

TEXAS KNIGHTS

The official publication of the Texas Chess Association

Volume 56, Number 6

P.O. Box 151804, Ft. Worth, TX 76108

July-Aug 2015

TCA Elections!!!



IM Jeffery Xiong, Winner of the 2015 Chicago Open at 14 years old!

Table of Contents

From the Desk of the TCA President	4
TCA Elections 2015	6
IM Jeffrey Xiong, Winner of the 2015 Chicago Open!	9
Touch and Move! by WCM Claudia Muñoz	12
Tactics Time! by Tim Brennan (answers on page 18)	15
Leader List	16
Raising the Bar at the San Antonio City Championship by J.P. Hyltin	19
What To Do When You Don't Know What To Do by Robert L. Myers	25
Upcoming Events	30

President: Lakshmana Viswanath, 2009 Manzanares Dr., Laredo, TX 78045; lakshmana.viswanath@gmail.com.

Vice-President: Forrest Marler, fzmarler@gmail.com.

Secretary: Lori Balkum, Lori.Balkum@austinchestournaments.com.

Treasurer: Barb Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-4719; barboundsg@gmail.com.

Editor: Jeff French, P.O. Box 151804, Ft. Worth, TX 76108; texasknightsed@gmail.com.

Webmaster: Peter Kappler, texaschess@gmail.com.

Tournament Clearinghouse: Lori Balkum, Lori.Balkum@austinchestournaments.com

Texas Chess Association is a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit corporation dedicated to promoting chess in Texas.

Membership Dues (annual):

Regular \$10, Family \$15.

Non-subscribing: \$5.

Patron: \$25. Family Patron: \$30.

Junior (18 and under) or Student: \$7.50.

Lifetime Regular: \$200. Lifetime Patron: \$500.

Foreign: Canada and Mexico \$12.50, Others \$17.50.

Club: \$25. Scholastic Club: \$10. Foreign Club: \$40.

Send to **TCA Treasurer, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-4719**. Give name, address, city, state and zip code; also phone and e-mail (optional). Contributions beyond membership fees are tax deductible.

TCA Hall of Honor

Selby K. Anderson

Ruben Arzaga

Clarence Callaway, Jr.

Michael E. Carpenter

George W. Church, Jr.

Renate Garcia Family

Edward G. Guetzow

Rusty Harwood

James Houghtaling Jr.

Peter Kappler

Matt Kleman

R. Lynn Leone Family

Patrick C. Long

Mark E. McCue

Dale McLemore

George A. Mota

Marcus Roberts

Luis Salinas

Gary Simms

Clayton Swafford Family

James Thames

Harmon Throneberry

Louis Thurston

Lakshmana Viswanath Family

Contributors: J.P. Hyltin, Claudia Muñoz, Robert L. Myers

Cover photo: USChess.org (Betsy Dynako)

Game annotations if not attributed, are a collaboration of Jeff French and Deep Fritz 14.

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: **September 15th!**

All contents of *Texas Knights* ©2015 by the Texas Chess Association, Inc. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any way without express consent of the editor.

Ad rates: \$50/page, \$35/half, \$20/quarter (Club membership includes 1 free quarter-page ad a year), \$1/line.



From the Desk of The Editor

Hello again,

It's time for the annual **Texas Chess Association (TCA)** elections. All ballots have been mailed. If you haven't received a ballot by the time you are reading this, and you want to vote, plus you have an active membership that allows you to vote, please contact us and we'll send you out new ballots (make sure we have your correct address too!). Also, remember, we have to receive your ballot no later than **August 31st**.

In this issue:

- We have results of the final round and some games from the **Chicago Open** played by (now) **GM Jeffery Xiong**.
- We have an article with a couple of games from the **San Antonio City Championships** by **J.P. Hyltin**.
- We have a new article by **Robert L. Myers**.
- We have an article and a game provided by **WCM Claudia Muñoz**. Claudia is going to be a regular contributor to *Texas Knights* and I'd like to personally welcome her.
- We have new Tactics Puzzles from **Tim Brennan**.
- We also have election candidate introductions (for those that provided them).
- This is the issue where *Advanced Motions to Bylaws* would be published, there were none.

I would like to point out that our young Texas players now hold three #1, two #2 and two #3 positions in the **Top Player List** age groups for the **USCF**. This is very impressive, and the future of Chess in Texas looks very bright indeed. If any young player is interested in providing a *Chess story*, I would be happy to highlight them in a **Spotlight On...** article in *Texas Knights*.

IM Jeffery Xiong and **FM Ruifeng Li**, from Texas, participated in the **2015 US Junior Closed Championship**. **Jeffery** placed 2nd, **Ruifeng** placed 4th. **IM Jeffery Xiong** participated in, and won, the **2015 GM Norm Invitational**. Tournament games and results can be found on <http://uschesschamps.com>.

Finally, I'd like to say a big **thank you** to all of our contributors, both old and new. I appreciate the time and effort that is required to create good original content and *Texas Knights* is a better publication due to you. Keep up the great work.

So, until next time, take care, be safe ... and ... **DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!**

— **Jeff French**



From the Desk of the TCA President

Hello chess friends,

How is the chess summer? I am excited to announce that **Lori Balkum** is the new **Tournament Clearing House Director**.

Initially, as the Director for the Clearinghouse she will keep the **TCA calendar** (on our TCA website) current and updated.

So if you have an event, please send the relevant information to Lori. She will be happy to place them on the calendar. The

goal is to have a comprehensive calendar that includes all tournaments in one location, our TCA Calendar. So help us to maintain and update it. **Lori** will continue her duties as the **Secretary** to TCA.

Lori also has resigned as the Region VI Director. **John P. Hyltin** is the new **Region VI Director**. Lori was very instrumental in growing chess in the capitol area. Her January **Austin Chess Club Championships** was lacking only in space to accommodate all those who wanted to play. They also boasted almost 700 players in the last Scholastics. John is not new to the region or Chess. He recently held a very successful **San Antonio City Chess Championship**. Looking forward to working with him in continuing to promote chess in that region. With all these new changes, you will see that all regions are well represented for the first time, in a long time, in TCA history. Looking forward to more growth in chess in Texas.

We will have the **Southwest Open** in September, and also the next **TCA meeting**. I hope you will make it to **D/FW**. Please do not forget to mail in your ballots. Until then. Bye.

--

Vish

texaschess.org



TCA Treasurer's Report - July 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 Masters Tournament	\$850.00
December memberships	\$57.50	Texas Knights Sept-Oct 2014	\$872.72
January memberships	\$10.00	Texas Knights Nov-Dec 2014	\$873.34
February memberships	\$250.00	Texas Knights Jan-Feb 2015	\$880.19
March memberships	\$142.50	Texas Knights Mar-Apr 2015	\$870.57
April memberships	\$410.00	Texas Knights May-Jun 2015	\$915.01
May memberships	\$60.00	Hotel for Barber Qualifier Playoff	\$382.94
June memberships	\$60.00	Legal Fees	\$3,570.00
July memberships (so far)	\$0.00	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	Total	\$10,757.77
2015 Texas Masters memberships	\$46.00		
2015 Texas Team Chess Championships	\$145.00		
2015 Texas Scholastic Chess Championships	\$2,945.00		
2015 Texas State & Amateur Chess memberships	\$536.00		
Region 2 Scholastic Chess Championships	\$71.00		
Region 3 Scholastic Chess Championships	\$180.00		
Region 5 Scholastic Chess Championships	\$192.00		
Region 6 Scholastic Chess Championships	\$612.00		
Region 7 Scholastic Chess Championships	\$94.00		
Region 8 Scholastic Chess Championships	\$1,100.00		
Region 10 Scholastic Chess Championships	\$565.00		
Binny Nanavati Dell Volunteer Contribution	\$150.00		
Smile Amazon Donation	\$5.00		
		July 15, 2015	
		WF checking account balance	\$19,179.61
Total	\$8,614.00	BOA checking account balance	\$6,091.43

TCA Elections 2015 — Don't Forget to Vote!!!

Ballots were mailed to all voting members on Saturday, July 18th 2015. The ballot must be returned (preferably in the Self-Addressed envelope provided) by August 31st, 2015. Below is a sample of the ballot. Simply place a check, X, or other marking in the box to the left of the candidate you wish to vote for, the blank lines are for write-ins, simply mark the box and write-in the name of the candidate you are voting for. The 10-digit number in the upper right (where the *0000000000* is shown below) is unique to your ballot. Ballots will be validated using that number.

TCA Ballot 2015 **This ballot must be received by TCA no later than August 31st, 2015.** *0000000000*
Candidate Introductions will be in the July-August 2015 issue of Texas Knights (coming soon).

Please select one candidate for each officer by checking the box next to your choice. If you select the wrong candidate, cross out the entire incorrect entry and select the intended candidate. Incumbents are listed first. Write-Ins are allowed.

