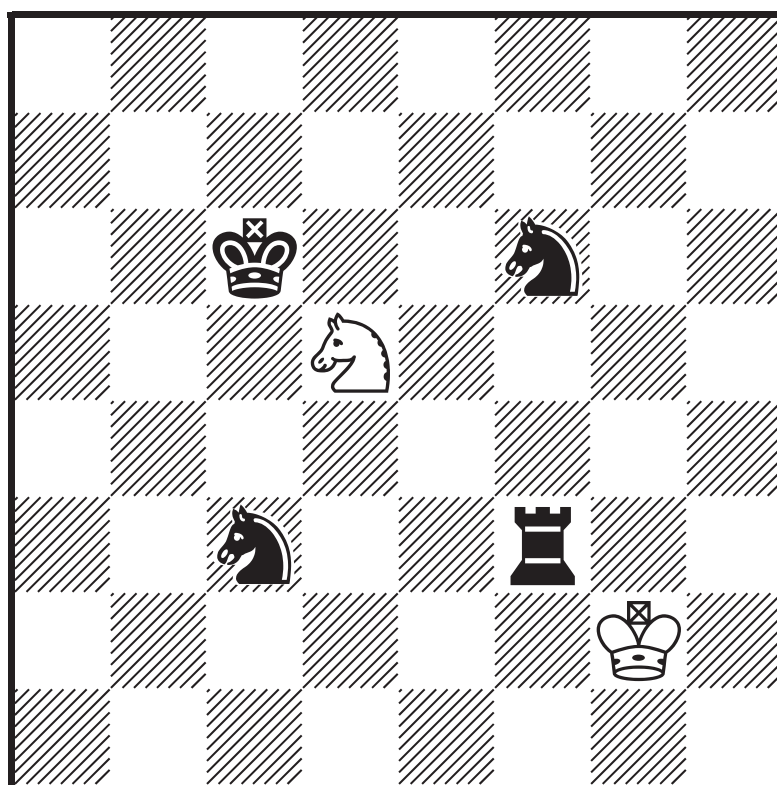


No. 204 — VOL. XXII — APRIL 2016



BLACK TO PLAY, WHITE DRAWS

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diagram on the cover: see p. 117

Editorial

BY HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

No claims were received regarding the EG-50 AT, so the award is now declared final.

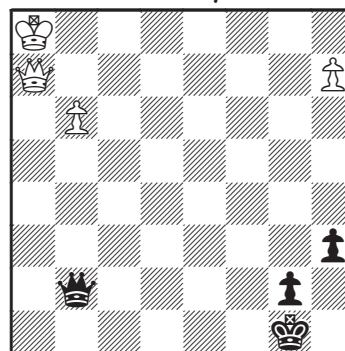
Our friend Yuri Bazlov (Russia) drew attention to the fact that 14iii2016 marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of A.A. Troitzky, who is generally considered as the father of *modern* endgame study composition. Bazlov, among others, however considers Troitzky to be the founder of our art but, in my view, that is arguable e.g. Kling & Horwitz then are at least the grandfathers of endgame study composition. Nonetheless, it is remarkable that no Troitzky-150 AT seems to have been announced.

On the initiative of Henk Chervet, involved with the famous chess collection of The Dutch Royal Library in The Hague, the Library put on an exhibition of some of the (77!) chess books Jan van Reek published. We thank Harrie Grondijs for the information and the pictures (reproduced elsewhere in this issue).

In this issue Amatzia Avni writes about the difficulties a tourney director has in anonymizing entries for a formal endgame study tourney. Probably there is no perfect solution, but I hope that some readers have good suggestions on how to improve this.

As a judge I have noticed an increase in problems with thematic (logical) tries in studies, which might be called *divergence*. If the thematic try is an apparent solution, then the composer should show the critical difference of the thematic try and the solution (main line). However, relatively often composers do not show the point. A small example:

H.1 V. Kalashnikov
2nd commendation Georgian Internet
thematic Ty 2014



a8g1 4000.22 4/4 Win

(See No 20794) Valery Kalashnikov (Russia).
1.b7+ Kh1 2.b8Q Qxb8+ 3.Kxb8 g1Q. Now the composer now gave this thematic try: 4.Qb7+? Qg2 5.h8Q Qxb7+ 6.Kxb7 h2 draws. The solution goes: 4.Qa8+ Qg2 5.Qa1+ Qg1 6.h8Q h2 7.Qa8+ Qg2 8.Qha1 mate.

The crucial difference between the thematic try and the main line is that after the move 5.Qa1+ Qg1 6.h8Q the wQa1 is covered by the wQh8. So, one would expect the thematic try to run: 4.Qb7+? Qg2 5.Qb1+ Qg1 6.h8Q Qxb1+ draws but this is not sound as there is a black dual: also 5...Kh2 draws. This in my view makes the try 4.Qb7+ not a sound thematic try.

But I have also seen examples where the thematic try does not have much in common with the main line. What is your opinion about divergence?

HHdbV is out!
See www.hhdbv.nl

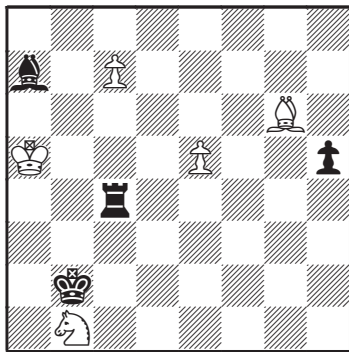
Originals (50)

EDITOR: ED VAN DE GEVEL

“email submissions are preferred.”
Judge 2016-2017: Martin Minski

In this edition we start in Slovakia where Michal and Luboš show a number of precise moves to keep the black bishop blocked.

No 20657 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely



a5b2 0341.21 5/4 Draw

No 20657 Michal Hlinka and Luboš Keke-ly (Slovakia) 1.Sd2 Rxc7/i 2.Bxh5/ii Kc3/iii 3.Se4+/iv Kd4 4.Sd6 Kxe5 5.Sb5 Rc5 (Rg7; Sxa7) 6.Ka6/v Bb8 7.Kb6 Rd5 8.Kc6 (Bf3 Rd7;) Rd8 9.Kb7/vi Kf4 10.Sc7 draws/vii.

i) Rc5+ 2.Kb4 h4 3.Sf3 h3 4.Bf5 Rxc7 5.Bxh3 draws.

ii) 2.Sf3? Kc3 3.Bxh5 Kc4 4.Se1 Bc5, threatening mate, 5.Be2+ Kd4 6.e6 Ra7+ 7.Kb5 Rb7+ 8.Ka5 Rb1 9.Sg2 Rb8 10.Bh5 Ke5 11.Bg4 Rg8 wins.

iii) Be3 3.Sf3 Kc3 4.Kb5 Bf2 5.Be8 Rc5+ 6.Ka4 Be3 7.Bd7 draws.

iv) 3.Sb1+? Kc4 4.e6 Bc5, threatening mate, 5.Sd2+ Kd5 6.Bf7 Be7 7.Kb6 Rc1 8.Kb7 Rc3 9.Sf1 Rb3+ 10.Kc8 Kc6 11.Bg6 Kd6 wins.

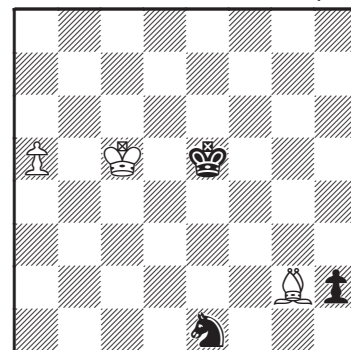
v) 6.Bf3? Ke6 7.Kb4 Bb6 wins.

vi) Now the bB is blocked. Not 9.Bg4? Kf6 10.Sc7 Rd2 11.Kb7 Rb2+ wins.

vii) Again blocking the bB, for example 10... Rg8 11.Bf7 Rh8 12.Be6 Ke5 13.Bc8 Bxc7 14.Kxc7 draw.

From Canada we received a fine find in a 6-piece endgame. The composer was afraid the tablebases might be an anticipation. But so far as I know the tablebases never published any study at all.

No 20658 A. Tomalty



c5e5 0013.11 3/3 Win

No 20658 Alan Tomalty (Canada) 1.Ba8/i Kf4 2.Bh1 Sd3+ 3.Kb6 (Kb5) Sf2 4.Bg2 Se4 5.Kc6 Sf2 6.a6 Kg3 7.Bd5 Sd3/ii 8.Kb5 Se1/iii 9.Bh1 wins.

i) Not 1.Bh1? Sd3+ 2.Kb5 Sf2 3.Bg2 Se4 4.a6 Sd6+ 5.Kc6 Sc8 6.Kb7 Sd6+ 7.Kb8 Sb5, nor 1.Bd5? Sd3+ 2.Kc4 Sb2+ 3.Kc5 Sd3+, nor 1.Bc6? Sd3+ 2.Kb5 Kd6 3.a6 Sb4 4.Bb7 Sxa6, nor 1.Bb7? Sd3+ 2.Kb5 Kd6 3.a6 Sc5 4.a7 Sxb7 5.a8Q h1Q, nor 1.a6? Sxg2 2.a7 h1Q draw.

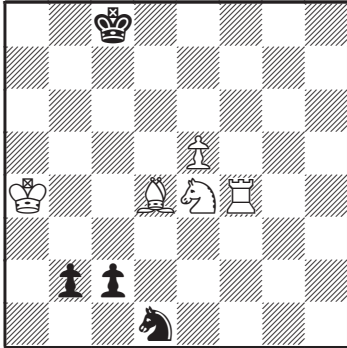
ii) h1Q 8.Bxh1 Sxh1 9.a7 wins.

iii) Sf4 9.Bh1 Se6 10.a7 Sc7+ 11.Kb6 Se6 12.a8Q wins.

For the next study it is back to Michal and Luboš who labelled their work as a Meredith [HH: a study with 8-12 pieces in the initial

position) with reciprocal zugzwangs. Access to the Q vs R+S tablebase is required to understand all the analytical lines.

No 20659 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely



a4c8 0114.12 5/4 Draw

No 20659 Michal Hlinka and Luboš Kekely (Slovakia) 1.Rf8+ Kd7/i 2.e6+ Kxe6/ii 3.Re8+/iii Kd5/iv 4.Bxb2 Sxb2+ 5.Kb3/v c1Q 6.Sc3+ Kc6/vi 7.Re6+ (Rc8+? Kb7;) Kc7 (Kb7)/vii 8.Re7+ Kc8/viii 9.Re8+ Kd7/ix 10.Re4/x zz Kd8 (Qd2; Re2) 11.Re5/xi zz Sa4 (Sd3; Rd5+) 12.Rd5+ (Sxa4? Qd1+;) Ke7 13.Sxa4 draws.

i) Kc7 2.Bxb2 Sxb2+ 3.Kb5 c1Q 4.Rf7+ Kd8 5.Sd6 Qh6 6.Sb7+ Kc8 7.Sd6+ Kb8 8.Rb7+ Ka8 9.Rc7 draws.

ii) Ke7 3.Re8+ Kxe8 4.Bf6 Kf8 5.Sd6 Sc3+ 6.Ka5 Sd5 7.Bxb2 draws.

iii) 3.Bxb2? Sxb2+ 4.Kb3 c1Q 5.Re8+ Kf5 wins.

iv) Kd7 4.Sf6+ Kc7 5.Be5+ draws, or Kf5 4.Sd6+ Kf4 5.Rf8+ Kg3 6.Rg8+ Kf3 7.Rf8+ Ke2 8.Rf2+ Kd3 9.Rxc2 b1Q 10.Rc4 draws, or Kf7 4.Sd6+ as after 3...Kf5.

v) 5.Kb4? c1Q 6.Sc3+ Kc6 7.Kb3 Sd3 wins.

vi) Kd6 7.Re2 Sd3 8.Rd2 Qxd2 9.Se4+ draws.

vii) Kc5 8.Re5+ draws, for 7...Kd7 see main line after 9...Kd7.

viii) Kb6 9.Re6+ draws, or 8...Kd8 see main line after 10...Kd8.

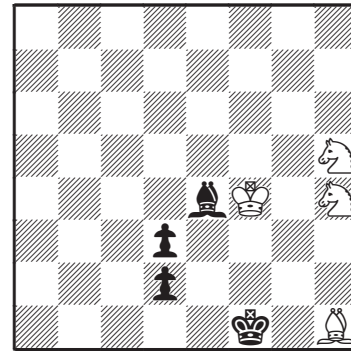
ix) Kc7 10.Re7+ Kd8 11.Re5 zz, see main line after 11.Re5.

x) 10.Re5? Sa4 11.Sxa4 Qd1+ wins.

xi) 11.Re6? Sa4 12.Sxa4 Qd1+ 13.Ka3 Qf3+ 14.Kb2 Qg4 15.Sc5 Qd4+ wins.

Finally, we end up in Argentina. Black has the unpleasant choice between escaping with the King, which, will leave White with bishop and knight, or staying in the corner which robs White of his bishop, but instead there will be a lost SS-p ending even when the pawn has passed the Troitzky line.

No 20660 M. Garcia



f4f1 0042.02 Win

No 20660 Mario Guido Garcia (Argentina) 1.Sg3+ Ke1/i 2.Sxe4/ii d1Q 3.Sg2+/iii and now:

— Ke2 4.Sc3+ Kf2 5.Sxd1+ Kg1 6.Sf2 d2 7.Se3 wins, or:

— Kf1 4.Se3+ Kg1 5.Sxd1 Kxh1 6.Sd2 Kg2 7.Kg4 wins/iv.

i) Kg1 2.Sf3+ Bxf3 3.Bxf3 wins.

ii) 2.Bf3? Bd5, and: 3.Se4 Bxe4/v 4.Sg2+ Kf2 5.Kxe4 d1Q 6.Bxd1 Kxg2 draws, or here: 3.Sg2+ Kf2 4.Sh1+ Kg1 draws.

iii) 3.Sf3+? Kf1 4.Sg3+ Kf2 5.Se4+ Kf1 6.Ke3 Qe2+ draws.

iv) for instance: Kh2 8.Se3 Kg1 9.Kg3 Kh1 10.Sf3 d2 11.Sg4 d1S 12.Kh3 Se3 13.Sf2 mate.

v) But not d1Q? 4.Sg2+ Kf1 5.Se3+ Kg1 6.Sxd1 wins.

Wij presenteren

BY HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

Recently, my friends Yochanan Afek (GM of chess composition and OTB IM) and Hans Böhm (OTB IM) published the 6th and last book in their series *Wij presenteren* (*We present*) published between 2010 and 2015. Each book deals with one of the chess pieces. Apart from a historical chapter on the particular piece, to which the chess historian Leo Diepstraten and May & Ine Kloppogge (with pictures from their collection) have contributed significantly, the books have 60 chapters featuring four chess positions from OTB play, some problems, but mainly endgame studies. A reader can either enjoy the text, or try and solve the “chess problem”. The authors are very proud of their invention of including with each book a loose black sheet which can be used to cover the solution of the four positions on the right hand page, while looking at the diagrams on the left hand one. The basic idea is indeed a good one, but probably some people threw away the sheet because they failed to understand its intention. A fancier sheet, e.g. a re-print of the cover or a checkered sheet with the thematic piece repeated on each square, *et cetera*, would have been an improvement on the basic idea.

Of course, the thematic idea for such a series is not new. For some reason this seems to have appealed to Dutch chess writers. More than forty years ago, Hans Bouwmeester had his *Schaakboek* (*Chessbook*) series, and twenty-five years ago the Dutch journalist Jules Welling started such a series in almost reverse order: *De Dame* (*The Queen*; 1991), and *De Koning* (*The King*; 1992). Great perseverance is needed to complete such a series; Welling apparently had to quickly terminate his series with *Tactiek en Techniek der Stukken* (*The Pieces' Tactics and Technique*; 1994). Böhm and Afek managed at a pace of one book per year but e.g. had to overcome a re-organization of the publisher (initially called Tirion, later Kosmos).

The true difficulty in writing such books lies in finding the right examples, as there are millions of games, hundreds of thousand problems, and tens of thousand endgame studies. One needs to be both comprehensive and restrictive: “In der Beschränkung zeigt sich erst der Meister” (Goethe), abbreviated (!) in English as “Less is more”. But it is even more difficult to address a general chess public and, for this series, the authors made a perfect team. Afek is an endgame study expert with more than sufficient knowledge of chess problems, and as a chess journalist and strong OTB player bridges the gap between chess composition and OTB players, while the Dutch *Mr. Chess* IM Hans Böhm has done a lot to popularize chess among a general (Dutch) public, and is a strong OTB. player who is also interested in endgame studies. Besides their excellent competencies in chess, they also excel as chess writers. Without doubt, the subtitles of the books were invented by Hans Böhm (see References).

Although the books are in Dutch, it seems to me that, perhaps apart from the historical chapter, the books would also appeal to chess enthusiasts that do not read Dutch. But those readers would e.g. miss the typical humour of Böhm explaining the examples. One would hope for an English (and German) translation.

Recently, the completion of the series was celebrated with an official meeting in the Max Euwe centre in Amsterdam. The first copy of their 6th book was presented to IGM Jan Timman (see picture).

The authors explained that the piece that figured in their last book, the king, was the most difficult thematic piece to deal with, as it e.g. cannot promote and cannot be captured. This surprised me as the king has other, and unique, qualities: it is the only piece that can be mated or

stalemated, and co-operates in castling. Much more features than any other piece!

I am rather unhappy with the fact that the books have no index. For instance, in his column in this issue of *EG*, Siegfried Hornecker refers to an endgame between Short and Timman. As I checked all endgame studies and game fragments in the books for soundness more than six months ago, I remembered this ending appearing in the manuscript of the 6th book ... but then I had to browse all the pages to find it on page 100-101.

In the first sentence of this review I made clear that both Hans and Yochanan are my chess friends. So, it is difficult to be objective. Nonetheless, I would recommend the series to any endgame study enthusiast.

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H. Böhm & Y. Afek (Baarn 2010): *Wij Presenteren – De Pion – de Ziel van het Schaakspel* (We Present – The Pawn – the Soul of Chess).

H. Böhm & Y. Afek (Utrecht 2011): *Wij Presenteren – De Toren – de Steunpilaar van het Schaakspel* (We Present – The Rook – the Pillar of Chess).

H. Böhm & Y. Afek (Utrecht 2012): *Wij Presenteren – Het Paard – de Bestormende Kracht van het Schaakspel* (We present – The Knight – The Storming Power of Chess).

H. Böhm & Y. Afek (Utrecht 2013): *Wij Presenteren – De Loper – de Strijdvaardige Raadsheer in het Schaakspel*, (We present – The Bishop – The Combative Counselor of Chess).

H. Böhm & Y. Afek, (Utrecht/Antwerpen 2014): *Wij Presenteren – De Koningin – het Sterkste Stuk van het Schaakspel*, (We present – the Queen – The Strongest Piece in Chess).

H. Böhm, & Y. Afek (Utrecht 2015): *Wij Presenteren – De Koning – het Machtigste Stuk van het Schaakspel*, (We present – the King – The most Powerful Piece in Chess).



Ensuring the fairness of the judging process in formal tourneys

BY AMATZIA AVNI

A tourney director (TD) in study contests provides an address for composers who wish to participate. They submit their works to him, he runs a soundness and anticipation check (either by himself or with assistance from others), and then organizes all studies so they be delivered to the judge in homogeneous way (for instance, in PGN format), removing the creators' names.

In the past, John Roycroft dealt briefly with the role of TD in his 1972 *Test Tube Chess* and subsequently in his PCCC-1993 guidelines for handling study-tourneys. I'd like to elaborate on this seldom-touched issue and to claim that directors may contribute significantly **to make the judging process as fair as possible**.

It is well-known that famous composers have better prospects to win prizes and distinctions in open tournaments or get many points in FIDE albums. No judge decides to do this intentionally, but one gets influenced. Therefore, in closed competitions it is essential to keep anonymity, so that the judge will not be impressionable, even subconsciously, for better or for worse.

Sometimes judges guess (or believe they have guessed) the identity of the composer of a certain piece. In one tourney in which I acted as a TD, the judge was convinced, based on the style of a certain study, that it was the creation of a specific, 'big' name, composer. Subsequently he went out of his way to praise this work, granted it a major prize, only to be dejected when he found out afterwards that it was the creation of an average composer.

In recent years I acted in the role of a TD in several closed (formal) tourneys, and made an effort to make it difficult for the judge to have prior impressions about the composers' identity. This I have done by the following methods:

1. Verbal descriptions to the moves: One composer mentioned the word "change" repeatedly. This made it easy to identify him, so I deleted most "changes" from his text. Other composers use the word "main", referring to the main line, in every other sentence; again, such a writing style characterizes certain composers, so I wrote something else instead.

2. Visual presentation: Some composers depict several diagrams during the solution's presentation. Whenever the studies are delivered to the judge in paper, this might raise the impression of the value of their studies, comparing with composers who just give one diagram or no diagram at all. Therefore, I think that each study presented to the judge should have only the diagram of the starting position.

3. Command of the English language: If a text is undecipherable, this means that the composer doesn't have a clue in English and he uses an automatic translator. This narrows the possibilities of the identity of such composers and the region in the world where they are living. The solution is easy – the TD should correct the language before submitting the works to the judge.

4. Multiple studies: many composers submit more than one study. If the studies are of a similar style, and one of them is great, a judge might tend to evaluate the consecutive study highly. To tackle this problem, one may frequently number two or three studies of the same composer in inconsequent numbers, e.g. 17 and 25.

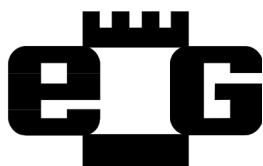
5. Date of arrival: I have the (subjective) impression that some composers (usually strong ones) send their works in the last minute before deadline. If we number the works according to the date they arrive, it might cause a judging bias. An easy solution is to shuffle the numbers.

Discussing the initial draft of this article with HH, it transpires that, as TD, he also regularly implements the practice of shuffling the entries (points 4 and 5) and always tries to standardize the presentation of the submitted studies, inter-alia by translating the comments into good English, when necessary (point 3). HH deletes composer's comments when he believes it is appropriate, and even reduces double

exclamation marks to a single one – something I have thought about too, but concluded that a capable judge would not be blinded by composers' self-praise.

It would be interesting to share other TD's views, in order to build a common, standardized practice.





Composer Gallery

Hundred-year young Guy!

BY YOCHANAN AFEK

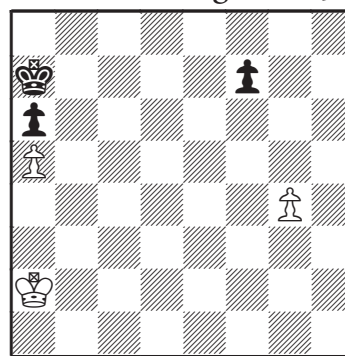
Once again we commemorate here the 100th anniversary of three notable composers in their native countries. **Richard Kenneth Guy**, one of Britain's more prolific composers was born in Nuneaton, England on September 30, 1916. He is mainly known as a prominent mathematician who wrote more than 100 papers and books covering his numerous discoveries in combinational game, number and graph theories. In 1965 he moved with his wife Louise (who passed away on his 94th birthday) to Canada where chess was replaced by passionate alpinism. He is presently an Emeritus Professor of the Department of Mathematics at the University of Calgary. The book 'Young at Heart – The Inspirational Lives of Richard and Louise Guy' by Chic Scott may be found here: <http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/SS14-Guy.pdf>

Guy composed 194 endgame studies, mainly during the 1940s/50s. These were mainly published in the *British Chess Magazine* (for which he was the endgame study editor 1948-51). He was also the G behind the Guy-Blandford-Roycroft code for classifying endgame studies (GBR).

John Roycroft tells us that Guy, in his capacity as the studies editor in *BCM*, published his own "first and totally forgettable study". AJR himself collected, edited and published all Guy's studies in his book *Richard Guy's Chess Endgame Studies* (1996 publisher: Kenneth Solja) grouped by their pivotal pieces. No composer has survived yet the cooking campaign of the silicon monsters and quite a few of Guy's studies were no exception. From the survivors,

I have selected four of his fine and instructive compositions for your enjoyment. For his upcoming 100th birthday we all wish the Professor many happy and creative returns!

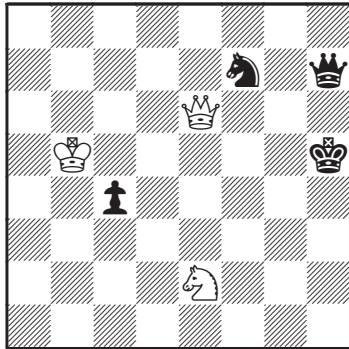
A.1 Richard Guy
British Chess Magazine 1944



a2a7 0000.22 3/3 Win

Let's start with an instructive pawn ending that is based on a familiar motif: **1.Kb3** The wK should be rushed to the main scene. 1.g5? is premature in view of 1...Kb7 2.Kb3 Kc7 3.Kc3 Kd7 4.Kd3 Ke6 5.Ke4 f6 6.g6 f5+ 7.Kf4 Kf6 draws. **1...Kb7** (f6; Kc4) **2.Kc4 Kc6** (Kc7 3.Kd5 Kd7 4.g5 Kc7 5.Kc5 Kd7 6.Kb6 wins) **3.g5!** The time is ripe! Not 3.Kd4? f6 4.Ke4 (Kc4 Kd6;) Kd6 5.Kf5 Ke7 draws. **3...Kd6 4.Kd4** This opposition is often a reciprocal zugzwang... **4...Ke6** Which enables White to rush to the opposite wing. **5.Kc5! Kf5 6.Kb6 Kxg5 7.Kxa6 f5 8.Kb5 f4 9.Kc4 f3** (9...Kg4 10.a6 f3 11.Kd3 leads to the main line) **10.Kd3 Kg4 11.a6!** (Saving the crucial tempo. After 11.Ke3? Kg3 both sides promote) **11...Kg3 12.a7 f2 13.Ke2** Luring the bK to the fire line of the new born queen. **13...Kg2 14.a8Q+** wins.

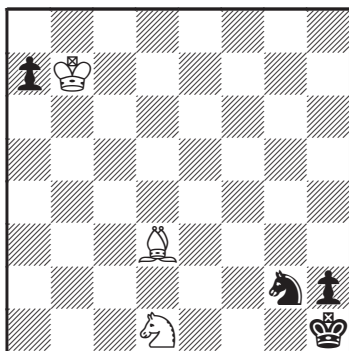
A.2 Richard Guy
British Chess Magazine 1940



b5h5 4004.01 3/4 Win

This is an exemplary joint king hunt by the deadly white pair Q+S and it displays attractive geometrical manoeuvres with all four corners of the board visited. **1.Qh3+** (activating the knight too early proves futile either after 1.Sf4+? Kg5 2.Sh3+ Kh5; or following 1.Sg3+? Kh4 2.Sf5+ Kg5) **1...Kg6 2.Sf4+ Kg7 3.Se6+ Kh8** (Or 3...Kg8 4.Qg3+ see later in the main line) **4.Qc3+ Kg8** (4...Se5 5.Qxe5+ Kg8 6.Qb8+ Kf7 7.Sg5+) **5.Qg3+ Kh8** (5...Sg5 6.Qb8+ Kf7 7.Sxg5+) **6.Qb8+ Qg8 7.Qh2+ Qh7 8.Qb2+ Kg8 9.Qg2+ Kh8 10.Qa8+! Qg8 11.Qh1+! Qh7 12.Qa1+! c3!** (Putting up some more resistance as 12...Kg8 13.Qa8+ wins at once) **13.Qxc3+ Kg8 14.Qc8+ Sd8 15.Qxd8+** and wins as 15...Kf7 is lethally met by an immediate fork **16.Sg5+** (or a slightly delayed one 16.Qd7+ Kg6 17.Sf8+), wins.

A.3 Richard Guy
Le Problème 1946

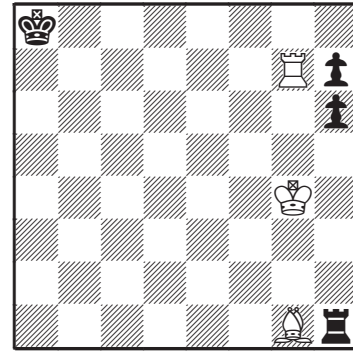


b7h1 0014.02 3/4 Win

1.Sf2+ Kg1 2.Sh3+ Kh1 3.Ka6! (Conceding a tempo to get the bishop into place with check!) **3...Se1 4.Be4+ Sg2** (All is set for a royal

entry ...) **5.Kb5** (5.Ka5 just postpones the end by one move) **5...a5 6.Kc4 a4 7.Kd3 a3 8.Ke2 a2 9.Kf2 a1Q 10.Bxg2** mate.

A.4 Richard Guy
British Chess Magazine 1945



g4a8 0410.02 3/4 Win

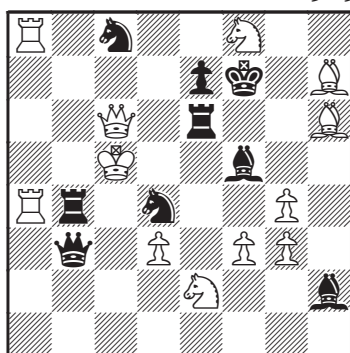
Chess players would admit that R+B vs. R endings are not easy to defend even when they are theoretically drawish. The British GM Keith Arkell once told me that he had won them some 30 times during his long career in open tournaments. Your author has also experienced them quite a few times over the board on both sides, mainly against GMs and IMs and yet I don't recall to have seen such a unique exploitation of a miserable rook. **1.Ra7+ Kb8 2.Ra1 Kc8** (Since 2...Kc7 is met by 3.Bb6+) **3.Rd1!** (The technique is simply to restrict the movements of the black monarch) **3...h5+** (Kb8; Ba7+) **4.Kg3 h6** (4...h4+? 5.Kg2 traps the cornered rook) **5.Rf1** (In fact any waiting rook move would do which we usually consider a minor dual if it's not too common practice) **5...Kd7 6.Re1! Kc6 7.Rd1 Kb5 8.Rc1** (8.Rf1 Kc6! 9.Rd1 is just a loss of time) **8...Ka4 9.Rb1!** (The king has finally run out of safe white squares to move to) **9...Ka3 10.Bc5+ Ka2 11.Rxh1** wins.

Julius Caesar Infantozzi Rossi
(2iv1916- 1991)

This year will see the centenaries of two other composers who died 25 years ago. **Julius Caesar Infantozzi Rossi** was born on April 2nd, 1916 in Montevideo and is arguably the best Uruguayan composer of endgame studies.

4...exf6 5.Kc5! (5.Kc4? Kh6 6.Kd5 Kh5! allows black a narrow escape) **5...Kh6** (5...Kg7 6.Kd6 Kf7 7.Kd7 Kf8 8.Ke6 Kg7 9.Ke7 with a basic win) **6.Kd6 Kh5** (Kg5; Ke6) **7.Ke7!** (attention! Not 7.Ke6? Kg5 The key zz position but with White to play...and lose!) **7...Kg5 8.Ke6** (Now it's Black to play and white emerges victorious), wins.

A.8 Julius Infanzozzi
special commendation
Pachman & Fritz MT 1985



c5f7 4888.41 12/9 Win

In this, perhaps Infanzozzi's most famous study, White gives away all his seven pieces as well as 2 pawns! **1.Qe8+! Kxe8 2.Rxc8+ Kf7 3.Bg8+! Kxg8** (3...Kf6 4.g5+ Ke5 5.Sd7 mate) **4.Sg6+ Kh7** (4...Kf7 5.Sh8+ Kf6 6.g5+ Ke5 7.Sf7 mate) **5.Rh8+! Kxg6 6.Sf4+ Kf6 7.Rf8+ Ke5 8.Bg7+ Rf6 9.Bxf6+ exf6 10.Re8+ Se6+ 11.Rxe6+! Qxe6 12.Sg6+! Bxg6 13.f4+ Rxf4 14.gxf4+ Bxf4** (The last surprising sacrifice leads to a beautiful ideal mate picture following four active selfblocks. Each square around the black king is attacked just once) **15.Re4+!! Bxe4 16.d4** mate!

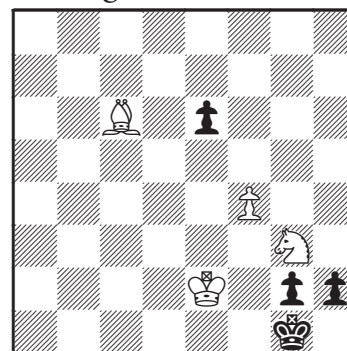
Osmo Kaila
(11v1916 – 3vi1991)

The well-known Finnish problem composer was also a strong over the board player, even one of the first to be awarded with the IM title by FIDE. He won twice, in 1939 and 1954, the national championship title and represented his home country in two Olympiads: Munich 1936 and Helsinki 1952. He even beat over the

board another famous study composer of his age – the great Paul Keres (in the U-26 match Finland vs. the Baltics 1936)! Kaila was also a highly prolific chess journalist writing for various national newspapers and magazines tens of thousands of columns over more than 50 years, regularly including an endgame study too.

Kaila was a founding member of the Finnish Chess Composition Society and was its chairman between 1959 and 1970. He was a FIDE Master (1990) and International judge (1958). He was mainly a problem composer but like most strong players was also interested in our fine art, with an output of some 25 studies (with thanks to Jorma Paavilainen). The following two we liked most:

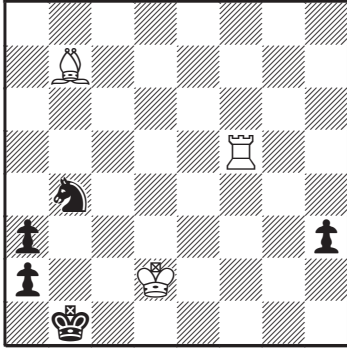
A.9 Osmo Kaila
Helsingin Sanomat 1934



e2g1 0011.13 4/4 Win

He was just 18 when he published this one. **1.Sh1!!** (Again, let's go to the corner! However not 1.Bxg2? Kxg2 2.Sh1 Kg1! (or even 2...Kh3 3.Kf3 Kh4) and it is just a draw) **1...e5!** (1...Kxh1 is suicidal in view of 2.Kf2 e5 3.Bxg2 mate; while 1...gxh1Q loses to 2.Bxh1 Kxh1 3.Kf1! e5 4.f5! e4 5.f6 e3 6.f7 e2+ 7.Kxe2 Kg2 8.f8Q h1Q 9.Qg7+ Kh2 10.Kf2) **2.Bxg2!** (Not 2.Sf2? h1Q 3.Sxh1 gxh1Q 4.Bxh1 exf4; And in addition there are two stalemate mines: 2.f5? Kxh1 3.Kf2 e4 4.Bxe4 is now stalemate!; 2.fxex5? Kxh1 3.e6 Kg1 4.e7 h1Q 5.e8Q Qh5+ 6.Qxh5 and it is stalemate again!) **2...exf4** (2...Kxg2 leads again to the aforementioned: 3.f5! Kxh1 4.Kf1 e4 5.f6 e3 6.f7 e2+ 7.Kxe2 Kg2 8.f8Q h1Q 9.Qg7+ Kh2 10.Kf2) **3.Ba8** (Or any other bishop move along the diagonal except of f3) **3...f3+ 4.Kxf3!** The Indian theme **4...Kxh1 5.Kf2** mate.

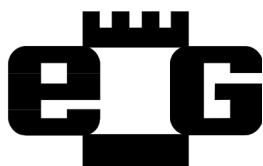
A.10 Osmo Kailo & O. Grotenfelt
3rd prize *Suomen Shakki* 1934



d2b1 0113.03 3/5 Draw

1.Rf1+ Kb2 2.Ra1! Kxa1 (Best. 2...h2 3.Ba8 transfers to the main line while 2...Sc2 3.Rxa2+ Kxa2 4.Kxc2 is an obvious draw) **3.Kc1 h2 4.Ba8!!** (Unlike the previous study here it's the only move! 4.Be4? Sd3+ 5.Kc2 Sf2 6.Bd5 h1Q 7.Bxh1 Sxh1 8.Kc1 Sf2 9.Kc2 Sd3; 4.Bh1? Sd3+ 5.Kc2 Sf2 6.Bd5 h1Q 7.Bxh1 Sxh1 8.Kc1 Sf2 9.Kc2 Sd3; 4.Bf3? Sd3+ 5.Kc2 Se1+; 4.Bg2? Sd3+ 5.Kc2 Se1+ an impressive dual avoidance!) **4...Sd3+ 5.Kc2 Sf2 6.Kc1! h1Q+ 7.Bxh1 Sxh1 8.Kc2 Sf2 9.Kc1**, draws as by now White need not waste a crucial tempo!





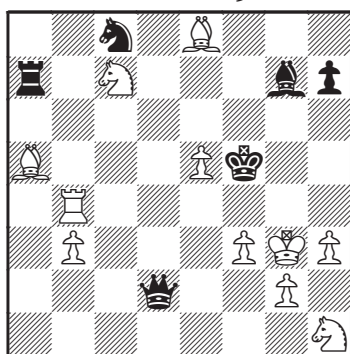
Tasks
and themes

Domination

BY SIEGFRIED HORNECKER

Karparyan's masterpiece *Domination in 2,545 Endgame Studies* was first published in 1980, making it 15 years younger than our magazine. In the best case a dominated piece has many squares to go but not a single one of them is safe. The following example is a great demonstration, as is also the Pogosyants study I showed earlier (EG202, p.259, diagram S.1).

H.1 Nico Cortlever
En Passant 1986



g3f5 3455.51 11/6 Draw

The position looks wild, as if the board just was shuffled, maybe the pieces were thrown in, the game is over. Probably White has already resigned. Or maybe two amateurs have played. Possibly it is the aftermath of an attack led by White to checkmate Black, but he gave back some material and saved his king. What it doesn't look like anymore is a game. And much less one where White has any chance to draw. One will need a lot of imagination to find the solution.

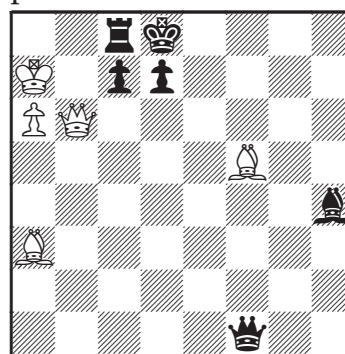
1.Kh2! Bxe5+ 2.f4 Bxf4+ 3.Rxf4+ Qxf4+ 4.Sg3+ Ke5 5.Bc3+ Kd6 6.Bd2!! draws.

With four successive checks this study stands out but everything is clearly built around the surprise. Yes, indeed there is no square where the queen can hide.

Of course by no means this is to imply that domination against a queen always means she

has no place to hide. On the contrary, maybe she is hiding so well that there is no way out...

H.2 Vladislav Tarasiuk
& Sergey N. Tkachenko
2nd place Slovakia-Ukraine, 2001



a7d8 4350.12 4/6 Draw

White must erect a brutal threat with his first move, but Black has a vivid defence that leads him with a decisive material advantage.

1.Qb4 Ra8+! 2.Kxa8 Qxa6+ 3.Kb8 Qc8+ 4.Ka7 Bf2+ 5.Qc5 Bxc5+ 6.Bxc5 Now let us not delve into the old question of when an introduction adds to the enjoyment, rather suffice it to say that, in this case, it gives a logical explanation of why the queen is on c8 in the first place, so I believe in this case it might add by obstructing the end, as also did the judge.⁽¹⁾ Here White to move would have no choice but to keep the position completely intact with Bf5-g4 and it is sad that we don't see this in the actual play as, similarly, there again only Bg4-f5 would draw. Instead, Black unfortunately has no way to lose a tempo and repeat the position with White to move - the only real flaw in this study. **6...Ke8 7.Bg6+ Kd8 8.Bf5! c6 9.Bd6!**

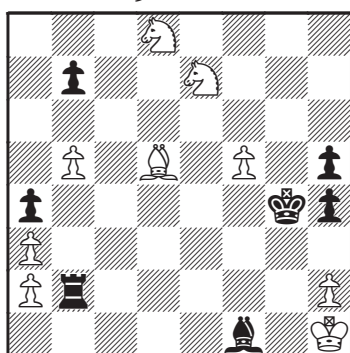
(1) "The most beautiful burying of the black queen. The aesthetic effect is enhanced by the sacrifice of the white queen and co-operative play by the white bishops." (Comment by judge Andrey Selivanov, translated by John Beasley, EG148)

c5 10.Be4 Ke8 11.Bg6+ Kd8 12.Be4 c4 13.Bb7!
draws.

Each study in the tourney featured an incarcerated queen, so the readers might want to look them up in EG148, p.28-31, although I don't think all fit the domination theme.

The case can be made that checkmate is just a special form of domination, but I believe domination in the tighter sense to be represented also by indirect control of squares, usually by knight forks. In my 2009 rendering of the theme, a surprise waits.

H.3 Siegfried Hornecker
Schach x2009, correction i2010



h1g4 0342.54 9/7 Win

1.f6!, and:

— **Bg2+ 2.Bxg2 Rb1+ 3.Bf1 Rxf1+ 4.Kg2 Rxf6 5.h3+ Kg5/i 6.b6! Rxb6 7.Sf7+ Kf6 8.Sd5+** wins, or:

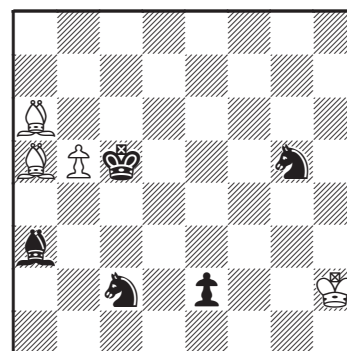
— **Rb1 2.Kg1 Bxb5+ 3.Kf2 Rf1+ 4.Ke3 Rxf6 5.Be6+ Kg5 6.Sf7+ Rxf7 7.Bxf7 Kf6 8.Sc8! Kxf7 9.Sd6+** wins.

i) The position resembles mutual zugzwang, but either side to move can escape by playing b6.

For our theme, the domination after 6.b6 in the first variation is obvious, but it is far less obvious that there is also a domination in the second line. At the second move, Bf1 has no good square. The best one, b5, fails to the fork on d6 later. It is a very unusual form of domination since the bishop is not threatened in the first place, but still has to move to free f1 for the rook on his route to f6. Unfortunately, the construction is necessarily very heavy.

Of course, domination without actual conquest of multiple pieces can also happen with a single piece, an easy to understand example being the following study after 6.Be4.

H.4 David Gurgenzidze & Iuri Akobia
Pat a Mat 1992



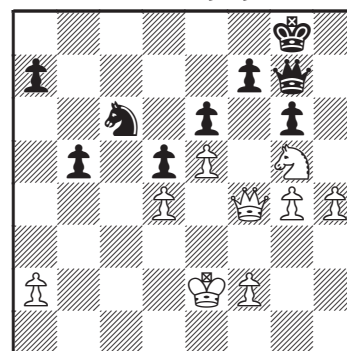
h2c5 0056.11 4/5 Draw

1.b6 e1Q 2.Bxe1 Kxb6 3.Bh4! Sf3+ 4.Kg3 Sxh4 5.Bd3 Se1 6.Be4 Be7 7.Kf2 Bb4 8.Kg3 Be7 9.Kf2 draws.

In practical play, domination happens rarely in study-like form, but when it does it is interesting to watch. Often a beginner's queen will be lost, sometimes a bishop or a knight is incarcerated. Incarceration of an eventually lost piece is, in my opinion, also a form of domination but not as spectacular as winning the piece on an almost completely empty board.

When Milan Velimirović died in 2013, I was completely devastated. Another Serbian grandmaster Milan died the same year, and I would have wanted to meet him as well as my friend Milan. He is the hero of the following endgame.

H.5 Milan Matulović - Aleksandr Zvetkov
Varna 1965

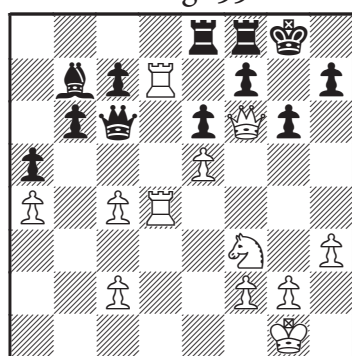


White to move

The computer finds the winning idea quickly, for humans it would go against their common sense. The game continued **32.Qc1!! Sxd4+ 33.Kd3 Qxe5 34.Qc8+ Kg7 35.Qh8+ Kxh8 36.Sxf7+ Kg7 37.Sxe5** and the knight on d4 is trapped so black resigned soon afterwards. While his position prior to the diagram was already difficult, the last move was b6-b5, rendering the combination possible. Two noteworthy things on the 33rd move are how, first, the queen protects c6, a role later taken by the knight, and how the queen also can easily get to a7, rendering 33...f6 pointless on account of 34.exf6 Qxf6 35.Qc8+ Kg7 36.Qb7+ Kg8 37.Qb8+, winning the knight anyway.⁽²⁾

Last but not least, two special forms of domination should be noted. One is domination by zugzwang, whereas White would not be able to make any progress without zugzwang, such as in Kekely & Hlinka, EG-50 AT 2016, 1st honourable mention (see EG203, p.26). Another one is a full board domination where no piece itself but the position is dominated - in Bláthy's mechanisms this was often the case, as well as in the following famous game that features one of our readers - at the wrong side.

H.6 Nigel Short - Jan Timman
Tilburg 1991



White to move

There are many winning plans for White. The easiest is to bring the queen to h6, and then play Rh4 or R4d5 and Sg5 then. However, Short decided instead to finish the game in an aesthetically pleasant way that will be

(2) Thanks to Wolfgang Pieper, Osnabrück, for helping me find the game!

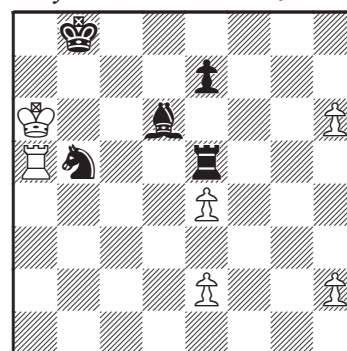
remembered: **39.h4!? h5 31.Kh2!! Rc8** (better 31...Bc8 although 32.Sg5!! Bxd7 33.g4 still wins in an instructive way) **32.Kg3!! Rce8 33.Kf4!! Bc8 34.Kg5!! 1-0**

Of course, and I never saw it mentioned in chess books, instead of 32.Kg3, there would also have been 32.Qf4, with the same plan as mentioned above (Qh6, R~d5, Sg5), for example 32.Qf4 Rce8 33.Qh6 Qc5 34.R7d5! and White wins.

Addendum

As an addition to the article on systematic manoeuvres, I found another neat example that will likely be unfamiliar to EG readers.

H.7 Viktor Kalyagin, Valery Kirillov &
Andrey Selivanov
Ajedrez de Estilo 1988



a6b8 0433.41 6/5 Win

1.h7 Sc7+ 2.Kb6 Bc5+! 3.Rxc5 Re6+ 4.Rc6 Sa8+ 5.Kb5 Re5+ 6.Rc5 Sc7+ 7.Kb4 Rxe4+ 8.Rc4 Sa6+ 9.Kb3 Re3+ 10.Rc3 Sc5+ 11.Kb2 Rxe2+ 12.Rc2 Sa4+ 13.Ka1 (Kb1, Kc1) wins.

Reactions

Once more I have received reactions from Timothy Whitworth, regarding my article in EG201, pointing out that Kaminer was born in 1906 and not 1908. According to information by Kaminer's relatives,⁽³⁾ Kaminer died in 1943 and not in 1938, so Whitworth told me. He

(3) Bondarenko talked to Kaminer's relatives and later gave the information to John Roycroft, who is Whitworth's source.

also believes that, since the studies had already been published, Kaminer's notebook would not have been necessary to save them for posterity but it might just have saved Kofman a lot of work while creating the 1981 book. He believes this was indeed Kaminer's intention, and his argument is interesting, so I will quote it fully in the paragraph below (the footnotes are my additions).

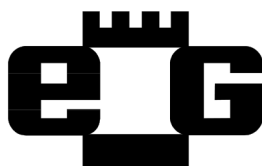
"In Kofman's book *Selected Studies of S. Kaminer and M. Liburkin*⁽⁴⁾ (Moscow, 1981) we find only a few positions by Kaminer that are supplementary to the main collection of 61 studies published in the years 1924-1937. A few variant settings are mentioned and there is one diagram in the notes with the heading "First publication". This additional material is interesting but it is not extensive. It rather confirms the view that the real treasure in Kaminer's notebook must have been the studies that had already been published but were still scattered in the pages of various journals.

In the autumn of 1937, when he put his notebook into Botvinnik's care, we know that Kaminer already feared for his own safety. We can guess that by this action he hoped to give his studies the best chance – come better times – of being gathered together in a book and finding thereby a wider audience. Of course Kaminer would have known that the Platov brothers and Troitzky and Kubbel had all issued collections (or partial collections) of their own works . . .⁽⁵⁾".

Still, even with Whitworth's conclusions one final question remains: What happened to this invaluable notebook that tells us the tragic story of a young composer whose wish was fulfilled decades after his death? It has survived for so long that I don't want to believe it only did so to get lost later, and I would be very interested to see a scan or photographs of its complete contents.

(4) Rafael Kofman: *Izbrannye Etyudi S.Kaminera i M. Liburkina*. Fizkultura i Sport, Moskva 1981.

(5) Timothy Whitworth, e-mail of 14 December 2015.



Computer News

HHdbV

BY EMIL VLASAK

The article is signed in my name, but I gathered most of the information from Harold van der Heijden's supporting file.

Basic info

The computer database HHdbIV – published in 2010 – contained around 76,000 endgame studies and it was an essential source for any serious work by study composers, editors and judges. Unfortunately, data from the last few years are missing, so everyone was eagerly waiting for a new version announced for 2015. But Harold was busy moving his house so he finally fulfilled his promise in a curious way: the new version HHdbV came on New Year's Eve 2015.

It has again the standard *PGN format* so it can be opened in almost any normal chess software such as Fritz, ChessBase, Aquarium, ChessAssistant or Arena. You can also use the special endgame study pair CQL + VisualCQL available for free.

Let us start with the most important information: nearly **9,500 new studies** have been added, bringing the total number of studies in the collection to an impressive **85,619**.

Several tens of thousands of studies have been supplemented by *new facts*. Of course, in the first row there are newly discovered *cooks*. But you can also find a lot of information about *predecessors*, new *minor variations*, published *versions* and *corrections* or *multiple publications*. Results of *ring tournaments* are added, too.

There are also a lot of new *links* – on predecessors, corrections, but also to our *EG magazine numbering system*. Several positions may be the same time studies or orthodox problems, and then an alternative stipulation is given.

Many *timestamps* were refined. For publications in journals and newspapers the month or exact date of publication is given. In case of very old studies the correct publication year is now assigned whereas older ChessBase software did not allow years before 1792. In some cases, where the publication was delayed, you can also find when the study was actually composed.

Some Statistics

Let's start with *numbers of studies* per decade:

1881-1890	612
1891-1900	908
1901-1910	1880
1911-1920	2212
1921-1930	6781
1931-1940	6135
1941-1950	5230
1951-1960	7127
1961-1970	7784
1971-1980	10584
1981-1990	10730
1991-2000	9218
2001-2010	9579
2011-2015	(4117)

Since the 1970s approximately 1,000 new studies have been published each year. Harold estimates that the 100,000 mark will be crossed in 2023.

About 35 percent of the studies are cooked.

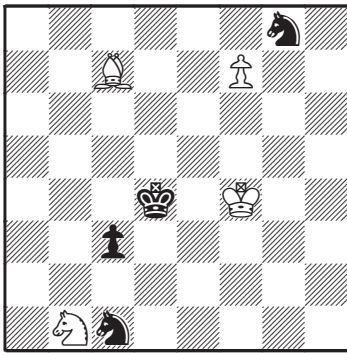
The total *number of authors* is approximately 5,500, but 4,500 of them have fewer than 10 studies in the collection and 2,400 have only a single one. The average is approximately 17 studies composer.

