

NATIONAL OPEN NEWS

VOLUME 2010, ISSUE 2

JUNE 12, 2010

FIFTEEN PERFECT SCORES LEADING THE WAY

No less than 15 players lead the way going into round 3, each scoring a perfect 2/2 in Friday's play.

GMs Tregubov, Akobian, Kacheishvili, Lenderman, Finegold, Panchanathan, Kekelidze, Browne and Amanov are joined by IMs Foisor and Formanek, FMs Hansen, Bryant and Naroditsky and the only untitled player in the bunch, Gregory Young.

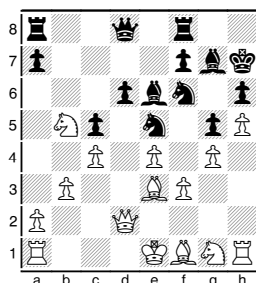
Young and Formanek scored what have been so far rare upsets in the National Open by beating GMs de Firmian and Kogan respectively.

Of the best games I could find from the first 2 rounds, the following encounter on board 4 in round 2 between one of the most talented juniors in the country, GM Alex Lenderman, and up and coming junior, Jeffery Haskel, caught my attention.

Haskel, J (2327)
Lenderman, A (2631)

National Open 2010 (2.4)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 Bg7 4.e4 0-0 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5 c5 7.d5 h6 8.Be3 e6 9.dxe6 Bxe6 10.Qd2 Kh7 11.g4 Nc6 12.h4 Ne5 13.b3 b5! 14.h5 g5 15.Nxb5

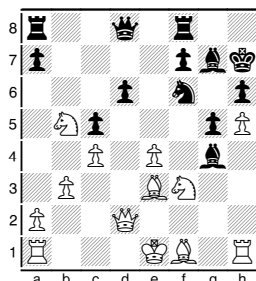


15...Nxf3+?

Lenderman plays for tactics, but possibly in the wrong way. 15...Nexg4!? 16.fxg4 Nxe4 17.Bd3 f5 is equal according to my silicon friend.

16.Nxf3 Bxg4

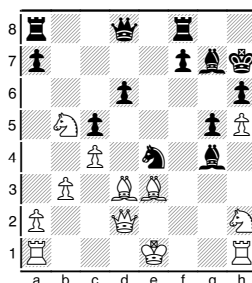
16...Nxe4!? immediately was an interesting alternative leading to complicated play.



17.Nh2

17.Nxg5+! Haskel misses this counter blow 17...hxg5 18.h6! Bh8 19.Bd3 Nxe4 (19...Nh5? 20.e5+ Kxh6 21.Be2!+-) 20.Bxe4+ f5 21.Bxa8 Qxa8 22.0-0 Bxa1 23.Rxa1

17...Nxe4 18.Bd3



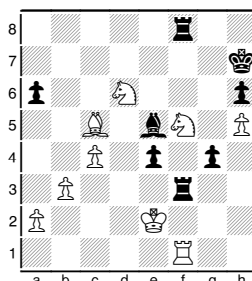
18...f5? 19.Bxe4 fxe4 20.Nxg4+-

White is now clearly winning this position.

20...Bxa1 21.Qxd6 Bg7 22.Qxd8 Raxd8 23.Bxc5 Rf4 24.Ne3 a6 25.Nd6 Be5 26.Nef5 Rf3 27.Ke2 g4 28.Rf1?!

28.Rg1 g3 29.Nf7 Rc8 30.Nxe5 Rxc5 31.Nxf3 exf3+ 32.Kxf3 Rxf5+ 33.Kxg3 with a complicated rook and pawn ending that should be winning for White although there is still a lot of work to do.

28...Rf8



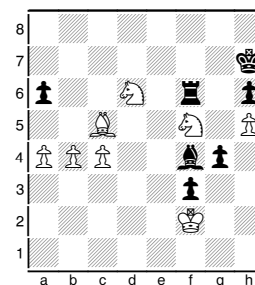
29.Rxf3?

It was still not too late to switch back to the previous plan with 29.Rg1



GM Alex Lenderman still perfect

29...exf3+ 30.Kf2 Rf6 31.b4 Bf4 32.a4?!



32...Re6! 33.Be3?!

