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McAllen Invaded!!!



2023 Texas Senior Championship Players and Staff - Read More on Page 13

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TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

A 501(c)(3) Educational Nonprofit Corporation Dedicated to Promoting Chess in Texas

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Submission Deadline:

May 15th, 2023

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From the Desk of the Editor

Hello Texas,

I want to thank everyone for submissions this time. I think this might just be the largest number I have ever received. So, well done to all that have provided content. It's *sweet sorrow*. I have received so much that I just can't include everything in a single issue. But, rest assured, I keep everything I don't use, and with the lighter schedule for state-wide tournaments before the next issue, I will likely need (and use) the submissions I couldn't use in this issue. One submission type that I still need more of is *games*. And while I didn't have the room to provide nearly as many as I typically do, most of what I did receive were annotated, so you do get a ring-side seat of some player's thought processes during their games as-well-as some post-game analysis examinations.

In this issue you will find an unusually large coverage of the **2023 Texas State Scholastic Championship (Super State)**. But, with 1,240 participants, it was an usually large tournament. There are two player experience write-ups as-well-as results, games, and photos.

You will also find coverage of both the **2023 Texas State Senior Championship** and the **2023 Texas Women's Chess Championship**.

You will also find some regional tournament coverage in this issue. As always, I would like to see all regions providing recent tournament details for every issue.

There isn't a Game Index this time.

Dr. Alexey Root returns with a *New Chess Books* review, and **Tim Brennan** has provided new tactics puzzles for you enjoyment.

I have also included articles from **Robert Moore** about cooperation in Chess and another from **Jason Howell** about an idea called Bobblehead Blitz. I hope you enjoy the articles and possibly even find some inspiration from them.

A couple other items of interest I would like to mention for our players with disabilities.

For those who are hearing-impaired, please see details for the **Deaf Chess YouTube Channel** on page 18. I learned about it from Forrest Marler; one of our previous TCA VPs.

Also, if you have trouble seeing, I have been in contact with the software developer for a mobile app and web application called *Verbal Chess*. I have learned that he is interested in collaborating with individuals to add better support for those that are even totally blind. If you are interested, please let me know so I can provide his contact information to you. My contact information is on **Page 2**.

The deadline for submissions for the next issue is **May 15th**. The Digital Edition should be available within the first week of June and the Print Edition should be in your mailbox by mid-June.

Play Chess and stay safe.

— **Jeff**



A Message from the President

MARCH 2023

I am happy to report that we have started 2023 with a “bang,” as almost all TCA regions organized Scholastic Championships, which culminated in well-attended Texas Scholastic Chess Championships (Super State). A month before Super State, my expectations were of possibly surpassing 900 players, given that another scholastic event was being held during the same weekend in the McAllen area. But we easily surpassed my expectations, with over 1,200 players at Super State! Thanks again to our players, coaches, parents, organizers, tournament directors, and Regional Directors. Please visit our Facebook page for coverage of these events and many other Texas tournaments! As previously mentioned, our TCA Administrator, Deborah Shafer, continues to do an amazing job, so please visit and “like” the page.

We used Super State to select our Texas representatives for the GM Arnold Denker National Tournament of High School State Champions (**FM Sharvesh Deviprasath**), the Dewain Barber National Tournament of Middle School State Champions (**Logan Shafer**), and the John D. Rockefeller III National Tournament of Elementary School State Champions (**Vijay Srinivas Anandh**). In addition, the top girl in the same three sections (**WCM Ambica Yellamraju, Sunny Zhang, and Dhanvi Namala**) will compete in an online Round Robin event with the winners of the same sections of the 2022 Texas Girls Championships (**Kalia Yuke Wang, Sunny Zhang, and Suri Nguyen**). Since Sunny won the Middle School Championship in both events, this will be a five-player Round Robin, soon to be announced, to determine the Texas representative at the WIM Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions, so stay tuned

for that! The four scholastic players representing Texas will join **FM Chris Land**, the winner of our Senior Championship and our representative at the John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions, at these events which will take place in Grand Rapids, Michigan, July 29 – August 1, in conjunction with the 123rd Annual U.S. Open Chess Championships. We wish our Texas players the best!

In addition to players earning the right to represent Texas at the National Invitational Championships, players in the Super State High School Championship earned \$6,200 in TCA scholarships! These winners were **FM Sharvesh Deviprasath** (\$1,200), **Rohit Gundam** (\$1,000), **Ganesh Kumarappan** (\$1,000), **WCM Ambica Yellamraju** (\$1,000), **Rithik Polavaram** (\$1,000), and **CM Rohun Trakru** (\$1,000). Congratulations to them and to all participants of this event!

Also covered in this issue is the Texas Women’s Chess Championship, organized by GM Bartek Maciejka and the UTRGV chess team. But there is much more thanks to many of you and our Texas Knights Editor Jeff French, so please read on! Oh, and start making plans to attend the **Texas State and Amateur Championships** which will take place in Irving on May 26 -29, and the **Southwest Open** which will take place in Houston, September 1- 4.

Once again, my thanks to all the players, coaches, parents, organizers and tournament directors who make this happen.

With best regards,

Franc

About the Author

- Franc Guadalupe is a US Chess National Tournament Director, FIDE International Arbiter Category A, and FIDE International Organizer.
- He is a former US Chess Executive Director, US Chess Director of Events, and FIDE Zonal President for the U.S.
- He has organized and directed over 50 National events including many in Texas.
- In addition to his current position as TCA President he was President of the Florida Chess Association.

2023 Texas State Scholastic Championships (Super State)

For additional info: <https://www.dallaschess.com/2023SSTexasScholastic/>

Photos by Deborah Shafer (except FM Deviprasath)

The **2023 Texas State Scholastic Championships** were played in McAllen between March 3rd and March 5th at the McAllen Convention Center. There were **1,240 participants** divided across eleven sections. Each Section was played in a 7-round Swiss System. Time controls varied between the individual sections and the rounds of the sections had time increases in later rounds.

High School Championship had 154 participants. **FM Sharvesh R. Deviprasath** won with a score of 6.5/7. Time Controls - Rnd 1: G/45;d5; Rnds 2-4: G/60;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/75;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	FM Sharvesh R Deviprasath	W90 (w)	W53 (b)	W15 (w)	W7 (b)	W3 (w)	W2 (b)	D5 (w)	6.5
2	Rohit Gundam	W61 (b)	W55 (w)	W43 (b)	W10 (w)	W6 (b)	L1 (w)	W12 (w)	6
3	Ganesh Kumarappan	W89 (b)	W56 (w)	W19 (b)	W14 (w)	L1 (b)	W30 (w)	W21 (b)	6
4	WCM Ambica Yellamraju	W108 (b)	W41 (w)	W28 (b)	D12 (w)	D13 (b)	W17 (w)	W14 (b)	6
5	Rithik Sai Polavaram	W92 (w)	W51 (b)	W46 (w)	W18 (b)	D12 (b)	W13 (w)	D1 (b)	6

"My High School Super State Experience" By FM Sharvesh R. Deviprasath



FM Deviprasath

Super State was quite the experience for me; Before the tournament I was first seed by 200 points, and having represented Denker the year before, I had quite the target on my neck. It was already difficult from round 1. Before this tournament I'd never even heard of the city of McAllen, and with me booking a flight that would land an hour before was hoping everything would go smoothly. Of course my flight was delayed 3 times, I had the opportunity to request a bye but decided to take the risk hoping I would make it with just a few minutes on my clock. As I landed I sprinted out of the flight, hopped in a taxi and arrived at the round with 8 minutes on my clock. Luckily, I was play-

ing a 1400 and managed to win the game. The next 3 rounds were smooth sailing as I had all my time on the clock and a huge rating gap between my opponents. Going into Sunday 6 people were on 4 and I knew every game would be a grueling fight. I began by playing my good friend Ganesh Kumarappan, who is just 30 points away from master. I had white and he fell into some deep prep of mine letting me achieve a winning position, and the rest was conversion. Going into the 6th round only 2 people were on 5/5 me and NM Rohit Gundam; I knew whoever won this game would be at least half a point ahead of the field and in great contention to win the tournament and qualify for Denker. Having black I decided he would have done great preparation against my King's Indian, so I decided to surprise him with the Von-Hennig-Schara. This was an awful decision as he deviated from what I prepared on move 3 and having never played this opening before I was out in the blue. Trying to navigate my way through the opening while he was in his preparation, I had a horrible middlegame. I saw a way he could have won a clear pawn in a miserable position for me, but he decided to make things more sharp. Still, of course, he was pressing. I found a way to bail-out and get a perpetual.

Surprisingly, he spent all his time thinking to avoid the perpetual and play for the win. While I knew he was still better the clock played a huge factor as he made the game very complicated playing for the win. Even up until the very last move he had an edge till he made a fatal blunder dropping a piece, allowing me to be half a point ahead of the field. In the final

7th round game my opponent surprisingly didn't try to play for the win and offered me a quick draw as black in the opening. Taking this I was guaranteed first and qualifying to Denker! This was the first time this qualifier has been held in-person since 2019 and it was quite a thrilling experience. I hope to represent Texas well at Denker.

March 3rd, Round 1 [A00]

Deviprasath,Sharvesh (2413)
Jones,Edward (1200)

Annotated by S. Deviprasrth

1.a4 Despite showing to the game 37 minutes late, I didn't want to reveal any prep as the top seeds were all on the boards next to me. 1...d5 2.d3 Nf6 3.Nf3 c6 4.g3 Bf5 5.Bg2 e6 6.0-0 Bd6 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Re1 Re8?? Falling for one of the most common traps against London Setups 9.e4! The point just winning a piece 9...dxe4 10.dxe4 Bg4 11.e5 Bxe5 12.Rxe5 Nbd7 13.Re3 Qc7 14.h3 Bh5 15.c3 1-0

March 5th, Round 5 [E61]

Deviprasath,Sharvesh (2413)
Kumarappan,Ganesh (2160)

Annotated by S. Deviprasrth

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.d4 0-0 5.Bg5 d6 6.Qd2 My pet line vs the King's Indian 6...c5 7.d5 e6 8.h4 h5 Surprisingly this very natural move is already losing. Even the engine takes a while to realize it 9.g4! hxg4 10.h5 gxf3 11.h6 Bxh6 12.Bxh6 Re8 Where my preparation ends 13.Bg5 Nbd7 14.Qf4 Kg7 15.Ne4 Qa5+ 16.Nc3? Missing a very simple win [16.Kd1 Nxe4 17.Bf6+ This was the move I missed with forced mate] 16...Nh5 17. Bh6+

Kh7 18.Rxh5 gxh5 19.Qxf7+ Kxh6 20.Qxe8 exd5 21.0-0-0 Nf6 22.Qf8+ Kg6 23.exf3 Bf5 24.Qxa8 d4 25.Bd3 Bxd3 26.Rxd3?? I thought this simplification was easily winning, but instead I gave up most of my advantage 26...dxc3 27.Rxc3 Qxa2 28.f4 Qa1+ 29.Kc2 Qf1 30.Rg3+ Kf5 31.Qc8+ Ke4 Just a simple overlook by Ganesh, which ends the game on the spot 32.Qe6+ 1-0

March 5th, Round 6 [D35]

