LAS VEGAS INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

NATIONAL OPEN NEWS

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KARPOV A BIG HIT WITH VEGAS CROWD

Former World Champion, GM Anatoly Karpov, is this year's big named guest and he didn't disappoint in his simul appearance today.

It all started when a big crowd assembled for the drawing of lots, performed by a computer animated Vegas style slot machine.

Prospective simul entrants received a certain number of chances based on when they paid their entry fee. The earlier people entered, the higher their chances of being one of the lucky few.

After the drawing, 23 lucky players had been given the opportunity to face Karpov in the simul, while the final 2 spots were auctioned off

to raise funds for the US Chess Trust. The penultimate spot went for \$375, while the final spot was won with a bid of \$310.

When the simul began, a large crowd had assembled in the room, all armed with a multitude of cameras and video recorders so people could capture the moment of meeting one of the greatest chess players that ever lived.

After 5 gruelling hours, finishing at around midnight, Karpov eventually finished with an impressive score of 23 wins, 2 draws and no losses.

The two lucky survivors were Jim Green (rated 1980) and Jose Ramirez (1900). Both players played very solid games and were well deserving of their half-points as they managed to avoid succumbing to Karpov's technique of grinding people down in a slow, methodical manner rather than blasting people off the board with tactics.

Karpov,A Ramirez,J (1900)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 Bg7 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.Nge2 0-0 7.Nxd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qa5 9.Bd2 c6 10.Bc4 Nd7 11.0-0 Qc7 12.Rc1 Nb6 13.Bb3 Qd8 14.Ne4 Nd7 15.Qe2 Nf6 16.Nc5 b6 17.Nd3 Bb7 18.Rfd1 Ne4 19.Be1 Rc8 20.f3 Nd6 21.Bf2 Ba6 22.Qd2 Bxd3 23.Qxd3 c5 24.dxc5 bxc5 25.Qe2 Qa5 26.Rd5 Qb4 27.Be1 Qb6 28.Rc2 e6 29.Rd1 c4 30.Ba4 Nf5 31.Bf2 Qb4 32.b3 cxb3 33.axb3 Rxc2 34.Qxc2 Qb7 35.e4 Rc8 36.Qe2 Ne7 37.Qb5 Qc7 38.h4 Be5 39.Qd7 Qxd7 40.Bxd7 Rc3 41.b4 Nc6 42.Bxc6 Rxc6 43.Bxa7 Rc2 44.g4 Rb2 45.Rd8+ Kg7 46.Bc5 h5 47.g5 Kh7 48.Kf1 Rh2 49.Bd6 **Bxd6 50.Rxd6 Rb2** 51.Rb6 Kg7 52.Rb8 f5 53.e5 Rh2 54.Rb7+ Kf8 55.Rb8+ Kg7 56.Rb7+ 1/2=1/2



Karpov,A Green,J (1980)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 a6 5.Nbd2 g6 6.Bd3 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Qc2 Nbd7 9.b3 Re8 10.Bb2 Ra7 11.Rac1 e6 12.Ba3 e5 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Rxe5 15.Nf3 Re8 16.h3 Be6 17.Rfd1 Qa5 18.Bb2 Raa8 19.Bc3 Qb6 20.Qb2 Nh5 21.Bxg7 Nxg7 22.Qf6 Qd8 23.Qc3 Qe7 24.cxd5 Bxd5 25.e4 Be6 26.Rd2 Rad8 27.Rcd1 Nh5 28.Bf1 Nf6 29.Qe3 Rxd2 30.Rxd2 Nd7 31.Qf4 c5 32.Qh6 b5 33.Ng5 Nf8 34.e5 Rd8 35.Ne4 Rxd2 36.Qxd2 Kg7 37.f4 Nd7 1/2=1/2



Gelashvili, Shankland and Kekelidze Share G/10 Championship

After 6 rounds of blistering G/10 action, three people came out on top in the final standings. GMs Sam Shankland and Mikheil Kekelidze both started with perfect 5-0 scores before agreeing to a quick draw in the final round, guaranteeting themsevles a share of first place.