The top ten of the most prolific composers is almost unchanged in comparison with

1.Kg5 Re7 2.Kf6 Re6+ 3.Kf5 Re7 4.Rg5! Re6
5.Rg8+! Ka7 6.Rg7 Re7 7.Kf6 Re6+ 8.Kxf7
Rxe5 9.Kf6+! wins.

HHdbV indicates the cook 6.Rd8!
(A. Pallier). But every player, starting from a
beginner and ending with Magnus Carlsen
would undoubtedly play 5...Kb7 instead of
5...Ka7 and then the study is absolutely fine.
The whole problem is perhaps only a small
finger error [HH: EG#5883 has 5...Ka7? and
EG#7185 has the correct 5...Kb7].

V.2 E. Vlasak and J. Polásek
20th place WCCT3 1988

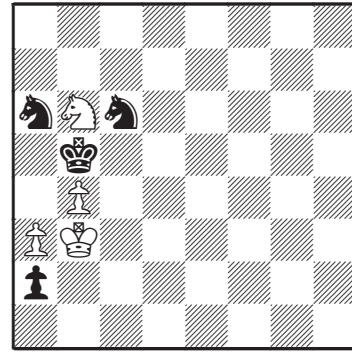


f4d4 0017.11 4/4 BTM, win

1...Se2+! 2.Kf3! c2! 3.Sd2! Kd3! 4.fxg8Q
(Sb3? Sd4+;) c1Q (Sd4+ 5.Kf2 c1Q 6.Qg6+
Kc3 7.Ba5+ Kb2 8.Qb6+) 5.Qd5+! Kc2 (Sd4+;
Qxd4+) 6.Qe4+! Kxd2 7.Ba5+ Sc3 8.Qe2 the-
matic **mate** with pin.

According to HHdbV there is a dual 6.Qa2+!
Kd1 7.Se4! (Konoval and Bourzutschky 2011).
Jaroslav was able to find our almost 30 years
old paper manuscript with analysis giving 6...
Kd3!. White achieves nothing and has to play
7.Qd5+, what takes him back to the main line.
By the way, I still do not know a method to
eliminate this well-known EGTB-related mis-
take. Except using your own head:-)).

V.3 Pogosyants
2nd hon. mention All-Russian Ty 1973



b3b5 0007.21 4/4 Draw

V.3 E. 1.Sd5 a1Q 2.a4+!! Qxa4+ 3.Kb2 draws!

I did not know this fantastic finale which
IM Michal Konopka showed me recently. Sev-
eral years ago I reviewed in detail the book Я
ТВОРЮ ПО ВДОХНОВЕНИЮ [*I create by inspira-
tion*] (Я. Владимиров & З. Лунькова, Mos-
cow 2001) with Pogo studies and it was surely
not here. How is this possible?

First, the study is heavily cooked. After
1.Kxa2 HHdbV gives the explanatory line 1...
Kxb6 2.Kb3 Kb5! 3.a4+ Kb6 4.b5 Sa5+ 5.Kc3
Sc5 6.Kd4 Sd7 7.Kd5 Kc7! 8.Ke6 Sb6 9.Ke5 Kd7
10.Kd4 Kd6. Even in pre-EGTB times it ex-
plained nothing. In the final position Black has
first to win Pa4 and the other Pb5 is far away
from the Troitzky winning zone.

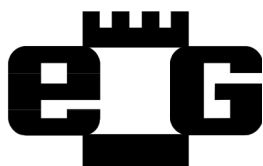
Secondly, the studies for this book were
tested by Garry Kasparov himself. Maybe he
excluded the study because of the cook not re-
alizing such a great idea belongs in the book
even in an incorrect form.

[HH: the study appears in AJR's *A (First)
Century of Studies – Ernest Pogoyants*, Milford
1999, diagram 91. After the 1.Kxa2 the com-
ment is: “when it is the bk that captures wPa4,
keeping wPb5 on the 5th rank, enough to win”.
That is not correct].

Links

www.hhdbv.nl

More details about HHdbV.



History

Study tours from the past: *Tidskrift för Schack* 1910 (part two)

BY ALAIN PALLIER

This article and the largest part of the next one will be a new (and long) parenthesis, devoted to Lazar Borisovich Zalkind, the composer who won the third Prize in the 1910 Tidskrift för Schack tourney (see first part of this article in EG203).

Lazar Zalkind's life is relatively well-known 'thanks' to his tragic fate. Much of the biographical information in this article can be found in various sources. Vladimir Neistadt, together with Vladimir Pak, wrote a book about Alexey Selezniev: *The Prince Mychkin of the chess kingdom* (2007), which contained the December 1930 preliminary questioning during the preparation of the 'Menshevik' trial, at the end of which Zalkind was condemned. Alexandr Gulyaev who, in his early years as a composer, personally knew Zalkind, wrote an important article in 1995, published in *Zadachy y Etyudy*. Finally, some information about Zalkind's family background can be found in a 1923 autobiography by Aron Zalkind (Lazar's brother). The fate of Aron Zalkind, a famous Soviet psychologist, was mentioned in the first part of my article about Herbstman, in EG189, vii2012).

Lazar Borisovich Zalkind was born into a Jewish family on 211886 (1411886, new style) in Kharkov (Russian Empire), today's Kharkiv (Ukraine). The family was poor according to Aron. In his questioning, Lazar Zalkind stated that his father was a clerk – an assistant accountant. In Aron Zalkind's autobiography, the Russian word used is приказчик (*prikazchik*), i.e. a person who helps the owner of a shop or of a small workshop in managing employees. The father was, says Aron Zalkind, arrested several times for having an erroneous *propiska* (the residency permit, a kind of internal passport, that existed not only in the Soviet Union but also in the Russian Empire before 1917). Their

mother, born in 1863, was a housewife having previously worked as a seamstress. Aron adds that their father died at 49 from a heart attack, exhausted by years of hard work. He spent most of the time, in the 8 or 10 last years of his life, separated from his family. Other brothers and a sister were also mentioned in the 1930 questioning: Aron confirms that there were 7 children at home. The family moved to Kostroma where Lazar finished high school. Still being a teenager, he became interested in politics, joining the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party in 1903. In 1905 he took part in the agitation against the Tsarist regime and was excluded from the Superior Technical Institute in Moscow. It is an irony of history that Zalkind first belonged to the Bolshevik faction of the party, until a division between the Bolsheviks – the hard line revolutionaries – and the Mensheviks – who did not share the concept of a Vanguard party – occurred in 1903 during the party's second congress, although all of them remained in the same party. Zalkind joined the Mensheviks years later (in 1917) and this choice – in retrospect a bad one in the context of the late 1920's – was a convenient excuse for his arrest in 1930.

Lazar attended the law faculty of the Moscow University, where he met Alexey Selezniev, and graduated in 1911. Before that (in 1909) and without the agreement of his family, he married a Russian student, Nadedja Vassilievna. He converted to orthodoxy. Gulyaev says they had two children, Elena (1910-1989) and Boris (1925-1943) but during the 1930 questioning, three daughters and a son were mentioned. Zalkind had to give lessons in order to earn money for his family. But in 1912 he found a stable job: he worked as an assistant secretary in the Moscow City Council.

In 1917, Zalkind welcomed the Revolution, even if his joining the Menshevik faction shows that he had changed towards less radical positions in politics. Subsequently he had a solid professional career in the Soviet economic system: after working in cooperative organizations, in 1922 he joined the People's Commissariat of Internal and External Trade (Narkom Torg). At that time, the New Economic Policy (NEP), a kind of state capitalism necessitated by the dire state of the economy after the Civil War years, had just been established. In 1925, he became the director of the Statistics and Market Data Sector of the Narkom Torg. That was an important position, but also a highly exposed one in a country like the USSR.

Zalkind began composing in 1903 aged 17. His first problems were published in Russian magazines but some of them (2- and 3-movers) can be found in foreign magazines, for instance in *Tidskrift för Schack*, as early as 1903. His interest in studies appeared some years later (1909). He quickly became one of the most prolific composers at the time, participating in most formal tournaments around that time. In an article marking the 50th anniversary of his commencing composing, it was said that his total output in 1928 was 500 compositions: 370 problems and 130 studies.

He was also very active as the problem editor of *Shakhmatny Vestnik* (the *Chess Herald*) from 1913 to 1916, with Selezniev as study editor, and of *Shakhmaty* from 1922 to 1929 (with Leonid Isaev from 1929). In 1926, he became the Chairman of the new All-Union Association of Chess Problem and Study Lovers that initiated a new chess magazine devoted to composition only: *Zadachy y Etyudy*. Zalkind was member of its editorial board, along with L. Kubbel, S. Levman, F. Simkhovich (who was replaced some time later by I. Katzenellenbogen), M. Gordian, M. Neumann, and L. Isaev. 8 issues were published from 1927 to 1930 and, when the magazine resumed publication in 1995, its 'first' issue was no. 9. This independent association, consisting of Leningraders and Muscovites, was disbanded in 1930. It was a collateral victim of Zalkind's fall. Krylenko,

the boss of Soviet chess, who was also the prosecutor in many trials, including the one that determined Zalkind's fate, certainly saw a clear opportunity for him to tighten his control on Soviet chess. Without his involvement in chess, would Zalkind's fate have been different?

Zalkind was arrested during the summer of 1930, on 20^{viii}1930 to be exact. Around that time approximately 70 people were arrested, probably even as many as 120, as documents published in 1999 show that some people were arrested after the trial. However, not all were sent to the *public* trial. Together with 13 other senior executives (most of them were economists, working as specialists in the central economic institutions – the State Planning Commission, the State Bank, People's Commissariat, Central Union, the Supreme Economic Council...) the composer was accused of plotting against the Soviet state. Only one of these 14 was a true Menshevik (most of the others, like Zalkind, had been Mensheviks in the past). But that was enough to establish from scratch an alleged 'Union Bureau of Mensheviks'. They were accused of infiltrating the state apparatus in order to wreck the industrialization drive with financial aid from Mensheviks in Germany (480,000 roubles, an incredible amount of money: for his first prize in the first half-year 1928 tournament of 64, Zalkind won 25 roubles!), and to create conditions for riots for the purpose of preparing the overthrow of the Soviet regime.

Of course, the accusation of wrecking was absurd: the bad results of the Soviet economy were principally caused by the ideological choices made by decision-makers in the Kremlin but Stalin needed scapegoats because in 1928 he had launched a new phase of the Revolution, characterized by collectivisation and heavy industrialization, known as the 'great turning point' or the 'breakthrough'. The NEP was over. Stalin knew that there was strong political opposition in the country. These economists who were representatives of a generation educated during the last years of the Imperial Russia, were ideal targets for the regime.

The Menshevik trial was one of the first 'show trials' that were set up in the Soviet Union and

it lasted 9 days and was widely publicised in the Soviet media. Its location was the Pillar Hall of the House of the Unions. Later, the same place also housed many state funeral services and, on occasion, some... major chess events like the first 1984-1985 World Championship match between Karpov and Kasparov. The historian André Liebich recalls that the 12-year-old Solzhenitsyn had followed the Menshevik and Industrial Party trials with passionate interest, reading the stenographic record line by line (more than four hundred pages!). It quickly appeared in the form of a book published with a circulation of 50 thousand copies. A shortened version in English was also published by the American Communist Party.

On the final day of the trial, all the defendants confessed their supposed crimes including various sabotage activities. For instance, Zalkind's task was to favour light industry at the expense of heavy industry. Krylenko, the well-known Public Prosecutor, presented him as a... 'model of the new Americanized intelligentsia'.

It must be added that the 14 defendants were *selected* for the show trial for their 'ability' to play the role written for them. A major economist, Vladimir Bazarov, also arrested in 1930, who should have been one of the 'stars' of the trial, was not put in the dock but instead he resisted the pressure exerted during interrogation and refused to confess guilt. He was judged in secret, sent to a prison, then exiled to Saratov and... freed in 1935. He died in 1939 from natural causes. None of the defendants who confessed guilt received such a (relatively) lenient treatment...

Mikhail Yakubovich (1891-1980) was the only of the 14 to survive the Stalinist era, after some 25 years spent in prisons and camps. In May 1967, he wrote a letter to the general prosecutor of the USSR: "No such body as the Union Bureau of Mensheviks existed in reality... The first *organizational* session of the Union Bureau took place a few days before the trial began". Yakubovich revealed that "those convicted in the case did not all know each other". Their 'confessions' were obtained through physical and mental torture. Yakubovich said

that he refused to confess his crime until he received a peculiar visitor, Krylenko himself, who told him: "I have no doubt that you personally are not guilty of anything. We are both performing our duty to the Party—I have considered and consider you a Communist. I will be the prosecutor at the trial; you will confirm the testimony given during the investigation. This is our duty to the Party, yours and mine. Unforeseen complications may arise at the trial. I will count on you. If the need should arise, I will ask the presiding judge to call on you. And you will find the right words". Yakubovich adds: "I mumbled something indistinctly, but to the effect that I promised to do my duty". Krylenko, as we know, was arrested in 1938 and 'confessed' himself to be a wrecker... (for Krylenko's fate, see EG201: Study tourneys from the past, *La Stratégie* 1936).

No death penalties were issued and the so-called 'leaders' of the group were condemned to 10 years of imprisonment, some others, less involved according to the Prosecutor, to 5 years; Lazar Zalkind, with three other companions in misfortune, was sentenced to 8 years.

Together with his colleagues, Zalkind was sent in the late spring of 1931 to the 'political isolator' Verkhne-Uralsk 50 km north of Magnitogorsk in the Ural region. A political isolator was a special kind of prison that had first been instigated in the early 1920s for isolating opposition ('Old' Bolsheviks or Trotskyists). We have a good idea of what life was like in that 'isolator' from a Yugoslav communist and former Komintern official, Ante Ciliga, who was held there from November 1930 to May 1933 after which he was sent to Siberia and was fortunate to be expelled from the Soviet Union. He wrote a book about his experience in the Gulag which was published in 1938, first in French, entitled *Au pays du Grand Mensonge*. An English translation was published in 1940: *The Russian Enigma*. Ciliga was one of the very first writers who tried to alert western public opinion to the camp system in the Soviet Union.

The historian Robert Conquest estimated that, even in the early 1930s, treatments were 'comparatively humane' in Verkhne-Uralsk

(during the 1937-1938 years, they dropped to the 'normal' level). Ciliga quoted old prisoners remembering that, in 1925, the cells remained open the whole day, so that prisoners could visit each other. Inside the camp there was an intellectual life, with factions, passionate debates, publication of journals (one of them appeared in three copies, one for each wing of the prison). Sometimes there were hunger strikes, e.g. as in April or Summer 1931, when the detainees fought for their rights, for a regime that was privileged by comparison.

In the isolator, the alleged Mensheviks were first boycotted by other political prisoners for their behaviour in the trial. Ciliga says that the OGPU (the State Political Directorate) carefully isolated them, forbidding the members of this group any contact between themselves as well as with the other inmates. But "we (i.e. Ciliga and some other inmates) succeeded in establishing contact with the sorry heroes of the trial. Once I asked them how they were able to give such a monstrous testimony. The reply was eloquent: We ourselves don't understand what happened; it was like a frightful nightmare".

It is not known whether Zalkind was interested in politics during these years – probably not – but, certainly, his interest in chess did not fade. Gulyaev mentions that Zalkind filled 34 notebooks (about the 'theory of chess') during his long-term stay in Verkhne-Uralsk and that his spirit was not broken by his captivity. In 1938, he should have been freed but it was the second year of the Great Terror and nobody could imagine that political prisoners heavily condemned in 1931 would be authorized to resume a normal life in Soviet Union as though nothing had happened. Therefore, new accusations ('counter-revolutionary agitation') were brought against Zalkind, who, on 23viii1938, 2 days after his theoretical release, was sentenced to 5 additional years of imprisonment. That time, he was sent to a corrective labour camp in the Khabarovsk region (Far East), known as BAMlag – at the time, the Baikal-Amur camp was being reorganized and divided in six separate smaller camps. The

Nizhne-Amursky camp was created in May 1939. Prisoners had to work on the construction of the Baikal-Amur railway. It was in that camp that poet Nikolai Zabolotsky (1903-1958) met Zalkind (and another of the 1931 'Menshevik' defendants, Aron Sokolovsky) and they became friends. Zabolotsky was happy to join a project office as a technical draughtsman, where Zalkind and Sokolovsky also were employed. In 1939, their conditions of work were quite good, at least compared with the Gulag standards: they could listen to the radio and read local newspapers. When WWII began, conditions worsened but Zabolotsky was able to protect his companions.

In 1943 Zalkind should have been freed but he had to stay in the Far East, by virtue of a directive issued by the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs that suspended, until the end of the war, the liberation of prisoners who were scheduled to be set free. The same year, it came as a shock to him to learn of the death of his 18-year-old son, Boris, a radio operator with the rank of sergeant, who was killed in October at the 1st Byelorussian front. Under these difficult circumstances, in this last period of his life, it was a little comfort for him to meet a Latvian educator who had studied with his brother Aron.

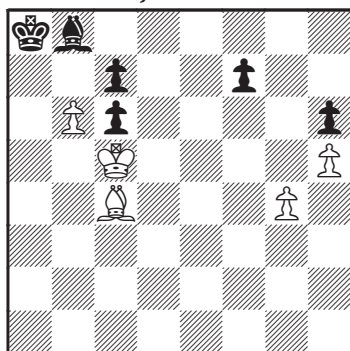
Lazar Zalkind died of heart failure on 25vi1945, 46 days after the end of the war, in Start, a small settlement, 15 km north of Komsomolsk-on-Amur.

In his 1995 article, Gulyaev writes that Zalkind's grand-daughter, T.A. Cherepanova, was still living in Moscow. However, a letter written to the editor of *Nauka i Zhizn*, a Russian science magazine, was published in the xii1990 issue, was signed by two grand-daughters, E.E. Arenkova and T.A. Cherenkova. Of course, it would be nice to be able to get in touch with members of Lazar Zalkind's family.

(to be continued)

The selection of studies that follows shows some studies from his early years as a composer. The next article will examine Zalkind's work in the 1926-1930 period.

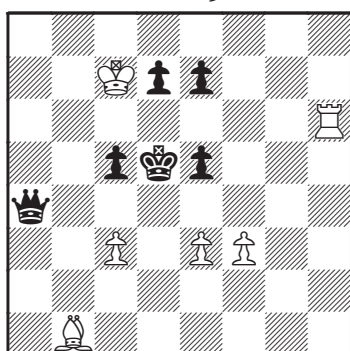
P.1 Lazar Zalkind
Shakhmatnoye Obozrenie 1910



c5a8 0040.34 5/6 Win

1.Kb7+! Kxa7 2.Ba6+ Kxa6 3.g5! hxg5 4.h6 Ba7+ 5.Kc4 and White wins.

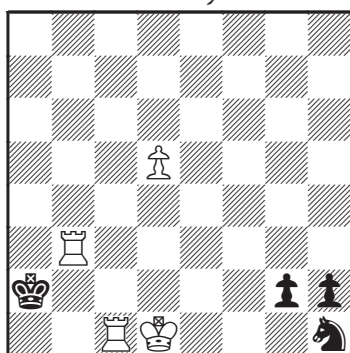
P.2 Lazar Zalkind
Niva vi1910



c7d5 3110.34 6/6 Win

1.c4+ Qxc4 2.Rd6+!! exd6 3.Bh7 e4 4.f4 and White wins.

P.3 Lazar Zalkind
4th prize Shakhmatnoye Obozrenie 1911



d1a2 0201.12 4/4 Win (?)

1.Kc2 g1Q 2.Ra1+! Qxa1 3.Rb8! Ka3 (3... Qd1+ 4.Kxd1 Sf2+ 5.Kc2 h1Q 6.Ra8 mate) 4.Ra8+ Kb4 5.Rxa1 Sg3 6.d6 Curiously,

Lamare, in his collection, now gives 6...h1Q 7.Rxh1 Sxh1 8.d7 and White wins. The solution, as printed in the award published in the *Deutsches Wochenschach* (9iv1911) runs as follows: 6...Sf5 7.d7 Sd4+ 8.Kb2! Se6 9.Rh1 Kc5 10.Rxh2 Kd6 11.Rd2+ Ke7 12.Kc3 Kd8 13.Kc4 Sf8 14.Kb5 Sxd7 15.Kc6 wins. In June 1912, in the short-lived French chess journal *La Renaissance Échiquéenne*, a certain Sandberg claimed a draw by playing 12...Sd8 13.Kc4 Sb7 14.Rd5 Sd8 15.Kd4 Sf7 16.Ke4 Kd8 17.Kf5 Ke7. This analysis is unsound (14.Kb5) but the EGTB shows that 12...Kd8! is the correct move for drawing, if followed by 13.Kc4 Kc7! and after 14.Kb5 Sd8! White cannot make any progress. There are also several black duals (7...Se2+, 9...Kb5, 10...Kc6, 11...Kc7 and even 11...Sd8 if 10...Kc6 has been played). The bust was not found at the time and Zalkind's study, 4th-5th Prize in the provisional award, got 4th Prize in the final one, after the disqualification of a study by Troitzky.

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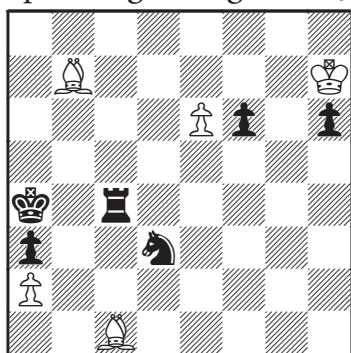
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Special thanks to Vladimir Neishtadt and Zacharia Kogan.

Comment on a comment

BY TIMOTHY WHITWORTH

W.1 V. and M. Platov
2nd prize *Rigaer Tageblatt* 1909



h7a4 0323.23 5/6 Draw

“An original stalemate position!” was the tourney judge's comment about Anatoly Skripnik's study No 20537 on page 43 of EG203. Actually, this stalemate was shown long ago by the Platov brothers: 2nd prize *Rigaer Tageblatt* 1909. What Skripnik gives us is new play leading to an old stalemate.

1.Bf4 Sxf4 2.e7 Rc7 3.Bc6+ Kb4 4.Bd7 Rxd7 5.Kxh6 Rxe7 stalemate.

Marwitz 100 MT 2016

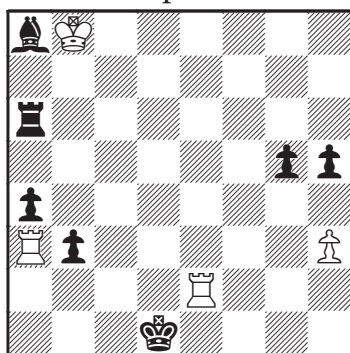
ARVES organized a formal tourney to commemorate the 100th birthday of the famous Dutch study composer FM Jan Hendrik Marwitz (8x1915 - 6xii1991). The tourney director GM Yochanan Afek provided me with 42 anonymized endgame studies.

Because most composers use computers and EGTB to check their studies, the proportion of unsound studies seems to be gradually declining in recent years. So I was quite surprised that I found no less than 11 studies to be unsound or highly suspect. Further, for 4 studies an anticipation led to a lower ranking.

The level of the tourney was high, with exceptionally good prize winning studies.

This is a provisional award. Claims (only about unsoundness or anticipation) should be sent to the tourney director Yochanan Afek before June 1st, 2016. The award will be finalized in EG205.

No 20661 M. Gromov & O. Pervakov 1st prize



b8d1 o530.14 4/7 Win

No 20661 Mikhail Gromov & Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Rh2 (Rb2? Kc1;) Rb6+ 2.Ka7/i b2 (Rc6; Kxa8) 3.Rg3 Bg2/ii 4.Rgxc2/iii Rb7+ 5.Ka6/iv Rb6+ 6.Ka5 Rb5+ 7.Kxa4 Rb4+ 8.Ka5/v Rb5+ 9.Ka6 Rb6+ 10.Ka7 Rb7+ 11.Ka8 Rb8+ 12.Kxb8 b1Q+ 13.Rb2 Qe4 14.Rh1+ Qxh1 15.Rb1+ Ke2 16.Rxh1, and:

— Kf3 17.Rf1+/vi Kg3/vii 18.Rg1+ (Rf5? g4;) Kxh3 19.Rxc5 h4 20.Kc7 Kh2 21.Kd6 h3 22.Ke5 Kh1 23.Kf4 h2 24.Kg3 wins.

— Kf2 17.h4 Kg2 18.Rh3/ix Kxh3/x 19.hxc5 h4 20.g6 Kg2 21.g7 h3 22.g8Q+ wins.

i) Refusal of capture: 2.Kxa8? b2 3.Rg3 Ra6+ and Black promotes with check.

ii) Black sacrifices its bishop to lure the wRg3 from the third rank. Otherwise (one could call this a black thematic try!): Rb7+ 4.Kxa8 Rb8+ 5.Ka7 Rb7+ 6.Ka6 Rb6+ 7.Ka5 Rb5+ 8.Kxa4 Rb4+ 9.Ka3 and Black cannot play 9...Rb3+. If Re6 4.Rxb2 Bc6 5.Rg1+ Re1 6.Rb1+ wins.

iii) If the other rook captures, White gives up the mate threat: 4.Rhxc2? b1Q 5.Rg1+ Kc2 6.R1g2+ Kc1 draws.

iv) Now White uses a systematic manoeuvre to get rid of bPa4, which would assure Black an easy draw.

v) 8.Ka3? Rb3+ 9.Ka4 Rb4+ repeats. If 9.Kxb3? b1Q+ 10.Rb2 Qd3+ draws.

vi) 17.Kc7? Kg2 18.h4 Kxh1 19.hxc5 h4 20.g6 h3 21.g7 h2 22.g8Q stalemate.

vii) Kg2 18.Rf5 Kxh3 19.Rxc5 wins.

viii) The position of M. Grunfeld (1903).

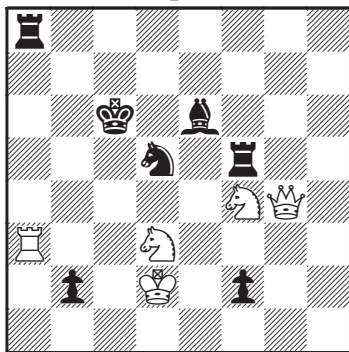
ix) 18.hxc5? Kxh1 19.g6 h4 20.g7 h3 21.g8Q h2 draws.

x) g4 19.Ra3 g3 20.Ra5 Kh3 21.Rxh5 wins.

“This is a true masterpiece. From a natural initial position, the introductory play is very good, as it is packed with artistic ideas and problem themes. After a capture refusal (2.Ka7!), both white rooks move into a critical position that Black exploits with a Plachutta interference (3...Bg2!!), and a systematic manoeuvre (5.Ka6, 7.Kxa4, 10.Ka7) involving bR sacrifices. We finally arrive in a famous position by M. Grunfeld (HHdbV#81104) with an extraordinary winning move (18.Rh3!!). But that is not all. The composers add a Bristol (17.h4!), and a second main line which requires two accurate checks by the wR (17.Rf1+, 18.Rg1+), where rushing the wK to the scene seems obvious. So far the good news. The composers mentioned the study by M. Grunfeld: *Düna Zeitung* 5viii1903,

h3b2 o100.12 a1.a4a5b5 3/3 Win: 1.Ra3! Kxa3 2.axb5 etc. But I found that P. Benko (HHdbV #15682) had already added the Bristol move to the Grunfeld position: P. Benko, Vergio 1999, h8c2 o100.22 a1.a2b2a5b5 4/3 Win: 1.a4! Kxb2 2.Ra3! But more important was the following study by D. Gurgendize (EG#07720), 1st prize Golden Fleece ty 1988, a3e1 o500.14 4/6 Win: 1.Rg8 b2 2.Rgxg2 Rb3+ 3.Ka4 Rb4+ 4.Ka5 Rb5+ 5.Ka6 Rb6+ 6.Ka7 Rb7+ 7.Ka8 Rb8+ 8.Kxb8 b1Q+ 9.Rb2 Qe4 10.Rh1+ Qxh1 11.Rb1+ Kf2 12.Rxh1 Kg2, no Grunfeld!, but the play that follows has some resemblance with the first main line of the present study: 13.Ra1 Kxh3 14.Rg1 Kh2 15.Rg8 h3 16.Kc7 Kh1 17.Kd6 h2 18.Ke5 h4 19.Kf4 h3 20.Kg3 wins. So, to summarize, the final idea of Grunfeld, the Bristol move of Benko and the systematic manoeuvre of Gurgendize are forerunners. After a lot of hesitation, I decided that in my view, the study should be considered an original synthesis of the ideas of Grunfeld, Benko and Gurgendize (although the composers only mentioned Grunfeld), and has a brilliant introduction which warrants 1st prize!”

No 20662 M. Minski & S. Slumstrup Nielsen
2nd prize



d2c6 1735.02 5/7 Draw

No 20662 Martin Minski (Germany) & Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Qg6/i Sf6/ii 2.Qg2+ (Rc3+? Kd6;) Bd5 3.Sxd5 b1S+/iii 4.Ke2/iv f1Q+ 5.Qxf1 Re8+ 6.Se5+/v Rxe5+ 7.Re3 Sc3+/vi 8.Ke1/vii Rxf1+ 9.Kxf1 Rf5+ 10.Rf3 Rxf3+ 11.Kg2 Rd3 (Rf5) 12.Sb4+ (Se7+)draws.

i) 1.Sxd5? (Se5+? Rxe5;) b1S+ 2.Ke3 Sxa3 3.Se7+ Kc7 4.Sxf5 f1Q, and White is a rook down, and check do not help much: 5.Qg7+

Kc6 6.Sb4+ Kb6, or here: 5.Qg3+ Kc8 6.Se7+ Kd7, or 1.Qe2? b1S+ 2.Kc1 Sxf4 win.

ii) Sxf4 2.Sxf4 Rd8+ 3.Ke3, or b1S+ (f1S+; Kc2) 2.Ke2 Sxf4+ (Rxa3; Qxe6+) 3.Sxf4 draws.

iii) f1Q 4.Rc3+ (S5b4), or Rxa3 4.Sxf6+ draw.

iv) Other king moves allow Black to capture material with check: 4.Ke3? Sxd5+, or 4.Kc2? Sxa3+.

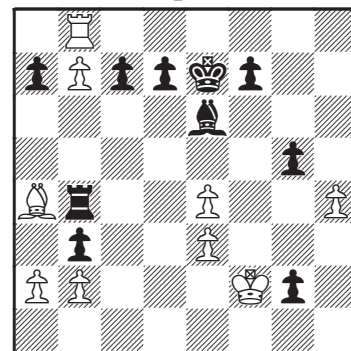
v) 6.Se3? Rxf1 7.Kxf1 Sxa3 wins.

vi) Sxd5 8.Rxe5 Sbc3+ 9.Ke1 draws.

vii) 8.Sxc3 Rxe3+ 9.Kxe3 Rxf1 wins.

“In a very unnatural position where it takes some time to comprehend which side seems to be winning, the composers manage to start with a quiet move. After 3.Sxd5 the study develops into a tactical avalanche featuring S-promotion (3...b1S+), a marvellous unguarded guard sacrifice (6.Se5+) and a great black countersacrifice (7...Sc3+) which White refuses. The position after 9...Rf5+ is one of the most remarkable discoveries I have seen lately. White is a knight down, and after a wK move Black captures another piece and wins. After another brilliant unguarded guard move 10.Rf3!! Rxf3+ 11.Kg2, after which White is a full rook and piece down, the rook is dominated. Marvellous! Only the bK is static”

No 20663 J. Timman
3rd prize



f2e7 o440.67 9/10 Win

No 20663 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.a3 Rb6 2.h5 Bh3 3.e5 c5 4.h6/i Bf5 5.e6/ii fxe6 6.Rg8 Rxb7 7.e4/iii Bxe4 8.Bc6 dxc6 9.Rg7+ Kd6 10.Rxb7 c4 11.h7 wins.

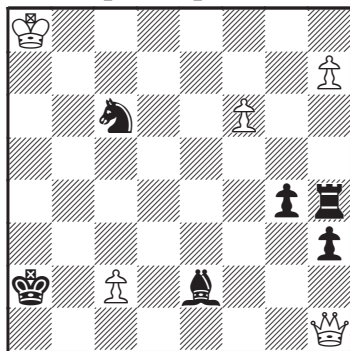
i) 4.e4? f5, and: 5.Bc6 dxc6 6.exf5 c4 7.f6+ Kf7 8.h6 Bf5, or: 5.Bxd7 Kxd7 6.e6+ Ke7 7.e5 f4 8.h6 Bf5 9.Rh8 Kxe6 draw.

ii) 5.Bxd7? Kxd7 6.Rf8 Kc7, or 5.h7? Bxh7 6.Rh8 Rxb7 7.Rxh7 c4 draw.

iii) 7.Bc6? e.g. g1Q+ 8.Kxg1 c4 9.Bxb7 c3 and Black wins.

“White wants to play a classical endgame combination (Rh8 – Rxb7 – Rh7+ winning the bR) but there are two pawns on the 7th rank. After the accurate 4.h6! White needs the quiet move 5.e6!! This unprotected pawn can be captured by no less than five black pieces! After the only playable move (5...fxe6), White manages to open the 7th rank with 7.e4! and 8.Bc6!. Excellent!”

No 20664 A. Ruzs special prize



a8a2 1333.32 5/6 Win

No 20664 Arpad Ruzs (Rumania). 1.f7 (Qxc6? Bf3) Rxh7/i 2.Qxc6 (f8Q Ra7 mate;) Bf3/ii 3.Qxf3 gxf3 4.f8Q f2 (h2; Qg8+) 5.Qxf2/iii h2 6.c4+ Kb3 7.Qf3+ Kb4 8.Qh1 Kc5/iv 9.Qd5+ Kb4 10.Qd2+ Kc5 11.Qf2+ Kb4 12.Qb2+ Kc5 13.Qb5+ Kd4 14.Qd5+ Kc3 15.Qh1 Kd4/v 16.Kb8 Kc5/vi 17.Qd5+ Kb4 18.Qd2+ Kc5 19.Qf2+ Kb4 20.Qb2+ Kc5 21.Qb5+ Kd4 22.Qd5+ Kc3 23.Qh1 Kd4 24.Kc8/vii Kc5 25.Qd5+ Kb4 26.Qd2+ Kc5 27.Qf2+ Kb4 28.Qb2+ Kc5 29.Qb5+ Kd4 30.Qd5+ Kc3 31.Qh1 Kd4 32.Kd8/viii Kc5 33.Qd5+ Kb4 34.Qd2+ Kc5 35.Qf2+ Kb4 36.Qb2+ Kc5 37.Qb5+ Kd4 38.Qd5+ Kc3 39.Qh1 Kd4 40.Ke8/ix Kc5 41.Qd5+ Kb4 42.Qd2+ Kc5 43.Qf2+ Kb4 44.Qb2+ Kc5 45.Qb5+ Kd4 46.Qd5+ Kc3 47.Qh1 Kd4 48.Kf8/x Kc5 49.Qd5+ Kb4 50.Qd2+ Kc5 51.Qf2+ Kb4 52.Qb2+ Kc5 53.Qb5+ Kd4 54.Qd5+ Kc3 55.Qh1 Kd4 56.Kg8/xi and wins/xii.

i) Bf3 2.Qxf3 gxf3 3.f8Q Rxh7 4.Qg8+ wins.
ii) Rh8+ (Ka1; Qh8+) 3.Qe8 Rxe8+ 4.fxe8Q Bf3+ 5.Ka7 h2 6.Qg8+ Kb1 7.Qb8+ winning the h2-pawn.

iii) 5.Qg8+? Ka1 6.Qxh7 f1Q, or 5.c4? Rh8 6.Qxh8 f1Q draw.

iv) The composer explains: “The plan that looks logical now is starting to move the wK towards the bR. But this doesn’t work yet! When the bK is on c5, the rook can leave the 7th rank, e.g. by playing to h5”.

v) The bK is not on c5 now, so the wK can make a move towards the bR.

vi) Back to c5, so White needs to repeat the manoeuvre.

vii) The second step.

viii) The third step.

ix) The fourth step.

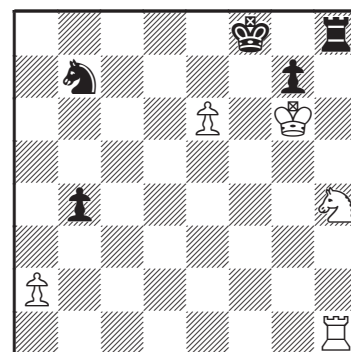
x) The fifth step.

xi) The last step along the eight file.

xii) HH: at first it seemed to me that the manoeuvre could be (thematically) prolonged: Rh3 57.Kg7 (Kf7) Kc5 58.Qd5+ Kb4 59.Qb7+ Kc3 60.Qh1 Kb4 61.Kg6 (Kf6) Kc5 62.Qd5+ Kb4 63.Qb7+ Kc3 64.Qh1 Kb4 65.Kg5 and wins: Kc5 66.Qd5+ (also 66.Kg4) Kb4 67.Qb7+ Kc3 68.Qh1. But 59.Qd6+ also works.

“This is a nice discovery but the introduction is suboptimal with the bS being captured without playing so perhaps it would have been better to skip the first three moves. Despite the database material, the systematic manoeuvre is easy to comprehend”.

No 20665 O. Pervakov 1st honourable mention



g6f8 o4o4.22 5/5 Win

No 20665 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Kg5/i Ke8/ii 2.Rc1 Sd8/iii 3.Rc8 b3/iv 4.axb3 g6/v 5.Sxg6/vi Rh5+ 6.Kf6 Rf5+ 7.Kg7 Rc5 8.Ra8/vii Rc8 9.Ra6 Ra8/viii 10.Rd6/ix Rb8 11.e7 wins.

i) 1.e7+? Ke8 2.Kxg7 Rh5 3.Kg6 Rh8 positional draw. 1.Rf1+? Ke7 2.Rf7+ Kxe6 3.Rxb7 Rxh4 draws.

ii) Rh6 2.Sg6+ Ke8 3.Rf1 wins.

iii) Sd6 3.Sf5, and: Sxf5 4.Rc8+ Ke7 5.Rxh8 Sd4 6.Rb8 b3 7.axb3 Kxe6 8.Kf4, and: Se4+ 4.Kg6 Sc3 5.Kxg7 Rh5 6.Kg6 Rh3 7.Kg5 Se4+ 8.Kf4 Sc3 9.Kg4 Rh2 10.a3 win.

iv) Counter-play for stalemate. Rh6 4.Sg6 b3 5.e7 Rxc6+ 6.Kxc6 Kxe7 7.axb3 wins.

v) Rh6 5.Sf5 Rxe6 6.Sxg7+ Kd7 7.Rxd8+ Kxd8 8.Sxe6+ wins.

vi) 6.Kxh5? stalemate. First thematic try: 6.Kf4? Rc5 7.Ra8 Rc8 8.Ra6 Rb8 9.e7 Rb4+/x 10.Kg5 Rxb3 11.Ra8 Rd3 12.Se5 Rd5 draws.

vii) Second thematic try: 8.Rb8? Rc8 9.Rb6 Rb8 10.Rd6 Rxb3 11.e7 Sb7/xi 12.Rf6/xii (bR is at b3!) Re3 13.Rf8+ Kd7 14.Rb8 Sd6 draws.

viii) Rb8 10.e7 (wK is at g7!) Rxb3 11.Rf6, or Rc6 10.Rxc6 Sxc6 11.Kf6 win.

ix) 10.Rb6? Rb8 11.Rd6 Rxb3 12.e7 Sb7 13.Ra6 Re3 14.Ra8+ Kd7 15.Ra7 Rb3 draws.

x) But not: Rxb3? 10.Ra8 Rd3 11.Se5 Rd4+ 12.Ke3 Rd6 13.Sc6 wins.

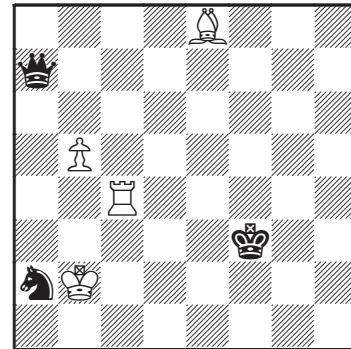
xi) But not: Rb8? 12.Kh7 Sf7 13.Rf6 Rb7 14.Kg7 wins.

xii) 12.Ra6 Re3 (Kd7) 13.Ra8+ Kd7 14.Ra7 Rb3 15.Kf7 Rf3+ 16.Kg7 Rb3 17.Ra8 Re3 18.Ra7 Rb3 positional draw.

“After a good introduction without checks or captures, and an illogical-looking key move, Black counters by sacrificing his two pawns in a position of equal material. The point is an (original) airy stalemate. Both thematic tries are sufficiently deep: the first (6.Kf4?) fails to 9...Rb4+ as the wK is at f4 instead of g7, while the second (8.Rb8?) fails to the fact that the bR is at b3 instead of b8 at move 12. I have corrected the presentation of the 2nd thematic try: not the fancy 12.Ra6 with a positional draw, but

with a black dual: 12...Kd7), but 12.Rf6 which shows the point of the thematic try. A masterly crafted study”.

No 20666 D. Keith & M. Minski
2nd honourable mention



b2f3 3113.10 4/3 Draw

No 20666 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.b6/i Qa5 (Qxb6+; Kxa2) 2.b7/ii Sb4 3.Rc3+/iii Ke2/iv 4.Rc2+/v Ke1/vi 5.Re2+/vii Kxe2/viii 6.b8Q Qa2+ 7.Kc3 Qc2+ 8.Kd4/ix Qd3+ 9.Kc5 (Ke5? Qg3+;) Sa6+ 10.Kb6 Sxb8 11.Bb5 draws.

i) 1.Bc6+? Ke3 2.b6 Qxb6+ 3.Kxa2 Kd3 4.Rc1 Qb4 wins.

ii) 2.Bc6+? Ke3 3.Kb3 Qxb6+ 4.Kxa2 Kd3 wins.

iii) 3.b8Q? Qa2+ 4.Kc3 Qa3+ 5.Kd4 Qe3 mate.

iv) Kf2 4.Rc2+ Ke3 (Ke1) 5.Re2+ Kxe2 6.b8Q see main line. Although Black has another option here (4...Ke3), the composers want Black to play 3...Ke2, because then we have position X (with wRc3).

v) 4.b8Q? Qa2+ 5.Kc1 Qa1 mate!

vi) Kd3 5.Bg6+ Ke3 6.Re2+/x Kxe2 7.b8Q Qa2+ 8.Kc3 Qa3+ (Sd5+ Kd4;) 9.Kc4, avoiding the fork 9.Kd4? Sc6+.

vii) Thematic try: 5.b8Q? Qa2+ 6.Kc3 Qxc2+ 7.Kd4 Qd3+ 8.Kc5 Sa6+ 9.Kb6 Sxb8 wins as the bK is at e1, i.e. 10.Bb5 does not pin the bQ.

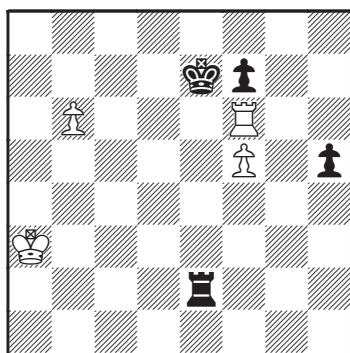
viii) Position X' (no wRc3).

ix) 8.Kxb4? Qb2+ (Qb1+) wins.

x) But not 6.b8Q? Qa2+, and 7.Kc1 Qa1 mate, or 7.Kc3 Sd5 model mate.

“One of the more attractive WCCT themes was used in WCCT7 which required White to echo a position but without a certain white piece. The present study has this theme as an extra. Its main point, however, is the subtle difference between the solution (bKe2) and the thematic try (bKe1), allowing a pin or not (no anticipations found!). Apart from some more artistic features (skewers, a midboard model mate, forks) this is a study that would be very suited for a solving event”.

No 20667 I. Aliev
3rd honourable mention



a3e7 0400.33 4/4 Win

No 20667 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Re6+/i fxe6 (Rxe6; fxe6) 2.b7 (f6+? Kd7;) Re3+ 3.Kb2/ii Re2+ 4.Kc3 Re3+ 5.Kc4 Re4+ 6.Kc5 Re5+ 7.Kc6 (Kb6? Re1;) Re1/iii 8.f6+/iv Kf7/v 9.b8Q Rc1+ 10.Kd6/vi wins.

i) 1.b7? Kxf6 2.b8Q Kxf5 is an EGTB confirmed draw.

ii) 3.Ka4? (Kb4) Re1.

iii) Rxf5 (exf5) 8.b8Q win (EGTB).

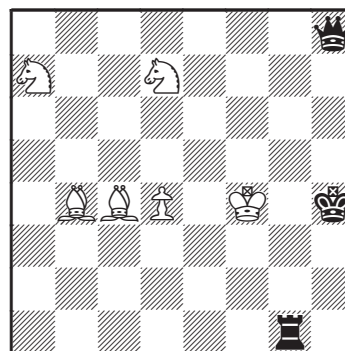
iv) 8.b8Q? Rc1+ 9.Kb7 Rb1+ and Black wins.

v) Kxf6 9.b8Q Rc1+ 10.Kd7 Rd1+ 11.Ke8 wins.

vi) 10.Kd7? Rd1+ 11.Kc7 Rc1+ 12.Kd6 just wastes time.

“In a game-like position, White delivers the best key move of the tourney (1.Re6+!!). What follows is a wK staircase, and a nice decoy (8.f6+!). This could be a study you want to show to your chess club friends: an innocently looking rook ending with two tactical highlights”.

No 20668 Y. Bazlov
4th honourable mention



f4h4 3322.10 6/3 Draw

No 20668 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Se5/i Rg4+ 2.Kf3 Qf6+/ii 3.Ke2 Rxd4 4.Be7 Qxe7 5.Sc6 Re4+/iii 6.Kd3 Qh7 7.Bg8 Qf5 (Qxg8; Kxe4) 8.Be6 Qh7 (Qxe6; Kxe4) 9.Bg8 positional draw.

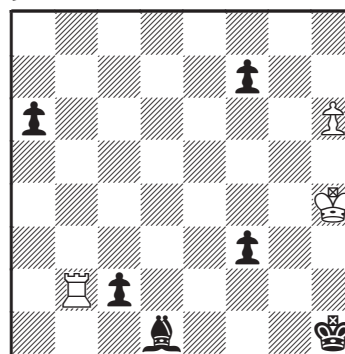
i) 1.Be7+? Kh3 2.Se5 Rg4+ 3.Kf3 Rxd4 4.Bf1+ Kh2 5.Sac6 Ra4 6.Bc4 Rxc4 7.Sxc4 Qc3+ wins.

ii) Rg3+ 3.Ke4 Qh7+ 4.Kd5 Qxa7 5.Be1 draws.

iii) Qe8 6.Bf7, or Qf6 6.Sf3+, or Qc5 6.Sf3+ Kg3 7.Sfxd4 Qxc4+ 8.Ke3 draw.

“This is a study you should not show to your chess club friends. For the advanced endgame study fraternity it is quite remarkable because of the positional draw in a position with a rare material balance. Although I was worried about the line 2...Qa8+ 3.Sac6 Rxd4 4.Be7+ Kh5 5.Bb3 Rd2, it seems that Black is unable to make progress”.

No 20669 P. Arestov
5th honourable mention



h4h1 0130.14 3/6 Draw

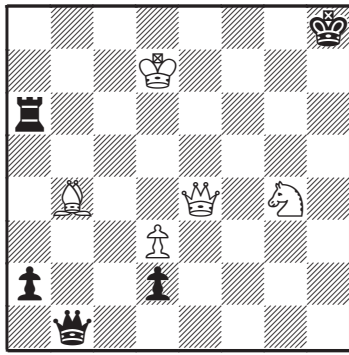
No 20669 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.h7 c1Q 2.h8Q Qf4+ 3.Kh3 f5 4.Qg7 (Qg8? Qh6+;)

Qg4+ 5.Qxg4 fxc4+ 6.Kh4/i Kg1 7.Kg3 a5 8.Ra2 zz a4 9.Rb2 zz Kf1 (a3; Ra2) 10.Kxg4 f2+ 11.Kg3 Be2 12.Rb1+ Bd1 13.Rb2 Be2 14.Rb1+ Bd1 15.Rb2 draws.

i) 6.Kg3? Kg1 zz 7.Ra2 a5 zz, and: 8.Rd2 Be2 9.Ra2 f2, or: 8.Rf2 Be2 9.Rh2 a4 win.

“This is another good find, a discovery with the material R against B with pawns: an original zugzwang study, with the obvious move (6.Kg3?) as the thematic try”.

No 20670 M. Hlinka & Jaroslav Polášek
special honourable mention



d7h8 4311.12 5/5 BTM, Draw

No 20670 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia) & Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic). 1...Ra7+/i 2.Kd8 Ra8+/ii 3.Qxa8 a1Q/iii 4.Qd5/iv Qxd3/v 5.Qxd3 d1Q 6.Bc3+ Kg8 7.Sh6+ Kf8 8.Bb4+ Kg7 9.Bc3+ Kxh6 10.Bd2+ Kg7 11.Qd7+ Kg6/vi 12.Qd3+ Kf6/vii 13.Qd5/viii zz, and:

— Qe2 14.Bc3+ Qxc3 15.Qc6+ Qxc6 stalemate, or:

— Qda4/ix 14.Bc3+ Qxc3 15.Qc6+/x Qaxc6 (Qcxc6) stalemate.

i) a1Q 2.Qe8+ Kg7 3.Qe7+ Kg6 4.Qe4+ Kh5 (Kg5; Bd2+) 5.Qf5+ Kh4 6.Be7+ Kg3 7.Qf2+ Kxg4 8.Qg2+ Kf4 9.Qf2+ Kg4/xi 10.Qg2+ perpetual check, or Qxb4 2.Qe5+ (Qxb4? a1Q;) Kh7 3.Qh5+ Kg7 4.Qg5+ Rg6 5.Qe5+ Kh7 6.Qh5+ Kg7 7.Qe5+ Kg8 8.Qd5+ perpetual check.

ii) Qxb4 3.Qe5+, and: Rg7 4.Qh5+ Rh7 5.Qe5+ Kg8 6.Qe6+ Rf7 7.Qg6+, or: Kg8 4.Qe6+ Rf7 5.Qg6+ Kf8 6.Qh6+ Kg8 7.Qg6+ Kh8 8.Qh6+ Rh7 9.Qf6+ perpetual check. If

a1Q 3.Qe8+, and: Kg7 4.Qf8+ Kh7/xii 5.Qh6+, or: Kh7 4.Qh5+ Kg7 5.Qg5+ Kh8/xiii 6.Qh6+ Kg8 7.Qf8+ perpetual check.

iii) Qxb4 4.Qh1+ Kg8 (Kg7; Qh6+) 5.Qd5+ Kg7 6.Qg5+ draws.

iv) 4.Qb8? Qf1 5.Qh2+ Kg8 6.Sh6+ Kg7 7.Qg3+ Kxh6 8.Bxd2+ Kh7 9.Qh4+ Kg8 10.Qg5+ (Qc4+ Qf7;) Qg7 wins.

v) d1Q 5.Qh5+ Kg8 6.Qd5+, or Qxb4/xiv 5.Qh5+ Kg7 6.Qg5+ Kf7 7.Qf5+ Kg8 8.Qd5+ draws.

vi) Kf6 12.Bc3+ Qxc3 13.Qxd1 draws.

vii) Kf7 13.Qd7+ (Qd5+? Kf6 zz);

viii) 13.Qd6+? Kf5 14.Qd5+ Qe5 wins.

ix) Qe5 14.Bg5+, or Qh1 14.Bc3+ Qxc3 15.Qxh1 draw.

x) 15.Qe6+? Kg5 (Kxe6?; stalemate).

xi) Not Ke5 10.Qe3+ Kf5 11.Qe4 mate.

