



# TEXAS KNIGHTS

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## *Texas Team Championship!!!*



Left to Right: Vijay, Kevin, Aarsal and Vasee a.k.a *Minority Attack* - Winner of the Texas Team Championship

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# TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

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

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- Articles
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**March 15th, 2024**

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## From the Desk of the Editor



Facebook.com/texasknightsed

Hello Texas,

Welcome to the new year. I hope you have a prosperous year with plenty of chess throughout the year and all the years that follow.

Let's start off this year with just a couple of **announcements** (they are changes, but sometimes change can be very good).

1. There is a new *Texas Knights* Archive. You can find a link to it at the bottom of the *Texas Knights* page on the TCA Website. We recently added about 50 new back issues that are now available for you. There will be approximately 45 more back issues coming soon (some will replace partial issues we currently have). We are still looking for issues from 1959 through 1971. More details on issues we are still missing will be coming soon. Thanks to **Chris Wood**, the TCA Website Administrator, for building and populating the new Archive.

2. I am now including Chessbase Icons with the *Texas Knights* PGN game files. They are miniaturized captures of the cover page for the associated issues. Just copy the ICO file to the same location as the Game PGN file. See my Facebook page for more information.

Here's what you can find in this, the first issue of *Texas Knights* for 2024....

There are results, photos, and games from the **TCA Texas Team Championship 2024**.

Also, there is a historical article (and a game to go with it). Both have been published before in the April 2023 issue of *Oklahoma*

*Chess Magazine*. It's not clear at this time whether there were details published in *Texas Knights* about the **1986 Southwest Open** that took place in San Antonio and ended in a four-way tie between **Joe Bradford**, **John Cline**, **Carlos Lau**, and **Ildiko Madl**. While future issues in the *Texas Knights* Archive may include an issue with the details for the tournament, it currently doesn't, and it's well past time for some coverage.

There are also details (and games) from the **17th SPICE Cup Open**, where 13-year-old chess prodigy **Andy Woodward**, from Texas, brought home the first prize. Also, there is an article (and games) from the **Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship** by new contributor **David Ortiz**.

From returning contributors: **Dr. Alexey Root** provides two new book reviews. We have Part 2 of the Coach's Corner: *The Chess Top 40* article that started in the Nov-Dec 2023 issue of *Texas Knights*, provided by **Robert L. Myers**. Finally, **Tim Brennan** has provided the next nine *Tactics Time!* puzzles to solve.

Finally, there is a historical article previously published in the March-May 1981 *Texas Knights* about the formation of TCA in 1892.

March 15th is the submission deadline for the next issue. Mid-April is when the next issue should arrive in mailboxes. The digital issue should be on the website within the first week of April.

I hope you enjoy the issue. -Jeff



# A Message from the President

*February 2024*

As we start a new year, once again, the **Texas Chess Association** staff and I thank you for your outstanding support and love for the game of chess. As always, it is a team effort, and your contributions do not go unnoticed.

This, the first issue of *Texas Knights* this year, is packed with tournament reports, games, and pictures. Thanks to those who contributed to this, and in particular to our Editor, Jeff French. As I mentioned before, please mark your calendar for the 2024 tournaments, starting with the Regional Championships, which are being held during the early part of the year in most of the ten TCA regions. Following the Regional Championships, we will have the **Texas Scholastic Chess Championships**, both North and South. Players are not limited to one or the other, and they may play in both. The **Texas Scholastic Chess Championships North** are being organized by the Dallas Chess Club and will be held in Houston, on March 1 – 3. The **South Championships** are being organized by UTRGV and will be held in Brownsville, on March 16 – 17 (correction from the last issue, as the South Championship will start on Saturday, not Friday). We hope to see most of our scholastic chess players in either one of these or both! And as we mentioned before, since these events will be used to select our representatives for the **US Chess National Invitational** events (**Denker**, **Barber**, and **Rockefeller**), there will be online playoffs between the first-place winners of the North and South **High School**, **Middle School**, and **Elementary School Championship** sections. In addition, we will have an online playoff between the top female players of those three sections in both North and South events, and they will

join the winners of the same sections from the **2023 Texas Girls Championships** to determine the Texas representative to the **Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions**. Of course, we cannot forget about the **Irwin National Tournament of Senior Champions**. The winner of the **2024 Senior Championship**, which is being organized by the Arlington Chess Club, will be the Texas representative. As you may know, those national events are always held in conjunction with the **U.S. Open**, and in 2024, they will be held at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel in Norfolk, Virginia, July 27 – 30. So, again, please make plans to attend the TCA events and visit our website as well as the TCA Facebook page for information.

We have had a lot of chess action recently, and this issue also covers, among other things, the **Texas Team Championship**, the **Intercollegiate Team Championship**, the **SPICE Cup Open**, a historical game from the **1986 Southwest Open**, an informative book review by the 1989 U.S. Women's Champion **WIM Alexey Root**, and much more, so read on!

For this issue, we were also going to include Part 2 of my article for tournament directors and organizers, but I am still working on it, and it will be included in the next issue of *Texas Knights*.

Thanks again for your support for this organization and, most importantly, for our chess players!

With best regards,

*Franc*

## About the Author

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



# TCA Texas Team Championship 2024

Photos by: Kwunnie Ng

Additional Individual Info: [https://www.uschess.org/assets/msa\\_joomla/XtblMain.php?202401214302](https://www.uschess.org/assets/msa_joomla/XtblMain.php?202401214302)

Additional Team Info, See Post on: <https://www.facebook.com/TexasChess/>

The **TCA Texas Team Championship 2024** was played in Houston on January 20th and 21st. Sixteen teams of four players each participated in the Open Section for five rounds. The time controls for the Open Section were G90;inc30. The Open Section was a two-day event with three rounds on Saturday and two rounds on Sunday. Games from the tournament start on *Page 20*.

**Below are the Results of the Top 3 Teams in the Open Section.**

#	Name	Score	TBrk[G]	TBrk[M]
1	<b>Minority Attack (2156.3)</b>	4.0	14.0	14.0
	Vaseegaran Nandhakumar (2254) 3.5 Bd: 1 Arsal Gardezi (2238) 1.5 Bd: 2 Kevin Qin (2104) 4.0 Bd: 3 Vijay Srinivas Anandh (2029) 5.0 Bd: 4			
2	<b>Illegal Biryani (2165.8)</b>	4.0	14.0	13.5
	Sharvesh Deviprasath (2481) 4.5 Bd: 1 Nicolas De La Colina (2303) 4.0 Bd: 2 Alexander Elliott (2047) 3.5 Bd: 3 Amay Babel (1832) 2.0 Bd: 4			
3	<b>Sicilian Schemers (2116.8)</b>	4.0	13.5	12.5
	Ryo Wenyu Chen (2447) 2.5 Bd: 1 Kyle Y Wang (2078) 3.5 Bd: 2 Joshua Meng (2014) 4.0 Bd: 3 Ethan Y Wang (1928) 3.5 Bd: 4			

See Cover Photo for First Place Winners



**Second Place Winners**  
(Left to Right: Alexander, Nicolas, Sharvesh & Amay)



**Third Place Winners**  
(Left to Right: Joshua, Ryo, Kyle & Ethan)

Seven teams of four players each participated in the Scholastic Section in five rounds. The Scholastic Section time controls were G45;d5. The Scholastic Section was a single-day event.

**Below are the Results of the Top 3 Teams in Scholastic Section.**

#	Name	Score	TBrk[G]	TBrk[M]
1	<b>Saturday Night Live (922.5)</b>	4.0	13.5	9.5
	Calvin Munsayac (1545) 3.5 Bd: 1 Reyansh Arora (912) 3.5 Bd: 2 Siddanth Relan (735) 4.5 Bd: 3 Brayden Parillon (498) 2.0 Bd: 4			
2	<b>Black Kings White Queens (992.8)</b>	3.5	13.5	10.0
	Simon Nguyen (1311) 3.5 Bd: 1 Suri Ngoc Nguyen (1000) 2.0 Bd: 2 Charles Wong (857) 4.0 Bd: 3 Neha Teresa Sony (803) 4.0 Bd: 4			
3	<b>The Queens Guardians (714.5)</b>	3.5	11.0	11.5
	Aditya Naidu (1183) 3.5 Bd: 1 Rohan Naidu (246) 1.0 Bd: 2 Shourya Sethi (unr.) 2.5 Bd: 3 Soham Sethi (unr.) 4.0 Bd: 4			



**First Place Scholastic Team**  
(Left to Right: Brayden, Calvin, Siddanth & Reyansh)  
Photo Provided By: Nellie Nadoo



**Second Place Scholastic Team**  
(Left to Right: Suri, Neha, Simon & Charles)  
Photo Provided By: Yang Cong

## More Memories from the Tournament



### The 1986 Southwest Open - Could I Be Beaten?!

By LM Robert Harrington



[**Editor's Note:** The article and game were originally published in the April 2023 issue of *Oklahoma Chess Magazine* and are used with permission.]

On my quest to become a chess master, I decided to enter the strong Southwest Open. I felt prepared, and I was having good results at that time. So, I packed my bags and went to a city that has a rich heritage: San Antonio. My USCF rating was 2144. To my surprise, I was on board 1 in round 1. My opponent was Joe Bradford, USCF 2547. Joe had already won this prominent event, or tied for first, five previous times. He went on to tie for first this time too (and three more times). A little about Mr. Bradford. Joe had surprised the chess world in 1978 by winning the U.S. Open with a rating of 2307! By winning that prestigious event, he qualified to play in the 1980 US Closed Championship. His result in that event was 3 wins, 4 draws, and 5 losses. His three wins were against GM Larry Christensen, IM Jack Peters, and GM Robert Byrne.

Back to my game with "Big Joe." I was white, and Joe employed his favorite defense to 1.e4 - the French

defense. I was very fortunate to draw him in a 56-move game. In round 2, I was paired with Michael Calogridis, USCF 2322. Result draw. Round 3 saw me paired with a 2100 player. Result draw. In round 4, I was paired with a 1900-rated opponent. Result draw. So far, each round, my opponent was rated 200 points lower than the previous round. As I posted my result after round 4, I jokingly asked the tournament director, "Can't you find anyone that can beat me?" Round 5 saw me paired with a 1700-rated opponent. Can you guess the result?! If you guessed a draw, you were wrong. He beat me!

So, my journey to obtain a 2200 rating continued. In terms of my overall chess result, I was not overly pleased. 4 draws and a loss. Nonetheless, I have fond memories of the 1986 S.W. Open. (Maybe I should have titled this "The 1986 Southwest Open - Can I Win a Game?!")

Bradford missed a couple difficult-to-see shots, but in the end, a stubborn defense earned the half-point.

See Game 10 on *Page 23*.



## 17th SPICE Cup Open

Complete Results: <https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202312229782>

Tournament Photos: <https://www.facebook.com/LiemChess>

The 17th SPICE Cup Open was played in Chesterfield, MO from December 17th to December 22nd. The tournament was played in nine rounds with a time control of G/90+inc/30. There were 52 participants in the tournament.

Andy Woodward, one of two participants from Texas, was the sole winner with a score of 7.0/9 and brought home the \$5000 grand prize. Justin Wang tied for 5th place with a score of 6.0/9 and brought home a \$500 prize. Andy is the January 2024 top rated 13 year-old in the country, and Justin is the January 2024 top rated 18 year-old in the country. Both players have earned the title of *Life Senior Master*. Games start on [Page 24](#). The PGN File has all games from both Texas players.

Below are the Results of the Top 6 Participants.

#	Name	Rnd1	Rnd2	Rnd3	Rnd4	Rnd5	Rnd6	Rnd7	Rnd8	Rnd9	Tot
1	ANDY AUSTIN WOODWARD	W27	W29	D9	W2	D4	D3	W13	D15	W7	7
2	ARAM HAKOBYAN	W24	W16	D12	L1	D21	W14	D7	W11	W8	6.5
3	YASSER QUESADA PEREZ	W45	D15	W21	D9	W13	D1	W12	D8	D4	6.5
4	SAFAL BORA	W36	W30	W20	D13	D1	D12	D8	W9	D3	6.5
5	ILLIA NYZHNYK	W31	D21	L13	D24	W44	D18	W29	D10	W15	6
6	JUSTIN WANG	D44	W39	D15	D30	W29	L9	W23	D13	W18	6



**May 15, 2024  
Deadline**

### 4TH ANNUAL CREATIVITY CONTEST

For Texans with  
TCA Membership  
through Aug 31, 2024

Contact: Jim Hollingsworth  
[chessartiste@gmail.com](mailto:chessartiste@gmail.com)

**Best Chess Art**  
**Best Chess Cartoon**  
**Best Chess Photo**  
**Best Website**



# Texas Triumph

## UT Dallas and UTRGV Secure Final Four Spots at 2024 Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship

Article and Photos By David Ortiz

Full Standings: <https://southtxchess.org/2024panampairings>

The **2024 Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship** took place in McAllen, Texas this year, hosted by the South Texas Chess Federation from January 4-7th, 2024. Drawing 40 universities and 81 teams to the competitive arena, a total of 353 players participated in the event, with UTRGV boasting a record nine teams and UT Dallas fielding five teams.

### UTRGV vs. UT Dallas: Clash of Titans

In a pivotal match during the championship, UTRGV and UT Dallas squared off in round 4.

On **board 1**, **GM Viktor Gazik** secured a victory against **GM Koustav Chatterjee** by capitalizing on a critical mistake in the endgame. The game remained relatively even until Chatterjee's crucial error on move 61... Re3, which allowed Gazik to maneuver his passed pawn with a series of checks. See Game 22 on *Page 28*.

On **board 2**, **GM David Brodsky's** tactical brilliance shone as he outmaneuvered **GM Gleb Dudin** in a dynamic exchange. The game unfolded in a flurry of moves until Dudin's fateful Rb2, allowing Brodsky to exploit the position with 31. Nc4, culminating in a brilliant sacrifice highlighted by 31... Rc2 32. Nxd2. See Game 23 on *Page 29*.

On **board 3**, **IM Irakli Beradze** clinched a

crucial victory against **IM Brian Escalante**, though complete notation is not available at this time for analysis. See Game 24 on *Page 29*.

On **board 4**, **IM Karolis Juksta** secured a much-needed victory against **IM Shawn Rodrigue-Lemieux**. Rodrigue-Lemieux's mis-step with Bxe4 on move 17 provided IM Juksta with an opening to seize material advantage, paving the way for a decisive endgame. See Game 25 on *Page 29*.

The match concluded in a hard-fought draw, with both UTRGV and UT Dallas earning 0.5 match points, preserving their undefeated streaks.

### Final Standings

The University of Missouri emerged as the winner of the 2024 Pan American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship, securing 1st place. UT Dallas earned 2nd place, Webster University claimed 3rd, and UTRGV clinched the 4th place team prize.

#	Name	Rating	Total
1	University of Missouri Team A	2625	5.5
2	University of Texas at Dallas Team A	2561	5
3	Webster University Team A	2677	4.5
4	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Team A	2559	4.5

UTRGV and UT Dallas both secured coveted spots in the Final Four, also known as the President's Cup, slated to unfold on March 30-31, 2024, at the UT Dallas campus in Richardson, Texas. UTRGV boasts three recent prior victories in the President's Cup (2018, 2019, and 2021), while UT Dallas has clinched the title four times (2001, 2002, 2007, and 2008). Texas Tech narrowly missed advancing to the Final Four due to tiebreaks, but delivered an impressive 5th place performance.

### Celebrating Excellence

In the awards ceremony, UTRGV's WGM Maili-Jade Ouellet claimed the Top Female Prize, accompanied by UTRGV's Alexandra Herrera Solis earning the 2nd Place Female award. Not to be outdone, UTRGV's GM Viktor Gazik secured the Top Board 1 prize

in the open division, while UT Dallas's IM Andrei Macovei clinched the Top Board 2 prize. Additionally, UT Dallas's IM Karolis Juksta seized the Top Board 4 prize in the open section, with UT Dallas Team E claiming the 3rd place team trophy in the U1800 section.

### Texas Chess: A Legacy Unmatched

The stellar performances of UTRGV, UT Dallas, and Texas Tech at the 2024 Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship underscore the Lone Star State's rich chess culture and talent. As the Final Four approaches, the question remains: Will a Texas college reclaim its title, or will one of St. Louis's colleges continue its reign? The stage is set for a battle of intellect, skill, and unwavering determination.



**UT Dallas Team A Open**

Left to Right (not including South Texas Chess Federation Representatives)

**Coach GM Julio Sadorra,  
IM Karolis Juksta,  
GM Koustav Chatterjee,  
GM David Brodsky,  
IM Saksham Rautela,  
GM Brian Escalante Ramirez**



**UTRGV Team A Open**

Left to Right (not including South Texas Chess Federation Representatives)

**GM Viktor Gazik,  
GM Gleb Dudin,  
Coach GM Bartek Macieja,  
GM-elect Shawn Rodrigue-Lemieux,  
IM Irakli Beradze**





## New Chess Books - Two by GM Karsten Müller

By Dr. Alexey Root, WIM

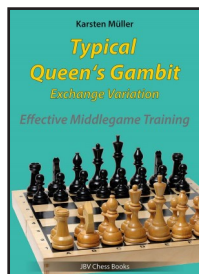
Dr. Alexey Root volunteers for the Texas Chess Association by writing this column.

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

This column describes two books published in 2023 by Joachim Beyer Verlag (JBV Chess Books) and written by Grandmaster Karsten Müller. One similarity between the two books is their use of QR codes (quick-response codes). QR codes can be scanned to replay each of Müller's examples and exercises on electronic devices.

Müller has a doctorate in mathematics. He is a grandmaster and prolific chess author. Müller was named "Trainer of the Year" in 2007 by the German Chess Federation.

### Typical Queen's Gambit Middlegames



Müller's book titled *Typical Queen's Gambit Exchange Variation: Effective Middlegame Training* is for a specific audience. As the book's back cover states, "this book only deals with the Queen's Gambit – more precisely: the Exchange

Variation with white pawns on e3 and d4 against black pawns on c6 and d5 – the so-called 'Carlsbad structure'."

