



TEXAS KNIGHTS

Volume 65, Number 2

The official publication of the Texas Chess Association

NOV-DEC 2023 \$5

North & South Grade Championships!!!



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TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

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

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Cover photo (and page 20): A collaboration between the Editor and *Microsoft Bing Image Creator (DALL-E AI)*



- Articles
- Games
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- Photos
- Comics
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Texas Chess Related Submissions Only

Submissions accepted by:

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US Mail: Email Editor and request address.
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Submission Deadline:

January 15th, 2024

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From the Desk of the Editor

Hello Texas,

We are finishing up the year that was 2023, and I have some news to share with you.

First, the request for back issues of *Texas Knights* has gone very well. We will have at least 50 new issues available for the archives. However, our Website Administrator is considering other options to host the archive. Once that is finished, and the work involved to get the current archive moved and all of the new back issues added, you will be able to access them. I believe I will have even more back issues coming soon. A big thanks to our historian, Leigh Harrington for scanning the issues that have been found and received so far. That is not to say that we don't want any more back issues. We haven't found issues from the late 1950s, all of the '60s, or a lot of the 70s yet.

Next, I want to point you to page 18 of this issue. It contains some *Texas Knights* history I found recently. And when it comes to general TCA history, boy do we have a doozy to share... soon. We're not quite ready to break that news yet. But, it may just take what you *think* you know about the early beginnings of TCA and, well, change your mind.

On to what you will find in this issue...

First, we have results and photos from two State Grade Championships. Next, there are results and games from the *first* U.S. Senior Women's Chess Championship held in Cali-

fornia. In addition, there are results and photos from this year's Houston Open.

Our regular contributors return. A new chess book review is provided by Dr. Alexey Root, and Tim Brennan provides us with another set of tactics puzzles, which reminds me... With this issue, Tim has provided us with over 300 tactics puzzles for our enjoyment and chess study. Thanks Tim!!! In addition, Robert L. Myers returns with the first part of his new chess tips article series for his Coach's Corner column.

There is also an article for Tournament Directors and Organizers to read and consider by our TCA President, Franc Guadalupe.

And, one final note: I have changed from using Stockfish 16 for game analysis to the (very) recently released Fritz 19. I do this because you can easily use Stockfish 16 at no cost. On the other hand, Fritz 19 is not free. So, I decided to provide some examples of Fritz 19 capabilities for you. Whether this will be a permanent change or not, I haven't decided. Each of the games provided in this issue have been analyzed by Fritz 19.

I hope you enjoy the issue.

January 15th, 2024, is the submission deadline for the next issue. Mid-February 2024 is when the next issue should arrive in mailboxes. The digital issue should be on the website within the first week of February 2024. Enjoy the holidays, play a lot of chess, and stay safe. **-Jeff**



A Message from the President

DECEMBER 2023

As we approach the end of another year, the Texas Chess Association staff and I thank our players, parents, coaches, chess tournament organizers, and tournament directors for another successful year and for all you do to make Texas a great chess state!

This, the last issue of Texas Knights this year, is packed with tournament reports, games, and pictures. Thanks to those who contributed to this, and in particular to our Editor, Jeff French. In addition to the tournament reports, I am including an article addressed to the tournament directors. I hope that Texas chess tournament directors and organizers of local, regional, and state events find this article instructive and helpful as they continue to promote the game we love and as tournament directors continue to work on upgrading their US Chess and FIDE certifications.

Speaking of state events, please mark your calendar for the 2024 tournaments, starting with the Regional Championships which are scheduled to be held in most of the 10 TCA regions during January and February. Following the Regional Championships, we will have the Texas Scholastic Chess Championships, both North and South. Players are not limited to one or the other, and they may play in both. The Texas Scholastic Chess Championships North are being organized by the Dallas Chess Club and will be held in Houston, on March 1 - 3. The South

Championships are being organized by UTRGV and will be held in Brownsville, on March 15 - 17. We hope to see most of our scholastic chess players in either one of these or both! And since these events will be used to select our representatives for the US Chess National Invitational events (Denker, Barber, and Rockefeller), there will be online playoffs between the first-place winners of the North and South High School, Middle School, and Elementary School Championship sections. In addition, we will have an online playoff between the top female players of those three sections in both North and South events, and they will join the winners of the same sections from the 2023 Texas Girls Championships, to determine the Texas representative to the Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions. Of course, we cannot forget about the Irwin National Tournament of Senior Champions. The Texas representative will be the winner of the 2024 Senior Championship. Information about the last event is not yet available. As you may know, those national events are always held in conjunction with the U.S. Open and in 2024, they will be held at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel in Norfolk, Virginia, on July 27 - 30. So, again, please make plans to attend the TCA events and visit our website as well as the TCA Facebook page for information.

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.

Texas North Scholastic Grade Championship

Additional Results: <https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202310224392>

The *Texas North Scholastic Grade Championship* was held in Houston from October 20th to October 22nd, 2023. Six rounds were played with time controls of Round 1: G/45;d5, Rounds 2-6: G/60;d5. There were a total of 246 participants with fourteen sections including Kindergarten, individual sections for each of the Grades 1-12, and an Extra Rated Games section.

FM Sharvesh R. Deviprasath was undefeated in the *12th Grade Section*.

The 6 participants in the 12th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	SHARVESH R DEVIPRASATH	W4	W2	W3	W6	W5	W3	6
2	REMINGTON ROTH	W6	L1	W5	D3	W4	U	3.5
3	ELIJAH WANG	W5	W4	L1	D2	W6	L1	3.5
4	PRINZE T TAMAYO	L1	L3	W6	W5	L2	U	2
5	ETHAN NGUYEN	L3	D6	L2	L4	L1	X	1.5
6	JEZEKIEL MATHEW MATH SIJI	L2	D5	L4	L1	L3	F	0.5

Kevin Qin won the *11th Grade Section* with a score of 5.5/6.

The Top 4 of 13 participants in the 11th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	KEVIN QIN	W7	D3	W5	W2	W4	W6	5.5
2	RONIT PODDER	W6	D4	W3	L1	W5	W9	4.5
3	ANIRUDDHA R KUMAR	X	D1	L2	W11	W9	W5	4.5
4	MATTHEW C XIE	W12	D2	W7	H	L1	W13	4

NM Arsal Gardezi won the *10th Grade Section* with a score of 5.0/6.

The Top 4 of 17 participants in the 10th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ARSAL GARDEZI	W8	W6	W9	D5	W3	D2	5
2	ANDY Y WANG	L13	W10	W4	W9	W5	D1	4.5
3	ROMAN NICHOLAS NAVARRO	W12	D4	D5	W6	L1	W7	4
4	MS. SARA SACHIN GUPTA	W17	D3	L2	D14	W10	W9	4

NM Vaseegaran Nandhakumar won the *9th Grade Section* with a score of 5.0/6.

The Top 4 of 14 participants in the 9th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	VASEEGARAN NANDHAKUMAR	W13	D3	W2	D5	W10	W8	5
2	LUCIUS MELILLO	W7	W10	L1	D3	W6	W5	4.5
3	YAKSHWAG REDDY RAJU	W4	D1	W6	D2	D5	W10	4.5
4	AIDEN NGUYEN	L3	W13	L7	W9	W12	W11	4

Rusheel Nigudkar and Neil Lad shared the top spot in the *8th Grade Section* with scores of 5.0/6.

The Top 4 of 21 participants in the 8th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	RUSHEEL NIGUDKAR	W4	W11	W5	W7	L2	W8	5
2	NEIL LAD	W12	W15	L7	W8	W1	W5	5
3	MIHIKA KRISHNAN	L14	W10	D6	D4	W12	W7	4
4	RAHUL SANTOSH REDDY	L1	W20	W16	D3	D6	W11	4

Anirudh Kumar won the *7th Grade Section* with a score of 5.5/6.

The Top 5 of 21 participants in the 7th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ANIRUDH KUMAR	W16	W20	W7	D2	W5	W8	5.5
2	KRRISH KAUL	W9	W8	W15	D1	W4	L3	4.5
3	NAIM GULIYEV	H	W21	L6	W10	W15	W2	4.5
4	DEVAJ MAYANK VADHER	L10	W16	W18	W6	L2	W9	4
5	JAKE NOLAN D'SOUZA	W17	L15	W10	W11	L1	W12	4

Srikar Kandikayala and Tanish Seelam shared the top spot in the *6th Grade Section* with scores of 5.0/6.

The Top 4 of 28 participants in the 6th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	SRIKAR KANDIKAYALA	W18	W26	D4	W13	D2	W6	5
2	TANISH SEELAM	W15	W9	W7	D6	D1	W5	5
3	SHRIYAN VUYURU	W12	D8	L6	W24	W17	W9	4.5
4	ISHAAN IKKURTHI	W19	W14	D1	L5	W8	W10	4.5

Alexander Liu won the *5th Grade Section* with a score of 5.5/6.

The Top 3 of 28 participants in the 5th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ALEXANDER LIU	W18	W8	W5	W2	W3	D4	5.5
2	ELAINE FU	W21	W14	W7	L1	W13	W5	5
3	REYANSH GANUMUKKALA	D4	W19	W11	W10	L1	W8	4.5

Kawin Sayi Suresh won the *4th Grade Section* with a score of 5.5/6.

The Top 3 of 27 participants in the 4th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	KAWIN SAYI SURESH	W20	W15	W2	W11	W4	D3	5.5
2	TANAV BALAJI	W17	W10	L1	W18	W13	W9	5
3	ISHAN NAGA VENKATA MADDISETTY	W22	D4	W12	W6	W11	D1	5

Advik Manchanda won the *3rd Grade Section* with a score of 5.5/6.

The Top 3 of 29 participants in the 3rd Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ADVIK MANCHANDA	W19	W7	W2	W4	W3	W6	6
2	MR. GURUGRAHAN GURUMOORTHY	W17	W14	L1	W8	W13	W11	5
3	AADHYA JAY RAJAGOPALAN	W16	W6	W12	W11	L1	W4	5

Elvin Iskandarov and Jayden He shared the top spot in the 2nd Grade Section with scores of 5.5/6.

The Top 4 of 18 participants in the 2nd Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ELVIN ISKANDAROV	W5	W7	W3	D2	W4	W6	5.5
2	JAYDEN HE	W10	W8	W4	D1	W3	W12	5.5
3	THARUN AVINASHKARTHI	W14	W9	L1	W10	L2	W7	4
4	ASHER JOSEPH	W17	W12	L2	W5	L1	W8	4

Felix Lixing Zhai was undefeated in the *1st Grade Section*.

The Top 3 of 13 participants in the 1st Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	FELIX LIXING ZHAI	W8	W7	W4	W2	W6	W5	6
2	JAYDEN JIN	W3	W6	W5	L1	W4	W8	5
3	ELENI PETROU CARVOUNIS	L2	B	W8	L4	W11	W6	4

Nikhil Hariharan was undefeated in the *Kindergarten Section*.

The Top 4 of 11 participants in the Kindergarten Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	NIKHIL HARIHARAN	W7	W4	W2	W3	W9	W8	6
2	NATHAN LIU	W5	W8	L1	W6	W4	W3	5
3	ATHENA ROSE PROTOPAPAS	W10	W5	W9	L1	W8	L2	4
4	COLIN FARROKHNIA	W6	L1	W8	W5	L2	W7	4

There were 24 participants in the *Extra Rated Games Section*. See the additional results for more information.

Memories from the Tournament

Photos by Deborah Shafer



Texas South Scholastic Grade Championship

Additional Results: <https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202310085282>

The *Texas South Scholastic Grade Championship* was held in Brownsville on October 7th and 8th, 2023. There were 229 participants in the 13 sections. Six rounds were played in each of the individual Grade 1-12 Sections and three rounds in the Extra Games Section. Time Controls: Grades 9-12: Rounds 1-4, G45;d5 and Rounds 5 & 6, G60;d5; Grades 3-8: G45;d5, Grade 2: G35;d5, Grade 1: G30;d5 and the Extra Games Section: G45;d5.

Nathan Isaac Rostro was undefeated in the *12th Grade Section*.

The Top 3 of 8 participants in the 12th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	NATHAN ISAAC ROSTRO	W4	W3	W2	W7	W8	W5	6
2	BRANDON ARTHUR TOVIAS	W5	W6	L1	W8	W3	W4	5
3	MR. CARLOS EDUARDO SEPULVEDA	W8	L1	W6	W4	L2	W7	4

Emilio Jorian Rodriguez won the *11th Grade Section* with a score of 5.5/6.

