

Wilshire Chess Society Newsletter



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2002 National Open Tournament Photo Report

This years National Open was (once again) held at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas March 8-10, and was attended by 700 players including 21 GM's! First place was shared by GM's Browne and Yermolinsky, who scored 5 1/2 pts. and took home \$5250.00 each. Believe it or not, this was Browne's 11th National Open title! I love watching him play, not just for the sheer intensity he brings to the game, but because he is a link to the past greats of the '70s and '80s. Once again Shawn Williams and I drove up together in my Ford Explorer, only this time we had some elite company: Varuzhan Akopian joined us (along with his friend). If you don't know who Akopian is, let me just tell you that he is only 18 years old and already an International Master! (from Armenia). Keep your eye on him, as he is super strong (see game on back) and will no doubt be a GM in a few short years.

When we arrived Thursday afternoon, the simul with GM's Yermolinsky, Gurevich and Akopian was going on. Following this was a blitz tournament that was loaded with super strong GM's. Getting to watch these guys duke it out was a real treat. For Shawn and I, getting to meet British Champion Joe Gallagher was both a surprise and a treat. Shawn especially is a big fan, as he takes Gallagher's purple Anti-KID book practically everywhere he goes.

Other treats include having GM Arthur Bisguier go over one of my games, seeing a fully stocked USCF bookstore for the first time in years, and especially getting "aqua massaged" 4 times (it's this big tank you lay in and for \$10.00 you get sprayed up and down your body with pulsating water for 7 glorious minutes... and you don't even get wet!). Trust me, after a stressful game, this is just what a chess player needs--especially one that is not having a good tournament (I ended up with 1 win, 3 draws and 2 losses in the U-2000 section). However, as usual I had a blast. Getting to see old faces and meet new ones is always fun, and seeing the Great Carlini do his thing in the skittles room with a crowd around him repeating his infamous lines is always entertaining. If you have never been to the National Open, trust me, you are really missing out. Next years event is June 13-15, 2003. Hope to see you there. Enjoy the photos!

- Michael



Michael Jeffreys (L) playing in the 2002 National Open



Demo boards on stage for top boards

-
- Congrats to the winners of our March 24 Tourn.: •
 - Quad 1: **Damir Tomka**; Quad 2: **Julian Landaw** •
 - & **Mike White** (tie); Quad 3: **Eric Leung**; Quad •
 - 4: **Nick Young**; Quad 5: **Jack O'Donnell** •
 -

* We are meeting on April 14 this month in Com. Rm. A (Not C!) so as not to conflict with the L.A. Open. - Michael Jeffreys



GM's Walter Browne(L) and Alex Yermolinsky(R) tied for 1st!

Next W.C.S. G/45 Tournament April 14, 2002 - Sunday

Westside Pavilion, Community Room "A"
10850 W. Pico Blvd., West Los Angeles
(Com. Rm A is on the 3rd Flr., by Robinsons
-May, in hallway behind the food court)
Registration 10:30 am
Games from 11:00 - 4:30pm (approximately)
3-rounds, round robin quads by rating
Time control: G/45 mins. Entry fee: \$15.00
Prizes: \$35.00 per quad (25.00 1st, 10.00 2nd)
(WCS Membership required, \$12.00/year as
well as U.S.C.F. Membership
(Avail. at site for \$40.00 per year).

2002 National Open Tournament Photo Report



GM Joe Gallagher (Current British Champion) and Shawn Williams



IM Varuzhan Akobian



GM's Gurevich and Yermolinsky strike a similar pose



Armen Armabatsoumian



IM Rashid Zaitinov



GM Pavel Blatney



Corey Evans



IM Mark Ginsberg



IM Ben Finegold (L)

IM Maladen Vucic (R)



2002 National Open Tournament Photo Report



GM Alexander Ivanov



IM Anthony Saidy



GM Alexander Shabalov



GM Ildar Ibragminov



GM Alexander Stripunsky and Elliott Liu



GM Vladimir Gorgiev



GM Surgey Kudrin



IM Melikset Khachiyan (L) FM Robby Adamson (R)

Game of The Month

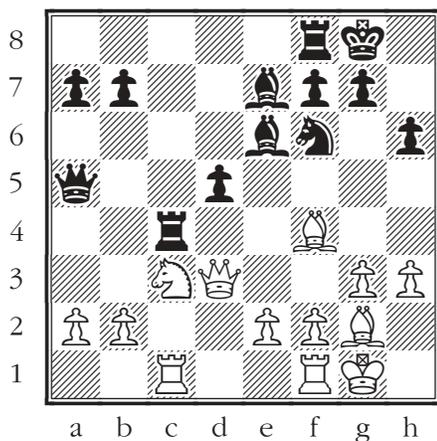
GM Dimitri Gurevich (2646) - IM Varuzhan Akobian (2529)

