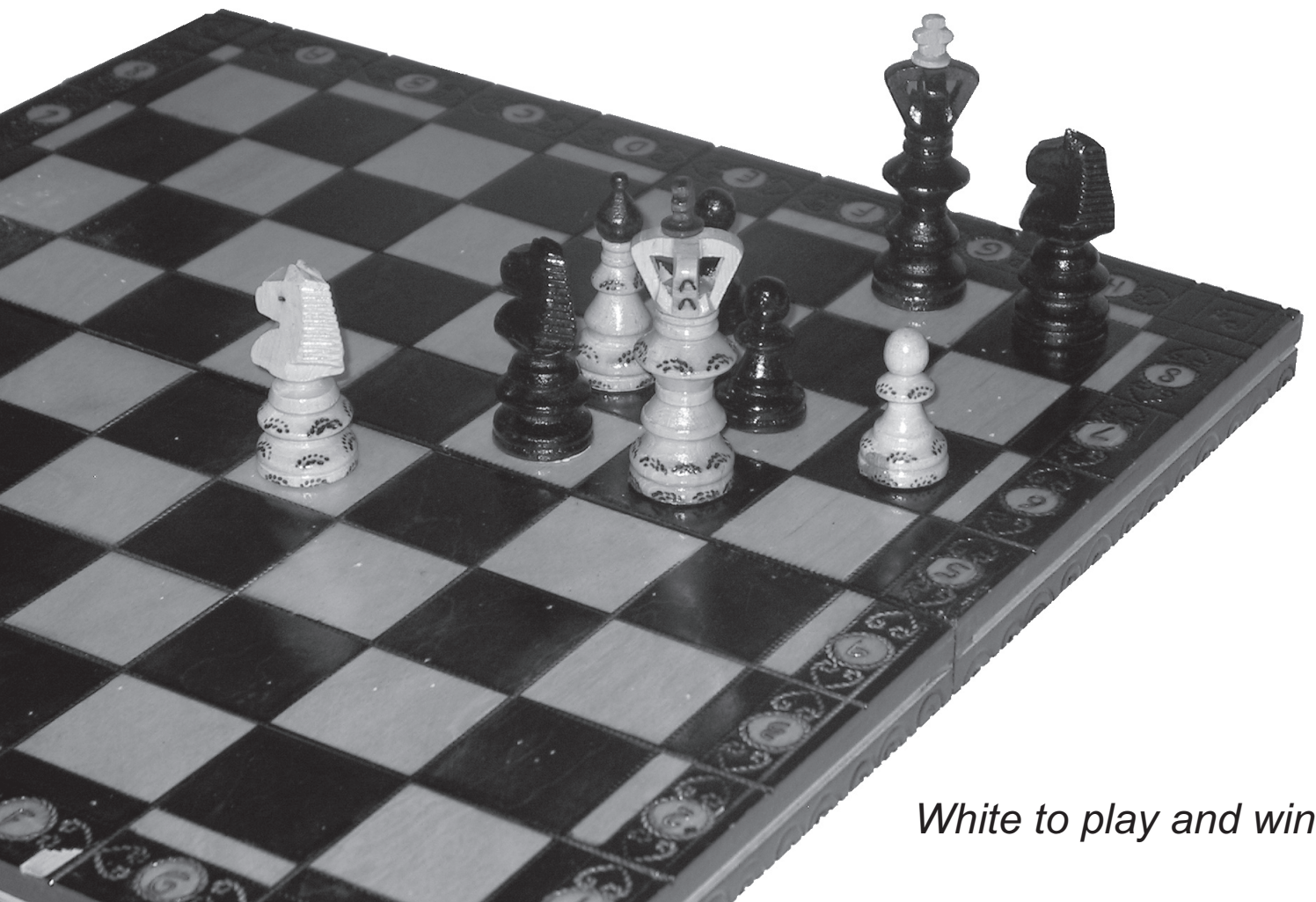


eog

No. 168 – Vol. XIII – April 2007



White to play and win

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EDITORIAL

HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

ARVES has issued two magazines about endgame studies; **EG**, originally founded by John Roycroft in 1965, and **EBUR** since the foundation of ARVES in 1989. The main objective for **EG** (in English) was to publish all endgame study awards, while it was **EBUR**'s (in Dutch, English and German) intention to have entertaining articles about endgame studies.

Now that the ARVES board has taken the decision to fuse both magazines, AJR has stepped back as main editor. The endgame study world should be very grateful to John. Not only for his more than 40 years of editorship of the most important endgame study magazine of the world, but also for numerous other endgame study related activities, e.g. books (*Test Tube Chess* attracted many to the endgame studies), chairmanship of endgame study committee of PCCC, endgame study section director of FIDE Albums. Thank you John! During the last PCCC meeting in Wageningen, AJR was promoted to honourable member of ARVES.

After fusion, the new magazine will combine the strong points of both **EG** and **EBUR**, i.e. the name, the awards, originals and spotlight of **EG** in formal style, and articles/columns in more liberal **EBUR** style. The whole magazine will be written in English, mainly because that is an international language.

It is good news that the editorial team hardly changes. I will take over as main editor, but AJR will continue to produce the awards from former Soviet countries. It was also very good news to me that the other **EG** editors, Gady Costeff, Jarl Ulrichsen, Ed van de Gevel and Luc Palmans also want to continue their work. Luc has done a great job restyling the whole magazine!

A new thing is that we will have columns, with "contributors" each being responsible for their column appearing regularly (they're free to write the articles themselves or to invite others to write on a certain topic), but not necessarily every issue. The first **EG** contributors are: Yochanan Afek (Prize Winners Explained), Emil Vlasák (Computer News) and Oleg Pervakov (Themes & Tasks). And probably we will have more columns and contributors during 2007 (e.g. History: there is already an article in the present issue, but the position of contributor is still vacant).

I became increasingly unhappy seeing so many incorrect studies being published in **EG**. Not only this is very disturbing to our readers (cf. John Nunn's article in **EG**159-162), but also Spotlight is becoming far too long. Therefore I decided that it is necessary to introduce a correctness check, especially for the awards section. Marco Campioli (Italy) has agreed to do the work. We will see how this works out, and if it is succesful we could perhaps transform Spotlight into a column where we also publish feedback (letters) of readers.

And finally Hew Dundas (Scotland) has agreed to join the **EG** team taking care of English proofreading of the articles.

All of us are volunteer workers, and our only payment is having the honour to contribute to such a famous magazine and the satisfaction to produce something worthwhile. With so many people involved and so many chances it is almost inevitable that not everything will run smoothly from scratch. I hope that you, dear **EG** reader, are patient with us. Your suggestions and comments will be very welcome and will be carefully considered.

ORIGINALS (16)

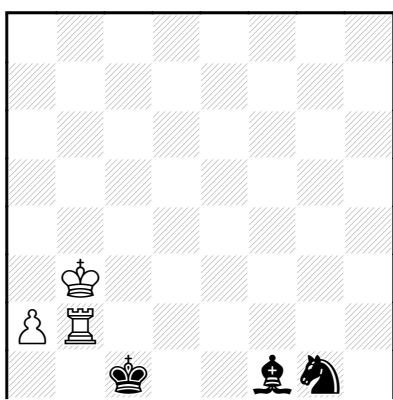
Editor :
GADY COSTEFF

Editor: Gady Costeff – “email submissions are preferred.”

Judge 2006-07: GM J. Mestel – “all studies welcome, including database mined.”

37 years ago De Feijter published the following study:

No 16218 De Feijter, 1970



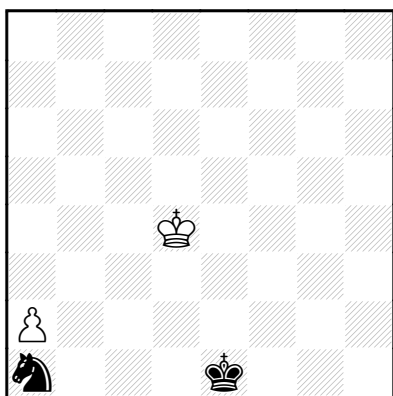
b3c1 0133.10 3/3 Win

No 16218 Cor De Feijter (Netherlands).
1.Rh2 Sf3 2.Rh1 Sd2+ 3.Kc3 Kd1/i 4.a4 Ke1
5.Rxf1+ Sxf1 6.a5 Se3 7.a6 Sd5+ 8.Kb3! wins.

i) Se4+ 4.Kb4 Kb2 5.Rxf1 Kxa2 6.Rf4
wins.

Siegfried provides perhaps a more natural setting for the same idea:

No 16219 S. Hornecker
version of De Feijter 1970



d4e1 0003.10 2/2 Win

No 16219 Siegfried Hornecker (Germany).
1.Kc3!/i Kd1 2.a4 Sc2 3.a5 Se3 4.a6 Sd5+
5.Kb3!/ii Kd2 6.a7 Sb6 7.Kb4 Kd3 8.Kb5 (or
Ka5/Kc5) Sa8 9.Kc6 (Ka6) Kc4 10.Kb7 Kb5
11.Kxa8 Kb6 12.Kb8 wins.

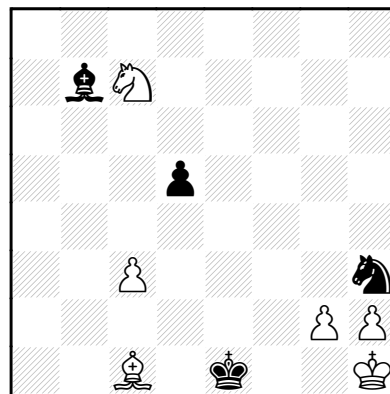
i) 1.a4? Sb3+ draws.

ii) 5.Kd4?/iii Sc7 6.a7 Sb5+ draw.

iii) 5.Kc4? Sb6+ 6.Kb5 Sc8 draw.

Thematic tries are especially effective if they are the more natural move compared with the solution. Eligiusz provides an excellent example of this in the following study:

No 16220 E. Zimmer



h1e1 0044 6/4 Draw

No 16220 Eligiusz Zimmer (Poland).
1.Be3! d4 2.cxd4 Be4 3.Se6 Kf1 4.Sf4 Sxf4
5.h3!!/i Sxg2 6.Bg5! Se1+ 7.Kh2 Sf3+ /ii
8.Kg3 Sxg5 9.Kf4! draw.

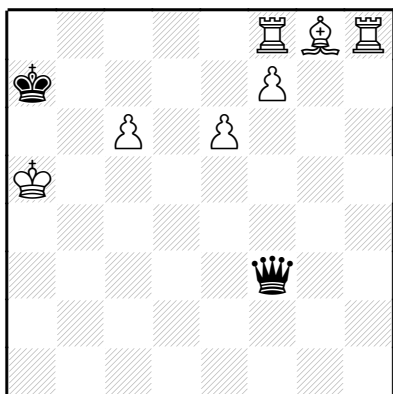
i) The thematic try is 5.h4? see next comment!

ii) 7...Kf2 8.Bh4+! the point of 5.h3! keeping h4 available to the bishop.

Yochanan Afek relates the story of our next study: "Karel van Delft is the main engine behind chess life in the city of Apeldoorn (Netherlands). When I showed the study in

front of many guests there, the quiz was not the solution but rather what is the last move of the solution and GM Erwin L'Ami was the first one to shout 7.c8S+! (in less than 2 minutes).”

No 16221 Y. Afek
composed for Karel van Delft
50th birthday, 2006



a5a7 3210.30 7/2 Win

No 16218 Yochanan Afek (Israel/Netherlands). 1.Ra8+!/i Kxa8 2.f8Q+!/iii Qxf8 3.e7! Qxe7 4.Bd5+! Ka7 5.Ra8+! Kxa8 6.c7+ Ka7 7.c8S+! wins.

i) 1.Rd8!? Qh5+! 2.Kb4 Qb5+! 3.Kc3 Qxc6+ 4.Kd2 Qg2+ 5.Kd3 Qf3+ 6.Kd4 Qf4+ 7.Kd5 Qg5+ 8.Kc4 Qc1+ 9.Kd5/ii Qg5+ 10.Kc6 Qxd8 draws.

ii) 9.Kd3 Qd1+ 10.Ke3 Qxd8 11.Rh4 Qb6+ 12.Kf3 Qb3+ 13.Kf4 Qc4+ 14.Ke5 Qc5+ 15.Kf6 Qf2+ 16.Kg5 Qg3+ 17.Rg4 Qe5+ 18.Kh6 Qxe6+ 19.Rg6 Qf5 draws.

iii) 2.Rh4? Qd5+ 3.Kb6 Qd8+ 4.c7 Qd6+ 5.Kb5 Qd5+ draws; 2.Bh7+? Ka7 3.f8Q Qxf8 4.Rxf8 draws.

iv) Qc8/v 4.Bf7 Ka7 5.e8Q wins.

v) Qf5+ 4.Bd5+ Ka7 5.Ra8+ wins.

Corus Endgame Study Composing Tourney

The organizing board of **Corus Chess Tournament** announces an international composing tourney for endgame studies.

No set theme.

Five money prizes will be awarded:

1st: 750 Euros 2nd: 500 Euros; 3rd: 250 Euros; 4th: 150 Euros; 5th: 100 Euros.

Book prizes are offered to the other studies in the final judge's award.

The award will be published in January 2008 towards the next edition of Corus Chess Tournament and will be sent to all participants.

Judge: Yochanan Afek

Entries (not more than three per composer) should be sent to the neutral judge Harold van der Heijden, Michel de Klerkstraat 28, 7425 DG Deventer, The Netherlands. E-mail: heijdenh@studieaccess.nl **before November 1st, 2007.**

SPOTLIGHT (12)

Editor :

JARL ULRICHSEN

Contributors: Iuri Akobia (Georgia), Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan), Mario García (Argentina), Siegfried Hornecker (Germany), Fernand Joseph (Belgium), Daniel Keith (France), Alain Pallier (France), Vladimir Persiyanov (Russia), Harold van der Heijden (The Netherlands), Emil Vlasák (Czech Republic).

I receive many comments from readers and it is easy to overlook something. If you think that your message has been neglected then please contact me! I am always prepared to correct my mistakes.

I would like to emphasize that van der Heijden often helps in checking and correcting the claims of our contributors. This assistance makes my task easier.

Van der Heijden tells us that two endgame studies were eliminated from the final award in *Szachy* 1977:

59.3945, M. Bordenyuk, A.P. Kuznetsov. Dual 2.Rf7 (threatening 3.Bf2+ Kf1 4.Be3+ Ke1 5.Bd2 mate) 2...Rd8+ 3.Ke4 Re8 4.Bc4 winning. (In my email to van der Heijden 30v2006 I pointed out that 11.Be7 mates.)

59.3948, J. Rusinek. Second solution: 3.Bxc4 Rc5 4.c8Q Be4+ 5.Bd3 Bxd3+ 6.Ka1 Rxc8 stalemate!

60.3950, Y.N. Dorogov in the same tourney was cooked by Staudte 28 years later: 2...Qf2 3.Qxh6+ Kc2 4.Qh2 Qxh2 5.d8Q Qg1+ 6.Ka2 Qb1 mate, and also 2...Qf6 3.Qxh6+ Qxh6 4.d8Q Qa6+ (email to van der Heijden 5v2005).

Pallier continues his investigation of endgame studies that can be checked by EGTB (6 men or less in the initial position or during the solution).

EG41

2327, A. Kakovin, A. Motor. Duals after 1...Kxh1: 3.Kh3 b1Q 4.Bxb1 g2 and now not 5.Sh4? but 5.Sd2, 5.Se5 or 5.Sg5.

2330, A. Kakovin, A. Motor. Black wins after 6...Sd6+; in authors's line 8...Bc1 9.Kf7 Sg5+ 10.Kf8 Ba3 wins.

2333, J. Vandiest. No solution after 2...Kxd3; 8...Ka2 draws.

2336, J. Vandiest. Dual/Second solution 10.Qd4+ Kb1 11.Qd1+ Ka2 12.Qa4+ Kb2 13.Sc4+ Kb1 14.Qd1+ Ka2 15.Qc2+.

2343, Yu. Bazlov. Minor dual 9.Ke6.

2355, B. Olympiev. In the line 9...Rd7, 10.Sd3 and 10.Ke5 also draw.

2375, B. Belenky. Second solution 2.Kc6.

2389, A. Kuznetsov, A. Motor. Duals. 8.Kg2 and 8.Sg5 win quicker than 8.Sf4.

EG42

2410, C. Jonsson. Second solution. 7.Se5 (instead of 7.Sh6).

2423, B. Dutsa. Numerous alternatives at move 5 although some of them are time loss duals.

2449, A. Koranyi. I. Dual 3.Rf4; II. Minor dual 7.Kg7.

2453, G. Zakhodyakin. Cook 5.Sd4. This was found many years ago.

EG43

G3 p. 275, D. Gurgeni. Minor dual 3.Ka4 in the line 1...Qh2+.

2469, V. Bratsev. Dual 11.Kd2

2471, R. Tavariani, V. Kalandadze. After 5...Rb8+ White can reach the safe square a8 in many different ways.

2475, M. Gorbman. Dual 5.Re6+ Kc5 6.Re5+ or 6.Rc6+.

2477, V. Evreinov. Dual 6.Re7 (instead of the well-known stalemate after 6.Rg2).

2504, V. Gorgiev. Dual 4.Rb2 Qd1+ 5.Ke7 Qe1+ 6.Kf7 Qe4 7.Ra8+. This is the same finale as in the solution but three moves quicker.

2518, R. Margalatidze. Minor duals 10.Bg6 and 10.Bh5.

2520, I. Kovalenko. Duals. 4.Sf7 (solution) wins in 35 moves and 4.Sc4 wins in 42 moves; other duals 5.Bc3; 7.Kg2.

2525, A. Grin. No solution. 3...Bd6 or 3...Bc5+ wins for Black.

EG44

2526, G. Nadareishvili. Dual win 7.Rd1 Ra7 8.Be5+ Kc4 9.Rd4+.

2592, A.C. Miller. Not only 6.Bd2 but also 6.Bf2 and 6.Bh4 lead to mate.

2627, E. Kudevich (misprint for Kudelich). Several solutions. 1.Sd5 and 1.Sc2 win in 35 moves, 1.Sa2 wins in 36 moves, 1.Sc6 wins in 37 moves and 1.Sd3 (author's solution) wins in 38 moves.

EG45

2637, C.M. Bent, A.J. Roycroft. No solution. The cook 7...Sd5 (or 7...Sg6) has been known for many years.

2666, D. Gurgenidze, E. Pogosyants. Cook 4.Kc5.

2672, V.N. Dolgov. No solution. 5.Sb5 loses in 31 moves.

2673, Belenky. Second solution 3.Rg1.

2692, Yu. Bazlov. The moves 4.Kg8 and 5.Bc6 can be transposed. The line 8.Bg4 Kg6 9.Be6 Kf6 10.Bf7 seems to be a dual.

2698, Zh. Byuzandyan. The cook Sc2 has been known for many years.

2700, N. Svetuchin (misprint for Svetukin). No solution. Black draws by playing 3...Ke2. This cook has been known for many years; cf. J. Nunn in EG61 p. 323.

2707, J. Fritz. Another well known cook. Black wins after 3...Kf2 4.d7 Rd8.

2726, E. Dobrescu. There is a dual at the end of the solution, but this is unimportant

compared to the cook 1...Se8 found some years ago by van der Heijden.

EG46

2742, A. Belenky. No solution. Black wins after 4...Bh7+.

2750, O. Mazur. No solution. 2...Sf3 draws for Black.

2754, A. Tulyev. No solution. 2...Bg1 wins for Black.

2770, A.C. Miller. No solution. 4...Kf6 is the quickest win for Black.

2777, E. Pogosyants. Duals 10.Kc5, 12.Kc4, 13.Sh6 and others.

2780, J. Mugnos, O.J. Carlsson. No solution. 1...Kc3 and 1...Bh5 draw.

2781, J. Mugnos, O.J. Carlsson. 3.Kf6 Kg1 4.Be4(c8) draws; 7...Bc6 draws; 8.Bd3 draws; at move 9 nine moves draw.

2783, J. Roche. No solution. 2...Kd6 3.Sxe7 Kxe7 wins for Black.

2787, G. Nadareishvili. Dual 3.Bg4.

2804, Yu. Bazlov. The cooks 5.Se1 and 5.Sh4 have been known for years. 4.Sg5+ proposed by V. Vlasenko in EG137 p.190 leads to a draw.

EG47

2883, F. Aitov. The solution should stop at move 8 as not only 9.Kf2 but also 9.Sf7, 9.Sc6, 9.Sb7, 9.Se6 and 9.Bg4 win.

2897, T. Gorgiev. In the line 5...Sc3 many moves draw.

2900, A. Kopnin. No solution. 1...Kc5 draws. This cook is also well-known.

2902, E. Pogosyants. No solution. The easiest win for Black is 4...Ka6, 4...Sd8 or 4...Sa5.

2909, N. Svetukhin (= Svetukin). This repeats 45.2700.

2913, G. Kasparyan. No solution. Another well-known cook. 4...Se6 wins for Black.

2918, B. Sivak. No solution. 7...Ke5 wins for Black.

2922, E. Dobrescu. No solution 10...Rf1 and 10...Sf7 draw.

2924, H. Aloni. Many duals. 3.Re8+; 3.Kd5; 4.Kd5, 4.Re7, 4.Kb5.

2957, G. Zakhodyakin. The dual 5.Sd5 has been known for several years.

2958, G. Nadareishvili. Duals 10.Sd2 and 10.Sd4.

2963, J. Vandiest. Dual 5.Qe5.

2964, J. Vandiest. Second solution 4.Qc4+. This confirms J. Nunn's comment in EG61 p.363–364.

EG48

2968, J. Kopelovich (Afek). Dual 10.Sg4+ Ke7 11.Kg6 or 11.Se5.

2974, L. Veretennikov. In the line 1...Be5, 2.Ke7 and 9.Ke4 also win, the latter in 121 moves.

2995, J. Hoch. I. Dual 5.Kf5

2997, C.M. Bent. Duals 7.Kb2, 7.Kb4; (after 7.Kb2) 8.Kc1, 9.Kd1, 9.Kd2.

3008, R. Missiaen. Duals 4.Bc7+ and 4.Kf5.

3009, J. Roche. No solution. The position is lost for White.

3015, P. Monsky. No solution. 4...Kd6 wins for Black.

3025, A. Kopnin. Many duals from the first move on.

3026, J. Pospisil. Dual 2.Qc5 e2 3.Qg1+ and 4.Qg4+ with perpetual check.

3053, E. Pogosyants, S. Tolstoy. In addition to the known cook 6.Rxb2+ Kxa4 7.Kd5, Pallier mentions 6.Kc5 Kxa4 7.Rxb2.

3054, V. Nestorescu. II. 5.Bd6 or 5.Be7 wins quicker than the intended 5.Bb2. In his book *Miniaturi in alb si negru* (2003) Nestorescu has shortened the solution.

3056, E. Dobrescu. Second solution 2.Re4+ ... 5.Bf5 draws; in author's solution 5.Rc8, 5.Rb8, 5.Re6 and 6.Bb1 draw. This has been known for some years.

3062, A. Motor, C. Petrescu. Dual 3.Sg3+ and 4.Se2.

3066, R. Voia. Duals. 6.Qf1+, 6.Qh1, Qd5+ and Qg6+; 12.Kd5 or 12.Ke5 is the quickest as is 14.Kd5 or 14.Ke5.

EG49

3081, E. Pogosyants. No solution. 1...Be6 2.Bb3 Rd2 wins for Black.

3097, A. van Tets. Dual 7.Rf1+.

3098, E. Pogosyants. Minor dual 14.Kb3.

3102, J. Pospisil. Second solution 1.Qg3+ Kd7 2.Qg4+ Kd8 3.Qg8.

3106, D. Hooper. Minor dual 6.Sd8.

3118 E. Pogosyants, D. Gurgenidze. Not only 1.Sf3 (solution) but also 1.Sd3, 1.fSg6+, 1.Kf7 draw; in addition to 3.Kf7, 3.Kf6 and 3.Kf5 draw.