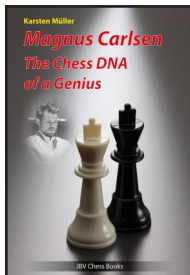
The book has a specific structure as well. There are 120 diagrammed positions at the front of the book. Answers to the diagrams are in the latter part of the book. Each diagram is taken from a middlegame position of a real game with the aforementioned pawn structure.

While most diagrams make it clear which side is to move, others did not. I found this frustrating as I didn't want to use the QR code, which would reveal the answer along with which side was to move. Using a square or circle—blank for White to move and filled in with dark ink for Black to move—to the right of each diagram should be considered for future JBV Chess Books.

Here is an example of a caption that I found ambiguous, from under diagram 101: "Does White have to worry about his g-pawn?" Does that mean White is to move, to save his g-pawn? Or does that mean that Black is to move, and the reader must decide if Black's best move is to capture White's g-pawn? See Game 26 on *Page 29*.

Even when I knew which side was to move, I found the exercises challenging. That's not surprising, as often the players don't choose what Müller names as their best moves. For example, the 24th move chosen by Grandmaster Loek van Wely, in Angelo Young versus Van Wely, 1995 (See Game 27 on *Page 29*), is described as weak (the "?" symbol) by Müller. In his answer key, Müller gives a first alternative to Van Wely's move as dubious (!?), a second alternative as remarkable (!?), before giving an excellent move (!!) as the solution. If Van Wely, a 2600-level player, picked a weak move, my odds of picking the excellent move seem slim.

## Magnus Carlsen - The Chess DNA of a Genius



The back cover of *Magnus Carlsen - The Chess DNA of a Genius* states that “any reader who delves a little deeper into Carlsen’s games can learn a great deal about the subtleties of chess from one of the greatest players of all time. Each chapter is rounded off with topic-related exercises.”

I liked how this book was organized. Chapters were short, ranging from three to 11 pages. Each chapter was on a specific theme, such as “Exploiting open files” or “Playing with the bishop pair.” At the end

of each chapter were two, three, or four exercises, presented as diagrams with the side to move made clear. The solutions to the diagrams are on the pages immediately following. Photographs of Carlsen and his opponents also broke up the text in a pleasing way.

### Where to buy

As of December 14, 2023, *Typical Queen’s Gambit Exchange Variation: Effective Middlegame Training* is not available from a U.S. seller. It is available from Chess & Bridge: The London Chess Centre for \$28.42. *Magnus Carlsen - The Chess DNA of a Genius* is available from USCF Sales for \$27.95.

### Links relating to the article

**Chess & Bridge:** <https://chess.co.uk/collections/new-chess-products/products/typical-queen-s-gambit-exchange-variation-karsten-muller>

**USCF Sales:** <https://www.uscfsales.com/magnus-carlsen-the-chess-dna-of-a-genius.html>

For:  
Windows,  
Mac and Linux

## Chess Whiz - En Croissant

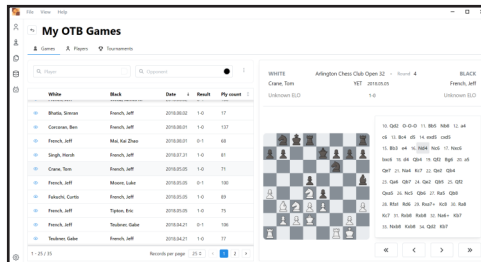
By Jeff French

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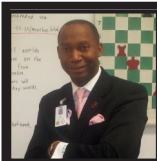
I occasionally wrote a *Chess Whiz* column during my first tenure as Editor. Since I had a little space that needed content, it was time to bring it back. This column is just a small introduction to something that wouldn’t normally be found in *Texas Knights*. Just a small morsel. Almost equivalent to what you might put on a cracker for a snack. Don’t expect a lot of detail, just enough to ‘wet your whistle’ with details of where to learn more.

This time, I am pointing you to a Chess *Toolkit* called **En Croissant**. It allows you to Manage Chess Databases (by directly downloading predefined large databases, like Caissabase, or by downloading your own games played on Chess.com/LiChess.org, or even by importing your own PGN files). It also allows you to Analyze Games, Study LiChess Tactics Puzzles, and/or Play Games. It supports UCI-based Chess Engines

(i.e. Stockfish, Komodo, etc.) for use in Analysis, as kibitzers, and/or as AI Opponents. **En Croissant** is free/Open Source. Even though it is still being developed, it does seem stable. You *could* download the code, modify it to your liking, and build a new version. Or, just download/install the latest version, then grab future updates as they become available. If you would like to give it a try, you can find it here: <https://www.encroissant.org>.







## Coach's Corner - e4!

### *The Chess Top 40, Part 2*

by Robert L. Myers

\* **Editors Note:** *The Chess Top 40* began in the **Nov-Dec 2023** issue of *Texas Knights* and will continue in the next issue.

**4) Knights on the Rim are Dim:** While in the “Crescent City”, too many years ago to mention, at Susan Polgar’s \$100K Scholarship Open, I was walking hurriedly by an analysis table where this Chess Master was analyzing games from scholastic players vying for the scholarship. Offering my two cents of unwarranted advice, I said, “Knights on the rim or dim.” I later became fast friends with this guy who quipped, “Unless your name is Jim.” National Master James Rouselle, top rating: 2332. After 20 years of competitive chess coaching and hundreds of hours hanging out with Grandmasters, Life Masters, and such, one can pick up a few tips. These chess principles we teach students are a plethora of gems that cover essential guidelines for chess players to improve their game. They are in no certain order but are pretty good to mull over before each tournament game and each move.

“Knights on the Rim are Dim” is a chess saying emphasizing the strategic disadvantage of placing knights on the edges or corners of the chessboard. The phrase suggests that knights positioned on the periphery of the board may have limited mobility and influence on the game. In chess, knights have a unique L-shaped move that allows them to jump over other pieces. However, when placed on the rim or edges of the board, knights have fewer squares to move to compared to their placement closer to the center. Centralized knights generally have more potential to control key squares and contribute to various areas of the board. The saying is a reminder to players to consider the positioning of their knights carefully, aiming to place them in more central and active positions for better overall control and influence on the game.

**5) Don't Move Too Fast:** Avoiding moving too fast in chess is crucial because it gives you the time and opportunity to consider your moves and anticipate potential consequences carefully. Moving too quickly can lead to blunders for several reasons: **Overlooking Threats:** When you move too fast, you may overlook potential threats from your opponent. Chess is a game of strategy and tactics, and your opponent

constantly looks for ways to exploit weaknesses in your position. Taking the time to analyze the board allows you to identify and respond to potential threats. **Miscalculations:** Speed can lead to miscalculations. Chess requires a deep understanding of positions and the ability to foresee the consequences of your moves. Rushing through your moves may result in overlooking key variations or misjudging the outcome of certain moves. **Missing Tactical Opportunities:** Chess often involves tactical opportunities, such as forks, pins, and skewers. These tactics can turn the game in your favor, but you need to recognize and capitalize on them. Moving too fast may cause you to miss these opportunities and allow your opponent to gain an advantage. **Poor Positional Choices:** Chess is not just about tactics; it's also about creating a sound position. Quick moves may lead to poor positional choices, such as placing your pieces on weak squares or neglecting the overall coordination of your pieces. Careful consideration is needed to develop a solid position. **Lack of Strategic Planning:** Successful chess play often involves long-term strategic planning. Moving too fast may result in a lack of consideration for the overall strategy of the game. It's important to have a plan and to make moves that contribute to the fulfillment of that plan.

In timed games, moving too fast early in the game can lead to trouble later. If you use up your time quickly in the opening moves, you may find yourself rushed into critical positions, leading to hasty decisions and potential blunders. **Failure to Adapt:** Chess is dynamic, and the position on the board can change rapidly. Moving too fast may indicate a failure to adapt to changing circumstances. Taking the time to reassess the position as it evolves allows you to make more informed decisions. So, use your time wisely; careful consideration of each move is essential in chess to avoid blunders and to make strategic decisions. Patience and a thoughtful approach to the game contribute to better overall performance and increase the chances of success on the chessboard. This is a huge tip for beginners, those below 900, and even non-rated players. They want to win quickly, which usually ends in their demise. \*

Robert L. Myers is a Level V Candidate for Master Chess Coach, High School Basketball Coach, freelance writer, and an award-winning 30-year veteran classroom educator. You can follow “Coach” on social media and at [www.thechessacademy.com](http://www.thechessacademy.com)

# Jottings of Interest to Those Who Play the Game of Kings & Queens

By Mike Moore

Reprinted from the March-May 1981 *Texas Knights*



The year was 1892, when the Texas State Chess Association was formed. At the historic Menger Hotel in San Antonio, a group of mostly San Antonio players gathered on Washington's birthday to elect officers, draft a constitution, and hold an annual tournament that would determine the state champion.

Although the membership of the new Texas Chess Association was only nineteen members, it was the first step in the unification of chess activity happening from Palestine to Galveston. It was also the source of heated debate as to the true representativeness of the new organization.

Elected first president of the Texas State Chess Association was a San Antonio man by the name of George Bucklin. Bucklin was then the president of the San Antonio Chess Club, which had been meeting regularly at the Menger on Saturday nights. It was at these meetings that the likes of R.W. Norton, Everett G. Graves, John F. Ford, Capt. Charles Smith, and many others gathered to play the game of kings and queens.

George Bucklin was also the editor of a very informative chess column that appeared weekly in the San Antonio Sunday Express. The column reported on the activities of chess clubs across the country, including the Brooklyn Chess Club, the Manhattan Chess Club, and the Providence (R.I.) Chess Club. Bucklin reported on events in Europe as well as the world championship match between Steinitz and Tschigorin in Havana. The column also featured a series of chess prob-

lems by Manuel Lopez, a San Antonio player.

It was George Bucklin who decided to organize a state chess organization. In his February chess column, he announced his plans to organize the TCA at the Menger Hotel on Washington's birthday, 1892. At this meeting, a host of officers were elected, including three vice presidents. A secretary was elected to draft a constitution, and the championship was held.

Only eleven people participated in the first Texas Championship tournament, which found Bucklin in a three-way playoff with John F. Ford and Capt. Charles Smith. Bucklin managed to win the playoff, and, so, in addition to being president of the TCA, he was also the first state champion. All of this did not go unchallenged, though. The Galveston News and local players from that area complained that the new organization was not fairly representative of the whole of Texas since most of the participants were from the San Antonio area. Bucklin responded that he had announced the meeting in advance, and it was Galveston's fault if they did not read the announcement that appeared in his column. He also offered to play their strongest player for a stake.

It was not reported if the match with Galveston ever took place. Bucklin's chess column soon vanished from the Express. Perhaps Bucklin continued his writing for another publication or committed himself to other activities. In any event, we salute the fine efforts of George Bucklin, founder of the Texas Chess Association.

# Tactics Time!

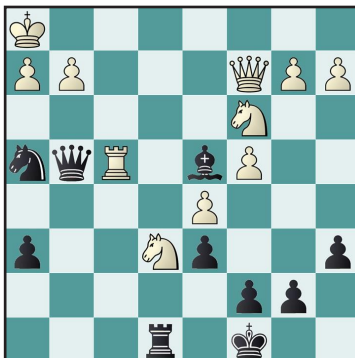
by Tim Brennan

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

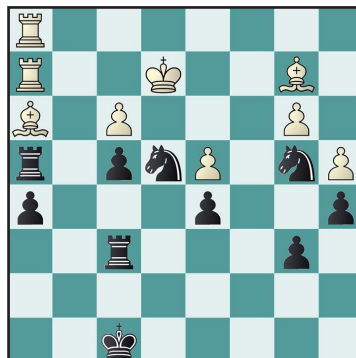
Answers can be found on page 18.



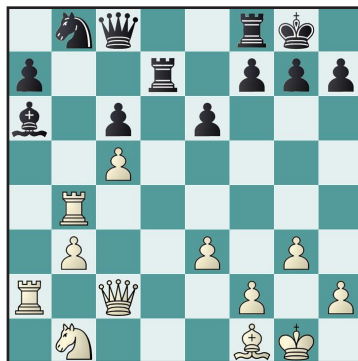
1. C. Koustav – N. Moor  
Texas Collegiate 2023  
White to Move



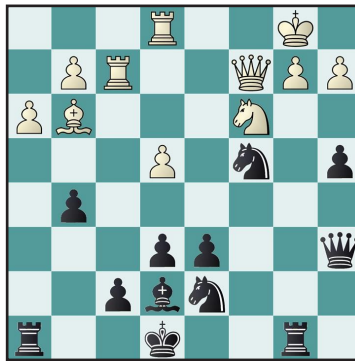
2. M. Moore – I. Schitco  
Texas Collegiate 2023  
Black to Move



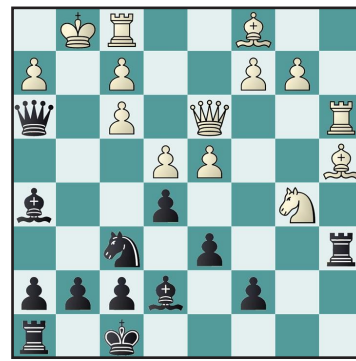
3. I. Schitco – G. Dudin  
Texas Collegiate 2023  
Black to Move



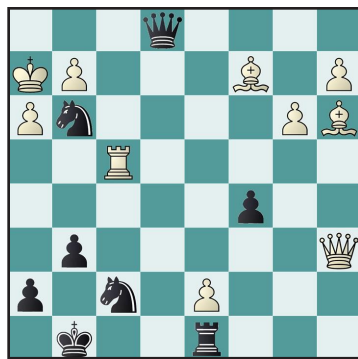
4. J. Druska – D. Brodsky  
Texas Collegiate 2023  
White to Move



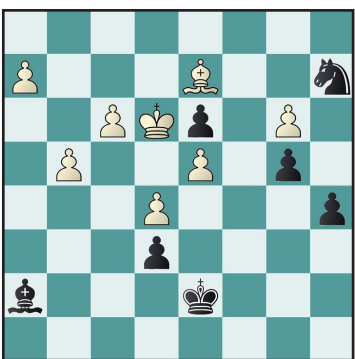
5. M. Moore – E. Ozenir  
Texas Collegiate 2023  
Black to Move



6. V. Gazik – C. Koustav  
Texas Collegiate 2023  
Black to Move

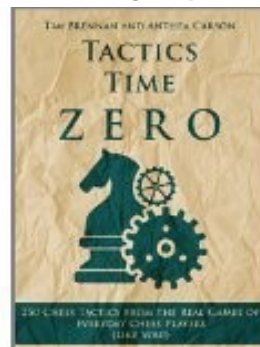


7. D. Brodsky – V. Matviishen  
Texas Collegiate 2023  
Black to Move



8. S. Rahul – I. Beradzje  
Texas Collegiate 2023  
Black to Move


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# US CHESS TOP PLAYERS OF TEXAS - January 2024

