

UTD's presence felt at Texas Grade & Collegiate Championships

by UTD Chess Program Associate Director Alexey Root

The University of Texas at Dallas awarded two scholarships at the Texas K-12 Grade Championships, held Halloween weekend in Houston. The winner of the 12th grade section, David John, already has a UTD scholarship, a result of his win at the 1998 Texas High School Chess Championship. Thus 2nd-3rd place finishers Eric Wiggins and Enrique Rios each earned a four-year, full tuition/fees/housing allowance scholarship.

John, Wiggins, and Rios now have extra incentive to join an outstanding group of young chessplayers already enrolled at UTD. Four UTD Chess Team members traveled to the Grade Championships and spoke eloquently about the Chess Program, UTD Chess Team President Jeff Ashton (2221, freshman), Secretary/Treasurer Andrei Dokouchaev (2224, freshman), Public Relations Officer John Hendrick (2052, sophomore), and Steven Grubbs (2040, sophomore) shared UTD stories of student life, training with chess coach IM Rade Milovanovic, and Friday chess matches. By displaying courteous behavior toward the K-12 participants and camaraderie with each other, team members presented an image of UTD as *the* place for academically and socially gifted chess players.

As associate director of the Chess Program in charge of recruiting, I spent the weekend at the Grade Championships talking chess to parents, coaches, and students. I talked about the range of chess talent at UTD, from unrated to grandmaster. I talked about what a joy it is to be at a campus where chess makes the front page of the student newspaper, and the student body

president is on the Chess Team.

The next chance for Texas chessplayers to earn a UTD undergraduate scholarship through chess competition will be at the Texas State High School Championships in March. Of course, UTD welcomes all chess-playing students, whether scholarship winners or not. As UTD Chess Program director Dr. Tim Redman is fond of saying, "Chess is spoken here."

Although I did a lot of chess talking in Houston, I found time to play chess as well. Steven Grubbs and I were partners for the bughouse championships on Saturday night. Before the bughouse event, Steven patiently explained the latest in bughouse opening theory to me. Steven is a charming teacher, and a cornerstone of our cooperative efforts with DACIS (Dallas Area Chess In the Schools) to tutor inner city youngsters at chess. All of our team members perform community service, and youngsters around Dallas really look up to UTD team members.

Starting in mid-January, USCF-rated masters from the UTD chess team will offer K-12 students instruction 5-6 p.m. every Friday. Instruction will be in the regular chess club meeting room, Multi Purpose Building 3.222-3.226. The \$5/child fee will support UTD Chess Club activities. No reservations are needed, and information about upcoming lecture topics is available from aroot@utdallas.edu. Well-respected chess coach Nouredine Ziane, the captain of the UTD team for the past three years, encouraged his private chess students to play in the State Grade Championships. The 22 Ziane-coached students took home individual tro-

phies for six first places, three second places, and two third places. In addition, Ziane-coached teams took two second places in the team competitions.

Steven's bughouse tips paid off: I held up my end of the bughouse team effort. We won our first four rounds before yielding a final round draw to two Bellaire High School players. (I guess I spent too much time trying to recruit them to UTD and not enough time playing them!) Nevertheless, an tiebreak over Bellaire, we took bughouse trophies back to UTD.

Besides claiming a bughouse trophy, Steven won an action chess trophy and a collegiate chess championship trophy in Houston. Steven and John tied for first in the collegiate championship section, though John won their individual encounter. Texas State Champion (and our UTD chess trainer extraordinarily) Rade Milovanovic graciously allowed analysis of the Grubbs-Hendrick game to be part of the Chess Team's training during our November 5th Friday meeting.

Multi
Root



WIM Alexey Root

UTD Chess Team Dominates the 4th Annual Texas Collegiate Championship

On the weekend of November 4th and 5th, the UTD Chess Program sent a team to Corpus Christi to compete in the 4th Annual Texas Collegiate Championship. The top Texas Collegiate Chess Clubs that attended the championship included Texas A&M, the University of Houston, and Laredo Community College. The tournament included a Collegiate Section, a Bughouse tournament, and a Blitz tournament.

