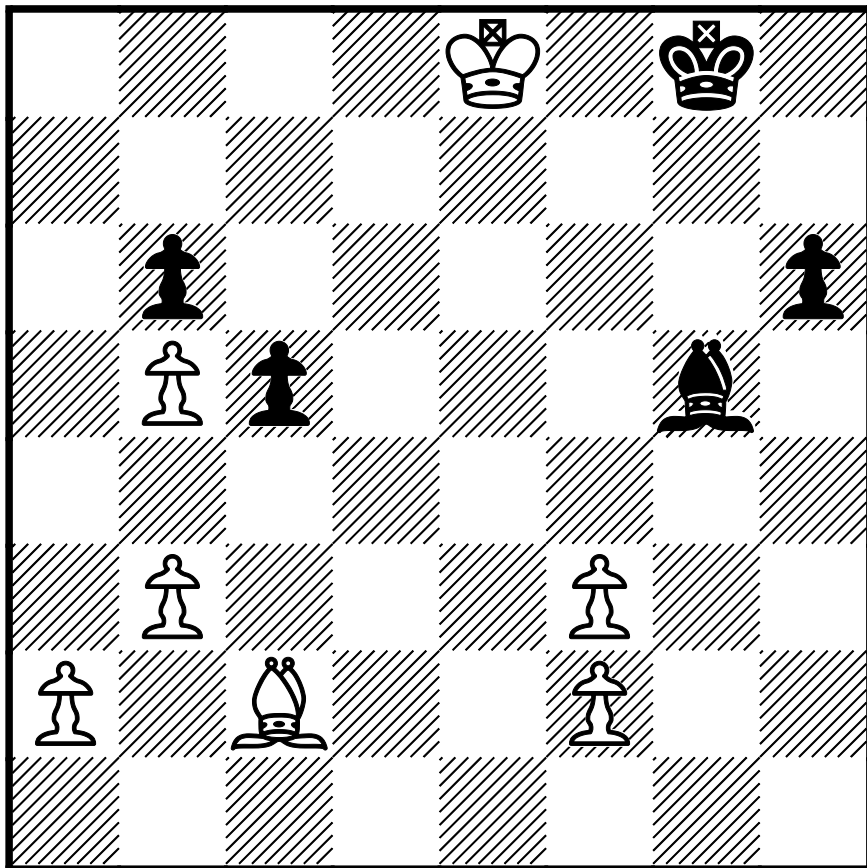


No. 193 – Vol. XIX – July 2013



White to play and win

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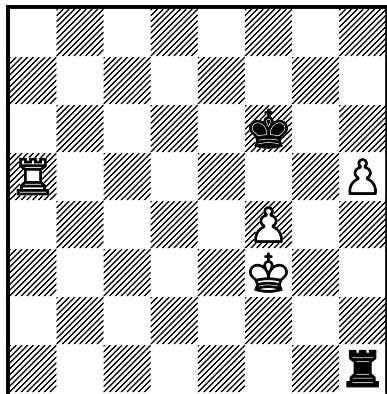
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Editorial

HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

AJR attended, as **EG**'s official reporter, the 12th round of the FIDE Candidates 2013 in London (29iii2013). Apparently that inspired the super-GM's as three out of four games ended in a study-like fashion! The games are widely available on the internet. Kramnik having Black, won against Aronian in an ending of BP vs 2P. He could have won the game by a skewer (61...g2 62.c6 Bxc6 63.Kxc6 g1Q 64.a8Q Qg2+ (Qh1+)) but preferred the other winning move. Ivanchuk, also with Black, won against Carlsen, who resigned instead of allowing a Saavedra-like double attack (91.Re1+ Kf2).

Radjabov – Grishuk



WTM

This position is a draw, and Radjabov apparently also reached this conclusion after

some attempts at winning. He now played **85.h6 Rxh6** (many other moves also draw) **86.Ra6+ Kf5! 87.Rxh6** stalemate!

On behalf of our editor, Ed van de Gevel, I invite you to send your best original studies for publication in **EG**. I agree with the judge of the previous tourney (Jarl Ulrichsen) that one would expect more high quality original studies in the only magazine fully dedicated to endgame studies.

As I am a former computer freak – I bought my first computer thirty years ago and did a lot of programming during the next two decades, now I am basically a computer user – and I have “something” with chess and endgame studies, I am very interested in endgame study computer benchmarks. Emil Vlasák’s column deals with that topic. His article includes a brilliant study by Ladislav Salai: not only “impossible” to solve for chess engines (I let my Deep Fritz 13 on i7 hardware calculate for 35 plies which took 3 hours, but I must say the engine had to compete with me for processor time as I was editing this **EG** at the same time), but is also beautiful and very easy to explain/understand. This is one of the best studies I have seen recently. I can add that another study that is difficult to crack for computers is Kralin’s **EG#13903** (position before 4.c3!!).

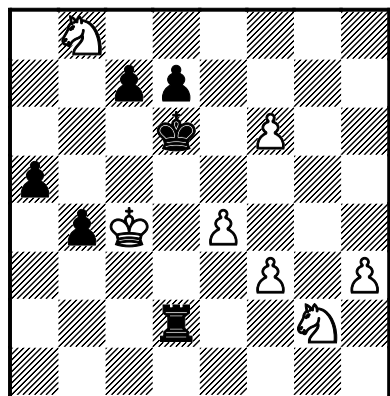
Originals (41)

EDITOR : ED VAN DE GEVEL

email submissions are preferred
Judge 2012-2013: Oleg Pervakov

In our first study (by Mario Garcia and Iuri Akobia) White has to choose how to protect his precious pawn on f6. Choose wrongly and the f-pawn is protected but also stopped. Later on in the study, White has to choose how to stop the black b-pawn. There is only one way both to stop the b-pawn and to preserve the white pawns on the kingside.

No 19010 M. Garcia & I. Akobia



c4d6 0302.44 7/6 Win

No 19010 Mario Garcia (Argentina) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia) 1.e5+/i Ke6 (Kxe5; f7) 2.Sf4+ Kxe5 3.f7 Rd4+ 4.Kb3 a4+/ii 5.Kxa4 Rxf4 6.Sxd7+ Kd4 7.f8Q Rxf8 8.Sxf8 Kc3 9.Se6 b3 10.Sxc7/iii b2 11.Sb5+ Kd3 12.Sa3 Ke3 13.h4 wins.

i) 1.Sf4? is a thematic try a4 2.h4/iv c5/v 3.Sd5/vi Ke6 4.Sxd7 a3 5.Sxc5+ Kf7 6.Sb3 a2 7.Sxb4 Kxf6 8.Sxa2 Rxa2 9.Kd5 Rh2 draws.

ii) Rxf4 5.Sxd7+ Kd5 6.f8Q Rxf8 7.Sxf8 wins.

iii) 10.Sd4? is another try Kxd4 11.Kxb3 Kd3 12.Kb4 Kd4 13.Kb5/vii c5 14.h4 c4 draws.

iv) 2.Sd3 b3 3.e5+ Ke6 4.Sc5+ Kf7 5.Sbxd7 b2 6.e6+ Kg6 7.f7 b1Q 8.f8Q Rc2+ 9.Kd5 Qa2+ 10.Kc6 Qxe6+ 11.Kxc7 Qf5 draws, or 2.f7 Ke7 3.Sxd7 Kxf7 4.Se5+ Kf6 5.Sg4+ Kg5 draws.

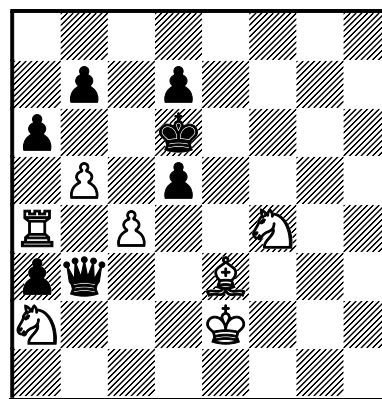
v) Rc2+? 3.Kd3 Rc3+ 4.Ke2 Rc2+ 5.Kd1 Rc4 6.f7 Rd4+ 7.Kc2 Ke7 8.Sc6+ dxc6 9.f8Q+ Kxf8 10.Se6+ wins.

vi) 3.Sd3 Rc2+ 4.Kb5 Ke6 5.Se5 Kxf6 6.Sbxd7+ Ke6 draws.

vii) 13.h4 c5+ 14.Kb3 Kd3 15.Kb2 Kd2 16.h5 c4 17.h6 c3+ draws.

In the second study (by Martin Minski) White should not go for position 'X', but should instead take the grand detour to remove one key black pawn to guarantee a successful break-through. Later on in the study White needs to keep a black pawn alive to set up a model mate.

No 19011 M. Minski



e2d6 3112.25 7/7 Win

No 19011 Martin Minski (Germany) 1.Sc3/i Qxc3/ii 2.c5+ Ke5 (Kc7, Ke7; Sxd5+) 3.Bd4+ Qxd4 4.Sd3+ Ke4 5.Sf2+/iii Ke5 6.Sg4+ Ke4 7.Sf6+ Ke5 8.Sxd7+ Ke4 9.Sf6+ Ke5 10.Sg4+ Ke4 11.Sf2+ Ke5 12.Sd3+ Ke4 13. Rxd4+ Kxd4 (position X without the bPd7) 14.c6 bxc6/iv 15.b6 a2 16.Sc1 Kc5/vi 17.b7 a1Q 18.Sb3+ Kb6 (Kc4; Sxa1) 19.b8Q with an ep-aulette model mate.

i) 1.c5+? Ke5 2.Sc3 (Sd3+ Ke6;) axb5 draws e.g. 3.Sd3+ Ke6 4.c6 b6 5.Kd2 (Sf4+ Kd6;) bxa4 6.c7 Qc4 7.Sc5+ bxc5 8.c8Q a2 draws.

ii) axb5 2.Sxb5+ wins, or dxc4 2.Bd2 axb5 3.Rxa3 wins, or Qc2+ 2.Bd2 d4 3.c5+ and now

Ke5 4.Sd3+ Ke6 5.Rxd4 wins, or here Ke7 4.Scd5+ Kf7 5.Rxa3 wins.

iii) 5.Rxd4+ is a logical try: Kxd4 (position X) 6.c6 dxc6 wins for Black.

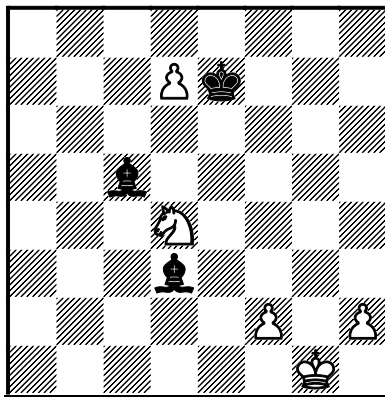
iv) a2 15.Sc1 Kc5 16.cxb7 a1Q 17.Sb3+ Kb6 (Kb4; Sxa1) 18.b8Q is an echo mate.

v) 15.bxa6 is the thematic try. a2 16.Sc1 Kc5 17.a7 (Sxa2 Kb6;) a1Q 18.Sb3+ Kb6 draws, compare with the mainline after 18...Kb6, or 15.bxc6 a2 draws.

vi) a1Q 17.Sb3+ Ke5 18.Sxa1 Kd6 19.Sb3 wins, or Ke5 17.Sxa2 wins.

Were it not for the stunning zugzwang 36.h3! I would have qualified the following entry by Marcel van Herck as a theoretical endgame and not as a study. It is unfortunate that the remark at move 11 about an early h3 could not be converted into a thematic try where we end in the position after 36.h3 but then with White to move...

No 19012 M. Van Herck



g1e7 0061.30 5/3 Win

No 19012 Marcel Van Herck (Belgium)
 1.d8Q+/i Kxd8 2.Se6+ Ke7 3.Sxc5 Bc2 4.Kg2 Kd6 5.Sb7+ Kc6 6.Sd8+ Kd7 7.Sf7 Ke6 8.Sh6/ii Kf6 9.Kg3 (9.Sg4+ transposes) Kg5 10.Sg4 Bb1 11.Se3/iii Bd3 12.Sd5 Bb1 13.Sf4 Ba2/iv 14.Sh3+ Kf5 (Kh5; Kf4) 15.f4 Kg6 16.Kg4 Be6+ 17.Kh4 Bc4 18.Sg5 Kf5 19.Kg3 Kg6 20.Sf3 Ba6/v 21.Sd2 (Sd4? Kh5;) Be2/vi 22.Se4 Kf5 23.Sc3 Bd3 24.Sd5 Bb1 25.Se3+ Ke4 26.Sg2 Kf5 27.Sh4+ Kf6 28.Kg4 Be4 29.Sf3 Bf5+ 30.Kh4 Bc2 31.Sd4 Ba4 32.Kg4

Bd1+ 33.Kg3 Ba4/vii 34.Kf3 Be8 35.Ke4 Bf7 36.h3/viii zz Bg8/ix 37.Kf3 Bf7 38.Kg4 Bc4 39.h4 Ba2 40.h5 Bc4 41.Kg3 (41.Kh4 is a loss of time) Bd3 42.Kh4 Bb1 (Bc4; Sc2) 43.Sc6 Kf5 44.Kg3 Be4 45.Se5 Bd5 46.Sg4 Be6 47.Se3+ Kf6 48. Kh4 Bb3/x 49.f5 Ba2 50.Kg4 Bb1 51.h6 Ba2 52.Kf4 Bb1 53.Sg4+ Kf7 54.Kg5 Bc2 55.Se5+ Kf8 56.Kg6 Bb1 57.Sc4 (h7? Bxf5+;) Bd3 58.Sd6 wins.

i) 1.Sc6+? is a thematic try, after Kxd7 2.Se5+ Black can afford to play badly with 2...Kc8 as 3.Sxd3 Ba3 is still a draw. With a dark-squared bishop in this type of position, a win is only possible in some cases with far-advanced pawns. The geometry of the board is friendlier to the king's bishop, as we shall see on move 36.

ii) White must not allow the bK to g4 or h4 8.Sg5+? Kf5 9.Sf3 Kg4 draws.

iii) White has to be careful not to advance his pawns too early. Both f4? and h4? lead to a light square blockade and a draw. Even the innocuous move h3? spoils everything for White.

iv) other moves lose faster, e.g. Bc2 14.Se6+ Kh5 15.Sd4 winning a tempo Bb1 16.Sf3 with Kf4, Sg1, Ke5 and f4 to follow, or Bf5 14.Sh3+ Kh5 15.Sg1 Kg5 16.Sf3+ Kh5 17.Kf4 Bc8 18.Sg1 Kg6 19.Ke5 Bd7 20.Se2 (f4? Bg4;) Kg5 21.f4+ Kg4 22.Sg1 Bc8 23.f5 Ba6 (Bxf5; h3+) 24.f6 Bc4 25.Kd6 Kf5 26.Ke7 Kg6 27.Se2 wins.

v) This is by far the most tenacious. wS is aiming at d4, which is prevented now. See Kh5 21.f5 and Kf4, or Ba2 21.Kg4 Be6+ 22.Kh4 and Sd4 wins.

vi) Kh5 22.Se4 Bd3 23.Kf3 Kg6 (Kh4; Sf2) 24.Sg3 Bc2 25.Kg4 Bd1+ 26.Kh4 Bf3 27.Sf1 Bc6 28.Se3 Bd7 29.Sc2 Kf5 (Ba4; Sd4) 30.Kg3 Ke4 31.h4 Ba4 (Kf5; h5) 32.Sa3 Kf5 33.Sc4 Kg6 34.Se5+ and f5 or h5 wins.

vii) Bh5 34.Sc2 Kf5 35.Se3+ Ke4 36.Sg4 Kf5 37.h3 Be8 38.Se3+ Ke4 39.Sc4 Kd5 40.Se5 Ke6 41.Kg4 wins.

viii) The highlight of the study. This is a reciprocal zugzwang. WTM would be a draw. White has two plans. The first is f5, Kf4 and a

check by the knight. But on 37.f5 black has Ba2 38.Kf4 Bb1. The second one is to advance the other pawn to h5. In that case he first has to put the king on g4 because the immediate h4 is answered by Kg6. But on 37.Kf3 Black has Bh5 38.Kg3 Bd1. BTM loses, as we shall see. If we put everything one row higher there is no mutual zugzwang but a draw. With a king's bishop, Black has b2 and

c1 to switch between the two important diagonals.

ix) Be8 37.f5 Bd7 38.Kf4 Bc8 39.h4 Bd7 40.h5 Bc8 41.h6 and the threat Se6 forces bK to retreat, or Bh5 37.f5 Bd1 38.Kf4 Ba4 39.Se2 Bd7 40.Sg3 followed by a check and Kg5 wins.

x) Bd7 49.Sg4+ Kf5 50.h6 wins, or Bc8 49.Sd5+ wins.

Review

Michael SCHLOSSER and Martin MINSKI, *ASymmetrie*, 2013.

646 pages. In German. ISBN 978-3-940531-91-9.

The 67 pages from p231 offer 67 studies showing ‘asymmetry’ in the strictly defined sense of allowing two diagrams pin-pointing the thematic moment in the solution with the symmetrical try (legal or not, as the chessboard’s edge may come into ‘play’). Some studies are quoted where the symmetry occurs subsequent to the opening moves. For good measure an original by the authors ‘after Dawson and Zepler’ is the final example. Elsewhere in the volume studies are incidental. The authors express the hope that enthusiasts who specialise in one genre will find ideas by browsing.

The single composition per page with its two subsidiary small diagrams make for a spacious layout that largely dispenses with the need to use one’s own board and chessmen. The chronological sequence assists appreciation.

Since a tight and non-controversial definition of asymmetry is not possible, the authors include a final, twelfth section to illustrate extensions of the general notion.

A historical introduction cites Dawson and Pauly, who, we read, identified ‘positive’ and ‘negative’ asymmetric themes, which, except for helpplay compositions, can be clearly differentiated. Where possible, the authors implement this by appending a 3-character code to a diagram: the first character is either *p* for positive or *n* for negative, the following pair being a piece identifier – which for non-fairy chess might have been a figurine. Deep research is evident, and there are corrections and versions.

There is, certainly for myself and I suspect for most readers, a great deal to learn and much to enjoy – the varied commentary will raise the occasional eyebrow, and even a smile or two – from this most welcome addition to the literature.

(AJR)

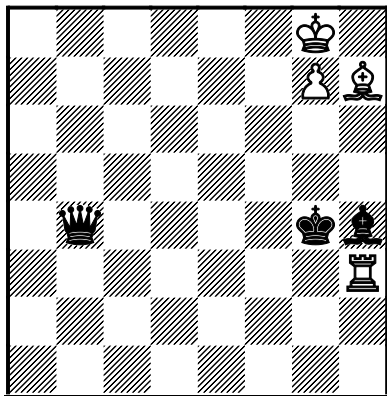
Spotlight (37)

EDITOR : JARL ULRICHSEN

Contributors: Richard Becker (USA), Luis Miguel González (Spain), Guy Haworth (England), Daniel Keith (France), Virgil Nestorescu (Romania), Ian Watson (England).

Luis M. González refers to his 2nd prize in Van der Heijden-50 JT 2011; cf. *ARVES Book of the Year 2011*. He is not convinced that his work is sound. He has analysed the line 1.Rh4 Rg2 2.Bxh6 Bb8! 3.Kf1 Rg3 4.Bd2! Kc5 5.Rh8 Kxb6 6.Rxb8 Ka7 7.Rf8 Kxb7 (or 7...Rb3 8.Bf4 Rxb7 9.Sc4) 8.Sc4. This sequence of moves leads to two 7-man positions with KRB vs. KRBN. This material is notoriously dangerous and is nowadays regarded as a general win on material for the stronger side. A future 7-man tablebase will tell us the truth about these positions, and I would probably have postponed the verdict until we can check the result. However, Luis does not want to wait and proposes to omit the first white move and convert the work into a black to move study. I for one have never been fond of BTM studies, but the other option would be to add material and this alternative is hardly recommendable.

S.1. G. Zakhodyakin
Azerbaijan open 1979



g8g4 3140.10 4/3 Draw

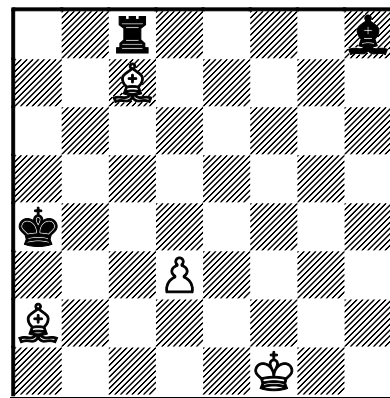
When it comes to corrections, Daniel Keith is one of my favourites. He is capable of saving faulty works with a minimum of changes. We have seen it many times in this column

and it is a pleasure for me to show some new examples.

(S.1.) The idea is a perpetual pursuit after **1.Bf5+ Kxf5 2.Kh7 Qe7 3.Re3 Qd4 4.Rd4**. The solution is of course longer, but the remaining moves are easily found. The white rook chases the black queen from square to square on the seventh rank; cf. **EG76#5156** and **HHdbIV#46985**. John Beasley spotted the cook **1.Rxh4+ Kxh4 2.Kf7** in 2002. Alain Pallier found the cook **2...Qg4** five years later; cf. **EG169**.

Daniel solves both problems by moving the black queen from b4 to e1. **1.Rxh4** is now met by **1...Qxh4**.

S.2. G. Zakhodyakin
Shakhmaty v SSSR 1985



f1a4 0350.10 4/3 Draw

The solution is based on a well-known and, of course, worn-out stalemate finale: **1.Bb6 Rc1+ 2.Kg2 Rc2+ 3.Kh1 Rxa2 4.Bd4 Bxd4**. Black is, however, not forced to capture on a2 immediately. K. Tina found the refutation **3.Kb5 4.Bg1 Rxa2 5.Bd4 Ra8**; cf. **HHdbIV #53984**.

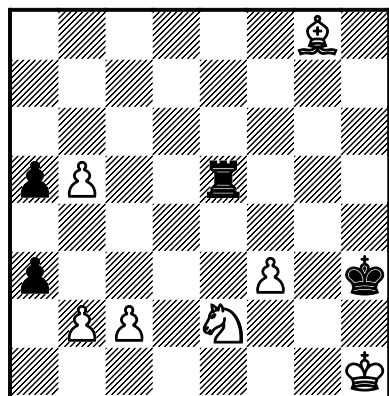
Daniel saves the work by moving the black bishop from c7 to b8 [*HH: as a matter of fact this correction had already appeared in the Russian magazine of xi1985, cf. HHdbIV #53963*]. After **1.Ba7** the intended solution functions without any problem. Do we need

the pawn on d3? Yes, since if we remove it Black can play 4...Ra3, and there are even other ways to win (e.g. 2...Rc7); cf. EGTB.

We move on to the successful American composer Richard Becker who has made a new attempt to correct one of his refuted works.

S.3. R. Becker

3rd prize *Problemaz* 2007



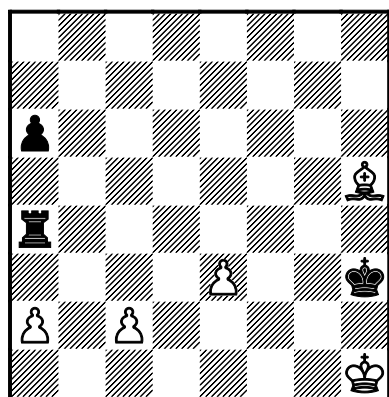
h1h3 0311.42 7/4 Draw

1.Sg1+ Kg3 2.bxa3 Rh5+ 3.Sh3 Rxb5 4.Bb3 Kxh3 5.Kg1 Kg3 6.Kf1 Kxf3 7.Ke1 Ke3 8.Kd1 a4 9.Ba2 Rb2 10.Kc1 Rxa2 11.Kb1 Rxa3 12.Kb2, and the rook is trapped; cf. HHdbIV#73993. Mario M. García found the cook 4...Re5 5.f4 Re1+ 6.Sg1 Kf2 7.f5 Rxg1+ 8.Kh2 Rg5, and Black wins. The passed pawn on f5 is lost and White's king is cut off and will not be able to help his men on the queenside.

The following correction appeared in *EG181*.

S.4. R. Becker

3rd prize *Problemaz* 2007,
correction *EG*#17232



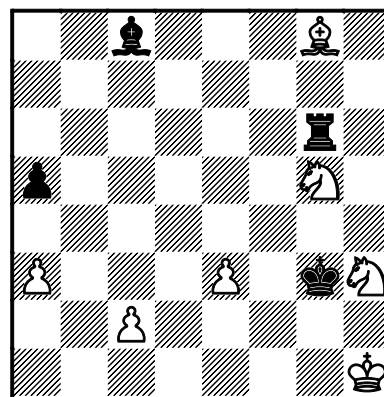
h1h3 0310.31 5/3 Draw

After **1.Bf7 Kg3 2.Kg1 Rb4 3.Bb3 a5 4.a3 Rb6 5.Kf1** we know the final moves; cf. HHdbIV#73992. The composer was satisfied with this version until he discovered that Black wins after 4...Re4 5.Kf1 Rxe3 6.a4 Re4 7.c3 Re3 8.Bd5 Kf4 9.c4 Ra3 10.Bc6 Ke3. This was revealed by the free endgame table generator FinalGen.

This is Becker's third attempt.

S.5. R. Becker

3rd prize *Problemaz* 2007,
correction, original



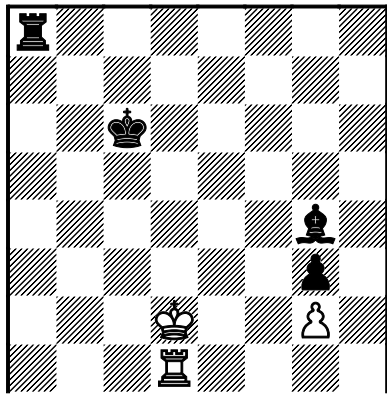
h1g3 0342.31 7/4 Draw

1.Bf7 Rb6 2.Bb3 Bxh3 3.Se4+ (Sxh3? Rd6;) Kf3 4.Sg5+ Kg4 5.Sxh3 Kxh3 6.Kg1, and we know how to continue.

Richard tells us that he and Iuri Akobia have begun to test their studies with the Lomonosov 7-man tablebase and this has brought some interesting results. *EG181* #17331 by Richard Becker was deemed incorrect by Mario M. García since White seems to draw after 1.d6 instead of the intended 1.d4. Richard agreed and tried to correct it; cf. *EG182 P.6* on p. 258. This correction, however, is also cooked: 4...Rd1 5.a6 bxa6 6.Kc6 Rxh1 7.Kxc7 Rh7+ 8.Kb6 Bd3 9.d6 Kf3 10.Re8 Rd7 11.Kc5 Bb5 12.Re7 Rd8, and Black wins. It now turns out that the original setting is correct after all: instead of the line 1.d6 cxd6 2.Rxd6 a5 which, in fact, leads to a draw, "Black can win by playing 1...cxd6+ 2.Rxd6 Ra5+! The winning plan is to play the pawn to a4 and the bishop to b3 as quickly as possible. Mario has looked over this line and agrees it is a win for Black. So, the correction is cooked and the original version is sound."

A joint study by Richard Becker and Iuri Akobia won 2nd prize in *Magyar Sakkvilag* 2006; cf. EG177#16837 and HHdbIV#73063. 1.Rf1 intended to be a try, draws after 1...Bg4 2.Ke3 Kd6 3.Rf4 (instead of 3.Rb1) Ra3+ 4.Ke4 Bh3 5.Rf6+ Ke7 6.Rg6 Kf7 7.Rg5 Kf6 8.Rg8 Be6 9.Re8. A slight alteration of the starting position makes it sound.

S.6. R. Becker & I. Akobia
2nd prize *Magyar Sakkvilag* 2006

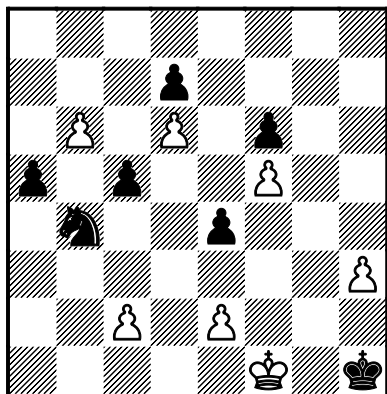


d2c6 0430.11 3/4 Draw

After **1.Rc1+ Kd6 2.Ke3 Ra4 3.Rc3** we are back in the solution.

Aliquando bonus dormitat Homerus, and sometimes even our excellent cook hunter Mario capsizes. EG191#18657 has a dual on the first move. White can play 1.e4 instead of 1.b5. Fortunately the fine Austrian composer Peter S. Krug has come to Mario's rescue and together they have turned the original idea into something new and in my opinion something better. Mario and Peter now appear as co-authors.

S.7. M.G. García & P.S. Krug
EG#18657, correction, original

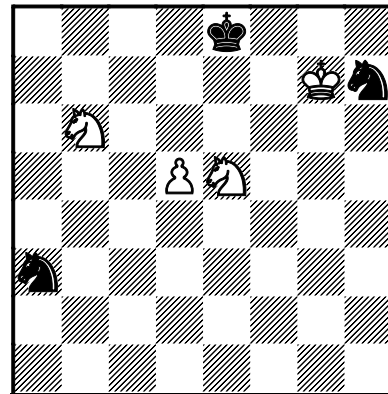


f1h1 0003.65 7/7 Win

The main line runs: **1.Ke1 a4 2.Kd1 a3 3.Kc1 e3 4.c3 Sc6 5.h4 Kg2 6.h5 Kf2 7.h6 Kxe2 8.h7 a2 9.Kb2 Kd1 10.h8Q e2 11.Qh5 a1Q+ 12.Kxa1 Kd2 13.Qh2 Kd1 14.Kb2 e1Q 15.Qc2 mate**. There is a thematic try after the natural move 1.b7? that leads to a position in which the white pawn is still on c2 and prevents a mate on that square.

Mario has also sent me corrections of some unsound endgame studies. Here is one example where a minor change is all that is necessary to prevent a rather obvious refutation.

S.8. A. Troitzky
Shakhmaty Zjurnal 1896



g7e8 0008.10 4/3 Win

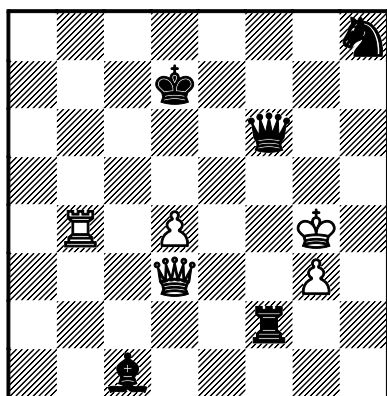
1.d6 Sf8 2.Sd5 Sd7 3.Sc6 Sb5 4.Kg8 Sxd6 5.Sc7 leads to a picturesque mate with four knights. More than one hundred years after the publication the renowned Russian composer Nikolai Kralin spotted the cooks 1.Kxh7 and 2.Sc6; cf. HHdbIV#03743. 1.Kxh7 is of course easy to see if you have access to a database but I think that the composer should have seen it anyway as the position is easy to analyse.

Mario shows that a simple relocation of the wS from b6 to b4 is enough to make this work sound.

We finish this section of corrections with an endgame study by the Rumanian duo Emil Dobrescu and Virgil Nestorescu. The original setting is S.9.

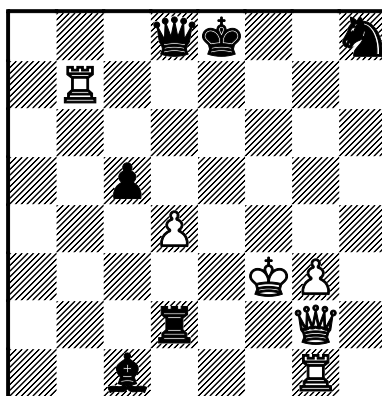
The intended solution runs **1.Qb5+ Ke7 2.Qc5+ Kf7 3.Rb7+ Kg8 4.Qc8+ Qf8 5.Rb8 Kg7 6.Qc7+ Qf7 7.Rb7 Kg6 8.Qc6+ Qf6 9.Rb6 Kg7 10.Qc7+ Qf7 11.Rb7 Kg8 12.Qc8 Qf8 13.Rb8**. This is HHdbIV#55076. Some-

S.9. E. Dobrescu
& V. Nestorescu
Shakhmaty v SSSR 1986



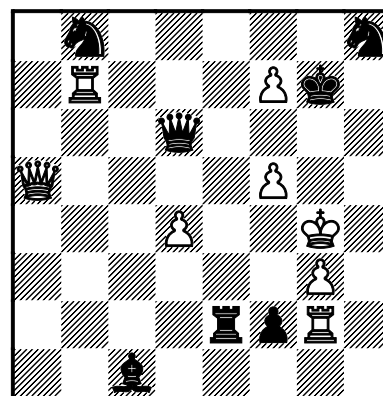
g4d7 4433.20 5/5 Draw

S.10. E. Dobrescu
& V. Nestorescu
3rd prize *Shakhmaty v SSSR*
1986, correction, EG#07398



f3e8 4533.21 6/6 Draw

S.11. E. Dobrescu
& V. Nestorescu
3rd prize *Shakhmaty v SSSR*
1986, correction, original



g4g7 4536.41 8/7 Draw

one found the cooks 3.Qa7+ and 3.Qc7+. The study was corrected and appeared in the award.

(S.10.) 1.Re1+ Kf8 2.Qf1 Qf6+ 3.Kg4 Rf2 4.Re8+ Kxe8 5.Qb5+ Kf8 6.Qxc5+ Kg8 7.Qc8+ Qf8 8.Rb8 Kg7 9.Qc7+ Qf7 10.Rb7 Kg6 11.Qc6+ Qf6 12.Rb6 Kg7 13.Qc7+ Qf7 14.Rb7 Kg8 15.Qc8 Qf8 16.Rb8; cf. EG97#7398 and HHdbIV#54545. Harold van der Heijden found the cook 8.Rc7 (instead of 7.Rb8) in 1998 when he helped Dobrescu to prepare a collection of Dobrescu's endgame studies for ARVES. White threatens to take on c1 and also to check on e6 and play Rc8. This double threat is too much to handle for the Black army.

Recently I received a version from V. Nestorescu. This is a new attempt to save the prizewinner.

(S.11.) 1.f6+ Qxf6 2.f8Q+ Kxf8 3.Rxf2 Rxf2 4.Qc5+ Kg8 5.Qc8+, and the rest is familiar.

The study features systematic movement and repetition of manoeuvres. The original setting was light and attractive with only ten men on the board. The play however is rather simple and four men never move (wKg4, bRf2, bBc1 and bSh8). In the correction the composers added two men, but the introduction is better. In this version, the initial position is rather unaesthetic since the number of

pieces has increased to fifteen, the introduction is hardly favourable and there is even a new passive watcher, the bSb8.

This makes me wonder how we should handle the problem that arises when we assign to corrections the same distinction that the faulty original received in the award. I do understand that we accept this if the correction is only marginally different from the original position, but I find it less convincing if there are substantial changes. Usually we do not know how the judge(s) would have reacted. In this case we could perhaps challenge the judge Karen Sumbatyan to send us some explanation? And what do our readers think about this problem?

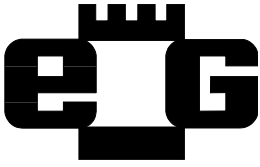
I would like to underline that, while we do welcome corrections, we prefer corrections of endgame studies that have appeared in EG.

Sometimes our information also needs corrections. Ian Watson writes: "... I enjoyed seeing the report of the BCPS 2012 tourney in EG Supplement April 2013. One comment: John Cox received the entries and I checked them, but the judge was John Roycroft."

And finally some comments from Guy Hawthorn:

"BK.27 is 4004.23, not 6004.23."

"According to my Chessbase BIGBASE source, re BK.11, what is called move 58 is actually move 59."

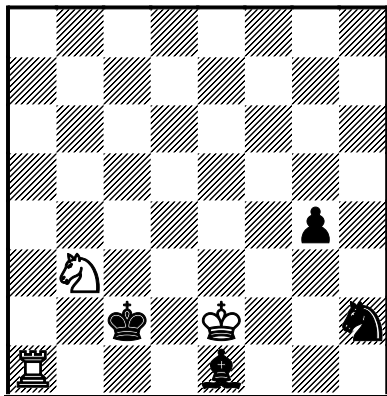


Prizewinners explained

New ideas, as we have already established more than once, are far from easy to spot these days. Novelties may be found mainly in the synthesis of older ideas but also in trying to improve on classics. Reshaping old ideas to their optimal form is often a genuine challenge for those who strive for perfection. GM Jan Timman has been intensely busy with such efforts for years and many of his recent successful achievements may be found in his book *The Art of the Endgame* (New In Chess 2011).

The centenary tourney of Mark Liburkin was dedicated to systematic manoeuvres. The following example was one of the great man's own masterpieces:

A.1. M. Liburkin
4th prize *Shakhmaty v SSSR* 1938



e2c2 0134.01 3/4 Win

The wS is leading the enemy king to the scaffold in the opposite corner: **1.Sd4+ Kc3 2.Sb5+ Kc4!** (Kb4; Rb1+) **3.Sd6+** (3.Sa3+? Kb3 4.Kxe1 Kb2 5.Sc2 Sf3+! (Kxc2?; Ra2+) 6.Kd1 g3 7.Ra8 g2) **3...Kc5! 4.Sb7+!** (4.Se4+? Kd5! (Kd4?; Ra4+) 5.Sf6+ Ke5! 6.Sd7+ Ke6, and 7.Sc5+ Kd5 or 7.Sf8+ Kf7) **4...Kc6 5.Sd8+ Kc7! 6.Se6+ Kd7!** (Kd6; Ra6+) **7.Sf8+! Ke7 8.Sg6+ Kf7 9.Sh8+ Kg7**

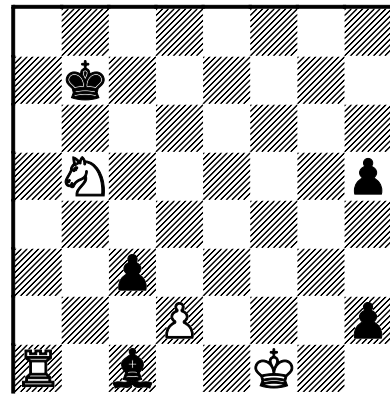
Improving on the Greats

YOCHANAN AFEK

10.Rxe1 Kxh8 11.Rh1 g3 12.Ke3! Kg7 13.Kf4 g2 14.Rg1 Sf1 15.Rxg2+ Kh6 16.Rf2 and wins.

Timman dared to take what seemed like a creature of perfection and proved that the concept could be displayed in an even better form:

A.2. J. Timman
1st Honourable Mention
Liburkin 100 MT 2012



f1b7 0131.13 4/5 Win

1.Kg2 h1Q+! In order to have more space on the kingside for his own king later on. **2.Kxh1 Bb2 3.Nd6+** Starting the king vs. knight dance **3...Kc7 4.Se8+ Kd7 5.Sf6+ Ke7 6.Sg8+ Kf7 7.Sh6+ Kg7 8.Sf5+ Kg6** (8...Kf6 will be met by 9.Rf1!) **9.Sh4+ Kg5 10.Sf3+ Kg4 11.Ra2!!** (The hasty 11.Sh2+?? Kh3! would lead to a dead end) **11...c2** (Caution! 11...Kxf3 12.dxc3 Bxc3 13.Ra3 wins) **12.Se5+ Bxe5 13.Rxc2 Kf3 14.Rc4! Bg3 15.Rc3+ Kg4 16.d4!** and wins. Precision till the very end!

If I may quote from my own award: a significant improvement on the original, extending the knight's activity further and deeper to the kingside, adding several surprising ele-

ments and concluding the process in a natural fashion. Most important: inserting much more art in the initial technical achievement. The more I examine this study the more I like it. In retrospection I should admit: a special prize would have been even more appropriate!

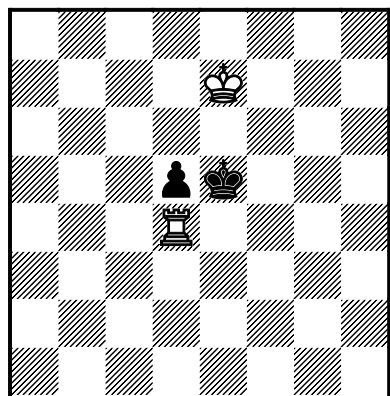
In the recent respectable award of the *Československy Sach* I was especially captivated by the two special prizes given for improving on two classics:

I would like to believe that the following early Wenigsteiner of Réti is known to all readers and needs no special introduction.

A.3. R. Réti

Hastings and St.Leonards Post 1922

Version: *Münchener Neueste Nachrichten* 1928



e7e5 0100.01 2/2 Win

1.Rd2! (Rd3!) (1.Rd1? d4! zz 2.Kd7 (2.Kf7 Ke4; 2.Rd2 Ke4 3.Kd6 Ke3) 2...Kd5 3.Rd2 (3.Ke7 Ke5!; 3.Kc7 Kc5! 4.Kb7 Kc4 5.Kc6 d3) 3...Kc4 4.Ke6 Kc3 5.Rd1 d3 6.Ke5 d2 7.Ke4 Kc2) **1...d4 2.Rd1!! zz Kd5 3.Kd7!** (3.Kf6? Ke4 4.Kg5 d3 5.Re1+ Kf3) **3...Kc4** (The echo is 3...Ke4 4.Kc6!) **4.Ke6 d3 5.Ke5 Kc3 6.Ke4 d2 7.Ke3 (Kf3)** wins.

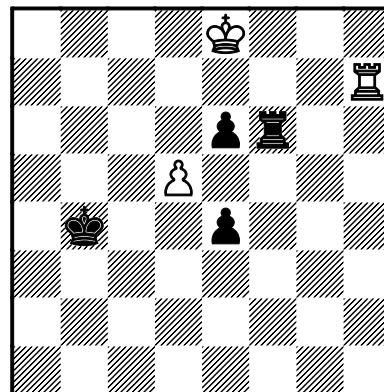
As much as I was impressed in my youth by the purity of the reciprocal zugzwang mechanism, I was really bothered by that annoying dual already present at move one. Happily, the following joint miniature by the most prolific contemporary duo has, much to my enjoyment, miraculously managed to overcome this unfortunate blemish:

(A.4.) 1.d6 e5 (1...Rg6 2.Rc7! (2.d7? Rg8+ 3.Kf7 Rd8 4.Ke7 Rxd7+ 5.Kxd7 Kc3 draws) 2...e5 3.d7 e3 4.Ke7 (4.Rc1? e4! 5.Ke7 Rg8 draws) 4...Rg8 5.Rc8 Rg7+ 6.Ke6 Rxd7

A.4. R. Becker & I. Akobia

Special prize

Československý šach 2011-2012



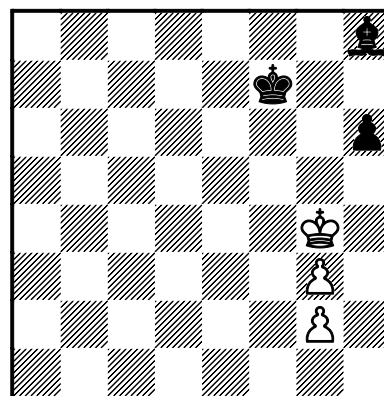
e8b4 0400.12 3/4 Win

7.Kxd7 e2 8.Rc1 wins) **2.d7 Rd6 3.Rh4 Kc5 4.Rxe4 Kd5 5.Re2!!** (5.Re1!? Rxd7 6.Kxd7 e4 zz 7.Ke7 Ke5 zz 8.Kf7 Kf5 zz draws; 5.Re3? e4 6.Re1 Ke5 draws) **5...Rxd7** (e4; Rd2+) **6.Kxd7 e4 7.Re1! zz Ke5 8.Ke7 zz** wins. An amazing piece of artistic repair!

The following early Wotawa is much less known:

A.5. A. Wotawa

Wiener Schachzeitung 1935



g4f7 0030.21 3/3 Draw

1.Kh5 (1.Kh3? Kg6 2.Kh2 Bd4 3.Kh3 Kf5 4.Kh4 Be3 5.Kh3 Ke4! 6.Kg4 Kd3 7.Kh4 Ke2 8.Kh3 Kf1 9.Kh2 Bf2 10.Kh1 Bg1! 11.g4 Be3! 12.Kh2 Bf2 13.Kh1 Bg1! 14.g3 Bd4 15.Kh2 Be3 16.Kh1 Bg1! 17.g5 hxg5 wins) **1...Bg7 2.g4! Kf6 3.g5+! hxg5 4.g4! Bh8** (4...Bf8 stalemate) **5.Kh6 Bg7+ 6.Kh5! Bh8 7.Kh6** Draw by repetition or stalemate!

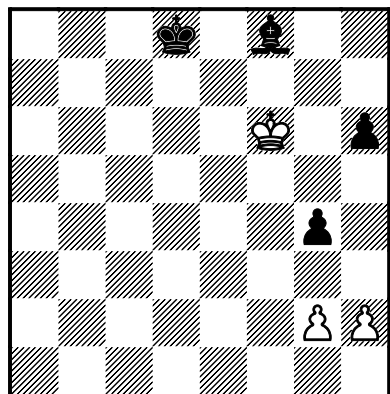
Jaroslav Polašek managed to insert into this nice, yet rather simple, study significant modern additional content using both black and

white g3 moves to demonstrate, here too, appealing reciprocal zugzwangs:

A.6. J. Polašek

Special prize

Československý šach 2011-2012



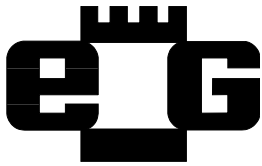
f6d8 0030.22 3/4 Draw

1.Kg6! (1.Kf5? g3! 2.hxg3 Be7; 1.g3? Kd7! 2.Kf5 h5 3.Kg5 Ke6 4.Kxh5 Kf5 5.Kh4 Be7+ 6.Kh5 Bg5 wins) **1...Ke7** (1...Bd6 2.Kxh6 Bxh2 3.g3 draws) **2.Kh5!** (2.Kf5?! g3!! 3.hxg3 Kf7 wins, but not h5? 3.h3! g3 4.Kf4 h4 5.Ke3 Kf6 6.Ke2 Kf5 7.Kf1 Kf4 8.Kg1 draws) **2...g3!** **3.hxg3!** (h3? Kf6;) **3...Kf6** (Kf7 (Ke6; Kg6) 4.g4 Kf6 5.g3! zz Bg7 6.g5+! hxg5 7.g4 Bh8 8.Kh6 Bg7+ 9.Kh5 Bf8 stalemate!) **4.g4 Bg7** **5.g5+!** (g3? Bf8! zz;) **5...hxg5** **6.g4 Bh8** **7.Kh6 Bg7+** **8.Kh5 Bf8** stalemate!

It seems that there is still plenty of room for creativity in the old classics, not only by repairing defective masterpieces but also by improving on the original sound ones.



Teimour Radjabov
(see p. 203)



History

Study tourneys from the past – *La Stratégie* 1912-1914 (part 3)

ALAIN PALLIER

The composition of a panel of experts could be the cause of some problems. In case of difficulties in the judging process, a danger is that bad relationships between some judges could interfere. For instance, it was a matter of public knowledge that Dr. Tarrasch and Dr. Emanuel Lasker were no longer on speaking terms after their 1908 match for the world chess title. And when Tarrasch had criticized Lasker who, according to him, was looking for a pretext to delay his match against Capablanca, Georg Marco had argued in support of Lasker.

In contrast, the friendly links between Tarrasch and Axel Lindström, the chess columnist of the *Sydsvenska Dagbladet Snällposten*, were widely known : Tarrasch's book, *Die Moderne Schachpartie* (first edition in 1912) was dedicated to Lindström. At the time, the latter occupied a high position in the Ystad Sugar Company. Stig Jonasson, a Swedish journalist, has shown in his articles that foreign masters often stayed at Lindstrom's home in Skurup on journeys to or from Sweden. In 1911 Tarrasch had paid a visit in Ystad for a simul and stayed at Lindstrom's home and met local chess players (including Ernst Holm: a Holm-Tarrasch game has been conserved). Later, in 1913, Tarrasch returned to Sweden to give another simul. On this occasion, Holm composed a study that was dedicated to Tarrasch. We should add that the *Sydsvenska Dagbladet Snällposten* 1911-1912 study tourney had been judged by Lindström and Tarrasch and that, for the second tourney (1913-1915), Tarrasch again was appointed together with an amateur from Ystad, Alfred Harksen, a name involved in the episodes of the present tourney.

Another judge was known for his excellent relationship with a first class composer: Esteban Puig y Puig was a close friend of Henri Rinck who had settled near Barcelona in Spain. In 1952, the Spanish composer Jose Mandil (1907-1979) wrote about their friendship (he is quoted by Caputto, *El Arte del Estudio de Ajedrez*, vol 3, p 392). From Mandil's writings, we understand that Dr. Puig was closely involved in the Frenchman's creative work.

Of course, the studies were published anonymously but, once the provisional award had been published, the names of the composers of both first and second prizes became known. There were not many good composers and, probably after some indiscretions, the names of these two composers were an open secret. They were announced in Tarrasch's journal [*HH: both AP and I were unable to identify this journal in this period of time, who knows more?*] and reproduced in the *Bohemia* newspaper. Lamare received a complaint from a participant who thought that these composers themselves had revealed their name. Tarrasch explained that he had just recognized their usual style... A rather strange explanation when you know that composer of study no.13 had so far only published about fifteen studies... and as far as no.15 was concerned, the material (QB vs Q) could have inspired several composers but Lamare accepted the explanation and, for him, the incident was over.

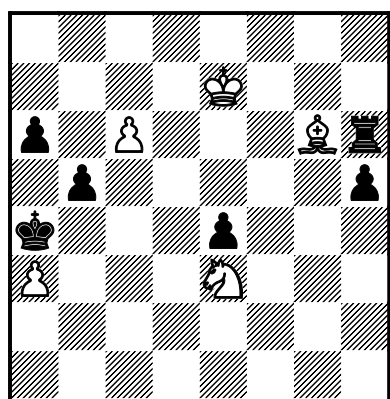
The provisional award of the tourney *La Stratégie* was published in the supplement of the September 1912 issue, with a confirmation period to last until November 30th. As provided for in the rules, the composers' names were

not revealed, even at this stage. The ranking with the number of points given by each judge showed that two studies (no. 13 and no. 15) stood out with a significant lead.

Lindström was unable to decide between no.13 and no.15 and gave both studies 1st place. Five judges (Tarrasch, Tattersall, Salviooli, Bernstein and Goetz) ranked study no. 13 first and two gave it second place. Three judges (Lasker, Helms and Puig y Puig) preferred study no.15 and one of these three gave it second place. Nobody knows which study Marco would have preferred. In each case, one judge had got tough: Bernstein with no. 15 (14 points) and Puig y Puig with no. 13 (19 points).

So, with a sum of 29 points, study no. 13 won ahead of study no. 15 (35 points) with the third-ranked study on 47 points.

Shortly after its publication, study no. 13 had been praised as ‘awesome’ by Marcel Lamare who called it a ‘masterpiece of originality’.



e7a4 0311.24 5/6 win

Here is the main line of the intended solution: **1.c7 Rh8 2.Sc4! h4! 3.Bh5 Kb3 4.Be8 Rh7+ 5.Bf7 Rh8 6.Sd6+ Kd2 7.Bg8! Rxc8 8.Se8 h3 9.c8Q** wins.

The trouble started in February 1913 with Puig y Puig’s first claim. According to him, 4...h3 was a stronger move than 4...Rh7+ and busts the study: 5.Sd2+ Kb2 6.c8Q h2 7.Sxe4 Rh7+ 8.Bf7+ Rxf7 9.Kxf7 h1Q or also 7...Rxe8+ 8.Kxe8 h1Q 9.Qc3+ Ka2 10.Qb4 Qh8+, draws, or 5.Se3 h2 6.c8Q Rxe8+ 7.Kxe8 h1Q, or 5.c8Q h2 6.Qxa6 Rxe8+

7.Kxe8 h1Q 8.Qxb5+ Kc3 9.Qb4+ Kd3 10.Se5+ Ke2 (Ke3) draw.

In that sub-line, Puig stopped his analysis at this point, considering that the position he had reached was equal. In the March 1913 supplement, the answer came from Sweden: Lindström didn’t consider the position after 10.Se5+ (today’s engines show that this move actually wins) but he proposed another move he considered as a stronger alternative: 10.Sd6, without further analysis.

Puig immediately contested 10.Sd6: according to him, after 10...Qh8+ 11.Kd7 Qg7+ 12.Ke6 Qg8+ 13.Ke5 Qh8+ 14.Kd5 Qa8+ 15.Kc5 Qa7+ 16.Kc6 Qa8+ 17.Kd7 Qa7+ 18.Ke6 e3, the position was draw.

For the first time, doubts were raised about the sincerity and objectivity of Puig’s work: Emanuel Lasker, in the May 1913 issue of *Der Schachwart*, simply added five half moves in order to demonstrate the win: 19.Qb3+ Ke2 20.Sc4 Qa6+ 21.Ke5 and the black pawn is lost. In addition, Lasker decided to publish excerpts of a letter he had received from Dr. Puig. The Spanish expert objected that the author of that study had been penalized because he had not himself provided a full analysis. And he added that, due to the existence of that kind of variation, requiring a disproportionately long analysis, even if correct, without any relationship with the main idea of the work, the study was losing a great part of its value.

Lasker answered that, due to the lack of similar cases in the field of studies, he was not able to reach a conclusion but Puig’s opinion was open to question. According to Lasker, it would be a mistake to penalize the author of study no.13 for that sole reason. Tarrasch expressed the same idea in the *Berliner Lokal Anzeiger*. He considered that the lack of analysis of the 4...h3 variation (a variation that was ‘somewhat lacking in interest’) was a ‘formal mistake’, a ‘subjective’ one, and that it was not enough to exclude a study from the award. Such a decision would even be a... ‘monstrosity’. As one can imagine, this discussion in foreign publications was not to the liking of the French organizers.

The study had now survived the first claim but, during the confirmation period, Puig y Puig made a second attempt to bust it when he proposed to improve Black's play with 8...e3, leading to a draw, according to him. He published his analysis in the *Deutsches Wochenshach* (again, French organizers didn't take kindly to that approach) and the answer that came from Lindström and from the 'author' appeared in the same journal. The analysis was later published in the November supplement of *La Stratégie*.

After 9.c8Q e2 10.Qe6 Rg2 11.Sf6 h3 12.Sd5 h2 13.Qe5+ Ka2 14.Sb4+ Kb3 15.Qe6+ Kxa3, Puig paid little attention to 14.Qc3, answering it with 14...Rg4 or 14...a4 with a draw. The composer, who was consulted, demonstrated that after 14.Qc3! White was winning easily: 14...a5 (the best answer) 15.Qd2+ Kb3 16.Qxa5 Kc4 17.Sf4 Kd4 18.Qb4+ Ke5 19.Se6 Kf5 20.Qf4+ Kg6 21.Qe4+ and 22.Qxg2. Everybody could see that the same Swedish judge had twice rescued study no.13, a strong indication of the nationality of the composer, and that, also twice, the same Spanish judge, had claimed it was defective.

At the last moment of the confirmation period, Puig came back with a third analysis, this time a very detailed one (2 full pages), analyzing a second solution beginning with 1.Bxe4! This time matters were much more serious and the organizers had to postpone publication of the final award in order to check the new claim in detail.

It is clear that Goetz was not fully convinced that Puig had cooked the entry. After all, his previous two claims had proved erroneous. It was also clear that Goetz would have wanted study no. 13, which he thought to be the best of all the entries, to be sound and it was probably with great relief that he received from Lindström (again !), on December 17th, a 'refutation' of a sub line, saving, as he thought, the whole study. But Goetz was an honest man, motivated only by the search for truth, and when he addressed Puig's new claim he found some improvements of

White's play, not seen by Puig himself... Goetz took all possible precautions. With the help of A. Clerc (the referee) and M. Lamare, he recommenced the analytical work and he exchanged views with the 'Swedish team' (in the meantime, Alfred Harksen had joined Axel Lindström).

Tarrasch was consulted once more: Goetz, in January 1914, had been informed that the German still considered the study to be sound: therefore, he asked Tarrasch to produce his analysis. The latter's answer was very surprising:

'Nuremberg 11/2/1914

Dear Mr Goetz,

I regret to be unable to give you the main variation you ask. It blurs before my eyes. In this problem, nothing is constant, everything gets lost in the gray, we never see anything. In order to arrive at something definite, I should devote full days and, at the moment, I have not enough time. I can just tell you that the moves 1...a5 and 1...h4 are the strongest answers to 1.Bxe4 [...]

Again, Tarrasch expressed his fear that the study could be disqualified on the basis of a false demolition. And he praised again study no. 13, a 'so immensely deep' work. Goetz soberly acknowledged what he called 'a very interesting *Non liquet*' (a Latin phrase that is used for a verdict of not proven when the guilt or the innocence is not clear).

When Tarrasch decided to withdraw in his turn, Johan Berger, the Austrian master, a great expert in the field of studies, was consulted. This new phase lasted nearly six months until April 1914.

Goetz published in *La Stratégie* the result of this hard work ('Recherches analytiques sur l'étude no. 13'). It covers 18 pages! Analysis by engines confirms most of the analysis: there is no miracle allowing the study to be saved.

Several similar positions can be reached, with the same thematic material: B + S vs pawns. At the time, this kind of endgame has

not been analyzed and, in his report, Goetz wondered about its richness.

