

TEXAS KNIGHTS

The official publication of the Texas Chess Association

Volume 60, Number 2

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

Nov-Dec 2018 \$4

Happy Holidays!



The Crusader Chess Club participated in the Scherr Legate Celebration of Lights Parade, El Paso

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TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

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

TexasChess.org
Facebook.com/TexasChess

President: Tom Crane, tcrane5000@gmail.com.

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

Secretary: Lonann French, TXChessSec@gmail.com.

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

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

Website Admin: Chris Wood, chris@handsomeweb.com.

Facebook Admin: Jim Hollingsworth, texaschessteam@yahoo.com.

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

Membership Dues (annual): *You can now join/renew online at TexasChess.org using PayPal*

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

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Contributors: Tim Brennan, John Capocyan, Chase & Cole Frutos, Renate Garcia, Jim Hollingsworth, Robert Myers

Cover photo: Renate Garcia

Game annotations, if not attributed, are a collaboration of Jeff French and *Fritz 16*.

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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 an exciting time for *Texas Knights*. After just 4 more issues it will be an online-only multi-media experience. Printed/Mailed issues will no longer continue after Volume 60, Number 6 (this issue is Volume 60, Number 2). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact **TCA President Tom Crane**.

In this Volume of *Texas Knights* the layout has changed a bit. I am attempting to provide a larger variety, but still allow for more games to be included in each issue. I hope you are enjoying the changes.

I would like to keep future articles (for, at least, the next 4 issues) to no more than two pages (including photos) ... that does NOT include any games included with articles. Any games that will be used in *Texas Knights* will be noted on the Game Index page and games will follow. If longer articles are provided, smaller subsets of the articles will be used. Then, if deemed necessary, the full submitted articles will be provided as separate supplements with the digital edition of *Texas Knights*. The availability of the supplements will be noted in the subset of the article.

In addition, the Game Index allows games to be included within *Texas Knights* without the inclusion of an article to go with it. If you have games you'd like to submit (annotated or not), please send them to me. Even if I don't include submitted games in *Texas Knights*, I will include them in the Games.pgn file that is included with the digital edition of *Texas Knights*.

Thanks, as always, to all contributors.

The next issue of *Texas Knights*, Volume 60, Number 3, will be distributed around the first week of February, 2019. Have a happy holiday season. Be safe. See you next year!

— **Jeff French**

So far this year we've received \$18.67 from AmazonSmile.
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2673185>



From the Desk of the TCA President

We had our first conference call on October 22nd and other than some voice quality issues it went better than I expected. (The minutes of the conference call are available on the TCA website.) The major topic was background checks and after a long discussion a suggestion to establish a committee to research and make recommendations was made, and quickly agreed to. David Ortiz, David Cantu and Troy Gillespie agree to be on that committee and I am grateful for their willingness to serve. My objective is to have the committee's recommendation(s) and the TCA By-Law updates ready to present at State March of 2019. In the mean time we will have our second conference call December 10th at 8:00 PM CST, 7:00 PM MST. Information on how to access the call via our provider (ZOOM) is available via the TCA web site. My continued vision is to give TCA members an opportunity to express their opinion(s) on issues important to them via this forum.

The State Grades Championship was competed in Houston November 2-4, 2018 and 446 players participated. As usual the Dallas Chess Club did an exemplary job planning for, orchestrating, coordinating and facilitating the event. "As usual", what a statement. The Dallas Chess Club has done these events for so long that the TCA community takes it for granted that events like Grades and State and the SW Open and the Texas State and Amateur will be run, and they are again and again and again year over year over year. To say the planning and running of these large events is no small feat is an understatement of galactic proportion. In my opinion, we as members should thank Luis Salinas, Barb Swafford and the members like Lori Riley who shows up in the back room at every event for the tireless hours they have spent, and continue to spend putting on high quality events. From the President of TCA, this commitment over a long and sustained period is recognized, appreciated, and most importantly, **Thank You!!**

Membership – I for the longest time asked myself "what's the value proposition of being a TCA member for me"? Finally, the answer came, you're supporting chess in the state of Texas, it's that simple. The USCF has over 9000 active members in the State of Texas and less than 400 are TCA members. I am going to ask TCA to consider some new and different membership options to help improve this, and this will be a major discussion topic on the December 10th conference call. But you current members can help, re-new your membership when it's time and don't wait for a TCA event and the Oh yeah moment of I must re-new to play this event comes up. To use one of my favorite quips, this is not hard. Of course, the number one thing you can do to support chess is to play in and/or run tournaments as you can. I hope to see as many of you as I can at an event soon.

— *Tom Crane*

Telecon Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2018 at 8:00pm

By Lonann French, TCA Secretary

Opening

The regular meeting of the Texas Chess Association was called to order at 8:00pm on Zoom teleconference by Tom Crane.

Attendees:

Tom Crane
Jeff French
Rob Jones (region 3)
Jose Plasencia (region 4)
Jim Hollingsworth
Lonann French
Louis Reed
Chris Wood
David Ortez (region 10)
Ruben Arzaga (region 4)
Troy Gillespie
David Cantu (region 4)

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve former minutes of meetings brought by Lonann French. Motion approved unanimously.

Old Business

Background checks: Motion passed - but the mechanics of how we do background checks needs to be addressed. Deadline pushed to Jan 1 2020. Open discussion: OPTION: Check the sexual predator website for anyone working around children. Limit this scope to scholastic TCA events. Jim Hollingsworth suggested appointing a committee to work out the details. Tom Crane appointed Region 10 to research and present a process to implement. David Cantu, David Ortez, and Troy Gillespie shall form the committee.

New Business

Regional Reports:

Region 4: Activity discussed: October 26th Regional tournament, El Paso Open 3rd week of Nov. Nov 10th non- rated tournament.

Region 3: Activity discussed: Texas Jr in Southlake. 13th Scott Watkins, North America Telugu. Looking for ways to bring in more schools. Region 3 tournament in the DCC expect close to 300 children.

Region 2: Activity discussed: Feb 9th at Kim Woods school.

Region 10: Activity discussed: two tournaments, hosting weekly meetings. Tournaments every Sat.

Next Texas Knights to publish around the 25th of November. Deadline to submit material 10th of November. Jeff has some backlog material but is always looking for regional information. Jeff would like results of games and pictures of winners. Jeff only requires rated tournament and would like to see a Texas player.

Status of updating the by-laws:

Luis Salinas is working on updating the by-laws.

USCF Delegates: Tom has until November 1st to submit our list. If you are going to the US Open, or know someone that is going, please ask them to contact Tom so he can put their name on the list. (Tom Crane, Jeff and Lonann French, Troy Gillespie)

Financial Report: 17K in the accounts. There's a link on Texas Knights showing detail. There is an intention to audit the books. As a 501C(3) we can get donations after the audit. The audit is key to fund raising per Jim Hollingsworth.

Jim has asked for adding his name as fund raising person on the website – Chris Wood to adjust website.

Open Discussion:

Jim Hollingsworth would like a Veterans and Women's Committees in order to keep focus on these two tournaments. Tom to take under advisement.

Tom asked how do we determine membership count? Jeff stated Barb keeps a running list. Jim has analysis on count by membership type.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Tom Crane at 9:00pm.

2018 North/Central Texas Grades Championships

Additional Results: <http://dallaschess.com/2018TexasGrade/index.htm>

The **2018 North/Central Texas Grades Championships** was held in **Houston** between November 2nd and 4th. There were 446 players divided between the 13 grades (K-12). Following are the winner's results for each Grade.

Photos by Quaitemes Williams, Marcy Guerra-Lopez and Tom Crane

Grade	Player Count	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Score
K	11	Ryan Mecham	614	W6	W3	W2	W7	W4	W5	6
1st	40	Kyle Yiwen Wang	1129	W29	W9	W8	D2	W4	W6	5.5
(tied)	-	Arthur Petukhov	805	W33	W3	W11	D1	W12	W7	5.5
2nd	53	Arush Sunil	1206	W40	W28	W13	W14	W2	W3	6
3rd	41	Eric Chang Liu	1461	W16	W18	W4	W5	W15	D2	5.5
4th	55	Vasegaran Nandhakumar	1715	W37	W8	W3	W2	D6	W14	5.5
5th	51	Travis Feng	1699	X---	W5	W11	W9	W2	W7	6
6th	38	John Capocyan	1877	W13	W7	W17	W5	W2	D3	5.5
7th	20	William Hwang	1797	W17	W7	D5	W3	W4	D2	5
8th	29	Yanke Wang	2054	W18	W9	D4	W5	W3	D2	5
(tied)	-	Cole Frutos	1961	W15	W24	D3	W20	W8	D1	5
9th	27	Baron T Niu	2059	W10	W8	W11	W5	W3	D2	5.5
10th	31	Andrew Sun-Ro Mao	2088	D15	W21	D5	W13	W2	W3	5
11th	23	Cole Blakeman	1705	W16	W12	W4	W2	W5	D3	5.5
12th	27	Patrick Roy Han	1802	W20	W9	W12	W2	D3	W7	5.5



**Alcuin School
Dallas**



**Our Lady of Sorrows
McAllen**



**T.H. Rogers
Houston**

2018 South Central Regional All Women and Girls Chess Championships

Additional Info: <http://dallaschess.com/SouthRegionalWomens/index.htm>

The **2018 South Central Regional All Women and Girls Chess Championship** was played in **Richardson** on October 20th and 21st. There were 18 participants with an Open section. **WIM Alexey Wilhelmina Root** won in a tie-break with a score of 4.0/5. Below are the full results. *Photo by Louis Reed*

#	Name	Rtng	Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Tot
1	WIM Alexey Wilhelmina Root	2000	1997	W8	D6	W14	D5	W9	4.0
2	Yue Chu	1854	1903	W15	L3	W16	W7	W5	4.0
3	WCM Anh Nhu Nguyen	2004	1999	W12	W2	L5	W6	D4	3.5
4	Angela Cheng	1681	1717	L5	W9	W8	W14	D3	3.5
5	WFM Devina Devagharan	2056	2047	W4	D7	W3	D1	L2	3.0
6	Melinda A Shokler	1755	1767	W17	D1	D7	L3	W13	3.0
7	Rachael Li	1996	1976	W11	D5	D6	L2	W12	3.0
8	Suchitra Naidu	1449	1453	L1	W10	L4	W11	W14	3.0
9	Sharon Basepogu	1455	1449	H---	L4	W11	W10	L1	2.5
10	Rachel Basepogu	891	894	H---	L8	W15	L9	W16	2.5
11	Danielle Little	869	871	L7	W18	L9	L8	W17	2.0
12	Ayre Seals	1508	1474	L3	L14	W18	W16	L7	2.0
13	Lorraine Lewis	unr.	923	U---	U---	W17	W15	L6	2.0
14	Sarah Basepogu	1242	1274	H---	W12	L1	L4	L8	1.5
15	Barbara R Swafford	505	517	L2	H---	L10	L13	W18	1.5
16	Sheba Yeru	266	330	H---	W17	L2	L12	L10	1.5
17	Wendy D Reed	329	330	L6	L16	L13	W18	L11	1.0
18	Ruth Basepogu	500	419	H---	L11	L12	L17	L15	0.5



Barber Tournament

By John Patrick Cabrera Capocyan, Texas Representative

Participating in Barber Chess Tournament as the 5th grade Texas state representative was an unforgettable experience of my life. Meeting familiar faces in the world of chess and spectating the simul of GM Awonder Liang were absolute blasts. Pizza party in between fourth and fifth rounds were added perks that made the tournament seem so positive all throughout. I think I did better than I would've expected, but I know there were parts in the tournament where I could've converted some draws to a win. Ending the tournament with a score of 3.0/6.0 wasn't bad to me. When I arrived at the hotel a few hours before the first round, my first thought was: *What will my opponent do to prepare against me for the first round?* Of course, many people would try to predict who they would be playing before pairings come out on boards or even online, but I knew I had to study my lines first. I ended the first round with a horrible loss being left with a few seconds on my side of the clock. This game told me I just had to put a lot more effort in reviewing my lines for the upcoming games.

Then came day two of the tournament. I was able to get a decent position on my second round and ended up a piece up against my opponent. The third round was a pretty close endgame. As I can recall, it was a king and rook ending with an equal amount of pawns for each side. There was deep time pressure for both sides and my king was held back on the first file on the board. I was able to quickly calculate an idea that helped me simplify the game to where it was a king and pawn ending. As you probably would've expected by now, the game ended in a king and king draw. By the time the fourth round of the tournament came along, I knew I was doing well so far with a 1.5 score. I wanted to win this round so I could boost my standing on the scoreboard a notch. I was able to find a way to have an exchange up as early in the opening, but my opponent had enough compensation in the center, and I eventually had to force a perpetual in the middlegame.

When the third and final day of the tournament came rolling along, I realized I had a fifty percent score among my total rounds. My initial goal before the tournament was to get at least fifty percent in terms of scoring in rounds. I encouraged myself to not let anyone beat me again. I ended the last two rounds with both draws having closed centered endgames in both. This result made my final score 3.0/6.0. The irony was that I also stood fifty percent in standings too ranking as twenty fifth. Did I expect myself to win? Not really since this was a tournament with strong players and prodigies. But I did expect myself to do better than I should've, but I was still positive with my score. When the awarding ceremony ended, I felt accomplished realizing that all my hard works dedicating to my chess life brought me this far. I learned that achieving a goal or dream is not from luck but rather from the efforts a man puts to achieve it.

The game provided (pg. 21-22) was from my third round where I drew Michael Zihan Zheng who had a rating of 2126 at the time of the tournament. I decided to talk about this game, because it had dynamic play throughout. It was a very close rook endgame with a few pawns left on the board.

