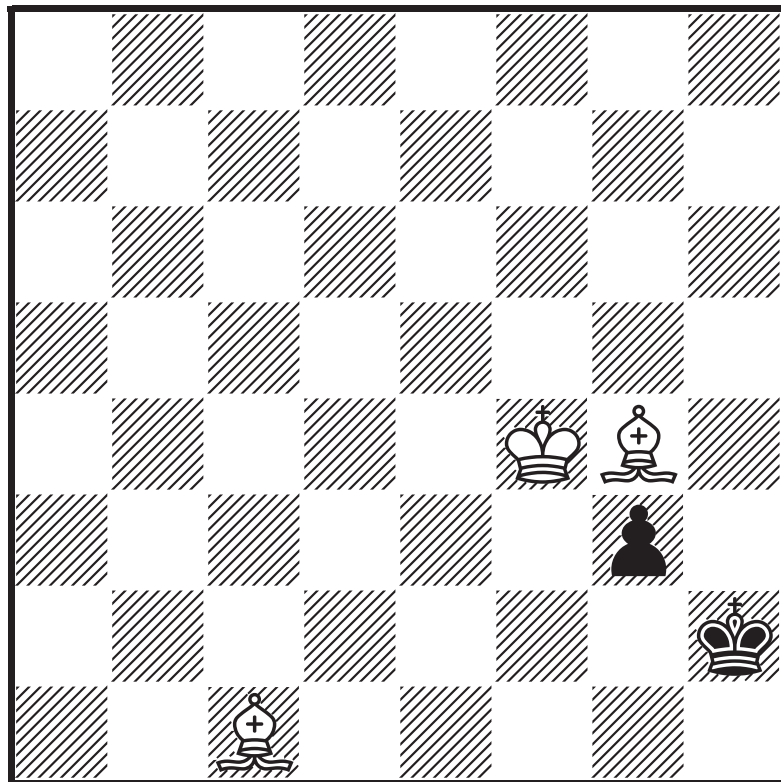


No. 207 — VOL. XXIII — JANUARY 2017



WHITE TO PLAY AND WIN

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diagram on the cover: see p. 72

Editorial

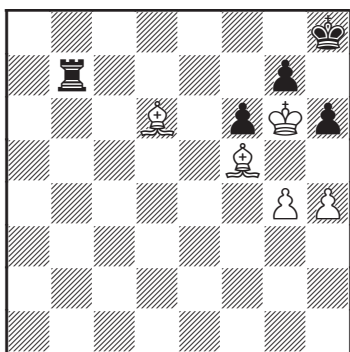
BY HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

First of all, on behalf of the editorial team I wish all readers a very happy, healthy and creative 2017.

There were no claims regarding EG's 2014-2015 award, so the award is now final.

Like many others, I was watching some of the World Championship games live. Most games were rather boring, but the second tiebreaker had a very interesting endgame-study-like moment.

M. Carlsen – S. Karjakin,
2nd tiebreaker 30x12016



After 73...Kh8?

In a position that looks rather drawish, Black has just made a mistake that could have cost him the game. The only defence was 73...Rb6! This prevents Be6+ and, further, the bR should be on the 6th rank to be able to play f6-f5+ when the wBf5 tries to get on the a2-g8 diagonal. The game ended in a draw after: 74.Bf8 Kg8 75.Ba3 Kh8 76.Be6 Rb6 77.Kf7 Rb7+ 78.Be7 h5 79.gxh5 f5 80.Bxf5 Rxe7+ 81.Kxe7 Kg8 82.Bd3 Kh8 83.Kf8 g5 84.hxg6 stalemate.

When I was watching, admittedly firmly armed with my computer, I discovered a nice win for White: **74.Bf8!** Now 74...Ra7 (Rc7)

loses to 75.Be6 and 76.Bf7. So 74...Kg8 and now not Carlsen's 75.Ba3?, but **75.Bc5!** which again threatens 76.Be6+ (and the bR cannot play to b6 now). So **75...Kh8 76.Be6** again threatening 77.Bf8 and 78.Bf7. Black's only defence is **76...Rb8**. And now **77.h5!** and we are in a genuine, not-so-obvious, position of reciprocal zugzwang! The point is that the wK threatens to play to f7 if the bR cannot check on the 7th rank, e.g. Rd8 78.Kf7 Rb8 (Kh7 79.Bf5+ Kh8 80.Bf8 and no check on the 7th rank) 79.Bf8 Rb5 80.Bxg7+ Kh7 81.Kxf6 Rb6 82.Bf8 and although it is not easy yet, White wins (by putting the wB on the c1-h6 diagonal and advancing the g-pawn). Ok, but what about? **77...Ra8!** Now 78.Kf7? does not win: 78...Kh7! 79.Bf5+ Kh8 80.Bf8 Ra7+. White now has a brilliant winning move: **78.g5!!** Now the obvious 78...fxg5 fails to 79.Bd4 winning. Some commentators found 78...Ra5!? 79.gxh6 gxh6 unclear, but easy is 80.Be7 Rg5+ 81.Kxh6 Rg7!? 82.Bd8 (avoiding 82.Bxf6 stalemate) 82...Rh7+ 83.Kg6 and White wins the f6 pawn with a clear win. More study-like is **78...hxg5 79.h6!! gxh6 80.Be7 Rg8+ 81.Kh6 Rg7!? 82.Bxf6** wins. I would have been proud if this would have been an endgame study by me. No anticipations found!

Another matter I wanted to bring to your attention is that I often see composers describing lines in their studies as "waste of time duals", when Black actually is able to force a repetition. Of course, this does literally waste time but, in my view, this is not even a minor dual since White cannot make progress if he does not repeat the position.

Originals (52)

EDITOR: ED VAN DE GEVEL

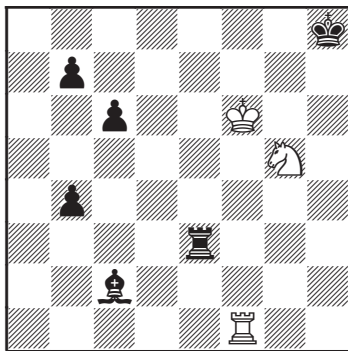
*“email submissions are preferred.”
Judge 2016-2017: Martin Minski*

Let me start by wishing all our readers happiness and good health in the New Year and, of course, also inspiration for lots of beautiful endgame studies.

This edition of this column made me happy as it has been a long time ago that I had to choose which studies to publish and which ones to keep for the next column.

We start with a study by the Austrian – Argentinian couple Peter Krug and Mario Garcia. It turns out it needs a lot of effort to mate the Black king which seems to be rather lonely in the corner...

No 21089 P. Krug & M. Garcia



f6h8 o431.03 3/6 Win

No 21089 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina) 1.Kf7 Bg6+ 2.Kxg6 Kg8 3.Rf7/i Re1 4.Rd7/ii Rf1/iii 5.Rd8+ Rf8 6.Rd1 Rf2/iv 7.Se4 Rg2+ 8.Kf6 Kh8/v 9.Rd8+/vi Rg8 10.Rd7/vii Rg1 11.Rxb7 c5 12.Rc7 b3 13.Rc8+ Rg8 14.Rxc5 Rf8+/viii 15.Kg6 Rg8+ 16.Kf7 Rg7+ 17.Kf6 b2 18.Rb5 Kh7 19.Sg5+ Kh6 20.Sf7+ Kh7 21.Rh5+ Kg8 22.Rh8 mate.

- i) 3.Rd1? Kf8! draws.
- ii) 4.Rxb7? Kf8 5.Sh7+ Ke8 6.Sf6+ Kd8 draws.
- iii) Kf8 5.Sh7+ Ke8 6.Sf6+ Kf8 7.Rf7 mate.

iv) Rf4 7.Se6 Rg4+ 8.Kf6 Rg2 9.Rd8+ Kh7 10.Sg5+ Kh6 11.Rh8 mate.

v) b3 9.Rd8+ ends in a mate similar to the previous note.

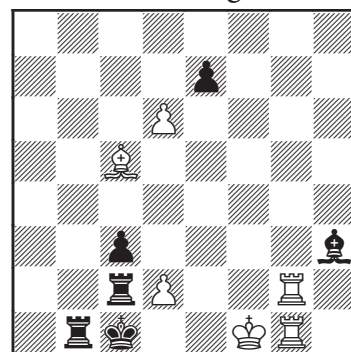
vi) 9.Kf7 Rg7+ 10.Kf6 Rg2 is just loss of time.

vii) 10.Rd3? Rg1 11.Rd7 b5 12.Sg5 Rf1+ 13.Kg6 Kg8 14.Rd8+ Rf8 15.Rd1 Rf2 16.Se4 Rg2+ 17.Kf6 Kh8 18.Rd8+ Rg8 19.Rd2 Rg1 draws.

viii) Ra8 15.Kf7 Ra7+ 16.Kg6 Rg7+ 17.Kf6 wins similar to the solution.

Árpád Ruzs uses the term “Chameleon Echo” in a way I never have seen before. I know it as a term to describe a study with at least two defences by Black which can be refuted by similar manoeuvres but on opposite coloured fields. Here we see a study where, in the try, Black wins with a certain manoeuvre and in the solution White has the same manoeuvre.

No 21090 Á. Ruzs
after Javier Rodriguez Ibran



fic1 o840.22 6/6 Win

No 21090 Árpád Ruzs (Rumania) 1.Ba3+/i Rcb2/ii 2.dxe7/iii cxd2/iv 3.e8Q/v d1Q+ 4.Qe1! zz Qxe1+ 5.Kxe1 Bxg2 6.Rxg2 zz Ra1 7.Bxb2+ chameleon echo, wins.

- i) 1.Ke2+? Kb2 2.Rxb1+ Kxb1 draws.

ii) Kd1 2.Kf2+ Kxd2 3.Rxb1 Bxg2 4.d7 wins, or Rbb2 2.Ke2 mate.

iii) 2.Kf2+? Kxd2 3.Bxb2 Rxb2 4.dxe7 Kd3+ 5.Kg3 (Kf3 Bxg2+;) Rxc2+ 6.Rxc2 Bd7 draws, or 2.Ke2+? Kc2 3.Bxb2 Rxc2 4.Rxc2 cxd2 5.dxe7 (Rd1 Bg4+;) Bd7 draws. Thematic try: 2.dxc3? Kd1!/vi 3.Bxb2 Rxb2 4.Rh1 (4.dxe7 Re2 draws, or 4.d7 Rd2 draws) Bxg2+ Black wins with a chameleon echo.

iv) Kc2+ 3.Kf2!/vii Bd7 (Bxg2; e8Q) 4.dxc3 Kxc3+ 5.Bxb2+ wins.

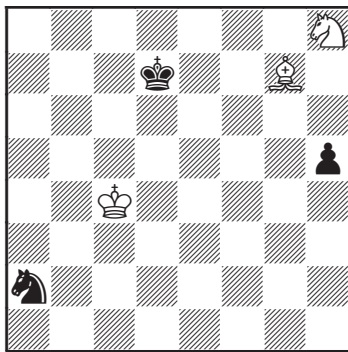
v) 3.Kf2+? d1Q+ 4.Kg3 Bxg2 5.Rxd1+ Kxd1 draws.

vi) exd6? 3.Ke1! Bxg2 4.Rxc2 Ra1 5.Bxb2+ wins.

vii) 3.Ke2? Bxg2 4.e8Q Rxc2 draws.

I am happy to publish another study by our Belgian friend Ignace Vandecasteele. White must catch the bS, stop the bP and improve the position of his own knight. He manages to do so...

No 21091 I. Vandecasteele



c4d7 0014.01 3/3 Win

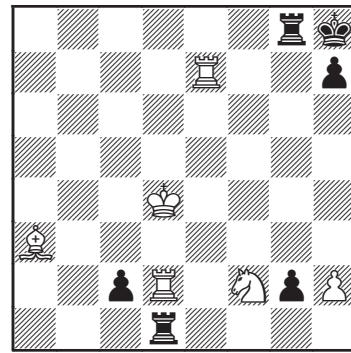
No 21091 Ignace Vandecasteele (Belgium) 1.Bh6/i Ke6 2.Kb3 Kf5 3.Kxa2 h4 4.Bf8 Ke6 5.Bc5 h3 6.Bg1 Kf6 7.Bh2 Kg7 8.Be5+ Kg8 9.Sg6 Kf7 10.Sh4 h2 11.Bxh2 wins.

i) 1.Bb2? h4 2.Sg6 h3 3.Se5+ Ke6 4.Sf3 Kf5 5.Sh2 Kf4 6.Kb3 Sc1+!/ii 7.Bxc1+ Kg3 draws.

ii) Kg3? 7.Be5+ Kg2 8.Kxa2 wins.

Amatzia Avni brings the only draw study of this column, but what a draw combination it is!

No 21092 A. Avni



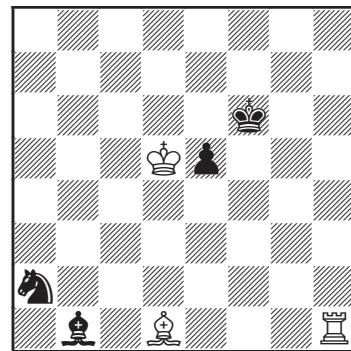
d4h8 0811.13 6/6 Draw

No 21092 Amatzia Avni (Israel) 1.Ke3 Re1+ 2.Re2 (Kf3? g1S+;) 2...c1Q+ 3.Bxc1 Rxc1 4.Sh3 Rc3+ 5.Kf2 Rxh3 6.Kg1/i Rxh2 7.Rg7 Rxc7 8.Re8+ Rg8 9.Rxc7+ Kxc7 10.Kxh2 draws.

i) 6.Re1? Rxh2 7.Rg1 h5 wins.

Next are two studies by the duo Michal Hlinka and Luboš Kekely: the first is built around a mutual zugzwang with, of course, the required thematic try in which White ends up on the wrong side of the zugzwang. In the second study White has to use threats against the Black king to capture a bishop. The two variants are more or less mirrored on the a8-h1 diagonal.

No 21093 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely



d5f6 0143.01 3/4 Win

No 21093 Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia) 1.Rf1+/i Ke7 (Bf5; Bg4) 2.Kxe5/ii Sb4 3.Bb3!/iii Bg6 (Sc6+; Kd5) 4.Ba4! zz Sd3+ (Bh5; Bb5) 5.Kd4 Sb4 6.Bb5/iv Sc2+/v 7.Ke5/vi Sa3 8.Be2 (Ba6? Be8; 8...Be8 9.Rc1/vii Sb5/viii 10.Rc5 Sd6 (Sa7; Rc7+) 11.Rc7+ Bd7 12.Bg4/ix and wins. Miniature. Reciprocal zugzwangs.

i) 1.Bb3? Bf5 2.Bxa2 Be6+ draws.

ii) 2.Bb3? Bd3 3.Re1 (Ra1) Sb4+ draws.

iii) Thematic try: 3.Ba4? Bg6 zz 4.Bb5 Bd3 5.Bxd3 Sxd3+ 6.Kd4 Sb4 draws.

iv) 6.Ke5 Sd3+ 7.Kd4 Sb4 8.Bb5 is only waste of time.

v) Ke6 7.Bc4+ Kd6 8.Rf6+ wins.

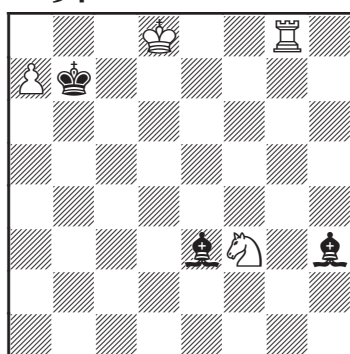
vi) 7.Kc3? Sa3 8.Be2 Sb1+ 9.Kd4 Sd2 draws, or 7.Kc5? Ke6 8.Ba4 Ke5 draws.

vii) 9.Rh1? Sb5 10.Rh7+ Kd8 draws.

viii) Bb5 10.Bxb5 Sxb5 11.Rc5 Sd6 12.Rc7+ wins.

ix) 12.Ra7? Sc8 draws.

No 21094 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely



d8b7 0161.10 4/3 Win

No 21094 Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia) 1.a8Q+ Kxa8 2.Kc7+ Ka7 3 Kc6 and now:

— Bf1 4.Rg4 (Rg7+? Ka6;) 4...Bd3 5.Ra4+/i Kb8 6.Se5/ii Bf5 7.Sf7/iii Bc2/iv 8.Rc4/v Bd1 9.Sd6 Bf3+ (Ka7; Rc3) 10.Kd7 Bd2 11.Rd4 Be1 12.Rd3 Bg4+ 13.Kc6 wins, for example: Bf2 14.Rb3+ Ka7 15.Rb1 Bg3 16.Sb5+ Kb8 17.Rf1.

— Bf5 4.Re8 Bf4 5.Sd4 Bd3 6.Sb3 Bg6 7.Re6 Bh5 8.Sc5 Bf3+ 9.Kb5 Bg5 10.Re5 Bh4 11.Rf5 Be2+ 12.Kc6 wins.

i) 5.Se5? Bc2 6.Rc4 Bb3 draws.

ii) 6.Rb4+? Kc8 7.Se5 Bf1 8.Rg4 Kd8 9.Kd6 Kc8 10.Rg7 Bf4 draws.

iii) 7.Rb4+ Ka7 8.Ra4+ Kb8 9.Sf7 is only waste of time.

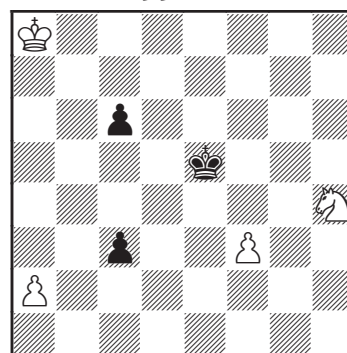
iv) Bh3 8.Rb4+ Kc8 9.Sd6+ Kd8 10.Rb8+ Ke7 11.Re8+ wins.

v) 8.Rb4+? Ka7 9.Sd6 Ka6 10.Rb2 Ba4+ draws.

vi) 9.Rb4+? Ka7 10.Sd6 Ka6 draws.

The final study is by Pavel Arestov. First, White must stop the c-pawn and this partially succeeds after which White has to be very precise to win the remaining ending S+2P versus S+P.

No 21095 P. Arestov



a8e5 0001.22 4/3 Win

No 21095 Pavel Arestov (Russia) 1.Sg2 c2 2.Se1 c1S (c1Q; Sd3+) 3.a4 Sb3 4.Ka7 (Kb7 Sc5+;) Kd6 (c5; Kb6) 5.Ka6/i and now:

— Sc5+ 6.Ka5 Ke5/ii 7.Kb4 Kd4 8.Sc2+ Kd5 9.a5 Sa6+ 10.Kb3/iii Kc5 11.Ka4 Kc4 12.Se3+/iv Kd3 13.f4 Kxe3 14.f5 Kd4 15.f6 Sc7 16.f7 Se6 17.a6 wins, or:

— Kc7 6.f4/v Sc5+ 7.Ka5 Se4 8.Kb4/vi c5+ 9. Kc4 (Kb3? Kb6;) Kb6/vii 10.Sd3 Sd2+ 11.Kd5 c4 12.Sb4/viii c3 13.f5 Sf3 (Ka5; f6) 14.Ke4 (Kc4? Ka5;) Sg5+ 15.Kf4 Sf7 16.Sd5+ Ka5 17.Sxc3 wins.

i) 5.Kb6? Sd2 6.a5 Sc4+ draws.

ii) Kd5 7.Sc2 Sd7 8.Sb4+ Kd6 9.f4 Sf6 10.Ka6 c5 11.Sc2 c4 12.Kb7 c3 13.a5 Sd7 14.Se3 Sc5+ 15.Kb6 Sd7+ 16.Kb5 Sf6 17.f5 Sg4 18.Sc2 Kc7 19.Kb4 Kb7 20.Kxc3 Ka6 21.Kb4 wins.

iii) 10.Ka4 Sc5+ 11.Kb4 Sa6+ is only loss of time, but 10.Kc3? Kc5 draws.

iv) 12.f4? Sc5+ 13.Ka3 Kb5 draws.

v) 6.Sd3? c5 7.Kb5 Sd4+ 8.Kxc5 Sxf3 draws.

vi) 8.Sd3? c5 9.Kb5 Sc3+ 10.Kxc5 Sxa4+ draws, or 8.f5 c5 9.Kb5 Sd6+ draws.

vii) Kc6 10.Sc2 Sd2+ 11.Kd3 wins.

viii) 12.Sc1 c3 13.f5 Sf3 14.f6 Sg5 draws.

At the Service of the Practical Player

Mark Izrailovich Dvoretsky

(9xii1947- 26ix2016)

BY YOCHANAN AFEK

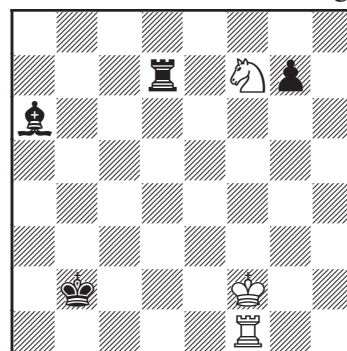
Mark Dvoretsky, arguably the world's best known and most respected chess trainer and who passed away last September in Moscow after a long illness, was neither a composer nor a judge. Nevertheless, his contribution to the popularization of the art of the endgame study was invaluable. He was a highly promising young IM, No.20 in the world (winning major events such as the Moscow Championship in 1973 and the B group of Hoogovens tournament in Wijk aan Zee two years later) when he decided to quit active playing and take up coaching as his life's work. This was the beginning of a brilliant training career with many of his students becoming world junior champions and leading grandmasters. His other successful career as a writer enabled him to share his tremendous knowledge and experience with the entire chess community. As a keen enthusiast for endgame studies, he owned a large collection of them recorded on cards prior to the advent of the computer and he used them as an important instructional tool in his training sessions worldwide, as well as in his numerous highly esteemed books and articles.

Your author attended quite a few of Mark's sessions in the Dutch city of Apeldoorn, mostly during the 1990s, witnessing the great respect with which he used to treat our fine art and its great creators. Occasionally I was even privileged to cooperate with him and to exchange ideas regarding this common interest of ours. Through these conversations with Mark I was personally definitely enriched and inspired both as a player and a composer. I should also admit that I was flattered to have a few of my

own studies "starring" on his famous card index.

One of Mark's most favourite composers was the Austrian **Alois Wotawa** whose studies he found especially suitable for training purposes, mainly thanks to their unusual and yet appealing settings, as well as because of the paradoxical elements they presented and their clear cut punch lines. Mark recommended solving them "to develop one's resourcefulness and fantasy or to bring one up to form before any important tournament" In his article "Studies from my notebook" he writes: "Any chess player is bound to derive great pleasure from short studies with a clear and unusual idea. Here are two light examples from Wotawa's selection:

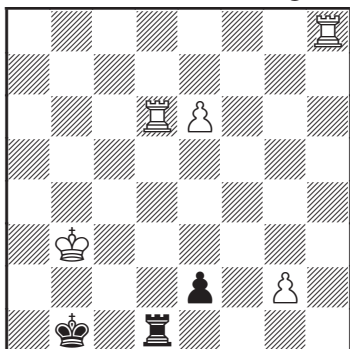
A.1 A. Wotawa
Österreichische Schachzeitung 1952



f2b2 0431.01 3/4 Draw

Two of White's pieces are attacked and material loss cannot be avoided. **1.Se5 Rd2+ 2.Ke3 Re2+ 3.Kd4** (Kf4? Rxe5;) **3...Rxe5 4.Rf6!! gxf6** A completely unexpected mid-board stalemate, while **4...Ra5 5.Rg6** results in the loss of Black's last pawn.

A.2 A. Wotawa
Deutsche Schachzeitung 1955

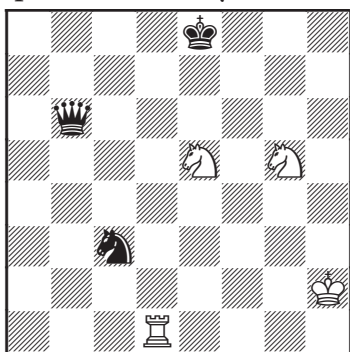


b3b1 0500.21 5/3 Win

1.Rd2!! (In the variation 1.e7? e1Q 2.e8Q Black is saved by 2...Qg3+! 3.Ka4 Qxd6. And 1.Rhd8? Rxd6 2.Rxd6 e1Q 3.e7?! is a mistake because of 3...Qe3+!) **1...Rxd2** (1...e1Q 2.Rb2+ Kc1 3.Rc8+) **2.Rh1+ Rd1 3.Re1! Rxe1 4.e7 Rd1** (4...Kc1 is no help. 5.e8Q Kd2 6.Qd8+ Ke3 7.Qb6+ Kd3 8.Qd6+ Ke3 9.Qg3+ Kd2 10.Qc3+ Kd1 11.Qc2 mate) **5.e8Q e1Q 6.Qg6+** and mate is inevitable.

For his 60th birthday Mark Dvoretzky organized and sponsored a big composing tourney which he judged together with **GM Oleg Pervakov**. The only thematic condition was the requirement “Studies for the practical players” and it attracted no fewer than 115 entries by 64 authors and the standard of the awarded entries indeed lived to expectations. Here is a highly enjoyable reminder, our choice.

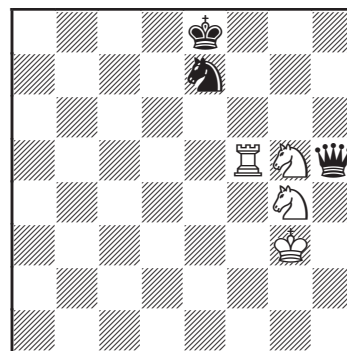
A.3. Y. Bazlov
 2nd prize Dvoretzky-60 JT 2007



h2e8 3105.00 4/3 Draw

The material balance on the board is in Black's favour; but if play were to proceed normally, White could defend successfully. True, in the starting position, White does not have

all the elements of the “defensive complex” working in harmony, and Black hopes – not without reason – to be able to increase the advantage. **1.Rf1** (White would lose immediately after 1.Rd2? Qh6+ 2.Sh3 Qxd2+ or 1.Rd3? Qf2+ 2.Kh3 Qf5+) **1...Qb2+** (1...Qh6+ 2.Sh3 Qd6 3.Rf5 Qe6 4.Rh5 Se4 5.Sf4 Qa2+ 6.Sg2) **2.Kh3** (Kg3? Se2+;) **2...Qe2 3.Rf5** One would think everything was defended now, but: **3...Qh5+** **4.Kg2** (4.Kg3? Se2+ 5.Kg2 Sd4 6.Se4 Qe2+ winning one of the white pieces) **4...Sd5** (4...Se4 is inferior: after 5.Sxe4 Qxf5 6.Sd6+. Now Black is the one threatening a fork with Se3+) **5.Kg3!** A picturesque position! The two kings face each other, across a fence made out of their opponent's pieces. (5.Se4? is bad, because of 5...Se3+ 6.Kg1 Qd1+ 7.Kh2 Sxf5, as is 5.Sd7? Qg4+) **5...Se7 6.Sg4!!**

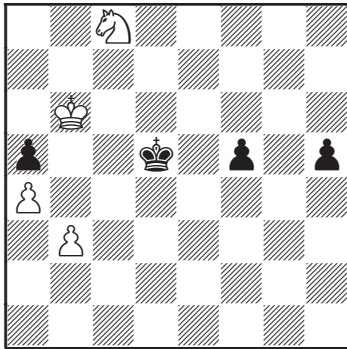


After 6.Sg4!

Totally unexpectedly, and with no compensation whatsoever, White offers to sacrifice what one would think would be the only hope for a peaceable outcome, the strongest piece. And yet, there was no point in seeking to cut losses: 6.Kf4? Qh2+ (Sxf5; 7.Kxf5) 7.Kg4 (Ke4 Qc2+;) 7...Qg2+ 8.Kf4 Sd5 is mate in mid-board! **6...Sxf5+** **7.Kf4** (attacking the knight and also threatening a fork with Sf6+) **7...Qg6 8.Se5 Qf6 9.Sg4** (Of course not 9.Se4? Qe6 10.Sg5 Qc8 wins) **9...Qf8 10.Se6 Qf7 11.Sg5 Qg6 12.Se5 Qf6 13.Sg4 Qf8 14.Se6 Qf7 15.Sg5** and Black must accept the positional draw. A unique final position, presaged by the stunning sacrifice 6.Sg4!! Dvoretzky: “Exceptionally spectacular: The rook is given up with check after which White battles successfully for several more moves, having only a lone knight

against the queen on an open board! What saves White is the fact that the queen's mobility is hampered by the need to protect the b5. Losing it would bring about the 'two knights vs. queen' standoff, which in most cases (including this one) is drawn" (EG#16566).

A.4 E. Sutovsky
5th prize Dvoretsky-60 JT 2007



b6d5 0001.23 4/4 Draw

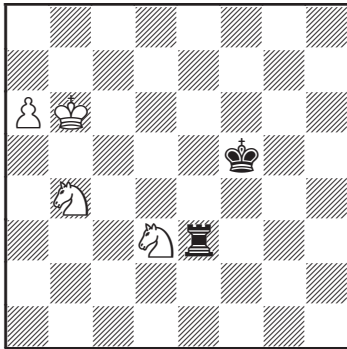
1.Se7+! (White does not have the time to pick up the a-pawn: 1.Kxa5? h4! 2.Sb6+ Ke6 3.Kb5

h3 4.a5 h2 5.a6 h1Q 6.a7 f4! 7.a8Q Qxa8 8.Sxa8 f3, but not 1...f4? 2.Kb4! Ke6 3.a5 f3 4.a6 f2 5.a7 f1Q 6.a8Q Qf4+ and Black is saved by a perpetual. And 1.Kc7? h4 2.b4 h3 3.Sb6+ Kd4 4.bxa5 h2 5.a6 h1Q 6.a7 f4! 7.a5 Kc5! wins is also bad) **1...Ke4 2.Sg6!** (An important point. The knight will have to be sacrificed for the f-pawn in any case, but it must happen on the f3-square) **2...f4 3.Sh4! f3 4.Sxf3 Kxf3** And here, the amazing move **5.Kc7!!** leads to the draw. The solution is as quick as it is pretty: after **5...h4 6.b4 h3** (6...axb4 7.a5 b3 8.a6 b2 9.a7 b1Q 10.a8Q+) **7.bxa5 h2 8.a6 h1Q 9.a7** the bK prevents the queen from jumping to a8. It is a draw! Dvoretsky: "An elegant study, composed by a strong over-the-board grandmaster, in which we see a harmonious blend of all its composite elements: the choice of where to sacrifice the knight for the f-pawn, the fine king move, and the fact that the concluding position is drawn in spite of the presence on the board of an additional a-pawn" (EG#16569).



Dvoretsky analysing with Paul Keres.

A.5 M. van Essen
2nd hon. mention Dvoretsky-60 JT 2007



b6f5 o3o2.10 4/2 Win

1.Sc6! (1.a7? Re8 2.Kb7 Re7+) **1...Re8** (Black cannot break through on the a-file: 1...Rxd3 2.a7 Rb3+ 3.Ka6 Ra3+ 4.Sa5) **2.Kb7 Rh8!** (The bR is trying to find an opening to the seventh rank. 2...Re2 would lose right away to 3.Sd4+, so would 2...Re4? 3.Sc5, or 2...Rf8? 3.Sde5! Rh8 4.Se7+) **3.Se7+!** (White stays alert. 3.Sc5? would have been weak, in view of 3...Rh7+ 4.Kb6 Rh8 draw) **3...Ke6 4.Sf4+! Kd7!** (Kxe7; Sg6+) **5.a7 Rh1!** (A fine defence! If 5...Rh2? the rook would be unable to reach the important g2 square later on) **6.Sc6!** (6.a8Q? Rb1+; 6.Sd3? Rb1+) **6...Ra1 7.Sb8+ Kd6 8.Sa6 Rb1+ 9.Kc8**



The only game ever played between Dvoretsky and Korchnoi in a match between Apeldoorn and Rotterdam in the Dutch competition (Yochanan Afek and the late Rob Hartoch in the background). Picture: Karel van Delft.

Rg1 The rook transfer to the g-file described above is now complete. (9...Rh1 would lose to 10.Sg6; while on 9...Rc1+ 10.Kd8 Rg1 we have the same manoeuvre 11.Sg6! Rxc6 12.Sc7) **10.Se6!** The time has come for this knight sacrifice, gaining White more space in which to manoeuvre the king, and luring the opponent's king onto an unfavourable square. **10...Kxe6 11.Kb7! Rg8** (11...Rb1+ 12.Kc6 Rc1+ 13.Sc5+; 11...Rg7+ 12.Sc7+ Kd6 13.a8Q Rxc7+ 14.Kb6) **12.Kb6!** (threatening 13.Sb8) **12...Ra8 13.Sc7+** and wins. Dvoretsky: "A very clean study, with an extended war of manoeuvres and numerous knight sacrifices. The fact that the position can easily be analyzed, front to back, with the aid of the 6- piece endgame tablebase, does not mar the impression in this case. For not all the tasks resolved by the opponents here are analytical- they are quite amenable to human understanding and calculation" (EG#16577).

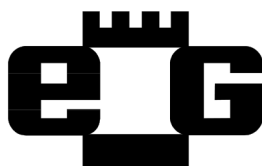
The annotations are by the judges as quoted from their book *Studies for Practical Players* printed in various languages (The English edition by Russell enterprises in 2009). In both his monumental *Endgame manual* (2003) and *Analytical Manual* (2009) (also published by Russell Enterprises), Mark included dozens of studies as preferred examples to support his ideas as well as selected exercises in which to practice them.

Especially instructive is Dvoretsky's article "Challenge to a duel" from his joint book with

Pervakov which demonstrates the role of the endgame study in his training methodology and philosophy.

In his training sessions, he occasionally performed simultaneously, with clocks, against strong players: their challenge was to beat him (or to draw a difficult position) with each of them playing White in a different study. Sometimes he encountered grandmasters, even a whole national team of a European country. "Nevertheless" writes Mark "I have won all of these exhibitions since, in the majority of the games, my opponents made errors and, on the whole, it was not because the studies I used were too complicated. It is just that nowadays, chess players spend almost all their free time preparing openings, and never train the vitally important technique calculating variations- this is the technique that lags behind for them. Regular training in solving and playing out studies is a good recipe for eliminating that shortcoming"...

Mark himself was not a composer although he occasionally combined exercise positions of his own to illustrate his articles as well as his training sessions. I hope that his tremendous contribution to the promotion of the endgame study will be recognized by us all and be commemorated in our traditional lively way to thank him – a strong composing tourney for his 70th anniversary.



Tasks
and themes

Chess Christmas Carol

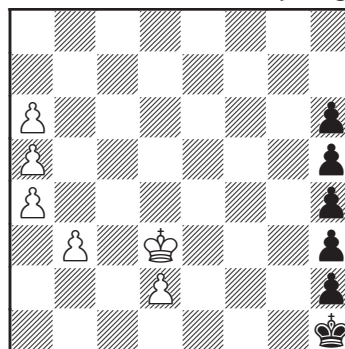
BY SIEGFRIED HORNECKER

The following account was sent to us by “the Baron”, so we can’t verify it.

Taking the opportunity of the Carlsen - Karjakin match, I was visiting New York City for a few more days to do some research about a peculiar mystery surrounding Bobby Fischer and his connection to the World Chess Championship 1886 - a routine chess detective job - when I saw a restaurant in Queens that advertised holding a special chess evening. Although it was a cold December evening, I decided to have my taxi stop and turn towards that restaurant instead of my Downtown Manhattan destination. Five minutes later, I entered the building, an old but charming etablissement. Sure enough, the friendly old lady running the bar told me to enter the backroom. As I entered the room, already an atmosphere of smoke, laughter and beer engulfed me, which for a strange reason was not bothering me this evening. After a short stroll and a polite question, I sat next to an old man whose white beard reminded me a bit of Bobby Fischer or Emil Joseph Diemer in their last years. “Welcome to Queens!”, I thought. “Queens indeed,” the old man replied, making me unsure if I maybe had spoken out my thought. “I have a problem with ten queens for you to solve”. I was prepared to show one of the 92 solutions of the queens problem - weren’t there only eight queens? - but instead was greeted by something different.

“I have seen a game recently where one side had two queens right from the beginning”, I cracked a joke, “but only one of them was on the board, the other was playing: Hou Yifan”. The old man cracked a smile and told me he knew I was about to say that. I shrugged and solved the puzzle instead.

H.1 Mikhail Zinar
commendation *Shakhmaty Riga* 1985

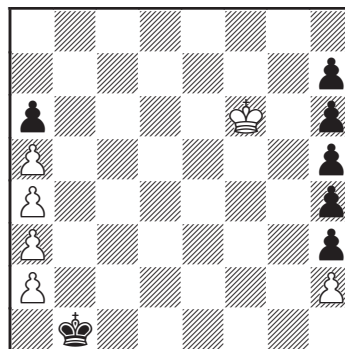


d3h1 0000.55 6/6 Win

1.a7 Kg1 2.a8Q h1Q 3.Qxh1+ Kxh1 (...)
6.a8Q h1Q 7.Qxh1+ Kxh1 (...)
10.a7 Kg1 11.a8Q h1Q 12.Qxh1+ Kxh1 (...)
17.b8Q h1Q 18.Qb1+ Kh2 19.Qxh1+ Kxh1 20.Ke2! Kg2 21.d4 h5 (...)
25.d8Q h1Q 26.Qg5+ Kh3 27.Qh5+ Kg2 28.Qg4+ Kh2 29.Kf2 wins.

Despite the length, this was easy to solve, and so, sipping on my beer that was just served, I decided to build up a study myself, inviting my opponent to contemplate with me some more promotions.

H.2 Vitaly Kovalenko
Schakend Nederland 1981



f6b1 0000.56 6/7 Win

1.Ke5! Kc2 2.Kd4! Kd2 3.Kc5 Ke2 4.Kb6 Kf2 5.Kxa6 Kg2 6.Kb5

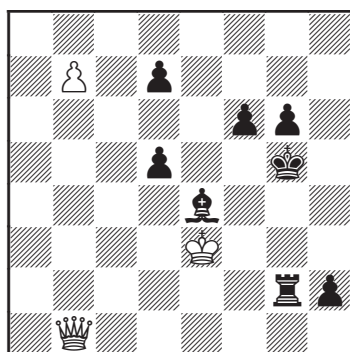
“Sadly, as the composer also noted, 6.Kb6 also works here.”, I proclaimed, but the bearded man’s face had already lit up and he told me that he saw how this will end. It is too bad Black has a pawn too much. And indeed, so it comes:

6...Kg1 7.a6 h3 8.a7 h2 9.a8Q h1Q 10.Qxh1+ Kxh1 (...) 14.a8Q h1Q 15.Qxh1+ Kxh1 (...) 20.a8Q h1Q 21.Qxh1+ Kxh1 22.a4 h5 23.a5 h4 24.a6 h3 25.a7 h2 26.a8Q+ wins.

White will get the queen closer, then eventually with Qg3 and Kh1, White plays Qf2. Ph7 must move and Qf1 mate is delivered. Of course, the secret to win a decisive tempo for White to promote while the bK is still on h1 lies in the double-step of the pawn.

Returning to my previous joke, the beard, as I called him in my head, told me that there was, of course, only one chess queen who was crowned for a study. I tried to figure if he meant Edith Baird, but then I remembered we meant actual OTB world champions. I heard about male champions creating studies, but it dawned to me that indeed there might be only one study by a female world champion. But to redeem the ladies, this one actually won the tourney it participated in.

H.3 Alexandra Kosteniuk
1st prize *Uralski Problemist* 2009,
correction 2010



e3g5 1330.15 3/8 Draw

1.Qc1! Rg1 2.b8Q h1Q

With three queens on the board, how can White draw? Of course, he must sacrifice both his queens!

3.Kd4+!! Rxc1 4.Qg3+ Kh6 5.Qh3+ Kg7 6.Qxd7+ Kf8 7.Qd8+! Kg7 8.Qd7+ Kh6 9.Qh3+

Kg5 10.Qg3+ Kf5 11.Qh3+ Kf4 12.Qh4+ Kf3 13.Qf4+

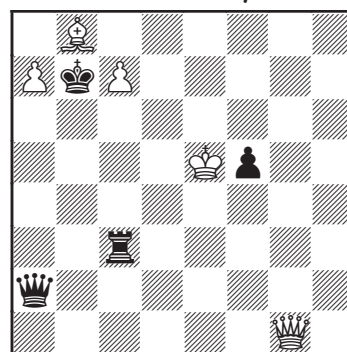
I was too fascinated looking at the board to notice that 13.Qh3+ is a loss-of-time dual that also leads to the same end. I also wouldn’t have wanted to discuss loss-of-time duals in draw studies.

13...Kg2 14.Qg4+ Kh2 15.Qh4+ Kg2 16.Qg4+ Kf1 17.Qe2+ Kg1 18.Qf2+ Kxf2 stalemate (EG#17783).

I was about to say something but then realized it was consensus that dead positions don’t end a study prematurely if the play leads to a forced stalemate, so the final picture belongs to the study. While the idea certainly has some charm, I found the play too forced, the semi-Siegfried queen of White was not appealing to me, so I tried another joke indeed. “There is another chess queen, you know.” All the while the homophone did not work out as the beard replied with “Ella Fitzgerald. What a lovely girl, but she had a rough late childhood. I still see her every year and have prepared a special gift for her next birthday”.

I decided not to reply to that. Instead I decided to reply the first study I had seen on that evening.

H.4 Yochanan Afek
Humor Tourney 2005



e5b7 4310.21 5/4 Win

“I bet you didn’t know it is possible to reach a kind of epaulette mate with the queen manoeuver similar to the one you showed me at the beginning”.

But the bearded man of course did not bother, and as my second beer arrived he would

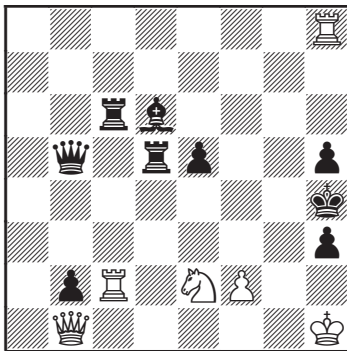
quickly show the solution as if he always had known it.

1.a8Q+ Qxa8 2.Qb1+ Kc8 3.Qxf5+ Kb7 4.c8Q+ Rxc8 5.Qb1+ Ka6 6.Qa2+ Kb7 7.Qb3+ Ka6 8.Qa4+ Kb7 9.Qb5 mate.

I was surprised. I asked him if he was an old chess master, to which I only got the reply: "Older than you think, but not a chess master. I just know all about people. And of course, as you politely ask, I will tell you who I am, but not while you are here. In fact, your last study was by one Yochanan Afek, I believe he would like to see us talking in this smudgy backroom in Queens about two queen sacrifices in one of his studies."

As I wanted to say that I would consider these pawn sacrifices, the following position set itself up on the board. I did at least not see my talk partner set it up, and I was not that drunk.

H.5 Martin van Essen,
Alexander Wohl & Yochanan Afek
1st prize Avni-50 JT 2005



h1h4 4831.14 6/9 Draws

1.Rxb2 Rc1+ 2.Qxc1 Rd1+ 3.Kh2 Qd5 4.Rxh5+ Kxh5 5.Sf4+ exf4 6.Rb5 Qxb5 7.Qxd1+ Qe2!! 8.Qxe2+ f3+ 9.Qe5+! Bxe5+ 10.Kh3 Kg5 stalemate (EG#14244).

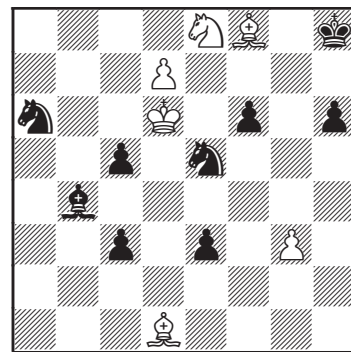
I remembered seeing this position.

"Didn't your close friend show this to you ten years ago?"

My concentration over this fifth and last study was broken by that and I looked at my watch. The afternoon threatened to turn into the night, as I approached 7:00 PM. I wanted to leave the room, but my old friend held me back to give me a small note. I put it into

my trousers pocket without looking at it and stormed out, but noticed I accidentally hadn't said goodbye. So I went back into the room but the old man was gone. I went out to ask the bartender, but he didn't remember any such man ever being there. In fact, nobody I asked remembered that man, they all told me I just sat there and played alone. I solved the study, packed the board together and went outside. I called a taxi to leave this scene, and while we got into small talk, I noticed the taxi driver was hiding one hand in a glove. I wanted to ask him about it, but instead he stopped. We had reached our destination. Without further ado, he pulled out a small chessboard, set up a position he once had been shown by one of his passengers "probably in the 1970s" and put it on the board. Something seemed odd and I thought I saw the face of that taxi driver before, but I was not sure...

H.6 Gijs van Breukelen
Schakend Nederland 1990



d6h8 0057.25 6/9 Win

1.Bg7+ Kg8 2.Sxf6+ Kxg7 3.Sh5+ Kg6 4.Bc2+ Kxh5 5.d8Q Sf7+ 6.Ke6 Sxd8+ 7.Kf5 e2! 8.Be4! e1S! 9.Bd5!! c2 10.Bc4 c1S 11.Bb5 Sc7 12.Ba4 wins

I solved that study and the taxi driver told me as a Christmas gift I won't have to pay. I asked for the name of the driver and wanted to learn more, but he quickly left after saying his name is Max.

Max. No, it could not be. I looked at my new friend who drove into a strange fog, but not before I noticed his unusual license plate. This was definitely not American. Was it Dutch? Had he

told me “I work as a taxi driver in Amsterdam since some time”, or had I heard “worked”? I assumed it was “worked”, but now...

Now the revelation hit me like a lightning. I fainted upon realizing that my driver was Max Euwe.

I woke up in a hotel room. I recapitulated the events of my – realistic – dream, laughing at myself. I found a note at the table detailing that I must have fainted and a doctor told me that I was fine and just needed to rest, so I was brought to my hotel room. Indeed, my belongings were also there. Amused at myself I tried

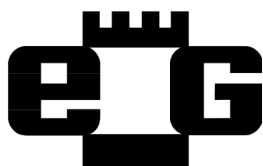
to reach the room keys from my trousers pocket, but grabbed onto a small piece of paper instead. I took it out and couldn't believe what I saw. It was the note the mysterious old man had given me:

Merry Christmas, my friend! Santa

Here the story by “the Baron” ends. He left us no means of contacting him but assured us he will show up when needed. Indeed, while we have our doubts about the authenticity of this story, we can only agree with Santa and wish a merry Christmas



See page 88!



Computer News

For testing endgame studies for soundness, one needs strong chess engines. Let us describe the situation at the end of 2016, when several interesting updates appeared.

