



NATIONAL OPEN NEWS

Las Vegas International Chess Festival

Volume 2016 • Issue 2

Editor: Bill Brock

GM AKOBIAN ANNOTATES

Fifteen grandmasters were among the 47 players in the powerful Open Section. No major surprises so far, but several fascinating games. GM Varuzhan Akobian annotates two of them for us:

FM Konstatin Kavutskiy (2434) – GM Joshua Friedel [E12]

2016 National Open (2)
Annotated by GM Akobian

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.Bf4 Bb7 5.e3 Be7 6.Nc3 Nh5

I like GM Friedel's move: he's trying to exchange White's dark-squared bishop.

7.Bd3

7.Bg3 Nxc3 8.hxc3 is another solid continuation for White.

7...Nxf4 8.exf4 Bf6 9.Be4 d5 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Bc2 0-0 12.0-0 Na6 13.a3 c5!



It's very important for Black to open the position, as he has the pair of the bishops.

14.Qd3 g6 15.Rad1 Rc8 16.Rfe1 cxd4 17.Nxd4 Nc5 18.Qg3?!

It's better to keep the queen on d2: 18.Qd2 Re8 with a slightly better position for Black due to the bishop pair.

18...Bxd4 19.Rxd4 Qf6 20.Rd2

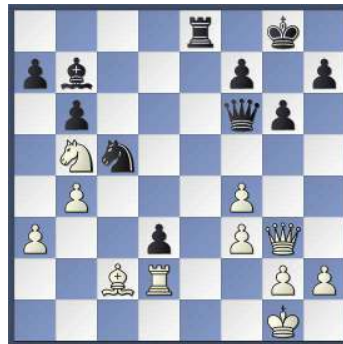
20...d4!



21.Nb5 Rcd8 22.b4 Rfe8 23.Rxe8+ Rxe8 24.f3?

This is the mistake that cost White the game. The only move was 24.h3 Re1+ 25.Kh2 d3 26.bxc5 dxc2 27.Rxc2 Qa1 28.Qc3 and White is holding.

24...d3!



25.Bd1 Ba6!

Another strong move by Black.

26.bxc5 Bxb5 27.Qf2 Qa1 28.cxb6 axb6 29.Qxb6 Re2!

The final touch!

30.Qd8+ Kg7 31.Rxd3 Bxd3 32.Qxd3 Re1+ 33.Kf2 Rxd1 0-1



GM Friedel at work

GM Vasif Durarbayli (2686) – FM Matthew Beelby (2364) [C41]

2016 National Open (2)
Annotated by GM Akobian

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.0-0-0 7.Re1 c6 8.a4 a5 9.h3 Nb6



GM Vasif Durarbayli

10.Bb3 Nfd7 11.Be3 exd4 12.Nxd4 Nc5 13.Qf3 Nxb3 14.cxb3 Nd7 15.Rad1



White has a slightly better position due to better development and active pieces.

15...Re8 16.Rd2 Ne5 17.Qe2 Bf8 18.Red1

White is increasing the pressure on the d6 pawn.

18...Qh4 19.f4 Ng6 20.Qf3 Be6 21.Nf5 Bxf5 22.exf5 Ne7?

This natural move loses. The only move for Black was 22...Nh8.

23.Bf2!



Very nice! Durarbayli attacks the queen and wins the d6 pawn with tempo.

23...Qh6 24.Rxd6 g6 25.fxg6

White missed a stronger continuation: 25.Ne4 Nd5 26.R6xd5 cxd5 27.Nf6+ Kh8 28.Ng4 Qh5 29.Bd4+ Bg7 30.Bxg7+ Kxg7 31.Qc3+ with a mating attack.

25...hxg6

It would have been a slight improvement for Black to play 25...Nxc3! 26.f5 Ne5 27.Qg3+ Qg7 28.R6d2 and White still has good winning chances.

26.Rd7 1-0

Analysis of Your Games

Conference Room 5

GM Varuzhan Akobian

Sessions start 2 Hours after the start of each Round of the **National Open** and run for 2 to 3 hours.

National Open players age 14 and under are eligible for the **FREDDIE** best game award. Those who wish to have a game considered must bring it to one of first five analysis sessions. Only rounds 1 through 5 will be considered.

Trophy Tournaments!

Congratulations to the top finishers in the **Open Section** of Friday's Trophy Tournament: first place with 5 points, Gavin Zhang of Oregon; second with 4½, Justin Weinzweig of Illinois, and third with 4 points, Nathan Ruzell of Wisconsin (on tiebreaks over Owen Xuan and Jack Little, both from Washington, and Ronit Podder of Texas, who finished with the same score). I don't have a full list of all the trophy winners of this 51-player event, but will award the Editor's Trophy to Inay Vellore of California (rated 648 before the tournament), who finished with a plus score against a strong field.