2018 Texas Armed Forces Chess Championship

Submitted by Victor Yaward

Photo by Sheryl Mc Broom

During the last weekend of September, 18 chess-playing veterans representing four of the current five branches of service converged at the Hill College Library in Hillsboro for the 2018 Texas Armed Forces and Military Veterans Open Chess Championships. Five of them are chess experts with extensive military chess experience. The group included Active Duty, retirees, honorably discharged veterans, officers, noncommissioned officers, lower ranking enlisted, women, and GI Bill students. They came from throughout Texas and five other states, including three from Oklahoma. Six Texans excelled in this Veterans championship. In addition, one player was honored with the "National Chess Master Bill Wall Texas Legacy Award" for exemplary and dedicated service.



Air Force Retiree Dale Chaney (left) presents the TXAFCC title and award to Jim Hollingsworth (right).

Charles Fricks, from Longview, was top scorer for all Texans with 2.5/4 points. He achieved a .500 score against three experts including an impressive Round One victory over Oklahoma Armed Forces Champion Neal Naputo. Chief Organizer Jim Hollingsworth, from North Richland Hills, was crowned Texas Armed Forces Chess Champion.

Editors Note: See Full Article provided as a supplement with the digital edition of *Texas Knights*.

Brazos III

Submitted by Victor Yaward

Photo by Carmen Chairez

The Tarrant Chess Team, led by rookie Team Captain Jeff French, defeated the Waco Chess Team 12-1/2 to 7-1/2 in Hillsboro at BRAZOS III, the annual team match between the most serious chess players in North Central Texas. This was the third straight victory for Tarrant. Chief Organizer and TD Jim Hollingsworth commented "I looked at every game. The final score does not reflect the high quality of play by both teams. The players knew who they were going to play two weeks out and it was obvious they came prepared. Overall I think most players demonstrated skill levels at least 400 points above their rating."



Brazos III Tarrant County Team

Editors Note: See Full Article provided as a supplement with the digital edition of *Texas Knights*.

Aurelio Gonzalez Tarrant County Championship

Submitted by Victor Yaward

Photo by Sheryl Mc Broom

After being upended in Round 3 while playing his favorite Anti-Sicilian opening, Chess Expert Ken Fukuchi bounced back to clinch his first ever Tarrant County Champion title in North Richland Hills. His upset win in the final round over a strong expert gave him a 3.0/4 score. Douglas Schwetke also scored 3.0/4 points. Chess Expert Rachel Li, from Plano, was the high scorer with 3.5/4 however she was not eligible for the title. The 14-player championship was named in honor of the first Tarrant County Champion, Aurelio Gonzalez.



2018 Tarrant County Champion Ken Fukuchi

Editors Note: See Full Article provided as a supplement with the digital edition of *Texas Knights*.

Brothers in Arms

By Chase Frutos

Co-writer and Researcher: Cole Frutos

Reprinted with permission from *The Bimonthly Blitz* (the Dallas Chess Club Newsletter)

There are many siblings in chess who are at the top of their game. Why is that? I did some research and was surprised to find evidence that sibling relationships may be at the center of what makes us who we become and the center of our successes, with perhaps some help from parental support. I was shocked to find authors that say a sibling relationship is the most important relationship in our life and in many cases, lasts much longer than our relationships with our parents. Some examples of famous brothers and sisters in the world of chess are Asuka and Hikaru Nakamura, and Susan Polgar and her sisters, Judit and Sofia Polgar.

Asuka first began to play chess in kindergarten. Asuka's chess team needed one more player so Hikaru joined the team. Both Asuka and Hikaru were coached by Sunil Weeramantry, their stepfather, who was a FIDE Master. Mr. Weeramantry is very involved with the USCF. My parents had a detailed conversation with Mr. Weeramantry years ago at one of the National Chess Championships. Both Asuka and Hikaru progressed in chess quickly and were playing in a lot of tournaments together. In 1997 both Hikaru and Asuka won their sections at the National Grade Chess Championships with Hikaru winning the third grade national championship and Asuka winning the sixth grade national championship. This had never been done before. It was brotherly competition that elevated Hikaru's game in those early years. Another family of chess players is Susan, Judit, and Sofia Polgar. All of the Polgars have achieved the prestigious title of Grandmaster. They were born and raised in Hungary and grew up playing chess. They are arguably the best female chess players ever and their relationship with one another pushed their game.

Siblings helping each other elevate their game is not unique to chess. Sibling rivalry does seem to have some part to play in athletic development. Siblings in sports help push athletes to new heights. One study found that elite athletes were more likely to excel if their older brothers or sisters pushed them or provided a competitive environment. When siblings are involved in sports, especially the same sports, they compete for praise and attention from parents often to be recognized as the better athlete. Examples of famous brothers in the sports world are Eli and Peyton Manning (Eli is a current NFL quarterback and Peyton is a retired NFL quarterback). Eli and Peyton always wanted to be better than each other and they pushed each other to new heights.

We see this sibling dynamic among our fellow chess players in Dallas. Brothers in Arms at the Dallas Chess Club, Marcus and Andrew Mao, pushed each other to become better at chess. Marcus, who attends the University of Texas at Austin, said, “whenever Andrew got close to me or passed me in rating, it gave me a lot more motivation to study and practice, and I would usually improve a lot after that.” Competition helps for both Marcus and Andrew to become better at chess. Often chess players and sports players have siblings who rival them and push each other to new heights. Brothers Atulya and Atreya Vaidya (also DCC members) believe having a brother has truly elevated their game in a special way. Atulya, who Cole and I learned a lot from about the game of chess and who is also now studying at the University of Texas at Austin, said that “having a brother playing chess helps me learn more about the game as a whole.” Atulya said that “competition is very important in getting better as a chess player. I think having a sibling really helps in this aspect.” It is not all about the elevated competition though—siblings have fun playing, travelling and competing with each other. Atulya’s favorite part about having a brother was traveling to tournaments together. Atreya, Atulya’s younger brother also said the same thing specifically mentioning his trips to the Pan American tournament in Cali, Colombia and the World Youth Chess Championships in Al-Ain Dubai. I agree with that—the trips over the years have been a lot of fun but having a brother with you made those trips even better. We particularly had fun at chess tournaments in Maribor, Slovenia, Pocos de Caldas, Brazil, Oaxtepec, Morelos, Mexico, Orlando and Lake Buena Vista, Florida, as well as Washington D.C.

Cole will admit that his experience having an older brother play chess is that it has helped him get better in every aspect of the game. Cole said “by being the younger brother, I always wanted to be better than my older brother so it motivated me to work harder than he did. Also having a brother is helpful because you can spar against them (and not at just chess) and try new openings and develop more as a chess player.” Atreya has the same view and said that “I feel that having him (Atulya) around has pushed me to become a much better player.” Atreya said that “the best part is the care that my brother shows for me.” Chess brothers are Brothers in Arms.

Sibling relationships are beneficial in many ways including promoting physical, mental, and relational health and promoting competition which is healthy and can lead to success. Siblings in chess, sports, and anything in life is an advantage because of the competitive mentality which pushes us to new levels in our craft.



Veteran's Championship

by Renate Garcia

The Veteran Championship was held in El Paso, TX on November 10, 2018. We had 3 sections available for all players to participate. The USCF Open section was for all USCF members. This section had some new faces as the players wanted to play alongside our Veterans totalling 7 players. They came as far away as from Las Cruces, NM and Horizon, TX. The highest player in this section was Ezequiel Verdugo who was sitting in 1759 starting the first round. These players fought and gave Verdugo a challenge, playing 5 rounds long into the afternoon. He graciously offered his trophy to the next in line players as inspiration to continue their play. The winners of this section are: Jaime Acosta, 1st Place , Arshia Parsheh, 2nd place and Klaus Garcia, 3rd place.

The Veterans section had service members representing multiple branches of the Armed Forces including US Navy, US Army, and US Marines. We opened the Championship by greeting our special guests of honor and thanked them for their service to our country. Friend and chess mom, sung for the Veterans, active duty members, Retirees near and far present and not. We then got to the task at hand and started the competition. Crusader chess sponsored those that wanted their USCF memberships and all players were USCF members by the start of first round.

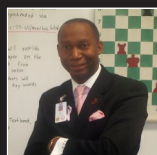
The iconic Veterans played in a quad. First time USCF member were Anthony Saldivar, and Jose Blanco. They challenged Chess Expert Raynaldo Fourzan and National Master Jose Silva who is here from San Antonio, TX. Master Sergeant Garcia part owner of Crusader Chess, and member of TCA would of also been in attendance but is currently on deployment securing our border. These grand Titans played a 3 round quad and battled the board. The winner and first El Paso Veteran Champion is Jose Silva.

The Veterans were also presented with free year long memberships to ICC. This will allow El Paso and this Texas Region 4 to prepare for our upcoming events which will be a Veterans Battle tournament in June with Texas Armed Forces Chess.

The Jose Cisneros Public Library Branch bought the players lunch for the day and allowed our players to finish their rounds playing past 5pm and provided the venue for us to play. C and M Plaques and Trophy provided the awards. Overall there were 11 players in total for both USCF sections and had open entry to all players regardless of experience. Sponsoring affiliate was Crusader Chess Club of El Paso. Chief TD and Chief Organizer of the event was Renate Garcia. We look forward to more events with our fantastic Veterans! Thank you for your service to our Nation!



A. Saldivar (Marines), J. Silva (Army), J. Blanco (Navy), R. Fourzan (Army), Renate Garcia (Standing)



Coach's Corner - e4!

Queen Sac

by Robert L. Myers

Robert L. Myers is a Level V Candidate for Master Chess Coach, High School Basketball Coach, freelance writer, and an award-winning 25-year veteran classroom educator. You can follow "Coach" on social media and at www.thechessacademy.com

My students can be heard often "mocking" me walking down the halls of our nearly 3,000 student campus, shouting "Develop, protect, attack!" Paul Morphy a noted music lover enjoyed the opera various times with his back to the performance and some are reported that the opera box where they played was so close to the stage until "one could kiss the main soprano without a fuss." American Chess Master Paul Morphy used a fast attack opening and developed far better in the opera house in his game vs. the Duke of Brunswick in Paris 1858. That particular game is used by most chess coaches to show students the importance of rapid development, "Queen Sac" or short for queen sacrifice.

I have been the tournament director many tournaments through the years and it never ceases to amaze me how young novice players believe that capturing their opponent's pieces means that they are winning. It is avarice or an extreme greed for material gain and is usually what makes a novice player capture all of another player's pieces. It is greed, a greediness, acquisitiveness, a cupidity, covetousness, rapacity, materialism, mercenariness; rare pleonexia; informal money-grubbing, or in this case a chess piece-grubbing affluenza that makes the player with only a lonely King feel completely humiliated (My high school English teacher Ms. Anderson would be proud of that sentence). The Duke kept a nice chess set in that opera box and as a French aristocrat, he was a really strong player himself, maybe a 2,000 ELO rating. Of course, he had no idea what hit him when this "different" American from Louisiana played with such tactics and strategy as he had never seen before. That game has been commentated on more than I care to count by Masters, Experts and GMs alike with great acuity. Morphy's game took 28 moves. My game (pg. 22) was concluded in 27 moves, a Queen Sac followed by a "Smother Mate." That most famous game of games has spawned many articles, books, and lessons with such accuracy and detail until I will not attempt to do so here but rather share a modest game and the thoughts of another great player that should improve your game.

The Chess Academy has been fortunate enough to have sailed under a lucky start of sorts. I have always admired International Grand Master Maurice Ashley. So several years ago, 2014 from October 9 -13, the Millionaire Open II chess tournament, won by Grand Master Hikaru Nakamura, was held in Las Vegas, I jumped at the opportunity to sponsor one of my students, Adrian Patterson, now full-time chess coach. Fellow chess coach, Bo Githoro, made Master at that tournament. We held fundraising events, ran tournaments, many parents donated money and of course, I flew up for support also. After arriving at Planet Hollywood Hotel and Casino, I was walking outside the grand ballroom with no one else in the hallway with mouth agape, nearly speechless and wide-eyed as the first African- American International Grandmaster, national championship coach, world-class commentator, walked towards me. I reached my hand out to shake his -- smiling, being a gentleman and noticing I was absolutely star-struck, he answered the unspoken obvious question, "Yes, I'm Maurice Ashley." I finally closed my mouth and asked could we take a photo. He obliged. Later my student near the end of the Millionaire Open tournament having gone nearly even on wins and loses gaining over 150 rating points, said at a 2 am breakfast on the Vegas Strip, "The only thing that would make this trip better is if I could actually meet GM Ashley." Nearly in the same spot where I first met my idol, the following day the three of us took a selfie.

And as fate would have it fortuitously that lucky star caused us to meet again at Supernationals VI, 2017 in Tennessee. Maurice with Rock Star status stood and took photos and generously autographed chess boards for nearly an hour. After the opening ceremonies, we met for dinner in a Mexican restaurant inside of what has to be one of the largest hotels in America, the Gaylord Opryland Hotel. This hotel is so large it has a river inside the hotel with a boat tour. Maurice and I talked about Queen's Gambit, Queen Sac, King's Gambit, favorite chess players, basketball and coaching styles of Gregg Popovich, San Antonio Spurs Coach that earlier that week had outcoached the Houston Rockets in the western conference NBA, National Basketball Playoffs, and all sorts of things including his visit to Houston, January 26th, 2019. He will give a short motivational speech similar to his Ted Talk speech <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v34NqCbAA1c> and play in a simul against a few Houston Rockets at a tournament that The Chess Academy players hope will be our 100th team championship. Lucky stars keep guiding our players as we will accompany Maurice as the special guest of Rockets General Manager, Daryl Morey, when the Orlando Magic take on the best basketball team in Texas in the Toyota Center January 27th.