The Top 3 of 20 participants in the 11th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	EMILIO JORIAN RODRIGUEZ	W17	W9	W8	W2	D3	W4	5.5
2	JOSUHE RODRIGUEZ	W18	W3	W14	L1	W5	W7	5
3	NATALIE SOLIS	W5	L2	W7	W14	D1	W8	4.5

Felix Saldivar Jr. was undefeated in the *10th Grade Section*.

The Top 3 of 15 participants in the 10th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	FELIX SALDIVAR JR.	W5	W8	W3	W2	W4	W6	6
2	AARON DANIEL ROSTRO	W14	W12	W4	L1	D3	W8	4.5
3	JOSE A ANGELES TINAJERO	W11	W7	L1	W5	D2	W9	4.5

Christian Ryan Gomez and Kaitlynn Lee Mcnutt shared the top spot in the *9th Grade Section* with scores of 5.0/6.

The Top 3 of 26 participants in the 9th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	CHRISTIAN RYAN GOMEZ	W13	W9	D2	W4	D3	W7	5
2	KAITLYNN LEE MCNUTT	W20	W10	D1	W5	W6	D3	5
3	LUIS MIRAMONTES	W18	W6	D5	W16	D1	D2	4.5

Alejandro Xiaohu Guevara won the *8th Grade Section* with a score of 4.5/6.

The Top 7 of 16 participants in the 8th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	ALEJANDRO XIAOHU GUEVARA	W7	L4	W12	D6	W3	W2	4.5
2	JAMIL ISMAILOV	W10	W6	W3	W5	L4	L1	4
3	BRANDON MICHAEL GOSSAGE	W9	W12	L2	W8	L1	W10	4
4	SOPHIA GARCIA	D8	W1	D5	W7	W2	L6	4
5	TOMAS DE OCHOA	W15	W14	D4	L2	D6	W9	4
6	JOSIAH RIVERA	X	L2	W15	D1	D5	W4	4
7	GABRIELLA ISABELLA GONZALEZ	L1	W9	W13	L4	B	W12	4

Devaj Mayank Vadher won the *7th Grade Section* with a score of 5.5/6.

The Top 5 of 15 participants in the 7th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	DEVAJ MAYANK VADHER	W5	W7	W2	W3	W4	D6	5.5
2	MILIND PATIL	W14	W8	L1	W7	W3	W5	5
3	CALVIN MUNSAYAC	W6	W9	W4	L1	L2	W11	4
4	ABRAM MATIAS LOPEZ	W10	W11	L3	W8	L1	W7	4
5	ISABELLA OLIVIA BARBA	L1	X	W15	W10	W8	L2	4

Srijani Sai Maddipati was undefeated in the *6th Grade Section*.

The Top 3 of 37 participants in the 6th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	SRIJANI SAI MADDIPATI	W24	W10	W6	W8	W2	W7	6
2	JOSHUA M BERUMEN	W19	W13	W3	W9	L1	W6	5
3	MIGUEL NORIEGA	W28	W27	L2	W14	W16	W8	5

Samuel Perales won the *5th Grade Section* with a score of 5.5/6.

The Top 4 of 20 participants in the 5th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	SAMUEL PERALES	W12	W10	W5	W6	W8	D3	5.5
2	NAILEY A SERRATO	X	L5	W15	W9	W6	W7	5
3	UTHER K RODRIGUEZ	W11	W18	L4	W5	W10	D1	4.5
4	SANTOS MANUEL LOERA JR.	D13	W19	W3	L8	W11	W10	4.5

Preash Mayank Vadher was undefeated in the *4th Grade Section*.

The Top 4 of 33 participants in the 4th Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	PREASH MAYANK VADHER	W16	W14	W9	W7	W2	W5	6
2	KAISER TROY GARCIA	W30	W4	W12	W5	L1	W7	5
3	RITHIKA KAKARLA	W33	W23	L5	W11	W14	D6	4.5
4	AJ LORENZO MONTALVO	W31	L2	W33	W23	D6	W14	4.5

Srihas Sai Sarvesh Maddipati was undefeated in the *3rd Grade Section*.

The Top 6 of 16 participants in the 3rd Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	SRIHAS SAI SARVESH MADDIPATI	W11	W3	W2	W7	W9	W5	6
2	MANUEL LUIS GONZALEZ II	W6	W4	L1	W9	W7	W8	5
3	EVERARDO CARDENAS	W14	L1	W4	W10	L5	W12	4
4	EMMA RENTERIA	W8	L2	L3	W16	W14	W9	4
5	ZAIRA VARGAS	L7	W11	W15	W12	W3	L1	4
6	LYAM IVAN GARCIA	L2	W16	L11	X	W10	W7	4

Jiahui Shi was undefeated in the *2nd Grade Section*.

The Top 3 of 14 participants in the 2nd Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	JIAHUI SHI	W13	W2	W4	W5	W3	W8	6
2	ANDREW JACE PEREZ	W9	L1	W11	W7	D4	W5	4.5
3	LEONARDO PATINO	W11	W8	L6	W9	L1	W4	4

Valeria Giselle Cruz was undefeated in the *1st Grade Section*.

The Top 5 of 10 participants in the 1st Grade Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Tot
1	VALERIA GISELLE CRUZ	W9	W7	W2	W4	W3	W6	6
2	EDGAR JESUS GONZALEZ	W3	W6	L1	D8	W9	W7	4.5
3	GALILEA MANCILLA	L2	W8	D5	W9	L1	W10	3.5
4	ANIKA KAKARLA	W10	D5	W7	L1	L6	W8	3.5
5	ERIC ADRIAN CANDANOSA	W6	D4	D3	D7	L8	W9	3.5

There were 7 participants in the *Extra Rated Games Section*. See the additional results for more information.

Memories from the Tournament

Photos by Lauren Tovias



Texas Team Championship

January 19 - 21

Houston, Texas

Click/Tap Ad for additional information or goto: <https://texaschess.org/texas-team-championship-2024/>

U.S. Senior Women's Chess Championship

Additional Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2023-us-senior-womens-championship>

The first **U.S. Senior Women's Chess Championship** was held at the Berkeley Chess School in Berkeley, California, from November 3rd to November 5th. It was a 5-round Swiss with a Time Control of G90;+30. The tournament was both USCF and FIDE-rated.

Texas Knights contributor **WIM Alexey Root** participated in the tournament and finished with a score of 2.0/5. She came out swinging with a win in round 1 and a draw in round 2, but alas, she lost both games in rounds 3 and 4. She did recover a bit with a draw in round 5 against a higher-rated opponent. You can find games from the tournament listed in the Game Index on *Page 24*.

Below is the full roster of participants.

#	Title	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Total
1	WGM	Anjelina Belakovskaia	6b1	7w1	2b1	4w½	3b1	4.5
2	WFM	Olga Sagalchik	3w1	11b1	1w0	7b1	4b1	4
3		Varinia F. Cabrera	2b0	12w1	9b1	8w1	1w0	3
4	WIM	Beatriz Marinello	10w1	8b½	5w1	1b½	2w0	3
5	WFM	Natalia Tsodikova	7b0	6w1	4b0	12w1	8b½	2.5
6	WIM	Vesna Dimitrijevic	1w0	5b0	11w1	9b½	10b1	2.5
7	WCM	Natasha Christiansen	5w1	1b0	8w1	2w0	0	2
8	WIM	Alexey Root	9b1	4w½	7b0	3b0	5w½	2
9		Julie Anne O`Neill	8w0	10b1	3w0	6w½	12b½	2
10	WIM	Shernaz Kennedy	4b0	9w0	12b½	11b+	6w0	1.5
11	WCM	Mary Kuhner	12b1	2w0	6b0	10w-	0	1
12	WIM	Dorothy Teasley	11w0	3b0	10w½	5b0	9w½	1



For Chess Tournament Directors and Organizers, Part 1

By Franc Guadalupe (see qualifications at the bottom of *Page 4*)

During the course of many years, I have had the opportunity and honor of organizing and directing many chess events at Club, Regional, State, National, International, and even the World Championship levels. And, as US Chess Executive Director, US Chess Director of Events, and FIDE Zonal President for the USA, I have also been involved in other aspects of chess. All this has given me a unique perspective of the chess world, the tournament rules, and what I believe is best for those of us involved in the game. This is my first attempt at sharing that knowledge with tournament directors and organizers in Texas.

Some tournament directors focus on things they need to do to advance to the next US Chess TD or FIDE arbiter levels, and rightly so. However, I believe that the first concern should be about directing or organizing an event to the best of their ability, and the rest will take care of itself. Of course, if you need to work at a certain level in order to advance, such as a National Championship, then you need to take the appropriate steps to accomplish that. My advice on this topic is to be proactive, and if you need to contact an organizer who may give you the opportunity, do it!

In recent months, I have been made aware of some violations by TDs and organizers who have allowed them. Specifically, TDs that exceed the limit of their certification in terms of expected attendance. Chapter 7 of the *US Chess Federation's Official Rules of Chess* lists the limits of each certification. I will only list those TD limits with computer assistance because very few TDs nowadays will do a tournament using pairing cards. That said, all TDs should have knowledge of how pairings work, and may need to explain it to a player who asks. The lowest TD level, a Club TD, can be the Chief TD of any tournament or section, expected to draw up to 60 players. The limit

for a Local TD is 120 players, and for a Senior TD is 360 players. Associate National Tournament Directors have no limit as far as attendance, but they cannot be the Chief of an N1 tournament, which is a national tournament that averages over 150 players in the previous five-year period, although they cannot be the Chief of some much smaller national events such as the U.S. Championship, U.S. Women's Championship, and U.S. Junior Championship.

If an organizer is expecting 700 players in a K-12 tournament, for example, and he or she has no available ANTDs or NTDs, or prefers not to use them, then the organizer can divide the event into two different tournaments: a Senior TD can be the Chief TD of one event, all K-5 sections, for example, and another Senior TD can be the Chief TD of another tournament, with 6-12 sections, even if both tournaments are at the same location. The US Chess Tournament Certification Committee (TDCC), of which I used to be a member, is okay with this solution as long as it is not just "on paper" and both (or more) TDs actually performed the duties as Chief. So, what happens if you exceed the limits? Normally not much, unless something goes wrong with the event, to include any appeals, but it is best not to do it.

A very serious infraction, in my opinion, is when a TD is listed as the Chief, or TD in any capacity, and is not at the event! This, in plain English, is falsifying a document, and if an Ethics complaint is filed, the TD will have to answer. My advice is not to do that either!

Due to space constraints, this is all I will have for this issue, but I will cover US Chess and FIDE rule differences in the next issue. For now, keep on organizing and directing chess events, always in a professional yet friendly manner, and, of course, study the rules!