They were joined by GM Tamaz Gelashvili, who was the only player half-point behind the leaders to win in the final round. Here is that game against GM Ivan Ivanisevic.

Gelashvili,T (2693) Ivanisevic,I (2705) US G/10 Ch. (6)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.dxe5 dxe5 7.Ng5 0-0 8.Bxf7+ Rxf7 9.Ne6 Qe8 10.Nxc7 Qd8 11.Nxa8 b5



Despite the surprised look of many spectators, this position has actually been reached quite a few times before according to my database, with black scoring well. However, it must be said that the other games were not played by the level of players we have in this particular game.

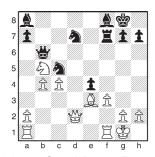
12.Nd5 Nxe4

Saving the dark-squared bishop by 12...Bd6 13.Bg5 Bb7 is the most popular move continuation at this point.

13.Be3 Bd6 14.0-0 Bb7 15.f3 Nec5 16.Nc3 Bf8 17.Nxb5 Bxa8 18.Qd2 Qb6 19.c4 e4

19...Qg6 keeping pressure on the king-side is interesting.

20.b4



20...exf3 21.bxc5 Bxc5?

21...Nxc5 22.Nd4 Ne4 23.Qd3 f2+ 24.Bxf2 Rxf2 25.Rxf2 Nxf2 26.Kxf2 Qb2+ 27.Nc2 Bc5+ 28.Ke1 Qe5+=

22.Rae1 h6 23.Bxc5 Qxc5+ 24.Qe3 fxg2 25.Rxf7 Kxf7 26.Qxc5

White trades down to an easily won ending.

26...Nxc5 27.Nc7 Bf3 28.Re3

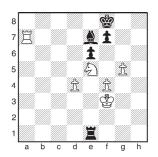
28.Re5 may have forced an immediate resignation.

28...Bc6 29.Nd5 Ne6 30.Kxg2 a5 31.Kf2 g5 32.Rf3+ Kg7 33.Rb3 Kf7 34.Rb6 Nd4 35.Ke3 Nf5+ 36.Ke4 Ne7 37.Kd4 Nf5+ 38.Ke5 Bxd5 39.cxd5 Ne3 40.Rb7+ Kg6 41.d6 1-0

The following position was reached by GMs Alejandro Ramirez and Alex Lenderman who were the other two players on 4½/5 going into the final round.

Ramirez,A(2667) Lenderman,A (2656) US G/10 Ch. (6)

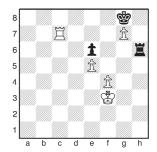
1.Ra7 Rxe3+ 2.Kxh4 Kf8 3.Kg4 Re4 4.Kf3 Re1



5.g6+- f6 6.g7+ Kg8 7.Rxe7 fxe5 8.dxe5 Rf1+ 9.Kg4 Rg1+ 10.Kh5 Rh1+ 11.Kg5 Rg1+ 12.Kh5

White's king cannot continue his march up the king-side due to 12.Kf6? Rg6+!=

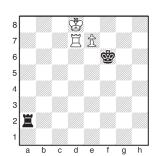
12...Rh1+ 13.Kg4 Rh6 14.Kf3 Rg6 15.Ke4 Rh6 16.Kd4 Rh4 17.Ke4 Rh6 18.Ra7 Rg6 19.Kf3 Rh6 20.Rb7 Rg6 21.Rc7 Rh6



22.f5 exf5 23.Kf4 Rh1 24.Kxf5

24.e6! practically wins on the spot.

24...Rf1+ 25.Ke6 Re1 26.Rd7 Re2 27.Kd6 Rd2+ 28.Ke7 Re2 29.e6 Kxg7 30.Kd8+ Kf6 31.e7 Ra2



32.e8N+? and after many moves in a quite entertaining time scramble, a draw was eventually agreed.

32.Rd6+! forces the black king to move away allowing White to queen his pawn and win the black rook.