TCEC

TCEC (Top Chess Engine Championship, previously Thoresen Chess Engine Championship) is the world best and strongest chess tournament. Many people consider it the unofficial World Chess Computer Championship. TCEC was started in 2010 and hosted by Martin Thoresen until the end of season 6. From season 7 on, which started in September 2014, it was organized by Chessdom. The list of past champions is: Houdini (Season1, S2, S4), Komodo (S5), Stockfish (S6), Komodo (S7, S8). Season 3 was not finished. The tournament runs online 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. A nice web chess interface was developed for TCEC where you can follow moves, evaluations, thinking lines, EGTB hits and there is even a small discuss forum.

Season 9 started on the first of May 2016. A 20 Core Dual Intel Xeon E5 2630 computer was used with 64 G RAM. The Stage 1 (32 engines in two groups) and Stage 2 (16 engines, twofold round robin) generated finally the top eight engines, which advanced to Stage 3 (July – September 2016) which was a giant eightfold round robin tournament. The result is worth noting: **1. Stockfish 39.0, 2. Houdini 35.5, 3. Komodo 34.5, 4. Fire 28.5, 5. Andscacs 23.5, 6. Jonny 22.0, 7. Gull 20.5, 8. Rybka 20.5.**

Conclusions, lessons and surprises: (1) It is not a great idea to continue using the former star Rybka for analyses. (2) Stockfish is clearly the best engine today. In the whole tournament with a lot of draws, Stockfish remained

Software news

BY EMIL VLASÁK

unbeaten and beat Houdini twice and Komodo once. (3) Houdini was once again a top engine. (4) The front runner and last year's winner Komodo did not advance in the Superfinal, but it clearly remains a member of the club Top Three.

The well-known rating list IPON confirms the result of TCEC: **1. Stockfish 8 3292, 2. Houdini 5 3281, 3. Komodo 10.2 3253, 4. Shredder 13 3121, 5 Gull 3 3061, 6. Ginkgo 1.8 3036, 7. Jonny 8.00 3028, 8. Equinox 3.30 3006, 9. Fritz 15 2993, 10. Critter 1.6a 2993.** Remember that Fritz 15 is really Rybka 4.2.

TCEC Superfinal

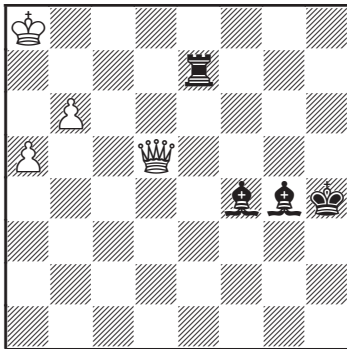
The TCEC organizers dared a little joke and started **the Superfinal** on the 11th November 2016, the same date as the Carlsen – Karjakin World Champ match. Stockfish and Houdini were playing 100 games using 50 interesting openings positions, each one with white and black pieces. The tempo was 180 minutes per game with a 15 seconds bonus per move. A 44-core server was used; the engines worked at 50-85 MegaNodes per second. Typically, a depth of about 30-50 plies was reached, in several endgames even 100-120 plies(!) were seen.

Per the TCEC rules both sides were allowed to upgrade the engine. Houdini is about 30 ELO points above the version used in the preliminary stages but it was apparently not enough. As engines do not know fatigue and nervousness, after a quarter of the games it is becoming clear that Stockfish will win Season 9. However, there is a purpose in continuing the match because Houdini has beaten Stockfish in single games, so the whole Superfinal is a great show, at times more interesting than boring draws in the parallel Carlsen – Karjakin

match. In addition, this computer match has theoretical importance – it seems that some (human) book openings are unusable today at the highest level.

Here is an interesting case from the end-game field.

V.1 Stockfish – Houdini
TCEC Season 9 Superfinal game 17



a8g3 3360.20 4/4 Black to move

Black has a simple draw with **64...Be2!** **65.Qc6** Because of **65.b7 Re8+**. **65...Ba6!** **66.Qf6+ Bg5**. The wK is trapped and the Ba6 is fully safe. But such a fortress is complicated for engines, which see a guaranteed Syzygy draw on the horizon.

So the game continued **64...Kg3 65.Qg8 Re5 66.a6 Re6 67.Kb7 Be3 68.a7 Rxb6+ 69.Kc7 Ra6 70.a8Q Bf4+ 71.Kb7 Rxa8 72.Kxa8**. Here both opponents indicated evaluation 0.0 because the match is played according to the FIDE rules including the 50-move-rule. And the Queen needs 123 moves to cope with bishops. But the TCEC software “judge” uses EGTB Gaviota with DTM and surprisingly adjudicated the game as 1-0. This organizers’ error attracted considerable attention but because of Stockfish’s dominance it was not considered further.

The Superfinal will end shortly after the deadline for this EG.

Stockfish 8

A week before TCEC Superfinal Stockfish announced a new version 8. Stockfish is a great illustration of successful teamwork and is not only freeware, but also open-source meaning

that everybody can study used ideas and algorithms without illegal reverse engineering. In addition and despite that, its competitors are not capable of beating it, a completely new situation in computer chess!

Another advantage of open-source is the possibility of configuring the engine with different features and for different platforms: besides the official Stockfish for Windows you can download special versions for Haswell (and newer) CPU’s, NUMA versions or an assembler port named asmFish. This way you can get up to 10 percent extra speed. There are versions for Android, Linux or Mac, too.

Houdini 5.0

Houdini, based on Rybka know-how, was the world best engine in the years 2011-2013. After three years of silence, the author Robert Houdart announced a comeback and he was obviously successful. The new engine Houdini 5.0 is about 200 ELO stronger than the last version 4.0. To achieve such progress Robert must surely have learned from Stockfish but he is too intelligent merely to copy. I watched the TCEC Superfinal for a long time and in most positions the evaluation of both engines varied in different aspects, often dramatically.

At the time of writing this article the only possibility to get Houdini 5.0 was to purchase the standalone engine directly from the author. The Standard version, for an acceptable price of 40 EUR, supports 6 cores and 4 G hash; for more extreme hardware there is a Pro version able to use 128 cores and 128 G hash. The only problem is that there is a limited number of internet activations preventing piracy.

Just before the completion of this manuscript, ChessOK launched new versions of Aquarium and ChessAssistant with Houdini 5.0. ChessBase has introduced packages with Houdini 5.0.

Komodo 10.2

In early November 2016 Komodo released a new version 10.2. It is about 22 ELO points

stronger than Komodo 10.1, 30 ELO points stronger than Komodo 10, and about 80 ELO points stronger than Komodo 9. No further details have been announced. I have a feeling that after the death of Komodo's spiritual father, Don Dailey, in 2013 the new team of Mark Lefler and GM Larry Kaufman have had a little trouble to keep pace with the competition.

You can buy the newest engine from the authors on the Komodo home page only. The price is 60 USD for a single engine 10.2 or 100 USD for a year subscription. Unfortunately, the ChessBase Komodo 10 packet based on Fritz GUI from May 2016 does not contain licences for minor engine updates.

Deep Shredder 13

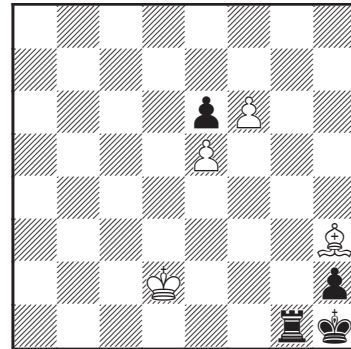
The Shredder chess engine developed in Germany by Stefan Meyer-Kahlen dominated computer chess in the period 1996-2005, winning many World Champ titles. However, since 2006 Stefan has been unable to compete with the new star named Rybka and its clones. The last Shredder 12 is from 2010. It seems that Stefan resigned from top engine development and devoted himself to porting Shredder to Linux, Mac, Android and mobile phones and also to development of own chess GUI.

However, in October 2016 Deep Shredder 13 appeared. The new engine is about 330 ELO points stronger than Shredder 12 and is able to beat the older Houdini 4.0. You can buy it only on Stefan's website for the rather high price of 100 EUR.

Every good engine, including Shredder 12, is able to find the solution of V.2 almost immediately. **1.f7 Rg8!** 1...Rg2+ 2.Bxg2+ Kxg2 3.f8Q h1Q 4.Qa8+ Kg1 5.Qxh1+ Kxh1 6.Ke3 Kg2 7.Kf4. **2.fxg8B!** Not 2.fxg8Q? stalemate. **2...Kg1 3.Bg2! Kxg2 4.Bxe6 Kf3 5.Bd5+ Kf4 6.e6 Ke5 7.e7! Kxd5 8.e8Q h1Q 9.Qa8+** wins.

Buy or not buy? I visited my old friend Jiri Dufek to run several tests on his computer. The Shredder engine runs quickly and fluently, reaching great depth, but I soon found a fatal problem.

V.2 L. Koblížek
special hon. ment. *Die Schwalbe* 2015



d2h1 o310.22 4/4 Win

Unfortunately, Shredder 13 does not solve it. It can see the bishop underpromotion, but only in the position when White promotes, and not earlier. First, this completely disqualifies this engine from being used for endgame studies. Second, this is typical behaviour of Rybka and its first carelessly produced clones. My recommendation is therefore obvious: despite being a devoted fan, I did not buy it myself.

Engines summary

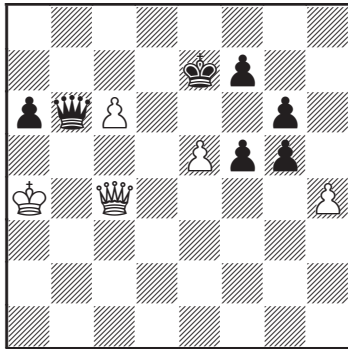
First, download Stockfish which is both excellent and free. For good analysis, Stockfish needs some assistance with a little different thinking and evaluations. If you can invest some money in a commercial engine, choose Houdini 5.0 and/or Komodo 10.2.

Testing

I have made several tests using a Core i7 6700K Skylake machine with 4 cores and 16 G RAM. It is known that the results of multicore engines are not fully reproducible and you need to make several runs. Attention! You must clear hash tables after each run.

(V.3) Black has the fatal threat of exchanging queens, for example 1.hxg5? Qb5+! 2.Qxb5 axb5+ 3.Kxb5 Kd8 4.Kb6 Kc8 5.Kc5 Kc7 6.Kd5 f4 7.Ke4 Kxc6 8.Kxf4 Kd5 or 1.Qc3? Qb5+ 2.Ka3 a5! 3.Qc2 Qb4+ 4.Ka2 a4! 5.Qc1 Qb3+ 6.Ka1 a3! 7.Qxg5+ Ke8!

V.3 Ladislav Salai jr
The Problemist 2014



a4e7 4000.35 5/7 Draw

There is only narrow way to hold for White:
1.h5!! gxh5 2.Qc3! 2.Qc1? Qb5+ 3.Ka3 Qd3+
4.Kb4 Kd8 5.Qxg5+ Kc7. 2...Qb5+! 3.Ka3 a5!
4.Qc2! Qb4+ 5.Ka2 a4! 6.Qc1! Qb3+ 7.Ka1
a3! 8.Qxg5+ The point! 8...Ke8 9.Qg8+! Ke7
10.Qg5+ draw.

First, I tested the various engines in the mode where they display only the best variation. This is undoubtedly the best emulation of playing a real game. I measured the average time the engine needed to indicate 1.h5! draw (o.o). The result are: Stockfish 8 – 3.0 sec, Komodo 10.2 - 4.2 sec, Houdini 5.01 – 7.2 sec, DeepShredder 13 – 41.0 sec.

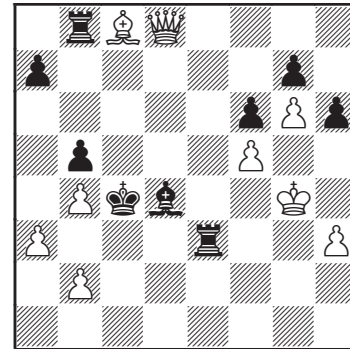
But when interactively analysing studies I never use the one-variation-mode because I need to see instantly candidates for duals and side solutions too so a two- or three-variation-mode is used and it logically costs some computing power and needs extra time. To my knowledge, this problem has not been seriously investigated.

I repeated the test in a two-variation-mode and surprisingly Houdini finds the solution significantly faster: Houdini 4.0 sec, Stockfish 4.8 sec, DeepShredder 16.2 sec, Komodo 35.0 sec. I am unable to explain this phenomenon accurately but, probably, Houdini changes in multi-mode some internal parameter, maybe the Contempt factor.

(V.4) This excellent study asks a seemingly simple question. How to win the rook – **1.Qc7+** or **1.Be6+?**. Let us try **1.Be6+ Kd3 2.Qxb8 Re4+** **3.Kf3 Re3+ 4.Kg4 Re4+ 5.Kh5 Bf2 6.Qxb5+ Kd2 7.Qd5+ Rd4**. The bishop on e6 is here

clearly better as on c8, but after say **8.b5 Rxd5 9.Bxd5 Kc2 10.b3 Bc5 11.a4 Bb4 12.Kg4 Kd3 13.Kf3 Be1 14.Bc4+ Kd4 15.Ke2 Ba5 16.Kd1 Ke4 17.Be6 Bb4** two extra pawns are not enough to win for White.

V.4 Ladislav Salai jr
special prize Die Schwalbe 2015



g4c4 3640.65 9/9 Win

White must find a subtle logical idea to throw the pawn b2. In addition, the bishop has to stay on c8. **1.Qc7+! Kd3 2.Qxb8 Re4+ 3.Kf3! Re3+ 4.Kf(g)2 Re2+ 5.Kf1 Rf2+ 6.Ke1 Re2+ 7.Kd1 Rd2+ 8.Kc1 Rc2+ 9.Kb1 Rxb2+ 10.Kc1 Rc2+ 11.Kd1 Rd2+ 12.Ke1 Re2+ 13.Kf1 Rf2+ 14.Kg1 Re2+ Or 14...Rxf5+ 15.Kg2 Rf2+ 16.Kg3 Be5+ 17.Qxe5 fxe5 18.Kxf2. 15.Kh1 Re1+ 16.Kg2 Re2+ 17.Kf3 Re3+ 18.Kg4 Re4+ 19.Kh5 Bf2 20.Qxb5+ Kd2 21.Qd5+ Rd4 22.Qa2+!** The first point. **22...Ke3 23.Qb3+ Kd2 24.Qb2+ Ke1 25.Qc1+!** 25.Qc3+? Kf1 26.Qc1+ Kg2 27.Bb7+ Kg3 28.Qc3+ Kh2 29.Qc7+ Kxh3 30.Qc3+ Kh2. **25...Ke2 26.Ba6+ Kf3 27.Qh1+!** 27.Qc6+? Kg3 28.Qxf6 gxf6 29.g7 Kxh3 30.Bf1+ Kh2 31.Kxh6 Rg4 32.Kh7 Kg3 33.b5 Kf4 34.Bd3 Bd4 35.a4 Ke3 36.Bc2 Be5 37.g8Q Rxg8 38.Kxg8 Kd4. **27...Kg3 28.h4!** The second point. With **1.Be6?** and **26.Bc4+** this should not work because of **28...Rxc4. 28...Rf4 29.Bd3! Be3 30.Be4 wins.**

Tasty food for the top engines! The two-variation mode is necessary here to see both candidate moves. I squeezed the stopwatch when the evaluation of **1.Dc7+** is high, the evaluation of **1.Se6+** is less than 0.9 and waited some extra time if the rating not changes in the bad direction.

Stockfish 8 only needs 14.2 second (best value 5 seconds) to indicate **1.Qc7+/1.Be6+** as **2.87/0.77**. The score of **1.Be6** stands unchanged

while the score of 1.Qc7+ is slowly increasing, for example 3.98-5.56-6.08-6.53. Bravo!

Houdini 5.0 needs 19.4 seconds (best time 10 seconds) to indicate 2.46/0.74.

Komodo 10.2 needs over 6 minutes to leave something like 6.61/6.31 and display 6.58/0.82.

DeepShredder 13 sometimes indicates 1.Be6 better than 1.Qc7+, but after about 2 minutes switches to a good score like 2.81/0.85.

ChessBase 14

ChessBase is the flagship of the German company with the same name. It is the world's best chess database software intended primarily for practical and correspondence chess. ChessBase is offered with million game databases and the cheapest package Start costs 190 EUR.

If you do not mind the price, ChessBase is an excellent tool for studies, too. Perhaps it is the only software allowing you to change the order of studies in the database. I often use it for judging tournaments or before exporting

the analysis into Word. It also has an advanced search facility for positions, material and manoeuvres. It is not so powerful as CQL, but more convenient and intuitive; before running CQL I often try to find a predecessor directly in ChessBase.

Since November 2016, ChessBase has a new version 14. From the view of endgame studies the most important novelty is an intelligent colouring of sublimes system allowing a quick orientation in complicated analyses.

Links

<http://tcec.chessdom.com/live.php> TCEC online

<http://www.inwoba.de/> IPON Rating list

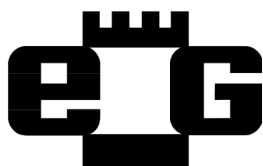
<https://stockfishchess.org> Stockfish official page

<http://www.cruxis.com/chess/houdini.htm> Houdini

<http://komodochess.com/> Komodo

<http://www.shredderchess.com/> Shredder

<https://en.chessbase.com/> ChessBase



History

In the late 1920s, so many studies were published in some Soviet magazines that two tourneys per year had to be organized. In 1936, the magazine Schackvärlden also had two tourneys, but it was for a different reason...

Schackvärlden (not to be confused with *De Schaakwereld*, a weekly magazine published in the Netherlands from 1936 to 1942) was a monthly chess magazine published in Gothenburg (Göteborg - Sweden), from November 1923 to December 1945. The editors-in-chief were Allan Nilsson (1899-1949) and Karl Berndtsson (1892-1943).

I do not know whether the aim of competing with *Tidskrift för Schack* was deliberate or not, but, for three years in a row (1925, 1926 and 1927), *Tidskrift för Schack* seemed to have experienced serious difficulties and could only publish four issues per year. From 1928, the problem column in *Schackvärlden* was run by Swedish composer Axel Åkerblom. In 1935, the Finnish journalist Arnold Hinds took over the study column (*Studieavdelningen*).

Today, the name of Arnold Hinds (1896-1952) is more or less forgotten. He was born in Iniö, a tiny village located in an island that belonged to the Province of Western Finland (today it is a part of Southwest Finland), a bilingual region with a majority of Swedish speakers. Hinds first attended the Abo Akademi, then the Helsinki University where he studied Law and Political Science but did not graduate. He settled in Helsinki and devoted the rest of his life to chess. He was mainly a chess journalist. Obituaries mention him as a 'theoretician', an expert in endings, but we also find several articles he wrote for *Suomen Shakki* about openings. He was also one of the main figures of chess life in Finland and a prominent member of the Helsinki Chess Club (he was its secretary, treasurer and president) and of the Chess Federation.

1936 (part 2)

BY ALAIN PALLIER

Hinds did not compose studies himself but he did compose a few problems. He is said to have been the owner of a large collection of studies (the largest in Scandinavian countries). Together with the Finnish composer Aarne Dunder, he wrote the first book written in Finland about studies: *111 suomalaista lopputehtävää* (1948). This book presents Finnish study composers with a short biography and a selection of studies (for the 1890-1946 period).

It was probably a courageous choice to hold a new informal study tourney. At the time, only a handful of generalist chess magazines, save those in the Soviet Union (*Shakhmaty v SSSR* and 64), held such contests. In 1932, for instance, among all the chess magazines published in Europe, only *L'Italia Schacchistica* had an informal study tourney (and the 1932 one was its last one for a long time). The informal tourneys of the *Revista Română de Şah* and *Magyar Sakkvilag*, two magazines that had regular informal tourneys in the 1920s, were interrupted for some years at the beginning of the 1930s. The *Revista Română de Şah* even ceased publication between September 1931 and July 1933 and when, in January 1934, an informal tourney was announced for 1934, it was not a success: it was only after six months that a first original work was published in the study column run by Herman Ginninger. *Československý šach* (that became *Šach* from 1939 to 1945) resumed an annual informal tourney in 1936, *Tijdschrift van den KNSB*, after a first experience in 1922-23, began its annual study tourney in 1937 only, under De Feijter's initiative.

But Hinds had an example in front of him: *Työväen Shakki*, a brand-new magazine created in Finland in 1934, had held its first study tourney the same year. *Työväen Shakki* was the organ of Työväen Shakkiliitto, the Finnish Chess Federation of Workers. The magazine lasted

only four years: Visa Kivi (1905-1990), a name well-known to study amateurs, was its editor-in-chief in the period 1934-1936. The 1934 tourney could be considered as a success, with fifteen or so compositions and names such as Rinck, Herbstman (for international participants) and 'local' composers Dunder, Kivi and Kaila, among others. The tourney was judged by Artur Havasi (Hungary). There was a second, and last, study tourney in 1935, judged by Kivi himself, with some more Soviet composers (L. Kubbel and Troitzky).

So, in principle, Hinds could count on a pool of talented young composers. His compatriot Visa Kivi had been quickly noticed as a clever composer of miniatures. Like another young new composer, Aarne Dunder (1914-1988), in the mid-1930s, he was ready to send his compositions to foreign tourneys, even in the Soviet Union. Both had their first international successes in 1934, namely in the *Työväen Shakki* tourney but also in *Revista Română de Şah* or in *Shakhmaty v SSSR*. Curiously, in their early years as composers, both were specialists in the struggle of bishop and knight versus queen but in a very different style: light positions for Kivi, heavy settings for Dunder. Osmo Kaila, then the youngest Finnish composer (1916-1991), was another newcomer. He was also a strong player (twice champion of Finland, he was awarded the International Master title in 1952) and a problem composer.

Soviet composers also answered the call, in particular the most active of them in foreign countries, Alexander Herbstman (second prize in the 1934 *Työväen Shakki* tourney), and his friends from Leningrad. And why not the indefatigable and prolific Henri Rinck, a regular in tourneys since the beginning of the century?

It can be said that Hinds succeeded in his challenge, maybe not fully in the two first years. For instance, the composer who had the largest number of studies published in *Schackvärlden*, in 1935 and 1936, was not the best of all: it was Moritz Lewitt (1863-1936), from Berlin, a name that is forgotten today. A doctor, he was active as a chessplayer in his thirties and forties and devoted himself to study composing in his last

years but with little success. Many of his studies were published during the 1930s in European magazines (like *Magyar Sakkvilag*, *Deutsche Schachzeitung*, *Wiener Schachzeitung*, *Tidskrift för Schack...*).

The intended format for the *Schackvärlden* tourneys was quite unusual: prizes only, no honourable mentions nor commendations. There was prize money for the two first ranked studies (10 and 5 Swedish crowns) and a chess book for third prize. With such a restrained format, awards consisted of only four lines! At the same time, the magazine also held a tourney for solvers.

I have not seen the award of first 1935 tourney of *Schackvärlden* but those that followed, in the second half-year, show that these tourneys had quickly attracted a small number of first rank composers: with original works by L. Kubbel, Herbstman, Rinck and Halberstadt, Hinds could not be unhappy. For the pleasure of Scandinavian readers, there were also some composers from Finland and from Sweden.

Here are the awards of *Schackvärlden* III (July-September) and IV (October-December):

– (SV-III) 1st Pr V. Halberstadt, 2nd Pr L. Kubbel, 3rd prize H. Lukkarinen.

– (SV-IV) 1st Pr A. Herbstman, 2nd Pr A. Åkerblom, 3rd Pr L. Kubbel.

H. Rinck, with no less than five studies published in the October issue, was not honoured.

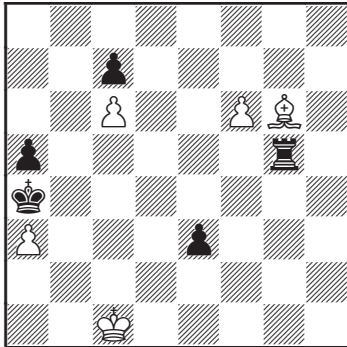
The 1936 tourneys were announced in the December 1935 issue, with an announcement in four languages (Swedish, English, German and Finnish). I quote below the announcement (in its English version) as it was printed, without correcting mistakes:

“«*Schackvärlden*» writes out quarterly an international study tournament with 3 prizes: I: Kr 10: - II: Kr 5 : - and III a chessbook. Applications to Mr A. Hinds, Äggleby, Helsingfors (Finland)”.

Eventually it turned out that first 1936 tourney was a semi-annual one: Hinds found the studies published during first half-year 'unworthy of a prize'. Lars Falk remarks that this is not very consistent since the first two winners

were published in February. Probably Hinds could not find, among the rest of the published studies, any that could be worthy of the third prize.

P.1 V. Kivi
1st prize *Schackvärlden* 1936/I



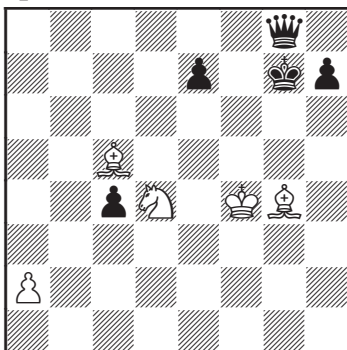
c1a4 0310.33 5/5 Win

1.f7 Rg1+ (1...Rc5+ 2.Bc2+ or 1...e2 2.Bc2+ Kb5 3.Bd3+ Kxc6 4.Kd2 and White wins)
2.Kb2! Rf1 3.Bc2+ Kb5 4.Bd3+ Ka4! 5.Bxf1 e2 6.f8R! and White wins (6.f8Q? exf1 7.Qxf1 stalemate).

Paul Keres (1916-1975) from Estonia, won second prize but his study is severely flawed (no less than four times), I do not quote it here.

Third prize was for Spanish Jose Mandil (1907-1979). The young composer from Barcelona, an admirer of Rinck - he was his closest collaborator and worked with the old master for the edition of *1414* - had begun chess composition in 1932.

P.2 J. Mandil
3rd prize *Schackvärlden* 1936/I



f4g7 3021.13 5/5 Win

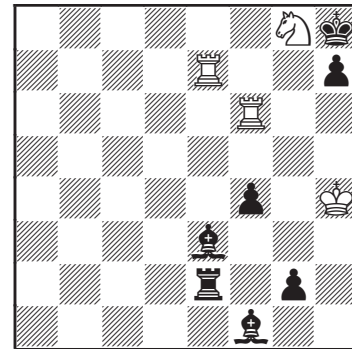
1.Sf5+ Kf8 (1...Kf6 2.Bd4+ e5+ 3.Bxe5+ Ke6 4.Sh6+ wins) **2.Sxe7 Qf7+ 3.Sf5+! Kg8** (3...Ke8

4.Bh5+ Qxh5 5.Sg7+ wins) **4.Bf3 Qc7+ 5.Bd6! Qa5 6.Bd5+! Qxd5 7.Se7+** and White wins. Nice domination of the bQ.

There were no original studies published in June, July and August, says Lars Falk, so Hinds had to keep on the half-year format, but this time with participation of major Soviet composers. There was no study by L. Kubbel but Herbstman, already rewarded in 1935, was joined by 'newcomers' Tigran Gorgiev and Rostislav Aleksandrov.

The award was published in the April 1937 issue, with two studies sharing first-second prize.

P.3 A. Herbstman
1st-2nd prize *Schackvärlden* 1936/II



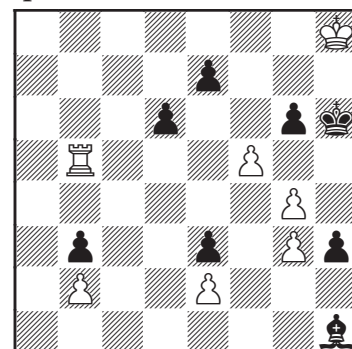
h4h8 0561.03 4/7 Win

1.Rf8! Bf2+ 2.Kh5 Rxe7 (Re5+; Kh6) **3.Kh6 Rf7!** (3...Re8 4.Rxe8 Bb5 5.Rf8 Bc5 6.Se7 mate)
4.Ra8! Ra7 5.Rb8 Rb7 6.Rc8 Rc7 7.Rd8 Rd7 8.Re8 and White wins.

Systematic opposition of rooks. With the bR on d7, the defence 8...Bb5 is no longer possible.

Rinck's prize-winner is flawed - I do not reproduce it here.

P.4 T. Gorgiev
3rd prize *Schackvärlden* 1936/II

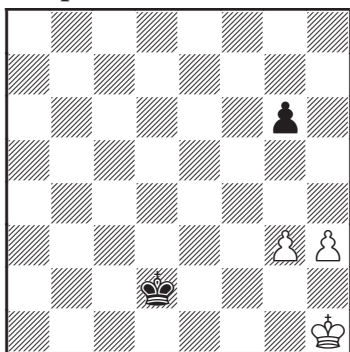


h8h6 0130.56 7/8 Draw

1.f6! (1.Ra5? Bg2 2.Ra1 h2 and Black wins) **1...exf6 2.g5+! fxc5 3.g4! h2 4.Rb8 Bd5 5.Rf8!** (5.Re8? h1Q 6.Re7 Bf7 7.Rxf7 Qa8+ and Black wins) **5...h1Q 6.Rf7! Bxf7** stalemate.

However, Hinds wanted to honour more than three studies and, for the first time, he added two extra prizes.

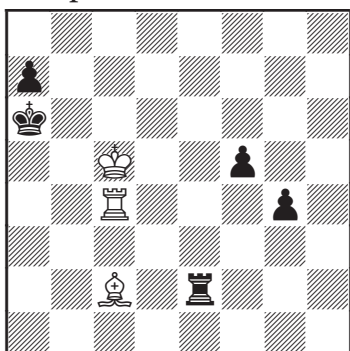
P.5 V. Halberstadt
1st special prize *Schackvärlden* 1936/II



h1d2 oooo.21 3/2 Win

1.h4 (1.Kg2? Ke2 2.h4 Ke3 3.Kh3 Kf3 or 2.g4 Ke3 3.Kg3 Ke4 4.h4 Ke5 5.Kf3 Kf6 and Black draws) **1...Kd3 2.Kg1!** (2.Kg2? Ke3! zz or 2.Kh2? Ke4! zz and Black draws) **2...Kd4** (2..Ke3 3.Kg2 zz and White wins) **3.Kf2!** (3.Kf1? Ke5! 4.Kf2 g5 5.h5 g4 and Black draws) **3...Ke4 4.Ke2 Ke5 5.Ke3!** (5.Kf3? Kf5 zz 6.g4+ Kf6 7.Ke4 Ke6 and Black draws) **5...Kf5 6.Kf3 zz g5 7.g4+ Kg6 8.h5** and White wins.

P.6 A. Åkerblom
2nd special prize *Schackvärlden* 1936/II



c5a6 o410.03 3/5 Win

1.Bd3! with :
— **Re3 2.Rc3+ Kb7 3.Ba6+** and White wins, or:
— **Rd2** (1...Re5+ 2.Kd4 Ra5 3.Rb4 wins) **2.Rd4 Ka5 3.Rd6!** (3.Rd7? a6 4.Rd6 a4 5.Bb5 axb5

6.Rxd2 Kb3 draws) **3...Ka4 4.Bb5+** and White wins.

After 1936, there were other study tourneys in *Schackvärlden*: 1937 saw two half-year tourneys with 'normal awards' (i.e. one full page, with a general comment about the entries and an appreciation of each rewarded study, three prizes again and three special distinctions). Soviet composers had a massive presence in the first part of 1937 (10 published studies, with Herbstman, L. Kubbel, Gorgiev, Aleksandrov and even Kasparyan, but many of their entries were found defective and, in their award, judges Hinds and Terho criticized Soviet composers for their inadequate analyses). In the same year (1937), there was only one study by a Soviet composer (Gorgiev) published during the second half-year and it was the last. In 1938, the tourney became annual. Halberstadt and Rinck continued to participate, and they were joined by Dutch composers (De Feijter, Marwitz, Van Hensbergen, Kok and Selman) and by composers from Czechoslovakia (Prokes, Fritz, Dedrle). With the outbreak of WWII, things became more difficult: there was only one tourney for the 1940 and 1941 years and no tourney at all in 1942. The very last, in 1943, attracted a dozen of composers, almost exclusively Scandinavian composers but with two exceptions: Paul Farago from Rumania and Adolf Herberg from Germany.

(to be continued)

Special thanks to Lars Falk and Timothy Whitworth.

References

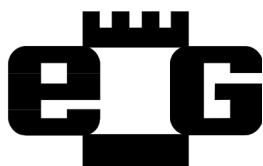
About *Schackvärlden*:

Gino di Felice: *Chess Periodicals: An Annotated International Bibliography, 1836-2008* (McFarland 2010).

About Arnold Hinds:

fi.wikipedia.org/Arnold_Hinds (this Wikipedia page exists only in Finnish)

A. Dunder and A. Hinds, *111 suomalaista lopputehtävää*, 1948.



Quality Control

Corrections and reconstruction of old endgame studies

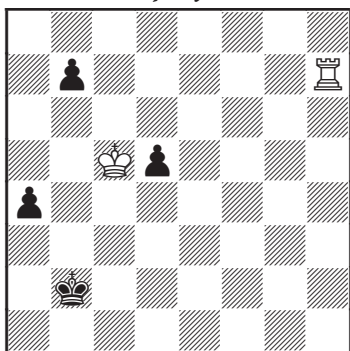
BY JAROSLAV POLÁŠEK

We start with two studies by one of the first Czech composers: **Jan Drtina** (1834-1907).

He composed mainly excellent problems and also contributed to the theory of “critical squares” and opposition in pawn endings.

Here are two of his studies from the end of 19th century, which are not correct, but have interesting ideas.

P.1 Jan Drtina
Shakhmatny Zjurnal 1894



c5b2 0100.03 2/4 Win

1.Rh4! a3 2.Kb4 a2 3.Rh2+ Kb1 4.Ka3! A surprising move! The wK will run into a check of the future queen! The obvious 4.Kb3? gives away the win because of 4...a1S+! **4...a1Q+ 5.Kb3** wins.

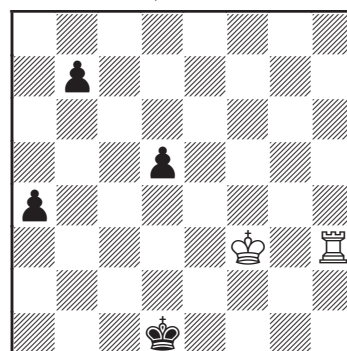
However, the study is not correct as White wins in several ways, the simplest being 1.Rh2+! Kb3 2.Rh3+ Kb2 3.Kb4 Kc2 4.Ra3 and 5.Rxa4.

The correction was relatively simple and I was helped by the EGTB. (P.2)

1.Ke3 Kc2 2.Kd4 Kb2 The Drtina position with one small difference (Rh7->Rh3) **3.Kc5 a3 4.Kb4 a2 5.Rh2+ Kb1 6.Ka3!** (Kb3? a1S+!) **6... a1Q+ 7.Kb3** wins.

I managed to prevent a side solution, extending the solution by two full moves without adding material and to slightly deepen the content of an additional thematic line where

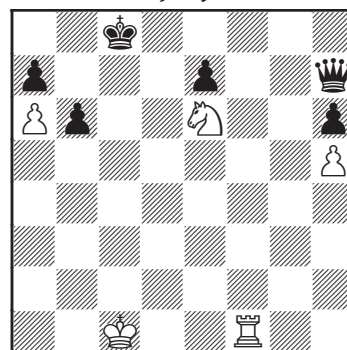
P.2 Jan Drtina
Reconstruction J. Polášek – original



f3d1 0100.03 2/4 Win

the try of the main line is the solution: **2... b5 3.Kc5 d4! 4.Kxd4 Kb2 5.Kc5 a3 6.Kb4 a2 7.Rh2+ Kb1 8.Kb3! a1S+ 9.Kc3** wins.

P.3 Jan Drtina
Shakhmatny Zjurnal 1893



c1c8 3101.24 5/6 Win

1.Rf4! The straightforward 1.Rf2? fails to 1..Qe4! because the black b6 pawn protects the square c5. White must force the move b5 and only then strike with Rf2. **1...b5** (1...Qd3 2.Rf8+ Kd7 3.Rd8+) **2.Rf2! Qe4 3.Rf8+ Kd7 4.Sc5+** and wins. A nice logical study. However, the author's intention was different: **2...b4 3.Rc2+ Kb8** (Kd7; Sf8+) **4.Rd2!** and wins. But 3.Rf3 also wins as Black is in zugzwang, e.g. 3... b3 4.Rc3+ Kb8 5.Rxb3+ Kc8 6.Rf3 etc.

In this case the correction was easy: changing the main line is sufficient.

However, the solution is too short. Would it be possible to improve this study? A small modification of the position would add two moves:

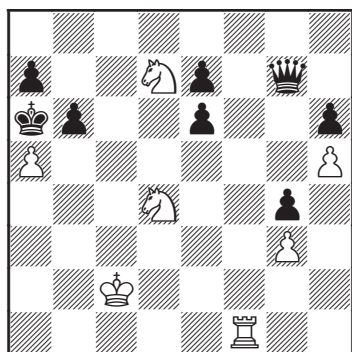


Win

1.Rc4+ Kb8 2.Rf4 (Rd4? Qh8!;) 2...Kc8 3.Kc1! and continues like after 1.Rf4.

However, this idea is not so expressive, because the try 3.Rf2 is not only refuted by 3...Qe4, but also by 3...Qh8+. This is not a successful reconstruction. By adding the pawn pair wPg3 / bPg4 the side solution 3.Rf3 is suppressed and enables to develop the play:

P.5 Jaroslav Polášek
After Jan Drtina



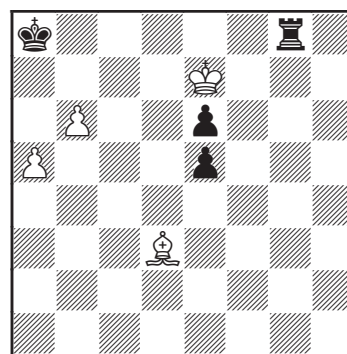
c2a6 3102.36 7/8 Win

1.Sb8+ Kb7 After 1...Kxa5 2.Sbc6+ Ka6 3.Ra1+ Kb7 4.Rxa7+ Black is checkmated. **2.a6+!** (2.Sbc6 Qh7+ 3.Kc3 bxa5) **2...Kxb8 3.Sxe6 Qh7+ 4.Kc1!** (4.Kb2? Kc8 5.Rc1+ Kb8 6.Rd1 Qh8+) **4...Kc8** Drtina's study begins here without the additional pawns wPg3 / bPg4. **5.Rf4!** (Rf2? Qe4;) **5...b5 6.Rf2 b4 7.Rc2+ Kb8 8.Rd2** and White wins.

I could build a mate construction and maintain the original main line of the study, so it's a step forward, even though perfection is still somehow missing ...

The recently deceased Russian composer Vitaly Kovalenko (1947-2014) had excellent ideas, but he was not a strong analyst, so that his studies are often faulty. Take a look at the following study:

P.6 Vitaly Kovalenko †
2nd hon. mention *Šachové umění* 1979



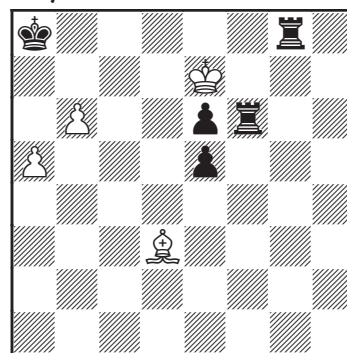
e7a8 0310.22 4/4 Win

1.Be4+ Kb8 2.a6 Rg7+ 3.Ke8! Kovalenko erroneously considered this position as mutual zugzwang. **3...Rd7 4.Kf8 Rd8+ 5.Ke7** (or 5.Kf7/Kg7) **5...Rd7+ 6.Kf6** wins, Black has no move (EG#04515).

Mario Garcia detected two cooks: **3.Kf6! Rd7 4.Bc6!** (the author analysed 4.Kxe6? Rg7 only) with temping Black after 4...Rh7 5.Kg6 Re7 6.Be4 Rd7 7.Kf6! The second cook is **1.a6! Rg4 2.Bb5** (or 2.Kd6) Rg7+ 3.Kd6 Kb8 4.Bd7.

To suppress undesirable variations M. Garcia, along with Y. Bazlov, added a bR on f6:

P.7 Vitaly Kovalenko †
2nd hon. mention *Šachové umění* 1979
corrected by Y. Bazlov and M. García 2015



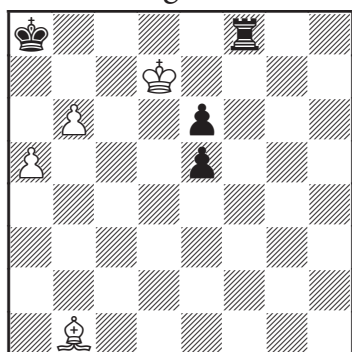
e7a8 0610.22 4/5 Win

1.Be4+ Kb8 2.a6 Rg7+ 3.Kxf6 Rd7 4.Bc6 Rh7 5.Kg6 Re7 6.Be4 Rd7 7.Kf6 wins.

However, this is not a successful correction. The new study is correct, but to capture a non-playing bR is too high a price. Moreover, the introductory play is too forced.

Coincidentally, I analysed Kovalenko's study in April 2015 when I was browsing older issues of *Československý šach*. I discovered another line that misled the author and I used it for the following reconstruction:

P.8 J. Polášek after V. Kovalenko (?),
original



d7a8 o310.22 4/4 Win

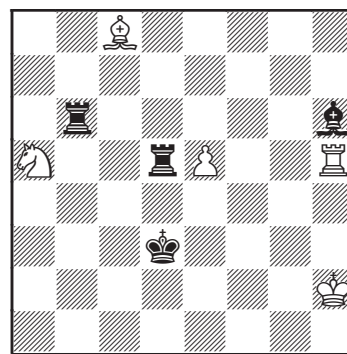
Note that the initial position of this study has only some minor shifting pieces in comparison with the original, but the study's content is much richer. In this case, it is not a mere correction, but a separate work. Probably the most appropriate would be to quote both authors as the composers, but for a deceased composer this is probably not right. So rather Polášek after Kovalenko? Judge for yourself.

1.Be4+ 1.a6? fails on **1...Rf7+!** **2.Kd6** (2.Ke8/c6? Rf4!) **2...Kb8!** **3.Be4 Rd7+!** **4.Kxd7** stalemate, or here: **3.Bd3 e4!** **4.Bxe4 e5** draw. **1...Kb8 2.a6 Rf7+ 3.Ke8!** The black pawn e6 must be maintained to block the sixth rank. (3.Kd8 loses time **3...Rd7 + 4.Ke8 Rg7** and as the main line). Try: **3.Kd6?!** **Rg7?** **4.Bc6** with **Bd7** to follow is refuted by **3...Rd7+!** **4.Kxe6/Kc6 Rg7!** With a draw. **3...Rg7** (3...Rd7 4.Kf8 shortens the solution). Kovalenko considered this position to be a draw (mutual zugzwang), but he overlooked following nice manoeuvre: **4.Kf8 Rd7 5.Bc6 Rh7 6.Kg8 Re7 7.Be4! Rd7 8.Kf8** Now we have the same position as after **4...Rd7,**

but with BTM (Kovalenko had this position in his solution after **4.Ke8-f8**). **8...Rd8+ 9.Ke7** (or **9.Kf7/Kg7**) **9...Rd7+ 10.Kf6!** wins.

Let's look at another example of a poor correction:

P.9 Tigran Gorgiev
3rd hon. ment. *Problem 1958*



h2d3 o741.10 5/4 Draw

The classical Gorgiev study ends with a stalemate after interesting play by both sides. Instead of exchanging pieces the author uses sacrifices and counter-sacrifices: **1.Sc6! Rxc6 2.Bb7 Bf4+!** **3.Kh3! Rxe5 4.Rxe5 Rh6+!** **5.Rh5! Rxb5+ 6.Kg4 Rh7** (Rb5; Ba6) **7.Be4+ Kxe4** stalemate (EG#09681).

However, in 2012 Mario Garcia found the cook **1.Rh3+!** Ke2 **2.Bg4+ Kf2 3.Rf3+ Ke1 4.Sc4 Rc6 5.Kh3 Rxc4 6.Be6** with a draw, and suggested a repair by adding a black pawn c6 with the first move **1.Sa5xc6**.

That is definitely not a good idea – Gorgiev, at the first move, paradoxically sacrifices a knight on an empty square, whereas Garcia takes the pawn c6, thereby destroying the good impression created by the study.

However, this position provides hidden possibilities. Black is the exchange ahead and, if he wins the e5 pawn, the opposite-coloured bishops should ensure him the win. The constellation RBxBS with opposite-coloured bishops is always won, and extra rooks on both sides probably do not change anything because they increase the attacking potential of the stronger side.

Therefore, let's try to move the wSa5 to a7. Then the only way to prevent the loss of a pawn

e5 is **1.Sa7-c6!** (after 1.Rh3? Bf4 + Ke4 2.e6 White gets mated).

Deeper analysis, however, shows that both versions are unsound. After **1.Sc6(!)** Black has the move **1...Bf4+** and after **2.Kh3 Ke3! 3.Kh4** (3.Se7? Rc5 4.Bd7 Bxe5 5.Bc6 Kd2) **3...Rd1 4.Se7! Rb4!** the pawn e5 is lost, e.g. 5.Kg4 Bxe5+ 6.Kf5 Bb2 and Black probably has reached a won position.

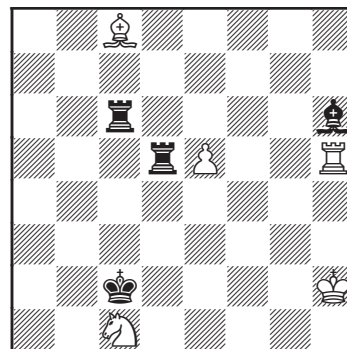
Sergey Tkachenko solved this problem simply in his book *The Magic Chess Rook* (Moscow 2016) by presenting this study after Black's first move ...

Fortunately, the study can be corrected with only a minor transfer of pieces. The author's intention of sacrifice the knight on the first move remains: (P.10)

1.Sd3! Premature is 1.Bb7? for 1...Rd2+ 2.Kh3 Rc3+ 3.Kg4 Rd4+ **1...Kxd3** (1...Rxc8 2.Sb4+;

1...Rxd3 2.Bf5; 1...Rb6 2.Sb4+ Rxb4 3.Rxh6; 1...Rd4 2.Bf5 draw) **2.Bb7** etc.

P.10 Tigran Gorgiev
3rd hon. ment. *Problem* 1958
Correction J. Polášek – original



h2c2 0741.10 5/4 Draw

Conclusion: A good correction or reconstruction often requires as much time as composing your own new study. Adding technical men is not the best solution.

