

TEXAS KNIGHTS

The official publication of the Texas Chess Association

Volume 60, Number 1

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

Sept-Oct 2018 \$4

2018 Southwest Open!



TCA President Tom Crane and Cole Blakeman with his 1st Place Trophy as K-12 Champion

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TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

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

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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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Cover photo: Jim Hollingsworth

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 **Nov. 10th!**



From the Desk of the Editor

Hello Texas and welcome to *Texas Knights*, Volume 60.

It has been decided that Volume 60, Number 6 (the July-August 2019 issue) will be the final printed/mailed issue. President Tom Crane covers some of the reasoning behind this decision in his letter on the next page. But please note: *Texas Knights* will continue (as long as there's an Editor to do it) as a digital publication and will continue to be available from our award winning TexasChess.org web site (more about that on **Page 11**). The digital editions will continue to include associated .pgn files for both games and Tactics Time! puzzles as-well-as any other related material (such as videos, extended articles, etc). If you have never accessed the full-color digital editions of *Texas Knights* and supplements, I highly recommend you start familiarizing yourself with them. Digital editions are downloadable (even to a phone or tablet. They are standard PDF files).

The format of this issue has changed a bit from previous issues. The games are now divided from the articles and moved to an overall games section with a **Games Index**. This not only simplifies finding games in the issue, but also allows game-only submissions to be easily included in an issue.

I did attend the US Open in Middleton, WI this year. Texas Player **GM Ruifeng Li** took a very respectable 2nd Place. I personally played in the tournament and represented Texas as a USCF Delegate. It was a blast. I made a lot of new Chess friends and hope to attend next year's activities in Orlando. Which reminds me ... evidently there is a photo out there floating around of 3 Texas Players, including Stuart Madsen, Troy Gillispie and myself at the boards which I have heard about, but haven't seen. There was one round where we were basically sitting next to each other, one board after the other and it was captured. If you know where it is (or if you have it), I'd love to get a copy. Feel free to just point me to it or email it to me. Thanks!

As always, thank you to all contributors. There were a couple of submissions that I didn't use this time around, but if I responded that I received them, I still have them, and they will be moved to the next issue's potential articles folder. I may also cover the Scholastic Tournament held during the SW Open in the next issue, however you can find results at <http://www.dallaschess.com/2018SWOpen/index.html>.

One final thank you is in order. *Texas Knights* again took 2nd Place for the Chess Journalists of America award in the Best State Magazine/Newsletter category. I appreciate your confidence and support.

The next issue of *Texas Knights*, our holiday issue, should be in your mailbox around the first week of December.

— **Jeff French**

So far this year we've received \$19.37 from AmazonSmile.
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2673185>

From the Desk of the TCA President



First let me say I am honored to have been elected as your President and second, I would like to thank President Rios for his service to chess and TCA. Some of the things he did include getting our Web Site and Facebook pages updated by installing two people with exceptional skills in those areas. We do however still have numerous things we need to address as an organization. One of these is taking Texas Knights on-line. Why? We currently have \$18,000 in our account and we are burning down at about \$3,000 annually over the past four years. We could wait and not be fiscally prudent, or we can act. At the Southwest Open our membership voted to act. The last paper issue to be mailed out will be prior to Southwest Open next year. Texas Knights will be available on-line, just as it is now. This won't be popular with some. If you have issues with this, please contact me directly and we can discuss the reasons for this action.

Background checks – this motion passed in both the North and the South but the mechanics of how to do this remain to be decided. This might seem like a simple thing to implement but let me assure you, it is not. Which leads to my next point - two membership meetings a year is too few to fully discuss the organizations business and issues. In order to more actively engage our membership and foster more active participation I am starting a conference call at a to-be-determined frequency. One of the first items to be discussed will be how to implement the background checks. How often will we do these conference calls, as frequently as necessary to do our organizations business, notionally six times a year. Information, including an advance agenda, on when this call will be and how to dial in and participate will be made available in sufficient time for people to prepare. **Anyone wanting** to participate is invited. The first call will be in early October.

Metrics that we can measure – Membership. Our roles indicate we have three hundred plus or minus members. A state that has 9520 total records in the USCF data base and less than 3% are TCA members. We need to fix this!!! Why – Since we are 501 (c) 3 we can get charitable contributions. One of the first things contributors ask is how many members do you have? Why else should you be a TCA member? Simple, you're supporting chess. We all vote financially regarding what we're committed to and believe in. When you buy a membership, we use your money to support chess!! 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**

Southwest Open Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2018 at 9:00am
By Lonann French, TCA Secretary

Opening

The regular meeting of the Texas Chess Association was called to order on September 2nd, 2018 at 9:00am in Irving, Texas by Eddie Rios.

Attendees:

Estanislao Anzaldia
Tom Crane
Jeff French
Lonann French
Renate Garcia
Jim Hollingsworth
J.P. Hyltin
Rob Jones
Claudia Munoz
Louis Reed
Eddie Rios
Reginia Rios
Luis Salinas
Barb Swafford

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve former minutes of meetings brought by Jim Hollingsworth and second by Luis Salinas. The motion carried 9-0 with 0 abstentions. Tom Crane requested minutes updated and posted by October 30, 2018.

Old Business

Eddie Rios led discussions regarding:

- TCA's background checks for tournament staff. Proposal allowing a faction to select their regional director vs. appointment.

- Disclose fees collected and incumbent expenses to be verified by receipts.

New Business

2018 Board of Directors Election report was delivered by Jeff French. Election Results can be found on **Page 18**.

Jeff French called for the election results to be approved, motion was second by Luis Salinas. The motion carried 10-0 with 0 abstentions.

New officers acknowledged and assumed nominated roles.

Tom Crane reviewed old business to capture any motions moved into new business.

Tom acknowledged awarded tournaments: 2018 Grade in Houston (North – change name to Texas Grade as no South was bid), Texas State Amateur Open, 2019 Super State, 2020 South ran by TCA and 2020 North to Luis Salinas allowing organizational process to move forward.

MOTIONS:

1. Proposal to allow representative elections by-laws changes designated by the President (J.P. Hyltin) Discussion ensued in more detail by J.P. Hyltin. *Withdrawn*.
2. Change Election Ballot Language (Jeff French). Jeff provided changes and J.P. printed for distribution. The motion carried 8-1 with 0 abstentions. / Tom referred this motion, to be moved to a teleconference for further discussion. Other motions to be discussed in future teleconferences: 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 17.
5. Change Bylaws Committee Chair from immediate Past President to Vice-President (Jim Hollingsworth). Friendly motion: previous meeting minutes approved and to be posted by October 30, 2018. *Withdrawn*.

6. Online only publication for Texas Knights (Jeff French and Jim Hollingsworth). Jim led the discussion on savings estimated at \$3,150 and how it could be repurposed by TCA. Luis Salina's pointed out the lifetime membership states paper copy by first class mail as a deliverable. Tom Crane took an action to engage lifetime members and determine how to meet expectations. Lonann French second this motion. The motion carried 9-1 with 0 abstentions. Tom Crane put a delay of action for stopping the printed version of Texas Knights magazine until September 1, 2019 unless it is prudent to move up the time line.

7. Only one scholastic general population meeting per year on scholastic and one general membership meeting per year. (Eddie Rios). Luis Salinas discussed previous meetings. Motion deferred to Spring meeting (2019).

8. Everything that affects bylaws and structure shall be referred to the bylaws committee before placing on agenda and opening to discussion. Deferred.

12. Transitioning regular non-subscribing members into regular members (Jeff French and Jim Hollingsworth). *Withdrawn*.

13. Eliminating "without magazine" for blind memberships (Jeff French and Jim Hollingsworth). *Withdrawn*.

14. Purging all "online only" memberships from the Bylaws (Jeff French and Jim Hollingsworth). Discussion was led by Jim. J.P. Hyltin second the motion. The motion carried 8-1 with 1 abstention.

(14.a) Junior Tournament membership to increase from \$1.00 to \$1.50 to support Southwest open. (Luis Salinas). Deferred to Spring meeting (2019).

15. Replacing the financial statements in Texas Knights to links (Jeff French). Motion was second by J.P. Hyltin. The motion carried 9-0 with 0 abstentions.

16. Replace candidate statements in Texas Knights with online Ballot Profiles (Jeff French) Motion was second by J.P. Hyltin. The motion carried 9-1 with 0 abstentions.

18. Proposal to create TCA affiliate memberships (J.P. Hyltin) Discussion by Barb Swafford that we have a school club membership. *Withdrawn*.

Agenda for Next Meeting(s)

Tom Crane has proposed regular tempo teleconferencing discussions to review the following motions and have them worded and prepared for the next general meeting:

(3) Remove paper ballots as a voting option. (Jeff French). Deferred.

(4) Sets a "member in good standing" date for TCA Elections to July 1st. (Jeff French) Deferred.

(9) TCA will not fund any expenses for organizers who have been awarded any events. (Eddie Rios). Tom Crane discussed the usage of P/L forms for regional events. Jim Hollingsworth stated adding to the bidding forms as a requirement. Deferred.

(10) Our structure, which is stated in our bylaws, Regional Directors take care of designated regions and are appointed by the President. Scholastic committee members and other positions are appointed by the president as well, Regional Directors are to also serve as the Board of Directors. Therefore, Regional Directors are the sole Directors of the regions and are responsible for awarding the Regional Tournaments based on established critique. (Eddie Rios). Deferred.

(11) Extend the time served for elected officers to two years. Effective immediately (Jim Hollingsworth and Eddie Rios). Deferred.

(17) Resolve issues with the language for background check requirements in TCA Events. (J.P. Hyltin). Deferred

Addendum

Motions detail submitted by Jeff French and Jim Hollingsworth that was omitted from official agenda can be found here: <https://texaschess.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Advance-Motions-2018-JF-JH.pdf>

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm by Tom Crane.

Submitted by: Lonann French, Secretary TCA
Approved by: Thomas E. Crane, President TCA

2018 Southwest Open

Additional Info: <https://texaschess.org/xiong-sadorra-wheeler-finish-on-top-at-84th-southwest-open/>
and: <https://new.uschess.org/news/sadorra-xiong-wheeler-top-southwest-open-hilby-earns-gm-norm/>

The **84th Annual Southwest Open** was held in Irving between August 31st and September 3rd. There were 53 participants in the **International Section**. **GM Jeffery Xiong, GM Julio Catalino Sadorra & IM Cameron Wheeler** shared the Top spot with a score of 6.5/9. There were 49 participants in the **Under 2300 Section**. **WGM Carla Heredia** won with a score of 6.5/7. There were 109 participants in the **Reserve Section**. **Rachel Li and Shiva Kakarla** shared the top spot with a score of 6.0/7. There were 45 participants in the **Novice Section**. **Joshua James Feldman** won with a score of 6.0/7.

Below are the top 25 from the International Section:

Rk.	Name	Rtg	FED	1.Rd	2.Rd	3.Rd	4.Rd	5.Rd	6.Rd	7.Rd	8.Rd	9.Rd	Pts.
1	GM Xiong Jeffery	2650	USA	3w1	5b1	12w1	2b½	6w½	4b1	14w½	10b½	8w½	6.5
2	GM Sadorra Julio Catalino	2555	PHI	21w½	51b1	27w1	1w½	17b1	14b1	6w½	3b½	5w½	6.5
3	IM Wheeler Cameron	2406	USA	1b0	50w½	37b½	38w1	26b1	16w1	15b1	2w½	6w1	6.5
4	GM Preotu Razvan	2513	CAN	32b½	31w1	7b½	47w1	8b1	1w0	13b½	11w½	15b1	6
5	IM Checa Nicolas	2478	USA	24b1	1w0	50b1	15w0	19b½	35w1	36b1	9w1	2b½	6
6	GM Arribas Lopez Angel	2460	ESP	38b1	9w1	16b½	11w1	1b½	15w½	2b½	18w1	3b0	6
7	IM Javakhadze Zurab	2438	GEO	53w1	10b½	4w½	14b0	20w1	21b1	17w½	12b½	28w1	6
8	IM Hilby Craig	2420	USA	44b1	15w1	11b½	16w½	4w0	45b1	10w½	14b1	1b½	6
9	GM Baryshpolets Andrey	2609	UKR	28w1	6b0	23w½	30b1	21w1	12b½	18w½	5b0	26w1	5.5
10	GM Matsenko Sergei	2533	RUS	22b1	7w½	19b½	18w½	36b1	13w½	8b½	1w½	11b½	5.5
11	IM Reshef Omer	2497	ISR	34w1	40b1	8w½	6b0	28w1	18b½	12w½	4b½	10w½	5.5
12	GM Popilski Gil	2491	ISR	36b1	46w1	1b0	31w1	15b½	9w½	11b½	7w½	13b½	5.5
13	IM Nakar Eylon	2461	ISR	25w0	29b1	30w½	41b1	45w1	10b½	4w½	26b½	12w½	5.5
14	GM Kovalyov Anton	2644	CAN	20b1	26w½	18b½	7w1	16b1	2w0	1b½	8w0	24b½	5
15	IM Shtembuliak Evgeny	2518	UKR	35w1	8b0	33w1	5b1	12w½	6b½	3w0	25b1	4w0	5
16	GM Berczes David	2501	HUN	23w1	25b1	6w½	8b½	14w0	3b0	21w½	30b1	20w½	5
17	GM Raznikov Danny	2498	ISR	33b1	-½	21w½	25b1	2w0	19w½	7b½	24w½	18b½	5
18	IM Patel Advait	2475	USA	43w1	45b½	14w½	10b½	22w1	11w½	9b½	6b0	17w½	5
19	IM Ostrovskiy Aleksandr	2425	USA	50b½	37w1	10w½	45b½	5w½	17b½	25w½	28b½	21w½	5
20	FM Wang Justin	2391	USA	14w0	43b½	24b½	37w1	7b0	50w1	32b½	31w1	16b½	5
21	FM Li Ben	2324	USA	2b½	41w1	17b½	26w1	9b0	7w0	16b½	36w1	19b½	5
22	FM Guo Arthur	2283	USA	10w0	39b1	42w1	27b½	18b0	24w½	26b0	37w1	31b1	5
23	FM Kumar Nikhil	2268	USA	16b0	52w1	9b½	36w0	43b1	31w0	44b1	32w1	29w½	5
24	WIM Nguyen Emily	2194	USA	5w0	35b1	20w½	28b0	41w1	22b½	27w1	17b½	14w½	5
25	Vivekananthan Anish	2132	USA	13b1	16w0	46b1	17w0	31b½	47w1	19b½	15w0	33b1	5