Gundam,Rohit (2225)
Deviprasath,Sharvesh (2413)

Annotated by S. Deviprasrth

1.d4 d5 Normally I play nothing but the King's Indian, but decided he would prep that and I needed to surprise him 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 Already out of prep, I was expecting nc3 [3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 cxd4 This is what I had deeply prepared] 3...c6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Bg5 Bd6 Following my memory of the infamous game Moiseenko-Korley 7.e3 0-0 8.Bd3 a5 9.Qc2 h6 10.Bh4 Na6 11.a3 Re8 12.0-0 Bg4 13.Nd2 Nc7 I remembered this Knight maneuver to g5 to create some attacking potential for Black 14.Rae1 Ne6? Losing material immediately 15.f3!? I thought h3 was much simpler to gain the ad-

vantage as now I have some sacs on h2 [15.h3 Bh5 16.g4 Winning a pawn] 15...Bh5 16.g4 Bxh2+ 17.Kh1 Bg6 18.Bxg6 fxe6 19.Bxf6 Qxf6 20.Kxh2 Qh4+ 21.Kg2!? Interesting decision by Rohit. He spent most of his time debating whether to take my draw or not, I thought he would draw and be in a tie for first hoping his tie-breaks are better than mine. I guess since we both knew he had a huge advantage in the middle game he wanted to keep playing for the win. [21.Kg1 Qg3+ 22.Kh1 Qh3+ With perpetual check] 21...Nf4+ 22.exf4 Rxe1 23.Rxe1 Qxe1 24.Nf1 Rf8 25.Ne2 Re8 26.Nfg3 h5 This move gives me the complications I need to play for the win with the time advantage I already have 27.Kh3 h4 28.Kxh4 Qf2 29.Qxg6 Rxe2 30.f5?? Missing Qc7 at the end [30.g5 This was the move I was worried about as now I would bail out for a draw 30...Qxf3 31.Nxe2 Qxe2=] 30...Qh2+ 31.Kg5 Qxg3 32.f6 Qc7 With this win I was now in clear first heading into the last round 0-1



High School JV (U1000) had 152 participants. **Matthew Xie** won with a score of 6.5/7. Time Controls - Rnd 1: G/45;d5; Rnds 2-4: G/60;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/75;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Matthew Xie	W143 (w)	W54 (b)	W33 (w)	W43 (b)	W28 (w)	W4 (w)	D2 (b)	6.5
2	Adriel Lopez	W45 (w)	W6 (b)	D113 (w)	W46 (b)	W7 (b)	W29 (w)	D1 (w)	6
3	Juan Estrada	H---	W78 (w)	W72 (b)	W8 (w)	W14 (b)	D5 (w)	W12 (b)	6
4	Mahasvin Puli	W116 (w)	W75 (b)	W34 (w)	W44 (b)	W12 (w)	L1 (b)	W11 (w)	6
5	Gerardo Vega	W136 (w)	W71 (b)	D46 (w)	W73 (b)	W70 (w)	D3 (b)	W15 (w)	6



Super State High School

Middle School Championship had 116 participants. **Logan C. Shafer** won with a score of 6.0/7. Time Controls - Rnd 1: G/45;d5; Rnds 2-4: G/60;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/75;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Logan C Shafer	W47 (w)	W60 (b)	W17 (w)	W4 (b)	W11 (w)	D10 (b)	D2 (w)	6
2	Lucius Melillo	W92 (b)	W31 (w)	W24 (b)	D6 (w)	W12 (w)	W11 (b)	D1 (b)	6
3	Joshua Meng	W94 (b)	W63 (w)	W15 (b)	W5 (w)	D10 (w)	D6 (b)	W16 (w)	6
4	Peshala Desilva	W97 (b)	W79 (w)	W29 (b)	L1 (w)	W18 (b)	W15 (w)	W10 (w)	6
5	Ronak Hiwale	W82 (w)	W26 (b)	W33 (w)	L3 (b)	W37 (w)	W27 (b)	W12 (w)	6

“Looking Back at Super State 2023”

By Logan C. Shafer

Qxf1!! See Round 4 Game.



Logan Shafer

I would like to share my personal experience from the 2023 Texas State Scholastic Chess Championship in McAllen, Texas, March 3-5. I had been looking forward to this tournament for quite some time. Because the pandemic forced TCA to cancel the in-person Championships in 2020, 2021, and 2022, this

was my first State Championship since 2019 (where I got 4th place in the Elementary Championship section in 4th grade). The Texas State Scholastic Championships are always a highlight for Texas scholastic players. Not only is it a good place to play chess, but also it is a time to visit with friends and make new friends in between rounds.

Because it was a long drive, and my parents were working as TDs, we decided to drive down Thursday. This was helpful because I didn't have to play a game on the same day as an almost 7-hour drive. After we got there Thursday, we unpacked and then went to the convention center to see where everything was going to be held. On Friday morning, we went down to set up chess boards for 3 hours, setting up almost 700 chess boards with other staff and volunteers. We took a lunch break and went back down to set up board numbers and table signs in the afternoon. Then, Friday night was the first game, followed by 3 games Saturday and 3 games Sunday. The first three games I won with relative ease, but the games would escalate into extremely difficult in future rounds. fourth round I was playing a 1658. The opening started strong, and then it turned bad for me as I missed a very tricky knight maneuver and quickly got a worse position. I was able to recover by finding an amazing checkmate tactic to save the lost game!

After that game, I was very happy as I should have lost that game. I rested, ate dinner, and then I went down to blitz and bughouse and had a good time with friends. I won 10th place in blitz drawing the first-place player, Ganesh Kumarappan, in round 3. Then, I went back to my hotel room to sleep and rest for the next day, which I knew would be filled with tough opponents. I was right. In the fifth round, I was paired against Vasegaran Nandhakumar (2181), the top seed and favorite to win the whole event. However, I knew that if I won this game, I would be leading the tournament. Nevertheless, I decided to play for the draw because it was the safer option. The game started out and I had an isolated queen pawn, and my opponent was putting a lot of pressure on it. I then managed to break out, and we traded everything but a pair of rooks. I was in a position where I could confidently draw and offered him several draws. Being the higher-rated player, he declined them all and played for the win. I don't have every detail of that endgame because I stopped notating when my opponent had less than 5 minutes. I had 7 minutes, but I wanted to move quickly to keep the pressure up. He got knee-deep in time pressure and promptly lost the game because I made an unstoppable passed pawn to win the game and go 5/5.

Round six was against a 2000 rated player with 4.5/5, and I knew that if I drew the game, I would be in good shape to fight for a win with white in round 7 to clinch the tournament. I got a very nice position out of the Benko Gambit and then offered my opponent a draw in a slightly better position because I knew my tournament placement would be very good. Being in the worse position, he accepted it, putting me at 5.5/6. In the final round game, I was playing Lucius Melillo (2077), who also had 5.5/6 and took Nandhakumar down the round before, so I knew this was not going to be easy. We started the game, and my opponent played a Petroff defense. I did not want anything to come down to tiebreaks because I thought I probably wouldn't win the tiebreaks, so I went

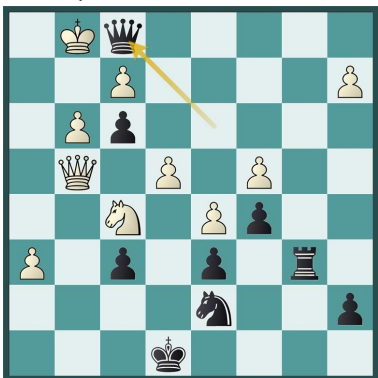
for the win and played the Urusov gambit, which is Bc4 after the Petroff, then when the opponent takes the pawn you play Nc3. It turned into a very sharp game where neither of us liked our positions. He offered a draw on move 14, and I accepted. I was very nervous, as I was unsure if I would win on tiebreaks. About

three hours after that game ended, I looked at the final standings and I was the winner! I was ecstatic! Winning means I will be able to play in the 13th Annual Dewain Barber National Tournament of Middle School State Champions in July. I am looking forward to representing Texas as this summer!

March 4th, Round 4 [E90]

Peshala Desliwa
Logan Shafer

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.e3 bxc4 5.Bxc4 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.h3 Bg7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.e4 Nb6 11.Bd3 Rb8 12.Be3 e5 13.b3 Ne8 14.Bg5 f6 15.Bh4 g5 16.Bg3 h5 17.h4 g4 18.Nd2 Bh6 19.Qe2 Bf4 20.Bxf4 exf4 21.g3 f3 22.Qe3 Kg7 23.Nc4 Nxc4 24.Bxc4 Qe7 25.Rfe1 Nc7 26.Qd2 Ba6 27.Rab1 Bxc4 28.bxc4 Na8 29.Qc2 Nb6 30.Nd1 Nd7 31.Ne3 Qe5 32.Nf5+ Kf7 33.Qd2 Rb6 34.Qh6 Rfb8 35.Qxh5+ Kf8 36.Rxb6 Rxb6 37.Qxg4 Ke8 38.h5 Qc3 39.Rf1 Qd3 40.h6 [40.Ne3] 40...Qxf1+



0-1

March 5th, Round 5 [B22]

Logan Shafer
Vaseegaran Nandhakumar
Annotated by Logan Shafer

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 The Nim-sowitch Sicilian. I wasn't very aware of what to do against it, and I ended up going for an Alapin type structure 3.e5 Nd5 4.c3 g6 5.d4 cxd4 6.cxd4 Bg7 7.Nc3 Nb6 8.a4 a5 Already a much better position for me if I just throw the house at him with 9.Be3 [9.h4] 9...0-0 10.Qd2 d6 11.exd6 Qxd6 12.Nb5 Qd8 The queen just moves back and the d pawn will be a liability for the remainder of this game 13.Be2 Nc6 14.0-0 Be6 15.Bh6 Rc8 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Ng5 Bd5 [17...Bb3 18.Qc3 Bd5 19.Qh3] 18.Rfc1 Qd7 19.Nc3 Rfd8 20.Bb5 h6 21.Nxd5 Qxd5 22.Bxc6 Rxc6 23.Rxc6 Qxc6? A mistake from my opponent. He needs to take back with the pawn and pile up pressure on my d pawn, doing it this way allows me some breathing room 24.Nf3 Qd5 25.Qe3 e6 26.b3 Rc8 27.h3 Nd7 28.Re1 Nf6 29.Ne5 Ne8 30.Nc4 Rc6 31.Qe5+ Qxe5 Another big victory. The queens come off the board and I have no more problems 32.Rxe5 Nd6 33.Nxd6 Rxd6 34.Rxa5 Rxd4 35.Rb5 Rd7 I was confident I could draw this as I have the 2-on-1 majority and his rook is tied down. I offered him a draw here. 36.f3 Kf6 37.Kf2 Ke7 38.Ke3 Kd8 39.Rb4 Kc7 40.Rd4 Re7 41.g4 Kc6

