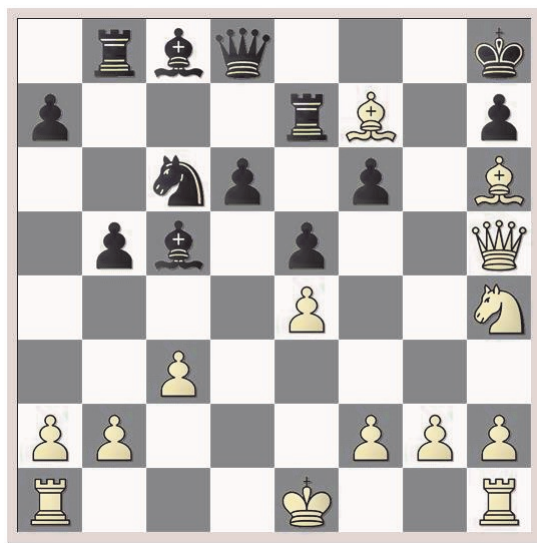
**9...0-0?** [ $\triangle$ 9...Nd4 is the best option Black has 10.Nxd4 Bxd4 (10...exd4?? 11.e5 Qe6 12.exf6 Qxe2+ 13.Nxe2+-;  $\leq$ 10...Qxd4 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Rd1+-) 11.Bxf6 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Qxf6=]

**10.Bc4+- Kh8 11.Nb5 Qe7 12.Nxc7 Rb8  
[12...b5 13.Nxa8 bxc4 14.Nc7+- ( $\leq$ 14.Qxc4 d6 $\pm$ )]**

**13.Nd5+- Qd8 14.Nxf6 gxf6 15.Bh6 Re8  
16.c3 d6 [16...Bf8 17.Be3+-]**

**17.Nh4 b5 18.Bf7 Re7? [18...Rf8 19.Bb3  
Ne7+-]**

**19.Qh5 [19.Qh5 Rc7 20.Bd5+-] 1-0**



texaschess.org



**WCM Claudia E Muñoz (2051) –  
Tushar Maneklal (1368) [D46]**  
Texas Masters 2015 (3), 18.01.2015

**[D46: Semi-Slav: 5 e3 Nbd7 6 Bd3,  
Black avoids the Meran]**

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nf3  
Nbd7 6.Bd3 b6 7.0-0** [last book move]

**7...c5** [7...Bb7 8.Re1=]

**8.Re1** [8.cxd5 exd5 9.e4 dxe4±]

**8...Bd6 9.cxd5 exd5?** [△9...Nxd5 and  
Black is still in the game 10.e4 Nxc3  
11.bxc3 0-0±]

**10.e4+- 0-0** [10...cxd4 11.exd5+ Kf8  
12.Nxd4+-]

**11.e5 c4** [11...cxd4 12.Nb5 (12.exd6?! is  
much worse 12...dxc3 13.bxc3 Nc5=;  
12.exf6?! dxc3 13.fxg7 Kxg7±) 12...Bb4  
13.exf6 Bxe1 14.fxg7+- (14.Nxe1?! Nxf6  
15.Bf4 a6+-; 14.Qxe1?! Re8 15.Qd1 Nxf6+-  
-)]

**12.Bc2** [12.exd6?! cxd3 13.Bg5 Bb7+-]

**12...Ng4** [12...Bc7+- no good, but what  
else?]

**13.exd6 Ndf6 14.Bf4 Nh5 15.Qd2**  
[△15.Be5+- seems even better]

**15...Qf6** [15...Ngf6 is one last hope 16.Be5  
Qd7+-]

**16.Be5** [16.Nxd5 and White can already  
relax 16...Qd8 17.Be4 Kh8+-]

**16...Qd8** [16...Qh6 does not help much  
17.Nxd5 Bb7 18.Be4 Qxd2 19.Nxd2 Bxd5  
20.Bxd5+-]

**17.Nxd5 Bb7** [17...f6 doesn't change any-  
thing anymore 18.Ne7+ Kh8 19.Be4 fxe5  
20.Bxa8+-]

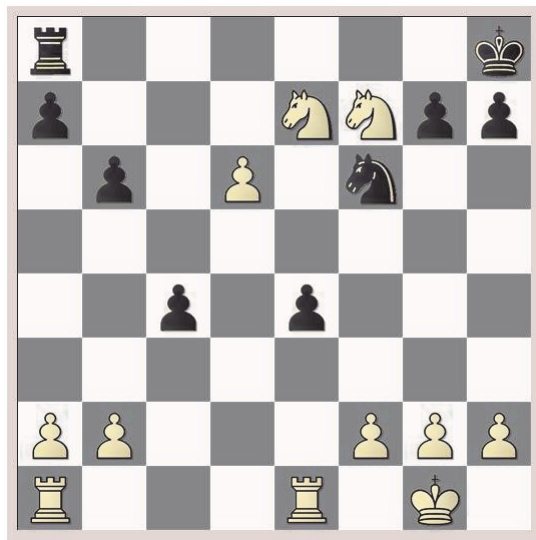
**18.Be4** [△18.Ne7+ makes it even easier  
for White 18...Kh8 19.Qe2 Nxe5 20.Nxe5  
g6+-]

**18...Nxe5** [18...Kh8 the only chance to get  
some counterplay 19.Nc7 Bxe4 20.Rxe4  
Nhf6 21.Rxg4 Nxg4 22.Nxa8 Nxe5  
23.dxe5 Qxa8+-]

**19.dxe5 Kh8 20.Ne7 f6** [20...Bxe4 praying  
for a miracle 21.Rxe4 f6+-]

**21.Bxb7 fxe5 22.Bxa8 Qxa8 23.Qd5 e4  
24.Qxa8** [24.Qxh5 h6 25.Ng6+ Kg8  
26.Nxf8 e3 27.Rxe3 c3 28.bxc3 Qxf8  
29.Re8 Qxe8 30.Qxe8+ Kh7 31.Qf7 b5  
32.d7 a5 33.d8Q a4 34.Qdg8#]

**24...Rxa8 25.Ng5 Nf6 26.Nf7# 1-0**



**IM Jeffery Xiong (2573) [C65] –  
GM Elshan Moradiabadi (2642)**  
Texas Masters 2015 (4), 18.01.2015

**[C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence  
(3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5]**

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bd6  
5.0-0 0-0 6.Nbd2 a6 7.Bxc6 dxc6 8.Nc4**  
[last book move]

**8...Re8 9.b3 Bg4 10.Bb2** [e5 draws heavy  
fire]

**10...Nd7 11.Ne3 Bh5 12.Kh1 Bc5 13.Nf5  
Bg4 14.Ne3** [White threatens to win mate-  
rial: Ne3xg4]

**14...Bh5 15.h3** [Covers g4]

**15...Bxe3 16.fxe3 Bxf3 17.Qxf3** [White  
has new doubled pawns: e3+e4]

**17...Qe7 18.Rf2 a5 19.a4 b5 20.Bc3 b4**  
[Black gets more space]

**21.Bb2 c5 22.Raf1 Rf8 23.g4 Rab8  
24.Qg2 c4 25.dxc4 f6 26.Rf5 Rbd8 27.h4  
g6 28.R5f2 h6 29.Qf3 Nc5 30.Kg1 Ne6  
31.Qg3 g5 32.h5** [This push gains space]

**32...Nc5** [Black threatens to win material:  
Nc5xe4. A comfortable square for the  
black knight]

**33.Qf3 Qe6 34.Kh2 Qc8 35.Qg2** [35.Qf5  
Qxf5 36.exf5 Ne4=]

**35...Qe6** [35...Kg7!?#]

**36.Qf3= Rd7 37.Qg2 Rff7 38.Qf3 Rf8**

**39.Qg2 Rdd8** [Twofold repetition]

**40.Qf3 Rd7 41.Qg2** [Draw by threefold  
repetition]

**41...Rff7 42.Qf3** [Twofold repetition]

**42...Qc6** [Exerts pressure on the isolated  
pawn. Black threatens to win material:  
Qc6xe4]

**43.Qf5 Nxe4** [A valuable piece]

**44.Qf3** [⊔44.Rg2!?= must definitely be  
considered]

**44...Rd6# 45.Bxe5 Re6** [45...Nxf2?!  
46.Qxf2 Re6 47.Bd4=]

**46.Bg3** [46.Bb2!? Nxf2 47.Rxf2 Qxf3  
48.Rxf3-+]

**46...Nxf2+ 47.Rxf2** [⊔47.Qxf2 Qe4  
48.Kh3#]

**47...Qxf3 48.Rxf3 Rd7 49.Kg2 Kf7 50.Kf1  
Re4 51.Kg2?** [51.Be1 Rde7 52.Rf5 Rxe3  
53.Bf2-+]

**51...Rxc4 52.Rf5 Re7** [52...Re4 might be  
the shorter path 53.Kf3 Rde7 54.Bf2-+]

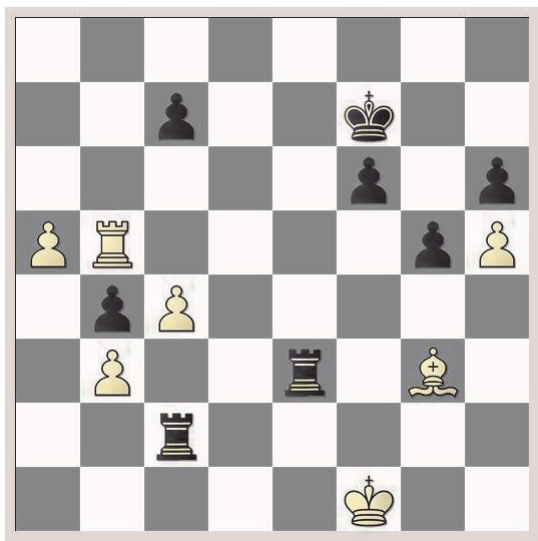
**53.Kf2** [53.Kf3 doesn't improve anything  
53...Rge4 54.Bf2 R7e5 55.Rxe5 Rxe5-+]