IM Craig Hilby vs GM Jeffery Xiong in Round 9 →

**Photos provided
by Franc Guadalupe.**

← U2300, Reserve and Novice Sections



2018 Texas Senior Championship - Stanley on Tiebreaks

By NM Gregg Stanley

The 2018 Texas Senior Championship was held on the weekend of July 14th. The winner, Gregg Stanley, accepted the invitation to represent Texas in the first annual Senior Tournament of Champions held in tandem with the 2018 United States Open, located in Middleton, Wisconsin (a burb of Madison). Number two ranked Selby Anderson took a first round bye and was promptly eliminated by Expert John McCue in round two, who went on to be the third player tied for first. Selby, who recently came out of retirement gamely went on to win out. Favorite Chris Land had a 3rd round bye, a fourth round draw to co winner Phil Leone and a climatic elimination final round draw against the third ranked player -me. All three of the top ranked players took one bye as did the top six finishers. J.P. Hilton directed.

The event was arranged with less advance notice than usual, perhaps to take advantage of the following months first U.S. Senior Tournament of Champions. Local IM Miguel Medina Paz missed eligibility by one month. For me this tournament was another reminder of my age, but this really hit home when I did a survey of the players who used descriptive notation. There were only two other players in the 27 player event who scrawled the ancient form and this in a Senior tournament. I looked around at the other dinosaurs and imagined them gazing at me and whispering: Devonian? Jurassic? No. *Cambrian*.

Chris Land offered a draw on move 29. In my mind it was a tricky device, the kind of thing I would do. White, as Chris later said, had no counter-play and risked destruction by advancing his Kingside pawns, but he needed a win to get the esteemed ring. What better way to get a win than to goad White into an attack? I did not see an attack for White on the Kingside either and with Andy and Angela winning I thought my tiebreaks would probably work.



J.P. wanted some theatrics when he revealed who won the event on tiebreaks. Used to kids jumping up and down for trophies he asked us to pose as he revealed who the winner was. I'm not just sedate, but also old. And a stoic. And to add on some cement, I also have a face fellow poker players admire. He was disappointed. In the picture Phil was not expecting me to offer my handshake and the whole thing came out odd. Perhaps J.P. is happy after all.

2018 Senior Tournament of Champions

By NM Gregg Stanley

The first annual Senior Tournament of Champions was held July 28-31, in tandem with the U.S. Open. There were four events held alongside the U.S. Open each of which allowed players to jump into the Open in the four - or six-day schedule. The other events were the Denker, Barber and National Girls Tournament. 43 players each representing a state. California was allowed 2 since the state is schizophrenic. They really were allowed 2.

While a number of supporters, such as Texas Knights and San Antonio Chess Club had extorted me to win this tournament, a numbers guy such as myself saw the facts of life; it is very difficult to win when you are barely in the top half. Further, my pre-tournament investigation showed that all four of the GM's in this event were very much in practice for at least several years. I had put my odds, based on ratings, at under 1/300 of

tying for first and that such a victory would require, not just winning several games, but scoring against one GM and a favorable pairing or scoring against two GM's. With this knowledge secondary goals became realistic, not to replace the main goal, but supplant it. These other goals were to show well and be in the hunt in the last rounds, to be on the higher boards and to even scratch a GM. All of those goals were met.

There was a Bughouse Tournament, while it is not true I only came to Wisconsin to play Bug, it may well be true that I was the player of legend who offered \$40 to have a Bug partner. After the first round an experienced girl agreed to be my Bug partner –for free! Perhaps I reminded her of her grandfather –the grouchy one full of advice. Our team had a strange dynamic, she had a prime reserve while I just wanted to win. I overheard a bug player say “bughouse is just for fun.” I admonished him for such bad language. We just finished out of the money. My only satisfaction was taking a game off the guy I offered \$40 to. I mated him just after his partner told him he could sit. That took them out of the money.

There was a nice reception for the senior champions. I took my “I’m from Texas” outfit for just such an occasion. The new boots were not broken in, the big belt buckle was a mystery to put on, my pretty billfold was unseeable, and my hat was stolen on the Amtrak train. At the time it seemed to be a tough choice between an unfamiliar train and setting foot in an airport. My outfit was not vanity but charity. I wanted others to know that the spirit of Texas lives.

After a lifetime of swisses, I thought it would be a real adjustment to play up in round 1, it turned out that although a large majority of players were masters, many of them were like me, their rating had slipped below 2200, so I played down in round one and set my little Texas flag next to Ramon Tagorda’s Louisiana flag. I was told later on that several Louisiana players declined to accept the invitation. Michael Rohde also told me that he was invited but he thought there were a few higher rated eligible players from New York.

The top five rated players were GM’s Alexander

Fishbein and GM Alonzo Zapada each finishing at 5-1, the former a winner on tie breaks; GM Erico Sevillano, GM Michael Rohde and FM Karl Dehmelt tied for third at 4.5. Only GM’s and FIDE Master took the top five, but it wasn’t looking that way early on.

In round one Erico Sevillano fell to Brian Lilly 2111 of Wisconsin. The higher rated players held in round two with me losing to Cooke, who went on to draw Fishbein in Round three. Also, in round three Lilly drew Rohde and Dehmelt drew Ignacio Perez. I beat James Hodina 1866 of IA to get to 2-1.

Round four I move up to a higher board and play Mark Allen Hulse 2238 of Oklahoma. With cross boarder bragging rights at stake I win a grand melee with black. Now at 3-1 winning out could take all or part of first. Only Zapada at 4-0 playing Cooke at 3.5 had higher scores than me. As it turned out only a decisive game would keep me or my opponent GM Rohde in the running for first. The game was not well played. Rohde initiated two separate forced lines against my KIA ending up with a slight edge for me. Then I forced a line where I had a better minor piece but it was a dead draw. I accepted Rohde’s draw offer. A tie for second with hundreds of dollars along with it was there for the taking. In the last Round Fishbein beat Zapada and I lost to FM Delmelt.

The U.S Open was next. Fishbein and I both chose the 4-day schedule which entailed a number of speed games of game one-time control. Yeah, I called it speed chess, when you write your article you can call it what you want. I did poorly and withdrew, while Fishbein, the aforementioned Senior Champion, won all but one of his speed games, then went on to tie for second, making all the old ones happy.

Middleton is a beautiful small town next to Madison. The people were quite friendly, the air noticeably cleaner than San Antonio air. Water fowl and lakes abounded. Even the BBQ and Mexican food were Texas quality. I would not lie about something like this. The summer was gorgeous, but I was told that it had to get to 55 below zero for schools to be closed. “If you dress properly the cold is OK.” A theory I will never test.

2018 US Junior Girls Championships

By WGM Emily Nguyen

For the second year in a row, the 2018 US Junior Girls Championships was held in St. Louis, Missouri, along with the US Junior Championships, from July 11-21. As the 2016 champion and a two-time participant, I had high hopes coming into the tournament because I wanted to earn a spot in the 2019 US Women's Championships. This prestigious tournament featured ten of the most elite female players in the nation under 20, and this year the field consisted of Carissa Yip, Jennifer Yu, Maggie Feng, Thalia Cervantes, Rochelle Wu, Martha Samadashvili, Nastassja Matus, Sanjana Vittal, Sophie Morris-Suzuki, and myself.

As the fourth seed, I was very excited to come into the tournament because I'd be able to play without too much pressure. I was also thrilled that St. Louis would host Junior Girls again because it's such a beautiful city and as the chess capital of the world, the organization is flawless. I felt like I had done a decent job of studying and preparation for the weeks leading up to St. Louis, but I had no idea how the tournament would go.

My first two rounds went pretty smoothly, and I was very satisfied with my play. I took care of the two lower rateds of the tournament, Martha and Sophie in super calm and positional games. I just got good positions out of the opening and was able to outplay them in the middlegame to ultimately win. I was a bit surprised because I usually never get off to such a good start, but I can't really complain with 2/2.

The rest of the tournament wasn't very exciting, and I suffered a loss to Jennifer in round 4. After that, I was pretty done with chess because I thought my winning chances were over, so I just decided to "have fun" with the tournament. I ended up blowing a few wins and suffered another painful loss in round 8 to Thalia Cervantes that I definitely should not have lost (I'm still salty about it). I also played what is probably my all-time favorite game this tournament against Maggie, where I prepped against her French but had no idea what I was doing around move 7 and my king ended up on e3 very early, but I somehow won. In the end, I fin-

ished with 6/9 and tied for second place with Jennifer, which I would have been happy with at the beginning of the tournament. Carissa won the tournament with 7/9, a super impressive score. However, I feel like I missed so many opportunities and dropped so many points that I'm a little disappointed I couldn't fight for first. I'm also generally satisfied with my play this tournament because I think I played well and crushed people in games (which was super fun) so I guess that's a good sign.

I definitely learned many valuable lessons from this tournament, and I learned a lot about myself and my knowledge for the game. I played many new openings that I had barely looked at pre-tournament, and I actually remembered most of my preparation, so I'm proud of that. It was still a rather painful experience -- coming close to the title but missing out. If only I had won that eighth round...

Apart from the chess aspect of this tournament, I had a lot of fun just relaxing and spending time with my friends, especially Carissa, Jennifer, Annie, and Maggie. We just had a good time overall in St. Louis, whether it was eating sushi and froyo, or walking around to take pictures, or just going to the pool. The rest day was especially fun because it was also St. Louis Chess Club's 10 year anniversary, so we were able to take part in some of the activities they had, like painting the metro bus and playing blitz, as well as going to the pool and playing water polo with some of the players in the Open section.

As I reminisce upon the tournament while writing this article, I actually miss the tournament. Prepping, eating with friends, and just playing at the chess club has been such a memorable and enjoyable experience. I'm excited to compete again next year and hopefully top my result from this year. As for other chess plans, I'm almost done -- Denker and US Open will wrap up the busy summer before I have to go back to school for junior year!

Austin Chess Club 4th Summer Open

By Jeff Wouters and Drew Sarkisian

The 4th Austin Chess Club Summer Open was held at the Bridge Center in Austin, TX from Friday, July 06, 2018 through Sunday, July 08, 2018. While well attended, this was the first weekend event that the club has held that did not sell out, despite having the club's largest guaranteed prize fund to date (\$4025).

The Championship title was shared by two Austinites, **Daniel Rodriguez and Emily Nguyen** who both finished with 4.0 points (\$600.00 each). A logjam for 3rd included **Michael Langer, Jakob Infuehr, Rohun Trakru, Sina Mohammadi and Camille Kao** all with 3.5 points winning 3rd place / 1st 2nd U2200 prizes (\$130.00 each). **Vasfi Gucer** also had 3.5 points and took the 1st U2000 prize of \$250.00 (he had the sole lead going into the last round!), while **Priya Trakru** and **John Durston** tied for 2nd U2000 (\$30.00 each).