For the full crosstable including tiebreaks, please visit vegaschessfestival.com/results/ Hey you adults: this site works for *all* of this week's events!

In the **Reserve Section**, Abhiram Yeruva took clear first with a perfect 5 points. There was a logjam for second, all with 4 points: Carlos Eduardo Garcia II took second on tiebreaks, and Wesley Trieu of Oregon placed third; William X. Chen of California, Harry Breheim of Minnesota, Sharad Krishnan of Arizona, Marcus Pham of California, and Anne Frasca of Washington also finished at 4-1.

In the **Booster Section**, Nicholas Heng of California took clear first with a perfect 5-0. Shravan Sriram of California scored an undefeated 4½-½ to

take second, and Alexandre Boyce of Oregon took third place on tiebreaks over Sam



13-year-old Gavin Zhang (1846) of Portland, Oregon, took top honors in Friday's Trophy Open event.

Weber of Wisconsin, Nickolas Molling of Utah, Ethan Truong of Oregon, and Christopher Liu, Christopher Flores, and Alexander Chen, all with 4-1 scores.

Remembering Walter Shawn Browne, 1949-2015



Friday was the first anniversary of the death of six-time U. S. Champion Walter Browne, who passed away immediately after playing in the 2015 National Open.

I had the pleasure of speaking with Walter's younger sister, Susan, who visited the Festival

to mark the anniversary of Walter's death, and who presented the Browne Memorial Blitz trophy to Axel Bachmann of Paraguay yesterday (see photo below).



When the Browne family moved from Long Island to Brooklyn, young Walter transferred his competitive drive and his work ethic from Little League pitching to chess. Susan remembered her brother as a fierce competitor who was willing to make the necessary preparations to compete successfully, whether it was playing through master games six hours a day or memorizing all the two-letter words allowed in Scrabble.

Walter's drive was accompanied by a competitive ethos: he had strong opinions about playing conditions and adhering to fair play. To have followed one's gifts with intense energy and a moral compass is one definition of having lived a good life.

Susan took me to visit GM Ron Henley, who shared his memories of working with Walter during the 1982 First Lady's Cup tournament in Indonesia, the event in which Browne and Henley tied for first and Henley won his own GM title in spectacular fashion.

Henley told us that Browne had already profoundly influenced

his play several years earlier. When Ron was a 2100 player, he would stroll around the tournament hall looking at games, returning to work seriously only when it was his move. Then he noticed Browne's laser focus on his own position: "during that five or six hours [of play], that is his world."

I got a wonderful preview of GM Henley's lecture on Browne's games (it's today at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 1: don't miss it!)

Walter S. Browne (2585) – Zoltan Ribli (2590) [E12] Surakarta, 1982

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 b6 4.Nc3 Bb7 5.a3 d5 6.cxd5 Nxd5 7.e3 Be7 8.Bb5+ c6 9.Bd3 Nxc3 10.bxc3 c5 11.0-0 Nc6 12.Qe2 0-0 13.Bb2 Rc8 14.Rad1 cxd4



15.exd4!? Na5 16.Ne5 Bf6 17.f4 g6 18.c4 Bg7 19.d5 exd5



20.f5! d4 21.fxg6 fxg6



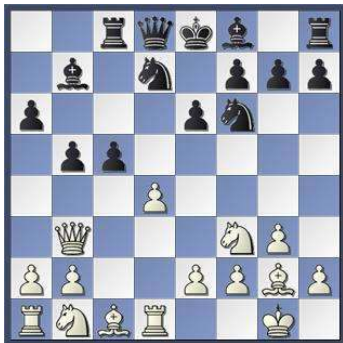
22.Nxg6! Re8 23.Qh5 Be4
24.Bxe4 Rxe4 25.Qf5 1-0

Our condolences to Walter's wife of 42 years, Dr. Raquel Browne, to Susan Browne, and to the entire Browne family.