Regardless of Residence or Federation

Overall			Age 18 (continued)			Age 12 (continued)		
11	Xiong, Jeffery	2731	93	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2012	92	Sunil, Arush	1808
15	Onischuk, Alexander	2708	100	Pathak, Dhruv	1985	96	Konstantakos, Christos	1802
32	Sadorra, Julio C	2651						
35	Matviishen, Viktor	2647	Age 17			Age 11		
38	Li, Ruifeng	2637	6	Deviprasath, Sharvesh R	2489	15	Anandh, Vijay Srinivas	2046
40	Vazquez, Guillermo	2628	12	Obero, Shelev	2319	42	Yuan, Owen	1883
42	Stukopin, Andrey	2620	47	Trakru, Rohun	2156	46	Kandikayala, Srikar	1870
51	Wang, Justin	2602	53	Polavaram, Rithik Sai	2132	52	Petukhov, Arthur	1856
62	Macieja, Bartlomiej	2592	91	Yang, Benjamin	2012	67	Shen, Yangyang	1812
63	Beradze, Irakli	2591	94	Tang, Andrew	1997	84	Zhang, Alicia S	1747
76	Belous, Vladimir	2564	98	Sathiararam, Sarvadh	1992	85	Seelam, Tanish	1746
80	Hernandez, Holden	2560				87	Wu, Zekai Bryson	1742
82	Duque, Sm Raymond D.	2559	Age 16			95	Wang, Jason	1713
85	Woodward, Andy Austin	2553	12	Laddha, Shubh Jayesh	2341			
85	Druska, Juraj	2553	66	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2099	Age 10		
88	Root, Douglas D	2551	66	Qin, Kevin	2099	72	Vyas, Miransh Purven	1633
91	Steingrimsson, Hedinn	2541				83	Senapati, Avni	1600
Age 65 and Over			Age 15			Age 9		
9	Bradford, Joseph Mark	2444	8	Gutla, Aryan	2355	10	Zhang, Oscar Yihang	1949
62	Hulse, Brian	2200	13	Nandhakumar, Vaseegaran	2268	25	Maddipati, Srihas Sai Sarvesh	1769
62	Weaver, Richard	2200	20	Gardezi, Aarsal	2238	26	Tendulkar, Ojas	1764
62	Anderson, Selby K	2200	57	Bist, Atharva	2090	41	Kolli, Rishi	1669
62	Calogridis, Michael S.	2200	70	Friedman, Andrew Charles	2059	49	Liu, Chloe	1643
62	Simms, Gary	2200	78	Zhang, Eric J	2041	67	Zhang, Lawrence	1553
			86	Raghuraja, Sri Avishkar	2015	68	He, Julian	1549
Age 50 and Over			Age 14			88	Wang, Nathan Zicheng	1491
12	Duque, Sm Raymond D.	2559	5	Liu, Eric Chang	2397	98	Garcia, Kaiser Troy	1446
13	Root, Douglas D	2551	6	Kunka, Harshid	2375	Age 8		
32	Bradford, Joseph Mark	2444	20	Melillo, Lucius	2237	12	Manchanda, Advik	1716
47	Allcock, Rawle A	2375	38	Hiwale, Ronak	2128	19	Yao, Annie	1626
71	Almeida, Alfonso A	2291	48	Nair, Ajitesh	2079	22	Iskandarov, Elvin	1585
95	Feinstein, Michael	2251	53	Shafer, Logan C	2070	29	Li, Owen	1547
Under Age 21			64	Dasari, Saathvik	2027	37	Baksi, Antariksh	1497
8	Wang, Justin	2602	69	Raju, Yakshwag Reddy	2024	40	Yang, Matthew	1485
12	Woodward, Andy Austin	2553	87	Poliseti, Lohit Krishna Narayana	1984	57	Muthiah, Yugan	1365
21	Deviprasath, Sharvesh R	2489	98	Chang, Luca	1945	60	Bergknoff, Gabriel	1336
27	Vivekananthan, Anish	2469	Age 13			80	He, Jayden	1263
39	Chen, Ryo Wenyu	2435	1	Woodward, Andy Austin	2553	86	Veretennikov, Benjamin Ryan	1238
46	Liu, Eric Chang	2397	2	Chen, Ryo Wenyu	2435	92	Sutantri, Benjamin Matthias	1233
48	Rorrer, Grayson	2396	8	Li, Rachael	2260	95	Goldberg, Joshua	1203
59	Kunka, Harshid	2375	48	Meng, Joshua	2028	98	Wang, Kai Yi	1195
65	Gutla, Aryan	2355	78	Zhou, Brian Xing	1933	100	Danda, Adhyan Reddy	1188
71	Laddha, Shubh Jayesh	2341	79	Thilop, Aarav Nambiar	1932	Age 7 and Under		
79	Kung, Thomas	2330	84	Zhang, Sunny	1916	17	Lan, Kai Zhou	1417
91	Obero, Shelev	2319	95	Nigudkar, Rusheel	1883	32	Chen, Yiheng Ethan	1191
			97	Zafar, Faris	1881	48	Joseph, Asher	1120
Age 18			Age 12			65	Choi, Nolan	1037
1	Wang, Justin	2602	14	Yang, Daniel	2135	88	Wong, Charles	974
8	Rorrer, Grayson	2396	23	Singh, Siddharth	2094			
19	Gundam, Rohit	2267	28	Wang, Kyle Y	2082			
30	Kumarappan, Ganesh	2200	34	Fang, Elbert	2040			
36	Zheng, Peter	2181	50	Gu, Samuel	1926			
72	Yellamraju, Ambica	2081	54	Wei, Colin	1914			
74	Pullabhotla, Venkata	2074	55	Ramachandran, Advait	1908			
88	Zhu, Harvey	2025	76	Bhangale, Likhith	1846			
91	Miller, Collin Alexander	2017						



37	Li, Rachael	2260
38	Shamatava, Ana	2252
74	Palmero Martinez, Rachel	2119
79	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2099
88	Yellamraju, Ambica	2081

31	Hardesty, Brenda T	1169
35	Pulliam, Landra	877
42	Cain, Jo Ellen	733
47	Swafford, Barbara R	314

7	Root, Alexey	2000
30	Kent, Nadia Taylor	1504
44	Stuckert, Elena	1427
63	Kneen, Melanie Anne	1212
67	Hardesty, Brenda T	1169
91	Pulliam, Landra	877
100	Lively, Shana	783

9	Li, Rachael	2260
30	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2099
36	Yellamraju, Ambica	2081
55	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2012
76	Yellamraju, Aparna	1918
77	Zhang, Sunny	1916

3	Yellamraju, Ambica	2081
5	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2012
6	Yellamraju, Aparna	1918
22	Tiruvedhula, Saanvi	1657
36	Padilla, Karlee	1457
50	Babaria, Rajvi Rakesh	1296
55	Mallick, Lipika	1204
89	Varanasi, Sriharshita	592

39	Naidu, Suchitra Ganesh	1478
45	Zhang, Taylor Chengyue	1373
54	Vasquez, Izabel Amparo	1319
55	Hernandez, Sarah	1316
57	Hunt, Vivian	1307
64	Athila, Akshaya	1246
76	Morales, Natalia Aseneth	1112
80	Deleon, Christina Marie	1046
83	Parvathaneni, Voshita	1017
84	Cisneros, Anahi	1006
90	Zermeno, Mia A	970

4	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2099
19	Wang, Kalina Yuke	1783
27	Reddy, Tanvi Chinthagunta	1655
35	Yu, Vicky	1581
51	Ham, Emily	1400
57	Solis, Natalie	1337
63	Shivam, Annika Elizabeth	1278
74	Thornhill, Eowyn	1202
75	Wickramasinghe. Binadje	1200

81	Asthigiri, Lakshana	1187
83	Cardin, Maddie	1165
84	Adams, Sapphire	1161
88	Nitturi, Rajni	1137
95	Torres, Asia	1079
96	Nakkala, Sharvi	1076

13	Roy, Aanya	1803
22	Gupta, Sara Sachin	1716
36	Singh, Sejal	1621
41	Mcnutt, Kaitlynn Lee	1545
49	Sun, Yimeng Jenny	1469
60	Akella, Sravya	1424
63	Ande, Eesha K	1385
73	Kirumaki, Shreya A	1307
76	Seals, Ayre Allbritton	1300
89	Milova, Vladislava	1215
95	Camacho, Kaitlyn Alexandria	1180
100	Reddy, Laxmisri V	1148

24	Stubbins, Isabella	1686
40	Shankar, Aashritha Vidhya	1489
53	Tiruvedhula, Suhavi	1380
61	Laskaris, Evie	1329
72	Cruz, Vivica Renee	1219
74	Pyle, Abigail	1202
79	Davis, Samantha Katelynn	1154
94	Venkadesan, Prathyuktha	1081

1	<b>Li, Rachael</b>	<b>2260</b>
10	Zhang, Sunny	1916
16	Prakash, Nandini	1818
25	Hosur, Sanmita	1688
31	Borse, Tanvi	636
40	Namala, Dhanvi	1596
41	Krishnan, Mihika	1585
53	Raghuraja, Sri Yashvi	1460
69	Pidathala, Esha	1246
73	Ford, Katherine Michelle	1220
79	Vijayaraghava, Aditi	1200
84	Callens, Jael	1191
96	Song, Lucia	1132
98	Sastry, Adya	1106
99	Gracia, Emma Cadence	1090

27	Vinayagaram, Nethra	1587
45	Rios-Ocampo, Sofia	1393
65	Zamarripa, Salma	1217
67	Kuchibhatla, Nitya	1193
76	Velu, Shambhavi	1121
89	Nair, Aditi	1052
92	Perez, Andrea	1030

8	Shen, Yangyang	1812
10	Zhang, Alicia S	1747
16	Zhang, Ellery	1650
20	Fu, Elaine	1606

31	Maddipati, Srijani Sai	1444
47	Duran, Violet	1293
48	Kalavagunta, Saanvika C	1274
58	Liu, Mina	1174
64	Perel, Livia	1107
70	Palamarthy, Shreya	1082
72	Durbhakula, Bhanusri	1067
73	Nguyen, Suri Ngoc	1051
75	Cisneros, Ariana	1044
76	Quezada, Miranda Isabela	1041
85	Munsayac, Stella	978
94	Suresh Kumar, Thejal Shree	925
99	Lu, Andie	914

10	Senapati, Avni	1600
23	Choi, Nyla	1418
45	Hiwale, Riona	1143
56	Kaul, Anika Shambhavi	1039
66	Skripkina, Elizaveta	981
71	Villegas, Valentina Loretto	963
82	Anbalagan, Ananyasree	912
83	Borse, Anushka	911
84	Serrato, Nailey A	903
87	Gonzalez, Kimberly	883
94	Balaji, Lakshra	848
97	Martens, Lyla Mae	834
99	Parame, Frances Jamie	821

5	Liu, Chloe	1643
13	Sun, Claire	1350
57	Raina, Advika	893
58	Banala, Ira Jaya	883
60	Anand, Keren	876
61	Loera, Samantha Nicole	871
62	Saha, Prateeti	870
66	Patino, Eliana	847
74	Vargas, Zaira	786
96	Zhang, Emma	697

4	Yao, Annie	1626
17	Ganesh, Kaira Ananya	1150
27	Shi, Jiahui	977
32	Sony, Neha Teresa	912
34	Zhao, Lily	897
46	Cruz, Julia A	839
47	Wali, Zarmina	836
86	Mamidibattula, Manasvini	597
90	Sanchez, Adalie Marie	585
98	Panta. Keerthana Reddy	544

27	Arambul, Zoey	878
32	Peng, Grace	829
43	Wang, Erica	715
85	Berilgen, Emel	442
88	Protopapas, Athena Rose	440
89	Quiroga, Alana	436
92	Gonzalez, Javlin Rose	415

## **Tactics Time! Answers** - Download Now (*see page 19*)

1. White's Queen was under attack from the Bishop, and alertly grabs a pawn with 22. Qxf5!! Bxf5 23.Bxf5 pinning the Black Queen to the King, and getting the material back.
  2. 25...Qxf4 and White cannot recapture because of 26.Nxf4 Re1#
  3. 43...Ng3+ forks the White King and Rook.
  4. 25.Rxb8! Qxb8 26.Rxa6 wins two minor pieces for the Rook.
  5. 31.Na3+ forks the White King and Queen. The b2 pawn is pinned.
  6. 16...Rxa4! The White Rook is overloaded protecting the Bishop on a4 and the f3 pawn.
  7. 38...Ne2 threatens the Rook and ...Qg1# White cannot stop both threats.
  8. 37...a4 creates an unstoppable passed pawn.
- Cover.** 34.g6 pins and wins the Black Knight.

**chessable**

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

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

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



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# Game Index

+ = Additional Games in Games PGN file.

\* = No Article Associated with Games.

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2		C56	0-1		4	21.01.2024	20
3		B30	½-½		4	21.01.2024	20-21
4		A84	½-½		5	21.01.2024	21
5		E21	0-1		5	21.01.2024	21
6		E05	0-1		5	21.01.2024	21-22
7		B32	½-½		5	21.01.2024	22
8		D02	½-½		5	21.01.2024	22-23
9		B33	0-1		5	21.01.2024	23
10	1986 Southwest Open	C15	½-½	Tom Braunlich	1.1	30.08.1986	23-24
11	17th SPICE Cup Open+	E11	1-0		1.8	17.12.2023	24-25
12	TEXAS KNIGHTS 65 YEARS	D78	0-1	Fritz 19	2.5	18.12.2023	25
13		B94	0-1		4.2	19.12.2023	25
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15		E11	1-0		9.2	22.12.2023	26
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19		C48	1-0		6.5	20.12.2023	27
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21		A13	½-½		8.7	21.12.2023	28
22	2024 Pan-American Team Championships	C84	1-0	David Ortiz	4	04.01.2024	28
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24		D35	1-0		4	04.01.2024	29
25		D38	1-0		4	04.01.2024	29
26	Golden Sands (New Chess Books)	D36	*	N/A	?	2014	29
27	New York Open (New Chess Books)	D43	1-0		?	04.1995	29



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

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

**Lomakina,A.(2100)**  
**Deviprasath,S. (2481)**

1. **e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 a6 4.a4 d6 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bc4 e6 7.h4** B06: Modern Defence. **7...h6 8.Be3 Bb7** [8...Nc6 is more appropriate.] **9.d5N** White is better. [Predecessor: 9.h5 g5 10.Nh2 Nd7 11.Qe2 Ne7 12.Bb3 Nf6 13.f3 Nxb5 14.Qf2 Qd7 15.0-0-0 0-1 Guseinov,G (2646)-Seliverstov,V (2449) Titled Tuesday intern op 5th Jan Chess.com INT blitz 2016 (4)] **9...e5** [9...exd5 10.Bxd5 Bxd5 11.Nxd5 (11.Qxd5 Nd7) 11...Nc6] **10.h5 Ne7** Black is weak on the light squares **11.hxg6 fxg6 12.Qd2** [12.Qe2+] **12...Nd7 13.0-0-0** [13.Bxb6? is the wrong capture. 13...Ng8 14.Qg5 Qf6+ (14...Nxb6 15.Qxg6+ Nf7 16.Qe6+ Kf8 17.Rxb8+ Nxb8 18.Qf5+ Nf7 19.g3; 14...Rxb6? 15.Ke2+) ] **13...g5 14.Ng1** [14.Qe2] **14...Ng6 15.Nge2 b5 16.axb5 axb5 17.Bxb5 Ra1+ 18.Nb1** b3 is the strong threat. **18...0-0 19.Qb4** [19.g3] **19...Ba6** [19...Nf6] **20.Bxa6 Rxa6 21.Na3** [White should play 21.g3] **21...Nf4 22.Qb5 Qc8 23.Rh2** [23.Rdg1] **23...Nf6!= 24.f3** Strongly threatening Ng3. White is not holding back **24...Qa8!** ...Rb8 would now be deadly. **25.Nc3** With the idea g3. **25...g4! 26.g3** [26.Rdh1!] **26...gxf3** Hoping for ...Ng4. **27.Bxf4?** White does not recover from this. [27.gxf4= and White is okay. 27...Ng4 28.Qd7 (28.Bg1 Nxb2 29.Bxb2 exf4=) 28...Nxb2 29.Rg1] **27...exf4++ 28.gxf4** [28.e5 Ng4 (28...fxg3? 29.exf6 Bxf6 30.Rh3+; 28...dxe5? 29.gxf4 Ng4 30.Rh3+) 29.Rh4] **28...Rxa3** [28...Ng4? 29.Rh4 h5 (29...Rxf4 30.Qd7=) 30.Rxb5 Rxa3 (30...Rxf4 31.Rg5=) 31.bxa3+] **29.bxa3 Qxa3+ 30.Qb2 Qxb2+ 31.Kxb2 Nxe4 32.Rd3 f2 33.Rh1 Nxc3 34.Kc1 Rxf4 35.Rf1 h5 36.Kd2 Ne4+ 37.Ke3 Bh6 38.Rd4 Rg4+ 39.Kf3 Ng5+** [39...Rg3+ 40.Kxe4 Re3+ 41.Kf5 Kf7 42.Re1 f1Q+ 43.Rxf1 Re5#] **40.Ke3 Ne6+** Weighted Error Value: White=1.25/Black=0.31. Loses game: White=1 --- Mistake: White=7 Black=3 Inaccurate:

White=1 --- OK: White=6 Black=6  
Best: --- Black=2 Strong: --- Black=3  
0-1

**Lomakina,A. (2100)**  
**Harper,W. (2477)**

2

1. **e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.e5 d5 6.Bb5 Nd7 7.0-0 Be7 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.Nxd4** C56: Two Knights: 4 d4 exd4 5 0-0 Nxe4. **9...Nb8 10.c4 0-0 11.Nc3** The position is equal. **11...c5** [11...dxc4 deserves consideration. 12.Be3 c5] **12.Ndb5=** A dynamic duo of knights. **12...d4 13.Nd5N** [Predecessor: 13.Ne4 Nc6 14.Bf4 Be6 15.Na3 a5 16.b3 h6 17.Nb5 Qd7 18.Re1 a4 19.h3 0-1 Bersamina,P (2434)-Valenzuela Gomez,F (2404) Titled Tuesday intern op 05th Sep Early Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (3)] **13...c6 14.Nxe7+ Qxe7 15.Qf3 Be6** [15...Qxe5? 16.Bf4 Qf6 17.Nc7+; 15...cxb5= 16.Qxa8 Ba6] **16.Nd6** aiming for Qg3. **16...Nd7 17.Qg3 f6 18.exf6 Nxf6** Strongly threatening ...Rad8. **19.Re1 Qd7 20.Qe5** [20.Bd2!] **20...Bxc4!= Deflection 21.Qxc5!** [21.Nxc4? Rae8 22.Bf4 Rxe5 23.Bxe5 Re8+] **21...Bd5** And now ...Rad8 would win. **22.Bf4** [22.f3!=] **22...Nh5!** [22...Qg4?! 23.Bg3=] **23.Bg3 Nxg3 24.hxg3 Rad8 25.Ne4 Qf5! 26.g4** [26.Qxd4? Bxe4 27.Qe3 (27.Qxe4? Qxf2+ 28.Kh2 Rf6+) 27...Bd5+] **26...Qf4** Black puts up resistance [26...Qxg4 27.Qxd4 h5] **27.f3= d3** ...d2 would now be deadly. **28.Rad1 Bxa2 29.Qc3** Prevents Bb3 **29...Qb8 30.b4** [30.Rxd3 Rxd3 31.Qxd3] **30...Qb5 31.Re3** White has compensation. **31...Bc4 32.Nc5 a5? 33.Re7+ Rf7 34.Qe5** [34.Re4= and White is okay. **34...Bd5 35.Rd4** (35.Qxd3 Qxd3 36.Rxd3 Rb8; 35.Rxd3 Ra8) ] **34...axb4?** [34...Qxb4+ Threatens to win with ...d2. 35.Rxf7 Bxf7 36.Rxd3 Re8 (36...Qb1+ 37.Kh2) ] **35.Rxf7??** [35.Rxd3!= Bxd3 (35...Rxd3 36.Re8+ Rf8 37.Qe7) 36.Rxf7 Kxf7 37.Qc7+ Ke8 38.Qe5+ Kf7 39.Qc7+ Kg6 40.Ne6] **35...Bxf7+ 36.Qe7 Re8 37.Qd6 b3 38.Nxd3 b2 39.Rb1?** [39.Nxb2 Qxb2 40.Qxc6] **39...Bg6** Black is clearly winning. **40.Rxb2**