The Reserve section sole winner was **Baris Turgut**, who finished with 4.5 points and won \$450.00. The 2nd place and top U1600 prize was shared between **Max Alberhasky** and **Thomas Nguyen** with 4.0 points (\$225.00 each) and 3rd place was shared between **Shreyes Kaliyur, Ebrahim Montazeri, Nitin Akella, Kalia Wang, Isaac Dimayuga and Sudharsan Ramapriya** all with 3.5 points (\$17.00 each). **Daniel Uranga, Michael Tunks, and Jeffrey Wouters**

shared 2nd U1600 with 3.5 points (\$34.00 each).

Jatin Aggarwal and Adam Kriz shared 1st in the Novice section with 4.5 points. Second place was shared between **Afaf Bouardi, Zaeem Alam, Hector Cortes** and **Bhargav Annem** with 4.0 points (\$18.75 each). **Andrew White** also had 4.0 points and took the 1st U1200 prize of \$125.00. **Caleb Tunks, John Pratt and Danielle Rye** won the 2nd U1200 prize (\$25.00 each). The top U1000 player was shared between **Kevin Jones, Sai Kotta** and **Evan Lutz** with 3.0 points (\$25.00 each)

Tournaments like this cannot be organized and run without volunteers; **Lori Balkum** deserves special thanks as the organizer and head Tournament Director. *Alexander Balkum* and *Alex Relyea* were invaluable TD duties as well. Help with setup to *Lori Balkum, Stephen Balkum, Daniel Balkum, Michael Langer, Drew Sarkisian, Nick Silver* and *Baris Turgut* while teardown was performed in record time by *Lori Balkum, Stephen Balkum, Daniel Balkum, Sarah Brauner, James Connaughton, David Giammaula, Jakob Infuehr, Adam Kriz, Michael Langer, Dominic Marro, Drew Sarkisian, Nick Silver, and Baris Turgut.*

Finally, thanks to all the players who attended. We hope to see you early next year at the 2019 Austin Chess Club Championship!

CJA Best State Chapter Website

By Jeff French

Chess Journalists of America (CJA) presented their annual awards during the week of the US Open in Middleton, WI. **TexasChess.org** won 1st Place for the CJA Electronic Media, Best State Chapter Website. It was my pleasure to nominate the TCA Website and **Chris Wood**, the Website Administrator, for the award. Chris has done an outstanding job. I was able to present the award to Chris during one of the weekly Thursday night Arlington Chess Club meet-ups.



2018 Houston Chess Festival: A Surprising Win

By FM Alex Chua

I remember what it was like when I first started chess and playing in the Dallas Chess Club. I used to be an active player playing a tournament a week. In between games, I used to play blitz and bughouse. My goals then were modest go from 700 to 900 to 1100 and so on. In those years, I improved rapidly and felt like I knew everyone in Texas chess.

Now my tournament chess is much less frequent, there are lots of new faces, and my chess goals are harder. I am now an adult chess master trying to improve. With this tournament, I won \$1,050, went over 2400 USCF, and played one of my best moves! On July 20th-22nd, 2018, I participated with over 200

players in the Houston Chess Festival which included a main tournament, a scholastic tournament, and a blitz tournament. I was the 3rd seed with GM Olexandr Bortnyk and IM Daniel Fernandez as the favorites.

In the end, I somehow won the tournament (GM Olexandr Bortnyk lost a game to NM Bovey Liu and IM Daniel Fernandez and I drew our matchup). I was happy with both my play and my results (sometimes you have 1 and not the other). And I'd like to share the critical last round game with the reader which featured one of my best moves. See the game on **Pages 27-28**.

Texas Chess
HISTORY

1982 1st Longhorn Open

By Jim Hollingsworth

Texas Chess
HISTORY

The Aurelio Gonzales Tarrant County Championship is scheduled for October 13th in North Richland Hills. It is quite fitting to name the County Championship after Aurelio Gonzales (deceased). He won the very first Tarrant County Championship in 2003.

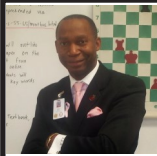
Sometime in late 2003, in the old Watauga Chess Club, Aurelio brought in a scoresheet for one of his games played many years before. He claimed a friend of his, living in New York City, had a bunch of games in his closet and found this one and sent it to him. So, Aurelio showed it to me. It was our game played over 20 years before at the 1st Longhorn Open.

For me it was like opening a time machine. As we played over the game I could remember exactly what I was thinking during each move. It was a tough game. I got lucky. Afterwards his buddies, 3 or 4 of them who watched the last half hour of the game, harassed him with, "Man, we thought you were going to beat him!" Aurelio just smiled and said, "Well."

He gave me the scoresheet. It was one of the nicest gifts I ever received. Aurelio was a thoughtful, generous and kind man. He is missed.

See the game on **Pages 28-29**.

In Passing - John Hall from Dallas TX. Records show he was 71.



Coach's Corner - e4!

Super Knight

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

I have had the fortunate privilege of chatting with a few Hall of Fame personalities from basketball, football and of course chess. And although in very different genres, the advice on becoming great is all the same. World class futbol player Lionel Messi was asked how long did it take him to become great? His response is classic, "I come early and stay late, day after day, after day, year after year. It took me 17 years and 114 days to become an overnight (KNIGHT) success." I spoke with LeBron James at an NBA, All-Star game once in Houston a few years ago and asked a similar question and although in very different genres from basketball, soccer, baseball and chess, Tracy McGrady, Alex Rodriguez, and GM Timur Gareyev, they have all said the same thing on separate occasions in response to the Messi question. "Do the little things extremely well." That expresses the importance of fundamentals.

There are three things that are extremely important fundamentals in good chess play, Development, Protection and Attacking your opponent's material. There are many variations of chess games to better these major fundamental chess principles in the chess games like Bug House Chess, Sheep and Wolves, Knight Moves, Seirawan Chess, King against the World, and Chess 960, recently played in St. Louis. Chess 960 was at first "uncomfortable" to GM Maurice Ashley as he says on his post on social media, "I have to admit that I was somewhat uncomfortable with Chess 960 at first, but now after 2 days of commentary, I am loving it! The play is interesting, tactical, challenging and most of all original. The players are enjoying the experience of playing unexplored positions, and keep analyzing long after the games are over even though they will likely never see the same opening setup ever again! As out there as Bobby Fischer sometimes was, this invention of his will breathe fresh new life into chess. It just goes to show how wonderfully varied and rich our game really is."

There is a great definition on Chess.com of Chess 960. "Chess960 (also called FischerRandom) is just like regular chess... except that the starting position is shuffled to include 960 different possible positions!

So you can throw out your opening book - but keep your opening principles! You play the same, but you just have different placement of pieces on the back rank. At first, the act of castling might seem strange, but really the result is the same as ever: the king/rook end up in the same posi-

tion as when they castle in regular chess: king on g-file and rook on f-file for kingside; the king on c-file and rook on d-file for queenside. The "960" refers to the number of legal starting positions for this variant, where there is a rook on each side of the king and the bishops are each on a different-colored square. To start a 960 game, go here: <https://www.chess.com/daily> and under Advanced Options choose Type: Chess960."

Bughouse chess (also known as Exchange chess, Siamese chess, Tandem chess, Transfer chess, Double bughouse, Cross chess, Swap chess or simply bughouse or bug) is a popular chess variant played on two chessboards by four players in teams of two.

Two of The Chess Academy's favorite chess games are Super Knight and Knight Moves. Super Knight: in this variation of chess the player playing White has only a King, eight Pawns and one Knight all placed on their prospective squares; however, the lone Knight is special. He is Super Knight, meaning he can literally move anywhere on the board in one move capturing any piece. However; Super Knight must remain on that square until Black has had a chance to move. While Black plays traditional chess, White or Super Knight can capture both Rooks without a threat of Super Knight being captured. Black must play traditional chess with the goal of CheckMate. This is usually achieved by Pawn promotion. If; however; Super Knight is captured it will be very difficult for White to win. This variation teaches Black the first and second most important thing in solid chess play, development, and protection.

Knight Moves: in this variation of chess the object is to cover as many squares as possible using traditional knight moves. It teaches how to attack. The game starts with an empty board by placing the Knight on any square and moving to place an object on that square once the move has been made. For younger players, The Chess Academy coaches place candy on the square, for older players we place coins in denominations from pennies to 50 cent pieces. After all of the legal Knight moves have been made the goal is to recapture the coins or candy. The student that captures the most squares without repeating a square or runs out of empty squares wins. My record is 62 squares.

Seirawan Chess is amazing. I love the possibility of mating someone with only one piece, a chess variant created by



Super Knight training Tracy McGrady's Chess Camp

GM Yasser Seirawan and Bruce Harper in 2007. This chess game uses a normal chess board but each side has two pieces in hand (a hawk and an elephant). The elephant moves as a rook or a knight, and the hawk moves like a bishop or a knight. The elephant and the hawk are introduced to the game in the following way: whenever the player moves a piece (king, queen, knight, bishop or rook) from its starting position (that hasn't already been moved), one of the pieces in hand may be placed immediately on the square just vacated. One cannot use the placing of an elephant or hawk to block check. If the player moves all his pieces from the first rank without placing one or both in hand, he forfeits the right to do so. After castling, the player may put one of the pieces in hand on either the king's or the rook's square, but he may not place both pieces in hand in the same turn. Pawns may promote to a hawk or an elephant in this game (in addition to the normal chess pieces). This link has the rules: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seirawan_chess#Rules

When notating games in algebraic notation, the letter E is used for the Elephant and H for the Hawk. If the player places one of the two pieces on the board, it is written after a slash. For example, 1. Nc3/E means that the player moved his knight from b1 to c3 and placed the elephant on b1.

With these varied chess games and a consistent practice of tactics puzzles many of my class D players 1200-1399 = 'D' player - usually a beginner, class C players, 1400-1599 = 'C' player - average club or tournament player, and class B players, 1600-1799 = 'B' player - consistently above average, have increased their ratings by 200 points per year on average.

We travel quite a bit to tournaments all over the country and even overseas. One of our favorite places to travel for varied styles and types of chess in New Orleans. Michael Tisserand, native New Orleanian, author of *Krazy: George Herriman, a Life in Black and White*, a New York Times Notable Book of 2017, has invited The Chess Academy to NOLA, New Orleans,

Chess Fest every year. One year at the New Orleans Chess Fest, we hung out with GM Irina Krush and played in the Bug House Tournament with Master Rene Phillips, Master Nick Matta and a few other notable chess greats like GM Varuzhan Akobian. I asked Master Akobian if there was any harm in playing all of these variations of chess as he played a pickup game and his response was not what I expected. He says that he loves it. So, we played hours of Blitz and Bughouse.

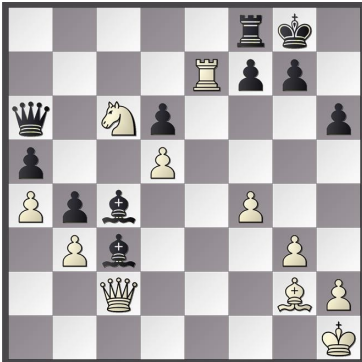
Although few will ever become Grand Masters teaching and practicing these varied variations of chess will make your chess better; however, not everyone that plays a sport can teach. Try teaching an adolescent how to tie his shoes or shoot the perfect free throw. Most Master Teachers make this simple task look easy although any novice in education will testify doing and teaching or two totally different things. The choice then becomes which to pursue, becoming an Expert, Master, the top of the chess food chain Grand Master or Master Coach. If the former choices are made, one improves himself. However; if the latter is made one improves an infinitesimal number of students. The old saying, "Feed a man a fish, you'll feed him once. Teach him how to fish and you have fed him a lifetime." The consummate conundrum then is can it be possible to do both; become a great teacher of chess and a great player simultaneously.

I concur wholeheartedly with my coach buddy and friend John Hyltin in San Antonio, a frequent contributor to Texas Knights, about playing competitively versus coaching chess. I've been trying to explain this to my former students turned Chess Coaches for years. John nailed it in a recent post on social media. He played in the Austin-San Antonio, chess tournament. He says in that recent post, "Computer analysis post game was not kind to my efforts. Luckily, what I lacked in technical accuracy I made up for in competitive tenacity, and I got back to doing all the 'little things' right. I managed to score a win and a draw against a barely higher rated opponent. I love playing interesting moves and competitive games against a tough opponent."

I chose to be the best Chess Coach possible as opposed to being a great player years ago. It is beyond difficult to do both. One has to cease one and focus on the other. It is a quandary of an oxymoron. Most think the opposite. I too play 2nd, 3rd and 4th best moves against my students. I lost a clear win to an adult student 500 points below my rating with less powerful material and a far better position because of this very fact. It is a very difficult decision if you are a "winner." Psychology, makes you wonder if you are any good at chess at all. My students practice all these variations of chess, tactics puzzles and against computers. This has been proven repeatedly by the multiple championships we've won that the decision I made; however, was correct for them and me. Frequently after practice, it's common to hear, "Anyone want to play Blitz, Bughouse or Super Knight?!"

