

CHESSTAR- 2020 (Studies)

Preliminary Award

Thanks to all participants of this tourney. Special thanks goes to Ferhat Karmil for the organization and direction of the event.

Some studies, were excluded from of artistic evaluation due various technical reasons: Important duals and anticipations, which will be informed to the authors.

I have considered the non-binding opinion of two solutionists, who assigned scores from 0 to 4 (with points in between) to a given studies group.

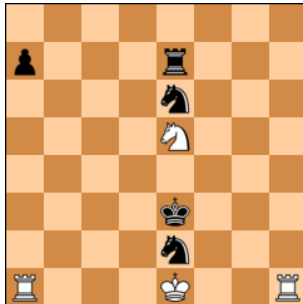
Participants: Mihael Croitor (Modova); Lubos Kekely (Slovakia); Pavel Arestov (Russia); Michal Hlinka(Slovakia); Petr Kiryakov (Russia); Sergey Abramenko (Russia); Alexander Zhukov (Russia); David Guegenidze (Georgia); Peter Krug (Austria); Michael Pisman(Israel); Marco Campioli (Italy); Jan Timman (Netherlands); Borislav Ilincic (Serbia); Sergy Didukh (Ukraine); Arseny Emelin (Russia) Ilhan Aliev (Azerbaijan); Victor Boltunov (Russia); Luis Miguel González (Spain); Luis Gómez (Spain); Sergey Osintsev (Russia); Elmar Gasimov (Azerbaijan); Amatzia Avni (Israel); Shpakovsky (Russia); Evgeny Tralchman (Ukraine) ; Richard Becker (USA).

There are 46 studies by 25 composers from 13 countries.

A) WIN STUDIES

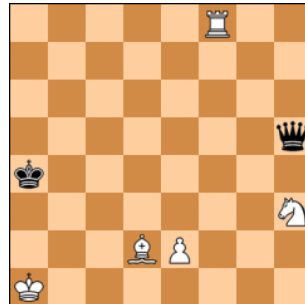
A.1. Up to 10 pieces

Peter S. Krug
1st Prize



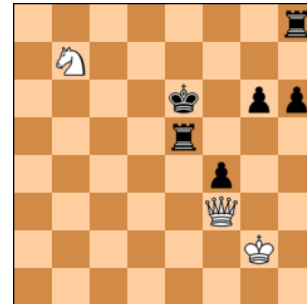
Win

P. Arestov & A. Zhukov
2nd Prize



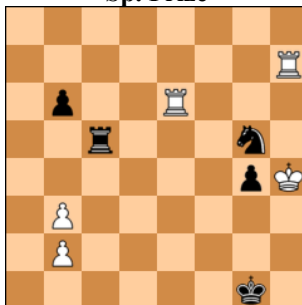
Win

Richard Becker
3rd Prize



Win

David Gurgendize
Sp. Prize



Win

Luis Miguel Gonzalez
Sp. Prize



BTM Win

Peter S. Krug (Austria)-2522

1.Ra3+! Ke4 2.Nc6! 2.Ng6? Rg7 3.Rh4+ Kf5= **2...Rc7** 2...Rb7 3.Ra4+ Kd5 4.Nb4+ Kc4 5.Kxe2 Kb3 6.Ra6 Nd4+ 7.Kd3 Rxb4 8.Rb1# **3.Ra4+ Kf5** 3...Kd5 4.Nb4+ Kc4 5.Na6+! (5.Kxe2? Kb5=) 5...Kb5 6.Nxc7+- 3...Kf3 4.Ne5+ Kg2 5.Rh8!.N6d4 6.Rg8+- **4.Ra5+ Kf4** 4...Kf6 5.Rh6+- **5.Kf2 ! 5...Rxc6 6.Rh4# mate**

Model mate in the center of the board, with interesting complementary lines. Highlighted by solutionists, although at least two side lines created difficulties to give certainty to the enigma's premise.

Pavel Arestov & Alexander Zhukov –(Russia) 2443

1.Nf4! [1.Rf4+? Kb3! 2.Rf3+ Kc2=] **1...Qe5+** [B] 1...Qc5 2.Rb8! (2.Ra8+? Kb3 3.Rb8+ Kc2=) 2...Qc2 (2...Qd4+ 3.Rb2 Ka3 4.Nd3+-) 3.Rb2! (3.Ra8+? Kb3 4.Rb8+ Ka3 5.Ra8+ Kb3=; 3.Rd8? Qd1+! 4.Kb2 Qb3+ 5.Kc1 Qa3+ 6.Kd1 Qb3+! 7.Ke1 Qb1+ 8.Kf2 Qb6+=) 3...Qd1+ 4.Ka2 Qb3+! 5.Kb1!! (5.Rxb3 stalemate) 5...Qd1+ 6.Bc1+-; or 1...Qh1+ 2.Kb2! Qb7+ 3.Kc1! Qh1+ 4.Kc2 Qe4+ 5.Nd3+-] **2.Ka2!** [2.Kb1? Qb5+! 3.Kc1 Qc5+=] **2...Qb8! 3.Bb4!!** [3.Rxb8?= stalemate] **3...Qc7** [3...Qxb4 4.Ra8+ Kb5 5.Rb8+-; 3...Qb7 4.Nd3 Qg2 5.Rf2+-; 3...Qe5 4.Ra8+! Kxb4 5.Nd3+ fork] **4.Ra8+!** [4.Nd3? Qc2+ 5.Nb2+ Kxb4=] **4...Kb5 5.Ra5+!** [5.Nd3? Qc2+ 6.Ka3 Qxe2=] **5...Kxb4 6.Nd5+ Kxa5 7.Nxc7+-**

With material economy in two lines, a domination is presented, with the elimination of the stalemate's threat in Black's counterplay.

Richard Becker –(USA) - 2518

1.Qc6+! [1.Qb3+? Kf6!]=] **1...Kf7 2.Nd6+** [2.Qc4+? Kg7! 3.Qd4 Rhe8 4.Nd6 Kg8! 5.Nxe8 Rxe8 6.Qf6 f3+=] **2...Ke7** [2...Kg7 3.Qc3 Kf6 4.Nc4 Rhe8 5.Kf3 g5 6.Nxe5 Rxe5 7.Kg4+-] **3.Ne4 f3+! 4.Kg3!!** [4.Kf2? Rf5 5.Qc7+ (5.Qxg6 Rhf8=) 5...Kf8 6.Qd8+ Kg7 7.Qe7+ Rf7 8.Qe5+ Kg8 9.Nf6+ Kf8! zz 10.Nd7+ Kg8 11.Qe8+ Kg7 12.Qe5+ Kg8 13.Nf6+ Kf8 14.Qd4 Kg7! 15.Nh5+ Kg8=] **4...Rf5 5.Qd6+ Kf7 6.Qd7+ Kg8 7.Qe8+ /e6 7...Kg7 8.Qe7+ Rf7 9.Qe5+ Kg8 10.Nf6+ Kf8 11.Kf2!** zz **11...Kg7 12.Nh5+ Kh7 13.Qg7+ Rxf7 14.Nf6#**

Nice culmination in mate- With an introduction with notable movements of difficult perception.

