

## The official publication of the Texas Chess Association

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March-April 2015

## **Scholastic & SW Collegiate Results**



NM Akshay Malhotra , The 2015 Texas Scholastic Champion

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Cover photo: Rajesh Malhotra

Peter Kappler

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: **May 15th!** 

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## From the Desk of The Editor

#### Hello Again,

#### In this issue:

- Texas Scholastic Championship 2015 Results.
- Texas SW Collegiate Championship 2015 Results.
- An article and photos from the Region VI Scholastic Championships by new contributor JP Hyltin.
- A fun Blooper article from a collaboration by new contributors Dan Hronchek and FM Seth Homa
- New Tactics Time puzzles from author Tim Brennan.

#### And, as always, you will find:

- A letter from our President
- A Report from our Treasurer
- The Texas Top Players List
- A List of Upcoming Events

Also, please check out **page 29**. Our Treasurer, **Barb Swafford**, has setup an **Amazon Smile** account for the **Texas Chess Association** (TCA). All you have to do is use the link provided (also found on page 29) to access Amazon, and any qualifying purchases that you make will automatically add funds to support the TCA. The cost of your purchases will remain the same, all benefits (like Amazon Prime) will remain the same. We appreciate your support.

The next issue of *Texas Knights* will be on it's way the first week of June. Until then, take care and be safe.

### Jeff French



#### From the Desk of the TCA President

We had a great state scholastic championship event held recently at the McAllen Convention Center. Over 1500 players participated. Even though this is not a record, it was still a large number of players participating. Luis Salinas and Barbara Swafford were the chief organizers. Francisco Guadalupe was the overall chief TD. Thanks to all the Convention Center employees, Tournament staff, Coaches, Parents, and of course all Players, the event was a great success. The tournament also had blitz and bughouse sections.

The annual TCA meeting was held in Mc Allen. Several previously tabled motions were voted upon during this session. Mr. Luis Salinas had suggested and passed the Motion to split the state grade and scholastics into North/Central and South qualifiers. Starting in 2017, for two years, we will experiment with these ideas and the third year we will have a combined superstate. At that time we will evaluate these splits and decide on the future course of action.

Bids are due by July 15th for all the major TCA events including the newly split up Scholastic tourneys. A new committee will be formed to evaluate and award the bids for grade and scholastics for 2017. If you would like to volunteer to serve please let me know. I need three members each from the North and South. The members from the South will award the North bids and vice versa.

TCA is taking new directions. There are new challenges during these transition times but there is potential for growth. There is a good possibility that more organizers can bid on tournaments and run them in more cities.

Also there is a new incentive for organizers to bid on SWO and Texas State and Amateur. They will be entitled to get \$1 from the scholastic majors to support these tournaments. Hopefully this will defray some costs and entice more organizers to bid on these two tournaments.

Over the years the bylaws had been slowly amended. We need to revisit them and make sure that all the changes are in place and properly worded. Can I get a few volunteers who can edit and update the bylaws?

Looking forward to exciting times,

Vish

## TCA Treasurer's Report - March 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 (so far)	\$42.50	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	\$5,019.25
2015 Texas Masters memberships	\$46.00			
2015 Texas Team Chess Championships	\$145.00			
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 8 Scholastic Chess Championships	\$1,100.00			
Region 10 Scholastic Chess Championships	\$565.00	March 15, 2015		
Binny Nanavati Dell Volunteer Contribution	\$150.00	WF checking account balance		\$20,313.11
Total	\$4,404.00	BOA checking account balance		\$9,384.95



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

## **Texas Scholastic Championships 2015**

For additional information see http://www.dallaschess.com./2015%20Texas%20Scholastic/

The **Texas Scholastic Championships** were held in **McAllen** this year on March 28th and 29th. There were 133 participants in the High School tournament. **NM Akshay Malhotra** won the Championship with a score of 6.5/7.0. Below are the results from the Top 24 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	NM Akshay Malhotra	2215	DSTMAR	W68	W26	W35	W12	W4	D2	W9	6.5
2	Ricardo Peredo	1826	BPORTR	W29	W61	W81	W9	W11	D1	D4	6.0
3	Perry Johnson	1999	BMTSCI	W30	W16	W38	L4	W35	W17	W12	6.0
4	FM Tommy O He	2300	FHERTG	W23	W15	W37	W3	L1	W10	D2	5.5
5	Joshua Kowal	2075	HIPARK	W41	W14	W44	W7	D10	L9	W25	5.5
6	Annie Zhao	1931	PCLARK	W53	L35	W50	W21	W45	W37	D7	5.5
7	Marcus S Mao	1853		W120	W40	W106	L5	W79	W13	D6	5.5
8	Luke Lopez	1788	SAATNM	W86	L39	W84	W49	W18	W40	D10	5.5
9	Tommy Lu	2105	HBELLR	W42	W13	W39	L2	W20	W5	L1	5.0
10	NM Curran Han	2230	HBELLR	W48	W85	W17	W36	D5	L4	D8	5.0
11	Christian Muraira	1771	LSFRES	W32	W19	W111	D25	L2	W28	D14	5.0
12	Karthikeyan Lakshmanadoss	1900	COPELH	W55	W79	W28	L1	W61	W15	L3	5.0
13	Sarah Brown	1619	HESCVL	W21	L9	W60	W27	W51	L7	W40	5.0
14	Ricardo J Santoyo	1608	BVTMEM	W58	L5	W56	W87	W43	D25	D11	5.0
15	Eric Chu	1713	HBELLR	X	L4	W78	W39	W30	L12	W41	5.0
16	Sebastian Alaniz	1589	BPORTR	W70	L3	W98	D62	W65	D19	W51	5.0
17	Reuben J Thomas	1761	SKLEIN	W102	W89	L10	W66	W41	L3	W48	5.0
18	Nikhil Kesarla	1546	COPELH	L27	W50	W108	W82	L8	W38	W36	5.0
19	Barret Odom	1544	SACHRS	W76	L11	W117	W104	D36	D16	W47	5.0
20	Emanuel Tinajero	1587	ВРАСЕН	L46	W84	W52	W71	L9	W83	W43	5.0
21	Julian J Arriaga	1332	LMARTN	L13	W63	W125	L6	W106	W79	W35	5.0
22	Ryan Granado	1566	BVTMEM	W87	L36	W88	D28	W62	D47	W46	5.0
23	Devon S Merz	1537	HAWTYI	L4	W78	W127	W112	L25	W44	W37	5.0
24	Roman Kuhn	1728	SKLEIN	W72	L38	W116	L43	W78	W64	W42	5.0

There were 97 participants in the **High School JV (U1000)** Championship. Four players: **Ian A. Hernandez, Richard Anderson, Khang Vuong** and **Pablo Casarez IV** shared the top position with a score of 6.0/7.0. Below are the results from the Top 23 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Ian A Hernandez	964	SAJJAY	W79	D2	W31	D3	W29	W11	W4	6.0
2	Richard Anderson	665	HMEMRH	W85	D1	W36	W9	D24	W15	W13	6.0
3	Khang Vuong	unr.	HCHAVZ	W67	W27	D9	D1	W32	W24	W8	6.0
4	Pablo Casarez IV	801	LUNITS	W93	W65	W26	W21	W6	W8	L1	6.0
5	Mark D Morris	576	LUNITD	W88	W12	W17	D6	L11	W35	W20	5.5
6	Jacob Rodriguez	888	SAJJAY	W63	W41	W61	D5	L4	W47	W10	5.5
7	Juan Llano	unr.	LUNITD	W18	W75	W59	W32	L8	D12	W23	5.5
8	Gavriel Rachael-Homann	980	AGARZA	W70	W28	W16	W14	W7	L4	L3	5.0
9	Jacklyn Reyna	747	LUNITD	W22	W87	D3	L2	D31	W34	W33	5.0
10	Conner McLemore	660	AGARZA	W20	W23	L24	W42	W14	W21	L6	5.0
11	David Boatwright	745	AGARZA	W83	W53	W30	D24	W5	L1	D12	5.0
12	Naomi Lopez	876	LUNITS	W84	L5	W63	W40	W28	D7	D11	5.0
13	Edwin Olguin	540	LUNITS	L30	W91	W44	W51	W35	W17	L2	5.0
14	Luis F Parra Jr	768	LUNITD	W78	W34	W25	L8	L10	W26	W39	5.0
15	Enrique Gonzalez	830	LUNITS	W81	L52	W48	W16	W22	L2	W28	5.0
16	Irving Salinas	640	LUNITD	W50	W33	L8	L15	W80	W38	W24	5.0
17	Jason Ybarra	871	MPIONR	W92	W57	L5	W79	W25	L13	W29	5.0
18	Dragon Nye	715	AGARZA	L7	W77	W60	L20	W54	W64	W36	5.0
19	Rogelio Hernandez Jr	868	LUNITD	L26	W71	W62	L25	W69	W55	W37	5.0
20	Artemio Aezagoitia	unr.	LUNITS	L10	W55	W41	W18	W27	D23	L5	4.5
21	Katherine Mata	991	SHARYH	W86	W39	W29	L4	D47	L10	W25	4.5
22	Franco Rullan	unr.	LNIXON	L9	W66	W57	W38	L15	D27	W47	4.5
23	Burhan Qureshi	921	HAWTYI	W58	L10	W56	W61	W52	D20	L7	4.5

The Top **High Schoo**l Team was **Bellair High** from **Houston** won with a score of **19.5**. Below are the Top 5 Teams.

