

TEXAS KNIGHTS

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July-August 2008

Harper wins Texas State Championship

Warren Harper plays Deepyman Datta (2nd place winner) in Round 4

TCA governance update; UTD team in China; Candidates' statements; Treasurer's report.....	3
Siebrandt wins his seventh U.S. Blind championship; Candidates' statements.....	4
Texas State and Amateur Championship – Amateur games p. 12.....	5
GM Ramirez wins Texas Masters	15
Austin's Canyon Vista team wins K-8 championship; Altschuler, Qi =1st – Michael Feinstein.....	21
San Antonio City Championship – Malazarte wins double crown.....	24
Red River Shootout – Okies' revenge	27
Letters	30
Lewisville scholastic program: a progress report – Michael Bowden	31

TCA members: your 2008 ballot is enclosed

TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

www.texaschess.org

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Texas Chess Association is a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit corporation dedicated to promoting chess in Texas.

Membership Dues (annual): Regular \$10, Junior (18 and under) or Student: \$7.50. Foreign: Canada and Mexico \$12.50, others \$17.50. Patron: \$25 (receives 1st class mailing and Hall of Honor listing). Family: \$15. Non-subscribing: \$5. Club: \$25 (includes one free ¼ page ad a year). Scholastic Club: \$10. Foreign Club: \$40.

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

TCA Hall of Honor

Selby Anderson
James E. Berry
Joe Bradford
Clarence Callaway, Jr.
Michael E. Carpenter
George W. Church, Jr.
Dr. Raymond Duque
Kristy Eng
Rheanna English family
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Gerald Guillot
Toshio Imai
Bob James
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Peter Kappler

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Patrick C. Long
Mark E. McCue
Rade Milovanovic family
George A. Mota
Ken Muir family
Wilson Neil
Josh Newsham
John Niven
Richard L. Petty
Robert B. Potter
Tim Redman

Eddie Rios
Doug & Alexey Root family
Luis Salinas
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Louis Thurston
Rick Toenies
William R. Williams
Steven D. Young

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Game annotations if not attributed are a collaboration of NM Selby Anderson and Fritz 5.32 (sic).

Send submissions by e-mail to schachlied@yahoo.com, or mail to P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023 (include phone).

Deadline next issue: Aug. 15. All contents of *Texas Knights* © 2008 by the Texas Chess Association, Inc. No part may be reproduced in any way without express consent of the editor. Ad rates: \$50/page, \$35/half, \$20/quarter, \$1/line.

Cover photo: Franc Guadalupe

TCA governance update

As many of you already know, our TCA president, Michael Simpson, suffered a stroke on April 16th. The event was serious; fortunately, he was with friends, and was taken to a hospital as quickly as possible.

I am happy to report that his recovery has been excellent, though not without significant effort. Mike has suffered no loss of mental acuity, but has had to work to recover full motor skills. Obviously, such an event forces one to make difficult choices; in this case, Mike has to devote most of his time to his health and his career, leaving little room left to act as TCA President. He has chosen to step down for the remainder of his term; Vice-President Clemente Rendon will be handling the duties of President until the TCA elections this summer.

I want to thank Mike on behalf of Texas chessplayers everywhere for his exemplary service to the TCA. Perhaps sometime in the future we'll be fortunate enough to again have him as an officer of the TCA.

Sincerely,
Drew Sarkisian
TCA Secretary

UTD plays Nankai University in China

A five-player team from UT-Dallas traveled to China in May to play against top players from University of Nankai. The Chinese team won handily, 6.5-3.5. Thanks to Alejandro Ramirez, whose chess blog has more details.

0.5	GM Alejandro Ramirez	GM Wang Yue	1.5
1.0	IM Davorin Kuljasevic	GM Zhao Jun	1.0
1.0	IM Marko Zivanic	GM Weng Yan	1.0
0.5	IM Jacek Stopa	GM Li Chen	1.5
0.5	IM Dmitri Schneider	Li Haoyu	1.5

15 lines

TCA Treasurer's Report

Prepared by Barbara Swafford for June 15, 2008

Sept. 1, 2007 checking account balance **\$1,088.23**

Income

2007 SW Open memberships – Sept.	\$437.00
2007 Texas Girls tournament – Oct.	84.00
2007 Texas Grade fee and memberships – Nov.	635.00
2008 Region 3 Scholastic tournament	97.00
2008 Region 7 Scholastic tournament	50.00
2008 Region 8 Scholastic tournament	1,321.00
2008 Texas Team tournament – Jan.	122.50
2008 Texas Scholastic fee, memberships – Mar.	1,584.00
2008 Texas Masters memberships – Apr.	7.50
2008 Texas State & Amateur memberships - May	575.00
Donation from Fred Roper - Heartland Scholastic	34.33
Chess in Education Workshop reg. - Mar.	485.00
September memberships	217.50
October memberships	55.00
November memberships	117.00
December memberships	70.00
January memberships	510.00
February memberships	75.00
March memberships	73.50
April memberships	165.00
May memberships	92.50
June memberships (so far)	30.00
Total	\$ 6,837.83

Expenses

2007 SW Open Prize Fund	\$ 1,200.00
<i>Texas Knights</i> – Sept.-Oct. 2007	1,000.76
<i>Texas Knights</i> – Nov.-Dec. 2007	933.93
<i>Texas Knights</i> – Jan.-Feb. 2008	919.76
<i>Texas Knights</i> – Mar.-Apr. 2008	1,020.38
<i>Texas Knights</i> - May-June 2008	871.25
Dachey Lin - 2007 World Youth attendee	600.00
Warren Harper - 2007 World Youth attendee	600.00
Warren Harper - 2007 Denker attendee	1,000.00
Warren Harper Denker fund from Dale Coleman	500.00
Ellen Xiang - 2007 World Youth attendee	600.00
Evan Xiang - 2007 World Youth attendee	300.00
Chess in Education Workshop - March	505.00
Texas Masters Tournament Fund	1,000.00
Texas Masters reimbursement - WY attendees	965.00
Texas State & Amateur reimb. - WY attendees	644.00
Total	\$ 12,660.08

June 15, 2008

WF checking account balance	\$ 2,024.06
BOA checking account balance	\$ 897.87
savings account balance	\$ 15,475.77
cd @ 5% July 2007 - November 2008	\$ 25,964.08

Siebrandt brings blind title back to TX

16 lines

Jeff Siebrandt, Jessica Lauser and Alex Barasso

Jeff Siebrandt of Fort Hood, Texas won his seventh U.S. blind championship title, on tiebreaks over five-time champion Alex Barasso. They both finished with 3.5 out of 4 in the event, held June 20-21 in Buckhannon, West Virginia. Jessica Lauser won the third place trophy; she scored 2-2 to tie with Al Pietrolungo, David Rosenkoetter and Ginny Alverson. See *US Chess Online* for details.

Candidates' Statements

Clemete Rendon

First of all, I wish to thank the members of TCA for the opportunities that I have had to serve as part of the TCA governance. In the past five years, I have been TCA vice-president for three terms and TCA president for one term. I appreciate your trust and support.

I'm choosing to run for TCA president to give the TCA the leadership it needs to reach new heights. First, we need clear objectives, a vision, and mission. While we can agree that the organization has stabilized and that Selby Anderson continues to efficiently run *Texas Knights*, the question worth asking is: Are we accomplishing our objectives? The truth is that, at this moment, we do not know what our objectives are and therefore we do not know if we have achieved them. One of my first actions would be to define our objectives along with our vision and mission with the board of directors so that by the end of next year we will be able to answer that all-important question.

Second, I want to change how our organization is run. My belief is that members elect their representation

to lead the organization and provide results. For the past few years, it seems that most of the leading is done at our two annual meetings. Instead of presenting results, we are in a situation where issues are discussed repeatedly and tabled. Instead of the TCA President leading, TCA members, especially our Scholastic Director Lakshmana Viswanath 'Vis,' have pushed repeatedly for decisions at meetings, so that all items are not tabled for another year. We need to change the form we are operating. I would ensure that our committees and the board are moving forward on our projects so that when we begin to present concrete results to the membership.

Finally, we need to change the culture of the organization. While it is true that we are blessed with many capable enthusiastic members who freely volunteer their time, we need to do a better job of listening and addressing concerns. We need to know what our membership wants. I want to revive our membership committee and start asking that question, ensure we are listening to the answers, and reacting accordingly.

If we can focus on reforming how the organization is run, then the effects will trickle down through out the organization. We will ultimately create a stronger unified organization that knows exactly where it wants to go and provides results to its membership.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Lakshmana Viswanath

I have been involved with chess for a while now. My sons used to play chess. I was a chess-dad taking them to tournaments and waiting/pacing it out (impatiently should I add). Slowly I got into volunteering and then TD'ing. Currently I am a senior TD with USCF. My sons seldom play chess now and I continue to help out in tournaments.

In the recent past, I have been the chair of the Scholastics Committee. I am seeking your vote – as Vice President of TCA. I cannot promise really anything. But, I want to say one thing. I am interested and enthused with this opportunity. The minute I am not contributing, I will not cling on to the position.

I would like to see TCA promote chess, Scholastic and adult with a vibrant web presence, discussion forums, and tournament calendar on the web. More tournaments in different cities. A list of available tournaments that organizers can bid on among other things. TCA needs to be promoted also. Help support chess in schools, and help players going out of state representing TCA's. More importantly, I would like to see closures to issues and will help promote the board to make decisions in a timely fashion. I hope you will consider me.

Thank you very much for your time.

Warren Harper wins Texas Championship

Warren Harper added to his already impressive chess accomplishments by winning the Texas State Championship with an undefeated 6-1 score. Harper, 17, is the current Denker High School champion and is on the All-America team.

True, most of the strong UTD players were out for the summer. True, the only other 2300 master, Langer, started with a loss so that Harper was able to give "draw odds" in Rd. 7 and still take clear first.

Harper is the third player still in his teens to have won the state title, after Alejandro Ramirez (2006, age 17) and Igor Shtern (1984, age 16).

Finishing in clear second place with 5.5 points was Deepyman Datta (2161), who is poised to go over 2200 soon. Michael Langer came in third with 5 to win the U2400 prize. Third prize plus U2200 was shared by Darwin Yang, Nicholas Schoonmacher, Jeffrey De Jesus, John Bell and Drew Sarkisian, all with 4.5.

The Texas Amateur title went to Jonathan Allen, who blazed his way through the pack for a 7-0 score. Brad Anderson was second at 6-1, with two draws. Tied for third at 5.5 were Richard Petty, Sylvia Yang, Curtis Fukuchi, and Steven Chen.

Jonathan Chiang and Diwakar Rana tied for Class B with 5-2. Tied for 2nd B with 4.5 were Robert Sanchez, Steven Villarreal, Akshay Malhotra, Misel Neskovic and Sean Li.

Glen Perry won first Class C with 4.5. Kevin Xie Doyle Lobaugh and Jordan Pamatmat shared 2nd-3rd Class C prizes with 4 points each.

Alexander Haynes was the top U1400 with 4 points. Jessica Lin and Alan Davis tied for second with 3.5.

Ed Kim was top U1200 with 3.

Bryce McLaughlin won the Unrated prize, also with 3.

Lori Balkum and Ashley Balkum tied for first U1000 with 2.5.

NTD Franc Guadalupe directed for the Dallas Chess Club. There were 31 players in the Championship and 107 in the Amateur section. \$5,845 was paid out in prizes, 70% of the advertised total (b/175 full).

Andrew Istafanous won the K-12 scholastic tournament with 5-0. Tied for second with 4 were Karthik Prabhakaran, Richard Zhu and Adrian Andreescu. There were 29 players.

Melody Hurd won the U1750 scholastic, where 67 players competed, with 5-0. Reetu Sinha, Konnor Haltman, Snigdha Sinha, Justin Estrada, Sahil Mittal and James Thaomas tied for second with 4.

Langer's baroque treatment of the closed Sicilian is less to blame than how he handles it, and his opponent has the run of the board in 20 moves.

Sicilian B20

Michael Langer 2319
Mark Muecke 2076

Texas State Championship (1)

1.e4 c5 2.d3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.f4 d6 6.Nf3 e6 7.0-0 Nge7 8.c3 e5 9.Be3 Bg4 10.Qb3 Qb6 11.Qc2 [11.Qxb6 axb6 12.Nbd2?] 11...0-0 12.fxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.Na3 [14.Nd2] 14...Bg7 15.Bf4 15.Nc4 Qc7 16.Bf4? 15...Rad8 16.Rae1 Be6 17.Bg5? 17.Nc4 Qa6 18.Ne3 d5 17...f6 18.Be3 Bxa2? 19.b4 Bf7 20.d4 20.Rb1 Qc6 21.bxc5 dxc5 22.d4 cxd4 23.cxd4 Qd7? 20...cxb4 21.cxb4 Qxb4?? 22.Ra1 Re8 23.Qf2 Bb3 24.Rfb1 a5 25.Bd2 Qb6 26.Bxa5 Qxa5 27.Rxb3 Rb8 28.Qb2 d5 29.e5 fxe5 30.Nc4 Qc7 31.Nxe5 Nc6 32.Rc1 Bxe5 33.dxe5 Rfd8 34.e6 Qd6 35.Rxb7 Rxb7 36.Qxb7 Ne5 37.Qb3 Kg7 38.h3

Kf6 39.Qb7 h5 40.Re1 Qxe6 41.Qb2 Qd6 42.Kh2 0-1

English Opening A16

Stephen Wolff 2123

Movses Movsisyan 2273

Texas State Championship (1)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.cxd5 Nxd5 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Nb6 6.Nf3 Bg7 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d3 0-0 9.Be3 e5 10.Rc1 Nd4 11.Nd2 [11.Qd2=] 11...c6 12.Nb3 Re8 13.Nc5 Qe7 14.b4 [14.N3e4 h6?] 14...a5 15.a3 axb4 16.axb4 Nd7 17.Nxd7 Bxd7 18.b5

X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + - + r + k + (7 + p + l q p z p ' 6 - + p + - + p + & 5 + P + - p - + - % 4 - + - n - + - + \$ 3 + - N P z - P - # 2 - + - + P P L P " 1 + - R Q + R K - ! x a b c d e f g h y

18...Nxb5 19.Nxb5 cxb5 20.Rc7 Qd6 21.Rxb7 Rab8 22.Rxb8 Rxb8 23.f4 Be6 24.fxe5 Bxe5 25.d4? [25.Qd2 Bd5?] 25...Rd8? 26.Kf2 b4 27.Qa1 Bxd4 28.Bxd4 Qxd4+ 29.Qxd4 Rxd4 30.Ke3 Rd6 31.Be4 Kg7 32.Bd3 b3 33.Kd2 f5 34.Kc3 Rc6+ 35.Kb2 Bd5 36.Ra1 Kf6 37.Ra7 h5 38.h4 Ke5 39.Ra4 Rb6 40.Be4 Bxc4 41.Rxc4 Kd5 42.Rc8 Re6 43.Rc3

43.Rd8+ Kc4 44.Rc8+ Kd4 45.Kxb3 Re3+ 46.Kc2 Rxe2+ 47.Kd1 Rg2???

43...Rxe2+ 44.Kxb3 Ke4 45.Rc4+ Kf3 46.Rc6 Kxg3 47.Rxg6+ Kxh4 48.Kc3 f4 49.Kd3 Re8 50.Rf6 Kg3 51.Rg6+ Kf3 52.Kd2 Kf2 53.Rh6 Rd8+ 54.Kc2 f3 55.Rxh5 Ke2 56.Re5+ Kf1 57.Re7 f2 58.Re5 Rg8 59.Kd2 Kg1 0-1

Torre Attack A47

Keith Hayward 2271
Adekunle Ogunmefun 2100

Texas State Championship (1)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 b6 3.Bg5 Ne4 4.Bh4
Bb7 5.Nbd2 c5 6.c3 Qc7 7.e3 e6
8.Be2 d6 9.0-0 Be7 10.Bb5+ Nd7
11.Bxe7 Kxe7 12. Nxe4 Bxe4
13.Nd2 Bb7 14.e4 h5 15.Re1 e5
16.Rc1 Raf8 17. Bxd7 Qxd7
18.dxe5 dxe5 19. Ne4 Qe6 20.Qa4
a6 21.Ne3 Rd8 22.Nf5+ Kf6 23.f3
g6 24.Ne3 Rd2 25.Rcd1

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + - + - - r (
7+| + - + p + - '
6p p - + q k p + &
5+ - p - p - + p %
4Q+ - + P+ - + \$
3+ - P - N P + - #
2P P - r - + P P "
1+ - + R R - K - !
x a b c d e f g h y

25...Rxd1?!

There was no need to cede the
file: 25...Rhd8! ?Qb6.Nd5+? Bxd5
27.Rxd2 Bb3!?

Possible was 25... Rxb2 26. c4!
Kg7 27.Nd5 Bxd5 28.Rxd5?y
26.Rxd1 b5 27.Qa5 Rc8 28.c4
bxc4?

After this there is no doubt Black
is lost, as the weaknesses at c5 and
d6 weigh heavily. 28...Qc6 keeps
him in the game.

29.Qc3 Ke7 30.Nxc4 f6 31.Rd6
Qxd6

Black has a choice of evils, e.g.
31...Qf7 32.Nxe5! or 31... Qg8
32.Rxd6! The text might offer hope,
but White's queen has too many
points of entry.

32.Nxd6 Kxd6 33.Qd2+ Ke6 34.h4
Bc6 35.Qa5 f5 36. Qxa6 Rc7
37.Qc4+ Kd6 38. Qd3+ Ke6
39.Qd8 Re7 40. Qg8+ Kf6 41. exf5
1-0

Sicilian Alapin B21

Shawn Noland 2091
Mike Feinstein 2242

Texas State Championship (1)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 exd4 3.c3 dxc3 4. Nxc3
Nc6 5.Nf3 e6 6.Bc4 a6 7. 0-0 Nge7
8.Bg5 f6 9.Be3 b5 10. Bb3 Ng6
11.Nd4 Nxd4 12.Qxd4 Bb7 13.f4
Rc8 14.f5 Bc5 15.Qd2 Qb6 16.Bxc5
Rxc5 17.Qe3 Nf8 18.fxe6 dxe6 19.
Kh1 Rc6 20.Qg3 Ng6 21.Rad1 0-0
22.h4 Ne5 23.h5 h6 24.Ne2 Kh8

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + - + - r - k (
7+| + - + - p - '
6p q r + p p - p &
5+ p + - n - + P %
4- + - + P + - + \$
3+ L + - + - Q - #
2P P - + N + P + "
1+ - + R + R + K !
x a b c d e f g h y

25.Qxe5! Rc5?D

25...fxe5? 26.Rxf8+ Kh7 27.
Rdd8??.

26.Qh2 Bxe4 27.Nf4 Rg5 28. Bxe6?

28.Rd6! Qxd6 29.Ng6+ ?R»or
28...Qc5 26.Rxe6?? .

28...Bxg2+ 29.Nxg2 Qxe6 30. Rf3?
30.Rd2 Rc8 31.b3?D

30...Qe2

Almost forcing a win is 30...
Qg4! 31.Nh4 Rxh5, except for 32.
Rd4! Qxd4 33.Ng6+ Kg8 34.Qxh5
Qd1+ 35.Kg2 Re8 36.Qf5 Qd2+ 37.
Rf2 Qg5+?.

31.Rdf1 Qxb2 32.Nf4 1/2-1/2

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

QGD Anti-Meran D44

J.P. Hyltin 2039
Austen Green 2199

Texas State Championship (1)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.Nf3 Nf6
5.Bg5 dxc4 6.e4 b5 7.e5 h6 8.Bh4
g5 9.Nxg5 hxg5 10.Bxg5 Nbd7 11.

exf6 Bb7 12.g3 Qb6 13.Bg2 0-0-0
14.0-0 c5 15.d5 b4 16.Rb1

This was the end of my book
knowledge of this opening.

16...Ne5

This is not well regarded. 16...
Qa6 is the normal move.

17.Qe2 Nd3 18.b3

There are several thematic
means of sacrificing the knight in
this opening for counterplay as in
this game, but truthfully I didn't see
he that could keep his Nb2.

18...bxc3

I saw 18...exd5 19.bxc4 dxc4 20.
Bxb7+ Qxb7, thinking 21.Qg4+ gets
the c-pawn, but 21...Rd7 22.Qxc4
loses to 22...Ne5.

19.bxc4 Nb2 20.Rfc1?!!

The counterplay is excellent
here, but it isn't easy to play on ei-
ther side correctly.

20...Qa5 21.dxe6 Bxg2 22.Kxg2

Better is 22.e7, but my hat's off
to anyone who can see all this. [22...
Bc6 23.exd8Q+ Qxd8 (23...Kxd8 24.
Bf4! ?Qe5) 24.Rxc3 Na4 25.Rd3
Qe8 26.Qd2 ??.(Fritz)]

22...Bd6 23.Qf3 Be5 24.e7 Rd7

All this takes time to play, and
now I thought 20 minutes running
my time down near five minutes,
considering several options.