42.Rc4+ Kb6 43.Rb4+ Kc5 44.Rc4+ We are both shuffling pieces as I am just trying to not let him through here as he uses a ton of time trying to find a way in. 44...Kb6 45.Rb4+ Ka6 46.Rc4 Rd7 47.Rd4 Rc7 48.Kd3 Ka5 49.Rc4 Rd7+ 50.Kc2 b6 51.Rc8 Kb4 52.Rc4+ Ka5 53.Rc8 Ka6 54.Rh8 I get a little greedy and now must fall back to defend 54...Rd4 55.Rc8 Rf4 56.Rc3 Ka5 57.Rd3 g5 58.Kc3 Ka6 59.Re3 Kb7 60.Rd3 Kc6 61.Re3 All a draw 61...Kd6 62.Rd3+ Ke7 63.Re3 f6 64.Rd3 e5 65.Kb2 h5 66.Kc3 hxg4 67.hxg4 Ke6 68.Re3 I started getting nervous as my opponent now has a breakthrough idea with e4, luckily it never works 68...Kd6 69.Rd3+ Ke6 I stopped notating because my opponent had low time and although I wasn't in as bad of time pressure, I decided to stop to move quickly and keep the pressure on, I eventually broke through with my 2-on-1 and won the



Shafer and Nandhakumar

Middle School JV (U900) had 114 participants. **Isabella Olivia Barba** won with a score of 6.0/7.
Time Controls - Rnds 1-4: G/45;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/60;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Isabella Olivia Barba	W104 (b)	W74 (w)	W55 (b)	W3 (w)	W28 (b)	W2 (w)	L4 (w)	6
2	Derick Hess	W72 (w)	W40 (b)	W27 (w)	W34 (b)	W13 (w)	L1 (b)	W12 (w)	6
3	Eduardo Sastre	W76 (w)	W78 (b)	W56 (w)	L1 (b)	W17 (w)	W16 (b)	W7 (w)	6
4	Arman Miguel Lopez	W85 (w)	H---	W30 (b)	D16 (w)	W18 (b)	W11 (w)	W1 (b)	6
5	Max Jacob Gonzalez	L12 (w)	W96 (b)	W45 (w)	W88 (b)	W15 (w)	W28 (w)	W23 (b)	6
6	Vicente Alvarez	W92 (b)	L27 (w)	W95 (b)	W55 (w)	W59 (b)	W29 (w)	W14 (b)	6

Middle School Novice (U600) had 71 participants. **Elienne Rodriguez** won with a score of 6.5/7.
Time Controls - Rnds 1-4: G/45;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/60;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Elienne Rodriguez	W63 (w)	W18 (b)	W29 (w)	W15 (b)	D13 (w)	W22 (b)	W2 (w)	6.5
2	Hezekiah Caldera	W24 (b)	W26 (w)	W51 (w)	W8 (b)	W14 (w)	W3 (b)	L1 (b)	6
3	Anthony Garza	W59 (w)	W20 (b)	W46 (w)	W6 (b)	W22 (w)	L2 (w)	W8 (b)	6
4	Jose Emiliano Ceron	W42 (w)	L22 (b)	W63 (w)	W7 (b)	W19 (w)	W13 (b)	W6 (b)	6
5	Fabian Salazar	X---	W11 (b)	H---	L13 (b)	W35 (w)	W23 (w)	W10 (b)	5.5



Super State Middle School

Elementary School Championship had 129 participants. **Vijay Srinivas Anandh** won with a score of 6.5/7. Time Controls - Rnds 1-4: G/45;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/60;d5

	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Vijay Srinivas Anandh	W78 (w)	W36 (b)	W15 (w)	W11 (b)	W7 (w)	W2 (b)	D8 (w)	6.5
2	Kyle Yiwen Wang	W49 (b)	W64 (w)	W5 (b)	W4 (w)	W10 (b)	L1 (w)	W13 (b)	6
3	Dhanvi Namala	W34 (w)	W26 (b)	W25 (w)	D9 (b)	W12 (w)	D6 (w)	W23 (b)	6
4	Onur Karabulut	W112 (w)	W35 (b)	W29 (w)	L2 (b)	W36 (w)	W16 (b)	W10 (b)	6
5	Ishaan Ikkurthi	W104 (w)	W19 (b)	L2 (w)	W62 (b)	W25 (w)	W40 (b)	W11 (w)	6

Elementary School JV (U800) had 123 participants. **Emerson Johnson** won with a perfect score of 7.07. Time Controls - Rnds 1-4: G/45;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/60;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Emerson Johnson	W88 (b)	W108 (w)	W15 (b)	W6 (b)	W3 (w)	W10 (b)	W5 (w)	7
2	Stella Munsayac	W36 (w)	D5 (b)	W72 (w)	W16 (w)	D7 (b)	W14 (w)	W19 (b)	6
3	Paola L Muniz	W44 (b)	W35 (w)	W59 (b)	W20 (w)	L1 (b)	W18 (w)	W13 (b)	6
4	Aakash Menon	W115 (b)	W8 (w)	L6 (w)	W71 (b)	W30 (b)	W11 (w)	W10 (w)	6

Elementary School Novice (U500) had 131 participants. **Anika Shambhavi Kaul** won with a perfect score of 7.0/7. Time Controls - Rnds 1-4: G/45;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/60;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Anika Shambhavi Kaul	W101 (w)	W42 (b)	W15 (w)	W29 (b)	W12 (b)	W10 (w)	W3 (b)	7
2	Mateo Diaz	B---	W5 (w)	W4 (b)	W36 (b)	L3 (w)	W35 (w)	W14 (b)	6
3	Arjun Phatak	W90 (b)	W77 (w)	W33 (b)	W56 (w)	W2 (b)	W9 (b)	L1 (w)	6
4	Azarel Haynes	W112 (w)	W116 (b)	L2 (w)	W25 (b)	W18 (w)	W13 (b)	W9 (w)	6
5	Liam A Donaldson	W106 (w)	L2 (b)	W121 (w)	W15 (b)	W28 (w)	W33 (b)	W17 (w)	6
6	Akshara Sagi	W115 (b)	L33 (w)	W83 (b)	W38 (w)	W34 (b)	W12 (w)	W11 (w)	6



← **Vijay Srinivas Anandh**

Super State Elementary →



Primary School (K-3) Championship had 45 participants. **Matthew Yang** won with a score of 6.0/7. Time Controls - Rnds 1-4: G/45;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/60;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Matthew Yang	W25	W15	W3	W11	D2	D4	W5	6
2	Antariksh Baksi	W26	W33	W14	W5	D1	D3	D4	5.5
3	Arav Serikar	W24	W16	L1	W33	W6	D2	W11	5.5
4	Divyesh Majumdar	H---	W42	W12	W8	W11	D1	D2	5.5

Primary School JV (K-3) (U600) had 130 participants. **Giancarlo Vallarino** won with a perfect score of 7.0/7. Time Controls - Rnds 1-4: G/45;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/60;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Giancarlo Vallarino	W78	W38	W7	W34	W16	W22	W4	7
2	Izayah Tico Villalovos	W129	W101	W6	W5	L22	W17	W15	6
3	Elijah Andre Barcenas	W41	W75	W60	D17	W23	W8	D10	6

K-1 Championship had 87 participants. **Jayden He** won with a perfect score of 7.0/7. Time Controls - Rnds 1-4: G/45;d5; Rnds 5-7: G/60;d5

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Total
1	Jayden He	W36	W38	W16	W23	W7	W2	W4	7
2	Kai Zhou Lan	W66	W29	W27	W8	W10	L1	W12	6
3	Aaron F Mendez	W69	W25	W20	L7	W23	W8	W9	6
4	Jeremiah Ortiz	W51	W30	D5	W37	W18	W24	L1	5.5
5	Aaditya Lanka	X---	W19	D4	L18	W52	W17	W7	5.5
6	Jax Daniel Murillo	W54	L24	D50	W58	W53	W22	W18	5.5



**Matthew Yang
with
Chief TD Louis Reed**



Super State Primary

2023 Texas State Senior Championship

By Chris Wood

For Additional Info: <https://texaschess.org/fm-chris-land-wins-texas-senior-chess-championship/>

Photos by Jim Hollingsworth (see cover photo)

With 4.5 points in five rounds, **FM Chris Land** led the field of 37 seniors on March 4 and 5 in Euless, Texas, and was named “Texas Senior Chess Champion.” **NM Gregg Stanley** (4.0) was second. **NM Mitch Vergara** (4.0) was third. **Rafael Llanos** (3.5) was fourth, and **NM Richard Weaver** (3.5) was fourth. **Brenda Hardesty** won the upset prize. **NM Richard Perry** won the blitz side event.

Land will represent Texas in the **2023 John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions** in Grand Rapids, Michigan, this summer. The event was organized by **Arlington Chess Club** and directed by **Doug Stephens**.

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Tot
1	CHRIS K LAND	W11	W10	D3	W15	W2	4.5
2	GREGG N STANLEY	W13	W20	W8	W4	L1	4
3	MITCH VERGARA	W18	W23	D1	W9	D6	4
4	RICHARD WEAVER	W17	W21	D9	L2	W12	3.5
5	RICHARD M PERRY	W25	D22	D15	W23	D8	3.5
6	ALEXEY ROOT	H	W24	D22	W20	D3	3.5
7	JOHN F FARRELL	W12	L15	H	W31	W16	3.5
8	RAFAEL LLANOS	W14	W16	L2	W11	D5	3.5
9	TIM C STEINER	W27	W35	D4	L3	W15	3.5
10	CURTIS KEN FUKUCHI	W26	L1	W13	D16	W17	3.5



*FM Chris Land (1st Place)
with
Chief TD Douglas Stephens*



*NM Gregg Stanley (2nd Place)
with
Chief TD Doug Stephens*

March 4th, Round 3 [A40]
Mitchell Vergara (2000)
Chris Land (2213)

Annotated by Chris Land

1.d4 g6 Mitch and I played twice before. Once in 2008 and once way back in 1991. In both earlier games he played the Torre Attack (d4, Nf3, Bg5). This time I tried a different move order. 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.e3?! Not a blunder of course, but Black can now transpose into a Dutch. Against ...f5 a kingside fianchetto is generally very promising. The early e2-e3 makes that less so. White won't be able to play e2-e4 in one move. 3...f5 4.Bd3 Nf6 5.O-O 0-0 6.c4 e6?! Aiming for a Stonewall formation c6-d5-e6-f5, but this can't be the best plan with the B already committed to g7. 6...d6 or 6...b6 or even 6...Nc6 is reasonable. For the next four moves both sides played second-best options, with the minor mistakes cancelling each other out. 7.Nc3 d5 8.Qc2 c6 9.b3 Re8 10.Bb2 Nbd7 11.Rfd1 b6 12.Rac1 Ba6? 13.cxd5! Ba6 was a natural attempt to exchange light-square bishops. White allows this anyway, as the resulting weakness on c6 prevents Black from attempting anything active. Playing ...c6-c5 will create a new weakness on d5. 13...Bxd3 14.Qxd3 exd5 15.Ne2 Rc8 16.Rc2 Bf8 17.Rdc1 Nb8 18.Ne5 Qd6 19.Nf4 Ne4 Behind on time, I offered a draw in this mostly miserable position. 20.Qd1 Bh6 21.Nfd3 Bg7 22.a3 With time now equal, the return draw offer was accepted. ½-½

March 5th, Round 4 [E85]
Chris Land (2213)
Darryl West (1700)

