

TEXAS KNIGHTS

The official publication of the Texas Chess Association

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July-August 2017 \$4

2017 TCA Elections!



Curtis Wong (right) won the Grades 7-12 Region IX Championship this year with Rishi Yarlaggada (left) finishing second

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Game annotations, if not attributed, are a collaboration of Jeff French and *Fritz 15*.

Send submissions by e-mail to texasknightsed@gmail.com, or mail to **P.O. Box 151804, Ft. Worth, TX 76108** (please include contact information). All contents of *Texas Knights* ©2016 by the Texas Chess Association, Inc. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any way without express consent of the editor.



- **Articles**
- **Results**
- **Photos**
- **Games**

Content for the next issue needs to be delivered to the Editor by **Sept. 10th!**



From the Desk of The Editor

Hello Texas,

This begins my fourth year as *Texas Knights* Editor. It seems like the last 3 years have just flown by. It has been quite challenging at times, but fun none-the-less.

This issue is pretty much chock full of Chess games. A lot of the games have been annotated by Fritz 15.

- We have the games played by **GM Alexander Onischuk** from the US Championships,
- We have 2 games that determined who will be representing us at Denker,
- We have games from **GM Ruifeng Li** and **WIM Emily Nguyen** from the US Junior and the US Girl's Junior Championships respectively.

We also have a nice dedication for recently lost TCA member **Aurelio Frank Gonzalez, Jr.**

The 2017 TCA Election is well underway ... the electronic ballots and paper ballots were distributed on July 15th. If you have NOT received a ballot and you believe you should have, please contact me. There is additional information on [Page 6](#).

Checking out the other national Chess publications: Our own **WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor** made the cover of the 3rd issue of the *American Chess Magazine* and there is a nice article about her win at the US Women's Chess Championships (that we covered in last issue of *Texas Knights*). There is also some coverage of both **GM Alexander Onischuk** and **GM Jeffery Xiong** at the US Championships in the issue. The July Issue of *Chess Life* didn't really cover anything related to Texas Chess.

Finally remember that at the end of August, the *83rd Annual Southwest Open* and the *US North American Junior (U20) Championship* tournaments will be held. So, get out there and play!

The next issue of *Texas Knights* should be in your mailbox (or available online) somewhere around the first week of *October*.

Take care and be safe.

— **Jeff French**



From the Desk of the TCA President

Hello everyone. I am excited to announce that our TCA website is being revamped with the help of our TK editor and our new web page editor Chris Woods. These two individuals have been working diligently on this project and will make a number of changes to improve our communication and support status to benefit our members and organizers. Our new incoming members and current members will be able to join or renew their memberships online.

The Southwest Open will host a Fide Norms Tournament sponsored and organized by Texas Chess Association.

The year has come and gone. I have had a wonderful executive board to help me transition into my official position as president. My concentration has been to continue the direction of Vish, our past President. We are still working towards making improvements and doing those things which will help our membership grow.

I am again putting my name in the hat for the position of President of Texas Chess Association and ask for your support. Ballots will be sent via email or if requested, by hardcopy.

Last thing, I would like to thank all Regional Directors, Scholastic Committee members, Committee Members, as well as all organizers and individuals that have helped, or offered to help, conduct growth and popularity of Chess in Texas. You are truly dedicated to the task throughout Texas.

Thank you everyone. See you at the boards.

— Eddie.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to TCA by using Amazon Smile. Amazon donates 0.5% of all eligible purchases. So far this year we've received \$26.34. Not a huge amount but every contribution helps us promote chess in Texas. It works when you buy using Amazon Smile instead of Amazon. Go to smile.amazon.com and choose **Texas Chess Association**.



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<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2673185>

TCA Treasurer's Report - July 10th, 2017

Income		Expenses	
September memberships	\$150.00	St. Elizabeth's School, Alice start chess sets	\$132.03
October memberships	\$45.00	Texas Knights Sept-Oct 2016	\$919.60
November memberships	\$25.00	Texas Knights Nov-Dec 2016	\$883.09
December memberships	\$10.00	Texas Knights Jan-Feb 2017	\$886.00
January memberships	\$0.00	Texas Knights Mar-April 2017	\$945.36
February Memberships	\$22.50	Texas Knights May-June 2017	\$897.87
March Memberships	\$130.00	2016 Denker Representative Bovey Liu	\$300.00
April Memberships	\$575.00	Jeffery Xiong stipend	\$400.00
May Memberships	\$100.00	Texas State Amateur Fund	\$1,907.00
June Memberships	\$40.00	Barber/Denker Qualifier Expenses	300.00
July Memberships	\$0.00	Affiliate USCF dues (2 years)	\$80.00
2016 SW Open memberships	\$497.00	Total	\$7,650.95
2016 Texas Girls State Championship	\$110.00		
2016 Texas Grade & Collegiate and memberships	\$416.00		
2017 Texas Junior Teams Scholastic Champ.	\$90.00		
2017 Texas Open	\$35.00		
2017 Texas Teams (\$5 membership for each)	\$120.00		
2017 North/Central Texas Scholastic Champ.	\$962.00		
2017 South Texas Scholastic Championship	\$2,852.00		
2017 Texas State and Amateur Championship	\$416.00		
Region 2 Scholastic Championships	\$154.00		
Region 3 Scholastic Championships	\$186.00		
Region 5 Scholastic Championships	\$249.00		
Region 6 Scholastic Championships	\$424.00		
Region 7 Scholastic Championships	\$50.00		
Louis Thurston Donation	\$500.00	July 10th, 2017	
Smile Amazon Donation	\$26.34	WF checking account balance	\$17,767.47
Total	\$8,185.34	BOA checking account balance	\$2,678.25

In Passing:
No submissions for this issue

2017 TCA Election

The 2017 TCA Election is underway. Both electronic and paper ballots have been distributed. The election will continue until August 30th. Electronic ballots cannot be submitted after noon on August 30th. The paper ballots must be received in the mail by August 30th. If you have not received a ballot (and believe that you should have), please contact me at texaschessed@gmail.com.

There are four officer positions up for re-election. The officer candidates on the ballots are as follows:

President - Eddie Rios

Vice President - Forrest Marler

Secretary - John Hyltin

Treasurer - Barbara Swafford

Every position on the electronic ballot has one candidate, an area for write-ins and an abstain option. You need to select one (and only one) of the options for each officer position. The paper ballot has one candidate and an area for write-ins for each officer position. If you wish to abstain, don't select either option. On either ballot, if you choose a write-in option, make sure you fill in the candidate name.

There is also a brief three question survey. On the electronic ballot, you can either select an answer (yes/no) or select the abstain option. On the paper ballot, you can either select an answer or not (which means you would abstain from selecting an answer).

Remember, if you receive more than one ballot, each ballot must be submitted electronically or returned in the mail to be counted. Also note: After you submit an electronic ballot, your selections are final and they cannot be changed.

2017 Denker Qualifier

The 'match' to determine the Texas Denker Tournament of High School Champions representative occurred at the Dallas Chess Club on Sunday, June 11, 2017. **Hiren Premkumar** defeated **WCM Camille Kao** by a score of 2-0.

Kao,Camille Y (2018) – Premkumar,Hiren (2144)

[C01: French: Exchange Variation]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.c4 Nf6 6.Nc3 0-0 7.Be2 dxc4 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Bxc4 Nb6 10.Bb3 [last book move]

10...c6 [Controls b5+d5]

11.Bg5 Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.g4 Bg6 14.Ne5 Qc7 15.f4 Ne4 [15...Nfd5 16.f5 f6 17.fxg6 Bxe5 18.Nxd5 Bh2+ 19.Kh1 Nxd5 20.gxh7+ Kh8=]

16.f5 [White threatens to win material: f5xg6]

[⊠16.Bh4!? Nxc3 17.bxc3±]

16...Nxc3 17.fxc3 17...fxg6 Bxe5 18.dxe5 [18.gxf7+ Kh8 19.dxe5 Qxe5=]

18...Qxe5 [18...hxg6 19.Qd6 Qxd6 20.exd6♞]

19.gxf7+= Kh8 20.Qd3 [⊠20.Qe1 and White could well hope to play on 20...Nxc3+ 21.Kh1=]

20...Rad8♞ 21.Qc2?? [shortens the misery for White]

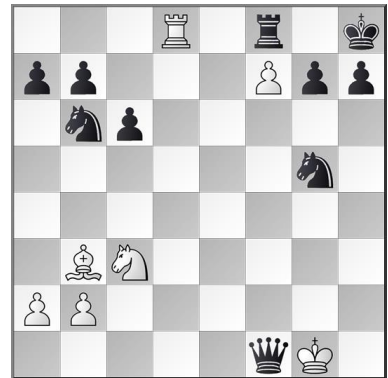
[⊠21.Qe2 Nxc3+ 22.Kh1 Qxe2 23.Nxe2♞]

21...Qe3+-+ 22.Kh1 [22.Rf2 is still a small chance 22...Rd2!! Decoy: d2 23.Qxd2 Nf3+ 24.Kg2 Nxd2 25.Rd1 Nxb3 26.axb3-+]

22...Rd2 23.Qxd2 Qxd2 24.Rad1 [24.h4 hardly improves anything 24...Nh3 25.Ne4 Qe2-+]

24...Qe3 25.Rd8 [25.Kg2 does not save the day 25...Qxc3+ 26.Kf2 Qf3+ 27.Ke1 Qe3+ 28.Ne2 Nf3+ 29.Rxf3 Qxf3-+]

25...Qxc3+ 26.Kg1 Qxc3+ 27.Kh1 Qh4+ 28.Kg2 Qh3+ 29.Kg1 Qxf1+! [the end]



30.Kxf1 Rxd8 31.Ke2 Nd5 [31...g6!? seems even better 32.a4-+]

32.Nxd5 cxd5 33.Bxd5 g6 34.Bxb7 Nxf7 35.a4 [35.b4 cannot undo what has already been done 35...Kg7 36.b5 h5-+]

35...Rb8 36.Bd5 Rxb2+ 37.Kd3 Kg7 38.a5 Rb5 39.Bc4 Ne5+ 40.Kd4 Nxc4 [40...Nxc4 41.Kxc4 Rxa5 42.Kd3 h5 43.Ke4 Rf5 44.Kd4 h4 45.Kc4 h3 46.Kd4 h2 47.Kc3 h1Q 48.Kd4 Qf3 49.Kc4 Qe3 50.Kb4 Rf4+ 51.Kb5 Qb6#]

0-1

Premkumar,Hiren (2144) – Kao,Camille Y (2018)

[D10: Slav Defence: 3 cxd5 (without early Nf3) and 3 Nc3]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Bf4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.e3 a6 7.Bd3 Bg4 8.Nge2 e6 9.0-0 Be7 10.Rc1 0-0 11.f3 Bh5 [last book move]

12.Bb1 [12.Na4 Nd7±]

12...Rc8 13.Kh1 Bg6 14.e4 dxe4 15.fxe4 Bh5 [15...Nh5 16.d5 Nxf4 17.Nxf4 exd5 18.Ncxd5=]

16.Qd3 [White has an active position]

[16.d5 Bxe2 17.Qxe2 exd5 18.exd5 Nxd5±]

16...Qb6 [16...Bg6 17.Qd1=]

17.e5± [White gains space]

17...Bg6 [Black threatens to win material: Bg6xd3]

18.Qf3 Nd5 [18...Nd7 19.Bxg6 hxg6 20.Be3=]

19.Bxg6± hxg6 20.Nxd5

exd5 21.Qg4 [21.Nc3 Qxb2 22.Rb1 Qa3±]

21...Rcd8 [21...Qxb2 22.Rb1 Qxa2 23.Rxb7=]

22.b3 Qa5 23.h4 [23.Rc2 Qc7=]

23...Qb4 [23...Qxa2!? is an interesting idea 24.h5 gxh5 25.Qxh5 g6=]

24.Rcd1= a5? [24...Qa3!? = has some apparent merit]

25.Rf3 [Black has a cramped position]

[Δ25.h5 Qb6 26.hxg6+-]

25...Rfe8? [Δ25...Qb5 26.Rg3 Bb4±]

26.h5+- gxh5?! [doesn't faze the opponent]

[26...g5 27.Bd2 Nxe5+-]

27.Qxh5 g6 28.Qh6 [28.Qh3!? and White can already relax 28...Bf8 29.Bg5 Bg7+-]

28...Bf8 29.Qh4 Qa3?? [the position was bad, and this mistake simply hastens the end]

[Δ29...Be7 30.Qh2 Bf8+-]

30.Bg5 [Δ30.Rh3 keeps an even firmer grip 30...Bg7 31.Bg5+-]

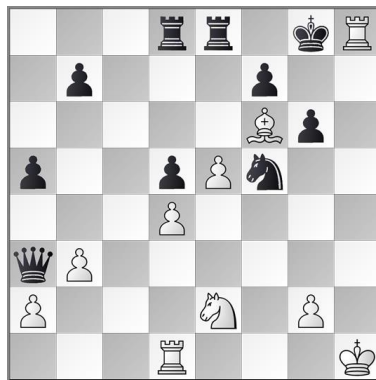
30...Ne7 [30...f5 31.Rh3 Bg7 32.Qh7+ Kf7+-]

31.Bf6 Bg7 32.Rh3 Nf5 [32...Bxf6 cannot change what is in store for ? 33.exf6 Kf8 34.Qh8+ Ng8 35.Qg7#]

33.Qh8+!! [Clearance: h4]

33...Bxh8 [33...Bxh8 34.Rxh8# Mate attack Clearance]

34.Rxh8#



1-0

2017 US Championships

For additional info: <http://uschesschamps.com/2017-us-championship/overview>

In the last issue of *Texas Knights* we covered the US Women's Championships and the success of **WGM Sabina Foisor**. She won the tournament. The US Championship was also held in St. Louis, Missouri from 3/27 to 4/10. **GM Alexander Onischuk** was relatively successful himself. He took 2nd place after a playoff with **GM Wesley So**. Both scored 7.0/11. **GM Jeffery Xiong** also participated in the tournament.

