

TEXAS KNIGHTS

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Texas Grades!



Happy Holidays!!!

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TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

A 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit corporation dedicated to promoting chess in Texas

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

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



From the Desk of the Editor

Hello Texas,

It's the holiday season again. Huge meals, gift-giving and a whole lot of Chess. Just take a look at the Upcoming Events for December. If you can't find a tournament to play in, well, you probably aren't looking very hard.

In this issue of *Texas Knights* we have some results from the two Texas Grades Championships. One played in Houston, the other in Corpus Christi. We have two sets of puzzles for you. One set is from our regular Tactics Time! column, the other from Danny Dunn in an article called *The Chess Pieces Dance*. We have an article, results and games from the Texas Armed Forces Championship by Jim Hollingsworth. We have an article and game from the US Cadet Championship by Emily Nguyen. And finally, Robert Myers has provided us an article with a lot of references to Baseball?

Check out the December issue of *Chess Life*, there's some information about the World Cup tournament in which Texas player **GM Jeffery Xiong** participated. In addition, there is an article dedicated to Texas player **WGM Sabina Foisor**.

I want to again thank everyone for their support this year in helping support me in the editing process of *Texas Knights*. It always helps to have extra sets of eyes looking for things I've missed or even incorrectly written.

Finally, again, I would like to thank my wife, Lonann, for taking the time to provide some holiday cheer in this issue with her photographs.

Enjoy the Holidays, and be safe. The next issue will be in your mailbox the first week of February, 2018!

— **Jeff French**



From the Desk of the TCA President

Hello everyone:

Well, we tackled North/Central Texas State Grades, and Southern State Grades, and the organizers did a great job hosting them. But before we start running around with Regionals, State and nationals, I want to take a moment to wish everyone a safe and fun holiday season. Wherever you are going, I'm sure that people that care about you are fine with you being late, as long as you're there in one piece and unharmed. Drive carefully. Enjoy your family events, get home safely.

Just a few notes on where I've been lately: I took a leisurely drive to El Paso, and visited with some great and enthusiastic chess players along with the Region 4 Director, and the scholastic committee member. Had a great time Ruben and Renate, I had never seen El Paso at night before, thank you for showing it to me. Then I took the scenic route back through 90 south. Two days later, did a one day visit to Rio Grande City, had not been there in a while, loved it. Two days after that, packed up and went to Houston for State Grades, it was well attended, and I really enjoyed working with Vish and Francisco and their crew. Thank you Luis and Barbara for having us. My final trip was home and yet, I could not sit still. I dropped in on the Southern State Grades for a few hours.

Organizers, please keep track of bidding deadlines, more to come, thank you everyone for what you do. Jesse James, congrats, Chris Wood, congrats.

Thank you and 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 \$6.04. 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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TCA Treasurer's Report - Nov 10 2017

Income		Expenses	
September memberships	\$322.50	Starter chess sets	\$216.50
October memberships	\$269.50	Texas Knight Sept-Oct 2017	\$891.37
November memberships (so far)	\$15.00	2017 National Girls Representative WFM Priya Trakru	\$300.00
2017 SW Open memberships	\$320.00	2017 Barber Representative NM Justin Wang	\$300.00
2017 N/C Texas Grade memberships	\$340.00	Total	\$1,707.87
Smile Amazon Donation	\$6.04		
Total \$1,273.04			

November 10, 2017	
WF checking account balance	\$2,088.08
BOA checking account balance	\$11,067.04



Quaitemes Williams and the North/Central Grades Team from the Alcuin School in Dallas
(Winner of the Kindergarten Team, 2nd Place 6th Grade Team and 5th Place 3rd Grade Team)

21st Annual North/Central Texas Grade Championships

For additional results: <http://dallaschess.com/2017%20Texas%20Grade/index.htm>

The North/Central Texas Grade Championships were held in Houston between November 3rd and 5th. There were 340 participants in the Championships divided across 12 tournaments with the 11th and 12th grades combined. All were 6 round tournaments. Below are some of the results.

There were 9 participants in the 11th-12th grades. Below are the top 4.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ADARSH HULLAHALLI	W5	W2	W3	W4	W6	W7	6.0
2	TATE SONG	W8	L1	W9	W3	W7	W5	5.0
3	RAY YU	W7	W4	L1	L2	W8	W6	4.0
4	BRIAN XUE	W6	L3	W8	L1	W9	B	4.0

There were 13 participants in the 10th grade. Below are the top 6.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	DHANVI MARRAPU	H	W8	W12	W4	W5	W13	5.5
2	SUDHARSAN RAMAPRIYA	W13	W6	W4	W8	D3	W10	5.5
3	PRANAV GOPALAKRISHNAN	W8	W13	W5	W12	D2	H	5.0
4	AVA FLOWERS	W9	W12	L2	L1	W10	W11	4.0
5	JAYDEN BRYANT	W11	W9	L3	W10	L1	W6	4.0
6	ADRIAN J NICKERSON	W10	L2	W8	W11	W9	L5	4.0

There were 27 participants in the 9th grade. Below are the top 8.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ANDREW SUN-RONG MAO	W21	W7	D4	W19	W6	W3	5.5
2	KAI TSUEI	W17	W9	W5	W6	L3	W8	5.0
3	CHASE FRUTOS	W12	D13	W10	W4	W2	L1	4.5
4	MAANAV S GANTHAPODI	X	W8	D1	L3	W11	D5	4.0
5	WILLIAM G FAN	D10	W11	L2	W25	W14	D4	4.0
6	JACOB BUERGLER	W26	W24	W19	L2	L1	W10	4.0
7	KYLAN NAIDOO	W16	L1	W17	W15	L8	W14	4.0
8	ANGELA CHENG	W23	L4	W16	W9	W7	L2	4.0

There were 22 participants in the 8th grade. Below are the top 7.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	PETER PENG	W11	W5	W3	D2	W4	W8	5.5
2	BARON T NIU	W18	H	W4	D1	W10	D3	4.5
3	SREENEVASH RAMESH	W12	W10	L1	W8	W5	D2	4.5
4	VIVEK SARAVANAN	W16	W9	L2	W6	L1	W10	4.0
5	RISA AZIM	W21	L1	W16	W7	L3	W12	4.0
6	JUSTIN HUNG	W13	H	D7	L4	W11	W9	4.0
7	SAKETH MARRAPU	H	W17	D6	L5	W13	W14	4.0

There were 34 participants in 7th Grade. Below are the top 9.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	GANESH KUMARAPPAN	W30	W8	W6	D2	W4	W10	5.5
2	COLE FRUTOS	W9	W15	W14	D1	W10	W5	5.5
3	NITIN SRINIKETH AKELLA	W31	L21	W9	W17	W15	W11	5.0
4	JIA-SYUAN ERIC JANG	H	W13	W11	W14	L1	W12	4.5
5	FREWIN ALEXIS	W23	W7	W21	L10	W6	L2	4.0
6	BENJAMIN WALMER	W25	W17	L1	W21	L5	W15	4.0
7	NAYMETHA PERERA	W33	L5	W24	W8	L11	W19	4.0
8	ZISHAN PIRANI	W32	L1	W31	L7	W20	W14	4.0
9	ZANIR PIRANI	L2	W22	L3	W28	W21	W18	4.0

There were 30 participants in 6th Grade. Below are the top 9.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	SHELEV OBEROI	W14	W18	W6	W2	W4	W7	6.0
2	ROHIT GUNDAM	W19	W11	D4	L1	W12	W6	4.5
3	KABIR AHMED	W17	W9	D5	L4	W21	W10	4.5
4	WILLIAM HWANG	W21	W13	D2	W3	L1	D5	4.0
5	SHARVESH DEVIPRASATH	W15	W12	D3	L10	W19	D4	4.0
6	BENJAMIN YANG	W16	W8	L1	W9	W10	L2	4.0
7	AKSHAY SANTOSH	H	W27	D10	W13	W8	L1	4.0
8	RAGHAV AGGARWAL	W28	L6	W22	W20	L7	W13	4.0
9	SUSHRUTH KANIYAR	W24	L3	W29	L6	W22	W14	4.0

There were 37 participants in 5th Grade. Below are the top 10.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ETHAN ROCKWELL LANCE	W21	W17	D2	W6	W3	W8	5.5
2	RONIT PODDER	W22	W10	D1	W16	W5	W9	5.5
3	VINH WELSH	W9	D6	W7	W15	L1	W12	4.5
4	ALEXANDER P RODRIGUEZ	W14	L15	W21	D12	W16	D6	4.0
5	VEDANT PATIL	W20	W12	L15	W10	L2	W18	4.0
6	THOMAS H NGUYEN	W31	D3	W24	L1	W27	D4	4.0
7	KAVIN GANESHKUMAR	W28	W18	L3	L9	W22	W17	4.0
8	ALEJANDRO RODRIGUEZ MEDINA	W33	L11	W22	W13	W15	L1	4.0
9	ISHAN DASH	L3	W25	W34	W7	W17	L2	4.0
10	ALEN POLATBEKOV	W35	L2	W23	L5	W19	W15	4.0

There were 50 participants in 4th Grade. Below are the top 16.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	SRI AVISHKAR RAGHURAJA	W37	W13	W17	W3	W7	D4	5.5
2	TRAVIS FENG	W25	W16	L3	W13	W20	W7	5.0
3	AARON SCHMID	W40	W23	W2	L1	W8	W9	5.0
4	ANDREW H ZHANG	W27	D18	W21	D8	W6	D1	4.5

There were 50 participants in 4th Grade. Below are the top 16 (continued).