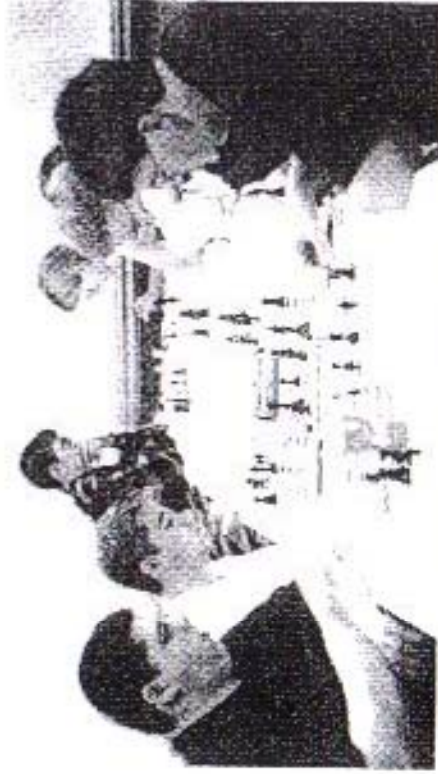
In the Collegiate Championship, UTD dominated the Team competition by capturing the Top Collegiate Team title with 15 points, followed by A&M with 9.5 points. Individually, National Master Enrique Rios, Chess Club Chief Tournament Organizer, won 1st place, making him the 2000 individual State College Champion, Bhadrachalam Chituri and Chess Club President Clemente Rendón tied for 2nd place, receiving 2nd and 3rd place respectively. This was Rios's first time to take top individual honors in a Texas Chess Championship. "After years of fighting, it feels great to have finally dominated and captured the state championship," said Rios.

The team also took several trophies on some of the tournament's side events, which were all open to Grades Pre Kindergarten, Rios, with partner Alex Echeverry, tied for first in the Bughouse tournament. Also, UTD Chess Program Associate Director and Woman's International Master Alexey Root teamed with Todd Applebaum and tied for 5th place in the Bughouse tournament. In the Blitz tournament, Rios and Rendón both tied for 3rd place, while Chituri took 6th place. "It was comforting to know that UTD did so well in this tournament. This tournament holds a great significance to the UTD Chess Team, since the former Collegiate State Champion was UTD chess team member Steven Grabbs, who died earlier this fall semester," said Rendón.

UTD also awarded a competition scholarship to the first place finisher in the 12th grade section. The recipient, Matt Willis, is a senior at Bellaire High School in Houston, Texas. Root said, "Willis's perfect math SAT score and chess ability show what UTD scholarships accomplish. Chess tournaments are a great place to recruit top students for UTD. At the same time, we build the most competitive chess program in the United States."

Bottom: From left to right: Enrique Rios, Clemente Rendón, Matt Willis, Dr. Alexey Root, Bhadrachalam Chituri





Eric Wiggins plays Enrique Rios in the last round

London System A46

Steven Grubbs 2088
John Hendrick 2086

Texas Collegiate 12/1
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.Bf4 c5 4.e3 Qb6 5.Qc1

Black has a comfortable game (John H.). 5.Nc3 is sharper: (Rade M.).

5...Nc6 6.c3 d5 7.Bd3 Bd7 8.0-0 Rc8 9.Nbd2

Better was 9.Ne5 and if 9...cxd4 10.exd4 Nxd4? 11.Be3 (Rade M.).
9...cxd4 10.exd4 Nb4 11.Be2 Bb5 12.c4

An alternative was 12.Qd1: followed by Be5 (Andrei D.).

12...dxc4 13.a4 Bb6

Rade was surprised by John's bishop placement, and suggested the more natural-looking 13...Bc6 to play against White's isolated d-pawn. Then, Rade said: it would be a "pleasant position for Black."

14.a5 Qd8 15.Nxc4 Be7 16.b3 0-0 17.Qb2 Nfd5 18.Bd2 Qc7 19.Rfc1 Nf4

John H. said he had the follow-up ideas of Nd3 or Nxe2.