Women Age 65 and Over			Girls Age 16 (continued)			Girls Age 11 (continued)		
29	Hardesty, Brenda T	1164	77	Nitturi, Rajni	1137	42	Liu, Mina	1166
39	Cain, Jo Ellen	727	83	Nakkala, Sharvi	1076	43	Kalavagunta, Saanvika C	1146
43	Swafford, Barbara R	314	85	Torres, Asia	1065	48	Nguyen, Suri Ngoc	1123
			93	Pullabhotla, Laasya	995	55	Cisneros, Ariana	1073
			95	Pilla, Ananya Valli	970	56	Durbhakula, Bhanusri	1065
Women Age 50 and Over			Girls Age 15			Girls Age 10		
6	Root, Alexey	2000				15	Senapati, Avni	1577
31	Kent, Nadia Taylor	1501	12	Roy, Aanya	1833	16	Fu, Elaine	1576
40	Stuckert, Elena	1458	26	Gupta, Sara Sachin	1680	53	Perel, Livia	1096
59	Kneen, Melanie Anne	1212	43	Sun, Yimeng Jenny	1519	64	Hiwale, Riona	970
64	Hardesty, Brenda T	1164	48	Hwang, Alexis	1498	65	Skripkina, Elizaveta	969
84	Pulliam, Landra	916	56	Akella, Sravya	1424	73	Borse, Anushka	913
96	Cain, Jo Ellen	727	60	Ham, Emily	1400	75	Kaul, Anika Shambhavi	909
			75	Kirumaki, Shreya A	1307	78	Anbalagan, Ananyasree	901
Girls Under Age 21			78	Seals, Ayre Allbritton	1300	82	Gonzalez, Kimberly	876
3	Malicka, Maria	2375	95	Milova, Vladislava	1194	90	Serrato, Nailey A	861
10	Li, Rachael	2264	98	Torres, Sahara J	1175	93	Galvan, Ashley	829
31	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2096	Girls Age 14			98	Guzman, Lua	794
35	Yellamraju, Ambica	2081	33	Mcnutt, Kaitlynn Lee	1542	99	Delagardie, Melania	788
55	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2011	39	Shankar, Aashritha Vidhya	1479	Girls Age 9		
81	Yellamraju, Aparna	1917	41	Tiruvedhula, Suhavi	1458	3	Liu, Chloe	1713
85	Zhang, Sunny	1908	52	Ande, Eesha K	1384	10	Sun, Claire	1401
			60	Sharan, Neha	1329	11	Choi, Nyla	1341
Girls Age 18			62	Laskaris, Evie	1324	60	Anand, Keren	857
3	Yellamraju, Ambica	2081	74	Camacho, Kaitlyn Alexandria	1173	75	Patino, Eliana	742
6	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2011	76	Pyle, Abigail	1163	83	Zhang, Emma	691
8	Yellamraju, Aparna	1917	79	Cruz, Vivica Renee	1139	85	Bansal, Aishwarya	684
25	Tiruvedhula, Saanvi	1656	88	Davis, Samantha Katelynn	1096	93	Loera, Samantha Nicole	625
37	Kao, Simona Y	1470	91	Caldera, Sophia M	1083	97	Banala, Ira Jaya	616
39	Padilla, Karlee	1457	99	Sista, Manaskriti	1037	Girls Age 8		
52	Babaria, Rajvi Rakesh	1333	Girls Age 13			3	Yao, Annie	1706
54	Hernandez, Madelyn	1316	Li, Rachael	2264	10	16	Ganesh, Kaira Ananya	1178
61	Balderas, Ana Luisa	1174	10	Zhang, Sunny	1908	60	Shi, Jiahui	960
68	Dasagi, Aakanksha	1104	14	Prakash, Nandini	1809	27	Zhao, Lily	893
75	Rodriguez, Melissa	913	28	Hosur, Sanmita	1647	33	Cruz, Julia A	735
79	Bridgeman, Aoife	842	29	Borse, Tanvi	1645	52	Wali, Zarmina	667
88	Hernandez, Aunica J	669	30	Stubbins, Isabella	1644	64	Parra, Victoria M	600
90	Varanasi, Sriharshita	591	41	Namala, Dhanvi	1580	76	Vargas, Zaira	580
			43	Krishnan, Mihika	1568	80	Panta, Keerthana Reddy	535
Girls Age 17			48	Raghuraja, Sri Yashvi	1528	Girls Age 7 and Under		
40	Naidu, Suchitra Ganesh	1475	85	Vijayaraghava, Aditi	1190	22	Sony, Neha Teresa	868
43	Vasquez, Izabel Amparo	1368	88	Callens, Jael	1180	42	Peng, Grace	685
44	Zhang, Taylor Chengyue	1367	90	Pidathala, Esha	1168	63	Arambul, Zoey	560
53	Hernandez, Sarah	1307	96	Song, Lucia	1120	65	Sanchez, Adalie Marie	546
54	Hunt, Vivian	1304	Girls Age 12			71	Mamidibattula, Manasvini	510
62	Athila, Akshaya	1246	20	Vinayagaram, Nethra	1596	78	Quiroga, Alana	484
67	Mallick, Lipika	1197	48	Rios-Ocampo, Sofia	1343	91	Leal, Evelyn	386
73	Morales, Natalia Aseneth	1138	75	Velu, Shambhavi	1116	Girls Age 6 and Under		
77	Deleon, Christina Marie	1046	78	Sastry, Adya	1097	22	Sony, Neha Teresa	868
80	Parvathaneni, Voshita	1017	91	Nair, Aditi	1041	42	Peng, Grace	685
83	Cisneros, Anahi	992	97	Perez, Andrea	995	63	Arambul, Zoey	560
95	Zermeo, Mia A	915	Girls Age 11			65	Sanchez, Adalie Marie	546
			3	Shen, Yangyang	1827	71	Mamidibattula, Manasvini	510
Girls Age 16			7	Zhang, Alicia S	1723	78	Quiroga, Alana	484
4	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2096	9	Zhang, Ellery	1696	91	Leal, Evelyn	386
18	Wang, Kalia Yuke	1809	28	Maddipati, Srijani Sai	1351	Girls Age 5 and Under		
25	Reddy, Tanvi Chinthagunta	1647	33	Duran, Violet	1273	22	Sony, Neha Teresa	868
39	Yu, Vicky	1450	38	Zamarripa, Salma	1197	42	Peng, Grace	685
51	Solis, Natalie	1331	39	Kuchibhatla, Nitya	1184	63	Arambul, Zoey	560
59	Shivam, Annika Elizabeth	1278	Girls Age 4 and Under			65	Sanchez, Adalie Marie	546
65	Thornhill, Eowyn	1205				71	Mamidibattula, Manasvini	510
70	Asthigiri, Lakshana	1184				78	Quiroga, Alana	484
73	Cardin, Maddie Taylor	1155				91	Leal, Evelyn	386
74	Adams, Sapphire	1154				Girls Age 3 and Under		



Tactics Time! Answers - Download Now (see page 24)

1. **36...e5** Blocks White's defense of the Knight on g3
 2. **25.Ne7+!** Forks the Black King and Rook. **25...Rxe7 26.Rxe7 Qxe7 27.Qxc8**
 3. **25.Bf3** or **25.Bb5** pins and wins the Black Bishop
 4. **37...Bxg2+!** Clears the way for Blacks passed pawns.
 5. **27.Ba4!** Attacks the b pawn a third time. If the Bishop is taken **27...bxa4 28.Rb7 Bxb7 29.Rb7+** skewers the Black King and Queen.
 6. **25...Bf4** pins the White Queen to the King. White can block with **26.Be3** but that allows **26...Qa1#**
 7. **39...Bxc4** grabs a pawn, clearing the way for the Knight fork **...Nd3+**
 8. **49...d3! 50.Kxd5 d2** and the Black pawn will Queen
- Cover. **35...Rxf2+!! 36. Qxf2 Qh5+ 36. Kg1 Qh1#**

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/>



The Introduction of *Texas Knights* to the World



Below, you will see some *Texas Knights* history. In fact, what you should recognize is the announcement, primarily to the chess world, that a new publication has become available, and members of the Texas Chess Association will be receiving copies of the publication as part of their membership. This announcement, written by the *Chess Life* Editor at the time, **Fred M. Wren**, was published in Vol. XIV, Number 2, of *Chess Life* and is dated September 20th, 1959. As you should also see, the initial *Texas*

Knights offering was a 4-page publication that was produced quarterly. The first editor was **George R. Smith**, who was from Houston. The freshman issue of the publication contained much of the same type of content that we still provide to members today. You can safely assume there were no personal computers, publishing applications, automated spelling and grammar evaluators, chess engines, or even the internet, all of which are now used to create and distribute a new issue of *Texas Knights*.

Howdy, Podnuh!

If anyone questions the spelling above, we refer him to the editor of the new chess publication "TEXAS KNIGHTS" which is hereby heartily welcomed into the fold. In Volume 1, No. 1 of this quarterly sponsored by the Texas Chess Association, the editor uses that spelling, and we learned long ago not to try to make something of what we considered to be Texas solecisms. This new four-pager newspaper devotes about two pages to news items of Texas chess and chess personages, one page to four games nicely annotated by Editor George R. Smith of Houston, while the editorial page presents, among other interesting material, eight problems (seven 2-movers and one 3-mover). All in all, lots of chess enjoyment for the members of the Texas Chess Association, who will henceforth receive this paper regularly. Good luck, podnuh!

Permission to use provided by **John Hartmann**, Editor, *Chess Life*

Note: If you would like to see the original announcement, the aforementioned issue of *Chess Life* is available from the *Chess Life Digital Archives* here: https://uscf1-nyc1.aodhosting.com/CL-AND-CR-ALL/CL-ALL/1959/1959_09_2.pdf. You will find it near the bottom left of Page 4. The *Chess Life Digital Archives* are available from here: <https://new.uschess.org/chess-life-digital-archives>.

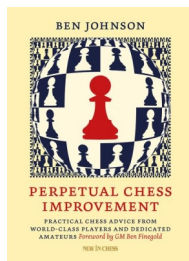


New Chess Books - Perpetual Chess Improvement

By Dr. Alexey Root, WIM

Dr. Alexey Root volunteers for the 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/>



US Chess National Master Ben Johnson is best known for his podcast, *Perpetual Chess*. Since its debut in 2016, it has been downloaded over five million times. The podcast can be heard in over 100 countries. Guests of the podcast have included world champions, such as Viswanathan Anand, as well as “adult improvers.”

It is surprising that Johnson didn't know that a digital version of Silman's *Endgame Course* was in the works, because Chessable is a sponsor of Johnson's podcast. *Perpetual Chess Improvement: Practical Chess Advice from World-Class Players and Dedicated Amateurs* recommends many Chessable courses as well as praising Chessable's spaced repetition methodology.

Johnson compiles advice from his podcast guests, and gives his own opinions too, in his book *Perpetual Chess Improvement: Practical Chess Advice from World-Class Players and Dedicated Amateurs*. Johnson's book was published October 23, 2023, by New in Chess.

Diagrams

In the eBook version of *Perpetual Chess Improvement: Practical Chess Advice from World-Class Players and Dedicated Amateurs*, the diagrams are instructive and interactive. You can make your own moves on them, turn on the built-in Stockfish 10 engine to generate lines, or click through moves that Johnson provides.

The New in Chess webpage for the book has sample pages. On that site, the paperback is available for €24.94, and the eBook is available for €19.95. Those prices are in Euros and do not include €12.95 for standard shipping to Texas. Ben Johnson offers signed copies for \$40, including tax and shipping, at this link: <https://www.perpetualchesspod.com/signedbook>

Second printing

On December 5, 2023, Ben Johnson announced on Twitter/X that *Perpetual Chess Improvement: Practical Chess Advice from World-Class Players and Dedicated Amateurs* will have a second printing by its publisher New in Chess.

Chessable to the rescue!

Books on openings have a short shelf life. As Johnson writes, “engines are so strong, and theory develops so quickly that digital courses and database work are increasingly replacing opening books.”

Writing and Editing

Perpetual Chess Improvement: Practical Chess Advice from World-Class Players and Dedicated Amateurs is a quick and fun read. If you are a fan of the Perpetual Chess podcast, as I am, you will recognize Johnson's voice in the book's breezy and personable style. While the book has fewer editing and proofreading problems than most new chess books, it is not perfect.

Even a general advice book such as Johnson's can fall behind the times. For example, Johnson recommends Jeremy Silman's *Endgame Course* but laments, “there is no digital version that allows you to incorporate engines or practice key positions.” But on November 6, 2023, Chessable released Silman's Complete Endgame Course: From Beginner to Master. Since Silman died on September 21, 2023, IM Alex Banzea presents Silman's course on Chessable.

Johnson stated that he edits guests' words for clarity. This quote from *Chess Life* Online editor, and *Perpetual Chess* guest, JJ Lang must have slipped past him: “You often don't have the mental and financial resources to dedicate to chess that you do that some people do when they're kids.” Maybe this quote

means that children have more financial and mental resources than some adults do?

Johnson misspells Abhimanyu Mishra's first name as "Abimanyu" and Timur Gareyev's last name as "Garyev." Andrew Kauffman, Head of Marketing Operations for Chessable, has his last name rendered as "Kaufman" by Johnson. Johnson calls the Saint Louis Chess Club the "St. Louis Chess Club."

Chess Puzzles

Perpetual Chess Improvement: Practical Chess Advice from World-Class Players and Dedicated Amateurs has chess diagrams throughout, related to the Perpetual Chess podcast guests. If Johnson cites a titled player or an adult improver, then a diagram from a game by that player is nearby. For example, when Johnson quotes IM John Donaldson, nearby is a chess diagram (chess puzzle) from a game that Donaldson won against GM Joel Benja-

min. The full Donaldson-Benjamin game, and the games connected to the book's other chess diagrams, are available in Chapter 27.

How to Improve

The book's most-repeated chess improvement advice is to play over-the-board (OTB) tournament chess games. The novelty of being outside of your home for OTB tournament games—far from familial and job distractions—should help you become the best chess player you can be.

The book also recommends that you to do whatever other chess that you like, including puzzles, opening study, endgame problems, visualization, blitz, etc. Enjoying chess, such as picking an opening that suits your personality, may help you improve. Or, if you have already passed your chess peak, at least you will be having chess fun.