Ashley and the Chess Academy, 2017 Supernationals

Maurice is known for his work commentating of chess for the greatest chess events in the world. I asked his thoughts on the best games ever on that bench in Nashville and he mentioned the Morphy, Brunswick game, "Now that was a sacrifice." Sometimes in chess as in life sacrifices must be made. In *The Wrath of Khan*, a Star Trek film (1982), Spock says, "Logic clearly dictates that the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few." That is the ultimate sacrifice, the giving of one's life for the safety of many. Which is what sacrificing the queen to win the game in essence really does. I can attest after my game that Mr. Spock, GM Ashley, and Master Paul Morphy are all correct. One must sacrifice the queen when necessary if the goal is Check Mate. No idea who said it first but I do know that it is said best "It's good to have an end to journey towards but it's the journey that matters in the end."

"Develop, Protect and Attack!", that was the issue with the Duke of Brunswick. His poor development matched against Morphy's fast attack crushed his opponent. If you don't develop well your Opening will be your End Game. On my 19th move as White I had the option of capturing either the Knight on e5 or the Knight on e3 with my Queen; however, my Queen is precariously under attack on e4 from Black's Queen on c2. If I capture the Knight on e5 he will have a Mate threat soon. Because of my opponent's fast opening and my poor development, I did not have the opportunity to Castle. I will be placed in a wicked Pin. My Queen will not be able to move as she is in an Absolute Pin (an absolute Pin is one that involves the King whereas a Relative Pin does not involve the King but maybe a minor piece or a Rook.) Either way, this Pin is not good for me. After capturing the Knight on e3, my opponent immediately places me in a not so nice Fork (Pawn on a3 and Queen on e3) which could possibly lead to either Rook being moved to e8. No matter what Rook he chooses to pin me with, it's bad for me. "Fortune favors fools and children" or so the saying goes. He moves Rfe8 after I capture that evil Knight with my Bishop that previously forked my Queen on his 20th move.

The Chess Academy was at the National Chess Championship Tournament in Atlanta some years ago, April 2016, when another lucky star in the form of Grand Master Ben Finegold came down the stairs and ran into me and whispered, "They always forget about the Bishops" as he winked at me. Ben is a whimsical guy and very gregarious. He had just won a blitz match and dropped off that sweet tip in the lobby to our guys on our way to lunch. I thought of that tip at that moment with Ben right after Black made his 21st move, Bxc4. I countered with Bf7+ followed by his Kxf7, causing my opponent to capture or move his King. My Dad, my superman, passed away since our last published article. After my move I wondered will he take or move his King? Moving his King is better for him. But I remembered many of my Dad's "sayings." People don't really change at their core. People want to change. That's why we have churches, psychologist and such but really, "you are who you are." Thanks Dad. I knew that my opponent would capture instead of moving his King to g8. The guy had been taking my pieces the entire game, why would he change he who really is and not take? With Dad's words planted firmly in my spirit, I knew this guy was "a taker" and he would do just that, take my Bishop which would open the door for my Kingside Castle, 0-0 on move 23 with Check!, Kgb. The rest of the moves are acquiescent, 24. Qf4 Re4, 25. Qf7+ Kh8, 26. Qf8+ Rxf8, 27. Rxf8#! 1-0.

The Chess Academy had a "homecourt" of sorts at a Fuddruckers in Houston before 9 trillion gallons of water was unleashed on southeast Texas from Hurricane Harvey. Across the street from our Saturday chess spot where we would play chess from open to close was a 100-foot tall pine tree that was home to a mother eagle and two baby eaglets. Fascinated by this majestic creature soaring week after week with one flap of its giant six-foot wing span with baby squirrels and snakes in its talons landing back safely atop its nest with a fresh meal for the little ones I decided one day I would get the American symbol of freedom's attention by pulling up in my car and flashing my lights and blowing my horn. Mind you, I was nearly 175 feet away, on the ground in a car no less making all of this "racket". This magnificent creature did something that changed my coaching style and my chess play. The bird facing southwest turned its snow white head and striking yellow beak around and looked down at me with brand new binoculars in hand for about two seconds and turned away. Wow!!! The eagle was not concerned with me. I wasn't a threat to it nor the baby eagles, so why bother? I have noticed with my 20 plus years of coaching that is the case of most novice and even some intermediate class C players, they must take that Pawn Island or a Backwards Pawn (a Pawn island is a pawn consisting of one pawn or is an isolated pawn with no support from any other piece). Pawns need structure or help, like a pawn chain and series of pawns in flight like geese in a V-shape on the board. The best way for a hunter to take them out is from the rear, one at a time. That structure is difficult to break. Yet, weaker players always go for the undefended pieces. They gotta have 'em like Gollum needed the ring in J. R. R. Tolkien's 1937 fantasy novel *The Hobbit*, and the famous line in the sequel, *The Lord of the Rings*, "My PRECIOUS!!!" Just as Gollum didn't need the Ring and it became his undoing. Taking unnecessary pieces will be your undoing in chess.

My game is not even remotely close to the amazing Morphy game in 1858 but one must concur; when you want to watch the opera and your opponent forgets about the Bishops, it is sweet none the less. There is no need to capture all of another player's pieces even if they are being an arrogant jerk. It is; however, selfish rapacity to capture all of your opponent's pieces. Stop taking pieces. End the game. Taking pieces for no apparent reason reveals an underlying character flaw that is deeper than what is seen, unlike a complete and total surrender of one's Queen, also known as a Queen Sac. Norma, a fine opera is playing and you have your back turned like Morphy. Stop goofing around with your opponent, taking pieces. They aren't a threat. Find Check Mate. You have an opera to watch.

Tactics Time!

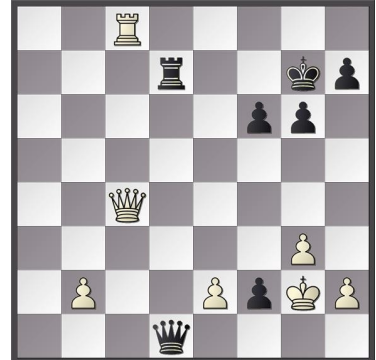
These positions came from games played in Texas or elsewhere by (at least one) Texas Player. **Answers can be found on page 18.**



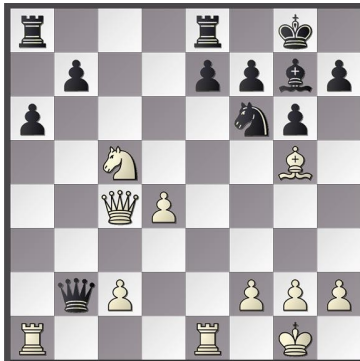
1. Daniel Hung – Arthur Guo
Southwest Open 2018
 Black to Move



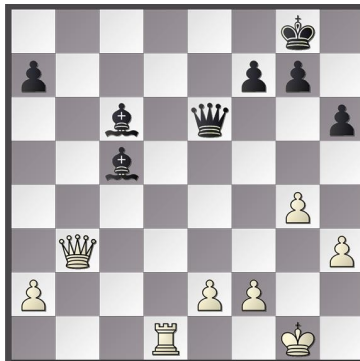
2. Ey Nakar – Jason Wang
Southwest Open 2018
 Black to Move



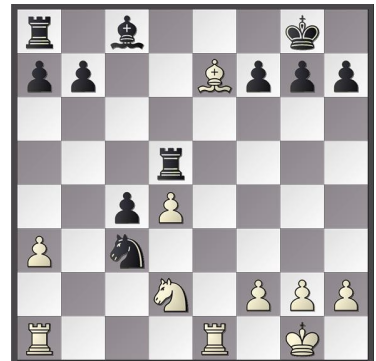
3. Chris Shen – Rithik Polavaram
Southwest Open 2018
 White to Move



4. P. Vorontsov – Al Ostrovskiy
Southwest Open 2018
 White to Move



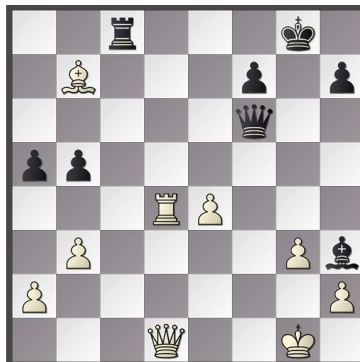
5. A Vivekananthan – D Raznikov
Southwest Open 2018
 White to Move



6. Jason Wang – A Baryshpolets
Southwest Open 2018
 White to Move



7. Balaji Daggupati – Naman Kumar
Southwest Open 2018
 White to Move



8. D. Raznikov – J. Sadorra
Southwest Open 2018
 Black to Move

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USCF TOP PLAYERS FOR TEXAS - Nov. 15, 2018

Regardless of Residence or Federation

Overall		
7	Xiong, Jeffery	2736
9	Onischuk, Alexander	2718
17	Li, Ruiheng	2668
38	Zierk, Steven	2587
40	Yang, Darwin	2575
50	Hernandez, Holden	2553

Age 65 and Over		
23	Simms, Gary	2213
39	Hulse, Brian	2200
60	Malazarte, Ernesto L	2199
91	Probasco, Robert D	2066

Age 50 and Over		
24	Medina Paz, Miguel	2439
80	Land, Chris K	2250
84	Feinstein, Michael J	2244

Under 21		
1 Xiong, Jeffery 2736		
3	Li, Ruiheng	2668
8	Preotu, Razvan	2583
29	Wang, Justin	2457
52	Yim, Sunggho	2390
69	Liu, Bovey	2356
80	He, Tommy	2341
83	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2338
84	Lin, Dachev	2336
93	Vivekananthan, Anish	2327

Age 18		
1 Xiong, Jeffery 2736		
19	He, Tommy	2341
20	Lin, Dachev	2336
35	Capocyan, Sam Lander Cabrera	2205
56	Nguyen, Anthony Quan	2140
62	Moore, Alex Michael	2121

Age 17		
2	Li, Ruiheng	2668
7	Liu, Bovey	2356
18	Frenkel, Benjamin	2244
27	Hullahalli, Adarsh	2204
58	Devagharan, Devina	2090
64	Mohammadi, Sina	2065
67	Eliezer, Segev	2061
77	Dammann, Jorn Fabian	2029
78	Logozar, Elijah	2025
84	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2011
96	Nguyen, Khoa Minh	1991
96	Premkumar, Hiren	1991

Age 16		
12	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2338
25	Kirumaki, Ronit	2202
36	Xie, Tianming	2156
53	Kao, Camille Y	2086
55	Huang, Max	2082
58	Palang, Warren Jesse	2079
62	Huo, Rannon	2068
63	Liu, Kevin	2064
68	Fan, William G	2050
74	Srivatsav, Aadarsh	2029
77	Krishnan, Aadarsh	2012
89	Rose, Samuel Edward	1984
100	Sonawane, Atharv	1969

Age 15		
21	Kung, Thomas	2240
49	Ganesh, Anirudh	2091
50	Mao, Andrew Sun-Rong	2088
53	Hawthorn, Charles	2073
54	Buerghler, Jacob	2069
67	Ganthapodi, Maanav S	2015
70	Tsuei, Kai	2008
77	Frutos, Chase	1989
78	Nguyen, Dang Minh	1987
82	Bandi, Rohit Choudary	1973
83	Deleon, Carlos	1972

Age 14		
7	Vivekananthan, Anish	2327
40	Peng, Peter	2090
41	Rajaram, Rudransh	2087
48	Niu, Baron T	2059
49	Wang, Yanke	2054
64	Yan, Austin K	2011
65	Ramesh, Sreenevash	2010
82	Frutos, Cole	1961
92	Chikkodi, Nitin	1943
93	Yeung, Wesley	1937
95	Walmer, Benjamin James	1934
96	Balderas, Adolfo Augusto, Jr	1930
96	Romo, Benjamin	1930
99	Woychuk, Jonathan K	1927

Age 13		
2	Wang, Justin	2457
12	Hung, Daniel	2206
20	Gundam, Rohit	2118
25	Vaidya, Atreya	2099
34	Rorrer, Grayson	2052
36	Kumarappan, Ganesh	2044
41	Hawthorn, Henry	2035
48	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2003
52	Mei, Austin R	1986
59	Yellamraju, Ambica	1965
60	McNutt, William Howard	1963
73	Zhu, Harvey	1939
80	Ma, Albert Z	1910
83	Zheng, Peter	1892
96	Yellamraju, Aparna	1868

Age 12		
10	Polavaram, Rithik Sai	2191
28	Trakru, Rohun	2086
33	Oberoi, Shelev	2045
70	Yang, Benjamin	1897
88	Deviprasath, Sharvesh	1845
90	Tang, Andrew	1838
94	Casas, Michael	1816
100	Hwang, William	1797

Age 11		
42	Pathak, Rudransh	1896
48	Capocyan, John Patrick	1877
72	Ahmed, Kabir	1822
86	Wang, Kalia Yuke	1781
94	Jin, Qiheng	1752

Age 10		
17	Sheehan, Ethan	1963
23	Gutla, Aryan	1917
40	Gardezi, Aarsal	1827
41	Zhang, Andrew H	1826
70	Nandhakumar, Vaseegaran	1715

Age 10 (continued)		
75	Feng, Travis	1699
78	Raghuraja, Sri Avishkar	1696
94	Fong, Kevin Leong	1635

Age 9		
4	Kunka, Harshid	2005
37	Melillo, Lucius Fox	1656
65	Jin, Tony	1552
82	Hiwale, Ronak	1504
92	Liu, Eric Chang	1461
98	He, Logan	1444