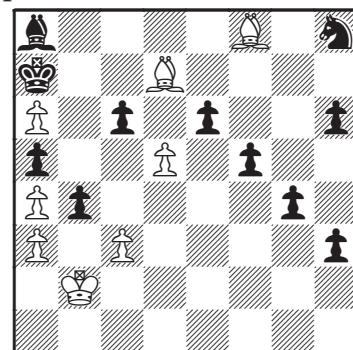
xii) Not Kg6 5.Qh6+, and now: Kf5 6.Se3+ Ke5 7.Qd6 mate, or here: Kf7 6.Qh7+ Qg7 7.Sh6+ Ke6 8.Qf5 mate.

xiii) Not Kf7 6.Sh6+ Ke6 7.Qf5 mate.

xiv) Qh1 5.Bc3+ Qxc3 6.Qxh1+ wins.

“It is unfortunate that the zugzwang position after 13.Qd5! and concluding play is known from Krug (EG#19250). I decided to award a special hon. mention because of the introduction with the bR sacrifice, the quiet (echo) move 4.Qd5! and the bQ sacrifice (4...Qxd3!). A drawback is that the study starts with BTM”.

No 20671 J. Rodriguez Ibran
special honourable mention



b2a7 0053.58 8/11 Win

No 20671 Javier Rodriguez Ibran (Spain).
 1.Bc5+/i Kb8 2.Bd6+ Ka7 3.dxc6/ii bxc3+ 4.Ka1/
 iii Bxc6 5.Bc5+ Kxa6 6.Bc8+ Bb7 7.Bxe6 Be4
 8.Bc8+ Bb7 9.Bxf5 Bf3 10.Bc8+ Bb7 11.Bxg4 Bg2
 12.Bc8+ Bb7 13.Bxh3 Bd5 14.Bc8+ Bb7 15.Be6/iv
 Bc6 16.Bd4 c2 (Bxa4; Bxh8) 17.Kb2 Sg6 18.Bc8+
 (Bf5? Se7;) Bb7 19.Bf5 Sf4 20.Be3 c1Q+ 21.Kx-
 c1/v Se2+ 22.Kb2 Bf3 23.Bc8+ Bb7 24.Bg4 Sg3
 25.Bf2 wins.

i) 1.axb4? Kxa6 2.Bd6 Sf7 and Black wins.

ii) 3.dxe6? Sg6 4.e7 Sxe7 5.Bxe7 Kxa6 6.Bd6
 bxc3+ 7.Kxc3 Kb6 draws.

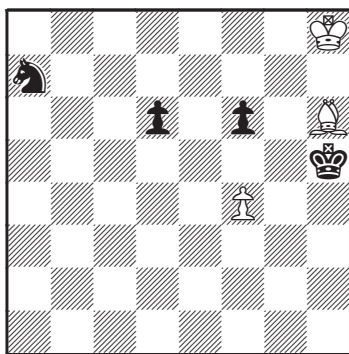
iii) 4.Kxc3? Bxc6 5.Bc5+ Kxa6 6.Bc8+ Bb7
 7.Bxe6 Be4 8.Bc8+ Bb7 9.Bxf5 Bf3 10.Bc8+ Bb7
 11.Bxg4 Bg2 12.Bc8+ Bb7 13.Bxh3 Bc6 (Bd5?;
 Kd4) 14.Bc8+ Bb7 15.Be6 Bc6 16.Bd4 Sg6
 17.Bc8+ Bb7 18.Bf5 Sf4.

iv) 15.Bd7? Bd5 16.Bd4 Sf7 17.Bc8+ Bb7
 18.Be6 Sd6 19.Bc5 Bc8 draws.

v) 21.Bxc1? Sd5 (Sg2) draws.

“We see an amusing systematic manoeuvre
 which, to my surprise, seems to be original.
 4.Ka1! is excellent”

No 20672 V. Tarasiuk
 1st commendation



h8h5 0013.12 3/4 Draw

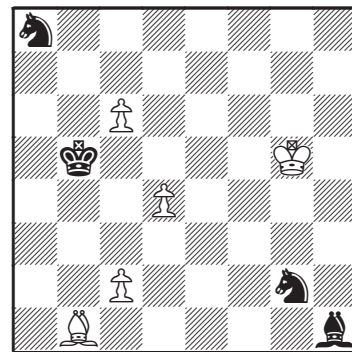
No 20672 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
 1.Bf8 Sb5 2.f5 Kg5 3.Be7 Kxf5 4.Kg7 Sc7 5.Kf7
 Se8 6.Kxe8 Ke6 7.Kd8/i d5 8.Ba3 f5 9.Kc7/ii d4
 10.Bc1 Ke5 11.Kc6 (Kb6) f4 12.Kc5 f3 13.Bb2 f2
 14.Bxd4+ draws.

i) Try: 7.Kf8? f5 8.Bh4 f4 9.Kg7 d5 10.Bf2 Ke5
 11.Kg6 d4 12.Kg5 d3 wins.

ii) Try: 8.Bb4? d4 9.Kc7 f5 10.Bd2 Ke5 11.Kc6
 f4 12.Kc5 f3, or 8.Bc5? Ke5 9.Ke7 f5 10.Bd6+ Ke4
 11.Kf6 f4 12.Kg5 f3 13.Bc5 d4 win.

“After a good quiet move introduction, the
 highlight of this study is 5...Se8!! and the nice
 symmetrical position after 6...Ke6. Unfortu-
 nately, the composer supplied a lot of analyt-
 ical lines which I decided to skip – hopefully
 not overlooking something of interest. In such
 cases we require an analytical and an artistic
 presentation of a study”

No 20673 V. Lebedev
 2nd commendation



g5b5 0046.30 5/4 Draw

No 20673 Vasily Lebedev (Russia). 1.c4+
 Kxc4 2.Be4 Kxd4 3.Bf3 Ke3/i 4.Kg4 Kf2 (Sc7;
 Kg3) 5.Be4 Sc7/ii 6.Kh3 Sf4+/iii 7.Kh2 Bxe4
 stalemate.

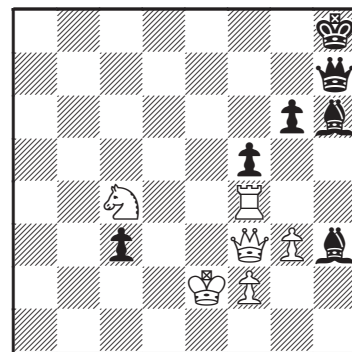
i) Sc7 4.Kg4 Se3+ (Ke3; Kg3) 5.Kg3 Sf1+ 6.Kf2
 Bxf3 7.Kxf3 draws.

ii) Ke3 6.Kg3 Kxe4 7.Kh2 draws.

iii) Kg1 7.Kg3, or Se6 7.Kh2 draw.

“After Black must play Sc7, White escapes
 into an original stalemate”

No 20674 A. Zhukov
 3rd commendation



e2h8 4161.23 6/7 Win

No 20674 Aleksandr Zhukov (Russia).
 1.Qxc3+/i Bg7 (Kg8; Rd4) 2.Se5 Bg4+/ii 3.Rxg4/

iii Qh5/iv 4.Sxg6+ Kh7/v 5.Qxg7+ Kxg7 6.Sf4+ Qxg4+ 7.f3 Qxf4 8.gxf4 Kf6 9.Kd3/vi Ke6 10.Kc4 Kd6 11.Kd4 wins.

i) 1.Qa8+? Qg8 2.Qxg8+ Kxg8 3.Kd3 Bxf4 draws.

ii) Qh5+ 3.f3 g5 4.g4 wins.

iii) 3.Ke3? Qg8 4.Rc4 Qd5 draws.

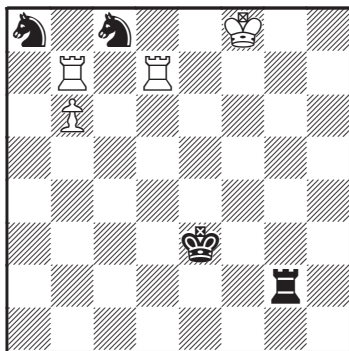
iv) fxg4 4.Sf7+ Kg8 5.Qc4 Kf8 6.Sg5 wins.

v) Kg8 5.Se7+ Kf7 6.Qxg7+ wins.

vi) 9.Ke3? Ke6 10.Kd4 Kd6

“This study has a very poor key move – why not start one move later? After a nice Q and R sac, the composer found a very nice position (after 7.f3) with the domination of the bQ. The only study which shows something similar is by Koranyi (HHdbV#56687)”.

No 20675 V. Samilo
special commendation



f8e3 0506.10 4/4 Win

No 20675 Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine).
1.Re7+/i Kf2 (Kd4; Rbd7+) 2.Rf7+ Kg1 (Ke3; Rbe7+) 3.Rf1+ Kxf1 4.Rf7+ Rf2 5.Rxf2+/ii Kxf2 6.b7 Sab6 7.Kg7/iii Sd6 8.b8Q Sdc4 9.Qf4+/iv Ke2 10.Qd4 wins.

i) Not 1.Rd3+? Ke4, but not Kxd3? 2.Rd7+ Ke3 3.b7 Sab6 4.Rh7 Rf2+ 5.Kg8 Rg2+ 6.Kh8, or Ke2? 2.Rd2+ Kxd2 3.Rd7+ Kc1 4.b7 Scb6 5.Rd8 Sc7 6.b8Q Se6+ 7.Ke7 Sxd8 8.Qxb6 win.

ii) 5.b7? Rxf7+ 6.Kxf7 Sd6+ 7.Ke6 Sxb7 draws.

iii) 7.b8Q? Sd7+, or 7.Kf7? Sd6+ draws.

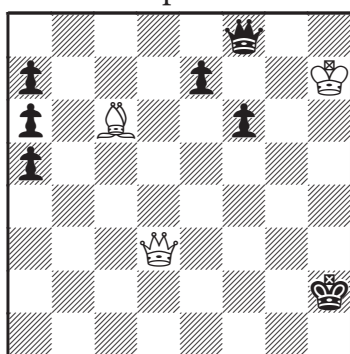
iv) 9.Qe8? Se3 10.Qf7+ Ke1 11.Kf6 Ke2 12.Qa2+ Kf3 13.Qf7 Ke2 positional draw.

“White must sacrifice a rook to be able to clear the square b7. The try (1.Rd3+) is a bit short. The position with the wP forking two knights is original, except for two unsound studies (HHdbV#43314 and #55329). 6.Kg7!! is great”.

Springaren 2009-2010

This study tourney was (finally!) judged by Ander Gillberg. The provisional award appeared in *Springaren* no. 134 xii2014. Some cooks were reported in issue no. 136 (vi2015), but it was not clearly stated whether the studies were eliminated from the award or not.

No 20676 R. Becker
1st prize



h7h2 4010.05 3/7 Win

No 20676 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qg6 Kh3 2.Bg2+ Kh4 (Kh2; Bf3) 3.Qe4+ Kg3/i 4.Qf3+ Kh2 5.Qh3+ Kg1 6.Bd5 Kf2 7.Qf3+ Ke1 8.Bc4/ii Kd2 9.Qd3+ Kc1 10.Qe3+ Kc2 11.Bd3+ Kc3 12.Bxa6+/iii Kb4/iv 13.Qd4+ Kb3 14.Bc4+ Kc2 15.Qd3+ Kc1 16.Qe3+ (Bb3? Qc8;) Kc2 17.Bd3+ Kc3/v 18.Bf5+ Kb4/vi 19.Qd4+ Kb3 20.Qd3+ Kb4 21.Be6 Kc5 22.Qd5+ Kb6 23.Bd7 (Qd4+? Kc7;) Kc7 24.Qc6+ Kb8 25.Be8 e5 (a6; Qd7) 26.Qb5+ Kc7 27.Qd7+ Kb8 (Kb6; Qc6 mate) 28.Qd8+ Kb7 29.Bc6+ and 30.Qxf8 wins.

i) Kg5 4.Qe3+ Kg4 5.Bh3+ Kh4 6.Be6 f5 7.Qf4+ Kh3 (Kh5; Bc4) 8.Bxf5+ Kg2 9.Be4+ wins.

ii) 8.Qe3+? Kf1 9.Bc4+ Kg2 10.Bd5+ Kf1 11.Qf3+ Ke1 12.Bc4 waste of time.

iii) 12.Bf5+? Kc4 13.Be6+ Kb5 14.Qd4 Kc6 15.Bd5+ Kc7 16.Qc5+ Kb8 draws.

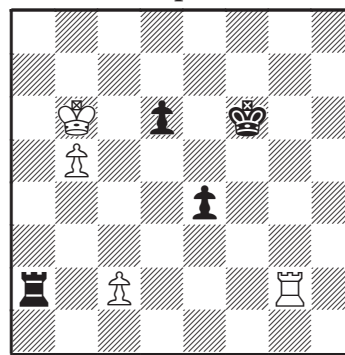
iv) Kb2 13.Bc4 Qd8 (Kc2; Bd3+) 14.Qb3+ Kc1 15.Qc3+ Kd1 (Kb1; Bb3) 16.Bd3 wins.

v) Kb2 18.Qd2+ Kb3 19.Qc2+ Kb4 20.Qc4+ Ka3 21.Qc3+ Ka2 (Ka4; Bc4) 22.Bc4+ Kb1 23.Bb3 wins.

vi) Kc4 19.Be6+ Kb5 20.Qd4 Kc6 21.Bd5+ Kc7 22.Qc5+ wins.

“Silent domino moves by the wB on moves 6, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25. A very pleasant piece of work”.

No 20677 I. Akobia †
2nd prize



b6f6 0400.22 4/4 Win

No 20677 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Kc7/i d5/ii 2.b6 Rb2/iii 3.b7 d4/iv 4.b8Q Rxb8 5.Kxb8 Ke5 6.Rg5+ Kf4 7.Rd5 Ke3 8.Rd6/v d3 9.c4 Kd2 10.c5 e3 11.c6 e2 12.c7 e1Q 13.c8Q Qb1+/vi 14.Kc7 Qc2+ 15.Rc6 wins.

i) 1.Kc6? Rb2 2.b6 d5 3.b7 e3 4.Re2 d4 5.c3 Rxb7 6.Kxb7 Ke5 7.cxd4+ Kxd4 draws.

ii) Ra4 2.Kxd6 Kf5 3.b6 e3 4.b7 Rb4 5.Rg7 Kf4 6.Re7 Kf3 7.Kc7 wins.

iii) Ra4 3.b7 Rc4+ 4.Kd6 Rb4 5.Rf2+ Kg5 6.Kxd5 e3 7.Rf3 e2 8.Re3 wins.

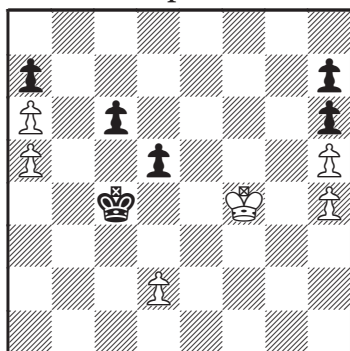
iv) Ke5 4.Rg6 Rxc2+ 5.Rc6 wins.

v) Thematic try: 8.Rd7? d3 9.c4 Kd2 10.c5 e3 11.c6 e2 12.c7 e1Q 13.c8Q Qe5+. Thematic try: 8.Kb7? d3 9.c4 Kd2 10.c5 e3 11.c6 e2 12.c7 e1Q 13.c8Q Qe7+.

vi) Now there are no checks on g3 or e5 as in the thematic tries. 13...Qe7 14.Qa6.

“The move 8.Rd6!! lifts this study to a high rank”.

No 20678 A. Pallier
3rd prize



f4c4 0000.55 6/6 Draw

No 20678 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Ke5 Kb5/i 2.Kd6 (Kd4? Kb4;) d4/ii 3.Kc7 Kxa6/iii 4.Kxc6 Kxa5/iv 5.Kc5 Ka4 6.Kxd4/v Kb4 7.Kd3/vi Kb3/vii 8.Ke4/viii a5 9.d4 a4/ix 10.d5 draws/x.

i) Kc5 2.d4+ Kc4 3.Kd6 Kxd4 4.Kxc6 Ke5 5.Kb7 Kd6 6.Kxa7 Kc7 7.Ka8 d4 8.a7 d3 9.a6 d2 stalemate

ii) Kxa6 3.Kxc6 d4 4.Kc5 Kxa5 5.Kxd4 see main line.

iii) Kc5 4.Kb7 Kd6 5.Kxa7 Kc7 6.Ka8 c5 7.a7 c4 8.a6, and now: c3 9.d3 c2 stalemate, or Kc8 9.d3 Kc7 10.dxc4 d3 11.c5 d2 12.c6 Kb6 13.c7 Kxc7 stalemate, or here:

iv) d3 5.Kc5 Kxa5 6.Kc4 Ka4 7.Kxd3 Kb3 8.Ke4 see main line.

v) 6.Kc4? a5 7.Kxd4 Kb4 8.Ke4 (Ke3) a4 wins.

vi) Try: 7.Ke4? (Ke3?) a5 8.d4 a4 9.d5 Kc5 10.Kd3 Kxd5 11.Kc3 Ke5 12.Kb4 Kf5 13.Kxa4 Kg4 wins. 7.Ke5? a5 8.d4 a4 9.d5 a3 10.d6 a2 11.d7 a1Q+ with check.

vii) a5 8.Kc2, or Kc5 8.Kc3.

viii) Try: 8.Ke3? a5 9.d4 Kc4 10.Ke4 a4 11.d5 Kc5 12.Ke5 a3 13.d6 a2 14.d7 a1Q+ wins.

ix) Kc4 10.d5 Kc5 11.Ke5 a4 12.d6 a3 13.d7 a2 14.d8Q draws.

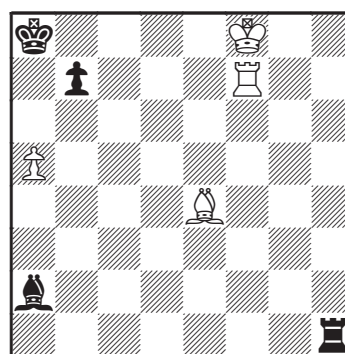
x) Thanks to 7.Kd3!! the bK was decoyed to b3 and now cannot play the winning move 10... Kc5 as in the tries 7.Ke4? and 9.Ke3?

“A light pawn study with 7.Kd3!! as the peak. Enjoyable to solve”.

The special prize, featuring the change theme, was cooked: E. Eilazyan (Ukraine): h2g5 0042.04 a2g6d1d2.a3c3d5e3 4/6 Draw. Intended: 1.Sf3+ Kf4 2.Sd4 Ke4 3.Sc2 d4 4.Bc4 a2 5.Bxa2 Kd3 6.Bb3 Bf7 7.Ba4, and: Bh5 8.Sdxe3 (8.Sf2+? exf2 9.Kg2 Bd1 10.Sxd4 Bxa4) dxe3 9.Kg3 Kd2 10.Kf4 Bd1 11.Sxe3 Bxa4 12.Sc4+ Kd3 13.Se5+ Kd4 14.Sf3+ Kd3 15.Se5+ Ke2 16.Sf3 Kd3 17.Se5+ Kd2 18.Sc4+ Kc1 19.Se3 Kd2 20.Sc4+ draws, or Be8 8.Bb3 Bh5 9.Sf2+ (9.Sdxe3? dxe3 10.Kg3 Bd1 11.Sxe3 Bxb3) exf2 10.Kg2 Bd1 11.Sxd4 Bxb3 12.Sxb3 Ke2 13.Sd4+ Ke3 14.Sb3 Ke2 15.Sd4+ Kd3 16.Sb3 draws.

But: HH cooks: 5.Kg2 e2 6.Sxc3+ dxc3 7.Kf2 draws. And in the first main line: 10...e2 11.Bb3 Bd7 12.Ba4 Bd5 13.Ke5 Bc6 14.Bb3 and now: 14... Be8! 15.Kf4 Bb5 wins. And in the second main line: 8...Bf7 9.Ba4 Bh5 10.Sf2+ exf2 11.Kg2 Bd1 12.Sxd4 Bxa4 wins.

No 20679 J. Pitkänen
honourable mention



f8a8 0440.11 4/4 Win

No 20679 Jorma Pitkänen (Finland). 1.Rx-b7/i Bd5 2.Bxd5 Rh8+ 3.Ke7 Rh7+ 4.Kd6 Rh6+ 5.Kc5 Rc6+ 6.Kb4/ii Kxb7 (Rc4+; Bxc4) 7.Kb5 wins.

i) 1.Bxh1? Bxf7 2.Kxf7 Ka7 draws.

ii) 6.Bxc6?, or 6.Kxc6? stalemate.

Also the commendation was cooked: N. Mironenko (Ukraine): a7h2 1140.03 a6g7g4. a2g3h3 4/5 BTM, Win. Intended: 1...a1Q 2.Rxg4 Qd1 3.Qg6 g2 4.Bc7+ Kh1 5.Kb8 Qe1 6.Rg3 h2 7.Rh3 Qb4+ 8.Kc8 Qf8+ 9.Kd7 wins.

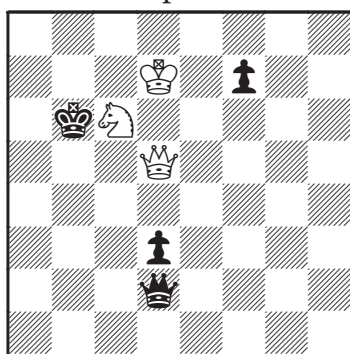
But HH cooks: 3.Qe6, 3.Rb4, 4.Kb8, 9.Qf3, 9.Qd5.

StrateGems 2013

StrateGems is the official magazine of the Good Companions (US Chess Problem Society) and Mike Prcic is its chief editor. HH, being an editor himself, has great respect for the fact that not one single issue has ever been delayed. Zlatko Mihajloski (Macedonia) was the judge for the annual tourney for 2013. In the endgame study originals section, led by Franjo Vrabec, 20 originals were published.

The provisional award was published in issue no. 70, iv-vi2015 with a three month confirmation time.

No 20681 R. Becker
1st prize



d7b6 4001.02 3/4 Win

No 20681 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qe5/i zz f6/ii 2.Qxf6 Kb5/iii 3.Qa1 Kc5/iv 4.Qa7+ Kb5 5.Qa3 Kc4/v 6.Qa4+ Kc5/vi 7.Qb3 zz Qe1/vii 8.Qb2 Qg1/viii 9.Qc3+ Kd5 10.Qxd3+ Kc5 11.Qc3+ Kd5 12.Qb3+ Kc5 13.Qb4+ Kd5 14.Qb5+ Ke4 15.Qc4+ Kf3/ix 16.Se5+ Kg2 17.Qe4+ Kf2 18.Qc2+ Kg3 19.Qg6+ Kf2 20.Sd3+ Kf1 21.Qf5+ Ke2 (Kg2) 22.Sf4+ Kf3 23.Sh3+ wins.

i) 1.Qb3+? Kc5 2.Se5 Qa5 3.Qc4+ Kb6 4.Qc6+ Ka7 5.Sc4 Qb4 6.Sd6 Kb8 7.Qc7+ Ka8 8.Qc8+ Ka7 9.Qc7+ Ka8 10.Qc6+ Kb8 11.Sb5 Qg4+ draws.

ii) f5 2.Sd4 Qb4 3.Qe6+ Kc5 4.Sb3+ Kb5 5.Qc6 mate.

iii) Qe3 3.Qb2+ Kc5 4.Qc3+ Kd5 5.Se7+ Ke4 6.Qc6+ Ke5 7.Qe6+ wins.

iv) Qf2 4.Qa5+ Kc4 5.Qb4+ Kd5 6.Se7+ Ke5 7.Sg6+ Kd5 8.Sf4+ Ke5 9.Sxd3+ wins.

v) Kb6 6.Sd4 Qg5 7.Qd6+ Ka5 8.Sc6+ Ka6 9.Qa3+ Kb6 10.Qa7+ wins.

vi) Kc3 7.Qa5+ Kc2 8.Sd4+ Kd1 9.Qh5+ wins.

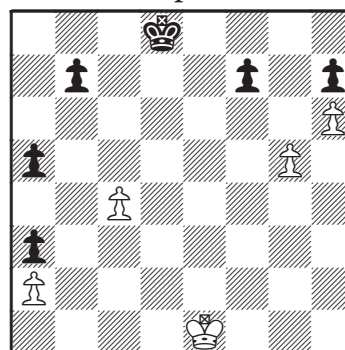
vii) Qf4 8.Qa3+ Kd5 9.Se7+ Ke4 10.Qa8+ Kd4 11.Qa4+ wins.

viii) Kc4 9.Kd6 d2 10.Qc2+ wins.

ix) Kf5 16.Sd4+ Kf6 17.Qe6+ Kg7 18.Sf5+ Kh7 19.Qf7+ Kh8 20.Qh5+ Kg8 21.Ke8 Qg2 22.Qf7+ Kh8 23.Qf6+ wins.

“This study has a beautiful solution: with the moves 1.Qe5! and 7.Qh3!, White keeps the bQ in zugzwang and this leaves the bK to defend against the white pieces. Even when the bK moves to the centre of the board (14. ... Ke4), it is not safe since now the wS steps into action deciding the outcome. This study is similar to the author’s 2nd HM *The Problemist* 2012-2013 (HHdbV#02257), which had a forced solution. This is not the case here”.

No 20682 F. Vrabec
2nd prize



e1d8 0000.45 5/6 Win

No 20682 Franjo Vrabec (Sweden). 1.Kf2/i b6/ii 2.Ke2/iii Kd7 (Ke7; Ke3) 3.Kd3/iv Ke7 4.Ke3 Ke8 5.Kd4/v Kd8 6.Ke4/vi Ke8 7.Kf5 Ke7 8.Ke5 a4 9.Kf5/vii Ke8 10.Ke4 Kd8 11.Kd4 Ke8

12.Kc3 Kd7/viii 13.Kd3/ix Ke7 14.Ke3 Ke8 15.Kd4 Kd8 16.Ke4 Ke8 17.Kf5 wins.

i) 1.Kd2? (Ke2? b6;) Ke7 2.Kd3 (Ke3 b6;) Ke6 3.Ke4 b6 4.Kf4 Kd7 draws. 1.c5? Ke7 2.Kf2 Ke6 3.Kf3 Kf5 and Black wins.

ii) Ke8 2.Ke2 Kd8 3.c5 Kd7 4.Kd3 Ke7 5.Kc4, or Kd7 2.Ke3 Kd6 3.Ke4 Ke6 4.c5 win. Ke7 2.Kf3, and now Ke6 3.Kf4 Ke7 4.Ke5, or here: Kd6 (b6; Ke3) 3.Ke4 Kd7 4.Ke5, or here: Kd7 3.Ke3 Kd6 4.Ke4 Kc5 5.Ke5 Kxc4 6.Kf6 win.

iii) 2.Kf3? Ke8, 2.Ke3? Ke7, 2.Kg3? Ke7 3.Kf4 Kd7 draw.

iv) 3.Ke3? Ke7, or 3.Kf3? Ke8 draw.

v) 5.Kf3? Ke7 6.Ke3 Ke8.

vi) 6.Ke5? Ke7, or 6.Kd5? Kd7 draw.

vii) 9.Ke4? Ke6 10.Kf4 Kd7 11.Ke3 Ke7 12.Kd3 Kd7 13.Ke4 (Kc3; Ke6) Ke6 14.Kf4 Kd7 15.Kf5 wastes time.

viii) Ke7 13.Kb4 Kd6 14.Kb5 Kc7 15.Kxa4 Kc6 16.Kxa3 wins.

ix) 13.Kb4? Kc6 14.Kxa4 Kc5 draws.

“Pawn studies are unique in the sense that losing a tempo is not an option. This study is a typical example where White, despite being a pawn down, wins. The key, 1.Kf2!, holds the distant opposition and robs Black of a tempo move (1...b6!). After 7.Kf5 Ke7, the bK’s position worsens and 8.Ke4 a4 eliminates another tempo move. After 13.Kd3! Ke7 (a desperation move), White wins with 17.Kf5! This study belongs in an Encyclopaedia of Pawn Endings”.

No 20683 Daniel Keith (France) & Jarl Ulrichsen (Norway). 1.Sg5+ Ke7/i 2.Sde4 (Rf7+? Ke8;) Ra4+ (c3; Rf7+) 3.Kd3/ii Rxe4 4.Sxe4 c2 5.Kd2 Bxe4 6.Rf4 Bd3 7.Rd4 Bh7/iii 8.Rh4 Bd3 9.Rh6/iv Kf7/v 10.Rh1 Be4 11.Rh4 Bd3 12.Rd4 Bg6/vi 13.Rg4/vii Bd3/viii 14.Rg1 Bf5 15.Kc3 Kf6 16.Kd4 wins.

i) Kd7 2.Sde4, and: c2 3.Sc5+ Kc7 4.Rf1, or here: Ra4+ 3.Kd3 c2 4.Rf7+ win.

ii) 3.Ke5? Ra5+ 4.Kf4 Rxc5 5.Kxc5 Bxe4.

iii) Bg6 8.Rg4 Bd3 (Kf7; e4) 9.Rg1.

iv) 9.Rh1? Be4, and 10.Rh6 Bd3 11.Rc6 Kd7 12.Rb6 Ke7 13.Rh6, or here: 10.Rh4/ix Bd3 11.Rh6 waste of time.

v) Be4 10.Ra6 Kf7 11.Ra4 (Rh6? Bg6;) Bg6 12.Rg4 see main line, move 13.

vi) Bh7 13.Rd7+ Kg6 14.Rxc7 Kxc7 15.Kxc2 Kg6 16.Kd3.

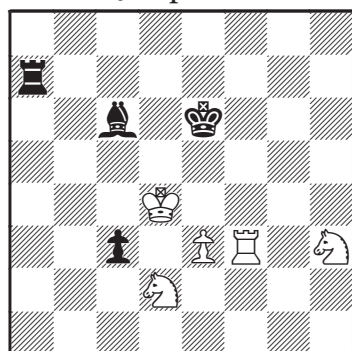
vii) 13.Rc4? (e4? Kf6;) Kf6 14.e4 14.Rc6+ (e4 Ke5;) Kg5 15.Rxc6+ Kxc6 16.Kxc2 Kf5 17.Kd3 Ke5.

viii) Kf6 14.e4 Ke5 15.Rxc6.

ix) 10.Rg1 Kf6 11.Kc3 Ke5, or 10.Rf1 Ke6

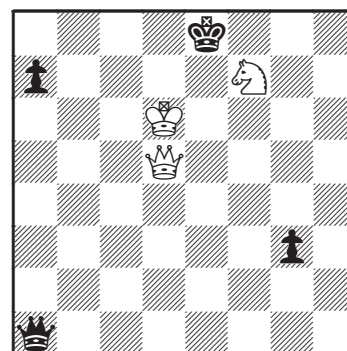
“After some introductory play. Black fights back with 4...c2 and later 6...Bd3. However, the wR, with the excellent manoeuvre 7.Rd4 Bh7 8.Rh4 & 9.Rh6 Kf7 10.Rh1 and with the repeated manoeuvre 11.Rh4, keeps attacking the bB and preventing promotion of the black pawn. After 14...Bf5, the wK springs into action, while the wR holds off the black promotion. An attractive rook-bishop duel”.

No 20683 D. Keith
& J. Ulrichsen
3rd prize



d4e6 0432.11 5/4 Win

No 20684 R. Becker
1st honourable mention



d6e8 4001.02 3/4 Win

No 20684 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Ke6 Qa6+/i 2.Sd6+ Kd8/ii 3.Qg5+ Kc7 4.Qc5+ Kd8/iii 5.Qc2 zz g2 6.Qxg2 Kc7 7.Qg7+ Kb8/iv 8.Qg8+ (Qh8+) Kc7 9.Qh7+ Kb6/v 10.Qc2 Qf1 11.Qb3+ Kc5 12.Qc3+ Kb6 13.Kd7 Qe2 14.Qb4+ Ka6 15.Qa3+ Kb6 16.Sc8+ Kb5 17.Sxa7+ Kb6 18.Sc8+ Kb5 19.Sd6+ Kb6 20.Qb4+ Ka6 21.Qc3 Kb6/vi 22.Kd8 Qh5/vii 23.Sc4+ Kc6 24.Se5++ Kb5 25.Qb3+ Kc5 26.Qc4+ Kb6 27.Qb4+ Ka6 28.Qa4+ wins.

i) Qe1+ 2.Kf6, and: Qf2+ 3.Kg7 Qb6 4.Sd6+, or here: Qe7+ 3.Kg7 a6 4.Qc6+ Qd7 5.Qa8+ Ke7 6.Qe4+ Qe6 7.Qb7+ Ke8 8.Qb8+ Kd7 9.Se5+ wins.

ii) Kf8 3.Qf3+ Kg7 4.Ke7 Kh6 5.Sf7+ Kh7 6.Qh5+ (Qh1+) Kg7 7.Qh8+ Kg6 8.Qh6+ wins.

iii) Qc6 5.Qxa7+, or Kb8 5.Qc2 win.

iv) Kb6 8.Qd4+ Kc6 (Ka5) 9.Qc3+ Kb6 10.Qc2.

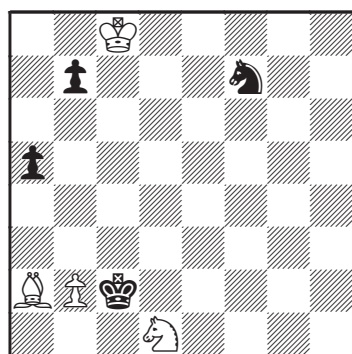
v) Kc6 (Kb8; Qc2) 10.Qc2+ Kb6 11.Kd7 Qf1 12.Qc7+ Ka6 13.Qb7+ Ka5 14.Qb3 Ka6 15.Qa4+ (Qa3+) Kb6 16.Qb4+ Ka6 17.Qb3 Qe2 18.Kc7 Qe7+ 19.Kc6

vi) Qg4+ 22.Kc7 Qa4 23.Qd3+ Ka5 24.Qd5+ Kb4 25.Qc4+ Ka3 26.Sb5+ wins.

vii) Ka6 (Qf1; Sc4+) 23.Kc7 Qe7+ 24.Kc6 wins.

“This is similar to Richard’s prize winner but with a weaker bK position; the similarity precluded a higher placing”.

No 20685 I. Akobia † & M. Garcia
2nd honourable mention



c8c2 0014.12 4/4 Win

No 20685 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Se3+/i Kd3 2.Sc4/ii b5

3.Sxa5 Se5 4.Bb1+/iii Kd2 5.b3 Kc3 6.Kb7/iv Kb4 7.Ka6 Sd7 8.Bc2 Sc5+ 9.Kb6 Sd7+ 10.Kc6 Se5+/v 11.Kd6 Sf7+/vi 12.Ke6 Sg5+ (Sh6; Sc6+) 13.Kf5/vii Sh3 14.Kg4 Sg1 15.Sc6+ Kc3 16.Bd1 Kd2 17.Bf3 Kc3 18.b4 wins.

i) 1.Bxf7? Kxd1 2.b3 Kc2 3.Kxb7 Kc3 4.Kb6 Kb4 5.Kc6 a4 draws.

ii) 2.Bxf7? Kxe3 3.Kxb7 Kd2 4.b3 (Kb6 a4;) Kc3 5.Kb6 Kb4 6.Kc6 a4 draws.

iii) 4.Be6? Sc4 5.Sxc4 bxc4 draws.

iv) 6.Kc7? Kb4 7.Kb6 Sd7+ draws.

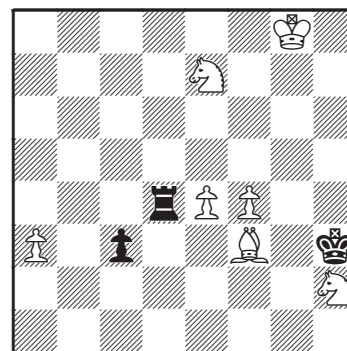
v) Sf6 11.Sb7 Sg4 12.Sc5 wins.

vi) Sg4 12.Sc6+ Kc3 13.Bf5 Se3 14.Be6 wins.

vii) 13.Kf6? Sh3 14.Sc6+ Kc3 15.Bf5 Sg1 16.Be6 Se2 17.Ke5 Sc1 18.Sa5 Kb4 19.Sc6+ Kc3 20.Sa5 Kb4 draws.

“After 1.Se3! and later 6...Kb4, the bK stays on the sidelines observing a duel between the wK and the bS which ends when the bS becomes stranded at g1. The activity of the wK is admirable”.

No 20686 V. Kalashnikov & J. Mikitovics
3rd honourable mention



g8h3 0312.31 7/3 Win

No 20686 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia) & János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Sf1/i c2/ii 2.Bg2+/iii Kxg2/iv 3.Se3+ Kf3 4.Sxc2, and:

— Rd8+ 5.Kg7 Kxf4 6.e5 Rd2/v 7.Sg6+ Ke4 8.Sb4 Rd7+/vi 9.Kf6 Ra7 10.e6 Rxa3 11.Se5 Ra8 12.Sf7 Kd4/vii 13.Sd8 Rxd8 14.Sc6+/viii wins, or:

— Rxe4 5.f5 Rxe7 6.f6 Re4 7.Sb4 Rg4+ 8.Kf8 Ke3 9.f7 Kd4 10.Sc6+ Kc3/ix 11.Ke8 Rf4/x 12.a4 Kc4 13.Se5+ Kb4 14.Sd3+/xi wins, or:

— Rd2 5.Sd5 Kxe4 6.Sce3 Rd3/xii 7.a4 Rd4/xiii 8.f5 Kd3 9.a5 Ra4 10.a6 Rxa6 11.Sb4+/xiv wins.

i) 1.Sc6? c2 2.Sxd4 c1Q 3.Se6 Kxh2 4.e5 Qxa3 5.Bh5 Qe7 6.Bf7 Kg3 7.f5 Qb7 draws.

ii) Rd3 2.Bd1 Rxd1 3.Se3 Rd8+ 4.Kg7 wins.

iii) 2.Bg4+? Kxg4 3.Se3+ Kxf4 draws.

iv) Kh4 3.Sf5+ fork 1.

v) Kxe5 7.Sc6+ fork 2.

vi) Kf5 9.Sc6 Ra2 10.Sd4+ Ke4 11.Sb5 Kd5 12.Sc3+ fork 3.

vii) Re8 13.Sd6+ fork 4.

viii) fork 5.

ix) Kc4 11.Se5+ fork 6.

x) Re4+ 12.Se7 Rf4 13.Sd5+ fork 7.

xi) fork 8.

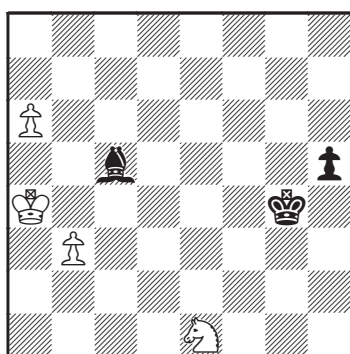
xii) Rb2 7.f5 Ra2 8.Sc3+ fork 9.

xiii) Ra3 8.f5, and: Ke5 9.Sc4+ fork 10, or here: Rxa4 9.Sc3+ fork 11. Kf3 8.f5 Ra3 9.Sb6 Kxe3 10.Sc4+ fork 12.

xiv) fork 13.

“After 1...c2! Black sacrifices his bishop with 2...Bg2+! in order to capture the white pawn. Black has three possible continuations, all ending in defeat after careful play by White”.

No 20687 M. Minski
commendation



a4g4 0031.21 4/3 Win

No 20687 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.b4 Bb6/i 2.Kb5/ii Ba7 3.Sg2/iii Kg3 4.Sh4/iv Kxh4 5.Ka5/v Kg3 6.b5 h4 7.b6 Bxb6+ 8.Kxb6 h3 9.a7 h2 10.a8Q Kf2 11.Qh1 wins.

i) Ba7 2.Sg2 Kg3 3.Sh4 Kxh4 4.Ka5 Kg3 5.b5 wins.

ii) 2.Sg2? Kg3 3.Kb5 Bf2 4.Sh4 Kxh4 5.Ka5 Kg4 6.b5 Be1+ 7.Kb6 h4 8.a7 Bf2+ 9.Ka6 Bxa7 draws.

iii) 3.Ka5? h4 4.b5 h3 5.Sf3 Kxf3 6.b6 Bxb6+ 7.Kxb6 h2 8.a7 Kf2 9.a8Q Kg1 draws.

iv) Thematic try: 4.Ka5? Kxg2 5.b5 Kg1 (h4) 6.b6 Bxb6+ 7.Kxb6 h4 8.a7 h3 9.a8Q h2 draws.

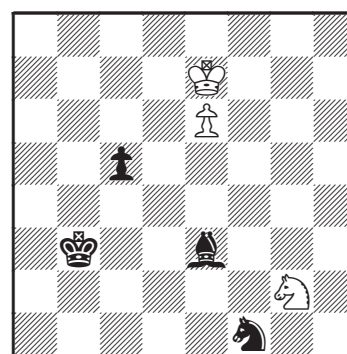
v) 5.Kc6? Kg3 6.b5 h4 7.b6 h3 8.bxa7 h2 9.Kc7 h1Q draws.

MG cooked a commendation: P. Arestov c3a2 o4o5.o2 f5a7a8e2h2.c4d5 4/5 Win:

1.Sb6 Ra3+ 2.Kc2 d4 3.Sxd4 Sg4 4.Sd5 Se3+ 5.Sxe3 Rxe3 6.Rh5 zz Ka3/ 7.Ra5+ Kb4 8.Sc6 mate.

But: 2.Kb4 Rb3+ 3.Kc5, and Rh3 4.Sxd5 Kb2 (Sf3; Kxc4) 5.Kxc4 Sf3 6.Se3 Sd2+ 7.Kd3 Sb3 8.Rb5, or Rf3 4.Rxd5 c3 5.Kc4 c2 6.Sa4 c1Q+ 7.Sxc1+ Ka3 8.Kb5. The composer confirms.

No 20688 P. Arestov
commendation



e7b3 0034.11 3/4 Win

No 20688 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Kf6 Bg5+/i 2.Kxg5 Sd2 3.Kf6/ii Sc4 (Se4+; Ke5) 4.Ke7 (e7? Sd6;) Kb4/iii 5.Kd7 Sb6+/iv 6.Kd8/v Sd5 7.Se3 Sf6 (Sxe3; e7) 8.e7/vi c4 9.Sd5+/vii Sxd5 10.e8Q wins.

i) Sd2 2.Sxe3 Se4+ 3.Ke5 wins.

ii) 3.e7? Se4+ 4.Kf5 Sd6+ 5.Ke6 Se8 draws.

iii) Se5 5.Kd6 Sg6 6.Sf4 wins.

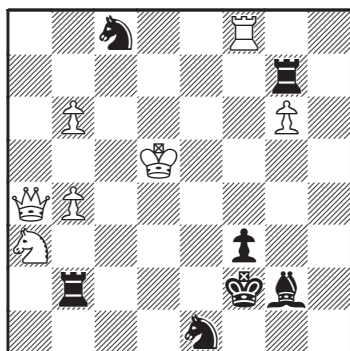
iv) Se5+ 6.Kd6 Sg6 7.Sf4 wins.

v) 6.Kd6? c4 7.e7 Sc8+, or 6.Kc6? Sc8 7.Kd7 Sb6+ loss of time.

vi) 8.Ke7? Se4 9.Kd8 Sf6 repeats.

vii) 9.Sg4? c3 10.Sxf6 c2 11.e8Q c1Q draws.

No 20689 P. Krug
commendation



d5f2 1737.31 7/7 Draw

No 20689 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Sc4 (Rxc8? Kg1;) Sxb6+/i 2.Sxb6 Kg1 3.Qd1/ii f2+ 4.Ke5 Rxc6/iii 5.Rxf2 Kxf2 6.Kf5/iv Be4+ 7.Kxe4 Rxb4+ 8.Kd5 Rgxb6 9.Qc2+ Kf1 10.Qd3+ Kg1 11.Qe3+ Kf1 12.Qd3+ Sxd3 stalemate

i) Kg1 2.Kc5 Sxb6 3.Kxb6 Rxc6+ 4.Ka5 Re2 5.b5 f2 6.Qa1 Rg5 7.Rxf2 wins.

ii) 3.Qa1? f2+ 4.Ke5 Re2+ 5.Kf6 Rg8, or 3.Ke5? Rxc6 4.Sc4 Re2+ 5.Kf5 Rge6 draw.

iii) Re2+ 5.Kf6 Ree7 (Rg8; Qxe2) 6.Rf7 Rxc6+ 7.gxf7 Re3 8.Qd6 f1Q+ 9.Kg7 Qf5 10.f8Q Qg5+ 11.Qg6.

iv) 6.Qd4+? Kf1 7.Kf5 Rg5+ 8.Kf6 Re2.

MG cooks another commendation: P. Krug f8f3 3514.12 d8e2g2a1g7e8a2.f6a3g3 6/6 Win:

1.f7 Rf1 2.Kg8 Qd5 3.Sf6 Qxf7+ 4.Kxf7 Sc3 5.Rc2 a2 6.Rgd2 a1Q 7.Rd3+ Kf4 8.Rcxc3 Qxc3 9.Bh6+ Ke5 10.Rd5 mate.

But: 1.Rd2 Qb8 2.f7 Re1 3.Rxa2 Kg4 and now: 4.Rgd2 Kh3 5.Rd6 Qb3 6.Rad2 a2 7.Rh6+ Kg4 8.Ra6 Rf1 9.Sf6+ wins. The composer confirms.

Muradov 65 JT 2015

Muradhkan Muradov (Azerbaijan) judged his own JT to which 41 studies by 30 composers from 14 countries were submitted.

No 20690 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Sb5/i Bxb5/ii 2.Kb8 (Rxb5+? Ke6;) Rd7/iii 3.Rxb5+ Ke4 4.Rb4+/iv Ke5/v 5.Bc3+ Ke6/vi 6.Rb6+/vii Ke7 (Kd5; Kc8) 7.Bb4+ Ke8 8.Rf6 Rd8+ 9.Kc7 (Kxb7? Fxg6;) Rd7+ 10.Kb6 fxg6 (fxg6; g7) 11.Rf8 mate.

- i) 1.Kb8? Rd7 2.Sb5 Rxd2.
- ii) Rd7 2.Bc3+, and Kf5 3.gxf7 Rxf7 4.Sd6+ Ke6 5.Sxf7, or Kd5 3.Rd1+ Kc6 4.Sd4+ Kc7 5.gxf7 Rxf7 6.Se6+ Kc6 7.Sd8+ Kc7 8.Sxf7.
- iii) Re7 3.Re1+ Kf6 4.Bc3+ Kxg6 5.Rxe7.
- iv) 4.Kc8? Rxd2 5.gxf7 Rf2 6.Rxb7 g5.
- v) Kd3 5.Kc8 Re7 6.Kd8 Re2 7.gxf7.
- vi) Kd6 6.Kc8 Rc7+ 7.Kd8 Rd7+ 8.Ke8 Re7+ 9.Kf8 fxg6 10.Rd4+.
- vii) 6.Kc8? Rd3 7.Re4+ Kd5 8.gxf7 Rxc3+ 9.Kd8 Rf3 draws.

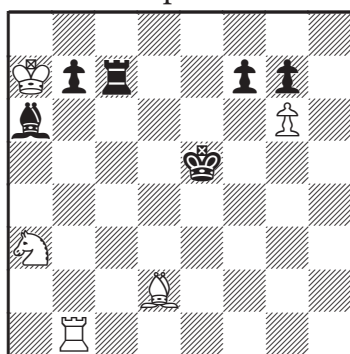
No 20691 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Sb3+, and:

- Kxa4 2.Qf4+/i Ka3 3.Kxd2 Sxd5/ii 4.Qxf3 Sc3+/iii 5.Sd4 Rxd4+ 6.Kxc3 Rd3+ (e1Q+; Kxd4) 7.Kxd3, and now:
 - e1Q+ 8.Kd4+ Kb2/iv 9.Qb3+/v Kc1 10.Qa3+ Kd1/vi 11.Qa1+/vii Ke2 12.Qa6+

Kd2 13.Qa5+/viii Kd1 14.Qa1+ Ke2 15.Qa6+ positional draw, or here:

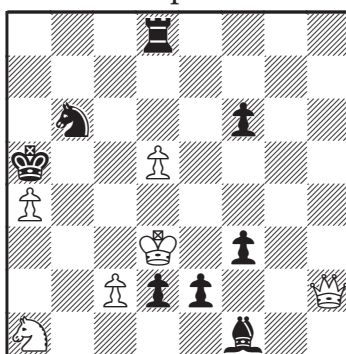
- e1S++ 8.Kc3 Sxf3 stalemate, or:
- Kb4 2.Qf4+ Ka3 3.Kxd2 Sxd5/ix 4.Qxf3 Se3+ (Sc3+; Sd4) 5.Sd4 Rxd4+ 6.Kxe3 Rd3+ (e1Q+; Kxd4) 7.Kxd3 e1S++/x 8.Ke3 (Ke4)/xi Sxf3 9.Kxf3 Kxa4 10.Kg4 (Kf4? Bh3;) Bc4 11.Kf5 draws.
- i) 2.Qh4+? Ka3 3.Kxd2 Rxd5+ 4.Sd4 Sc4+ 5.Ke1 Se3 wins.
- ii) Rxd5+ 4.Sd4 Sc4+ 5.Ke1 Se3 6.Qxe3+ wins.
- iii) Sf4+ 5.Sd4+, or Se3+ 5.Sd4 Rxd4+ 6.Kxe3 see main line.
- iv) Kb4 9.Qb3+ Ka5 10.Qa3+ Kb5 11.Qc5+ Ka4 12.Qc6+ Bb5 13.Qxf6 Qa1+ 14.c3 draws.
- v) 9.Qb7+? Kc1, or 9.Qxf6? Qc3+ wins.
- vi) Kxc2 11.Qa2+ Kd1 12.Qb3+ Ke2 13.Qe3+ Kd1 14.Qb3+.
- vii) 11.Qf3+? Kxc2 12.Qxf6 Qc3+ wins.
- viii) 13.Qxf6? Qa1+ 14.c3 Qxc3+ wins.
- ix) Rxd5+ 4.Sd4 Sc4+ 5.Ke1 draws.
- x) e1Q+ 8.Kd4+ Kb2 9.Qb3+ Kc1 10.Qa3+ Kd1 11.Qa1+ Ke2 12.Qxe1+ draws.
- xi) 8.Kc3? Sxf3 wins.

No 20690 A. Jasik
1st prize



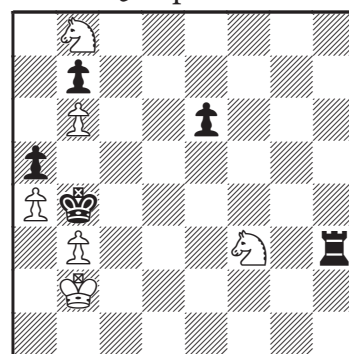
a7e5 0441.13 5/6 Win

No 20691 P. Arestov
2nd prize



d3a5 1334.34 6/8 Draw

No 20692 I. Aliev
3rd prize



b2b4 0302.33 6/5 Win

No 20692 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan).
 1.Sa6+/i bxa6 2.b7 Rh8 3.b8Q+/ii Rxb8 4.Se5
 Kc5/iii 5.Sd7+ Kc6 6.Sxb8+ Kc7 7.Sxa6+ Kb6
 8.Sb8/iv Kc7 9.Kc3/v Kxb8 10.Kc4/vi e5/vii
 11.Kd5/viii Kc7 12.Kxe5 Kc6 13.Ke6/ix Kc5
 14.Kd7 Kb4 15.Kc6 Kxb3 16.Kb5 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Sc6+? bxc6 2.b7 Rh8
 3.b8Q+ Rxb8 4.Se5 Kc5 5.Sd7+ Kd6 6.Sxb8 Kc7
 7.Sa6+ Kb6 8.Sb8 Kc7 positional draw, 9.Sxc6
 Kxc6.

ii) 3.Se5? Rh2+ 4.Kb1 Rh1+ 5.Kb2 Rh2+.

iii) Rd8 (Rc8; Sd3 mate) 5.Sc6+ Kc5 6.Sxd8
 wins.

iv) 8.b4? Kxa6 9.b5+ Kb6 draws.

v) 9.b4? Kxb8 10.b5 e5 draws.