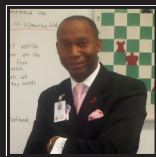
Links relating to the article

New in Chess Book webpage: <https://www.newinchess.com/perpetual-chess-improvement>

Chessable Silman Endgame Course: <https://www.chessable.com/silmans-complete-endgame-course-from-beginner-to-master/course/199399/>

Second Printing Tweet: <https://twitter.com/Bennyficial1/status/1732148350273601543>





Coach's Corner - e4! *The Chess Top 40, Part 1* by Robert L. Myers

* **Editors Note:** *The Chess Top 40* article will continue in the next issue of *Texas Knights*.

I have always loved music. I can awaken after a good night's sleep, and a song, seemingly out of nowhere, is ringing incessantly in my head, and usually will not stop until said song has been heard. This reminds me of America's Top 40 and Top 10 with Casey Kasem. Kemal Amin "Casey" Kasem is an American disc jockey, actor, and radio host who created and hosted several radio countdown programs. He had an uncanny ability to play all the songs I liked. I have spoken with untold Experts, Masters and befriended many Grandmasters, and one thing is true with each of them: at one point in their chess careers, they were once novices and had to learn how the pieces move. Then it was on to tactics. Some situations are just nefarious; in the nearly infinite possibilities in a game of chess, one can do more than a few things to defend your pieces and attack your opponent. "The ultimate chess player knows all the moves before the first move and until the last move." However, no one knows all the possibilities, but if a player could master and remember anything, it would be best to remember a few tips with brief explanations of each that should catapult you out of the arena of novice newbies. The first is why we play this game at all: checkmate.

One day, after chess practice and a long coaching day, my youngest asked me to play a game. He had seen a few YouTube videos and wanted to show me his new skill. After a few moves, I noticed the expressions on his face and decided to record him responding to the responses of my responses. Thus, I came up with a few tips I've learned along the way to help you and my son with your chess game and at least minimize the facial expressions.

1) A-B-C, "Always, Be-looking for Checkmate."- Always looking for checkmate opportunities is crucial in chess because it can lead to decisive victories. By actively seeking a checkmate, you keep the pressure on your opponent and force them to be constantly vigilant. Checkmate threats can create tactical opportunities and make your opponent's position crumble under the pressure. Moreover, focusing on checkmate prevents complacency and helps you maintain a proactive mindset. Whether it's a direct checkmate threat or a series of tactical maneuvers leading to checkmate, this approach keeps your opponent on the defensive and maximizes your chances of securing a victorious outcome in the game. A good way to remember this is to: A-activate

your pieces, B - be safe with your King or castle, and C-control the Center.

2) King Safety: King safety is paramount in chess. An exposed or vulnerable king can lead to quick checkmates and lost games. Key principles for king safety include Castling, pawn cover, and piece coordination. Castling is a move that tucks the King behind a wall of pawns (kingside or queenside) and connects the rooks. This reduces the risk of back-rank checkmates and provides a safe haven for the King. Pawn cover involves keeping pawns in front of the King. These pawns act as a shield, preventing enemy pieces from directly attacking the King. Good piece coordination ensures that your pieces are protecting each other and helping to control key squares around the King. This includes developing your minor pieces (knights and bishops) and placing your rooks on open files. Avoid moving the pawns in front of your King too early, as this can weaken your King's position. Keep your pawn structure solid until your King is safely tucked away through Castling. Be cautious about pawn breaks near your King, as these can open up lines of attack. Assess the risks and benefits carefully before pushing pawns in the vicinity of your King.

3) Center Control: Dominating the Center provides strategic advantages while ensuring king safety, which is a critical defensive consideration. Balancing these principles is essential for success in chess, as a strong center and a safe king contribute to a well-rounded and effective strategy. The Center of the chessboard and ensures the safety of your King and is a fundamental principle in chess strategy. Dominating the Center of the chessboard refers to the four central squares: d4, e4, d5, and e5. These squares are critical because they offer greater control and influence over the board. Controlling the Center provides several advantages, such as better mobility for your pieces, increased access to different parts of the board, and the ability to launch attacks or counterattacks more effectively. Central control can be achieved by placing pawns and pieces in or around these central squares. Central pawn structures like the pawn duo (d4 and e4) or the pawn chain (d3, e4, d5) are common ways to dominate the Center. Central control can also limit your opponent's options and force them to react to your moves, putting you in a more advantageous position. *

Robert L. Myers is a Level V Candidate for Master Chess Coach, High School Basketball Coach, freelance writer, and an award-winning 30-year veteran classroom educator. You can follow "Coach" on social media and at www.thechessacademy.com

2023 Houston Open Chess Championship

Additional Results: <https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202311192132>

The *2023 Houston Open Chess Championship* was held in Houston between November 17th and 19th, 2023. There were 230 participants in the seven sections. Five rounds were played in each of the sections except for the Extra Games Section, which was only a single round. Time Controls: Open & U200 Sections: G90;+30; U1800, U1600, U1300, U1100 and Extra Games Sections: G120;d5.

GM Koustav Chatterjee and **GM Rahul Srivatshav P.** shared the top spot in the *Open Section* with scores of 4.5/5.

The Top 9 of 68 participants in the Open Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Tot
1	KOUSTAV CHATTERJEE	W31	H	W18	W16	W10	4.5
2	RAHUL SRIVATSHAV P	W33	H	W14	W25	W11	4.5
3	HEDINN STEINGRIMSSON	W24	W9	W17	D10	D4	4
4	NICOLAS ALEJANDRO DE LA COLINA	W34	D27	W28	W12	D3	4
5	MS. SABINA-FRANCESCA FOISOR	W45	D14	W27	D19	W18	4
6	BENJAMIN WALMER	W36	D19	W21	H	W23	4
7	DANIEL YANG	W32	W20	L16	W24	W19	4
8	KEVIN QJIN	W56	W23	L10	W22	W20	4
9	ATHARVA BIST	W57	L3	W34	W35	W16	4

Ethan Y. Wang won the *U2000 Section* with a score of 4.5/5.

The Top 5 of 34 participants in the U2000 Section are shown below

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Tot
1	ETHAN Y WANG	W22	W13	W8	W2	D5	4.5
2	CLIFF BUNCH	W4	W12	W3	L1	W9	4
3	LUKE WYATT KOHLEFFEL	W33	W25	L2	W16	W10	4
4	MATIAS ESTRADA	L2	W22	W28	W8	W11	4
5	SANMITA HOSUR	D28	X	W19	W10	D1	4

Mahit S. Mallikarjunaiah won the *U1800 Section* with a score 4.5/5.

The Top 4 of 19 participants in the U1800 Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Tot
1	MAHIT S MALLIKARJUNAIAH	W19	W12	W11	W4	D3	4.5
2	KLYM RENAUD ANDERSON	D8	W6	H	W14	D4	3.5
3	FRIDAY AVILA-PATRICIO	L4	W9	W8	W11	D1	3.5
4	MICHAEL ZENG	W3	W5	W14	L1	D2	3.5

Ronan Parashar was undefeated in the *U1600 Section*.

The Top 6 of 45 participants in the U1600 Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Tot
1	RONAN PARASHAR	W43	W40	W3	W6	W4	5
2	ETHAN QUINN DHAMODHARAN	D9	W32	W28	W21	W10	4.5
3	NGUYEN NAM TRAN	W12	W30	L1	W23	W13	4
4	PRANAV SANTHOSH	W33	W10	W5	W19	L1	4
5	EMERSON AURELIUS JOHNSON	W38	W29	L4	W12	W15	4
6	SRIJANI SAI MADDIPATI	W36	W25	W7	L1	W17	4

Tony Zhao and Ram Jhaver shared the top spot in the *U1300 Section* with scores of 4.5/5.

The Top 3 of 34 participants in the U1300 Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Tot
1	TONY ZHAO	W34	W18	W11	D6	W5	4.5
2	RAM JHAVER	D32	W22	W20	W9	W6	4.5
3	JOSEPH CRAWFORD	L23	W33	W24	W17	W8	4

Ryan Ren was undefeated in the *U1100 Section*.

The Top 7 of 34 participants in the U1100 Section are shown below.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Tot
1	RYAN REN	W14	W12	W9	W3	W4	5
2	RAJENDRA SINGH	W8	W21	W12	W16	L3	4
3	ADARSH MOHANTY	W11	W6	W7	L1	W2	4
4	KYLE A DRUGAN	W30	W23	W10	W5	L1	4
5	ATMA VEDANTI	W19	W22	W16	L4	W8	4
6	BALAJI KRISHNARAJ	W28	L3	W30	W10	W17	4
7	KAVIN PARITALA	W25	W27	L3	W13	W9	4

There were 8 participants in the *Extra Rated Games Section*. See the additional results for more information.

Memories from the Tournament

Photos by Deborah Shafer



Game Index

+ = Additional Games in Games PGN file.

* = No Article Associated with Games.

#	Tournament	ECO	Result	Annotated by	Rnd	Date	Page(s)
1	U.S. Senior Women's Chess Championship	A26	0-1	Fritz 19	1	03.11.2023	25
2		C01	½-½		2	04.11.2023	25-26
3		C10	1-0		3	04.11.2023	26
4		E70	1-0		4	05.11.2023	26
5		E91	½-½		5	05.11.2023	26-27
6	DFW FIDE Open 6 (with Fritz 19 analysis) *	A09	0-1	Ryan Deering	1.5	11.11.2023	27
7		B18	0-1		3.1	12.11.2023	27-28
8		C06	0-1		5.1	13.11.2023	28
9	Online Games by Coach Myers' Students *+	B13	1-0	Fritz 19	1	07.07.2023	28-29
10		D26	1-0		1	18.05.2023	29
11		D02	1-0		1	02.06.2023	29
12		D02	0-1		1	21.10.2023	29



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.

If not attributed, game annotations are a collaboration between the Editor and *Fritz 19*.

1

O'Neill,Julie A.
Root,Alexey

1.Nf3 g6 2.g3 Bg7 3.Bg2 e5 4.d3 Nc6 5.c4 d6 6.0-0 h6 7.Nc3 Be6 8.h3 A26: English Opening vs King's Indian with ...Nc6 and d3. [8.Rb1 was preferable.] 8...Qd7= 9.Kh2 Nge7 10.Rb1 The position is equal. 10...f5 11.Qb3N [11.Bd2=; Predecessor: 11.b4 e4 12.b5 exf3 13.bxc6 bxc6 14.exf3 Bxc3 15.Qb3 Bf6 16.f4 0-0 17.Qa4 1-0 Neuhoff,U (1776)-Jahnel,G (2272) Wiesbaden op 28th 2016 (1)] 11...Rb8 Threatens to win with ...b5! 12.Nd5 0-0 13.Nxe7+ Nxe7 14.Ng1 [14.Qc2] 14...b5 15.Qc2 bxc4 16.dxc4 f4 Black is more active. 17.Bd2 [17.gxf4 exf4 18.b3] 17...g5 [17...Bf5+ has better winning chances. 18.Be4 fxf3+ 19.fxf3 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rxf1 Deflection 21.Rxf1 Rxb2] 18.g4 [18.gxf4 exf4 19.Bc3] 18...c6 [18...h5!+ 19.gxh5 (19.Nf3? Bf6+) 19...g4] 19.Rbc1 [19.e3] 19...Rfc8 [19...e4 20.Bxe4 Rxb2 21.Qd3; 19...h5+ 20.gxh5 (20.Nf3? Bf6+) 20...g4] 20.Rfd1 Bf7 21.b3 [21.b4] 21...Bf6 22.Bc3 h5 [22...d5!] 23.Nf3 Qe6 [23...hxf4? 24.Nxe5 Bxe5 25.Bxe5+; 23...Bg6? 24.Qd2+] 24.Qd2 [24.e3!] 24...Rd8 [24...hxf4+ 25.hxf4 d5 (25...Qxg4? 26.Qxd6 Qe6 27.Nxe5+) 26.cxd5 cxd5] 25.Ba5 [25.gxh5 might work better. 25...Bxh5 26.Rh1] 25...Rd7+ 26.Bc3 [26.gxh5 Bxh5 27.Bc3 g4 28.hxf4 Bxf4 (28...Qxg4? 29.Bh3+ - Skewer)] 26...hxf4 27.hxf4 Kg7 [27...Qxg4 28.Bxe5 Nd5 (28...Bxe5 29.Nxe5 Pin 29...Qh4+ 30.Kg1) 29.Bb2 Qh5+ 30.Kg1=; 27...Rbd8+ aiming for ...Kg7! 28.Bh3 d5] 28.Kg1 Ng6 [28...Qxg4 29.Nxe5 Bxe5 30.Bxe5+ Kh6 31.Rc3 (31.Bxd6 Ng6); 28...Rh8+ 29.Nh2 d5 30.cxd5 cxd5 (30...Nxd5 31.Bb2)] 29.Qc2 [29.Nh2 was necessary. 29...d5 30.Bb2] 29...Qxg4? [29...Rh8+ 30.Qf5 Qe7] 30.Nh2= Discovered Attack 30...Qh4 [30...Qe6= 31.Bxc6 Rdd8] 31.Qf5+ [31.Bxc6? Rh8 32.Kf1 Qxh2+] 31...Rdd8 32.Qh3?? [32.Bxc6? Ne7

