

# Rising Star

American Go Honor Society

Volume 1, Issue 8

25 July 2009

## Transitional Periods and Tournament Mayhem



Oh no—more sad good-byes...The Rising Star is losing news reporter Kristen Arce, who is focusing on her studies for the National Civil Service Examinations, and Christopher Vu is stepping down as senior editor to make way for younger blood. That means we need you! Do you like journalism and want to be part of a fun and trendy newsletter system that talks all about go and life around the world? Come join us! We're looking for two new staff reporters to help us out for Volume 2, set to debut in August 2009!

In the KGS Clan Brawl news, the American Go Honor Society is ranked in the top three teams based on points overall accumulated. Eleven of our players have qualified for the team stage, and we are currently challenging two teams.

Team A vs. RUS (We are currently losing 1-2, but there's still two more matches—let's go for a come from behind victory)

Team B vs. SDGC (We are currently ahead 1-0, by winning the 5th board. Let's aim for a sweep!

If you want to learn more about the Clan Brawl and want to compete for AGHS, please look at the website [kgsclans.co.uk/](http://kgsclans.co.uk/) all the rules are available here, and you can cheer on your favorite competitors.

Registration for the doubles tournament is now underway!

We are hosting this event on KGS and hope that you all will be able to participate—please register as soon as possible so that we can have a lot of entrants, as this will be our last event for the summer. So grab a partner, it doesn't matter how old he or she is, and enter the fray!

I hope you can stand out on top!

### DIVISIONS FOR 2009:

Men's Doubles  
Women's Doubles  
Mixed Doubles  
Junior Doubles

(AGHS voted to remove the name "rengo" to make it more appealing to Western audiences in 2006, as well as they voted to recognize different events under the old "pair go" system.)

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## President and Speaker of the House Announce Their Nominees for Office

At the first board meeting held by the joint national officers, newly-elected President Kris Taylor and newly-elected Speaker Dan Wentworth proposed names to be considered for various offices in the new administration.

Minister of the Society  
Dan Wentworth (NC)

Minister of International Affairs  
Christopher Vu (TX)

Minister of Tournaments  
Lisa Zhang (ONT)

Minister of Scheduling  
Michael Wu (TX)

Minister of the Treasury  
Udayan Vaidya (TX)

Minister of Marketing  
D'mitri Moore (MI)

Let's welcome them all with a big hand (except for Chris Vu—I wish he would just go retire already... geez.!)





## Fireside Chat

As the elections wound down, I began to realize what had happened. A huge transfer in the AGHS would occur and I would be first in command. It didn't really sink in until I started to carry out some of my new duties. I have set high standards for myself, and I plan to further the AGHS like no other president (Well, maybe not as far as the first president, haha). With my new executive and legislative

boards, as well as my new cabinet, I believe that you all will see a great year to come from the AGHS. Expect to see new tournaments, fundraisers, and social activities to go along with learning the great game of Go that we play. learning the great game of Go that we play.

I would love to get to know some of you guys and learn what you think the AGHS

can do the further youth Go, and Go in general. I haven't been online much due to recent dental surgery, but I'm getting back into the swing of things! If you want to play me, you can PM me on KGS (HikaruUSA), or, even better, if you'd like to teach me!

*Matt Mallory served as the 4th president of AGHS, Kris Taylor is president-elect and will take the title of 5th president in September.*

## Go in the Real World

Greed, one of the "seven deadly sins" from early Christian teachings, is an ugly trait that is its own punishment. The Talmud says that the happy man is the one satisfied with his lot. There is a great deal of wisdom in avoiding greed especially for a Go player.