GMs Akobian and Gareev Simuls

The two previous winners of the National Open, GMs Varuzhan Akobian and Timur Gareev, both gave simuls to get the day's action underway.

Akobian played 18 games, finishing with a score of 15 wins, 3 draws and no losses, with the 3 draws scored by John Cawston (1956), Chad Badgett (1794) and Jeff Gallegos (2090).

Gareev played 16 games, finishing with a score of 15 wins, 1 draw and no losses, with the draw being scored by Charles Davis (1743).

Here are the games from the survivors.

Akobian,V Cawston,J (1956)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 Bxa6 6.Nc3 d6 7.e4 Bxf1 8.Kxf1 g6 9.Nge2 Bg7 10.h3 0-0 11.Kg1 Nbd7 12.Kh2 Qa5 13.Qc2 Rfb8 14.Rb1 Rb7 15.Rd1 Rab8 16.b3 Qa6 17.a4 c4 18.bxc4 Qxc4 19.Be3 Nc5 20.Rxb7 Rxb7 21.f3 Nfd7 22.Bd4 Ne5 23.Kh1 Ned3 24.Bxc5 Nxc5 25.Qa2 Qxa2 26.Nxa2 Rb2 27.Nac1 ½-½

Akobian,V Gallegos,J (2090)

1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 Nd7 3.c4 e5 4.Nc3 Be7 5.Qc2 Ngf6 6.Bg5 exd4 7.Nxd4 h6 8.Bh4 0-0 9.Nf5 Nb6 10.Nxe7+ Qxe7 11.e3 q5 12.Bq3 Be6 13.b3 d5 14.cxd5 Nbxd5 15.Nxd5 Bxd5 16.0-0-0 a5 17.Rxd5 Nxd5 18.Bc4 c6 19.h4 q4 20.Rd1 b5 21.Bxd5 cxd5 22.Qf5 Rfc8+ 23.Kb2 Qe4 24.Qxe4 dxe4 25.Be5 Rc5 26.Bd4 Rf5 27.Rd2 Rc8 28.a3 b4 29.a4 Kf8 30.q3 Ke7 31.Kb1 Ke6 32.Kb2 Rd5 33.Kb1 Rc6 34.Rd1 Rd7 35.Rd2 f5 36.Kb2 Rdc7 37.Re2 Rd7 38.Rd2 Kf7 39.Kb1 Kq6 40.Kb2 Rd5 41.Kb1 f4 42.gxf4 Kh5 43.Rd1 Kg6 44.Rh1 Rd7 45.Rg1



Kf5 46.Rd1 Kg6 47.Rg1 Rxd4 48.exd4 Kf5 49.Rc1 Rd6 50.Rc5+ Kxf4 51.Rxa5 Rxd4 52.Kc2 Rd3 53.Ra8 Rc3+ 54.Kb2 Kf3 55.Rf8+ Ke2 56.Rf4 e3 57.fxe3 g3 58.Rxb4 Rxe3 59.Rg4 Kf3 60.Rg8 Re4 61.a5 Rg4 62.Rxg4 Kxg4 ½-½

Akobian,V Badgett,C (1794)

1.d4 d6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.Bg5 c6 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Be2 Qc7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Qc2 e5 10.Rfd1 Re8 11.Rac1 a5 12.a3 Nf8 13.dxe5 dxe5 14.b4 Ne6 15.Bh4 b6 16.Nd2 Bb7 17.Qb3 Rac8 18.Nce4 Nxe4 19.Nxe4 Ra8 20.Nd6 Rf8 21.c5 bxc5 22.bxc5 Ba6 23.Bg4 Rab8 24.Qa2 Bc8 25.Nxc8 Qxc8 26.Bxe6 Qxe6 27.Qxe6 fxe6 28.Rd6 Rbc8 29.Rxe6 Rfe8 30.Rxe8+ Rxe8 31.Rb1 Bf8 32.Rb7 Bxc5 33.a4 Bd6 34.Bf6 Rb8 ½-½

Gareev,T Davis,C (1743)