President:	Vice President:	Secretary:	Treasurer:
<input type="checkbox"/> Lakshmana Viswanath	<input type="checkbox"/> Forrest Marler	<input type="checkbox"/> Lori Balkum	<input type="checkbox"/> Barbara Swafford
<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Newman	<input type="checkbox"/> Eduardo Rios	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____		<small>Flip over for survey →</small>

On the flip side of the ballot is a brief (optional) survey, as shown below. In addition to voting, It would be helpful if you also answered the two questions (simply circle your answers).

TCA Survey – This survey is optional (circle answers)

1. **Do you have internet access?** A. Yes B. No
Why are we asking? We are considering doing future TCA Elections using an online service rather than mailing ballots.

2. **There are 2 options provided by the USCF for creating the Top Player list featured in Texas Knights every issue. One option is to include ALL players irrespective of where they reside. The other option is to include ONLY players that reside in the United States. Which do you prefer?** A. All USCF Members B. US Residents Only
Why are we asking? To determine what we use to create Top Player lists for future issues of Texas Knights.

Flip over for ballot →



Ballots will be counted at the next TCA meeting held during the **South-west Open** in September. Final results will be published in the next issue of *Texas Knights*.

Ballots MUST be received by the TCA no later than Monday, August 31st, 2015. The mailing address for ballots is provided on **page 8**.

The following pages contain the candidate introductions. Some candidates did not provide introductions for publication (that is their choice). Please take some time to get to know our candidates by reviewing their introductions. And again, **Don't Forget to Vote!!!**

Lakshmana “Vish” Viswanath for TCA President



I first want to thank you all for entrusting in me the president-ship of TCA during the past three years.

This year again I am running for the slot of President. Texas has several groups, clubs, Scholastic and Open players, with diverging views, opinions and ideas. I had worked very hard to keep the groups together, finding consensus, and at all times making sure that our actions promote chess more than anything else. I believe that I am well suited to bring cohesion to the group and help provide leadership to grow chess in the great state of Texas.

Needless to say whenever I get an opportunity I play chess. After being a Tournament Director on several events, not long ago, I became a National Tournament Director. May be one of the few TD's who enjoys playing also. I also want to reiterate that my volunteering was not biased on personal financial gains and intend to keep it that way. My only self interest is my passion for chess. We, as TCA, ran two state scholastic championships, and that had put us in very good financial position. For the first time, in a long time, every region is well represented in TCA. We now boast of participation from all regions, and thus increasing the number of players. We are now experimenting with a North/ South split in the scholastic arena. The hope is that this will further help grow chess in different areas while bringing new challenges.

I have the time, passion and dedication for this position. I work well with a lot of folks and you can rest assured that I will be fair in all my decisions. I humbly ask for your vote. Thank you.

Richard Newman for TCA President

I am running for TCA President because I want the TCA to have more than one good choice for President. I believe the TCA has done a wonderful job promoting chess by hosting (or bidding out) chess tournaments each year. I would like to continue this tradition, and hopefully grow these events so that the Opens we host in Texas rival those in Philadelphia, Chicago, and DC. We have a strong and vibrant chess community in our state, and I would like to see our tournaments reflect that. Although we already have some of the largest scholastic tournaments in the nation, I would like to see the TCA help grow scholastic chess in the school districts that may not fully understand how to successfully run a chess program. Thankfully, we do not need to reinvent the wheel. Brownsville and San Benito have given us a blueprint, and now districts in Hidalgo County and Harris County are catching on. I would like to see the TCA involved in the process in order to smooth frictions that occur during this exciting period of growth in Texas.

I have experience working in a leadership role in various nonprofit organizations. Additionally, I am a Life Member of the TCA, a Senior Tournament Director, and an active chess player. While my rating is not great, I would gladly play a game of chess to decide the outcome of any race.

I believe the TCA will do well with or without me as President, as it has done all of these years. However, an election requires at least two viable candidates in order to inspire confidence in the organization. I am very happy to be the other viable candidate. I know our current President, and I respect his experience and diplomacy in chess matters. Vish has been very gracious to me, allowing me to gain valuable Chief TD credits with him at large tournaments. We share a similar philosophy regarding the nature of competition, and the true benefits of scholastic chess. Again, I am running not because we lack a viable candidate, but instead because I truly believe the more choices we have, the better our choices can be.

Eddie Rios for TCA Vice President



Hello Everyone:

My name is Eddie Rios and I am running for Vice President of Texas Chess Association. I have been an active member of Texas Chess Association for quite a number of years. I have an undergraduate business degree in Marketing, as well as a Master's degree in Education. I have owned my own business successfully for about 10 years, and retired from 3 other careers of which one was public education. I understand the concepts of running an organization effectively. I am currently serving on the Board of Directors as Region 7 Director. My main goal in my region is to approach new areas or current areas and promote chess while at the same time work to maintain chess in my region. As Vice President I intend to support the board and its membership within the capacity of my position. I weigh the decisions heavily before committing to anything. I will represent everyone well. I've always managed with an open door policy and do not intend to change. Plus, the fact that I'm retired, I can honestly promise you that this position will be handled in a full time manner and I will dedicate as much of my time as the subject requires. I need your support, please vote for me and thank you.

Candidates that did not provide introductions:

- **Forrest Marler for TCA Vice President**
- **Lori Balkum for TCA Secretary**
- **Barbara Swafford for TCA Treasurer**

Below is the address where ballots need to be returned (just in-case something happened to the pre-addressed envelope provided). Families receiving more than one ballot should return all ballots in a single envelope. Don't forget to affix a stamp (to the return envelope) before mailing. The addition of the *'Official TCA Ballot Enclosed'* to the address allows us to recognize that a ballot is in the envelope and that it shouldn't be opened until counting occurs.

**Texas Chess Association
c/o Barbara Swafford
2709 Longhorn Trail
Crowley TX 76036-4719**

Official TCA Ballot Enclosed



IM Jeffery Xiong, Winner of the 2015 Chicago Open!

For additional information go to <http://www.chicagoopen.net>

As mentioned briefly in the previous issue of *Texas Knights*, **IM Jeffery Xiong** won this year's **Chicago Open**, held in Wheeling, IL. From May 21st to May 25th. The final round was a nine (9) way tie. All other co-leaders drew their games, but Jeffery won his, giving him a final score of 7/9. This was Jeffery's 3rd GM Norm and he also exceeded the required 2500 rating required to earn a Grandmaster title. He will be the 2nd youngest US Chess Player ever to become a Grandmaster.

Results of the top 9 participants of the Chicago Open

#	Name	Rtng	St	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Rd 8	Rd 9	Tot
1	IM Jeffery Xiong	2497	TX	W83	D43	D28	D79	W57	W30	D17	W11	W10	7
2	GM Gata Kamsky	2673	NY	W94	D25	W35	D48	W22	W37	D6	D10	D8	6.5
3	GM Illia I Nyzhnyk	2622	UKR	W54	W49	D52	D21	D33	D8	D9	W34	W23	6.5
4	GM Daniel A Naroditsky	2622	CA	D30	W104	W107	D8	D24	W33	D20	W21	D7	6.5
5	GM Sergei Azarov	2619	BLR	W80	W106	D8	L52	D30	W51	W37	W20	D6	6.5
6	GM Samuel Sevian	2565	MA	W112	W9	W51	D10	D52	W48	D2	D7	D5	6.5
7	GM Vladimir Georgiev	2550	MKD	W103	W27	D48	D25	W50	W52	D10	D6	D4	6.5
8	GM Vladimir Dobrov	2490	RUS	W57	W62	D5	D4	D11	D3	W16	W17	D2	6.5
9	FM Eric S Rosen	2372	IL	W99	L6	W70	W69	D20	W13	D3	W19	D14	6.5

Below are two games played by **IM Jeffery Xiong** at the **Chicago Open** (from round 7 and 9).

Suarez,Isan (2581) – Xiong,Jeffery (2497)
24th Chicago Open Wheeling, IL (7.4), 24.05.2015

[B01: Scandinavian Defense]

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd6 4.d4 Nf6
5.Nf3 g6 6.g3 Bg7 7.Bg2 Bg4 8.0-0 c6 9.Bf4
Qd8 [last book move. White has an active position]



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

10...Be6 [White has an active position]

11.Re1 Bd5 [11...0-0 12.Qd2±]

12.Qe2 [12.Nxd5 cxd5 13.c3 Nc6±]

12...e6± [Black is behind in development.]