After **1.Bxe4!**, Black has 5 answers: 4 will be examined below (the fifth one, **1...Rxc6**, allows an easier win for White).

A) 1...Kxa3 2.c7 Rh8 3.Sf5! Rc8 4.Kd7 Rxc7+ 5.Kxc7 b4 6.Kb6 b3 7.Ka5 b2 8.Bb1 Kb3 9.Sh4!

Here, in his haste, Puig y Puig spoils the win by playing **9.Se3?** This was refuted by Lindström (**9.....h4**) who thought that he had definitively saved the study.

9...Kc3 10.Sf3 h4 11.Ka4! h3 12.Ka3 wins.

B) 1...a5 2.c7 Rh8 3.Sf5 Rc8 4.Kd7 Rxc7+ 5.Kxc7 Kxa3 6.Kb6 Kb4 7.Sd4 a4 8.Bd5! (8.Sc2+? Kc4 9.Ka5 h4; 8.Sc6+? Kc4 9.Sa5 Kd4 10.Bb7 a3 11.Kxb5 a2 12.Kb4 a1S! draw) **8...Kc3 9.Sc6 a3 10.Kxb5 Kb2 11.Sb4 h4 12.Ka4 h3 13.Sd3+ Kc2 14.Sf2 Kb2 15.Sd1+ Kc1 16.Sc3 Kb2 17.Kb4** wins.

C) 1...b4 2.c7 Rh8 3.axb4 Kxb4 4.Sf5 Rc8 5.Kd7 Rxc7+ 6.Kxc7 a5 7.Bf3 with:

– **7...a4 8.Bxh5 a3 9.Bf7 Kc3 10.Se3!** Again Puig y Puig was inaccurate: in his analysis he played **10.Sd6?** that only draws (**10...Kc2!** as found by Lamare) **10...Kd3 11.Sd5 Kc4 12.Kb6** (tablebases show that **12.Kd6** also wins) wins.

– **7...h4 8.Sxh4 a4 9.Bd5 a3 10.Sf3 (Sg6) Kc3 11.Se5 Kc2 12.Sc6** wins.

D) 1...h4 This is the most interesting continuation:

2.c7 Rh8 3.Sf5 h3 3...Rh7+ 4.Kd6 Rxc7 5.Kxc7 h3 6.Sd4 Kxa3 7.Kb7 b4 8.Bd5 Kb2 9.Kxa6 wins. **4.Sd6 h2** and now, the ‘natural’ winning move seems to be **5.Se8**. But Harksen discovered a ‘ingenious combination’ (Goetz) beginning with **5...Rh4! 6.Bc2+** (6.Bc6 Rh7+ 7.Kd8 Rxc7 ; 6.Bd5 Rc4 7.Bxc4 h1Q 8.c8Q bxc4 draws) **6...Kxa3 7.c8Q Kb4!!** drawing and not **7...h1Q?** **8.Qc3+ Ka2 9.Qb3+ Ka1 10.Qa3** mate.

Remember that these discoveries were made step by step, by exchanging letters. **7...Kb4!** was submitted by Harksen on Febru-

ary 14th 1914, followed by Tarrasch who made the same discovery some days later.

Therefore **5.Se8?** was replaced by **5.Kf6!** Harksen quickly found: **5...Ka5! 6.Kg7 Kb6 7.Kxh8 Kxc7 8.Sf5 Kb6 9.Sg3 Kc5**. Here Harksen thought that **9...Ka5** could save the study, but after **10.Bc2 Kb6 11.Kg7 Kc5 12.Kf6 Kd4 13.Be4 a5 14.Kf5 a4 15.Se2+ Kc4 16.Ke5** see position below in **10...Kd4** sub line.

10. Kg7

Goetz thought that **10.Sf1** could not win: **10...Kc4 11.Sxh2 Kb3 12.Bb7** (his comment here was: ‘it is impossible to find another useful manoeuvre for White’) **12...a5 13.Bc6 Kxa3 14.Bxb5 Kb3!** (also **14...a4** draws). He simply failed to see **12.Sf3! Kxa3 13.Sd4 (Se5)** wins.

10...b4

10...Kc4 11.Kf6 Kb3 12.Ke5 Kxa3 13.Kd4 b4 14.Sf1 a5 15.Sxh2 Kb2 16.Sf3 a4 17.Se5 (Se1) a3 18.Sd3+ Ka1 19.Sxb4 a2 20.Bd5 wins. Goetz completed this line in February and Berger confirmed it in April.

More difficult is the win after **10...Kd4 11.Kf6 a5 12.Kf5 a4 13.Se2+ Kc4 14.Ke5 Kb3 15.Kd4 Kxa3 16.Kc3 b4+ 17.Kc2 Ka2 18.Sc1+** and wins (Goetz gave a long analysis ending with **34.Sa3+** and said this line took him several weeks...)

11.axb4+

Here a sub line illustrates how difficult it was to analyze this kind of positions: Goetz explained that they all went wrong with **11.a4?** (a ‘mirage’ according to him): **11...b3 12.Kf6 Kb4 13.Ke5 Kxa4 14.Kd4** and he now **14...Kb4** with two exclamation marks: it is a draw after **15.Kd3 a5 16.Kd2 Ka3! 17.Kc3 Ka2 18.Bd5 a4**. But there is a better move for White: **17.Se2** (it can also be played at previous move) and Black is lost: **17...Kb2 (Kb4; Kc1) 18.Sc1 Ka3 19.Sd3 b2 20.Kc2** wins.

11...Kxb4 12.Sf1 a5 13.Sxh2 a4 14.Bd5 Kc3 15.Sg4 a3 16.Sf2! Kc2 17.Bf7 (Be6, Bg8) Kb1 18.Sd1 Kc2 19.Se3+

and Goetz now gives **19...Kc3 20.Sd5+** (**20.Kf6** is quicker) when he should have end-

ed with 19...Kb2 20.Sc4 etc. Curiously, the position after 14...Kc3 is presented in Kasparyan's *Razvitie Etyudnikh Idei* as an independent study (diagram 992) composed by... Goetz (without source) and here, it ends with 5...Kb2 6.Sc4+ Kb3 7.Se5+ Kc2 8.Sc6 wins.

So there was no longer any doubt: the second solution was confirmed. Goetz, even if he paid a tribute to Puig y Puig, especially praised Harksen's work. 'This amateur has provided a lot of ideas, even if they were not all fully correct, ingenious imagination and an uncommon combining power were displayed'.

But Berger didn't like these long developments: from the beginning, he had in mind that there was a simpler way for White. He searched for a 'simplification' that could shorten the demonstration. After a first attempt that failed, he simply proposed 6.Bh1! (instead of 6.Kg7) 6...Kb6 7.c8Q Rxc8 8.Sxc8+ Ka5 9.Ke5 Ka4 10.Kd4 Kxa3 11.Kc3 and White wins !

The author accepted the conclusions on April 24th and four days later, his name was revealed. It was Ernst Holm (1879-1941) from... Ystad (Sweden), hardly a surprise for anybody. Ernst Holm is considered as the 'father' of the Swedish study, according to A. Hildebrand (quoted in Caputto's *El Arte del Estudio de Ajedrez* and, even if his output was modest at the time, he had taken part in several study tourneys in the four previous years.

The rules of the tourney did not stipulate that second prize would be upgraded in case of disqualification of the first prizewinner. And that's how the first study tourney offering such large money prizes became the first tourney in which no first prize was awarded!

A last word about Holm's study. In 1937, Holm published a collection of 55 studies: the very last, no.55 in the book, is the one he chose for the diagram of the cover page. It is presented as an 'original' but it is easy to recognize the 1912 study, with an additional black pawn c4. The solution is given without a single word about its fascinating story...

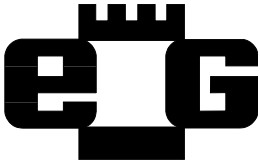
(to be continued)

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- www.jora.info The website contains articles by Shtig Jonasson about chess life in Sweden (in swedish).
Zoïlo Caputto: *El Arte del Estudio de Ajedrez*, vol 3, Resto del Mundo, Buenos Aires 1996.
Ernst Holm: *55 Schackstudier*, Stockholm, Zetterström & Persson 1937.
Genrikh Kasparyan: *Razvitie Etyudnikh Idei*, Erevan, 1979.

Postscript

Timothy Whitworth kindly informed me that Jeremy Gaige's *Chess Personalia* (1987 edition) has a Carl Axel Lindström with the dates 1877-1952.



Chess programming in the 20th century had as its Fundamental Question: ‘*Will a computer be able to beat a Grandmaster or even the World Champion?*’. The answer was often ‘No’ or ‘*Maybe yes, but the programmers first have to cope with topics like intuition, positional sense or strategic long range planning*’. There were attempts to create chess software modelling human thought; i.e. not only based on deep calculation. Michail Botvinnik, one of the most successful persons in the chess area ever, wasted 20 years of his rich life with hopeless attempts. In the new century, fast modern computers gave us an unpleasant lesson. Looking instantly tens of half-moves ahead they do not need any intuition, planning or strategy to beat every human. Surprisingly, strategy seems to be only a crutch allowing relatively good play using the slow hardware in our head. It's easy to be wise after the event, but chess studies have for a long time provided indications of this.

There exist compositions that can be solved only by calculating very many plies. To no avail, I spent some time attempting to make a CQL script to find such studies. So, in order to be able to test chess engines, I gathered a small collection ‘by hand’. I think that several of these examples will be interesting to EG’s readers as well.

When testing these studies, I was surprised by some of the engines’ results. In most cases it was rather an exhibition. Some studies are good for benchmarking hardware and only a few cases remain “anti-computer” ones. I used the latest Houdini as the best engine today and the latest Hiarcs as the most intelligent representative of the classical generation. My ex-

amples were usually based on the choice of two possibilities, so the two-variation mode was used to observe the engine output. The hardware was i5 750 (4 x 2.66 GHz). It is known that the results of multi-thread engines are not fully reproducible so I made several tests and give approximate times. Hiarcs is typically slower but when giving it enough time enough it is useful in helping us understand things. It is another proof that the modern generation of engines is not based on some new revolutionary algorithm.

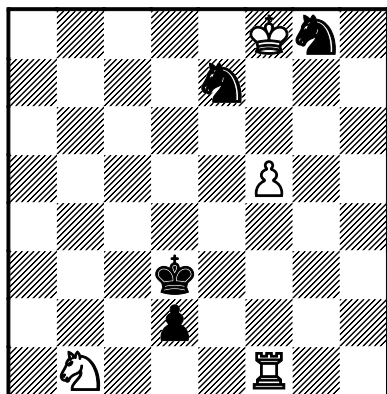
A long concealed mystery of Rybka engine today is disclosed. Modern engines are based on a brutal tune-up and optimization using super-blitz games and quick hardware. Houdini’s author Robert Houdart uses two servers with 16+32 cores and about 100.000 games are daily played to test new ideas and tune-up the Houdini engine.

Intermediate check

Let’s start with the classical study **V.1** which was undoubtedly composed without computers. White has to see “only” 12 half-moves ahead. After 1.Sxd2? Kxd2 2.f6 Ke2 3.f7 Kxf1 4.Kg7 Sf5+ 5.Kg6 Sh4+ 6.Kg5 Sf3+ Black holds. Correct is **1.Rf3+! Ke2** and only now **2.Sxd2 Kxd2 3.f6 Ke2! 4.f7! Kxf3 5.Kg7! Sf5+ 6.Kg6! Sh4+ 7.Kg5!** because Black does not have the rescue 7...Sf3+ any more.

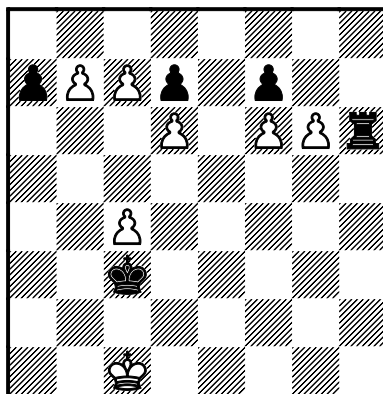
Almost every chess engine using Tablebases indicates the correct key and evaluation immediately. Surprisingly, Houdini needs one or two extra seconds to find it. If you have problems, they are probably caused by a wrong Ta-

V.1. I. Zaitsev
3rd prize
Shakhmatnaya Moskva
1962, EG#03169



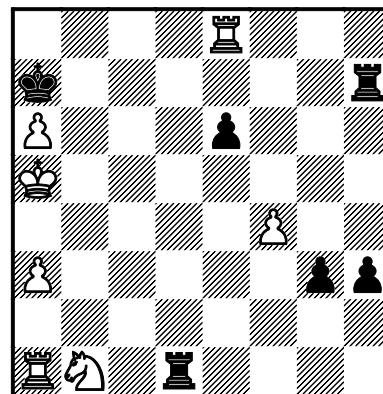
f8d3 0107.11 4/4 Win

V.2. D. Gurgenzidze
& V. Kalandadze
9th place WCCT7 2001-2004,
EG#14137



c1c3 0300.63 7/5 Win

V.3. D. Gurgenzidze
& V. Kalandadze
1st prize
Akobia 60 JT 1997



a5a7 0801.33 7/6 Draw

blebase configuration. For example, while investigating some strange behaviour of the Critter engine I have found a little bug in the Gaviota support of ChessBase 12.

Sacrificing material

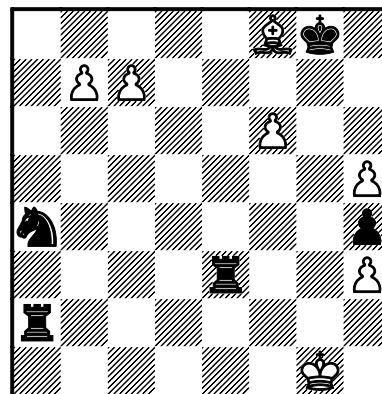
The most frequent motif of look-ahead studies is probably sacrificing material. Of course a pawn is the most natural and frequent victim. David Gurgenzidze has composed several thematic studies.

After seeing the whole line 1.Kb1? Rh1+! 2.Ka2 Rh2+ 3.Ka3 Rh1 4.Ka4 Ra1+ 5.Kb5 Rb1+ 6.Kc5 Rf1! 7.Kd5 Kd3 8.Ke5 fxc6 9.b8Q Rf5 mate, White is able to find **1.Kd1! Kd3 2.Ke1 Ke3 3.Kf1 Kf3 4.Kg1! Rxc6+ 5.Kf1! Rh6 6.Ke1 Ke3 7.Kd1 Kd3 8.Kc1 Kc3 9.Kb1 Rh1+ 10.Ka2 Rh2+ 11.Ka3 Rh1 12.Ka4 Ra1+ 13.Kb5 Rb1+ 14.Kc5 Rf1 15.Kd5 Kd3 16.Ke5** wins. Although the position requires engines to see 16 moves ahead, it was a very easy task for every engine I have tested.

V.3. is a more complicated example, White has to see 23 moves ahead. After **1.Sc3 Rh5+** the correct continuation is **2.f5!** You will understand it at the end of the solution. **2...Rxf5+ 3.Sb5+ Rxb5+ 4.Kxb5 Rxa1 5.Re7+ Kb8 6.a7+ Ka8 7.Ka6!** Further deep foresight, the purpose (clearing the a-file) will

become clear only on the 14th move. **7...Rxa3+ 8.Kb6 Rb3+ 9.Ka6 Rb8! 10.axb8Q+ Kxb8 11.Kb6 Kc8 12.Kc6 Kd8 13.Kd6! g2! 14.Ra7! Kc8 15.Kc6 Kb8 16.Ra1 h2 17.Rb1+ Kc8 18.Ra1 Kd8 19.Kd6 Ke8 20.Kxe6 Kf8 21.Kf6 Kg8 22.Ra8+ Kh7 23.Ra7+ Kh6 24.Ra8 Kh5 25.Kf5 Kh4 26.Kf4** draw. With wPf4, White would lose. It is a very good benchmark position to compare hardware and engines. I started from move 1...Rh5+ to speed-up matters and Houdini needs 2 minutes for a correct indication. Hiarc is typically slower consuming over 10 minutes of time.

V.4. D. Gurgenzidze
3rd prize *64-Shakhmatnoye Obozrenye 1987*,
correction 1999



g1g8 0613.51 7/5 Win

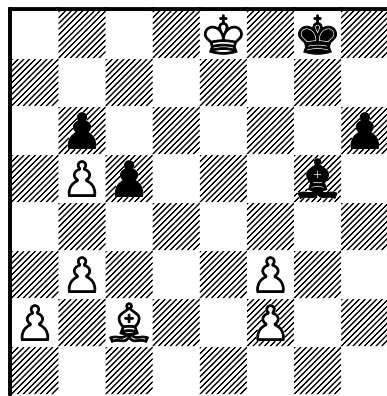
(V.4.): **1.Bb4 Rg3+ 2.Kf1 (Kh1? Ra1+;) 2...Rf3+ 3.Ke1 Re3+ 4.Kd1 Sc3+ (Rd3+; Kc1) 5.Bxc3 Rd3+** Thematic position. **6.Ke1!**

Re3+ 7.Kf1 Rf3+ 8.Kg1 Rg3+ 9.Kh1 Rxh3+ 10.Kg1 Rg3+ 11.Kf1 Rf3+ 12.Ke1 Re3+ 13.Kd1 Rd3+ 14.Kc1 Rxc3+ 15.Kb1 Rac2! 16.b8Q+ Kh7 17.f7 Rc1+ 18.Ka2 R1c2+ 19.Qb2 Kg7 20.h6+ Kxf7 21.h7 Kg7 22.h8Q+! Kxh8 23.c8Q+ wins.

This is more or less an “anti-computer” study. After some calculations the engines are able to find 6.Ke1! as the best move with a forced win, but the same time also 6.Kc1? is evaluated as second best move with the very high score of about +4. But after 6.Kc1? Rxc3+ 7.Kb1 Rac2 8.b8Q+ Kh7 9.f7 Rc1+ 10.Ka2 R1c2+ 11.Qb2 Rxb2+ 12.Kxb2 Rxc7 13.f8Q Rc2+ 14.Ka3 Ra2+ Black has an easy draw by checking on the second rank. In particular the position after 14...Ra2+ is a stumbling-block for several top engines. Houdini 3.0 could not recognize the draw here even after several hours and the same applied to Hiarcs but several other engines like Fritz, Naum, Zappa, Komodo, Critter and also the old Houdini 1.5(!) find the draw after several seconds.

V.5. L. Salai jr.

1st prize *Sachova skladba* 2011



e8g8 0040.53 7/5 Win

(V.5.) In order to make the correct first move, White has to see the last one. **1.f4! Bxf4 2.Kd7 Bd2 3.Kc6 Ba5 4.b4! cxb4 5.Bb3+ Kg7 6.Kd5 Kf6 7.Ke4 h5 8.Kf4 Kg6 9.Ke5 h4 10.Kf4 Kh5 11.f3** winning a tempo and the game. V.5. seems to be a real “anti-computer” study. Houdini is unable to solve it within 10 hours.

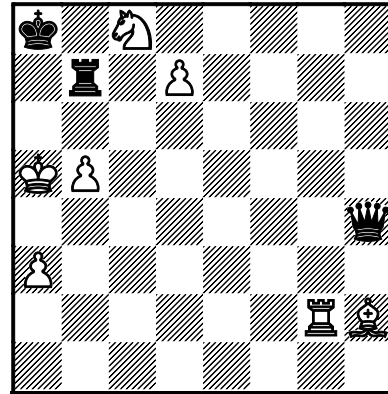
The sacrificed pawn could be replaced with a more powerful piece, but it seems to be more

difficult to compose such a study. Of course stalemate motifs are the most frequent means of such constructions.

V.6. P. Benno

8th place WCCT 7 2001-2004,

EG#14172



a5a8 3411.30 7/3 Win

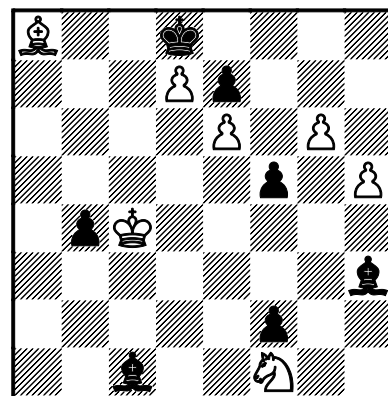
1.Rg8! This prevents the stalemates after 1.Sb6+? Rxb6 2.Kxb6 Qf2+ or 2.Rg8+ Ka7 3.d8Q Ra6+ 4.bxa6 Qxd8+ 5.Rxd8. **1...Rxb5+ 2.Kxb5 Qh5+ 3.Kb4!** Thematic position. The wB first has to disappear. **3...Qh4+ 4.Kb3! Qh3+ 5.Kb2! (Rg3? Qe6+;) 5...Qxh2+ 6.Kb3 Qh3+ 7.Kb4 Qh4+ 8.Kb5! 8.Kc5? Qf2+ 9.Kd6 Qf6+ 10.Kc7 Qc3+ 11.Kd8 Qa5+ 12.Sb6+ Kb7 13.Rg6 Qf5. 8...Qh5+ 9.Kb6 wins.**

This solution is found almost immediately by several engines.

V.7. A. Visokosov

1st prize Josten 65 JT, Internet 2002,

EG#13813



c4d8 0071.44 7/7 Win

Andrey Visokosov has found a fine motive to sacrifice a bishop. White will need the a8 square to escape from perpetual. **1.Bg2! Bxg2**

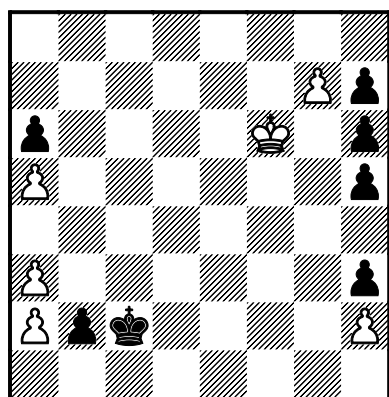
2.g7 Bxf1+ 3.Kxb4 Bd2+ 4.Ka3! Bc1+ 5.Ka4! Bb5+! 6.Ka5! Bd2+ 6...Bxd7 7.g8Q+ Be8 8.Qg3. 7.Kb6 Be3+ 8.Kb7 Ba6+! 9.Kb8! The precise route to reach a8. Bad is 9.Ka8? Kc7 10.d8Q+ Kxd8 11.g8Q+ Kc7 12.Qb8+ Kc6 13.Qe8+ Kb6 14.Qd8+ Kc6 15.Qd7+ Kb6. With Ba8, White should to try 9.Kc6, but it is not enough to win after 9...Bb5+ 10.Kd5 Bc4+ 11.Ke5 Bd4+ 12.Kxd4 Bxe6. **9...Bf4+ 10.Ka8! Kc7! 11.d8Q+! Kxd8 12.g8Q+ Kc7 13.Qb8+ Kc6 14.Qxf4 f1Q 15.Qxf1 Bxf1 16.h6!** wins. Houdini is able to find 1.Bg2! in seconds but Hiarcs needs several minutes.

Keeping a piece alive

In addition to the sacrifice we can often see the reverse motif – keeping a piece alive.

V.8. V. Kovalenko

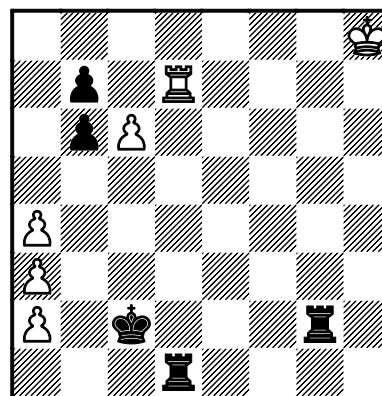
Commendation *Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsia* 2006, EG#17149



f6c2 0000.56 6/7 Win

There are many studies based on QxP final effects and Kovalenko's V.8 seems to be the longest one. **1.g8Q b1Q 2.Qc4+** Seeing 22 moves ahead. **2...Kb2 3.Qb3+ Ka1 4.Qxb1+ Kxb1 5.Ke5 Kc2 6.Kd4 Kd2 7.Kc5 Ke2 8.Kb6 Kf2 9.Kxa6 Kg2 10.Kb6 Kxh2 11.a6 Kg1 12.a7 h2 13.a8Q h1Q 14.Qxh1+ Kxh1 15.a4 h4 16.a5 h3 17.a6 h2 18.a7 Kg1 19.a8Q h1Q 20.Qxh1+ Kxh1 21.a4 h5 22.a5 h4 23.a6 h3 24.a7 h2 25.a8Q+** wins. This is a good benchmark study. Hiarcs needs about 1 minute to evaluate 2.Qc4+ and 2.Qxh7+? correctly. Houdini, surprisingly, is many times slower.

V.9. J. Csengeri
Magyar Sakkvilág 2005

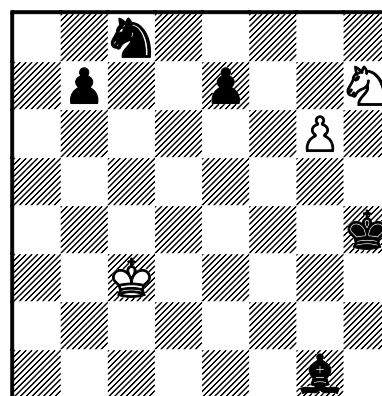


h8c2 0700.42 6/5 Win

The Csengeri study is based on a mutual zugzwang and it is much more difficult. After an interesting introduction **1.c7 Rh2+ 2.Kg8 Rg2+ 3.Kf8 Rf2+ 4.Ke8 Re1+! 5.Re7! Rxe7+ 6.Kxe7 Re2+ 7.Kd7 (Kd8) Rd2+ 8.Kc8 Kb1!** we are facing the key position. Now 9.Kxb7? Rc2 10.Kxb6 Rb2+ 11.Ka7 Rc2 12.Kb7 Rb2+ 13.Kc8 Rxa2 14.a5 Rxa3 15.a6 Rxa6 16.Kb7 Ra2! allows Black to draw via a well-known perpetual check 17.c8Q Rb2+. So White has to lose a tempo **9.Kb8! Rc2 10.Kxb7!** And suddenly Black has no good move. **10...Kxa2 11.Kxb6 Rb2+ (Kb1; a5) 12.Ka7 Rc2 13.Kb7 Rb2+ 14.Kc8 Rb3 15.a5 Rxa3 16.a6 Rxa6 (Kb2; Kd7) 17.Kb7! Ra3 18.c8Q Rb3+ 19.Ka6 Ra3+ 20.Kb5 Rb3+ 21.Kc4** wins. Houdini finds the move 9.Kb8 immediately with a high score but, at the same time, 9.Kxb7 is evaluated 0.89. Hiarcs needs several extra seconds but its result is clearer – 9.Kxb7 has the evaluation 0.

V.10. A. Sochnev

1st prize NONA 2006, EG#16174

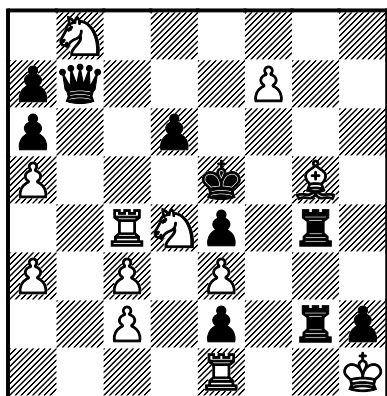


c3h4 0034.12 3/5 Win

V.10. is one of the best keep-alive-studies ever. **1.g7 Bd4+! 2.Kxd4 e5+! 3.Kd5!** A thematic moment. You will understand it only at move 18. **3...Se7+ 4.Ke6 Sg8 5.Kf7 Sh6+ 5...e4 6.Kxg8 e3 7.Sg5! Kg4 8.Se4 e2 9.Sf2+ Kf3 10.Sd3 Ke3 11.Se1. 6.Kg6 Sg8 7.Sf6 Se7+ (e4; Sxe4). 8.Kh7 (Kf7? Sf5;) 8...b5! 9.Kh8! 9.Sd5? Sxd5! 10.Kg6 Se7+ 11.Kf6 Sg8+. 9...b4 10.Sd5! b3 11.Sxe7 b2 12.Sf5+! Kh5 13.g8Q b1Q 14.Qh7+ Kg5 15.Qh4+ 15.Qh6+? Kg4 16.Qh4+ Kf3. 15...Kg6 16.Qh6+ (Qh4+) Kf7 17.Qg7+ Ke6 18.Qg6+! Kd7** Black does not have the saving move Ke5. **19.Qh7+! Kd8 20.Qe7+ Kc8 21.Sd6+ Kb8**, for example **22.Qe8+ Ka7 23.Sb5+ Kb6 24.Qd8+ Ka6 25.Qa8+ Kb6 26.Qa7+ Kc6 27.Qc7+ Kd5 28.Sc3+** wins. Houdini finds the solution almost immediately but Hiarcs needs about 3 minutes to generate a stable and correct output.

Escape from a stalemate-based perpetual check

V.11. O. Pervakov & K. Sumbatyan
14th place USSR vs Rest of the World 1989,
EG#11384

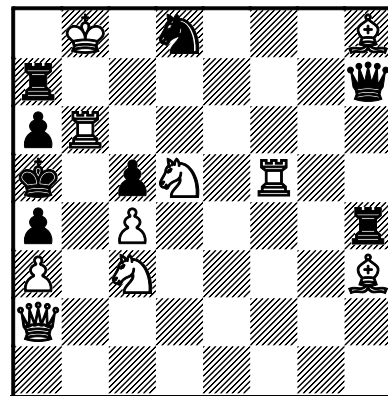


h1e5 3812.66 12/10 Win

(V.11.) We will not analyze all the subtleties of this wild position. **1.Bf4+! Kd5! 2.Rc6! Rg1+ 3.Kxh2 R4g2+ 4.Kh3 Qd7+! 5.Sxd7 Rh2+!** Black has prepared a stalemate defence and, in order to refute it, White has to choose the correct move and then has to see 29 moves ahead. **6.Bxh2! Rg3+ 7.Kh4 Rg4+ 8.Kh5 Rg5+ 9.Kh6 Rg6+ 10.Kh7 Rg7+ 11.Kh8! Rh7+ 12.Kg8 Rg7+ 13.Kf8 Rxf7+**

14.Ke8 Re7+ 15.Kd8 Rxd7+ 16.Kc8 Rc7+! 17.Kb8 Rb7+ 18.Ka8! Rb8+ 19.Kxa7 Ra8+! 20.Kb6! Rb8+ 21.Kxa6 Ra8+! 22.Kb5 Rxa5+ 23.Kb4 Ra4+! 24.Kb3 Rb4+ 25.Ka2 Rb2+ 26.Ka1! Ra2+ 27.Kb1 Rb2+ 28.Kc1 Rb1+! 29.Kd2 Rd1+ 30.Kxe2 Rd2+! 31.Kf1 Rf2+ 32.Kg1 Rg2+ 33.Kh1! Rg1+ 34.Bxg1! and there is no stalemate, and White wins. Houdini finds 6.Bxh2 immediately but Hiarcs took several seconds to find it.

V.12. A. Alekseev
1st prize Karseladze MT 1970,
EG#01457



b8a5 4825.23 10/8 Win

I included **V.12.** in this collection, a highly interesting study from the pre-computer era. It seems White has to guard his rook because of the threat **1...Rb7+**. To see that **1.Qb1** wins, means that you have to see about 30 moves ahead. **1.Qb1! Sc6+ 2.Rxc6 Ra8+ 3.Kxa8 Qb7+ 4.Kxb7 Rh7+** Now White plays a beautiful sequence. **5.Bg7! Rxg7+ 6.Rf7! Rxf7+ 7.Se7! Rxe7+ 8.Bd7! Rxd7+ 9.Rc7! Rxc7+ 10.Ka8 Ra7+** Starting a thematic finish. **11.Kb8 Rb7+ 12.Kc8 Rc7+ 13.Kd8 Rd7+ 14.Ke8 Re7+ 15.Kf8 Rf7+ 16.Kg8 Rg7+ 17.Kh8 Rg8+ 18.Kh7 Rg7+ 19.Kh6 Rg6+ 20.Kh5 Rg5+ 21.Kh4 Rg4+ 22.Kh3 Rg3+ 23.Kh2 Rg2+ 24.Kh1 Rh2+ 25.Kg1 Rg2+ 26.Kf1 Rf2+ 27.Ke1 Re2+ 28.Kd1 Rd2+ 29.Kc1 Rd1+ 30.Kb2 Rd2+ 31.Ka1 Ra2+ 32.Qxa2** wins.

Unfortunately, **V.12.** is unsound. Mario Garcia (and every chess engine) shows the alternative winning move **1.Rff7**. Jaroslav Polášek has found an excellent way to save this study. He removed the wBh8 and shifted

wQa2 to c1, *first publication* here. Only one move (Bh8-g7) from the original solution is lost as a minimal compromise. The move **1.Rff6?** is no longer enough to win: 1...Rb7+ 2.Kc8 Se6! 3.Rxa6+ (3.Bxe6 Rxb6 4.Sxb6 Qa7 5.Bg8 Rh8 6.Rf8 Rxc8 7.Rxc8 Qc7+, 3.Rxb7 Qh8+ 4.Kd7 Qd8+ 5.Kxe6 Re4+ 6.Kf7 Qe8+ 7.Kg7 Rg4+ 8.Bxc4 Qg6+) 3...Kxa6 4.Rxe6+ Ka5! 5.Rc6 Rh6! 6.Rxc5+ (Qxh6 Rc7+;) 6...Ka6 7.Sb4+ Rxb4 8.Ra5+ Kxa5 9.axb4+ Ka6 10.b5+ Ka5 11.Sd5 Qg8+ 12.Kd7 Qg7+ 13.Se7 Qd4+ draws.

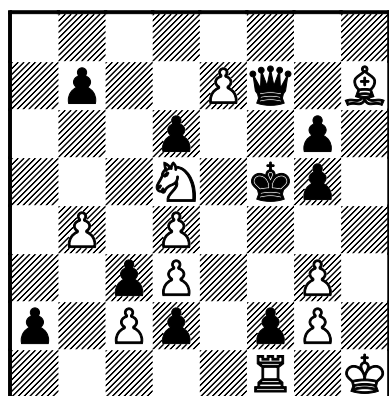
Houdini is able to solve Polášek's version within a minute but Hiarcs consumes about 80 minutes of time (!).

Different themes

In this last section I will give several highly interesting studies with rare themes.

V.13. F. Fiedler

Leipziger Volkszeitung 1999



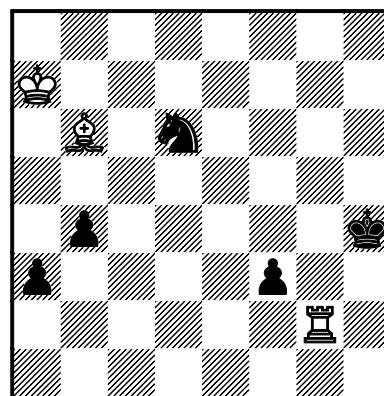
h1f5 3111.78 11/10 Win

Again, we will not check the wild introduction **1.Bg8! Qxg8 2.g4+! Ke6 3.e8Q+ Qxe8 4.Sc7+ Kf7 5.Sxe8 Kxe8 6.d5!** Or 6.Kh2? d5! 7.Kg3 Kd7 8.Kxf2 Kc6 9.Ra1 Kb5 10.Ke2 Kxb4 11.Rxa2 d1Q+! 12.Kxd1 b5! 13.Ra1 stalemate. **6...Kd7** Now the hand is getting ready to play 7.g3? but it would lose a half-point. To see it you have to foresee the next 15 moves. **7.Kh2! Kc7 8.Kg3 Kb6 9.Kxf2 Kb5 10.Ke3 Kxb4 11.Kd4 b5! 12.Rd1!** Otherwise stalemate, for example 12.Ra1 d1Q 13.Rxd1 a1Q 14.Rxa1. **12...Ka3 13.Kxc3 b4+ 14.Kxd2 Kb2 15.d4! a1Q 16.Rxa1 Kxa1 17.Kd3 Kb2 18.Kc4 Kxc2 19.Kxb4 Kd3**

20.Kb5 Kxd4 21.Kc6 Ke5 22.g3!. The point – White has an extra tempo and wins.

Houdini indicates 7.Kh2! almost immediately but Hiarcs needs several seconds. For many other engines it is a good benchmark problem, requiring many minutes.

P.14. L. Katsnelson & A. Sochnev
1st prize *Zadachy i Etyudy* 2007,
EG#18622



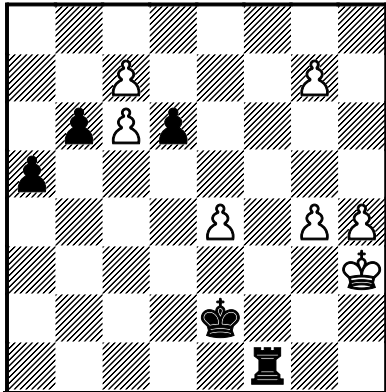
a7h4 0113.03 3/5 Draw

1.Bf2+ Kh5 1...Kh3 2.Rg3+ Kh2 3.Rxf3. 2.Rh2+ Kg5 3.Bc5! Sb5+ The critical position: what do we do with the wK? Of course, bad is 4.Kb7? b3 5.Bxa3 Sxa3 6.Rb2 Sc4 7.Rxb3 Sa5+ but to differentiate 4.Ka8 from 4.Kb8 you have to see at least to move 14. **4.Kb8! b3 5.Bxa3 Sxa3 6.Rb2 Kg4 6...Kf4 7.Rxb3 f2 8.Rb7. 7.Ka8! Sc2 8.Rxb3 f2 9.Rb1 Se1 10.Rb4+ Kg5 11.Rb5+ Kg6 12.Rb6+ Kg7 13.Rb7+ Kg8 14.Rb8+ Kf7 15.Rb7+ Ke6 16.Rb6+ Ke5 17.Rb5+ Ke4 18.Rb4+ Ke3 19.Rb3+ Kd2 20.Rb2+ Sc2 21.Rb1 Se1 22.Rb2+** draw.

In this study Hiarcs is noticeably better than Houdini. Hiarcs sees 4.Kb8 almost immediately while Houdini needs over 10 minutes. Several other engines like Shredder cannot solve this study, not even after several hours.

V.15. is a very difficult study. To choose the correct key (1.g5 or 1.h5) you have to see at least 15 moves ahead. **1.g5! Kf3! 2.Kh2 Rf2+ 3.Kg1 Rg2+ 4.Kf1! 4.Kh1? Kf2 5.h5? Rxc5. 4...Rh2! 5.Ke1 Ke3 6.Kd1 Kd3 7.Kc1 Kc3 8.Kb1 Rb2+ 9.Ka1 Kc2! 10.g8Q! Rb1+! 11.Ka2 Rb4 12.Ka3 b5! 13.Qa2+ Kc3 14.Qb2+! Rxb2 15.c8Q** In case of 1.h5? Black could play here 15...Rb4!. Now that is

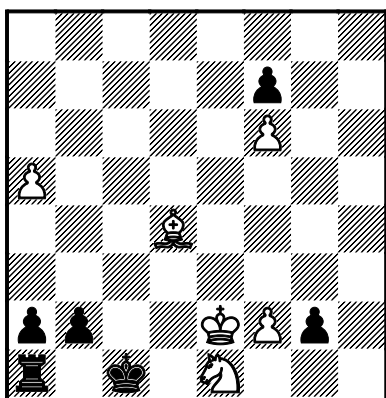
V.15. N. Ryabinin
2nd prize Moscow Champ. 2006,
EG#16464



h3e2 0300.63 7/5 Win

bad for 16.Qh3+. **15...Rb3+!** **16.Ka2 Kc2!** **17.Qe6!** 17.Qg8? Rb4 18.Ka1 Rb1+ 19.Ka2 Rb4. **17...Rb2+!** 17...Rb4 18.Qh3 Ra4+ 19.Qa3. **18.Ka3 Rb4!** **19.Qa2+ Kc3** **20.Qb2+!** Rxb2 **21.c7 Rb4** **22.c8Q+ Kd2** **23.Qh3!** Else Kc2. **23...Ra4+** **24.Kb2 Rb4+** **25.Qb3 Rxb3+** for example 26.Kxb3 a4+ 27.Kb4 a3 28.Kxa3 Kc3 29.g6 b4+ 30.Ka2 Kc2 31.g7 b3+ 32.Ka3 b2 33.g8Q b1Q 34.Qa2+ Qxa2+ 35.Kxa2 wins. This is a benchmark study which Houdini solves in 20 seconds and Hiarc in 40 seconds.

V.16. S. Didukh & A. Masimov
1st prize Olimpiya Dunyasi 2009,
EG#17537

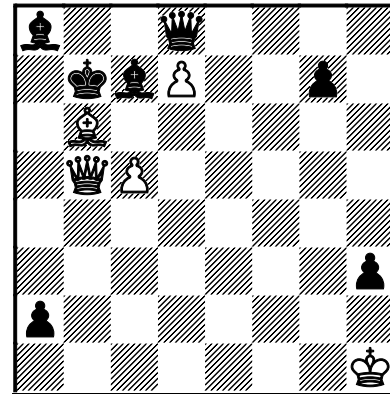


e2c1 0311.34 6/6 Win

(V.16.) **1.Be3+ Kb1** **2.f3!** The *Festina lente* theme. To find this move you have to see the whole winning manoeuvre. **2...g1Q** **3.Bxg1 Kc1** **4.Be3+ Kb1** **5.Bc5 Kc1** **6.Ba3 Rb1** **6...Kb1** **7.a6 Kc1** **8.a7 Rb1** **9.a8Q a1S** **10.Qd5.** **7.Bf8 Ra1** **8.Bh6+ Kb1** **9.f4 Kc1** **10.f5+ Kb1** **11.Bf8 Kc1** **12.Ba3 Rb1** **13.Bb4**

Ra1 **14.Bd2+ Kb1** **15.Sf3 Kc2** **16.Sd4+ Kb1** **17.Bb4 Kc1** **18.Ba3 Rb1** **19.Bd6 Ra1** **20.Bf4+!** **Kb1** **21.Be5 Kc1** **22.Sb3+ Kc2** **23.Sxa1+ Kc1** **24.Bxb2+ Kxb2** **25.a6** wins. Houdini needs about 2 minutes to solve this while Hiarc was unable to find the correct move in 4 hours.

P.17. O. Pervakov & A. Selivanov
Prize *Die Schwalbe* 1993, EG#11014



h1b7 4070.23 5/7 Win

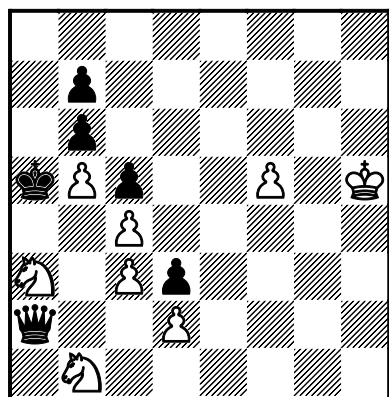
1.c6+ Kb8 White's winning manoeuvre is very complex and difficult. To choose the correct bishop move you have to foresee the whole solution. **2.Bc5+! Bb6** **3.Bd6+ Ka7** **4.Qa4+ Ba5** **5.Bc5+ Kb8** **5...Ka6** **6.Qc4 mate.** **6.Qf4+!** (Qb3+? Kc7;) **6...Bc7** **7.Qb4+ Bb6** **8.Bd6+ Ka7** **9.Qa3+! Ba5** **10.Bc5+ Kb8** **11.Qg3+!** This is not possible after 2.Be3+?. **11...Bc7** **12.Qb3+ Bb6** **13.Bd6+ Ka7** **14.Qxa2+ Ba5** **15.Bc5+ 15.Qd5?** Bxc6 **16.Qxc6 Qa8!** **15...Kb8** **16.Qh2+!** This is not possible after 2.Bf2+?. **16...Bc7** **17.Qb2+ Bb6** **18.Bd6+ Ka7** **19.Qa3+ Ba5** **20.Bc5+ Kb8!** **21.Qg3+!** **Bc7** **22.Qb3+ Bb6** **23.Bd6+ Ka7** **24.Qa4+! Ba5** **25.Kh2!** This is not possible after 2.Bg1+? Bad is here **25.Bc5+? Kb8** **26.Qb5+ Bb6** **27.Bxb6 Qxd7!** **25...Bxc6** **25...Kb6** **26.c7 Qg5** **27.Qd4+ Kb5** **28.Qe5+ or 25...Qb6** **26.Bc5!** **Qxc5** **27.d8Q.** **26.Qxc6 Qf6** Or **26...Qg8** **27.Bc5+ Kb8** **28.Qb5+ Kc7** **29.Qxa5+ Kxd7** **30.Qa7+ Kc6** **31.Qb6+ Kd7** **32.Qb7+.** **27.Bc5+ Kb8** **28.Qc8** mate. There is an additional try **2.Be3+? Bb6** **3.Qe5+ Bc7** **4.Qb2+ Bb6** **5.Bf4+ Ka7** **6.Qxa2+ Ba5** **7.Be3+ Kb8** **8.Qh2+!** **Bc7** **9.Qb2+ Bb6** **10.Qe5+ Bc7** **11.Qb5+ (Qd5 Ba5;)** **Bb6** **12.Bf4+ Ka7** **13.Qa4+ Ba5** **14.Kh2** **Bxc6** **15.Qxc6 Qe7!**

Houdini finds the right move **2.Bc5+** almost immediately but Hiarcs needs over 1 hour to exclude the possibility **2.Bg1+**?

We finish with a record position V18. To be precise, it is not a true study but the construction is very interesting.

V.18. N. Elkies

Internet 1991, EG#10454



h5a5 3002.54 8/6 Draw

After an easy start **1.f6! Qb3** we are facing a problem: should White continue **2.f7 Qd1+ 3.Kh6** or **2.Kh6 Qd1 3.f7**? They are the same, aren't they?! To solve this, White has to see a

full 50 moves ahead. After **2.f7! Qd1+ 3.Kh6! Qf3 4.Kg7 Qg4+ 5.Kh8 Qf5 6.Kg7 Qg5+ 7.Kh7 Qf6 8.Kg8 Qg6+ 9.Kf8 9.Kh8? Qxf7 10.Sc2 dxc2. 9...Ka4! 10.Ke7! Qg7 11.Ke8 Qe5+ 12.Kd7 Qf6 13.Ke8 Qe6+ 14.Kf8 Kb3 15.Kg7 Qe7 16.Kg8 Qg5+ 17.Kh8 Qf6+ 18.Kg8 Qg6+ 19.Kf8 Kb2 20.Ke7 Qg7 21.Ke8 Qe5+ 22.Kd8 Qf6+ 23.Ke8 Qe6+ 24.Kf8 Kc1 25.Kg7 Qe7 26.Kg8 Qg5+ 27.Kh8 Qh6+ 28.Kg8 Qg6+ 29.Kf8 Kd1 30.Ke7 Qg7 31.Ke8 Qe5+ 32.Kd7 Qf6 33.Ke8 Qe6+ 34.Kf8 Ke2 35.Kg7 Qe7 36.Kg8 Qg5+ 37.Kh8 Qf6+ 38.Kg8 Qg6+ 39.Kf8 Kf3 40.Ke7 Qg7 41.Ke8 Qe5+ 42.Kd7 Qf6 43.Ke8 Qe6+ 44.Kf8 Kf4 45.Kg7 Qe7 (Qd7; Kf6) 46.Kg8 Qg5+ 47.Kh7 Qf6 48.Kg8 Qg6+ 49.Kf8 Ke5 50.Ke7! Qg7 51.Ke8 Ke6 52.Kd8!** White can claim a 50-move-rule draw. The same applies to **50...Qe6+ 51.Kf8 Kf6 52.Kg8**.

Of course such a compositional joke is not comprehensible by engines.

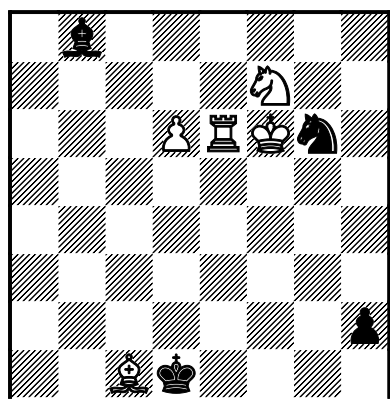
Tata Steel Chess 75 AT 2013

Yochanan Afek judged this formal international tourney. The preliminary award was distributed to all participants in February 2013. We now publish the official final award (no changes).

“The Tata Steel Chess Tournament, arguably the most prestigious contemporary chess event, has celebrated its 75th event this year and, among other festivities, a special composing tourney was announced by its organizing committee with a generous prize fund. I was expecting a great happening and indeed my colleague composers did live up to the expectations in regards to both quantity and quality and I am grateful to each and every one of them for their much-appreciated efforts. I received 89 entries from our devoted tourney director, Harold van der Heijden, in anonymous PGN files (one with the full solutions and another one with just the artistic lines) as well as a detailed report specifying the soundness and originality of all entries. The general standard was one of the highest I have witnessed for years and the decision-making turned to be a rather tough job. As we are celebrating a major over the board event, I have tried to pay special attention to ‘human’ and players’ friendly entries. I sincerely hope that the following selection achieves this aim. It certainly is a combative one with a clear majority of win-studies over draw-studies, notably among the prize winners”.

“Special thanks go to: the organizing committee of the Tata Steel Chess Tournament for the moral and financial support to an anniversary tourney of such calibre; to the tourney director, Harold van der Heijden, for a tremendous and well-done job in thoroughly checking all entries, preparing the supporting reports and giving useful advice; to ARVES for promoting this tourney and supporting the composition events in the Tata Steel Chess Tournament”.

No 19013 Y. Bazlov
1st/2nd prize



f6d1 0144.11 5/4 Win

No 19013 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.d7 Bc7 2.Rd6+ Ke1/i 3.Rc6 Se5/ii 4.Sxe5 (Rxc7? Sxd7+;) Bd8+/iii 5.Kg7 h1Q 6.Bg5 Bxg5/iv 7.d8Q Qxc6 8.Qa5+ Bd2 9.Qa1+ Qc1 10.Sd3+ Kd1 11.Qa4+/v Qc2 12.Qg4 mate.

i) Bxd6 3.d8Q h1Q 4.Bg5 Qf3+ 5.Kxg6 Qd3+ 6.Kh6 wins.

ii) Sf8 4.Bf4 Sxd7+ 5.Kf5 Kf1 6.Rc1+ Kg2 7.Rc2+ Kg1 8.Be3+ Kf1 9.Rxc7 wins.

iii) Bxe5+ 5.Kxe5 h1Q 6.Bd2+ Ke2 7.Rd6 wins.

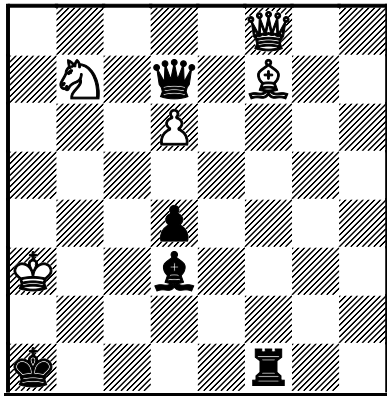
iv) Qd5 7.Bxd8 Qxe5+ 8.Bf6 wins.

v) 11.Sxc1? Bc3+ 12.Qxc3 stalemate.

“This outstanding entry was initially the outright winner of this tourney thanks to its rich tactical play, highlighted by an amazing position of two newborn queens, actively hanging in the open at the very same moment. Just before writing the textual part of the award it was discovered that the final mate had appeared earlier in the try of an incorrect study by Lamoss (HHdbIV#28782). Despite this blemish I have decided to leave this magnificent study at the top of the award in view of its multiple other artistic merits. Nevertheless in view of the new discovery it seems to me more appropriate that it share top honours”.

No 19014 Oleg Pervakov & Karen Sumbatyan (Russia). 1.Qg7 (Qh8? Qg4;) Rf4/i 2.Qg2/ii Be2 3.Qxe2 Qa4+ 4.Kxa4 d3+ 5.Qe4 Rxe4+ 6.Kb3 d2 7.Kc2/iii Rb4/iv 8.Sa5/v d1Q+ 9.Kxd1 Rd4+ 10.Kc1 Rd3 11.Bg8/vi zz Rxd6

No 19014 O. Pervakov & K. Sumbatyan
1st/2nd prize



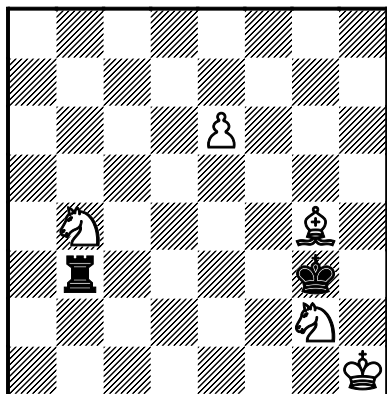
a3a1 4341.11 5/5 Win

12.Sb3+ Ka2 13.Sd4+ Ka3 (Ka1; Sc2 mate)
14.Sb5+ Kb4 15.Sxd6 wins.

- i) Qxb7 2.Qxd4+ Kb1 3.Qxd3+ wins.
- ii) 2.Qg1+? Bf1 3.Qh2 Rf3+ 4.Bb3 Rxb3+ and Black wins.
- iii) 7.Bh5? Kb1 8.Kc3 Re5 draws.
- iv) Rd4 8.Bh5 Ka2 9.Bd1 Ka3 10.Kc3 Rd5 11.Kc4 wins.
- v) 8.Sc5? d1Q+ 9.Kxd1 Rd4+ 10.Kc1 Rc4+ and 11.Bxc4 stalemate, or 11.Kd2 Rd4+ 12.Kc2 Rxd6 13.Sb3+ Ka2 14.Sd4+ Ka1 draws.
- vi) 11.Bc4? Rxd6 12.Sb3+ Ka2 13.Sd4+ Ka3 14.Sb5+ Kb4 15.Sxd6 Kc5 draws.

“A breathtaking queen duel ends up in mutual neat royal sacrifices clearing the podium for a second phase: two minor pieces dominate a single rook with a subtle reciprocal zugzwang following 11.Bg8!!”.

No 19015 D. Keith & M. Minski
3rd prize



h1g3 0312.10 5/2 Win

No 19015 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Bf5 Rf3/i 2.Bd3 Kf2 3.Kh2 Rf6 4.Bf5 Rxf5 (Rh6+; Bh3) 5.Sd3+ Ke2 6.Sgf4+/ii Kf1 7.e7 Rf8 8.Sh5 Rh8 9.e8Q and:

- Rxe8 10.Sg3 mate, or:
- Rxb5+ 10.Kg3/iii wins.

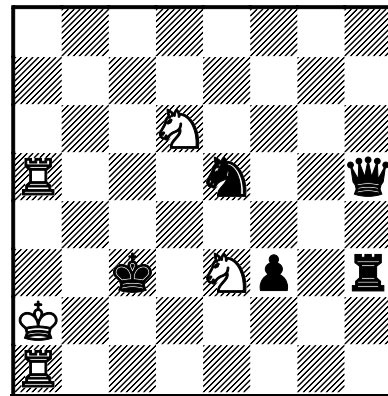
i) Threatens Rf1 mate, or Rxf5. Rxb4 2.e7 Rb8 3.Bg6 wins.

ii) 6.e7? Rh5+ 7.Kg1 Rh8, or 6.Sdf4+? Kd2 7.e7 Re5 draw.

iii) 10.Qxh5? ideal stalemate.

“One of the best miniatures I have seen lately. A lengthy and tense struggle to secure promotion evolves into a wealth of artistic elements: stalemates, switchback, sacrifices and mates, all in a flowing sequence of events. Black's heroic counter-play against the white monarch along rank and file intensifies the thrill”.

No 19016 M. Minski & A. Ruzs
4th prize



a2c3 3505.01 5/5 Win

No 19016 Martin Minski (Germany) & Árpád Ruzs (Rumania). 1.Rd5/i Rh2+ 2.Ka3 Sc4+ 3.Sdxc4 Rh1/ii 4.Sd1+/iii Kxc4 5.Se3+ Kc3 6.Rad1/iv Rxd1/v 7.Sxd1+ Kc2 8.Se3+/vi Kc3 9.Rxh5 wins.

i) Threatens 2.Se4+. 1.Ra3+? Kd2, or 1.Rc1+? Kd2 draw.

ii) Qxd5 4.Rc1+ Kd4 5.Rd1+ Kc3 6.Rxd5 Rh1 7.Ka4 f2 8.Sd2 wins.

iii) Thematic try: 4.Rad1? Qh7 and because of the obstacle wSc4 there is no check (mate) on c5. 4.Rxh1? Qxh1 draws. 4.Rxh5? Rxa1 mate.

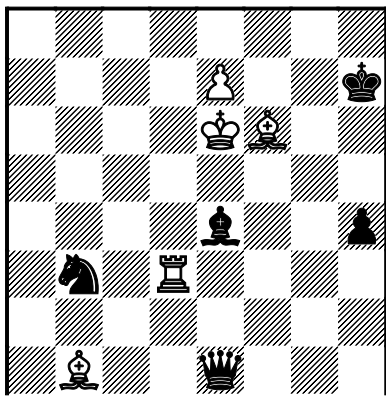
iv) threatens Rd3 mate.

v) Qh7 7.Rc5 mate; compare with thematic try.

vi) 8.Rxh5? Kxd1 9.Rf5 Ke2 10.Kb2 f2 draws.