**53...Rge4 54.Rxa5** [54.Rf3 is not much  
help 54...Ke6-+]

**54...Rxe3 55.Rb5** [55.Bxc7 does not solve  
anything 55...Re2+ 56.Kf1 Re1+ 57.Kf2  
R7e2+ 58.Kf3 Re3+ 59.Kg2 R1e2+ 60.Kf1  
Rxc2-+]

55...Re2+ 56.Kf1 Rxc2 57.a5 [57.Bf2-+ 11.Bxe5 0-0±]  
otherwise it's curtains at once]

57...Re3 [57...Re3 58.Be1 Rc1-+] 0-1



IM Kacper Drozdowski (2570) –  
NM Dachev Lin (2335) [A01/23]  
Texas Masters 2015 (4), 18.01.2015

[A01: Nimzowitsch–Larsen Opening]

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3 d5 4.Bb5 Bd6  
5.f4 f6 6.fxe5 fxe5 7.Nf3 [last book move.  
White threatens to win material: Nf3xe5]

7...Bg4 [White has a cramped position]

8.h3 [White threatens to win material:  
h3xg4]

8...Bd7 [8...Bxf3!? 9.Qxf3 Nf6=]

9.Bxc6± Bxc6 [Black has the pair of bish-  
ops]

10.0-0 Bb5 [10...Nf6!? is noteworthy

11.c4± [11.Nxe5?! Bxf1 12.Qh5+ g6  
13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.Qxh8 Kd7 15.Kxf1 Qg5  
16.Qg7+ Kc6 17.Qc3+ Kd7 18.Qg7+ Kc6  
19.Qc3+ Kd7 20.Qg7+=]

11...dxc4 12.Nc3 Ba6 13.Nxe5 Nf6 [Black  
king safety improved]

14.Nxc4 0-0 15.Rf5 Bg3 [15...Qd7  
16.Qc2±]

16.Ne2 Bh4 17.Qc2 Qd7? [Δ17...b5  
18.Na5 Qe8±]

18.Raf1+- Rad8 19.R1f4 b5 20.Rxh4  
bxc4 21.Rd4 [Δ21.Bxf6 seems even bet-  
ter 21...Rxf6 22.Rxf6 gxf6 23.Nf4+-]

21...Qe6? [21...cxb3 22.axb3 Qc8+-]

22.Nf4 [22.bxc4?! is clearly worse  
22...Rxd4 23.Bxd4 Qxc4 24.Qxc4+ Bxc4+-  
]

22...Qc6 [22...Qe7 hardly improves any-  
thing 23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.Nd5+-  
]

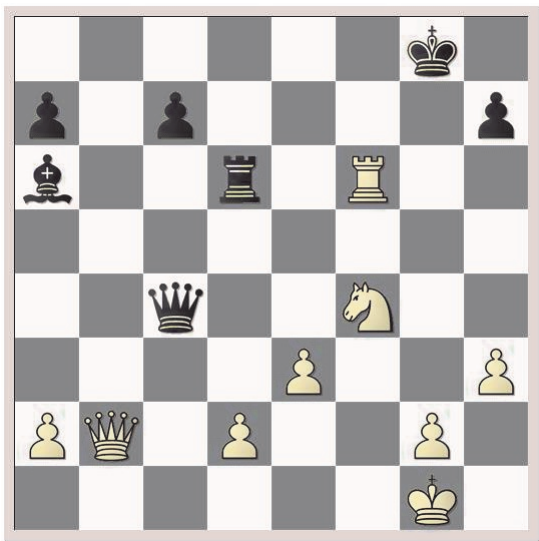
23.Rxd8 Rxd8 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.bxc4  
[Δ25.Nh5 keeps an even firmer grip  
25...c3 26.d4 Rf8+-]

25...Qxc4 [25...Bxc4 desperation 26.Nh5  
Rd6 27.Nxf6+ Rxf6 28.Rxf6 Qxf6  
29.Qxc4+ Kh8 30.Qxc7 Qa6+-]

26.Qb2 Rd6 [26...Bc8 is not the saving  
move 27.Qxf6 Bxf5 28.Qxd8+ Kf7  
29.Nd5+-]

27.Rxf6 [27.Rxf6 Bc8 28.Nh5 Rxf6  
29.Qxf6+-] 1-0





**26.f3+- Bc6 27.Bxc6 Nxc6 28.R1d5 Rxc8  
29.c3 [29.Rxc5 Nd4 30.Rxa5 Nxc2+-]**

**29...Nd4 [29...Ne7!? 30.Rxe5 bxc3  
31.bxc3 Ra8+-]**

**30.cxd4+- cxd4 31.Nf1 Rc1? [31...Rc2  
32.Rxe5 Re2 33.Rxd4+-]**

**32.f4 [32.Rxa5 Ra1 33.Rxe5 Rcc1 34.Rxd4  
Rxf1+ 35.Kh2 Rf2 36.Rxb4 Re1+-]**

**32...Rb1 [32...exf4!? 33.Rxd4 (33.Rxa5 is  
much weaker 33...Rb1 34.Rxd4 Rcc1⚡)  
33...Rb1 34.e5±]**

**33.fxe5+- Rcc1? [33...Rxb2 34.Rxd4  
Rcc2+-]**

**34.Rf6 Rxb2 [34...Rc7 there is nothing  
else anyway 35.Rf2 b3+-]**

**35.Rd7 Rcc2 [35...Kg8 a last effort to re-  
sist the inevitable 36.Rdxf7 Rc8+-]**

**36.Rxf7+ [36.Rxf7+ Kg8 37.e6 Rc8  
38.Rg7+ Kh8 39.Rh7+ Kg8 40.Rdg7+ Kf8  
41.e7+ Ke8 42.Rh8+ Kd7 43.e8Q+ Kd6  
44.Rxg6+ Kc7 45.Qxc8#] 1-0**

**FM Ruifeng Li (2496) –  
FM Michael Langer (2299) [B90]**  
Texas Masters 2015 (5), 19.01.2015

**[B90: Sicilian Najdorf: Unusual White  
6th moves, 6 Be3 Ng4 and 6 Be3 e5]**

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6  
5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.h3 h5**  
[last book move]

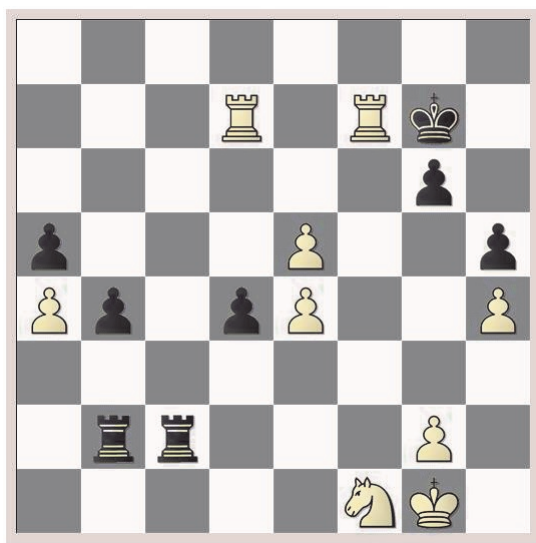
**9.Be2 Be6 10.0-0** [Black has a cramped  
position]

**10...Nbd7 11.Qd3 Nc5 12.Nxc5 dxc5**  
[Black king safety dropped.]

**13.Rfd1 Qxd3 14.Rxd3** [Traps the king in  
the center]

**14...b5 15.Bg5 Ng8 [15...c4!? 16.Rdd1  
Rc8±]**

**16.Bxe7± Nxe7 17.Rd6 g6 18.a4 b4  
19.Nd1 a5 20.Bb5+ Kf8 21.Ne3 Kg7  
22.Rad1 Ra7 23.Bc4 Bc8 24.h4 Rc7  
25.Bb5 Bb7 [25...f5!?±]**



# Photos from the Texas Masters 2015 Tournament

By Luis Salinas



The Joint Winners



## Texas Masters 2015 Results

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	GM Elshan Moradiabadi	2642	W19	W4	D2	W8	D3	4.0
2	IM Andrey Gorovets	2580	W25	W11	D1	W7	D4	4.0
3	GM Valentin L Yotov	2615	W23	D5	D12	W11	D1	3.5
4	IM Kacper Drozdowski	2570	W18	L1	W25	W12	D2	3.5
5	FM Ruifeng Li	2496	W16	D3	D9	D10	W15	3.5
6	IM Joshua Ruiz	2467	W28	D7	D10	W9	D8	3.5
7	IM Denis Kadric	2600	W21	D6	W13	L2	D10	3.0
8	IM Jeffery Xiong	2573	W22	D9	W17	L1	D6	3.0
9	GM Julio C Sadorra	2648	W20	D8	D5	L6	W16	3.0
10	GM Alejandro Ramirez	2666	H---	W15	D6	D5	D7	3.0
11	FM Steven Breckenridge	2388	W14	L2	W22	L3	W19	3.0
12	NM Dachev Lin	2335	W26	H---	D3	L4	W21	3.0
13	FM Arvind Jayaraman	2331	D17	X29	L7	D15	W22	3.0
14	Ram Krishna	2025	L11	W23	L15	X29	W20	3.0
15	FM Michael Langer	2299	W30	L10	W14	D13	L5	2.5
16	WFM Emily Q Nguyen	2042	L5	D20	W28	W17	L9	2.5
17	Atreya Vaidya	1859	D13	W27	L8	L16	W25	2.5
18	WCM Claudia E Muñoz	2051	L4	L19	W30	D25	W26	2.5
19	NM Bovey Liu	2218	L1	W18	L24	W27	L11	2.0
20	NM Atulya Vaidya	2248	L9	D16	W29	D21	L14	2.0
21	Robert Sanchez	2147	L7	D28	W27	D20	L12	2.0
22	Trey Modlin	2080	L8	W30	L11	W23	L13	2.0
23	NM Anthony Q Nguyen	2151	L3	L14	W26	L22	W30	2.0
24	IM Darwin Yang	2559	H---	H---	W19	U---	U---	2.0
25	Andrew J Widener	2136	L2	W26	L4	D18	L17	1.5
26	Jonathan F Allen	1955	L12	L25	L23	W30	L18	1.0
27	Adrian D Stacey	1452	B---	L17	L21	L19	U---	1.0
28	Travis Guenther	2019	L6	D21	L16	U---	U---	0.5
29	Durga N Guttula	1528	H---	F13	L20	F14	U---	0.5
30	Tushar Maneklal	1368	L15	L22	L18	L26	L23	0.0

# Texas Team Championship

By Lakshmana Viswanath

The Texas Team championship was held on January 24th, at Texas A & M Kingsville. The tournament drew 9 teams with players from Laredo to Brownsville and Corpus. We now have a new Texas Championship Team from the University of Texas Brownsville, UT Pan American and Texas A&M Kingsville tied for second. Special thanks to UTB and UTPA as well as players from Kingsville and Corpus Christi for attending and bringing a new level of competition for the region. This tournament was organized and directed by Eddie Rios Sr..