Two knights versus doubled pawns (2/2)

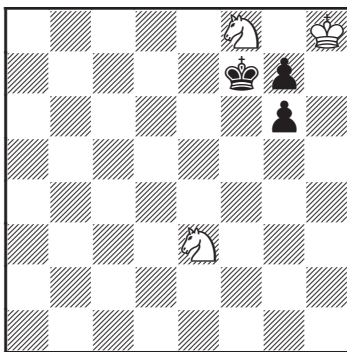
BY MARTIN VAN ESSEN

This is the second and final part of an article about the endgame of two knights against doubled pawns, both beyond Troitzky's limit. We qualitatively explore whether the presence of the foremost pawn improves the attacker's chances over the situation of a single (rear) pawn, assuming a secure blockade. In the first part, this was discussed for centre pawns and bishop's pawns. Here, we conclude with knight's pawns and rook pawns.

Knights' pawns

Among the KSS-KP endgames, the position with the knight's pawn on the fourth rank (say, a black pawn at g5) is a somewhat strange guest, this being a draw. The problem is not the remoteness of the blockading knight from any corner and the draw is rather subtle, with the bK hiding at h5 and, as soon as he is evicted from that lair, always seeking to return there. Strangely, White cannot profitably break this process.

E.15



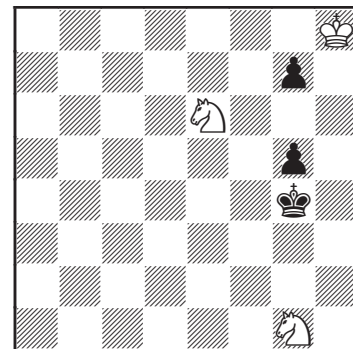
h8f7 0002.02 3/3 Mate in 101

Conforming to the theme of this article, would White's chances improve if there was an extra pawn on g4, blockaded by a knight on g3? There is no longer a refuge for Black at h5 but there is one at h4. Furthermore, a8 has become a safe corner: Black's front pawn is closer to the promotion square. A new queen at g1

will control b6 just in time, and White needs it for his king or a knight. Let us see how these factors balance.

White still needs to establish a solid blockade. White's knights look like flies aiming for a piece of pie (g3, g4, g5), while the bK is busy shooing them away. **1.Sd7 Ke6 2.Sc5+ Ke5 3.Sf1 Kd4 4.Se6+ Ke5 5.Sg5 Kf4 6.Sh3+ Kf3 7.Sd2+ Kg4 8.Sg1 Kg3 9.Se4+ Kf4 10.Sc5 g5 11.Se6+ Kg4** Aiming to play Kh5 and push the front g-pawn. Now, after any knight move, Black can proceed in some comparable way, but there are many variations.

E.16



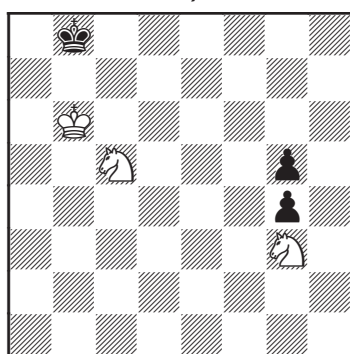
After 11...Kg4

12.Kh7! The only winning move. The nice point is 12...Kh5 13.Sf3! g4 (else 14.Sexg5) 14.Sxg7 mate! How beautiful is nature. **12...Kf5 13.Sd4+ Ke5 14.Sde2 Kf6** Black can no longer prevent a blockade at g3 so he keeps the wK boxed in for a while. **15.Sg3 g4** Discouraging White's most natural opening phase developing move. **16.S1e2 Kg5 17.Sc3 Kf6 18.Sce4+ Kf7 19.Sh5** Curiously the pawn on g7, even when unguarded, denies that very square to the wK, who dares not harm the pawn. The text move lures the pawn forward, creating space for the wK. Other moves / methods would win slightly slower, according to the tablebases. **19...g6** King moves allow 20.Kg6 and a blockade at g5, while 19...g3 20.Sg5+! followed by 21.Sxg3 wins as well. **20.Shg3 Ke6** Black heads slowly for the

zone around g2, where White can do him no harm. Equally good is first 20...g5 when play becomes more straightforward, but the text move leads to play that shows better why Black must ultimately commit to advancing the rear pawn. **21.Kh6 Kd5 22.Kg5 Ke5 23.Sd2 Kd4 24.Kf6 Ke3 25.Sde4 Kf4 26.Ke6 Ke3 27.Kd5 Kf4 28.Kd4 Kf3 29.Kd3 Kg2 30.Ke2 g5** By now this push is the most resisting move. If Black keeps waiting, White first covers Sg3 with the king, then blocks the rear g-pawn with Sg5, rounds up the frontal g-pawn and wins. **31.Ke1 Kg1 32.Sc3 Kg2 33.Sce2 Kh3** Black must yield. **34.Kf1 Kh2 35.Kf2 Kh3** Now White employs a little trick to expel the bK. **36.Sc3 Kh2 37.Sce4 Kh3 38.Kg1 Kh4 39.Sf5+!** Now if 39...Kh3 then 40.Sxg5 mate or 40.Sf2 mate!. The latter move helps to demonstrate that even with an unfortunate knights' configuration like Sg3, Sh1, White actually wins. **39...Kh5 40.Seg3+ Kg6** The bK is forced out. Unlike the situation with a single g-pawn, Black can never return to the refuge at the h-file. Black's only hope now is the a8-corner, but he will make White work to get him there. **41.Kf2 Kf6 42.Ke3 Ke5 43.Sg7 Kd5 44.Kd3 Ke5 45.S7h5! Kd5 46.Kc3 Ke5 47.Kc4** Held off by the knights' force field, Black has to step back. **47...Kd6 48.Kd4**

Now with optimal play, where variations are possible, the players must arrive at:

E.17



After 77...Kb8

78.Sd7+ The decisive moment. Black seems to be safe with 78...Ka8; if the Sg3 rushes to mate him, the pawn promotes with check just in time, but let's see: 79.Sf5 g3 80.Se3! Threatening mate in 2. Black must push. 80...g2 81.Sxg2! It's that simple! 81...g4 The same situation as three

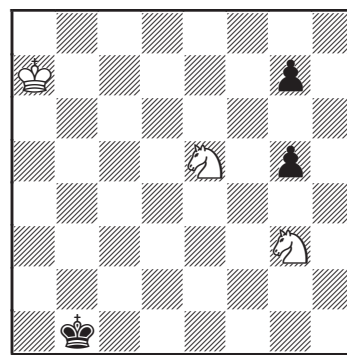
moves ago, with the little difference that the wS is on g2 rather than g3. This brings it in fact closer to c7! It is mate in three moves. Remarkable and a unique feature of the doubled pawns.

This means that Black cannot go into the corner: **78...Kc8 79.Kc6 Kd8 80.Sb6** Black is hounded and mated at h8 ultimately at the 101st move.

Also for this second part of the article, Harold van der Heijden has provided examples of endgame compositions featuring knights versus doubled pawns, for further illustration:

E.18 P. Farago

Schakend Nederland 1965

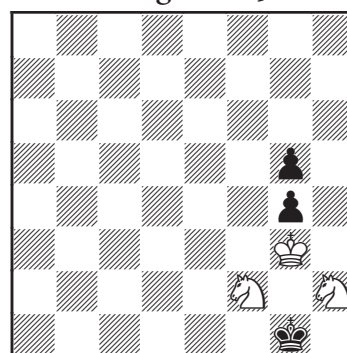


After 10...g5

White has a choice of 19 moves, all of them winning. This sounds like a grotesque cook but it is not atypical of studies featuring positions or material which, in the pre-table-base era, were erroneously believed to be a general draw. Farago's choice of 11.Sg4 is still the fastest (mate in 61); White follows up with Sg3-e4xg5. [HH: Farago's study had, in the initial position, the stipulation: which side to move? What result? The solution, proving a win for White, had a lot of parallel lines, i.e. not a clear main line].

E.19 T. Dawson

Morning Post 1920

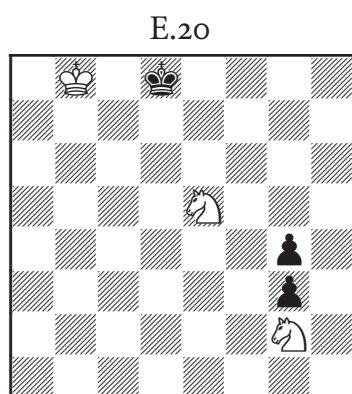


g3g1 0002.02 3/3 Mate in 5

To conclude, a YACHT (Yet Another Christmas Tree) from Dawson, more because it fits the season than it is thematic. For the reader!

Pawns on g3, g4

Advancing the pawns one square further creates a situation somewhat reminiscent of the pawns on f2, f3. Obviously, the a8-corner has now become genuinely safe for Black. The h8-zone is still mortally dangerous for Black:

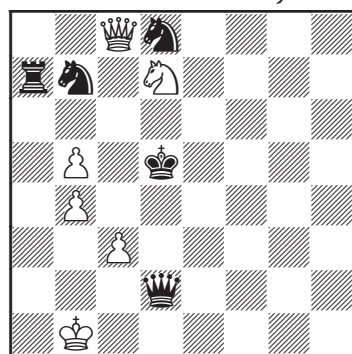


b8d8 0002.02 3/3 Mate in 43

Only the flight-giving key **1.Sc4!** wins. Again, the blockading knight together with the pawns form an impenetrable wall f4-g4-h4, which would however “leak” with one of the pawns missing. Against a lone pawn on g4 White would win only with the bK much more confined. This had already been found by Troitzky:

E.21 A. Troitzky

1st hon. mention *Shakhmaty v SSSR* 1931

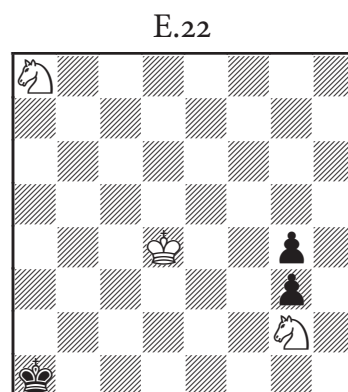


b1d5 4307.30 6/5 Win

1.Sb6+ Ke4 2.Qg4+ Kd3 3.Qf3+ Qe3 4.Qxe3+ Kxe3 5.Sc8 Ra4 The rook has few squares; **5...Ra3 6.Kb2** does not improve for Black. **6.Sb6 Ra7** An interesting try is **6...Sc5!?**

7.Sxa4 Sxa4 but after **8.c4** White should draw. **7.Sc8 Ra8 8.Sb6 Rb8 9.Sd7 Rc8 10.Sb6 Rxc3 11.Sd5+ Kd4 12.Sxc3 Kxc3** We have reached our thematic endgame. **13.Kc1!** Only this move, preventing **13...Kd2** trapping the wK, secures the draw.

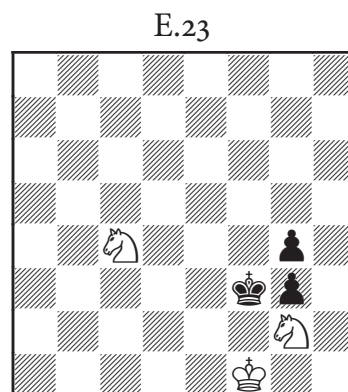
At a1 the bK is in trouble as well:



d4a1 0002.02 3/3 Mate in 40

After **1.Kc3? Ka2!** White is on the wrong end of a mutual zugzwang, for example **2.Sb6 Ka3** draws. Only the slightly mysterious **1.Kc4!** wins. There may follow: **1...Kb1(!)** Curiously, **1...Kb2 2.Sb6!** loses four moves quicker. **2.Kb3!** Only move: If here **2.Sb6? Kb2!** Puts White into zugzwang! **2...Kc1 3.Kc3 Kd1 4.Kd3** and now it is the blockading knight that stops the bK. In the situation with **Sg3 / pawn g4** Black would have the e1 square available as well, which is crucial extra freedom. White cannot decisively tighten the ropes.

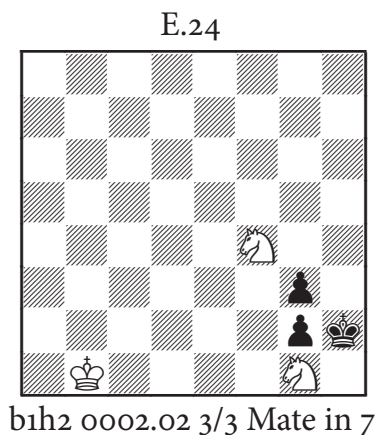
At last, an example quite characteristic of doubled pawns in general and it is left for the reader to work out:



f1f3 0002.02 3/3 Win

Pawns at g2, g3

There are hardly any interesting positions with this constellation unless it is this little puzzle for the reader (solution at the end):

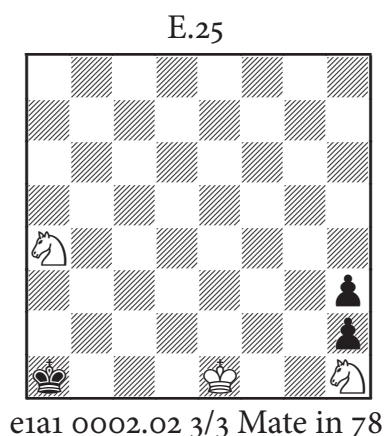


Rook pawns

Only the black pawns h2, h3 need to be considered.

With the blockading knight so remote, could there be any possibility of interesting play at all?

If we put all the pieces at three edges of the board, we present White with a quite nontrivial long win:



1.Kd2 Kb1 2.Kd3! an important tempo move, the only winning move in fact being: **2.Kc3? Ka2!** would be (mutual) zugzwang. In the subsequent play, White is just able to capture **Sxh2** while keeping the **bK** boxed in on the first two ranks. This transposes to a known won endgame with a pawn on h3.

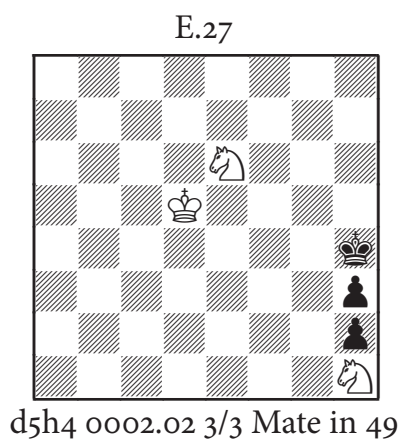
Troitzky had already started to explore this matter more than a century ago and, leaving aside some table-base quibbles, he got the thematic right:



The position is a long mate, in fact in 105. HHdbV#79911 gives **1.Sf2 h2 2.Sh1 Kb1** Tougher is **2...Ka2. 3.Sf4** Or **3.Se3**, which mates in 82 instead of 103. **3...h3** The worst move, but thematic as it prevents White from playing **4.Sh3. 4.Sd3** The only, and final move, leading to this curious endgame. In some sense, play should start with this move rather than end with it; to me, “1-0” is by no means obvious at this point. The value of this study is the bare-handed discovery that this position is won; certainly a nontrivial find.

Let us finally stick to our original question. Are there situations in which doubled pawns h2, h3 improves the attacker’s chances over a single pawn on h3?

One has to look carefully, but an example is:



1.Ke5! wins. The subsequent play resembles that of the f-pawns (f2, f3), but everything two files shifted⁽¹⁾. Meanwhile, a corresponding position Kd5 Se6 Sh2 / Kh4 h3 (White to move) is drawn. White cannot prevent Black from disturbing the blockade, nor is White in a position that he can let Black capture the knight and mate him in the corner with the remaining knight.

However, this situation is something of an exception. There should be more winning positions with a lone pawn on h3 than with doubled pawns h2, h3, because contrary to the former case, in the latter case the bK approaching

(1) The reason that pawns g2, g3 give such poor winning chances is that the knights are 'on the wrong foot' to be able to restrict the bK in the corner and make the mating process work.

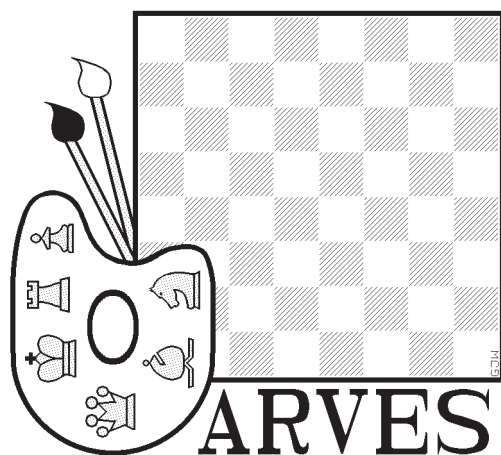
the blockading knight always draws. This means that from the start he must already be in a more restricted position to prevent this possibility.

Conclusion

Summarizing qualitatively the extra winning chances (number of winning positions) that advanced doubled pawns give, one can say that results are mixed for doubled pawns with respect to a lone (rear) pawn, but generally better. Surprisingly many positions are won for pawns f2, f3, while pawns g4, g5 is a general win, even with Sg3, Sh1.

Solution Diagram E.24:

1.Sfe2 Kh1 2.Kc2 Kh2 3.Kd3 Kh1 4.Ke4 Kh2
5.Sf3+ Kh3 6.Kf5 g1Q 7.Sf4 mate.



please visit www.arves.org!

Errata

BY HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

Amatzia Avni (Israel) writes: “EG207 p. 311, in the picture with Roy Ehrlich, it’s not me but Paz Einat. I suppose there is some similarity – in the enclosed picture you can see us together (from left – Retter, Einat, Costeff and Avni)”.

Marco Campioli (Italy) corrects the name of the Italian magazine in EG207 p.332-344:

Sinfonie Scacchistiche, obviously not Scaccchistiche with three c.

EG207 p. 280: A.1 The flaw was published in EG169 not EG138.

EG198.19920: on move 4 and 6, Black promotes to bishop, not knight. Reported by someone who found the mistake in HHdbV to HH.



Stop-press: CQL

BY HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

A new version of CQL had become available (version 5). Lewis Stiller and Gady Costeff included several new options that are very useful for anticipation testing. EG’s editors, and frequent users of CQL, Emil Vlasák and HH assisted in proposing some of the options. EG208’s Computer News column will be dedicated to CQL5.

CQL is available for free at:

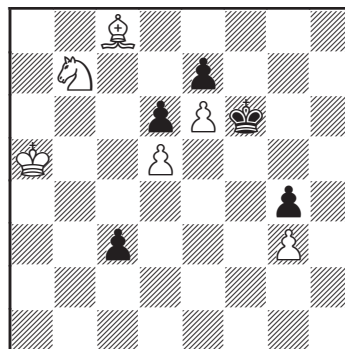
<http://www.gadycosteff.com/cql/doc/>

Endgame study greetings from Wouter Mees

BY HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

In November I visited ARVES' honorary member Wouter Mees in his magnificent house in Santpoort-Zuid, my last visit having been 5 years ago. Because of his advanced age (95!) he is becoming less mobile and has had to leave the house where he has lived for the past 46 years. Despite this, he is in good health and spirit and asked me to forward greetings to both ARVES and the Dutch problemist society "Probleemvrienden". One of his lifetime wishes was for a merger of both societies. Perhaps, one day...

M.1 W. Mees
special commendation
Schakend Nederland 1991



a5f6 0011.34 6/5 Draw

1.Sc5/i dxc5 2.d6 exd6 3.e7 Kxe7 4.Bf5 Kf6
5.Bb1 Ke5 6.Kb6 (Kb5? Kd5;) Kd4 7.Kc6 Ke3
8.Kxd6 Kf3 9.Kxc5 Kxg3 10.Kd4 (Kc4) Kf4
11.Kd3 g3 12.Ke2 draws (EG#10092).

i) 1.Sxd6? c2 2.Se4+ Kf5 3.d6 c1Q wins.

ii) Kf3 11.Kxc3 g3 12.Kd4 g2 13.Be4+ draws.

HH: I like 6.Kb6!!



Obituary Evžen Pavlovský

18xii 1934 – 11x2016

BY EMIL VLASÁK

Evžen Pavlovský (Prague, Czech Republic), an endgame study enthusiast, editor and casual composer, has died at the age of 82 years after apoplexy problems.

He graduated (academic degree Ing.) from the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague, but he worked in applied cybernetics on complex information systems. He was married and had a son.

While at grammar school, Evžen met Ladislav Prokeš who introduced him to chess composition. Pavlovský later established

friendly relations with another famous composer, Břetislav Soukup-Bardon. In the years 2002-2006 he edited the endgame study column in *Šachová skladba*. In 2000 Evžen, together with Jaroslav Pospíšil, started a special website for the endgame study: “Rakousko Uherský šach” (Austria-Hungarian chess). Don't ask me why they had chosen such a strange name; Evžen had a special sense of humour. In 2003, both composers organized the international study tourney Pavlovský and Pospíšil 70JT.



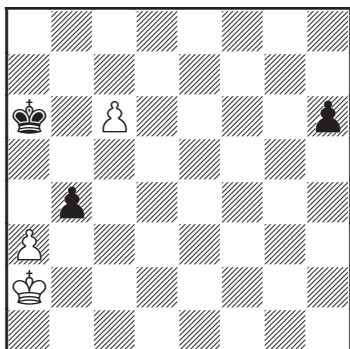
In 2008 Evžen managed and sponsored the Réti MT, a great, high quality tourney with a good cast – maybe the most successful thing he did for chess.

Evžen composed about 50 endgame studies but many of them remained unpublished. HHdbV has 13 studies plus 2 extra pieces under the pseudonym Palkovský. Without experience as an active chessplayer, Pavlovský had considerable problems with soundness.

The last time I saw Evžen was at the Problemist Christmas meeting of 2013. In his late seventies, he still looked to be in very good shape. May he rest in peace.

Evžen liked Réti and had been studying his work for all his life. He also wrote some historical articles about Réti and composed several studies with the Réti manoeuver.

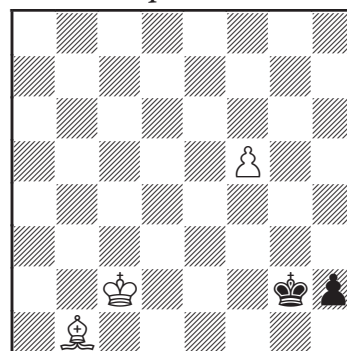
P.1 E. Palkovský, after Réti
3rd commendation Réti MT 2009



a2a6 0000.22 3/3 Draw

- 1.Kb3!, and:
 — bxa3 2.Kxa3 h5 3.Kb4 Kb6 4.Kc4 h4 5.Kd5 h3 6.Kd6 h2 7.c7 draws, or:
 — h5 2.Kxb4 h4 3.Kc5 h3 4.Kd6 h2 5.c7 draws.

P.2 E. Pavlovský
The Independent 1987

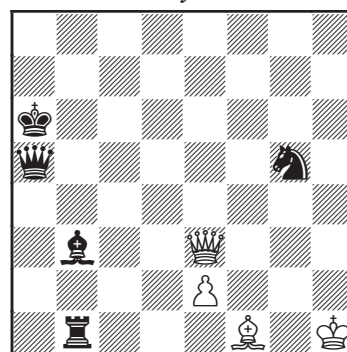


c2g2 0010.11 3/2 Win

- 1.Ba2 Kg3 2.Bd5 Kf4 3.f6 Ke5 4.f7 Kxd5 5.f8Q h1Q 6.Qa8+ wins.

Another illustration is from my old local newspaper column.

P.3 E. Pavlovský
Průboj 1987



h1a6 4343.10 4/5 Draw

- 1.Qd3+ Qb5! 2.Qxb1! Bd5+ 3.e4! Bxe4+ 4.Qxe4! Qxf1+ 5.Kh2 Qf2+ 6.Kh1 Qf1+ 7.Kh2 Qh3+ 8.Kg1 Qg3+ 9.Kh1 Sxe4 stalemate.

HH: upon my request, Pavlovský's son, also with the name Evžen, kindly provided this picture of his father for publication in EG.

Review

BY JOHN ROYCROFT

In their own write;, Harrie Grondijs, 2012. 70 pages, but no pagination. Hardback. In colour. No ISBN. '20 signed and numbered copies'. Published by 'Rijswijkse Uitgeverij Eigen Beheer (RUEB)'. Subtitled: 'The original entries for the first and only World Championship for Endgame Study composition, the Kasparian Memorial Tourney, 1997'.

The content of this eclectic production is literally as above. In other words: just the reproduced images (bar the four from Georgia) of every entry for this tourney. There is zero analysis, nor is the award itself included, as it was published separately in a booklet ('World Championship ...') produced at the time by Jan van Reek and Geurt Gijssen. In retrospect the

claims 'first and only World Championship for Endgame Study composition' and 'Kasparian Memorial' are anomalous, as we now have the 'official' WCCI (World Championship in Composing for Individuals) and a more formal Kasparian memorial.

That said, to hold in one's hand and in permanent form the coloured images of handwritten (or, in some cases, typed) entries presented in alphabetical order of composer name, and in the original languages, is a unique experience, very much in tune with Harrie Grondijs' penchant for the unique and the original. It is also precious nostalgia for the few of us who, as judges or tourney directors, have in the past received maybe hundreds of such pieces of paper.

Jurgen Stigter-64 Jubilee Tourney

To celebrate the special 64th chess birthday of **Jurgen Stigter**, the famous chess book collector and former president of ARVES, a composing tourney for endgame studies is announced.

Theme: free

Maximum 2 entries per composer are allowed.

Closing date: August 13, 2017

The provisional award will be published in **EG** early 2018.

Three money prizes in powers of 2, by courtesy of the jubilant, will be awarded:

First prize: 512 Euros; second prize: 256 Euros; third prize: 128 Euros and special prizes of 64 Euros. Honourable mentions and commendations will be awarded as well.

Judge: **Yochanan Afek**

Tourney director: **Luc Palmans**

Send your original entries only in a PGN format by e-mail to:

palmans.luc@skynet.be

not later than August 13th 2017.

Please reprint!

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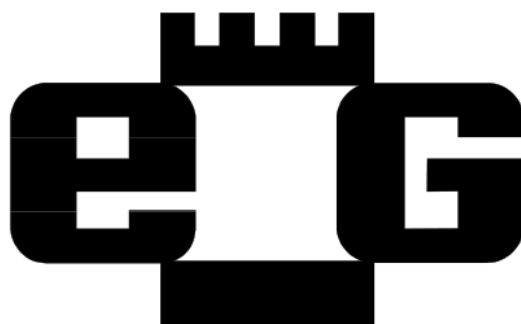
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SUPPLEMENT

Awards

Polish Chess Federation Ty 2015	42
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Polish Chess Federation Ty 2015

GM Jan Rusinek judged the annual informal tourney of the Polish Chess Federation. The award does not give details but HH counted 40 studies on the website.

No 21096 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Be6+ Rxe6 2.Rxc7+ Kd8/i 3.Rxf7 Ra6+/ii 4.Rxa6 Sc5+ 5.Kb5/iii Sxa6 6.Ra7/iv Sd5/v 7.Ra8+/vi Kd7 8.f7 Sac7+/vii 9.Kc5/viii Se7/ix 10.f8S+ ideal mate.

i) Kb8 3.Rcb7+ Kc8 4.Rxf7 Ra6+ 5.Rxa6 Sc5+ 6.Kb5 wins.

ii) Ke8 4.Rh7 Ra6+ 5.Rxa6 Sc5+ 6.Kb5 Sxa6 7.Re7+ Kf8 8.Rxe3 wins.

iii) 5.Ka5? Sxa6 6.Kxa6 Sd5 7.Rf8+ Kd7 8.f7 Ke7 (Sc7+) 9.Rd8 Sc7+ 10.Kb7 Se6 draws.

iv) 6.Kxa6? Sd5 7.Kb7 Ke8 draws. 6.Rb7? Sd5 7.f7 Sac7+ 8.Kc6 Ke7 draws.

v) Sc7+ 7.Rxc7 Kxc7 8.f7, or Ke8 7.Re7+ wins.

vi) 7.f7? (Rxa6? Sc7+;) Sac7+ 8.Kc6 Ke7 draws.

vii) Sdc7+ 9.Kc4 Se6 10.Rxa6 Sf8 (Ke7; Rxe6+) 11.Kd5 Ke7 12.Ra7+ wins.

viii) 9.Kc4? Sb6+ 10.Kb3 Scxa8/xvii 11.f8Q Sc7 draws.

ix) Sxa8 10.f8Q Sac7 11.Qf5+, or Sf4 10.Rd8+ Kxd8 11.f8Q+, or Sf6 10.Rd8+ Kxd8 11.f8Q+ wins.

No 21097 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1...Bd3+/i 2.Kg5 Bxh6+ 3.Kxh6 Rh1+ 4.Bh5, and:

— Rxh5+ 5.Kxh5 c1Q 6.Rg5+ Kc6 7.Rf6+ Kd7 8.Rg7+ Ke8 9.Rff7 Be2+ 10.Kg6 (Kh4? Bc4;)

Qg1+ (Bd3+; Kh5) 11.Kf5/ii Bd3+ 12.Kf4/iii Qf2+ 13.Kg4 (Ke5? Qe3+;) Be2+ 14.Kh3/iv Bf1+ 15.Kg4 positional draw, or:

— c1Q 5.Rg5+ Kc6 6.Rf6+ Kd7 7.Rf7+ Ke6 8.Rf6+ Ke7/v 9.Rf7+ Ke8 10.Rf8++ Kxf8 stalemate.

i) Bxh6 2.Rxc4 Kxc4 3.Kg6 draws.

ii) 11.Kf6? Qd4+ 12.Kg6 Bd3+ 13.Kg5 Bc4 wins.

iii) 12.Ke5? Qe3+ 13.Kd5 Qe4+ 14.Kd6 Qd4+ 15.Kc6 Bc4 wins.

iv) 14.Kg5? Qg3+ 15.Kf6 Qf4+ 16.Kg6 Qg4+ 17.Kf6 Qd4+ 18.Kg6 Bd3+ 19.Kg5 Bc4 wins.

v) Kxf6 stalemate.

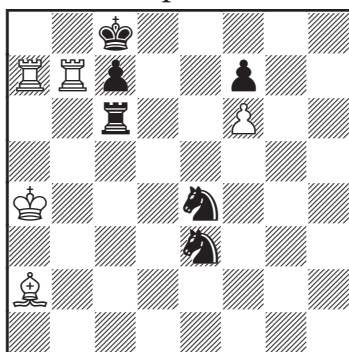
No 21098 Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.h7+/i Kh8 2.Kxe4+/ii b2 3.Qxc1 Re5+ 4.Kd3 (Kxe5? bxc1Q;) bxc1S+ 5.Kc2 (Kd2 Sb3+;) Sd3 6.Rh1 (Kxd3? f1Q+;) Se1+ (Sb4+; Kf2) 7.Kd1 Sf3 8.Bxe5+ (Rf1? g3;) Sxe5 9.Ke2 g3 10.Rh3 (Rc1 Sg4;) Sf3 (Sc4) 11.Rxg3 Sd2 12.Rg8+/iii Kxh7 13.Rf8 f1Q+ 14.Rxf1 Sxf1 15.Kd3 (Kxf1? a4;) draws.

i) 1.Rxg4+? Kf7 2.Qxc1 Rxc1 3.Rf4+ Kg6 4.Rxf2 Rxa1 wins.

ii) 2.Qxe4? Qxa1+ 3.Kxc5 Qc3+ 4.Kd5 Qd2+ 5.Ke5 Qe1 wins.

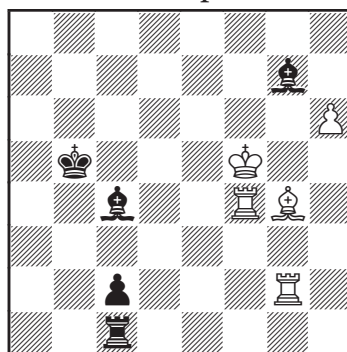
iii) 12.Kxf2? Se4+ 13.Ke3 Sxg3 14.Kd4 a4 wins.

No 21096 P. Arestov
1st prize



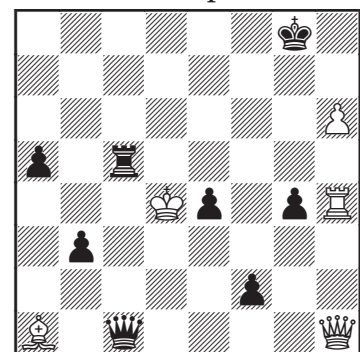
a4c8 0516.12 5/6 Win

No 21097 L. Kekely
& M. Hlinka
2nd/3rd prize



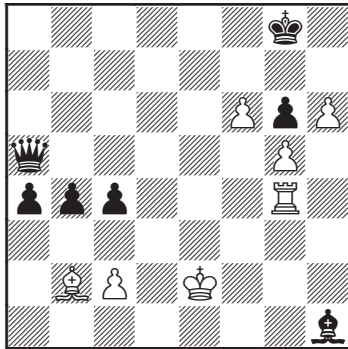
f5b5 0570.11 5/5 BTM, Draw

No 21098 S. Slumstrup
Nielsen
2nd/3rd prize



d4g8 4410.15 5/8 Draw

No 21099 A. Jasik
4th prize



e2g8 3140.44 7/7 Draw

No 21099 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.h7+/i Kxh7 2.f7/ii Bf3+ 3.Kxf3 Qa8+/iii 4.Kg3/iv c3 5.Bxc3 bxc3 6.Rxa4 Qf8/v 7.Rh4+/vi Kg7 8.Rf4 zz, draws.

i) 1.f7+? Kxf7 2.h7 Bf3+ 3.Kxf3 Qa8+ 4.Kf2 c3 5.Bc1 a3 wins.

ii) 2.Rh4+? Kg8 3.Rh8+ Kf7 wins.

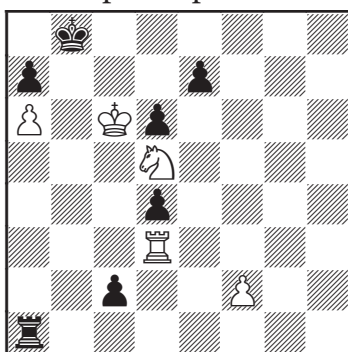
iii) Qd5+ 4.Kg3 Qxf7 5.Rh4+ Kg8 6.Rh8 mate.

iv) 4.Ke3? c3 5.Bxc3 bxc3 6.Rxa4 Qf8 7.Rf4 Kg7 wins.

v) Qd8 7.Rf4 Qxg5+ 8.Kf3.

vi) 7.Rf4? Kg7 zz, and 8.Kf2 Qc5+ 9.K- Kf8, or 8.Kg2 Qa8+ 9.Kg3 Kf8 wins.

No 21100 P. Arestov & A. Skripnik
special prize



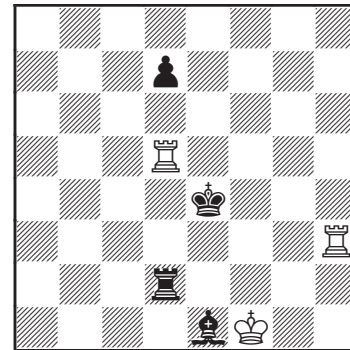
c6b8 0401.25 5/7 Draw

No 21100 Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Kd7 Rxa6 2.Rb3+ Rb6 3.Sxb6 axb6 4.Rxb6+ Ka8 5.Rc6 d3 6.Kc8 Ka7 7.Kc7 e5 8.f3 d5 9.Rc5 Ka6 10.Kc6 d4 11.Rc4 Ka5 12.Kc5 Ka6 13.Kc6 Ka7 14.Kc7 Ka6 15.Kc6 draws.

HH: This corrects (by omitting the first two moves) the 1st prize winner (EG#20427) of the

2014 ty, which was cooked by MG (in EG201) after the award became final. So do the composers win two prizes with the same study?

No 21101 R. Becker
1st honourable mention



f1e4 0530.01 3/4 Win

No 21101 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rg5/i Rd1/ii 2.Ke2 Ra1/iii 3.Rg4+/iv Kd5/v 4.Rd3+ Ke5 5.Re3+ Kd5 6.Rg5+ Kd4 7.Rd3+ Ke4 8.Rh3 d6/vi 9.Rg4+ Kd5 10.Rd3+ Ke5 11.Re3+ Kd5 12.Rg5+ Kd4 13.Rd3+ Ke4 14.Rh3 d5 15.Rg1 Bc3 16.Re3+ Kf4 17.Rf3+ Ke5 18.Rg5+ Kd4 19.Rg4+ Ke5 20.Rxc3 wins.

i) 1.Rdh5? Bf2 2.Rh2 Be3, or 1.Rb5? Bf2 2.Rh2 Be3 3.Rh4+ Kf3 draw.

ii) Bf2 2.Rg4+ Kf5 3.Rg2 wins.

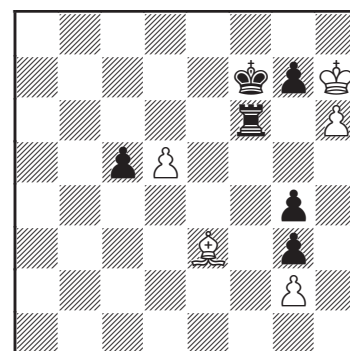
iii) Rc1 3.Rgh5 (Ra3? d5;) Kf4 4.Rh1 wins.

iv) 3.Rh1? Ra2+ 4.Kxe1 Ra1+, or 3.Rgh5? Kf4 4.Rh1 Bc3 (Kg4) draw.

v) Kf5 4.Rg1 Bc3 5.Rf3+ Ke4 6.Rg4+ wins.

vi) Kd4 9.Rg1 Bc3 10.Rg4+, or Kf4 9.Rg1 Bc3 10.Rf3+ win.

No 21102 M. Frak
2nd honourable mention



h7f7 0310.34 5/6 Win

No 21102 Marian Frak (Poland). 1.hxg7 Rg6 2.Bh6, and:

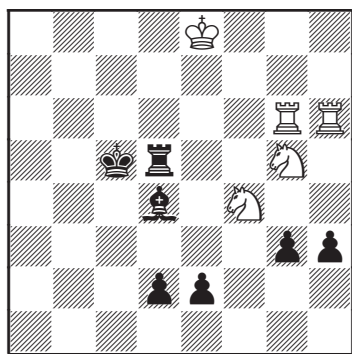
— c4 3.d6 c3 4.d7 c2 5.d8S+ Kf6 6.g8S+/I wins, or:

— Kf6 3.d6 Kf7 4.d7 Rxc7+ 5.Bxc7 Ke7 6.Bf8+ Kxd7 7.Bxc5 wins.

i) 6.g8Q? Rxh6+ 7.Kxh6 c1Q+ 8.Kh5 Qh1+ 9.Kxc4 Qxc2 draws.

MG found a (simple) cook in the second main line: Kf6 3.g8Q Rxc7 4.Kxc7 Ke5 (c4; Bg7+) 5.Kf7 Kxd5 6.Kg6 Ke4 7.Kg5 Ke3 8.Kxc4+ Kf2 9.Kh3 wins.

No 21103 V. Tarasiuk
3rd honourable mention



e8c5 0532.04 5/7 Draw

No 21103 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Se4+ Kb5 2.Sxe2 Re5+ 3.Kf7/i Rxe4 4.Sxd4+ Rxd4 5.Rg5+ Kc4/iii 6.Rc6+ Kd3 7.Rxc3+ Ke2 8.Rc2 (Rg1? d1Q;) h2 (Rd3; Rg1) 9.Rh3 Ke1/iv 10.Rxh2 Rf4+ 11.Ke8/v d1Q 12.Rh1+ Rf1 13.Rhh2 Rg1 14.Ke7 Rg7+ 15.Kf8 Rg1 16.Ke7 (Ke8? Rg8+;) Rf1 17.Ke8 Qa1 18.Rhe2+ Kd1 19.Red2+ perpetual check.

i) Logical try: 3.Kf8? Rxe4 4.Sxd4+ Rxd4 5.Rg5+ Kc4 6.Rc6+ Kd3 7.Rxc3+ Ke2 8.Rc2 h2 9.Rh3 Rf4+/vi 10.Kg7 Rf2 11.Ra2 Ke1 12.Re3+ Re2 wins.

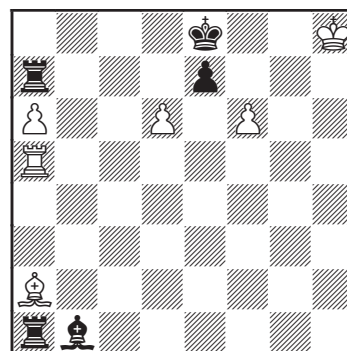
iii) Ka4 6.Ra6+ Kb4 7.Rb6+ Kc4 8.Rc6+ draws.

iv) Rf4+ 10.Kg6 Rf2 11.Ra2 Ke1 12.Re3+ Re2 13.Rd3 draws.

v) 11.Ke7? d1Q 12.Rh1+ Rf1 13.Rhh2 Rg1 14.Ke8 Rg8+, or 11.Ke6? d1Q 12.Rh1+ Rf1 13.Rhh2 Qg4+ win.

vi) But not: Ke1? 10.Rxh2 Rf4+ 11.Ke8 d1Q 12.Rh1+ Rf1 13.Rhh2 Rg1 14.Ke7 Rg7+ 15.Kf8 Rg1 16.Ke7 Rf1 17.Ke8 draws.

No 21104 L' Kekely & M. Hlinka
4th honourable mention

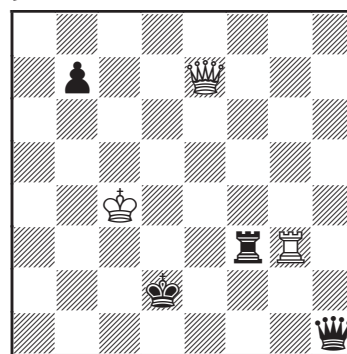


h8e8 0740.31 6/5 Draw

No 21104 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.f7+/i Kf8 2.dxe7+ Rxe7 (Kxe7; Re5+) 3.a7 Rxa7 4.Rxa7 Be4 5.Bb1 Rxb1 (Rxa7; Bxe4) 6.Ra1 Rb2 7.Ra2 Rb3 8.Ra3 Rb5 9.Ra5 Rb6 10.Ra6 Rb1 11.Ra1 Rb8 12.Rb1 Rc8 13.Rb8 Rxb8 stalemate.

i) 1.Bxb1? Rxb1 2.fxe7 Rd1 3.Rg5 Ra8 4.Rf5 Kd7+ 5.Rf8 Re8 6.a7 Ra1, or 1.d7+? Kxd7 2.Be6+ Kxe6 3.Rxa1 Kxf6 4.Rxb1 Rxa6 win.

No 21105 P. Arestov & A. Skripnik
5th honourable mention



c4d2 4400.01 3/4 Win

No 21105 Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Qg5+/i Ke2 2.Rg2+ (Qe5+? Kf2;) f2 (Kf1; Rc2) 3.Qg4+ Kf1 4.Kb3/ii b6/iii 5.Ka3 b5 6.Kb3 b4 7.Ka4 b3/iv 8.Kxb3, and: Qxc2 9.Qd1 mate, Qh8 9.Rg1 mate, or Rf4 9.Qe2 mate.

i) 1.Qb4+? (Qd7+?) Kc1 draws.

ii) 4.Kb4? Rf4+ 5.Qxf4+ Kxc2, or 4.Kb5? Rf5+.

iii) b5 5.Ka3 b4+ 6.Ka4 (Kb3) wins.

iv) Ra2+ 8.Rxa2 Qc6+ 9.Kxb4 Qd6+ 10.Kc4 wins.

No 21106 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rh4/i c4+ 2.Rxc4 Sxc4 3.Bxa4/ii Sb2+/iii 4.Rxb2/iv Rxa3+ 5.Kc4/v Rxa4+ 6.Qxa4, and:

— Rg4+ 7.Kb3/vi c1S+/vii 8.Kc3+/viii Rxa4 stalemate, or:

— Bxb2 7.Kb3 c1Q 8.Ka2+ Qc2 9.Qxc2+/ix Kxc2 stalemate.

i) 1.Rxe3? Rd6+ 2.Ke4 axb3 3.Rh3 c1Q 4.Rh1+ Kc2 5.Rxc1+ Kxc1 wins.

ii) 3.Bf3+? Kc1 4.Qxa4 Sb2+ 5.Rxb2 Rd6+ 6.Kc4 Rxb2 wins.

iii) Rg3+ 4.Kxc4 c1Q+ 5.Rc3+ wins.

iv) 4.Ke4? Sxa4 5.Qd5+ Kc1 6.Qh5 Re6+ 7.Kf3 Rf6+ 8.Kg4 Sc3 wins.

v) 5.Ke4? Rxa4+ 6.Qxa4 Rg4+ 7.Kd3 Rxa4 8.Rxc2 Rd4+ wins.

vi) 7.Kb5? Rg5+ 8.Kb6 Bxb2, or 7.Kd3? Rxa4 8.Rxc2 Rd4+ win.

vii) Rxa4 8.Rxc2, or c1Q 8.Qxg4+.

viii) 8.Ka3+? Rxa4+ 9.Kxa4 Bxb2 wins.

ix) 9.Qg4+? Qe2 10.Qxg6 Bc1+ 11.Kb3 Qb5+ 12.Kc3 Bb2+ wins.

No 21107 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Qd3+/i Kg8/ii 2.Rb8+/iii Kf7 3.Rxf4+ exf4 4.Rb7+ Kg8 5.Ka1, and:

— Qg5 6.Qa6 Bf7/iv 7.Qa8+ Kh7 8.Qf8/v Sg3 9.Qxf7 Sh5/vi 10.Qxh5 Qxh5 11.Rxg7+ Kh8 12.Rxg4+ Kh7 13.Rg7+ Kh8 14.Rg5+ Kh7 15.Rxh5 wins, or:

— Sg3 6.Qh7+ Kxh7 7.Rxg7+ Kh8 8.Rxg4+ Kh7 9.Rg7+ Kh8 10.Rxg3+ Kh7 11.Rg7+

Kh8 12.Ra7+ Kg8 13.Rxa5 Kh7 14.Re5/vii Bf7 15.Bg1 Kg6 16.Ra5 a2 17.Ra3 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Qc2+? Kg8 2.Rb8+ Kf7 3.Rxf4+ exf4 4.Rb7+ Kg8 5.Ka1 Qd5 6.Rxg7+ Kf8 and no chess at a3.

ii) Kh8 2.Rb8+ Bg8 3.Qc4 a2+ 4.Ka1 wins.

iii) 2.Rxf4? a2+ (exf4?; Ka1) 3.Kc2 exf4 draws.

iv) Bd5 7.Rb8+, and: Kf7 8.Qd6 Sg3 9.Rf8+ mate, or Kh7 8.Qd3+ Qg6 9.Rh8+ wins.

v) 8.Rxf7? Sg3 9.Rxg7+ Qxg7 10.Bxg7 Kxg7 draws.

vi) Sf5 10.Qxf5+ Qxf5 11.Rxg7+ Kh8 12.Rxg4+ Kh7 13.Rg7+ Kh8 14.Rg5+ (Rf7+) wins.

vii) 14.Bg1? f3 15.Ra4 Kg6 16.Rf4 Bd5 17.Rg4+ Kh5 18.Rg3 Kh4 19.Bf2 h2 draws.

