

TEXAS KNIGHTS

The official publication of the Texas Chess Association

Volume 64 Number 4

P.O. Box 136844, Lake Worth, TX 76136

MAY-JUN 2023 \$5

Texas State & Amateur!!!



Texas State One Day Scholastic K-12 - César Chávez High School - 1st Place U-900 & 2nd Place Championship

Table of Contents

A Message from the TCA President	4
78th Annual Texas State and Amateur.....	5
Texas State One Day Scholastic K-12	7
2023 National High School (K-12) Championship	8
3rd Annual Creativity Contest Results provided by Jim Hollingsworth.....	8
Texas School for the Deaf Championship by Jonathan Tuck.....	9
My Experience at the 2023 Texas Haring Qualifier by Sunny Zhang	10
Coach's Corner - e4! by Robert L. Myers	11
Houston Chess Studio by David Mackey	13
Tactics Time! by Tim Brennan (Answers on page 18).....	15
Leader List	16
Region VI Scholastic Championship by Sarah Brauner	18
New Chess Books - Chess Champion from China by Xie Jun - by Dr. Alexey Root	19
Game Index	21
Upcoming Events.....	30

TEXAS CHESS ASSOCIATION

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

texaschess.org
Facebook.com/TexasChess
Chess.com/club/texas-chess-association

President: Francisco L. Guadalupe, flguadalupe@aol.com

Vice-President: Darryl West, DarrylWest@live.com

Secretary: Richard Garcia, richardjgarcia@sbcbglobal.net

Treasurer: Barb Swafford, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-4719; barbrounds@gmail.com.

Editor: Jeff French, P.O. Box 136844, Lake Worth, TX 76136; texasknightsed@gmail.com.

Assistant Editor: We are looking for someone to fill this post. Contact the Editor for further information.

Website Admin: Chris Wood, chris@handsomeweb.com.

Facebook Admin: Deborah Shafer, dshaferchess@yahoo.com

Tournament Clearinghouse: Lori Balkum, Lori.Balkum@austinchess tournaments.com

Membership Dues: You can join/renew online at texaschess.org using a credit/debit card or PayPal

Regular: \$10. **Family:** \$15. **Non-Subscribing:** \$5.

Patron: \$25. **Family Patron:** \$30.

Junior (18 and under): \$7.50. **Student:** \$7.50.

Lifetime Regular: \$200. **Lifetime Patron:** \$500.

Foreign (Canada & Mexico): \$12.50, **(Other):** \$17.50.

Club: \$10. **Scholastic Club:** \$10. **Foreign Club:** \$40.

Blind: \$2 (\$5 with mailed magazine).

Ad rates: \$50/page, \$35/half, \$20/quarter (Club membership includes 1 free quarter-page ad a year), \$1/line.

Send payment to: **TCA Treasurer, 2709 Longhorn Trail, Crowley, TX 76036-4719.** Please provide name, address, phone # and email. **Remember:** Contributions beyond membership dues may be tax deductible.

TCA Hall of Honor

Lifetime Patron

Selby K. Anderson
Clarence Callaway, Jr.
Carmen Chairez
George W. Church, Jr.
David W. Cofer
Jack Garcia
Austen Green
Patrick C. Long
Harmon Throneberry
Louis Thurston

Patron

Caleb S. Brown
Michael Donovan
Charles Fricks
Robert Jones
Peter Kappler
Pablo Moujan
Barbara Swafford

Patron Online

Dhiman Bhattacharya
Luis Salinas

Family Patron

Margaret Bailon-Labednick
Jeff & Lonann French
Renate Garcia
Danny and Brenda Hardesty
James Houghtaling Jr.
Amy Jones
Ross Lynn Leone
Robert L. Myers
Douglas and Alexey Root

Contributors: Sarah Brauner, Tim Brennan, Jim Hollingsworth, David Llada, Robert L. Myers, David Mackey, Jonathan Tuck, Louis Reed, Dr. Alexey Root, Deborah Shafer, Sunny Zhang.

Cover photo: Robert L. Myers

Game annotations: If not attributed, are a collaboration between the Editor and Stockfish 15.1



- Articles
- Games
- Results
- Photos
- Comics
- Reviews
- Club News
- Region News

Texas Chess Related Submissions Only

Submissions accepted by:

Email: texaschess@texaschess.org - or -
US Mail: P.O. Box 136844, Lake Worth, TX 76136
(Please include contact information)

Submission Deadline:

July 15th, 2023

Copyright © 2023 by Texas Chess Association, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
No part of this publication may be reproduced without the express permission of the Editor.



From the Desk of the Editor

Hello Texas,

I apologize, this issue is running a bit late. I was on vacation the entire week of Memorial Day, and that definitely stymied my time to work on the issue. But that doesn't mean we don't have some good chess to report on. I hope you enjoy the issue.

You will find some results and games (all 80 games that I have received are included in the issue's downloadable PGN file) from the *Texas State and Amateur* tournament that was held over Memorial Day weekend. And there are some results of the *One Day Scholastic K-12* tournament that was held on that Saturday.

There are some details about the *National High School Championship* and details of events at the *Houston Chess Studio*.

We have an article from a new author for *Texas Knights* about a recent *Texas School for the Deaf* tournament.

You will also learn about the experience of the winner of the *2023 Texas Haring Qualifier* tournament, along with one of her games.

The *Region VI Scholastic* tournament from February is covered in more detail than the last issue allowed. There is also an annotated game included from the tournament.

Dr. Alexey Root returns with a New Chess Books review. **Tim Brennan** has provided us with some new tactics puzzles.

Coach **Robert L. Myers** returns to us with a new article and a master game evaluated and annotated by the master himself.

If you are registered to vote in the US Chess elections, you should receive your ballot soon, or you may have already. Lakshmana "Vish" Viswanath, who was President of TCA, is a candidate. I am sure he would appreciate your support. You can read more about his candidacy, along with all of the candidates running for office, in the June 2023 issue of *Chess Life*.

TCA is now a *Chess.com* club affiliate. The primary benefit is that TCA will get a small portion of the premium subscription fees when you join or renew. All you have to do is join our *Chess.com* group. It can be found at <https://Chess.com/club/texas-chess-association> and then use the link when you subscribe to (or renew) a premium *Chess.com* membership. It won't cost you any extra and it supports TCA. There isn't much to see on the club pages yet, but we are just getting started.

I now have a Texas Knights Editor Facebook Page. There is not much there yet. I do keep an updated status on the latest TK issue, and I post other chess-related items occasionally. <https://www.facebook.com/texasknightsed>.

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of *Texas Knights* is July 15th. You should see the next issue arrive on the TCA website within the first week of August and in your mailbox by mid-August. - Jeff



A Message from the President

June 2023

Once again, thanks to our players, coaches, chess parents, chess tournament organizers, tournament directors, regional directors, TCA officers, and other individuals in key positions, too many to name them all! As always, it takes a team effort to have a successful organization, and I think we have the best team. Please visit our TCA Facebook page and our TCA website for coverage of many of our events. While on our Facebook page, please “like” it.

In less than two months, five of our outstanding players will travel to Grand Rapids, Michigan, to represent us at the US Chess National Invitational Championships. In case you missed it, they are **FM Chris Land** at the John T. Irwin National Tournament of Senior State Champions, **FM Sharvesh Deviprasath** at the GM Arnold Denker National Tournament of High School State Champions, **Sunny Zhang** at the WIM Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions, **Logan Shafer** at the Dewain Barber National Tournament of Middle School State Champions, and **Vijay Srinivas Anandh** at the John D. Rockefeller III National Tournament of Elementary School State Champions. Again, these national events will take place in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from July 29 - August 1, in conjunction with the

123rd Annual U.S. Open Chess Championships. We wish our Texas players the best! Please follow the action in the US Chess website, <https://new.uschess.org/>

In this issue, among other things, we have a report and lots of games from the **78th Annual Texas State and Amateur Championships**. Also, we have included an announcement for the **89th Annual Southwest Open**. For the first time in 15 years, this major event will take place in Houston! We hope to see you there! Lastly, at the site of the Southwest Open, on Sunday, September 3rd, we will have our **Annual TCA Membership Meeting**. All Advance Motions to be considered are due to the TCA officers no later than August 13, 2023. The Advance Motions and details of the meeting will be announced on our TCA website and in the next issue of the Texas Knights.

Once again, my thanks to all the players, coaches, parents, tournament organizers, tournament directors, and all other individuals who support chess in our state!

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.

78th Annual Texas State and Amateur

Additional Info: <http://dallaschess.com/2023TexasState/>



IM Zurab Javakhadze
with TD Luis Salinas
Photo by Louis Reed

The Texas State Championship and Amateur Tournament was held over Memorial Day weekend in Irving. You can find games from each tournament starting with *Game #1* on *Page 22*.

The State Championship Section had 30 participants and was scored using a 7-round Swiss System with time controls of G/90 and a 30 second increment.

The State Champion was **IM Zurab Javakhadze** with a score of 6.0/7 and he took home the \$1000.00 prize for his efforts.

Below are the full results from the State Championship Section.

#	Name	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Total
1	IM Zurab Javakhadze	W10 (b)	W8 (w)	W15 (b)	W4 (w)	D2 (b)	D3 (w)	W5 (b)	6
2	GM Rahul Srivatsav P	W26 (w)	W14 (b)	D3 (w)	W18 (b)	D1 (w)	D4 (b)	W8 (w)	5.5
3	FM Sharvesh R Deviprasath	W20 (b)	W19 (w)	D2 (b)	W6 (w)	D4 (b)	D1 (b)	W14 (w)	5.5
4	WCM Rachael Li	W22 (b)	W21 (w)	W17 (b)	L1 (b)	D3 (w)	D2 (w)	W15 (b)	5
5	NM Nelson Wilfredo Fernandez	L23 (w)	W11 (b)	D13 (b)	D12 (w)	W7 (w)	W15 (b)	L1 (w)	4
6	FM Chris K Land	W30 (b)	L15 (w)	W10 (b)	L3 (b)	D19 (w)	W21 (w)	D13 (b)	4
7	FM Marlon Miller	D11 (w)	L18 (b)	W29 (w)	H---	L5 (b)	W23 (b)	W19 (w)	4
8	NM Robert Sanchez	W16 (w)	L1 (b)	W27 (w)	D15 (b)	D11 (w)	W9 (b)	L2 (b)	4
9	Guillermo Javier Blanco Amaro	L21 (b)	W30 (w)	D24 (b)	W23 (w)	D13 (b)	L8 (w)	W17 (w)	4
10	Elbert Fang	L1 (w)	W16 (b)	L6 (w)	L21 (b)	W22 (b)	W24 (w)	W18 (b)	4
11	Kevin Qin	D7 (b)	L5 (w)	W22 (b)	W17 (w)	D8 (b)	D14 (b)	D12 (w)	4
12	Kyle Y Wang	L17 (b)	W22 (w)	W19 (b)	D5 (b)	D14 (w)	D13 (w)	D11 (b)	4
13	Logan C Shafer	D18 (w)	W29 (b)	D5 (w)	D14 (b)	D9 (w)	D12 (b)	D6 (w)	4
14	Lucius Melillo	W24 (b)	L2 (w)	W21 (b)	D13 (w)	D12 (b)	D11 (w)	L3 (b)	3.5
15	Krishnan Warrior	W28 (b)	W6 (b)	L1 (w)	D8 (w)	W18 (b)	L5 (w)	L4 (w)	3.5
16	Maxwell Hampton Barnes	L8 (b)	L10 (w)	D20 (b)	L22 (w)	B---	W29 (b)	W26 (w)	3.5
17	Ganesh Kumarappan	W12 (w)	D23 (b)	L4 (w)	L11 (b)	D21 (w)	W20 (w)	L9 (b)	3
18	Brian Jeremiah Tineo	D13 (b)	W7 (w)	W23 (b)	L2 (w)	L15 (w)	D19 (b)	L10 (w)	3
19	Bryan B Leano	W27 (w)	L3 (b)	L12 (w)	W24 (w)	D6 (b)	D18 (w)	L7 (b)	3
20	Dhruv Pathak	L3 (w)	L27 (b)	D16 (w)	W29 (b)	W30 (w)	L17 (b)	D21 (b)	3
21	Joshua Meng	W9 (w)	L4 (b)	L14 (w)	W10 (w)	D17 (b)	L6 (b)	D20 (w)	3
22	John T Capps	L4 (w)	L12 (b)	L11 (w)	W16 (b)	L10 (w)	W27 (b)	D23 (w)	2.5
23	Eric J Zhang	W5 (b)	D17 (w)	L18 (w)	L9 (b)	D24 (b)	L7 (w)	D22 (b)	2.5
24	Vijay Srinivas Anandh	L14 (w)	W26 (b)	D9 (w)	L19 (b)	D23 (w)	L10 (b)	D27 (w)	2.5
25	GM Jeffery Xiong	H---	H---	U---	U---	W27 (w)	U---	U---	2
26	Rudransh Pathak	L2 (b)	L24 (w)	L30 (b)	B---	L29 (w)	W28 (w)	L16 (b)	2
27	Ethan Y Wang	L19 (b)	W20 (w)	L8 (b)	D30 (w)	L25 (b)	L22 (w)	D24 (b)	2
28	Jim Hollingsworth	L15 (w)	H---	H---	U---	U---	L26 (b)	B---	2
29	Zoltan Bartok	H---	L13 (w)	L7 (b)	L20 (w)	W26 (b)	L16 (w)	U---	1.5
30	Gary Wade Carter Jr	L6 (w)	L9 (b)	W26 (w)	D27 (b)	L20 (b)	U---	U---	1.5



*Alexander Mclaughlin Elliott
with TD Louis Reed
Photo by Deborah Shafer*

The Amateur Section had 129 participants and was scored using a 7-round Swiss System with time controls of G/90 and a 30 second increment.

Alexander Mclaughlin Elliott won the Amateur Section with a score of 6.5/7 and he took home the \$800.00 prize for his efforts.

Below are the top 29 results from the Amateur Section.

#	Name	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Total
1	Alexander Mclaughlin Elliott	W28 (w)	W40 (b)	W107 (w)	W2 (b)	D10 (w)	W5 (b)	W11 (w)	6.5
2	Collin Alexander Miller	W50 (w)	W43 (b)	W36 (w)	L1 (w)	W40 (b)	W31 (b)	W16 (w)	6
3	Quentin Angel Martinez	L95 (w)	W123 (b)	W87 (b)	W108 (w)	D45 (w)	W66 (b)	W24 (w)	5.5
4	Justin Trey	W74 (w)	D58 (b)	W56 (w)	W92 (b)	D38 (w)	W21 (b)	D7 (w)	5.5
5	Kabir Azad	W109 (b)	W117 (w)	W25 (b)	D8 (w)	W19 (b)	L1 (w)	W26 (b)	5.5
6	Joe Dean Veal	W75 (w)	D47 (b)	W58 (w)	L38 (b)	W28 (w)	W45 (b)	W22 (b)	5.5
7	Amay Babel	W67 (b)	D73 (w)	W118 (b)	D22 (w)	W8 (b)	W14 (w)	D4 (b)	5.5
8	Samuel Edward Rose	W76 (w)	D26 (b)	W82 (w)	D5 (b)	L7 (w)	W42 (b)	W25 (b)	5
9	Abhinav Naveen Mysore	W90 (b)	D20 (w)	L26 (b)	W82 (b)	D60 (w)	W44 (w)	W37 (b)	5
10	Sri Avishkar Raghuraja	W59 (w)	W57 (b)	W24 (w)	W12 (b)	D1 (b)	D16 (w)	U---	5
11	Lucas Revellon	D29 (b)	W51 (w)	D21 (b)	W44 (w)	W36 (b)	W32 (w)	L1 (b)	5
12	James Douglas Huddleston	W60 (b)	W55 (w)	W23 (b)	L10 (w)	W20 (b)	H---	D18 (w)	5
13	Tianjun Chen	W94 (b)	W27 (w)	D17 (b)	D20 (w)	L21 (b)	W51 (w)	W36 (b)	5
14	Vinh Welsh	W91 (w)	W45 (b)	D37 (w)	W33 (b)	D31 (w)	L7 (b)	W38 (w)	5
15	James Eryk Hargrove	W64 (b)	D44 (w)	W73 (b)	L19 (w)	D42 (b)	W77 (w)	W40 (b)	5
16	Christian Karlseng	W78 (w)	W49 (b)	D38 (w)	W37 (b)	W54 (w)	D10 (b)	L2 (b)	5
17	Owen Yuan	W52 (w)	W63 (b)	D13 (w)	L31 (b)	D58 (w)	W43 (b)	W47 (w)	5
18	Michael E Donovan	L65 (w)	W85 (b)	W63 (w)	D28 (b)	W50 (w)	W71 (b)	D12 (b)	5
19	Siddharth Singh	W111 (w)	W95 (b)	D54 (w)	W15 (b)	L5 (w)	D33 (b)	W30 (w)	5
20	Evan Sherman	W101 (w)	D9 (b)	W47 (w)	D13 (b)	L12 (w)	W82 (b)	W33 (w)	5
21	Ronit Podder	W113 (w)	D30 (b)	D11 (w)	W74 (b)	W13 (w)	L4 (w)	W32 (b)	5
22	Lohit Krishna Narayan Poliseti	W93 (w)	W126 (b)	D33 (w)	D7 (b)	D24 (w)	W38 (b)	L6 (w)	4.5
23	William Wong	W99 (w)	W61 (b)	L12 (w)	L45 (b)	D63 (w)	W75 (b)	W59 (w)	4.5
24	Neil Lad	W128 (b)	W62 (w)	L10 (b)	W64 (w)	D22 (b)	W52 (w)	L3 (b)	4.5
25	Elizabeth R Braddy	W85 (w)	W65 (b)	L5 (w)	D50 (b)	W92 (w)	W54 (b)	L8 (w)	4.5
26	Devin Sanjay Martins	W86 (b)	D8 (w)	W9 (w)	L54 (b)	W75 (w)	W34 (b)	L5 (w)	4.5
27	Yangyang Shen	W115 (w)	L13 (b)	W95 (w)	L30 (b)	W80 (w)	D68 (b)	W66 (w)	4.5
28	Ellery Zhang	L1 (b)	W67 (w)	W110 (b)	D18 (w)	L6 (b)	W96 (w)	W71 (w)	4.5
29	Nathan Chang Liu	D11 (w)	H---	H---	W103 (b)	L33 (w)	W65 (b)	W56 (w)	4.5

Texas State One Day Scholastic K-12

See Cover Photo and **Additional Info:** <http://dallaschess.com/2023TexasState/>

In addition to the Texas State and Amateur tournament, a One Day Scholastic K-12 tournament was also held on Saturday, May 27th in Irving.