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**Christian Lee Leos (2066) –  
Guillermo Vazquez (2462) [E32]**  
Texas Team Championship (1), 24.01.2015

**[E32: Nimzo-Indian: Classical (4 Qc2):  
4...0-0]**

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0  
5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 c5 7.e3 cxd4 8.exd4 Nc6  
9.Rd1 d5 10.Nf3 [last book move]**



**10...g5 11.Bg3 Ne4 12.Bd3 f5 13.Be5**  
[Inferior is 13.Bxe4 dxe4 (13...fxe4?!  
14.Ne5=) 14.Ne5 f4 15.Nxc6 bxc6+] ]

**13...g4** [This push gains space]

**14.Ng1 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Qc7 16.f4** [16.Bxe4  
dxe4 17.Nge2 Qxe5+] ]

**16...gxf3 17.Nxf3 d4** [Black threatens to  
win material: d4xc3]

[17...Qc5 18.a3 Bxc3+ 19.bxc3+] ]

**18.Bxe4?** [Δ18.Nxd4 and White can hope  
to survive 18...Nxc3 19.bxc3 Qxe5+  
20.Be2+] ]

**18...dxc3+** [18...fxe4 is clearly worse  
19.Nxd4 Qxc4 20.Nde2±]

**19.Bd3** [19.bxc3 fxe4 20.cxb4 exf3  
21.Qg6+ Qg7 22.Qxg7+ Kxg7 23.gxf3 Rf5-  
+]

**19...cxb2+ 20.Kf1 Ba3 21.h4 Bd7 22.Qd2**  
[22.Qb3 Qc5 23.Ne1 Qb4-+]

**22...Ba4 23.Rb1 Rad8 24.Ke2** [24.Rh3 Rf7  
25.Ne1 Qxe5 26.Qe3 Qxe3 27.Rxe3-+]

**24...Qg7 25.g3** [25.Kf1 does not win a  
prize 25...Bc6 26.Ne1 Rd4-+]

**25...Qg4** [Δ25...Rd7 keeps an even firmer  
grip 26.Qf4 Rfd8-+]

**26.Qxh6** [26.Qf4 desperation 26...Bc6  
27.Rhf1-+]

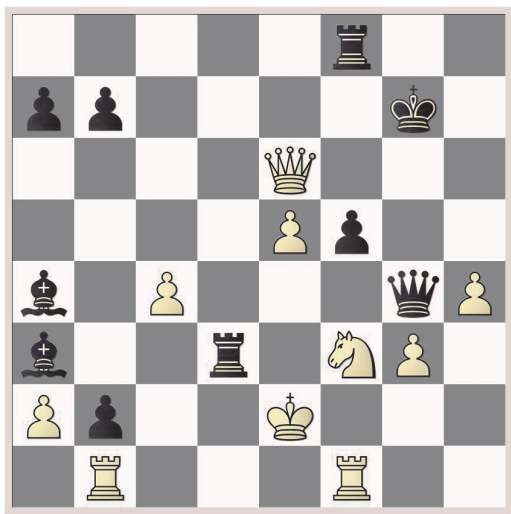
**26...Rxd3!** [Mate attack]

**27.Qxe6+** [27.Kxd3 Qe4+ Mate attack; Δ  
27.-- Qxf3+ Mate threat]

**27...Kg7 28.Rhf1 0-1**



- **Articles**      **Content for the next issue**
- **Photos**      **needs to be delivered to the**
- **Results**      **Editor by March 15th!**



**Carol Ann Crockett (887) –  
Armando Cortez (2026) [B30]**  
Texas Team Championship (2), 24.01.2015

**[B30: Sicilian: 2...Nc6 3 Bb5, lines with–  
out ...g6]**

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.Nc3 a6 4.Bc4 Nc6** [last  
book move]



**5.e5** [5.d4 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Qc7=]

**5...Qc7** 6.0-0 Nxe5 7.Qe2 [Δ7.Nxe5!?  
should be considered 7...Qxe5 8.Re1]

**7...Nxf3** 8.Qxf3 Nf6 9.d3 Be7 [9...d5  
10.Bf4 Bd6 11.Bb5+ Ke7 12.Bxd6+ Qxd6  
13.Ba4]

**10.Be3** [10.Bf4 d6]

**10...d5 11.Bb5??** [the final mistake, not  
that it matters anymore]

[Δ11.Bf4 Bd6 12.Bb5+ Kf8 13.Bxd6+ Qxd6  
14.Ba4]

**11...axb5+ 12.Nxb5 Qc6** [12...Qa5 seems  
even better 13.a4+]

**13.a4 0-0 14.c4** [14.Qg3 does not solve  
anything 14...Bd7+]

**14...d4 15.Qg3** [15.Bg5 doesn't do any  
good 15...Qxf3 16.gxf3 Bd7+]

**15...dxe3 16.fxe3 Rd8 17.e4 e5!**  
[Deflection: d3]

**18.b3** [18.Qxe5 Rxd3 Deflection]

**18...Bd7 19.Ra2** [19.h3 doesn't change  
anything anymore 19...Be6+]

**19...Qb6 20.Raf2** [20.Nc3 doesn't get the  
cat off the tree 20...Qxb3 21.Qxe5 Bc6+]

**20...Bxb5 21.axb5** [21.Qxe5 doesn't  
change the outcome of the game 21...Bd6  
22.Rxf6 gxf6 23.Qxf6 Be8 24.Qg5+ Kf8  
25.Qh6+ Ke7 26.Qf6+ Kd7+]

**21...Qd6 22.Rf5** [22.b6 cannot change what is in store for White 22...Ra3 23.Rf5 Rxb3 24.Qxe5 Qxe5 25.Rxe5 Rd7-+] win 28.Rf1 Rxf1+ 29.Kxf1-+]

**28.gxf3 Rd1+** [28...Rd1+ 29.Kf2 Kf8-+] **0-1**

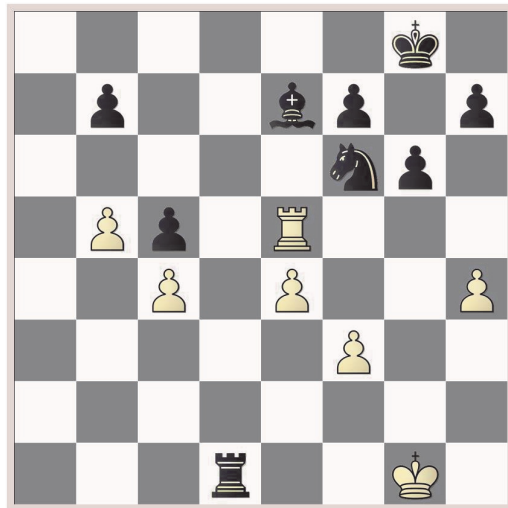
**22...Ra3** [22...Qd4+ and Black can already relax 23.R5f2-+]

**23.Rg5** [23.Qxe5 cannot change destiny 23...Qxe5 24.Rxe5 Rd7-+]

**23...g6 24.h4 Rxb3** [Δ24...Qd4+ might be the shorter path 25.Qf2 Qxf2+ 26.Rxf2 Rxd3 27.Rxe5-+]

**25.Rf3 Rxd3 26.Qxe5 Qxe5** [26...Rd1+ 27.Kh2 Ng4+ 28.Rxg4 Qxe5+ 29.Rgf4 g5 30.h5 gxf4 31.Rh3 Qxe4 32.Rf3 R8d2 33.h6 Qxf3 34.b6 Rxc2#]

**27.Rxe5-+ Rxf3** [Δ27...Rd1+ secures the



*continued on page 18...*

## 2015 Texas State Scholastic Championships

**March 28 - 29** 7 Round Swiss System (No Elimination)

McAllen Convention Center  
700 Convention Center Blvd., McAllen, TX 78501

For tournament info, visit our website: [www.dallaschess.com](http://www.dallaschess.com)  
or contact Barbara Swafford, [info@dallaschess.com](mailto:info@dallaschess.com) or 214-632-9000