3123, B. Atanasov. No solution. The position is won for Black.

3124, L.A. Mitrofanov. Moves 2 and 3 can be transposed.

3131, T.B. Gorgiev. 4.Ke4 Kd2 5.Ke5 Bc8 6.Kd4 is a serious dual.

3135, I. Kovalenko. Dual 1.Sf6 which leads to the same play.

3140, V.N. Dolgov. Second solution 1.Ra4.

3141, L. Udanov (misprint for Ulanov). 2.g7 and 3.Kf7 can be transposed.

3145, V. Neidze. Also 6.Qd2+ Kf3 7.Qf4 mate, and 6...Kf1 7.Qe1 mate.

3149, F.A. Spinhoven. Pallier mentions the duals 5.Rf4, 5.Rg4 and 5.Rh4. The cook 1.Kf4 was found soon after publication and was corrected by moving wRa4 to a5. This correction does not help against the duals 5.Re5, 5.Rf5, 5.Rg5 and 5.Rh5 (Ulrichsen).

EG50

3150, S. Rumyantsev. Duals. 3.Kg5, 4.Kf4, 5.Ke3, 6.Kd3; in author's solution also 8.Kd3 (Kd4).

3151, V. Kozirev. Minor dual 9.Kh7.

3152, P. Perkonoja, R. Heiskanen. No solution. 7...f2 8.Sc4 Kf1, and Black draws. (In the solution 13...Kh1 has been regarded as a cook, but 14.Rh8 Bh2 15.Ke3 wins.)

3157, A. Koranyi. In II 2.h5 and 3.Kg2 can be transposed.

3170, A.P. Kuznetsov. Minor dual 8.Kh4.

3187a, J. Hannelius, V. Somerpuu. The solution should end with move 5 as there are numerous duals.

3207, J. Mugnos, O. Carlsson. 6.Rb3 (solution) wins in 23 moves, but 6.Rg7 or 6.Rg8 wins in 131 moves.

3210, H. Källström. Minor dual 9.Kd4.

3215, I. Roebuck. Second solution 1.Kh4 a4 2.Sc1 Ke5 3.Kg5 h4 4.Sd3.

Vol.XI.14691, V. Kaljagin. Incorrect. Black wins after 6...Re5 7.Bf4 Qxd8 8.Bxe5 Qd3+ 9.Kg2 Qe2+ 10.Kg3 Qxe5+ (Costeff; email to van der Heijden).

Vol.XI.14758, A. Zlatanov. Incorrect. Cook already in *Zadachy i Etyudi* no. 34 24xii2004 (van der Heijden).

Vol.XI.14853, S. Hornecker. The composer corrects his analysis. In the line 3.Rf5+ Black wins after 4...d1S+ instead of 4...Sd3+.

Vol.XI.14988, V. Razumenko. Dual 3.Kd3 (García; EGTB).

Vol.XI.14999, Yu. Roslov. García points out that White also draws after 3.Kc3 Ke5 4.d4+ Rxd4 5.Rc8 Rxa7 6.f4+ Ke4 7.Re8+ Kf3 8.Kxd4. Van der Heijden adds the line 3...Rg4 4.d3+ Ke5 5.f4+ Ke6 6.f5+ Ke5 7.d4+ Ke4 8.f6 Rxd3+ 9.Kc4 Rc7+ 10.Kb5.

Vol.XI.15000, V. Razumenko. Incorrect. Black draws in a surprising way: 5...b4 6.bxa8Q Re5+ 7.Kf6 Rb5 8.Se7 Kc7 9.Sd5+ Rxd5 10.Qb7+ Kd6 11.Qxb8+ Kc6 12.Qxb4 Rc5, and EGTB confirms the draw (García).

Vol.XI.15019, S. Borodavkin. The solution is not unique. 6.Kf6 is quicker than the composer's solution 6.Kg6 (EGTB), and 6.Ke6 also wins (García; EGTB).

Vol.XI.15021, S. Borodavkin. Incorrect. Black wins after 6...c5 (A. Visokosov, *Shakhmatnaya Nedelya* no. 22, 2003/5; information sent me by van der Heijden)

Vol.XI.15029, S. Borodavkin. Incorrect. Black draws after 1...Kd8 2.Kb7 b4 3.Ka8 Kc7 4.b3 Se3 (García).

Vol.XI.15031, V. Ribalka. Second solution: 3.Rd2 h2 4.Ra8+ Ke7 5.d6+ Ke6 6.Re8+ Kf6 7.Rh8 Rxd2 8.c8Q (García).

Vol.XI.15042, K. Tarnopolsky. Second solution 4.Kh3 Kf5 5.Sg3 Kg5 6.Se4 Kh5 7.Sc3 (García; EGTB).

Vol.XI.15095, J. Vandiest, G. Bacqué. Cf. the reference in *EGT65* p.108 no. 117.9924.

Vol.XI.15123, Y. Afek. 2.Sxc4 that was meant to be a try is actually a cook (analyses by N. Kralin, EBUR no. 4, 2006/12).

Vol.XI.15160, G. Amirian. Diagram error. wPh5 should be wPg5.

Vol.XI.15188, V. Kalyagin, B. Olimpiev. Second solution 2.Bxc3 Sg5 3.Rh4 Ka2 5.Rh1 (García, van der Heijden).

Vol.XI.15190, N. Argunov. Second solution. White wins easily after 2.Sd5+ Kc4 3.Bxb3+ Kxb3 4.Se3 Kc3 5.a6 (García).

Vol.XI.15191, S. Osintsev. Dubious. 2.Se6+ Kf6 3.Sd4 Be4 4.Kb8 Ke5 5.Sb3 Kd5 6.Kxa7 Kc4 7.Sc1 wins, and seems like a second solution (García, van der Heijden).

Vol.XI.15198, B. Sidorov. Dubious. García does not find any win after 1...Kf3, and this line should be analysed.

Vol.XI.15203, N. Bantish. An attempt to correct a cooked study from *Koninklijke Schaakfederatie van Antwerpen* 1997. García shows that Black wins by playing 1...Sf4+ 2.Kg1 Kg5 3.Sf1 Sh3+ 4.Kg2 Rf8; and van der Heijden adds the line 3.Kg3 Kg5 4.Sxg4 Sh5+ 5.Kf3 Rf8+. In the solution 7...Se4+ (instead of 7...Sxg4) wins (EGTB).

Vol.XI.15206, I. Starshov. Incorrect. Black draws after 6...Sd4 7.Kc5 Se6 8.Kb5 Sd4 9.Kc4 Sc6 10.Kd5 Sd8 (García, van der Heijden).

Vol.XI.15208, K. Mannatov. Dual 2.Ka5 Kg2 3.Se5 (García).

Vol.XI.15217, V. Katsnelson, L. Katsnelson. White also wins by playing 6.Qg5+ Kd4 7.Qd2+ Kc5 8.Qe3+ Kb4 9.Bc6 Rf5 10.Qd2+ Kc5 11.Bg2 Se7 12.Qa5+ Kd6 13.Qd8+ Ke6 14.Bh3 Bd5 15.Qf8 wins. If 9...Sb6 10.Qe8 Sa4 11.Bxb5 Bxb5 12.Qb8 Sc3 13.Kb2 wins (García).

Vol.XI.15275, I. Bondar. Cook 3.Sd6 g3 4.Re3 Bd7 5.Re7 g1Q 7.Rg7+ Kf8 7.Rf7+ Kg8 8.Rg7+ with perpetual check (Campioli; mail to van der Heijden 8ii2003).

In the next issue we shall finish our comments on Vol.XI!

165.15937, A. Foguelman. The win after 1...Rxc4 is very nice, but García does not find any win after 1...Rb8.

165.15947, A. Strebkovs. Duals. 6.Kc4 (heading for f1) or 6.Kb6 (García; EGTB).

165.15962, M. Muradov. 6.Ke6 (instead of 6.Kc4) 6...Bg4+ 7.Ke5 Bd4+ 8.Kxd4 Be6 9.Bxa4 seems to be a second solution (García, van der Heijden).

165.15968, A. Rzayev. Dual 2.Rc7+ which either leads to the same perpetual checks or a drawn position after 2...Kd6 3.Ra7 Rf4 4.Ra2 Re4 5.Re2 Kc6 6.Ka5 (García).

165.15990, E. Eilazyan. Second solution 1.Sxe7 Ra3+ 2.Kb4 Rg3 3.Sxd5 Rxc6 4.Rh4 Kd7 5.Rh8 Rg5 6.Kc5 Sa6 7.Kb5 (García).

165.15991, L. Katsnelson, V. Katsnelson. Duals. The solution is not the only way to reach the safe square b1. White can also play 8.Kd4 Rd5+ 9.Kc4 Rc5+ 10.Kb3 (García).

165.15992, A. Sochnev. Dubious. White loses after 5...Kd2 6.e5 Ke3 7.Bd7 Kd4 8.e6 Bh3 9.Bb5 Bxe6 or in this line 8.Kb6 Kxe5 (García; EGTB). Can White play better?

165.15997, A. Golubev. Dubious. White loses after 1...Be2 2.Kb6 Kb4 3.Kc7 Kc5 4.Kd7 eSf5 or 4.Be6 Sxe6 5.Kd7 Kd5 (García; EGTB). But is Black really forced to retreat voluntarily? (asks van der Heijden).

166.16050, M. Matouš. Second solution 1.Rb2 Rf8 2.Kf4 g5 3.fxcg hxg 4.Rc2 Sd5 5.Kg5 Kg7 6.Rc6, and White draws (García).

166.16059, Y. Afek. Cook 5.Rh2 Qxh2 6.Qxh2+ Kg8 7.Qb8+ (García).

166.16086, V. Nestorescu. Incorrect. Black draws after 2...Kxb2 3.b7 Sc3+ 4.Kd2 Se4+ (García).

166.16104, Yu. Akobia. García claims a draw after 2...Kb7; e.g. 3.c8Q+ Rxc8 4.Rb4+

Rb6 5.Rxb6+ Kxb6, and EGTB confirms the draw.

166.16107. The composer's name is S. Badalov (Aliev).

166.16109. The composer's name is A. Kalbiyev (Aliev).

166.16118, L. Gonzales. Second solution? After 4.Rf6 Ba8 5.Ra6, Black finds himself in a difficult position (García and Keith). We challenge the composer to show us how Black draws!

166.16121, D. Gurgenedze, Iu. Akobia. The short solution does not do justice to the thematic contents. Akobia would like to add the following lines: 1...Qe1 2.Qa6+ Kb4 3.Qa5+; 1...Qe5 2.Qa5+; 1...Qe2 2.Qa6+; 1...Qh5 2.Qa5+; 1...Qe4 2.Sd6+; 1...Qc8 2.Sd6+; 1...Qd7 2.Qb3+ Kc6 3.Qc4 mate; 1...Qf7 2.Qa5+ Kc6 3.Qc5+ Kd7 4.Qd6+ Ke8 5.Qd8 mate; 6...Ke8 7.Qe6+ Kxd8 8.Qd6+ Ke8 9.Qb8 mate.

166.16124, D. Gurgenedze, Iu. Akobia. The final phase should run 8...Ka5 9.Bd2+ Qb4 10.aSb3 mate; 8...Ka3 9.Bc1+ Qb2 10.Sc2 mate (Akobia), showing two mates with pinned bQ. Keith doubts that it is sound. He plays 2...Qa5+ 3.Bb6 Sf7+ 4.Kxe7 Qe5+ 5.Kxf7 Qh5+ 6.Ke7 Qh7+ 7.Kd8 Kxc2. EGTB confirms that all relevant endgames with Q vs RBS in this position are drawn.

166.16127, V. Maksaev, V. Sidorov. Cook 4.Ke3 (García). White threatens to put his king on g2. wK and wB easily prevent bK from reaching f1 and 4...Kb2 leads nowhere.

167.16162, E. Melnichenko. Cook 11.Sd1 Bg2 12.Sb2 Be4 13.Bf8 (García).

167.16215, D. Gurgenedze. García claims a win for Black after 1...Kd3 2.Rb3 Kd4 3.Ka2 Bf8 4.Kb1 Rc8 5.Rh4 S c4 6.Rb7 Bd6.

167.RA1 p. 266, R. Aleksandrov. Probably incorrect. García assumes that White also wins after 1.Rd3 Kg2 2.Kb7 Bc5 3.Kc6 Bb4 4.Sf5 Kf2 5.Sd4, and Black is in serious trouble; e.g. 5...f5 6.Sxf5 wins (EGTB).

167.RA5 p. 267, R. Aleksandrov. The printed solution is actually a dual. 4.Kh4 leads to the same kind of stalemate.

167.RA6 p. 267, R. Aleksandrov. Incorrect. Black wins after 2...Sd3 or 2...Sd1 (García; EGTB).

167.RA8 p. 268, R. Aleksandrov. 2.Kf1 is a serious dual (García). After 5...Kh3 6.Kg1 followed by 7.Kh1 Black is faced with the same problems as in the solution.

167.RA9 p. 268, R. Aleksandrov. Incorrect. 5...g3 wins on the spot (García).

P. 234–239 XVIII Birnov MT (Volgograd). This was actually not the final award.

167.16145, P. Rossi was excluded because it is only a version of G. Zakhodyakin's 2.p. 64 1932 (Persiyanov).

167.16153, M. Dudakov. This had been published in *Volgogradskaya Pravda* 1969

and was included in the Birnov MT by a mistake for which the composer is not to be blamed (Persiyanov).

167.16204, V. Kondratev. Incorrect. 6...Kg4 (instead of 6...Sh3 wins for Black (Joseph; EGTB). Remove wPb2 and White draws! (Ulrichsen; EGTB).

167.16214, H. van der Heijden. See Computer News.

167.U2-XXIV, S.S. Urusov. Incorrect. Black wins easily after 1...Bf5 2.Kxe2 Kd5 3.Kxe3 Kc4. wK cannot reach a1 and bB wins wPa6. White draws however if we put wP on a5 and bP on a6 (Ulrichsen; EGTB).

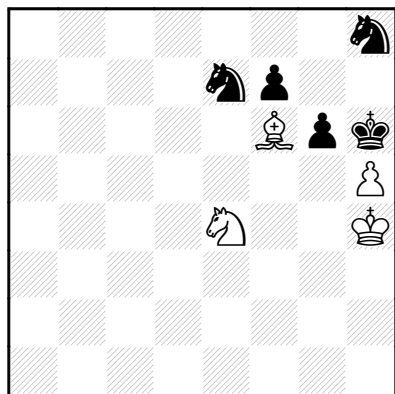


From left to right: Paz Einat, Gady Costeff, Ofer Comay and Yochanan Afek. PCCC 2003, Moscow. (Photo: Jurgen Stigter).

Israel Ring Ty 2002-2003

22 studies participated in this tourney for originals published in Israelian magazines (mainly *Variantim* and *Shahmat*). Judge Gady Costeff (Israel/USA) considered the level mediocre. The award appeared in *Variantim* no. 41.

No 16222 N. Elkies
honourable mention



h4h6 0017.12 4/5 Win

No 16222 Noam Elkies (Israel/USA). 1.Bg5+ Kg7/i 2.h6+ Kf8 (Kg8; Bxe7) 3.Bf6/ii Sf5+/iii 4.Kg5 Kg8/iv 5.Bg7/v Sxg7/vi 6.Sf6+ (h7+? Kf8) Kf8 7.Sd7+ Kg8/vii 8.h7+ Kxh7 9.Sf6 mate/viii.

i) Kh7 2.Sf6+ Kg7 3.h6+ Kf8 4.Bc1 Sf5+ 5.Kg5, and now Sxh6 6.Kxh6, or Ke7 6.Ba3+ Ke6 7.Bf8 and Black will lose Sh8.

ii) Switchback no.1. 3.Sf6? Sf5+ 4.Kg4 Ke7.

iii) g5+ (Sg8;Bg7+) 4.Kxg5 Shg6 5.Bg7+ Ke8 6.h7 Sc8 7.Kf7 Kd7 8.Kxf7 Sce7 9.Sf6+ Kd6 10.Sg8 wins.

iv) Sxh6 5.Kxh6 Kg8 6.Sg5 wins.

v) 5.Bb2? f6+ 6.Sxf6+ Kf7 draws.

vi) f6+ 6.Sxf6+ Kf7 7.Bxh8 wins as the Bishop is on the right side of the critical square f6.

vii) Switchback no.2. Ke7 8.hxg7.

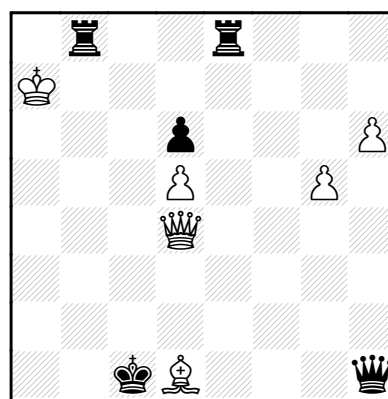
viii) Switchback no.3.

“The mate is known from Pogosiants, but there is a critical move 5.Bg7! and a new Bishop switchback”.

E. Pogosyants, *Sovietskaya Tsiuvashiya* 1964, a4b7 0107.22 c8g4a8e4.a5b6a7c7 5/5 Win: 1.a6+ Kxc8 2.b7+ Kb8 3.Se5 Sc5+ 4.Kb5 Sxb7 5.Sc6+ Kc8 6.Sxa7+ Kb8 7.Sc6+

Kc8 8.Se7+ Kb8 9.a7+ Kxa7 10.Sc6 mate.
Cooked: 3...Sb6+ (Costeff).

No 16223 D. Gurgenzidze
honourable mention



a7c1 4610.31 6/5 Win

No 16223 David Gurgenzidze (Georgia). 1.Qc3+ Kb1 2.Qc2+ Ka1 3.Qc1+ Ka2 4.Bb3+ Kxb3/i 5.Qxh1 Ra8+ 6.Kb7 (Kb6) Rab8+ 7.Kc7 (Kc6) Rbc8+ 8.Kxd6 Rcd8+ 9.Kc5 Rc8+ 10.Kd4 Rc4+ 11.Kd3 Rc3+ 12.Kd2 Rc2+ 13.Kd1 Kb2/ii 14.Qh4/iii Rc1+ 15.Kd2 Rc2+ 16.Kd3 Rc3+ 17.Kd4 Kb3 18.Qh5 Rc4+ 19.Kd3 Rc3+ 20.Kd2 Rc2+ 21.Kd1 Ra8 22.Qf3+ wins/iv.

i) Rxb3 5.Qxh1 Re7+ 6.Ka6 Re8 7.Qh2+ Kb1 8.Qg1+ Kc2 9.Qf2+ Kb1 10.Qb6 wins.

ii) Ra8 14.Qf3+ transposes to the end of the main line.

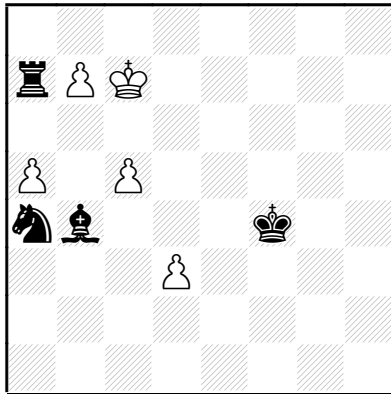
iii) 14.Qh5? Ra8 15.Ke1 Ra1+ 16.Qd1 Rxd1+ 17.Kxd1 Kc3 18.g6 Ra2 19.h7 Ra8 20.g7 Kd3 21.Ke1 Ke3 22.Kf1 Kf3 23.Kg1 Ra1+ 24.Kh2 Ra2+ 25.Kh3 Ra1, or here 18.d6 Rb2 19.d7 Rb8 20.g6 Kd3 21.d8Q+ Rxd8, or 18.h7 Rh2 19.g6 Kd3 20.Ke1 Ke3 21.Kf1 Kf3 22.Kg1 Rh6 23.g7 Rg6+ 24.Kf1 Ra6 25.Ke1 Ke3 draw.

iv) e.g. Kb2 23.Qf6+, or Rc3 23.Qe2.

“The introduction flows nicely and the refutation of the try 14.Qh5 is based on a classi-

cal draw. Unfortunately, the try 14.Qh5 is neither paradoxical nor thematic since the two variations have nothing in common subsequently”.

No 16224 A. Hadari
commendation



c7f4 0333.40 5/4 Draw

No 16224 Ariel Hadari (Israel). 1.c6/i Ke5/ii 2.Kc8/iii Bd6 3.c7/iv Bxc7 4.Kxc7 Sc5 5.a6/v Kd5/vi 6.d4/vii Kxd4 7.Kb6 (Kb7) Rxa6(+) 8.Kb5 Ra1 9.b8Q (b8R) Rb1+ 10.Ka5 Sb7+ 11.Ka6 Sc5+ 12.Ka5 Rxb8 stalemate.

i) 1.Kc8? Rxb7 2.Kxb7 Bxa5 3.d4 (c6 Sc5+;) Sc3, or 1.d4? Bxa5+ 2.Kc6 Rxb7 3.Kxb7 Sc3 wins.

ii) Bxa5+ 2.Kb8 Ra6/viii 3.c7 Bc3 4.Kc8 Sb6+ 5.Kd8, or Kf5 2.Kc8 Bxa5 3.Kb8 Bb6/ix 4.c7, or Ke3 2.Kc8 Bxa5 3.Kb8 Ra6 4.c7 Bb4 5.Kc8 Rh6 6.Kd8 Rh8+ 7.Kd7 Sc5+ 8.Kc6 Rh6+ 9.Kd5 Sxb7 10.c8Q Rh5+ 11.Kc6 Sa5+ 12.Kb6, or Kg5 2.d4 Kf6 3.Kc8 Bxa5 4.Kb8 Ra6 5.c7 Bb4 6.Kc8 Sb6+ 7.Kd8 Kf7 8.c8S/x Sd5 9.b8Q Ba5+ 10.Sb6 Rxb6 11.Qa7+ Ke6 12.Qd7+ Kf6 13.Qg4 Rd6++ 14.Kc8 Se7+ 15.Kb7 draws.

iii) 2.Kb8? Rxa5 3.c7 Sb6 4.c8Q Bd6+ 5.Qc7 Sd7+ 6.Kc8 Bxc7 wins.

iv) 3.d4+? (a6? Sb6+;) Kxd4 4.c7 Bxc7 5.Kxc7 Sc5 6.a6 Kc4 7.Kb6 Rxa6+ wins.

v) 5.d4+? Kxd4 6.a6 Kc4 7.Kb6 Rxa6+, or 5.Kb6? Rxb7+ 6.Kxc5 Rc7+ 7.Kb6 Kd6 win.

vi) Sxa6+ 6.Kb6, or Rxa6 6.b8Q.

vii) 6.Kb6? Rxa6+ 7.Kb5 Ra1 8.d4 Sxb7 wins.

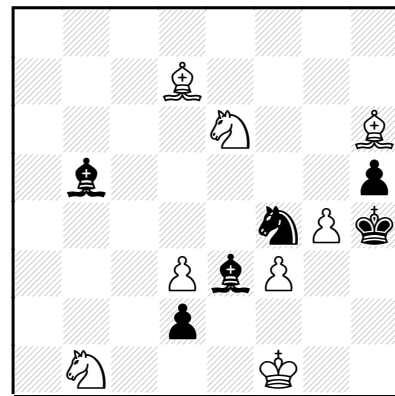
viii) Bb6 3.Kc8 Ke5 4.b8Q+ Kd5 5.Qxa7 Bxa7 6.Kb7.

ix) Ra6 4.c7 Bxc7+ 5.Kxc7 Ra7 6.Kc6 Ra6+ 7.Kc7.

x) 8.c8Q? Be7+ 9.Kc7 Sd5+, and 10.Kd7 Rd6 mate, or 10.Kb8 Bd6+.

“The tries are more interesting than the main line and point clearly to the possibilities for a new study”.