Code Name HBELLR Bellaire High - Houston - Cnt: 4 Score 19.5 Tommy Lu 5.0 NM Curran Han 5.0 Eric Chu 5.0 Fitzherbert Legall IV 4.5 COPELH Coppell High - Cnt: 6 Score 19.0 Karthikeyan Lakshmanadoss 5.0 Nikhil Kesarla 5.0 Ram Aditya Nandula 4.5 Dev M Thimmisetty 4.5 BPORTR Porter High - Brownsville - Cnt: 10 Ricardo Peredo 6.0 Score 19.0 Sebastian Alaniz 5.0 Luis A Melendez 4.0 Nicholas Galindo 4.0 BVTMEM Vets Mem HS - Brownsville - Cnt: 11 Score 18.5 Ricardo J Santoyo 5.0 Ryan Granado 5.0 Javier Garcia II 4.5 Edgar A Santoyo 4.0 HIPARK Highland Park HS - Cnt: 5 Score 18.0 Joshua Kowal 5.5 Richard Zhang 4.5 Alex Vidal 4.0 Giovanni Zinzi 4.0

The Top JV HS (U1000) Teams were United High and United High South, both from Laredo. They shared the top spot with a score of 21.0. Below are the top 5 Teams.

	Code	Name
1	LUNITD	United High - Laredo - Cnt: 25
	Score 21.0	Mark D Morris 5.5
		Juan Llano 5.5
		Jacklyn Reyna 5.0
		Luis F Parra Jr 5.0
2	LUNITS	United South HS - Laredo - Cnt: 7
	Score 21.0	Pablo Casarez IV 6.0
		Naomi Lopez 5.0
		Edwin Olguin 5.0
		Enrique Gonzalez 5.0
3	AGARZA	Garza Indep HS - Austin - Cnt: 5
	Score 20.0	Gavriel Rachael-Homann 5.0
		Conner McLemore 5.0
		David Boatwright 5.0
		Dragon Nye 5.0
4	SAJJAY	J Jay High - San Antonio - Cnt: 6
	Score 19.5	lan A Hernandez 6.0
		Jacob Rodriguez 5.5
		Sarah D Uhlig 4.0
		Pierceallen Lux 4.0
5	HCHAVZ	Chavez HS - Houston - Cnt: 14
	Score 17.0	Khang Vuong 6.0
		Luan Lam 4.0
		Joseph Ortiz 4.0
		Khristian Lozoya 3.0

There were 185 participants in the **Middle School** Championship. Two players: **Kevin Liu** and **WCM Pri-ya Trakru** shared the top position with a score of 6.5/7.0. Below are the results from the Top 11 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Kevin Liu	1942	W53	W21	W33	W10	W4	W14	D3	6.5
2	WCM Priya Trakru	1975	W39	D32	W37	W5	W38	W8	W14	6.5
3	Ritik Verma	1873	W25	W46	W35	W13	D8	W9	D1	6.0
4	Andras Horvath	1714	W49	W20	W50	W17	L1	W31	W15	6.0
5	Stephen Wells	1367	W159	W22	W16	L2	W36	W86	W13	6.0
6	Miguel Garcia	1831	W69	W55	W31	W24	L14	W35	W17	6.0
7	Pranav Gopalakrishnan	1597	L51	W103	W131	W45	W95	W20	W18	6.0
8	Michael Thomas	1693	W61	W54	W52	W15	D3	L2	W33	5.5
9	Kylan Naidoo	1671	W29	W41	W19	D34	W32	L3	W40	5.5
10	Satya G Holla	1596	W12	W85	W104	L1	W39	W50	D16	5.5
11	Jesus Guillen Jr	1717	W66	W23	L36	W27	W34	D33	W32	5.5

There were 87 participants in the **Middle School JV U900** Championship. Four players: **Noah Barnard, Matthew Ring, Hector Moreno** and **Emiliano Perez** shared the top position with a score of 6.0/7.0. Below are the results from the Top 8 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Noah Barnard	843	W48	W19	W11	W27	W9	L2	W13	6.0
2	Matthew Ring	772	W52	W53	W28	W25	W4	W1	L3	6.0
3	Hector Moreno	871	W68	L50	W37	W21	W12	W26	W2	6.0
4	Emiliano Perez	803	X81	W82	W50	W26	L2	W25	W16	6.0
5	Emmanuel Rojo	769	W36	W51	L25	W10	D17	W42	W15	5.5
6	Jacob Rodriguez	800	W86	W30	L27	W46	D8	W17	W18	5.5
7	Ethan Noriega	851	W29	W58	W15	L9	W30	W18	Н	5.5
8	Kevin Sun	576	L20	W80	W61	W38	D6	W40	W28	5.5

There were 42 participants in the **Middle School Novice U600** Championship. Two players: **Leo Gonzalez** and **Brandon Cabellero** shared the top position with a score of 6.0/7.0. Below are the results from the Top 8 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Leo Gonzalez	unr.	W9	W35	W24	W6	W12	W5	L2	6.0
2	Brandon Caballero	unr.	W29	L8	W21	W24	W17	W11	W1	6.0
3	Armondo Cruz	534	D11	W10	W16	W13	L5	W19	W6	5.5
4	Lirio Gomez	unr.	L24	W25	W28	W35	D11	W9	W13	5.5
5	Khari Muhammad	482	W30	W15	W14	L12	W3	L1	W11	5.0
6	Carson Sager	unr.	W25	W18	W33	L1	W15	W12	L3	5.0
7	Aaron Zhao Chen	unr.	W13	L24	W18	L17	W33	W14	W12	5.0
8	Ricky Byrd	556	W37	W2	L12	L11	W34	W24	W15	5.0

The Top Middle School Team was Sharyland North Junior High from Sharyland with a score of 19.5.

The Top Middle School JV U900 Team was H. Garcia Middle School from Helotes with a score of 21.0.

	Code	Name
1	SHARNJ	Sharyland North Junior High - Sharyland - Cnt: 11
		Miguel Garcia 6.0
		Strauss Bourdon 5.0
		Joshua Cuanang 4.5
		Jorge Hernandez 4.5

	Code	Name
1	HGARCA	H Garcia MS - Helotes - Cnt: 4
		Matthew Ring 6.0
		Ethan Noriega 5.5
		Kevin Sun 5.5
		Nadia Abdulbaki 4.0

The Top Middle School Novice U600 Team was Hendersson MS from El Paso with a score of 21.5.

	Code	Name
1	EPHEND	Henderson MS - El Paso - Cnt: 9
		Leo Gonzalez 6.0
		Brandon Caballero 6.0
		Lirio Gomez 5.5
		Chris Carmona 4.0

There were 238 participants in the **Elementary** Championship. **Rohun Trakru** won the Championship and was undefeated with a perfect score of 7.0/7.0 Below are the results from the Top 11 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Rohun Trakru	1827	BABNVD	W105	W27	W35	W17	W14	W3	W2	7.0
2	Andrew S Mao	1851		W52	W30	W46	W6	W5	W4	L1	6.0
3	CM Cole Frutos	1971	DSTJON	W40	W70	W34	W10	W11	L1	W19	6.0
4	Anish Vivekananthan	1952	HMEMDR	W132	W79	W22	W24	W7	L2	W8	6.0
5	Carlos Deleon	1489	HHUSTN	W84	W37	W63	W20	L2	W31	W25	6.0
6	Nikhil Hakeem	1422	SLDRAB	W42	W73	W71	L2	W38	W30	W26	6.0
7	Sreenevash Ramesh	1646	SABASN	W78	W26	W94	W21	L4	W46	W23	6.0
8	Diego Costa	1742	BHUDSN	W65	W162	W69	W29	W19	W13	L4	6.0
9	Adolfo Balderas Jr	1750	BHUDSN	W97	W28	W62	D13	W47	D12	W17	6.0
10	David Lecheng Fu	1455	HBEARD	W38	W53	W64	L3	W82	W28	W20	6.0
11	William McNutt	1737	SBCASI	W98	W66	W68	W23	L3	W22	W29	6.0