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
5	ARSAL GARDEZI	W24	D32	W18	L6	W21	W10	4.5
6	JUSTIN YU	H	W46	W11	W5	L4	W17	4.5
7	NETHUL MANMITHA PERERA	W28	W35	W14	W10	L1	L2	4.0
8	KEVIN LEONG FONG	H	W33	W32	D4	L3	W22	4.0
9	FELIX SALDIVAR	L36	W31	W25	W22	W12	L3	4.0
10	TAVISHI SINHA	W29	W22	W19	L7	W14	L5	4.0
11	PRADHYUMNA PRAKASH	W39	H	L6	W30	D15	W29	4.0
12	HARRISON LEE ZHU	L23	W38	W36	W27	L9	W21	4.0
13	ALEXIS HWANG	W42	L1	W28	L2	W36	W26	4.0
14	DEVIN SANJAY MARTINS	W30	W45	L7	W34	L10	W25	4.0
15	ZAEEM ALAM	L45	W40	W29	D17	D11	W30	4.0
16	ABHINAV TANNIRU	W41	L2	L26	W33	W23	W20	4.0

There were 39 participants in 3rd Grade. Below are the top 13.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	VASEEGARAN NANDHAKUMAR	W19	W25	W9	D7	W8	W2	5.5
2	LUCIUS FOX MELILLO	W20	W27	W10	W3	W6	L1	5.0
3	RONAK HIWALE	W24	W28	W16	L2	W14	W6	5.0
4	NIMESH RAMANUJAKOOTAM	W17	W24	L6	W12	W10	W7	5.0
5	DAKSH SHETTY	L16	W36	W23	W25	D7	W9	4.5
6	AJITESH NAIR	W15	W14	W4	W8	L2	L3	4.0
7	ALEXANDER SUN	W21	W11	W18	D1	D5	L4	4.0
8	PHILLIP J YANG	W22	W12	W13	L6	L1	W19	4.0
9	SHAURYA MAZUMDAR	W28	W39	L1	W18	W11	L5	4.0
10	AADI NAPHAD	W30	W33	L2	W16	L4	W15	4.0
11	JAGANAATH RAMESH	W36	L7	W31	W19	L9	W20	4.0
12	LETIAN QU	W35	L8	W33	L4	W21	W23	4.0
13	TY WHITE	W39	W17	L8	L14	W28	W22	4.0

There were 35 participants in 2nd Grade. Below are the top 9.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	LUCA CHANG	W19	W16	L8	W26	W9	W7	5.0
2	TARAN THOTA	W29	W26	W6	W8	W4	L3	5.0
3	MIHAIL VEREMJOV	W18	W22	W7	L4	W13	W2	5.0
4	SANMITA HOSUR	W23	W5	W30	W3	L2	W10	5.0
5	DOMINIC OWEN LIAW	W32	L4	D10	W11	W12	W13	4.5
6	LOGAN HE	W9	W10	L2	L13	W19	W16	4.0
7	JACOB LI	W20	W17	L3	W19	W8	L1	4.0
8	ROGER ZHEN	W21	W27	W1	L2	L7	W17	4.0
9	HAORAN XU	L6	W14	W27	W17	L1	W18	4.0

There were 29 participants in 1st Grade. Below are the top 9.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	SRI YASHVI RAGHURAJA	W23	W13	W10	W12	W5	W6	6.0
2	CALVIN MUNSAYAC	W27	L16	W8	W13	W4	W5	5.0
3	AHILAN ESWARAN	W9	W21	L5	D11	W17	W12	4.5
4	ANDREW LAU	W18	W7	W6	L5	L2	W14	4.0
5	NEHAAN RAMANUJAKOOTAM	W26	W11	W3	W4	L1	L2	4.0
6	MIHEER PARASNIS	W24	W12	L4	W21	W11	L1	4.0
7	ADITI NAIR	W25	L4	W9	L10	W15	W22	4.0
8	RAYANSH PANDE	L12	W17	L2	W20	W21	W25	4.0
9	ASHER VENDIVEL	L3	W28	L7	W29	W18	W19	4.0

There were 15 participants in Kindergarten. Below are the top 3.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ZACHARY ETHAN LIAW	W8	W2	W6	W3	W9	W4	6.0
2	ISAIAH MICHAEL DAWSON	W7	L1	W10	W5	D3	W9	4.5
3	DR AVILA	W13	W12	W9	L1	D2	W8	4.5

1st Annual Southern Texas Grade Championships

The South Texas Grade Championships were held in Corpus Christi between November 10th and 12th. There were 130 participants in the championships across 9 tournaments with Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades combined, 4th and 5th grades combined as-well-as 10th and 11th grades combined. Some were 6 round tournaments, others were 7 round tournaments. Below are some of the results.

There were 16 participants in 12th Grade. Below are the top 7.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Tot
1	LUKE LOPEZ	W5	W3	W2	W4	H	W6	W7	6.5
2	JUAN HOMERO LLANO	W15	W6	L1	W11	D3	D5	W9	5.0
3	LUIS ALARCON	W12	L1	W9	W6	D2	W4	D5	5.0
4	GARRETT B CARLL	W7	D9	W8	L1	W5	L3	W10	4.5
5	ERNESTO JAVIER GUTIERREZ	L1	W13	W12	W8	L4	D2	D3	4.0
6	JOE PENA	W13	L2	W7	L3	W10	L1	W16	4.0
7	FERNANDO J GARCIA	L4	W10	L6	W12	W8	W11	L1	4.0

There were 22 participants in 10th and 11th Grade. Below are the top 5.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	RITIK VERMA	W13	W16	W2	W3	W7	W6	6.0
2	ALFREDO NUNEZ	W8	W14	L1	D6	W9	W7	4.5
3	CARLOS EDUARDO GARCIA II	W18	W9	W4	L1	D6	W8	4.5
4	MISAEAL DURON	W15	W5	L3	L7	W10	W12	4.0
5	ANTONIO MICHAEL HERNANDEZ	W12	L4	L7	W19	W16	W11	4.0

There were 15 participants in 9th Grade. Below are the top 7.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Tot
1	SIDDHANT PATIL	W6	W4	W2	W3	W5	W8	W7	7.0
2	HENRY CRAWLEY	W9	W13	L1	W8	W4	W3	W5	6.0
3	ANGEL SEBASTIAN NUNEZ	W10	W7	W5	L1	W8	L2	W9	5.0
4	HARLAN RITCHIE	X	L1	W11	W6	L2	D12	H	4.0
5	ELIJAH FLORES	W12	W11	L3	W7	L1	W9	L2	4.0
6	FABIAN J TORRES	L1	W12	W13	L4	L9	W11	W8	4.0
7	LEVI DELK	B	L3	W12	L5	W11	W13	L1	4.0

There were 17 participants in 8th Grade. Below are the top 11.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Tot
1	SERGIO GAEEL LOPEZ	W16	W6	W5	W3	W2	W12	L4	6.0
2	EMILY ALEXIS GARCIA	L8	W11	W9	W6	L1	W3	W5	5.0
3	XAVIER SANCHEZ	W17	W12	W4	L1	W7	L2	W6	5.0
4	LUKE THOMAS	W9	W7	L3	W13	D12	L5	W1	4.5
5	JAZIEL GONZALEZ	W14	W8	L1	L12	W10	W4	L2	4.0
6	RIANNE OLIVARES	W10	L1	W11	L2	W13	W7	L3	4.0
7	DIEGO MANDUJANO	W13	L4	W15	W8	L3	L6	W12	4.0
8	LUCAS RITCHIE	W2	L5	L13	L7	B	W11	W17	4.0
9	LUIS O CARRISALEZ	L4	W14	L2	W15	L11	W13	W16	4.0
10	JOHN HERNANDEZ	L6	B	L12	W14	L5	W17	W15	4.0
11	MARCOS R HERNANDEZ	B	L2	L6	W16	W9	L8	W14	4.0

There were 11 participants in 7th Grade. Below are the top 6.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Tot
1	WILLIAM HOWARD MCNUTT	W8	W6	W2	W3	W7	W5	W4	7.0
2	ANDRES CANTU JR	W10	W5	L1	W4	D3	W7	W6	5.5
3	LUCAS DIEGO ESPINOSA	W9	W4	W7	L1	D2	W8	W10	5.5
4	JUAN E PECINA JR	W7	L3	W5	L2	W9	W10	L1	4.0
5	GAVIN SAHA	X	L2	L4	W6	W8	L1	W9	4.0
6	WILLIAM IVAN LEE SANG	B	L1	W8	L5	W10	W9	L2	4.0

There were 14 participants in 6th Grade. Below are the top 4.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Tot
1	JOAQUIN AIDEN GRAY LOFTIN	W7	W2	W3	W5	W6	W4	W8	7.0
2	CHRISTOPHER NESHEIM	W10	L1	W7	W4	W3	W6	W12	6.0
3	JOHN A KRETSINGER	W9	W4	L1	W6	L2	W7	H	4.5
4	DENISE MIRANDA GONGORA	W12	L3	W11	L2	W8	L1	W7	4.0

There were 13 participants in 4th and 5th Grade. Below are the top 7.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Tot
1	EMILY HAM	W9	W10	W5	W3	D2	W4	W8	6.5
2	VEDANT PATIL	W4	L3	W8	W6	D1	D5	W9	5.0

There were 13 participants in 4th and 5th Grade. Below are the top 7 (continued).

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Tot
3	RONIT VERMA	W7	W2	W10	L1	L5	W9	W11	5.0
4	ELIJAH MCKINLEY CAVANAUGH	L2	W7	W9	D5	W6	L1	W12	4.5
5	ZEFERINO ANTONIO GUERRA	W11	W8	L1	D4	W3	D2	L7	4.0
6	REYNA DENG XIAO	L8	W12	X	L2	L4	W11	W10	4.0
7	JULIA-ALYZZ RIOS	L3	L4	B	L10	W11	W12	W5	4.0

There were 14 participants in 3rd Grade. Below are the top 7.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Tot
1	NIMESH RAMANUJAKOOTAM	W7	W8	W4	W2	D3	W6	W5	6.5
2	BRODY MICHAEL JOHN	W10	D9	W6	L1	W4	D3	W8	5.0
3	RAYMOND CAI	W11	L4	W9	W8	D1	D2	W14	5.0
4	NICHOLAS ANTHONY JOHN	W5	W3	L1	W7	L2	D8	W11	4.5
5	NICHOLAS BUSTINZA	L4	L6	W13	W11	W10	W9	L1	4.0
6	ASHLEY DANIELLE JOHN	W14	W5	L2	L9	W7	L1	W13	4.0
7	NEVAAN NIGAM	L1	W12	W11	L4	L6	W14	W10	4.0

There were 8 participants in Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade. Below are the top 4.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Tot
1	TOM SU	W8	W5	W2	W3	W4	W6	W7	7.0
2	NEHAAN RAMANUJAKOOTAM	W7	W3	L1	W4	W8	W5	W6	6.0
3	ISAIAH MICHAEL DAWSON	W4	L2	W5	L1	W6	D7	W8	4.5
4	GAVIN WAYNE TUCKER	L3	W7	W6	L2	L1	W8	W5	4.0

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The Chess Pieces Dance

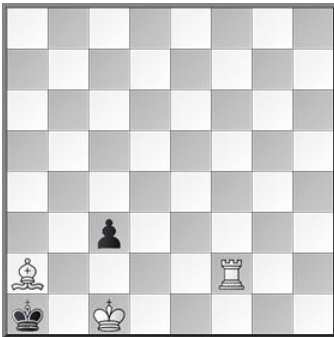
By Danny L. Dunn

Editor's Note: Solutions on Page 18.