No 16225 D. Gurgenidze,
Iu. Akobia, M. Gogberashvili
& H. Aloni
commendation



f1h4 0085.32 8/6 Win

No 16225 David Gurgenidze, Iuri Akobia, Merab Gogberashvili (Georgia) & Hillel Aloni (Israel). 1.Bg5+/i Kh3/ii 2.Sxf4+/iii Bxf4 3.Sxd2/iv Bxd3+/v 4.Kf2/vi Bxg5 5.f4/vii Bb5/viii 6.Bxb5/ix Bxf4 7.Sf3, and:

– hxg4 8.Bf1 mate, – Kxg4 8.Bd7 mate, or:
– Bg3+ 8.Ke3, and Kxg4 9.Bd7 mate, or – hxg4 9.Bf1 mate.

i) 1.Sxd2? Bxd3+ 2.Ke1 Sg2+ 3.Kd1 Bxh6, or 1.Sc3? Bxd3+ 2.Se2 Bxe2 mate.

ii) Kg3 2.Bxf4+ Bxf4 3.Sxd2 Bxd7 4.Sxf4 Kxf4 5.gxh5 wins, or here Bxd3+ 4.Ke1 Bxd2+/x 5.Kxd2 Bg6 6.gxh5 Bxh5 7.f4 wins.

iii) 2.Sxd2? Bxd3+ 3.Ke1 Sg2+ 4.Kd1 hxg4 5.Se4/xi Bxg5 6.S6xg5+/xii Kh4 7.fxg4/xiii Bxe4 8.Sxe4 Se3+ draws.

iv) 3.Ke2? Bxd3+ 4.Kd1 Bxg5 5.gxh5+ Kh4 6.Sxd2 Kxh5.

v) Bxg5 4.Bxb5 Bxd2 5.gxh5 Kh4 6.Be8.

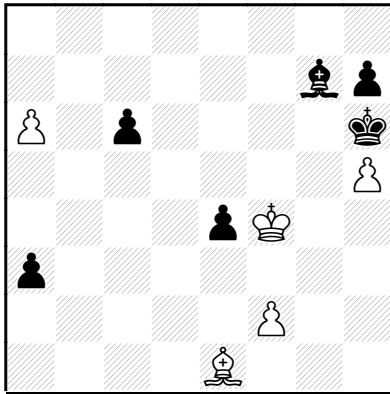
vi) 4.Ke1? Bxg5 5.gxh5+ Kg3 6.Se4+ Bxe4 7.fxe4 Kf4 8.Bf5 Ke5 9.Ke2 Kf6 10.Kd3 Bc1.

vii) 5.gxh5+? Kh4, or 5.Se4? Bxe4 6.gxh5+ Kh4.

The Problemist 1992-1993

Due to an oversight, this award has so far failed to appear in EG. The award was published in *The Problemist* Vol. 15 No. 4 (vii1995). Judge Jonathan Levitt explains that he made use of the paradox/depth/geometry/flow theory expounded in his book *Secrets of Spectacular Chess*. In the award below all enthusiastic comments in the lines are also from the judge.

No 16227 M. Kwiatkowski
prize



f4h6 0040.34 5/6 Win

No 16227 Marek Kwiatkowski (Poland).
1.a7/i a2 2.Kg4/ii e3 (a1Q; Bd2+) 3.Bc3
a1Q/iii 4.Bxa1 exf2 5.Bf6/iv Bxf6/v 6.a8Q
f1Q 7.Qf8+ Bg7 8.Qxf1 wins.

i) 1.Kg4? Bd4, or 1.Bd2? Kxh5. The move order is well controlled.

ii) 2.Bd2? Kxh5; 2.a8Q? a1Q 3.Qxc6+ Qf6+ draws.

iii) Bxc3 4.a8Q a1Q 5.Qf8+ Bg7 6.Qf4 mate.

iv) Avoiding 5.a8Q? f1Q 6.Qxc6+ Bf6 7.Qxf6+ Qxf6 8.Bxf6 stalemate.

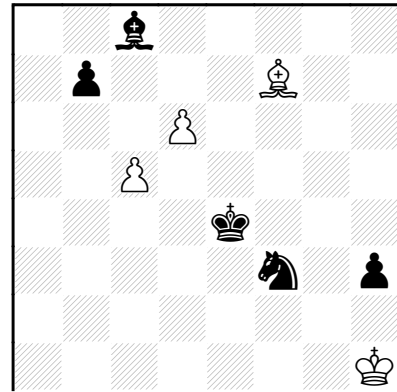
v) f1Q 6.Bg5 mate.

“The solution has featured fine turbulent flow combined with paradox; very fresh”.

No 16228 Ghenrikh Kasparyan (Armenia).
1.c6/i Se5 2.d7 Sxd7 3.cxb7 Bxb7 4.Kh2/iii
Se5 5.Be6 Sf3+ 6.Kg3 (Kxh3? Sg5+;) h2
7.Kg2 Kf4 8.Ba2 (Bg8) Be4 9.Bg8 Bc6
10.Ba2 Ke3 11.Bg8 positional draw.

i) 1.d7? Bxd7 2.c6 bxc6 3.Bd5+ Kf4 4.Bxc6
Bg4.

No 16228 G. Kasparyan
1st honourable mention



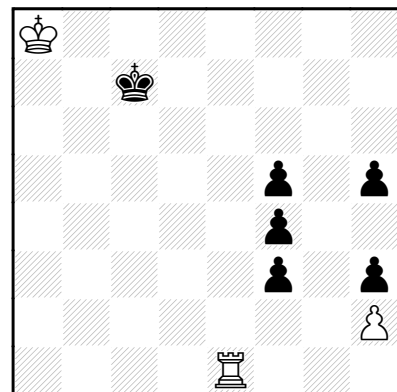
h1e4 0043.22 4/5 Draw

ii) Bxd7 3.cxb7 Sc6 4.Kh2 is drawn since Black cannot make progress without first rounding up the b-pawn, but then the h-pawn will drop.

iii) 4.Be6? Ke5+ – just one of the tricks that keep the introduction flowing beautifully.

“A world class introduction (moves 1-7) by the great study genius, but the finish is only quite good”.

No 16229 H. Grondijs
2nd honourable mention



a8c7 0100.15 3/6 Win

No 16229 Harrie Grondijs (Netherlands).
 1.Rd1/i f2 2.Ka7 (Rf1? Kd6;) h4/ii 3.Ka8/iii
 Kc6/iv 4.Kb8 f3/v 5.Kc8 Kc5/vi 6.Kd7 Kc4
 7.Ke6 Kc3 8.Kxf5 Kc2 9.Ra1/viii Kd3 10.Kf4
 Ke2 11.Ra2+ Ke1 12.Ke3 f1S+ 13.Kxf3 wins.

i) 1.Rf1? Kd6 2.Rxf3 Ke5 3.Rxh3 Ke4 draws.

ii) It is best to wait since f3 (Kc6; Kb8) 3.Rf1
 Kd6 4.Rxf2 Ke5 5.Rxf3 wins.

iii) The best move of the award! Deep and
 paradoxical – the sort of move that will al-
 ways thrill the spectators. The paradox is ex-
 plained when you realize that 3.Ka6? Kc6
 only helps Black and that the rook has no
 good move.

iv) Kc8 4.Rf1 Kd7 5.Rxf2 Ke6 6.Rxf4 wins.

v) Kc5 5.Kc7 Kc4 6.Kd6 Kc3 7.Ke5 Kc2
 8.Rf1.

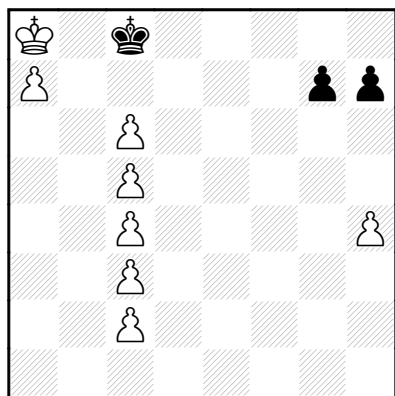
vi) f4 6.Kd8 Kc5 7.Ke7 Kc4 8.Ke6 Kc3 9.Kf5
 Kc2 10.Ra1 Kd2 11.Kxf4 Ke2 12.Ra2+ Ke1
 13.Ke3.

viii) Another pleasing choice: 9.Rf1? Kd3
 10.Rxf2 Ke3 draw, or 10.Kf4 Ke2 11.Ra1 f1Q
 12.Rxf1 Kxf1.

“The complexity does not help the crisp-
 ness and flow of this study. Also the pawn
 structure is not natural, but the striking para-
 dox and the exceptional depth are very im-
 pressive”.

No 16230 V. Kovalenko

3rd honourable mention



a8c8 0000.72 8/3 Draw

No 16230 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.c7/i
 g6 2.c6 h6 3.c5 g5 4.hxg5 hxg5 5.c4 Kxc7
 6.c3 Kc8 7.c7 g4 8.c6 g3 9.c5 Kxc7/ii 10.c4

Kc8 11.c7 g2 12.c6 Kxc7/iii 13.c5 Kc8 14.c7
 Kxc7 (g1Q; c5) 15.c6 Kb6 16.c7 g1Q 17.c8Q
 Qg2+ 18.Kb8 Qg3+ 19.Ka8 Qf3+ 20.Kb8
 Qf4+ 21.Ka8 Qe4+ 22.Kb8 Qe7 23.a8S+
 draws/iv.

i) OK, so it's not the most natural starting po-
 sition with just five c-pawns, but the humour
 and flow of this unusual study make it stand
 out. Not 1.h5? g5 2.hxg6 hxg6 3.c7 g5 4.c6 g4
 5.c5 g3 6.c4 Kxc7 7.c3 Kc8 wins.

ii) g2 10.c4 g1Q is an immediate draw.

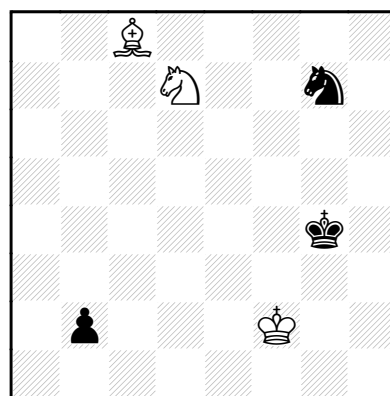
iii) g1Q 13.c5 and Black has nothing.

iv) The final trick, without White would have
 been lost.

“Excellent flow with a baby sting in the
 tail”.

No 16231 R. Turnbull

4th honourable mention



f2g4 0014.01 3/3 Draw

No 16231 Ronald Turnbull (Great Britain).

1.Se5++ Kh5/i 2.Bg4+ Kh6/ii 3.Sf7+, and:

– Kh7 4.Bf3/iii b1Q 5.Be4+ Qxe4 6.Sg5+
 draws, or

– Kg6 4.Be2 (Se5+? Kf6;) b1Q 5.Bd3+ Qxd3
 6.Se5+ draws

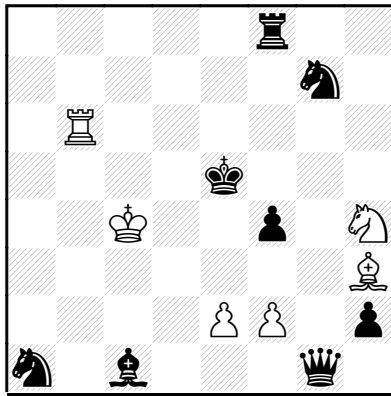
i) Kf4 2.Sd3+, or Kh4 2.Sf3+ Kh5 3.Sd2.

ii) Kh4 (Kg5) 3.Sf3+ Kxg4 4.Sd2.

iii) 4.Sg5+? Kh8 5.Sf7+ Kg8 6.Sh6+ Kf8.

“Very neat. Paradox, geometry in the simi-
 larity of the two variations, a touch of depth
 and a little flow – all with just six pieces”.

No 16232 M. Bent
commendation

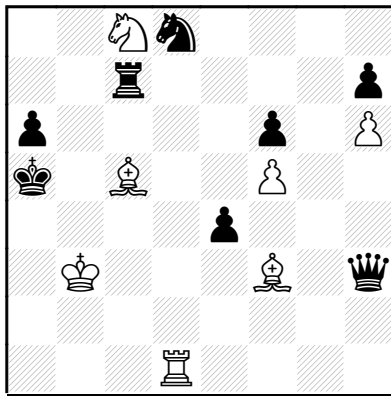


c4e5 3447.22 6/8 Draw

No 16232 Mike Bent (Great Britain). 1.Sf3+ Ke4 2.Rb5 Re8 3.Bf5+ Sxf5 4.Re5+ Rxe5 5.Sd2+ Bxd2 6.f3+ Ke3 stalemate.

“Good fun with a spectacular finish but not too sophisticated”.

No 16233 M. Montanari
commendation



b3a5 3424.24 7/8 Win

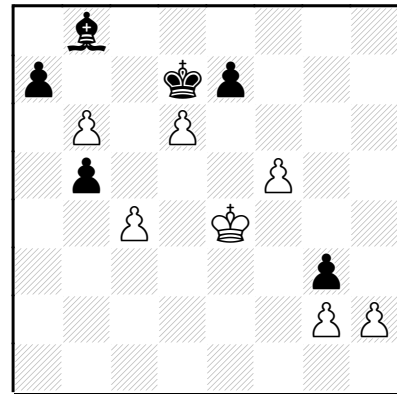
No 16233 Marcello Montanari (Italy). 1.Rd5 Kb5 (Qxf3+; Be3+) 2.Bd6+ Kc6 3.Rc5+, and:
– Kd7 4.Rxc7+ Ke8 5.Re7+ Kf8 6.Rxe4+ Kf7/i 7.Re7+ Kf8 8.Re3+ Kf7 9.Bd5+ wins,
or:

– Kb7 4.Rxc7+ Kb8 5.Rc3+/ii Ka8 6.Bxe4+ wins.

i) Kg8 7.Re8+ Kf7 8.Rf8 mate.

ii) Marco Campioli cooks many years later (HHdbIII #09579 17xi2000: 5.Sb6 Qxf3+ 6.Kb2 Qf2+ 7.Rc2+ Kb7 8.Rxf2 Kxb6 9.Re2, or Qd3 7.Rd7+ Qxd6 8.Rxd6.

No 16234 A. Zhuravlev
& G. Egorov
commendation



e4d7 0030.64 7/6 Draw

No 16234 Andrei Zhuravlev & Gennady Egorov (Russia). 1.h4 axb6/i 2.h5 Bxd6 3.c5/ii Bxc5 4.h6 Ba3 5.f6 exf6 6.h7 f5+/iii 7.Kd5 Bb2 8.h8Q Bxh8 stalemate.

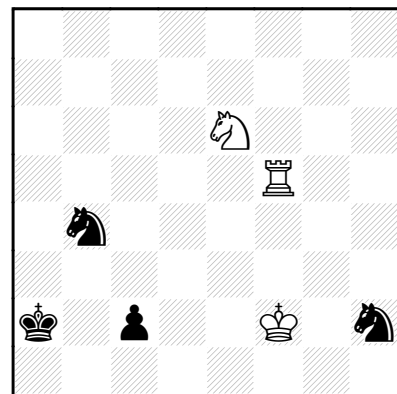
i) exd6 2.h5 d5+ 3.Kxd5 b4 4.h6.

ii) 3.h6? Ba3 4.f6 exf6 5.h7 f5+ 6.Kxf5 Bb2 wins.

iii) after Bb2? 7.Kf5 White wins.

But Marco Campioli cooks with 2...b4 (also 1...b4 2.h5 axb6) 3.h6 b3 4.Kd3 Bxd6 5.f6 e5 6.h7 e4+ 7.Kd2 e3+! and Black promotes, and has a piece up.

No 16235 E. Kolesnikov
commendation



f2a2 0107.01 3/4 Draw

No 16235 Evgeny Kolesnikov (Russia). 1.Ra5+ Kb2/i 2.Ra1 Kxa1 3.Sd4 c1S 4.Kg3 Sf1+ 5.Kf2 Sd2/ii 6.Ke1 Sc4 (Se4; Sb1) 7.Sc2+ Sxc2+ 8.Kd1 Kb1/iii stalemate.

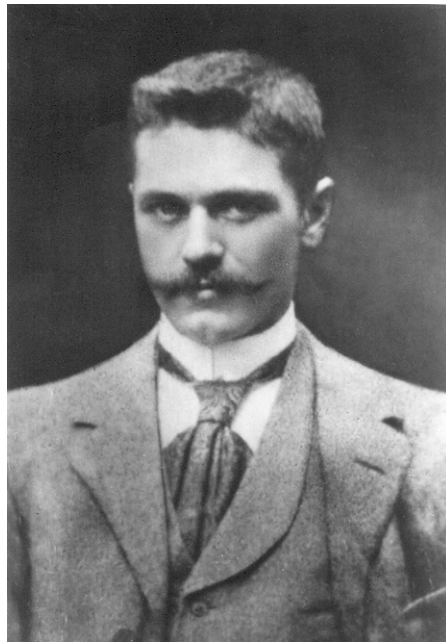
i) Best since Kb1 allows 2.Sd4 c1Q 3.Ra1+ Kxa1 4.Sb3+.

- ii) The only way to make progress.
- iii) Black cannot afford to lose either knight.

Initially this study was awarded first prize, because the judge and editor Adam Sobey were fully aware of its famous forerunner Kubbel & Herbstman 1937, but noticed sufficient difference: “There is plenty of paradox in this study; from the almost gratuitous 2.Ra1! to the surprising stalemate finish.

Moving away from the action 4.Kg3 adds class. Black’s choice on move 6 just makes it harder to solve and is in no way a weakness. It is not without depth and also has very good flow”.

In the final award (*The Problemist* Vol. 15 No. 9, July 1996, page 207) the study was downgraded to a commendation because of an auto-anticipation (EG #9047).

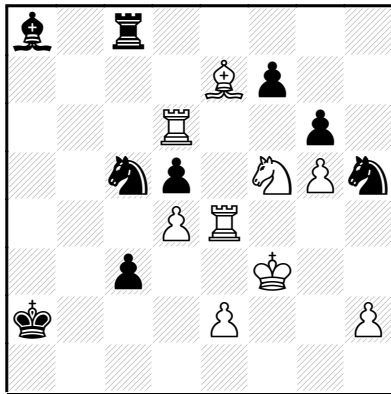


*Carel C.W. Mann (1871-1928).
See also pp. 38-39*

The Problemist 2004-2005

50 studies took part in the biennial informal tourney of *The Problemist*. Judge Amatzia Avni of Israel considered the level to be high. The award was published in issue 8 (iii2006).

No 16236 J. Rusinek
1st prize



f3a2 0547.44 9/9 Draw

No 16236 Jan Rusinek (Poland). 1.Re3 c2 2.Rc3 Kb2 3.Rxc2+ Kxc2 4.Se3+ Kc3 (Kb2; Rb6+) 5.dxc5 d4+ (Rxc5; Rd8) 6.Sd5+ Kc4 7.c6/i Bxc6/ii 8.Ke4 Ba8/iii 9.Rd7 Rc6/iv 10.Bd6 Rc8 11.Be7 Bc6 12.Rd6 draws positional draw.

i) 7.Ke4? Rxc5, or 7.e4? dxe3ep.

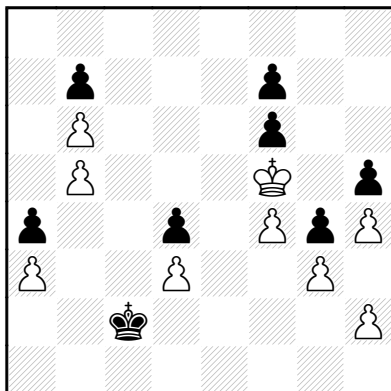
ii) Rxc6 8.Rd8 Bb7 9.e4.

iii) threat Rc5.

iv) threat Re6+.

“White activates a perpetual mechanism, in which a magnificent Grimshaw is demonstrated by both sides, in attack and defence”.

No 16237 D. Antonini
& A.Pallier
2nd Prize



f5c2 0000.87 9/8 Draw

No 16237 David Antonini & Alain Pallier (France). 1.Ke4, and now:

– f5+ 2.Kxd4 Kb3/i 3.Kc5/ii Kxa3 4.d4 Kb2/iii 5.d5 a3 6.d6 a2 7.d7 a1Q 8.Kd6 Qa3+ 9.Kc7 Qe7 10.Kc8 Qe6 11.Kc7/iv Qe7 12.Kc8 positional draw, or:

– Kc3 2.f5/v Kc2/vi 3.Kxd4 Kb3 4.Kc5/vii Kxa3 5.d4 Kb3/viii 6.d5 a3 7.d6 a2 8.d7 a1Q 9.d8Q Qe5+ 10.Qd5+ Kc3 11.Qxe5+ fxe5 12.Kd5 f6 13.Ke6 e4 14.Kxf6 e3 15.Kg7 e2 16.f6 e1Q 17.f7 Qe7 18.Kg8 Qe6/ix 19.Kg7 positional draw.

i) Kb2 3.Kc4 Kxa3 4.Kc3 Ka2 5.d4 a3 6.Kc2 Ka1 7.d5 a2 8.d6 f6 9.d7 stalemate.

ii) 3.Ke5? Kxa3 4.d4 Kb4 5.d5 a3 6.d6 a2 7.d7 a1Q+ 8.Kd6 Qf6+ 9.Kc7 Qe7 10.Kc8 Kxb5 wins.

iii) Kb3 5.d5 a3 6.d6 a2 7.d7 a1Q 8.d8Q Qa3+ 9.Kd5.

iv) 11.Kd8? Kc3 12.Kc7 Qe7 13.Kc8 Kb4 14.d8Q Qxd8+ 15.Kxd8 Kxb5 16.Ke7 Kxb6 17.Kxf7 Kc5 wins.

v) 2.Kd5? Kxd3 3.Kd6 Ke2 4.Kc7 d3 5.Kxb7 d2 6.Ka7 d1Q 7.b7 Qd2 (Qd7? b6) 8.b8Q Qa5+ 9.Kb7 Qxb5+, or 6.Kc7 d1Q 7.b7 Qc1+ 8.Kb6 Qe3+ 9.Ka6 Qe8 10.Ka7 Qxb5 wins.

vi) Kb3 3.Kxd4 Kxa3 4.Kc3.

vii) 4.Ke3? Kxa3 5.d4 Kb2 6.d5 a3 7.d6 a2 8.d7 a1Q 9.d8Q Qe1+ 10.Kf4 Qe5 mate.

viii) Kb2 6.d5 a3 7.d6 a2 8.d7 a1Q 9.Kd6/x Qa3+ 10.Kc7 Qe7 11.Kc8 Qc5+ 12.Kxb7 Qd6 13.Kc8 Qc5+ 14.Kb7 positional draw.

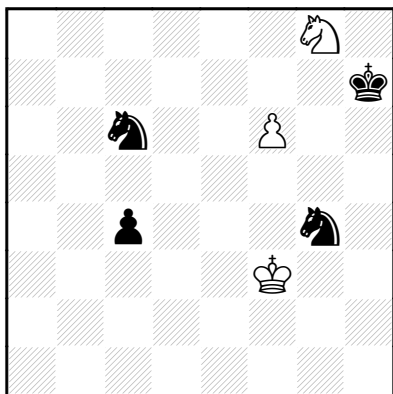
ix) Kc4 19.f8Q Qxf8+ 20.Kxf8 Kxb5 21.Kg7 Kxb6 22.Kg6 Kc6 23.Kxh5 b5 24.Kxg4 b4 25.h5.

x) But not 9.d8Q? Qa3+ 10.Kd4 Qc3+ 11.Ke4 Qf3+ 12.Kd4 Qd1+ wins.

“Two related positional draws, where a bQ cannot overcome an enemy pawn on the seventh rank”.

No 16238 N. Kralin

3rd prize



f3h7 0007.11 3/4 Draw

No 16238 Nikolai Kralin (Russia). 1.Se7 c3/i 2.Ke2 Sd4+ 3.Kd3 c2 4.f7 (Kd2? Se3;) Sf2+ 5.Kd2 Se4+ 6.Kc1 Sg3 7.f8S+/ii Kh6/iii 8.Sg8+ Kh5 9.Sf6+ Kh4 10.Sg6+ Kg5 11.Se4+ Sxe4 12.Se5 Sf2 13.Sf3+ draws.

i) Sce5+ 2.Ke4 Sxf6+ 3.Kd4 Kh6 4.Sc6 Sfg4 5.Sa5 draws.