33.Qg4 Nxc6+; 32.Ng4!+- was the only winning move. 32...Be7 33.c5 (33.Bxc6 Rf8=)] 32...d5 33.Qxh4 Nxf4 [33...gxh4 34.cxd5 cxd5 35.Ba5] 34.cxd5 [34.Ba5 Re8 35.Bh1] 34...cxd5? [Black should play 34...Nxc2+ 35.Kxc2 Bxd5+ (35...Rxd5 36.Ng4) 36.f3 e4 37.Bxf6+ Kxf6 38.Ng4+ Kf5] 35.Ba5! Rdc8 White must now prevent ...Nxc2. 36.Bh3 [But not 36.Rxc8 Rxc8 37.Bxd5 Bxd5 38.Rxd5 Rc1+ 39.Nf1 Nf5 40.Rd7+ Kg6+] 36...Rxc1 37.Rxc1 Re8 [37...e4] 38.Rc7 Re7 [38...Bd8! 39.Rxa7 Bxa5 40.Rxa5 e4] 39.Ng4 [39.Rc6=] 39...Rxc7 40.Bxc7 e4 41.Nxf6 Kxf6 Endgame. KBB-KBN 42.Bd8+ Kg6 43.Be7 d4 44.Bf1 [44.Bg4] 44...Nf5 45.Bc5 a6 [Black should try 45...e3 46.Bxa7 g4] 46.Bg2 Bd5 Hoping for ...g4. 47.Bh3 d3 48.exd3 exd3 49.Bxf5+ Kxf5 KB-KB 50.Bb4 g4 ...g3 would now be deadly. 51.Bd2? [51.Kf1 nothing else works.] 51...g3+ 52.fxf3 fxf3 (...Kg4) 53.b4 [53.Kf1 + g2+ 54.Kf2] 53...Bxa2 [53...Kg4 54.Kf1 Kf3 (54...Bxa2? 55.Ke1+) 55.b5 axb5 56.Bg5 g2+ (56...Bxa2 is a self mate. 57.Bd2 Bd5 58.Be1 g2+ 59.Kg1 Ke2 60.Bc3 d2 61.Bxd2 Kxd2 62.Kf2 Be4 63.Kg3 Ke3 64.Kh2 Kf2 65.Kh3 g1Q 66.Kh4 Bf3 67.Kh3 Qh1#) 57.Kg1 Ke2 (57...Bxa2 gets mated. 58.Bd2 Bd5 59.Be1 Ke2 60.Bc3 d2 61.Bxd2 Kxd2 62.Kf2 Be4 63.Kg3 Ke3 64.Kh2 Kf2 65.Kh3 g1Q 66.Kh4 Bf3 67.Kh3 Qh1#) 58.a3 d2 59.Bxd2 Kxd2 60.a4 bxa4 61.Kf2 a3 62.Kg3 a2 (62...g1R+ 63.Kf4 a2 64.Ke5 a1Q+ 65.Kd6 Qa6+ 66.Kc5 Qc6+ 67.Kd4 Rg4+ 68.Ke5 Qe6#) 63.Kg4 a1Q (63...g1B 64.Kh3 a1Q 65.Kg4 Qf6 66.Kh3 Qg6 67.Kh4 Bf2+ 68.Kh3 Qh5#) 64.Kg5 g1Q+ (64...g1R+? 65.Kf5 Qh8 66.Kf4 Qf6#) 65.Kf5 Qg2 66.Kf4 Qf6#] Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/Black=0.51. Loses game: White=1 Black=2 Mistake: White=13 Black=10 Inaccurate: White=5 Black=5 OK: White=13 Black=16 Best: White=2 Black=2 Strong: White=1 --- 0-1

2

Root,Alexey
Marinello,B.

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 e6 4.c4 Nb6 5.Nc3 d5 6.c5 C01: French: Exchange Variation. 6...N6d7 7.f4 [7.a3] 7...Nc6 [7...b6!] 8.Nf3 White is better. 8...Be7 [8...b6] 9.Bb5N [Predecessor: 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 f5 11.Be3 Qe8 12.Rc1 Qg6 13.Kh1 a6 14.Qd2 h5 15.Be2 1-0 Cecconi,E (1940)-Gresser,G (2090) Imperia op 33rd 1991 (7.26)] 9...0-0 10.0-0 Ndb8 11.Kh1 [11.a3] 11...b6 12.Be3 bxc5 13.dxc5 a5 14.a3 [Better is 14.f5] 14...Ba6 15.Rc1 White is much more active. The black rooks are passive. 15...Bxb5 16.Nxb5 Na6? [16...Qd7] 17.Nbd4 Nxd4 [17...Nab8 18.Qd3 Qd7] 18.Nxd4+- [18.Bxd4 c6=] 18...Qe8? [18...Bxc5 19.Nc6 Bxe3 20.Nxd8 Bxc1] 19.f5! Bxc5 [19...exf5 20.Nxf5 Discovered Attack 20...Kh8 21.Qxd5 c6] 20.f6 White wants to mate with Qg4. 20...gxf6 21.exf6 [21.Qh5 Bxd4 22.Bxd4 Qd7 23.Rf3 (23.Rxf6 Nc5+; 23.Qg4+ Kh8) 23...Qc6 24.Rxc6 Kg7 25.Rh3 (25.Rxf6 Rab8 26.Rh6 Rh8) 25...Rfe8 26.Qh6+ Overworked Piece, Double Attack (26.exf6+ Kg8 27.Qxh7+ Kf8 28.Qh8#) 26...Kg8 27.Rg3+ Kh8 28.Qxf6#] 21...Kh8 22.Qh5 Threatening mate with Rf4. [22.Qg4 Rg8 23.Qe2 Bxd4 24.Bxd4 c5 25.Bxc5 Nxc5 26.Rxc5 Qd8=] 22...Rg8 23.Rf3 Rg6 [23...Bxd4 24.Rh3] 24.b4? axb4? [24...Bxd4!= and Black stays safe. 25.Bxd4 axb4] 25.axb4 → White wants a kill. [25.Rh3 Qg8 (25...bxa3 26.Qxh7#) 26.Nc6 (26.axb4 Bxd4 27.Bxd4 Nxb4) 26...Bxe3 27.Rxe3 Rxf6= (27...Rxc2 28.axb4 Rg5 29.Qh6=); 25.Nc6+ Bxe3 (25...Qxc6? 26.Rh3+ -) 26.Rxe3] 25...Bd6 [25...Bxd4 is a better defense. 26.Bxd4 c6] 26.Bh6 [Weaker is 26.Rh3 Qg8+] 26...Bf8 [26...Bxb4? perishes. 27.Bg7+ Rxc7 28.fxf7+ Kxc7 29.Qe5+ Kg8 30.Rg3+ Kf8 31.Nc6+] 27.Bxf8 Qxf8 28.Nc6 [28.Rh3 h6] 28...Rh6? Black is weak on the dark squares [28...Nxb4 was called for. 29.Ne5 Discovered Attack (29.Rh3 Rh6)

29...Qg8] **29.Qg5** Black must now prevent Ne5. **29...Rg6 30.Qh5?** [30.Qf4+] *Weighted Error Value: White=0.69/Black=0.71. Loses game: --- Black=2 Missed win: White=2 --- Mistake: White=5 Black=7 Inaccurate: --- Black=1 OK: White=6 Black=8 Best: White=1 Black=2 Strong: White=1 --- ½-½*

3

Christiansen,N. Root,Alexey

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bd7 5.Nf3 Bc6 6.Bd3 Nd7 7.Bf4 Ngf6 C10: French with 3 Nc3: Unusual Black 3rd moves and 3...dxe4. **8.Qe2** White is much more active. The black rooks are passive. **8...Nxe4 9.Bxe4 Bxe4** White is slightly better. **10.Qxe4 c6 11.0-0-0 Nf6 12.Qe2 Nd5 13.Bd2 Be7** [13...b5 is superior.] **14.Kb1 0-0N** [Predecessor: 14...Qb6 15.Qd3 0-0-0 16.c4 Nf6 17.Bc3 Bb4 18.Ne5 Bxc3 19.Qxc3 Qc7 20.Qe3 Kb8 ½-½ Von Wantoch Rekowski,D (2095)-Medjedovic,J (2125) YUG-chT (Women) Niksic 1997 (9)] **15.h4 a5** [Black should play 15...b5] **16.g4** [16.c4] **16...b5 17.g5 b4 18.h5** Threatens to win with h6. **18...a4** [18...Qb8] **19.g6** [19.h6! g6 (19...gxh6? 20.Rxh6 Bd6 21.Qe4+) 20.Qe5] **19...fxg6?** This move loses the game for Black. [19...Bf6] **20.hxg6 Rf6 21.Rxh7 Rdh1** would kill now. **21...Rxg6 22.Rdh1 Kf7 23.Ne5+ Kf6 24.Qf3+** *Weighted Error Value: White=0.56/Black=0.71. Loses game: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=2 Black=3 Inaccurate: White=1 Black=1 OK: White=4 Black=2 1-0*

4

Cabrera,V. F. Root,Alexey

1.e4 g6 2.d4 d6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Bd3 0-0 6.Nge2 Nc6 7.f4 E70: King's Indian: Miscellaneous lines with 4 e4, including 5 Nge2 and 5 Bd3 0-0 6 Nge2. **7...e5 8.d5 Ne7** [8...Nb4= remains equal.] **9.h3** White is better. **9...c6N**

[Predecessor: 9...Nh5 10.g4 Nxf4 11.Nxf4 exf4 12.Qf3 g5 13.Bd2 Ng6 14.0-0-0 Ne5 15.Qf1 Qf6 0-1 Boccardi,A (1494)-Elia,A (1869) Rome Elo op 1st 2008 (1)] **10.fxe5 dxe5 11.Be3 cxd5 12.cxd5 Ne8 13.Qb3 Nd6 14.0-0 f5** [14...Bd7] **15.Nb5** White has more active pieces. [Better is 15.Bc5] **15...a6?** A mistake that costs the game. [15...fxe4 16.Rxf8+ Bxf8 17.Nxd6 exd3 18.Nxc8 (18.Nxb7? Qxd5 19.Nc5 dxe2+) 18...Nxc8 19.Qxd3 Nd6] **16.Nxd6+- Qxd6 17.Rac1** Black must now prevent Bc5. **17...Kh8 18.Bc5 Qf6 19.d6 Nc6 20.d7!** Discovered Attack **20...Bxd7 21.Bxf8** [21.Qxb7 Rfd8] **21...Bxf8** [21...Rxf8 22.Qxb7 Qd6] **22.Qxb7 Ra7 23.Qb6** [And not 23.Rxc6 Qxc6 24.Qxc6 (24.Qxa7? is the wrong capture. 24...Bc5+-) 24...Bxc6=] **23...Qd8 24.Qxd8** [Not 24.Rxc6 Qxb6+ 25.Rxb6 Bc5+ 26.Kh2 Bxb6] **24...Nxd8 25.exf5 g5 26.Ng3 h6 27.f6 Rb7 28.b3 a5 29.Ba6 Ra7 30.Bc8 Bb5 31.Rfd1 Nf7 32.Be6** Strongly threatening Rc8. **32...a4 33.Rc8 Kg8 34.Rdd8** *Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.62. Loses game: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=1 Black=3 Inaccurate: White=1 Black=6 OK: White=12 Black=4 Best: White=2 Black=1 0-0*