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.**



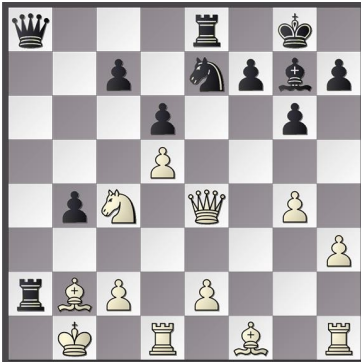
1. Arthur Guo – S. Matsenko
84th Southwest Open 2018
 Black to Move



2. M. Dejmek – Al Ostrovskiy
84th Southwest Open 2018
 Black to Move



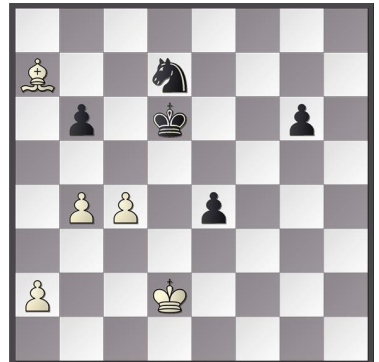
3. Levy Rozman – Daniel Hung
84th Southwest Open 2018
 White to Move



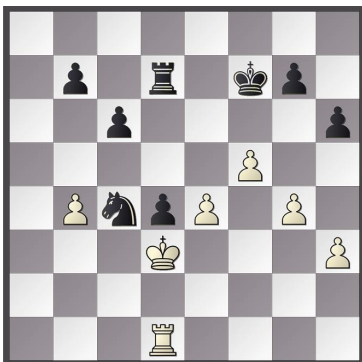
4. A. Vivekananthan – D. Berczes
84th Southwest Open 2018
 Black to Move



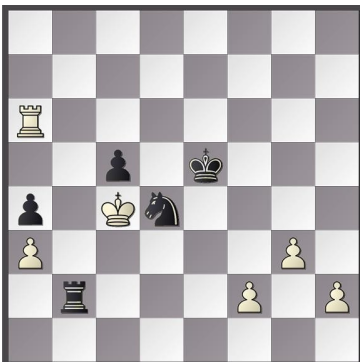
5. G. Popilski – Levy Rozman
84th Southwest Open 2018
 White to Move



6. Razvan Preotu – Emil Stefanov
84th Southwest Open 2018
 White to Move



7. Rithik Polavaram – J. Sadorra
84th Southwest Open 2018
 Black to Move



8. Balaji Daggupati – Ey Nakar
84th Southwest Open 2018
 Black to Move

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www.amazon.com/dp/B014AL1FRG/

USCF TOP PLAYERS FOR TEXAS - Sept. 15, 2018

Overall		
9	Xiong, Jeffery	2726
12	Onischuk, Alexander	2718
21	Stukopin, Andrew	2687
25	Dragun, Kamil	2673
27	Li, Ruifeng	2668
30	Sadorra, Julio C	2659
46	Macieja, Bartlomiej	2605
54	Gorovets, Andrew	2578
54	Kadric, Denis	2578
56	Yang, Darwin	2575
59	Preotu, Razvan	2571
62	Hevia Alejano, Carlos Antonio	2570
67	Zierk, Steven	2565
76	Hernandez, Holden	2553
82	Vazquez, Guillermo	2542
84	Arribas Lopez, Angel	2539
85	Rao, Prasanna Raghuram	2537
88	Drozdzowski, Kacper	2534
91	Bitoon, Richard Balansag	2528
Age 65 and Over		
36	Hulse, Brian	2200
36	Simms, Gary	2200
60	Malazarte, Ernesto L	2199
93	Probasco, Robert D	2065
Age 50 and Over		
73	Hayward, Keith R	2259
82	Feinstein, Michael J	2244
85	Land, Chris K	2242
Under Age 21		
2	Xiong, Jeffery	2726
4	Li, Ruifeng	2668
9	Preotu, Razvan	2571
28	Wang, Justin	2461
55	Yim, Sungho	2395
73	Liu, Bovey	2356
82	He, Tommy	2340
84	Lin, Dachev	2336
99	Vaidya, Atulya	2315
Age 18		
16	He, Tommy	2340
17	Lin, Dachev	2336
31	Capocyan, Sam Lander Cabrera	2204
48	Nguyen, Anthony Quan	2140
54	Moore, Alex Michael	2123
98	Lakshmanadoss, Karthikeyan	1940
Age 17		
2	Xiong, Jeffery	2726
9	Liu, Bovey	2356
19	Frenkel, Benjamin	2248
28	Hullahalli, Adarsh	2213
69	Devagharan, Devina	2084
85	Logozar, Elijah	2025
87	Premkumar, Hiren	2017
90	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2011
98	Nguyen, Khoa Minh	1991
Age 16		
1	Li, Ruifeng	2668
16	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2307
27	Kirumaki, Ronit	2202
35	Xie, Tianming	2170
53	Mohammadi, Sina	2084
56	Kao, Camille Y	2076
59	Eliezer, Segev	2071
61	Palang, Warren Jesse	2059
73	Dammann, Jorn Fabian	2033
79	Krishnan, Aadarsh	2018
87	Srivatsav, Aadarsh	1997

Age 16 (continued)		
89	Rose, Samuel Edward	1990
97	Sonawane, Atharv	1968
Age 15		
17	Kung, Thomas	2239
43	Huang, Max	2101
46	Mao, Andrew Sun-Rong	2088
48	Liu, Kevin	2079
52	Buergler, Jacob	2069
53	Huo, Rannon	2067
60	Ganesh, Anirudh	2059
62	Fan, William G	2049
73	Tsuei, Kai	2003
79	Frutos, Chase	1994
82	Nguyen, Dang Minh	1987
88	Bandi, Rohit Choudary	1973
Age 14		
10	Vivekananthan, Anish	2276
39	Peng, Peter	2106
45	Rajaram, Rudransh	2072
46	Niu, Baron T	2068
52	Hawthorn, Charles	2044
59	Ganthapodi, Maanav S	2015
60	Yan, Austin K	2010
68	Frutos, Cole	1980
73	Deleon, Carlos	1972
90	Walmer, Benjamin James	1941
97	Balderas, Adolfo Augusto, Jr	1929
97	Romo, Benjamin	1929
Age 13		
2	Wang, Justin	2461
11	Metpally, Jason	2206
12	Hung, Daniel	2204
29	Vaidya, Atreya	2089
31	Wang, Yanke	2064
32	Kumarappan, Ganesh	2058
40	Hawthorn, Henry	2033
50	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2002
53	Rorrer, Grayson	1994
59	Yeung, Wesley	1973
61	McNutt, William Howard	1963
67	Yellamraju, Ambica	1947
75	Ramesh, Sreenevash	1939
85	Zhu, Harvey	1912
86	Ma, Albert Z	1910
89	Zheng, Peter	1902
Age 12		
5	Polavaram, Rithik Sai	2219
18	Gundam, Rohit	2118
27	Trakru, Rohun	2086
32	Oberoi, Shelev	2040
49	Mei, Austin R	1937
57	Yang, Benjamin	1919
83	Casas, Michael	1828
84	Deviprasath, Sharvesh	1825
86	Tang, Andrew	1816
Age 11		
33	Pathak, Rudransh	1912
46	Capocyan, John Patrick	1866
60	Ahmed, Kabir	1825
89	Welsh, Vinh	1729
Age 10		
28	Sheehan, Ethan	1898
40	Gardezi, Arsal	1823
62	Jin, Qiheng	1751
63	Wang, Kalia Yuke	1747
65	Nandhakumar, Vaseegaran	1740
87	Raguraja, Sri Avishkar	1668

Regardless of Residence or Federation

Age 10 (continued)		
88	Bai, Yang	1666
88	Zhang, Andrew H	1666
92	Lance, Ethan Rockwell	1652
96	Yu, Justin	1642
Age 9		
4	Kunka, Harshid	1958
11	Gutla, Aryan	1863
53	Elangovan, Ramya	1606
59	Melillo, Lucius Fox	1583
69	Jin, Tony	1552
83	Gao, Tianwen	1524
98	Miramontes, Luis	1472
Age 8		
2	Li, Rachael	1983
13	Woodward, Andy Austin	1737
40	Zhang, Sunny	1470
44	He, Logan	1447
47	Mei, Ethan R	1436
60	Gao, Alexander	1377
61	Li, Jacob	1376
73	Qin, Samuel	1322
86	Qin, Timothy	1280
88	Veremjov, Mihail	1279
92	Chang, Luca	1269
94	Liu, Eric Chang	1260
Age 7 and Under		
24	Meng, Joshua	1235
27	Raguraja, Sri Yashvi	1222
43	Ramanujakootam, Nehaan	1112
52	Anderson, Klym Renaud	1090
53	Sunil, Arush	1085
59	Abbasnia, Artin	1064
71	Wei, Colin	1039
73	Lau, Andrew	1033
89	He, Justin Shandong	1009
94	Lopez, Abram Mattias	1004
96	Munsayac, Calvin	1000
97	Tucker, Gavin Wayne	996
Women Overall		
14	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2307
17	Apecheche, Yanira Vigoa	2286
18	Heredia, Carla	2280
21	Danelia, Mariam	2270
24	Andrenko, Iryna	2266
30	Chiang, Sarah	2234
64	Devagharan, Devina	2084
68	Kao, Camille Y	2076
81	Munoz, Claudia Elizabeth	2050
90	Trakru, Priya Nikita	2011
93	Alston, Angela Jennifer	2008
95	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2002
98	Root, Alexey Wilhelmina	2000
Women Age 65 and Over		
5	O'Neill, Julia	1800
20	Hardesty, Brenda	1216
27	Bundrant, Diana	477
Women Age 50 and Over		
5	Alston, Angela Jennifer	2008
7	Root, Alexey Wilhelmina	2000
15	O'Neill, Julia	1800
56	Hardesty, Brenda	1216
70	Jamison, Helen	1040
72	Lamont, Olga Alexandra	968
75	Irwin, Marla	934
90	Bundrant, Diana	477

Tactics Time! Answers

Answers:

1. **30...Bxd5!** White cannot recapture because of **31.Bxd5 Qf1#**
 2. **13...h4** traps the Bishop. Variation from the game.
 3. **27.Ba6** skewers the Queen and Rook.
 4. **22...Ra1+ 23.Bxa1 Qxa1#** Variation from the game.
 5. **32.Bd5** attacks the pinned knight, winning a piece.
 6. **37.Bxb6!** Saves the bishop which at first appears to be trapped. If **37...Nxb6 38.c5+** forking the Knight and King and transitioning into a winning endgame.
 7. **44...Nb2+** forks the King and Rook.
 8. Black has a cute, pure checkmate with **48...Rc2+ 49.Kd3 c4+ 50.Ke3 Re2#**.
- Cover.** **18...Rxh2+ 19.Kxh2 Qh4+ 20.Bh3 Qg3+ 21.Kh1 Qxh3+ 22.Qh2 Qxf1+ 23.Qg1 Qxg1#**

Want more original chess tactics from real games like these? Get Tactics Time delivered straight to your e-mail mailbox for FREE! Sign-up at tacticstime.com.

Election Results

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
Eddie Rios: 44 Votes	Forrest Marler: 85 Votes	Lonann French: 109 Votes	Barb Swafford: 112 Votes
Tom Crane: 77 Votes	Estanislao Anzaldúa: 32 Votes		
1 Abstention	5 Abstentions	13 Abstentions	10 Abstentions
Tom Crane Wins	Forrest Marler Wins	Lonann French Wins	Barb Swafford Wins

9th Annual Scott Watson Memorial Scholarship Classic

October 13, 2018

Lively Pointe Youth Center-909 N. O'Connor, Irving, Tx 75063

Eight Sections: High School Scholarship Champ, Middle School Champ, Elementary Champ, Elem U700, Primary Champ, Primary U500, Not Rated Parents & Friends Challenge. **Trophies:** Top 3 @ Section, Medals 2.5+ scores, Top 3 Teams @ Section.

Special Awards HS Section: 2-\$1,000 Scholarships: Top Finisher-Irving City Limits HS Individual, Top Finisher-Non-Irving City Limits HS Individual. Also Trophies For Irving HS Team Champion, Irving HS Individual Champion, Top U1200, U1000, U700 and U500 not winning higher place trophy. Medals for Scores of 2.5+ not earning trophies. Round 5 changed Time Control to Game/45, 5 second delay.

Entry Fee: \$30 before Oct 10, \$50 thereafter, 5 Rounds US Chess Rated, Time Control G/30;5 seconds delay. **Round 1:** 9:00 AM, remaining rounds ASAP.

