### LAS VEGAS INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

# NATIONAL OPEN NEWS

Volume 2012, Issue 3 - June 17, 2012

## LENDERMAN AND BYKHOVSKY LEAD GOING INTO FINAL DAY

GMs Alex Lenderman and Anatoly Bykhovsky are the only two players still perfect after 4 rounds of the National Open.

Rounds 3 and 4 saw a lot of exciting action on the top boards that kept the large audience on the edge of their seats.

The day started with John Bryant causing an upset on board 2 as he beat current National Open Champion, GM Varuzhan Akobian.

Lenderman and GM Milos Perunovic blasted their opponents off the board in miniatures while Bykhovsky and GM Mikheil Kekelidze ground down their IM opposition.

In round 4, the four GMs faced each other while Bryant faced GM Tamaz Gelashvili.

Three more decisive games on boards 1, 2 and 3, all wins for the player with the Black pieces, reduced the number of leaders to the two mentioned at the start of this report. They should face each other on board 1 in round 5.

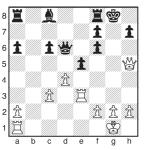
Here is some of the exciting action, starting with a beautiful finish by Lenderman from a position that looked devoid of flashy tactics.

Lenderman,A (2656) Zierk,S (2531) National Open (3.4)

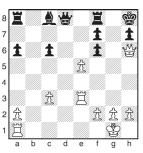
1.c4 c6 2.e4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.cxd5 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nxd5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Bb5 a6 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.0-0 Nxc3 10.bxc3 e6 11.d4 Bd6 12.Ng5 Be7 13.Qh5 Bxg5 14.Bxg5 Qd5 15.Rfe1 0-0 16.Re5 Qd6



17.Bf6!+- gxf6 18.Re3! e5



19.Qh6! Kh8 20.dxe5 Qd8



21.Rd3!! 1-0

Akobian,V (2710) Bryant,J (2432) National Open (3.2)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e6 4.Nc3 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.Nf3 g6 7.Bf4 Bg7 8.e3 0–0 9.h3 Na6 10.Be2 Nc7 11.0–0 a6 12.a4 Rb8 13.a5 b5 14.axb6 Rxb6 15.Ra2?

The pawn cannot be protected this way, either 15.Rb1 or 15.Qd2 has to be played.



15...Ncxd5!

Or 15...Nfxd5, however, Akobian is not the only GM to have missed this tactic as fellow Armenian Hrant Melkumyan suffered the same fate against Baadur Jobava last year.

### 16.Nxd5

16.Bg5 Nxc3 17.bxc3 h6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.Ra3 Rd8 20.Qc2 d5 0–1 (42) Melkumyan,H-Jobava,B Martuni 2011

### 16...Nxd5 17.Bg5

The knight cannot be captured, 17.Qxd5? Be6-+

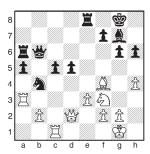
17...Qc7 18.Qd2 Qb8

Better was 18...Be6 as 19.Rxa6? Rxb2 20.Qe1 Nc3 is just depressing for White.

19.Bc4 Nb4 20.Ra3 Bb7 21.Rd1 d5 22.Be2 Re8 23.Rc1 Rc6 24.Bf4

24.Bd1!? is an interesting retreat.

24...Qd8 25.Rb3 Qb6 26.Bf1 a5 27.Ra3 Rcc8 28.Rca1 Ra8 29.Rc1 h6 30.Be2 Ba6 31.Bxa6 Rxa6 32.h4



32...c4

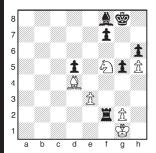
The Black knight is going to find a nice home on the d3 square.

33.Rb1 Nd3 34.Bg3 a4 35.h5 g5 36.Rxd3 cxd3 37.Qxd3 Qb7 38.Nd4 Rb6 39.Qa3 Ra8 40.Nf5 Bf8 41.Qc3 a3 42.Be5 axb2 43.Kh2 Qc8 44.Qxc8 Rxc8 45.Rxb2 Rxb2 46.Bxb2 Rc2 47.Bd4 Rxf2 48.Kg1

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## More Action From Rounds 3 & 4



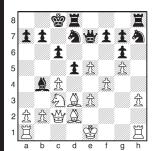
48...Rxf5 49.g4 Bg7

Bryant simplifies into an easily won king and pawn ending.

50.gxf5 Bxd4 51.exd4 Kg7

Kaufman,R (2420) Perunovic,M (2627) National Open (3.7)

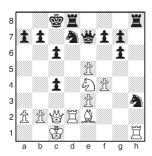
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bg4 5.h3 Bh5 6.Nc3 e6 7.g4 Bg6 8.Ne5 Nbd7 9.Nxg6 hxg6 10.Bd3 Bb4 11.Bd2 Qe7 12.g5 Nh7 13.f4 0-0-0 14.Qc2 e5 15.dxe5



15...Nxg5 16.0-0-0

My computer calmly accepts the sacrificed piece but it can be hard to calculate for a human so Kaufman rejects it, 16.fxg5 Nxe5 17.0–0–0 dxc4 18.Be2 Nd3+ 19.Bxd3 Rxd3 20.a3 with a very small edge according to the silicon beast. I'd personally call it unclear.