5

Root,Alexey Tso dikova,N.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.Bd2 E91: King's Indian: Classical: 6 Be2, unusual replies including 6...c5 and 6...Bg4. [7.0-0] **7...e5= 8.d5 Nc5 9.Qc2 a5 10.0-0 Nh5 11.Na4** [11.Bg5= f6 12.Be3] **11...Nxa4N** [Predecessor: 11...Nf4 12.Bxf4 exf4 13.Nxc5 dxc5 14.Rad1 g5 15.b3 g4 16.Nd2 Qg5 17.f3 Bd4+ 1-0 Carrasco Coquillat,A (1505)-Dominguez Afonso,A (1639) Madrid San Viator op-B 28th 2017 (2)] **12.Qxa4 f5** [12...Nf4 might be stronger. 13.Bxf4 exf4] **13.exf5= Bxf5 14.Ng5 Nf4 15.Bxf4 exf4 16.Ne6 Bxe6 17.dxe6 Bxb2**

[17...c6=] **18.Rab1 Be5** Hoping for ...f3! Black is weak on the light squares **19.BF3** [19.Rxb7? f3 20.Bxf3 Rxf3+] **19...Rb8** [Black should play 19...Qe8 20.Qxe8 Raxe8] **20.Qd7** White is much more active. [20.Bxb7 Bc3 21.Rb5] **20...Qxd7= 21.exd7 b6 22.Bc6 Kf7 23.Rfe1 g5 24.Rb5 Kf6 25.a4 Rbd8 26.Kf1 h5 27.Ke2 Bc3** [27...Ke7] **28.Rd1 Rf7 29.Rdd5** [29.h4=] **29...Be5 30.Kd3** [30.h3= keeps the balance.] **30...Re7** [30...f3 31.g3 h4] **31.Kd2** [31.Ke4= remains equal.] **31...g4** [31...f3 32.g3 g4] **32.Rb1 h4** [32...Rexd7 33.Bxd7 Rxd7] **33.Rf1** [33.Rd3=] **33...Rg7** [33...Rxd7 is superior. **34.Bxd7 Rxd7**] **34.Rd3 Ke7 35.Re1 Rg5 36.g3** [36.Rd4=] **36...Kf6** [36...Rf8] **37.gxh4= Rh5** [37...Rg7=] **38.h3 Rxh4 39.hxg4 Rxg4 40.f3** [White should try 40.Rh1] **40...Rg3 41.Kc2 Ke7 42.Rh1 Rxd7** [42...Rg7=] **43.Bxd7** [Better is 43.Rh7+ Rg7 44.Rxg7+ Bxg7 45.Bxd7 Kxd7 46.Rd1] **43...Kxd7=** Endgame. KRR-KRB **44.Rh2 Kc6** White should prevent ...Kc5. **45.Rh7 Rg1 46.Rd1 Rxd1 47.Kxd1** KR-KB **47...d5 48.cxd5+ Kxd5 49.Re7 c6 50.Kc2 Bd6 51.Re4 b5 52.axb5 cxb5 53.Kb3 a4+ 54.Ka2 b4 55.Kb2 Be5+ 56.Ka2 Bd6 57.Kb2 Kc5 58.Ka2 Kd5 59.Kb2 Be5+ 60.Ka2 Bd4** [60...b3+ keeps more tension. 61.Ka3 b2 62.Ka2 a3] **61.Rxf4 Kc4 62.Rf8 Bc5 63.Ra8 b3+ 64.Kb1 a3 65.f4 Kc3 66.f5 Bb4 67.f6** aiming for f7. **67...b2?** [67...a2+= 68.Rxa2 (68.Ka1 Kc2 69.Rc8+ Bc3+ 70.Rxc3+ Kxc3 71.f7 Kc2 72.f8Q b2+ 73.Kxa2 b1Q+ 74.Ka3 Qb3#) 68...bxa2+ 69.Kxa2 Bf8] **68.Ka2?** [68.Rb8+] **68...Kc2! 69.Rc8+ Bc3** The position is equal. **70.Rb8!** Dancing on a razor blade. [70.Kxa3? is a self mate. 70...b1Q (70...b1B 71.f7 Kd2 72.f8Q Ba5 73.Qc5 Bg6 74.Qxa5+ Kd3 75.Qe5) 71.Rxc3+ Kxc3 72.f7 Qb3#; 70.Rxc3+ gets mated. 70...Kxc3 71.f7 Kc2 72.Kxa3 b1Q (72...b1B 73.f8Q Kd2 74.Qb4+ Ke3 75.Qxb1 Kf4 76.Kb4 Kg4 77.Qg6+ Kf4 78.Kc5) 73.Ka4 Qb3+ 74.Ka5 Qxf7 75.Kb5 Qe6 76.Ka5 Kc3 77.Kb5

Qd6 78.Ka5 Kc4 79.Ka4 Qb4#] **70...Bxf6 71.Kxa3 Bc3** *Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) / Black=0.18 (very precise)* . *Loses game: --- Black=1 Missed win: White=1 --- Mistake: White=9 Black=11 Inaccurate: White=2 Black=1 OK: White=23 Black=22 Best: White=1 Black=1 Strong: White=1 Black=1 ½-½*



Daniel Clarke Advay Singi

6

1.Nf3 d5 2.c4 d4 3.e3 Nc6 4.exd4 Nxd4 5.Nxd4 Qxd4 6.d3 A09: Réti Opening: 1 Nf3 d5 2 c4. **6...Nf6** [6...e5 might be stronger.] **7.Nc3=c6 8.Be3** White has an edge. **8...Qd8 9.d4 g6 10.Be2 Bg7 11.Qd2 Bf5N** [Predecessor: 11...Ng4 12.0-0 Nxe3 13.fxe3 0-0 14.h4 b5 15.h5 Qa5 16.hxg6 fxxg6 17.Bf3 b4 1-0 Kukhmazov,A (2381)-Muha,M (2344) Koper Univ Cup 1st rapid 2019 (5)] **12.0-0 0-0 13.Rfd1 Qd7** [13...Re8 feels stronger.] **14.Rac1** [14.h3] **14...h5!** Gaining space, creating lift, and cementing control of g4 [14...Rfd8] **15.Bf3?! [15.h3!]** **15...Bg4!** Principle: trade pieces when cramped. Now if d5 is played, Black is happy to have exchanged bishops. **16.Qe2 Bxf3 17.Qxf3 e6?** A non-developing move which creates an extra hook for White to blow open the position with his better rooks. Qg4! or Ng4! are the most energetic and principled moves here. [17...Ng4=] **18.h3 b5!** There are many good moves here. Black chooses the one which allows something to potentially go horribly right for him due to his space. **19.d5 cxd5 20.cxd5 [20.Bd4] 20...b4= 21.dxe6 Qxe6 22.Nb5** aiming for Nc7. **22...Qxa2 23.Ra1 [23.Bd4= Nc7 24.Ra1] 23...Qc4 [23...Qxb2? 24.Bd4 (24.Rxa7? Rxa7 25.Bxa7 Qa2+) 24...Qc2 25.Bxf6+] 24.Nd6 Qe6 25.Rxa7 [25.Bxa7 Rfd8 26.Qb7 Nh7; 25.Bc5!?] 25...Rxa7**

26.Bxa7 Nd7 Black has reached the full potential of his b5 pawn push and now White's position is more difficult. **27.Bd4??** Before this move, white was suffering from a loose bishop and knight. Therefore, complicating the position with tactics works out in Black's favor. b3, Be3, and Qe3 are sensible options. **27...Ne5!+ 28.Bxe5 Bxe5 29.Ne4 Bxb2** This is the b5 idea reaching its full potential. **30.Rb1 Qe5 31.Qe2 Ba3 32.Qf3 [32.h4] 32...Kg7 33.Rb3 [33.h4] 33...Rc8 (...Rc1+)** **34.g3 Qf5 [34...Re8+ 35.Nd2 Bb2] 35.Qd3 Qe5** Prevents Qd4. [35...Qxh3?! 36.Qd4+ Kh6 (36...Kg8 37.Nf6+ Kf8 38.Nh7+ Kg8 39.Nf6+ Kf8 40.Nh7+ Kg8 41.Nf6+=) 37.Qd2+ Kg7 38.Qd4+ Kh6 (38...Kg8 39.Nf6+ Kf8 40.Nh7+ Kg8 41.Nf6+=) 42.Nh7+ Kg8 43.Nf6+=) 39.Qd2+ Kg7 40.Qd4+=; 35...Rc1+! 36.Kh2 Qe5] **36.h4** [White must play 36.Qf3!]= **36...Re8** [Better is 36...Rc6 Threatens to win with ...Re6. 37.Kg2 Re6] **37.Ng5 [37.Nd6!= Re6 38.Nc4 Qa1+ 39.Kh2] 37...f6 [37...Qc5 38.Ne4 Qc1+ 39.Kh2 Qc7] 38.Nf3 Qe4** And now ...Qxd3 would win. **39.Qb5 Re7 40.Kg2 Qb7 41.Qc5 Re5 [41...Rc7 42.Qd6 Qc6] 42.Qd4 [42.Qc4 was preferable.] 42...Qe4** [Black should play 42...Rd5 43.Qe4 Qd7] **43.Qa7+** [43.Qd7+= keeps the balance. **43...Re7 44.Qd1] 43...Re7** Active counter play! **44.Qc5** Re3 is the strong threat. **44...Qb7 45.Qd4 Rd7 46.Qc5 Qd5 47.Qe3 [47.Qc2] 47...Bc1!** Deflection **48.Qe8 Qxb3 [48...Bd2++ 49.Rb1 Bc3] 49.Qxd7++** Endgame. KQB-KQN **49...Qf7 50.Qd1 [50.Qc6] 50...Ba3 [50...Bh6+ and Black stays clearly on top. White must now prevent ...b3. 51.Qd3 Qb7] 51.Nd4 [51.Qa4 is a better chance.] 51...Qd5+ 52.Kg1 Bb2** Against Qa1 **53.Nf5+ Qxf5 [53...gxf5 54.Qxd5 Kg6 55.Qg8+ Kh6 56.Qf8+ Kh7 57.Qxb4 Be5 58.f4] 54.Qd8 Qe6 55.g4 Qxg4+ 56.Kh1 Qxh4+ 57.Kg2 Qg4+ [57...Bd4 58.Qc7+ Kh6 59.Qg3 Qxg3+ 60.fxxg3 b3 61.Kf3 b2 62.Ke4 Be5 (62...b1B+ 63.Kxd4 Kg5 64.Ke3 Kg4 65.Kf2 f5 66.Kg2**

f4 67.gxf4 h4 68.Kf2 h3 69.Kf1 Kxf4 70.Kf2 Bd3 71.Ke1 Ke3 72.Kd1 h2 73.Kc1 h1Q+ 74.Kb2 Qb1+ 75.Kc3 Ke4 76.Kd2 Qc2+ 77.Ke1 Qe2#) 63.Kd5 b1Q (63...b1B 64.Kc5 Bxxg3 65.Kd4 h4 66.Kc3 h3 67.Kb2 Be4 68.Kb3 h2 69.Kc3 h1Q 70.Kb4 Bd6+ 71.Ka4 Qb1 72.Ka5 Bc5 73.Ka6 Qb6#) 64.Kc6 Qc2+ (64...Bxxg3 65.Kc5 Qb3 66.Kc6 Qc4+ 67.Kb7 Qc7+ 68.Ka6 Qc6+ 69.Ka7 Qb5 70.Ka8 Qb8#) 65.Kb6 Qc4 (65...Bxxg3 66.Kb5 Bf2 67.Kb4 Qd3 68.Ka4 Qb1 69.Ka5 Bc5 70.Ka6 Qb6#) 66.g4 hxg4 67.Kb7 g3 68.Kb6 g2 69.Kb7 g1Q 70.Ka8 Qe4#] **58.Kh1 Qe6 [58...Qe4+ 59.Kg1 Bd4 60.Kf1 b3 61.Qc7+ Kh6 62.Qc1+ g5 63.Qc8 b2 64.Qh8+ Kg6 65.Qg8+ Kf5 (65...Kh6 leads to mate. 66.Qh8+ Kg6 67.Qg8+ Kf5 68.Qc8+ Kf4 69.Qc7+ Be5 70.Qb6 b1Q+ 71.Qxb1 Qxb1+ 72.Ke2 Qc2+ 73.Ke1 Kf3 74.Kf1 Qxf2#) 66.Qc8+ Kg6 67.Qg8+ Kf5 (67...Kh6 gets mated. 68.Qh8+ Kg6 69.Qg8+) 68.Qh7+ Kf4 69.Qxe4+ Kxe4 70.Ke2 b1Q (70...b1B 71.f3+ Kf4 72.Kd2 Kxf3 73.Kc1 Be4 74.Kd1 h4 75.Ke1 h3 76.Kd2 h2 77.Kc1 Ke3 78.Kd1 h1Q#) 71.f3+ Kd5 (71...Kf4 72.Kd2 Qb4+ 73.Ke2 Qc3 74.Kd1 Ke3 75.f4 Qd2#) 72.Kd2 Qb2+ 73.Ke1 Qf2+ (73...Be3? 74.f4 Qf2+ 75.Kd1 Qd2#) 74.Kd1 Be3 75.f4 Qd2#] 59.f4 f5** Black mates. **60.Kh2 b3 61.Kh3 Bf6** *Weighted Error Value: White=0.89/Black=0.63. Loses game: White=2 --- Mistake: White=12 Black=12 Inaccurate: White=3 Black=2 OK: White=17 Black=14 Best: White=1 Black=3 Strong: --- Black=1 0-1*