Mail Entries to: Scott Watson Memorial, 1807 Pueblo Place, Irving, Texas 75061-2243.

Online entries: www.eventbrite.com, *search for* Scott Watson Chess.

On-site Registration: 10/13/2018. 8-8:30 AM, for late Registrants.

Chief TD/Organizer has the right to impose first round half point byes.
Current Ratings used for section and pairing purposes at sole discretion of Chief TD.

Questions: Rob Jones - robjoneschess@gmail.com or 214-212-0185

Memories from the 2018 Southwest Open

Photos provided by Jim Hollingsworth



*Tom Crane and Shereya Kirumaki
1st Place Scholastic K-12 U1000 Champion*



*K-12 Team Champions
Imagine International Academy of North Texas*



*U1000 Team Champions
Glenhope Elementary, Colleyville*



Eddie Rios, Renate Garcia and Jim Hollingsworth



Franc Guadalupe prepping for the Tournament



*Jeff French, J.P. Hyltin, Louis Reed, Jim Hollingsworth,
Lonann French and Tom Crane after lunch at Denny's*



Luis Salinas with Jim Hollingsworth



Louis Reed with Tom and Jo Ann Crane



*Tom Crane, Claudia Munoz, Louis Reed,
Lonann and Jeff French following the TCA Meeting*



Participants playing and admirers quietly watching at the 2018 Southwest Open

Games Index

Description	ECO	Result	Annotated by	Round	Date	Page(s)
84th Southwest Open+						
Jeffery Xiong (2650) vs Cameron Wheeler (2406)	D44	1-0		1.1	8/30/2018	21
Nicolas Chica (2478) vs Jeffery Ziong (2650)	D41	0-1		2.1	8/31/2018	21
Andy Lin (2274) vs Emily Nguyen (2194)	A07	0-1		2.21	8/31/2018	21
Jeffery Xiong (2650) vs G. Popilski (2491)	E62	1-0		3.1	9/1/2018	21
Al Chua (2332) vs Shelev Oberoi (1896)	E68	1-0		3.16	9/1/2018	21-22
Justin Wang (2391) vs Thomas Kung (2132)	C67	1-0		4.19	9/1/2018	22
Emily Nguyen (2194) vs Robert Sanchez (1834)	E11	1-0		5.21	9/1/2018	22
Razvan Preotu (2513) vs Jeffery Xiong (2650)	B90	0-1		6.1	9/2/2018	22-23
Justin Wang (2391) vs M. Dejmek (1998)	B76	1-0		6.18	9/2/2018	23
Emily Nguyen (2194) vs T. Stremavicius (2467)	A44	1-0		7.15	9/2/2018	23
2018 Texas Seniors Championship						
Thomas E. Crane vs Gregg Stanley	B06	0-1			7/14/2018	23
J. Carrizale vs Chris Land	B02	0-1			7/14/2018	23
2018 US Senior Tournament of Champions						
Gregg Stanley (2171) vs Chris Land (2263)	C44	1/2-1/2			9/2018	24
Mark Allen Hulse (2238) vs Gregg Stanley (2171)	B06	0-1			9/2018	24
2018 US Junior Girls Championship						
Emily Nguyen (2215) vs Maggie Feng (2238)	C06	1-0	Emily Nguyen	7.	7/19/2018	24-25
Austin Chess Club 4th Summer Open+						
Emily Nguyen (2292) vs Priya Takru (1979)	D47	1-0		1.	7/7/2018	25-26
Emily Nguyen (2292) vs Rohith Kaliyur (2059)	D00	1-0		3.	7/7/2018	26
Michael Langer (2309) vs Drew Sarkisian (2000)	A42	1-0	Michael Langer	4.	7/8/2018	26
Vacfi Gucer (1988) vs Graham Free (2150)	A11	1-0		4.	7/8/2018	26-27
Camille Kao (2024) vs Michael Langer (2306)	D02	1/2-1/2		5.	7/8/2018	27
2018 Houston Chess Festival						
Nicholas Matta (2270) vs Alexander Chua (2413)	E06	0-1	Alex Chua		7/2018	27-28
1st Longhorn Open						
Aurelio Gonzales (1693) vs Jim Hollingsworth (1594)	B85	0-1		5.2	11/1982	28-29
Fundraiser TXAFCC*						
Chris Wood (1364) vs Christopher Wright (1208)	B02	1-0		2.3	8/11/2018	29
2018 US Open*						
Awonder Liang (2569) vs Ruifeng Li (2583)	A28	1/2-1/2		7.	8/3/2018	29
Ruifeng Li (2583) vs Alexander Shabalov (2567)	B08	1-0		8.	8/4/2018	29
Alexander Fishbein (2455) vs Ruifeng Li (2583)	A15	1/2-1/2		9.	8/5/2018	29
2018 US Junior Championships*+						
John M. Burke (2524) vs Ruifeng Li (2583)	B00	0-1		7.	7/19/2018	29

Legend: + = Additional Games in games.pgn file.

* = No Article Associated with Games

Xiong,Jeffery (2650)
Wheeler,Cameron (2406)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6
4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Nc3 Nc6
6.Bf4 Bf5 7.Qb3 Na5
8.Qa4+ Bd7 9.Qc2 Rc8
10.e3 b5 11.a3 g6 12.Bd3
Bg7 13.Qe2 Nc4 14.0-0 0-0
15.Rfc1 Qb6 16.Ne5 Be6
17.h3 Rfd8 18.b3 Nxe5
19.Bxe5 Ne4 20.Nxb5
Bxe5 21.dxe5 Nc5 22.Bc2
Bd7 23.Nd4 f6 24.b4 Ne6
25.Nf3 f5 26.Bb3 Bc6
27.Qd2 Kg7 28.Nd4 Nxd4
29.exd4 h6 30.Rc5 e6
31.Rac1 Bd7 32.Bd1 Qa6
33.a4 Qb7 34.b5 a6
35.Qa5 axb5 36.Rc7 Qb8
37.axb5 Kg8 38.b6 1-0

Checa,Nicolas (2478)
Xiong,Jeffery (2650)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5
4.Nc3 c5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4
Nxc3 7.bxc3 cxd4 8.cxd4
Bb4+ 9.Bd2 Bxd2+
10.Qxd2 0-0 11.Bd3 Nc6
12.Qc3 Bd7 13.0-0 Rc8
14.Qb2 Na5 15.Rac1 Bc6
16.Rfd1 Qd6 17.Rc5 Ba4
18.Rdc1 Rxc5 19.Rxc5 b6
20.Rg5 Qf4 21.Rg3 Rc8
22.Nd2 Qc7 23.Qb4 Qc3
24.Qxa4 Qxd2 25.h3 Rc1+
26.Kh2 Nc6 27.Rf3 Qb4
28.Qxb4 Nxb4 29.Bb5 Kf8

30.a3 Na2 31.Rd3 Nc3
32.Bc6 Nd1 33.Bb7 Nxf2
34.Rf3 Nd1 35.d5 Rc3
36.Rf1 Ne3 37.Rf3 Ke7
38.d6+ Kxd6 39.Rxf7
Rxa3 40.Rxg7 b5 41.Rxh7
b4 42.e5+ Kxe5 43.Rh5+
Kd6 44.Rb5 b3 45.Be4
Nf1+ 46.Kg1 Nd2 47.Bg6
a6 48.Rb6+ Ke5 49.h4 Kf6
50.Bh7 a5 51.Bg8 Nc4 0-1

Lin,Andy (2274)
Nguyen,Emily (2194)

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 c5
4.0-0 g6 5.c4 d4 6.e3 Nc6
7.exd4 cxd4 8.b4 Nxb4
9.Ne5 Nd7 10.Qa4 Na6
11.Ba3 Qc7 12.Re1 e6
13.Nd3 Nac5 14.Qc2 Bg7
15.Nxc5 Nxc5 16.Bxc5
Qxc5 17.d3 0-0 18.Nd2
Qc7 19.Reb1 Rb8 20.a4
Bd7 21.a5 Bc6 22.Qa2 e5
23.Qa3 Bxg2 24.Kxg2 f5
25.Re1 Rbe8 26.f3 Qc6
27.Qa4 Bh6 28.Nb3 Qd6
29.Qb5 Re7 30.c5 Qd5
31.Ra4 Be3 32.Qc4 Qxc4
33.Rxc4 Rf6 34.Re2 Kf7
35.Rb4 Rc6 36.Kf1 Rd7
37.Rc2 Ke6 38.Ke2 Kd5
39.Rcc4 g5 40.Kf1 h5
41.Rb5 e4 42.Rcb4 exd3
43.Rxb7 Rxb7 44.Rxb7
Kc4 45.Ke1 Kc3 46.Kd1
d2 47.Na1 Rxc5 48.Nc2
Rxa5 49.Rc7+ Kb3

50.Rb7+ Kc4 51.Ke2 d3+
52.Kxe3 d1Q 0-1

Xiong,Jeffery (2650)
Popilski,G (2491)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d6 3.g3 g6
4.Bg2 Bg7 5.0-0 0-0 6.c4
c6 7.Nc3 Qa5 8.e4 Qh5
9.Re1 e5 10.d5 Bg4
11.Qd3 Bh3 12.Bg5 h6
13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.dxc6
Nxc6 15.Nd5 Bd8 16.Bxh3
Qxh3 17.b4 Bb6 18.Rac1
Kg7 19.Nxb6 axb6 20.b5
Nd8 21.Qxd6 Qe6
22.Qxe5+ Qxe5 23.Nxe5
Rxa2 24.Rcd1 Ne6 25.Rd7
Ng5 26.Kg2 Re8 27.Rd5
Rc2 28.Re3 Re7 29.h4 Nh7
30.Nd7 Rxc4 31.e5 Nf8
32.Nxb6 Rc2 33.Rd6 Rc5
34.Nd5 Rd7 35.Nf6 Re7
36.Rd5 Rxd5 37.Nxd5
Rd7 38.Nf6 Rd8 39.h5 g5
40.Ne4 Rd5 41.Nd6 Nd7
42.f4 gxf4 43.gxf4 Kf8
44.Kf3 Nc5 45.Ra3 f6
46.Ra8+ Ke7 47.Nf5+ Kd7
48.Nxh6 fxe5 49.Nf7 1-0

Chua,Al (2332)
Oberoi,Shelev (1896)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nf3
Nbd7 4.g3 e5 5.Bg2 g6
6.Nc3 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.e4
exd4 9.Nxd4 Re8 10.h3
Nc5 11.Re1 a5 12.Ndb5

Be6 13.Bf1 Bd7 14.f3 h6
15.Be3 b6 16.Qd2 Kh7
17.Rad1 Bc6 18.Bf2 Nfd7
19.b3 Ne5 20.Nd4 Bb7
21.Re3 Nc6 22.Ndb5 Na7
23.Kh2 h5 24.Ree1 Nxb5
25.Nxb5 Qd7 26.h4 Qe7
27.Bd4 Ne6 28.Bxg7 Kxg7
29.Nc3 Qf6 30.Nd5 Bxd5
31.cxd5 Nc5 32.Re3 g5
33.hxg5 Qxg5 34.Bh3 Kh8
35.Qd4+ f6 36.f4 Qg7
37.Rh1 Re7 1-0

Wang,Justin (2391) –
Kung,Thomas (2132)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5
Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6
6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 0-0 8.d4
Nxe5 9.Rxe5 Bf6 10.Re1
Nf5 11.c3 d5 12.Nd2 c6
13.Nf3 Nh4 14.Nxh4 Bxh4
15.Bd3 g6 16.Bf4 Bg5
17.Be5 Re8 18.Qc2 Bh6
19.Bg3 Be6 20.h4 Qd7
21.Be5 Qe7 22.h5 f6
23.Bh2 gxh5 24.Re2 Qf7
25.Rae1 Bd7 26.c4 Rxe2
27.Rxe2 Re8 28.cxd5 Rxe2
29.Bxe2 cxd5 30.Bf3 h4
31.Qc5 Bc6 32.Qxa7 Qe6
33.Qb8+ Kg7 34.Bd6 Kg6
35.Kh2 h3 36.gxh3 Qf5
37.Qg8+ Bg7 38.Bf8 Qxf3
39.Qxg7+ Kf5 40.Qxh7+
Ke6 41.Qe7+ Kf5 42.Qe3
Qxe3 43.fxe3 Ke4 44.Bh6

Kf3 45.Bg7 Kxe3 46.Bxf6
Kf3 47.Kg1 Be8 48.Kf1 b5
49.Ke1 Ke3 50.Kd1 Kd3
51.h4 Bg6 52.Kc1 Bf7
53.a3 Be8 54.Bh8 Bg6
55.Bg7 Be8 56.Bf6 Bg6
57.b3 Be8 58.Kb2 Kd2
59.Be7 Kd3 60.Bc5 Kd2
61.Bb4+ Kd3 62.Bc3 Bg6
63.a4 bxa4 64.bxa4 Kc4
65.a5 Kb5 66.Kc1 Kc6
67.Kd2 Be4 68.Ke3 Bg6
69.Kf4 Bd3 70.h5 Kd6
71.h6 Kd7 72.Kg5 1-0