Annotated by Chris Land

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 Nc6 7.Nge2 e5?! In the King's Indian Saemisch, Black should wait for the Ne2 to move before playing ...e5. White runs out of useful moves first. For example, 7... a6 8.Qd2 Rb8 and neither 9.Rd1 or 9.O-O-O stops ...b5. After 9. Nc1 then ...e5 10.d5 Nd4! 11.Nb3 (11.Bxd4? exd4 12.Qxd4 Nxe4!) and Black can sacrifice a pawn with ...c5 12.dxc6 bxc6. 8.d5 Ne7 The pawn sac ...Nd4 no longer works as White retains the dark-square bishop. 9.Qd2 Nd7 10.g4! This doesn't prevent ...f5, but does ensure an open g-file afterwards. 10...f5 11.gxf5 gxf5 12.Bg5 Not really needed. After ...f4 Bf2 the B can still help with a later Q-side expansion. As much as it would be fun for W to attack on the kingside, this is not generally going to work. "Attack in the direction your pawn chain is pointing" some grandmaster probably said. 12...f4 13.Nc1 Nf6 14.Nd3 a6 stopping Nb5 (attacking c7) in order to play Qe8-h5. However, Black's prospects for a kingside breakthrough are not great, particularly as the White King decides to move elsewhere. 15.O-O-O Qe8 16.Be2 Qh5 17.Rdg1 h6 18.Bxf6 Rxf6 19.Qd1 This move has three ideas: recapture with the Q after ...Rg6 and ...Rxd1, over-protect f3 to free the e2B

somewhat, and play an actual move right now because you're taking way too long to decide. 19...Bd7 20.c5 Finally starting Q-side play. 20...Raf8?! 21.c6! Exclamation point for practical value rather than objective soundness of the move. The pawn sac should be accepted. In any case, the location of action has shifted and the game is now afoot. 21...bxc6 22.dxc6 Be6?! 23.Nb4 a5 24.Nbd5 I thought briefly about Ncd5 instead. Confusing moves are fun but can backfire. 24...Nxd5 25.Nxd5 Bxd5? The computer evaluation after 25...R6f7! is roughly the same but it's better for a human defender to retain the a-pawn. Now all ordinary endings are winning for White due to the extra pawn. Which one is the extra one? I'll say the a-pawn. It's the only one that's 'passed': no pawns can stop it from getting to its promotion square a8. 26.Qxd5+ Kh7 27.Qxa5 Qf7 28.b3 Qe7 29.Bc4 Rb8 30.Rg2 Rg6 31.Rhg1 Rxd2 32.Rxd2 Bf6 33.Qe1?! Again, not an actual mistake, but rather a practical one. If Black ever gets his bishop to d4/e3 while keeping Qs, he'll have excellent counterplay as White struggles to defend Queenside dark squares. 33.Qe1 intends ...Bh4? 34. Qg1! Bg5 35.h4! and 36.Rg8 and 37.gg, but Black now has a great resource that 33.Bd5! would have stopped. 33...d5! Objectively a mistake. But while it

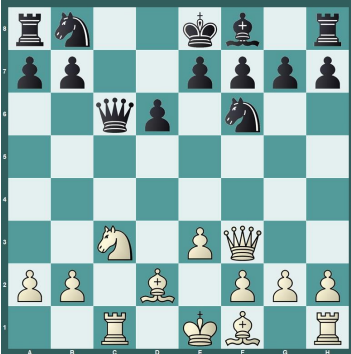
Continued on Page 29

Tactics Time!

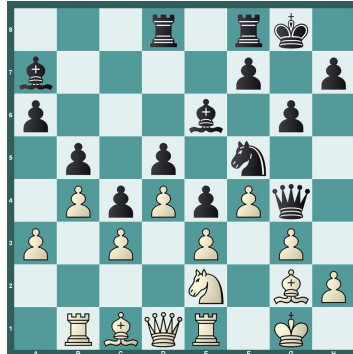
by Tim Brennan

These positions came from games played in Texas (or elsewhere) by at least one Texas Player.

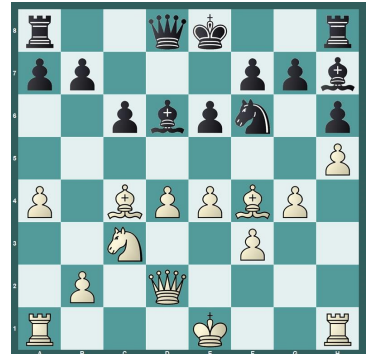
Answers can be found on page 18.



1. Austin Sibu-Benjamin Rovelo
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2022
White to Move



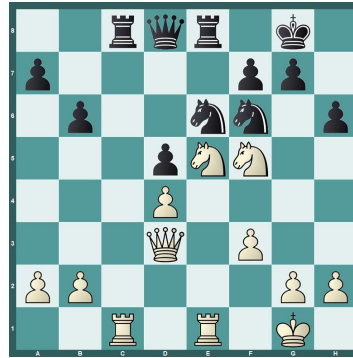
2. Cecil Morris-Erick Ordonez
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2022
White to Move



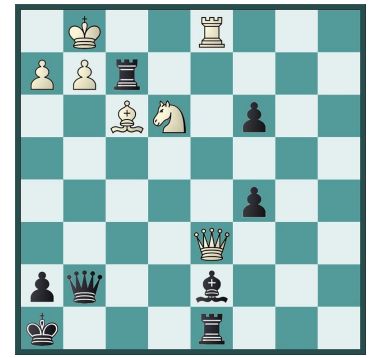
3. Aadarsh Srivatsav-Elijah Hand
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2022
White to Move



4. Peter Huynh-Khoa Nguyen
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2022
Black to Move



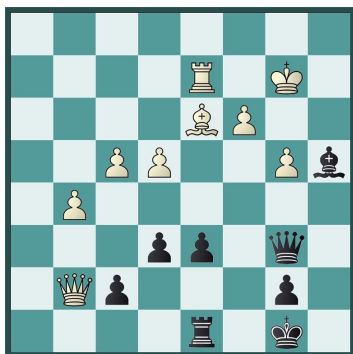
5. Zachary Haskin-Sergio Guerrero
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2022
White to Move



6. Irakli Beradze-H. Gabuzyan
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2022
Black to Move

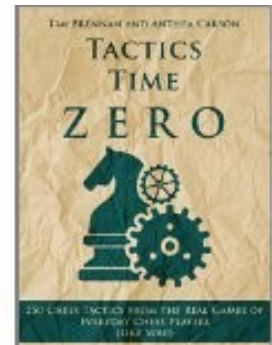


7. Vladimir Belous-Segev Eliezer
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2022
Black to Move



8. Sam Schmakel-David Brodsky
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2022
Black to Move

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Girls Under 21			Girls Age 15 (continued)			Girls Age 11 (continued)		
4	Malicka, Maria	2390	44	Hwang, Alexis	1499	75	Zamarripa, Salma	952
8	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2328	54	Uviedo, Violette	1445	87	Garza, Brithany H	904
34	Yellamraju, Ambica	2074	58	Ham, Emily	1400	88	Li, Ren Zhou	895
40	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2032	63	Gomez, Frida Mariela	1323	89	Bustinzin, Lia A	892
49	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2016	74	Shivam, Annika Elizabeth	1278	99	Cantu, Sophie	844
85	Yellamraju, Aparna	1897	94	Mehta, Tanisi	1158			
Girls Age 18			Girls Age 14			Girls Age 10		
8	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2032	24	Gupta, Sara Sachin	1639	16	Zhang, Ellery	1528
38	Kao, Simona Y	1470	34	Sun, Yimeng Jenny	1521	17	Zhang, Alicia S	1510
43	Basepogu, Sarah	1392	40	McNutt, Kaitlynn Lee	1480	25	Fu, Elaine	1364
49	Gunukula, Renee	1305	43	Singh, Sejal	1466	41	Liu, Mina	1185
50	Hernandez, Madelyn	1295	46	Akella, Sravya	1449	52	Cisneros, Ariana	1038
63	Williams, Patricia	1056	59	Ande, Eesha K	1372	54	Duran, Violet	1027
65	Thompson, Sarah	1023	61	Sharan, Neha	1338	57	Perel, Livia	1008
68	Castillo, Isabella Deanda	974	67	Kirumaki, Shreya A	1307	59	Lu, Andie	997
70	Morales, Rhea	936	69	Seals, Ayre Allbritton	1300	62	Contreras, Mckenzie	981
82	Hernandez, Aunica J	565	88	Mulholland, Audrey	1147	65	Valdez, Arianna Nickole	951
			94	Pradeepkumar, Kalki	1099	66	Vargas, Valerie	950
			95	Vela, Arely J	1097	67	Durbhakula, Bhanusri	948
			96	Milova, Vladislava	1096	69	Nguyen, Suri Ngoc	934
			100	Prathipati, Saranya	1087	88	Ordorica, Maria Alexandra	851
						93	George, Alyssa Kathryn	831
Girls Age 17			Girls Age 13			Girls Age 9		
2	Yellamraju, Ambica	2074	31	Stubbins, Isabella	1594	9	Senapati, Avni	1430
7	Yellamraju, Aparna	1897	39	Tiruveedhula, Suhavi	1450	23	Hiwale, Riona	1128
21	Tiruveedhula, Saanvi	1696	45	Shankar, Aashritha Vidhya	1384	28	Tiwari, Aahana	1032
38	Padilla, Karlee	1457	49	Hosur, Sanmita	1342	42	Gonzalez, Kimberly	871
50	Babaria, Rajvi Rakesh	1333	54	Cruz, Vivica Renee	1272	43	Karry, Tapasya	869
53	Aggarwal, Manika	1325	68	Gomez, Nelly D	1140	46	Galvan, Ashley	851
56	Velador, Evelyn M	1299	73	Ford, Katherine Michelle	1108	52	Choi, Nyla	830
66	Trowbridge, Auria M	1178	83	Venkadesan, Prathyuktha	1050	60	Mendoza, Rosabel Paloma	782
72	Mallick, Lipika	1128	89	Caldera, Sophia M	1026	60	Skripkina, Elizaveta	782
73	Balderas, Ana Luisa	1127	95	Cervantes, Makayla	1007	68	Borse, Anushka	754
75	Lucero, Amalie	1118				76	Juarez, Andrea Catarina C	682
79	Dasagi, Aakanksha	1103	Girls Age 12			79	Guzman, Lua	676
80	Morales, Natalia Aseneth	1098	6	Zhang, Sunny	1842	84	Roefler, Riley	657
82	Cisneros, Anahi	1029	16	Prakash, Nandini	1705	86	Dementyev, Kalina	651
83	Iyer, Madhalasa	1026	22	Kommuri, Sahithi	1589	88	Singh, Nameh	645
92	Talla, Saumya	920	28	Borse, Tanvi	1531	89	Parame, Frances Jamie	644
93	Rodriguez, Melissa	913	33	Krishnan, Mihika	1514	96	Serrato, Nailey A	611
			45	Raghuraja, Sri Yashvi	1392			
			49	Vijayaraghava, Aditi	1338	Girls Age 8		
			50	Namala, Dhanvi	1316	4	Liu, Chloe	1509
			59	Pidathala, Esha	1138	26	Loera, Samantha Nicole	876
			71	Gracia, Emma Cadence	1129	43	Patino, Eliana	694
			84	Tsediakov, Loren	1057	43	Bansal, Aishwarya	694
			84	Callens, Jael	1057	63	Mohan, Aanya	535
						76	Agrawal, Aarohi	480
			Girls Age 11			83	Kapat, Anwita	427
			24	Vinayagaram, Nethra	1332	93	Parra, Victoria M	377
			31	Maddipati, Sriyani Sai	1248			
			36	Rios-Ocampo, Sofia	1228	Girls Age 7 and Under		
			52	Gao, Mia	1116	1	Yao, Annie	1640
			59	Kuchibhatla, Nitya	1086	11	Ganesh, Kaira Ananya	1066
			62	Velu, Shambhavi	1058	23	Zhao, Lily	838
			66	Nair, Aditi	1036	43	Sony, Neha Teresa	673
			68	Song, Joyce	1008	47	Vadapalli, Shreya Vasudha	656
			73	Anand, Vidarshanaa	956			
7	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2016						
18	Wang, Kalina Yuke	1781						
29	Reddy, Tanvi Chinthagunta	1630						