13.Nxd5 Nxd5 14.Bg5 Nf6 15.Ne5 0-0 16.Ng4
Nbd7 [16...Qxd4?? that pawn is deadly bait
and will cause Black grave problems 17.Red1
Qc5 18.Nxf6+ Bxf6 19.Bxf6+-]

17.c4 [Black has a cramped position]

17...Qa5 [Black threatens to win material:
Qa5xg5]

18.Bd2 [White threatens to win material: **49...Qg5 50.Be3 Qf6 51.Bd4** [Twofold repetition] Bd2xa5]

18...Qb6 [Black threatens to win material: **51...Qf4 52.Be3 Qf6** ½-½] Qb6xd4. Black forks: d4+b2]

19.Be3 Qa5 20.b4 Qc7 21.Rab1 [21.Nh6+ Kh8±]

21...Nxc4± 22.hxc4 Nb6 23.Bf4 [White threatens to win material: Bf4xc7]

23...Qd7 [Black threatens to win material: Qd7xd4]

24.Red1 Rac8 [24...Bxd4? doesn't lead to anything significant 25.c5+]

25.Rd2 Rfd8 [25...Bxd4?? taking the pawn will cause Black grave problems 26.Rbd1 e5 27.Bxe5+]

26.Bg5 [White threatens to win material: Bg5xd8]

26...Re8 27.Rc1 Qc7 28.Qd1 h6 29.Be3 Qe7 [Black threatens to win material: Qe7xb4]

30.Qb3 Red8 31.Rcd1 Bf8 32.a3 Rd7 33.Bf3 Rcd8 34.Kg2 Rc8 35.Be4 Rcd8 36.f4 Nc8 [Black has a cramped position]

37.Bf3 Nb6 38.Kh2 Kh7 39.f5 [39.Kh1!?=]

39...exf5± 40.Bf2 [40.Re2 fxc4 41.Bf4 Qf6 42.Bxc4 Re7 (42...Rxd4? would be great except for 43.Be5 Rxd1 44.Bxf6+-) 43.Rxe7 Qxe7±]

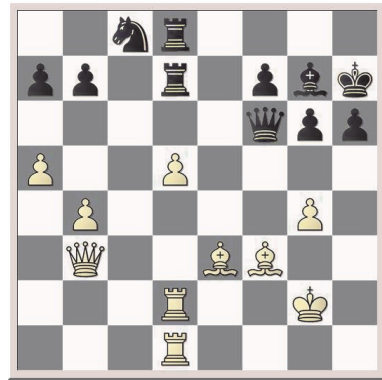
40...Qg5 [40...fxg4 41.Bxc4 f5 42.Bf3±]

41.gxf5± Qxf5 42.Kg2 Bg7 43.a4 Qe6 44.d5 cxd5 45.cxd5 Qf5 46.a5 [White wins space]

46...Nc8 47.g4 Qg5 48.Be3 Qf6 49.Bd4 [White threatens to win material: Bd4xf6]

13...Nf4 14.Rd4 [White threatens to win material: Rd4xf4]

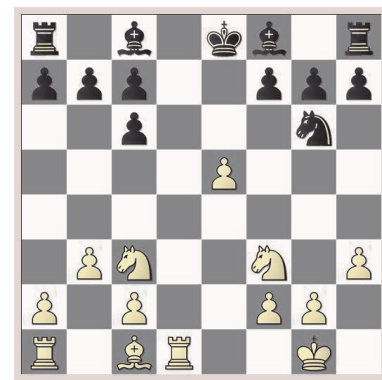
14...Ne6 [Black threatens to win material: Ne6xd4]



Xiong,Jeffery (2497) – Batista,Lazaro (2684)
24th Chicago Open Wheeling, IL (9.1), 25.05.2015

[C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defense: 4 0-0 Nxe4]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Rd1+ Ke8 10.Nc3 Ne7 11.h3 Ng6 12.b3 Bd7 13.Bb2 [last book move]



15.Rd2 Rd8 16.Rad1 Be7 17.Ne2 c5 18.Nc3 Bc6 19.Nd5 h5 20.c4 Rd7 21.Rd3 Bd8 [21...Kd8 22.h4=]

22.Nd2 h4 23.Nf1 Bg5 24.Nh2 Rh5 25.Ng4 Kd8 26.Bc3 Kc8 [Black king safety improved]

27.Bd2 b6 [Covers a5]

28.Bxg5 Rxg5 29.Kh2 Rh5 30.f3 a5 31.Kg1 a4 32.Kf2 axb3 33.axb3 [33.Rxb3? Ba4+]

33...Kb7 34.Nde3 Re7 35.Nd5 [White threatens to win material: Nd5xe7]

35...Re8 36.b4 cxb4 37.Nxb4 Rhh8 38.Ne3 Ba4 [Black threatens to win material: Ba4xd1]

39.Ra1 Ra8 40.Rda3 Nc5 [The knight likes it on c5]

41.Nbd5 Rhe8 [41...Ra5 42.Nc3 Rha8 43.Nxa4 Nxa4 44.f4=]

42.f4= g5 43.fxg5 Rxe5 44.Nc3 Nd3+ [44...Nb3 45.R1a2 (45.Nxa4? looks tempting, but 45...Nxa1 46.Rxa1 Rea5+) 45...Nc1 46.Rxa4 (46.Nxa4? Nxa2 47.Rxa2 Rea5+) 46...Nxa2 47.Rxa2 Rxa2+ 48.Nxa2=]

45.Ke2± [White threatens to win material: Ke2xd3]

45...Rae8 46.Nxa4 Rxe3+ 47.Kd2 Re2+ [Black forks: g2]

48.Kxd3 R8e3+ 49.Kd4 c5+ 50.Nxc5+ bxc5+ 51.Kxc5 Rxa3 52.Rxa3 Rxg2 53.Kd6 Rg3 [Black threatens to win material: Rg3xa3]

54.Ra5 Rxh3 55.Rf5 [White threatens to win material: Rf5xf7]

55...Rd3+ 56.Ke7 h3 [Pushes the passed pawn.]

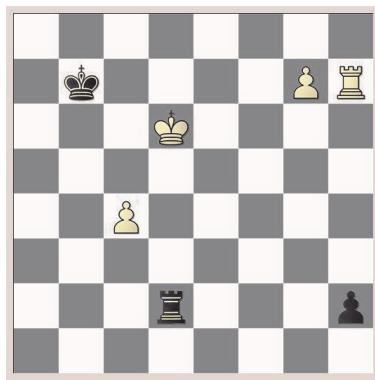
57.Rxf7 h2?? [⊔57...Kc6 is the best chance 58.Rf6+ Kc7±]

58.Rh7+- Rd2 [58...Kc6 59.Rxh2 Rg3+-]

59.g6 Rf2 [59...Rg2 is not much help 60.Kf7 Kc6 61.g7 Rf2+ 62.Kg8+-]

60.g7 Re2+ [60...Rg2 the only chance to get some counter play 61.Kf7 Kc6+-]

61.Kd6 Rd2+ 1-0



- Articles
- Photos
- Results
- Games

Content for the next issue needs to be delivered to the Editor by September 15th!

Touch and Move! - By WCM Claudia Muñoz

Often in chess articles we focus on chess results, openings and the games we played, while forgetting or ignoring the human element – the untold stories. Here is mine. In March I faced several growing pains which are normal for any 17 year old teen. My rating had dropped over 70 points after a stellar 2014 in which I won the first ever U.S. Girls Closed Championship in New Hampshire. I have always been a straight 'A' student and my high school work load had bogged me down but then I received a Facebook message from a chess mom in El Paso, Texas her name is Renate Garcia.

Renate is the mother of Anneliese, an energetic and cute young girl who loves chess. Her daughter's dream was to organize a chess tournament where girls were the prime focus and her mother thought I was the perfect fit for this event. So Renate partnered up with Ruben Arzaga of the Sun City Chess Academy in El Paso in order to organize the 'Chess Campeona on the Move Chess Challenge'.

'Chess Campeona' has been my nickname in social media as well as a monthly column I wrote for chesskid.com since I was 15-years old, so naming the event after me was an enormous honor. By now this chess event had evolved into a chess lecture, girls only simul and a 5-round four section rated chess tournament open to all.

After several meetings on SKYPE between both Renate and Ruben, a date was chosen and I was flown to El Paso, Texas on June 5th. I had never played rated chess in West Texas outside of Lubbock and that was over four years ago.

Renate and Ruben really outdid themselves in hosting a 'Meet & Greet' hours after I had landed in El Paso. It was an official welcoming by their chess community in an event hosted a public library in my honor.





I was awestruck!

The following day I was even more impressed on the amount of people that came to my chess lecture as the place was full. Later we held the All Girl simul, which brought memories for me when I was a child. In the afternoon the 4-section rated tournament kicked off with four players rated over 2000, I played in the open section as I was the only girl in that category.

In the 4th round I defeated the tournament's highest rated player NM Benjamin Coraretti placing me in the last round with a chance to tie for first place, however a draw in the 5th round gave me 2nd place in the tournament.

Afterwards I was invited to participate in the award's ceremony as I gave out trophies and took pictures with the participants.

Here is where most chess articles end but mine will not without asking this question, what did this tournament do for me?

Having so many parents, children and adults focus on me during the event gave me a different perspective of who I am as a chess player. I realized that to them I was not just another 17 year old teen but someone they looked up to. In social media where I have close to 7,000 followers in Facebook and almost 3,000 in Twitter with a chess website www.claudiamunoz.com that averages 50,000 hits per month was one thing, out here in real life I was meeting face to face with real people, people who also have chess dreams.

This impacted me and revitalized my chess summer.

Along with this event and the two that followed I regained 60 rating points. I am 11-points from regaining my peak rating with three tournaments left for me to play this summer.

