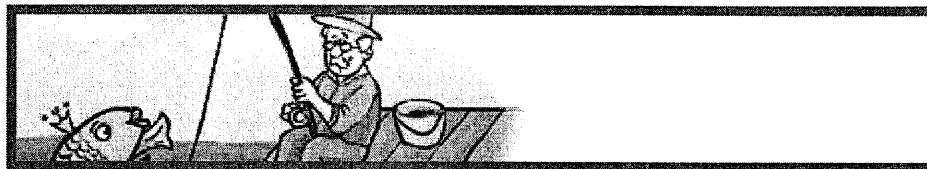


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UMBC chess team defeats Texas archrival

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The chess team at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County won its third consecutive Final Four of College Chess recently by defeating archrival the University of Texas at Dallas by a score of 2.5 to 1.5.

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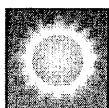
UMBC never lost a game in the 2005 Presidents Cup held April 3 in Kansas, where the school dominated Stanford 4 to 0 in the first round, won a 3.5 to 0.5 win over Miami Dade College in the second round.

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As expected, UMBC and UTD met in a round robin tournament of the nation's top four college chess programs in a final match. The rivalry between the two universities had grown tense in the past two years, with UTD twice upsetting UMBC in the Pan American Intercollegiate Team Chess tournament by a half-point margin each time.

"Our players went into this tournament focused on the here and now, and we are elated to have won the Final Four three years in a row," said Alan Sherman, a UMBC Chess Program director and professor of computer science. "I'm very proud of how this team bounced back strongly from a disappointing second place finish at the 2004 Pan Am."

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UMBC will host the 2006 Pan American Chess Championships, to be held December 27-30 at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington, DC.