Nguyen,Emily (2194)
Sanchez,Robert (1834)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4
Bb4+ 4.Nbd2 b6 5.a3
Bxd2+ 6.Qxd2 Bb7 7.e3
Ne4 8.Qc2 0-0 9.Bd3 f5
10.0-0 Rf6 11.Ne1 Rh6
12.f3 Qh4 13.h3 Ng3
14.Rf2 Rg6 15.d5 Na6
16.b4 Rf8 17.Bb2 Nh5
18.Kh2 Qg3+ 19.Kh1 e5
20.Rf1 Qg5 21.Bxe5 Qxe3
22.Bh2 Qg5 23.f4 Qf6
24.Nf3 d6 25.g4 fxg4
26.Bxg6 Qxg6 27.Qxg6
hxg6 28.hxg4 Nf6 29.g5
Ng4 30.Nd4 Ne3 31.Rfc1
Nxc4 32.Nc6 Ne3 33.Kg1
Nxd5 34.Nxa7 Nxf4
35.Bxf4 Rxf4 36.Nb5
Rg4+ 37.Kh2 Rxg5
38.Nxc7 Nb8 39.Ne8 Rd5

40.Rc7 1-0

Preotu,Razvan (2513)
Xiong,Jeffery (2650)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6
6.Be3 e5 7.Nf3 Qc7 8.a4
Be6 9.Ng5 Bd7 10.Be2 h6
11.Nf3 Be6 12.0-0 Qc6
13.Qd3 Nbd7 14.Rfd1 Nc5
15.Bxc5 Qxc5 16.Nd2 Rc8
17.Nf1 Be7 18.Ne3 0-0
19.Bf3 Qb4 20.Ne2 Nd7
21.Qa3 Qxa3 22.Rxa3 Bg5
23.Rd2 Rc6 24.Rc3 Nc5
25.a5 Rfc8 26.Rd1 Na4
27.Rxc6 Rxc6 28.b3 Bxe3
29.fxe3 Nc5 30.Nd4 exd4
31.exd4 Nd7 32.d5 Bxd5
33.Rxd5 Kf8 34.c4 Ke7
35.Kf2 Rc5 36.Ke3 Ne5
37.Kd4 Rxa5 38.Rxa5
Nc6+ 39.Kc3 Nxa5 40.b4
Nc6 41.Bg4 Kd8 42.c5 Ne5
43.Be2 Kc7 44.Kd4 Nc6+
45.Kc4 Nb8 46.Kd5 dxc5
47.bxc5 Nc6 48.e5 a5
49.Bd1 Ne7+ 50.Kd4 Nc6+
51.Kd5 Kd7 52.Ba4 Ke7
53.Bxc6 bxc6+ 54.Kxc6 a4
55.Kb6 a3 56.c6 a2 57.c7
a1Q 58.c8Q Qb2+ 59.Ka7
Qa2+ 60.Kb8 Qb3+
61.Ka7 Qa4+ 62.Kb6
Qb4+ 63.Ka6 Qa3+
64.Kb6 Qb2+ 65.Ka7
Qf2+ 66.Ka6 Qa2+

67.Kb5 Qd5+ 68.Kb4
Qxg2 69.Qc7+ Ke6
70.Qd6+ Kf5 71.Qd7+
Kg6 72.Qd3+ Kg5 73.Kc5
Qf2+ 74.Kc6 h5 75.Qd8+
Kg6 76.Qd6+ Kh7
77.Qd3+ g6 78.h3 Qf5
79.Qe3 Qe6+ 80.Kb5 Kg8
81.Qg3 Qf5 82.Kc4 g5
83.Kd4 Kg7 84.Qc3 Qd7+
85.Ke4 Kg6 86.Qg3 Qf5+
87.Ke3 Qf1 88.Qh2 Qc4
89.Qb2 Qf4+ 90.Kd3 Qf3+
91.Kd4 Qxh3 92.Qb6+
Qe6 0-1

Wang,Justin (2391)
Dejmek,M (1998)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6
6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2
Nc6 9.0-0-0 d5 10.exd5
Nxd5 11.Nxc6 bxc6
12.Bd4 Bxd4 13.Qxd4
Qb6 14.Na4 Qc7 15.Bc4
Rd8 16.g4 Be6 17.Nc5 Nf4
18.Nxe6 Nxe6 19.Qe4
Qf4+ 20.Qxf4 Nxf4
21.Rhe1 Kf8 22.Ba6 Rab8
23.c3 g5 24.b4 h6 25.a4 e6
26.Kc2 Ng2 27.Re4 Rxd1
28.Kxd1 Rd8+ 29.Kc2
Rd7 30.Bf1 Nf4 31.Bc4
Ke7 32.h4 f6 33.hxg5 hxg5
34.Re1 Kf8 35.Rh1 Kg8
36.a5 Kg7 37.Bb3 f5
38.Ba4 Rd6 39.Rd1 Rxd1

40.Kxd1 fxg4 41.fxg4 Kf6
42.Bxc6 Ke5 43.Kd2 Ng6
44.Ke3 Ne7 45.Bb7 Ng8
46.Bf3 Nf6 47.c4 Ne8
48.b5 Nd6 49.Kd3 Kf4
50.Bc6 Kxg4 51.c5 Nf7
52.Kd4 Kf4 53.b6 axb6
54.cxb6 Ne5 55.Kc5 1-0

Nguyen,Emily (2194)
Stremavicius,T (2467)

1.d4 c5 2.d5 e5 3.e4 d6
4.Nc3 a6 5.a4 Be7 6.Bd3
Bg5 7.Nf3 Bxc1 8.Qxc1
Ne7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nd2 Nd7
11.Nc4 Nb6 12.Ne3 a5
13.Nb5 Ng6 14.g3 Bh3
15.Re1 Qf6 16.Bf1 Bd7
17.Qd2 Ne7 18.Qd3 Qg6
19.Qb3 Nbc8 20.Nc4 b6
21.Nbxd6 Qf6 22.Nb5 Rb8
23.Rad1 Bxb5 24.Qxb5
Nd6 25.Nxd6 Qxd6
26.Bh3 Rbd8 27.Qd3 Qh6
28.Kg2 Nc8 29.Bxc8 Rxc8
30.d6 Rfd8 31.Qd5 Qe6
32.c4 Qxd5 33.Rxd5 f6
34.f4 exf4 35.gxf4 Kf7
36.e5 fxe5 37.fxe5 Ke6
38.Rf1 Rb8 39.Rf4 Rb7
40.Kf3 b5 41.Rxc5 bxc4
42.Rfxc4 Rxb2 43.Rc8
Rd7 44.Re8+ Kd5 45.Rc7
Rb7 46.Rxd7 Rxd7 47.Re7
Rd8 48.d7 Ra8 1-0



Crane,Thomas E.
Stanley,Gregg

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6
4.Bc4 a6 5.c3 Nc6 6.0-0
Nf6 7.Re1 0-0 8.Bg5 h6
9.Bxf6 Bxf6 10.Nbd2 e5
11.Nf1 Bg4 12.d5 Ne7
13.Be2 h5 14.Ne3 Bd7
15.c4 Kg7 16.b4 Ng8
17.Qc2 Be7 18.c5 Nf6
19.Bd3 Ng4 20.h3 Nh6
21.a3 f5 22.Rac1 f4 23.Nc4
g5 24.Qb2 Nf7 25.cxd6
cxd6 26.Re2 g4 27.hxg4
hxg4 28.Nh2 Rh8 29.f3 g3
30.Ng4 Bxg4 31.fxg4 0-1

Carrizale,J.
Land,Chris

1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.e5 Ne4
4.Nxe4 dxe4 5.Bc4 Qd4
6.Qe2 Nc6 7.e6 Bxe6
8.Bxe6 fxe6 9.Nh3 Qe5
10.c3 g6 11.d4 exd3
12.Qxe5 Nxe5 13.0-0 0-0-0
14.Re1 Nc4 15.Ng5 d2
16.Bxd2 Rxd2 17.b3 Nd6
18.Nxe6 Bh6 19.c4 Re8
20.g3 Nf5 21.Re4 Bg7
22.Rae1 Bc3 23.R1e2
Rxe2 0-1



Stanley, Gregg (2171)
Land, Chris (2263) [C44]

1.e4 Nf6 2.d3 e5 3.Nf3 Nc6
4.Nbd2 Bc5 5.Nb3 Bb6
6.Be2 d6 7.Be3 Qe7
8.Bxb6 axb6 9.Nbd2 h6
10.c3 d5 11.Qc2 Be6 12.0-0
0-0 13.Rfe1 Rfe8 14.a3
Rad8 15.Bf1 Nd7 16.exd5
Bxd5 17.d4 Bxf3 18.Nxf3
Qf6 19.d5 Ne7 20.c4 Nf5
21.Rad1 g6 22.b4 Qd6
23.Qc1 Kg7 24.Nd2 Nd4
25.Ne4 Qf8 26.Qb2 f6
27.Bd3 Ra8 28.Bb1 Ra7
½-½

Hulsey, Mark Allen (2238)
Stanley, Gregg (2171)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6
4.Nf3 a6 5.Bc4 b5 6.Bb3
Bb7 7.0-0 e6 8.a3 Nd7
9.Bg5 Ne7 10.Qd2 h6
11.Be3 Nf6 12.e5 Ng4
13.exd6 cxd6 14.Ne1 Nxe3
15.fxe3 0-0 16.Nd3 Qb6
17.Nf4 Kh7 18.Qd3 Nf5
19.Rad1 Rae8 20.Nce2 e5
21.Nh5 exd4 22.Nxg7
Kxg7 23.exd4 Ne3 24.Nf4
Nxd1 25.Bxf7 Re4
26.Ne6+ Rxe6 27.Bxe6
Rxf1+ 28.Kxf1 Nxb2
29.Qe2 Qc7 30.d5 Nc4 0-1



Nguyen, Emily (2215)
Feng, Maggie (2238)

1.d4 e6 2.e4 [this was my
first time ever playing the
French (special thanks to
my coach Mike Feinsten for
helping me make this deci-
sion) and I had only
prepped a couple lines]

2...d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 [I mainly
prepped for her Be7 here,
but I also looked at some
lines with Nf6]

4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 b6
[after b6 I had no idea what
to do, which was rather un-
fortunate]

[6...Nc6 Nc6 is the main
move, I think]

7.Ne2 Ba6 8.Bc2 [Bc2 is
actually bad for white ap-
parently, but I had no idea
what theory was here, and I
thought my bishop was bet-
ter than hers so I was sup-
posed to keep it]

[8.Bxa6 Nxa6 9.0-0 is the
main line for white here,
and it's a playable game]

8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Nc6 10.Nf3
Nb4 [this was a dubious

move by Maggie because
her whole plan didn't work
out (as can be seen after the
next couple of moves)]

[10...Rc8 11.0-0 Be7 and
black should be fine here]

11.Bb1 Qc7 12.a3 Bxe2
13.Kxe2 [her whole idea
with Nb4 was probably to
prevent me from castling,
but here I thought my posi-
tion was fine because I had
the bishop pair and there's
not much she can do about
my king]

13...Qc4+ 14.Ke3 [I
thought forever on this
move because I really
wanted to play for the win,
and I thought I would be
either completely lost here
or slightly better, so why
not? I saw that she couldn't
really attack my king, espe-
cially with my bishop on b1
guarding all the key
squares]

[14.Bd3 Nxd3 15.Qxd3
Qxd3+ 16.Kxd3 she proba-
bly calculated this line in
the game and thought eve-
rything would be equal
(which it is); 14.Ke1 Ke1
doesn't work here because

of 14...Rc8 and black is completely fine]

14...g6 [with the idea of Bh6]

15.h4 [my idea was to meet Bh6 with Ng5 and potentially create a space on h2 for my king]

[15.Kf4 Kf4 would have been such a nice move to play during the game, but I missed this move because I thought after 15...Bh6+ 16.Kg3 Bxc1 17.Qxc1 Qxc1 18.Rxc1 I stopped my calculation here because I thought the endgame was drawish again, but this is apparently completely winning for white because black's knights are super awkward 18...Na6 19.Bd3; 15.g4 even g4 is a possibility here, with the idea of meeting Bh6 with g5]

15...Bh6+ 16.Ng5 Nc6 17.f4 [unpinning the knight and creating a space for my king]

17...Ne7 18.g4 [I was super happy with my position here even though it looks completely sketchy because

I thought black's position was super cramped and she couldn't activate any of her pieces]

18...f6 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Bd3 Qc6 21.Kf3 [and now I just have the bishop pair with a relatively safe king and a target to attack one6]

21...0-0 22.Qe2 Bxg5 23.hxg5 Ne4 24.Bxe4 dxe4+ 25.Qxe4 [and now I'm just up a pawn with a still better position. I went on to convert this game relatively easily, and it was definitely really satisfying.]