Next week I will be traveling to Canada to represent the United States in the 2015 North American Junior U-20 along with other girl powerhouse players such WIM Annie Wang and WFM Jennifer Yu. I am a totally different player today than I was before going to West Texas.

All this started with one Facebook message from Renate Garcia, a chess mom in El Paso. As she fulfilled her daughter's dream of a chess tournament she revitalized mine.



Munoz, Claudia – Coraretti, Benjamin

Chesscampeona on the Move Challenge, 07.06.2015

[A43: Schmid Benoni]

1.d4 g6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 Bg7 4.Nc3 d6 5.e4 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Qa5 7.Bd2 Nf6 8.Bd3 Nbd7 9.f4 [last book move]



9...b5 10.Qe2 Nb6 [10...bxc4!? is worth looking at 11.Bxc4 0-0=]

11.cxb5± c4 12.Bxc4 Nxc4 13.Qxc4 [Opposite colored bishops appeared]

13...0-0 14.Nf3 a6 15.0-0 Qb6+ 16.Kh1 axb5 17.Qd3 Ra4 [Black threatens to win material: Ra4xe4. Praise the rook!]

18.Be3 Qa6 19.Nd4 [White plans f5. Attacks the isolani on b5. White threatens to win material: Nd4xb5]

19...Bd7 20.f5 [White gets more space.]

20...Rxa2 21.Rxa2 Qxa2 22.Bg5 Qc4 [Black threatens to win material: Qc4xd3]

[⊔22...Qa3=]

23.Qf3?? [a transit from better to worse] [⊔23.Qxc4 would keep White alive 23...bxc4 24.Bxf6 exf6 25.Kg1 gxf5 26.exf5±]

23...Nxe4? 24.Bh6 g5?? [makes life more difficult]

[⊔24...Qxd5 25.fxg6 hxg6 26.Bxf8 Kxf8±]

25.Re1+ Nxc3 [25...Qxc3 what else? 26.Qxe4 Ra8 27.Bxg5 Ra1+-]

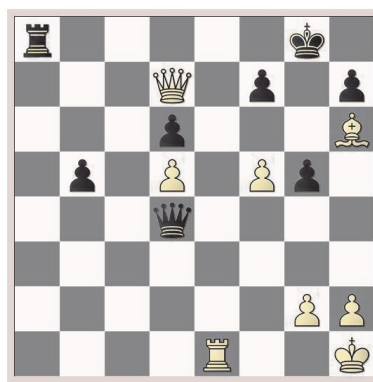
26.Qe3 [26.Bxf8?! is not possible 26...Kxf8 (≤26...Qxd4 27.Bxe7 g4 28.Qg3±) 27.Ne6+ Kg8= (≤27...fxe6 28.fxe6+ Qf4 29.exd7 Qxf3 30.d8Q+ Kg7 31.gxf3 Nxd5 32.Qa8 Nf6 33.Rxe7+ Kg6 34.Qf8 Kf5 35.Qc8+ Kg6 36.Qc2+ Kh6 37.Qf5 b4 38.Qxf6+ Kh5 39.Rxh7#)]

26...Ne4 27.Qxe4 [27.Bxf8 seems even better 27...Qd3 28.Bxe7 Qxe3 29.Rxe3 Nf2+ 30.Kg1 Nd1+-]

27...Ra8 [27...Re8 does not solve anything 28.Bxg5 f6 29.Bh6+-]

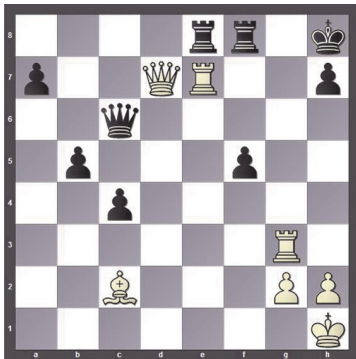
28.Qxe7 [⊔28.Qe3 makes sure everything is clear 28...Kh8 29.Bxg5+-]

28...Qxd4 29.Qxd7 [29.Qxd7 Qe3 30.Rg1+- (30.Rxe3?? Ra1+ 31.Re1 Rxe1#)] 1-0

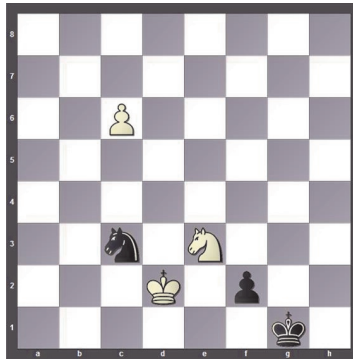


Tactics Time!

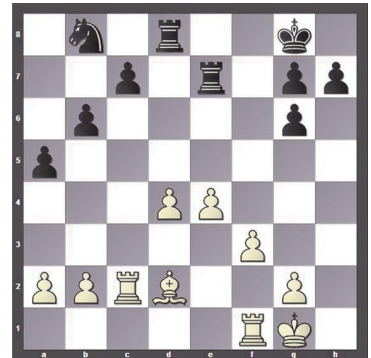
These positions came from games played in Texas or elsewhere by (at least one) Texas Player. **Answers can be found on page 19.**



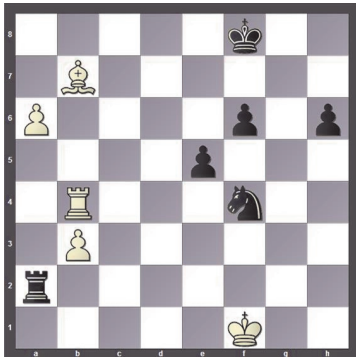
1. John Patty—Gheorghe Secheli
Texas Championship 2003
Black to Move



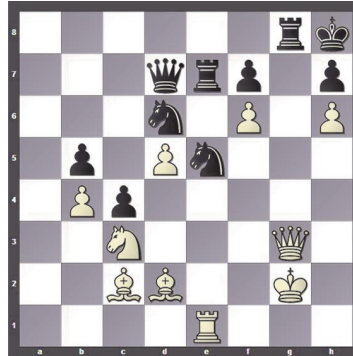
2. Barry Endsley - Alexander Chua
Texas Championship 2003
Black to Move



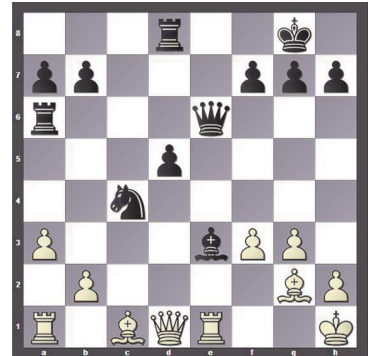
3. Clarence Yeung—Andrew Whatley
Texas Championship 2003
White to Move



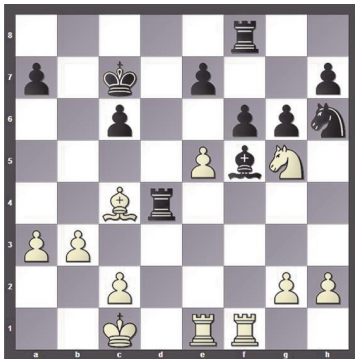
4. Chris Land - Clarence Yeung
Texas Championship 2003
Black to Move



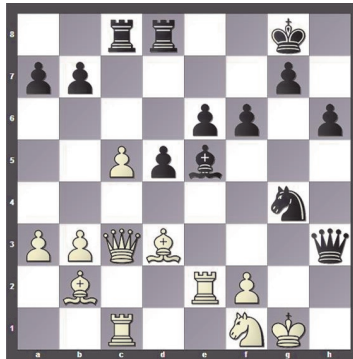
5. Selby Anderson - Michael Langer
Texas Championship 2003
White to Move



6. Jeffrey Ashton—James Rohrbaugh
Texas Championship 2003
White to Move



7. Frank Brack—David Phillips
Texas Amateur 2003
White to Move



8. Thomas McCaslin—Joseph Drake
Texas Championship 2003
White to Move

Available in Paperback Now!!!