David Gurgenidze –(Georgia) - 2537

1.b4! Rb5 [1...Rd5 2.Rh5 Nf3+ 3.Kxg4 Nh2+ 4.Rxh2 Kxh2 5.Rxb6+-] **2.Rh5 Nf3+ 3.Kxg4 Nh2+ 4.Rxh2 Rxb4+** [4...Kxh2 5.Re2+ Kg1 6.Kf3 Rxb4 7.Rd2+- Rb3+ 8.Ke2 Kg2 9.Kd1+ Kf3 10.Kc2 Re3 11.Rd4+-] **5.Re4!!** [5.Kf3? Kxh2 6.Re2+ Kh3=] **5...Rxe4+ 6.Kf3 Rb4 7.Rd2! b5 8.Ke3 Rb3+ 9.Ke2 Kg2 10.Kd1+ Kf3 11.Kc2 Rb4 12.Rd5!** [12.Kc3? Rc4+ 13.Kb3 Ke4=] **12...Ke4 13.Rh5+-**

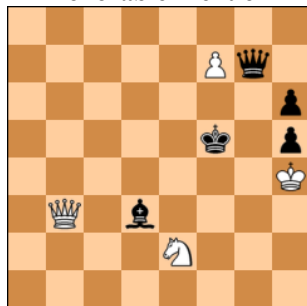
Ingenious introduction to arrive to an instructive rooks ending.

Luis Miguel González – (Spain) -2705

1...0-0-0! 2.h8Q! [or 2.h8R? ; 2.g8Q? d1Q 3.Qxd8+ Qxd8 4.f7 Qd7+÷] **2...d1Q 3.Qxd8+! Qxd8 4.f7!** [4.Rxe1? Qe8+ 5.Kf5 Qh5+ 6.Ke6 Qe8+=] **4...Qd7+ 5.Kf6 Qd6+ 6.Kg5! Qg3+ 7.Kh6 Qh4+ 8.Kg6 Qe4+ 9.Kg5!** [9.Rf5!? Qg4+ 10.Kf6 Qh4+ 11.Rg5 Qh6+=] **9...Qg2+ 10.Kh6 Qh3+ 11.Kg6 Qd3+ 12.Rf5! Qg3+ 13.Kh7! Qh3+ 14.Kg8 Qb3 15.Rb5!** [Thematic Try: 15.Rf1? Ng2! 16.Rf3! Qd5! 17.Rf5! Qb3! 18.Rb5! Qxb5 19.f8Q+ Kd7! 20.Qf7+ Kd8! 21.Qf6+ Kd7 22.Qg6 Ke7! 23.Kh7 Nf4! 24.Qe4+ Ne6 25.Qh4+ Ng5+=] **15...Qe6!** [15...Qxb5 16.f8Q+ Kd7 17.Qf4! Ng2 18.Qg4+ Ke7 19.Kh7 Qb1+ 20.Qg6 Qh1+ 21.Qh6 Qb1+ 22.Kh8 Qa1 23.Qg5+ Kf7 24.Qd5+ Ke7 25.Qxg2+-] **16.Rb6!** [16.Rb1? Nd3! 17.Rb6 Qc4! 18.Rc6+ Qxc6 19.f8Q+ Kc7=; 16.Re5? Qxe5 17.f8Q+ Kc7=] **16...Qa2!** [16...Qd5 17.Rd6 Qb3 18.Kf8! Kc7 19.g8Q Kxd6 20.Qg5+; 16...Qc4 17.Rc6+ Qxc6 18.f8Q++-] **17.Rb2!** [17.Rf6? Kd7! 18.Kh7 Qc2+ 19.Rg6 Nf3!! 20.f8N+ (20.g8Q Ng5+ 21.Kh6 Qh2+ 22.Kxg5 Qd2+! 23.Kh5 Qh2+=) 20...Ke7 21.g8Q Ng5+ 22.Kg7 Qc3+ 23.Kh6 Nf7+ 24.Kh7 Qh3+ 25.Kg7 Qc3+=; 17.Kf8? Qa3+ 18.Ke8 Qe3+ 19.Kf8 Qa3+ 20.Kg8 Qa2 is a loss of time] **17...Qd5 18.Rd2!** [18.Rb1? Ng2! 19.Rd1! Qb3! 20.Rd3 Qxd3! 21.f8Q+ Kd7! 22.Qf7+ Kd8 23.Qh5 Ne3! 24.Kh8 Qd4 25.Kh7 Qe4+ 26.Qg6 Qh4+=] **18...Qb3!** [18...Qc4 19.Re2 Nf3 20.Rc2! Qxc2 21.f8Q++-] **19.Re2!** [19.Kf8? Kc7 20.g8Q Qb4+ 21.Kg7 Qc3+! 22.Kh6 Qh3+ 23.Kg6 Qg4+=] **19...Nf3!** [19...Nd3 20.Re3! Kd7 21.Rxd3+ Qxd3 22.f8Q+-] **20.Rb2!** [20.Re3? Qxe3! 21.f8Q+ Kb7 22.Qb4+ Kc6!]=] **20...Qe6! 21.Rb6!** [21.Re2? Qd5!]=] **21...Qa2 22.Ra6! Qd5! 23.Ra5! Qe6 24.Rf5! Nd4! 25.Rf6! Qb3! 26.Kh7! Qh3+ 27.Rh6 Qf5+ 28.Kg8 Qd5 29.Rd6! Qxd6 30.f8Q+-**

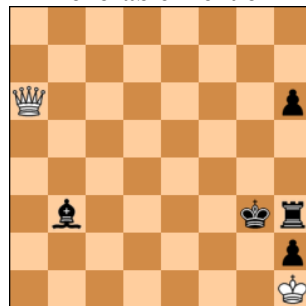
Remarkable study because its extension, number of lines with univocal sequences, and for more than one surprising movement. Without doubt, it is to characterize it as a special study in more than one tournament!!

**Michael Pasman
Honorable Mention**



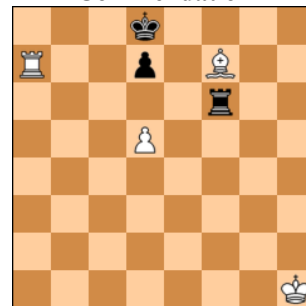
Win

**Richard Becker
Honorable Mention**



Win

**Michael Croitor
Commendation**



Win

Michael Pasman (Israel)- 2708

1.Ng3+! [1.Qxd3+? Kf6=] **1...Kg6 2.Qe6+!** [2.Qxd3+? Kxf7=] **2...Kh7 3.Ne4! Bxe4** [3...Qf8 4.Nf6+ Kg7 5.Nxh5+ Kh7 6.Qe8 Qb4+ 7.Kg3 Qd6+ 8.Nf4+-] **4.Qxe4+ Kh8 5.Qa8+!** [5.Qe8+? Kh7 6.f8N+ Kh8 7.Ne6+ Qg8=] **5...Kh7 6.f8N+? Kh8 7.Ne6+ Qg8 8.Qa1+ Kh7 9.Qb1+ Kh8 10.Qb2+ Kh7 11.Qc2+ Kh8 12.Qc3+ Kh7 13.Qd3+ Kh8 14.Qd4+ Kh7 15.Qe4+ Kh8 16.Qe5+ Kh7 17.Qf5+ Kh8 18.Qf6+ Kh7 19.Nf8+ Qxf8 20.Qxf8 +-**

An appropriate introduction, to arrive at a configuration of "domination", with the "plus" of the opportune and artistic knight's promotion!