No 21108 Pavel Arestov (Russia) & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.Sc6 Sf8+ 2.Kg8/i Bxc6 3.bxc6 Be5/ii 4.Rxe5/iii Sd7+/iv 5.Kh7/v Sxe5 6.d4 Sxd4 7.Be4+ Kxh2 8.Rh1+ Kg3 9.Rxh3+ Kxh3 10.c7/vi Re8/vii 11.c8Q+/viii Rxc8 12.Bf5+ Sxf5 stalemate.

i) 2.Kh8? Rb7 3.Kg8 Sg6 4.Rxa8 Sh6 mate.

ii) Se7+ 4.Kf7, or Se6+ 4.Kf7 Sfd4 5.hxg3 draws.

iii) 4.Re1? Sh6 mate.

iv) Sg6+ 5.Re8 Rxe8+ 6.Kf7 draws.

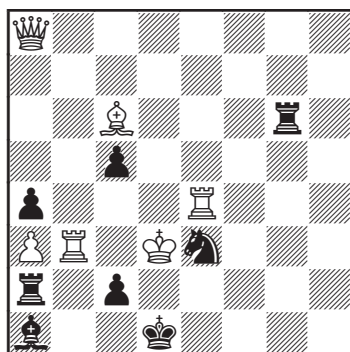
v) 5.Re8 Rxe8+ 6.Kf7 Sd6+ 7.Kg7 Re7+ 8.Kg6 Se5+ 9.Kf6 Sxc6 wins.

vi) 10.Bf5+? Sxf5 11.c7 Rb7 wins.

vii) Rc8 11.Bf5+ Sxf5 stalemate.

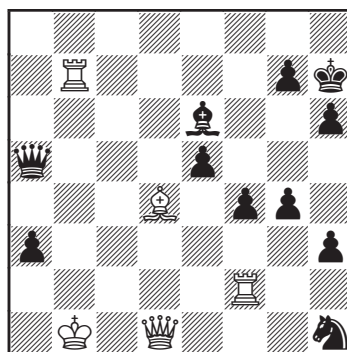
viii) 11.Bf5+? Sxf5 12.c8Q Re7+ 13.Kg8 Rg7+ 14.Kf8 Sd7+ 15.Ke8 Sd6+ wins.

No 21106 P. Arestov
commendation



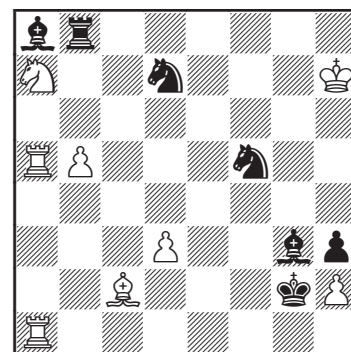
d3d1 1843.13 6/8 Draw

No 21107 P. Krug
& M. Garcia
commendation



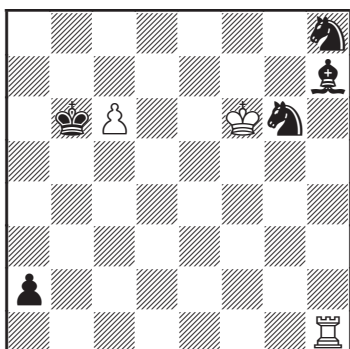
b1h7 4243.07 5/11 Win

No 21108 P. Arestov
& M. Hlinka
commendation



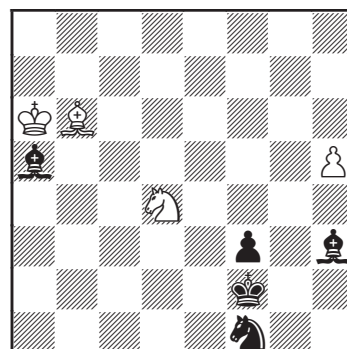
h7g2 0577.31 8/7 Draw

**No 21109 M. Minski
commendation**



f6b6 0136.11 3/5 Draw

**No 21111 A. Jasik
commendation**



a6f2 0074.11 4/5 Win

No 21109 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.c7/i Kb7/ii 2.Kg7/iii Sf8 3.Ra1 (Rc1? Kc8; Bb1 4.Kxf8 Sg6+/iv 5.Ke8 Kxc7 (Kc8)/v 6.Rxa2 Bxa2 stalemate.

i) 1.Kg7? (Ra1? Bg8;) Sf8 2.Ra1 Bb1 3.Kxf8 Sg6+ wins.

ii) Kxc7 2.Rxh7+ Kb6 3.Rh1 draws.

iii) 2.c8Q+? Kxc8 3.Kg7 Sf8 4.Ra1 Bb1 5.Kxf8 Sg6+ wins.

iv) Kxc7 5.Kg7 Sg6 6.Rxa2 Bxa2 7.Kxg6 draws.

v) Se5 6.Kd8 Sc6+ 7.Kd7 Sa7 (Bf5+; Kd6) 8.Kd8 Sc8 9.Kd7 draws.

No 21111 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.h6/i Kg2/ii 2.h7 f2 (Bxb6; Sxf3) 3.h8Q Bxb6/iii 4.Qg7+/iv Kh1 5.Qb7+ Bg2 6.Qxb6 Sh2/v 7.Se2/vi f1Q 8.Qg1+ Qxg1 9.Sg3 mate.

i) 1.Kxa5? Kg2 2.h6 f2, or 1.Bxa5? Se3 2.h6 Bf1+ 3.Ka7 Bd3 draw.

ii) Bxb6 2.Kxb6 Kg2 3.Sxf3 Bf5 4.Sh4+ Kh3 5.Sxf5 wins.

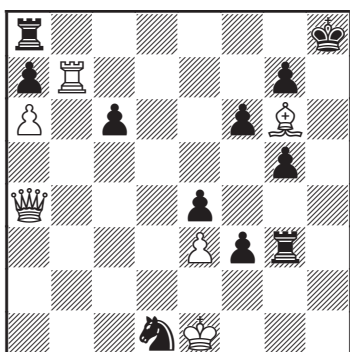
iii) Se3 4.Qa8+ Kh2 5.Qb8+ Kg2 6.Qb7+ Kh2 7.Qc7+ Kg2 8.Qc6+ Kh2 9.Sf3+ wins.

iv) 4.Qg8+? Kh1 5.Se2 Se3, or 4.Kxb6? Sd2 5.Sc2 Sc4+ 6.Kc5 f1Q draw.

v) Sg3 7.Qh6+ Kg1 8.Qe3 wins.

vi) 7.Sf5? f1Q+ with check.

**No 21110 P. Krug & M. Garcia
commendation**



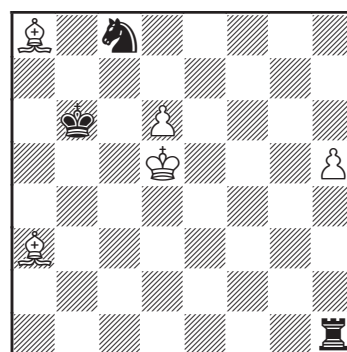
e1h8 1713.27 6/11 Win

No 21110 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Qb4/i f2+ 2.Kd2 Rd8+ 3.Qd4 Rxd4+/ii 4.exd4 Rd3+ 5.Kc1 Rc3+ 6.Kb1 Rb3+ 7.Rxb3 Sc3+ 8.Kc2 Sb5 9.Rh3+ Kg8 10.Rh1 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Qc4? f2+ (Rd8?; Qd4) 2.Kd2 Rxe3 3.Qf1 Rd8+ 4.Kc2 Rc3+ 5.Kb1 g4 6.Qg2 Rh3 draws.

ii) Rg8 4.Qxf6 Rh3 (gxf6; Rh7 mate) 5.Qf7 Rf3 6.Bf5 f1Q 7.Qh5 mate.

**No 21112 R. Becker
commendation**



d5b6 0323.20 5/3 Win

No 21112 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bc5+ Ka6/i 2.d7 Rxh5+ 3.Kc6 Sa7+ 4.Bxa7 Rh8 5.Bb8 Rxb8 6.Bb7+ Ka7 7.Bc8 Rb6+ (Rxc8; bxc8R) 8.Kc5 Rb8 9.Kc4/ii wins.

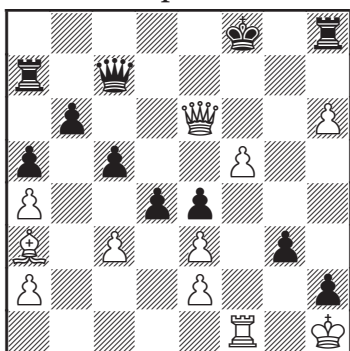
i) Kb5 2.Bc6+ Ka6 3.Be8 wins.

ii) 9.d8Q? Rxc8+ 10.Qxc8 stalemate.

Magyar Sakkvilag 2015

The annual tourney attracted 22 studies by 17 composers from 14 countries. Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine) judged it.

No 21113 Á. Ruzs
1st prize



h1f8 4710.77 11/11 Win

No 21113 Árpád Ruzs (Rumania). 1.Qf6+/i Kg8 2.Qg6+ Kf8 3.cxd4/ii Rg8 4.dxc5/iii Rxc6/iv 5.fxg6+ Ke8 6.Rf8+ Kxf8 7.cxb6+ Kg8/v 8.bxa7/vi Qxa7 9.Bb2/vii Qg7 10.h7+/viii Kh8 11.Bd4/ix Qxd4 12.exd4 wins.

i) 1.cxd4? g2+ 2.Kxc7 Rg8+ 3.Kh1 Qg3 draws.

ii) Thematic try: 3.exd4? Rg8 4.dxc5 b5/x 5.c6+ b4 6.cxb4 g2+ 7.Kxc7 Qf7 8.b5+ Ke8 draws.

iii) 4.Qf6+? Qf7 5.Qd8+ Qe8 draws.

iv) g2+ 5.Qxc7 Rxc7 6.cxb6+ Kf7 7.bxc7 Rg1+ 8.Kxh2 Rxf1 9.c8Q, or b5 5.Kg2 b4 6.Bb2 Rxc6 7.fxg6+ Kg8 8.h7+ win.

v) Qe7 8.bxa7 Qxa3 9.a8Q+ wins.

vi) Thematic try: 8.bxc7? Rxc7 9.Bb2 Rg7, and: 10.h7+ Kh8 11.Bc3 g2+ 12.Kxc7 h1Q+ 13.Kxh1 stalemate, or: 10.hxc7 g2+ 11.Kxc7 h1Q+ 12.Kxh1, or 10.Bxc7 g2+ 11.Kxc7 h1Q+ 12.Kxh1 stalemate.

vii) 9.h7+? Kg7 10.Bb2+ Kxc7 11.h8Q Qf7 12.Qh3 Qf2 draws.

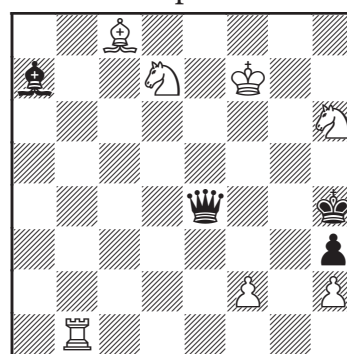
viii) 10.Bxc7? g2+ 11.Kxc7 h1Q+ 12.Kxh1 stalemate, or 10.hxc7? g2+ 11.Kxc7 h1Q+ 12.Kxh1 stalemate.

ix) 11.Bxc7+? Kxc7 12.Kg2 Kh8 13.a3 Kg7 14.Kh1 Kh8 positional draw.

x) But not: g2+? 5.Qxc7 bxc5 6.Qf2 e3 7.Qxe3 Qc6+ 8.Rf3 Qd6 9.Rf4 Rc7 10.Qd4, or Rxc6? 5.fxg6+ Ke8 6.Rf8+ Kxf8 7.cxb6+ Kg8 8.bxc7 wins.

“This is the best study of the tourney where the kernel of the play is to seize the long diagonal a1-h8 and, with a preliminary plan (2.cxd4! and 8.bxa7!!), to avoid the stalemates. The position after the 9th move is very surprising. It turns out that the bQ on g7 in the solution is weaker than a bR on the same square in the thematic try. Despite the large number of pawns, the study makes a great impression”.

No 21114 P. Krug & M. Garcia
2nd prize



f7h4 3142.21 7/4 Win

No 21114 Petere Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Rg1/i Qd5+ 2.Kg6 Qg2+ 3.Rxc7 hxc7 4.Se5/ii g1Q+ 5.Bg4 Qxc7+ (Qxf2; Sf5+) 6.Shxc7/iii Bxf2 7.Kf5/iv Bg3/v 8.Sf3+ Kh3 9.Sg5+ Kg2 (Kh4; h3) 10.h3 Bh4 11.Se3+ Kh2 12.Sf1+ (Kg4? Bxc7;) Kg2 13.Se6 Kxh3 14.Sf4 mate,

i) 1.Sf6? Qxb1 2.f4 Bg1 3.Sf5+ Qxf5 4.Bxf5 Bxh2 draws.

ii) Try: 4.Sf6? g1Q+ 5.Bg4 Qxc7+ 6.Shxc7 Bxf2 7.Sxf2 stalemate.

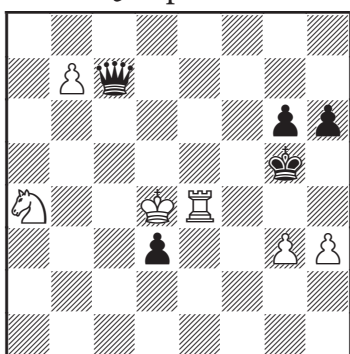
iii) 6.Sex7? Bxf2 7.Sxf2 stalemate.

iv) 7.Sxf2? stalemate.

v) Kh3 8.Sf3 Bg3 9.Sg5+ see main line.

“We see sharp and interesting play by both sides in the introduction with the beautiful right choice 4.Se5! The final duel of two white knights and the bB for the last white pawn leads to an ideal mate in which all pieces participate! The theme ‘no stalemate, but mate’ is expressed gracefully, easily and economically! Yes, the mate is not new - P. Keres, Shakhmaty v SSSR 1946 (HHdbV#62248) but it occurs suddenly (out of the blue) and is organically connected with the preceding play by both sides”.

No 21115 L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
3rd prize



d4g5 3101.33 6/5 Win

No 21115 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.Sc5 Qxb7/i 2.Rg4+/ii Kh5 3.Rh4+ Kg5 4.Se4+ (Sxb7? d2); Qxe4+/iii 5.Kxe4 d2 6.Rg4+ Kh5/iv 7.Kf4 g5+ (g1Q; Rh4 mate) 8.Kf5 d1Q 9.Rh4+ gxh4 10.g4+ Qxg4+ 11.hxg4 mate.

i) Kf6 2.Rf4+ Ke7 3.Kxd3 Qb6 4.Kc4 Qb2 5.Kd5 Qd2+ 6.Kc6 Qb2 7.Re4+ Kf7 8.Kc7 Qc3 9.Kb6 Qb2+ 10.Ka7 wins.

ii) 2.Sxb7? d2 3.Rg4+ Kh5 4.Ke5 d1Q draws.

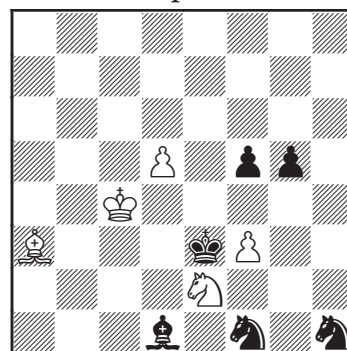
iii) Kf5 5.Rf4+ Ke6 6.Sc5+ wins.

iv) Kf6 7.Rf4+ Ke6 8.Rf1 wins.

“Looking at the initial position of this memorable study, it is difficult to imagine that the final mate is delivered by a single pawn. The work is full of interesting chess struggles leading to a peculiar position in which Black cannot destroy the mating net. The wR's play on the 4th rank is particularly impressive”.

No 21116 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sd4/i Sd2+ (Ba4; Bc1+) 2.Kb5/ii Kxd4 3.d6 Ba4+ 4.Kxa4 Sc4 5.Kb5/iii Sxd6+ 6.Bxd6 Sg3/iv 7.Be7/v draws.

No 21116 D. Keith & M. Minski
4th prize



c4e3 0047.22 5/6 Draw

i) 1.d6? Ba4 (Bxe2+?; Kb4) 2.Sd4 Sd2+, or 1.Sc3? Sd2+, and 2.Kb5 Bb3 3.d6 Be6, or here: 2.Kb4 Bxf3 3.d6 Bc6 4.Kc5 Be8 5.Sd5+ Kd3 6.Sf6 Se4+ win.

ii) 2.Kb4? Sxf3 3.Sxf3 Bxf3 4.d6 Bc6 wins.

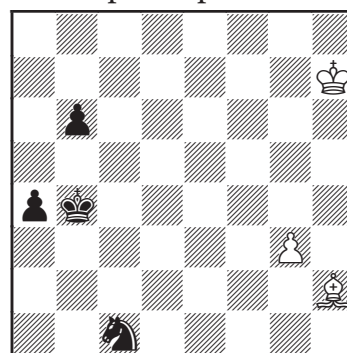
iii) 5.d7? Sb6+ 6.Kb5 Sxd7 wins.

iv) Ke3 7.Be7 Kf4 8.Kc4 Sg3 9.Kd3 Sf1 10.Ke2, draws, or here: Sf2 9.Kd5 Sd3 10.Ke6 Se1 11.Bd6+ Kxf3 12.Kxf5.

v) 7.Bxg3? Ke3 8.Bd6 Kxf3 9.Kc4 f4 10.Kd3 Kg2 11.Ke4 f3 12.Bc5 g4 13.Kf4 g3, or 7.Ba3? Se4 8.Be7 g4 9.fxg4 fxg4 10.Bh4 Sd6+ 11.Kb4 Sf5 wins.

“This is one of those studies which at first do not make a good impression and where the beauty is only revealed if we look further into it. Against the background of accurate and intense play by both sides, White must make a difficult choice on the first move. The original unexpected finish with a non-obvious sacrifice of the bS and a paradoxical refusal of capturing it (7.Be7!!) nullifies all black's efforts to win”.

No 21117 V. Samilo
special prize



h7b4 0013.12 3/4 Win.

No 21117 Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine). 1.g4 a3 2.Bd6+/i Ka4 (Kb3; g5) 3.Bxa3 Kxa3 4.g5 Se2 5.g6 Sf4 6.g7 Sh5 7.g8S b5 8.Se7 Kb4/ii 9.Kg6/iii Kc5 10.Kf5/iv b4 11.Ke4 b3 12.Kd3 b2 13.Kc2 draws.

i) Try: 2.g5? a2 3.Bd6+ Ka4 4.Be5 Sd3 wins.

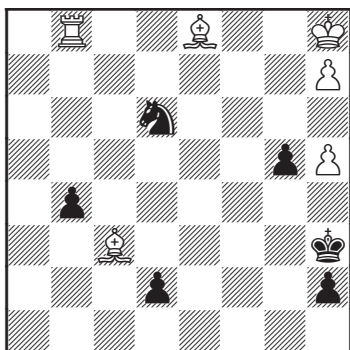
ii) b4 9.Sc6 b3 10.Sa5 b2 11.Sc4+ Ka2 12.Sxb2 draws.

iii) 9.Sc6+? Kc5 10.Sa5 Sf6+ 11.Kg6 Se4 wins.

iv) Try: 10.Kxh5? b4 11.Sf5 b3 12.Sg3 Kd4 13.Se2+ Kc4 wins.

“This is a successful development (and correction) of a study by E. Szentai, *Magyar Sakkelet* 1960 (HHdbV#52206), where in classic style, with minimal material (miniature), a hidden wK manoeuvre is implemented. The surprise point is 10.Kf5!! – a refusal to capture the bS but most important is White’s play and Black’s counterplay”.

No 21118 P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



h8h3 0123.24 6/6 Win

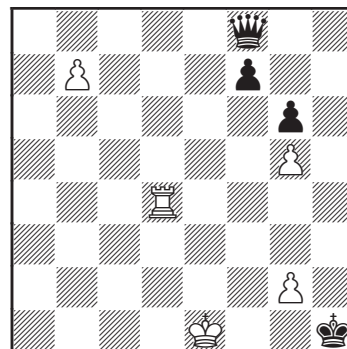
No 21118 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Bd7+ g4 2.Bxg4+ Kxg4 3.Rxb4+ Se4 (Kf3; Rb1) 4.Bxd2 (Rxe4+? Kh3;) h1Q 5.Kg8 Qxh5 6.Rxe4+ (h8Q? Qe8+;) Kf5/i 7.Rf4+ Kg6 (Ke6; h8Q) 8.h8S+ (h8Q? Qd5+;) Kg5 9.Bc1/ii Qe8+ 10.Rf8+ wins.

i) Kg3 7.Re3+ Kf2 8.h8Q wins.

ii) 9.Be3? Qe8+, or 9.Rb4+? Kf6 10.Rb6+ Ke7 draw.

“In this study both sides’ play (sacrifices and counter-sacrifices of minor pieces) is decorated with an under=promotion and the amusing wB move 9.Bc1! - an intense battle until the end!”.

No 21119 A. Jasik
2nd honourable mention



e1h1 3100.32 5/4 Win

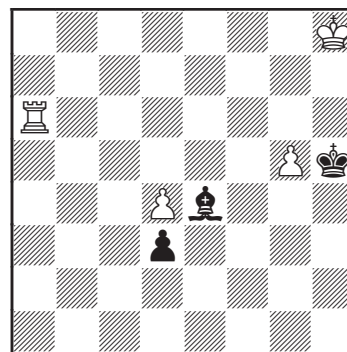
No 21119 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Kf1/i Qh8 2.Ra4 (Rb4? Qa1+;) Qh2 3.b8Q Qxb8 4.Rh4+ Qh2 5.Rh6 Qh5 (Qxh6; gxh6) 6.g3/ii Kh2 (Qh2; g4) 7.g4 Qh3+ 8.Kf2 wins.

i) 1.Kf2? Qc5 2.b8Q Qxd4+.

ii) 6.g4? Qh2, or 6.Kf2? Kh2 7.g4 Qh3 draw.

“This is a very nice work by the author where a geometrically clear, beautiful and interesting confrontation is carried out by a pair of black and white long range pieces (R and Q)”.

No 21120 M. Minski
3rd honourable mention



h8h5 0130.21 4/3 Win

No 21120 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.g6 Bxg6/i 2.d5 d2 3.Ra1 Bc2 4.d6 Ba4 5.Rg1/ii Kh4/iii 6.Rd1/iv Bxd1 7.d7 Bg4 8.d8Q+ wins.

i) d2 2.Ra1 Kxg6 3.Rd1 Kf5 4.Rxd2 Bd5 5.Re2 wins.

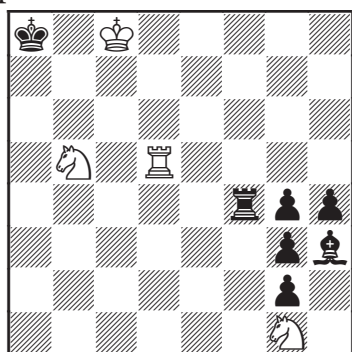
ii) Thematic try: 5.Rd1? Bxd1 6.d7 Bg4 7.d8Q – no check - d1Q draws. 5.Kg7? Kg5 6.Rd1 Bxd1 7.d7 Kf4 8.d8Q Ke3 draws.

iii) Kh6 6.Kg8 Bb3+ 7.Kf8 wins.

iv) 6.Kg7? Kh3 7.Kf6 Kh2 8.Ra1 Kg3 draws.

“We see a good example of a miniature for practical players with the unexpected surprise move 5.Rg1! to promote his pawn with check - beautiful and instructive”.

No 21121 R. Becker
special honourable mention



c8a8 0432.04 4/7 Win

No 21121 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rd8/i Rf7 2.Re8/ii Rg7/iii 3.Rf8/iv Rh7 4.Rg8 Rf7 5.Rg6/v Rf6 6.Rg5 Rf1/vi 7.Kc7 Rc1+ 8.Kb6 Kb8 9.Rd5 Rc2 10.Rd1/vii Rc4 11.Re1/viii Rc2 12.Sd4 Rb2+ 13.Kc6 Ka8 14.Re3 (Re5) Rb1 15.Re2 Rb4 16.Sb5 Rc4+ 17.Kb6 Kb8 18.Sd6 Rb4+ 19.Kc6 Rb1 20.Re8+ Ka7 21.Sb5+ wins.

i) Try: 1.Rd6? Rf6 2.Sc7+ Ka7 3.Sb5+ Ka8 4.Rd8 Rc6+ 5.Kd7+ Kb7 6.Sd6+ Kb6 7.Rb8+ Ka7 8.Rb7+ Ka8 9.Kxc6 stalemate, or 1.Rh5? Rc4+ 2.Sc7+ Ka7, and: 3.Rb5 Rb4 4.Rxb4 stalemate, or 3.Rh6 Rc6 4.Rxc6 stalemate.

ii) 2.Rh8? Rf8+ 3.Rxf8 stalemate.

iii) Rb7 3.Re1 Rb8+ 4.Kc7 Rc8+ 5.Kb6 Rb8+ 6.Kc6 Rh8 7.Re6 Kb8 8.Kb6 Kc8 9.Rd6 wins.

iv) 3.Re6? Rg6 4.Sc7+ Ka7 5.Sb5+ Ka8 draws.

v) 5.Rg5? Rh7 6.Rf5 Rh8+ 7.Kc7 Rh7+ 8.Kc6 Rh6+ 9.Sd6 Ka7 draws.

vi) Rf7 7.Sd6 Rg7 8.Ra5+ Ra7 9.Rf5 Re7 10.Rf6 Rh7 11.Re6 (Rg6) Re7 12.Rh6 Rh7 13.Rf6 Re7 14.Sb5 Re8+ 15.Kc7 Rc8+ 16.Kb6 Rb8+ 17.Ka6 Rh8 18.Sa7 wins.

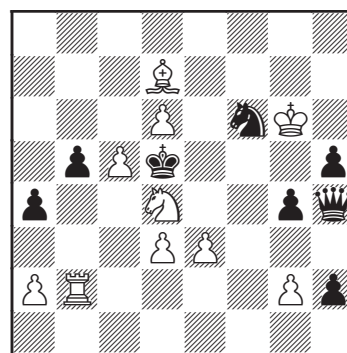
vii) Try: 10.Sd4? Rb2+ 11.Kc6 Kc8 draws.

viii) Try: 11.Sd6? Rb4+ 12.Kc6 Rb2 13.Rc1 Rb3 14.Re1 Rc3+ 15.Kb6 Rb3+ 16.Sb5 Kc8 draws.

“The solution, which is difficult to understand, presents an interesting duel of the black and white rooks with the wR succeeding in

winning but the study needs 20 (!) moves without a single capture! The curious manoeuvring requires maximum accuracy but, alas, is clearly computer derived and not always interesting (or comprehensible) to a human”.

No 21122 M. Garcia
& I. Akobia † & P. Krug
commendation



g6d5 3114.65 10/8 Win

No 21122 Mario Garcia (Argentina), Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Bc6+/i Kxc5 2.d7/ii Sxd7 3.Rxb5+ Kd6 4.Rd5+ Kc7 5.Rxd7+ Kb6 6.Rb7+ Kc5 (Ka6; Se6) 7.Rb5+ (g3) Kd6 8.g3 Qxg3 9.Be4 Qe1/iii 10.Sf5+ Kc7 11.Rb7+ Kd8 12.Bc6 h1Q 13.Rd7+ Kc8 14.Se7+/iv Kb8 15.Rb7+ Ka8 16.e4 Qc3 17.Rb6+ Qxc6+ (Ka7; Sc8 mate) 18.Rxc6 Qh2 19.e5 wins.

i) Try: 1.Be6+? Kxc5 2.d7 Sxd7 3.Rxb5+ Kd6 4.Rd5+ Kc7 5.Rxd7+ Kb6 draws.

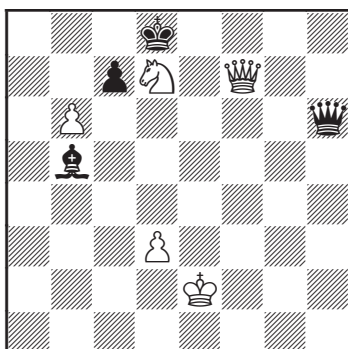
ii) Thematic try: 2.g3? Qxg3 3.d7 Sxd7 4.Rxb5+ Kd6 5.Rd5+ Kc7 6.Rxd7+ Kb6 7.Rb7+ Ka6 draws.

iii) Qh3 10.Rxh5 wins. Another thematic try is here: 10.Sf5+? Kc7 11.Rb7+ Kd8 12.Bc6 h1Q 13.Rd7+ Kc8 14.Se7+ Kb8 15.Rb7+ Ka8 16.e4 g3 draws.

iv) 14.Sd6+? Kb8 15.Rb7+ Ka8 16.e4 Qc1 (Qc3) draws.

“This reworking a study by M. Garcia (internet, 2000) with noteworthy dynamics by the white pieces but, unfortunately, with an awkward bQ. In fact the bK is fighting all by himself until at the finish of the solution there is a second bQ. The work is enriched with thematic tries but the possibility to exchange the 7th and 8th move reduces the overall impression”.

No 21123 P. Arestov
commendation



e2d8 4031.21 5/4 Win

No 21123 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.b7 Bxd3+/i 2.Kxd3 Qa6+ 3.Kc3 Qc6+/ii 4.Sc5 Qxc5+ 5.Qc4 Qe5+ 6.Kc2/iii Qf5+ 7.Qd3+ Qxd3+ 8.Kxd3 wins.

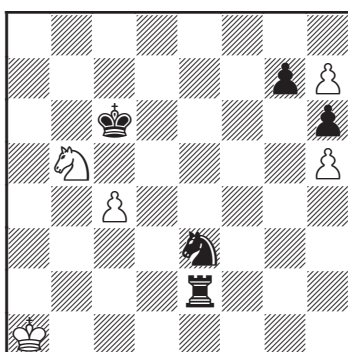
i) Qh2+ 2.Qf2 Bxd3+ 3.Ke3 Qh6+ 4.Qf4 Qh3+ 5.Qf3 wins.

ii) Qxb7 4.Sc5 Qc6 5.Kc4 wins.

iii) 6.Qd4+? Qxd4+ 7.Kxd4 c5+ 8.Kxc5 Kc7 draws.

“We see a fight to the last round when White wins; to achieve this, the wK must retreat skillfully by 6.Kc2! allowing his last pawn a free path to the promotion square!”

No 21124 M. Hlinka
& L. Kekely
commendation



a1c6 0304.32 5/5 BTM, Draw

No 21124 Michal Hlinka & Ľubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1...Sc2+ 2.Kb1/i Sa3+ 3.Sxa3/ii Re8 4.Sb5/iii Rh8/iv 5.Sd4+ Kb6 (Kc5; Se6+) 6.c5+/v Kxc5 7.Se6+ Kd5 8.Sf4+ (Sxg7? Ke5;) Ke4 9.Sg6 Rxh7 10.Kc2 Kf5 11.Kd3 Kg4 12.Ke4 Kxh5 13.Kf5 zz, draws.

i) 2.Kb2? Se1+ 3.Kc3 Re8 wins.

ii) 3.Kc1? Re8 4.Sxa3 Rh8 wins.

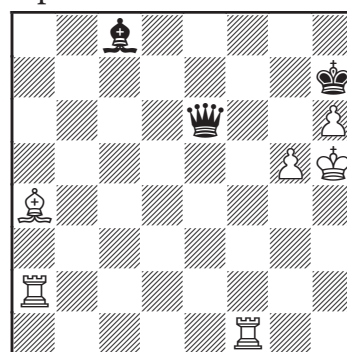
iii) 4.Kc2? Rh8 5.Kd3 Rxh7 6.Ke4 Rh8 7.Kf5 Re8 8.Kg6 Re7 wins.

iv) Kc5 5.Sc7 Rh8 6.Se6+ Kxc4 7.Sf4 Rxh7 8.Sg6 draws.

v) 6.Kc2? Rxh7 7.Sf5 Rh8 8.Sxg7 Rf8 wins.

“This is a sympathetic study with lively play by the pieces (a lovely choice by White on move 4), leading to an interesting finish with mutual zugzwang and the capture of the bR”.

No 21125 I. Aliev
special commendation



h5h7 3240.20 6/3 Win

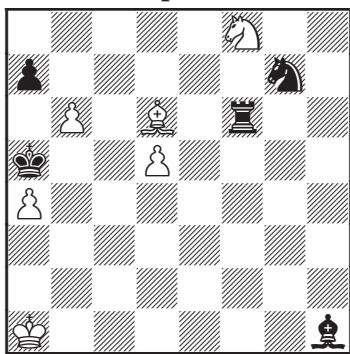
No 21125 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Bc2+ Kg8 (Kh8; Rf8+) 2.Bh7+ (h7+? Kg7;) Kxh7 3.Ra7+ Bd7 4.Rxd7+ Qxd7 5.g6+ Kg8 (Kh8; Rf8 mate) 6.h7+ Kg7 7.Rf7+ Qxf7 8.gxf7 Kxh7 9.f8R wins.

“Dynamic sacrificial play is added to a known final position with an underpromotion to a rook, e.g. A.G. Kuznetsov, *Shakhmaty v SSSR* 1954 (HHdbV#56234)”.

Schach 2014-2015

Martin Minski judged this informal tourney. We do not have much details on the award as *Schach* has, regrettably, terminated the exchange with EG.

No 21126 E. Fomichev
1st prize



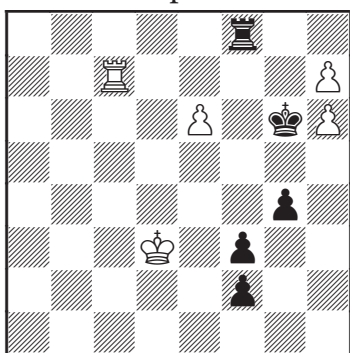
a1a5 0344.31 6/5 Win

No 21126 Evgeny Fomichev (Russia). 1.b7 (bxa7? Bxd5;) Rf1+ 2.Kb2/i Rf2+ (Be4; Bb4+) 3.Kc3/iv Rf3+ 4.Kc4 Rb3 5.Kxb3 Bxd5+ 6.Ka3 Bxb7 7.Bc7+ Ka6 8.Sd7, and: Se6 9.Sb8 mate, or Bc6 9.Sc5 mate.

i) 2.Ka2? Bxd5+ 3.Kb2 Bxb7.

iv) 3.Kb3? Bxd5+, or 3.Kc1? Rf1+ 4.Kc2 Be4+, or 3.Kb1? Be4+ 4.Kc1 Rc2+ 5.Kd1 Rb2.

No 21127 R. Becker & M. Garcia
2nd prize



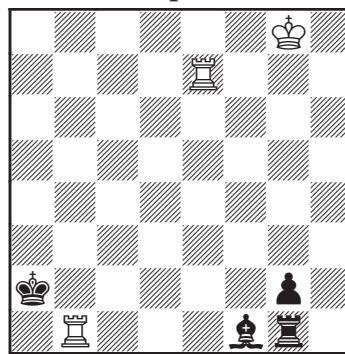
d3g6 0400.33 5/5 Draw

No 21127 Richard Becker (USA) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Rc1 Rc8 2.Ra1/i Kxh7 3.Ke3 Kxh6 4.Kxf2 Rc2+ 5.Kg3 Rg2+ 6.Kf4, and:
— Kg7 7.Kf5 f2 8.e7 Kf7 9.e8Q+ Kxe8 10.Ke6 Kf8 11.Kf6 Kg8 12.Kg6 Kf8 13.Kf6 Ke8 14.Ke6 Kd8 15.Kd6 Kc8 16.Kc6 Kb8 17.Rb1+ Ka7 18.Ra1+ Kb8, or:

— Kg6 7.Re1 f2 8.e7 fxe1Q 9.e8Q+ Qxe8 ideal stalemate.

i) Thematic try: 2.Rb1? Kxh7 3.Ke3 Kxh6 4.Kxf2 Rc2+ 5.Kg3 Rg2+ 6.Kf4 Kg7 (Kg6?; Re1) 7.Kf5 f2 8.e7 Kf7 9.e8Q+ Kxe8 10.Ke6 Kd8 11.Kd6 Kc8 wins.

No 21128 H. Waelzel
3rd prize

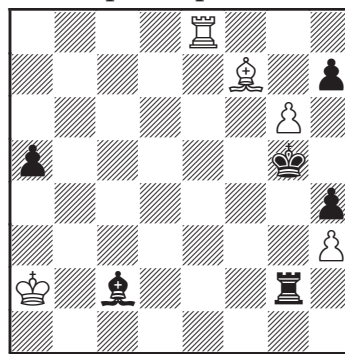


g8a2 0530.01 3/4 Win

No 21128 Helmut Waelzel (Germany). 1.Rb8/i Bc4+ 2.Kg7 Bb3 3.Ra7+ Kb2 4.Rab7 Rh1 5.Rxb3+ Ka2 6.Rb2+ Ka1 7.Rxg2 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rb6? Bc4+ 2.Kg7 Bb3 3.Ra7+ Kb2 4.Rab7 Rh1 5.Rxb3+ Ka2 6.Rb2+ Ka1 7.Rxg2 Rh7+ 8.Kxh7 stalemate.

No 21129 G. Sonntag
special prize

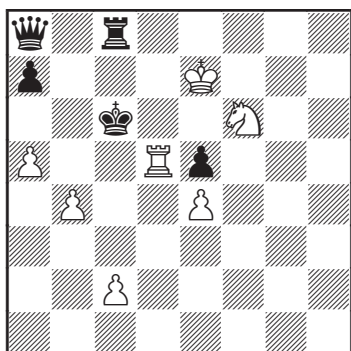


a2g5 0440.23 5/6 Win.

I: Diagram, II: without bPh4

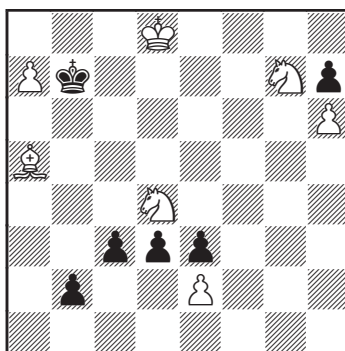
No 21129 Gunter Sonntag (Germany). I: 1.g7 Ba4+ 2.Re2 Rxe2+ 3.Ka3 Re3+ 4.Kxa4 Re8 5.Bxe8 Kh6 6.g8B/i wins.

No 21130 L. Kekely
& M. Hlinka
1st honourable mention



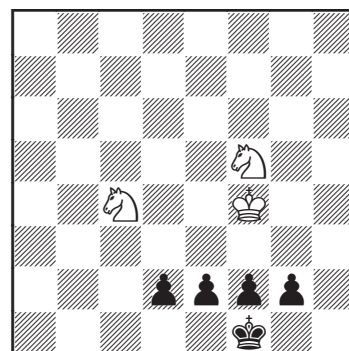
e7c6 3401.42 7/5 Win

No 21131 D. Eschbach
2nd honourable mention



d8b7 0012.35 7/6 Draw

No 21132 R. Becker
3rd honourable mention



f4f1 0002.04 3/5 Draw

II: 1.g7 Ba4+ 2.Re2 Rxe2+ 3.Ka3 Re3+ 4.Kxa4 Re8 5.Bxe8 Kh6 6.g8S+/i Kg7 7.Se7 Kf8 8.Sd5 Kxe8 9.Kxa5 wins.

i) 6.g8Q? (g8R) stalemate. 6.g8S+? Kg7 7.Se7 Kf8 8.Sd5 Kxe8 draws.

No 21130 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.b5+ Kb7 2.Rd7+ Rc7 3.Rxc7+ Kxc7 4.Sd5+ Kb8/i 5.a6 Kc8 6.c3/ii zz Qb8 7.c4 zz Qa8 8.c5 Qb8 9.b6 axb6 10.cxb6 Qa7+ 11.b7+/iii Kb8 12.Sf6 Qc5+ 13.Ke8 Qb4 14.Sd7+ Ka7 15.b8Q+ Qxb8+ 16.Sxb8 wins.

i) Kc8 5.a6 Qb8 6.c4 zz, wins.

ii) 6.c4? Qb8 zz, and Black wins.

iii) 11.bxa7? model stalemate.

No 21131 Dennis Eschbach (Germany). 1.Se8 b1Q 2.Sb5 Qxb5 3.Sd6+ Ka8 4.Sxb5 c2

5.Kc8 d2 6.Bb4 (Bc3? d1Q;) c1Q+ 7.Bc3 d1Q 8.Sc7+ Kxa7 9.Bd4+ Qxd4 stalemate.

No 21132 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Se5 e1S 2.Sg3+ Kg1 3.Se2+ Kh1 4.Sg3+ Kh2 5.Sg4+ Kh3 6.Sxf2+ Kh4 7.Sf5+ Kh5 8.Sg3+ Kg6 9.Se2 Sd3+ 10.Ke3 Sxf2 11.Kxd2 Kf5 12.Ke3 draws.

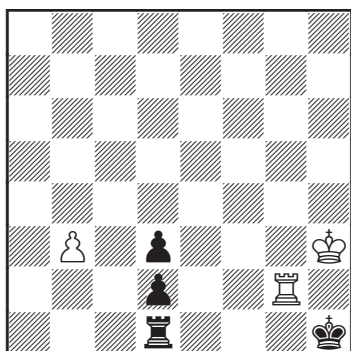
No 21133 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rf2 Kg1 2.Kg3 Kh1 3.Rh2+ Kg1 4.Rg2+ Kh1 5.Kh3 Re1 6.Rxd2 Re3+ 7.Kg4 Kg1 8.Kf4 Re8 9.Kf3 (Rxd3? Kf2;) wins.

No 21134 Helmut Waelzel (Germany). 1.Bf2+ Kh1 2.Kf3 f4 3.c5/i g5 4.g4 fxxg3ep 5.Bxxg3 Kg1 6.Bxxh2+ wins.

i) 3.g4? g5 4.c5 stalemate.

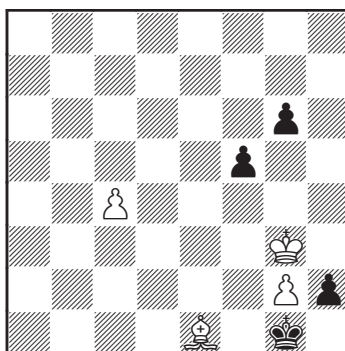
No 21135 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Kd3 Rxc2 2.Re5 Kb1 3.Rc5 Kb2 4.Rb5+ Kc1 5.Ra5 Kb1 6.Ra1+ Kb2 7.Ra2+ Kxa2 8.Kxc2 wins.

No 21133 R. Becker
1st commendation



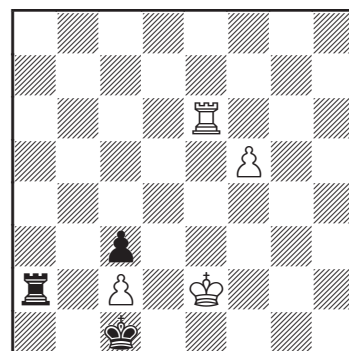
h3h1 0400.12 3/4 Win

No 21134 H. Waelzel
2nd commendation



g3g1 0010.23 4/4 Win

No 21135 P. Arestov
3rd commendation

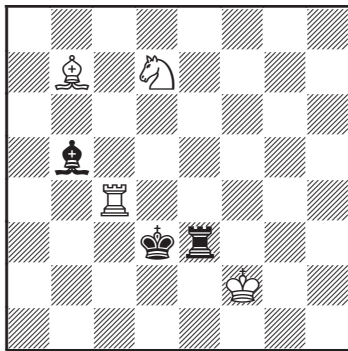


e2c1 0400.21 4/3 Win

Pat a Mat 2014-2015

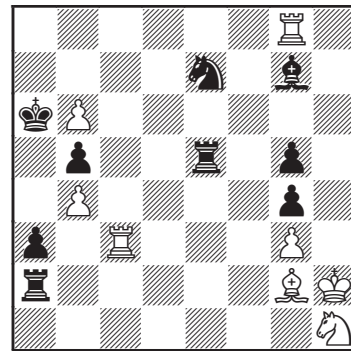
22 studies by 17 composers from 11 countries participated in this informal tourney for which Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic) served as judge. The provisional award was published in *Pat a Mat* no 96, vi2016.

No 21136 S. Slumstrup Nielsen
1st prize



f2d3 o441.00 4/3 Win

No 21137 P. Krug
2nd prize



h2a6 o844.35 8/10 Win

No 21136 Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Rb4/i Re2+ 2.Kf1/ii Re7/iii 3.Sc5+ Kc3+ 4.Rxb5 Kc4 5.Ba6 (Ra5? Kb4;) Re5 6.Sd3/iv Rxb5 7.Ke2 z, wins.

i) The try ends in stalemate: 1.Rc5? Re2+ 2.Kf3/vi Re3+ 3.Kf4 Bxd7, and: 4.Ba6+ Bb5 5.Bxb5+ Kd2 6.Rd5+ Ke1 7.Kxe3 stalemate, or here: 4.Rd5+ Ke2 5.Ba6+ Bb5 6.Bxb5+ Kf2 7.Rd2+ Ke1 8.Kxe3 stalemate.

ii) 2.Kf3? Bxd7 3.Ba6+ Bb5 4.Bxb5+ Kc3 5.Rc4+ Kd2 6.Rd4+ Ke1 7.Bxe2 stalemate.

iii) Bxd7 3.Ba6+ Kc3 4.Rc4+ Kd2 5.Rd4+ Ke3 6.Rd3+ Ke4 7.Kxe2 wins.

iv) 6.Sb7? Rxb5 7.Sd6+ Kc5 8.Sxb5 Kb6, or 6.Se6? Rxb5 7.Sc7 Kc5 8.Sxb5 (Bxb5) Kb6 draw, 6.Ra5+? Kb4 7.Rb5+ Kc4 repeats.

v) 2.Kf1 Re7 3.Se5+ Kd4+ 4.Rxb5 Rxe5 draws.

“This is definitively the best study of the tourney, a delicacy for solvers. In order to win, White must refuse to capture the rook a couple of times, which would enable Black to escape by stalemate. Finally, the rook gets into a zugzwang where all the pieces are diagonally arranged. An aristocrat miniature. The whole solution can be verified using the 7EGTB, but the study is clear enough so that you can do without it”.