## USCF TOP PLAYERS - January 2015

<b>65 and Over</b>		<b>Age 16 (cont.)</b>		<b>Age 12 (cont.)</b>	
28 Simms, Gary	2220	53 Kowal, Joshua Adam	2078	29 Liu, Kevin	1960
58 Sutherland, Don C	2179	63 Wlezien, Alexander	2044	31 Sonawane, Atharv P	1938
84 Chase, Stephen M	2067	70 Jacob, Andrew	2029	32 Buegler, Jacob Bede	1933
		76 Brannon, Joshua Scott	2015	33 Fan, William G	1932
		81 Shan, Devan	1984	48 Srivatsav, Aadarsh	1869
<b>50 and Over</b>		<b>Age 15</b>		49 Kao, Camille Y	1867
24 Bradford, Joseph Mark	2459	6 Lin, Dachev	2335	61 Tsuei, Kai	1822
30 Milovanovic, Rade	2428	11 Vaidya, Atulya	2248	69 Rose, Samuel Edward	1808
<b>Under 21</b>		23 Obili, Abhishek Reddy	2196	71 Li, David C	1803
6 Xiong, Jeffery	2573	30 Lu, Andrew H	2167	79 Huo, Rannon	1797
7 Drozdowski, Kacper	2570	37 Nguyen, Duy Minh	2113	82 Wang, Jason	1792
8 Yang, Darwin	2559	78 Xiang, Evan	1969	86 Le, Collin Khoi	1784
13 Li, Ruifeng	2496	93 Annigeri, Sanjay	1937	99 Huang, Max Y	1752
46 Torres, Luis Carlos	2356				
53 Danelia, Mariam	2348	<b>Age 14</b>		<b>Age 11</b>	
56 Chiang, Jonathan	2344	2 Xiong, Jeffery	2573	9 Gu, Brian Fanyuan	2076
60 Lin, Dachev	2335	6 Chiang, Jonathan	2344	29 Hawthorn, Charles	1898
81 Shao, Bob	2301	11 He, Tommy O	2278	38 Nguyen, Dang Minh	1854
89 He, Tommy O	2278	32 Nguyen, Anthony Quan	2151	42 Ganesh, Anirudh	1850
		36 Capocyan, Sam Lander Cabrera	2135	57 Narang, Ijay	1787
<b>Age 18</b>		60 Hsieh, David	2027	59 Mao, Andrew Sun-Rong	1783
<b>1 Drozdowski, Kacper</b>	<b>2570</b>	62 Nguyen, Khoa Minh	2010	62 Tian, Samuel Walter	1779
2 Yang, Darwin	2559	93 Premkumar, Hiren	1935	63 Costa, Diego	1776
32 Ukoli, James O	2104	99 Arunachalam, Palaniappan	1918	67 Lu, Jonathan	1763
34 James, Dylan Scott	2102			82 Bandi, Rohit Choudary	1714
43 Leos, Christian Lee	2066	<b>Age 13</b>		<b>Age 10</b>	
62 Johnson, Perry Vishal	1999	<b>1 Li, Ruifeng</b>	<b>2496</b>	7 Frutos, Cole Nicholas	2007
90 Kneen, John Michael	1884	5 Liu, Bovey	2218	10 Metpally, Jason	1960
99 Berry, Fletcher James	1866	15 Xie, Tianming	2143	11 Vivekananthan, Anish	1945
<b>Age 17</b>		40 Kirumaki, Ronit	1992	26 Eranki, S A Maruthi	1848
17 Pamatmat, Jarod John M	2265	41 Krishna, Ram	1989	34 Shi, Eric	1822
18 Jiang, Austin Z	2263	43 Trakru, Priya	1985	37 Yan, Austin K	1813
19 Chiang, Sarah	2261	57 Devagharan, Devina	1948	40 Wang, Yanke	1794
20 Ng, Daniel J	2249	69 Jiang, Maxwell	1902	48 Romo, Benjamin	1744
38 Lu, Tommy	2142	81 Verma, Ritik	1873	55 Niu, Baron T	1735
46 Jiang, Alexander D	2110	83 Ganesan, Ritvik	1869	56 Balderas, Adolfo Augusto, Jr	1734
69 Munoz, Claudia E	2051	83 Eliezer, Segev	1869	57 Wei, Alexander Gotuaco	1732
74 Xiang, Ellen	2030	86 Dong, Dylan Roswell	1866	68 Rajaram, Rudransh	1686
97 Kaliyur, Rohith	1968	93 Eranki, S M S Chaitanya	1847	77 Ramesh, Sreenevash	1665
<b>Age 16</b>		<b>Age 12</b>		85 Chidambaram, Hari Raja	1644
20 Han, Curran	2236	22 Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2042	89 Wang, Eric	1621
26 Malhotra, Akshay	2215	25 Frutos, Chase	2002	93 Breslav, Nikita	1613
46 Shao, Andy	2110	27 Palang, Warren Jesse	1966	94 Yeung, Wesley	1610



<b>Age 9</b>		<b>Age 7 and Under (cont.)</b>		<b>Girls Under 16 (cont.)</b>				
4	Wang, Justin	2022	63	Chathapuram, Shashank	1147	26	Zhao, Annie	1893
14	Vaidya, Atreya	1859	85	Podder, Ronit	1069	33	Kao, Camille Y	1867
17	Hawthorn, Henry	1833	87	Li, Rachael	1056	49	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1809
19	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1809	92	Kunka, Harshid	1042	51	Venkataraman, Sara	1808
21	Hung, Daniel	1798	95	Rodriguez, Alexander Philip	1037	58	Abella, Clarissa Louise	1783
24	Zhu, Harvey	1761	96	Lau, Ignatius	1036	69	Zheng, Christine	1755
31	Ni, Maggie	1713				86	Ni, Maggie	1713
33	McNutt, William Howard	1694	<b>Women</b>			94	Brown, Sarah	1665
38	Kumarappan, Ganesh	1661	6	Foisor, Sabina-Francesca	2361	<b>Girls under 13</b>		
47	Ma, Albert Z	1610	7	Nemcova, Katerina	2357	5	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2042
52	Wang, Harry	1576	8	Danelia, Mariam	2348	11	Kao, Camille Y	1867
67	Yue, Roy H	1523	21	Chiang, Sarah	2261	17	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1809
69	Casas, Michael	1512	30	Labeledz, Patrycja Anna	2211	31	Ni, Maggie	1713
76	Thippireddy, Saketh	1493	36	Salazar, Aura Cristina	2195	55	Uppuluri, Anuja	1534
82	Xie, Mckinley	1478	53	Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	2127	71	Kao, Simona Y	1449
85	Liu, Kevin B	1454	75	Munoz, Claudia E	2051	75	Dadwal, Saanvi	1434
91	Razo, Joaquin	1442	78	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2042	86	Yi, Angela	1408
93	Mahajan, Jai	1435	81	Xiang, Ellen	2030	91	Cheng, Angela	1378
			96	Jamison, Courtney N	1989	94	Zhu, Yining	1368
			98	Trakru, Priya	1985	98	Xia, Annie	1361
<b>Age 8</b>			<b>Girls under 21</b>			<b>Correspondence</b>		
5	Polavaram, Rithik Sai	1849	2	Danelia, Mariam	2348	23	Horwitz, Danny	2312
7	Tang, Andrew	1838	4	Chiang, Sarah	2261	28	Cross, Gregory	2267
12	Trakru, Rohun	1781	12	Salazar, Aura Cristina	2195	45	Bonnell, Leo W	2200
24	Oberoi, Shelev	1660	31	Munoz, Claudia E	2051	64	Calogridis, Michael Steven	2142
32	Patil, Vedant	1552	33	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2042	70	Brown, Harold, Jr	2126
49	Peng, Eric V	1392	36	Xiang, Ellen	2030	<b>Blitz Overall</b>		
55	Pham, Vinh The	1359	45	Trakru, Priya	1985	34	Cornejo, Max	2534
56	Jiang, Andrew	1351	49	Xiang, Evan	1969	58	Harper, Warren Thomas	2441
78	Aung, Christopher	1276	53	Devagharan, Devina	1948	71	De Jesus, Jeffrey	2418
82	Ganesh Sudhakar, Gauravaram	1261	64	Zhao, Annie	1893	84	Rodriguez, Daniel	2392
87	Jiang, Albert	1249	67	Palang, Caissa	1887	<b>Blitz Women</b>		
88	Yang, Benjamin	1246	76	Kao, Camille Y	1867	14	Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	2018
91	Wan, Audrey X	1240	82	Venkataraman, Madhumitha	1855	20	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	1872
93	Loftin, Joaquin Aiden Gray	1234	86	Chu, Yue	1839	29	Trakru, Priya	1792
95	Lu, Kevin	1229	100	Sarna, Kristen Sheila	1811	62	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1522
96	Chen, Mason	1228	<b>Girls under 16</b>			89	Vasquez, Angelica	1329
98	Deviprasath, Sharvesh	1219	13	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2042			
<b>Age 7 and Under</b>			16	Trakru, Priya	1985			
5	Capocyan, John Patrick	1581	20	Xiang, Evan	1969			
51	Nguyen, Sebastian Thien	1190	21	Devagharan, Devina	1948			
54	Gomez-Quinonez, Fernando A	1170						
62	Gonzalez, Gael Nicolas	1149						

...continued from page 15

**Armando Cortez (2026) –  
Oscar Solis (1495) [B75]**

Texas Team Championship (3), 24.01.2015

**[B75: Sicilian Dragon: Yugoslav Attack,  
Miscellaneous]**

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6  
5.Nc3 Nf6 6.f3 g6 7.Bc4 Bg7 8.Be3 a6  
9.Qd2** [last book move. White has an ac-  
tive position]



**9...Qc7 10.Bb3 Na5 11.g4 Nc4?** [Δ11...0-0= and Black can hope to survive]

**12.Bxc4± Qxc4 13.g5 Nd7** [13...Nh5  
14.Nd5 Bh3 15.Nb6±]

**14.Nd5+- Bxd4 15.Bxd4 e5** [15...Rg8  
16.0-0-0 b6 17.Bxb6+-]

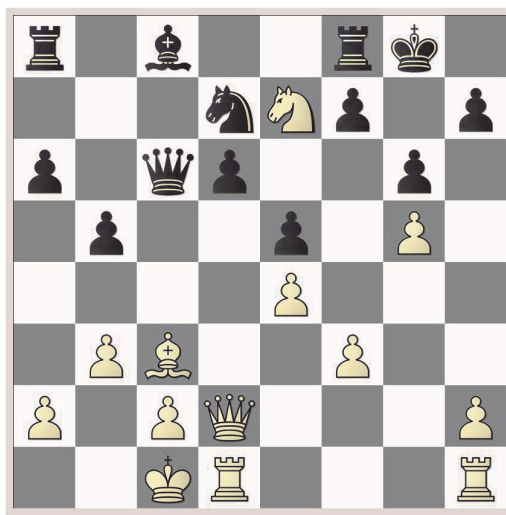
**16.Bc3 b5** [16...a5 17.0-0-0+-]

