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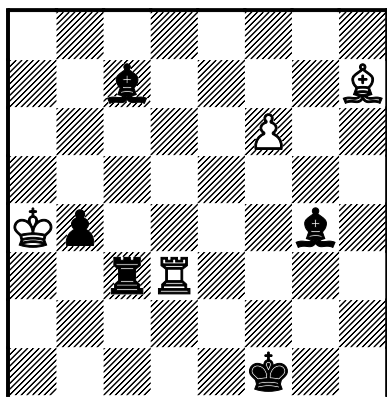
Istvan Bilek 75 JT 2008

This formal tourney attracted 20 studies by 16 composers. No less than 15 were included in the final award (strangely the award states that only 9 studies were included; see later). The set theme was: “In an endgame study with win or draw stipulation some (more is better) unprotected pieces (not pawns) are not captured. At least two variants are required. The theme can be shown in the start position or during play”. The judges were GM Pal Benko and GM Istvan Bilek himself.

The provisional (“preliminary”) award, dated 8xi2007 was published on the website of the Hungarian Chess Federation and had a three month confirmation time. The final award was dated 14iii2008 and was published on the same website. It was quite different from the preliminary award! The first change was the downgrading of the study by Gasparyan that initially was awarded first prize apparently following a claim about anticipations. Nothing strange, of course. But this did surprisingly not change the order of the other prize winners, because a study by Didukh took that place. That study was not present in the provisional award! The study by Keith originally shared 1st-4th honourable mention, but was promoted to the 6th prize. The other honourable mentions were now ranked. But also new in the final award are the 5th honourable mention by Campioli and all five commendations! None of the changes were explained in the award’s text.

In the solutions below all moves that were indicated to be thematic are in italics.

No 16809 S. Didukh
1st prize



a4f1 0470.11 4/5 Win

No 16809 Sergyi Didukh (Ukraine). 1.f7 Bd6/i 2.Rxd6 Rf3 3.Bd3+/ii Ke1/iii 4.Bg6 Bf5 5.Bh5/iv Bg4 6.Rd1+ Kf2 7.Rd3 Rf6/v 8.Bg6 Bf5/vi 9.Rd6 Bc2+ 10.Ka5/vii Rf4 (Rxf7; Bxf7) 11.Rd2+ wins.

i) Ra3+ 2.Rxa3 Bd7+ 3.Kb3 Be6+ 4.Kc2 b3+ 5.Kb1 (Kd3) Bxf7 6.Ra7 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Bg6? Bf5 4.Bh5 Bg4 5.Rd3/viii Rf2 (Rxd3?; f8Q+) 6.Bg6 Be6 draw.

iii) Kg1 4.Bg6 Bf5 5.Bh5 Bg4 6.Rg6, or Kg2 4.Be4 win.

iv) 5.Rd1+? Kf2 6.Bh5 Bc2+ draws.

v) The black rook cannot play to f2 anymore and 7...Rf4 loses at once to 8.Rd4.

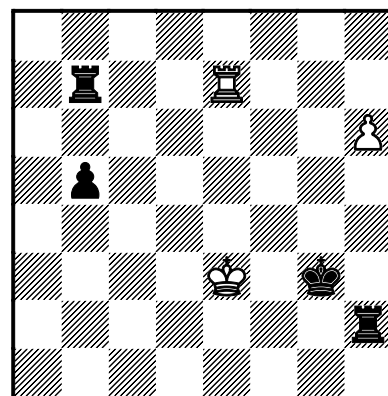
vi) Ra6+ 9.Kxb4 Ra8 10.Rd6 Ke3 11.Rf6 Rf8 12.Kc5 wins.

vii) 10.Kb5? Rxf7 11.Bxf7 b3draw.

viii) 5.Rd1+ Kg2; 5.Bxg4? Rxf7 draws.

“Six thematic moments in the main line. During the logical struggle White benefits twice from temporary blocks to evict bR from the f-file. Black manages to free his rook but only for the price of a bishop”.

No 16810 D. Gurgenzidze
2nd prize



e3g3 0700.11 3/4 Win

No 16810 David Gurgenzidze (Georgia). 1.Rg7+ (Rxb7? Rxb6;) Kh4 2.h7 (Rxb7?)

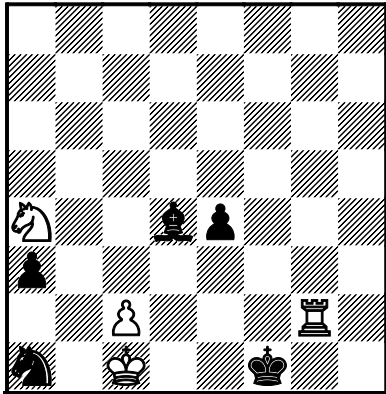
Kg5;) Re7+ (Rxc7; h8Q+) 3.Kd3/i Rd7+ 4.Kc3 b4+ 5.Kb3 Rh3+ 6.Kxb4 Rb7+ 7.Kc4 Rc7+ 8.Kd4 Rd7+ 9.Ke4 Re7+ 10.Kf4 wins.

i) 3.Kf3? Rf7+ (Rxc7?; h8Q+) 4.Rxf7 Kg5, or 3.Rxe7? Kg5.

“The work is similar to the previous one. The excellent miniature presents the theme four times”.

HH doesn't understand why not all moves of the main line, except 1...Kh4, 5.Kb3 and 6.Kxb4 are thematic. That would bring the total to 16 thematic moves.

No 16811 R. Becker & Iu. Akobia
3rd prize



c1f1 0134.12 4/5 Draw

No 16811 Richard Becker (USA) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Rd2/i a2/ii 2.Sc5/iii Sxc2/iv 3.Sb3/v, and:

– Be3 4.Kxc2 Bxd2 5.Sxd2+ Kg2/vi 6.Kb2 e3 7.Sc4 e2 8.Se3+ Kf2 9.Sc2 wins.

– a1Q+ 4.Sxa1 Sxa1 5.Kd1 (Rxd4 Sb3+;), and:

- e3 6.Rb2zz/vii Bc5/viii 7.Rb1 Bd4 8.Rb2 Be5 9.Re2 Bf4 10.Rxe3/ix Bxe3 stalemate, or here:

- Sb3 6.Rd3 e3/x 7.Rxb3 e2+ 8.Kc2 e1Q 9.Rb1 draws.

i) 1.Rh2? a2, or 1.Rg4? a2, or 1.Rg8? Sxc2/xi 2.Sc5 Bxc5/xii 3.Kxc2 e3 wins.

ii) Be3 2.Sc3 a2 3.Kb2 Bxd2 4.Sxe4 draws.

iii) 2.Rxd4? Sb3+, or 2.Rd1+? Ke2 win.

iv) Bxc5 3.Kb2 Ke1 4.Rh2/xiii Bd4+ 5.c3 Bxc3+ 6.Kxc3 draws.

v) 3.Kxc2? a1Q 4.Rd1+ Qxd1+ 5.Kxd1 Bxc5, or 3.Rd1+? Se1 4.Sb3 Bc3 wins.

vi) Ke1 6.Sb3 e3 7.Kb2; Kg1 6.Kb2 e3 7.Sf3+.

vii) 6.Rxd4? e2+ 7.Kc1 Sb3+ forking.

viii) Bxb2 stalemate, or Sb3 7.Rxb3 e2+ 8.Kc2 e1Q 9.Rb1 draws.

ix) 10.Rb2? Bg5 (Bh6) wins.

x) exd3 stalemate.

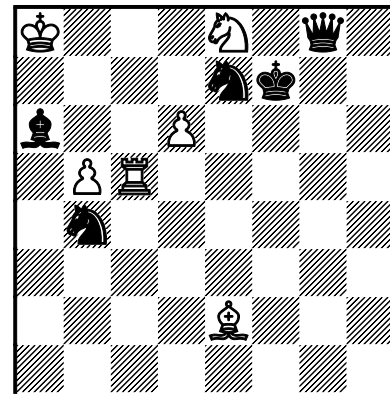
xi) But not a2? 2.Rf8+ Ke1 3.Sc5 Bxc5 4.Ra8 Bd4 5.Rxa2 e3 6.Ra8 e2 7.Rf8 draws.

xii) a2? (Sb4?; Sxe4) 3.Rf8+ Ke2 4.Ra8 a1Q+ 5.Rxa1 Sxa1 6.Sxe4.

xiii) But not 4.Rg2? Bd4+ 5.Kxa2 e3 wins.

“We may see many delicate original moves during the solution, but this is very labyrinthine and therefore the harmony is incomplete”.

No 16812 Y. Bazlov & V. Kovalenko
4th prize



a8f7 3147.20 6/5 Draw

No 16812 Yuri Bazlov & Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Bc4+ (d7? Qg2;) Sed5 (Sbd5; d7) 2.d7/i Ke7 (Qg5; Rc8) 3.Rc8 Kxd7/ii 4.Sf6+ Kxc8 5.Sxg8 Sc6 6.Se7+/iii Scxe7/iv 7.Bxd5 Sxd5 8.b6zz/v Bb7+/vi 9.Ka7 Bc6 10.b7+ Bxb7

i) 2.Bxd5+? Sxd5 3.d7 Sb6+ 4.Ka7 Sxd7 wins.

ii) Sb6+ 4.Ka7 Sxc8+ 5.dxc8S+ draws.

iii) 6.Bxd5? Bb7 mate, or 6.bxa6? Sb6 mate, or 6.bxc6? Bxc4 wins.

iv) Sdxe7 7.Be6+/vii Kc7 8.bxc6 Sxc6 9.Bc8 Kxc8 (Bxc8) stalemate.

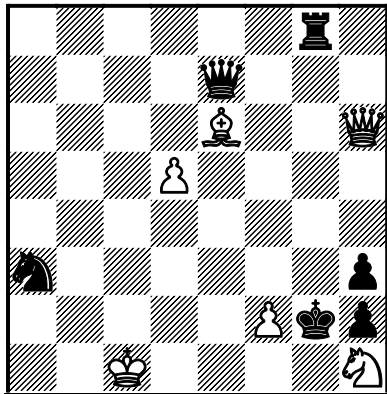
v) 8.bxa6? Kc7zz 9.Ka7 Se7zz 10.Ka8 Sc8zz 11.a7 Sb6 mate.

vi) Sxb6+ 9.Ka7, or Sb4 9.Ka7zz Bb7 stalemate.

vii) But not 7.bxa6? Kc7 8.Be6 Sd4 9.Bf7 Sc8 10.Be8 Sb6+ 11.Ka7 Sf5 12.Bc6 Sd6 13.Bd7 Sxd7 wins.

“The fight ends with a stalemate after surprising turns”.

No 16813 A. Gasparyan
5th prize



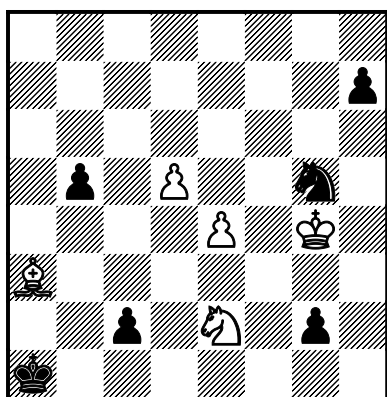
c1g2 4314.22 6/6 Draw

No 16813 Aleksey Gasparyan (Armenia).
1.d6 (Bxg8? Qc5+;) Qxd6/i 2.Bxh3+/ii Kxh1 3.Qxd6 Rg1+ 4.Bf1/iii Rxf1+ 5.Kd2 Sc4+ 6.Ke2 Rxf2+ (Sxd6; Kxf1) 7.Ke1 (Kxf2? Sxd6;) Sxd6 8.Kxf2 draws.

- i) Rc8+ 2.Bxc8 Qe1+ 3.Kb2 draws.
- ii) 2.Qxh3+? Kxh1 3.Bxg8 Qf4+ 4.Kd1 Kg1 5.Bd5 Qd4+ 6.Ke2 Qxf2+ (Qxd5?; Qf1 mate) 7.Kd1 Qf1+ 8.Qxf1+ Kxf1 wins.
- iii) 4.Kd2? Sc4+ 5.Kd3 Sxd6.