1.b4 h6 2.Bb2 d5 3.e3 Bf5 4.c4 e6 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bxb4 7.Qa4+ Nc6 8.Nd4 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 0-0 10.Nxc6 bxc6 11.f3 c5 12.Qc6 d4 13.Ba5 dxe3 14.dxe3 Qd6 15.Qxc7 Qxc7 16.Bxc7 Bc2 17.Kd2 Rfc8 18.Ba5 Ba4 19.Be2 Nd7 20.Kc3 Rab8 21.Rhb1 Nb6 22.Kd2 Rd8+ 23.Ke1 Bc2 24.Rb2 Bd3 25.Rc1 Bxe2 26.Kxe2 Rd7 27.Rb5 Rc8 28.Rc2 Rc6 29.Be1 e5 30.Ra5 f6 31.Ra6 Kf7 32.a4 Rcd6 33.a5 Nxc4 34.Rxd6 Nxd6 35.Rxc5 Nb7 36.Rc6 Nd8 37.Rc8 Nb7 38.e4 Nd6 39.Rc6 Nb5 40.Bf2 Nd6 41.a6 Nb5 42.h4 Ke8 43.h5 Rc7 44.Rc5 Rxc5 45.Bxc5 Nc7 46.Kd3 Nxa6 47.Bd6 Kf7 48.Kc4 Ke6 49.Bf8 Kf7 ½-½





INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

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Need a bye? Dropping out?

Sign-up sheets are available at the Registration Desk. Half-point byes for Sunday rounds must be requested before the start of round 2 and may not be cancelled. Other half-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/45

ROYALE PAVILION 5-8

FRIDAY

Round 1 11:00 am Round 2 6:00 pm

SATURDAY

Round 3 10:00 am 2-day Round 1 10:00 am 2-day Round 2 12:00 pm 2-day Round 3 2:00 pm Round 4 5:00 pm

SUNDAY

Round 5 10:00 am Round 6 5:00 pm

Winner's Circle 10:00 pm in Capri 111

CHESS STORE - CAPRI 114

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 Capri 114.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP

Hosted by Former World Champion, GM Anatoly Karpov

FRIDAY 10:00 am Scholastic Trophy Tournament 4:00 pm Round 3

4:00 pm Late Registration for IYC

6:30 pm Youth Blitz

SATURDAY 8:00 am Late Registration (until 9:00 am) 10:00 am Round 4

9:30 am Opening Ceremony

10:00 am Round 1 1:00 pm Round 2

3:00 pm GM Karpov Autograph Session

SATURDAY (CONT.)

6:30 pm Puzzle Solving Competition

SUNDAY

9:30 am Side Event Awards

1:00 pm Round 5

4:00 pm Closing Ceremony

FREE LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

FRIDAY

1:00 pm Analysis of your games, GM Khachiyan (Capri 111) 3:00 pm World Chess, GM Karpov (Royale Pavilion 4)

Analysis of your games, GM Henley (Capri 111) 8:00 pm

SATURDAY

12:00 pm Analysis of your games, GM Henley (Capri 111)

2:00 pm Wiining Chess, GM Khachiyan (Skybox 207-208)

7:00 pm Analysis of your games, GM Khachiyan (Capri 111)

8:00 pm Crushing White: The Sniper!, GM Henley (Skybox 207-208)

SUNDAY

12:00 pm Analysis of your games, GM Khachiyan (Capri 111)

2:00 pm Win Like Karpov!, GM Henley (Skybox 207-208)

3:30 pm Rulebook Tactics, NTD Just (Capri 111)

7:00 pm Analysis of your games, GM Henley (Skybox 207-208)

National Open players age 14 and under who wish to have a game considered for the "Freddie" Best Game Prize must bring it to one of the first 5 analysis sessions. Only rounds 1 to 5 will be considered.

CD Tournament Bulletin

Hundreds of games, photos and more mailed on a CD within days of the end of the National Open. This daily National Open News will be free to all Las Vegas International Chess Festival players. If you think your game is worthy of publication, check the box on the scoresheet.

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