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + k + - + - r (
7p - + r P p + - '
6- + - + - P - + &
5q - p - l - l - %
4- + P + - + - + \$
3+ - p - + Q P - #
2P n - + - P K P "
1+ R R - + - + - !
x a b c d e f g h y

25.Qa8+

In spite of the fact that every-
thing wins here, I was frustrated not
seeing anything to a clearly resolved
win. I played this offering a draw,
thinking I had a perpetual.

The clearest win would have been 25.Re1 Qc7 26.Rxe5 Qxe5 27. Bf4?@e I looked at 25.Rxc3, but I had no confidence in it as I was so far behind in material and had to calculate several options. (a) 25... Bxc3 26.Qa8+ Kc7 27.Bf4+ Kb6 28.Qxh8?@b) 25...Qxc3 26.Qa8+ Bb8 27.Bf4 (27...Rb7 28.Bxb8 Rxb8 29.Qc6#) 27...Qb4 28.Qc6+ Bc7 29.Bxc7 Rxc7 30.e8Q+ Rxe8 31. Qxe8+ Kb7 32.Qe5???

After 25.Qa8+ I was focused on 25...Bb8 26.Bf4 Rb7. (the "perpetual" with 26.Qc6+ is actually not very clear after 26...Qc7 27.Qxc7+ Bxc7 28.Rxc3 Nd3) 27...Rb7 and I decided my queen was in jail here I did not see after 27.Bxb8 Kd7 that the rook on b7 was hanging. 1/2-1/2

Nimzo-Indian E20

**Warren Harper 2330
Brad Sawyer 2205**

Texas State Championship (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.g3 e5 5.Nf3 cxd4 6.Nxd4 Ne4 7.Qd3 Qa5 8.Nb3 Nxc3 9.Bd2

9.Nxa5 Ne4+ 10.Bd2 Bxd2+ 11. Qxd2 Nxd2 12.Kxd2 Nc6 13.Nxc6 dxc6 14.Bg2 e5=.

9...Ne4 10.Qxe4 Bxd2+ 11.Nxd2 Nc6 12.Bg2 0-0 13.Qf4 e5 14.Qe3 Nd4 15.Qd3 d6 16.0-0 Be6?!

Better is 7.Nb3...Bf5! 17.e4 Bg4 18. Nb3 Nxb3 19.axb3 Qb6=.

17.e3 Nc6 18.Ne4 d5 19.cxd5 Nb4 20.Qb1 Bxd5 [20...Nxd5 21.Ng5±.] 21.a3 Nc6

X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + - + - r k + (
7pp + - + ppp '
6- + n + - + - + &
5q - + l p - + - %
4- + - + N + - + \$
3P - + - P - P - #
2- P - + - PLP "
1RQ + - + RK - !
x a b c d e f g h y

22.b4 Qd8

Somewhat better is 22...Qb6 23. Ng5 (23.Nf6+!??p 23...e4 24.Bxe4 Bxe4 25.Qxe4 g6 26.Qh4?.

23.Rd1 Bxe4 24.Bxe4 Qg5 25. Rd7?@of5 26.Bd5+ Kh8 27.Rxb7 Rac8 28. Be6 Rcd8 29.Qc2 Rd6 30.Bd7 Nd8 31.Rxa7 f4 32.exf4 exf4 33.Qc5 Qf6 34.Re1 fxc3 35. hxg3 Qb2 36. Re8 Rxe8 37.Bxe8 Qb1+ 38.Kh2 Rf6 39.Bh5 Qf1 [39...Qf5 40.f4??? 40.Rf7! 1-0

English Opening A34

**Adekunle Ogunmefun 2100
Michael Langer 2319**

Texas State Championship (2)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e5 3.g3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bg2 Nc7 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.0-0 e5 8.d3 Be7 9.Be3

The main book line is 9.Nd2.

9...Be6 10.Rc1 b6 11.Qa4 Bd7 12.Qe4 f5 13.Qc4??

The queen's hubris does her in! Correct is 13.Qa4 Nd4 14.Qd1=.

13...Na5 0-1

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

Nimzo-Indian E48

**Michael Feinstein 2246
J.P. Hyltin 2039**

Texas State Championship (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.e4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd3 d5 6.Nge2

I had been here once before, but never looked anything up on any of this. So, this is all my creation, but it has been played before.

6...dxc4 7.Bxc4 e5 8.0-0 exd4

8...Nc6 scores significantly better. Most of the games in this line involve strong masters up to GMs.

9.exd4

A surprise.

9...Nc6 10.Bg5 Be7 11.h3 h6 12.Be3 Bf5

An idea to blockade d5 is 12... Na5 13.Bd3 Be6 14.Nf4 Bc4 - SKA. 13.a3 a6 14.Ba2 Qd7 15.Nf4 Bd6 16.Qf3 Rfe8 17.Rfd1 Ne4 18.Nfd5 Nxc3

Michael later said this seemed to let him off the hook, but I missed his 20th. I'm not sure what else to try.

19.bxc3 Be4 20.Qh5 Qf5 21.Qxf5 Bxf5 22.c4 b6 23.Bb1 Bxb1 24. Raxb1 Ne7 25.Nxe7+ Rxe7

A less rocky path is 25...Bxe7 26.a4 (26.c5 b5) 26...Bf6 27.c5 Rab8=. Now the b-file breach gives White some winning chances.

26.c5 bxc5 27.dxc5 Be5 28.Rb7 Kf8 29. Rd3 Ke8 30.f4 Bf6 31.Kf2 Rd8 32.Rxd8+ Kxd8

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + - k - + - + (
7+ Rp - r pp - '
6p + - + - l - p &
5+ - P - + - + - %
4- + - + - P - + \$
3P - + - l - + P #
2- + - + - KP + "
1+ - + - + - + - !
x a b c d e f g h y
33.c6 Re6??

33...Re4 works out better, with a small advantage for White. [Not even! 34.Ra7 Bd4 35.Bxd4 Rxd4 36.Rxa6 Rxf4+ 37.Ke3 Rf1= - SKA.] **34.Rb8+ Ke7 35.Bc5+- Rd6 36. Bxd6+ Kxd6 37.Ra8 Kxc6 38. Rxa6+ Kb5 39.Ra8 c5 40.a4+ Kb4 41.a5 Kb5 42.Ke2 c4 43.Kd2 Bd4 44.a6 Kb6 45.f5 Bf6 46.Kc2 Bd4 47.a7 Kb7 48.Rc8 1-0**

Sicilian Defense B30

**Mark Dejmek 2177
Abhishek Mallela 2017**

Texas State Championship (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4. Bb5 g6 5.e5 Ng4 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.h3 Nh6 8.g4 Qc7 9.d3 b6 10.Bf4 Bb7 11. Qd2 Ng8 12.e6 Qc8 13.exf7+ Kxf7 14.0-0-0

Not bad, but more incisive is 14.Be5!, spearing a piece after 14... Nf6 15.g5 Qf5 16.Qe2, or 14...Bg7 15.Qf4+ Nf6 16.g5.

14...h6 15. Rde1 Bg7 16.Re2 Qf8
17.Qe3 Bc8 18. Rhe1 Bd7 19.Bg3
Re8?

Better is 19...Bf6 20.Ne5+ Bxe5
21.Qxe5 Rh7, but 22.Bh4 or 22.Nd5!
is still winning?q
20.Qf4+ Nf6 21.Ne5+ 1-0

Sicilian Defense B53

Stanley Yang 2205

Movses Movsisyan 2273

Texas State Championship (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4
Nc6 5.Bb5 Bd7 6.Bxc6 Bxc6 7.Nc3
Nf6 8.Bg5 e6 9.0-0-0 Be7 10.Qd3
Qa5 11.h4 h6 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.Nd4
0-0 14.f4 Rfd8 15.g4 Bxd4 16.
Qxd4 b5 17.g5 h5 18.g6 fxe6 19.
Rhg1 Be8 20.Rg5 Rac8 21.Rdg1
Qc7 22.f5 exf5 23.exf5 Qc4 24.
Qd5+ Qxd5 25.Nxd5 Rc4 26.Ne7+
Kf7 27.Nxg6 Rdc8 28.Rxh5?

Better is 28.R1g2 Bc6 29.Rd2
Be4 30.c3?3
28...Rxc2+ 29.Kb1 Kf6 30.Rh8 Bd7
31.Rxc8 Rxc8 32.Rf1 Re5??33.Nf4
Bxf5+ 34.Ka1 Ke5 35.h5 d5 36.Ne2
d4 37.b4 Rc4 38.Ng3 Bg4 39.Kb2
d3 0-1

Nimzo-Indian E43

Darwin Yang 2231

Warren Harper 2330

Texas State Championship (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6
5.Bd3 Bb7 6.f3 c5 7.a3 cxd4 8.axb4
dxc3 9.bxc3 d5 10.cxd5 exd5 11.
Ne2 0-0 12.0-0 Nbd7 13.Nd4 Ne5
14.Ba3 a6 15.b5 Re8 16.Nf5 axb5
17.Bxb5 Bc6 18.Bxc6 Nxc6 19.Re1
g6 20.Nd6 Re6 21.Nb5 Ne5 22.Nd4
Re8 23.Qb1?!

23.Nc2 Qc8 24.Qd4=
23...Nc4 24.Be1 Rxa1 25.Qxa1 Nd7
26.Qa2 Ne5 27.Qe2 Qa8 28.Nb5
Qc6 29.Na3

At first Fritz claims 29.Nd4 is
equal, but on further analysis... 29...
Qa4 30.30.Rd1 f5 31. Kh1 Qa5 32
.Bd2 f4 33.e4 Nxd2 34. Qxd2 dxe4?x
29...Na4?30.Qc2?

30.Nxc4 Nxc3 31.Qd2 Qxc4 32.
Bb2 Na4?¶]

30...Nxa3 31.Bxa3 Qxc3

31...d4! 32.c4 b5 33.c5 Rxe3 34.
Rxe3 dxe3 35.Qe4 Qxe4 36.fxe4
Kf8 37.Kf1 Nc3?q

32.Qxc3 Nxc3 33.Bb2 Nb5 34.Kf2
Rc8 35.Re2

35.Be5 Kf8 36.Rb1 Rc5 37.Bf6
Ke8?;

35...Nd6 36.Bd4 Nc4 37.Re1 b5

38.Rb1 Rb8 39.Be5 f5 40.Ke2 Kf7

41.Kd3 Ke6 42.Kc3 Rc8 43.Kb4

Ne5 44.Kxb5??

44.Rd1 Ra8 45.Bd4 Nc6+ 46.
Kxb5 Nxd4+ 47.exd4 Ra2?!

44...Rb8+ 45.Bb6 Nc4 46.Kc6
Rxb6+ 47.Rxb6 Nxb6 48.Kxb6 f4
0-1

Caro-Kann B14

Michael Langer 2319

Alexander Balkum 2051

Texas State Championship (3)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4
Nf6 5.Nc3 e6 6.Nf3 Bb4 7.Bd2 0-0
8.exd5 Nxd5 9.Bd3 b6 10.0-0 Bxc3
[10...Bb7=] 11.bxc3 Bb7 12.Ne5
Nd7 13.Rc1 Rc8 14.Re1 Qc7 15.
Qh5 N5f6 16.Qh3 g6 17.Bh6 Rfe8
18.Qh4 Qd6 19.Qf4 Qe7 20.Bb5

X A B C D E F G H Y

8- + r + r + k + (

7p l + n q p + p '

6- p - + p n p z &

5+ L + - N- + - %

4- + - P - Q- + \$

3+ - P - + - + - #

2P + - + - P P P "

1+ - R - R - K - !

x a b c d e f g h y

20...Nxe5 21.Qxe5 Bc6

21...Red8 22.c4! (22.Bg5 Rd5=)

22...Nh5 23.d5 a6 24.Ba4 Rd6 25.
Bd1 f6 26.Qe3 e5 27.Bxh5 gxh5

28.f4?¶p

22.Bxc6 Rxc6 23.Re3 Nh5

23...Rec8 24.d5 Rc4 25.Rce1±.

24.g4+- f6 25.Qb5 Qa3 26.Qxc6
Qxc1+ 27.Kg2 Kf7 28.Rxe6!

White has simultaneous threats
of 29.Qxe8# and 28.Bxc1. Also
strong is 28.d5 e5 29.d6.

28...Rxe6 29.Qd7+ Re7 30.Qd5+
1-0

French Defense C10

Warren Harper 2330

Deeptyman Datta 2161

Texas State Championship (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Nf3
Nf6 5.e5 Ne4 6.Bd3 Bb4 7.0-0-0
Bxc3

7...Nxc3 8.bxc3 Bxc3 9.Rb1
Nb4 10.Bd2 Bxd2 11.Bb5+ Bd7 12.
Bxd7+ Qxd7 13.Qxd2 c5 14.dxc5
Na6?€

8.bxc3 Nxc3 9.Qd2 Ne4 10. Qe3 b6

11.Ne1 h6 12.f3 Ng5 13.c3 Na5

14.Qf2 f5 15.exf6 Qxf6 16.Qg3 0-0

16...c5 17.Bxg5 Qxg5 18.Qd6

Qe3+ Rf2 Bd7?V

17.Qxc7 Bb7 18.Qg3 Rfc8 19. Bd2

Nf7 20.Nc2 e5 21.Rae1 Re8 22.Ne3

Qg5

22...exd4 23.Ng4 Qc6 24.cxd4

Nc4 25.Bxc4 Rxe1 26.Rxe1 Qxc4

(26...dxc4 27.Re7 Qd6 28.Nxb6+)

27.Bxh6 Qxd4+ 28.Be3 Qb2 29.Rd1

Qc2 30.Nf6+ Kf8 31.Nd7+ Kg8

32.Re1 Qc3 33.Bf4 Rd8 34.Kh1 Qd4

35.Ne5?.

23.Qf2 Qh5 24.Nf5 Bc8 25.Nh4!

25.Ng3 Qh4 26.f4 e4 27.Nxe4

Qxf2+ 28.Nxf2?D

25...g5

25...Nh8 26.dxe5 Nc4 27.Bxc4

dx4 28.f4 Nf7 29.h3?¶1

26.Ng6 Nc4 27.dxe5 Be6

27...Nb2 28.Bc2 Ba6 29.e6?¶Ç

28.f4 1-0

Sicilian Defense B51

Movses Movsisyan 2273

Michael Langer 2319

Texas State Championship (4)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.0-0

Ngf6 5.Re1 a6 6.Bf1 b6 7.d4 cxd4

8.Qxd4 Bb7 9.Nc3 e6 10.a4 Be7

11.Bc4 h6 12.b3 Qc7 13.Bb2 Ne5

14.Nxe5 dxe5 15.Qd3 Bc5 16.Qg3
0-0 17.Nd1 Bd6 18.Bd3 Nh5
19.Qh4 Nf4 20.Ne3 Bb4 21.Red1
Bc3 22.Bxc3 Qxc3 23.Nc4 Rad8
24.Qe7 Ba8 25.Nxb6 Nxd3 26.cxd3
Qxb3 27.Qa7 Bxe4 28.Nd7 Bxd3
29.Nxf8 Rxf8 30.Qe3 [30.Rac1 e4
31.Qd7 e5=] 30...e4 31.f3 Qb4 32.
h3 Bc2 33.Rd2 Bd3 34.Rad1 Qxa4
35.fxe4 Bc2 36.Rd4 Bxd1 37.Rxa4
Bxa4 38.Qa7 Bb5 39.e5 Rd8 40.
Kf2 Rd2+ 41.Ke3 Re2+ 42.Kf4
Ra2 43.Qa8+ Kh7 44.Qe4+ Kg8
45.Qa8+ Kh7 46.Qe4+ Kg8 1/2-1/2

QP Opening D02

Keith Hayward 2271

Jeffrey De Jesus 2160

Texas State Championship (4)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.a3!? c6 4.Bf4
e6 5.e3 Ne4 6.c4 Nd7 7.Bd3 Be7
8.0-0?!

Castling into it! Better is 8.Nbd2
g5 9.Bg3 Nfg3 10.hxg3 h6=.

X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + l q k + - r (
7pp + n t p p p '
6- + p + p + - + &
5+ - + p + - + - %
4- + P P n t - + \$
3P - + L P N + - #
2- P - + - P P P "
1R N + Q + R K - !
x a b c d e f g h y

8...g5! 9.Be5 f6 10.Bg3 h5 11.h4
Or 11.h3 g4 12.hxg4 hxg4 13.
Nfd2 Nxg3 14.Bg6+ Kf8 15.fxg3 f5
16.Qxg4 Bg5??.

11...g4 12.Nfd2 f5 13.Bxe4

13.Nc3 Bxh4 14.Bxh4 Qxh4?%
13...fxe4 14.Nc3 Bxh4?f15.Ndxe4?
15.Bxh4 Qxh4 16.b4 g3 17.fxg3
Qxg3 18.Qe1 Qg5 19.Qf2 Rf8 20.
Qe2 h4 21.Rxf8+ Nxf8 22.Rf1 h3
23.Rf2 Ng6?Z

15...dxe4 16.Nxe4 0-0 17.Bd6 Rf5
18.c5 Nf6 19.Nc3 Nd5 20.e4 Nxc3
21.bxc3 Rf7 22.e5 Qg5 23.g3 Rf3

24.gxh4 Qxh4 25.Qc2 Kg7 26.Kg2
Qh3+ 27.Kg1 g3 0-1

Notes by NM Mike Feinstein

Caro-Kann B12

Mark Dejmek 2195

Michael Feinstein 2242

Texas State Championship (4)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nc3 e6
5.g4 Bg6 6.Nge2

In my opinion, the Advance
Caro-Kann with Nc3 is one of the
sharpest and most interesting open-
ings in modern chess.

6...c5 7.h4 h5

A highly complicated alternative
is 7...cxd4 8.Nxd4 h5 9.f4!? hxg4
10.Bb5+ Nd7 11.f5 Rxh4 12.Rf1!?:
8.Nf4 Nc6 9.Nxg6 fsg6 10.Ne2 Qb6

Black's pressure against White's
center compensates for his weak
kingside structure.

11.Bh3!?

Most grandmaster games have
continued 11.Nf4 cxd4 12.Bd3 Nxe5
13.Nxg6 Nxg6 14.Bxg6+ Kd7 15.
gxh5 and ... (a) 15...Ne7 16.Bd3
(16. Bf7?! Nf5 17.0-0 Bb4 18.Bg5
Raf8 19.Bg6 Be7 20.Qg4 Bxg5 [20...
Bc5!??] 21.hxg5 Qd6? Shirov-
Khenkin, Germany 2000) 16...Nc6
17.Rg1?! Leitaov-Khenkin, New York
2000. (b) 15...Bb4+ 16.Kf1 Rf8?.

11...cxd4N

11...Nxd4! 12.Nf4 Ne7 13.c3
g5! 14.Nxh5 Ndc6 15.hxg5 Nxe5? [
12.Nf4 Bb4+ 13.Kf1 Nxe5 14.gxh5
14.Qe2 Nxg4 15.Nxd5 Qc5
(15...d3 16.cxd3 Qxf2+ 17.Qxf2 Nxf2
18.Nxb4 Nxh1 19.Kg2 a5 20.Nc2
Rc8 21.Na3?) 16.Qxe6+ Ne7?

14...Nf6! 15.Nxe6

15.Bxe6 Nxh5! 16.Nxd5 Qd6!
17.Qxd4 Bc5 18.Qc3 Rf8?F

15...Ne4!

Black's kingside now virtually
disappears, but his active pieces
provide significant counterplay.

16.hxg6

16.Bf4 Bd6 17.hxg6 Rxh4 18.
Bg3! (18.Nxg7+ Kf8 19.Ne6+ Ke7÷)

18...Rh6 19.Nxg7+ Kf8 20.Nf5
Rxx6 21.Bg2?¶

16...Rxx4 17.Nxx7+ Kf8 18.Nf5

X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + - + - k - + (
7p p + - + - + - '
6- Q - + - + P + &
5+ - + p n N + - %
4- v - p n + - t \$
3+ - + - + - + L #
2P P P + - P - + "
1R - v Q + K + R !
x a b c d e f g h y

18.Ne6+? Qxe6! 19.Bxe6 Rxh1+
20.Ke2 Rxd1 21.Kxd1?¶¶

18...Qf6!

I only played 15...Ne4 when I
found this key move. It freezes
White's most active pieces and
threatens Qxf5 as well as Rxh3,
which cannot both be countered.