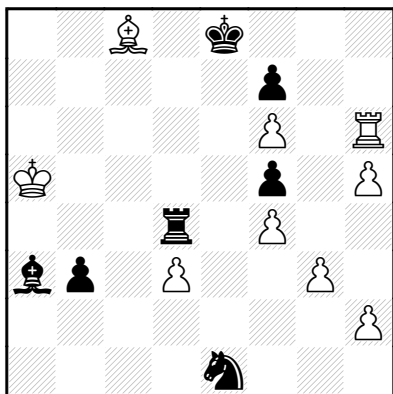
ii) 7.f8Q? Sge2+ 8.Kd2 c1Q+ 9.Kd3 Sf4+ 10.Ke4 Qe1+ 11.Kxd4 Se6+ wins.

iii) Kh8 8.Sfg6+ Kg7 9.Sf4 draws.

“The white monarch appears doomed, but a series of checks in the distant corner, seemingly irrelevant, bring a surprising salvation”.

No 16239 A. Sochnev

4th prize



a5e8 0443.63 9/7 Win

No 16239 Aleksei Sochnev (Russia). 1.Rh8+ Bf8 2.h6 b2/i 3.Rxf8+/ii Kxf8 4.h7 Rd5+ 5.Ka4/iii Rd4+ 6.Ka3 Rxd3+ 7.Ka4 Rd4+ 8.Ka5 Rd5+ 9.Ka6 Rd6+ 10.Ka7 Rxf6 11.h8Q+ Ke7 12.Bxf5 Rxf5 13.Qxb2 wins.

i) Rd5+ 3.Ka4 Rd4+ 4.Kxb3 Rxd3+ 5.Kc4 Rd2 6.h3 Rc2+ 7.Kb3 Rc6 8.h7 Rxf6 9.Rxf8+ Kxf8 10.h8Q+ wins, or in here b2 4.Rxf8+ Kxf8 5.h7.

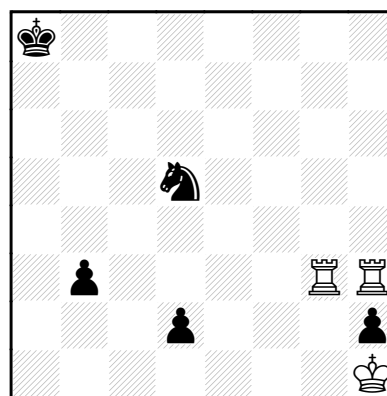
ii) 3.h7? Rd5+ 4.Ka4 Rd4+ 5.Ka5 Rd5+ 6.Ka6 Rd6+ 7.Ka7 Rxf6 8.Rxf8+ Kxf8 9.h8Q+ Ke7 draws.

iii) 5.Ka6? Rd6+ 6.Ka7 Rxf6 7.h8Q+ Ke7.

“Glancing at the diagram, the significance of the white pawn at d3 is far from transparent”.

No 16240 O. Comay

special prize



h1a8 0203.03 3/5 Win

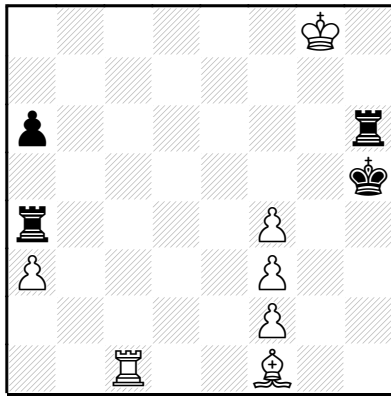
No 16240 Ofer Comay (Israel). 1.Rd3 b2 2.Ra3+ Kb7 3.Rab3+ Kc6 4.Rhd3 Sc3 5.Kxh2 Kc5 6.Rbxc3+ Kb4 7.Rc7 b1Q 8.Rd8 wins.

“A great discovery: a synthesis of Sackmann and Olmutsky, while keeping the light setting”.

F. Sackmann, *Akademisches Monatsheft für Schach* 1910, correction A.Chéron 1965: d3h8 0601.30 b6h6e4.c6e6h7 5/3 Draw: 1.c7 Rc6 2.e7 Rhe6 3.Sd6, and – Rcx6+ 4.Kc4 Rc6+ 5.Kd5 Kxh7 6.e8Q Rxe8 7.Kxc6, or – Rxd6+ 4.Ke4 Re6+ 5.Kd5 Kxh7 7.c8Q Rxc8 8.Kxe6 draw.

L. Olmutsky, 1st prize *Sotsialistichna Kharkivtschina* 1964: h2a5 0200.02 c3h3. b2d2 3/2 Win: 1.Ra3+ Kb4 2.Rab3+ Kc4 3.Rhc3+ Kd4 4.Rd3+ Kc4 5.Rbc3+ Kb4 6.Rc7 b1Q 7.Rd8 Qe4 8.Rb8+ Ka3 9.Ra7+ wins.

No 16241 G. Costeff
1st honourable mention



g8h5 0710.41 7/4 Win

No 16241 Gady Costeff (USA/Israel). 1.Bc4 Rf6 2.Rh1+/i Kg6 3.Bd3+ Rf5 4.Bxf5+/ii Kxf5 5.Kf7/iii, and:

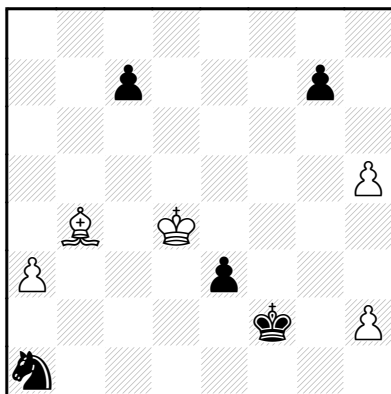
- Rxf4 (Kxf4; Rh4) 6.Rh5 mate, or:
- Rxa3 6.Rh5+ Kxf4 7.Kf6 Rxf3/iv 8.Rh4 mate.

- i) 2.Bf7+? Rxf7 3.Kxf7 Rxf4+ 4.Ke7 Rxf3 5.Rc5+ Kg6 6.Rc6+ Kg7 7.Rxa6 Rxf2 draws.
- ii) 4.Rc1? Rxf4 5.Rc6+ Kg5 6.Bxf5 Rxf5 7.Rxa6 Rxf3 8.a4 Rxf2 draws.
- iii) 5.Kg7? Rxf4 6.Rh5+ Ke6 7.Rh6+ Ke7 8.Rxa6 Rxf3 9.Ra7+ Ke8 10.a4 Rxf2 11.a5 Kd8 12.a6 Kc8 draws.

iv) Rd3 8.Rf5 mate, or Kxf3 8.Rh3+ wins.

“Beautiful echo following White’s fifth and seventh moves”.

No 16242 A. Ornstein
2nd honourable mention



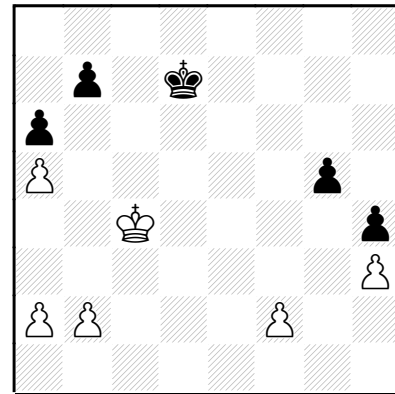
d4f2 0013.33 5/5 Win

No 16242 Axel Ornstein (Sweden). 1.Kc3 e2 2.Kb2 Kf1 3.Bd2 c5 4.Kc3 e1Q 5.Bxe1 Kxe1 6.a4 Ke2 7.a5 Sb3 8.a6 Sd4 9.Kc4 Sc6

10.Kxc5 Sa7 11.Kb6 Sc8+ 12.Kb7 Sd6+ 13.Kc6 Sc8 14.Kd7 Sa7 15.Ke6 Kf3 16.Kf5 Sc6 17.h4 Kg3 18.h6 gxh6 19.h5 wins.

“Following White’s 1st move, the bS is doomed. Amazingly, White has no intention of capturing it!”.

No 16243 L. Katsnelson
& V. Katsnelson
3rd honourable mention



c4d7 0000.54 6/5 Win

No 16243 Leonard & Vladimir Katsnelson (Russia). 1.Kd3/i g4 2.Ke2 gxh3 3.Kf1 Ke6 4.Kg1/ii Kf5 5.Kh2 Kg4 6.b3/iii ZZ Kf3 7.Kxh3 Kxf2 8.Kxh4 Ke3 9.Kg5/iv Kd4 10.Kf6 Kc5/v 11.Ke7 Kb5 12.Kd6 Kxa5 13.Kc5 b5/vi 14.a3/vii b4 15.axb4 mate.

i) 1.f3? Ke6 2.Kc5 (Kd4 Kf5;) Kf5 3.Kb6 Kf4 4.Kxb7 Kxf3 5.Kxa6 g4 6.Kb5 g3 7.a6 g2 8.a7 g1Q 9.a8Q+ Kg3 10.Qg8+ Kxh3 11.Qxg1 stalemate.

ii) 4.b3? Kf5 5.Kg1 Kf4 6.Kh2 Kg4 ZZ 7.a3 Kf3 8.Kxh3 Kxf2 9.Kxh4 Ke3 draws.

iii) 6.a3? Kf3 7.Kxh3 Kxf2 8.Kxh4 Ke3 9.Kg5 Kd3 10.Kf5 Kc2 11.Ke6 Kxb2 12.Kd6 Kxa3 13.Kc7 Kb4 14.Kxb7 Kxa5 and Black wins.

iv) 9.Kg4? Ke4 10.Kg5 Kd5 11.Kf4 Kd6 12.Ke4 Kc7 13.a4 Kb8 14.b4 Ka8 15.b5 Kb8 draws.

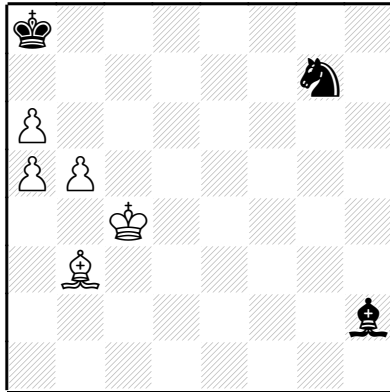
v) Kc3 11.Ke6 Kb2 12.Kd6 Kxa2 13.Kc7 Kxb3 14.Kxb7 wins.

vi) b6+ 14.Kc4 b5+ 15.Kc5 b4 16.Kc4 Kb6 17.Kxb4 Kc6 18.Kc4 Kd6 19.b4 Kc6 20.a4 wins.

vii) 14.a4? b4 15.Kc4 Kb6 16.Kxb4 a5+ 17.Kc4 Kc6 draws.

“A delicate pawn ending with some good tries. A correction of the composer’s study for Kralin 55 JT 2000”.

No 16244 R. Becker
4th honourable mention



c4a8 0043.30 5/3 Win

No 16244 Richard Becker (USA). 1.b6/i Bb8 2.Bc2/ii Ba7 3.Kd5 Se8/iii 4.Ba4/iv Sf6+ 5.Ke5 Sg4+/v 6.Kf4 Sf6 7.Kf5 Sh7 8.Kg6 Sf8+ 9.Kf7 Sh7 10.Bc2 Sg5+ 11.Kf6 Sh3 12.Bf5 Sf4/vi 13.Ke5 Se2 14.Bd3 Sg1/vii 15.Be4+/viii Kb8 16.Bg2 Se2 17.Bf1 Sc3 (Sg3; Bd3) 18.Kd4 Sd1 19.Bd3 (Bh3) Sf2 20.Bf5 Sd1 21.Bd7 Sf2 22.Ke3 Sd1+ 23.Kd2 Sf2 24.Bf5 Sh1 25.Ke3 (Ke1) Sg3 26.Bg6 wins.

- i) 1.Kc5? Bg1+ 2.Kc6 Sf5, or 1.Kb4? Sf5 2.b6 Se7 3.Ka4 Sc8 draws.
- ii) 2.Kc5? Ba7 3.Kd6 Kb8 draws.
- iii) Sh5 4.Bf5/ix Sg3 (Sf4+; Ke5) 5.Bd3 Kb8 6.Ke5 Sh5 7.Bb5 (Bc4) Sg3 8.Kf4 Sh5+ 9.Kg5 Sg3 10.Bd3, or here Sh1 6.Ke5 Sf2 7.Bf5 Kb8 8.Kd4 win.
- iv) 4.Ke5? Kb8 5.Bd3 Sc7 6.Kd6 Se8+ 7.Ke7 Sc7 8.Bc4 Sa8 draws.
- v) Sg8 6.Bb3; Sh7 6.Bc2 Sg5 7.Kf6 wins.
- vi) Sf2 13.Ke5 Kb8 14.Kd4 wins.
- vii) Sc3 15.Kd4 Sa4 16.bxa7 Kxa7 17.Be2 Sb2 18.Kc3, or here Sb6 17.Be4+ Kxa7 18.axb6+ wins.

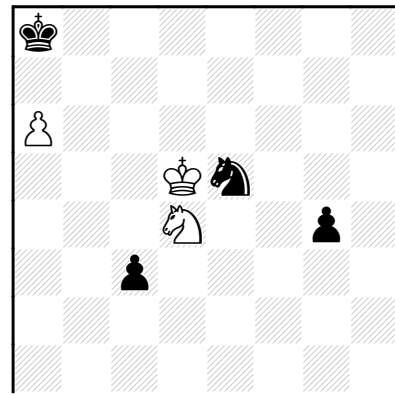
viii) 15.Kf5? Sh3 16.Bc2 Sg1 17.Bd1 Sh3 draws.

ix) But not 4.Ke5? Sg3/x 5.Bd3 Kb8 draws.

x) But not Bb8+? 5.Kf5 Ba7 6.Bd3 Sg7+ 7.Ke5 Sh5 8.Bb5 Kb8 9.Kf5 Sg3+ 10.Kf4 Sh5+ 11.Kg5 Sg3 12.Bd3 Sh1 13.Kf4 Sf2 14.Bc2 wins.

“A peculiar chase after the bS, which stretches all over the board”.

No 16245 O. Bergstad
5th honourable mention



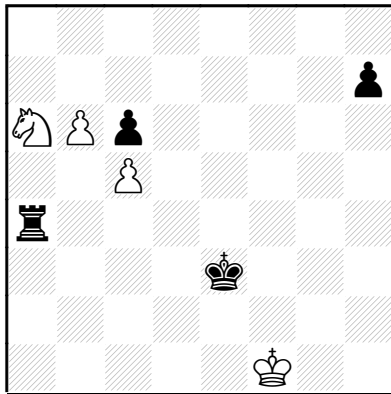
d5a8 0004.12 3/4 Draw

No 16245 Odd Bergstad (Norway). 1.Se2/i c2 2.Kd4 Sf3+ 3.Kd3/ii Sg1 4.Sc1 g3 5.Ke3/iii Ka7 6.Sa2/iv Kb6 7.Kf4 Se2+ 8.Kf3 Sc3 9.Sc1 Se4/v 10.Sa2/vi Ka7 11.Kg2 Kb6 12.Kf3 positional draw.

- i) 1.Ke4? g3 2.Ke3 g2 3.Kf2 g1Q+ 4.Kxg1 Sf3+ 5.Sxf3 c2 wins.
- ii) 3.Ke3? Ka7 4.Kf4 Kxa6 5.Kxg4 Sd4 6.Sc1 Kb5 7.Kf4 Kb4 8.Ke4 Kc4 9.Ke3 Kc3 10.Sa2+ Kb2 11.Sb4 c1Q+ wins.
- iii) 5.Kxc2? g2 6.Kd3 Sh3 7.Se2 Sf4+ wins.
- iv) 6.Sd3? e.g. g2 7.Kf2 Sh3+ 8.Kxg2 Sf4+ 9.Sxf4 c1Q wins.
- v) Kxa6 10.Kxg3 Kb5 11.Kf2 Kb4 12.Ke3 draws.
- vi) 10.Sd3? Sc5 11.Sc1 Kxa6 12.Kxg3 Kb5 13.Kf3 Kc4 14.Ke3 Kc3 wins.

“Rich content in a light setting”.

No 16246 K.Mestiashvili
6th honourable mention

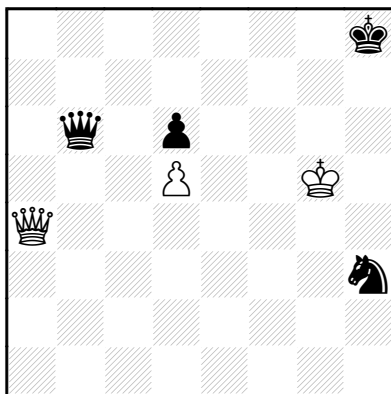


f1e3 0301.22 4/4 Win

No 16246 Koba Mestiashvili (Georgia). 1.b7 Kf3 2.Ke1 Ke3 3.Kd1 Kd3 4.Kc1 Kc3 5.Kb1 Ra3 6.b8Q Rb3+ 7.Kc1 Rxb8 8.Sxb8 h5 9.Kd1 Kd4 10.Sd7 Ke3 11.Ke1 h4 12.Kf1 h3 13.Kg1 wins.

“In order to attain victory, the wK must march from f1 to b1 and then all the way back”.

No 16247 S. Didukh
special honourable mention



g5h8 4003.11 3/4 Draw

No 16247 Sergei Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Kh5/i, and now:

- Qe3/ii 2.Qh4/iii, and:
- Kh7/iv 3.Qe4+/v Qxe4 stalemate, or:
- Kg7 3.Qg3+/vi Qxg3 stalemate,
- Qg1 2.Qe8+/vii Qg8 3.Kh6, and:
 - Qxe8 stalemate, or:
 - Sf2 4.Qd7 Qf8+ 5.Kg6 Qg8+ 6.Kh6 Sg4+ 7.Qxg4 Qxg4 stalemate, or:
 - Sf4 4.Qd8 Sxd5/viii 5.Qf6+/ix Sxf6 stalemate.

i) 1.Kh4? Qe3 2.Qd7 Qh6+ 3.Kg4 Qg7+, or 1.Kf5? Qb1+ 2.Ke6 Qg6+ 3.Kd7 Sg5 win.

ii) Qc7 2.Qe8+ Kg7 3.Qg6+ Kf8 4.Kh4 draws.

iii) 2.Qa1+? Kg8 3.Qf6 Qe2+ 4.Kh6 (Kh4 Qf2+;) Qe5 5.Qg6+ Kf8 6.Qf5+ Ke7 7.Qxh3 Qh8+ wins.

iv) Kg8 3.Qd8+ Kf7 4.Qd7+ Qe7 5.Qf5+ Qf6 6.Qd7+; Qf3+ 3.Kg6+ Kg8 4.Qh7+ Kf8 5.Qh8+ Ke7 6.Qh4+ Kd7 7.Qa4 draw.

v) 3.Kg4+? Kg7 4.Qxh3 Qxh3+ wins.

vi) 3.Qg4+? Kf6, or 3.Qd4+? Qe5+.

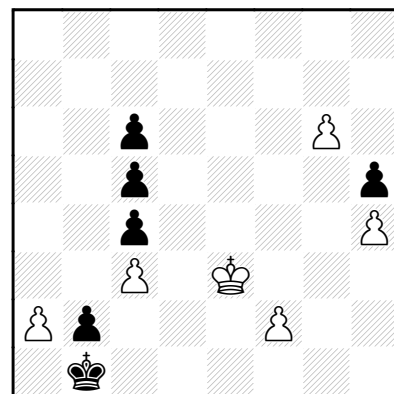
vii) 2.Qh4? Qg2 3.Qd8+ Qg8 4.Qf6+ Qg7 5.Qf5 Qh7+ wins.

viii) Qxd8 stalemate.

ix) 5.Qxd6? Qg7+ 6.Kh5 Sf6+ 7.Kh4 Qg4+ wins.

“A good study that adds something to previous works”.

No 16248 F. Vrabec
1st commendation



e3b1 0000.55 6/6 Win

No 16248 Franjo Vrabec (Sweden). 1.g7, and now:

– Kxa2 2.g8R/i Kb3 3.Kd2 b1S+ 4.Kc1/ii Sxc3 5.Rb8+/iii Sb5 6.f4 wins, or:

– Kc2 2.g8B/iv Kxc3 3.Bh7 wins

– Ka1 2.g8Q b1Q 3.Qxc4 Qe1+ 4.Kf3 Qd1+ 5.Kg2 Qd5+ 6.Qxd5 cxd5 7.a4 d4 8.cxd4 cxd4 9.a5 d3 10.a6 d2 11.a7 d1Q 12.a8Q+ Kb2 13.Qf3 wins.

i) 2.g8Q? b1Q 3.Qa8+ Kb3 4.Qb8+ Kxc3 5.Qxb1 stalemate, or here 3.Qxc4+ Kb2 4.Qxc5 Qc1+ 5.Ke4 Qe1+ 6.Kf5 Qxc3 7.Qxc3+ Kxc3 8.f4 c5 9.Kg6 c4 10.f5 Kb2 11.f6 c3 12.f7 c2 13.f8Q c1Q draws.

ii) 4.Ke3? Sxc3 5.Rc8 Sd5+ 6.Ke2 Sb4 7.Rh8 c3 8.Rxh5 Sd5 9.Re5 c2 10.Kd2 Kb2 11.Re1 c4.

iii) 5.Rg3? Kb4 6.Rg5 Kb3 7.Rxh5 Sa2+ 8.Kd1 Sc3+ 9.Kd2 Kb2 10.Re5 Sd5 11.Kd1 c3 12.Re2+ Kb3.

iv) 2.g8Q? b1Q 3.Qh7+ Kxc3 4.Qxb1 stalemate, or here 3.Qxc4 Qc1+ 4.Ke4 Qe1+ 5.Kf5 Qxf2+ draws.

“The stalemates with B and R promotions are well known (e.g. Joitsa), but the synthesis of all variations is worthwhile”.

P. Joitsa, *Revista de Romana de Sah* 1965, f3c1 0000.32 .d3d5e4c3d4 4/3 Win: 1.d6 Kd2 2.d7, and – c2 3.d8B Kxd3 4.Bg5 Kc3 5.Bc1 d3 6.Ke3 Kc4 7.Bb2 Kb3 8.Bc1 Kc4 9.Bd2 wins, or – Kxd3 3.d8R c2 4.Rc8 Kd2 5.e5 d3 6.Ke4 Ke2 7.e6 d2 8.Rxc2 wins.

14.Kb4 Qxf6 15.a8Q Qxg6 do not win for White.

ii) f5 2.Ra5+ Ke4 3.Sc3+ Kf3 4.Sd5 Kxg3 5.Kc5 f4 6.Kb6

f3 7.Sc7 Qxa7+ 8.Rxa7 f2 9.Ra1 Kg2 10.Sd5 f1Q 11.Se3+ wins, Qb7+ 2.Kc3 Qc6+ 3.Kd2 Qa8 4.Sf4+ Kc4 5.Ke3 Kb3 6.Ra6 Kc4 7.Kf2 Kb5 8.Ra1 Kc4 9.Ra4+; Kd6 2.Sf4 Qb7+ 3.Kc3

Qf3+ 4.Kd2 wins.

iii) 2.Sf4? Kd4 3.Ra5 Qb7+ 4.Ka3 Qf3+; 2.Sc3+? Kd3 3.Sd5 Qxd5 4.a8Q Qc4+ draw.

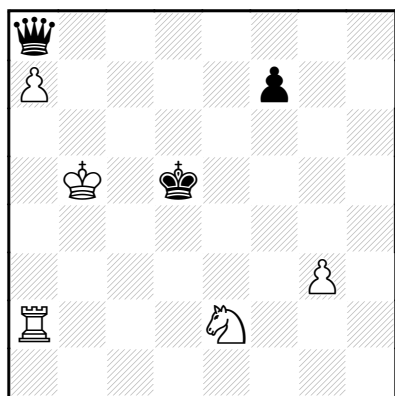
iv) Qe7+ 4.Kb3 Qb7+ 5.Ka2 Qa8 6.Sc3+ Kd4 7.Sd5(Kb3) wins.

v) 6.Sb6? Qf3+ 7.Kb4 Qc3+ 8.Kb5 Qd3+ 9.Kc6 Qc3+ 10.Kb7 Qxa5 draws.

vi) 9.Rd5+? Kc3 10.a8Q Qg2+.