Richard Becker -(USA)- 2519

1.Qd3+! [1.Qg6+? Kf4=; 1.Qd6+? Kh4! 2.Qf4+ (2.Qxh6+ Kg4=) 2...Kh5 3.Qf5+ Kh4 zz] **1...Kg4 2.Qd7+ Kg3 3.Qd4 Kf3 4.Qc3+ Kg4 5.Qc8+ Kg3 6.Qd7 Kh4** [6...h5 7.Qd4 Kf3 8.Qc3+ Kg4 9.Qc8+ Kg3 10.Qd7 Kh4 11.Qf5 Kg3 12.Qg5+ Kf3 13.Qg2+-] **7.Qf5 h5 8.Qf4# model mate**

After many attempts, nice for fans of the resolution.

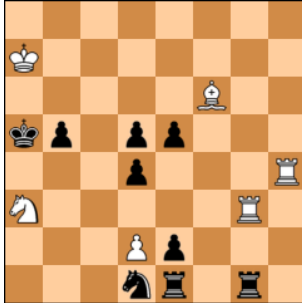
Michael Croitor -(Moldova) - 2702

1.Bg8 Ke8 2.Ra2! [2.Ra3? Rg6 3.Ra8+ Ke7 4.Rb8 Rg5 5.Kh2 Kf6 6.Kh3 Kg7 7.Kh4 Rg1 8.d6 Rg6=; 2.Ra8+? Ke7 3.Kg2 Rh6 4.Kf3 Rh1 5.Ke4 Re1+ 6.Kf5 Rf1+ 7.Kg6 Rg1+ 8.Kh6 Rh1+ 9.Kg7 Rg1+ 10.Kh8 Rh1+ 11.Bh7 Rh5 12.Ra5 Kd6=] **2...Rf5 3.d6! Kf8** [3...Rh5+ 4.Rh2+-] **4.Bc4!** [4.Bb3? Kg7 5.Ra7 Kf6 6.Rxd7 Ke5 7.Rd8 Rf4! 8.d7 (8.Kg2 Rd4 9.d7 Kd6=) 8...Kd6 9.Kg2 Kc7=] **4...Rc5** [4...Kg7 5.Ra7 Kf6 6.Rxd7 Ke5 7.Rd8 Rf4 8.d7 Kd6 9.Bb5+-] **5.Be6! dxe6** [5...Kg7 6.Rd2+-; 5...Rc6 6.Rd2 Ke8 7.Bh3+-] **6.Ra8+ Kf7 7.d7+-**

Interesting, it may occur in a live game.

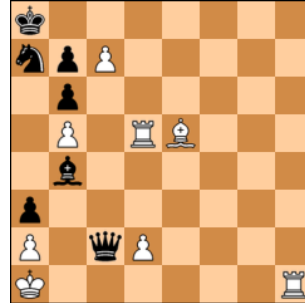
A.2. More of the 10 pieces

Sergey Osintsev
1sr Prize



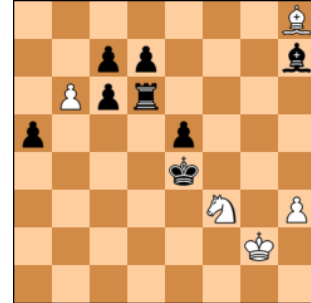
Win

E. Kekely & M. Hlinka
2nd Prize



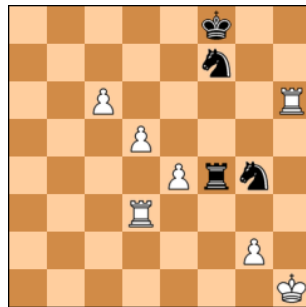
Win

Sergy Diduth
3rd Prize



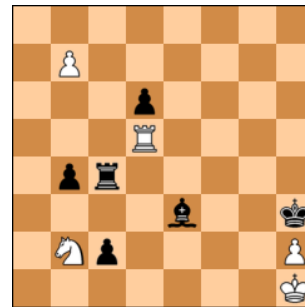
Win

P. Krug P. Arestov
4th Prize



Win

Amatzia Avni
5th Prize



Win

Sergey Osintsev –(Russia) - 2706

1.Nc4+! Kb4 [1...dxc4 2.Ra3+ Kb4 3.Be7#; 1...bxc4 2.Ra3+ Kb5 3.Rh7 c3 4.d3 Kb4 5.Be7+ Kb5 6.Rh6 c2 7.Rb6#] **2.Ra3! Rg7+!** [2...Kxc4 3.d3+ Kb4 4.Be7#; 2...bxc4 3.Be7+ Kb5 4.Rh6 c3 5.d3 Rg7 6.Rb6#; 2...Rf1 3.Be7+ Kxc4 4.d3#; 2...dxc4 3.Be7#; 2...Nb2 3.Be7+ Kxc4 4.Rc3#; 2...Rg3 3.Rxg3 Rf1 4.Nxe5! Rxf6 5.Rxd4+ Kc5 6.Rh4! Rf7+ 7.Ka6 Rf6+ 8.Ka5 Kd6 9.Nd3 Nb2! 10.Ne1 Rf1 11.Rh6+ Kc5 12.d4+ Kxd4 13.Nc2+ Kc5 14.Re6+-; 2...e4 3.Be7+ Kxc4 4.d3+ exd3 5.Rh6 b4 6.Rc6+ Kb5 7.Rc5#] **3.Bxg7 Rf1 4.Bxe5 Rf7+** [4...Kxc4 5.Kb6+-; 4...bxc4 5.Bd6+ Kb5 6.Rh7 e1Q 7.Rb7+ Kc6 8.Ra6#] **5.Kb6 Rd7 6.Bxd4 Rb7+! 7.Kc6!** [7.Kxb7? e1Q 8.Bc3+ Nxc3 9.Ne3+ Qxh4 10.Nc2+ Kc5 11.Rxc3+ Kd6=] **7...Rc7+ 8.Kxc7 e1Q 9.Bc3+!** [9.Kd6? bxc4! 10.Be5+ Kb5 11.Rh8 c3! 12.Rb3+ Kc4 13.Rb4+ Kd3 14.Rd4+ Kc2=] **9...Nxc3** [9...Kc5 10.d4+-] **10.Ne3+!** [10.dxc3+? Kc5=] **10...Qxh4** [10...Kxa3 11.Nc2+ Kb2 12.Nxe1+-] **11.Nc2+ Kc5** [11...Kc4 12.Rxc3#] **12.Rxc3+ Qc4 13.d4#**

An entertaining game with a remarkable variety of checkmates, many of them with unique sequences. The plus is the checkmate's figure in the main line!

