

NATIONAL OPEN NEWS

VOLUME 2010, ISSUE 3

JUNE 13, 2010

DEFENDING CHAMP, GM VAR AKOBIAN, LEADS AFTER 4

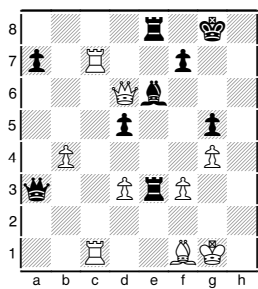
Defending National Open Champion, GM Varuzhan Akobian, stands all alone going into the final day's play, on 4/4.

In round 3 Akobian notched up a simple victory against Canadian FM, Eric Hansen, and in round 4, he rode his Vegas luck a little more to beat GM Mikheil Kekelidze.

Kekelidze, M (2580) Akobian, V (2664)

National Open 2010 (4.1)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.g3 Nf6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Na4 Be7 11.Be3 Bg4 12.Rc1 Qd7 13.Nd4 Rfe8 14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.Bd4 Rab8 16.Re1 Bb4 17.Bc3 Bd6 18.a3 h5 19.f3 Bf5 20.Qd4 Be5 21.Qf2 Bxc3 22.Rxc3 d4 23.Rc4 Re3 24.Rec1 Rbe8 25.Bf1 h4 26.Rd1 hxg3 27.hxg3 d3 28.exd3 Qd5 29.Rc5 Qb3 30.Nc3 Nd5 31.Nxd5 cxd5 32.Rdc1 g6 33.g4 Bd7 34.Rc7 Qa4 35.b4 Qxa3 36.Qg3 g5 37.Qd6 Be6



38.Qc5?

38.Qc6 Rb8 39.Qd6 Rxf3 40.Qe5 Qxb4 41.Qxg5+ Kf8 42.Qh6+ Kg8 43.Qg5+=

38...Rxf3 39.Rxa7 Qb2 40.Qc3?? Qf2+ 41.Kh1 Qxa7 0-1

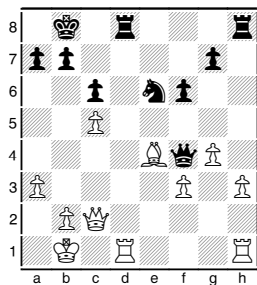
Just a half-point behind Akobian is a group of 6 GMs, Pavel Tregubov, Timur Gareyev, Jaan Ehlevest, Alejandro Ramirez, Nikola Sedlak and Magesh Panchanathan.

Here are the victories that put Tregubov and Gareyev within striking distance of the leader.

Tregubov, P (2701) Lenderman, A (2631)

National Open 2010 (4.2)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Be7 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bf4 c6 6.e3 Bf5 7.g4 Be6 8.h3 Bd6 9.Bd3 Ne7 10.Nge2 f6 11.Qc2 Bf7 12.0-0-0 Bg6 13.e4 dxe4 14.Nxe4 Bxe4 15.Bxe4 Bxf4+ 16.Nxf4 Qd6 17.Nd3 Nd7 18.Nc5 0-0-0 19.Bxh7 Nxc5 20.dxc5 Qf4+ 21.Kb1 Kb8 22.a3 Nd5 23.Be4 Nc7 24.f3 Ne6



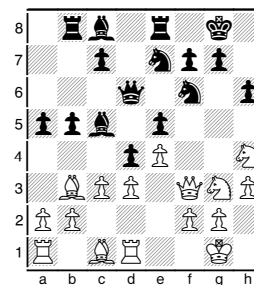
GM Varuzhan Akobian

25.Bxc6! Nd4 26.Qe4 Qxe4+ 27.Bxe4 Nb3 28.Rxd8+ Rxd8 29.h4 Nxc5 30.Bf5 Nb3 31.f4 Rd2 32.Re1 Rf2 33.Ka2 Nc5 34.Re8+ Kc7 35.Re7+ Kb6 36.Rxg7 Na4 37.Kb3 Ka5 38.Kc4 Nxb2+ 39.Kd5 Nd1 40.Rxb7 Rxf4 41.Rxa7+ Kb6 42.Re7 Nf2 43.Rg7 Nxc4 44.Bxg4 f5 45.Ke5 1-0

Matikozyan, A (2559) Gareyev, T (2655)

National Open 2010 (4.3)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.Qe2 Bd6 6.c3 0-0 7.0-0 Re8 8.d3 h6 9.Rd1 Bf8 10.Nbd2 b5 11.Bc2 d5 12.Nf1 d4 13.h3 Bc5 14.Ng3 Qd6 15.Nh4 Ne7 16.Qf3 Rb8 17.Bb3 a5



18.Bxh6!? a4 19.Nh5?