It doesn't take very long for chess players to realize that chess is an amazing game. OTB players regularly observe beautiful combinations, unexpected saving moves, and elegant checkmates. However, if you are only playing OTB chess, you should also take a look at composed chess problems. Not only are composed chess problems a tough puzzle that can give a great deal of satisfaction to solve, but they also illustrate the beauty of chess to a degree that often approaches art.

Here is an example of a problem published over 100 years ago. I've shown it twice to members of the Fort Worth Chess Club and nobody has been able to solve it even though there are only five pieces and Black has only one possible move. See if you can solve it before looking at the solution.

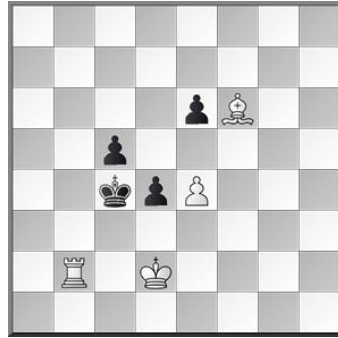
1. H.F.L. Meyer (1903)



Mate in Three

Here is a more complicated example composed by American composer William Shinkman. He was known as "The Wizard of Grand Rapids".

2. William A. Shinkman (1872)



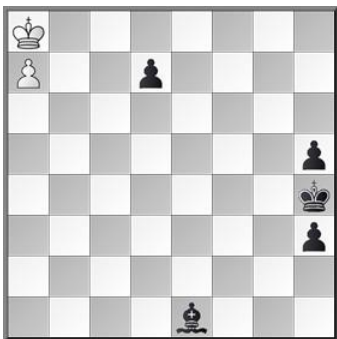
Mate in Four

Did you get a little thrill if you solved one of these problems? Did you find the first move startling and the mating themes interesting? This is exactly what composed chess problems attempt to achieve.

Problems 1 and 2 are Direct Mate Problems and are easily recognized by OTB players, However, there are also many other kinds of chess problems. Another genre of chess problem is the helpmate. When I talk to OTB players about helpmates, they are immediately not interested. However, in *StrateGems* (an international chess problem magazine) more helpmates are solved every year than direct mates. They are very popular and definitely habit forming.

In a helpmate, Black "helps" White to create a Black checkmate. It sounds easy, but it's not. Many helpmates are difficult to solve and require a good imagination to envision the final mating position. Normal chess rules apply and **Black moves first**. Often shorter problems will have two related solutions, or a twin (the original diagram with a small change) with a related solution.

3. Arpad Molnar (2008)

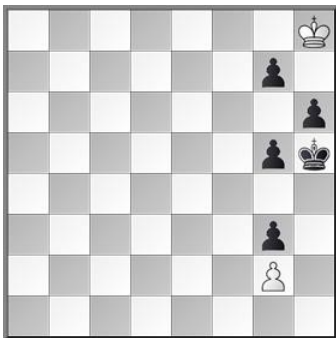


Helpmate in Three

b) Same as above, but remove Be1

Here is another easy example. This is a longer problem, so there is only one solution and no twin. Obviously, the pawn will not be promoted. The White K and P will have to force checkmate.

4. Harald Grubert (2010)



Helpmate in Seven

Here is an example of a helpmate where a Rundlauf (one of the pieces moves in a circle) is the theme.

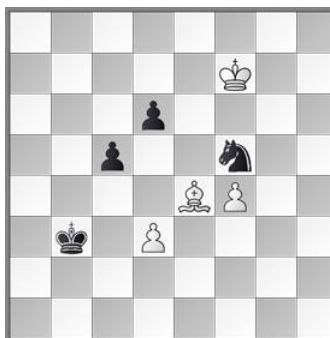
5. Zdravko Maslar (1963)



Helpmate in Four

Here is another example of a helpmate with a Rundlauf theme.

6. Eugene Albert (1966)



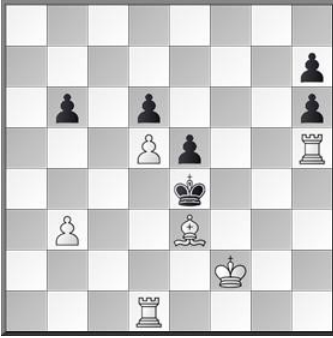
Helpmate in Four

Unfortunately, we have only touched on a small fraction of the chess problem genres that exist. There are also self mates where White forces Black to checkmate him. There are Series problems where only one side moves and the other side makes only the last move. There are fairy problems where the chess pieces and conditions take on different powers from regular chess. If the world of chess problems interests you, send me an e-mail at dannyldunn@sbcglobal.net and I will send you a sample copy of StrateGems to review.

Quiz

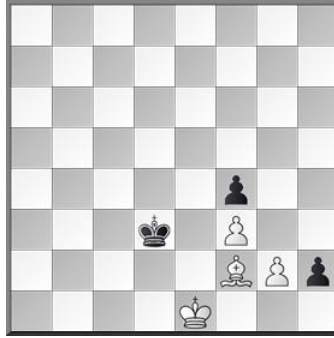
The problems in the quiz use the themes that we have been discussing. I hope that you have fun solving them.

7. M. Niemeijer (1928)



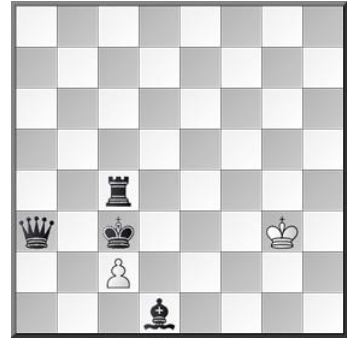
Mate in Four

8. Horst Bottger (2010)



Helpmate in Six

9. Arpad Rusz (1999)



Helpmate in Four



Tactics Time!

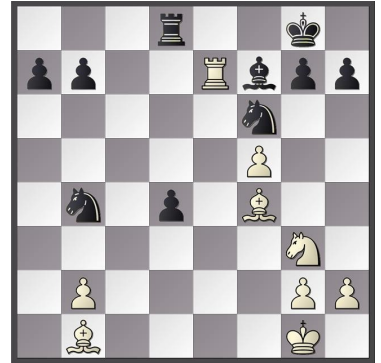
These positions came from games played in Texas or elsewhere by (at least one) Texas Player. **Answers can be found on page 18.**



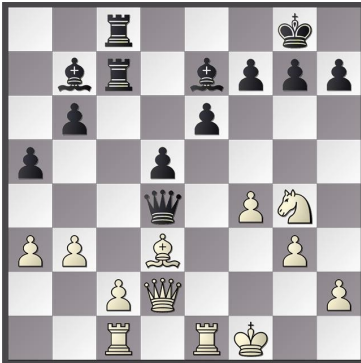
1. Rudy Tia – Carmen Chairez
TX Armed Forces 2017
White to Move



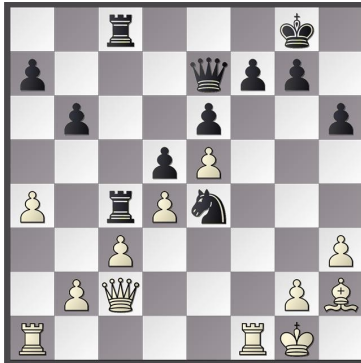
2. Darryl West – James Stallings
TX Armed Forces 2017
Black to Move



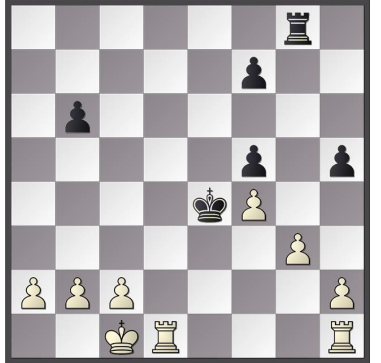
3. Michael Donovan – Rudy Tia
TX Armed Forces 2017
Black to Move



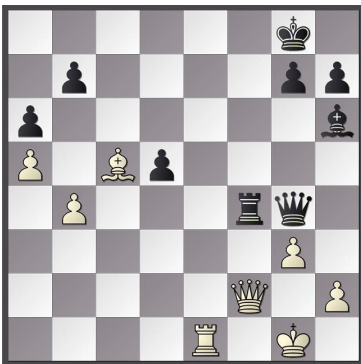
4. James Stallings – Jim Hollingsworth
TX Armed Forces 2017
White to Move



5. Charles Fricks – Michael Donovan
TX Armed Forces 2017
Black to Move



6. Darryl West – Dominic Muller
TX Armed Forces 2017
White to Move



7. Thomas Crane – Charles Fricks
TX Armed Forces 2017
White to Move



8. Robert Todd – Nathaniel May
TX Armed Forces 2017
White to Move

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USCF TOP PLAYERS FOR TEXAS - Nov. 15, 2017