**17.0-0-0 0-0** [17...h5+-]

**18.b3** [18.Ne7+ and White can already  
relax 18...Kg7 19.Qxd6 Qc5 20.Qxc5 Nxc5  
21.Bxe5+ f6 22.Bxf6+ Kf7+-]

**18...Qc6** [18...Qc5 praying for a miracle  
19.Bb4 Qd4 20.Qxd4 exd4 21.Bxd6 Ra7  
22.Bxf8 Nxf8 23.Nf6+ Kg7 24.Ne8+ Kh8  
25.Rxd4 Ne6+-]

**19.Ne7+** [19.Ne7+ Kh8 20.Nxc6+-] **1-0**



### Texas Team Championship Results

#	Player Name	Rating	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Tot
1	Guillermo Vasquez	2462	B 4	W 7	B 5	W 9	4.0
2	Aura Cris Salazar	2195	W 20	B 12	W 8	B 11	4.0
3	David Ortiz	1520	W 21	B 15	W 3	B 22	4.0

## Texas Team Championship Results (continued)

#	Player Name	Rating	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Tot
4	Lorena Garcia Ramon	Unrated	B 11	- 19	W 20	bye	3.0
5	Simon Vasquez III	2110	B 22	W 16	B 10	W 15	3.0
6	Christian Le Leos	2066	W 1	B 23	W 18	W 5	3.0
7	Armando Cortez	2026	W 25	B 28	W 13	B 17	3.0
8	Johan Fjeld	1858	W 24	B 1	W 23	- 14	3.0
9	Gilbert Dominguez	1516	W 33	B 8	W 27	W 2	3.0
10	Oscar Solis	1495	B 26	W 17	B 6	W 25	3.0
11	Jorge Orli Trevino	1190	W 35	B 13	W 31	W 6	3.0
12	Tanner Williford	1143	B 10	W 34	bye	W 16	3.0
13	Charit Shah	637	bye	B 20	W 12	B 27	3.0
14	David Garza	635	W 28	bye	B 17	W 36	3.0
15	Jeffery J Tuck	310	bye	W 22	B 16	W 29	3.0
16	Jaime Rios	Unrated	B 17	W 26	W 25	bye	2.0
17	Sairohith Thummarakoti	Unrated	bye	B 25	W 28	B 31	2.0
18	Joshua Garza	2055	- 14	B 9	W 1	B 4	2.0
19	Carlos Jav Flores	1680	- 19	W 11	B 2	W 20	2.0
20	Lakshma Viswanath	1550	B 18	W 5	B 24	B 1	2.0
21	Timothy D Rivers	1514	B 27	W 2	B 30	- 19	2.0
22	Casimiro Garza	1461	B 34	W 10	B 29	B 3	2.0
23	Noemi Trevino	1167	W 9	- 14	B 4	bye	2.0
24	Suvobrata Dutta	1120	W 3	B 32	W 34	W 10	2.0
25	Arafat Hussain	1078	bye	W 4	B 7	W 24	2.0
26	Jorge Gonzalez Jr	993	B 6	W 36	B 35	B 13	2.0
27	Reynaldo Garza	Unrated	W 15	B 21	B 22	bye	1.0
28	Lawrence Phung	1487	- 5	- 18	bye	- 7	1.0
29	Daniel Ly Naranjo	1406	W 29	B 3	W 32	B 21	1.0
30	Mark Anth Quezada	1160	- 8	- 33	bye	- 12	1.0
31	David Gohre	1156	B 2	W 30	B 33	B 8	1.0
32	Matthew J De Leon	1030	B 7	bye	W 9	B 23	1.0
33	Jeremy Jackson	944	W 13	B 35	bye	B 28	1.0
34	Diego Medina	921	W 12	bye	B 11	W 30	1.0
35	Carol An Crockett	887	B 31	W 6	B 36	W 26	1.0
36	Gabriela Gonzalez	692	B 16	bye	W 15	B 32	1.0

# 5th Annual Austin Club Championship

By Peter Kappler

The **Austin Chess Club** recently held its **5th annual Club Championship**. Thanks in part to its central location and guaranteed prize fund, the tournament has quickly established itself as one of the largest and strongest in Texas. This year's edition, held January 2-4, attracted 167 players, including 24 experts and 15 masters. **FM Ruifeng Li** and **NM Mbugua Bo Githoro** tied for first with 4.5/5, winning \$500 each. **Dean Hicks** and **David Nightingale** shared first in the Reserve Section winning \$325 each, and **Marc Jalandoon** won the Novice section and \$250.

**Newsham, Joshua (2178) – Hough, Stephen (2008) [A16]**  
ACC Championship (2), 03.01.2015

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0  
5.e4 d6 6.Nge2 e5 7.0-0 Qe7 8.Rb1  
Nbd7 9.b4 c6 10.Ba3 a5 11.b5 c5 [Now  
White's knights have easy access to d5,  
while Black's have a much harder time  
reaching d4.]

12.Na4 Nh5 13.Nec3 b6 14.Nd5 Qd8  
15.Bc1 [Returning the bishop to a more  
promising diagonal.]

15...Bb7 16.d3 Bxd5?! [Removing  
White's best piece, but now the c4 square  
is an excellent knight outpost. The signifi-  
cance of this exchange becomes more  
evident later in the game, as Black strug-  
gles to defend key light squares.]

17.cxd5 Nhf6 18.Bh3 Rb8 19.Nb2 Qe7  
20.Nc4 h6 21.Bd2 Nh7 22.f4 exf4  
23.Bxf4? [In the post-mortem, Newsham  
explained that he returned to the board  
and reflexively recaptured, forgetting to  
interpose the much stronger 23. Bxd7!.]

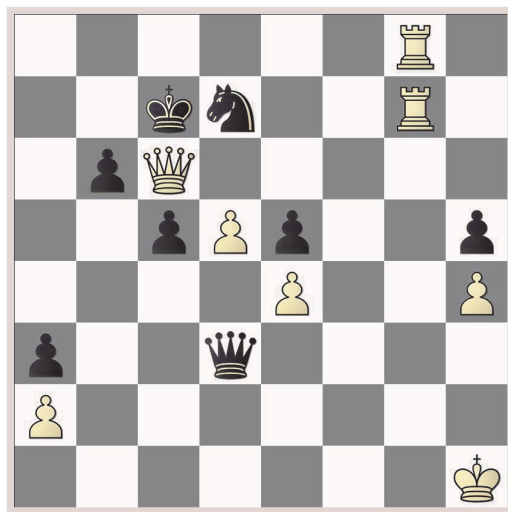
[23.Bxd7 Qxd7 24.Bxf4+- and White is  
winning the d6 pawn.]

23...Ne5 24.Nxe5 dxex5 25.Be3 Ng5  
26.Bg4 Rbd8 27.h4 Nh7 28.Qd2 h5

29.Bh3 f6? [A dangerous weakening of  
the light squares, especially since only  
White has a light squared bishop. Now  
White's plan is clear – prepare g4, open-  
ing the kingside.]

30.Qe2 Qe8 31.Kh1 Kf7? [Hoping to es-  
cape to the queenside, but the position is  
opening too quickly.]

32.g4 Ke7 33.gxh5 gxh5 34.Bf5 Rh8  
35.Rg1 Qf8 36.Rg6 Rg8 37.Rbg1 Kd6  
38.Be6 Qe7 39.Bxg8 Rxg8 40.Bh6 Bxh6  
41.Rxg8 Qf7 42.R8g3 Nf8 43.Qg2 a4  
44.Qh3 Qe8 45.Rg8 a3 46.Qf5 Qxb5  
47.Qxf6+ Kc7 48.Qxh6 Qxd3 49.R1g7+  
Nd7 50.Qc6# 1-0



**Chua,Alex (2360) – Stanley,Gregg (2181) [A41]**  
 ACC Championship (2), 03.01.2015

1.d4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.g3 d6 4.Bg2 Nc6  
 5.d5 Nb8 6.c4 Nf6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.0-0 c6  
 9.h3 cxd5 10.cxd5 Nbd7 11.e4 Nc5  
 12.Re1 a5 13.Bf4 Nfd7 14.Qd2 a4 15.Bh6  
 f6 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Nd4 Ne5 18.Kh2  
 Bd7 19.f4 Nf7 20.Rab1 Qa5 21.Bf1 Rfb8  
 22.Bb5 Bxb5 23.Ndxb5 Rc8 24.Qe2 Qb4  
 25.Red1 Nd7? [The knight was well  
 placed on c5.]

26.Rd4 Qc5



27.Nxa4 [A hard move to criticize, but the  
 patient 27. a3! was even better, preparing  
 Rb4 with the plan of slowly increasing  
 pressure on the queenside before capturing  
 the a-pawn.]

27...Qc2 28.Qxc2 Rxc2+ 29.Kg1 g5!  
 30.Nac3 [30.Rb4!±]

30...gxf4 31.gxf4 Kh6 32.Kh1 Rg8 [The

Black rooks are now so active that White  
 must return the pawn he won just a few  
 moves earlier.]