19.Qe2

19.g7+ Kg8 20.Kg2 Rxh3 21.
Rxh3 Qxf5?¶¶

19...Rxx3 20.Rxx3 Qxf5 21.Kg2
Kg8 22.c3 d3! 23.Qe1 Qg4+ 24.Rg3
Nxg3 25.Qxe5 Ne4+ 26.Kf1 Qe2+
27.Kg2 Qxf2+ 28.Kh3 Qf3+ 29.
Kh4 Qh1+ 30.Kg4 Qg2+

30...Nf2+! 31.Kg3 Qg1+ 32.Kf3
Qg4+ 33.Kxf2 Rf8+ 34.Bf4 Rxf4+
35.Ke1 Qh4+ 36.Kd2 Rf2+ 37.Kxd3
Qc4+ 38.Ke3 Bc5+ 39.Qd4 Qe2#

31.Kh4 Be7+! 32.Qxe7 Qg3+ 33.
Kh5 Qh3+ 34.Qh4 Ng3+

34...Qf5+! 35.Kh6 Qe5!??•
35.Kg5 Ne4+ 36.Kh5 Qxh4+ 37.
Kxx4 d2 38.Bxd2 Nxd2 39.Rd1
Nf3+!

39...Nc4? 40.Rxd5 Nxb2 41.Rd7
Na4 42.Kh5! Nxc3 43.Kh6=
40.Kg3 Ne5 41.Rxd5 Re8!??@e

Preventing White's rook from
getting to the seventh rank and
thereby ensuring the win.

42.Ra5 a6 43.Rc5 Re7 44.b4 Kg7
45.a4 Kxx6 46.a5 Nc6 47.b5 Re5!
48.Rxe5 Nxe5 49.bxa6 bxa6 50.Kf4

Kf6 51.Ke4 Ke6 52.Kd4 Kd6 53.c4 Nc6+ 54.Kc3 Kc5 0-1

The Big Swindle of the tournament:

Caro-Kann B15

**Lorenzo Gaskill 2012
Drew Sarkisian 2100**

Texas State Championship (4)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 h6

A move that says "Refute this!" – not unlike 2...Na6!?, another Sarkisian favorite.

5.Bc4 Bf5 6.Ng3 Bh7 7.Nf3 e6 8. Qe2 Nf6 9.Ne5 Bg8 10.c3 Be7 11. 0-0 Nd5 12.f4 g6 13.Bd2 Nd7 14. Rae1 N7f6 15.Bb3 Kf8 16.c4 Nc7 17.Bc3 Rh7 18.Kh1 Qe8 19.Bc2 b5 20.f5!? [20.b3?] 20...gxf5 21.Nxf5 21.Qf3 bxc4 22.Ba4?

21...exf5 22.Bxf5 bxc4 23.Bxh7
23.Nxc6 Ncd5? 24.Nxe7 Qxe7
25.Qxe7+ Nxe7 26.Bxh7 Nxh7 27.
Bb4 Re8 28.Rxe7 Rxe7 29.Re1?00
23...Bxh7 24.Nxc6 Ncd5

Better, but still unsatisfactory., is
24...Ne4 25.Qxc4 Nd6 26.Qc5 Ne4
27.Qxe7+ Qxe7 28.Nxe7 Kxe7 29.
Rf4 f5 30.g4 Kd6 31.Bb4+ Kc6
32.gxf5??.

X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + - + q k - + (
7p - + - t p + l '
6- + N + - n - p &
5+ - + n + - + - %
4- + p P - + - + \$
3+ - L - + - + - #
2P P - + Q + P P "
1+ - + - RR + K !
x a b c d e f g h y
25.Nxe7 Qxe7 26.Qd2??

White chases a ghost of check-
mate, when a material crush is avail-
able: 26.Qxe7+ Nxe7 27.Rxf6?00
**26...Qd6 27.Qxh6+ Kg8 28.Re5
Bg6 29.Qg5? [29.Rfe1?] 29...Kg7
30.Bd2 Rh8= 31.Qg3??**

The psychology of reversed
fortune takes its toll. Equal is 31.Bf4
Nxf4 32. Qxf4 Nh5 33.Qf2 Nf6.

**31...Ne4 32.Qe1 Nxd2 33.Qxd2 f6
0-1**

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

Nimzo-Indian E46

**Alexander Balkum 2051
J.P. Hyltin 2039**

Texas State Championship (4)

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0
5.Nge2**

Slightly unusual, and I only
knew a few general ideas here.

5...d5 6.a3 Be7 7.cxd5

In the 2006 Texas Team Cham-
pionship, he played 7.Nf4 on me.
**7...Nxd5 8.g3 Nxc3 9.Nxc3 c5 10.
Bg2 cxd4**

This doesn't work out well. I
considered a few other moves trying
to avoid this, but his Ne4 will come
with impressive effect. Complex is
10...Bf6 11.Ne4 or 10...Nc6 11.d5
Ne5.

**11.exd4 Bf6 12.Be3 Nc6 13.d5
Bxc3+ 14.bxc3 exd5 15.Qxd5**

After his tenth I was playing for
this position.

**15...Qf6 16.0-0 Qxc3 17.Rfc1 Qf6
18.Rab1**

After this, Black has a difficult
task developing his queenside, so I
think White is slightly better. Amazingly,
this has all been played before.

18...Be6

Played after a long think. Santos-
Dias, Lisbon 2003 continued with
18...h6 a move that never occurred to
me. Black won, but was in trouble
most of the game, the score of which
is not fully cited.

19.Qg5 Qxg5 20.Bxg5

A classic battle has emerged.
Black's extra pawn is meaningless in
the face of White's 2 Bishops and
activity. But, Black is not without
counterplay.

20...Nd4 21.Rc7 Bf5

I considered 21...b6 22.Bxa8
Rxa8, but didn't think I could hold
the queenside pawns. 23.Be3 Nf3+
24.Kg2 Bd5 looks a little scary, but
White is fine.

22.Rxb7 Rac8?

At the time 22...Ne6 just didn't
seem to work. 23.Be7 (23.Rc1 Nxf5
24.Rb5 Nh3+ 25.Kh1 Nxf2+ 26.Kg1
Nh3+ 27.Kh1 Be4??) 23...Nxc7
24.Bxf8 Kxf8 (I was looking at
24...Rxf8 where 25.Rxc7 Rc8
26.Rxa7 Rc1+ 27.Bf1 was a position
I had no confidence in, but 27...g6
28.Kg2 Be4+ 29.f3 Rc2+ 30.Kg1
Bxf3 gives me good chances.)
25.Rxc7 is where I missed the point
that 25...Rc8 equalizes.

**23.Rxc8 Rxc8 24.Rxa7 h6 25.Be3
Rc3 26.a4 Rd3 27.h3 Nc2 28.g4
Be6?**

Things like this happen when
you battle from behind so long.

29.Ra8+ 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E45

**Michael Feinstein 2242
Warren Harper 2330**

Texas State Championship (5)

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6
5.Nge2 Ba6 6.a3 Bxc3+ 7.Nxc3 d5
8.b3 0-0 9.Be2 Nc6 10.a4 Na5
11.Ba3 Re8 12.0-0 c6 13.Ra2 dxc4
14.b4 Nb3 15.b5 exb5 16.axb5 Bb7
17.Bxc4 Nxd4 18.Rd2 Qc8 19.Rxd4
e5 20.Rh4 g5 21.Qb3 gxh4 24.
Bxf7+ Kh8 23.Bxe8 Qxe8 22.e4
Qg6 25.f3 1/2-1/2**

French Defense C00

**Nicholas Schoonmacher 2213
Movses Movsisyan 2273**

Texas State Championship (5)

**1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.Ng3
Nc6 5.c3 e5 6.Be2 Be7 7.b4 a6 8.0-
0 0-0 9.Bb2 b5 10.a4 Rb8 11.axb5
axb5 12.Re1 d4 13.Nb3 dxc3 14.
Bxc3 Re8 15.Qd2 Qd6 16.Na5
Nxa5 17.Rxa5 Nd7 18.d4 exd4 19.
Nxd4 c6 20.f4 Nb6?**

20...Bd8 21.e5 Qh6=

21.Nxc6! Qxc6 22.Bxb5 Qc7 23.
Bxe8 Nc4 24.Qd4 Bf6 25.e5 Nxa5
26.exf6 Nb7 27.Re7 1-0

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

QGD Tartakover D59

J.P. Hyltin 2039

Abhishek Mallela 2017

Texas State Championship (5)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Be7 4.Nf3
Nf6 5.Bg5 0-0 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 b6
8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.Nxd5
exd5 11.Qa4 c5 12.Rc1 Be6 13.Qa3
Rc8

This is a position I have been in
a few times, and normally play with
confidence from either side.

14.dxc5

Wrong move order. Normally,
Black has to spend a few more
moves developing his Queen side
than in the game. 14.Be2 discour-
ages 14...Nd7?!, where I think I have
more options than in the game:
15.Ba6 Rcb8 16.0-0 Kf8 17.Bb5
Rc8 18.Bxd7 Bxd7 19.dxc5 bxc5
20.Rfd1?e

14...bxc5 15.Be2 Nd7

Now the Bishop can't get to b5
with a tempo.

16.0-0 Kf8 17.Nd2?! [17.Rfd1] 17...
f6 18.Rfd1 e4 19.Qa5 Rc5 20.Qa3
Rcc8 21.Qxe7+ Kxe7 22.e4 Nb6
23.exd5 Bxd5 24.Nf1 Rd8 25.Rd4
Bf7 26.Re4+ Kf8 27.f4 Re8 1/2-1/2

Modern Defense B06

Warren Harper 2330

Nicholas Schoonmacher 2213

Texas State Championship (6)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Nc3 a6
5.a4 b6 6.Bd3 e6 7.Bf4 Ne7 8.h4 h6
9.a5 b5 10.e5 d5 11.b4 Nbc6 12.
Na2 Nf5 13.c3 h5 14.Nc1 Nb8 15.
Nb3 Nd7 16.Bg5 f6?

The weak square e5 turns out to
be fatal for Black. His game is hard
to crack after 16...Ne7 17.Qe2?;
17.exf6 Bxf6 18.Qe2 Qe7 19.Bxf6
Qxf6 20.0-0-0 0-0 21.Rde1 Re8
22.Bxf5 Qxf5 23.Ne5

Black is already lost on fun-
damentals, given the good knight vs.
bad bishop and White's grip on e5.

23...Nxe5 24.Qxe5 Qxe5 25.Rxe5
c6 26.Kd2 Ra7 27.Rg5 Kh7 28.Nc5
Rf7 29.Nd3 Bd7 30.Ne5 Rg7 31.g4
hxg4 32.h5 Ree7

32...Kh6 33.Rxg6+ Rxg6 34.
hxg6+ Kg5 35.Nxd7???

33.hxg6+ Kg8 34.Nxg4 Kf8 35.Nf6
Re8 36.Rh7 Rd8 37.Nh5 Rg8 38.
Rf7+ 1-0

Three Knights Game C47

Jeffrey De Jesus 2160

Brad Sawyer 2205

Texas State Championship (6)

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 e5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.a3!?
A move no doubt inspired by
Hayward's 3.a3!? in a Queen Pawn
game against De Jesus in Round 4.
7...a6 5.d4 exd4 6.Nxd4 Bc5 7.Be3
Ne5!?

Quiet and dull is 7...Nxd4 8.
Bxd4 Qe7 9.Be2 Bxd4 10.Qxd4 d6=.
8.f4 Neg4 9.Bg1 d5 10.h3 Nh6 11.
e5 Ne4 12.Nxe4 dxe4 13.Qd2 Bd7

Fritz likes 13...Qh4+ 14.g3 (14
.Bf2 e3 15.Qxe3 Ng4=) 14...Qxg3+
15.Bf2 e3 16.Qxe3 Qxe3+ 17.Bxe3
Bxd4 18.Bxd4 Be6=.

14.g4 Qe7 15.Bg2 Rd8 16.Qc3
b5??

16...Qh4+ 17.Bf2 Bxd4 18.Bxh4
(18.Qxd4 Bc6 19.0-0-0 Rxd4 20.
Bxh4 Rxd1+ 21.Rxd1 ?) 18...Bxc3+
19.bxc3 Rb8 20.Bxe4±.

17.Nf5

1-0

QGD Slav D30

Michael Feinstein 2242

Darwin Yang 2231

Texas State Championship (6)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 c6 4.Qc2 Nf6
5.Nbd2 Nbd7 6.g3 Bd6 7.Bg2 0-0
8.0-0 Qe7 9.h3

9.e4 dxe4 10.Nxe4 Nxe4 11.
Qxe4 e5 12.Qc2 e4 13.Ng5 f5 14.c5
Bb8 15.f3 h6 16.Qb3+ Kh8 17.Nh3
Nf6 18.Nf4 Qe8 19.fxe4 fxe4
20.Bd2 b6= (Fritz).

9...e5 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Bb2 dxc4
12.Bxe5 Bxe5 13.Nxe5 Qxe5 14.
Nxc4 Qc5 15.Rfc1

Maybe White had visions of
Rab1 and a b-pawn push, but better
seems 15.Rfd1 or 15.Rac1.

15...Be6 16.Ne3 Qe5 17.Qc3 Qxc3
18.Rxc3 Rad8 19.Rac1 Rd2 20.
R3c2 Rfd8 21.h3 Kf8

X A B C D E F G H Y

8- + - r - k - + (

7 p p + - + p p p ')

6- + p + l n - + &

5+ - - + - + - + - %

4- + - + - + - + \$

3+ P + - N - P P #

2 P + R r P P L + "

1+ - R - + - K - !

x a b c d e f g h y

22.Nc4?

Now Black can lock in a struc-
tural advantage. Still equal is 22.
Rxd2 Rxd2 23.Rc2 Rd4 24.Kf1.

22...Bxc4 23.bxc4 Rxc2 24.Rxc2
Rd1+ 25.Kh2 Nd7 26.f4

Or 26.c5 Ke7 27.Bf3 Ke6 28.e4
Re1 29.Bg4+ Ke7 30.Bf5 g6 31.
Bxd7 Kxd7 32.f3=.

26...Ke7 27.e4 f6 28.Bf3 Rd4 29.
Kg2 Kd6 30.c5+ Ke7

Not 30...Nxc5?? 31.e5+, etc.

31.Bg4
31.Kf2 Ra4 32.Bg4?X

31...Rxe4 32.Bf5 Rd4 33.Kf2
33.Bxh7 Rd5 34.Be4 Rxc5 35.
Re2 Kf7 36.Bc2 Nb6?•

33...g6 34.Re2+ Kd8 35.Bxd7 Kxd7
36.Rb2 Ke7 37.Re2 f5 38.Re7+
Rd7 39.Re8 b6 40.Ke2?

40.cxb6+ axb6?; 40.g4!? bxc5
(40...fxg4 41.cxb6+ axb6 42.hxg4?4
41.gxf5 gxf5 42.Re5 Rd2+ 43.Ke3
Rxa2.

40...bxc5?@e 41.h4 h5 42.Re3 c4
43.Rc3 Rd4 44.Ra3 Kb6 45.Rc3
Kb5 46.Rc1 Kb4 47.Rb1+ Ka3 48.
Rb7 Kxa2 49.Rxa7+ Kb3 50.Rb7+
Kc2 51.Rg7 Re4+ 52.Kf2 Re6 53.
Rd7 c3 54.Rd4 Kc1 55.Rc4 c2 0-1

King's Indian E90

Jarod Pamatmat 1995

Shawn Noland 2009

Texas State Championship (6)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3
0-0 5.e4 d6 6.h3 Na6 7.Bg5 c5 8.d5
Nc7 9.a4 a6 10.Qb3 Bh8 11.e5!?
[11.Bd3] 11...dxe5 12.Nxe5 Nfxd5
13.Nxd5 Nxd5 14.Nxg6 hxg6
15.cxd5 Qd6 16.Be2? [16.Rd1=]
16...Qe5 17.Qe3 Qxe3 18.Bxe3
Bxb2 19.Rb1 Bc3+ 20.Kd1 Bb4μ
21.Bf4? [21.Bf3] 21...Bf5 22.Rb3
Rad8 23.Bf3 Bd7 0-1

Scotch Game C45

Michael Langer 2319

Warren Harper 2330

Texas State Championship (7)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4
4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Be3 Qf6 6.Nb5 Bxe3
7.fxe3 Qh4+ 8.g3 Qd8 9.Qg4 Kf8
10.Qf4 d6 11.N1c3 Nf6 12.0-0-0
Bg4 13.Rd2 Ne5 14.Be2 Bxe2 15.
Rxe2 Nh5 16.Qf1 g6 17.Nd5 c6 18.
Nd4 Kg8 19.Nf4 Nf6 20.Qg2 Qe7
21.g4 Ned7 22.g5 Nxe4 23.h4 d5
24.Rf1 Ne5 25.Rg1 a5 26.Qh2 a4
27.Nd3 Nc4 28.h5 Re8 29.Ree1
Ne5 30.Qf4 c5 31.Nf3 Nxf3 32.
Qxf3 c4 33.Nf2 a3 34.Nxe4 dxe4
35.Qf6 axb2+ 36.Kxb2 gxh5 37.
Rd1 c3+ [37...b5 38.Rd5 b4 39.Rh1]
38.Qxc3 Qe5 39.Qxe5 Rxe5 40.Rd7
Rb5+ 41.Kc3 Kg7 42.Kd4 Rb4+
43.Kd5 b5 44.Rf1 Rf8 [Incomplete
scoresheet, eventually drawn.] ½-½??†
7a

QGD Semil-Slav D45

Jeffrey De Jesus 2160

Michael Feinstein 2242

Texas State Championship (7)

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 c6 3.e3 Nf6 4.c4 e6
5.Nc3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.e4 dxe4
8.Nxe4 Nxe4 9.Qxe4 Bb4+ 10.Bd2
½-½

Solution: 1.Rb3 (1...Kxc4 2.Be2#;
1...Ka4 Bc6#; 1...Kxa6 2.b5#).

AMATEUR GAMES

French Exchange C14

Steven Villarreal 1774

Jonathan Allen 1915

Texas Amateur Championship (3)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5
Be7 5.e5 Nfd7 6.Bxe7 Qxe7 7.Qg4
0-0 8.f4 c5 9.Nf3 Nc6 10.Bd3 f5
11.Qg5 Qxg5 12.Nxg5 Nxd4 13.
Nb5 Nxb5 14.Bxb5 Nb6 15.Be2
Bd7 16.0-0-0 h6 17.h4 hxg5 18.
hxg5 Kf7 19.g6+ Ke7 20.Rh7 Rg8
21.g4 fxg4 22.Bxg4 Raf8 23.Rf1
Nc4 24.Rf3 d4 25.b3 Ne3 26.Bh3
Nd5 27.Rh4 Rh8 28.Rxh8 Rxh8 29.
f5 exf5 30.Bxf5 Rf8 31.e6 Bc6 32.
Rh3 Rxf5 33.Rh7 Kf6 0-1

16 lines

Jonathan Allen

Nimzo-Indian E41

Matthew Michaelides 1957

Stephanie Ballom 1636

Texas Amateur Championship (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 d5
5.Bd3 c5 6.Nge2 Nc6 7.0-0 cxd4 8.
exd4 Bd6 9.a3 0-0 10.b4 dxc4 11.
Bxc4 a6 12.Qd3 b5 13.Bb3 Bb7 14.
Bc2 Ne7 15.Bg5 Nf5 16.Ng3 Bxg3
17.fxg3 Qxd4+ 18.Kh1 Rac8 19.
Bxf6 Qxf6 20.Ne2 Rfd8 21.Qb3
Qe5 22.Rae1 Ne3 23.Nf4 Rc3 24.
Qb1 Rd2 25.Bxh7+ Kh8 26.Rg1
Ng4 27.h3 Qxf4 28.Rgf1 Qxg3 0-1

Notes by Jonathan Allen

French Exchange C01

Stephanie Ballom 1636

Jonathan Allen 1905

Texas Amateur Championship (5)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.c4

I have recently taken up playing the French Defense to gain some experience in different types of positions. Unfortunately, I have not spent any time looking at the middlegame positions from an exchange position. I was relieved when my opponent decided on an isolated d-pawn type position. I had read the first half of Alex Baubrin's book *Winning Pawn*

Structures on the subject, so I had some idea of the drawbacks from White's perspective and knew what to head for in the resulting positions. Primarily my middlegame plan was to head for an endgame where the isolated pawn would be a great weakness. This meant that I would exchange pieces happily when I could, and preferably try to get some other advantage in the process. (You always need at least two advantages to win in the endgame)

4...Nf6 5.Nf3 Be7 6.Be2 dxc4

It makes sense to take the pawn now that I am ready to castle AND more importantly after she moved the light square bishop. If played sooner, this would have just helped her development. As active piece play is the primary advantage of isolated d-pawn positions, this would be very bad for Black.

7.Bxc4 0-0 8.0-0

Now that my king is safe I need to figure out where my queenside pieces belong. I know that I want to blockade the d-pawn, amass my pieces behind it and attack it with a vengeance. All the while, attempt to distract White from attacking my king. White would want to (1) not

exchange pieces: with each exchange of pieces we get closer to an endgame where the d-pawn is a disadvantage; (2) somehow deploy her pieces actively to towards the kingside, with possible rook lifts via the e- and c- files and in some cases with a4 and Ra3 and utilize the third rank as a transfer to the kingside; (3) deploy the knights towards the king side with Nbd2-Nfe5-Ndf3 ideas, and possibly deploy the dark-square bishop to b2 to help in a possible kingside attack; 4) if all else fails, sacrifice the d-pawn to open lines quickly for the pieces.