“Victory is not as easy as it appears”.

No 16249 D. Keith
2nd commendation

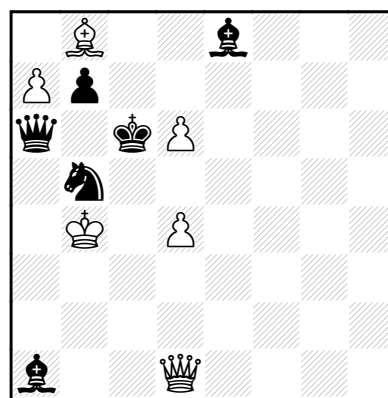


b5d5 3101.21 5/3 Win

No 16249 Daniel Keith (France). 1.Kb4/i Ke4/ii 2.Ra5/iii Qb7+ 3.Ka3 Qa8/iv 4.Sc3+ (Sf4) Kd4 5.Sd5 f5 6.Ka2/v f4 7.gxf4 Kd3 (Ke4; Sb6) 8.Sb6 Qg8+ 9.Ka3/vi Qf8+ 10.Ka4 Qe8+ 11.Rb5 Qe4+ 12.Ka5 Qe1+ 13.Ka6 wins.

i) Both 1.Sf4+? Kd4 2.Rd2+ Ke4 3.Rd7 Qe8 4.Kb6 Kf3 5.Sd5 Qxd7 6.a8Q Kxg3 7.Qa3+ Kh4 8.Qb4+ Kg5, or 1.Sc3+? Kd4 2.Kb4 Kd3 3.Ra3 Qf8+ 4.Kb3 Qa8 5.Sb5 Ke2 6.g4 f6 7.Ra6 Kf2 8.Rxf6+ Kg3 9.g5 Kg4 10.g6 Qd5+ 11.Kb4 Qd2+ 12.Ka4 Qd1+ 13.Ka5 Qa1+

No 16250 Y. Afek
3rd commendation



b4c6 4073.31 6/6 Win

No 16250 Yochanan Afek (Israel/Netherlands). 1.d5+ Kb6/i 2.a8S+ (a8Q? Bc3+;) Qxa8 3.Bc7+ Sxc7 4.Qg1+ Ka6 5.Qxa1+ Ba4/ ii 6.Qxa4+ Kb6 7.Qxa8 Sxa8 8.Kb3/iii Sc7 9.d7 wins.

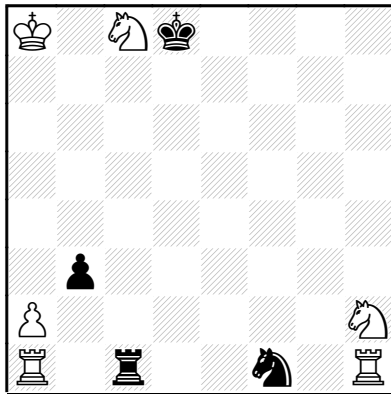
i) Kd7 2.Qg4+ Kd8 3.Qh4+ Kc8 4.Qc4+ Kd7 5.a8Q wins.

ii) Kb6 6.Qd4+ Ka6 7.dxc7 wins.

iii) Only square: 8.Ka4? Kc5 9.d7 Sb6+, or 8.Kc4? Ka5 9.d7 Sb6+, or 8.Ka3(Kc3)? Sc7 9.d7 Sb5+ 10.Kb4 Kc7.

“The final twist places Black at a loss for a constructive move”.

No 16251 Iu. Akobia
4th commendation



a8d8 0505.11 6/4 BTM, Draw

No 16251 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1...b2/i
2.Rb1 Rxb1 3.Sxf1 Rd1 4.Rh8+/ii Kc7
5.Rh7+/iii Kxc8 6.Rb7 b1Q 7.Rxb1 Rxb1
8.Se3 Rb7 9.a3/iv, and:

– Rb3/v 10.Sc4 Kc7 11.Ka7 Rc3 12.Sa5 Rxa3
13.Ka6 draws, or:

– Kc7 10.Sd5+ Kc6 11.Sb4+ Kb6 12.Sd5+
Ka6 13.Sb4+ Kb6 14.Sd5+ positional draw.

i) Rxa1 2.Sxf1 Kxc8 3.Rh8+ Kc7 4.Rh7+ Kc6
5.Rb7 Rxa2+ (bxa2; Ra7) 6.Kb8 b2 7.Se3, or
here b2 3.Rh8+ Kc7 4.Sd2 Rd1 5.Rh7+ Kxc8
6.Sb1 Rxb1 7.Rb7 draw.

ii) 4.Sd2? Rxh1 5.Sb6 Kc7 6.Sd5+ Kc6 7.Sc3
Kb6 (Kc5? Sa4+) 8.Sd5+ Kc5 9.Sc3 Kd4, or
here 7.Sb4+ Kb5 8.Sd5 Rh5 win.

iii) 5.Sd2? Rxd2 6.Rh1 Rd8 7.Rb1 Rxc8+
8.Ka7 Rb8

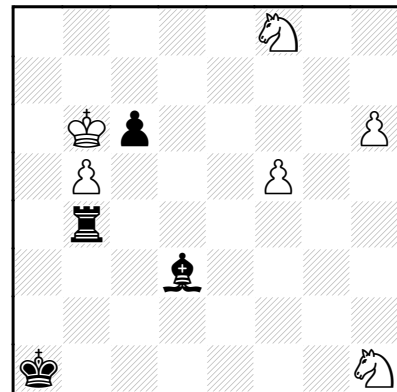
iv) 9.a4? Kc7 10.Sd5+ Kc6 11.a5 Rf7 12.Sb4+
Kb5 13.a6 Kxb4 14.a7 Kb5 15.Kb8 Kb6
16.a8S+ Kc6, or here 10.a5 Rb5 11.a6 Re5
12.Sc4 Re4 wins.

v) Rb5 10.Ka7 Kc7 11.Ka6.

“From move 8 onwards the database takes
charge. The commendation rewards the fore-
play”.

No 16252 Siegfried Hornecker & Gerhard
Josten (Germany). 1.h7/i Rh4 2.f6/ii Bxh7/iii
3.bxc6 Be4/iv 4.c7 Bf5 5.Sg3 Rh6 (Bc8; Kc5)
6.Sxf5 Rxf6+ 7.Se6 Rxe6+ 8.Sd6 Rxd6+/v
9.Kb5 Rd5+ 10.Kb4 Rd4+ 11.Kb3 (Kc3)
Rd3+ 12.Kc2 Rd4 13.c8R Ra4 14.Kb3 wins.

No 16252 S. Hornecker
& G. Josten
5th commendation



b6a1 0332.31 6/4 Win

i) 1.f6? Rxb5+; 1.Kxc6? (Sg3) Rh4.

ii) 2.bxc6? Bxf5 3.Sg3 Bxh7 draws.

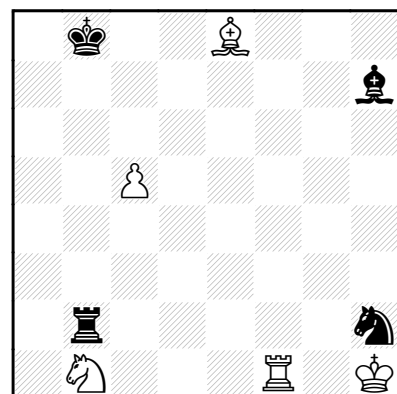
iii) cxb5 3.f7 Bc4 4.Sg6 and one of the pawns
promotes.

iv) Bf5 4.Sg3 Rh8 5.Sd7 wins.

v) Saavedra.

“A good introductory version to a famous
finale”.

No 16253 J. Timman
6th commendation

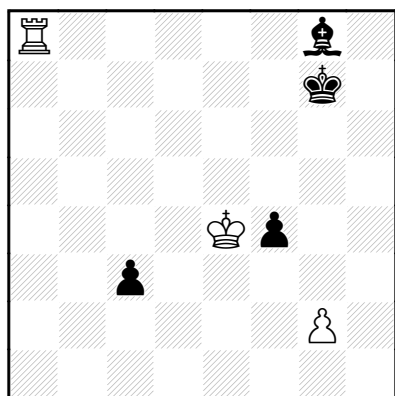


h1b8 0444.10 5/4 Draw

No 16253 Jan Timman (Netherlands). 1.Rf4
Be4+ 2.Rxe4 Sf3 3.Sd2 Rxd2 4.Rb4+ Kc8
5.Bd7+ Kc7 6.Rb7+ Kxb7 7.Bc6+ Kxc6 stale-
mate.

“The play is forced but it stil creates a
pleasant impression”.

No 16254 D. Keith
7th commendation



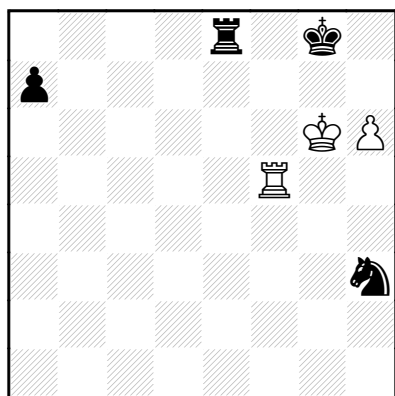
e4g7 0130.12 3/4 Win

No 16254 Daniel Keith (France). 1.Rc8/i c2 2.Ke5/ii Bh7/iii 3.Rc7+ Kh6/iv 4.Kxf4 Bg6 5.Rc6 Kh5 6.g3 wins/v.

- i) 1.Ke5? Bc4; 1.Kxf4? c2 2.Rc8 Bh7 draws.
- ii) 2.Kxf4? Bh7 3.g3 Bd3 4.Rc6 Kf7 5.g4 Ke7 6.Ke5 Kf7 7.g5 Kg7.
- iii) Bb3 3.Kxf4 Kf7 4.Ke3 wins.
- iv) Kf8 4.Kxf4 Ke8 5.Ke5 Kd8 6.Kd6 wins.
- v) e.g. Kh6 7.g4 Kg7 8.Kg5 Bd3 9.Rc7+ Kf8 10.Kf6.

“The study’s point is the non-capture on the second move”.

No 16255 R. Becker
special commendation



g6g8 0403.11 3/4 Draw

No 16255 Richard Becker (USA). 1.h7+/i Kh8 2.Kf7 Re4/ii 3.Ra5 Rh4/iii 4.Ke8/iv Rxb7 5.Kf8 ZZ Rg7 6.Rh5+ Rh7 7.Ra5 Sf4 8.Ra6 ZZ Rg7 9.Rh6+ Rh7 10.Ra6 Sh5/v 11.Ra5 ZZ, and:

– Sf4 12.Ra6 Sh5 13.Ra5 Sg7 14.Rxa7 Se6+ 15.Ke8 Rxa7 stalemate, or:

– Sf6 12.Rxa7 Sd7+ 13.Ke8 Sf6+ 14.Kf8 Rxa7 stalemate.

i) 1.Rf3? Re6+ 2.Kh5 Re5+ 3.Kg4 Sg5, or 1.Kh5? Re7 2.Kh4 Rf7 win.

ii) Ra8 3.Rh5 Sf4 4.Rf5 Sd3 5.Rd5, or Rb8 3.Ke7 Sg1 4.Kd7 Se2 5.Ra5 Rf8 6.Ke7 Ra8 7.Kd6 Sd4 8.Ra4, or Rb7+ 6.Kc8 Rf7 7.Kb8, or Rb7+ 4.Kd8 Rxb7 5.Kc8.

iii) Rg4 4.Ke8/vi Rg7 5.Kd8 Sf4 6.Kc8 Sd3 7.Kb8 Sb4 8.Ka8 Sc6/vii 9.Rc5 Rc7/viii 10.Rg5/ix Sd4 11.Ra5 Sc6 12.Rg5 a5 13.Rg8+ Kxb7 14.Rg7+ Kxg7 (Rxb7) stalemate.

iv) 4.Kf8? Rxb7 ZZ 5.Rf5 Rh6 6.Ra5 Rf6+ 7.Ke8 Kg8 8.Kd8 a6 9.Kc7 Sf4 10.Kb7 Sd3 11.Ka7 Sb4, or 4.Ke7? Sf4 5.Kd8 Rxb7 6.Kc8 Sd3 7.Kb8 Sb4 8.Ka8 Sc6.

v) Sd5 11.Rg6 Rb7 12.Rh6+ Rh7 13.Rg6 Se7 14.Rg1 a5 15.Rg2.

vi) But not 4.Ke7? Rg6 5.Kd8 a6 6.Kc7 Sf4 7.Kb7 Sd3 8.Ka7 Sb4 wins.

vii) or a6 9.Rxa6 Sxa6 stalemate.

viii) Rg6 10.Kb7 a5 11.Rh5 a4 12.Rh4 a3 13.Ra4 Sd8+ 14.Kc8.

ix) But not 10.Rf5? Rxb7 11.Rf8+ Kg7.

“The mutual ZZ are impressive, but can all be extracted from the database. The move 4.Ke8! (4.Kf8?) is a worthy human contribution”.

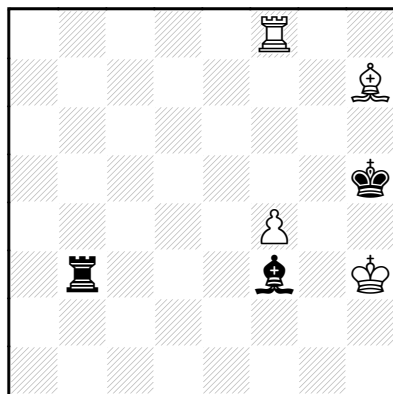
Mário Matouš JT 1998

The provisional award of this formal international tourney was published in *Československý Šach* 5/1998, the definitive in 9/1998 with no changes.

Mário Matouš (Prague) acted as judge. The initial closing date of 31v1997 was extended to 15xii1997 to encourage more entries. EG warmly thanks Jaroslav Pospíšil for much assistance.

Judge's report (5/1998): *I thank the composers and sponsors and especially the organiser J. Polášek, who provided me with the diagrams, detailed solutions, and commentaries on unsoundnesses and anticipations. Of 19 submissions, 6 were incorrect. The level was consistent, which is something of a rarity, no entry being particularly weak. After protracted 'for' and 'against' considerations I finally made the following award.*

No 16256 J. Pospíšil
1st prize



h3h5 0440.10 4/3 Win

No 16256 Jaroslav Pospíšil (Prague). As AJR sees it White's advantage lies in the vulnerability of bK – a weakness that is impermanent – rather than the extra fP, for a draw is secured at any time by bBxfP. 1.Bc2, with:

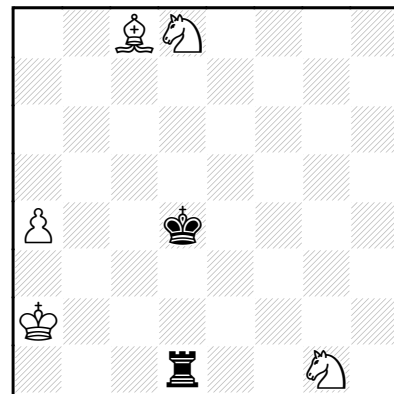
- Bg4+ 2.Kh2 Rb6 3.Kg3 Bd7/i 4.Rh8+ Rh6 5.Rd8 Rd6 6.Bf5 wins, or
- Rb6 2.Kg3/ii Bb7/iii 3.Rf5+/iv Kh6 4.Rf7 Kh5 5.Rh7+ Rh6 6.Rxb7 wins.

- i) Be2 4.Rh8+ Rh6 5.Re8.
- ii) 2.Rh8+? Rh6 3.Rg8 Rb6 4.Kg3 Bb7 draw.
- iii) Bh1, then not 3.Bf5? Bb7 4.Rh8+ Rh6 5.Rb8 Rb6 6.Bc2 Kh6 7.Be4 Re6 positional draw, but 3.Rh8+ Rh6 4.Rg8 Rd6 5.Rg4 Kh6 6.Rh4+ wins.

iv) 3.Rb8? Kh6 4.Be4 Re6 5.Bxb7 Rb6 positional draw.

“A remarkable miniature: a tactical demonstration ripe for inclusion in an instruction manual. There's square-blocking (g4 and h6), elimination (of bB), decoy (of bR and bB) and adhesion (see (iv)). In its overall concept one thinks rather of a chess problem: relatively few moves, but with dense content. The underlying finesses can be appreciated only if the reader-solver exercises the necessary diligence.”

No 16257 J. Polášek
2nd prize



a2d4 0312.10 5/2 Win

No 16257 Jaroslav Polášek (Prague). 1.a5? Kc5, and 2.Sb7+ Kc6 3.Sf3 Kc7, or 2.Se6+ Kb5 (Kc6) 3.a6 Kb6 4.Sf3 Kd5 draw. 1.Se6+? Kc4 2.Se2 Rd2+ 3.Ka3 Rd3+ 4.Kb2 Rd2+ 5.Kb1 Rd6 draw, 6.Kc2 Kb4 7.Sc3 Rc6. 1.Se2+ Kc5/i 2.Se6+/ii Kb4 3.S6d4 Rd2+ (Kxa4; Sc3+) 4.Kb1 Kxa4 5.Kc1 Rd3 6.Kc2 Ra3/iii 7.Kb2 Rd3 8.Bf5 Re3/iv 9.Sc3+ Ka5 10.Sc6+ Ka6 11.Bc8+ Kb6 12.Sd5+ wins.

- i) Kc4 2.Ba6+ Kb4 3.Sc6+ Kc5 4.Bb5; Ke3 2.Sc6 Rd2+ 3.Kb3 Kxe2 4.a5.
- ii) 2.Sb7+? Kb4 3.Bg4/v, and now, not 3...Rd2+? 4.Kb1 Kxa4 5.Kc1 with a fine dom-

ination, but: 3...Rf1 4.Kb2/vi Rf7/vii 5.Sd6 Rg7.

iii) Re3 7.Sc3+ Ka3 8.dSb5+ Kb4 9.Sd5+.

iv) Rd2+ 9.Kc1 Ra2 10.Sc3+.

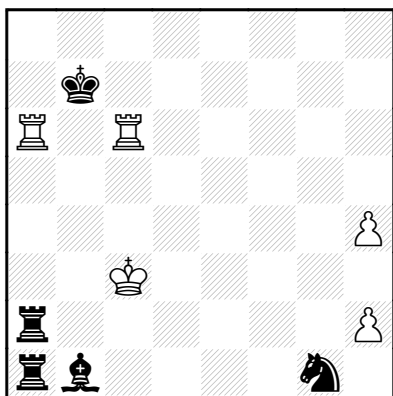
v) 3.a5 Rd2+ 4.Kb1 Rxe2 5.a6 Re1+ 6.Kc2 Re2+ 7.Kd3 Ra2 8.Sd8 Kc5 draws.

vi) 4.Sc3 Kxc3 5.a5 Kb4 6.a6 Rf6. 4.a5 Rf7 5.Sd8 Rf6 6.Sb7 Rf7.

vii) 4...Kxa4? 5.Sc3+ Kb4 6.Sd5+, after which wB either mates or wins bR.

“The idea is domination. White uses S-forks finally to ensnare bR. It beggars description how long the struggle lasts after Black has achieved his heart’s desire, namely a drawing material balance.”

No 16258 J. Tazberík
& M. Hlinka
3rd prize



c3b7 0833.20 5/5 Draw

No 16258 Jan Tazberík & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.cRb6+ Kc7 2.Rc6+ Kd7 3.Rd6+ Ke7 4.Re6+/i Kf7 5.Rf6+/ii Kg7 6.Rxa2, with:

– Rxa2 7.Rf1 Se2+ 8.Kb3 Ra1 9.Kb2 Ra2+ 10.Kb3/iii Sd4+ 11.Kc3 Sb5+ 12.Kb3 Ra3+ 13.Kb4 Ra1/iv 14.Rd1 Sa3 15.Kc3 Sb5+ 16.Kb4/v Sa3 17.Kc3 Ra2 18.Kb3 Ra1 19.Kb2 Ra2+ 20.Kb3 positional draw, or

– Bxa2 7.Ra6 Se2+ 8.Kb2/vi Rb1+ 9.Kc2/vii Sd4+ 10.Kc3 Sb5+ 11.Kc2 Sd4+ 12.Kc3 Se2+ 13.Kc2 Rc1+ 14.Kd2 Bc4 15.Rc6/viii Kf7 16.h5 Kg7/ix 17.h4 Kh7 18.Rc8 Kh6 19.Rh8+ Kg7 20.Rc8 draw.

i) 4.Rxa2? Rxa2 5.Rd1 Se2 6.Kb3 Bc2+.

ii) 5.Rxa2? Rxa2 6.Re1 Se2+ 7.Kb3 Sd4+ 8.Kc3 Sb5+ 9.Kb3 Ra3+ 10.Kb4 Bd3 11.Re3 Sd4 12.Kxa3 Sc2+.

iii) 10.Kxb1? Sc3+ 11.Kc1 Ra1+ 12.Kd2 Rxf1, an echo of the 6...Rxa2 line.

iv) 13...Bd3 14.Rf3, again an echo. [But 14.Rg1+ and 15.Rg3 is a dual, cancelling any artistic force of the ‘echo’. An unsound echo is clearly no echo. AJR]

v) 16.Kb2? Ra2+ 17.Kxb1 Sc3+.

vi) 8.Kd2? Sf4 9.Kc3 Sd5+ 10.Kb2 Rb1+ 11.Kc2 Sb4+.

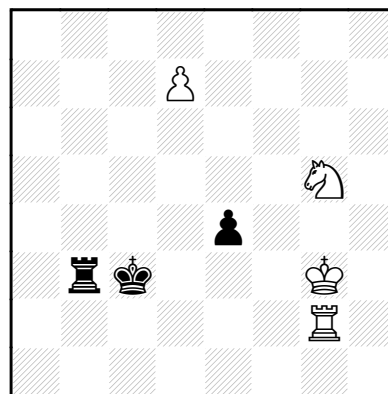
vii) 9.Kxa2? Sc3+ 10.Ka3 Ra1+ 11.Kb4 Rxa6+ is an echo.

viii) Another echo of positional draw.

ix) Ke7 17.h6 Kf7 18.h4 Rc3 19.h5 Rc1 20.Rc7+ Kg8 21.Rg7+ Kh8 22.Rc7 is a draw.

“Were the first part not already known from Hlinka and Tazberik in *Československý Šach* 1998 and *Schaakmagazine* 1996, there is no doubt that this study would have taken pride of place. The distribution of play over the whole board and the working in of an echo variation make up a worthy deed calling for a tourney honour.”

No 16259 M. Hlinka
1st honourable mention



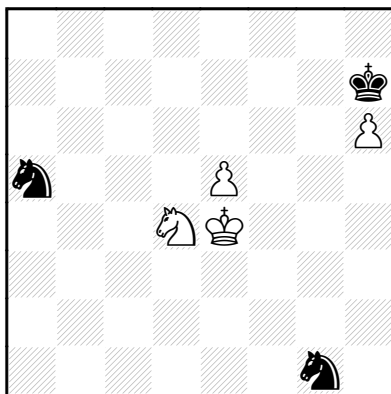
g3c3 0401.11 4/3 BTM, Win

No 16259 Michal Hlinka (Kósice, Slovakia). 1...Kb4+/i 2.Kf4 Rd3 3.Rb2+ Ka5 4.Rb7 Ka6/ii 5.Rc7 e3/iii 6.Se6/iv Kb6/v 7.Kf3 Rd6 (Rd5; Kxe3) 8.Ke2 wins, as it’s BTM and wK will be able to climb the board to support his ‘forlorn hope’ wPd7. It is a slight surprise that there seems to be no line in which W promotes to wS for a GBR class 0402.00 win.