16...dxc4 17.Be2 Nxh3 18.Ne4 Bxd2+ 19.Rxd2? 19.Qxd2 was necessary.

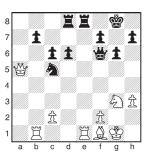


19...Nxf4! 0-1

19...Nxf4 20.Rhd1 Nxe2+ 21.Rxe2 Nxe5 and Black is 4 pawns to the good.

Bryant,J (2432) Gelashvili,T (2693) National Open (4.3)

30.Ng3 Qxf6 31.Qxa5



Black has 3 pawns for a piece but it is hard to say that one player has a better position than the other.

31...h5 32.Bg2 Ra8 33.Qb4 Rxe1+ 34.Qxe1 d5 35.Qc1 b5 36.Qh6 Qe5 37.f4 Qe3+ 38.Kh2 Ne6 39.Rf1?!

39.Nf5 Qc5 (39...gxf5 40.Rb3 Qxf4+ 41.Rg3+ Ng5 42.Qxg5+ Qxg5 43.Rxg5+=) 40.Re1 gxf5 41.Rxe6 fxe6 42.Qg6+ Kf8 43.Qf6+ Ke8 44.Qxe6+ Kd8 45.Qg8+ Kc7 46.Qxa8 Qxc2=

39...Ng7 40.Rf3?! Qd2-+ 41.Qg5 Qxc2 42.f5 Ra2 43.Nf1 Nxf5

Now Black has 5 pawns for

the piece and it is clear he has a winning position.

44.Ne3



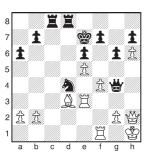
44...Qe4!

44...Nxe3?? 45.Qd8+ Kg7 46.Qf6+ Kh6 47.Qf4+ and it is mate in a few moves.

45.Rxf5 Rxg2+ 46.Qxg2 Qxg2+ 47.Kxg2 gxf5 48.Kf3 b4 49.Kf4 f6 50.h4 b3 51.Nd1 c5 52.Kxf5 c4 0-1

Perunovic,M (2627) Lenderman,A (2656) National Open (4.1)

31.Rf1 Rhd8 32.Kh1



32...Nf5 33.Be2 Nxe3 34.Bxg4 Nxf1 35.Qh4+ Ke8 36.Qf6

36.Bxe6 fxe6 37.Qf6 Ng3+ 38.Kh2 Nf5 39.Qxe6+ Ne7 40.Qf6 Kd7 41.Qd6+ Ke8 42.Qf6=

36...Ng3+ 37.Kh2 Ne4 38.Qh4 Rc2 39.Qe1 Nd2 40.Qf2 Rxb2 41.f5?

41.Qc5 Rxa2 42.Qb6=

41...exf5 42.Bxf5 gxf5

43.Qxf5 Rb6 44.Qxh7



44...Ke7!-+

This simple king move wins the game. Leaving the king on e8 allows White to hold by giving a check to get his queen back in the game. 44...Rg6 45.e6! Rxe6 46.Qg8+ Ke7 47.Qg5+=

45.e6 Rxe6 46.Qg7 Rdd6

46...Rd5 was more precise, 47.h7 Rh5+ 48.Kg1 Reh6-+

47.h7



47...Nf3+! 48.Kg3

48.gxf3?? Rh6+ 49.Kg3 Rdg6+

48...Rg6+ 49.Kxf3 Rdf6+ 50.Ke3 Rxg7 51.h8Q Rg3+ 52.Kd4 Rxg2 0-1

## **Рнотоя!**



### IT DON'T GET NO BETTER THAN THIS...

Just when you think you've been to the best Chess Tournament in the U.S., at last year's National Open, you come to the 2012 National Open and find out it is even better.

Al Losoff, Bill Snead and the entire tournament staff really outdid themselves this year.

With a great playing site, and all players playing in one room, quiet and well lit – and all rounds starting on time and with pairings posted either the night before or a half hour before each round, IT DON'T GET NO BETTER THAN THIS!

And what other tournament gives you daily free bulletins, free raffles and a staff of thousands to make sure the National Open is the best run tournament in the U.S.?

It has been a real pleasure to be associated with such a professional and talented crew. I am indebted.

Fred Gruenberg - Organizer, Retired





## INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

www.VegasChessFestival.com (702) 560-0955

### **Dropping out?**

Please do not do so without telling us! Sign-up sheets are available at the Registration Desk. Half-point byes for Sunday rounds may no longer be cancelled.

## 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

#### SUNDAY

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

Winner's Circle in Capri 111 10:00 pm



## 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

#### SUNDAY

9:30 am Side Event Awards 1:00

10:00 am Round 4

1:00 pm Round 5

4:00 pm Closing Ceremony

## Free Lectures and Workshops

### **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.

## FESTIVAL POKER CHAMPIONSHIP



10:00 am, Monday, June 18

Enjoy the No Limit Hold'em Tournament for participants in our Chess Festival.

The Las Vegas International Chess Festival is adding a commemorative bracelet for the winner, plus a bounty on any member of our staff that you knock out.

\$100 entry fee, number of prizes based on number of entries Register in the Poker Room on Sunday night or Monday morning

## TOURNAMENT CD

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.

Order your CD for just \$25 at the Registration Desk

Use your Plus Score Certificates!

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Join us Next Year! June 6-9, 2013