The Championship Section had 44 participants and was scored using a 5-round Swiss System with time controls of G/30 with a 5 second delay.

Sanjay Jaishankar won the Championship Section with a score of 4.5/5 after tie-breaks. **Sejal Singh** came in second with the same score.

Below are the top 10 results from the Championship Section.

#	Name	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total
1	Jaishankar, Sanjay	W9 (b)	W3 (w)	W7 (b)	W11 (w)	D2 (b)	4.5
2	Singh, Sejal	W18 (b)	W21 (w)	W13 (b)	W6 (b)	D1 (w)	4.5
3	Bergknoff, Gabriel	W27 (w)	L1 (b)	W30 (w)	W12 (w)	W11 (b)	4
4	Jaishankar, Akshay	X43	W32 (b)	D25 (w)	W19 (w)	D6 (b)	4
5	Chitupolu, Aneesh	L32 (w)	W29 (b)	W33 (w)	W28 (b)	W13 (b)	4
6	Nigudkar, Rusheel	W33 (b)	W23 (w)	W8 (b)	L2 (w)	D4 (w)	3.5
7	Vuyyuru, Aryan	W38 (b)	W12 (w)	L1 (w)	D8 (b)	W20 (w)	3.5
8	Kotaru, Aditya	W34 (w)	W14 (b)	L6 (w)	D7 (w)	W15 (b)	3.5
9	Nguyen, Huy	L1 (w)	W27 (b)	W36 (w)	D10 (b)	W18 (w)	3.5
10	Boinpally, Suraj	W31 (b)	W15 (w)	L11 (b)	D9 (w)	W19 (b)	3.5

The U900 Section had 75 participants and was scored using a 5-round Swiss System with time controls of G/30 with a 5 second delay.

Major M. Braden won the U900 Section with a perfect score of 5.0/5.

Below are the top 10 results from the U900 Section.

#	Name	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Total
1	Braden, Major M	W50 (w)	W44 (b)	W12 (w)	W17 (b)	W5 (b)	5
2	Clements, Liam	W7 (b)	W42 (b)	W14 (w)	D11 (w)	W13 (b)	4.5
3	Gill, Wynter	W43 (w)	D40 (b)	W16 (w)	W32 (w)	W11 (b)	4.5
4	Yella, Rohan	W66 (b)	W28 (w)	W6 (b)	L5 (w)	W21 (b)	4
5	Lu, Eric	W45 (w)	W39 (b)	W47 (w)	W4 (b)	L1 (w)	4
6	Hoak, Alfred	W20 (w)	W24 (b)	L4 (w)	W44 (b)	W18 (w)	4
7	Mallipeddi, Srinath	L2 (w)	W71 (b)	W50 (w)	W48 (b)	W22 (w)	4
8	Song, Ruichen	W52 (w)	W37 (b)	L18 (w)	W34 (w)	W19 (b)	4
9	Wang, Mark	W54 (b)	L17 (w)	W60 (b)	W31 (w)	W20 (w)	4
10	Ravipati, Arush Chowdary	W51 (b)	W53 (w)	L11 (b)	W47 (b)	W17 (w)	4

2023 National High School (K-12) Championship

Additional Info & results: <https://www.uschess.org/tournaments/2023/hs/>



Brighter-Deviprasath Round 5

The 2023 National High School (K-12) Championship was held between March 31st and April 2nd in Washington DC. There were seven rounds that were scored with a Swiss System using games controls of G/90 with a 10 second delay. There were six Sections: Championship, Under 1900, Under 1600, Under 1200, Under 800 & Unrated.

Texas was well represented in the Championship Section with **FM Sharvesh R. Deviprasath** as co-champion with tie-breaks and a score of 6.5/7. The winner also scored 6.5/7. Two games are included and can be found on *Page 26, Game #18 & #19.*

Below are the top 9 results from the Championship Section.

#	Name	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Total
1	WANG, JASON	W164	W 75	W 35	W 29	W 21	W 22	D 3	6.5
2	DEVIPRASATH, SHARVESH R	W300	W 84	W 96	D100	W162	W 12	W 14	6.5
3	CHASIN, NICO WERNER	W317	W 31	W 25	W 6	D 11	W 56	D 1	6
4	LU, MAXIMILLIAN	W115	W 46	W 34	D 16	D 5	W105	W 24	6
5	KARTHIK, ADVAITH	W153	W109	W 72	D 10	D 4	W 44	W 30	6
6	MOU, IRIS	W156	W 47	W282	L 3	W 69	W 28	W 23	6
7	GUO, ARTHUR	W 57	W 71	W105	W 13	L 22	W 58	W 21	6
8	DE LA COLINA, NICOLAS ALEJAND	W 83	W 74	D214	W 68	D 15	W 25	W 40	6
9	CRUZ, JEAN MARCO	D102	W219	D 60	W168	W 86	W 32	W 22	6



Results

Online & Social Media - Best Website < 500 Users:

1st Place: <https://InnovativeChessSolutions.com> - Caleb Brown

Visual Arts - Best Photo:

1st Place: Caissa's Best Friend - Patrick Trajeda (Region VI)

2nd Place: Capitulation - Patrick Trajeda (Region VI)

Honorable Mention: The Round Has Begun - Caleb Brown (Region II)

Honorable Mention: Endgame - Brenda Hardesty (Region IX)

Honorable Mention: Skittles - Brenda Hardesty (Region IX)

Texas School for the Deaf Championship

By Jonathan Tuck

Additional Info: <https://www.deafchessinvitational.com>

Texas School for the Deaf (TSD) hosted 6 Deaf schools from across the country to participate in chess tournaments. The schools included the Colorado School for the Deaf (CSD), Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD), Ohio School for the Deaf (OSD), Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (WPSD), Model Secondary School for the Deaf, Washington, D.C. (MSSD), and Rochester School for the Deaf, New York (RSD). Each school presents a team of 5 players, plus one reserve, going head-to-head. TSD went undefeated and scored 6-0, and then the next day they continued to win the matches to the championship! Individually, TSD's 5 players scored 38-1-2. Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf beat all other schools but couldn't catch up to TSD's powerhouse, placing 2nd. Ohio School for the Deaf won 3rd.



Champion: Texas



2nd Place: Pennsylvania



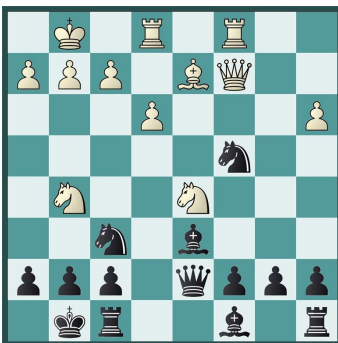
3rd Place: Ohio



← Kawan S. from OSD learned how to play chess only 5 months ago! He played solidly to our surprise, and always played with a positive attitude. He took home the sportsmanship award. He has a lot of dangerous potential and will be one to watch in the future. Four players from TSD won All-Star Team: Joshua M, Max P., Audrey A. and Karter L. from Texas, with Josiah V. from Ohio. →

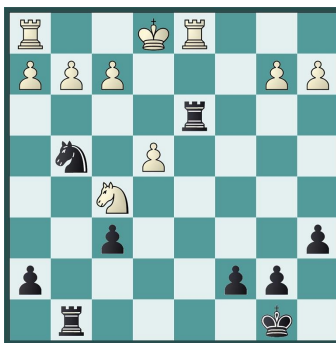


Editor's Note: The submission included some tactics from the games along with some notes regarding the games. While I didn't have room to include the notes, I did have room to include the tactic puzzles. No answers were provided. I flipped the board if it is Black's move.



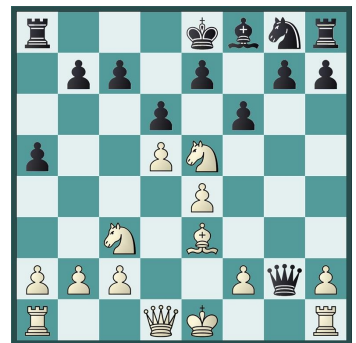
Xavier E. (TSD) vs Donovan S. (OSD)

Black to Move



Spencer A. (WPSD) vs Joshua M. (TSD)

Black to Move



Karter L. (TSD) vs Amr A. (WPSD)

White to Move

My Experience at the 2023 Texas Haring Qualifier

By Sunny Zhang



Sunny Zhang

The 2023 Texas Haring Qualifier was an event that I had been looking forward to and expecting for a long time. Back in September, when I won the Texas All Girls Middle School Championship section, they had already mentioned this event, but not when it would take place, because the other three spots would be taken from the upcoming 2023 Texas Superstate. At the 2023 Texas Superstate, I still tried very hard to keep my spot as the top girl because it would mean having to play one less opponent in the playoffs later on. Fortunately, I played decently and managed to beat my closest opponent to take the spot. Although I once represented Texas in Rockefeller, it was online, so I still really wanted to go to Haring this year, as it is finally in-person.

Prior to the Texas Haring Qualifier, the TD had a Zoom meeting with us participants to tell us about the format of the event, have us randomly draw colors, and answer questions. Because one person had given up her spot, it was a Round Robin with three rounds. I got an advantageous two whites in the drawing of the colors.

In the first round, I played WCM Ambica Yellamraju (2073), the top seed and 200 points

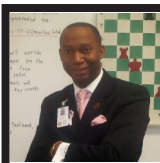
higher than me. She played the French Defense, and I ended up in a good position at first, but then she traded bishops on e3 and gave me a very weak isolated pawn. She didn't find the sharpest moves, though, so I pushed back and got into a more active position. She was in time trouble after I started attacking her pawns, and missed a tactic. I simplified into a winning king-pawn endgame where I was up a pawn, and soon won.

In the second round, I was paired black against Kalia Yuke Wang (1809). She was around my rating, so I knew it was going to be a long, hard game. I was aiming for a draw, as I was already in the lead. I had a very bad opening, where I had a very passive dark-squared bishop and lost a pawn. I traded a lot of pieces, and created a kind of blockade with my queen and bishop to stop her passed pawn. She offered me a draw, and I immediately accepted, as I was still down a pawn.

In the last round, I was white against Dhanvi Namala (1409). I had to win this round, because I probably couldn't win another playoff as I was very tired from the first two rounds. I expected this to be quite easy because her rating was much lower than mine. Instead, I missed a winning attack in the Sicilian Dragon and was forced to trade queens. Then, I got a bad position where I had to lose a rook to stop checkmate. I was completely losing, and my only hope was to promote my connected passed pawns. Luckily, she blundered a lot and I somehow managed to promote and win.

I was exultant! Winning gave me 2.5 points, which meant I was 1st no matter what, and it wouldn't have to go down to tiebreaks or more playoffs! I was and am thrilled to be representing Texas at the 11th Annual WIM Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls State Champions!

See *Game #20* on *Page 26*.



Coach's Corner - e4!

The Hubris of Good Enough

by Robert L. Myers

A Cautionary Tale for Parents, Coaches, Sponsors, Teachers, and Chess Players Alike

This column is designed to assist the thousands of parents, tens of thousands of young players, and scores of fantastic chess coaches in the great state of Texas. With 30 years of classroom, basketball court, baseball, and football field experience, a few years of online, and finally over-the-board (OTB), and online chess experience, it is still baffling how strong the hubris of youth can be. Please bear with me, as this article is prevalent in every sport that I've coached.

I lay lifeless on my classroom's hard, cold floor a little over a year ago. My students were all around me; some panicked, others prayed, and some even picked up mobile devices to record my dead body lying on the concrete floor. He was a little kid, not so small anymore, that God blessed me to mentor and coach chess since he was in the 4th grade; he plays basketball for our campus and chess for The Chess Academy; he stopped by my class and noticed my head on my desk and asked if I was okay. I was sweating as if I had been outside in the rain. It was a clear Chamber of Commerce day, not a cloud in the vast Texas sky. He helped me from my desk, and when I collapsed, he immediately called 911, picked up my radio, and called for backup, and the entire admin team, including Dr. Luis Ricardo Landa, my then-head principal, came to my rescue. Our school secretary took off her outer blouse and waved down the ambulance to the correct entrance of our huge 6A campus. The student, Ja'Marcus, placed my thumb on the screen of my mobile device to unlock it so he could call my loved ones. Eddie Garza was driving the ambulance; Myra Olivares {not her real name} was my emergency room nurse; both were former students from my first campus, Milby High School, 30 years ago. My surgeon is the father of the drum major of the school band. I was resuscitated with CPR. in my class until the ambulance arrived by two of my closest co-workers, Tracy Crawford and Bianka Mason. They moonlight with HFD, the Houston Fire Department. as EMTs. Dr. Balakrishnan said that I had a 97% blockage of my arteries. Here's the link to the nation-

al news story that aired on CBS, FOX, and ABC about the heart attack, which is two minutes long. <https://tinyurl.com/CoachMyersHeartAttackStory>

After two surgeries and two stints near my heart, I'm in the best health of my life a year later. I'm back coaching chess full-time, and one of my teams, The Chess Academy at César E. Chávez, won 1st Place Team in the 78th Texas State Scholastic Chess Championship in the U-900 section and 2nd Place in the Championship section. Due in no small measure to 100s of hours of practice, our coaching staff, of Aaron "A-Lo" Lazo, Charles "Ice-Man" Webster, G. Bryant "Coach, Use the Force Luke" Lucas, Christopher "Coach Jack" Jackson, and Michael "Coach Mike" Williams, two Grandmasters, and two Masters, trained and pushed our team to victory.