Luboš Kekely & Michal Hlinka- (Slovakia)- 2441

1.Rh8+! forecasting [1.Rd8+? Nc8 2.Rxc8+ Ka7 3.Ra8+ Kxa8 4.Rh8+ Bf8! 5.Rxf8+ Ka7 6.c8N+ Qxc8 7.Bb8+ Ka8! 8.Bd6 (8.Rxc8 stalemate) 8...Ka7 9.Rxc8 stalemate] **1...Bf8! 2.Rxf8+ Nc8 3.Rxc8+ Ka7 4.Ra8+! Kxa8 5.Rd8+ Ka7 6.c8N+! Qxc8** [6...Ka8 7.Ne7+ Ka7 8.Bb8+ Ka8 9.Bc7+ Ka7 10.Nc8+ Ka8 11.Nxb6+ Ka7 12.Ra8#] **7.Bb8+!** [7.Rxc8? stalemate] **7...Qxb8** [7...Kxb8 8.Rxc8+ Kxc8 9.Kb1 Kd7 10.Kc2 Kd6 11.Kb3 as main; 7...Ka8 8.Bc7! (8.Rxc8? stalemate) 8...Ka7 9.Bxb6+!+-] **8.Rxb8 Kxb8 9.Kb1 Kc7 10.Kc2 Kd6 11.Kb3 Kc5 12.Kxa3 Kxb5** [12...Kd4 13.Kb2! Kc4 (13...Kd3 14.Kc1+-) 14.Kc2+-] **13.Kb3 Kc5 14.Kc3 and wins.** Key choice - forecasting. Minor promotion. Mates. Anti-stalemate play. Sacrifices. Second phase - material balance pawn ending. Attractive, eliminating the stalemate's threat in Black's counterplay!

Sergy Diduth -(Ukraine)- 2539

1.Ng5+! [1.bxc7? Rg6+ 2.Kf2 Rg8-+] **1...Kf4! 2.bxc7 Be4+!** [2...Rd2+ 3.Kg1 Rd1+ 4.Kf2 Rd2+ 5.Ke1+-] **3.Nxe4!** [3.Kf2? Rd2+ 4.Ke1 Rg2! 5.c8Q Ke3 6.Qf8 Rg1+=; 3.Kf1? Bd3+ 4.Kf2 Ba6-+] **3...Rg6+ 4.Kf2! Rg8 5.Bf6 Rc8** [5...Kxe4 6.Bd8+-] **6.Nd6 Rxc7 7.Bd8 Ra7 8.Bb6 Ra8 9.Be3#**
Welcome by solutionists!. In a game with few movements, the coordination or harmony with precise trials and side lines is striking.

Peter Krug & Pavel Arestov (Austria-Russia)- 2672

1.Rf3! [1.Rh8+? Kg7 2.Rf3 Rxe4 3.Rxf7+ Kxf7 4.g3 Re8 5.Rh7+ Kg6 (5...Kg8) 6.Rh4 (6.d6; 6.Rh4; 6.d6 Kxh7 7.d7) 6...Kf5 (6...Kg5) 7.c7 Nf6 (7...Nf6 8.d6 Ke6 9.Rh6 Kxd6 10.Rxf6+ Kxc7; 7...Rc8 8.d6 Ne5 9.Rh5+ Ke6 10.Rxe5+ Kxd6) 8.d6 Ke5= (8...Ke6)] **1...Rxf3** [1...Rxe4 2.Re6 Rc4 (2...Rb4) 3.Rf1+-] **2.Rh8+!** [2.gxf3? Ngxh6! 3.c7 Nd6 4.e5 Nc8=] **2...Nxb8 3.gxf3 Nf2+** [3...Ke7 4.fxc4+-] **4.Kg1!!** [4.Kg2? Nxe4 5.fxe4 Ke7! 6.Kf3 Kd6 7.Ke3 Ng6 8.Kd4 Nf4! 9.e5+ (Kc4) 9...Kc7 10.e6 Kd6=] **4...Nxe4 5.fxe4 Ke8!** [5...Ke7 6.e5 Ng6 7.d6+ Ke6 8.c7 Kd7 (Nxe5) 9.e6+-] **6.Kf2!** [6.e5? Ng6! 7.d6 (7.e6 Ne7= 8.c7 Nc8=) 7...Nxe5+-] **6...Nf7 7.Ke3 Ke7 8.Kd3!** [8.Kd4? Kd6= zz] **8...Kd6 9.Kd4 zz 9...Ng5** [9...Ne5 10.c7 Kxc7 11.Kxe5+-] **10.e5+ Kc7 11.Ke3!** [11.Kc5? Ne4+=] **11...Nf7 12.Ke4!** [12.Kf4? Nh6! 13.Kg5 Ng8 14.Kf5 Ne7+ 15.Ke6 Ng6! 16.Kf6 Nf4=] **12...Nh6 13.Kf4 Ng8 14.Kg5 Kb6** [14...Ne7 15.d6+ Kxc6 16.dxe7 Kd7 17.e8Q+ Kxe8 18.Kf6 Kf8 19.e6 Ke8 20.e7+-] **15.Kf5** [15.Kg6? Ne7+=] **15...Kc7** [15...Ne7+ 16.Ke6+-] **16.Ke6 Nh6 17.Ke7!** [17.d6+? Kxc6 18.d7 Kc7 19.Ke7 Nf5+=] **17...Nf5+ 18.Kf8 Ne3 19.d6+ Kxc6 20.e6 Kxd6 21.e7 Nf5 22.e8Q** excelsior, win

Two studies in co-production, plus 5 studies by Peter Krug contain the pawns vs minor piece theme. For the purposes of considering some of them into the Award, it is very likely that my choice is highly subjective. Several of them contain very appropriate introductions and assimilable to live game configurations. Due to the number of studies presented, I understand that the authors intention is not basically to obtain prizes and distinctions, but to expose this subject with special satisfaction, which is what the artists of the composition feel when these works reach their recipients,.... analysts, competition players, composers and lovers of our game.

Amatzia Avni – (Israel) -2665

1.b8Q! c1Q+ 2.Nd1! A) [2.Rd1? Qxb2-+] **2...Bd4** [B) 2...Qc2 3.Rh5+ Rh4 4.Rxh4+ Kxh4 5.Qxb4+ (5.Qh8+? Kg5 6.Qg8+ Kf6 7.Qf8+ Kg6 8.Qe8+ Kf6 9.Nxe3 Qd3=) 5...Kg5 6.Qg4+ Kxg4 7.Nxe3+-] **3.Rxd4 Rxd4 4.Qh8+ Rh4** [4...Kg4 5.Qxd4+ Kf3 6.Qd3+ (6.Qxd6!? Ke2=) 6...Kg4 7.Qxd6+-] **5.Qc8+ Qxc8 6.Nf2#**

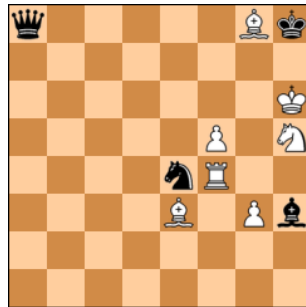
Two clear and entertaining lines complement each other, one of which, with a nice, prior to a timely sacrifice