“The starting position is not natural. The end of the solution is a positional draw”.

No 16814 D. Keith
6th prize



g4a1 0014.24 5/6 Draw

No 16814 Daniel Keith (France). 1.Kg3/i g1Q+ 2.Sxg1 b4 3.Bc1 b3/ii 4.Se2/iii b2 5.Bxb2+ Kxb2 6.Kf4/iv Sh3+ 7.Kf5/v Sg1 8.Sf4 Kc3 9.d6 Sf3 10.d7 Sd4+ 11.Kg5/vi Sc6 12.Se2+, and:

- Kd2 13.Sd4 c1Q/vii 14.Sb3+ Kc2+ 15.Sxc1 Se5 (Kxc1; Kh5) 16.d8S draws, or:
- Kd3 13.Sc1+ Kxe4 14.Kh6 Se5 15.d8S draws.

i) 1.Bc5? b4 2.Bd4+ Kb1 3.Kg3 b3 4.Kxg2 Sxe4 5.Kf3 Sd6 6.Sc3+ Ka1 7.Sa4+ Ka2 8.Sc3+ Ka3 9.Bc5+ Kb2 10.Se2 Sb7 11.Be7 Kb1 12.Sc3+ Ka1 13.Bf6 Sd6 14.Bg7 Sb5 wins, or 1.Bc1? Sxe4 (b4?; Bxg5) 2.Kf3 Sc3 3.Kxg2 Sxe2 4.Be3 Kb1, or 1.Kxg5? b4 (Kb1? d6) 2.Bc1 b3, or 1.d6? b4/viii 2.d7 Sf7 (bxa3?; d8Q) 3.Bc1 Se5+ 4.Kg3 Sxd7 5.Kxg2 b3 6.Sd4 Ka2 wins.

ii) Sxe4+ 4.Kf3 Sc5 5.Se2 Ka2 (b3; Sd4) 6.Kg4 draws.

iii) 4.Kf4? Sh3+, or 4.e5? Se4+ 5.Kf3 Sc3 6.d6 b2 7.Bxb2+ Kxb2 8.d7 c1Q 9.d8Q Qf1+.

iv) 6.e5? Se4+ 7.Kg4 Sc3 8.Sf4 Sxd5.

v) 7.Kg4? Sg1 8.Sc1 Kxc1 9.d6 h5+.

vi) 11.Ke5? c1Q/ix 12.d8Q Sc6+ 13.Kd6 Qd2+ (Qd1+)/x.

vii) Sxd4 14.d8Q c1Q 15.Qxd4+.

viii) But not Sxe4? 2.Kf3/xi Sxd6 3.Kxg2 Sc4 4.Bf8 Kb1 5.Kf3 c1Q 6.Sxc1 Kxc1 7.Kf4 draws.

ix) But not Sc6+? 12.Kd5 Kd2 13.Se6 c1Q 14.Sc5 Sb4+ 15.Kd6 draws.

x) But not Sxd8? 14.Se2+ Kd2 15.Sxc1.

xi) 2.d7? Sf6+ 3.Kg3 Sxd7 4.Kxg2 Se5 5.Sd4 Sc4 6.Bf8 Kb1 7.Se2 c1Q 8.Sxc1 Kxc1 9.Kf3 Se5+ 10.Ke4 Sg6 wins.

“The multitude of thematic tries decorates the excellent main line”.

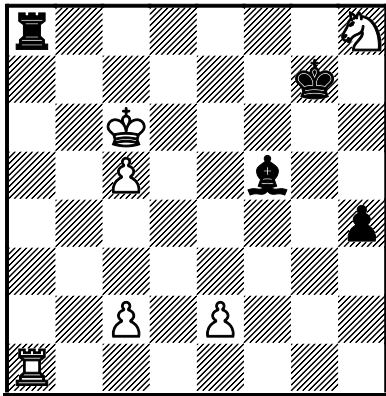
No 16815 Lutz-Dieter Gruber & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rg1+/i Kxh8/ii 2.Rg5 Bg6/iii 3.Rg4/iv Ra4 4.c4/v draws.

i) 1.Rxa8? Be4+, or 1.Rf1? Be4+ 2.Kd6 Rxh8 3.Rf2 h3 4.Rh2 Kf6 wins.

ii) Kf6 2.Rf1 Rxh8 3.e4 draws.

iii) Be4+ 3.Kb6 Rb8+ 4.Ka6 draws.

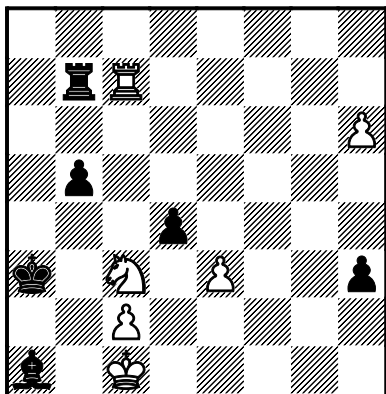
No 16815 L. Gruber & M. Minski
1st honourable mention



c6g7 0431.31 6/4 Draw

- iv) 3.Rxg6? Ra6+, or 3.Kb7? Rg8 wins.
v) 4.Rxa4? Be8+ wins, e.g. 5.Kd5 Bxa4 6.Ke4 Kg7 7.Kf4 Bd7, or 4.e4? Bxe4+ 5.Kb5 (Kd6 Bxc2;) Bc6+ 6.Kxc6 Rxc4.

No 16816 A. Gasparyan
2nd honourable mention



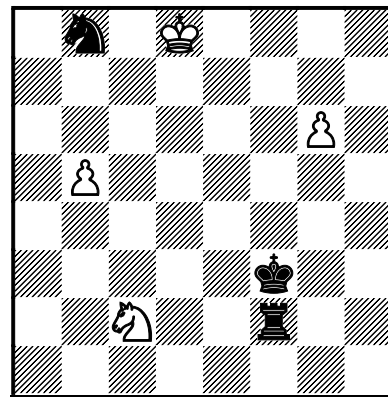
c1a3 0431.33 6/6 Win

- No 16816** Alexey Gasparyan (Armenia). 1.h7 (Rxb7 h2;) Rxc7/i 2.Sxb5+ Ka2 (Ka4; h8Q) 3.h8Q (Sxc7? dxe3;) Rxc2+ 4.Kd1 (Kxc2 d3+;) Rd2+ 5.Ke1 (Kxd2 dxe3+;) Re2+ 6.Kf1 (Kxe2? d3+;) Rf2+ 7.Kg1 (Kxf2? dxe3+;) h2+ 8.Kh1/ii wins.
i) Bb2+ 2.Kb1 Bxc3 3.Rxc3+ wins.
ii) HH thinks that 8.Kh1 is thematic too.

“White repeats the theme six times, which was connected to an attractive motive, but anticipated”.

Cf. V. Chekhover, *Shakhmaty v SSSR 1952*, e3b8 0800.12 a5g3f8h5.d5c6h3 4/5 Draw: 1.Rg7 h2 2.Rb7+ Kc8 3.Rc7+ Kd8 4.Rd7+ Ke8 5.Re7+ Kd8 6.Rd7+ Kc8 7.Rc7+ Kb8 8.Rb7+ draws; V. Korolkov, 2nd commendation *Shakhmaty v SSSR 1953*, f1b8 0703.53, a4f4h2f3.b6c6d4d3e2a7e4f6 7/7 Win: 1.c7+ Kb7 2.c8Q+ Kxc8 3.bxa7 Sxd4+ 4.Kg1 Sf3+ 5.exf3 Rg2+ 6.Kf1 Rf2+ 7.Ke1 Re2+ 8.Kd1 Rd2+ 9.Kc1 Rc2+ 10.Kb1 wins, A. Herbstman, 2nd prize *Shakhmaty v SSSR 1953*, h7f5 0140.22 b6h6b2.b3c3a2b4 5/4 Draw: 1.Rb5+ Ke6 2.Ra5 Ba3 3.Bg7 a1Q 4.Re5+ Kf7 5.Rf5+ Ke6 6.Re5+ Kd6 7.Rd5+ Kc6 8.Rc5+ Kb6 9.Rb5+ Ka6 10.Ra5+ draws.

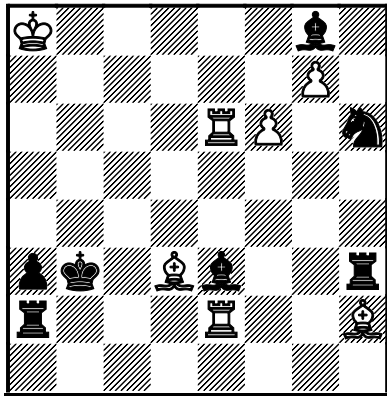
No 16817 S. Osintsev
3rd honourable mention



d8f3 0304.20 4/3 Win

- No 16817** Sergey Osintsev (Russia). 1.Se1+/i Ke4 2.g7 Sd7 3.g8Q/ii Rf8+ 4.Qxf8 Sxf8 5.Sd3/iii Se6+/iv 6.Kd7/v Kd5 7.b6 Sd8 8.Kc7 (Kxd8? Kc6;) Se6+ 9.Kc8 Sd8 10.Se5 (Sb4+? Kc5;) Kc5 11.Sd7+ wins.
i) 1.g7? Rd2+ (Rxc2?; g8Q) 2.Ke8 Rxc2 3.g8Q Rc8+, or here 2.Kc8 Rxc2+ 3.Kxb8 Rg2 draw.
ii) 3.b6? Sf6, or 3.Kxd7? Rf7+ draw.
iii) 5.b6? Se6+ 6.Kd7 Sc5+ 7.Kc6 Se6 draws.
iv) Kxd3 6.Ke7 Sg6+ 7.Kd6 Kd4 8.b6 Se5 9.b7 wins.
v) 6.Kc8? Kxd3 7.b6 Sc5.

No 16818 P. Benno
4th honourable mention

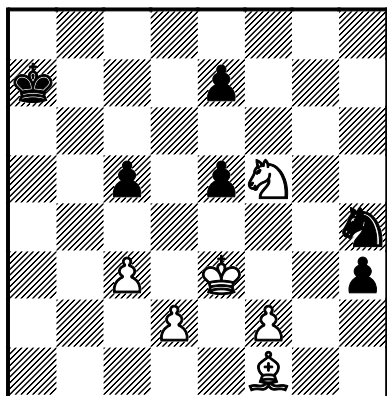


a8b3 0883.21 7/7 Win

No 16818 Pal Benno (Hungary). 1.R2xe3/i Bxe6 (Raxh2; Bh7+) 2.Rxh3 Rxh2/ii 3.Bf5+ Rxh3 4.Bxe6+ Kb2 5.g8Q/iii Sxg8 6.f7 Re3 7.f8Q (fxg8Q? Rxe6;) wins.

- i) 1.R6xe3? Rxe2 2.Rxh3 Rxh2 draws.
- ii) Bd5+ 3.Ka7/iv Rxh2 4.Be4+ Rxh3 5.Bxd5+ Kb2 6.f7/v Sxf7 7.g8Q, or Bxh3 3.f7 Be6 4.f8Q wins.
- iii) 5.Bxh3? a2, or 5.f7? Sxf7 6.g8Q Rh8.
- iv) But not 3.Kb8? Rxh2 4.Be4+ Rxh3 5.Bxd5+ Kb2 6.g8Q Sxg8 7.f7 Sf6 8.f8Q Sd7+ wins.
- v) 6.g8Q? Sxg8 7.f7 Rh7 draws.