No 21137 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Rxa3+/i Rxa3 2.b7 Sc6 3.Bxc6 Re2+ 4.Bg2, and:

— Bd4 5.b8R/ii Rxc6+ 6.Kxc6 Ra2+ 7.Kf1 Ra1+ 8.Ke2 wins, or:

— Rxc6+ 5.Kxc6 Ra2+ 6.Sf2 Bd4 7.Ra8+ Ba7 8.b8B/iii Rxf2+ 9.Kg1 Rf7+ 10.Rxa7+ (Bxa7? Kb7;) Rxa7 11.Bxa7 Kxa7 12.Kf2 Kb6 13.Ke3 Kc7 14.Ke4 Kd6 15.Kd4 Kc6 16.Ke5 Kc7 17.Kd5 Kb6 18.Kd6 Kb7 19.Kc5 Ka6 20.Kc6 Ka7 21.Kxb5 wins.

i) 1.b7? Rxc6+ 2.Kxc6 Re2+ 3.Kf1 Re1+ draws.

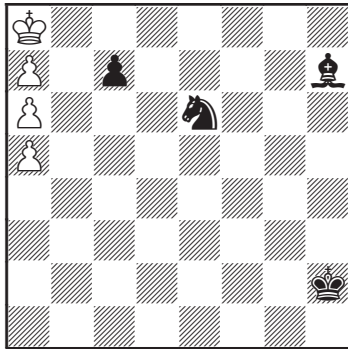
ii) But not: 5.b8Q? Bg1+ 6.Kxc6 Ra1+ 7.Kh2 Rxc6+ 8.Kxc6 Re1+ 9.Kh2 Rh1+ 10.Bxc6 stalemate.

ii) 8.b8Q? (b8R?) Rxf2+ 9.Kg1 Rf1++ 10.Kg2 Rf2+ 11.Kg1 Rf1++ (Rg2++) and perpetual check or stalemate.

“In the original version there was a black pawn at g6 but I agree with the author that the study is correct without it. It has an understandable solution with sacrifices and counter sacrifices and to refute a stalemate defence, White must promote to a bishop or a rook and finally wins the pawn ending”.

No 21138 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Kb8/i Be4 2.a8Q Bxa8 3.Kxa8 Sd8 4.Ka7/ii zz Kg1/iii 5.Kb8 c5 6.Kc7 (a7? Sc6+) c4 7.a7 c3

No 21138 V. Tarasiuk
1st/2nd honourable mention



a8h2 0033.31 4/4 Win

8.a8Q c2 9.Qa7+ (Qxd8? c1Q+;) Kg2 10.Qe3 wins.

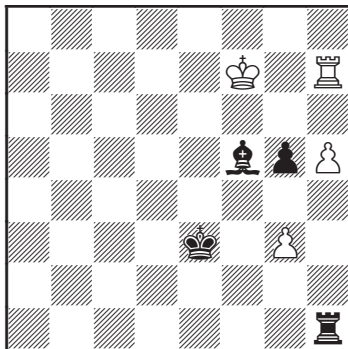
i) 1.Kb7? Sc5+ 2.Kc6 Sxa6 3.Kd5 c5 and Black wins.

ii) 4.Kb8? c5 5.Kc7 c4 6.a7 c3 7.a8Q c2 draws.

iii) the bK must guard square h1 to avoid the wQ to play to there.

“We see a very surprising mutual zugzwang position in a six man ending but, with more play, the study could have ended up in the prizes”.

No 21139 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
1st/2nd honourable mention



f7e3 0430.21 4/4 Draw

No 21139 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Rg7 (Rh6? Kf3;) Rxh5/i 2.g4 (Kf6? g4;) Bxg4 3.Kg6 (Kf6? g4;) Kf4 4.Rb7/ii Kg3 5.Rb4 Bf3 6.Rb2/iii Bg4 7.Rb4 Kh4 8.Kg7 Kh3 9.Kg6/iv Bf3 10.Rb2 Kg4 11.Rb4+ Kg3 12.Rb2 draws.

i) g4 2.Rg5 Ke4 3.Kf6 Bc8 4.Kg7 draws.

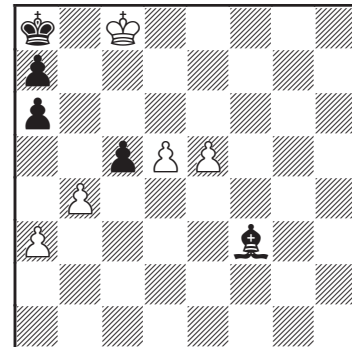
ii) 4.Rc7? Be2 5.Rb7 Rh4 6.Rb4+ Ke5 7.Rb2 g4 8.Rxe2+ Kf4, or 4.Rf7+? Kg3 5.Ra7 Kh4 6.Ra4 Rh8, or 4.Ra7? Bd1 5.Rf7+ Kg4 wins.

iii) 6.Rb3? Kh4 7.Rxf3 g4 wins.

iv) 9.Rb3+? Bf3 10.Rxf3+ Kh4 wins.

“This is a surprising positional draw. The authors decided to shorten the solution of the unsound original by two moves, rather improving the study since no introduction is necessary here”.

No 21140 I. Aliev
3rd honourable mention



c8a8 0030.43 5/5 Win

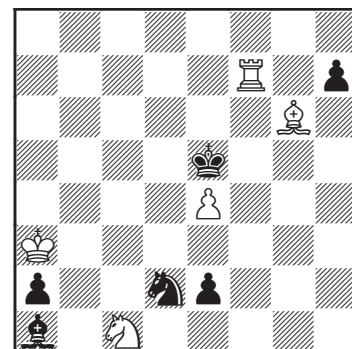
No 21140 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.e6/i c4/ii 2.e7 Bh5 3.d6 c3 4.d7 c2 5.e8S Bxe8 6.dxe8S c1Q+ 7.Sc7+ Qxc7+ 8.Kxc7 a5 9.b5 a4 10.Kc8 a5 11.Kc7 wins.

i) 1.d6? c4 2.d7 Bg4 3.Kc7 Bxd7 4.Kxd7 c3 5.e6 c2 6.e7 c1Q 7.e8Q+ Kb7 draws.

ii) Bxd5 2.e7 Bf7 3.bxc5 Be8 4.Kd8 wins.

“This is another study suitable for solving but with a small trap for inexperienced solvers. The two under-promotions to knight are not easy to see in the initial position. The theme was partly processed in a pawn ending by Zinar (EG#7379) or Blandford (HHdbV#44619). The synthesis by Aliev, however, makes a fresh impression”.

No 21141 P. Arestov
4th honourable mention



a3e5 0144.13 5/6 Win

No 21141 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rf5+/i Kxe4 2.Bxh7 Bb2+/ii 3.Kxb2 a1Q+ (e1Q; Rf1+) 4.Kxa1 Sb3+ 5.Sxb3 e1Q+ 6.Ka2/iii Qe3 (Qe2+; Ka3) 7.Kb2 zz Qe2+ 8.Ka3 Qe3 (Qa6+; Ra5) 9.Kb4 Qe1+ 10.Kb5 Qe2+/iv 11.Kb6 Qe3+ 12.Kb7 Qxb3+ 13.Rb5+ wins.

i) 1.Sxe2? hxg6 2.Kxa2 Ke6 3.Rf2 Be5 4.Sd4+ Bxd4 5.Rxd2 Ke5 draws.

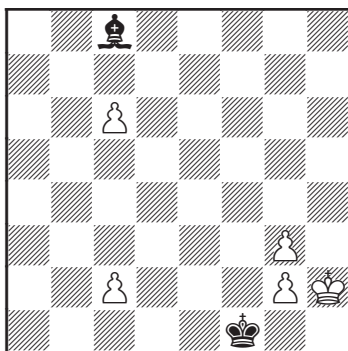
ii) The ending RB vs BS with bishops of opposite colours is always won for the stronger side, e.g. Ke3 3.Sxe2 Kxe2 4.Kxa2, or Bc3 3.Kxa2 Ke3 4.Sxe2.

iii) Not the 'automatic' 6.Kb2? Qe3 zz 7.Sc5+ (Ka3 Qa7+;) Kd4 8.Sb3+ Ke4 9.Sc5+ Kd4 repeats.

iv) Qe3 11.Rf8+ Kd5 12.Rd8+ Ke6 13.Re8+ wins.

“Rook, bishop and knight rarely win against a queen, then mostly when the bK has a poor position at the edge of the board. Arestov has managed to find a remarkable position in the centre in which a tempo move is necessary to avoid a mutual zugzwang. It is acceptable that the solution is present in a database. The introduction is too complicated and distracts and a better introduction could have qualified the study for a prize”.

No 21142 V. Tarasiuk
1st commendation



h2f1 0030.40 5/2 Win

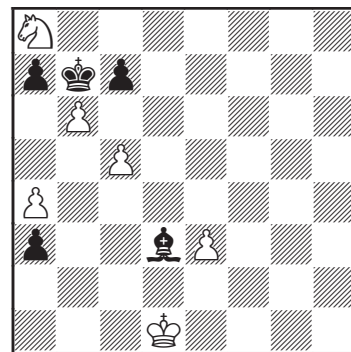
No 21142 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.g4 Bxg4 2.Kg3 (c7? Kf2;) Be6 3.c7/i Bc8 4.c3/ii, and:
— Ke2 5.Kf4 Kd3 6.g4 Kc4 7.g5 Kd5 8.g6 Ke6 9.Kg5 Ba6 10.g7/iii Kf7 11.Kh6 wins, or:
— Bb7 5.c4 Ke2 6.Kf4 Kd3 7.g4 Kxc4 8.Ke5 Kc5 9.g5 Kc6 10.g6 Kxc7 11.g7 wins.

i) 3.c4? Ke2 4.Kf4 Kd3, or 3.Kf3? Bd5+ draw.
ii) 4.c4? Ke2 5.Kf4 Kd3 6.g4 Kxc4 7.g5 Kd5 8.g6 Ke6 9.g7 Kf7, or 4.Kf3? Bb7+ 5.Kg3 Bc8 draw.

iii) 10.Kh6? Kd7 11.g7 Bc4 draws.

“This is a lovely miniature with the point at move 4: *festina lente*”.

No 21143 M. Minski
2nd commendation



d1b7 0031.43 6/5 Draw

No 21143 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.c6+ Kb8/i 2.bxc7+ Kc8 3.Kc1 Bf5 4.a5/ii Bd3 (Be4; a6) 5.e4/iii Bxe4 6.a6 Bd3 7.Sb6+ draws.

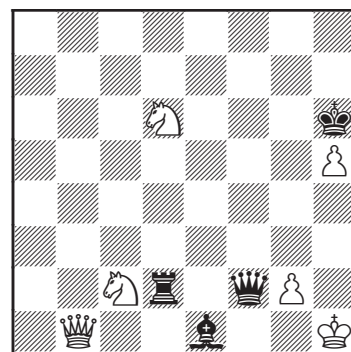
i) Kxa8 2.bxc7, or Kxc6 2.bxa7 a2 3.Sxc7 a1Q+ 4.Kd2 draw.

ii) 4.e4? Bxe4 5.a5 Bd3 (Bf5, Bg6, Bh7) 6.a6 Be4 7.Sb6+ axb6 8.a7 Bxc6 wins.

iii) 5.a6? Be4 6.Sb6+ axb6 7.a7 Bxc6 wins.

“The wSa8 is unnatural, but the unusual content of the study makes up for it. White must accurately time a pawn sacrifice in order to avoid ending up in a zugzwang”.

No 21144 P. Arestov & A. Skripnik
3rd commendation



h1h6 4332.20 6/4 Draw

No 21144 Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Sf5+/i Qxf5 (Kg5; Sce3) 2.Qb6+ Kxh5 3.Sxe1 Rd1 4.g4+/ii Kxg4/iii 5.Qg1+ Kh5 6.Qh2+ Kg6 7.Qg1+/iv Qg5/v 8.Qg3/vi zz Kh6/vii 9.Qc3/viii Qh4+ 10.Kg2, and:

— Qxe1 11.Qf6+ Kh5 12.Qf5+ Kh4 13.Qf4+ Kh5 14.Qf5+ Kh6 15.Qf6+ Kh7 16.Qf7+ Kh8 17.Qf8+ draws, or:

— Rxe1 11.Qh8+ Kg5 12.Qd8+ Kg4 13.Qd4+ Kh5 14.Qh8+ draws.

i) 1.Sxe1? Qf1+ 2.Kh2 Rxc2+ 3.Sxc2 Qxb1 wins.

ii) 4.Qe3? Qf1+ 5.Kh2 Rxe1 wins.

iii) Qxg4 5.Qb5+ Kh6 6.Qb6+ Kh5 7.Qb5+ with perpetual check.

iv) 7.Qg3+? Qg5 zz 8.Qf2 Ra1 9.Qc2+ Qf5 10.Qg2+ Kh6 11.Qh2+ Qh5 wins, or 7.Qf2? Qe4+ wins.

v) Kh6 8.Qe3+, or Kf6 8.Qf2 (Qb6), or Kf7 8.Qf2 (Qa7) draw.

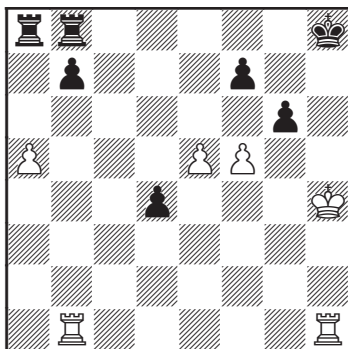
vi) 8.Qb6+? Kh5 9.Qf2 Qh4+ wins.

vii) Qxc3 stalemate, or Kh5 9.Qf3+ Qg4 10.Qf7+ draws.

viii) 9.Qf2? Qe5 10.Qh4+ Qh5 wins.

“The authors have mined an interesting QS vs QR position from the tablebase with a mutual zugzwang and a stalemate escape. The fact that the solution cannot be found without a computer (tablebase) lowered the evaluation of the study”.

No 21145 P. Krug
special prize



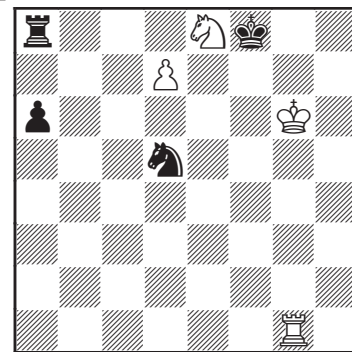
h4h8 o8oo.34 6/7 Win

No 21145 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Kg5+ Kg8 2.Rh6 gxf5 3.e6 fxe6 4.Rbh1 e5 5.a6 bxa6 6.Kxf5

Kg7 7.Rg6+ Kf8 8.Rf6+ Ke8 9.Rh8+ Ke7 10.Rh7+ Ke8 11.Rff7 Rb2 12.Rc7 Kd8 13.Rcg7 Rf2+ 14.Ke6 Rf8 15.Rd7+ Kc8 16.Rc7+ Kb8 17.Rb7+ Kc8 18.Rhc7+ Kd8 19.Rd7+ Ke8 (Kc8; Ke7) 20.Ra7 Rb8 21.Rdb7 Rc8 22.Re7+ Kd8 23.Rad7 mate.

“We award a special prize for a nicely guided attack in a four rook ending where white sacrifices all his pawns to break through the black wall. A surprisingly lengthy solution”.

No 21146 R. Becker
special honourable mentions



g6f8 o4o4.11 4/4 Win

No 21146 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Kf5/i Ke7/ii 2.Rg7+ Kd8 3.Sd6/iii Rb8/iv 4.Ke5 Sb6 5.Ke6/v Kc7 6.d8Q++ Kxd8 7.Rh7 Ra8/vi 8.Sb7+ Kc8 9.Sa5 Rb8 10.Kd6 Sc4+ 11.Sxc4 Rb4/vii 12.Rh8+ Kb7 13.Sa5+ Kb6 14.Sc6 Rg4 15.Rb8 mate.

i) 1.Sf6? Se7+ 2.Kh7 Kf7, or 1.Rd1? Se7+ 2.Kf6 Sg8+ 3.Ke6 Rxe8+ draw.

ii) Rxe8 2.Rg8+, or Sb6 2.Sc7 Rd8 3.Se6+ wins.

iii) 3.Ke5? Ra7 4.Rg8 Se7, or 3.Sf6? Sb6 4.Rg8+ (Ke6) Kc7 draw.

iv) Kc7 4.Sb7 Rd8 5.Sxd8, or Ra7 4.Sf7+ Kxd7 5.Se5++ wins.

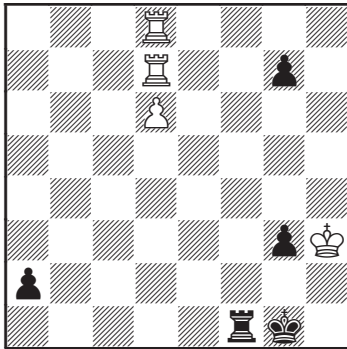
v) 5.Rg8+? Kc7 6.Rxb8 Sxd7+ draws.

vi) a5 8.Sb5 Kc8 9.Sa7+ Kd8 10.Sc6+ Kc8 11.Rh8+ Kc7 12.Sxb8 wins.

vii) Rb1 12.Rh8+ Kb7 13.Sa5+ Kb6 14.Rb8+ wins.

“We award special honourable mention for the realisation of a minimal win. White sacrifices his only pawn and has to play the tempo move 12.Rh7”.

No 21147 P. Arestov
special commendation



h3g1 0500.13 4/5 Win

No 21147 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Ra8/i a1Q 2.Rxa1 Rxa1 3.Kxg3 Rd1 (Rf1; Rxg7) 4.Kf4/ii Kh2/iii 5.Rd8/iv Kh3/v 6.Rh8+ Kg2 7.Ke5 g5 8.Rg8 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Ra7? a1Q 2.Rxa1 Rxa1 3.Kxg3 Rf1 4.Kg4/vi Rf6 5.Kg5 Kg2 6.d7 Rf7 draws.

ii) 4.Kf3? g5 5.Kg4 Rd5 draws.

iii) Kf2 5.Ke5 g5 6.Rg7 wins.

iv) 5.Ke5? Re1+ 6.Kf4 Rf1+ 7.Ke3 g5 draws.

v) Rf1+ 6.Ke5 Re1+ 7.Kf5 Rf1+ 8.Ke6 Re1+ 9.Kf7 g5 10.Rg8 Rd1 11.Ke7, or Rd5 6.Ke4 Rd1 7.Ke5 Re1+ 8.Kf5 Rf1+ 9.Ke6 g5 10.d7 win.

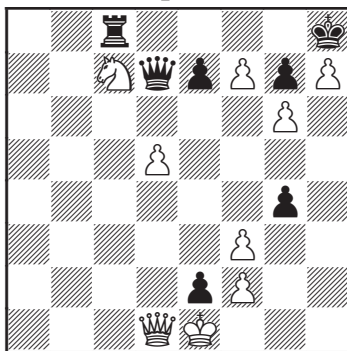
vi) 4.d7 Rd1 5.Kg4 Kg2 6.Kg5 Rd6 draws.

“We award a special commendation for the choice on the first move – for practical players. The win is surprisingly achieved by the rook different to the one we would expect since otherwise the d-pawn is blocked”.

Sinfonie Scacchistiche 2013-2014

HH judged the informal Italian tourney which attracted 56 studies by 22 composers from 13 countries. Peter Krug from Austria was very prolific with no fewer than 18 originals while the “new” Italian composer P. Luciano Placanico submitted an excellent 12 originals. Marco Campioli (Italy) assisted in soundness checking. As a result (...) only 41 sound studies remained. The provisional award was published in *Sinfonie Scacchistiche* no. 125 vi-ix2016 with a three month confirmation time.

No 21148 P. Krug
1st prize



e1h8 4301.64 9/7 Win

No 21148 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Qc2 gxf3/i 2.Se6 Ra8 3.Qa2/ii Rc8 4.Qc4 Ra8 5.Qa6 Rb8 6.Qb6 Ra8 7.Qa5 Rb8 8.Qb4 Ra8 9.Qa3 Rc8 10.Qc3 Qxe6 11.dxe6 Ra8 12.Qc1 Rd8 13.Qd2 Rc8 14.Qc2/iii Rd8 15.Qd3 Ra8 16.Qa6 Rd8 17.Qd6 Ra8 18.Kd2

i) g3 2.Qc6 (fxg3? Qh3;) Qxc6 3.dxc6 g2 4.Se8 g1Q+ 5.Kxe2 Qxg6 6.f8Q+ Kxh7 7.Sf6+ Qxf6 8.Qxc8 wins.

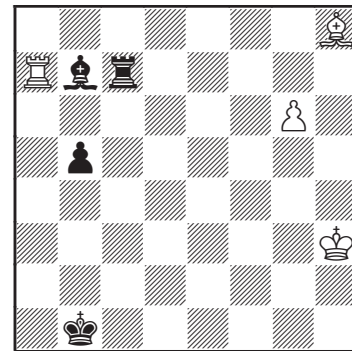
ii) 3.Qc3? Qxe6 4.dxe6 Ra1+ 5.Qxa1 stalemate.

iii) 14.Qc3? Ra8 15.Qc1 loss of time.

“This is awarded first prize on the condition (...) that 1...g3 is not considered a second main line. White wants to play 3.Qc3, but this fails to 3...Qxe6! 4.dxe6 Ra1+ 5.Qxa1 stalemate. It is unclear to me why this line was not given! After a nice systematic manoeuvre with the wQ moving up and down the staircase, 10.Qc3 works since now the bR is at c8 instead of a8. This would be interesting enough, but Black still tries to use the Q-sac on e6 to try to escape by stalemate. It is highly appropriate that the

wQ has to walk the staircase again for a win: an excellent stairway to heaven! (Gorgiev 1937 (HHdbV#66541) anticipates the final staircase, no problem)”.

No 21149 M. Minski
2nd prize



h3b1 0440.11 4/4 Win

No 21149 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.g7 Rc3+/i 2.Kh2, and:

— Rc2+ 3.Kg3/ii Bd5/iii 4.Ra1+/iv Kxa1 5.g8Q+ Rc3+ 6.Bxc3+ wins, or:

— Bd5 3.g8Q (g8R) Rc2+ (Bxg8; Bxc3) 4.Kh3/vii Bxg8 5.Ra1 mate.

i) Rc8 2.Rxb7, or Bc8+ 2.Kg3 (Kg2) win.

ii) 3.Kg1? Rc1+ 4.Kf2 Bd5 5.Ra1+ Kc2 stalemate.

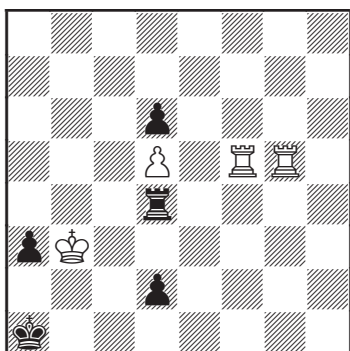
iii) Rg2+ 4.Kh3 Bd5 5.Rd7, or Rc3+ 4.Kf2 Rf3+ 5.Ke2, or Be4 4.Ra1+ win.

iv) 4.g8Q? Rg2+ 5.Kh3 Rxc8 draws.

v) 4.Kg3? Rg2+ 5.Kh3 Rxc8 draws.

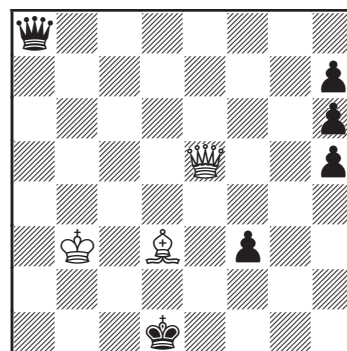
“The two main lines are organically connected by the precise K-moves (2...Bd5 4.Kh3; 2...Rc2+ 3.Kg3!) and a sort of vice versa play (2...Bd5 3.g8Q; 2...Rc2+ 3.g8Q?)”.

No 21150 P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



b3a1 0500.13 4/5 Win

No 21151 R. Becker
2nd honourable mention



b3d1 4010.04 3/6 Win

No 21150 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rg1+/i d1Q+ 2.Rxd1+ Rxd1 3.Kxa3 Kb1 4.Kb3 Kc1 5.Kc3/ii Kb1/iii 6.Kc4 Ka2/iv 7.Rf6 Rc1+ 8.Kb4/v Rb1+ 9.Ka4 (Ka5) Kb2 10.Kb5/vi Kc3+ 11.Kc6 Kd4/vii 12.Rf5/viii Rh1 13.Kxd6 Rh6+ 14.Kc7 (Ke7? Ke4;) Kc5 (Ke4; Rg5) 15.d6+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rf1+? d1Q+ 2.Rxd1+ Rxd1 3.Kxa3 Kb1 4.Kb3 Kc1 5.Kc3 Kb1 6.Kc4 Ka2 7.Rg6 Rc1+ 8.Kb4 Rb1+ 9.Ka4 Kb2 10.Kb5 (Rxd6 Kc3;) Kc3+ 11.Kc6 Ra1 (Kd4?; Rg5) 12.Rxd6 (Kxd6 Ra6+;) Kd4 13.Re6 Rc1+ 14.Kd6 Ra1 15.Kc6 Rc1+ positional draw.

ii) 5.Kc4? Kd2 6.Rf6 Ke3 7.Re6+ Kf4 draws.

iii) Rh1 6.Rf6 (Rf3) wins.

iv) Rc1+ 7.Kb3 Rh1 8.Rf6 (Rf3) wins.

v) 8.Kb5? Rc5+. 8.Kd4? Rd1+ 9.Kc4 Rc1+ waste of time.

vi) 10.Kb4? Kc2+ 11.Kc4 Rb6, or 10.Rxd6? Kc3 (Kc2).

vii) Ra1 12.Kxd6 Ra6+ 13.Ke7 (Ke5), wR on f6!

viii) 12.Kxd6? Rb6+ 13.Ke7 Rxf6 14.Kxf6 Kxd5, or 12.Rxd6? Rc1+ (Ra1) draws.

“This is a nice logical study. The tiny difference between 1.Rf1+? and 1.Rg1+! becomes clear more than 10 moves later (11...Ra1 12.Kxd6 Ra6+ and now the bK is able to cover a wR on f6, but not on g6!).”

No 21151 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bc4/i Qa7 2.Bb5 zz h4/ii 3.Qc3 zz Qf7+/iii 4.Kb2 Qf4 5.Qc2+ Ke1 6.Qb1+ Kf2 7.Qf1+ Ke3 (Kg3; Qg1+) 8.Qc1+ Ke4 9.Bd3+ Ke5 10.Qc7+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Bb5? Qa7 2.Qc3 Qf7+ 3.Kb2 Qf4 4.Qc2+ Ke1 5.Qb1+ Kf2 6.Qf1+ Kg3 draws. If 1.Qd4? Qa5 2.Bb5+ Qd2 3.Qe4 Qg2 4.Qd3+ (Ka3 Qg5;) Kc1 5.Qc3+ Kd1 6.Qa1+ Kd2 7.Qd4+ Kc1 8.Qf4+ Kd1, or 1.Be4? Qg8+ 2.Bd5 Qg2 draw.

ii) Qa5 3.Qxh5 Ke1 4.Qh4+ Kd1 5.Qh1+ Kd2 6.Qxh6+ Kd1 7.Qh5 (Qc6) Ke1 8.Qc5 Kd1 9.Kb2 Qd2+ 10.Kb1 wins.

iii) Qb7 4.Qa1+ Kd2 5.Qe5 Kd1/iv 6.Kc3 Qc8+ 7.Bc4, or Qf2 4.Qa1+ Kd2 5.Qa2+ Ke1 (Ke3; Qa7+) 6.Qb1+ Kd2 7.Qc2+ Ke3 8.Qc5+ wins.

iv) h3 6.Kb2, or Qa7 6.Qc3+

“This is a good logical zz study showing clearly the difference between the thematic try 1.Bb5? and 1.Bc4! in the 7...Kg3 subline”.

No 21152 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.g4+ Kxh6/i 2.g5+ (Bxh1? Rxa6;) Kxg5/ii 3.Ra5+ Re5 (Kxf6; Bxh1) 4.Rxe5+/iii Kxf6 5.Rf5+/iv Ke6 6.Bxh1 Kxf5 7.Bb7 Be4 8.Sc6 wins.

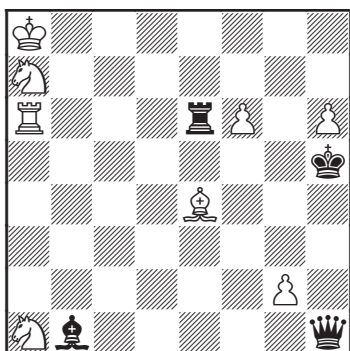
i) Kh4 2.Bxh1 Rxa6 3.Bc6 wins.

ii) Kh5 3.Bxh1 Rxa6 4.f7 wins.

iii) 4.Bxh1? Rxa5 5.f7 Rf5 draws.

iv) Thematic try: 5.Bxh1? Kxe5, and either 6.Bb7 Be4 7.Sc6+ Kd6, or 6.Sc6+ Kf4 7.Bg2 Be4 draws.

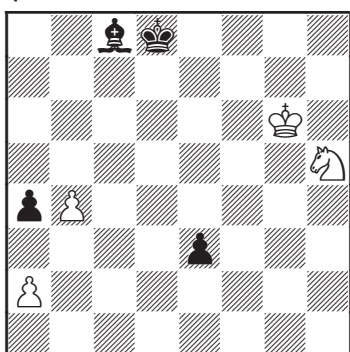
No 21152 M. Minski
3rd honourable mention



a8h5 3442.30 8/4 Win

“We see a fierce battle to win the (passive) bQ without investing too much material and there is good counterplay (3...Re5+). A nice Zwischenschach is decisive, getting the bK at sufficient distance for the win”.

No 21153 G. Tallaksen Østmoe
4th honourable mention



g6d8 0031.22 4/4 Draw

No 21153 Geir Sune Tallaksen Østmoe (Norway). 1.Sf4/i a3/ii 2.Kg5/iii Ba6 3.b5/iv Bxb5 4.Se2/v Bxe2/vi 5.Kf4 Bc4 6.Kxe3 Bxa2 7.Kd2/vii Kc7 8.Kc3 Bc4 9.Kc2 Kb6 10.Kb1 draws.

i) 1.Sg3? a3, and: 2.Kg5 Be6 3.Kf4 Bxa2 or 2.Kf6 Ba6 3.Ke5 Bc4 wins.

ii) Ba6 2.a3 e2 3.Sxe2 Bxe2 4.Kf5 draws.

iii) 2.Kf6? Ba6 3.Ke5 Bc4, or 2.b5? Bb7 3.Kf5 Bd5 win.

iv) Thematic try: 3.Se2? Bxe2 4.Kf4 Bc4 5.Kxe3 Bxa2 6.Kd2 Kc7 7.Kc3 Kb6 8.b5 Kxb5 wins.

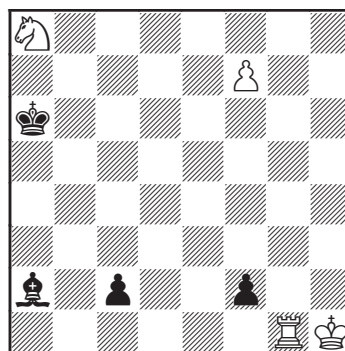
v) 4.Kg4? Bc4 5.Kf3 Bxa2 wins.

vi) Bc4 5.Kf4 Bxa2 6.Kxe3 draws.

vii) 7.Kd3? Bb3 8.Kc3 Ba4 wins.

“The finish is anticipated by Mandler 1964 (HHdbV#49261), but the present study has the excellent 3.b5!”.

No 21154 V. Tarasiuk
5th honourable mention



h1a6 0131.12 4/4 Win

No 21154 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Ra1/i f1Q+ 2.Rxf1 Bxf7 3.Kg1/ii Bh5 4.Sc7+ Kb6/iii 5.Sd5+ Kc5 6.Se3 Bd1 7.Sxc2 Bxc2 8.Rc1 wins.

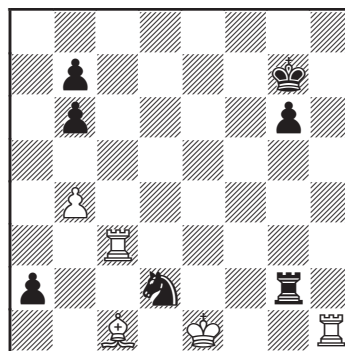
i) 1.f8Q? fxg1Q+ 2.Kxg1 c1Q+ draws.

ii) 3.Sc7+? Kb6 4.Kg1 Kc6 5.Kg2 Bh5 6.Se6 Bd1 7.Sd4+ Kd5 8.Sb3 Kc4 9.Sc1 Kc3 draws.

iii) Kb7 5.Se6 Bd1 6.Sc5+, or Ka5 5.Rc1 wins.

“The key move thematically attacks the bBa2. After 2...Bxf7 White is a rook up, but it is unclear how White should win. After the mind-boggling 3.Kg1! we are in a mutual zugzwang position. In the thematic try 3.Sc7? there is a similar finish as in the main line, except for the fact that Black can play 7...Kd5! and thereby avoid the final pinning point 9.Rc1”.

No 21155 P. Krug
1st commendation



e1g7 0513.14 5/7 Win

No 21155 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Bb2 Sf3+ 2.Rxf3+ Rxb2 3.O-O Rb1 4.Ra3 Rb2 5.Ra7/i Kh6 6.b5 (Rxb7? Rxb4;) Kg5 7.Ra3 Kg4 8.Kh1 g5 9.Ra8 Kh5/ii 10.Rh8+ Kg6 11.Rg8+ Kh7/iii 12.Rxg5 Rb1 13.Rfg1 a1Q 14.Rh5 mate.

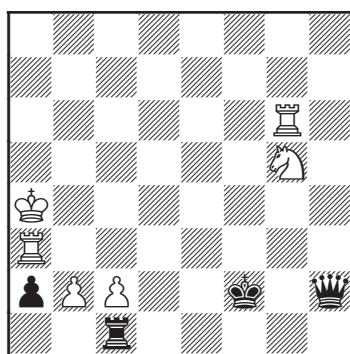
i) 5.Ra8? g5 6.b5 Kh7 7.Ra7 Kg6 8.Ra3 Kg7, or 5.b5? g5 6.Ra7 Kg6 draws.

ii) Kg3 10.Rd1 Kg4 11.Rd4+ Kf5 12.Rd4 wins.

iii) Kh6 12.Rg1 Rb1 13.Ra8 Rb2 14.Rh8+ Kg6 15.Rh2 wins.

“Castling is always special. This study has sufficient flair and play for a commendation”.

No 21156 S. Skripnik & J. Mikitovics
2nd commendation



a4f2 3501.21 6/4 Draw

No 21156 Anatoly Skripnik (Russia) & János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Se4+/i Ke1/ii 2.Re3+ (Rxa2? Qxc2+;) Kd1 3.Sc3+ Kd2/iii 4.Rd3+ Ke1 5.Re3+/iv Kd2 6.Rd3+ Kxc2 7.Sxa2 Ra1 8.Ra3 Rxa2 9.Rxa2 Kb1 10.Ka3 (Ra3? Qc2+;) Qh1/v 11.Ra6 (Rg8? Qf1;) Qb7 (Qd5; Kb4) 12.Ra5/vi zz Qb6 13.Ra8 zz Qb5 14.Ra4 (Ra7? Qc4;) zz Qb8/vii 15.Ra6/viii zz Qb7 16.Ra5 zz, positional draw.

i) 1.Sh3+? Qxh3 2.Rxh3 a1Q+ 3.Kb3 Qa7 4.Rh2+ Kf3 5.Rh3+ Kf4 6.Rh4+ Kf5 7.Rgg4 Qb7+ 8.Rb4 Qf3+ 9.c3 Qd5+ 10.Rbc4 Qd1+, or 1.Rxa2? Qh8 2.Rf6+ Kg2 wins.

ii) Kf1 2.Rf6+ (Sg3+? Ke1;) Kg1 3.Rg6+ Kf1 4.Rf6+ wins.

iii) Kxc2 4.Sxa2 Qf4+ 5.Sb4+.

iv) 5.Re6+? Kf1 6.Rf3+ Kg1 7.Sxa2 Qxc2+ 8.Ka3 Ra1 9.Rg3+ Kf2, and: 10.Rgg6 Qc5+ 11.Kb3 Qd5+, or: 10.Rge3 Qc5+ 11.Kb3 Qd5+ win.

v) Qf2 11.Ra6 Qf7 12.Kb4 draws.

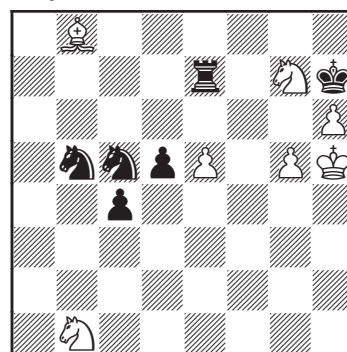
vi) 12.Ra4? Qb5 zz 13.Ra8 Qc4 wins.

vii) Qd3+ 15.Kb4 (b3? Qd6+;), or Qc5+ 15.Kb3 draw.

viii) 15.Ra5? Qb7 zz 16.Ra4 Qb5 zz 17.Ra8 (Rd4 Qc5+;) Qc4, or 15.Rd4? Qf8+ win.

“This has a fairly good introduction to the key position after White’s 10th move”.

No 21157 P. Krug
3rd commendation



h5h7 0318.32 7/6 Win

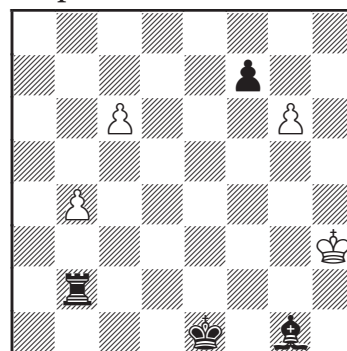
No 21157 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.g6+ Kh8/i 2.Sa3 Sxa3 3.Bd6 Rxg7 4.Bxc5 (hxg7+? Kg8;) Sb5 5.e6 Sc7 6.e7 Kg8 7.h7+ Rxh7+ 8.gxh7+ Kxh7 9.Bd4 c3 10.Bxc3 d4 11.Bxd4 Sd5 12.e8B/ii wins.

i) Kg8 2.Sf5 Re8 3.h7+ Kh8 4.Kh6 Se6 5.Bd6 Sxd6 6.Sxd6 Re7 7.Sc3 wins.

ii) 12.e8Q? Sf6+ 13.Bxf6 stalemate.

“2.Sa3, underpromotion”.

No 21158 M. Micaloni
1st special commendation



h3e1 0330.31 4/4 Draw.

No 21158 M. Micaloni (Italy). 1.g7/i Kf1/ii 2.c7 Rc2/iii 3.b5 f5 4.b6/iv Bxb6 5.g8Q Bxc7 6.Qc4+ Rxc4 stalemate.

i) 1.c7? Rh2+ 2.Kg4 Rh8, or 1.gxf7? Rf2 2.c7 Rh2+ 3.Kg4 Rh8 win.

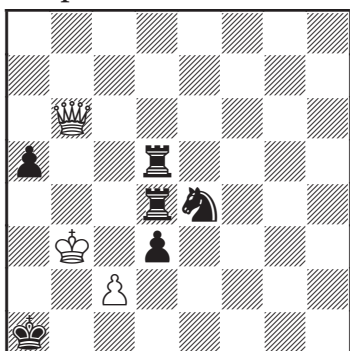
ii) Rh2+ 2.Kg3 Kf1 3.c7 Rc2 4.Kf4 Bh2+ 5.Ke4 Re2+ 6.Kf5 Re8 7.Kf6 draws.

iii) Rb3+ 3.Kg4 Rxb4+ 4.Kf5 Rb5+ 5.Ke4 f5+ 6.Kf3 draws.

iv) 4.Kh4? Bd4 5.Kg5 Bxg7 6.b6 Be5 7.Kxf5 Bxc7 wins.

“A nice (original) stalemate): the best Italian study in the contest”.

No 21159 M. Micaloni
2nd special commendation



b3a1 1603.12 3/6 Draw

No 21159 M. Micaloni (Italy). 1.Ka3 Ra4+/i 2.Kxa4 d2/ii 3.Qe3/iii d1Q/iv 4.Qa3+ Kb1 5.Qb2+ Kxb2 stalemate.

i) Rb4 2.Qg1+ Rb1 3.Qg7+ positional draw.

ii) Sc3+ 3.Kb3 Rb5+ 4.Qxb5 Sxb5 5.cxd3, or dxc2 3.Qb2+ Kxb2 stalemate, or Rc5 3.cxd3 Sc3+ 4.Ka3 Sb1+ 5.Kb3 Rc3+ 6.Ka4 Ra3+ 7.Kb5 Rb3+ 8.Kxa5 draws.

iii) 3.Ka3? d1S 4.Qb3 Sec3 5.Qxd5 Sxd5 6.Ka4 S1c3+ 7.Kxa5 Kb2, or here 4.Qe6 Sdc3 5.Qxd5 Sxd5 6.Ka4 Sec3+ 7.Kxa5 Kb2 wins.

iv) d1S 4.Qc1+ Ka2 5.Qa3+ Kb1 6.Qb3+ Kc1 7.Qxd5 Sdc3+ 8.Kxa5 Sxd5 9.c4 Sdc3 10.c5, or Sc5+ 4.Ka3 Kb1 5.Qc3 d1S 6.Qxa5, or d1R 4.Ka3 Rc5 5.Qxe4 Rc3+ 6.Ka4 Ka2 7.Kxa5 draw.

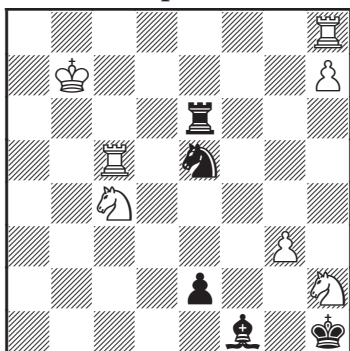
v) Sec3+ 8.Kxa5 Sxd5 9.c4.

“We see an (original) stalemate position with a pinned wPc2”.

Manvelyan-70 MT 2016

40 studies by 26 composers from 15 countries participated in the MT for the Armenian FM Aleksandr Manvelyan (1945-2015). There were two judges: Aleksey Gasparyan (main judge) and Sergey Kasparyan (judge).

No 21160 M. Minski
1st prize



b7h1 0535.21 7/5 Win

No 21160 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rf8 Bg2+ (e1Q; Rxf1+) 2.Kc8/i Sg6 (e1Q; h8Q) 3.h8Q/ii Sxh8 4.Rxh8 Bh3 (e1Q; Sf3+) 5.Rxh3 (Sf3? Re8++;) Kg2 6.Sf3 Kxf3 7.g4+/iii Kf4/iv 8.Re3/v e1Q/vi 9.Rf5+ Kxg4 10.Rfe5/vii Rc6+/viii 11.Kd7/ix Qh1/x 12.R3e4+/xi Qxe4/ (Kg3; Kxc6) 13.Rxe4+ Kf5 14.Re5+ Kf4 15.Kxc6 wins.

i) 2.Kc7? Re7+ 3.Kd8 e1Q 4.h8Q Qd1+ 5.Kxe7 Sg6+ 6.Kf6 Sxh8 7.Rxh8 Qd4+, or 2.Sf3? Sxf3 3.h8Q+ Kg1 4.Qa1+ e1Q 5.Qxe1+ Sxe1+ 6.Kb8 Rg6 draw.

ii) 3.Rh5? Kg1 4.h8Q Sxh8 5.Se5 Sg6 6.Sef3+ Kf2 7.Rf7 Re8+ 8.Kd7 Rf8 draws.

iii) 7.Se5+? Kg2, or 7.Rh1? e1Q 8.Rxe1 Rxe1 9.Rg5 Rc1 draw.

iv) Kxg4 8.Re3 e1Q 9.Rce5 see main lines. Kg2 8.Re3 e1Q 9.Rxe1 wins.

v) 8.Rf5+? Kxg4 9.Re3 Kxf5, or 8.Re5? Rxe5 9.Sxe5 e1Q 10.Sd3+ Kxg4 11.Sxe1 Kxh3 draw.

vi) Rxe3 9.Sxe3 e1Q 10.Sg2+ wins.

vii) The grip theme!

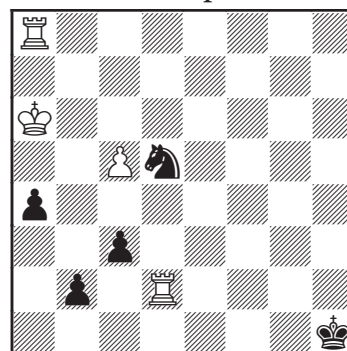
viii) Qxe3 11.Sxe3+ Kf4 12.Rxe6, or Rxe5 11.Sxe5+ Kf4 12.Rxe1, or Qb4 11.R3e4+ Kf3 12.Rxe6 win.

ix) 11.Kb7? Qb4+ 12.Kxc6 Qxc4+ draws.

x) Qxe3 12.Sxe3+ Kf4 13.Rf5+ Kxe3 14.Kxc6 wins.

xi) 12.R5e4+? Kf5 13.Kxc6 (Sd6+ Rxd6+;) Qxe4+ 14.Rxe4 Kxe4 draws.

No 21161 H. van der Heijden & Y. Afek
2nd/3rd prize



a6h1 0203.13 4/5 Win

No 21161 Harold van der Heijden & Yochanan Afek (the Netherlands). 1.Rh8+/i Kg1 2.Rg8+ Kf1/ii 3.Rf8+/iii, and:

— Ke1 4.Rxd5 b1Q 5.Re5+ Kd2 6.Rd8+ Kc2/iv 7.Re2+ Kc1 8.Re1+ Kc2 9.Rxb1 Kxb1 10.Rd1+/v Kb2/vi 11.c6 a3/vii 12.c7 c2 13.Rh1 (Re1, Rf1, Rg1) a2 14.c8R/viii a1Q+ 15.Rxa1 Kxa1 16.Rxc2 wins, or:

— Sf4/ix 4.Rxf4+ Ke1 5.Rh2/x a3 6.Rg4 Kf1 7.Rh1+ Ke2 8.Rg2+ Ke3/xi 9.Rg3+ Kd4 (Kf4; Rxc3) 10.Rd1+ Kc4 (Kxc5; Rxc3+) 11.c6 a2/xii 12.Rgg1 c2 13.c7 cxd1Q 14.c8Q+ wins.

i) 1.Rxd5? b1Q, or 1.Rd1+? Kg2 (Kh2) draws.

ii) Kh1 e.g. 3.Rxd5 b1Q 4.Rh5 mate.

iii) 3.Rxd5? b1Q 4.Rf8+ Ke2 5.Re5+ Kd3 6.Rd8+ Kc4 draws, e.g. 7.c6 Qg6.

iv) Kc1 7.Re1+ Kc2 8.Rxb1 Kxb1 9.Rd1+ see main line 10.Rd1+.

v) Thematic try: 10.Rb8+? Ka1/xiv 11.Rh8 a3 12.c6 a2 13.c7 Kb2 14.Rh1 a1Q+ (a1R+) 15.Rxa1 Kxa1 16.c8Q c2 17.Qxc2 stalemate.

vi) Kc2 e.g. 11.Rh1 a3 12.c6 a2 13.c7 Kb2 14.c8Q wins.

vii) c2 12.Rh1 a3 13.c7 see main.

viii) 14.c8Q? a1Q+ 15.Rxa1 Kxa1 16.Qxc2 stalemate.

ix) Kg1 (Sf6; Rxf6+) 4.Rxd5 b1Q 5.Rg5+ Kh1 6.Rh8+ and mate.

x) 5.Rg2? a3 6.Rh4 Kf1 7.Rc2 Kg1 8.Rg4+ Kf1 9.Rf4+ Kg1 draws.