The coaching staff had a substantial daily and arduous task on our hands. The battle of the biggest enemy, the most challenging opponent we would ever face across the board, EGO. The hubris of "I'm good enough." Our guys and girls thought because we had such incredible local chess tournament success, they were "good enough" to take on the absolute stone-cold killers at the State Scholastic Chess Tournament in Dallas, TX. They had no idea of the intellectual, razor sharp chess buzz saw of chess matches that they were racing towards. They even challenged me on positions in practice, and one even said to another student, "I can beat coach, he's full of it." Less than 21 moves later, that statement was recanted by a humbled player with only 20 games, still a "provisional rating" of 649. Getting guys to practice every day 45 days out from the tournament was an enormous struggle. We have "3-a-days," two weeks before major chess tournaments. (7 a.m. chess practice, puzzles, and positional tactics and analysis. Advocacy or lunch practice, casual play and one-on-one battles, and we have mandatory after-school practice that lasts until usually 6- p.m.) These are easily 12-15 hour days, and my wife says, "That causes heart attacks." Players were desperately looking for reasons to skip practice. I brought in previous alums to challenge guys. We did simulations and

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

weekend practices, including Sundays, some hybrid, in-person, F2F, face-to-face, and virtual classes, lessons, and lectures. We threw all of the spaghetti in the wall, hoping something would stick. I flew in Masters, did virtual training, and even had a 3-day mini-chess camp with the GM that drew Grandmaster Magnus Carlsen in the Olympiad in 2016.



*The Knights of The Chess Academy
7 am Virtual Training with Tactical Analysis*

Master James Rousselle, the former Louisiana State Chess Association (LCSA) President, Master James, as we affectionately call him, had a student call him "Jedi-Master James." He graciously drove five and a half hours, 347 miles from his home in New Orleans, to give us a lecture, simul, and whip up on a few of our strongest scholastic players, all with hopes of helping The KNIGHTS of The Chess Academy capture another state title. His recall is uncanny. I've seen him recall chess positions from 1924 (of course, he wasn't born yet, these are positions from books he's read) and entire games and positions from long ago. He quotes the games of Grandmasters Vasily Smyslov, Alexander Alekhine, Garry Kasparov, Mikhail Tal, and his favorite American Grandmaster, Robert James "Bobby" Fischer, in conversation seemingly out of thin air. These are students that have had over 60 tournaments with ratings over 1600 for years. He was wearing our stylish white Chess Academy polo shirts, "Master James, that's a nice shirt. We haven't seen Coach Myers or anyone else wear that color. How long have you been coming to help out the KNIGHTS?" Master James smiled and reminded me later that the shirt that fit snugly was older than the students in the room. That's how long he's been a fan of The Chess Academy, my friend, mentor, and brother.

Two weeks out from the State Chess Tournament, I shared with all of our Chess Academy campuses that this will be the first OTB, major tournament for most players since COVID-19 disrupted the chess world. Masks and other PPEs were the order of the day for

chess tournaments worldwide and created an entirely new industry. Many chess programs collapsed. The Chess Academy on my campus went from 70 to 7 players. Many business failures led to destruction from addiction, depression, anxiety, suicides, and, unfortunately, far more. Even marriages and families were torn apart during this time. So as a scholastic chess team with a record of over 155 championships, we could not fail. Our reputation was on the line locally. They say, "A person only needs three things to be truly



*Srinath Mallipeddi
Looking deep in the 1st round*



*Josh Panagos
"I hope he doesn't see it."*

happy; someone to love, something to do, and something to hope for." I'm all for winning, intestinal fortitude, and mental toughness. A true life of purpose requires "the something-to-do package." Even the Grandmaster in the Guinness Book of World Records for the most games played while wearing a blindfold, Grandmaster Timur Gareyev, had a tough time getting our 16-man team, which we called the "Sweet 16," to chess practice at 7 am. "Aaah, I'm good enough," was one senior's attitude. "I'll do puzzles at home, coach; I'm putting in work." Defeating a warm bed and the ego of these guys was the "battering ram" coupled with ego. Completing the strategy of high-end step-by-step training, the Principal, Mrs. Marlen Martinez, provided travel costs, meals, and lodging for this group. All 16 of The Chess Academy's @Chávez class of 2023 players, most of whom will graduate with GPAs above 4.0, will find out through the game below that they were barely "good enough." We had two Grandmasters, Master James, and Master Nick Matta, on our coaching staff.

The following game earned the title of Master, played on September 6, 2022, vs. Dex Webster, 2253, playing White. Nicholas Matta, 2362, playing Black for the Louisiana State Championship. Chess Master Nick Matta narrates these annotations. Written after the tournament for his improvement, his authentic, detailed thoughts on the game!

See *Game #21* on *Page 27*.

Master Nick shared what he learned about himself after that game virtually with The Chess Academy, KNIGHTS. "Coach, I realized that I was not good enough. I was frustrated with myself that I hadn't prepared for that opening line, knowing that my opponent would know that I would know that he knew that I knew his opening e4, so he opened with d4. I was not good enough."

My 30-year classroom advice as an educator is to prepare for the unexpected. as a master chess coach, to be the best, you must be willing to do what others won't do or can't do. Master Nick, Master James, and two Grandmasters, plus a boatload of Chess Academy alumni, agree, "You must spend every spare moment preparing for battle." The opposition will. Grandmaster

Garry Kasparov says, "Tactics is knowing what to do when there is something to do. Strategy is knowing what to do when there is nothing to do." In *The Art of War*, Sun Tzu says, "Every battle is won before it is ever fought." Preparation is the key to victory. To be victorious, you need to manage both your resources and your forces wisely." So then, what my big brother Master René Phillips quoted to our team and me, "Preparation eliminates perspiration," is true. Start following tested and proven openings. Study endgame theory and subscribe to the possibility that you don't know enough and aren't good enough; your opponents may have prepared better. You do not have unlimited time. You need not be entertained but rather informed. This mantra is an uncensored, unedited confluence of rational and irrational things to make you a better chess player, chess parent, and chess coach because even I am not good enough---yet.

Houston Chess Studio

By David Mackey, TD - The Poison Pawns Chess Club

There was a full house this past weekend, May 19-21, at The Houston Chess Studio. 54 players occupied all 26 boards. Chess players of all levels competed for \$2,500 in prize money in the 5 round Swiss, G/90, +30. Plus there was a waiting list of 10 players who wanted to play, but didn't get to, because they waited to register until after the tournament had already reached its 54 player capacity. So if you are considering playing in the \$2,500 June Championship, you better get registered soon, or you too could get left out. We currently only have room for 54. Info and registration at:

<https://www.kingregistration.com/event/June2023Championship>

The 28 players in the Championship section, 1800 and up, included 3 GMs, 2 IMs and 2 Life Masters. The \$800 first prize was won by GM Steingrimsson with a 4.5. Splitting the \$400 2nd-place money were GM Carlos A. Hevia Alejano and IM Bjorn Moeller Oschner. Each scored 4 points.

The upset of the tournament was when Ethan Wang, playing the black pieces and with a pre-tournament rating of 1878, beat IM Oschner. Another upset was when Owen Yaun, pre-tournament 1784, also playing with the black pieces, was able to defeat Life Master Jeffrey Reinberg. Way to go, guys!

In the Challenger section, 1799-1300, Alicia Zhang had a perfect score of 5-0. Winning \$550 and pick-

ing up 116 rating points. Way to go, girl! There was a four way tie for 2nd. With 3.5 points, and dividing up \$275 were Mihika Krishnan, Zach Graves, Peter Rucker and Karstein Bee.

In the Moving Up section, U1300, unrated Vinh Nguyen won with 4 wins and 1 loss. Being unrated, he was only eligible for \$150 of the \$300 first place prize. The remaining \$150 was combined with the \$175 second place prize, for a total of \$325, which was split three ways by Mark Sunagatullin, Clark Archer, and Brady Bishop who each took home \$108 by scoring 3.5.

The crosstable for the event can be found at: <https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtbiMain.php?202305218122>

Thanks to Edgar for putting on another excellent tournament. I sure hope your plans to expand into that space next door work out!

And thanks to everyone who played. Congrats to the winners, and better luck next time to everyone else.

For a list of upcoming tournaments and events at The Houston Chess Studio at:

<https://www.kingregistration.com/affiliate/poisonpawns>

Come on! Let's play some chess! At The Studio!

89TH ANNUAL



SOUTHWEST OPEN 2023



**7SS, G90;INC30, FIDE/USCF RATED
1-DAY SCHOLASTIC, 5SS, G25;D5**

4-day or 3-day schedule. \$109 EF by 8/18. \$120 by 8/25. \$132 thereafter. 3 Sections.

9/1 - 9/4

FREE SHUTTLE  NEAR IAH

Sheraton North Houston
15700 JFK Blvd. 77032

\$35 early EF for Scholastic on 9/2/23. Trophies & Medals. Team and Individual awards! 4 Sections.

kingregistration.com/event/89SWO

Tactics Time!

by Tim Brennan

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

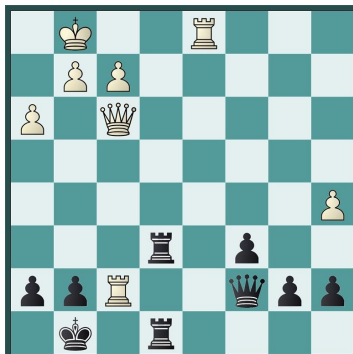
Answers can be found on page 18.



1. Ben Gamez – David Rodriguez
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2021
Black to Move



2. Justin Palacios – Austin Jones
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2021
White to Move



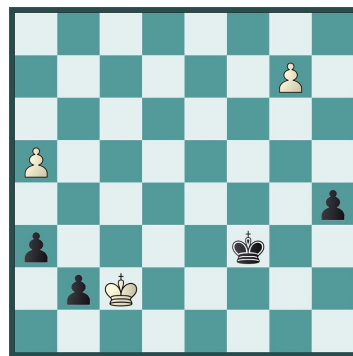
3. Pranav Medhi – Mi. Rodriguez
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2021
Black to Move



4. Esteban Ramirez – D. Mercado
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2021
White to Move



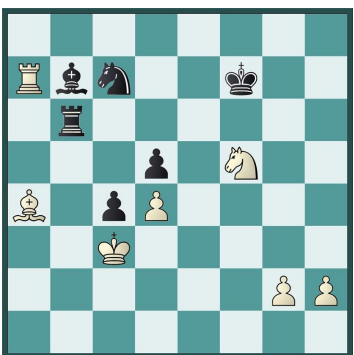
5. Sergio Guerrero – Sohan Badade
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2021
Black to Move



6. Stephen Dena – H. Humphreys
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2021
Black to Move

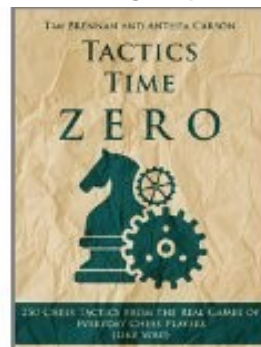


7. Jack Easton – Austin Siby
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2021
White to Move



8. Yannick Kambrath – A. Srivatsav
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2021
White to Move

Available Digitally Now!!!



www.amazon.com/dp/B014AL1FRG/

Women			Girls Age 16 (continued)			Girls Age 11 (continued)		
14	Malicka, Maria	2375	52	Shivam, Annika Elizabeth	1278	47	Gao, Mia	1116
22	Peycheva, Gergana	2341	53	Thornhill, Eowyn	1262	48	Kuchibhatla, Nitya	1108
24	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2328	54	Asthigiri, Lakshana	1259	55	Cisneros, Ariana	1071
34	Shamatava, Ana	2252	56	Athila, Akshaya	1246	68	Zamarripa, Salma	997
41	Goyal, Tarini	2224	59	Solis, Natalie	1235	68	Perez, Andrea	997
48	Morales, Luciana	2186	72	Nitturi, Rajni	1137	73	Nair, Aditi	966
77	Yellamraju, Ambica	2073	77	Cardin, Maddie Taylor	1096	74	Barba, Isabella Olivia	964
84	Palmero Martinez, Rachel	2065	83	Adams, Sapphire	1058	78	Muniz, Paola L	935
87	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2060	90	Sista, Himaja	989	83	Bustinza, Lia A	916
			97	Pilla, Ananya Valli	953	91	Garza, Brithany H	878
Women 65 and Over			Girls Age 15			Girls Age 10		
30	Hardesty, Brenda T	1163	5	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2060	12	Zhang, Ellery	1642
39	Cain, Jo Ellen	764	18	Wang, Kalina Yuke	1809	15	Senapati, Avni	1568
44	Swafford, Barbara R	317	27	Roy, Aanya	1697	16	Fu, Elaine	1556
Women 50 and Over			30	Reddy, Tanvi Chinthagunta	1629	17	Zhang, Alicia S	1555
6	Root, Alexey	2000	41	Hwang, Alexis	1498	44	Perel, Livia	1154
38	Stuckert, Elena	1463	43	Sun, Yimeng Jenny	1481	47	Liu, Mina	1145
57	Kneen, Melanie Anne	1212	48	Uviedo, Violette	1445	56	Duran, Violet	1047
62	Hardesty, Brenda T	1163	55	Ham, Emily	1400	58	Nguyen, Suri Ngoc	1012
84	Cain, Jo Ellen	764	59	Gomez, Frida Mariela	1336	65	Lu, Andie	984
88	Pulliam, Landra	737	77	Mehta, Tanisi	1220	67	Vargas, Valerie	974
Girls Under 21			92	Gorisipati, Adithi	1140	71	Contreras, Mckenzie	954
4	Malicka, Maria	2375	97	Pradeepkumar, Kalki	1099	78	Kalavagunta, Saanvika C	918
8	Peycheva, Gergana	2341	Girls Age 14			79	Valdez, Arianna Nickole	917
9	Nguyen, Emily Quynh	2328	21	Gupta, Sara Sachin	1660	89	Gonzalez, Kimberly	876
35	Yellamraju, Ambica	2073	40	Singh, Sejal	1495	96	Ondorica, Maria Alexandra	843
40	Lomakina, Anzhelika	2060	43	Mcnutt, Kaitlynn Lee	1483	99	Munsayac, Stella	835
49	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2023	50	Akella, Sravya	1424	99	Perez, Layla Olivia	818
82	Yellamraju, Aparna	1907	55	Ande, Eesha K	1372	99	Richards, Raina	818
100	Zhang, Sunny	1862	58	Sharan, Neha	1338	Girls Age 9		
Girls Age 18			64	Kirumaki, Shreya A	1307	20	Choi, Nyla	1208
9	Nguyen, Anh Nhu	2023	66	Seals, Ayre Allbritton	1300	22	Tiwari, Aahana	1176
36	Kao, Simona Y	1470	70	Laskaris, Evie	1261	27	Hiwale, Riona	1119
40	Basepogu, Sarah	1392	78	Cruz, Vivica Renee	1224	42	Karry, Tapasya	929
46	Hernandez, Madelyn	1316	84	Camacho, Kaitlyn Alexandria	1197	53	Galvan, Ashley	835
47	Gunukula, Renee	1305	87	Milova, Vladislava	1194	55	Borse, Anushka	831
64	Castillo, Isabella Deanda	974	92	Mulholland, Audrey	1147	58	Kaul, Anika Shambhavi	804
65	Williams, Patricia	957	98	Dhanekula, Shyna Choudary	1107	69	Serrato, Nailey A	739
72	Morales, Rhea	870	100	Srivatsan, Ananya	1099	76	Parame, Frances Jamie	689
79	Hernandez, Aunica J	669	Girls Age 13			79	Skripkina, Elizaveta	681
Girls Age 17			14	Prakash, Nandini	1743	82	Guzman, Lua	676
3	Yellamraju, Ambica	2073	19	Krishnan, Mihika	1627	84	Juarez, Andrea Catarina C	671
9	Yellamraju, Aparna	1907	25	Stubbins, Isabella	1603	92	Roefer, Riley	641
24	Tiruvedhula, Saanvi	1696	39	Tiruvedhula, Suhavi	1450	96	Martens, Lyla Mae	626
38	Naidu, Suchitra Ganesh	1481	45	Shankar, Aashritha Vidhya	1384	99	Mendoza, Rosabel Paloma	623
42	Padilla, Karlee	1457	47	Hosur, Sanmita	1366	Girls Age 8		
55	Babaria, Rajvi Rakesh	1333	67	Callens, Jael	1174	2	Yao, Annie	1711
57	Aggarwal, Manika	1325	71	Gomez, Nelly D	1140	4	Liu, Chloe	1594
63	Hernandez, Sarah	1269	75	Ford, Katherine Michelle	1108	23	Ganesh, Kaira Ananya	984
68	Mallick, Lipika	1185	80	Gracia, Emma Cadence	1084	33	Zhao, Lily	852
69	Trowbridge, Auria M	1178	98	Venkadesan, Prathyuktha	983	42	Patino, Eliana	807
72	Balderas, Ana Luisa	1174	Girls Age 12			55	Loera, Samantha Nicole	712
75	Velador, Evelyn M	1157	6	Zhang, Sunny	1862	58	Banala, Ira Jaya	663
77	Lucero, Amalie	1118	18	Borse, Tanvi	1674	73	Bansal, Aishwarya	646
78	Dasagi, Aakanksha	1103	24	Kommuri, Sahithi	1584	85	Vadapalli, Shreya Vasudha	585
80	Morales, Natalia Aseneth	1029	39	Namala, Dhanvi	1409	96	Vargas, Zaira	537
81	Iyer, Madhalasa	1026	44	Raghuraja, Sri Yashvi	1371	98	Serrano, Abbey	477
82	Parvathaneni, Voshita	1017	45	Vinayagaram, Nethra	1352		Molling, Lailani	470
84	Cisneros, Anahi	1005	46	Vijayaraghava, Aditi	1338	Girls Age 7 and Under		
89	Talla, Saumya	963	67	Pidathala, Esha	1189	30	Sony, Neha Teresa	731
94	Rodriguez, Melissa	913	88	Velu, Shambhavi	1058	39	Panta, Keerthana Reddy	683
			94	Song, Lucia	1039	41	Peng, Grace	675
Girls Age 16			Girls Age 11			60	Sanchez, Adalie Marie	614
14	Kumar, Sruthi Bharath	1691	5	Shen, Yangyang	1724	74	Quiroga, Alana	541
41	Vasquez, Izabel	1420	30	Rios-Ocampo, Sofia	1251	78	Campos, Noelie	510
48	Zhang, Taylor Chengyue	1299	31	Maddipati, Sriyani Sai	1249	84	Mamidibattula, Manasvini	489
51	Hunt, Vivian	1280						