Tactics Time! Answers - Download Now: See Bottom of This Page)

1. **10.Bb5** pins the Black Queen to the King.
 2. **24. h3 Qh5 25.g4** forks the Black Queen and Knight.
 3. **16. e5** forks the Black Bishop and Knight
 4. The White Queen is overloaded and gets punished with **12...Bxh6 13. Qxh6 Nxd4**. Playing **12...Nxd4** first works also.
 5. **21.Rxc8 Qxc8 22.Nd6** forking the Queen and Rook
 6. **40...Rxf3** the g-pawn is pinned.
 7. White is threatening mate in one, but Black actually has a forced checkmate with **13...Nc2+ 14.Kd1 Qxd3+ 15.Kc1 Qd2+ 16.Kb1 Qd1#**
 8. **35...Qe3** hits a weak spot in White's camp attacking the Rook and Bishop.
- Cover. **27.Bxb7!** Wins a pawn that appears to be defended. The Bishop cannot be captured because of **27...Rxb7 28.Rf8#**

Tactics Time courses are now available on Chessable by Tim Brennan & Anthea Carson

Tactics Time 1: <https://www.chessable.com/tactics-time-1/course/21108/>

Tactics Time 2: <https://www.chessable.com/tactics-time-2/course/24008/>



Best Chess Cartoon
Best Chess Photo
Best Website

May 15, 2023
Deadline

Contact: Jim Hollingsworth, chessartiste@gmail.com



Do you have hearing difficulties?
Do you know American Sign Language (ASL)?

Check out the *Deaf Chess YouTube Channel* by Johnathan Tuck.

<https://www.youtube.com/@DeafChess>



Game/Tactics Time! Puzzle PGN files are downloadable from the following: <https://bit.ly/3qK7YQB> (or scan the QR Code, at the left, to get URL link). To Learn about how to scan QR Codes, search for "Using QR Codes" in your favorite Search Engine or find a video on YouTube.

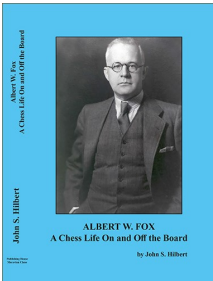
The PGN Files are only available for the *Texas Knights* issues during my tenure as Editor. The files that are not in a *year* folder contain all Games and Tactics Time! Puzzles up to and including the current issue.

New Chess Books

By Dr. Alexey Root, WIM

Dr. Alexey Root volunteers for Texas Chess Association by writing this column.

- She was the 1989 U.S. Women's Champion.
- She is the Chief Science Officer for Chessable: <https://www.chessable.com/>
- She also teaches Chess Online courses for UT Dallas. Find registration information here: <https://www.utdallas.edu/chess/education-programs/>
- Find her books here: <https://amazon.com/author/alexeyroot/>



In 2022, Publishing House Moravian Chess published John S. Hilbert's *Albert W. Fox: A Chess Life On and Off the Board*. It is 620 pages long. For those living in Texas, probably the easiest place to order the book from is USCF Sales, where it retails for \$49.95. See this link: <https://www.uscfsales.com/albert-w-fox-a-chess-life-on-and-off-the-board.html>

Because of his profession, Fox met politicians. For example, he was invited to a reception at President Teddy Roosevelt's White House. Hilbert details the connections of political and historical figures to chess. Many of his book's footnotes are about those connections rather than specifically about Fox.

When I provided editorial assistance and proofreading to Hilbert, I developed an affection for his footnotes. One of my favorites is about Joseph D. Redding, because I have been to Redding, California. From Hilbert's footnote, I learned that the city is named after Joseph's father Benjamin, "a well-known Central Pacific land agent" (p. 210). Joseph was a Harvard graduate, accomplished chess player, and musical prodigy. The footnote has two of Joseph's games, including a loss to a young Capablanca.

A Favorite of Chess Historians

Chess historians adore *Albert W. Fox: A Chess Life On and Off the Board* and respect its author, John S. Hilbert. International Master John Donaldson describes Hilbert as "America's premier chess historian." Along with Donaldson, several chess historians provided blurbs for Hilbert's Fox book. For space reasons, some blurbs were shortened. For example, the blurb from Tomasz Lissowski, a chess historian from Poland, appears on the back cover as "This insightful biography of an amateur chess player keeps the reader engaged from start to finish!" Lissowski's unedited blurb follows:

This is the next installment in the unique series devoted to lesser known chess figures from the history of the game in the USA. This insightful biography of an amateur chess player, who was strong enough to beat Schlechter, Janowski and Chigorin, keeps the reader engaged from start to finish. The reader will find here all the ingredients known from other books by John S. Hilbert: masterful style, vast collection of unknown (forgotten) games with commentaries from the "era", juicy, colorful quotes from the general and chess press, never before published photographs, micro-biographical notes of the book's protagonists, facts, anecdotes and historical riddles, all set against the historical background. I have the impression that many readers, having read this book, will want to play a friendly game or discuss the latest developments in politics with Albert W. Fox. The book's hero excels at making us want to do both.

Political Asides

Often based in Washington, D.C., Albert W. Fox was a newspaperman covering national and international mat-

terially, the Joseph D. Redding footnote is superfluous to the "Clash of Giants: Cambridge Springs 1904" chapter since, as Hilbert writes, "there is no evidence that [Joseph D. Redding] played any significant role during the [Cambridge Springs 1904] tournament" (p. 211). But footnotes, where one learns how American history and chess are intertwined, give this book its unique character.

The winner of Cambridge Springs 1904 was its third youngest player, Frank James Marshall, born August 21, 1877. Marshall scored 13-2 in the 16-player round robin, two points ahead of David Janowski and Emanuel Lasker. As the tournament's youngest player, three months younger than William Napier who was also born in 1881, Fox was playing in his first international tournament at Cambridge Springs. Fox scored 6.5-8.5, tied for 10th-11th places. In the last round, Fox lost as White to Marshall.

See Game on Page 29

Cambridge Springs 1904 was the last tournament of Harry Nelson Pillsbury, who died in 1906. While Napier died in 1952 and Marshall died in 1944, Fox lived until 1964. Later in his life, Fox played 20th century greats such as Reuben Fine (1914-1993). Perhaps most inspirational about Fox was how he successfully combined his professional career with chess playing and family life.

2023 Texas Women's Chess Championship

For Additional Info: <https://texaschess.org/texas-womens-championship-is-march-25/>

The **2023 Texas Women's Chess Championship** was held in Brownsville at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Brownsville Campus on March 25th. There were **35 participants**. The tournament was played as a 6-round Swiss. Time controls were G/30;d5. **FM Gergana Peycheva** won with a score of 5.5/6.

#	Name	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Total
1	FM Gergana Peycheva	W23 (b)	W15 (w)	W8 (b)	D3 (w)	W11 (b)	W4 (w)	5.5
2	FM Maria Malicka	W12 (b)	W6 (w)	L3 (b)	W7 (b)	W8 (w)	W9 (b)	5
3	WIM Tarini Goyal	W22 (w)	W20 (b)	W2 (w)	D1 (b)	L4 (w)	W11 (w)	4.5
4	WGM Maili-Jade Ouellet	W17 (w)	W13 (b)	W9 (w)	D11 (w)	W3 (b)	L1 (b)	4.5
5	WFM Ana Shamatava	W28 (b)	W14 (w)	L11 (b)	W13 (w)	W7 (b)	H---	4.5
6	Kaitlynn L McNutt	W33 (w)	L2 (b)	L7 (w)	W12 (b)	W10 (w)	W20 (b)	4
7	Sunny Zhang	W26 (b)	W19 (w)	W6 (b)	L2 (w)	L5 (w)	W13 (b)	4
8	Giedre Moya	W25 (w)	W16 (b)	L1 (w)	W24 (b)	L2 (b)	W15 (w)	4
9	WFM Rachel Palmero Martinez	W24 (b)	W29 (w)	L4 (b)	W14 (w)	W15 (b)	L2 (w)	4
10	Lauren Tovias	W27 (b)	L11 (w)	W23 (b)	W16 (w)	L6 (b)	W14 (w)	4



Deputy Organizer and UTRGV Coach GM Bartek Macieja & 1st Place Winner FM Gergana Peycheva



GM Julio Sadorra (Coach of UTD) and his two students



Deputy Organizer and UTRGV Coach GM Bartek Macieja & 2nd Place Winner FM Tarini Goyal

Region I Scholastic Championship

By Robert L. Moore, Regional Director

For Additional Results: <https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202302268822>

January 28, 2023 was an exciting day for Region I, marking the culmination of a year of rebuilding over-the-board chess. Region I held its first OTB regional scholastic championship since 2017 and first open regional championship since 2016. The tournament had 79 players spread fairly evenly across 5 sections: Open, Reserve, High School, Middle School, and Elementary. Region I champions were declared based on the highest performance from a Region I player:

Elementary School Champion - **Lennon Acuña** (4.5/5), a homeschooler from Lubbock

Middle School Champion - **Jael Callens** (3.5/4), a homeschooler from Lubbock

High School Champion - **Joseph Cabrera** (4/4), a Lubbock High School student

Open Champion - **Benjamin Myers** (3/4), a Friendship High School student

While not a championship section, the Reserve section was won by **Teddy Kerr** (3.5/4), a homeschooled youth from Scurry county, who bested three adults and earned a draw with the only other youths in the section.

The Open section was won with a perfect score from **Chase Ross**, a chess organizer from San Angelo (Region IX). Not only did he fell Ben Myers in the final round, but his opening round featured an exciting finish where his options were either mate with a queen sacrifice or get mated himself.

Joseph Cabrera was competing in his first USCF tournament, making his accomplishment also outstanding. Joseph played a very clean game in round 1 and showed excellent positional awareness in all of his games.

Congratulations to all the 2023 Region I champions!