With all these things in mind I decided to try the idea of playing ...Nbd7-b6, ...Bg4 and ...c6 to blockade the d-pawn.

8...Nbd7 9.Nc3 Nb6 10.Bb3 Nfd5?!

The Nb6 belongs on d5. The Nf6 should remain on f6 to help defend the kingside.

11.Qe2 Be6 12.Re1 Re8 13.Ne5 Bg5?

To quote Alex Yermolinsky in *The Road to Chess Improvement*: "... lower rated players have great difficulty transitioning from the opening to the middlegame and from the middlegame to the endgame..."

This move proves it, at least in my case. The idea here was to stop f4 and trade a piece in the process. I simply didn't look at the very strong Qb5 idea my opponent had until after I made my move, as the following play shows. [13...c6 ??? Fritz]

14.Bxg5 Qxg5 15.Nf3 Qh5?

Not wanting to admit my mistake I continue with active play. I should have played 15...Qd8 16. Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Bxd5 Nxd5 18.Qb5 Nb6, when the position favors Black in the upcoming endgame because of the isolated pawn.

16.Nxd5 Nxd5

16...Bxd5?? 17.Qxe8+ Rxe8 18. Rxe8 mate. Thanks for playing!

17.Qb5!

The game clearly favors White now. The weak b-pawn, the loose knight on e5 and weak back rank are taking their toll. Now I really wish I had played ...c6 around move eight, as it would be protecting b5 now. Sometimes I really hate chess!

At this point I started thinking about how to save the game. I can't stop White from wining the b-pawn but I thought that maybe I could get an attack going with Nf4. Practice has shown that queen and knight are a good combo against a lone king.

17...Nf4?!

I am still worse in the resulting endgame position, and I know that I will lose a pawn, but you can usually draw being down a pawn with very precise play. Its blacks best bet.

18.Qxh5 Nxh5 19.Bxe6 fxe6 20.Ng5 Nf4

Keeping the knight at active as possible. I cannot save the e-pawn.

21.g3 Nd3 22.Rxe6?!

This move really surprised me. I expected 22.Re2 followed by b3 and Rad1, activating all her pieces. Of course, Black has moves to make too but the e-pawn is a goner.

22...h6!

Played with idea that I will activate ALL my pieces and if I have to lose a pawn White will be forced to play precisely.

23.Rxe8+ Rxe8 24.Nf3

Playable is 24.Nh3 Re2 25.b3, but all of White's pieces would be passive. Black will shortly recover the pawn deficit via the d-pawn.

24...Re2 25.Rd1 Nxf2 26.Rd2?

This is the wrong plan. The K+N endgame favors Black because of the isolated d-pawn. White needs to keep the rooks to have any chance at saving the position. Blacks plan now was to simply play Nd3 helping blockade the White king from entering the queen side arena and the black king Kf2-e6-d5 at some point capture the d-pawn and then round up the queenside pawns.

26...Rxd2 27.Nxd2 Nd3!

```

X A B C D E F G H Y
8 - + - + - + k + (
7 p p p - + - p - '
6 - + - + - + - p &
5 + - + - + - + - %
4 - + - P - + - + $
3 + - + n + - - P - #
2 P P - N - + - P "
1 + - + - + - K - !
x a b c d e f g h y

```

Phase one is complete: keep the White king out for as long as possible. Unfortunately, White cannot even play Kf1-e2, as the e2 square is "mined", as Botvinnik once said.

28.b3 Kf7 29.Kg2 Ke6 30.Kf3 Kd5

Phase two is complete: Black's king is now activated and prepared to move to any side of the board.

31.Ke3

This move loses the d-pawn anyway but its tough to find a defense plan. I couldn't think of one for White. K+N endings are really K+P ending as Botvinnik noted once.

31...Nb4 32.a4 Nc2+ 33.Kd3 Nxd4

Phase three complete; Black has won the d-pawn. Black should win, but the types of endings can be tricky.

34.g4 c5

Pushing the potentially passed pawn forward first, as Nimzovich commands, and incidentally setting a minor tactical trap. It is funny sometimes that players don't think there are many tactics in the ending. There are tactical shots on the board until the game is over!

35.h3?? Nxb3 36.Nxb3 c4+ 37.Kc3 cxb3 38.Kxb3 Ke4

I think White can resign at this point. Of course Black has to be sure that White cannot swindle by charging the king up to b7 and a7, but I had calculated that that would be far too many moves. It wasn't strictly necessary but it never hurts, and

besides, it's a slow tournament; you should use the time!

39.Kc4 Kf3 40.a5 Kg3 41.Kc5?? b6+

Overall this was an interesting game. I learned some things from the opening and got my wakeup call during the tournament that care must be taken at all phases of the game. I didn't calculate as much as I should have but since I been on a bit of tournament hiatus while finishing a degree at UTD, this was to be expected.

I've played Stephanie several times in tournaments at the Dallas Chess Club. She always brings her "A" game to the board. I am sure she will be even more of a terror in the coming years, because she's attending Texas Tech, where Susan Polgar coaches. I'm glad I was able to defeat her this time because in the near future this may not be possible. Good luck at Texas Tech, Stephanie!

0-1

Notes by Jonathan Allen

I had about two hours before this round, so I decided to look up some games in the systems that I planned to play as Black. I was pretty sure that I would play Black as I was due this, so I looked over the systems I liked against 1.e4 and 1.d4, and thought I was pretty prepared for the final game.

I knew going into the game that all I needed was a half point to win the championship. It seemed weird, but I didn't expect to do well at all this tournament because of my rustiness. When I started the tournament, I joked that it would be nice if I won, because then the top players would be forced to give me some lessons next year in the Championship section. Now I was playing the game that would determine this one way or the other. I was very excited and just a little nervous but I just thought, do your best and let's see what happens.

Caro-Kann B13

David Croson 1884

Jonathan Allen 1905

Texas Amateur Championship (7)

1.c4!

I give this an exclaim because it's the one move I wasn't thinking about, and I didn't prepare anything at all. At most, I thought about trying to get something like a Semi-Slav.

1...c6 2.e4

This is something else I wasn't prepared for. Fortunately, I had played the same with Stephanie before and was a little prepared to play the Black side again.

2...d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.Be2 dxc4?

I think this was a very poor move. I didn't look very closely at 7...d5, which I think is objectively strongest, as it creates development problems for Black.

8.0-0?!

Better for White seems 8.d5 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Ne5 10.Be2. Even if he loses the d-pawn, his lead in development will be enough compensation in the short term.

8...e6 9.Qa4 Qa5 10.Qxa5

I thought this exchange favored Black. He will be able to complete his development without any problems and again have the d-pawn to work on.

10...Nxa5 11.Ne5?

The next exchanges only favor Black, as we are getting closer to an endgame where white has a weak d-pawn. Furthermore, White is allowing Black to improve his remaining pieces and Black already has a pawn advantage.

11...Bxe2 12.Nxe2 Rc8

Played to bring the Na5 back into play. I figured that White would play Bd2, Nc3 Rd1 and try to eliminate the d-pawn.

13.Bg5?

I thought this move just lost time. 13.Bd2 was needed.

13...Nd5 14.Bd2 Nc6

I'm getting all my pieces back into play and preparing to attack the d-pawn and/or exchange the c-pawn for the d-pawn. I also considered playing the idea of b7-b5-b4, and a7-a5-a4 to force a passed pawn, but rejected this because I was behind in development. I remembered Yasser Seriwan's maxim in *Winning Chess Strategies*: "Win material, consolidate your position, then attempt to win more material." This, I believe is the essence of that mysterious idea called "technique."

15.Rac1

If 15.Nxc4 then 15...Nxd4! 16.Nxd4 Rxc4 wins a pawn. This was the idea behind 12...Rc8.

15...Nxe5 16.dxe5 Bb4!!

Played with a very deep combinatorial idea, but it is also strategically justified. What does Black want in this position? He wants to somehow complete his development, take advantage of his king position and get his c5 pawn rolling ASAP to realize his material advantage.

The natural idea is to play 0-0, maybe Ke7, or maybe Kd7. Castling seemed strange, as we are in an endgame pretty much and you try to centralize your king ASAP in endgames.

16...Ke7 will just lead to Bg5+, when ...f6 will weaken the e-pawn. [Worse, ...Ke7 blocks traffic.- SKA] 16...Kd7 is weak because of the natural Rfd1, and the pin may become troublesome. 16...Be7 seemed weak to me, and of course 16...Bc5 just hangs the c-pawn. [Actually not, because of 17.Rxc4?? Bxf2+.- SKA]

b7-b4 seemed okay, but I was a little concerned with 16...b5 17.Nc3 a6 18.a4, where the queenside pawns may become weak and difficult to defend. More importantly, this pawn move doesn't solve my problem with development.

(Continued on page 23)



Texas Masters

Dallas, April 18-20

GM Alejandro Ramirez scored 4.5 out of 5 to win the Texas Masters, held Apr. 18-20 in Dallas. He won his first four games and took an early draw with FM Keaton Kiewra, who took clear second with 4. Tied for third plus U2400 at 3.5 points each were FM Michael Langer, FM Darwin Yang and FM Andrew Whatley. There were 23 players.

There were no class sections this year. The event allowed U2200 players who either had FIDE ratings, had 2200 performance ratings in USCF crosstables, and up to six entrants who met no other criteria.

The full prize fund of \$3,000 was paid out. Luis Salinas directed for Southwest Chess.

Sicilian B30

Sylvia Yang 1840
Ivan Zuniga 2091

Texas Masters 2008 (2)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e6 4.Bxc6 bxc6 5.Nc3 d5 6.0-0 d4 [6...Nf6 7.d3 Rb8 8.b3=] 7.Ne2 Nf6 8.d3 Be7 9.c3 dxc3 10.bxc3 0-0 11.Qc2 Ba6 12.Rd1 Qa5 13.Nd2 Rfd8 14.Nb3 [14.c4=] 14...Qa4 15.c4 Nxe4!
X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + - r - + k + (
7p - + - z p p p '
6l + p + p + - + &
5+ - p - + - + - %
4q + P + n + - + \$
3+ N + P + - + - #
2P + Q + N P P P "
1R - z R + - K - !
x a b c d e f g h y

16.f3 [16.dxe4? Qxc4?Rk] 16...Nf6 17.Nc3 Qb4 18.a3 Qb8 19.Be3 Qe5 20.Bf2 Nh5 21.Re1 Qf5 22.Ne4 Nf4 23.Rad1 Qg6 24.Bg3 Qf5 25.Bf2 Qg6 1/2-1/2

Queen's Indian E14

Alejandro Ramirez 2525
Tautvydas Vedrickas 2298

Texas Masters 2008 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.Nc3 Bb7 5.e3 Be7 6.Bd3 d5 7.0-0 0-0 8.cxd5 exd5 9.b3 a6 10.Bb2 Bd6 11.Ne5 Nbd7 12.f4 Ne4 13.Ne2!?

Technically correct is 13.Nxe4 dxe4 14.Bc2=, although it offers no attacking chances.

13...Re8 14.Ng3 Nxc3 15.hxc3 Nf8 16.Qh5 Qe7 17.Rae1 f6 18.Nf3 Qf7 19.Qh3 a5 20.g4 a4 21.g5 axb3 22.axb3 Ra2 23.Rf2 Bc8 24.g4

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + l + r n k + (
7+ - p - + q p p '
6- p - z - p - + &
5+ - + p + - P - %
4- + - P - P P + \$
3+ P + L P N + Q #
2- z - + - R - + "
1+ - + - R - K - !
x a b c d e f g h y
24...Bb4 25.Ree2 Rxb2! 26.Rxb2 Rxe3 27.Bc2 Bc3 28.Ra2 Bxd4 29.Kg2 Bc5 [29...c5 30.gxf6 Bxf6?] 30.b4 Bxb4 31.gxf6 gxf6 32.Ra8 Bb7 33.Rb8 Bc6 34.g5 fxc5 35.Qh6 Qg7??

Black is winning with 35...Be8 36.fxc5 Qd7 37.Qf6 Qg4+ 38.Kh1

Qh5+ 39.Rh2 Qxf3+ 40.Qxf3 Rxf3 41.Rxe8 Kg7??00

36.Qxc6 gxf4+ 37.Kh1

Black has no checks. His best chance is 37...Qf7 when accurate play is required, but 38.Rh2! keeps the heat on: (a) 38...Rxf3 39.Bxh7+ Qxh7 [39...Kg7 40.Qh6+] 40.Qxd5+! Qf7 41.Qxf3??%, (b) 38...Bd6 39.Bxh7+ Kg7 40.Rg2+ Kf6 41.Bg8 Qh5+ 42.Kg1??
37...Rxf3? 38.Qxd5+ 1-0

Sicilian Nimzovich B29

Keaton Kiewra 2312
Paul Chaplin 2112

Texas Masters 2008 (3)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.e5 Nd5 5.Nxd5 exd5 6.d4 Nc6 7.Bg5

White sidesteps the theoretical main line, 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Qxd5 Qb6 9.Bc4 Bxf2+ 10.Ke2 0-0 11.Rf1.

7...Qb6 8.Qc1 d6

Also good is 8...Nxd4 9.Nxd4 cxd4 10.Bd3 Bb4+, or 10.a3 d6.

9.dxc5 dxc5 10.Be2 Be6 11.0-0 h6 12.Bh4 Be7 13.Bg3 0-0 14.c4 Nd4 15.Nxd4 cxd4 16.e5

White chooses the 'sacrifice for blockade' to keep the Be6 locked up. It doesn't work for long.

16...Qxc5 17.Qb1 Rac8 18.Bd3 Bd7 19.f4 Bb5 20.Bxb5 d3+ 21.Kh1 Qxb5 22.f5 Bg5 23.h4 Be3 24.f6 g6

24...Rc2!? 25.fxc7 Kxc7 26.Qd1 Re2?!

25.h5 d2?

As in the previous game, White goes for broke with a kingside attack in an objectively inferior position, and his gamble is rewarded. [25...gxf5! 26.Qe1 Bg5 27.Bf4 Rc4??]

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8- + r + - r k + (
 7 p p + - + p + - '
 6- + - + - P p p &
 5+ q + p P - + P %
 4- + - + - + - + \$
 3+ - + - z - z - #
 2 P P - p - + P + "
 1 R Q + - + R + K !
 x a b c d e f g h y
 26.hxg6 Rc1 27.gxf7+ Kh8?

Black has one last winning chance in 27...Rxf7 28.Qg6+ Kf8 29.Rfxcl dxc1Q+ 30.Rxcl Bxc1 31.e6 Qf1+ 32.Kh2 Qxf6?? with a pawn plus in the Q+B endgame.

28.Qf5 Qe2 29.Raxcl dxc1Q 30.Rxcl Qxb2

Or 30...Bxc1 31.Qg6 Rxf7 32.Qxf7 Qg4 33.Be1? 0-1
 31.Rf1 Qe2 32.e6 1-0

Modern Benoni A70

Darwin Yang 2074
 Michael Langer 2254

Texas Masters 2008 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.h3 Bg7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.Bd3 Nh5 10.0-0 Nd7 11.Re1

Another key line is 11.Bg5.

11...Ne5 12.Be2 Nxf3+ 13.Bxf3 Qh4 14.Bxh5 gxh5 15.Re3!?

15.Qd2 ? Qf4 has been played on previous occasions.

15...f5 16.exf5 Bxf5 17.Rg3 Bg6 18.Bg5 Qb4 19.Qd2 Rf5 20.a3?

Best was 20.Be3 Re8 21.Rd1=. After the text Black's queen takes aim at d5, with the threat of ...Bxc3. 20...Qc4 21.Rd1 Be5 22.b3?

Now White's game crumbles. Relatively best was 22.Rf3.

22...Qxb3 23.f4 Rxc3 24.Rxc3 Bd4+ 25.Kh1 Qxc3 26.Qxc3 Bxc3 27.Rg3 Bf6 28.Re3 Bf5 29.g4 hxg4 30.hxg4 Bxg4 31.Rg1 h5 32.Re6 Kf7 33.Rxd6 Ke7 34.Rxc4 Kxd6 35.Rg6 Rf8 36.Rh6 Kxd5 37.Rxh5+ Kc4 0-1

Nimzo-Indian E20

Jarod Pamatmat 1814
 Nelson Lopez 2149

Texas Masters 2008 (3)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 0-0 5.e4 d5 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bxf6 Qxf6 8.e5 Qh4+ 9.g3 Qe7 10.a3 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 a6 12.cxd5 exd5 13.f4 Bf5 14.Bg2 c6 15.Nf3 Nd7

15...Be4! 16.0-0 f5= is more on target. Now White gets a strong pull.

16.0-0 Be4 17.Nh4 Bxg2 18.Kxg2

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8r + - + r k - + (
 7+ p + n q p p - '
 6p + p + - + - p &
 5+ - + p P - + - %
 4- + - P - P - N \$
 3 P - P - + - P - #
 2- + - + - + K P "
 1 R - + Q + R + - !
 x a b c d e f g h y
 18...f5

Black bites the bullet, hoping to shut down the position after sacking the Exchange. The alternative shows this was correct: 18...Kh8 19.Nf5 Qe6 20.Nd6 b6 21. f5 Qe7 22.f6 Qe6 (22...Nxf6 23.Nf5) 23.fxc7+ Kxc7 24.Rf4 f6 25.Qg4+ Qxc4 26.Rxc4+ Kh7 27.e6 f5 28.Rf4 Rf6 29.Re1 Nf8 30.Rxf5 Rxf5 31.Nxf5??.

19.Ng6 Qe6 20.Nxf8 Rxf8 21.Qd3 b5 22.a4 g6 23.axb5 cxb5 24.Ra5 Re8 25.Rfa1 Rc6 26.Qf3 Nb8 27.Rb1 Rc7 1/2-1/2

If it weren't for ratings vertigo White might play to open up the g-file, and probably would win.

QGD Semi-Slav D45

Adarsh Jayakumar 1885
 Sylvia Yang 1840

Texas Masters 2008 (3)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c6 4.e3 Nf6 5.Nf3 Nbd7 6.Qc2 Bd6 7.b3 0-0 8.Bb2 Re8 9.Be2 Qc7 10.0-0 b6 11.

Rac1 a6 12.Na4?! dxc4 13.bxc4 c5

White is neglecting the center, and will pay on the long diagonal.

14.dxc5 bxc5 15.e4 Bb7 16.Bd3 Ne5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.g3?! [18.Bxe5] Rad8 19. f4? Bxb2 20.Nxb2 Qc6 21.Rfe1 Rd4 22.Rcd1 h6!?

22...Nxe4 and 22...e5! are good, but "the pawn won't run away."

23.Qa4 e5 24.fxe5 Rxe5 25.Qxc6 Bxc6 26.Bc2 Rxd1 27.Nxd1 Nxe4 28.Nc3 f5 29.Bxe4 fxe4 30.Kf2 Kf7 31.Ke3 Ke6 32.g4 h5 33.Rg1 Rg5

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8- + - + - + - + (
 7+ - + - + - p - '
 6p + l + k + - + &
 5+ - p - + - r p %
 4- + P + p + P + \$
 3+ - N - K - + - #
 2 P + - + - + - P "
 1+ - + - + - R - !
 x a b c d e f g h y
 34.h3 hxg4

34...Ke5! 35.Ne2 Rg6!?! 36.Nf4 Rf6 ??.

35.h4 Rg6

35...Rf5! 36.Rxc4 Rf3+ 37.Kd2 Ke5! 38.Rxc7 Rd3+ 39.Kc2 Kd4 ??- 36.Nxe4 Bxe4 37.Kxe4 g3 38.Kf4 g2 39.h5 Rf6+ 40.Ke3 1/2-1/2

French Tarrasch C03

Michael Langer 2254
 Alejandro Ramirez 2525

Texas Masters 2008 (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Be7 4.Bd3 c5 5.dxc5 Nf6!

A finesse. Compare to 5...Bxc5 as played by Stan Yang (Rd. 5, p. 19), where White quickly got a superior position after 6.Ngf3 Nf6 7.e5 Nfd7 8.Nb3 Be7 9.0-0 Nc6 10.Re1. 6.Qe2 0-0 7.Ngf3 a5 8.0-0 Na6 9.exd5 exd5 10.Nb3 Re8 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bh4 a4 13.Nbd4 Nxc5 14.Bb5 Bd7 15.Bxd7 Nfxd7 16.Bxe7 Rxe7 17.Qb5 Ra6= 18.b4 Ne4 19.Qxd5 Rd6 20.Qb5 Ne5 21.Nxe5

21.Nf5!? Nxf3+ 22.gxf3 Nd2!
 23.Nxe7+ Qxe7 24.Kg2 Rg6+ 25.
 Kh1 Nxf1 26.Rxf1=,
21...Rxd4 22.Nf3 Nc3 23.Qc5 Rc7
24.Qa5?