Tactics Time! Answers - *Download Now* (see page 21)

1. 5...Bg4 traps the White Queen.
2. 13.exd5 forks the Black Knight and Bishop
3. 28...Re1+ 29.Rxe1 Rxe1#
4. White recaptured on e2 missing a forced mate with 14.Qa4+ Qc6 15.Qxc6+ Ke7 16.Qd7+ (or 16.Bg5+ Nf6 17.Qd7#) Kf6 17.Qxf7#
5. 12...d3 traps the White Bishop
6. 48...g5 creates a passed pawn that cannot be stopped.
7. 18. Rac1 traps the Black Queen
8. 46.Rxb7 Rxb7 47.Nd6+ picks up a piece. Playing 46.Nd6+ first with a similar idea also works.

Cover. 40.Rxh6+ taking advantage of the pinned g-pawn.

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/>

Region VI Scholastic Championship

By Sarah Brauner

Additional Info: <https://www.uschess.org/msa/XtblMain.php?202302258072-14920281>

The Region VI Scholastic Championships were held in Austin on February 25th. There were 378 players competing in 5 rounds across 12 sections.

The games had progressively longer time controls as the tournament went on, to help prepare players for the Super State competition that followed in early March in McAllen. The tournament was held at Regents School of Austin, which has a lot of great outdoor space for players to get some fresh air between games. The kids had a great playing environment, and several parents commented on how smoothly things went.

In the high school championship section, Ganesh Kumarappan was the favorite by rating, so the pressure was on him to perform. He lived up to it and won with a perfect 5/5 score! Ganesh is a senior at Westwood High and was a member of the winning High School Championship team at this year's Super State tournament. He'll be heading off to college this fall, so these were his last Texas scholastic events.

The favorite in the middle school championship section, Atharva Bist, is a relative newcomer to central Texas. Atharva began his competitive

chess journey in Arizona and moved to Texas just before the pandemic shut down the tournament scene. Atharva won with a strong 4.5/5 score, representing BASIS Austin.

In the elementary championship section, 3rd grader Arav Serikar from Cox Elementary School in Cedar Park dominated his competitors with a 4.5/5 score and a whopping 232-point rating increase! Arav has only been competing for about a year and a half, so he's one to watch.

Advik Manchanda, a 2nd grader from BASIS Austin, won the primary championship section easily, boasting a perfect 5/5 score! Advik has also been playing for just a year and a half and will surely continue to improve.

Congratulations to all of the winners, and really, to all of the players and their families. From the joy of an unexpected win to the heartbreak of a tough loss, chess puts players through the wringer emotionally and teaches important lessons. Practicing losing with grace is just as important as winning.

See *Game #22* on *Page 29*.

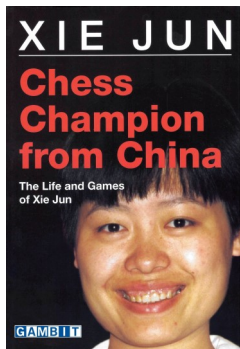


New Chess Books - Chess Champion from China by Xie Jun

By Dr. Alexey Root, WIM

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

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



[Gambit Publications](#) first published *Chess Champion from China: The Life and Games of Xie Jun* in 1998. In 2022, it reissued the 1998 book as a paperback. The 2022 book is 224 pages long and retails for \$22.95. A six-page excerpt, which includes Xie Jun's win over Bent Larsen, is available at Gambit's website.

Besides being Xie Jun's own chess story, her book gives

insights into China's rise to chess eminence. The rest of this article is taken from one of my columns on [SparkChess](#), a website I write for twice a month. The [SparkChess article](#) about Ding Liren and Xie Jun appeared on April 30, 2023, the day Ding Liren became World Chess Champion.

Chess Champion from China

Ding Liren winning the FIDE World Championship 2023 reminds fans that China is a chess powerhouse. Perhaps the first time a Chinese player captured the world's attention was October 29, 1991. That's when Xie Jun (family name Xie) won the Women's World Chess Championship.

China and Chess

Xie was Women's World Chess Champion from 1991 to 1996 and again from 1999 to 2001. Xie was the first of six Chinese-born Women's World Chess Champions. From July 5-15, 2023, the current champion Ju Wenjun and her challenger, Lei Tingjie, will play for the 2023 Women's World Chess Championship. That match will take place in China, as both women are Chinese.

The Chinese Women's Olympiad Team won gold medals in 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2016, and 2018. The Chinese Olympiad Team won gold medals in 2014 and 2018.

Xie Jun visits Astana



Xie Jun, April 27, 2023, photo by David Llada

On April 27, Xie visited the FIDE World Championship 2023 match between Ding Liren from China and Ian Nepomniachtchi from Russia. The match was held from April 7 to May 1 in Astana, Kazakhstan.

When Xie was interviewed for the [FIDE YouTube channel](#), Nepomniachtchi had just lost Game 12, an up-and-down game. Speaking generally about chess, Xie said, "Mistakes are part of the game." At the end of a high-pressure match, she continued, mistakes happen. Xie noted that those who watch the games and make suggestions are not under the same pressure as the match participants. She added that an up-and-down game, like Game 12, can unsettle both its

Links relating to the article

Gambit Publications - http://www.gambitbooks.com/books/Chess_Champion_from_China.html

SparkChess - <https://www.sparkchess.com/>

SparkChess article - <https://www.sparkchess.com/chess-champion-from-china.html>

FIDE YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUOYUqP1h9U>

winner and loser. Xie advised Ian Nepomniachtchi and Ding Liren to “take good rest, eat well, show your best. Then, maybe you get luck.”

Game 12 of the FIDE World Championship 2023 is included in the Games Section of *Texas Knights*. See Game #23 on Page 29.

Most Memorable Game

Asked about her own most memorable game, Xie picked the last game of her first Women’s World Chess Championship match. That last game was Game 15, played on October 29, 1991.

Xie needed a draw in Game 15 to win the match against Women’s World Chess Champion Maia Chiburdanidze. The next day, October 30, was Xie’s 21st birthday. During Game 15, she recalled, “I wanted the draw so much I didn’t see how to win.”

Xie drew and became the Women’s World Chess Champion. Yet Game 15 bothered her. She could hardly sleep that night, “thinking about the game like a movie in my head.” The next morning, while everyone was wishing her a happy birthday and congratulating her on the championship, she was thinking that she missed a win. Despite the disappointment of not winning that game, she now thinks, “I was so lucky I was there.”

In the Games Section of *Texas Knights* is Game 15 of the 1991 Women’s World Chess Championship without annotations.

Chess Champion from China

Game 15 is thoroughly annotated in *Chess Champion from China: The Life and Games of Xie Jun*. Winning ideas are most obvious at move 27 and at move 51. On move 27, Xie could play the more aggressive (and better) 27. Qa7+ with the idea of 28. Rf7. On move 51, Xie calculated the draw with 51. Rb1. But winning is 51. h6! See Game #24 on Page 29.

In addition to Game 15, 39 other games from various stages of Xie’s chess career are annotated by Xie. The book additionally includes 12 puzzle positions from Xie’s games.

I recommend *Chess Champion from China: The Life and Games of Xie Jun* for its annotated games and puzzles and for its descriptions of tournament sites and competitors. Xie often critiqued tournament sites. For example, the hotel assigned to players participating in the 1990 Women’s Interzonal at Genting Highlands, Malaysia, was being renovated. There were constant construction noises. Many players, she noted, moved to another hotel. I can attest that her description is correct, as I also participated in that Interzonal. My husband and I moved to the quieter hotel. It had other quirks, but that’s a story for another time.

In contrast to her complaints about tournament sites, Xie is complimentary about her opponents. For example, about Nona Gaprindashvili, one of Xie’s predecessors as Women’s World Chess Champion, she wrote, “Nona has always impressed me for her fighting chess, and she was one of my great examples when I was a junior.”

A note about games in this issue

I gave Chessbase 17 (with Stockfish 15.1 selected as the default engine) the task of performing a technical analysis of all 80 games that I received from the State and Amateur tournament. And it took a tad less than 24 hours to complete that task (on a 6-core computer running at a tad over 2.5 GHz). Primarily because I wanted to provide (at least some of) the analyzed games in this issue. But, as I was entering games from the articles, I realized that one game in particular was going to severely limit the number of games I could provide, and if I included the variations provided by the engine analysis (and even some tactical puzzles to go along with them) that there wouldn’t be as many games included in the issue.

So, I had a bit of a dilemma on my hands. Do I get rid of the annotations from the multi-page game that was hand analyzed by a master player and included

with one of the articles submitted to *Texas Knights* and possibly even remove diagrams from another annotated game from an article that I received ... and then provide more of the engine analyzed games? Or do I provide readers with the benefit of the hand analyzed games and just provide the moves of more non-annotated games from the State and Amateur tournament. Or do I just have fewer, but analyzed, games in this issue? I decided this is my preference.

TCA is a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit, so I believe we should ‘educate’ on occasion. Since I provide ALL games received for tournaments that I publish in *Texas Knights* in the downloadable PGN files, regardless of whether they are used in the publication. I believe if I have analysis for a game, I should include it in *Texas Knights*. Sure, there are fewer games published, but the other games are readily available.

Game Index

+ = Additional Games in Games PGN file.

* = No Article Associated with Games.

#	Tournament	ECO	Result	Annotated by	Rnd	Date	Page(s)
1	2023 Texas State and Amateur+	D78	1-0	Stockfish 15.1	1.2	26.05.2023	22
2	2023 Texas State and Amateur	B40	0-1	Stockfish 15.1	1.3	26.05.2023	22
3	2023 Texas State and Amateur	A11	1-0	Stockfish 15.1	1.8	26.05.2023	22
4	2023 Texas State and Amateur	B10	0-1	Stockfish 15.1	1.9	26.05.2023	22-23
5	2023 Texas State and Amateur	D00	0-1	Stockfish 15.1	1.11	27.05.2023	23
6	2023 Texas State and Amateur	C54	1-0	Stockfish 15.1	1.13	27.05.2023	23
7	2023 Texas State and Amateur	A65	1-0	Stockfish 15.1	1.14	27.05.2023	23
8	2023 Texas State and Amateur	E00	1-0	Stockfish 15.1	1.16	27.05.2023	23
9	2023 Texas State and Amateur	D00	0-1	Stockfish 15.1	1.17	27.05.2023	24
10	2023 Texas State and Amateur	B08	0-1	Stockfish 15.1	1.18	27.05.2023	24
11	2023 Texas State and Amateur	B11	0-1	Stockfish 15.1	1.19	27.05.2023	24
12	2023 Texas State and Amateur	D35	0-1	Stockfish 15.1	2.2	27.05.2023	24-25
13	2023 Texas State and Amateur	C47	1-0	Stockfish 15.1	2.3	27.05.2023	25
14	2023 Texas State and Amateur	B34	0-1	Stockfish 15.1	2.4	27.05.2023	25
15	2023 Texas State and Amateur	A01	1-0	Stockfish 15.1	2.5	27.05.2023	25
16	2023 Texas State and Amateur	B33	½-½	Stockfish 15.1	2.7	27.05.2023	25-26
17	2023 Texas State and Amateur	C01	½-½	Stockfish 15.1	4.4	28.05.2023	26
18	2023 National High School Championship	A01	1-0	J. J. Lang	?	03.04.2023	26
19	2023 National High School Championship	E68	0-1	J. J. Lang	?	03.04.2023	26
20	2023 Texas Haring Qualifier	C07	1-0	Sunny Zhang	1	15.04.2023	26-27
21	LA State Championship 2022	A62	½-½	N. Matta	6	06.09.2022	27-29
22	2023 Region 6 Champs	B42	1-0	G. Kumarappan	3	25.02.2023	29
23	FIDE World Chess Championship 2023	D04	1-0	N/A	12	26.04.2023	29
24	Manila Wch-Woman Manila 15	A00	½-½	N/A	15	29.10.1991	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.

1 **Srivatshav, R. (2512)**
Pathak, R. (2021)

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.c4 c6 5.b3 Bg7 6.Bb2 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.d4 Ne4 9.Nc3 Ndf6 10.Nd2 Nxd2 D78: Fianchetto Grünfeld: 6 0-0 c6. 11.Qxd2 Be6 12.Na4 dxc4N The position is equal. [Predecessor: 12...b6 13.Rac1 Qd7 14.Rfd1 Rac8 15.Qb4 Bh3 16.Bh1 Rfd8 17.Nc3 Bh6 18.Rb1 Bf5 ½-½ Kortschnoj,V-Averbakh,Y URS-ch22 Final Moscow 1955 (19)] 13.Nc5 Qc8 14.bxc4 Bxc4 15.Rfc1 b5 16.Nb3 Bd5 17.Na5 Bxg2 18.Kxg2 Rd8 [18...Qd7= keeps the balance.] 19.Rxc6 [19.a4] 19...Qf5 20.Qc2 Qd5+ [Don't take 20...Ne4 21.f3 b4 22.Nb7 (22.fxe4 Qxa5 23.Qc4 a6)] 21.Kg1 [21.f3=] 21...Ne4! 22.Nb3 [22.Rd1!] 22...Nd6 [Better is 22...a5! 23.f3 Nxg3] 23.Rc5↑ White has the initiative. 23...Qe6 24.d5 Qh3 [24...Qe4= remains equal.] 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 26.Nd4 Prevents Qf5. And now Rc7 would win. 26...Rdc8 27.Nxb5 White is more active. 27...Nxb5 28.Qb2+ f6 29.Qxb5 [White should try 29.Rxb5 Black must now prevent Rb7. 29...Rc7 30.e4] 29...Rab8 Prevents Rb7 30.Qc4 Strongly threatening Rc7. 30...Rxc5 31.Qxc5 Endgame. KQR-KQR 31...Qd7 32.Qd4 Rb5 White leaves nothing to chance now. 33.Rd1 Ra5 34.Rd2 Qb7 35.Qe4 Rc5 [35...Qd7] 36.Kg2 Rc1 [36...Qd7] 37.h4 Kf8 [37...h5 38.Qe6 Rc7] 38.Rd4+- Qb1? [38...Rb1 keeps fighting. 39.h5 Kg7 40.hxg6 hxg6] 39.Qxb1 Rxb1 KR-KR 40.d6 exd6 41.Rxd6 Ke7 42.Ra6 Rb7 43.g4 Kf7 44.g5 fxc5 45.hxc5 Kg7 46.f4 h6 47.gxh6+ Kxh6 48.f5 Rb6 49.Rxb6 White mates. 49...axb6 50.f6 g5 51.e4! 1-0