**Qxd3 41.Qc5 Qe3+** Artfully played by Harper. Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/Black=0.33. Loses game: White=2 Black=1 Missed win: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=4 Black=3 Inaccurate: White=2 Black=2 OK: White=19 Black=9 Best: White=4 Black=3 Strong: White=1 Black=2 Brilliant: --- Black=1 0-1

**Shafer,L. (1984)**  
**Colina,N. (2303)**

3

1. **e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.e5 Nd5 5.Nc3 Nc7 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.d3** B30: Sicilian: 2...Nc6 3 Bb5, lines without ...g6. **7...g6 8.Ne4 Ne6** [8...c4= might be stronger.] **9.Be3** White is slightly better. **9...b6 10.0-0 Bg7 11.Qd2 h5N** [11...Qc7=; Predecessor: 11...0-0 12.Bh6 c4 13.d4 f5 14.exf6 exf6 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.Rfe1 f5 17.Nc3 Qf6 1-0 Girinath,P (2333)-Pappelis,D (2204) Titled Tuesday intern op 19th Jul Early Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (2)] **12.h4** White is much more active. [12.Rae1] **12...Nc7 13.Rae1 Be6** [13...Bg4= feels stronger.] **14.Ng3** [14.Bg5] **14...Qd7= 15.a4 a5 16.Ra1** [16.Bf4=] **16...Rb8** [16...Bg4! Hoping for ...Bxf3. 17.Qe2 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Bxe5] **17.Rfe1 Nd5 18.Bf4 Rd8 19.Ne2** [White should try 19.Bg5=] **19...Bg4** Threatens to win with ...Bxf3. **20.Nh2 Bf5 21.Ng3 Be6 22.Rad1** [22.Ne4= keeps the balance.] **22...Nxf4 23.Qxf4 Qd4 24.Qxd4** [24.Qe4] **24...Rxd4** [24...cxd4 25.Ng1] **25.b3 Rxb4 26.Nf3** [26.Ne4] **26...Rb4** [Black should play 26...Rf4+ 27.Ng5 Bg4] **27.Nd2** [27.Ng5] **27...Rd4** [27...Rf4+ 28.Ne2 Rf5] **28.Nc4 Bxc4 29.bxc4 Kd8** [29...h4! 30.Ne2 Rd8] **30.Ne2** [30.Ne4=] **30...Rd7** [30...Rg4] **31.e6! = Rd6 32.exf7 Rf8** [Better is 32...e5=] **33.Rb1** [33.Ng3] **33...Kc7** [33...Rxf7 34.Rxb6 Re6 35.Kf1] **34.Nf4 e5** [Reject 34...Rxf7?! 35.Ne6+ Rxe6 (35...Kb7 36.Ng5) 36.Rxe6] **35.Ne2 e4** [35...Rd7 simplifies 36.Ng3 Rdx7 37.Ne4 Bf6] **36.Nf4 g5!** Black is fighting back **37.Ndx5 Bd4 38.Rxe4** [Don't play 38.dxe4 Rxf7 39.Re2 Be5; 38.Ng3 seems wilder. 38...exd3 39.Re7+ Rd7 40.Rxd7+ Kxd7 41.cxd3 Rxf7



42.Ne4] **38...Rxf7 39.Re2 Rdd7?** [39...Rd8=] **40.Ng3+-** White is clearly better. **40...Rde7** [40...g4 was worth a try.] **41.Rxe7+ Rxe7 42.Ne4 Kh2!** would now be deadly. **42...Re8** What a bad dream for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) / Black=0.40. Loses game: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=10 Black=11 Inaccurate: White=2 Black=2 OK: White=8 Black=11 Best: White=1 Black=1 Strong: --- Black=1 Brilliant: White=1 --- An unexpected result. [42...g4 keeps fighting. 43.g3 Rh7]  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

### Polomsky,J. (1747) Hinkle,C. (1500)

4

**1.d4 f5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e6 4.Qc2 d5 5.Bf4 c6 6.e3 Bd6 7.Bxd6 Qxd6 8.Nf3 0-0 A84: Dutch Defence: 2 c4 Miscellaneous. 9.Bd3 Ne4 10.Ne5 Nd7** White is slightly better. **11.c5?** [Much weaker is 11.Bxe4 fxe4 12.Nxd7 Qxd7=; 11.f4 keeps the upper hand.] **11...Qc7** [11...Nexc5! 12.f4 Nxd3+ 13.Qxd3 a5] **12.Nxd7= Bxd7 13.Bxe4N** [13.f4 stays ahead.; Predecessor: 13.Nxe4 fxe4 14.Be2 Rf6 15.0-0-0 Rxf2 16.g3 Raf8 17.g4 Rxh2 18.g5 Rff2 19.Rxh2 Qxh2 0-1 Bianchi,E (1381)-Fakudze,N (1339) Online Olym Div4 C Chess.com INT rapid 2021 (6.5)] **13...fxe4 14.0-0-0** [14.Ne2] **14...b6 15.b4?** Loses the game. [15.cxb6 was necessary. 15...axb6 16.a3] **15...a5 16.cxb6 Qxb6 17.bxa5** [17.Na4 was called for. 17...Qxb4 18.Nc5] **17...Qxa5 18.Rd2 Rfc8 19.Qb2 Rcb8 20.Qa1 c5 21.dxc5 Qxc5** Strongly threatening ...Ba4. White is weak on the light squares **22.Rc2 Qa3+ 23.Kd2 Ba7?** [23...Rf8+ 24.f4 exf3 25.gxf3 Rxf3] **24.Nxa4** Threatens to win with Nc5. **24...Qd3+** [But not 24...Rxa4 25.Rhc1] **25.Kc1 Rxa4 26.Rd1 Rxa4+ 27.Kd2 Qd3+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.72/Black=0.83. Loses game: White=1 --- Missed win: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=4 Black=2 Inaccurate: White=3 Black=1 OK: White=4 Black=3 Best: White=4 --- [27...d4 28.exd4 Qd3+ 29.Kc1 Qa6 (29...Qa3+ 30.Kd2)]  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$

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### Yao,A. (1722) Shafer,L. (1984)

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Bd2 b6 6.Nf3 Bb7 7.Be2 d6 8.a3 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 Ne4 10.Qc2 f5 11.0-0 Nd7 12.Rfd1 E21: Nimzo-Indian: 4 Nf3. 12...Ndf6 13.Nd2 Nxc3N** [13...Ng4 keeps more tension. 14.Nxe4 Bxe4 15.Bd3 Qg5; Predecessor: 13...Nxd2 14.Bxd2 Ne4 15.f3 Qg5 16.Be1 Nf6 17.Qd2 Nh5 18.Bd3 e5 19.dxe5 dxe5 0-1 Giblon,M (1348)-Gladstone,S (1999) CAN-ch U20 Mississauga 2011 (8)] **14.bxc3** [14.Qxc3 Qe8 15.Bf3] **14...Qe7= 15.Bf3 Bxf3 16.gxf3** [16.Nxf3= Rad8 17.a4] **16...Nd7 17.Kh1 Qh4 18.Nf1** [18.Qa4 might work better. 18...Nf6 19.Rf1] **18...Rae8** [18...Rf6+- Strongly threatening ...Qh3. 19.f4 Qg4] **19.Qe2** [19.f4] **19...f4** [19...e5+ 20.c5 dxc5 (20...bxc5 21.Rab1) 21.dxe5 Nxe5] **20.e4?** [20.Nd2 is tougher.] **20...e5?** [20...Rf6!+- is more deadly. 21.e5 Rg6 22.exd6 cxd6] **21.Nd2 Rf6** Black is more active. **22.Rg1 Rh6 23.Rg2 Ree6** [23...Qd8] **24.Rag1 Reg6**→ Black attacks. **25.Nf1** [25.c5] **25...Rxxg2 26.Rxxg2 Rg6** [26...Qe7 27.Nd2 Nf6] **27.Rxxg6 hxxg6** Endgame. KQN-KQN **28.Nd2 Qf6** [28...c5 29.Kg2 exd4 (29...cxd4 30.cxd4 exd4 31.Nb3) 30.cxd4 cxd4] **29.d5** [29.c5] **29...Nc5 30.Qf1** White is weak on the dark squares **30...Qh4 31.Qe2** [31.Kg2] **31...Qh3+** **32.Kg1 Qc8** [32...Na4+ 33.Qd3 g5] **33.Qf1 Kf7 34.Qg2 Qe8** [34...Kf6] **35.Qg5** [35.Qh3] **35...Nd7!** **36.Qg4 Nf6 37.Qh3 a5** [Black should play 37...Qa4 38.Qc8 (38.Qe6+? Kf8) 38...Qd7 (38...Qxa3 39.Qxc7+ Kf8 40.Kf1=) ] **38.Qf1** [38.c5!] **38...Qa4+** **39.Qc1 Nd7** [Black should try 39...g5+ 40.Kh1 Nd7] **40.Qb2?** [40.Kf1 is a better defense.] **40...Nc5** [40...Qd1++ has better winning chances. 41.Kg2 Nc5] **41.Kg2?** [41.Qc1] **41...Qd1 42.Nf1?** [42.Qb5 Qxd2 43.Qc6] **42...Nd3 43.Qb5 Ne1+ 44.Kh3 Qxf3+ 45.Ng3 fxxg3** [45...Kg8 46.Qe8+ Kh7 47.Qe7 Qg2+ (47...fxxg3? 48.Qh4+ Qh5 49.fxxg3+-) 48.Kg4 Nf3 (48...fxxg3 49.Qh4+ Kg8 50.Qd8+ Kf7 51.Qd7+ Kg8 52.Qd8+ Kh7 53.Qh4+ Kg8

54.Qd8+=) 49.Qf8 Nxh2+ (49...Qxf2 leads to mate. 50.Qxxg7+ Decoy 50...Kxxg7 51.Nf5+ Kf6 52.a4 gxf5+ 53.exf5 Qg2+ 54.Kh5 Qh3#) 50.Kg5 Qh3 (50...fxg3 gets mated. 51.f3 Qh3 52.Qh8+ Kxh8 53.Kxxg6 Kg8 54.Kg5 Nxf3+ 55.Kg6 Qh7#; 50...Nf3+ 51.Kg4 Ng1 52.Qxxg7+ Kxxg7 53.Kg5 fxxg3 54.Kh4 Qh3+ 55.Kg5 Qh5#) 51.Qh8+ Kxh8 52.Kxxg6 Kg8 (52...fxg3 53.Kf7 Qd7+ 54.Kg6 g2 55.f3 g1Q+ 56.Kh5 Qh3#) 53.f3 Qh6+ 54.Kf5 Qf6#] **46.Qd7+** Black is clearly winning. **46...Kg8 47.Qd8+ Kh7** (...gxh2+) **48.Qh4+ Qh5!** Weighted Error Value: White=0.75/Black=0.58. Loses game: White=3 --- Missed win: --- Black=2 Mistake: White=10 Black=9 Inaccurate: White=1 --- OK: White=8 Black=9 Best: White=4 Black=2 Strong: --- Black=1 0-1

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### Awad,S. (2125) Wang,K. (2078)

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 Be7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 dxc4 7.Qc2 b5 8.a4!** E05: Open Catalan: 5 Nf3 Be7. 8...b4 **9.Qxc4** [9.Nfd2 c6 10.Nxc4] **9...Ba6 10.Qc2** Black is slightly better. **10...Nbd7 11.Ne5 Nxe5 12.dxe5 Nd5 13.b3 c5 14.Rd1** [14.Be4] **14...Qc7** [14...Qc8 15.e4 Nb6] **15.Bb2N** [15.Bxd5 exd5 16.Rxd5 Rad8 (16...Bb7 17.Rd1) 17.Rxd8 Rxd8+-; Predecessor: 15.Bxd5 exd5 16.Rxd5 Bb7 17.Rd1 Qxe5 18.Bb2 Qe6 19.Nd2 Rfd8 20.Nc4 Be4 21.Qc1 Rxd1+ 22.Qxd1 0-1 Krallmann,M (2253)-Holzapfel,D (2292) BL2-Nord 1314 Germany 2013 (6.5)] **15...Rfd8 16.Be4** [White should try 16.Bf1] **16...h6** [16...c4! Strongly threatening ...c3. 17.bxc4 Qxc4 18.Bxh7+ Kf8 19.Qxc4 Bxc4] **17.Bd3** [17.Bh7+ might be stronger. 17...Kh8 18.Bd3] **17...Bxd3** [17...c4 18.Bxc4 Rac8] **18.exd3 Bf8 19.Nd2 Rd7** [19...Rac8 is superior.] **20.Rac1= Rc8 21.Ne4 Nb6 22.Qe2 Qd8 23.h4 Rd5 24.Rd2 Nd7 25.f4 Nb8** [25...Be7=] **26.Rf1** [26.g4! stays ahead.] **26...Nc6** And now ...Na5 would win. **27.Qd1** [White should play 27.f5! exf5 28.Rxf5] **27...Rc7! 28.Qe2?** [28.Qc2] **28...Rcd7** [28...Na5!+- 29.Qd1 Rcd7] **29.Nf2?**

This costs White the game. [29.f5 exf5 (29...Nxe5 30.fxe6 fxe6 31.Nf2=; 29...Rxd3 30.Rxd3 Rxd3 31.fxe6=) 30.Rxf5] **29...Na5!+- 30.f5** [30.Kh2 keeps fighting.] **30...Nxb3 31.fxe6 Nxd2** [31...fxe6? 32.Rc2+] **32.exd7 Nxf1 33.e6 Nxg3 34.Qg4 Nf5 35.Ne4 Kh8 36.Nf6 gxf6 37.exf7 Bg7** [And not 37...Qxd7 38.Qg8#] **38.Qe4 Ne7** [38...Qxd7? perishes. 39.Qe8++-] **39.Qe6 Rxd7 40.Bxf6 Qf8! 41.Kf1** [41.Kh2 Bxf6] **41...Bxf6 42.Qxf6+ Kh7 43.h5** Wards off Ng6 **43...Rd5** Weighted Error Value: White=1.16/Black=0.39. Loses game: White=2 --- Mistake: White=7 Black=6 Inaccurate: --- Black=2 OK: White=7 Black=12 Best: White=1 Black=1 Strong: White=1 Black=2 0-1

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**Elliott,A. (2047)**  
**Qin,K. (2104)**

**1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb5 d6 6.N1c3 a6 7.Na3 Be6 8.Nc4! Rb8** The modern move. B32: Sicilian: Löwenthal and Kalashnikov Variations. **9.g3 h5 10.Nd5 Bxd5N** [10...h4=; Predecessor: 10...b5 11.Nce3 h4 12.a4 hxg3 13.fxg3 Nf6 14.axb5 axb5 15.Bg2 Be7 16.Nf5 Bxf5 17.exf5 Nxd5 18.Bxd5 1-0 Khubukshanov,E (2278) -Chyndygyr,T (2161) Belgrade Radnicki IM T2 08 2021 (6)] **11.exd5** [11.Qxd5 Nd4 12.Ne3 b5 (12...Nf6 13.Qc4)] **11...Nce7 12.Ne3** White is more active. [12.a4] **12...Nf6 13.c4 g6 14.Bg2 Nd7** [14...h4=] **15.0-0 Bh6 16.b4! Rc8** [16...b6] **17.Qb3** [17.c5] **17...0-0** [17...h4=] **18.Bh3** [White should play 18.a4] **18...Kh7= 19.Rd1 f5 20.Bd2** [20.c5=] **20...f4** [20...e4] **21.Ng2 fxg3 22.fxg3** [22.hxg3= is superior. 22...Nf5 23.Bxh6 Kxh6 24.Rac1] **22...Bxd2 23.Rxd2 Nf5** Inhibits Nh4. **24.Rf1** [24.Rf2=] **24...Qb6+ 25.Rdf2 Qd4** Prevents Qd3. **26.Kh1 Qxc4** [26...Rxc4 27.Bxf5 Rxf5 28.Rxf5 gxf5] **27.Qd1** White is weak on the dark squares **27...Qd4** [27...Qxb4? 28.Bxf5 Kh6 29.Bxd7+; 27...Nf6 keeps more tension. 28.Bxf5 gxf5 29.Rxf5 Kg7] **28.Qe2** [28.Qxd4 simplifies 28...Nxd4 29.Rxf8 Rxf8