Now the queen is in a *cul de sac*.
 Better is 24.Qb6 Rd6 25.Qe3=.

24...Rd5? 25.Qa7 Ne2+ 26.Kh1
 X A B C D E F G H Y
 8- + - ♚ - + k + (
 7 ♚ p r - + p p - '
 6- + - + - + - ♝ &
 5+ - + r + - + - %
 4 p ♝ - + - + - + \$
 3+ - + - + N+ - #
 2 P + P + n ♝ P P "
 1 R - + - + R + K !
 x a b c d e f g h y
26...b5 27.Qe3 Re7!

Playable is 25...Rxc2, but the
 text keeps the queen out of play.

28.Qa3 Qc8! 29.Ne1
 Or 29.Rad1 Rxd1 30.Rxd1 Nc3
 and White is even more boxed in.
29...Qc4 30.Qf3 Rd2 31.a3 Re8
32.g3 Nd4 33.Qg2 Nf5 34.Qh3
Qd5+ 35.Kg1 Nd4 36.Qg2 Qf5 37.
c3 Ne2+ 38.Kh1 Nxc3 39.Qc6
Qd5+ 40.Qxd5 Nxd5 41.Nf3 Rd3
42.Rfe1 Rxe1+ 43.Nxe1 Rc3 44.
Ng2 f5 45.h4 Kf7 46.Kg1 g5 47.
hgx5 hxg5 48.Kf1 f4

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8- + - + - + - + (
 7+ - + - + k + - '
 6- + - + - + - + &
 5+ p + n + - ♝ - %
 4 p ♝ - + - ♝ - + \$
 3 ♝ - r - + - ♝ - #
 2- + - + - ♝ N+ "
 1 R - + - + K + - !
 x a b c d e f g h y
49.gxf4 gxf4 50.Ne1 Nb6 51.Ng2
Nd5 52.Ne1 Ke6 53.Ke2 Kf5 54.
Kd2 Ke4 55.Nc2 Rd3+ 56.Ke2

Nc3+ 57.Kf1 Rd2?? 58.Ne1 Nd1
59.f3+ Kd4 60.Ng2 Ne3+ 61.Nxe3
fxe3 62.Ke1 Kd3 63.f4 Re2+ 64.
Kf1 Rf2+ 65.Ke1 Rh2 66.Rd1+
Ke4 67.Rd8 Kf3 68.Kd1 Rh1+ 69.
Kc2 e2 70.Rd3+ Kxf4 0-1

King's Indian A65

Tautvydas Vedrickas
 Keaton Kiewra 2312

Texas Masters 2008 (4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
5.f3 0-0 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Qd2
exd5 9.cxd5 Re8 10.0-0-0?!

ECO gives 10.Be2 Na6 11.g4
 Nc7 12.h4?† as in Fedorowicz-
 Damljanovic, New York Open 1985.

The present game provides a
 stark example of "castling into it".

10...a6 11.h4 b5 12.h5 b4 13.Nb1
Qa5 14.hxg6 fxg6 15.Bf4 Qxa2 16.
Bxd6 Rxe4! 17.Bd3

17.fxe4? Nxe4 18.Qc2 b3! 19.
 Qe2 (19.Qxe4 Qxb2#) 19...Nxd6?y
17...Rd4 18.Qc2 Rxd3! 19.Rxd3
Bf5 20.Qb3 Qa1 21.Be5 Nbd7?@6
22.d6+ Kh8 23.f4 c4 24.Qxc4 Nxe5
25.fxe5 Rc8 26.Qxc8+ Bxc8 27.d7
Bxd7 28.Nf3 Bf5 29. Rd8+ Ng8
30.Ng5 Qxb1+ 31.Kd2 Qxb2+ 32.
Ke3 Qxe5+ 33.Kf3 Qc3+ 0-1

Pirc Defense B07

Austen Green 2201
 Mihail Bantic 2194

Texas Masters 2008 (4)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f3 Bg7
5.Be3 0-0 6.Qd2 e5 7.d5 [7.Nge2]
7...a6 8.Bh6? [8.0-0-0]

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8r n l ♚ - r k + (
 7+ p p - + p ♙ p '
 6- + - ♝ - + p ♙ &
 5+ - + P ♝ - + - %
 4- + - + P + - + \$
 3+ - N - + P + - #
 2 P P P ♚ - + P P "
 1 R - + - K L N R !
 x a b c d e f g h y

8...Nxe4! 9.fxe4 Qh4+ 10.g3 Qxh6
11.Qxh6 Bxh6 12.Bh3 f5 13.Nge2
fxe4 14.Bxc8 Rxc8 15.Nxe4 Rf8
16.g4 Nd7 17.g5 Bg7 18.Rf1 Rxf1+
19.Kxf1 Rf8+ 20.Kg2 Nb6 21.N2c3
Nc4 22.Re1 h6 23.b3 Na3 24.Re2
Rf4 25.gxh6 Bxh6 26.Nf2 Kf7

Also strong is ...Nb5 or ...Rd4?0
27.Nce4 Nb5 28.c3 Ke7 29.a4 Na7
30.h3 c6 31.c4 Nc8?

This might have let the win slip
 away. Better is 31...Rf8.

32.Nd3 Rf5 33.dxc6 bxc6 34.Nb4
Na7 35.Nxa6 Rf8 36.b4 d5 37.cxd5

Stronger is Nec5 here or the next
 move: Black's king is not allowed to
 dominate the center unmolested. He
 could even lose after 37.Nec5 Kd6?
 38.Nb7+ and 39.Rxe5.

37...cxd5 38.Nf2 Kd6 39.Nc5 Rb8?
 Black retains some edge with
 39...Nc6 40.Nb7+ Kc7 41.Nc5 Re8.
40.Ncd3?

White had a winning shot with
 40.Rxe5! Kxe5 41.Nd7+?èor 40...
 Rxb4 41.Nfd3 ?èè.Re6+?èE

40...e4 41.Nxe4+ dxe4 42.Rxe4
Kd5 43.Rg4

Or 43.Re7 Nc6 44.Rd7+ Kc4 45.
 b5 Nn4 46.Ne5+ Kb3 47.Nc6!?A

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8- r - + - + - + (
 7 n - + - + - + - '
 6- + - + - + p ♙ &
 5+ - + k + - + - %
 4 P ♝ - + - + R + \$
 3+ - + N+ - + P #
 2- + - + - + K + "
 1+ - + - + - + - !
 x a b c d e f g h y
43...g5 [43...Rb6?] 44.b5 Rd8 45.
Kf3

45.Nc4+ Kc5 46.Na6+ Kb6
 47.h4=.

45...Nc8 46. a5 Nd6 47.b6 Rf8+
48.Ke2 Ra8 [48...Kc6=] 49.h4?

Both players overlook 49.a6!
 Kc6 50.b7 Re8+ 51.Kf3 Nxb7=.

49...Rxa5 50.hxg5 Bg7 51.Nf4+ Kc6 52.Ne6??

A decisive error. White should have drawn after 52.Nh5 Ba1 53.g6 Rxh5 54.g7 Re5+ 55.Kd2 Re8 56.g8Q Rxg8 57.Rxg8 Kxb6=.

52...Re5+ 53.Kf3 Rxe6 54.Rb4 Rg6 55.Kf4 Bc3 56.b7 Bd2+ 57.Kf3 Nxb7 58.Ra4 Rxg5 59.Ra6+ Kd5 60.Ra7 Nd6 61.Ra3 Rf5+ 62.Ke2 Bb4 63.Rd3+ Ke5 64.Rb3 Bc5 65.Rh3 Ne4 66.Rh8 Kd4 67.Rd8+ Bd6 68.Ke1 Kd3 69.Rd7 Rf8 0-1

French Tarrasch C02

Stanley Yang 2137

Nelson Lopez 2149

Texas Masters 2008 (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 f6 6.Be2 fxe5 7.dxe5 Qc7 8.Bf4 Bd7 9.0-0 Nh6 10.Na3 a6 11.Nc2 Nf7 12.Re1 Be7 13.c4 g5 14.Bg3 d4 15.b4 h5 16.h4 g4 17.Nd2 Nxe5!?

17...cxb4 18.Ne4 0-0-0 19.Nxd4 Nfxe5 20.Nb5! =

18.bxc5 Ba4 19.Nb3 0-0-0 20.Bd3 Bf6 21.Qe2??

21...Qe7 22.Rad1 Rhf8

22...Nxd3! 23.Rxd3 e5 24.Rxd4 Rde8 25.Re4 Bxh4 26.Bxe5 Nxe5 27.Rxe5 Qf6= (Fritz).

23.Ncxd4 Rxd4 24.Nxd4 Bxd1 25.Rxd1 Bxh4 26.Nxe6!

Not 26.Bxe5?? Nxe5 27.Qxe5 Bxf2+ 28.Kh1 Qh4+ 29.Qh2 Qxh2+ 30.Kxh2 Bxd4???

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + k + - r - + (
7+ p + - q n + - '
6p + - + N + - + &
5+ - P - n - + p %
4- + P + - + p l \$
3+ - + L + - L - #
2P + - + Q P P + "
1+ - + R + - K - !
x a b c d e f g h y
26...Rg8

After 26...Qxe6 27.Bxh4 Black faces the onslaught of White's pieces on an open board: 27...Kb8 28.Rb1 Re8 29.Be4 Nc6 30.Qb2 Qd7 31.Bg3+ Ka8 32.Bf5 Qe7 33.Bd6??

27.Bxe5 Qxe6 28.Bf4 Qxe2??
A humorous double error occurs. Black had to play 28...Qf6, but is lost after 29.Qe4 Ng5 30.Qf5+ Ne6 31.Qxf6 Bxf6 32.Bf5 Re8 33.Rd6. 29. Bxe2??

Manifestly superior os 28.Bf5+ Qe6 30.Bxe6 mate!!

29...Bf6 30.c6 bxc6 31.c5 Be5 32.Bxa6+ Kc7 33.Be3 Ra8 34.Bc4 Nd8 35.f4 gxf3 36.gxf3 Ra5 37.f4 Bf6 38.f5 Be7 39.Bb3 Bxc5 40.Bxc5 Rxc5 41.Rf1 Re5 42.Kg2 c5 43.f6 Re8 44.f7 Rf8 45.Re1 Nxf7

Note that 45...Kd7 46.Re8! Rxe8?? loses to 47.Ba4+. Similar to the game is 45....Kb6 46.Re8 Rxf7 47. Rxd8 ???

The second half of the game is a technical phase, with White converting his extra piece.

46.Re7+ Kb6 47.Rxf7 Rg8+ 48.Kf3 Rc8 49.Rf4 Kb5 50.Rc4 Rc7 51.Kg3 Re7 52.Kf4 Rg7 53.Kf5 Rg2 54.Rh4 Rd2 55.Kg5 Rg2+ 56.Kxh5 Rg7 57.Rg4 Rc7 58.Rc4 Rg7 59.Rg4 Rc7 60.Bc4+ Kb4 61.Kg6 Re7 62.Kf6 Re1 63.Bb3+ Kb5 64.Rc4 Re3 65.Kf5 Rh3 66.Ke4 Rh4+ 67.Kd3 Rh3+ 68.Ke2 Rh2+ 69.Kc3 Rh3+ 70.Kb2 Rh2+ 71.Rc2 Rh4 72.Rf2 Kb4 73.a3+ Kb5 74.Bc2 Rh3 75.Re2 Rg3 76.Re4 Rh3 77.Re8 c4 78.Rb8+ Kc5 79.a4 Rh6 80.Rb5+ Kd4 81.a5 Ra6 82.Rh5 Ra7 83.Ka3 Kc3 84.Ba4 Kd2 85.Kb4 c3 86.Kb5 Rb7+ 87.Kc4 Rc7+ 88.Rc5 c2 89.Bxc2 1-0

King's Indian E62

Andrew Whatley 2317

Jarod Pamatmat 1814

Texas Masters 2008 (4)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.d4 Nc6 7.Nc3 e5 8.h3 Re8 9.d5 Na5 10.Nd2 b6 11.b4

Nb7 12.Rb1 Nh5 13.Nb3 f5 14.e4 Nf6

Alternatives are 14...a5= and 14...f4 15.g4 Nf6=.

15.Bg5 h6 16.Be3 f4 17.gxf4 exf4 18.Bxf4 Nh5 19.Ne2 Nxf4 20.Nxf4 Qh4

Fishing for 20.Nxg6? Qg5?? but better was 20...Qf6 21.Nd3 a5=.

21.Qf3 Kh7 22.Qg3 Qf6 23.Nd4 Nd8 24.Nb3 Nf7 25.Nd3 Ng5

X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + l + r + - + (
7p - p - + - l k '
6- p - p - q p p &
5+ - + P + - n - %
4- P P + P + - + \$
3+ N + N + - Q P #
2P + - + - P L + "
1+ R + - + R K - !
x a b c d e f g h y
26.e5?

There is no need to speculate when 26.Rbe1 secures a risk-free advantage: 26...Qc3 27.f4 Nf7 28.Rc1 Qf6 29.e5??.

26...dxe5 27.f4 exf4 28.Rxf4 Qd8?? [28...Bf5??] 29.h4 Bf5 30.hxg5 Be5 31.Nxe5 Bxb1 32.Nf7 Qe7 33.gxh6 Qxb4 34.Ng5+ Kh8 35.Rf8+ Qxf8 36.Qc3+ 1-0

French Defense C10

Sarah Chiang 1879

Kalin Nonchiev 2193

Texas Masters 2008 (4)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Be7 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bd3 dxe4 6.Nxe4 Nxe4 7.Bxe4 c5 8.Be3 Nd7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Qd2 Nf6 11.Bd3 b6 12.dxc5 bxc5 13.Qc3 Nd5

13...Bb7! 14.Bxc5 (14.Ne5 Nd5) 14...Bxf3 15.Bxe7 Qxe7 16.gxf3 Rfc8 17.Qe5 Rc5??

14.Qc4 Nxe3 15.Qe4 f5 16.Qxc3 Qb6 17.b3?? Bf6 18.Rad1 Bb7 19.Bc4 Rae8 20.Ne5 Re7 21.Rd2 Qc7

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8- + - + - r k + (
 7p | q - r - p p '
 6- + - + p t - + &
 5+ - p - N p + - %
 4- + L + - + - + \$
 3+ P + - Q - + - #
 2P + P R - P P P "
 1+ - + - + R K - !
 x a b c d e f g h y

22.Re1

22.Rd7! Rxd7 23.Nxd7 Re8 24.
 Bxe6+ Kh8 25.Qxc5! ♡♠♠
 22...Be4 23.Nf3 h6 24.Red1 Kh7
 25.Bd3 Bd5?!

25...Bc3! 26.Re2 Rd8=
 26.Re2 Qb7 27.Rde1 Bxf3 [Rfe8=]
 28.Qxf3 Qxf3 29.gxf3 Rfe8 30.Bb5
 30.Rxe6! g6 31.Rxe7+ Rxe7 32.
 Rd1? ♠
 30...Rb8 31.Bd3 e5? [31...Rbe8]
 32.Bxf5+ g6 33.Bd3 Rb4 34.Re4
 Rd4 35.a3 a5 36.Rg4 Rg7 37.Ree4
 h5 38.Rxd4 cxd4 39.Re4 Rc7 40.f4
 exf4 41.Rxf4 Kg7 42.b4 Rc3?

42...a4! 43.Rf3 Rc3 44.Be4 Rxf3
 45.Bxf3 d3 46.cxd3 Bb2 47.Bd1
 Bxa3 48.b5 Bc5 49.Bxa4 Kf6 50.
 Kg2 g5, with good drawing chances.
 43.bxa5 Rxa3 44.a6 Ra5 45.Re4 g5
 46.Re6 g4 47.Kg2 Kf7 48.Rb6 h4
 49.Bc4+ Kg6 50.h3 gxh3+ 51.Kxh3
 Ra3+ 52.Rb3 Ra1 53.Bd3+ Kf7
 54.Rb7+ Ke6 55.a7 Ke5 56.Rb5+
 Kd6 57.Rb6+ Ke5 58.Ra6 1-0

King's Indian E61

Alejandro Ramirez 2525
 Keaton Kiewra 2312

Texas Masters 2008 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3
 0-0 5.Bg5 d6 6.e3 c5 1/2-1/2

King's Indian Saemisch E87

Mihail Bantic 2194

Andrew Whatley 2317

Texas Masters 2008 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6
 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 e5 7.d5 c5 8.dxc6
 bxc6 9.Bd3 Be6 10.Nge2 Nbd7 11.
 0-0 Qe7 12.Bf2 Rfd8 13.Qa4 d5
 14.cxd5 cxd5 15.exd5 Nxd5 16.
 Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Nc3 Be6 18.Qa5

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8r + - r - + k + (
 7p - + - q p t p '
 6- + - + l + p + &
 5Q - + n p - + - %
 4- + - + - + - + \$
 3+ - N L + P + - #
 2P P - + - t P P "
 1R - + - + R K - !
 x a b c d e f g h y

18... Nb6 19.Bc5(?)

Here an approximately equal
 position starts to go south for White.
 Steadier is 19.Rad1 Nc4 20.Bxc4
 Bxc4 21.Rfe1 a6 22.Bc5 Rxd1 23.
 Rxd1 Qe8 24.b3 Be6 25.Ba3?b
 19...Qc7 20.Be4 Rac8 21.b4 f5 22.
 Bc2 Nd5 23.Qa6 Qf7 24.Bb3 Nc7!
 25.Qxa7 Bxb3 26.axb3 e4! 27.Rac1
 Qxb3 28.Nb1 exf3 29.Rxf3 Rd1+
 [29...Qd5?] 30.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 31.
 Rf1 Qd5 32.h3

32.Re1 removes the sting of
 Black's next: if 32...Ne6 33.Qa6
 Re8 33.Qd6=. A better try to main-
 tain Black's edge is 32...Be5.
 32...Ne6 33.Qa6 Rd8 34.Be7 Rd7
 35.Qc8+??

This gives Black a tempo to get
 his rook on the c-file, thence to par-
 lay his edge into a crush. Better was
 35.Bh4 Rc7 35.Qa4, when Black is
 better but not clearly winning.
 35...Kf7 36.Bh4 Rc7 37.Qa6 Bd4+
 38.Rf2

38.Bb2 Nf4? ♡♠♠ 32. Kh2 Rc2? ♡♠♠
 38...Bxf2+ 39.Bxf2 Nf4 0-1

French Defense C03

Michael Langer 2254

Stanley Yang 2137

Texas Masters 2008 (5)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Be7 4.Bd3 c5
 5.dxc5 Bxc5 6.Ngf3 Nf6 7.e5 Nfd7
 8.Nb3 Be7 9.0-0 Nc6 10.Re1 0-0
 11.c3 f6 12.exf6 Bxf6 13.Nbd4 Nc5
 14.Bc2 Re8 15.Nxc6 bxc6 16.Ne5
 Bxe5 17.Rxe5 Nd7 18.Bg5 Nf6
 (Diagram)

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8 r + l o r + k + (
 7 p - + - + - p p '
 6 - + p + p n - + &
 5 + - + p R - L - %
 4 - + - + - + - + \$
 3 + - P - + - + - #
 2 P P L + - P P P "
 1 R - + Q + - K - !
 x a b c d e f g h y

19.Bxh7+! Kxh7 20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.
 Rh5+ Kg7 22.Qg4+ Kf8 23.Rh7
 1-0

Nimzo-Indian E47

Darwin Yang 2074
Sarah Chiang 1874

Texas Masters 2008 (5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0
 5.Bd3 b6 6.Nge2 Bb7 7.f3 d5 8.0-0
 Nbd7 9.a3 Be7 10.e4 c5 11.e5 Ne8
 12.f4 f6 13.cxd5 exd5 14.Qc2 cxd4
 15.Nxd4 Bc5 16.Be3 fxe5 17.fxe5

Nxe5 18.Bxh7+ Kh8 19.Rxf8+ Bxf8
 20.Qf5 Bd6

20...Nf6 21.Qxe5 Nxh7 22.
 Rd1?

21.Qh3 Nc7??

21...Nf6 22.Bg5 Bc5 23.Rd1 Nf7
 24.Bg6+ Kg8 25.Bxf7+ (25.Qe6 Qe8
 26.Bxf7+ Qxf7 27.Qxf7+ Kxf7 28.b4
 Bxd4+=) 25...Kxf7 26.Qe6+ Kg6
 27.Qf5+ Kf7 28.Ncb5?!