Onischuk, Alexander (2667) – 26...Bd4= 27.Ng6+ hxg6
Naroditsky, Daniel (2646) 28.Qh4+ Kg8 29.Bd5+ Rf7
30.Bxf7+ Kxf7 31.Qe7+ Kg8
32.Qe6+ [White forks: g6]

[E20: Nimzo-Indian: g3 and 4 f3]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4
4.g3 0-0 5.Bg2 d5 6.Nf3 dxc4
7.0-0 Nc6 8.Qa4 Nd5 9.Qc2
Be7 10.Rd1 Rb8 [last book
move]

11.e4 [White threatens to win
material: e4xd5]

11...Ncb4 12.Qb1 Nxc3
13.bxc3 Nd3 14.Qb5 c5
15.Qxc4 Nxc1 16.Raxc1 b5
17.Qe2 Qb6 18.Ne5 f6 19.Ng4
b4 [Black wins space]

[19...cxd4 20.cxd4 Bd7
 21.Ne3=]

20.Ne3 bxc3 21.d5 [This push
gains space]

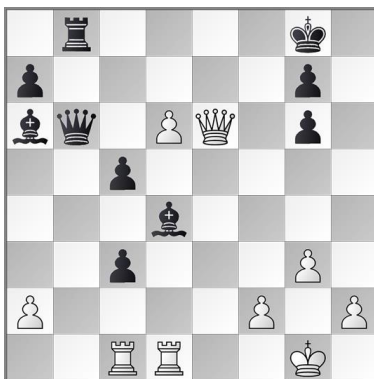
21...Ba6 [Black threatens to
win material: Ba6xe2]

22.Qg4 f5 23.exf5 exf5
24.Nxf5 [White has a mate
threat]

24...Bf6 25.d6 [A strong pawn]

25...Kh8 26.Ne7 [26.Be4!?
Bb7 27.Rb1±]

32...Kh7 33.Qh3+ Kg8
34.Qe6+ ½-½



Shabalov, Alexander (2556) –
Onischuk, Alexander (2667)

[E05: Open Catalan: 5 Nf3
 Be7]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5
4.Nf3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0
dx4 7.Ne5 Nc6 8.Nxc6 bxc6
9.Na3 Bxa3 10.bxa3 Ba6
11.Qd2 Rb8 12.Qa5 Qc8
13.a4 Rd8 14.Ba3 [last book
move]

14...Qb7 [14...Rxd4 15.Bxc6
c3 16.Rac1 Bxe2 17.Rfe1±]
15.Bc5 [Praise the bishop!]

15...c3 [Is this a dangerous
pawn?]

16.Rfe1 Nd5 17.e4 [White
threatens to win material:
e4xd5]

17...Nb6 18.Rac1 e5 19.dxe5
Rd3 20.Be7 [20.Rb1 Rbd8
21.Bf1 c2 22.Bxd3 Bxd3±]

20...Nc4= 21.Qc5 Qb6 22.e6
Qxc5 [22...fxe6!/? is an inter-
esting alternative 23.Qg5
Qd4=]

23.exf7+± Kxf7 24.Bxc5 Rb2
[Menacing]

25.e5 Ke6 26.Bxa7 [26.f4
Bb7±]

26...Nd2 [A beautiful square!]

27.Bh3+ Ke7 28.Bc5+ [The
bishop likes it on c5]

28...Ke8 29.Kg2 g6 [Secures
f5]

30.Be6 Bc4 [30...c2 31.h4 Bc4
32.Bxc4 Nxc4=]

31.Bxc4 Nxc4 32.Re4 Nb6
33.a5 Nd7 34.Be3 [△34.Bb4!?
Rdd2 35.Rf1±]

34...Rxa2= 35.Kh3 [35.Kf1!?!= is an interesting idea]

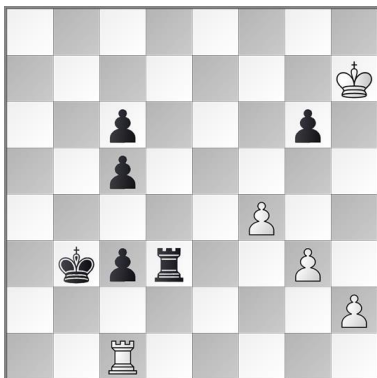
35...Rxa5 36.e6 [Black has to watch this pawn]

36...Nb6 37.Bxb6? [37.Kg2 and White hangs on]

37...cxb6+ 38.Rc4 Rc5
39.Rxc5 bxc5 40.Kg4 Ke7
41.Kg5?? [the position was bad, and this mistake simply hastens the end]

[41.Kf4 Kxe6 42.Ke4-+]

41...Kxe6 42.Kh6 Kd5 43.f4
Kc4 44.Kxh7 Kb3 0-1



Onischuk,Alexander (2667) –
Shankland,Samuel L (2666)

[D4: Semi-Slav: 5 e3]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6
4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Qc2
Bd6 7.b3 0-0 8.Be2 b6 9.Bb2
Bb7 10.0-0 Rc8 11.Rad1 Qe7
12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4
14.Qxe4 Nf6 15.Qc2 c5 16.d5
exd5 17.cxd5 Ne4 18.Rfe1 f5
[last book move]

19.Bc4 Kh8 [19...Rce8 20.Bb5
Rd8 21.g3±]

20.g3 [Consolidates f4]

20...Rce8 21.Nd2 Qf7
[Attacking the isolated pawn
on d5]

22.Nxe4 [22.f3 Nxd2 23.Qxd2
Bc8±]

22...fxe4= 23.Rd2 Qg6
24.Rde2 [White threatens to
win material: Re2xe4]

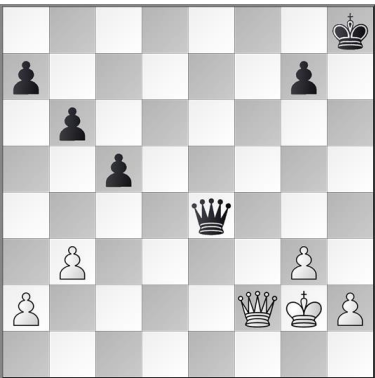
24...Bc8 25.Rxe4 Bf5 [Black
threatens to win material:
Bf5xe4]

26.Bd3 Bxe4 27.Rxe4 Rxe4
28.Bxe4 Qh5 29.Kg2 Be5
30.Bxe5 [30.Bc1 Qf7=]

30...Qxe5 31.Bxh7 Qxd5+
32.Be4 [White threatens to win
material: Be4xd5]

32...Qd4 33.Qe2 Rxf2+
[33...Rd8!?!]

34.Qxf2= Qxe4+ 1/2-1/2



So,Wesley (2822) –
Onischuk,Alexander (2667)

[A14: English Opening: 1...e6
with b3 by White]

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 e6
4.0-0 Be7 5.c4 0-0 6.b3 b6
7.Bb2 Bb7 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.d4
Nd7 10.Re1 [last book move]

10...c5 11.e4 [White threatens
to win material: e4xd5]

11...N5f6 [Black threatens to
win material: Nf6xe4]

12.Nc3 cxd4 13.Nxd4 [Black
has a cramped position]

13...Ne5 14.Qe2 [White has an
active position]

14...Bc5 [Black threatens to
win material: Bc5xd4]

15.Red1 Qe7 16.Na4 Bxd4
17.Bxd4 Nc6 18.Be3 Rfd8
19.Nc3 [White has an active
position]

19...Qb4 [Black threatens to
win material: Qb4xc3]

20.Qb2 Ng4 21.Bf4 Nce5
22.a3 [22.Bxe5 Nxe5 23.Nd5
exd5 24.Qxe5 dxe4=]

22...Qc5 [22...Qe7 23.h3 g5
24.Bxe5 Nxe5 25.Nb5=]

23.Na4 Qb5 24.Nc3 [White
threatens to win material:
Nc3xb5]

24...Qc5 25.Na4 [Twofold rep-
etition]

[25.b4 Qc4 26.Bxe5 Nxe5=]

25...Qb5 26.h3 [26.Nc3 Qc5=]

26...Nd3 [26...Rxd1+ 27.Rxd1 Nd3 28.Rxd3 Qxd3 29.hxg4]

27.Rxd3= Rxd3 28.hxg4 Qxb3 29.Bf1 Qxb2 30.Nxb2 Rb3 [30...Rc3 31.Nd1 Rc5 32.f3]

31.Nc4± Rd8 32.Nd6 Ba8 33.g5 Rc3 34.a4 Rc5 35.e5 Rd7 [35...Kf8!?

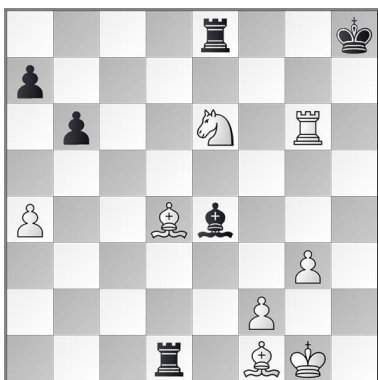
±] 36.Be3 Rxe5 37.Rc1 Rd8 38.Rc7 Rd5 39.Nxf7 Rf8? [Δ39...R5d7 40.Nxd8 Rxc7 41.Nxe6 Rc2±]

40.g6+- hxg6 41.Ng5 Rd1 [41...Re8 42.f4 Rd6 43.Bb5+-]

42.Nxe6 Re8 [42...Bd5 does not save the day 43.Rxg7+ Kh8 44.Rd7+-]

43.Rxg7+ Kh8 44.Rxg6 Be4 [44...Bd5 doesn't get the cat off the tree 45.Bd4+ Rxd4 46.Nxd4+-]

45.Bd4+ [45.Bd4+ Rxd4 46.Rh6+ Kg8 47.Nxd4+-] 1-0



Onischuk,Alexander (2667) – Caruana,Fabiano (2817)

[E61: King's Indian: Early deviations for White, including Smyslov System]

1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bf5 5.g3 Ne4 6.Bd2 Bg7 7.Bg2 Nxd2 8.Qxd2 0-0 9.0-0 [last book move]

9...Nc6 10.d5 [This push gains space]

10...Na5 11.b3 [Covers c4]

11...c5 12.e4 [White threatens to win material: e4xf5]

12...Bd7 13.Rae1 [Black's piece can't move: a5]

13...Qc7 [13...a6 14.e5]

14.Qe3= a6 [Prevents intrusion on b5]

15.e5 [The thematic attack]

15...b5 [Black undermines the pawn chain]

16.e6 fxe6 17.dxe6 Bc6 18.Nd5 Qb7 19.Qg5 [White threatens to win material: Qg5xe7]

19...Rae8 [Black's piece can't move: a5]

20.Qh4 bxc4 21.bxc4 Bxd5 [Black forks: c4+f3] [21...Nxc4 22.Ng5 h6 23.Qxc4]

22.cxd5= [Opposite coloured bishops appeared]

22...Bf6 23.Ng5 Bxg5 24.Qxg5 [Black king safety improved]

24...Qb2 25.Qh4 c4 26.Re4 [26.Qg5 Qc3=]

26...Qg7 [26...Qxa2!? 27.Qh6 Qb2]

27.Rf4 Rxf4 28.Qxf4 Rc8 29.Rc1 Rc5 30.Be4 c3 [Don't underestimate that pawn]

31.h4 Qf6 32.Qxf6 exf6 33.g4 Kf8 34.Kg2 Ke7 35.Kg3 [35.f4! has some apparent merit]

35...Nc4= 36.Kf4 [White intends g5]

[36.h5!? is worthy of consideration 36...Nb6 37.h6=]

36...Nb6 37.g5 fxg5+ 38.hxg5 Nxd5+ 39.Bxd5 Rxd5 40.Rxc3 Rf5+ 41.Ke3 [41.Kg4 Rxf2 42.Ra3 Kxe6 43.Rxa6 Rd2]

41...Kxe6 [41...Rxg5 42.Rc7+ Kxe6 43.Rxh7+-]

42.Rc7 [42.f4 Ra5+-]

42...Rxg5+- 43.Rxh7 Re5+ [43...Ra5 44.Rg7 Kf6 45.Rg8+-]

44.Kf3 [44.Kd4 Ra5]

44...a5 [44...Ra5!+-]

45.Rg7 Kf6 46.Rd7 Rf5+
 47.Ke3 Ke6 48.Ra7 Rc5
 49.Rg7 g5 50.Rg6+ Kd7
 51.Rf6 Rc2 52.Rf5 Rc5 53.Rf6
 Kc6 54.Kd3 Rd5+ 55.Kc3 Re5
 56.Kd3 Kc5 57.f4 gxf4
 58.Rxf4 Rh5 59.Rc4+ Kb5
 60.a4+ [60.Rd4!?!]