30.Rxf8 Nxf8 31.Ne3] **28...Qc4** [28...Qxd5? 29.Bxf5 Rxf5 30.Rxf5 gxf5 31.Qxh5+ Kg8 32.Qg6+ (32.Qxf5 Rf8=) 32...Kh8 33.Qh6+ (33.Rxf5? Rc1+; 33.Qxf5 Rf8=; 33.Qh5+ Kg8+) 33...Kg8 34.Qg6+ Kh8 35.Qh6+ (35.Rxf5? Rc1+; 35.Qxf5 Rf8=; 35.Qh5+ Kg8+) 35...Kg8 36.Qg6++-] **29.Qd1 Qd4** [29...Qxb4? 30.Bxf5 Kh6 31.Bxd7+] **30.Qe2** [30.Qxd4 simplifies 30...Nxd4 31.Rxf8 Rxf8 32.Rxf8 Nxf8 33.Ne3] **30...Kh6** [30...Qxd5? 31.Bxf5 Rxf5 32.Rxf5 gxf5 33.Qxh5+ Kg8 34.Qg5+ (34.Qxf5 Rf8=) 34...Kf7 (34...Kh8? 35.Rxf5 Qg8 36.Qh4+ Qh7 37.Rh5+ Pin) 35.Qxf5+ Ke7 36.Qg5+ Ke8 37.Qh5+ Ke7 (37...Kd8? 38.Qh8+ Kc7 39.Rc1+ Skewer 39...Nc5 40.Qh6+-) 38.Qh7+ (38.Qh4+ Ke6+-) 38...Kd8 39.Qh8+ Kc7 40.Rc1+ Nc5 41.Qh6+-] **31.Bxf5 Rxf5 32.Rxf5 gxf5 33.Ne3 Qe4+** [33...Qxb4 34.Nxf5+ Kg6 35.Qe3 (35.Ne7+ Kg7+; 35.Ne7+ Kg7+) ] **34.Kg1** [34.Qf3 deserves consideration. 34...Qxf3+ (34...Qxb4 35.Nxf5+ Kg6 36.Ne7+ Kh6 37.Qe3+) 35.Rxf3] **34...Kg6!** aiming for ...Rc3. [34...f4? 35.Ng4+ hxg4 36.Qxe4+-; 34...Nf6? 35.Nxf5+ Kg6 36.Ne7+ Kg7 37.Qxe4 Nxe4 38.Nxc8+-] **35.Rxf5?** [35.Qf2] **35...Rc1+?** [35...Nf6+ is more deadly. 36.Qf3 Qxf3 37.Rxf3 Rc3] **36.Kf2 Nf6** [Not 36...Qxb4 37.Qxh5+ (37.Rxh5 Nf6) 37...Kg7 38.Qf7+ Kh8 39.Rh5#; Black should try 36...Rc2! 37.Nxc2 Qxe2+ (37...Qxf5+ 38.Kg2) 38.Kxe2 Kxf5] **37.Rxf6+** Deflection **37...Kxf6** **38.Qxh5** Endgame. KQR-KQN **38...Qg6** [But not 38...Qxb4?! 39.Ng4+ (39.Kf3 Ke7) 39...Ke7 40.Qh4+ Kf8 41.Qh6+ Kg8 42.Qg5+ Kf8 43.Qxc1=] **39.Qh8+ Ke7** [39...Kf7 Threatens to win with ...Qf6+. 40.Qh3 Ke8] **40.g4! Qf6+** [40...Qg5 41.Nf5+ Kd7 42.Qh7+ Kd8 43.Qh8+ Kc7 44.Qg7+ Qxg7 45.Nxg7 Rc2+ 46.Kg3 Rxa2] **41.Nf5+=** The position is equal. **41...Kf7 42.Qh7+ Kf8** ...e4 would now be deadly. Black is not holding back **43.Qxb7 Rc2+ 44.Kg3 Rc3+ 45.Kg2 Qb8+** is the strong threat. Chess con chili. **45...Rc2+ 46.Kg3** And White is the lucky defender.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.28 (precise). Missed win: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=8 Black=9 Inaccurate: White=3 Black=2 OK: White=11 Black=15 Best: White=6 Black=3 Strong: White=1 Black=1 ½-½

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**Hiwale,R.(2163)**  
**Lomakina,A. (2100)**

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.g3 Bf5 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.0-0 e6 6.a3** [6.c4!?] **6...Be7** D02: 1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 sidelines, including 2...Nf6 3 g3 and 2...Nf6 3 Bf4. **7.b3 h5N** [Predecessor: 7...Ne4 8.Bb2 h5 9.Nfd2 h4 10.Nxe4 Bxe4 11.Nd2 Bxg2 12.Kxg2 Qd7 13.Rh1 h3+ 14.Kf1 ½-½ Magalakakis,S (2153)-Hartofylakas,S (1911) GRE-ch U18 Larisa 2023 (5)] **8.c4 Ne4 9.h4** [9.h3=] **9...g5** [9...Bf6!] **10.hxg5** [10.cxd5! exd5 (10...Qxd5 11.Bxg5 Nxc5 12.Nxc5 11.Nxc5) **10...Nxc5** [10...Bxg5= remains equal. 11.cxd5 exd5] **11.Bxg5** [11.Nxc5 Bxg5 12.cxd5 exd5 13.Nc3] **11...Bxg5= 12.cxd5 exd5 13.Nc3! h4+** Black has some pressure. **14.gxh4** [14.e4! = Bxe4 (14...dxe4 15.Re1) 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Qe1] **14...Bxh4** This pair of bishops is nice. **15.Re1** [15.Qd2] **15...Be4+** [15...Rg8 16.Kf1 Be4 17.Qd2] **16.Qd2?** [16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.d5 exf3 18.exf3+ Ne7 19.Qd4] **16...Qf6 17.Qe3 0-0-0! 18.Nxe4** [18.Kf1 Bxf3 Deflection 19.Qxf3 Qxf3 (19...Nxd4 20.Qxf6 Bxf6 21.Nxd5) 20.Bxf3 Nxd4 21.Rad1] **18...dxe4 19.Qxe4 Rxd4** [19...Nxd4 20.Nxh4 Rxh4 (20...Qxh4? 21.Qxb7+ Kd7 22.Rad1+-) 21.Qxb7+ Kd7 22.Rad1 (22.Qxa7? Rg8+-; 22.e3 Ne2+ 23.Kf1 Ng3+ 24.Kg1 Ne2+ 25.Kf1 Ng3+ 26.Kg1 Ne2+=)] **20.Qe3 Rg4 21.Kf1 Kb8** ...Qg7 is the strong threat. **22.Red1** [22.Rac1 Rxc2 23.Kxg2 Qg6+ 24.Ng5 (24.Kf1? Be7+-) 24...Bxg5 (24...Qxg5+ 25.Qxg5 Bxg5 26.Rh1) 25.Qg3] **22...Qg7 23.Bh3 Bf6?** [23...Bg5 24.Nxc5 Rxc5] **24.Bxg4 Qxg4** [24...Bxa1 25.Qe4=] **25.Ng1 Rg8 26.Qg3 Qxg3 27.fxg3 Bxa1** [Inferior is 27...Rxc3 28.Rab1] **28.Rxa1 Rxc3** Endgame. KRN-KRN **29.Nf3 Kc8 30.Kf2 Rg8**

31.Rh1 Kd7 32.Rh7 Ke7 33.b4 a6 34.Rh4 Nd8 35.Nd4 Ne6 36.Nf5+ Kd7 37.Rh3 Rg5 38.Rf3 Rh5 inhibits Nh6. 39.Ng3 Rh7 40.e4 [40.Rf5] 40...c5 [40...Kc6+ And now ...Kb5 would win. 41.Kg2 Kb5 42.Rf5+ Kc4] 41.bxc5 Nxc5 42.Rf5 Ne6 [Black should play 42...Kd6 43.Ke3 b5 (43...Rh3 44.Kf4) 44.Rf6+ Ne6 45.Nf5+ Ke5] 43.Rd5+ [43.Nh5 is a better defense. 43...Kd6 44.Kg3] 43...Kc6+ 44.Nf5 Rh2+ 45.Kg3 Ra2 [45...Rc2+ aiming for ...Rc3+] 46.Rd6+ Kc7] 46.Rd3 a5 47.Nh6 [47.Rc3+ Nc5 48.Kf4] 47...f6 [47...Re2+ ...Nc5 would now be deadly. 48.Kf3 Re1] 48.Ng4 Nc5 [48...Kb5! Strongly threatening ...Nc5. 49.Nxf6 Kc4] 49.Rc3 Kd6 50.Nxf6 b6 Hoping for ...Ke5. 51.Re3 Ke5 52.Ng4+ Kd4 53.e5 Ne6 [Better is 53...b5] 54.Rb3! White happily takes the draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/Black=0.39. Loses game: White=1 --- Mistake: White=10 Black=8 Inaccurate: White=1 Black=1 OK: White=16 Black=17 Best: White=3 Black=1 Strong: White=2 Black=1 ½-½

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**Gardezi,A. (2238)**  
**Colina,N. (2303)**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Qb6 5.Nb3 Nf6 6.Nc3 e6 7.Bd3 a6 8.Be3 Qc7 9.0-0 d6 10.f4 Be7 11.Qf3 0-0 12.g4 has lost popularity (12.Rae1). 12...b5 B33: Sicilian: Pelikan and Sveshnikov Variations. 13.Qh3 g6 14.g5 Nh5 The position is equal. 15.Be2 [15.Rac1] 15...Ng7N [15...b4! stays ahead. 16.Nd1 e5; Predecessor: 15...b4 16.Nd1 e5 17.f5 Nf4 18.Bxf4 exf4 19.Qh4 gxf5 20.Qxf4 fxe4 21.Ne3 Be6 22.Rad1 ½-½ Delchev,A (2603)-Thorhallsson,T (2444) EU-ctT (Men) 14th Plovdiv 2003 (2.1)] 16.Rf3 [16.f5! Black must now prevent f6. 16...exf5 17.Nd5 fxe4 18.Qh6 (18.Nxc7? Bxh3 19.Nxa8 Bxf1+) ] 16...f5 [16...b4 17.Na4 Rb8] 17.gxf6 [Better is 17.Qh6!= Nh5 18.Rh3] 17...Bxf6 18.Qh6 [18.Raf1] 18...Nh5 Threatens to win with ...Nd8. 19.Rf2! Bg7 [19...b4 20.Na4 Nd8] 20.Qg5 Nf6 [20...b4 21.Na4 Rb8]

21.Bf3 Bb7 22.a3 Rad8 23.Rd1 [23.Raf1= might be stronger.] 23...Rd7 24.Qg2 Rdf7 25.Rfd2 [25.Qg5] 25...Ne8 [25...e5 Hoping for ...exf4. 26.f5 (26.Rxd6 exf4 27.Bf2 Ne8) 26...gxf5 27.Rxd6 (27.exf5 Ne7) 27...fxe4] 26.Bg4 Qe7 [26...Nd8] 27.Qh3! Against Bh6 27...Nd8 28.Nc5 Nxb7 is the strong threat. 28...h5! 29.Bxe6 [29.Be2] 29...Nxe6 30.Nxe6 Bxc3 [30...Bc8+ 31.f5 Bxc3 32.bxc3 Bxe6] 31.bxc3 Bc8 32.f5 Bxe6 33.fxe6 This move loses the game for White. [33.Rg2 Bc8 34.Bh6] 33...Rf3+ 34.Qg2 Rxe3 35.Rf2 [35.Qxg6+ Qg7 36.Rg2 Qxg6 (36...Rxc3? 37.Qxh5 Rc7 38.e5+) ] 37.Rxg6+ Kh7 38.Rg5] 35...Rxf2 36.Kxf2 Rxc3 37.Qxg6+ Ng7 38.Rg1 [38.e5 Qf8+ (38...Rxa3? 39.exd6 Qa7+ 40.Kg2+; 38...dxe5? 39.Rd7+ ) 39.Qf7+ Qxf7+ 40.exf7+ Kxf7 41.Rxd6] 38...Rxc2+ 39.Ke3 Rc5 40.Kd3 Re5 41.Qh6 [41.Kc2] 41...d5 [Inferior is 41...Rxe6 42.Rxg7+ (42.Qxh5? is the wrong capture. 42...Re5+) 42...Qxg7 43.Qxe6+ Qf7 44.Qxd6=] 42.Kd4 Rxe4+ Black mates. 43.Kxd5 Qb7+ [Stronger than 43...Rxe6 44.Rxg7+ Qxg7 45.Qxe6+ Kh7 46.Qxa6=] 44.Kd6 Qb6+ 45.Kd7 Rd4+ A cool game by Colina. Weighted Error Value: White=0.89/Black=0.47. Loses game: White=1 --- Mistake: White=10 Black=7 Inaccurate: White=4 Black=1 OK: White=4 Black=8 Best: White=2 Black=4 Strong: White=2 Black=1 0-1



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**Harrington, R. (2144)**  
**Bradford, J. (2547)**

1.e4 e6 Bradford always played the French. 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qd3! A rare but tricky move which in recent years has been used by Hou Yifan. 4...Nc6! This was a theoretical novelty at the time by Bradford. He avoids the obvious continuation 4...dxe4 5.Qxe4 Nf6 6.Qh4 which is actually what white wants ... the Queen pressurizing black's kingside from h4. The main book move is 4...Ne7. Both that and Bradford's

move recognize that white's Q is awkwardly placed on d3 and therefore there is no reason to chase it elsewhere. 5.Nf3 Robert defends the d4 square. 5...Nf6 6.e5 Nd7 6...Ne4 seems more logical, but might lead to exchanges that Bradford would have wanted to avoid. 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 f6= has been played, with a good game for black. 7.a3 Be7

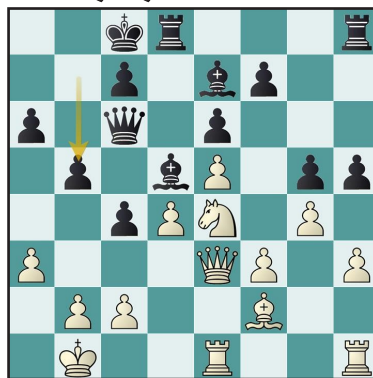


8.Bf4! A very intriguing move by Robert. He literally dares Bradford to hit him with ...g5 here; I think in order to get him out of his comfort zone in the French. More normal would be 8.Be2 f6 9.exf6 Nxf6 but you have to understand that in those days Bradford was considered somewhat of a top expert on this type of position in the French, as he had won a famous game with black against some GM using a new setup of a Q on g7. 8...g5 Bradford takes up the challenge. Now a funny maneuvering game begins, in which both sides don't want to reveal where they are going to castle. 9.Bg3 h5 10.h3 Nb6 11.Qe3 Na5 12.Nd2 A fight for the c4 square. 12...Bd7 12...c5!? 13.Be2 a6 14.Nd1! I think Robert's idea here was to play b3/Nd1-b2/ and then c2-c4 at some point. However, he should have played b3 first, with advantage. 14.b3 14...Nac4 15.Bxc4 Nxc4 16.Nxc4 dxc4 [# See Diagram at top of Next Page #] 17.Nc3 Now Bradford has equalized and has the space for the 2500-player to do 2500-things. 17.Qc3! Bc6 18.Ne3 Bd5 I think the N is better placed on e3. Robert wants to put it on e4, but



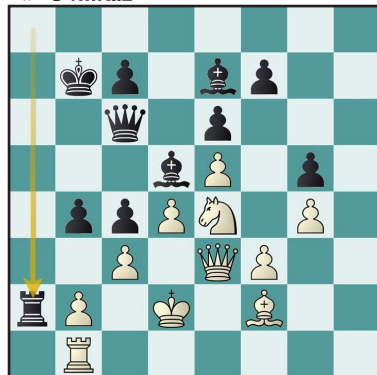
After 16...dxc4

it ends up getting kind of 'stuck' there, and Joe starts to build an initiative. 17...Bc6 18.Ne4 Qd5 19.f3 0-0-0 20.0-0-0 Now that Bradford committed his king, Robert felt obliged to do the same. 20...Rhg8 21.Bf2 Qa5 Note how Bradford is making probing moves to see how his opponent reacts. 22.Qc3 Qb5 23.g4 Probably a small error. The pawn on f3 is weak, and although the N blocks the attacks on this pawn, it means the N is limited in its future movements. 23...Bd5 24.Rde1 Rh8 25.Qe3 Qc6 26.Kb1 b5!?

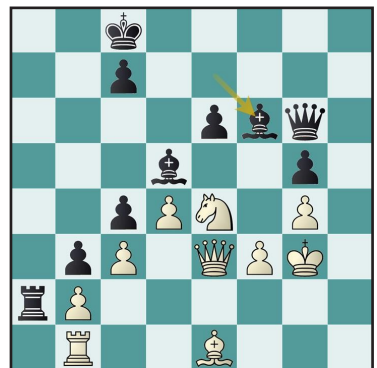


27.Kc1?! A funny move. Not many players would have the courage to do this having just played the opposite move! But when black committed to an attack with ...b5 the White King decided now is a good time to get out of town! He intends to run to the kingside now... The computer thinks this is unnecessary though. 27...a5 27...c3! was a strong move Bradford either missed or rejected. 28.Qxc3 Qxc3 29.bxc3 (29.Nxc3

Bxf3) 29...Bxa3+ with advantage to black in the endgame. 28.c3 Kb7 29.Kd2 b4 30.axb4 axb4 31.Ra1 hxc4 32.hxc4 Rxc1 33.Rxc1 Ra8 34.Rb1 White can't stay active with 34.Rh7 because 34...Ra1 35.Ke2 Qa4 and black's attack comes first. 36.Qd2 Bxe4 37.fxe4 bxc3 38.bxc3 Ra2 34...Ra2



35.Ke1 The white K continues his sojourn to the kingside, where he hopes to be able to defend invasion squares on the h-file. 35...Qa4 36.Qc1 Kc8 37.Kf1 Qc6 37...Bxe4 is a critical move here, but it's likely both players were low on time and Bradford may not have wanted to make this commitment. But 38.fxe4 bxc3 39.Qxc3 Black is better but it's not obvious how black would break through. 38.Qe1 b3! 39.Kg2 Qe8 40.Kg3 Qg8 41.Qe3 Qg6 Notice how Bradford continues probing. This move pins the N. 42.Be1 f5 42...Qh6 43.Bd2 Ba3! is a shot the computer found. 43.exf6 Bxf6



44.Bd2 Be7 45.Be1? Bd6+! 46.Kg2 Bf4? 46...Qh7! 47.Bg3 Ba3 was the

winning trick. 47.Qe2 Kb7



47...Qh7 48.Bg3= 48.Bg3! Kc6 49.Qe1 Bxc3 50.Kxc3 Ra8 51.Ra1 Qh6 52.Kg2 Ra2 Bradford seems to give up on keeping the game going. He could keep trying with 52...Rh8 53.Qg3 Bxe4 54.fxe4 Qh7 but according to the computer White can continue to defend successfully: 55.Qe5 Qh3+ 56.Kf2 Qh2+ 57.Qxh2 Rxh2+ 58.Ke3 Rxb2 59.Ra4 Rg2 60.Rxc4+ Kd7 61.Rb4 b2 62.Kd3= 53.Rb1 Qh7 54.Qe3 Qg6 c5 5.Qe1 Kb6 56.Qe3 ½-½



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Woodward,A. (2481)