There were 162 participants in the **Elem JV U800** Championship. Two Players: **Dominic Kaczor and Jeffrey Wang** shared the top position with a score of 6.5/7.0. Below are the results from the Top 12 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Dominic Kaczor	644	SARLNG	W82	W17	W89	W14	W32	D3	W13	6.5
2	Jeffrey Wang	770	SAKEYS	W86	W61	W40	W45	W42	W13	D4	6.5
3	Grace Xu	711	HBEARD	W31	W26	W138	W6	D4	D1	W16	6.0
4	Isabella Castillo	791	HSTUPL	W90	W59	W44	W9	D3	W14	D2	6.0
5	Larry Edward Bolt	750	HSTANT	W7	L9	W110	W35	W60	W18	W15	6.0
6	Keith Biteng	647	EIDQST	W10	W65	W92	L3	W55	W17	W34	6.0
7	Miguel Lozano II	652	LFLYES	L5	W133	W154	W91	W21	W43	W20	6.0
8	Josue D Ochoa	682	BGNPRK	L33	W156	W159	W124	W92	W41	W19	6.0
9	Xen D Morrow	595	SARLNG	W100	W5	W53	L4	W25	D12	W37	5.5
10	Evan Noriega	741	HBEARD	L6	W98	W76	W22	W54	W48	Н	5.5
11	Diego A Garza	644	SHARYE	X	W67	W47	L13	D34	W77	W53	5.5
12	Deanndra Martinez	688	EBETTS	L47	W84	W130	W134	W93	D9	W32	5.5

There were 79 participants in the **Elem Novice U500** Championship. **Carlos E Arteaga** won the Championship with a score of 6.5/7.0. Below are the results from the Top 5 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Carlos E Arteaga	491	EBETTS	W36	W18	W17	D5	W10	W2	W7	6.5
2	Joshua Comisky	498	HSTALB	W51	W15	W16	W8	W9	L1	W5	6.0
3	Ian Lindsay	287	BSTMRY	W70	W35	W23	W7	L5	W13	W6	6.0
4	Phillip Zevallos	279	SARLNG	W46	W26	L5	W48	W8	W19	W16	6.0
5	Edward Ming Bao	442	SAVNRN	W31	W25	W4	D1	W3	W12	L2	5.5

# The Top **Elementary** Team was **Hudson Elem** from **Brownsville** with a score of **22.5**.

The Top Elem JV U800 Team was R. Langley Elem from San Antonio with a score of 21.0.

	Code	Name
1	BHUDSN	Hudson Elem - Brownsville - Cnt: 17
		Adolfo Balderas Jr 6.0
		Diego Costa 6.0
		Ana Balderas 5.5
		Ryan Macias 5.0

	Score	Name
1	SARLNG	R Langley Elem - San Antonio - Cnt: 5
		Dominic Kaczor 6.5
		Xen D Morrow 5.5
		Julian R Cardenas 5.0
		Julian M Vega 4.0

# The Top **Elem Novice U500** Team was **Betts Elem** from **Edinburg** with a score of **18.5**.

	Code	Name							
1	EBETTS	Betts Elem - Edinburg - Cnt: 4							
		Carlos E Arteaga 6.5							
		Joshua A Martinez 5.0							
		Rodolfo Garza IV 4.5							
		Christopher Rodriguez Jr 2.5							

There were 147 participants in the **Primary** Championship. **Minh The Pham** won the Championship with a score of 6.5/7.0. Below are the results from the Top 8 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Minh The Pham	1342	ARUTDG	W56	W23	W90	W13	D5	W7	W9	6.5
2	Vinh The Pham	1373	ARUTDG	W25	W40	W10	W16	W9	D3	D5	6.0
3	Arthur Tao	1446	HTHROG	W95	W17	W18	W14	D7	D2	W12	6.0
4	Jeason Chen	1184	SAMMAY	W24	W19	W74	L9	W10	W13	W14	6.0
5	Joaquin Razo	1442	SHARYE	W46	W41	W38	W12	D1	W20	D2	6.0
6	Eric Zou	1250	SAVNRN	W28	L38	W112	W92	W19	W22	W16	6.0
7	Kevin Zhou	1343	LFRNVD	W44	W22	W88	X27	D3	L1	W21	5.5
8	Hubert Lu	1180	HTHROG	W54	L10	W117	W49	W38	D11	W32	5.5

There were 122 participants in the **Primary JV U700** Championship. **Isaiah E. Rivera** won the Championship with a score of 6.5/7.0. Below are the results from the Top 11 participants.

#	Name	Rtng	Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Isaiah E Rivera	682	MWERNK	W68	W19	D59	W32	W2	W22	W3	6.5
2	Dave Philips	601	ECANTR	W65	W53	W15	W5	L1	W36	W13	6.0
3	Joaquin Sinks	699	SARLNG	W72	W13	W20	W34	W31	W4	L1	6.0
4	Raul Sanchez	662	BBBRIT	W66	W61	W51	W14	W12	L3	W7	6.0
5	Leonel Zavala	510	LFLYES	W87	W52	W48	L2	W23	W34	W16	6.0
6	Kellen Wang	636	HWLCHS	W95	W63	L26	W43	W40	W17	W18	6.0
7	Clarissa L Lozano	557	LFLYES	W86	W77	W16	D22	W38	W9	L4	5.5
8	Avaneesh Parasnis	491	HBBUSH	W110	W44	D9	W27	L22	W28	W25	5.5
9	Rafael Cantu	596	SBSULL	W120	W39	D8	W37	W59	L7	W24	5.5
10	Ricky Salazar	417	SBSULL	L74	W93	W44	W50	W15	D25	W31	5.5
11	Shadrack Aleman	676	MRHINO	L103	W117	D47	W73	W37	W59	W22	5.5

There were 163 participants in the K-1 Championship. Luis Miramontes won the Championship and was undefeated with a perfect score of 7.0/7.0

#	Name	Rtng	Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot
1	Luis Miramontes	1295	SBGARZ	W93	W32	W11	W14	W3	W2	W4	7.0

# The Top **Primary** Team was **Houston Ele** from **Harlingen** with a score of **19.5**.

	Code	Name
1	HHUSTN	Houston Ele - Harlingen - Cnt: 9
		Michael Casas 5.0
		Massimo Meneses 5.0
		Izabel Vasquez 5.0
		Alvaro Nieto 4.5

# The Top **Primary JV U700** Team was **Las Yescas Elem** from **San Benito** with a score of **21.5.**

	Code	Name
1	LFLYES	Las Yescas Elem - San Benito - Cnt: 6
		Leonel Zavala 6.0
		Clarissa L Lozano 5.5
		Jasmine N Rivera 5.0
		Clarissa Cantu 5.0

The Top K-1 Team was Hudson Elem from Brownsville with a score of 22.0.

	Code	Name
1	BHUDSN	Hudson Elem - Brownsville - Cnt: 13
		Felix Saldivar Jr 6.0
		Gael Gonzalez 5.5
		Juan P Blanco 5.5
		Violet Uviedo 5.0



## **Texas SW Collegiate Championships 2015**

For additional information see http://dallaschess.com/2015%20Texas%20Scholastic/swc15.htm

There were 11 participants in the **SW Collegiate Championship**. **FM Guillermo Vazquez** won the championship with a score of 3.5/4.0. Below are all of the participant results.