Borislav Ilincic
Honorable Mention



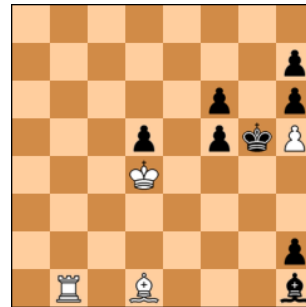
Win

Amatzia Avni
Honorable Mention



Win

Luis Gómez Palazón
Commendation



Win

Borislav Ilincic – (Serbia)- 2536

1.Bxa6! Qe8 2.d5! [2.Ba3? Nd5 3.Bc5+ Nb6 4.d5 Qf7! (4...Qd8? 5.d6! Nf3 6.Bb5+ Kb8 7.dxc7+ Qxc7 8.Bxb6 Qd7 9.Be2 g3 10.hxg3 hxg3 11.Be3 Qc7 12.Qxh5 g2 13.Qg6 g1Q+ 14.Bxg1 Nxg1 15.Qxg1+-) 5.Bb5+ Kb8 6.Bxb6 cxb6 7.Qxb6+ Qb7!]=] **2...Nxd5 3.c4! Nb6 4.Be5! Na8** [4...Qxe5 5.Qxe5 Kxa6 6.Qxc7 Nf3 7.Qxc6 Nd2+ 8.Kc2 Ndx4 9.Qxe4 g3 10.h3!+-] **5.c5! Qb8+** [5...Nf3 6.Bxc7+-; 5...Qxe5 6.Bc8+ Kb8 7.Qa6+-] **6.Bb5+ Kb7 7.Qa6#**

A line that ends in mate, but the most complex and remarkable thing is how the Queen prevails over the two Knights, and pawns and the initial trial

Amatzia Avni –(Israel) - 2664

1.Bf7! [1.Bd4+? Kxg8 2.Rxe4 Bxf5=; 1.Be6? Qf8+ 2.Kg6 Qe8+ 3.Bf7 Qc6+ 4.Be6 (4.f6 Qb5+-) 4...Qe8+=] **1...Qf8+ 2.Kg6 Bxf5+ 3.Kxf5** [3.Rxf5? Qd6+ 4.Nf6 Qxg3+ 5.Bg5 Nxg5=] **3...Nxg3+** [3...Qxf7+ 4.Kxe4 Qxh5 5.Rh4+-] **4.Kg4** [4.Nxg3? Qxf7+=; 4.Kg6? Qd6+ 5.Nf6 Qd3+ 6.Ne4 Qa6+ 7.Rf6 Qe2 8.Rf3 Qa6+ (8...Qxf3? 9.Bd4+-) 9.Rf6 Qe2=] **4...Nxb5 5.Bd4+ Ng7** [5...Nf6+ 6.Rxf6+-] **6.Rf6 Qc8+** [6...Kh7 7.Bg6+-] **7.Be6 Nxe6** [7...Qd8 8.Rh6#; 7...Qc1 8.Rf8+ Kh7 9.Bg8+ Kh8 10.Bd5+-] **8.Rf8+** [Logical Try : 8.Rh6+? Kg8 9.Rh8+ Kf7 10.Rxc8 Nxd4=] **8...Kh7 9.Rxc8 Nxd4 10.Kg5 Kg7 11.Rc7+ Kf8 12.Kf6 Ke8 13.Rc5+-**

Original configuration to arrive at the domination of the Knight, with a suitable test

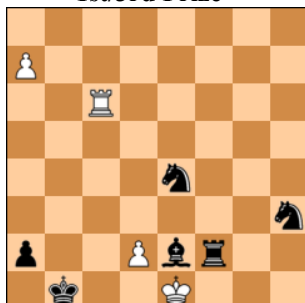
Luis Gómez – (Spain) -2703

1.Rb2! Kf4 2.Rxh2 Bg2! 3.Kc5! [3.Rxg2= stalemate; 3.Rh4+? Kg3+-; 3.Bc2? Kg3 4.Rxg2+ Kxg2 5.Bxf5 Kg3 6.Bxh7 Kg4 7.Bg6 f5 8.Kxd5 f4 9.Ke4 Kg5=] **3...Kg3** [3...Be4 4.Ra2+-] **4.Rxg2+ Kxg2 5.Kxd5 Kg3 6.Ke6 f4 7.Kxf6 f3 8.Kg7 f2** [8...Kg4 9.Kxh6 Kh4 10.Bxf3+-] **9.Be2+-**

White must avoid two threats: the stalemate, and the position of equality with the pawn of the Rook column with his "bad" bishop.

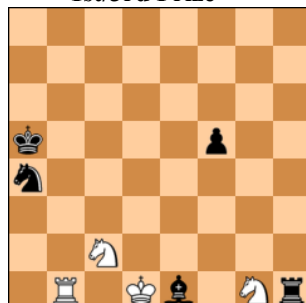
DRAW STUDIES

V. Tarasiuk P. Arestov
1st/3rd Prize



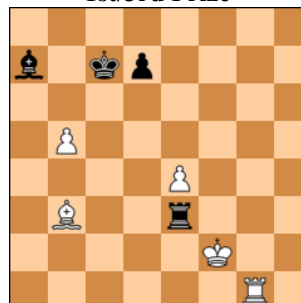
Draw

Richard Becker
1st/3rd Prize



Draw

Jan Timman
1st/3rd Prize



Draw

Vladislav Tarasiuk & Pavel Arestov –(Ukraine-Russia)- 2583

1.a8Q [1.Rb6+? Kc2! 2.a8Q a1Q+! 3.Qxa1 Rf1+ 4.Kxe2 Rxa1–+] **1...Bb5!** [1...a1Q 2.Rc1+! Kxc1 3.Qxa1+?] **2.Rc1+! Kxc1** [2...Kb2 3.Rc2+! Kxc2 4.Qxa2+?] **3.Qa3+ Kb1 4.Qb3+** [4.Qb4+? Kc2!–+] **4...Ka1 5.Qxb5 Nxd2 6.Kd1!** [6.Qe5+? Kb1–+] **6...Nf3! 7.Qb7!** [7.Qc6? Rf1+! 8.Ke2 Nd4+–+] **7...Rd2+** [7...Nfg1 8.Kc1 Ne2+ 9.Kc2 Nef4+ 10.Kc3 Ng1! 11.Qg7 Rg2 12.Qe5! Rb2 13.Qe1+ Rb1 14.Qe5 Rb2 15.Qe1+= positional draw] **8.Kc1 Nhg1 9.Qxf3!** [9.Qg7+? Rd4 10.Qf6 Ne2+–+] **9...Rc2+!** [9...Nxf3 stalemate] **10.Kd1!!** [10.Kxc2? Nxf3 11.Kc1 Nd4–+ zz] **10...Nxf3 11.Kxc2 Nd4+ 12.Kc1=** zz
Original fight between the queen vs.several black pieces! The sequences which lead to the position of equality are surprising, with the plus of the variant that culminates in stalemate.