2 **Pathak,Dhruv (2020)**
Deviprasath, S. (2424)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Bd3 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.0-0 e5 8.Qe2 Bc5 B40: Sicilian: 2...e6, Unusual lines. 9.c4 [9.Nc3] 9...0-0 10.Nc3 [10.Be3 Bxe3 11.Qxe3] 10...Re8 [10...Bd4] 11.Bg5 [11.Be3 Bd4 12.h3; Predecessor: 11.Be3 Bxe3 12.Qxe3 d6 13.Be2 Be6 14.Rfd1 Qc7 15.b4 Rad8 16.Rac1 Qb7 17.b5 cxb5 18.Nxb5 Qxe4 19.Nxd6 Qxe3 20.fxe3 0-1 Berke,A (2141)-Doncea,V (2404) Krk Golden Island op 3rd Malinska 2015 (2)] 11...h6 12.Bh4 [12.Be3= is more appropriate. 12...Bd4 13.Qd2] 12...Rb8 13.Kh1 Bd4 [13...g5!? 14.Bg3 Bd4] 14.Rab1 d6 [14...g5!? 15.Bg3 d6=] 15.Qd2 Be6 [15...g5!? 16.Bg3 Nh5=] 16.Qc2 g5 17.Bg3 Nh5 18.Ne2 Bc5 19.f3 Nf4 [19...Nxc3+ 20.Nxc3 Re7] 20.Bf2 Kh7 21.Ng3 [21.b3] 21...Qa5 22.a3 Rb7 Black has more active pieces. 23.Be1? [23.Rfd1 Bxf2 24.Qxf2] 23...Qb6? [23...Qa6+ aiming for ...Nxd3. 24.b4 Nxd3 25.bxc5 Rxb1 26.Qxb1 Nxc5] 24.b4! = Bd4 And now ...Qa6 would win. 25.Nf5 [White should play 25.Bd2=] 25...Nxd3 [25...Bxf5□ 26.exf5 Rbb8] 26.Qxd3 Bxf5 27.exf5 d5 28.Rd1 Qa6 [28...f6] 29.Rc1 [29.b5= cxb5 30.cxd5] 29...Bb2↑ Black is in control. 30.f6+? [30.Rb1 dxc4 31.Qc2] 30...e4+- 31.fxe4 Bxc1 32.e5+ Kg8 Black is clearly winning. 33.b5 Qxa3 34.Bc3 d4! 35.Qxd4 [35.bxc6 Rc7] 35...cxb5 0-1

3 **Sanchez,R. (2145)**
Barnes,M. (1970)

1.Nf3 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.c4 c6 4.Nc3 Bf5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.d3 A11: English Opening: 1...c6. 6...Nxc3 7.bxc3 e6 8.e4 White is slightly better. 8...Bg6

9.Rb1 Qc7 10.Nh4 [Predecessor: 10.Qb3 b6 11.Be2 Be7 12.0-0 Nd7 13.Nd4 e5 14.Nf5 Bxf5 15.exf5 0-0 16.Qc4 1-0 Bentivegna,F (2299)-Messina,D (1939) Terrasini Mediteranean op 3rd 2012 (1)] 10...Nd7 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.g3 Be7 13.Bg2 Rd8 14.d4 0-0 15.0-0 Nb6 [15...b5] 16.Qb3 Rd7 [16...c5 was worth a try.] 17.Be3+- Rfd8 18.a4 e5? Loses the game. [18...Nc8 is a better defense. 19.c4 b6] 19.Bh3 exd4 20.cxd4 Rxd4 21.Bxd4 [Weaker is 21.a5 Nc4+] 21...Rxd4 22.a5 Nc4 23.Qxb7 Qxb7 24.Rxb7 Bc5 25.Rc1 Kh7 26.a6 Bb6 27.Rxf7 Ne5 28.Re7 Rxe4 29.Kf1 c5 30.Rd1 c4 31.Bg2 Rd4 32.Rxd4 Bxd4 Endgame. KR-BKBN 33.Ke2 c3 34.f4 c2 35.Rc7 [35.fxe5? perishes. 35...c1Q 36.Kd3 Qc3+ 37.Ke4 Bb6+] 35...Ng4 36.Be4 Nxh2 37.Rxc2 Ng4 38.Kf3 Nf6 39.g4 Nxe4 40.Kxe4 KR-KB 40...Bb6 41.Rc6 Bg1 42.f5 [42.g5 Kg8 43.Rxg6 Kf7 44.Kf5 Kf8 45.Rc6 Ke8 46.Rc7 g6+ 47.Kxg6] 42...gxf5+ 43.Kxf5 White mates. 43...Bd4 44.g5 Bf2 45.Rc2 Bg3 46.Rc3 g6+ 47.Ke4 1-0

4 **Anandh,V. (1928)**
Melillo,L. (2096)

1.e4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.d3 g6 4.Nbd2 Bg7 5.d4 c5 6.dxc5 Threatening Nb3. B10: Caro-Kann: 2 d3 and 2 c4. [Predecessor: 6.exd5 cxd4 7.Bb5+ Nd7 8.Nc4 Ngf6 9.Qxd4 0-0 10.0-0 a6 11.Bxd7 Nxd7 12.Nce5 b5 1-0 Druska,J (2508)-Thybo,J (2604) EU-chT 23rd Terme Catez 2021 (3.11)] 6...Nc6 [6...Nf6=] 7.exd5 Qxd5 8.Nb3 White is slightly better. 8...Qxd1+ 9.Kxd1 Bg4 10.Be2 [10.c3] 10...0-0+= Black has compensation. 11.Nfd2 Bf5 [11...Be6=] 12.g4 [12.c3!] 12...Be6! ...Nf6 would now be deadly. Black has more active pieces. 13.c3 a5 [Better is

13...Nf6 14.f3 h5] **14.Ke1** [14.Bb5] **14...a4** Black is in control. **15.Nd4** [15.Nc4 axb3 16.axb3] **15...Nxd4** **16.cxd4 Bxd4** Hoping for ...a3. **17.Nc4 Bxc5** [17...Nf6! 18.Nb6+ Kb8 19.Bf4+ Ka7 20.Nxa4 Nxc4 21.Bxc4 Bxc4] **18.Bd2?** [18.Bf4!] **18...Nf6** **19.Rc1 Kb8!** [Much less strong is 19...Nxc4 20.Bxc4 (20.Ne3 Rxd2 21.Kxd2 Nxf2) 20...Bxc4 21.Ne5] **20.f3 Rc8 21.Kf1 Rhd8** And now ...Bxc4 would win. **22.Bf4+** White is weak on the light squares **22...Ka7 23.Kg2 Nd5 24.Bd2 Nb4 25.Bxb4 Bxb4** Black is clearly winning. **26.a3 Bc5 27.Rc2 b5 28.Ne5 Bb3 29.Rcc1 Rd2 30.Kf1 Kb6 31.Ke1 Rcd8** [31...Rxb2? is the wrong capture. 32.Nd7+ Ka7 33.Nxc5 Rxc5 34.Rxc5+] **32.Nxf7 Bxf7** A strong pair of Bishops. **33.Rd1 Be3** ...Bc4 is the strong threat. **34.Rxd2 Rxd2 35.h4 Rxb2 0-1**

5

**Capp,John
Li,Rachel**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 d5 3.Bxf6 exf6 4.e3 Be6 5.Nf3 Bd6 6.Bd3 D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines. **6...0-0 7.0-0 f5 8.Nbd2** The position is equal. **8...Nd7 9.c4 c6 10.c5 Bc7 11.Qc2 Qf6 12.Rfb1** [12.b4; Predecessor: 12.a4 a5 13.Rfc1 Nb8 14.Qb3 Na6 15.Qxb7 Rfb8 0-1 Fabiani,J (2425)-Kozlowski,A (2372) IECG WC.2005.S.00001 email IECG email 2003] **12...g5 13.Nf1 g4 14.Ne1 f4! 15.exf4** [15.b4=] **15...Bxf4** [15...Qxf4 feels hotter. 16.Qc3 a5 17.g3 Qf6] **16.Qc3 Rae8 17.Nc2 Qg5** Black is more active. [Better is 17...h5] **18.Re1 Nf6 19.Re2 Bf5 20.Rae1 Be4** This pair of bishops is nice. **21.Ng3** [21.g3 Bc7 22.Nd2] **21...h5** [21...Bxc3! 22.fxc3 Re6] **22.Bxe4= Bxc3** [Black should try 22...dxe4= 23.Nf1 (23.Nxe4? loses. 23...Nxe4 24.Rxe4 Bd2) 23...h4] **23.hxc3** [23.Bd3! is the one way to stay ahead. 23...Bc7 24.g3] **23...Rxe4** [23...Nxe4 24.Qe3 Qf6] **24.Rxe4 Nxe4 25.Qe3 Qxe3 26.Rxe3** Endgame. KRN-KRN **26...f5 27.Ne1 f4 28.gxf4 Rxf4 29.Nd3 Rf6 30.f3** [White should play 30.g3=] **30...gxf3 31.Rxf3** [31.gxf3 was the only chance. 31...Ng5 32.Ne1]

31...Kg7? [31...Rxf3+ 32.gxf3 Ng5] **32.Kh2?** [32.Re3= and White is okay.] **32...Rxf3!+ 33.gxf3 KN-KN 33...Ng5 34.Kg3 Ne6 35.Kh4 Nxd4 36.Kxh5 Nxf3 37.Kg4 Nd4 38.b4 Kf6** aiming for ...Ke6. **39.a3?** [39.Kf4 was called for. 39...Ne6+ 40.Ke3] **39...Ke6 40.Kf4 Nb5 41.a4 Nc3** Threatens to win with ...d4! **42.a5?** [42.Ke3 Nxa4 43.Kd4] **42...d4** Black is clearly winning. **43.Ne5 Kd5 44.Kf5 Na2 45.b5 cxb5 46.a6 bxa6 47.c6 Kd6 48.Ke4 Nb4 49.Nf7+ Kxc6 50.Kxd4 0-1**

6

**Meng,Joshua
Guillermo,J.**

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 a6 6.0-0 d6 7.Bb3 h6 8.Re1 0-0 9.h3 Ba7 10.Nbd2 Be6 10...Be6 is the recent fashion. **11.Bc2 Re8 12.Nf1** C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3. **12...Qd7** [12...d5= remains equal.] **13.Ng3** [13.d4!] **13...d5= 14.exd5** The position is equal. **14...Bxd5 15.Be3** [15.b4 with more complications. 15...b5 16.a4 Rad8 17.axb5 axb5 18.Rxa7 Bxf3 19.Qxf3 Nxa7 20.Be3] **15...Bxe3 16.fxe3 Rad8** [16...Bxf3= 17.Qxf3 e4 18.Nxe4 Nxe4 19.dxe4 Ne5] **17.e4 Be6 18.Qe2 g6** [18...Qd6; Predecessor: 18...Qe7 19.Qf2 Nd7 20.d4 exd4 21.cxd4 Nb4 22.d5 Qc5 23.Rac1 Qxf2+ 24.Kxf2 Nc5 25.dxe6 1-0 Geller,J (2518)-Sargissian,G (2689) Wch Blitz St Petersburg 2018 (4)] **19.Qf2 Qe7** [19...Nh7] **20.a3 Rd6** [20...Bc8] **21.d4+- Bc8 22.b4 Nh7 23.Rf1 Ng5 24.Nxe5** [Better is 24.Nxc5 hxc5 25.d5] **24...Nxe5 25.dxe5 Rc6** Black is now going downhill. [25...Rdd8] **26.h4 Nh7 27.Ne2! Rf8** [27...Be6 28.Rad1 h5] **28.Qg3!+- Rd8 29.Ba4 Rb6 30.Nd4 c5** [30...Be6 keeps fighting. 31.Rab1 Ba2] **31.Nf5 Bxf5 32.exf5 Kh8 33.Rad1 Rxd1 34.Rxd1** White is clearly winning. **34...gxf5 35.Rd7 Qf8 36.Bb3 Rg6 37.Qf4 Qg7 38.Bd5** [38.Bxf7? is the wrong capture. 38...Rxc2+ 39.Kf1 Rg1+ 40.Ke2 Qg2+ 41.Qf2 Qe4+ 42.Kd2 Rg2 43.Rd8+ Nf8 Clearance 44.Rxf8+ Kh7+] **38...Nf8 39.Rxf7** Intending Qxf5! and mate. **39...Rxc2+ 40.Kh1 Rg1+ 41.Kh2 Rg4 42.Rxc7**

[42.Qxf5? too greedy. 42...Rxc2+ 42...Rxf4 43.Rg8+ 1-0

7

**Rose,Samuel
DeLeon,Jacob**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f3 Bg7 8.Bg5 0-0 8...h6 is more advanced technology. **9.Qd2 Re8 10.Nge2 b6** A65: Modern Benoni: 6 e4. [10...Nbd7] **11.Ng3** [Predecessor: 11.a4 Ba6 12.Nb5 Bxb5 13.axb5 Qe7 14.Nc3 Nbd7 15.Ra4 Qf8 16.Be2 Nh5 17.g4 Nhf6 18.Be3 ½-½ Milanovic,D (2478)-Koller,H (2168) AUT-chtT2M 1819 Austria 2018 (11.6)] **11...Na6** This costs Black the game. [Black should try 11...Ba6] **12.Bb5+- Rf8** Black is weak on the light squares [12...Re7 13.0-0 Rb8] **13.0-0 Bb7 14.f4** Black must now prevent e5. White has more active pieces. **14...Qc8?** [14...h6] **15.f5** Hoping for e5! **15...Nc7 16.Qf4 Qd8** [16...a6] **17.Rad1 a6 18.Bc6 Rb8 19.Qh4 Bxc6 20.dxc6** White is clearly winning. **20...Qe7 21.e5! dxe5** [21...Qxe5 22.Rfe1] **22.Nce4 Nce8 23.Rd7! Qxd7** [23...Rc8 24.Rxe7] **24.cxd7 Nxd7 25.Be7 1-0**

8

**Polisetti,Lorit
Wilson,Zachary**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Bg2 Bb4+ 5.Bd2 Be7 6.cxd5 E00: Catalan Bogo-Indian (3 g3 Bb4+). [6.Qc2 feels stronger.] **6...exd5= 7.Nc3 c6 8.Nf3** The position is equal. **8...0-0 9.0-0 Bf5 10.Nh4 Be6 11.Qc2 Qc8 12.Rfe1** [Predecessor: 12.Nf3 Bf5 13.Qb3 Nbd7 14.Rac1 Nb6 15.Ne5 Nfd7 16.Nxd5 Nxd5 17.Bxd5 Nxe5 18.dxe5 0-1 Ovchinnikov,A (1605)-Kusenkova,N (2160) Moscow op-A 15th 2019 (2)] **12...Bh3** [12...h6] **13.Bh1** [13.Rad1= should be considered.] **13...Nbd7** [13...h6] **14.Nf5 Bb4 15.a3 Bxc3** [15...Bxf5 16.Qxf5 Bxc3 17.Bxc3 Nb6 18.Qxc8 Rfxc8] **16.Ne7+** [Stronger than 16.bxc3 Bxf5 17.Qxf5 Re8=; Not 16.Bxc3 Qc7=] 1-0

More Games



Fricks, Charles Chen, Tianjun

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bf4 a6 4.e3 e6 5.Bd3 Bd6 6.Nf3 D00: 1 d4 d5: Unusual lines. 6...0-0 7.0-0 c5 8.Bxd6 [8.dxc5 Bxf4 9.exf4] 8...Qxd6= 9.e4 [Predecessor: 9.Ne5 Nc6 10.Nxc6 Qxc6 11.f4 b5 12.Nb1 c4 13.Be2 Bb7 14.c3 Qd6 15.Nd2 0-1 Akuratiya, A (1267)-Gunawardhana, D (1650) SRI-chB (Women) Colombo 2023 (6)] 9...dxe4 10.dxc5 [10.Nxe4= Nxe4 11.Bxe4] 10...Qf4 11.Ne2? [11.Nxe4 nothing else works. 11...Nxe4 12.g3] 11...Qc7+ 12.Bxe4 Nxe4 13.b4 Nc6 14.a3 e5 Black is clearly winning. 15.Qd5 Nf6 16.Qc4 Be6 17.Qc3 Rad8 [17...e4? 18.Nfd4+] 18.Ng3 Nd5 19.Qb2 Nf4 20.Rfe1 f6 21.Ne4 Bd5 22.Re3 Qd7 23.h3 Qf5 24.Nd6 Qg6 25.Ne1 Nd4 [25...Nxcg2? 26.Rg3 Nxe1 27.Rxg6 Nf3+ 28.Kg2 hxg6 29.c4 Rxd6 30.cxd6 Nh4+ 31.Kg1 Bxc4 32.Qc2+] 26.c4 Bc6 [26...Nxcg2? too greedy. 27.Rg3 Qh5 28.cxd5+] 27.b5 axb5 28.cxb5 Bd5 [Not 28...Nxcg2 29.Rg3 Qh5 30.bxc6 (30.Nxcg2? loses. 30...Bd5+) 30...Nxe1 31.Rxe1 bxc6 32.Qb7] 29.Nxb7 Bxb7 30.c6 Nxc6 31.Rg3 [31.bxc6 Bxc6] 31...Qe4 32.bxc6 Bxc6 33.Kh2 Rb8 34.Rb3 Rxb3 35.Qxb3+ Bd5 36.Qf3 Qxf3 37.Nxf3 Bxf3 38.gxf3 Ra8 Black took control after the opening. Superbly played by Chen! 0-1