- i) Kc4+ 2.Kf4 Rd3 3.Sf7 Rxd7 4.Se5+.
- ii) If 4...e3, hoping for 5.Kf3? Ka6 6.Rc7 Kb5 7.Ke2 Kb6 8.Se6 Rd6, leaving White to play (Kxe3? Rxe6+;), then however White has instead: 5.Ke4 Rd6 6.Ke5 Rd1 7.Ke6 e2 8.Sf3.
- iii) Kb6 6.Se6 e3 7.Kf3, is into the main line.
- iv) 6.Kf3? Kb5 7.Se6 Kb6 8.Ke2 Rd6z.
- v) e2 7.Rc1 Rxd7 8.Sc5+.

“I have seen numerous positions of this type due to Hlinka. This one is very good. The double-edged struggle – who puts whom finally in zugzwang? – is interesting indeed and brings joy to the solution-seeker.”

No 16260 J.Polášek
2nd honourable mention



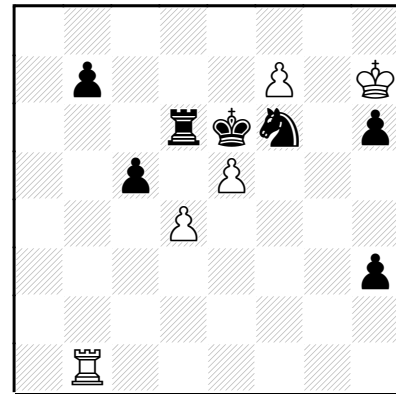
e4h7 0007.20 4/3 Win

No 16260 Jaroslav Polášek (Prague). 1.e6 Sb7 (Sc4; Sb5) 2.Ke5/i Sf3+ 3.Sxf3/ii Sd8 4.Sg5+ Kxh6 5.Sf7+ Sxf7+ 6.Kd5 Kg7 7.e7 Sd6 8.Kxd6 Kf7 9.Kd7 wins.

- i) 2.Kd5? Sf3, and 3.e7 Sf4+ 4.Kc6/iii Sa5+ 5.Kd6/iv Sb7+ 6.Kc6 positional draw, or 3.Se2 Sf2 4.e7 Sg4 5.Kc6 Sa5+ 6.Kb6 Sf6 7.Kxa5 Kxh6, or 3.Ke5 Sg5 4.e7 Sf7+ 5.Ke6 fSd6 6.Kd7 Se4 7.e8Q Sf6+, drawing.
- ii) 3.Kd5 Sxd4 4.e7 Sd6 5.Kxd6 Sf5+
- iii) 4.Ke4 Sg6 5.e8Q Sd6+.
- iv) 5.Kd7 Sd5 6.e8Q Sf6+.

“A lively introduction with a surprise on the sixth move. I sense the presence of the WCCT6 theme in White’s avoidance of a capture for the sake of a tempo.”

No 16261 J.Polášek
3rd honourable mention



h7e6 0403.34 5/7 Win

No 16261 Jaroslav Polášek (Prague). 1.Kg7? Sh5+ 2.Kg8 Rd8+ 3.f8Q Rxf8+ 4.Kxf8 cxd4 draws. So: 1.Kg6 Rxd4 2.exf6/i Rg4+ 3.Kh5 Rg5+/ii 4.Kxh6 Rf5 5.Kg7/iii Rg5+ 6.Kf8 Kd7/iv 7.Rd1+/v Kc7 8.Rh1 Rg3/vi 9.Rxh3 Rxh3 10.Kg7 Rg3+ 11.Kh6 Rh3+ 12.Kg6 Rh8 13.Kg7 Rc8 14.f8Q (f8R) Rxf8 15.Kxf8 c4 16.f7 (Ke7) c3 17.Ke7 c2 18.f8Q c1Q 19.Qd8+ Kc6 20.Qc8+ wins.

i) After 2.f8Q? Black rescues himself with perpetual check: Rg4+ 3.Kxh6 Rh4+ 4.Kg7 Rg4+ 5.Kh6 Rh4+. If 2.Rb6+? Ke7 3.Rxf6 Rd8 4.Kg7 Rf8 5.e6 Ra8 6.Rxh6 b5 7.Rxh3 Kxe6 8.f8Q Rxf8 9.Kxf8 Kd5, drawing.

ii) Kxf7 4.Kxg4 Kxf6 5.Kf4.

iii) 5.f8Q? Rxf6+ 6.Qxf6+ Kxf6 7.Kh5 Kf5 8.Kh4 c4 9.Kg3 Ke4 10.Kf2 Kd3 11.Rxb7 c3 12.Rd7+ Ke4 13.Ke2 c2 14.Kd2 Kf3 draw.

iv) – h2 7.Ke8 Rg1 8.f8Q h1Q 9.Qe7+ Kd5 10.Qxb7+; Rh5 7.Re1+ Re5 8.Ke8. Rf5 7.Ke8 Rxf6 8.Rb6+.

– Re5 7.Rf1 h2 8.Ke8 h1Q 9.Rxh1 Kxf6+ 10.Kf8 Rf5/vii 11.Re1 Kg6 12.Re6+ Kg5 13.Kg7, with wRg6+-f6 to follow.

v) 7.Rxb7+? Kd8 8.Rb2, then if Rg3? (Rg2? Rd2+) 9.Rb3 h2 10.Rxg3 h1Q 11.Kg7 Qb7 12.Rg4 c4/viii 13.Rh4 Qd7 14.Re4 c3 15.Re8+ Kc7 16.Re7 c2 17.f8Q c1Q 18.Rxd7+ Kxd7 19.Qe7+ wins, but instead 8...Kd7 draws: 9.Rh2 Rg3 10.Rd2+ Kc7 11.Rd5 h2 12.Rxc5+ Kd7 13.Rh5 Rg2 14.Rh6 Kc7 15.Rxh2 Rxh2 16.Kg7 Rg2+ 17.Kh7 Rh2+ 18.Kg6 Rg2+ 19.Kf5 Rf2+ 20.Ke5 Re2+ 21.Kd5 Rd2+, or if, in this, 9.Rd2+ Kc7

10.Rh2 Rg3 11.Rxh3 Rxh3 12.Kg7 Rg3+ 13.Kh6 Rh3+ 14.Kg6 Rh8 15.Kg7 Rc8 16.f8Q Rxf8 17.Kxf8 c4 18.f7 c3 19.Ke7 c2 20.f8Q c1Q 21.Qd8+ Kb7 drawing. We read that with bPb7, as in the main line, White wins.

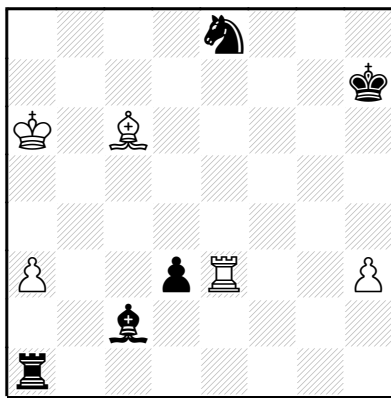
vi) c4 9.Rxh3 Kd7, and White has a win by: 10.Rh5 Rg1 11.Rd5+ Kc7 12.Rc5+.

vii) 10...Kg6 11.Kg8 Rf5 12.Rg1+. 10...Ke6 11.Rf1 Kd7 12.Kg8 Re8+ 13.fxe8Q+ Kxe8 14.Rf7 b6 15.Rb7.

viii) 12...Kc8 13.Re4 Qxe4 14.f8Q+ Kd7 15.Qxc5.

“Most of the pretty variations lie in wait behind the arras, but the main idea – not to capture bPb7, which will turn out to be an encumbrance to Black – is presented with expression enough.”

No 16262 J. Tazberík
& M. Hlinka
1st commendation



a6h7 0443.21 5/5 Draw

No 16262 Jan Tazberík & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.Be4+/i Kh8/ii 2.Bxd3 Rxa3+ 3.Kb5 (Kb7? Sg7;) Bxd3+/iii 4.Kb4 Sd6 5.h4/iv, with:

– Sc4 6.Rg3/v Kh7 7.h5 Kh6 8.Rh3 Kg7 9.Rf3 Kh7 (Sd2; Rg3+) 10.Rg3 Kh6 11.Rh3 Kg7 12.Rf3 Kh8 13.h6/vi Kg8 (Sd2; Rf8+) 14.Rg3+ (Rh3? Kh7;) Kh8 15.Rf3 Kh7 16.Rh3 draw, or

– Sb5 6.Rg3/vii Kh7 7.h5/viii Kh6, and now, not 8.Re3? Sd4, but. 8.Rh3zz draw, for example Rc3 9.Re3 Kxh5 10.Re5+ Kg4 11.Rxb5 drawn.

i) 1.Bxe8? Rxa3+ 2.Kb6 d2 3.Re7+ Kh6 4.Re6+ Kg5 5.Re5+ Kf4 wins.

ii) Kg7 2.Bxd3 Rxa3+ 3.Kb5, and Bxd3+ 4.Kb4 Sd6 5.Rg3+, or Sd6+ 4.Kc5 Sf5 5.Rf3 Bxd3 6.Kb4 Sd4 7.Rg3+, drawing.

iii) Sd6+ 4.Kc5 Sf5 5.Re8+.

iv) 5.Rg3? Sf5 6.Rf3 Sd4 7.Rf8+ Kg7. 5.Rf3? Sc4, and if 6.h4 Sd2 7.Rg3 Rb3+ or 6.Rg3 Kh7 7.h4 Kh6, winning for Black.

v) 6.Rf3? Sd2. 6.Rh3? Kh7 7.h5 Kh6, puts W in zugzwang.

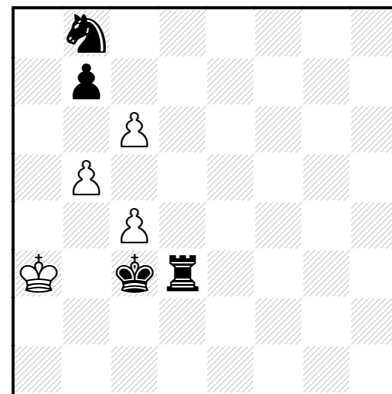
vi) 13.Rg3? Kh7 14.Rh3 Kh6zz. 13.Rh3? Kg8 14.Rf3 Kg7zz 15.Rg3+ Kh7 16.Rh3 Kh6. 13.Rf8+? Kh7 14.Rf3 Sd2 15.Rf7+ Kg8.

vii) This move must precede h4-h5.

viii) 7.Re3? Kg6, and 8.h5+ Kf5 9.h6 Kg6 10.Rh3 Kh7, or 8.Rg3+ Kh6 9.Re3 Sd4 10.Kxa3 Sc2+, when Black wins.

“Tempo duel between wR+Pp and bK. But right from the first move we find ourselves in the analysis territory of Hlinka and Tazberik, *Schaakmagazine* 1996.”

No 16263 K. Husák
2nd commendation



a3c3 0303.31 4/4 Draw

No 16263 Karel Husák (Czech Republic). 1.c7 Kc2+ 2.Kb4/i Sd7/ii 3.c8Q Rb3+/iii 4.Ka5 Ra3+ 5.Kb4 Ra4+ 6.Kxa4 Sb6+ 7.Ka5/iv Sxc8 8.c5 Kc3 9.c6 b6+ 10.Ka6 Kc4 11.c7 Kc5 12.Kb7 Sd6+ 13.Ka6 draw, as Bl is in zugzwang.

i) 2.Ka4? Sd7 3.c8Q Sb6+. 2.Ka2? Sa6 3.bxa6 Rd6 4.Ka3 Rxa6+.

ii) Rb3+ 3.Ka5 Sd7 4.c8Q.

iii) b6 4.c5 bxc5+ 5.Qxc5+ Sxc5 6.Kxc5 draw.

iv) 7.Kb4? Sxc8 8.c5 Kd3 9.Ka5 Kc4 10.c6 b6+ 11.Ka6 Kc5 12.c7 Sd6, when it is WTM.

“Elegant elaboration of a reci-zug.”

The 3rd commendation L’uboš Kekely (Slovakia) b4a6 0536.12 c1h5a5d1a4e1. b2b3b6 4/7= has a dual:

1.Rxa5+ bxa5+ 2.Kxa4 (Ka3? Sxb2;) Sd3 3.Rc6+/i, with:

– Kb7 4.Rc3 Sxb2+ 5.Ka3/ii Sa4 6.Kxa4 b2+ 7.Ka3/iii b1R/iv 8.Rd3 a4/v 9.Ka2 Rc1 10.Kb2 Rc2+ 11.Kb1 draw, or

– Ka7 4.Rc3 Sxb2+ 5.Ka3/vi Sa4 6.Kxa4/vii b2+ 7.Kxa5 b1Q 8.Rc7+ Ka8 9.Ra7+ Kb8 10.Rb7+ Qxb7 stalemate.

i) 3.Rc3? Sxb2+ 4.Ka3 Sa4 5.Kxa4 b2+ 6.Ka3 b1R 7.Rd3 Be2 wins. Marco Campioli cooks: 3.Rc8, e.g. 3...Kb7 4.Rc3 = main, but also 4.Rd8.

ii) 5.Kxa5? Bc2 6.Kb4 Sd3+ 7.Rxd3 b2 8.Rd1 Bxd1 9.Ka3 b1S+ wins.

iii) 7.Rb3+?+ Bxb3+ 8.Ka3 b1S+.

iv) b1Q 8.Rc7+ Kb8 9.Rc8+.

v) Be2 9.Rb3+ with exchange of rooks – not possible after 3.Rc3?

vi) 5.Kxa5? Bc2 6.Kb4 Sd3+ 7.Rxd3 b2 8.Rd1 Bxd1 9.Ka3 b1R.

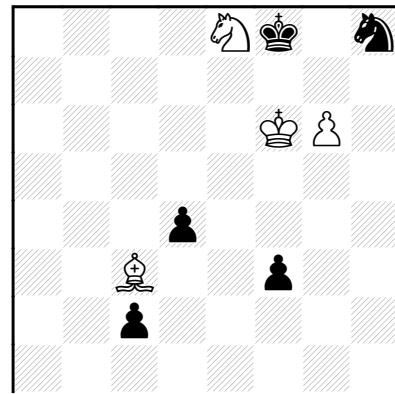
vii) 6.Rd3 is a dual draw: Bc2 7.Rd5, and, for example, Ka6 8.Rxa5+, or b2 8.Rxa5+ Kb6 9.Rxa4 b1Q 10.Rb4+, or Sc3 8.Rxa5+ Kb6 9.Rh5 Sb5+/viii 10.Kb2 Sd6 11.Rh3 Sc4+ 12.Kc3 Sa3/ix 13.Kb2 Sc4+ 14.Kc3.

viii) 9...Sa4 10.Rb5+. 9...Se4 10.Rh2 Sc5 11.Rxc2 Kxc2 12.Kb2 draw. 9...Kc6 10.Rh3 Sb5+ 11.Kb2 Sd4 12.Kc3 Sf5 13.Kb2 Sd4 14.Kc3 Sb5+ 15.Kb2 Sd4 16.Kc3 Se2+ 17.Kb2 draw.

ix) 12...Sa5 13.Rh5 Bd1 14.Rd5 Bc2 15.Rh5, a clear positional draw.

“Despite the rather brutal introduction a higher placing would have been merited had there not been a second solution (6.Rd3!) in line B.”

No 16264 L. Kekely
4th commendation



f6f8 0014.13 4/5 Draw

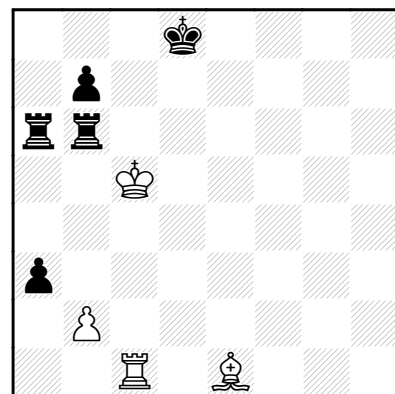
No 16264 L’uboš Kekely (Slovakia). 1.g7+ Kg8 2.Bxd4/i c1Q/ii 3.gxh8Q+ (gxh8R+) Kxh8 4.Kf7+ Kh7 5.Sf6+ Kh6 6.Be3+ Qxe3 7.Sg4+ Kg5 8.Sxe3 draw.

i) 2.gxh8Q+? Kxh8 3.Bxd4 Kg8 4.Kg6 c1Q 5.Sf6+ Kf8 6.Bc5+ Qxc5 7.Sd7+ Ke7 8.Sxc5 f2 wins.

ii) Sf7? 3.Kg6 Se5+ 4.Bxe5 c1Q 5.Sf6 mate.

“A pretty little thing showing the difference between a pair of symmetrical lines.”

No 16265 E. Vlasák
5th commendation



c5d8 0710.12 4/5 Draw

No 16265 Emil Vlasák (Czech Republic). 1.Ba5 axb2/i 2.Bxb6+/ii Rxb6 3.Rd1+ Kc7 4.Rb1zz Rb3 5.Kc4 Rb6 6.Kc5 Rc6+ 7.Kd4/iii Rc2/iv 8.Kd3 draw, e.g. Rh2 9.Kc3 Kc6 10.Rg1 (Kb3? Rh5;) Kb5 11.Kb3.

i) Kc7 2.Bxb6+ Rxb6 3.Kd4+.

ii) 2.Rd1+? Ke8 (Kc8?) 3.Bxb6 Ra1.

iii) 7.Kd5? Rc2 8.Kd4 Kc6 9.Kd3 Rh2 10.Kc3 Kb5 11.Kb3 Rh4. 7.Kb5? Rc2 8.Kb4 Kc6 9.Kb3/v Rc5 10.Kb4 Rb5+ 11.Kc4 b6. 7.Kb4? Kd7 8.Kb5 Rc2 9.Kb6 Kd6 10.Kb5 Kc7 11.Kb4 Kc6 12.Kb3 Rc5. Black wins.

iv) Rd6+ 8.Kc4 Rb6 9.Kc5.

v) 9.Ka4 Rc4+ 10.Ka3 Rc5 11.Ka2 Ra5+ 12.Kxb2 Rb5+.

“Again we see a reci-zug elaborated.”

The judge’s final comments (ix/1998): *Two objections were received. The first, from M. Hlinka, relates to Pospíšil’s first prize. An earlier version (Šachove Umeni in Československý šach x1970, cf. EG28.1552, itself intended as a correction of EG18.923) was subsequently demolished by Jan Lerch: instead of 6...Rb3+, Black should play 6...Re6 7.Bxf7 Rb6. After 30 years J.Pospíšil has not only corrected his study but developed it further by incorporating the draw to which Lerch drew attention. Etiquette might call for nam-*

ing Lerch as co-author, but to do so is not within the judge’s competence.

M. Hlinka begs to differ over the evaluation of his 3rd prize. My position as judge is that I do my best to discern the best, and in this case it is the harmony of the 3rd prize, qualified by the same idea being present in the same composer’s 1st commendation. It is a composing principle of mine to coax the single best setting of an idea, however seductive that idea may be.

K. Husák, drawing attention to the fact that the organiser was also a participant, considers Polašek’s two honoured studies over-rated. In Husák’s view in this tourney personal relations took priority over chess studies.

Let me assure Mr Husák and readers that the tourney was conducted in a totally regular manner: all entries were received in neutralised form and I knew the identities of the composers only after my decisions were made.

The provisional award is hereby confirmed as definitive.



*First prize winner
Jaroslav Pospíšil*

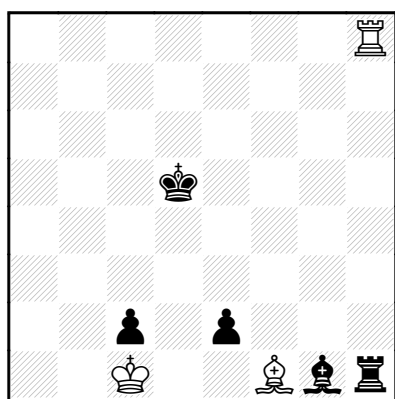
Šachová skladba 2003-2004

The provisional award of this informal international tourney was published: *Šachová skladba* 86, “i/2005”. Confirmation of the unchanged award was in *Šachová skladba* 88 (vii2005, p. 1980). Judge John Roycroft (London) considered a partial anticipation of the Melnichenko (Gorgiev gl a8 1937) to be insufficiently close to influence the placing.

Judge’s report: *Some of the 14 published entries felt warm and friendly, while others felt cold and remote. This ‘temperature’ distinction was so strong that I decided to make my award as far as possible on that basis. It is necessarily provisional, leaving some responsibility on the shoulders of critical and sceptical readers, but the indispensable Harold van der Heijden in The Netherlands has checked his up-to-date (but not publicly available) database for anticipations and has even done some (sadly, productive) analytical probing. I thank him most warmly. There are no ‘reserves’ to replace eventual casualties.*

So, dear readers, what you have is an award whose naïvety may even enhance, rather than detract from, your enjoyment!

No 16266 M. Matouš
1st prize



c1d5 0440.02 3/5 Draw

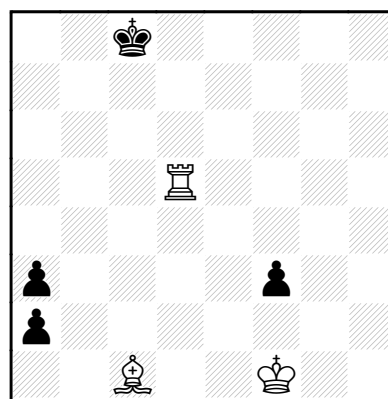
No 16266 Mário Matouš (Prague). 1.Bg2+? Kd4 2.Rd8+ Kc3 3.Rc8+ Bc5+. 1.Rd8+ Ke4/i 2.Re8+/ii Kd3 3.Rxe2 (Bxe2+? Kc3;) Be3+ 4.Rd2+ Kc3 stalemate.

i) Kc6 2.Bxe2 Bb6+ 3.Kxc2 Bxd8 4.Bf3+ draw.

ii) 2.Bg2+? Kf4 3.Rf8+ Kg5 4.Re8 Be3+ wins.

“Captivating!”

No 16267 M. Matouš
2nd prize



f1c8 0110.03 3/4 Draw

No 16267 Mário Matouš (Prague). 1.Rc5+? Kd7 2.Rd5+ Ke6 3.Rd6+ Kf5 4.Rd5+ Ke4 winning. 1.Rd8+ Kb7/i 2.Rd7+/ii Kc6 3.Rd6+/iii Kb5 (Kxd6; Bxa3+) 4.Rd5+ Kc4 5.Rc5+, and Kxc5 (Kb4) 6.Bxa3+, or 6.Kd4 Be3+, or 6.Kb3 (Kd3) Ra5. Draw.

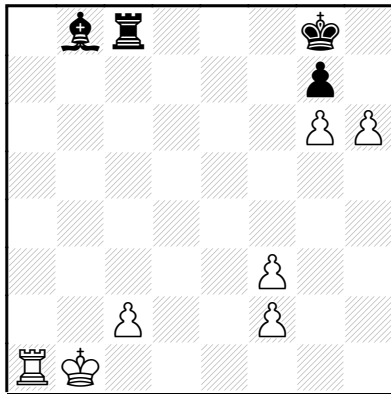
i) Kxd8 2.Bg5+ Kd7 3.Bf6 Ke6 4.Bh8 Kd5 5.Kf2 draw.

ii) 2.Rb8+? Kc6 3.Rc8+ Kd7 4.Rd8+ Ke6 5.Re8+ Kf7 6.Rf8+ Kg6 7.Rg8+ 8.Kh7 wins.

iii) 3.Rc7+? Kd5 4.Rc5+ Ke6 5.Rc6+ Kf5 6.Rc5+ Kg4, and if 7.Rg5+ Kh4, or if 7.Rc4+ Kh3, winning.

“It’s as exciting as unwrapping a Christmas present!”