“An excellent and logical study in which White has to get rid of his own knight in order to leave the c-file vacant. Both kings are subject to sharp threats from the heavy guns as part of the thematic mechanism”.

No 19017 P. Krug
5th prize



e6h7 3153.11 5/5 Win

No 19017 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.e8Q Bf5++/i 2.Kxf5 Qxe8 3.Kf4 Qb8+ 4.Kg5/ii Qg8+ 5.Kxh4 Sd4 6.Rg3+ Sf5+ 7.Bxf5+ Kh6 8.Rh3 (Rxc8? stalemate) Qg2 9.Bd3 (Bb1) Qg8 10.Be4 Qg1 11.Rh1 Qg8 12.Rh2 Qg1 13.Rh3 Qg8 14.Rh1 Qg1 15.Kh3 Qg8 16.Bb2 Qc8+ 17.Kh4 Qe6 18.Kg3+ Kg5 19.Bc1+ Kf6 20.Rh6+ wins.

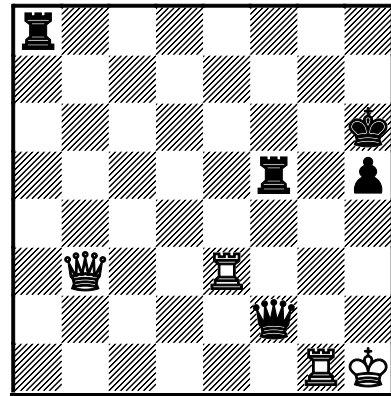
i) Bxd3+ 2.Be5 Sc5+ 3.Kf7 Qf2+ 4.Bf6.

ii) 4.Kg4? Qc8+ 5.Kxh4 Sd4 and: 6.Rc3+ Sf5+, or here: 6.Rxd4+ Kh6 7.Rd6 Qg4+ 8.Kxg4 stalemate.

“The wR changes its role in the course of exciting battery play against her majesty: from a front piece of a bishop battery to a rear piece in a king battery. The slight dual on the ninth move is of minor importance”.

“In view of the high standard I decided to award three special prizes to the following remarkable studies. All three of them might well have won the top honours in any other event and their only ‘drawback’ is that they are definitely judge-friendly perhaps not player-friendly enough...”.

No 19018 S. Didukh
1st special prize



h1h6 4800.01 4/5 Win

No 19018 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Reg3/i Raf8 (Rf6; Qd5) 2.Rg6+/ii Kh7 3.Rg7+ Kh8 4.Rg8+ Kh7 5.Qb7+ R8f7/iii 6.R8g7+/iv Kh8 7.Qc8+ Rf8 8.Rg8+ Kh7 9.Qd7+ R5f7/v 10.Qd3+/vi Qf5/vii 11.R8g5 Qxd3/viii 12.Rxh5+ mate.

i) 1.Re6+? Kh7 2.Qb7+ Rf7, and: 3.Qe4+ Qf5 4.Re5 Qxe4+ with check, or 3.Qb1+ Rf5 4.Qb7+ Rf7 draws.

ii) Try: 2.Qe6+? R5f6 3.Rg6+/ix Kh7 4.Rg7+/x Kh8 5.Rg8+ Kh7 6.R1g7+ Kh6 7.Rg6+ Kh7 and White is unable to conquer Black's fortress, e.g. 8.R8g7+ Kh8 9.Rg8+ Kh7 10.Qe7+ R8f7 11.R8g7+ Kh8 12.Qe8+ Rf8 13.Rg8+ Kh7 14.R6g7+ Kh6 15.Qxh5+ Kxh5 16.Rh7+ Rh6 draws.

iii) R5f7 6.Qb1+ Rf5 7.R1g7+ Kh6 8.Rxf8 Qh4+ 9.Kg2 Qf2+ 10.Kh3 Rf3+ 11.Rxf3 Qxf3+ 12.Rg3 wins.

iv) Logical try: 6.R1g7+? Kh6 7.Rg6+ Kh7 8.R8g7+ Kh8 9.Qc8+ Rf8 10.Rg8+ Kh7, and: 11.Qd7+ R5f7 draws because 12.Qd3 is not a check, or here: 11.Qc7+ R5f7 12.R8g7+ Kh8 13.Rxf7 Qh4+ 14.Kg2 Qe4+ 15.Kf2 Qd4+ draws.

v) R8f7 10.R8g7+ Kh8 11.Qe8+ Rf8 12.Rg8+ Kh7 13.Qg6 mate.

vi) with check.

vii) Rf5 11.R1g7+ Kh6 12.Rxf8 wins.

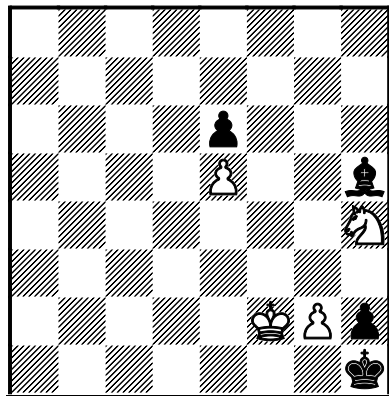
viii) without check.

ix) 3.Qd5 Qf5 4.Qd2+ Qf4 5.Qg2 Rg8 6.Rxc8 Qh4+ 7.Qh2 Qe4+ 8.R8g2 Rf4 draws.

x) 4.Qe7+ R8f7 5.Rg7+ Kh6 draws.

“An original heavy artillery battle, inspired by the game Ding - Szczepowski, played at the Istanbul Olympiad last year, which displays strong systematic and logical elements. The construction is, surprisingly, almost aristocratic”.

No 19019 D. Blundell
2nd special prize



f2h1 0031.22 4/4 Win

No 19019 David Blundell (Great Britain).
1.g3/i Bf3 2.Sg6 Bh5 3.Sf4 Bg4 4.Sd3 Bf5
5.Sb4 Bg4 6.Sa2 Bf5 7.g4 Bxg4 8.Sc1/ii zz
Be2/iii 9.Sb3 Bf3 10.Sc5 Bd5 11.Sd3 (Sd7?
Be4;) Bf3 12.Kxf3 zz Kg1 13.Sf2 Kf1 14.Sh1
Kg1 15.Sg3 h1Q+ 16.Sxh1 Kxh1 17.Kf4
(Kg4) Kg2 18.Kg5 Kf3 19.Kf6 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.g4? Bxg4 2.Sg6 Bf5 3.Sf8
Bh3 4.Sd7 Bg4 5.Sc5 Bf5 6.Sb3 Bh3 7.Sd2
Bg2 draws. 1.Kf1? Be2+ 2.Kf2 Bh5 draws.

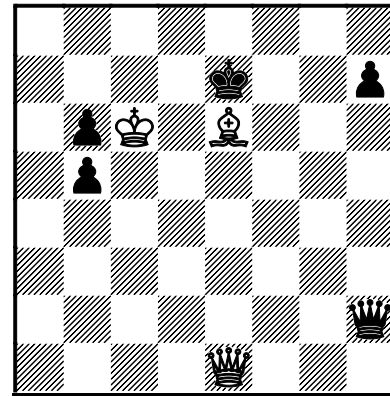
ii) 8.Sb4? Bf5 9.Sc6 Bh3 10.Sd4 Bg4 and
White cannot make progress. 8.Sc3? Bf3
9.Kxf3 Kg1 10.Se2+ Kf1 11.Sg3+ Kg1
12.Kg4 Kg2 13.Kh4 Kf2 14.Kh3 Kg1
15.Se2+ Kf2 16.Sg3 Kg1 draws.

iii) Bd1 9.Sd3 Bg4 10.Sf4 wins.

“The general concept of a knight challenging the bishop's umbrella to access a cornered king, has already been dealt with as the composer himself pointed out: Krug f1h1 (#71705), but also Elkiec c4a1 (#54373), Petren c2a1 (#41022). The present version, nonetheless, displays fresh elements and introduces a strong thematic try”.

No 19020 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bh3+
Kf8 2.Qb4+ Kf7 3.Qb3+ Kg7 4.Qc3+ Kg6
5.Qd3+ Kh6 6.Qe3+ Kh5 7.Qf3+ Kh6 8.Qf6+

No 19020 R. Becker
3rd special prize



c6e7 4010.03 3/5 Win

Kh5 9.Qf5+ Kh6 10.Qe6+ Kg5 11.Qg4+ Kh6
12.Qh4+ Kg7 13.Qg5+ Kf7 14.Bg2 Ke8
15.Qg8+ Ke7 16.Qg7+ Ke8/i 17.Qg5/ii b4/iii
18.Qg8+ Ke7 19.Qg7+ Ke8 20.Qg5 b5
21.Qg8+ Ke7 22.Qg7+ Ke8 23.Qg5 b3
24.Qg8+ Ke7 25.Qg7+ Ke8 26.Bf3 Qh4/iv
27.Bg4 Qh1+ 28.Kd6 Qh2+ 29.Ke6 wins.

i) Ke6 17.Bh3+ Qxh3 18.Qd7+ wins.

ii) 17.Kb7? Qd6 18.Bc6+ Kd8, or 17.Bf3?
Qh4 18.Bg4 Qh1+ 19.Kd6 Qh2+ 20.Ke6
Qa2+, or 17.Qd7+? Kf8 18.Qd8+ Kf7
19.Bd5+ Kg6 20.Be4+ Kh5 21.Qf6 Kg4 draw.

iii) h6 18.Qg8+ Ke7 19.Qg7+ Ke8 20.Be4,
or Qg1 18.Qg8+ Ke7 19.Qg7+ Ke8 20.Kb7
win.

iv) b2 27.Kb7 Qd6 28.Bh5+ Kd8 29.Qg8+
Ke7 30.Qf7+ Kd8 31.Qe8+, or Qh3 27.Qe5+
Kf8 28.Qf6+ Ke8 29.Kc5 wins.

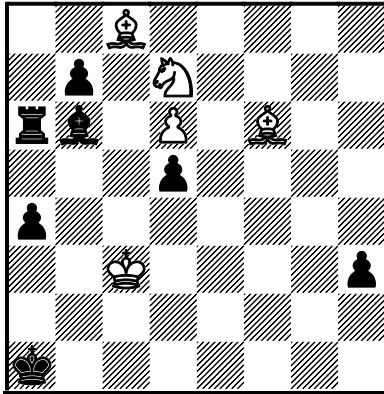
“White repeats the same queen manoeuvre time and again until Black runs out of waiting pawn moves and is eventually forced to block a crucial line. This familiar concept is presented here with remarkable economy and utmost aesthetics”.

No 19021 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Kc2+/i
Bd4/ii 2.Bxd4+ Ka2 3.Sb6 h2 4.Be6/iii h1Q
5.Bxd5+ Qxd5 6.Sxd5 Rxd6 7.Sb4+ Ka3
8.Bc5/iv, and:

– Rh6 9.Sd3+/v Ka2 10.Sc1+ Ka1 11.Bd4
mate, or:

– Rd7 9.Sd5+/vi Ka2 10.Sc3+ Ka1 11.Ba3
Rh7 12.Bb2 mate.

No 19021 O. Pervakov
1st honourable mention



c3a1 0351.14 5/7 Win

i) First battery. 1st thematic try: 1.Sxb6? h2 2.Bxb7 h1Q 3.Kc2+ Ka2 4.Bxd5+ Qxd5 5.Sxd5 Rxd6 6.Sc3+ Ka1 7.Se4+ 2nd battery, but 7...Rxf6 draws. 1.Bxb7? Bd4+ 2.Bxd4 Rxd6 3.Kc2+ Ka2 4.Sb6 h2 5.Bxd5+ Rxd5 6.Sxd5 h1Q 7.Sc3+ Ka1 8.Se2+ Ka2 9.Sc1+ Qxc1+ draws.

ii) Ka2 2.Bxb7, and: Ra5 3.Sxb6 Rc5+ 4.Kd3 h2 5.Sxd5 h1Q 6.Sb4+ 3rd battery Kb3 7.Bxh1 wins, or here: Bf2 3.Bxd5+ Ka3 4.Se5 Rxd6 5.Be7 Bc5 6.Sc4+ Kb4 7.Sxd6 wins.

iii) 2nd thematic try: 4.Bxb7? h1Q 5.Bxd5+ Qxd5 6.Sxd5 Rxd6, and: 7.Sc3+ Ka1 8.Sb5+ 4th battery, but 8...Rxd4 draws; echo, see 1st thematic try, or 7.Sb4+ Ka3 8.Bc5 Rd7 9.Sd5+ Ka2 10.Sc3+ Ka1 11.Ba3 Rb7 (Rd2+) draws.

iv) The same position as in the 2nd thematic try, but with bPb7.

v) 5th battery.

vi) Again the 5th battery.

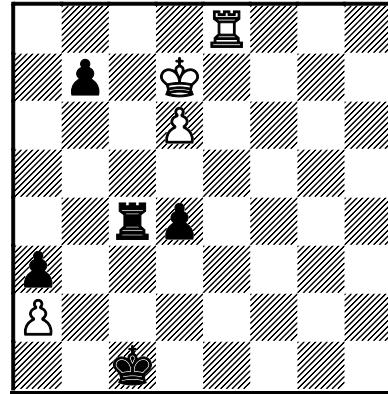
“This study features rich battery play with a fashionable logical element of capture avoidance emphasized by a thematic try”.

No 19022 Nikolai Kralin & Yuri Shvyrvov (Russia). 1.Ke6/i d3 2.d7 d2 3.d8Q/ii d1Q/iii 4.Qxd1+/iv Kxd1 5.Kd5/v Rc2 6.Ra8 Rxa2 7.Kc4 Rc2+ 8.Kb3 a2 9.Rh8/vi a1S+ 10.Ka3 Rc6 11.Rh1+ Ke2 12.Rh2+ Ke3 13.Rh3+ Kf4 14.Ka2 Sc2 15.Rb3, and:

– b6 16.Rxb6 Rxb6 stalemate, or:

– Rc7 16.Rxb7 Rxb7 stalemate.

No 19022 N. Kralin & Y. Shvyrvov
2nd honourable mention



d7c1 0400.23 4/5 Draw

i) 1.Re1+? Kc2 2.Re2+ Kc3 3.Re5 d3 4.Rd5 d2 5.Ke6 Rc6 6.Ke5 Rc8 7.d7 Rd8 8.Kd6 b6 9.Kc7 Rxd7+ 10.Rxd7 b5 wins.

ii) 3.Rc8? Rc6+ 4.Rxc6+ bxc6 5.d8Q d1Q 6.Qb6 Qc2 7.Kd6 c5 wins.

iii) Rc6+ 4.Kf7 d1Q 5.Qxd1+ Kxd1 6.Re3 Ra6 7.Rb3 b6 8.Ke6 draws.

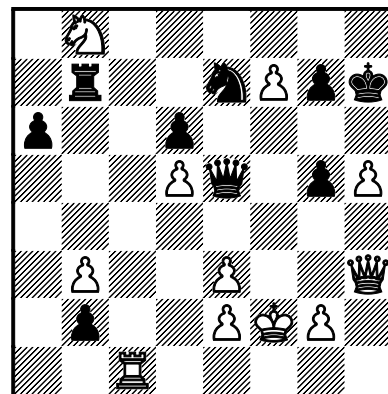
iv) 4.Qg5+? Qd2 5.Qxd2+ Kxd2 6.Ra8 Rc3 7.Kd5 Kc1 8.Ra7 b5 9.Rb7 Rc2 10.Rxb5 Rxa2 11.Ra5 Rd2+ 12.Kc4 a2 13.Kc3 Rc2+ 14.Kb3 Kb1 wins.

v) 5.Ra8? Rc3 6.Kd5 Kc1 wins.

vi) 9.Rg8? a1S+ 10.Ka3 Rc6 11.Rg1+ Ke2 12.Rg2+ Kf3 wins.

“A natural and lively rook scene ending up in stalemate following an underpromotion”.

No 19023 S. Didukh
3rd honourable mention



f2h7 4404.75 11/9 Win

No 19023 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Sd7 Rxd7/i 2.f8S+ Kg8/ii 3.Sxd7 Qe4/iii 4.Rg1/iv g4/v 5.Qf3 gxf3/vi 6.Sf6+/vii gxf6 7.gxf3+

Qg6 8.hxg6 Sxd5 9.Rb1 Sc3 10.Rxb2 Sd1+ 11.Ke1 Sxb2 12.Kd2 wins.

i) Qxd5 2.f8Q bxc1Q 3.h6 wins.

ii) Kh8 3.Sg6+ fork Sxg6 4.hxg6+ Kg8 5.Rc8+ wins, or Kh6 3.Sxd7 Qe4 4.Rh1 g4 5.Qg3 Sf5 6.Qf4+ with check, wins.

iii) bxc1Q 4.Sxe5 dxe5 5.Qe6+ Kf8 6.d6 wins.

iv) Invisible ambush behind the pawns. 4.Rd1? g4 5.Qg3 Sf5 6.Qf4 no check g3+ 7.Ke1 b1Q draws.

v) b1Q 5.Rxb1 g4 6.Qh1 g3+ 7.Kxg3 Sf5+ 8.Kh2 Sxe3 9.h6 wins.

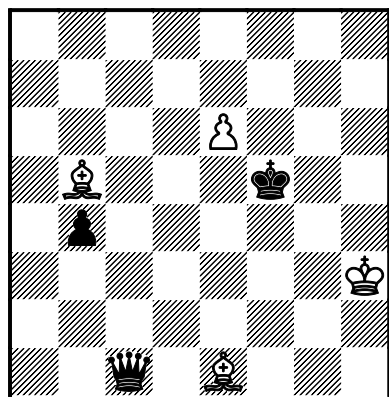
vi) b1Q 6.Qf8+ Kh7 7.Rxb1 Sf5 8.Sf6+ gxf6 9.Qf7+ Kh8 10.Qxf6+ Kh7 11.Rd1 Qxe3+ 12.Ke1 wins.

vii) fork.

“In a middlegame-like position Black builds up in secret the unexpected opening of the crowded g-file: a surprising triple ambush which should appeal to players at any level”.

No 19024 S. Nosek

4th honourable mention



h3f5 3020.11 4/3 Draw

No 19024 Stanislav Nosek (Slovakia). 1.e7/i Qe3+ 2.Bg3 b3/ii 3.Bd7+/iii Kg5 4.e8Q Qxe8 5.Bf4+/iv Kf6/v 6.Bxe8 b2 7.Be5+ Kxe5 8.Bg6 draws.

i) 1.Bd7? Qxe1 2.e7+ Kf4 3.e8Q Qh1 mate.

ii) Qxe7 3.Bd3+ Ke6 4.Bc4+ Kd7 5.Bb5+ Kc8 6.Ba6+

iii) 3.e8Q? Qxe8 4.Bxe8 b2, and: 5.Bh5 b1Q 6.Kg2 Qb2+ 7.Kg1 Ke4 or 5.Bc6 b1Q 6.Bf3 Qf1+ 7.Bg2 Qd3 8.Bc6 Kg5 9.Ba8 Qf5+ 10.Kg2 Kg4, or 5.Bd7+ Kg5 6.Bh4+ Kg6 7.Be8+ Kh6 win.

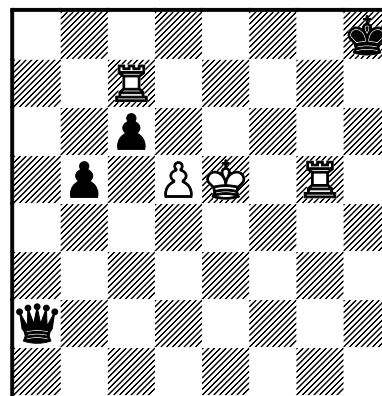
iv) 5.Bxe8? b2 6.Bc6 (Bf4+ Kf5;) b1Q 7.Bf3 Qf1+, or 5.Bh4+? Kh6 6.Bxe8 b2 win.

v) Kxf4 6.Bxe8 b2 7.Bg6 draws.

“This study features the power of the bishop pair in a charming miniature”.

No 19025 P. Krug

5th honourable mention



e5h8 3200.12 4/4 Win

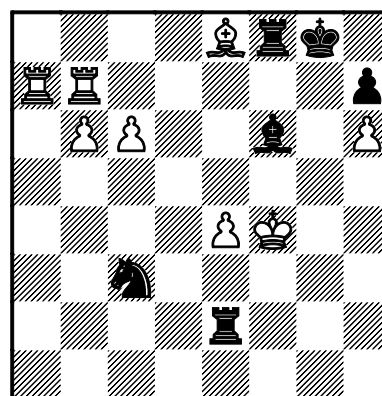
No 19025 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Kf6 Qf2+ 2.Kg6 Qf8 3.Rh7+ Kg8 4.Rd7 cxd5 5.Rg1/i d4 6.Rg5 zz d3 7.Rgd5 Qe8+ 8.Kf6 Qf8+ 9.Kg5 Qb4 10.Rd8+ Kf7 11.Kf5 wins.

i) 5.Rgxd5? Qe8+ 6.Kf6 Qf8+ 7.Kg5 Qb4 8.Rd8+ Kf7 9.Kf5 Qb1+ draws.

“A pair of rooks is artfully taming the enemy queen. A remarkable development of an old scheme by Ladislav Prokeš (#21343)”.

No 19026 J. Timman

Special honourable mention



f4g8 0843.41 8/6 Win

No 19026 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.Bf7+ Kh8 2.Rb8/i Rxb8 3.c7 Rf8 4.Ra8 Rxa8/ii 5.b7 Rxe4+ 6.Kf3 Re3+/iii 7.Kxe3 Sd5+ 8.Bxd5 Bd8 9.Bb3 Rb8 10.cxb8S/iv wins.

i) 2.Rd7? Rxe4+ 3.Kf5 Bd4 draws.

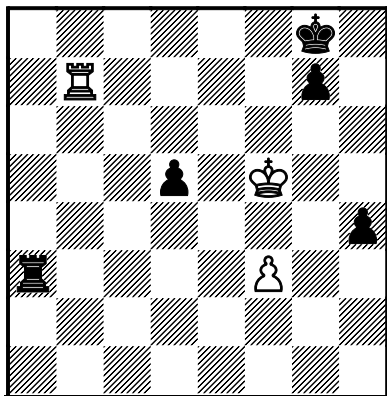
ii) Be5+ 5.Kf5 Rxa8 6.b7 Re8 7.c8Q Rf2+ 8.Kg4 Rg2+ 9.Kf3 Rg3+ 10.Kf2 wins.

iii) Rf4+ 7.Kxf4 Sd5+ 8.Bxd5 Bd8 9.Kf5 wins.

iv) 10.cxb8Q? stalemate, or 10.cxb8B? Bc7 11.Ba7 Bb6+ 12.Bxb6 stalemate.

“A similar idea in a similar setting has been already shown by Tkachenko a6a8 (#57608). However the daring sacrificial fore-play is a considerable improvement”.

No 19027 I. Akobia & R. Becker
1st commendation



f5g8 0400.13 3/5 Draw

No 19027 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rb8+/i Kf7/ii 2.Rb7+ Kf8 3.Rd7 Rxf3+ 4.Kg4 Rd3 5.Kxh4 Rd1/iii 6.Kh3 Rd2 7.Kh4/iv Rd1 8.Kh3 Rd4 9.Kg3/v zz Kg8 10.Kf3 Kf8 11.Kg3 positional draw, or Kg8 12.Kf3 Kh7 13.Ke3 Rd1 14.Ke2 Rd4 15.Ke3 Re4+ 16.Kf3 Re5 17.Kf4 Rh5 18.Rd6/vi, and:

– g6 19.Rd7+ Kh6 20.Kf3 (Kg3) Rg5 21.Kf4 Rf5+ 22.Kg4 Re5 23.Kf4 Re4+ 24.Kf3 Rd4 25.Ke3 Rd1 26.Ke2 Rd4 27.Ke3, positional draw with perpetual check along the d-file, or:

– Kg8 19.Kg4 Re5 20.Kf4 Rh5 21.Kg4, positional draw with perpetual check along the 5th rank.

i) 1.Rd7? h3 2.Rxd5 h2 3.Rd8+ Kh7 4.Rd1 Rxf3+, or 1.Kg4? h3 2.Rb2 Kf7 3.Rf2 Ke6 4.Kxh3 d4 5.Kg3 Kd5 win.

ii) Kh7 2.Kg4 Ra4+ 3.f4 Ra6 4.Kxh4 Rd6 5.Kg3 d4 6.Kf2 d3 7.Ke1 d2+ 8.Kd1 Kg6 9.Rb5 draws.

iii) Rd2 6.Kh3 Rd1 7.Kg2 Rd4 8.Kg3 draws.

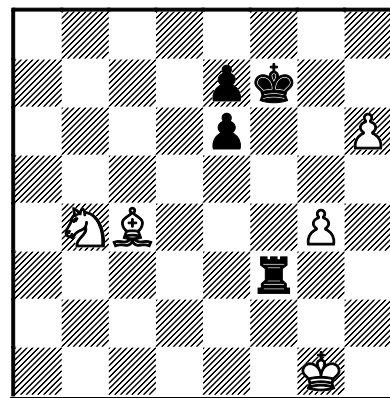
iv) Thematic try: 7.Kg3? Rd4 zz 8.Kf3 Kg8 zz 9.Ke3 Re4+ 10.Kf3 Re5 11.Kf4 Rh5 12.Rd8+ Kf7 wins, but not Kh7? 13.Rd6 see main line.

v) 9.Kg2? Rg4+ 10.Kf3 Rg5 11.Kf4 Rh5 12.Kg4 g6 wins.

vi) 18.Kg4? Kh6 19.Rd6+ g6 wins.

“This study features positional draws following consecutive reciprocal zugzwangs leading to a rook ending with theoretical merits rather than artistic ones”.

No 19028 P. Panaiotov
2nd commendation



g1f7 0311.22 5/4 Win

No 19028 Petromir Panaiotov (Bulgaria). 1.Sd3/i Rh3/ii 2.Bxe6+ Kf8/iii 3.Sf4 Rxh6 4.g5 Rh7/iv 5.Bf5 Rf7 6.Se6+ Kg8 7.Be4 Kh8 8.Kg2 Kg8 9.Bg6 wins.

i) 1.Sc6? Rh3 2.Kg2 Rxh6 draws.

ii) After 1...Kg8 not 2.Bxe6+? Kh7 3.Se5 Rf6 4.Sf7 Kg6 draws, but 2.Se5 Re3 3.Bxe6+ Kh7 4.Sf7 Kg6 5.Bd5 Re1+ 6.Kf2 Rd1 7.Bb3 Rd2+ 8.Ke3 Rb2 9.Bc4 Rb4 10.Kd4 e5+ 11.Kc5 wins.

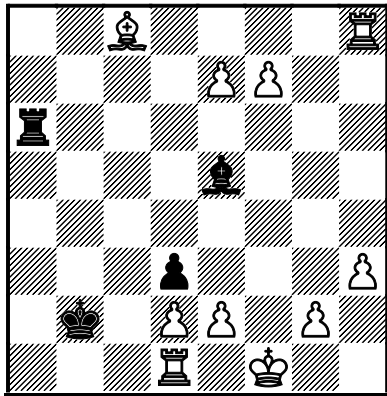
iii) Ke8 3.g5 Rg3+ 4.Kh2 Rxc5 5.Sf4 Kf8 6.Kh3 Rg1 7.Kh4 Rh1+ 8.Kg5 Rg1+ 9.Kf5 Rh1 10.Kg6 wins, or Kf6 3.g5+ Kxc5 4.Bxh3 wins.

iv) Rh4 (Rh8) 5.Sg6+ wins.

“This study features domination of a rook by a pair of minor pieces with a little help from friends and enemies”.

No 19029 Aleksandr Stavrietsky (Russia). 1...Rf6+ 2.Bf5/i Rxf5+ 3.Kg1 dxe2 4.Rb8+ Bxb8 5.Re1 Rf1+ 6.Rxf1 Ba7+ 7.d4 Bxd4+ 8.Rf2 wins.

No 19029 A. Stavrietsky
3rd commendation

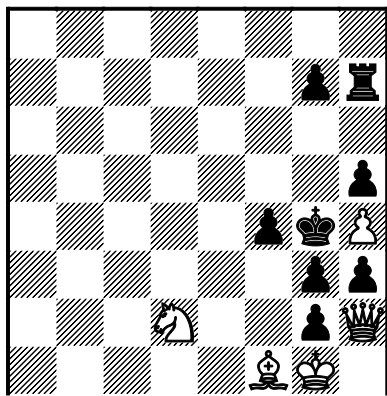


f1b2 0540.61 10/4 BTM, Win

i) Thematic try: 2.Kg1? dxe2 3.Re1 Rf1+ 4.Rxf1 Bd4+ 5.Kh2 exf1S+ 6.Kh1 Sg3+ 7.Kh2 Sf1+ draws.

“This shows the Roman theme in action: a double sacrifice lures the bB to a remote square from which check would allow the crucial pawn push to vacate the second rank for the decisive pin. The thematic try should end with the thematic refutation 4...Bd4+! avoiding the unnecessary black ‘duals’ afterwards”.

No 19030 V. Kovalenko
4th commendation



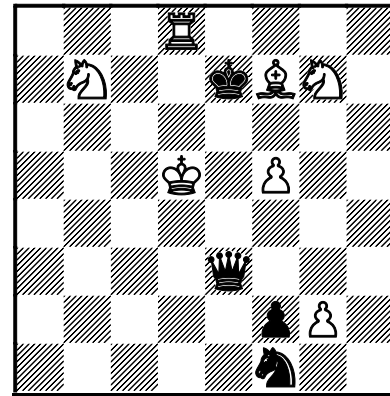
g1g4 1311.16 5/8 Win

No 19030 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Be2+/i f3 2.Bxf3+ Kxh4 3.Qxh3+ Kxh3 4.Be4 g6 5.Bxg6 Rg7 6.Bf5+ Rg4 (Kh4; Sf3 mate) 7.Sf3 zz h4 8.Sg5 mate.

i) Thematic try: 1.Qxh3+? Kxh3 2.Bd3 g6 3.Bxg6 Rg7 4.Bf5+ Rg4 5.Bd7 f3 6.Sxf3 stalemate, because of wPh4.

“This features a logical effort to secure Black an extra move and consequently a vital tempo for mate instead of just stalemate”.

No 19031 J. Mikitovics & A. Skripnik
5th commendation



d5e7 3115.21 7/4 Draw

No 19031 János Mikitovics (Hungary) & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Sh5 Qd3+ 2.Kc6 Qc3+ 3.Kb6 Kxf7 4.Rc8 Qd4+ 5.Kc6 Sg3/i 6.Sd8+/ii, and:

– Ke7 7.f6+ Qxf6+ 8.Sxf6 Kxf6 9.Rc7 Sf5/iii 10.g4 Sh6 11.g5+ Kxg5 12.Sf7+/iv Kg6 13.Sxh6 f1Q 14.Sf7 draws, or:

– Kg8 7.Se6+ Kh7 8.Sxd4 Sxh5 9.f6 Sxf6/v 10.Rc7+ Kg8 11.Rc8+ Kf7 12.Rc7+ Ke8 13.Rc8+ Kf7 14.Rc7+ positional draw, or Kg6 15.Rg7+ Kxg7 16.Sf5 draws.

i) Qe4+ 6.Kb6 Qb4+ 7.Kc6 Se3 8.Rc7+ Kg8 9.Sf6+ Kf8 10.Sh7+ Kg8 11.Sf6+ positional draw.

ii) Thematic try: 6.Rc7+? Kg8 7.Rc8+ Kh7 8.Rc7+ Kh6 wins.

iii) Kg6 10.Rf7 Sf5 11.g4 draws.

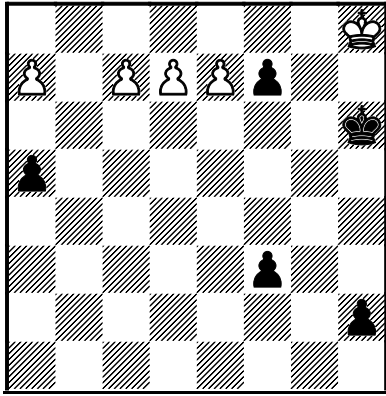
iv) 12.Se6+? Kf5 13.Sd4+ Kg6 wins.

v) f1Q 10.f7 Qa6+ 11.Kc7 Qa7+ 12.Kc6 Qxf7 13.Rc7 draws.

“A messy struggle fails to stop Black promoting but somehow things eventually come right, a decent piece of healthy street-fighting”.

No 19032 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain). 1...h1Q/i 2.e8S/ii Kg6+/iii 3.Kg8 Qh7+ 4.Kf8 f5/iv 5.d8S Qh6+ 6.Ke7 Qe3+ 7.Kd6 Qd3+ 8.Ke6/v Qe4+ 9.Kd7 Qd4+ 10.Ke6 Qe3+ 11.Kd6 f2 12.a8Q/vi f1Q 13.Kd7 Qfd3+/vii 14.Sd6 Kf6 15.c8S f4 16.Qxa5 Qh3+ 17.Kc7 Qc3+ 18.Qxc3+ Qxc3+ 19.Sc6 Qd3 20.Sb6 Qh7+ 21.Sd7+ Ke6 22.Sd4+/viii Kd5 23.S6b5 draws/ix.

No 19032 L. Gonzalez
special commendation



h8h6 0000.44 5/5 BTM, Draw

- i) Kg6 2.e8Q h1Q+ 3.Kg8 Qh7+ 4.Kf8 Qg7+ 5.Ke7 Qf6+ 6.Kf8 draws.
- ii) 2.Kg8? Qg2+ 3.Kxf7 Qg6+ 4.Kf8 Qg7+ 5.Ke8 Qg8 mate.
- iii) Qa1+ 3.Kg8 Qg1+ 4.Kf8 Qc5+ 5.Kg8 Qg5+ 6.Kf8 draws.
- iv) f6 5.Sd6 Qxd7 6.c8Q Qxd6+ 7.Ke8 Qe5+ 8.Kf8 f2 9.Qg4+ Qg5 10.Qe4+ f5 11.Qe8+ Kh6 12.Qe6+ Qg6 13.Qe3+ Qg5 14.Qe6+ Kh5 15.Qe2+ draws.
- v) 8.Ke5? Qe4+ 9.Kd6 f2 10.c8Q Qd4+ 11.Kc6 f1Q 12.Qe6+ Kg5 13.Qg8+ Kh4 14.Qh7+ Kg3 15.Qg6+ Kh3 16.Qh6+ Kg2

17.Qg5+ Kh2 18.Qh5+ Kg1 19.Qg5+ Qg2+ 20.Qxg2+ Kxg2 21.Kb7 Qxd8 22.Sc7 f4 23.a8Q Qxa8+ 24.Kxa8 f3 wins.

vi) 12.c8Q? f1Q 13.a8Q Qff4+ 14.Kc6 Qee4+ 15.Kd7 Qd4+ 16.Ke7 Qg5+ 17.Ke6 Qge3+ draws.

vii) Qd1+ 14.Sd6 Kf6 15.c8S f4 16.Qxa5 Qg4+ 17.Kc7 f3 18.Sc6 f2 19.Qa1+ Kg5 20.Qg7+ Kh4 21.Qh7+ Kg3 22.Sf5+ Qxf5 23.Qxf5 Qf4+ 24.Qxf4+ draws.

viii) 22.Sd8+? Kd5 23.S6f7 Qc2+ 24.Kb7 f3 25.Sf6+ Kc5 26.Se6+ Kb4 27.Sd4 Qa2 28.Se5 f2 29.Sd3+ Kc4 30.Sxf2 Qxf2 draws.

ix) e.g. Kc4 24.Kd6 Qg6+ 25.Ke7 Qg5+ 26.Ke6 Qd5+ 27.Ke7 Kd3 28.Sf6 Qe5+ 29.Se6 Qxb5 30.Sxf4+ Kd4 31.Se6+.

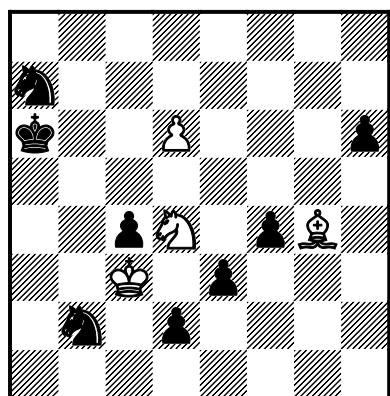
“How many knight underpromotions can be displayed in a drawn pawn ending? Here is a serious attempt to improve on the records recently achieved in the continuous race between Richard Becker and Siegfried Hornecker. This one surely shatters the complexity record while lacking the charm of its elegant predecessors but it still deserves attention in the sub-genre of multiple minor promotions”.

Akobia 75 JT 2012

The Georgian Chess Composition Commission organized a formal tourney to celebrate the 75th birthday of the very active Iuri Akobia. Mario Garcia acted as tourney director. The preliminary award was published on Akobia's website and after three months became final without changes. In total 62 studies by 32 composers from 16 countries participated. There were three sections: free theme: win and draw studies, and rook studies with some quiet moves.

Free theme – win studies

No 19033 A. Sochnev
1st prize



c3a6 0017.15 4/8 Win

No 19033 Aleksey Sochnev (Russia). 1.d7, and:

– h5 2.Bf3 (Be2)/i d1Q 3.Bxd1 Sxd1+ 4.Kc2 e2 5.Kd2 c3+ 6.Kxe2 f3+ 7.Kxf3 Sc6 8.Sxc6 c2 9.d8Q/ii c1Q 10.Qa5+ Kb7 11.Qb5+ Kc7 12.Qb8+ Kd7 13.Qd8+ Ke6 14.Qe7+ Kf5 15.Qf7+ Kg5 16.Qg7+ Kh4 17.Qg3 mate, or:

– d1Q 2.Bxd1 Sxd1+ 3.Kc2 e2/iii 4.Kd2 c3+ 5.Kxe2 f3+ 6.Kxf3 Sc6/iv 7.Sxc6 c2 8.d8Q c1Q 9.Qa5+ Kb7 10.Qb5+ Kc7 11.Qb8+ Kd7 12.Qd8+ Ke6 13.Qe7+ Kf5/v 14.Qf7+ Kg5 15.Qg7+ Kh5 (Kf5; Sd4 mate) 16.Qg4 echo mate.

i) Thematic try: 2.Bxh5? d1Q 3.Bxd1 Sxd1+ 4.Kc2 e2 5.Kd2 c3+ 6.Kxe2 f3+ 7.Kxf3 Sc6 8.Sxc6 c2 9.d8Q c1Q 10.Qa5+ Kb7 11.Qb5+ Kc7 12.Qb8+ Kd7 13.Qd8+ Ke6 14.Qe7+ Kf5 15.Qf7+ Kg5 16.Qg7+ Kh5 and there is no mate. 2.d8Q? hxg4 3.Qd6+ Kb7, or 2.Kxb2? hxg4 3.Kc2 e2 4.Kxd2 c3+ 5.Kxe2 f3+ 6.Kf2 Sc6 draws.

ii) 9.Sb4+? Kb7 10.Sxc2 Kc7 draws.

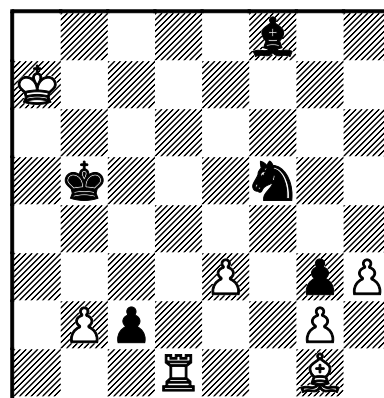
iii) Sc6 4.Sxc6 e2 5.Kd2 wins.

iv) c2 7.Sxc2 Sc6 8.Sb4+ wins.

v) Kd5 14.Sb4+ Kd4 15.Qe4+ Kc3 16.Sa2+ wins.

“A clear logical study with echo mates. All three phases of the study are organized and linked to each other. Nowadays it is difficult to surprise anybody with echo positions but usually, these echoes are in positions close to each other, with a difference of only a few moves. Here the echo mates are separated from each other by lengthy play. It is obvious that we have a high-class work here!”

No 19034 P. Arestov
2nd prize



a7b5 0143.42 7/5 Win

No 19034 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rc1 Bc5+ 2.Kb8/i Bxe3 3.Bxe3 (Rxc2? Bxg1;) Sxe3 4.h4 Sxg2 (Kb4; h5) 5.Rxc2/ii Sxh4 6.Rc3 g2 (Sf5; Rf3) 7.Rg3 Kc4 8.Ka8 zz Kd4 9.Ka7 zz Ke4 (Kc4; Ka6) 10.b4 Kf4 11.Rxg2/iii Sxg2 12.b5 Se3 13.b6 Sc4 14.b7 Sa5 15.b8Q+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 2.Ka8? Bxe3 3.Bxe3 Sxe3 4.h4 Sxg2 5.Rxc2 Sxh4 6.Rc3 g2 7.Rg3 Kc4 8.Ka7 Kd4 zz 9.Ka6 Ke4 (Ke5) 10.b4 Kf4 11.Rxg2 Sxg2 12.b5 Se1 13.b6 Sd3 14.b7 Sc5+ 15.Kb6 Sxb7 draws. 2.Kb7? Bxe3

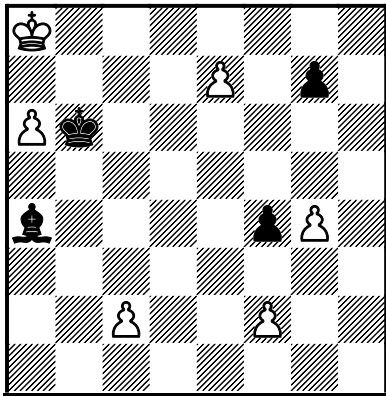
3.Bxe3 Sxe3 4.h4 Sxg2 5.Rxc2 Sxh4 6.Rc3 Sf5 7.Rf3 Sd6+ draws.

ii) 5.h5? Sf4 6.Rxc2 Sxh5 draws.

iii) 11.Rg8? Kf3 12.b5 Sf5 13.b6 Sg3 (Sd6).

“Remarkably accurate choice of the white moves: 2.Kb8!! and 8.Ka8!! The content of the logical thematic try reflects the main line well. The struggle by both sides takes place in a background of reciprocal zugzwangs but, unfortunately, all the zz positions are with 6-man material (including the thematic try)”.

No 19035 H. van der Heijden
3rd prize



a8b6 0030.52 6/4 Win

No 19035 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands). 1.Kb8 Kxa6 2.Kc7/i Ka5/ii 3.c3/iii g5/iv 4.f3/v Bb5 5.Kd8/vi, and:

– Ka4 6.c4/vii Bc6 7.Kc7/viii Be8 8.Kb6 (c5? Kb5); Kb4 9.c5 Kc4 10.c6 Kd5 11.c7 wins, or:

– Ba4 6.e8Q (e8R, e8B) Bxe8 7.Kxe8 Kb5 8.Kf7 (Ke7) Kc4 9.Kg6 (Kf6) Kd3 10.c4/ix Ke3 11.c5 Kxf3 12.c6 Kg2 13.c7 f3 14.c8Q wins.

i) 2.Kc8? f3 3.Kd8 Ka5 4.c3 g5 5.e8Q Bxe8 6.Kxe8 Kb5 draws.

ii) f3 3.g5 Ka5 4.c3 g6 5.Kd8 Bc6 6.e8Q Bxe8 7.Kxe8 Kb5 8.Kf7 Kc4 9.Kxg6 wins.

iii) 3.g5? Kb4, and e.g. 4.Kd8 Kc3 5.e8Q Bxe8 6.Kxe8 Kxc2 7.Kf7 Kd2 8.Kxg7 Ke2 9.g6 Kxf2 10.Kh6 f3, or 3.Kd8? (f3?) Kb4.

iv) f3 4.g5 Bb5 5.Kd8 Ka4 6.c4 Bc6 7.Kc7 Be8 8.Kb6 Kb4 9.c5 Kc4 10.c6 Kd5 11.c7 wins.

v) Thematic try: 4.Kd8? f3 5.e8Q Bxe8 6.Kxe8 Kb5 7.Kf7 Kc4 8.Kg6 Kd3 9.Kxg5 Ke2 draws.

vi) 5.c4? Ba4 6.c5 Be8 draws.

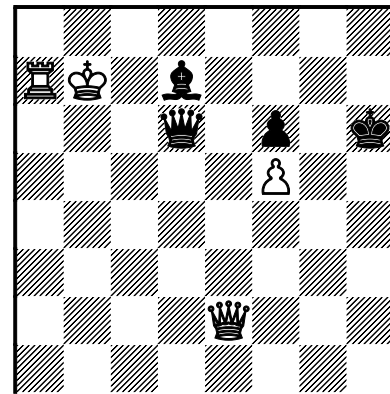
vii) 6.e8Q? Bxe8 7.Kxe8 Kb3 8.Kf7 Kxc3 9.Kf6 Kd3 10.Kxg5 Ke3 draws.

viii) 7.e8Q? Bxe8 8.Kxe8 Kb4 9.Kf7 Kxc4 10.Kf6 Kd3 11.Kxg5 Ke3 draws.

ix) Thematic try: 10.Kxg5? Ke3 11.c4 Kxf3 12.c5 Kg3 13.c6 f3 14.c7 f2 15.c8Q f1Q draws.

“A study with good, non-standard play. There are several unexpected attractive moves in the solution. The logical combination of the thematic try 10.Kxg5? deserves attention as well as the main line's 10.c4!”.

No 19036 R. Becker
4th/5th prize



b7h6 4130.11 4/4 Win

No 19036 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qe3+ Kh7/i 2.Qe4/ii Qc5 3.Qh1+ Kg7 4.Qg2+ Kf7/iii 5.Qg6+/iv Ke7 6.Qg7+/v Ke8 7.Ra8+ Bc8+ 8.Kb8/vi Bd7 9.Qxf6/vii Bxf5 10.Qh8+/viii Ke7 11.Ra7+/ix Ke6 12.Ra6+ Kd7 13.Qg7+ Kd8 14.Qg8+ Ke7 15.Ra7+ Kf6 16.Qd8+/x Kg6 17.Ra6+ Kf7/xi 18.Qf6+ Ke8 19.Ra8 Bd7/xii 20.Qh8+/xiii Ke7 21.Qh7+/xiv Ke6 22.Ra6+ Bc6 23.Qh6+ Kd5 24.Qd2+ Kc4 25.Qc2+ Kd5 26.Ra5 Bb5 (Qxa5; Qf5+) 27.Qb3+ Kc6 28.Qe6+ Qd6+ 29.Qxd6+ Kxd6 30.Rxb5 wins.

i) Kh5 2.Qf3+ Kg5 3.Ra8. Kg7 2.Qe4, and Qc5 3.Qg2+, or Kf7 3.Ra5 wins.

ii) 2.Qh3+? Kg7 3.Qg2+ Kf8 4.Ra8+ Be8 draws.

iii) Kf8 5.Ra8+ Be8 6.Rxe8+ Kxe8 7.Qc6+ wins.

iv) 5.Ra8? Qb5+ (Qb4+) 6.Kc7 Qc5+ (Qe5+) 7.Kxd7 Qd6+ (Qd4+) draws.

v) 6.Qh7+? Kd8 7.Qg8+ (Qh8+) Ke7 8.Qg7+ loss of time.

vi) 8.Rxc8+? Qxc8+ 9.Kxc8 stalemate.

vii) 9.Qg8+? (Qg6+) Ke7 10.Qh7+ Kd8 11.Qh8+ Ke7 12.Qg7+ Ke8 loss of time.

viii) 10.Kb7+? Bc8+, and 11.Rxc8+ Qxc8+ 12.Kxc8 stalemate, or 11.Kb8 Qc7+ 12.Kxc7 stalemate.

ix) 11.Qg7+? Kd6 12.Ra6+ Kd5 13.Qg2+ Ke5 14.Qh2+ Ke4 15.Qh1+ Kf4 16.Ra4+ Ke5 17.Qa1+ Ke6 18.Ra6+ Kd7 19.Qg7+ loss of time.

x) 16.Qg7+? Ke6 17.Ra6+ Kd5.

xi) Kh5 18.Qh8+, and Kg4 19.Ra4+ Kg3 20.Qh4+, or Kg5 19.Qh6+ Kg4 20.Ra4+ win.

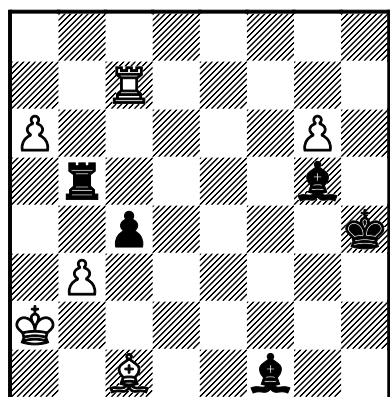
xii) Qc2 20.Qd6 Be4 21.Qe5+ Kf8 22.Qh8+ Kf7 23.Ra7+ Ke6 (Kg6; Rg7+) 24.Qg8+ wins.

xiii) 20.Qg6+? Kd8 21.Qg8+ Ke7 22.Qh7+ loss of time.

xiv) 21.Qh4+? Kf7 22.Qh7+ Ke6 23.Ra6+ loss of time, or 21.Qg7+? Ke8 (Kd8) 22.Qg8+ (Qh8+) Ke7 23.Qh7+ loss of time.

“A sharp struggle by both sides. Neither side has a large material advantage. Especially after the 10th move (6-men position) the chances are almost equal and only White's initiative decides the outcome but, unfortunately, there are too many checks during play”.

No 19037 M. Minski
4th/5th prize



a2h4 0470.31 6/5 Win

No 19037 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.b4 Bxc1/i 2.a7 Bg2 3.Rxc4+ Kh3/ii 4.Rc3+/iii Kh4 5.Rxc1 Rxb4 6.g7 Bd5+ (Ra4+; Kb3) 7.Ka3, and:

– Rg4 8.Rc4 pin Rxc4 9.a8Q Bxa8 10.g8Q wins, or:

– Rb3+ 8.Ka4 Rg3 9.Rc4+ Kh3 10.Rc3 pin Rxc3 11.a8Q Bxa8 12.g8Q wins.

i) Rb6 2.Bxg5+ Kxg5 3.a7 Ra6+ 4.Kb2 Kxg6 5.Rc6+ Rxc6 6.a8Q wins.

ii) Kh5 4.g7 Rg5 5.Rc5 pion, wins.

iii) Thematic try: 4.Rxc1? (g7 Rg5;) Rxb4 5.g7/iv Bd5+/v 6.Ka3 Rg4/vi 7.Rc4 no pin Rxg7 draws.

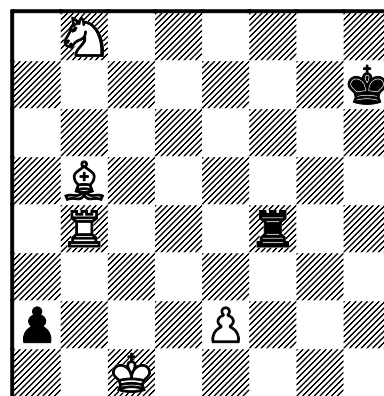
iv) 5.Rc3+ Kh4 6.g7 Bd5+ 7.Ka3 Rb1 draws.

v) Rg4? 6.Rc3+, and Kh2 7.Rc2 pin Rxg7 8.a8Q, or Kh4 7.Rc4 pin Rxc4 8.g8Q wins.

vi) Rb3+? 7.Ka4 Rg3 8.Rc3 pin Rxc3 9.a8Q Bxa8 10.g8Q wins.

“An original realization of several echo pins. A nice parade of tactical ideas!”.

No 19038 H. van der Heijden
6th prize



c1h7 0411.11 5/3 Win

No 19038 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands). 1.Bd3+ Kh8/i 2.Rb1 axb1Q+/ii 3.Bxb1/iii Rf1+/iv 4.Kb2/v Rf6 (Re1; Bd3) 5.Ka1/vi Rb6 6.Sd7 Ra6+ 7.Ba2/vii Kg7 8.Kb1/viii Ra7 9.Sc5 Kf6 10.Se4+ Ke5 11.Sc3 Rc7/ix 12.Kb2 Rc8/x 13.e3/xi Rxc3 14.Kxc3 Ke4 15.Kd2 wins.

i) Kg8 2.Rb1 axb1Q+ 3.Bxb1 Rf1+ 4.Kb2 Rf6 5.Ba2+ with check, or Kh6 (Kg7) 2.Rb6+ (Rb7+) Kg5 3.Ra6 (Ra7) wins.

ii) Rf1+ 3.Kb2 axb1Q+ 4.Bxb1 wins.

iii) 3.Kxb1? Rb4+ 4.Kc2 Rxb8 draws.

iv) Rc4+ 4.Bc2 (Kd2? Rb4;) Rc8 5.Sd7 wins.

v) 4.Kc2? Re1 and wins the e-pawn.

vi) 5.Sd7? Rd6 6.Se5 Rd2+. 5.Kc3? Rb6 wins a piece. Thematic try: 5.Kc1? Rb6 6.Sd7 Rc6+ 7.Bc2/xii Kg7, and now 8.e4 (Se5 Re6;) Kh6 9.Se5 Rc7 10.Kd2 Kg5 11.Sd3 Rc4 12.e5 Kf5, or 8.Kb2 Rc7 9.Se5 Re7, or here: 9.Bf5 Kf7 10.e4 Ke7 11.Se5 Rc5 12.Sd3 Rxf5 13.exf5 Kf6 draws.

vii) 7.Kb2? Rd6 8.Bf5 Rd2+ draws.

viii) 8.Kb2? Rd6 9.Sc5 Rd2+ wins the e-pawn.

ix) Now the bK cannot penetrate: Kd4 12.Sb5+, or also Kf4 12.Kc2 Ke3 13.Bc4 Rc7 14.Sd5+ fork.

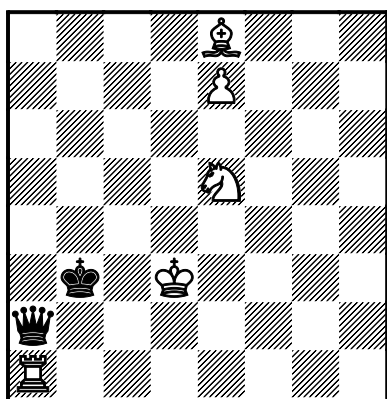
x) Kd4 13.Sb5+, or Kf4 13.Sd5+ win.

xi) 13.e4? Rxc3 14.Kxc3 Kxe4, or 13.Bb3? Kd4 14.Sd1 Re8 draws.

xii) 7.Kb2 Rd6, or 7.Kd2 Rd6+.

“The non-obvious moves of the wK are the highlight of this study: b2-a1-b1. Also, 13.e3! The echo forks are nice too”.

No 19039 J. Polašek & S. Nosek
1st honourable mention



d3b3 3111.10 5/2 BTM, Win

No 19039 Jaroslav Polašek & Stanislav Nosek (Czech Republic). 1...Qc2+/i 2.Kd4/ii Qd2+ 3.Sd3/iii Qc3+ 4.Ke3/iv Qxa1 5.Ba4+/v Kc4/vi 6.Bb5+ (e8Q Qd4+;) Kxb5 7.e8Q+ Kb6 8.Qb8+ Kc6 9.Se5+ wins.

i) Qxa1 2.Bf7+ Kb4 3.e8Q wins.

ii) 2.Ke3? Qc5+ 3.Ke4 Qxe7 draws.

iii) 3.Kc5? Qb4+ 4.Kd5 Qxe7 draws.

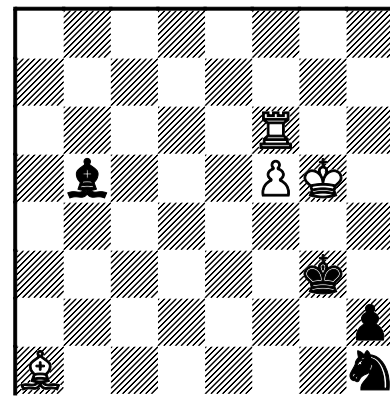
iv) 4.Ke4? Qxa1 (Qc4) draws.

v) Thematic try: 5.Bf7+? Ka3 6.e8Q Qd4+ 7.Ke2 (Kxd4 stalemate) Qg4+ 8.Ke3 Qd4+, and 9.Kd2 Qc3+ 10.Kxc3 stalemate or 9.Ke2 Qg4+ 10.Kd2 Qd1+ 11.Ke3 Qd2+ 12.Ke4 (Kd4) Qe3+ 13.Kxe3 stalemate.

vi) Kc3 (Qxa4; Sc5+) 6.e8Q Qg1+ (Qxa4; Qe5+) 7.Sf2 Qe1+ 8.Kf3 Qxe8 9.Bxe8 wins, or Kxa4 6.e8Q+ Kb3 7.Qb5+ Kc2 8.Qc4+ Qc3 9.Qa2+ Kd1 10.Qe2 mate.

“An impressive White move 5.Ba4!! Nice play in the thematic try with a model stalemate”.