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Maurya Chandra Rachael Li

1.e4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.Bc4 e6 7.d4 Nf6 B18: Classical Caro-Kann: 4...Bf5 sidelines. **8.c3 Bd6 9.0-0 Nbd7** Prevents Ne5. The position is equal. **10.Be3 0-0 11.Bd3N** [Predecessor: 11.Nh4 Nb6 12.Be2 Nbd5 13.Nxxg6 hxg6 14.Bd2 Bxxg3

15.hxg3 Ne4 16.Bf3 Nxd2 17.Qxd2 0-1 Antao,A (2099)-Cadieu,C (1524) FRA-ch Blitz Online Qual Europe Echecs INT 2020 (5) **11...Rc8 12.Bxg6 hxg6 13.Bg5 Qc7 14.Qd3 c5 15.Ne2** [15.Rfd1=] **15...c4!** There is a case to be made for cxd4 due to Black owning the c-file, but this is also strong. Black's queenside pawns are mobile unlike White's. Therefore, Black's queenside pawns are better and Black has a potential path to victory. **16.Qd2 b5 17.a4 a6!** Stronger was Rb8 preparing b4 and pressuring b2. [Black should try 17...Rb8] **18.axb5= axb5 19.h3!** Principle: Trade pieces when your cramped for space. Bf4 was necessary. [19.Bf4=] **19...Nd5 20.Ra2 N7b6 21.g3?** Further weaknesses appear on f3 and h3 [21.Rfa1] **21...Ra8 22.Ra1 Rfc8 23.Kg2** [23.h4] **23...b4** [23...Qc6 24.Bf4 Be7] 24.Rfb1?! White's last chance cxb4 was missed. White's position is untenable and he must take his chances by changing the nature of the game. Now, there is nothing White can do against overwhelming space. [White should play 24.cxb4! f6 (24...Nxb4 25.Bf4; 24...Bxb4 25.Qc2) 25.Be3] **24...b3** [24...Qc6 25.h4 b3] 25.Qe1 [25.Bf4] **25...Qc6** Black is much more active. **26.Be3?** One final weakness now appears on the e3 square. This move loses the game for White. [26.h4] **26...Nxe3+-+ 27.fxe3 Qe4 28.Kf2 f6** [28...Rxa1 29.Rxa1 Nd5 30.Nf4; 28...Nd5 29.Qd2 Nf6] **29.Nf4?** [29.Nd2 Qd3 (29...Qf5+? 30.Kg2) 30.Rd1] **29...g5 30.Ne2 Nd5** [30...Rxa1 31.Rxa1 Nd5 32.Neg1] **31.Neg1 Ra2!** Prepares to double on the a- file and exerts horizontal pressure. c3 becomes a new weakness [31.Nfg1? 31.Nd2 -3.67/0] **31...g4** [31...Ra2; 31...Nxe3] **32.Qxe3 Bxg3+ 33.Ke2 Qc2+ 34.Kf1 32.Nd2** [32.hxg4 Ra2 (32...Qxg4? 33.Ne2+) 33.Rxa2 bxa2 34.Ra1] **32...Qf5+ 33.Qd3** And now e4 would win. **33...Kg2 34.Kf2** [34.Qe2 Nxe3+ (34...Qxe3 35.Qxe3 Nxe3+ 36.Kf2=) 35.Kf2 Bxg3+ Decoy 36.Kxg3 Nf1+ Discov-

ered Attack (Double check), Double Attack 37.Kg2 Qxe2+ (37...Nxd2? 38.Qxe6+ Kh7 39.Qxg4+) 38.Nxe2 Nxd2 39.Rd1 gxh3+ (39...Ra2? 40.Rxa2 gxh3+ 41.Kxh3+-) 40.Kxh3] **34...gxh3 35.Nxh3 g5** Prevents Nf4 [Inferior is 35...Qg6 36.Nf4 Qc2 37.Qd1=; 35...Ra2 36.Nf4 Qc2 37.Rxa2 bxa2] **36.Ng1?** [36.Rxa8 Rxa8 37.Kg2 Nxe3+ 38.Kg1] **36...Kg7** [36...Ra2 Threatens to win with ...Nxc3! 37.Rxa2 bxa2] **37.Qe2 Qh7!** White is under strong pressure. **38.Ndf3** Dodges Qh2+ [38.Kg2 Qc2 39.Rxa8 Rxa8 40.e4 Nf4+ 41.gxf4 Bxf4 42.Rf1 (42.Ngf3? g4) 42...Qxd2 43.Qxd2 Bxd2 44.Rd1] **38...g4 39.Nh4?** [39.e4 gxf3 40.Qxf3 Qh2+ 41.Qg2 Qxg2+ (41...Bxg3+? 42.Kf3+) 42.Kxg2] **39...Qe4 40.Rf1 Rh8** (...Rxb4!) **41.Rxa8 Rxa8 42.Qxc4 Qxe3+** Artfully played by Rachael Li. *Weighted Error Value: White=1.05/Black=0.57. Loses game: White=1 --- Mistake: White=12 Black=6 Inaccurate: White=4 Black=4 OK: White=4 Black=12 Best: White=1 --- 0-1*

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Advay Singi
Rachael Li

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Bd3 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4 8.cxd4 f6 In the French advance structure, the game revolves around whether or not White will maintain the e5 square. If he does successfully, Black is cramped. If Black wins the battle on e5, he will steamroll White in the center. **9.exf6 Nxf6 10.Nf3 Bd6 11.0-0 Qc7 12.Bg5 0-0 13.Rc1 h6 14.Bh4** C06: French Tarrasch: 3...Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 Bd3 main lines. **14...Bd7 15.Nc3 a6** Repels Nb5 [15...Bf4] **16.Bg3** White is better. **16...Be8 17.Re1 Bxg3 18.hxg3 Qd6 19.Be2N** Misplacing the bishop and taking away the rook's control of e5. Bb1!? or Na4 are White's most testing options.. [19.Bf1 19.Ne2 1.04/0; Better is 19.Ne2; Predecessor: 19.Na4 Nd7 20.Bb1 e5 21.dxe5 Nxe5 22.Nxe5 Nxe5 23.Nc5 1-0

Chulivska,V (2182)-Korniyuk,M UKR -ch sf U20 Girls Lvov 2006 (1)] **19...Bg6 20.Ne5! Nxe5 21.dxe5 Qxe5 22.Bxa6!** With e5 now lost, Black take's the initiative. Bg4 was the only way forward. **22...Qf5** [22...Ne4! 23.f4 Nxc3 24.Rxc3 Qd6; 22...Qg5 23.Bd3] **23.Be2** [23.Bf1= deserves consideration.] **23...Rad8!** Threatens to win with ...d4. **24.Bf3!** 24 ...e5 25 Nxd5 Nxd5 26 Bxd5+ Kh8 and White will have find f3. This enters into only move territory. d4 Ne4 d3 and White should survive, but the d3 pawn is his Achilles' heel. **24...Ne4** Not bad, but d4 or e5 is better. Rolling center pawns are Black's prized asset. 24 ...e5 25 Nxd5 Nxd5 26 Bxd5+ Kh8 and White will have to find 27 f3. This enters into only move territory. or 24... d4 Ne4 25 d3 and White should survive, but the d3 pawn is his Achilles' heel. **25.Qe2 Nc5** [25...Ng5=] **26.Rcd1 Rfe8** [26...d4 27.Ne4 d3] **27.b4** [White should play 27.Nb5] **27...Qf6** [Avoid the trap 27...Nd3? 28.Bg4 Qf8 29.Rxd3 (29.Bxe6+ Kh8) 29...Bxd3 30.Qxd3+] **28.bxc5 Qxc3 29.Rc1 Qb4 30.Qe5 Rc8 31.Rb1??** White has been under pressure from some time. Even the strongest of players can make oversights in such cases. *Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) / Black=0.21 (precise) . Loses game: White=1 --- Mistake: White=4 Black=5 Inaccurate: --- Black=1 OK: White=6 Black=7 Strong: White=1 Black=1 0-1*



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TCAKNIGHT
bernard2

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 c5 3.e3 cxd4 4.exd4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Qb6 6.Nc3 Active counter play! B13: Caro-Kann: Exchange Variation and Panov-Botvinnik Attack. **6...Bd7** Wards off Nb5 **7.Bd3 Qxb2 8.Ne2** Rb1 is the strong threat. The position is equal. **8...b6N** [8...Qb4+= and Black stays

Qa5+ 11.Bd2] **9...Nc6?** [9...Qa3 is tougher.] **10.Rb1+- Qxa2 11.Nc3** Repels e6 **11...Qa5 12.Nb5 e5** [12...Rc8 13.Bd2 Qa2] **13.dxe5 Ne4 14.Bxe4 dxe4 15.Nc7+ Ke7 16.Bg5+ f6 17.exf6+** Deflection **17...gxf6 18.Bxf6+ Kxf6 19.Qxd7** [19.Nxa8 Bg4] **19...Qc5 20.Nd2** A dynamic duo of knights. **20...Kg6 21.Nxe4 Qe5 22.Qxc6+ Bd6 23.Nxd6** White threatens Rb5! and mate. [23.Nxa8? Qxh2#] **23...Rhf8 24.Ne4+ Kg7 25.Nxa8** [25.Rb5 Qe7 26.Rg5+ Deflection (26.Nxa8 h6+)] 26...Qxg5 27.Ne6+ (27.Nxg5 Rf6 28.Qxa8 h6 29.Ne8+ Kf8 30.Nxf6+ Ke7 31.Nge4 Ke6 32.Qc8+ Kf7 33.Qg8+ Ke7 34.Qe8#) 27...Kg8 28.N4xg5 (28.N6xg5 Rf7 29.Qxa8+ Kg7 30.Ne6+ Kg6 31.g4 Rg7 32.Qf8 Rf7 33.Qg8+ Kh6 34.Qg5#) 28...Rab8 29.Qd7 Rb7 30.Qxb7 Rf7 31.Qxf7+ Kh8 32.Qxh7#] **25...Qe8** White is clearly winning. **26.Qb7+ Kh8 27.Nc7 Qg6 28.Rfe1** Black got outplayed after the opening. Artfully played by TCAKNIGHT. *Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=1.72. Loses game: --- Black=2 Mistake: White=1 Black=1 OK: White=3 Black=4 Best: White=1 --- 1-0*

TCAKNIGHT DannyV

10

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 dxc4 4.e3 e6 5.Bxc4 c6 [5...a6] **6.0-0** D26: Queen's Gambit Accepted: 4 e3 e6 5 Bxc5 c5 sidelines. **6...Bd6** [6...a6] **7.Bd3** [7.Nc3] **7...Qe7N** [7...Nbd7; Predecessor: 7...0-0 8.Nc3 Nbd7 9.Qc2 Re8 10.Ne4 Nxe4 11.Bxe4 f5 12.Bd3 Rf8 13.b3 Qf6 0-1 John,F (1248)-Zimmer,B (1318) Saarland-ch C Saarlouis Steinrausch 2005 (6)] **8.e4+-** Hoping for e5. White is clearly better. **8...e5** [8...Bc7 9.b3 b5] **9.dxe5 Bxe5 10.Nxe5 Qxe5 11.Nd2** And now Nc4 would win. **11...Bg4** [11...Be6] **12.Qc2** Strongly threatening Nc4. **12...Nbd7** [12...0-0 is a better defense. 13.Nc4 Qh5] **13.Nc4 Qb8 14.e5! Nd5 15.Bd2** [15.Bxh7 Be6] **15...h6** [15...0-0 16.Bxh7+ Kh8] **16.Nd6+ Kf8 17.f4**