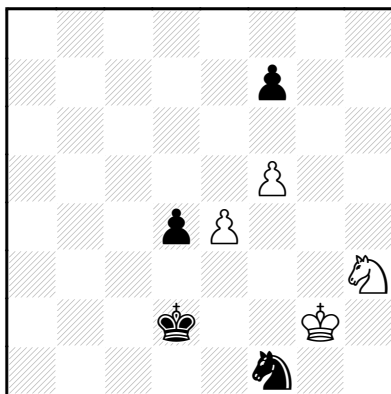
No 16268 E. Melnichenko
1st honourable mention



b1g8 0430.51 7/4 Win

No 16268 Emil Melnichenko (New Zealand). “You can’t tear your eyes away from the horologist’s ‘escape movement’. After 1.h7+ Kh8 2.Ra8, Black is ‘forced’ to threaten desperado checks by bR, as otherwise White will steadily win by advancing his f-pawn(s) and his c-pawn (with many duals). So, with wK avoiding the dark squares as he advances, we have the convincing main line, without duals.” 2...Re8 3.Ka2 Rc8 4.c3 Re8 5.Kb3 Rc8 6.c4 Re8 7.Ka4 Rc8 8.c5 Re8 9.Kb5 Rc8 (Rf8; f4) 10.c6 Re8 11.Ka6 Rc8 12.c7 winning. “Note that time-wasting moves are not real duals: my recommendation is that such moves should be accompanied by a parenthesised question mark, eg 4.Kb1(?).”

No 16269 J. Pospíšil
2nd honourable mention



g2e2 0004.22 4/4 Draw

No 16269 Jaroslav Pospíšil (Prague). 1...Se3+ 2.Kf3 Sc4 3.e5/i Sxe5+ 4.Ke4 d3 5.Kxe5 Ke3 6.Sf4 f6+ 7.Kxf6 d2/ii 8.Sd5+ Kd4 9.Sc3/iii Kxc3 10.Ke7 d1Q 11.f6 Qe1+ 12.Kf8 drawn.

i) 3.f6? Se5+ 4.Kf4 Sg6+ winning, 5.Kf3 d3 6.Sf2 Se5+ 7.Kf4 Ke2 8.Sxd3 Sxd3+, or 5.Kf5 Ke3 6.e5 Sh4+ 7.Kg4 d3 8.Kg3/iv d2 9.Sf2 Sf5+ 10.Kg2 Sd4 11.Kf1 (Kg1, Sf3+;) Kf3 12.Sd1 Se6 13.Sf2 Sc5 14.Sd1 Sd7.

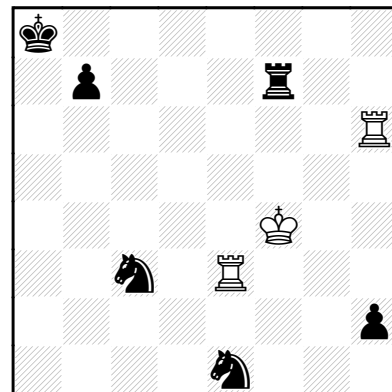
ii) Kxf4 8.Kg6 d2 9.f6 d1Q 10.f7 drawn.

iii) 9.Se3? Kxe3 10.Ke7 d1Q 11.f6 Kf4 12.f7 Qe2+ 13.Kf8 Kg5 14.Kg8 Kg6 wins.

iv) 8.e6 d2 9.Kxh4 d1Q 10.exf7 Qd8 11.Kg5 Ke4, with a *C* win.

“The draws after 7...d2 8.Sd5+ are (taken as a whole) seductive, adding support-variation spice to the purity of the final Manoeuvre. The dark cloud on the horizon is the looming ‘database’, the first intrusion of the computer into the award.” Mr Pospíšil has informed AJR that this study was published and included in the tourney without his consent.

No 16270 I. Akobia
1st commendation



f4a8 0506.02 3/6 Draw

No 16270 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Kg4 Sd1 2.Rxe1 Sf2+ 3.Kg5 h1Q 4.hRxh1/i Sxh1 5.Ra1+ Kb8 6.Rxh1, with:

– b6/ii 7.Kg6 Rf4 8.Rh7 b5 9.Kg5 Rc4 10.Kf5 b4 11.Ke6 (Ke5) b3 12.Rh1 Kb7 13.Kd5 Rb4 14.Kc5 draw, or

– Ka7 7.Ra1+ Kb8 8.Rh1 b6 9.Kg6 Rf3/iii 10.Rh7 b5 and now not 11.Kg5? b4 12.Kg4 Rf1 13.Rd7 b3 winning, but 11.Rh5 draw.

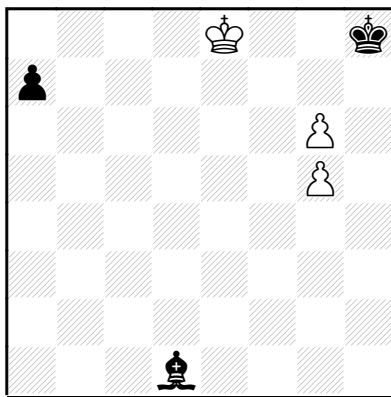
i) 4.eRxh1? Sxh1 5.Rxh1 Kb8 6.Rb1 Kc8 7.Kg4 Kc7 8.Rc1+ Kd6 winning.

ii) Rg7+ 7.Kf4 Kc7 8.Rc1+ Kd6 9.Rd1+ Kc5 10.Rc1+ Kd4 11.Rd1+ Kc5 12.Rc1+ draw.

iii) Rf2 10.Rh7. Rf4 10.Rh7.

“The contorted exchanging-off introduction may make one squirm, but the way the reci-zug (taken from a 5-man database listing, naturally) is manipulated to incorporate a thematic try – the interpolated check 5.Ra1+!! instead of the instinctive instant recapture on h1, cf. (i) – is wholly admirable. We don’t object to wK being in check in the diagram.”

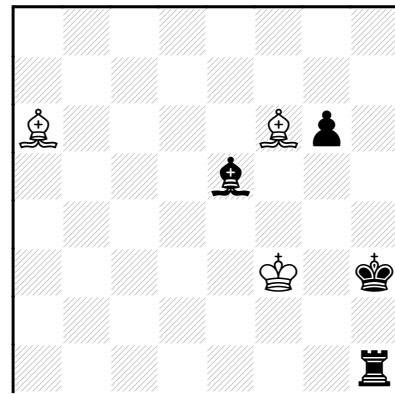
No 16271 I. Aliev
2nd commendation



e8h8 0030.21 3/3 Draw

No 16271 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). “Charm reasserts itself here, if on a smaller and less original scale than with the two prize-winners.” 1.Kf7? Bb3+ (Bh5? Ke6) 2.Kf6 a5 3.Ke5 a4 4.Kd4 a3 5.Kc3 Bd1 (or Ba4;). 1.Kf8 Bb3 2.g7+ Kh7 3.g6+ Kxg6 4.Ke7 a5 (Kxg7; Kd6) 5.Kd6 a4 6.Kc5 a3 (Kxg7; Kb5) 7.Kb4 a2 8.Kxb3 a1Q 9.g8Q+ draw.

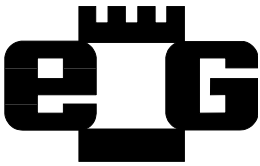
No 16272 L. Topko
3rd commendation



f3h3 0350.01 3/4 Win

No 16272 Leonid Topko (Ukraine). “wBB taunt bR and bK. Harold vdH pinpoints 7.Be2 as a dual. Despite this blemish the study can take the last place.” [Cf. also EG159-162.14721.] 1.Bc8+ Kh2 2.Bxe5+ Kg1 3.Bd4+ Kh2 (Kf1; Bf2) 4.Kf2 Rb1 5.Be5+ Kh1 6.Bg4 Rb3 7.Bd7 Rb6 8.Bh3 and 9.Bg2 mate.

The judge signs off with: *In conclusion I have to say that the ‘coldness’ experienced from examining the remaining entries is sadly inseparable from the baleful influence of the computer. Nevertheless the seven honoured studies remain a delight: newspaper column and website editors have a great opportunity to use them to grip their readers/viewers to win greater popularity for studies among chessplayers at large.*



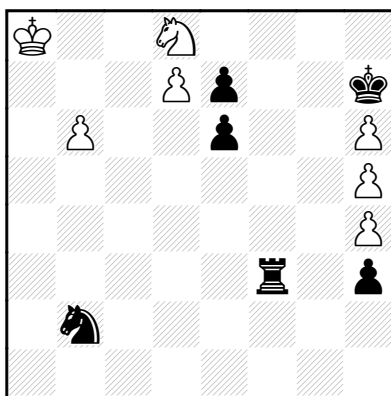
Prizewinners explained

YOCHANAN AFEK

EG is first and foremost a documentary periodical aimed at collecting and reprinting all published studies from around the world. As such, it usually introduces just diagrams and moves and rarely offers additional verbal explanations. Owing to permanent space distress, EG trusts its readers to successfully navigate through the mazes of piles of main and side lines. This is often not that easy and even far from appetizing, especially for newcomers. This new column, a welcome initiative of the new editor-in-chief, will try to partially make up for the lack of the “human touch” by selecting a couple of recent complex prizewinners and serving them in a more digestible and comprehensible manner.

A.1 Andrei Visokosov

1st pr. Vecherny Krasnoturinsky 10 JT 2005



a8h7 0304.53 7/6 Draw

This first column pays tribute to the ever superior Russian art of the endgame study composition. The two first prizewinners below, which excelled in recent Russian tournaments, have a lot in common despite looking so different. They both display a strong thematic try that fails for missing one “tiny” detail which appears in the actual solution to make the entire difference. The **logical try** has be-

come the trademark of two of the leading composers of our time, yielding for both so many prizes and distinctions.

In No. 1 the thematic try appears as early as in move two.

A rook down, White’s surviving chances lie in promoting one of his advanced pawns. But which one?

1.b7!

Not the other pawn: 1.Sxe6? Rd3 2.Sf4! (2.Sg5+ Kxh6 3.Sxh3 Sa4 wins; 2.Sf8+ Kxh6 3.b7 h2 4.b8Q Ra3+ 5.Kb7 h1Q+ 6.Kc8 Qc6+ 7.Kd8 Ra8 wins) 2...h2! 3.Sxd3 h1Q+ 4.b7 Qd5! 5.Sc5! Sa4!! 6.Sxa4 Qxd7 7.Sb6 Qc6! 8.Ka7 Qc7! 9.Sa8 Qa5+ 10.Kb8 Qc5 11.Sc7 e5 and Black wins easily.

Now, how to stop the pawn? The direct approach would fail: 1...Ra3+ 2.Kb8 h2 3.Sc6 Rd3 4.Kc7 h1Q 5.b8Q Qh2+ 6.Kc8 Qxb8+ 7.Sxb8 e5 8.d8Q Rxd8+ 9.Kxd8 e4 10.Sc6 e3 11.Sd4 e5 12.Sc2 Sc4 13.Ke7 draws.

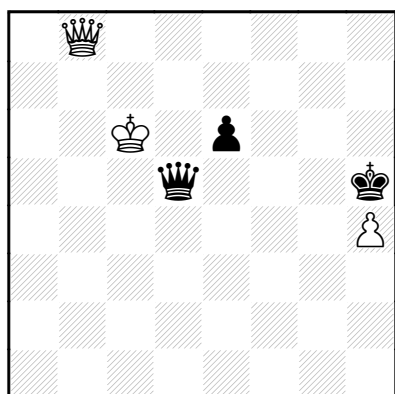
1...Sc4!

A highly efficient prophylactic move against both pawns, as demonstrated in the following try 2.b8Q? Ra3+ 3.Kb7 Rb3+ 4.Kc7 Rxb8 5.Kxb8 Se5 6.Sxe6 Sxd7+ 7.Kc7 h2 wins. Alternatively, letting queens on board by: 1...h2 2.b8Q Ra3+ 3.Qa7 h1Q+ 4.Sb7 Qa1 5.Qxa3 Qxa3+ 6.Kb8 is good for just a draw.

2.Sf7!!

Here we come to the thematic crossroad. There are two knight’s moves to create a double threat: promoting the d-pawn as well as a fork on g5. The **thematic try** shows the essence of the entire idea: 2.Sxe6? Sb6+ 3.Ka7 Sxd7 4.Sg5+ Kxh6 5.Sxf3 Kxh5! 6.Ka8! e6 and it is reciprocal zugzwang position! Here it

is White to play and he loses after: 7.Se5 h2
8.Sxd7 h1Q 9.Ka7 Qc6 10.b8Q Qxd7+
11.Kb6 Qd4+! 12.Kc6 Qd5+!



The point! The earlier move 6...e6 eventually enabled this last winning move (see diagram) as following 13.Kb6 Qb3+ wins, or 13.Kc7 Qe5+. Black trades queens and his last pawn decides. Therefore white will strive to prevent the move 6...e6 simply by not capturing the pawn standing there as early as in move two!

2...Sb6+ 3.Ka7 Sxd7 4.Sg5+ Kxh6 5.Sxf3 Kxh5! 6.Ka8!

Here it is! Avoiding the capture in the second move leaves now Black in zugzwang however deprived of the waiting move 6...e6.

6...e5

What else? A king's waiting move also fails: 6...Kh6 (Kg4? 7.Se5+!) 7.Se5! h2 8.Sg4+ draws.

7.Sxe5 h2 8.Sxd7 h1Q 9.Ka7! Qa1+

We have arrived at a positional draw e.g. 9...Qd5 10.b8Q Qxd7+ 11.Kb6! Qd4+ 12.Kc6! Kxh4 13.Qh2+! =

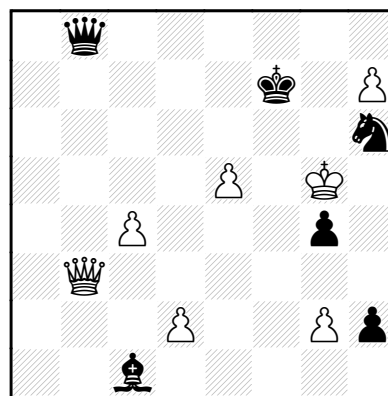
10.Kb6! Qd4+ 11.Kc7 Qd6+ 12.Kd8!

And Black can make no progress. **Draw**

The same theme is used in No. 2 however in a different context somewhat easier for the solver:

Black threatens to have a second queen while the original one is taboo: 1.Qxb8? Bxd2+ 2.Kh4 h1Q+ mates quickly. Who is supposed to win here? The white strategy is to lock the black king in the corner.

A.2 Nikolai Ryabinin
1st pr. Moscow Tourney 2006



g5f7 4033.52 7/6 Win

1.e6+! Kg7! 2.h8Q+! Qxh8 3.Qb7+ Kg8 4.Kg6! Ba3

The moment of truth: 5.Qc8+? Bf8 6.Qd7 Qg7+ 7.Qxg7+ Bxg7 8.e7 h1Q 9.e8Q+ Bf8 10.Qe6+ Kh8 11.Qe5+ Kg8 12.Qd5+ Kh8 and now 13.Qd7? will be met by Qb1+ 14.d3 Qb6+ thus White should settle for a draw by perpetual check (13.Qd4+ Kg8=) which suggests that the white queen on b7 might do the trick. But how would she get there?

5.c5!!

That's it! By getting rid of his own pawn, White paves the way for his queen to descend further along the staircase right to its destination.

5...Bxc5 6.Qc8+! Bf8 7.Qd7! Qg7+

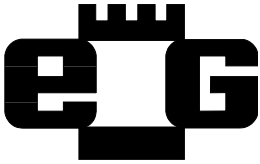
Or 7...Qf6+ 8.Kxf6 h1Q 9.Kg6 Qb1+ 10.d3! Be7 11.Qxe7 Qxd3+ 12.Kxh6 Qe3+ 13.Qg5+ trading queens to a winning pawn ending.

8.Qxg7+ Bxg7 9.e7 h1Q 10.e8Q+ Bf8 11.Qe6+ Kh8 12.Qe5+ Kg8 13.Qd5+ Kh8 14.Qd4+ Kg8 15.Qc4+!

Enabled by the right choice in move five

15...Kh8 16.Qc3+ Kg8 17.Qb3+ Kh8 18.Qb2+! Kg8 19.Qb7! Sf5 20.Qf7+ Kh8 21.Qxf8 mate.

Nowadays it is not that easy for composers to find new themes and original positions. Logical studies, however difficult to execute, seem to offer plenty of room for creativity and originality.



History

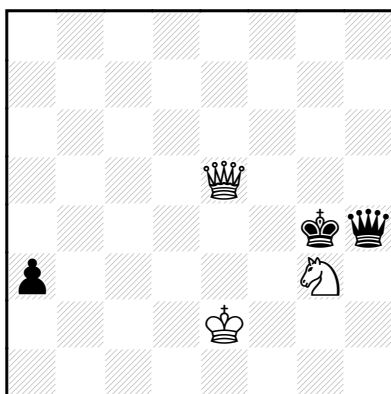
MRS. JOWES

HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

Carel C.W. Mann (1871-1928) was the first Dutch composer on an international level (1). On the very first occasion that he competed in an endgame study tourney (*Wiener Schachzeitung* 1912), he won first prize (2). Based on compiled results of Dutch composers (3) it can be concluded that this first prize winning study was also the first study ever by a Dutch composer that appeared in an award. But Mann published his studies, almost without exception based on the material QB vs Q or QS vs Q, in many sources, including various Dutch newspapers like *Utrechts Dagblad* and *De Groene Amsterdammer*. Dr. Adolf Georg Olland, four times Dutch o.t.b. champion (three times unofficial, and in 1909 the first official Dutch champion) was the editor of the chess columns in these newspapers.

That inspired some other people: in *De Groene Amsterdammer* of 16 January 1916 (issue 2012, endgame study no. 31) there is the following study by 'Mevrouw "Jowes" te Zeist' (Mrs. "Jowes" of Zeist, a town near Utrecht).

H.1



e2g4 4001.01 3/3 Win

1.Se4! Qd8 (Qh6 2.Sf6+; Kh3 2.Sf2+) 2.Sf6+ Kh3 3.Qe3+ Kg2 4.Qf3+ Kg1 5.Qg3+ Kh1 6.Se4 Qe8 7.Qh4+ Kg2 8.Qg5+ Kh2 9.Qh6+ Kg2 10.Qg7+ Kh2 11.Kf2 e.g. Qxe4 12.Qg3+ and mate. Apart from the usual loss-of-time duals, the whole idea seems to be correct.

Olland comments (translation by HvdH): 'Inspired by the pretty endgame study No. 28 of Mr. Mann, the female composer of the present study constructed an endgame that perhaps reminds us of No. 28 when looking at the position, but with play that is completely different and original. Hopefully our readers will show their appreciation for the succesful attempt of Mrs. "Jowes", especially since she is a *female* chess player, by trying to solve this study. As far as we know, this is the first time that a lady has committed herself to the difficult task of composing an endgame *study*. Mrs. Jowes', whose modesty is the reason for her pseudonym, deserves a well-meant tribute'.

It should be noted that *De Groene Amsterdammer* (which still exists) is a newspaper on the political left, and also that the time of publication was during the first World War. The Netherlands was neutral during that war, but right next to the chess column there was an advertisement by the English government: 'Lend your five shillings to your country and crush the Germans' (in English!).

Mrs. Jowes published two further studies in the newspaper (in 1917 and 1918) and also two three-movers. In addition "J.S." of Zeist was regularly listed as a succesful solver in the chess column.

I drew attention to the studies of Mrs. "Jowes" (4) and asked the readers whether anyone knew more about her identity, without receiving a single response. But, coincidentally, a little while later, someone gave me some of Selman's notes for my archive. John Selman jr. (1910-1978) was very important for the Dutch endgame study world. His article about the famous Saavedra study was recently translated into English by Harrie Grondijs (5).

To my surprise I came across a note, dated 1942, revealing the identity of Mrs. "Jowes". Selman had been corresponding about Lady Johanna Ignatia Jacoba Sickinghe-Nepveu tot Ameijde, alias Mrs. "Jowes" and "J.S." of Zeist, only to discover that she had just passed away on 3iii1942. Because of this, and probably also because of the difficult times, Selman let the situation rest. By the way, later I noticed (2) that Selman corresponded with a Mr. O.J. Sickinghe of Zeist about Carel Mann.

Following this discovery I tried to find out more about the Sickinghe-family. They belong to the Dutch nobility (all mentioned below have the title of "Jonkheer") and their ancestors were traced back to 1284. Johanna Nepveu was born on 19xi1858 in Groningen and married Onno Joost Sickinghe (1853-1948). Their only child was Duco Wilhelm Sickinghe, who also had one son: Feijo Onno Joost Sickinghe. One of the three children of Feijo is Duco Wilhelm Sickinghe (19iii1958), who could easily be traced on the internet since he is a succesful manager in Belgium. I managed to contact Duco, great-grandson of Johanna Sickinghe, by sending a letter to his

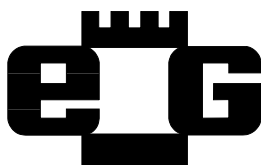
company including photocopies of Mrs. "Jowes" studies. Duco informed me that his father Feijo Sickinghe was still alive, and that it was possible to arrange an appointment for an interview. But before this could take place, Feijo Sickinghe unfortunately passed away on 8vi2006, just after his 80th birthday. Feijo Sickinghe was very well-known in The Netherlands as chair of the board of Stork for almost 35 years. One of his quotes (6) was "Als je een papegaai ja en nee leert zeggen, dan heb je een econoom" ("When you teach a parrot to say yes and no, you'll have an economist").

I also learned that if Johanna Sickinghe kept chess materials those must have been lost in a fire many years ago.

In conclusion we can now say that there is no doubt anymore about the identity of Mrs. "Jowes". As far as we know, Johanna Sickinghe was (indeed) the first female endgame study composer in history.

References

- (1) J. VAN REEK & H. VAN DONK, *Endgame Study Composing in The Netherlands and Flanders*, twelfth book of ARVES, Margraten, 1992.
- (2) J. VAN REEK. & H. VAN DONK, *Carel Mann*, sixth book of ARVES, Margraten, 1991.
- (3) H. VAN DER HEIJDEN, "Jan. H. Marwitz", *EBUR*, vol. 18, nr 2, June 2006, p. 14-17.
- (4) H. VAN DER HEIJDEN, "C.C.W. Mann & Mevr. Jowes", *EBUR*, vol. 15, nr 3, September 2003, p. 18.
- (5) H. GRONDIJS, *No Rook Unturned*, 2004.
- (6) N. GOEBERT, "Kampioen-afslanker kreeg van de tijd gelijk", *Volkskrant*, 13 June 2006.



Marc Bourzutschky and Yakov Konoval continue to generate 7-man endgame databases. For basic information see **EG159-162**, page 493. In August 2006 they computed the first 7-man databases with a pawn.

Unfortunately, their results are not publicly available because of the enormous size of the database files. For example, the database of the interesting ending **KRBN-KRB** occupies 168 Gigabytes on disk – about 35 single-sided DVDs. Even forthcoming technologies as HD DVD (single-sided 15 Gb) or blue-ray (single-sided 25 Gb, allowing a disk to hold a full-length super-quality movie), will be insufficient to allow storage for a single 7-man database. An excellent illustration of the difficulty of chess!

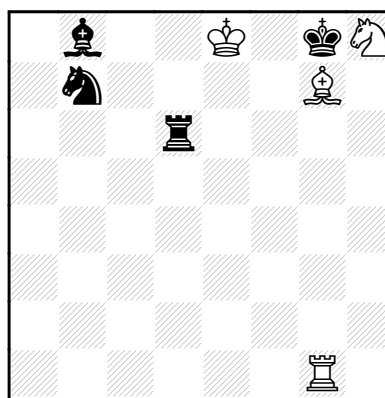
So the files are only on Marc's hard discs but fortunately from time to time he is willing to test some interesting studies. His verdict is usually not so nice, but we'll have to respect it.

Before giving some examples I should formulate a general rule: according to classical endgame theory, one extra minor piece wasn't sufficient for a win in a pawnless position. Of course such an assumption was based on intuitive generalization of elementary positions. But chess endgame isn't a math equation and computers now seem to refute that theory. It is almost clear today that one extra minor piece is a general win, except for several endings with less than 7 pieces.