Martinez, Quentin Fernando, Alan

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Bc4 0-0 6.Bb3 Nc6 7.0-0 Bg4 8.Be3 [Better is 8.Ba4] 8...e5 B08: Pirc Defence: Classical System. 9.d5 Nd4 Deflection 10.Bxd4 [10.Bc4 keeps fighting.] 10...exd4+ Black is clearly better. 11.Qxd4 [11.Ne2 might work better. 11...Bxf3

12.gxf3] 11...Bxf3! 12.gxf3 Nh5 13.Qe3 Qh4 14.Ne2 Be5 [14...Bxb2? loses. 15.f4+] 15.Ng3 Nf4 ...Qh3 is the strong threat. [Worse is 15...Bxb2 16.Rab1 Be5 17.Bc4] 16.c3 [16.Kh1 Bxb2 17.Rab1; Predecessor: 16.Kh1 Nh5 17.f4 Bxf4 18.Qf3 Bxg3 19.fxg3 Qe7 20.Rae1 Rae8 21.c3 Qd8 22.Bc2 0-1 Sanchee, S (1127)-Tang, J Eastern Asia-ch U14 Girls Tornelo INT 2021 (5)] 16...Qh3 17.Qxf4 Bxf4 18.Rfe1 h5 Threatens to win with ...h4. 19.Bc4 Qd7 20.Ne2 g5 21.Kg2 Be5 22.Rg1 Kh8 23.Rad1 Rg8 24.Rd3 Bf4 25.Nd4 a6 26.h3 Rg6 27.Rdd1 Rag8 aiming for ...g4. 28.Bd3 g4 29.hxg4 Rxg4+! Black mates. 30.fxg4 [30.Kf1 Rxg1+] 30...Qxg4+ 31.Kf1 Qxd1# White did not feel at home in the position after the opening. 0-1

Ramirez-Vazquez, J. Liu, Songjie

1.e4 c6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Qe2 Bf5 6.Nxf6+ B11: Caro-Kann: Two Knights Variation. 6...gxf6 7.d4 e6 8.Be3 White is slightly better. 8...Qa5+ [Predecessor: 8...Nd7 9.a3 Qc7 10.d5 Qa5+ 11.c3 Qxd5 12.Rd1 Qe4 13.Nd2 Qc2 14.Qc4 Ne5 0-1 Wibe, P (1516)-Johansson, P (1996) Gausdal Elo op 2006 (7)] 9.c3! Nd7 10.g3 h5 11.Nh4 Black must now prevent Bg2. 11...Be4 12.Bg2 [12.f3 Bd5 13.Qc2] 12...Bxg2 13.Nxcg2 0-0-0 14.h4 e5 [14...Bd6= keeps the balance.] 15.Qc4 [15.0-0] 15...exd4!= 16.Bxd4 [Of course not 16.Qxd4 Ba3 17.Qxa7 (17.bxa3? Ne5+) 17...Qxa7 18.Bxa7 Bxb2] 16...Ne5! 17.Bxe5 Qxe5+ 18.Qe2 [18.Kf1!] 18...Qd5? Black is more active. [18...Bh6! keeps the pressure on. And now ...Rhe8 would win. 19.Qxe5 fxe5] 19.0-0 Bc5 20.Rad1

Prevents Qd3 20...Qe5 [20...Qf5] 21.Rxd8+ [21.Qf3!+] 21...Rxd8 22.Nf4 [Better is 22.Qc2] 22...Qxe2= 23.Nxe2 Endgame. KRB-KRN 23...Rd2 24.Nf4 Kd7 [24...Rxb2= 25.Nxh5 f5] 25.b4 Bd6 26.Nxh5 Be5 27.Rc1 aiming for f4. 27...f5! 28.a4 Ke6 29.Re1 Kd6 30.c4 Bd4 31.Rf1 [31.Kh1=] 31...a5 32.b5? Loses the game. [32.c5+= and White has nothing to worry. 32...Ke5 33.bxa5 (33.Re1+ Kd5)] 32...Ra2+ 33.Rd1 Kc5 34.Rxd4? [34.Nf4 was called for. 34...Bxf2+ 35.Kh2] 34...Kxd4 KR-KN 35.Nf6 h5 would now be deadly. 35...Ke5 [Less strong is 35...Rxa4 36.h5 Ra1+ 37.Kg2] 36.Nd7+ Kd6 37.Nb6 Rd2 38.Kg2 Kc5 39.Nc8 Rd7 40.Na7 Kb6 41.bxc6 bxc6 42.Nb5 cxb5 43.cxb5 Rd4 Black mates. 44.h5 Rxa4 45.h6 Rd4 [45...Kxb5? 46.h7+] 46.Kf3 Rd6 0-1

Melillo, Lucius (2096) Rahul, S. (2512)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 c6 5.cxd5 exd5 6.Bg5 Bf5 7.e3 Nbd7 8.Bd3 Bxd3 9.Qxd3 Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.h3 Ne4 Discovered Attack. D35: Queen's Gambit Declined: Exchange Variation. 12.Bf4 Ndf6 13.Rfc1 [Predecessor: 13.Nd2 Nxd2 14.Qxd2 Bd6 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.a3 Spasov, S (2211)-Cilloniz Razzeto, A (2326) VW -Cup8 Gr36 email ICCF email 2015] 13...Bd6 The position is equal. 14.Bxd6 Nxd6 15.b4 a6 16.Ne5 Nfe4 17.Nxe4 Nxe4 18.a4 f6 19.Nf3 Nd6 20.Rab1 Qd7 21.Rc5 Rfc8 22.Nd2 Qe7 23.Qc2 Qe6 24.Rc1 Rf8 25.Qd1 f5 26.Qf3 Rae8 27.Qf4 h6 28.h4 Qe7 [28...Qf6! aiming for ...Ne4. 29.R5c2 g5] 29.h5 Rf6 30.g3 [30.Nf3= should be considered.] 30...Qf7 [Better is 30...Ne4 31.Nxe4 fxe4] 31.Qf3!= f4 32.exf4 [Much worse is 32.gxf4 Rf5 33.Qg4

Rxh5] **32...Rf5 33.R5c3 Rxh5** [33...Qxh5= 34.Qxh5 Rxh5] **34.Re3** [34.g4! Ne4 35.gxh5 Nxd2 36.Qg4] **34...Rxe3 35.fxe3** [35.Qxe3= Nf5 36.Qd3] **35...Rf5 36.e4?** Now White is beyond hope. [36.Re1] **36...dxe4!**+ **37.Nxe4 Qd5 38.Re1 Qxd4+** **39.Qe3 Qxb4 40.Nxd6 Qxd6** Endgame. QQR-KQR **41.Qb3+ Kh7 42.Qxb7?** [42.Rd1 Qg6 43.Rd8] **42...Qd4+ 43.Kg2 Qd2+** [Weaker is **43...Qxa4 44.Qb1 Qb5 45.Qe4**] **44.Kf1 Qd3!** [Inferior is **44...Qc3 45.Kf2**] **45.Kf2** [45.Kg2 Rc5 46.Qe7 Rc2+ 47.Kh3] **45...Rh5** (...Rh2+) **46.Qb1 Rh2+ 47.Kg1 Rc2 48.Kh1 Qf3+ 49.Kg1 Qg2# 0-1**

13 **Deviprasath,S. (2424)**
Leano,B. (2067)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.a3 d5 5.Bb5 d4 6.Ne2 C47: Scotch Four Knights and Four Knights with **4 g3. 6...Nxe4 7.d3 Nd6 8.Bxc6+** White has an edge. **8...bxc6 9.Nxe5 c5** [9...Nf5!]= **10.0-0** [10.Ng3] **10...Bb7** [Black should try 10...f6! 11.Nc6 Qd7] **11.Ng3** [Better is 11.c3+] **11...Be7 12.Nh5** Excellent horsemanship. [12.b4] **12...0-0** [12...g6= remains equal. 13.Re1 gxh5 14.Qxh5 0-0; Predecessor: 12...g6 13.Ng7+ Kf8 14.Bh6 Kg8 15.Nh5 Bg5 16.Bg7 gxh5 17.Bxh8 Kxh8 18.Qxh5 Qf6 ½-½ Tari,A (2653)-Belyakov,B (2444) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Dec Chess.com INT blitz 2021 (7)] **13.Qg4**↑ White has strong initiative. **13...g6** [13...Ne8] **14.Bh6 Bc8?** [14...f5 was worth a try. 15.Qf4 Nf7] **15.Qf3?** [15.Qf4!+- Nc6 is the strong threat. 15...Bb7 16.b4 (16.Bxf8 Bg5)] **15...Bb7 16.Qg4** White has more active pieces. **16...Bc8** [16...Qc8 was necessary.] **17.Qf4+**- Nc6 would now be deadly. **17...Re8?** [17...Bb7 is more resistant. 18.b4 (18.Bxf8 Bg5)

18...Re8] **18.Nc6** White is clearly winning. **18...Qd7 19.Nxe7+** [Not 19.Qe5 Nf5 20.Nxe7+ Qxe7 21.Nf6+ Kh8 22.Qxe7 (22.Nxe8+? perishes. 22...Qxe5 23.Rae1 Qd5-+)] **22...Rxe7**] **19...Qxe7 20.Nf6+ Kh8 21.Nxe8 Nxe8 22.Rfe1 Be6 23.b4! Kg8 24.Qe5 cxb4 25.axb4** [Weaker is 25.Qxd4 bxa3 26.Bd2 c5+] **25...Qxb4 26.Ra6 1-0**

14 **Land,Chris K (2223)**
Warrior,K. (2045)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxd5 Qxd5 11.Bf3 Qc4 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.c3 Be6 14.Re1 B34: Sicilian: Accelerated Dragon with 5 Nc3: sidelines. **14...Rfd8 15.Qc2 Qa6** [15...a5=] **16.a4** White is slightly better. [Predecessor: 16.Bc5 Bf5 17.Qb3 e6 18.Qa3 Qb5 19.Rad1 Bd3 20.h3 a5 21.Re3 1-0 Vanini,B (2008)-Pena Morales,H (2136) Lima Morales Memorial op 2nd 2012 (3)] **16...Rab8 17.Ra3** [17.Be2 Qb7 18.b4] **17...Rd7 18.a5 Bf5 19.Qc1 Bd3** Prevents Be2. **20.h3 e5 21.Bc5 f5 22.b4 e4 23.Bd1 Rbd8 24.Bb3+ Bc4 25.Bxc4+ Qxc4 26.a6 Bf8 27.Bxf8 Kxf8 28.Qe3 Kg7 29.Ra5 Qf7 30.g3 Rd3 31.Qc5 R8d6 32.c4 Kh6 33.h4 Qd7** [33...Qf6 keeps more tension. 34.Kg2 Qd4 35.Qe5 Rd7] **34.Kg2 Rf3 35.b5?** [35.Re2=] **35...cxb5?** [Black should try 35...Rd2!+- 36.Raa1 Qc7] **36.cxb5?** White does not recover from this. [36.Rxb5= Qc6 37.Re2 (37.Qxa7? perishes. 37...e3-+)] **36...Rd2+** **37.Rf1 Qd3!** Black mates. **38.Qxa7 Rxd3+ 39.Kh2 Rh3+ 40.Kg1 Rh1+ Decoy 41.Kxh1 Qxf1+ 42.Kh2 Rxf2+** [42...Qxf2+? 43.Qxf2 Rxf2+ 44.Kg1+-] **43.Qxf2 Qxf2+ KQ-KR 44.Kh3 Qe3+ 45.Kh2 Qd2+ 46.Kh3 Qxa5** Artfully played by Warrior. **0-1**

15

Li,Rachael (2192)
Meng,Joshua (1979)

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.Nf3 Bd6 4.d4 exd4 5.Nxd4 Nxd4 [5...Nf6=] **6.Qxd4** A01: Nimzowitsch-Larsen Opening. **6...Nf6 7.Nc3** And now g4 would win. **7...0-0** [7...Qe7; Predecessor: 7...Qe7 8.Nb5 Bb4+ 9.c3 Ba5 10.0-0-0 Bb6 11.Qf4 d6 12.c4 a6 13.Bxf6 gxf6 1-0 Graf1,F (2346)-Schut,H (2101) Titled Tuesday intern op 12th Jul Early Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (9)] **8.Nd5** White is more active. White is better. **8...Be7** [8...Ne8 was called for.] **9.0-0-0 c6 10.Nxe7+ Qxe7 11.e3 d5 12.Bd3 b6** [12...a5] **13.Qh4+- h5?** [13...Re8 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Bxh7+ (15.Qxh7+ Kf8) 15...Kh8 16.Qxf6 gxf6] **14.Rhg1** aiming for g4! [14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Qxh5 Re8] **14...Re8** [14...Bg4? 15.f3 Bd7 16.e4 (16.Bxf6 Qxf6 17.Qxf6 gxf6) 16...dxe4 17.Bxe4+] **15.h3** Strongly threatening g4. **15...a5?** [15...Ne4 16.Qxh5 a5] **16.g4 Ne4 17.Qxe7** [Weaker is 17.Qxh5 a4] **17...Rxe7 18.Bxe4 dxe4** Black is weak on the dark squares **19.gxh5** Intending Rd8+ and mate. White is clearly winning. **19...f5 20.Rd8+ Kh7 21.h6! Bb7** [21...g5 22.Rh8+] **22.Rxa8** [22.Rxg7+? too greedy. 22...Rxd7 23.Rd6 Rf7-+] **22...Bxa8 23.hxg7** [Less strong is 23.Rxg7+ Rxg7 24.hxg7 Bb7+] **23...Kg8 24.Rg5** White took control after the opening. **1-0**

16

Zhang,Eric J (2008)
Kumarappan,G. (2188)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Nd5 Be7 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.c3 Rb8 12.Nxf6+ B33: Sicilian: Pelikan and Sveshnikov Variations. [12.Nc2] **12...Qxf6=**

13.Nc2 0-0 14.Ne3 Ne7 15.g3 Bb7 16.Bg2 Rfd8 17.0-0 Qg6 18.Qb1 [Predecessor: 18.Qg4 Qxg4 19.Nxg4 f5 20.exf5 Bxg2 21.Kxg2 Nxf5 22.a3 Kf7 23.Rfe1 Re8 24.Red1 Ke6 25.Rd2 Red8 26.Re1 g5 27.f3 Rd7 ½-½ Arutyunova,D (2264)-Orlyanskaya,D (2053) UKR-ch (Women) Evpatoria 2009 (7)] 18...d5 19.exd5 Qxb1 20.Rfxb1 Strongly threatening Rd1. 20...Bxd5 21.Nxd5 Nxd5 22.Bxd5 Rxd5 KRR-KRR. The position is equal. 23.a4 b4 24.Rd1 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 bxc3 26.bxc3 A rather calm draw. ½-½

17 **Warrier,K. (2045)**
Sanchez,Robert (2145)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 An uneventful encounter. Predecessor: 4.Bd3N Bd6 5.Nf3 Ne7 6.0-0 C01: French: Exchange Variation. 6...0-0 7.Re1 Bf5 8.Bxf5 Nxf5 9.Qd3 Qd7 10.Nc3 Nc6 11.Nxd5 Bxh2+ 12.Kxh2 Qxd5 13.c3 Qd6+ 14.Kg1 g6 15.Ng5 Kg7 Caruana,F (2764)-Kramnik,V (2753) Titled Tuesday intern op 11th Apr Late Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (11) ½-½