60...Kb6+ 61.Rg4 Kc5
 62.Rc4+ Kd5 63.Rd4+ Kc6
 64.Rc4+ Rc5 65.Rh4 Rc1
 66.Rh5 Rc5 [Black threatens
 to win material: Rc5xh5]

[⊖66...d5!?!-+]

67.Rh8 [67.Rh4 Rf5 68.Kc3]

67...Rg5 68.Rc8+ Kb7 69.Rd8
 Kc7 70.Ra8 Rh5 71.Ra6 Rd5+
 72.Kc4 [White threatens to win
 material: Kc4xd5]

72...Rc5+ 73.Kd4 Rh5 74.Kc4
 [74.Kd3!?! is noteworthy]

74...Kd7 75.Ra8 Kc7 76.Ra6
 [Twofold repetition]

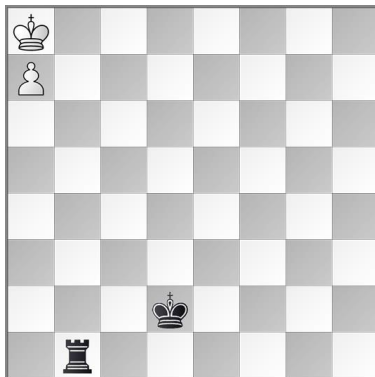
76...Rh4+ [76...Rg5!?! de-
 serves consideration]

77.Kb5= Rb4+ 78.Kxa5 Rb8
 79.Ra7+ Kc6 80.Rh7 d5
 81.Rh1 d4 82.Rc1+ Kd5
 83.Ka6 d3 [He broke from his
 leash]

84.Rd1 [White threatens to win
 material: Rd1xd3]

84...Kc4 85.a5 Rb2 86.Ka7 d2
 87.a6 [Pushes the passed
 pawn]

87...Kc3 88.Ka8 Kc2
 89.Rxd2+ Kxd2 90.a7 Rb1 1/2-1/2



**Onischuk,Alexander (2667) –
 Zherebukh,Yaroslav (2605)**

[D85: Exchange Grünfeld: Un-
 usual White th moves and
 lines with 7 Nf3]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5
 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3
 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5 8.Be3
 Qa5 9.Qd2 Nc6 10.Rb1 cxd4
 11.cxd4 0-0 12.Bd3 b6
 13.Qxa5 Nxa5 [last book
 move]

14.0-0 Bb7 [Black has a
 cramped position]

[14...Bg4 15.d5=]

15.Bd2± Nc6 16.d5 [This push
 gains space]

16...Ne5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5
 18.Bb4 Bf6 19.f4 Rfc8 20.e5
 [White threatens to win materi-
 al: e5xf6]

20...Bg7 21.Rfd1 Bxd5
 22.Ba6 Rd8 23.Bxe7 Bxa2
 24.Rxd8+ Rxd8 [Black has a
 new protected passed pawn:
 b6]

25.Rc1 Ra8 26.Rc7 Bf8
 27.Bxf8 Kxf8 28.Kf2 Be6
 29.Ke3 h5 30.g3 Kg7 31.Ke2
 [31.Re7 Kg8=]

31...h4≠ 32.Ke3 h3 33.g4 Rb8
 [33...Rd8 34.Rxa7 Rd1 35.f5
 gxf5 36.gxf5 Bxf5 37.Bc4≠]

34.Rxa7 [34.Bd3!?! Rc8
 35.Rxa7 Bxg4 36.Rb7=]

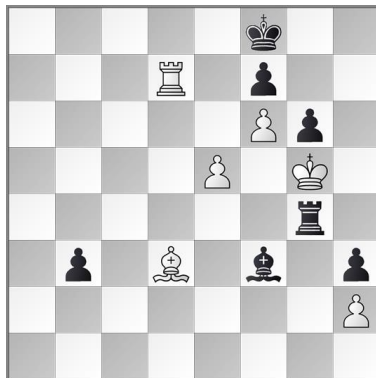
34...b5≠ 35.Kf3 b4 36.Bd3 b3
 [Don't underestimate that
 pawn]

37.f5 [White threatens to win
 material: f5xe6. White forks:
 e6+g6]

37...Bd5+ 38.Kf4 Rb4+
 39.Kg5 [White prepares the
 advance f6]

39...Bf3 [39...Bb7 40.f6+ Kf8
 41.Bb1=]

40.f6+ Kf8 41.Rd7 Rxd7+
 1/2-1/2



**Akobian,Varuzhan (2645) –
 Onischuk,Alexander (2667)**

[D37: Queen's Gambit De-
 clined: Bf4]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5
 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Bf4 0-0 6.e3
 Nbd7 7.a3 c5 8.cxd5 Nxd5
 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.dxc5 Nxc5
 11.Be5 Bf6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6
 13.Qd4 Qd6 14.Bd3 Rd8
 15.Bc2 b6 16.0-0 Ba6 [last
 book move. Black threatens to
 win material: Ba6xf1]

17.Rfe1 Rac8 18.Rac1 h6
 [Prevents intrusion on g5]

19.Qg4 Qf6 [19...Ne6 20.Bf5=]

20.Qf5± Qxf5 21.Bxf5 Ne6
 22.Rxc8 Bxc8 23.Rc1 Bd7
 24.h3 Ng5 25.Bxd7 [25.Nd4!?
 ±]

25...Nxf3+= 26.gxf3 Rxd7 [A
 rook endgame occurred]

27.Kf1 d4 [27...Kh7 28.Ke2=]

28.Rd1± [White threatens to
 win material: Rd1xd4]

28...d3 [Black has a new
 passed pawn: d3]

29.Ke1 Rd5 30.Kd2 Rf5 31.f4
 g5 [Black threatens to win ma-
 terial: g5xf4]

32.Rg1 Kf8 33.Rg4 f6 34.Kxd3
 Rd5+ [34...h5 35.Rg1±]

35.Ke2± h5 36.Rg3 gxf4
 37.exf4 Kf7 38.Rc3 Ke6
 39.Rc7 Rb5 40.b4 a5 41.Rc4
 axb4 42.a4 [White threatens to
 win material: a4xb5]

[42.axb4 Kd5 43.Kd3 Kd6±]

42...Rc5 [42...Kd5!? 43.Kd3
 Ra5 44.Rxb4 f5±]

43.Rxb4± Kf5 [43...Rc6
 44.Kf3±]

44.Rxb6 Rc2+ [44...Rc3
 45.Rb5+ Kg6 46.f3±]

45.Kf3+- Rc3+ 46.Kg2 Rc4
 47.Rb5+ Kg6 48.a5 Rxf4
 49.Rb8?? [throwing away the
 advantage]

[⊔49.Kg3 with excellent
 chances for White 49...Ra4
 50.h4+-]

49...Ra4= [Black threatens to
 win material: Ra4xa5]

50.Ra8 Kf5 [50...Kg5 51.Ra7=]

51.a6 [Don't underestimate that
 pawn]

[51.Kg3!/?±]

51...Kf4= 52.a7 f5 53.h4 Ra1
 54.Rh8 [White threatens to win
 material: Rh8xh5]

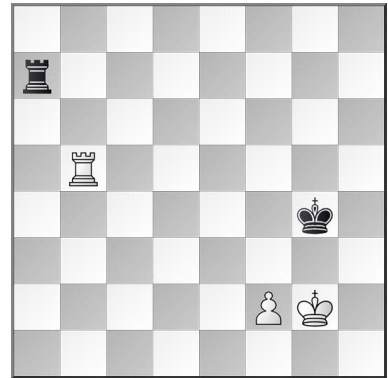
54...Rxa7 55.Rxh5 [White has
 a new passed pawn: h4]

55...Kg4 [Black threatens to
 win material: Kg4xh5]

[55...Rg7+!? 56.Rg5 Rxg5+
 57.hxg5 Kxg5=]

56.Rg5± Kxh4 [56...Kf4
 57.Rg3±]

57.Rxf5± Kg4 58.Rb5 ½-½



**Onischuk,Alexander (2667) –
 Robson,Ray (2668)**

[D85: Exchange Grünfeld: Un-
 usual White 7th moves and
 lines with 7 Nf3]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5
 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3
 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5 8.Be3
 Qa5 9.Qd2 0-0 10.Rc1 Nd7
 11.Bd3 [last book move]

11...b6 12.0-0 e6 13.Qe2 Bb7
 14.Nd2 Qxa2 [14...Bc6
 15.Rfd1±]

15.Ra1± Qb2 16.Rfb1 Qxc3
 17.Nc4 Nf6 [17...b5!? 18.Ra3
 Qb4 19.dxc5 Qxb1+ 20.Bxb1
 bxc4 21.Qxc4 Rfd8±]

18.Ra3+- Nxe4 19.Bxe4 Bxe4
 20.Rxc3 Bxb1 21.Rc1 cxd4
 22.Bg5 d3 23.Qd2 [23.Qf3
 Ba2±]

23...Rfc8? [23...Bc2!? 24.Ne3
 a5±]

24.Rxb1+- Rxc4 25.Qxd3 Rc5
 [25...Rac8 26.g3+-]

26.h4 h5 [26...h6 27.Bf4+]

27.Rd1 Rd5? [27...Rac8+]

28.Qf3 Rxd1+ 29.Qxd1 a5

30.Qf3 [30.Qd6 makes it even easier for White 30...a4

31.Qc6 Rb8 32.Qxa4 Be5+]

30...Ra7 [30...Rb8 31.Qf4 Rc8+]

31.Be3 Rc7 32.Bxb6 Rc1+

33.Kh2 Rc4 34.g3 a4 35.Qa8+ Kh7 36.Qa7 Kg8 37.Qa6 Rb4

38.Bc5 Rb8 39.Qxa4 Bf6

[39...Rd8+ the only chance to get some counterplay]

40.Qf4 Rc8 41.Qxf6 Rxc5

42.Qd8+ Kh7 43.Qf8 Rf5

44.Kg2 Rf6 45.Kf1 Rf5

46.Ke2 [46.Ke1 keeps an even firmer grip 46...Re5+ 47.Kd2 Rf5+]

46...e5 [46...Re5+ desperation 47.Kd2 Rd5+ 48.Kc2 Rf5+]

47.Kf1 Rf6 48.Kg2 Rf5

[48...e4 doesn't improve anything 49.Qe7 Rf5 50.Qxe4+]

49.f3 Rf6 [49...g5 hardly improves anything 50.hxg5 Rxg5 51.Qxf7+ Kh8 52.Qf6+ Rg7 53.Qxe5+]

50.Qe7 Rf5 51.g4 hxg4

[51...Rf4 is the last straw 52.Kg3 Kg8 53.Qxe5 Rc4+]

52.fxg4 Rf4 53.Kg3 Rf1

[53...Kg8 54.Qxe5 Rb4 55.h5 gxh5 56.gxh5 Rb3+ 57.Kf4 Rb6 58.Qg5+ Kh7 59.Qc5 Rh6

60.Qf8 Rf6+ 61.Kg5 Rf1

62.Qh6+ Kg8 63.Qc6 Re1

64.h6 Rg1+ 65.Kh5 Kh7

66.Qe4+ Rg6 67.Qd3 Kh8

68.Qd8+ Kh7 69.Qf8 Rg1

70.Qxf7+ Kh8 71.Qe8+ Kh7

72.Qd7+ Kg8 73.Qa7 Kf8

74.Qxg1 Ke7 75.Qd4 Kf7

76.Qe5 Kf8 77.Kg6 Kg8

78.Qg7#]

54.Qxe5 Rg1+ 55.Kf3 Rb1

56.Qd4 [56.Kf4 seems even better 56...Rc1+]

56...Rc1 [56...Rf1+ 57.Kg3 Re1 58.Qf2+]

57.Kf4 Re1 [57...Rf1+ 58.Kg5 Rf3 59.Qd7+]

58.Qb4 [58.Kg5 and the result of the game is clear: White will win 58...Re6+]

58...Rf1+ [58...Re6 59.Kg5 Kg7 60.Qd4+ f6+ 61.Kf4+]

59.Ke5 Kg7 [59...Kg8+- praying for a miracle]

60.Kd6 Rf6+ 61.Kd7 Re6

[61...Rf3 62.Qe4 Rf1 63.Ke7

Kg8 64.Qa8+ Kg7 65.Qf8+

Kh7 66.Qxf7+ Rxf7+ 67.Kxf7

Kh6 68.Kf6 Kh7 69.g5 Kg8

70.Kxg6 Kf8 71.h5 Ke8 72.Kf5

Kf8 73.h6 Ke7 74.h7 Kd6

75.h8Q Kc6 76.Qd4 Kb5 77.g6

Kc6 78.g7 Kb7 79.g8Q Kc7

80.Qh7+ Kc8 81.Qdh8#]

62.Qc4 g5 [62...Kf8+- hoping against hope]

63.h5 Re5 [63...Rh6 cannot

change what is in store for ?

64.Ke7 Re6+ 65.Qxe6 fxe6

66.Kxe6 Kh7 67.Kf5 Kh6

68.Kf6 Kh7 69.Kxg5 Kg8

70.Kf5 Kf7 71.h6 Kf8 72.Ke6

Kg8 73.Kf6 Kh7 74.g5 Kg8

75.g6 Kh8 76.g7+ Kg8 77.h7+

Kxh7 78.Kf7 Kh6 79.g8Q Kh5

80.Qg3 Kh6 81.Qg6#]

64.Qd4 [64.Qc3 f6 65.Kd6 Re2

66.Qc7+ Kf8 67.Qc5 Kg7

68.Qa7+ Kf8 69.h6 Rd2+

70.Ke6 Re2+ 71.Kxf6 Ke8

72.h7 Rf2+ 73.Qxf2 Kd7

74.Qc5 Kd8 75.h8Q+ Kd7

76.Qhc8#]

64...f6 65.Kd6 [65.Kd6 Re8

66.Qa7+ Kh8 67.Qf7 Rd8+

68.Ke6 f5 69.Qf6+ Kg8

70.Qxd8+ Kg7 71.Qxg5+ Kh7

72.h6 fxg4 73.Qg7#; 65.Qa7

Kf8 66.Kd6 Re1 67.h6 Rd1+

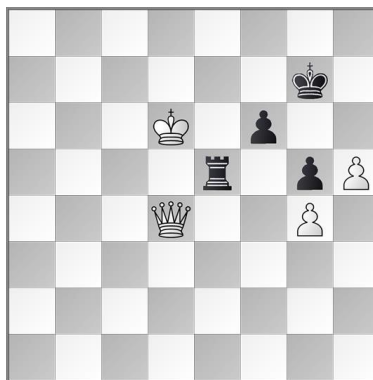
68.Ke6 Re1+ 69.Kxf6 Ke8

70.Qa4+ Kd8 71.Qa5+ Kd7

72.Qxe1 Kc6 73.Qb4 Kc7

74.Qc5+ Kb7 75.h7 Ka8

76.h8Q+ Kb7 77.Qhc8#] **1-0**



*Continued on
Page 19*



Tactics Time!