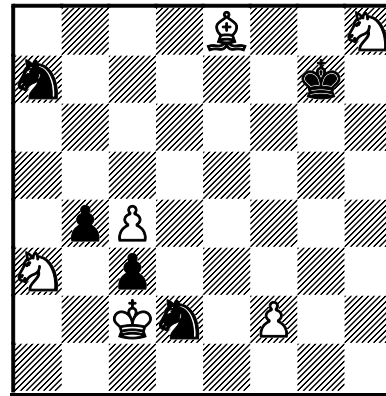
No 16819 M. Campioli
5th honourable mention



e3a7 0014.34 6/6 BTM, Draw

No 16819 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...h2 2.Sg3 Sf5+ 3.Kf3 Sxg3 4.Bg2 h1Q 5.Bxh1 Sxh1 6.Kg2 Kb6 7.Kxh1 Kb5 8.Kg1 (Kg2) Kc4 9.Kf1 Kd3 10.Ke1 c4 11.Kd1 e6 12.Ke1 e4 13.Kd1 e5 14.Ke1 e3 15.fxe3 e4 16.Kd1

No 16820 Iu. Akobia
1st commendation

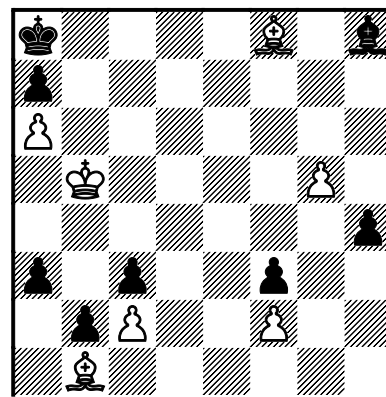


c2g7 0018.22 6/5 Win

No 16820 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Sb5 (Sb1? Sxc4) b3+/i 2.Kxc3 b2 3.Sa3/iii b1Q 4.Sxb1 Sxb1+ 5.Kc2 Sa3+ 6.Kb3 Sxc4 7.Kxc4 Sc8 8.Sf7 Kf8 9.Kc5 Ke7 (Kxe8; Sd6+) 10.f3/iii Kxe8 11.Sd6+ Sxd6 12.Kxd6 Kf7 13.Ke5

- i) Sc8 2.Sf7 Sxc4 3.Sg5 Se5 4.Kb3 Kf6 5.Se4+, or Kxh8 2.Sxa7, or Sxb5 2.cxb5 Sf3 3.Sg6/iv Sd4+ 4.Kb1 win.
- ii) 3.Bg6? b1Q 4.Bxb1 Sxb1+ 5.Kd3 Sc6 6.Kc2 Sa5 7.c5 Sd2 8.Kxd2 Sb3+ 9.Kd3 Sxc5+; 3.Sxa7? b1Q; 3.Kxd2? b1Q.
- iii) Thematic try: 10.f4? Kxe8 11.Sd6+ Sxd6 12.Kxd6 Kf7 13.Ke5 Ke7zz 14.f5 Kf7 draws.
- iv) But not 3.b6? Sd4+ 4.Kc1 b3 5.Bg6 Se2+ 6.Kd1 c2+ 7.Bxc2 bxc2+ 8.Kxc2 Sd4+ and stops the pawn.

No 16821 P. Rossi & M. Campioli
2nd commendation

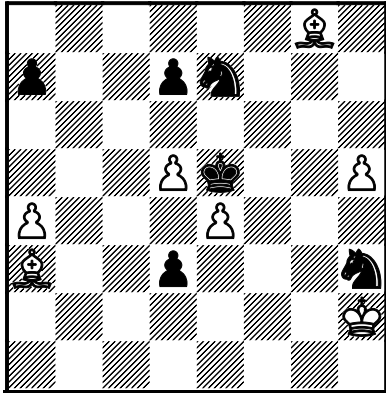


b5a8 0050.46 7/8 BTM, Win

No 16821 Pietro Rossi & Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...Be5 2.g6 h3 3.Bd6 h2 4.g7 Bxg7 5.Bxh2 Be5 6.Bg1 Bh2 7.Kc6 a2 8.Bxa2 b1Q

9.Bxb1 Bxg1 10.Kc7 Bh2+ 11.Kc8 Bc7
12.Ba2 Be5 13.Bd5 mate.

No 16822 G. Josten
3rd commendation



h2e5 0026.43 7/6 Win

No 16822 Gerhard Josten (Germany).
1.Bb2+/i Kxe4/ii 2.Bh7+ (Kxh3 d2;) Sf5
3.Bc1 (Kxh3 d2;) Sf4/iii 4.h6 Ke5/iv 5.Bb2+
Ke4 6.Bc3 Sxd5/v 7.Bxf5+ Kxf5 8.h7 Sxc3
9.h8Q d2 (Se4; Qh3+) 10.Qh7+ Ke5 (Kf4;
Qh6+) 11.Qe7+ Kd4 (Qf4; Qb4+) 12.Qxd7+
Ke3 (Sd5; Qxa7+) 13.Qxa7+ Ke2 (Kd3;
Qh7+) 14.Qa6+ Kd1 15.Qd3 wins.

i) 1.Bxe7? d2, or 1.Kxh3? d2 and Black wins.
ii) Kd6 2.e5+ (Kxh3 d2;) Kc5 3.Bh7 (Kxh3
d2;) d2 4.Bc2 (Kxh3 d1Q;) Sf2 5.Kg3 Sd3
6.Ba3+ (Bxd3? d1Q;) Kf4 2.Bc1+ (Kxh3 d2;) Kg4
3.h6 Sg5 4.e5 wins.
iii) d2 4.Bxd2 Sf2 5.h6 Sg4+ 6.Kh3 Sf6 7.Bg6
wins.

iv) d6 5.Bd2 Ke5 6.Bc3+ Ke4 7.Bxf5+ Kxf5
8.h7 Sg6 9.Kg3, or a6 5.Bd2 Ke5 6.Bc3+ Ke4
7.Bxf5+ Kxf5 8.h7 Sg6 9.Kg3 win.

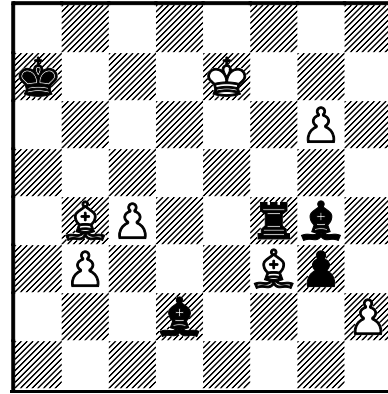
v) a6 7.Bxf5+ Kxf5 8.h7 Sg6 9.Kg3, or d6
7.Bxf5+ Kxf5 8.h7 Sg6 9.Kg3 win.

No 16823 Pietro Rossi (Italy). 1.Bc5+/i Ka6
2.g7 Rf5 3.Bxg4/ii Rg5 4.Kf7/iii gxh2/iv
5.Bf3/v Bb4/vi 6.Bd4/vii Bc3 (Rf5+; Ke6)
7.Bxc3 Rf5+ 8.Ke7 Rxf3 9.g8Q Re3+
10.Be5viii h1Q/ix 11.Qe6+ (Qc8+? Qb7+;)
Ka5 (Kb7; Qd7) 12.Bc7+ wins.

i) 1.Bxd2? Rxf3, or 1.Bxg4? Bxb4+.
ii) 3.g8Q? Bg5+ 4.Kd6 Bf4+ 5.Kd7 Rg5+
6.Bxg4 Rxxg8 draws.

iii) 4.Bc8+? Ka5 5.Kf7 gxh2 6.Bb7 Rf5+/x
7.Ke6 Rg5 draws.

No 16823 P. Rossi
4th commendation



e7a7 0350.41 7/5 Win

iv) Rxxg4 5.hxxg3 Rxxg3 6.g8Q Rxxg8 7.Kxxg8
wins.

v) 5.Bc8+? Ka5 6.Bb7 Rf5+ 7.Ke6 Rg5
draws.

vi) Rf5+ 6.Ke6 Rg5 7.Bd4 Rg1 8.Kf7 wins.

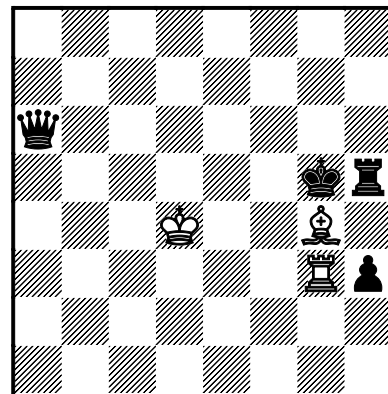
vii) 6.Bxb4? Rf5+ 7.Ke7 Rxf3 8.g8Q Re3+
draws.

viii) 10.Kd8? h1Q 11.Qg6+ Kb7 12.Qg7+
Ka8 13.Bd4 Qh4+ 14.Kd7 Qh3+ e.g. 15.Kd6
Qe6+ 16.Kc7 Qf7+ 17.Qxf7 Re7+ 18.Qxe7
(Kd6 Rxf7;) stalemate.

ix) Rxe5+ 11.Kd6 (Kf5).

x) Rxc5? 7.g8Q Rc7+ 8.Ke6 Rxb7 9.Qg2
wins.

No 16824 B. Sidorov
5th commendation



d4g5 3410.01 3/4 Draw

No 16824 Boris Sidorov (Russia). 1.Be2+/i
Kf4 2.Rf3+ (Bxa6? Kxxg3;) Kg4 3.Rd3+/ii

Kg5 4.Rg3+ Kf4 5.Rf3+ Kg4 6.Rd3+ Kf5
(Kh4; Rxh3+) 7.Rf3+ (Bxh5? Qa1+) draws.

i) 1.Bc8+? Kf4/iii 2.Rg4+ Kf3 3.Bxa6 Kxg4
and Black wins.

ii) 3.Bxa6? Kxf3; 3.Re3+? Qxe2 win.

iii) But not Kh6? 2.Bxa6 h2 3.Bb7 h1Q
4.Bxh1, or here Rd5+ 4.Bxd5 (Kxd5? h1Q+;).



Daniel Keith

Rochade Europa 2006-2007

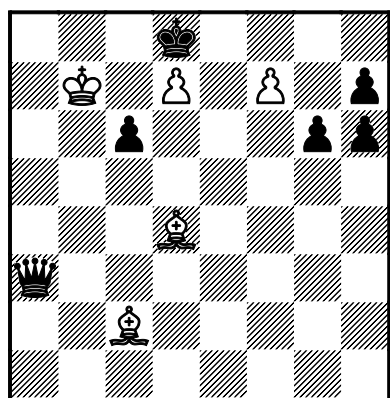
Judge: Michael Roxlau (Berlin)

Type: informal, restricted to German composers

Report: ...27 entries by 17 [German] composers ... in addition to normal criteria the judge developed his own, especially 'Steine-Einsatz', a measure of piece activity to relate chess content to board material. ...

Comments: the monthly *Rochade Europa* ran a series of dedicated columns exclusively for German originals. A Bruch/Papack study that appeared in the column did not qualify for the event because it was a version of an already published study. Composer Hubert Bednorz, who figures in the award, died aged 71 in xi2007.

No 16825 G. Sonntag
1st honourable mention



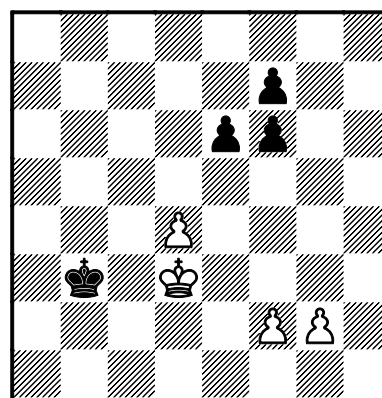
b7d8 3020.24 5/6 Win

No 16825 Gunter Sonntag (Germany) (vi2006). 1.f8Q+? Qxf8 2.Kxc6 Qf3+, which might suggest the right move, namely: 1.Bf5 gxf5 2.f8Q+ Qxf8 3.Kxc6 Qf7 4.Bb6+ Ke7 5.d8Q+ Ke6 6.Qd6 mate/i.

i) 6.Qd5+? Kf6. 6.Bc5? f4. 6.Bd4? f4 7.Qd5+ Ke7 8.Qd6+ Ke8 9.Bc5 Qg6, effective thanks to bPh7. Hew Dundas: Why show alternatives when Qd6 is mate? AJR: A necessary (but not sufficient) condition for artistic weight is for a move (or line) to be free of duals.