www.amazon.com/dp/9056915371/

USCF TOP PLAYERS - July 2015

Overall			Age 17			Age 15 ((continued))		
8	Onischuk, Alexander	2742	16	Jiang, Austin Z	2270	77	Srivatsav, Aadarsh	1868
13	Zherebukh, Yaroslav	2724	18	Ng, Daniel J	2255	80	Li, David C	1862
17	Ramirez, Alejandro	2670	38	Shao, Andy	2155	100	Krishnan, Aadarsh	1829
22	Moradiabadi, Elshan	2653	54	Jiang, Alexander D	2105			
28	Sadorra, Julio C	2635	58	Lu, Tommy	2094		Age 12	
29	Macieja, Bartlomiej	2634	69	Munoz, Claudia E	2064	15	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2091
31	Kritz, Leonid	2629	93	Kaliyur, Rohith	1988	35	Frutos, Chase	1952
34	Xiong, Jeffery	2621	94	Shan, Devan	1985	36	Buergler, Jacob Bede	1936
40	Margvelashvili, Giorgi	2607				37	Huo, Rannon	1933
43	Hernandez, Holden	2606		Age 16		39	Liu, Kevin	1932
50	Berczes, David	2594	17	Vaidya, Atulya	2271	42	Fan, William G	1912
59	Gorovets, Andrey	2587	24	Malhotra, Akshay	2230	53	Nguyen, Dang Minh	1870
61	Yotov, Valentin L	2585	26	Han, Curran	2211	56	Narang, Ijay	1858
66	Yang, Darwin	2580	33	Obili, Abhishek Reddy	2186	62	Ganesh, Anirudh	1842
77	Duque, Raymond D	2559	45	Kowal, Joshua Adam	2107	62	Huang, Max	1842
84	Drozdzowski, Kacper	2542	52	Nguyen, Duy Minh	2081	73	Wang, Jason	1831
96	Cornejo, Max	2524	55	Jacob, Andrew	2068	81	Bandi, Rohit Choudary	1819
			69	Wlezien, Alexander	2035	82	Mao, Andrew Sun-Rong	1818
			76	Brannon, Joshua Scott	2010	96	Tian, Samuel Walter	1784
			76	Mao, Marcus S	2010			
	Age 65 and Over		86	Xiang, Evan	1982		Age 11	
22	Simms, Gary	2222	88	Annigeri, Sanjay	1976	9	Gu, Brian Fanyuan	2084
36	Crispin, Thomas A	2200				14	Vivekananthan, Anish	2053
56	Sutherland, Don C	2179				36	Hawthorn, Charles	1898
86	Hubka, James L	2079		Age 15		47	Yan, Austin K	1857
96	Chase, Stephen M	2056	8	Chiang, Jonathan	2344	55	Balderas, Adolfo Augusto, Jr	1808
97	Mapes, Robert L	2054	9	Lin, Dachev	2320	81	Kung, Thomas	1723
			13	He, Tommy	2271	83	Niu, Baron T	1721
	Age 50 and Over		22	Capocyan, Sam Lander Cabrera	2216	97	Peng, Peter	1693
10	Duque, Raymond D	2559	23	Lu, Andrew H	2209			
25	Milovanovic, Rade	2428	62	Hsieh, David	2038			
							Age 10	
	Under Age 21			Age 14		3	Wang, Justin	2089
5	Xiong, Jeffery	2621	2	Xiong, Jeffery	2621	6	Metpally, Jason	2035
7	Yang, Darwin	2580	35	Krishna, Ram	2116	8	Vaidya, Atreya	2031
9	Drozdzowski, Kacper	2542	40	Nguyen, Anthony Quan	2099	13	Hung, Daniel	1985
13	Li, Ruifeng	2488	49	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2047	18	Wang, Yanke	1933
55	Chiang, Jonathan	2344	50	Frenkel, Benjamin	2045	20	Frutos, Cole Nicholas	1922
65	Lin, Dachev	2320	62	Nguyen, Khoa Minh	2015	24	Hawthorn, Henry	1895
77	Shao, Bob	2301	97	Premkumar, Hiren	1919	35	Shi, Eric	1806
87	Chiang, Sarah	2281	98	Yu, Ray	1917	36	Ma, Albert Z	1802
95	Vaidya, Atulya	2271				38	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1793
95	He, Tommy	2271				41	Zhu, Harvey	1790
98	Jiang, Austin Z	2270		Age 13		49	Mcnutt, William Howard	1762
			1	Li, Ruifeng	2488	54	Romo, Benjamin	1747
	Age 18		11	Liu, Bovey	2233	58	Kumarappan, Ganesh	1738
1	Yang, Darwin	2580	12	Xie, Tianming	2230	61	Ramesh, Sreenevash	1735
10	Chiang, Sarah	2281	31	Palang, Warren Jesse	2036	63	Wei, Alexander Gotuaco	1732
12	Pamatmat, Jarod John M	2264	43	Devagharan, Devina	1990	68	Ni, Maggie	1713
69	Johnson, Perry Vishal	2011	44	Kirumaki, Ronit	1985	80	Rajaram, Rudransh	1676
77	Xiang, Ellen	1979	46	Kao, Camille Y	1975	86	Yeung, Wesley	1656
99	Berry, Fletcher James	1917	50	Sonawane, Atharv	1954	95	Roberts, James P, Iii	1641
			52	Dong, Dylan Roswell	1940			
			62	Eliezer, Segev	1916			

Age 9			Women (continued)			Correspondence		
5	Tang, Andrew	1906	92	Xiang, Evan	1982	19	Mcgregor, Stephen Dean	2305
6	Trakru, Rohun	1883	93	Xiang, Ellen	1979	21	Horwitz, Danny	2303
7	Oberoi, Shelev	1875	94	Kao, Camille Y	1975	28	Cross, Gregory	2258
52	Razo, Joaquin	1567				46	Bonnell, Leo W	2200
59	Tao, Arthur	1541		Girls Under 21		63	Mccann, David R	2145
60	Patil, Vedant	1539	2	Chiang, Sarah	2281	63	Calogridis, Michael S	2145
61	Wang, Harry	1537	9	Salazar, Aura Cristina	2226			
74	Casas, Michael	1501	23	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2091			
84	Lu, Hubert	1457	27	Munoz, Claudia E	2064		Blitz Overall	
88	Mahajan, Jai	1449	30	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2047	3	Ramirez, Alejandro	2840
92	Yan, Edward Lide	1442	41	Devagharan, Devina	1990	5	Moradiabadi, Elshan	2776
			43	Xiang, Evan	1982	38	Cornejo, Max	2534
			44	Xiang, Ellen	1979	65	Harper, Warren Thomas	2441
			45	Kao, Camille Y	1975	81	De Jesus, Jeffrey	2418
1	Polavaram, Rithik Sai	2028	53	Yang, Sylvia Siyuan	1938	94	Rodriguez, Daniel	2392
34	Pham, Vinh The	1535	56	Palang, Caissa	1933			
43	Yang, Benjamin	1482	67	Zhao, Annie	1892		Blitz Women	
63	Aung, Christopher	1357				17	Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	2018
67	Wan, Audrey X	1317		Girls Under 16		24	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	1872
76	Chen, Jeason	1296	11	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2091	32	Trakru, Priya Nikita	1792
88	Ahmed, Kabir	1264	13	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2047	69	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1522
91	Podder, Ronit	1252	17	Devagharan, Devina	1990	92	Vasquez, Angelica	1346
100	Yang, Kevin	1228	18	Kao, Camille Y	1975			
			55	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1793		Quick Overall	
			57	Venkataraman, Sara	1789	8	Onischuk, Alexander	2661
Age 7 and Under			59	Abella, Clarissa Louise	1783	19	Yotov, Valentin L	2593
5	Capocyan, John Patrick	1583	80	Ni, Maggie	1713	22	Moradiabadi, Elshan	2576
14	Pathak, Rudransh	1442	83	Zheng, Christine	1709	22	Gorovets, Andrey	2576
31	Jiang, Eileen	1274	88	Zhu, Yining	1696	35	Duque, Raymond D	2548
44	Lau, Ignatius	1217	93	Qureshi, Sadia	1681	43	Sadorra, Julio C	2527
50	Kunka, Harshid	1167				44	Ramirez, Alejandro	2523
52	Li, Rachael	1162		Girls Under 13		87	Cornejo, Max	2418
54	Raghuraja, Sri Avishkar	1147	3	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2091			
56	Perera, Nethul Manmitha	1140	14	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1793		Quick Women	
62	Nguyen, Sebastian Thien	1129	24	Ni, Maggie	1713	5	Foisor, Sabina-Francesca	2335
69	Miramontes, Luis	1104	39	Dadwal, Saanvi	1607	7	Chiang, Sarah	2271
82	Saldivar, Felix, Jr	1070	55	Cedillo Bocanegra, Ana Karen	1523	11	Salazar, Aura Cristina	2189
91	Jin, Tony	1051	60	Uppuluri, Anuja	1507	19	Labeledz, Patrycja Anna	2040
94	Zhu, Harrison Lee	1040	82	Dodd, Ariadne	1423	24	Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	2018
98	Guzman, Cruz M	1034	87	Bautista, Ilse V	1411	27	Devagharan, Devina	1996
			89	Yi, Angela	1408	29	Trakru, Priya Nikita	1990
Women			92	Si, Sophia	1400	32	Munoz, Claudia E	1964
9	Danelia, Mariam	2343	97	Kao, Simona Y	1392	35	Root, Alexey Wilhelmina	1946
11	Foisor, Sabina-Francesca	2320				41	Niemi, Nicole Elizabeth	1900
16	Chiang, Sarah	2281				48	Yang, Sylvia Siyuan	1889
28	Salazar, Aura Cristina	2226				51	Zhao, Annie	1881
29	Labeledz, Patrycja Anna	2214				68	Xiang, Evan	1812
52	Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	2106				84	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	1784
59	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2091				89	Xiang, Ellen	1756
65	Munoz, Claudia E	2064						
69	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2047						
73	De La Parra, Daniela	2039						
80	Root, Alexey Wilhelmina	2005						
88	Devagharan, Devina	1990						