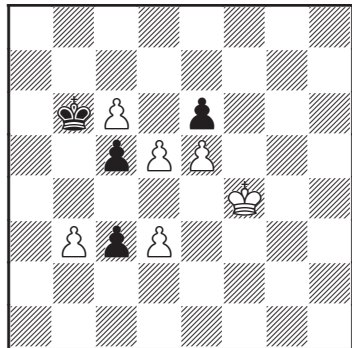
xi) Kf3 9.Rc2 a2 10.Rxc3+ Kg2 11.Rcc1 wins.

xii) c2 12.c7 cxd1Q 13.c8Q+ wins.

xiii) e.g. Kb3 15.Rg3+ Kb4 16.Qc3+ Ka4 17.Qc4 mate.

xiv) But not: Ka2? 11.Rh8 (Re8, Rf8, Rg8) a3 12.c6 Kb2 13.Rb8+ Kc1 14.Kb5 (Ra8) a2 15.Ra8 (Kb5) Kb1 16.c7 a1Q 17.Rxa1+ wins, as the wK is close enough: e.g. Kxa1 18.Kb4 c2 19.c8Q Kb1 20.Kb3 c1Q 21.Qf5+ Ka1 22.Qa5+ Kb1 23.Qa2 mate.

No 21162 O. Pervakov & K. Sumbatyan
2nd/3rd prize



f4b6 0000.53 6/4 Win

No 21162 Oleg Pervakov & Karen Sumbatyan (Russia). 1.c7/i Kb7/ii 2.Ke3/iii exd5 3.d4 cxd4+ 4.Ke2/iv Kxc7/v 5.b4 Kc6/vi 6.Kd3 zz Kb5 7.e6 Kc6 8.b5+ Kd6 9.b6 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Ke3? exd5 2.d4 cxd4+ 3.Kd3 Kc7 4.b4 Kxc6 zz 5.Kc2 d3+ 6.Kxc3 d4+ 7.Kxd3 Kd5 draws. 1.dxe6? c2 2.e7 c1Q+ 3.Kf5 Qf1+ 4.Ke6 Qh3+ and Black wins.

ii) Kxc7 2.d6+ Kc6 3.Ke3, or c2 2.c8Q c1Q+ 3.Kg4 Qg1+ 4.Kh5 Qh1+ 5.Kg6 Qxd5 6.Qb8+ Ka5 7.Qd6 Qf3/vii 8.Qxc5+ Ka6 9.b4 Qxd3+ 10.Kf7 wins.

iii) 2.c8Q+? Kxc8 3.Ke3 exd5 4.d4 cxd4+ 5.Ke2 Kd7.

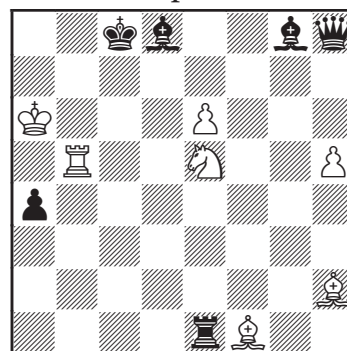
iv) 4.Kd3? Kxc7 5.b4 Kc6 zz 6.Kc2 d3+ 7.Kxc3 d4+ 8.Kxd3 Kd5 draws.

v) Kc8 5.b4 Kxc7 6.b5 wins.

vi) c2 6.Kd2 d3 7.b5 wins.

vii) Qxb3 8.Qxc5+ Ka6 9.Qc4+ Qxc4 10.dxc4 wins.

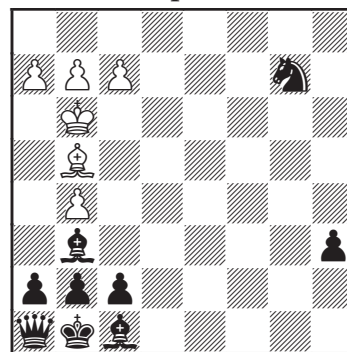
No 21163 S. Slumstrup Nielsen
4th prize



a6c8 3481.21 7/6 Win

No 21163 Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Bh3 Qf6 2.Rb8+ Kxb8 3.Sd7++ Kc8 4.Sb6+ Bxb6 5.e7+ Re6 6.e8Q+ Bd8+ 7.Qc6+ Bc7 8.Bxc7 Qf1+ 9.Ka7 Qf7 10.Ka8 Qxc7 11.Bxe6+ Bxe6 12.Qxe6+ Kd8 13.Qg8+ wins.

No 21164 M. Campioli
5th prize



b6b1 3073.44 6/9 Draw

No 21164 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.c8Q/i Be3+/ii 2.Ka6 Kc1/iii 3.Qxh3/iv b1Q 4.Qxe3+ Kb2 5.b8Q/v c1Q 6.Qbe5+/vi Ka3 7.a8Q Qxe5 8.Qxe5 Bd5/vii 9.Qexd5/viii Qc3/ix 10.Qc4/x Qxc4/xi 11.Bxc4 a1Q 12.Kb5+/xii Kb2 13.Qg2+ Qc2 14.Qxg7+ Kb1/xiii 15.Qg1+ Qc1 16.Qg6+/xiv perpetual check.

i) Try: 1.a8Q? (b8Q?) Be3+ 2.Ka6 Kc1 3.b8Q (c8Q) b1Q wins.

ii) h2 2.b8Q Be3+ 3.Ka6 h1Q 4.a8Q Qh6+ 5.Qcc6 c1Q 6.Bd3+ Bc2 7.Qb5 Qxc6+ 8.Qaxc6 draws.

iii) h2 3.a8Q h1Q 4.b8Q Qh6+ 5.Qcc6, or Bxa7 3.Kxa7 h2 (c1Q; Qh8) 4.Qh3 h1Q 5.Qxh1+ c1Q 6.Qf3 draw.

iv) Try: 3.Qc3? b1Q 4.Qxe3+ Kb2 5.b8Q c1Q 6.Qbe5+ Ka3 7.a8Q Qxe5 8.Qxe5 Bd5 9.Qexd5 Qc3 10.Qc4 Qxc4 11.Bxc4 a1Q and now because of bPh3, 12.Qg2 is not possible. Compare with main line.

v) Try: 5.a8Q? c1Q 6.Qd4+ Qc3 7.Qxc3+ Kxc3 8.b8Q Qg6+ wins.

vi) Try: 6.Qee5+? Ka3 7.a8Q Qac3 wins.

vii) Ba4 9.Bxa4 Kxa4 10.Kb6+ Kxb4 11.Qb5+ perpetual check.

viii) 9.Qaxd5? Qc8+ 10.Ka5 Sf5 wins.

ix) a1Q 10.Kb6+ Kb2 11.Qd4+/xv Qc3 12.Qg2+ Ka3 13.Qa8+ Kb3 14.Qad5+/xvi perpetual check.

x) 10.Kb6+? (Kb7+?) Kb2 11.Bd3 Qxb4+ 12.Kc6 a1Q 13.Qe5+ Qc3+ wins.

xi) Qe3 11.Bd7 a1Q 12.Kb5+ Kb2 13.Qg2+ Ka3 14.Qa8+ perpetual check.

xii) 12.Kb6+? (Kb7+?) Kxb4.

xiii) Qc3 15.Qg2+ Ka3 16.Qa8+ perpetual check.

xiv) 16.Bd3+? Ka2 17.Bc4+ Qxc4+ wins.

xv) But not: 11.Qe5+? Qc3 12.Qg2+ Ka3 13.Qa8+ Kxb4 14.Qf8+ Kb3 15.Qf7+ Se6 wins.

xvi) But not: 14.Qdd5+? Kb2 15.Qg2+ Qbc2 wins.

No 21165 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain).
1.d4/i Sxe5/ii 2.Rc3 Sg6+ 3.Kg5 Bd7 4.Rc7 Sf8 5.Kf6 Kg8 6.d5/iii Sh7+ 7.Ke7 Bg4 8.Rc4/iv Bf5 9.Rc1/v Kg7 10.Rg1+ Kh6/vi 11.Kf7 Kh5/vii 12.d6/viii Sg5+ 13.Kf6 Se4+ 14.Kxf5 Sxd6+ 15.Ke5 Sf7+ (Se8; Rg8) 16.Kf6 Sd6 17.Re1 wins/ix.

i) 1.e6? Sc5 2.e7 Bd7 3.Re3 Be8 4.d4 Sa6 5.Rb3 Sc7 6.Rb8 Bf7 draws.

ii) Sb6 2.Rc3 Bf5 3.Rc5 Be4 4.e6 Sd5 5.e7 Sf6 6.Kg5 Kg7 7.Re5 Bg6 8.Re6 Sh7+ 9.Kf4 Be8 10.Kf5 Kf7 11.Rh6 wins.

iii) 6.Rc5? Sh7+ 7.Ke7 Bg4 8.Rc3 Kg7 9.Rg3 Sf6 draws.

iv) 8.Rc1? Kg7 9.Rg1 Sf6 10.d6 Kg6 11.Rxg4+ Sxg4 12.d7 Se5 13.d8Q Sc6+ draws.

v) 9.Rf4? Bc8 10.Rf7/x Bb7 11.d6 Bc8 12.Rf1 Kg7 13.Rc1 Bf5 14.Rg1+ Kh6 15.Kf7 Sg5+ 16.Kf6 Se4+ 17.Kxf5 Sxd6+ 18.Ke5 compare with main line after move 15. Now, with bKh6, Black can play: Se8 19.Rg8 Sg7 drawing.

vi) Bg6 11.Rf1 Bd3 12.Rf7+ Kg6 13.d6 Bb5 14.Rf3 Bc6 15.Rc3 Bb5 16.Rc5 Ba4 17.Ra5 Bc6 18.Ra6 Bb5 19.Rb6 Ba4 20.d7+ wins.

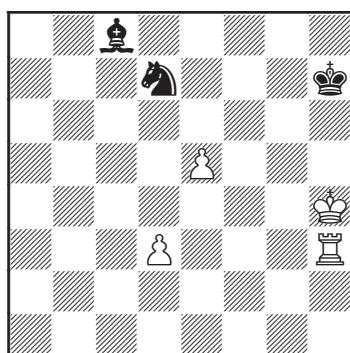
vii) Bh3 12.Rh1 Sg5+ 13.Kf6 Kh5 14.Rxh3+ wins.

viii) 12.Rg7? Kh6 13.Rg2 Be4 14.Rh2+ Kg5 15.d6 Sf6, or 12.Kg7? Sg5 13.Kf6 Bg4 14.Rh1+ Sh3 15.d6 Bd7 16.Ke7 Bg4 positional draw.

ix) e.g. Kg4 18.Ke6 Sb5 19.Re4+ Kf3 20.Rb4 Sc7+ 21.Ke5 Ke3 22.Rb7 Sa6 23.Kd6 Kd4 24.Rb6 wins.

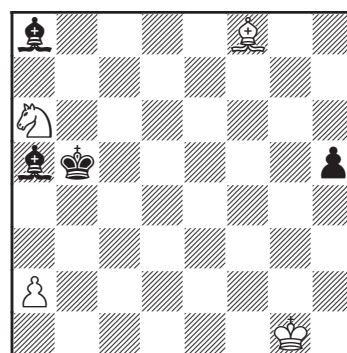
x) 10.Rc4 Bf5 11.Rc1 repeats.

No 21165 L. Gonzalez
1st honourable mention



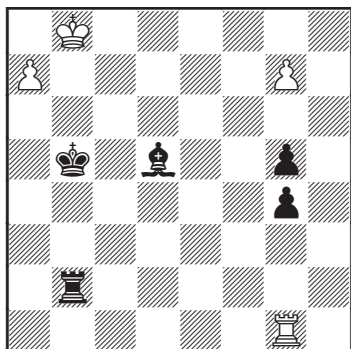
h4h7 0133.20 4/3 Win

No 21166 D. Keith & M. Minski
2nd honourable mention



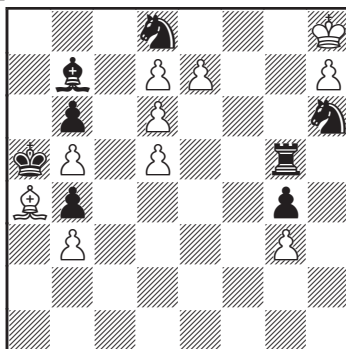
g1b5 0071.11 4/4 Draw

No 21167 M. Campioli
3rd honourable mention



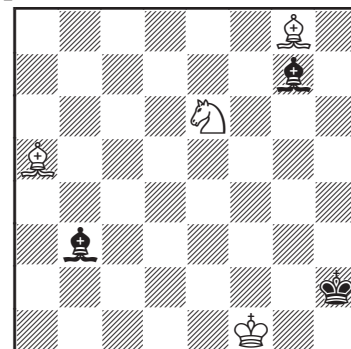
b8b5 0430.22 4/5 BTM, Draw

No 21168 M. Zinar
special honourable mention



h8a5 0346.83 10/8 Draw

No 21169 K. Sumbatyan
special honourable mention



fh2 0081.00 4/3 Win

No 21166 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sb8 Bb6+ 2.Kf1 Bc7 3.a4+ Ka5 4.Bb4+ Kxa4 5.Sa6 Bg3 6.Be1 Bd6 7.Bf2 Kb5 8.Bc5 Be5 9.Bd4 Bf4 10.Be3 Bg3 11.Bf2 Bh2 12.Bg1 Bxg1 13.Sc7+ wins.

No 21167 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...Kc6+/i 2.Kc8 (Ka8 Kc7 mate;) Ra2 3.Rc1+/ii Kd6 4.Rc7/iii g3/iv 5.Rd7+ Kc6/v 6.Rc7+ Kb6 7.Kb8 g2 8.Rc1/vi g4 (Re2; a8S+) 9.Re1/vii Kc5 10.Rd1/viii Kc4/ix 11.Rg1/x Re2 12.g8Q Bxg8 13.Rxg2/xi Re8+ (Rxg2; a8Q) 14.Kc7 (Kb7? Bd5+;) Be6 15.Kd6/xii Bf5 16.Rf2 (Re2? Ra8;) Be4 17.Rf4 draws.

i) Ka6+ 2.Kc7 Kxa7 3.Rxg4 Rb7+ 4.Kd6. Kc5+ 2.Kc8 draw.

ii) 3.Kb8? Kd7 4.Rb1 Ra5 5.Rb7+ Ke8 6.Rc7 Rb5+ 7.Kc8 Be6+ 8.Rd7 Ra5 wins. 3.Rxg4? Rxa7 4.Rxg5 Ra8 mate.

iii) 4.Kb8? Rb2+ 5.Kc8 Be6+ 6.Kd8 Ra2 7.Rd1+ Ke5 8.Re1+ Kf6 wins.

iv) Be6+ 5.Kb8 g3 6.Rc2 Rxc7 7.g8Q Bxg8 8.a8Q Rb2+ 9.Kc8 Be6+ 10.Kd8 g2 11.Qa3+ Kd5 12.Qa5+ Ke4 13.Qxg5 draws.

v) Kc5 (Ke5) 6.Rxd5+.

vi) 8.Rb7+? Kc6 9.Rc7+ Kd6 10.Rc1 Rb2+ 11.Kc8 Rc2+ 12.Rxc2 g1Q wins.

vii) Or 9.Rb1+ Kc5 10.Rd1 see main line. 9.Rd1? Re2 10.a8S+ Kc6, and now 11.Rc1+ Kd6 12.Sc7 Bg8, or here: 11.Sc7 Bc4 12.Rc1 Kd7 13.Rxc4 g1Q. 9.Rg1? Re2 10.a8S+ Kc6 11.Sc7 Bc4 12.Rc1 Kd7 13.Rd1+ Ke7 wins.

viii) 10.Rc1+? Kd6 11.g8Q Bxg8 12.a8Q Rxa8+ 13.Kxa8 g3 14.Rg1 Ke5 15.Rxg2 Bd5+ 16.Ka7 Bxg2, or 10.Rg1? Re2 11.Rc1+ Kb4 12.Rb1+ Kc3 13.Rc1+ Kb2 win.

ix) Rb2+ 11.Kc8 Be6+ 12.Kc7 Ra2 13.Kb7 Rb2+ 14.Kc7 draws.

x) 11.Re1? Kd3 12.Rg1 Re2 13.g8Q Bxg8 14.Rxg2 Re8+ 15.Kc7 Be6 16.Kd6 Bf5, or 11.Rc1+? Kd3 12.Rg1 Re2 win.

xi) 13.a8Q? Re8+ 14.Ka7 Rxa8+ 15.Kxa8 g3 16.Rxg2 Bd5+ 17.Ka7 Bxg2 wins.

xii) 15.Rf2? Kd3 16.Rf4 Ke3 17.Ra4 Ra8, or 15.Ra2? Ra8 win.

No 21168 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.exd8S Ba8 2.Sb7+/i Bxb7 3.d8S Ba8 4.d7 Rg6 5.d6/ii Rg5/iii 6.Sb7+ Bxb7 7.d8S Ba8 8.d7 Rg6 9.Sb7+ Bxb7 10.d8S Ba8/iv 11.Sb7+ Bxb7 stalemate.

i) 2.Sc6+? Bxc6 3.d8S Bxb5 4.d7 Ka6 5.d6 Rg6 6.Bxb5+ Kxb5 wins.

ii) 5.Sb7+? Bxb7 6.d8S Ba8 7.d6 Rxd6 8.Sc6+ Bxc6 9.bxc6 Rg6 10.c7 Sf7 mate, or here 8.Sf7 Sxf7+ 9.Kg7 Bd5 wins.

iii) Rxd6 6.Sc6+ Bxc6 7.bxc6 Rg6 8.d8S and White wins.

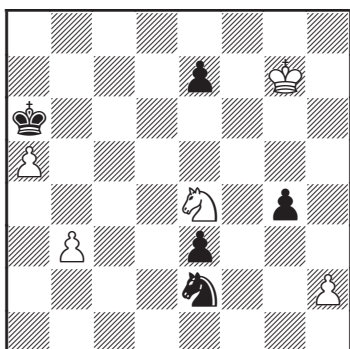
iv) Sf7+ 11.Sxf7 Bd5 12.Sd8 draws.

No 21169 Karen Sumbatyan (Russia). 1.Bc7+ Kh1/i 2.Bh7 Bc4+ 3.Kf2 Bd4+ 4.Sxd4 Bd3 5.Bg8/ii Bc4 6.Bh2 Bxg8 7.Bg1, and Bc4 8.Sf5 B- 9.Sg3 mate, or Bh7 8.Se2 B- 9.Sg3 mate.

i) Kh3 2.Sf4+ (Sg5+? Kg4;) Kg4 3.Bxb3 wins.

ii) 5.Bh2? Bxh7 6.Bg1 Bd3 draws.

No 21170 V. Tarasiuk
commendation



g7a6 0004.33 5/5 Draw

No 21170 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.b4/i Sf4 2.Sc3/ii e2 3.Sxe2 Sxe2 4.Kh6/iii g3
5.hxg3 Sxg3 6.Kg6/iv Kb5 7.Kg5 Se2/v 8.Kf5
Sd4+ 9.Ke5 Sc6+ 10.Ke6 Ka6 11.Kd7/vi Kb5/vii
12.Ke6/viii

i) 1.Kg6? Sf4+ 2.Kf5 e2, or 1.Kh6? Kxa5 2.Kg5
g3 3.hxg3 Kb4 4.g4 Kxb3 5.Kh4 Kc4 win.

ii) 2.Sg3? Sh5+ 3.Sxh5 e2 wins.

iii) Thematic try: 4.Kg6? g3 5.hxg3 Sxg3
6.Kg5 Se2 7.Kf5 Sd4+ 8.Ke5 Sc6+ 9.Ke6 Kb5
10.Kd5 (Kd7 e5;) Sxb4+ 11.Ke6 Sc6 wins.

iv) 6.Kg5? Se2 7.Kf5 Sd4+ 8.Ke5 Sc6+ 9.Ke6
Kb5 10.Kd5 Sxb4+ 11.Ke6 Sc6 wins.

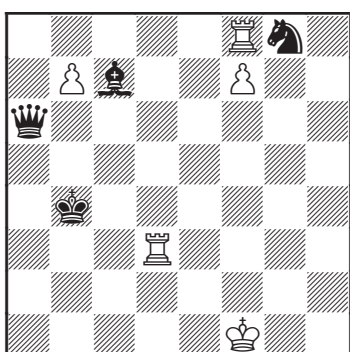
v) Se4+ 8.Kf5 Sd6+ 9.Ke5 (Ke6) draws.

vi) 11.Kd5? Sxb4+ 12.Ke6 Sc6 wins.

vii) e5 12.Kxc6 e4 13.b5+ and White wins.

viii) 12.a6? e5 13.Kd6 e4 wins.

No 21171 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
commendation



fib4 3233.20 5/4 Win

No 21171 Michal Hlinka & Lubos Kekely
(Slovakia). 1.b8Q+/i Bxb8 2.Rxb8+ Ka4/
ii 3.Rb4+/iii Kxb4 4.f8Q+ Kc4 5.Rd6 Qb5/iv
6.Rd1/v zz Kb3+/vi 7.Kf2 Qb6+ 8.Kf3/vii Qf6+/
viii 9.Qxf6 Sxf6 10.Rd6 Se8 11.Rc6 Kb4 12.Ke4
Kb5 13.Kd5 wins.

i) 1.fxg8Q? Qxd3+, or 1.Ke2? Qe6+ 2.Kd1
Qg4+ draw.

ii) Ka5 3.Ra8 Qxa8 4.Ra3+ wins.

iii) Thematic try: 3.Rb3? Qf6+ 4.Rf3 Qxf7
5.Ra3+ Kb4 6.Rxf7 Kxa3 7.Ke2 Kb4 8.Kd3 Kc5
9.Ke4 Kd6 draws. 3.fxg8Q? Qxd3+ 4.Kg2 Qe2+
perpetual check.

iv) Qa1+ 6.Kg2 Qb2+ 7.Kh3 Qh8+ 8.Kg4
wins.

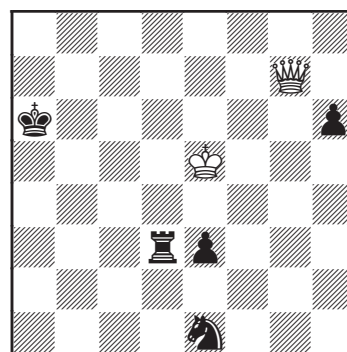
v) 6.Kf2? Qc5+ 7.Kf1 Qb5 repeats.

vi) Kc3+ 7.Kf2 Qb6+ 8.Kf3, and: Qc6+ 9.Kg3
Qc7+ 10.Kg4 Qc4+ 11.Kg5 Qb5+ 12.Qf5 Qxf5+
13.Kxf5 Se7+ 14.Kf6, or here: Qf6+ 9.Qxf6+
Sxf6 10.Rd6 Se8 11.Re6 Sg7 (Sc7; Rc6+) 12.Re5
Kd4 13.Kf4 win.

vii) Thematic try: 8.Ke2? Qe6+ 9.Kf2 Qf6+
10.Qxf6 Sxf6 draws.

viii) Qc6+ 9.Kf4 Qc7+ 10.Kg4 Qc4+ 11.Kg5
Qb5+ 12.Kg6 Qc6+ 13.Rd6 Qe4+ 14.Kg7 Se7
15.Qb8+ Kc3 16.Qc7+ wins.

No 21172 P. Arestov & M. Garcia
commendation



e5a6 1303.02 2/5 Win

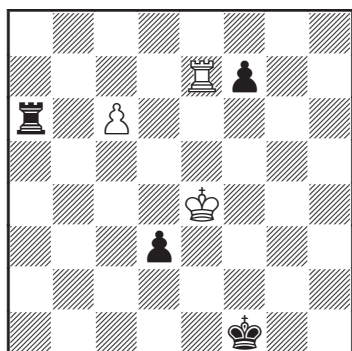
No 21172 Pavel Arestov (Russia) & Mario
Garcia (Argentina). 1.Qf6+/i Ka5 2.Qf1/ii Rd1
3.Qe2 Rc1/iii 4.Qa2+/iv, and:

— Kb6 5.Qb2+ Ka5 6.Kd6/v Rd1+ 7.Ke7 wins,
or:

— Kb5 5.Qb2+ Ka4 6.Ke4 (Qxc1? Sd3+;) Rc7/
vi 7.Qe2/vii Re7+/viii 8.Kd5/ix Sd3 9.Kc4
(Qxd3? Rd7+;) Se5+ (Rd7; Qa2 mate) 10.Kc5
Sd3+/x 11.Qxd3/xi e2 12.Qb1/xii Ka3 (e1Q;
Qa2 mate) 13.Kc4 e1Q (Rc7+; Kd3) 14.Qb3
mate.

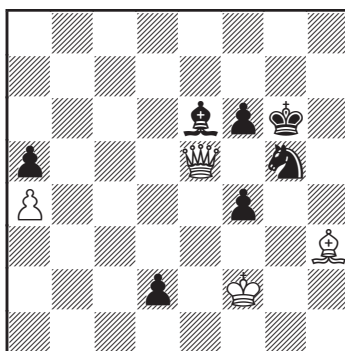
i) Try: 1.Ke4? Kb5 2.Qb2+ Kc6 3.Qc1+ Kd7
4.Qxe1 Rd6 5.Kf5 Re6, and: 6.Qb4 Re8 7.Qb7+

No 21173 P. Arestov
commendation



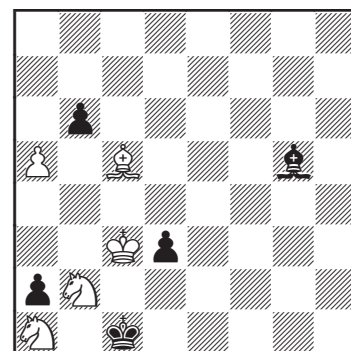
e4f1 0400.12 3/4 Win

No 21174 V. Lebedev
& M. Zaitsev
commendation



f2g6 1043.14 4/7 Draw

No 21175 S. Chidemyan
commendation



c3c1 0042.13 5/5 BTM, Win

Kd8, or here: 6.Qd1+ Ke7 7.Qd5 Rf6+. 1.Kf4? Rd1 2.Qxh6+ Kb7 draws.

ii) 2.Ke4? Rd1 3.Qb2 Rd7 4.Qc3+ Kb5 5.Qxe1 Re7+ draws.

iii) Sd3+ 4.Kf5 Sf2 5.Qxe3 wins.

iv) 4.Qxe3? Kb4 5.Qxc1 Sd3+ draws.

v) 6.Kd5? e2 7.Qxc1 Sd3, or 6.Ke4? Rc7 7.Qe5+ Kb6 draw.

vi) Rc2 7.Qa1+, or Rc4+ 7.Kd5 win.

vii) 7.Qa1+? Kb5 8.Qxe1 Re7+ draw.

viii) Kb3 8.Qxe1 e2 9.Qb1+ wins.

ix) 8.Kd4? Rd7+ 9.Kc5 Sd3+, or 8.Kf4? Sg2+ 9.Qxg2 e2 10.Qc6+ Kb3, or 8.Kf5? Sf3 9.Qc4+ Ka5 (Ka3) 10.Qc5+ Ka4 11.Qxe7 e2 12.Qxe2 Sd4+ draw.

x) Rc7+ (Sd7+) 11.Kd6, or Kb3 11.Qxe3+ win.

xi) 11.Kd6? Re6+ 12.Kd7 Sc5+ draws.

xii) 12.Qc2+? Ka3 13.Qc3+ Ka2 draws.

No 21173 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.c7 Rc6/i 2.Ke3/ii f6 (f5; Kxd3) 3.Kd2/iii f5 4.Kxd3 zz f4/ iv 5.Ke4 Rc4+ 6.Kf3/v Kg1 7.Rh7 Rc3+ 8.Kxf4 wins.

i) d2 2.c8Q d1Q 3.Qxa6+ wins. f5+ 2.Ke3 Rc6 3.Kxd3 see main line.

ii) Try: 2.Kxd3? f5 zz 3.Kd4 Kg2 4.Ke5 Rc5+ 5.Kd6 Rxc7 6.Rxc7 f4 7.Ke5 f3 8.Kf4 f2 draws.

iii) Try: 3.Kxd3? f5 zz, see note ii).

iv) Kg1 5.Re1+ Kf2 6.Re2+ Kf3 7.Rc2, or Rc1 5.Kd2 Rc6 6.Re1+ Kf2 7.Rc1, or Rc5 5.Kd4 Rc1 6.Ke5 Rc5+ 7.Kd6 Rxc7 8.Rxc7 (Kxc7) win.

v) 6.Kd3? Rc6 7.Ke4 Rc4+, or 6.Kd5? Rc2 7.Ke4 Rc4+ repeat.

No 21174 Vasily Lebedev (Russia) & Mihail Zaitsev (Germany). 1.Qe2/i Sxh3+/ii 2.Kg2/iii f3+ 3.Qxf3 (Kxf3 Sg1+;) Bd5 4.Kf1 (Qxd5? Sf4+;) Bc4+/iv 5.Kg2 Sf4+/v 6.Qxf4 Bd5+ (d1Q; Qxc4) 7.Kh2 d1Q 8.Qg4+ Qxg4 stalemate.

i) 1.Bf5+? Bxf5 2.Qe8+ (Qd5 Bg4;) Kg7 3.Qe7+ Kh6 4.Qxf6+ Kh5 wins, e.g. 5.Qd8 Bc2 6.Qe8+ Kg4 7.Qc8+ Bf5 8.Qd8 Se4+ 9.Kg2 f3+ 10.Kh2 f2 11.Kg2 Be6 12.Qd3 Kf4 13.Qf3+ Ke5 14.Qe2 Bc4 15.Qh5+ Kd4 16.Kh2 f1R (f1Q?; Qd5+) wins. 1.Qd4? (Qd6? Se4+;) Bxh3 2.Qxd2 Se4+.

ii) Bxh3 2.Qe8+ Kh6 3.Qh8+ Kg6 4.Qe8+ Kf5 5.Qd7+ Ke5 6.Qb5+ Kd4 7.Qb2+ Kd3 8.Qb3+ Ke4 9.Qc4+ Kf5 10.Qc8+ Kg6 11.Qe8+ wins.

iii) 2.Kf1? Bc4, or 2.Kf3? Sg1+.

iv) Bxf3 stalemate. Sf2 5.Qg3+ Kh5 6.Qh2+ Kg6 7.Qg3+ Kf7 8.Qc7+ draws, e.g. Ke8 9.Qc8+ Ke7 10.Qc7+ Ke6 11.Qc8+ Kd6 12.Qb8+ Kc6 13.Qb5+.

v) Bd5 6.Kf1, or Be2 6.Qe4+/ Kg7 7.Qe7+ Kg6 8.Qe4+ draws.

No 21175 Sergey Chidemyan (Armenia). 1... Bf6+ 2.Kxd3 bxa5/i 3.Sc4 Bxa1 4.Ba3+ Bb2/ii 5.Bxb2+ Kb1 6.Ba1 a4 7.Sd2+/iii Kxa1 8.Kc2 a3 9.Sb3 mate.

i) Bxb2 3.Sb3+ Kb1 4.axb6 Be5 5.Bd4 wins.

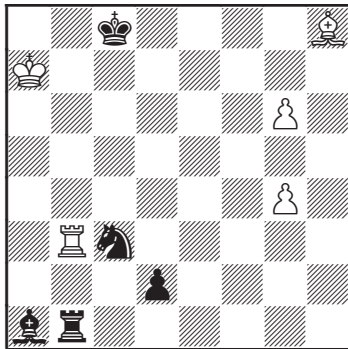
ii) Kb1 5.Sd2 mate. Kd1 5.Se3+ Ke1 6.Sc2+ wins.

iii) 7.Sa5? a3 8.B- a1Q 9.Bxa1 a2 10.Sb3 stalemate.

Kirillov-65 JT 2016

43 studies by 28 composers from 14 countries participated and Sergey Osintsev (Russia) judged the tourney.

No 21176 P. Arestov & N. Ryabinin
1st prize



a7c8 0443.21 5/5 Draw

No 21176 Pavel Arestov & Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia). 1.g7 Sb5+ 2.Kb6/i Bd4+ 3.Ka5/ii Ra1+/iii 4.Kxb5 Bxg7 5.Rd3 Rb1+/iv 6.Kc6/v Bh6 7.g5/vi Rc1+ 8.Kb6 Bxg5 9.Bf6 Rb1+ 10.Kc6 Rc1+ 11.Kb6 Be3+ 12.Rxe3 Rb1+ 13.Kc6 Rc1+ 14.Kb6 d1Q 15.Re8+ Kd7 16.Rd8+ Ke6 17.Rxd1 draws.

i) 2.Rxb5? Bd4+ 3.Ka6 Ra1+, or 2.Ka6? Sc7+ 3.Ka5 Bc3+ 4.Rxc3 Rb5+ 5.Ka4 d1Q+ win.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Kc6? Rc1+ 4.Kxb5 Bxg7 5.Rd3 Bh6 6.Bg7 Bg5 7.Bf6 d1Q 8.Rxd1 Rxd1 9.Bxg5 Rd5+ and wins the wB on the 5th line.

iii) Bxg7 4.Rxb1 Sc3 5.Rh1 draws.

iv) Now, thanks to 3.Ka5, the move 5...Bh6 is not possible because of 6.Bxa1.

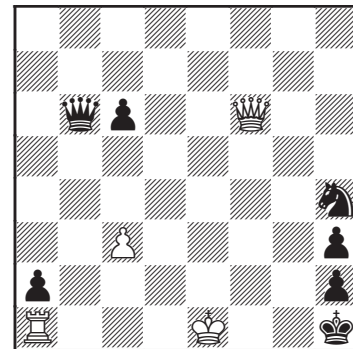
v) 6.Kc4? Rc1+, and: 7.Kb3/vii Bh6 8.g5 Bxg5 9.Bf6 Be3 10.Bd4 d1Q+ 11.Rxd1 Rxd1 12.Bxe3 Rd3+ now wins the wB on the 3rd line, or here: 7.Kb5 Bh6 8.Bg7 Bg5 9.Bf6 d1Q 10.Rxd1 Rxd1 11.Bxg5 Rd5+ and wins the wB on 5th line. If 6.Ka4? Bh6 7.g5 Bxg5 8.Bf6 Bf4 9.Be5 d1Q+ 10.Rxd1 Rxd1 11.Bxf4 and wins the wB on the 4th line. And 6.Ka6? Bh6 7.g5 Bxg5 8.Bf6 Bh6 9.Bg7 d1Q 10.Rxd1 Rxd1 11.Bxh6 Rd6+ wins the wB on 6th line.

vi) 7.Bg7? Rc1+, and: 8.Kb5 Bg5 9.Bf6 d1Q 10.Rxd1 Rxd1 11.Bxg5 Rd5+, or here:

8.Kb6 d1Q 9.Rxd1 Rxd1 10.Bxh6 Rd6+ wins.

“This rook-bishop construction is sufficiently new, the basis being Maksimovskikh & Dolgov 1987 and a study by Bron, including a change of colour. The judge does not doubt the study’s originality”.

No 21177 L. Gonzalez
2nd prize



e1h1 4103.14 4/7 Win

No 21177 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain). 1.Ke2+/i Qg1/ii 2.c4 Sg2 3.Kd2/iii Se3/iv 4.Qx-c6+/v Sg2 5.Qf6 Sf4/vi 6.c5 Qb1 7.Qg7 Sd5 8.Ke2 Sf4+ 9.Ke3/vii Sg2+ 10.Kf2/viii Qg1+ 11.Ke2 Sf4+ 12.Kf3/ix Sd5 13.Qe5/x Se3 14.Kf4 Sg2+ 15.Kg5 (Kg4) Se1+ 16.Kh5/xi wins/xii.

i) 1.O-O-O? Qg1/xiii 2.Qxc6+ Sg2 3.Qa4 Se3 4.Qa8+ Sg2 5.Qxa2 Qxd1+ 6.Kxd1 Kg1 7.Qa7+ Kf1 8.Qf7+ Kg1 draws.

ii) Qb1 2.Qf1+ Qxf1+ 3.Kxf1 Sf3 4.Kf2+ Sg1 5.Rxa2 wins.

iii) 3.Rf1? a1Q 4.Rxa1 Sf4+, and now: 5.Kf3 Sd3 6.Qc3 c5, or here: 5.Kd2 Qxa1 6.Qxa1+ Kg2 7.Qg7+ Kf1 draws.

iv) c5 4.Qh8 Qb1 5.Qb2 Kg1 6.Rxb1+ axb1Q 7.Qxb1+ wins.

v) 4.c5? Qxa1 5.Qxa1+ Kg2 6.Qg7+ Kf3 draws.

vi) Se3 6.Ke2 Sg2 7.Rf1 wins.

vii) 9.Kf2? Sd3+ 10.Kg3 Qg1+ 11.Kh4 Qxa1 12.Qxa1+ Kg2 13.Qxa2+ Sf2 14.Qa8+ Kf1 draws.

viii) 10.Kf3? Se1+ 11.Kf2 e.g. Qb2+ 12.Qb2 stalemate.

ix) 12.Kd2? Sd5 13.Rc1 Se3 14.Qb7+ Sg2 15.Qa7 Qxc1+ 16.Kxc1 Kg1 17.c6+ Se3 18.Qxe3+ Kg2 draws.

x) 13.c6? Se3 14.c7 Sf1 15.Qe5 Qe3+ 16.Qxe3 stalemate. If 13.Qd4? Se3 14.Kf4 Sg2+ 15.Kg5 Se1+ 16.Kh5 Qxd4 and Black wins.

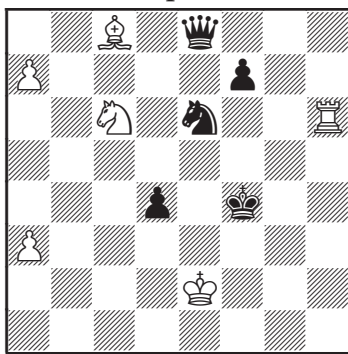
xi) 16.Kh6? Sf3 17.Qc3 Qxa1 18.Qxa1+ Kg2 19.Qxa2+ Kg1 draws.

xii) e.g. Sf3 17.Qc3 Qxa1 18.Qxa1+ Kg2 19.Qxa2+.

xiii) Kg2? 2.Qg5+ Kf3 3.Qh5+ Kg3 4.Rd3+ Kg2 5.Qg4+ Kh1 6.Rd1+ Qg1 7.Kb2 wins.

“It is extremely exciting and interesting trying to understand the causes and consequences of what is happening on the board in this mysterious study!”

No 21178 A. Zhukov
3rd prize



e2f4 3114.22 6/5 Win

No 21178 Aleksandr Zhukov (Russia). 1.a8Q/i Sc7+ 2.Re6 fxe6/ii 3.Qb7 Qh5+ 4.Kd2 Qh2+/iii 5.Kc1 Qg1+ 6.Kb2 (Kc2? d3+;) Qg2+/iv 7.Kb3 Qd5+ 8.Ka4 Qc4+ 9.Sb4 Sd5 10.Qx-d5/v exd5 11.Ba6 Qxa6+/vi 12.Sxa6 d3 13.Sb4/vii Ke3 14.Kb3 (Sxd5+? Kd4;) d4 15.Sc6/viii d2 16.Kc2 d1Q+ 17.Kxd1 Kd3 18.Sb4+ Kc3 (Kc4; Kc2) 19.Sc2 Kb3 (d3; Sa1) 20.Kd2 (Kc1? d3;) Kc4 21.Sa1/ix d3 22.Kc1 Kb5/x 23.Sb3/xi Ka4 (d2+; Sxd2) 24.Kb2 wins.

i) 1.Rxe6? Qxc8 2.Rd6 Qa6+ 3.Kd2 Kg3 4.Rd8 Qxc6 draws.

ii) Sxe6 3.Kd1 Qh8 4.Qb8+ Ke4 5.Qb1+ wins.

iii) Sb5 5.Qb8+ Ke4 6.Qg3 wins.

iv) Qf2+ 7.Kb3 Qf3+ 8.Ka4 Qd1+ 9.Qb3 Qxb3+ 10.Kxb3 d3 11.a4 wins.

v) 10.Qf7+? Kg3 11.Qg7+ Kf2 12.Bd7 Sb6+ 13.Ka5 Sxd7 14.Qxd7 Ke2 draws.

vi) Domination! Qc7 (Qc3) 12.Sxd5+, Qc5 (Qc1) 12.Sd3+ wins.

vii) 13.Sc5? Ke3 draws, or 13.Kb3? Kf3 and Black wins.

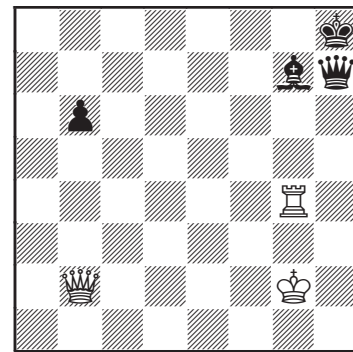
viii) Logical try: 15.Sd5+? Kf2 16.Sf4 Ke3 17.Se6 d2 18.Kc2 d1Q+ 19.Kxd1 Kd3 draws.

ix) 21.Kd1? (a4?) d3 draws.

x) Kc3 23.Kd1 Kc4 24.Kd2 wins.

xi) 23.Kb2? d2 24.Kc2 Ka4 draws.

No 21179 R. Becker
4th prize



g2h8 4130.01 3/4 Win

No 21179 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qf2/i b5/ii 2.Qa2 Qh6 (Qh5; Rg3) 3.Qa8+ Kh7 (Bf8; Qd5) 4.Qe4+ Kg8 5.Qd5+ Kh7 6.Qd3+ Kg8 7.Qd8+ Kf7 8.Qd5+ Kf8 9.Rg3, and:

— Ke7 10.Qb7+ Kf8 11.Qd7 Bf6 12.Qd6+ Kf7 13.Qd5+ Ke7 14.Qb7+ Kf8 15.Qa8+ Kf7 16.Qa2+ Ke7 17.Qa3+ Kf7 18.Qb3+ Kf8 19.Rg8+ Ke7 20.Qa3+ Ke6 21.Qa2+ Kd6 22.Qa6 wins, or:

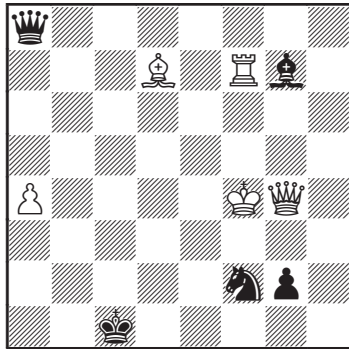
— Qb6 10.Rg5/iii b4 11.Rg3 zz b3 12.Rxb3 Qg6+ 13.Kf1 Qf7+ 14.Rf3 Bf6 15.Qf5 Kg7 16.Rf4 zz Qe7 17.Rg4+ Kf8 18.Rg6 Kf7 19.Rg2 Kf8/iv 20.Qg4 Qc5/v 21.Qg8+ Ke7 22.Re2+ Be5 23.Qg7+ (Qg5+) Ke6 24.Qg6+ Ke7 25.Qf5 Qc1+ 26.Kf2 Qc5+ 27.Re3 Kd6 28.Qf8+ wins.

i) 1.Qa2? Qh6 2.Qa8+ Kh7 3.Qe4+ Kg8 4.Qd5+ Kf8 5.Rg3 Ke7 (Ke8) draws.

ii) Qd3 2.Rh4+ Kg8 3.Qa2+ Kf8 4.Rf4+, or Qb1 2.Qh4+ Kg8 3.Qd8+ Kh7 4.Rh4+ Kg6 5.Qe8+ Kf6 6.Rf4+ Kg5 7.Qe3 win.

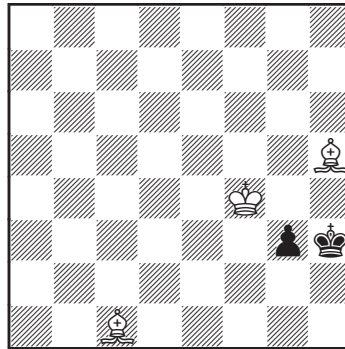
iii) 10.Qa8+? Kf7 11.Qa2+ Kf8 12.Qd5 b4 zz.

No 21180 P. Arestov
5th prize



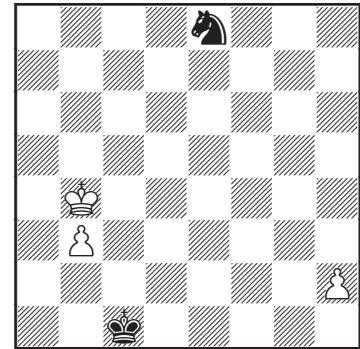
f4c1 4143.11 5/5 Draw

No 21181 V. Kalashnikov
special prize



f4h3 0020.01 3/2 Win

No 21182 V. Tarasiuk
special prize



b4c1 0003.20 3/2 Win

iv) Qd6 20.Qh7+ Ke6 21.Re2+ Be5 22.Qg6+ Ke7 23.Qf5 pin on the e-file, wins.

v) Qf7 21.Rf2 Ke7 22.Qb4+ Ke8 23.Qb8+ Kd7 24.Qb5+ Ke7 25.Qc5+ Ke8 26.Re2+ Be7+ 27.Ke1 Qg7 28.Qc8+ (Qc6+) Kf7 29.Rf2+ Bf6 30.Qd7+ Kf8 31.Qe6 pin on the f-file Qg1+ 32.Ke2 wins. If Bg7 21.Qc8+ Kf7 22.Re2 Qd6 23.Qe8+ Kf6 24.Rf2+ Kg5 25.Qe3+ Kg6 26.Qe4+ Kh6 27.Qh4+ Kg6 28.Rg2+ Kf7 29.Qc4+ Kf8 30.Qc8+ Kf7 31.Qb7+ wins.

“After lengthy manoeuvres White manages to crack the black defence. The actions of the stronger side are clear, but the study is still difficult to understand”.