Qc7 18.Rae1 Qb6+ 19.Kh1 Nc5 [19...h5 20.Bc4 Qd8 21.Nxb7 Qc7] **20.Bg6! fxc6** [20...f6 21.h3] 21.Qxg6 Kg8 22.f5 Black must now prevent f6. **22...h5 23.f6 Ne6 24.fxc7 Nxg7 25.e6** [25.Rf7 Rh7 26.Bh6 (26.Nxb7 Be6+-) 26...Qc7 27.Ref1 (27.Rxc7 Nxc7 28.Ne4 Rxb6+-) 27...Nf4 28.R1xf4 Bf5 29.R4xf5 (29.Nxf5 Qxf7 30.Qg5 Kh8+-) 29...Rd8 30.Rf8+ Decoy, Back Rank (30.Rxc7 Kh8 31.Bxg7+ Kg8 32.Qf7#); 30.Bxg7 h4 31.Bh6+ Kh8 32.Qxh7#] 30...Rxf8 31.Rxf8+ Remove Defender, Back Rank 31...Kxf8 32.Qe8#] **25...Qxb2 26.e7! Nxe7 27.Rxe7** Black is weak on the dark squares **27...Bf3 28.Ne8 Bxg2+ 29.Kg1** White mates. **29...Qd4+ 30.Be3 Qxe3+ 31.Rxe3 Rh7 32.Qf7+ Kh8 33.Qf8#** Beautiful play by TCAKNIGHT! *Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=1.03. Mistake: White=1 Black=7 Inaccurate: --- Black=1 OK: White=8 Black=2 Best: White=1 --- 1-0*

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TCAKNIGHT SlimGoodieJr

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nc6 3.e3 e6 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.Bg3 Nge7 6.c4 D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4. **6...Bxg3 7.hxg3 b6N** [Predecessor: 7...h6 8.Nc3 a6 9.a3 0-0 10.g4 Ng6 11.Bd3 b5 12.cxb5 Na5 13.Bxg6 fxc6 14.bxa6 Bxa6 1-0 Janzelj,T (1606)-Cerne,P (1596) SLO-chT 16th Ljubljana 2006 (8)] **8.Nbd2** White is better. **8...Bb7 9.Rc1 h6 10.cxd5 Qxd5 11.Qa4 0-0 12.g4 f5?** Loses the game. [Black should try 12...e5!] **13.g5+- hxg5 14.Bc4** [Don't play 14.Nxg5?! Rf6 15.Qd1 Rh6 16.Rxh6 gxh6] **14...Qd6 15.Nxg5 a6?** [15...Nd8 16.e4 Nec6] **16.Bxe6+ Rf7 17.Bxf7+ Kf8 18.Rh8+ Ng8 19.Nc4 Qf6 20.Qa3+ Nce7 21.Rxg8#** *Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.97. Loses game: --- Black=1 Mistake: --- Black=1 Inaccurate: White=1 Black=3 OK: White=5 Black=1 1-0*

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blaccout TCAKNIGHT

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Bf5 4.Bf4 Nb4 5.a3 Nxc2+ [5...Bxc2? 6.Qc1+] **6.Kd2** D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4. **6...Nxa1 7.Qxa1 Nf6N** [Predecessor: 7...e6 8.e3 a6 9.Qc1 c5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Qd1 Nf6 12.Ne5 0-0 13.h3 Nd7 0-1 Pauk,J (732)-Venturas,B (738) RN-2015-0-01071 LSS email] **8.Ke1** Black has a decisive advantage. **8...e6 9.e3 c5?** [9...Bd6+ ...Bxf4 would now be deadly. 10.Bb5+ c6 11.Bxd6 Qxd6] **10.Be2?** [10.Bb5+ was the only good move. 10...Ke7 11.dxc5] **10...cxd4 11.exd4 Ne4 12.Nxe4 Bxe4** [Much less strong is 12...dxe4 13.Ne5 f6 (13...Qxd4 14.Bb5+ Ke7 15.Qc1) 14.Bb5+ Ke7 15.a4 Qa5+ (15...fxe5 16.Bg5+ Kf7 17.Bxd8; 15...Qxd4? 16.Qa3+ Kd8 17.Nf7+ Kc8 18.Qb3+-) 16.b4 Qxb4+ 17.Bd2+] **13.Ne5 Bxg2?** [13...Bd6+ 14.f3 Bf5] **14.Rg1** [14.Qd1! Bb4+ (14...Bxh1 15.Qa4+ Ke7 16.Bg5+ Skewer, Deflection 16...Kd6 17.Nxf7+ Kc7 18.Bxd8+ Rxd8 19.Qa5+ Skewer 19...b6 20.Qxa7+ Kc6 21.Nxd8+ Kd6 22.Bb5 h6 23.Nf7#) 15.axb4 Bxh1 16.Bb5+ Kf8 17.Qh5] **14...Bh3??** [14...f6!+- avoids the disaster. 15.Rxg2 fxe5 16.Bxe5 Rg8] **15.Bb5+- Ke7** Hoping for ...Qa5+. **16.Nc6+ bxc6+- 17.Bxc6 Rc8 18.Bb7 Rc4 19.Rg3 Bf5 20.Re3 Qa5+ 21.Ke2 Rc2+ 22.Kf3 Be4+ 23.Kg4 Rxf2 24.Qc1 Bf5+ 25.Kg3 Rc2 26.Qb1 Rg2+!! 27.Kxg2 Bxb1 28.Bc8 Be4+ 29.Kg3 Qd2 (...Qg2+) 30.b4 Qg2+ 31.Kh4 f5** Black mates. **32.Rg3 Qxh2+ 33.Rh3 Qxf4+ 34.Kh5 Qg4#** *Weighted Error Value: White=1.50/Black=1.53. Loses game: White=1 -- Missed win: White=1 Black=3 Mistake: White=1 --- Inaccurate: White=1 --- OK: White=1 Black=2 Best: --- Black=2 0-1*



Upcoming Events

LATE DECEMBER 2023

Dec 15-17 - \$2,000 Dec. Studio Championship
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2000-dec-studio-championship>

Dec 16 - Austin Grandmaster Chess Academy Tournament
Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/austin-grandmaster-chess-academy-tournament-december-2023/>

Dec 16 - B.L. Garza Middle School Scholastic Chess Tournament - Dark Knights
Info: <https://dkchess.com/index.html>

Dec 16 - Dallas Winter Open
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/dallas-winter-open-0>

Dec 16 - McAuliffe Elementary Scholastic Chess Tournament - Dark Knights
Info: <https://dkchess.com/index.html>

Dec 16 - Toys For Tots Chess Tournament and Toy Drive
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/toys-tots-chess-tournament-and-toy-drive-part-official-crusader-chess-tournament-library-series-0>

Dec 19 - Mardi Quads
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mardi-quads-17>

Dec 30-31 - Texas Winter Open
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/texas-winter-open>

Dec 30 - Austin Grandmaster Chess Academy December Scholastic
Info: This event has been cancelled

Dec 31 - New Year Insanity Swiss
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/new-year-insanity-swiss>



JANUARY 2024

Jan 11-15 - 2024 AGCA Invitational – Winter Edition (IM/GM Norm Tournament)
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2024-agca-invitational-winter-edition-imgm-norm-event>

Jan 13 - Cathey Middle School Scholastic Chess Tournament - Dark Knights
Info: <https://dkchess.com/index.html>

Jan 15 - MLK Scholastic
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mlk-scholastic>

Jan 16 - Mardi Quads
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mardi-quads-17>

Jan 20-21 - 2024 Texas Team Championship (See Ad on Page 12)
Info: <https://www.thechessrefinery.org/txteam.html>

Jan 20 - John H. Shary Elementary Scholastic Chess Tournament - Dark Knights
Info: <https://dkchess.com/index.html>

Jan 26-27 - Austin Chess Club Winter Open 2024
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/austin-chess-club-winter-open-2024>

Jan 27 - 2024 TCA Region I Open and Scholastic Championships
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2024-tca-region-i-open-and-scholastic-championships>

Jan 27 - Garza Elementary Scholastic Chess Tournament - Dark Knights
Info: <https://dkchess.com/index.html>

Jan 28 - Austin Chess Club Winter Open 2024
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/austin-chess-club-winter-open-2024>

EARLY FEBRUARY 2024

Feb 10 - Fields Elementary Scholastic Chess Tournament - Dark Knights
Info: <https://dkchess.com/index.html>

Feb 15 - 15th annual Southwest Class Championships
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/15th-annual-southwest-class-championships>

WEEKLY EVENTS

RCC Weekly Quads (rated U1200)
Dec 15, 22, 29; Jan 5, 12, 19, 26; Feb 2, Feb 9
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/rebecca-chess-club-monthly-swiss-over-1200-and-weekly-quads-under-1200>

RCC Monthly Swiss (rated 1200+)
Dec 15, 22, 29; Jan 5, 12, 19, 26; Feb 2, Feb 9
Info: <https://www.rebeccachess.com/otb.html>

PLANO SWISS!! By Texas Chess Center
Dec 16, 23, 30; Jan 6, 13, 20, 27; Feb 3, Feb 10
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/plano-swiss-texas-chess-center>

Texas Swiss Tournaments
Dec 16, 23, 30; Jan 6, 13, 20, 27; Feb 3, Feb 10
Info: <https://www.texaschesscenter.com/store/p/irvingswiss>
<https://www.texaschesscenter.com/store/p/plano-swiss>

Tuesday Swiss
Dec 19, 26
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/december-2023-tuesday-swiss>

Poison Pawns Weekly Chess Meetup at Slowpokes
Dec 20, 27; Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Feb 7, 14
Info: <https://poisonpawns.club/>



CORRESPONDENCE CHESS LEAGUE OF AMERICA



WWW.SERVERCHESS.COM

TOO BUSY WITH CAREER AND FAMILY TO PLAY IN WEEKEND OTB TOURNAMENTS?

- Join the Correspondence Chess League of America (CCLA) and play server chess games in your own home at a pace and time that meets your busy lifestyle.
- CCLA is America’s premier correspondence chess league since 1916 where you can play your best chess via a server with like-minded individuals at a pace compatible with modern busy careers and family obligations. Server chess games are played at the relaxed pace of 10 moves in 30 days.
- Tournaments start every quarter. Annual class tournaments and Grand Prix Prizes. All games rated.
- Membership includes quarterly magazine *The Chess Correspondent*, published since 1916. Annual membership rates are only \$26 for mailed magazine or \$16 for electronic magazine delivery.
- For a membership application or more information send an email to cclatreasurer22@gmail.com.

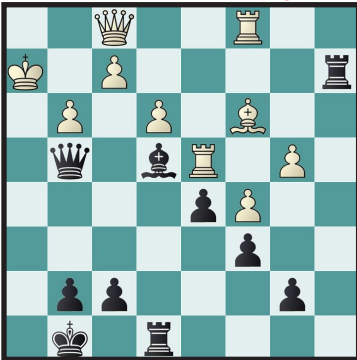
TCA Membership Report by Jim Hollingsworth

Snapshot	Current TCA Memberships										As of 30 November 2023				
Category	Region										Out of State	Totals	Pct.	Last Month	Change
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
Junior Online		5	31		84	27	1	200	1	24		373	35.9%	371	2
Family	12	13	10		17	20		20	4	28		124	11.9%	133	-9
Junior	1	8	12		21	32	1	19	2	17	1	114	11.0%	114	0
Regular	3	19	23	1	18	19	6	8	4	7	2	110	10.6%	111	-1
Regular Non-subscriber	1	12	11	4	51	19	4	3			3	109	10.5%	110	-1
Lifetime Regular	1	9	7		6	7	3	3	1		2	39	3.8%	39	0
Affiliate	2	6	7	2	8	5		2	4	2		38	3.7%	38	0
Family Patron	4	6		3	8	8	3	3	2			37	3.6%	37	0
Family Online			6		6	8		8		7		35	3.4%	35	0
Student Online	1	1	17		2			4		1	1	27	2.6%	27	0
Lifetime Patron		1	2			4	1	1			1	10	1.0%	10	0
Patron		2	2	1	3	2				1		11	1.1%	10	1
Patron Online			1		1	2						4	0.4%	4	0
Complimentary			1					1			1	3	0.3%	3	0
Blind			2									2	0.2%	2	0
Student					1			1				2	0.2%	2	0
Foreign Member											1	1	0.1%	1	0
Honorary Life Member											1	1	0.1%	1	0
This Month	25	82	132	11	226	153	19	273	18	90	11	1040	100%		
Last Month	28	81	135	11	229	155	19	271	17	90	12	1048			
Change	-3	1	-3	0	-3	-2	0	2	1	0	-1	-8			



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

Tactics Time! Answer on
page 18



R. Hiwale – S. Rautela
Southwest Open 2023
Black to Move