Tactics Time! Answers

Answers:

1. **32...Qxd7** and white cannot recapture because of the back rank mate threat, **33.Rxd7 Re1#**. Variation from the game.
2. **76...Nd5!!** Deflects the white knight from the queening square. **77.Nxd5 f1=Q**
3. **28.Bg5** skewers the rooks. Variation from the game.
4. **52...Ra1+ 53.Kf2 Nd3+** forks the king and rook.
5. **37.Qg7+!! Rxc7+ 38.hxc7+ Kg8 39.Bxh7+ Kxh7 40.Rh1+ Qh3+ 41.Rxh3+ Kg6 42.g8Q+ Kxf6 43.Qg5#**
6. **22. b3** attacks the defender of the bishop, which is pinned to the queen. White wins a piece. Variation from the game.
7. **21.Rxf5!** Removing the defender of the e6-square. **21...Nxf5 22.Ne6+** forking the king and both rooks.
8. **26.Bh7+** discovered attack. **26...Kxh7 27.Qxh3**
Cover. 22.Bxf7+ Kxf7 23.e8Q+ Kf6 24.Nd5# (24.Qe7#) or 22...Kh8 23.e8Q+ Bf8 24.Qxf8#

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



- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the **Texas Chess Association** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same Amazon Prime benefits.
- Support the **Texas Chess Association** by starting your shopping at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2673185>.

Raising the Bar at the San Antonio City Championship

By J. P. Hyltin

The San Antonio Chess Club held its annual City Championship tournament on June 27 & 28. This event has always been a source of pride for local competitors and draws out our best players every year. That makes it a great honor to win the event, and a great responsibility to direct it.

This year's event broke all attendance records as far as anyone remembers. The final attendance count was 109 players, beating the 2003 attendance by 16. But this poses its own challenges for your humble tournament director. In the days before the event, I started to realize this was going to be quite a large tournament, and I realized it would be required to run accelerated pairings. But, our in-house written pairing system had not really had a full test run of that program feature. Some last minute heroic coding by program author Ross Johnson was required, and as that is my profession, this did not make me particularly comfortable. After describing to me the update he had to make and running a few simulations, Ross convinced me it was going to be fine the night before, and I decided to go for it just as the Facebook discussion was catching up to that idea. Even so, I had SwissSys ready to go. And then we had 20 more entries on site. As it turned out, there was nothing to worry about, and the program performed to perfection.



Claudia Munoz met Sindhu Vidjeacoumar in round 4

As for the event itself, the competition was not saturated. The gauntlet of players included 6 masters, several former masters, and 5 former champions. In the 3rd round, the top 6 boards featured high rated players on every board facing players rated in the 1200 range who all earned their way into the undefeated group with 2 significant upsets each. And after downing Anthony Guerra and a 4th round draw with Curtis Brooks on board 1, the room was abuzz with talk about the young Garrett Carll from Corpus Christie. Another notable member of that group was unrated Sindhu Vidjeacoumar, the new wife of a friend of mine who had just arrived from India. After a cat-and-mouse Queen ending draw with Ernesto Malazarte, her Cinderella clock struck 12 losing a competitive ending to Claudia Munoz in round 4. But she clearly has announced Texas women's chess has a new competitor.

There were no perfect scores going into the last round, and there was no shortage of drama. The first blood was drawn when Carll was quickly leveled by Daniel Rodriguez. Curtis Brooks took down Malazarte to leave everyone to chase his 4.5 score, but leaving the championship open as he was not a Bexar county resident. That left the championship being decided by the games of Claudia Munoz versus Gregg Stanley, and Jesse James Lozano against Doug Huddleston, all of whom entered the last round with 3.5.

Right about now, I need a CBS Survivor metaphor to properly describe what happened next.

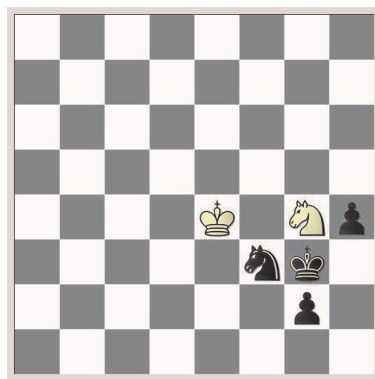


Greg Stanley, foreground, playing William Mills.
Look at those Knights! Don't try this at home, kids.

Claudia Munoz – Gregg Stanley
2015 San Antonio City Championship

1. **d4 g6** 2. **c4 Bg7** 3. **Nc3 d6** 4. **e4 Nc6** 5. **Be3 e5** 6. **Nge2** (More popular is 6. d5 where Black's credible responses include 6... Ne6 and 6... Nd4. The games in this line at the top levels are always entertaining. 6... **exd4** 7. **Nxd4 Nge7** 8. **Be2 f5** 9. **Nxc6** While this plan suits Claudia's power chess style, 9. **exf5** scores better. **bx c6** 10. **Bd4 O-O** 11. **Bxg7 Kxg7** 12. **Qd4+ Kg8** 13. **c5 fxe4** 14. **cx d6 cx d6** 15. **Nxe4 Nf5** 16. **Qc3 d5** 16... Qe7 is the principled way to punish White's decision to defer castling. Then 17. Qd3 (apparently the only move) d5 18. Nc3 Rb8 would be hard to beat. 17. **O-O Rb8** A prudent move in light of Black's counter play after 17... **dxe4** 18. **Bc4+ Rf7** and White has all the choices. 18. **Nc5 Nh4** A cunning "players move" that sets up a position where Black makes threats on all sides of the board. White likely was eager to play against Black's 3 pawn islands and weakened King, so Black must find dynamic play to keep her distracted from such plans. 19. **Qe5 Bf5** 20. **Bd3 Re8** 21. **Qg3 Rxb2** 22. **Rfe1 Bxd3** 23. **Rxe8+ Qxe8** 24. **Nxd3 Nf5** 25. **Qc7 Qb8** While silicon analysis reveals this as a second best move, I think only a computer can be comfortable defending the position after the randomness of what could happen after 25... **Re2**, for example 26. **Rb1 Re7** 27. **Qf4 Qd7** 28. **g4** 26. **Qxc6 Rb1+** 27. **Rxb1 Qxb1+** 28. **Nc1 Qe4** 29. **Qc3** Objectively, Black has an end-game advantage, but as a practical matter,

winning this with an exposed king is difficult. **d4 30. Qc4+ Kg7** 31. **Nd3 Nh4** 32. **Qc7+** White had to know this leads to an undesired Queen exchange, but the position after 32. **f3 Qe3+** 33. **Kf1** probably looked impractical to play with Queens on the board. 32... **Kh6** 33. **Qf4+ Qxf4** 34. **Nxf4 g5** 35. **Nd3 Kg6** 36. **f3 Nf5** 37. **Kf2 Kf6** 38. **Ke2 Ke6** 39. **g4 Ne7** 40. **Nb4** White needed to keep the option of leveraging her own pawn majority with 40. **f4** 40... **Ke5** 41. **Kd3 a5** Now, the grind begins and the conclusion is inevitable as Black begins to make threats with the d-pawn. 42. **Nc2 Nc6** 43. **a3 Kd5** 44. **Ne1 Ne5+** 45. **Kc2 Kc4** 46. **h3 a4** 47. **Kd2 Kb3** 48. **Nc2 Nxf3+** 49. **Kd3 Ne5+** 50. **Kxd4 Nf3+** (50... **Kxc2** also wins easily.) 51. **Kd3 Ng1** 52. **Nd4+ Kxa3** 53. **Kc3 Nxb3** 54. **Ne6 h6** 55. **Nd4 Nf2** 56. **Nc2+ Ka2** 57. **Ne3 Kb1** 58. **Kb4 Kc1** 59. **Kxa4 Kd2** 60. **Nc4+ Ke2** 61. **Ne5 Ke3** 62. **Kb3 Kf4** 63. **Nf7 Nxb4** 64. **Kc3 h5** 65. **Kd2 Ne5** 66. **Nd8 Kf3** 67. **Ne6 g4** 68. **Nd4+ Kf2** 69. **Nf5 Nf3+** 70. **Kd3 h4** 71. **Ke4 g3** 72. **Ne3 g2** 73. **Ng4+ Kg3** 0-1



Doug Huddleston – Jesse James Lozano
2015 San Antonio City Championship

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 a6 5. c4 Nf6 6. Bd3 Nc6 7. Nxc6 dxc6 8. O-O e5

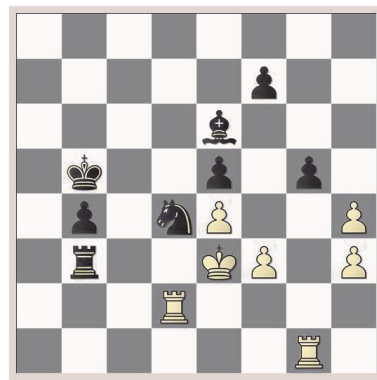
An interesting opening system has developed, but the database indicates Black scores well in this. Elvhest, Smirin, Ginsburg, and Kamsky have all won fine games from this position as Black. **9. Nc3** Lederman-Smirin ended quickly after 9. Kh1 Bc5 10. Nc3 Ng4 11. f3 Nxf2 0-1 **9... Bc5 10.**