January 28th, Round 4 [D35]
Chase Ross (1382)
Benjamin Myers (1469)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 e6
4.Nc3 h6 5.cxd5 exd5 6.e3 c6
7.Qb3 Bd6 8.Bd3 Qc7 9.e4
dxe4 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.Bxe4
Be6 12.d5 Bxd5 [12...cxd5
13.Bxd5] 13.Bxd5 cxd5
14.Qxd5 0-0 15.0-0 Nc6
16.Re1 Rad8 17.Qc4 Qb8
18.Qg4 f5 19.Qc4+ Kh8
20.Qh4 Rf6 21.Bg5 Rdf8
22.Bxf6 Rxf6 23.Qh5 Qc7
24.Re8+ Bf8 25.Rae1 Qf7
26.Rxf8+ Game may have
continued...[26.Rxf8+ Qxf8 27.Re8
Kg8 28.Rxf8+ Kxf8 29.Nh4 a6
30.Qd1 26.Qxf7 Rxf7] 1-0

January 28th, Round 3 [A21]
Guy Coyne (1450)
Chase Ross (1382)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 f5
4.Bg2 Nf6 5.d3 Be7 6.e4 d6
7.Nge2 0-0 8.0-0 Qe8 9.exf5
Bxf5 10.d4 exd4 11.Nxd4 Qd7
12.Nxf5 Qxf5 13.Qf3 Qg6
14.Qe2 Rae8 15.Be3 Bd8
16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.Bxd5+ Kh8
18.Qd2 Ne5 19.Rfe1 Re6
20.Bf4 Ref6 21.Bxe5 dxe5
22.Re2 Rd6 23.Qe1 c6 24.Bg2
Bb6 25.Rd1 Rdf6 26.Rd7 Bxf2+
27.Rxf2 Rxf2 28.Qxf2 Kg8
29.Qd2 Qb1+ 30.Qd1 Qxb2
31.Rd8 Qb6+ 32.c5 Qxd8
33.Qb3+ Rf7 34.Bf1 Qd4+
35.Kg2 Qf2+ 36.Kh3 Qxf1+

37.Kh4 Qg2 38.h3 Qe4+ 39.g4
Qe1+ 40.Qg3 g5+ 41.Kh5
Qxg3 42.a3 Qh4# 0-1

January 28th, Round 2 [A48]
Chase Ross (1382)
Brian Wolfskill (1670)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7
4.Nc3 0-0 5.Qd2 d6 6.0-0-0
Bf5 7.Nh4 Bd7 8.e4 Nc6 9.Bh6
e5 10.Bxg7 Kxg7 11.d5 Nd4
12.Nf3 Bg4 13.Be2 Nxe2+
14.Qxe2 Qe7 15.h3 Bd7
16.Nh2 c6 17.Ng4 cxd5
18.Nxf6 Qxf6 19.Nxd5 Qd8
20.f3 Be6 21.Rd3 Rc8 22.Rhd1
Rc6 23.Rc3 Bxd5 24.Rxd5
Rxc3 25.bxc3 Qc7 26.Qd3 Rd8
27.Rb5 a6 28.Rb3 b5 29.Qd5

Qb6 30.a4 Qg1+ 31.Kb2 bxa4 20.Kxd1 Rg8 21.Qxh6 Rxg2 19.Nh4 Qd8 20.Qg3 Qf6
 32.Rb7 Rf8 33.Qxd6 Qxg2 22.Qf8+ Kd7 23.Kc1 Qxc5 21.Rce1 Bxc2 22.Ne4 Bxe4
 34.Qxe5+ Kg8 35.Qf6 Qxh3 24.Rd1+ Kc6 25.Rd6+ Kb5 23.Rxe4 g5 24.Nf3 Qf5 25.Nd2
 36.e5 Qe6 37.Rb6 Qxf6 26.a4+ Kxa4 27.Qe8+ Nc6 Qf7 26.Qf3 Qxd5 27.Qe3 Rf4
 38.Rxf6 Re8 39.Rxa6 Rxe5 28.Rd2 Qg1+ 29.Rd1 Qe3+ 28.Rc1 Rxe4 29.Nxe4 c6 30.f3
 40.Rxa4 h5 41.Rh4 Kg7 30.Kb1 exf3 31.b3+ Ka3 Re8 31.Qxa7 Qd4+ 32.Qxd4
 42.Kb3 Kf6 43.c4 Kg5 44.f4+ 32.Qf8+ Nb4 33.Qe8 Nc6 exd4 33.Rd1 d3 34.b4 Bb2
 Kxh4 45.fxe5 1-0 34.Qf8+ Nb4 35.Qe8 Qxb3+ 35.Rxd3 d5 36.Nc5 b6 37.Na4
 36.cxb3 Rb2+ 37.Ka1 Nc2# 0-1 Be5 38.Nxb6 Re6 39.Nd7 Bg7

January 28th, Round 1 [B12]

Sagnik Singha
Chase Ross (1382)

1.e4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.d4
 e6 5.Bg5 Qb6 6.Bd2 c5 7.Nh4
 Be4 8.Nc3 Be7 9.Bb5+ Nc6
 10.Bxc6+ Qxc6 11.Nxe4 dxe4
 12.Qg4 g6 13.Bg5 Bxg5
 14.Qxg5 h6 15.Qg3 g5
 16.dxc5 0-0-0 17.f3 gxh4
 18.Qg7 Ne7 19.Rd1 Rxd1+

January 28th, Round 1 [A40]

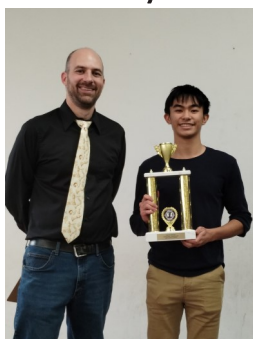
Connor Gravatt (851)
Joseph Cabrera

1.Nf3 d6 2.e3 g6 3.d4 Bg7
 4.h3 Nf6 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Bd3 Nc6
 7.a3 Re8 8.0-0 Bd7 9.Bd2 Qc8
 10.Qe2 e5 11.d5 Ne7 12.e4
 Rf8 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bxf6 Bxf6
 15.Qe3 Bg7 16.Rac1 f5
 17.exf5 Nxf5 18.Bxf5 Bxf5

Awards Presented By Robert L. Moore



*Benjamin Myers
Open Champion*



*Joseph Cabrera
High School Champion*



*Jael Callens
Middle School Champion*



*Lennon Acuña
Elementary Champion*



*Chase Ross
Open Winner*

Crusader Library Tournament Series

by Renate Garcia

For Additional Results: <https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202302259422>

Chess in El Paso is growing. For our club, it is true. For the past 7 years our Crusader Library Tournament Series has seen substantial growth. We created this series in collaboration with our public library and our sponsor C&M Plaque and Trophy to host a monthly event at every branch. Our events are produced at no cost to our players. For large events we also provide players lunch. Crusader Chess was started by the Garcia family with a purpose of including players who may not have a team at their school and wanted to feel as a member of a club as they played in tournaments and as we traveled to major competitions and events outside of El Paso. The club has been open to all who want to play. We soon learned we needed to provide tournaments at home to serve as practices for those larger events. Crusader Chess Club of El Paso is a US Chess affiliate, a TCA Club, has several TDs and is training new ones. We are happy to say this series is still going strong, even after COVID shut down our ability to produce this event due to closures and restrictions. During this time our following has been increasing with demand from players who homeschool as well as players who are in a private school setting. Organized by Renate Garcia, we finally were able to reach our goal of providing the first ever homeschool and private school Regional Championship. Serving as Chief TD was Dr. Anthony Saldivar. There were 4 sections. 2 US Chess rated and 2 for Non members. This allowed everyone including public school players and adults to play. There were close to 90 pre-registered players and many players who came that morning as walk in registrations for a chance at the board.

Award presenters were Molly Walter, Manager and Dr Antho Saldivar, Chief TD.

We would like to also recognize floor TD Mr. Burciaga from Bridges Academy who helped us with the nonmember section.

The time has come to announce our tremendous US Chess rated Team Champions for the Private/Homeschool!

Team Awards:

Private/Homeschool Championship

- 1st - **Avila Home School**
- 2nd - **Lee & Beulah Moor Children's Home**
- 3rd - **El Paso Christian**

Crusader Open Championship

- 1st - **Canyon Hills**
- 2nd - **Alderete Middle School**
- 3rd - **East Lake**

We are pleased to announce the winners of the Private/Homeschool Regional Chess Championship held Feb 25, 2023 at Acosta Moreno Regional Branch Library.

Private/Homeschool Championship, Rated

- 1st - **Seymour, Matthew**
- 2nd - **Wardlow, Peter**
- 3rd - **Moralez, Jesus**
- 4th - **Wardlow, Sarah**
- 5th - **Macdonald, Julia**

Crusader Open Championship

- 1st - **Artalejo, Ivan**
- 2nd - **Lannon, James**
- 3rd - **Zenteno, Matias**
- 4th - **Verdugo, Ezequiel**
- 5th - **Mankey, Joshua J**

Congratulations to the following winners of the 1st Private/Homeschool Regional Championship in the Non US Chess Member sections held on Feb 25, 2023 at Acosta Moreno Regional Library. We'd like to thank the Branch Manager Ms. Molly and all the library staff for their help and hospitality. She was excited to present the awards (so were we). Big shout out to Judge Marquez Branch staff who helped us by letting us borrow some tables and chairs and even

delivered them to us! Another big thank you goes to our sponsor C&M Plaque and Trophies out goes to our players, coaches and parents. We appreciate you. Thanks for playing the game of Kings and Queens with us.

Private/Homeschool, Not Rated

- 1st - **Lopez, Juan**
- 2nd - **Jauregui, Aiden**
- 3rd - **Lasquade, Aiden**
- 4th - **Thompson, Asher**
- 5th - **Roebuck, May**

Crusader Chess Club: <https://m.facebook.com/p/100064548438418/>

Open, Non US Chess Member

- 1st - **Ramirez, Javier**
- 2nd - **Madrid, Oscar**
- 3rd - **Davis, Dwayne**
- 4th - **Aguilar, Alberto**
- 5th - **Lasquade, David**

Next month is a special series held in conjunction with the celebration event of "Dia de Los Ninos" with the El Paso Public Library, we join forces with the El Paso chapter of the Autism Society to bring the Autism Friendship Chess Tournament on April 29 for our April Crusader Chess Tournament Library Series.

Region VII Scholastic Championship

By Margaret Bailon-Labednick, Regional Director

For Additional Results: <https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202302110622>

United High School Laredo hosted the Region Championship on February 11, 2023. This fundraiser benefited the United HS Chess Club. The tournament included a USCF Rated section, as well as a non-USCF membership section. It had great attendance as this was the first tournament in Region 7 since 2020, just before the start of the pandemic. The school provided a beautiful environment with plenty of space to play and relax between games. All ages between scholastic and adults came out to play, including 28 USCF rated players and 30 non-USCF players. Most players were from the Laredo area, 3 players were from Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, and 3 players were from Corpus Christi, Texas. The games were intense, with great sportsmanship, in a positive learning environment, as for many, it was their first chess tournament. In Laredo, having a section for non-USCF members gives many in the community an opportunity to play in tournaments for \$10 who might otherwise not be able to participate due to financial barriers. Trophies were awarded for both sections 1st through 3rd place with medals through 6th place. Both open sections awarded 1st through 3rd place.

Thank you to all the volunteers who ran the concession stand from the beginning to end of

the tournament.