Age 8		
2	Li, Rachael	1994
10	Woodward, Andy Austin	1812
43	Qin, Samuel	1474
47	Zhang, Sunny	1444
55	Mei, Ethan R	1414
61	Gao, Alexander	1394
63	Li, Jacob	1377
73	Chang, Luca	1320
77	Qin, Timothy	1308
98	Veremjov, Mihail	1251

Age 7 and Under		
17	Ramanujakootam, Nehaan	1292
24	Sunil, Arush	1206
32	Wei, Colin	1164
43	Wang, Kyle Yiwen	1129
46	Qi, Hengtai	1116
65	Abbasnia, Artin	1077
67	Lopez, Abram Matias	1075
73	He, Justin Shandong	1054
83	Tucker, Gavin Wayne	1034
90	Shivam, Zephan James	1018



Women Overall		
12	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2338
17	Apecheche, Yanira Vigoa	2286
20	Danelia, Mariam	2270
22	Andrenko, Iryna	2266
29	Chiang, Sarah	2234
63	Devagharan, Devina	2090
65	Kao, Camille Y	2086
92	Munoz, Claudia Elizabeth	2049
83	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2011
97	Alston, Angela Jennifer	2008
99	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2003

Women Age 65 and Older		
20	Hardesty, Brenda	1234
27	Bundrant, Diana	477

Women Age 50 and Older		
4	Alston, Angela Jennifer	2008
5	Root, Alexey Wilhelmina	2000
49	Kneen, Melanie	1296
55	Hardesty, Brenda	1234
69	Lamont, Olga Aleksandra	968
73	Jamison, Helen	935
74	Irwin, Marla	934
88	Bundrant, Diana	477

Girls Under 21			Girls Age 15 (continued)			Girls Age 10		
6	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2338	46	Ramesh, Kaavya	1438	12	Elangovan, Ramya	1593
29	Devagharan, Devina	2090	50	Murgulet, Ioana	1402	18	Gao, Tianwen	1534
31	Kao, Camille Y	2086	53	Basepogu, Sharon	1400	23	Seals, Ayre	1486
43	Munoz, Claudia Elizabeth	2049	55	Boren, Isabel	1399	27	Ham, Emily	1451
51	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2011	57	Ravichandar, Shreya	1370	28	Balaji, Sai Sangeetha	1445
54	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2003	59	Salinas, Brianna Christina	1335	39	Hwang, Alexis	1370
58	Li, Rachael	1994	62	Garcia, Emily Alexis	1286	41	Uviedo, Violette	1367
67	Yellamraju, Ambica	1965	62	Reistle, Jane	1286	45	Sinha, Tavishi	1331
78	Palakollu, Samritha	1920	74	Santana, Sol Celeste	1159	47	Akella, Sravya Suparna	1325
84	Qureshi, Sadia	1907	78	Miller, Ashlyn	1143	53	Wang, Grace	1266
90	Zhao, Annie	1899	85	Ramirez, Patricia N	1062	72	Nair, Pallavi	1168
97	Yellamraju, Aparna	1868	90	Martinez, Margarita N	1009	75	Mehta, Tanisi	1135
			91	Trevino, Rianna R	1004	78	Gomez, Frida M	1121
						81	Sun, Yimeng Jenny	1089
						84	Espinosa, Sarah Elena	1080
						85	Milova, Vladislava	1075
Girls Age 18			Girls Age 14			Girls Age 9		
10	Abella, Clarissa Louise	1834	18	Ayinala, Shree	1782	16	McNutt, Kaitlynn Lee	1378
13	Zheng, Christine	1784	36	Dadwal, Saanvi	1548	28	John, Natalie Michelle	1220
32	Martinez, Yvette	1385	36	Dadwal, Saanvi	1548	39	Parajulee, Aditty	1123
37	Solis, Crystal Marie	1289	40	Manohar, Riya	1494	47	Cruz, Vivica	1083
43	Chang, Kristy	1152	53	Azim, Risa	1389	54	Laskaris, Evie	1041
49	Morrison, Nicole Leigh	1068	53	Bautista, Reyna	1382	62	Balci, Ayda	997
52	Reed, Ambriette D	1034	64	Basepogu, Sarah	1259	64	Contreras, Rosario Nayeli	991
53	Salinas, Arianna Dolores	1011	69	Flores, Madelyn A	1234	75	Alanis, Juliana Cristina	937
59	Solorzano, Roxana L	904	71	Deora, Saaniya	1224	80	John, Ashley Dannie	923
59	Crossman, Jennifer Love	904	74	Melgarejo, Fernanda	1175	87	Camacho, Kaitlyn	899
66	Gonzalez, Janeth	758	79	Olivares, Rianne	1125	89	Saldivar, Karolina A	894
69	Alvarado, Angelica	659	81	Chaudhary, Shreya	1112	91	Shankar, Aashritha Vidhya	885
70	Cruz, Sarina	647	86	Morales, Rhea	1089			
72	Delgado, Samantha L	375	89	Krishnan, Aashika	1082			
			98	Martinez, Aileen	1051			
Girls Age 17			Girls Age 13			Girls Age 8		
3	Devagharan, Devina	2090		Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2003		Li, Rachael	1994
7	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2011	3	Yellamraju, Ambica	1965	1	Zhang, Sunny	1444
10	Palakollu, Samritha	1920	4	Yellamraju, Aparna	1868	9	Raghuraja, Sri Yashvi	1174
12	Qureshi, Sadia	1907	7	Aggarwal, Manika	1443	19	Hosur, Sanmita	1160
32	Le, Tu	1488	44	Padilla, Karlee	1389	20	Srinivas, Deeptha	1090
36	Salazar, Lillian	1407	52	Binoj, Gaayathri	1315	24	Ku, Chloe	950
37	Garza, Ariel Francis	1403	59	Gunukula, Renee	1295	35	Wang, Crystal	925
49	Capetillo, Emily	1143	63	Babaria, Rajvi Rakesh	1294	41	Hartkemeyer, Brooke	869
51	Cervera, Maria B	1115	62	Balderas, Ana Luisa	1237	51	Pan, Angela Helen	788
54	Hernandez, Victoria A	1069	68	Castillo, Isabella Deanda	1196	59	Gomez, Nelly D	766
57	Castillo, Julianna Deanda	1004	75	Wang, Catherine	1179	63	Yu, Karina	714
59	Nair, Divya	973	80	Rye, Danielle	1178	76	Rodriguez, Brandie Michelle	714
62	Reyes, Amelinda A	913	81	Braun, Peyton Alexandra	1138	76	Lopez, Celeste Catalina	695
69	Voliber, Alyssa	776	84	Dasagi, Aakanksha	1100	83	Elizalde, Vida	681
71	Tamosaitis, Wynter	731	88	Hernandez, Madelyn J	1098	85	Gutierrez, Victoria Angelique	679
73	Hipolito, Anateresa	696	91	Han, Wenjing	1072	88	Cervantes, Makayla	658
75	Hurtado, Mariana Veronica	640	95	Wu, Alison	1044	94	Milova, Elizaveta S	654
77	Wallace, Ashlyn	523	100			97		
82	Valdez, Dianey	114						
Girls Age 16			Girls Age 12			Girls Age 7 and Under		
3	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2338	13	Chennuru, Anshu	1625	12	Garza, Brithany	917
8	Kao, Camille Y	2086	17	Furman, Jessica	1565	13	Zhao, Yvonne	881
32	Bao, Yuliang Eunice	1677	26	Pulido, Emma Rose	1509	13	Gonzalez, Addison	790
42	Bhat, Puja Prashant	1540	27	Naidu, Suchitra	1503	23	Barba, Isabella	778
43	Zhu, Yining	1536	37	Ghatti, Saisneha	1451	26	Gao, Mia	755
46	Tovias, Lauren	1398	55	Hernandez, Sarah	1317	29	Loredo, Isabellah	737
58	Oliveira, Lauren Ryleigh	1207	76	Athila, Akshaya	1156	30	Guerra, Anahi D	678
61	Babaria, Niyati Rakesh	1167	78	Vasquez, Iabel Amparo	1151	36	Salinas-Luebbert, Regina	653
62	Gonzalez, Jolie Marie	1166	93	Modugula, Sripoorna	1064	42	Iturbe, Olivia	632
63	Flowers, Ava	1163	96	Lucero, Amalie G	1056	47	Song, Joyce	628
65	Solis, Gabriela	1131				48	Nair, Aditi	627
72	Delgado, Victoria E	1089				49	Cantu, Sophie	573
81	Tankus, Nikki	954	7	Wang, Kalina Yuke	1781	61	Ordorica, Maria Alexandra	560
84	Rao, Sonia	944	47	Pande, Nayonika	1332	68	Castillo, Leah I	557
90	Alicantara, Korina	884	50	Solis, Natalie	1300	71	Goswami, Mohini	539
97	Muzquiza, Melanie S	787	53	Bandaru, Tanvi	1287	77	Ramirez, Yareli	522
			61	Jacinto, Gianna G	1215	82	Hu, Avery	500
			66	Wickramasinghe, Binadie	1188	88	Castillo, Serenity	486
			71	Cardin, Maddie	1168	92	Martinez, Mia	463
			77	Reddy, Tanvi Chinthagunta	1151	94	Yu, Amanda	445
			89	Milligan, Madison	1116	97	Davidson, Enya	438
			92	Pilla, Ananya Valli	1110			
			93	Holmes, Natalie Faith	1108			
			99	Nitturi, Rajni	1088			

Tactics Time! Answers

Answers:

1. **38...Be7** attacks the pinned rook.
 2. **15...Qe5** forks the Bishop and Knight, winning a piece. Variation from the game.
 3. **33.Rg8+ Kh6 34.Qh4#**
 4. **20.Reb1** traps the Black Queen. Variation from the game.
 5. **41. Qxe6 fxe6 42.Rc1** skewers the two bishops. Variation from the game.
 6. **22.Bb4** discovered attack, threatening the knight and a back rank mate. **22...Be6 23.Bxc3** Variation from the game. Variation from the game.
 7. **13. Rxd4!** The e5-pawn is pinned.
 8. **36...Rc2!!** Threatening **...Qf2** and **...Qxh2#**. The rook cannot be captured because of **...Qf1#**
- Cover. 59...Qxh3+ 60.Kg1 Qxg2#** Variation from the game.

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Fourth Annual TCA Region IV Scholastic (K-12) Chess Championships

Saturday, January 26, 2019

La Fe Cultural Technology Center 721 S. Ochoa St. (Rear) El Paso, Texas, 79901

Sections: Participants must play in their grade section: (Primary K-3rd, Elementary K-6th. Middle School 5th-9th, High School 9th-12th). Participants must reside, or attend a school within Texas Region IV, which consists of the following West Texas counties: (Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Loving, Jeff Davis, Pecos, Presidio, Reeves, Terrell, Val Verde, Ward, and Winkler). Current USCF membership is required. Proof of school enrollment (school I.D. or copy of report card) and proof of USCF membership are required for check-in the day of the tournament - **NO EXCEPTIONS**.

Prizes: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place individual trophies for best performance in the following categories: (Primary K-3rd, Elementary K-6th. Middle School 5th-9th, High School 9th-12th). Overall Tournament Team trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the following categories: (Primary K-3rd, Elementary K-6th. Middle School 5th-9th, High School 9th-12th). **Format:** 5 round Swiss, Game in 30 Minutes.. First round starts 9:00am. Late Registration 8am-8:40am Rounds begin as soon as the previous round ends. A lunch break will be taken after round 3.

Entry: Fee of \$15 by January 25, 2019. \$20 fee for same day registration for tournament. Entry fee includes lunch. Non-participants may purchase lunch on site.

Questions and Additional Information:

Text or call: Jose Plasencia 915-783-7203

Email: Realplasencia@yahoo.com

La Fe Preparatory School 915-533-3922

More Memories from 2018 Texas Grades

Photos by Michelle Rinearson Ferris



Memories from the Thornton Elementary Tournament, Nov. 10th, Arlington

Photos by Sheryl Mc Broom



Game Index

+ = Additional Games in games.pgn file.

* = No Article Associated with Games.

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Coaches Corner - e4						
TCAKNIGHT (1812) vs. David Guardiana (1764)	C22	1-0			8/30/2018	22
2018 Texas Armed Forces Chess Championship+						
Ron Farrar (2039) vs. Leon Toliver (1651)	B09	1-0		1.1	9/29/2018	22
Carmen Chairez (1758) vs. Ron Farrar (2039)	B01	0-1		2.1	9/29/2018	22
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Carmen Chairez (1758) vs. David Hater (2009)	C45	0-1		4.2	9/30/2018	22-23
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A. Gonzalez Tarrant County Championship+						
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Jim Hollingsworth (1827) vs. John Haskin (2085)	C06	0-1		2.1	10/13/2018	23-24
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Richard Rapport (2725) vs. Jeffery Xiong (2656)	A45	0-1		5.3	10/24/2018	24
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Vladimir Kramnik (2779) vs. Jeffery Xiong (2656)	B60	1/2-1/2		8.4	10/27/2018	25
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Vladimir Belous (2530) vs. E. Shtembuliak (2494)	D38	1-0		2	10/20/2018	26
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Danny Raznikov (2489) vs. A. Baryshpolets (2575)	E14	1/2-1/2		3	10/21/2018	27
E. Shtembuliak (2494) vs. T. Stremavicious (2444)	C00	1/2-1/2		3	10/21/2018	27
Guillermo Vazquez (2468) vs. L. Torres Rosas (2293)	C06	1-0		3	10/21/2018	27
David Berczes (2499) vs. E. Shtembuliak (2494)	E11	1-0		4	10/21/2018	27-28
Razvan Preotu (2520) vs. Sergei Matsenko (2530)	C18	1/2-1/2		4	10/21/2018	28
Pavlo Vorontsov (2551) vs. Gil Popilski (2504)	A31	1/2-1/2		4	10/21/2018	28
L. Torres Rosas (2293) vs. Kamil Dragun (2568)	D20	0-1		4	10/21/2018	28

Zheng, M. (2126)
Capocyan, J. (1895)

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Be7
4.Bd3 c5 5.dxc5 Nf6 6.Qe2 0
–0 7.Ngf3 a5 8.0–0 Na6 9.e5
Nd7 10.c4 Naxc5 11.Bc2 b6**

[All of the moves played so far are well-known opening theory in the Tarrasch Variation of the French.]