20.Bxf4 Qxf4 21.Na3 Bxe2 22.Qxe2 Qe4 23.Rd1 Rfd8 24.Rac1

Bf6 25.Rc4 Rxc4 26.bxc4 Bxd4 27.Nd2

On 27.Qb2 Nd3 28.Qd2 Bxe3 29.Qxe3 Qxe3 30.fxe3 Rd7 Black is better, since he is a pawn up. However, this situation is better than what occurred in the game. (Shivkumar Shivaji, Chess Team member, 2229). Also possible is 28.Qe2 Nf4 29.Qb2 Qxe3 30.fxe3 Bxe3+ 31.Kf1 Rxd1+ 32.Ne1 Rxe1+ 33.Kxe1 Nd3- (Clemente Rendon, UTD Chess Club President, freshman, 1600).

Qe5 28.Nf3 Qe4 29.Nd2 Qd3 30.Qxd3 Nxd3 31.Rb1 Rd7 32.Nf5 e5 33.Nxd4 exd4 34.Ng4 f5 35.Rd1 Re7

Inaccurate. Black could win more quickly with 35...Nb2 on this or the next move (Andrei D.).
36.f4 Nxf4 37.Nf2 Rd7 38.Nd3 Nxd3 39.Rxd3

... and Black went on to win the endgame.

0-1

UTD scholarship winner Enrique Rios graciously agreed to annotate a game for this article. Enrique is an ideal UTD Chess Program recruit. An accomplished student, Enrique is listed twice in *Who's Who*

Ken Kou

Among American High School Students and is a National Hispanic Scholar. Currently, Enrique holds the following chess titles: San Antonio City Junior Champion, Region 6 High School Champion, Texas Junior Blitz Champion, Texas Junior Quick Co-Champion, and National Junior Blitz Champion.

Notes by Enrique Rios

French Defense C01

Enrique Rios 1938
Daniel Robbins 1644

Texas Grade 12 12/1

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.exd5

Rather than go into sharp Winawer theory with 4.e5, I decided to change the character of play slightly into a simple and straightforward exchange variation.

4...exd5 5.Bd3 Ne7 6.Nf3

Better is 6.Ne2 to avoid the pin: 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.0-0 Nbc6 8.Ne2 Bd5 9.e3 Qd7 10.Ng3 e5 11.Re1 0-0-0 12.N3 h4 13.Nf1 Bb5 14.Be2 Ng6 favored Black in Sergeant-Capablanca, Margate 1935.

6...Bf5 7.0-0 Bxd3

This trade was unnecessary and helps me develop my queen, which is something I would want to do anyway to connect my rooks. Better was 7...0-0.

8.Qxd3 0-0 9.Bf4 Bd6 10.Bg5 f6?

This is exactly what Bg5 meant to provoke. Now Black has a glaring weakness on e6 that will be exploited in textbook fashion. A better sequence would have been 10...c6 11.Rfe1 b5 12.Bh4 g5 13.Bg3 Ng6. (*A tempting sac is 13.Bxg5 hxg5 14.Nxg5 Nxg6 15.Ne6 fxe6 16.Qxg6+ Kx8 17.Re3? (17.Qh6+ =) when Black has the saving 17...Qh4! 18.Rh3 Qxh3 19.gxh3 Rg8 +- - SKA.)*)
11.Bh4 e6 12.Rfe1 Nd7(?)

(Continued on page 21)

Kb8 30.Bb3 Rc1+ 31.Bd1 e2 32. Kd2 exd1(Q)+ 33.Rxd1 Rxd1+ 34. Kxd1 Ba6 35.Qb8+ Kg7 0-1

Janes was an officer of the TCA at the time. It was then that they voted to affiliate the TCA with the USCF. The vote passed 3-2.

In 1952, Janes played in and won the Dallas Invitational. Janes considered this "the most prestigious tournament" he had ever won.

In the years to follow, Janes stayed in contact with his chess friends while becoming involved with many other organizations. Janes became chairman for the first Heart of Texas Fair board in 1953. 1954 was the year Janes was chairman of the 4th District Texas Bankers' Association. In 1955 Janes was president of the Texas Chess Association. The year 1957 saw Janes very active in soil conservation, and in 1960 he was named Outstanding Professional Man by his peers in the banking business.