Regardless of Residence or Federation

Overall			Age 16			Age 11		
4	Onischuk, Alexander	2762	2	Li, Ruifeng	2669	6	Polavaram, Rithik Sai	2154
10	Xiong, Jeffery	2717	7	Liu, Bovey	2351	20	Oberoi, Shelev	2046
19	Stukopin, Andrey	2677	18	Frenkel, Benjamin	2248	23	Trakru, Rohun	2013
21	Li, Ruifeng	2669	36	Hullahalli, Adarsh	2181	77	Casas, Michael	1737
23	Sadorra, Julio C	2664	37	Devagharan, Devina	2174	81	Tang, Andrew	1733
28	Ramirez, Alejandro	2648	39	Premkumar, Hiren	2165	83	Shet, Neil	1731
35	Macieja, Bartlomiej	2631	65	Eliezer, Segev	2071	92	Deviprasath, Sharvesh	1719
36	Steingrimsson, Hedinn	2630	75	Nguyen, Khoa Minh	2037			
39	Gorovets, Andrey	2616	79	Dammann, Jorn Fabian	2032			
55	Yang, Darwin	2584	83	Yu, Ray	2021	40	Age 10 Pathak, Rudransh	1815
61	Hevia Alejano, Carlos Antonio	2571	84	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2020	42	Capocyan, John Patrick	1810
71	Berczes, David	2564	87	Zheng, Vincent	2012	75	Welsh, Vinh	1686
77	Preotu, Razvan	2555	99	Mohammadi, Sina	1978	78	Ahmed, Kabir	1664
80	Drozdzowski, Kacper	2552				97	Rodriguez, Alexander P	1615
92	Rao, Prasanna Raghuram	2541						
93	Arribas Lopez, Angel	2532						
94	Hernandez, Holden	2531						
98	Javakhadze, Zurab	2526						
98	Vazquez, Guillermo	2526						
Age 65 and Over			Age 15			Age 9		
31	Hulse, Brian	2208	15	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2278	16	Sheehan, Ethan	1840
40	Simms, Gary	2200	24	Kirumaki, Ronit	2209	46	Raghuraja, Sri Avishkar	1658
78	Malazarte, Ernesto L	2120	25	Xie, Tianming	2207	54	Yu, Kevin	1627
92	Chase, Stephen M	2074	45	Huo, Rannon	2119	58	Laddha, Shubh Jayesh	1609
98	Probasco, Robert D	2063	51	Liu, Kevin	2096	71	Miramontes, Luis	1553
			58	Srivatsav, Aadarsh	2065	74	Das, Samarth	1549
			62	Fan, William G	2050	74	Lance, Ethan Rockwell	1549
			65	Huang, Max	2040	78	Zhang, Andrew H	1528
			71	Sonawane, Atharv	2022	85	Feng, Travis	1516
			74	Krishnan, Aadarsh	2019	90	Gardezi, Arsal	1508
			83	Palang, Warren Jesse	2003			
			91	Kao, Camille Y	1985			
Age 50 and Over			Age 14			Age 8		
94	Hayward, Keith R	2259	16	Kung, Thomas	2225	4	Kunka, Harshid	1892
98	Feinstein, Michael J	2251	39	Hawthorn, Charles	2107	30	Jin, Tony	1522
			48	Nguyen, Dang Minh	2053	37	He, Logan	1444
			49	Ganesh, Anirudh	2052	48	Nair, Ajitesh	1390
			53	Ganthapodi, Maanav S	2038	49	Melillo, Lucius Fox	1388
			59	Buergler, Jacob	2015	69	Sun, Alexander	1324
			65	Frutos, Chase	2004	76	Yang, Phillip J	1309
			66	Bandi, Rohit Choudary	1998	79	Wang, Kellen	1300
			76	Tsuei, Kai	1948	84	Hiwale, Ronak	1292
			91	Deleon, Carlos	1914	92	Shafer, Logan Clark	1258
			98	Mao, Andrew Sun-Rong	1888	98	Ibarra, Jesus I	1251
			99	Wang, Jason	1887	99	McNutt, Kaitlynn Lee	1249
Under 21			Age 13			Age 7 and Under		
	Xiong, Jeffery	2717	7	Vivekananthan, Anish	2211	3	Li, Rachael	1732
3	Li, Ruifeng	2669	10	Metpally, Jason	2206	21	Mel, Ethan R	1376
7	Yang, Darwin	2584	18	Peng, Peter	2149	33	Woodward, Andy Austin	1254
14	Preotu, Razvan	2555	32	Wang, Yanke	2082	48	Chang, Luca	1208
16	Vazquez, Guillermo	2526	35	Wang, Yanke	2082	50	Xu, Bryan	1200
28	Ruiz C, Joshua D	2469	45	Yan, Austin K	2016	58	Zhang, Sunny	1163
58	Yim, Sungho	2381	55	Frutos, Cole	1978	71	Qin, Samuel	1064
65	Wang, Justin	2355	57	Niu, Baron T	1977	71	Qin, Timothy	1064
71	Liu, Bovey	2351	61	Rajaram, Rudransh	1966	88	Zhen, Roger	1002
74	He, Tommy	2342	78	Balderas, Adolfo Augusto, Jr	1912	94	Kotha, Vidhatru	979
76	Lin, Dachev	2340	80	Prabu, Advait	1908			
78	Chiang, Jonathan	2337	81	Ramesh, Sreevash	1907			
97	Pamatmat, Jarod John M	2310	82	Romo, Benjamin	1904			
Age 18			Age 12			Women Overall		
3	Preotu, Razvan	2555	2	Wang, Justin	2355	14	Danelia, Mariam	2307
8	Yim, Sungho	2381	17	Hung, Daniel	2115	16	Andrenko, Iryna	2285
21	Vaidya, Atulya	2252	20	Vaidya, Atreya	2100	19	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2278
28	Han, Curran	2240	28	Hawthorn, Henry	2005	24	Inapuri, Ramya	2254
32	Obili, Abhishek	2223	31	Gundam, Rohit	1989	26	Heredia, Carla	2246
34	Wlezien, Alexander	2212	36	Kumarappan, Ganesh	1971	28	Chiang, Sarah	2232
36	Lu, Andrew H	2200	40	Zhu, Harvey	1961	40	Devagharan, Devina	2174
39	Brannon, Joshua Scott	2176	50	Zheng, Peter	1921	59	Guerrero Rodriguez, Alejandra	2106
51	Nguyen, Duy Minh	2104	52	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1918	65	Xiang, Evan	2089
54	Xiang, Evan	2089	53	McNutt, William Howard	1916	76	Munoz, Claudia Elizabeth	2055
61	Jacob, Andrew	2065	79	Rorrer, Grayson	1837	87	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2020
86	Nandula, Ram Aditya	1978	90	Ma, Albert Z	1821	98	Bochenkova, Azzama Azzamovna	1986
			95	Yellamraju, Ambica	1807	99	Kao, Camille Y	1985
Age 17								
	Xiong, Jeffery	2717						
15	He, Tommy	2342						
16	Lin, Dachev	2340						
17	Chiang, Jonathan	2337						
35	Capocyan, Sam Lander Cabrera	2226						
54	Nguyen, Anthony Quan	2142						
80	Moore, Alex Michael	2059						
100	Hsieh, David	2009						