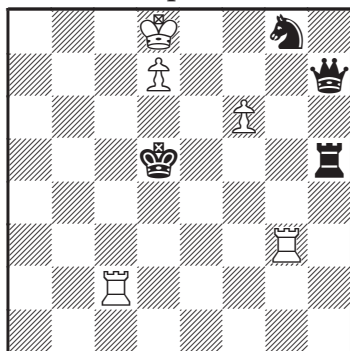
vi) 10.Kd4? Kc7 11.Kc5 e5 draws.

vii) Kc7 11.Kb5 e5 12.Kxa5 e4 13.Kb4.

viii) 11.Kb5? e4 12.Kc4 Kc7 13.Kd4 Kc6
 14.Kxe4 Kc5 draws.

ix) 13.Kd4? Kd6 14.Kc4 Kc6 15.Kd4 Kd6
 draws.

No 20693 L. Gonzalez
 4th prize



d8d5 3503.20 5/4 Draw

No 20693 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain).
 1.Rd2+/i Ke6 2.Re3+/ii Kxf6 3.Kc7/iii Ra5/
 iv 4.Rf2+/v Kg6 5.Rg3+ Rg5 6.Rxg5+/vi Kxg5
 7.Rg2+ Kf6/vii 8.Re2/viii Qg7/ix 9.Re3 Sh6
 10.Kc8 Qg4/x 11.Re4 Qh3 12.Re3 Qf5 13.Rf3
 Qxf3 14.d8Q+ draws.

i) 1.Rf2? Sh6 2.Kc7 Sf7 3.Rg7 Qe4 4.Rxf7
 Qc4+ 5.Kb7 Rh8 wins.

ii) 2.Kc7? Rc5+ 3.Kb6 Qb1+ 4.Kxc5 Qc1+
 5.Kb5 Qxd2 wins.

iii) 3.Rd6+? Kg7 4.Rg3+ Kh8 5.Kc7 Rh1 wins.

iv) Rc5+ 4.Kd6 draws. Rh2 4.Ree2 Rxe2
 5.Rxe2 see main line.

v) 4.Rd6+? Kg5 5.Kb6 Ra8 6.d8Q+ Rxd8
 7.Rxd8 Qb1+, or 4.Kb6? Ra8 5.d8Q+ Rxd8
 6.Rxd8 Se7 wins.

vi) 6.Rfg2? Rxg3 7.Rxg3+ Kf6 8.Rf3+ Ke5
 wins.

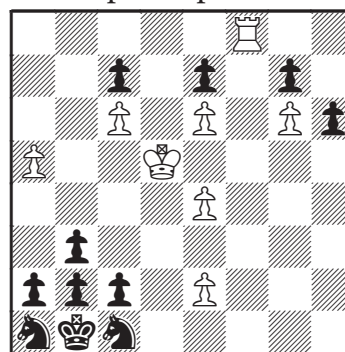
vii) Kf5 8.Rxg8 Qh2+ 9.Kc8 draws.

viii) 8.Rxg8? Qc2+ 9.Kd8 Qb3 10.Rf8+ Ke6
 11.Ke8 Qb5 12.Rf7 Kd6 13.Rf6+ Kc7 14.Rf7 Qe5+
 15.Re7 Qh8+ 16.Kf7 Kd6 wins.

ix) Sh6 9.Kc8 Qf5 10.Rf2 draws.

x) Sf7 11.Rf3+ Ke6 12.Rxf7 Qc3+ 13.Kb7
 draws.

No 20694 M. Zinar
 special prize



d5b1 0106.68 8/11 Win

No 20694 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Rf1
 h5 2.a6 h4 3.a7 h3 4.a8S h2 5.Sb6 cxb6 6.c7 b5
 7.c8S b4 8.Sd6 exd6 9.e5/i dxe5 10.e7 e4 11.e8S
 e3 12.Sf6 gxf6 13.g7 f5 14.g8S f4 15.Sf6 f3 16.Se4
 (Sg4? fxe2;) f2/ii 17.Sg3 h1Q+ 18.Rxh1 f1Q 19.Sxf1
 Sxe2/iii 20.Sd2 mate.

i) 9.Kd4? d5 10.e7 dxe4 11.e8S e3 12.Sf6 gxf6
 13.g7 f5/iv 14.g8S/v f4 15.Sf6 f3 16.Se4 h1Q/vi
 17.Rxh1 f2 18.Sg3 f1Q 19.Sxf1 Sxe2+ with check.

ii) fxe2 17.Rh1 e1Q 18.Rxe1 h1Q 19.Rxh1 e2
 20.Sd2 mate.

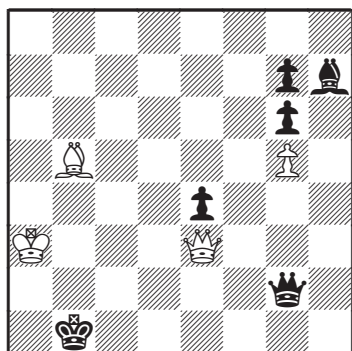
iii) no check.

iv) h1Q? 14.Rxh1 f5 15.Kxe3 f4+ 16.Kf2 f3
 17.g8Q fxe2 18.Qg6 e1Q+ 19.Kxe1 wins.

v) 14.Kxe3 f4+ 15.Kf2 f3 16.g8Q fxe2 17.Re1
 h1Q 18.Rxh1 e1Q+ 19.Kxe1 Sd3+ 20.Ke2+ c1Q
 21.Qh7 Sc2 wins.

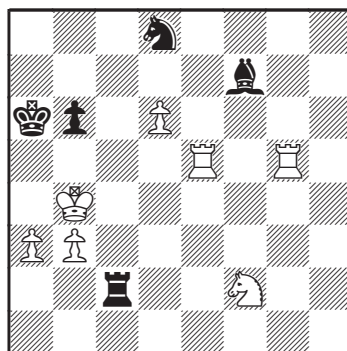
vi) f2? 17.Kxe3 h1Q 18.Sd2 mate.

No 20695 R. Becker
1st honourable mention



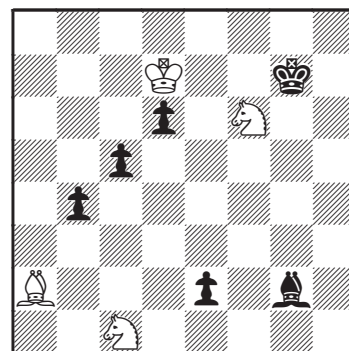
a3b1 4040.13 4/6 Win

No 20696 L. Kekely
& M. Hlinka
2nd honourable mention



b4a6 0534.31 7/5 Win

No 20697 V. Tarasiuk
3rd honourable mention



d7g7 0042.04 4/6 Win

No 20695 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Be2/i Kc2 2.Bc4 Kb1 3.Bb3/ii Qb2+ 4.Kb4 (Ka4? Qc1;) Qg2 5.Qe1+/iii Kb2 6.Qc3+ Kb1 7.Qe3 Bg8/iv 8.Bxg8/v Qf3 9.Qxf3/vi exf3 10.Kc3 f2 (Kc1; Kd3) 11.Bc4 Kc1 12.Be2 wins.

i) 1.Qb3+? Kc1, or 1.Qe1+? Kc2 2.Ba4+ Kd3 draws.

ii) 3.Bd5? Qb2+ 4.Ka4 Qc2+ 5.Kb4 Ka1 6.Qa3+ Kb1 7.Qe3 Ka1 8.Bxe4 Qb2+ draws, or 3.Kb4? Qc2 4.Bd5 Ka1.

iii) Thematic try: 5.Ka4? Bg8/vii 6.Bxg8 Qf3 7.Qxf3 exf3 8.Kb3 f2 9.Bc4 Kc1 10.Kc3 Kd1 11.Kd4 Kd2 12.Ke4 Ke1 13.Ke5 Kd2 14.Ke6 Ke3 15.Kf7 Kf4 16.Kxg6 Kg4 17.Bf1 Kf4 18.Be2 Ke3 19.Bc4 Kf4 draws.

iv) Kb2 8.Qd4+ Kb1 9.Ka3, or Qh2 8.Qxe4+ Kc1 9.Qc4+ Kb1 10.Qd3+ Kc1 11.Qd1+ Kb2 12.Qd4+ Kb1 13.Ka3 wins.

v) 8.Qe1+? Kb2 9.Qc3+ Kb1 10.Bxg8 Qxg5 draws.

vi) 9.Qe1+? Kc2 10.Bd5 Kd3 11.Qc3+ Ke2 12.Qxg7 Qf5 13.Bc4+ Kf3 14.Qf6 Qf4 15.Qxg6 e3 16.Kc5 Qf8+ 17.Kb5 Qb8+ 18.Ka4 Qa8+ 19.Kb3 Qb8+ 20.Kc3 Qe5+ 21.Kb3 Qb8+ 22.Kc2 Qh2+, or 9.Qb3+? Kc1 10.Qc3+ Kd1 draws.

vii) Not Qf1? 6.Qxe4+ Ka1 7.Qd4+ Kb1 8.Bc4 Qc1 9.Bd3+ Ka2 10.Qd5+ Ka1 11.Qe5+ Ka2 12.Qe2+ Ka1 13.Bc4 Qb2 14.Qe3 wins.

No 20696 Ľubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.Sd3/i Sc6+ 2.Ka4 Rc3/ii 3.Sb4+/iii Sxb4 4.axb4/iv b5+/v 5.Rxb5/vi Be8 6.d7/vii Bxd7 7.Rg6+ Bc6/viii 8.Rxc6+ (Rh6? Ka7;) Rxc6 9.Rc5 Rh6 10.Rc6+ (b5+? Kb7;) Rxc6

11.b5+ Kb6 12.bxc6 Kxc6 13.Ka5 (Kb4? Kb6;) Kb7 14.Kb5 wins.

i) 1.Se4? Sc6+ 2.Ka4 Sd4 3.Rd5 b5+ 4.Rxb5 Sxb5 5.d7 Bxb3+ 6.Kxb3 Sd4+ 7.Kb4 Sc6+ 8.Ka4 Rc4+ 9.Kb3 Rxe4 10.Rg6 Rd4 11.Rxc6+ Kb5 draws.

ii) Sxe5 3.Rxe5, or Rd2 3.Re3 win.

iii) 3.Sc5+? bxc5 4.Rd5 Bxd5 5.Rxd5 Kb6 6.b4 c4 7.Rc5 Rc1 draws.

iv) 4.Kxb4? Rxb3+ 5.Ka4 b5+ 6.Rxb5 Rxb5 7.Rxb5 Be8, or 4.Ref5? Be6 5.Rf6 Sd3 6.Rxe6 Rc5 7.d7 Sb2+ 8.Kb4 Sd3+ 9.Ka4 Sb2+ perpetual check.

v) Bxb3+ 5.Ka3 Bc4+ 6.Kb2 Rd3 7.Re1 Rxd6 8.b5+ Ka5 9.Kc3 Bd5 10.Rd1 wins.

vi) 5.Ka3? Rxb3+ 6.Ka2 Rxb4+ 7.Ka1 Ra4+ 8.Kb2 Rb4+ 9.Kc3 Rc4+ 10.Kd3 Rc6 11.Rd5 Bxd5 12.Rxd5 Rc8 draws.

vii) 6.Rd5? Bxb5+ 7.Rxb5 Rd3 8.Rc5 Kb6 9.Rc4 Rxd6 draws.

viii) Ka7 8.Rg8 Rd3 9.Ka3, or Rc6 8.Ra5+ Kb7 9.Rxc6 Bxc6+ 10.b5 wins.

No 20697 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Se8+ (Sh5+? Kh6;) Kf8 2.Sxe2 Bf1 3.Sf4/i Bb5+ 4.Kd8 Bxe8/ii 5.Se6+ Kf7 6.Sc7+ b3 (Kf8; Sxe8) 7.Bxb3+ c4 8.Bxc4+ d5 9.Bxd5+ Kf8 10.Se6+/iii Kf7 11.Ba2/iv Ba4 12.Sc5+ wins.

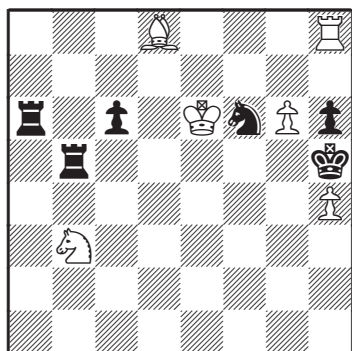
i) 3.Bc4? d5 4.Bxd5 Bxe2 draws.

ii) c4 5.Sc7 b3 6.Bb1 c3 7.Sxb5 c2 8.Bxc2 bxc2 9.Sd3 wins.

iii) 10.Sxe8? stalemate.

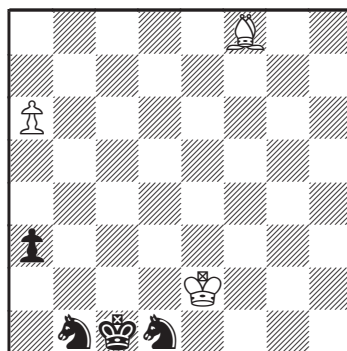
iv) 11.Bb3? Ba4, or 11.Bc4? Bb5.

No 20698 M. Minski
4th honourable mention



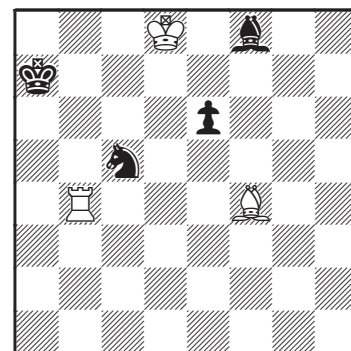
e6h5 0714.22 6/6 Win

No 20699 A. Skripnik
& P. Arestov
5th honourable mention



e2c1 0016.11 3/4 Win

No 20700 Y. Bazlov
6th honourable mention



d8a7 0143.01 3/4 Win

No 20698 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sc5 (g7 c5+;) Rxc5 2.g7 (Bxf6? Kxg6;) Sg8 (Kg6; Bxf6) 3.Rxg8 Kg6/i 4.Re8 Kxg7 5.h5/ii Rxh5 6.Bf6+ Kh7 7.Rh8+ Kg6 8.Rg8+ Kh7 9.Rg7+ Kh8 10.Ra7+ Kg8 11.Rxa6 Kh7/iii 12.Ra7+ Kg6 13.Rg7 mate.

i) Ra7 4.Bb6 Rxg7 5.Rxg7 Rd5 6.Bf2 wins.

ii) Threatens 6.Bf6+ Kh7 7.Rh8 mate. Logical try: 5.Bf6+? Kg6 (Kh7?; h5) 6.Rg8+ Kh5 (Kh7?; Rg7+) wins.

iii) Rb5 e.g. 12.Be5 Kh7 13.Kf5 Rb1 14.Ra7+ Kg8 15.Rg7+ Kf8 16.Ke6 Rf1 17.Rh7 Ke8 18.Rxh6 Rf2 19.Rh7 c5 20.Re7+ Kf8 21.Rc7 Kg8 22.Rd7 c4 23.Bd4 Rf1 24.Rg7+ Kf8 25.Rg4 Ke8 26.Bf6 Re1+ 27.Be5 Rf1 28.Bg3 c3 29.Rc4 Rd1 30.Bh4 Kf8 31.Rg4 c2 32.Be7+ Ke8 33.Rg8 mate.

No 20699 Anatoly Skripnik & Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.a7/i Sbc3+ 2.Kd3/ii a2 3.a8Q Kb1 4.Qg2/iii Sb2+/iv 5.Kxc3 a1Q 6.Qc2+ Ka2 7.Qb3+ Kb1 8.Ba3 Qa2 9.Qc2+ Ka1 10.Bxb2+ Qxb2+ 11.Qxb2 mate.

i) 1.Bxa3+? Kc2/v 2.a7 Sdc3+ 3.Kf3 Sxa3 draws.

ii) Try: 2.Ke1? a2 3.a8Q Sb2/vi 4.Qa6 Sba4 draws.

iii) Thematic try: 4.Qb7+? Sb2+ 5.Kxc3 a1Q 6.Qb6 Kc1 7.Bh6+ Kb1 8.Qb4 Qa2/vii 9.Qe4+ Ka1 10.Qh1+ Qb1 11.Qa8+ Qa2 positional draw.

iv) a1Q 5.Qc2 mate.

v) But not: Sxa3? 2.a7 Kc2 3.a8Q Sc3+ 4.Ke3 Sc4+ 5.Kd4 wins.

vi) But not: Kb1? 4.Qb7+ Sb2 5.Qh7+ Kc1 6.Bh6 mate.

vii) But not: Ka2? 9.Qb3+ Kb1 10.Qc2+ Ka2 11.Bc1 zz, Qb1 12.Qb3+ Ka1 13.Bxb2+ Qxb2+ 14.Qxb2 mate.

No 20700 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Ke8 e5 2.Bxe5 Sd3 3.Bb8+ Ka6 (Ka8; Rb5) 4.Rd4 Sc5 5.Be5/i Kb6/ii 6.Rd5/iii Kc6 (Se6; Kf7) 7.Rd1 Se6 8.Kf7 Sc5 9.Bh2/iv Sd7 10.Ke8 Bc5 11.Rxd7 wins.

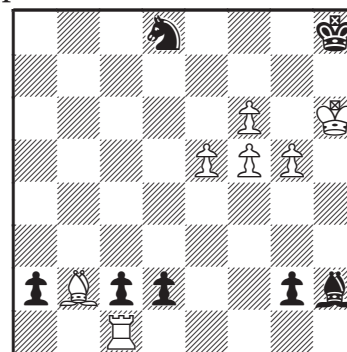
i) 5.Rd5? Kb5 6.Kxf8 Kc6 7.Rd6+ Kb7 8.Rd5 Kc6 positional draw.

ii) Bh6 6.Rd6+, or Kb5 6.Rh4 Kc6 7.Rh5 Sd7 8.Bc3 Bc5 9.Rh6+ Bd6 10.Bb2 wins.

iii) 6.Rd1? Kc6 zz, or 6.Kf7? Kb5.

iv) 9.Bf4? Sd7 10.Ke8 Sc5 11.Be5 Se6 12.Kf7 waste of time.

No 20701 M. Campioli
special honourable mention



h6h8 0143.44 7/7 Draw

No 20701 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.e6/i Sf7+/ii 2.exf7 Bd6 3.Rxc2 Bf8+ 4.Kg6 d1Q (g1Q;

Rc8) 5.Rc8 (Rxc2? Qh1;) Qd6 6.Be5/iii Qb4 (Qxe5; Rxf8+ mate) 7.Bc3/iv Qd6 (Qa3; Rc4) 8.Be5 Qa3 9.Bb2 a1Q/v 10.Bxa3 (Bxa1? g1Q;) Qxa3 11.Rc4 Qb4 12.Rh4+ (Rxb4? Bxb4;) Qxh4 stalemate.

i) 1.Rxc2? Bxe5, and 2.Rxd2 Sf7+ 3.Kg6 g1Q 4.Kxf7 Bxb2 5.g6 (Rxb2 a1Q) Qa7+, or here: 2.Bxe5 Sf7+ 3.Kg6 Sxe5+ wins.

ii) Kg8 2.Kg6 dxc1Q 3.f7+ Sxf7 4.exf7+ Kf8 5.Bg7+ Ke7 6.f8Q+ Kd7 7.Qf7+ perpetual check. If dxc1Q 2.f7+ Qxb2 3.f8Q mate.

iii) 6.Ba3? Qxf6+, and 7.Kxf6 a1Q+, or 7.gxf6 g1Q+.

iv) 7.Bd6? Qxd6 8.Rc4 Qxf6+, and: 9.Kxf6 a1Q+, or 9.gxf6 g1Q+.

v) g1Q 10.Bxa3 Qxg5+ 11.Kxg5 a1Q 12.Rxf8+ Kh7 13.Rh8+ Kxh8 14.f8Q+ wins.

No 20702 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Se4+ Kc1 2.Sc5 Rb1+ 3.Ka2 d2 4.Rh1+/I, and:

— d1Q 5.Rxd1+ Bxd1 6.Sd3+ Kc2 7.Se1+ Kc1 8.Sd3+ perpetual check, or:

— Bd1 5.Sd3+ Kc2 6.Se1+ Kc1 7.Sd3+ perpetual check.

i) 4.Sxa4? Ra1+ 5.Kxa1 d1Q 6.Rc5+ Kd2+ 7.Kb2 Qxa4.

MG cooks one of the main lines: after 4... Bd1 also 5.Ka3 Kc2 6.Se4 Rb3+ 7.Ka4 Bf3 8.Rh2 Bxe4 9.Rxd2+.

No 20703 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Bc6+ Kg3 (Kf2; Rd2+) 2.Rd3+ Bf3 (Kh2; Rd2) 3.Bd7 Rd8/i 4.Rd4/ii Kf2/iii 5.Rd2+/iv Ke3 6.Bxg4 Rxd2 (Kxd2; Bxf3) 7.Bxf3, and:

— Kxf3 stalemate, or:

— Kd4 (Rd1+; Bxd1) 8.Bg4 (Bh5) Kc3 9.Be6 Kb4 10.Bxa2 Ka3 11.Bb1 Rd1 ideal pin stalemate.

i) Kf4 4.Bxg4 Bxg4 5.Kxa2 draws.

ii) 4.Rd2? Bc6, or 4.Bxg4? Rxd3, or 4.Bf5? Rxd3 win.

iii) Be4 5.Rd1, and: Bc2 6.Rg1+ Kf2 7.Rxg4 Rxd7 8.Kxa2, or here: Bf5 6.Rg1+ Kh2 7.Bxf5 Kxg1 8.Bxg4. Or Ra8 5.Rd2, or Bc6 5.Rxg4+, or Kh4 5.Bxg4 Rxd4 6.Bxf3 draw.

iv) 5.Bxg4? Rxd4 6.Bxf3 Kxf3, no stalemate. 5.Rxg4? Rxd7 6.Rb4 Bd5 7.Rb7 Bxb7 wins, but not Rxb7? stalemate.

No 20704 Vasily Lebedev (Russia). 1.fxg4 Sf4 2.Sxf4 Bh6 3.Kc2/i Bxf4 (Kxa1; Sd5) 4.Sb3 Sa3+ 5.Kc3 Be5+ 6.Sd4 Sb5+ 7.Kc4 Sxd4 8.b5/ii Sf3/iii 9.b6/iv Bb8/v 10.Kd5/vi Se5/vii 11.g5 Sf3 12.g6 Sh4 13.g7 Sf5 14.g8S/viii draws.

i) 3.Kd1? Bxf4 4.Sc2 Kb2 5.Se1 Sc3+, or 3.Kd2? Bxf4+ 4.Kd3 Kxa1 win.

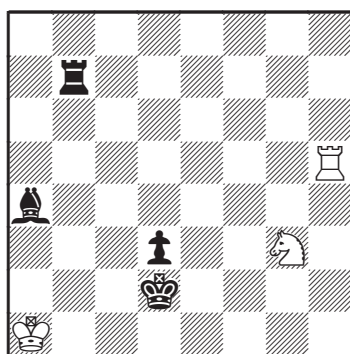
ii) 8.Kd5? Bg7 9.Kc5 Kb3 10.b5 Sf3 11.b6 Bd4+ 12.Kc6 Kc4, and: 13.Kc7 Be5+ 14.Kc8 Sd4 15.b7 Sc6, or 13.b7 Be5 14.Kd7 Sd4 15.Kc8 Sc6 win.

iii) Se6 9.Kd5, or Bg7 9.b6 Ka3 10.b7 Sc6 11.Kc5 Sb8 12.Kb6 Bd4+ 13.Kc7 Be5+ 14.Kc8 Kb4 15.g5 Kc5 16.g6 Kc6 17.g7, or Se2 9.Kd5 Bd4 10.g5 Kb3 11.g6 Bg7 (Kb4; b6) 12.b6 Sf4+ 13.Ke4 Sxg6 14.b7 Be5 15.Kf5 draws.

iv) 9.Kd5? Bc7 10.Kc6 Bd8 11.b6 (Kd7 Ba5;) Se5+ 12.Kd6 Sc4+ wins.

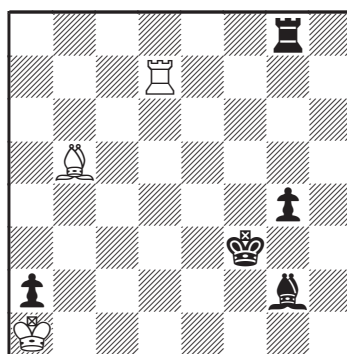
v) Bh2 10.Kd5 Se5 11.g5 Sf3 12.g6 Sh4 13.g7 Sf5 14.g8S draws.

No 20702 V. Kalashnikov
1st commendation



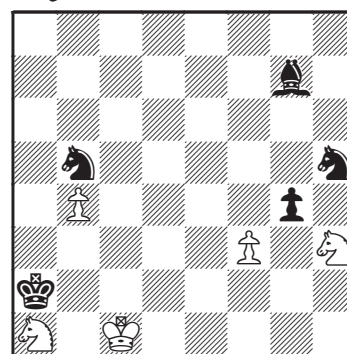
a1d2 0431.01 3/4 Draw

No 20703 M. Minski
2nd commendation



a1f3 0440.02 3/5 Draw

No 20704 V. Lebedev
3rd commendation



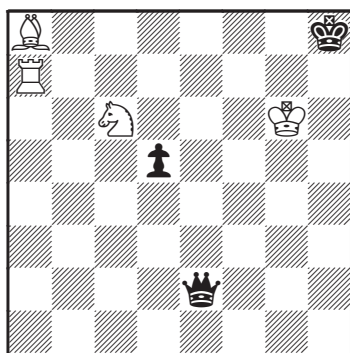
c1a2 0038.21 5/5 Draw

vi) 10.Kc5? Kb3 11.b7 Ka4, and: 12.Kc6/Se5+ 13.Kd5 Sxg4 14.Ke6 Kb5 15.Kd7 Ka6 16.Kc8 Ka7, or: 12.Kd5 Kb5 13.Ke4 Se5 14.g5 Kc6 15.Kf5 Kd7 win.

vii) Kb3 11.Ke4 Se5 12.Kf5 Kc4 13.g5 Kd5 14.g6 Kd6 15.Kf6 Sd7+ 16.Kf7 Se5+ 17.Kf6, or Sg5 11.Kc6 Kb3 12.Kb7 Be5 13.Kc8 Kb4 14.b7

viii) 14.g8Q? Se7+ 15.Ke6 Sxg8 16.Kd7 Kb3 17.Kc8 Bh2 18.b7 Se7+ wins.

No 20705 V. Kalashnikov
4th commendation



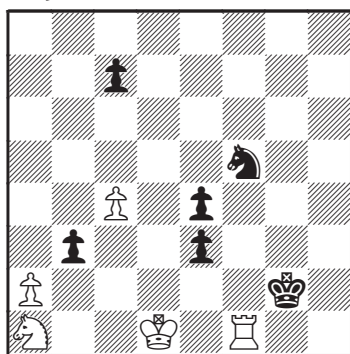
g6h8 3111.01 4/3 Win

No 20705 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia).
1.Rh7+ Kg8 2.Se7+ Kf8 3.Rf7+ Ke8 4.Bc6+ Kd8
5.Rf8+ Kc7 6.Rc8+, and:

— Kb6 7.Sxd5+ Kc5 8.Bb5+ Kxb5 9.Sc3+ Kb4
10.Sxe2 wins, or:

— Kd6 7.Sf5+ Kc5 8.Bb5+ Kxb5 9.Sd4+ Kb6
10.Sxe2 wins.

No 20706 L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
5th commendation



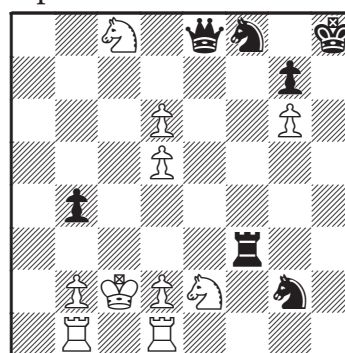
d1g2 0104.24 5/6 Win

No 20706 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka
(Slovakia). 1.Re1 b2 2.Ke2/i Sd4+ 3.Kxe3 bxa1Q
4.Rxa1 Sc2+ 5.Kxe4 Sxa1 6.Kd3 Kf3 7.Kc3 Ke4
8.a4 Ke5/ii 9.a5 Kd6 10.a6 Kc6 11.c5 Sc2 12.Kxc2
Kxc5 13.a7 wins.

i) 2.Re2+? Kf1 3.Rxb2 Sd4 4.Rb1 e2+ 5.Kd2+
Kf2 6.a4 Sf3+ 7.Kc3 e1Q+ 8.Rxe1 Kxe1 9.a5 Se5
10.a6 Sc6 draws.

ii) Sc2 9.Kxc2 Kd4 10.Kb3 Kc5 11.a5 Kc6
12.Kb4 Kb7 13.Kb5 Ka7 14.Kc6 wins.

No 20707 A. Stavrietsky
special commendation



c2h8 3508.52 10/7 Win

No 20707 Aleksandr Stavrietsky (Russia).
1.Rh1+ Sh7/i 2.Rxh7+ Kg8 3.Rh8+/ii Kxh8
4.Rh1+ Sh4 5.Rxh4+ Kg8 6.Se7+ Qxe7 7.Rh8+/
iii Kxh8 8.dxe7 b3+ 9.Kb1 Rf1+ 10.Sc1 Re1 11.d6
wins.

i) Kg8 2.Se7+ Qxe7 3.dxe7.

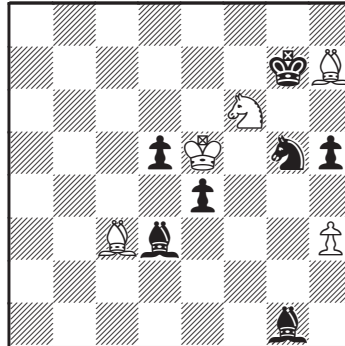
ii) Thematic try: 3.Se7+? Qxe7 4.dxe7/iv b3+
5.Kd1 Rf1 mate.

iii) Thematic try: 7.dxe7? b3+ 8.Kb1 Rf1+
9.Sc1 Rxc1+ 10.Kxc1 stalemate.

iv) 4.Rh8+ Kxh8 5.Rh1+ Qh4.

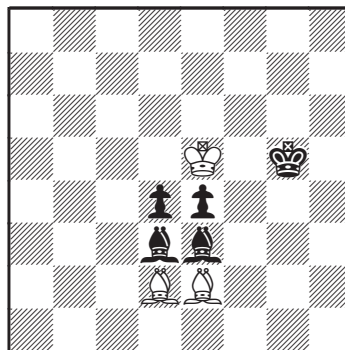
Study of the Year 2014

Oleg Pervakov & Karen Sumbatyan (Russia)
2nd prize Dobrescu-80 JT 2014



e5g7 0084.13 5/7 Draw

The black pawns are weak, but White must rescue his bishop first. **1.Bf5 d4!** **2.Sxh5+** The threat was 2...Bh2+ winning the knight. Bad is 2.Bxe4? Bxe4 3.Sxe4 dxc3! 4.Sxc3 Sxh3 with an easily won ending for Black. **2... Kh6** **3.Bd2!** 3.Bxd4? Sf3+ 4.Kd5 Sxd4 wins. **3...Kxh5** 3...e3 4.Bxd3 exd2 5.Be2 Sxh3 6.Sf6! draws. **4.Bg4+ Kg6** 4...Kh4? 5.Be1+ Bf2 6.Bxf2 mate! **5.Bf5+ Kh5!** 5...Kh6 6.h4, and now 6...e3 7.Bxe3 dxe3 8.hxg5+ Kxg5 9.Bxd3, or 6...Be3 7.hxg5+ Kxg5 8.Bxe4 draw. **6.Bg4+ Kh6!** **7.h4 Be3!** 7...e3 8.hxg5+ Kxg5 9.Kxd4 exd2+ 10.Kxd3 draws **8.hxg5+ Kxg5** Now the most logical move seems to be 9.Bxe3+? dxe3 10.Bd1, but after 10...Bb1! 11.Be2 Bc2! the wB does not have a free square on h1-d5 diagonal, and White loses because of zugzwang: 12.Kd4 Kf4. **9.Be2!**



Jackpot! Now there are two echoing lines:
9...Bxe2 10.Bxe3 dxe3 11.Kxe4 draws, or:
9...Bxd2 10.Bxd3 exd3 11.Kxd4 draws.

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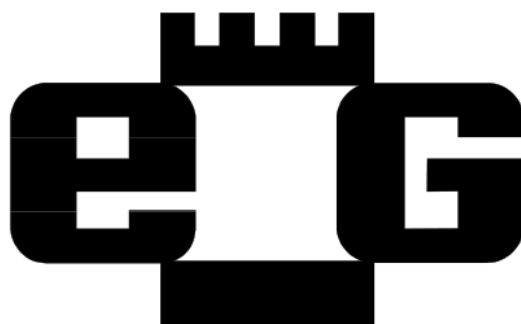
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SUPPLEMENT

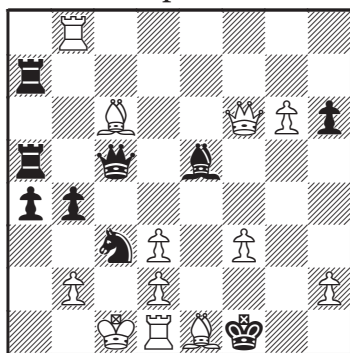
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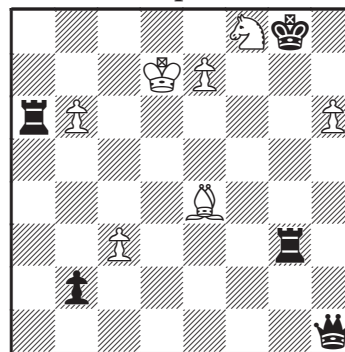
Stanislav Nosek was the judge of this informal tourney of the Czech magazine in which 41 studies by 15 composers participated. The provisional award appeared in issue no. 127

No 20708 J. Polášek, L. Kekely
& M. Hlinka
1st prize



c1f1 4853.63 12/9 Win

No 20709 P. Krug
2nd prize



d7g8 3611.41 7/5 Draw

No 20708 Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic), Ľubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.Qh4 Se4+ (Sd5+; Qc4) 2.Kb1 Ke2 3.Rc1/i Qxc1+ 4.Kxc1 Rc5+ 5.Kb1 Kd1/ii 6.fxe4/iii Rc1+ 7.Ka2 b3+/iv 8.Rxb3/v Ra1+/vii 9.Kxa1 axb3+ 10.Kb1 Ra1+ 11.Kxa1 Kc1 12.d4 Bxd4 13.Qf6 Bxf6 14.e5 Bxe5 15.d4 Bxd4 16.Bd2+ Kxd2 17.Kb1 wins (Kd3; Bd5).

i) 3.d4? Bxd4 4.Rc1 Qxc1+ 5.Kxc1 Rc5+ 6.Kb1 a3, and: 7.Bd5 Rc1+ 8.Kxc1 axb2+ 9.Kc2 Rc7+, or here: 7.Qxe4+ Kd1, and now: 8.Ka2 axb2+ 9.Kb3 Ra1, or 8.bxa3 Rc1+ 9.Ka2 Rxa3 mate.

ii) a3 6.Bd5 Rc1+ 7.Kxc1 axb2+ 8.Kc2 Rc7+ 9.Bc4 wins.

iii) 6.Rxb4? a3 7.bxa3 Rc1+ 8.Ka2 Kc2 9.Rc4+ Bc3 10.Rxc3+ Sxc3+ 11.dxc3 Ra1+ 12.Kxa1 Rxa3 mate, or: 6.Qxe4? a3 7.bxa3 Rc1+ 8.Ka2 Rxa3 mate, or: 6.Bd5? Rc1+ 7.Ka2 b3+ 8.Rxb3 axb3++ 9.Kxb3 Sc5+ 10.Kb4 Ra4+ and wins the wQ.

iv) a3 8.Qg4+ Kc2 9.Ba4+ Rxa4 10.Qc8+ wins.

v) 8.Ka3? Bd6+ 9.Rb4 Ra1 mate.

vi) axb3++ 9.Kxb3 Rxc6 10.Qh5+ Kc1 11.Qxe5 Rb7+ 12.Ka4 Ra6+ 13.Qa5 wins.

No 20709 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.h7+/i Kh8 (Kg7; Se6+) 2.Sg6+ Kxh7 3.e8Q Rd3+ 4.Kc7 Rxc3+ (Qh2+; Se5+) 5.Kd7 (Kb7? Rxb6+;) Rd3+/ii 6.Bxd3/iii Qb7+ 7.Ke6 Qxb6+ 8.Kf5/iv Qxg6+ 9.Ke5, and:

— Qxd3 10.Qe7+ Kg6 11.Qf6+ Rxf6 stalemate, or Kh5 12.Qg5+ Kxg5 stalemate, or:

— Ra5+ 10.Kf4 Qxd3/v 11.Qe7+/vi Kg6 12.Qe6+ (Qg5+? Kf7;) Kh5 13.Qg4+ Kh6 14.Qg5+ Rxg5 stalemate, or Kh7 15.Qe7+ positional draw.

i) 1.e8Q? Rd3+, and: 2.Bxd3 Qb7+ 3.Ke6 Qxb6+ 4.Kd5 Qd6+ 5.Ke4 Qxd3+ 6.Kxd3 b1Q+, or: 2.Kc7 Qh2+ 3.Kb7 (Kc6) Rxb6+ win.

ii) Qd1+ 6.Ke7 Rc7+ 7.Kf8 Kh6 8.Se7 Rxb6 9.Sg8+ Kg5 10.Qe5+ Kg4 11.Sh6+ Rxh6 12.Qf5+ Kg3 13.Qg5+ Kf2/vii 14.Qf4+ Ke1 15.Qg3+ Ke2 16.Qf3+ draws.

iii) 6.Kc7? Qc1+ 7.Kb7 Rxb6+ wins.

iv) 8.Kd5? Qd6+ 9.Ke4 Qxd3+ wins.

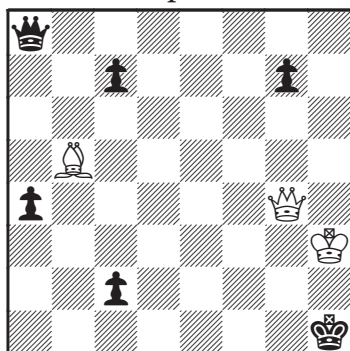
v) Ra4+ 11.Qxa4 Qxd3 12.Qa7+ Kh6 13.Qb6+ draws.

vi) 11.Qf7+? Kh6 12.Qf8+ Kg6 13.Qg8+ Kf6

14.Qf8+ Ke6 15.Qe8+ Kd5 wins.

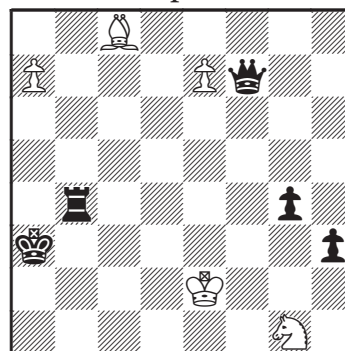
vii) Qg4 14.Qe3+ Kh4 15.Qxh6+.

No 20710 R. Becker
3rd prize



h3h1 4010.04 3/6 Win

No 20711 A. Skripnik
& M. Hlinka
4th prize



e2a3 3311.22 5/5 Draw

No 20710 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qe2/i Qh8+ (Qc8+; Kg3) 2.Kg3 Qh4+ 3.Kxh4 c1Q 4.Bd3/ii g5+/iii 5.Kh3/iv g4+ 6.Kxg4 (Kg3? Qg1+;) Kg1 7.Bc4/v a3/vi 8.Bd5 Qf1 9.Qe4/vii a2 (Qf2; Qh1 mate) 10.Qh1+ Kf2 11.Qf3+ Ke1 12.Qc3+ Kf2 13.Qd4+/viii Ke1 14.Kg3/ix Qe2/x 15.Bf3 Qc2 16.Qe3+/xi Kf1 17.Be4 a1Q 18.Bd3+ Qxd3 19.Qxd3+ Ke1 20.Qe3+ Kd1 21.Qg1+ Kc2 22.Qxa1 wins.

i) 1.Bf1? Qh8+ 2.Kg3 Qh2+ 3.Kf3 Qd2 4.Bg2+ Kg1 5.Bh3+ Kh1 draws.

ii) 4.Bc4? (Kg4? g5;) Qf4+ 5.Kh3 Qf5+ draws.

iii) Qf4+ 5.Kh3 Qh6+ 6.Kg4, or Kg1 5.Qg4+ Kf2 6.Qg3 mate.

iv) 5.Kh5? Kg1 6.Be4 Qf1 draws.

v) 7.Be4? Qf1 8.Qe3+ Qf2 draws, e.g. 9.Qc1+ Qf1 10.Qd2 Qf2 11.Qc1+ Qf1 12.Qg5 Qc4 13.Kf3+ Kf1 14.Qd2 Qf7+ 15.Ke3 Qb3+ 16.Bd3+ Kg1.

vi) c6 8.Bd3 a3 9.Kf3 Qb2 10.Qe1+ Kh2 11.Qg3+ Kh1 12.Be4, or Qc3 8.Qf1+ Kh2 9.Qf2+ and mate.

vii) 9.Qe3+? Qf2 10.Qe4 Qd2 11.Qh1+ Kf2 12.Qh2+ Ke3 13.Qe5+ Kd3 14.Qe4+ Kc3 15.Qc4+ Kb2 16.Qb3+ Kc1 17.Qxa3+ Qb2.

viii) 13.Qg3+? Ke2 14.Bc4+ Kd2 15.Bxf1 a1Q draws.

ix) 14.Bf3? Qa6 15.Qe3+ Kf1 16.Kg3 Qd6+ draws.

x) Qa6 15.Qf2+ Kd1 16.Bb3+ Kc1 17.Qc2 mate.

xi) 16.Bg4? Qb3+ 17.Kg2 Qd5+ 18.Qxd5 a1Q 19.Qd3 Qa2+ draws.

No 20711 Anatoly Skripnik (Russia) & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.a8Q+ Kb2/i 2.Bxg4 h2/ii 3.Sh3/iii Qxe7+/iv 4.Kf1/v Qf6+/vi 5.Sf2 Rxg4 6.Qb8+ (Qb7+) Kc2/vii 7.Qc7+/viii Kd2 8.Qxh2 zz Rf4/ix 9.Kg1/x Qd4 10.Qg2 Rf5 11.Kh1/xi Rxf2/xii 12.Qxf2+ Qxf2 stalemate.

i) Ra4 2.Qc6 Qxe7+ 3.Be6 wins.

ii) Qxe7+ 3.Kf1 Rxg4 4.Qf3 Rg7 5.Qf2+ Ka3 6.Qf3+ Kb4 7.Qf4+ Kb5 8.Qf5+ Kb6 9.Qf2+ Kb7 10.Qf3+ Kb8 (Kc7; Qc3+) 11.Qb3+ Kc7 12.Sxh3, or Rxg4 3.Qb7+ Ka3 4.Sxh3.

iii) 3.Qh8+? Ka2 4.e8Q Qc4+ 5.Kf2 Qc5+ 6.Kf3 Qd5+ 7.Ke2 Qg2+ 8.Kd3 Rb3+ 9.Qc3 Rxc3+ 10.Kxc3 Qb2+ 11.Kd3 hxg1Q wins.

iv) Rxg4 4.e8Q Qxe8+ 5.Qxe8 h1Q 6.Sf2 draws.

v) 4.Kf2? Rxg4 5.Qf3 Qc5+ 6.Ke2 Qc4+ wins.

vi) Qh7 5.Qg2+ Ka1 6.Qa8+ Kb1 7.Sf2 Rxg4 8.Qb8+ Ka2 9.Qa8+ Kb2 10.Qb8+ Ka3 11.Qa8+ Ra4 12.Qf3+ Kb4 13.Qf4+ Kb5 14.Qe5+ Kc6 15.Qe6+ Kc7 16.Qe5+ draws.

vii) Ka3 7.Qa7+ Kb4 8.Qb8+ Kc3 9.Qc7+ Kd4 10.Qa7+ Kc3 11.Qc7+ Kd2 12.Qxh2 draws.

viii) 7.Qxh2? Kd2 zz.

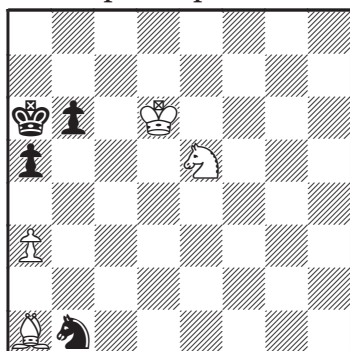
ix) Rg8 9.Qf4+ Qxf4 stalemate, or Qa6+ (Qa1+) 9.Sd3+ (Sd1+).

x) 9.Qg3? Qd4 10.Kg2 Ke2 11.Sh3 Rg4 wins.

xi) 11.Qg3? Ke2 (Ke1).

xii) Qxf2 12.Qd5+ Kc1 13.Qd1+ Kxd1 stalemate.

No 20712 J. Polášek
special prize

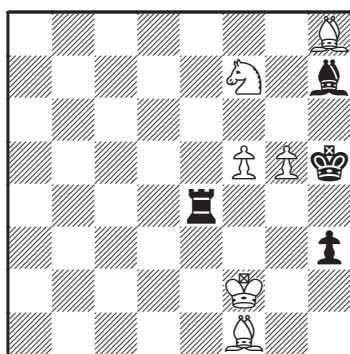


d6a6 0014.12 4/4 Win

No 20712 Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic). 1.a4/i Sa3 (Sd2; Bd4) 2.Sd7/ii Sc2/iii 3.Kc7 Sxa1 4.Sb8+ Ka7 5.Sc6+ Ka6 6.Sd4 Ka7 (Sc2; Sb5) 7.Kc6/iv Ka6 8.Sb5 Sb3 9.Kc7 Sc5 10.Kb8, and:

- Sxa4 11.Sc7 mate, or:
- Se6 11.Ka8 Sc5 12.Sc7 mate.
- i) 1.Bb2? Kb5 2.Kd5 Ka4 draws.
- ii) 2.Kc6? (Bd4? Sc2;) Sc2 3.Sd7 (Bc3 Sb4+;) Sxa1.
- iii) b5 3.Kc6 bxa4 4.Bd4 Sc2 5.Sb8 mate.
- iv) 7.Sb5+? Ka8 8.Sd4 Ka7 draws.

No 20713 I. Akobia † & P. Arestov
1st/2nd honourable mention



f2h5 0351.21 6/4 Win

No 20713 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.g6/i Bxg6 2.fxg6 Rf4+ 3.Kg1/ii, and:

- h2+ 4.Kxh2 Kxg6 (Rxf1; g7) 5.Se5+ Kh7 6.Bd3+ Kxh8/iii 7.Sg6+ wins, or:
- Kxg6 4.Se5+ Kh7/iv 5.Bd3+ Kg8 6.Kh1/v Rf2 (Rf8; Sg6) 7.Sg6 Rf3 8.Be4/vi Re3 9.Bf5/vii Rf3 10.Bd4/viii Rxf5 11.Se7+ wins.

i) 1.Bxh3? Bxf5 2.Bxf5 Rf4+ 3.Kg3 Rxf5 4.Bf6 Rxf6 5.gxf6 Kg6 draws.

ii) 3.Kg3? Rxf1 4.g7 Rg1+ 5.Kxh3 Rxg7 6.Bxg7 Kg6 draws.

iii) Kg8 7.Kg3 Rf8 (Rd4; Bf6) 8.Sg6 win.

iv) Kh6 (Kg5; Bc4) 5.Be2 Kh7/ix 6.Bd3+ Kxh8 7.Sg6+ wins.

v) 6.Bc2? h2+, or 6.Sg6? Rg4+, or 6.Kh2? Rf2+ 7.Kxh3 Kxh8 draws.

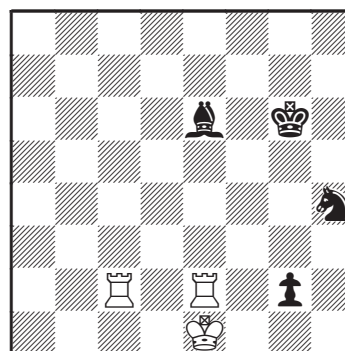
vi) 8.Bc4+? Kh7 9.Sh4 (Se5 Rf8;) Rf4 10.Bd3+ Kg8 11.Sg6 Rf3 12.Be4 waste of time.

vii) 9.Bd5+? Kh7 10.Bf7 Rg3 draws.

viii) 10.Be5? (Bf6?) Rxf5 11.Se7+ Kf7 12.Sxf5 Ke6, or 10.Bb2? Rf1+ 11.Kh2 Rf2+ draws.

ix) h2+ 6.Kh1 Kh7 7.Bd3+ Kxh8 8.Sg6+ wins.

No 20714 M. Minski
1st/2nd honourable mention



e1g6 0233.01 3/4 Win

No 20714 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Kf2 g1Q+/i 2.Kxg1 Sf3+ 3.Kg2/ii, and:

- Sd4 4.Rc6 Kf6/iii 5.Rf2+ wins, or:
- Bd5 4.Rc5/iv Sd4+ 5.Rxd5 Sxe2 6.Kf3 Sg1+/v 7.Kg4/vi Se2 8.Rd3 Kf6/vii 9.Kf3/viii wins (Sg1+; Kf2).

i) Bd5 2.Rc5 Sf3 3.Kxg2 Sd4+.

ii) 3.Kf1? Bh3+ 4.Kf2 Sd4 draws.

iii) Sxe2 5.Rxe6+ and 6.Rxe2, or Sxc6 5.Rxe6+ and 6.Rxc6.

iv) 4.Rc1? (Rf2) Sd4+ draws.

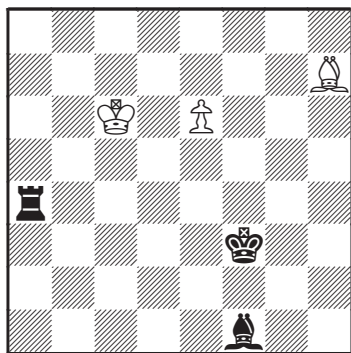
v) Sc3 7.Rc5 Sa4 8.Rc4 Sb2 9.Rd4 Kf5 10.Ke2 Ke5 11.Rb4 wins.

vi) 7.Ke4? Sh3, or 7.Kg3? Se2+ 8.Kf3 Sg1+.

vii) Sc1 9.Rc3 Se2 10.Rc4 Kf6 11.Kf3 Sg1+ 12.Kg2 Se2 13.Kf2 wins.

viii) 9.Rf3+? Kg6 10.Rd3 Kf6.