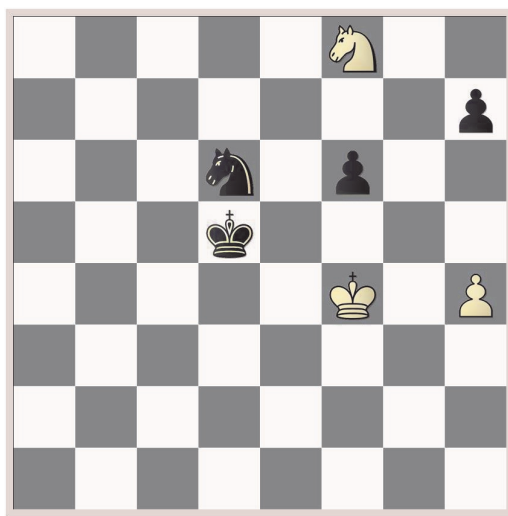
33.Rg1 Rxc2 34.Kxg1 Rxb2 35.Ra4  
 Nc5 36.Ra8 e5 37.Rf8? [37.fxe5 dxe5±]

37...Kg7 38.Rc8 exf4 39.Nxd6 Nxd6  
 40.Rxc5 Kg6 [Black is winning, thanks to  
 his more active pieces and passed f-  
 pawn.]

41.Rc7 Rc2 42.Nb5 Rxc7 43.Nxc7 Nxe4  
 44.Kg2 Kf5 45.a4 Ke5 46.a5 Kd6 47.Ne6  
 Kxd5? [47...Nc5 48.Nxf4 Nb3+ and  
 Black's outside passer should secure the  
 win.]

48.Nd8= Kc5 [48...Nc5 49.Nxb7! this may  
 be what Stanley missed.]

49.Nxb7+ Kb5 50.h4 Ka6 51.Nd8 Kxa5  
 52.Kf3 Nd6 53.Kxf4 Kb6 54.Ne6 Kc6  
 55.Nf8 Kd5 1/2-1/2





NM Austin Jiang - Hoang Minh Le

**Andy Smith (2047) –  
Rahul Battala (1747) [D00]**  
ACC Championship (5), 04.01.2015

**1.d4 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3  
5.Nxf3 e6 6.Bg5 Be7 7.Bd3 h6 8.Be3 a6  
9.Ne5 Nbd7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Qf3 Bd6  
12.Nxd7 Bxd7 13.Bxh6 Be7** [Black should  
take the bishop, forcing a queen exchange  
and a roughly equal endgame. 13...gxh6  
14.Qxf6 Qxf6 15.Rxf6 Kg7]



**14.Be3** [The computer finds a cute win

with a bishop sac and queen zig-zag.  
14.Bxg7! Kxg7 15.Qg3+ Kh8 16.Qh4+ Kg7  
17.Qg5+ Kh8 18.Qh6+ Kg8 19.Rxf6 Bxf6  
20.Qh7#]

**14...Nd5 15.Nxd5 exd5 16.Qh5** [Attacking  
is more fun than grabbing the d5 pawn!]

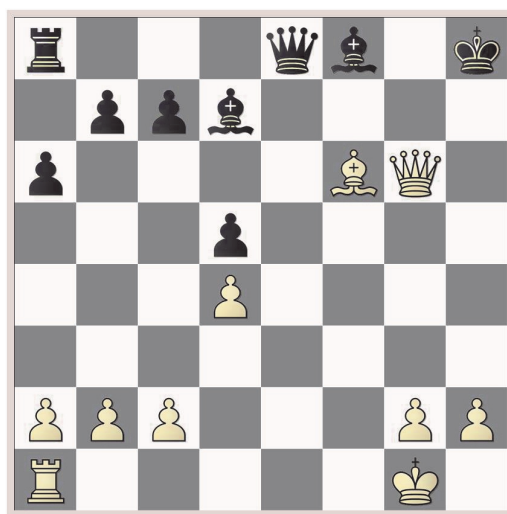
**16...g6 17.Bxg6 fxc6 18.Qxg6+ Kh8** [With  
the Black king completely exposed, White  
just needs to bring one more piece into the  
attack.]

**19.Bg5?** [But the winning line isn't easy to  
calculate, even for a strong tactician like  
Andy.]

[19.Rxf8+ Bxf8 20.Bg5 Be7 21.Rf1! Qg8  
22.Qh5+ Qh7 23.Bh6! Be8 24.Qe5+ Kg8  
25.Qe6+ Kh8 26.Bf4+]

**19...Qe8?** [Black could have ended the  
attack with 19...Bxg5 20.Rxf8+ Qxf8  
21.Qxg5 Qf5#]

**20.Rxf8+ Bxf8 21.Bf6+ 1-0**



By the way, if you haven't heard of **FM Ruifeng Li**, it's time to take notice (*see cover photo*). The Dallas prodigy is currently rated 2507, making him the #1 13-year old in the USA (by a 150-point margin) and #3 in the world! **Ruifeng** won the **Austin Club Championship** last year, and had a perfect score going into the final round of this year's event, before being held to a draw by **FM Michael Langer** (see a similar pairing in the **Texas Masters 2015** article on **Page 9**).

**Michael Langer (2299) – Ruifeng Li (2496) [B06]**

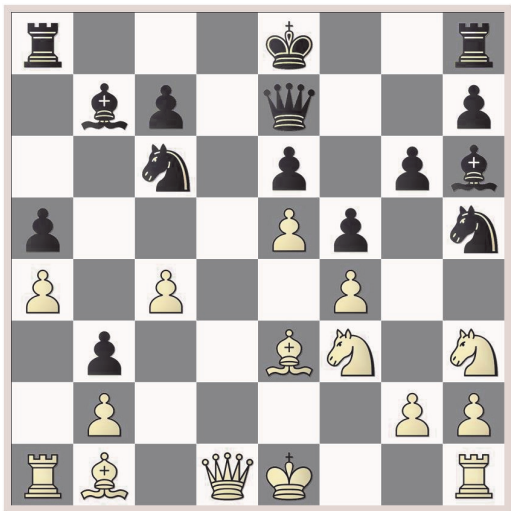
ACC Championship (5), 04.01.2015

**1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.f4 a6 5.Nf3 b5 6.a4** [6. Bd3 is the main line.]

**6...b4 7.Nd5 Bb7 8.Bd3 a5 9.c4 e6 10.Ne3 Nc6 11.Bc2 Nf6 12.e5 Nh5 13.Ng4 f5 14.Nf2 Bh6 15.Nh3 dxe5 16.dxe5 Qe7 17.Be3?** [Better to castle immediately, sacrificing the c-pawn.]

[17.0-0 Qc5+ 18.Kh1 Qxc4 19.Bd3 Qd5±]

**17...b3! 18.Bb1** [18.Bxb3? Rd8 19.Qc2 Nb4 20.Qe2 Nd3+ 21.Kf1 Bxf4-+]



**18...Qb4+** [18...Nxe5! Made possible by the loose position of the e3 bishop, otherwise 19. fxe5 would be playable. Both players had seen this move during the

game, but the variations are long and difficult to work out over the board. **19.Nxe5 Bxg2 20.Rg1 Bxh3 21.Qf3 Rd8 22.Qxh3 Qb4+ 23.Kf2 Rd2+ 24.Kf1 Rd1+ 25.Kf2 Rxc4 26.Nd3 Qxc4 27.Kxg1 0-0**]

**19.Kf2 Qxc4?** [19...0-0]

**20.Bd3 Qb4 21.g3 0-0 22.Qc1 Qe7?! [22...Rfd8! 23.Bc5 Rxd3 24.Bxb4 Nxb4 25.Nfg5! c5 26.Rd1 Rxd1 27.Qxd1 Bd5±]**

**23.Bc5 Qd7 24.Rd1 Rfd8 25.Bc4 [25.Bxf5! Qe8 26.Be4 Rxd1 27.Qxd1]**

**25...Qe8 26.Nhg5 Ng7 27.Qc3 Bxg5 28.Nxg5 h6 29.Qxb3** [29.Nf3±]

**29...hxg5 30.Qxb7 Rdb8 31.Qxc7 Rxb2+ 32.Kg1 Rc8 33.Qd6 Rd8 34.Qc7 Rc8 35.Qd6 Rd8 36.Qc7 ½-½**



## War Games - Civanus Romanus

By Robert L. Myers

Person of Interest, POI, is by far one of my favorite television shows, The Machine, a super computer designed to prevent crime and or terrorist activity before it happens, runs simulations and variations which ultimately transposed to a flashback of when The Machine first learned how to play chess in 2003 from Harold Finch, the administrator, played by actor Michael Emerson from the ABC show, Lost, is the creator of this Artificial Intelligence or A.I. In its first move, The Machine chose to move what we in chess call "Freddie the Forbidden Pawn," f3, thus creating the proverbial oxymoronic catch phrase, "I should have." Which is possibly why the creators and writers of the show named this episode "If-Then-Else." Harold talks to his phone communicating with The Machine and explains the game of chess to the Machine and says, "By the second move there are more than 72,084 possibilities and then expands to 9 million by the 3rd move." Harold's phone buzzes as the Machine responds in a text with the answer to the options by the 4th move, "318 billion." Harold says, "There are more possible games of chess than there are atoms in the universe. In a single game of chess than there are more positions, move moves, more options than atoms. (We in the chess world know this is 10 to the power of 25, however; there are 10 to the power of 250 possibilities in a game of chess.) Harold continues, "There's a virtually infinite sea of possibilities... and if you make a mistake, you can fix it in nearly an infinite number of ways." He tells her, The Machine, "You should simply relax and play."

Back in real time from the nearly countless variations with the team of live operatives, the good guys led by John Reese, Jim Caviezel, Edmond Dantes in the Alexandre Dumas classic, "The Count of Monte Cristo," also his most critically acclaimed performance as Jesus in the box office phenomenon, "The Passion of the Christ" take on Samaratin, another A.I. computer that does evil bidding for the bad guys, the antagonists. The Machine calculated, 336,742 which yields fatal results then chooses option 506,738, and finally option 833,333 all within 7 seconds and a possibility of a successful outcome of 2.07% with all of the protagonists lives hanging in the balance. Flashback to '03 again, The Machine becomes a Grand Master in one afternoon.