Women Age 65 and Over			Girls Age 16 (continued)			Girls Age 11 (continued)		
4	O'Neill, Julia	1816	91	Tamosaitis, Wynter	641	89	Patil, Srushti	1040
18	Hardesty, Brenda	1228						
Women Age 50 and Over			Girls Age 15			Girls Age 10		
11	O'Neill, Julia	1816	3	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2278	9	Wang, Kalina Yuke	1577
58	Hardesty, Brenda	1228	12	Kao, Camille Y	1985	38	Jacinto, Gianna G	1226
			36	Bao, Yuliang Eunice	1693	42	Bandaru, Tanvi	1210
			42	Zhu, Yining	1539	58	Solis, Natalie	1142
			43	Bhat, Puja Prashant	1514	63	Duggirala, Bhavyashree	1107
6	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2278	46	Bautista, Ilse V	1437	64	Reddy, Tanvi	1103
9	Chiang, Sarah	2232	58	Solis, Gabriela	1213	74	Iyer, Niyati	1060
17	Devagharan, Devina	2174	61	Tovias, Lauren	1185	76	Nitturi, Rajni	1053
29	Xiang, Evan	2089	65	Delgado, Victoria E	1142	77	Holmes, Natalie Faith	1050
36	Munoz, Claudia Elizabeth	2055	69	Gonzalez, Jolie Marie	1105	87	Pilla, Ananya Valli	1023
43	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2020	70	Babaria, Niyati Rakesh	1100	89	Lopez, Kathy Vanessa	1006
52	Kao, Camille Y	1985	72	Oliveira, Lauren R	1094	91	Balaji, Bhavana	999
56	Nguyen, Brittany Mong-Tran	1967	74	Flowers, Ava	1084	95	Pande, Nayonika	977
68	Chu, Yue	1928	81	Berger, Sarah	1034	100	Milligan, Madison	969
74	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1918						
76	Palakollu, Samritha	1914						
Girls Age 18			Girls Age 14			Girls Age 9		
			15	Cheng, Angela	1720	11	Gao, Tianwen	1462
			27	Zhou, Julia	1509	13	Balaji, Sai Sangeetha	1448
6	Xiang, Evan	2089	30	Cedillo Bocanegra, Ana Karen	1495	20	Sinha, Tavishi	1334
19	Brown, Sarah	1622	40	Perera, Dimanthi	1390	23	Elangovan, Ramya	1311
22	Guillen, Brianna	1552	42	Reistle, Jane	1379	27	Ham, Emily	1291
29	Leos, Emily	1253	43	Salinas, Brianna Christina	1358	34	Hwang, Alexis	1244
31	Lopez, Jessica	1218	44	Garcia, Emily Alexis	1356	37	Uviedo, Violette	1236
32	Moya, Savannah	1169	47	Murgulet, Ioana	1347	49	Akella, Sravya Suparna	1073
41	Alba-Jimenez, Sandra Michelle	1065	60	Vasquez, Angelica	1250	60	Seals, Ayre	997
42	Lee Sang, Bridget	1046	65	Boren, Isabel	1223	66	Gomez, Frida Mariela	977
46	Guzman, Vanessa Renee	898	69	Ravichandar, Shreya	1188	69	Badan, Rima	969
51	Alvarez, Anna M	730	75	Santana, Sol Celeste	1130	79	Mehta, Tanisi	898
55	Morales, Lidia Alissa	656	83	Basepogu, Sharon	1074	81	Espinosa, Sarah Elena	891
58	Villalpando, Lindsey	601	85	Ramirez, Patricia N	1066	91	Melgarejo, Paulina	861
			86	Martinez, Margarita N	1062	94	Nair, Pallavi	850
			87	Miller, Ashlyn	1057	94	Villarreal, Rebecca A	850
4	Nguyen, Brittany Mong-Tran	1967				94	Kanyaboyina, Tarini	850
12	Zheng, Christine	1817	Girls Age 13			97	Yi, Bella	849
14	Abella, Clarissa Louise	1784	15	Ayinala, Shree	1834	97	Milova, Vladislava	849
27	Rodriguez, Dominique	1592	48	Bautista, Reyna	1377			
42	Ortiz, Felicia	1337	49	Manohar, Riya	1365	Girls Age 8		
46	Solis, Crystal Marie	1227	50	Azim, Risa	1364	12	McNutt, Kaitlynn Lee	1249
47	Guillen, Sarai A	1221	68	Manoj, Aswathi	1204	39	John, Natalie Michelle	921
56	Martinez, Yvette	1122	73	Melgarejo, Fernanda	1170	49	John, Ashley Danielle	853
61	Morrison, Nicole Leigh	1090	75	Morales, Rhea	1149	51	Balci, Ayda	837
61	Torres, Citlalli	1090	75	Madhugiri, Shruthi	1149	55	Contreras, Rosario Nayeli	820
63	Reed, Ambriette D	1062	81	Chaudhary, Shreya	1122	57	Alanis, Juliana Cristina	797
71	Christensen, Asha Taylor	997	85	Deora, Saaniya	1114	66	Cruz, Vivica	751
72	Mendez, Brianna A	992	86	Krishnan, Aashika	1110	68	Yong, Evelin	746
80	Davila, Priscilla N	815	89	Flores, Madelyn A	1090	72	Fat-Anthony, Raichelle	716
81	Gonzalez, Janeth	809	91	Iyer, Ramya	1077	74	Camacho, Kaitlyn	712
82	Solorzano, Roxana L	770	95	Senapathi, Shriya	1058	88	Caldera, Sophia	651
86	Crossman, Jennifer Love	640						
91	Cruz, Sarina	593						
Girls Age 16			Girls Age 12			Girls Age 7 and Under		
			2	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	1918	1	<i>Li, Rachael</i>	1732
2	Devagharan, Devina	2174	10	Yellamraju, Ambica	1807	8	Zhang, Sunny	1163
6	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2020	13	Yellamraju, Aparna	1744	26	Hosur, Sanmita	840
12	Palakollu, Samritha	1914	23	Binoj, Gaayathri	1559	35	Wang, Crystal	747
19	Qureshi, Sadia	1739	28	Kao, Simona Y	1535	41	Gutierrez, Victoria Angelique	707
32	Garza, Ariel Francis	1502	55	Padilla, Karlee	1324	42	Raghuraja, Sri Yashvi	703
34	Salazar, Lillian	1499	62	Wang, Catherine	1247	51	Garza, Brithany	631
38	Le, Tu	1490	65	Aggarwal, Manika	1227	52	Ramirez, Isabella	626
51	Cervera, Maria B	1246	66	Gunukula, Renee	1222	57	Milova, Elizaveta S	583
59	Flores, Victoria I	1151	74	Balderas, Ana Luisa	1192	58	Lopez, Celeste Catalina	579
64	Hernandez, Victoria Ann	1122	79	Babaria, Rajvi Rakesh	1177	63	Barba, Isabella	563
68	Capetillo, Emily	1085				66	Nair, Aditi	550
71	Harris, Rachelle	932	Girls Age 11			68	Posadas, Sofia Eliana	542
74	Hale, Abbie	879	14	Chennuru, Anshu	1566	69	Gomez, Nelly Daniela	537
75	Castillo, Julianna Deanda	875	27	Furman, Jessica	1445	70	Rodriguez, Brandie Michelle	532
78	Pena, Ashley	815	38	Naidu, Suchitra	1352	71	Yu, Karina	528
80	Voliber, Alyssa	790	47	Ghatti, Saisneha	1273	74	Liguez, Emma	524
87	Hurtado, Mariana Veronica	661	52	Pulido, Emma Rose	1243	75	Cervantes, Makayla	522
88	Hipolito, Anateresa	653	60	Hernandez, Sarah	1190	86	Trevino, Zayda Grace	476
89	Wallace, Ashlyn	645	77	Vasquez, Izabel	1105	86	Rodriguez, Naissa	465
			81	Athila, Akshaya	1091	91	Yu, Amanda	462
			84	Delgado, Gisele Josephine	1075	96	Leyva, Tamil	445

Tactics Time! Answers

Answers:

1. **32. Rb6+** traps the Queen.
2. **17...Rxd4 18.Qxd4 Bc5** pins the Queen to the King.
3. **28...Nbd5** forks the bishop and rook.
4. **26. Bxh7+ Kxh7 27.Qxd4**
5. **32...Rxd4** wins a pawn. The c3 pawn is pinned.
6. **23. Rd3** cuts off the Black King for the fastest mate. **23...Rxb3 24. hxb3 h4 25. Re1#**
7. **39. Re8+ Kf7 40.Rf8+ Ke6 41.Rxf4 Bxf4 42.Qxf4 Qxf4 43.gxf4** wins a piece.
8. **9. Qxc8+!** Wins a piece **9...Rxc8 10.dxc5**

Cover. 28...Rxf1+ 29.Qxf1 Rc1

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Sign-up at tacticstime.com.

The Chess Pieces Dance Solutions

Solution 1: 1.Bg8! c2 2.Rf7 Ka2 3.Ra7#. The Rf7 interferes with the Bg8 releasing stalemate and setting up a double checkmate. This is an illustration of the Indian Theme. The name comes from the first example sent in from India by H.A. Loveday to the Chess Player's Chronicle in 1845.

Solution 2: 1.Rb1! d3 2.Ba1 e5 3.Rb2 (look familiar?) Kd4 4.Rb4# (Indian Theme),
1. ... e5 2.Bd8 d3 3.Bb6 Kd4 4. Rb4# (Pin-Mate).

Solution 3: a) 1. ... Bg3 2.Kb7 Bb8 3.axb8Q d5 4.Qf4#; b) 1. ... h2 2. Kb8 Kh3 3.a8Q h4 4.Qf3#. When the solutions have two similar mates, this is called an echo. In addition, when the mates occur on different colors, they are called chameleon echo mates.

Solution 4: 1. ... Kg4 2.Kh7 Kf4 3.Kg6 Ke5 4.Kh5 Kf6 5.Kg4 Kg6 6.Kxg3 Kh5 7.Kh3 g6 8.g4#. An interesting dance of the Kings. Did you notice that the Black King made a six-point circle. When a piece makes a circle, it's called a Rundlauf. This is a German word meaning circular movement.

Solution 5: 1. ... Na2 2.Bc3 Kc1 3.Bd2+ Kb2 4.Bc1+ Ka1 5.Bb2#. The White Bishop moved in a four-point diamond Rundlauf.

Solution 6: 1. ... Kc3 2.Bf3 Kd4 3.Bh5 Kd5 4.Bg6 Nd4 5.Be4#. The White Bishop moved in a four-point rectangular Rundlauf.

Solution 7: 1.Bxh6! b5 2.Kg3 b4 3.Rg5 Ke3 4.Rxe5#. The White Rook on g5 interferes with the White Bishop on h6 to release stalemate and give double checkmate on the next move. This is another example of the Indian theme.

Solution 8: 1. ... Qa6 2.Kf2 Ra4 3.Ke3 Kb4 4.Kd4 Ka5+ 5.Kc5 Rb4 6.c3 Ba4 7.cxb4#. Notice how the Black King shields the White King from the Black Rook allowing him to cross the fourth rank. This kind cooperation is typical of help-mates

Solution 9: 1. ... h1Q 2.Bg1 Qh7 3.Bh2 Ke3 4.Bg3 Qd3 5.Bf2#. A White Bishop Rundlauf. A good example of White and Black cooperation.



Texas Armed Forces Chess Championship

By Chief Organizer Jim Hollingsworth



(North Richland Hills, Texas, September 30, 2017. For immediate distribution). Chess Expert Rudy Tia, a retired Army Sergeant from Killeen, Texas, shown in photo with Chief Organizer Jim Hollingsworth (far left) and Chief Tournament Director Chris Wood (far right), won the 2017 Texas Armed Forces and Military Veterans Open Chess Championships with a perfect 4-0 score over a 17-player field (including 6 experts). The two-day rated event was

held September 23rd and 24th, in the North Richland Hills Library, and was sanctioned by the US Chess Federation and the Texas Chess Association. Serious Chess Players, based out of Haltom City's American Legion Post 655, was the sponsoring affiliate. Chris Wood was the Chief Tournament Director and was capably assisted by Lisa Lin (Adjutant) and two volunteers (Dale Chaney and Zachary Graber). The Chief organizer was Jim Hollingsworth.

In total, a dozen tournament plaques and titles were awarded. The full list of winners follows:

- 2017 Texas Armed Forces Chess Champion = Rudy Tia
- 2017 Texas Military Veterans Open Chess Champion = Jhonel Baniel
- 2017 Texas Legacy Chess Champion = John Farrell
- 2017 Texas Army Chess Champion = Jim Stallings
- 2017 Texas Navy Chess Champion = Anthony Hemphill
- 2017 Texas Marines Chess Champion = Dominick Miller
- 2017 Texas Air Force Chess Champion = Fred Pennington
- 2017 Texas Armed Forces Retiree Chess Champion = Mike Donovan
- 2017 Texas Military Veteran Student Chess Champion = Jack Pena
- 2017 Texas Military Veteran Unrated Co-Champion = Nathaniel May
- 2017 Texas Military Veteran Unrated Co-Champion = Robert Todd

At Saturday evening's Veterans Dinner, Carmen Chairez, from Round Rock, Texas, was recognized as a chess organizer, tournament director, coach, and mentor for young chess players (some of whom achieved Master level status). Mrs. Lois Wall, filling in for her husband, presented Mr. Chairez with the Chess Master Bill Wall Texas Legacy Award.