#	Place	Name	Rtng	Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Tot
1	1	FM Guillermo Vazquez	2508	BUTB	W3	W5	W6	D4	3.5
2	2-3	WIM Daniela De La Parra	1936	BUTB	W4	D7	D5	W6	3.0
3		Joshua Garza	1936	EUPANM	L1	W11	W10	W8	3.0
4	4	WIM Aura Salazar	2226	BUTB	L2	W9	W7	D1	2.5
5	5-9	Armando Cortez	1995	BUTB	W11	L1	D2	D7	2.0
6		Jeffrey Serna	2097	BUTB	W9	W8	L1	L2	2.0
7		Simon Vasquez III	2080	BUTB	W10	D2	L4	D5	2.0
8		Jason P Palker	691	EUPANM	В	L6	W11	L3	2.0
9		Bjorn Reyes	1513	EUPANM	L6	L4	В	W10	2.0
10	10-11	Jaime Rios	1042	EUPANM	L7	В	L3	L9	1.0
11		Robert Farias	unr.	EUPANM	L5	L3	L8	В	1.0

The Top SW Collegiate Team was **Univ. of TX at Brownsville** from **Brownsville** with a score of **11.0.** 

	Code	Name			
1	BUTB	Univ. of TX at Brownsville			
		FM Guillermo Vazquez 3.5			
		WIM Daniela De La Parra 3.0			
		WIM Aura Salazar 2.5			
		Jeffrey Serna 2.0			
		Armando Cortez 2.0			
		Simon Vasquez III 2.0			

## **USCF TOP PLAYERS - March 2015**

Overall		Age 18 (cont.)		Age 13 (cont.)	
8 Onischuk, Alexander	2747	52 Xiang, Ellen	2029	57 Sonawane, Athary P	1946
16 Ramirez, Alejandro	2677	60 Johnson, Perry Vishal	1999	71 Jiang, Maxwell	1902
20 Moradiabadi, Elshan	2653	72 Yang, Sylvia Siyuan	1938	77 Dong, Dylan Roswell	1881
22 Macieja, Bartlomiej	2646	98 Berry, Fletcher James	1871	83 Verma, Ritik	1873
26 Kritz, Leonid	2639	,,		84 Kao, Camille Y	1871
30 Sadorra, Julio C	2626	Age 17		92 Reza, Maverick	1850
31 Yotov, Valentin L	2624	16 Jiang, Austin Z	2270	92 Eliezer, Segev	1850
39 Hernandez, Holden	2612	17 Pamatmat, Jarod John M	2265	95 Eranki, S M S Chaitanya	1847
39 Margvelashvili, Giorgi	2612	18 Ng, Daniel J	2253	99 Yu, Ray	1836
49 Berczes, David	2602	48 Jiang, Alexander D	2105	•	
49 Gorovets, Andrey	2602	48 Lu, Tommy	2105	Age 12	
63 Yang, Darwin	2577	73 Munoz, Claudia E	2035	20 Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2070
67 Xiong, Jeffery	2571	95 Kaliyur, Rohith	1990	28 Frutos, Chase	1966
85 Drozdowski, Kacper	2541			34 Palang, Warren Jesse	1955
97 Cornejo, Max	2524	Age 16		36 Liu, Kevin	1942
99 Li, Ruifeng	2523	24 Han, Curran	2230	38 Fan, William G	1931
		29 Malhotra, Akshay	2215	39 Buergler, Jacob Bede	1927
Age 65 and Over		42 Shao, Andy	2142	48 Srivatsav, Aadarsh	1852
29 Simms, Gary	2215	57 Kowal, Joshua Adam	2075	49 Tsuei, Kai	1847
37 Crispin, Thomas A	2200	71 Wlezien, Alexander	2035	67 Huo, Rannon	1813
58 Sutherland, Don C	2179	74 Jacob, Andrew	2024	74 Wang, Jason	1802
89 Chase, Stephen M	2061	78 Brannon, Joshua Scott	2018	78 Rose, Samuel Edward	1792
92 Mapes, Robert L	2054	86 Xiang, Evan	1988	81 Tian, Samuel Walter	1784
		92 Shan, Devan	1976	84 Li, David C	1779
Age 50 and Over		92 Annigeri, Sanjay	1976	88 Le, Collin Khoi	1772
31 Milovanovic, Rade	2376			94 Liu, Glen	1760
32 Bradford, Joseph Mark	2374	Age 15		13 Roach, Andrew	2144
50 Rios, Adrian	2302	6 Chiang, Jonathan	2344		
62 Hayward, Keith R	2267	8 Lin, Dachey	2315	Age 11	
69 Simms, Gary	2261	17 Vaidya, Atulya	2233	10 Gu, Brian Fanyuan	2094
		27 Lu, Andrew H	2201	26 Hawthorn, Charles	1923
Under Age 21		32 Obili, Abhishek Reddy	2182	36 Yan, Austin K	1866
5 Yang, Darwin	2577	42 Nguyen, Duy Minh	2114	39 Mao, Andrew Sun-Rong	1851
6 Xiong, Jeffery	2571			43 Ganesh, Anirudh	1846
7 Drozdowski, Kacper	2541	Age 14		44 Narang, Ijay	1843
10 Li, Ruifeng	2523	2 Xiong, Jeffery	2571	49 Nguyen, Dang Minh	1820
54 Chiang, Jonathan	2344	10 He, Tommy O	2300	54 Bandi, Rohit Choudary	1805
69 Lin, Dachey	2315	31 Capocyan, Sam Lander Cabre		69 Lu, Jonathan	1763
76 Shao, Bob	2301	41 Nguyen, Anthony Quan	2105	74 Balderas, Adolfo Augusto, Jr	1750
77 He, Tommy O	2300	54 Hsieh, David	2051	77 Costa, Diego	1742
90 Chiang, Sarah	2278	67 Nguyen, Khoa Minh	2008		
97 Jiang, Austin Z	2270	89 Premkumar, Hiren	1936	Age 10	
100 Pamatmat, Jarod John M	2265			5 Metpally, Jason	2052
		Age 13		13 Frutos, Cole Nicholas	1971
Age 18		1 Li, Ruifeng	2523	15 Vivekananthan, Anish	1952
1 Yang, Darwin	2577	6 Liu, Bovey	2235	25 Wang, Yanke	1900
2 Drozdowski, Kacper	2541	13 Xie, Tianming	2158	27 Hung, Daniel	1890
12 Chiang, Sarah	2278	28 Krishna, Ram	2048	32 Eranki, S A Maruthi	1848
27 James, Dylan Scott	2122	41 Devagharan, Devina	1989	45 Shi, Eric	1788
30 Ukoli, James O	2104	45 Trakru, Priya Nikita	1975	46 Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1786
34 Leos, Christian Lee	2092	54 Kirumaki, Ronit	1948	49 Romo, Benjamin	1766

Age 10 (cont.)		Women		Blitz Overall	
55 Rajaram, Rudransh	1743	50 Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	2129	8 Onischuk, Alexander	2747
57 Wei, Alexander Gotuaco	1732	69 Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2070	16 Ramirez, Alejandro	2677
59 Niu, Baron T	1726	75 Munoz, Claudia E	2035	20 Moradiabadi, Elshan	2653
80 Yeung, Wesley	1663	77 Xiang, Ellen	2029	22 Macieja, Bartlomiej	2646
85 Ramesh, Sreenevash	1646	97 Devagharan, Devina	1989	26 Kritz, Leonid	2639
		98 Xiang, Evan	1988	30 Sadorra, Julio C	2626
Age 9				31 Yotov, Valentin L	2624
1 Wang, Justin	2068	Girls Under 21		39 Margvelashvili, Giorgi	2612
6 Vaidya, Atreya	1973	3 Chiang, Sarah	2278	39 Hernandez, Holden	2612
13 Hawthorn, Henry	1841	9 Salazar, Aura Cristina	2226	49 Berczes, David	2602
18 Zhu, Harvey	1783	28 Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2070	49 Gorovets, Andrey	2602
19 Oberoi, Shelev	1770	33 Munoz, Claudia E	2035	63 Yang, Darwin	2577
21 Mcnutt, William Howard	1737	34 Xiang, Ellen	2029	67 Xiong, Jeffery	2571
23 Ni, Maggie	1713	45 Devagharan, Devina	1989	85 Drozdowski, Kacper	2541
27 Kumarappan, Ganesh	1700	46 Xiang, Evan	1988	97 Cornejo, Max	2524
46 Ma, Albert Z	1584	49 Trakru, Priya Nikita	1975	99 Li, Ruifeng	2523
59 Wang, Harry	1537	57 Yang, Sylvia Siyuan	1938		
62 Casas, Michael	1520	59 Zhao, Annie	1931	Blitz Women	
66 Yue, Roy H	1516	81 Kao, Camille Y	1871	15 Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	2018
73 Xie, Mckinley	1487	84 Palang, Caissa	1865	21 Nguyen, Emily Quynh	1872
77 Thippireddy, Saketh	1476	89 Venkataraman, Madhumitha	1855	29 Trakru, Priya Nikita	1792
93 Tao, Arthur	1446			65 Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1522
95 Razo, Joaquin	1442	Girls Under 16		89 Vasquez, Angelica	1329
		3 Chiang, Sarah	2278		
Age 8		9 Salazar, Aura Cristina	2226		
4 Polavaram, Rithik Sai	1888	28 Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2070		
7 Trakru, Rohun	1827	33 Munoz, Claudia E	2035	Quick Overall	
16 Tang, Andrew	1734	34 Xiang, Ellen	2029	4 Onischuk, Alexander	2661
30 Patil, Vedant	1606	45 Devagharan, Devina	1989	31 Ramirez, Alejandro	2517
42 Yang, Benjamin	1487	46 Xiang, Evan	1988	71 Xiong, Jeffery	2384
61 Pham, Vinh The	1373	49 Trakru, Priya Nikita	1975	73 Milovanovic, Rade	2376
65 Ahmed, Kabir	1344	57 Yang, Sylvia Siyuan	1938	75 Bradford, Joseph Mark	2374
66 Zhou, Kevin	1343	59 Zhao, Annie	1931	0.11.11	
77 Hwang, William	1306	81 Kao, Camille Y	1871	Quick Women	2225
82 Gumbula, Saaj	1282	84 Palang, Caissa	1865	5 Foisor, Sabina-Francesca	2335
85 Jiang, Andrew	1278	89 Venkataraman, Madhumitha	1855	7 Chiang, Sarah	2263
90 Wan, Audrey X	1265	Cirle Hades 12		11 Salazar, Aura Cristina	2189 2040
100 Aung, Christopher	1237	Girls Under 13 5 Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2070	20 Labedz, Patrycja Anna 24 Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	
Age 7 and Under		20 Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1786	33 Devagharan, Devina	1971
2 Capocyan, John Patrick	1703	32 Ni, Maggie	1713	38 Munoz, Claudia E	1947
29 Miramontes, Luis	1295	58 Dadwal, Saanvi	1529	43 Niemi, Nicole Elizabeth	1900
30 Jiang, Eileen	1288	64 Uppuluri, Anuja	1507	44 Trakru, Priya Nikita	1894
32 Nguyen, Sebastian Thien	1283	78 Cedillo Bocanegra, Ana Karen		49 Yang, Sylvia Siyuan	1889
66 Li, Rachael	1112	81 Yi, Angela	1408	55 Zhao, Annie	1879
68 Pathak, Rudransh	1104	86 Cheng, Angela	1393	70 Xiang, Evan	1818
72 Kunka, Harshid	1083	90 Kao, Simona Y	1381	87 Nguyen, Emily Quynh	1769
74 Gonzalez, Gael Nicolas	1079	99 Dodd, Ariadne	1368	89 Xiang, Ellen	1766
75 Lau, Ignatius	1073	33 Dodd, Alladic	1300	91 Venkataraman, Madhumitha	
79 Raghuraja, Sri Avishkar	1061			52 Termataraman, maanaminin	2,00
93 Dodd, Circe	1015				
•					