Bg5 Qe7 11. Kh1 h6 12. Bh4 g5 This advance is thematic to the opening and its effectiveness causes me to question the wisdom of White's 10th or 11th moves. Black now gets the kind of pressure that makes mistakes from White inevitable. **13.**

Bg3 h5 14. f3 h4 15. Bf2 Nh5 16. h3 Instead 16. Na4 is probably the only way to avoid the tactical motif White employs over the next few moves. **16... Be6 17. Ne2**

O-O-O 18. Qc2 Bxf2 19. Rxf2 Qc5 An alert move that seals White's fate. **20. Rff1 Qe3**

21. Rad1 Rxd3 22. Rxd3 Qxe2 23. Qxe2 Ng3+ 24. Kh2 Nxe2 25. b3 Kc7 26. Rfd1 c5 With 2 pieces for a Rook, and an anchor for point for the Knight on d4, White has no counter play, and can only wait for Black's breakthrough. **27. R1d2 Nd4 28. Kg1 b5 29. cxb5 axb5 30. Kf2 Ra8 31. Rc3 Kb6 32. Ke3 b4 33. Rc1 Kb5 34. Rg1 Ra3 35. g3 c4** White's break is too late. **36. gxh4 cxb3 37. axb3 Rxb3+ 0-1** A fitting finish would be 38. Rd3 Rb2 39. Rdd1 Re2+ 40. Kd3 Bc4#



Going into the last round, Jesse and Gregg noted that Jesse had the tie-break edge, and thought it would be enough to repeat as champion in the event of a tie, and this was fitting as Jesse has seemingly won everything the last 15 months, including the club championship. Their confidence was interesting considering both played Black! The surprise outcome gave Gregg Stanley the title of 2015 San Antonio City Champion and the trophy. Jesse Lozano is co-champion.

With the increased attendance, the San Antonio Chess Club officers elected to increase the prize fund more than 60%, with first place getting \$400. The first place split included an additional U2200 prize, so Gregg Stanley, Jesse Lozano and Curtis Brooks collected \$241 each. But the bulk of the percentage increase went to a doubling of prizes awarded to those under 1600, a group that came out in force.



The City Championship Trophy

Final Roster of Prize Winners

1 st , 2 nd , and U2200	Curtis Brooks	\$120.83 (half option)
	Jesse James Lozano	\$241.67 Co-City Champion
	Gregg Stanley	\$241.67 City Champion
U2100 and U2000	Don Flournoy	\$50
	Eduardo Loyola	\$50
	Mark McCue	\$50
	Edgar Munoz	\$25 (half option)
	Khoa Nguyen	\$50
	Yanke Wang	\$50
U1800	Garrett Carll	\$125
U1700	Rahul Battula	\$15.50
	Andrew Qin	\$15.50
	Juan Carrizales	\$7.75 (half option)
	Blake Herrera	\$15.50
	Barrington Malcolm	\$7.75 (half option)
	Sreenevash Ramesh	\$15.50
	Louis Rimpel	\$15.50
	Michael Dylan Thomas	\$15.50
U1600 1 st and 2 nd	James Bulger	\$43.75 (half option)
	Freddie Burklow	87.50

Final Roster of Prize Winners (continued)

U1400 1 st and 2 nd	Nitin Akella	\$87.50
	Christopher Aung	\$87.50
U1200	Zhiling Kang	\$100
Unrated	Sindhu Vidjeacoumar	\$37.50 (half option)

The success of this event was made possible by some advanced planning by the club officers who thought to secure space enough to hold this year's event. The venue had to be split into 2 rooms to accommodate everyone. Many thanks go to Louis Rimpel, Edgar Munoz, and Ross Johnson, who helped direct in the overflow room. I see no reason to think attendance will shrink in next years event, as our local scholastic tournaments regularly attract 200 and even 300 players, and summers offer those players fewer opportunities to compete. But this also highlights some improvements that must be made. Among those changes being proposed are a split of the tournament into 1 or 2 reserve sections, possibly under 1800 and maybe under 1400.

This will offer some relief to those mid-cross table players who were not all happy with their playing schedule under the accelerated pairings. Some prize structures will be modified. There is also a suggestion to include a Friday night round, but that has a lot to do with the venue, so another potential change will be to move it to a hotel, expenses which potentially reduce the prize fund. Or not, depending on what deal we can make. All of that will be weighed in the coming months, and planning has already begun.

Clearly these changes are necessary, but allow me some reflection with sadness on the passing of an era for what the San Antonio City Championship tournament represents. This was one of the first tournaments I ever played in, all the way back in 1975. My 3 wins were enough to tie 4 ways for the C class prize with a whopping payday of \$6.25. It was an amazing time, where the championship was contested more credibly by adults, like Blake Stevens, Art Riley, Paul Lewis, Raymond Smith, Tony Alston, and Gene Kohnitz. Tournament Director Pete Prattes formed my image of what a TD should be as he ably directed every event with local characters like Jack Fox and Joaquin Jacques arguing over the latter's Cuban cigar smoke. It was against this backdrop I fell in love with the game, and my wide eyed innocence caused me to day dream about the possibility that just a little bit of good fortune could propel my 1450 self into the history of Texas oldest chess club as its champion at age 15. Because anyone could win, as far as I knew. I hate to see that possibility fade for younger players as they play in their more rating appropriate sections.

But these days, San Antonio has many talented youth who would be required to play in the championship section, and for them, they can look to another example of a young man who competed in that day at the top levels in our city. That example is 2015 San Antonio City Champion, Gregg Stanley.

What to Do When You Don't Know What To Do - By Robert L. Myers

"If I move here, I'll lose my Queen. If I capture that Pawn I'll lose tempo. If I block with Bishop, I will possibly place myself in a forked position on the next move." Decisions, decisions, decisions. These are the myriad of conversations that chess players have between themselves as chess is a lyrical cacophony of dances, non-uttered words in a sea of discombobulated lucid coherence.

Chess is one of the most stressful mental games in the world, a developmental tool designed to create failures and successes. One is contingent upon the other. One must capitalize on his opponent's mistakes. He who makes fewer mistakes, and capitalizes on his opponent's mistakes will be victorious. As I train and coach our nation's scholastic champions, future Experts, Masters and Grand Masters, I make mistakes on purpose attempting to exploit their weaknesses and strengths. Often when placed in a difficult position young players will ponder what to do next. The indecision is amazing and sometimes monumental. Some years ago we were playing at the famed Toyota Center in Houston at the Houston Aeros Faceoff Invitational Chess Tournament with murals of Rudy Tomjanovich, Moses Malone, Calvin Murphy and National Basketball Association Hall of Fame members, Hakeem Olajuwon and Clyde Drexler in the backdrop. A really strong scholastic player, Aaron Lazo, was concentrating really hard and his facial expression was one of intensity. After his victory I posted his picture on our blog and his aunt commented about how deep he was looking at the board and position and said, "Look at that concentration." I asked him what was he thinking about, "Coach I was confused. I didn't know what to do." Thus is our quandary, this is our plight, a puzzle, wrapped in a Rubik's cube, inside an enigma.



We are told by our chess coaches to use all of your pieces in combination for an attack. Remember in gym class when they were picking teams to play, didn't everyone want to play? Use everybody. Use a piece that can protect and NOT GET captured. Look at all, ALL options before you move. After you've looked, look again and then a 3rd, 4th and 5th time. Then, check again. Then, when you're done, check to see how your opponent will respond, then make your move, notate. Now before you move, ABC, Always Be looking for Checkmate. Activate your pieces, Bring your King to safety and Control the Center. Are any of your pieces under attack? Are any of your opponent's pieces under attack? Ask yourself in that endless conversation, "Can my opponent capture any of my pieces, can I capture any of my opponents pieces without sacrificing position or material?" Remember the opening is key. In the many games I've lost I failed to do one and sometimes more of those principles.

1. Every move must have purpose.
2. Don't over task your pieces.
3. Protect every piece, and anticipate an attack.
4. When ahead trade.
5. When behind, protect.
6. A. B. C. A-lways B-e Looking for C-heck mate, Check mate from my opponent and check mate against my opponent.
7. Multi-purpose your pieces.

But, sometimes it just isn't that simple to go through a list of dos and don'ts. So much can go horribly wrong. I have made colossal mistakes in chess games over the years, thousands of blunders and lost hundreds of games. I read a quote from basketball Hall of Fame player, Michael Jordan that said, "That is why I succeed." He's missed thousands of shots and even missed many game winning shots. People will scream your name, either in praise or in disgust but they will say your name. You will either be the victim or the victor. It is through adversity that champions are created from hours and hours of practice, desire, determination, and discipline. Three things will happen in a game of chess, you will win, lose or draw but you won't know until you decide to do what you are going to do. So the query comes to mind or you going to sit there and not know the answer to the proverbial question, "What am I going to do? If you don't move, the clock will count down to zero and you lose.