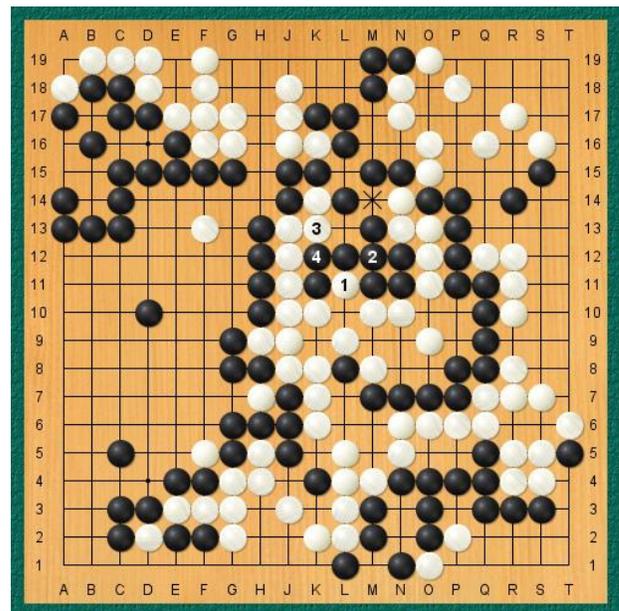
The game shown below had many swings and fights. The position shown is very near the end of the game with White slightly but surely ahead. Filled with the lust for battle, W sees a chance for some additional profit. W plays 1, double atari, and B does not have the ko threats to play this ko, so B connects at 2, expecting W to capture a stone at 4, followed by B capturing a stone at 3. This would leave W securely ahead (count and check yourself). But instead of capturing at 4 and letting B capture at 3, W sees more. W connects at 3, daring B to connect likewise at 4. W sees that B is short of liberties so that if B connects at 4, a move by W at X will capture all of B's stones. That is, W expects to get *both* the moves at 3 and

by Kris Taylor and Matt Mallory

by Shai Simonson

4, gaining an extra 3 points compared with B playing at 3. So W plays at 3 but B connects at 4 anyway! W follows through with his threat to play X, and with a gasp he realizes his mistake too late. Of course even a beginner can see the disaster that W has self-inflicted.

You might think that only a weak player could be lulled into such carelessness. You would never put your own stones into atari, would you? But greed can be blinding.



The players in this game were rated KGS 1 dan, and both played a long complicated game before this blunder. Beware the sin of greed.

*Shai is a columnist discussing go philosophy.*

## Did You Know That?

*There are seven major titles you can obtain in the go world in Japan.*

Honinbo, Meijin, Kisei, Gosei, Tengen, Judan, Oza

## A POLL FOR OUR READERS

What would you like AGHS to do for all of you in the future? (You can select multiple)

- 1) More tournaments
- 2) More events on KGS
- 3) Events in real life
- 4) Better newsletter
- 5) More go-related activities

Based on your selections, please explain specifically what you mean and send in your comments to [aghsregsiter@gmail.com](mailto:aghsregsiter@gmail.com)—we want to make this next year just as exciting as the previous ones!

**Professional Go Scene Spotlight****by Christopher Vu**

The economic crisis is reeling the go community. Hard. Several go tournaments have cancelled their next editions as major sponsors pulled out of giving their names for major competitions as their budget tightens and they look for a quick way to cut losses. The hardest hit was Korea, which lost six tournaments, including one that focused on newcoming pros as well as two of their major titles (Gisung, equivalent to the Japanese “Kisei” and the Myeongin, equivalent of the Japanese “Meijin”). It is believed that the crunch of the economy led to world #1 Lee Se-dol’s retirement from the Korean pro scene, as he will only compete in the Chinese City League and major international tournaments (which have a greater prize pool, by the way.)

The American Go Honor Society is not immune to these tremors as well, having lost several key sponsors that had sustained the organization through the past years. Bad financial management by certain individuals also makes the entity’s existence uncertain in future events, but the AGHS will fight on, regardless!

## Quote of the Day:

“There’s no fast way to achieve success. But once you stand on top, the moment felt as if you had accomplished everything quickly.”

**AGHS Members “Protest” Election Results by Hwang Moo-Ryong**

Upon investigation of the election results, the group against fraud noticed a startling discrepancy.

In four of the races, the officers did not meet the results as they were supposed to (officers are elected if they are able to obtain a majority of votes casted or votes total overall.)

However, because so many schools chose not to cast votes for either party (13% of outstanding

votes were casted in this manner), there was actually no one elected to Treasurer, Speaker of the House, Parliamentarian, and Recorder—ironically, four races which all involve Clear Lake candidates (Erica Hwang, Christopher Vu, Tim Savoie, Ashley Wilson).

Upon our queries, the Clear Lake students offered no comment in light of these recent revelations and AGHS Central Offices fear that the cor-

ruption from the Regime of Vu’s hold on the American Go Honor Society is far from over. More startling news regarding these developments to follow shortly.