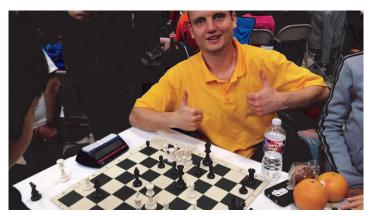
95 Jin, Tony

## The Region VI Scholastic Chess Championship - by JP Hyltin

This year's edition of the Region 6 Scholastic Chess Championships was a rousing success on every level. First, there was the attendance number. As a TD, I can imagine the emotions felt by Lori Balkum and Gary Gaiffe as the early registration total topped 600. Likely there was a scramble to check if they had enough of everything – space, trophies, TDs, volunteers, chess sets, chess clocks, notation sheets, information sheets, concessions, and caffeinated beverages. Fortunately, these 2 have and endless supply of resourcefulness and patience.

Gary and Lori have become such a team, they didn't just cross the finish line of preparedness, they danced right through the tape! I'm referring to the coup they pulled off, securing an all day visit from Grandmaster Timur Gareeev. He played 5 minute games, blind fold games, signed books and at the end of a very long day, he presented the trophies.

As I was already bringing a high school team of 10, Lori asked if I would help direct a section of the event, and I readily agreed. I was a little concerned for my team, but this year I have a much more involved group of team parents who made the trip and provided support. Still, I had to dash back from the tournament room to our team table after round 1 to check on them, and was surprised to find Timur Gareev there, playing 5 minute with several assembled youth. Apparently, as he arrived, the GM walked in and sat down there across from Nathan Valdez, one of my players at our table. Nathan, not aware of who he was and bored from his first round bye, challenged him to a game. A quick game ended as one other of my players arrived after a quick game, and he challenged the winner. They realized he was pretty good, but only after a fair group gathered to watch did the guys suspect this was no random adult. When I got there, Nathan asked, and it was hard not to laugh. Timur spent several minutes with my team giving them encouragement.



The section I directed was the Elementary Novice for players under a 300 rating. As I was about 2 days post recovery from the flu, I asked Lori if there was anyone available to help, and she came up with fellow San Antonio directory Robert Green. He pretty much did it all as I nodded approvingly and tried to look useful. In one such moment, a no show left a young lady forlornly waiting out the 30 minute forfeit time, and being a sucker for such sadness, I made a few moves on her chess board. An entertaining game ensued, and I was really impressed by Imani Davis grasp of chess as such a young age.

She in fact notched 3 more wins to go with her first round forfeit victory, and only succumbed to section winner Athvait Manikantan in the last round after a rousing see-saw affair. Pictured here is Imani with her third place trophy, which I predict will likely have company very soon with many more to come.

### **High School Championship**

My John Jay High School team has had inconsistent results in Austin. I can proudly announce we broke that barrier with this event, although we were no match in the Championship division for the strong Westwood team, led by Andrew Lu's 4 points. While Andrew did not play the last round, his performance was enough to put him over the magic 2200 rating line, bestowing on him the USCF title of chess master. He finished second in the section to team mate Rohith Kaliyur who also had 4.



Andrew was kind enough to provide these to games, presented with his annotations.

#### Rohith Kaliyur (1986) – Andrew Lu (2194)

This game was absolutely vital for me. If I won, I would cross 2200 and become a National Master. Losing or drawing would have lost rating. 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 b5 5.cxb5!? 5.Bg5 is the natural move in this line. 5...exd5 6.e3 Be7 7.g4?! My opponent is famous for his opening prowess and creativity, but this move certainly took it too far!



7...Bb7 8.g5 Ne4 9.h4 0-0 10.Nc3 Nxc3 11.bxc3 d4?! This move hurried the pace of the game too early. 11...a6 was a better continuation, taking advantage of White's weaknesses. 12.cxd4 cxd4 13.Bg2 Bb4+ 14.Bd2 Bxd2+ 15.Qxd2 dxe3 16.fxe3

The position is equal here.



16...Qb6? This allows White to become active. 16...a6! 17.bxa6 Rxa6 was a much better option, retaining a slight advantage.17.Nd4 d6 18.a4 Bxg2 19.Qxg2 Nd7 20.0–0 Ne5 21.Rac1 Rac8 22.Rxc8 Rxc8 If anyone is better now, it's White.



23.Qd5?! Surprisingly, this move throws away White's edge in this position. The main reason for that is because it allows a queen trade which favors Black. 23.Nf5 Qc7 24.Qd5 Rd8 25.Qd4 is a better attempt at activity, whereas Black faces an arduous task of defending. 23...Qc5 24.Qxc5 dxc5 25.Rf5?! 25.Rc1 25...f6! 26.gxf6 gxf6 Black can claim the better practical chances here. 27.Rxf6? An unwarranted knight sac that hands over the advantage to Black. 27.Ne2 would have been okay.



27...cxd4 28.exd4 Nf7 29.Ra6 Rc7 30.b6? Now Black has a realistic attempt at winning. White should have brought his king to the center instead.
30...axb6 31.Rxb6 Rc4 32.a5 Rxd4 33.a6 Ra4
33...Rxh4? 34.a7 Ra4 35.Rb8+ Kg7 36.a8Q Rxa8
37.Rxa8= 34.h5 Kg7 35.Kf2 Ne5 36.Rb7+ Kh6 37.a7
Ra3 38.Ke2 Ng4 39.Kd2? 39.Rf7!! The only way to draw, preventing what Black did in the game.



39...Nf6 40.Kc2 Kxh5 41.Kb2 Ra6 42.Kb3 Kg6 43.Kb4 h5 The h-pawn proves to be more dangerous than the a-pawn. 44.Kb5 Ra1 45.Kb6 h4 46.Rb8? Nd7+ 47.Kb7 Rxa7+ 48.Kxa7 Nxb8 49.Kxb8 h3 Black won in 11 more moves. 0–1



Andrew Lu (2194) – Alexander Quach (1780)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6

6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 a6 8.Qd2 b5!? This pawn push signals the start of the "Dragondorf Variation", as coined by my coach, FM Mike Feinstein. Black opts for quick play against White's castled queenside in exchange for allowing pressure on the kingside or center.



**9.a3?!** This move might not have been necessary. 9.a4! b4 10.Nd5 Nxd5 11.exd5 Bb7 12.Bc4 White has a positional plus. **9...Bb7 10.0–0–0 Nbd7 11.g4 Rc8 12.h4** Alternatively, White has a plan involving playing g5 and forcing the knight offside. **12...h5?** Black forces his own knight into passivity and gifts White with free play in the center.