No 19040 A. Pallier
2nd honourable mention



g5g3 0143.11 4/4 Win

No 19040 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Be5+/i Kg2 2.Bxh2 Kxh2 3.Re6/ii Bc4 4.Rc6 Bf7 5.Rc7/iii Bb3/iv 6.Rc3/v Bf7/vi 7.Kf4 Sf2 8.Kf3 (Rc2? Kg1;) Sh1 9.Rc2+ wins.

i) 1.Rb6? Kh3 2.Rxb5 Sg3 3.Rb1 Sxf5, or 1.Rh6? Kg2 2.f6 Bc4 (Be8) draws.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Rb6? Be8/vii, and 4.Rb8 Bf7 5.Rf8 Bb3 6.Rb8 Bf7 7.Rb7 Bg8 8.Rg7 Bb3 positional draw, 4.Re6 Bf7 5.Re7 Bg8 6.Re8 Bf7 7.Re7 Bg8 positional draw. Another try: 3.Rh6+? Kg2 4.f6 Bc4.

iii) 5.Kf4? Sf2 6.Rc2 Kg1, or 5.Rf6? Bb3 6.Rb6 Bf7 7.Rb7 Bg8 draw.

iv) Bg8 6.Kf4 Sf2 7.Rd7 Bc4 8.Kf3 Sd3 9.Rd4 Bb5 10.Rh4+ Kg1 11.Kg3 Sf2 12.f6 Be8 13.Rf4 Sh1+ 14.Kf3 Sf2 15.f7 Bxf7 16.Rxf7 wins.

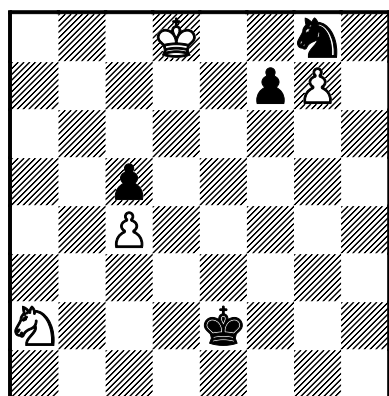
v) 6.Kf4? Sf2 7.Rc3 Bd5 (Bf7?; Kf3) 8.Rc2 Kg1 9.Rd2 Bf7 (Bc4?; Rd4) draws.

vi) Bd5 7.Rd3 Bc4 8.Rd4 Bf7 9.Kf4 Sf2 10.Kf3 Kg1 11.Rd7 Bh5+ 12.Kf4 Kg2 13.Rg7+ Kf1 14.f6 wins.

vii) Not Bc4? 4.Rc6 Bf7 5.Rc7 similar to the main line.

“Here, after two simple moves, a 6-man position occurs. In both lines there are well-known mutual attacks by the pieces B-R. However, the play is enriched by the thematic tries”.

No 19041 A. Sochnev
3rd honourable mention



d8e2 0004.22 4/4 Win

No 19041 Alexey Sochnev (Russia). 1.Sc3+/i Kd3 2.Sd5 Kxc4 3.Se7 Sf6 4.Sf5 Kd3 5.Ke7 Sg8+ 6.Kf8/ii c4 7.Kxg8 c3 8.Se3 Kxe3 9.Kh7/iii c2 10.g8Q c1Q 11.Qg5+ wins.

i) 1.Sc1+? Ke3 2.Sb3 Kd3 3.Sxc5+ Kxc4 4.Se4 f5 5.Sg5 f4 6.Ke8 Kd3 7.Kf7 Sh6+ 8.Kg6 Sg8 draws.

ii) 6.Kxf7? c4 7.Kxg8 c3 8.Kh7 c2 draws.

iii) 9.Kxf7? c2 10.g8Q Kd2, or 9.Kf8? c2 10.g8Q f5 11.Qc4 Kd2 12.Qd4+ Kc1 13.Ke7 f4 draws.

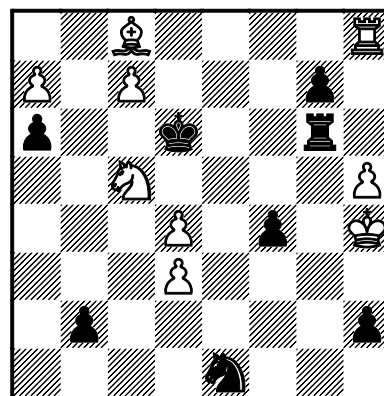
“Of course the main point is the nice move 9.Kh7!!”.

No 19042 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Bb7/i Sg2+/ii 2.Bxg2 Rxg2 3.c8S+ Kc7 4.a8S+ Kc6 5.Sa7+/iii Kd6 6.Rd8+ Ke7 7.Sc6+ Kf7 8.Se5+ Kf6/iv 9.Rf8+ Ke7 10.Rf7+ Ke8 11.Sc7+ Kd8 12.Sb7+/v Kc8 13.Sd6+ Kb8 14.Sc6+/vi mate.

i) 1.Rd8+? Kxc7 2.Rd7+ Kb6 3.Rb7+ Ka5 4.Sb3+ Ka4 5.Sc5+ Ka5, or 1.hxg6? h1Q+ 2.Bh3 Sf3+ 3.Kg4 Sh2+ draw.

ii) b1Q 2.hxg6 Sf3+ 3.Kg4 Qg1+ 4.Kxf3 wins.

No 19042 A. Pallier
special honourable mention



h4d6 0414.55 9/8 Win

iii) 5.Se7+? Kd6 6.Sf5+ Kc6 7.Se7+ Kd6 draws.

iv) Ke7 9.Rd7+ Kf8 10.Se6+ Kg8 11.Rd8+ Kh7 12.Sf8+ Kg8 13.Sfg6+ Kh7 14.Rh8 mate.

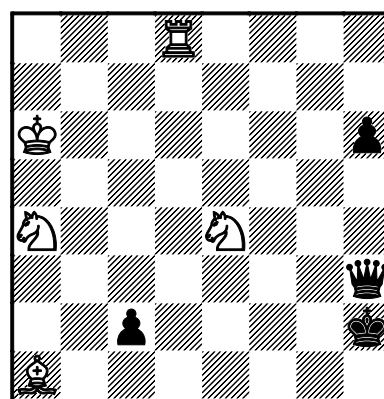
v) 12.S5e6+? Kc8 13.Rf8+ Kb7 14.Sc5+ Kxc7, or 12.Sc6+? Kc8 13.Se7+ Kb8/vii 14.S7xa6+ Ka8 draw.

vi) 14.Sxa6+? Ka8 15.Sc7+ Kb8 16.Sc6 mate is loss of time.

vii) But not Kxc7? 14.Sd5++ Kb8 15.Rb7+ Kc8 16.Rc7+ Kd8 17.Se6+ Ke8 18.Re7 mate.

“A couple of fresh moments of known knight promotions. Here the impression is reduced by too much unnecessary material”.

No 19043 V. Kalashnikov
special honourable mention



a6h2 3112.02 5/4 Win

No 19043 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Rd2+ Kg1 2.Bd4+ Kf1 3.Rf2+ Ke1 4.Bc3+ Qxc3 5.Saxc3 c1Q 6.Ra2/i h5 7.Kb5/ii h4 8.Kc4 Kf1/iii 9.Sd2+ Kg1 (Kg2; Sb3+) 10.Sf3+/iv Kf1 11.Kd3 Qh6 12.Se4 Qb6 13.Sed2+ Kg2 14.Sc4+ Qf2 15.Rxf2+ Kxf2

16.Sc3 h3 (Kg3; Ke4) 17.Sh2 Kg3 18.Ke3 Kxh2 (Kh4; Kf4) 19.Kf2 Kh1 20.Sf1 h2 21.Sg3 mate.

i) 6.Re2+? Kf1 7.Rf2+ Ke1 8.Re2+ Kf1 9.Sd2+ Kg1 10.Sf3+ Kf1 11.Sh2+ Kg1 12.Sf3+ Kf1 positional draw.

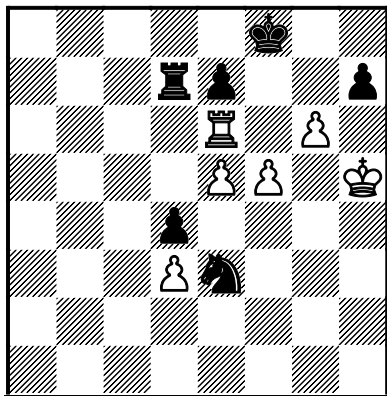
ii) 7.Ka5? h4 8.Kb4 h3 9.Kb3 h2 10.Rxh2 Qf4 draws.

iii) h3 9.Kd3 h2 10.Sg3 wins.

iv) 10.Kd3? Kh1 11.Sf3 Qf4 draws.

“The realization of a well-known mate after a bitter struggle”.

No 19044 D. Perone
special honourable mention



h5f8 0403.43 6/6 Win

No 19044 Daniel Perone (Argentina).
1.gxh7 Kg7 2.Rxe7+ Rxe7 3.f6+ Kxh7 4.fxe7 Sd5/i 5.e8B/ii Sf4+ (Kg7; Kg5) 6.Kg5 Sxd3 (Se6+; Kf6) 7.Bg6+ wins.

i) Sf5 5.e8S (e8Q? Sg7+;) Kg8 6.Kg5 (Kg6) wins.

ii) Try: 5.e8Q? Sf6+ 6.exf6 stalemate. Try: 5.e8S? Sf4+ 6.Kg5 Sxd3 draws.

“Not a bad version of a known idea (for example: the incorrect P. Rossi, M. Campioli, 2005 (HHdbIV#72701)”.

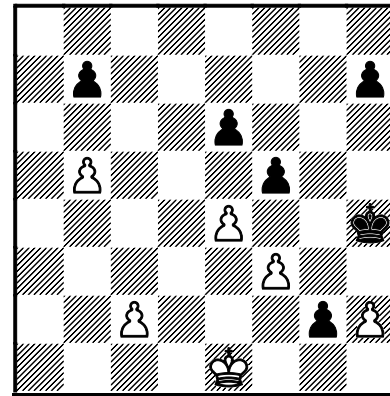
No 19045 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia) & Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Kf2 Kh3 2.Kg1 f4 3.c4 h6 4.c5 h5 5.c6 h4 6.c7/i b6 7.c8R/ii e5 8.Rc5 bxc5 9.b6 c4 10.b7 c3 11.b8Q c2 12.Qc8 mate.

i) 6.cxb7? e5 7.b8Q stalemate.

ii) 7.c8Q? stalemate..

“No real new ideas”.

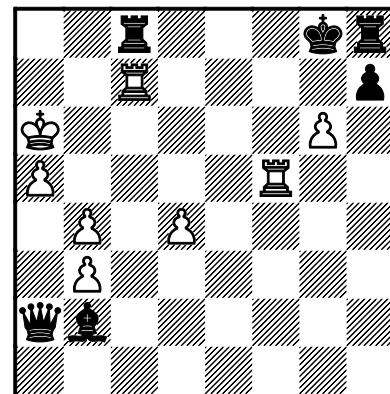
No 19045 V. Kalashnikov & M. Zinar
special honourable mention



e1h4 0000.55 6/6 Win

Free theme – draw studies

No 19046 J. Polašek & M. Hlinka
1st prize



a6g8 3830.51 8/6 Draw

No 19046 Jaroslav Polašek (Czech Republic) & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.gxh7+/i Rxh7 2.Rg5+ Kf8 3.Rf5+ Ke8 4.Re5+/ii Kd8 5.Rxh7 Ra8+/iii 6.Kb5/iv Rxa5+/v 7.bxa5 Qxb3+ 8.Ka6, and:

– Bxd4 9.Rd5+/vi Qxd5 10.Rd7+ Kxd7 (Qxd7) stalemate, or:

– Qc4+/vii 9.Rb5 Qe6+ (Bxd4; Rc7) 10.Rb6 Qe2+ 11.Kb7/viii Qe4+ 12.Ka6 Qd3+ 13.Rb5 Bxd4 14.Rb7, with:

• Qc4/ix 15.Rc7 Qxc7 16.Rb8+ Qxb8 stalemate, or:

• Qc3 15.Rb8+ Kd7 16.R5b7+ Ke6 17.Rb6+ Ke5 18.Re8+ Kf4 19.Rf8+ Ke4 20.Re8+ Kf3 21.Rf8+ Ke2 22.Re8+ Kd3 23.Re3+ Bxe3 24.Rb3 Qxb3 stalemate.

i) 1.Rxc8+? Kg7 (Rxf8; Kxf8) 2.Rf7+ Kxg6 3.Rxf8 Kxf7 wins.

ii) 4.Rxc8+? Kd7 5.Rfc5 Re7 wins.

iii) Bxd4 6.Rd5+ Ke8 7.Rxd4 Qc2 8.Rh8+ Ke7 9.Rxc8 Qxc8+ 10.Ka7, or Qxb3 6.Rh8+ Kd7 7.Rh7+ Kd6 8.Rh6+ Kc7 9.Rh7+, or Rc6+ 6.Kb7 Bxd4 7.Rd5+ Ke8 8.Kxc6 Qc2+ 9.Kb5 Qxh7 10.Rxd4 draw.

iv) 6.Kb7? Ra7+ 7.Kxa7 Bxd4+ wins.

v) Bxd4 7.Rd5+ Ke8 8.Rxd4 Rb8+ 9.Ka6 Qe2+ 10.Ka7 Rb5 11.Rh8+ Ke7 12.Rdh4 Qe3+ 13.Ka6 draws.

vi) 9.Re8+? Kxe8 10.Re7+ Kf8 wins.

vii) Qd3+ 9.Rb5 Bxd4 10.Rb7, or Qg8 9.Rb7 Qc4+ 10.Reb5 Bxd4 11.Rc7 draws.

viii) 11.Rb5? Bxd4, and 12.Rb7 Qe6+ 13.R5b6 Qc4+ 14.Rb5 Qc6+, or 12.Rc7 Qe4 13.Rbb7 Qd3+ 14.Rb5 Be5 win.

ix) Qe2 15.Rb8+/x Kd7 16.Rb7+ Kd6 17.Rc7 Qd3 18.Rc6+, or Qf1 15.Rb8, or Be5 15.Ka7 Qd4+ 16.Ka8 draws.

x) 15.Rc7? Qf3 16.Rbb7 Qd3+ 17.Rb5 Be5 wins.

“The wealth of content in this study is attractive: here we can see a capture refusal, some nice stalemates, changes and other interesting tactical moments. There are a lot of unexpected turns during play. Despite some difficult analytical support lines, this study is a high class work!

It should be noted that some lines of the author's text are not unique and are not shown here. Also, there was an abundance of exclamation points. But, these issues do not affect the overall quality of the study”.

No 19047 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.d8Q+/i Kxh3 2.Qh8 Qxh8 3.Bxh8 Sxe6 4.Bxe5 c5 5.Bc7 a4 (b5; Bxa5) 6.Bxb6 a3 7.Bxc5 a2 8.Bg1, and:

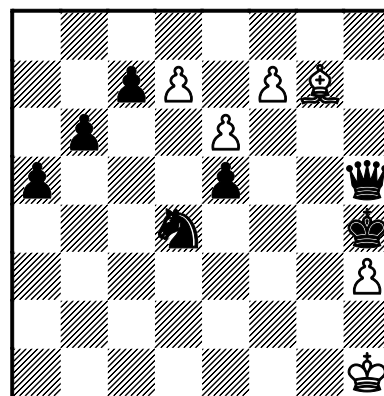
– a1Q 9.f8Q Sxf8 stalemate, or:

– Kg4/ii 9.Bd4 Sxd4 10.f8Q a1Q+ 11.Kg2 Qb2+ 12.Qf2 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.f8Q? Kxh3 2.Qh8/iii Qxh8 3.Bxh8 Sxe6 4.Bxe5 c5/iv 5.Bc7 a4 6.Bxb6 a3 7.Bxc5/v a2 8.Bg1 Kg4/vi 9.Bd4 Sxd4 10.d8Q a1Q+ 11.Kg2 Qb2+ wins.

No 19047 S. Didukh

2nd prize



h1h4 3013.44 6/7 Draw

ii) Kg3 9.Bh2+ Kf3 10.Be5 draws.

iii) 2.Qa3+ Sf3 3.Bxe5 Qg4 with mate.

iv) a4? 5.Bxc7 a3 6.Kg1 a2 7.Be5 draws.

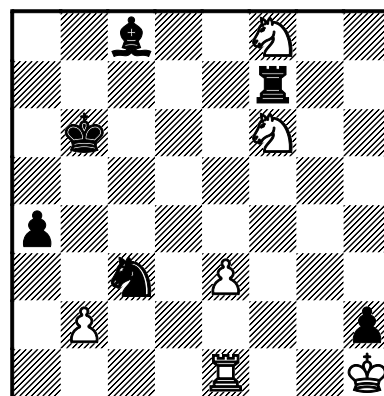
v) 7.Ba5 Kg3 8.Bc3 Kf3 wins.

vi) a1Q? 9.d8Q Sxd8 stalemate.

“A nice study with interesting content. Of course, the technical weakness lies in 5 captures in the first 4 moves but we close our eyes to this as there follows a clear realization of a logical idea”.

No 19048 M. Hlinka

3rd/4th prize



h1b6 0435.22 6/6 Draw

No 19048 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.S8h7/i Se4/ii 2.Sxe4 Bb7/iii 3.Sg5 Rf2 4.Ra1 Kb5 5.b3/iv axb3 6.Rb1/v, and:

– b2 7.Sf3 Bxe4/vi 8.Rxb2+ Rxb2 stalemate, or:

– Kc4 7.Rxb3 Kxb3 8.Sf3 Rf1+/vii 9.Kxh2 Rxf3/viii 10.Sd2+ draws.

i) 1.Rf1? Rxf8 2.Sd5+ Sxd5 3.Rxf8 Bb7 4.e4 Sb4 5.Kxh2 Sd3 6.e5 Sxe5 7.Rf4 Bc6 8.Kg3 Sd3 9.Rh4 Kc5 wins.

ii) Bf5 2.bxc3 Bxh7 3.Sxh7 Rxh7 4.e4, or Bb7+ 2.Kxh2 Se4 3.Rf1 Rc7 4.Kh3 draw.

iii) Rxh7 3.Sc3 Ka5 4.Re2 Bb7+ 5.e4 draws.

iv) 5.Rc1? Rxb2 6.Rc5+ Kb4 7.Rc7 Bd5 8.Rd7 Rd2 9.Sf3 Rd3 wins.

v) 6.Ra3? Rb2 7.Rxb3+ Rxb3 8.Kxh2 Kc6 9.Sf7 Ba8 wins.

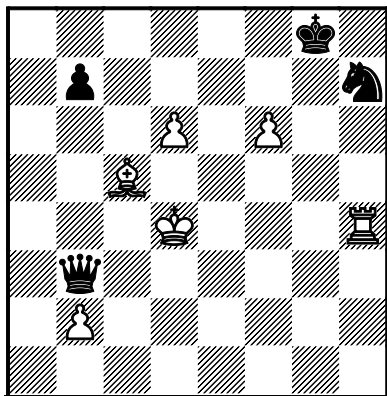
vi) Rxf3 8.Rxb2+ Kc6 9.Kxh2, or Rc2 8.Sd4+ draws.

vii) Bxe4 stalemate, or Rc2 9.Sd4+, or Rb2 9.Sc5+ Kc4 10.Sxb7 draws.

viii) Bxe4 10.Sd2+, or Kb4 10.Kg2 Rd1 11.Seg5 Kc4 12.Kg3 Kd3 13.Kf4 Rf1 14.e4 Ke2 15.e5 draws.

“Here we have non-obvious play by both sides; an interesting study with a nice stalemate and fork”.

No 19049 L. Gonzalez
3rd/4th prize



d4g8 3113.31 6/4 Draw

No 19049 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain). 1.d7/i Qd1+/ii 2.Ke5 Qxd7/iii 3.f7+ Qxf7 4.Rg4+ Kh8 5.Bd4 b6/iv 6.b3/v b5/vi 7.b4 zz Sf6/vii 8.Rf4 Qe7+/viii 9.Kf5 Kg7 10.Kg5 Qd6 11.Bxf6+ draws.

i) 1.Rg4+? Kf7 2.Rg7+ Kxf6, or 1.f7+? Qxf7 2.Rg4+ Kh8 wins.

ii) Qxb2+ 2.Ke3 Qc3+ 3.Ke2 Qc2+ 4.Ke1 Qc3+ 5.Ke2 Qe5+ 6.Kd2 (Kd1) Qxf6 7.Rd4 draws.

iii) Sxf6 3.Kxf6 Qxd7 4.Rd4 Qf7+ 5.Kg5 Qc7 6.Rd5 Qg7+ 7.Kf5 Qxb2 8.Re5 Qb1+ 9.Kg5 (Kf6) draws.

iv) b5 6.b4 zz, or Sf8 6.Kd6+ (Ke4+) Kh7 7.Rg7+ Qxg7 8.Bxg7 draws.

v) Thematic try: 6.Bc3? b5 7.Bd4 b4 8.b3 Qxb3 (Sf6) 9.Kf5+ Sf6 10.Bxf6+ Kh7, or 6.Kd6+? Sf6 7.Rf4 Qd7+ wins, or 6.b4? B5 zz.

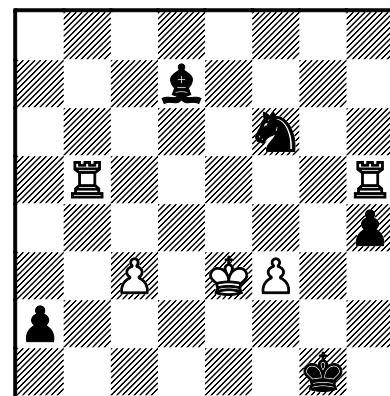
vi) Qxb3 7.Kf5+ (Ke4+) Sf6 8.Bxf6+ (Kxf6) Kh7 9.Rh4+ Kg8 10.Rh8+ Kf7 11.Rh7+ Ke8 12.Re7+ Kf8 13.Kf4 b5 14.Re4 Qh3 15.Be7+ (Bg5), or Sf6 7.Rf4 b5 8.Rxf6, or Qf3 7.Ke6+ Sf6 8.Bxf6+ Kh7 9.Rh4+ Kg6 10.Be7 Qxb3+ 11.Kd7 Qd5+ 12.Bd6 (Kc7) draw.

vii) Sf8 8.Kd6+ (Ke4+) Kh7 9.Rg7+ Qxg7 10.Bxg7 Kxg7 11.Kc6, or Qf3 8.Ke6+ Sf6 9.Bxf6+ Kh7 10.Rd4 draws.

viii) Kh7 9.Rxf6 Qe7+ 10.Kd5 draws.

“Interesting reciprocal zugzwangs in the thematic try and the main line (7-man positions!). White uses his K-B battery effectively”.

No 19050 I. Aliev & M. Iskandrov
5th prize



e3g1 0233.22 5/5 Draw

No 19050 Ilham Aliev, & Misratdin Iskandrov (Azerbaijan). 1.Rhg5+/i Sg4+ 2.Rxg4+ Bxg4 3.Ra5 Be6 4.c4/ii Bxc4 5.Kd4/iii Bf7/iv 6.Kc3 h3 7.Kb2 h2 8.Rc5/v h1Q 9.Rc1+ draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rbg5+? Sg4+? 2.Rxg4+ Bxg4 3.Ra5, see main line, but Bg4 2.Ra5 Bxh5 wins, or 1.Ra5? Sxh5 2.Rxa2 h3 wins.

ii) 4.Kd3? Bb3 5.c4 h3 6.Kc3 h2 wins.

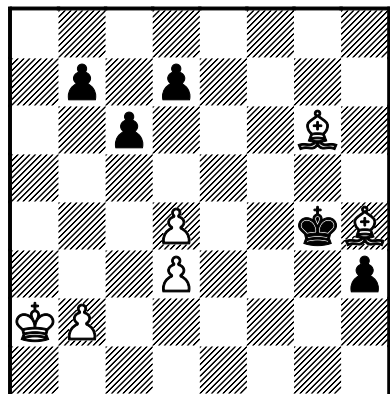
iii) 5.Kd2? h3 6.Kc3 h2 wins.

iv) Be6 6.Kc3 h3 7.Kb2 h2 8.Rh5 draws. h3 6.Kxc4 h2 7.Rxa2 h1Q 8.Ra1+ and White wins.

v) 8.Re5? Kf2, or 8.Rg5+? Kf2 wins, but here not Kf1? 9.Rc5 a1Q+ 10.Kxa1 draws.

“The play leaves a good impression. It is impossible not to notice the interesting moves 1.Rhg5! and 5.Kd4!”.

No 19051 M. Campioli
6th prize



a2g4 0020.34 6/5 BTM, Draw

No 19051 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...d5 2.Bh5+/i Kxh4 3.Bf3 Kg3 4.Bh1 Kh2/ii 5.Bf3 Kg1 6.Kb3/iii h2 7.Kb4/iv b6 8.Kc3 h1Q 9.Bxh1 Kxh1 10.Kd2/v Kg2 11.Ke2 Kg1/vi 12.Ke1 c5 13.dxc5 bxc5 14.Ke2/vii d4/viii 15.Kf3 Kf1 16.Ke4 Ke2 17.b4 (b3? Kd2;) c4 18.b5, and:

– c3 19.b6 c2 20.b7 c1Q 21.b8Q Qe3+ 22.Kd5 draws, or:

– cxd3 19.b6 d2 20.b7 d1Q 21.b8Q d3 (Qd3+; Kd5) 22.Qh2+ draws.

i) 2.Bf5+? Kxh4 (Kxf5?; Bg3) wins.

ii) Kf2 5.Kb3 h2 6.Kb4 b6 7.Kc3 Kg1 8.Bf3 see main line.

iii) 6.Kb1? h2 7.Kc1 (Rc2) h1Q 8.Bxh1 Kxh1 9.Kd1 (Rd2) Kh2 wins.

iv) 7.Ka4? Kf2 8.Bh1 Ke3 wins.

v) 10.b4? Kg2 11.b5 cxb5 12.Kb4 Kf3 13.Kxb5 Ke3 14.Kxb6 Kxd3 wins.

vi) Kg3 12.Ke3 b5 13.b4, or b5 12.b4 draw.

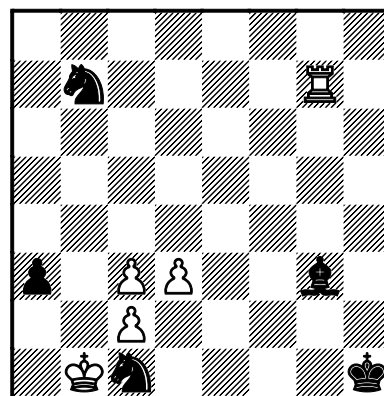
vii) 14.b3? d4, or 14.d4? C4 win.

viii) Kg2 15.Ke3 Kg3 16.b3 d4+ 17.Ke4 draws.

“The main content of this work is the interesting Réti manoeuvre of the wK: b3-b4-c3-d2. After the exchange of the bQ and wB the play turns into an ordinary pawn ending”.

No 19052 Valery Vlasenko (Ukraine). 1...a2+ 2.Ka1 Be1/i 3.Rh7+/ii, and:

No 19052 V. Vlasenko
1st honourable mention



b1h1 0233.31 5/5 BTM, Draw

– Kg2 4.Rxb7 Bxc3+ 5.Rb2 Kf3 (Bd4; c3+) 6.d4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bxc3 stalemate, or:

– Kg1 4.Rg7+ Kf1 5.Rf7+ Ke2 6.Rxb7 Bxc3+ 7.Rb2 Kd2 8.d4 Bxd4 9.c3+ Kxc3 10.Rxa2 Kb3+ 11.Kb1 Sxa2 stalemate.

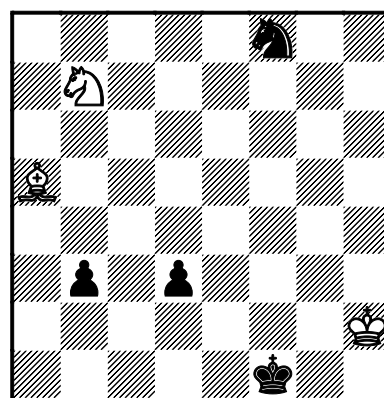
i) Be5 3.Rh7+ Kg2 4.d4 draws, but not 3.Rxb7? Bxc3+ 4.Rb2 Bd4 5.c3 Bxc3 6.d4 Sd3 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Rxb7? Bxc3+ 4.Rb2 Bd4/iii 5.c3 Bxc3 6.d4 Kg1 (Sd3) wins.

iii) Kg2? 5.d4 Bxd4 6.c3+, or Kg1? 5.d4 Bxd4 6.c3 Bxc3

“White refuses to capture on b7, because first he has to drive the bK to the 'right' place. A good logical idea!”.

No 19053 H. van der Heijden
2nd honourable mention



h2f1 0014.02 3/4 Draw

No 19053 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands). 1.Sd6/i d2 2.Sc4 (Bxd2? b2;) d1Q 3.Se3+ Ke2 4.Sxd1 Kxd1 5.Bc3 Kc2 6.Ba1 Kb1 7.Bh8/ii Sg6 8.Bg7/iii Sf4 9.Kg1, and:

– Se6 10.Bh8 Sc5 11.Kf2 Sa4 12.Ke3 Kc2 13.Ba1 Sb2 14.Kd4 Kb1 15.Kc3 Kxa1 16.Kxb3 draws, or:

– Sd3 10.Kg2 Sb2 11.Kf3 Sd1 12.Ke4/vii Kc2 13.Ba1 Sb2 14.Kd4 Kb1 15.Kc3 Kxa1 16.Kxb3 draws.

i) 1.Sc5? d2 2.Bxd2 b2 3.Se4 b1Q wins.

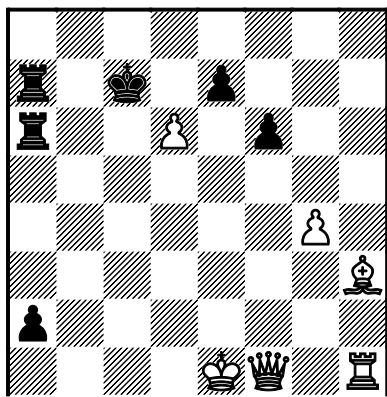
ii) 7.Bg7? Se6 8.Be5 Sc5 (Kc2) wins.

iii) Otherwise Black wins an important tempo, e.g. 8.Bf6? Sf4 9.Kg1 Sd5 10.Bh8 Kc2 11.Ba1 Sc3 (Se3) wins.

vii) 12.Ke2? Kc2 13.Ba1 Sb2 14.Ke3 Kb1 wins.

“Four bishop moves to a corner, including two corner-to-corner moves. As an extra we see another bishop move to a corner in the second main line”.

No 19054 M. Campioli
3rd honourable mention



e1c7 1710.23 6/6 BTM, Draw

No 19054 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...Kd8 (Rxd6; Kf2) 2.dxe7+/i Kxe7 3.Qe2+ Re6 4.Qxe6+/ii Kxe6 5.g5+/iii f5/iv 6.Bxf5+/v Kxf5 7.O-O, and:

– Kg4 8.Ra1 Kg3 9.Kf1 draws, or:

– Kxg5 8.Ra1 Kf4 9.Kf2 draws.

i) 2.Kf2? a1Q 3.dxe7+ Kxe7 4.Qe1+ Qxe1+ 5.Rxe1+ Re6 6.Rh1 Ra2+ 7.Kf3 Rea6 8.Ke4 R2a4+ wins.

ii) 4.Kf2? Rxe2+ 5.Kxe2 a1Q wins.

iii) 5.O-O? a1Q, or 5.Kf2? a1Q 6.g5+ f5 win.

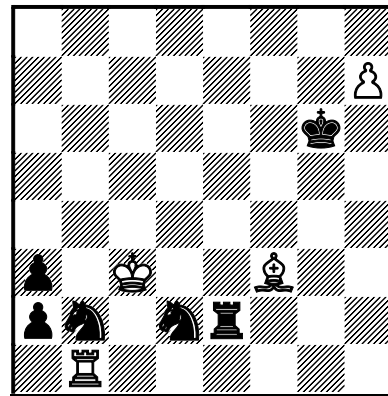
iv) Ke5 6.Kf2 a1Q 7.Rxa1 Rxa1 8.gxf6 draws.

v) 6.O-O? a1Q 7.Bxf5+ Ke5 wins.

vi) Ke4 8.Ra1 Kd3 9.Kf2 Kc2 10.Ke3 Kb2 11.Rxa2 draws.

“Not a bad study, but the introduction has no connection with the final content. Castling would have contributed when it had occurred during the introduction”.

No 19055 L'. Kekely
special honourable mention



c3g6 0416.12 4/6 Draw

No 19055 L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Ra1 Sb1+/i 2.Kb4/ii Sd3+ 3.Ka4/iii Sb2+/iv 4.Kb4 Re8 5.h8Q Rxh8 6.Be4+ Kf6 7.Bxb1 Rb8+ 8.Kxa3 axb1Q/v 9.Rxb1 Sc4+ 10.Ka4/vi Ra8+ 11.Kb4 Rb8+ 12.Ka4 Rxb1 stalemate.

i) Rh2 2.h8Q Sb1+ 3.Kb3 (Kb4) Rxh8 4.Be4+ Kf6 5.Bxb1 axb1Q 6.Rxb1 Rh3+ 7.Kb4 draws.

ii) 2.Kb3? Re3+ 3.Kxa2 Kxh7 4.Bg4 Sd2 5.Rh1+ Kg7 6.Rh3 Rxh3 7.Bxh3 Sbc4, or 2.Kd4? Rd2+ 3.Kc5 Kxh7 win.

iii) 3.Kc4? Se5+ 4.Kc5 Sd7+ 5.Kc6 Sb8+ wins.

iv) Sc5+ 4.Kb5 (Kb4) Rb2+ 5.Kxc5 Kxh7 (Be4), or Re8 4.h8Q Rxh8 5.Be4+ Kf6 6.Bxd3 draws.

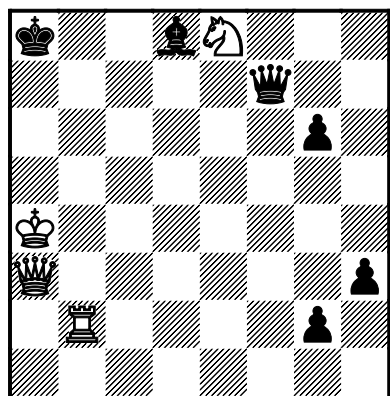
v) Sc4+ 9.Ka4 Rxb1 10.Rxa2 draws.

vi) 10.Ka2? Ra8+ 11.Kb3 Sd2+ wins.

“This known stalemate is realized by fairly sharp play by both sides”.

No 19056 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Sc7+/i Bxc7 2.Kb5+ Ba5 3.Qxa5+ Qa7 4.Qd8+ Qb8+ 5.Qxb8+ Kxb8 6.Kc6+ Ka7 7.Ra2+/ii Kb8 8.Rb2+ Kc8 9.Ra2 Kd8 10.Kd6 Ke8 11.Ke6 Kf8 12.Kf6 Kg8 13.Ra8+ Kh7 14.Ra7+ Kh6 15.Ra3 Kh5 16.Rxh3+ Kg4 17.Rh6 g5 18.Rg6 Kf3 19.Rxg5 draws.

No 19056 V. Kalashnikov
special honourable mention

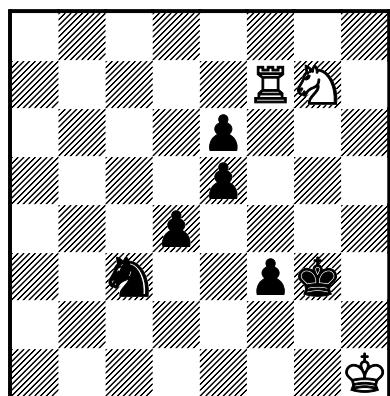


a4a8 4131.03 4/6 Draw

i) 1.Kb5+? Qa7 2.Qf3+ Qb7+ 3.Qxb7+ Kxb7 4.Kc5+ Ka7 5.Ra2+ Ba5 6.Rxa5+ Kb8 7.Rb5+ Kc8 wins.

ii) 7.Rb1? h2 8.Ra1+ Kb8 9.Rb1+ Kc8 10.Ra1 Kd8 11.Kd6 Ke8 12.Ke6 Kf8 13.Kf6 Kg8 14.Ra8+ Kh7 15.Ra7+ Kh6 wins.

No 19057 G. Josten
special honourable mention



h1g3 0104.04 3/6 Draw

No 19057 Gerhard Josten (Germany).
1.Sxe6/i Se4 2.Sxd4 exd4 3.Kg1 Sd2 4.Rf6/ii d3 5.Rf8/iii Se4 6.Kf1 d2 7.Rd8 Kf4 8.Rd3 draws.

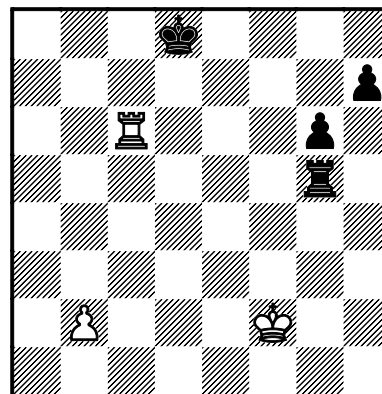
i) 1.Sh5+? Kf2, or 1.Kg1? D3 win.

ii) 4.Rg7+? Kf4 5.Rf7+ Ke3 6.Re7+ Se4, or 4.Rf8? d3 5.Rf7 Sc4 6.Rg7+ Kf4 7.Rd7 Se5, or 4.Rf5? Sc4 5.Rf8 Se3 6.Rg8+ Sg4 7.Kf1 d3 8.Ke1 f2+ win.

iii) 5.Rf7? Sc4 6.Rg7+ Kf4 7.Rf7+ Ke4 8.Kf2 Se5 9.Re7 d2, or 5.Rg6+? Kf4 6.Rf6+ Ke3, or 5.Rd6? F2+ win.

Rook studies
with some quiet moves

No 19058 R. Becker
1st prize



f2d8 0400.12 3/4 Draw

No 19058 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rb6/i Kc7/ii 2.Re6/iii Kd8 3.Rb6 Kc7 4.Re6 Kd7 5.Ra6/iv Ke8/v 6.Ra8+/vi Kf7 7.Ra7+ Kg8 8.Rb7 Rf5+ 9.Ke3/vii Rf7 10.Rb6/viii Kg7 11.b4 Rf6 12.Rb7+ Rf7 13.Rb6 h5 14.b5 Rf5/ix 15.Rb7+ Kh6 16.Rb8 Kg5 17.b6 h4 18.b7/x Rf7 19.Ke2 Re7+ 20.Kf2/ Rh7/xi 21.Kg2 Kh5 22.Kh2/xii g5 23.Kh3 zz, draw.

i) 1.Ra6? Rb5 2.Ra7 h5 3.Ra6 Rf5+ 4.Kg3 Rg5+, and 5.Kf3 Ke7 6.b4 Kf7 7.Ra7+ Kf6 8.Ra6+ Kg7 wins, and 5.Kf4 Rg4+ 6.Kf3 Ke7 7.b4 Kf7 8.Rb6 Kg7 9.Rb8 Kh7 10.b5 Rb4 11.b6 g5 12.b7 h4 wins.

ii) Re5 2.Kf3 (Kg3) Kc7 3.Rf6 Rf5+ 4.Rxf5 gxf5 5.Kf4.

iii) 2.Ra6? Rb5 3.Ra7+ Rb7, or 2.Rf6? Rf5+ 3.Rxf5 gxf5 4.Kf3 h5 win.

iv) Try: 5.Rb6? h5 6.b4 Ke7 7.b5 Kf7 8.Ke3 Kg7 9.Ke4 Rg4+ 10.Kd3 h4 11.Rd6 Rg1 12.Kc2 Rg5 13.b6 Rb5 14.Kd3 Kh6 15.Kc4 Rb2 16.Kc3 Rb1 17.Kc4 h3 wins.

v) h5 6.b4 Ke7 7.b5 Kf7 draws.

vi) 6.Ra7? (Rb6?) h5 7.Rb7 Rd5 wins.

vii) 9.Ke2? h5 10.b4 Rf7 11.Rb6 Kg7 12.b5 Rf5 13.Rb7+ Kh6 14.Rb8 Rf4 15.b6 Rb4 16.b7 Kh7 wins.

viii) 10.Rb5? Kg7 11.b4 h5 12.Rd5 Kh6 13.b5 Re7+ 14.Kd4 h4 15.b6 h3 16.Rb5 h2 17.Rb1 Kg5 18.Rh1 Rh7, or 10.Rb8+? Kg7 11.b4 h5 12.b5 Rf1 wins.

ix) Kh6 15.Rb8 Kg5 16.b6 h4 17.Rc8 h3 18.Rc1 Kh4 19.Rb1 h2 20.b7 Rf8 21.b8Q Rxb8 22.Rxb8, or Rf1 15.Rd6 Rb1 16.b6 Kh6 17.Kd4 h4 18.Kc5 h3 19.Rd3 draw.

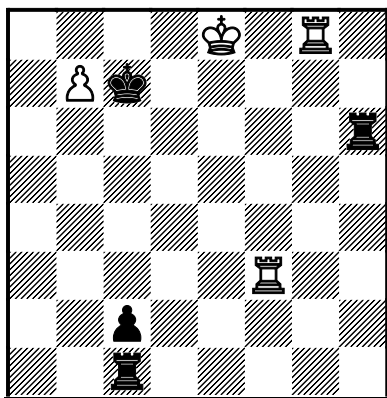
x) 18.Ke2? Rf6 zz 19.b7 Rf7 zz 20.Ke3 h3 wins.

xi) Rg7 21.Kf3 zz.

xii) 22.Kh3? g5 zz.

“Over 23 moves and no captures! I have no doubt that many will criticize this study, because of its difficulty. The complexity of this study is indisputable. These difficulties are especially felt in the first couple of moves. But we should expect some complexity in a tourney with the theme “rook studies with some quiet moves”. The precision of this study is astounding, both White's play in the main line and Black's play in the tries ... I am sure that this work provides some important answers to chess practitioners and researchers of rook endings”.

No 19059 O. Pervakov
2nd prize



e8c7 0800.10 4/4 Draw

No 19059 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Rf7+/i Kb8 2.Kf8/ii Rh7/iii 3.Rxh7 Rd1 4.Kg7+ Kxb7 5.Kh8+ Kb6 6.Rg6+/iv Kb5 (Kc5; Rc7+) 7.Rh5+ (Rb7+? Ka5;) Kb4 8.Rg4+ Ka3 9.Ra5+/v Kb2 10.Rb5+ Kc1 (Kc3; Kc5) 11.Rc5/vi Kb1 12.Rb4+/vii Kc1 13.Rbc4 wins.

i) 1.Rb3? Re1+, or 1.Rg7+? Kb8 2.Rf8 Rh7 3.Rxh7 Rd1 draws.

ii) Thematic try: 2.Rd7? Rg6/viii 3.Rxg6 Re1+ 4.Kf7 Rf1+ 5.Ke6 Re1+ 6.Kf5 Rf1+

7.Ke4 Re1+ 8.Kf3 Rf1+ 9.Ke2 Re1+ 10.Kf2 Rf1+ draws.

iii) Rg6 3.Rxg6 Rd1 4.Ra6 with mate.

iv) 6.Rh6+? Kc7 7.Rh7+ Kd6 draws.

v) 9.Rh3+? Kb2 10.Rg2 Ra1 11.Rhh2 Ra8+ 12.Kg7 Rc8 draws.

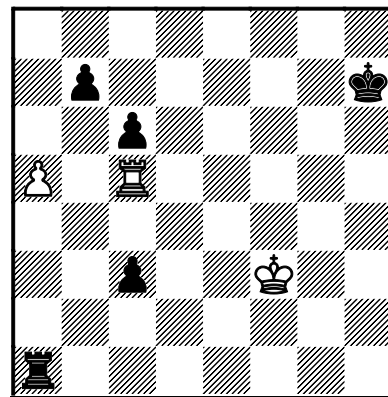
vi) 11.Rc4? Rd4 12.Rxd4 stalemate.

vii) 12.Rb5+? Kc1 13.Rc5 Kb1 loss of time.

viii) Not Rh7? 3.Rxh7 Re1+ 4.Re7 Rxe7+ 5.Kxe7+ Kxb7 6.Rg1 wins.

“Since there is a material balance, White's precise play is impressive! On the technical side, this is a very 'clean' work. If we look at the artistic side, we see excellent content”.

No 19060 Y. Afek
3rd prize



f3h7 0400.13 3/5 Draw

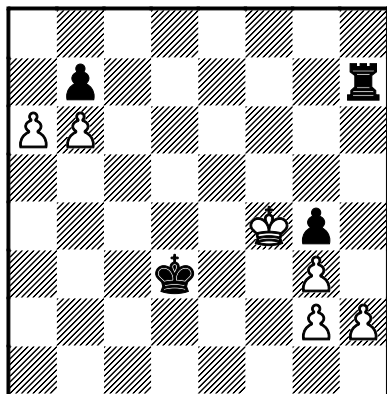
No 19060 Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.Ke4/i c2 (Kg6; Kd3) 2.Rxc2 Ra4+ 3.Kf3 Rxa5 4.Rb2 Rf5+ 5.Ke4 Rf7 6.Ke5 Kg8/ii 7.Kd6 Kf8 8.Rh2 Ke8 9.Rh8+ Rf8 10.Rh7 Rf6+ 11.Kc5 Rf5+ 12.Kd6 Rf7 13.Rh8+ Rf8 14.Rh7 Rf6+ 15.Kc5 Rf7 16.Rh8+ Kd7 17.Kb6 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.Ke3? c2 2.Rxc2 Rxa5 3.Rb2 Re5+ 4.Kd4 Rd5+ 5.Ke4 Rd7 6.Ke5 Kg8 7.Ke6 Rh7 8.Kd6 Kf8 9.Kc5 Rh5+ 10.Kb6 Rf5, or 1.Rxc3? Rxa5 2.Rb3 Rf5+ 3.Ke4 Rf7 win.

ii) Kg6 7.Ke6 Rf6+ 8.Ke7 Rf7+ 9.Ke6 Kg7 10.Kd6 Kf8 11.Rh2 Ke8 12.Rh8+ Rf8 13.Rh7 Rf6+ 14.Kc5 Rf5+ 15.Kd6 Rf7 16.Rh8+ Rf8 17.Rh7 draws.

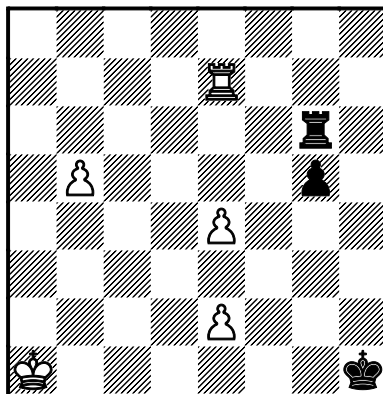
“To characterize the quality of this study it is sufficient to note the wonderful, unexpected move 3.Kf3!!!”.

No 19061 M. Campioli
4th prize



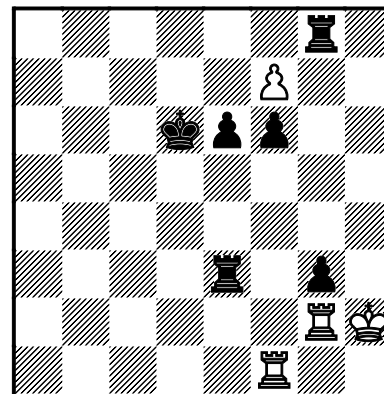
f4d3 0300.52 6/4 Draw

No 19062 A. Skripnik,
V. Kalashnikov & J. Mikitovics
5th prize



a1h1 0400.41 5/3 Win

No 19063 A. Pallier
6th prize



h2d6 0800.13 4/6 Draw

No 19061 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.a7/i Rh8 2.Ke5/ii Kc4/iii 3.Kd6 Kb5 4.Kc7 Ka6 5.h3, and:

– Ra8 6.hxg4 Rg8 7.g5 Ra8 8.g4/iv Rg8 9.g3 (g6? Rg7+;) Ra8/v 10.g6 Rg8 11.g5/vi Rg7+ 12.Kd8 (Kc8? Kxb6;) Kxb6 13.a8Q Rg8+ 14.Ke7 draws (wPg3), or:

– Rg8/vii 6.hxg4 Ra8 7.g5 Rg8 8.g4/viii Ra8 9.g6/ix Rg8 10.g5 (g3 Rg7+;) Rg7+ 11.Kd8 Kxb6 12.a8Q Rg8+ 13.Ke7 draws (wPg2).

i) 1.axb7? Rxb7 2.Kxg4 Rxb6 3.h4 Ke4 wins.

ii) 2.Kxg4? Kc4 3.h4 Kb5 4.h5 Kxb6 5.h6 Kxa7 6.Kg5 b5 wins.

iii) Rd8 3.Ke6 Kc4 4.Ke7 Rh8 5.Kd6 see main line.

iv) 8.g6? Rg8 9.g4 Rg7+ 10.Kd8 Kxb6 wins.

v) Rg7+ 10.Kd6, or Kb5 10.Kxb7 Rg7+ 11.Kc8 draws.

vi) 11.g7? Rg7+ 12.Kd6 Rg8 wins.

vii) gxh3 6.gxh3 Rh7+ 7.Kd6 draws.

viii) 8.g6? Rg7+ 9.Kd8 Kxb6 wins.

ix) 9.g3? Rg8 10.g6 Rg7+ wins.

“Two interesting main lines whose finales differ only in the location of the white pawn”.

No 19062 Anatoly Skripnik, Valery Kalashnikov (Russia) & János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.e5 Rb6/i 2.Rg7 Rxb5/ii 3.Rxg5 Kh2/iii 4.Ka2 Kh3 5.Ka3, and:

– Rb6 6.e4 Kh4 7.Rf5 Kg4 8.Ka4 Kh4/iv 9.Ka5 Rb8 10.e6 Re8 11.Re5 Kg4 12.e7 Kf4 13.Re6 wins, or:

– Kh4 6.Rf5, and:

• Rb8 7.e6/v Kg4 8.e4 Re8 9.Rf6 Kg5 10.e5 wins, or:

• Kg4 7.e4 Rb7/vi 8.e6 Re7 9.Rf6 Rb7 10.Ka4 (e5? Rb5;) Kg5 11.e5/vii Rb8 12.e7/viii Re8 13.Rf7 Kg6 14.e6 wins.

i) g4 2.Re8 g3 3.e6 g2 4.Rh8+ Kg1 5.e7, or Rg8 2.b6, or Kg2 2.e6 win.

ii) Kh2 3.Rxg5 Rxb5 4.Ka2 see main line.

iii) Rb4 4.Ka2 Kh2 5.Ka3 wins.

iv) Rb7 9.e6 Re7 10.Rf6 Kg5 11.e5 Rb7 12.Ka5 wins.

v) Thematic try: 7.e3? Rb5 zz 8.e4 Rb6 zz 9.Ka4 Kg4 zz 10.Ka5 Rb8 11.e6 Re8 12.Rf6 Kg5 13.e5 Rd8 14.e7 Rd5+, or 7.e4? Rb6 zz.

vi) Rb1 8.e6 Rb6 9.Re5 Kf4 10.e7 Kxe5 11.e8Q+, or Rb6 8.Ka4 zz.

vii) 11.Rf7? Rb6 12.Rf5+ Kg6 draws.

viii) 12.Ka5? Rd8 13.e7 Rd5+ draws.

“Here three main lines are realized on the background of zz positions with two of them ending with echo positions but it is a pity that we quickly enter 6-man territory. The connection between the appearance of the zz positions and the introductory play is weak”.

No 19063 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Kg1 Rf8 2.Rxf6 Re1+ 3.Rf1 Rxf1+ 4.Kxf1 Rxf7+

5.Kg1 Rg7 6.Rd2+ Kc5 7.Re2/i Kd5 8.Rd2+ Ke4 9.Re2+ Kf5 10.Kg2 Rg4/ii 11.Re3 e5 12.Rf3+ Ke4 13.Ra3/iii Kd5/iv 14.Ra5+ Ke6 15.Ra3 Kf5/v 16.Rf3+ Ke4 17.Ra3/vi Kd5 18.Ra5+ Ke6 19.Ra3 positional draw.

i) 7.Kg2? e5 8.Ra2 e4, or 7.Rc2+? Kd4 8.Rd2+ Ke3 wins.

ii) e5 11.Re3 Kf4 12.Rf3+ Ke4 13.Ra3 Kd4 14.Ra4+ Kd3 15.Ra3+ draws.

iii) Thematic try: 13.Rb3? Kd5 14.Rb5+ (Ra3 e4;) Kd6 15.Rb6+ Kc5 16.Ra6 e4 wins.

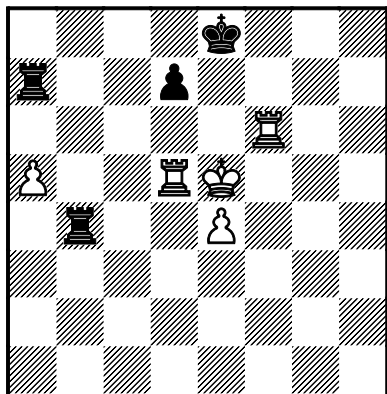
iv) Rg6 14.Ra4+ Kf5 15.Ra3 draws.

v) e4 16.Rxg3 Rxg3+ 17.Kxg3 Ke5 18.Kf2 Kf4 19.Ke2 draws.

vi) 17.Rb3? Kd5 18.Rb5+ Kd6 wins.

“A 'Ferris wheel' of the bK”.

No 19064 L. Gonzalez
1st honourable mention



e5e8 0800.21 5/4 Win

No 19064 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain). 1.Kd6/i Rxe4/ii 2.Rdf5/iii Kd8/iv 3.Rf8+ Re8 4.Rxe8+ Kxe8 5.Rh5/v Kf8/vi 6.Rg5/vii zz Kf7/viii 7.Rb5 zz Kf6/ix 8.Kc5 Ra8 9.Kb6 Rb8+ 10.Ka6 Rd8 11.Kb7 d5 12.Kc7/x Ke7 13.a6 Rd7+ 14.Kb6 Rd6+ 15.Ka5 Rd8 16.a7 wins.

i) 1.a6? Ra4 2.Rdd6 Ke7 3.Rh6 Ra5+ 4.Kf4 Kd8, or 1.Rb6? Ra4 2.Rbb5 Ra6 3.Kf5 Ke7 4.Kf4 Re6 5.Re5 d6 6.Rb7+ Kf6 7.Rxe6+ Kxe6 draws.

ii) Ra6+ 2.Kc5 Rxf6 3.Kxb4 Kd8 4.Rc5 (Rc4) d6 5.Rc3 Rf1 (Kd7; a6) 6.a6 Ra1 7.Ra3 Rxa3 8.Kxa3 wins.

iii) 2.Rb5? Ra6+ 3.Rb6 Rxb6+ 4.axb6 Rc4 5.b7 Rc6+ 6.Ke5 Rc5+ 7.Kd6 Rc6+ 8.Kd5

Rxf6 9.b8Q+ Ke7 10.Qb4+ Ke8 11.Qe4+ Re6 positional draw.

iv) Ra6+ 3.Kc7 Rc4+ 4.Kb7 Re6 5.Rf4 Rc3 6.Rxe6+ dxe6 7.a6, or Re6+ 3.Rxe6+ dxe6 4.Rh5 Ra6+ 5.Kc7 win.

v) Thematic try: 5.Rg5? Kf8 zz 6.Rb5 Kf7 zz 7.Kc5 Ra6 draws.

vi) Rb7 6.Kc5 Rc7+ 7.Kb6 Rc6+ 8.Kb7 Kd8 9.Rh8+ Ke7 10.a6 wins.

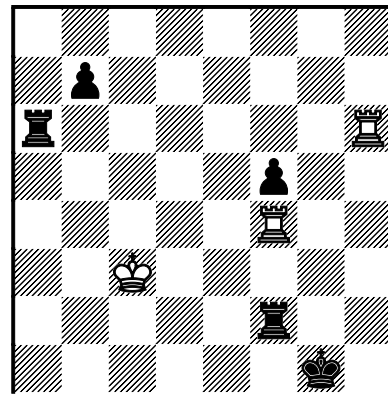
vii) 6.Rb5? Kf7 zz, draw.

viii) Ke8 7.Rf5 Ra6+ 8.Kc7 Rc6+ 9.Kb7 Kd8 10.Rf8+ Ke7 11.Rc8 Rh6 12.a6 wins.

ix) Kg7 8.Kc5 Ra6 9.Kb4 Kf7 10.Rb6 wins.

x) 12.a6? Ke5 13.a7 Ke4 (Kd4) 14.a8Q Rxa8 15.Kxa8 d4 draws.

No 19065 A. Pallier
2nd honourable mention



c3g1 0800.02 3/5 Draw

No 19065 Allain Pallier (France). 1.Rh1+ Kxh1/i 2.Rxf2 Ra5 3.Kd4 Rb5/ii 4.Re2/iii Kg1 (Rb4+; Ke5) 5.Re5 Rb4+/iv 6.Ke3 (Kc3? Rf4;) f4+ 7.Kf3/v Kf1 8.Re6 b5/vi 9.Re5 zz, draws.

i) Kg2 2.Rh2+ Kxh2 3.Rxf2+ draws.

ii) Kg1 4.Rb2 Ra4+ 5.Ke3 f4+ 6.Kf3 draws.

iii) 4.Ke3? Kg1 5.Rd2 Kf1 (Re5? b5;) draws.

iv) Rxe5 6.Kxe5 b5 7.Kxf5

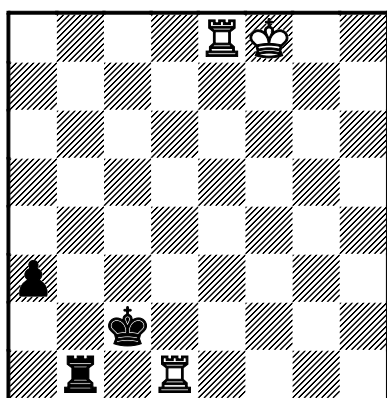
v) 7.Ke2? Rb3 8.Rf5 Re3+ 9.Kd2 Rf3 10.Ke2 Kg2 wins.

vi) b6 9.Re7 (Re5? b5; zz) b5 10.Re5 zz, draws.