In this first of the trilogy of episodes it's fascinating because of the calculations and the cacophony of almost impossible choices that ultimately lead to failure or success. When life gives you a myriad of complex seemingly impossible choices, "Simply relax and play." These are also the very words spoken by Grand Master Timur Garyeev, "Coach, chess is hard work but it should be fun, correct? So, relax, have fun and play. It is a game."

In this season of Golden Globes and Oscar nominations, each January more than 30 scholastic chess teams descend upon central Houston at an inner city Title 1 campus and participate in a chess tournament ran by the leading tournament director in Texas, Jim Liptrap. With nearly one million rounds of chess over many years under his belt Jim runs through HCA, Houston Chess Association, a chess tournament called "War Games." Scholastic chess players from as far away as Brownsville, TX in the valley participate. As such, I was reminded of a film, War Games, starring Matthew Broderick (Ferris Bueller's Day Off, 1986) and Ally Sheedy. This is a film about a kid that finds a back door into a military central computer in which reality is confused with game-playing, possibly starting World War III.





War Games Chess Tournament McReynolds Middle School, Houston, TX

As chess is based on war tactics, Masters, Grand Masters and International Masters agree, "One cannot play this game and not make a mistakes. That is impossible." Chess is a developmental tool. It is designed to create failures and successes. One; therefore, MUST (I emphasis must because of it's importance) capitalize on his opponent's mistake. He who makes fewer mistakes and capitalizes on his opponents mistakes will be victorious. I'm not talking about chess here, as always, life. To most chess players, chess is life. You can't live life and not make mistakes. As chess players, those of us that love this game, must handle every opposition with grace and dignity.

Lawrence Fishburne's character, Vinne in the acclaimed chess movie all chess players are familiar with, Searching for Bobby Fischer, he says to Josh, Josh Waitzkin, International Chess Master from the lines in the film --- "What's that?" "Schleimann attack." "Where'd you learn that from, a book?" "My teacher taught me." "Forget it. Play like you used to --- from the gut. Get your pawns rolling on the queen's side. --- He taught you how not to lose, not how to win. You got to risk losing. (you've got to have confidence and courage) You got to risk everything. You got to go to the edge of defeat." "But--." "But what? Play. Never play the board, always the man. You got to play the man playing the board. Play me. You have to beat me, not the board." "You're not who I have to play," "You're playing me now. Beat me!" Oooh, chill bumps just typing those words. That is chess, leaving it all out there. Living on the edge. Sink or swim, fly or fall, successful or not, win or lose, do your best. Courage and confidence. Winners do what we have to do even when we don't want to, so when we face challenges throughout the day (there will be challenges) we will conquer them. It takes that same confidence when we challenge other players OTB, over the board, or online. It's an unabashed openness to put it all out there. We all need a little boost for our confidence when our courage is abated.



War Games 1st place Middle School Team Champions  
 Simon Herrera, Leobardo Delao, Santiago Montesinos ,1st Place High School Team Champions Aaron "A-Lo" Lazo, Eli Luna

Few people have ever met a Grand Master. It has been said, "It is harder to become a GM than it is to earn a PhD." Having met four Grand Masters and having two as friends, GM Julio Sadorra and GM Timur Garyeev we speak often about our challenges with chess. I asked GM Garyeev what Captain Phillips would say about opposition and challenges. The captain played a game of cat and mouse for a few days in the Indian Ocean. Actor Tom Hanks, who stars in the celebrated maritime movie thriller that bares the same name and was dubbed an Oscar contender. This is one of Hank's best body of work. The film is about the massive Maersk Alabama ship carrying cargo of life saving commercial food and supplies to Kenya while neighboring Somalian pirates take over the vessel. There is a certain irony albeit poetic justice to its conclusion that smacks of a familiarity. The ship is hijacked by Somali thugs, criminals. I mean what else do you call guys that allow fate to dictate their lives instead of choosing education to chart their destiny across the abyss of dismal uncertainty? Well, you don't call them, alas George H. W. Bush, "Evil doers." You call 'em thugs, nefarious pirates, entities of the worst kind. Even criminals have options before they chose to become criminals. That is what chess is, OPTIONS. National Chess Master and certified authority on Bobby Fischer, Bruce Pandolfini in his book *Every Move Must Have Purpose, Strategies for Business and Life*, instructs us that life must have options and purpose. Magnus Carlsen says, "I believe I can beat anybody, anywhere at anytime." Grand Master Susan Polgar was asked by a parent in New Orleans at her Susan Polgar Open Scholarship Tournament, "How long do you prepare before a tournament?" GM Polgar's response shocked the crowd of over 40 parents and 30 participating in a simul. She said at least 300 hours. My mouth was wide open in shock. That requires a great deal of patience, and persistence. But that is what chess is, PERSISTENCE. Against all odds and barriers. It is a deep conviction that says within I will be victorious. This confidence is what makes a Grand Master. They achieve the norms and persevere when all hope is lost. Again I digress. My point is this, Captain Phillips is an American and as the saying goes, "Don't Mess With Texas!"

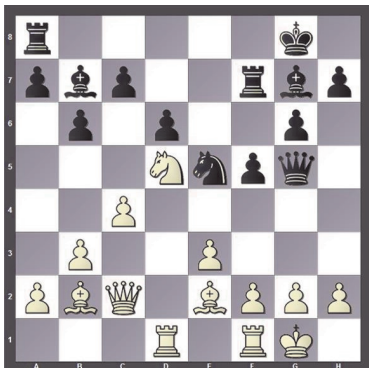
Such as it was within Ancient Rome. Roman citizens used to freely walk the known world "cloaked only in the protection of the words "Civanus Romanus: I am a Roman Citizen." - The Roman military would retaliate with complete annihilation at the mere thought of any harm befalling a Roman citizen. The Empire, I like the sound of that --- cue "The Imperial March (Darth Vader's Theme) in the background" with legions of soldiers. Now, according to William C. Morey, Ph.D, Ancient Roman Historian, the devastation would be catastrophic. I wondered would it be in Biblical proportions? We may never know if that is how the thugs on Captain Phillips boat felt as if a plague of Seal Team Six warriors, Knights were descending upon them with the wrath of 10,000 Spartans. We do know that the sole survivor now spends his time playing chess in a federal penitentiary. He should have had an end game strategy. America is a Superpower and as Super Powers go America is the only nation to ever drop a nuclear weapon upon a civilized population. So, "Don't mess with Texas" or America. So in this season of Emmys, Oscars, Tonys and Grammys, when you play chess, do so with the attitude that your opponents should be ancient Roman citizens, so they should cry, "Civanus Romanus!"



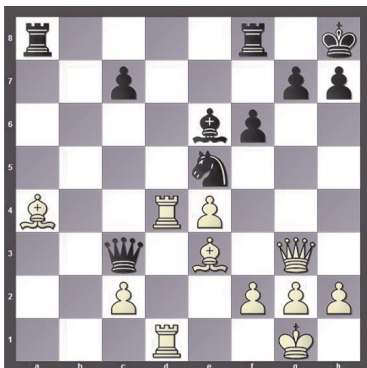
(Clock wise) Master Coach Robert Myers and Grand Masters Julio Sadorra, Hikaru Nakamura, Timur Garyeev and Susan Polgar

# Tactics Time!

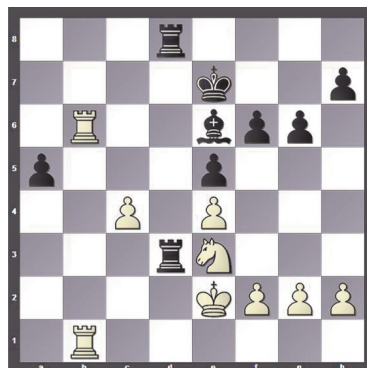
These positions came from recent games played in Texas or elsewhere by (at least one) Texas Player. **Answers can be found on the next page.**



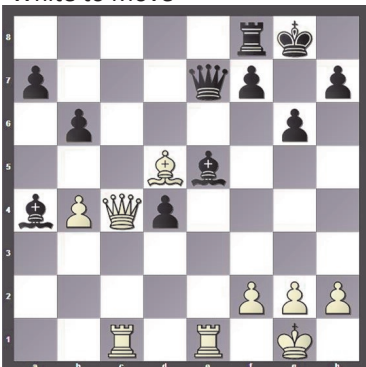
**1. A. Malhotra - D. Thimmisetty**  
*TX Collegiate 2014*  
 White to Move



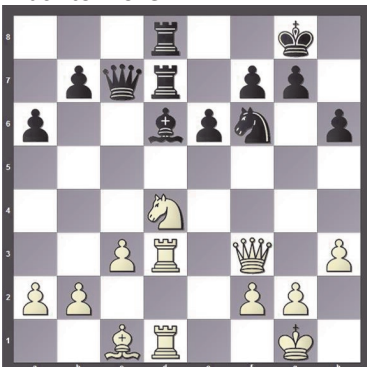
**2. Mikhail Langer—Ivan Zuniga**  
*Texas Championship 2002*  
 Black to Move



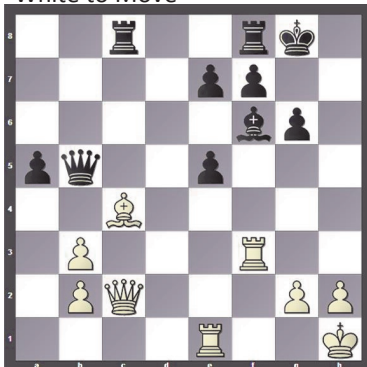
**3. Barry Endsley—Sam Quintanar**  
*Texas Championship 2002*  
 White to Move



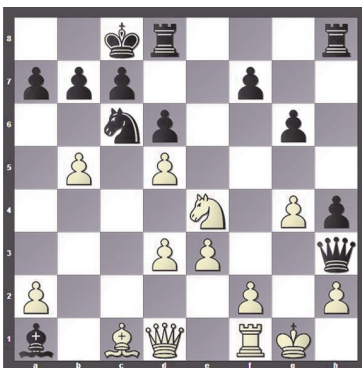
**4. Mark Diesen—Larry Moss**  
*Texas Championship 2002*  
 White to Move