No 20715 J. Polášek
3rd honourable mention



c6f3 0340.10 3/3 Draw

No 20715 Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic). 1.e7 Ra6+ (Ra8; Bg6) 2.Kd5 Ra8/i 3.Kc6 Rb8/ii 4.Kc7 Re8 (Rh8; Kc6) 5.Kd6 Rh8 (Bb5; Bf5) 6.Kc6/iii Bc4 7.Bg6 Bb3 8.Kb5 (e8Q Ba4+;) Rb8+ 9.Ka5 Ra8+ 10.Kb6 Ba4 11.Bh5+/iv Kf4 12.e8Q Bxe8 13.Kb7 Rd8 14.Kc7 Rd7+ 15.Kc8 Re7 16.Kd8 draws.

i) Ra5+ (Bb5; Bd3) 3.Kd4 Ra4+ 4.Kc5 Ra5+ 5.Kd4 Bb5 6.Bg6 Kf4 (Ra8; Be4+) 7.e8Q Bxe8 8.Bxe8 draws.

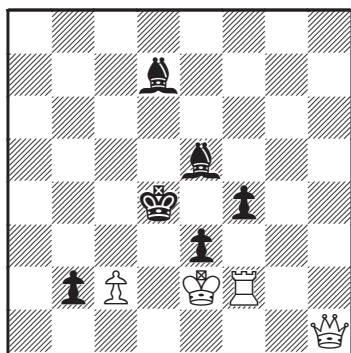
ii) Rc8+ 4.Kd7 Rh8 5.Be4+ draws.

iii) 6.Bf5? Bc4 7.Be6 Bd3 8.Bf7 Bb5 wins.

iv) 11.e8Q? Bxe8 12.Kb7 Bc6+ 13.Kxc6 Ra6+ wins.

Correcting a study by A. Wotawa (HHdbV #60378).

No 20716 P. Arestov
4th honourable mention



e2d4 1160.13 4/6 Win

No 20716 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Qb7/i Bg4+ 2.Rf3/ii Bxf3+ (Kc3; Qb3+) 3.Kxf3 Kc3 4.Ke2 (Qb3+? Kd2;) f3+ 5.Kxe3/iii Bd4+/iv 6.Kxf3 Kd2/v 7.c3/vi Bxc3 8.Qb3 Kc1 9.Qxc3+ wins.

i) 1.Qb1? Bb5+ 2.c4 Bxc4+ 3.Kf3 Bd5+ 4.Kg4 exf2 5.Qxb2+ Kd3 6.Qxf2 f3 draws.

ii) 2.Kf1? Bh3+ 3.Rg2 Bxg2+ 4.Kxg2 Kc3 draws.

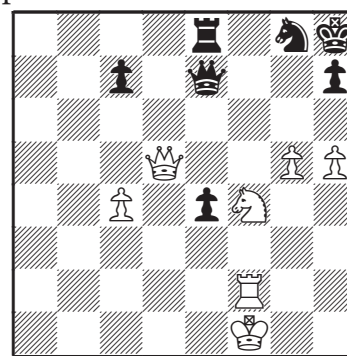
iii) 5.Kxf3? Kd2 6.c4 Kc1 draws.

iv) Kxc2 6.Qe4+ Kc1 7.Qc4+ wins.

v) Kxc2 7.Qe4+ Kc1 8.Qe1+ Kc2 9.Qe2+ Kc1 10.Qc4+ wins.

vi) 7.Qb4+? Bc3 8.Qb3 Kc1 9.Qxc3 b1Q draws.

No 20717 L. Salai & S. Didukh
special honourable mention



fih8 4404.33 7/7 Win

No 20717 Ladislav Salai (Czech Republic) & Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Sg6+ hxg6 2.hxg6/i Rf8/ii 3.Qf7/iii Rxf7 4.Rxf7 e3/iv 5.Ke2 c5 6.Kf1 e2+ 7.Ke1 Qxg5 8.Rh7 mate.

i) 2.Rf7? Qe6 3.Qd4+ Sf6 4.Rxf6 Qh3+ draws.

ii) Qe6 3.Qd4+ Qe5 4.Qd7, or Qd6 3.Rf7 Qxg6 4.Qd4+ Sf6 5.Rxf6 Qg7 6.Ke2 c6 7.c5 Kg8 8.Qc4+, or Rd8 3.Qa5 Qg7 4.Rf7 Rf8 5.Qf5 Rxf7 6.gxf7 Qf8 7.Qe5+ Kh7 8.Qe8 Kg7 9.Qxf8+ Kxf8 10.fxg8Q+ Kxg8 11.Ke2 Kg7 12.Ke3 Kg6 13.Kxe4 Kxg5 14.Ke5 Kg6 15.Ke6 wins.

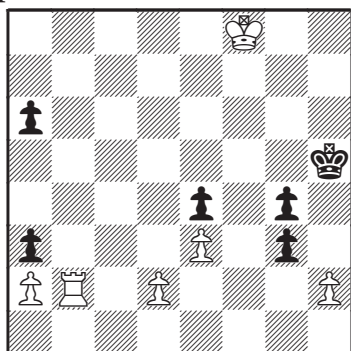
iii) 3.Rf7? Rxf7+ 4.Qxf7 e3/v 5.Ke2 c5 6.Kf1/vi Qf8 7.Qxf8 e2+ 8.Kf2 e1Q+ 9.Kxe1 stalemate.

iv) Qxf7+ 5.gxf7 Kg7 6.fxg8Q+ Kxg8 7.Ke2 Kg7 8.Ke3 Kg6 9.Kxe4 Kxg5 10.Ke5 Kg6 11.Ke6 wins.

v) c5? 5.Ke1 e3 6.Ke2 zz.

vi) 6.g7+ Kh7 7.g6+ Kh6 8.Qxg8 Kxg6 draws.

No 20718 J. Polášek
special honourable mention



f8h5 0100.45 6/6 Win

No 20718 Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic). 1.Rb7 (Rb1? gxh2); g2 2.Rh7+/i Kg6 3.Rg7+, and:

- Kh5 4.Kf7 g1Q 5.Rh7+ Kg5 6.h4+ Kf5 (gxh3ep; Rg7+) 7.Rh5 mate, or:
- Kf5 4.Ke7 a5/ii 5.Rg8 a4 6.Rg7 g1Q 7.h4 Ke5 8.Rg5 mate.

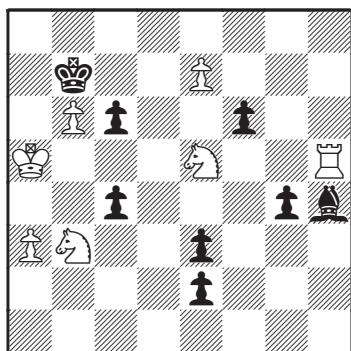
i) 2.Rb1? Kh4 3.Kf7 Kh3 4.Kf6 Kxh2 5.Kf5 g3 6.Kf4 a5 7.Rc1 a4/iii 8.Rb1 g1Q 9.Rxg1 Kxg1 10.Kxg3 Kf1 11.Kf4 Ke2 12.Kxe4 Kxd2 13.Kd4 Kc2 14.e4 Kb2 15.Kd3 Kxa2 16.Kc2 Ka1 17.e5 a2 18.e6 a3 19.e7 stalemate.

ii) g1Q 5.h4, and 6.Rg5 mate, or: gxh3ep 6.Rxg1 wins.

iii) g1Q? 8.Rxg1 Kxg1 9.Kxg3 Kf1 10.Kf4 Ke2 11.Kxe4 Kxd2 12.Kd4 Kc2 13.e4 Kb2 14.Kd3 Kxa2 15.Kc2 Ka1 16.e5 a4 17.e6 a2 18.e7 a3 19.Kb3 Kb1 20.e8Q a1Q 21.Qe1 mate.

After A. Wotawa (HHdbV#44655).

No 20719 A. Pallier
1st commendation



a5b7 0132.36 7/8 BTM, Draw

No 20719 Alain Pallier (France). 1...e1Q+ 2.Ka4 Qc3 3.Sa5+/i Qxa5+/ii 4.Kxa5 e2 5.Sf3/iii gxf3 6.e8Q e1Q+ 7.Qxe1 Bxe1+ 8.Ka4 f2 9.Rf5 Kxb6 10.Rxf6/iv Kc5 11.Rf4 (Rf5+? Kd4;) Kd5 12.Rd4+ Kxd4/v stalemate.

i) 3.Sc5+? Kxb6 4.Scd7+ Kc7 5.Sc5 Qc2+ 6.Ka5 Qb1 7.Se6+ Kd6 8.Sxc6 Qg6 9.Rh8 e2 wins.

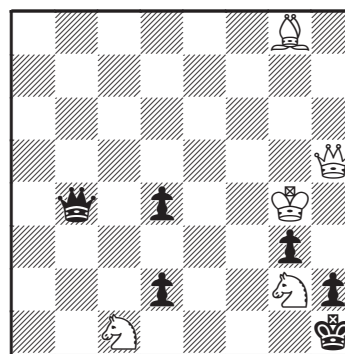
ii) Ka6 4.Sexc6 Qc2+ 5.Kb4 Qb1+ 6.Ka4 Qd1+ 7.Kb4 Qd6+ 8.Ka4 e2 9.Rd5 Qxc6+ 10.Sxc6 e1Q 11.b7 Kxb7 12.Se5 draws.

iii) 5.e8Q? e1Q+ 6.Ka4 Qd1+ 7.Kb4 Be1+ 8.Kxc4 Qd5 mate.

iv) 10.Rf4? Kc5 11.Rxc4+ Kd5 wins.

v) Ke5 13.Re4+ Kf5 14.Rf4+ draws.

No 20720 P. Krug
2nd commendation



g4h1 4012.04 5/6 Win.

No 20720 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Sf4 (Se2? Kxg2;) d1Q+ 2.Sce2 g2 3.Bd5/i Qxe2+ 4.Sxe2 d3+ 5.Kh3/ii dxe2 6.Qf3 Qh4+ 7.Kxh4 e1Q+ 8.Kg4 Qg1 9.Be4 Qf2 10.Qd1+ Qg1 11.Bxg2+ Kxg2 12.Qf3 mate.

i) 3.Qd5? Qxe2+ 4.Sxe2 Qd2 draws, e.g. 5.Sf4 Qd1+ 6.Kh4 Qe1+ 7.Kh5 Qg3.

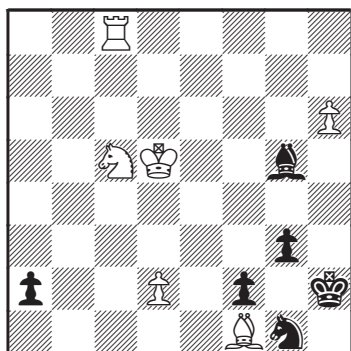
ii) 5.Sf4? Kg1 6.Bxg2 Qd4 (d2; Qd5) 7.Qg5 d2 8.Bh3/iii Kh1/iv 9.Kh4 Qh8+ 10.Sh5 Qd4+ 11.Sf4 Qh8+ positional draw.

iii) 8.Kh3 d1Q 9.Bc6+ Kf1 10.Bb5+ Q1d3+ 11.Bxd3+ Qxd3+ draws.

iv) d1Q+? 9.Kh4+ Kf2 10.Qg3 mate.

A version of E. Vlasák (EG#06827).

No 20721 V. Kovalenko †
3rd commendation



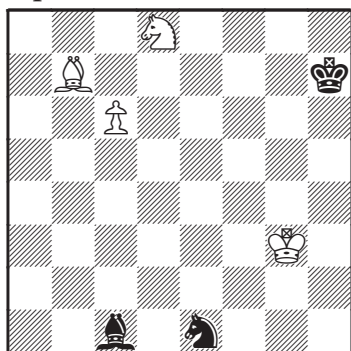
d5h2 0144.23 6/6 Win

No 20721 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.h7 Bf6/i 2.h8Q+ Bxh8 3.Rxh8+ Sh3 4.Rxh3+ Kg1 5.Rxg3+ Kxf1 6.Sb3 (Ra3? Kg2;) a1Q 7.Sxa1 Ke2 8.Rg2 Kd3 9.Sc2/ii f1Q 10.Sb4 mate.

i) a1Q 2.h8Q+ Qxh8 3.Rxh8+ Sh3 4.Rxh3+ Kg1, e.g. 5.Rxg3+ Kxf1 6.Rxg5, or g2 2.h8Q+ Sh3, e.g. 3.Bxg2 Kxg2 4.Rf8 Sf4+ 5.Rxf4 Bxf4 6.Qg7+ Bg3 7.Se4 f1Q 8.Qxg3+ Kh1 9.Sf2+ Qxf2 10.Qxf2 a1Q 11.Qh4+ Kg2 12.Qe4+ Kh3 13.d4.

ii) 9.Rxf2? stalemate.

No 20722 J. Fritz † & J. Polášek
special commendation



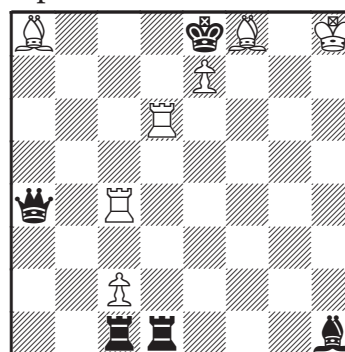
g3h7 0044.10 4/3 BTM, Win

No 20722 Jindrich Fritz & Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic). 1...Sd3 (Ba3; Sf7) 2.Ba6 (Se6 Ba3;) Sb4/i 3.c7 Bf4+ 4.Kxf4 Sd5+ 5.Ke5 Sxc7 6.Bd3+ Kh6 7.Kd6 Se8+ 8.Ke7 Sg7 9.Kf8 Sh5 10.Sf7 mate.

i) Bf4+ 3.Kg4 Sb4 4.Kxf4 Sxa6 5.Ke5, or Sc5 3.c7 Se4+ 4.Kg4 Sd6 5.Sf7 win.

A version of J. Fritz (HHdbV#65847).

No 20723 J. Polášek
special commendation



h8e8 3850.20 7/5 Win

No 20723 Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic). 1.Rc8+/i Kf7 2.e8Q+ Qxe8 3.Rc7+ Kxf8/ii 4.Rf6+ Qf7 5.Rxf7+ Ke8 6.Rce7+/iii Kd8 7.Ra7, and:

— Kc8 8.Bd5 Bxd5 (Rxd5) 9.Rf8 (Ra8) mate, or:

— Re1 8.Be4, or:

— Rf1 8.Bf3, or:

— Ke8 8.Rg7, and:

– Rg1 9.Bg2, or:

– Rf1 9.Bf3.

i) 1.Rxa4? Rxd6, or 1.Rxd1? Qxa8 2.Rxc1 Qa6, or 1.Rd8+? Rxd8 2.exd8Q+ Kxd8 3.Rxa4 Rxc2 4.Bxh1 Rh2+ 5.Kg7 Rxh1.

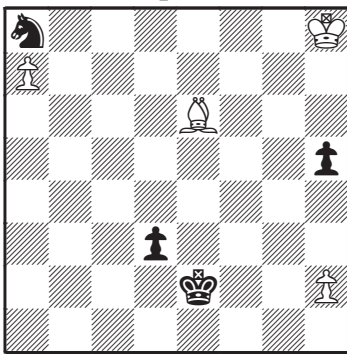
ii) Qe7 4.Bxe7 Rxd6 5.Bxd6+ Ke6 6.Bf4.

iii) 6.Rg7? Kd8 7.Ra7 Kc8 8.Bd5 Bxd5.

Probleemblad 2013-2014

This was the last tourney that Jan van Reek ever judged and, in total 47 studies participated with HH being consulted for anticipation vetting. The provisional award appeared in *Probleemblad* 2015 no 2, iv-vi2015 with a three month confirmation time.

No 20724 P. Arestov
1st prize



h8e2 0013.22 4/4 Win

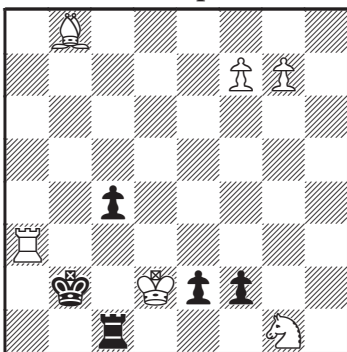
No 20724 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.h4 Kf2 2.Bf7 Kg3 3.Bxh5 Kxh4 4.Bg6 Kg5 5.Kg7 Kf4 6.Kf6 d2 7.Bc2 Sb6 8.Ke6 Kf3 9.Kf5/i Ke3 10.Ke5 zz Sc4+ 11.Kd5 Sa3 12.a8Q Sxc2 13.Qe8+ Kf2 14.Qf7+ Ke2 15.Qh5+ Kd3 16.Qf5+ Kc3 17.Qf3+ Kb2 18.Ke4 Kc1 19.Qf4 Se1 20.Kd4 wins/ii.

i) 9.Ke5? Ke3 zz 10.Bd1 Kd3 draw.

ii) e.g. Kc2 21.Qc7+ Kb1 22.Kc3 d1Q 23.Qb6+.

“This positional study starts with a battle between bishop and knight. Its subtle changes are

No 20725 A. Skripnik
2nd/3rd prize



d2b2 0411.23 6/5 Win

rounded off by a mutual zugzwang. After the white queen promotion, it takes some precise play to win. I once called a study with more than one phase ‘ultramodern’”

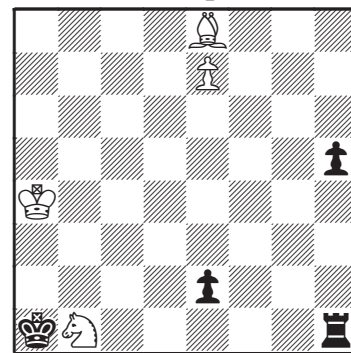
No 20725 Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Be5+ c3+ 2.Bxc3+ Rxc3 3.Ra2+ Kxa2 4.Sxe2 Rc2+ 5.Kxc2 f1Q 6.Sc1+/i Ka1 7.Sb3+ Ka2 8.f8Q Qxf8/ ii 9.gxf8R wins.

i) 6.Sc3+? Ka1 7.g8Q Qf5+ 8.Kd2 Qc2+ 9.Kxc2 stalemate.

ii) Qc4+ 9.Kd2 Qc2+ 10.Ke1 wins.

“In a hard, tactical fight pieces are flying over the board. At the end it takes a rook promotion to avoid stalemate”.

No 20726 M. Minski
2nd/3rd prize



a4a1 0311.12 4/4 Draw

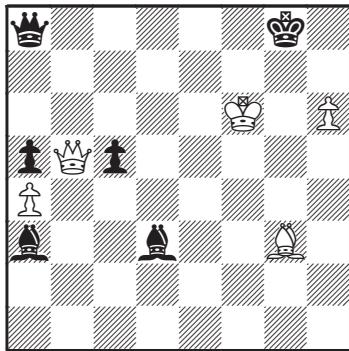
No 20726 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sa3 Kb2 2.Sc2, and:

— Rh4+ 3.Kb5 Re4 4.Bxh5 Kxc2 5.Bg6 e1Q 6.e8Q Qb4+ 7.Ka6 draws, or:

— Ra1+ 3.Kb5 Kxc2 4.Bg6+ Kb2 5.e8Q e1Q 6.Qh8+ Qc3 7.Qxc3+ Kxc3 8.Bxh5 draws.

“In a sharp, mutual fight we see many surprising moves”.

No 20727 P. Krug
special prize



f6g8 4070.22 5/6 Win

No 20727 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.h7+ Bxh7
2.Qc4+ Kh8 3.Be5 Bb2 4.Bxb2, and:

— Qb7 5.Qe2 Qd7 6.Qh2 Qb7 7.Be5 Kg8/i
8.Qa2+ Kf8 9.Bd6+ Ke8 10.Qe6+ Kd8
11.Be7+ Kc7 12.Qd6+ Kc8 13.Qd8 mate, or:

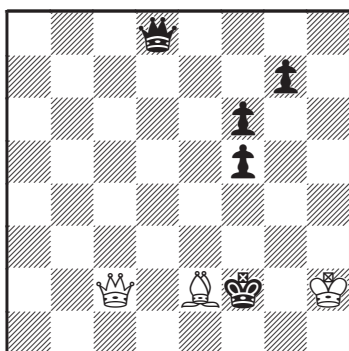
— Qg2 5.Qb5 Bg8 6.Be5 Kh7/ii 7.Qb1+ Kh6
8.Bf4+ Kh5 9.Qf5+ Kh4 10.Bg5+ Kg3 11.Qf4+
Kh3 12.Qh4 mate.

i) Qd7 8.Qh3 Qxh3 9.Kf7 mate.

ii) Qg4 7.Qd7 Qxd7 8.Kg6+ and mate.

“In a queen endgame with bishops, one bishop lies in wait. The study ends with echo mates on two sides of the board. Although the themes are well-known, the combination is tasteful”.

No 20728 R. Becker
1st honourable mention

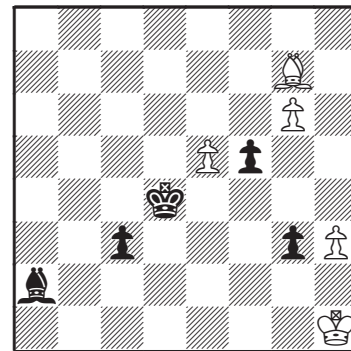


h2f2 4010.03 3/5 Win

No 20728 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bb5+
Kf3 2.Qc3+ Kf4 3.Be8 g6 4.Kh3 g5 5.Qg3+ Ke4
6.Qe1+ Kf4 7.Qc3 g4+ 8.Kh4 g3 9.Qxg3+ Ke4
10.Qe1+ Kf4 11.Qc3 Qd5 12.Qg3+ Ke4 13.Bc6
Qxc6 14.Qg2+ wins.

“Queen and bishop keep control over queen and pawns. By losing a tempo Black is forced to make bad moves”.

No 20729 Y. Afek
2nd honourable mention

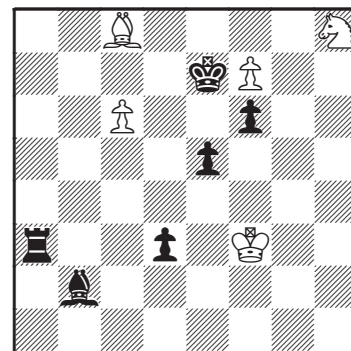


h1d4 0040.33 5/5 Draw

No 20729 Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.e6+ Ke3 2.Bxc3 Kf2 3.Be1+ Kxe1
4.Kg2 f4 5.e7 Bd5+ 6.Kg1 Bc6 7.g7 f3 8.e8Q+
Bxe8 9.g8Q f2+ 10.Kg2 f1Q+ 11.Kxg3 Qf2+
12.Kg4 Qg2+ 13.Kh4 Qxg8 stalemate.

“Bishop and pawns combat each other, with much sacrificing. The final stalemate is well-known”.

No 20730 P. Krug
3rd honourable mention



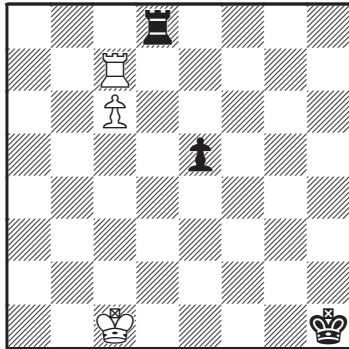
f3e7 0341.23 5/6 Draw

No 20730 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.c7 e4+
2.Ke3 Bc1+ 3.Kxe4 d2 4.Sg6+ Kxf7 5.Be6+ Kxg6
6.c8Q Ra4+/i 7.Bc4 d1Q 8.Qf5+ Kg7 9.Qg6+
Kxg6 stalemate.

i) d1Q 7.Bf7+ Kxf7 8.Qd7+ Qxd7 stalemate.

“We see again some sacrifices but at the end the wQ is removed. The resulting mirror stalemate remains surprising”.

No 20731 P. Arestov
special honourable mention



c1h1 0400.11 3/3 Win

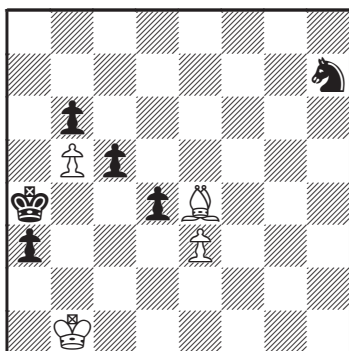
No 20731 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rg7 Rd4/i 2.c7 Rc4+ 3.Kd1/ii e4 4.Kd2 zz Kh2 5.Ke3 zz Kh1 (Kh3) 6.Kf4 Kh2 7.Ke5 e3 8.Kd6 Rc3/iii 9.Re7 Kg3 10.Rxe3+ wins.

i) Rd6 2.c7 Rc6+ 3.Kd2 e4 4.Ke3 wins.

ii) 3.Kd2? e4 zz 4.Ke3 Kh2 5.Kf4 Kh1 6.Ke5 e3 7.Kd6 e2 8.Re7 Rd4+ 9.Kc6 Rc4+ 10.Kb7 Rb4+ 11.Ka6 Rc4 12.Kb6 Rb4+ 13.Kc6 Rc4+ 14.Kd7 Rd4+ 15.Ke8 Rc4 draws.

iii) e2 9.Re7 Rc2 10.Rxe2+, or Rd4+ 9.Kc5 Rd2 10.Re7 e2 11.Kb4 Rc2 12.Rxe2+ wins.

No 20732 E. van Espen
commendation

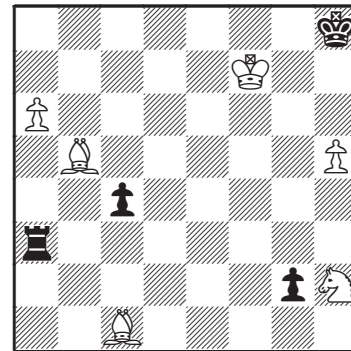


b1a4 0013.24 4/6 Draw

No 20732 Eddy van Espen (Belgium). 1.exd4 Sf6 2.dxc5 Sxe4 3.cxb6 Sc5 4.b7 Sxb7

5.Ka2 Sc5 6.b6 Sb7 7.Ka1 Kb4 8.Ka2 Sc5 9.Kb1 Kb3 10.Ka1 a2 11.b7 Ka3 12.b8Q Sb3+ 13.Qxb3+ Kxb3 stalemate.

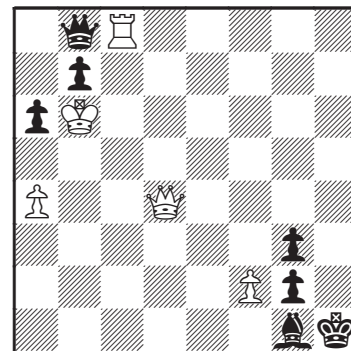
No 20733 S. Ravi Shankar
commendation



f7h8 0321.22 6/4 Draw

No 20733 S. Ravi Shankar (India). 1.Bb2+ c3 2.Bxc3+ Rxc3 3.a7 Ra3 4.a8Q+ Rxa8 5.Sf3 Ra1 6.Kg6 Rf1 7.Sg1 Rxg1 8.Bc6 Rc1 9.Bxg2 Rg1 10.Kh6 Rxg2 stalemate.

No 20734 P. Krug
commendation



b6h1 4130.24 5/7 Win

No 20734 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Rc1 gxf2 2.Qxf2 Qh2 3.Re1 a5 4.Ka7 b5 5.Ka8 Qh8+ 6.Kb7 Qh7+ 7.Ka6 Qh6+ 8.Kxa5 Qh2 9.Qb6 bxa4 10.Ka6 wins/i.

i) e.g. a3 11.Ra1 a2 12.Rd1 Qd6 13.Rxg1+.

Fokin 90 JT 2015

Vladimir Katsnelson judged the endgame study section of this JT. In addition, Yuri Fokin awarded some special prizes, including a study by V. Katsnelson, which seems to indicate that the rules for a formal tourney were not fully respected. Yuri Fokin has only a single study in HHdbV (EG#18575). For the tourney 27 studies were submitted.

The final award appeared in *ZiE* no. 67 19xii2015 with the second prize eliminated for unsoundness.

No 20735 Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia). 1.Rh5 g6+ 2.Kxg6 Be8+ 3.Kh7 Bxh5 4.Bh6+ Ke8 5.Bg5 Kf8/i 6.Be7+/ii Ke8 7.Bh4 Kf8 8.d7 Bd8/iii 9.Bxd8 Be8/iv 10.Bh4 h1Q 11.e7+ Kf7 12.d8S mate.

i) h1Q 6.d7+ Kf8 7.e7+ Kf7 8.e8Q mate.

ii) 6.d7? Be8 7.e7+ Kf7 8.d8S+ Bxd8 9.exd8Q h1Q+, or here: 9.exd8S+ Kf8 10.Se6+ Kf7 draw.

iii) Be8 9.e7+ Kf7 10.d8S+ (d8Q h1Q;) Bxd8 11.exd8Q h1Q 12.Qe7 mate.

iv) h1Q 10.e7+ Kf7 11.e8Q mate.

“This is another achievement by this outstanding master: here everything is in harmony, the game-like starting position, an interesting battle of the bishops, tries and finally mate by a knight promotion”.

No 20736 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.d5/i Sg4/ii 2.b6/iii axb6 3.hxg4 hxg4 4.d6 g3 5.Bd5/iv e4 6.Bxe4 fxe4 7.d7 g2 8.d8Q g1Q 9.Qf6+ Ke3 10.Qxb6+ Kf3 11.Qxg1 wins.

i) 1.b6? axb6 2.d5 Sxd5 3.Bxd5 b5 and Black wins.

ii) Sxd5 2.Bxd5 e4 3.Bf7 Ke5 4.Bxh5 Kf6 5.Bd1 wins.

iii) Thematic try: 2.hxg4? hxg4 3.d6/v g3 4.Bd5/vi e4 5.Bxe4 fxe4 6.d7 g2 7.d8Q g1Q draws.

iv) 5.d7? g2 6.d8Q g1Q draws.

v) 3.b6 g3 4.bxa7 g2 5.a8Q g1Q and Black wins.

vi) 4.d7 g2 5.d8Q g1Q 6.Kh5 Qh2+.

“This shows far foresight with sacrifices of light pieces. Surprisingly, the pawn sacrifice 2.b6!! can be played only on the second move, neither earlier nor later”.

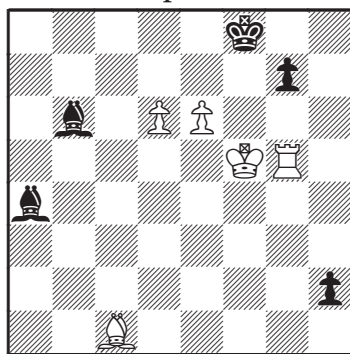
No 20737 Vladimir Katsnelson & Leonard Katsnelson (Russia). 1.e4+/i Ke6 2.c3/ii Bh6 (Be7; Kg3) 3.Sc2/iii Bc1 4.Ke2 Bxb2 5.Kd2 Kd6 6.Sb4 (Se3 Bxa3;) Bxa3 7.Kc2 Kc5 8.Sa6+ Kb6 9.Sb4 Ka5 10.Sc6+ Kb6 11.Sb4 Bxb4 12.cxb4 a3 13.Kc3 (Kc1? c3;) Kc6 14.Kc2 Kd6 15.Kc3 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.c3? e4+ 2.Kg3 Bd6+ 3.Kh3 Bc5 4.Sc2 Bxe3 5.Sxe3+ Kf4 6.Sc2 Kf3 7.Sd4+ Kf2 8.Sxb5 e3 9.Sd4 e2 10.Sc2 e1Q 11.Sxe1 Kxe1 wins, e.g. 12.Kg3 Kd2 13.Kf4 Kc2 14.Kg5 Kxb2 15.Kxh5 Kxa3.

ii) 2.Ke2? c3 3.b4 Bh6 4.Kd3 Bd2 wins.

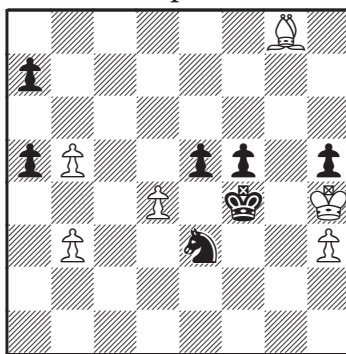
iii) Thematic try: 3.Ke2? Bf4 4.Kf2 Bc1 wins.

No 20735 N. Ryabinin
1st prize



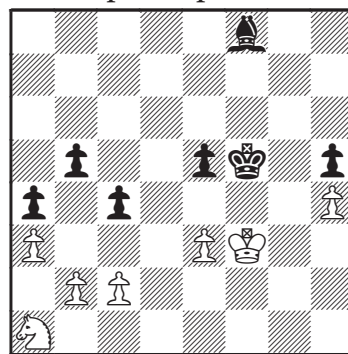
f5f8 0170.22 5/5 Win

No 20736 V. Tarasiuk
2nd prize



h4f4 0013.45 6/7 Win

No 20737 V. Katsnelson
& L. Katsnelson
special prize

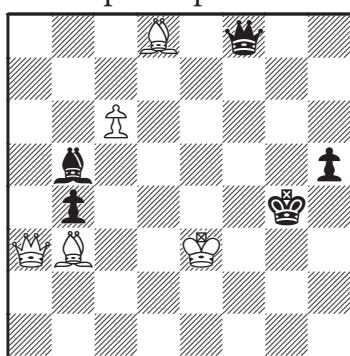


f3f5 0031.55 7/7 Draw

“In the thematic try, White tries to build a fortress but it is destroyed by a bishop sacrifice. In the solution, two pawns are sacrificed, after which a paradoxical fortress is built which is impregnable”. Comment by the composers?

“A special prize is awarded for the successful realization of the theme, known from an analysis of P. Keres of his game against L. Portisch, Moscow 1967, and its thematic complexity with a thematic try (Y. Fokin)”.

No 20738 V. Razumenko
special prize



e3g4 4050.12 5/5 Win

No 20738 Viktor Razumenko (Russia).
1.Be6+/i Kg3 2.Bc7+ Kh4 3.Qc1/ii Qh6+ 4.Kf3/
iii Qxc1/iv 5.Bd8+ Qg5 6.c7/v, and:

— Bc6+ 7.Ke2 Bb5+/vi 8.Kd1 Ba6 9.Kc2 wins,
or:

— Ba6 7.Ke4 b3 8.Bxb3 Bb7+ 9.Kd4/vii Kg4
10.Bxg5/viii wins.

i) 1.Bd1+? Kf5 2.Bc2+ Kg4 3.Bd1+ Kf5 4.Qb3
Qc5+ 5.Kd2 Qd4+ draws.

ii) 3.Bd8+? Kg3 4.Bc7+ Kh4, or 3.Qa2? Qc5+
4.Kf4 Qd4+ 5.Kf3 (Kf5 Bd3 mate;) Bxc6+, or
3.Qa7? Qh6+ 4.Kd4 Qxe6 5.Bd8+ Kh3 draw.

iii) 4.Kf2? Qf6+ 5.Bf4 Bxc6 6.Qc4 Bb5 7.Qe4
Bc6 8.Qe3 Qb2+ draws.

iv) Be2+ 5.Kf2 (Kxe2? Qxc1;) Qxe6 6.Qf4+
Qg4 7.Qe3 wins.

v) 6.Bxg5+? Kxg5 7.c7 Ba6 8.Ke4 Kf6 draws.

vi) Bb7 8.Kd3 b3 9.Kc3 wins.

vii) 9.Kd3? Kg4 10.Bxg5 Kxg5 11.Kd4 Kf5
12.Kc5 h4 13.Kb6 Bc8 draws.

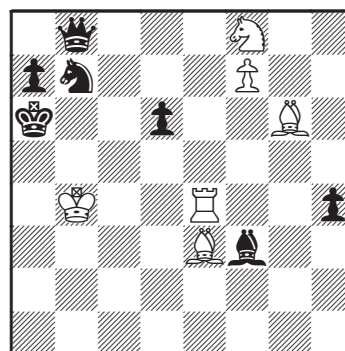
viii) 10.Bd1+? Kf4 11.Bxg5+ Kxg5 12.Ke5 h4
draws.

ix) e.g. Kxg5 11.Be6 Kf6 12.Bh3 Ke7 13.Kc5
Ba6 14.Kb6 Kd6 15.Bf5 wins.

This study was dedicated to war veterans
such as the retired Lt. Col. Fokin.

“A special prize is awarded for the excellent
development of a previous work by the same
composer (Y. Fokin)”.

No 20739 A. Zhukov
1st honourable mention



b4a6 3154.13 6/7 Win

No 20739 Aleksandr Zhukov (Ukraine).
1.Sd7 (Re8? Sd8+;) Qc7/i 2.Sb8+/ii Qxb8 3.f8Q
(Re8? Sd8+;) Qxf8/iii 4.Re8 (Rf4? Qxf4+;) Be4
5.Ra8/iv Qxa8/v 6.Bxe4 Sc5 7.Bxa8 Sb7 8.Kc4/
vi h3 9.Bg1 (Bf4? Kb6;) h2 10.Bxh2 Kb6 11.Bg1+
Kc7 12.Bxa7 wins.

i) Qd8 2.Re5 Be2 3.f8Q Qxf8 4.Sxf8 dxe5
5.Se6 Sd6 6.Bc5 wins.

ii) 2.Re5? Be2 3.f8Q Qc4+, or 2.f8Q? Qa5+
3.Kb3 Qd5+ 4.Kc3/vii Bxe4 5.Bxe4 Qxe4, or
2.Rxh4? Qa5+ 3.Kb3 Bd5+ 4.Kc2 Qa2+ 5.Kc1
Qe2 draw.

iii) Sd8+ 4.Ka3 Bxe4 5.Bxe4 wins.

iv) 5.Bxe4? Qfi and Black wins, or 5.Rxf8?
Bxg6 draws.

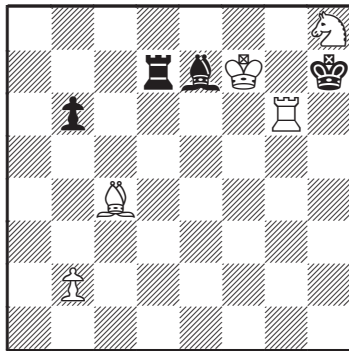
v) Sc5 6.Rxf8 Bxg6 7.Rf6 Sd3+ 8.Kc3 Be4
9.Rxd6+ Kb5 10.Rd4 Sc5 11.Rb4+ wins.

vi) 8.Kc3? h3 9.Bg1 d5, or 8.Bg1? d5 9.Kc3 h3,
and: 10.Kd4 Kb6, or here: 10.Kd3 d4 11.Kxd4
Kb6 draws.

vii) 4.Kb2 Qb5+ 5.Kc3 Bxe4 6.Bxe4 Qa5+
draws.

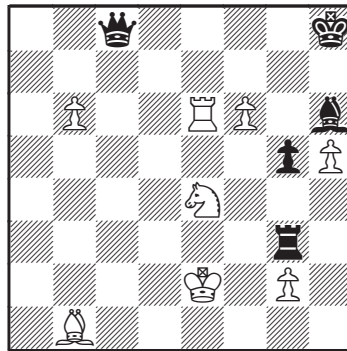
“This unfolds initially as an exciting fight
with two glittering sacrifices, the knight on b8
and the rook on a8, but then the tension some-
how drops”.

No 20740 R. Becker
2nd honourable mention



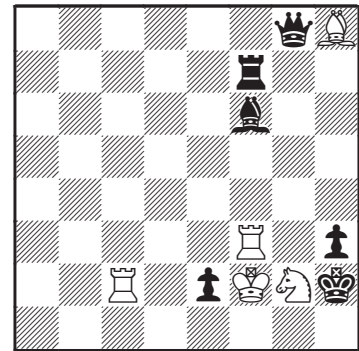
f7h7 0441.11 5/4 Win

No 20741 M. Minski
3rd honourable mention



e2h8 3441.41 8/5 Win

No 20742 A. Avni
4th honourable mention



f2h2 3541.02 5/6 Draw

No 20740 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bb5/i Ra7 (Rc7; Rc6) 2.Rg7+ Kxh8/ii 3.Kg6 Rc7 4.Be8 Bd8 (Bd6; Bf7) 5.Bd7 zz b5 6.b4/iii Rc1 7.Rh7+ Kg8 8.Be6+ Kf8 9.Rf7+ Ke8 10.Bd7 mate.

i) 1.Rg7+? Kxh8 2.Kg6 Rd6+, or 1.Ke8? Rc7 2.Bd3 Kxh8, or 1.Be6? Ra7 2.Rg7+ Kh6 3.Rg4 Bg5+ 4.Kf8 Ra8+ draws.

ii) Kh6 3.Rg2 Bh4+ 4.Ke6 wins.

iii) 6.b3? b4 zz7.Rf7 Kg8 8.Rh7 Kf8, or 6.Rh7+? Kg8 7.Be6+ Kf8 draws.

“This is a study of reciprocal zugzwang with a stubborn, almost bloodless (just one capture) fight crowned by a mating attack by rook and bishop”.

No 20741 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.b7 Rxc2+/i 2.Kf3/ii Qxb7/iii 3.Re8+ Bf8 4.Rxf8+ Kh7 5.Rf7+/iv Qxf7 6.Sd6+/v Kg8 7.Sxf7 Kxf7 8.Kxc2 Kxf6 9.h6 Kf7 10.Bh7 g4 11.Kg3 Kf6 12.Kxc4 wins.

i) Qxb7 2.Re8+ Bf8 3.Rxf8+ Kh7 4.Sc3+, or Qc4+ 2.Kf2 Rxc2+ 3.Kxc2 Qe2+ 4.Sf2, or Qb8 2.Sxc3 Qxb7 3.Re8+ Bf8 4.Rxf8 mate.

ii) 2.Kf1? Qc1+ 3.Kxc2 Qb2+ 4.Kg3 Qb3+ 5.Kg2 Qb2+ 6.Sf2 Qxb7+ 7.Be4 Qf7 draws.

iii) g4+ 3.Kxc2 Qxb7 4.Re8+ wins.

iv) 5.Kxc2? Qxb1 6.Sxc3+ Kh6 7.Sf7+ Kxh5, or 5.Re8? Qxb1, or 5.Bd3? Rd2 draw.

v) Thematic try: 6.Sxc3++? Kg8 7.Sxf7 Kxf7 8.Kxc2 Kxf6 9.h6 Kf7 10.Bh7 Kf6 11.Kg3 Kg5 draws.

“After the 6th move White must make the difficult decision whether or not to leave the

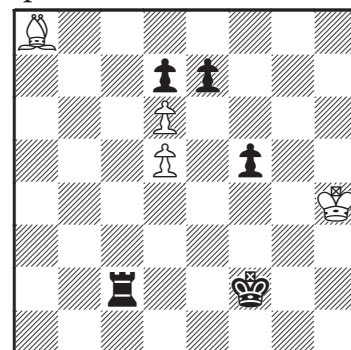
bPg5 on the board. The right decision is not to take the pawn and the thematic try ends in a draw. A skillfully performed study which lacks some scale”.

No 20742 Amatzia Avni (Israel). 1.Sf4 Bd4+ 2.Bxd4/i Rxf4 3.Rxf4 Qg3+ 4.Kxe2 Qxf4 5.Be5 Qxe5+ 6.Kf3+ Kg1 7.Rc1+ Kh2 8.Rc2+ Kg1 9.Rc1+ draws.

i) Thematic try: 2.Ke1? Rxf4 3.Rxe2+ Kh1 4.Rxh3+ Kg1 5.Bxd4+ Rxd4 6.Rf3 Rd1+ 7.Kxd1 Qd5+ wins. 2.Kxe2? Rxf4 3.Rxf4 Qxh8 wins.

“This is a short and pleasing study with a spectacular bishop sacrifice, suddenly ending in perpetual check”.

No 20743 V. Lebedev
1st special honourable mention



h4f2 0310.23 4/5 Win

No 20743 Vasily Lebedev (Russia). 1.dxe7, and:

— Rc8 2.Bc6 Ke3/i 3.Kg5/ii Ke4/iii 4.Kf6 Rh8 5.d6+/iv Kd4 6.Kg7 (Kf7? Ke5;) Rb8 7.Bxd7 Ke5 8.Bc8 Rxc8 9.d7 wins, or:

— Re2 2.d6 Ke3/v 3.Bc6/vi Kd4 4.Bxd7 Kd5 5.Be6+ Rxe6 6.d7 Rxe7 7.d8Q+ wins.

i) dxc6 (Re8) 3.d6 wins.

ii) 3.Bxd7? Rh8+ 4.Kg5 Ke4 5.d6 Ke5 draws.

iii) Kd4 4.Kxf5 Re8 5.Kf6 Rh8 6.Kg7 Rb8 7.Kf7 Kc5 8.Bb7 wins.

iv) 5.Bb7? f4 6.d6+ Kd4 7.Kg7 Rb8 8.Kf7 Kc5 draws.

v) Re6 3.Kg5 Ke3 4.Bc6 wins.

vi) 3.e8Q+? (e8R+?) Kf4 4.Qxe2 (Rxe2) stalemate, or 3.Kg5? Kd4 4.Bc6 Kc5 draw.

“The composer dedicated this study to the Platov brothers: you have to understand that he was influenced by their work. There are indeed two beautiful lines in the style of V. & M. Platov, with a pretty stalemate trap in the second main line but the bad capturing key spoils the case”.

No 20744 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Kb3/i c2/ii 2.Sec3+ Ka1/iii 3.h8Q c1Q 4.Se3 Sf2/iv 5.Sc2+ Qxc2+ 6.Kxc2 d1Q+/v 7.Sxd1 Sxd1 8.Kb3/vi Kb1 9.Qh7+ Ka1 10.Qg7 Kb1 11.Qg6+ Ka1 12.Qf6 Kb1 13.Qf5+ Ka1 14.Qe5 Kb1 15.Qe4+ Ka1 16.Qd4 Kb1 17.Qxd1 mate.

i) 1.h8Q? a1Q+ 2.Kb3 Qa2+ 3.Kb4 c2 4.Sdc3+ Ka1 5.Sxa2 d1Q draws, or 1.Sexc3+? Kc2 and Black wins.

ii) a1Q 2.Sdxc3 mate.

iii) Kc1 3.Sxb2 a1Q 4.Sd3 mate, or d1Q 4.h8Q a1Q 5.Qh6+ Qd2 6.Sd3 mate.

iv) b1Q+ 5.Sxb1+ Kxb1 6.Qh7+ Ka1 7.Sc2+ Kb1 8.Sa3++ Ka1 9.Qg7+ mates.

v) b1Q+ 7.Sxb1 mate.

vi) 8.Qd4? Sc3 9.Qxc3 stalemate, or 8.Kxd1? Kb1 draws.

“This is not so new albeit interesting although technical”.

MG cooks the 3rd special hon. mention: P. Arestov (Russia): d8d4 0534.12 g4h6d3e-4h3c1.d5g5g7 5/6 Win. Intended: 1.Rh5 Ke3 2.Rg3+ Bf3 3.Sxg5 Rxd5+ 4.Kc7 Rxc5 5.Rhxc5 Se2 6.Re5+ Kf4 7.Rgg5 Sd4 8.Kd6/vi Be4 9.Rg4+ Kxg4 10.Rxe4+ Kf3 11.Rxd4 g5 12.Ke5 wins.

As thematic try was intended: 4.Ke7? Kf4 5.Rxf3+ Kg4 6.Rh2 Rxc5 7.Rc3 Re5+ with check. But: 6.Rfh3 Rxc5 7.R5h4+ Kf5 8.Rf3+ Kg6 9.Rh2 Re5+ 10.Kd6 wins (after 6...Rxc5 it is an 7EGTB confirmed win).

No 20745 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.b7+ Kb8 2.Sd7+/i Qxd7 3.Rxd7 Rf5+ 4.Kxf5 b1Q+ 5.Kf6 Qf1+ 6.Kg7 Qg2+ 7.Kf8 Qf3+ 8.Rf7 Qxf7+ 9.Kxf7 Bxd5+ 10.Ke8 Bxb7 (a2; Kd8) 11.a7+ Sxa7 (Ka8; Sc7 mate) 12.Bd6+ Ka8 (Kc8; Sa7 mate) 13.Sc7+ Kb8 14.Sd5+ Ka8 (Kc8; Sb6 mate) 15.Sb6 mate.

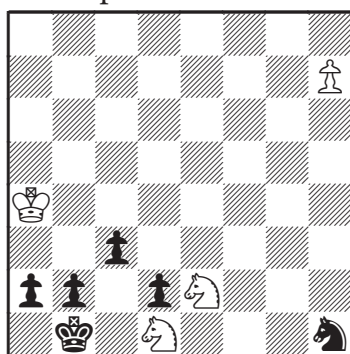
i) 2.bxc8Q+? Rxc8 3.Sd7+ Ka8 4.Sb6+ Kb8 5.Sd7+ Ka8 draws.

“The path to the pretty finish goes through a ‘sea of blood’”.

No 20746 D. Fedorov (Russia). 1.e7 Qxe7 2.d8Q Qxd8 3.Rxd8 e2 4.Rd3 Sf5 5.Rd2 e1Q 6.Re2+ Qxe2 7.f4+ K- stalemate.

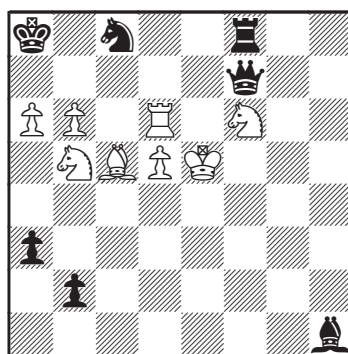
“Of course, the introductory play is too simple but (the construction of) the stalemate picture is hidden, unexpected, and beautiful”.

No 20744 M. Campioli
2nd special hon.ment.



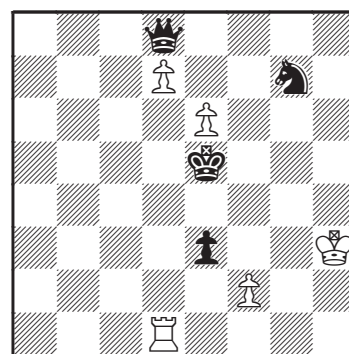
a4b1 0005.14 4/6 Win

No 20745 V. Kalashnikov
commendation



e5a8 3445.32 8/7 Win

No 20746 D. Fedorov
commendation



h3e5 3103.31 5/4 Draw

Kalugin MT 2015

This multi-genre MT for Yuri Kalugin (4 studies in HHdbV) was judged by Aleksandr Sygurov. The award, dated 31xii2015, does not state it explicitly, but this seems to have been a theme tourney – a queen sacrifice was required.

No 20747 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.g3/i Qxc4 (Qc7+; Ka4) 2.c7+ Ka7 3.Be3+ Bd4 4.Bxd4+ Qxd4 5.Qa8+/ii Kxa8 6.c8Q+ Ka7 7.Qxa6+ Kb8 8.Qb6+ Qxb6+ 9.Kxb6 Kc8 (g5; Kc6) 10.Kc6 Kd8 11.Kd6 Ke8 12.Ke6 Kf8 13.Kf6 Kg8 14.Kxg6 wins.

i) Logical try: 1.g4? Qxc4 2.c7+ Ka7 3.Be3+ Bd4 4.Bxd4+ Qxd4 5.Qa8+ Kxa8 6.c8Q+ Ka7 7.Qxa6+ Kb8 8.Qb6+ Qxb6+ 9.Kxb6 – with the wPg4 instead of g3 this is a draw: g5 (Kc8) 10.Kc6 Kc8 11.Kd6 Kd8 12.Ke6 Ke8 13.Kf6 Kf8 14.Kg6 Kg8.

ii) Thematic sacrifice. 5.c8Q? Qd2+ 6.Ka4 Qa2+ 7.Kb4 Qb2+ 8.Ka4 (Kc5 Qc2+;) Qa2+, or 5.c8S+? Kb8 6.Sb6 Qc5+ (Qc3+) 7.Kxa6 Qa3+ 8.Kb5 Qb3+ 9.Kc5 Qe3+ 10.Kc6 Qe6+ 11.Kb5 Qb3+ perpetual check.