White's position was already losing despite this error. A better try was something like 33.b5 axb5 34.axb5 Re2+ 35.Kf1 g3 36.Nh4 g2+ 37.Nxg2 Rxg2 38.b6 Rc2 but Black should still be winning here.

33...Bxd6 34.c5 Bh2!

Lenderman shows no mercy now the end is in sight.

35.b5 axb5 36.axb5 Re5 37.Nh4 Rxh5 38.b6 Rxh4 39.c6 Bd6 40.c7 Rh2+ 0-1

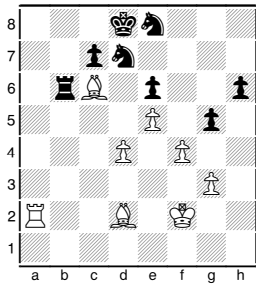
TACTICS TRAINING FROM THE GRANDMASTERS (AND JOSH)

Here are a few interesting positions/games played in the first two rounds.

GM Alex Lenderman started off his day with a nice win against Christopher von Krogh.

Lenderman,A (2631)
von Krogh,C (2220)

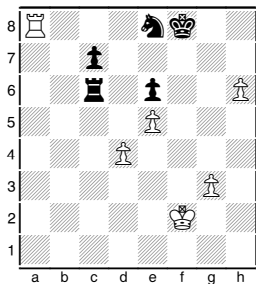
National Open 2010 (1.4)



38.fxcg5!

Sacrificing a piece but calculating that a new queen was on her way.

38...Rxc6 39.Ra8+ Ke7 40.gxh6 Nf8 41.Bb4+ Kf7 42.Bxf8 Kxf8



43.Rxe8+ 1-0

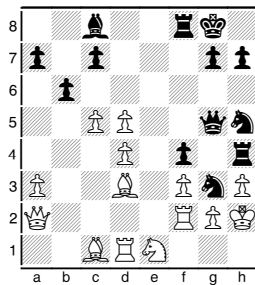
Check out this nice sacrificial attack, by Indian GM Magesh Panchanathan.

Moussa,A (2216)
Panchanathan,M (2599)

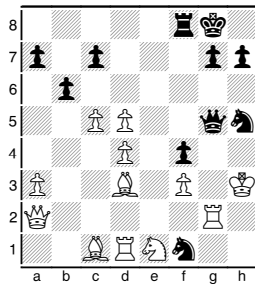
National Open 2010 (1.7)

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Bb7 7.e3 Ne4 8.Bd3 f5 9.Qc2 0-0 10.0-0

d6 11.Bb2 Nd7 12.Rad1 Rf6 13.Ne1 Rh6 14.f3 Qh4 15.h3 Qg5 16.Bc1 Ng3 17.Rf2 Nf6 18.Qd2 Rh4 19.Qa2 Nfh5 20.Kh2 Rf8 21.e4 f4 22.c5 d5 23.exd5 exd5 24.c4 Bc8 25.cxd5



25...Bxh3! 26.gxh3 Rxxh3+ 27.Kxh3 Nf1 28.Rg2

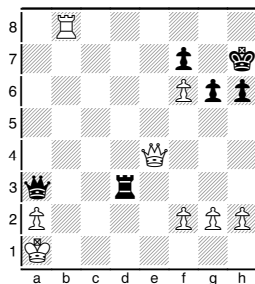


28...Nhg3! 0-1

Here's one for the tactics books provided by GM Arthur Kogan. White to play and mate in 4.

Kogan,A (2575)
Alvarez,E (2205)

National Open 2010 (1.10)



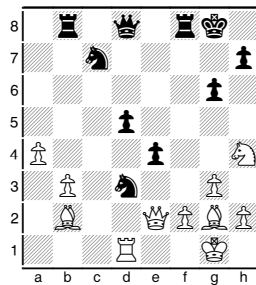
33.Rh8+ Kxh8 34.Qe8+ Kh7 35.Qxf7+ 1-0

Young Josh Sinanan decided to sacrifice two exchanges and then a piece in the following game against Devin Hughes.