For me the ending **KRBN-KRB** was one of the biggest surprises. The difficulty for the defender in case of opposite-color bishops in this ending has been known a long time. From time to time, Kasparyan drew attention to this

in his study books. But now we know that this endgame is a general win with the bishops running on the same colour too! Harold's excellent study was the latest victim.

V.1 Harold van der Heijden
prize PCCC-Vodka 2006



e8g8 0444.00 4/4 Win

1.Bc3+ Kh7 2.Rg7+ Kxh8 3.Rxb7+ Kg8 4.Rg7+ Kh8 5.Bb2!/i Rb6 6.Rb7+ Rxb2 7.Rxb2 Bf4 8.Kf7 wins

i) The point, ZZ. The future 7.Rxb2 wins a tempo for 8.Kf7.

To understand the study, you need to examine **2...Kh6!? 3.Rxb7 Re6+ 4.Kf7 Rc6 5.Bd2+!** escaping with check. HvdH ends here, but a solver should see some extra moves. These are not unique, but the following example line has its charm: **5...Kh7 6.Rxb8 Rc8 7.Rb7 Rb8 8.Rc7 Rc8 9.Rc3.**

Unfortunately **1.Ba1+ Kh7 2.Rg7+ Kh6 3.Rxb7 Re6+ 4.Kf7 Ra6 5.Bd4 Bf4** wins in 18, for example **6.Rb5 Bg5 7.Rf5 Bd2 8.Bg7+ Kh7 9.Rh5+ Bh6 10.Bf6 Ra7+ 11.Ke6 Ra6+ 12.Kf5 Ra5+ 13.Be5 Ra2 14.Sg6 Rf2+ 15.Sf4 Rf1 16.Rh2 Rf3 17.Ke6 Rg3 18.Sd5 Rg6+ 19.Sf6+ Kg7 20.Ke7 Kh8 21.Bf4 Kg7**

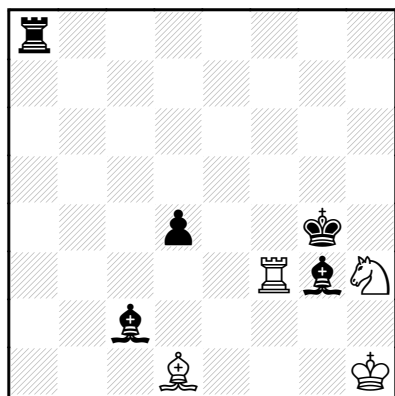
22.Sh5+ Kg8 23.Bxh6 Rxh6 24.Rg2+ Kh8
25.Sf6.

The ending **KRBB-KRB** is an easy win, and is understandable to a human player without using a computer. An attacking king could walk on the opposite-color squares (relative to the defending bishop) being supported and guarded by his bishop pair. This could surely have been found out by classical theory, but nobody dealt with it.

A nice Matouš study was cooked this way:

V.2 Mário Matouš

hon. mention Kralin 55 JT 2000



h1g4 0441.01 4/5 Draw

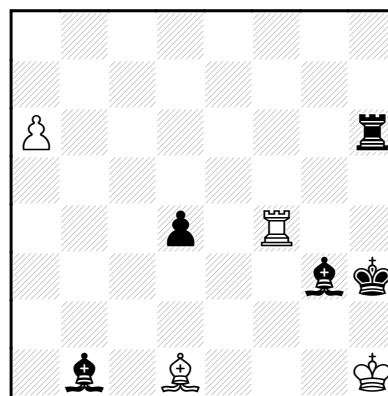
1.Rf4+ Kxh3 2.Bg4+ Kh4 3.Rxd4 Bf2 4.Bf3+ (4.Rf4? Be4+ 5.Rxe4 Kg3) **4...Be4 5.Rxe4+ Kg3 6.Re3** with **6...Ra1+ 7.Bd1+ Bxe3** stalemate, or **6...Rh8+ 7.Bh5+ Bxe3** stalemate.

But **3...Kg5!** wins, for example **4.Bf3 Ra1+ 5.Kg2 Be5 6.Rb4 Ra2 7.Rg4+ Kf5 8.Kg1 Bd3 9.Rh4 Bf6 10.Rb4 Be7 11.Rb7 Bc5+ 12.Kh1 Kf4 13.Bd5 Rd2 14.Rf7+ Bf5 15.Bg2 Rd1+ 16.Kh2 Bg1+ 17.Kh1 Bf2+ 18.Bf1 Kg3 19.Rg7+ Bg4.**

My countryman and friend Mário is 60 years old; a JT will soon be announced. He is and probably always will remain a classical non-computer composer. Despite this he responded quickly and in his correction he even used the new database knowledge.

V.3 Mário Matouš

correction, Československý šach 5/2006



h1h3 0440.11 4/5 Draw

1.a7/i Rh8 2.Bg4+ Kh4 3.Rxd4 Bf2/ii 4.a8Q Rxa8 5.Bf3+ etc.

i) After **1.Bg4+? Kh4 2.a7 Bxf4!** Black has too much wood – **3.a8Q Kxg4+ 4.Kg1 Be3+ 5.Kf1 Bd3+ 6.Kg2 Rf6.**

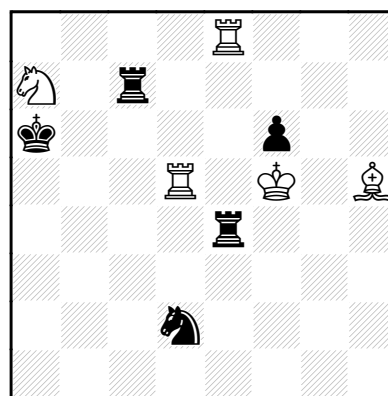
ii) **Bf4 4.a8Q Rxa8 5.Rxf4 Kg3 6.Rf7 Be4+ 7.Kg1 Kxg4 8.Kf2** is not enough to win.

White's move order is accurate, since after **2.a8Q? Rxa8 3.Bg4+ Kh4 4.Rxd4 Kg5** or **3.a8Q? Rxa8 4.Rxd4 Kg5** and Black wins the KRBB-KRB ending!

The endings **KRRB-KRR** and **KRRN-KRR** are very dangerous for endgame studies – I will give examples from my own practice.

V.4 Emil Vlasák & Michal Hlinka

3rd prize Bent JT 1989



f5a6 0814.01 5/5 Win

1. Sb5 Rce7 2.Rxd2 R4e5+ 3.Kxf6 R5e6+ 4.Kf5/i Re5+ 5.Kf4 Re4+ 6.Kg5 R4e5+ 7.Kh4 Re4+ 8.Kh3 Re3+ 9.Kh2 Kxb5 10.Re2! wins.

i) The King's manoeuvre has to be precise, for example 4.Kg5? Kxb5 5.Re2 Rg7+.

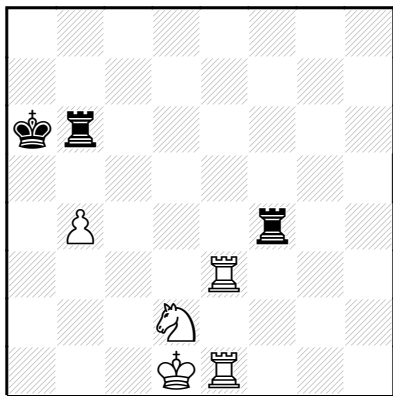
John Nunn using the general playing engine found a cook **3.Kf4!** Kxb5 4.Rb8+ Kc4 5.Bg6 Ra7 6.Be4 Kc5 7.Rc8+ Kb4 8.Rb2+ Ka3 9.Rcb8, but this is less important for us now.

In 1998 Frank Korostenski tried to cook this study by winning the final position without the thematic move 10.Re2. We played something like a small correspondence game. After I lost some lines trying to reach Ka1, finally I could hold a difficult defence placing the king paradoxically at a7. Sorry, Frank, you were right. According to Marc, other winning moves are 10.Rc8 (26), Rh8 (29), Rb8+ (29), Ra8 (36), Rb2+ (36), Rd8 (37), Rf8 (37), Rg8 (37) and Be2+ (41).

How to save this idea? A knight seems to be a little less powerful than a bishop, so I tried to use it.

V.5 Emil Vlasák

4th hon. mention Hlinka 50 JT 2003



d1a6 0801.10 5/3 Win

1.Ra3+ Kb7 2.Re7+ Kc6 (2...Kb8 3.Rh3) **3.Rc3+ Kd6** (3...Kb5? 4.Re5+ Ka4 5.Ra5+ Kxb4 6.Rca3) **4.Rc4!** (the point, 4.Re4? Rxe4 5.Sxe4+ Kd5!) **4...Rxb4 5.Ree4.**

Unfortunately, again it was not enough as Marc found several cooks.

First **3.Se4!?.Rxb4 4.Ra6+ Kb5 5.Rae6 Kc4 6.Rd6** wins in 22. For example 6...Rb5 7.Ke2 Rf8 8.Rd1 Rb2+ 9.Ke1 Rfb8 10.Rc7+

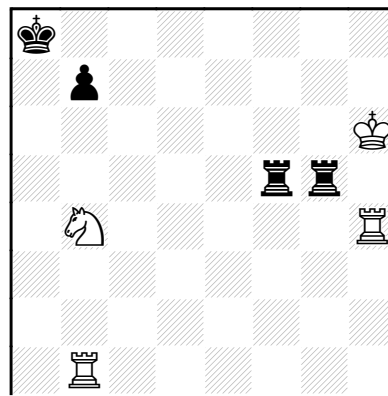
Kb5 11.Rdc1 Ka5 12.Sd6 Ka4 13.Ra7+ Kb3 14.Se4 Kb4 15.Re7 Kb5 16. Sd6+ Ka4 17.Sc4 R2b7 18.Re2 Rb4 19.Ra2+ Kb5 20.Sd6+ Kb6 21.Sc8+ Kb5 22.Kd2 Rb3 23.Rc7 Rb4 24.Rc3 Rb1 25.Kc2 Rb4 26.Sa7+ Kb6 27.Sc6.

Second **4.Rh7 Rxb4 5. Rh6+** or **Sf3** wins in 88.

And the worst one **5.Rcc7** – winning in 109 – kills the whole idea. It might well be possible that this idea can't be realized in a nice economical form.

I conclude with something more positive.

V.6 L. Mitrofanov Problem 1971



h6a8 0801.01 4/4 Win

1.Sc6 bxc6 2.Ra4+ Ra5 3.Rba1 Rh5+ 4.Kg6 Rhg5+ 5.Kf6 Rgf5+ 6.Ke6 Rfe5+ 7.Kd6 Red5+ 8.Kc7 wins.

The study was considered to be cooked for **1...b6!**, but after **2.Sd4** Black cannot avoid losing his pawn and ends up in a lost RRN-RR ending. 2...Re5 3.Rxb6 Rg8 4.Rf4 wins in 152 or 2...Ra5 3.Rxb6 Rg8 4.Kh7 wins in 144 moves.

Suggested reading: <http://www.vlasak.biz/tablebase.htm>.

Invitation to readers: we warmly welcome suggestions for topics for this column. Please also forward your questions or computer chess news tips to my e-mail address:

evcomp@quick.cz

REVIEWS

Editor :

JOHN ROYCROFT

***Winning Chess Endings*, IGM Yasser SEIRAWAN. 2003. 240 pages. 242 diagrams. Non-figurine algebraic. Nine chapters. Just a few studies. ISBN 1 85744 348 9.**

***Manual of Chess Endings*, GM Sarhan GULIEV. Moscow, 2003. 184 pages. 600 diagrams. Figurine algebraic. Eight chapters plus solutions. Many studies. In English, German, Russian, Spanish. ISBN 5-94693-020-6.**

We shall call IGM Seirawan's book 'American' and GM Guliev's 'Russian'. The American book has a sophisticated exterior but its style is pure chat. The Russian book has a child-like exterior, with 'Chess School 4' as sub-title, but dense content, text being largely confined to a handful of paragraphs at the head of each chapter. The American book devotes 38 pages to 'basics', the Russian is didactic from the off. Nevertheless the chapter titles of the one title echo the chapter titles of the other.

There are linguistic, source and idiom errors in both. The American gives us 'finger failure' and 'spike check' for *Fingerfehler* and 'spite check'. A Russian diagram offers 1984 as the date of a Behting study.

***Rook vs Two Minor Pieces*, Esben LUND. 2005. 176 pages. ISBN 91-975243-7-9.**

A book for players, with seven didactic studies by Averbakh, Berger, Kling and Horwitz, Lasa and A. Leikin. The discussion under 'Theory' is somewhat disorganised and unmethodical – there are no separate sections for the three possible minor piece configurations – but nevertheless readable and of value for its rarity. The author's originality shows in the two sections (of 28 and 42 pages respectively) devoted to positions arising from fash-

ionable variations of the Sc6 Catalan and the Scotch Opening. The move sequences:

1.d4 Sf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 d5 4.Sf3 dxc4 5.Bg2 Sc6 6.Qa4 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Sd5 8.Bxb4 dSxb4 9.a3 b5 10.Qxb5 Sc2+ 11.Kd2 and, eg, Sxa1 12.Qxc6+ Bd7 13.Qzc4 Rb8 14.b4.

1.e4 e5 2.Sf3 Sc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Sxd4 Sf6 5.Sxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2 Sd5 8.c4 Ba6 9.b3 g6 10.Bb2 Bg7 11.g3 and, eg, 0-0 12.Bg2 fRe8 13.0-0 Bxe5 14.Bxe5 Qxe5 15.Qxe5 Rxe5 16.cxd5 Bxf1 17.Kxf1 cxd5.

The book offers the 'student' plenty of exercises, many of which have a middle-game flavour. We should dearly have liked to see commented inclusion of the legendary protracted endgame which the young David Bronstein won against Botvinnik in the 1944 Soviet Championship: David had bishop and knight against Botvinnik's rook.

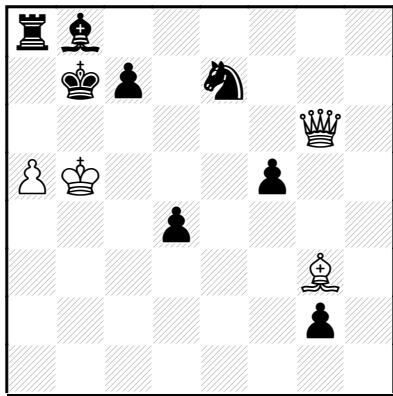
Zlatá Praha 1899-1900. Weekly chess column collated and reissued more or less facsimile by Moravian Chess, Olomouc 1997. 57 pages, single-side. Hard cover. ISBN 80-7189-135-5. In Czech.

With the exception of the text on p. 6 the whole, diagrams included, is perfectly legible. The column was co-edited by J. Pospíšil and J.V. Štefanydes. There are no original studies, just six quoted – by A. Amelung, J. Behting, G. Reichhelm and J. Schwers. Sources are sometimes supplied, sometimes not. The principal content comprises a problem or two, a game or two, and news: the deaths of Rudolf Charousek and Wilhelm Steinitz are reported. The admirable index, headed '1990', covers 51 columns from 10x1899 to 26x1900. We emphasise 'admirable' because clear references to the solutions are incorporated, and originals are separately numbered. However, there is no introduction and no explanation of why this

column and this year were chosen – we should have appreciated enlightenment, for the column was far from new in 1899, the first problem presented carrying the serial number 880.

From *Zlatá Praha* 16ii1900:

J. Schwers (no source given)



b5b7 1343.14 4/8 Win

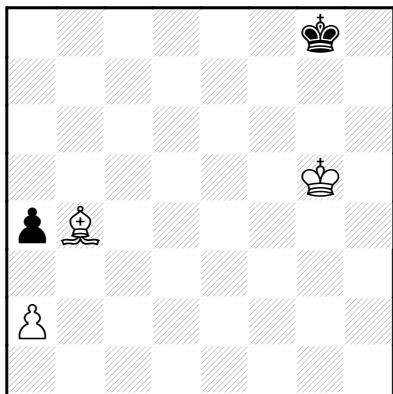
1.a6+ Ka7 2.Qc6 Sxc6 3.Bf2, and when b5 eventually moves wBxd4+ mates.

Vladimirs Petrovs, Andris FRIDE. Caissa editions, Delaware USA, 2004. 190 pages. Photographs. ISBN 0-939433-61-3.

No studies, but the 265 games of the great Latvian player (1908-1943) who perished in a Soviet Gulag, are richly diagrammed with many endgames. Given that the editor is the highly respected Dale Brandreth I felt that the English, translated from Latvian, was a let-down and the biographical detail (apart from the full tournament and match record and pho-

V. Petrovs vs. -. Gailis

First Latvian Chess Congress, Riga 1924
position after Black's 47th move



g5g8 0010.11 3/2. WTM

tos) a disappointment, at least from a European perspective.

After declining a proffered draw, the 15-year-old Petrovs, 'only three years after taking up chess, had learned enough to announce a mate in 12': 48.Kg6 Kh8 49.Bf8 Kg8 50.Bg7 a3 51.Bh6 Kh8 52.Bc1 Kg8 53.Bxa3 Kh8 54.Bc5.

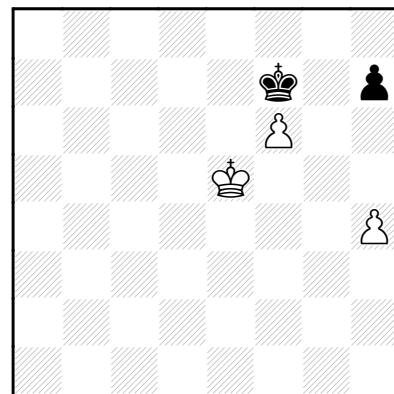
Stellungsspiel, Erich ELISKASES. Kecskemét 2000. 168 pages. In German. No ISBN.

The Tirol born player-author was born in 1913 and died in 1997, having lived in Argentina since 1939, before which he won matches against Spielmann and Bogolyubow and worked closely with both Euwe and Alekhine. He was not a composer. This book was finished in 1941 but never published until 2000.

Positional play is often considered incompatible with studies as the latter demand nothing so much as accurate analysis. This is true in general but not entirely true. The more one is familiar with, the better one's feel. The better one's feel, the faster one's choice of move, hopefully the right one.

There are many complete games – most of them unfamiliar – in Eliskases' book, but there is far more. The discussion outclasses the analysis, rich as the latter is. And there is many an endgame.

How happy are you with evaluating fP+hP vs. hP? We confess to being easily confused, especially when both sides can choose the moment to play their hP. Let's let Eliskases teach us. (From p. 35. We have adapted the notes.)



e5f7 0000.21 3/2 WTM

“W has an extra pawn, but cannot win. Because his hP has already moved, while B1’s has not. Analysis can convince us:

I: 1.Kf5/i Kf8! 2.Ke6 Ke8 3.f7+/ii Kf8 4.Kf6 h6! 5.Kg6 h5! and it’s a draw.

i) 1.h5 fares no better if Black takes care: Ke8! 2.Ke6 Kf8 3.f7 h6 4.Kf6 stalemate. One has to say that 1...Kf8? would lose to 2.Ke6 Ke8 3.f7+ Kf8 4.Kf6 h6 5.Ke6.

ii) 3.h5 Kf8, and neither 4.f7 h6! nor 4.h6 Ke8 5.f7+ Kf8, is better for White.

II: It would also be a draw with wPh3 at the outset. 1.Kf5 Ke8/i 2.Ke6 Kf8 3.h4/ii Ke8 4.h5 Kf8! 5.f7 h6 draw.

i) bK must play to f8 if wK plays to e6 and wP is on h5.

ii) 3.f7 h6, seeing that wP is on f7, 4.h4 h5!, or 4.Kf6 h5 5.Ke6 h4, same outcome.

III: W wins with bPh6 or bPh5.

In the first case: 1.Kf5 h5 2.Kg5 kf8 (Ke6; Kg6) 3.Kxh5. Or 1.h5 Kf8 2.Kf4! Ke8 3.Ke4! Kf8 4.Ke5! (triangulation) Kf8 (Ke8; Ke6) 5.Kf5 Kf8 6.Kg6.

In the second case: 1.Kf5 Kf8 2.Kg6 Kg8 3.Kxh5.

IV: W also wins with his hP on h2, 1.Kf5 Kf8/i 2.Ke6 Ke8 3.f7+ Kf8 4.Kf6 h5/ii 5.h3 h4 6.Ke6, and fP queens.

i) Play is similar if: Ke8 2.Ke6 Kf8 3.f7 h6 (h5; h4) 4.h3 h5 5.h4.

ii) h6 5.h4 h5 6.Ke6.

Rule: Every pawn move is weakening.”

This example of Eliskases’ method may be elementary, but it is beautifully clear, and thoughtfully presented. Other examples in his book are advanced, though of course we cannot quote them here. There are a few slips of the proof-corrector’s pen (and one of diagram, namely no. 64) but these are minor defects.



Computer news editor Emil Vlasák.

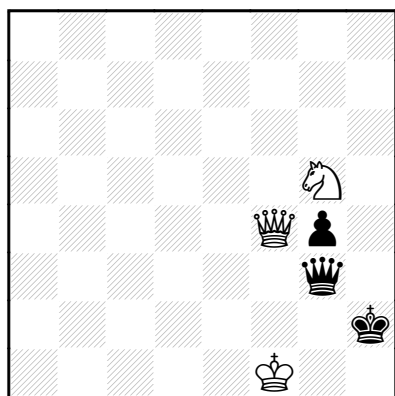
SNIPPETS

Editor :
JOHN ROYCROFT

1. – The following crossword clue appeared in the *Guardian* (British national daily) on Saturday 17ii2007:

0-0 (2-5,4)

2. – Answer to EG167 (p. 271) quotation quiz. No entries were received. The passage can be found on p. 506 of Volume II of *A treatise on the Game of Chess*, by W. Lewis, 1844. One of the puzzles, on p. 527, is this.



f1h2 4001.01 3/3.

“White to win in Eleven Moves”

Lewis supplies no solution, no composer, and no source to any of the positions he gives. The HvdH III CD informs: H. Bolton, 1846 – but Lewis’ book carries the date 1844. 1.Qd2+ Kh1 2.Qd5+ Kh2 3.Qa2+ Kh1 4.Qa8+ Kh2 5.Qh8+ Qh3+, when the intention is 6.Qxh3+ gxh3 and 7.Kf2, with the familiar S-mate on move 11. However, 7.Se4 is an unsightly dual, and 6.Sxh3 obviously wins too.

3. – *Zadachy i etyudy* no. 40, the last in 2006, includes a 14-page article (23 diagrams) by Russian trainer Mark Dvoretzky in which he describes, with examples, the studies he favours. We read that the article was first ‘pub-

lished’ on the Association of Chess Professionals website www.e3e5.com, where it carries the date 31viii2006, but we have failed to retrieve the text there. Vitaly Kovalenko also contributes an article with 21 diagrams on a Behting pawn ending manoeuvre.

4. – Does anyone know – AJR does not – who first drew attention to the useful-to-remember 4-move ‘W’ manoeuvre by a knight in the 4-man mating ending with bishop and knight? The manoeuvre keeps bK confined when he would otherwise elude incarceration. Esben Lund refers to it in his 2005 book reviewed in this **EG**, but we find mention also (and with a diagram showing the ‘W’) in the endgame section of Géza Maroczy's 370-page manual *A modern sakk* published in deep wartime in Hungary in, we think, 1942.

5. – Answer (see 1 above): *no-score draw*.

6. – The March 2007 *British Chess Magazine* contains the first of the four major ‘player’ magazines (to which review copies were sent: the other three – *CHESS*, *Chess Life*, *New in Chess*) to carry a review of **EG** Vol.XI. An extract: “For those of you who may not know, EG is the name of the endgame study magazine edited by John Roycroft (and published in The Netherlands) which has been appearing four times a year since 1965. ... It is a formidable tome, well-produced and – most important of all – packed with a whole lot of studies and awards, plus photos, cartoons, articles of all sorts and comprehensive indexing. Contributors include John Nunn, Yochanan Afek, Sergei Didukh and John Roycroft himself, and the subject matter is very varied. It is a delight to dip into.”

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