22.Bg6+ Kg8 23.Qh7+ Kf8 24.Rf1+
 Ke7 25.Qxg7+

1-0

JGs Old-Fashioned Hamburgers Texas Masters Final Standings

#	Name	ID	Rating	Post	St	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total	Prize
1	GM Alejandro Ramirez	12688291	2593	2597	TX	W15	W11	W7	W3	D2	4.5	1500.00
2	FM Keaton Kiewra	12642647	2312	2329	NE	W9	D8	W20	W7	D1	4.0	750.00
3	FM Michael Langer	12581229	2299	2306	TX	W10	D6	W4	L1	W8	3.5	250.00
4	FM Darwin Yang	12945617	2160	2166	TX	W18	D12	L3	W20	W10	3.5	250.00
5	FM Andrew W Whatley	12500271	2317	2325	TX	H---	U---	W17	W16	W6	3.5	250.00
6	NM Mihail Bantic	13745388	2192	2198	TX	W19	D3	D8	W12	L5	3.0	
7	NM Tautvydas Vedrickas	13744777	2369	2365	LTU	W16	W13	L1	L2	W15	3.0	
8	NM Stanley Yang	12849288	2177	2185	TX	W21	D2	D6	W11	L3	3.0	
9	Adarsh Jayakumar	12881167	1992	1996	TX	L2	H---	D14	W18	W12	3.0	
10	WCM Sarah Chiang	13091081	1879	1890	TX	L3	D18	W22	W13	L4	2.5	
11	NM Nelson Lopez II	12706502	2217	2205	TX	X---	L1	D16	L8	W14	2.5	
12	NM Austen Green	12928565	2201	2183	TX	D17	D4	W13	L6	L9	2.0	
13	NM Kalin Nonchev	12892206	2209	2189	TX	W14	L7	L12	L10	W16	2.0	
14	Sylvia Yang	12909161	1840	1852	TX	L13	D15	D9	W21	L11	2.0	
15	NM Ivan Zuniga	12492819	2034	2030	TX	L1	D14	H---	W19	L7	2.0	
16	Jarod Pamatmat	12894895	2002	2001	TX	L7	W19	D11	L5	L13	1.5	
17	Gerald Roberts	13118471	1791	1788	TX	D12	L20	L5	D23	D21	1.5	
18	Outeng He	13354250	1671	1677	TX	L4	D10	H---	L9	D19	1.5	
19	Caroline Zhu	12888833	1768	1764	TX	L6	L16	W21	L15	D18	1.5	
20	NM Paul Chaplin	10462908	2112	2104	TX	H---	W17	L2	L4	U---	1.5	
21	Jonathan Chiang	13091096	1728	1710	TX	L8	U---	L19	L14	D17	0.5	
22	Robert Smeltzer	11450342	1613	1608	TX	H---	U---	L10	U---	U---	0.5	
23	David Chiang	12455287	1614	1620	TX	U---	U---	U---	D17	U---	0.5	

Austin's Canyon Vista wins U.S. Junior High K-8 Championship Tie for individual title includes top Austin player George Qi and Jason Altschuler of Dallas

By Michael Feinstein

Canyon Vista Middle School won the 2008 U.S. Junior High School K-8 Championship, held Apr. 4-6 in Dallas. The team, based in Austin, Texas, won the first place trophy on tiebreaks over New York's Hunter College School, ahead of many perennial national title contenders such as New York's PS 318. Remarkably, this was the first time Canyon Vista has competed in the U.S. Junior High Championship!

Canyon Vista's victory was helped by a tremendous performance by seventh grader George Qi, who scored 6-1 and tied for first with six other players, including top-seeded Alec Getz and Jason Altschuler of St. Mark's School in Dallas. Qi who won the Texas middle school title in March, drew Getz, a national master and pre-tournament favorite, with the Black pieces in the fourth round. Altschuler overcame a first round loss by winning six games straight to tie for first. Another Texas player, Vincent Zhang of Houston's T.H. Rogers School, scored 5.5 to finish in a five-way tie for eighth place.

In the K-9 Section, Brownsville's consistently strong Vela Middle School finished in fourth place, three points behind champion Odle Middle School of Bellevue, WA. Darwin Yang, who became a national master a few weeks before the tournament, finished clear second with a 6-1 score and was the only player to draw against the top-seed and champion, Michael Lee.

Canyon Vista's championship concludes a highly successful year in which they took first place in the sixth grade section of the National K-12 Championship last December, and placed second in the seventh and eighth grade sections. In addition, they won the Texas middle school title in March by a convincing 4½ point margin.

The team is exceptionally deep and balanced, with ten players rated over 1500 and seven rated over 1750. It

is notable that Canyon Vista's team receives no funding from the school.

The participants at the 2008 US Junior High included Derek Chang (who was the individual sixth grade co-champion at the National K-12), Danny Chen (second place finisher in the state middle school championship), Eric Chen, Steven Chen, George Qi, Matthew Liu (who scored 5-2 in the K-8 tournament), Eric Lu (another 5-2 scorer), Avinash Thangirala, Andy Wang and Kevin Xie.

23 lines

L to R: George Qi, Eric Lu, Derek Chang and Matt Liu.

Notes by NM Mike Feldstein

Larsen's Opening A01

Alec Getz 2229

George Qi 1903

US Junior High Chp. 2008

Getz was the favorite to win the tournament, and had a perfect score going into this game.

1.b3 Nf6 2.Bb2 g6 3.Bxf6 exf6

The modest weakness in Black's pawn structure is offset by the

bishop pair.

4.c4 Bg7 5.Nc3 0-0 6.g3 f5 7.Bg2 c6 8.Nf3 Re8 9.0-0 Qa5!

A nice move. The queen is well placed on a5 and puts pressure on the c3 knight.

10.Qc2 Na6 11.d4 [11.a3!]= 11...d5! 12.cxd5 Nb4 13.Qd2 Nxd5 14.Nxd5 Qxd5???

Black has emerged out of the opening with two bishops and a rock solid position.

15.e3 Qd6 16.Qa5 Qd8

While Black is understandably willing to trade queens against his higher-rated opponent, he seems to have little to fear in the middlegame and has a slight edge after 16...Be6 17.Rac1 Bd5?♣

17.Qxd8 Rxd8= 18.Rac1 Be6 19.Ng5 Bd5 20.Bxd5 Rxd5 21.f4?! 21.h4 Rad8 22.Rc4?§

21...Rb5

21...Re8! 22.Kf2 h6 23.Nf3?•

22.Rfd1 Bf8

22...a5!? 23.Rc4?!

23.Rd3 Rd5 24.Nf3 Rad8 25.Rdc3 Ra5 26.a4 Rad5 27.Ne5 Bg7

27...Bb4 28.R3c2? Ba3 29.Ra1 Bd6?o

28.b4!? Bxe5 29.fxe5 R8d7 30.Rb3 a6 31.Rcb1 Kf8

31...f6 32.exf6 Kf7?{

32.Kf2 Ke7 33.Rc3 f6 34.exf6+ Kxf6 35.b5!?

Probably the only way to gain any chances of play, but Black is pretty secure in the rook and pawn endgame. [35.Kf3=]

35...axb5 36.axb5 Rxb5 37.Rxb5 cxb5 38.Rc5 Ke6 39.Rxb5 Rc7 40.h4 Kd6 41.Ke2 Kc6= 42.Rb1

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + - + - + - + (
7+ p t - + - + p '
6- + k + - + p + &
5+ - + - + p + - %
4- + - P - + - P \$
3+ - + - P - P - #
2- + - + K + - + "
1+ R + - + - + - !
x a b c d e f g h y

42...Kd6

42...b5 43.Rc1+ Kd6 44.Rxc7 Kxc7 45.Kd3 Kd6 46.Kc3 Kd5 47.Kb4 h6 48.Kxb5 g5 49.Kb4 f4 50.hxg5 hxg5 51.gxf4 gxf4 52.exf4 Kxd4=. Black could also try 42...b6!? 43.Rc1+ Kd6 44.Rxc7 Kxc7 45.Kd3 Kd6 46.Kc4 Kc6?y 43.Kd3 Kd5 44.Rb5+ Kc6 45.Rb1 Kd5 46.Rb5+ Kc6

A routine-looking draw, but a key game for the outcome of the tournament. 1/2-1/2

QGD Orthodox D52

Kevin Xie 1534

Chase Middlemen 1430

US Junior High Chp. 2008

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 c6 5.Bg5 Nbd7 6.e3 Be7 7.Bd3 dxc4 8.Bxc4 b5?!

8...0-0 9.Rc1 Nd5 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.0-0 Nxc3 12.Rxc3 e5=

9.Bd3 a6 10.Ne4!?

The start of a strategic assault on Black's backward c-pawn

10...Nxe4 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Bxe4 Bb7 13.Rc1? Qb4+

13...Rc8 14.Nd2 f5 15.Bf3 e5 16.Nb3?•

14.Qd2 Qxd2+ 15.Nxd2± Rc8 16.b4! 0-0 17.0-0 e5 18.Nb3 Nf6 19.Bf3 e4 20.Be2 Ne8

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + r + n t k + (
7+ l + - + p p p '
6p + p + - + - + &
5+ p + - + - + - %
4- P - P p + - + \$
3+ N + - P - + - #
2P + - + L P P P "
1+ - R - + R K - !
x a b c d e f g h y

21.Na5 Nd6 22.Rc2 Rc7 23.Rfcl Rfc8 24.Nxb7! Nxb7 25.Bg4?PP

White's methodical siege of Black's c-pawn now pays off.

25...Ra8 26.Rxc6 Rxc6 27.Rxc6 Nd8 28.Rc8 Rxc8 29.Bxc8 Nc6 30.a3 a5 31.bxa5 Nxa5 32.Bd7 Nc4 33.Bxb5 Nxa3 34.Bd7 g6 35.g4!

A very nice move to keep Black's e-pawn from being supported by ...f5. This leads directly to White winning the e-pawn in a few moves.

35...Kg7 36.g5 h6 37.Bc6! hxg5 38.Bxe4 f5 39.Bd3! Kf6 40.Kf1 Ke6 41.Ke2 Kd5 42.Kd2 Nc4+ 43.Bxc4+ Kxc4 44.h3 f4 45.Ke2 Kd5 46.Kf3 1-0

A fine positional game.

Sicilian Dragon B78

Andrew Ng 2108

George Qi 1903

US Junior High Chp. 2008

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.Bc4 Bd7 10.0-0-0

Rc8 11.Bb3 Ne5 12.h4 h5 13.Bg5 Rc5 14.Kb1 b5 15.g4 Rxc3?!N

This is a thematic sacrifice in the Dragon, but is usually played one move later. The main line is 15...hxg4 16.h5 Rxc3 17.bxc3 (It is not clear why GMs have avoided 17.Qxc3!? Nxb5 18.Qe1! (18.fxc4 Bxc4 19.Rdg1 Qd7?} 18...Re8 19.f4 Nc4 20.f5!?) 17...Nxf3 18.Nxf3 Nxe4 19.Qh2 Nxc3+ 20.Kc1 Qa5 21.hxg6 Nxa2+ 22.Bxa2 Qa3+=; 15...a5! 16.gxh5 (16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.gxh5 a4 18.Bd5 e6 19.hxg6 exd5 20.h5 (20.gxf7+!? Rxf7 21.Nxd5 Kh7?} 20...fxg6 21.f4 Ng4 22.hxg6 Bg7?) 16...Nxb5 17.Nd5 Re8?]

16.bxc3?!

While this is the customary recapture, White can play 16.Qxc3!? where it is doubtful Black has sufficient compensation for the exchange.

16...hxg4

16...Nxf3!? 17.Nxf3 Nxe4 18.Qd3 Nxc3+ 19.Kc1 Bxg4 20.Qxg6 Kh8?>

17.Bxf6!?

The only way to make progress on the kingside.

17...Bxf6 18.h5 g5!

A strong reply, after which Black's kingside is surprisingly secure.

19.f4

19.fxc4 Bxg4 20.Rdg1 Qd7 21.Rg3 Kh7?U

19...gxf4 20.Qxf4 e6!?

20...Qc7! 21.Ne2 Kh7?F

21.Qf1

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + - ♗ - t k + (
7p - + l + p + - '
6- + - p p v - + &
5+ p + - n - + P %
4- + - NP + p + \$
3+ L P - + - + - #
2P + P + - + - + "
1+ K + R + Q + R !
x a b c d e f g h y

21...Nc4?

An interesting try for counterplay but the knight should remain on e5 where it is perfectly placed. In fact, Black's position is extremely solid and it is not clear if White can make any progress. [21...a6! 22.h6 Kh7??]

22.Bxc4 bxc4 23.Rg1! Qb6+ 24. Nb3?! [24.Ka1??] 24...Bxc3 25. Rxc4+ Kh7 26.Qxc4 Be5 27.Qd3 a5!

Black has developed a dangerous initiative.

28.Rg5!

An excellent decision to return the exchange.

28...a4

Black should try 28...Bb5! 29.c4 Ba6?

29.Rxe5! dxe5 30.Qxd7 axb3 31. cxb3?[Qb4 32.Qd3 Rc8 33.Qf3 Rc7 34.h6 Qc3 35.Qg2?

It would be better for White to go for the endgame now with 35. Qxc3 Rxc3 36.Rf1 Kxh6 37.Rxf7 Re3 38.Rf2 Kg5 39.Kc2 Rxe4 40. a4?y

35...f5!

Necessary but strong. Black's active pieces and passed f-pawn give him significant counterplay.

36.Qd2

Too late in light of Black's last move.

36...Qxd2 37.Rxd2 f4 [37...Kxh6?]

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + - + - + - + (
7+ - t - + - + k '
6- + - + p + - P &
5+ - + - p - + - %
4- + - + P p - + \$
3+ P + - + - + - #
2P + - R - + - + "
1+ K + - + - + - !
x a b c d e f g h y

38.a4

38.Rh2 Rc3 39.Kb2 (39.Rh5 Re3 40.Kc2 Re2+ 41.Kd3 Rxa2 42.

Rxe5 Kxh6 43.Rxe6+ Kg5 44.b4 f3 45.Re7 (45.Re5+ Kg4 46.Rf5 f2 47. b5 Kg3 48.b6 Rb2??) 45...Kf4 46.Rf7+ Kg3 47.e5 f2 48.e6 Ra1 49. e7 Re1 50.Rg7+ Kf3 51.Rf7+ Kg2=) 39...Re3 40.a4 f3 41.Kc2 Rxe4 42.a5 Re1 43.b4 e4 44.Kd2 Rb1 45.Ke3 Re1+ 46.Kd2=

38...Kxh6 39.a5 Ra7! 40.Ra2 f3= 41.b4 Rb7 1/2-1/2

Amateur, cont'd from p. 14

Furthermore there is the undefended Rc8, which can be a problem after b3. And 16...Rc3 again doesn't address the fundamental development problem. Taking all these things into consideration lead me to 16...Bb4 is the only move here, but what to I do against the natural 17.Rfd1. At this point my "spidey sense" (rather like John Jacobs' tactical pattern recognition ideas) went off and told me there might me a tactical resolution to my positional problem. I started analyzing 17...Bxd2

17.Rfd1?! Bxd2 18.Rxd2 Nb4 19. b3

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + r + K + - r (
7p p + - + p p p '
6- + - + p + - + &
5+ - + - P - + - %
4- n p + - + - + \$
3+ P + - + - + - #
2P + - R N P P P "
1+ - R - + - K - !
x a b c d e f g h y

19...Nd3!

The point of the combinational exchange.

20.Rxd3?

My opponent made this move very quickly, thinking that I had miscalculated. I think I am safe in saying that I had seen further than he.

20...cxd3 21.Rxc8+ Kd7 22.Rc1 dxe2 23.f4 Rc8 24.Re1 Rc2

In my calculations starting at move 16...Bb4 I was heading for this position. I calculated one more move with 25.a4 and did some schematic thinking that after Kc6 I would have a winning advantage with my king on the queenside. My opponent would need to blockade the e2 pawn with the king and try to activate his rook somehow, but Black should be able to win the queenside pawns easily. I can honestly say that had I not read Jonathan Tisdale's book *Improve Your Chess* and come across the idea of stepping stone calculations, I would not have been able to analyze this position.

25.a3 Kc6 26.Kf2 Ra2

Played to attack the pawn but more importantly, there were some lines where the White king came to d3 and harassed the rook and maybe protect his queenside pawns.

27.Rc1+ Kb6!

Now I was thinking in endgame mode. Play slowly! Had I played the immediate Kb5, White would get counterplay with Rc7. Counterplay must be eliminated.

28.b4 e1Q+

As ultimately I cannot protect the pawn, it made sense to exchange it for something more valuable. Further, I may be able to force the exchange of rooks and enter a winning K+P ending. This is preferable to the R+P ending, which is more difficult to win a pawn up or sometimes two. I know that in this position I have excellent winning chances due to pawns on both sides of the board.

29.Kxe1 Rxc2 30.h4

Unfortunately my opponent should have just given me another pawn, as he has no chance of saving the K+P ending.

30...Rg1+ 31.Kd2 Rxc1 32.Kxc1 Kb5 33.Kd2!?

The idea behind this move is very good and gives the most practical drawing chances.

(Continued on page 29)

Malazarte wins double crown in San Antonio

Ernesto Malazarte showed that his club championship victory in May was no fluke by winning the San Antonio city championship (June 14-15), again with a 5-0 score. The former Philippine, who earlier this year won the Texas Action title, is on track to become San Antonio's next master.

Top-rated FM Dennis Rylander, took a last round bye and finished clear second with 4.5. As for eight-time city champion Selby Anderson, your humble editor had to leave on day two for a USA Chess camp in Denver and did not compete.

Four players were tied at 4-1: George Qi, Martin Gordon, Nathanael Lozano (all sharing in the U2000 prize) and Eric Lu (top U1800).

Richard Gabriel won the U1600 prize with 3-2. Three players shared U400 with 2 points: Bryant Davis, Christin Thomas and Dustin Chang.

Forty-nine players competed at the Texas Neurosciences Institute. Martin Gordon directed for SACC.

King's Indian E94

Gregg Stanley 2079

Ernesto Malazarte 2149

S.A. City Championship (5)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4 Bg7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Re8!?

An unusual move in the "odds giving style" (Nimzovich): the rook is misplaced once White locks up the position with 8.d5.. At one time 7... Re8 was topical after 7.Be3.

8.d5 c6 9.Ne1 Na6 10.Nd3 cxd5 11.cxd5 Bd7 12.a4 Rc8 13.Be3 Nc5 14.Nxc5 dxc5 15.f3 b6 16.g4!?

16.a5 Nh5 (16...bxa5 17.Ra2 Nh5 18.Qa1 Nf4 19.Rxa5 Qg5 20.Bxf4 exf4 21.Kh1 ?) 17.axb6 axb6 18.Qd2 Nf4 19.Rfd1 Nxe2+ 20.Qxe2 Ra8 21.Rxa8 Qxa8 22.Qc4 Qa5 23.Bd2?e

16...Rf8 17.a5 Ne8 18.Qd3 f5 19.Nb5 Bxb5 20.Qxb5 Nd6 21.Qa6 Ra8

```

X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + - ♚ - ♜ k + (
7♗ - + - + - ♚ p'
6Q♗ - ♚ - + ♗ + &
5♗ - ♗ ♗ ♗ + - %
4- + - + ♗ + ♗ + $
3+ - + - ♚ ♗ + - #
2- ♗ - + ♚ + - ♗ "
1♞ - + - + ♞ ♞ - !
x a b c d e f g h y

```

22.h3?

By protecting what needed no protecting, White presents a new object of attack. Note also that Black's attack on the e4 pawn is counterbalanced by the attack on b6.

Best is 22.b3! restraining the c-pawn, with an edge after 22...fxe4 23.fxe4 Rxf1+ 24.Bxf1 Rb8 25.Bg2.

Also superior to the text is 22.Kh1 fxe4 23.fxe4 Rxf1+ 24.Bxf1 Rb8 25.Bg2, although this allows 25...c4.

22...Qh4 23.Kg2 fxe4 24.axb6 exf3+ 25.Rxf3 e4 26.Rxf8+ Rxf8 27.Rf1 Rxf1!?

27...axb6 28.Qxb6 Rxf1 29.Bxf1=

28.bxa7 Rf8 29.Qxd6?

29.a8Q! Be5 30.Qxf8+ Kxf8 31.Bf2 Qf6=

29...Qe1! 30.Qe6+??

30.Ba6 Qxe3 31.Qxf8+ Bxf8 32.a8Q Qf3+ 33.Kh2 e3 34.Qe8 Qxd5 35.Be2 (35.Qxe3?? Qd6+) 35...Qd2 36.Qb5 Bd6+?•

30...Kh8-+ 31.Qa6 Be5 32.Bf4 Bxf4 33.a8Q Qg3+ 34.Kf1 Bb8+ 35.Bf3 Rxf3+ 36.Ke2 Rf2+ 37.Ke1

White resigned, not waiting for 37...Qg1+ or 37...Qe3+.

Stanley commented that in his previous game with Malazarte, at the

club championship, he also lost after having two queens on the board! 0-1

Colle System A40

Ernesto Malazarte 2149

Martin Gordon 1874

S.A. City Championship (4)

1.d4 e6 2.Nd2 c5 3.e3 Nc6 4.Ngf3 cxd4

Black could opt for a mainstream Colle System with 4...Nf6 5.c3 d5 6.Bd3 (6.Ne5!?) 6...Bd6.