No 19066 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rdd8/i a2 2.Re2+ Kb3 3.Rb8+ Kc3 4.Rc8+ Kb3 (Kd3; Rxa2) 5.Re6/ii Kb2/iii 6.Ke7 Ka1/iv

No 19066 P. Arestov

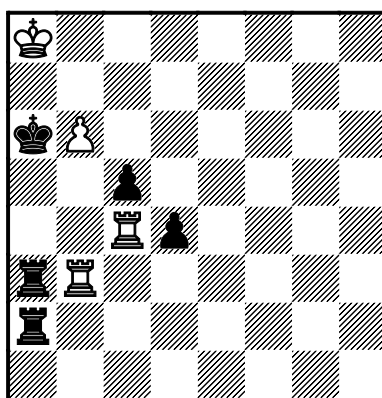
1st special honourable mention



f8c2 0500.01 3/3 Win

No 19067 A. Skripnik

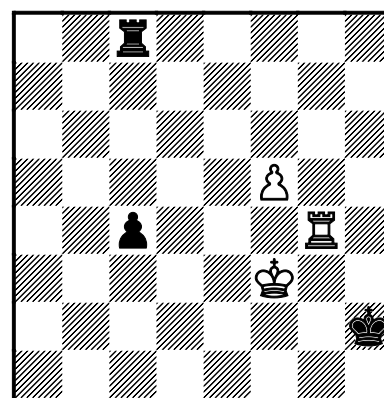
2nd special honourable mention



a8a6 0800.12 4/5 Win

No 19068 M. Doré

3rd special honourable mention



f3h2 0400.11 3/3 Win

7.Ra8/v Rb7+ 8.Kf6/vi Rb6 9.Rxa2+ Kxa2
10.Rxb6

i) Thematic try: 1.Rd7? a2 2.Rc8+ Kb2
3.Rb7+ (Kf7 Rf1+;) Ka1 4.Ra7 Rb7 5.Ra6
Rb6 6.Ra5 Rb5 7.Ra4 Rb4 8.Ra7 Rb7 9.Raa8
Rb1 10.Ra6 Rb6 11.Rxb6 stalemate. 1.Rd6?
a2 2.Re2+ Kb3 3.Rb6+ Kc4/vii 4.Rc6+ Kb5
(Kd5) draws.

ii) Thematic try: 5.Re7? Kb2, and: 6.Re2+
Ka1 7.Ra8 Rb8+ 8.Rxb8 stalemate, or 6.Rb7+
Ka1 7.Ra7 Rb7 8.Ra6 Rb6 draws. 5.Rb8+?
Kc3 6.Rc8+ Kb3 loss of time.

iii) a1Q 6.Rb6+ Ka4 7.Ra8 mate, or Kb4
6.Rb6+ Ka5 7.Rxb1 axb1Q 8.Ra8+ Kb6
9.Rb8+ wins.

iv) Rh1 7.Re2+ Kb1 8.Rb8+ Ka1 9.Ra8
wins.

v) 7.Ra6? Rb7+ 8.Kd8 Rb6 9.Rxb6 draws.

vi) 8.Ke8? Rb8+ 9.Rxb8 stalemate.

vii) Kc3? 4.Rc6+ Kb3 5.Re7 Rf1+ 6.Ke8
a1Q 7.Rb7+ Ka4 8.Ra6 mate.

“Good development of a known idea (Ako-
bia 2010). The thematic content in this work is
remarkable”.

No 19067 Anatoly Skripnik (Russia).
1.Ra4+/i Rxa4 2.b7 c4/ii 3.Rb1 Ra1 4.Rxa1

Rxa1 5.b8Q Ra4 6.Qb7+/iii Ka5 7.Ka7 Ra3
8.Qb6+ Ka4 9.Ka6 Rc3 (Ra2; Qb5+) 10.Qb2/
iv wins.

i) 1.Rb1? Ra1 2.Rcc1 Rxb1 3.Rxb1 Ra1
4.Rxa1+ Kxb6 draws.

ii) R2a3 3.b8Q Rxb3 4.Qxb3 Ka5 5.Ka7 wins.

iii) 6.Qb2? c3 7.Qb3 Ka5 8.Ka7 Rb4 9.Qd5+
Ka4 10.Qa2+ Kb5 11.Qd5+ Ka4 positional
draw.

iv) 10.Qb1? d3 11.Qa2+ Kb4 12.Qb2+ Rb3
draws.

“A known systematic movement (S. Be-
lonkon 1979)”.

No 19068 Marcel Doré (France). 1.Rg2+
Kh3/i 2.Rc2 c3 3.Kf4 Rc4+ 4.Kg5/ii Rg4+
5.Kh5 (Kh6) Rh4+ 6.Kg6 Rg4+ 7.Kf7/iii Rg3
8.f6 Kg4 9.Kf8 (Ke7? Re3+;) Kf5 10.f7 Ke5
11.Ke7/iv Rf3 12.Rxc3 Rxc3 13.f8Q Rc7+
14.Kd8 wins.

i) Kh1 2.Rc2 c3 3.Kg3 wins.

ii) 4.Ke5? Kg4 5.f6 Rc7 6.Ke6 Rc6+ 7.Ke5
Rc7 draws.

iii) 7.Kf6? Rg3 8.Kf7 Kg4 draws.

iv) 11.Ke8? Rf3 12.f8Q Rxf8+ 13.Kxf8 Kd4
draws.

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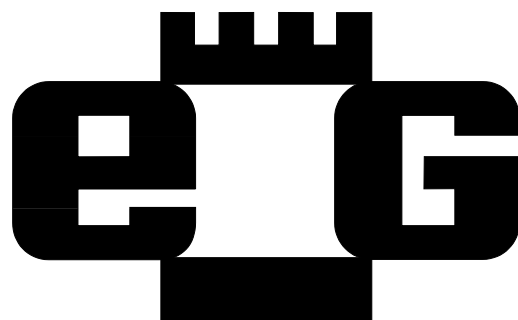
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Supplement

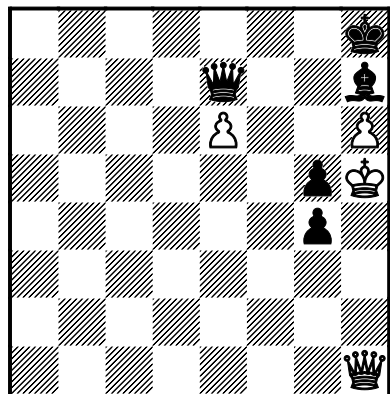
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Botvinnik 100 MT 2012

Leonard Katsnelson judged the formal Botvinnik 100 MT which attracted no less than 102 studies from 20 countries. The provisional award appeared in *Zadachy i Etyudi* no. 56, vi2012. In the final award (*Zadachy i Etyudi* no. 58, xii2012), two studies were excluded because of unsoundness.

No 19069 L. Bregadze & D. Gurgenidze 1st prize



h5h8 4030.22 4/5 Win

No 19069 Levan Bregadze & David Gurgenidze (Georgia). 1.Qa8+/i Bg8 2.Qa1+ Kh7 3.Qb1+ Kh8 4.Qb2+ Kh7 5.Qc2+ Kh8 6.Qc3+ Kh7 7.Qd3+ Kh8 8.Qd4+ Kh7 9.Qd7 Bf7+ 10.exf7 Qxd7 11.f8S+ Kh8/ii 12.Sxd7 g3 13.Kg6/iii g2 14.Se5 g1Q 15.Sf7+ Kg8 16.h7+ Kf8 17.h8Q+ wins/iv.

i) 1.Qa1+? Kg8 2.Qa8+ Qf8 3.Qd5 Qe7 draws.

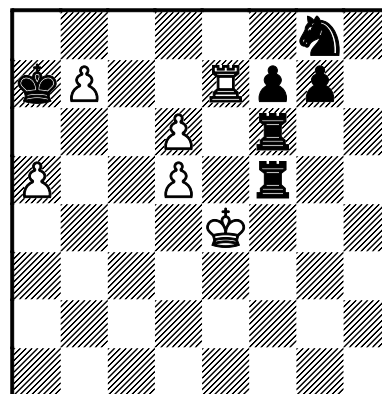
ii) Kg8 12.Sxd7 g3 13.Kg6 g2 14.h7+ Kh8 15.Se5 g1Q 16.Sf7 mate.

iii) Try: 13.Se5? Kh7 14.Sf3 g2 15.Sxg5+ Kh8 draws.

No 19070 Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.b8Q++ Kxb8 2.Re8+ Kb7 3.d7 Rd6/i 4.d8Q Rxd8 5.Rxd8 Sh6 6.Rd7+ Kb8/ii 7.Rd8+ Ka7/iii 8.Rd7+ Ka6 9.Rd6+ Kxa5 10.Rxh6 Rxd5 (gxh6; Kxf5) 11.Rg6 Rd7 12.Rg1/iv Kb4 13.Kf5 Rd5+ 14.Ke4 Rd7 15.Kf5 f6/v 16.Kg6 Kc3 17.Ra1/vi Kd2 18.Ra2+ Ke3 19.Ra3+ Kf2 20.Ra2+ Kf3 21.Ra3+/vii Kg4 22.Ra4+ positional draw.

i) Rf4+ 4.Ke3 Rf3+ 5.Ke2 Rf2+ 6.Ke1 Rf1+ 7.Ke2 R6f2+ 8.Ke3 Sf6 9.d8Q Sxe8 10.Qd7+ Ka6 11.Qc6+ draws.

No 19070 Y. Afek 2nd prize



e4a7 0703.42 6/6 Draw

ii) Kc8 7.a6 g5 8.a7 Rf4+ 9.Kd3 Ra4 10.Re7 g4 11.d6 draws.

iii) Kc7 8.a6 Kb6 9.Rd6+ Ka7 10.Rxh6 Rxd5 11.Rc6 Rd7 12.Ke5 draws.

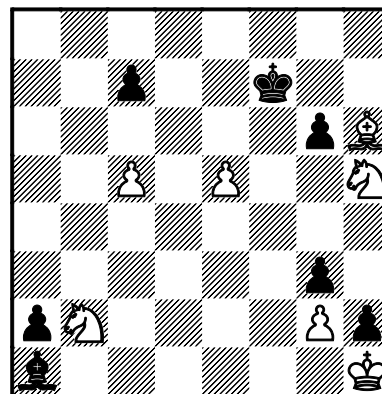
iv) 12.Rxg7? f5+ 13.Kxf5 Rxg7 wins.

v) g6+ 16.Kf6 Kc3 17.Re1 Kd2 18.Re8 draws.

vi) 17.Re1? Kd2 18.Re8 Rd5 wins.

vii) 21.Ra4? Re7 22.Ra3+ Re3 23.Ra7 Kf4 and 24.Kxg7 Kg5 or 24.Rxg7 f5 wins.

No 19071 S. Didukh 3rd/5th prize



h1f7 0042.35 7/7 Draw

No 19071 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.e6+/i Kxe6/ii 2.Sg7+/iii Kf7 3.Bc1, and:

– c6 4.Se6 Kxe6 5.Sd3/iv Bh8 6.Bb2 Bxb2 7.Sc1 a1S 8.Sb3 Sc2 9.Sd4+ Bxd4 (Sxd4) stalemate, or:

– Kxg7 4.c6 Kf7 5.Bf4/v Bxb2 6.Bc1 a1S 7.Bxb2 Sb3 8.Be5 Sc5 9.Bxg3 draws.

i) 1.Bc1? gxh5 2.e6+ Kxe6 3.c6 Bxb2 wins.

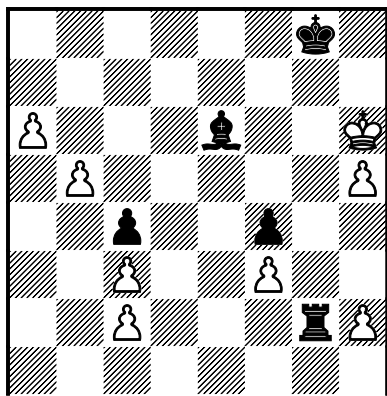
ii) Ke7 2.Bg5+ Kxe6 3.Sf4+ Kf5 4.Bf6 Kxf6 5.Sd5+ Ke5 6.Sc3 draws.

iii) Thematic try: 2.Sf4+? Kf7 3.Bg7 Kxg7 4.Se6+ Kf6 5.Sd4 Bxb2 6.Sb3 c6 7.Sc1 a1S 8.Sb3 Sc2 wins.

iv) 5.Bd2? Bxb2 6.Bc1 a1S 7.Bxb2 Sb3 8.Be5 Sxc5 9.Bxg3 Se4 10.Bxh2 c5 11.Kg1 c4 12.Kf1 c3 13.Ke2 c2 14.Bf4 Sc5 15.Kd2 c1Q+ 16.Kxc1 Sd3+ wins.

v) 5.Sd3? Bh8 6.Bb2 Bxb2 7.Sc1 a1S 8.Sb3 Sc2 9.Sd4 Se3 wins.

No 19072 J. Timman
3rd/5th prize



h6g8 0330.72 8/5 Win

No 19072 Jan Timman (the Netherlands).

1.b6 Kh8 2.b7 Bg8 3.a7/i Rg1 4.h3 zz, and:
– Rg3 5.a8S/ii Rg1 6.Sb6 Rg7 7.Sd7 wins, or
– Rg7 5.a8B Rg3/iii 6.b8B Bd5/iv 7.Be5+ wins.

i) 3.b8Q? Rg6+ 4.Kxg6, or 3.h3? Rg7 4.a7 Rg1 5.h4 Rg7 draw.

ii) 5.a8B? Rg7, and 6.h4 Rh7+ 7.Kg5 Rg7+, or 6.b8B Bd5 draw.

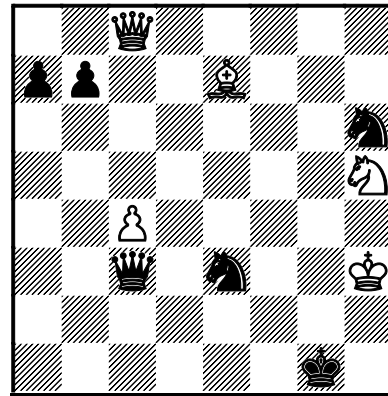
iii) Rxb7 6.Bxb7 Bd5 7.Ba6 Bxf3 8.Kg5 Bd1 9.Kxf4 wins.

iv) Bf7 7.Be5+ Kg8 8.h4 Rh3 9.Kg5 wins.

No 19073 Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine).

1.Qc7/i Sef5+/ii 2.Sg3 b6 3.Qxb6+ axb6 4.Bc5+ Qe3/iii 5.Bxe3+ Sxe3 6.c5 bxc5/iv

No 19073 E. Eilazyan
3rd/5th prize



h3g1 4017.12 5/6 Draw

7.Se4/vi c4 8.Sd6 c3 9.Sb5 c2 10.Sd4 c1S/vii 11.Sf5 Sexf5 (Shxf5) stalemate.

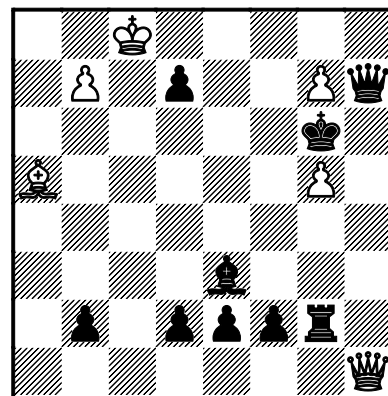
i) Thematic try: 1.Qb8? Sf1+, and 2.Kh4 Sf5+ 3.Kg5 Sxe7 4.Qxa7+ Se3 5.Qxb7 Qe5+, or 2.Sg3 b6 3.Bd8 Qb2 4.Kh4 Qh2+ 5.Kg5 Sf7+ wins.

ii) Shg4 2.Qg3+ Kf1 3.Bh4 Ke2 4.Sf4+ Kd2 5.Qe1+ Kc2 6.Qxc3+ Kxc3 7.c5 Kb3 8.Se6 a5 9.Be7 a4 10.Bf8 a3 11.c6 bxc6 12.Bxa3 Kxa3 13.Sd8 c5 14.Sb7 c4 15.Sd6 draws.

iii) bxc5 stalemate, or Sd4 5.Bxd4+ Qxd4 6.Se2+ Kf2 7.Sxd4, or Se3 5.Se2+ Kf2 6.Sxc3 bxc5 7.Se4+ Kf3 8.Sxc5 draw.

iv) b5 7.Se2+ Kf1 8.c6 Shf5 9.c7 Sd6 10.Sg3+ Ke1 11.Se4 Sc8 12.Sc3 b4 13.Sa2 b3 14.Sc1 b2 15.Sd3+ draws.

No 19074 A. Belyavsky
6th prize



c8g6 4340.35 6/9 Win

No 19074 Albert Belyavsky (Russia).

1.Qb1+/i Kxg7 2.Bc3+/ii Kg8 3.b8Q Qxb1/iii 4.g6/iv Qxg6 (Rxg6; Kd7+) 5.Kxd7+ Qe8+ 6.Qxe8+/v Kh7 7.Qe4+/vi Kh6/vii 8.Qxe3+/

viii Rg5/ix 9.Bxd2 e1Q 10.Qxg5+ Kh7
11.Qh4+ Kg6 12.Bxe1 b1Q 13.Qg4+ Kh7
14.Qh5+ Kg8 15.Qe8+ Kg7 16.Bc3+ Kh6
17.Bd2+ wins/x.

i) 1.Qh6+? Qxh6 2.g8Q+ Kh5, or 1.b8Q?
D1Q and Black wins.

ii) 2.Qxb2+? Kg8 3.b8Q f1Q 4.Kc7+ Kf7
5.Q8b3+ d5 6.Qxd5+ Kg6+ wins.

iii) f1Q 4.Qb3+ Qhf7 5.Qg6+, or d5 (Rh2)
4.Qg6+.

iv) 4.Kxd7+? Kh7 5.Qh8+ Kg6 6.Qh6+ Kf5
and Black wins.

v) 6.Kxe8? b1Q 7.Qxb1 f1Q 8.Qb3+ Kh7
9.Qb7+ Kh6 and Black wins.

vi) 7.Qh5+? Bh6 8.Qf7+ Rg7 draws.

vii) Rg6 8.Qe7+ Kg8 9.Qe8+, or Kg8
8.Qxg2+ win.

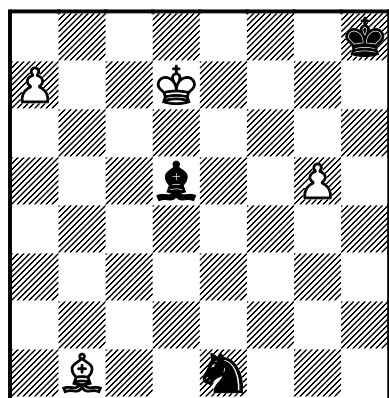
viii) 8.Qe6+? Kg5 9.Qxe3+ Kh4 10.Bf6+
Kh5 11.Qh3+ Kg6 12.Qxg2+ Kxf6 draws.

ix) Kg6 9.Qe4+ Kh5 10.Qxe2+ wins.

x) e.g. Kg7 18.Qe7+ Kg6 19.Qe6+ Kh5
20.Qh3+ Kg6 21.Qh6+ Kf7 22.Qe6+ Kg7
23.Bc3+ Kh7 24.Qf7+ Kh6 25.Bd2 mate.

No 19075 E. Iriarte

7th prize



d7h8 0043.20 4/3 Win

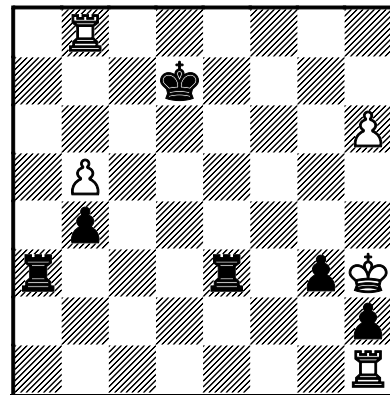
No 19075 Eduardo Iriarte (Spain). 1.Kd6/i
Ba8 2.Ke5 Kg7/ii 3.Be4/iii Sf3+ 4.Kf4 Sd4
5.Bxa8 Sb5 6.Bc6 Sxa7 7.Bd7 Kf7 8.Kg4 Ke7
9.g6 Kf6 10.Kh5 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Ba2? Ba8 2.Kd6 Sf3
3.Bd5 Sd4 4.Ke5 Sb5 5.Bxa8 Kg7 6.Bc6 Sxa7
7.Bd7 Kf7 8.Kf5 Ke7 9.g6 Kxd7 10.g7 Sc6
11.g8Q Se7+ and Sxg8 draws.

ii) Sf3+ 3.Kf6 Sd2 4.g6 Sxb1 5.Kf7 wins.

iii) 3.Kf4? Sg2+ 4.Ke5 Sh4 5.Be4 Sg6+
6.Kd4 Se7 draws.

No 19076 D. Gurgenzidze
special prize

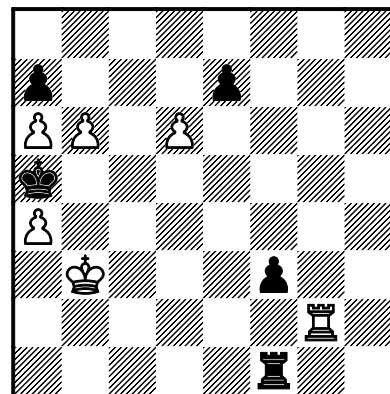


h3d7 0800.23 5/6 Draw

No 19076 David Gurgenzidze (Georgia).
1.h7/i g2+ 2.Kxg2 Ra2+ 3.Kf1 Rf3+ 4.Ke1
Rh3 5.h8Q Rxh8 6.Rxh8 Ra1+ 7.Kd2 Rxh1
8.Rh7+ Kc8 9.Rh8+ Kb7 10.Rh7+ Kb6
11.Rh6+ Kxb5 12.Kc2 Ra1 13.Rxh2 Ra2+
14.Kb3 Rxh2 stalemate.

i) 1.Rb7+? Kc8 2.h7 g2+ 3.Kxg2 Ra2+
4.Kf1 Rf3+ 5.Ke1 Rh3 wins.

No 19077 O. Pervakov
special prize



b3a5 0400.43 6/5 Win

No 19077 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Rd2
Rb1+/i 2.Ka3/ii f2 3.Rxf2 Rxb6 4.Rf5+/iii e5
5.Rxe5+/iv Kxa6 6.d7/v Rd6 7.Re6 Ka5
8.Rxd6 wins

i) f2 2.Rxf2 Rxf2 3.dxe7 wins.

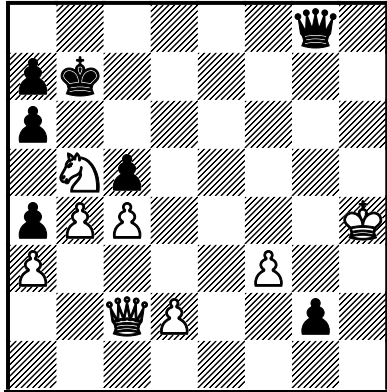
ii) 2.Kc2? Rxb6 3.d7 f2 4.Rxf2 Rb8, or
2.Kc3? exd6 3.bxa7 Rc1+ 4.Rc2 Rxc2+
5.Kxc2 f2 draw.

iii) 4.dxe7? Re6 5.Rf5+ Kb6 6.Rf6 Ka5
7.Rxe6 stalemate.

iv) 5.d7? Rd6 6.Rxe5+ Kb6 7.Re6 Ka5 8.Rxd6 stalemate.

v) 6.Rd5? Rb8, or 6.Re6? Kb7 draws.

No 19078 A. Zhukov
special prize



h4b7 4001.55 8/7 Draw

No 19078 Aleksandr Zhukov (Russia).
1.Qe4+ Kb6 2.bxc5+ Ka5 3.Qb1/i Qxc4+ 4.Kh3/ii Qb3 5.Qa1/iii g1Q/iv 6.Qxg1 Qxf3+ 7.Kh4 Qf6+ 8.Kh5/v Qh8+ 9.Kg6/vi Qg8+ 10.Kf6/vii Qxg1 11.Sd6 draws.

i) 3.Qd4? axb5 4.Qc3+ Ka6 5.cxb5+ Kb7 6.Qd4 g1Q 7.Qe4+ Kc8 8.Qc6+ Kd8

ii) 4.Kg3? g1Q+ 5.Qxg1 Qg8+ 6.Kh2 Qxg1+ 7.Kxg1 axb5 8.d4 b4 wins.

iii) 5.Qc1? Qxf3+ 6.Kh2 axb5 7.Qc3+ Qxc3 8.dxc3 Ka6, or 5.Qe1? (Qg1?) Qxf3+ 6.Kh2 Qf1 7.Qxf1 gxf1Q 8.Sd6 Qf3, or 5.Kxg2? Qxb1 6.Sd6 Qg6+ 7.Kf2 Qg5 8.Ke2 Qf4 9.Kd3 Qxf3+ 10.Kc4 Qg2 wins.

iv) Qxf3+ 6.Kh2 Qf1 7.Qc3+ Kxb5 8.Qb4+ Kc6 9.Qe4+ Kxc5 10.Qxg2 draws.

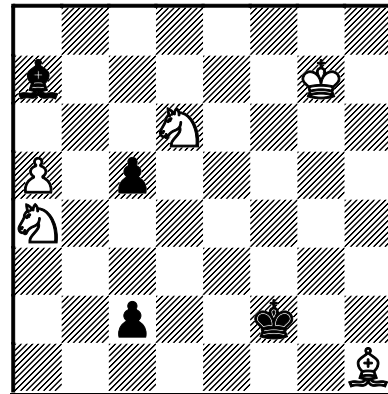
v) 8.Qg5? Qxg5+ 9.Kxg5 axb5 10.d4 b4 11.d5 Kb5 12.d6 Kc6 13.Kf5 Kd7 14.Ke5 bxa3 15.c6+ Kxc6 16.Ke6 a2 17.d7 a1Q 18.d8Q Qa2+, or 8.Kg3? Qg6+ 9.Kf3 Qxg1 10.Sd6 Qd4 win.

vi) 9.Kg5? Qg7+ 10.Kf4 Qxg1 11.Sd6 Qd4+ 12.Kf3 Qd3+ 13.Kg4 Qd5 14.Kg3 Qe5+ 15.Kf3 Qd4 16.Ke2 Qd5 17.d3 Qd4 18.Kd2 Qf2+ wins.

vii) 10.Kf5? Qxg1 11.Sd6 Qxc5+ wins.

No 19079 Sergey Zakharov (Russia). 1.Sb2 c4 2.Sdxc4/i Bd4+ 3.Kf7/ii Bxb2/iii 4.Sxb2, and:

No 19079 S. Zakharov
special prize Botvinnik-100 MT



g7f2 0042.12 5/4 Draw

– Ke2 5.Bf3+ Kd2/iv 6.Sc4+ Kc3 7.Sd6 c1Q 8.Bb7 Qf4+ 9.Ke6 Qg4+ 10.Kf6 Qd4+ 11.Ke6 Qg4+ 12.Kf6 Qd4+ 13.Ke6 Kb4 14.a6 draws, or:

– Ke3 5.Sc4+ Kf4 6.Sb2 Ke3 7.Sc4+ Kd4/v 8.Sd2 Kc3 9.Se4+/vi Kb3/vii 10.Sc5+ Kc4 11.Se6 c1Q 12.Bb7 Qd2 13.a6 Qd7+ 14.Kf6 draws.

i) 2.Sbxc4? c1Q 3.Be4 Qf4 4.Bf5 Bc5 5.Se4+ Ke2 6.Kf6 Kd3 7.Se5+ Kd4 8.Sg6 Qc7 9.Sxc5 Kxc5 wins.

ii) 3.Kh7? (Kf8?, Kg6?) Bxb2 4.Sxb2 Ke3 wins.

iii) Ke2 4.Bf3+ Kxf3 5.Sd3 draws.

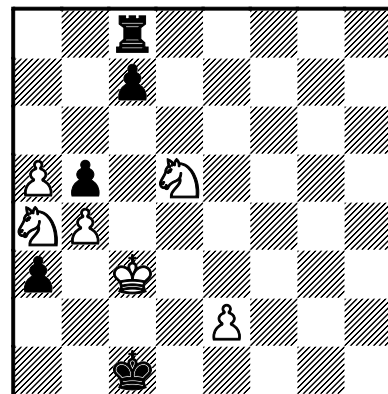
iv) Ke3 6.Sc4+ Kf4 7.Sb2 Ke3 8.Sc4+ Kd4 9.Sd2 Kc3 10.a6 draws.

v) Ke2 8.Bf3+ Kxf3 9.Sd2+ Ke2 10.Sb3

vi) 9.a6? c1Q 10.a7 Qxh1 wins.

vii) Kb4 10.Sf2 Kc4 11.Bd5+ Kd4 12.a6 c1Q 13.Bb7 Qe3 14.Se4 Qf4+ 15.Ke7 draws.

No 19080 I. Akobia
special prize



c3c1 0302.33 6/5 Win

No 19080 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Kb3/i bxa4+ 2.Kxa3 c6 3.Se7 Rc7 4.Sxc6 Rxc6 5.b5 Rc3+ 6.Kxa4, and:

– Kc2 7.a6 Rc4+ 8.Ka5/ii Kb3 9.Kb6 Kb4 10.a7 Rc8 11.Ka6 Rh8 12.b6 Kc5 13.b7 Rh6+ 14.Ka5 Rh1 15.Ka4 Kc4 16.Ka3 Kc3 17.Ka2 wins, or:

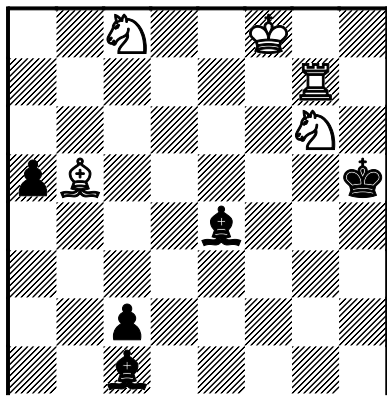
– Kb2 7.a6 Rb3 8.e3/iii zz Kc3 9.a7 Rb1 10.b6 Kc4 11.Ka3 Rg1 12.Kb2 Rg2+ 13.Kc1 Kc3 14.Kd1 Kd3 15.Ke1 Kxe3 16.Kf1 Rf2+ 17.Kg1 Ra2 18.b7 wins.

i) 1.Sc5? a2 2.Sb3+ Kb1 3.Sd2+ Kc1 4.Sb3+ positional draw.

ii) Thematic try: 8.Ka3? Kc3 9.a7 Rc8 10.b6 Rd8 11.b7 Rd1 12.Ka4 Kc4 13.Ka3 Kc3 14.Ka2 Rd2+ 15.Kb1 Rd1+ 16.Ka2 Rd2+ positional draw.

iii) Thematic try: 8.e4? Kc3 9.a7 Rb1 10.b6 Kc4 11.Ka3 Rh1 12.Kb2 Rh2+ 13.Kc1 Kc3 14.Kd1 Kd3 15.Ke1 Ke3 16.Kf1 Kf3 draws.

No 19081 Y. Bazlov
special prize



f8h5 0172.02 5/5 Win

No 19081 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Be2+ Kg5/i 2.Sd6 Ba3 3.Se7+ Kf4 4.Rg4+ Ke5 5.Sc4+/ii Kf6 6.Rf4+ Kg5 7.Rxe4 Bxe7+ 8.Kf7/iii c1Q 9.Rg4+ Kf5 10.Kxe7 a4 11.Bd1 a3 12.Sd6+ Ke5 13.Re4+ Kd5 14.Bb3+ Kc5 15.Rc4+ wins.

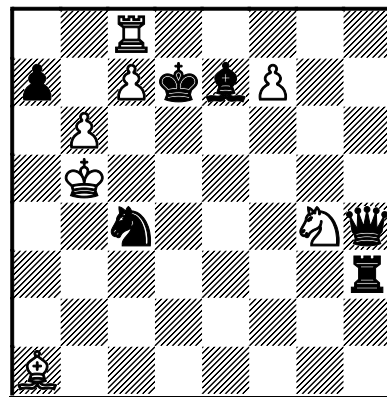
i) Kh6 2.Se5 Ba3+ 3.Kg8 Bd5+ 4.Kh8 wins.

ii) 5.Rxe4+? Kxd6 6.Rc4 c1Q draws.

iii) 8.Kxe7? c1Q 9.Rg4+ Kf5 10.Bd1 a4.

No 19082 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Rd8+ Bxd8 2.f8Q a6+/i 3.Kxa6 Ra3+ 4.Qxa3/ii Sxa3 5.c8Q+ Kxc8 6.b7+ Kb8 7.Be5+ Bc7

No 19082 A. Jasik
1st honourable mention



b5d7 3444.31 7/6 Draw

8.Bd4 Bb6 9.Be5+/iii Bc7 10.Bd4 Sb5 11.Sf6, and:

– Qh6 12.Ba7+ Sxa7 stalemate, or:

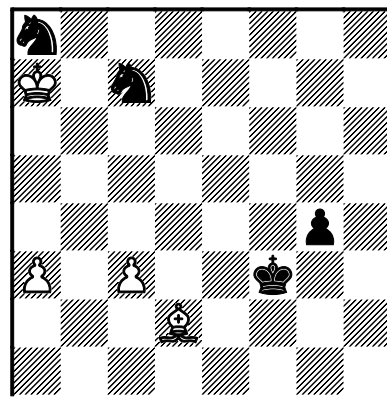
– Qxd4 12.Sd7+ Qxd7 stalemate.

i) Sd6+ 3.Qxd6+ Kxd6 4.c8Q Rb3+ 5.Kc4 Rxb6 6.Bd4 Rc6+ 7.Bc5+, or Rb3+ 3.Kxc4 draws.

ii) 4.Kb5? Ra5+ 5.Kxc4 Qxg4+ wins.

iii) 9.Bxb6? Sb5 wins.

No 19083 V. Vlasenko
2nd/3rd honourable mention



a7f3 0016.21 4/4 Draw

No 19083 Valery Vlasenko (Russia). 1.Be1/i Sb5+ 2.Kb7/ii Sxa3 3.Kxa8/iii zz Sc2 4.Bh4 Se3 5.Be1 zz, and:

– Sf5 6.c4 draws, or:

– Sg2 6.Bd2 g3 7.c4 Sh4/iv 8.Ba5 Sg6 9.Bc7 g2 10.Bh2 Se5 11.c5 draws.

i) 1.c4? g3 2.Bc3 Se6 3.Be5 g2 4.Bh2 Sac7 5.Kb6 Ke2 6.a4 Sd4 7.Kxc7 Sf3 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 2.Kxa8? Sxa3 zz, and 3.Kb7/v Sc2 4.Bh4 Se3 5.Be1 Sf5 6.c4 Sd6+,

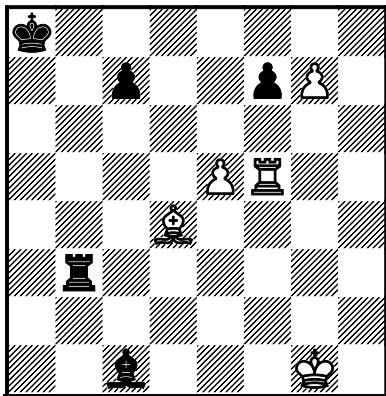
or 3.Kb8 Sc2 4.Bh4 Se3 5.Be1 Sg2 6.Bd2 g3
7.c4 Sh4 8.Ba5 Sg6 9.Bc7 g2 10.Bh2 Se5
11.c5 Sd7+ win. Echo-chameleon forks.

iii) 3.Bh4? Sb5 4.Be1 Sac7 5.c4 Sd6+
6.Kxc7 Sxc4 wins.

iv) Ke4 8.Bg5 Kd4 9.Bf6+ Ke4 10.Bg5

v) 3.Ka7 Sc2 4.Bh4 Se3 5.Be1 Sg2 6.Bd2 g3
7.c4 Sf4 8.Bc3 Ke4 9.Be1 g2 10.Bf2 Sh3

No 19084 N. Ryabinin
2nd/3rd honourable mention



g1a8 0440.22 5/5 BTM, Draw

No 19084 Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia).
1...Rg3+ 2.Kf1/i Rxc7/ii 3.e6 f6/iii 4.Bxf6
Rg8 5.e7 Kb7 6.Rf3/iv Bd2 7.Rb3+/v, and:

– Kc6 (Ka6) 8.Rd3 Bb4 9.Rd8 Bxe7 10.Rxc7
Bxf6 11.Rg6 wins, or:

– Ka7 8.Rd3 Bb4 9.Rd8 Bxe7 10.Bd4+ c5
11.Rxc7 cxd4 12.Rg7 wins.

i) Thematic try: 2.Kf2? Rxc7 3.e6 f6 4.Bxf6
Rg8 5.e7 Kb7 6.Rf3 Bd2 7.Rb3+ Ka7 8.Rd3
Bb4 9.Rd8 Bxe7 10.Bd4+ c5 11.Rxc7 Bh4+
draws.

ii) Bh6 3.e6 fxe6 4.Rf8+ wins.

iii) Rg5 4.e7 Rxf5+ 5.Ke2 wins.

iv) 6.Rd5? Ba3 7.Rd8 Bxe7 draws.

v) 7.Rd3? Bb4 8.Rb3 c5 9.Rd3 Ba5 draws.

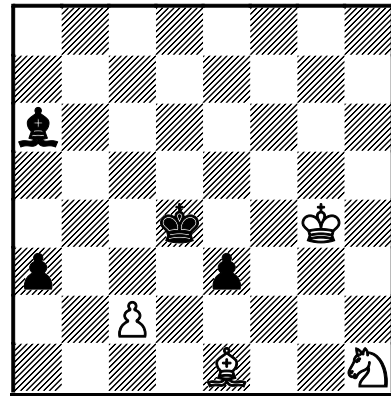
No 19085 Vladimir Terekhin (Russia).
1.Bh4/i e2/ii 2.Sg3/iii Ke5/iv 3.Sxe2 a2/v
4.Bg3+ Kf6 5.Be1 Bxe2+ 6.Kh4 a1Q 7.Bc3+
Qxc3 stalemate.

i) 1.Sg3? a2 2.Sf5+ Kc5 3.Bc3 e2 4.Sd4 a1Q
5.Sb3+ Kc4 6.Sxa1 Kxc3 wins.

ii) Ke5 2.Be1 Be2+ 3.Kg3 Kd4 4.Kf4 a2
5.Bh4, or Kc3 2.Kf4 e2 3.Sg3 draw.

iii) 2.Kf3? e1Q 3.Bxe1 a2 4.Bh4 Ke5 wins.

No 19085 V. Terekhin
4th honourable mention

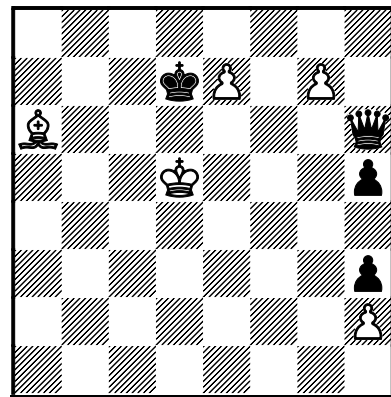


g4d4 0041.12 4/4 Draw

iv) e1Q 3.Sf5+ Kc4 4.Bxe1 a2 5.Se3+ Kd4
6.Sf5+ draws.

v) Bxe2+ 4.Kg5 a2 5.Kg6 draws.

No 19086 M. Minski
5th honourable mention



d5d7 3010.32 5/4 Win

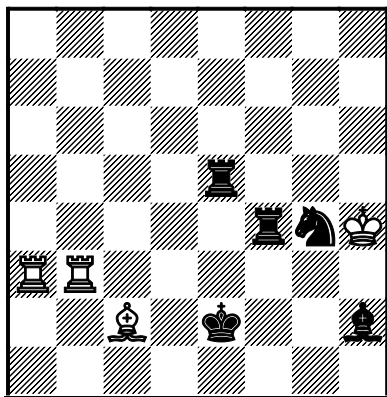
No 19086 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Bb5+/i Kxe7 2.g8S+ Kf7 3.Sxh6+ Kg6
4.Sg4 (Sg8 Kf7;) hxg4 5.Kd4 (Ke4? g3;) g3
6.hxg3 h2 7.Bc6 Kf5 8.Ke3 Kg4 9.Kf2 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Bc8+? Ke8 2.g8Q+ Kxe7
3.Qg3 Qd2+ 4.Kc6 Qg2+ draws. or 1.e8Q+?
Kxe8 2.g8Q+ Ke7.

No 19087 Luis Gonzalez (Spain). 1.Bd3+
Kf3 2.Be2++ Kxe2 3.Ra2+/i Kf1 4.Rb1+ Re1
5.Rxe1+ Kxe1 6.Kh3 Kf1/ii 7.Ra1+ Kf2
8.Ra2+ Ke3 9.Ra3+/iii Kd4 10.Ra5/iv Ke4
11.Ra8 zz Ke5 12.Re8+/v Kf5/vi 13.Rf8+
Kg5 14.Rg8+ Kh5 15.Rh8+ Kg5 16.Rg8+ Kf5
17.Rf8+ Ke4 18.Ra8 Bg1 19.Rg8 Kf5
20.Rxc4 Rxc4 model stalemate.

i) Try: 3.Rb2+? Kf1 4.Ra1+ Re1 5.Rxe1+
Kxe1 6.Kh3 Kf1 7.Rb1+ Kf2 8.Rb2+ Ke3

No 19087 L. Gonzalez
6th honourable mention



h4e2 0843.00 4/5 Draw

9.Rb3+ Kd4 10.Rb5 Ke4 11.Rb8 Rf3+ 12.Kxg4 Bxb8 wins.

ii) Bg1 7.Rg2 Sf2+ 8.Kg3 Rg4+ 9.Kf3 Rxc2 10.Kxg2 draws.

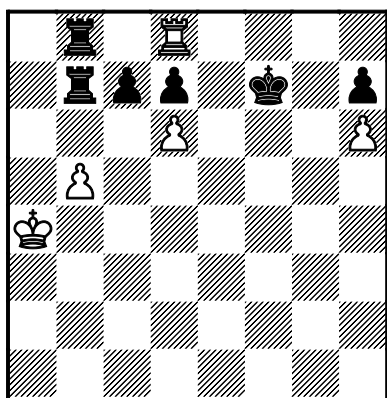
iii) 9.Rg2? Sf2+ 10.Kxh2 Rh4+ and mate.

iv) 10.Ra8? Ke4 zz 11.Ra5 Bg1 12.Rg5 Sf2+ 13.Kg2 Rh4 14.Rg8 Sh3 15.Rg3 Sf4+ 16.Kxg1 Se2+ wins.

v) 12.Rg8? Rf3+ 13.Kh4 Sf6 wins.

vi) Kd6 13.Re2 Ra4 14.Rg2 draw.

No 19088 I. Akobia & R. Becker
7th honourable mention



a4f7 0700.33 5/6 Draw

No 19088 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). 1.dxc7/i Ra7+ 2.Kb4 Rxb5+ 3.Kc4/ii Rxc7+ 4.Kxb5 zz Kg6/iii 5.Kb6 Rc6+ 6.Kb5 Rd6 7.Kc5 Rd2/iv 8.Rg8+ Kxh6 9.Rg3/v Rd1/vi 10.Rg2/vii Rd3 11.Rg1 Rd2 12.Rg3 Kh5 13.Rh3+ Kg6 14.Rg3+ Kf6 15.Rh3/viii Kg7 16.Rg3+ Kh8 17.Rh3 zz Rd1 18.Rh2 Rd3/ix 19.Rh1/x Rd2 20.Rh3 Rg2 21.Kd6 (Rd3? Rg7;) Kg7 22.Kxd7 Kg6

23.Ke6 h5 24.Ke5 (Kd5) Kg5 25.Ke4 Kg4 26.Ra3 Re2+ 27.Kd3 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rxb8? Rxb8 2.dxc7 Ra8+ 3.Kb4 Ke6 4.Kc5 Rc8 5.b6 Ke5 6.Kb5 Kd6 7.b7 Kxc7 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Kxb5? Rxc7 4.Ka5 Rc5+ 5.Kb4 Rd5 6.Kc4 Rd6 7.Kc5 Ke7 wins.

iii) Kf6 5.Rg8 d6 6.Kb6 draws.

iv) Rd1 8.Rg8+ Kxh6 9.Rg2, or Rd3 8.Rg8+ Kxh6 9.Rg1 see main line.

v) Thematic try: 9.Rg1? Kh5 10.Rh1+ Kg6 11.Rg1+ Kf6 12.Rf1+ Kg7 13.Rg1+ Kh8 14.Rh1 Rd3 zz 15.Rh2 Rd1 16.Rh3 Rg1 17.Kd6 Kg7 18.Kxd7 Kg6 19.Ke6 h5 20.Ke5 Kg5 21.Ke4 Kg4 22.Ra3 Re1+ 23.Kd3 h4 24.Ra8 h3 25.Rg8+ Kf3 26.Rf8+ Kg2 27.Rg8+ Kh1 28.Rh8 h2 29.Kd2 Rg1 wins.

vi) d6+ 10.Kc6 Kh5 11.Rh3+ Kg6 12.Rg3+ Kf6 13.Rh3 draws.

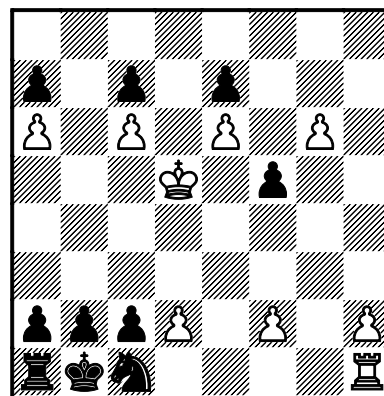
vii) 10.Kc4? Rd6 11.Kc5 Rg6, or 10.Rf3? Kg5 11.Rg3+ Kh4 wins.

viii) 15.Rf3+? Kg5 16.Rg3+ Kh4 wins.

ix) Rg1 19.Kd6 Kg7 20.Kxd7 Kg6 21.Ke6 h5 22.Ke5 Kg5 23.Ke4 Kg4 24.Ke3 h4 25.Kf2 draws.

x) 19.Rg2? h6 20.Rh2 Kh7 21.Rh1 Rd2 22.Rh3 Kg6 23.Rg3+ Kf5 24.Rh3 Kg5 25.Rg3+ Kh4 wins.

No 19089 M. Zinar
special honourable mention

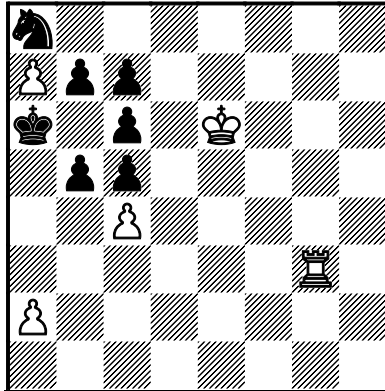


d5b1 0403.77 9/10 Win

No 19089 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.g7 f4 2.g8S f3 3.Sf6 exf6 4.e7 f5 5.e8S f4 6.Sd6 cxd6 7.Ke6 d5 8.c7 d4 9.c8S d3 10.Sb6 axb6 11.a7 b5 12.a8B/i b4 13.Bxf3 b3 14.Bg2 f3 15.Bf1 Se2 16.Bxe2+ c1Q 17.Bxd3 mate.

i) 12.a8S? b4 13.Sc7 b3 14.Sb5 stalemate, or 12.a8Q? b4 13.h4 b3 14.Rh2 Se2 15.Qe4 c1Q 16.Qxd3+ Qc2 17.Rh1+ Sc1 and Black wins.

No 19090 A. Botokanov
commendation



e6a6 0103.35 5/7 Win

No 19090 Alymkul Botokanov (Kyrgystan).
1.Ra3+ Kb6 2.Kd7 b4 3.Kc8 bxa3/i 4.Kb8 Ka5 5.Kxa8/ii Ka6 6.Kb8 Kb6 7.a8B Ka5 8.Kxb7/iii Kb4 9.Kxc6 Kc3/iv 10.Kxc5 Kb2 11.Bd5 Kxa2 12.Kc6 Kb2 13.c5 wins.

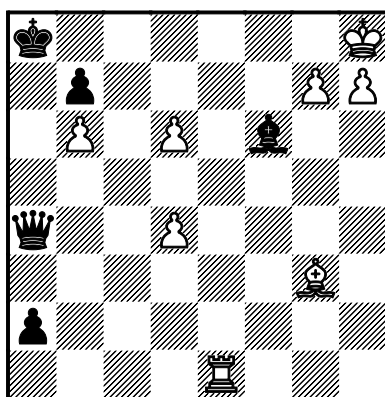
i) b3 4.Rxb3+ Kxa7 5.Rxb7+ Ka6 6.Kb8 Sb7 7.Ra7 mate.

ii) 5.Kxb7? Sb6 zz draw.

iii) 8.Bxb7? Kb4 9.Bxc6 Kxc4 10.Kxc7 Kd4

iv) Kxc4 10.Bb7 Kd4 11.Kb5 c4 12.Kb4 Kd3 13.Kxa3

No 19091 A. Grebstein
commendation



h8a8 3140.52 8/5 Win

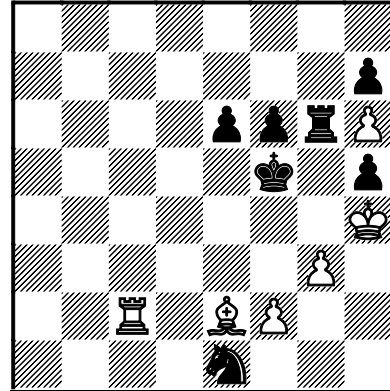
No 19091 Anatoly Grebstein (Russia).
1.Re7/i a1Q/ii 2.Be5 Bxg7+/iii 3.Rxg7 Qe8+ 4.Rg8 Qa4 5.d5 Qd7 6.Bf6 Qb8/iv 7.Rxb8+ Kxb8 8.Kg8 Qe8+ 9.Kg7 wins, e.g. Qd7+ 10.Kh6 Qh3+ 11.Kg6 Qg4+ 12.Bg5 Qe4+

13.Kg7 Qd4+ 14.Bf6 Qg4+ 15.Kf8 Qc8+ 16.Ke7.

i) 1.Re6? Bxg7+ 2.Kxg7 Qd7+ 3.Re7 Qg4+ 4.Kf6 Qf3+ 5.Ke6 Qg4+ 6.Kd5 Qf3+ draws.

ii) Qdc8 7.Rxe8 Qxe8+ 8.Kg7 wins.

No 19092 V. Kirillov & E. Kudelich
commendation



h4f5 0413.34 6/7 Win

No 19092 Valery Kirillov & Eduard Kudelich (Russia). 1.Rc1 Sg2+ 2.Kh3 Sf4+ 3.gxf4 Kxf4 4.Bxh5 Rxh6 5.Rc4+/i Kg5/ii 6.Rg4+ Kxh5/iii 7.f4 zz e5/iv 8.f5 e4 9.Kg3 e3 10.Kf4 e2 11.Rg1 and mate.

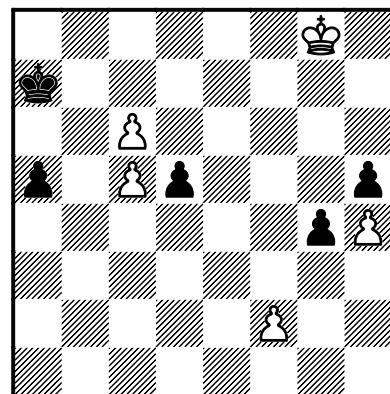
i) 5.Kh4? e5 6.Rc6 e4 7.Rd6 Kf5 draws.

ii) Ke5 6.Kg4 Kd6 7.Ra4 Kc5 8.Bf7 e5 9.Be6 Rh2 10.Kf3 wins.

iii) Kf5 7.Kh4 e5 8.f3 Ke6 9.Ra4 wins.

iv) Rg6 8.Rh4 mate, or f5 8.Rg5 mate.

No 19093 A. Pallier
commendation



g8a7 0000.55 5/5 Draw

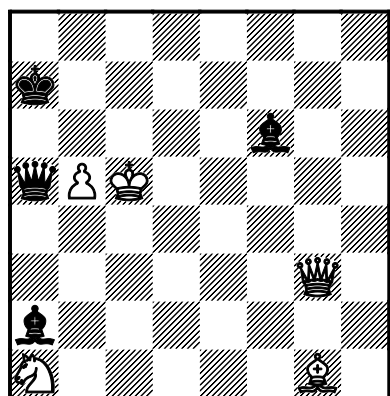
No 19093 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Kf7 Kb8 2.Ke6 Kc8/ 3.Kxd5 Kc7 4.Kd4/i Kxc6/ii 5.Kc4 zz a4 6.Kb4 a3 7.Kxa3 Kxc5 8.Kb3 (Kb2) Kd4 9.Kc2 Ke4 10.Kd2 (Kd1) Kf3

11.Ke1 Kg2 12.Ke2 Kh3 13.Kf1 Kxh4
14.Kg2 Kg5 15.f3 draws.

i) 4.Kc4? Kxc6 zz 5.Kd4 a4 6.Kc4 a3 7.Kb3
Kxc5 8.Kxa3 Kc4 9.Kb2 Kd3 wins.

ii) a4 5.Kc4 Kxc6 6.Kb4 a3 7.Kxa3 Kxc5
see main line.

No 19094 A. Skripnik
commendation



c5a7 4071.10 5/4 Win

No 19094 Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Sb3/
i Bxb3/ii 2.Kc6+ Ka8 3.Qxb3, and:

– Be5/iii 4.b6/iv Qa6 5.Qg8+ Bb8 6.Qa2
Qxa2 7.b7 mate,

– Bd8 4.b6/v Qa6 5.Qa3 Qxa3 6.b7+ Kb8
7.Bh2+ Ka7 8.b8Q+ wins.

i) 1.Kc6+? Ka8 2.Sb3 Qd8 3.Qe3 Qc8+
draws.

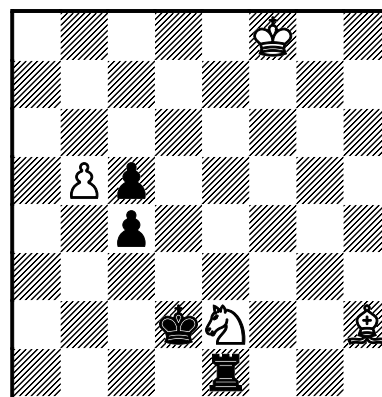
ii) Qd8 2.Kb4+ Kb7 3.Sc5+ Kb6 4.Se6+
wins.

iii) Qc3+ 4.Qxc3 Bxc3 5.b6 Be5 6.b7+ Kb8
7.Bb6 Bg3 8.Bd8 Bf4 9.Kb6 Be3+ 10.Ka6
Bd4 11.Bg5 wins.

iv) 4.Bb6? Qc3+ 5.Qxc3 Bxc3 6.Bc5 Ba5
7.Bd6 Bb6 8.Kxb6 stalemate.

v) 4.Qf7? Qc7+ 5.Qxc7 Bxc7 6.Kxc7 stale-
mate.

No 19095 V. Chernikov
commendation



f8d2 0311.12 4/4 Draw

No 19095 Vladimir Chernikov (Russia).
1.Sc1/i Kxc1 2.b6 Re2/ii 3.Be5 c3 4.Bxc3/iii
Re6 5.Ba5 Re3 6.Bb4 cxb4 7.b7 Rh3 8.Kg7
draws.

i) 1.b6? Rb1 2.Sf4 c3 3.Sd5 Kd3 4.Bf4 Kd4
wins.

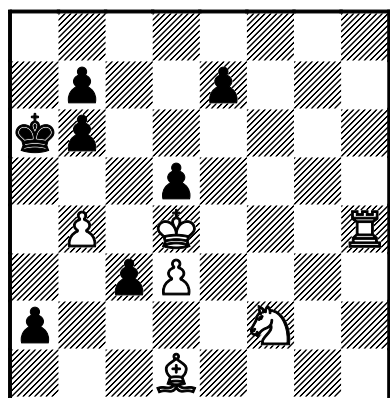
ii) Rh1 3.Bf4+ Kc2 4.b7 c3 5.b8Q Rh8+
6.Ke7 Rxb8 7.Bxb8 Kd3 8.Ke6 Ke4 9.Be5
draws.

iii) 4.b7? Rb2 5.b8Q Rxb8+ 6.Bxb8 c2 wins.

Problemaz 2008

The annual tourney of the Moroccan composition magazine *Problemaz* was judged by HH. It also served as the Mohamed H. Bahaoui (22x1933 – 19vi2007) MT. My conclusion was that the overall level of the tourney was low, with only a single study standing out. Remarkably, all studies that were published appeared to be sound.