12...Ne5 13.Bh6 (13.h5? Nxf3! 14.Nxf3 Nxe4 15.Nxe4 Bxe4μ) 13...Bxh6 14.Qxh6 Qa5 15.Qe3 h5 This gives Black much more chances than in the game. 13.g5 Nh7 14.Bh3 White already has a close -to-winning advantage. 14...Rb8 Black is struggling to activate his knights. **15.f4 Nc5 16.Bg2?!** 16.f5! A much better continuation. White launches a massive attack before his opponent can adequately respond. 16...Nxe4? 17.Nxe4 Bxe4 18.fxg6 Bxg6 19.Nc6+- 16...Qa5 17.Kb1?! Now White only has a slight advantage. 17.e5! 0-0 18.exd6 exd6 19.f5± **17...0–0 18.Rhe1** 18.e5!? **18...Na4?** Too slow. 18...b4! 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.exd5 Rfc8 keeps the balance. 21.Nc6?? Rxc6 22.dxc6 Bc3 23.Qe2 bxa3-+ 19.Nd5+- Qd8 20.f5 Bxd5 21.exd5 gxf5 22.Nxf5 b4 22...Nxb2 23.Nxg7 Nxd1 24.Bd4!+-; 22...Bxb2 23.Bd4 Bxd4 24.Qxd4 This is game over.



23.Nxg7 Nc3+ 24.Ka1 Nxd1 25.Bd4! bxa3
26.Rxd1?! 26.Nf5 f6 27.Rxe7 ends the game imme-

diately. 26...axb2+ 27.Kb1 Qc7 28.Nf5 f6 29.g6
Winning the knight that was stranded 16 moves
ago and hasn't moved since. 29...Ng5 30.hxg5 fxg5
31.Nh6# 1–0



This game is an example of my mixed allegiances, seeing one of my private lessons students, Barret Odom of San Antonio Christian, square off with John Jay's top player, Blake Herrera, with the winner earning the 4<sup>th</sup> place trophy.

## Barret Odom (1547) – Blake Herrera (1687)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Be7 7.Bd3 Nc6 8.0-0 0-0 9.h3 Ne5 10.Nxe5 dxe5 11.Bc4 Bf5 12.Bb3 a5 13.a4 c6 14.c4 Regretting his12th move, White compounds the error with a bad plan to remedy the badly place b3 Bishop. Bc5 15.c3 Bd3 16.Re1 e4 17.Be3 Qb6 18.Bc2 Rfd8 19.Bxc5 Qxc5 20.b3 Bxc4 21.Qg4 Bd3 22.Bxd3 exd3 23.Qc4 Black's d3 pawn creates enough chaos to expose the White queenside pawns to Black's Queen, so White hopes to trade the Queens. Qxc4 24.bxc4 Re8 25.Kf1 f5 26.Rxe8+ Rxe8 27.Re1 White correctly points out the K+P ending is drawn, but Black responds appropriately, securing the point. Re4 28.Rxe4 28. Rd1 would have offered more resistance. fxe4 29.Ke1 Kf7 30.Kd2 Ke6 31.Ke3 g5 32.f3 exf3 33.Kxf3 Ke5 34.Ke3 d2 35.Kxd2 Kf4 36.Ke2 Kg3 37.Kf1 c5 38.Kg1 Kf4 39.Kf2 h5 40.Ke2 Kg3 41.Kf1 Kh2 42.Kf2 g4 43.hxg4 hxg4 0-1

I can offer this game by the winner in the section.

Rohith Kaliyur (1986) – Ian Hernandez (943)

1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.d3 e6 6.Nbd2 Nge7 7.e4 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.Nh4 b6 10.f4 Ba6 11.Rf3 dxe4 12.dxe4 e5 13.f5 Na5 lan's mistake spoils a pretty good game. 14.f6 Bh6 15.fxe7 Qxe7 lan Hernandez (943) - Tejas Karuturi (1480) 16.Nb3 Bxc1 17.Qxc1 c4 18.Nxa5 Qc5+ 19.Kh1 Qxa5 20.Qh6 b5 21.g4 Qc7 22.Raf1 And white won in 48 moves. **1–0** 

San Antonio cross town rival Grant Weston won third place in this event.

Blake Herrera (1687) – Grant Weston (1604)

1.e4 d6 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Bc4 c5 4.f4 Nc6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.0-0 g6 7.d3 Bg7 8.Ne2 0-0 9.Qe1 Na5 10.Bb3 Nxb3 11.axb3 b5 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Rxf3 Qc7 14.c4 bxc4 15.bxc4 Rfb8 16.Ng3 White looks kingside, but

loses control of the queenside. Nd7 17.Rb1 Rb7 18.Qd1 Rab8 19.Rf2 Bd4 20.f5 Bxf2+ 21.Kxf2 Qa5 22.Bd2 Rxb2 23.Rxb2 Rxb2 24.Ke3 Qa2 25.fxg6 hxg6 26.h4 Ne5 27.h5 Rb3 0-1

This 500 point upset is worth noting.

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bg2 Be6 6.e3 Nc6 7.Nge2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.b3 Qd7 10.Bb2 Ncb4 11.d4 Nxc3 12.Bxc3 exd4 13.Nxd4 Bd5 "White to play and win". I didn't see it either, but I'll leave it as an exercise for the reader. 14.Ne2 Rad8 15.Bxd5 Nxd5 16.Qd4 Bf6 17.Qc4 Qe6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.Rad1 c6 20.Nf4 Nxf4 21.Qxf4 Qb2 22.Qc7 This game has been played above the listed ratings. White has broken through with good counter play, and the pressure extracts a mistake from Black. Qxa2 23.Rxd8 g6 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.Qd6+ Kg7 26.Qe5+ Kg8 27.Rd1 f6 28.Qxf6 1-0



The John Jay High School chess team from San Antonio took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the High School Championship section. Pictured are Zhiling Kang, Blake Herrera, and Ian Hernandez. Oh, and a random Super GM.

## **High School Varsity U1000**

I had 7 players in the High School Varsity section. Ramon Correa won the first 4, and I was sure he would win the event, but a last round loss pushed him to 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ashwin Kalidas beat him to win the section. Earlier in the year, we came to Austin and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the team standings to Garza Independence HS. We are pretty closely matched, and I look forward to the character building competition they offer. John Jay won this time, 13-11.



The John Jay High School chess team won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the High School Varsity section, U1000. Pictured here is Nouh Valenzuela, Nathan Valdez, Ramon Correa, Pierce Lux, Sarah Uhlig, Jacob Rodriguez, and Eben Ventura, with Grandmaster Timur Gareev.

A key contributor to that effort was Jacob Rodriguez.

Franklin Johnson (758) – Jacob Rodriguez (915)

1.Nf3 Nc6 2.d3 e5 3.Nbd2 Bc5 4.e3 d5 5.e4 Bg4 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nb3 Bb6 9.Ng5 Bxe2 10.Qxe2 h6 11.Nf3 dxe4 12.dxe4 Nd4 13.Nbxd4 exd4 14.Qd1 Nxe4 15.Re1 Re8 16.b3 d3 17.cxd3 Bxf2+ 18.Kf1 Bxe1 19.Nxe1 Nc3 20.Qc2 Qf6+ 21.Kg1 Ne2+ 22.Kh1 Qf1# 0-1

In the last round, Pierce Lux and Sarah Uhlig beat players from Garza to secure our first place team finish and break the Austin drought. At our next club meeting, I proclaimed them Hero for a Day. Here is a pleasing second round effort from Pierce.

### Pierce Lux (500) - Makena Owens (367)

1.d4 d5 2.e4 Nf6 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.f3 Earlier this year, I was gifted an onyx chess set by a well-meaning faculty member. I hit on the idea to use it as incentive for the team members to learn an opening. This is the one Pierce chose, though he had played it some before. g6 5.Bg5 Bg7 6.fxe4 Bg4 7.Qd2 0-0 8.e5 Nd5 9.Nxd5 Qxd5 10.Be2 f6 11.Bxg4 fxg5 12.0 -0-0 Nc6 13.Nf3 h5 After a few misses on both sides, White has a more tangible problem to solve, and you have to marvel at the imaginative solution Pierce found. 14.Be6+ Qxe6 15.d5 Qd7 16.dxc6 Qxc6 17.Nd4 Qe4 18.Ne6 Rf5 19.Nxg7 Kxg7 20.Rhe1 Qc6 21.Qd4 Qxg2 22.e6+ Rf6 23.Rf1 c5 24.Qc4 Rb8 25.Rxf6 Kxf6 26.Rf1+ Kg7 27.Qc3+ Kh7 Black misses the final opportunity to save the king with Kh6, and instead allows a mate. 28.Rf7+ Kg8 29.Qg7# 1-0

## Middle School Championship

Camille Kao won the Middle School Championship and provided this decisive game.