These positions came from games played in Texas or elsewhere by (at least one) Texas Player. **Answers can be found on page 18.**



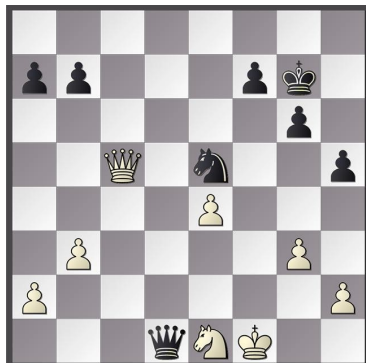
1. Frank Adams – Carl Latino
RRSO XV 2017
Black to Move



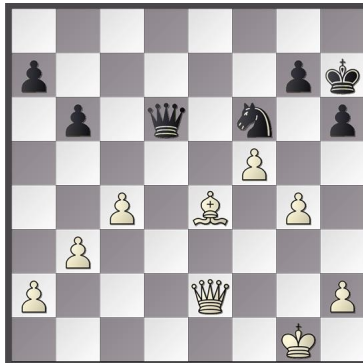
2. Zachary Graber – Roy Cram
RRSO XV 2017
White to Move



3. Carmen Chairez – Bruce Wells
RRSO XV 2017
Black to Move



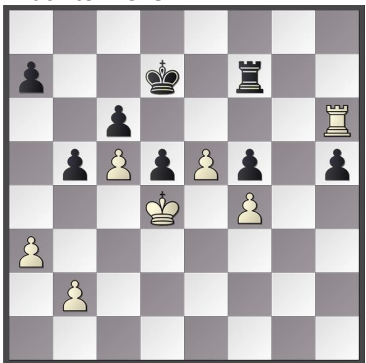
4. Tom Nichols – Fred Pennington
RRSO XV 2017
Black to Move



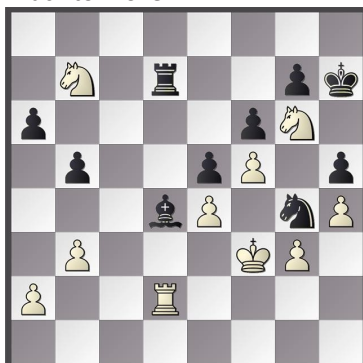
5. Carl Latino – Frank Adams
RRSO XV 2017
Black to Move



6. Jared Ellis – Aubrey Rodgers
RRSO XV 2017
White to Move



7. Rubin Wells – Russ Heise
RRSO XV 2017
White to Move



8. Shane Stonehocker – Doug Schwetke
RRSO XV 2017
White to Move

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USCF TOP PLAYERS FOR TEXAS - July, 2017

Regardless of Residence or Federation

Overall			Age 16 (continued)			Age 11 (continued)		
4	Onischuk, Alexander	2771	51	Nguyen, Anthony Quan	2142	25	Gundam, Rohit	1947
9	Xiong, Jeffery	2738	69	Yu, Ray	2075	33	Pullabhotla, Venkata Naga, Jr	1874
17	Sadorra, Julio C	2692	80	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2037	41	Rorrer, Grayson	1809
19	Bachmann, Axel	2674	97	Nguyen, Khoa Minh	2002	52	Tang, Andrew	1770
21	Li, Ruifeng	2651				61	Deviprasath, Sharvesh	1751
28	Ramirez, Alejandro	2633	Age 15			74	Casas, Michael	1732
31	Steingrimsון, Hedinn	2630	1 Li, Ruifeng 2651					
35	Moradiabadi, Elshan	2623	7	Liu, Bovey	2340	Age 10		
40	Gorovets, Andrey	2610	20	Xie, Tianming	2207	4	Polavaram, Rithik Sai	2178
41	Maciejaj, Bartlomiej	2609	28	Kirumaki, Ronit	2163	66	Welsh, Vinh	1701
49	Hernandez, Holden	2595	35	Devagharan, Devina	2139	74	Ahmed, Kabir	1654
53	Yang, Darwin	2584	44	Srivatsav, Aadarsh	2085	76	Rodriguez, Alexander P	1652
55	Arribas Lopez, Angel	2581	55	Eliezer, Segev	2055	99	Podder, Ronit	1575
62	Hevia Alejandro, Carlos Antonio	2567	69	Palang, Warren Jesse	2009	Age 9		
65	Berczes, David	2564	71	Kao, Camille Y	2004	13	Capocyan, John Patrick	1861
71	Vazquez, Guillermo	2558	72	Dammann, Jorn Fabian	2003	18	Pathak, Rudransh	1813
76	Drozdzowski, Kacper	2552	78	Zheng, Vincent	1995	32	Raghuraja, Sri Avishkar	1690
76	Prasanna Raghuram	2552	92	Sonawane, Atharv	1952	46	Yu, Kevin	1627
87	Javahadze, Zurab	2528	99	Mohammadi, Sina	1936	51	Laddha, Shubh Jayesh	1609
Age 65 and Over			Age 14			57	Zhang, Andrew Huangtiankai	1595
35	Hulse, Brian	2208	17	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2231	84	Bansal, Rohan	1486
45	Simms, Gary	2200	41	Huo, Rannon	2082	94	Laddha, Yash Jayesh	1466
64	Malazarte, Ernesto L	2164	43	Fan, William G	2059	96	Khan, Hayyan	1463
89	Chase, Stephen M	2070	53	Buergler, Jacob	2031	Age 8		
94	Probasco, Robert D	2063	57	Tsuei, Kai	2023	6	Kunka, Harshid	1819
Age 50 and Over			60	Huang, Max	2013	11	Sheehan, Ethan	1774
No Listings			61	Nguyen, Dang Minh	2011	52	Jin, Tony	1444
Under Age 21			62	Liu, Kevin	2010	53	Gao, Tianwen	1436
1	Xiong, Jeffery	2738	77	Frutos, Chase	1950	54	Miramontes, Luis	1410
3	Li, Ruifeng	2651	85	Bandi, Rohit Choudary	1945	60	Jha, Krish	1374
6	Yang, Darwin	2584	89	Ganesh, Anirudh	1932	72	Malik, Harsh Vishal	1324
11	Vazquez, Guillermo	2558	97	Gupta, Som	1906	75	Sun, Alexander	1319
29	Ruiz C, Joshua D	2467	Age 13			80	Ma, Dylan	1308
58	Lin, Dachev	2367	12	Gu, Brian Fanyuan	2215	80	Shetty, Daksh	1308
75	Liu, Bovey	2340	16	Vivekananthan, Anish	2192	86	Wang, Kellen	1300
77	Chiang, Jonathan	2337	17	Kung, Thomas	2190	87	Parekh, Arnav C	1290
80	Wang, Justin	2330	22	Peng, Peter	2140	88	Shafer, Logan Clark	1282
85	He, Tommy	2323	28	Hawthorn, Charles	2091	92	Elangovan, Ramya	1273
96	Pamatmat, Jarod John M	2310	35	Yan, Austin K	2063	Age 7 and Under		
Age 18			46	Ganthapodi, Maanav S	2054	8	Li, Rachael	1576
30	Malhotra, Akshay	2250	51	Niu, Baron T	1999	25	Ham, Nikolas Rex	1335
33	Han, Curran	2240	72	Prabu, Advait	1986	55	Xu, Bryan	1211
34	Vaidya, Atulya	2231	75	Shet, Jai	1923	69	Membrilla, Gael	1165
37	Obili, Abhishek	2214	85	Balderas, Adolfo Augusto, Jr	1912	78	He, Logan	1109
38	Wleziens, Alexander	2212				79	Mel, Ethan R	1107
41	Brannon, Joshua Scott	2181	Age 12					
51	Nguyen, Duy Minh	2130	3	Wang, Justin	2330	Women Overall		
58	Xiang, Evan	2089	5	Metpally, Jason	2221	6	Foisor, Sabina-Francesca	2406
64	Jacob, Andrew	2065	13	Hung, Daniel	2155	13	Danelia, Mariam	2334
81	Nandula, Ram Aditya	2021	29	Vaidya, Atreya	2048	18	Andrenko, Iryna	2285
99	Mao, Marcus S	1956	30	Wang, Yanke	2038	19	Apecheche, Yanira Vigoa	2280
Age 17			42	Zhu, Harvey	1984	26	Inapuri, Ramya	2248
9	Lin, Dachev	2367	43	Hawthorn, Henry	1983	28	Heredia, Carla	2246
13	Chiang, Jonathan	2337	54	Rajaram, Rudransh	1913	30	Chiang, Sarah	2232
14	He, Tommy	2323	61	Mcnutt, William Howard	1891	31	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2231
33	Capocyan, Sam Lander Cabrera	2212	62	Romo, Benjamin	1889	51	Devagharan, Devina	2139
36	Lu, Andrew H	2200	78	Kumarappan, Ganesh	1881	60	Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	2106
64	Moore, Alex Michael	2085	70	Frutos, Cole	1877	65	Xiang, Evan	2089
86	Hsieh, David	2009	73	Yeung, Wesley	1872	77	Munoz, Claudia E	2055
Age 16			79	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1846	79	Alston, Angela Jennifer	2045
1	Xiong, Jeffery	2738	80	Ayinala, Shree	1844	81	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2037
26	Frenkel, Benjamin	2233	99	Ramesh, Sreenevash	1805	91	Kao, Camille Y	2004
29	Premkumar, Hiren	2174	Age 11			95	Bochenkova, Azzama Azzamovna	1999
49	Hullahalli, Adarsh	2146	14	Oberoi, Shelev	2027			
			15	Trakru, Rohun	2016			

Women Age 65 and Over			Girls Age 15			Girls Age 11 (continued)		
4	O'Neill, Julia	1800	4	Devagharan, Devina	2139	93	Wu, Alison	1029
19	Hardesty, Brenda	1228	9	Kao, Camille Y	2004	96	Athila, Akshaya	1019
Women Age 50 and Over			33	Bao, Yuliang Eunice	1693			
4	Alston, Angela Jennifer	2045	36	Zhao, Vivian	1565	Girls Age 10		
13	O'Neill, Julia	1800	37	Zhu, Yining	1564	7	Chennuru, Anshu	1549
59	Hardesty, Brenda	1228	40	Bhat, Puja Prashant	1490	37	Bandaru, Tanvi	1210
71	Lamont, Olga A	1071	63	Solis, Gabriela	1216	45	Solis, Natalie	1169
75	Irwin, Marla	1012	66	Flowers, Ava	1190	46	Jacinto, Gianna G	1164
84	Jamison, Helen	885	67	Gonzalez, Jolie Marie	1162	66	Pilla, Ananya Valli	1065
Girls Under 21			67	Tovias, Lauren	1152	71	Vijay, Samiya	1039
10	Chiang, Sarah	2232	68	Flores, Victoria I	1151	90	Zhang, Taylor	992
11	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2231	70	Hernandez, Victoria Ann	1122	98	Lopez, Kathya Vanessa	946
20	Devagharan, Devina	2139	75	Oliveira, Lauren R	1076	Girls Age 9		
27	Xiang, Evan	2089	80	Berger, Sarah	1034	11	Wang, Kalina Yuke	1440
37	Munoz, Claudia E	2055	82	Babarria, Niyati Rakesh	1029	13	Balaji, Sai Sangeetha	1434
40	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2037	85	Delgado, Victoria E	993	25	Ham, Emily	1255
47	Kao, Camille Y	2004	97	Chryst, Bailey	860	26	Sinha, Tavishi	1254
56	Nguyen, Brittany Mong-Tran	1967	Girls Age 14			28	Hwang, Alexis	1235
60	Palang, Caissa	1952	2	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2231	47	Uviedo, Violette	1081
68	Palakollu, Samritha	1916	17	Cheng, Angela	1781	49	Iyer, Niyati	1072
71	Zhao, Annie	1912	34	Zhou, Julia	1526	66	Reddy, Tanvi	980
93	Chu, Yue	1858	36	Cedillo Bocanegra, Ana Karen	1483	68	Badan, Rima	979
Girls Age 18			40	Bautista, Ilse V	1472	75	Gomez, Frida Mariela	959
4	Xiang, Evan	2089	53	Boren, Isabel	1322	81	Keener, Karen	939
7	Palang, Caissa	1952	57	Murgulet, Ioana	1272	83	Mandra, Anika A	914
8	Zhao, Annie	1912	60	Vasquez, Angelica	1250	87	Nair, Pallavi	880
20	Plew, Bethany Anne	1654	65	Ravichandar, Shreya	1203	88	Espinosa, Sarah Elena	876
21	Brown, Sarah	1622	86	Miller, Ashlyn	1020	91	Basepogu, Rachel	860
27	Leos, Emily	1253	Girls Age 13			95	Yi, Bella	849
31	Dagher, Viola N	1157	35	Manohar, Riya	1433	96	Mehta, Tanisi	845
39	Rivas, Cristina	970	41	Perera, Dimanthi	1403	97	Gomez, Leeandra Marley	844
41	Alba-Jimenez, Sandra Michelle	947	50	Garcia, Emily Alexis	1356	Girls Age 8		
44	Guzman, Vanessa Renee	898	52	Bautista, Reyna	1355	6	Gao, Tianwen	1436
49	Alvarez, Anna M	730	63	Salinas, Brianna Christina	1284	12	Elangovan, Ramya	1273
50	Montelongo, Evelyn	719	65	Reistle, Jane	1275	20	Mcnutt, Kaitlynn Lee	1148
52	Morales, Lidia Alissa	656	68	Manoj, Aswathi	1204	45	John, Natalie Michelle	921
Girls Age 17			69	Azim, Risa	1200	47	John, Ashley Daniella	910
8	Nguyen, Brittany Mong-Tran	1967	71	Madhugiri, Shruthi	1193	54	Akella, Sravya Suparna	889
31	Guillen, Brianna	1552	76	Krishnan, Aashika	1151	57	Rodriguez, Eleticia Ruby	879
45	Guillen, Sarai A	1221	83	Chaudhary, Shreya	1122	59	Balci, Ayda	868
50	Martinez, Yvette	1122	84	Melgarejo, Fernanda	1114	68	Back, Iliana	813
52	Morrison, Nicole Leigh	1090	87	Iyer, Ramya	1094	75	Camacho, Kaitlyn	782
53	Reed, Ambriette D	1088	93	Ramirez, Patricia N	1066	76	Alanis, Juliana Cristina	781
64	Davila, Priscilla N	815	97	Senapathi, Shriya	1058	88	Cruz, Vivica R	704
65	Uhlig, Sarah D	806	Girls Age 12			95	Yong, Evelin	670
67	Solorzano, Roxana L	774	4	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1846	Girls Age 7 and Under		
68	Gonzalez, Janeth	737	5	Ayinala, Shree	1844	1	Li, Rachael	1576
72	Villalpando, Lindsey	633	7	Yellamraju, Aparna	1764	18	Zhang, Sunny	1010
Girls Age 16			8	Yellamraju, Ambica	1762	32	Hosur, Sanmita	825
4	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2037	24	Kao, Simona Y	1561	39	Gutierrez, Victoria Angelique	790
8	Palakollu, Samritha	1916	65	Wang, Catherine	1270	42	Contreras, Rosario Nayeli	768
14	Abella, Clarissa Louise	1796	72	Balderas, Ana Luisa	1240	45	Raghubraja, Sri Yashvi	760
19	Zheng, Christine	1711	87	Gunukula, Renee	1165	59	Wang, Crystal	649
20	Qureshi, Sadia	1706	96	Babarria, Rajvi Rakesh	1111	63	Gomez, Nelly Daniela	609
26	Rodriguez, Dominique	1589	99	Flores, Madelyn A	1108	67	Yu, Karina	571
36	Salazar, Lillian	1458	Girls Age 11			72	Ramirez, Isabella	551
38	Le, Tu Boi	1427	32	Padilla, Karlee	1397	73	Barba, Isabella	548
39	Garza, Ariel Francis	1383	35	Furman, Jessica	1383	74	Sudarsan, Abhirami	545
41	Ortiz, Felicia	1337	42	Naidu, Suchitra	1332	77	Posadas, Sofia Eliana	542
47	Solis, Crystal Marie	1269	47	Binoj, Gaayathri	1267	82	Garza, Brithany	524
59	Torres, Cittalii	1157	49	Aggarwal, Manika	1256	83	Cervantes, Makayla	514
60	Cervera, Maria B	1138	53	Ghatti, Saisneha	1228	86	Lopez, Celeste Catalina	502
73	Capetillo, Emily	1015	60	Pulido, Emma Rose	1190	89	Penk, Kaylin	497
75	Christensen, Asha Taylor	997	61	Lu, Maggie	1166	94	Trevino, Zayda Grace	476
81	Harris, Rachelle	932	69	Hernandez, Sarah	1111	95	Rodriguez, Jayden Ella	474
83	Castillo, Julianna Deanda	904	70	Perry, Emily	1104			
84	Hale, Abbie	879	77	Vasquez, Izabel	1084			
87	Pena, Ashley	815	80	Delgado, Gisele Josephine	1075			
91	Crossman, Jennifer Love	651	88	Iyer, Madhalasa	1041			
			90	Patil, Srushti	1040			