“We see an impressive mating study with eye-opening sacrificial key-move. Striving to find a defence bQ deprives bK of the crucial f7 flight. What a shame that the domination move 3.Kc6 has to be with a capture.”

No 16826 M. Minski & J. Vieweger
2nd honourable mention



d3b3 0000.33 4/4 Win

I: diagram

II: removed wPg2; add wPg3

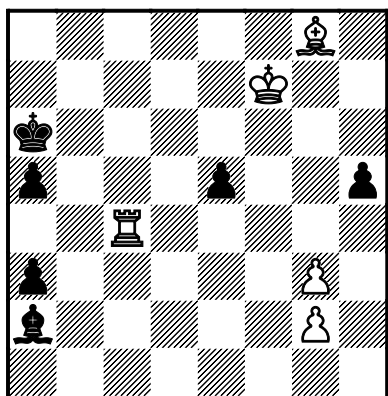
No 16826 Martin Minski & Jochen Vieweger (Germany) (vi2007). **I:** 1.d5 exd5 2.f3 f5/i 3.f4 Kb2 4.Kd4 Kc2 5.Kxd5 Kd3 6.Ke5 Ke3 7.Kxf5 Kf2 8.g4 wins.

II: 1.d5 exd5 2.f4 f5 3.Kd4 Kc2 4.Kxd5 Kd3 5.Ke5 Ke3 6.Kxf5 Kf3 7.g4 wins.

i) Kb2 3.Kd4 Kc2 4.Kxd5 Kd2 5.Kd6 Ke3 6.Ke7.

“In the original twin the refined tempo with the fP brings about a reci-zug. It’s paradoxical that in the ‘f3’ version the gP is on its starting square, while in the ‘f4’ version it’s already on g3.”

No 16827 J. Vieweger
3rd honourable mention



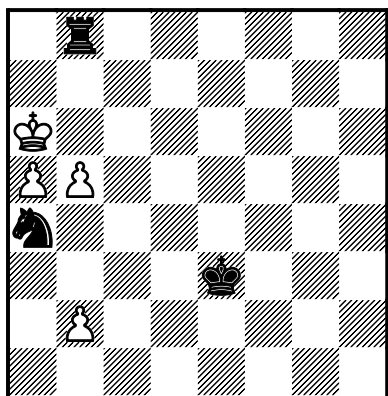
f7a6 0140.24 5/6 Draw

No 16827 Jochen Vieweger (Germany) (iii2007). 1.Kf6 Kb5 2.Ra4/i Kxa4 3.Bxa2, with:

- e4 4.Ke5 e3 5.Kd4 Kb4/ii draw, or
- Kb4 4.Kxe5 Kc3 5.Ke4 Kb2 6.Kd3 Kxa2 7.Kc2 a4 8.g4 hxg4 9.g3 draw.
- i) 2.Rc3? Kb4. 2.Rc8? Bxg8 3.Rxg8 a2.
- ii) e2? 6.Kc4 e1Q 7.Bb3 with smothered mate.

“The solver is captivated by the beautiful magnet sacrifice followed by incarceration of bK thanks to a second offer of a piece. And there is a witty mating trap set by White.”

No 16828 S. Hornecker
4th honourable mention



a6e3 0303.30 4/3 Draw

No 16828 Siegfried Hornecker (Germany) (iii2007). 1.b6 Sc5+ 2.Kb5/i Kd4/ii 3.b4, with:

- Sd7 4.Kc6 Se5+ 5.Kc7 Rf8 6.b7 Rf7+ 7.Kc8 Sc6/iii 8.b5 Sa7+ 9.Kb8 Sxb5 10.Ka8 Sc7+ 11.Ka7 Se6 12.Ka8 Sc7+ 13.Ka7 Sd5 14.Ka8 draw, or

– Sa4 4.Kxa4/iv Kc4 5.a6 Rxb6 6.b5 Rb8 7.a7 Ra8 8.b6 Kc5 9.Ka5 Kc6 10.Ka6 Rh8 11.b7 Rh4 12.b8S+ draws.

i) 2.Ka7? Sd7 3.b7 Kd4 4.a6 Kc5 5.b4+ Kc6 6.b5+ Kc5 b6 Rg8 8.b8Q Rxb8 9.b7 Rh8 10.b8Q Sxb8 wins.

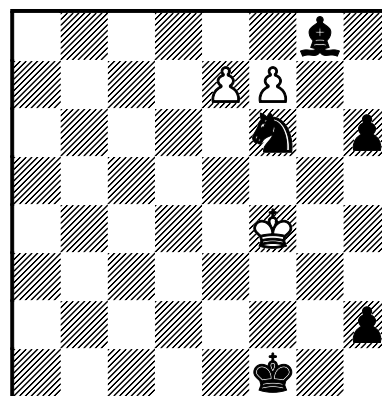
ii) Sb3 3.a6. Sd7 3.b4 Ke4 4.Kc6 Se5+ 5.Kc7.

iii) Sd7 8.a6 Kd5 9.a7 Sb6+ 10.Kb8 Rf8+ 11.Kc7 Sa8+ positional draw.

iv) 4.Kc6? Rc8+ 5.Kd7 Rf8 6.b7 Sc3 7.a6 Sb5 8.Kc6 Kc4, winning.

“An instructive battle of a monarch with his united pawns facing a black superiority. With 3...Sa4! Black strengthens his position and with mating threats looming seems to be in the ascendancy. The S-promotion rescue is, regrettably, known from Cozio in 1766.”

No 16829 W. Keym
5th honourable mention



f4f1 0033.22 3/5 Win

No 16829 Werner Keym (Germany) (ix2006). 1.f8Q? h1Q 2.Qxf6 Qh5 3.Kg3+ Ke2 4.Qf2+ Kd3 draw. No better in this is: 2.e8Q Qh2+ 3.Ke3 Qe2+ and 4...Qxe8. 1.fxg8Q? Sxg8 2.e8Q h1Q 3.Qb5+ Kg1 4.Qc5+ Kh2 5.Qh5+ Kg1 6.Qd1+ Kh2 7.Qh5+ Kg1. 1.e8Q Sxe8/i 2.f8Q/ii h1Q 3.Ke3+ Kg2 4.Qf3+/iii Kh2 5.Qf4+ (Qh5+? Kg1;) Kh3 6.Qxh6+ Kg2 7.Qg5+ Kh3 8.Qh5+ Kg2 9.Qg4+ Kh2 10.Kf2 wins.

i) Bxf7 2.Qb5+ Kg1 3.Qb6+ Kg2 4.Qxf6 h1Q 5.Qb2+ Kh3 6.Qc3+ Kg2 7.Qd2+ Kf1 8.Qd1+ Kg2 9.Qe2+ Kg1 10.Kg3, with a sort of echo, but unfortunately with duals. If h1Q 2.Qb5+ Kg1 3.Qb1+ Kh2 4.Qxh1+ Kxh1 5.f8Q is an easy win.

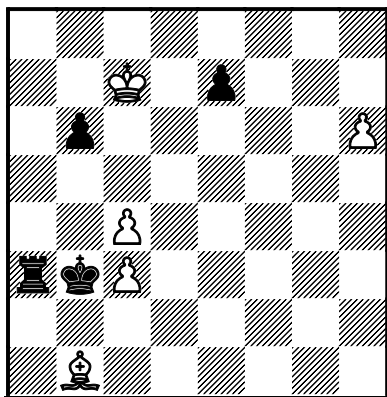
ii) 2.fxe8Q? h1Q 3.Qb5+ Kg1 4.Qc5+ Kh2 5.Qh5+ Kg1. Or 2.fxg8Q? h1Q 3.Qc4+ Kg1, with a drawing oscillation. “Both bSe8 and bBg8 are ‘bundles of hay’ which it seems the wPf7 must choose between. But, as you see, something better is there.”

iii) 4.Qxg8+? Kh3 5.Qe6+ Kh2 6.Qxh6+ Kg1 7.Qg5+ Qg2, and the mate is prevented.

“Impressive, the motivation for choice of promoted pawn, two captures being declined, topped of with Q-capture. It is an improvement on the author’s earlier effort at this theme, in that here capture of bB later on in the solution is also a no-no. The minor dual 7.Qg6+ is something of a blemish.”

“In 1959 the 17-year-old Werner published the first version of his study in *Allgemeiner Zeitung Mainz*. ... The point is elegantly enhanced by the new introduction.”

No 16830 H. Bednorz, W. Bruch & M. Minski
special honourable mention



c7b3 0310.32 5/4 Win

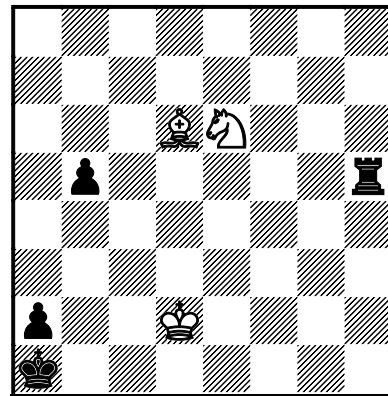
No 16830 Hubert Bednorz, Wieland Bruch & Martin Minski (Germany) (xii2006). 1.h7? Ra8. 1.Kxb6? Ra8. If 1.Be4?, then: Ra2 2.Bd5 Rd2 3.h7 Rh2 4.c5+ Kxc3 5.cxb6 Rxh7 6.b7 e6+ draw, but not Ra2 2.Bd5 Rh2? 3.c5+ Kxc3 4.cxb6 Rxh6 5.b7 Rh8 6.Be6 Kd4 7.Bc8, and we’re in the main line, while, in this, 2...e6 3.c5+ exd5 4.cxb6 Kxc3 5.b7, suits White. Note also: 1.Kb8? Ra5 2.c5? Rxc5 3.Bg6 Rxc3 4.Bf5 Rc6, when it is Black who wins. So: 1.Kb7 Ra5 2.c5 (Bg6? Ra2;) Rxc5

3.Bg6 Rxc3 4.Bf5 Rc1 5.Be4 Rc3 6.Bg2 Rc5/ i 7.Bf3 Rf5 8.h7 Rf8 9.Bd5+ Kc3 10.Bg8 wins.

i) Rd3 7.h7 Rd8 8.Bd5+ Kxc3 9.Bg8.

“The scene is set for a wB vs. bR set-to over White’s far-passed hP. The seemingly equivalent 1.Be4? fails only to the well-hidden 4...Rd2!, enticing the hP to advance to the seventh rank, which turns out to be disadvantageous. As regards level this was the tourney’s best study and worthy of a prize, but from move 4 on there is complete anticipation by Yaacobi (1988). This ruled out a higher placing.”

No 16831 G. Josten & M. Minski
commendation



d2a1 0311.02 3/4 Win

I: diagram

II: remove wSe6; add wSe2

No 16831 Gerhard Josten & Martin Minski (Germany) (xii2007). **I:** 1.Kc2? b4, and 2.Sd4 Rh3, or 2.Sc5 Rxc5+. 1.Kc1 Rd5 2.Sd4/i Rxd4 3.Be5 wins.

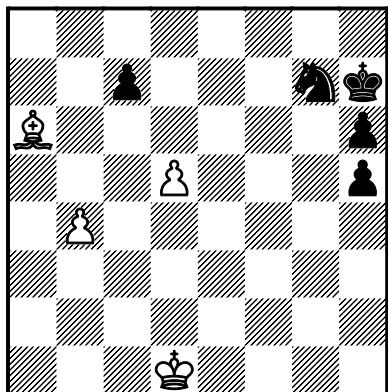
II: If 1.Kc1?, then either b4; or Rf5; draws. 1.Kc2 Rd5 2.Sd4/ii Rxd4 (Rxd6;Sb3+) 3.Be5 wins.

i) 2.Be7? Rd1+. 2.Bf8? Rd1+. 2.Sc5? Rd1+ 3.Kxd1 Kb1 draw.

ii) 2.Ba3? Rd2+. 2.Bb4? Rd3. 2.Sc1? Rd2+ 3.Kxd2 Kb1. 2.Be7? Rd2+ Kxd2 Kb1.

“Soundly based twins incorporating the Grimshaw 2.Sd4!.”