19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Nh5+ Nxh5 21.Qxf7+ Kh6 22.Qxe8 Qf6=

19...axb3? 20.Nxg7 Rd8 21.Ngf5 Nxf5 22.Nxf5 Bxf5 23.exf5 Kh7 24.Bg5 Rg8 25.Qg3 Kh8 26.Qh4+ Nh7 27.Bh6 Rb6 28.Bd2 dxc3 29.bxc3 b2 0-1

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BROWNE VS TREGUBOV, ROUND 3

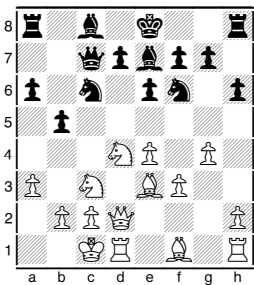
This year we are once again privileged to have 6-time US Champion, GM Walter Browne, participating and giving special lectures that are free to attend. (His next one is at 6:30 pm on Sunday evening in Napa C.)

Here is Browne's round 3 encounter with the second-seed in the event, Russian GM Pavel Tregubov.

Browne,W (2512)
Tregubov,P (2701)

National Open 2010 (3.1)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4
4.Nxd4 e6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 Nf6
7.Qd2 Bb4 8.f3 Qc7 9.a3 Be7
10.g4 h6 11.0-0-0 b5



12.Rg1

A new move according to Chess-Base. Both 12.h4 and; 12.Nxc6 have been played here previously, the latter with more success.

12...b4 13.axb4 Bxb4 14.Nxc6 dxc6

The more aesthetically pleasing 14...Qxc6 was rejected by Tregubov for some reason.

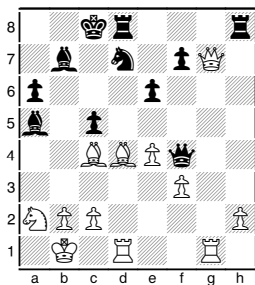
15.Bd4 Bb7 16.g5 hxg5 17.Qxg5 0-0-0

Possibly knowing that he was going to castle this side was the reason for the previous capture on c6 with the pawn back on move 14.

18.Bc4 Nd7 19.Qxg7

19.h4 was an interesting idea leaving Black the question of whether to defend the g-pawn.

19...Qf4+ 20.Kb1 c5 21.Na2 Ba5



22.Qg5



GM Walter Browne

22.Bc3!? Bxc3 (22...Bc7?
23.Bxe6! fxe6 24.Rxd7+-)
23.Nxc3 Rhg8 24.Qxg8 Rxg8
25.Rxg8+ Kc7 26.Rg3 and white is better here.

22...Qxg5

Now follows a series of exchanges leading to total equality.

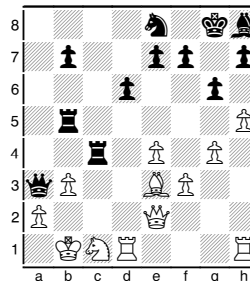
23.Rxg5 Rxh2 24.Bxc5 Nxc5
25.Rxc5+ Kb8 26.Bd3 Bd2
27.Rc4 Rf2 28.Nc3 Bxc3
29.Rxc3 Rxf3 30.Re1 Rf4 31.Rc4
Rc8 32.Rxc8+ Kxc8 33.b4 f5
34.exf5 1/2-1/2

The following game contains a nice little mating combination that culminated in a small upset win for Devin Hughes against Varun Krishnan in round 3.

Krishnan,V (2158)
Hughes,D (2078)

National Open 2010 (3.36)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 Bg7 4.Nc3
cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Be3 Nf6
7.Bc4 0-0 8.Bb3 d6 9.f3 Na5
10.Qd2 Nxb3 11.cxb3 Bd7 12.0-0
a5 13.Kb1 a4 14.bxa4 Bxa4
15.Nxa4 Rxa4 16.Nb3 Qa8
17.Nc1 Rc8 18.Bh6 Bh8 19.h4
Rc5 20.g4 Rb5 21.b3 Rab4 22.h5
Qa3 23.Qc2 Ne8 24.Be3 Rc4
25.Qe2



25...Rxc1+ 26.Bxc1 Rxb3+
27.axb3 Qa1+ 28.Kc2 Qa2+
29.Kd3 Qxb3+ 0-1



GMs Walter Browne and Pavel Tregubov analyzing after their round 3 encounter

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Withdrawal sheets are available at the Registration desk. If you do not intend to play in either round 5 or 6, please inform us as soon as possible. If you are unable to inform us in person, call 702-560-0955 and leave a voice message. Be sure to speak clearly and give your name, section and contact number.

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!

GRAND BALLROOM

SUNDAY

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

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

CHESS STORE - NAPA A



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

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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