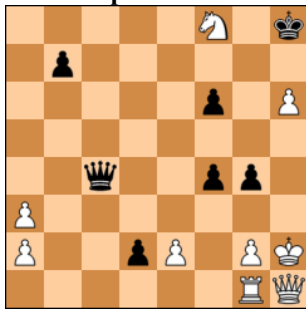
Richard Becker –(USA)- 2622

1.Rb8! Bf2 [1...Bc3 2.Rg8=; 1...Bg3 2.Ra8+ Kb5 3.Nd4+ Kb4 4.Ndf3 Bf2 5.Rg8=] **2.Ra8+**! [2.Ke2? Bxg1 3.Ra8+ Kb5 4.Na3+ Kb4–+; 2.Rf8? Bxg1 3.Rxf5+ Bc5+ 4.Kd2 Rh2+ 5.Kc1 Kb5–+] **2...Kb5 3.Na3+ Kb4 4.Nc2+ Kb3 5.Na1+ Ka3 6.Nc2+ Kb3 7.Na1+ Kb2 8.Rxa4 Rxf1+** [8...Bxg1 9.Nc2=] **9.Kd2 Rg2** [9...Be1+ 10.Kd3 Rg3+ 11.Ke2!]=] **10.Nc2! Bg1+** [MAIN : 10...Bg3+ 11.Kd1 Rg1+ 12.Kd2 Rg2+ 13.Kd1 Rxc2 14.Rb4+ Ka3 15.Rb3+! Kxb3 model stalemate; 10...Bc5+ 11.Ke1! Rxc2 12.Rf4=] **11.Kd3 Rg3+ 12.Kd2 Rg2+ 13.Kd3 Rxc2 14.Rb4+ Kc1 15.Rb1+! Kxb1=** echo model stalemate
Two stalemates, with appropriate variants and trials. Very nice!

Jan Timman (Netherlands)- 2669

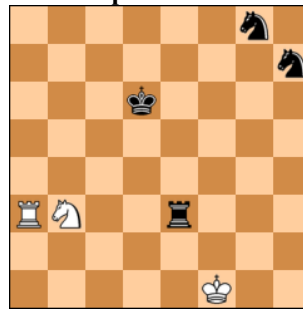
1.Ra1! Bb6 2.Ba2! Kd8 [2...Ra3+ 3.Kg2 Kd8 4.Kh1=] **3.Kg2!** [3.Kf1? Ra3 4.e5 Ke7–+] **3...Ra3 4.Kh1! Ke7 5.e5 Ra5** [5...Bd4 6.Rd1=] **6.e6! d6** [6...dxe6 7.Re1 Rxa2 8.Rxe6+]=] **7.Rf1! Rxa2 8.Rf7+ Kxe6 9.Rf6+ Ke5** [9...Kxf6 stalemate] **10.Re6+!** [10.Rf5+? Ke4 11.Re5+ Kf3 12.Rf5+ Ke2=] **10...Kf4 11.Rf6+ Ke4 12.Re6+** [12.Rxd6? Be3 13.Rf6 Bf4 14.Re6+ Kf3–+] **12...Kf3 13.Rf6+ Ke2 14.Rxd6 Ra1+** [14...Bc7 15.Ra6 (or 15.Rf6=)] **15.Kg2=**
Movements that influence the emotional level of any observer. All this leads to equality by positional draw and stalemates.

L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
Sp. Prize



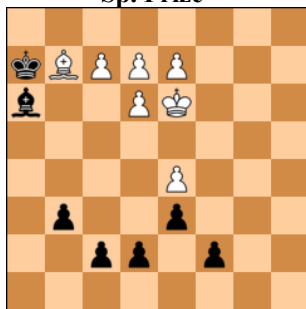
BTM Draw

David Gurgenzidze
Sp. Prize



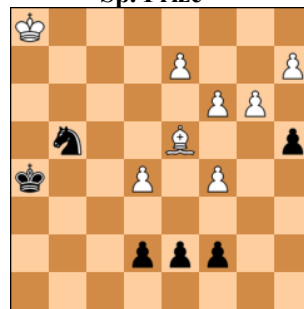
Draw b) Nh7>f8

Marco Campioli
Sp. Prize



BTM Draw

Jan Timman
Sp. Prize



Draw

Lubos Kekely & MichalHlinka –(Slovakia)- 2440

1...g3+ 2.Kh3 Qg8 [2...Qe4 3.Kg4 f3+ 4.Kxg3 fxe2 5.Kf2! Qc2 6.Ng6+ Kh7 7.Nf8+ Kh8 8.Ng6+=] 3.Rf1! [3.Rc1? f5 4.Ng6+ Qxg6 5.Rc8+ Kh7 6.Rh8+ Kxh8 7.Qa1+ Kh7-+] 3...d1Q 4.Rxd1 f5 5.Ng6+! Qxg6 6.Rd8+ Kh7 7.Rh8+! Kxh8 8.Qa1+ from the corner to the corner now with check - the longest diagonal is open 8...Kg8 9.Qg7+ Qxg7 10.hxg7 Kxg7 11.e3! [Try Th.: 11.a4? Kf6 12.e3 fxe3 13.Kxg3 Ke5 14.Kf3 Kd4 compare with side line 15...Ke5 15.Ke2 b6 16.g3 Ke4 17.a3 Kd4-+] 11...fxe3 12.Kxg3 Kf6 13.Kf3 f4 14.g3! fxg3 15.a4! [15.Kxg3? Ke5 16.Kf3 Kd4 17.Ke2 b5 18.a4 bxa4 19.a3 Ke4-+; 15.Kxe3? Kg5 16.Kf3 Kh4 17.Kg2 b5 18.a4 bxa4 19.a3 Kg4 20.Kg1 Kf3-+] 15...Kf5 [15...Ke5 16.Kxe3=; 15...b6 16.Kxg3 Ke5 17.Kf3 Kd4 18.Ke2=] 16.a5! g2 [16...Ke5 17.Kxe3=] 17.Kxg2 Ke4 18.Kf1 Kd3 19.Ke1= Sacrifices.

Ingenious introduction, with an important trial, to arrive at an instructive pawn ending

David Gurgenzidze – (Georgia)- twin b) Nh7>f8 - 2538

1.Nd2! [1.Nd4? Re8 2.Re3 Rf8+ 3.Rf3 Ngf6-+] 1...Re7 [1...Rxa3 2.Nc4+= fork] 2.Re3! [2.Ra5? Kc6-+] 2...Ra7 [2...Rxe3 3.Nc4+= fork] 3.Ra3! [3.Rg3? Ngf6-+] 3...Rb7 4.Rb3! [4.Ne4+? Ke5-+] 4...Rc7 5.Rc3 Re7 [5...Rxc3 6.Ne4+= fork] 6.Re3 Rf7+ 7.Rf3 Rg7 8.Rg3 Ra7 [8...Rxc3 9.Ne4+= fork] 9.Ra3=

b) 1.Nf4! (1.Nd2? Re8 2.Re3 Ne7 and Lomonosov win]1... Re8 2.Re3 Rc8 3.Rc3 Rb8 4.Rb3 Ra8 5.Ra3 Re8 6.Re3 Rc8 7.Rc3 Rb8 8.Rb3 Ra8 9.Ra3 and position draw