No 19096 S. Didukh & A. Onkoud
prize

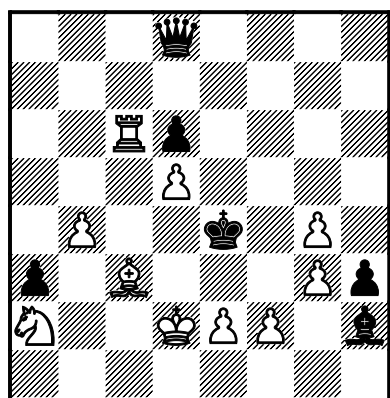


d4a6 0111.26 6/7 Win

No 19096 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine) & Abdelaziz Onkoud (Morroco). 1.b5+ Kxb5 2.Ba4+ Kxa4 3.Kxc3+ Ka3 4.Rh1 b5 5.d4 b4+ 6.Kd2 b3 7.Rh8 b2 8.Kc3 b1S+ 9.Kc2 Sc3 10.Rh1 b5 11.Kxc3 b4+ 12.Kd2 b3 13.Rh8 (Rh6) b2 14.Kc3 b1S+ 15.Kc2 Sc3 16.Rh1 Sb5 17.Rh3+ Ka4 18.Kb2 wins.

“After an appropriate introduction the composers managed to double an idea by Oñate (HHdbIV#33604)”.

No 19097 S. Didukh & M. Croitor
1st honourable mention



d2e4 3141.63 10/6 Win

No 19097 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine) & Mikhail Croitor (Moldova). 1.Bf6 Qxf6

2.Sc3+ Ke5 3.f4+ Qxf4+ 4.gxf4+ Bxf4+ 5.e3 Bxe3+ 6.Kd3, and:

– a2 7.Rc8/i a1Q 8.Rf8 Qa6+ 9.b5 Qb6 10.Rf5 mate, or:

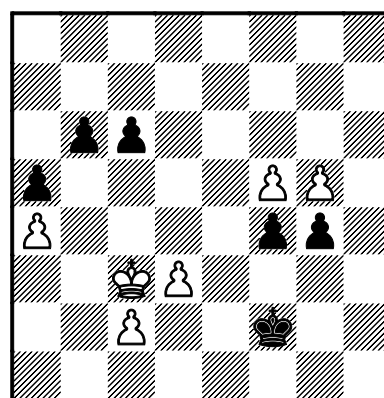
– h2 7.Rc7/ii h1Q 8.Rf7 a2 9.Rf5 mate.

i) Thematic try: 7.Rc7? a1Q 8.Rf7 Qa6+ 9.b5 Qc8.

ii) Thematic try: 7.Rc8? h1Q 8.Rf8 Qh7+.

“The sacrificial introduction has too many captures, but after 6.Kd3 two very nice main lines develop in which the wR has to choose the right squares to encircle the bK for a mate at f5”.

No 19098 I. Aliev
2nd honourable mention



c3f2 0000.55 6/6 Win

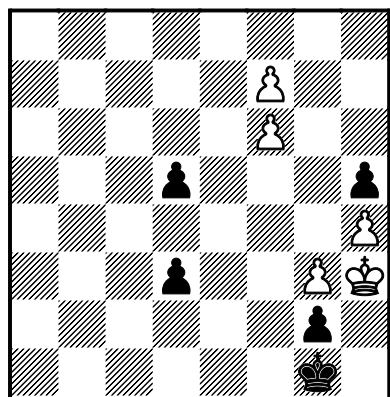
No 19098 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.g6 g3 2.g7 g2 3.g8Q f3 4.f6 g1Q 5.Qxg1+ Kxg1 6.f7 f2 7.f8Q f1Q 8.Qxf1+ Kxf1 9.Kd2 Kf2 10.d4 Kf3 11.d5 cxd5 12.Kd3 Kf2 13.Kd4 Ke2 14.Kxd5 Kd2 15.Kc6 Kc3 16.Kb5 Kxc2 17.Kxb6 Kc3 18.Kxa5 wins.

“After a double Queen-swap introduction, the study-like moves are 9.Kd2! and 11.d5!”.

Highly suspect. MG analysed: 1.f6 g3 2.f7 g2 3.f8Q f3 and now the composer gave: 4.Qd8 Kf1 5.Dxb6 f2 with a draw, but 4.Qf4 probably wins: g1Q 5.Qd4+ Kf1 6.Qxg1+

Kxg1 7.g6 f2 8.g7 f1Q 9.g8Q+ Kh2 (Kf2 10.Qf7+ Ke1 11.Qxf1+ Kxf1 12.Kd2 is the main line) 10.Qh7+ Kg2 11.Qg6+ Kh3 12.Qxc6 Qb1 13.Kd4 and walks to c7.

No 19099 I. Aliev
1st commendation



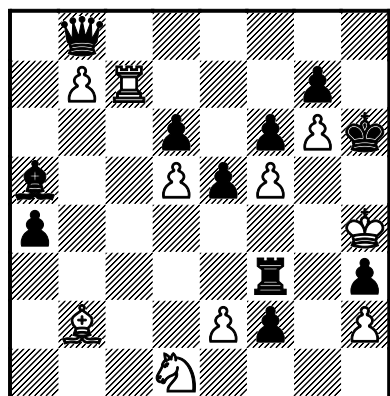
h3g1 0000.44 5/5 Draw

No 19099 I. Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.f8Q Kh1 2.Qc5 g1S+ 3.Qxg1+ Kxg1 4.f7 d2 5.f8Q d1Q 6.Qf3/i Qd2 7.Qe3+ Qxe3 stalemate.

i) Qxf3 stalemate.

“‘Tiny’ study with a stalemate (after 6...Qxf3) that surprisingly seems to be original”.

No 19100 A. Pallier
2nd commendation

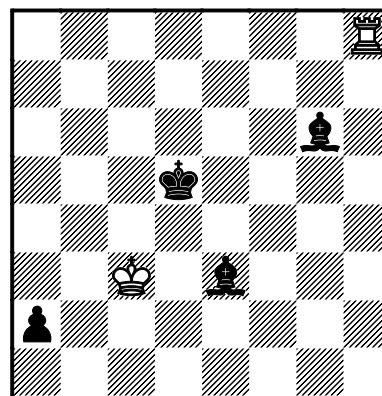


h4h6 3441.67 10/11 Draw

No 19100 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Bc1+ Rf4+ 2.Bxf4+ exf4 3.Sxf2 Be1 4.Rc8 Bxf2+ 5.Kg4 Ba7 6.Rc3 Be3 7.Rc8 Ba7 8.Rc3 positional draw.

“Curious and apparently original positional draw. The composer has worked with the same scheme earlier: EG#18953”.

No 19101 J.-M. Loustau
3rd commendation



c3d5 0160.01 2/4 Draw

No 19101 Jean-Marc Loustau (France). 1.Rd8+ Kc5 2.Kb2 Bf7 3.Ka1 Bf4 4.Rc8+ Kb4 5.Rc2 Be5+ 6.Rb2+ Kc3 7.Re2 Bh8 8.Rh2/i Bg7 9.Rg2/ii Bf6 10.Rf2 Be5 11.Re2/iii Bd4 12.Re4 Bh8 13.Rh4 Bg7 14.Rg4 Bf6 15.Rf4 Be5 16.Re4 Bh8 17.Rh4 positional draw.

i) 8.Rb2? Bd4.

ii) 9.Rh7? Be5.

iii) 11.Rf5? Bh8.

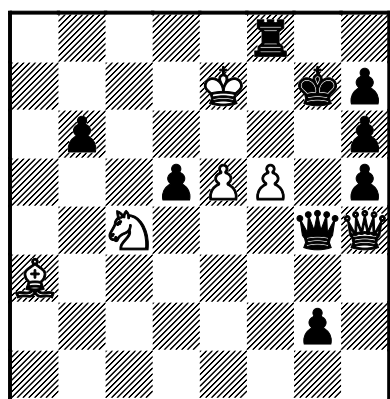
“The author has created many studies with this material (there are 29 studies in my database), with the majority having hardly any study-like content, are auto-anticipated or are exceedingly difficult to understand (which is not intended as a positive feature here). However, after move 8 in the present study, there is a positional draw with the wR on two horizontals. It is easy to understand why certain rook moves are wrong”.

Soon after the award appeared, the French composer GM sent me an e-mail. He was very angry about my comment; and e.g. called me a liar (which is curious as I gave my own opinion). I offered him publication space in EG for an explanation of his studies, but he did not respond.

Masimov 50 JT 2012

The Azarbaijan chess composition committee organized a formal JT for Agshin Masimov, who judged the tourney himself. Elmar Abdullaev (Azerbaijan) acted as tourney director. Iuri Akobia (Georgia) and Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan) assisted in checking the entries. This tourney was restricted to Azerbaijani composers. No fewer than 16 composers submitted 21 studies. HH observes that the low average age of the composers must be a record.

No 19102 I. Aliev
prize



e7g7 4311.26 6/9 Draw

No 19102 Ilham Aliev (Sumgayit). 1.Qf6+ Rxf6 2.exf6+ Kh8 3.Sd6, and:

- g1Q 4.Sf7+ Kg8 5.Sxh6+ Kh8 6.Sf7+ Kg8 7.Sh6+ perpetual check, positional draw, or:
- Qg8 4.Sf7+ Qxf7+ 5.Kxf7 g1Q 6.Bf8 Qg8+ 7.Ke7 Qg5 8.Kf7 Qg8+ 9.Ke7 positional draw.

“Best study. A good example for solving competitions that I solved in 20 minutes. The Q-sac and an original finish leave a great impression. Another good study by the Republic’s best-known composer”.

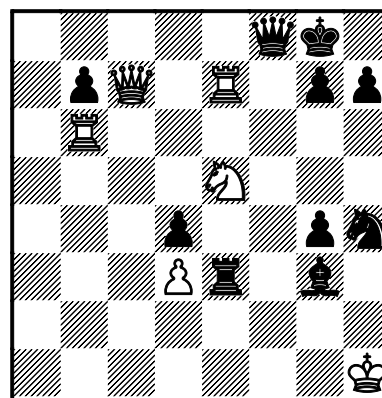
No 19103 Samir Badalov (Baku).

I: 1.Qc4+ Kh8 2.Sf7+ Kg8 3.Rf6 Re1+/i 4.Rxe1 gxf6 5.Re8 Qxe8 6.Sd6+ Kf8 7.Sxe8 wins.

II: 1.Qc4+ Kh8 2.Sf7+ Kg8 3.Sd6+ Kh8 4.Rb8 Qxb8 5.Sf7+ Kg8 6.Sd8+ Kh8 7.Re8+ Rxe8 8.Sf7+ Kg8 9.Sh6++ Kh8 10.Qg8+ Rxg8 11.Sf7 mate.

i) Other possibilities also lead to quick mates (but these are no main lines as White’s play is not unique): gxf6 4.Sg5+ Kh8 5.Rxh7 mate, or Qxe7 4.Sh6++ Kh8 5.Qg8 mate, or Rxe7

No 19103 S. Badalov †
special prize



h1g8 4534.15 6/10 Win.

I: Diagram, II: remove bPb7

4.Sh6++ Kh8 5.Rxf8 mate, or Qa8 4.Sd8+ Kh8 5.Rf8 mate.

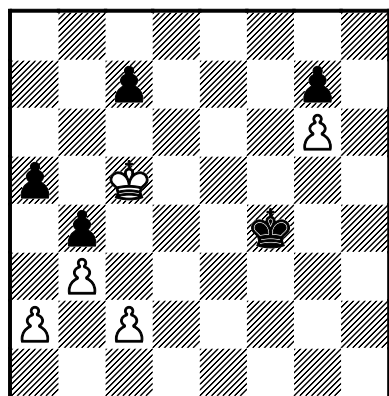
“It took me 50 minutes to solve this one while the twin study just took me 5 minutes. Position II is anticipated, although with a different initial position (EG#13109). What is good about the twin is that there are additional tries that make it difficult to solve. In the diagram, bPb7 is a hindrance. I learned later that this study was composed by the late S. Badalov (endgame study composer and chess coach)”.

No 19104 Farid Aslanov (Sumgayit). 1.Kb5 Ke5 2.Ka6/i c6/ii 3.Kb6 Kd6/iii 4.Kxa5 Kc5/iv 5.Ka4 wins.

- i) 2.Ka4? c6 3.Kxa5 c5.
- ii) Kd4 3.Kxa5 c5 4.Kb6 Kd5 5.Kb5.
- iii) Kd4 4.Kxa5 Kc3 5.Ka4 c5 6.Kb5.
- iv) c5 5.Kb6 Kd5 6.Kb5.

“This seemingly easy pawn study took me an hour to solve. Two refusals of captures leave a good impression. The study, which is based upon a practical game, has some theo-

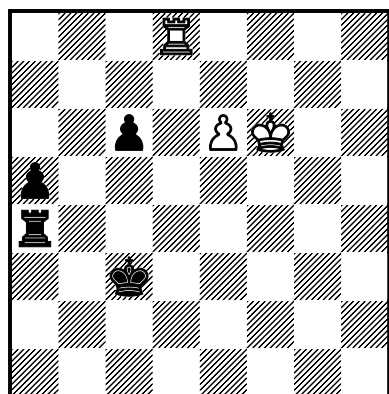
No 19104 F. Aslanov
honourable mention



c5f4 0000.44 5/5 Win

retical value. When I found out that the composer was the under-9 world champion (Poland 2011) I was surprised. I wish him a great future as a chess player and composer!”

No 19105 V. Durarbeyli
honourable mention



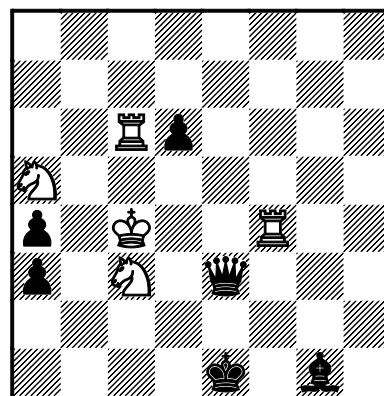
f6c3 0400.12 3/4 Win

No 19105 Vasif Durarbeyli (Sumgayit).
1.Kf5/i Ra1 2.e7 Re1 3.e8Q Rxe8 4.Rxe8 a4
5.Ra8 Kb3 6.Ke4 (Kf4) a3 7.Kd3 (Ke3) Kb2
8.Kd2 a2 9.Rb8+ Ka3 10.Kc2 a1S+ 11.Kc3
wins.

i) 1.Ke5? Ra1 2.Rd4 Re1+ 3.Re4 Rh1 4.e7
Rh8 5.Kd6 Kb3 6.Re3+ Kb2 7.Kxc6 a4
draws.

“White has to be careful to find the difficult first move, which makes the solution rather complicated. I believe that this miniature has some value as a rook ending. It took me 30 minutes to solve, while GM V. Durarbeyli couldn’t find the right continuation – this study has been developed from a practical game – and played 1.Ke5. This is the 20 year old GM’s 4th study”.

No 19106 A. Almammadov
honourable mention



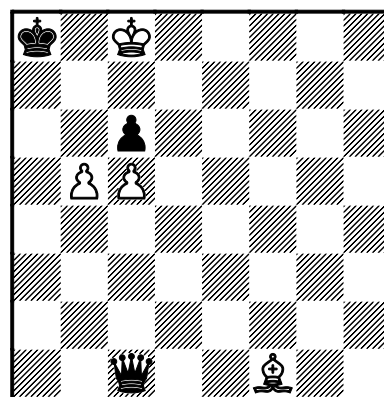
c4e1 3232.03 5/6 Draw

No 19106 Araz Almammadov (Gabala).
1.Re4 Qxe4+ 2.Sxe4 a2 3.Sb3 axb3 4.Ra6 b2
5.Rxa2 b1Q 6.Re2+ Kxe2 7.Sc3+ Ke3 8.Sxb1
draws.

“This took me 5 minutes to crack. I like the two sacrifices and the fork. The author is the 14 times Azerbaijan solving champion and is skilful in composing problems. I am happy for him to see his interest in endgame studies”.

MG shows that this is highly suspect:
3.Rxd6 a1Q 4.Sc3 Qa3 5.Rd1+ Kf2 6.Rb1
Qf8 (Qe7) 7.Rxg1 Kxg1 8.Sxa4 draws
(EGTB). Black could try: 6...Bh2 7.Rb2+
Kg1 8.Rb4 Be5 9.Nxa4 Qc1+ 10.Kb5 and
some day the EGTB will reveal if this ending
is a general win. I suspect that MG is right and
that it is a draw.

No 19107 K. Velikhanov
commendation



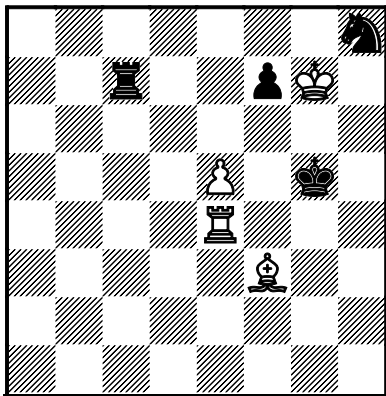
c8a8 3010.21 4/3 Draw

No 19107 Kenan Velikhanov (Imishli). 1.b6
Qf4 2.Ba6 Qf8+ 3.Kc7 Qe7+ 4.Kc8 Qe8+

5.Kc7 Qb8+ 6.Kd7 Qe5 7.Kc8 Qe8+ 8.Kc7 Qb8+ 9.Kd7 Qf8 10.Kc7 positional draw.

“This one I solved very quickly. After two moves everything is clear, but nevertheless it is an interesting positional draw. The bQ cannot deal with the wB and the white pawn. I am glad that the author, a problem composer, takes an interest in endgame studies”.

No 19108 F. Aslanov
commendation



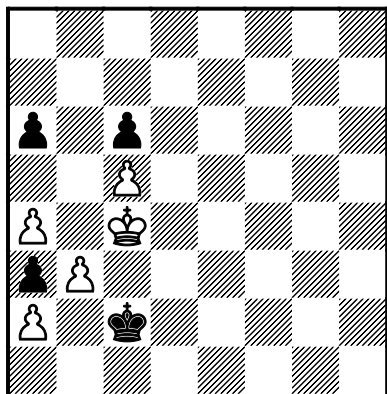
g7g5 0413.11 4/4 BTM, Draw

No 19108 Farid Aslanov (Sumgayit).
1...f5+/i 2.Kxh8 Kg6 3.Bh5+ Kh6 (Kxh5;
Re1) 4.Rh4 Rc8+ 5.Be8+ Kg5 6.Rh5+ draws.

i) Sg6 2.Rg4+ Kf5 3.Rg1 Sxe5 4.Bg2 f6+
5.Kf8.

“It took me 10 minutes to solve this study with an interesting ambush idea created by rook and bishop. It is a pity that Black plays first. I was amazed to learn that this awarded endgame is the second study of a 10-year old composer”.

No 19109 J. Huseynzada
commendation



c4c2 0000.43 5/4 Win

No 19109 Jeyhun Huseynzada (Sumgayit).
1.b4/i Kb2 2.Kd3 Kxa2 3.Kc2/ii Ka1 4.Kb3/iii
a2 5.Kc2 a5 6.b5/iv cxb5 7.c6/v b4 8.c7 b3+
9.Kxb3 Kb1 10.c8Q a1Q 11.Qc2 mate.

i) 1.a5? Kb2 2.Kd3 Kxa2 3.Kc2 Ka1 4.b4
a2.

ii) 3.b5? axb5 4.axb5 cxb5 5.c6 Kb2 6.c7 a2.

iii) 4.b5? axb5 5.axb5 a2 draws.

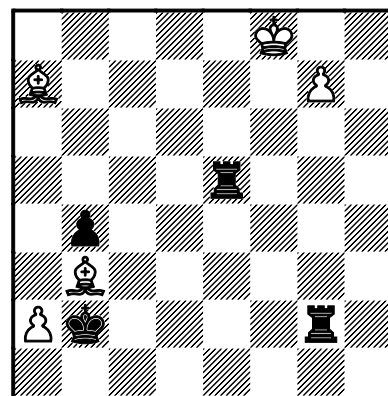
iv) 6.bxa5? stalemate.

v) 7.axb5? a4 8.b6 a3 9.b7 stalemate.

“Another one that took me 10 minutes. White avoids stalemate and later checkmates. The composer is 12 years old. There is a minor dual at the end, but it is not a flaw as it just delays the same stalemate (11.Qf5+ Kc1 12.Qc2 mate)”.

MG observes that 11.Qf5+ is not a minor dual, as after 11...Kc1 also 12.Qf1+ Kd2 13.Qxa1. Therefore, the solution should end with 10.c8Q, e.g. a1Q 11.Qc2 mate.

No 19110 Z. Bayramov
special commendation



f8b2 0620.21 5/4 Win

No 19110 Zaur Bayramov (Sumgayit).
1.Bd4+ Ka3 2.Bxe5 Rxc7 3.Bb2+/i Kxb2
4.Kxc7 wins.

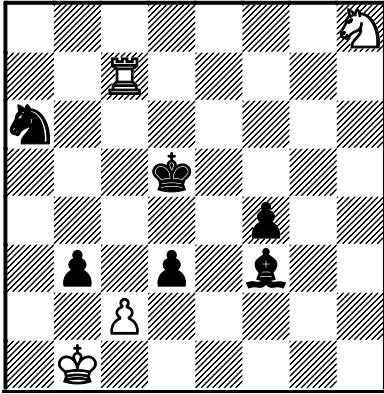
i) 3.Kxc7?, or 3.Bxc7? stalemate.

“Another study by a young composer (15 years old), which took me a minute to solve. This entry is too schematic. The third white move, although obvious, is slightly interesting. I was certain that this study was composed by a beginner, and therefore it had to be included in the award”.

Uralski Problemist 2007

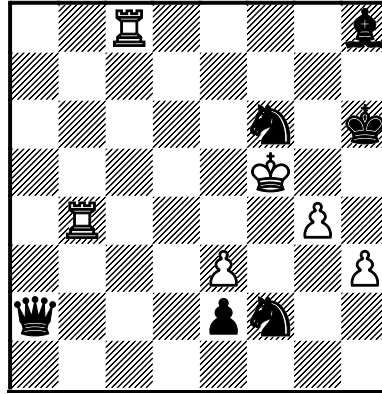
Andrey Selivanov (Russia) judged the annual tourney of *Uralski Problemist*.

No 19111 S. Osintsev
1st prize



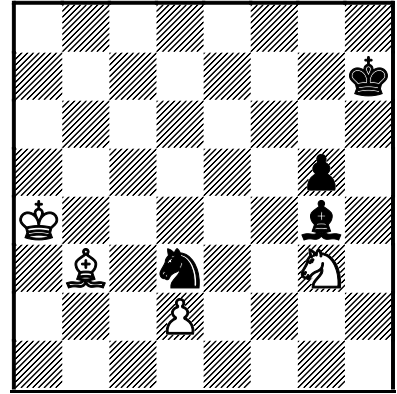
b1d5 0134.13 4/6 Draw

No 19112 V. Kalashnikov
2nd prize



f5h6 3236.31 6/6 Draw

No 19113 S.I. Tkachenko
3rd prize



a4h7 0044.11 4/4 Win

No 19111 Sergey Osintsev (Russia). 1.Rd7+ Ke6/i 2.Rxd3 bxc2+ 3.Kc1/ii Be4 4.Rd4 Sc5 5.Rxe4+ Sxe4 6.Sg6 f3 7.Sf4+ Ke5/iii 8.Sd3+ Kd5 9.Kb2 Kd4 (Kc4; Se5+) 10.Kxc2/iv zz Ke3 11.Se5 f2 12.Sg4+ draws.

i) Kc4 2.cxd3+ Kc3 3.Rd8 Bd1 4.Rc8+ Kd2 5.Sg6 f3 6.Se5 f2 7.Sc4+ Ke1 8.Rf8 Sb4 9.Kb2 Sxd3+ 10.Kc3 Sc5 11.Re8+ Be2 12.Se3 draws.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Kb2? see iv).

iii) Kf5 8.Sd3 Sc5 9.Sf2 Kf4 10.Kxc2 Kg3 11.Sd1 Se4 12.Kc1 Kg2 13.Kc2 Kf1 14.Kd3 Sf2+ 15.Ke3 draws.

iv) The same position as in the thematic try: Be4 4.Rd4 Sc5 5.Rxe4+ Sxe4 6.Sg6 f3 7.Sf4+ Ke5 8.Sd3+ Kd5 9.Kc1 Kc4 10.Kxc2 Kd4 zz, but now it's WTM: 11.Se1 f2 12.Sf3+ Ke3 13.Sh2 Ke2 wins.

No 19112 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.g5+ Kh7 2.g6+ Kh6 3.Rh4+ Kg7 4.Rc7+ Kg8 5.Rc8+ Kg7 6.Rc7+ Kf8 7.Rxh8+ Sg8 8.g7+ Ke8 9.Rxg8+ Qxg8 10.Rc8+ Kf7 11.Rc7+ Ke8 12.Rc8+ Ke7 13.Rxg8 Kf7 14.Ra8/i Kxg7 15.Ra7+ Kh6/ii 16.Ra6+ Kh7 17.Ra7+ Kh6 18.Ra6+ Kh5 19.Ra1 Sd1 20.Ra8/iii, and:

– Kh6 21.Kf6 Kh7 22.Ra7+ Kh6 23.Ra8 positional draw, or:

– Sxe3+ 21.Kf6 Sd5+ 22.Kf5 Se7+ 23.Kf6 Sd5+ 24.Kf5 Se3+ 25.Kf6 positional draw.

i) 14.Rb8? Kxg7 15.Rb7+ Kf8 16.Rb1 Sd1 17.Kf6 Ke8 18.Ke6 Kd8 19.Kd6 Kc8 20.Rc1+ Kb7 21.Rb1+ Ka6 22.Kc6 Ka5 23.Kc5 Ka4 24.Kc4 Ka3 wins.

ii) Kf8 16.Ra1 Sd1 17.Kf6 Ke8 18.Ke6 Kd8 19.Kd6 Kc8 20.Kc6 Kb8 21.Rb1+ Ka7 22.Ra1+ Kb8 23.Rb1+ Kc8 24.Ra1 positional draw.

iii) 20.Ra7? Kh6 21.Ra6+ Kh7 22.Ra7+ Kg8 23.Ra8+ Kf7 24.Ra7+ Ke8 25.Ke6 Kd8 26.Kd6 Kc8 27.Kc6 Kb8 28.Rb7+ Ka8 wins.

No 19113 Sergey I. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.Bc2 Bd1 2.Bxd1 Sb2+ 3.Kb3 Sxd1 4.Se4 Kg6 5.Kc2 Kf5 6.Sg3+ Kg4 7.Sh1 Kf3 8.Kxd1 Kg2 9.Ke2 Kxh1 10.Kf3 Kh2 11.Kg4 wins.

No 19114 Gamlet Amiryan (Armenia). 1.e8Q Qd3+ 2.Ke7, and:

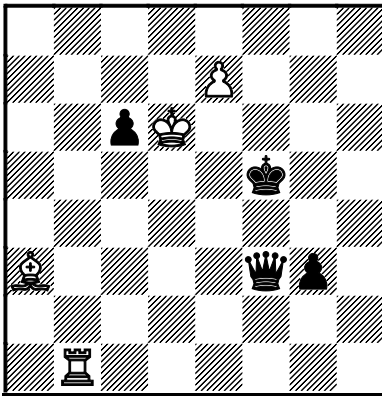
– Qxa3+ 3.Kf7 Qa2+ 4.Kg7 Qxb1 5.Qg6+ and wins, or:

– Qe4+ 3.Kd7 Qxb1 4.Qh5+, and:

• Kf6 5.Bb2+ Qxb2 6.Qh8+ wins, or:

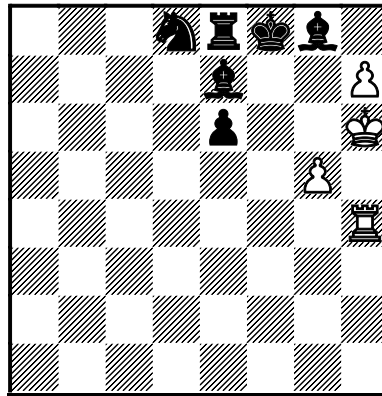
• Kf4 5.Bc1+ Qxc1 6.Qh6+ wins.

No 19114 G. Amiryan
1st honourable mention



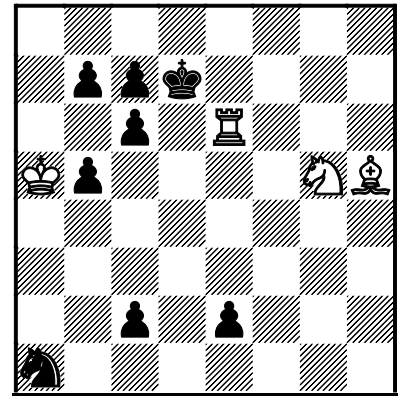
d6f5 3110.12 4/4 Win

No 19115 R. Martsvlashvili
2nd honourable mention



h6f8 0463.21 4/6 Win

No 19116 S. Borodavkin
3rd honourable mention



a5d7 0114.06 4/8 Win

No 19115 Ruzvelt Martsvlashvili (Georgia). 1.Rf4+ Sf7+ 2.Rxf7+ Kxf7 3.h8S+ Kf8 4.Sg6+ Kf7 5.Se5+ Kf8 6.Sd7+ Kf7 7.g6 mate.

No 19116 Sergey Borodavkin (Ukraine). 1.Bg4/i Sb3+ 2.Kb4 c5+ 3.Kxb3 c1Q 4.Rxe2+ Kc6 5.Re6+ Kd5 6.Bf3+ Kd4 7.Re4+ Kd3 8.Be2+ Kd2 9.Sf3 mate.

i) 1.Re5? Kc8 2.Bg4+ Kb8 3.Re8+ Ka7 draws.

No 19117 B. Ilini (Serbia). 1.Qd7, and:

– Bh6 2.Sd5 Qe8 3.Qxf5+ Qf7 4.Qc8+ Qe8 5.Qc7 e4 6.Qg3 Qe6 7.Qf2+ Qf7 8.Qc5+ Ke8 9.Qc8 mate, or:

– Qb2 2.Sd5 e4+ 3.Kh7 Qe5 4.Qd8+ Qe8 5.Qd6+ Kf7 6.Qf6 mate.

No 19118 Valery Vlasenko (Russia). 1.Kg2 Bd5+ 2.Re4 b3 3.Kh1/i b2 4.Rg2 b1Q/ii 5.Re8+ Ka7 6.Ra8+ Kb6/iii 7.Rb8+ Bb7 8.Rxb7+ Kxb7 9.Rb2+ Qxb2

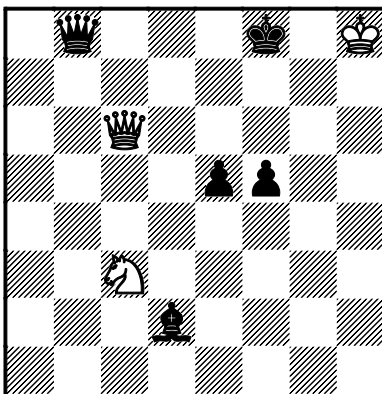
i) 3.Rg8+? Bxg8 4.Re8+ Ka7 5.Rxg8 b2 6.Rg7+ Ka6 7.Rg6+ Bb6 wins,

ii) Bxe4 stalemate.

iii) Bxa8 stalemate.

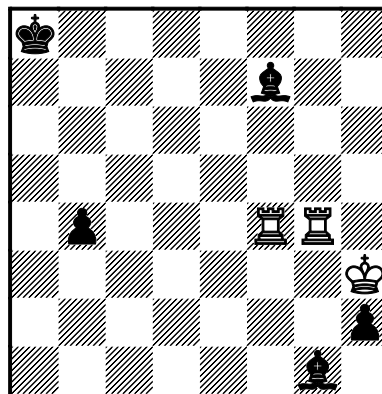
No 19119 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Kb5 Ra8 2.b7 Ra7 3.Kb6 Ra6+ 4.Kb5 h2 5.Bxh2 d6 6.Bg1 Sf8 7.Bb6 Se6 8.f8Q Sxf8 9.Bc7 Sfd7 10.Bxb8 Sxb8 stalemate.

No 19117 B. Ilini
1st commendation



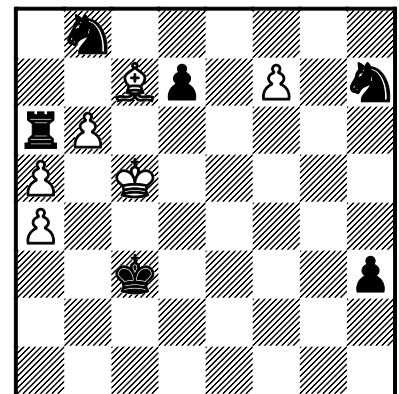
h8f8 4031.02 3/5 Win

No 19118 V. Vlasenko
2nd commendation



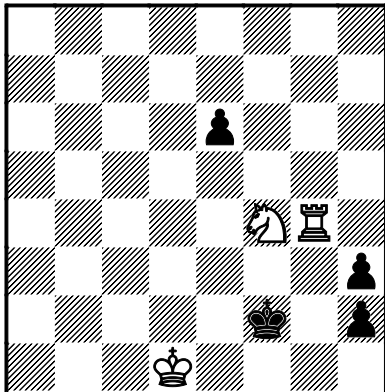
h3a8 0260.02 3/5 Draw

No 19119 A. Jasik
3rd commendation



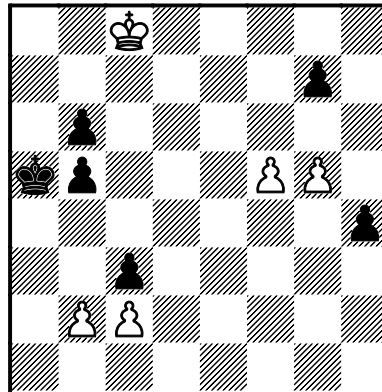
c5c3 0316.42 6/6 Draw

No 19120 V. Kondratev
Special prize



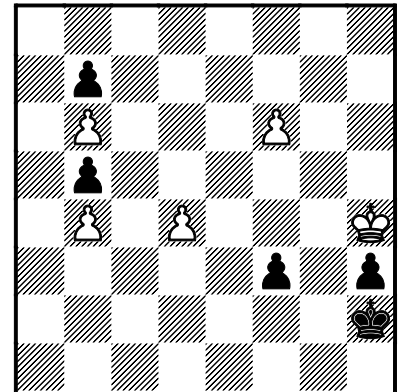
d1f2 0101.03 3/4 Win

No 19121 I. Aliev
Special honourable mention



c8a5 0000.45 5/6 Win

No 19122 I. Aliev
Special commendation



h4h2 0000.44 5/5 Win

I: diagram,
II: add wPa5 and bPa6

No 19120 Vladimir Kondratev (Russia).
1.Sd3+ Kf3 2.Rf4+ Kg3 3.Rf1 Kg2 4.Ke2
h1Q 5.Se1+ Kh2 6.Sf3+ Kg2 7.Rxh1 Kxh1
8.Kf2 e5 9.Sd2 Kh2 10.Se4 Kh1 11.Sf6 Kh2
12.Sg4+ Kh1 13.Kf1 e4 14.Sf2+ Kh2 15.Sxe4
Kh1 16.Kf2 Kh2 17.Sd2 Kh1 18.Sf1 h2
19.Sg3 mate.

No 19121 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.b4+,
and:

– Ka6 2.f6 gxf6 3.g6 h3 4.g7 h2 5.g8Q h1Q
6.Qa2 mate, or:

– Ka4 2.f6 gxf6 3.g6 h3 4.g7 h2 5.g8Q h1Q
6.Qb3 mate, or:

– Kxb4 2.f6 gxf6 3.gxf6 h3 4.f7 h2 5.f8Q+
wins.

No 19122 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan).

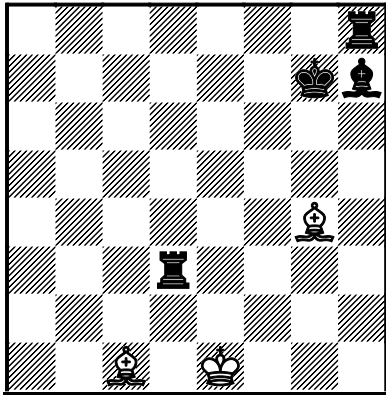
I: 1.f7 f2 2.f8R Kg2 3.Rxf2+ Kxf2 4.Kxh3
Ke3 5.d5 Kd4 6.d6 Kd5 7.d7 Kc6 8.d8R wins.

II: 1.f7 f2 2.f8R Kg2 3.Rxf2+ Kxf2 4.Kxh3
Ke3 5.d5 Kd4 6.d6 Kd5 7.d7 Kc6 8.d8S+
wins.

Moscow Town 2012

Judge Oleg Pervakov considered 27 studies by 14 composers from 8 countries.

No 19123 N. Ryabinin
1st prize



e1g7 0650.00 3/4 Draw

No 19123 Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia).
1.Bb2+ Kg8 2.Be2/i Re3 3.Kf2/ii Re4/iii
4.Bf3 Rf4 5.Ke3/iv Rf5 6.Bg4 Rf1 7.Be2 Re1
8.Kd2/v Bd3 9.Bxh8 Rxe2+ 10.Kxd3 Kxh8
11.Kxe2 draws.

i) 2.Be6+? Kf8 3.Bxh8 Re3+ wins.

ii) 3.Kd2? Re4 4.Bf3 Re8 5.Bd5+ Kf8
6.Bxh8 Rd8 pinning.

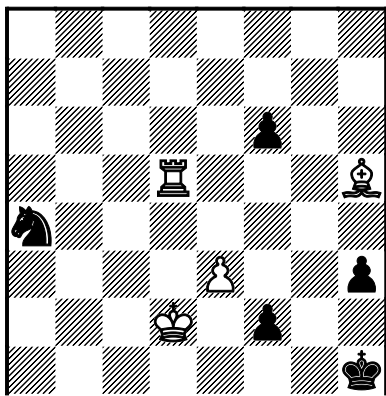
iii) Bd3 4.Kxe3 Rh3+ 5.Bf3 Bb5 6.Kf4
draws.

iv) 5.Kg3? Rf5 6.Bg4 Rg5 wins.

v) 8.Kf2? Bd3 9.Kxe1 Rh1+ 10.Kd2 Bxe2
11.Kxe2 Rh2+ wins.

“Beautiful geometrical piece! An aristocrat
miniature”.

No 19124 P. Arestov
2nd prize



d2h1 0113.13 4/5 Win

No 19124 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Ke2/i
Kg2/ii 2.Bf3+ Kg3 3.Rf5 Sc3+ 4.Kf1 Sb1
5.Bh1/iii Sd2+ 6.Ke2 f1Q+ 7.Rxf1 Sxf1
8.Kxf1 f5 9.Kg1 h2+ 10.Kf1 f4 11.e4 f3 12.e5
wins.

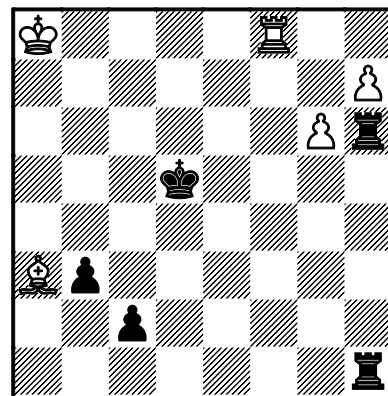
i) 1.Be2? Kg1 2.Rd4 f1Q 3.Bxf1 Kxf1
4.Rxa4 h2, or 1.Rf5? Kg1 2.Be2 h2 only draw.

ii) Sc3+ 2.Kxf2 Sxd5 3.Bf3+ Kh2 4.Bxd5 f5
5.Bc6 f4 6.e4 wins.

iii) Any other bishop move only draws, e.g.
5.Bd5? Sd2+ 6.Ke2 f1Q+ 7.Rxf1 Sxf1 8.Kxf1
f5 9.Bh1 Kh2 10.Bc6 Kg3 11.Kg1 h2+ 12.Kf1
f4 and now 13.e4 fails to 13...h1Q+, while
13.exf4 Kxf4 draws.

“And here the clear interaction of the white
pieces impresses”.

No 19125 N. Ryabinin
3rd prize



a8d5 0710.22 5/5 Win

No 19125 Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia). 1.h8Q
Rxxh8 2.g7 b2 3.Bxb2 Ra1+ 4.Kb8 c1Q
5.Bxc1/i Rb1+ 6.Ka8/ii Ra1+ 7.Ba3 Rxa3+
8.Kb8 Rb3+ 9.Kc8 Rc3+ 10.Kd8 Rg8
11.Rxg8 Rg3 12.Ke7 Ke5 13.Kf7 Rf3+
14.Kg6 Rg3+ 15.Kh6 Rh3+ 16.Kg5 Rg3+
17.Kh4/iii Rg1 18.Re8+ Kf4 19.Rf8+ wins.

i) Not 5.gxh8Q? Ra8+ 6.Kxa8 Qc6+.

ii) In the thematic tries: 6.Kc8? Rxc1+, and
6.Bb2? Rxb2+ the bR checks on the first or
second rank.

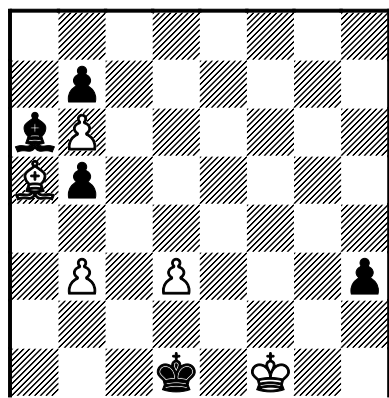
iii) Now that the bR is at the third rank, this wins a decisive tempo.

“The idea of luring the bR on the right rank is not new, but is here done in a bright way at a high technical level”.

MG cooked the 4th prize: A. Skripnik, b8a4 4317.00 a7e7e5d2a5a2a8 4/5 Draw: 1.Sb7+ Kb3 2.Kxa8 Qf8+ 3.Qb8 Re8 4.Sd8+ Sb4 5.Bxb4 Qxb4 6.Qb6 Ka3 7.Qf6 Qa5+ 8.Kb7 Rxd8 9.Qa1+ Kb4 10.Qe1+ Kb5 11.Qe5+ Ka4 12.Qa1+ with perpetual check.

However: In 2.Ba5! Qe8+ 3.Bd8 Rb5 (Sb4 4.Kxa8 Sc6 5.Qa1 Sxd8 6.Qb1+) 4.Kxa8 Qe4 (Qc6 5.Qe3+ Sc3 6.Qe7 Sd5 7.Qf7 Ka4 8.Qg7) 5.Qa6 Qd5 6.Ba5 draws. The author confirms.

No 19126 M. Zinar
Special prize



f1d1 0040.33 5/5 Win

No 19126 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.b4/i Kd2 2.d4 Kd3 3.d5 Kd4 4.d6 h2 5.Kg2 Kd5 6.d7 Kc6 7.d8S+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Bb4? Kc2 2.d4 Kxb3 3.d5, and now not Kc4? 4.d6 h2 5.Kg2 Kd5 6.d7 Kc6 7.d8R wins, but Kxb4 4.d6 Kc3 5.d7 b4+ 6.Kg1 b3 7.d8Q b2 draws.

“A good creative response to a debate on the internet”.

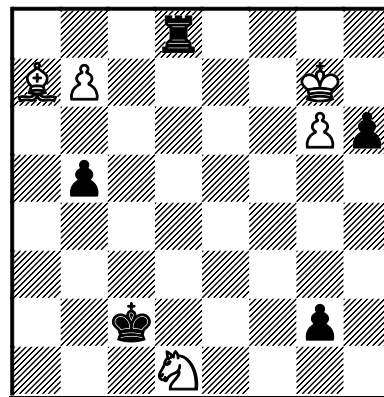
No 19127 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Se3+/i Kd3 2.Sxg2 Rd7+ 3.Kxh6 Rxb7 4.g7/ii Rxc7 5.Kxc7 b4 6.Bb8, and:

– Ke4 7.Kf6 b3 8.Be5 Kf3 9.Sh4+ Ke2 10.Sf5 Kd2 11.Sd6 Kc2 12.Sc4 wins, or:

– b3 7.Be5 Kd2 8.Bf6/iii Kc1 9.Se1 Kd2 10.Sf3+ Kc1 11.Se5 Kc2 12.Sc4 wins.

i) 1.Kxh6? Kxd1 2.g7 Rb8.

No 19127 A. Pallier
1st honourable mention



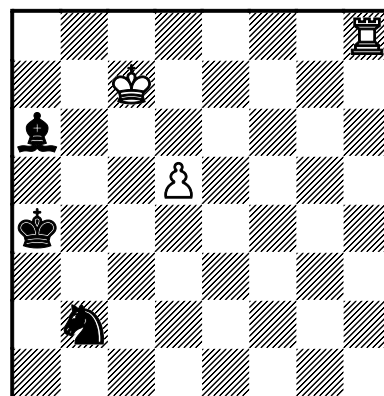
g7c2 0311.23 5/5 Win

ii) 4.Bc5? b4 5.Bf8 b3 6.g7 b2 7.g8Q b1Q.

iii) 8.Kf6? Kc1 9.Se1 Kd2 10.Sg2 Kc1 positional draw.

“Oh, a disappointing introduction otherwise this would have been a prize winner for sure! Perhaps the author was captivated by the beautiful move 2...Rb8 in line i). I think that this study deserves another introduction”.

No 19128 P. Arestov
2nd honourable mention



c7a4 0133.10 3/3 Win

No 19128 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Ra8/i Ka5/ii 2.d6 Sd3 3.Kc6 Se5+ 4.Kd5 Sf7/iii 5.d7 Kb6 6.Ke6 Bb5 7.Rb8+ Ka6 8.Ke7/iv Se5 9.Rb6+ Kxb6 10.d8Q+

i) 1.d6? Bb5 2.Ra8+ Kb4 3.Rb8 Sd3 (Sa4) 4.d7 Sc5 5.d8Q Se6+.

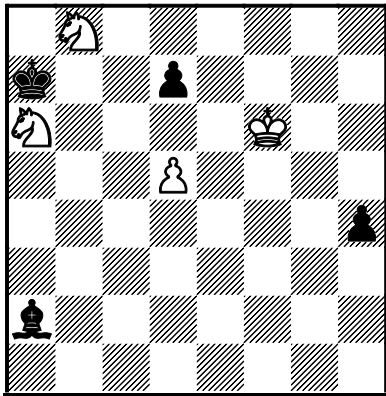
ii) Kb5 2.d6 Sd3 3.Re8 Sc5 4.Re5.

iii) Sd7 5.Ra7 Sb6+ 6.Kc6.

iv) 8.Rxb5? Sd8+ 9.Ke7 Sc6+ 10.Kd6 Kxb5.

“In a sharp, tactical fight White has the last word”.

No 19129 S. Zakharov
3rd honourable mention



f6a7 0032.12 4/4 Draw

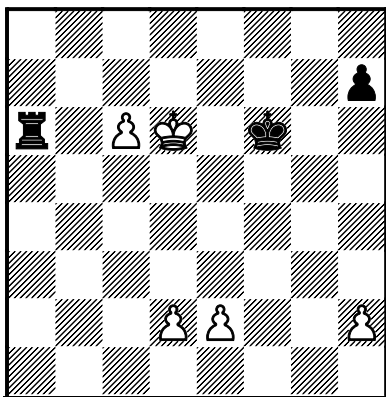
No 19129 Sergey Zakharov (Russia). 1.Sc5 h3 2.Sc6+ dxc6 3.dxc6/i h2 4.c7 Be6 5.Kxe6 h1Q 6.c8S+/ii Kb8 7.Sd6 Kc7 8.Sce4 Kc6 9.Sf6 Qh3+ 10.Sf5 Qb3+ 11.Ke5 Qb2+ 12.Ke6 Qe2+ 13.Kf7 draws.

i) 3.d6? h2 4.d7 h1Q 5.d8Q Qh4+ wins.

ii) 6.c8Q? Qh3+ wins.

“White successfully builds a fortress”.

No 19130 I. Akobia
4th honourable mention



d6f6 0300.41 5/3 Win

No 19130 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.d3/i h6 2.h3/ii h5 3.h4/iii Kf5 (Rb6; d4) 4.e4+ Kf6/iv 5.d4/v Ra4 6.e5+ Kf7 7.d5 (e6+? Ke8;) Ke8 8.Kc7 Rd4 9.d6 wins.

i) 1.d4? Kf5 2.e3 Ke4, or 1.e4? Kf7 2.Kd7 Ra4 3.c7 Rd4+ 4.Kc6 Rc4+.

ii) Thematic try: 2.h4? h5 zz 3.d4 Kf5 4.d5 Ke4 draws.

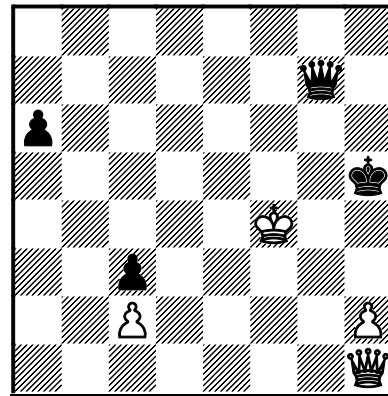
iii) 3.Kd7? Ke5 4.c7 (h4 Kd5;) Rd6+ 5.Kc8 Rb6 6.Kd8 Rd6+ 7.Kc8 positional draw.

iv) Kg4 5.e5 Kxh4 6.e6.

v) 5.e5+? Kf7 6.d4 Ke8 draws.

“An interesting battle of pawns against rook”.

No 19131 V. Kovalenko
5th honourable mention

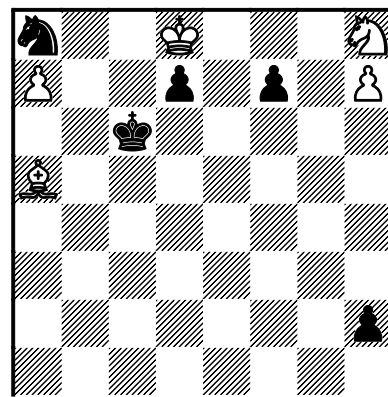


f4h5 4000.22 4/4 Win

No 19131 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Qf3+ Kh4 2.Qg3+ Qxg3+ 3.hxg3+ Kh5 4.Kf5 a5 5.g4+ Kh6 6.Kf6 a4 7.g5+ Kh7 8.Kf7 a3 9.g6+ Kh6 10.g7 a2 11.g8Q a1Q 12.Qg6 mate.

“It is amazing, but the judge was unable to find a forerunner”.

No 19132 P. Arestov
commendation



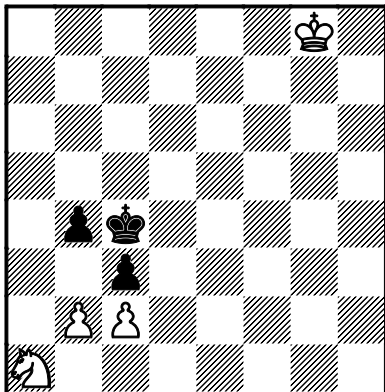
d8c6 0014.23 5/5 Win

No 19132 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Sg6/i h1Q 2.h8Q Qxh8+ 3.Sxh8 Kb7 4.Kxd7 Kxa7 5.Kc6 Ka6 6.Bd8 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Sxf7? h1Q 2.h8Q Qxh8+ 3.Sxh8 Kb7 4.Kxd7 Kxa7 5.Kc6 Ka6 6.Bd8 Sb6 7.Bxb6 stalemate.

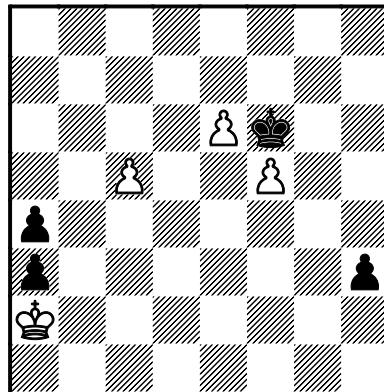
“Easy, clear logic”.

No 19133 M. Zinar
commendation



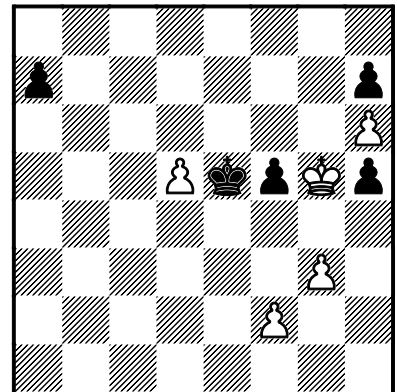
g8c4 0001.22 4/3 Win

No 19134 V. Kovalenko
& A. Skripnik
commendation



a2f6 0000.33 4/4 Draw

No 19135 A. Pallier
commendation



g5e5 0000.44 5/5 Draw

No 19133 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.b3+, and:

- Kd4 2.Kf8 Ke4 3.Ke8 Kd4 4.Kd8 Kd5 5.Kd7 with vertical opposition, or:
- Kc5 2.Kg7 Kc6 3.Kg6 Kc5 4.Kg5 Kd5 5.Kf5 with horizontal opposition.

“Another simpler example of an incarceration for a win”.

No 19134 Vitaly Kovalenko & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.e7 Kxe7 2.c6 h2 3.f6+

Kxf6 4.c7 h1Q 5.c8Q Qd5+ 6.Kb1 Qd1+ 7.Qc1 a2+ 8.Kxa2 Qxc1 stalemate.

“A simple but pleasant pawn study”.

No 19135 Alain Pallier (Russia). 1.d6 Kxd6 2.Kxf5 Kd5 3.Kf6, and:

- a5 4.Kg7 Ke6 5.Kxh7 Kf7 6.f3 h4/i 7.g4 h3 8.g5 h2 9.g6+ Ke7 10.g7 draws, or:
- h4 4.gxh4 a5 5.Kg7 Ke6 6.f4 a4 7.f5+ Kxf5 8.Kxh7 draws.
- i) a4 7.g4 a3 8.g5 a2 9.g6+ Ke7 10.g7 draws.

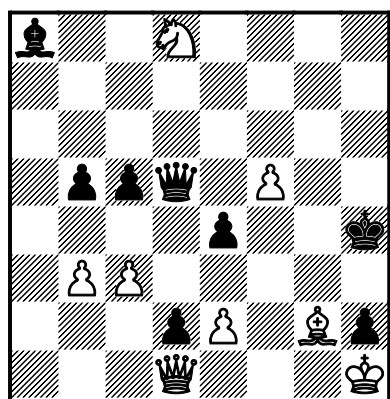


Farid Aslanov (see p. 265-267)

L. Loshinsky 100 & E. Umnov 100 MT 2012

Oleg Pervakov judged the formal tourney organized for the centenaries of the two Russian composers. GM Lev (Leo) Loshinsky (17i1913 – 19ii1976) published about 500 problems in various genres, but no endgame studies. IM Evgeny Umnov (11ii1913 – 22vii1989) composed mainly two-movers and studies.

No 19136 S. Didukh
1st prize



h1h4 4041.45 8/8 Draw

No 19136 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Sf7/i Qxf5/ii 2.Qxd2 Qf1+ 3.Bxf1/iii e3+ 4.Qd5/iv Bxd5+ 5.Kxh2 Bxf7 6.b4 cxb4 7.cxb4/v Bg6 8.Kg1/vi Bh5/vii 9.Kg2 Bg4 10.Kh2 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.Se6? see note v).

ii) b4 2.e3 bxc3 3.Bh3 Kg3 4.Sh6 c2 5.Qg4+ Kf2 6.Qf4+ Ke2 7.Qf1+ Kxe3 8.Sg4+ Kd4 9.Qa1+ Kd3 10.Bf1 mate, or Kg3 2.e3 Qd3 3.Bh3 Qxe3 4.Qg4+ Kf2 5.Qg2+ Ke1 6.Qf1 mate.

iii) Not 3.Kxh2? Qxg2+ 4.Kxg2 e3+ wins.

iv) Of course 4.Kxh2? exd2 wins.

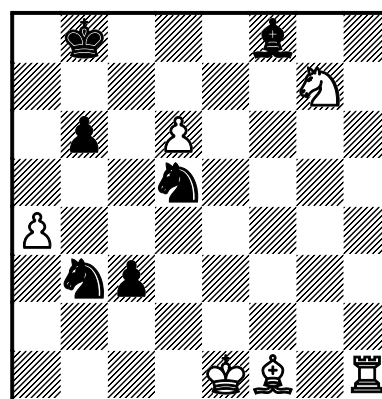
v) In the thematic try 1.Se6? Qxf5 2.Qxd2 Qf1+ 3.Bxf1 e3+ 4.Qd5 Bxd5+ 5.Kxh2 Bxe6 6.b4 cxb4 7.cxb4 the bB is at e6 instead of f7. Then Black van play 7...Bg4 zz 8.Kg2 Bh3+ 9.Kg1 Bxf1 10.Kxf1 Kh3 11.Kg1 Kg3 zz, wins.

vi) 8.Bh3? Bh5 9.Bd7 (Bf1 Bg4 zz;) Bxe2 10.Kg2 Kg5 11.Kg3 Bd3 12.Kf3 e2 13.Kf2 Kf4 14.Ke1 Ke5 15.Kd2 Kd5 wins.

vii) Bf5 9.Bg2 Bg4 10.Kf1 Bh3 11.Kg1 draws.

“A great combinative logical study on mutual zugzwang. There is a quite unexpected role of the wS as the ‘regulator’ of the solution and thematic try. Another lucky find by the author!”