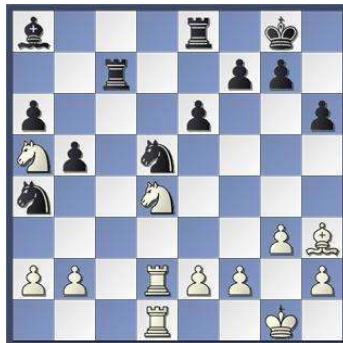
Here are a few more games from Friday's Open Section play:

IM Vincent McCambridge (2515) – GM Ehsan Ghaemmaghami (2682)
2016 National Open (2)

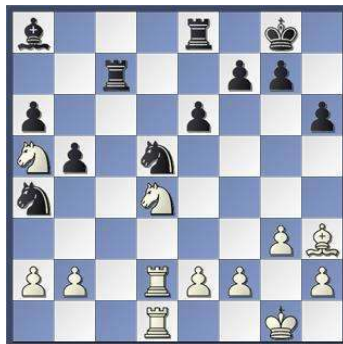
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 e6 4.g3 dxc4 5.Qa4+ c6 6.Qxc4 b5 7.Qc2 Bb7 8.Bg2 Nbd7 9.0-0 c5 10.Rd1 Rc8 11.Qb3 a6



12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.Be3 Qb6
14.Bxc5 Nxc5 15.Qe3 Nd5
16.Qd4 0-0 17.Nbd2 Na4
18.Rab1 Rfd8 19.Nb3 h6
20.Rd2 Qxd4 21.Nfxd4 Rd7
22.Rbd1 Rdc7 23.Bh3 Re8
24.Na5 Ba8

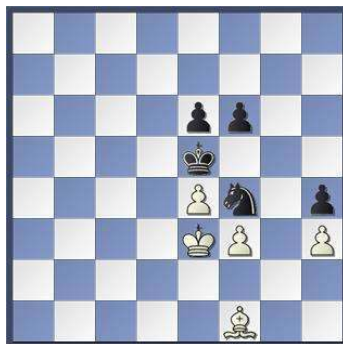


25.e4 Nf6 26.f3 Kf8 27.Bf1 Rec8 28.Bd3 Ke7 29.Ne2 Rd7 30.b4 Rdc7 31.Kf2 Nd7 32.Nd4 Ne5 33.Bf1 g5 34.h3 Nc3 35.Re1 Rd7 36.Nab3 Na4 37.Red1 Rdc7 38.Ne2 Rc2 39.Ned4 R2c7 40.Ne2 Nc6 41.a3 Ne5 42.Rc1 Nc3 43.Nc5 Na4 44.Nxa4 Rxc1 45.Nxc1 Rxc1 46.Nc5 Rc3 47.Be2 Bc6 48.Nxa6 Rxa3 49.Nc7 Ra7 50.Nxb5 Bxb5 51.Bxb5 Rb7 52.Be2 Rxb4



Looking kinda drawish, but....

53.Ra2 Rb3 54.Ra4 Ng6
55.Ra5 Kf6 56.Ra7 h5 57.Ra5 h4 58.gxh4 gxh4 59.Rb5 Rxb5 60.Bxb5 Nf4 61.Bf1 Ke5 62.Ke3 f6



Zugzwang!

0-1

GM Illia Nyzhnyk (2718) – FM Christopher Chase (2397)
2016 National Open (2)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 a6 5.h4 h5 6.Qd2 b5 7.f3 Bb7 8.Nh3 Nd7 9.Ng5 Ngf6 10.a3 Rc8 11.0-0 c5 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.Kb1 Qc7 14.Bd4 Ncd7



15.g4 Ne5 16.gxh5 Nxh5 17.Qf2 Bc6 18.Rg1 Rb8 19.f4 Nc4



20.f5 Bxd4 21.Qxd4 Ne5
22.fxg6 fxg6 23.Nd5



23...Qb7? 24.Nf3! Bxd5
25.Nxe5 dxe5 26.Qxe5 Nf6
27.exd5 Rh5 28.Qg3 Rxd5
29.Qxg6+ Kd8 30.Bg2

1-0

GM Ehsan Ghaemmaghami (2682) – WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor (2354)

2016 National Open (1)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.a3 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.d3

A Sicilian player's dream position?



6...Be7 7.e3 0-0 8.Be2 Be6 9.0-0 a5 10.Qc2 f5 11.Re1 Nb6 12.b3 Bf6 13.Rb1 Qe7 14.Na4 Nd7 15.Nd2 Qf7 16.Bb2 Rac8 17.Bf3 Nd8 18.Nc3 b6



19.Nb5 Nc5 20.b4 axb4
21.axb4 Nxd3 22.Qxd3 e4
23.Nxe4 fxe4 24.Qxe4 Be7
25.Rbd1 Bf5 26.Qf4 Ne6
27.Qc4 Kh8 28.Na7 Rce8
29.Nc6 Bd6 30.Qh4 Bc2
31.Rc1 Qg6 32.Bh5 Qd3
33.Bxe8 Rxe8 34.Ne5 Qb3
35.Nf7+ Kg8 36.Nxd6 cxd6
37.Ba1 d5 38.Qh5 Rf8 39.Qe2 Bd3 40.Qb2 Qa4 41.Qe5 Qd7 42.Red1 Qf7 43.Qxd5 Qxf2+ 44.Kh1 Bf5 45.Rf1 Qxe3 46.Rc7 Kh8 47.Qxf5

1-0

GM Ehsan Ghaemmaghami (2682) – WGM Sabina-Francesca Foisor (2354)

2016 National Open (1)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.a3 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.d3



A Sicilian player's dream position?