No 20748 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rf7+/i Kxa6 (Kb8; Rxb1) 2.Rf6+ Ka7/ii 3.Rxb1 e1Q 4.Rxe1 Rxe1 5.h8Q Rd1+/iii 6.Kc7/iv b1Q/v 7.Qa8+/vi Kxa8 8.Ra6 mate.

i) 1.Rxb1? e1Q 2.Rxe1 Rxe1 3.Rf7+ Kxa6 4.Rf6+ Ka5 (Kb7) draws, or here 3.h8Q Rd1+ 4.Ke8 Re1+ 5.Kf8 b1Q 6.Qg7+ Kb8.

ii) Kb7 3.Rxb1 e1Q 4.Rxb2+ wins. Ka5 3.Rf5+, and here: Ka6 4.Rh6+ Ka7 5.Rf7+ Kb8 6.Rb6+ Ka8 7.h8Q wins, or here: Ka4 4.Rxb1 e1Q 5.Rxe1 Rxe1 6.h8Q win.

iii) b1Q 6.Qg7+ Qb7 7.Rf7 wins.

iv) 6.Kc8? Rc1+ 7.Kd8 b1Q dras.

v) Rc1+ 7.Kd6 Rd1+ 8.Kc5 Rc1+ 9.Kd4 Rd1+ 10.Kc3 b1Q 11.Rf7+ wins.

vi) Thematic sacrifice.

No 20749 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1...Sa3+ 2.Ka2/i Re2+ 3.Sb2+ Rxb2+ 4.Kxb2 d3+ 5.Ka2/ii Sc2 6.f6/iii Qxf6 (Qh6; Qg1) 7.Rxc2 dxc2 8.Qe4+/iv d4/v 9.Qxd4+/vi Qxd4 stalemate.

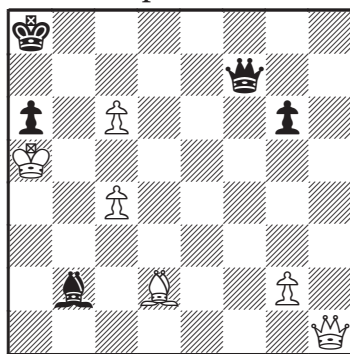
i) 2.Ka1? Sc4 3.Qh2 Kb4 4.Sb2 Qa8+ 5.Kb1 Sa3+ 6.Ka2 Kb5 wins.

ii) 5.f6? Qxf6+ 6.Ka2 Qf2+ wins.

iii) 6.Qg1? d4 7.Qg6 Qa8 8.Rb1 Qd5+ 9.Kb2 Qb3+ 10.Kc1 Qa3+ 11.Rb2 d2+ 12.Kxd2 Qc3+ 13.Ke2 d3+ 14.Kf2 Qxb2, or 6.Rxc2? dxc2 7.f6 Qh6 win.

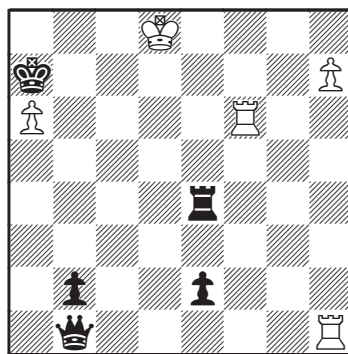
iv) Thematic sacrifice. Thematic try: 8.Qxd5? Qa1+/vii 9.Kxa1 c1Q+ 10.Ka2 Qa3+ 11.Kb1 Qb3+ 12.Qxb3+ Kxb3 13.Kc1 h4 14.Kd1 h3 15.Ke1 h2 wins.

No 20747 P. Arestov
prize



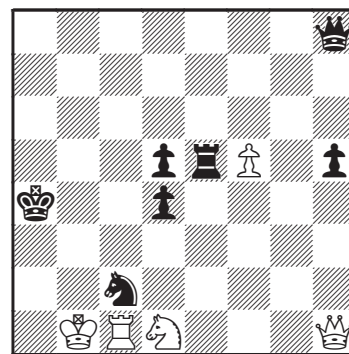
a5a8 4040.32 6/5 Win

No 20748 P. Arestov
honourable mention



d8a7 3500.22 5/5 Win

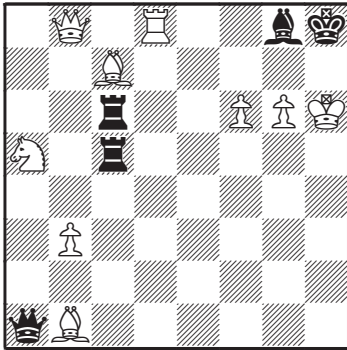
No 20749 P. Arestov
honourable mention



b1a4 4404.03 5/7 BTM, Draw

- v) dxe4 stalemate, or Kb5 9.Qxd5+ draws.
- vi) Thematic sacrifice. 9.Qxc2+? Kb4 10.Qb3+ Kc5 wins.
- vii) c1Q? 9.Qd4+ Qxd4, or c1S+? 9.Kb1 Qh6 10.Kb2 draw.

No 20750 A. Popov
commendation

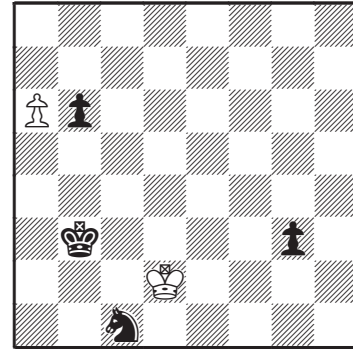


h6h8 4741.30 9/5 BTM, Win

No 20750 A. Popov (Russia). 1...Rh5+ 2.Kxh5 Rc5+ 3.Rd5/i Rxd5+ 4.Be5 Rxe5+ 5.Kh6 Rh5+ 6.Kxh5 Qxa5+ 7.Qb5/ii Qxb5+ 8.Kh6 Bd5 9.f7 Bxf7 10.g7+ Kg8 11.Bh7 mate.

- i) 3.Kh6? Rh5+ 4.Kxh5 Qe5+ 5.Bxe5, or 3.Kh4? Qxf6+, or 3.Kg4? Rg5+.
- ii) Thematic sacrifice. Mitrofanov!

No 20751 A. Pallier
commendation



e2c3 0003.12 2/4 Draw

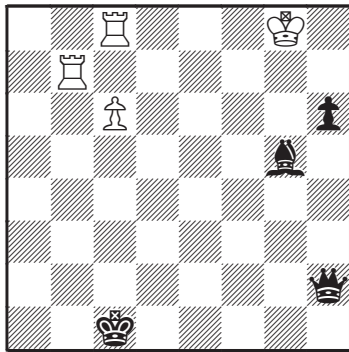
No 20751 Alain Pallier (France). 1.a7 g2 2.a8Q g1Q 3.Qd5+/i Ka3 4.Qa8+ Kb4 (Kb2; Qh8+) 5.Qe4+ Ka3 6.Qa8+ Kb3 7.Qd5+ Kb2 8.Qe5+ Ka2 9.Qb2+/ii Kxb2 stalemate.

- i) 3.Qf3+? Kc4 4.Qc3+ Kd5 5.Qf3+ Ke5 wins.
- ii) Thematic sacrifice.

ChessStar 2014

GM David Gурgenidze judged this informal website (chessstar.com) tourney in which 78 studies participated.

No 20752 M. Minski
1st prize



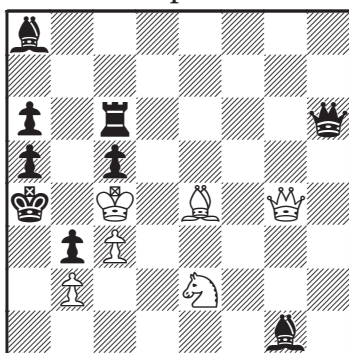
g8c1 3230.11 4/4 Draw

No 20752 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.c7 Qh5 2.Rb1+/i Kc2 3.Rb2+ Kc3 4.Rb3+ Kc4 5.Rb6 Qg4 6.Rb4+ Kxb4 7.Rb8+ Kc3 8.c8Q+ draws.

i) Thematic try: 2.Rb6? Qg4.

“This is an elegant study with interesting mutual play”.

No 20753 S. Slumstrup Nielsen
2nd prize

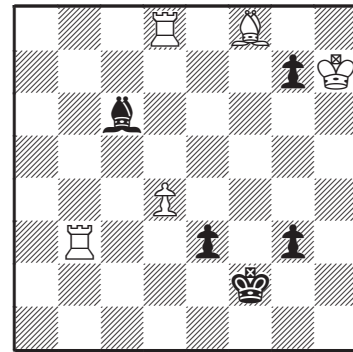


c4a4 4371.24 6/9 Draw

No 20753 Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Sf4 Qh2 2.Sd3 Qb8 3.Bxc6+ Qb5+ 4.Kd5+ c4+ 5.Sc5+ Bxc5 6.Qxc4+ Bb4+ 7.Qxb5+ axb5 8.cxb4 Bxc6+ 9.Kc5 Bf3 10.bxa5 Kxa5 11.Kd4 draws.

“This shows an interesting theme, with combinatory cascade play”.

No 20754 P. Krug & M. Garcia
3rd prize



h7f2 0240.13 5/5 BTM, Win

No 20754 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1...Be4+ 2.Kg8/i g2 3.Rxe3/ii Kxe3 4.d5 Kd4 5.Rc8 Bxd5+ 6.Kh8/iii Bc6 7.Rd8+ Bd5 8.Bxg7+ Ke3 9.Re8+ Be4 10.Bh6+ Kf2 11.Bf8 Kf1 12.Bc5 wins.

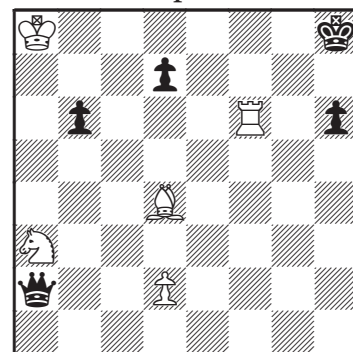
i) Try: 2.Kh8? g2 3.Rxe3 g1Q 4.Rxe4 Qh1+ 5.Kg8 Qxe4 draws.

ii) Try: 3.Rb2+? e2 4.Bc5 g1Q 5.d5+ Kf3 6.Bxg1 e1Q draws.

iii) Try: 6.Kh7? Bc6 7.Rd8+ Bd5 8.Bxg7+ Ke3 9.Rxd5 g1Q 10.Bd4+ Ke4 draws.

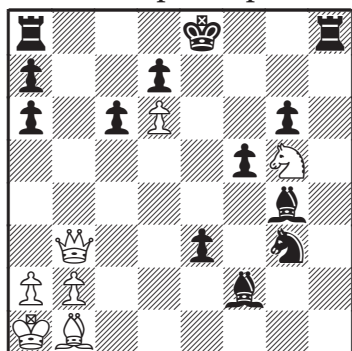
“This has a known systematic piece manoeuvre but with new nuances”.

No 20755 B. Akhaladze
4th prize



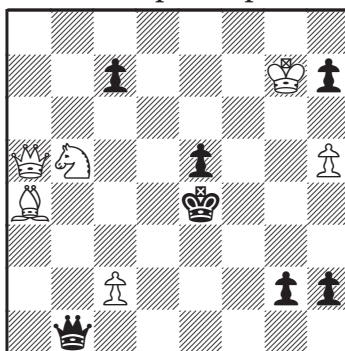
a8h8 3111.13 5/5 Win

No 20756 S. Didukh
1st/2nd special prize



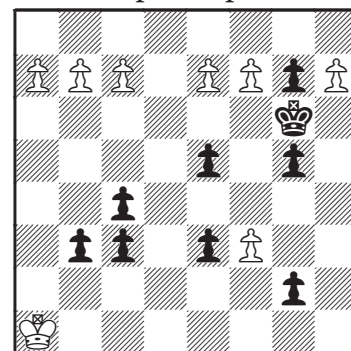
a1e8 1674.37 7/13 Win

No 20757 P. Krug & M. Garcia
1st/2nd special prize



g7e4 4011.25 6/7 Win

No 20758 S. Slumstrup
Nielsen
3rd special prize



a1g6 0000.78 8/9 Win

No 20755 Beka Akhaladze (Georgia).
1.Rg6+ Kh7 2.Rg7+ Kh8 3.Kb8 Qxd2 4.Rg4+
Kh7 5.Sc4 Qb4 6.Rg7+ Kh8 7.Rxd7+ Kg8 8.Se3/i
Qf8+ 9.Kb7/ii Qe8 10.Kc7 Qe4 11.Sd5 wins.

i) 8.Se5? Qb3, or 8.Sxb6? h5.

ii) 9.Kc7? Qa3 10.Kxb6 Qb4+ 11.Kc6 Qa4+
12.Kc7 Qa5+ 13.Kd6 Kf8 14.Bc5 Qa6+ 15.Kc7+
Kg8.

“A harmonious study”.

No 20756 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Qb7/i
Rd8/ii 2.Qb3 Ra8/iii 3.Bd3/iv, and:

— Rh1+ 4.Bb1 Rh8 5.Qc3 wins, or:

— Be2/v 4.Qf7+ Kd8 5.Se6+ Kc8 6.Sc5 Rd8
7.Sxd7 Rxd7/vi 8.Qe8+ Kb7 9.Qxd7+ Kb6
10.b4 wins.

i) The main plan 1.Qc3? fails to 1...O-O or
1.O-O-O. 1.Bd3? Rh1+ 2.Bb1 O-O-O, or 1.Qf7+?
Kd8 2.Se6+ Kc8 3.Sc5 f4 4.Bd3 (Qb3 Rb8;) Rh1+
5.Bb1 Rh8 draws.

ii) O-O 2.Qxd7.

iii) Rf8 3.Qc3 Sh5 4.Qe5 mate.

iv) 3.Qc3? O-O.

v) e2 4.Qf7+ Kd8 5.Qf6+ Kc8 6.Bxa6+ Kb8
7.Qxh8 mate.

vi) Bxd3 8.Sb6+ axb6 9.Qc7 mate.

After a problem (#8) by Nenad Petrović 1959.

“Interesting white play prevents Black from
castling in either direction”.

No 20757 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario
Garcia (Argentina). 1.Sc3+ Kf4 2.Se2+ Kg4

3.Bd7+ Kf3 4.Bc6+/i Kxe2 5.Qxe5+ Kf1 6.Qf4+
Kg1 7.Qe3+ Kh1 8.Qe2/ii Qg1 9.Kf7 h6 10.Bf3 c6
11.Ke7/iii Qc5+ 12.Ke8 Qg1 13.Kf7 c5 14.Ke6 c4
15.Kd5 c3 16.Ke4 zz Qf2 17.Qd1+ Qg1 18.Bxg2+
Kxg2 19.Qf3 mate.

i) 4.Qd5+? Kf2 5.Bg4 Qb4 6.Qf3+ Ke1 7.Qxg2
Qe7+ perpetual check.

ii) Try: 8.Qf3? Qg1 9.Kf7 h6 10.Be4 c5 11.Kg6
c4 12.Kf5 Qc5+ draws.

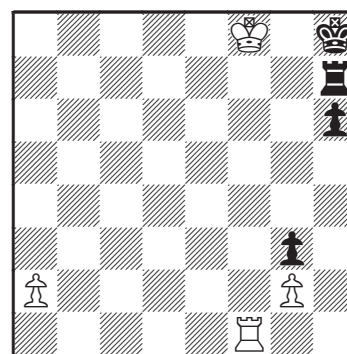
iii) Thematic try: 11.Ke6? c5 12.Kf5 c4 13.Ke4
c3 14.Kd3 Qf2 15.Qxf2

After G. Amiryan (EG#6427). “A technically
well-developed study”.

No 20758 Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Den-
mark). 1.f8S+ Kf6 2.e8S+ Kf7 3.Sd6+ Ke7 4.c8S+
Kd8 5.Sf7+ Ke8 6.Sc6+ Ke7 7.Sg6+ Kd7 8.b8S+
Kc7 9.a8S+ Kxb8 10.h8Q+ wins.

“We see five knight promotions in an eco-
nomical form”.

No 20759 R. Becker & I. Akobia
1st honourable mention



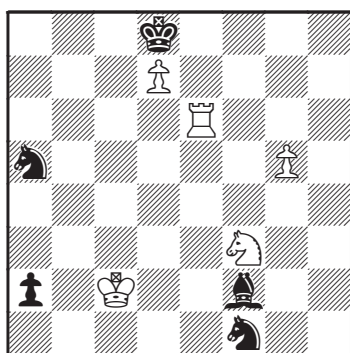
f8h8 0400.22 4/4 Win

No 20759 Richard Becker (USA) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Rh1 h5 2.Rh4 Rh6 3.Kf7 Kh7 4.a3/i zz Kh8 5.a4/ii zz Rh7+ 6.Kg6 Rc7 7.Re4 Rc6+ 8.Kxh5 Rc5+ 9.Kg6 Rc6+ 10.Kf5 (Kf7) Rc5+ 11.Kf6 Rc6+ 12.Re6 Rc4 13.a5 Ra4 14.a6 wins.

i) Thematic try: 4.a4? Kh8 zz 5.a5 Kh7 zz 6.Ra4 Ra6 draws.

ii) Kh7 6.a5 zz Kh8 7.a6 Rxa6 8.Rxh5+ Rh6 9.Rxh6 mate.

No 20760 P. Arestov
2nd honourable mention

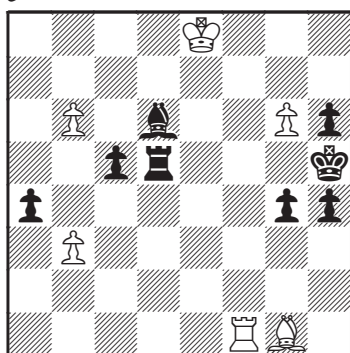


c2d8 0137.21 5/5 Win

No 20760 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Se5 Se3+ 2.Kb2 Sac4+ 3.Kxa2/i Sxe5 4.Re8+ Kxd7 5.Rxe5 zz Kd8 6.Kb3 zz Bh4 7.g6 Sg4 8.Re4 wins.

i) Thematic try: 4.Rxe5? Kxd7 zz 5.Kb1 Kd8 zz 6.Ka2 Kd7 zz 7.Kb3 Kd8 zz 8.Ka4 Kd7 zz 9.Kb5 Sc2 10.g6 Sd4+ 11.Kc4 Se6 12.Rxe6 Kxe6 13.g7 Kf7 draws.

No 20761 M. Garcia & P. Krug
3rd honourable mention



e8h5 0440.35 6/8 Win

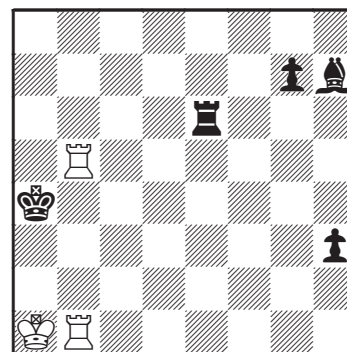
No 20761 Mario Garcia (Argentina) & Peter Krug (Austria). 1.g7 Rg5 2.Rf5 Rxf5 3.g8Q Rf8+ 4.Qxf8 Bxf8 5.Kd7/i Bg7/ii 6.Ke6 a3 7.b7

Be5 8.Kxe5 a2 9.Bd4 cxd4 10.b8Q a1Q 11.Qe8+ Kg5 12.Qg8+ Kh5 13.Qf7+ Kg5 14.Qf5 mate.

i) Thematic try: 5.Kxf8? a3 6.b7 a2 7.Bd4 cxd4 8.b8Q a1Q 9.Qe5+ Kg6 10.Qe6+ Kg5 draws.

ii) a3 6.b7 a2 7.b8Q a1Q 8.Qe8+ Kg5 9.Be3+ Kf5 10.Qe6 mate.

No 20762 R. Becker
4th honourable mention

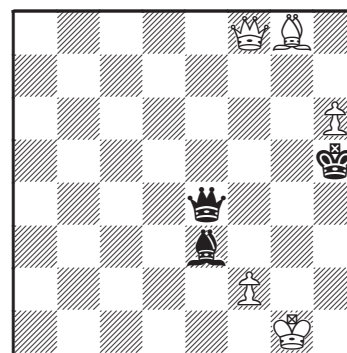


a1a4 0530.02 3/5 Win

No 20762 Richard Becker (USA). 1.R1b4+ Ka3 2.Rb3+ Ka4 3.R5b4+ Ka5 4.Rb8 Ka4 5.Rb2 Re1+ 6.Ka2 Re5 7.R2b4+/i Ka5 8.Rb3 Re2+ 9.Ka3 Re6 10.Ra8+ Ra6 11.Rh8 Bg6 12.Rb4 h2 13.Rhb8 Rb6 14.R8xb6 Be8 15.Rb7 Ka6 16.R4b6+ Ka5 17.Rb1 wins.

i) Thematic try: 7.Ra8+? Ra5 8.Rh8 Rh5 9.Ra8+ Ra5 10.Rab8 Rc5 11.R2b4+ Ka5 12.Rb3 Rc2+ 13.Ka3 Be4 14.R8b5+ Ka6 15.R5b4 Bc6 draws.

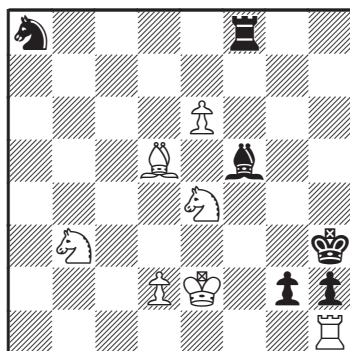
No 20763 P. Krug
5th honourable mention



g1h5 4040.20 5/3 Win

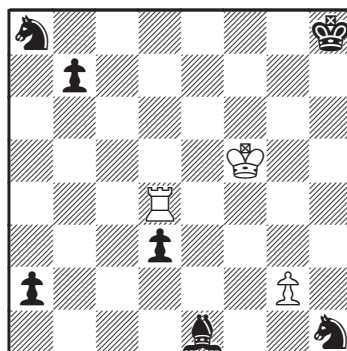
No 20763 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Qf7+/i Kxh6 2.Qf8+ Kh5 3.Bf7+ Kg4 4.Qg8+ Bg5 5.Be6+ Kh5 6.Qe8+ Kh6 7.Qf8+ Kh5 8.Bf7+, and:

No 20764 P. Krug & M. Garcia
6th honourable mention



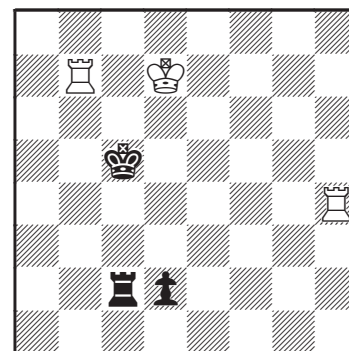
e2h3 0445.22 7/6 Draw

No 20765 A. Emelin
commendation



f5h8 0136.13 3/7 Win

No 20766 P. Arestov
commendation



d7c5 0500.01 3/3 Win

— Kh4 9.Qh8+ Kg4 10.f3+ Kxf3 11.Bd5 Qxd5 12.Qh1+ wins, or:

— Kg4 9.f3+ Qxf3 10.Bh5+ wins.

i) Try: 1.Bf7+? Kh4 2.Qd8+ Bg5 3.Qd1 Qg4+ draws.

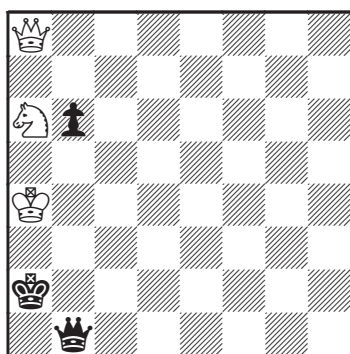
No 20764 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Sf2+ Kg3 2.Bxg2 Kxg2 3.Sd4 Bxe6 4.Sf3 Bc4+ 5.d3 Bxd3+ 6.Sxd3 Kxh1 7.Kf2/i Rg8 8.Sfe1 Rf8+ 9.Sf3 Sc7 10.Kf1 Rxf3+ 11.Sf2+ Rxf2+ 12.Kxf2 draws.

i) 7.Kf1? Rxf3+ 8.Sf2+ Rxf2+ 9.Kxf2 Sb6 (Sc7) wins.

No 20765 Arseny Emelin (Russia). 1.Kg6 Ba5 2.Kf7 Be1 3.g3 Bxg3 4.Kg6 Bc7 5.Ra4 Ba5 6.Rxa5 Sc7 7.Kf7 Sg3 8.Rxa2 Se2 (Sf1) 9.Ra4 d2 10.Rh4 mate.

No 20766 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rh1 Rc3 2.Rd1 Rd3+ 3.Ke8 Kd4 4.Re7 Kc4 5.Rc7+ Kd4 6.Rh1 Ke4 7.Re7+ Kd5 8.Kf7 Kc5 9.Rd1 Kc4 10.Kf6 Rd5 11.Re3 Rd3 12.Re8 Kc3 13.Rc8+ wins.

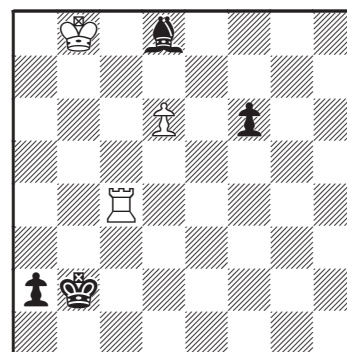
No 20767 R. Becker
commendation



a4a2 4001.01 3/3 Win

No 20767 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Sb4+ Ka1 2.Qh8+ Qb2 3.Qh1+ Qb1 4.Qa8 b5+ 5.Kxb5+ Kb2 6.Qf3 Qh7 7.Qe2+ (Qf2+) Kc3 8.Qe3+ (Qe1+) Kb2 9.Qd2+ Kb3 10.Qd1+ Kb2 11.Sd3+ Kc3 12.Qa1+ Kd2 13.Qe1+ Kc2 14.Qc1+ wins.

No 20768 I. Aliev
commendation



b8b2 0130.12 3/4 Draw

No 20768 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Rb4+/i Ka3/ii 2.Rb7, and:

— a1Q 3.Ra7+ Kb2 4.Rxa1 Kxa1 5.Kc8 Ba5 6.Kd7 f5 7.Kc6 f4 8.Kb5/iii Bd8 9.Kc4 f3 10.Kd3 f2 11.Ke2 draws, or:

— f5 3.Ra7+ Kb2 4.Rb7+ Ka3 5.Ra7+ Kb2 6.Rb7+ perpetual check.

i) Thematic try: 1.Ra4? f5/iv 2.Rb4+ Ka3

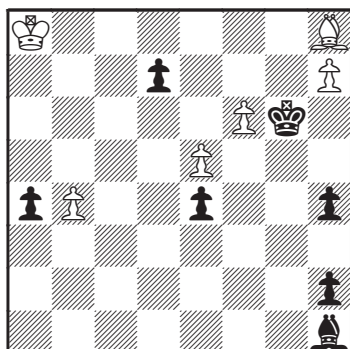
ii) Kc3 2.Ra4 Kb3 3.Ra8 Kb2 4.Kc8 Bb6 5.Kb7 draws.

iii) Réti manoeuvre.

iv) Not: a1Q? 2.Rxa1 Kxa1 3.Kc8 Ba5 4.Kd7 f5 5.Kc6 f4 6.Kb5 Réti manoeuvre Bd8 7.Kc4 f3 8.Kd3 f2 9.Ke2 draws,

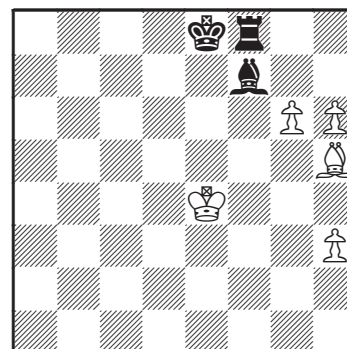
After Gorgiev (HHdbV#38909).

No 20769 P. Krug
commendation



a8g6 0040.45 6/7 Win

No 20771 M. Minski
commendation



e4e8 0340.30 5/3 Win

No 20769 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.f7 e3+ 2.Ka7/i Kxf7 3.e6+, and:

— dxe6 4.Bf6 Ba8 5.h8Q h1Q 6.Qg7+ Ke8 7.Qe7 mate, or:

— Kxe6 4.Ba1 Ba8 5.h8Q h1Q 6.Qf6+ Kd5 7.Qe5+ Kc4 8.Qd4+ Kb3 9.Qc3+ Ka2 10.Qb2 mate.

i) Try: 2.Kb8? Kxf7 3.e6+ dxe6 4.Bf6 Kxf6 5.h8Q+ Kg5 6.Qe5+ Kg4 7.Qxe6+ Kg3 8.Qe5+ Kg4 9.Qxh2 Bf3 10.b5 e2 11.Qg1+ Kf4 12.b6 a3 13.b7 a2 14.Kc7 Bxb7 draws.

After Hornecker (HHdbV#7512).

No 20771 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Kf5/i Bxg6++ 2.Kxg6, and:

— Rf6+ 3.Kg7+/ii wins, or:

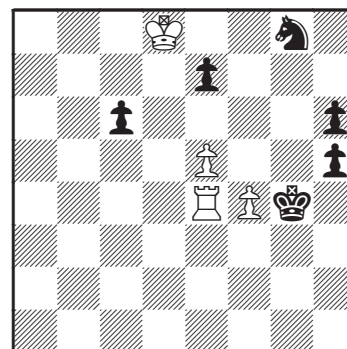
— Rg8+ 3.Kf6+ Kf8 4.h7 Rg6+ 5.Kxg6/iii wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.gxf7+? Ke7 (Rxf7?; h7) 2.Kf5 Rxf7+ 3.Kg6 Kf8 4.h7 Rf6+ 5.Kxf6 stalemate.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Kxf6+? Kf8 4.h7 stalemate.

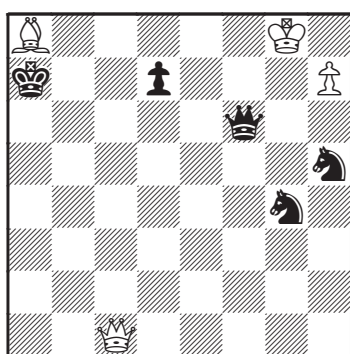
iii) 5.Bxg6? stalemate.

No 20772 P. Krug & M. Garcia
commendation



d8g4 0103.24 4/6 Win

No 20770 M. Minski
commendation



g8a7 4016.11 4/5 Win

No 20770 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Qc5+/i Kxa8 2.h8Q Qxh8+ 3.Kxh8 Shf6 zz 4.Qc7 d5 5.Qb6 d4 6.Qxd4 wins, e.g. Kb8 7.Qc4 Kb7 8.Qc5 Ka6 9.Qb4 Ka7 10.Qb5 Ka8 11.Qb6.

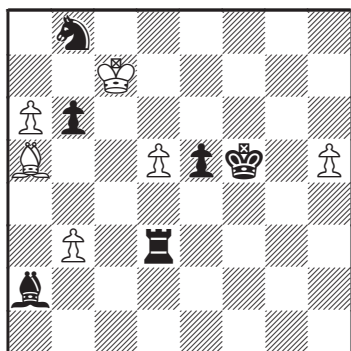
i) Thematic try: 1.Qc7+? Kxa8 2.h8Q Qxh8+ 3.Kxh8 Shf6 zz 4.Qb6 d5 zz 5.Qc7 d4 6.Qb6 d3 7.Qa6+ Kb8 8.Qxd3 Kc7 9.Qd4 Kc6 10.Qe5 Kd7 draws.

No 20772 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Ke8/i Sf6+ 2.exf6 exf6 3.Re1 Kxf4 4.Kf7 h4 5.Kg6 h3 6.Kh5 Kg3 7.Rg1+/ii Kf2 8.Rc1 Kg3 9.Rc3+ Kg2 10.Kh4 h2 11.Rc2+ Kg1 12.Kh3 h1Q+ 13.Kg3 wins.

i) Try: 1.Re1? h4 2.Ke8 h3 3.Rf1 h5 4.Kf7 Sh6+ 5.Kxe7 Sf5+ 6.Kf7 Se3 7.Rh1 Kxf4 8.Rxh3 Kxe5 9.Rxe3+ Kd4 10.Rh3 c5 11.Ke6 c4 12.Rh4+ Kd3 13.Kd5 c3 14.Rh3+ Kd2 15.Kd4 c2 16.Rh2+ Kd1 17.Kd3 c1S+ draws.

ii) Thematic try: 7.Re3+? Kg2 8.Kh4 h2 9.Re2+ Kg1 10.Kg3 h1S+ draws.

No 20773 P. Krug & M. Garcia
commendation



c7f5 0343.42 6/6 Win

No 20773 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.a7 Sa6+ 2.Kxb6/i Rxb3+ 3.Kxa6 Rb7 4.h6/ii Kg6 5.d6 Rxa7+ 6.Kxa7 Be6 7.Bd2 wins.

i) Try: 2.Kd6? bxa5 3.a8Q Sb4 4.h6 Kg6 5.Qf8 Rxd5+ 6.Ke6 Bb1 7.Qg7+ Kh5 8.h7 Bxh7 9.Qxh7+ Kg4 10.Qe4+ Kg3 positional draw.

ii) Tries: 4.d6? Rxa7+ 5.Kxa7 Ke6 6.h6 Bb1, or 4.a8Q? Bc4+ 5.Kxb7 Bxd5+ 6.Ka7 Bxa8 7.Kxa8 Kg5 draw.

No 20774 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.e6 Bxe6 2.a6, and:

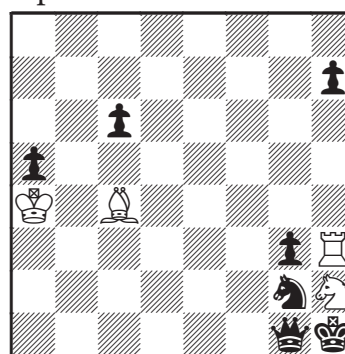
— Bxg4+ 3.Kf4 Bc8 4.a7 Bb7 5.Sh2 g5+ 6.Ke5/i a3 7.Sf3+ Kg4 8.Sxd4 a2 9.Sb3 draws, or:

— g5 3.Sh2 Bg8 4.Sf1 Be6 5.Sh2 Bc8 6.a7 Bb7 7.Sf1 g6 8.a8Q (a8R) Bxa8 9.Sg3 a3 10.Sh1 a2 11.g3+ Kh3 stalemate.

i) Try: 6.Kf5? g4 7.Sf1 g3 8.fxg3+ Kh5 9.g4+ Kh6 10.g5+ Kh7 11.g6+ Kg8 draws.

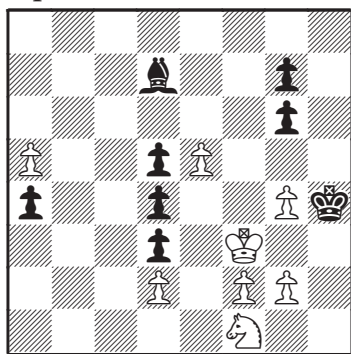
After Wotawa (HHdbV#67556).

No 20775 P. Krug & M. Garcia
special commendation



a4h1 3114.04 4/7 Win

No 20774 P. Krug & M. Garcia
special commendation



f3h4 0031.66 8/8 Draw

No 20775 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Sg4+ Qh2 2.Rxh2+ gxh2 3.Sf2+ Kg1 4.Sh3+ Kh1 5.Bd3 c5 6.Bc2/i c4 7.Kxa5 h5 8.Kb4 c3 9.Kxc3 h4 10.Kd2 Se1 11.Be4+ Sg2 12.Bd3 Se1 13.Kxe1 Kg2 14.Bf1+ Kg3 15.Sf2 wins.

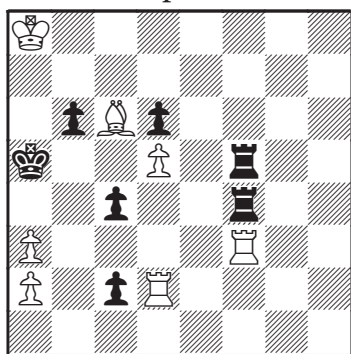
i) Thematic try: 6.Bb1? h5 7.Kb3 c4+ 8.Kc3 a4 9.Kd2 a3 10.Ke2 a2 11.Bxa2 Se3 draws.

After Guy (HHdbV#62131).

Maroc Echecs 2015

The award of the 5th endgame study tourney of the Maroc website was judged by Abdelaziz Onkoud. In total, 12 studies by 7 composers participated.

No 20776 S. Didukh & M. Minski
1st prize



a8a5 o810.34 7/7 Draw

No 20776 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rc3/i Rf8+ 2.Kb7/ii R4f7+ 3.Bd7 Rxd7+ 4.Kc6 Rfd8 (Ra7; Kxd6) 5.Rdxc2/iii Ka6 6.Rxc4/iv b5 7.Ra4+ bxa4 8.Rb2 Rh7 9.Rb6+ Ka7 10.Rb7+ Rxb7 stalemate.

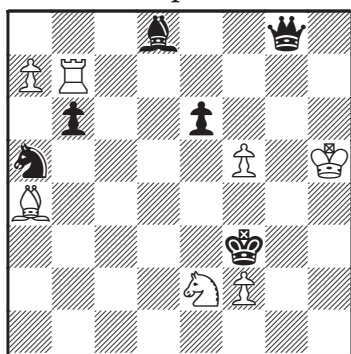
i) 1.Rxf4? (Rxc2? Rxf3;) c1Q 2.Rxf5 Qxd2 3.Rf7 b5 wins.

ii) 2.Ka7? R4f7+ 3.Bb7 Rc7 wins.

iii) 5.Rcxc2? Ra7 6.Rb2 Rc8+ 7.Kxd6 c3 wins.

iv) 6.Rb2? Rb7 7.Rb4 b5 8.a4 Rdd7 9.axb5+ Ka5 10.b6 Kxb4 11.Rxc4+ Kxc4 wins.

No 20777 A. Pallier
2nd prize



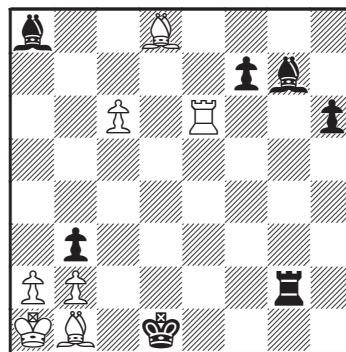
h5f3 3144.32 7/6 Draw

No 20777 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Rg7 Qxg7 2.a8Q+ Sb7/i 3.Qxb7+ (Bc6+? Kxf2);

Qxb7 4.Bc6+ Qxc6 5.Sd4+ Kxf2 6.Sxc6 exf5 7.Sxd8 f4 8.Kg4 f3 9.Sc6 Ke3 10.Kh3 b5 11.Kg3 f2 12.Kg2 b4 13.Kf1 b3 14.Sa5 draws.

i) Kxe2 3.Qe4+ Kxf2, e.g. 4.Qf4+ Kg1 5.Qc1+ Kh2 6.Qd2+ Kh3 7.Qd3+ Qg3 8.Qxd8 Qg4+ 9.Kh6 Qxf5 10.Qxb6 Qf4+ 11.Kg6 Qxa4 12.Qxe6+ draws.

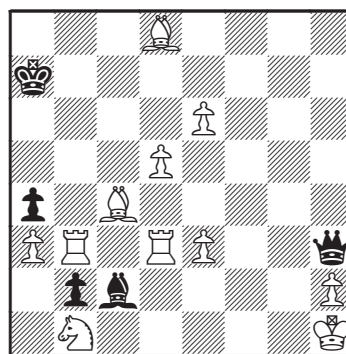
No 20778 A. Stavrietsky
1st honourable mention



a1d1 o480.33 7/7 Draw

No 20778 Aleksandr Stavrietsky (Russia). 1.Rd6+ Kc1 2.Bf6 Rxb2 3.axb3 Rxb1+ 4.Ka2 Bxf6 5.Rxf6 Rb2+ 6.Ka3 Rc2 7.Rxf7, and:
— Bxc6 8.Rh7 Rh2 9.Rc7 Rc2 10.Rh7 Rh2 11.Rc7 draws, or:
— Rxc6 8.Ra7 Rc8 9.Rh7 Rc6 10.Ra7 Rc8 11.Rh7 draws.

No 20779 M. Minski
2nd honourable mention



h1a7 3251.52 11/5 Win

No 20779 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Bb6+, and:

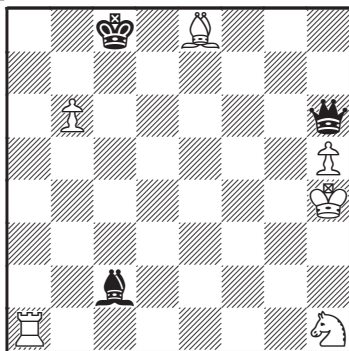
— Kb7 2.e4 Qf1+ 3.Bg1+ axb3 4.Rxb3+ Ka8
5.Bxf1 Bxe4+ 6.Rf3/i Bxf3+ 7.Bg2 Bxg2+
8.Kxg2 wins, or:

— Ka8 2.e4 Qf1+ 3.Bg1 axb3 4.e7 Qf7 5.d6 Bxd3
6.Bd5+/ii Kb8 7.Ba7+ Kxa7 8.Bxf7 Bxe4+
9.Kg1 wins.

i) 6.Bg2? Bxg2+ 7.Kxg2 stalemate.

ii) 6.Bxf7? Bxe4 mate.

No 20780 D. Keith & M. Minski
special honourable mention



h4c8 3141.20 6/3 Draw

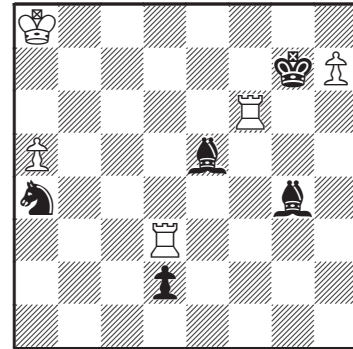
No 20780 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rf1 Qd6/i 2.Bg6 Qh2+ 3.Kg5 Qg2+ 4.Sg3 Qxg3+ 5.Kh6 Bxg6 6.b7+, and:

— Kc7 7.b8Q+ (b8B+) Kxb8 8.Rb1+ Bxb1 stalemate, or:

— Kb8 7.Rf8+ Be8 8.Rxe8+ Kxb7 9.Rg8 Qd3
10.Kg7 Qd7+ 11.Kg6 Qg4+ 12.Kh6, and 12...
Qxg8 stalemate, or Qf5 13.Rg7+ Kc8 14.Rg8+
Kd7 15.Rg7+ Ke8 16.Rg8+ Ke7 17.Rg7+ Kf8
18.Rg8+ Kxg8 stalemate.

i) Bd3 2.Rf7 Bg6 3.Rc7+ Kd8 4.Bxg6 Qf4+
5.Kh3 Qg3+ 6.Kxg3 Sxg3 (Kxg3) stalemate.

No 20781 P. Arestov
commendation



a8g7 0263.21 5/5 Win

No 20781 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rf1 d1Q
2.Rfxd1 Bxd1 3.Rd7+, and:

— Kh8 4.Rd8+ Kxh7 5.Rxd1 Kg7 6.a6 Sc5 7.a7
Bf4 8.Rd4 Bc7 9.Rd7+ Sxd7 10.Kb7 Sb6
11.Kxc7 wins, or:

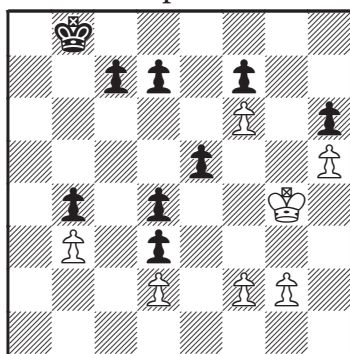
— Kg6 4.h8S+ Bxh8 5.Rxd1 Sc5 6.Rd5 Se6 7.Kb7
Bd4 8.a6 Bf2 9.Rd2 Sc5+ 10.Kc6 Sxa6 11.Rxf2
Sb4+ 12.Kd6 Sd3 13.Rf3 Se1 14.Re3 Sc2 15.Re4
Kf5 16.Kd5 wins.

Grigoriev 120 MT 2015

Judge Mikhail Zinar observed in his award that, for the Grigoriev 90 MT in 1985 (EG#6547-6563), no fewer than 130 studies by 55 composers were submitted but that, in the present tourney, only 25 studies by 12 composers from 8 countries participated.

Translation from Russian to English by HH.

No 20782 L. Katsnelson
1st prize



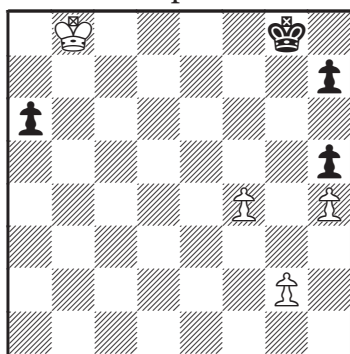
g4b8 0000.68 7/9 Win

No 20782 Leonard Katsnelson (Russia). 1.Kf5 c5 2.Kxe5 c4 3.Ke4/i cxb3 4.Kxd3 Kc7 5.g4 Kd6 6.g5 Ke5 7.gxh6 Kxf6 8.f3 d6 9.f4 d5 10.f5 zz wins.

i) Logical try: 3.Kxd4? cxb3 4.Kxd3 Kc7 5.g4 Kd6 6.g5 Ke6 (Ke5) 7.gxh6 Kxf6 8.f3 d6 9.f4 d5 10.f5 d4 zz, and Black wins.

“This shows a romantic Black/White trapping and is a worthy winner of the tourney in honour of the 120th birthday of N.D. Grigoriev. Unlike many logical studies in recent years, there is not only logic, but also endgame study!”

No 20783 I. Aliev
2nd prize



b8g8 0000.33 4/4 Win

No 20783 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Kc7 a5 2.Kd6/i a4 3.Ke7 a3 4.f5 a2 5.f6 a1Q 6.f7+ Kg7 7.f8Q+ Kg6 8.Qf7+/ii Kh6 9.Qf4+/iii Kg7 10.Qg5+ Kh8 11.Qf6+ Qxf6+ 12.Kxf6 Kg8 13.Kg5 Kg7 14.Kxh5 Kg8 15.Kh6 Kh8 16.h5 (g3)/iv Kg8 17.g3/v zz Kh8 18.g4 Kg8 19.g5 Kh8 20.g6 hxg6/vi 21.hxg6 Kg8 22.g7 wins.

i) Réti manoeuvre.

ii) 8.Qg8+? Qg7+ 9.Qxg7+ Kxg7 draws.

iii) 9.Qf6+? Qxf6+ 10.Kxf6 stalemate.

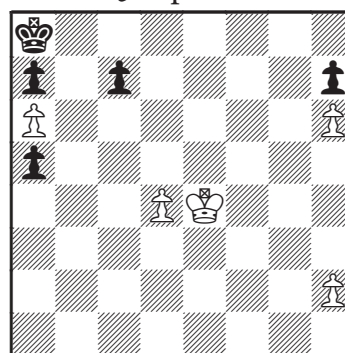
iv) Kling & Horwitz.

v) ‘Turtle’ move.

vi) Kg8 21.g7 Kf7 22.Kxh7 wins.

“We see a successful synthesis in a classical style – clear and simple. The ‘minus’ is the dual on the 16th move.

No 20784 A. Visokosov
3rd prize



e4a8 0000.44 5/5 Draw

No 20784 Andrei Visokosov (Russia). 1.Kd5 c6+ 2.Kc5 Kb8 3.d5 a4 4.Kb4 cxd5 5.Kxa4 Kc7 6.Kb3/i Kc6 7.Kc3 Kb5 8.Kd4 Kxa6 9.Kc5 zz Ka5/ii 10.h4 d4 11.Kxd4 Kb4 12.Ke5 a5/iii 13.Kf6 a4 14.Kg7 a3 15.Kxh7 a2 16.Kg8 a1Q 17.h7 draws.

i) 6.Kb5? Kd6 7.Kb4 Ke5 8.Kc3 Ke4 9.Kd2 Kd4 10.h4 Kc4 11.Kc2 Kb5 12.Kd3 Kxa6 13.Kd4

Kb5 14.Kxd5 a5 wins. 6.Kb4? Kb6 zz, and: 7.h3 Kxa6 (d4) 8.Kc5 d4 9.Kxd4 Kb5 10.Kc3 Kc5 11.Kb3 Kd5 12.Kb4 Ke6 13.Ka5 Kf5 14.Ka6 Kg6 15.Kxa7 Kxh6 16.Kb6 Kg5 17.Kc5 Kh4 18.Kd4 Kxh3 19.Ke3 Kg3, or: 7.h4 Kxa6 8.Kc5 Kb7 9.Kxd5 Kc8 10.Ke6/iv Kd8 11.Kf7 a5 12.Kg7 Ke7 13.Kxh7 Kf7 14.h5 a4 15.Kh8 a3 16.h7 a2 17.h6 a1Q mate.

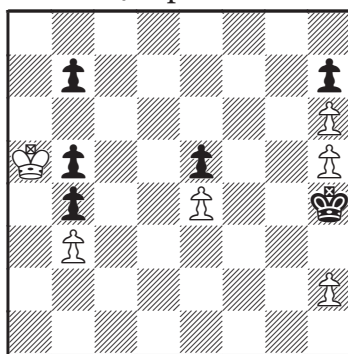
ii) d4 (Kb7; Kxd5) 10.Kxd4 Kb5 11.Kc3 Kc5 12.Kb3 Kd5 13.Ka4 Ke5 14.Ka5 Kf6 15.Ka6 Kg6 16.Kxa7 draws.

iii) Kc5 13.Kf6 Kd6 14.Kg7 Ke7 15.Kxh7 Kf7 16.Kh8 a5 17.h7 a4 18.h5 a3 19.h6 a2 stalemate.

iv) 10.Kc6 Kd8 11.Kb5 Ke7 12.Ka6 Kf6 13.Kxa7 Kg6 14.Kb6 Kxh6 15.Kc5 Kh5 16.Kd4 Kxh4 17.Ke3 Kg3 wins.

“There are long tries but these are not logical tries because there are black duals. This study is broad, deep, complicated, and... boring. The last study by Visokosov that I know dates back to 2008! [HH: in my database there are 3 more recent co-authored studies, including one from 2013: HHdbV#02126] so his participation in a tourney in honour of the King of Pawn Studies is already a pleasant surprise”.

No 20785 L. Katsnelson
4th prize



a5h4 0000.55 6/6 Win

No 20785 Leonard Katsnelson (Russia). 1.Kb6/i Kg4 2.Kc5 Kf3 3.Kd5 Kf4 4.h3 b6 5.h4 zz, wins/iii.

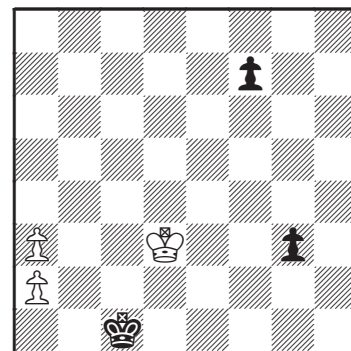
i) 1st Logical try: 1.Kxb5? Kg4 2.Kc5 Kf3 3.Kd5 Kf4 4.h3 b6 5.h4 b5 wins, e.g. 6.Ke6 Kxe4 7.Kf6 Kd5 8.Kg7 Ke6 9.Kxh7 Kf7, or 1.Kxb4? Kg4 (Kg5) 2.Kc5 Kf4/ii 3.Kd5 b4 4.h3 b6 5.h4 b5 zz, wins.

ii) b4? 3.Kd6 Kf4 4.Kd5 zz, wins.

iii) e.g. Ke3 6.Kxe5 Kd3 7.Kf4 Kc3 8.e5 Kxb3 9.e6 Kc2 10.e7 b3 11.e8Q b2 12.Qg8 Kc1 13.Qxh7 wins.