Khoa Minh Nguyen (2011) - Camille Kao (1881)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Nh6 6.a3 Nf5 7.b4 cxd4 8.cxd4 Bd7 9.Be2 b5 10. Bxb5 Nxd5 is a trick I hope all my own students know. 10.0–0 a5 11.bxa5 Nxa5 12.Nc3 Nc4 13.Bxc4 bxc4 14.Bb2 Be7 15.Qc2 0–0 16.a4 Qa5

17.Ra2 Bb4 18.Rfa1 Rfb8 This is the kind of position that illustrates some positions are just easier to play with 2 Bishops. 19.Ne2 h6 20.Bc3 Bxc3
21.Nxc3 Rb3 22.Nb5 Qb4 After this move, Black converts the advantage to a tangible material edge while retaining all the pressure. 23.h3 Bxb5
24.axb5 Rxa2 25.Rxa2 Qxb5 26.Ra8+ Kh7 27.Nh4 Under pressure, White blunders a piece deciding the game. Rb2 28.Qc3 Nxh4 29.g3 Nf5 30.g4 Nh4
31.Qg3 Ng6 32.g5 Qb3 33.Qg4 Qc2 34.Qf3 Qf5 0-1



Camille Kao with Timur Gareev

## **Elementary Championship**

This section was won by San Antonio's own, Benjamin Romo, winning on tie breaks over Ganesh Kumarappan. I did not have any of these games to present, but I was sent these pictures of Ganesh and his winning team from Laurel Mountain.





#### **Odds and Ends**

Allow me to show off a few more games from my private lessons students. I'll start with this quality game by Ray Zhang. He was a bit over-matched in the section, but performed admirably overall, scoring 3 points and placing among all the 4 digit rating players.

Jason Ren (1079) - Ray Zhang (830)
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.Nc3 Nf6
6.d3 Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.d4 exd4 9.Nxd4 Re8 10.Re1
Bg4 11.Nf3 Bb4 12.Bg5 h6 Instead, Qxd1 would
lead to winning a pawn. 13.Bh4 Qd6 14.e5 Qxd1
15.Raxd1 Nd5 16.Nxd5 A nice find by white to win
a pawn. Bxe1 17.Nxc7 Ba5 18.Nxa8 Rxa8 19.Rd3
Bxf3 20.Rxf3 Re8 21.Bg3 Bc7 22.Re3 g5 23.f4 f6
24.fxg5 hxg5 25.e6 Bb6 At least he saw it the second time. 26.Kf2 Bxe3+ 27.Kxe3 Rxe6+ 28.Kd3 b5
29.Bc7 Re7 30.Bb6 g4 31.b3 Rh7 32.Bg1 f5 33.c4
Rd7+ 34.Kc3 bxc4 35.Kxc4 Rd2 36.a4 Rxg2 37.Bd4

Rxh2 38.Kc5 g3 39.Be5 Rc2+ 40.Kb6 g2 41.Bh2 Rc1 42.a5 g1Q+ 43.Bxg1 Rxg1 44.Kxa6 Rb1 45.Kb6 Rxb3+ 46.Kxc6 Rb8 47.a6 f4 48.a7 Ra8 49.Kb7 Rxa7+ 50.Kxa7 f3 0-1

Austin Quitta is another of my students, and came in 2nd in the Primary JV U500 section. He turned in this fine effort.

Unknown - Austin Quitta (416)
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bg4 5.Nc3 Nc6
6.h3 Bh5 7.Be3 Qd7 8.Qd2 Be7 9.g4 Bg6 10.0-0-0
0-0-0 11.Nh2 h5 12.g5 Nh7 13.h4 f6 14.Nf3 Rdf8
15.d4 exd4 16.Nxd4 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 b6 18.Qd5 Kb8
19.Bb5 Qd8 20.Rd4 Bf7 21.Qc6 Be8 22.Qc4 Bxb5
23.Qxb5 c6 24.Qe2 fxg5 25.hxg5 Nxg5 and the notation stops here, but Austin said he thinks this is what happened. 26.Rxh5 Nf3 27.Rxh8 Nxd4
28.Rxf8 Nxe2+ and after saving his queen, Black won. 0-1

#### What's Next?

The city of Austin has definitely thrown down the gauntlet, coming out in force for this event. But San Antonio obviously contributed a fair contingent of players, and took home a lot of hardware. Still, the large turnout made me question the sanity of the TD who would try to bid for this event next year. Can we do as well? I hope we find out, as a bid was being offered to bring the event to San Antonio next year as well. We in San Antonio think it only fair to alternate the venue as long as both cities offer accommodations capable of supporting the event and continuing the tradition. Where ever the next chapter of this story is written, this event now joins the ranks of the most prestigious events in the region.

Let the games begin!



## Bloopers of Chess - by Dan Hronchek and FM Seth Homa

Imagine GM Pal Benko standing in front of a room full of spectators while analyzing a game by an amateur chess player who played white against the Benko opening. Nothing could go wrong there...

I was not present at the event, but I heard second hand that the question went something like this: "I don't think this opening is sound... actually, I think it is pretty bad?" asked the amateur who didn't know the name of the opening or that it matched the name of the man standing in front of him.

The bloopers that happen in chess games also come from vital missing bits of information. Those of us, "in the know," snicker a little, but hopefully handle those moments with the same class as Mr. Benko. Give the moment a little frown and move on.

The below game was submitted by Fide Master Seth Homa who recently competed in the Fide Open in Dallas. Seth is playing the black pieces against a strong club player, Greg Bailey.

#### The notes are written by FM Seth Homa:

- 1. b3 Is this a bad move? Not really. White will still be fighting for the central squares after 2. Bb2.
- 1. ...e5
- 2. Bb2
- 2. ...Nc6
- 3. c4 White is fighting for the d5-square.
- 3. ...Nf6
- 4. e3
- 4. ...d5 The strategic principle in question is piece development.
- 5. Nf3 Now he has two attackers on my e5-pawn.
- 5. ...e4 Grabbing space and forcing the white knight to move again.
- 6. cxd5 White says, "If you take my knight, I'll take yours on c6!"

- 6. ...Qxd5 rapidly developing the pieces.
- 7. Nd4 Bad would be (7. Bxf6 exf3 8. Bb2 fxg2 with a fork and winning lots of material.
- 7... Bd7 Notice how I try my best to develop a piece with every move. In the opening, I do not want to waste time.
- 8. Nc3 Attacking my queen. Where is the best place for her to retreat?
- 8. ...Qg5 Pro Tip: In the opening, there are three things
- 8. ...Qg5 Pro Tip: In the opening, there are three things you should always try to do: 1) Attack the center, 2) Develop as fast as possible, and 3) Try to prevent your opponent from developing. My move prevents white from developing his f1-bishop.

- Ncb5 White is violating one of our basic "opening rules." He continues to move the same pieces more than once!
- 9. ...Bd6 I protect my weak pawn and develop yet another piece! Now I have 5 pieces in the game to White's 3 pieces. I would like to have castled, but there was a problem: 9... O-O-O 10. Nxc6 Bxc6 11. Nxa7+ Not good! Also bad was 9... Rc8 10. Nxc6 Bxc6 11. Nxa7 with a fork.
- 10. Nxd6+
- 10. ...cxd6
- 11. Nb5 The blooper moment begins as Greg prepares to grab a pawn he doesn't know something or has maybe forgotten something that I know!

- 11. ...O-O I sacrifice a pawn!! Why?? Pro Tip: In the opening, sometimes a lead in development is MORE IMPORTANT than material. This is one of those times.
- 12. Nxd6 White is up a clean extra pawn I am not going to get it back!
- 12. ...Nb4 The opening is over we're 12 moves into the game and Black's pieces are developed actively.
- 13. Bxf6 Greg makes a critical mistake. He thought he was winning a second pawn but missed a tactic. The idea behind 12. Nb4 can be better seen after 13. Nc4 Nd3+ 14. Bxd3 Qxg2 an "Inbetween" move. Instead of naturally capturing the bishop, I would take a pawn and threaten the rook. I'll take the bishop next after 15. Rf1 and have a huge advantage.
- 13... Qxf6
- 14. Nxe4 White is up two pawns for now.
- 14... Nxc2
- 15. Qxc2
- 15. ...Qxa1+ This was the point the white queen no longer protected the rook on a1.
- 16. Ke2 An understandable mistake. White doesn't want to lose material! However, his bishop cannot get out and neither can his rook! Development is more important than material again! He could have tried 16. Qd1 This

loses the a pawn, but then he can play on with Bd3 and 0-0.