No 16832 H. Bednorz
commendation
dedicated to Andreas Bednorz



d1h7 0013.23 4/5 Win

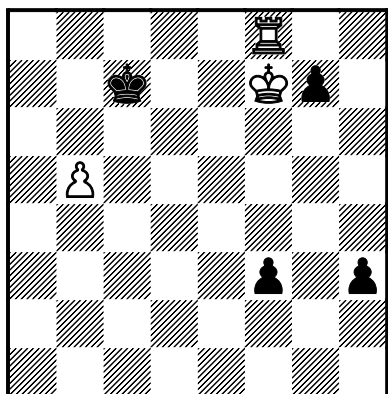
No 16832 Hubert Bednorz (Germany) (iii2007). 1.d6? cxd6, when neither 2.b5 Se6, nor 2.Bc4 Se8 3.b5 d5 4.b6 Sd6 do more than draw. 1.Bd3+ Kh8/i 2.Bg6 h4 3.Ke1/ii Kg8 4.b5 Kf8 5.d6Se6 6.Bf5 Kf7 7.Bxe6+ Kxe6 8.dxc7 Kd7 9.b6 wins.

i) Kg8 2.d6 cxd6 3.b5 Se6 4.Bc4 Kf7 5.b6. So Black does better to avoid the pin.

ii) 3.Ke2? Kg8 4.b5 Kf8 5.d6 cxd6 6.b6 Se6 7.b7 Sd4+.

“Game-like B/S ending in which involvement of bS must at all costs be ruled out.” The dedication was to Bednorz’s son. Sadly, Hubert died before this award was published.

No 16833 G.W. Hörning & M. Minski
commendation



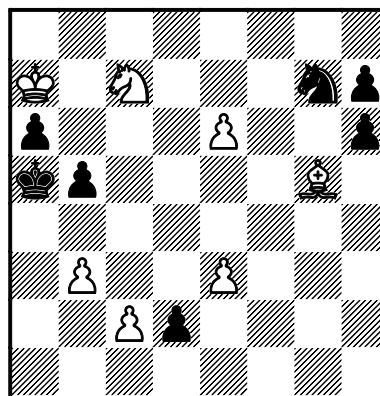
f7c7 0100.13 3/4 Win

No 16833 Gerd Wilhelm Hörning & Martin Minski (Germany) (ix2007). 1.Ra8? g5. 1.b6+ Kb7 (Kxb6; Kg6/Ke6) 2.Rd8 f2 3.Rd1 g5 4.Ke6 g4 5.Kd5 g3 6.Kc5 h2 7.Kb5 g2/i 8.Rd7+ Kc8 9.Kc6 h1Q 10.b7+ Kb8 11.Rd8+ wins.

i) h1Q 8.Rxh1 g2 9.Rh7+ Kb8 10.Kc6 wins.

“Another game-like position with wP battling against bPP in which the spurned wPb6 kamikaze stays the course to becomes the final weapon. The mating conclusion is known from J. Magnini (1955) and A. Akerblom (1953).”

No 16834 J. Gerhold
commendation



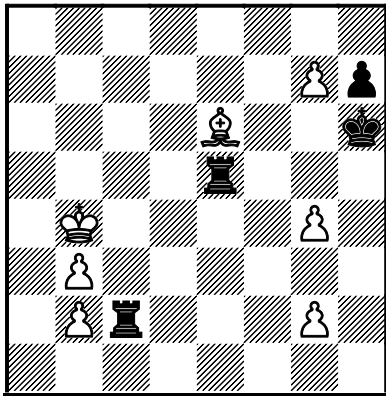
a7a5 0014.45 7/7 Win

No 16834 Jörg Gerhold (Germany) (vi2006). 1.Bf6? Sxe6 2.Bc3+ b4 3.Bxd2 Sxc7 4.Kb7 Se6 5.Kc6 h5 6.e4 h4 7.Be3 Sd8+ 8.Kd7 h3 9.Bf4 Sf7 10.e5 Sxe5+ draws. 1.Bd8 Sxe6/i 2.Sxe6+ Kb4 3.Ba5+ Kxa5 4.c3 d1Q 5.Sc5 b4 6.c4 Qf3 7.Sb7+ (e4? Qf2;) Qxb7+ 8.Kxb7 h5 9.c5 h4 10.c6 wins. h3 11.c7 or 11.Ka7.

i) Kb4 2.Be7+ Kc3 3.Bf6+ Kxc2 4.Bxg7 d1Q 5.Bd4 Qg4 6.e7 Qd7 7.e8Q Qcd7+ 8.Kxa6 winning.

“The effective decoy 3.Ba5+ is the basis of a mating net drawn tighter round bK with every move. But an actual mate would have been nice!”

No 16835 G. Sonntag
special commendation



b4h6 0610.51 7/4 Win

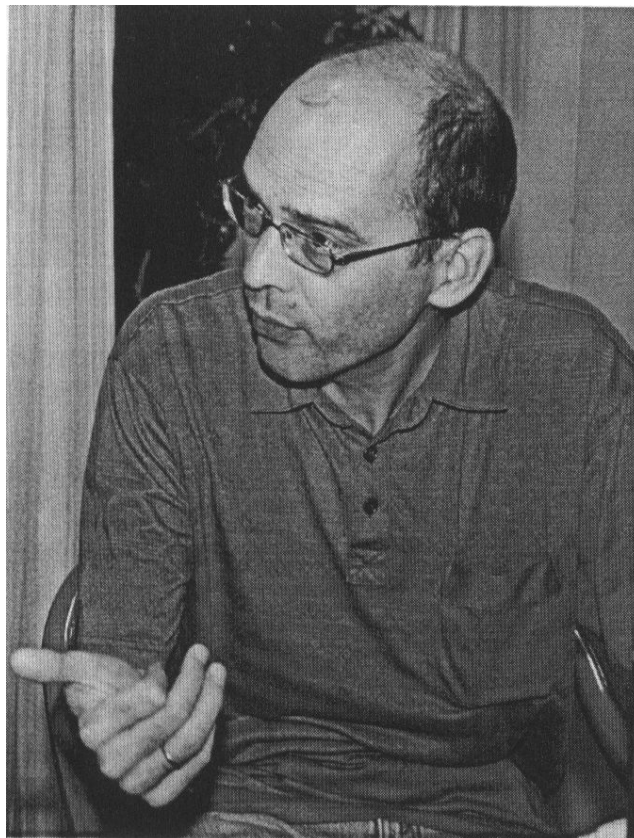
No 16835 Gunter Sonntag (Germany) (iii2007). 1.g8Q/i Rb5+ 2.Kxb5 Rc5+ 3.Ka4 Rc4+ 4.b4/ii Rxb4+ 5.Ka5 Rb5+ 6.Ka6 Rb6+ 7.Ka7 Rb7+ 8.Ka8 Ra7+ 9.Kb8 Rb7+ 10.Kc8 Rc7+ 11.Kd8 Rd7+ 12.Ke8 Re7+ 13.Kf8 Re8+ 14.Kf7 Re7+ 15.Kf6 Rxe6+ 16.Kf5 Re5+ 17.Kf4 Re4+ 18.Kf3 Re3+ 19.Kf2 Re2+ 20.Kg3 Rxe2+ 21.Kf3 Rg3+ 22.Ke2 Rg2+

23.Kd3 Rg3+ 24.Kc2 Rc3+ 25.Kb1 Rc1+ 26.Ka2 Ra1+ 27.Kb3 wins, because wPb3 no longer bars wK's path: Ra3+ 28.Kb4 Ra4+ 29.Kc3, when the patient onlooker wQg8 at long last demonstrates her relevance.

i) Black's drawing chances depend on what? On stalemate!

ii) 4.Ka5? Rc5+ 5.Ka6 Rc6+ 6.Ka7 Rc7+ 7.Kb8 Rb7+ 8.Kc8 Rc7+ 9.Kd8 Rd7+ 10.Ke8 Re7+ 11.Kf8 Re8+ 12.Kf7 Re7+ 13.Kf6 Rxe6+ 14.Kf5 Re5+ 15.Kf4 Re4+ 16.Kf3 Re3+ 17.Kf2 Re2+ 18.Kg3 Rxe2+ 19.Kf3 Rg3+ 20.Ke2 Rg2+ 21.Kd3 Rg3+ 22.Kc2 Rc3+ 23.Kb1 Rc1+ 24.Ka2 Ra1+ 25.Kxa1 stalemate. Is all clear now?!

“The wR desperado has been shown many times in studies, with even more complex run-around of wK (cf. van Breukelen, 1981 and 1990). What is interesting here is the adaptation to the 7.WCCT theme with 4.b4!”



Wieland Bruch: Schwalbe-meeting 2006 in Meerane

Magyar Sakkvilág 2006

Michael Roxlau judged the annual informal tourney of the Hungarian Chess Federation in which only the studies that appeared in *Magyar Sakkvilág* 2006, participated. Siegfried Hornecker (Germany) assisted in anticipation checking. The provisional award (dated vii2007) was published in *MS* x2007 without mentioning a confirmation time. But later (i2008) a final award was issued where a study by Becker was eliminated because of prior publication (information forwarded by HH). A study by Rossi was eliminated because the thematic part of the study was anticipated.

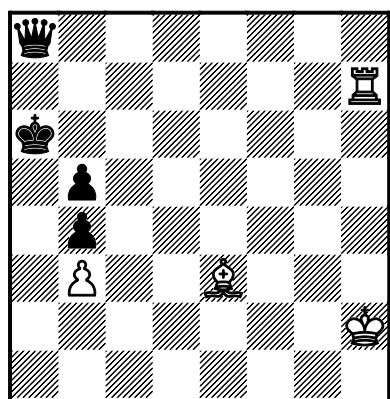
There were two categories: general and database (EGTB). It is unclear whether “database” studies were allowed to participate in the “general” category.

The judge comments: “I use a complex matrix for the judgement of studies. I take more into consideration, e.g. the ratio of points and used material, than only the usual values. The study must be correct”.

The comments in the English version of the award on the Hungarian Chess Federation website were somewhat polished before inclusion in **EG**.

General section

No 16836 P. Benno
1st prize



h2a6 3110.12 4/4 Win

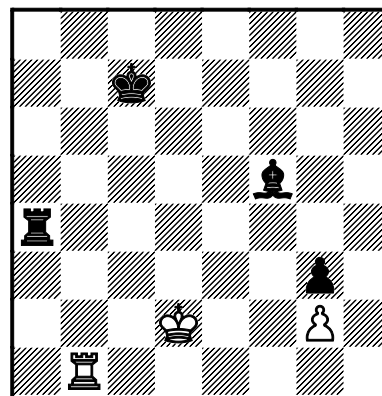
No 16836 Pál Benno (Hungary). 1.Bd4 Qb8+ 2.Kh1 Qa8+ 3.Kg1 Qg8+ 4.Rg7 Qb8 5.Kg2 Qa8+ 6.Kf2 Qb8 7.Ke3 Qe8+ 8.Kd3 Qb8 9.Rg6+ Ka5 10.Rg1 (Ka6; Rg7) Ka6 11.Rg7 Qa8 12.Rf7 Qb8 13.Kc2 Qa8 14.Kb2/ii Qg2+ 15.Bf2 Qa8 16.Rh7 Qb8 17.Bd4 Qa8 18.Ka1 Qb8 19.Rh6+ Ka5 20.Rh8 Qb7 21.Rh2 Ka6 22.Ra2 mate.

ii) 14.Kc1 Qh1+ 15.Kb2 Qg2+ is a waste of time.

“A logical study with a mate finish. Convincing from start until end. The white king moves from one corner to the other and must hide from the black queen’s attack on its way. wK skilfully manoeuvres with tempo moves.

The excellent exploitation of space is attractive”.