“This tactical idea with zugzwang and capture refusal is expressed very clearly and concisely. A double success for the St. Petersburg maestro in the Grigoriev competition.

No 20786 I. Aliev
commendation



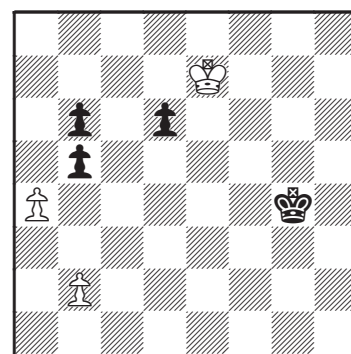
d3c1 0000.22 3/3 Win

No 20786 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Ke2/i f5 2.a4 f4 3.a5 g2 4.Kf2 Kd2 5.a6 f3 6.a7 g1Q+ 7.Kxg1 Ke1 8.a8Q (Kh2) f2+ 9.Kh2 f1Q 10.Qh1 wins.

i) 1.Ke3? f5 2.a4 f4+ 3.Kf3 Kd2 4.a5 g2 5.Kxg2 Ke2 6.a6 f3+ 7.Kg3 f2 draws.

“The new idea is the key move with an anti-check key move”.

No 20787 P. Arestov
commendation



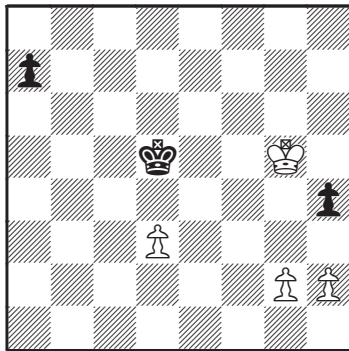
e7g4 0000.23 3/4 Win

No 20787 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.a5/i bxa5 2.Kxd6 a4 3.Kc5 Kf5 4.Kxb5 a3 5.bxa3 Ke6 6.Kb6 (Kc6, Kc6) wins.

i) Logical try: 1.Kxd6? (axb5? d5;) bxa4 2.Kc6 Kf5 3.Kxb6 Ke6 4.Kb5 a3 5.bxa3 Kd7 6.Kb6 Kc8 draws.

“This shows the sacrifice of a doomed pawn with a simple but original motivation; it may be small but it has a logical try”.

No 20788 V. Kalashnikov
commendation



g5d5 0000.32 4/3 Draw

No 20788 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia).
1.Kf4 Kd4 2.Kf3/i Kxd3/ii 3.g4/iii hxg3ep 4.h4 Kd4 5.Kxg3 a5 6.Kf4/iv Kd5/v 7.Ke3 draws.

i) 2.g4? hxg3ep, and: 3.hxg3 a5 4.g4 a4 5.g5 a3 6.g6 a2 7.g7 a1Q 8.g8Q Qf1+ 9.Kg3 Qg1+ wins, or: 3.Kxg3 a5 4.h4 a4 5.h5 Ke5 6.d4+ Kf6 7.d5 a3 8.h6 a2 9.h7 Kg7 wins.

ii) a5 3.Ke2 Kc3 4.d4 draws.

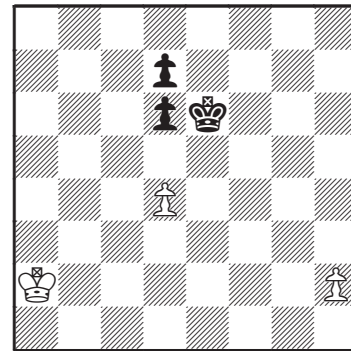
iii) 3.g3? a5 4.g4 a4 wins.

iv) 6.Kf3? a4, or 6.Kg4? Ke5 7.Kg5 Ke6 wins.

v) a4 7.h5 a3 8.h6 a2 9.h7 a1Q 10.h8Q+ and White wins.

“We see a new motif protecting against the impact of ‘the sword’ [HH: probably referring to the x-ray check]. This can be considered as a logical study with a preliminary manoeuvre”.

No 20789 V. Tarasiuk
commendation



a2e6 0000.22 3/3 Win

No 20789 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Kb3/i Kd5 2.Kc3 Ke4 3.h3/ii d5 4.h4 zz Kf4 5.Kb4 Kg4 6.Kc5 Kxh4 7.Kd6 Kg5 8.Kxd7 Kf6 9.Kd6 Kf7 10.Kxd5 wins.

i) 1.Kb2? Kf5 (d5) 2.Kc3 d5 3.Kb4 (h3 Kf4;) Ke4 4.Kc5 d6+ draws.

ii) Logical try: 3.h4? d5 zz 4.h5 Kf5 5.Kb4 Kg5 6.Kc5 Kxh5 7.Kd6 Kg6 8.Kxd7 Kf7 9.Kd6 Ke8 10.Kxd5 Kd7 draws.

“This is another position with a ‘snail’ move and a little logic”.

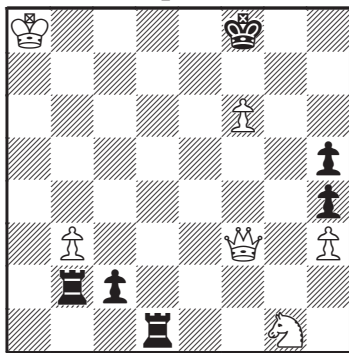
Georgian Thematic Internet Ty 2014

The Georgian thematic internet tourney was the initiative of the late Iuri Akobia, and has been organized annually from 2011. The 2014 tourney was started on Akobia's website but only 10 studies had been published at the time of his sad decease. GM David Gurgeniidze of the Georgian Commission for Chess Composition writes in the award that finishing off this event is probably the best way to pay due respect to Akobia. Mario G. Garcia (Argentina) was appointed as tourney director and Peter Krug (Austria) as the judge.

Curiously, the award does not inform us what the theme was, but on Akobia's website (still on-line at iii2106) we found: "a logical study based on the choice of a 'pin position' (pinned pieces may be black or white). At least one pin position is required for each phase (thematic try and main line), and these position must be different".

HH polished the English comments.

No 20790 P. Arestov
1st prize



a8f8 1601.33 6/6 Win

No 20790 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Se2 Ra1+ 2.Kb8/i Rxb3+ 3.Qxb3 Rb1 4.Qb7/ii Rxb7+ 5.Kxb7 Kf7 6.Kc6 Kxf6 7.Kd5/iii Kf5 8.Kd4/iv c1Q 9.Sxc1 Kf4 10.Se2+ Kf3 11.Kd3 Kg2 12.Sf4+ Kf3 13.Sxh5 Kg2 14.Sf4+ Kf3 15.Se6 Kg3 16.Sg5 Kf4 17.Se4 Kf3 18.Kd4 Kf4 19.Kd5 Kf5 20.Sc3 Kf4 21.Se2+ Kf3 22.Sg1+ Kf2 23.Ke4 Kxg1 24.Kf3 Kh2 25.Kg4 wins.

i) Thematic try: 2.Kb7? Rxb3+ 3.Qxb3 Rb1, and: 4.Sc1 – *pin with wQb3* – Rxb3+ 5.Sxb3 Kf7 6.Kc6 Kxf6 7.Kd5 Kf5 8.Kd4 Kf4 draws, or here: 4.Qb6 – *pin with wQb6* – Kf7 5.Sc1/v Rxb6+ 6.Kxb6 Kxf6 7.Kc5 Ke5 draws, with the wK on c5 and wS on c1.

ii) *Pin with wQb7*. 4.Sc1? Rxb3+ 5.Sxb3 Kf7.

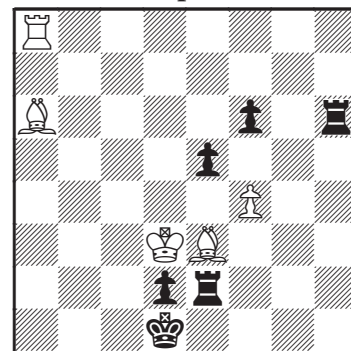
iii) Now the wK is at d5!

iv) And now the wS is at e2!

v) 5.Kc7 Rxb6 6.Kxb6 Kxf6 7.Kc5 Ke5 draws, with the wK on c5 and the wS on e2.

"As a composer I am familiar with the position from the 10th move on but what the Russian composer has made from it is very admirable. The main theme with thematic try is very original and has been worked out clearly".

No 20791 R. Becker
2nd prize



d3d1 0720.13 5/6 Draw

No 20791 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bc8/i Ke1 2.Ra1+ d1Q+ 3.Rxd1+ Kxd1 4.Bg4/ii Rh2 5.fxe5 fxe5 6.Bf3 zz Ke1 7.Bxe2 Rxe2 8.Ke4 zz Kf1 9.Kf3 zz Ra2 10.Ke4 Re2 11.Kf3 Ke1 12.Ke4 Kd1 13.Kd3 zz Re1 14.Bg5 (Bh6) Re2 15.Be3 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.Bb7? Ke1 2.Ra1+ d1Q+ 3.Rxd1+ Kxd1 4.Bf3 – *pin with wBf3* – Rh2 5.fxe5

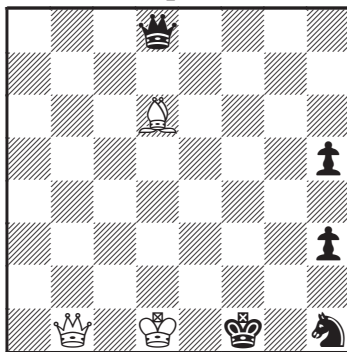
fxe5 zz 6.Bxe2+/iii Rxe2 zz 7.Bg5 (Ke4 Kc2;) Ke1
8.Be3 Kf1 9.Ke4 Kg2 wins.

ii) *Pin with wBg4.*

iii) 6.Bg4 e4+ 7.Kxe4 Rh4 and the pin wins.

“This is a crystal clear and beautiful logical study”.

No 20792 R. Becker
3rd prize



d1f1 4013.02 3/5 Win

No 20792 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qd3+/i Kg2 2.Qd5+ Kf1 3.Qxh1+ Kf2/ii 4.Qe1+ Kg2 5.Qg3+ Kf1 6.Qd3+ Kg2 7.Qd5+ Kf1 8.Kd2 zz h4/iii 9.Qc5 Kg2/iv 10.Ke1/v Qe8+ 11.Be5/vi Kf3 12.Qd4 Qf7 13.Qf2+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Kd2+? Kf2 2.Qe1+ Kg2 3.Qe4+ Kg1 4.Qd4+ Kf1 5.Qd3+ Kg2 6.Qd5+ Kf1 7.Qxh1+ Kf2 – *Pin I with wKd2* – 8.Qe1+ Kg2 9.Qg3+ Kf1 10.Qd3+ Kg2 11.Qd5+ Kf1 zz 12.Qe5 Kf2 zz 13.Qc5+ Kg2 14.Ke1 Qh4+ draws. Thematic try: 1.Qb5+? Kg1 2.Qe5 h4 3.Qh2+ Kf1 4.Qxh1+ Kf2 5.Qe1+ Kg2 6.Qd2+ Kf1 7.Qd3+ Kg2 8.Qd5+ Kf1 9.Qb5+ Kf2 10.Qe2+ Kg1 11.Qe5 Kf1 12.Kd2 Qb6 13.Qe2+ Kg1 14.Qh2+ Kf1 15.Qxh3+ Kg1 16.Bh2+ Kf2 17.Qxh4+ Kg2 18.Qg3+ Kh1 draws.

ii) *Pin I with wKd1.*

iii) h2 9.Qf7+ Kg2 10.Ke2, or Qb6 9.Qd3+ Kg2 10.Qg3+ Kf1 11.Qxh3+ Kg1 12.Bh2+ Kf2 13.Bg3+ Kg1 14.Qh2+ Kf1 15.Qh1+ Qg1 16.Qf3+ wins.

iv) Qg8 10.Qf5+ Kg1 11.Qb1+ Kg2 12.Qe4+ Kg1 13.Qe1+ Kg2 14.Qe2+ Kg1 15.Bc5+ Kh1

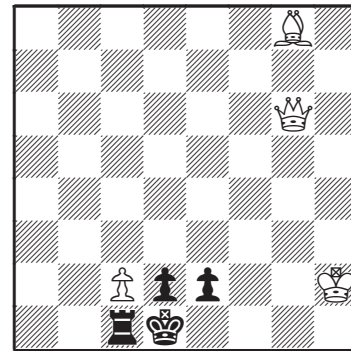
16.Qf1+ Kh2 17.Bd6+, or Qd7 10.Qc4+ Kg1 11.Qd4+ wins.

v) Thematic try: 10.Ke3? Qe8+ 11.Be5 – *pin II with wKe3* – Qa4 12.Qd5+ Kg1 13.Kf3 Qa3+ draws. Thematic try: 10.Ke2? Qe8+ 11.Be5 – *pin II with wKe2* – Qf7 12.Qc6+ Kg1 13.Qc1+ Kg2 draws.

vi) *Pin II with wKe1.*

“In the main line, the ZZ forces Black to make the harmful move 8...h4, which White exploits. In contrast, in the thematic try, it is WTM in the same ZZ”.

No 20793 O. Pervakov
1st commendation



h2d1 1310.12 4/4 Win

No 20793 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Bd5/i Rxc2/ii 2.Bb3/iii e1Q 3.Qxc2+ Ke2 4.Qe4+ Kf2 5.Qf4+ Ke2 6.Bc4+ Kd1 7.Bd3 Qe6/iv 8.Qf1+/v Qe1 9.Qf6 Qe3 10.Qa1 mate.

i) Thematic try: 1.Be6? Rb1/vi 2.Bg4 – *pins bPe2* – Ke1 3.Bxe2 Kxe2 draws.

ii) e1Q 2.Bf3+ Qe2+ 3.Bxe2+ Kxe2 4.Qd3+ Ke1 5.Kg1 d1Q 6.Qe3+ Qe2 7.Qxc1+ wins.

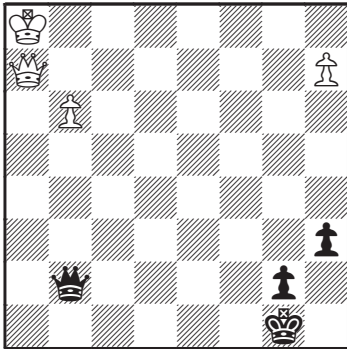
iii) *Pins bRc2.* Thematic try: 2.Bf3? – *pins bPe2* – Kc1 3.Bxe2 d1Q draws.

iv) Kc1 8.Qc4+ Kb2 9.Qb4+ Ka2 10.Bc4+ Ka1 11.Qa3+ Kb1 12.Bd3 mate.

v) Try: 8.Qd4? Qh6+ 9.Kg2 Qg5+ 10.Kf1 Qa5 11.Qc4 Qf5+ 12.Bxf5 stalemate.

vi) Ra1? 2.Bg4 Ke1 3.Bxe2 Kxe2 4.Qh5+ Ke1 5.Qe5+ wins.

No 20794 V. Kalashnikov
2nd commendation



a8g1 4000.22 4/4 Win

No 20794 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia).
1.b7+ Kh1 2.b8Q Qxb8+ 3.Kxb8 g1Q 4.Qa8+/i

Qg2/ii 5.Qa1+/iii Qg1 6.h8Q h2 7.Qa8+ Qg2
8.Qha1 mate.

i) Thematic try: 4.Qb7+? Qg2 – *pin with wQb7* – 5.h8Q Qxb7+ 6.Kxb7 h2 draws.

ii) *Pin with wQa8.*

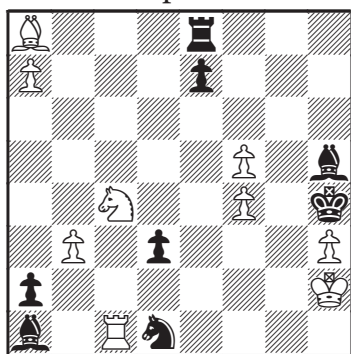
iii) Try: 5.h8Q? Qxa8+ 6.Kxa8 h2 draws.

In HH's view this is not a correct logical study (see editorial). The crucial difference between the thematic try and the main line is that after the move 5.Qa1+ Qg1 6.h8Q the wQa1 is covered by the wQh8. So, one would expect the thematic try to run: 5.Qb1+ Qg1 6.h8Q Qxb1+ draws. But this line has a black dual: after 5.Qb1+, 5...Kh2 also draws.

Belyavsky 80 JT 2015

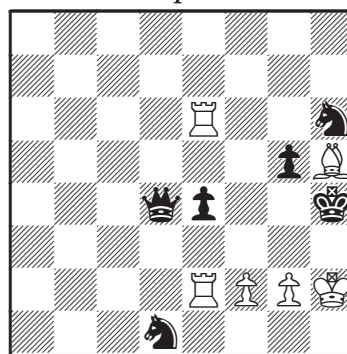
Albert Belyavsky judged his JT for which 51 studies were submitted. The (final?) award appeared in *Zadachy i Etyudi* no. 67 19xii2015.

No 20795 J. Timman
1st prize



h2h4 0474.53 9/8 Win

No 20796 A. Zhukov
2nd prize



h2h4 3216.22 6/6 Win

No 20795 Jan Timman (the Netherlands).
1.Bc6 Ra8/i 2.Bxa8 Bd4 3.Ra1/ii Bxa1/iii 4.Bh1 Bh8 5.a8Q a1Q 6.Qg2 Qg7 7.Se3, and:

— Be8 8.Qf3 (Sg4? Qb2;) Bc6 9.f6 (Qxc6? Qg3 mate;) Qg6 10.Sg2+ Qxg2+ 11.Qxg2 Bxg2 12.fxe7 wins, or:

— Be2 8.Sg4 Kh5 9.Qg3 Se3/iv 10.Qxe3/v Bxg4 11.f6 exf6 12.hxg4+ wins.

i) Bd4 2.Bxe8 Bxa7 3.Bxh5 Kxh5 4.Rxd1 wins.

ii) 3.Be4? Bxa7 4.Ra1 Bb8 5.Kg2 Sc3 6.Bxd3 Bxf4 7.b4 Bf7 8.b5 Bd5+ 9.Kf2 Kxh3 10.b6 Sa4 draws.

iii) Sc3 4.f6 exf6 5.Sd6 wins.

iv) Sf2 10.Qxf2 Bxg4 11.f6 Qh6 12.Qg3 Qxf6 13.hxg4+ Kg6 14.Qxd3+ wins.

v) 10.Sxe3? Qxg3+ 11.Kxg3 Bd4 12.Bf3+ Bxf3 13.Kxf3 d2 14.Sd1 Kh4 15.Ke2 Kg3 draws.

vi) e.g. Kxg4 13.Bf3+ Kf5 14.Qe4 mate.

“This is an outstanding study on the ‘monkey theme’ which is rare in studies. Particularly impressive are the mutual bishop moves on the long diagonal”.

HH: The monkey theme: Black and White carry out identical combinations (M. Velimirovic & K. Valtonen. 2102. *Encyclopedia of Chess Problems*, p.289).

No 20796 Aleksandr Zhukov (Ukraine).
1.R2xe4+/i Qxe4 2.Bxd1 Sg4+ 3.Bxg4 Qd4/ii 4.Re4/iii Qxe4 5.Bf3, and:

— Qe5+ 6.g3+ Qxg3+ 7.fxg3 mate, or:

— Qxf3 6.gxf3 g4 7.f4 Kh5 8.Kg3 wins.

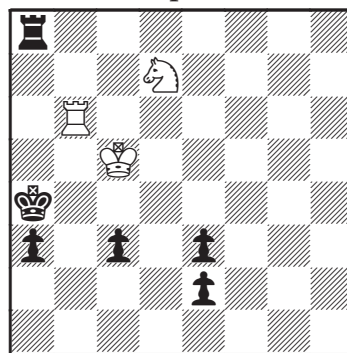
i) 1.R6xe4+? Qxe4 2.Rxe4+ Kxh5, or 1.Rxh6? g4 2.Rxe4 Qxe4 3.Bg6+ Kg5 4.Bxe4 Kxh6 5.Kg3 Kg5 draw.

ii) Qxg4 4.Rh6+, or Qa4 4.Be2 g4 5.Re5 win.

iii) 4.Be2? g4, or 4.Bf3? g4 5.Re4 Qxf2 draw.

“This is a short yet vivid study”.

No 20797 N. Ryabinin
3rd prize



c5a4 0401.04 3/6 Win

No 20797 Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia). 1.Rb4+ Ka5 2.Sb8/i Ra6/ii 3.Rb5+ (Sxa6? c2;) Ka4

4.Sxa6 a2/iii 5.Rb4+ Ka3/iv 6.Kc4 a1S/v 7.Sc7/vi e1Q 8.Sb5+ Ka2 9.Sxc3+ Ka3/vii 10.Ra4+ Kb2 11.Ra2+ Kc1 12.Rxa1+ Kd2 13.Ra2+ Kc1 14.Kb3 Qf2/viii 15.Ra1+ Kd2 16.Rd1 mate.

i) 2.Sb6? Rc8+ 3.Sxc8 c2 4.Rb5+ Ka6 5.Rb6+ draws.

ii) Rxb8 3.Rxb8 Ka4 4.Rb4+ Ka5 5.Rb1 wins.

iii) e1Q (c2) 5.Kb6 and mate.

iv) Ka5 6.Sb8 a1Q 7.Sc6+ Ka6 8.Rb6 mate.

v) a1Q 7.Rb3+ Ka4 8.Sc5+ Ka5 9.Rb5 echo-mate.

vi) 7.Sc5? c2 8.Ra4+ Kb2 9.Sd3+ Kb1 10.Rb4+ Sb3 11.Rxb3+ Ka1 12.Rc3 Kb1 draws.

vii) Qxc3+ 10.Kxc3 e2 11.Ra4+ Kb1 12.Re4 Sc2 13.Rxe2 wins.

viii) Qd1+ (Qd2; Ra1 mate) 15.Sxd1 Kxd1 16.Kc3 wins.

No 20798 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Sf3/i Be3+ 2.Kxe3 Rh1 3.Qh2+/ii Rxh2 4.Sg1+ Kg3 5.Se2+ Kh3 6.Sf4+ Kg3 7.Sxh5+ Kh3 8.Sf4+ Kg3 9.Se2+ Kh3 10.Kf3 Rh1 11.Sf4+ Kh2 12.Sg4+ Kg1 13.Ke2 Rh2/iii 14.Ke1 Kh1 15.Sf2+ Kg1 16.Se2 mate.

i) 1.Sg4? Rf5+, and: 2.Ke2 Kxg4 3.Qxh2 Re5+ 4.Kd1 Rxe1+ 5.Kxe1 h3 draws, or: 2.Sf3 Kxg4 3.Qxh2 Rxf3+ 4.Kxg2 h3+ 5.Kh1 Be3.

ii) 3.Qf2? Rf1, and: 4.Sg1+ Kh2 5.Sg4+ Kh1 6.Qb2 Kxg1, or: 4.Qc2 g1Q+ 5.Sxg1+ Rxg1 6.Qc8+ Kh2 7.Sg4+ Kg3 8.Sf6 Re5+ 9.Kd4 Rg5 10.Se4+ Kh2 11.Sxg5 Rxg5 draws.

iii) Rh3 (h3; Ke1) 14.Sxh3+ Kh1 15.Shf2+ Kg1 16.Ke1 h3 17.Ke2 h2 18.Sh3+ Kh1 19.Sg2 mate.

No 20799 Vladimir Katsnelson & Leonard Katsnelson (Russia). 1.d5/i Rf8+/ii 2.Ke3/iii exd5 3.c7, and:

— Re8+ 4.Kd3 (Kd4? Kc6;) Kc6 5.Rb4 Rc8 6.Rb8 Kd7 7.Kd4 h3 8.Kc5/iv h2 9.Rxc8 Kxc8 (h1Q; Rd8+) 10.Kc6 h1Q 11.d7 mate, or:

— Kc6 4.Rb4 d4+ 5.Ke4/v Kd7 6.Rb8/vi Rc8 7.Kd5 d3 8.Rxc8 d2/vii 9.Rd8 mate.

i) 1.c7? Rf8+ 2.Ke3 Kc6 draws.

ii) exd5 2.Rb4+ Ka7 3.c7 wins.

iii) Logical try: 2.Ke2? exd5 3.c7 Kc6 (Re8+; Kd3) 4.Rb4 Kd7 5.Rb8 Rc8 draws.

iv) Logical try: 8.Kxd5? h2 9.Rb1 Rg8 10.Rh1 Rg2 draws.

v) Logical try: 5.Kxd4? (Rxd4? h3;) Kxd6 6.Rb8 Rf4+ 7.Ke3 Kxc7 draws.

vi) Logical try: 6.Kd5? h3 7.Rb3 d3 8.Rxd3 (Rb8 d2;) Rh8 draws.

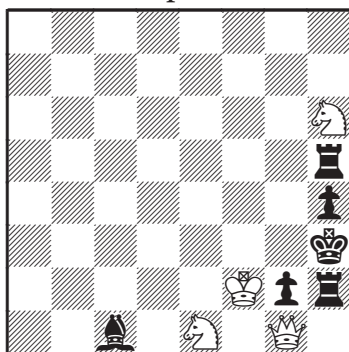
vii) Kxc8 9.Kc6 d2 10.d7 mate.

“This is a subtle rook study with the construction of two mate patterns with the wK approaching by different routes”.

No 20800 Mikhail Gromov (Russia), Martin Minski (Germany) & Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Kg8/i Bb2 (cxb3; Se2+) 2.Se6+ (Se2+? Ke3;) Ke5 (Kf5; Sbc5) 3.Sec5/ii Ba3 (cxb3; Sd3+) 4.Sd7+ Ke6/iii 5.Sf8+/iv Bxf8 6.Sd4+ Ke7 (Ke5; Sc6+) 7.Bf3/v c3 8.Bd1 Ke8 9.Ba4+ Ke7 10.Bc2/vi Ke8 11.Bg6+ Ke7 12.Bd3/vii Ke8 13.Bb5+ Ke7 14.Ba4 wins/viii.

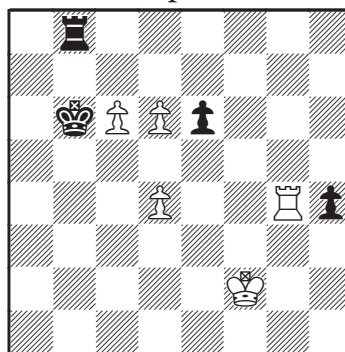
i) Try: 1.Kh7? Bb2 2.Se6+ Ke5 3.Sec5 Ba3 4.Sd7+ Ke6 5.Sf8+ Kf7 see note iv).

No 20798 Y. Bazlov
4th prize



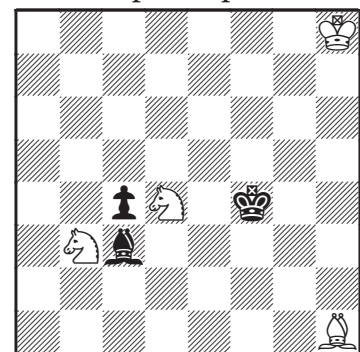
f2h3 1632.02 4/6 Win

No 20799 V. Katsnelson
& L. Katsnelson
5th prize



f2b6 0400.32 5/4 Win

No 20800 M. Gromov,
M. Minski & O. Pervakov
1st special prize



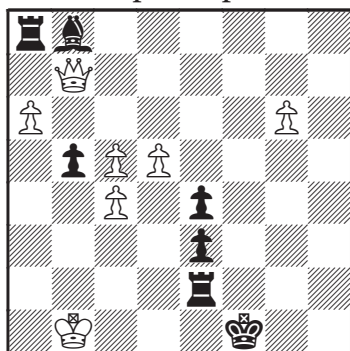
h8f4 0042.01 4/3 Win

- ii) 3.Sbc5? c3 4.Be4 Ba3 5.Bc2 Kd6 draws.
- iii) Kd6 5.Sb6 cxb3 6.Sc4+ wins.
- iv) Now wKg8 instead of wKh7, so 5...Kf7 is not possible. Compare with note i).
- v) 7.Be4? Kf6 8.Kxf8 Ke5, or 7.Bc6? Kd6 8.Kxf8 Kc5 draw.
- vi) 10.Sc6+? Kd6 11.Kxf8 c2 draws.
- vii) 12.Be4? Kf6 13.Kxf8 Ke5 draws.
- viii) e.g. c2 15.Bxc2 Bh6 16.Sf5+ Kf6 17.Sxh6.

“With a 5 move systematic manoeuvre the wB transfers the tempo to Black; this involves three forks on the bB and all of this occurs in miniature form”.

After M. Minski, 2nd Hon. Mention EG 2008-2009 (EG#16560).

No 20801 P. Arestov & A. Skripnik
2nd special prize



b1f1 1630.53 7/7 Win

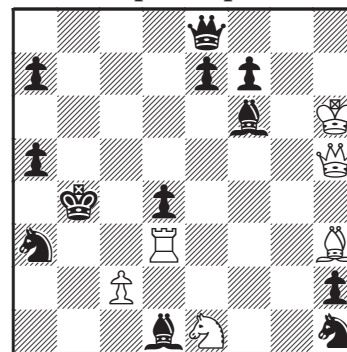
No 20801 Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.d6/i Re1+/ii 2.Kb2/iii Rb1+/iv 3.Kxb1 e2 4.Qxe4 e1Q+ 5.Qxe1+ Kxe1 6.cxb5 Ba7 7.b6/v Bxb6 8.cxb6 Rxa6 9.g7, and:

- Rxb6+ 10.Kc2 Rb8 11.Kd3 Kf2 12.Ke4/vi Kg3 13.Kf5 Kh4 14.Kg6 Rd8 15.d7/vii Kg4 16.Kf6 Kh5 17.Ke7 wins, or:
- Ra8 10.b7 Rg8/viii 11.Kc1/ix Kf2 12.Kb2/x Ke2 13.Kc2 zz Kf3 14.Kb3/xi Ke3 15.Kc3 zz Kf4 16.Kb4 Ke4 17.Kc4 zz Kf5 18.Kb5 Ke5 19.Kc5 zz Kf6 20.Kb6 Ke6 21.Kc6 zz Rd8 22.Kc7/xii Rd7+ 23.Kc8 Rxc7 24.d7 Rxd7 25.b8Q wins.
- i) 1.Qxa8? Re1+ 2.Kc2 Rc1+ 3.Kxc1 e2 draws.
- ii) Rxa6 2.Qxa6 Rf2 3.cxb5 e2 4.b6 wins.
- iii) Logical try: 2.Kc2? e2/xiii 3.Qxe4 Rc1+ 4.Kxc1 e1Q+ 5.Qxe1+ Kxe1 6.cxb5 Ba7 7.b6 Bxb6 8.cxb6 Rxa6 9.g7 Ra8 10.b7 Rg8 zz 11.Kc2

Ke2 zz 12.Kc3 Ke3 zz 13.Kc4 Ke4 zz 14.Kc5 Ke5 zz 15.Kc6 Ke6 zz 16.d7 Rd8 17.Kc7 Rxd7+ 18.Kc8 Rxc7 draws.

- iv) e2 3.Qxe4 Rb1+ 4.Qxb1+ wins.
- v) 7.c6? Kd2 8.d7 Bb6 wins.
- vi) 12.Kd4? Kf3 13.Ke5 Kg4 14.Kf6 Kh5 15.Kf7 Rb7+ positional draw.
- vii) 15.Kh7? Kg5 16.g8Q+ Rxc7 17.Kxc7 Kf6 draws.
- viii) Rd8 (Rb8) 11.Kc2 Ke2 12.Kc3 Ke3 13.Kc4 Ke4 14.Kc5 Ke5 15.Kc6 Ke6 16.Kc7 Rd7+ 17.Kc8 Rxc7 18.d7 Rxd7 19.b8Q wins.
- ix) 11.Kc2? Ke2 zz.
- x) 12.Kc2? Ke2 zz. 12.Kd2? Kf3 13.Kd3 Kf4 14.Kd4 Kf5 15.Kd5 Kf6 16.Kc6 Ke6 zz, draws.
- xi) 14.Kd3? Kf4 15.Kd4 Kf5 16.Kd5 Kf6, or 14.Kc3? Ke3
- xii) 22.d7? Ke7 23.Kc7 Rxd7+ draws.
- xiii) Rc1+? 3.Kxc1 e2 4.Qf7+ wins.

No 20802 S. Zakharov
3rd special prize



h6b4 4177.16 6/12 Draw

- No 20802** Sergey Zakharov (Russia). 1.Rb3+ Ka4 (Kc4; Be6+) 2.Bd7+ Qxd7 3.Sd3 Bg5+ 4.Kg7/i Bf6+ 5.Kh6 Bg5+ 6.Kg7 Bh6+ 7.Qxh6/ii Qg4+ 8.Kh8/iii Qc8+ 9.Qf8 (Kg7? Qxc2;), and:
- Qxf8+ 10.Kh7 Bxc2 11.Rb4+ axb4 stalemate, or:
 - Qh3+ (Qxc2; Qb8) Kg8 Qg2+ 11.Kh8 Qh3+ 12.Kg8 Qg4+ 13.Qg7 Qc8+ 14.Qf8 Qg4+ 15.Qg7 positional draw.
 - i) 4.Kxc5? Qd5+ 5.Kf4 Qd6+ wins.
 - ii) 7.Kxh6? (Kh7? Bxc2;) Qc6+ 8.Kg7 Bxc2 9.Sc5+ Qxc5 10.Qxc5 Kxb3 11.Qd5+ (Qxd4 Sg3;) Sc4 12.Qxh1 d3 wins.

iii) 8.Kxf7? Qf5+ 9.Kg7 Bxc2 10.Rxa3+ Kxa3 11.Qc1+ Kb3 12.Qb2+ Kc4 13.Qxc2+ Kd5 14.Qg2+ Kd6 15.Qxh2+ e5 wins.

“This is a good modern study, but the inactive black material spoils the ending”.

No 20803 Vladimir Katsnelson (Russia). 1.Bf6+/i Kxh7/ii 2.Bxb2 g2/iii 3.Kxg2 (Bd4? dxc5;) dxc5/iv 4.Ba4 Rxb2+ 5.Bc2+ Rxc2+ 6.Kf3/v Rc3+ 7.Kxf4 Rc4+ 8.Kf5 wins.

i) Logical try: 1.h8Q+? Kxh8 2.Bf6+ Kg8 3.Bxb2 Rxe8 (Rxb2?; Bb5) draws.

ii) Kxf6 2.h8Q+ Kxe7 3.Qg7+ Ke6 4.Bf7+ wins.

iii) Rxb2 3.Bg6+, or Rxe8 3.cxd6, or Rb3+ 3.Kxf4 g2 4.Bg6+, or dxc5 3.Ba4 g2 4.Kxg2 Rxb2+ 5.Bc2+ wins.

iv) Rxb2+ 4.Kf3 Rb8 5.cxd6 wins.

v) 6.Kf1? Rc1+ 7.Ke2 Rc3 and Black wins.

After Zalkind (HHdbV#78681).

“A new mechanism is added to a brilliant manoeuvre by Zalkind: Black attacks both bishops, but both cannot be captured immediately. There is an interesting improvement in luring bK to h7 and there is a thematic try as well”.

No 20804 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Kc3 Kf2 2.Kd4/i Kf3/ii 3.Kc5/iii Ke4 4.Kb6 Kd5 5.Kxa6 Kc6 6.Ka7 Kc7/iv 7.Ka6/v Kc6/vi 8.Ka7 Kc7/vii 9.Ka6 positional draw.

i) 2.Kc4? g5 3.hxg6ep hxg6 4.Kc5 g5 5.Kb6 g4 6.Kxa6 g3 7.Kb7 g2 8.a6 g1Q wins.

ii) g5 3.hxg6ep hxg6 4.Ke5 draws.

iii) 3.Ke5? Kg4, or 3.Kd5? g5 wins.

iv) g5 7.hxg6ep hxg6 8.Kb8 Kb5 9.Kb7 Réti manoeuvre Kxa5 10.Kc6 draws.

v) 7.a4? g5 8.hxg6ep hxg6 9.a6 g5 10.a5 g4 11.Ka8 g3 12.a7 g2 13.a6 Kb6 14.Kb8 g1Q 15.a8Q Qg8+ wins.

vi) g5 8.hxg6ep hxg6 9.Kb5 draws.

vii) g5 9.hxg6ep hxg6 10.Kb8 Kb5 11.Kb7 draws.

“This positional draw is a perpetual Réti manoeuvre. There are dozens of studies with Réti manoeuvres but, so far, no perpetual Réti”.

No 20805 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands). 1.Re8/i e2/ii 2.Bxe2/iii g2 3.Rb8+ Ka5/iv 4.Rb5+/v Ka4 5.Rb1 Be1 6.Rxe1 f2 7.Bd1+ (Bb5+? Ka5;) Kb4 (Ka5; Re5+) 8.a3+ Kxa3/vi 9.Re3+ dxe3 10.Kxg2 wins.

i) 1.Rb8+? Ka7 2.Rb1 gxh2 3.Kxh2 e2 4.d3 e1Q 5.Rxe1 Bxe1 draws.

ii) exd2 2.Rb8+ Kc7 3.Rb1, or g2 2.Bxg2 fxg2 3.Rb8+ Ka5 4.Rb1 Bf2 5.Kxg2 win.

iii) 2.Re6+? Kc7 3.Bxe2 g2 4.Rc6+ Kd8 5.Rc1 Be1 draws.

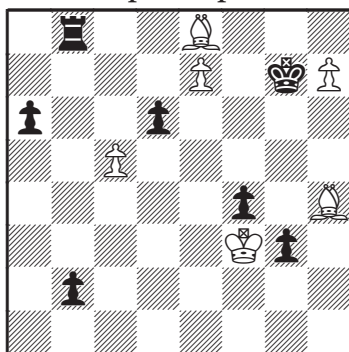
iv) Ka7 4.Rb7+ Kxb7 5.Bxf3+ Kb6 6.Bxg2 (Kxg2 d3;) Bg5 7.d3 wins.

v) 4.Rb1? Be1 5.Rxe1 f2 draws.

vi) Kc4 9.Be2+ (Bb3+) Kd5 10.Bf3+ Kd6 11.Re6+ and 12.Kxg2.

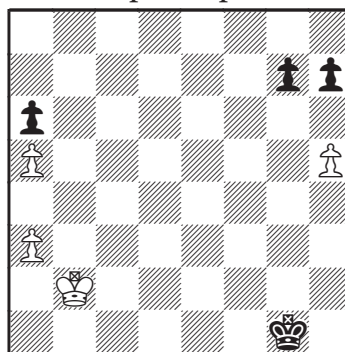
“This is both curious and subtle”.

No 20803 V. Katsnelson
4th special prize



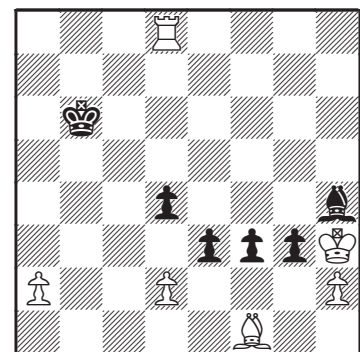
f3g7 o3z2.o35 6/7 Win

No 20804 M. Zinar
5th special prize



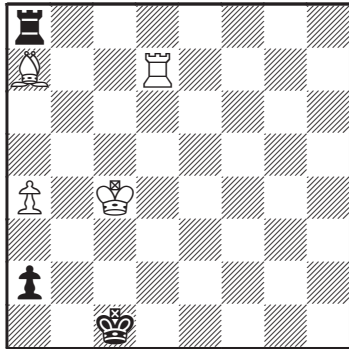
b2g1 ooooo.33 4/4 Draw

No 20805 H. van der Heijden
1st honourable mention



h3b6 o14o.34 6/6 Win

No 20806 V. Kalashnikov
2nd honourable mention



c4c1 0410.11 4/3 Win

No 20806 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia).
1.Be3+ Kb1 2.Rd1+ Kc2 3.Rd2+ Kb1 4.Bd4
Rxa4+ 5.Kb3 Kc1 6.Be3, and:

— Ra3+ 7.Kxa3 a1Q+ 8.Kb3 Qb1+ 9.Rb2+ wins,
or:

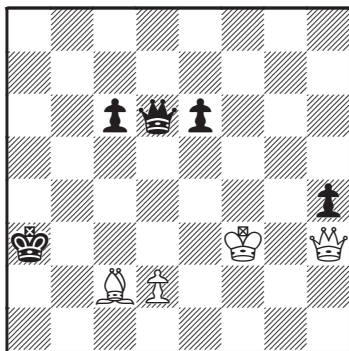
— Re4 7.Bh6 (Bg5)/i a1S+ 8.Kc3/ii Kb1 9.Rb2
mate.

i) 7.Rc2++? Kd1.

ii) 8.Ka2? Ra4 mate.

“This is a very nice miniature”.

No 20807 P. Krug & M. Garcia
3rd honourable mention



f3a3 4010.13 4/5 Win

No 20807 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario
Garcia (Argentina). 1.Kg2+/i Qg3+ 2.Qxg3+
hxxg3 3.Bd3/ii Kb2 4.Ba6/iii Kc2 5.d3 Kd2 6.Kxg3
Ke3 7.Kg4 e5/iv 8.Kf5 Kd4 9.Bc4 c5 10.Ba6/v
Kd5 11.Kg4 e4 12.Bb7+ Kd4 (Ke5; dxe4) 13.dxe4
c4 14.Kf3 c3 15.Ke2 c2 16.Kd2 wins.

i) 1.Kf2+? (Kg4+?) Qg3+ 2.Qxg3+ hxxg3+
3.Kxg3 c5 4.Kf4 c4 5.Ke3 Kb2 6.Bg6 c3, or
1.Qxh4? Kb2 2.Qc4 Qd5+ 3.Qxd5 exd5 4.Bf5 c5

5.Ke3 c4 6.Kd4 Kc1 7.Kc3 d4+, or 1.Ke2+? Qg3
2.Qxe6 Kb2 3.Be4 Qh2+ 4.Kd3 Qg3+ draw.

ii) 3.Kxg3? c5 4.Kf4 c4 5.Be4 Kb2 draws.

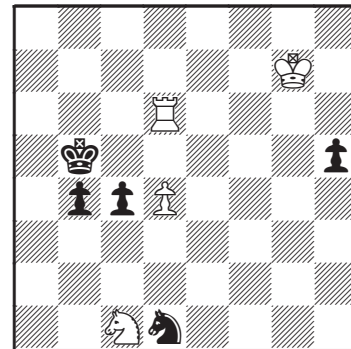
iii) 4.Bc4? Kc2 5.d3 Kd2 6.Kxg3 Ke3 7.Kg4 e5
8.Kf5 Kd4 zz 9.Ba6 Kd5 zz 10.Kg4 (Bb7 Kd4;)
e4 draws.

iv) Kd4 8.Kf4 e5+ 9.Kf3 c5 10.Bb5 Kd5 11.Ke3
wins.

v) 10.Bb5? Kd5 11.Ba6 Kd4 12.Bc4 e4 13.dxe4
Kxc4 14.e5 Kb3 15.e6 c4 16.e7 c3 17.e8Q c2
18.Qe3+ Kb2 draws.

“The precision play is interesting but rather
dry”.

No 20808 V. Tarasiuk
4th honourable mention



g7b5 0104.13 4/5 Win

No 20808 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Rd5+/i Ka6/ii 2.Rxh5/iii b3 3.Sxb3 cxb3 4.Rh3
b2 5.Rb3 Ka5 6.Kh8/iv Ka4 7.Rb7/v Ka5/vi 8.d5
Ka6 9.Rb3 (Rb4) Se3 10.d6 Sc4 11.d7 Se5 12.d8S
(d8Q? Sf7+;) wins.

i) 1.Rh6? b3 2.Rxh5+ Kb4 draws.

ii) Ka4 2.Rc5, and: b3 3.Rxc4+ Kb5 4.Rc5+,
and wins, or: Se3 3.d5 b3 4.d6 b2 5.Sa2 Ka3
6.Ra5+ Kb3 7.d7.

iii) 2.Rc5? b3 3.Sxb3 cxb3 4.Rc1 Se3 5.Kf6 Kb5
draws.

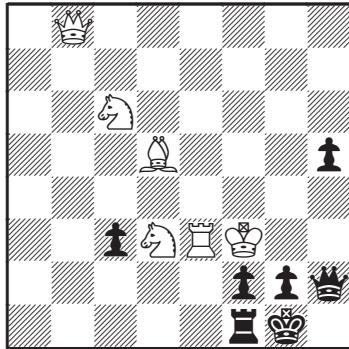
iv) 6.Kf8? Ka4 7.Rb8 Ka3 8.d5 Sc3 9.d6 Se4
10.d7 Sc5 11.d8Q Se6+ draws.

v) 7.Rb8? Ka3 8.d5 Se3 9.d6 Sc4 10.d7 Se5
11.d8Q Sf7+ draws.

vi) Ka3 8.d5 Sf2 9.d6 Sd3 10.d7 Sc5 11.d8Q
wins.

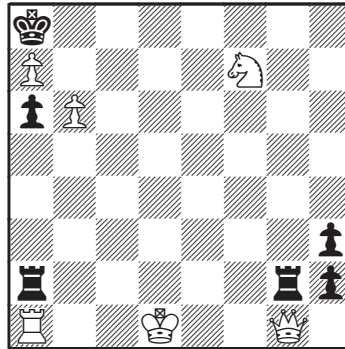
“The minor dual is a pity”.

No 20809 M. Campioli
5th honourable mention



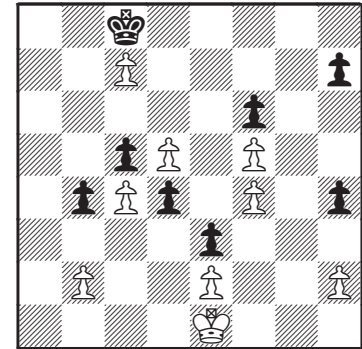
f3g1 4412.04 6/7 Win

No 20810 V. Razumenko
6th honourable mention



d1a8 1701.23 6/6 Win

No 20811 M. Zinar
1st sp.honourable mention



e1h7 0000.87 9/8 Win

No 20809 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Qg3/i c2/ii 2.Sd4/iii Qxg3+ 3.Kxg3 Re1 4.Se2+/iv Rxe2 5.Rxe2 c1Q/v 6.Sxc1 h4+ 7.Kh3 (Kxh4? f1Q;) f1Q 8.Rxg2+ Kh1 9.Se2 Qf5+/vi 10.Rg4+ Qxd5 11.Rg1 mate.

i) 1.Qg8? e.g. Rd1 2.Sxf2 Rf1 3.Re2 Qh3+ 4.Qg3 Qxg3+ 5.Kxg3 h4+ 6.Kh3 Rxf2 7.Rxf2 Kxf2 8.Bxg2 c2 9.Sb4 c1S, or 1.Qxh2+? Kxh2 2.Re4 g1S+ draw.

ii) h4 2.Qg5 c2 3.Sd4 c1Q 4.Se2+ Kh1 5.Sexc1 g1Q 6.Ke2+ wins.

iii) 2.Sce5? e.g. Qxg3+ 3.Kxg3 Re1 4.Sf3+ Kf1 5.Sfxe1 g1Q+ 6.Bg2+ Qxg2+ 7.Sxg2 Kg1 8.Sxf2 h4+ 9.Kf3 c1Q draws.

iv) 4.Sf3+? Kf1, or 4.Sxe1? f1S+ 5.Kh3 Sxe3 draw.

v) f1Q 6.Rxg2+ Kh1 7.Rh2++ Kg1 8.Rh1 mate.

vi) Qf3+ 10.Rg3 wins, avoiding 10.Bxf3? stalemate.

“There are too many captures but this is still nice”.

No 20810 Viktor Razumenko (Russia). 1.b7+ Kxb7 2.Rb1+ (Sd6+ Ka8;) Rab2 3.Rxb2+ Rxb2 4.Sd6+/i Ka8 5.Qg8+/ii Kxa7 6.Qg7+/iii Ka8 (Kb8; Qxb2+) 7.Qf8+ Ka7/iv 8.Qe7+ Kb8/v 9.Qd8+ Ka7 10.Qc7+/vi Ka8 11.Qc6+ Ka7 12.Kc1 wins.

i) 4.Sd8+? Ka8 5.Qh1+ Kxa7 6.Sc6+ Kb6 7.Kc1 Rg2 wins.

ii) 5.Qh1+? Kxa7 6.Sc8+ Kb8 7.Kc1 Rg2 and Black wins.

iii) 6.Qf7+? (Qh7+?) Kb8 7.Qf8+ Kc7 8.Qe7+ Kc6 draws.

iv) Rb8 8.Qf3+ Ka7 9.Qf2+ wins.

v) Kb6 9.Qb7+ Kc5 10.Se4+ Kc4 (Kd4; Qxb2+) 11.Sd2+ Kd3 12.Qd5+, or Ka8 9.Qe8+ Ka7 (Rb8; Qe4+) 10.Qd7+ Kb8 11.Qc8+ wins.

vi) 10.Qd7+? Kb8 11.Qc8+ Ka7 12.Qc7+ loses time.

“The first unforced move puts an end to the tactical play”.

No 20811 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.d6, and:

— b3 2.h3 Kd7 3.Kf1 Kc8 4.Kg1 Kd7 5.Kg2 Kc8 6.Kf3 Kd7 7.Ke4 h6 8.Kf3 Kc8 9.Kg2 Kd7 10.Kf1 (Kg1) Kc8 11.Kg1 Kd7 12.Kg2 Kc8 13.Kf3 Kd7 14.Ke4 h5 15.Kf3 Kc8 16.Kg2 Kd7 17.Kf1 (Kg1) Kc8 18.Kg1 Kd7 19.Kg2 Kc8 20.Kf3 Kd7 21.Ke4 Kc8 22.Kd5 Kd7/ii 23.Kxc5 d3 24.Kb6 dxe2 25.Kb7 e1Q 26.c8Q+ wins, or:

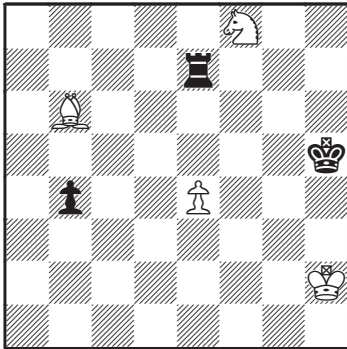
— h3 2.b3 Kd7 3.Kd1 Kc8 4.Kc1 Kd7 5.Kc2 Kc8 6.Kd3 Kd7 7.Ke4 h5 8.Kd3/ii Kc8 9.Kc2 Kd7 10.Kd1 (Kc1) Kc8 11.Kc1 Kd7 12.Kc2 Kc8 13.Kd3 Kd7 14.Ke4 h4 15.Kd3 Kc8 16.Kc2 Kd7 17.Kd1 (Kc1) Kc8 18.Kc1 Kd7 19.Kc2 Kc8 20.Kd3 Kd7 21.Ke4 Kc8 22.Kd5 Kd7 23.Kxc5 d3 24.Kb6 dxe2 25.Kb7 e1Q 26.c8Q wins.

i) Kb7 23.Ke6 d3 24.Kd7 dxe2 25.c8Q+ wins.

ii) 8.Kd5? d3 9.Kxc5 dxe2 10.Kb6 e1Q 11.Kb7 Qh1+ wins.

“This shows a sequential-parallel synthesis.”