- 16... Bb5+
- 17. d3
- 17. ...Rac8 Pro Tip: When you are attacking, try to include as many pieces into the attack as possible. Your chances of getting a checkmate go way up!
- 18. Qd2
- 18. ...Rfd8
- 19. Kf3 This sad move was almost forced. At least the d3-pawn is protected now, right?
- 19. ...Bxd3 Wrong! The white bishop is pinned.
- 20. Bxd3 White pretty much had to do this or else I would have played ...Bxf1 winning more material.
- 20. ...Qxh1 Munch, munch!
- 21. Ng5 Qxh2 Black is up 4 points in material. This is enough to win.
- 22. Qe2
- 22. ...Qh5+
- 23. Kf4
- 23. ...Qxe2 Pro Tip: When you are up in material, trade pieces. The endgame will be easily winning for me with 4 extra points. I could also have kept the queens on the board and tried to checkmate. Both options were good.
- 24. Bxe2
- 24....h6

- 25. Nf3
- 25. ...Rc2 Winning MORE material.
- 26. Bc4
- 26. ...Rxf2 Munch, munch.
- 27. Kg3
- 27. ...Rxa2
- 28. Ne5
- 28. ...Rdd2
- 29. Bxf7+
- 29. ...Kf8
- 30. Bc4
- 30. ...Rxg2+
- 31. Kf3
- 31. ...Raf2+
- 32. Ke4
- 32. ...h5 Black has eaten a lot of pawns. I did this so I could create a passed pawn that would turn into a new queen. White gave up as he saw my h5-pawn intended to run all the way. 0-1

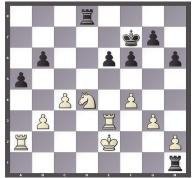


## **Tactics Time!**

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



1. Rob Haskell—Trung Nguyen Texas Amateur 2002 Black to Move



2. Jeff Chrumka—Joey Rigol Texas Amateur 2002 Black to Move



3. Randall Schwartz—Gene Pershwitz Texas Amateur 2002 White to Move



4. Christopher Dooley—Larry Young Texas Amateur 2002 Black to Move



**5.** Brandon Ware—B G Dennison *Texas Amateur* 2002 White to Move



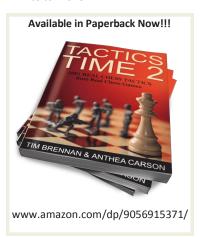
6. Mark McCue—Jeffrey Sneden
Texas Amateur 2002
White to Move



**7.** William Molina—Robert Clark Texas Amateur 2002 White to Move



8. Chris Campbell—Larry Young
Texas Amateur 2002
Black to Move



#### Tactics Time! Answers

- 12...Nde5 (or 12...Nce5) forks the White bishop and queen. 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Qg3 Nxd3+ 15.Kf1 Nxb2 and Black has won two pawns, and prevented White from castling.
- 2. Black missed a skewer with 35...Rxh2+ 36.Kf3 Rxa2
- 3. 38.Rxc6 overloads the Black king 38...Kxc6 39.Qxe6
- 4. 18...Bg4 skewers the rooks.
- **37.Ng5!!** Attacks the f7 knight for a second time, and threatens Ne6 forking the king and queen. The knight cannot be captured because of **37...Nxg5 38.Qf8#**
- **6. 36.Qd4+** forks the king and rook
- 17.Qg5 attacks the hanging black knight on h5. If 17...Qxg5 18. hxg5 with a discovered attack from the rook, and the knight has no safe squares.
- **8. 24...Qxd4** forks the white king and rook.

**Cover. 10...Bxc3+** wins a piece. The b-pawn is pinned.

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## **Upcoming Events**

#### LATE APRIL 2015

APR. 7-28 Center64: Tuesday Swiss

Info: http://www.uschess.org/tlas/5437.tla

APR. 11 Heritage Park Open

Info: http://www.uschess.org/tlas/5561.tla

APR. 11 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

APR. 18 Ed Gurukul K-12 Spring Classic

Info: http://www.uschess.org/tlas/5544.tla

APR. 18 Annual Red River Shoot Out XIII

Info: Tom Crane at tcrane5000@gmail.com or 817-296-4287.

APR. 18 Kingsville Chess Academy Game 70 Open Championships IV

Info: (361) 455-3682, edrios54@hotmail.com

APR. 18-19 2015 DCC Fide Open V

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

APR. 25 DFW All Girls/All Boys K-12 Championships

Info: http://www.uschess.org/tlas/5543.tla

APR. 25 Many Springs 75

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

APR. 26 Dallas Chess Club's K-12 Spring Scholastic

Info: http://www.uschess.org/tlas/5541.tla

#### **MAY 2015**

MAY 5, 12, 19, 26 Monthly - Tuesday Night Swiss

Info: http://www.center64.com.

MAY 9-10 2015 DCC Fide Open VI

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

MAY 16 Many Springs 76

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

MAY. 16 2015 Universal Academy K-12 Summer Splash Classic

Info: http://www.uschess.org/tlas/5559.tla

MAY 22-25 OR 23-25 70th Annual Texas State and Amateur Championships

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

#### **EARLY JUNE 2015**

JUNE 2, 9, 16, 23 Monthly - Tuesday Night Swiss

Info: http://www.center64.com

# 70th Annual Texas State and Amateur Championships MAY 22-25 OR 23-25

TROPHIES PLUS GRAND PRIX POINTS: 30 (ENHANCED)

7SS. DFW Airport Marriott South, 4151 Centreport Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76155. \$\$ 8,350 b/175, full entries in Championship and Amateur sections, 2 scholastic side events that do not count toward base. Championship: This section is FIDE rated and uses FIDE rules. The tournament will use USCF ratings for pairings and prize purposes. Must be rated 2000 or above by either USCF or Fide to play in this section. Defending Texas State Amateur Champion may also play in this section. Texas Scholastic High School Champions may also play in this section. Foreign unrateds may play in this section and at TDs discretion may be required to play in Championship section. G/90 with 30 sec. increment. Foreign players must disclose their FIDE ID number before 1st round in order to play in Championship section. Default late forfeiture time is one hour. TD may extend this time at TD's discretion. \$\$ 1,000-500-250, 2200-2399 \$750, U2200 \$750. Amateur: U2000 & unrated. Rds. 1-7 G/90 with 30 sec increment. \$\$ 800-400-200. B \$\$ 600-300-150, C 500-250-125, U1400 \$500-250-125, U1200 \$400, U1000 \$300 Unrated \$200. Both: TCA membership required. Other states accepted. EF: \$88 if received by 5/14, else \$99. \$80 Junior(U19) if received by 5/14 else \$90 (juniors count as 90% toward base), Senior (over 65)/Handicapped/ additional family participant \$52 if receive by 5/14 else \$65 (Senior/Handicap/ Additional family participant counts 60% toward base). Add \$5 for CC phone entries; pre-reg requires pre-payment. After 5/20/15 all registration and changes on site only; all changes including withdrawals, \$10 after 5/20/15. 4 day: Reg. Friday 5/22, 6:15 pm-7:15. Rds. Fri.: 7:45, Sat: 2:45 pm - 7:30, Sun.: 11:00 am - 5:15 pm, Mon.: 9:30 am - 2:15 pm. 3 day: Reg. Sat. 5/23, 9-9:30 am, Rd. 1 at 10 am then merge with 4 day. Foreign Unrated must play in Championship section. Registrations that do not indicate 4 or 3 day schedule will be put in the 3 day. HR: \$94/94/94, \$94 rate includes up to four continental breakfast per room per day, can upgrade to full breakfast for \$5 per person, 817-358-1700 or 800-228-9290 reserve by 5/14/15 and ask for Dallas Chess Club rate. After 5/14 chess rate may not be honored. Free Parking. Up to two 1/2 pt byes available if requested before end of rd. 2 and before receiving full point bye, but byes for both rds. 6 AND 7 not permitted. K-12 Scholastic on Saturday, 5/23. 5-SS, Rds, G/30 d5, EF: \$29 by 5/14, \$45 after; Prereg. requires pre-payment. After 5/20/15 all registration and changes on site only; all changes \$10 after 5/20/15. No refunds after 5/20/15, \$10 handling fee for refunds before 5/20/15. Entries do not count toward base in Championship and Amateur. 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. 5/23. 5-SS, Rds. G/30 d5. Prizes: Trophies to top 12 individuals, top five teams in each section. K-12 U1000 also top three unrateds. Medals to those who do not win a trophy. 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. W. FIDE.



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

### **Tactics Time!**

Answer on page 29



Jeffrey Sneden—John Crawford Texas Amateur 2002 Black to Move