Tactics Time! Answers

Answers:

1. **24...Qg5** threatens **...Qxg2#** and **...Qxd2**. White cannot meet both threats.
2. **15.c4** and the Black Knight has no escape squares.
3. **16...Bc4** skewers the Queen and Rook.
4. **40...Qxe1+ 41.Kxe1 Nd3+** wins a piece.
5. **32...Qd4+** forks the King and Bishop
6. **22.b4** attacks the pinned knight
7. **39.e6+** forks the King and Rook
8. **35.Nf8+** forks the King and Rook.

Cover. 17.Nxh6+! gxh6 18.Rxf6

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 at tacticstime.com.

Region IV Report

Many teachers pack up and go on vacation during the Summer. But not this one. I'd like to introduce you to our best kept secret. Coach Greg Davis at Frederick Douglass Elementary School in El Paso , TX. Coach Davis has been playing chess for over 30 years and has been a certified chess coach since the mid 90's. All the kids on campus know who he is and when they leave they often come back to see him. He teaches life lessons that form the foundation of these rising champions. He asked his administration to open the campus for a series of meetings to enhance his team over the summer. He is always open to new opportunities and brings his students to join other chess events around town to help his team and chess here in El Paso. He does not look for the spotlight. He focuses on the chess and the life lessons it teaches. More importantly, he focuses on his kids. He is their best advocate in education, in life and chess. He told me once re-

cently that after speaking to some of his administrators in the past, they often would tell him your " going down the wrong pipe." He replied, "then burst through the pipe, think outside the box". That's right coach, thanks for your teachings for the Douglass Students as well as the El Paso chess community. We are so blessed to have you. Coach Davis will be hosting his enrichment camp every Wednesday morning throughout the summer.





Continued from
Page 14



**Nakamura, Hikaru (2793) –
Onischuk, Alexander (2667)**

[D36: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation: Main line (5 Bg5 c6 6 Qc2)]

**1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6
4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3
Be7 7.Bd3 Nbd7 8.Qc2 Nh5
9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.0-0-0 Nb6
11.h3 g6 12.Nf3 Be6 13.Kb1
0-0-0 14.Nd2 Ng7 15.g4 Kb8
16.Nb3 h5 17.f3 Bc8 18.Qf2**
[last book move]

18...hgx4 19.hxg4 Ne6 20.f4
[White has a new backward
pawn: e3]

20...Nc7 21.f5 [White threat-
ens to win material: f5xg6]

21...Qg5 22.Rhg1 Rh3
[Attacking the backward pawn
on e3]

23.e4 Rdh8 24.e5 [White wins
space]

[24.Nc5 Rh2 25.Qg3 gxf5
26.exf5 R2h3=]

24...Rh2 [24...Nc4 25.Bxc4
dxc4 26.Ne4=]

25.Qe1 [25.Qf1 Nc4 26.Bxc4
dxc4 27.Qxc4 gxf5 28.Qxf7
fxg4=]

**25...Nc4= 26.Bxc4 dxc4
27.Nd2 Qf4** [27...gxf5!]

**28.Nf3 Qg6 29.Nxh2 fxg4+
30.Ka1 Rxh2=]**

28.e6= gxf5 29.exf7 Be6
[Black threatens to win materi-
al: Be6xf7]

30.Rf1 Qxg4 31.Nf3 [White
threatens to win material:
Nf3xh2]

31...Rg2 [31...R2h6 32.Ne5
Qg7 33.Rg1=]

32.d5 cxd5 33.Nxd5
[233.Qe5 would allow White to
play on 33...Qg7 34.Rg1 Qxe5
35.Nxe5=]

**33...Qg7= 34.Nc3 Qxf7
35.Qe5 Re8 36.Qd6 Qf8
37.Nb5** [37.Nh4 Qxd6 38.Rxd6
Rg5=]

**37...Qxd6+ 38.Nxd6 Rh8
39.Rh1 Rxh1 40.Rxh1 Rg8**
[40...f4 41.Rh8+ Rg8
42.Rxg8+ Bxg8 43.Kc2+]

**41.Nd4 f4 42.Rh6 Bc8
43.Nxc4 Nd5 44.Kc2 Rd8
45.Rd6 Rxd6 46.Nxd6 Bh3
47.a3 Kc7 48.Ne4 a5 49.Nd2
b6 50.Kd3 Bg2 51.Nc2 Ne7
52.b4** [52.Nd4 Bd5=]

52...a4 [52...Nf5 53.Ne1 Bd5
54.bxa5 bxa5 55.Nc4=]

**53.Nd4 Kd7 54.Ke2 Bd5
55.Nb5** [55.Kd3 Kd6=]

**55...Kc6 56.Nc3 b5 57.Kd3
Nf5** [257...Ng6=]

58.Nd1? [258.Ne2=]

**58...Kd6+ 59.Nc3 Bc6
60.Nce4+ Ke7** [60...Ke6
61.Nf3+]

61.Ng5 [61.Nf2 Kf6+]

61...Kf6 62.Nge4+ Ke7
[Twofold repetition]

**63.Ng5 Bg2 64.Nge4 Ke6
65.Nf2** [65.Nc3 Bc6+]

65...Kd5 [265...Ne3 and Black
can already relax 66.Ke2 Kf5-
+]

66.Nd1?? [an oversight. But
White was lost anyway.]

[66.Ng4+]

66...Nd6 67.Nf2 [67.Nc3+
doesn't do any good 67...Ke5
68.Kc2 Kd4 69.Ne2+ Ke3+]

67...Nc4 68.Nxc4 [68.Nd1
Nxd2 69.Kxd2+]

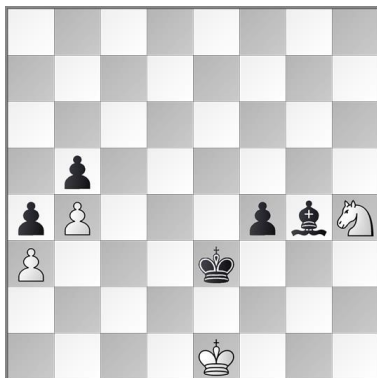
**68...Bf1+ 69.Kc3 Bxc4
70.Nh3 Ke4 71.Kd2 Be6
72.Ng5+** [72.Nf2+ doesn't im-
prove anything 72...Kd4+]

72...Kd5 73.Nf3 Bg4
[273...Kc4 makes it even eas-
ier for Black 74.Ne1 Kb3+]

74.Nh4 [74.Nh2 the only
chance to get some counter-
play 74...Bc8 75.Kd3+]

74...Ke4 [74...Kd4!? keeps an
even firmer grip 75.Ke1 Ke3
76.Ng2+ Kf3 77.Nxf4 Kxf4
78.Kf2+]

75.Ke1 Ke3 [75...Ke3 76.Ng2+ Kf3 77.Nxf4 Kxf4-+] 0-1



Onischuk,Alexander (2667) – Xiong,Jeffery (2674)

[D85: Exchange Grünfeld: Unusual White th moves and lines with 7 Nf3]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5
4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3
6.bxc3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5 8.Be3
Bg4 9.Rc1 0-0 10.Be2 Qa5
11.Qd2 cxd4 12.cxd4 Nc6
13.Qxa5 Nxa5 [last book move]

14.h3 Bxf3 [Black forks: g2+e4]

15.Bxf3 [White has the pair of bishops]

15...Rfc8 16.Ke2 e5 17.dxe5
Bxe5 18.Bg4 Rc4 [Black threatens to win material: Rc4xe4]

19.f4 [White threatens to win material: f4xe5]

19...Bb2 20.Rxc4 Nxc4
21.Bf2 Re8 22.Bf3 Na3

23.Rd1 Rc8 24.e5 [White wins space]

24...Bc1? [Δ24...b6±]

25.Bxb7+- Rc2+ 26.Kf3 Bd2
[26...Rc3+ 27.Ke4 Rc2
28.Bxa7+-]

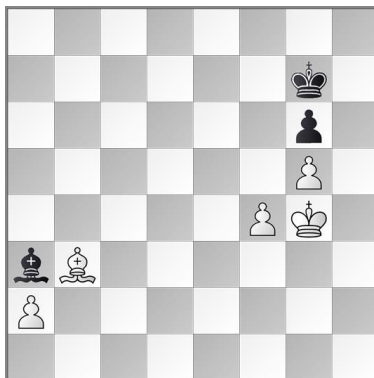
27.Bd5 Nb5 28.Bb3 Rb2

29.g3 [29.Be3 keeps an even firmer grip 29...Bxe3 30.Rd8+ Kg7 31.Kxe3 Rxc2+-]

29...Nc3 30.Ra1 a5 31.e6 fxe6
32.Bxe6+ Kf8 33.Bc5+ Kg7
34.Bd4+ Kf8 35.Bb3 Ke8
36.Rf1 a4 37.Bxc3 Bxc3
38.Bxa4+ Kf8 39.Bb3 Bd2
40.Rf2 [40.Rd1 Ke7+-]

40...Bc3± 41.Rxb2 Bxb2
42.Ke4 Ba3 43.Ke5 Ke7 44.g4
Bd6+ 45.Ke4 Ba3 46.Bg8 h6
47.h4 Kf6 48.Bb3 Ke7
[48...Bb4!?±]

49.g5+- hxg5 50.hxg5 Kf8
51.Kf3 Kg7 52.Kg4 1-0



Kamsky,Gata (2659) – Onischuk,Alexander (2667)

[C78: Ruy Lopez: Archangelsk and Möller Defences]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6
4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Bc5 6.c3 b5
7.Bb3 d6 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4 Bg4
10.axb5 axb5 11.Rxa8 Qxa8
12.h3 Bh5 13.d5 Ne7 14.Bc2
[last book move]

14...Qc8 15.Qe2 [White threatens to win material: Qe2xb5]

15...0-0 16.Bg5 Ng6 17.Nbd2
h6 18.Be3 Bxe3 19.Qxe3
Bxf3 20.Qxf3 b4 21.Ra1 Qb7
22.g3 [Covers f4+h4]

22...Ra8 23.Rxa8+ Qxa8
24.cxb4 [Black has a new backward pawn: c7]

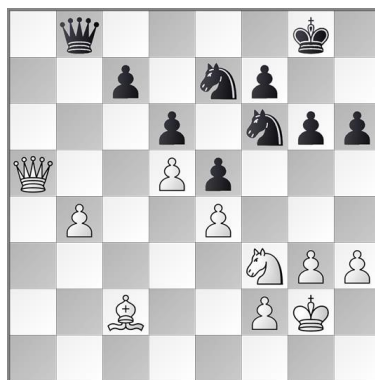
24...Qa1+ 25.Kg2 Qxb2 [Black forks: c2+b4]

26.Qb3 [White threatens to win material: Qb3xb2]

26...Qd4 [Black threatens to win material: Qd4xd2]

27.Nf3 [White threatens to win material: Nf3xd4]

27...Qa7 28.Qc4 Ne7 29.Qb5
g6 30.Qa5 Qb8 ½-½



Checkmate!

Aurelio Frank Gonzalez, Jr.

January 7, 1963 – May 11, 2017

By Carmen Chairez, Tom Crane and Jim Hollingsworth



Perhaps it is fate that last Easter Sunday our old friend Aurelio “Frank” Gonzalez was strolling through Fort Worth’s Greenwood Memorial Park with his wife Kathy, looking at tombstones and getting ideas for decorating her deceased mother’s grave, when he paused and mentioned, “When I go, I want ‘Checkmate!’ on my tombstone!” Who could have known then the beloved North Texas player would pass away in only a few weeks?