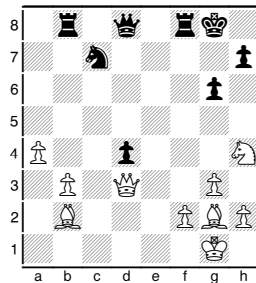
Sinanan,J (2262)
Hughes,D (2078)

National Open 2010 (1.36)

1.d4 c5 2.d5 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.c4 d6 5.Bg2 Nd7 6.Nf3 b5 7.cxb5 a6 8.bxa6 Bxa6 9.0-0 Rb8 10.Nc3 Ngf6 11.Rb1 0-0 12.Qc2 Nb6 13.Rd1 Ne8 14.e4 Nc7 15.b3 f5 16.exf5 Rxf5 17.Nh4 Rf8 18.Bb2 Bb7 19.a4 Bd4 20.Rxd4 cxd4 21.Ne2 Nbx5 22.Nxd4 e5 23.Nc6 Bxc6 24.Qxc6 Nb4 25.Qc4+ d5 26.Qe2 e4 27.Rd1 Nd3



28.Rxd3 exd3 29.Qxd3 d4



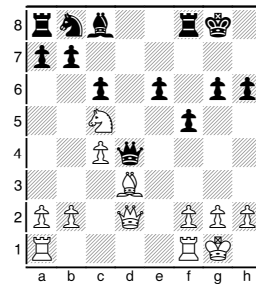
30.Nxg6! Rf7 31.Ne5 Qe8 32.Nxf7 Qxf7 33.Qxd4 Kf8 34.Qh8+ Qg8 35.Qxg8+ Kxg8 36.Be5 1-0

GM Mikheil Kekelidze decides to sacrifice a piece to open up the black king.

Kekelidze,M (2580)
Graves,P (2274)

National Open 2010 (2.8)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 e6 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bxf6 Qxf6 7.e3 g6 8.Bd3 Bg7 9.0-0 0-0 10.e4 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Qd8 12.Qd2 f5 13.Nc5 Bxd4 14.Nxd4 Qxd4



15.Qxh6! Qxc5 16.Qxg6+ Kh8 17.Rae1 Qe7 18.Re3 Rf7 19.Bxf5 Rg7 20.Qh6+ Kg8 21.Rxe6 Qf7 22.Rfe1 Bd7 23.Rf6 Bxf5 24.Rxf7 Kxf7 25.Qf4 Kg6 26.Re8 1-0



GM Mikheil Kekelidze

RANDOM PHOTOS FROM THE TOURNAMENT CD

The following photos, and a lot more, are all available for you to own on the Tournament CD. Order yours from the Registration Desk for just \$25. Remember, should you play well enough, you can always use a Plus Score certificate to buy it!

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½ point byes for Sunday's rounds must be requested before the start of round 2 and may not be cancelled. Other ½ point byes may be requested up to 1 hour after the start of the previous round. After hours, call 702-560-0955 and leave a voice message. Be sure to speak clearly and give your name, section and contact number. You can also use the contact page on our website.

NATIONAL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Time Control 40/2, SD/1
Time delay clocks are preferred and must have the delay set to 5 seconds.
Do not subtract 5 minutes!

2-day schedule (Rds 1-3) G/60

GRAND BALLROOM

SATURDAY

2-day Round 1 9:30 am
Round 3 11:00 am
2-day Round 2 12:00 pm
2-day Round 3 2:30 pm
Round 4 6:00 pm

SUNDAY

Round 5 10:00 am
Round 6 5:00 pm
Winner's Circle 10:00 pm-1:00 am
(Napa C)

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Check out the great selection of chess books, sets, clocks and National Open t-shirts. Book signing times will be posted in the store.

The Chess Store is open each day from 9:00 am to 11:00 pm in Napa A.

FREE LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY

1:00 pm Analysis of your games, GM Bisguier (Huntington)
4:00 pm It's Your Move!, WGM Zatonskih (Napa C)
8:00 pm Analysis of your games, GM Bisguier (Huntington)
8:00 pm Champions of the New Millennium, GM Browne (Napa C)

SUNDAY

12:00 pm Analysis of your games, GM Bisguier (Huntington)
4:00 pm Rulebook Tactics!, NTD Just (Napa C)
6:30 pm Chess Players, GM Browne (Napa C)
7:00 pm Analysis of your games, GM Bisguier (Huntington)

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\$2,500 GUARANTEED PRIZE FUND

Sunday, 10:45 pm
Register by 10:00 pm

Sonoma Room

Entry Fee \$50
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Open & Under 1700 Sections

Game/5 (no delay)
5 Round Double Swiss
USCF Quick Rated

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