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**Midwest Chess
Academy**



Press Release

Dominant at the state scholastic event... and other good finishes.

The Kansas Scholastic Championship took place on March 11, 2017 and we provided finishers in every section. This is the first time we have completely dominated an entire section having 8 of 10 (and 11 of 13) top finishers in the K-5 section.

K-3

6th Place, Henri Van Zandweghe, 4.5/6 points

K-5

1st Place, Cael Province, 5.5/6 points (state champion on tie-breaks)

2nd Place, Veronika Vancsa, 5.5/6 points

3rd Place, Sameeth Sheshappa, 5/6 points

4th Place, Rahul Kumar, 5/6 points

5th Place, Ryland O'Hanlon, 5/6 points

6th Place, Carter Cline, 5/6 points

7th Place, Owen Nielsen, 5/6 points

8th Place, Cole McMillen, 5/6 points

11th Place, Puwit Moerlien, 4/6 points

12th Place, Kilian McGaffin, 4/6 points

13th Place, Solomon Wu, 4/6 points

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K-8

1st Place, Ankith Sheshappa, 6/6 points, State Champion

9th Place, Akerth Jain, 5/6 points

11th Place, Shashank Aitha, 5/6 points

K-12

2nd Place, Jack Easton, 5.5/6 points (on tiebreaks)

7th Place, Zac Schuh, 5/6 points

K-5 Team

Special shout out to the Heartland Elementary squad who were the state champs as a team in the K-5 section. This is the third time (back-to-back-to-back) state titles for this team, sporting a comfortable 2 points separation from those teams behind. That is an amazing accomplishment. Congrats to Sameeth, Rahul, Cole and Ibraheem! Consistent practice will lead to consistent results. No doubt lingering effects from our coaching and that of Coach Curtis Hartman. This is the 12th state title we have helped teams win over the years.

Our network also performed good in the Blitz events at state. Once again, we field top finishers in each section.

Blitz

K-5

1st Place, Sameeth Sheshappa

2nd Place, Carter Cline

3rd Place, Cole McMillen

4th Place, Ryland O'Hanlon

7th Place, Puwit Moerlien

10th Place, Ibraheem Chaudhri

K-8

2nd Place, Ankith Sheshappa

11th Place, Akerth Jain

K-12

2nd Place, Zac Schuh

On March 18, 2017, Veronika Vancsa competed in the All-Girls state competition for Kansas at the University of Kansas campus. She finished in 4th place with 3/4 points. This marks the 4th time in 5 years she finishes in the top 5 in the state. [Link](#)

Other States:

California State Chess Championship
K-3 Ch.
14th Place, Alvin Han
[Link](#)

North Carolina State Chess Championship
K-3 Ch.
3rd Place, Kevin Yang
Kevin had some very difficult match-ups too.
[Link](#); [Link2](#)





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Mize Elementary student is Kansas Chess Champion

Cael Province, fifth grade, competed in the Kansas Scholastic Chess Association state tournament held at Emporia State University on March 11. Province competed against 89 other students in the K-5 division and captured first place as a representative of Mize Elementary. Way to go, Cael.