12.b3 Bb7 13.Bb2 [I thought this position was very critical in my opinion, not only because I was out of book, but also white here seemed to have a plan to get more activity than me. For the next moves, I knew he was going to try put both his rooks on d1 and c1 and later open up the game by playing cxd5.]

13...Qc7 [I had to act fast so I could quickly activate my a8 rook to c8 then later also have a safe shelter for my queen on b8.]

14.Rfc1 [I'll admit I was shocked about his reply because I was expecting for his a1 rook to go to c1. I thought here for a few minutes to figure out his next action plan on the queen side. I didn't see anything wrong with my original plan so I decided to follow along with it:]

14...Rac8 15.a3 Qb8 16.b4 axb4 17.axb4 [I studied this position a few times during the game. I think this is the next critical moment because I sensed my king side was going to be under pressure after the my following forcing line

that I calculated:]

**17...Ne4 18.Nxe4 dxe4
19.Bxe4 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Bxb4
21.Ng5 g6 22.Qh4 h5** [(end of what was calculated)]

23.g4 [It turned that what I calculated earlier appeared on the board. Having my kingside position so weak seemed so terrifying until I saw the saving move:]

23...Be7! [It took me about 10 minutes to find this move. Even though my position looks dangerous, I thought I still had chances to save the game because I was about to exchange off his strong, attacking knight with my bishop. With less pieces on the board, my defensive chances will increase. He could play 24.gxh5, but I always have the little threat of taking the e5 pawn with my knight threatening Nf3 later on.]

24.gxh5 [I was indeed shocked he continued along this path, but I was also glad because I was hoping for it. I knew the game was still not going to be easy, so I had to keep my focus and concentration up. The next moves are pretty much forced:]

**24...Nxe5 25.Qg3 Nxc4
26.Qxb8 Rxb8 27.Rxc4 Bxg5
28.hxg6 fxc6 29.Rg4 Bf4
30.Rxg6+** [I was relieved the game was simplified so much after all the pressure my opponent was putting towards my kingside in the middlegame. It was like a heavy weight was

lifted off my shoulders. Now all my concerns were being put into the endgame play.]

30...Kh7 31.Rg7+ Kh6 32.Ra3 [They always say: "One problem will always lead to another." Well, in this instance, now my king was in grave danger.]

32...Rf5 33.Kf1 Be5! [Just like earlier, I am exchanging off enemy active pieces when my king is under attack. I was actually surprised that he allowed me to easily simplify the game even more where there were only rooks left on the board.]

**34.Bxe5 Rxe5 35.Rag3 b5
36.Kg2 Rf8** [Instead of playing this, I should've simply pushed my pawn to b4 to quickly draw the game especially since I had about a minute left on my clock.]

[36...b4 37.Kh3 b3]

37.f3 b4 [Again, I missed an opportunity to draw the game by playing:]

[37...Re2+ 38.Kf1 Rxh2 and white again is forced to perpetuate my king.]

**38.R3g6+ Kh5 39.Rg4 Kh6
40.Rb7 Re2+ 41.Kg3** [Now, I finally found a solution to exchange the rooks by playing the wonderful counter-move:]

**41...Re3! 42.Rf4 Rxf4 43.Kxf4
Rb3 44.Rb6** [I realized white was going to be a pawn up, but my I knew my passed pawn will give me good drawing chances.]

44...Rb1 45.Rxe6+ Kg7
46.Rb6 b3 47.Kg3 b2 [This forces his king to be passive.]

48.Kg2 Kf7 [Now, all I have to do is just wait for his pawns to come down to my king. He can't use his king as a support, because it will allow me to use a promotion tactic.]

49.h4 Kg7 50.f4 Kf7 51.f5 Kg7 52.f6+ Kf7 53.h5 [Here, I noticed his pawns were very weak, so I sacrificed my own pawn to reach a dead drawn rook ending.]

53...Ra1 54.Rxb2 Ra5 55.Kg3 Rxh5 56.Kg4 Rh6 [White now knew it was all hopeless and there was nothing he could do. We played on for a couple more moves and we agreed to a draw.]

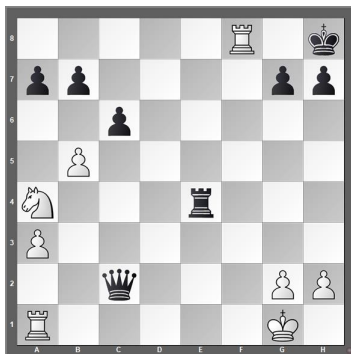
57.Kg5 Rg6+ 58.Kh5 Rxf6
1/2-1/2



TCAKNIGHT (1812) - David Guadiana (1764)

1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.Qxd4 Nc6 4.Qd1 Bc5 5.Be3 Bxe3 6.fxe3 Nf6 7.Nc3 d6 8.a3 0-0 9.Nf3 Bg4 10.Be2 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Ne5 12.Be2 c6 13.Qd2 Qb6 14.b4 Rad8 15.b5 d5 16.exd5 Nxd5 17.Qd4 Nxe3 18.Qe4 Qc5 19.Na4 Qxc2 20.Qxe3 Nc4 21.Bxc4 Rfe8 22.Bxf7+ Kxf7 23.0-0+ Kg8 24.Qf4 Re4 25.Qf7+ Kh8 26.Qf8+ Rxf6

27.Rxf8# 1-0



Farrar,Ron (2039) Toliver,Leon (1651)

1.e4 d6 2.f4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.d4 0-0 6.Bd3 b6 7.0-0 Bb7 8.Qe2 c5 9.d5 Na6 10.Bxa6 Rb8 11.Bxb7 Rxb7 12.Be3 Ng4 13.Bd2 f5 14.e5 dxe5 15.fxe5 Qc7 16.Rfe1 c4 17.h3 Qc5+ 18.Kf1 Bxe5 19.hxg4 fxg4 20.Qxe5 gxf3 21.Be3 fxg2+ 22.Kxg2 Qc8 23.Qe6+ Qxe6 24.dxe6 h5 25.Rf1 [Black resigned.] 1-0

Chairez,Carmen (1758) Farrar,Ron (2039)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.d4 Bg4 4.Be2 Bxe2 5.Nxe2 Qxd5 6.0-0 Nc6 7.Nbc3 Qf5 8.Ng3 Qd7 9.Be3 0-0-0 10.Nce2 h5 11.Re1 h4 12.Nf1 e6 13.c4 Be7 14.h3 Ne4 15.a3 f5 16.f3 Ng3 17.Qd2 Nxe2+ 18.Rxe2 g5 19.Rd1 g4 20.Nh2 gxh3 21.gxh3 Rhg8+ 22.Rg2 Bf6 23.f4 Bxd4 24.Bxd4 Qxd4+

25.Qxd4 Rxg2+ 26.Kxg2 Rxd4 27.Rxd4 Nxd4 28.Kf2 Kd7 29.Ke3 c5 30.Nf3 Nxf3 31.Kxf3 Kd6 32.b4 cxb4 33.axb4 b6 34.Ke3 a5 35.c5+ bxc5 36.bxa5 Kc6 37.Kd3 Kb5 38.Kc3 Kxa5 39.Kc4 Kb6 40.Kc3 Kb5 41.Kb3 c4+ 42.Kc3 Kc5 43.Kc2 Kd4 [White resigned.] 0-1

Farrar,Ron (2039) Bowser,J. (1518)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.Nf3 a6 4.c3 d3 5.Bxd3 Nc6 6.0-0 d6 7.Be3 e6 8.Nbd2 Rb8 9.a4 a5 10.Nc4 b6 11.Qe2 Be7 12.Rfd1 Nf6 13.e5 Nd5 14.exd6 Bxd6 15.Be4 0-0 16.Nxd6 Qxd6 17.c4 Qb4 18.cxd5 exd5 19.Bxd5 Ne7 20.Rd4 Nxd5 21.Rxb4 Nxb4 22.Nd4 Re8 23.Qh5 Nd3 24.Qb5 1-0

Chairez,Carmen (1758) Hater,David A (2009)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Be3 Qf6 6.c3 Nge7 7.Be2 Qg6 8.Bf3 Ne5 9.Qe2 Nxf3+ 10.Qxf3 Qb6 11.b3 Nc6 12.Nf5 Bxe3 13.Qxe3 Qxe3+ 14.Nxe3 d6 15.Nd2 Bd7 16.0-0-0 0-0-0 17.f3 Ne5 18.Kc2 g5 19.Ndc4 Nxc4 20.Nxc4 f5 21.Nd2 fxe4 22.Nxe4 Bf5 23.Kd2 Bxe4 24.fxe4 Rhf8 25.Rhf1 Kd7 26.Ke3 Ke7 27.Rf3 g4 28.Rf4 Rxf4 29.Kxf4 Rf8+ 30.Kg3 Ke6 31.Rd2 h5 32.Rd5 h4+ 33.Kxh4 Rf2 34.Ra5 Rxg2 35.Rxa7 Ke5 36.Ra5+ Kxe4 37.h3 gxh3 38.Kxh3 Rg7 39.Kh2 Kd3 40.c4 Kc3

41.Rd5 Re7 42.Ra5 b6
43.Ra7 Rg7 44.Rb7 Kb4
45.Ra7 Kc5 46.Ra4 c6 47.Ra8
b5 48.cxb5 Kxb5 49.Rf8 d5
50.a3 d4 51.Rf5+ Kb6 52.Rf4
c5 53.Rf3 Re7 54.Rf6+ Kb5
55.a4+ Kb4 56.Rb6+ Kc3
57.Kg2 d3 58.Rb5 Rc7
59.Rb6 d2 60.Rd6 Kc2
0-1



Chairez,Carmen (1758)
Johnson,Chris (1821)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 e6 5.Be3 Nf6 6.Bd3
Ne5 7.0-0 Nxd3 8.Qxd3 a6
9.h3 Be7 10.Nc3 0-0 11.Rad1
Qc7 12.f4 b5 13.e5 Ne8
14.Ne4 f5 15.exf6 Nxf6
16.Ng5 Bb7 17.Ndxe6 Qc6
18.Rf2 dxe6 19.Qb3 Bc8
20.f5 Ne4 21.Nxe4 Qxe4
22.Rd4 Qe5 23.Rg4 Rxf5
24.Bd4 Qe1+ 25.Kh2 Bd6+
26.g3 Rxf2+ 27.Bxf2 Qxf2+
28.Kh1 Bd7
0-1

Marler,Forrest Z (1420)
Curtis,Robert D (1553)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5
4.Nc3 Nf6 5.d3 0-0 6.0-0 d6
7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Be6 9.Qd2
Bxc4 10.dxc4 Nd4 11.Qd3
Nxf3+ 12.Qxf3 g5 13.Bg3 c6
14.a3 Bd4 15.Rfe1 Kg7
16.Rad1 Qd7 17.h3 g4
18.hxg4 Qxg4 19.Qxg4+
Nng4 20.Rd3 f5 21.Re2 f4
22.Bh4 Rf7 23.Rf3 Raf8
24.Nd1 Bb6 25.c3 Bd8
26.Bxd8 Rxd8 27.b4 c5

28.Rd2 cxb4 29.cxb4 Nf6
30.Nc3 Rfd7 31.Rfd3 a6 32.f3
Kf7 33.Kf2 Ke6 34.g3 fxg3+
35.Kxg3 Nh5+ 36.Kf2 Nf4
37.Re3 Rg7 38.Rd1 Rg2+
39.Kf1 Rdg8 40.Ne2 Nxe2
41.Rxe2 Rg1+ 42.Kf2 Rxd1
43.Re3 Rd2+ 0-1

Johnson,Chris (1821)
Chairez,Carmen (1758)

1.d4 d6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6
4.e4 Bg7 5.h3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 e5
7.d5 c5 8.Nf3 a6 9.0-0 Nb6
10.a3 Bd7 11.b4 Rc8 12.Qb3
Qc7 13.Be3 0-0 14.bxc5
dxc5 15.Rab1 Na8 16.Qxb7
Qxb7 17.Rxb7 Rfd8 18.Na4
Bf8 19.Nb6 Nxb6 20.Rxb6
Be7 21.Nxe5 Be8 22.Rb7 Bd6
23.f4 Nd7 24.Nc6 Rxc6
25.dxc6 Nf8 26.c7 Rc8 27.e5
Bxc7 28.Bxc5 Bc6 29.Ra7
Ne6 30.Be3 Rd8 31.Be2 Bb8
32.Rxa6 Be4 33.Rd1 Re8
34.Bg4 Nc7 35.Rad6 Ne6
36.Rd7 Bc6 37.Bxe6 fxe6
38.Rd8 Kf7 39.Rxe8 Kxe8
40.Rb1 Bc7 41.Bb6 Kd7
42.Bxc7 Kxc7 43.g4 h6
44.Kf2 g5 45.Ke3 Bg2 46.f5
exf5 47.gxf5 Bxh3 48.f6 Be6
49.Rh1 [Black resigned.] 1-0