25...Nd5 26.Bd2 Rf7 27.Kg3 Raf8 28.Rhf1 Re7 29.Rae1 Qb5 30.Re2 Rc8 31.Rfe1 Qb3+ 32.Qf3 Qxf3+ 33.Kxf3 [At this point, after the trade of queens, I'm definitely winning.]

33...Rc2 34.Bc3 Rxe2 35.Rxe2 Kf7 36.Rh2 Ke8 37.Ke4 Kd7 38.Be1 Rf7 39.Bg3 Ne7 40.Rf2 Rf8 41.Rh2 Rf7 42.Rc2 Nd5 43.Rf2 Ne7 44.Rf3 a5 45.Be1 Kd6 46.b4 a4 47.b5 Nd5 48.Bg3 Ke7 49.f5

gxf5+ 50.gxf5 Rf8 51.Bh4 Kd6 52.Bg3+ Ke7 53.Be1 Kd6 54.f6 Rf7 55.Bg3+ Kd7 56.Be5 Ke8 57.Bd6 Rd7 58.Ke5 Kf7 59.Rh3 Rd8 60.Rxh7+ Kg6 61.Rg7+ Kh5 62.f7 Nc3 63.f8Q Rxf8 64.Bxf8 Nxb5 65.Kf6 Nxd4 66.Rh7+ Kg4 67.g6 Nf5 68.g7 Nxg7 69.Rxg7+ Kf4 70.Kxe6 Ke4 71.Rg4+ Kf3 72.Rxa4 Ke3 73.Rb4 Kd3 74.Rxb6 Kc4 75.a4 Kd4 76.a5 Kc4 77.a6 Kd4 78.a7 Kc4 79.a8Q Kd4 80.Qd5+ Kc3 81.Rb3+ Kc2 82.Qd3+ Kc1 83.Ba3# 1-0



Nguyen, Emily (2292)
Takru, Priya (1979)

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 0-0 10.b3 Bb7 11.Bb2 a6 12.a4 b4 13.Ne4 Nxe4 14.Bxe4 Nf6 15.Bd3 c5 16.Qe2 Ne4 17.Rfd1 Qe7 18.a5 Bd5 19.Bc4 Bb7 20.dxc5 Bxc5 21.Nd4 Qh4 22.f3 Ng5 23.Nc2 Qh5 24.Rd7 Bc6 25.Rd2 Qg6 26.Kh1 Qh5 27.Rf1 Rfd8 28.Rxd8+ Rxd8 29.Nd4 Bb7 30.Bxa6 Bxa6

31.Qxa6 Bd6 32.f4 Ne4
33.Kg1 e5 34.Qb5 Bc5
35.fxe5 Qxe5 36.Qc4 Bd6
37.Nf3 Qxb2 38.Qxe4
Qxb3 39.Ng5 g6 40.Rxf7
Bc5 41.Rf3 Rd1+ 42.Kf2
Qb2+ 43.Kg3 Bd6+
44.Kh3 Qg7 45.Qe8+ Bf8
46.Ne6 1-0

Rg8+ 50.Kf3 Rh8 51.h5
Ra8 52.Rb3 Ra6 53.Kg4
Kg7 54.Kg5 Ra5+ 55.f5
Kf7 56.Rb7+ Kg8 57.Kg6
Ra6+ 58.f6 Ra8 59.h6 Kh8
60.Rh7+ Kg8 61.f7+ Kf8
62.Rh8+ Ke7 63.Rxa8
Kd7 64.f8Q Kc6 65.Qc5+
Kb7 66.Ra7+ Kb8
67.Qc7# 1-0

this, but didn't look deeply
enough...]

19...cxd5 20.Rxd7 Qh4
[Only here I noticed the
variation I planned]

[20...Nxc5 21.Rxe7 Nxa4
22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Bb5
winning a piece.]

Nguyen,Emily (2292)
Kaliyur,Rohith (2059)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 d5 3.Bxf6
exf6 4.e3 Bd6 5.c4 dxc4
6.Bxc4 0-0 7.Nc3 c6 8.Nf3
Bg4 9.0-0 Nd7 10.Be2 Re8
11.Qc2 Qe7 12.a3 Rac8
13.b4 Bb8 14.Na4 Qd6
15.g3 Qd5 16.Qd1 b6
17.Rc1 Bd6 18.Kg2 Qh5
19.Ng1 Bxe2 20.Qxe2
Qxe2 21.Nxe2 c5 22.dxc5
bxc5 23.Rfd1 Bf8 24.Rxd7
cxb4 25.Rxc8 Rxc8
26.axb4 Bxb4 27.Rxa7 g6
28.Nb6 Rc6 29.Nd5 Bf8
30.Ne7+ Bxe7 31.Rxe7
Kg7 32.Nd4 Ra6 33.Kf3 f5
34.Rc7 Ra2 35.Ne6+ Kf6
36.Nd8 h5 37.Rxf7+ Ke5
38.Re7+ Kf6 39.Re6+ Kg7
40.Nc6 g5 41.Nd4 g4+
42.Kg2 h4 43.gxh4 f4
44.exf4 Ra4 45.Ne2 Kf7
46.Re3 Rb4 47.Kg3 Kf6
48.Kxg4 Rb8 49.Ng3

Langer,Michael (2309)
Sarkisian,Drew (2000)

1.e4 c6 2.c4 d6 3.d4 g6
4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Nc3 Nd7
6.Be2 e5 7.dxe5 Nxe5
8.Nxe5 dxe5 9.Qc2 Nf6
10.0-0 0-0 11.c5 Nd7?!

[Overly "clever". I wanted
to get Nf6-d7-f8-e6 in as
quickly as possible, but
better was direct develop-
ment:]

[11...Qe7 12.b4 Be6 13.a3
a5]

12.b4 Qe7 13.Ba3 Re8
[Probably better on d8...]

14.b5 Nf8 15.bxc6 bxc6
16.Qa4 Bd7 17.Rab1 a5?
[Weak.]

[17...Red8]

18.Rb7 Ne6 19.Nd5! [I saw

21.Rxd5 Nf4 [Making it
easy. The only chance was]

[21...Nd4 but White is win-
ning.]

22.Bd1 Nxd5 23.exd5
Qxa4 24.Bxa4 Red8 25.d6
Bf8 26.Rd1 1-0

Gucer,Vasfi (1988)
Free,Graham (2150)

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 c6 3.g3 Nf6
4.Bg2 Bg4 5.Ne5 Be6
6.cxd5 Bxd5 7.Nf3 c5
8.Nc3 Bc6 9.0-0 Nbd7
10.d3 e6 11.e4 Be7 12.Qe2
b6 13.d4 0-0 14.Rd1 cxd4
15.Nxd4 Bb7 16.e5 Nd5
17.Nxd5 exd5 18.Nf5 Nc5
19.Bxd5 Qc7 20.Bxb7
Qxb7 21.Qg4 g6 22.Nxe7+
Qxe7 23.Bf4 Ne6 24.Bh6
Rfc8 25.Rd2 Rc5 26.Qe4
Rac8 27.Rad1 Rc4 28.Qd5
R4c7 29.Qd6 Qe8 30.h4

Qb5 31.Rd5 Qe8 32.R1d2
 Qa4 33.Kh2 Rc4 34.Qe7
 Qe8 35.Qxe8+ Rxe8
 36.Rd7 Rc5 37.Rxa7 Rxe5
 38.Be3 b5 39.Rdd7 Rf5
 40.Ra5 Rb8 41.g4 Re5
 42.Raa7 h5 43.Rxf7 hxg4
 44.Rf6 Re4 45.Re7 Ng5
 46.Rxg6+ Kf8 47.Rxe4
 Nxe4 48.Rxg4 1-0

Kao,Camille (2024)
 Langer,Michael (2306)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.Nf3 c5
 4.c3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nbd7
 6.Bg3 e5 7.Nf3 Bd6 8.e3 0-
 0 9.Be2 Re8 10.0-0 Nb6
 11.Nbd2 Qe7 12.Re1 Bf5
 13.Bb5 Red8 14.a4 Rac8
 15.a5 Nc4 16.Bxc4 dxc4
 17.e4 Bd7 18.Qe2 Bb8
 19.Red1 Qe6 20.Ne1 a6
 21.Nc2 Ba7 22.Nb4 Qg4
 23.Kf1 Qxe2+ 24.Kxe2
 Bb8 25.f3 Be6 26.Nf1
 Rxd1 27.Rxd1 Nd7 28.Ne3
 Rc5 29.Nbd5 Rxa5
 30.Nxc4 Ra2 31.Rd2 f6
 32.Bf2 b5 33.Ncb6 Nxb6
 34.Bxb6 Bd6 35.b4 Rxd2+
 36.Kxd2 Bxd5 37.exd5
 Kf7 38.Kd3 f5 39.h3 h5
 40.Bf2 Kf6 41.Be1 Ke7
 42.c4 bxc4+ 43.Kxc4 Kd7
 44.b5 axb5+ 45.Kxb5 e4
 46.fxe4 fxe4 47.Bd2 Bg3

48.Be3 Kd6 49.Kc4 Be5
 50.Bc5+ Kd7 51.Be3 h4
 52.Bg5 Bf6 53.Bf4 Bb2
 54.Kc5 Bc3 55.Be3 Be5
 56.Bg5 Bf6 57.Bf4 Bb2
 58.d6 Ba3+ 59.Kd5 e3
 60.Bxe3 Bxd6 61.Bf2 Be7
 ½-½



Matta,Nicholas (2270)
 Chua,Alexander (2413)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Nf6
 [If you remember playing
 me years ago, you might
 have expected a Tarrasch
 (3...c5). I have a lot of
 thoughts on it, but I have
 been trying other things
 with good results.]

4.g3 [The Catalan, opening
 identification/understanding
 is a skill I recommend for
 my students.]

4...Bb4+ 5.Bd2 [I am not
 going to say much about the
 opening. I have found how-
 ever that opening grows in
 importance the stronger
 your opposition.]

5...Be7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 c6

8.Qc2 b6 9.Bf4 [This move
 looks off to me a bit. 9) b3
 perhaps]

9...Bb7 10.Nbd2 Nh5! [



My idea to make an ad-
 vantageous trade or have
 my opponent spend time
 retreating.]

11.Bxb8 [11.Be3 f5]

11...Rxb8 12.e4 Nf6 [At
 this point, Black has equal-
 ized]

13.cxd5?! [13.e5 Nd7]

13...cxd5 14.e5 Ne4
 15.Qa4 a6 [15...b5! would
 be an improvement 16.Qb3
 (16.Qxa7? Qd7! 17.Rac1
 Ra8 18.Qb6 Bd8)]

16.Qb3 b5 17.Qe3 Qb6
 18.Rfc1 h6 19.Ne1
 [19.Nxe4? dxe4 20.Nd2

Bg5]

19...Rfd8 [Black has several routes to maintain equality. I was looking to keep the tension and put pressure where I could.]

20.Nb3 [20.Nxe4 dxe4 with good play for Black]

20...a5 21.Nd3 Rbc8 [I had a feeling this was the best move. Sometimes, you have to use a little intuition.]

22.f3



22...a4! [22...Bg5 23.f4 Be7 24.Nbc5 is equal]

23.fxe4 [See Diagram]

23...Rxc1+!! [This and the prior move are the ones I am most proud of. Black seemingly loses a piece!



After 23 fxe4

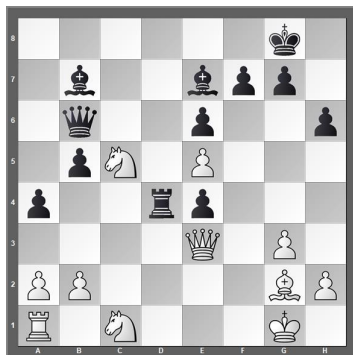
But for compensation, the pieces are activated, the white king is weak, and a center pawn.]

[23...axb3 24.Rxc8 Rxc8 25.axb3=]

24.Nbxc1?! [24.Ndxc1 dxe4±]

24...dxe4 25.Nc5? [25.Ne2 exd3 26.Qxd3±; 25.Nf2 Bg5 26.Qe1 Rxd4 27.Ne2 Rd2-+]

25...Rxd4!



26.Nxb7 [26.Qxd4 Bxc5-+]

26...Bg5 [White missed this move.]