Aurelio Gonzalez was a loving father and faithful husband. He went through his entire life without a single enemy and had a mountain of friends. He was also a chess champion. Few would know that, unless they had played in the 2003 Tarrant County (Texas) Championship, where he topped a 31 player field with his 3.5/4.0 score. Aurelio Gonzalez never bragged about his title. In fact, he never bragged about anything, especially himself.

His family called him Junior. His close friends called him Frank. As a youngster, the neighborhood kids could not pronounce his first name. He said, “Don’t worry about it. Call me anything.” Someone said, “Hey, Frank!” and he answered. He became “Frank” from then on. At the chess club,

we didn’t know he was Frank, especially since he always answered when we said, “Hey, Aurelio!”

A strong chess player, Aurelio Gonzalez absolutely loved the game and was a U.S. Chess Federation (US Chess) Life Member. US Chess records only go back to 1991, yet show he played nearly 600 rated chess games, including one victory over a chess master (Alex Chua in 2007). He also scored 6 draws against masters, including one against US Chess Life Senior Master Jeffrey Xiong (in 2011). It is possible Aurelio played over 1,000 rated games, as he was ac-

tive long before 1991. One of this article’s authors played him, in 1981, in an Austin tournament. Aurelio’s family tells a story about how he stayed home, as a teenager, so he could play chess with a friend over the phone.



Aurelio Gonzalez was generous and encouraged younger chess players. Chess Expert Quaitemes Williams recalls Aurelio welcoming him to the old Watauga Chess Club in 2005. Aurelio gave Quaitemes a chess book and improvement tips. Today, Quaitemes is paying Aurelio’s gift forward, by teaching youngsters chess and giving away his own chess books.

Like many of us, Aurelio Gonzalez settled down, married his beautiful wife and best friend, Kathy, put chess on the back burner, and focused on his family and career. They first met in 1986. He had given notice to his employer and she was hired as his replacement. He trained her, side-by-side, and then moved on to what he thought would be greener pastures. But, he soon discovered his new job, telemarketing, wasn't his cup of tea and asked for his old job back. But, doing so meant the nice young lady he had trained would lose her job. He would have none of that and asked if there was another slot. There was something available on the night shift, so he took that.



For the next year, “Frank” and Kathy bumped into each other and socialized often in the break room. They would smile and laugh. He told her funny stories. But, he was a gentlemen and a little shy. So, she played the next and most important move of their lives and asked him to go on a date.

However, there were some pitfalls in the budding romance. She was aware of his passion (“I didn't choose chess. Chess chose me.”). She wanted to make things work and agreed to go on a special date; to a chess tournament! She recalls it was in a church, in a large room filled with chess players and about a hundred old fashioned chess clocks (and all going “Tic tock, tic tock, tic tock!”). She felt like all that noise in the cavernous tournament hall was going to drive her insane! She made a phone call. “Mom, come get me!” If God has mansions for chess widows, Kathy Gonzales surely has a huge one reserved for her and her Frank. They married

in 1988 and remained devoted to each other ever since.

Aurelio managed to play in only five tournaments during the 1990's. That all changed in 2001. After he returned home from work, Kathy gave him a postcard from Harmon Throneberry, a US Chess Life Member and Texas Chess Association (TCA) Life Patron Member. Harmon lived in Watauga, Texas, the same as Aurelio and Kathy. And Harmon was organizing the Watauga Chess Club and had the City's permission to host the club in an old farm house on Starnes Road. Aurelio was quickly drafted as Treasurer and faithfully and capably accomplished his duties the rest of his life.

There is one funny story about Aurelio's flexibility as Club Treasurer. The prizes weren't big, maybe 8 or 10 dollars for Second Place. One of the club members finished in the money quite often, but wouldn't cash his modest checks for, sometimes, months. Aurelio told him, “Look, you're messing up my accounting! Cash those checks, will ya'?” The player persisted, most likely because he wanted to frame the checks, but kept changing his mind. So, Aurelio started paying out cash and having the winners sign receipts. That's an example of Aurelio's creative problem solving and financial management.



The word “Watauga” is an Indian word meaning “Many Springs.” Aurelio finished second out of 18 players, with a 3.5/4.0 score in the club's first tournament, Many Springs Open #1 (MSO #1). The Watauga Chess Club's name eventually changed to

the Tarrant County Chess Club. Aurelio Gonzalez's life touched 266 out of 267 Tarrant County Chess Club tournaments, as a player, organizer, tournament director, and club treasurer. MSO #100, on May 20, 2017, was the only event he missed. However, all 19 players honored Aurelio by waiving their prizes as donations to help Aurelio's family.



Aurelio Gonzalez was an extremely active member of the Texas Chess Team. So active, in fact, that Victor Yaward, the famous chess analyst and reporter, crowned him "The most fanatical chess player in Texas" for playing in all fifteen Red River Shootout (RRSO) tournaments, the annual team match between the most fanatical chess players in Oklahoma and Texas. In 2013, he also served as Texas Chess Team Captain and RRSO Chief Assistant Tournament Director. After his passing, Aurelio Gonzalez still holds two RRSO records: Top Gladiator (12 match victories) and Top Warrior (14.5 match points scored).



Aurelio Gonzalez was a humble man and quite willing to share both victories and defeats if it would bring a smile to others. In late 2001, he brought a scoresheet to the chess club and shared it with one of this article's authors (Jim Hollingsworth). He said he had forgotten all about the game until a friend in New York sent it to him. It was a Benko Gambit played in the last round of a 1982 tournament in Austin. Aurelio had the white pieces against this author. It was like opening a time machine. We went over every move and could remember everything each of us was thinking. It didn't matter to Aurelio that he lost that game. For him it was a beautiful piece of art. Afterward, he gave me the scoresheet and I will treasure it forever!



Carmen Chairez used to host playing sessions with local child prodigies and anyone else who wanted to play, on Sunday afternoons, in his home. Sometimes they played blitz. Sometimes they played Bughouse. Sometimes they played standard time controls. Aurelio was there, wearing a big smile, every Sunday. Carmen also had this to say:

Aurelio and I participated at chess tournaments in Texas such as Abilene, San Antonio, as well as others. Also, we went together to participate at the Red River Shoot Out tournaments in Oklahoma. We also mentored and encouraged

two teenage players (Austen Green and Jacob Lee). For one weekend tournament, I first picked up Aurelio before picking up Jacob & Austen. He looked right at me and said: "Did you tell them that we snored?" I said, "No, why spoil the fun of letting them tell a story about us snoring?" Jacob and Austen never complained about us snoring. We paid for the hotel and they paid for their own tournament fees. Since we were going, why not invite them to come with us? That was our thought at the time.

When I was teaching at 3rd graders at Dallas elementary school, Aurelio joined me and played the 3rd grade students. He was impressed with their playing style. He also helped provide transportation for many players, with his van, to San Antonio tournaments. He was always ready to help with a smile! He was always polite and never complained about anything.

He was buried like a true chess playing warrior, wearing his favorite blue plaid shirt. His glasses were hooked onto and hanging down from his left shirt pocket. Beside them were four evenly spaced ink pens. His left arm cradled his favorite rolled up chess board. A bag filled with triple-weighted Staunton design chess pieces was positioned strategically below that. A few of his favorite chess books were displayed next to that. Along the right side of his belt was hooked a shiny golden piece of jewelry with the word chess in large letters.



You can find Aurelio's grave, today, at Fort Worth's Greenwood Memorial Park. Look for the tombstone inscribed with "Checkmate!"

Texas Armed Forces and Military Veterans Open



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2017 US Junior Championships

For additional info: <http://uschesschamps.com/2017-us-junior-championship/overview>

The US Junior Championships were held between July 7th and 18th in St. Louis, Missouri. There were 10 participants. Texas was well represented by **GM Ruifeng Li** who placed 3rd with a score of 5.5/9. Below are his games.

Li,Ruifeng (2568) – Brattain,Mika (2364) [A01]

1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 c5 3.e3 Nf6
4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bb5 Bd7 6.0-0
e6 7.d4 cxd4 8.exd4 Bd6
9.a3 0-0 10.Bd3 Ne4 11.c4
f5 12.Nc3 Qf6 13.cxd5
Nxc3 14.Bxc3 exd5 15.b4
f4 16.Qb3 Ne7 17.b5 Bg4
18.Ne5 Be6 19.Rfe1 Bxe5
20.Rxe5 Ng6 21.Rh5 f3
22.g3 Qf7 23.Rg5 Qf6
24.h4 Nh8 25.Re5 Ng6
26.Rh5 h6 27.Qc2 Nf4
28.gxf4 Qxf4 29.Kf1 Qh2
30.Ke1 Qg1+ 31.Kd2
Qxf2+ 32.Kc1 Qg3 33.Kb2
f2 34.Bf1 Rac8 35.Qd2 Rf3
36.Rc1 Bh3 37.Be2 Rfxc3
38.Rxc3 Qxc3+ 39.Qxc3
Rxc3 40.Kxc3 Bg4
41.Bxg4 f1Q 42.Rxd5
Qe1+ 43.Kc4 Qc1+ 44.Kb3
Qb1+ 45.Kc3 Qe1+ 46.Kc4
Qxh4 47.Be6+ Kf8 48.Rd7
Qe4 49.Bd5 Qc2+ 50.Kb4
b6 51.Bc6 Qb2+ 52.Kc4
Qa2+ 53.Kb4 Qb2+ 54.Kc4
Qxa3 55.d5 a6 56.bxa6
Qxa6+ 57.Kd4 Qa1+
58.Ke4 Qe1+ 59.Kd4 Qf2+
60.Ke4 h5 61.Rd8+ Ke7

62.Re8+ Kf7 63.Rh8 h4
64.Bd7 Qg2+ 65.Kd4 Qg3
66.Be6+ Ke7 67.Kc4 g5
68.Rh7+ Kd6 69.Rh6 Ke5
70.Kb5 g4 71.Kc6 h3
72.d6 Qc3+ 73.Kd7 Qd4
74.Rh5+ Kf6 75.Rf5+ Kg6
76.Rd5 Qa4+ 77.Ke7 h2
78.Bf7+ Kh6 79.Rh5+ Kg7
80.Rg5+ Kh6 81.Rh5+ Kg7
82.Rg5+ $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Troff,Kayden (2472) – Li,Ruifeng (2568) [D45]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6
4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Qc2
Bd6 7.Bd3 dxc4 8.Bxc4 b5
9.Be2 0-0 10.0-0 a6 11.Ng5
Qc7 12.e4 Bxh2+ 13.Kh1
c5 14.e5 h6 15.Nf3 cxd4
16.exf6 Be5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5
18.fxg7 Kxg7 19.Qe4 Rd8
20.Qh4 Rh8 21.Qxd4 f6
22.Bf4 Bb7 23.Bxe5 fxe5
24.Qg4+ Kf6 25.Ne4+
Bxe4 26.Qxe4 Rad8
27.Rac1 1-0

Li,Ruifeng (2568) – Tang,Andrew (2478) [A01]

1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 c5 3.e3 Nc6
4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bb5 Qb6
6.Be2 Bf5 7.0-0 e6 8.Nh4
Bg6 9.d3 Be7 10.Nd2 Qc7
11.f4 d4 12.e4 Nd7 13.Qe1
Qd8 14.g3 Nf6 15.Qd1 h6
16.Nxg6 fxc6 17.Nc4 b5
18.Nd2 0-0 19.a4 a6
20.Bg4 Qd7 21.Bh3 Rae8
22.axb5 axb5 23.Nf3 Kh7
24.Qe2 Bd8 25.Bc1 Qb7
26.Bd2 Bb6 27.Nh4 Bd8
28.e5 Nd5 29.Nxg6 Kxg6
30.Qe4+ Kf7 31.f5 Kg8
32.fxe6 Nce7 33.Bxh6 Nf5
34.Bxf5 gxh6 35.Bg6
Rxf1+ 36.Rxf1 Rf8 37.Rf7
Rxf7 38.Bxf7+ Kf8 39.Qh7
Qc6 40.Qxh6+ Ke7
41.Qg5+ 1-0

Li,Ruifeng (2568) – Chandra,Akshat (2484) [A01]

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.Nf3
d6 4.e3 g6 5.d4 Bg7
6.dxe5 Nxe5 7.Nxe5 Bxe5
8.Nc3 Be6 9.Qd2 Qd7
10.e4 Ne7 11.0-0-0 0-0-0
12.f4 Bg7 13.g3 Kb8
14.Bg2 Bh3 15.Kb1 Bxg2
16.Qxg2 Rhe8 17.e5 Qc6

18.Qxc6 Nxc6 19.exd6
Rxd6 20.Rxd6 cxd6
21.Rd1 Bxc3 22.Bxc3 Kc7
23.Rd2 f5 24.a4 Re4
25.Kb2 Kd7 26.Bg7 Re7
27.Bf8 Re6 28.c4 b6
29.Bg7 a5 30.Bc3 Kc7
31.Kc2 Nb8 32.Rd1 Na6
33.Re1 1/2-1/2

**Brown,Michael (2508) –
Li,Ruifeng (2568) [E32]**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3
Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0 5.Nf3 d6
6.g3 b6 7.Bg2 Bb7 8.0-0
Bxc3 9.Qxc3 Nbd7 10.b3
Re8 11.Bb2 Be4 12.Rad1
c6 13.Bh3 d5 14.cxd5
Nxd5 15.Qd2 Bxf3 16.exf3
N7f6 17.Rfe1 Qd6 18.f4 g6
19.Bg2 a5 20.a3 Kg7
21.Rc1 h5 22.Rc4 Ra7
23.Rec1 Rc7 24.Qc2 Rec8
25.h4 Ng4 26.Bf3 Nh6
27.Qe4 Nf5 28.Qe1 Kg8
29.R4c2 Qe7 30.Qe5 Qd6
31.Qe1 Kh7 32.Bg2 Rd7
33.Rd1 Rg8 34.Rdc1 Rc8
35.Rd1 Rg8 36.Rdc1 Rc7
37.Re2 Rd8 38.Rd2 Nxf4
39.gxf4 Qxf4 40.Rd3 Nxh4
41.Bh1 Nf5 42.Qe4 Qxe4
43.Bxe4 Ne7 44.Bg2 Nd5
45.Rd2 Rd6 46.Rdc2 f5
47.Bxd5 exd5 48.b4 axb4
49.axb4 b5 50.Rc5 Re6
51.Kf1 h4 52.Rxd5 cxd5
53.Rxc7+ Kh6 54.Kg2 g5
55.Kf3 g4+ 56.Kg2 f4
57.Bc1 Re4 58.Rf7 Kg5
59.Rg7+ Kf5 60.Rf7+ Kg5