Heise,Russell (1683)
Lund,Jason (1571)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6
4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.Nc3 Nxc3
6.dxc3 d5 7.Be3 Be7 8.c4 c6
9.cxd5 Qxd5 10.Qxd5 cxd5
11.0-0-0 Be6 12.Nd4 0-0
13.f4 Nc6 14.f5 Bd7 15.g4
Bc5 16.Bg2 Rfe8 17.Bg1 Ne7
18.h3 Bxd4 19.Bxd4 Bc6
20.f6 gxf6 21.Bxf6 Rad8
22.Rhe1 Kf8 23.Bd4 a6

24.Bc5 Rd7 25.Re5 b6
26.Bxb6 Ng6 27.Bc5+ Ne7
28.Bxd5 Bxd5 29.Rexd5
Rxd5 30.Rxd5 f6 31.Rd7 Kf7
32.Rxe7+ Rxe7 33.Bxe7 Kxe7
34.Kd2 Ke6 35.Ke3 Ke5
36.c4 h6 37.b4 Kd6 38.Kf4
Ke6 39.c5 1-0



Haskin,John (2085)
Yenne,Alex (1519)

1.c4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.g3 c5
4.Bg2 Nc6 5.0-0 Be7 6.d4
cxd4 7.Nxd4 0-0 8.b3 d5
9.cxd5 Nxd4 10.Qxd4 Nxd5
11.Bb2 Bf6 12.Qd2 Bxb2
13.Qxb2 a5 14.Rd1 Qf6
15.Qxf6 Nxf6 16.Nc3 Bb8
17.Rac1 b5 18.e4 b4 19.Na4
Bb7 20.Nc5 Ba8 21.e5 Bxg2
22.Kxg2 Ng4 23.Nd7 h5
24.h3 Nh6 25.Nxb8 Rxb8
26.Rc5 Ra8 27.Rdc1 Kh7
28.Rc8 Ra6 29.Rb8 Ra7
30.Rc5 Kg6 31.Rbb5 Rd7
32.Rxa5 Nf5 33.Rc2 Rd4
34.Rac5 f6 35.exf6 gxf6
36.R5c4 e5 37.Rxd4 exd4
38.Rd2 Kf7 39.g4 hxg4
40.hxg4 Ne7 41.Rxd4 Nc6
42.Rc4 Ne5 43.Rxb4 Ke6
44.Rb6+ Ke7 45.a4 Nd7
46.Rb7 Kd6 47.Rxd7+ Kxd7
48.f4 [Black resigned.] 1-0

Hollingsworth,J. (1827)
Haskin,John (2085)

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 0-0
12.Ng3 Qc7 13.a3 Bd7

14.Bd2 Rae8 15.Rc1 Qb8
16.Re1 Bf4 17.Bb1 Kh8
18.Qc2 Bxd2 19.Qxd2 e5
20.Nxe5 Nxe5 21.Rxe5 Rxe5
22.dxe5 Qxe5 23.Re1 Qd6
24.Qd4 b6 25.f3 Rc8 26.b4
Rc4 27.Qd2 Qc7 28.Ne2 Qe5
29.Ba2 Rc8 0-1

Chairez,Carmen (1758)
Yenne,Alex (1519)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Be2
Nc6 7.0-0 Be7 8.Be3 0-0
9.Qd2 a6 10.Rad1 Bd7 11.f4
Qc7 12.Bf3 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 e5
14.Qd2 Rfd8 15.f5 Rac8
16.Rf2 b5 17.a3 Qb8 18.g4 h6
19.h4 Nxc4 20.Bxc4 Bxc4
21.Rg2 Be7 22.Bxc6 Bf8
23.Qg5 f6 24.Qh4 Qa7+
25.Kh1 gxh6 26.Qxf6 Be8
27.Bh5+ Bg7 28.Rdg1 Rd7
29.Bxe8 Rxe8 30.Nd5 Kh8
31.Qg6 Rf8 32.f6 Bxf6
33.Nxf6 Rdd8 34.Qxh6+
[Black resigned.] 1-0

Fukuchi,Ken (1967)
Haskin,John (2085)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6
4.f4 Nf6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 c5
7.d5 a6 8.a4 e6 9.0-0 exd5
10.exd5 Re8 11.Bd3 b6 12.f5
Bb7 13.fxc6 hxg6 14.Bg5
Nbd7 15.Ne4 Qc7 16.Nxf6+
Nxf6 17.c4 Ne4 18.Qc2 Nxc3
19.Nxc3 Re7 20.Bxc6 Bd4+
21.Kh1 fxc6 22.Qxc6+ Rg7
23.Qe6+ Kh8 24.Nf7+ Kg8
25.Nd8+ Kh7 26.Ra3 Rg6
27.Rh3+ Kg7 28.Rf7+ Kg8
29.Qxc6+ 1-0



Xiong,Jeffery (2656)
Karavade,Eesha (2374)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5
4.dxc5 e6 5.Nf3 Bxc5 6.a3
Ne7 7.Bd3 Ng6 8.0-0 0-0
9.Ng5 Be7 10.Qh5 Bxc5
11.Bxc5 Qc7 12.Nc3 Nc6
13.f4 Nd4 14.Rae1 h6 15.Bf6
gxf6 16.exf6 Nf5 17.Bxf5 exf5
18.Nxd5 Qc5+ 19.Re3 Rd8
20.Qxh6 Qf8 21.Ne7+ 1-0

Batsiashvili,N. (2482)
Xiong,Jeffery (2656)

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6
4.e3 e6 5.d4 d5 6.a3 dxc4
7.Bxc4 a6 8.0-0 b5 9.Ba2
Bb7 10.Qe2 Be7 11.Rd1 Qc7
12.d5 exd5 13.Nxd5 Nxd5
14.Bxd5
0-0 15.e4 Rad8 16.g3 Na5
17.Bf4 Qb6 18.Rac1 c4
19.Nd4 Bxd5 20.exd5 Bf6
21.Nf5 Nb3 22.Rc2 Rfe8
23.Qg4 g6 24.Nh6+ Kf8
25.Be3 Qb7 26.d6 Re6 27.Nf5
h5 28.Bh6+ Kg8 29.Ne7+ Kh7
30.Qf4 Nd4 31.g4 hxg4 0-1

Xiong,Jeffery (2656)
Vishnu,Prasanna (2504)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Nxc6
bxc6 7.Bd3 d5 8.0-0 Qc7
9.Re1 Bb7 10.e5 c5 11.b3
Ne7 12.Na4 Nc6 13.Bf4 h5
14.c3 Be7 15.Qe2 Kf8
16.Rac1 h4 17.h3 g6 18.Qe3
Nb8 19.Bg5 Bxc5 20.Qxc5
Nd7 21.b4 Rh5 22.Qf4 Rxe5
23.Qh6+ Ke7 24.Nxc5 Nxc5
25.bxc5 g5 26.Qg7 Rxe1+
27.Rxe1 Qf4 28.Rb1 Bc6
29.Rb6 Kd7 30.Rb4 Qc1+

31.Kh2 Ke7 32.Qe5 Bb5
33.a4 Bd7 34.Rb7
1-0

Xiong,Xiong (2656)
Vachier-Lagrave (2780)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7
4.d4 cxd4 5.Qxd4 a6 6.Bxd7+
Bxd7 7.Nc3 e5 8.Qd3 Rc8 9.0
-0 Qc7 10.Rd1 Be6 11.a4 Nf6
12.Nd2 Be7 13.Nf1 Qc4
14.Ne3 Qxd3 15.Rxd3 Kd7
16.f3 Rc6 17.Bd2 Rxc8 18.b3
Nh5 19.g3 Bd8 20.a5 b5
21.Na2 Nf6 22.Nb4 R6c7
23.Nxa6 Ra7 24.Nb4 Rxa5
25.Rd1 Raa8 26.Be1 Be7
27.Kg2 g6 28.Bf2 Ke8 29.Kf1
Bd8 30.Be1 Bb6 31.Ke2 Bc5
32.Bc3 h5 33.h4 Ra7 1/2-1/2

Rapport,Richard (2725)
Xiong,Jeffery (2656)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c3 d5 3.Nf3 e6
4.Bg5 Nbd7 5.Nbd2 h6 6.Bh4
b6 7.e4 g5 8.Bg3 dxe4 9.Ne5
Bb7 10.Bb5 a6 11.Bc6 Bxc6
12.Nxc6 Qc8 13.Qe2 Qb7
14.Ne5 Bd6 15.Nxd7 Kxd7
16.0-0 Bf4 17.f3 e3 18.Nc4
Nd5 19.Bxf4 gxf4 20.Ne5+
Ke8 21.Qe1 c5 22.c4 cxd4
23.cxd5 Qxd5 24.Nd3 Qf5
25.Qd1 Ke7 26.Qb3 Rhd8
27.Rfc1 Rac8 28.Rc4 b5
29.Rc2 Kf8 30.Rac1 e5 31.h3
Rxc2 32.Rxc2 Kg7 33.Rc7
Re8 34.Qd5 Re6 35.Nxf4 Rf6
36.Ne2 d3 37.Nc3 Rg6
38.Re7 b4 39.Nb1 e2
40.Qxe5+ Qxe5 41.Rxe5 Rc6
0-1

**Xiong,Jeffery (2656) -
Hao,Wang (2722)**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5
4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0
dxc4 7.Qc2 a6 8.a4 Bd7
9.Qxc4 Bc6 10.Bg5 Nbd7
11.Nc3 h6 12.Bxf6 Nxf6
13.b4 Bd5 14.Nxd5 exd5
15.Qb3 c6 16.e3 Ne4 17.Rfc1
Bf6 18.Rab1 Re8 19.b5 axb5
20.axb5 Qd7 21.bxc6 bxc6
22.Rc2 Qd6 23.Rbc1 Reb8
24.Qd3 Rb6 25.Ne1 Ng5
26.Qf5 Ne6 27.Nf3 Rab8
28.h4 Nd8 29.h5 Qe6 30.Bh3
Kf8 31.Kg2 Qxf5 32.Bxf5 Ke7
33.Ra1 Kd6 34.Nh2 Ne6
35.Ra7 R8b7 36.Ra8 Rb8
37.Rxb8 Rxb8 38.Ng4 Rc8
39.Ra2 c5 40.Ra6+ Rc6
41.dxc5+ Nxc5 42.Rxc6+
Kxc6 43.Nxf6 gxf6 44.f4 Kd6
45.g4 Ne6 46.Kf3 Ng7 47.Bc8
Ke7 48.Bb7 f5 49.g5 Nxh5
50.gxh6 Kf6 51.Bxd5 Kg6
52.h7 Kxh7 53.Bxf7 Nf6
54.Ke2 Kg7 55.Be6 Ne4
56.Bd7 Kf6 57.Bc6 Ng3+
58.Kd3 Nh5 59.Kd4 Ng7
60.Kd5 1/2-1/2

**Nakamura,Hikaru (2763)
Xiong,Jeffery (2656)**

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 d5
4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e3 Nc6 6.Bb5
Nxc3 7.bxc3 Bd7 8.Rb1 e6
9.d4 Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Be2
Qc7 12.e4 Rfd8 13.Be3 Na5
14.Bd3 Rac8 15.h4 Be8 16.e5
cxd4 17.cxd4 Nc4 18.Ng5 h6
19.Ne4 Bc6 20.Qe2 b5
21.Rbc1 Bxe4 22.Bxe4 Bxh4
23.a4 a6 24.Bd3 Qb7 25.Bxc4
bxc4 26.Rxc4 Bg5 27.Rfc1
Rxc4 28.Rxc4 Bxe3 29.fxe3
Qb1+ 30.Kh2 Qb3 31.a5 Qb5

32.Qa2 Qd5 33.Ra4 Qe4
34.Qe2 Rc8 35.Rc4 Rb8
36.Qf2 Rb3 37.Rc7 Kh7
38.Rxf7 Rxe3 39.Rxg7+ Kxg7
40.Qf6+ Kh7 1/2-1/2

**Kramnik,Vladimir (2779)
Xiong,Jeffery (2656)**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bc4 Nf6
4.d3 Nc6 5.0-0 Bg4 6.h3
Bxf3 7.Qxf3 g6 8.Nc3 Bg7
9.Qd1 0-0 10.a3 a6 11.Ba2
b5 12.Bg5 e6 13.Qd2 Qa5
14.f4 b4 15.axb4 cxb4 16.Ne2
b3 17.Qxa5 Nxa5 18.cxb3 h6
19.Bh4 Rab8 20.b4 Nc6
21.Be1 Nxb4 22.Bb1 Nd7
23.Bc3 Rb6 24.f5 exf5
25.exf5 g5 26.f6 Bh8 27.Bd4
Rc6 28.Ng3 Nd5 29.Ra5 Nf4
30.Nf5 Re8 31.Kh1 Bxf6
32.Nxh6+ Kg7 33.Nf5+ Kf8
34.b4 d5 35.Bf2 Rb8 36.g3
Nxh3 37.Be3 d4 38.Nxd4
Bxd4 39.Bxd4 Rxb4 40.Rd5
Ke7 41.Ba2 Rc2 42.Bc4 f6
43.Re1+ Kd8 44.Bxf6+ Kc8
45.Bd4 Nf2+ 46.Bxf2 Rxf2
47.Bxa6+ Kc7 48.Rc1+ Kb6
49.Rd6+ Ka7 50.Ra1 Ne5
51.Rh6 Kb8 52.Rh8+ Kc7
53.Rc1+ Kd6 54.Rh6+ Kd5
55.Rh2 Rbb2 56.Rxf2 Rxf2
57.Kg1 Rb2 58.Rf1 Kd4
59.Rf2 Rxf2 60.Kxf2 Ng4+
61.Ke2 Ne5 62.Kf2 Ng4+
63.Kf3 Ne5+ 64.Ke2 Ng4
65.Bb7 Ne5 66.Be4 Ng4
67.Bf5 1/2-1/2