No 21180 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Qg5 Bh6/i 2.Qxh6 g1Q 3.Ke5+ (Kf5+? Kc2;) Kc2 4.Bf5+ Sd3+ 5.Bxd3+ Kb3 6.Bc4+ Kxa4/ii 7.Bb3+ Kxb3/iii 8.Rf3+, and:

— Qxf3 9.Qb6+ Qxb6 stalemate, or:

— Kc2 9.Rf2+ Qxf2 10.Qc6+ Qxc6 stalemate.

i) Qe4+ 2.Kg3+ Kb1 3.Kh2 Be5+ 4.Kg1 Sh3+ 5.Bxh3 Bd4+ 6.Rf2 Qe1+ 7.Kxg2 Qxf2+ 8.Kh1 draws.

ii) Kc2 7.Bd3+ Kb3 8.Bc4+ positional draw.

iii) Kb5 8.Rf5 Qe1+ 9.Kf4+ (Kf6+), or Ka3 8.Qd6+ Kb2 9.Qd2+ Kxb3 10.Qd3+ draws.

No 21181 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Bg4+/i Kh2 2.Ke4 g2 3.Bf4+ Kh1 4.Bf3 Kg1 5.Ke3 Kf1 6.Be2+ Ke1/ii 7.Bg3/iii mate.

i) 1.Kf3? g2 2.Kf2 Kh2 3.Bf4+ Kh1 4.Bf3 stalemate. 1.Be3? Kh2 2.Ke4 g2 3.Bf4+ Kh3 4.Be3 Kh2 5.Bf4+ Kh3 positional draw.

ii) Kg1 7.Bd3 Kh1 8.Be4 Kg1 9.Kf3 wins.

iii) 7.Bh2? g1Q+ 8.Bxg1 stalemate.

No 21182 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Kc3/i Kd1 2.Kd3 Ke1 3.Ke3 Kd1/ii 4.b4/iii Kc2 5.Kd4 Kb3 6.Kc5/iv Sc7 7.b5/v Sxb5 8.Kxb5 Kc3 9.Kc5 Kd3 10.Kd5 Ke3 11.Ke5 Kf3 12.Kf5 Kg2 13.h4 wins.

i) 1.Kc5? Kd2 2.b4 Ke3 3.b5 Sc7 4.b6 Sa6+ 5.Kb5 Sb8, or here: 2.h4 Kd3 3.b4 Ke4 draw.

ii) Kf1 4.h4 Kg2 5.Kf4 wins.

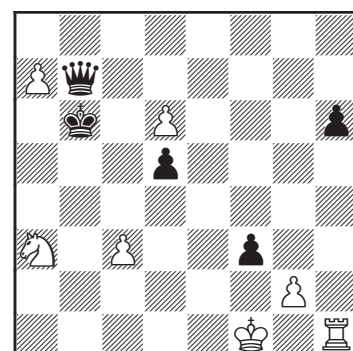
iii) 4.Kd4? Ke2 5.b4 Kf3 draws.

iv) Logical try: 6.b5? Kb4 7.b6 Sd6 8.Kd5 Sb7 9.Kc6 Sa5+ 10.Kd6 Sc4+ 11.Kc7 Sxb6 12.Kxb6 Kc4 13.Kc6 Kd4 14.Kd6 Ke4 15.Ke6 Kf4 16.Kf6 Kg4 draws, or here: 11.Ke6 Sxb6 12.h4 Sa4 13.h5 Sc5+ 14.Kf5 Sd7 15.h6 Sf8 draws.

v) 7.h4? Sa6+ 8.Kd6 Kxb4 (Sxb4?; h5) 9.h5 Sc5 10.h6 Se4+ 11.Ke5 Sg5 12.Kf6 Sh7+ draws.

“We see an echo-chameleon and logical play!”

No 21183 A. Zhukov
honourable mention



fib6 3101.43 7/5 Win

No 21183 Aleksandr Zhukov (Russia). 1.d7 fxc2+ 2.Kxg2 d4+/i 3.Kf2/ii Qd5 4.Rxh6+ Kxa7 5.Sb5+ Kb7/iii 6.Sd6+ (Rd6? Qf5+;) Kc7 7.d8Q+/iv Kxd8 8.c4 Qg8 9.Rh8 Qxh8 10.Sf7+ Kd7 11.Sxh8 Kc6 12.Ke2/v Kc5 13.Kd3 wins.

i) Qa8 3.Rxh6+ Kc7 4.Rh7 wins.

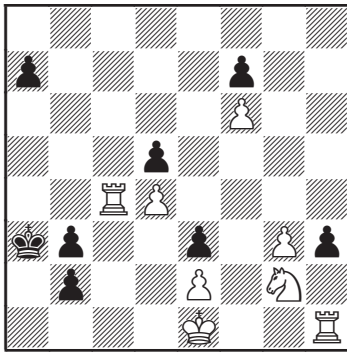
ii) Thematic try: 3.Kg1? Qd5 4.Rxh6+ Kxa7 5.Sb5+ (Rd6 Qg5+;) Kb7 6.Sd6+? Kc7 7.d8Q+ Kxd8 and Black wins.

iii) Qxb5 6.d8Q Qf5+ 7.Kg3 wins.

iv) 7.Se8+? Kd8 (Kb8) draws.

v) 12.Sf7? (Sg6?) Kc5 13.Se5 d3 14.Ke3 d2 15.Kxd2 Kd4 draws.

No 21184 M. Campioli
honourable mention



e1a3 0201.47 8/8 Win

No 21184 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Ra4+/i Kxa4 2.O-O hxg2 3.Kxg2 Ka3 4.g4 Ka2 5.g5 b1Q 6.Rxb1 Kxb1 7.g6 b2 8.gxf7/ii Ka2 9.f8Q b1Q 10.Qg8/iii Qe4+ 11.Kg3 Qf5 12.f7 Qf2+ 13.Kh3 Qf1+ 14.Kh4 Qf4+ 15.Kh5 Qf5+ 16.Kh6 Qf4+ 17.Kg6 Qg4+ 18.Kf6 Qxd4+ 19.Kg5 Qe5+ 20.Kg4 Qe6+ 21.Kg3 Qe5+ 22.Kg2 Qe4+ 23.Kg1 Qb1+ 24.Kh2 wins.

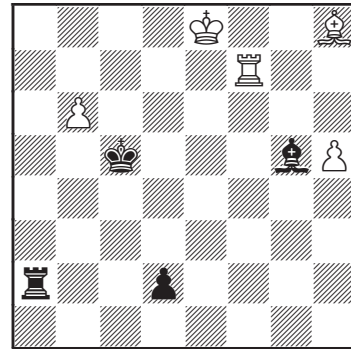
i) 1.O-O? dxc4 2.Sxe3 c3 3.Sc4+ Ka2 4.Sxb2 cxb2 5.d5 b1Q 6.Rxb1 Kxb1 7.d6 b2 8.d7 Ka2 9.d8Q b1Q+ 10.Kh2 Qf1 draws.

ii) 8.g7? Ka2 9.g8Q b1Q 10.Qxf7 Qf5 draws.

iii) 10.Qe8? Qf5 11.f7 Qg4+, or 10.Qg7? Qe1 draw.

No 21185 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.b7 Bf4/i 2.Rxf4 d1Q 3.Bd4+ (b8Q? Qxh5;) Kd5/ii 4.b8Q Qxh5+ 5.Kd8/iii Qg5+ 6.Kd7 Ra7+ 7.Bxa7 (Qxa7? Qxf4;) Qxf4/iv 8.Qb5+/v Ke4 9.Qe2+ Kf5 10.Qe6+ Kg5 11.Be3 wins.

No 21185 D. Keith & M. Minski
honourable mention



e8c5 0440.21 5/4 Win

i) d1Q 2.Rc7+ Kd5 3.Rd7+ Kc6 4.b8S+ Kb6 5.Rxd1 wins.

ii) Kc6 4.b8Q Qxh5+ 5.Rf7 Re2+ 6.Kf8 Qh6+ 7.Kg8 Qg6+ 8.Bg7 wins.

iii) 5.Kd7? Qh7+ 6.Kd8 Qg8+ draws.

iv) Qg4+ 8.Ke7/vi Qe6+ 9.Kf8/vii Qg7+ 8.Ke8/viii Qd7+ 9.Kf8 wins.

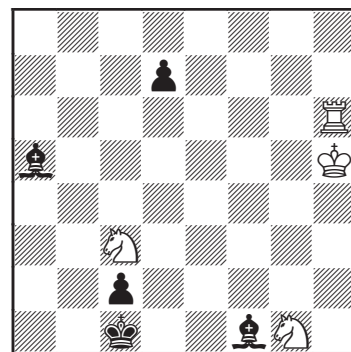
v) 8.Qxf4? stalemate. 8.Qg8+? Ke4 9.Qc4+ Kf3, or 8.Qb7+? Kc4 draw.

vi) But not 8.Rxg4? stalemate.

vii) But not 9.Kd8? Qd7+ 10.Kxd7 stalemate.

viii) But not 8.Kd8? Qd7+ 9.Kxd7 stalemate.

No 21186 L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
honourable mention



h5c1 0162.02 4/5 Draw

No 21186 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.Rf6/i Bc4 2.Sce2+/ii Bxe2+ 3.Sxe2+ Kd1 4.Rf2 Be1 5.Rh2/iii d5 6.Kg4 d4 7.Sxd4 c1Q 8.Sc2 Qb1 (Qb2; Se3+) 9.Se3+ Kc1 10.Rc2+ Qxc2 11.Sxc2 draws.

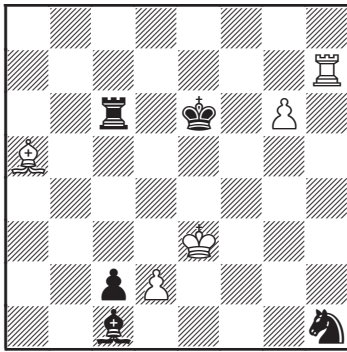
i) 1.Sce2+? Bxe2+ 2.Sxe2+ Kd1 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 2.Rf4? d5 3.Sce2+ Bxe2+ 4.Sxe2+ Kd1 5.Rf2 Be1 6.Rg2 d4 7.Sxd4 c1Q

8.Sc2 Qf4 wins. 2.Sge2+? Kd2 3.Rd6+ Ke3 4.Sc1 Bxc3 5.Rxd7 Bd2 6.Rc7 Kd4 7.Sa2 Bb3 8.Rd7+ Ke3 9.Rc7 Kd3 10.Rd7+ Ke2 11.Rc7 Be3 12.Kg6 Kd1 wins.

iii) Thematic try: 5.Rg2? d5 6.Kg4 d4 7.Sxd4 c1Q 8.Sc2 Qh6 wins.

No 21187 M. Croitor
honourable mention



e3e6 o443.21 5/5 Draw

No 21187 Mikhail Croitor (Moldova). 1.Rh6/i Rc5 2.g7+/ii Kf7 3.Rh8 Kxg7 4.Rxh1 Ba3/iii 5.Bc3+ Kf7 6.Kd3 c1Q 7.Rxc1 Bxc1 8.Kc2 Ba3 9.Kb3 Bc1 10.Kc2 positional draw.

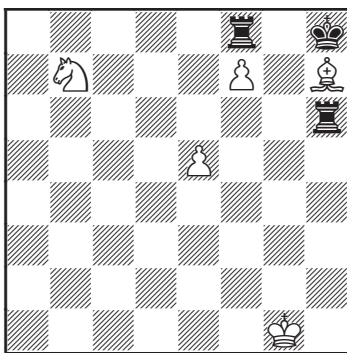
i) Thematic try: 1.g7? Kf7 2.Rh8 Kxg7 3.Rxh1 Ba3 4.Bc3+ Kf7 5.Kd3 c1Q 6.Rxc1 Bxc1 7.Kc2 Ba3 8.Kb3 Be7 wins. 1.Rxh1? Bb2 (Ba3).

ii) 2.Rxh1? Bb2 3.Bc3 c1Q 4.Rxc1 Bxc1 wins.

iii) Bb2 5.Bc3+ Bxc3 6.dxc3 Rxc3+ 7.Kd2 draws.

“This is a pleasant logical study”.

No 21188 M. Minski
honourable mention



g1h8 o611.20 5/3 Draw

No 21188 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Bg8 Rc6/i 2.Sd6 Rc2 3.Se8 Re2 4.Kh1/ii Rxe5 5.Kh2/iii Re3/iv 6.Kg2 zz Rc3 7.Kf2 Rc6 8.Ke3 Rxc8

9.fxg8Q+ Kxg8 10.Kd4 Kf7 11.Kd5 Rc1 12.Sd6+ draws.

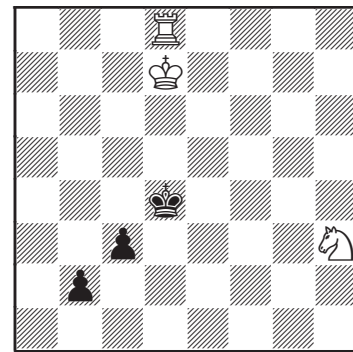
i) Rg6+ 2.Kh2, but not 2.Kf2? Rxc8.

ii) Thematic try: 4.Kf1? Rxe5 5.Kg2 (Kf2 Rxe8;) Re3 zz 6.Kh2 Rc3 7.Kg2 Rc6 8.Kf3 Rxc8 9.fxg8Q+ Kxg8 10.Ke4 Re6+ 11.Kf5 Rxe8 wins.

iii) 5.Kg2? Re3 zz.

iv) Re6 6.Kg3 Rc6 7.Kf4 Rxc8 8.fxg8Q+ Kxg8 9.Ke5 draws.

No 21189 S. Slumstrup Nielsen
honourable mention



d7d4 o101.02 3/3 Draw

No 21189 Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Ke7+/i Ke3 2.Rb8 c2 3.Rb3+ Kd4 4.Rxb2 c1Q 5.Rb4+ Kc5/ii 6.Sf4 Qe1+/iii 7.Kf7 Qe3/iv 8.Kf6 Qc3+ (Kxb4; Sd5+) 9.Kf5 Qc2+/v 10.Re4 draws.

i) 1.Ke6+? Ke3 2.Rb8 c2 3.Rb3+ Kd4 4.Rxb2 c1Q 5.Rb4+ Kc5 6.Sf4 Qc2 7.Rb2 Qe4+ and 8.Se6+ is not possible – see note iii). 1.Rb8? c2 2.Rxb2 c1Q wins.

ii) Ke3 6.Sf4 Qc5+ 7.Ke6 Qxb4 8.Sd5+, or Kc3 6.Sf4 Kxb4 7.Sd3+ Kc3 8.Sxc1, or here Qe1+ (Qe3+) 7.Kd6 Kxb4 8.Sd3+ (Sd5+), or Qc2 7.Rb8 (Rb2).

iii) Qc2 7.Rb2 (Rb8) Qe4+ 8.Se6+.

iv) Kxb4 (Qxb4) 8.Sd3+ draws.

v) Qxb4 10.Sd3+, or Kxb4 10.Sd5+ draws.

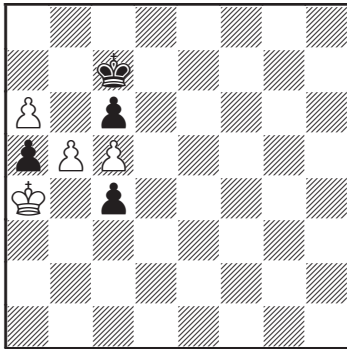
No 21190 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.b6+, and:

— Kc8 2.Ka3/i Kb8 3.b7/ii Kc7 4.Ka4 Kb8 5.Kxa5 c3 6.Kb6 c2 7.a7 mate, or:

— Kb8 2.Ka3/iii Ka8 3.a7/iv Kb7 4.Ka4 Ka8 5.Kxa5 c3 6.Ka6 c2 7.b7 mate.

i) 2.a7? Kb7 zz, or 2.b7+? Kc7 zz.

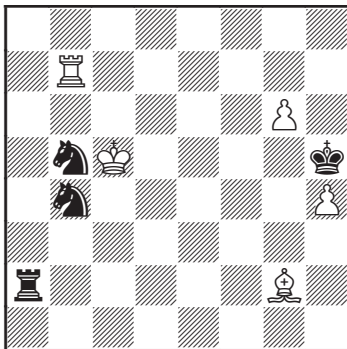
No 21190 M. Zinar
commendation



a4c6 0000.33 4/4 Win

- ii) 3.a7+? Ka8 zz.
- iii) 2.a7+? Kb7 zz, or 2.b7? Ka7 (Kc7) zz.
- iv) 3.b7+? Kb8 zz.

No 21191 R. Ott & M. Garcia
commendation



c5h5 0416.20 5/4 Win

No 21191 Roland Ott (Switzerland) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Be4 Sc7/i 2.Kc4/ii Se8 3.Rh7+ Kg4 4.Kxb4 Rh2 5.Re7 Rb2+/iii 6.Ka3/iv Rb8 7.Bc6 Sf6 8.Rf7 Kf5 9.Be4+ Ke6 (Kxe4; Rxf6) 10.Bd3 (Bc2) Rh8 11.Bc4+ Ke5 12.g7 Rxh4 13.Rxf6 wins.

i) Sc3 2.Rh7+ Kg4 3.Bb7 Sd3+ 4.Kd4 Sf4 5.Bc8+ Kf3 6.g7 Sce2+ 7.Ke5 Ra5+ 8.Kd6 wins.

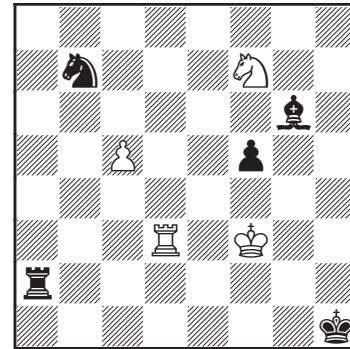
ii) 2.Rxc7? Sa6+ 3.Kb6 Sxc7 4.g7 Ra6+ 5.Kxc7 Rg6 6.Bxg6+ Kh6 7.g8S+/v Kxg6 8.Se7+ Kh5 9.Sf5 Kg4 draws. 2.Rxb4? Rd2 3.Rb6 Rd8, or 2.Kxb4? Rb2+ draw.

iii) Sf6 6.Rf7 Sg8 7.Rf8 Sh6 8.g7 (Rh8) Rxh4 9.Rh8 Kg3 10.Rxh6 Rxe4+ 11.Kc5 Rg4 12.Rh1 Kf4 13.Rh4 wins.

iv) 6.Ka4? Rb8 7.Bc6 Sf6 8.Rf7 Kf5 9.Be4+ Ke6 10.Bd3 Rh8 11.Bc4+ Ke5 12.g7 Rxh4 13.Kb5 Rg4 draws.

v) 7.g8Q (g8R) stalemate.

No 21192 O. Pervakov
commendation



f3h1 0434.11 4/5 Draw

No 21192 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Se5/i Bh5+ 2.Kf4 Sxc5 3.Rh3+ Kg2 4.Rxh5 Se6+ 5.Ke3/ii f4+ 6.Ke4/iii f3 7.Sxf3 Re2+ 8.Kf5/iv Sg7+ 9.Kg5/v Sxh5 10.Sh4+ Kh3 (Kg3; Sf5+) 11.Sg6 Sg3 12.Sf4+ draws.

i) 1.c6? Sc5, and: 2.Rc3 Se6 3.c7 Bh5+ 4.Ke3 f4+ 5.Ke4 Sxc7 6.Rxc7 f3 wins, or: 2.c7 Bh5+ 3.Kg3 f4+ 4.Kh4 Rh2+ 5.Rh3 Rxh3+ 6.Kxh3 Bxf7 7.c8Q Be6+ wins.

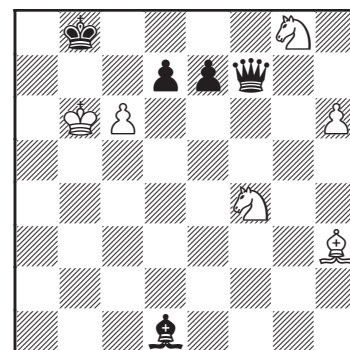
ii) 5.Kxf5? Sg7+ 6.Kg5 Sxh5 7.Kxh5 Ra5 wins.

iii) 6.Kd3? f3 7.Sxf3 Sf4+ wins.

iv) 8.Kd3? (Kd5?) Sf4+.

v) 9.Kg4? Re4+ 10.Kg5 Sxh5 11.Sh4+ Kh3 wins.

No 21193 A. Popov
commendation



b6b8 3042.22 6/5 Win

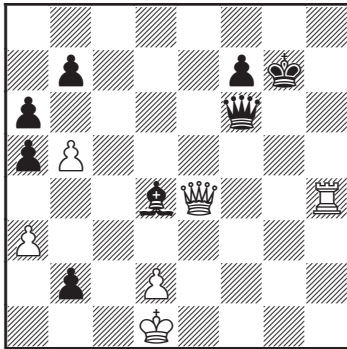
No 21193 A. Popov (Russia). 1.c7+ Kc8 2.Be6 dxe6 3.h7 Qxh7 4.Sg6, and:

— Qxg6 5.Sxe7+ Kd7 6.Sxg6 Be2 7.Se5+ (Se7? Ba6;) Kc8 8.Kc6 Bb5+ 9.Kd6 zz Kb7 10.Sd7 e5 11.Sb6 wins, or:

— Qxg8 5.Sxe7+ Kd7 6.Sxg8 Be2 7.Sf6+ Kc8 8.Se8/ii Kd7 9.Kb7 Bf3+ 10.Kb8 wins.

ii) 8.Se4? Ba6 9.Sd6+ Kd7 draws.

No 21194 H. van der Heijden
commendation



d1g7 4130.35 6/8 Win

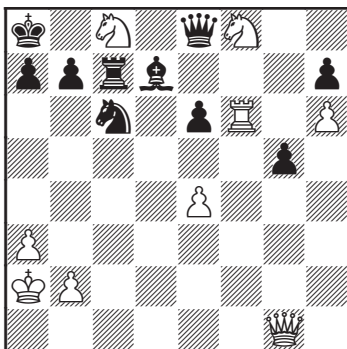
No 21194 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands). 1.Kc2 b1Q+ 2.Kxb1 Qf1+ 3.Kc2 Qc4+ 4.Kd1 Qf1+ 5.Qe1 Qd3 6.bxa6 bxa6/i 7.a4/ii Qb3+/iii 8.Ke2 Qe6+ 9.Kf1 Qf6+ 10.Kg2 Qg6+ 11.Qg3 Qxg3+ 12.Kxg3 wins.

i) Qb3+ 7.Ke2 Qe6+ 8.Kf1 Qxa6+ 9.Kg2 Qg6+ 10.Qg3 wins.

ii) 7.Qe4? Qf1+ 8.Kc2 Qc4+. 7.Rg4+? Kf8 8.Qh4 Qf1+ 9.Kc2 Qc4+ 10.Kd1 Qf1+ draws.

iii) Kf8 8.Qh1 Qb1+ 9.Ke2, or here: Qb3+ 9.Ke1 Qg3+ 10.Ke2 wins.

No 21195 V. Aberman †
special commendation



a2a8 4435.45 9/10 Win

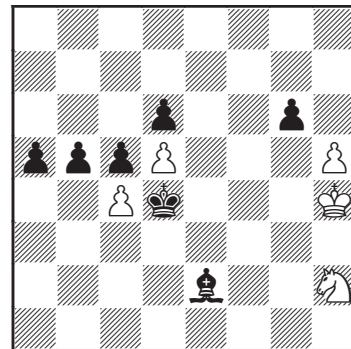
No 21195 Victor Aberman (USA). 1.Sd6/i Qe7 2.Sxd7 Rxd7 3.Sc8, and:

— Qxf6 4.Qxa7+ Sxa7 5.Sb6+ Kb8 6.Sxd7+ Kc7 7.Sxf6 Sc6 8.Sxh7 wins, or:

— Qe8 4.Rf8 Qxf8 5.Qxa7+ Sxa7 6.Sb6+ Kb8 7.Sxd7+ Kc7 8.Sxf8 g4 9.Sxh7 wins.

i) 1.Sxd7? Qxd7 draws, but not: Rxd7? 2.Rf8 Qxf8 3.Qxa7+ as in main line.

No 21196 I. Aliev & V. Rasulov
special commendation



h4d4 0031.35 5/7 Win

No 21196 Ilham Aliev & Vugarom Rasulov (Azerbaijan). 1.h6 g5+ (Bd3; Kg5) 2.Kxg5 Bd3 3.Sf3+ Kxc4/i 4.Se5+ dxe5 5.d6 b4 6.d7 b3 7.d8Q b2 8.Qg8+ Kc3/iii 9.h7 b1Q 10.h8Q Qc1+ 11.Kf6 Qf4+ 12.Ke7/iv wins.

i) Ke3 4.cxb5 c4 5.b6 c3 6.Se1 Ke2 7.b7 Kxe1 8.b8Q c2 9.Qb2 wins.

ii) Kd4 9.h7 Bxh7 10.Qxh7 Kc3 11.Qb1 wins.

iii) 12.Kg7? Qg5+ 13.Kf8 Qd8+ 14.Kg7 Qg5+ perpetual check.

HH: Rasulov is an Azerbaijan o.t.b. GM.

MG cooks: 9...Bxh7 10.Qxh7 a4 11.Qb1 a3 draws!

Wotawa-120 MT 2016

The Argentine composers' society (UAPA) organized a memorial tourney for Alois Wotawa. The tourney director, Sebastián Palomo, received 46 studies by 27 composers from 12 countries. Peter Krug (Austria) judged the MT for his countryman. The award, dated October 2016, was published on the UAPA website with a two month confirmation time, and became final (without changes?) in December 2016. For some reason there were two sections.

Win section

No 21197 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.O-O+ Kg4 2.cxb3/i Bf7 3.Be2+/ii Kxg3 4.Bc4 (Rf3+? Kh4;) Bxc4/iii 5.bxc4 zz Se5 (Sf4; Ra1) 6.c5 zz Sf3+/iv 7.Kh1 Sd4 (Se5; Ra1) 8.Ra1/v Sb3 9.Rg1+ (Rxa2? Sxc5;) Kf2 10.c6 Sd4 11.c7 wins.

i) 2.Be2+? Kxg3 3.cxb3 Sf4 4.Bf3 Sh3+ 5.Kh1 Sf2+ 6.Kg1 Sh3+ draws.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Bc4? Bxc4 4.bxc4 Kxg3 zz 5.c5 Se5 6.Kh1 Sd3 7.c6 Sf2+ 8.Kg1 Sh3+ 9.Kh1 Sf2+ positional draw.

iii) Be8 5.Ra1, or Se5 5.Bxf7, or Sf4 5.Ra1 Bxc4 6.bxc4 win.

iv) Sc6 7.Ra1, or Kg4 7.Kg2 win.

v) 8.Kg1? Kg4 9.Kg2 Sc2 draws.

"This is a logical study with a nice thematic try".

No 21198 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.h5/i gxh5 2.e5 h4 3.Kg2/ii c6/iii 4.e6 Kd6 5.c5+ Kxe6 6.cxb6 Kd6 7.b7 Kc7 8.bxc6 g4 9.b4 (b3? a3;) ax-b3ep 10.axb3 Kb8 11.b4 Kc7 12.b5 Kb8 13.b6 h3+ 14.Kxg3 wins.

i) Logical try: 1.e5? gxh4 2.Kg2 c6 3.e6 Kd6 4.c5+ Kxe6 5.cxb6 Kd6 6.b7 Kc7 7.bxc6 g5 8.b3 axb3 9.axb3 g4 10.b4 Kb8 11.b5 Kc7 12.b6+ Kb8 13.Kh1 g2+ draws. 1.hxg5? Kxc4 2.Kg2 Kd4 and Black wins.

ii) 3.b4+? axb3ep 4.axb3 h3 5.b4+ Kd4 6.e6 h2 7.Kg2 Ke3 8.e7 h1Q+ 9.Kxh1 Kf2 wins.

iii) g4 4.b4+ axb3ep 5.axb3 c6 (Kd4; e6) 6.b4+ wins.

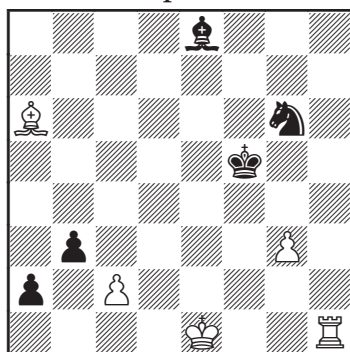
"This shows a logical try in a pawn study".

No 21199 Pavel Arestov (Russia) & Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Re2+ (Rd5+? Kc1;) Kxe2 2.Bxc4+ Kd1/i 3.Bb3+/ii Kd2/iii 4.Bxa2 Bxe6/iv 5.Bxe6 dxe6 6.d7 Sf7 7.Kg6 Se5+ 8.Kg7 Sxd7 9.h5 e5 10.h6 e4 11.h7 e3 12.h8Q e2 13.Qh6+ Kd1 14.Qd6+ wins.

i) Kf3 (Kf2) 3.Bxa2 Bxe6 4.Bxe6 dxe6 5.d7 Sf7 6.Kg6 Se5+ 7.Kg7 Sxd7 8.h5 e5 9.h6 e4 10.h7 e3 11.h8Q e2 12.Qh5+ (Qh2) wins.

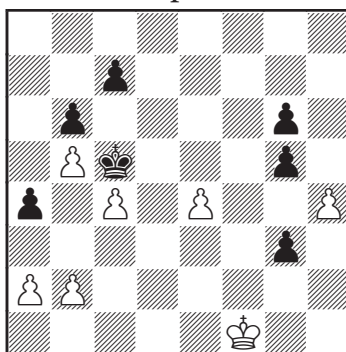
ii) Try: 3.Bxa2? Bxe6 4.Bxe6 dxe6 5.d7 Sf7 6.Kg6 Se5+ 7.Kg7 Sxd7 8.h5 e5 9.h6 e4 10.h7 e3 11.h8Q e2 12.Qh5 Sb6 (Se5) draws.

No 21197 P. Arestov
1st prize



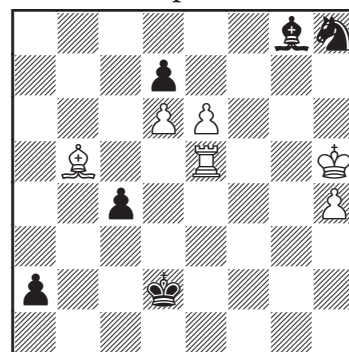
e1f5 0143.22 5/5 Win

No 21198 M. Zinar
2nd prize



f1c5 0000.66 7/7 Win

No 21199 P. Arestov
& V. Tarasiuk
3rd prize



h5d2 0143.33 6/6 Win

iii) Kc1 4.Bxa2 Bxe6 5.Bxe6 dxe6 6.d7 Sf7 7.Kg6 Se5+ 8.Kg7 Sxd7 9.h5 e5 10.h6 e4 11.h7 e3 12.h8Q e2 13.Qc8+ (Qe8) wins.

iv) dxe6 5.d7 Sf7 6.Bxe6 wins.

“We see a surprising move 3.Bb3!! to force Black to a bad square”

No 21200 Vasily Lebedev (Russia). 1.d7 Rd4/i 2.Sxf4+/ii Kf5/iii 3.Sd5 Rxd5 4.e4+ Ke6/iv 5.Sc5+ (exd5? Kxd7;) Ke7 (Rxc5; d8Q) 6.exd5 b4/v 7.d6+ Kd8 8.Kf7 b3 9.Ke6 b2 10.Sb7 mate.

i) f3 2.Sh4+ Rxh4 3.d8Q f2 4.Qb6+ Kg5 5.Qc5+ Kg4 6.Qxf2 bxa4 7.e4 wins.

ii) 2.Sc5? Kf5 e.g. 3.Kf7 Kg4 4.Se1 Rxd7+ 5.Sxd7 Kg3 6.Sd3 h4 7.S7e5 h3 8.Sf3 b4 9.Ke6 b3 10.Ke5 b2 11.Sxb2 Kf2 12.Kxf4 h2 13.Sxh2 Kxe2 draws.

iii) Kf6 3.Sc5 e.g. h4 4.e4 Ke7 5.Sg6+ Kf6 6.e5+ Kxg6 7.e6 Kf6 8.Kf8 h3 9.e7 Rh4 10.e8S+ Kg6 11.d8Q wins.

iv) Kxe4 5.Sc3+, or Ke5 5.exd5.

v) h4 7.d6+ Kd8 8.Kf7 h3 9.Ke6 h2 10.Sb7 mate.

“Tactical play leads to mate”.

No 21201 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rf7+ (g7? Bd5;) Kd8 2.g7 Ra2+ 3.Kb5/i Ra5+ 4.Kxa5 Bxc3+ 5.Kb5/ii Bxg7 6.Rxg7, and:

— Be4 7.Kb6 zz Bc2 8.Kc6 Ba4+ 9.Kd6 wins, or:

— Bf3/iii 7.Kc5/iv Kc7 8.Rg3 Be4 (Bc6; d8Q+) 9.Re3/v Bf5/vi 10.d8Q+ Kxd8 11.Kd6 Kc8 12.Re7 Bd3 13.Rc7+ Kb8 (Kd8; Rc3) 14.Kc6 Be4+ 15.Kb6 wins.

i) 3.Kb6? Be3+ 4.Kb5 Rg2 draws.

ii) Try: 5.Kb6? Bxg7 6.Rxg7 Be4 zz 7.Rf7 Bd5 8.Re7 Bg2 (Bh1) 9.Rg7 Be4 10.Rg4 (Kc5 Kc7;) Bf5 draws.

iii) Kc7 7.d8Q++ Kxd8 8.Rg8+ wins.

iv) try: 7.Kb6? Be4 zz, draws.

v) 9.d8Q+? Kxd8 10.Kd6 Kc8 draws.

vi) Bg2 10.Rd3, or Bg6 10.Re7 Bh5 11.d8Q++ Kxd8 12.Kd6 Bd1 13.Re1 wins.

“After tactical moves we see an interesting 5 man position”.

No 21202 Vassily Lebedev (Russia). 1.Ra7+ Ke6/i 2.Ra4 Ke7/ii 3.e6/iii Rb3/iv 4.Kh7 Rh3+ 5.Kg6 Rg3+ 6.Kh6 Kf6/v 7.Rf4+ Ke7 8.Rf7+ Kxe6 9.Rf3 Rxf3 10.g8Q+ wins.

i) Ke8 2.Kh7 Rh3+ 3.Kg6 Rg3+ 4.Kf6 Rf3+ 5.Ke6 wins.

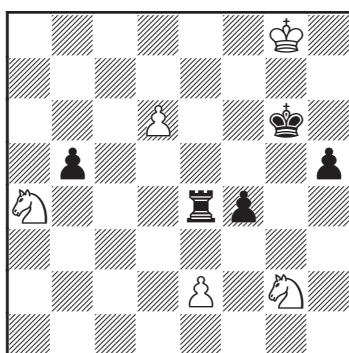
ii) Rf3 3.Rh4 a2 4.Rh1 Rh3 5.Rxh3 a1Q 6.Kh7 (Kh8? Qxe5;) Qa7 7.Kh8, or Kd7 3.Kh7 Rh3+ 4.Kg6 Rg3+ 5.Kf5 Rxg7 6.Ra7+, or Kxe5 3.Kf7 Rf3+ 4.Ke7 Rg3 5.Ra5+ Kd4 6.Kf6 Rf3+ 7.Kg6 Rg3+ 8.Rg5 Rxg5+ 9.Kxg5 a2 10.g8Q a1Q 11.Qg7+, or Rh3 3.Kf8 Rf3+ 4.Ke8 Rg3 5.Ra6+ Kxe5 6.Kf7 Rf3+ 7.Ke7 Rg3 8.Ra5+ win.

iii) 3.Kh7? Rh3+ 4.Kg6 Rg3+ 5.Kf5 Rxg7 draws.

iv) Kxe6 4.Rg4 a2 5.Kh7 Kf5 6.Rg5+ Kf6 7.Rg6+ Ke7 8.Re6+ Kd7 9.Ra6 Rh3+ 10.Kg6 Rg3+ 11.Kf6 Rg2 12.Rxa2, or Kf6 4.Rh4 a2 5.Kh7 Rg3 6.Rh6+ Ke7 7.Rh1, or Rf3 4.Kh7 Rh3+ 5.Kg6 Rg3+ 6.Kh6 Rh3+ 7.Kg5 Rg3+ 8.Rg4 Rxg4+ 9.Kxg4 a2 10.g8Q a1Q 11.Qf7+ Kd6 12.Qd7+ Kc5 13.e7 win.

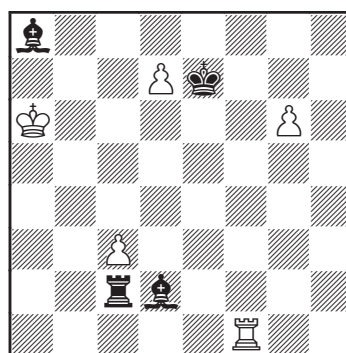
v) Rh3+ 7.Kg5 Rg3+ 8.Rg4 wins.

No 21200 V. Lebedev
1st honourable mention



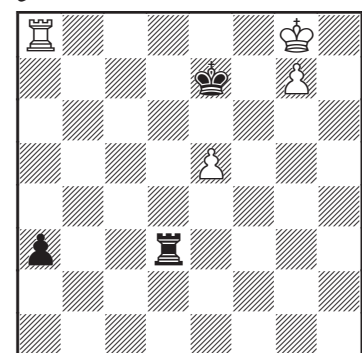
g8g6 0302.23 5/5 Win

No 21201 P. Arestov
2nd honourable mention



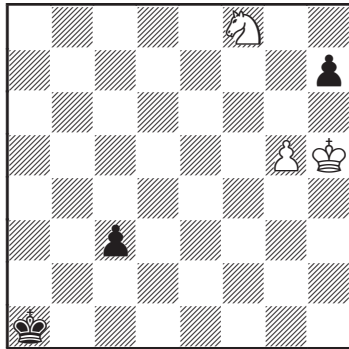
a6e7 0460.30 5/4 Win

No 21202 V. Lebedev
3rd honourable mention



g8e7 0400.21 4/3 Win

No 21203 V. Lebedev
4th honourable mention



h5a1 0001.12 3/3 Win

No 21204 J. Timman
5th honourable mention

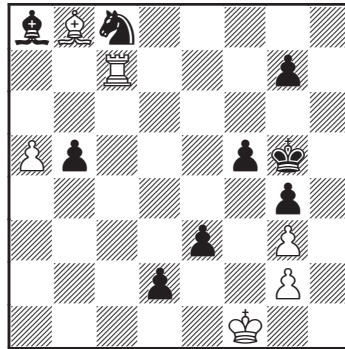
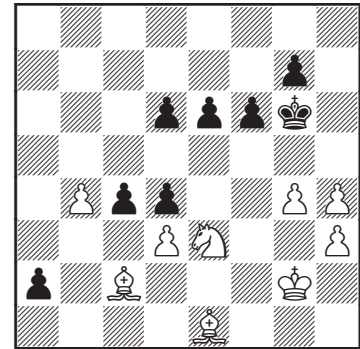


fig5 0143.36 6/9 Win

No 21205 J. Timman
6th honourable mention



g2g6 0021.57 9/8 Win

No 21203 Vasily Lebedev (Russia). 1.Se6/i c2 2.Sd4/ii c1S 3.Kh6 Sd3 4.Kxh7 Sf4/iii 5.Kh8/iv Kb2 6.Se2 Sxe2/v 7.g6 Sf4 8.g7 Sg6+ 9.Kg8 (Kh7? Se7;) Sf4 10.Kf7 wins.

i) 1.Sd7? c2 2.Sc5 Kb2 3.Sd3+ Kc3 4.Sc1 Kd2 5.Sa2 Ke3 6.Kh6 Kf4 7.Sb4 c1S draws.

ii) 2.Sc5? Kb2 3.Sd3+ Kc3 draws.

iii) Kb2 5.Kg6 Sf4+ 6.Kf5 Sd5 7.Ke5 Se7 8.Kf6 Sd5+ 9.Kf7 Sf4 10.Se6 Sh5 11.g6 Kc3 12.Sf4 Sxf4 13.g7 wins.

iv) 5.Kh6? Kb2 6.Se2 Sxe2 7.g6 Sd4 8.g7 Sf5+, or 5.Se2? Se6 6.g6 Sf8+, or 5.Kg8? Sh3 6.g6 Sf4 7.g7 Sh5 win.

v) Se6 7.g6 Sf8 8.g7 Sg6+ 9.Kg8 Se7+ 10.Kf8 Sg6+ 11.Kf7 Se5+ 12.Ke6, or Sg6+ 7.Kg7 Sh4 8.Kf6 Kc2 9.Sd4+ Kd3 10.Sf5 win.

“This a pleasant position, also friendly for solvers”

No 21204 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.Rd7 Sd6/i 2.Rxd6 Bxg2+ 3.Kxg2 e2 4.Rh6 e1S+/ii 5.Kh1/iii Sd3/iv 6.Bf4+ Sxf4 7.Rd6 wins.

i) Kf6 2.Ke2 Ke6 3.Rd3 Be4 4.Rxe3 Sd6 5.Bxd6 Kxd6 6.Rc3 Bxg2 7.Rc8 Bb7 8.Rg8 wins.

ii) e1Q 5.Bf4 mate, or gxh6 5.Bf4+ wins.

iii) 5.Kf1? Kxh6 6.Bf4+ Kg6 7.Bxd2 Sf3 8.Bc3 b4 draws.

iv) Kxh6 6.Bf4+ Kg6 7.Bxd2 Sf3 8.a6 wins.

“We see some surprising moves; the study is after an idea of Wotawa”

No 21205 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.Bc3/i dxc3 2.d4+/ii Kh6/iii 3.g5+ fxg5 4.Bg6 a1Q/iv 5.h5 g4 6.h4 Qa8+ 7.d5 Qa2+/v 8.Kg3 wins.

i) 1.dxc4+? Kh6 2.Bd2 g5 draws.

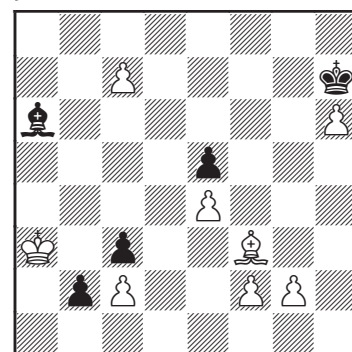
ii) 2.dxc4+? Kh6 3.g5+ fxg5 4.Bg6 a1Q 5.h5 g4 6.h4 Qa8+ and Black wins.

iii) Kf7 3.Bg6+ Kxg6 4.Sc2 Kf7 5.Kf3 wins.

iv) Kxg6 5.Sc2 e5 6.d5 Kf5 7.b5 Ke4 8.b6 Kd3 9.Sb4+ wins.

v) Qxd5+ 8.Sxd5 exd5 9.b5 d4 10.b6 d3 11.b7 c2 12.b8Q c1Q 13.Qh8 mate.

No 21206 V. Samilo
7th honourable mention



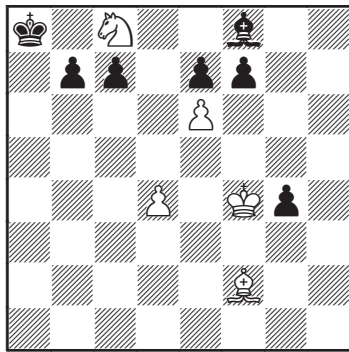
a3h7 0040.63 8/5 Win

No 21206 Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine). 1.Ka2 Bc8 2.g3/i Kxh6 3.Bg2 Kg5 4.f3 Kf6 5.Bh3 (Bf1? Ke7;) Bxh3 6.g4 wins.

i) 2.Be2? Kxh6 3.g3 Kg5 (Kg6?; f4) 4.Kb1 Kf6 5.f4 exf4 6.gxf4 Ke7 7.f5 Kf6 (Kd6?; f6) draws.

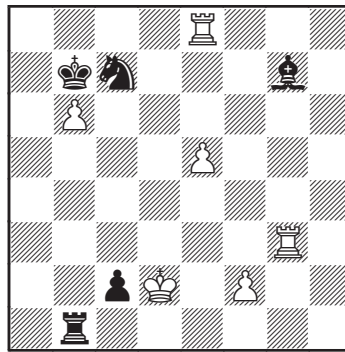
“This is after Wotawa (HHdbV#60177)”

No 21207 M. Minski
commendation



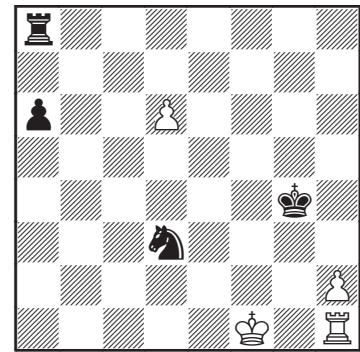
f4a8 0041.25 5/7 Win

No 21208 V. Tarasiuk
& Y. Afek
special commendation



d2b7 0533.31 6/5 Win

No 21209 R. Becker
& I. Akobia †
1st prize



f1g4 0403.21 4/4 Draw

No 21207 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.d5/i fxe6 2.dxe6 g3/ii 3.Bxg3/iii Kb8 4.Sb6/iv cxb6 5.Kf5+/v Kc8/vi 6.Kg6 b5/vii 7.Bd6/viii exd6/ix 8.Kf7 Bh6 9.e7 wins.

i) 1.exf7? Kb8 2.Sa7 Kxa7 draws.

ii) b6 3.Bh4 Kb7 4.Sxe7, or Kb8 3.Sa7 g3 4.Kxg3 win.

iii) 3.Kxg3? b6 4.Kg4 Kb7 draws.

iv) Thematic try: 4.Kf5? Kxc8 5.Kg6 b5 – position with bPc7 - 6.Bf4 (Kf7 Bh6;); b4 7.Kf7 b3 8.Be5 Bh6 draws.

v) 5.Kg5+? Ka7 6.Bf2 Bg7 draws, or here 6.Kg6 b5 7.Be1 (Bf2+ b6;); Kb6 8.Bb4 Kc6 draws.

vi) Ka7 6.Bf2, and: Bg7 7.Bh4 Bf8 8.Kg6 b5 9.Kf7 Bh6 10.Bxe7, or here: Ka6 7.Kg6 b5 8.Bc5 Ka5 9.Kf7 Bh6 10.Bxe7 win.

vii) position without bPc7.

viii) 7.Kf7? Bh6 8.Bd6 Be3 9.Bxe7 b6 10.Bf6 Bc5 11.Bd4 Bd6 12.Bg7 b4 13.Bf8 b3 14.Bxd6 b2 15.e7 b1Q 16.e8Q+ Kb7, or 7.Be1? Kc7 8.Bb4 Kc6, or 7.Bf4? b4 8.Kf7 b3 9.Be5 Bh6, or 7.Be5? b4 8.Kf7 Bh6 draw.

ix) b4 8.Bxb4, or b6 8.Bb4 win.