61.Rg7+ Kf5 62.Rf7+ 1/2-1/2

**Li,Ruifeng (2568) –
Liu,Bovey (2228) [B23]**

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.g3 a6
4.Bg2 b5 5.d3 Bb7 6.Nh3
d6 7.0-0 Nc6 8.f4 Nf6
9.Be3 Qc7 10.f5 b4 11.fxe6
bxc3 12.exf7+ Qxf7
13.bxc3 Ne5 14.Rb1 h6
15.Qe2 0-0-0 16.d4 Qc4
17.Qf2 Neg4 18.Qf5+ Rd7
19.Rxb7 Kxb7 20.e5+ Kc7
21.Bf4 Qxc3 22.exf6
Qxd4+ 23.Kh1 Nxf6
24.Rb1 g6 25.Qe6 Bg7
26.c3 Qd3 27.Rb7+ Kd8
28.Nf2 Qf5 29.Rb8+ Kc7
30.Bxd6+ Rxd6 31.Rb7+
Kd8 32.Qxd6+ Ke8
33.Qe7# 1-0

**Liang,Awonder (2536) –
Li,Ruifeng (2568) [B51]**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+
Nd7 4.0-0 a6 5.Bd3 Ngf6
6.Re1 b5 7.c4 g5 8.Nxg5
Ne5 9.Bf1 bxc4 10.Na3
Rg8 11.d4 cxd4 12.f4 Bg4
13.Qxd4 Nd3 14.Bxd3
cxd3 15.Qxd3 e6 16.f5 h6
17.Nf3 d5 18.fxe6 dxe4
19.exf7+ Kxf7 20.Ne5+
Ke6 21.Qc3 Nd5 22.Qd4
Nf6 23.Qc3 Nd5 24.Qc4
Bh3 25.Qxe4 Bc5+ 26.Kh1
Bxg2+ 27.Qxg2 Rxg2

28.Nc6+ Kf5 29.Nxd8 Rf2
30.Nf7 Kg4 31.Rg1+ Kh3
32.Ng5+ hxg5 33.Rg3+
Kh4 34.Bxg5+ Kh5
35.Rag1 Rf3 36.Rxf3 Bxg1
37.Rf5 Rg8 38.Rxd5 1-0

**Li,Ruifeng (2568) –
Checa,Nicolas (2415)
[A01]**

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3
Nf6 4.Bb5 Bd6 5.Na3 Na5
6.Be2 a6 7.c4 b6 8.Nf3
Qe7 9.Nc2 Bb7 10.0-0 0-0
11.d4 exd4 12.exd4 Rfe8
13.Bd3 Be4 14.Re1 Qd8
15.d5 Bg6 16.Ne5 Bxe5
17.Rxe5 Rxe5 18.Bxe5 d6
19.Bc3 Nb7 20.Bxg6 hxg6
21.Qf3 Nc5 22.Re1 Ncd7
23.g4 Nh7 24.Nb4 Qf8
25.Qe2 Nhf6 26.Nc6 Kh8
27.g5 Nh5 28.f4 Qc8
29.Ne7 Qd8 30.f5 Kh7
31.fxg6+ fxg6 32.Qe6 Qe8
33.Bd4 Nf4 34.Re4 Nh5
35.Rh4 Ne5 36.Bxe5 dxe5
37.Rxh5+ gxh5 38.g6+
Kh6 39.h4 1-0

**Colas,Joshua (2366) –
Li,Ruifeng (2568) [A40]**

1.d4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.g3 d5
4.Bg2 e6 5.0-0 Ne7 6.c4 0-0
7.Qc2 Nbc6 8.Rd1 a5
9.a3 b6 10.b3 Ba6 11.cxd5
exd5 12.Bb2 a4 13.bxa4

Na5 14.Ne5 f6 15.Nd3 Qd7 28.Nxd5 Qxd5 29.Be6+ 41.Qd8 Nh6 42.Qd5 Rcc7
 16.Nc3 Bc4 17.Nc1 f5 Qxe6 30.Rxe6 Nxe6 43.Rc1 Rf5 44.Qd6 Re7
 18.e3 g5 19.N3e2 Ng6 31.Bxg7 Nxg7 32.h4 Kh8 45.a4 Ng4+ 46.Kg1 Re2
 20.Bh3 Qf7 21.Rf1 f4 33.Qb5 Rf6 34.Re1 h5 47.Rf1 Kh6 48.a5 c4 49.a6
 22.exf4 gxf4 23.Nd3 Bxd3 35.Qd7 Kh7 36.Kh2 Raf8 Ra5 50.Qc6 Nxf2 51.g4
 24.Qxd3 f3 25.Nc3 Nb3 37.Qc7 R8f7 38.Qd8 Rc6 hgx4 52.a7 Nh3+ 53.Kh1
 26.Rae1 Nxd4 27.Kh1 c5 39.a5 bxa5 40.Qxa5 Nf5 g3 0-1

2017 US Girl's Junior Championships

For additional info: <http://uschesschamps.com/2017-us-girls-junior-championship/overview>

The US Girl's Junior Championships were held between July 7th and 18th in St. Louis, Missouri. There were 10 participants. Texas was well represented by **WIM Emily Nguyen** who placed 3rd with a score of 5.0/9. Below are her games.

Nguyen,Emily (2048) – Eswaran,Ashritha (2086) [A62]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c5
 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.g3 g6
 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.Bg2 0-0 9.0-0
 Na6 10.Bf4 Nc7 11.e4 Bg4
 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Bxf3 Nfe8
 14.Qb3 Qf6 15.Qxb7 g5
 16.e5 dxe5 17.d6 Qxd6
 18.Bxg5 f5 19.Qb3+ Kh8
 20.Bxa8 Nxa8 21.Qd5 Qg6
 22.Be7 Nac7 23.Qxc5 Rg8
 24.Rad1 f4 25.Bh4 Qe6
 26.Kh2 Bf8 27.Qa5 Rg6
 28.Ne4 Qf5 29.Qa4 Rb6
 30.Qc2 Rh6 31.Qd3 Rg6
 32.g4 Qe6 33.Qd7 Qxa2
 34.Bd8 Rg7 35.Qf5 Rf7
 36.Qxe5+ Bg7 37.Qh5 Bxb2
 38.Bxc7 Qc4 39.Be5+ Kg8
 40.Qg5+ Kf8 41.Bxb2 Qb4
 42.Bd4 1-0

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6
 4.e3 e6 5.b3 c5 6.Nbd2 cxd4
 7.exd4 Nc6 8.Bb2 Bd6 9.Bd3
 0-0 10.0-0 Re8 11.Ne5 Bf8
 12.Rc1 dxc4 13.Nxc6 bxc6
 14.Nxc4 Bb7 15.Ne5 Rc8
 16.Qf3 Qd5 17.Qxd5 Nxd5
 18.Nd7 Nf4 19.Bc4 c5 20.f3
 cxd4 21.Nxf8 Rxf8 22.Bxd4
 Rfd8 23.Be3 Nd5 24.Bxd5
 exd5 25.Bxa7 Ra8 26.Bb6
 Rd6 27.Bc5 Rc6 28.a4 f6
 29.Be3 Rac8 30.Rxc6 Rxc6
 31.Rc1 Rxc1+ 32.Bxc1 Bc6
 33.Kf2 Kf7 34.Ke3 Ke6
 35.Kd4 Kd7 36.Kc5 Kc7
 37.a5 g5 38.b4 Bd7 39.Kxd5
 Kb7 40.Kd6 Bc8 41.b5 Bf5
 42.a6+ Kb8 43.b6 Bd3 44.a7+
 Kb7 45.Be3 Bf1 46.g3 Be2
 47.f4 gxf4 48.gxf4 Bg4
 49.Ke7 f5 50.Kf6 h5 51.Kg5
 Ka8 52.Kh4 Bf3 53.Bd4 Kb7
 54.Kg3 Be2 55.h3 Bf1 ½-½

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7
 4.g3 d6 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 c6
 7.Nc3 Qa5 8.e4 e5 9.h3 Nbd7
 10.Qc2 exd4 11.Nxd4 Re8
 12.Be3 Nb6 13.Nce2 Qe5
 14.f3 Qe7 15.Bf2 d5 16.cxd5
 cxd5 17.Nc3 dxe4 18.Rfe1
 Bd7 19.Nxe4 Nxe4 20.Rxe4
 Qd6 21.Rd1 Rxe4 22.Qxe4
 Bc6 23.Qe1 Re8 24.Qf1 Qb4
 25.Nxc6 bxc6 26.b3 Qa5
 27.a4 Qb4 28.Qd3 Bf6
 29.Qc2 Bc3 30.Rd3 Nd5
 31.f4 Be1 32.Bxa7 Qb7
 33.Bc5 Qd7 34.Bxd5 cxd5
 35.Qg2 Qf5 36.Rd1 Re4
 37.Bd4 Qe6 38.Rd3 Bb4
 39.Bf2 Be1 40.Rd1 Bxf2+
 41.Qxf2 Qxh3 42.Rxd5 h5
 43.Re5 Rb4 44.Re3 Qd7
 45.Kh2 Rd4 46.a5 Rd5 47.b4
 Qd6 48.Re4 Kh7 49.Re5 Rd2
 50.Re2 Rd1 51.Qc5 Qd3
 52.Qe7 Qd5 53.Qe4 Qb3
 54.f5 Rd7 55.fxg6+ fxg6
 56.a6 Qa4 57.Qc4 Ra7
 58.Ra2 Qd7 59.b5 Rc7
 60.Qxc7 Qxc7 61.a7 h4

Cervantes,Thalia (2032) – Nguyen,Emily (2048) [D11]

Nguyen,Emily (2048) – Bykovtsev,Agata (2045) [E62]

62.a8Q Qxg3+ 63.Kh1 Qe1+
64.Kg2 Qg3+ 65.Kf1 Qd3+
66.Kf2 Qd4+ 67.Ke2 Qc4+
68.Ke3 Qe6+ 69.Kd4 Qd6+
70.Qd5 Qb4+ 71.Kd3 Qb1+
72.Kd2 Qb4+ 73.Kc2 Qe7
74.Ra8 Qe2+ 75.Kb3 Qe3+
76.Ka4 h3 77.Qd7+ Kh6
78.Rh8+ Kg5 79.Rxh3 Qc5
80.Rg3+ Kh6 81.Qd2+ Kg7
82.Qc3+ 1-0

**Wang, Annie (2023) –
Nguyen, Emily (2048) [D36]**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 d5
4.Nc3 Be7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg5
c6 7.Qc2 0-0 8.e3 Nbd7
9.Bd3 h6 10.Bh4 Re8 11.0-0
Ne4 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Rab1
Ndf6 14.Ne5 Ng4 15.Nxg4
Bxg4 16.b4 Rac8 17.Rfc1
Bd7 18.Qb2 Qg5 19.b5 c5
20.dxc5 Nxc5 21.Bf1 Bf5
22.Ra1 Red8 23.Rd1 Qf6
24.Qb4 Ne4 25.Nxe4 dxe4
26.Qa4 Bg6 27.Rxd8+ Rxd8
28.Rd1 Rxd1 29.Qxd1 Bf5
30.Qd5 Qe6 31.Qxb7 Qxa2
32.Qa8+ Kh7 33.b6 Be6 34.b7
Bd5 35.b8Q Bxa8 36.Qxa8
Qa4 37.Qd5 Qe8 38.Bb5 Qe7
39.Bc6 g6 40.Qxe4 Qc5 41.g3
a5 42.Kg2 Qa7 43.Qd4 Qe7
44.Qd5 Qa7 45.Qd7 1-0

**Gorti, Akshita (2232) –
Nguyen, Emily (2048) [D11]**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6
4.e3 e6 5.b3 c5 6.cxd5 Nxd5

7.Bb2 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bb4+
9.Nd2 e5 10.N4f3 e4 11.Nd4
Qh4 12.Bb5+ Kf8 13.0-0 Nf6
14.Qc2 Nbd7 15.Rac1 Bd6
16.g3 Qg4 17.Be2 Qg6
18.Nb5 Bb4 19.a3 Bxd2
20.Qxd2 Ne8 21.Nxa7 Qd6
22.Bd4 Rxa7 23.Rxc8 Ke7
24.Rd1 1-0

**Nguyen, Emily (2048) –
Feng, Maggie (2304) [A90]**

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.g3 Nf6
4.Bg2 c6 5.Nh3 d5 6.0-0 Bd6
7.Bf4 Be7 8.Nd2 0-0 9.Qc2
Nh5 10.Nf3 Nxf4 11.Nxf4 Bd6
12.Nd3 Nd7 13.Nfe5 Nxe5
14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.dxe5 f4
16.Qc3 Bd7 17.Rad1 Be8
18.e4 fxe3 19.Qxe3 Bg6
20.cxd5 cxd5 21.Rc1 Qb6
22.Qd2 Rac8 23.Rxc8 Rxc8
24.Rc1 Rc6 25.Rc3 Bf5
26.Bf1 h6 27.Rb3 Qc7 28.Qd4
b6 29.Rc3 Rc5 30.f4 Rxc3
31.bxc3 Qc5 32.Qxc5 bxc5
33.Be2 Kf7 ½-½