**Xiong,Jeffery (2656)
Jones,Gawain (2677)**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nbd2 c5
4.dxc5 Qa5 5.a3 Qxc5 6.b4
Qc7 7.Bb2 Bg7 8.c4 d6 9.g3
b6 10.Bg2 Bb7 11.0-0 0-0

12.Qb3 Nbd7 13.Rfd1 Rac8
14.Rac1 Rfd8 15.Nf1 Qb8
16.Ne3 Qa8 17.g4 h6 18.h4
h5 19.g5 Ng4 20.Bxg7 Kxg7
21.Ne1 Nxe3 22.Qxe3 Ne5
23.c5 bxc5 24.bxc5 Kg8
25.cxd6 exd6 26.Qd4 Rxc1
27.Rxc1 Rc8 28.Rxc8+ Qxc8
29.Qxd6 Nc4 30.Qd4 Bxg2
31.Nxg2 Qe6 32.Qd3 a5
33.a4 Kh7 34.f3 Qc6 35.Qd4
Qb6 36.e3 Qb1+ 37.Kh2 Qa2
38.Kg3 Qxa4 39.Qd5 1/2-1/2



**Villa,Jacob
Dhanekula ,Rithul**

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7
4.0-0 0-0 5.d3 d6 6.e4 e5
7.Nbd2 Nc6 8.a4 a5 9.Nc4
Be6 10.Ne3 Qd7 11.c3 Rfd8
12.Ng5 h6 13.Nxe6 Qxe6
14.Nd5 Rd7 15.f4 Qe8 16.Bh3
Nxd5 17.Bxd7 Qxd7 18.exd5
Ne7 19.Qf3 h5 20.fxe5 dxe5
21.c4 Nf5 22.Be3 Nxe3
23.Qxe3 b6 24.b3 Re8 25.Ra2
Bf8 26.Qf3 Bc5+ 27.Kh1 Qe7
28.Rg2 f5 29.h3 e4 30.dxe4
Qxe4 31.g4 Qxf3 32.Rxf3
Re1+ 33.Kh2 Bd6+ 34.Rfg3
h4 35.Rd2 Bxg3+ 36.Kg2 0-1

**Gouni,Maurya
Dhanekula,Rithul**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6
4.Nf3 Bf5 5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3 e6
7.Nh4 Bg6 8.a3 a5 9.Rc1 Be7
10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.Be2 dxc4
12.Bxc4 Rc8 13.Qd2 Nb6
14.Bd3 Nbd5 15.0-0 Qc7
16.Nxd5 Qxh2# 0-1

**Dhanekula,Rithul
Basepogu,Sharon**

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 g6
4.Bg2 Bg7 5.d3 d6 6.Nf3 0-0
7.0-0 Re8 8.Bg5 c6 9.Ne4 d5
10.Nxf6+ Bxf6 11.Bxf6 Qxf6
12.Qc2 Bg4 13.cxd5 cxd5
14.h3 Bd7 15.Qb3 Bc6
16.Rac1 Nd7 17.Rfd1 h6
18.e3 Kg7 19.Kh2 a6 20.a4
a5 21.Rd2 Ra6 22.Qd1 Rb6
23.Rdc2 Bxa4 24.Qd2 Bxc2
25.Qxc2 Qe6 26.d4 e4
27.Nd2 Rc6 28.Qb1 Rxc1
29.Qxc1 Nb6 30.Nb3 a4
31.Nc5 Qc6 32.Qe1 Rc8
33.Qb4 Kh7 34.Bf1 Nc4
35.Bxc4 dxc4 36.Qxc4 Kg8
37.Qb4 b5 38.b3 axb3
39.Qxb3 Kg7 40.Qb2 Kg8
41.h4 g5 42.hxg5 hxg5
43.Qe2 Qh6+ 44.Kg2 Qc6
45.Qg4 b4 46.Qxg5+ Qg6
47.Qd5 b3 48.Nxb3 Qe6
49.Qxe6 fxe6 50.Nc5 Kf7
51.Nxe4 Ke7 52.g4 Rg8
53.Kg3 Rg7 54.f4 Rg8 55.g5
Rg7 56.Kg4 Rg8 57.Kh5 Kf7
58.Nf6 Rh8+ 59.Kg4 Rc8
60.d5 exd5 61.Nxd5 Kg7
62.e4 Rc1 63.Kf5 Rc8 64.e5
Rf8+ 65.Ke6 Re8+ 66.Kd7
Rf8 67.e6 Kg8 68.g6 Kg7
69.e7 Rg8 70.f5 Kh6 71.e8Q
Rxe8 72.Kxe8 Kg7 73.f6+
Kxg6 74.f7 Kf5 75.f8Q+ Ke5
76.Ke7 Kxd5 77.Qf6 Kc4
78.Qe5 Kd3 79.Qf4 Kc3
80.Qe4 Kb2 81.Qd3 Kc1
82.Qe2 Kb1 83.Kd6 Kc1
84.Kc5 Kb1 85.Kc4 Kc1
86.Kb3 Kb1 87.Qb2# 1-0



**Kovalyov,Anton (2629)
Torres Rosas,L. (2293)**

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.e3 d5
4.b3 b6 5.Bb2 Bb7 6.cxd5
exd5 7.Bb5+ c6 8.Be2 Nbd7
9.Qc2 Rc8 10.d3 Bb4+
11.Nbd2 0-0 12.0-0 Re8
13.a3 Bf8 14.Rfe1 c5 15.Bf1
g6 16.g3 Bg7 17.Bh3 Nh5
18.Bxg7 Nxg7 19.Qb2 Ne6
20.Rac1 Qf6 21.Qxf6 Nxf6
22.Ne5 Rcd8 23.f4 Nd7
24.Nef3 Nb8 25.b4 Na6
26.bxc5 Naxc5 27.Bf1 Rc8
28.d4 Ne4 29.Nxe4 dxe4
30.Ne5 f6 31.Nc4 Red8 32.a4
Kf8 33.Na3 Ke7 34.Nb5 a6
35.Na3 Nc7 36.Nc4 Nd5
37.Rb1 Rc6 38.Rb3 Bc8
39.Nd2 Nc3 40.Ra3 a5
41.Bc4 Nd5 42.Bxd5 Rxd5
43.Nxe4 Re6 44.Rc1 Rxe4
45.Rxc8 Kd7 46.Ra8 Re7
47.Rc3 Ke6 48.Kf2 f5 49.Kf3
Rdd7 50.Rac8 Rd6 51.h3 h5
52.Rb8 Kf7 53.g4 hxg4+
54.hxg4 fxc4+ 55.Kxg4 Kg7
56.Rbc8 Rde6 57.Kf3 g5
58.d5 Rd6 59.R8c7 Rdd7
60.d6 1-0

**Belous,Vladimir (2530)
Shtembuliak,E. (2494)**

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.c4 d5
4.Bg5 Bb4+ 5.Nc3 h6 6.Bxf6
Qxf6 7.e3 0-0 8.Rc1 dxc4
9.Bxc4 c5 10.0-0 cxd4
11.Nxd4 Bd7 12.Qb3 Nc6
13.Ne4 Qe7 14.a3 Ba5
15.Qxb7 Nxd4 16.exd4 Rfb8
17.Qa6 Bc7 18.Be2 Bf4
19.Rc2 Bxh2+ 20.Kxh2 Qh4+
21.Kg1 Qxe4 22.Rfc1 Rb6
23.Bd3 Rxa6 24.Bxe4 Rd8
25.Rc7 Be8 26.f3 Kf8 27.Rb7
Ra4 28.Rcc7 a5 29.b4 axb4

30.axb4 g5 31.Kh2 h5 32.Rc5
Rxd4 33.b5 f5 34.Bxf5 Rd5
35.Rxd5 exd5 36.Bd7 Bf7
37.Bc6 Rb4 38.b6 d4 39.Be4
Bc4 40.Rc7 d3 41.Bxd3 Bd5
42.Rc5 Bb7 43.Rxg5 Rxb6
44.Rxh5 Rb3 45.Rb5 Rxb5
46.Bxb5 Kg7 47.Kg3 Kf6
48.Kf4 Bd5 49.Bd3 Bb3 50.g4
Bd1 51.Be4 Bb3 52.g5+ Kg7
53.Ke5 1-0

**Stukopin,Andrey (2588)
Matsenko,Sergei (2530)**

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5
4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.0-0
0-0 7.a4 a6 8.a5 h6 9.Re1
exd4 10.Nxd4 Ne5 11.Ba2
Bg4 12.f3 c5 13.Nde2 Be6
14.Nf4 Bxa2 15.Rxa2 Nc6
16.Ncd5 Nxd5 17.Nxd5 Bh4
18.g3 Bg5 19.f4 Bf6 20.c3
Re8 21.Kg2 g6 22.b4 Bg7
23.Rd2 Rb8 24.Bb2 Re6 25.f5
Re8 26.fxc6 fxc6 27.Nf4 cxb4
28.Rxd6 Qxa5 29.cxb4 Qa2
30.Re2 Qf7 31.Bxg7 Kxg7
32.Rxg6+ Kh7 33.Rf2 Ne5
34.Rd6 Rf8 35.Nd3 Qg7
36.Nxe5 Qxe5 37.Rd7+ Kh8
38.Rxf8+ Rxf8 39.Qd3 b6
40.Rd6 Rf6 41.Rd8+ Kg7
42.Qd7+ Rf7 43.Qg4+ Qg5
44.Qc8 Qe5 45.Qg4+ Qg5
46.Qxg5+ hxg5 47.Ra8 g4
48.Rxa6 Re7 49.Rxb6 Rxe4
50.Kf2 Kf7 51.b5 Re5
52.Rb7+ Kg6 53.b6 Re6
54.Rb8 Kg7 55.b7 Rb6
56.Ke3 Rb4 57.Kd3 Kh7
58.Kc3 Rb1 59.Kd4 Rb5
60.Ke4 Kg7 61.Kf4 Rb4+
62.Kg5 Kh7 63.Rd8 Rxb7
64.Kxg4 Rb4+ 65.Kh5 Rb5+
66.Kh4 Rb6 67.g4 Kg6
68.Rd3 Kh6 69.Kg3 Ra6
70.h4 Rb6 71.h5 Kg5

72.Rd5+ Kf6 73.Rf5+ Kg7
74.Kh4 Kh6 75.Rd5 Rb4
76.Rd6+ Kg7 77.h6+ Kh7
78.Kh5 Rb7 79.g5 Rb5
80.Rd7+ Kg8 81.Re7 Rb1
82.Re6 Kf7 83.Rf6+ Kg8
84.Kg6 Rb8 85.Re6 Ra8
86.Kf5 Kf7 87.g6+ Kf8 88.g7+
Kf7 89.Rf6+ Kg8 90.Kg6 Ra6
91.h7# 1–0

Vorontsov, Pavlo (2551)
Gabuzyan, H. (2592)

1.Nf3 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.e4 d6
4.Bc4 c6 5.0–0 d5 6.exd5
cxd5 7.Bb5+ Bd7 8.a4 Nf6
9.Ne5 0–0 10.Nxd7 Nfxd7
11.Re1 a6 12.Bf1 Nc6 13.c3
e6 14.Nd2 Qc7 15.Nf3 Na5
16.g3 Rfc8 17.h4 Nf6 18.Bd3
Nc4 19.Qe2 b5 20.Ne5 Nxe5
21.dxe5 Nd7 22.axb5 axb5
23.Rxa8 Rxa8 24.Bxb5 Nxe5
25.Bf4 Qb7 26.Bxe5 Bxe5
27.Qxe5 Qxb5 28.h5 Qb8
29.Qd4 Qf8 30.Kg2 Qg7
31.Qf4 g5 32.Qf3 Rb8 33.Ra1
h6 34.b4 Rc8 35.Ra3 g4
36.Qe3 Qf6 37.b5 Rb8
38.Rb3 e5 39.Rb4 e4 40.b6
Qf3+ 41.Qxf3 gxf3+ 42.Kh3
Kf8 43.Kg4 Ke7 44.c4 dxc4
45.Rxc4 Rxb6 46.Rxe4+ Kf6
47.Rf4+ Kg7 48.Rxf3 Rb5
49.Rf5 Rb4+ 50.Kh3 Rb3
51.f3 Rb2 52.Ra5 Rb4 53.Rc5
Ra4 54.Rd5 Rb4 55.Re5 Kf6
56.Ra5 Kg7 57.g4 Rb3
58.Kg3 Rb4 59.Rf5 Ra4
60.Rf4 Ra5 61.Rf5 Ra4
62.Rd5 Rb4 63.Kf2 Ra4
64.Ke3 Kf6 65.Rd4 Ra6
66.Kf4 Rb6 67.Rc4 Ra6
68.Rc5 Ra4+ 69.Kg3 Ra3
70.Rf5+ Kg7 71.g5 hxg5
72.Rxg5+ Kf6 73.Rb5 Ra1
74.Kg4 Rg1+ 75.Kf4 Rh1
76.Kg3 Rg1+ 77.Kf4 Rh1