Several guest speakers greeted the chess playing veterans and retirees at the opening ceremony and the Saturday evening Veterans Dinner.

Stephanie Klick (right photo), Texas District 91 Representative, welcomed everyone. "Texas House District 91 has over 50 active duty service members," She said, "and over 12,000 veterans live here. Our Nation is safer, our State is stronger, and our communities are better places to live and work because of our Veterans. Thank you all so much for being here and for your sacrifices."



North Richland Hills Place 7 City Councilman Tim Welch's comments were heartfelt as he talked about the sacrifices his family members made when they served in the Military. "One out of every five deployments during the Global war on Terrorism was from Texas. Many from North Richland Hills served when our Nation needed them most. Many still serve. Our City is much stronger because of our veterans living here. Many of our local businesses, such as Lowes, show their appreciation by

offering discounts. In 2005 our City opened Liberty Park to honor the sacrifices our veterans and their families made. We celebrate Veterans Day and this year it will be on Friday, November 10, 2017 at 11:00 AM at Liberty Park. Thank you all for keeping America safe."



Tom Crane, Texas Chess Association (TCA) Region II Director and the head of chess for 27 North Central Texas counties, pointed out the North Richland Hills Public Library has been a supporter of chess for quite some time. The scholastic chess program that meets every Tuesday from 4:00 – 5:30 PM has provided the opportunity for thousands of children to play chess since 2004. Having a facility is everything to chess events and the library also supports the Tarrant County Chess Club by providing the Community Room for monthly tournaments. The library partnership with chess is essential to continuing the

learning, playing and enjoyment of chess and Tarrant County Chess Club recognizes and appreciates this support greatly.

Captain Jon Townsend, Commander of the Fort Worth Naval Air Station, spoke at the Veterans Dinner and described the Base's various ongoing and contingency operations. "During Hurricane Harvey, we sheltered Military families and safeguarded all military aircraft normally stationed in Southern Texas. Having all those lined up on our ramp was an incredible sight and only the tip of the iceberg for the missions our Sailors, Marines and Airmen accomplish every single day."

Don Kobe, Commander of the American Legion Post 655 in Haltom City, Texas, talked about his post's new chess club that meets on Thursdays. "The American Legion," he said, "is a wonderful opportunity for all Veterans to pursue any passion they are interested in, including chess." He also talked about the American Legion's Four Pillars of Service: Strong National Security, Taking Care of Veterans, Mentoring Youth, and Patriotism & Honor. He encouraged all to visit and join their local American Legion post.



Chess Expert Jim Stallings, University of Texas at Dallas Chess Program Director (left photo), described his University's phenomenal growth and its robust chess program. "We have 7 Grand Masters, 5 International Masters, and three other masters. For the last 20 years, our teams are consistently ranked among the Nation's top collegiate chess programs and enjoy great results in international competition." An Army Veteran, Mr. Stallings also played and won the Texas Army Chess Champion title.

Chess Expert John Farrell, one of the organizers of the annual US Armed Forces Open Chess Championship, encouraged all to try playing in that event when their schedule allows. “This year’s event is at West Point. If you can make it, I promise you are going to have one of the greatest chess experiences in your entire life!”

Jeff French, Editor of one of Chess Journalists of America’s most acclaimed State Chess Magazines, Texas Knights, talked humorously about the early years when a printing vendor messed up 22 chess diagrams in his first issue as Editor. “They worked all night getting replacement issues ready for the next day’s mailing deadline.” Texas Knights is online and has a printed distribution of nearly 200 subscribers.

When the Opening Ceremonies ended, Representative Klick had the last word.

“Everyone, please shake hands. Start your clocks. Good luck!”

Below are the results.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Tot
1	RUDY G TIA JR	W12	W6	W3	W5	4.0
2	JHONEL BALDAGO BANIEL	W13	D8	D5	W9	3.0
3	JOHN F FARRELL	W10	W9	L1	W7	3.0
4	JAMES STALLINGS	L9	W10	W8	D6	2.5
5	FRED P PENNINGTON JR	W14	W11	D2	L1	2.5
6	MICHAEL E DONOVAN	W16	L1	W13	D4	2.5
7	JACK PENA	H	H	W12	L3	2.0
8	JIM HOLLINGSWORTH	W17	D2	L4	D12	2.0
9	DARRYL L WEST	W4	L3	W16	L2	2.0
10	ANTHONY HEMPHILL	L3	L4	W11	W16	2.0
11	NATHANIEL MAY	B	L5	L10	W17	2.0
12	CARMEN A CHAIREZ	L1	W14	L7	D8	1.5
13	CHARLES L FRICKS	L2	W17	L6	D14	1.5
14	THOMAS E CRANE	L5	L12	W15	D13	1.5
15	DALE CHANEY	U	U	L14	B	1.0
16	DOMINIC ANDREW MULLER	L6	B	L9	L10	1.0
17	ROBERT LEE TODD	L8	L13	H	L11	0.5

Editors Note: Following are Rudy Tia's 4 games played in the Texas Armed Forces Championships. These and the other 26 games are included in the games.pgn file included on the TexasChess.org website with the Digital Edition of this issue of Texas Knights.

Tia Jr,Rudy G (2196) – Chairez,Carmen A (1777) [A10]

TX Armed Forces 2017 NRH, Texas (1.1), 23.09.2017

1.c4 d6 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 c5 5.a3 Bg7 6.b4 Nbd7 7.Rb1 Rb8 8.Nf3 0-0 9.0-0 e6 10.d4 Qe7 11.bxc5 dxc5 12.Bf4 Ra8 13.Nb5 Ne8 14.d5 e5 15.Bg5 f6 16.d6 Qd8 17.Qd5+ Rf7 18.Be3 a6 19.Nc3 Bf8 20.Ne4 Kg7 21.Rfd1 h6 22.Qd2 Kh7 23.Nxc5 Nxc5 24.Bxc5 Qd7 25.Qc2 Ng7 26.Nh4 f5 27.Bb6 e4 28.Bf1 Qc6 29.c5 Be6 30.e3 Rd7 31.Bc7 Ne8 32.Rb6 Nxc7 33.Rxc6 bxc6 34.dxc7 Rxc7 35.Bc4 Bd7 36.Ba2 g5 37.Qc4 Bg7 38.Qf7 Rf8 39.Qg6+ Kh8 40.Qd6 Rfc8 41.Ng6+ Kh7 42.Ne7 1-0

Donovan,Michael E (1837) – Tia Jr,Rudy G (2196) [C06]

TX Armed Forces 2017 NRH, Texas (2.1), 23.09.2017

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Nf3 Qc7 12.Bd2 0-0 13.Rc1 Ng4 14.Ng3 e5 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.dxe5 Qb6 17.Qb3 Qxb3 18.axb3 Ngxe5 19.Bb1 Be6 20.Rfe1 Rae8 21.f4 Nd7 22.f5 Bf7 23.Bf4 Rxe1+ 24.Rxe1 d4 25.Bd6 Rd8 26.b4 Nf6 27.Bf4 Nxb4 28.Re7 Nbd5 29.Rxf7 Kxf7 30.Ba2 Ke8 31.Bd2 Rd6 32.Bc4 Rb6 33.b3 Nc3 34.Bf4 Ng4 35.h3 Ne3 36.Be5 Nxc4 37.bxc4 Rb1+ 38.Kh2 Rd1 39.Bxg7 Kf7 40.Be5 a5 41.Nh5 a4 42.Bd6 Ne2 43.g4 d3 44.Kg2 Rg1+ 45.Kf3 d2 0-1

Tia Jr,Rudy G (2196) – Farrell,John F (1956) [A34]

TX Armed Forces 2017 NRH, Texas (3.1), 24.09.2017

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 c5 3.g3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bg2 Nc7 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.0-0 e5 8.a3 Be7 9.d3 0-0 10.Rb1 Be6 11.Nd2 Qd7 12.Re1 Rfd8 13.Qa4 Nd5 14.Nde4 Rac8 15.Bd2 Nd4 16.Qxd7 Rxd7 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Bh3 Be6 19.Bxe6 Nxe6 20.Bc3 f6 21.Nd2 b6 22.a4 Nd4 23.Kf1 Kf7 24.b3 Rdc7 25.e3 Ne6 26.Nc4 Rd7 27.Ke2 Rcd8 28.Rbd1 Ke8 29.f4 exf4 30.gxf4 Kf7 31.h4 Nc7 32.e4 Ne6 33.Rf1 Nd4+ 34.Bxd4 Rxd4 35.e5 f5 36.h5 g6 37.hxg6+ hxg6 38.Ke3 g5 39.fxg5 Bxg5+ 40.Ke2 f4 41.Rg1 Be7 42.Rdf1 Rh8 43.Rg4 Rh2+ 44.Kf3 Rh3+ 45.Kg2 Rhxd3 46.Rxf4+ Rxf4 47.Rxf4+ Ke6 48.Rf3 Rxf3 49.Kxf3 Bf8 50.Ke4 Be7 51.Ne3 Bd8 52.Nd5 a6 53.Nf4+ Ke7 54.Kd5 b5 55.axb5 axb5 56.Kxc5 Bc7 57.Kxb5 Bxe5 58.Ng6+ Kd6 1-0

Pennington Jr,Fred (1891) – Tia Jr,Rudy G (2196) [C00]

TX Armed Forces 2017 NRH, Texas (4.1), 24.09.2017

1.e4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.exd5 exd5 5.d4 Bg4 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Ne2 Bxf3 9.gxf3 Nh5 10.Ng3 Nxc3 11.fxc3 c5 12.c3 Nc6 13.Rf2 cxd4 14.cxd4 Nxd4 15.Bxh7+ Kxh7 16.Qxd4 Bf6 17.Qd3+ Kg8 18.Be3 d4 19.Bf4 Re8 20.g4 Qa5 21.Kg2 Re6 22.b3 Rc8 23.Rc1 Rxc1 24.Bxc1 Qc3 25.Qd2 d3 26.Qxc3 Bxc3 27.Bd2 Bd4 28.Bb4 Bxf2 0-1

2017 US Cadet Championship

By Emily Nguyen

As the sunny summer days neared an end and the reality of sophomore year loomed on the horizon, I concluded my lengthy list of tournaments with the 2017 US Cadet Championship. This year, the event was held in Manchester, New Hampshire, and it included a strong field of nine other masters -- Albert Lu, Ben Li, Carissa Yip, Hans Niemann, Yoon-Young Kim, Christopher Shen, Andrew Titus, Trung Nguyen, and Andy Huang. I was the lowest seed by current rating at the time, so I decided to play because I thought it would be a good experience.