Puckett,M. (2172)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 a5 5.Bg2 d5 6.Nf3 0-0 7.Qc2 c5 E11: Bogo-Indian. 8.cxd5 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd5 White is slightly better. 10.0-0 Qb6 11.e3 Na6N [11...Bc5 is superior.; Predecessor: 11...Bd7 12.Nc3 Nf6 13.a3 Bc5 14.Nf3 Rc8 15.Na4 Bxa4 16.Qxa4 Nc6 17.Rfc1 h6 0-1 Esipenko,A (2593)-Short,N (2646) Moscow Nutcracker rapid 2018 (5.4)] 12.Nc3 [12.a3 Bc5 13.Nc3] 12...Nxc3 13.bxc3 Be7 14.Rab1 Qc7 15.c4 Nc5 16.Nb5 Qb8 17.Bc3 Bd7 18.Qe2 [18.Rfd1] 18...Rd8 19.Rfd1 Be8 20.h4 a4 [20...Rxd1+ 21.Rxd1 Bc6] 21.h5 [Better is 21.Rd4] 21...h6! 22.Qg4→ White is up to no good. 22...Rxd1+ 23.Rxd1 Bf8 24.f4 [24.Bf3] 24...Bxb5 [24...f5= is more appropriate. 25.Qe2 Bc6] 25.cxb5 Qe8 26.Qe2 White is much more



active. 26...Rd8 27.Bd4 b6 28.Bf3 Be7 29.Kg2 [29.Bc6 Qf8 30.e4] 29...Bf6? [29...Qd7!] 30.Bxc5+- This pair of bishops is nice. 30...Rxd1 31.Qxd1 bxc5 32.Qxa4 [32.b6l+-] 32...Qb8 [32...e5 is more resistant. 33.Qa6 exf4 34.exf4 Bd8] 33.b6! Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.33. Loses game: --- Black=2 Mistake: White=6 Black=3 Inaccurate: White=2 Black=2 OK: White=8 Black=9 Best: White=1 Black=1 Brilliant: White=1 --- 1-0

12 Tsay,V. (2353)  
Woodward,A. (2481)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d5 6.c4 c6 7.Ne5 dxc4 8.Nxc4 Be6 D78: Fianchetto Grünfeld: 6 0-0 c6. 9.b3 Bd5 10.Bb2! Na6 The position is equal. 11.Nbd2 Bxg2 12.Kxg2 c5 13.Nf3 Rc8N [Predecessor: 13...cxd4 14.Bxd4 Nb4 15.Bc3 Nbd5 16.Bd4 Nb4 17.Bc3 Nbd5 18.Bd4 ½-½ Mar-szalek,M (2272)-Kaim,P (2172) POL-chT 2nd League Jastrzebia Gora 2018 (3.1)] 14.Rc1 b5 [14...Qd5 simplifies 15.dxc5 Nxc5 16.Bxf6 Qxd1 17.Rfxd1 Bxf6 18.Nce5 Ne6] 15.Nce5 Qd5 [15...Nd7! = keeps the balance.] 16.dxc5! Strongly threatening Qxd5. 16...Nxc5 [16...Rfd8] 17.Qd4 [17.Ba3! Qxd1 18.Rfxd1] 17...Rfd8 [17...a5 = remains equal.] 18.Rfd1 [Better is 18.Qb4!] 18...Qa8 = 19.Qb4 Rxd1 20.Rxd1 a6 21.Rc1 Nfe4 22.Qd4 f6 Black has counterplay 23.Nd3 Rd8 24.Qe3 Nxd3 25.exd3 Ng5 26.Rc7 Bf8 27.d4 [27.Ba3! = feels stronger.] 27...Kf7 28.h4 Ne6 29.Rc2 Qd5 30.Qc3 Qf5 Black has more active pieces. 31.Re2 Rc8! 32.Qe3 Wards off Nf4+ [32.Qxc8? too greedy. 32...Nf4+ 33.gxf4 Qxc8+; Don't blunder 32.Ne5+? fxe5 33.Rxe5 Rxc3-+] 32...Nc7 33.Ne1 Nd5 34.Qf3 Qxf3+ [34...e6!?] 35.Kxf3 h5 36.Rc2 Rxc2 37.Nxc2 Endgame. KBN-KBN 37...Bh6 38.Ne1 Nd4 Dodges Nd3 39.a3 Bd2 40.Ng2 Nb5 41.Ke2 Ba5 42.Bc1 Ke6 43.Nf4+ [White should play 43.Kf3] 43...Nxf4+-+ 44.Bxf4 KB-KB 44...Kd5 Hoping for ...Bb6! 45.Kd3 Be1 46.Be3 e6 [46...b4+

47.axb4 e6] 47.a4 bxa4 48.bxa4 Ba5 ...Bb6 would now be deadly. 49.Bh6 Bb6 50.Be3 Ba7 And now ...Bb6 would win. 51.Kc3? [51.a5] 51...g5!+- aiming for ...g4. 52.Kd3 [52.Kb4 Bb6] 52...g4 53.a5 [53.f3 f5 (53...gxf3 54.g4=) 54.fxg4 fxg4 55.Bg5] 53...f5 54.Kc3 Ke4 Threatens to win with ...Bb8. 55.Kc4 Kf3? [55...f4+ 56.gxf4 Bb8 (56...g3? 57.fxg3 Kxe3 58.d5+-) ] 56.Kb4? [56.Bf4=] 56...Bb8 57.Kc5 Bxg3! Double Attack 58.Kb6 [58.Bg5 Bxf2] 58...Bxf2 59.Bxf2 Kxf2 60.Kxa6 g3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/Black=0.31. Mistake: White=6 Black=4 Inaccurate: White=6 Black=4 OK: White=16 Black=30 Best: White=3 Black=1 Strong: White=1 --- Brilliant: --- Black=1 0-1

13 Hakobyan,A. (2616)  
Woodward,A. (2481)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.Bc4 Qb6 B94: Sicilian Najdorf: 6 Bg5 Nbd7. 8.0-0 Qxb2 was the old line (8...Qc5). 9.Nd5 Nxd5 White has an edge. 10.Rb1 Qc3 11.Bxd5 e6 12.Rb3 [12.Bxb7 = Bxb7 13.Rxb7] 12...Qc7N [12...Qa5 13.Re3 (13.Bxb7? Bxb7 14.Nxe6 fxe6+-; 13.Qf3? Ne5+-) 13...h6 (13...exd5 14.exd5+ Ne5 15.f4 Pin); Predecessor: 12...Qa5 13.Bd2 Qc7 14.Bxe6 fxe6 15.Nxe6 Qc4 16.Nf4 Nf6 17.Re1 Be7 18.Nd5 Bd8 ½-½ Nightingale,D (2508)-Oechslein,R (2390) VW-Cup9 sf03 email ICCF email 2018] 13.Bxe6! fxe6 14.Nxe6 Qc4 15.Nxf8 [15.Nf4! was forced to keep a grip.] 15...Rxf8 16.Qxd6 Kf7 17.e5 Re8 [17...Kg8?! 18.Rg3 Qc6 (18...Qxa2? 19.Bh6+-) 19.Qxc6 bxc6 20.Bh6=] 18.Rxb7 Decoy 18...Bxb7 19.Qxd7+ Kg8 20.Qxb7 Rab8 21.Qd7 Rxe5→ (...Qxf1+). Black goes for the king. [21...Qxa2 22.h3] 22.Be3 Rf8 Black is more active. [22...Qxc2 23.Bf4 Rb1 24.Bxe5; 22...Ree8] 23.Rd1 [23.Bd4 Rg5 24.h4] 23...Qxc2 Hoping for ...Rxe3! 24.h4 Rfe8 [Much weaker is 24...Qxa2?! 25.Bd4=] 25.a4 Qg6 [25...Re4 26.Rd4 h6] 26.Rd6 [26.Kh2] 26...R5e6 27.Rd4 [27.Rd2]

27...h6 28.a5 [28.Kh2] 28...Kh7+- 29.Rd1 Re4 30.Rd6 R8e6 31.Rxe6 [31.h5 Qf6 (31...Qxh5? perishes. 32.Rxe6 Rxe6 33.Qxe6+-) 32.Rxe6 Qxe6 33.Qd3] 31...Rxe6 Endgame. KQR-KQB 32.Qd5 Re4 [32...Qe4+ 33.Qxe4+ Rxe4] 33.h5 Qe6 34.Qxe6 Rxe6 KR-KB 35.Bb6 Re5 36.g4 Re4! 37.f3 Re2 38.Kf1 Ra2 39.Kg1 Kg8 40.Kf1 Kf7 41.Ke1 Kf6 42.Kf1 Ke5 [42...Rc2 ...Ke5 would now be deadly. 43.Bd4+ Kg5 (43...Kf7? 44.Ke1+-) ] 43.Bc7+ Kd5 44.Ke1? This costs White the game. [44.Bb6] 44...Rc2!+- 45.Bb6 Ke5! 46.Kd1 Rc3 47.Ke2 Kf4 48.Bd4 Rxf3 49.Be5+ Kxg4! [Inferior is 49...Kxe5 50.Kxf3 Kf6 51.Kf4=] 50.Bxg7 Rf5 51.Bxh6 Rxa5 52.Kd3 Rxh5 53.Bg7 [53.Bf8] 53...Kf3 Black is clearly winning. 54.Kc4 Rb5 55.Bf6 Ke2 56.Kc3 Kd1 57.Bg7 Kc1 58.Bf6 a5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.57/Black=0.33. Loses game: White=1 --- Mistake: White=8 Black=5 Inaccurate: White=4 Black=1 OK: White=18 Black=21 Best: White=7 Black=5 Strong: --- Black=2 Brilliant: White=1 --- 0-1

14 Woodward,A. (2481)  
Wang,T. (2347)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.cxd5 cxd5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Bf4 Nc6 6.e3 a6 7.Be2 Bf5 8.Nf3 e6 9.Qb3 D13: Slav Defence: Exchange variation without ...Bf5. 9...Ra7 [9...Nh5=] 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Bxd6 White is better. 11...Qxd6 12.Rfc1 0-0 13.Na4 Bg4N [Predecessor: 13...Nd7 14.Nc5 b5 15.Nxd7 Qxd7 16.Rc5 Be4 17.Rac1 Bxf3 18.Bxf3 Na5 19.Qc3 Nc4 0-1 Glavina,P (2411)-Gunina,V (2437) Titled Tuesday intern op 06th July Chess.com INT blitz 2021 (2)] 14.Nc5 Bxf3 15.Bxf3 b6 16.Nd3 Nd7 17.Rc3 Rc7 [17...Ne7] 18.Rac1 Strongly threatening Qa3. 18...Rfc8? [18...Rcc8 was worth a try.] 19.Qa3! +- Qxa3 20.bxa3 f5 21.Nf4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.49. Loses game: --- Black=1 Mistake: --- Black=2 Inaccurate: --- Black=3 OK: White=6 Black=5 Strong: White=1 --- 1-0

More Games →

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Be7 5.Bg2 d5 6.Nf3 0-0 7.Qc2 Nbd7 8.0-0 c6 9.Rc1 E11: Bogo-Indian. 9...Ne4 10.Be3 f5 11.Ne1 White has an edge. 11...Bf6 [11...h5 was preferable.] 12.Nd2N [Predecessor: 12.f3 Nd6 13.Nd2 f4 14.Bf2 Nf5 15.Qd3 Bg5 16.Bh3 Qf6 17.cxd5 exd5 18.Ng2 fxc3 19.hxg3 0-1 Mahsoodloo,P (2676)-Xiong,J (2709) PNWCC Online Masters WOO Chess.com INT rapid 2020 (5.1)] 12...Qe7 13.Nd3 g5 14.f3 Nd6 15.Bf2 Qg7 16.e3 a5 17.Rab1 Kh8 18.b3 h5 19.Kh1 Qh7 20.Re1 g4 [20...Be7] 21.Nf4 Re8 22.h4 Prevents Bg5. 22...Nf8 23.a3 [23.a4 is superior.] 23...Ng6= 24.Nxg6+ [24.a4] 24...Qxg6 25.f4 Bd7 [25...b5!=] 26.Rg1 [26.a4] 26...Rec8 [26...b5=] 27.c5↑ White is more active. 27...Nb5 28.Ra1 Bd8 29.Bf1 Nc7 30.Bd3 Ne8 31.b4 a4 [31...Nf6] 32.Nb1 Ra7 33.Nc3 Rca8 34.Rab1 [34.b5] 34...b5 35.cxb6 Bxb6 36.b5 [36.Nd1] 36...cxb5! 37.Bxb5 [Better is 37.Nxb5 Rb7 38.Nc3] 37...Bd8 [37...Bxb5 deserves consideration. 38.Nxb5 (38.Rxb5 Bd8) 38...Rb7] 38.Bxd7!= Rxd7 39.Nxa4 Rda7 40.Nb6 Bxb6 [40...Rb8!? 41.Na4 Rba8=] 41.Rxb6 Rxa3 42.Qc6 Hoping for Rgb1! 42...Ra2 43.Rgb1 Rb8 is the strong threat. 43...Ra1? This costs Black the game. [43...Ng7=] 44.Rxa1!+ [44.Qxe6? loses. 44...Rxb1+ 45.Bg1 Rxb6+!] 44...Rxa1+ 45.Kg2 aiming for Rb8! 45...Ng7? [45...Kg8 46.Rb8 (46.Qxe6+ Qxe6 47.Rxe6 Kf7=) 46...Kf8 47.Qc5+ Kg7] 46.Rb8+! Black is weak on the dark squares 46...Kh7 47.Rf8 And now Qc8 would win. Active counter play! 47...Ra7 48.Qc8 Qf7 49.Rxf7 Rxf7 50.Be1 Re7 51.Bb4 Re8 52.Qd7 Threatening mate with Bd6. 52...Kg6 53.Bd6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) / Black=0.58. Loses game: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=6 Black=7

Inaccurate: White=4 Black=3 OK: White=14 Black=13 Best: White=5 Black=1 Strong: White=3 --- 1-0

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.cxd5 Bxf3 5.gxf3 Qxd5 6.e3 e5 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Bd2 Bxc3 9.bxc3 Qd6 10.Rb1 b6 11.Rg1 D07: Queen's Gambit: Chigorin Defence. 11...Nge7 [11...0-0] 12.f4 [Better is 12.Rxg7 Qf6 13.Rg3] 12...exf4! 13.Rxg7 White is slightly better. 13...fxe3 14.fxe3 0-0-0N [Predecessor: 14...Qh6 15.Qg4 Kf8 16.Rg5 Qxh2 17.Rh5 Qd6 18.e4 Nd8 19.Qf3 c6 20.Bc4 Rg8 21.Rxh7 ½-½ Smet,M (1800)-Roques,P (2187) IECG CP.1998.Q.00003 IECG email 1999] 15.Qf3 White is more active. [15.Rxf7 Rhf8 16.Rxf8 (16.Rxh7 Rxf1+ 17.Kxf1 Rf8+ 18.Ke1 Qg6) 16...Rxf8 17.Qh5] 15...Kb8!= 16.Rg2 [16.Qxf7? Rhf8 17.Qc4 Nf5 +- (17...Qxh2 18.Qe2; 17...Qf6 18.Rg2) ; 16.Ba6= might be stronger.] 16...Qe6 17.a4 [17.Rb2=] 17...Rhg8 18.Rf2 f5 19.Bg2 Qa2 20.Rc1 Qc4 [20...a5] 21.a5! Rg4 [21...Rd6 22.axb6] 22.axb6 axb6 23.Qe2! Dancing on a razor blade. 23...Na5 24.Qxc4 [24.Ra1 is interesting. 24...Qb3 25.Kf1 Nd5 26.Rxf5 Rgg8 27.e4] 24...Nxc4 25.Ke2 c6 [25...b5 seems wilder. 26.Kd3 c6 27.Re2 Kb7] 26.Rcf1 Kc7 27.Bh3 Rh4 28.Rf3 Ra8 ...Ra2 is the strong threat. 29.Kd3 Nxd2 30.Kxd2 Ra2+ [30...Nd5 simplifies 31.Bxf5 Rxh2+ 32.R1f2 Ra2+] 31.Kd3 Nd5 [31...Rxh2?! 32.Bxf5 c5 33.Be6] 32.Rg3 [32.Bxf5= Rhxh2 33.Be4] 32...Ra3 [32...Rxh2? 33.Rg7+ (33.Bxf5 Rh1) 33...Kd6 34.Bxf5+; 32...b5! 33.Bxf5 Rxh2] 33.Rc1? [White should play 33.Bxf5 Rxc3+ 34.Ke2] 33...b5? [33...Nb4+++ 34.Ke2 Na2 (34...Ra2+ 35.Kf3=) ] 34.Bxf5 Nb4+! 35.Ke2 Rxh2+ [35...Na2 36.Rh1 (36.Rg7+ Kb6) 36...Nxc3+ 37.Kf2 Kb6] 36.Kf3

Nd5 37.Rg7+ Kb6 38.Rxh7 [38.Bc8 looks sharper. 38...Rxc3 39.Rb7+ Ka5 40.Rxc3 Nxc3 41.Bd7] 38...Rxh7 39.Bxh7 Nxc3 Endgame. KR-BKR 40.Bg8 b4 41.Bc4 Nd5 [41...Kc7] 42.Bxd5 The position is equal. 42...cxd5 KR-KR 43.Kf4 Rc3 44.Rh1 b3 45.e4 dxe4 [45...b2!? 46.Rb1 Rb3=] 46.Kxe4 Kb5 [46...b2!? 47.Rb1 Rc2=] 47.Rh8 Rc7 48.Kd3 Kb4 49.Rb8+ Ka3 50.Ra8+ Kb2 51.d5 Rb7 52.Kd4 Kc2 53.d6 b2 54.Ra2 Rd7 55.Kc5 Kb3 56.Rxb2+! An exciting game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise). Loses game: White=1 --- Mistake: White=5 Black=6 Inaccurate: White=4 Black=2 OK: White=18 Black=15 Best: White=4 --- Strong: White=2 Black=4 ½-½

