

## UTD student is king against world-class chess opponents

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Magesh Chandran Panchanathan, a member of the University of Texas at Dallas' chess team, earned more points than six higher-ranked, world-class chess players to win the UTD Grandmaster Invitational on Wednesday.

This was UTD's fourth Grandmaster Invitational. Mr. Panchanathan was already a chess hero at UTD. Last year, he helped the team pull off an upset win at the Pan American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championships by beating the top-ranked player in the U.S.

The 22-year-old computer science major took this week's tournament by winning six con-

secutive matches against strong international competition.

Mr. Panchanathan, a native of India, defeated last year's co-champion, grandmaster Igor Novikov; the tournament's top seed, grandmaster Alexander M. Goldin; and grandmaster Varuzhan Akobian.

Two-time U.S. Chess Federation President Tim Redman, founder and director of the UTD chess program, was impressed.

"Six straight wins in a tournament of this caliber is almost unheard of," he said. "That it included victories over all three of the world-class grandmasters that we brought in shows that Magesh is now playing at their elite level."

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