I did not feel confident coming into the tournament because my preparation consisted of a brief look of each opponent and a chessless vacation to Florida right before the tournament. So basically, I was banking on my practice from the other tournaments during summer to somehow help me survive. On the bright side, Cadets started out with a round robin blitz tournament to determine tiebreaks. I finished second to last with 3.5/9 which was kind of expected, but at least it helped me recover my form a little bit.

Overall, the result wasn't so good, but it wasn't bad. I guess I'm happy with my play, but in all the games that I lost, I missed moves that would have given me pretty much a decisive advantage which was kind of disappointing. I ended up with 3.5/9 (again) and gained one point USCF. Nevertheless, all the games served as a helpful learning experience, and even though it wasn't a perfect way to end the summer, I'm thankful for the opportunity.

Now that I'm faced with the monotonous cycle of school and onslaught of homework (as I'm currently awake at 1 AM trying to finish this article), my focus for chess has decreased by a lot. However, I do have to start preparing for the 2017 World Junior in Italy, which will hopefully be a successful tournament!

Emily Nguyen – Yoon-Young Kim [D47]

US Cadet, 19.08.2017

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5 8.Bd3 Bd6 9.0-0 10.b3 Bb7 11.Bb2 a6 12.a4 Qe7 13.Rc1
[My prep ended around here, and I thought white's position was pretty comfortable.]

13...e5 [He played e5 kind of quickly and it turned out to be inaccurate because black is forced to either have a bad position or lose a pawn.]

14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Ne4 [Ne4 opens up both of my bishops, attacking the weak c6-pawn and black's king.]

15...Nxe4 16.Bxe4 Rfd8 17.Qe2 Rac8 18.Nxe5 [18.Bxe5 Bxe5 was more accurate here, because I win a pawn without going into opposite colored bishops plus a better pawn structure. 18...Bxe5 19.Bf5 Rc7 20.Nxe5 Qxe5 21.Qh5 g6 22.Bxg6 This ending should be winning for me, especially with black's terrible b7-bishop.]

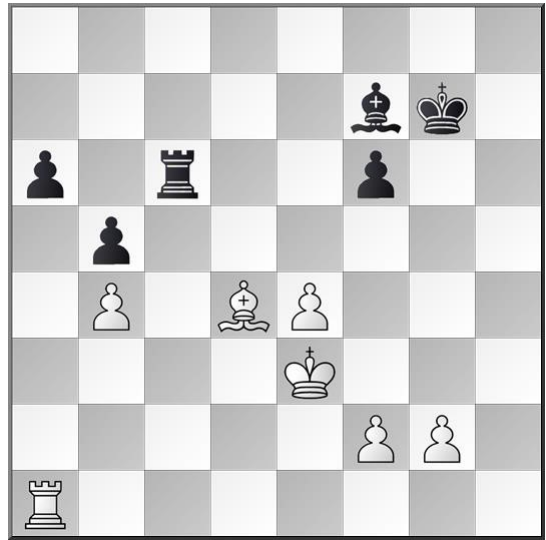


18...Bxe5 19.Bxh7+ Kxh7 20.Qh5+ Kg8
 21.Qxe5 Qxe5 22.Bxe5 [Here I am up a pawn,
 but it's not that easy because it's an opposite
 bishop ending and I'm not sure it's enough to
 win.]

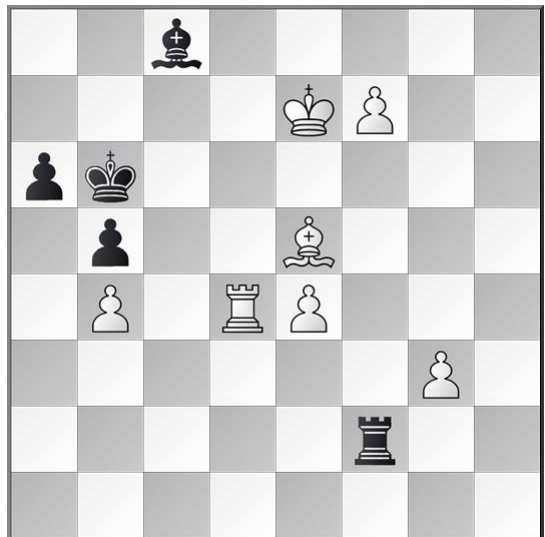
22...Rd3 23.axb5 cxb5 24.Rxc8+ Bxc8 [I think
 trading Rooks was the best way to go because
 now I can bring my King in without worrying
 about annoying checks.]

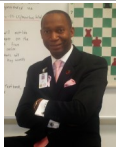
25.Rc1 Be6 26.b4 Bc4 27.Ra1 Rd2 28.h4
 [Now it's time to start pushing pawns on my
 majority side.]

28...f6 29.Bd4 Ba2 30.Rc1 Bc4 31.Ra1 Ba2
 32.Rc1 Bc4 33.Bc3 Rd3 34.Kh2 Kh7 35.Bd4
 Rd2 36.Kg3 Kg6 37.Rh1 Kh5 38.Bc5 Bb3
 39.Bf8 Rd8 40.Bc5 Rd2 41.Ra1 Ba2 42.e4
 Kg6 43.Kf4 Kf7 44.h5 Kg8 45.Ke3 Rc2
 46.Bd4 Bf7 47.h6 Rc6 48.hxg7 Kxg7 [I think
 this should be pretty winning now because it's 3
 vs. 1 and I just have to push all of my pawns
 and he would crumble.]



49.Bc5 Bb3 50.Ra3 Be6 51.Kd4 Kf7 52.f4 Bc8
 53.f5 [I like f5 because now there's no way he
 can create a blockade on the light squares.]
 53...Rc7 54.Ke3 Bb7 55.Rc3 Ke8 56.Rc2 Rd7
 57.Rc1 Rg7 58.Kf3 Rh7 59.Re1 Rh4 60.Bd4
 Ke7 61.g3 Rh5 62.Kf4 Rh2 63.Rc1 Kd7
 64.Bxf6 Rf2+ 65.Ke5 Rb2 66.Rd1+ Kc7
 67.Rd4 Rg2 68.Ke6 Re2 69.Be5+ Kb6 70.f6
 Bc8+ 71.Ke7 Rf2 72.f7 1-0





Coach's Corner - e4!

Play Ball! - Shake Hands, Start Your Clocks

by Robert L. Myers

Warning: brace yourself for many shameless baseball metaphors.

We really sucked, Kenneth Basil Hunter and I, at playing baseball but we walked down the street with our ragged gloves in hand chanting, "J. B. Hey, hey J. B.!" Determined to play ball for this living legend J. B., Virgil Calhoun. He said of us several years later at reunion barbeque, "You fellas couldn't play your way out of a wet paper sack."

We tried out for the team. We couldn't catch a lick, running towards baseballs hit to us in the outfield that would sail over our heads. Then running backward as fast as our little 9 and 10-year-old legs would take us, for balls that would drop right in front of us. Balls would routinely whisk between our legs that day in the early Summer of 1971. Other kids would figuratively "die laughing" as we tried out for the team.

Guys with names like Gip, Tony, Strawberry (he had freckles like the fruit) Plat, no idea why we called him that, although all of his hair was in one big ponytail, maybe that was it. Then there was Snag, his chipped tooth, a kid named Pookie and a kid we called Cantu, a Hispanic kid that had as much swag and soul as any Black Kid on the field. We all played together like a family. We heard whispers of racism but were sheltered as

much as possible from that vile evil. My Pastor would say, "They kept us far from hurt, harm, and danger. Now we are fractured with racism, bigotry, hatred, strife, violence, senseless murder, and sexual misconduct." I'm glad our parents and those adults that raised us where at least then "colorblind." They weren't finger pointing and fault finding and getting caught up in the politics and the rhetoric of the day that presently divides our country. They simply worked hard to as my Mom would say, "Keep a roof over our heads and warm food in our tummies." We played together intent and eager to hear the umpire say, "Play ball!" Our passion for the game of baseball is much like those of us that love chess and have a passion that drives us to hear, "Shake hands and start your clocks." We needn't choose to play Black or White, the computer with some predetermined algorithms do that for us in chess. Back then we were sheltered from sides based on race, creed, color, and political party. No matter our differences we played as a team. We were so good during those years of playing at The Salvation Army Boys Club that J. B. got us new uniforms and promptly changed our name from the Pirates to "The Amazing Pirates!" We didn't lose a game from 1971 - 1977. We even scored 16 runs in one inning against a team in Sunnyside, a neighborhood in Houston, TX. I had 8 hits including two homers.

Kenney hit two singles, two doubles, and a triple.

The U.S. Class Chess Invitational Scholastic Chess Tournament is 3-days of grueling, mental torture and arguably the most prestigious chess tournament of the year, players from 20 states & 4 countries competed this year. Last year Grand Master Hikaru Nakamura, number 4 in the world played here. If we were to win it would be our 4th straight U.S. Class Title and 31st National Championship. This is a yearly national tournament held by Cajun Chess this month, we could only take four players as a team, nice because the TDs, tournament directors, only score the top four player's scores as a team. One of our strongest players was in Pensacola, FL finishing up a flight course at the National Flight Academy on a scholarship he'd won earlier this summer, so the chances of winning another 1st Place National Title were pretty slim. Over 150 kids entered in the scholastic section and the top rated kid wasn't ours. Remember when I mentioned earlier that we played baseball like family back in the 70s? That's what was needed for this tournament, family, and teamwork. (It's really odd how you can have a perfect score of 4.0 and still get second place. I hate tie-breaks.) I digress. My point is even with one student scholastic player didn't lose any games, another player was 3.5. The third player 2.5 and the fourth player 2.2 at a tournament where arguably the youngest Grand Master from Texas, Jeffery Xiong, 2720, played to two draws and three wins, it wasn't looking too well for us in the

scholastic section with only four rounds to play. Now with one round remaining the closest team to our score was within striking distance so we would need everyone to play flawlessly. And, we nearly did play error free winning 12 points for the 1st Place Team, The Chess Academy @Cesar E. Chavez High School, Houston, TX. Gilbert Guadiana 2nd Place, with a perfect score 4.0 on tie-breaks, Christian Ayala 5th, Marcus Gafford 6th, and Daemein Rodriguez 7th place.