No 19137 Y. Afek
2nd prize



e1b8 0147.22 6/6 Win

No 19137 Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.d7/i Kc7/ii 2.Se6+ Kxd7 3.Sxf8+ Ke8 4.Bb5+/iii Kxf8 5.Bc4/iv c2 6.O-O Sf4 7.Bxb3/v c1Q 8.Rxc1 Se2+ 9.Kf2 Sxc1 10.Bc4 Ke7 11.Ke3 Kd6 12.Kd4 Kc6 13.Bb5+ Kd6 14.Kc3 Sa2+ 15.Kb3 Sc1+ 16.Kb2 wins.

i) Winning the bB is not a good idea: 1.Rh8? c2 2.Rxf8+ Kb7 3.Ba6+ Kxa6 4.Rc8 Sc5 5.Kd2 Sb4 6.Rxc5 bxc5 7.d7 Sc6 8.Se6 Ka5 9.Sxc5 Sd8 10.Kxc2 Kb4 with an obvious draw.

ii) Be7 2.Rh8+ Ka7 3.Rc8 c2 4.Rxc2 Bh4+ 5.Rf2 wins.

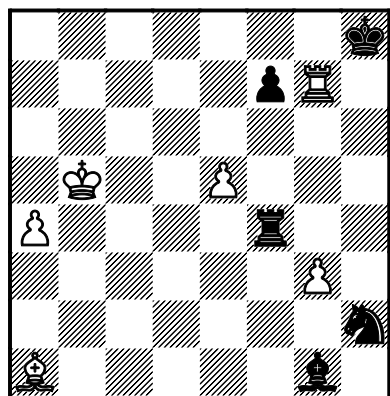
iii) 4.Bd3? Sb4 5.Kd1 Kxf8 draws.

iv) 5.O-O? Ke7 6.Bc4 Sd2 fork 7.Re1+ Kd6 draws.

v) After 7.Rxf4+? Ke7 8.Rf1 c1Q 9.Rxc1 Sxc1 10.Kf2 Kd6 11.Ke3 Kc5 White lacks a tempo.

“This endgame study has a playing plan with sharp replies and counter replies. One sees the hand of a practical player”.

No 19138 M. Notkin & S.N. Tkachenko
3rd prize



b5h8 0443.31 6/5 Win

No 19138 Maksim Notkin (Russia) & Sergey N. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.e6/i Rf5+ 2.Kc4 fxe6 3.Rg5+/ii Kh7 4.Rxf5 exf5 5.Bd4 Bxd4 6.Kxd4 Sf3+ 7.Kd5 f4 8.gxf4 Sh4 9.a5 Sf5 10.a6 Se7+ 11.Ke6 Sc6 12.Kf7 Sd8+ 13.Kf8 Se6+ (Sc6; f5) 14.Ke7 Sc7 15.a7 wins.

i) 1.gxf4? Kxg7 2.Kc4 Bb6 3.f5 Kf8 4.Bc3 Sf3 5.Kd5 Bc7 6.a5 Sxe5 7.a6 Sd7 8.a7 Bb8 draws.

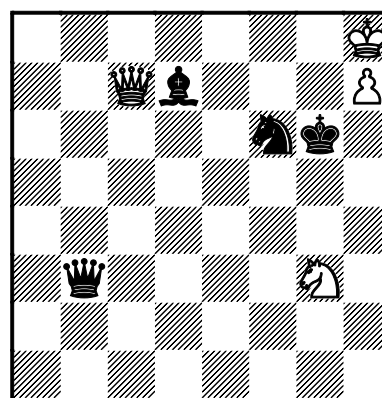
ii) Thematic try: 3.Rf7+? Kg8 4.Rxf5 exf5 5.Bd4 Bxd4 6.Kxd4 Sf3+ 7.Kd5 f4 8.gxf4 Sh4 9.a5 Sf5 10.a6 Se7+ 11.Kd6 Sc8+ 12.Kc7 Sa7 draws.

“A study construction based on the analysis of a game. The OTB-player found a beautiful nuance and the composer found a way to design a logical study. A new and possibly promising creative union”.

No 19139 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Sh5/i Qb4 2.Sf4+ Kf7 3.Sg6 Kxg6 4.Qc4/ii Qb6 5.Qe6/iii Qb2 6.Qb3 Qe5 7.Qe6 Qa1 8.Qa2 Qe5 9.Qe6 Qf4 10.Qc4/iv Qf5 11.Qg8+/v Kh5 12.Qg6+ Kh4 13.Kg7 Sh5+ 14.Qxh5+ Qxh5 15.h8Q (h8R) draws.

i) Already the first move is not the one that a chess player would immediately consider. But 1.Se2? Qa2 2.Sf4+ Kf7 3.Se6 Qb2 4.Sd8+ Kg6 5.Qd6 Qa1 zz 6.Sc6 Bxc6 7.Qa3 Qe5 (avoiding 7...Qxa3? stalemate) 8.Qg3+ Sg4+ loses.

No 19139 P. Krug
4th prize



h8g6 4034.10 4/4 Draw

ii) 4.Qd6? Qe4 5.Qe6 Qh4 6.Qf7+ Kf5 7.Qg6+ Ke6 8.Kg7 Be8 wins.

iii) 5.Qg8+? Kh5 6.Qg6+ Kh4 7.Kg7 Sh5+ 8.Qxh5+ Kxh5 9.h8Q+ Kg5 wins.

iv) 10.Qg8+? Kf5 11.Qg6+ Ke5 12.Kg7 Sxh7, or 10.Qe5? Qe4 11.Qe6 Qh4 12.Qf7+ Kf5 13.Qg6+ Ke6 14.Kg7 Be8.

v) 11.Qf7+? Kg5 12.Qg6+ Kf4 13.Kg7 Sh5+ (Se8+) 14.Qxh5 Qxh5 15.h8Q Qe5+ wins.

“An ode to a rabid queen! By playing accurate moves she attracts her counterpart to the square f5 and then the bK to h4. But why such a difficult key move? ‘Yellow card’, author!”

MG found a dual: 5.Qb3 Qd4 (Sd5 6.Qg3+ Kf5 7.Qh3+ Ke4 8.Qxd7) 6.Qe3 Qb2 (Qe4 7.Qh6+ Kf5 8.Qg6+ Kxg6) 7.Qb6 Qe5 8.Qe6 Qf4 9.Qc4 see main line. He wonders whether this can be considered as a transposition. HH observes that instead of 6.Qe3 in this line, also 6.Qb3 Qa1 7.Qa2 Qe5 8.Qe6 (see main line) works.

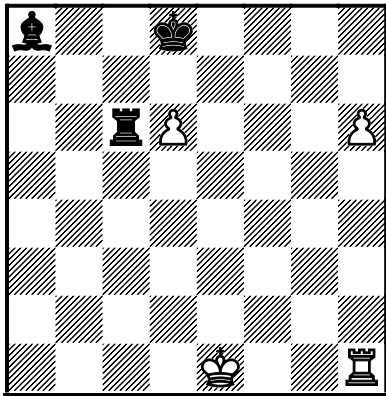
No 19140 Aleksandr Skripnik (Russia). 1.O-O/i Rxd6 2.Rf8+ Ke7/ii 3.h7 Rg6+ 4.Kf2 Kxf8 5.h8Q+ Rg8 6.Qf6+ Ke8 7.Ke3 Rf8 8.Qe6+ Kd8 9.Kd4 Re8 10.Qd6+ Kc8 11.Kc5 Re1/iii 12.Qf8+ wins.

i) 1.Rh4? Kd7 2.h7 Rc8 3.h8Q Rxh8 4.Rxh8 Bd5 5.Rh6 Be6 draws.

ii) Kc7 3.h7 Rg6+ 4.Kf2 Rh6 5.Rxa8 Rxh7 6.Ra7+ wins.

iii) Rd8 12.Qe6+, and Rd7 13.Kb6, or here Kc7 13.Qe7+ Rd7 14.Qe5+ Kc8 15.Kb6 Rb7+ 16.Ka6 Rb8 17.Ka7 wins.

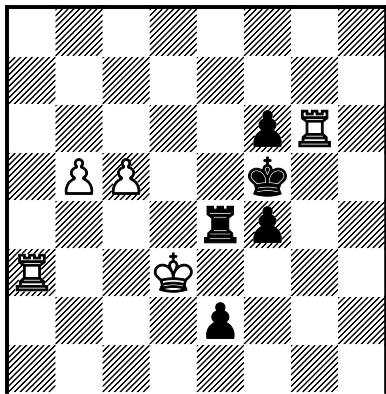
No 19140 A. Skripnik
Special prize



e1d8 0430.20 4/3 Win

Special prize for a miniature. “A nice miniature with a simple and clear systematic manoeuvre, however known from an unsound study by Dobrescu (HHdbIV#41372)”.

No 19141 I. Akobia & M. Garcia
1st honourable mention



d3f5 0500.23 5/5 Win

No 19141 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Ra1/i e1S+ 2.Rxe1 Rxe1 3.Rg2 f3 4.Rc2/ii Ke5/iii 5.c6/iv Kd6 6.c7 f2 7.c8S+ Kd7 8.Sb6+ Kd6 9.Sc4+ Kc5 10.Sa3+ Kb4 11.Rxf2 wins.

i) Not the other rook: 1.Rg1? Re3+ 2.Kd2 Rxa3 3.c6 Ra2+ 4.Kd3 f3 5.c7 Ra8 6.Ke3 Ke6 7.b6 Kd7 8.Kxf3 Kc6 draws.

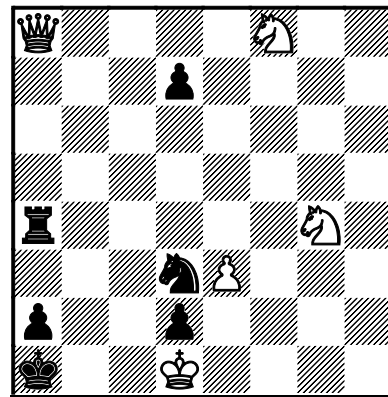
ii) 4.Rb2? Ke5 5.b6 Kd5 6.b7 f2, or 4.Rf2? Kf4 5.c6 Rc1 6.Rb2 Kg3 7.b6 Rxc6 8.b7 Rd6+ 9.Ke3 Re6+ 10.Kd2 Re2+ 11.Kc3 Re8, or 4.Rd2? Ke5 5.c6 Kd6 6.Kc2+ Kc7 7.Rd7+ Kb6 8.Rb7+ Ka5 9.c7 f2 10.c8Q Rc1+ 11.Kxc1 f1Q+ 12.Kb2 Qg2+ 13.Kb3 Qd5+ 14.Qc4 Qxb7 15.Qb4+ Kb6 draw.

iii) Kf4 5.c6 Re3+ 6.Kd4 Re2 7.Rc1 f2 8.Rf1 Rd2+ 9.Kc3

iv) 5.b6? Kd5 6.c6 f2 7.Rxf2 Kxc6 draws.

“An interesting rook study with a rare reciprocal knight promotion. It is a pity that the black underpromotion is arbitrary”.

No 19142 P. Krug
2nd honourable mention



d1a1 1305.13 5/6 Win

No 19142 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Qc8/i Rc4 2.Qxc4 Sb2+ 3.Kxd2 Sxc4+ 4.Kc1 Sa5 5.Sf6/ii d6/iii 6.Se6/iv Sb3+ 7.Kc2 d5 8.e4/v zz dxe4 9.Sd7 e3 10.Sdc5 and quickly mate.

i) 1.Qxa4? Sb2+ 2.Kxd2 Sxa4 3.Kc2 Sc3 draws.

ii) Thematic try: 5.Sf2? d6 6.Se4 Sb3+ 7.Kc2 d5 zz.

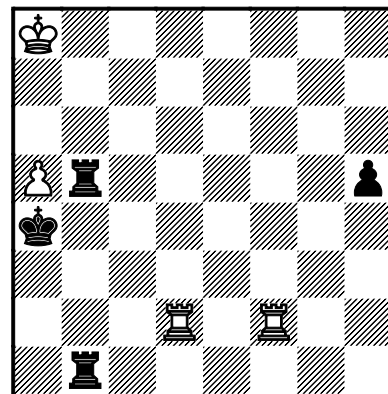
iii) d5 6.Se4 Sb3+ 7.Kc2 zz, or Sb3+ 6.Kc2 Sc5 7.Sd5 Sd3 8.Sf4 Sc5 9.e4.

iv) 6.Se4? Sb3+ 7.Kc2 d5.

v) 8.Se4? dxe4 zz.

“A scatter of interesting reciprocal zug-wangs”.

No 19143 I. Akobia
3rd honourable mention



a8a4 0800.11 4/4 Win

No 19143 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.a6 h4 2.a7 h3 3.Rf4+/i R1b4/ii 4.Rxb4+ Rxb4/iii 5.Rf2 zz Kb5/iv 6.Kb7 Kc5+ 7.Kc7 Ra4 8.Rf5+ Kd4 9.Rf4+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 3.Rd4+? R1b4/v 4.Rxb4+ Rxb4 zz 5.Rh2/vi Kb5 6.Kb7 Kc5+ 7.Ka6 Ra4+ 8.Kb7 Rb4+ 9.Kc7 Ra4 10.Rc2+ Kd4 11.Kb7 Rb4+ draws.

ii) Ka3 4.Rf3+ Kb4 5.Rxh3, or Ka5 4.Ra2+ Kb6 5.Kb8 h2 6.Rxh2 Re1 7.Rf8.

iii) Kxb4 5.Rb2+ Kc5 6.Rxb5+ Kxb5 7.Kb8 wins.

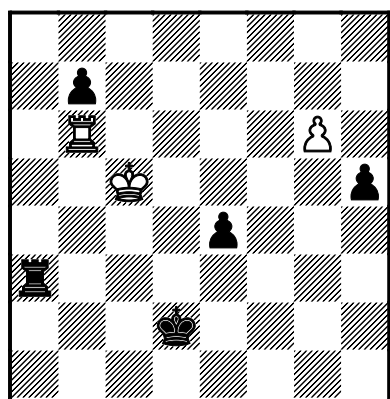
iv) Rb1 6.Ra2+ Kb5 7.Kb7 Kc5+ 8.Kc7, or Rb3 6.Ra2+ Kb4 7.Kb8.

v) But not Ka3? 4.Rd3+ R1b3 5.Rxb3+ Rxb3 6.Rc2 zz.

vi) 5.Rd2 Kb5, or 5.Rc2 Kb3 6.Rh2 Rh4 7.Kb7 Rh7+ 8.Ka6 Rh6+ 9.Ka5 Rh5+ draws.

“A soundly crafted rook study with a thematic try”.

No 19144 I. Akobia
4th honourable mention



c5d2 0400.13 3/5 Draw

No 19144 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Rb2+/i Kc3 2.g7/ii Ra5+ 3.Rb5 Ra8 4.Rxb7 e3 5.Re7 Rc8+ 6.Kd5 Kd2 7.Rc7 Re8/iii 8.Re7 Rg8/iv 9.Ke4 e2 10.Rd7+ Ke1 11.Kd3/v h4 12.Re7 Rd8+ 13.Ke3 h3 14.Kf3 Rd3+ 15.Kf4 Rd8 16.Kf3 Rd3+ 17.Kf4 positional draw.

i) 1.Rxb7? Rg3, or 1.Kd4? Ra4+ 2.Kc5 e3 win.

ii) 2.Rxb7? Ra5+ 3.Rb5 Ra7 4.Kd5 e3.

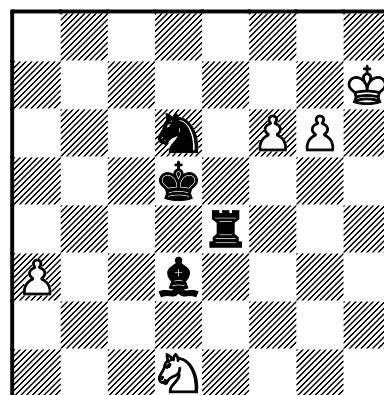
iii) Rd8+ 8.Ke6 e2 9.Rd7+ Kc2 10.Rxd8 e1Q+ 11.Kf7 draws.

iv) Rd8+ 9.Ke6 e2 10.Rd7+ Rxd7 11.Kxd7 e1Q 12.g8Q draws.

v) 11.Ke3? Re8+ 12.Kd3 Kd1 13.Kc3+ Kc1

“Another fine rook study by the Georgian Master”.

No 19145 D. Keith & M. Minski
Special honourable mention



h7d5 0334.30 5/4 Draw

No 19145 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.f7 Sxf7/i 2.gxf7 Re7+ 3.Kg8 Bh7+ (X) 4.Kg7/ii Ke5/iii 5.Se3 Bb1 6.Sd5/iv Rd7 7.Kg8 Bh7+ (X) 8.Kxh7/v Rxf7+ 9.Kg6 draws.

i) After Rf4 2.Kg8 Ke5 3.Se3 Bxg6 4.f8Q Bh7+ (move X) only 5.Kg7 (move A) draws, as 5.Kxh7? (Move B) fails to 5...Rxf8. The combination of the moves X, A and B is the idea of this study.

ii) (A). Thematic try: 4.Kxh7? (B) Rxf7+ 5.Kg6 Rf3 6.a4 Kd4 7.a5 Rf1 8.Sb2 Ra1.

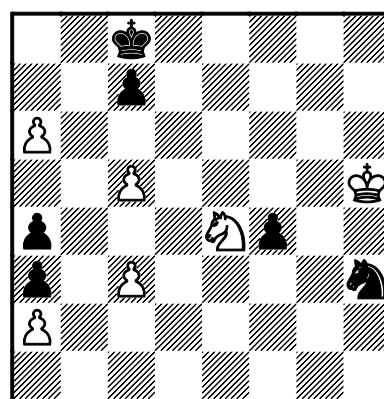
iii) Ke6 5.Kxh7 Rxf7+ 6.Kg6 Rf3 7.a4 Ke5 8.a5 Kd4 9.a6 Rf1 10.a7 draws.

iv) 6.Sg4+? Kf5 7.Sh6+ Kg5 8.Kh8 Kg6 9.f8Q Rh7+ 10.Kg8 Ba2+.

v) (B). Not 8.Kg7? (A) Bf5 9.Kg8 Be6.

“A problem idea in a light and clear design”.

No 19146 P. Arestov
commendation



h5c8 0004.44 6/6 Win

No 19146 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Kg4 Sg1 2.Kxf4 Se2+/i 3.Ke3 Sc1 4.Kd2 Sxa2/ii 5.Kc2 Kb8 6.Kb1 Sxc3+ 7.Sxc3 Ka7 8.Ka1/iii Kxa6 9.Ka2 zz Ka5 10.Kxa3 c6 11.Sxa4 Kb5 12.Kb3 wins.

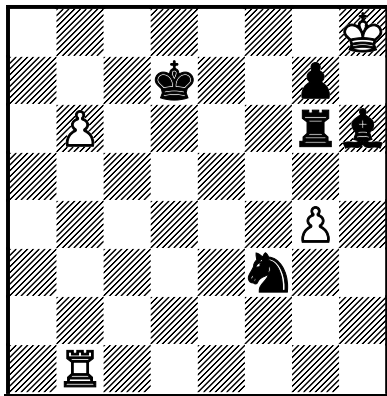
i) Kb8 3.Ke3 Ka7 4.Sg5 Kxa6 5.Kf2 wins.

ii) Sb3+ 5.Kc2 Sa5 6.Sf6 Sc6 7.Sd5 wins.

iii) 8.Ka2? Kxa6 zz 9.Kxa3 Ka5 zz 10.Sxa4 Kb5 11.Kb3 c6 zz 12.Ka3 Kc4 13.Kb2 Kb4 draws.

“A well-known final position preceded by sprawling play”.

No 19147 P. Arestov
commendation



h8d7 0433.21 4/5 Draw

No 19147 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.g5/i Bxg5/ii 2.b7 Bf4 3.b8Q Bxb8 4.Rxb8 Sg5 5.Rb7+ Ke6 6.Rxg7 Rh6+ 7.Kg8 Kf6 8.Ra7/iii Rg6+ 9.Kf8/iv Se6+ 10.Ke8 Rg8+ 11.Kd7 Rg7+ 12.Ke8 Sc7+ 13.Kd8/v Se6+ 14.Ke8 Rxa7 stalemate.

i) Thematic try: 1.b7? Bf4 2.b8Q Bxb8 3.Rxb8 Sg5 4.Rb7+ Ke6 5.Rxg7 Rh6+ 6.Kg8 Kf6 7.Ra7 (Rb7) Rg6+ 8.Kf8 Se6+ 9.Ke8 Rg8+ 10.Kd7 Rg7+ wins.

ii) Rxg5 2.b7 Rh5 3.b8Q Bf4+ 4.Kxg7 Bxb8 5.Rxb8, or Kc8 2.gxh6 gxh6 3.Kh7 Se5 4.Rh1 draw.

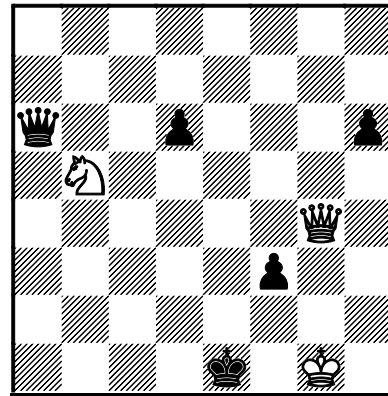
iii) 8.Rb7? Rg6+ 9.Kf8 Se6+ 10.Ke8 Rg8+ 11.Kd7 Sc5+ wins.

iv) 9.Kh8? Sf7+ 10.Kh7 Rg7 mate.

v) 13.Kf8? Re7 14.Kg8 Kg6 15.Kf8 Re8 mate.

“Simple, but nice logic”.

No 19148 R. Becker
commendation



g1e1 4001.03 3/5 Win

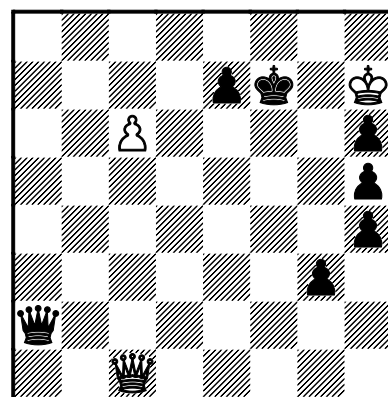
No 19148 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qb4+ Kd1 2.Qb2 f2+ 3.Kf1/i h5 4.Kxf2 Qb6+ 5.Kf1 Qa6 6.Kg1 Qb6+ 7.Kh2 Ke1/ii 8.Qb4+ Kf2 9.Qd2+ Kf3 10.Sd4+ Ke4 11.Qg2+ Ke5 12.Qg5+ Ke4 13.Qf5+ Ke3 14.Qf3+ Kd2 15.Qf2+ Kd3 16.Qc2+ Ke3 17.Qe2+ (Qc3+) Kf4 18.Qf2+ (Qg3+) Ke4 19.Qf3+ Ke5 20.Qf5+ Kxd4 21.Qf2+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 3.Kxf2? Qb6+ 4.Kf1 Qa6 zz 5.Kg1 Qb6+ 6.Kh2 Ke1 7.Qb4+ Kf2 8.Qd2+ Kf3 9.Sd4+ Ke4 10.Qg2+ Ke5 11.Qg3+ Kd5 draws.

ii) Qe3 8.Sc3+ Ke1 9.Qb1+ Kd2 10.Se4+ Ke2 11.Sg3+ Kf3 12.Qb7+ Kg4 13.Qc8+ Kf3 14.Qa8+ Kg4 15.Qg8+ Kf3 16.Qd5+ Kf2 17.Qg2+ Ke1 18.Qh1+ wins.

“The author recently became interested in the material QS vs. Q and QB vs. Q but, unfortunately, no memorable finds popped-up”.

No 19149 M. Croitor
commendation



h7f7 4000.15 3/7 Win

No 19149 Mikhail Croitor (Moldova). 1.c7 Qa6/i 2.Qf4+ Ke8 3.Qf1, and:

– Qxf1 4.c8Q+ Kf7 5.Qg8+ Kf6 6.Qf8+ wins the bQ by a vertical check, or:

– Qc6/ii 4.Qb5 Qxb5 5.c8Q+ Kf7 6.Qg8+ Kf6 7.Qg6+ Ke5 8.Qxh5+ wins the bQ by a horizontal check, or:

– Qc8 4.Qb5+ Kf7 5.Qxh5+ Kf6 6.Qxh4+ Ke6/ii 7.Qg4 (Qh3+) wins the bQ by a diagonal check.

i) Qe6 2.Qf1+ Ke8 3.Qb5+ Kf7 4.Qxh5+ wins.

ii) It is a pity that the 6...Ke5 7.Qxg3+ Kd4 8.Qg1+ Ke5 9.Qg8 Qxc7 10.Qg3+ Ke6 11.Qxc7 is not another main line, as also 9.Qc5+ wins.

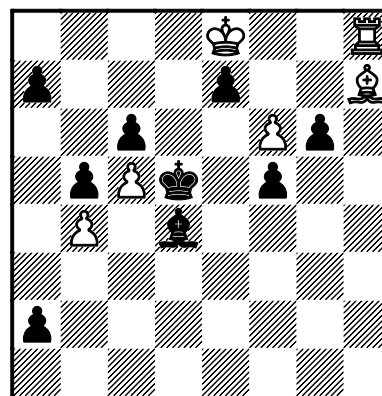
“The theme of WCCT9 expressed twice with classic finishes”.

No 19150 Aleksey Oganessian (Russia). 1.Bg8+ e6 2.Bxe6+ Kxe6 3.f7 Bg7/i 4.Rh1 g5 5.Ra1 g4/ii 6.Rxa2 g3 7.Ra6/iii Kd5 8.Ra1 Ke4 9.Re1+/iv Kf3 10.Re6/v g2 11.Rg6 wins.

i) First R-sac. Bxh8 4.f8Q a1Q 5.Qd6 mate.

ii) Second R-sac. Bxa1 6.f8Q f4 7.Qf7+ Ke5 8.Qg7+ wins.

No 19150 A. Oganessian commendation



e8d5 0140.37 6/9 Win

iii) 7.Ra1? f4 8.Rh1 g2 and wR cannot play to h6.

iv) 9.Rg1? f4 10.Re1+ Kf5, or 9.Kd7? f4 10.Re1+ Kd4.

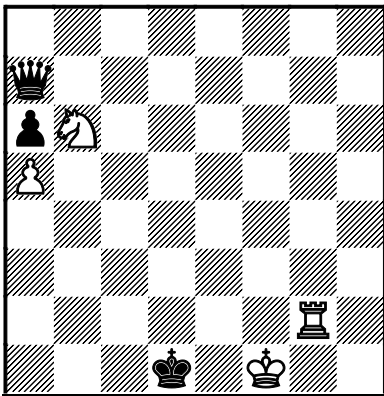
v) 10.Kd7? g2 11.Kxc6 Kf2 12.Rb1 f4 13.Kd5 f3 14.c6 g1Q 15.Rxg1 Kxg1 16.c7 f2 17.c8Q f1Q 18.Qg4+ Qg2+ 19.Qxg2+ Kxg2, or 10.Re5? Bxe5 11.f8Q g2 12.Qxf5+ Bf4 13.Qh3+ Kf2 14.Qh4+ Kf3.

“Precarious play by the wR”.

Kozhakin 55 JT 2012

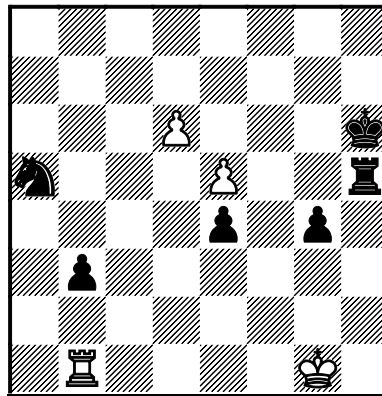
Vladimir Kozhakin organized composition tournaments in various genres to celebrate his 55th birthday. 19 studies from 16 composers participated. The judge was V. Kovalenko (Russia).

No 19151 J. Mikitovics,
A. Skripnik & V. Kalashnikov
1st/2nd prize



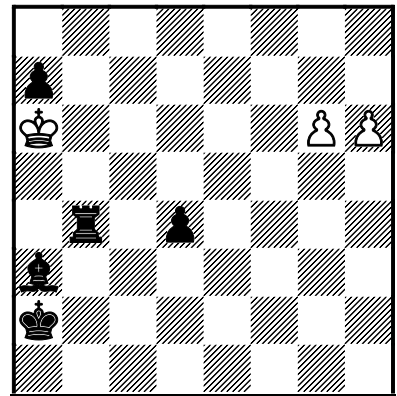
f1d1 3101.11 4/3 Draw

No 19152 I. Akobia
& J. Mikitovics
1st/2nd prize



g1h6 0403.23 4/6 Draw

No 19153 I. Akobia
honourable mention



f4c8 0301.12 3/4 Draw

No 19151 János Mikitovics (Hungary), Anatoly Skripnik & Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Rg4/i Qf7+ 2.Kg2 Qa2+ 3.Kf3 Qa3+ 4.Ke4 Qb4+ 5.Kf3 Qxa5 6.Rd4+ Kc1 7.Sd5 Qc5 8.Ke4 a5 9.Kd3 Qb5+ 10.Kc3 Qc5+ 11.Kd3 Qb5+ 12.Kc3 positional draw.

i) 1.Kf2? Qh7 2.Rg1+ Kc2, and 3.Rg5 Qh4+, or 3.Sa4 Qf7+ 4.Ke2 Qc4+ wins.

“An endgame study with unexpected moves that can only be understood using a computer. The final positional draw is hardly interesting as it is a mere repetition of moves. The international trio provided a decent product but I would like to see more tactical content”.

No 19152 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.d7 Sc6 2.Rxb3 Kg5 3.Rb8 Rh7 4.e6 e3 5.Rc8 Rh1+ 6.Kxh1/i e2 7.d8Q+ Sxd8 8.Rc5+ Kf4 9.Rc4+ Kf3 10.Rc3+ Kf2 11.Rc2 Sxe6 12.Rxe2+ Kxe2 13.Kg2 Ke3 14.Kg3 draws.

i) 6.Kg2? e2 7.d8Q+ Sxd8 8.e7 Rg1+ 9.Kh2 g3+ 10.Kh3 Rh1+ wins.

“Here the international duo presented an endgame study with bR sacrifice and an unex-

pected finish where Black is unable to defend his pawn”.

No 19153 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.h7/i Rb6+ 2.Kxa7 Rxc6 3.h8Q d3 4.Qc3 Rd6 5.Ka8/ii zz, and:

– Bb2 6.Qa5+ Kb3 7.Qb5+ Ka2 8.Qa5+ positional draw, or:

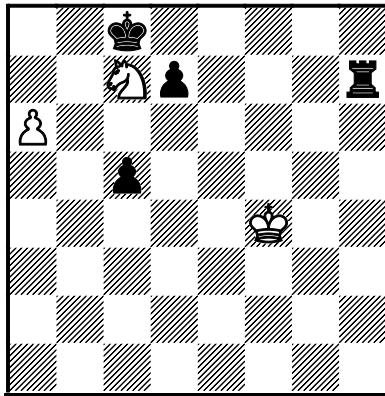
– d2 6.Qc2+ Ka1 7.Qc3+ Kb1 8.Qb3+ Bb2 9.Qd1+ Ka2 10.Qa4+ Ba3 11.Qc2+ Ka1 12.Qc3+ Bb2 13.Qa5+ Kb1 14.Qf5+ Ka2 15.Qf7+ Ka1 16.Qa7+ Kb1 17.Qh7+ positional draw.

i) 1.g7? Rb6+ 2.Ka5 Bd6 3.Ka4 Rb4+ 4.Ka5 Ka3 5.Ka6 Bb8 6.g8Q Rb6+ 10.Ka5 Bd6 and 11...Bb4+ wins.

ii) 5.Qd2+? Kb3 6.Qd1+ Qc4, or 5.Kb7? d2 6.Qc2+ Ka1 7.Qc3+ Bb2, or 5.Kb8? d2 6.Qc2+ Ka1 7.Qc3+ Bb2 win.

“The point of the study is the sudden 5th move of the wK to the corner, after which a reciprocal zugzwang has arisen. This could not have been composed without computer software”.

No 19154 I. Aliev
honourable mention



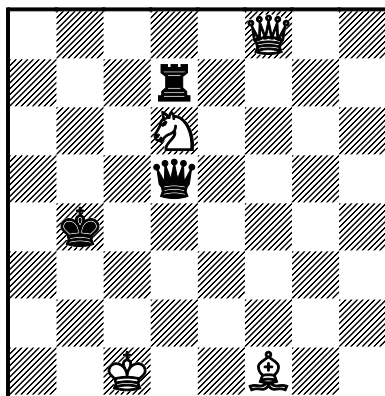
f4c8 0301.12 3/4 Draw

No 19154 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1. a7 Rh4+ 2. Ke5 Ra4 3. a8Q+ Rxa8 4. Sxa8 Kb7 5. Kd5/i d6 6. Kxd6 c4 7. Sc7 c3 8. Se6 c2 9. Sc5+ draws.

i) Not 5. Kd6? c4 6. Sc7 c3 and 7. Se6 is not possible.

“A simple study with the highlight at move 5 where one has to find the right square for the wK. The solution of this study looks very natural and easy”.

No 19155 J. Mikitovics
honourable mention

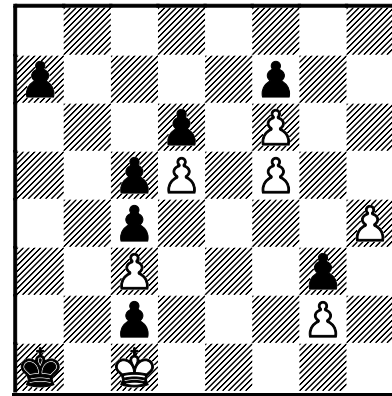


c1b4 4311.00 4/3 Win

No 19155 János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1. Sc4+ Qc5 2. Qb8+ Ka4 3. Qe8 Qg5+ 4. Kb1 Qf5+ 5. Ka2 Qxf1 6. Qa8+ Kb5 7. Qa5+ Kc6 8. Qb6+ Kd5 9. Se3+ wins.

“A simple miniature that has no pretensions with regard to much content. In this study we find the motif of pinning and unpinning the bR but that is only a supplement to the fight of queen and knight against the play of the bQ”.

No 19156 M. Zinar
Special honourable mention



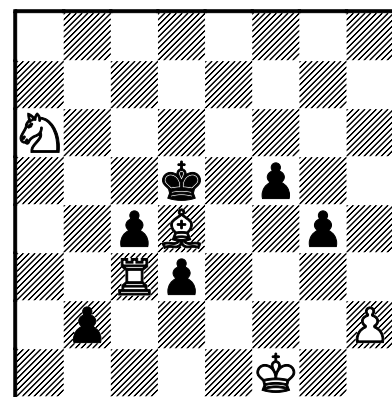
c1a1 0000.67 7/8 Win

No 19156 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1. h5 a5 2. h6 a4 3. h7 a3 4. h8S a2 5. Sg6 fxg6 6. f7/i g5 7. Kxc2 g4 8. Kd2 Kb2 9. f8R wins.

i) or 6. Kxc2 g5 7. f7.

“Sequential synthesis of underpromotions in a pawn study. The first promotion is known from Herland, the second from Lazard. The composer has created many works with multiple under-promotions in pawn studies”.

No 19157 G. Hörning & G. Josten
commendation



f1d5 0111.15 5/6 Win

No 19157 Gerd-Wilhelm Hörning & Gerhard Josten (Germany). 1. Sc7+/i Kxd4 2. Sb5+ Kc5/ii 3. Sa3 Kb4 4. Sb1 f4 5. Ra3/iii g3/iv 6. h4 f3/v 7. h5 d2 8. Sxd2 Kxa3 9. Sxc4+ Kb3 10. Sxb2 Kxb2 11. h6 wins.

i) 1. Rb3? Kxd4 2. Rxb2 c3 3. Rb4+ Ke3 4. Rc4 d2 5. Rxc3+ Kd4 draws.

ii) Ke3 3. Sa3 f4 4. Sxc4+ Kd4 5. Rb3 Kxc4 6. Rxb2 wins.

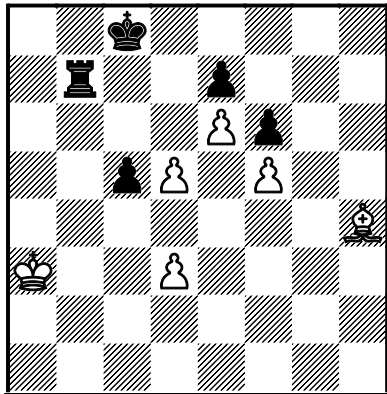
iii) 5.Ke1? g3 6.hxg3 fxg3 7.Kf1 g2+ 8.Kxg2 d2 9.Rxc4+ Kxc4 draws.

iv) f3 6.Ke1 d2+ 7.Kxd2 c3+ 8.Rxc3 f2 9.Ke2 wins.

v) d2 7.Sxd2 Kxa3 8.Sxc4+ wins.

“Not enough bright moments during the fight; it is a positional squeezing for victory”.

No 19158 B. Atanasov
commendation



a3c8 0310.43 6/5 Win

No 19158 B. Atanasov (Russia). 1.d6 Kd8/i 2.d7 Rb1 3.Bf2 Rd1/ii 4.Bxc5 Rxd3+ 5.Kb4 Rxd7 6.exd7 Kxd7 7.Bxe7 Kxe7 8.Kc5 Kd7 9.Kd5 wins.

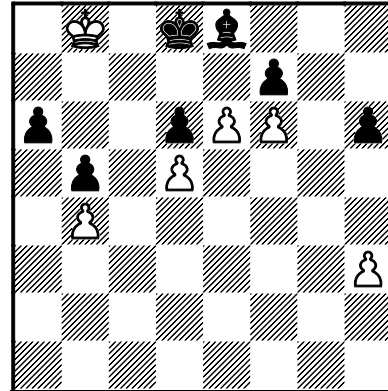
i) exd6 2.Bxf6 Rb4 3.Bg5 Rg4 4.f6 wins.

ii) Rb5 4.Ka4, or Rc1 4.Kb2 win.

“Black’s sacrificial counterplay is refuted by a bishop sacrifice. A natural looking ending

with apparently easy play but with a gradual build-up of sharp play towards the end of the solution”.

No 19159 A. Oganesyyan
special commendation



b8d8 0030.55 6/7 Draw

No 19159 Aleksey Oganesyyan (Russia). 1.e7+ Kd7 2.h4, and:

– h5 3.Kb7 a5 4.bxa5 b4 5.a6 b3 6.a7 b2 7.Ka8 Kc7 (Kc8) or 7...b1Q (b1R) stalemate, or:

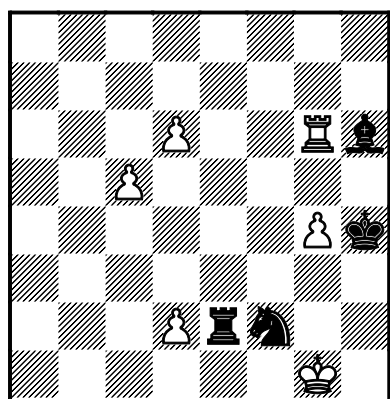
– a5 3.bxa5 b4 4.a6 b3 5.a7 b2 6.a8Q (Ka8? b5;) b1Q+ 7.Qb7+ Qxb7+ 8.Kxb7 h5 9.Kb8 and Black is stalemated.

“One rarely sees mutual stalemates in combination with duplex stalemates. As an introduction to the theme, the author used the incarceration theme for the bB”.

Shakhmatnaya Poezia 2010

Yuri Bazlov judged the annual tourney of *Shakhmatnaya Poezia*. 12 studies by 11 composers from 5 countries participated.

No 19160 J. Mikitovics
prize



g1h4 0433.40 6/4 Win

No 19160 János Mikitovics (Hungary).
1.Kf1/i Rxd2 2.Rxh6+, and:

– Kg3 3.c6 Se4 (Sxg4; Ke1) 4.Ke1/ii Rd3
5.d7/iii Sc3 (Re3+; Ka1) 6.Rh3+ Kxh3 7.c7
Rxd7 8.c8Q Re7+ 9.Kf2/iv Rf7+ 10.Ke3
Sd5+ 11.Kd2/v Kg3/vi 12.Qb8+ Sf4 (Kxg4;
Qg8+) 13.Qb3+ wins, or:

– Kxg4 3.c6 Se4 4.d7 Rd1+ 5.Ke2 Sc3+
6.Kf2 Sb5 7.Rh1 Rd6 8.Ra1/vii Sc7
9.Rg1+/viii Kf5 10.Rg8 Se6 11.d8Q Sxd8
12.c7 wins.

i) 1.Rxh6+? Kg3 2.Kf1 Re4 3.Rh7 Sd3
draws.

ii) 4.d7? Rd1+ 5.Ke2 Sc3+ 6.Ke3 Sd5+
7.Ke4 Se7 draws.

iii) 5.c7? Rc3 6.d7 Rxc7 7.Rh3+ Kxh3
8.d8Q Rc1+ draws.

iv) 9.Kd2? Se4+ 10.Kc2 Sg5 draws.

v) 11.Kd3? Sf4+ 12.Ke4 Sg6 13.g5+ Kh4
draws.

vi) Rf2+ 12.Ke1, or Sf4 12.g5+ win.

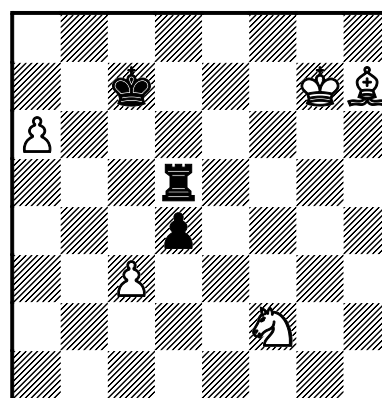
vii) 8.Rg1+? Kf5 9.Rb1 Sa7 draws.

viii) 9.Ra5? Kf4 10.Rh5 Ke4, or 9.Ra4+?
Kf5, or 9.Ra7? Se6 draw.

“Despite Black’s large material advantage,
White does not hurry to restore the material

balance immediately. By accurate and fine
play White breaks up the interaction of his op-
ponent’s pieces and later takes advantage of
their dispersal by promoting one of his pawns.
In the first line there are impressive pendulum
movements of the wR: 7.Rh1! 8.Ra1! 9.Rg1
and 10.Rg8!, while the second line has the un-
expected R-sac 8.Rh3!! The brightness of the
study is slightly diminished by the abundance
of analysis needed to prove the win”.

No 19161 I. Akobia
1st/2nd honourable mention



g7c7 0311.21 5/3 Win

No 19161 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.a7 Ra5
2.cxd4 Rxa7 3.Kf6 Kc6/i 4.Be4+ Kd6 5.Bg2/
ii zz Ra1/iii 6.Kf5 Rg1 7.Bf3 Rf1 8.Se4+ Kd5
9.Sd2+ battery, wins.

i) Kd6 4.Bg8 Re7 5.Kf5 Re8 6.Se4+ wins.

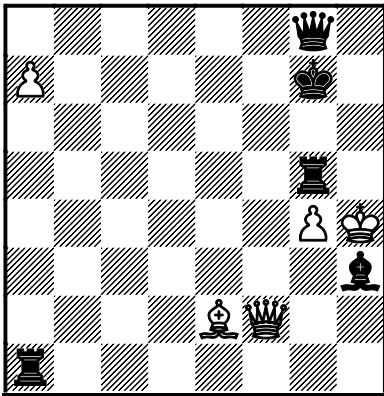
ii) Thematic try: 5.Bh1? Ra1 6.Bg2 Ra7
7.Se4+ Kd5 8.Sc3++ battery 8...Kc4 (Kxd4?;
Sb5+) draws.

iii) Ra2 6.Se4+ Kd5 7.Sc3++ battery; Ra6
6.Kf5 Ra2 7.Se4+ Kd5 8.Sc3+ battery.

“Not a bad discovery, with zugzwang subtle-
ties in a difficult relationship, but the introduc-
tion is unpretentious”.

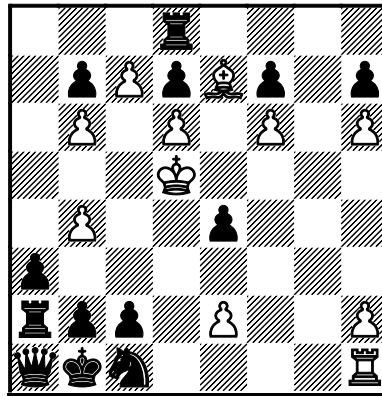
No 19162 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia).
1.Qd4+ Kh7 2.Qxa1 Rxg4+ 3.Kxh3 Rg3+
4.Kh2 Rg2+ 5.Kh1 Qa8 6.Bf3 Qxf3 7.Qh8+
Kxh8 8.a8Q+ Qxa8 stalemate.

No 19162 V. Kovalenko
1st/2nd honourable mention



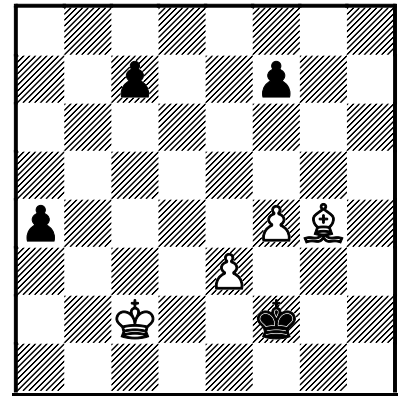
h4g7 4640.20 5/5 Draw

No 19163 M. Zinar
1st commendation



d5b1 3713.88 11/13 Win

No 19164 A. Pallier
2nd commendation



c2f2 0010.23 4/4 Win

“And here we have the opposite: sacrificial white fireworks, although correct, end up in a familiar stalemate, whose outlines are already clearly visible after Black’s 5th move”.

No 19163 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.cxd8S e3 2.Sc6 bxc6+ 3.Kc4 c5 4.b7 cxb4 5.b8S b3 6.Sc6 dxc6 7.d7 c5 8.Kb5 c4 9.d8S c3 10.Se6 fxe6 11.f7 e5 12.Bh4/i e4 13.Bf2 exf2 14.f8S e3 15.Sg6 hxg6 16.h7 g5 17.h8S g4 and mate in 5, e.g. 18.Sg6 g3 19.Sf4 g2 20.Sd5 gxh1Q 21.Sxc3 mate.

i) 12.f8S? e4 13.Sg6 hxg6 14.h7 g5 15.h8S g4 16.Sg6 g3 17.Sf4 gxh2 18.Sd5 stalemate.

“Mikhail Afanasevich is in his element with five knight promotions. This is not a record, but still... It is a pity that the play is so forced.

This would have been a great more-mover if the final knight had a single path to mate. But what is allowed in a study doesn’t work in a problem”.

No 19164 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Bd7 Kxe3 2.f5 Ke4 3.Kb2 c5 4.Ka3 c4 5.Kb4/i a3 6.Kxa3 c3 7.Ka2/ii Kd3 8.Ba4 (Kb1) Kd2 9.Kb1 (Ba4) draws.

i) 5.Kxa4? c3 (Kd3) 6.Kb3 Kd3 (c3) 7.Ba4 Ke4 8.Bd7 Kd3 positional draw.

ii) 7.Kb3? Kd3 8.Ba4 Ke4 9.Bd7 Kd3 positional draw.

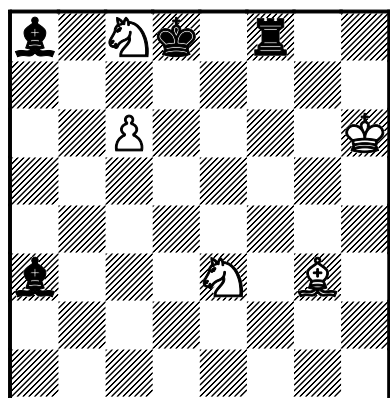
“A pure ending both by construction and play. The refusal-of-capture theme is nicely implemented; OTB players should taste this method for a win”.

Problemist Ukraini 2010

Vladimir Samilo judged the annual tourney of the Ukraine composition magazine. 18 composers submitted 18 studies. The award was published in *Problemist Ukraini* no.33 (3) 2012.

No 19165 N. Rezvov & S.N. Tkachenko

1st prize



h6d8 0372.10 5/4 Draw

No 19165 Nikolai Rezvov & Sergey N. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.Sa7/i Rh8+ 2.Kg5/ii Rg8+ 3.Kh4 Be7+ 4.Kh3 Rh8+ 5.Kg4 Rg8+ 6.Kh3 Rxc3+ 7.Kxc3 Bc5 8.c7+ Kxc7 9.Sb5+, and:

– Kb6 10.Sa3/iii Bxa3 (Bxe3) 11.Sc4+ wins, or

– Kc6 10.Sd5 Kxb5 (Kxd5) 11.Sc7+ wins.

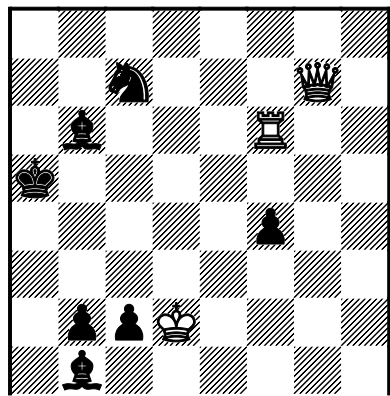
i) 1.Sc4? Rf6+ 2.Kg7 Rxc6 3.Sxa3 Kxc8.

ii) 2.Kg7? Bb2+ with 3.Kg6 Rg8+ and Rxc3, or 3.Kf7 Rh7+ and Rxa7.

iii) 10.Sd6? Bxd6+, but not Bxe3? 11.Sc4+, or 10.Sd5+? Bxd5, but not Kxb5? 11.Sc7+.

No 19166 I. Akobia & S. Didukh

2nd prize



d2a5 1163.03 3/7 Draw

No 19166 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Rf5+ Ka6 2.Qxb2 Be3+ 3.Ke2 c1S+/i 4.Qxc1 Bxc1 5.Rc5 f3+ 6.Kf2/ii Bf4 7.Kxf3 Bh2 8.Kg2 Bf4 9.Kf3 Bh7/iii 10.Rc4 (Rh5? Bg6;) Be5 11.Rc5 draws, e.g. Bh2 12.Rh5.

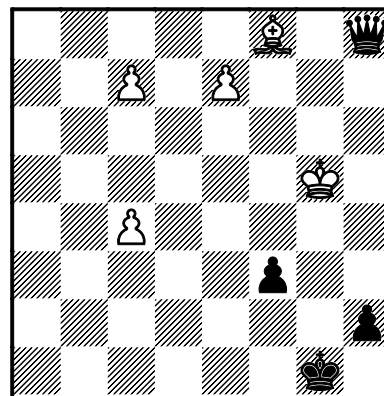
i) c1Q 4.Rf6+ Ka5 5.Qxc1 Bxc1 6.Rc6 Be3 7.Rxc7 draws.

ii) Thematic try: 6.Kxf3? Bf4, and 7.Rc4 Bh2 8.Kg2 Be5, or 7.Rc6+ Kb5, or 7.Kxf4 Se6+ win.

iii) Kb6 10.Rc3 Sb5 11.Rb3 Bc2 12.Rxb5+.

No 19167 S. Didukh

3rd prize



g5g1 3010.32 5/4 Draw

No 19167 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.e8Q Qg8+/i 2.Qg6 h1Q 3.Qxg8 Qg2+ 4.Kh5/ii Qxg8 5.c8Q f2 6.Kh6/iii Qh8+ 7.Kg6 Qg8+/iv 8.Kh6 draws.

i) h1Q 2.Qe1+ Kh2 3.Qxh1+ Kxh1 4.c8Q f2 5.Qc6+ Kg1 6.Bc5.

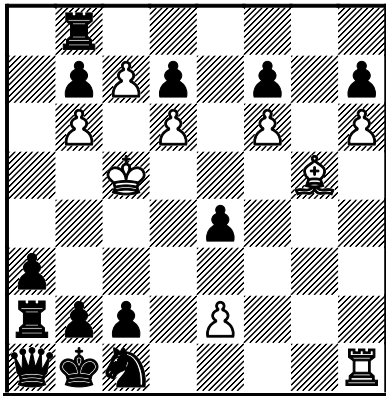
ii) Thematic try: 4.Kh6? Qxg8 5.c8Q f2 zz 6.Qc5 Qe6+ 7.Kh7 Kg2 8.Qg5+ Kf3 9.Qh5+ Qg4 10.Qh1+ Ke2 11.Qh2 Qf5+ 12.Kg8 Kd1 13.Qd6+ Kc2.

iii) 6.Qc5? Qg3 7.Bd6 Qf3+ 8.Kh4 Kh1 9.Qe5 Qg2 wins.

iv) f1Q 8.Bc5+ Kg2 9.Qxh8.

No 19168 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.cxb8S e3 2.Sa6 bxa6 3.b7 a5 4.b8S a4 5.Sc6 dxc6

No 19168 M. Zinar
special prize

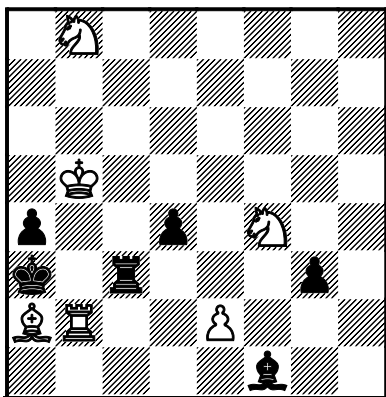


c5b1 3713.68 9/13 Win

6.Kb6 c5 7.d7 c4 8.d8S c3 9.Se6 fxe6 10.f7 e5
11.Bh4/i e4 12.Bf2 exf2 13.f8S e3 14.Sg6
hxc6 15.h7 g5 16.h8S g4 17.Sg6 g3 18.Sf4
f1Q 19.Rxf1 g2 20.Sd5 g1Q 21.Sxc3 mate.

i) Thematic try: 11.Bxe3? e4 12.Bf2 e3
13.f8S exf2 14.Sg6 hxc6 15.h7 g5 16.h8S g4
17.Sg6 g3 18.Sf4 f1Q 19.Rxf1 g2 20.Sd5
g1Q+ check 21.Rxg1 stalemate.

No 19169 V. Blokhin
special prize



b5a3 0442.13 6/6 Win

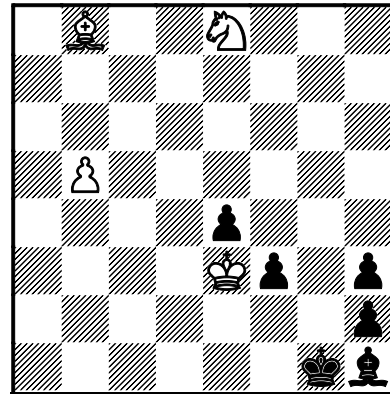
No 19169 V. Blokhin (Russia). 1.Rd2 g2/i
2.Sxg2/ii Bxe2+ 3.Rxe2/iii d3 4.Re1/iv d2/v
5.Rd1 Rc1 6.Rxd2 Rc2 7.Rd8/vi Rxc2 8.Bg8
Rb2+ 9.Kc4/vii Rb4+ 10.Kd5 Rb5+ 11.Ke6
Rb6+ 12.Kf7 Rb7+ 13.Sd7 wins.

i) Rb3+ 2.Bxb3 axb3 3.Sc6 g2 4.Sa5.
ii) 2.Bd5? Rb3+ 3.Bxb3 axb3 4.Sxg2 b2.
iii) 3.Kb6? Rb3+ 4.Bxb3 axb3 5.Rxe2 b2.
iv) 4.Re8? Kxa2 5.Sc6 a3 6.Sb4+ Kb1
draws.
v) Kxa2 5.Sc6 d2 6.Rd1 Kb3 7.Rxd2 a3
8.Sd4 mate.

vi) 7.Rd4? Kxa2 8.Rxa4+ Kb1 9.Se3 Rb2+
draws.

vii) 9.K-? Rxb8 10.Rxb8 stalemate.

No 19170 V. Vlasenko
1st/2nd honourable mention



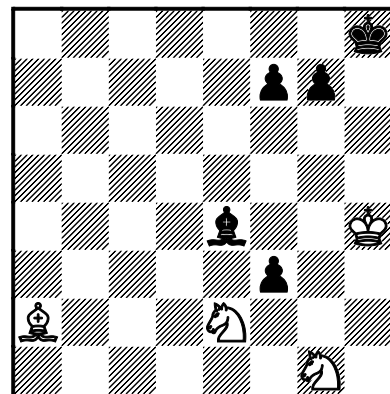
e3g1 0041.14 4/6 Win

No 19170 Valery Vlasenko (Ukraine). 1.Bg3
Bg2/i 2.Bf2+ Kf1 3.Sf6/ii h1S 4.Sg4 Sxf2
5.Sxf2 h2 6.b6 h1Q 7.Sxh1 Bxh1 8.b7 f2
9.b8Q Kg1 10.Qg3+ wins.

i) f2 2.Bxf2+ Kf1 3.Bg3, and Kg1 4.b6 Bg2
5.Bxh2+ Kxh2 6.b7 Kg1 7.b8Q h2 8.Qb1+
Bf1 9.Qb2, or Bf3 4.Bxh2 Be2 5.b6 Ba6 6.Sd6
Kg2 7.Be5 h2 8.Bxh2 Kxh2 9.Kxe4 Kg3
10.Kd5 Kf4 11.Kd4 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Sd6? h1S 4.Sxe4 Sxf2
5.Sxf2 h2 6.b6 h1Q 7.Sxh1 f2 draws.