2002 National Open, Las Vegas

Tarrash Defense

My friend Varuzhan did a great job defeating Dimitri Gurevich in the final round and tying for 3rd place with 5 pts. and winning \$840.00. If you want to know how to beat a 2600+ GM, here's how it's done:

1. $\text{d}f3 \text{ d}5$ 2. $\text{c}4 \text{ e}6$ 3. $\text{d}4 \text{ c}5$ 4. $\text{c} \times \text{d}5 \text{ e} \times \text{d}5$ 5. $\text{d} \text{c}3 \text{ d} \text{c}6$ 6. $\text{g}3 \text{ d} \text{f}6$ 7. $\text{d} \text{g}2 \text{ d} \text{e}7$ 8. 0-0 0-0 9. $\text{d} \text{g}5 \text{ c} \times \text{d}4$ 10. $\text{d} \times \text{d}4 \text{ h}6$ 11. $\text{d} \text{f}4 \text{ d} \text{g}4$ 12. $\text{h}3 \text{ d} \text{e}6$ 13. $\text{e} \text{c}1 \text{ e} \text{c}8$ 14. $\text{d} \text{a}4 \text{ d} \times \text{d}4$ 15. $\text{c} \times \text{d}4 \text{ c} \text{a}5$ 16. $\text{d} \text{c}3 \text{ e} \text{c}4$ 17. $\text{c} \text{d}3$ (See Diagram)



Black to Move



GM Gurevich and IM Akobian discuss where Gurevich went wrong in their just finished game

17... $\text{d}4$ 18. $\text{d} \text{d}5 \text{ d} \times \text{d}5$ 19. $\text{e} \times \text{c}4 \text{ d} \times \text{f}4$
 20. $\text{g} \times \text{f}4 \text{ d} \times \text{c}4$ 21. $\text{c} \times \text{c}4 \text{ d} \text{f}6$ 22.
 $\text{d} \times \text{b}7 \text{ c} \text{f}5$ 23. $\text{d} \text{g}2 \text{ c} \times \text{f}4$ 24. $\text{e} \text{d}1$
 $\text{c} \text{f}5$ 25. $\text{c} \text{d}5 \text{ c} \text{c}2$ 26. $\text{e} \text{e}1 \text{ c} \times \text{b}2$ 27.
 $\text{d} \text{f}3 \text{ e} \text{d}8$ 28. $\text{c} \text{b}3 \text{ c} \text{d}2$ 29. $\text{e} \text{d}1 \text{ c} \text{a}5$
 30. $\text{c} \text{f}1 \text{ g}6$ 31. $\text{e} \text{c}1 \text{ c} \text{g}7$ 32. $\text{e} \text{c}6 \text{ d}3$
 33. $\text{e} \times \text{d}3 \text{ c} \text{f}5$ 34. $\text{d} \text{g}4 \text{ c} \text{f}4$ 35. $\text{c} \text{d}1$
 $\text{h}5$ 36. $\text{c} \text{f}3 \text{ c} \text{g}5$ 37. $\text{d} \text{c}8 \text{ e} \text{d}4$ 38. $\text{e} \text{c}4$
 $\text{e} \times \text{c}4$ 39. $\text{d} \times \text{c}4 \text{ c} \text{c}1+$ 40. $\text{c} \text{g}2 \text{ c} \times \text{c}4$
 41. $\text{d} \text{b}7 \text{ c} \times \text{a}2$ 42. $\text{d} \text{d}5 \text{ c} \text{d}2$ 43. $\text{c} \text{b}3$
 $\text{d} \text{d}4$ 44. $\text{c} \text{f}3 \text{ f}5$ 45. $\text{d} \text{c}4 \text{ a}5$ 46. $\text{d} \text{b}3$
 $\text{d} \text{c}5$ 47. $\text{c} \text{b}7+ \text{c} \text{h}6$ 48. $\text{c} \text{f}3 \text{ c} \text{d}4$
 Resigns 0-1

Send in your game!

If you're a member of the Wilshire Chess Society and you would like to see your game published, send it to me (along with some light notes) to: Mjeffrey@ix.netcom.com (Note: the game does *not* have to be from one of our tournaments.)

Win More Games in 2002...

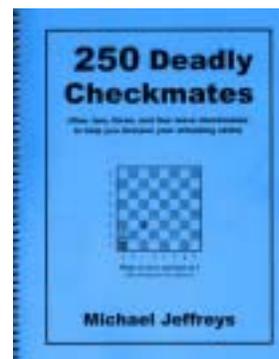
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