6...Be7 7.e3 0-0 8.Be2 Be6 9.0-0 a5 10.Qc2 f5 11.Re1 Nb6 12.b3 Bf6 13.Rb1 Qe7 14.Na4 Nd7 15.Nd2 Qf7 16.Bb2 Rac8 17.Bf3 Nd8 18.Nc3 b6



19.Nb5 Nc5 20.b4 axb4 21.axb4 Nxd3 22.Qxd3 e4 23.Nxe4 fxe4 24.Qxe4 Be7 25.Rbd1 Bf5 26.Qf4 Ne6 27.Qc4 Kh8 28.Na7 Rce8 29.Nc6 Bd6 30.Qh4 Bc2 31.Rc1 Qg6 32.Bh5 Qd3 33.Bxe8 Rxe8 34.Ne5 Qb3 35.Nf7+ Kg8 36.Nxd6 cxd6 37.Ba1 d5 38.Qh5 Rf8 39.Qe2 Bd3 40.Qb2 Qa4 41.Qe5 Qd7 42.Red1 Qf7 43.Qxd5 Qxf2+ 44.Kh1 Bf5 45.Rf1 Qxe3 46.Rc7 Kh8 47.Qxf5 1-0

FM Pedram Atoufi (2392) – GM Alexey Dreev (2768)

2016 National Open (1)

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 a6 5.h4 h5 6.Qd2 b5 7.0-0 Nf6 8.f3 Nc6 9.Nh3 Bxh3 10.Rxh3 e5 11.d5 Ne7 12.Rh1



12...Qb8 13.Be2 Qb7 14.Kb1 Rd8 15.a3 c6 16.dxc6 Qxc6



17.Nd5 Nexd5 18.exd5 Qb7 19.g4 Rc8 20.gxh5 Nxh5 21.Rhg1 Bf6 22.Rg4 Bd8 23.f4 Bf6 24.fxe5 Bxe5 25.Rb4 Ng3 26.Bd3 Kf8 27.Bh6+ Kg8 28.c4 Qd7 29.cxb5 axb5 30.Bxb5 Qf5+ 31.Bd3 Qf3 32.Bc2 Kh7 33.Bf4 Kg7 34.Qe3 Qxe3 35.Bxe3 Rb8 36.Rxb8 Rxb8 37.Bd4 f5 38.a4 f4 39.a5 f3 40.Bxe5+ dxe5 41.d6 e4 42.a6 e3 43.a7 Ra8 44.d7 e2 45.d8Q Rxd8 46.Rxd8 e1Q+ 47.Bd1 Qe4+ 48.Bc2 f2 49.Bxe4 f1Q+ 50.Kc2 Qf2+ 51.Kb1 Qg1+ 0-1

International Youth Chess Championship This Weekend's Schedule

Paradise Event Center South

Saturday

8:30 a.m. Late Registration (to 9:00 a.m.)
9:45 a.m. Opening Ceremony
10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m. Rounds 1-3
3:00 p.m. GM Kayden Troff Autograph Session
6:00 p.m. Puzzle Solving Competition
6:30 p.m. GM Vera Nebolsina Simul for Kids

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Side Event Awards
10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m. Rounds 4-6
6:30 p.m. Closing Ceremony

Tomorrow: Viktor Korchnoi at the National Open
(See Bill Brock on Saturday if you have stories!)

GM Walter S. Browne – L. Oje [A01]
National Open, Las Vegas, 1975

1.b3 e5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3 d5 4.Bb5 Bd6 5.Ne2 Nf6 6.0-0 a6 7.Bxc6+ bxc6 8.f4 exf4 9.Nxf4 Bg4 10.Bxf6 Bxd1 11.Bxd8 Bxc2 12.Bh4 1-0



COMMEMORATIVE DVD OR FLASH DRIVE

Hundreds of games, photos, and more will be **mailed free** to every participant shortly after the Chess Festival.

DON'T BE LATE!

Players who arrive at the board more than 30 minutes after the round has started will be forfeited and removed from the tournament. They will be reinstated only on request.

ROCHESTER CHESS CHESS4LESS

Ballroom E

Sat. – Sun 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Free Lectures

Conference Room 1

Sat 3 p.m. *A Tribute to GM Walter Browne* GM Ron Henley
Sun 1 p.m. *The Bishop Pair in the Endgame* GM Ron Henley