No 20812 D. Keith
2nd special honourable mention



h2h5 0311.11 4/3 Draw

No 20812 Daniel Keith (France). 1.e5/i Rxe5 2.Sd7 Re6 (b3; Bd4) 3.Ba5/ii b3 4.Bc3 Rc6/iii 5.Ba1/iv Rc1 6.Bh8 Rc8 7.Ba1 Rc1 8.Bh8 Kg4 9.Se5+ Kf5 10.Sf3 Kf4 (Rc8; Ba1) 11.Sd4 b2 12.Se2+ (Se6+) draws.

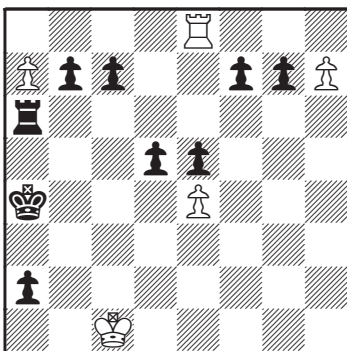
i) Logical try: 1.Bd4? Rxe4 2.Bf6 Kg4 3.Sd7 Re6 4.Kg2 Kf5, and either: 5.Bh8 Re8 6.Ba1 Ra8, or: 5.Ba1 Ra6 6.Bh8 Ra8 wins. If 1.Bc5? b3 2.Bxe7 b2 3.Kg3 b1Q 4.Kf4 Qb8+ 5.Kf5 Qc7 6.Ke6 Qc4+ 7.Ke5 Kg4 8.Se6 Qc3+ 9.Kd5 Qb3+ 10.Ke5 Qb2+ 11.Kd5 Qb7+, or 1.Ba5? b3 2.Bc3 Kg4 3.Sg6 Rxe4 4.Se5+ Kf5 5.Sf3 Re2+ 6.Kg1 Ke4

ii) 3.Bc5? b3 4.Ba3 Ra6 5.Bc1 Ra1 wins.

iii) Kg4 5.Kg1 Kf3 6.Kf1, or Re2+ 5.Kg1 draw.

iv) 5.Bh8? Kg5 (Kg6).

No 20813 S. Tsurtsunia
commendation



c1a4 0400.37 5/9 Win

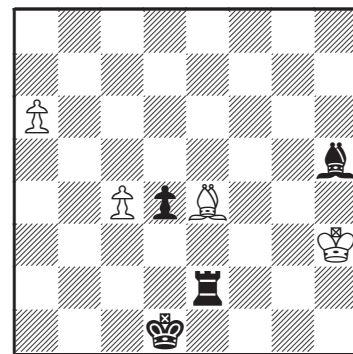
No 20813 Shakro Tsurtsunia (Georgia). 1.Kb2 a1Q+ 2.Kxa1 Kb3+ 3.Kb1 Rg6/i 4.Kc1 Kc3 5.Kd1 Kd3 6.Ke1 Ke3 7.Kf1 Rf6+ 8.Kg2 Rg6+ 9.Kh3 Rh6+ 10.Kg4 Rg6+ 11.Kf5 Rf6+ 12.Kxe5 Rg6 13.Kf5/ii Rf6+ 14.Kg4 Rg6+ 15.Kh3 Rh6+ 16.Kg2 Rg6+ 17.Kf1 Rf6+ 18.Ke1 Rg6 19.exd5+ wins.

i) Rf6 4.Kc1 Kc3 5.Kd1 Kd3 6.Ke1 wins.

ii) 13.Kxd5? (a8Q? Rg5 mate;) Rd6+ 14.Ke5 Rg6 15.Kf5 Rf6+ 16.Kg4 Rg6+ 17.Kh3 Rh6+ 18.Kg2 Rg6+ 19.Kf1 Rf6+ 20.Ke1 Rg6 21.Kd1 Rd6+ 22.Kc2 Rc6+ 23.Kb3 Rb6+ 24.Kc4 Rc6+ 25.Kd5 Rd6+ 26.Ke5 Rg6 draws.

“Pleasantly forced”.

No 20814 P. Arestov
commendation



h3d1 0340.21 4/4 Draw

No 20814 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.a7, and:
— Ra2 2.a8Q Rxa8 3.Bxa8 d3 4.Kh4/i Be2 5.c5 d2 6.c6 Ke1 7.c7 Bg4 8.Bf3 Bxf3 9.c8Q draws, or:

— Re3+ 2.Kh2/ii Ra3 3.a8Q Rxa8 4.Bxa8 d3 5.c5 d2 6.c6 Ke2/iii 7.c7 Bg4 8.Bd5/iii d1Q 9.c8Q Bxc8 10.Bf3+ Kxf3 stalemate.

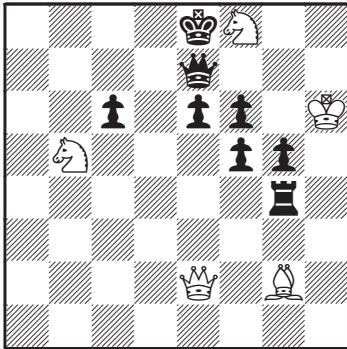
i) 4.c5? d2, and: 5.c6 Ke1 6.c7 Bg4+ 7.Kxg4 d1Q+, or: 5.Bc6 Kc1 6.Ba4 Bf3 7.Kg3 Be4 8.Kf4 Bc2 win.

ii) 2.Kh4? Rxe4+, or 2.Kg2? Ra3 3.a8Q Rxa8 4.Bxa8 d3 5.c5 d2 6.c6 Ke1 7.c7 Bg4 8.Bf3 Bxf3+ with check.

iii) Ke1 7.c7 Bg4 8.Bf3 draws.

“Should the first main line be a main line?”

No 20815 V. Neishtadt
commendation



h6e8 4312.05 5/8 Draw

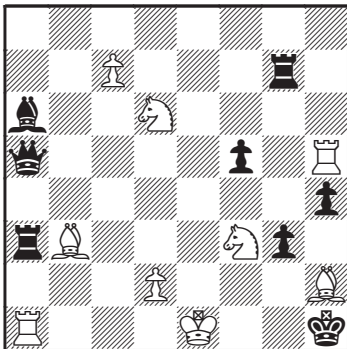
No 20815 Vazha Neishtadt (Russia). 1.Sg6/i Rh4+ 2.Sxh4 Qf8+ 3.Kg6 Qf7+ 4.Kh6 Kf8 5.Sg6+ Kg8 6.Qxe6 Qxe6 7.Bxc6 Kf7 (Qxc6; Se7+) 8.Be8+ Kg8/ii 9.Bc6 Kf7 10.Be8+ positional draw.

i) 1.Sxe6? Rh4+ 2.Kg6 Qh7+ 3.Kxf6 Rh6+ 4.Kxg5 Rg6+ 5.Kf4 Qh4+ 6.Ke5 Rxe6+ wins.

ii) Kxe8 9.Sc7+, or Qxe8 9.Sd6+ draw.

“The try is still unpleasant”.

No 20816 E. Kudelich
commendation



e1h1 3852.23 9/8 Win

No 20816 Eduard Kudelich (Russia). 1.O-O-O Kg2/i 2.Sxh4+/ii Kf2 3.Rxf5+/iii Qxf5 4.Bg1+/iv Ke2 5.Sdxf5/v Rxc7+ 6.Bc2 Ra1+ 7.Kb2 Rxc2+/vi 8.Kxc2 Bd3+ 9.Kb2 Rxd1 10.Sxg3+ Kxd2 (Ke1) 11.Sf3 mate.

i) Bf1 2.Rxf1+ Kg2 3.Sxh4+ Kxf1 4.Rxf5+ Qxf5 5.Bc4+ Kf2 6.Shxf5 Rxc7 7.Bxg3+ Rxg3 8.Sxg3 Kxg3 9.d3 wins.

ii) 2.Rg1+? Kf2 3.Rxf5 Ra1+ wins.

iii) 3.Bxg3+? Kxg3 4.Shxf5+ Kf4 5.Sxg7 Qxc7+ 6.Kb2 Rxb3+ 7.Kxb3 Qxd6 8.Rh4+ Kf3 draws.

iv) 4.Shxf5? gxh2 5.Sxg7 Ra1+ 6.Kc2 Rxd1 7.Bd5 Ke1 8.Sc4 Bxc4 9.c8Q Rxd2+ 10.Kc1 Bxd5 11.Qc3 h1Q draws.

v) 5.Shxf5? Rxc7+ 6.Bc2 Ra1+ 7.Kb2 Rxd1 8.Sxg3+ Ke1 9.Bxd1 Kxd1 10.Sge4 Rc2+ 11.Kb3 Rxd2 draws.

vi) Ra2+ 8.Kxa2 Rxc2+ 9.Kb3 Kxd1 10.Se3+ Kxd2 11.Sxc2 wins.

“The main line does not look like a main line. For an ideal mate with two self-blocks a prize could be at stake but my head is tired because of the endless computer lines. The winning plan is not obvious and, in addition, no thematic tries were indicated so one needs to look at the lines. But which one? A lot happens, but, although correct, it looks ugly! Kudelich’s fiction is fine, but a study is not just the sum of + and =, but of beautiful play leading to a beautiful finish”.

Israel Ring Tourney 2014

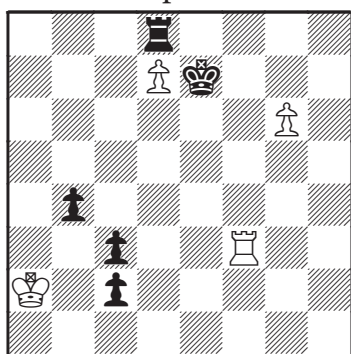
Branislav Djurašević and Mirko Miljanić (Serbia) replaced the originally appointed judge, Iuri Akobia, who had sadly passed away. Although this was an informal tourney, the judges received all 25 entries in anonymised form.

The ring tourney was intended for studies published in all Israeli sources in 2014 but, this year, all (awarded) studies were originals which had been published in *Variantim*. The general chess magazine *Shahmat* (Chess in Israel) had ceased publication a few years ago.

Zevzdan Marjanović assisted in soundness checking and Gady Costeff assisted in anticipation vetting. The provisional award appeared in *Variantim* no. 67 xii2015.

The judges agree with GM David Gurgeniđze who wrote in one of his awards that unique moves even in long studies do not represent a valid argument for a good study, i.e. more important is the artistic impression.

No 20817 R. Becker & M. Garcia
1st prize



a2e7 0400.23 4/5 Draw

No 20817 Richard Becker (USA) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Rf7+/i Kd6/ii 2.Rf1 Rxd7 3.Kb3 Kc5 4.Rf5+/iii Kb6/iv 5.Rf6+/v Kb5/vi 6.Rf5+ Kc6 7.Kxc2 (Rf6+? Rd6;) Rd2+ 8.Kb3 Rb2+ 9.Ka4/vii c2 10.Rf8/viii Kb7 11.Rc8/ix Kxc8 12.g7 c1Q 13.g8Q+ Kb7 14.Qg7+ Qc7 15.Qxb2 draws.

i) 1.Rf1? Rxd7 2.g7 c1Q/x 3.g8S+ (Rxc1 Rd2+;) Kd6 4.Rxc1 Kc5 5.Kb3/xi Ra7 6.Sf6 Ra3+ 7.Kc2 Ra2+ 8.Kb1 Rb2+ 9.Ka1 Re2 10.Sd7+ Kb5 11.Kb1 Re3 12.Kc2 Re7 13.Sf6/xii Kc4 14.Kb1 Re2 15.Sd7 Re6 16.Rg1 b3 17.Rg4+ Kb5 18.Rg5+ Kb4 19.Rg4+/xiii Ka3 20.Ra4+ Kxa4 21.Sc5+ Ka3 22.Sxe6 c2+ 23.Kc1 b2+ 24.Kxc2 Ka2 wins.

ii) Ke6 2.Rf1 Rxd7 3.Kb3 Rd1 4.g7 draws.

iii) 4.Kxc2? Rd2+ 5.Kb3 Rb2+ 6.Ka4 Ra2+ 7.Kb3 Ra3+ 8.Kc2 Kb5 9.Rg1 Ra2+ 10.Kd3 Rd2+ 11.Ke3 Rd8 12.g7 c2 wins.

iv) Rd5 5.Rxd5+ Kxd5 6.g7 c1Q 7.g8Q+ draws.

v) 5.Kxc2? Rd2+ 6.Kb3 Rb2+ 7.Ka4 c2, and now: 8.Rf6+ Kc5 9.Rf8 Ra2+ 10.Kb3 c1S mate, or here: 8.Rf1 Rb1 9.g7 Rxf1 10.g8Q c1Q, or 8.Rb5+ Kc6 9.Rb8 Ra2+ 10.Kxb4 Rb2+ wins.

vi) Kb7 6.Kxc2 Rd2+ 7.Kb3 Rb2+ 8.Ka4 c2 9.g7 c1Q 10.g8Q Qc2+ 11.Kb5 Qe2+ 12.Qc4 Qe5+ (Qe8+; Qc6+) 13.Ka4 Qxf6 14.Qb5+ draws.

vii) 9.Kc4? c2 10.Rc5+ Kd6 11.Kd4 Ke7 12.Ke5 Ra2 13.Rc7+ Kf8 14.Kf6 Ra6+ 15.Kf5 b3 16.Rc8+ Ke7 wins.

viii) 10.Rf1? (Rf6+ Kc5;) Rb1 11.g7 Rxf1 12.g8Q c1Q wins.

ix) 11.Rf7+? Kc6 12.Rf6+ Kc5, or 11.Rb8+? Kxb8 12.g7 c1Q 13.g8Q+ Qc8 14.Qg3+ Qc7 wins.

x) But not: Rd2? 3.Kb3 (g8S+? Kd6;) c1Q 4.g8S+ Ke6 5.Rxc1 Rb2+ 6.Kc4 c2 7.Re1+ Kf7 8.Sh6+ Kg6 9.Sg4 Rb1 10.Rc1 Rxc1 11.Se3 draws.

xi) 5.Sf6 Rd2+ 6.Kb1 Rb2+ 7.Ka1 Re2.

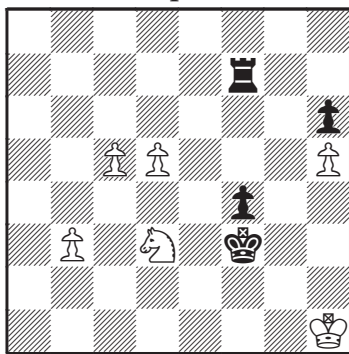
xii) 13.Rd1 Re2+ 14.Kd3 Re6 15.Kc2 Kc4 16.Rh1 b3+.

xiii) 19.Se5 Rd6 20.Rg4+ Kb5 21.Rg1 Kc5.

“The intriguing introductory move (1.Rf7!) is in the spirit of the whole game because, after the seemingly natural 1.Rf1? Rxd7 2.g7, Black wins with the study-like 2...c1Q! avoiding the attractive 2...Rd2? which leads to a draw in an equally study-like way 3.Kb3! c1Q 4.g8S+! Ke6 5.Rxc1 Rd2+ 6.Kb3 and draw. A similar but more intense impression in the main line is

provoked by 5.Rf6+!, which avoids the thematic 5.Kxc2? which is still too early and leads to a win by Black via an effective mating finale. The main line also has an effective finish (11.Rc8!) with perpetual check or the loss of the bR. An interesting and eventful study with rich counter play that culminates in a beautiful thematic try (5.Kxc2?) and all is flavoured with promotions to queen and knight for both sides which completes the very nice impression”.

No 20818 P. Krug
2nd prize



h1f3 0301.42 6/4 Win

No 20818 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.d6/i Kg3 2.Kg1 f3 3.Kf1 Rb7 (Ra7; Ke1) 4.Sf2/ii Rxb3/iii 5.Se4+ Kf4 6.d7 Ke3 7.Sd2 Rd3/iv 8.Sc4+ Kf4 9.Sd6 Ke3/v 10.Sf5+ Kf4 11.c6 Rd1+ 12.Kf2 Rd2+ 13.Ke1 f2+ 14.Kxd2 f1Q 15.Sd4 Qg2+ 16.Kc3 Qd5 (Qg3+; Kb4) 17.d8Q Qxd8 18.Se6+ wins.

i) 1.Se5+? Ke2, or 1.c6? Kg3 2.Kg1 Ra7 3.Kf1 f3 4.Ke1 Re7+ 5.Kd2 Re2+ 6.Kc3 Re3 7.c7 f2 draws.

ii) 4.b4? Ra7 5.Ke1 Ra1+ 6.Kd2 Ra2+ 7.Ke3 Ra3 8.d7 f2 9.d8Q f1Q.

iii) Ra7 5.Se4+ Kf4 6.Sc3 Ke3 (Kg3; Se2+) 7.Sd5+ Ke4 8.d7 Ra1+ 9.Kf2 Ra2+ 10.Kg3 Rg2+ 11.Kh3 Rg8 12.Sf6+ Ke3 13.Sg4+ wins.

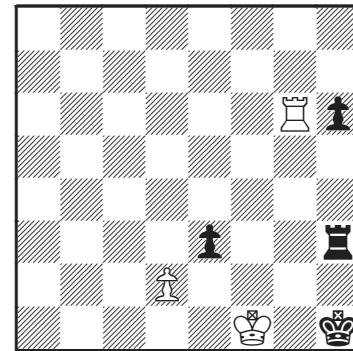
iv) Rc3 8.Sxf3 Kxf3 9.Ke1 Rd3 10.c6 wins.

v) Rd1+ 10.Kf2 Rd2+ 11.Ke1 f2+ 12.Kxd2 f1Q 13.d8Q Qf2+ 14.Kd3 wins.

“We see a remarkable dance of the mighty wS! It visits as many as nine squares (d3-f2-e4-d2-c4-d6-f5-d4-e6) in the main variation and five others (c3-d5-f6-g4-f3) in several side variations. An attractive and successful fight between the wS, with pawns against the bR, in the first part of the study is unexpectedly later

transformed into a fight between the wS and the bQ. The tries 1.c6? and 4.b4? nicely complete the very good impression. The fork at the start does not work, but the fork at the end does. A very complex, unusual and amazing study!”.

No 20819 R. Becker
3rd prize



f1h1 0400.12 3/4 Win

No 20819 Richard Becker (USA). 1.d3/i e2+/ii 2.Kxe2 Kh2 3.Kd2/iii Kh1 4.Kc2/iv Kh2 5.Kc3 Kh1/v 6.Kc4/vi Rh2 7.Kd5 (Kd4)/vii Rh5+ (Rh3) 8.Ke4 Rh2 9.Ke3/viii Rh3+ 10.Kf2 Rh2+ 11.Kf1 Rh4/ix 12.Rf6 Kh2 13.Kf2 Kh3 14.Kf3 Kh2/x 15.Rg6 Kh1 16.Rg4 wins.

i) Try: 1.dxe3? h5, and: 2.Kf2 Rh2+ 3.Kf3 h4 4.Rg4 h3 5.Rg3 Rf2+ 6.Kxf2 h2, or: 2.Rg5 h4 3.Rg4 Rf3+ 4.Ke2 Rf8 5.Rxh4+ Kg2 6.Rg4+ Kh3 7.Rg6 Re8 8.Kd3 Rd8+ 9.Kc4 Re8 10.Kd4 Rd8+ 11.Ke5 Re8+ 12.Re6 Rh8 13.Kf5 Kg3 14.e4 Rh5+ draw.

ii) h5 2.Rg5 h4 3.Rg4 Rf3+ 4.Ke2 Rf8 5.Rxh4+, or Kh2 2.Ke2 h5 3.Rg5 h4 4.Rg4 Kh1 5.d4 Rh2+ 6.Kxe3 h3 7.Rg3, or Rh4 2.Ke2 h5 3.Rg5 Rh2+ 4.Kxe3 h4 5.Rg4 h3 6.Rg3, or Rh5 2.Ke2 Re5 3.Rxh6+ Kg2 4.Rg6+ Kh3 5.d4 Re4 6.d5 Re5 7.d6 Kh4 8.d7 Rd5 9.Rg7 Kh5 10.Kxe3 Kh6 11.Ke4 Rd1 12.Re7 Kg6 13.Ke5 win.

iii) 3.d4? Ra3 4.Rxh6+ Kg3 draws.

iv) 4.Kc3? h5 5.Rg5 h4 6.Rg4 Rxd3+ 7.Kxd3 h3 8.Ke3 h2 draws.

v) h5 6.Rg5 h4 7.Rg4 Kh1 8.Kc4 Rh2 9.Kd5 h3 10.Rg3 Rd2 11.Rxh3+ Kg2 12.Re3 Kf2 13.Ke4 wins.

vi) 6.Kd4? (Kd2?) h5 7.Rg5 h4 8.Rg4 Rxd3+ draws.

vii) 7.d4? h5 8.Rg5 h4 9.Rg4 h3 10.Rg3 Rc2+ 11.Kd3 h2 12.Kxc2 stalemate.

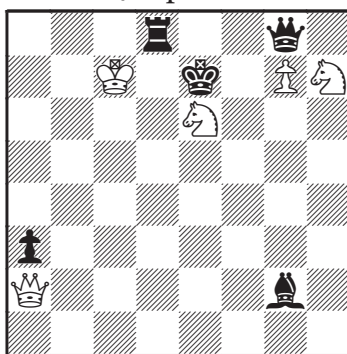
viii) 9.Kf3? h5 10.Rg5 h4 11.Rg4 h3 12.Rg3 Rf2+ 13.Kxf2 h2, or 9.d4? h5 10.Rg5 h4 11.Rg4 h3 12.Rg3 Re2+ draw.

ix) Rh5 (Rh3; d4) 12.Rf6 Kh2 13.Kf2 Kh3 14.Kf3 Kh4 15.Kf4 Kh3 16.Rg6 wins.

x) h5 15.Rf5 Kh2 16.Rg5 wins.

“This shows an impressive concept with the main idea of long “Rundlauf” of the wK from f1 via e2-d2-c2-c3-c4-d5-e4-e3-f2 and back to f1 around his pawn on d3. Even though confined, Black tries to save himself on several occasions by counter-sacrificing his rook. Because of that, White has to be careful with the king moves around wPd3 (even in the late phase, only 9.Ke3! wins, 9.Kf3? h5!) like walking through a minefield. During the introductory moves, White refuses to take the black pawn (1.d3!, but not 1.dxe3? h5!), and Black makes an additional pawn sacrifice on the very first move (1..e2+!) complementing the complexity of this very ambitious study. We would have assessed this study equally highly if it had been less complex but closer to human comprehension”.

No 20820 P. Krug & M. Garcia
4th prize



c7e7 4332.11 5/5 Win

No 20820 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Shf8, and:

— Ke8 2.Qxg2 Qf7+ 3.Kb6 Rb8+ 4.Ka6 a2 5.Qc6+ Ke7 6.Qd7+ Kf6 7.Qd4+ Ke7/i 8.Ka7 Re8 9.Kb6 Rb8+ 10.Kc7 wins, or:

— Rd7+ 2.Sxd7 Qa8 3.g8S+ Qxg8/ii 4.Qf2/iii Kxe6 5.Qf6+ Kd5 6.Qc3/iv Ke6/v 7.Qb3+

Bd5 8.Qh3+ Ke7/vi 9.Qh4+ Kf7/vii 10.Qf6+ Ke8 11.Qe5+ Qe6/viii 12.Qh8+/ix Kf7 13.Se5+ Ke7 14.Qd8 mate/x.

i) Kf5 8.Qf4 mate no. 1.

ii) Ke8 4.Sg7 mate no. 2.

iii) Thematic try: 4.Qxa3+? Kxe6 5.Qb3+ Bd5 6.Qh3+ Kf7 7.Qf5+ Ke7 8.Qf6+ Ke8 9.Qe5+ Kf7 10.Qxd5+ Ke7 11.Qe5+ Kf7 12.Qf6+ Ke8 13.Kd6 Qg3+ draws.

iv) 6.Qc6+? Kd4 7.Qc5+ Ke4 draws.

v) Qh7 (Qf7; Qb3+) 7.Qc5+ Ke6/ (Ke4; Qc2+) 8.Qe5+ Kf7 9.Qf6+ Kg8 10.Qf8 mate no. 3.

vi) Kf7 9.Qf5+ Kg7 10.Qf6+ Kh7 11.Sf8+ wins.

vii) Ke6 10.Qf6 mate no. 4.

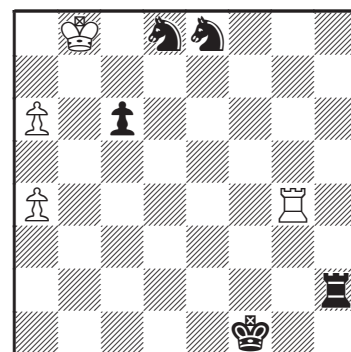
viii) Kf7 12.Qxd5+ Kg7 13.Qd4+ Kh6 14.Qh4+ Kg6 15.Qg4+(Qg3+) Kh7 16.Sf6+ wins.

ix) 12.Qh5+? Ke7 13.Qh4+ Ke8 14.Qh8+ wastes time.

x) Mate no 5.

“We see an appealing and economical starting position with sharp and unexpected introductory play (1...Rd7+ and 3.g8S+), and a main idea that starts with the striking 4.Qf2!!. The study consists of a paradoxical and quite long manoeuvre whereby White avoids capturing the bPa3, the reason for which is seen only after 10 moves. We consider that this study deserves this high ranking due to its very attractive and exceptional introductory play in spite of the fact that there are some partial predecessors, but only in the final part of the study, e.g. Kolkpakov & Serezhkin (EG#11490)”.

No 20821 P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



b8f1 o4o6.21 4/5 Win

No 20821 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rf4+/i Kg1/ii 2.a7 Rb2+ 3.Kc8 Sc7 4.Kxc7 (Kxd8? Rb7;) Rb7+ 5.Kc8/iii Rxa7 6.Kxd8 zz c5 7.Kc8 zz Kg2 8.Kb8 Rd7/iv 9.a5 wins/v.

i) 1.a7? Rb2+ 2.Kc8 Sc7 3.Kxc7 Rb7+ 4.Kxd8 Rxa7 draws.

ii) Ke1 2.Re4+ Kd1 3.Rxe8, or Kg2 2.a7 win.

iii) Thematic try: 5.Kxd8? Rxa7 zz 6.Kc8 c5, and: 7.Kb8 Rd7 8.a5 Rd4 9.Rf6 c4 10.a6 c3 11.Rc6 Rb4+ 12.Kc7 Rb3 13.a7 Ra3 14.Kb7 Rb3+ 15.Kc8 Ra3 16.Kb7 Rb3+ positional draw, or here: 7.Rc4 Kf2 (Kf1) 8.Kb8 Ra5 9.Kb7 Ke3 (Ke2) 10.Kb6 Kd3 draws.

iv) Kg3 9.Rc4 Ra5 10.Kb7 Kf3 11.Kb6 Ra8 12.a5 wins.

v) e.g. Rd4 10.Rxd4 cxd4 11.a6 d3 12.a7 d2 13.a8Q+.

“In a relatively economic setting, the study starts with an excellent introductory move which leads to a punch line in the fifth move (5.Kc8!!). With this move White loses a tempo in a paradoxical way, i.e. not immediately taking the bS, after which there is a mutual zugzwang. This is close enough to human intuition and understanding, so it leaves a good impression. The shortcoming is that both black knights together have made only one move, and this is the main reason why this study has not been ranked even higher”.

No 20822 P. Krug
2nd honourable mention

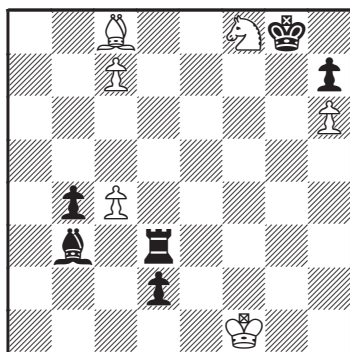


fig8 0341.33 6/6 Win

No 20822 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Be6+/i Kh8 2.Bg4/ii d1Q+ 3.Bxd1 Rxd1+ 4.Kg2/iii Rd2+ 5.Kg3 Rd3+ 6.Kf2 Rd2+ 7.Ke3 Re2+ 8.Kxe2

Bxc4+ 9.Ke3 Ba6 10.Se6 Bc8 11.Sg5 Kg8 12.Kd3 (Kd4? Ba6;) Kf8 13.Sxh7+ (Kc4) Ke7 14.Kc4 Bf5 15.Kxb4 Kd7 16.Sf6+ Kxc7 17.Kc5 Kd8 18.Kd6 wins.

i) 1.Bg4? d1Q+ 2.Bxd1 Rxd1+ 3.Kg2 Rd2+ 4.Kg3 Rd3+ 5.Kf2 Rd2+ 6.Ke3 Re2+ 7.Kxe2 Bxc4+ 8.Ke3 Ba6 9.Se6 Kf7 draws.

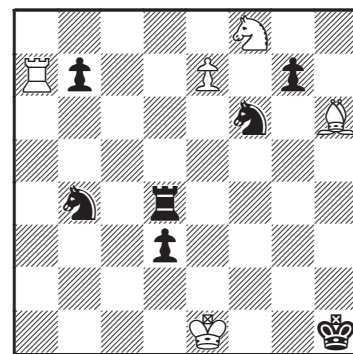
ii) 2.Sg6+? hxg6 3.c8Q+ Kh7 4.Bg4 d1Q+ 5.Bxd1 Bxd1 6.Qb7+/iv Kxh6 7.Qxb4 Bh5 draws (EGTB7 confirmed).

iii) 4.Ke2? Bxc4+ 5.Kxd1 Ba6 6.Se6 Bc8 7.Sg5 Bf5 8.Kc1 Kg8 9.Kb2 Kf8 10.Sxh7+ Ke7 11.Sg5 Kd7, or 4.Kf2? Rf1+ 5.Kxf1 Bxc4+ and the wK is too far off.

iv) 6.c5 b3 7.c6 Bg4, and: 8.Qb8 Kxh6 9.c7 Rd1+ 10.Kf2 Rc1 11.Kg3 Rg1+ 12.Kf4 g5+ 13.Ke5 Re1+ 14.Kd4 Rd1+ 15.Kc3 Rf1 16.Kxb3 Rf4, or 8.Qxg4 b2 9.Qb4 Rd1+ 10.Ke2 b1Q draw.

“With a subtle manoeuvre of the wK White avoids perpetual check and gains a decisive tempo in an interesting ending of wS versus bB. This is a lighter and improved version”.

No 20823 P. Arestov
3rd honourable mention



e1h1 0417.13 5/7 Draw

No 20823 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Bxg7/i Re4+ 2.Kd1/ii Sg4/iii 3.Rxb7 Sf2+ 4.Kd2/iv Re2+ 5.Kc3 d2/v 6.Rd7 Sbd3 (Sfd3; e8Q) 7.Rxd3/vi Sxd3 8.e8Q d1S+ (d1Q; Qh5+) 9.Kd4/vii Rxe8 10.Kxd3 zz Kg2 11.Sg6/viii draws.

i) 1.Sh7? Re4+ 2.Kf2 Re2+ wins.

ii) 2.Kd2? Re2+ 3.Kc3 Sfd5+ 4.Kb3 Sa6 (Rxe7) wins.

iii) Rxe7 3.Bxf6 Rf7 4.Bc3 draws.

iv) 4.Kc1? Rc4+ 5.Kd2 Rc2+ 6.Ke3 d2 7.Rd7 Sbd3 8.Rxd3 Sxd3 9.e8Q d1Q 10.Qh5+ Qxh5 wins.

v) Sd5+ 6.Kc4 Sxe7 7.Bc3 draws.

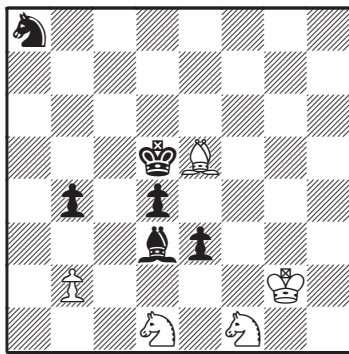
vi) 7.e8Q? d1Q 8.Qh5+ Kg1 9.Qg6+ Kf1 wins.

vii) Thematic try: 9.Kxd3? Rxe8 zz 10.Bh6 Sf2+ 11.Kc3 Sg4 12.Bg7 Se3 13.Sg6 Rg8 14.Bd4 Sd1+ 15.Kd2 Rxg6 16.Kxd1 Rd6 wins, or 9.Kc4? S1b2+ (S3b2+) wins.

viii) 11.Kd2? (Sh7? Re7;) Se3 12.Sg6 Kf3 wins (EGTB).

“We see several subtle introductory moves with a mutual zugzwang seasoned with an incredible promotion into a bS in order to continue the attack; this is what characterizes this study. At the end a rare mutual zugzwang appears but, unfortunately, it cannot be understood by practical players. For humans, it is incomprehensible why 11.Kd2? is not a draw too (besides the proper 11.Sg6!), because Black wins with 11...Se3! in 44 moves. This moment drastically spoils the nice impression of the introductory combat and causes this relatively lower ranking”.

No 20824 M. Minski
1st commendation



g2d5 0045.13 5/6 Draw

No 20824 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Bf6/i e2/ii 2.Sde3+ (Sfe3+ Ke6;) dxe3/iii
3.Sxe3+ Ke4 4.Kf2 e1Q+ 5.Kxe1 Kxe3 6.Be7/iv
b3 7.Bg5+/v Ke4 8.Bd8 draws.

i) 1.Bb8? e2 2.Sfe3+/vi Ke4 3.Kf2 Sb6 4.Ke1 Sa4 5.Sg4 exd1Q+ 6.Kxd1 Sxb2+ 7.Kc1 Sa4 8.Ba7 Be2 9.Sf6+ Ke5 10.Sd7+ Kd6 11.Sb6 Sc5 12.Kd2 Ba6, or 1.Sdxe3+? dxe3 2.Bb8 Bxf1+ 3.Kxf1 Ke4 4.b3 Sb6, or 1.Sfxe3+? Kxe5, or 1.Bg3? e2 2.Sde3+ Ke4, or 1.Bg7? e2 2.Sde3+ dxe3 3.Sxe3+ Ke4 4.Kf2 e1Q+ 5.Kxe1 Kxe3 6.Bf8 b3 win.

ii) Be4+ 2.Kg1 e2 3.Sde3+ Ke6 4.Bh4 exf1Q+ 5.Sxf1 draws.

iii) Ke6 3.Bh4 Sb6 4.Sh2 dxe3 5.Kf3 Sc4 6.b3, and: Ke5 7.Sg4+ Kd4 8.Bf6+ Kd5 9.Bh4 Kc5 10.Be7+ Kd4 11.Bf6+ Kd5 12.Bh4, or: Kd5 7.Sg4 Kc5 8.Be7+ Sd6 9.Bh4 Sf5 10.Be1 draw.

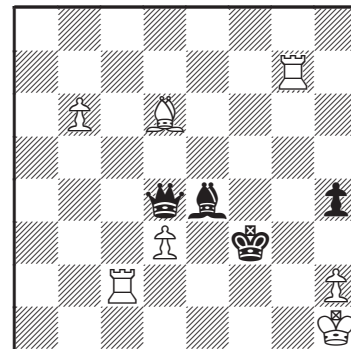
iv) 6.Bg5+? (Bd8?) Kd4 7.Be7 Kc4 wins.

v) 7.Bd8? Be2 8.Bg5+ Kd3 9.Bd8 Bh5 wins.

vi) 2.Sde3+ Ke4 3.Kf2 exf1Q+ 4.Sxf1 Bxf1 5.Kxf1 Sb6.

“Precise play by the wB leads to a well-known draw”.

No 20825 V. Tarasiuk
2nd commendation



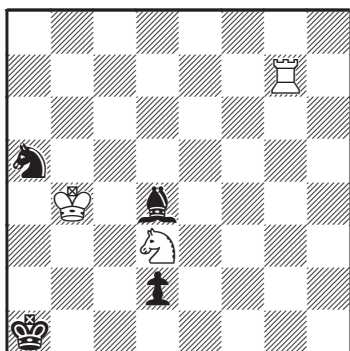
h1f3 3240.31 7/4 Draw

No 20825 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Rgg2/i Bb7 2.Bc5 Qa1+ 3.Bg1 h3 4.Rcf2+ Ke3
5.Rf1+ Kxd3 6.Rd1+ Kc4 7.Rc1+ Kb5 8.Rb1+
Qxb1 stalemate.

i) 1.Rcg2? Bc6 (Ba8?; b7) 2.h3 Qxd6 wins.

“This interesting fight inexpediently culminates with a perpetual check, which Black could not avoid because of stalemate with pinning pieces”.

No 20826 E. Iriarte
3rd commendation



b4a1 0134.01 3/4 Draw

No 20826 Eduardo Iriarte (Argentina).
1.Rc7/i Sb3/ii 2.Re7 Bc5+ 3.Sxc5/iii Sxc5/iv
4.Ka3 Sd3/v 5.Re2 d1Q 6.Ra2+ Kb1 7.Ra1+ Kxa1
stalemate.

i) 1.Re7? Sc6+, or 1.Sf2? Bxg7 2.Kxa5 Bd4
3.Sd1 Kb1 win.

ii) Kb1 2.Rc1+ dxc1Q 3.Sxc1 Sc6+ 4.Kc4 Kxc1
5.Kd5 draws.

iii) 3.Kc4? (Kc3?) Bxe7 4.Sf2 Bc5 5.Sd1 Kb1,
and: 6.Kxb3 Bd4 7.Kc4 Kc2, or: 6.Sc3+ Kc2, or:
6.Kd3 Kc1 7.Sc3 (Ke2 Bd4;) d1Q+ 8.Sxd1 Kxd1
9.Kc4 Kc2, or: 6.Kc3 Kc1 7.Sb2 Bd4+ wins.

iv) d1Q 4.Sxb3+ Kb2 5.Sc5 draws.

v) Kb1 5.Re2 (Re1+? dxe1R) d1Q 6.Re1 Qxe1
stalemate.

“The attractive and dynamic introductory
play enriches a famous study by A. Troitzky
(HHdbV#78047) but only enough for a special
commendation”.

Rd1+ 5.Ke5/ii Re1+ 6.Kf6/iii Rf1+ 7.Bf5/iv Rf2
8.Ke5 Re2+ 9.Be4 (Kd6? Kf7;) Kf7 10.Kd4/v
Rd2+ 11.Bd3 (Kc5? Rd8;) Rd1 12.Kc3 Rc1+ 13.Bc2
Rg1 14.Bb3+ wins.

i) 1.Rc8+? Qxc8 2.g7+ Kh7 3.Bxc8 Rf1 4.Bb7
Rf7 5.Be4+ Kg8 6.Bd5 Kh7 7.Bxf7 stalemate.

ii) 5.Ke4? Re1+ 6.Kd5 Kf7.

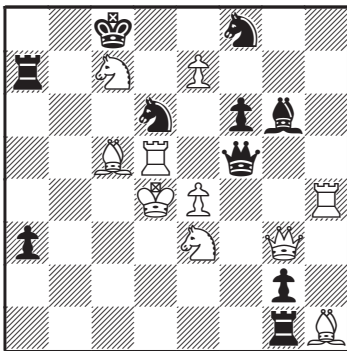
iii) 6.Kd6? Kf7 7.Bb7 Re6+ 8.Kc5 Re8 9.Bc6
Rd8 10.Bd5+ Kg6 11.Sf4+ Kh7 12.Be4+ Kg8
13.Sh5 Kf7 14.Bd5+ Kg6 positional draw.

iv) 7.Kg6? Rg1+ 8.Kxh6 Rg6+ 9.Kxg6
stalemate.

v) 10.Kf4? Rd2 11.Bg6+ Kg8 12.Bf5 Rf2+
13.Ke5 waste of time.

“This shows an amazing systematic move-
ment; we can compare it with Dobrescu (HHdbV
#36369) and Krug & Garcia (HHdbV#01318) but
the present study is not in the same pattern”

No 20830 D. Hlebec
sp.prize



d4c8 4858.23 10/10 BTM, Draw

No 20830 Darko Hlebec (Serbia). 1...Se6+/i
2.Sxe6 Qxe4+ 3.Rxe4 a2 4.e8Q+/ii Bxe8 5.Rxd6
a1Q+ 6.Kd5 Qa2+ 7.Sc4 Rd1+ 8.Bd4/iii Ra5+
9.Sc5 Bf7+ 10.Rde6 (Kc6? Rxc5+;) gxh1Q/iv
11.Qc7+ Kxc7 stalemate.

i) Ra4+ 2.Bb4 Rxb4+ 3.Kc3 a2 4.exf8Q+ Be8
5.Qxe8+ Sxe8 6.exf5 draws.

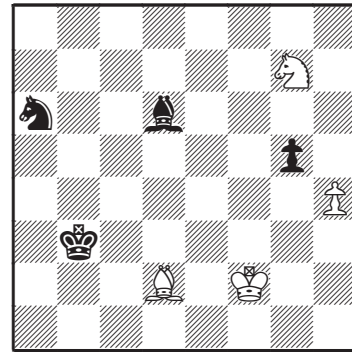
ii) 4.Rxd6? a1Q+ 5.Kd5 Bxe4+ wins.

iii) 8.Sd4? Bf7+ 9.Rde6 gxh1Q wins.

iv) Bxe6+ 11.Kxe6 Qxc4+ 12.Kxf6 Ra6+
13.Sxa6 Qxa6+ 14.Kg7 Qb7+ 15.Kf8 Qxe4
16.Qh3+, or gxh1R? 11.Kd6 Ra6+ 12.Sxa6 Qxa6+
13.Ke7 Qb7+ 14.Kxf6 Rh6+ 15.Kg5 Rxe6 16.Sd6+
Rxd6 17.Qxd6 Qxe4 18.Qc5+ draw.

“This has an ideal stalemate with five pinned
pieces, an impressive task record. Unfortunatel-
ly, the play is not optimal: is there really no bet-
ter introduction?”

No 20831 V. Aberman
1st honourable mention



f2b3 0044.11 4/4 Win

No 20831 Victor Aberman (USA). 1.h5 Sc5
2.Kf3/i Bf8/ii 3.h6 Se6/iii 4.Sxe6 Bxh6 5.Kg4
Kc4 6.Bc1/iv Kd5 7.Kf5 Kd6 8.Kf6 Kd5 zz
9.Bd2/v Ke4 10.Kg6 Kd5 11.Kf5 Kd6 12.Kf6 Kc6/
vi 13.Kf7/vii Kd5 14.Be3 zz Ke4/viii 15.Bc1 Kd5
16.Sc7+ Ke4 17.Se8 Kf5 18.Bd2 Ke4 19.Sf6+ Kd3
20.Bc1 Kc2 21.Be3 Kd3 22.Sg4 wins.

i) 2.h6? Se4+ 3.Kg2 Be5 4.Be3 Sf6 5.Bxg5 Sg4
draws.

ii) Be5 3.h6 Kc4 4.Kg4 Kd5 5.Kf5 g4 6.Sh5
Sd7 7.Sf4+ Kd6 8.Bb4+ Kc7 9.Se6+ Kc6 10.Kxg4
Sf6+ 11.Kf5 Kd7 12.Bf8 Bc3 13.Bg7 Ke7 14.Sg5
Bd4 15.Kg6 Bb2 16.Se4 wins.

iii) Sd7 4.Kg4 Se5+ 5.Kf5 Sf7 6.h7 Bxg7 7.Kg6
Bh8 8.Kxf7 g4 9.Be1 Kc4 10.Bh4 Kd3 11.Bf6 g3
12.Bxh8 g2 13.Bd4 wins.

iv) 6.Kh5? Kd5, or 6.Kf5? Kd3 7.Bc1 Kc2 8.Be3
Kd3 draw.

v) 9.Kf7? Ke4 zz 10.Sc5+ Kf3 11.Se6 Ke4
12.Kg6 Ke5 13.Kf7 Ke4 14.Kf6 Kd5 waste of time.

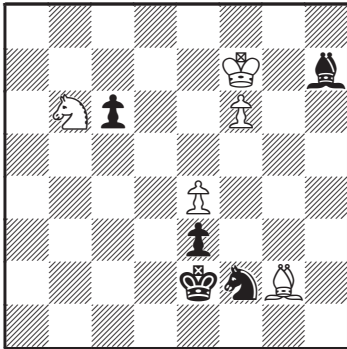
vi) Kd5 13.Bc1 Ke4 14.Kf7 wins.

vii) 13.Be3? Kd6 14.Bd2 Kc6 waste of time.

viii) Ke5 15.Sc5 Kd5 16.Sd7 Ke4 17.Bc1 Kf5
18.Bd2, or Kc6 15.Bc1 Kd6 16.Sd4 Ke5 17.Se2
Ke4 18.Sg3+ Ke5 19.Bd2 win.

“This triangular manoeuvre of both kings
in a fight on reciprocal zugzwang makes me
dizzy!”

No 20832 V. Tarasiuk
2nd honourable mention



f7e2 0044.22 5/5 Win

No 20832 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Kg7 Bg8/i 2.Kxg8 Sg4 3.f7/ii Sh6+ 4.Kg7 Sxf7
5.Kxf7 Kf2 6.Bf1 (Sc4? e2;) Kxf1 7.Sc4 Kf2/iii
8.Sxe3 Kxe3 9.e5 c5 10.e6 c4 11.e7 c3 12.e8Q+
Kd2 13.Qd8+/iv Kc1 14.Qg5+ wins.

i) Sxe4 2.Bxe4 Bxe4 3.f7 Kd1 4.Sa4 e2 5.Sc3+ wins.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Kg7? Sxf6 4.Kxf6 Kf2 5.Bf1 Kxf1 6.Sc4 Kf2 7.Sxe3 Kxe3 8.e5 c5 9.e6 c4 10.e7 c3 11.e8Q+ Kd2 12.Qd8+ Kc1 draws.

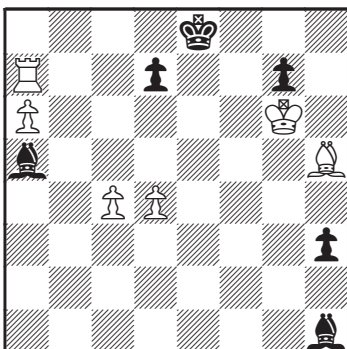
iii) e2 8.Se3+ Kf2 9.Sc2 e1Q 10.Sxe1 Kxe1 11.Ke6 wins.

iv) 13.Qd7+? Kc1 14.Qd3 c2 draws.

“This is a good logical study with foresight effect and analogous play of bishops and knights. The final position is anticipated by Moravec (HHdbV#59734) and Pospisil (HHdbV#11104), but here there is a thematic try”.

MG found a (minor?) dual: 4.Kf8 Kf2 5.Bf1 Kxf1 6.Sc4 e2 7.Se3+ Ke1 8.e5.

No 20833 G. Sonntag
1st commendation



g6e8 0170.33 6/6 Win

No 20833 Gunter Sonntag (Germany). 1.d5 h2 2.Ra8+ Ke7 3.Re8+/i Kxe8/ii 4.a7 Bxd5/iii 5.cxd5 h1Q 6.a8Q+ Bd8 7.d6/iv Qxa8 8.Kxg7 mate.

i) 3.a7? Be4+ 4.Kxg7 Bc3+ 5.Kh6 h1Q.

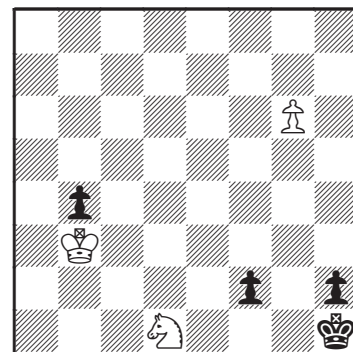
ii) Kd6 4.a7 Be4+ 5.Kxg7 Bc3+ 6.Kf8 h1Q 7.a8Q Qf1+ 8.Bf7.

iii) Ke7 5.a8Q Be4+ 6.Kxg7 Bc3+ 7.Kg8 Bh7+ 8.Kxh7 h1Q 9.d6+.

iv) 7.Qa3? Be7 8.Qa8+ Bd8 waste of time.

“7.d6!! is a nice idea”.

No 20834 P. Arestov
2nd commendation



b3h1 0001.13 3/4 Win

No 20834 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Se3/i Kg1 2.g7 f1Q/ii 3.g8Q+ (Sxf1? h1Q;) Kh1/iii 4.Qh7/iv Kg1/v 5.Qg6+/vi Kh1 6.Qe4+/vii Kg1 7.Qg4+ Kh1 8.Kc2/viii b3+ (Qf2+; Kd3) 9.Kd2/ix Qf2+/x 10.Kd3 b2/xi 11.Qd1+/xii Qg1 12.Qf3+ Qg2 13.Qxg2+/xiii mate.

i) Try: 1.Sxf2+? Kg1/xiv 2.Sh1 Kg2 zz 3.g7 Kxh1 4.Kb2 b3 5.Kb1 b2 6.g8Q stalemate.

ii) h1Q 3.g8Q+ Kh2 4.Qh7+ Kg1 5.Qg7+ Kh2 6.Qe5+ Kg1 7.Qg3+ wins.

iii) Kf2 4.Qf7+ Kxe3 5.Qxf1 wins.

iv) 4.Sxf1? stalemate. 4.Qa8+? Kg1 5.Qg8+ Kh1 waste of time. 4.Qd5+? Kg1 5.Qg5+ Kh1 6.Qd5+ Kg1 7.Qg8+ Kh1 waste of time.

v) Qc1 (Qf3; Qb1+) 5.Qe4+ Kg1 6.Qg2 mate.

vi) 5.Qg7+? (Qg8+?) Kh1 6.Qh7 Kg1 waste of time.

vii) 6.Qc6+? Kg1 7.Qg6+ Kh1 waste of time.

viii) 8.Sxf1? stalemate.

ix) 9.Kxb3? Qd3+, or 9.Kb2? Qf2+ draw.

x) b2 10.Sxf1 b1Q 11.Sg3+ Kg2 12.Se2+ Kf2 13.Qg3+ Kf1 14.Qf3 mate. Qc1+? 10.Kxc1 b2+ 11.Kd2 b1Q 12.Qg2 mate.

xi) Qc2+ 11.Sxc2 bxc2 12.Qg5 c1Q 13.Qxc1+ wins.

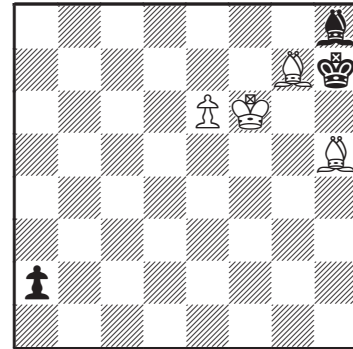
xii) 11.Qe4+? Kg1 12.Qg4+ Kh1 waste of time.

xiii) 13.Sxg2? b1Q+ draws.

xiv) Kg2? 2.Sh1 zz, and: Kxh1 3.g7 Kg2 4.g8Q+, or: Kg1 3.Sg3 Kg2 4.g7 Kxg3 5.g8Q+ wins.

“This is a miniature with a good key and rich content: zugzwang, stalemate in the tries and a classical mate finale but it is partially anticipated by Werner (HHdbV#09960)”.

No 20835 V. Bulanov
special commendation



f6h7 0050.11 4/3 Win

No 20835 Vladimir Bulanov (Russia).
1.Bg6+ Kg8 2.Bf7+ (Kf5? Kxg7;) Kh7 3.Bg8+ (Kf5 Kxg7;) Kxg8 4.Kg6 a1Q (Bxg7; e7) 5.Bxa1 Bg7 6.e7/i Bf8 7.e8B/ii Bg7 (Bb4; Bg7) 8.Bf7+ Kh8 9.Bxg7 mate.

i) 6.Bxg7? stalemate.

ii) 7.e8Q? (e8R?) stalemate. 7.e8S? Ba3 8.Bg7 Be7 9.Sc7 Bf8 10.Be5 Bg7 draws.

“This shows an excellent introduction of the famous bishop underpromotion à la Centurini”.