Thank you to the following Sponsors: Alfredo Nunez & Lucy Guitierrez; Organizers: South Texas Chess Society; and TDs: Edgardo Tejada, Joseph Filazzola, Nicolas Flores, Arturo Perez, Enrique Gonzales, and Margaret Bailon-Labednick.

The top 3 USCF winners from each division included:

High School

- 1st - **Aaron Rodriguez**
- 2nd - **Jesus Alaniz**
- 3rd - **Emiliano Gonzales**

Middle School

- 1st - **Lukas Ramirez**
- 2nd - **Preston Santos**
- 3rd - **Jose Perez**

Elementary

- 1st - **Jamal Abdulla**
- 2nd - **Genesis Bennett**
- 3rd - **Erza Voigt**

Open

- 1st - **Cristian Bojorquez**
- 2nd - **Angel Serna**
- 3rd - **Kevin Voigt**



Memories from Region VII Scholastic Championship



Regions II, III, IV, V, VI, XIII & X Scholastic Championships

There are a plethora of photos for the Region II & Region III Championships at the following links (and I've provided QR Codes too). If you are reading this from the Print Edition of *Texas Knights*, you can access any of the links below with a single click/tap of a link while reading the Digital Edition.



Region II Photos:
<http://bit.ly/3Zu6Gs1>



Region III Photos:
<http://bit.ly/3Zt8TUz>

Region II Results:	https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtbMain.php?202302047122
Region III Results:	https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtbMain.php?202302258382
Region IV Results:	https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtbMain.php?202302185432
Region V Results:	https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtbMain.php?202302119082
Region VI Results:	https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtbMain.php?202302258072
Region XIII Results:	https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtbMain.php?202302056232
Region X Results:	https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtbMain.php?202302268822

Chess: A Cooperative Sport?

By Robert L. Moore

I don't know if I'm an anomaly or if it's just the people I'm around, but I like cooperative games. When I have a game night with friends and I suggest a cooperative game, most people groan and roll their eyes. Apparently, there is this idea among them that it doesn't feel like winning if everybody else doesn't lose. I, on the other hand, get enjoyment from seeing other people winning and proud of themselves. Apparently, saying that makes most people want to vomit. It occurred to me recently that my perspective makes it odd that I consider chess my favorite sport. After all, at most there is only one winner in every game of chess – and sometimes not even that. It's so competitive, you aren't even guaranteed a winner! Don't we all coach that if you can't win at least make sure the other person doesn't either?

So how can I love chess so much, then? Well, I'm sure I could say most of the same things the rest of you say: the complexity of the multiple variations, the beauty of unexpected combinations, the endorphins of incremental skill progression, the cleverness of the tactics, the astonishing queen sacrifices (and amusing consequences when they are unsound), and so much more. The game is virtually endless. Additionally, I love the character development that comes when someone pays careful attention to how to play the game. I'm not talking about rules. I'm talking about attitudes and dispositions: empathy, humility, respect, courtesy, mindfulness, resilience, discipline. While I'm sure others may disagree and I'm sure you can manage to never pick up any of these traits, I have yet to encounter a board game or sport that produces these qualities nearly as effectively as chess can for those who are willing.

At some point I had to blend my love for co-

operativity with my passion for this competitive sport. For me that began with transitioning into coaching. I quickly incorporated variations of the slogan, "There are no losers in chess – you either win or you learn." But cooperativity is more than just pretending that competition isn't present.

It turns out there is a highly cooperative side of chess. When I first started coaching and taking kids to tournaments, I started getting to know organizers, tournaments directors, and TCA representatives. As I built a program in Plainview, I got to be a resource for other new coaches in the area. As TDs like Rob Jones started involving me in running some of their tournaments (as a TD and in combined super-regional tournaments), I followed suit and began treating our local tournaments as a cooperation among coaches. This led to the West Texas Back-to-the-Board tournament series that ran January through May 2022. Five coaches worked together along with our own networks to create extremely well-received tournaments at four locations in three cities – including the only tournament in Olton that you can find using USCF Past Events Crosstable online. Since August, none of the events I've put on would have been possible without Amy Jones who handles all of the communication and most of the behind-the-scenes work.

Cooperation hasn't stopped there. Chess players love to play chess. Duh, right? Not all of us organizers can give as many opportunities to compete as chess players would like because we have full-time jobs, or families, or something else that keeps us from it. Chess organizers and tournament directors can do wonders for the sport and themselves by promoting each other and participating in each other's tournaments.

Region I is the north neighbor to Region IX, and Lubbock (Region I) is only an hour and a half from Midland (Region IX).

The past couple of months has seen the beginnings of cross-regional attendance, which has been a huge boon for both regions. Players who face the same opponent tournament after tournament start to stagnate or get bored. I had kids last spring who would look at the pairings and moan, "I played that person the last two tournaments!" All I could do was shrug and say it was because, "You two are the best. Who else did you expect to play?" These last few months, however, I've seen a lot more of never-before-been-paired match-ups - and it elicits excitement from the players! Fresh opponents! New and

unexpected openings! The thrill of the unknown! It also makes for better players.

Interestingly, the last major tournament in Region IX (Reach Network Chess Championship) was won by a Region I player, and the last major tournament in Region I (Region I Open and Scholastic Championship) was won by a Region IX player! Following that Region I Championship, I was able to grab a bite to eat with Chase Ross (the winner) who organizes a lot of the Region IX activity through his Concho Chess Academy. It was exciting to learn his approach, commiserate on challenges, and dream out ways to collaborate in the future. I'm thrilled to see his influence in Region IX and can't wait to find more

ways to support it. In fact, you should go check Concho Chess Academy out on Facebook, YouTube and chess.com! They host regular live and online events.

As Chase and Concho Chess Academy succeed, it will overflow into Region I. As Region I continues to grow, it will overflow into Region IX. A win for one region is a win for both. This is a pattern I have already observed across the state and one that we as chess advocates must embrace. A win for one organizer is a win for all. While over the board chess may be a competitive sport, for us as chess promoters, it is the quintessential cooperative sport.

Bobblehead Blitz: A Novelty For Smaller Clubs

By Jason Howell

So, I did something about a year ago in Waco. An idea popped into my head and we've been doing it ever since. But I never would have thought of it if it weren't for Covid, so I'll start there.

When Covid struck in 2020 and businesses slowed to a crawl, chess clubs were affected too. They just closed and tournament venues became unavailable, even if you promised to wear masks. There was a lot of whining going on about it in Waco, so I stepped up to save the day. Being a TD, I started having 10-player one section G45 Swisses at my house with a \$15 entry fee and cash prizes for overall first and second, and also the best score out of the U1400 players. I called them the Waco Sanitizer Swisses and we wore masks and gloves and had sanitizer handy everywhere. I provided food I either bought or made and beverages and we just had a fabulous time, but I could only fit 10 people

in my house. When the scare was over and the masks came off, Waco tournaments at a normal venue resumed. But I enjoyed hosting the ones at my house so much I just decided to keep doing it every month along with our regular tournament. Then one day early last year, I was thinking about how we never have blitz tournaments in Waco. But when I asked people about blitz at my house all they could say is "Why would I? The same people are going to win the prize money every time". Then that something popped into my head. What if we played for something other than money and made it fun at the same time? Since everyone knows everyone in Waco, the idea of giving every player around some spotlight recognition, no matter what their rating is, started bubbling in my head. The spotlight I am referring to is bobbleheads!

I hunted around the web for the best prices for personalized bobbleheads and boy, they aren't cheap. I finally decided to go un-American and chose rockbobble.com out of China because they were the most affordable. But there are many others to choose from. It has been super easy. I call a player over to my house, take some pics of their face and the sides of their head and upload them into a new order template. Then the real fun begins. I ask the player what they want their bobblehead to be wearing, do they want a hat, boots, etc. What would they like to be holding, like a fishing rod or a football etc. or what kind of prop would they like with their bobblehead, like a chessboard or telescope, for example. I always order two bobbleheads of the same player and we have a blitz tournament to win them. As the artists get close to finishing them, they send me emails of proofs and I can approve them or decline and tell them what needs to be changed to make them look more like the actual player. Once they are finished and I receive them in the mail, I post a Bobblehead Blitz tournament at my house with pictures of the finished product in the post. Once I get ten committed players, the tournament is closed and we wait for game day at my house, which is always on a Saturday. The tournament is rated and we obviously use everyone's current USCF blitz rating. I have always used a double round robin format with G/7 and no increment. Everyone plays everyone twice, once as white and once as black and both games against an opponent are played back to back as a round. It's easy with tournament software. It turns out that after shipping, the total for two personalized bobbleheads is around \$200, so I started the first order with my own money and then I just

charge the ten players a \$20 entry fee. Once I collect it, I use it to have another player turned into bobbleheads. The vicious cycle continues to this day. Since this goes on at my house, it is quite a relaxed environment and I sort of allow little fun trash talking and commentary as long as it doesn't get out of hand and upset someone. It hasn't. Everyone has so much fun you wouldn't believe it and they always get food and drinks from me. When it's over, 10 players have played 9 rounds and 18 games against each other, and it still ends earlier than a 4-round G/45 tournament. The bobblehead winners are the player with the best overall score and the player with the best score of the U1400/Unrated players. The actual bobblehead player plays in the tournament too and if they don't win, many times one of the winners gifts them their bobblehead. Now how cool is that? You can do this any way you want...any time controls, any player limit, any tournament format. I've just found it very fun to have 10 at my house and have some food and heckling amongst people who know each other very well! Keep in mind though, a 10 player double round robin is 90 rated games and it will cost \$22.50 to get the tournament rated. As the tournament host, I've always chosen to pay for it myself. But you could also add it to the entry fee or if you do this with more than ten players, it isn't a problem at all. In reality, the bobbleheads are just a fun formality. It's the 18 games of rated blitz and the laughing comradery that most people like. I have had ten players turned into bobbleheads so far and we are still going. Just an idea I cooked up for smaller clubs where everybody knows your name and face, and head!

Sample Bobbleheads: Can you guess who they are???



New Chess Books
Continued from Page 19

May 19th, 1904 Round 15
Cambridge Springs [B40]

Fox, A.W.
Marshall, F.J.