78.Ra5 Kg7 79.Rf5 Rh4+
80.Kg5 Rh1 81.h6+ Rxh6
82.Rxf7+ Kxf7 83.Kxh6 ½–½

Raznikov, Danny (2489)
Baryshpolets, A. (2575)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6
4.e3 Be7 5.b3 0–0 6.Bd3 b6
7.0–0 Bb7 8.cxd5 Nxd5
9.Bb2 Nd7 10.Nbd2 c5
11.Rc1 Rc8 12.Nc4 cxd4
13.Nxd4 a6 14.Qh5 N5f6
15.Qe2 b5 16.Nd2 Qa5 17.a3
Bxa3 18.Ra1 b4 19.Bxa3
bxa3 20.Nc4 Qb4 21.Qe1 Qe7
22.Qa5 Nd5 23.Qxa3 Nc5
24.Rfd1 Nc3 25.Rd2 Rfd8
26.Bf1 Qf6 27.Rc1 e5 28.Nf3
Nb5 29.Rxd8+ Qxd8 30.Qb2
Bxf3 31.gxf3 e4 32.fxe4 Qg5+
33.Kh1 Nxe4 34.Bg2 Qf5
35.f3 Nf6 36.Rd1 h6 37.Qd2
Qe6 38.Qd3 Qe7 39.Kg1 Qb4
40.Bh3 Rb8 41.Bf5 Nc3
42.Rc1 Ncd5 43.Ne5 Qb6
44.Rc6 Qxe3+ 45.Qxe3 Nxe3
46.Rc8+ Rxc8 47.Bxc8 a5
48.Nc6 Nfd5 49.Nxa5 Nb4
50.Kf2 Ned5 51.Bb7 Nc3
52.Ke3 Nb5 53.Be4 Kf8
54.Nc4 Ke7 55.Ne5 Ke6
56.Nd3 Nc2+ 57.Kd2 Ncd4
58.b4 f5 59.Ba8 g5 60.Nc5+
Ke5 61.Nd3+ Kd6 62.Ke3
Nc2+ 63.Kd2 Ncd4 64.Ke3
Nc2+ 65.Kd2 Ncd4 ½–½

Shtembuliak, E. (2494)
Stremavicius, T. (2444)

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 e6
4.0–0 c5 5.d3 Nc6 6.Nbd2
Be7 7.e4 0–0 8.Re1 b5
9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Ne4 h6 11.c4
bxc4 12.dxc4 Ndb4 13.Be3
Qxd1 14.Raxd1 Nc2 15.Re2
Nxe3 16.fxe3 Rb8 17.b3 f5

18.Nc3 e5 19.Nh4 Bxh4
20.Bxc6 Bg5 21.h4 Bf6
22.Nd5 Be6 23.Bd7 Bxd5
24.cxd5 f4 25.Be6+ Kh8
26.exf4 exf4 27.gxf4 Rb4
28.f5 Rxh4 29.d6 Rg4+
30.Rg2 Re4 31.d7 Kh7
32.Rd6 h5 33.Rc6 Rd8
34.Rd2 h4 35.Kg2 Rd4
36.Rxd4 cxd4 37.Ra6 Kh6
38.Rxa7 Kg5 39.Kf3 h3
40.Rc7 Rh8 41.Rc1 h2
42.Rh1 Be5 43.a4 Bc7 44.b4
d3 45.a5 Rh3+ 46.Kg2 Re3
47.a6 d2 48.a7 Rg3+ 49.Kf2
Rg1 50.Bb3 Bb6+ 51.Ke2
Rxh1 52.d8Q+ Bxd8 53.a8Q
Re1+ 54.Kxd2 h1Q 55.Qxd8+
Kf4 56.Bc2 Qg2+ 57.Kxe1
Qg1+ 58.Ke2 Qe3+ 59.Kf1
Qf3+ 60.Ke1 Qe3+ ½–½

Vazquez, G. (2468)
Torres Rosas, L. (2293)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Be7
4.Ngf3 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7 6.Bd3
c5 7.c3 Nc6 8.0–0 a5 9.a4
cxd4 10.cxd4 g5 11.Nb3 Nb4
12.Bb5 h5 13.Be3 b6 14.Ne1
Ba6 15.Bxa6 Rxa6 16.f4 gxf4
17.Bxf4 Nf8 18.Bd2 Ng6
19.Rc1 Ra7 20.Rc3 Bg5
21.Bxg5 Qxg5 22.Nf3 Qh6
23.Qe2 0–0 24.Nfd2 Kg7
25.Rf6 h4 26.Nf1 Qg5 27.Qf2
Na2 28.Rc6 Nb4 29.Rc3 Na2
30.Rh3 Rc7 31.Nbd2 Rc2
32.Rhf3 Rc7 33.h3 Nb4
34.Kh2 Qh5 35.g3 hxg3+
36.Nxg3 Qg5 37.Ngf1 Qh5
38.Rxg6+ Qxg6 39.Rg3 1–0

Berczes, David (2499)
Shtembuliak, E. (2494)

1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.Nf3 Nf6
4.g3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7 6.Bg2

0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Qc2 Ne4
9.Bc1 c6 10.b3 f5 11.Ne1 Bf6
12.Bb2 h5 13.Nd2 h4
14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.f3 hxg3
16.fxe4 gxh2+ 17.Kh1 e5
18.e3 fxe4 19.Bxe4 Bg5
20.Nf3 Bh6 21.dxe5 Nc5
22.Bh7+ Kh8 23.Nh4 Rxf1+
24.Rxf1 Bf5 25.Nxf5 Qd3
26.Qg2 Kxh7 27.Nxh6 Ne4
28.Nf5 1-0

Preotu,Razvan (2520)
Matsenko,Sergei (2530)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4
4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3
Qc7 7.Qg4 f6 8.Nf3 Nc6
9.Bb5 Qf7 10.a4 Bd7 11.Ba3
c4 12.Qf4 Nge7 13.Bxe7
Qxe7 14.Bxc6 Bxc6 15.h4 a5
16.h5 f5 17.h6 g6 18.Qg5
Qd7 19.Kd2 Rf8 20.Rhb1 Rf7
21.Rb6 f4 22.Nh2 Rf5 23.Qh4
Qd8 24.Qxd8+ Kxd8 25.Ng4
Kc7 26.Rbb1 Rg5 27.f3 Rf8
28.Rh1 Rgf5 29.Nf6 Rf7
30.Rh4 Kd8 31.Rg4 Ke7
32.Rh1 R7xf6 33.exf6+ Kxf6
34.Rb1 g5 35.g3 fxg3
36.Rxg3 Rf4 37.Rbg1 Rh4
38.Rxg5 Rxh6 39.R5g2 Rh3
40.Rg3 Rxg3 41.Rxg3 h5
42.Rg8 Bxa4 43.Ra8 b6
44.Ra6 h4 45.Rxb6 Be8
46.Rb8 Bh5 47.Ke3 h3 48.Kf2

h2 49.Kg2 Bxf3+ 50.Kxh2
Be4 51.Rb2 Bg6 52.Ra2 a4
53.Rxa4 Bxc2 54.Ra2 Be4
55.Rf2+ Bf5 56.Rf4 e5
57.dxe5+ Kxe5 58.Rd4 Be4
59.Kg3 Kf5 60.Kf2 Kf4
61.Ke2 Kf5 62.Ke3 Ke5
63.Rd2 Bb1 64.Rh2 Bg6
65.Rg2 Bf5 66.Rg5 Kf6
67.Kf4 Be4 68.Rg1 Ke6
69.Ra1 Kd6 70.Ra6+ Kc5
71.Ke5 Bf3 72.Ra8 Bg2
73.Rc8+ Kb6 74.Kd6 Kb7
75.Rg8 Be4 76.Rh8 Bf3
77.Rh2 Be4 78.Rb2+ Kc8
79.Rb5 Bf3 80.Rxd5 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Vorontsov,Pavlo (2551)
Popilski,Gil (2504)

1.c4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 b6
4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bb7 6.Bg5
e6 7.Ndb5 d6 8.Bf4 e5 9.Bg5
a6 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Na3 f5
12.e3 Nd7 13.Nc2 Nf6 14.Nb4
Bg7 15.Qa4+ Ke7 16.Nc6+
Bxc6 17.Qxc6 Qd7 18.Qxd7+
Kxd7 19.g3 Rhc8 20.Bh3
Rxc4 21.Bxf5+ Ke8 22.g4 h6
23.h4 Nxc4 24.Ne4 Rd8
25.Nd2 Rb4 26.a3 Nxe3
27.fxe3 Rxb2 28.Rg1 Kf8
29.Rc1 d5 30.Rc7 Bf6 31.Bh7
Bxh4+ 32.Kd1 Bg5 33.Rf1
Be7 34.Rg1 Bg5 35.Nf3 e4
36.Nxc5 Rb1+ 37.Rc1 Rxc1+

38.Kxc1 hxg5 39.Rxg5 Ke7
40.Bf5 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

Torres Rosas,L. (2293)
Dragun,Kamil (2568)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e4 e5
4.Nf3 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Bxd2+
6.Nbxd2 exd4 7.Bxc4 Nc6 8.0
-0 Nge7 9.Nb3 0-0 10.Nfxd4
Nxd4 11.Qxd4 Qxd4 12.Nxd4
Bd7 13.Rfd1 Rfd8 14.f3 c5
15.Nb3 b6 16.Rd6 Be6
17.Rxd8+ Rxd8 18.Rc1 Nc6
19.Bxe6 fxe6 20.Kf1 Ne5
21.Rc2 Rd1+ 22.Ke2 Rb1
23.Nc1 Nc6 24.Kd2 Nd4 25.f4
a5 26.a4 Kf7 27.g4 h5
28.gxh5 Kg8 29.Kd1 Nb3
30.e5 Kf7 31.Rc3 Nxc1
32.Rxc1 Rxb2 33.Rc3 Rb4
34.Rd3 Rxa4 35.Rd7+ Kf8
36.Rb7 Rb4 37.Rb8+ Kf7
38.Rb7+ Kg8 39.f5 exf5 40.e6
Re4 41.Rxb6 f4 42.Rb8+ Kh7
43.Rf8 a4 44.Kc2 Rxe6
45.Rxf4 Re2+ 46.Kd3 Rxh2
47.Rxa4 Rxh5 48.Ra6 Re5
49.Kc4 g6 50.Ra1 Kh6
51.Rh1+ Kg7 52.Ra1 g5
53.Ra6 g4 0-1



More Memories from the Scherr Legate Celebration of Lights Parade, El Paso
(See Cover Photo too!)

Photos provided by Renate Garcia



In Passing:
Danny Dunn from Fort Worth, John Brown from Waco

Upcoming Events

DECEMBER 2018

DEC. 1 QD Academy/Parkway Chess #39-- Red & Green Classic
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10535.tla>

DEC. 1 Arlington Winter Blitz & Quick
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10103.tla>

DEC. 8 2018 Dallas Junior Open
Info: Barb Swafford, 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com

DEC. 15 Many Springs 117
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10296.tla>

DEC. 15 The SATURDAY Swiss (benefiting the Dallas Destiny)
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10073.tla>

DEC. 18 Mardi Quads
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10532.tla>

DEC. 22-23 DCC FIDE Open XII
Info: Barb Swafford, 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com

DEC. 30-31 2018 Year End Insanity
Info: Barb Swafford, 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com

JANUARY 2019

JAN. 4-6 or 5-6 9th Annual Austin Chess Club Championship
Info: See Ad on Page 31

JAN. 5 Arlington Chess Club Open #39
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10271.tla>

JAN. 26 BRAZOS Armed Forces Chess Classic
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/9308.tla>

JAN. 26 TCA Region 4 (K-12) Championships
Info: See Ad on Page 18

JAN. 26 2019 Casis Chess Tournament - Open Section
Info: <https://www.austinchess tournaments.com/events/882>

JAN. 26 2019 Scholastic Chess Tourn. at Casis Elementary
Info: <https://www.austinchess tournaments.com/events/883>



WEEKLY EVENTS

DEC. 2, 9, 16 & JAN. 6, 13, 20, 27
NTCA Sunday Swiss
Info: info@northtexaschessacademy.com

DEC. 4, 11, 18 & JAN. 8, 15, 22, 29
Houston Chess Lab Tuesday Night Swiss
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10452.tla>

DEC. 5, 12, 19, 26
Wednesday Swiss @ The Chess Refinery
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/9697.tla>

JAN. 4, 11, 25
Classical Fridays
Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10598.tla>



Texas Chess Association

Serving Texas Players Since 1935

9th Annual Austin Chess Club Championship

\$4025 in 100% Unconditionally Guaranteed Prizes

Jan. 4-6 or 5-6, 2019

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+): \$800 \$400 \$200, **U2200:** \$300 - \$150, **U2000:** \$250 - \$100
- **Reserve** (rated 1400-1799): \$450 \$250 \$100, **U1600:** \$200 - \$100
- **Novice** (rated U1400): \$250 \$125 \$75, **U1200:** \$125 - \$75, **U1000:** \$75

“Playing up” is not allowed.

January 2019 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. Top finishing Austin Chess Club Regular member considered **Austin Chess Club Champion** (must have played in at least 1 ACC monthly swiss event in 2018).

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. 1/4 **6-7pm**. Rounds 1/4 **7:30pm**, 1/5 **1pm - 7pm**, 1/6 **9:30am - 3:30pm**.
- **2-day:** Registration Sat. 1/5 **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.austinchesstournaments.com/events/871>

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.

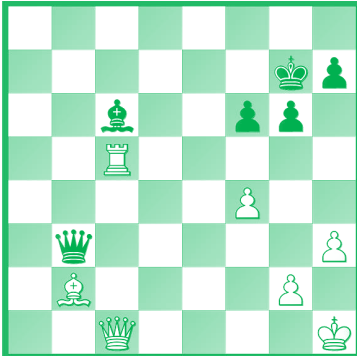
Info: Lori.Balkum@AustinChessTournaments.com, **Ph:** 512-417-9008



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

Tactics Time!

Answer on
page 18



Ey Nakar – P. Vorontsov
Southwest Open 2018
Black to Move