No 19171 V. Tarasiuk
1st/2nd honourable mention



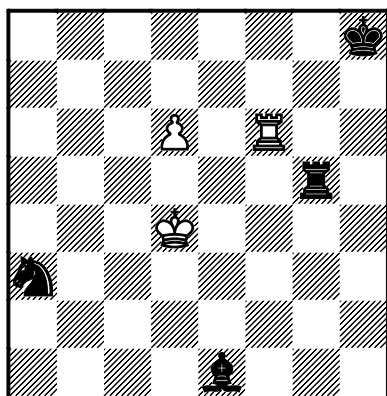
h4h8 0042.03 4/5 Win

No 19171 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Sg3 f2 2.Sh3 g5+ 3.Kg4/i f5+ 4.Kxg5 f1Q
5.Sxf1 Bg2 6.Sf4 Bxf1 7.Kh6 Bc4 8.Sg6+
(Bxc4? stalemate) Kg8 9.Bxc4 mate.

i) 3.Kxg5? f1Q 4.Sxf1 Bg2.

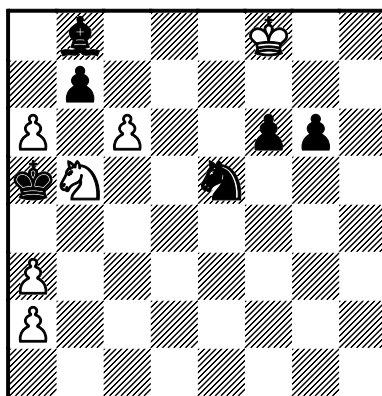
Correction of HHdbIV#72580.

No 19172 J. Mikitovics
3rd honourable mention



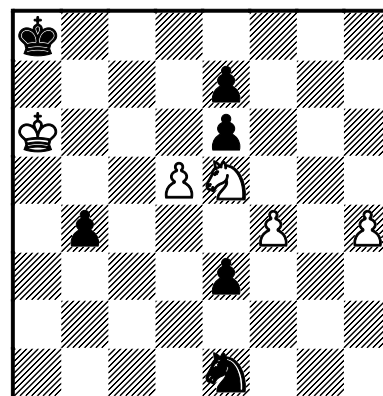
d4h8 0433.10 3/4 Draw

No 19173 G. Popov
special honourable mention



f8a5 0034.43 6/6 Win

No 19174 V. Tarasiuk
1st commendation



a6a8 0004.34 5/6 Win

No 19172 János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.d7, and:

– Ba5 2.Rh6+/i Kg7 3.Ra6 Sb5+ 4.Kd3 Rg3+/ii 5.Kc4 Sa3+ 6.Kd5 Bb4 7.Ra7/iii Kg6 8.Ra6+ Kh7/iv 9.Ra7/v positional draw, or:

– Rg8 2.Rf3 Sb5+/vii 3.Kc5 Sc7 4.Kd6 Sb5+ 5.Kc5 Sc7 6.Kd6 Sa6 7.Re3 Bf2/vii 8.Re8 Bh4 9.Kc6 Sb8+/viii 10.Kc7 Bg3+ 11.Kc8 draws.

i) 2.Ra6? Sb5+ 3.Kc4 Bd8 4.Ra8 Sd6+.

ii) Rd5+ 5.Kc4, or Bc7 5.Ra8 Rd5+ 6.Kc4, or Bd8 5.Ra8 Rg3+ 6.Ke4 Sc3+ 7.Kd4 Sb5+ 8.Ke4 all draw.

iii) 7.Ke4? Rg4+ 8.Kf5 Rd4 9.Ra4 Sc2.

iv) Kf5 9.Rf6+ Kg5 10.Rf3 draws.

v) 9.Re6? Rd3+ 10.Kc6 Bd2 11.Re8 Bg5 12.Kc7 Sb5+ 13.Kb6 Sc3 14.Kc7 Sd5+ wins.

vi) Sc2+ 3.Kd3 Sb4+ 4.Ke2 Bh4 5.Rh3 draws.

vii) Rg6+ 8.Kd5 Ba5 9.Re8+ Rg8 10.Ke6 Sc7+ 11.Kf7, or Ba5 8.Rh3+ Kg7 9.Rg3+.

viii) Bd8 10.Kb7 Sc7 11.Rxd8

No 19173 G. Popov (Russia). 1.a7/i Bxa7 2.c7 Sd7+ 3.Kg7 Sb6 4.Sd6 Ka4 5.Kh6 f5/ii 6.Kg5 f4 7.Kg4 g5 8.Kf3 g4+ 9.Kxg4 Kxa3 10.Sc4+ Sxc4 11.c8Q wins.

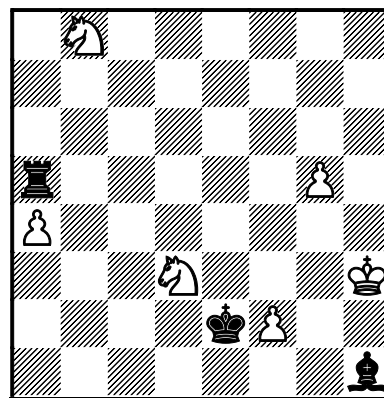
i) 1.c7? Bxc7 2.a7 Sd7+ 3.Kf7 Sb6 4.Sxc7 g5 5.Sd5 Sa8 6.Sxf6 Ka6.

ii) g5 6.Kh5 g4 7.Kxg4 f5+ 8.Kg3 f4+ 9.Kf3.

No 19174 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.d6/i exd6 2.f5 exf5 3.h5 Sf3 4.Sxf3 b3 5.h6 b2 6.Sd2 exd2 7.h7 b1Q 8.h8Q+ Qb8 9.Qh1+ wins.

i) 1.h5? b3 2.h6 b2 3.h7 b1Q 4.h8Q+ Qb8 5.Qxb8+ Kxb8 6.dxe6 Kc7.

No 19175 I. Akobia
2nd commendation



h3e2 0332.30 6/3 Draw

No 19175 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Sf4+ Kf3 2.Kh2 Kxf4 3.Kxh1 Rxg5 4.Kh2 Ra5 5.Kg1/i Ra7 6.Kg2 zz Rxa4 7.Kf1 Ke4 8.Sd7, and:

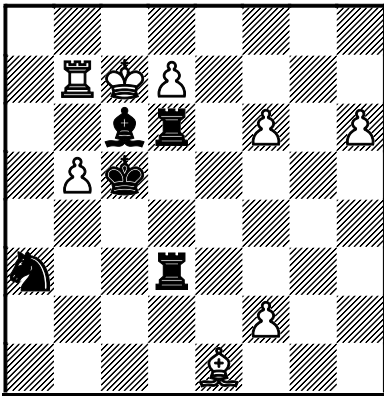
– Ra5 9.Ke2 Rf5 10.f4/ii Kxf4 11.Sb6 draws, or:

– Rd4 9.Sf6+ Kf3 10.Ke1 Rd6 11.Sh5 Re6+ 12.Kd2 Re5 13.Sf6 Re6 14.Sh5 positional draw.

i) Thematic try: 5.Kg2? Ra7 (Rxa4?; Kf1) zz 6.a5 Rxa5 7.Sc6 Ra4 8.Se7 Re4 9.Sc6 Rc4 10.Se7 Rc5 11.Sg6+ Kg5 12.Se7 Kf6 wins.

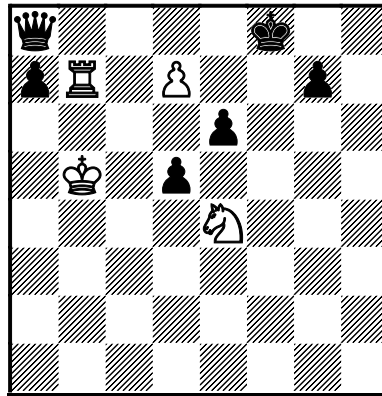
ii) 10.Sb6? Kd4 11.Sd7 Rf7 wins.

No 19176 A. Pallier
3rd/4th commendation



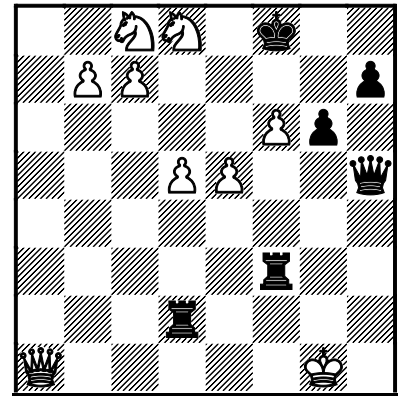
c7c5 0743.50 8/5 Win

No 19177 L. Topko
3rd/4th commendation



b5f8 3101.14 4/6 Win

No 19178 S. Bogdanovich
special commendation



g1f8 4602.52 9/6 Win

No 19176 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Bb4+/i Kxb4 2.bxc6+ Sb5+ 3.Kb8/ii Rxf6 4.c7 Rxd7 5.c8Q Rxb7+ 6.Qxb7 Rf8+ 7.Qc8 Rxc8+ 8.Kxc8 Sd6+ 9.Kd7 Sf7 10.h7 Kc5 11.Ke7 Sh8 12.Ke6 Kc6 13.f4 Kc7 14.Ke7 Kc6 15.f5 Kd5 16.f6 Sg6+ 17.Ke8 Ke6 18.f7 wins.

i) 1.bxc6? Rxc6+ 2.Kb8 Rxf6 3.Bb4+ Kc6 4.Rc7+ Kb6 5.Bxa3 Rxh6 6.Bc5+ Ka6 7.Ra7+ Kb5 8.Be7 Rh8+ 9.Kc7 Rc3+ 10.Kb7 Rd3.

ii) 3.Kd8? Kc5 4.f7 Kxc6 5.f8Q Kxb7 6.Qf7 Kc6 7.Qc4+ Kb6 8.Qc8 Rxh6.

No 19177 Leonid Topko (Ukraine). 1.Sc5/i Ke7 2.d8Q++ Kxd8 3.Rxg7 Qc8 4.Rh7 Qb8+

5.Sb7+ Kc8 6.Kc6 Qe5 7.Sd6+ Kb8 8.Rb7+ Ka8 9.Sb5 wins.

i) 1.Sd6? d4 2.Kc6 Ke7 3.Sc8+ Kd8 4.Sd6 Ke7, but not Ke7? 2.d8Q++ Kxd8 3.Rxg7 Qb8+ 4.Sb7+ Kc8 5.Kc6.

No 19178 S. Bogdanovich (Ukraine). 1.Qa3+/i Rxa3/ii 2.Se6+ Kg8 3.f7+ Kxf7 4.Sd6+ Ke7 5.c8S+ Kd7 6.b8S mate.

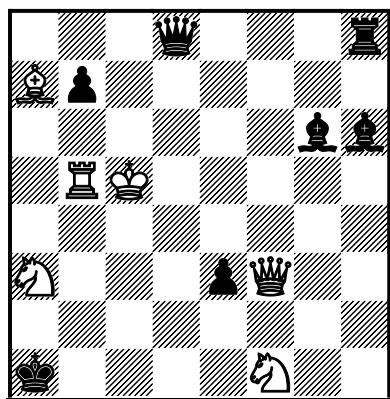
i) 1.Se6+? Kg8 2.Se7+ (f7+ Kh8;) Kf7 3.Sd8+ Kf8 4.Se6+ Kf7.

ii) Kg8 2.Se7+ Kh8 3.Sf7 mate.

Problemist Ukraini 2011

Péter Gyarmati (Hungary) judged the annual tourney of the Ukrainian composition magazine. 19 studies by 16 composers participated. The award appeared in *Problemist Ukraini* no. 32 (2/2012).

No 19179 A. Jasik
1st prize



c5a1 4472.02 6/7 Draw

No 19179 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Kb4 Bf8+ 2.Bc5 Rh4+ 3.Sc4 Rxc4+/i 4.Kxc4 Bd3+/ii 5.Kb3 Bxb5 6.Bb4/iii Ba4+ 7.Kxa4 Qa8+ 8.Ba5/iv b5+ 9.Kb3 Qxf3 10.Bc3+ Kb1 11.Sd2+ exd2 stalemate.

i) Bxc5+ 4.Rxc5 Qb6+ 5.Kc3 Qxc5 6.Qd1+ Bb1 7.Qa4+ Ba2 8.Qd1+ with perpetual check.

ii) Qd3+ 5.Kb4 Qd4+ 6.Kb3 Qb2+ 7.Kc4.

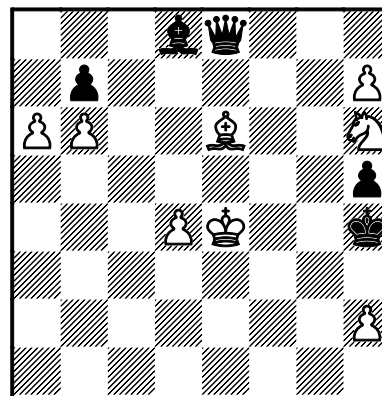
iii) 6.Bxf8? Qd3+ 7.Kb4 e2 8.Bg7+ Ka2 wins.

iv) 8.Kb3? Qa2+ 9.Kc3 e2 wins.

“This work, solely based on tactical motifs, has rich content. Play is very lively and Black has excellent counterplay. The stalemate with a pinned bishop is good for a spectacular finish and of course it is the theme of the study. A study with a single stalemate line, however, can no longer claim originality”.

No 19180 Aleksandr Zhukov (Ukraine). 1.Sf5+ Kg5 2.h4+/i Kg6 3.h8Q Qxh8 4.axb7 Bxb6 5.Bg8/ii Ba7 6.Se7+1 Kf6 7.Sd5+ Kg7 8.Se7 Kh6 9.Sf5+ Kg6 10.Se7+ Kg7 11.Kf3 Kf6 12.Sd5+ Kf5 13.Se7+ (Se3+? Kg6;) Kf6 14.Sd5+ Kg7 15.Se7 Bb8 16.Ke4 Bd6 17.Kf3 (Sf5+? Kf5;) Kh6 18.Sf5+ Kg6 19.Se7+

No 19180 A. Zhukov
2nd prize



e4h4 3041.52 8/5 Draw

(Sxd6? Qxg8;) Kg7 20.Ke4 Bc7 21.Kf3 Kf6 22.Sd5+ Kf5 23.Se7+ (Sxc7? Qxg8;) positional draw.

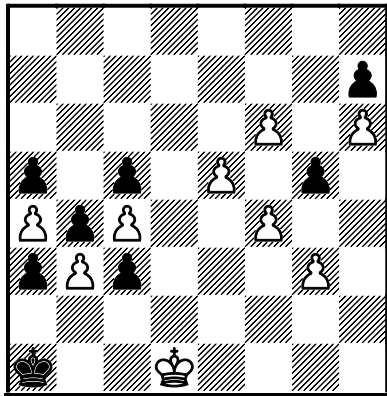
i) Thematic try: 2.Sg7? Qf8, and: 3.a7 Bf6 4.Sf5 Qe8 5.d5 Kg6 wins, or here 3.axb7 Bxb6 4.Bc8 Qxg7 5.h4+ Kg6 6.Bf5+ Kh6 7.b8Q Qxd4+ 8.Kf3 Qe3+ 9.Kg2 Qf2+ 10.Kh3 Qxf5+ 11.Kg2 Qf2+ 12.Kh3 Qf1+ 13.Kg3 Bf2+ 14.Kh2 Qg1+ 15.Kh3 Qh1+ 16.Qh2 Qf3+ and mate.

ii) Thematic try: 5.Se7+? Kf6, and 6.Bg8 Kxe7 7.b8Q Qxd4+ 8.Kf5 Qg4+ 9.Ke5 Qg3+, or here 6.Sg8+ Kxe6 7.d5+ Kf7 8.b8Q Qd4+ 9.Kf5 Qg4+ 10.Ke5 Qg3+ win.

“The positional draw theme in a monumental performance: very good work! The study has a very good structure, with the strategic content in harmony with the tactical motifs. White suffers from an acute shortage of material but still manages to survive against the overwhelming black forces. This is amazing! A bright work and a genuine specimen of human creativity!”.

No 19181 Mihail Zinar (Ukraine) & Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Kc1/i, and:

No 19181 M. Zinar & V. Kalashnikov
special prize



d1a1 0000.87 9/8 Win

– g4 2.f7 Ka2 3.Kc2/ii Ka1 4.f8S wins, e.g. a2 5.Sg6 hxg6 6.h7 g5 7.h8Q gxf4 8.Qh1 mate, or:

– gxf4 2.f7/iii Ka2 3.Kc2/iii fxf4 4.f8B g2 5.Bxc5 wins.

i) 1.Kc2? g4 2.f7 a2 draws.

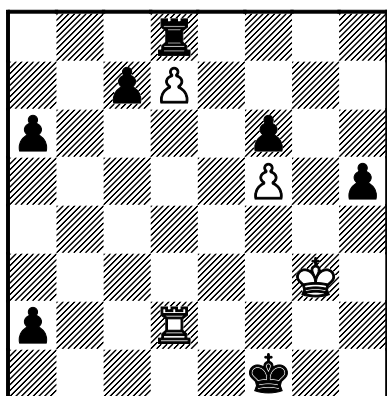
ii) Thematic try: 3.f8Q? Kxb3 4.Qf5 a2 5.Qc2+ Ka3 6.e6 a1Q+ 7.Qb1 Qa2 8.Qxa2+ Kxa2 and Black wins.

iii) 2.g4? Ka2 3.Kc2 f3 4.f7 f2 5.f8Q f1Q 6.Qxf1 stalemate.

iv) Thematic try: 3.f8Q? Kxb3 4.Qd6 a2 5.Qd1+ Kxc4 6.Qe2+ Kb3 draws.

“A classical work in a problem style with rich content. The two main lines have thematic tries and some wrong promotions. The material somewhat limits the play: Black’s counterplay is obvious”.

No 19182 V. Pogorelov & V. Kopyl
1st honourable mention



g3f1 0400.25 4/7 Draw

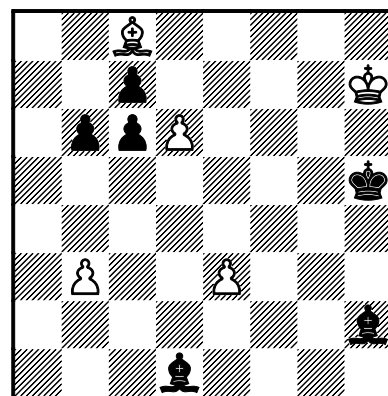
No 19182 Vladimir Pogorelov & Valery Kopyl (Ukraine). 1.Rf2+/i Ke1 2.Rxa2 Rxd7

3.Rxa6 Rd6 4.Rxd6 cxd6 5.Kh4 d5 6.Kxh5 d4 7.Kg6 d3 8.Kxf6 d2 9.Ke7 d1Q 10.f6 Qe2+ 11.Kf8

i) Thematic try: 1.Rxa2? Rxd7 2.Rxa6 Rd6 3.Rxd6 cxd6 4.Kh4 d5 5.Kxh5 d4 6.Kg6 d3 7.Kxf6 d2 8.Ke7 d1Q 9.f6 Qe1+ 10.Kf8 Qb4+, or here 3.Ra5 Ke2 4.Rc5 c6 with a technical win.

“The initial position is reminiscent of a practical game. Already the first move is a choice between solution and thematic try and the difference becomes clear only at the end of the solution. This is great! This is not a large-scale work, but is certainly has artistic merits. A very nice study for solving”.

No 19183 V. Tarasiuk
2nd honourable mention



h7h5 0070.33 5/6 Win

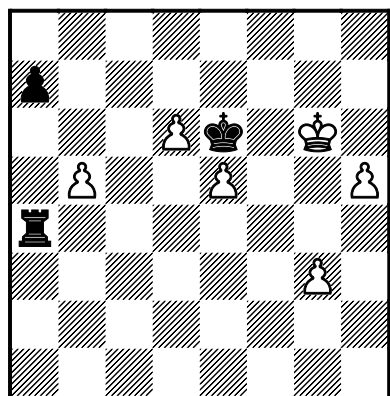
No 19183 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.d7 Bc2+ 2.e4/i Bxe4+ 3.Kg8 Bd5+ 4.Kf8 Bd6+ 5.Ke8 Be4 6.d8Q Bg6+ 7.Kd7 Bf5+ 8.Kxc6 Be4+ 9.Kb5 Bd3+ 10.Ka4 wins.

i) Thematic try: 2.Kg8? Bxb3+ 3.Kf8 Bd6+ 4.Ke8 Bc2 5.d8Q Bg6+ 6.Kd7 Bf5+ 7.Kxc6 Be4+ 8.Kb5 Bd3+ 9.Ka4 Bc2+ draws.

“In this study, as in the previous one, the beginning of the solution branches between solution and thematic try but the play is somewhat forced”.

No 19184 Siegfried Hornecker (Germany). 1.h6 Rg4+ 2.Kh5/i Rxd7 3.h7 Rg1 4.Kh6 Kf7 5.h8S+ Ke6 6.Sg6 Rb1 7.Sf8+/ii Kf7 8.d7 Rd1/iii 9.Sg6 (Sh7) Ke6 10.Sf8+ Ke7 11.Kg7 Rg1+ 12.Kh7/iv Rf1 13.Se6 Kxd7 14.Sd4 Rd1 15.Sc6 Ra1 16.Sd4 Ra4 17.Sc6 Ra2 18.Sd4/v

No 19184 S. Hornecker
3rd honourable mention



g6e6 0300.51 6/3 Draw

Rd2 19.Sc6 Ra2 20.Sd4 Ra4 21.Sc6 a5 (a6; Sb8+) 22.e6+ Kxe6 23.b6 draws.

i) 2.Kh7? Rxc3 3.Kh8 Kxe5 4.d7 Rd3 5.h7 Rxd7 6.Kg8 Kd5 7.h8Q Rd8+ 8.Kg7 Rxh8 9.Kxh8 Kc5 wins.

ii) 7.Kg5? Rxb5 8.Kf4 Rb4+ 9.Ke3 a5 10.Se7 a4 11.Sc6 Rc4 wins.

iii) Rh1+ 9.Kg5 Rd1 10.Sg6 Ke6.

iv) 12.Kh6? Rg8 13.d8Q+ Kxd8 14.Se6+ Kc8 15.Sd4 Kc7 16.e6 Kd6 17.Sc6 a6, or 12.Sg6+? Kxd7 13.Kf7 Rf1+ 14.Kg7 Ke6 win.

v) 18.Kg7? a5 19.e6+ Kxe6 20.b6 a4 21.b7 Rb2 wins.

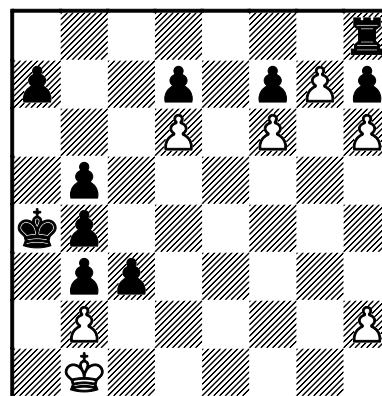
“A monumental work with many lines and a knight promotion, which gives value to the study. But I miss some tactical moments in the main line. In my view, some tries (2.Kh7? 12.Kh6?) are unmotivated; as a practical player I would not even consider them. For example, 12.Kh6? gives the 8th rank to the bR, and it is unclear what would be the benefit of this move in comparison with 12.Kh7?”

No 19185 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.gxh8S a5/i 2.Sg6/ii hxg6 3.h7 c2+ 4.Kc1 g5 5.h8S g4 6.Sg6 g3 7.hxg3 fxg6 8.f7 g5 9.f8S g4 10.Se6 dxe6 11.d7 e5 12.d8S e4 13.Se6 (Sb7) e3 14.Sc5 mate.

i) a6 2.Sg6 hxg6 3.Kc1 g5 4.h7 g4 5.h8Q c2 6.Qa8 a5 7.Qh1 g3 8.Kd2 c1Q+ 9.Qxc1 gxh2 10.Qa1 mate. This is not a main line, as also 5.h8S works (MG).

ii) or 2.Kc1 c2 3.Sg6 hxg6, see main line.

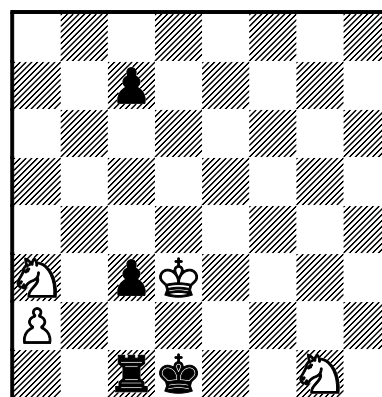
No 19185 M. Zinar
special honourable mention



b1a4 0300.68 7/10 Win

“A good study with four promotions to knight, three of which are sacrificed. Unfortunately, Black’s play is too simple”.

No 19186 S.I. Tkachenko
1st commendation



d3d1 0302.12 4/4 Win

No 19186 Sergey I. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.Se2/i Ra1 2.Sxc3+ Kc1 3.Sc4 c6 4.a3/ii c5 5.a4 Rxa4 6.Sxa4

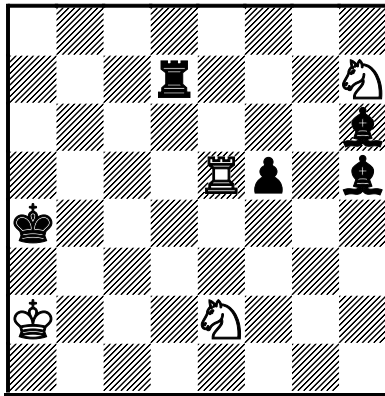
i) 1.Sc4? Ke1 2.Se3 Kf2 3.Sh3+ Kg3 4.Sg5 Kf4 5.Se6+ Ke5 draws.

ii) 4.a4? c5 zz 5.a5 Rxa5 6.Sxa5 c4+ draws.

“The study is based on the Troitzky ending, with such positions both in the main line and in the thematic try. With the effective tempo move 4.a3! in the main line, White avoids a reciprocal zugzwang. A charming shorty!”

No 19187 Valery Kirillov & Eduard Kudelich (Russia). 1.Sc3+/i Kb4 2.Sd5+/ii Rxd5 3.Rxd5 Bf7 4.Sf6 Bg7 5.Kb1 Bxf6 6.Rxf5 Bg6 7.Ka2 Bf7+ 8.Kb1 Bg6 9.Ka2 Bxf5 stalemate.

No 19187 V. Kirillov & E. Kudelich
2nd commendation



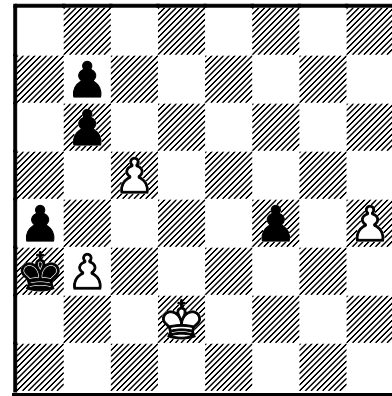
a2a4 0462.01 4/5 Draw

i) 1.Sf6? Rd2+ 2.Ka1 Bxe2 wins.

ii) 2.Sf6? Rd2+ 3.Ka1 Bg6 4.Sfd5+ Kb3 5.Re6 Bf7 6.Rb6+ Kc2 7.Rxh6 Bxd5, and 8.Sxd5 Rxd5, or here 8.Sb1 Rf2 9.Rd6 Be4 win.

“A forcing sacrifice of the bR is an unexpected tactical resource against the defence White was building. The final stalemate picture is spectacular, but not original. Unfortunately, 2.Sf6? is not a thematic try”.

No 19188 V. Tarasiuk
3rd commendation



d2a3 0000.34 4/5 Win

No 19188 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.c6 bxc6/i 2.bxa4 c5 3.a5 bxa5 4.h5 f3 5.h6 c4 6.h7 c3+ 7.Kc2 f2 8.h8Q f1Q 9.Qxc3+ Ka4 10.Qb3 mate.

i) axb3 2.cxb7 b2 3.b8Q b1Q 4.Qa7+ Kb2 5.Qxb6+

“This work is based on a good idea and the final mate picture is spectacular and seems to be original. However, both side’s play is rather simple and only the third move requires foresight”.

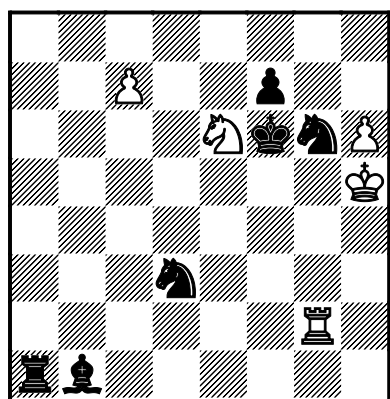


Zaur Bayramov (see p. 265-267)

Moroccan Chess 2012

Abdelaziz Onkoud judged the endgame study section of the 2nd Moroccan tourney. It was a formal tourney with 29 studies participating.

No 19189 V. Kovalenko
1st prize

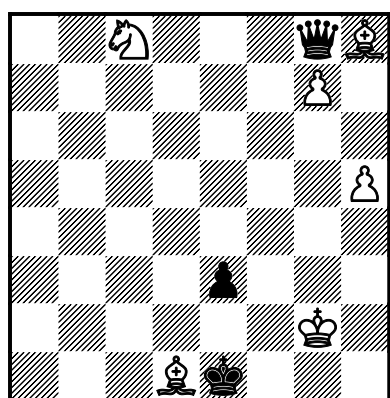


h5f6 0437.21 5/6 Win

No 19189 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.c8Q Sdf4+ 2.Sxf4 Ra5+ 3.Kg4 Bf5+ 4.Qxf5+ Rxf5 5.Sh5+ Rxh5 6.Rf2+ Sf4 7.Rxf4+ Kg6 8.Rf6+ Kxf6 9.Kxh5 zz, wins.

“A very curious study with 7 pieces disappearing during the course of the solution (preparatory phase). Suddenly a famous zugzwang position occurs (final position) with BTM; therefore White wins”.

No 19190 A. Pallier
2nd prize



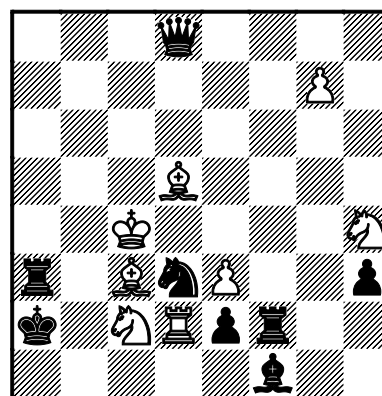
g2e1 3021.21 6/3 Win

No 19190 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Se7 Qa2+ 2.Kh1 Qa8+ 3.Kg1 e2 4.Bxe2 Qa7+ 5.Kh1 Qb7+ 6.Kh2 Qb8+ 7.Kg2 Qb7+ 8.Bf3 Qxe7 9.g8Q (g8R) Qg5+ 10.Bg4 (Qxg5? stalemate) Qxg8 11.Bc3 mate.

“A magnificent construction. Without doubt, the idea is highly original. A great and well-accomplished work. After an elementary introduction, the study’s points occur one by one to end up in a final position where the bishops are the heroes. The highlights are two queen sacrifices, one for stalemate, one for mate. I like the long-range play of the pieces which thrills the whole chess board”.

MG concludes that 9.g8R can hardly be considered as a minor dual. Of course 9...Qg5+ is now prevented (10.Rxg5 is no stalemate, and 10.Bg4? does not even win now), so Black must play something like 9...Qc5 10.Re8+ Kd2 11.Bf6 Qb6 13.Re2+ with a technical win. The model mate is gone. Ergo: the study is unsound.

No 19191 E. Melnichenko
3rd prize



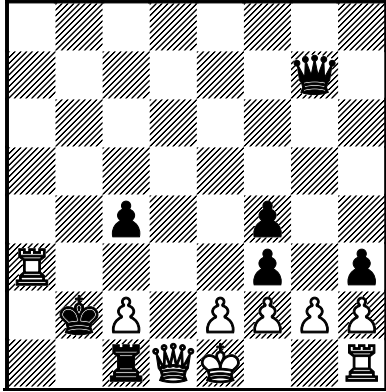
c4a2 3755.22 8/8 Draw

No 19191 Emil Melnichenko (New Zealand). 1.g8Q Qxg8 2.Kxd3+ Qxd5+ 3.Sd4+ Kb1 4.Rb2+ Kc1 5.Rc2+ Kd1 6.Rd2+ Ke1 7.Sf3+ Rxf3 8.Rxe2++ Kd1 stalemate.

“The final stalemate position is impressive. Four pieces are pinned. But the question is whether the preparation phase has the same value as the final position. I think that the author at least achieved one major element very well: the 4 pieces are not pinned from scratch.

But it must be noted that White forces the play by 7 successive checks. Only the first move is a quiet one, but still a queen promotion”.

No 1912 I. Aliev & J. Mikitovics
1st honourable mention



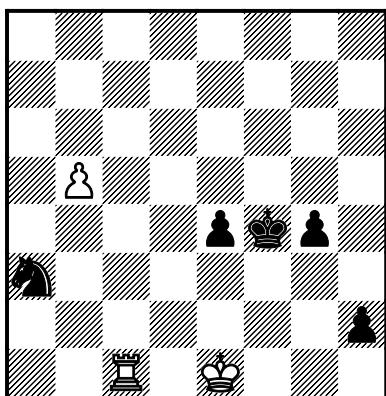
e1b2 4500.54 9/7 Draw

No 1912 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan) & János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Ra2+ Kb1 2.Ra1+ Qxa1 3.Qxc1+ Kxc1 4.O-O+/i Kb2 5.Rxa1 Kxa1 6.e4 fxe3ep 7.fxe3 Kb2 8.e4 Kxc2 9.e5 Kd3 10.e6 c3 11.e7 c2 12.e8Q c1Q+ 13.Kf2 Qc5+ 14.Kxf3 Qf5+ 15.Kg3 hxg2 16.Kxg2 draws.

i) Note that the wBf1 must have been captured by a bS.

“The Valladolid task is an idea we often encounter in problems. It was a pleasant experience to encounter it in a study”.

No 1913 I. Akobia & J. Mikitovics
2nd honourable mention



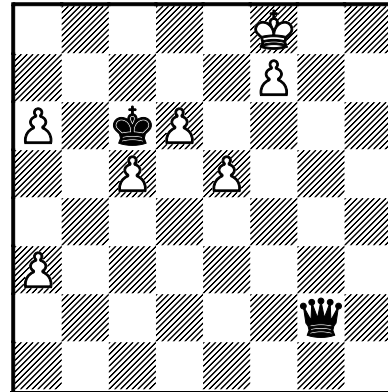
e1f4 0103.13 3/5 Draw

No 1913 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Kf2 Sxb5 2.Kg2 Sd4 3.Kxh2 e3 4.Kg2 e2 5.Kf2 g3+ 6.Ke1 Kf3 7.Rc3+ Kg4 8.Rc1 Kf4 9.Rb1 Kf3 10.Rb3+

Kf4 11.Rb1 Ke4 12.Rc1 Kd3 13.Rc3+ Kxc3 stalemate

“In extremis – White wins a stalemate. As the couple Ke1/Rc1 is well placed, they perform a coordinated joint action for a foreseeable rescue”.

No 1914 R. Becker
special honourable mention

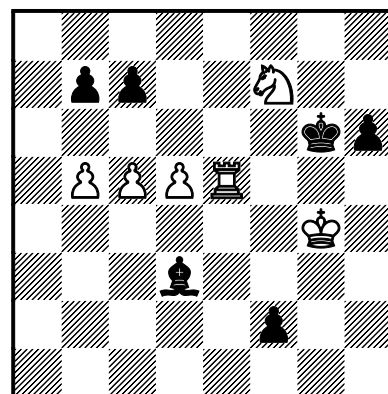


f8c6 3000.60 7/2 Win

No 1914 Richard Becker (USA). 1.e6 Qg5 2.e7 Kxc5 3.d7 Qh5 4.Ke8 Kc6 5.d8S+ Kb6 6.Se6 Kxa6 7.Sf4 Qb5+ 8.Kf8 Qc5 9.Sg6 Ka5 10.a4 Qb4 11.Kg8 Qb1 12.Se5 Qg1+ 13.Kf8 Qc5 14.Sd7 Qd6 15.Ke8 Qg6 16.Se5 Qh5 17.Sc4+ Kb4 18.Sd6 Kc5 19.Kd7 Qh3+ 20.Kd8 Kxd6 21.e8Q Qh4+ 22.Kc8 Qc4+ 23.Kb7 Qc7+ 24.Ka6 Qc4+ 25.Qb5 Qxf7 26.Qb6+ Ke5 27.Qe3+ Kd6 28.Qd4+ Kc6 29.Qb6+ wins.

“All for one! 5 pawns have to die to allow the rearmost pawn a3 to promote”.

No 1915 I. Aliev & M. Zeynalli
1st commendation



g4g6 0131.34 6/6 Draw

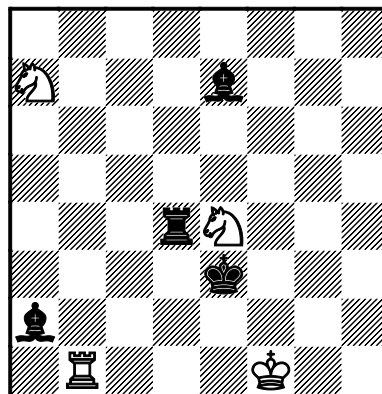
No 19195 Ilham Aliev & Miradil Zeynalli (Azerbaijan). 1.Sh8+ Kf6 2.Re6+ Kg7 3.Re7+ Kxh8 4.Rf7 f1Q 5.Rxf1 Bxf1 6.b6 cxb6 7.c6 bxc6 8.d6 Bc4 9.Kf5 Bf1 10.Kg4 draws.

“White must give away two pieces to eliminate the dangerous black pawn f2. The queen-side pawn majority allows the creation of a dangerous pawn at d6. The excitement is shortlived, as White and Black have to be satisfied with a simple positional draw. I hoped for much more!”.

No 19196 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Re1+ Kf3 2.Sc6 Bc4+ 3.Kg1 Rxe4 4.Se5+ Kg3 5.Rxe4 Bc5+ 6.Kh1 Bd5 7.Sf3 Bc6 8.Re3 Bxe3 stalemate.

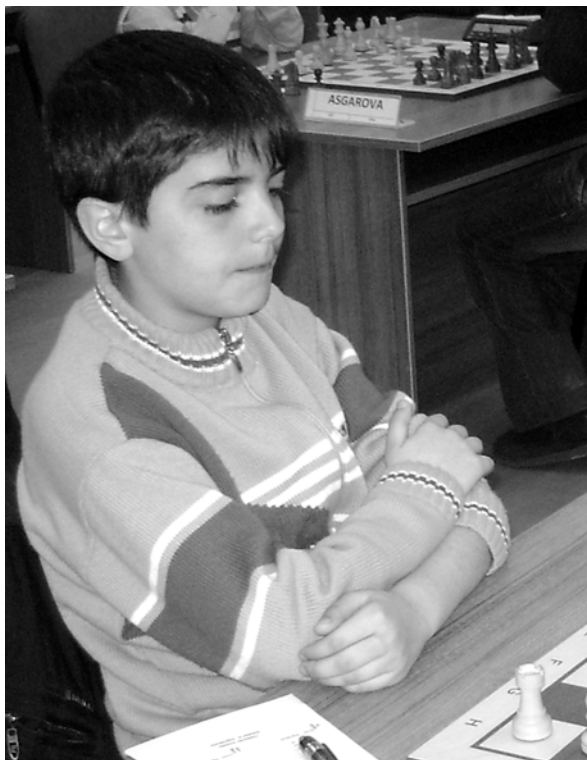
“An elegant and aristocrat study. One could say that White appears to be cooked. After a forced introduction, the white knights are struggling. White quickly brings wSa7 into

No 19196 R. Becker
2nd commendation



f1e3 0462.00 4/4 Draw

play and wins rook for knight. Although Black still has a network of possible mates with his two bishops, he cannot capture the white rook because of an ideal pinning stalemate. The pinned knight happens to be the one that came from a7. Magnificent!”.



Jeyhun Huseynzade
(see p. 265-267)

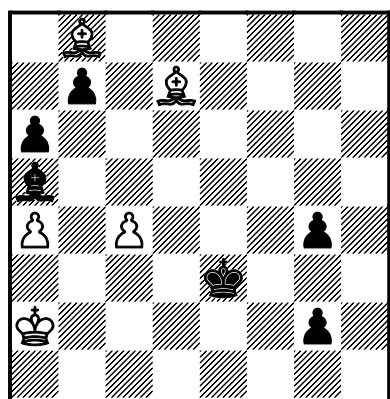
Pat a Mat 2010-2011

GM Oleg Pervakov (Russia) judged this informal tourney. 18 studies participated. The award appeared in *Pat a Mat* 81 (x2012).

Pervakov explains: “In the modern study I see four different problems. 1. Sometimes I look at a study and wonder for what purpose it was made and what the author wanted to show the world. 2. Beautiful finishes are preceded by disgusting introductory play including captures of immobile pieces or numerous exchanges. 3. Mutual zugzwangs from EGTBs; if you undertake to create a thematic try (which you should), please do not add 6 pieces or even more. 4. A thematic try should be (thematically!) connected with the main line otherwise it is just a try.

HH fully agrees (but is aware that some of his studies suffer from one or the other problem mentioned).

No 19197 L. Salai
prize



a2e3 0050.24 5/6 Draw

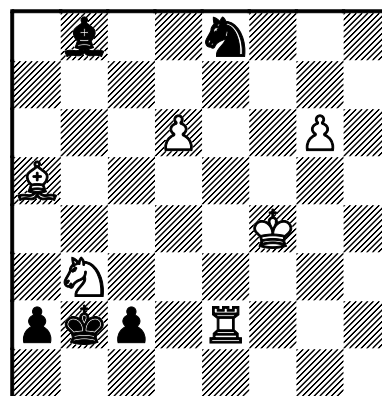
No 19197 Ladislav Salai jr (Slovakia).
1.Bh2 g3 2.Bg1+ Ke2 3.Bh3 Kf1 4.Ba7/i Be1/
ii 5.Kb3 Bf2 6.Bb8 Kg1 7.Kb4 Kh2 8.Bxg2
Kxg2 9.Ka5 Kh3 10.Bxg3 Kxg3 11.c5 Kf4
12.Kb6 a5 13.Kxa5 Bxc5 14.Kb5 Ba7 15.a5
Ke5 16.a6 b6 17.Kc6 Ke6 18.Kb7 Kd7
19.Kxa7 Kc7 20.Ka8 b5 21.a7 b4 stalemate.

i) 4.Bc5? Be1 5.Kb3 Bf2 6.Bd6 Kg1 7.Kb4
Kh2 8.Bxg2 Kxg2 9.Ka5/x Ba7 10.Bc5 b6+
11.Bxb6 Bxb6+ 12.Kxb6 Kf3 13.c5 g2 14.c6
g1Q+ wins.

ii) b6 5.Bb8 Kf2 6.Be5 Kf3 7.Bd4 Be1
8.Bc8 Bf2 9.Bb7+ Ke2 10.Bxf2 Kxf2 11.Bxg2
Kxg2 12.a5 bxa5 13.c5 Kf3 14.c6 g2 15.c7
g1Q 16.c8Q draws.

“A natural initial position, clever play, a wB wheel (b8-h2-g1-a7-b8) and two not very impressive stalemates. Everything in this study is harmonious. Bravo, Ladislav!”.

No 19198 I. Akobia
1st honourable mention



f4b2 0144.22 6/5 Win

No 19198 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Sa1/i
Kxa1/ii 2.Rxc2 Bxd6+ 3.Kf5/iii Kb1 4.Re2/iv
a1Q 5.Re1+ Kb2 6.Rxa1 Kxa1 7.Bc3+/v Kb1
8.Ke6 Kc2 9.Ba1/vi, and:

– Bb4 10.Kd7/vii Sd6 11.g7 wins, or

– Bf8 10.Kf7 Sd6+ 11.Kxf8 Sf5 12.Ke8 Kd3
13.Kd7 Ke4 14.Ke6 Kf4 15.Kf6 Kg4
16.Be5 wins.

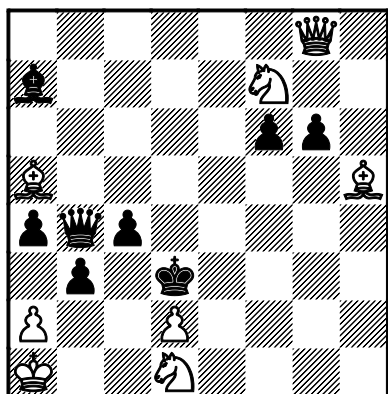
i) 1.Re3? Bxd6+ 2.Kf5 a1Q 3.Bc3+ Kxb3
4.Bxa1+ Ka2 5.Re2 Kxa1 draws.

ii) Bxd6+ 2.Kf5 Sg7+ 3.Ke4 Kxa1 4.Rxc2
Kb1 5.Rg2 a1Q 6.Rg1+ Ka2 7.Rxa1+ Kxa1
8.Bc3+ Ka2 9.Bxg7 wins.

iii) Thematic try 3.Ke4? (Kg5?) Kb1 4.Re2
a1Q 5.Re1+ Ka2 6.Rxa1+ Kxa1. The wK
must quickly go to e6.

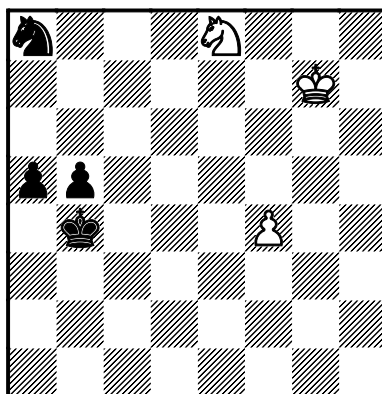
iv) Thematic try: 4.Rd2? Bf8 5.Ke6 Bh6
6.Rd1+ Kc2 draws.

No 19199 M. Hlinka
& L'. Kekely
2nd honourable mention



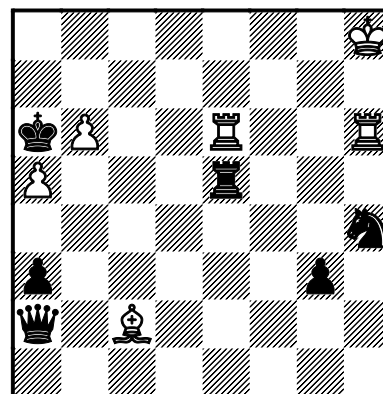
a1d3 4052.25 8/8 BTM, Win

No 19200 G. Josten
3rd honourable mention



g7b4 0004.12 3/4 Win

No 19201 P. Arestov
1st commendation



h8a6 3513.22 6/6 Win

v) 7.Ke6? Ba3 8.Bc3+ Bb2 9.Bxb2+ Kxb2 10.Kf7 Sd6+ 11.Ke6 Se8 12.Kf7 Sd6+ draws.

vi) Thematic try: 9.Bh8? Bf8 10.Kf7 Sd6+ 11.Kxf8 Sf5 12.Ke8 Kd3 13.Kd7 Ke4 14.Ke6 Kf4 15.Bf6 Kg4 16.Be5 (Bd8 Sg7+;) Kg5 17.Kf7 Sh6+ 18.Kg7 Sf5+ 19.Kf7 Sh6+ draws.

vii) Thematic try: 10.Kf7? Sd6+ 11.Ke6 Sc8 12.Kf7 Sd6+ 13.Ke6 Sc8 14.Bf6 Bf8 15.Kf7 Bh6 draws.

“A very interesting position from the EGTB is preceded by a not-so-obligatory introduction. From three thematic tries as defined by the author, in my opinion only the line 8.Bh8 is close to being a thematic try”.

No 19199 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1...Bd4+ 2.Sb2+ Bxb2+ 3.Kxb2 c3+/i 4.dxc3 a3+ 5.Ka1 b2+ 6.Kb1 Qe4 7.Qxg6/ii f5 8.Qg4/iii fxg4 9.Bg6 Qxg6 10.Se5+ Ke4 11.Sxg6 wins.

i) a3+ 4.Kc1 b2+ 5.Kb1

ii) 7.Bxg6? f5 8.Bxf5 Qxf5 9.Qg6 Kc4+ 10.Qxf5 stalemate.

iii) 8.Qxf5? Kd2+ 9.Qxe4 stalemate.

“A very original and sharp idea but the forced introduction and the curious wBa5 don't allow this original study a prize!”

No 19200 Gerhard Josten (Germany). 1.f5 Sb6/i 2.f6 Sd7 3.f7 Kc4 4.Sf6 Sc5 5.Kf8 Se6+ 6.Ke7 Sf4 7.Sd7 Kd5 8.Sc5/ii Sg6+ 9.Kf6 Sf8 10.Kg7 Kxc5 11.Kxf8 wins.

i) a4 2.f6 a3 3.f7 a2 4.f8Q+ wins.

ii) 8.Sb6+? Ke5 9.Sd7+ Kd5 10.Sc5

“A pleasant miniature with wK wheel and the beautiful move 8.Sc5!”.

No 19201 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Bd3+ Rb5 2.Bxb5+ Kxa5 3.b7 Qb2+ 4.Kg8/i Qxb5 5.Ra6+ Qxa6 6.Rxa6+ Kxa6 7.b8Q g2 8.Qb1 Ka7 9.Kf8/ii Sf3/iii 10.Qh7+ Kb8 (Kb6) 11.Qg8+ (Qg6+) wins.

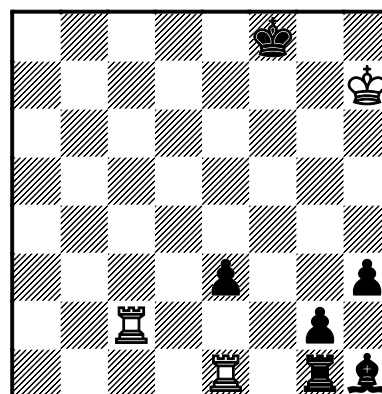
i) Thematic try: 4.Rhf6? Qxb5 5.Ra6+ Qxa6 6.Rxa6+ Kxa6 7.b8Q g2 8.Qb1 Ka7 9.Kg8 Sf3 10.Qh7+ Kb8 11.Qb1+ Ka7 positional draw.

ii) 9.Kf8? Sf3 10.Qh7+ Kb8 11.Qb1+ Ka7.

iii) Ka6 10.Kh7 Ka5 11.Kh6 Ka4 12.Kh5 Sf3 13.Qc2+ wins.

“A magnificent mutual zugzwang from the EGTB but see my introduction, point 3”.

No 19202 R. Becker
2nd commendation



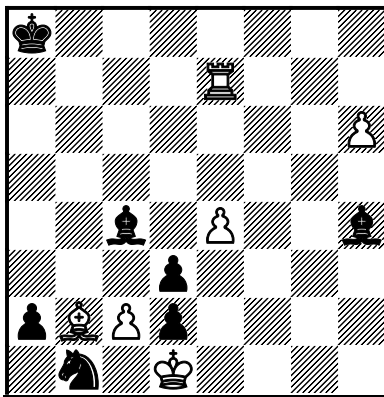
h7f8 0530.03 3/6 Draw

No 19202 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rc8+/i Kf7 2.Rxg1 h2 3.Rcc1 hxg1Q 4.Rxg1 Kf6 5.Kh6 Kf5 6.Kh5 Kf4 7.Kh4 Kf3 8.Kh3 e2 9.Kh2 Kf2 10.Rxg2+ Bxg2 stalemate.

i) 1.Rxe3? Rf1 2.Rc8+ Kf7 3.Rc7+ Kf6 4.Rc8 g1Q. Thematic try: 1.Rxg1? h2 2.Rc8+ Ke7 3.Rcc1 hxg1Q 4.Rxg1 Kf7 5.Kh6 Kf6 6.Kh5 Kf5 7.Kh4 Kf4 8.Kh3 Kf3 9.Kh2 e2 wins.

“And again point 3, besides the cemetery on square g1”.

No 19203 A. Jasik
3rd commendation



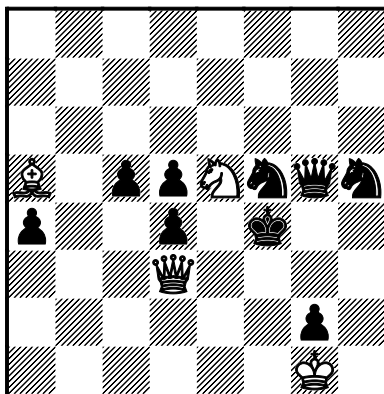
d1a8 0173.33 6/7 Draw

No 19203 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.h7 dxc2+ 2.Kxc2 a1S+ 3.Bxa1 Bb3+ 4.Kb2 Bf6+ 5.e5 d1Q 6.h8Q+ Bxh8 7.Ra7+/i Kxa7 stalemate.

i) 7.Re8+? Ka7 8.Ra8+ Kb6 9.Rb8+ Kc5 10.Rc8+ Kd4 11.Rd8+ Bd5

“The finish is nice, but with too-forced play and the bSb1 doesn’t play”.

No 19204 J. Mikitovics
4th commendation



g1f4 4017.05 4/9 Win

No 19204 János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Bc7 Qg7 2.Sf7+ Kg4/i 3.Qe2+/ii Kh4 4.Bd8+ Sf6 5.Qe6 Qg6 6.Bxf6+ Kh3 7.Sg5+ Kh4 8.Sf3++, and:

– Kg3 9.Be5+ (Bh4+? Sxh4;) wins, or:

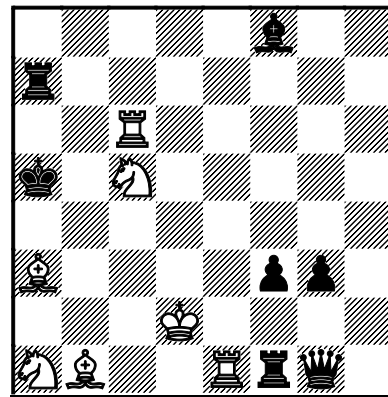
– Kh5 9.Se5 Sg7 10.Qh3 mate.

i) Sd6 3.Bxd6+ Kg4 4.Qe2+ (Qd1+) Kf5 5.Qxh5+ Ke6 6.Sh6 Qf6 7.Qe2+ Kxd6 8.Qa6+ wins.

ii) 3.Qd1+? Kh4 4.Bd8+ Sf6 5.Se5 Se3 6.Qf3 Kg5 7.Qg3+ Kh6 8.Qh4+ Sh5 draws.

“Curious battery play and domination”.

No 19205 M. Hlinka & P. Valois
5th commendation



d2a5 3852.02 7/7 Draw

No 19205 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia) & Paul Valois (Great Britain). 1.Bd3 Qf2+ 2.Re2 Qxe2+/i 3.Bxe2 fxe2 4.Sab3+/ii Kb5 5.Sd4+ Kc4 6.Kxe2/iii Rf2+ 7.Ke3 Rxa3+/iv 8.Sd3+ Kd5 9.Rc5+ Bxc5 stalemate.

i) Bxc5 3.Sb3+ Ka4 4.Sxc5+ Kxa3 5.Rxf2 Rxf2+ 6.Ke3, or Rd1+ 3.Kxd1 fxe2+ 4.Bxe2 Bxc5 5.Sb3+ Ka4 6.Bxc5 Rd7+ 7.Sd2 draws.

ii) 4.Scb3+? Kb5 5.Sd4+ Ka4 6.Kxe2 Rf2+ 7.Ke3 Bxa3, or 4.Kxe2? Rf2+ 5.Kd3 Kb5 6.Rg6 Rxa3+ 7.Sab3 g2 win.

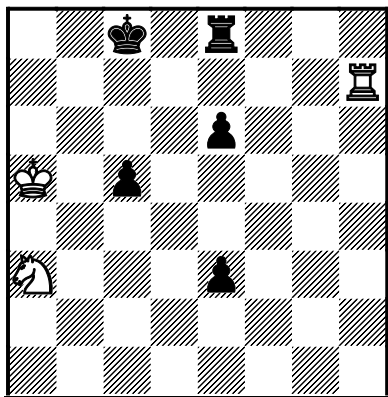
iii) 6.Sxe2? Kd5 7.Sxg3 Rf3 wins.

iv) Kd5 8.Sa6 Bxa3 9.Sc7+ Rxc7 10.Rxc7 Bf8 11.Rd7+ Ke5 12.Rh7 draws.

“A very beautiful finish, I mention the attempt 8...Bc5?? 9.Rxc5 mate! Alas, see point 2”.

No 19206 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Sc4/i Kd8/ii 2.Se5 Rg8/iii 3.Sf7+ Ke8 4.Sd6+ Kf8/iv 5.Rf7 mate.

No 19206 R. Becker
special prize



a5c8 0401.03 3/5 Win

i) 1.Sb5? Kd8 2.Sa7 Rg8 3.Sc6+ Ke8 draws.
ii) e2 2.Sb6+, and Kd8 3.Rd7 mate, or here Kb8 3.Ka6 e1Q 4.Rb7 mate.

iii) Rf8 3.Sc6+ Ke8 4.Re7 mate, or e2 3.Sc6+ Kc8 4.Kb6 e1Q 5.Rc7 mate.

iv) Kd8 5.Kb6 e2 6.Kc6 e1Q 7.Rd7 mate.

“By adding a black pawn, the author managed to finish the idea of ... O. Pervakov (EG#18224). As a result 6 echo mates occur”.