Janes was very involved in water conservation. He received a Water Conservation Award in 1970. Through most of these years Janes retained the title of Waco City Champion. In 1972, Janes fought off Paul Essenburg to retain the title. Then in 1974, Janes led the people of Leroy to incorporate and become a city. Janes was elected its first mayor, and he was reelected to a second term. Janes' business life stayed busy, and his bank was featured in *The Wall Street Journal*. Janes retired from the banking business and sold the Leroy Bank in 1987.

Janes' life was one filled with many happy days. He was a wonderful business man and a devoted chess player. Anyone who met him knew they had met someone special. The game of chess is honored to include him in its elite.

I leave this story with an excerpt from the final pages of Bill Janes' book *Over Sixty Years of Chess...and Still Playing*.

"A time for silence,
And a time for speech"

Ecclesiastes 3:7
Chess has brought me some great joys. It has its beauties and intricacies that delight. A good chess game can be a work of art.

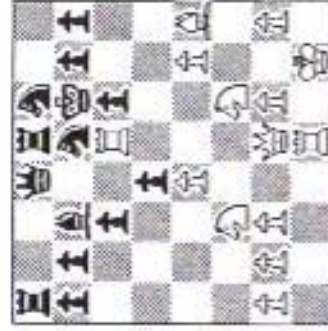
Greater joy has come through knowing its players. Almost every chessplayer has something remarkable about him. To change one of Browning's lines, "A spark disturbs their clod." An Extra dimension is given to their personalities.

So, my friends, we go to the next game, but it is time for me to end this story. It is my Time for Silence.

For your sportsmanship, for the fellowship and for your time, we thank you Bill.

Rios-Robbins (cont'd from p. 5)

A better development of Black's Knight would have been c7 via a6. Having created such a huge hole on e6, Black must seek control over it or be crushed. *[I like the intermezzo 12...Ng6, e.g. 13.Bg3 Bxg3 14.Bxg3 Nd7 15.Re6 Re8 = SKA.]*
13.Re6 Bc7 14.Rae1 Re8 15.Qe2 Kf7 16.g4 Nf8



17.g5! Nxe6?!?

17...Nxe6 18.Rae8 Qxe8 19.Bg3 Bxg3 20.bxg3 Qd7 21.gxf6 gxf6 22. Nd1 is *±*. *[Black can improve with 15...Qxe2 20.Rxe2 Bf4 = SKA.]*

18.Qxe6+ Kf8!?

18...Kg6 19.gxf6 Nf5 20.fxg7+! Rxe6 21.Rxe6+ Kf7 22.Bxd8 Rxd8 23.Re1 Ksg7 and White is up a pawn in the endgame.

19.gxf6 gxf6 20.Qxf6+

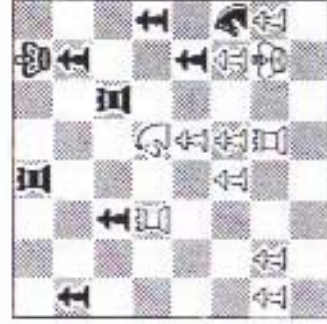
It's mate in six after 20...Kg8 21.Qe5+ Kg7 (21...Kf8 22.Ng5) 22. Bf6+ Kg6 (22...Kx6 23.Qe3+ Kg6 24.Qg5+ Kf7 25.Qg7 mate) 23.Bh8-Kh5 24.Qb3+ Kg6 25.Qg4+ Kf7 26. Qg7 matc. ♣

Kudos and Correction

The latest issue of *Texas Knights* is a real triumph. A wonderful mix and all-around great read.

I had a comment to your notes to our Southwest Open game. You're right about 28.Rxc5 being hasty, but I believe the real mistake was 29.Rc17 one move later.

Anderson-Land, 1999 SWO



Position after 28...Nh3

Instead, the surprising maneuver 29.d4! Rd8 30.Nd3! Rf1 31.Rc1 covers everything. In any case, you won't see me playing 9...Be6 again.

Chris Land
League City