5.exd4 Nf6 6.c3 g6!?

A creative solution, guaranteeing that Black will not be easily checkmated. Also, the d6 weakness is not easy to exploit.

7.Bd3 Qc7 8.0-0 Bg7 9.Re1 0-0 10.Ne4 Nxe4 11.Rxe4 f5!?

Provoking Black's center forward. A safer alternative is 12.Re1 b6 13.Qd2 Bb7 14.Qf4?-

12...d6 13.Re2 e5

```

X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + l + r + - ♚ (
7♗ ♗ ♗ - + - ♚ p'
6- + ♚ ♗ - + ♗ + &
5+ - + - ♗ ♗ + - %
4- + - ♗ - ♚ - + $
3+ - ♗ ♗ + ♚ + - #
2♗ ♗ - + ♗ ♗ ♗ "
1♞ - + ♚ + - ♞ - !
x a b c d e f g h y

```

14.Bc4+

14.Qb3+ Kh8 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.Bg3! (a) 16...f4 17.Bh4 Bg4 18.Be4 Bxf3 19.Bxf3 h6 20.Qe6 Qf7 21.Qh3?? (b) 16...Re8! 17.Qa4 Be6 18.Ng5 Bg8 19.Rd1?g

14...Kh8 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.Bd2

16.Bg3? f4 17.Bh4 h6 18.Qc2 Bf5! (18...g5? 19.Bxg5 hxg5 20.Qg6 Rf6 21.Qe8+=) 19.Bd3 Qc8! 20.Rd2 Bxd3 21.Qxd3 Qf5?!

16...e4

Black already has a modest pull.
17.Ne1 Ne5
 17...Rd8 18.Bb3 Na5 19.Qc2
 Nxb3 20.axb3 Be5 21.h3 Be6 22.c4=
18.Bb3 Bd7
 18...Ng4! 19.g3 Rd8 20.Qc2
 Qc6?"
19.Bf4 Rad8 20.Rd2 Bc6 21.Rxd8
Rxd8 22.Qe2 Qa5

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8- + - r - + - k (
 7p p + - + - t p '
 6- + l + - + p + &
 5q - + - n p + - %
 4- + - + p t - + \$
 3+ L P - + - + - #
 2P P - + Q P P P "
 1R - + - N - K - !
 x a b c d e f g h y
23.Rd1 h6 [23...a6] **24.h4 Ng4** [24...
 Kh7] **25.Nc2 Rxd1+?!**

Ceding control of a file to trade
 down is a good way to fumble away
 equality. [25...a6!= ?26...Bb5]
26.Qxd1 Be5
 26...Ba4 27.Ne3 Bxb3 28.Qxb3
 Nxe3 29.Bxe3?p
27.Bxe5+ Qxe5 28.Qd8+ Qe8 29.
Qd6 Kg7 30.Nd4 Qd7??
 30...Bd7 31.Ne6+ Bxe6 32.
 Bxe6?ç
31.Ne6+?BBKf6 32.Qf8+ Ke5 33.
Qh8+ Nf6 34.Qxh6 Bd5 35.Nf8
Qc6 36.Nxg6+ Kd6
 36...Ke6 37.Nf4+ (37.Qg7! Qd6
 38.c4 ?P?37...Kd7 38.Qg7+ Kc8 39.
 Bxd5 Nxd5 40.Qg8+??.
37.Nf4 Kc7 38.Qxf6 1-0

Dutch Leningrad A89
George Qi 1931
Dennis Rylander 2367
S.A. City Championship (4)
1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 d6
5.g3 Bg7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 Nc6 8.
Bf4!?

Not unheard-of, but more stan-
 dard moves are 8.d5; 8.b3 or 8.Qc2.
8...Ne4

Black has fared better in practice
 with 8...Nh5 9.d5 Ne5, e.g. 10.Bxe5
 dxe5 11.e4 f4 (Burtman-Levitina,
 US Women's Championship 1992.).
9.d5 Nxc3 10.bxc3 Na5 11.Qd3 c5
12.h4

A game Ayala-Nedilsky from a
 1993 Argentine team championship
 continued 12.dxc6 bxc6 13.c5 d5
 14.Rab1 Nc4 15.Nd4 Bd7 16.h4 h6
 17.Nb3 e5 18.Bd5+ and White got
 unclear compensation for the piece.
12...Qe8 13.h5 Qa4 14.hxg6 hxg6
15.Bg5 Nxc4 16.Bxe7 Re8 17.Bg5
Bd7 18.Rab1 b5 19.Rfc1 Qxa2 20.
e3 Qa5 21.Bf4 Bf6 22.g4 Kg7 23.g5
Be5 24.Nxe5 Nxe5 25.Qc2 Qd8 26.
e4 Nc4 27.Qd3 Qe7 28.Re1 Qf8 29.
Qg3 fxe4 30.Bxe4 Bf5 time 0-1

SACC Championship

Ernesto Malazarte won the San An-
 tonio club championship, held over
 five Thursdays in May. He defeated
 experts J.P. Hyltin, Gregg Stanley
 and Jesse Lozano, and finished with
 5-0. He received \$50, a trophy and
 free entry to the city championship.

The event, open to club members
 with a zero entry fee, was played at a
 breakneck G/60 to accommodate
 Lions Field's 10 p.m. closing time.
 In the lower half, Richard
 Gabriel, Daniel Lozano and Charles
 Davis tied with 2.5, each receiving
 1/3 of a free entry.

Hungarian Defense C50
Jesse Lozano 2025
Ernesto Malazarte 2127
SACC Championship (5)
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Bc4
Be7

Transposing to the Hungarian (3.
 Bc4 Be7), whose chief virtue is the
 avoidance of sharp analyzed lines.

5.d4 exd4 6.Nxd4 Nxd4
 The book line is 6...d6, leaving
 White with a modest edge but no
 more.

18 lines

Ernesto Malazarte

7.Qxd4 d6 8.Bg5 0-0 9.0-0-0 Be6
10.Bxe6 fxe6 11.e5 Ne8 12.Be3 d5
13. Qg4 Qc8 14.Ne2 c5 15.f4 Nc7
16.h4 Qe8 17.h5 Qf7 18.Kb1 d4 19.
Bc1 Nd5 20.Qh3 Rad8 21.g4 Qe8
22.f5 Qb5 23.Rh2 Qb6?

The best try is 23...Nb4 with the
 idea of 24.h6 Qc4! forcing 25.Qb3
 and Black wins a pawn at f5. How-
 ever, 24.a3! d3 25.Nc3 seems to
 favor White

24.h6 g6
 X A B C D E F G H Y
 8- + - r - r k + (
 7p p + - t - + p '
 6- q - + p + p P &
 5+ - p n P P + - %
 4- + - p - + P + \$
 3+ - + - + - + Q #
 2P P P + N + - R "
 1+ K t R + - + - !
 x a b c d e f g h y
25.f6!?

White keeps the attack going
 with 25.fxg6! hxg6 26.h7+ Kh8 27.
 Qh6 g5 28.Qg6 (28.Bxg5 Bxg5 29.
 Qxg5 Nc3+ ?B?28...c4 29.Rdh1 c3
 30.b3 Qa6 31.Nxd4 Nb4 32.a3 Rxd4

33.axb4 Rdd8 34.Rh5 Rf3 35. R5h3
Rxb3 36.Rxb3 Qc6 37.Qf7 Qd7 38.
Rxc3?@e

**25...Nxf6 26.exf6 Bxf6 27.g5 Bh8
28.Nf4 Rf5 29.Qb3?!**

29.Re2 e5 30.Nh5 c4 31.Ng7
Bxg7 32.hxg7 Qc7 33.Rh1 Qxg7 34.
Reh2 Rd7 35.Qa3 Qf8 36.Qxa7?@

29...Qxb3 30.axb3 e5 31.Ne2?

31.Ne6! (heading for g7) 31...
Rc8 32.Rdh1 e4 33.b4 b6 34.Ng7
Rf7 35.bxc5 bxc5 36.c3 Re7 37.Rh4
Rd8 38. Re1=, says Fritz.

**31...e4 32.Ng3 Re5 33.Re2 Rde8
34.c3 R5e6 35.cxd4 cxd4 36.Rde1
e3**

Those pawns are annoying!
White's best drawing chance is 37.
Rd1 Rb6 38.Rd3 Rb5 39.Bxe3!, etc.

**37.Kc2 Rc6+ 38.Kd3 Rec8 39.
Ne4?**

Relatively best was 39.Bxe3 fxe3
40.Kxe3 Rb6 41.Kd2! Bxb2! ?-

**39...Rxc1 40.Nf6+ Bxf6 41.Rxc1
Rxc1 42.gxf6 Rd1+ 43.Ke4 Kf7 44.
Ke5 Rd2 45.Re1 d3**

White resigns, because if 46.
Rxe3 Re2???. **0-1**

Notes by J.P. Hyltin

QGD Exchange D36

Gregg Stanley 2079

J.P. Hyltin 2030

SACC Championship (5)

**1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.cxd5 exd5 4.d4
Be7 5.Bf4 c6 6.e3 Nf6 7.Bd3 Nbd7
8.Nf3 O-O 9.Qc2 Re8 10.O-O Nf8
11.a3 g6 12.Bg5**

With 13.Ne5 coming, I didn't
think about anything else.

**12...Ne4 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Bxe4
dxe4 15.Nd2**

Now I saw the power of his next
move, but could not find an effective
way to sac the d-pawn. (15.Ne5 f6 or
15...Nd7)

15...f5 16.d5

He thought a while on this, and
got deeper in time deficit, so I
started to look for ways to make him
defend.

16...Qf6 17.Qb3 Kg7 18.Rac1

I was looking at a few freeing
maneuvers here.

18...Nd7

More time. If 18...b6 19.dxc6
Ba6 20.Rfd1 and the d5 weakness is
fatal; or 18...c5 19. Nb5.

19.dxc6 bxc6 20.Na4 Ba6 21.Rfd1

He was looking at something
speculative here: 21.Nc4 Ne5 22.
Nxe5 Bxf1 23.Nd7 Qe7 24.Qc3+
Kh6?.

21... Ne5 22. Ne5 Be2 23.Re1

I spent a few minutes here.

23...Bh5

23...Nf3+? 24.gxf3 exf3 25.
Kh1?@ 23...Bf3? 24.gxf3?@ 23...
Qg5? also crossed my mind: 24.
Rxe2 Nf3+ 25. Kh1?@

24.Qc3 Kh6 25.Nxe4

Somehow I sensed this coming,
but I'm not sure what else there is.

25...fxe4 26.Nxe4 Qh4

Only now did I see this.

27.f4

I had 25 minutes to his 10, and
spent a few minutes here.

27...Ng4 28.h3 Rxe4 29.hxg4 Bxg4

30.Qxc6 Rae8 31.Qc5 Bf5

He ran under four minutes here,
and sped up a bit after this.

**32.Qxa7 Rxf4 33.Rf1 Rg4 34. Rf3
Rxc2+**

Works in time pressure. 34...
Be4 begins a series of interesting
computer moves that ends the game
quickly: 35.Rf2 Rf8 36.Rcf1 Qh3.

35.Kxc2 Be4

Now he has under two minutes.

X A B C D E F G H Y
8 - + - + r + - + (
7 Q - + - + - + p '
6 - + - + - + p k &
5 + - + - + - + - %
4 - + - + | + - q \$
3 P - + - P R + - #
2 - P - + - + K + "
1 + - R - + - + - !
x a b c d e f g h y

36.Qf7

I missed this earlier and spent
five minutes finding it now, so I'm
just over five minutes.

36...Re5 37.Qf4+?

37.Qf8+ Kh5 38.Rc5! Qg5+?
[38...Rf5!]=] 39.Kh2 and Black is
losing to the check on h3, because
39.Bxf3 40.Qxf3+ Kh6 41.Rxe5
Qxe5+ 42.Qf4+ is easy for White.

37... Rg5+ 38. Kf1

Only now I thought I could be in
trouble, until I found ...

38...Bd3 mate

... after a few minutes' thought.

0-1

Just to show I can still move the
pieces around, here is a game from
the May Swiss at the Methodist
Hospital Chess Club. – SKA

Ruy Lopez C62

Selby Anderson 2209

Ernesto Malazarte 2127

MHCC May Swiss (3)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 d6

The Old Steinitz remains viable.
I was surprised Malazarte did not
use the more complex Moeller (3...
a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Bc5) or Open
(5...Nxe4) systems he has employed
in our blitz tournaments.

4.d4 exd4 5.Nxd4 Bd7 6.Bxc6 bxc6

7.Nc3 Nf6 8.0-0 Be7 9.Bf4 0-0

10.e5 Nd5?

Doubled pawns are less of a
problem on a closed file, e.g. 10...
dxe5 11.Bxe5 Bd6 12.Re1 Re8=.

**11.Nxd5 cxd5 12.exd6 cxd6 13.Nb3
Be6 14.Be3 Bf6 15.Bd4 Bf5 16.**

Bxf6 Qxf6 17.c3 Qg6 18.Nd4 [18.

Qxd5?? Be4] 18...Bd3 19.Re1 Rfe8

**20.Qf3 Be4 21.Qg3 Qxg3 22.hxg3
Kf8 23.Re3 Reb8 24.b3 Rb7 25.**

**Rd1 a5 26.f3 Bg6 27.Ne2 a4 28.b4
Re7 29.Rxe7 Kxe7 30.Nf4 Kd7 31.**

**Nxd5 Rb8 32.a3 Bc2 33.Rd4 Bb3
34.c4 Re8 35.Kf2 Kc6 36.Ne3 Re6**

**37.g4 g6 38.Ke2 f6 39.Kd3 Re5 40.
f4 Re8 41.Re4 Rxe4 42.Kxe4 Ba2**

43.Kd4 Bb1 44.Nd5 f5 45.g5 Be4

46.b5+ Kb7 47.g3 Bf3 48.Nc3 1-0

Oklahoma bests Texas in 6th Annual Red River Shootout

It was like a classic western, where the farmers were outmatched by the cattlemen's hired guns. Oklahoma fielded a powerful team, with a 380-point rating advantage over the Texas contingent. The result: the Okies made a decisive comeback from last year's 20-22 loss, defeating the Texans by a resounding 14.5 to 3.5 score.

Participation was way down from last year (no doubt due to the higher gas prices), from 21 boards and 42 players in 2007 to just nine boards and 18 players this year.

The Oklahoma team captain was Frank K. Berry, organizer of many national events including the recent

U.S. invitational championships in Tulsa. Tom Crane once again was the Texas team captain.

The event was held Apr. 27 at the Treasure Valley Casino in Davis, Oklahoma. Frank Berry and Tom Crane directed the event, conceived six years ago by Jim Hollingsworth

"When you play for a team you have the unanimous support of your teammates and the struggle is absolutely uncompromising." GM Eduard Gufeld (1936-2002)

"One player can be a crucial ingredient on a team, but one player cannot make a team." Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

OKLAHOMA				City	Rating	Score	Rating	TEXAS	City
1	FM Movses Movsisyan	Norman	2265	1.5 - .5	2211	Jim Rohrbaugh	Wichita Falls		
2	Sergey Galant	OKC	2235	2 - 0	1971	Ben Wheeler	Dallas		
3	Tom Braunlich	Tulsa	2168	1 - 1	1819	Aurelio Gonzalez	Watauga		
4	Taras Odushkin	OKC	1993	2 - 0	1727	Carmen Chairez	Arlington		
5	Tom Nichols	Pauls Valley	1939	2 - 0	1720	Glenn Baumann	Denton		
6	Dennis Glascock	Stillwater	1841	1 - 1	1584	Paul Huspeni	Keller		
7	Mike Crockett	Tulsa	2128	2 - 0	1496	Tom Crane	N. Richland Hills		
8	Carl Latino	Stillwater	2039	1 - 1	1475	Ron Burklow	Fort Worth		
9	WCM Judit Simo	Stillwater	<u>2022</u>	2 - 0	<u>1196</u>	David Wroe	Denton		
Avg. ratings & score totals:			2070	14.5 - 3.5	1689				

Caro-Kann B19
Aurelio Gonzalez (TX) 1830
Tom Braunlich (OK) 2130

TX-OK Match 2008 (1)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.h4 h6 7.h5 Bh7 8.Nf3 Nd7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 e6 11.Bd2 Ngf6 12.c4 Be7 13.Bc3 0-0 14.0-0 Rc8 15.Qe2

White has the center, but Black has no weaknesses.

15...b5 16.b3 bxc4 17.bxc4 c5 18. Rfd1 Qc7 19.d5 exd5 20.cxd5 Bd6 21.Ne4

21.Nf5! c4 (21...Nhx5? 22.N3h4 Nhf6 23.Nxd6 Qxd6 24.Nf5?: 21...Rb8!?) 22.Nd2 Rfe8 23.Qxc4 (23.Qf3 Bh2+ 24.Kh1 Be5 25.Rac1 Qc5) 23..Bh2+ 24.Kh1 Be5 25.Qxc7 Rxc7 26.Bxe5 Rxe5 27.d6 Rc2 28. Ne3 Rxb5+ 29.Kg1?j

21...Nhx5 22.Qa6
 22.Nxd6 Qxd6 23.Nh4 Nf4 24. Qf3 f5 25.g3=

22...Nb6 23.Nxd6 Qxd6 24.Qxa7 Nxd5 25.Be5 Qb6

25...Qe6 26.Qb7 Nhf4 27.Re1 Qg4 28.Bxf4 Nxf4 29.Ne5 Ne2+! 30.Kf1 Qh5 31.Nf3 Rb8 32.Qc7 Rfc8 33.Qe5 Qxe5 34.Nxe5 Nd4?§

26.Qd7 Nhf6?·27.Qf5 Rfe8 28.a4 Qe6 29.Qc2 Qg4 30.a5 Nf4 31.Bxf4 (forced) 31...Qxf4 32.a6 Qe4 33. Qc1 Qc6 34.a7 Ra8 35.Qc4 Qc7 36.Rdc1 Ne4

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8r + - + r + k + (
 7P - Q - + p P - '
 6- + - + - + - P &
 5+ - P - + - + - %
 4- + Q + n + - + \$
 3+ - + - + N + - #
 2- + - + - P P + "
 1R - R - + - K - !
 x a b c d e f g h y

37.Nd4

Better is 37.Re1! Nd6 38.Rxe8+ Nxe8 39.Qe4 Qc8 40.Ne5 Nf6 41. Qf3, when the knight goes to c4 and b6 and White wins. [41...Qe8 42. Nc4 Nd7 43.Qb7 Kh7 44.Nd6 Qd8 45.Nb5?Pj]

37...Qf4 38.Nf3 g5 39.Rc2 g4 40. Ne1 g3 41.Nd3 Qh4 42.fgx3 Qxg3 43.Rf1?

43.Re2! Nd6 44.Rxe8+ Nxe8 45. Nxc5 Qc7??

43...Rxa7?@g44.Rf3 Ra1+ 45.Rc1 Rxc1+ 46.Qxc1 Qd6 47.Nf2 Nxf2 48.Kxf2 Qd4+ 49.Kf1 c4 50.Qxh6?

White resists better with 50.Rf4 Qd3+ 51.Kg1 Rc8 52.Rh4 Rc6 53. Rxh6 Qd4+ 54.Kf1 Rc5 55.Rh3 Rf5+ 56.Rf3 Qd3+ 57.Ke1 Re5+ 58. Kf2 Qd4+ 59.Kf1 Rh5 60.Rg3+ Kh8 61.Rh3 Rxh3 62.gxh3 c3??-

50...Qd1+ 51.Kf2 Qe1# 0-1

Frank Berry of the *Oklahoma Chess Quarterly* contributed to these notes.

French Winawer C17

**Movses Movsisyan (OK) 2265
James Rohrbaugh (TX) 2211**

TX-OK Match 2008 (2)

**1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5
5.Bd2 Ne7 6.Nb5**

Alternatives are 6.a3, 6.Nf3 and 6.f4.

6...Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 0-0 8.c3

The older line. 8.Nf3 and 8.f4 are currently the main moves

8...a6?!

This should wait until Black has played Nf5. I am reminded of Br'er Rabbit: "Please don't throw me in the briar patch!" says the knight at b5.

Better is 8...Nbc6 9.f4 cxd4 10. cxd4 Nf5 11.Nf3 f6 12.Bd3 a6 13. Bxf5 axb5 14.Bd3 Qa5?dLilienthal-Mikenas, USSR 1940.

**9.Nd6 Nbc6 10.f4 cxd4 11.cxd4
Qb6 12.Nf3 Bd7 13.Bd3 f6 14.0-0-0
Nc8 15.Nxc8 Raxc8 16.Kb1 Nb4**

16...Be8 17.exf6 Rxf6 18.Rc1 Ra8 19.Ka1 Bh5 20.Ne5 Nxe5 21. dxe5 Rff8 22.h3 a5 23.g4 Bg6 24.f5 exf5 25.gxf5 Bxf5 26.Bxf5 Rxf5 27.Qxd5+ Kh8 28.Qd7 Rf2 29.Rc8+ Rf8 30.Rxa8 Rxa8 31.e6 Qc6 32.Rd1 h6 33.Qxc6 bxc6 34.e7 1-0 Lappage-Lock, Portsmouth 2006.