No 21208 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine) & Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.Rb8+/i Kxb8 2.bxc7+ Kc8/ii 3.Kxc2 Rb2+/iii 4.Kxb2 Bxe5+ 5.Rc3/iv Bd4/v 6.Kb3/vi Bxf2 7.Ka4 (Kb4? Be1;); Bb6 8.Kb5 Bxc7 9.Kc6 Kb8 10.Rb3+ wins.

i) 1.Kxc2? Sxe8 2.Kxb1 Bxe5 3.Re3 Bd4 4.Rxe8 Bxf2 draws.

ii) Kb7 3.Kxc2 Bxe5 4.c8Q+ Kxc8 5.Rg8+ Kd7 6.Kxb1, or Kxc7 3.Rxg7+ Kc6 4.Kxc2 Rf1 5.Rf7 Kd5 6.f4 win.

iii) Bxe5 4.Rg8+ Kxc7 5.Kxb1 win.

iv) 5.Kc2? Bxg3 6.fxg3 Kxc7 7.Kd3 Kd7 8.Ke3 Ke7 9.Kf3 Kf7 10.Kf4 Kf6 draws.

v) Bxc3+ 6.Kxc3 Kxc7 7.Kd3 (Kd4) wins

vi) 6.f3? Bxc3+ 7.Kxc3 Kxc7 8.Kd3 Kd7 9.Ke3 Ke7 10.Ke4 Ke6 draws.

Draw section

No 21209 Richard Becker (USA) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Ke2 Sc5/i 2.Ke3/ii Rd8 (Sb7; d7) 3.Rd1 Sb7 4.d7/iii Sc5/iv 5.h3+/v Kh4 (Kxh3; Kf3) 6.Rd5 Sxd7 7.Rd4+ Kg5 8.Rd5+ Kh4 9.Rd4+ Kg3 10.Rd3 zz, and:

— Kh4 11.Rd4+ Kxh3 12.Kd2 zz Kg3/vi 13.Kd1 zz Kf3/vii 14.Kd2 zz a5 15.Rd5 a4 16.Rd4 zz Kg3/viii 17.Kc3/ix Rc8+ 18.Kb4 Sb6 19.Kb5 draws, or:

— Kxh3 11.Kf2+ Kh2 12.Rd2 zz Kh1 13.Rd1+ Kh2 14.Rd2 Kh3 15.Rd3+ Kg4 16.Rd4+ Kg5 (Kf5; Rd6) 17.Rd5+ Kf4 18.Rd6 draws.

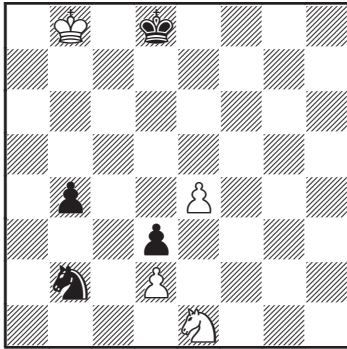
i) Se5 2.Ke3 Kf5 3.Kd4 Rb8 4.h4 Rb6 5.Kc5 Rb5+ 6.Kd4 draws.

ii) 2.Rd1? Re8+ 3.Kf2 Kf4 4.h4 Ke5, or 2.Rc1? Re8+ 3.Kf1 Re5 4.Rd1 Sd7 win.

iii) 4.h3+? (Rd4+) Kf5 wins.

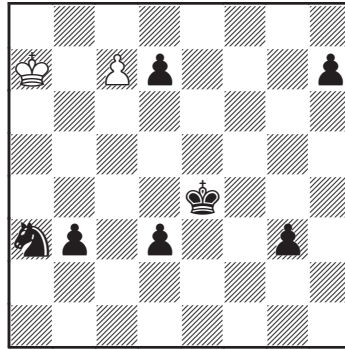
iv) Kf5 5.h4 Ke6 6.h5 Rxd7 7.Rxd7 Kxd7 8.h6 draws.

No 21210 P. Arestov
2nd prize



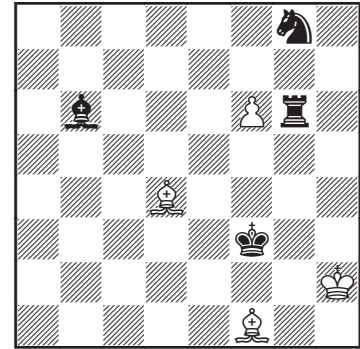
b8d8 0004.22 4/4 Draw

No 21211 P. Arestov
& V. Tarasiuk
special prize



a7e4 0003.15 2/7 Draw

No 21212 S. Hornecker
& M. Minski
1st honourable mention



h2f3 0353.10 4/4 Draw

v) 5.Rd5? Sxd7 6.h3+ Kxh3 7.Rd6 Re8+ 8.Kd4 Sb8, or 5.Rd4+? Kh3 6.Rd5 Sxd7 7.Kd2 Kg4 (Kh4) win.

vi) Kg2 13.Rd3 Kf2 14.Kd1 Kg2 15.Kd2 draws.

vii) a5 14.Kd2 zz Kf3 15.Rd5 transposes.

viii) Kf2 17.Rd3 Kg2 18.Kd1 draws.

ix) 17.Kd1? Ra8 18.Rxd7 a3 wins.

“This has extensive lines with very subtle play and some interesting zugzwang positions”

No 21210 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.e5/i b3 (Ke7; Ka7) 2.e6/ii Ke8 3.Ka8/iii Kd8 4.Kb8 Ke7 5.Ka7 zz Kxe6 (Kd6; Ka6) 6.Ka6 (Kb6? Sa4+;) Kd5 7.Kb5 (Ka5? Sc4+;) Sc4 (Ke4; Kb4) 8.Sxd3 b2 (Kd4; Kb4) 9.Sxb2 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.Ka7? b3 2.e5/iv Ke8 (Ke7?; e6) 3.e6 Ke7 zz 4.Ka6 Sa4 5.Sxd3 Sc5+ 6.Sxc5 b2 wins.

ii) 2.Ka7? Ke8 3.e6 Ke7 4.Ka6 Sa4 5.Sxd3 Sc5+ wins.

iii) 3.Kc7? Ke7 4.Kc6 Sc4 5.Sxd3 Se5+, or 3.Ka7? Ke7 4.Ka6 Sa4 5.Sxd3 Sc5+, or 3.Kb7? Sa4 4.Sxd3 Sc5+ win.

iv) 2.Ka6 Sa4 3.Sxd3 Sc5+ wins.

“A study in classical style”

No 21211 Pavel Arestov (Russia) & Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.c8Q Sb5+ (d3; Qxd7) 2.Ka8/ii d2 3.Qxd7 Sd4/iii 4.Qxh7+ Ke3 5.Qh6+ Kd3/iv 6.Qg6+ Kc4 7.Qg8+ Kc3/v 8.Qxg3+ Kc2 9.Qf2 (Qg6+? Kc1;) Kc1/vi 10.Qe3/vii b2 11.Qxd4, and:

— d1Q 12.Qc5+ Qc2 13.Qg1+ Qd1 14.Qc5+ Kb1 15.Qf5+ Qc2 16.Qf1+ Ka2 17.Qa6+ positional draw, or:

— d1Q 12.Qc3+ Qc2 13.Qa1+ Qb1 14.Qc3+ Kd1 15.Qf3+ Kc2 16.Qc6+ Kb2 17.Qf6+ Ka2 18.Qa6+ positional draw.

ii) 2.Ka6? d2 3.Qxd7 Sd4 4.Qxh7+ Ke3 5.Qh6+ Kd3 6.Qg6+ Kc3 (Kc4) 7.Qxg3+ Kc2 8.Qf2 b2 9.Qxd4 b1Q (d1Q) 10.Qc5+ Kb2 11.Qb4+ Kc1 12.Qc3+ Kd1 13.Qf3+ Kc2 14.Qc6+ Kb2 15.Qf6+ Ka2 16.Qe6+ - no Qa6+ - Qb3, or 2.Kb6? d2 3.Qxd7 Sd4 4.Qxh7+ Ke3 5.Qh6+ Kd3 6.Qg6+ Kc3 7.Qxg3+ Kc2 8.Qf2 b2 9.Qxd4 b1Q+ wins.

iii) g2 4.Qe8+ (Qc6) Kf4 5.Qb8+ Kf3 6.Qf8+ draws.

iv) Ke2 6.Qh5+ Sf3 7.Qb5+ draws.

v) Kb4 8.Qb8+ (Qg4) Kc4 9.Qg8+ draws.

vi) b2 10.Qxd4 b1Q (d1Q) 11.Qc4+ Kb2 12.Qb4+ Kc1 13.Qc3+ Kd1/viii 14.Qf3+ Kc2 15.Qc6+ (Qe4+? Kc1;) Kb2 16.Qf6+ Ka2 17.Qa6+ positional draw.

vii) 10.Qxd4? d1Q 11.Qc3+ Kb1 wins.

viii) Qc2 14.Qa1+ Qb1 15.Qc3+ draws.

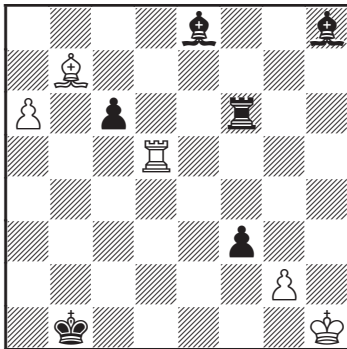
“2.Ka8!! is surprising. Only a single white pawn!”

No 21212 Siegfried Hornecker & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Be2+/i Kxe2 2.f7 Bc7+ 3.Be5 (Kh1? Bd6;) Bxe5+ 4.Kh1 Rh6+/ii 5.Kg2 Sf6 6.f8Q Rg6+ 7.Kh1 Kf1 8.Qg7 Se4/iii 9.Qf7+/iv Bf4/v 10.Qc4+/vi Kf2 11.Qe2+ (Qf1+) Kxe2 (Kxf1) stalemate.

- i) 1.f7? Bc7+ 2.Kh1 Bd6, or 1.Bxb6? Sxf6 win.
- ii) Bd6 5.fxg8Q Rxc8 model stalemate.
- iii) Rxc8 stalemate.
- iv) 9.Qxc8? Sf2 model mate.
- v) Sf2+ 10.Qxf2+ Kxf2 stalemate.
- vi) 10.Qxf4+? Sf2+ 11.Qxf2+ (Kh2 Rg2 mate;) Kxf2 no stalemate.

“This shows very nice play by both sides and it is a study in classical style, also enjoyable for o.t.b. players”

No 21213 A. Stavrietsky
2nd honourable mention



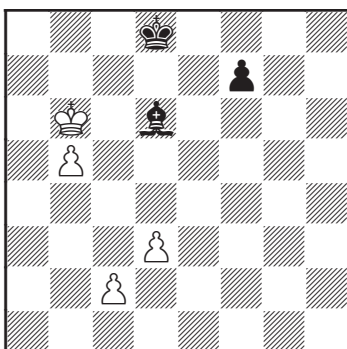
h1b1 0470.22 5/6 Draw

No 21213 Aleksandr Stavrietsky (Russia).
1.Rd1+/i Kc2 2.gxf3 Kxd1 3.a7 Rh6+ 4.Kg2 Rg6+ 5.Kh1 Rg1+ 6.Kh2 (Kxc1? Bd4+;) Be5+ 7.f4 Bxf4+ 8.Kxc1 Be3+ 9.Kf1 Bd7 10.Bxc6 Bxc6 11.a8Q Bxa8 stalemate.

- i) 1.gxf3? cxd5 2.a7 Ra6 3.Bxa6 Bc6 wins.

“We see very good black counterplay ending in a mirror stalemate”

No 21214 V. Lebedev
3rd honourable mention



b6d8 0030.31 4/3 Draw

No 21214 Vasily Lebedev (Russia). 1.Kc6/i f5 2.Kd5 (Kxd6? f4;) f4 3.Ke4 Kc7 4.c4/ii Kb6 5.d4 Bb8 6.Kd3 Ka5 7.Kc3 Ba7/iii 8.Kd3 Kb4 9.d5 Kc5 (f3; d6) 10.d6 Kxd6 11.Ke4 Be3 12.b6 Kc6 13.c5 Kb7 14.Kf3 positional draw.

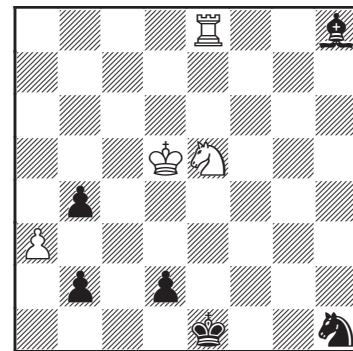
- i) 1.c4? f5 2.d4 f4 3.c5 f3 wins.

- ii) or 4.d4 Kb6 5.c4.

iii) f3 8.Kd3 Bf4 9.d5 f2 10.Ke2 Be3 11.Kf1 Kb6 12.Ke2 Kc5 13.Kf1 Bd4 14.Ke2 Kd6 15.Kf1 Kc5 16.Ke2 draws.

“This is an interesting endgame position leading to a draw”

No 21215 S. Nosek
special honourable mention



d5e1 0134.13 4/6 Draw

No 21215 Stanislav Nosek (Czech Republic).
1.Sc4+/i Kd1/ii 2.Rxh8/iii Sf2 3.Sxb2+ Kc1/iv 4.Kc4/v bxa3 (Kxb2; Rd8) 5.Sd1 Sxd1/vi 6.Kb3 a2/vii 7.Kxa2 (Ra8? Sb2;) Sc3+ 8.Ka1 d1Q 9.Rh1 Qxh1 stalemate.

i) 1.Sd3++? Kd1 2.Rxh8 b1Q 3.Rxh1+ Kc2 4.Sxb4+ Kb2 5.Rxb1+ Kxb1, or 1.Sf3++? Kd1 2.Rxh8 Sf2 3.Rg8 Ke2, or 1.Sg4+? Kd1 2.Rxh8 Sg3 win.

- ii) Kf2 2.Sxd2 bxa3 3.Ra8 draws.

iii) 2.Se3+? Kc1 3.Rxh8 d1Q+ 4.Sxd1 b1Q 5.Rxh1 Qf5+ wins.

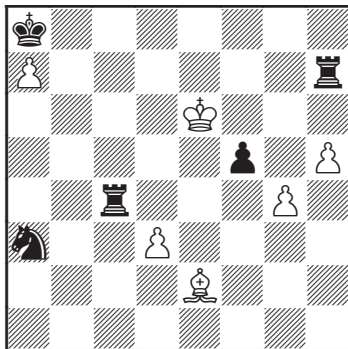
iv) Kc2 4.Kc6 (Ke6) bxa3 5.Sc4 a2 6.Ra8 d1Q 7.Se3+ draws.

v) 4.Sd3+? Sxd3 5.Rh1+ Se1, or 4.Rh2? bxa3 5.Rxf2 axb2 win.

vi) Kxd1 6.Kb3 Ke2 7.Re8+ Se4 8.Rd8 Sc5+ 9.Kc2 Se4 10.Kb3, or a2 e.g. 6.Ra8 Sxd1 7.Rxa2 Sb2+ 8.Kc3 draw.

- vii) Sf2 (Se3) 7.Rd8, or Sc3 7.Rh1+ draws.

No 21216 P. Arestov
commendation



e6a8 o613.41 6/5 Draw

No 21216 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Bf3+/i Kxa7 2.dxc4 fxc4 3.Bxc4 Sxc4 4.Kf6 Kb8/ii 5.Kg6 Rb7 6.Be6/iii Rb6/iv 7.Kf6 Se3/v 8.Kf7 Sg2 9.h6 Sf4 10.h7 Rb7+ 11.Kg8 Sxe6 12.h8Q draws.

i) Try: 1.dxc4? fxc4 2.Bxc4 Sxc4 3.Kf6/vi Kxa7 zz 4.Kg6 Rb7 5.Be6 Rb6 6.Kf6 Se3 7.Kf7 Sg2 8.h6 Sf4 9.h7 Rb7+ 10.Kg8 Rb8+ 11.Kf7 Sxe6 12.Kxe6 Rh8 wins.

ii) Se3 5.Bf3 Kb6 6.Kg6, or Kb6 5.Kg6 Rc7 6.Be6 Rc6 7.Kf6 Se3 8.Kf7 Sg2 9.h6 Sf4 10.h7 Rc7+ 11.Kg8 draw.

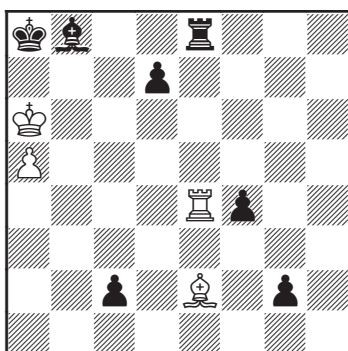
iii) 6.h6? Se5+ 7.Kf5 Sf7 8.Kg6 Sh8+ wins.

iv) Se5+ 7.Kf6 Sd3 8.h6 Sf4 9.Bf5 (Bf7) draws.

v) Sd2 8.h6 Se4+ 9.Kg7 Rxe6 10.h7 draws.

vi) 3.Kf5 Rxa7 4.Kf6 Sd6 5.Be6 Se8+ 6.Kg6 Ra6 7.Kf7 Sc7 8.h6 Sxe6 wins.

No 21217 V. Lebedev
commendation



a6a8 o440.14 4/7 Draw

No 21217 Vasily Lebedev (Russia). 1.Re7/i d5/ii 2.Bf3 Rd8 3.Bxd5+ Rxd5 4.Ra7+ Bxa7 stalemate.

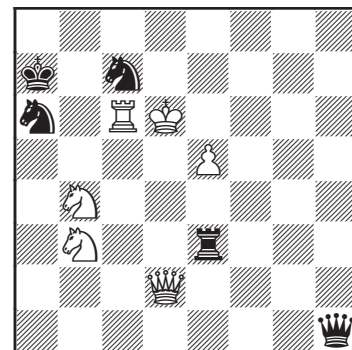
i) 1.Rxe8? c1Q 2.Bf3+ Qc6+ 3.Bxc6+ dxc6 4.Rg8 f3 5.Rg7 c5/iii, or 1.Bf3? g1S win.

ii) c1Q 2.Bf3+ Qc6+ 3.Bxc6+ dxc6 4.Ra7+ Bxa7 stalemate, or g1S 2.Bc4 c1Q 3.Bd5+ Qc6+ 4.Bxc6+ dxc6 5.Ra7+ Bxa7 stalemate.

iii) f2? 6.Ra7+ Bxa7 stalemate.

“1.Re7!! is surprising”.

No 21218 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
commendation



d6a7 4408.10 6/5 BTM, Draw

No 21218 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1...Qh6+/i 2.Kd7 Qg7+/ii 3.Kc8/iii Rxe5/iv 4.Qd4+ Ka8 5.Qxe5 Qxe5 6.Sxa6 Sb5/v 7.Sc7+ Sxc7 8.Sd4 zz, and:

— Qxd4 9.Ra6+ Sxa6 stalemate, or:

— Qg3 9.Rb6 Ka7 10.Rd6 Qxd6 11.Sb5+ Sxb5 stalemate, or:

— Qe7 9.Se6 Sb5 10.Sc7+/vi Sxc7 11.Ra6+ Sxa6 stalemate, or:

— Sb5 9.Ra6+ Sa7+ 10.Rxa7+ Kxa7 11.Sc6+ draws.

i) Sb5+ 2.Ke6 Qh3+ 3.Kf7 Qh5+ 4.Kf8 Qh8+ 5.Kf7 Qh7+ 6.Kf8 Rf3+ 7.Rf6 draws.

ii) Qh3+ 3.e6 Rxe6 4.Rxc7+ Sxc7 5.Sc6+ Rxc6+ 6.Kxc6 Qxb3 7.Kxc7, or Qh7+ 3.Kc8 Qf5+ 4.Qd7 draws.

iii) 3.Kd8? Qf8+ 4.Kd7 Qe8+ 5.Kd6 Qd8 mate.

iv) Qf8+ 4.Qd8 Qxb4 5.Rxc7+ Sxc7 6.Qxc7+ draws.

v) Se6 7.Sbc5 Sxc5 8.Sc7+ Ka7 9.Sb5+ perpetual check.

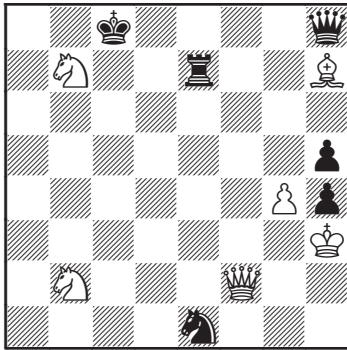
vi) 10.Ra6+? Sa7+ 11.Rxa7+ Kxa7 wins.

“After 6.Sxa6 there is an interesting position”.

Ali Tberizi Shatranji MT 2016

Ali-as-Shatranji Aladdin at-Tebriz was a chaturanga master of the 14th-15th century who lived in the city of Tebriz, the historical capital of Azerbaijan and who was the strongest chess player of the Timurid Empire (1336-1405). The Azerbaijan Chess Federation organized a second MT (see EG#18050-7 for the first MT). The tourney director was Elmar Abdullayev, and the judge Muradkhan Muradov. 31 studies by 24 composers from 16 countries participated. The final award was published on the ACF's website. The original 3rd prize winner from the provisional award was eliminated because of unsoundness.

No 21219 A. Zhukov
1st prize



h3c8 4315.12 6/6 Win

No 21219 Aleksandr Zhukov (Russia).
1.Qc5+/i Rc7/ii 2.Sd6+ Kd8/iii 3.Qxh5 (Qg5+? Kd7;) Rc3+/iv 4.Sd3/v Rxd3+/vi 5.Bxd3 Qxh5 6.Be4 (gxf5? Sxd3;) Qxg4+/vii 7.Kxg4 Ke7 8.Sc4/viii Kf6 9.Kxh4 Sc2 10.Bxc2 wins.

i) 1.Sd6+? Kd7 2.Bf5+ Kxd6 3.Qb6+ Kd5 4.Qb5+ Kd4 5.Qc4+ Ke3 6.Qc5+ (Sd1+ Kd2;) Kf3 7.Qxe7 Qxb2 8.Qxe1 hxg4+ draws.

ii) Kb8 2.Qxe7, and: Qxb2 3.Be4 hxg4+ 4.Kxg4, or here: hxg4+ 3.Kxg4 Qc8+ 4.Kxh4 Qxb7 5.Qxb7+ Kxb7 6.Kg3 win.

iii) Kb8 3.Qb6+ Ka8 4.Be4+, or Kd7 3.Bf5+ Kd8 4.Sb7+ win.

iv) Rxh7 4.Qa5+ Ke7 5.Sbc4 Qb8 6.Qxe1+ Kf8 7.Qe5 Qa8 8.Se4 Rg7 9.Qc5+ Kg8 10.Sf6+ (Scd6), or Ke7 4.Sf5+ Kd7 5.Qf7+ Kc8 6.Sd6+ Kd8 7.Sd3 Sxd3 8.Bxd3 Qe5 9.Qf8+ Kd7 10.Bf5+ Kc6 11.Se4 wins.

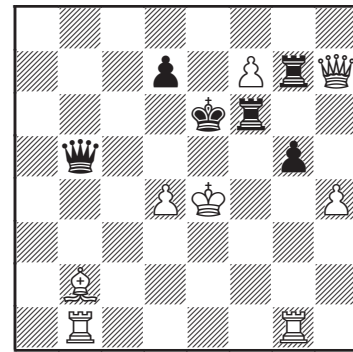
v) 4.Bd3? Rxd3+ 5.Sxd3 Qxh5 6.gxf5 Sxd3 draws.

vi) Sxd3 5.Qxh4+ Kc7 6.Sb5+ Kb6 7.Sxc3 Sf4+ (Qxc3; Qd8+) 8.Kg3 Qxc3+ 9.Kxf4 wins.

vii) Domination: Qg5 (Qh6, Qh8, Qe5) 7.Sf7+, or Qa5 (Qc5) 7.Sb7+ wins. If Sd3 5.gxf5 wins.

viii) 8.Sf5+? Ke6 9.Kf4 h3 draws.

No 21220 D. Gurgendze & I. Aliev
2nd prize



e4e6 4810.32 8/6 Win

No 21220 David Gurgendze (Georgia) & Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.f8S+ (f8Q? Qe2 mate;) Rxf8/i 2.Qh6+ Rf6/ii 3.Qxf6+ Kxf6 4.d5+ Kf7/iii 5.Rgf1+ Kg6 6.Rf6+ (h5+? Kh7;), and:

— Kh5 7.Rh6+ Kg4/iv 8.Rg1+ Kh3 9.hxg5 mate, or:

— Kh7 7.Rh6+ Kg8/v 8.Rh8+ Kf7/vi 9.Rf8+ Kg6/vii 10.h5+, and now:

– Kh7 11.Rh8+ Kxh8 12.Bxg7+ Kxg7 13.Rxb5 wins, or:

– Kxh5 11.Rh8+ (Rh1+? Kg4;) Kg6 12.Rh6+ Kf7/viii 13.Rf6+, with:

• Ke8 14.Rf8+ Kxf8 15.Bxg7+ (Ba3+) Kxg7 16.Rxb5 wins, or:

• Kg8/ix 14.Rf8+ Kh7/x 15.Rh1+ (Rh8+? Kg6;) Kg6 16.Rf6+ wins.

i) Kf7 (Kd6, Ba3+) 2.Qxg7+ Kxg7 3.Rxg5+ Qxg5 4.hxg5 wins.

ii) Kf7 3.Rgf1+ Kg8 4.Rxf8+ Kxf8 5.Ba3+ wins.

iii) Kg6 (Ke7; Ba3+) 5.Rxg5+ Kf7 6.Rxg7+ Ke8 7.Rg8+ Kf7 8.Rf8+ wins.

iv) Kxh6 8.Bxg7+ Kxg7 9.Rxb5

v) Kxh6 8.Bxg7+ Kxg7 9.Rxb5 wins.

vi) Kxh8 9.Bxg7+ Kxg7 10.Rxb5 wins.

vii) Kxf8 (Ke7; Bf6+) 10.Bxg7+ Kxg7 11.Rxb5 wins.

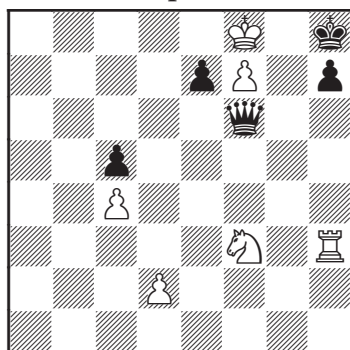
viii) Kxh6 13.Bxg7+ Kxg7 14.Rxb5 wins.

ix) Kh6 11.Bxg7+ Kxg7 12.Rxb5 wins.

x) Kxf8 15.Bxg7+ Kxg7 16.Rxb5

The award gave a version of this study:
e4e6 3810.42 a5b1g1f7g7b2.b5d4h4h7d7g5 8/6
Win: 1.h8Q Qxb5 2.Qh6+ Rf6 3.Qxf6+ Kxf6
4.d5+ Kf7 5.Rgf1+ Kg6 6.Rf6+ Kh7 7.Rh6+ Kg8
8.Rh8+ Kf7 9.Rf8+ Kg6 10.h5+ Kxh5 11.Rh8+
Kg6 12.Rh6+ Kf7 13.Rf6+ Kg8 14.Rf8+ Kh7
15.Rh1+ Kg6 16.Rf6 mate.

No 21221 A. Jasik
3rd prize



f8h8 3101.33 6/5 Win

No 21221 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Rg3 (Ke8? Qc6+;) h6/i 2.Sh4/ii, and:

— Kh7 3.Rg7+ Qxg7+ 4.Ke8 Qg4 5.f8Q Qxh4 6.Qf5+ Kg7 7.Qxc5 h5 (e6; Qe5+) 8.d4 Qf6 9.Qxh5 wins, or:

— Qxh4 3.Rg8+/iii Kh7 4.Rg7+/iv Kh8 5.Ke8 (d3? Qf6;) Qh5/v 6.Rg8+ (d3? Kxg7;) Kh7 7.d3, and now:

– e5 8.Ke7 Qh4+ 9.Kd7 Qh3+ 10.Kc7 (Kc6? Qe6+;) Qe6 11.f8S+/vi Kxg8 12.Sxe6 wins, or:

– e6 8.Ke7 Qh4+ 9.Kd7 Qd4+ 10.Ke8/vii wins.

i) h5 2.Rg8+ Kh7 3.Sg5+ Kh6 4.Ke8 Qc6+ 5.Kxe7 wins.

ii) 2.Rg8+? Kh7 3.Sh4 Qxh4 4.Rg7+ (Ke8 Qxc4;) Kh8 5.Rg8+ Kh7 draws.

iii) 3.Ke8? Qxg3 4.f8Q+ Qg8 draws.

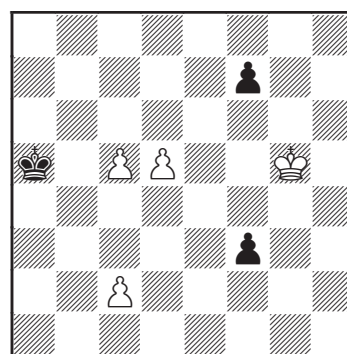
iv) 4.Ke8? Qxc4 5.f8Q? Qxg8 and Black wins.

v) Kxg7 6.f8Q+ Kg6 7.Qf7+ Kg5 8.Qxe7+ Kg4 9.Qxc5 wins.

vi) 11.f8Q? Qxg8 12.Qxc5 Qg7+ draws.

vii) 10.Kc6? Qg7 11.f8Q Qxg8 12.Qe7+ Kg6 draws.

No 21222 P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



g5a5 0000.32 4/3 Win

No 21222 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.d6, and:

— Kb4 2.d7 f2 3.d8Q f1Q 4.Qb6+ Qb5/i 5.Kf5/ii Kc4 (Qxb6; cxb6) 6.Kf6 zz Qxc5/iii 7.Qb3+ Kd4 8.Qd3 model mate, or:

— Ka4/iv 2.d7 f2 3.d8Q f1Q 4.Qb6 Qg1+/v 5.Kf5/vi Qd4/vii 6.c4/viii Qxc4 7.Kf6 (c6? Qe6+;) Qf4+ (Qd5; Ke7) 8.Ke7 f5 9.c6 Qe5+ 10.Kd7/ix Qd5+ 11.Kc8 wins.

i) Kc4 5.Qa6+ Kxc5 6.Qxf1, or Ka4 5.c6 win.

ii) Try: 5.Kf6? Kc4 zz 6.c3 Qxc5 draws.

iii) Qe8 7.Qd6 Kb5 8.c4+ Kxc4 9.c6 wins.

iv) f2 2.d7 f1Q 3.d8Q+, or Ka6 2.d7 f2 3.d8Q f1Q 4.Qb6 mate.

v) Qg2+ 5.Kf6 Qxc2 6.c6, or Qb5 5.Kf5 win.

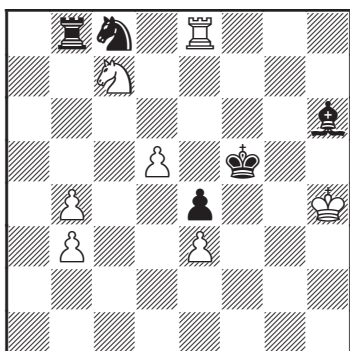
vi) 5.Kf6? Qxc5 6.Qxc5 stalemate.

vii) Qf2+ 6.Ke5 Qxc2 7.Kd6 wins.

viii) 6.Qa6+? Kb4 7.c3+ Qxc3 draws. 6.Qb3+? Ka5 7.Qb6+ Ka4 loss of time.

ix) 10.Kd8? Qf6+ 11.Kc8 f4 draws.

No 21223 M. Minski
2nd honourable mention



h4f5 0434.41 7/5 Win

No 21223 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.d6 Rxb4/i 2.Re5+/ii Kxe5 3.d7 Bg5+ (Sd6; d8Q) 4.Kxg5 Sd6 (Sb6; d8Q) 5.d8S (d8Q? Sf7+;) Rb6 (Rxb3; Sc6 mate) 6.b4 zz, and:

— Sb5 7.Sf7 mate, or:

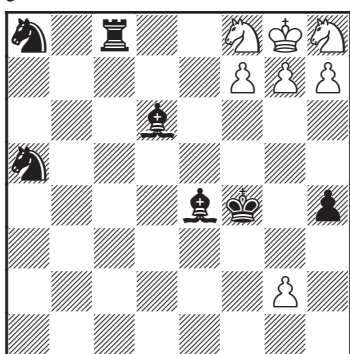
— Rb5/iii 7.Sc6 mate.

i) Bg5+ (Sxd6; Rxb8) 2.Kh5 Rxb4 3.Rxc8 Rxb3 4.Ra8 Bf6 5.d7 Rxe3 6.Ra5+ wins.

ii) 2.d7? Bg5+ 3.Kh5 Sb6 4.Rf8+ Ke5 5.Kxg5 Sxd7 6.Rf5+ Kd6 7.Sb5+ Kc6 8.Sd4+ Kd6 9.Rb5 Rxb5+ 10.Sxb5+ Kc5, or 2.Rxc8? Rxb3 3.Kh5 Rxe3 4.Kxh6 Rd3 draw.

iii) Ra6 7.Sxa6 wins, but not 7.b5? Rb6.

No 21224 M. Campioli
3rd honourable mention



g8f4 0368.41 7/7 Draw

No 21224 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Sg6+/i Bxg6 2.h8Q (g3+? Kxg3;) Kg5 3.g3/ii hxg3/iii 4.Qh3/v Bf5 5.Qg2/v Sc6/vi 6.Kh8 Be5 7.Qxg3+ (Qd2+? Kh4;) Bxg3 8.g8Q+ Kh4 9.Sd7/vii Be5+/viii 10.Sxe5 Sxe5 11.Kg7/ix Sxf7 12.Qxf7 Rc7 13.Kh6 Rxf7 stalemate.

i) 1.g3+? Kxg3 2.Sg6 Bxg6 3.h8Q Sc6 4.Qh6 Se7+ 5.Kh8 Bf4 6.Qxf4+ Kxf4 7.g8Q Kg4 8.Kg7 Sc7 9.Kf6 Scd5+ wins.

ii) 3.Qh7? Bxf8 4.gxf8Q Bxh7+ wins.

iii) Bxg3 4.Qh7 Bf5 5.Qxf5+ Kxf5 6.Kh7 draws.

iv) 4.Qh1? Sb6 5.Qg2 Sc6 6.Kh8 Be5 7.Qxg3+ Bxg3 8.g8Q Be5+ wins.

v) 5.Qf1? Be5 6.Qe1 Sc6 7.Qc1+ Bf4 8.Qxc6 Rxc6 9.Sh7+ Bxh7+ 10.Kxh7 Rh6+ 11.Kg8 g2 wins.

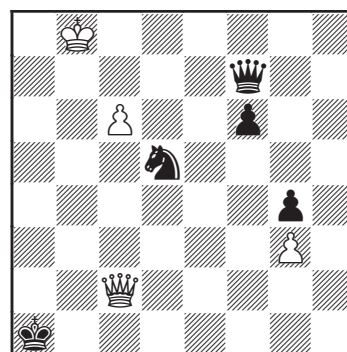
vi) Be5 6.Qd2+ Kg4 7.Qxa5 draws.

vii) 9.Se6? Be5+ 10.Sg7 Se7, or 9.Sg6+? Bxg6 10.Kg7 Rc7 11.Kxg6 Se5+ 12.Kf6 Rxf7+ wins.

viii) Bxd7 10.f8Q Be5+ 11.Kh7 draws.

ix) 11.f8Q? Sg6+ 12.Qxg6 Rxf8+, or 11.Qxc8? Sxf7+ 12.Kg7 Bxc8 wins.

No 21225 V. Tarasiuk
1st commendation



b8a1 4003.22 4/5 Draw

No 21225 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Qc1+/i Ka2 2.Qc2+/ii Ka3 3.c7 Sxc7 4.Qxc7 Qxc7+ 5.Kxc7 f5 6.Kd6 f4 7.gxf4 g3 8.f5 g2 9.f6 g1Q 10.f7 Qa7 11.f8Q (Ke6? Qc5;) wins.

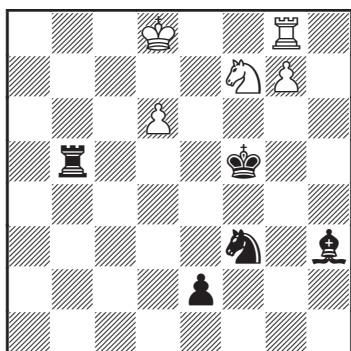
i) Thematic try: 1.c7? Qxc7+/iii 2.Qxc7 Sxc7 3.Kxc7 f5 4.Kd6 f4 5.gxf4 g3 6.f5 g2 7.f6 g1Q 8.f7 Qa7 9.f8Q Qa3+ wins.

ii) Thematic try: 2.c7? Qxc7+ 3.Qxc7 Sxc7 4.Kxc7 f5 5.Kd6 f4 6.gxf4 g3 7.f5 g2 8.f6 g1Q 9.f7 Qa7 10.f8Q Qa3+ wins.

iii) Sxc7? 2.Qc1+ Ka2 3.Qc2+ Ka3 4.Qxc7 Qxc7+ 5.Kxc7 f5 6.Kd6 f4 7.gxf4 g3 8.f5 g2 9.f6 g1Q 10.f7 Qa7 11.f8Q draws.

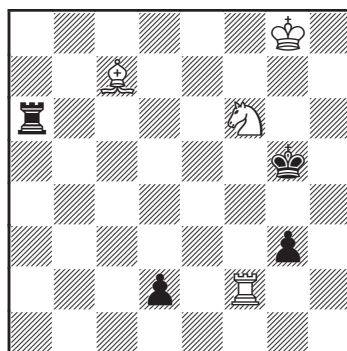
No 21226 Pavel Arestov (Russia), Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany).

No 21226 P. Arestov
& D. Keith & M. Minski
2nd commendation



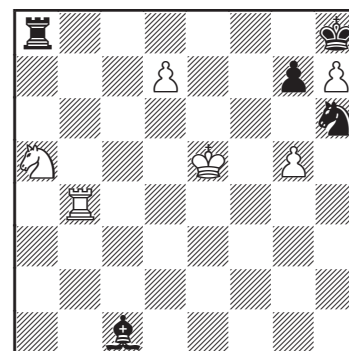
d8f5 0434.21 5/5 Draw

No 21227 M. Hlinka
& L. Kekely
3rd commendation



g8g5 0411.02 4/4 Win

No 21228 P. Krug
& M. Garcia
4th commendation



e5h8 0434.31 6/5 Win

1.Rf8/i e1Q 2.g8Q/ii Qa5+ (Rb8+; Kc7) 3.Ke7/iii Qe1+ 4.Kd8 (Se5+? Kxe5;) Qa5+ 5.Ke7 Rb7+/iv 6.d7 (Ke8? Qb5;) Rxd7+ 7.Kxd7 Se5+/v 8.Sxe5+ (Kd6? Qb6+;) Kxe5+ 9.Rf5+/vi Bxf5+ 10.Ke8/vii Qa8+ 11.Ke7, and:

— Qb7+ 12.Kf8/viii Qb4+ 13.Kg7 Qg4+ 14.Kf8 Qb4+ 15.Kg7 positional draw, or:

— Qa3+ 12.Ke8 Qa8+ 13.Ke7 Qxg8 stalemate.

i) 1.Re8? Rb8+ 2.Kd7 Kf6+ wins.

ii) 2.Sh6+++? Ke4 3.Re8+ Se5 4.g8Q Kd4, or 2.Sg5+? Kg4 3.g8Q Qa5+ win.

iii) 3.Ke8? Ke4 4.Qg6+ Rf5 5.Qf6 Qa8+ wins.

iv) Qe1+ 6.Kd8 positional draw.

v) Kf6+ 8.Kd6 Qb6+ 9.Kd5 Qb5+ 10.Kd6 (Ke4 Sd2+;) Qb6+ 11.Kd5 positional draw.

vi) 9.Kc6? Qa6+ 10.Kc5 Qd6+ 11.Kb5 Bd7+ 12.Kc4 Be6+ wins.

vii) 10.Ke7? Qc7+ 11.Kf8 Qd8+ 12.Kg7 Qf6 mate.

viii) 12.Ke8? Qd7+ 13.Kf8 Qd8+ 14.Kg7 Qf6 mate.

No 21227 Michal Hlinka & Ľubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Se4+/i Kh6 (Kg6; Rxd2) 2.Rxd2 Rg6+ 3.Kf8 (Kf7? Rg7+;) g2 4.Rd5 Rg8+/ii 5.Kxg8 g1Q+ 6.Bg3/iii Qg2/iv 7.Rd6+ Kh5 8.Sf6+ Kg6/v 9.Sd5+ (Sh7+? Kf5;) Kg5 10.Rg6+ Kxg6 (Kf5; Se3+) 11.Sf4+ wins.

i) 1.Sh7+? Kh5 2.Rxd2 Rg6+ 3.Kf7 Kh6 4.Be5 g2 5.Rd3 Kxh7 draws.

ii) g1Q 5.Bf4+ Kh7 (Rg5; Rxg5) 6.Rh5+ Rh6 7.Rxh6 mate. Rg4 5.Rd6+ Kh5 6.Sf6+ Kh4 7.Rd5 Kh3 8.Rh5+ Rh4 9.Rg5 wins.

iii) 6.Sg3? Qc1 7.Bd8 Qc4 8.Sf5+ Kg6 9.Se7+ Kf6 10.Sc6+ Ke6 draws.

iv) Qf1 7.Rd6+ Kh5 8.Sf6+ Kg6 9.Sd5+ Kh5 10.Kg7 Qb5 11.Sf6+ Kg5 12.Rd5+, or here: Qf3 11.Sf6+ Kg5 12.Rd5+ wins. Qe3 7.Rd6+ Kh5 8.Sf6+ Kg5 9.Kf7 Qa7+ 10.Rd7 Qa8 11.Rd5+ wins.

v) Kg5 9.Kf7 Qb7+ 10.Rd7 Qc6 11.Rd5+ wins.

No 21228 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.g6/i Sg4+/ii 2.Ke6 (Rxc4+? Rxa5+;), and:

— Ra6+ 3.Sc6/iii Rxc6+ 4.Kd5 Rxc6 5.d8Q+ Kxh7 6.Qh4+ Sh6 7.Qe4 wins, or:

— Se5 3.Kxe5 Rxa5+ 4.Ke6, and now:

– Ra8 5.Rc4 Bg5 6.Rc8+ Bd8 7.Kf7 Rb8 8.Ke8 Rb6 9.Kxd8 (Rxd8? Rb8;) Rc6 10.Ke7 wins, or here:

– Ra6+ 5.Kf7 Ra8 6.Re4/iv Ba3 7.Re8+ Bf8 8.Rc8 Rxc8 (Rb7; Ke8) 9.dxc8S wins.

i) Try: 1.gxh6? Rxa5+ 2.Ke6 Ra8 3.Rc4/v Ra6+ 4.Kd5 Ra5+ 5.Kc6 Ra6+ 6.Kb7/vi Rd6 7.hxg7+ Kxh7/vii 8.Kc7 Rxd7+ 9.Kxd7 Bb2 10.Ke6 Kxg7 draws.

ii) Rxa5+ 2.Ke4 Ra8 3.Rc4 Rd8 4.Rxc1 wins.

iii) 3.Kf5? Rxa5+ 4.Kxg4 Ra8 5.Rc4 Bg5 6.Rc8+ Bd8 7.Kf5 Ra5+ 8.Ke6 Re5+ 9.Kxe5 draws.

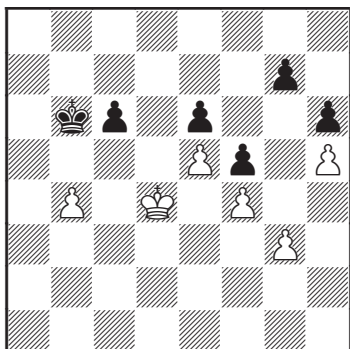
iv) 6.Rc4? Rd8 7.Rc8 Bg5 draws.

v) 3.Ra4 Rd8 4.hxg7+ Kxg7 draws.

vi) 6.Kc7 Ra7+ 7.Kc8 Rxd7 draws.

vii) But not: Kxg7? 8.Kc7 Rxd7+ 9.Kxd7 Bb2 10.Rh4 wins.

No 21229 S. Rahmanov
5th commendation



d4b6 0000.55 6/6 Win

No 21229 Shahriyar Rahmanov (Azerbaijan). 1.Ke3/i c5 2.g4 (bxc5+? Kxc5;) cxb4/ii 3.gxf5 exf5/iii 4.Kd4 (Kd3? Kc5;) Kb5 (Kc6; Kc4) 5.Kd5 b3/iv 6.e6 b2 7.e7 b1Q 8.e8Q+ Ka6/v 9.Qa8+ Kb6 10.Qb8+ Ka6 11.Qxb1 wins.

i) 1.g4? fxg4 2.Ke3 Kc7 3.Kf2 c5 4.bxc5 Kc6 5.Kg3 Kxc5 6.Kxg4 Kd5 draws.

ii) fxg4 3.f5 exf5 4.e6 Kc6 5.b5+/vi Kd6 6.b6 wins.

iii) b3 4.fxe6 b2 5.e7 b1Q 6.e8Q wins.

iv) Kb6 6.Kc4 Kc6 7.Kxb4 Kd5 8.Kb5 wins.

v) Kb4 9.Qb8+ Kc3 10.Qxb1 wins.

vi) But not: 5.bxc5? g3 6.Kf3 f4 7.Kg2 Kc7 8.Kf3 Kc6 9.Kg2 Kc7 draws.

Jan Hendrik Timman – 65 Jubilee Tourney

To celebrate the 65th birthday of the famous Dutch over-the-board GM and endgame study composer Jan Timman, two composing tourneys for endgame studies are announced:

1. Only for over the board title-holders (FIDE GM, IM, FM, WGM, WIM, WFM)

Theme: free

Judges: Yochanan Afek & Hans Böhm; Tourney director: Harold van der Heijden
Prize fund: 1000 EUR

2. Open section

Theme: mate by the bishop (or struggle against mate by the bishop)

Judges: Jan Timman & Hans Böhm; Tourney director: Harold van der Heijden,
Prize fund: 1000 EUR

Send your originals before **July 1st 2017** to the tourney director:
heijdenharold@gmail.com

preferably in PGN-format. In both sections there is a maximum of three studies per composer. Co-authored studies are allowed (in the first section all authors must be title holders).

The final award will be ready on **December 14th 2017**, the 66th birthday of Jan Timman.

The prize money is made available by Böhm Communications BV
www.hansbohm.com

In this way, Hans Böhm celebrates 50 years of close friendship with Jan Timman.