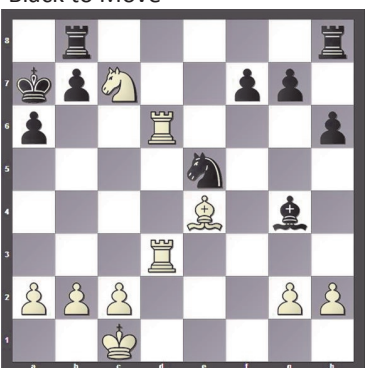
**5. Albert Yeh—Drew Sarkisian**  
*Texas Championship 2002*  
 Black to Move



**6. Joshua Newsham—Rudy Tia**  
*Texas Championship 2002*  
 White to Move

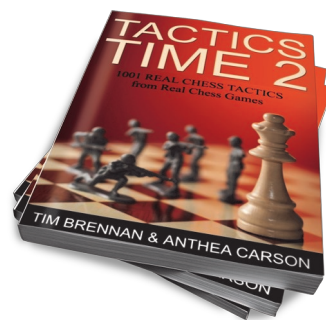


**7. Daniel Vergara—Tim Redman**  
*Texas Championship 2002*  
 White to Move



**8. Drew Sarkisian—A. Dokuchayev**  
*Texas Championship 2002*  
 White to Move

Available in Paperback Now!!!



[www.amazon.com/dp/9056915371/](http://www.amazon.com/dp/9056915371/)

## Tactics Time! Answers

1. **17.f4** forks the queen and knight.
  2. **23...e5** defects the rook from defending the bishop on a4 **24.R4d2 Rxa4** (variation from the game).
  3. **32. Nd5+** interference **32...Bxd5 33.Kxd3**
  4. **28.f4** attacks the pinned bishop. (Variation from the game)
  5. **27...e5** was missed in the game. If the knight moves, **28..Nb3 e4** forks the rook and queen, otherwise black just takes the knight.
  6. **23.Qxg6+** wins a valuable pawn, and leads to mate. The f7-pawn is pinned. (variation from the game).
  7. **17.Ng5** traps the queen. (variation from the game).
  8. **43.Qf7+ Kh8 44.Qf8#** (variation from the game).
- Cover. 27. Nb5+!! axb5 28.Ra3#**

Want more original chess tactics from real games like these? Get Tactics Time delivered straight to your e-mail mailbox for FREE! Newsletters come out 3 times a week.

Sign up now for the Tactics Time e-mail newsletter at [tacticstime.com](http://tacticstime.com)

## Chess Whiz - The Fringe of Chess

by Jeff French

The title of this column isn't because I'm a Chess wizard, I'm certainly not. It's because I want to share some of my findings from the edge of Chess. Things that aren't about players, games or tournaments, but instead about Chess related items that are outside of our normal *Texas Knights* discussions. These items are still a part of the Chess community. If we were talking about food, it wouldn't be a full meal, just a snack, and would probably taste really good on a cracker. It is just some filler to take up some space. Not everyone will be interested, but some will love it. Enjoy!

So, do you watch **Texas Country Reporter**? If so, you may have seen the recent segment about Chess. The segment is called "***Knight and Day***" and talks about what's going on with Chess in **Brownsville, TX**. If you missed it, the entire segment is available to watch on YouTube. Here's the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kQycCk9mBk>



Valley Chess (Texas Country Reporter)

# Upcoming Events

## LATE FEBRUARY 2015

### **FEB. 13-16, 14-16 OR 15-16 Southwest Class Championships**

**Info:** chesstour.com, 347-201-2269.

### **FEB. 15 Southwest Class Blitz** (see Southwest Class).

### **FEB. 21 Many Springs 73**

**Info:** Tom Crane, 817-296-4287, tcrane5000@gmail.com or [www.tarrantcountychessclub.org](http://www.tarrantcountychessclub.org).

### **FEB. 21 Books-A-Million February Open**

**Info:** <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/5387.tla>

### **FEB. 28-MAR. 1 2015 DCC Fide Open III**

**Info:** 214-632-9000, [info@dallaschess.com](mailto:info@dallaschess.com).

## MARCH 2015

### **MAR. 7 Scholastic Tournament at Casis Elementary**

**Info:** <https://www.austinchesstournaments.com/events/588>

### **MAR. 14-15 2015 DCC Fide Open IV**

**Info:** 214-632-9000, [info@dallaschess.com](mailto:info@dallaschess.com).

### **MAR. 20-22 OR 21-22 Lone Star Open**

**Info:** 504-208-9596 or 504-905-2971.

### **MAR. 21 Many Springs 74**

**Info:** Aurelio Gonzalez, 817-789-8360, [agonzalejr@yahoo.com](mailto:agonzalejr@yahoo.com) or [www.tarrantcountychessclub.org](http://www.tarrantcountychessclub.org)

### **MAR. 27-29 2015 Texas State Scholastic Championships**

**Info:** 214-632-9000, [info@dallaschess.com](mailto:info@dallaschess.com).

### **MAR. 28 UNT Spring Open & Scholastic**

**Info:** <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/5390.tla>

## EARLY APRIL 2015

### **APR. 4 Texas Open 2015 and KCA Scholastic Tournament III**

**Info:** Eddie Rios, (361) 455-3682, [edrios54@hotmail.com](mailto:edrios54@hotmail.com), [texasregionvii.blogspot.com](http://texasregionvii.blogspot.com)

### **APR. 11 2015 Austin Area Scholastic and Open Championships**

**Info:** <https://www.austinchesstournaments.com/events/595>

### **APR. 17-19 Houston Spring Chess Championship 2015**

**Info:** <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/5406.tla>

# 2015 Texas State Scholastic Championships

March 28 - 29

## 7 Round Swiss System (No Elimination)

7SS, McAllen Convention Center, 700 Convention Center Blvd., McAllen, TX 78501. Primary Hotel: Studio 6 Extended Stay, 700 Savannah Ave, McAllen, 78053. HR: 1 queen bed including breakfast \$75, 1 Queen bed without breakfast \$65, 2 full beds with breakfast \$88, and 2 full beds without breakfast \$75. Call 956-668-7829 for reservations at Studio 6. Please mention Texas Chess Association to get rates. Please check website for overflow hotel information. While most of the hotels in McAllen have a free shuttle to the convention center, it is prudent to not depend on the shuttle. Four championships in one great location: TX Primary Scholastic Championships; TX Elementary Scholastic Championships; TX Middle School Scholastic Championships; TX High School Scholastic Championships. EF: \$42 by 3/13; \$69 after 3/13 or on site. On Site Registration: Friday, 7-9pm, Saturday, 7-7:45am. Saturday registrants may receive a 1st Rd. 1/2-pt. bye. One 1/2-pt. bye (for any round) allowed if requested by the end of Rd. 2. Sections: K-1 Championship, Primary (K-3) Championship, Primary JV (K-3 w/Ratings Under 700), Elementary (K-5/6) Championship, Elementary JV (K-5/6 Under 800), Elementary Novice (K-5/6 Under 500), Middle School (6-8/9) Championship, MS JV (6-8/9 Under 900), MS Novice (6-8/9 Under 600), High School (9-12) Championship, HS JV (9-12 Under 1000). See Article IX, Section 1E, TCA Bylaws for each section's eligibility requirement, [www.texaschess.org/2007/03/bylaws.html](http://www.texaschess.org/2007/03/bylaws.html). Trophies for top 20 individuals and top 15 teams in each section plus participation medals for all, and plus Score Awards for players scoring 4 or more points that do not win an individual trophy. Note that trophies will not be given out in advance and must be picked up at awards ceremony. Please make arrangements for picking up trophies at award ceremony or to get trophy shipped. Schedule: Round times vary depending on the Section. For round times check website, note that the round times and time controls are the same as the 2013 event. Time controls: All High School and Middle School Sections: Rds 1-4 G/60; d5, Rds 5-7 G/75; d5. All Elementary and Primary and K-1 sections: rds 1-4 G/45; d5, rds 5-7 G/60; d5. For round times see: [www.dallaschess.com](http://www.dallaschess.com).

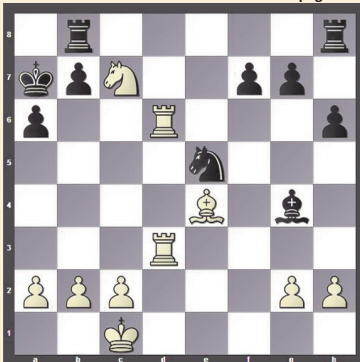
Side Events: See website for side events. Side event registration on site only. All registrations (except Side events) available on line: see [www.dallaschess.com](http://www.dallaschess.com) and you can download flyers and entry forms. Checks payable to Dallas Chess Club. Mail entries to Dallas Chess Club, c/o Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. For tournament info, visit our website or contact Barbara Swafford, [info@dallaschess.com](mailto:info@dallaschess.com) or 214-632-9000. Refunds will be given only up to 3/24 with a \$10 surcharge for withdrawing, after 3/24 there will be no refunds. There will be no substitution of team members. There will be a \$10 change fee for changes after 3/24. There will be a \$5 surcharge per player for phone registrations USCF membership is required. Proof of membership is required or player must join/renew their memberships. No registration/changes/or withdrawals by phone or email after 3/24/15 as we are driving to the site; after that date you must make changes at site (McAllen Convention Center). Note that the McAllen Convention Center has a strict policy of no outside food and beverages allowed. NS, NC, W.



Editor, Texas Chess Association  
P.O. Box 151804  
Ft. Worth, TX 76108

## Tactics Time!

Answer on  
page 29



James Huddleston—R. Weaver  
*Texas Championship 2002*  
White to Move