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Nge2 d5 6.a3 Be7 7.cxd5 exd5 8.Nf4 a5 9.Bd3 c6 10.0-0 E46: Nimzo-Indian: Rubinstein: 4 e3 0-0 5 Ne2 without early Bd3. 10...Na6 11.f3 Nc7 12.Qc2 The position is equal. 12...Re8 13.Rd1N [13.Nce2 is more appropriate.; Predecessor: 13.g4 h6 14.Qf2 c5 15.Bd2 b6 16.Rad1 Ba6 17.Bxa6 Rxa6 18.Bc1 cxd4 19.exd4 1-0 Brunello,S (2564)-Gedajlovic,M (2304) Titled Tuesday intern op 2nd Aug Chess.com INT blitz 2016 (1)] 13...Ne6 14.Nxe6 Bxe6 15.Na4 [15.Bd2=] 15...h5 16.Nc5 Bc8 17.Bd2 Bd6 18.b4 [White should try 18.h3] 18...Qc7 19.h3 [19.f4] 19...Bxh3!+ 20.gxh3 And now f4 would win. [20.Kh1 Bc8] 20...Bxc5 21.Kg2 Prevents Qg3+. 21...Bb6 22.h4 [22.bxa5 Bxa5 23.Bc1] 22...Qd6→ ...Bc7 is the strong threat. White is in trouble. 23.Rab1? [23.Rh1 keeps fighting.] 23...Bc7 24.f4 Ng4 25.Re1? [25.Rb3 might work better.] 25...Qf6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.65/Black=0.08 (flawless). Mistake: White=7 --- Inaccurate:

White=2 Black=1 OK: White=4  
Black=7 Best: --- Black=2 0-1

18

Wang,J. (2512)  
Tsay,V. (2353)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Nbd7 6.Nf3 h6 7.Bxf6 Nxf6 C13: French: Classical System: 4 Bg5 Be7, Alekhine-Chatard Attack. 8.Bd3 g6 9.c3N [Predecessor: 9.Nxf6+ Qxf6 10.Ne5 Bg7 11.Qd2 0-0 12.h4 Qd8 13.Qf4 c5 14.dxc5 Qc7 15.Nxg6 0-1 Heymann,U (2180)-Peng,Z (2401) 4 Laender-Cup (Women) Halle 2001 (5.1)] 9...Nxe4 White is slightly better. 10.Bxe4 Bg7 11.h4 h5 12.Qe2 Qd6 [12...0-0] 13.Ne5! 0-0 [13...Bd7] 14.f4! c5 15.0-0-0 g4 would now be deadly. White is much more active. The black rooks are passive. 15...Qc7 [15...cxd4 16.Rxd4 Qe7] 16.Bc2 [16.g4!+] 16...b6 [16...cxd4 is a better defense. 17.Rxd4 b5] 17.dxc5 [17.g4!+] 17...bxc5? Black is weak on the light squares [17...Bh6 18.Qe4 bxc5] 18.g4!+- Qa5? [18...Bh6] 19.gxh5 Qxa2 20.hxg6 fxxg6 21.Bb1 Qb3 22.Nxg6 White wants to mate with Qh5! 22...Re8 23.Rhg1 Hoping for Ne5. 23...Ba6 24.Qxa6 Bxc3 25.Ne5+ Kf8 26.Qd6+ Black got outplayed after the opening. A cool game by Wang. Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=1.26. Loses game: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=2 Black=5 Inaccurate: --- Black=2 OK: White=4 Black=2 Best: White=2 --- Strong: White=3 --- 1-0

19

Pham,T. (2393)  
Wang,J. (2512)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bb5 Nd4 5.Bc4 Nxf3+ 6.gxf3 C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4. 6...Bc5 7.Rg1 g6 8.d3 The position is equal. 8...Nh5N [Predecessor: 8...h6 9.f4 d6 10.Qf3 c6 11.fxe5 dxe5 12.Be3 Be7 13.0-0-0 h5 14.h3 b5 1-0 Vakhramov,I (2413)-Perez,R (2240) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Sept Chess.com INT blitz 2021 (4)] 9.Bg5 Be7 10.Be3

c6 11.d4 d6 12.Qd2 Be6 [12...b5= 13.Bb3 a5] 13.d5! White has the initiative. 13...Bd7 14.dxc6 bxc6 15.0-0-0 Be6 16.Bb3 Qd7 [16...Bxb3= remains equal. 17.axb3 0-0] 17.Ba4! White is more active. 17...Nf6 Inhibits Nd5. [17...0-0] 18.f4 [White should try 18.Bh6+] 18...Rc8 [18...0-0-0] 19.f3+- Qb7 [19...0-0] 20.Nd5 Nxd5 21.exd5 Bd7 22.fxe5 cxd5 [22...0-0 23.Bh6 Rfe8] 23.Bxd7+ [23.Qxd5?! Qxd5 24.Bxd7+ Kxd7] 23...Kxd7 24.exd6 [24.Qxd5?! Qxd5 25.Rxd5 Rc6] 24...Bxd6 25.Qxd5 Qxd5 26.Rxd5 Ke6 [26...Rc6 is a better defense. 27.Rgd1 [27.Bxa7 Ra8] 27...Ke6] 27.Rd2 [Better is 27.Ra5+-] 27...Bc5 [27...Rhe8 was necessary. 28.Rg4 (28.Bxa7 Bf4 Pin) 28...Rc6] 28.Re1 Kf6 Against Bg5+ 29.Bd4+ Bxd4 30.Rxd4 Endgame. Black must now prevent Rf4+. KRR-KRR 30...Rh6 30...g5 31.Rd6+ Kg7] 31.c4 Rc5 32.Kc2 Rf5 33.Re3 Threatens to win with b4. 33...Rc8 [33...a5 34.Kc3 h6] 34.b4 a5 35.a3 axb4 36.axb4 Rh5 37.h4 Rf5 38.c5 g5 39.hxg5+ Kxg5 40.Kc3 h5 41.Kc4 f6 42.Red3 h4 43.Rg4+ Kh5 44.Rdd4 Rxf3 45.Rxh4+ Kg5 46.Rhg4+ Kf5 47.b5 Strongly threatening b6. 47...Rf1 48.c6 [48.Kd5] 48...Rc1+ 49.Kb4 Rb8 50.Ka5 Ra8+ 51.Kb6! Rb8+ 52.Ka6 Rc5 53.Rb4 Ke6 54.Rge4+ Kf7 55.Rec4 Rxb5 56.c7 f5 57.c8Q Overworked Piece 57...Rxc8 58.Kxb5 Re8 59.Kc5 Rb6 is the strong threat. 59...Kg6 60.Kd4 Rb1 would now be deadly. 60...Kg5 61.Kd3 Re5 [61...Ra8 62.Rc1 Ra3+ 63.Kd4 Ra5 64.Rg1+ Kf4] 62.Rc8 Ra5 63.Rg8+ Kf6 64.Ke3 And now Kf4 would win. 64...Kf7 65.Rg5 [65.Rgb8 Threatening mate with R8b7+. 65...Ra3+ 66.Rb3 (66.Kf4 Ke7+-) ] 65...Ra1 [65...Ke6 66.Kf4 Ra1 67.Rb6+ (67.Rxf5 Rf1+ 68.Kg4 Rg1+ 69.Kf4 Rf1+ 70.Kg5 Rxf5+ 71.Kg4 Rf2=) 67...Kd5 68.Rb5+ (68.Kxf5 Rh1+-; 68.Rxf5+ Kd4+-) 68...Ke6 69.Rg6+ (69.Rbxf5 Rf1+ 70.Kg4 Re1+-) 69...Kf7] 66.Rxf5+ Ke6 67.Rf2 Re1+ 68.Re2 Rh1 69.Rd4 Kf5 70.Rd5+ Ke6 71.Kd4+ Kf6 72.Rd6+ Kf5 73.Re5+ Kf4 74.Rf6+ Kg4 75.Kd5 [75.Ref5 Rd1+ 76.Ke4 Re1+ 77.Kd5 Re7 78.Rf1 Kg3 79.Rf7

Re3 80.R1f6] 75...Rh8 76.Ke6 [76.Ke4 Rg8 77.Rf1 Kh3 78.Rff5 Kg4 79.Rh5 Rg7 80.Rh1 Rb7 81.Rg1+ Kh4 82.Re8] 76...Re8+ 77.Kd6 Ra8 78.Ke7 Kf7 would kill now. 78...Ra7+ 79.Kf8 Intending Re7 and mate. 79...Ra1 80.Kg7 Ra8 81.Rf8 Ra6 82.Re7 Kg5 83.Kg8 Kh6 84.Kh8 Ra5 85.Rh7+ Kg6 86.Rg7+ Kh6 87.Rf1 Rf5 88.Rh1+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/Black=0.32. Mistake: White=2 Black=12 Inaccurate: White=5 Black=10 OK: White=26 Black=11 Best: White=1 Black=10 Strong: White=1 --- 1-0

20

Wang,J. (2512)  
Sheehan,E. (2339)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 g6 7.Bxf6 exf6 8.Bb5 B60: Sicilian: Richter-Rauzer: Unusual Black 6th moves and 6...Bd7 without 7 Qd2. 8...Bd7 9.Nde2 Be6 10.Nf4 White is slightly better. 10...Bh6N [10...Bg7; Predecessor: 10...Bg7 11.Nxe6 fxe6 12.Qg4 Qe7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Rad1 f5 15.exf5 gxf5 16.Qh5 Nd4 0-1 Antipov,M (2615)-Riazantsev,A (2634) Wch Blitz Warsaw 2021 (9)] 11.Nxe6 fxe6 Black is weak on the light squares 12.Qg4 Qe7 13.0-0 0-0 14.Bc4 Rae8 15.Qh3! Black is under pressure. 15...Bg7 16.Rfe1 Nd4 [16...Na5= 17.Be2 Nc6] 17.Rad1! f5 18.exf5 Rxf5 19.Re4 Qf7 [19...Nxc2? 20.Bxe6+ (20.Rxe6 Qxe6 21.Bxe6+ Rxe6+) 20...Qxe6 21.Rxe6 Rxe6 22.Qd3+-; 19...Ref8] 20.Qe3 [20.Rdxd4 d5=; 20.Rexd4+- Bxd4 21.Rxd4] 20...d5 21.Bxd5 Nxc2 22.Rxe6 [22.Qxa7? exd5 23.Rxe8+ Qxe8+-] 22...Rf8 23.Re7 Nxe3 24.Rxf7 R5xf7 25.fxe3 Bxc3! 26.bxc3 Kg7! 27.Bxf7 Rxf7 Endgame. KR-KR 28.Rd4 h5 29.h4 Kh6 30.Rc4 Rd7 31.a4 Rd2 32.Kh2 a6 33.Kg3 b5 34.axb5 axb5 35.Rc5 Rb2 36.e4 b4 37.cxb4 Rxb4 38.Kf4 Rb2 39.g3 Rf2+ 40.Ke3 Rg2 41.Kf3 Rg1 42.Rc7 Ra1 [Better is 42...Rf1+= 43.Ke2 Ra1] 43.Rc3 White is more active. [43.e5!] 43...Ra8 44.Rd3 Rf8+ 45.Ke3 Re8 46.Rd4 Re6 [46...Re7= is superior.] 47.Rd5 [47.Rd7!] 47...Ra6 48.Rc5



**Ra1 49.Rc2 Ra8 50.Rd2 Re8 51.Rd3 Ra8 52.e5** And now Rd7 would win. **52...Ra4 53.Rd4 Ra1** [53...Ra7= feels stronger.] **54.Ke4** Threatens to win with e6. **54...Re1+?** Loses the game. [Black should try 54...Kg7!] **55.Kd5+-** Strongly threatening Kd6. **55...Re3?** [55...Kg7 56.Kd6 Re3] **56.e6 Kg7 57.Kd6!** Hoping for e7. **57...Rxc3 58.e7** [58.Kd7 White wants to mate with e7. 58...Ra3 59.e7 Ra7+ 60.Ke6] **58...Re3 59.Kd7 g5 60.hxg5** [60.e8R Rxe8 61.Kxe8 gxh4=] **60...Kg6 61.Rd6+** [Not 61.e8R Rxe8 62.Rd6+ (62.Kxe8 Kxg5 63.Rd1 h4=) 62...Kxg5 63.Rd5+ (63.Kxe8 h4=) 63...Kg4 64.Rd4+ (64.Kxe8 h4=) 64...Kf5 65.Kxe8 Kg5=] **61...Kxg5 62.Re6** [Inferior is 62.e8Q Rxe8 63.Rd5+ (63.Kxe8 h4=) 63...Kf4 64.Kxe8 h4=] **62...Rd3+ 63.Kc6 Rc3+ 64.Kd5 Rc8 65.e8Q Rxe8 66.Rxe8 KR-KP 66...Kf4 67.Rh8 Kg4 68.Ke4** Rg8+ would kill now. **68...h4 69.Rg8+ Kh3 70.Kf3** [70.Kf4 Kh2 71.Kf3 Kh3 72.Rh8 Kh2 73.Rxh4+ Kg1 74.Rh8 Kf1 75.Rh1#] **70...Kh2 71.Rh8** [71.Rd8 Kh1 72.Rh8 h3 73.Rxh3+ Kg1 74.Rh8 Kf1 75.Rh1#] **71...h3 72.Kf2 Kh1 73.Rxh3#** Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) / Black=0.30. Loses game: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=4 Black=7 Inaccurate: White=8 Black=2 OK: White=16 Black=21 Best: White=1 Black=2 Brilliant: White=1 --- 1-0

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**Wang,T. (2347)**

**Wang,J. (2512)**

**1.c4 e6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 dxc4 4.Qa4+ Nd7 5.Qxc4 a6 6.Qc2 Ngf6 7.Nf3 c5 8.Nc3 Qc7 A13:** English Opening: 1...e6. **9.d4 b5 10.Bf4 Qa7** The position is equal. **11.d5! Nxd5 12.Nxd5 exd5 13.a4 b4 14.Nh4N** [14.e4! d4 15.0-0; Predecessor: 14.0-0 Be7 15.Ne5 Nxe5 16.Bxe5 f6 17.Bxd5 fxe5 18.Qe4 Rb8 19.Qxe5 Qb6 20.Rfd1 0-1 Schlosser,P (2498)-Raupp,T (2283) Bodensee op Brezgenz 2022 (4)] **14...Nf6 15.0-0 Be6** [15...Be7] **16.Nf5** [16.e4= d4 17.b3]

**16...Rd8** [16...b3! 17.Qb1 Qd7] **17.Rfd1** [17.Bg5] **17...Qd7** [17...g6 18.Ne3; 17...b3! 18.Qb1 g6] **18.e4=** Strongly threatening exd5! **18...d4 19.Bf1 b3** [19...Qb7=] **20.Qd3 Ra8 21.Be5** White is more active. **21...Ng4! 22.Bxg7** [22.Nxg7+ Bxg7 23.Bxg7 Rg8] **22...Rg8 23.Bxf8 Kxf8** [23...Ne5 24.Qe2 Kxf8] **24.Bg2 Rg6 25.Nh4** [25.Rac1! Ne5 26.Qd2] **25...Rg7** [25...Qd6=] **26.Nf3! Qa7** [26...Rc8] **27.h3** [27.Rac1] **27...Nf6 28.Rac1 Nd7! 29.a5 Rg6** [29...Re8] **30.Nh4+-** Ne5 [30...Rg7 is a better defense.] **31.Qe2** [31.Nxg6+ hxg6 32.Qe2 c4] **31...Kg7** [31...Rd8 32.Nxg6+ hxg6] **32.Kh2 Re8 33.Qh5** [33.f4+- Ng6 34.Qh5 Nxh4 35.Qxh4] **33...f6** [33...Nc4] **34.Bf1?** [34.Nf5+-] **34...c4 35.Qh6 Kf7** [35...Kg8?] **36.Qxf6 Qc5 37.f4+-] 36.Qd2** [36.f4 d3 37.fxe5 Qf2+ 38.Bg2 (38.Kh1 Qxg3 39.Bg2 Qxe5) 38...Qxg3+ 39.Kh1 Qxe5 40.Rd2] **36...d3 37.Bg2 Kg8!** Black is on the roll. **38.f4 Nd7 39.Re1 Qc5** Wards off Nf5 [39...Kh8!] **40.Re3!** Threatens to win with Rxd3. **40...Qd6** [40...Qd4=] **41.Rce1** [41.Nf5 Bxf5 42.Rxc4] **41...Kh8** [41...Rge7!] **42.Nf3** [42.Qc3!=] **42...Reg8 43.Nh4 Qd4 44.Nf3 Qc5 45.Nh4 Qh5** [45...Qd6] **46.Qc3?** [46.Nf5!= and White has nothing to worry.] **46...Nc5?** [Black should play 46...Qxh4!+- 47.gxh4 Rxc2+ 48.Kh1 d2] **47.Nf5= Qf7 48.Nxg7+- Qxg7 49.Qd4?** [Better is 49.f5+- Na4 50.Qb4] **49...Qe7=** And now ...Rd8 would win. **50.f5** [50.Ra1] **50...Rd8 51.Qc3 d2 52.fxe6** [52.Rd1? Na4+-] **52...dxe1Q** [52...d1N? 53.Rxd1 (53.Qxc4 Nxe3 54.Rxe3 Qd6+-) 53...Rxd1 54.Rf3 (54.Qxc4 Rd2+-) 54...Nxe6 55.Rxf6+- (55.Qxf6+ Qxf6 56.Rxf6 c3+- Promotion) ] **53.Rxe1 Qxe6** aiming for ...Rd3. **54.Rc1 Nd3** [54...Nxe4? 55.Bxe4 (55.Qxc4 Qxc4 56.Rxc4 f5=) 55...h5 56.Bg2+- (56.Qxc4 Rd2+ 57.Bg2 Qxc4+-) ] **55.Qxc4 Qxc4 56.Rxc4 Rb8** [56...Ne1= remains equal. 57.Rc1 Nxg2 Nhxg2 Rd2+ 59.Kf3 Rxb2] **57.Rc6 58.Kd2 58.Rb6! Re8** [But not 58...Rxb6? 59.axb6 Kg7 60.b7+-] **59.Rxb3 Nc4 60.Rf3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/ Black=0.42. Loses game: White=1