Original miniature, with the plus of a twin, deserves a special distinction in this palm

Studies N°2667 and N°2668 have in common the systematic queens promotion. Naturally, the game is different, but due to its artistic relevance, I have considered it appropriate to assign a special prize

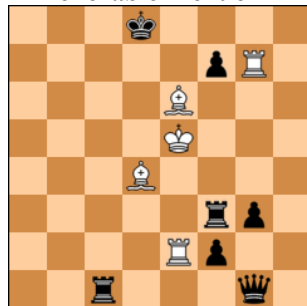
Marco Campioli – (Italy)- 2667

1...Bc4+! [1...d1Q 2.e8Q Qg4+ 3.Ke5 Qg3+ 4.Ke6 Qh3+ 5.Ke5 Qh2+ 6.Ke6 Qh6+ 7.Ke5 Qg5+ 8.Ke6 Bxb7 9.Qb8+ Ka6 10.Qxb7+ Kxb7 11.c8Q+ Ka7 12.Qc7+ Ka6 13.Qc6+ Ka5 14.Qc3+=; 1...f1Q 2.e8Q Qh3+ 3.Ke5; 1...c1Q? 2.e8Q Bxb7 3.Qb8+-+] **2.Bd5! Bxd5+!** [2...d1Q 3.e8Q Qg4+ 4.Ke5 Qg7+ 5.Ke6 Qg4+=; 2...f1Q 3.e8Q Qh3+ 4.Ke5=] **3.exd5** [3.Kxd5? d1Q+-+] **3...e2!** [3...f1Q 4.e8Q Qh3+ 5.Ke5=] **4.d8Q! e1Q+ 5.Kd7** [5.Kf7? f1Q+-+] **5...c1Q!** [5...d1Q?? 6.Qb8+-+] **6.Qb8+!** [6.c8Q Qxc8+ 7.Qxc8 f1Q-+] **6...Ka6 7.c8Q+ Qxc8+ 8.Qxc8+ Kb5 9.Qc6+ Kb4 10.Qb6+!** [10.e8Q? Qxe8+ 11.Kxe8 f1Q 12.d7 Qe2+ 13.Kf7 Qf2+ 14.Ke8 d1Q 15.d8Q Qh5+-+] **10...Kc3 11.Qc5+** [11.e8Q Qxe8+ 12.Kxe8 f1Q-+] **11...Kb2 12.Qd4+** [12.e8Q? Qxe8+ 13.Kxe8 f1Q-+] **12...Kc2 13.Qc4+** [13.e8Q? Qxe8+ 14.Kxe8 f1Q-+] **13...Kb2 14.Qd4+** [14.e8Q Qxe8+ 15.Kxe8 d1Q-+] **14...Kb1!** [14...Kc1 15.Qc3+=] **15.Qd3+! Ka2! 16.e8Q!** [16.Qa6+? Kb2 17.e8Q d1Q 18.Qh8+ Qc3-+] **16...f1Q** [16...d1Q 17.Qa8+ Kb2 18.Qh8+!=] **17.Qa8+ Kb2 18.Qh8+!** [18.Qd4+? Kc2 19.Qah8 Qb5+ 20.Kc7 Qc1 21.d7 d1Q 22.d8Q Qxd4 23.Qxd4 Kb1+ 24.Kd6 Qh6+ 25.Q8f6 Qa6+ 26.Ke7 Qh7+ 27.Qg7 Qb7+ 28.Kf8 Qf5+-+] **18...Ka2 19.Qa8+=** Perpetual check (positional draw).

Jan Timman – (Netherlands)- 2668

1.g7! [1.h8Q? d1Q 2.Qc8 e1Q 3.Qc4+ Ka3 4.e8Q Qa4+ 5.Qxa4+ Kxa4-+] **1...d1Q 2.g8Q** [2.h8Q? e1Q-+] **2...Qc2! 3.e8Q** [3.Kb7? e1Q 4.Qa8+ Kb3 5.e8Q Qxh7+ 6.f7 f1Q 7.Qe6+ Qc4 8.Qa2+ Kxa2 9.Qxc4+ Ka3-+] **3...e1Q 4.Qxb5+! Kxb5 5.Qd5+ Kb4 6.h8Q f1Q 7.Qb8+!** [7.Qf8+? Kc3 8.Qa3+ (8.Qfc5+ Kd2 9.f7 Qa6+ 10.Kb8 Qeb1+-+) 8...Kd2 9.f7 Qh1 10.Qaa5+ Kd3 11.Qab5+ Ke3 12.f8Q Qa2+!-+; 7.Qd6+? Kc3 8.d5+ Kd2 9.Qb4+ Ke2 10.Qxh5+ Kf2 11.Qd4+ (11.Bd4+ Kg2; 11.Qh4+ Kg2-+) 11...Kg2 12.Qg4+ Qg3 13.Qxg3+ Kxg3 14.f5+ Kh3-+] **7...Kc3 8.Qbb7!** [8.Qa5+? Kd3 9.Qbb5+ (9.Qa3+ Ke2) 9...Ke3 10.Qa3+ Qcd3-+] **8...Qeb1!** [8...Qa4+ 9.Kb8 Qe8+ 10.Qc8+ Qxc8+ 11.Kxc8 Qa6+ 12.Kd7 Qg3 13.f7 Qg4+ 14.Ke7=] **9.f7 Qa4+ 10.Kb8 Qab5! 11.Qdc6+!** [11.Qdxb5 Qfxb5 12.d5+ Kc4 13.Qxb5+ Qxb5+ 14.Kc7 Qc5+ 15.Kd7 Kxd5 16.Ke8 h4!-+] **11...Kd2 12.d5=** eg **12...Qxb7+ 13.Qxb7 Qfb5** [13...Qxb7+ 14.Kxb7 Qb1+ 15.Kc7 Qf5 16.d6 Qxf7+ 17.d7=] **14.Qxb5 Qxb5+ 15.Kc7** [or 15.Kc8] **15...Qc5+ 16.Kd7 Qxd5+ 17.Ke7=**

**P. Arestov & P. Krug
Honorable Mention**



Draw

**Michael Pasman
Honorable Mention**



Draw

**P. Arestov & P. Kiryakov
Honorable Mention**



Draw

**Evgeny Trakhtman
Commendation**



BTM Draw

Pavel Arestov & Peter Krug – (Russia-Austria) - 2584

1.Kd6! Rc6+! 2.Kxc6 Qc1+ 3.Bc5 Qxc5+! [3...f1Q?? 4.Rg8#] **4.Kxc5 f1Q** [4...Rc3+ 5.Kd6 Rd3+ 6.Bd5 Rxd5+ 7.Kxd5 f1Q 8.Rg8+ /e5 8...Kd7 9.Re3=] **5.Rg8+ Ke7!** [5...Kc7?? 6.Rc8++-] **6.Bc4+! Kf6 7.Re6+! fxe6 8.Bxf1 Kf7!** [8...Rxf1 9.Rf8+=] **9.Rg5!** [Try: 9.Rg4? Rxf1 10.Kd4 (10.Rxg3 Rd1!-+) 10...Rf3! 11.Ke4 Ra3 12.Kf4 Kf6! 13.Rxg3 Rxg3 14.Kxg3 Ke5-+] **9...Rxf1 10.Kd4!** [10.Rxg3? Rd1! 11.Rf3+ Kg6 12.Kc4 Kg5-+] **10...Rf3** [10...Kf6 11.Rxg3=] **11.Ke4 Ra3 12.Kf4 Kf6! 13.Rf5+!** [13.Rxg3? Rxg3 14.Kxg3 Ke5 /g5-+] **13...exf5** stalemate