*Hwang Moo-Ryong has gone into hiding following this publication to avoid retaliation.*

**Thanks 2008-09 Staff! You made the first volume of Rising Star out of this world!**

Good-bye Stage

Kristen Arce  
Christopher Vu  
Cynthia Yuen  
We’ll miss you !

One More Time!

Boris Berandsky  
Matthew Mallory  
Camille Pitts  
Shai Simonson  
... and introducing Tim McCaffery

### Schools, schools everywhere, which one's the perfect fit?

From UCLA on the west coast to NYU on the east coast, high school students in the United States have thousands of colleges and universities to choose from. Those looking to study abroad have even more choices to consider and therefore even more research to do. In many high schools across the country, counselors help students prepare for this monumental decision as early as sophomore or even freshman year. To make matters worse, students are also given conflicting advice from friends, parents, and even admissions representatives. So with all of this pressure to choose the right school, it's no wonder that some students find themselves disappointed with their choice once the semester begins. So as you start weighing factors such as the tuition cost, distance from home and diversity of your potential schools remember these tips to help you find the perfect fit!

1. **Make the most of your campus tour.** Visiting a potential college is an excellent way to determine if you like the look and feel of the college campus. You will most likely engage in a tour guided by a student who has been trained to answer the most frequently asked questions about the University. However, in order to get a thorough understanding of how students live, you will need to go beyond the tour guide who is likely to exaggerate the school's pros and downplay the school's cons. Spend some time simply observing student life on campus during your visit in various places such as academic buildings, the cafeteria, and around dormitories. If you feel brave enough, ask a few students around campus why they chose the school.
2. **The Internet is your friend.** The first place you should start is your potential school's website. You can get information about tuition, scholarships, programs offered and even extracurricular activities. After that, look for important statistics about your school such as crime rates, retention rates and accreditation. The National Center for Education Statistics (<http://nces.ed.gov/>) compiles the information you need to know about schools all across the United States. Finally, look for groups and events on Facebook and Myspace to gain understanding about campus life and causes important to students at the university.
3. **Think outside of the box. Some schools offer high school juniors and seniors a unique chance to experience student life such as a student-for-a-day program. This gives you the chance to sit in on classes, taste the cafeteria food and meet the kind of people that attend the school. Additionally, if you have a friend or relative that attends a school you would like to learn more about, spend a night or a weekend with them on campus. You will naturally get the most honest information from someone you trust.**

*Camille is a staff reporter for the Rising Star, majoring in Broadcasting at Seton Hall University. Have questions? Ask Camille!  
At [aghsregister@gmail.com](mailto:aghsregister@gmail.com)*

### Emptiness

Emptiness



Matt's looking for the next generation of officers.

Will you be the successor?

## American Go Honor Society

Because we're awesome like that.

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We're on the Web!

Www.aghs.cc

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**Camille Pitts**

**Matt Mallory**

**Shai Simonson**

## Here's a Light bulb!

Comments? Suggestions? We're always interested in hearing you out. Drop us a comment and line at [aghsregister@gmail.com](mailto:aghsregister@gmail.com) or leave us a suggestion at [www.aghs.cc](http://www.aghs.cc) as to what you would like to see change.

## PROPOSED FUTURE ENDEAVORS

International Competition vs. UK  
College Go Festival  
Go League / Teach Go

What else can we do for you?

## Mission Statement

A prediction once stated that it would take the Western nations one century to catch up to the strength of Asian countries. The American Go Honor Society was established to break this prediction and help the go players of the world rival the players from the Orient.

## Brief History

In 2000, a manga scanlation team brought Hikaru no Go into the English-speaking world for the first time. It became such a hit, that the team created an online go club to play with each other. But in 2002, when the manga had been completed, the members dwindled. Three high school students from different parts of North America decided to create the Sea Otters Go club in order to promote go among youth. Their programs became so popular and the now-known American Go Honor Society was founded to help develop leadership abilities in the American youth to become the next leaders in go and the community.

**The Empty Triangle** ([www.emptytriangle.com](http://www.emptytriangle.com))

by **Chidori**



## The Rising Star Wants You

The first volume of the Rising Star is coming to an end, and it's time for new people to come aboard!

We want you to be an editor or a reporter! If you're interested, let us know!

We are also looking for graphic designers, web-

designers, and people who are interested in teaching go classes. American Go Honor Society wants you!

Have any comments or suggestions? Please let us know at [aghsregister@gmail.com](mailto:aghsregister@gmail.com)