Black=1 Missed win: White=2  
Black=1 Mistake: White=10 Black=16  
Inaccurate: White=4 Black=1 OK:  
White=18 Black=17 Best: White=7  
Black=6 Strong: White=3 Black=1  
½-½

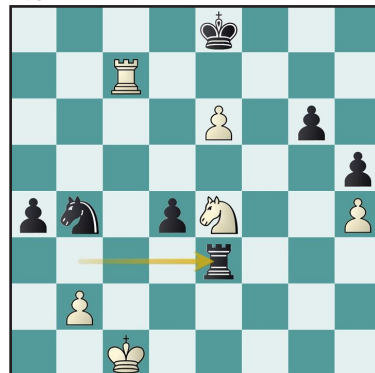


**Gazik,V. (2624)**

22

**Chatterjee,K. (2638)**

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.Bd2 Bg4 9.c3 Na5 10.Bc2 c5 11.h3 Bh5 12.Bc1 0-0 13.Nbd2 Nc6 14.Re1 d5 15.Qe2! d4 16.g4 Bg6 17.Nf1 Nd7 18.Bb3?! Nb6! 19.cxd4 Nxd4 20.Nxd4 cxd4? 21.f4 exf4 22.Bxf4 Bg5 23.Qd2! Bxf4 24.Qxf4 Qb8? 25.Qxb8 Raxb8 26.Nh2 a5 27.Rec1 a4 28.Bd1 f6 29.Nf3 Rfd8 30.Rc7?! Bf7?! 31.a3?! Nd7 32.Rac1 Nf8 33.Kf1?! Ne6 34.Ra7 Ra8 35.Rxa8 Rxa8 36.Ke1 Nf4?! 37.Kd2 Rd8 38.h4 Be6 39.g5 fxg5 40.Nxg5 Bd7 41.Rc5? h6 42.Nf3 Be8 43.Ne5?! Rd6? 44.Bg4 h5 45.Bf5?! Kf8? 46.Rc8 Ke7 47.Rc7+! Kf8 48.Rc8 Ke7 49.Nf3? b4 50.axb4 g6! 51.e5 Rb6! 52.Be4 Rxb4 53.Kc2 Bb5? 54.Rc7+ Ke8 55.Rc8+ Ke7 56.Rc7+ Ke8 57.Ng5? Rb3! 58.e6 Bxd3+ 59.Bxd3 Nxd3 60.Ne4 Nb4+! 61.Kc1 Re3?**

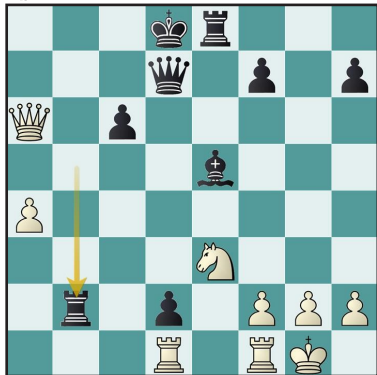


**61...Re3 62.Nd6+ Kf8 63.Rf7+ Kg8 64.e7 Nd3+ 65.Kc2 Ne1+ 66.Kd1 Nd3 67.Rf8+ Kg7 68.e8R] 62.Nd6+! Kf8 63.Rf7+! Kg8 64.e7** Game may have continued...[64.e7 Nd3+ 65.Kc2 Ne1+ 66.Kd1 Nd3 67.Rf8+ Kg7 68.e8R Nxh2+ 3.86/0 ] 1-0

23

Brotsky,D. (2590)  
Dudin,G. (2587)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.b4?! Be7 7.e5 d5?! 8.exf6 Bxf6 9.b5! Nb4? 10.Qe2+?! Be6! 11.Ba3? c5 12.bxc6!! Nxc6 13.Bb5 dxc3 14.0-0! Qa5?! 15.Ne5?! a6 16.Bxc6+ bxc6 17.Bd6? d4! 18.Nd3?! Ra7? 19.Nc5 Qd8 20.Nxe6 Qxd6 21.Nxg7+ Kd8? 22.Nf5 d3? 23.Qe3 Qd7 24.Qc5?? Re8 25.Nxc3 Bxc3 26.Rad1 Be5?! 27.Ne3? Rb7? 28.Qc4 d2 29.Qxa6 Rb5?! 30.a4! Rb2?



31.Nc4! Rc2 32.Nxd2!! Bd4 33.Nf3 c5 34.Nxd4 cxd4 35.Qf6+ Game may have continued...[35.Qf6+ Kc8 36.Rxd4 Re6 37.Qh4 Qe8 38.Qg4 Rc5 39.Rb4 5.68/0 ] 1-0

24

Beradze,I. (2591)  
Escalante,B. (2578)



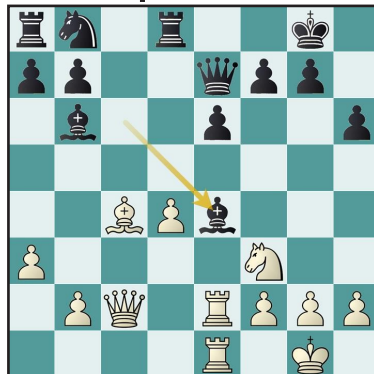
After 15...Nbd7?!

1.Nf3 d5 2.d4 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.Nc3 Nbd7 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bf4 Nb6 8.Qd2? Bd6 9.Bxd6 Qxd6 10.e3 0-0?! 11.Bd3 Be6 12.a3 c6 13.b4? a5 14.Rb1?! axb4 15.axb4 Nbd7?! [#] Game may have continued...[15...Nbd7 16.b5 c5 17.dxc5 Nxc5 18.0-0 Rfc8 19.Bc2 Bg4 -0.20/0 ] 1-0

25

Juksta,K.  
Rodrigue-Lemieux,S.

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 Bb4 D38 Queen's Gambit Declined: Ragozin Defense 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bxf6 Qxf6 7.e3 0-0 8.Rc1 dxc4 9.Bxc4 c5 10.0-0 cxd4 11.Ne4 Qe7 12.a3 Ba5 13.exd4 Rd8 14.Rc2 Bd7 15.Re2 Bc6 16.Qc2 Bb6 17.Rfe1? [17.Rd1; 17.Rfe1 Bxd4] 17...Bxe4



18.Rxe4 Qf8 19.Rxe6?! Nc6 20.Rxc6!! bxc6 21.Ne5! Re8 22.Re4 Rxe5 23.dxe5 Kh8?! 24.Rf4 Qc5 25.Rf5 Qa5 26.g3 Qe1+ 27.Kg2 Re8 28.Rxf7 Qxe5 29.Qg6 Qg5 30.Rxg7 Qxg6 31.Rxg6 Rd8 32.Rxh6+ Kg7 33.Re6 Rd4 34.b3 Unterminated Game may have continued...[34.b3 Rd2 35.Re2 Rxe2 36.Bxe2 Bc5 37.a4 Bd6 38.Bd3 5.66/0 ] 1-0

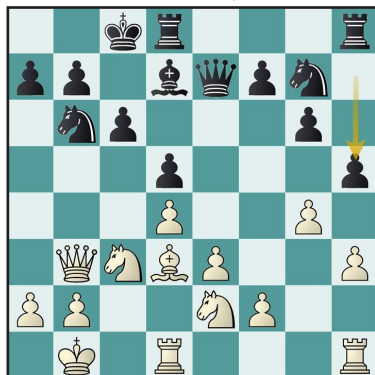


26

Santiago,Y. (2466)  
Vajda,L. (2601)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 Be7 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Qc2 c6

8.Bd3 Nb6 9.Nge2 Nh5 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.h3 g6 12.0-0-0 Ng7 13.g4 Bd7 14.Kb1 0-0-0 15.Qb3 h5



16.a4 hxg4 17.a5 Nc4 18.Bxc4 dxc4 19.Qxc4 gxh3 20.d5 \*

27

Young,A. (2435)  
Van Wely,L. (2580)

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 d5 4.d4 c6 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bf4 Bf5 7.e3 Qb6 8.Qc1 h6 9.h3 Nbd7 10.Be2 a5 11.a3 Be7 12.Bh2 0-0 13.0-0 Rfe8 14.Ne5 Nxe5 15.Bxe5 Nh7 16.Bd1 Qa7 17.g4 Bd3 18.Re1 Bh4 19.Bc2 Bxc2 20.Qxc2 Ng5 21.Kg2 b5 22.Rg1 Qd7 23.Qd3 Re7 24.Rae1 Rae8 25.Re2 Ne6 26.Bh2 Nf8 27.Qf5 Re6 28.Rc2 Ng6 29.Ne2 Qd7 30.Nf4 Nxf4+ 31.Qxf4 Rc8 32.Rgc1 Rf6 33.Qe5 Qd7 34.Bg3 Bg5 35.h4 Re6 36.Qf5 Bf6 37.g5 g6 38.Qf4 hxg5 39.hxg5 Bg7 40.Qg4 Qe8 41.Rh1 Re4 42.Qh3 Qe6 43.Qxe6 Rxe6 44.Rhc1 Bf8 45.Be5 Be7 46.f4 Kf8 47.Rh1 Ke8 48.Rh8+ Kd7 49.Rh7 Rf8 50.Kf3 Bd6 51.e4 dxe4+ 52.Kxe4 Bxe5 53.fxe5 Ke7 54.Rf2 Ke8 55.b3 Ke7 56.a4 b4 57.Rf1 Ke8 58.Rh2 Ke7 59.Rhf2 Ke8 60.Rf3 Ke7 61.Rh3 Kd7 62.Rh7 Ke7 63.Rf2 Ke8 64.Rc2 Ke7 65.d5 cxd5+ 66.Kd4 Ra6 67.Rc7+ Ke6 68.Rh1 Kf5 69.Rf1+ Kxg5 70.Rcxf7 Rxf7 71.Rxf7 Rc6 72.Rf1 Rc3 73.e6 Rc2 74.Re1 Rc8 75.e7 Re8 76.Kxd5 Kf6 77.Kd6 Kf7 78.Kd7 1-0





# Upcoming Events

## LATE FEBRUARY 2024

### Feb 15-19 - 15th Annual Southwest Class Championships

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

### Feb 17 - 2024 Region V Scholastic Championships

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/tca-region-v-scholastic-hosted-chess-refinery>

### Feb 17 - 2024 Region VI Scholastic Championships

Info: <https://completechesseducation.com/event/region-vi-2024/>

### Feb 17 - ACC USCF rated G/90 Standard Swiss

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/acc-g90-february-2024/>

### Feb 17 - HCC: Saturday Swiss

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/saturday-swiss-feb-17>

### Feb 18 - HCC: Sunday Swiss

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/sunday-swiss-feb-18-2024>

### Feb 18 - Southwest Class Blitz Championship

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/southwest-class-blitz-championship>

### Feb 20 - Mardi Quads

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mardi-quads-17>

### Feb 21 - Austin Grandmaster Chess Academy Monthly Quad Tournament

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/1st-agca-quads-tournament>

### Feb 24 - 2024 Region VII Scholastic Championship

Info: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdyVsLzpvvStp8VJwHiB1bIM6adEa-87nMdi8tmvmlVvLd9XA/viewform>

### Feb 24 - ACC USCF rated G/90 Standard Swiss

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/acc-g90-february-2024/>

### Feb 24 - Austin Grandmaster Chess Academy February Scholastic

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/austin-grandmaster-chess-academy-scholastic-february-2024/>

### Feb 24 - Austin Monthly Scholastic - G/30 Sections

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/aca-austin-monthly-scholastic-tournament-february-2024-g30/>

### Feb 24 - Austin Monthly Scholastic - G/45 Sections

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/aca-austin-monthly-scholastic-tournament-february-2024-g45/>

### Feb 24 - Many Springs 131

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/many-springs-131>

### Feb 24 - Polson Pawn Saturday Swiss

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/saturday-swiss-feb-24th-noon>

### Feb 24 - West Texas '24 February Open

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/west-texas-24-february-open>

### Feb 25 - Polson Pawn Sunday Swiss

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/sunday-swiss-feb-25-2024-1pm>



## MARCH 2024

### Mar 1-3 - \$2,000 March FIDE

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2000-march-fide>

### Mar 1-3 - North Texas State Scholastic Championships

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2024-northcentral-texas-state-scholastic-championships>

### Mar 2 - ACC USCF rated G/90 Standard Swiss

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/acc-g-24-march-2024/>

### Mar 8-10 - Lone Star Open

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2024-lone-star-open>

### Mar 9 - 2024 March Scholastic at the Chess Studio Championship

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/march-9th-scholastic>

### Mar 9 - Many Springs 132

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/many-springs-132>

### Mar 15-17 - South Texas State Scholastic Championships

Info: <https://www.utrgv.edu/chess/>

### Mar 16-17 - 2024 Texas Senior Chess Championship

Info: <https://arlingtonchess.com/senior>

### Mar 16 - Austin Grandmaster Chess Academy Open USCF Rated Tournament

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/austin-grandmaster-chess-academy-tournament-march-2024/>

### Mar 16 - Texas Spring Championships 2024

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/texas-spring-championships-2024>

### Mar 16 - Waco March 16 Swiss

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/waco-march-16-swiss>

### Mar 19 - Mardi Quads

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mardi-quads-17>

### Mar 23 - Austin Grandmaster Chess Academy March Scholastic

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/austin-grandmaster-chess-academy-scholastic-march-2024/>

### Mar 30 - K-12 SpringScholastic Chess Tournament

Info: <https://chesschallenge.us/tournaments/index.php?view=zNTizdLa&tid=m6Geng==>

### Mar 30 - West Texas '24 March Open

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/west-texas-24-march-open>

## EARLY APRIL 2024

### Apr 5-7 - 2024 April Houston Chess Studio Championship

Info: <https://poisonpawns.club/>

### Apr 13 - 2024 April Scholastic at the Chess Studio Championship

Info: <https://poisonpawns.club/>

### Apr 13 - 2024 Spring NYOS Scholastic Chess Tournament

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/2024-spring-nyos-scholastic-chess-tournament/>

### Apr 13 - Open Section at the 2024 Spring NYOS Scholastic Chess Tournament

Info: <https://www.austinchestournaments.com/open-section-at-the-2024-spring-nyos-scholastic-chess-tournament/>

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### RCC Weekly Quads (rated U1200)

Feb 16, 23; Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Apr 5, 12

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/rebecca-chess-club-monthly-swiss-over-1200-and-weekly-quads-under-1200>

### RCC Monthly Swiss (rated 1200+)

Feb 16, 23; Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Apr 5, 12

Info: <https://www.rebeccachess.com/otb.html>

### TCC Irving: Texas Swiss Tournament

Feb 17, 24; Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Apr 6, 13

Info: <https://www.texaschesscenter.com/store/p/irvingswiss>

### TCC PLANO Swiss Tournament

Feb 17, 24; Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Apr 6, 13

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/plano-swiss-texas-chess-center>

### Feb 2024 Tue Night Swiss

Feb 20, 27

Info: <https://new.uschess.org/jan-2024-tue-night-swiss>

### Poison Pawns Weekly Chess Meetup at Slowpokes

Feb 21, 28; Mar 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr 3, 10

Info: <https://poisonpawns.club/>

# 2024 Texas North/Central State Scholastic Chess Championships

March 1 - 3 2024

## Houston Marriott Westchase

2900 Briarpark Drive, Houston Texas, 77042. \$139,\$139,\$139,\$139 rate includes American Breakfast Buffet. Register online thru link on webpage or call 1-800-452-5110 to make reservations mention group code TCCA

Reserve by 2/13/2024 or rate may not be honored.

### **7 round Swiss System (No Elimination)**

**Four championships: TX North/Central Primary Championships; TX North/Central Elementary Championships; TX North/Central Middle School Championships; TX North/Central High School Championships. Eleven Sections total.**

Entry Fee is \$44 by 2/4; \$55 by 2/26; \$73 after and on site.

**John W. Griffin Memorial Chess Scholarship Award** sponsored by JWG Memorial Scholarship Fund awarded to the winner of the High School Championship for \$1,200.

**Texas Chess Association Scholarship Awards** will go to the top five players and top girl in the HS Championship Section as follows: 1st Place - \$600 scholarship, 2nd Place - \$500 scholarship, 3rd Place - \$500 scholarship, 4th Place - \$500 scholarship, 5th Place - \$500 scholarship, 1st Place Girl - \$500 scholarship.

**Trophies for top 15 individuals and top 10 teams** in each section plus participation medals for all, and plus Score Awards for players scoring 4 or more points that do not win an individual trophy.

### **Side Events:**

**Blitz - Saturday Night 7 pm**

**Bughouse - Saturday Night 8:30 pm**

**TCA - Texas Chess Association meeting Saturday 8:35 pm**

For tournament info, visit [www.dallaschess.com](http://www.dallaschess.com) and click the "banner" in the middle of the page to go to web page

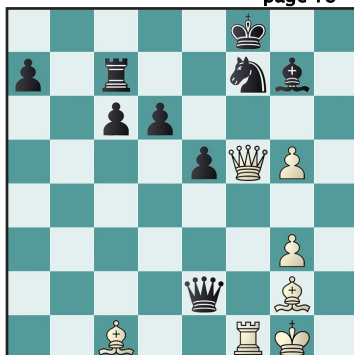
contact Barbara Swafford, [info@dallaschess.com](mailto:info@dallaschess.com) or 214-533-0061 with questions.

**Houston Marriot Westchase:** [www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/houwm-houston-marriott-westchase/?scid=bb1a189a-fec3-4d19-a255-54ba596febe2](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/houwm-houston-marriott-westchase/?scid=bb1a189a-fec3-4d19-a255-54ba596febe2)



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

**Tactics Time!** Answer on  
page 18



S. Rodrigue – M. Moore  
Texas Collegiate 2023  
White to Move