A surprising stalemate at one end of rooks, with an ingenious introduction

Michael Pasman – (Israel) – 2588

1.Bc5+! [Try : 1.g5? and Black wins after long and forced variation : 1...fxg5 2.Bc5+ Qb6! 3.Bxb6+ Kxb6 4.Bf3 Ba7! 5.Kxa4 Kc5 6.Bh1 Bb6! 7.Kb3 Kd4 8.Kc2 Ke3 9.Kc3 Kf2 10.Kc4 g2 11.Bxg2 Kxg2 12.Kd5 Bd4 13.Kc6 e4 14.b6 (14.Kd5 Bf2! 15.Kc6! e3 16.a7 e2 17.a8Q e1Q 18.Kd7+ Kxh3-+) 14...e3 15.a7 (15.b7 Ba7-+) 15...e2 16.a8Q e1Q 17.Kd7+ (17.b7 Qe6+ 18.Kb5 Qb3+ 19.Kc6 Be5-+) 17...Kxh3 18.b7 Be5 19.b8Q Bxb8 20.Qxb8 Qd1+ 21.Ke7 g4-+] **1...Ka8** [#] **2.g5!!** Sacrificing the bishop, black queen is shifted to worse position [2.b6 Qd2-+] **2...Qxh5** [2...Qxg5? 3.Bf3+-] **3.b6! Bc7!** [3...Qh4+ 4.Kb5! Bc7= The same] **4.bxc7 Qh4+** [4...Qxh3= 5.gxf6] **5.Kb5!** [5.Ka5? Qxh3 6.gxf6 Qc8-+] **5...Qxh3 6.gxf6!** [6.g6 Qd7+ 7.Kb6 g2-+] **6...Qd7+ 7.Kb6! Qe6+ 8.Kb5! Qd7+** There is no better place for the queen to give a check and at the same time to keep an eye on White pawns **9.Kb6 Qc8 10.f7 g2** [#] **11.Kb5!!** Now quiet move to hide from check [11.f8Q? Qxf8 12.Bxf8 g1Q+-+; Try : 11.Kc6? Qxa6+ 12.Kd7 Qd3+ 13.Ke8 (13.Ke7 Qf5) 13...Qf5 14.f8Q Qc8+! 15.Ke7 Qxf8+ 16.Kxf8 Kb7-+] **11...g1Q 12.Bxg1 a3 13.Bc5! Qxc7 14.f8Q+ Qb8+ 15.Qxb8+ Kxb8=**

Remarkable trial, with subtle movements complete a study with merits for its inclusion in this palm

Pavel Arestov & Petr Kiryakov (Russia) - 2443

1.Nf7!! with 3 lines: **A) 1...Kf6!** (1...Qxf7 2.Ra3! theoretical draw) **2.Nh6!** (2.Nd8? Qe5(d6)+ 3.Kg1 Qe1+ 4.Kg2 Qe4+ 5.Kh2 Qf5! 6.Ra6+ Ke7 7.Nc6+ Kf8! 8.Ra8+ Kf7! -+ (but not 8...Kg7? 9.Rg8+! Kxg8 10.Ne7+ =) **2...Kg5** (2...Qe5+ 3.Kh3! Qe6+ (3...Qh5+ 4.Kg3 Qg5+ 5.Ng4+=) 4.Ng4+ Kg6 5.Ra3! =; 2...Kg6 3.Ra6+ Kg5 4.Kg1! =) **3.Ra6 Qe2 4.Nf7+ Kf5** (4...Kf4 5.Rf6+ =) **5.Nh6+ Kf4 6.Ra4+!** (6.Rf6+? Kg5 -+) **6...Kf3 7.Ng4! Qf1** (7...h5 8.Ra3+ Kxg4 9.Rg3+ =) **8.Ne5+!** draw. **B) 1...Kg6! 2.Nd8!! Qd6+** (2...Qxd8 3.Ra3(a6) =) **3.Kg1!** (3.Kh3? h5! -+; 3.Kg2? Qd5+ -+) **3...Qd1+ 4.Kh2! Qh5+ 5.Kg1 Qd1+ 6.Kh2 - pos. draw. C) 1...Kf4!** (1...Kg4 2.Nh6+ Kg5 3.Ra6 Qe2 4.Nf7+ - main line) **2.Kg1!** (2.Ra4+? Kf3 -+) **2...Qe1+** (2...Qxf7 3.Ra3! =) **3.Kh2!** (3.Kg2? Qe4+ 4.Kh2 Qd4! 5.Kg1 Qd1+ 6.Kh2 Qh5+ -+) **3...Qe7! 4.Kg1!** - pos. draw

Original configuration where white eliminates the threat of dominance in black's counterplay

Evgeny Trakhtman (Ukraine - 2484)

1...d3 2.cxd3! [2.Rh6? dxc2 3.Rh1+ Ke2 4.Bb7 Kd2-+] **2...c3 3.Rh6!** [3.Bb7? Rxb7 4.Rh6 Kg2! 5.Rg6+ Kf2 6.Rh6 Ke3! 7.Rh1 (7.Rh2 Ne2 8.Rxa4 c2 9.Rh3+ Kd2-+; 7.Rxa4 c2-+) 7...Kd2! 8.Rxa4 c2! 9.Rb4 Rxb4 10.axb4 Nxd3 11.b5 c1Q+ 12.Rxc1 Kxc1-+] **3...c2 4.Rh1+ Ke2 5.Bb7!** [5.Rxc1? Kd2 6.Bb7 Kxc1-+] **5...Rxb7 6.Rxc1** [6.Rb6? Rxb6 7.Rxc1 Kd2-+ and similar to the option after 7 moves] **6...Kd2 7.Ra7!** [7.d4? Kxc1 8.Rb6 Kd2! 9.Rxb7 c1Q+-+; 7.Rb6 Rxb6 8.d4 Rb3! (8...Rb1+? 9.Rxb1 cxb1Q+ 10.Kxb1 Kc3 11.Kc1 Kxd4 12.Kd2 Kxd5 13.Kd3 Kxd6 14.Kd4=) 9.Rh1 c1Q+ 10.Rxc1 Kxc1 11.axb3 axb3-+] **7...Rxa7** [7...Kxc1 8.Rxb7=] **8.d4 Kxc1=** stalemate .

Entertaining game, with adequate trials. We look forward to more studies from the author !!

Salta, Argentina February, 2021

**Mario Guido García
Judge**