18 **Deviprasath,S. (2400)**
Mei,R. (2297)

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3 d5 4.g3 f5 Four moves in and already in uncharted waters! 5.Bg2 Nf6 6.Ne2 Be6 7.d3 Qd7 8.a3 Be7 9.Nd2 0-0-0 10.b4 e4 Despite the timid "reverse hippo," White has already equalized and now, due to Black's last move, can claim a small plus due to Black's overextension in the center. 11.b5 Nb8 12.a4 g5 13.Qb1 [13.0-0 Shockingly, the computer loves this move and insists it is the only way White can keep an edge. I mention this more to show the counterintui-

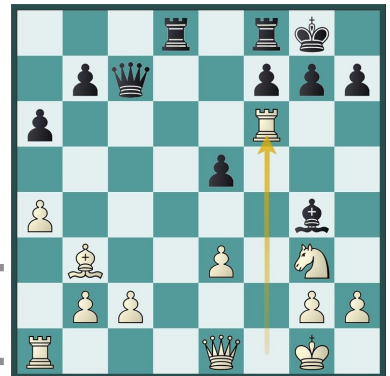
tive, complex nature of this struggle than to criticize White's play. 13...h5 14.Nd4 h4 15.c4 hxg3 16.hxg3 dxc4 17.dxe4 f4 18.Nxe6 Qxe6 19.Qe2 fxe3 20.fxe3 Nbd7 21.Qxc4 Qd6 22.Rfc1 Kb8 23.Qc2 is just one example of the horrific mixture of calculation and evaluation required to play this position "objectively correctly".] 13...Rhf8 14.Bc3 Bd6 15.a5 f4 16.a6 b6 17.exf4 gxf4 18.Bxf6 Rxf6 19.dxe4 Bh3? [19...Qf7! 20.0-0 Again, hard to believe. 20...f3 21.Nxf3 Rxf3 22.Nd4 Rf6 23.c3 Rh6] 20.Bxh3 Qxh3 21.Qb2 Nd7 22.0-0-0! At this point, Black's pieces make no sense and White can continue to dissolve Black's center and cruise to victory. 22...Be5 23.Qb4 f3 24.Nd4 Nc5 25.Nc6 Rxc6 26.bxc6 Qh6 27.exd5 Nxa6 28.Qa4 Nb8 29.Qg4+ Nd7 30.Rhe1 Kb8 31.cxd7 Qd6 32.Nc4 Qh6+ 33.Kb1 1-0

19 **Sethuraman, S. (2465)**
Deviprasath,S. (2400)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nc3 d6 6.Nf3 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.e4 exd4 9.Nxd4 Nc5 10.h3 Re8 11.Re1 h6 12.Nb3 Nfd7 13.Be3 Ne6 In a relatively rare position for the past few moves, this is Black's actual deviation. 14.f4 Nb6 15.Qe2 Bxc3?! It is not unheard of for Black to part with their King's Indian bishop to ruin White's pawns, but this seems hasty. 16.bxc3 Qf6 17.c5 Nxc5 18.e5 Qe7 19.exd6 cxd6 20.Nxc5 dxc5 21.Qf2 Be6 22.Bxc5 Qc7 23.a4 Rac8 24.Bd4 Red8 25.Be5 Qe7 26.a5 Nd7 27.Bd4 Nc5 28.Rad1 Nb3 29.g4 Nxd4 30.cxd4 Qc7 31.d5 Bd7 32.Qxa7 Qxf4 33.Qxb7 Rc2 34.Kh1?? [34.Rf1! Qg3 35.d6 Qe3+ 36.Kh1 Bc6 37.Qxf7+ Kh8 38.Qf6+ Kh7 39.Qf7+] 34...Qg3 35.Rg1 Rb8 36.Qa6 Rb3 37.Qf1 Bb5 38.Rd3 Bxd3 39.Qe1 Qxh3+ 40.Bxh3 Be4+ 41.Rg2 Rxh3+ 42.Kg1 Rxc2+ 43.Kf1 Rh1# 0-1

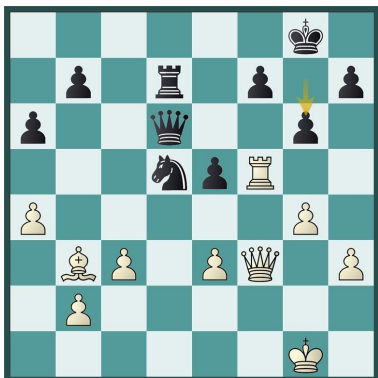
20 **Zhang,Sunny (2087)**
Yellemraju,A. (2133)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Ng3 cxd4 6.Bc4 Qd7 7.Nb3 Nc6 8.Nbxd4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 a6 10.0-0 Nf6 11.Be3?! This move ended up causing trouble. A better move was Re1, aiming at the semi-open file. 11...Qc7 12.Bb3 Bc5 13.a4?! I wanted to stop b5 and Bb7, but after e5 I ended with a targeted isolated pawn. 13...e5 14.Ne2 Bxe3 15.fxe3 0-0 Qb6 attacking the e3 pawn while my position was still cramped was probably sharper. 16.Ng3 Bg4 17.Qe1 Rad8 18.h3 [18.Rxf6!



This sacrifice would have made it equal, and even with a little advantage because I would have had the initiative. 18...gxf6 19.h3 Be6 20.Nh5 Kh8 (20...Bf5 21.Qg3+ Bg6 22.Nxf6+ Kh8) 21.Nxf6] 18...Be6 19.Nf5 Bxf5 20.Rxf5 Ne4 21.Rd1 Rxd1 22.Qxd1 Nf6 23.Qe1 Qd6 24.Qg3 Targeting her e5 pawn and maybe the g7 pawn with h4, h5, h6. However, Qd1+ seemed like a threat, so I changed my plan. 24...Re8 25.Qf2 Re7 26.c3 Protecting the d1 square with my bishop. 26...Rd7 27.g4?! Inaccuracy. a5 was best. After Qb6, I would be in a tough position and probably losing a pawn, but she was in big time trouble and I wanted to put pressure by attacking. [27.a5 Rc7] 27...Nd5! Inaccuracy. Qb6 was best. [27...Qb6 28.Bc4 Qc5 29.Qe2 h6 30.Bd3 Qc7 31.Bc2 Qb6 32.b4 e4 33.Qf2 Qd8

34.Qe1] **28.Qf3 g6??** Blunder.



Kf8 was best. A tactical mistake probably because of time trouble. [28...Kf8 29.Qg3 Re7 30.Rf2 Nf6 31.Qf3 h6 32.h4 Qc6 33.Qxc6 bxc6 34.Rd2 Rb7 35.Bd1] **29.Rxf7!!** Winning a pawn and simplifying into a winning king and pawn endgame **29...Rxf7 30.Bxd5 Qe7 31.Qxf7+ Qxf7 32.Bxf7+ Kxf7 33.Kf2 Ke6 34.e4 Kd6 35.b4 b5? 36.a5??** Surprisingly, that leads to a draw. [36.axb5! axb5 37.Ke3 g5 38.Kd3 Kc6 39.c4 Kb6 40.cxb5 Kxb5 41.Kc3+-] **36...Kc6** [36...g5! 37.Ke3 h6 38.Kd3 Kc6 39.c4 Kc7 40.cxb5 axb5 Pawns are blocking all the entry points and the king cannot get through.] **37.Kg3 Kd6** [37...g5!] **38.Kh4 Ke6??** That was last chance to block white's king. [38...h6! 39.g5 h5 40.Kg3 Kc6 41.Kf3 Kd6 42.Ke3 Kc6 43.Kd3 Kd6 44.c4 Kc6 45.cxb5+ axb5 46.Kc3 Kb7=] **39.Kg5** The position is winning again. **39...Kf7 40.Kh6 Kg8 41.h4 Kh8 42.g5 Kg8 43.h5 gxh5 44.Kxh5 Kg7 45.Kh4 Kf7 46.Kg3 Kg7 47.Kf3 Kf7 48.c4** The winning breakthrough to create a passed pawn **48...Ke6!!** [48...bxc4 49.b5! axb5 50.a6 c3 51.Ke3 c2 52.Kd2+-] **49.cxb5 axb5 50.a6 1-0** **1.d4** this came as a huge shock, as

21

Webster,Dex (2287)
Matta,Nicholas (2321)

my opponent and I have played dozens of games of classical chess over the course of 8 years and I've seen many of his other games which al-

ways start with 1. e4. I had never seen him play 1. d4 before so all of my preparation was out the window. I took some time to think to consider what was his intention (ie what is he targeting) and thought about what is in the database of my games that could be useful. I decided to start off flexibly and take it from there. **1...Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3** another big surprise, my opponent plays the Catalan, which is the opening I have played for the majority of my career. Very unusual situation given our history. **3...c5** I decided to go for the Benoni after thinking briefly as there were two major influences with this decision. Number 1 - there was one other player on board 2 with the same score as Dex and I going into the final round. If that player were to win (he eventually lost), I would also need to win in order to get first place. Playing the g3 Benoni seemed like as good of any option given that situation. I've scored 3/3 against 2 FMs and 1 IM in this line (it has made me consider taking up Benoni structures more often for what it's worth) so I was confident in my abilities in these positions. Number 2 - I figured that Dex has only had so much time and experience playing in these structures and that if I were to challenge a native 1. e4 player, I thought the complexity of the Benoni would be better than playing a main line Catalan which he has likely studied and has stronger ideas in. This was a guess but I think decently informed. I also know from my round 4 experience that even when things go well for White in the Benoni, it's never so simple. **4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nc3 g6 7.Bg2 Bg7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.0-0 Re8** and here I had my first think, as I was still trying to understand what Dex may be targeting in my repertoire. Eventually, I decided that I had to be careful to not repeat a game that I played and won last year, but was ultimately worse out of the opening and could have easily lost if my opponent found the right continuation. I made sure to consider this and deviate from that game. [9...a6 that game started with 10.a4 Re8 11.Bf4 Ne4 12.Nxe4 Rxe4

13.Nd2 Rb4 14.Ra2 Qe7 15.Qc2 Qxe2?! I knew that this was a mistake and thought my opponent was looking to repeat this line with an improvement to Putnam's play. 16.Bxd6 b6?? 17.Bf3? (17.Qc1!) 17...Bf5 18.Qc1? Qd3 19.Ra3 Qd4 20.Bc7 Nd7 0-1 (41) Putnam,L (2076)-Matta,N (2201) Charlotte 2021] **10.Bf4 a6 11.a4 Qc7** I had more experience with the Ne4 plan, but since I won that game and won that tournament it was played, I honestly didn't review the game as well as I should have and didn't have an improvement ready. I thought it was better just to play a different approach and hopefully (and I did) get Dex to begin to think on his own. [11...h6 interesting move that has been played by a lot of strong players. Having this idea in my arsenal could be useful. 12.Qc1 (12.Qd2? g5 13.Be3 Ng4 14.Nd1 Nd7 15.Qc2 Nxe3 16.Nxe3 Rb8 17.a5 b5; 12.Re1 g5 13.Bd2 Bf5 14.h4 g4 15.Nh2) 12...g5 13.Bd2 (13.Be3) 13...Bf5 14.h4 g4 15.Ne1 Kh7 16.Nc2 Bg6 17.Ne3 Nbd7 18.a5 Ne5 19.Ra4 1/2-1/2 (66) Donchenko,A (2593)-Caruana,F (2828) Chess.com INT 2019 19...Rb8 (19...h5?! Fabi played an inaccuracy which blocks the knight from ever using this square) 20.Re1 (20.Ne4 Nh5 21.Bc3 f5 22.Nd2 Qd7) 20...b5 21.axb6 Qxb6 22.Ncd1 Qb5 23.Qa1 Nh5 24.Rxa6 Nc4 25.Nxc4 Qxc4 26.Qa4 Qxa4 27.Rxa4 Bd4] **12.Re1** [12.Rc1 this move is more common in the database and introduces the idea of b4. Black seems to be doing fine with a few precise moves. 12...Nbd7 13.b4 (13.h3 Rb8 14.b4 Nh5 15.Bd2 b5) 13...Nh5 14.Bd2 (14.Bg5 many times h6 is useful, even unprovoked, so this seems inferior. 14...h6) 14...Qd8 15.Qb3 (15.Rb1 cxb4 16.Rxb4 Nc5) 15...h6 (15...b5 16.axb5 Rb8 17.bxa6 (17.g4 Nh6 18.h3 axb5 19.Bf4 Qb6 20.Nd2) 17...Bxa6)] **12...Nh5** [12...Nbd7 this will be my improvement over my play in this game as the idea I had with Nh5 ultimately seems dubious 13.e4 (13.h3; 13.a5 13.Rc1) 13...Ng4 14.Nd2 (14.Qc2

Rb8 15.a5 Nde5 16.Nd2 Qd8 17.Nd1 g5 18.Bxe5 Nxe5 19.Re3 b5 20.axb6 Rxb6) 14...Nge5 15.Bf1 (15.Be3?! Nd3 16.Rf1 N7e5; 15.Qc2 Rb8) 15...Rb8 16.Be3 this is the main line a) 16.a5; b) 16.Rc1 c4; c) 16.Qe2 h5 17.Kg2 h4 18.gxh4 (18.h3 Qd8) 18...Nf6; 16...h5 17.f3 most played but unclear if this is best a) 17.Kg2 seems to be the strongest idea to prepare Bg1 in response to f4 Ng4 17...Nf6 18.f4 Neg4 19.Bg1 Qd7 20.h3 (20.a5?! b5 21.axb6 Rxb6) 20...Nh6 21.Kh1 b5 22.axb5 axb5 23.Bg2 b4 24.Na4 Qc7; b) 17.h3 c4 18.Ba7 Ra8 19.Bd4 Rb8 20.a5 b5 21.axb6 Nxb6; 17...c4 18.a5 b5 19.axb6 Nxb6 20.Qc2 f5 (20...Nbd7) 21.Be2 fxe4 22.Ndxe4 Bf5 23.Rxa6 Bxe4 24.Nxe4 (24.Qxe4 Nd3 25.Bxd3 Rxe4 26.Bxe4 Nd7 27.Re2 Nc5 28.Rc6 Qa5) 24...Nxd5] **13.Bg5** [13.Be3 Rxe3 14.fxe3 I would have definitely sacrificed this exchange if given the chance.] **13...h6 14.Bd2** during the game, I thought it was actually better for White to go Bc1 to allow Nd2 in response to Bg4, as I thought trading my bishop off would be an achievement as it normally would be in the Benoni structures. [14.Be3 Rxe3 15.fxe3 same thing] **14...Bg4** [14...Nd7 this would have been better, although I'm in favor of excluding Nh5 for future games.] **15.h3** [15.Nh4 if my opponent and I calculated this out more fully, I think I could have been in some trouble. I was relying on Qc8 to justify the bishop's position but the pressure against g6 is problematic 15...Qc8 16.f3 Bh3 17.g4 Bxg2 (17...Qd8 18.Bxh3 Qxh4 19.Bg2 Nf6 20.Bf4) 18.gxh5 Bh3 19.hxg6] **15...Bxf3** initially I had expected Bxf3 as an automatic decision, but once my opponent began thinking for a little longer, I realized exf3 is actually pretty interesting. With that being said, I did not fully believe in the idea being strong enough to justify the allowed trade of Bxf3. I felt good about my position, probably better than I should have, due to the symbolic achievement of completing this trade. I thought the position was close to equal, though computers suggest White is definitely bet-