Cesar Chavez 1st Place Team U. S. Class Scholastic Champions, 2017

I remember in a state tournament some years ago the team captain and senior class president lost his first, second, third games, all the way to the 7th round not one single win. I simply hugged him and said there will be brighter days. Pour tournament showings are like batting slumps. You have to keep swinging away. (Excuse the baseball metaphors but the Houston Astros are the World Champions.) I read to my player a quote from Pastor Charles Swindoll, author, educator, and radio minister and founder of Insight for Living.

Pastor Chuck says, "The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than success, more than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company ... a church ... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude... I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you, we are in charge of our attitudes." It must have worked because the following week at another tournament the same kid that had lost all of his games with a terrible showing signed up and won the first, second, third, fourth... wouldn't it be great if I could tell you that he won all of his games but the truth is he lost the last round but so did the kid that was tied with him the round before, 4.0. It just so happens that in this case, the tie-breaks proved him to be the 1st place winner. Proof that your attitude matters and you should never give up even when on a losing streak or in a batting slump. I was talking to Master Bo Githoro, 2212, Dark Knights Chess, when I was interviewing Grand Master Timur Gareyev, 2682, for an article and the subject of hard work and attitude came up. Grand Master Timur said, "Hard work can be fun. What was it that Bo said about hard work?" He (Bo) quoted Kasparov.

"Most individuals believe hard work beats talent. But most people fail to realize that being a hard worker is a talent." That hard work Timur believes is this, "Your brain will try to talk you into thinking 'I can't do that.' But believe me, you can. It will be difficult but you can do it." I think that it can at times feel counter-intuitive or resiliently unproductive. And yet as chess players, we must do it. But approaching studying, practicing and reading takes a great attitude and if we want to be better coaches, players, students of the game we must adjust our attitude, step up to the plate and do it. Timur does it while wearing a blindfold. I remember him saying once that when an opponent calls out a board number and when he hears the players voice he sees the board and thinks a few moves ahead and visualizes the end-game. But how does one do that? Timur says, "It takes practice and hard work." I should add a great attitude.

In one of my final baseball games as a youth, I didn't have a sharp, great or even positive attitude. Like most homerun kings I shared the dubious distinction of having the most



Myers, Astrodome, Houston Texas

strikeouts also. That didn't matter J. B. loved us all like we were his sons, although he had no kids of his own. He Coached during our tenure so well until the 6 years I played Centerfield he turned me from the worst player to the Rookie of the Year that season and MVP the following year. The trophy is in my Man-cave. I could hit anything that crossed the plate, cover the entire outfield and "chunk a ball" a country mile. Kenneth Hunter, Kenney-Boy, my childhood friend played to the left of me in Right-field.

In a near-fatal batting slump one year, we were playing against our arch rival, All-Tourney, a great team just inches away from being as good as we were. We were down by one in the top of the 9th inning, versus our fiercest rival. Mr. Jolivet, their Coach from the Scenic Woods area of Houston was an awesome guy and a great coach also. If I struck out our win streak would be over. I remember going to the plate from the on-deck circle with my head down, heart beating so fast I see my chest moving, with the bases loaded and two outs, dragging the bat in the sand, hearing groans from the dugout, then feeling a left hand on my right shoulder and hearing in my right ear, "Relax Bill (that was my childhood nickname, short for Billy-Boy) just hit the ball. It'll be okay." I turned around it was Kenney, my childhood best friend. He smiled at me. First pitch, swing and a miss. Second pitch, an even wilder miss with my helmet falling in the batter's box and me too. Just like in the movie Sandlots. Guys just knew we were going to lose and "the streak" would be over. I saw

guys reaching for their gloves and putting up the equipment, everybody but Kenney. His stern look, furrowed brow mouthed the words from the edge of the dugout, "Relax!" Third pitch, a crack of the bat with eyes possibly closed and the ball was cranked forty feet over the Centerfielder's head. GRAND SLAM! All because he believed in me when I didn't believe in myself. No one believed in me but Kenney, he was my friend. He passed away right before the Astros started the Pennant Race. He really would have loved watching the Astros win the World Series. We sat beside each other in the Astrodome with gloves in hand for many games in our favorite seats just beyond the center of right field. I'm going to miss him running out into the outfield and tossing the ball around with me right before the umpire bends over, reaches into his back right pocket and dust off home plate, places his mask back on and shouts, "Play ball!"



Grand Master Hikaru Nakamura and Coach Myers

Upcoming Events

DECEMBER 2017

DEC. 2 2017 Dallas Junior Open

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

DEC. 2 EPIC Fast Cash Saturday 4

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8894.tla>

DEC. 2-3 NTCA Winter Open

Info: www.northtexaschessacademy.com

DEC. 3 Arlington Winter Blitz

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8197.tla>

DEC. 9 Southlake Santa's Classic

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8751.tla>

DEC. 9 Lovejoy ISD Fall Chess Tournament Series #4

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8501.tla>

DEC. 13 Crusader Holiday Blitz

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8863.tla>

DEC. 16 Austin Kids2 #6

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/events/813>

DEC. 16 Many Springs 107

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8611.tla>

DEC. 17 End of Year Unrated Blitz

Info: <http://austinchessclub.com/>

DEC. 23 EDG Festivus Classic

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8445.tla>

DEC. 23-24 2017 DCC FIDE Open XI

Info: 214-632-9000

DEC. 30 2016 Southlake K-12 Winter Classic

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/7551.tla>

DEC. 31-JAN. 1 DCC New Year Eve Insanity

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

JANUARY 2018

JAN. 5-7 8th Annual Austin Chess Club Championship

Info: See Ad on Page 31

JAN. 6 Arlington Chess Club Open #28

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8794.tla>

JAN. 13 Winter Wonderland Chess Tournament

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8860.tla>

JAN. 13-15 2018 DCC FIDE Open I

Info: 214-632-9000

JAN. 20 Crusader Winter Classic

Info: <http://austinchestournaments.com>

JAN. 27 2018 Region IV Scholastic Championships

Info: TBA

JAN. 27 2018 Region V Scholastic Championships

Info: <http://chess.jliptrap.us/regv18.htm>

JAN. 27 Scholastic Chess Tournament at Casis Elementary

Info: <http://austinchestournaments.com/events/802>

WEEKLY EVENTS

DEC. 2, 9, 16, 30 and JAN. 7 Plano Spectacular

Info: www.planochess.com

DEC. 3, 10, 17 Frisco Smarts Sunday

Info: Cancelled!

DEC. 3, 10, 17 Four Round End of Year Swiss

Info: <http://austinchessclub.com/>

DEC. 7, 14, 21, 28 and JAN. 4, 11, 18, 25 NTCA - Thursday Blitz

Info: info@northtexaschessacademy.com

DEC. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and JAN. 7, 14, 21, 28 NTCA - The Sunday Swiss

Info: info@northtexaschessacademy.com

JAN. 5, 12, 19, 26 Classical Friday's (One Classical game per night!)

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/8970.tla>



8th Annual Austin Chess Club Championship

\$3400 in 100% Unconditionally Guaranteed Prizes
Jan. 5-7 or 6-7, 2018

Where: Bridge Center of Austin, 6700 Middle Fiskville Rd., Austin, TX 78752

Time Controls, All Sections:

- G/90 with 60 sec. inc. per move. **2-day:** Rd 1, G/90 with 5 sec. delay.

Sections and Prizes (100% Guaranteed):

- **Championship** (rated 1800+): \$600 \$400 \$200, **U2200:** \$275 - \$125, **U2000:** \$250 - \$100
- **Reserve** (rated 1400-1799): \$400 \$200, **U1600:** \$200 - \$100
- **Novice** (rated U1400): \$250 \$100, **U1200:** \$100 - \$50, **U1000:** \$50

“Playing up” is not allowed.

January 2018 supplement used to determine section placement.

Unrateds placed at discretion of chief TD. Unrateds eligible only for place prizes.

All USCF members invited to play

Championship EF: \$55 mailed by 12/01, \$65 thereafter / on site.

Reserve EF: \$50 mailed by 12/01, \$60 thereafter / on site.

Novice EF: \$45 mailed by 12/01, \$55 thereafter / on site.

Re-entry \$25, all sections.

Schedule:

- **3-day:** Registration Fri. 01/05 **6-7pm**. Rounds 01/05 **7:30pm**, 01/06 **1pm - 7pm**,
01/7 **9:30am - 3:30pm**.
- **2-day:** Registration Sat. 01/06 **8:00-8:40am**, Round 1 **9:00am**, then merge with 3-day schedule.

One ½ point bye available if requested before the end of Round 2.

Online registration (preferred):

<https://www.austinchestournaments.com/events/794>

Credit cards ok online, cash or credit cards onsite.

Mail entry information (registration form) and/or check payment to:

Lori Balkum, P.O. Box 1386, Round Rock, TX 78680.

Make checks payable to AustinChessTournaments.com.

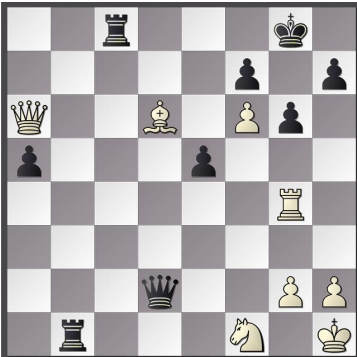
Info: Lori.Balkum@AustinChessTournaments.com, **Ph:** 512-417-9008



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Tactics Time!

Answer on
page 18



Yi Hu – Ronut Kirumaki
8th Southwest Class 2017
Black to Move