No 16837 R. Becker & Iu. Akobia
2nd prize



d2c7 0430.11 3/4 Draw

No 16837 Richard Becker (USA) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Rf1? Bg4/i 2.Ke3 (Rf6 Ra3;) Kd6 3.Rb1/ii Ke5 4.Rb5+ Kf6zz 5.Rc5 (Rd5 Bf5;) Rb4zz 6.Ra5 Rc4zz 7.Rb5 Bd7 wins. So 1.Rc1+/iii Kd6 2.Ke3 Bg4 3.Rc3zz/iv Rb4/v 4.Ra3 Ke5 5.Ra5+ Ke6 6.Rg5/vi Ra4 7.Rc5 (Rb5? Kf6;) Kf6 8.Rb5zz Rc4 9.Ra5zz Rb4 10.Rc5zz Kg6 11.Ra5zz Rc4 12.Re5zz Ra4 13.Rc5zz Kf6 14.Rb5 Kg6 15.Rc5/vii Kf6 16.Rb5 Bd7 17.Rc5 Bg4 18.Rb5 positional draw.

i) But not Be4? 2.Rf4 Ra2+ 3.Ke3 Bxg2 4.Rf7+.

ii) 3.Rc1 Kd5 4.Rc3 Re4+

iii) 1.Rb3? Ra2+ 2.Ke3 Rf2 (Rxc2?; Kf4) 3.Rb5 Kd6 4.Re5/viii Rf1 (Kxe5? stalemate) 5.Ra5 Ke6 6.Ra8/ix Kf6 7.Rg8 Bg6 8.Rf8+ Bf7, or 1.Rb5? Bd7 2.Rb3 (Rg5 Ra3;) Rg4 3.Ke3 Bc6 wins.

iv) Thematic try: 3.Rb1? Ke5 4.Rb5+ Kf6zz.

v) Ke5 4.Rc5+ Ke6 5.Rg5 Rb4 6.Ra5 Kf6 7.Rc5 transposes, or Kd5 4.Kd2 Ra2+ 5.Ke3 Rf2 6.Rc7 draws.

vi) Thematic try: 6.Rc5? Kf6zz 7.Ra5 Rc4zz.

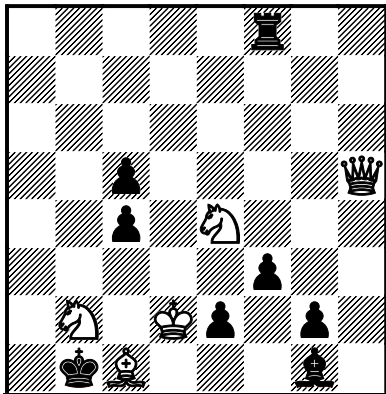
vii) 15.Re5? Rc4 16.Ra5 Kf6 17.Rb5 Bd7

viii) 4.Rb7 Bd7; 4.Rb8 Be6.

ix) 6.Ra6+ Ke5 7.Ra5+ Kf6.

“Multiple zugzwangs in interesting practical positions. The extra black bishop is mobile, but still Black gets into a zugzwang position. That is hardly predictable from the initial position”.

No 16838 M. Minski
3rd prize



d2b1 1342.05 5/8 Win

No 16838 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sc3+ Ka1 2.Qe5/i Be3+/ii 3.Qxe3 g1Q/iii 4.Qxg1 f2 5.Sd3/iv e1Q+/v 6.Sxe1/vi Rd8+/vii 7.Kc2 (Ke2? fxg1S+) Rd2+/viii 8.Kxd2 fxe1Q+ 9.Kc2/ix Qf2+/x 10.Se2/xi Qxe2+/xii 11.Bd2+ Ka2 12.Qb1+ Ka3 13.Qa1 mate.

i) 2.Sxc4? Rd8+ 3.Kc2 e1S+ 4.Kb3 Rb8+ and Black wins.

ii) Bd4 3.Sxc4 Bxe5 4.Bb2 mate.

iii) f2 4.Sxc4 e1Q+ 5.Kc2 Rb8 6.Qh6 wins.

iv) 5.Sbd1? Rd8+ 6.Kxe2 fxg1S+ draws, or 5.Qxf2? Rxf2 6.Sba4 e1Q++ 7.Kxe1 Rf1+ 8.Kd2 Rxc1 9.Kxc1 stalemate.

v) cxd3 6.Bb2++ Kxb2 7.Qb1+ Ka3 8.Qa2+ Kb4 9.Qa4 mate, or fxg1Q 6.Bb2 mate.

vi) 6.Qxe1? fxe1Q+ 7.Sxe1 Rd8+ 8.Kc2 Rd2+ 9.Kxd2 stalemate, or here 8.Ke3 Re8+ 9.Se4 c3 10.Sd3 Kb1 11.Ba3 c4 12.Sf4 Ra8.

vii) fxg1Q 7.Sc2 mate.

viii) fxe1S+ 8.Qxe1 Rd2+ 9.Bxd2 mate.

ix) Avoiding 9.Kxe1? or 9.Qxe1? stalemate.

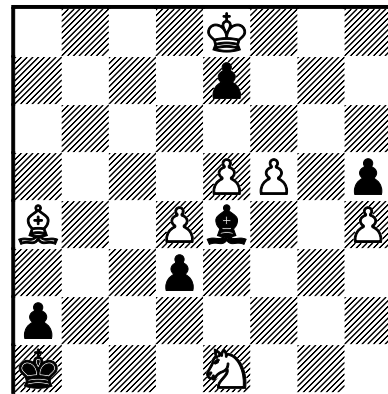
x) Qxg1 10.Bb2 mate.

xi) 10.Qxf2? stalemate.

xiii) Qf5+ 11.Kd2 Qd3+ 12.Ke1 Qc3+ 13.Bd2, wins, but not 13.Sxc3? stalemate.

“After a sharp introduction involving white and black sacrifices, Black thrice promotes to queen. White cannot capture the third queen but that doesn’t prevent him from mating”.

No 16839 J. Csengeri
honourable mention



e8a1 0041.44 7/6 Win

No 16839 József Csengeri (Serbia). 1.Sxd3/i Kb1 2.Bc2+ Kxc2 3.Sb4+ Kc3/ii 4.Sxa2+ Kxd4 5.f6/iii exf6/iv 6.exf6 Ke5 7.Ke7/v Bd5 8.Sb4 (Sc3? Bg8;) Bb3 9.Sd3+/vi Kf5 10.Se1 (Sf2? Kf4;) Kg4 11.Sg2 Kg3 12.f7 wins.

i) 1.f6? (Bb3? d2;) d2 2.Sf3 Bxf3 3.fxe7 Kb2 4.Kf7 Bc6 5.Bxc6 d1Q 6.e8Q a1Q and Black wins.

ii) Kb3 4.Sxa2 Bxf5 5.Kxe7 Kc4 6.Kf6 Bg4 7.e6 Kxd4 8.Sb4 Kc4 9.Sc6 wins.

iii) 5.Kxe7? Bxf5 6.Kf6 Bd7 7.Sb4 Ke4 8.Sa6 Kf4 9.Sc5 Bc8 10.Sa4 Kg4 11.Sb6 Bf5 12.Sd5 Bd7 draws.

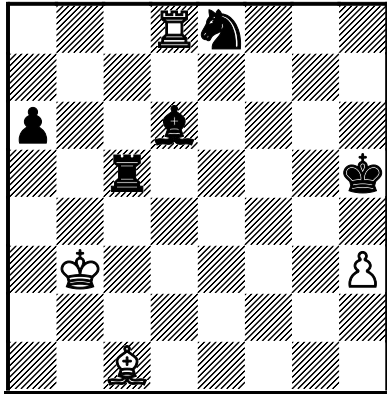
iv) Kxe5 6.fxe7 Bd3 7.Sb4 Bf5 8.Sc6+ Ke4 9.Sd8 Kd5 10.Sf7 Bd3 11.Sh8 wins.

v) 7.f7? Bg6 8.Ke7 Bxf7 draws.

vi) 9.Sc2? Kf4 10.Sd4 Bg8 draws.

“A lovely, elegant, classical study with a defensive ‘Pegasus’ knight. Its manoeuvre is attractive and logical”.

No 16840 C.B. Jones & R. Becker
commendation



b3h5 0443.11 4/5 Draw

No 16840 C. Bill Jones & Richard Becker (USA). 1.Ba3/i Rb5+/ii 2.Ka4 Bxa3/iii 3.Rxe8, and:

– Bc5 4.Re5+/iv Kh4 (Kg6; Re6+) 5.Rd5/v Kg3 6.Rf5zz/vi Kxh3 7.Rg5 Kh4 8.Rg4+ Kh3 9.Rg3+ (Rg5) Kh2 10.Rg2+ (Rg5? Kh1zz;) Kh1 11.Rg5zz positional draw, or:

– Bd6 4.Rh8+/vii Kg5/viii 5.h4+ Kf4/ix 6.Ra8/x Rb6 7.h5/xi Rc6/xii 8.h6/xiii Be5 9.h7 Rh6 10.Kb4/xiv Ke3 11.Re8 Kd4 12.Rd8+ Ke4 13.Rd7/xv draws/xvi.

i) 1.Be3? Rb5+ 2.Kc4 (Ka4 Re5;) Rb8; 1.Bb2? Rb5+ 2.Kc2 Rb8 win.

ii) Rd5 2.Kc4 Rd1 3.Rxe8 Bxa3 4.Re5+ Kh4 5.Ra5 draws.

iii) Rb6 3.Rxe8 Bxa3 4.Kxa3, or Rb8 3.Rxb8 Bxb8 4.Ka5 draw.

iv) Thematic tries: 4.Ra8? Rb1 5.Rxa6 Bb6, or 4.Rh8+? Kg6 5.Ra8 Rb1 6.Rxa6+ Bb6.

v) 5.Rf5? Kg3zz, and 6.Rd5 Kf4 7.h4 Ke4 8.Rg5 Kd4 9.h5 Rb1, or 6.Rg5+ Kf3 7.h4 Kf4 8.Rh5 Ke4 9.Rg5 Kd4 10.h5 Rb1, or 6.h4 Kxh4 7.Rg5 Rb4+ win.

vi) 6.Rg5+? Kf3 7.h4 Kf4 wins.

vii) Thematic try: 4.Ra8? Rb6 5.Ka5 Bc7 6.Rxa6 Rb1+ 7.Ka4 Bb6 wins.

viii) Kg6 5.Ra8 Rb6 6.Ka5 Bc7 7.Rxa6.

ix) Kg4 (Kf6; Ra8) 6.h5 Bc7/xvii 7.h6/xviii Ra5+ 8.Kb3/xix Rh5 9.h7 Be5 10.Ra8 Rh6 11.Kc4 (Kb4).

x) 6.h5 Rb6 7.Ra8 transposes, but not 7.h6? Be5 8.Rf8+ Ke4 9.h7 Rh6 10.Ra8/xx Kd5 11.Kb4 Rh4+ 12.Kb3/xxi Rh3+ 13.Kc2/xxii Rh6 14.Kb3 Kc5 wins.

xi) Thematic try: 7.Ka5? Bc7 8.Rxa6 Rb1+ 9.Ka4 Bb6.

xii) Bc7 8.Ra7 Rc6 9.h6 Be5 10.h7 Rh6 11.Kb4 Ke4/xxiii 12.Rd7, or Bb4 8.h6 Bc3 9.h7 Rh6 10.Kb3 Be5 11.Kb4 (Kc4? Ke4zz;) Be5 8.Ka5 Bc7 9.Rxa6 Rb1+ 10.Ka4 Bb6 11.h6, or Kg5 8.h6/xxiv Kxh6 9.Ka5 Bc7 10.Rxa6

xiii) 8.Rg8? Be5 9.Rg6 Bf6 10.h6 Kf5 11.Rg8 Be5 12.h7 Rh6 13.Ra8 Ke4 14.Kb4 Kd5.

xiv) 10.Kb3? Ke3 11.Kc4 Ke4zz 12.Ra7/xxv Rc6+ 13.Kb4 Kd3 14.Kb3 Rb6+ 15.Ka4 Rh6 16.Kb3 Kd4 17.Kb4 Kd5 wins.

xv) Not 13.Re8? Kd5 14.Ra8 Rh4+, or 13.Kc4? Rxh7.

xvi) e.g. Rb6+ 14.Kc4 Rc6+ 15.Kb4 (Kb3) Rb6+ 16.Kc4.

xvii) Rb6 7.h6 Be5 8.Re8 Kf5 9.h7 Rh6 10.Re7.

xviii) 7.Rc8? Ra5+ 8.Kb3 Bf4, or here 8.Kb4 Bb6 9.h6 Rh5 10.Rc6 a5+ 11.Ka4 Be3 win.

xix) 8.Kb4? Rh5 9.h7 a5+ 10.Ka4 Kh3 11.Kb3 Rh4 12.Kc2 Rh6 13.Kd3 Kh4 14.Kc4 Kh5 15.Kd5 Kg6 wins.

xx) 10.Rf7 Kd5 11.Ra7 Kc5.

xxi) 12.Ka5 Bc7+ 13.Kxa6 Kc6.

xxii) 13.Ka4 Kc5 14.Rxa6 Bb2.

xxiii) Ke3 12.Re7 Kd4 13.Rd7+ Ke4 14.Kc4

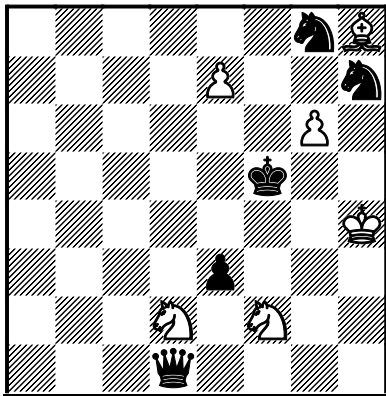
xxiv) 8.Ka5? Bc7 9.Rxa6 Rb1+ 10.Ka4 Bb6.

xxv) 12.Kc5 Kd3 13.Kb4 Kc2 14.Rc8+ Kb2.