One cannot play this game and not make mistakes. That is impossible. To most chess players, chess is life. You can't live life and not make mistakes. But again I must raise the question of what does one do when you don't know what to do? That answer is coming. Here is another list taken from our "Bible" that we call the Dirty Dozen, actually it is a Baker's Dozen as there are 13 errors that chess players even Grand Masters make quite often.

The Dirty Dozen

1. Not Activating the Pieces
2. Horrible Development



3. Abandoning the King
4. Underestimating Threats
5. Early Aggression
6. Overlooking Pins
7. Inaccuracies
8. Recklessness
9. Pawn Grabbing
10. Creating Weaknesses
11. Carelessness
12. Poor Clock Management

And this is my personal favorite...

13. Self Doubt



Many believe the best way to get better at chess is to not fear making mistakes. You have to make a decision. The more decisions you make, good or bad, you will get your answer of what works and what doesn't. When you don't know what to do you must fearlessly make a decision and learn from that choice. Level I Certified Chess Coach Adrian Patterson is training now for the Millionaire Open in Vegas this October. He was playing at the US Class in the U1600 many years ago and came out of the playing hall with his hands on his face. I approached and asked, "Are you okay?" He waved me off and kept walking to the restroom. He won first place in that section but later told me he had to leave the board not because he needed to use the facilities but because he didn't know what to do with the position that he was in at his G-120 game he was playing. Then it dawned on me that happens to me often. I am concurrently playing 60 games on my mobile device with students I train and coach from all over the world. In LPG, long play games, you have from 1- day to 7 - days to make a move. In one game with a 2100 rated player I was confused and looked at the position several times throughout the day. I had 23 hours, 52 minutes and change left to move. I looked back later and I had 12 hours to move. When I awoke the next morning, I had 2 hours and several minutes remaining. I looked at the position when I awoke, then took a shower, starting shaving and looking in the mirror it hit me like a ton of bricks, "Nxg4++!" I don't know all of the answers but after talking with my Grand Master, National Master friends, they all concur, sometimes you must leave the board and clear your mind and many times the solutions will come.



Lawrence Fishburne's character, Vinne in the acclaimed chess movie all chess players are familiar with, Searching for Bobby Fischer, says to Josh, Josh Waitzkin, International Chess Master the lines from 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."

Oooh, goose bumps. That gets me every time, just typing those words. That is chess, leaving it all out there. Living on the edge. Sink or swim, fly or fall. I will decide. I will make a decision, win, lose or draw. One of our 5,000 Facebook friends snapped a shot of themselves in bed having just awoke and said, "Up early, not really wanting to go to this 7 am class but I have to go." The chess coach in me responded, "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." She promptly got up and aced the test that day. It takes that same confidence to sit at a board or challenge another player 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. That uninhibited courage is what tells us what to do when we don't know what to do.



Upcoming Events

Mid to Late August 2015

AUG. 4, 11, 18, 25 Monthly - Tuesday Night Swiss

Info: www.center64.com.

AUG. 8 5th Annual Austin-San Antonio Shoot Out

Info: <https://www.austinchess tournaments.com/events/655>

AUG. 15 Many Springs 79

Info: Aurelio Gonzalez at 817-789-8360, agonzalejr@yahoo.com or www.tarrantcountychessclub.org

AUG. 15 Plano Spectacular 149

Info: <https://www.uschess.org/tlas/5818.tla>

AUG. 16 Frisco Primary Kindergarten-Third Grade Open

Info: <https://www.uschess.org/tlas/5817.tla>

AUG. 29-30 2015 DCC Fide Open X

Info: 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com.

AUG. 29-30 San Antonio Families #8

Info: See TCA Calendar (www.Texaschess.org) for more info.

September 2015

SEPT. 1, 8, 15, 22 Monthly - Tuesday Night Swiss

Info: website www.center64.com

SEPT. 4-7 OR 5-7 81st Annual Southwest Open

Info: Barb Swafford, 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com, www.dallaschess.com.

SEPT. 12 Harlingen City Championship

Info: freechessclub@gmail.com

SEPT. 12 Many Springs 80

Info: Aurelio Gonzalez at 817-789-8360, agonzalejr@yahoo.com or www.tarrantcountychessclub.org

SEPT. 19-20 2015 DCC Fide Open XI

Info: 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com.

SEPT. 19 Meridian School Tournament

Info: <https://www.austinchess tournaments.com/events/602>

SEPT. 26 2015 Pre Fall Scholastic Chess Tournament

Info: <https://www.austinchess tournaments.com/events/642>

SEPT. 26 Texas Girl's State Championships 2015

Info: <https://www.austinchess tournaments.com/events/653>

Early October 2015

OCT. 3-4 2015 DCC Fide Open XII

Info: 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com.

OCT. 10 National Chess Day Houston Scholastic

Info: <https://www.uschess.org/tlas/15311.ctla>

81st Annual Southwest Open SEPT. 4-7 OR 5-7

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 40 (ENHANCED)

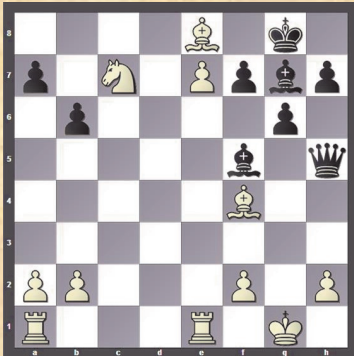
7SS. Doubletree DFW Airport North, 4441 W. John Carpenter Fwy., Irving, TX 75063. \$\$ 8,950 b/175 full entries, 75% Gtd. 3 Sections and scholastic side events: **Open:** (This section is FIDE rated and uses FIDE rules. USCF rules/ratings used for awarding prizes. Players not at the board within 60 minutes of the start of the round will forfeit game.) Rounds 1-3 G/90 with 30 sec. increment, rounds 4-7 G/120 with 30 sec. increment. Note, please check tournament website for rules about FIDE registration. \$\$ 1,000-500-250, 2200-2399 \$700, U2200 \$700-350. **Reserve:** U2000. Rounds 1-3 G/90 with 30 sec. increment, rounds 4-7 G/120 with 30 sec increment. \$\$ 800-400-200. B \$600-300-150, U1600 \$500-250-125. **Novice:** U1400 and Unrated. Rounds 1-3 G/90 with 30 sec. increment, rounds 4-7 G/120 with 30 sec. increment. \$\$ \$500-250-125, E \$400-200, U1000 \$300-150 Unrated \$200. All 3: TCA membership required. Other states accepted. EF: \$89 if received by 8/21, else \$99. \$82 Junior(U19) if received by 8/26 else \$90 (juniors count as 90% toward base), Senior (over 65)/Handicap/Additional family participant \$53 if received by 8/26 else \$65 (Senior/Handicap/Additional family participant counts 60% toward base). Add \$5 for CC phone entries; pre-reg. requires pre-payment. After 9/2/15 all registration and changes on site only; all changes including withdrawals, \$10 after 9/2/15. 4 day: Reg. Friday 9/4, 6:15 pm-7:15. Rds. Fri.: 7:45, Sat.: 2:30 pm - 7:30, Sun.: 10:45 am - 5:00 pm, Mon.: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. 3 day: Reg. Sat. 9/5, 9-9:30 am, Rd. 1 at 10 am then merge with 4 day. Foreign Unrated must play in Open section. Registrations that do not indicate 4 or 3 day schedule will be put in the 3 day. HR: \$89/89/89/89, 972-929-8181 or 800-222-8733 reserve by 8/18 and ask for Dallas Chess Club rate. \$89 rate includes continental breakfast for up to 4 people staying in room. Upgrade to full Breakfast at special price of \$7.99 (upgrade must be done at hotel check in). Up to two 1/2-pt byes available if requested before end of rd. 2, but byes for both rd. 6 AND 7 not permitted. Tournament reserves the right to use an analog clock with equivalent time control under special circumstances (not in open section). Texas Chess Association meeting on Sunday 9/6 at 9:00 am. **K-12 Scholastic on Saturday, 9/5.** 5-SS, G/30 d5, EF: \$31 by 8/26, \$45 after; Pre-reg. requires pre-payment. After 9/2/15 all registration and changes on site only; all changes \$10 after 9/2/15. No refunds after 9/2/15, \$10 handling fee for refunds before 9/2/15. Entries do not count toward base in Open, Reserve and Novice. Registration: 8:15-8:45 am, Rd. 1 at 9:30 am, rest ASAP with small lunch break. Sections: *K-12 Championship* and *K-12 U1000*. Prizes: Trophies to top 12 individuals, five teams in each section. K-12 U1000 also top three unrateds. Medals to those who do not win a trophy. **ALL:** Ent: Dallas Chess Club, C/O Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. Info: Barb Swafford, 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com, www.dallaschess.com. FIDE. JGP for Non scholastic side events.



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

Tactics Time!

Answer on
page 18



Jim Dean—Dennis Anderson
Dallas Open 1997
White to Move