17.Rc1 Nxd3 18.Qxd3 Rc4

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + - + - r k + (
7+ p + l + - p p'
6p q - + p p - + &
5+ - + p P - + - %
4- + r P - P - + \$
3+ - + Q + N + - #
2P P - + - + P P "
1+ K R - + - + R!
x a b c d e f g h y

19.exf6 gxf6

19...Bb5! ?±20.f7+ Rxf7 21.Qe3 Rfc7=. The knight is normally better than the bishop, but it may be hard to prove.

20.g4 Rb4?!

20...Rfc8 21.Qd2 Be8=

**21.Qd2 Be8 22.Rhg1 Kh8 23.Ka1
Bg6??**

23...Ra4 24.Qe3? Rb3...e5 24.fxe5 fxe5 25.Rgf1 h6 26.g5?o

**24.f5! exf5 25.gxf5 Bf7 26.Qh6 Rg8
27.Rxg8+ Bxg8 28.Rg1 1-0**

A classic battle where opposite side castling leads to attack and counter-attack. – Frank Berry

Sicilian Dragon B77

Ben Wheeler (TX) 1770

Sergey Galant (OK) 2180

TX-OK Match 2008 (2)

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4
Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bc4 Bd7 7.Bb3 g6
8.f3 Bg7 9.Be3 0-0 10.Qd2 Rc8
11.0-0-0 Na5 12.Bh6 Nxb3+ 13.
cxb3 Qa5 14.Kb1 Bxh6 15.Qxh6
b5 16.h4 b4 17.Nce2 e5 18.Nf5
Bxf5 19.exf5 Qc7 20.Rd2 Kh8 21.
h5 Ng8 22.Qg5**

X A B C D E F G H Y
8- + r + - r n k (
7p - q - + p + p'
6- + - p - + p + &
5+ - + - p P Q P %
4- p - + - + - + \$
3+ P + - + P + - #
2P P - R N + P + "
1+ K + - + - + R!
x a b c d e f g h y

22...f6 23.Qg4 gxf5 24.Qxb4

24.Qxf5 Ne7 25.Qe6 Rcd8=

**24...d5³ 25.Rc1 Qf7 26.g4 Rxc1+
27.Nxc1 fxc4 28.fxc4 Rc8 [28...
Rd8] 29.Qd6 d4? 30.Ne2 Qc7**

30...Nh6 and head for e3. 31.g5 Ng4 32.Qa6 Rg8 33.gxf6 Qxf6 34.Qxf6+ Nxf6??

**31.Qe6 Qc6 32.Qxc6 Rxc6 33.Ng3
Nh6 34.a3**

34.Rg2 Nxg4 35.Nf5 Ne3 36. Nxe3 dxe3 37.Rg3 e2 38.Re3 Kg7?? P
**34...Nxg4 35.Nf5 Ne3 36.Nxe3 dxe3
37.Re2 Kg7+ 38.Rxe3 Kh6 39.b4**

Kxh5 40.b5 Rc5 41.a4 Kg6 and Black won in a time scramble **0-1**

QP Opening D11

Tom Braunlich (OK) 2130

Aurelio Gonzalez (TX) 1830

TX-OK Match 2008 (2)

**1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 Bg4 4.c4 c6
5.Qb3 Qc7 6.Nc3 e6 7.Bd2 Nbd7
8.Rc1 Bxf3 9.gxf3 Nb6 10.cxd5
Nfxd5 11.Nxd5 Nxd5 12.e4 Nf6 13.
Bd3 Be7 14.0-0**

?r14.Rg1 g6 15.f4 Nh5 16.e5 =
**14...0-0 15.Qc2 g6 16.Bh6 Rfd8
17.Qc3 Qd7 18.Bc4 Qxd4 19.Qb3
Qe5 20.Qxb7 Bd6 21.f4 Qh5?**

21...Qxe4 22.Rfe1 Rdb8! 23. Qxa8 Qxe1+?o

22.Bxe6!, Black resigns??

X A B C D E F G H Y
8r + - r - + k + (
7p Q + - + p + p'
6- + p z L n p z &
5+ - + - + - + q %
4- + - + P P - + \$
3+ - + - + - + - #
2P P - + - P - P "
1+ - R - + R K - !
x a b c d e f g h y

Black is very much in the game after 22...Rf8, e.g. 23.Bxf8 Rxf8 24. e5 Ng4 25.Bxg4 Qxg4+ =, or 23. Bxf7+ Rxf7 24.Qxa8+ Bf8 25.f3 [25.Bxf8 Qg4+=] 25...Qxh6 26. Qxc6 Qxf4=; **1-0**

I would say this was the most interesting game of the match, with rook sacs available to both players. Both sides had chances, and momentum changed quickly. – Frank Berry

Center Game C22

Taras Odushkin (OK) 1993

Carmen Chairez (TX) 1727

TX-OK Match 2008 (2)

**1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.Qxd4 Nc6
4.Qe3 d6 5.Nc3 Be6 6.f4N Nf6 7.f5
Bd7 8.Bd2 Be7 9.Qg3? [9.0-0-0]**

9...Nxe4!! 10.Qxg7 [10.Nxe4 Bh4]
 10...Bf6 11.Qh6 Nxd2 12.Qxd2
 [12.Kxd2 Bg5+] 12...Bxf5 13.Nf3
 h6 [? 13...Qe7+] 14.Nd5 Bg5
 [14...Be6] 15.Nxg5 hxg5 16.Qc3
 [16.Bb5] 16...Kd7! 17.0-0-0 a6
 [17...Kc8] 18.g4 Be6 [18...Bxg4
 19.Nf6+] 19.Bg2 Rh6 [19...Kc8]
 20.h3 Qh8 21.Qb3 Rb8 22.Rhe1 b5
 23.Qe3 Qg7 24.Qe4 Na5 25.Nb4
 Rb6 26.c3 Nc4 27.Qa8! Na5
 [? 27...Ne5] 28.Nd5

Better is 28.Nxa6 with idea of
 29.Nc5+.

28...Rc6 29.Ne3

X A B C D E F G H Y
 8 Q + - + - + - + (
 7 + - p k + p q - '
 6 p + r p l + - r &
 5 n p + - + - p - %
 4 - + - + - + P + \$
 3 + - P - N - + P #
 2 P P - + - + L + "
 1 + - K R R - + - !
 x a b c d e f g h y

29...Rxc3+!?

A sac that shouldn't work . . . but
 Black gets away with it.

30.bxc3 Qxc3+ 31.Nc2?- Nc4 32.
 Bc6+ Ke7 33.Rd4?

X A B C D E F G H Y
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 1 + - K - R - + - !
 x a b c d e f g h y

White can win with 33.Rxe6+!!
 a) 33...Kxe6 34.Qe8+ Kf6 35.Rf1+;
 b) 33...Rxe6 34.Qe8+ Kf6 35.Rf1+
 Ke5 (35...Kg6 36.Qxf7+) 36.Rf5#.
 c) 33...fxe6 34.Qe8+ Kf6 35.Rf1+

Kg7 36.Rf7+ Kg6 37.Be4#.
 33...Qb2+ 34.Kd1 Qb1+ 35.Ke2
 Qxc2+ 36.Kf1 Rf6+ 37.Bf3 Nd2+
 [? 37...Qc3] 38.Rxd2 Qxd2 39.Qe4
 Qh2 [? 39...Kf8] 40.Re2 Qe5
 40... Qxh3+ 41.Kf2 Kf8?@o
 41.Qxe5 dxe5 42.Kg2 Rf4 43.Rxe5
 Kf6 44.Re2 Ra4 45.Kg3 Rxa2 46.
 Re3 b4 0-1

A reminder that the Stonewall is not
 to be trifled with:

Stonewall Attack A45

Tom Nichols (OK) 1939

Glenn Baumann (TX) 1720

TX-OK Match 2008 (2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.e3 e6 3.Bd3 c5 4.c3 Nc6
 5.f4 cxd4?! 6.exd4 d5 7.Nf3 Bd6
 8.Qe2 0-0 9.0-0 a6 10.Ne5 Qc7
 11.Nd2 b5 12.g4 b4 13.Ndf3 bxc3
 14.bxc3 Rb8 15.g5 Bxe5 16.fxe5
 Nd7 17.Ba3 Qa5 18.Bxh7+ Kxh7
 19.g6+ fxg6 20.Bxf8 Nxf8 21.Ng5+
 Kh6 22.Qg4 1-0

Amateur, cont'd from p. 23

Unfortunately, I really underesti-
 mated the king penetration idea to
 the Black kingside pawns via the
 queenside and went for the a3 pawn
 immediately.

33...Ka4? 34.Kc3 Kxa3 35.Kc4 b6!

Now I realize that care must be
 taken even being two pawns up. If I
 allowed the immediate Kc5 idea then
 White might be able to save himself
 and maybe even win with his ad-
 vanced e-pawn.

36.Kb5

The point of White's strange-
 looking 31.Kd2 idea. He is headed
 for f7 to promote his pawn.

36...Kb3 37.h5!

White is playing some strong
 moves. It was at this point that I
 returned to the game rather than
 moving on autopilot, as though the
 game was wrapped up and I was
 celebrating my tournament victory.
 During the game I think I calculated
 about 20-30 minutes here to find the

most precise winning plan. I looked
 at the a7-a5 idea immediately but I
 think White would exchange and
 reach f7 in just enough time to pro-
 mote his pawn, and if not he would
 be able to draw the position. Ulti-
 mately I hit upon the winning plan.

37...g5

After calculating a bunch of vari-
 ations I hit upon the idea of remov-
 ing the e-pawn defender. Strongest is
 37...h6!, but I was convinced that he
 would be able to hold during the
 game. Unfortunately, I rejected this
 idea rather quickly. [37...h6! 38.Kc6
 a5 39.bxa5 bxa5 40.Kd7 a4 41.Ke7
 a3 42.Kxf7 a2 43.Kxe6 a1Q 44.Kf7
 Qa7+?@W]

After 37...a5 38.bxa5 bxa5 39.
 Kxa5 Kc4 40.Kb6 Kd4 41.Kc6 Ke4
 42.Kd7 Kxf4 43.Ke7 Black can go
 wrong with 43...f6?? 44.h6! g6 45.
 exf6 e5 46.f7??- but 43...Kxe5
 44.Kxf7 g6 (44...Kf5 45.Kxg7) 45.h6
 g5 46.Kg7 [also 43...g5 or 43... Kf5
 - SKA] is winning for Black

37...Kc3 38.Kc6 Kd4 39.Kd7
 Ke4 [39...a5!??@KA] 40.Ke7 Kxf4
 41.Kxf7 Kxe5 42.Kxg7 [Still ?but
 why muddy it up? -SKA.]

38.fxg5 a5 39.bxa5 bxa5 40.Kxa5
 Kc4 41.Kb6 Kd5 42.Kc7 Kxe5 43.
 Kd7 Kf5 44.Ke7 Kxg5 45.Kxf7 e5
 46.h6 Kxh6 0-1

My opponent came up with
 some really good moves that gave
 him practical chances at saving him-
 self in my opinion. It was by far the
 most difficult game I played during
 the tournament and I really appreci-
 ate the game. Mr. Croson told me
 afterwards that he was just coming
 off a 15-year chess "vacation". It
 certainly didn't seem that that way
 during the game and his overall re-
 sult during the tournament showed
 he didn't lose much during that time.
 I wish him and all the other players I
 encountered during the tournament
 the best of luck in their future games
 and look forward to competing with
 you guys in the future. □

LETTERS

Nimzo-Indian 4.g3

I received the May-June 2008 [issue]. I looked up on page 11 Warren Harper-Courtney Jamison, Nimzo-Indian E20 in the Texas High Schol Championship 2008, Rd. 6.

You said, "1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.g3" is "Romanishin's line, which was famously used by Kasparov against Karpov in their 1985 match."

I cannot find that the Nimzo-Indian with 4.g3 was used in [the] world championship. I looked up carefully four times! Surely there must be a mistake. I looked up *Five Crowns* by Yasser Seirawan, Jonathan Tisdall, but it was not there; 4.Nf3 was.

Mike Carpenter
Dallas

You are absolutely right; I had the move order wrong, and forgot 4.Nf3 was played first, and after 4... c5 then 5.g3. The ideas are similar, but the lines are distinct. – SKA

GM challenge in NM

I had the good fortune of being paired against GM Jesse Kraai in Round 1 of the Pir Maleki Memorial tournament in Montezuma New Mexico (a few miles northwest of Las Vegas, NM).

I believe Pir Maleki was a math teacher who passed away suddenly and his wife has been sponsoring this tourney at United World College for around 14 years. UWC has a castle like architecture and enjoys a very cosmopolitan student body.

Anyone who beat the GM was to be awarded \$300 and \$150 for a draw. I should have at least collected \$150, but I collapsed at the crucial moment.

Steven Young
Roswell, NM

Notes by Steven Young

Bird's Opening A02

Steven Young 1840
GM Jesse Kraai 2569

Pir Maleki Memorial (1)

1.f4 b6 2.e4 Bb7 3.Nc3 e6 4.Nf3 d5
5.exd5 exd5 6.d4 Nf6 7.a3

The GM did not like this move but I did not want Bb4 combined with Ne4.

7...Bd6 8.Bd3 0-0 9.0-0 c5 10.Nce2

My first discovery of the game: I notice that 10...c4 transfers White's KB to the h3-c8 diagonal and the Ne2 is favorably placed for maneuvers on the kingside.

10...Re8

I believe the GM characterized some of his moves as superficial. I'm not sure if this was one of them, as bishop can retreat to f8 if need be.

11.c3 Nbd7 12.Ne5 c4 13.Bc2 b5
14.Ng3 Ne4 15.Nf5 Ndf6 16.g4 Bf8
17.g5 g6 18.Ne3 Nd7 19.N3g4 Bg7

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x a b c d e f g h y

20.Qf3 Nxe5 21.dxe5?!

Of the three recaptures, this is the worst as it allows Black to open the h1-a8 diagonal and transform the spectator at b7 into a terrorist.

Who knows what dissuaded me from the "obvious recapture"? What sane mind would intentionally self-occlude the f-file where rook and queen were poised for action? Answer: My sanity aside, I must have been concerned about losing protection over the g5 pawn.

Correct is 21...Nxc5 22.Bxc5 Qxc5 23.Qxf7+ Kh8 24.Qf4 ♗SKA. 21...Nc5 22.Qd1?

Better is 22.Qh3.

22...d4!

An excellent move to open the diagonal.

23. Qxd4 Qc8 24.Nf2?

24...h3 or Qd1 at least offer resistance but after this GM-induced lemon, capitulation is the logical continuation.

Best is 24.Qd1 Qc6 25.Kf2 Qg2+ 26.Ke1, and as ugly as the position appears, Black has no knockout blow. After 26...Be4 27.Rf2 Qh3 28.Bxe4 Nxe4 29.Rc2, Fritz improbably assesses the position as equal! Feeding it along for a few moves it even claims White is a little better with the extra pawn. – SKA.

24...Qc6 0-1

Pan Am Youth update

As we go to press, the Americans are doing well in Argentina with mostly plus scores. Sylvia Yang in Under 12 Girls is in third place with 5-1. Ellen Xiang is in sixth with 4.5.

Sicilian Defense B53

Sylvia Yang 1911
Paula Rodriguez Rueda 2013

Pan American Youth Girls' U12

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Qxd4 Nc6 5.Bb5 Bd7 6.Bxc6 Bxc6 7.Nc3 Nf6 8.Bg5 e6 9.O-O-O Be7 10. Rhe1 d5 11.exd5 Bxd5 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.Nxd5 Qxd5 14.Qxd5 exd5 15.Rxd5 Rd8 16.Rxd8+ Kxd8 17. Nd4 Be5 18.c3 Kd7 19.Kc2 Rc8 20. Kd3 a6 21.Re4 Bxd4 22.Kxd4 b5 23.b3 Kd6 24.Rh4 Rh8 25.c4 bxc4 26.bxc4 h6 27.Rh5 Kc6 28.g4 Rd8+ 29.Kc3 Rh8 30.Rf5 Rh7 31.Rxf6+ Kb7 32.Kb4 Rg7 33.h3 Rh7 34.f4 Ka7 35.Ka5 1-0

In U10 Girls, Exan Xiang is in sixth with 4.5. Courtney Jamison is in fourth for U18 Girls with 4.5.

Lewisville I.S.D. Scholastic Chess: A Progress Report

by Michael Bowden

A random sprinkling of disjointed chess ventures was the definition of Lewisville I.S.D.'s scholastic chess program as of May 2006. Quite a difference from May 2008.

The inception of organized chess in the district began in a manner very similar to other efforts. A teacher began playing chess with a student, other students asked to participate and requests came from others for chess lessons. Shortly thereafter the teacher, Mike Bowden, a fifth grade ESL instructor, was asked by his class if they could form a chess club.

"I knew that other campuses were doing something with chess. The school board president organizes an annual tournament in January each year. I contacted campuses whose students had won awards to ask about their program. I was rather surprised."

What Mr. Bowden found was no program at all. "Each campus had a different approach. They certainly don't do that with math or science instruction." Bowden took matters in hand, requesting a section on the district's intranet site devoted to chess. "The goal with the intranet site was to facilitate communication among chess sponsors on campuses without having to meet at a specified time and date" said Bowden. The chess site also provided campus sponsors a resource for chess information. Several links offer guidance and reduce search time. Site members can recommend informative links, post and respond to questions, and organize friendly chess matches between campuses.

Bowden then took a bold step, influenced by his previous work in advertising account service. He contacted the principal at every campus in the district to promote the use of the site and identify the chess sponsor.

During the summer of 2006 the district offered chess in a summer enrichment program that followed summer school classes. "I see some of those students at the annual district tournament; they still talk about the time I taught them chess during the summer" Bowden recalls.

"Frustration defined the beginning of the 2006-2007 academic year; there was very little traffic on the chess site. I continued to talk to people involved in scholastic chess outside the district to seek advice." One of those calls was to the Kasparov Chess Foundation. "They were extremely helpful, very approachable," states Bowden. The conversation resulted in an opportunity to bring the Kasparov Foundation to Lewisville for a staff development. "By the end of the school year I had the okay to put this together, with no budget" Bowden adds.

Realizing this was a premier opportunity to demonstrate the value of a district supported chess program, Bowden set out to ensure such an event. He asked two local chess experts to attend. Jim Stallings, UT Dallas Chess Program Director, and Dr. Alexey Root, former U.S. Women's Chess Champion and author, whose books demonstrate the connection between chess and state curriculum standards, agreed to be part of the program. Stallings made introductory remarks and Root demonstrated a lesson. Jerry Nash, Scholastic Chess Director of the U. S. Chess Federation, made closing remarks.

Two thirds of the district campuses sent a representative; twenty-four of the thirty-eight elementary schools participated. The event also had guests from the state board of education and directors of a scholastic chess program in Monterrey, Mexico.

Several milestone events for academic chess occurred during the school year. David Spence, of Ethridge Elementary in the Colony, hosted several friendly chess matches in which three or more campuses competed during the academic year. In addition, Lisa Harper at Central Elementary hosted an event attended by three schools. A cadre of sponsors formed, meeting on a monthly basis. The group, under the guidance of district grant writer Dr. Charles Fruge, developed a mission statement and chose a name. The objective is to enable the group to seek and obtain grant funds for future projects and initiatives. LISD CHESS – Chess Helping Educate Students for Success.

A proposal was made to district administrators to give campus principals the option to add a section of academic chess to the fine arts rotation. The district superintendent, associate superintendents and principals discussed the merits of such a program in a recent meeting. While there will not be an option available in the upcoming 2008-2009 academic year due to budget concerns, the value of such a program was recognized.

"We do not have a chess program in the district on any level except as a volunteer activity by dedicated teachers who want to provide students an alternative means to develop abilities that will benefit them in many ways as they continue to learn," stated Bowden. "However, we are many steps further than we were three years ago."

Michael Bowden teaches English as a Second Language in Lewisville I.S.D. During 13 years in education he has taught 2nd, 5th, 6th and 7th grade, adult ESL classes and Developmental Reading in community college. He can be contacted at bowdenm@lisd.net.

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P.O. Box 501
Helotes, TX 78023-0501

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Neupauer Kamil
StrateGems, 2001

X	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Y
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7	P	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	'
6	P	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	&
5	+	k	+	-	K	-	+	-	%
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3	+	-	R	-	+	L	+	-	#
2	P	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	"
1	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	!
x	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	y

White to move, mate in two

Solution: p. 12

2008 TCA Ballot

Mail to **TCA Election, P.O. Box 501, Helotes, TX 78023-0501**. For your ballot to be counted, it must be received by Aug. 28, 2008. Ballots will be counted Sunday, Aug. 31 at the Southwest Open in Fort Worth.

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