“A complicated and monumental study with exact content, but it has a few deficiencies. The stalemate and zugzwang in the Bc5-main line are already known from a study by Benko, while the thematic tries in line B are refuted by a known position from Horwitz. I must consider these. The play is a bit overloaded, and the dual 6.h5 Rb6 7.Ra8 also reduces the value of the study”.

HH: The studies referred to by the judge are: P. Benko, 3rd prize *Sakkélet* 1996 (EG 159-162.15130), and, probably, B. Horwitz, *The Chess Monthly* 1885, e1e7 0540.13 a7f2h8e6f8.d7d3d4e3 5/6 Win:1.d8Q+ Kxd8 2.Rxf8+ Rxf8 3.Bf7 d2+ 4.Ke2 d3+ 5.Kd1zz wins.

No 16841 G. Telbis
commendation



h4f5 3018.21 6/5 Win

No 16841 Gheorghe Telbis (Romania). 1.Sxd1/i Sxe7 2.gxh7 (Sxe3+? Kxg6;) Sg6+ 3.Kh5 Sxh8 4.Sxe3+ Kf6 (Kf4; Kh6) 5.Se4+/ii Kg7 6.Sf5+ (Sg5? Sf7;) Kxh7 7.Sf6 mate.

i) 1.e8Q? Qh5+ 2.Kxh5 Shf6+/iii 3.Bxf6 Sxf6+ 4.Kh6 Sxe8 5.Sde4 Kf4/iv draws.

ii) 5.Sf5? Kxf5 6.Se4 Kxe4 7.Kh6 Kf5, or here 6.Kh6 Kf6 7.Se4+ Kf7 8.Sg5+ Kf8.

iii) But not Sgf6+? 3.Kh6 Sxe8 4.gxh7.

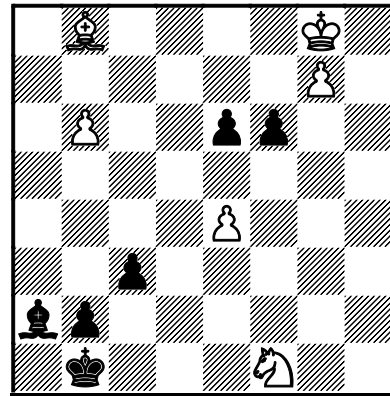
iv) But not Ke6? 6.Sd3 Kd5 7.Sg3 Kd4 8.Sf4.

“The value of this study is its beauty, in particular the battle of two knights against one ending with mate. It makes an original impression. Unfortunately, the very difficult key move disturbs the aesthetic impression”.

No 16842 Sergyi Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Be5 (b7 e5+;) fxe5/i 2.b7 c2 3.Sd2+ (b8Q c1Q;) Ka1 4.b8Q c1Q 5.Qd8/ii Qd1 6.Qg5 (Kf8? b1Q;) Qc1 7.Qg2 Qc2 8.Qh1+ (Qg1+)/iii Qc1 9.Qh2 Qc2 10.Qh6 Qc1 11.Kh7zz wins.

i) Kc2 2.b7 b1Q 3.b8Q Qxb8+ 4.Bxb8 e5+ 5.Kh7 Kd3 6.Bd6 Kxe4 7.Kg6 Kf3 8.Kxf6 e4 9.Sh2+ Ke2 10.Sg4 wins.

No 16842 S. Didukh
commendation



g8b1 0041.34 6/6 Win

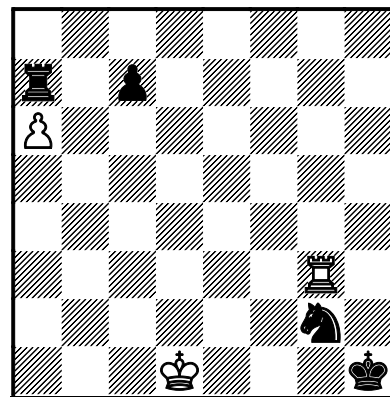
ii) 5.Qb4? Qg1 6.Qf8 Qg2 7.Qd8 Qh2 8.Qg5 (Kf8 Qh6;) Qf4 9.Qg2 b1Q, or here 6.Qa3 Qg5 7.Sc4 Qd8+ draws.

iii) 8.Qf1+? Qc1 9.Qd3 Qe1 10.Qd8 Qd1.

“The queen battle leads to a white win, because White is able to unlock the pinning of its knight with a skilful zugzwang manoeuvre. The study is partly anticipated because the author borrowed the perpetual pin idea from a Costeff-study (EG159-162.15130)”.

Database section

No 16843 R. Becker & Iu. Akobia
1st prize



d1h1 0403.11 3/4 Draw

No 16843 Richard Becker (USA) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). Thematic try: 1.Ra3? Sf4 2.Kc2 Se6 3.Kc3 Sc5 4.Ra5 Sxa6 5.Ra2 Kg1zz, so1.Rh3+/i Kg1 2.Ra3/ii Sf4 3.Kc2/iii Se6/iv 4.Kc3/v Sc5 5.Ra5 Sd7 (Sxa6; Ra2) 6.Ra2zz/vi Sb8/vii 7.Rb2 Sc6 8.Ra2zz Sb8 (Kf1; Kc4) 9.Rb2 Sd7 10.Ra2 Sc5 11.Ra5 Sxa6 12.Ra2zz Ra8 13.Kc4zz c6/viii 14.Kc3zz Ra7 15.Kc4zz

Ra8 16.Kc3 Kf1 17.Kc4zz Ra7 18.Rb2/ix Ra8/x 19.Ra2 Ke1 20.Kc3zz Ra7 21.Kc4zz Kd1 22.Rb2 Ra8 23.Ra2zz Kc1 24.Kc3 Kb1 25.Ra3zz Ra7 26.Rb3+ Kc1 27.Rb6 draws.

i) 1.Rg6? Sf4 2.Rh6+ Kg2 3.Kc2 Sd5 4.Kb3 Sb6 5.Rc6 Kf3 6.Rc5 Ke4 7.Ra5 Sd7, or 1.Rg7? Sf4 2.Ke1 Kh2 3.Kf2 Sd3+ 4.Kf3 Se5+ 5.Ke4 Sc6 6.Kf3 Sd4+ 7.Kf2 Kh3 8.Rg3+ Kh4 9.Rc3 Kg5 win.

ii) 2.Rh6? Sf4 3.Kc2 Sd5 4.Kb3 Sb6 5.Rc6 Kf2 6.Rc3 Ke2 7.Rc5 Sd7 8.Rc4 Sb8 9.Kc3 Sxa6.

iii) 3.Kd2? Sd5 4.Ra4 c6 5.Ra5 Kf2.

iv) Sd5 4.Kb3 Kf2 5.Kc4 Sb6+ 6.Kb5 Sd7 7.Rd3 Sb8 8.Rd8 Sxa6 9.Rh8 draws.

v) 4.Ra5? c6 5.Kb2 Sc7.

vi) 6.Kc4? Kf2 7.Kb5 Sb8 8.Ra3 Ke2.

vii) Kf1 7.Kc4zz Sb8 8.Rb2 Sc6 9.Ra2.

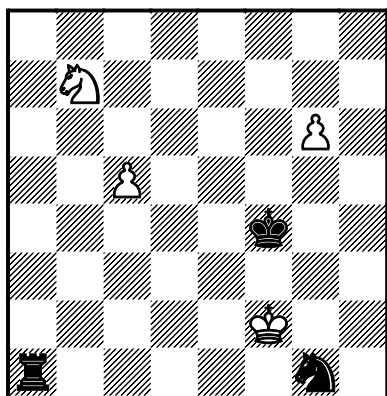
viii) Kf1 14.Kc3zz Ra7 15.Kc4zz Ra8 16.Kc3 Ke1 17.Kc4zz c6 18.Kc3 transposes.

ix) 18.Kc3? Sc7 19.Rxa7 Sb5+ wins.

x) Sc7 19.Kc5 Ra6 20.Rb6.

“A wonderful zugzwang study. In an aesthetic position the deep key move denies the black king a decisive tempo move, also because a knight cannot win a tempo. It is very hard to find all the traps”.

No 16844 A. Ruz
2nd prize



f2f4 0304.20 4/3 Draw

No 16844 Arpád Ruzs (Romania). 1.g7 Sh3+ 2.Kg2 Rg1+ 3.Kxh3 Rxg7 4.Sd8/i Ke5/ii 5.c6/iii Kd6 6.Kh2/iv Re7/v 7.Kg2/vi Kc7 8.Sb7

Kxc6/vii 9.Sa5+ Kd5 10.Kf2/viii Rc7 11.Sb3 Rc2+ 12.Ke1 Kc4 13.Sd2+ Kd3 14.Sf1draws.

i) 4.c6? Rg3+ 5.Kh2/ix Rc3 6.Sd8 Kg4 7.Kg2 Rc2+ 8.Kf1 Kf3 9.Ke1 Rc4 10.Sb7 (Kd2 Rd4+;) Ke3 11.Kd1 Rxc6 12.Sa5 Rc3 echo, or 4.Sd6? Rc7 5.Se8 Rc6zz/x 6.Sd6 Rxc5 wins.

ii) Rd7 (Kf3; Kh4) 5.Sc6 (Se6+? Kf5;) Ke4 6.Kg4 Rg7+ 7.Kh4 Rc7 8.Sd8 Ke5/xi 9.Kg4/xii Kf6 10.c6 Ke7 11.Sb7 Rxc6 12.Sa5 Rc3 13.Kf4 Kd6 14.Ke4 Kc5 15.Sb7+.

iii) 5.Sc6+? Kd5 6.Sb4+ Ke4 7.c6 (Sc2 Rg1;) Kf3 8.Kh4 Rg4+, or 5.Kh4? Rd7 6.Sc6+ Kd5 7.Sb4+ Kxc5 8.Sc2 Re7 9.Kg3 Re2 wins.

iv) 6.Kh4? Re7 7.Kg4 Kc7 8.Sb7 Kxc6 9.Sa5+ Kd5 10.Sb3 Re2 11.Sc1 Re3 12.Kf4 Kd4zz chameleon echo.

v) Rc7 7.Kg2 (Kg3)/xiii Ke7 8.Sb7 Rxc6 9.Kf2/xiv Rf6+ 10.Ke3 Rf5 11.Kd4 Rb5 12.Sc5, or Kc7 7.Se6+, or Rg8 7.c7 draw.

vi) 7.Kg3? Kc7 8.Sb7 Kxc6 9.Sa5+ Kb5 10.Sb3 Re3+, or 7.Kg1? Kc7 8.Sb7 Re5.

vii) Re5 9.Kf3 (Kg3) Kxc6 10.Kf4 Rd5 11.Ke4zz.

viii) Switchback. 10.Sb3? (Kf1 Re3;) Re2+ 11.Kf1 Rb2 12.Sc1 Rb1, or here 11.Kf3 Rc2 12.Ke3 Rc3+ win.

ix) 5.Kh4 Rg6 6.Kh5 Rxc6 7.Sd8 Rf6 wins, echo.

x) but not Rxc5? 6.Sg7 Rc6 7.Sh5+ Kf3 8.Kh4 draws.

xi) Kf5 9.c6zz Rc8 10.Sf7 Rxc6 11.Kh5 Kf6 12.Sh6 draws.