[Annotated by Alexey Root]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 d5
4.dxc5 Bxc5 5.Bb5+ Nc6 6.0-0

Nge7 7.Nc3 a6 8.Bxc6+ bxc6
9.b3 a5 10.Na4 Ba7 11.Ba3
Ba6 12.Re1 0-0 13.exd5 cxd5
14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.Qxd5 Bb7
16.Qg5 Qc7 17.c4 Bxf3
18.gxf3 Rad8 19.Rad1 Bd4
20.f4 Rd6 21.Rd2??
[#Diagram] Right before this
blunder, Stockfish 15 evalu-
ated White's position as

slightly better than Black's.
Can you find Black's reply,
winning material? 21...Bf6!
22.Rxd6 [22.Qc5 Qxc5
23.Nxc5 Rxd2 and Black
has a rook for a pawn.]
22...Bxg5 23.Red1 Bxf4
24.c5 Bxd6 25.cxd6 Qc2
26.Rd4 e5 0-1

Texas Senior Championship
Continued from Page 14

does lose a second pawn,
now the Q enters on the dark
squares. 34.Bxd5 Qc5+
35.Kb1 Qd4 36.Qd2? I had
calculated 36.Qg1 Qd3+
37.Kb2 Qxf3 38.Rg8 Qe2+
39.Kb1 Qd3+ as a perpetual
check. But 39.Ka1! and with
no extra move to get the Q to
c3/d4, Black must play ...Bg5
and lose the b8R. Even then
the f-pawn + weak dark
squares gives Black reason-
able swindling chances despite
being very low on time (3
minutes). 36...Qc5 37.Qc1
Qd4 38.Qd2 Second repeti-
tion, but every move takes
time to calculate. 38...Qc5
39.Qd3 Bh4 40.Qf1 Qe3
41.Be6 Rd8 42.Bf5+ Kh8
43.Bd7 Rb8 44.Qd1 (time) 1-0

March 5th, Round 5 [B06]

Chris Land (2213)

Gregg Stanley (2146)

Annotated by Chris Land

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c6
Gregg and I had been in a sim-
ilar situation at the 2018 Tex-
as Senior Championship. On
the top board in the last
round, he had a half a point
lead and therefore a draw was

as good as a win. I had Black
in that game, got into trouble,
and my draw offer was
accepted. This time I had
White. Lucky for me Gregg's
opening repertoire is built for
counterattack and not boring
equality. I'm reminded of Boris
Gelfand who specializes in two
defenses against 1.e4: the
buckle-swashing Najdorf and
the luster-lacking Petroff.
This further reminds me that
one time at a chess tourna-
ment someone asked why I
had a Band-aid on my finger,
and I replied that I had been
studying the Najdorf and
some of the lines are really
sharp. Back to the game: this
move-order is similar to the
Gurgenidze variation of the
Caro-Kann (1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5
3.Nc3 g6). In that line Black
would like to play Bg4xNf3
and White can avoid this with
4.h3. I decided to try this
same idea. 4.h3 d6 ...d5 is
probably better. ...d6 sets up
a dark-square counterattack
as seen in King's Indian/Pirc/
Najdorf/Dragon, but here
Black has already committed
to ...c6 which means ...c5
would lose a tempo. The posi-
tion is still playable, just more
difficult than comparable main
lines. 5.Nf3 e5 6.Bc4 After

rejecting 6.dxe5 I was decid-
ing between 6.Be2 and 6.Bc4.
Then I remembered that I
needed to win. 6...Nd7 In the
Philidor defence (1.e4 e5
2.Nf3 d6), playing 3.d4 Nd7
is the Hanham variation. Many
ways for Black to blunder and
lose quickly. 7.dxe5 dxe5?!
7...Nxe5 8.Nxe5 Bxe5 is bet-
ter. Here I wanted to make
8.Ng5 Nh6 9.Bxf7 Nxf7 Ne6
work but it doesn't. 8.Be3
Ngf6 9.Qd6 Played again be-
cause I needed to win. Per-
haps I should play to win more
often. Unfortunately, I had
already used up 24 of my 60
minutes. 9...Qe7 10.0-0-0
Qxd6 11.Rxd6 Ke7? The cen-
tralized King is still in some
danger even without Queens.
11...Bf8 is better. 12.Rhd1
Ne8 13.R6d3 f6 14.a4 After
playing this relatively quickly,
I noticed I had had 14.Rxd7
Bxd7 15.Bc5+ Kd8 16.Be6.
The time to dwell on this is
after the game. Turns out
14.a4 is also very strong.
14...Nc7 15.b4 h5 We were
both under 30 minutes al-
ready. After this unfortunate
blunder the game ends quick-
ly. 16.Nh4 Rh6 17.Kb2! b5
18.axb5 cxb5 19.Bd5! Nxd5
20.Nxd5+ Kd8 21.Bxh6 1-0

Upcoming Events

LATE APRIL 2023

Apr 15-16 - \$2,000 Houston Chess Studio April 2023 Championship
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/Apr2023Championship>

Apr 15 - Riverwood Middle School Scholastic Chess Tournament
Info: <http://chess.jliptrap.us/hca23rvrw.htm>

Apr 15 - Temple April Swiss
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/temple-april-swiss-2023>

Apr 15 - Texas Swiss Tournament
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/texas-swiss-tournament>

Apr 15 - West Texas '23 April Open
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/west-texas-23-april-open>

Apr 18 - Mardi Quads - Presidio Junction
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mardi-quads-6>

Apr 21-23 - 2023 National Middle School (K-8) Championships
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2023-national-middle-school-k-8-championships>

Apr 22 - All Ages Quads
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/QuadAllAgesApril2023>

Apr 23 - Sunday Swiss
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/SunSwiss04232023>

Apr 28-30 - KCF ALL-GIRLS NATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP
Info: <http://allgirls.rknights.org/>

Apr 29 - Adults Only Quads
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/AprilAdultQuads>

Apr 29 - DFW Scholastic Royale
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/dfw-scholastic-royale>

Apr 29 - T H Rogers Tournament
Info: <http://chess.jliptrap.us/schedule.htm>

May 6 - SAISD Chess Without Borders City Wide Tournament
Info: https://www.austinchesstournaments.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/2022-2_SAISD-DistrictTournaments.png

May 6 - West Texas '23 May Open
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/west-texas-23-may-open>

May 7 - Sunday Swiss
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/May7thSundaySwiss>

May 12-14 - 2023 National Elementary (K-6) Championship
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/national-events-calendar>

May 13 - Texas Chess Association Region IX Scholastic Chess Championship and Open Tournaments
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/texas-chess-association-region-ix-scholastic-chess-championship-and-open-tournaments>

May 13 - Scholastic
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/May2023Scholastic>

May 14 - Sunday Swiss
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/May14SunSwiss>

May 16 - Mardi Quads - Presidio Junction
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mardi-quads-6>

May 19-21 - May Championship
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/May2023Championship>

May 20-21 - Texas Private & Parochial Championships
Info: <http://chess.jliptrap.us/schedule.htm>

May 26-29 - Texas State and Amateur Chess Championships
Info: *See Ad on Page 31*

May 27 - Quads All Ages
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/QuadsAllAgesMay27-2023>

May 28 - Sunday Swiss
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/May28SunSwiss>

MAY 2023

May 5-7 - 2023 DFW FIDE 3
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2023-dfw-fide-3>

JUNE 2023

June 20 - Mardi Quads Quarante
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mardi-quads-quarante>

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday Night Swiss
Apr 18, 25
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/Apr2023TueNiteSwiss>
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/May2023TueNight>

Poison Pawns Weekly Chess Meetup at Slowpokes
Apr 19, 26; May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Jun 7, 14
Info: <https://poisonpawns.club/>

Creative 101 Weekly Quick
Apr 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18, 25; Jun 1, 8, 15
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/creative-101-weekly-quick>

RCC Quads
Apr 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26; Jun 2, 9, 16
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/rebecca-chess-club-quads>

Texas Swiss Tournament
Apr 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20, 27; Jun 3, 10, 17
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/texas-swiss-tournament>

78th Annual Texas State and Amateur

Heritage Event, Enhanced Grand Prix, Junior Grand Prix, State Championship Event
Friday, May 26 or Saturday, May 27 - Monday, May 29 2023

Doubletree by Hilton DFW Airport North, 4441 W. John Carpenter Fwy, Irving, TX 75063. Tournament in Lindbergh meeting room. Scholastic in Bond Meeting room. Hotel rates: \$99. Reserve at 972-929-8181 by 5/13 and ask for the rate **CDTDCC**. After 5/13 the rate may or may not be honored. Hotel has complimentary hotel shuttle to/from DFW airport. Free Parking.

Tournament has two Sections and 1 day Scholastic section. All Championship and Amateur players need a FIDE ID in order to play. **Foreign players must disclose their FIDE ID number before 1st round in order to play. New players CHECK WEBSITE for procedures to get assigned a FIDE ID.**

Championship: 7SS, G/90 with 30 second increment. This section is FIDE rated and uses FIDE rules. The tournament will use USCF ratings for pairings and prize purposes. Must be rated 2000 or above OTB regular (not quick, blitz or rapid nor online) by either USCF or FIDE to play in this section or have had a provable 2000 or higher regular rating in the past. Defending Texas State Amateur Champion may also play in this section. Defending Texas Scholastic High School Champions (regardless of rating) may also play in this section. Foreign unrateds may play in this section and at TD/Organizer discretion may be required to play in this section. Prizes \$1000-500-260, 2200-2399 \$720, U2200 \$720.

Amateur: 7SS, G/90 with 30 sec increment. Under 2000 & unrated. This section is FIDE rated and uses FIDE rules. Prizes 1st \$800, 2nd \$400 and 3rd \$200. Class prizes if any, depends on entries.

Both: 4-day: Friday 5/26 - Monday or 3-day Saturday - Monday. Texas Chess Association membership required. Other states accepted. EF: \$99 if received by 5/22, else \$113, senior (over 65)/Handicapped/additional family participant \$65 if receive by 5/22 else \$79. Add \$5 for CC phone entries; pre-reg. requires pre-payment. After 5/25 all registration and changes online only; all changes including withdrawals, \$10 after 5/25. 4 day: Rds. Friday: 7:16 pm, Sat.: 2:45 pm - 7:30, Sun: 11:30 am - 5:15 pm, Mon: 9:30 am - 2:16 pm. 3 day: Rd. 1 on Saturday at 9:30 am then merge with 4 day. Registrations that do not indicate 4-day or 3-day schedule will be put in the 3-day. Default late forfeiture time is one hour. TD may extend this time at TD's discretion.

Up to two 1/2 point byes available if requested before end of rd. 2 and before receiving full point bye, but byes for both rounds 6 AND 7 is not permitted. Note that unless TD rules otherwise on a case by case basis, withdrawals and last round byes are not eligible for prizes. Onsite registration very limited. Online registration or mailed registrations are strongly recommended.

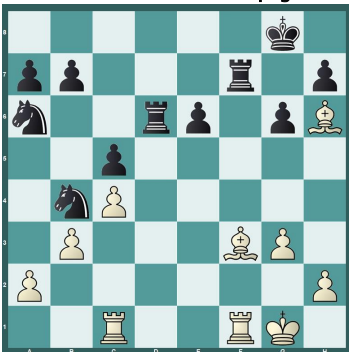
K-12 Scholastic on Saturday, 5/27. 5-SS, Rds. G/30 d5, EF: \$36 by 5/22, \$51 after; Pre-reg. requires pre-payment. After 5/25 all registration and changes on site only; all changes \$10 after 5/25. No refunds after 5/25, \$10 handling fee for refunds before 5/25. Registration 8:15-8:45 am, Rd. 1 at 10:15 am, rest ASAP with small lunch break usually after round 1. Sections: **K-12 Championship** and **K-12 U900**. Prizes: Trophies to top 12 individuals, top five teams in each section. K-12 U900 also top three unrateds. Medals to those who do not win a trophy.

Info: Dallas Chess Club, c/o Barbara Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036. Info: Barb Swafford, 214-632-9000, info@dallaschess.com www.dallaschess.com NS. NC. W. FIDE. JGP



Texas Chess Association
2709 Longhorn Trail
Crowley, TX 76036-4719

Tactics Time! Answer on
page 18



Cam Wheeler-Sanan Sjugirov
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2022
White to Move