ter. The kingside majority is actually more mobile with the doubled pawns since I can't blockade them anymore. **16.exf3 Nd7** [16...Rxe1+ 17.Qxe1 Nd7 I was not sure if there was any benefit to making the trade on e1, so I thought it was best just to leave the tension there.] **17.f4 c4!** while thematic and generally a good idea, I think that my position is not strong enough to justify giving White such a free hand on the kingside. I had believed that the position was equal and that after c4 I had the opportunity to take over the initiative, but the g6 pawn is a real problem, and as it turned out in the game, this pawn is a bit loose as well. I should have played more solidly and to maintain the balance more than I did. [17...Bd4 I considered this idea for some time as I thought it would make sense to try and justify the knight's position on h5 for as long as possible rather than just simply retreat to f6 voluntarily. With that being said, I had difficulty evaluating whether or not the following continuation would just misplace my bishop 18.Kf1 (18.g4 Rxe1+ 19.Qxe1 Nhf6 but looking at it now, I think that this would have been better as the bishop is not easily chased and I think it makes it more difficult for White to expand freely on the kingside. During the game, I thought the knight would get to d3 before my opponent would be in position to really generate pressure and I would be doing well. I think it is also instructive that in some variations my Queen can even use the g7 square.; 18.Rxe8+ Rxe8 19.g4 Nhf6 20.Be1 Nh7 this would have been slower, but also would not have allowed White to comfortably expand on the kingside since now he HAD to play g4 and can't put the queen there. I think I always assumed g4 would be played and missed the Qg4 idea all together.) 18...c4 19.f5 Nc5 20.fxg6 fxg6 21.Qg4; 17...Kh7; 17...Nhf6 18.f5; 17...Rxe1+ 18.Bxe1 Nhf6 to more clearly understand the fault of my ways, I think it's important to suggest that I could have just done this

and it would have been a big improvement, as now I centralize my knight and solidify against a lot of kingside ideas before I commit to c4. This would have been more straightforward and objectively sound. 19.f5?! a) 19.g4 c4 now it would have been time. 20.g5? hxg5 21.fxg5 Nh5; b) 19.b3 Rb8 20.Qd3 precise play from White will keep things under control, but the position is a struggle for both sides. 20...Ne8 (20...Nb6 21.a5 Nbd7 22.Bf1) 21.Rc1 Qd8 22.Bd2 Nc7 23.Ne4 Nf6 24.Nxf6+ Qxf6 25.Bc3 Qd8 26.Bxg7 Kxg7 27.b4 b6; 19...g5] **18.f5 Rxe1+** now seemed like a good time to make this exchange since I thought Qxe1 brought his Queen to a definitely worse square and Bxe1 would open up Nf4 in case of g4, which I was concerned about **19.Bxe1 Nc5??** I did not calculate nearly long enough for two reasons 1. I felt confident in my move and did not have a strong enough sense for danger (weaknesses) 2. my time trouble issues last year has made me try to find moves to save time on and I'm not always picking my spots correctly. I need to turn these 2 minute thinks into 5-7 minutes. This will be an ongoing issue that I need to continuously try to overcome to succeed at higher levels. [19...Ne5 this is definitely what I should have played, but it's eye opening to see that I'm quite a bit worse in this position after 20.fxg6 fxg6 21.Ne4 Nd3 22.Bc3 Nxb2 23.Qg4 Bxc3 24.Nxc3 Qf7 25.Ra2 Nd3 26.Qxc4 Ne5 27.Qb3 I think the fundamental issue I experienced is that I tried to expand with c4 before my position was ready for it and the looseness of my pawn is too costly. This is not an easy position for White by any means, but I think it's clear that the idea that Black was equal was an illusion. I don't have much in the form of substantial counterplay and b7 will be weak.] **20.fxg6 fxg6 21.Qg4** I was very frustrated and upset to have missed such a move and couldn't believe my blindness. I struggled to find any way of playing that seemed at all good since the two pawns under attack are each

critical for their own reasons. With that being said, I regained focus pretty quickly and better than I have done in the past and just recalled the amount of winning positions that I did not win, and tried to just focus on making one good decision at a time and make things as unclear as I could. **21...Nd3** I decided that I have to try to defend actively, as from a technical view I am lost either way and I thought my best chance was to go all the way with my queenside play and hope to survive on the kingside. Everything else seemed much more bleak if I lost my c4 pawn. **22.Qxg6 Nf6** [22...Qf7 I find it interesting that I could have actually played this and it may have been an even better defensive try since White will have to go into the endgame which I generally believed was my best chance due to the queenside majority, although this version may be pretty bleak after a couple good moves. 23.Qxd6?? (23.Qxf7+ Kxf7 24.Bf1 Nxb2 25.Rb1 Nd3 26.Rxb7+ Kg6 27.Bd2) 23...Re8 amazingly this position is equal after some crazy tactics 24.Ne4 Bf8 25.Qb6 Bc5 26.Qxh6 Rxe4 27.Bxe4 Bxf2+ 28.Kh2 Bxe1 29.Qg5+ Kf8 30.Qd8+ Kg7 31.Qg5+=] **23.Ne4 Qe7 24.Bc3 Rf8** I had foreseen this position and while I believed there had to be something here for White, it was not so clear and I was hoping that my opponent would take the bait of going into the endgame an exchange up, as I thought at least then I am playing and it will not be so easy for White. **25.Nxf6+ Rxf6 26.Qe4** [26.Bxf6 Qxf6 27.Qxf6 Bxf6 28.Be4 Nxb2 (28...Nc5 29.Bc2 Bxb2 30.Rb1 c3 31.Re1+-) 29.a5 sometimes it is better to be lucky than good. I had thought this endgame offered some chances for Black due to the strong knight and passed pawn, but the computer just laughs at this and gives +6] **26...Rf7** I thought after this, the position was becoming more and more unclear and the time was starting to tick down. I think at this point Dex had roughly 15 minutes and I had 25. [26...Qxe4 27.Bxe4 Nxf2 28.Bxf6 Nxe4 29.Bxg7 Kxg7 I knew for sure this endgame is lost because my knight is misplaced and I won't have enough on the queenside to complicate the matters 30.a5 seemed most convincing during the game.] **27.Qxc4 Qe2** all I was focused on doing was playing one move at a time that would make my opponent's job of finding the path forward as unclear as possible. I re-

cently studied Ivan Sokolov's review of the famous Nakamura vs Carlsen Zurich 2014 swindle (Hikaru had +14) and tried to take what I could from that lesson which was Carlsen's continued choosing of the path that was most difficult for his opponent and just waiting for his opportunity. I was very fortunate that my opponent cracked under the pressure with his next move **28.f4** Before Dex played f4, I knew that it would be a good sign for my position, but I actually hadn't seen the tactic in advance since I thought this was not right for White. When I spotted the move, I triple checked everything and then went on to check board 2 and calculate tiebreaks. I knew a draw would win me the tournament and planned to offer it after Nxe2, even though I thought I could play on with little risk and maybe even have a chance to press due to the fact Dex was down to 4 minutes to my 20. **28...Nxf4 29.Qxe2 Nxe2+** I offered a draw and decided against trying to play for more because the draw guaranteed me a tournament victory on tiebreaks since I played the much harder schedule (Dex had a bye in round 1). I thought I should not let me ego fuel me for more when I was just absolutely lost a few turns ago. The event was also not FIDE rated, so I didn't care about rating very much at all. Still, it was good to finally gain some rating for the first time since May of 2021! I left the tournament feeling invigorated and hungry to play more chess, knowing that I have a lot of work to do to improve and I have clear weaknesses that I can tackle to become a stronger player. This is much different compared to last year where I had essentially 'retired' from competitive tournament ambition. ½-½

22

Kumarappan,Ganesh Brown,Nathan

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3 Qc7 6.0-0 d6 7.Qe2 Nf6 8.c4 Be7 9.Nc3 0-0 10.Be3 Bd7 11.Rfd1 Nc6 12.Rac1 Rac8 [This is the setup I had learned a while back for the Maroczy Bind but didn't know the plans in the opening other than waiting for the opponent to overextend or make a blunder.] **13.f3 Ne5 14.b3 Rfd8 15.Qf2** [Not a good move as I overlooked the capture of the Bishop on d3 and the push of **15...d5** with

[15...Nxd3 16.Rxd3 d5 17.cxd5 exd5]] **Re8 16.h3 h6 17.g3 Bc6 18.Bb1** [I should have moved my bishop a long time ago but the threat of d5 became most imminent to me now, so I retreated the bishop so my rook can provide help.] **18...Ned7 19.Nxd5** [Being one of the only traps in the Maroczy bind, you didn't have to tell me twice to immediately play this move.] **19...Qb8 20.Nxe7+ Rxe7 h4 Ne5 g4 Nfd7 Qg3** [After getting rid of the dark squared bishop, the kingside was easier to attack, so I started pushing my pawns.] **f6 g5 hxg5 hxg5 Kf7 f4 Ng6 f5 Ngf8 fxe6+ Nxe6 Nf5 Ne5 Nxd6+ 20...Kf8 21.Nxc8 Qxc8 22.Rf1 Rf7 22...g6 Nxg6 Qxg6 1-0**

23

Ding,Liren (2788) Nepomniachtchi (2795)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 c5 4.Nbd2 cxd4 5.exd4 Qc7 6.c3 Bd7 7.Bd3 Nc6 8.0-0 Bg4 9.Re1 e6 10.Nf1 Bd6 11.Bg5 0-0 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.Ng3 f5 14.h3 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 Ne7 16.Nh5 Kh8 17.g4 Rg8 18.Kh1 Ng6 19.Bc2 Nh4 20.Qe3 Rg6 21.Rg1 f4 22.Qd3 Qe7 23.Rae1 Qg5 24.c4 dxc4 25.Qc3 b5 26.a4 b4 27.Qxc4 Rag8 28.Qc6 Bb8 29.Qb7 Rh6 30.Be4 Rf8 31.Qxb4 Qd8 32.Qc3 Ng6 33.Bg2 Qh4 34.Re2 f5 35.Rxe6 Rxb5 36.gxh5 Qxh5 37.d5+ Kg8 38.d6 1-0

24

Xie Jun Maia Chiburdanidze

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nf3 d6 4.Nc3 a6 5.a4 b6 6.Bc4 e6 7.0-0 Nd7 8.h3 Bb7 9.Be3 Ne7 10.Qd2 h6 11.Nh2 Nf6 12.Bd3 Qd7 13.Rad1 b5 14.f3 Nh5 15.Qf2 f5 16.g4 dxe4 17.fxe4 Nf6 18.Nf3 0-0-0 19.Ne5 Qe8 20.Qe2 Nxe4 21.Nxe4 fxe4 22.Bxa6 Bxe5 23.dxe5 Qxa4 24.Bxb7+ Kxb7 25.Ra1 Qc6 26.Qa6+ Kb8 27.Rf6 Qb7 28.Qxb7+ Kxb7 29.Rxe6 Nd5 30.Re1 Nxe3 31.Rxe3 Rd2 32.Rxe4 Rxc2 33.Rxg6 Rd8 34.Re1 Rdd2 35.Rxh6 Rg2+ 36.Kh1 Rh2+ 37.Kg1 Rcg2+ 38.Kf1 Rxb2 39.Kg1 Rhg2+ 40.Kh1 b5 41.e6 Rge2 42.Rxe2 Rxe2 43.Rf6 b4 44.g5 b3 45.Rf1 c5 46.g6 Rxe6 47.g7 Re8 48.h4 Rg8 49.Rg1 Kc6 50.h5 b2 51.Rb1 Rxg7 52.Rxb2 c4 53.h6 Rh7 54.Rh2 Kd5 55.Kg2 Ke4 56.Kf2 Kd3 57.Ke1 Kc3 58.Ke2 Kb3 59.Ke3 c3 60.Kf4 c2 61.Rxc2 Kxc2 62.Kg5 ½-½

Upcoming Events

LATE JUNE 2023

Jun 17 - Austin Grandmaster Chess Academy In-Person USCF Rated Tournament
Info: <https://www.austinchess.com/austin-grandmaster-chess-academy-tournament-june-2023/>

Jun 17 - June Quads - All Ages
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/quads-all-ages-june-17-2023>

Jun 17 - PBCC June Open 2023
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/pbcc-june-open-2023>

Jun 23-25 - 2023 DFW FIDE 4
Info: <http://dallaschess.com/2023DFWFide4/regfordfwfide4.html>

Jun 24-25 - The Chess Refinery's Houston City Championship
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/chess-refinerys-houston-city-championship>

Jun 24-25 - U2000 Class Tourney "Winner Takes All"
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/u2000-class-tourney-winner-takes-all>

Jun 25 - Scholastic Tournament at The Chess Refinery's Houston City Championship
Info: <https://www.thechessrefinery.org/schojune.html>

Jun 30-Jul 3 - \$2,500 Houston Chess Studio July 2023 Championship
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/July2023Championship>

Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/QCPO6>

JULY 2023 (continued)

Jul 15 - July 15th Scholastic Saturday Tournament
Info: <https://completechesseducation.com/event/july-15th-scholastic-saturday-tournament/>

Jul 15 - July Quads - All Ages
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/quads-all-ages-july-15-2023>

Jul 21-23 - 2023 Houston Chess Festival
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2023-houston-chess-festival>

Jul 21-23 - 2023 US Junior Open Championship
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/2023-us-junior-open-championship>

Jul 22 - 2023 Texas Action Chess Championship
Info: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-texas-action-chess-championship-registration-599722093927?aff=AnnouncementEmail>

Jul 22 - Mansfield Chess Tournament 2
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mansfield-chess-tournament-2>

Jul 29 - Fischer Random Chess Championship 2023
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/FischerRandomChamp>

JULY 2023

Jul 1 - Arlington Adult Quads
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/arlington-adult-quads>

Jul 1 - Waco July Swiss
Info: <https://www.austinchess.com/waco-july-swiss-2023/>

Jul 7-9 - 2023 DFW FIDE 5
Info: <http://dallaschess.com/2023DFWFide5/regfordfwfide5.html>

**Jul 14-16 - 6th Annual Queen City of the Prairie Open
Including Tarrant County & Fort Worth Championships**

EARLY AUGUST 2023

Aug 5-7 - Austin Chess Club 2023 Summer Championship
Info: <https://www.austinchess.com/austin-chess-club-summer-championship-2023/>

Aug 5 - August 5th Beginner Scholastic Saturday Tournament 2023
Info: <https://completechesseducation.com/tournaments/>

Aug 11-13 - 2023 DFW FIDE 6
Info: <http://dallaschess.com/2023DFWFide6/regfordfwfide6.html>

Aug 15 - Mardi Quads
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/mardi-quads-6>

WEEKLY EVENTS

Creative 101 Weekly Quick

Jun 15, 22, 29; Jul 6, 13, 20, 27; Aug 5, 12
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/creative-101-weekly-quick>

RCC Weekly Quads (rated U1200)

Jun 16, 23, 30; Jul 7, 14, 21, 28; Aug 4, 11
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/rebecca-chess-club-monthly-swiss-over-1200-and-weekly-quads-under-1200>

RCC Monthly Swiss (rated 1200+)

Jun 16, 23, 30; Jul 7, 14, 21, 28; Aug 4, 11
Info: <https://www.rebeccachess.com/otb.html>

Texas Swiss Tournament

Jun 17, 24; Jul 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Aug 5, 12
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/texas-swiss-tournament>

June Tuesday Night Swiss

Jun 20, 27
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/june-2023-tuesday-night-swiss>

Poison Pawns Weekly Chess Meetup at Slowpokes

Jun 21, 28; Jul 5, 12, 19, 26; Aug 2, 9
Info: <https://poisonpawns.club/>

July Tuesday Night Swiss

Jul 4, 11, 18, 25
Info: <https://new.uschess.org/july-tuesday-night-swiss>

Tuesday Night Swiss at the Houston Chess Studio

Jul 4, 11, 18, 25
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/July2023TueNight>

Thursday Night Double Swiss

Jul 4, 11, 18, 25
Info: <https://www.kingregistration.com/event/ThurNiteDoubleSwissJuly2023>

USCF RATED

AUSTIN CHESS CLUB 2023 SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP

DATE

AUGUST
5-6, 2023

LIMIT 190 PLAYERS

SECTIONS:

- **CHAMPIONSHIP 1800+**
- **RESERVE 1400-1799**
- **NOVICE U1400**

ENTRY FEE
FROM \$79

**A GUARANTEED
PRIZE FUND OF
\$4500**

Scan here for
full details:

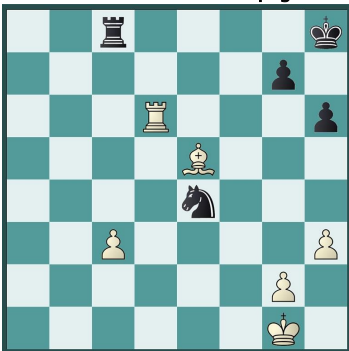


Location: Doubletree NW Arboretum, 8901 Business Park Dr, Austin, TX 78759
www.austinchestournaments.com



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

Tactics Time! Answer on
page 18



H. Gabuzyan – P. Beatrez
Texas Collegiate Rapid Ch 2021
White to Move