**Virkud, Apurva (2213) –
Nguyen, Emily (2048) [D52]**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6
4.Nf3 e6 5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3
Qa5 7.Nd2 Bb4 8.Qc2 e5
9.Bxf6 Nxf6 10.dxe5 Ne4
11.Rc1 Nxd2 12.Qxd2 dxc4
13.a3 Be7 14.Qd4 Be6
15.Bxc4 Rd8 16.Qe4 Bxc4
17.Qxc4 Qxe5 18.Qe4 Qf6
19.0-0 0-0 20.Qa4 a6 21.Rfd1
Qe5 22.Qb3 b5 23.g3 h5
24.Ne2 c5 25.Nf4 c4 26.Qc2

g6 27.Ne2 Bf6 28.Nd4 Qc5
29.b3 Rc8 30.bxc4 bxc4
31.Qa4 Bxd4 32.Rxd4 c3
33.Rd3 Qf5 34.Rdxc3 Rxc3
35.Rxc3 Rb8 36.Rc1 Rb2
37.Rf1 a5 38.e4 Qc5 39.Qe8+
Kg7 40.a4 Qd4 41.Qe7 Re2
42.Qc7 Qxa4 43.Qe5+ Kh7
44.Ra1 Qb4 45.Qd5 Kg7
46.Qe5+ Kh7 47.Qd5 Kg8
48.e5 Qb2 49.Rxa5 Rxf2
50.e6 Rf6 51.exf7+ Rxf7
52.Qa8+ Kh7 53.Ra1 Qf2+
54.Kh1 Qd4 55.Re1 Kh6
56.Qc6 Qf2 57.Qc1+ Kh7
58.Qe3 Qa2 59.Qe4 Qf2 ½-½

**Nguyen, Emily (2048) –
Ulrich, Rachel (2049)
[D45]**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6
4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 a6 6.b3 Bb4
7.Bd2 Nbd7 8.Bd3 0-0 9.0-0
Bd6 10.e4 dxc4 11.bxc4 e5
12.d5 Nc5 13.Bc2 Qc7 14.h3
b5 15.Bg5 Nfd7 16.dxc6
Qxc6 17.cxb5 axb5 18.Nxb5
Qxb5 19.Qxd6 Qc4 20.Rfc1
Rxa2 21.Rxa2 Qxa2 22.Nxe5
Qe6 23.Be7 Re8 24.Nxd7
Qxd7 25.Qxc5 Qxe7 26.Bb3
Bb7 27.Bd5 Qxc5 28.Rxc5
Bxd5 29.Rxd5 g6 30.e5 h5
31.f4 Rb8 32.Kf2 Rb3 33.Rd2
Kf8 34.Re2 Ke7 35.Re3 Rb4
36.Kf3 f6 37.g4 hxg4+
38.hxg4 fxe5 39.Rxe5+ Kf6
40.g5+ Kf7 41.Ra5 Rb1
42.Ra7+ Kf8 43.Ra6 Kg7
44.Rf6 Rb3+ 45.Ke4 Rb4+
46.Kd5 Rb5+ 47.Kc6 Ra5
48.Rd6 Ra4 49.Rd7+ Kf8 ½-½

**Yip,Carissa (2261) –
Nguyen,Emily (2048) [B43]**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Bd3
Nc6 7.Be3 Nf6 8.0-0 Nxd4

9.Bxd4 Bc5 10.Be2 e5
11.Bxc5 Qxc5 12.a4 b6
13.Qd3 Bb7 14.Rfd1 0-0
15.Rab1 Rac8 16.Rd2 Rfd8
17.Nd5 Nxd5 18.exd5 Qb4
19.Qe3 d6 20.c3 Qb3 21.Ra1

Bxd5 22.Ra3 Qxa3 23.bxa3
Rc5 24.Bxa6 Ra8 25.Bb5
Rac8 26.h3 g6 27.Ba6 R8c7
28.Rb2 Rxc3 29.Qxb6 1-0

Region IX Report

By Charlie Vetter

While we're off for the summer, let's get that final 2017 report from West Texas Region IX, the land of fire ants and amber waves of pump jacks.

There were seven schools participating in the Midland Scholastic Chess League this year. In 2015, Trinity finished undefeated, but were upset by Hillander in the West Texas Regionals. In 2016 it was reversed with Hillander finishing undefeated but Trinity beating them in the Regionals, so the stage was set this year for a West Texas Grudge Match.

The 2017 season, at least at the top was anti-climatic as Trinity, under new coach Brian Grzlewski motored through its season undefeated with its top eight players, including last year's Regionals champion Connor Garcia rolling over all competition. The exciting fight was for second place. Hillander finished with a 4-2 record, tied with Midland Christian, and Carver. Emerson scored an impressive 2-4 record in its first season.

We're looking forward to next season, maybe adding a team, but having to replace coach Fernando Villegas who's moving to Louisiana. The Midland Chess Club provides a volunteer coach for each school in the league.

With the season over, excitement built for the Regionals which moved from Greenwood to Midland this year. About 160 players came from all over West Texas, the newspapers gave good coverage and a good time was had by all.

In the Upper School Division, Trinity's Curtis Wong kept his amazing streak alive, finishing with 12 wins, no losses and no ties. Curtis repeated his Regional win from last year where he also finished undefeated. Curtis had quite a year also winning his school's Louis Armstrong Award for the top jazz musician. Second place was won by Trin-

ity's Rishi Yarlaggada, followed by Midland Classical's Devan Morgan and Juan Mendoza from the Falcon Early College School in Odessa.

In the Lower School Division, last year's champ Connor Garcia again came through undefeated, but so did Carver's Justin Barnwell, so in the end the battle was decided by a five minute showdown between the top Boards of Trinity and Carver. In a sunken stage surrounded by a large crowd in the bleachers above, the boys played a fried liver of all things for the title. Justin interceded his bishop to protect his f pawn, but that gave Connor a pawn and a big advantage. Justin recovered though and in the middle game things turned around until Justin entered the endgame with an advantage and a Regional title. The crowd went wild. Finishing third, fourth and fifth were three more Trinity players, Jason Pham, Tobias Slatken and Ayushman Mallik.

After scoring its first Regional champion, Carver will have to look for a new Board One player next year as Justin has moved to Oklahoma. Trinity will also be looking as Connor graduates to the Upper School division, but Jason, Tobias and Ayushman will all be back to keep a solid core.

In the team competition, Trinity easily won both the Upper and Lower School divisions. In the Lower School division, Hillander and Carver again tied for second place.

That's the report from Region IX. Contact Charlie Vetter at midlandchessclub@yahoo.com for more information. The Midland Chess Club meets Monday nights at Barnes and Noble. The Odessa Chess Club meets Thursday nights at UTPB. I don't know when or where the Mean Green Machine meets, but the Fort Concho team wins the best uniform award.

Upcoming Events

AUGUST 2017

AUG. 5 Rob's Birthday Bash

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8326.tla>

AUG. 5 Arlington Chess Club Open #24

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/7977.tla>

AUG. 5 2nd Annual DFW Bughouse Championships at the NTCA

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8220.tla>

AUG. 12 San Antonio Summer Scrimmage

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/18570.ctla>

AUG. 19 Many Springs Quads 103

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8352.tla>

AUG. 19-20 2017 DCC FIDE Open IX

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/18407.ctla>

AUG. 26 Back To School - Plano Chess Club

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8226.tla>

AUG. 31-SEPT. 4 83rd Annual Southwest Open

Info: See Ad on Page 31

AUG. 31-SEPT. 5 2017 North American Junior (U20) Champ.

Info: www.dallaschess.com, flguadalupe@aol.com or
Luis.Salinas.Chess@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 2017

SEP. 9 Arlington Chess Club Open #25

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8194.tla>

SEPT. 16-17 DCC Fundraiser FIDE II

Info: www.dallaschess.com, 214-632-9000

SEPT. 23 Crusader Chess Club Tournament

Info: <https://www.austinchesstournaments.com/files/CrusaderChessClub09232017.pdf>

SEP. 23-24 2017 Texas Armed Forces and Military Veterans Open Chess Championships

Info: See ad on Page 24

SEP. 30 Arlington Chess Club Open #26

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8195.tla>

SEPT. 30-OCT. 1 2017 DCC FIDE Open X

Info: www.dallaschess.com, 214-632-9000

WEEKLY EVENTS

AUG. 3,10,17,24,31; SEPT. 7,14,21,28 NTCA Thursday BLITZ

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8361.tla>

AUG. 6,13,20,27; SEPT 3,10,17,24 NTCA Sunday Swiss

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8362.tla>

AUG. 6,13,20 Austin Chess Club August Swiss

Info: <http://austinchessclub.com>

AUG. 6,13,20,27; SEPT 3,10,17,24 Frisco Smarts Sunday

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8099.tla>

texaschess.org



83rd Annual Southwest Open

AUG. 31-SEPT. 4, SEPT. 1-4 OR SEPT. 2-4

9SS International section only or 7SS G/90 with 30 sec inc. Rd. 1 of 3 day is G/60 d5 and is not Fide rateable for U2400 section. Sheraton DFW Airport Hotel, 4440 W. John Carpenter Fwy., Irving, TX 75063. 4 Sections and scholastic side events: International Section: (This section is Fide Rated and uses Fide Rules. USCF rules used for awarding prizes. GM & IM norms possible! Min. 2000 FIDE or 2200 USCF required. Prizes \$7,500 G: \$\$3000-1500-1000, U2500 \$\$1000, U2300 \$\$1000. EF: GMs, foreign IMs, 2500+: Free; 2450-2499: \$100; 2400-2449 \$150; 2350-2399: \$200; 2300-2349 \$250; 2250-2299: \$300; 2200-2249 \$350; 2100-2199: \$400; 2000-2099 \$450; U2000: \$500; Unr: \$700; \$75 discount to all non-US Federation players who do not get free entry. FIDE ratings used for EF / pairings /prizes. Tournament will be run using FIDE Rules. Non-USA Federation players must have/provide a FIDE ID number or they cannot play. (New players can get a FIDE ID number for their Country's Federation.) This section is open to players with FIDE Ratings above 2000 (a few special exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Organizers.) Note that anyone rated USCF 2200 and above is also eligible to play but must pay Entry Fees according to their FIDE Ratings. To improve chances to make GM Norms, a maximum of approximately one-third of the total field will be permitted to be U2200 FIDE. May use accelerated pairings if in the opinion of the Chief Arbiter, IA Francisco Guadalupe, this would improve norm chances. Reg.: 8/31 6:00pm – 6:55 pm, Rds.: Thurs. 8/31 at 7:20pm, Fri. 9/1 at 1 pm – 7:20 pm, Sat. 9/2 at 2:10 pm – 7:20 pm, Sun. 9/3 at 11:30 am – 5:20 pm, and Mon. 9/4 at 9:20 am – 3:00 pm. U2400 Section: (This section is FIDE rated and uses FIDE rules. USCF rules/ratings used for awarding prizes. USCF ratings used for pairing purposes. Players not at the board within 60 minutes of the start of the round will forfeit game unless arbiter decides to grant more time.) Please check tournament website for rules about FIDE registration. \$\$ 800-400, U2200 \$600-300 base on 200 players in U2400, Reserve and Novice. International and scholastic sections do not count toward based on. Reserve Section: U2000. \$\$ 800-400-200. B \$600-300-150, U1600 \$500-250-125. based on 200 players in U2400, Reserve and Novice sections. International and scholastic sections do not count toward based on. Novice Section: U1400 and Unrated. \$\$ \$500-250-125, E \$400-200, U1000 \$300-150 Unrated \$200 base on 200 players in U2400, Reserve and Novice sections. International and scholastic sections do not count toward based on. All 3 (U2400, Reserve and Novice): Except for approved Electronic scorekeeping devices, no electronics are allowed in the playing area during the round. This includes rest rooms by the playing area. This rule applies to players, parents, coaches. TCA membership required. Other states accepted. EF: \$89 if received by 8/25, else \$99. \$82 Junior(U19) if received by 8/25 else \$90 (juniors count as 90% toward base), Senior (over 65)/Handicap/Additional family participant /Birthday during event, \$53 if received by 8/25 else \$65 (Senior/Handicap/Additional family participant counts 60% toward base). Add \$5 for CC phone entries; pre-reg. requires pre-payment. After 8/29/17 all registration and changes on site only; all changes including withdrawals, \$10 after 8/29/17. 4 day: Reg. Friday 9/1, 6:15 pm-6:50. Rds. Fri.: 7:20, Sat.: 2:10 pm - 7:20, Sun: 11:30 am - 5:20 pm, Mon.: 9:20 am – 3:00 pm. 3 day: Reg. Sat. 9/2, 8-8:25 am, Rd. 1 at 9 am then merge with 4 day. Foreign Unrated must play in U2400 section. Tournament may use CCA rules for foreign ratings and for minimum ratings. Registrations that do not indicate 4 or 3 day schedule will be put in the 3 day. Hotel rates: \$89 for 1 person, \$99 for two people, \$109 for 3 people and \$119 for 4 people in a room. Rooms includes breakfast buffet. Call 972-929-8400 or 1-888-627-8190 and reserve by 8/7 and ask for the Chess rate. After 8/7 the rate will not be honored. Note that the hotel has a \$50 fee for guests who check out earlier than their schedule departure date. Hotel has complimentary hotel shuttle to/from DFW airport. Up to two ½-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 U2400 section). Texas Chess Association meeting on Sunday 9/3 at 8:30 am. K-12 Scholastic on Saturday, 9/2. 5-SS, G/30 d5, EF: \$31 by 8/25, \$46 thereafter; Pre-reg. requires pre-payment. After 8/29/17 all registration and changes on site only; all changes \$10 after 8/29/17. No refunds after 8/29/17, \$10 handling fee for refunds before 8/30/17. Entries do not count toward base in Open, Reserve and Novice. Registration: 9:15-9:45 am, Rd. 1 at 10:20 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 Players 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. W. FIDE. JGP for Non scholastic side events.



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Tactics Time!

Answer on
page 18



Bram Foster – Victor Allison

Murray County Open 2017

White to Move