27.Qe1 Rd1+ 28.Kf1 Rxe1+ 29.Kxe1 Qg1+ 30.Bf1 Be3 0-1



Gonzales, Aurelio (1693)
Hollingsworth, Jim (1594)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.f4 e6 7.Be2 Be7 8.Be3 0-0 9.0-0 Bd7 10.e5 Ne8 11.Bf3 Nc6 12.Be4 g6 13.Qf3 d5 14.Bd3 Nb4 15.Be2 Bc5 16.Rac1 Nc6 17.Qf2 Nxd4 18.Bxd4 Bxd4 19.Qxd4 b5 20.Bf3 Ng7 21.Rcd1 Nf5 22.Qf2 Bc6 23.Rd2 b4 24.Ne2 Rb8 25.Rfd1 Qb6 26.Nd4 Nxd4 27.Qxd4 Qxd4+ 28.Rxd4 a5 29.g4 Rfc8 30.R1d2 Bb5 31.f5

Rc4 32.f6 Rbc8 33.Rxc4
 Bxc4 34.b3 Ba6 35.h4 Bb7
 36.c4 bxc3 37.Rc2 Ba6
 38.Kf2 d4 39.Rc1 Rc7
 40.Bd1 Rc5 41.Be2 Bxe2
 42.Kxe2 Rxe5+ 43.Kd3
 Rd5 44.Ke4 Kf8 45.a3 Ke8
 46.Kd3 Kd7 47.b4 axb4
 48.axb4 Kc6 49.h5 Kb5
 50.hxg6 hxg6 51.g5 Kxb4
 52.Rb1+ Kc5 53.Rb7 Rxc5
 54.Rxf7 Rf5 55.Rf8 e5
 56.f7 Kd6 57.Rg8 Rxf7
 58.Rxc6+ Kd5 [White Re-
 signed] 0-1



Wood,Chris (1364)
 Wright,C. (1208)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.Nc3
 g6 4.d4 e6 5.dxe6 fxe6
 6.Nf3 Bg7 7.Be2 b6 8.0-0
 Bb7 9.Re1 0-0 10.Bf4 Kh8
 11.Qd2 Nh5 12.Be5 Bxe5
 13.Nxe5 Qh4 14.Bxh5
 gxh5 15.f3 Nc6 16.Re4
 Qd8 17.Ng6+ Kg7 18.Nxf8
 Qxf8 19.Qg5+ Kh8
 20.Qxh5 Ne7 21.Rxe6 Ng6
 22.Rxc6 Qb4 23.Qe5# 1-0



Liang,Awonder (2569)
 Li,Ruifeng (2583)

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 Nf6
 4.e3 Be7 5.Qb3 0-0 6.Be2 b6
 7.0-0 Bb7 8.d3 Re8 9.a3 h6
 10.Bd2 Bf8 11.Rad1 d6
 12.Rfe1 g6 13.Qc2 a5 14.Bc1
 Bg7 15.d4 e4 16.Nd2 Qe7
 17.Bf1 Bc8 18.d5 Nb8
 19.Nb3 Qe5 20.Nd4 Ng4
 21.f4 exf3 22.gxf3 Nf6
 23.Qg2 Na6 24.Nce2 Bd7
 25.Ng3 Nh5 26.Qf2 Nxc3
 27.hxc3 a4 28.e4 Nc5 29.Bg2
 Qe7 30.Be3 Qf8 31.Kh2 ½-½

Li,Ruifeng (2583)
 Shabalov,A. (2567)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6
 4.Bg5 Bg7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Qd2
 c6 7.Bd3 b5 8.h3 Nbd7 9.a4
 b4 10.Ne2 Qa5 11.0-0 e5
 12.Ng3 Re8 13.Bh6 Nf8
 14.Bxc7 Kxc7 15.dxe5 dxe5
 16.Bc4 h6 17.Qd6 Bb7
 18.Nd2 Rad8 19.Nb3 Rxd6
 20.Nxa5 Bc8 21.Rfd1 Red8
 22.Rd3 Ne6 23.Rad1 Rxd3
 24.Bxd3 Bd7 25.Nc4 Nc5
 26.Nxe5 Be8 27.Ra1 b3
 28.cxb3 Nxb3 29.Re1 Rb8
 30.Bc4 c5 31.Re3 Nd2 32.b3
 Nd7 33.Nxd7 Bxd7 34.Bd5
 Be6 35.Bxe6 fxe6 36.Rd3
 Nxb3 37.Rd7+ Kf8 38.Rxa7
 c4 39.Rc7 Rb4 40.Ne2 Rxa4
 41.Nf4 Nd4 42.Nxc6+ Ke8
 43.Rc8+ 1-0

Fishbein,Alexander (2455)
 Li,Ruifeng (2583)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 b6
 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.0-0 g6 6.Nc3
 Bg7 7.Re1 d5 8.cxd5 exd5
 9.d4 0-0 10.Bf4 c6 11.Rc1
 Nbd7 12.e4 Nxe4 13.Nxe4
 dxe4 14.Ne5 c5 15.Nxd7
 Qxd7 16.dxc5 Qxd1
 17.Rexd1 bxc5 18.Rxc5 Rfd8
 ½-½



Burke,John M (2524)
 Li,Ruifeng (2583)

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6
 4.Nc3 g6 5.h3 Bg7 6.Bg5 h6
 7.Be3 e6 8.Qd2 a6 9.Bd3 b6
 10.0-0 Bb7 11.a3 Ne7
 12.Rfe1 g5 13.e5 Nd7
 14.exd6 cxd6 15.Ne4 Qc7
 16.Qc3 Bc6 17.Rad1 0-0
 18.Ng3 Qb7 19.Be2 Nf6
 20.Qd2 Ne4 21.Nxe4 Bxe4
 22.h4 f6 23.c4 Nf5 24.hxc5
 hxc5 25.d5 e5 26.b4 Rad8
 27.Bd3 Bxd3 28.Qxd3 Ne7
 29.c5 g4 30.Nh4 f5 31.Bg5 e4
 32.Qg3 Bf6 33.cxd6 Bxc5
 34.dxe7 Bxe7 35.Nxf5 Rxf5
 36.Rxe4 Rxd5 37.Rde1 Rg5
 38.Qh4 g3 39.f4 Rg7 40.Qh6
 Bf8 41.Re8 Qd7 42.Ra8 Qe7
 43.Rf1 Qe3+ 44.Kh1 Qe2
 45.Kg1 Rd1 0-1

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 2018

OCT. 6 2018 Texas State Scholastic Team Championships

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10206.tla>

OCT. 6 Longhorn Chess Tournament

Info: <https://www.austinchesstournaments>

OCT. 6-7 Dallas Open, Amateur and Novice

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

OCT. 13 National Chess Day Houston Scholastic

Info: <http://chess.jliptrap.us/hca18chav.htm>

OCT. 13 Strategem Scholastic & Open

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10126.tla>

OCT. 13 2nd Annual National Chess Day All Girls Chess Tournament

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10217.tla>

OCT. 13 2nd Annual Crusader Chess Club National Chess Day Tournament

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10216.tla>

OCT. 13 Aurelio Gonzalez Tarrant County Championship

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/9458.tla>

OCT. 13 9TH Scott Watson Memorial Scholarship Chess Classic

Info: See advertisement on Page 18

OCT. 13 OCBCF National Chess Day Free Play

Info: <https://sites.google.com/site/optimistcoastalbendchess>

OCT. 20 2018 Waco October Swiss

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10290.tla>

OCT. 20-21 South Central Regional All Women and Girls Chess Championships

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

OCT. 27 Borderland Chess Non-Rated Scholastic Tournament

Info: <http://borderlandchess.wixsite.com/elpaso/blank-unttu>

OCT. 27 Brazos III

Info: http://seriouschessplayers.com/scp_brazos_3.html

OCT. 27 OCBCF Very Scary Scholastic Chess Tournament

Info: <https://sites.google.com/site/optimistcoastalbendchess>

OCT. 28 Borderland Girls Chess Challenge

Info: <http://borderlandchess.wixsite.com/elpaso/uscf-rated-events>

OCT. 28 Borderland Chess Open Rated Blitz and Lunch

Info: <http://borderlandchess.wixsite.com/elpaso/uscf-rated-events>

NOVEMBER 2018

NOV. 2-4 22nd Annual North/Central Texas Grade Championships

Info: See advertisement on Page 31

NOV. 3 Lovejoy ISD's Annual Turkey Tournament

Info: info@northtexaschessacademy.com

NOV. 10 VETERANS DAY CHAMPIONSHIP

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/10220.tla>

NOV. 10-11 NTCA 2nd Annual Winter Open

Info: info@northtexaschessacademy.com

NOV. 16-21 2018 UT Dallas Fall FIDE Open

Info: info@dallaschess.com or Luis.Salinas@utdallas.edu

NOV. 17 Scholastic Winter Open

Info: <https://www.northtexaschessacademy.com>

NOV. 24-25 Chess in Action Thanksgiving Open (Katy, Houston)

Info: <http://www.uschess.org/tlas/9538.tla>

NOV. 30-DEC. 2 OR 1-2 Houston Open

Info: 504-208-9596 or 504-905-2971

WEEKLY EVENTS

OCT. 2, 9, 16, 23 Houston Chess Lab Tuesday Night Swiss

NOV. 6, 13, 20, 27

Info: royalrookschessclub@gmail.com

OCT. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Wednesday Swiss @ The Chess Refinery

NOV. 7, 14, 28

Info: royalrookschessclub@gmail.com

OCT. 5, 12, 19, 26 NTCA Classical Fridays

Info: info@northtexaschessacademy.com

OCT. 7, 14, 21, 28 NTCA Sunday Swiss!

NOV. 4, 11, 18, 25

Info: info@northtexaschessacademy.com

OCT. 7, 14, 21, 28 Austin Chess Club G/90 Swiss

NOV. 4, 11

Info: <https://www.austinchesstournaments.com>

MONTHLY EVENTS

OCT. 6, NOV. 3 Arlington Chess Club Open

Info: Chris Wood (text: 817-507-7522), club@arlingtonchess.com

OCT. 27-28, NOV. 22-25 DCC FIDE Open

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

NOV. 17 Many Springs

Info: tcrane5000@gmail.com, <http://tarrantcountychessclub.org>



Texas Chess Association

Serving Texas Players Since 1935

22nd Annual North/Central Texas Grade Championships

November 2-4, 2018

Hilton Houston North, 12400 Greenspoint Dr., Houston, TX 77060

Hotel Rates: \$95, 281-875-2222 or 866-577-1154. Mention "NTGC" group code to get rate. Room comes with 2 breakfast coupons. Reserve by Oct 12 or rate may not be honored.

Each grade is Open to TX residents or players attending Texas schools. Note a recent rule change passed where players cannot play in two separate closed scholastic state championships in different states. Players must play in their own grade. Note that small sections may be merged with another section. Also if sections are small you may have to play a teammate or play someone twice. One 1/2 pt bye available, any round, if requested before end of rd. 2 and if player has not received a full point bye or forfeit win. Team pairings may be turn off for later rounds. Trophies to top 10 ind. & top 5 teams (top three players added for team scores, no more than 2 teams per school in each grade.)

Entry Fee: \$35 if postmarked by 10/14/18, \$49 if postmark by 10/27, \$63 thereafter or on site. Do not mail after 10/29 as your entry may not be received on time.

Schedule: Registration Fri 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Round 1 Fri. 7:45 pm, other Rounds Sat 10am-1:00pm-4pm, Sun. 10 am and 1:00 pm. Grades K- 5: 6SS, Rds. 1 G/45 d5; Rds. 2-6 G/60 d5. Grades 6-12: 6SS, G/60 d5.

Side events: Unrated Blitz open tournament on Saturday at 7 pm. Entrée Fee: \$15, Trophy prizes. Bughouse Open Tournament Sat. 8:35 pm. Entry Fee: \$20/team. Trophy prizes. Registration for side events onsite only.

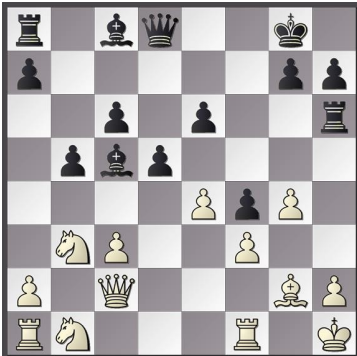
All: Entries to: Dallas Chess Club, c/o Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. Entry must include Name, USCF ID (or new/pending), grade & school and school location. Incomplete entries will be charged at site entry fee. No refunds after 11/1. Email: info@dallaschess.com, 214-632-9000. Do not call after 10/31 as we are traveling. Online registration and team room information on website at www.dallaschess.com/2018TexasGrade/index.htm.



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

Tactics Time!

Answer on
page 18



J Gutman – Al Chua

84th Southwest Open 2018

Black to Move