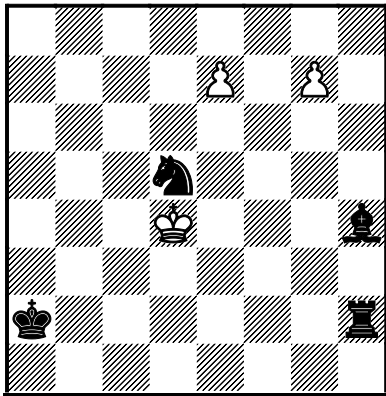
xii) 9.c6? Kf5zz 10.Kg3 Rc8 11.Sf7 Rxc6 12.Kh4 Rf6 wins.

xiii) 7.Kg1? Ke5 8.Kf2 Rc8 9.Sf7+ Kf4 10.Sd6 Rxc6 11.Sb5 Rc2+ 12.Ke1 Rc5 13.Sa3 Rc3 14.Sb5 Rd3 15.Ke2 Ke4zz chameleon echo.

xiv) 9.Kf3? Rc7 10.Sa5 Rc5 11.Sb3 Rc3+; 9.Kf1? Rf6+ 10.Ke2 Rf5 11.Kd3 Rb5 wins.

“The play quickly leads to a knight and pawn versus rook ending. The manoeuvre of the knight qualifies as a textbook example. The paradoxical move 6.Kh2!! leads to a draw position with adjacent knight and king”.

No 16845 A. Rusz
1st honourable mention



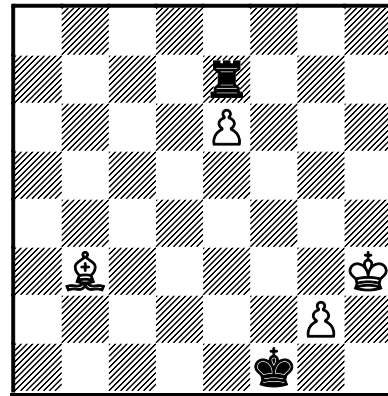
d4a2 0333.20 3/4 Win

No 16845 Arpád Rusz (Romania). 1.e8Q/i Bf6+ 2.Kxd5 Bxg7 3.Qg8/ii Rg2 4.Ke4+ Kb1/iii 5.Qh7 Rg1/iv 6.Kf4+/v Ka1/vi 7.Kf3 Bd4/vii 8.Qe7/viii Rf1+ 9.Ke2 Rf2+ 10.Kd3 (Kd1? Ra2;) Bb6 11.Qe1+ Kb2 (Ka2; Qe6+) 12.Qb4+ wins.

- i) 1.g8Q? Rd2+ 2.Ke4 Bxe7 draws.
 ii) 3.Qf7? Bb2 4.Kc5+ Ka1/ix 5.Qa7+ Kb1, or here 4.Kc6+ Kb1/x 5.Qg6+ Rc2+ draws.
 iii) Kb2 5.Kf3 Rg5 6.Qb8+ Kc2 7.Qh2+ Kb3 8.Qf4 Rc5 9.Qf7+ wins.
 iv) Ka2 6.Kf3 Rg1 7.Qh2+ wins.
 v) 6.Kf3+? Ka1zz 7.Kf2 Bd4+, or here 7.Qc2 Bb2.
 vi) Kc1 7.Qd3 Bh6+ 8.Kf3, or here Re1 8.Qc4+.
 vii) Rf1+ 8.Kg2 Rf7 9.Qd3 Ra7 10.Qf1+ wins.
 viii) 8.Qd7? Rf1+ 9.Ke2 Rf2+ 10.Kd3 Bb6 11.Qa4+ Kb1 12.Qb3+ (Qb4+ Rb2;) Rb2 13.Qd1+ Ka2 14.Qa4+ Kb1 15.Kc3 Bf2 16.Qd1+ Ka2 positional draw.
 ix) But not Kb1? 5.Qg6+ Rc2+ 6.Kb4 wins.
 x) But not Ka1 5.Qa7+ Kb1 6.Qg1+ wins.

“This is a queen versus rook and bishop fight, where 7.Kf4!! is a fantastic point leading to mutual zugzwang. Black has to weaken his position after which the white queen’s path to e7 is open, and White wins”.

No 16846 R. Becker
2nd honourable mention



h3f1 0310.20 4/2 Win

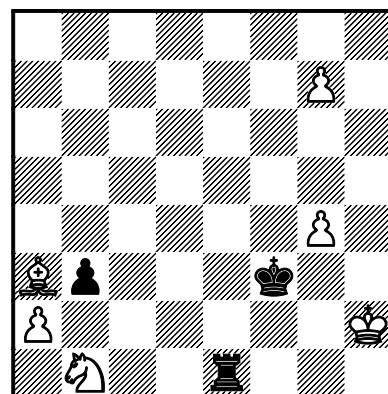
No 16846 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Kg3 Re8 2.Bc4+ Kg1 3.Bd5 Re7 4.Kf3 Kh2 5.g4 Kh3 6.Kf4 Kh4 7.Kf5 Re8 8.g5 Rf8+ 9.Kg6 Rf2/i 10.Kh6 Kg4 11.g6 Kf5 12.Kg7 Rf1 13.Kh7 Kf6 14.g7 Rf5 15.g8S+/ii Kg5 16.e7 wins.

- i) Kg4 10.Kg7 Rf5 11.g6 Kg5 12.Be4 Rf4 13.Bd3 Rf3 14.e7 Re3 15.Kf7 Rf3+ 16.Bf5 Rxf5+ 17.Ke6 Rf1 18.g7 wins, or here Rc8 11.Kf6 Rf8+ 12.Ke7 Rc8 13.g6 Kf5 14.Be4+ Kxe4 15.Kf7 wins.
 ii) 15.Kh6? Rg5 16.e7 Rg3 17.e8S+ Ke7 18.Bc6 Rh3+ 19.Kg6 Rg3+ 20.Kh7 Rh3+ draws.

“This composition shows a winning manoeuvre of bishop and two pawns against rook. Kazantsev used the knight promotion in a very similar form”.

Despite having 24 studies (including versions) of Kazantsev studies featuring a knight promotion, HH was unable to locate the mentioned anticipation.

No 16847 M. Campioli
1st commendation



h2f3 0311.31 6/3 BTM, Win

No 16847 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...Re2+ 2.Kh3 bxa2 3.Sd2+ Rxd2 4.g8Q Rh2+/i 5.Kxh2 a1Q 6.Qf7+ Kxg4/ii 7.Qg6+ Kf3 8.Qf5+ Ke3 9.Bc1+ Ke2 10.Qc2+ wins/iii.

i) a1Q 5.Qa8+ Ke2 (Ke3; Bc5+) 6.Qe4+ Kd1 (Kf2; Bc5+) 7.Qh1+ wins the queen by a skewer.

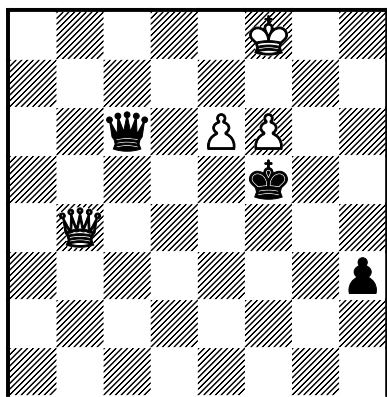
ii) Ke2 7.Qc4+ Kf3 8.Qd3+ Kf4/iii 9.Qf5+ Ke3 10.Bc1+ Qxc1 11.Qg5+ wins the queen by another skewer.

iii) e.g. Kf3 11.Qg2 mate.

iv) Kxg4 9.Qg6+, or Kf2 9.Bc5+.

“A mate study, where the author had to skip the finish because of 11.Qd3+. The introductory play has sacrifices by both sides”.

No 16848 J. Pospisil
2nd commendation



f8f5 4000.21 4/3 Win

No 16848 Jaroslav Pospisil (Czech Republic). 1.Qh4 h2/i 2.Qxh2 Kg6/ii 3.Qg3+/iii Kxf6 4.e7 Qc8+ 5.e8S+/iv Kf5 6.Qh3+ wins.

i) Qxe6 2.Kg7 h2 3.Qh5+ (Qh7+, Qh3+) Ke4 4.Qxh2 Qg4+/v 5.Kh6 Kf5 6.Qf2+, or Kxe6 2.Qxh3+ Ke5 3.Qh5+ win.

ii) Kxe6 3.Qh3+ (Qh6) Ke5 4.Qh5+ Ke6 5.Qf7+; Kxf6 3.Qh6+ Ke5 4.Qe3+ Kf5 5.Kf7; Qxe6 3.f7 Qc8+ 4.Kg7 Qc3+ 5.Kg8 win.

iii) 3.Qg1+? Kxf6 4.e7 Qa8+/vi 5.e8Q Qa3+ 6.Kg8 Qb3+ 7.Kh8 Qh3+ draws.

iv) 5.e8Q? Qc5+ 6.Kg8 Qd5+ 7.Kh7 Qh1+ with perpetual check.

v) Qd7+ 5.f7 Qg4+ 6.Kf8 Qc8+ 7.Ke7 Qb7+ 8.Kf6 Qc6+ 9.Kg7 Qc3+ 10.Kg8 wins.

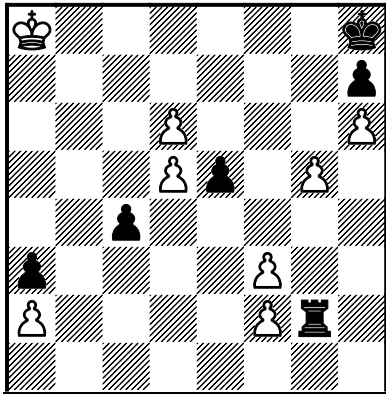
vi) But not Qc8+? 5.e8R wins, avoiding 5.e8Q? Qc5+ 6.Qxc5 stalemate.

“White defeats the perpetual check threat of the bQ’s by a surprising underpromotion”.

Shakhmatnaya poezia 2005

The award was published in *Shakhmatnaya poezia* 40 (18x2007). Judge was David Gurgenzidze (Georgia).

No 16849 S. Didukh
1st prize



a8h8 0300.74 8/6 Win

No 16849 Sergei Didukh (Ukraine). 1.f4/i exf4 2.d7 Rxcg5 3.d8Q+ Rg8 4.Qb8/ii c3/iii 5.d6 c2 6.d7 c1Q 7.d8S/iv Qh1+ 8.Ka7 Qxh6/v 9.Qe5+/vi Rg7+ 10.Sf7+ Kg8 11.Qe8 mate.

i) 1.d7? Rxcg5 2.d8Q+ Rg8 3.Qb8 c3 4.d6 c2 5.d7 c1Q 6.d8Q (d8S Qf4;) Qc6+ 7.Ka7 Qa4+ 8.Kb6 Qb4+ 9.Kc6 Qc4+ 10.Kd7 Qd4+ 11.Ke7 Qh4+ 12.Ke6 Qxh6+ drawn.

ii) 4.Qxg8+? Kxcg8 5.d6 Kf7 draws.

iii) Rxb8+ 5.Kxb8 c3 6.d6 wins.

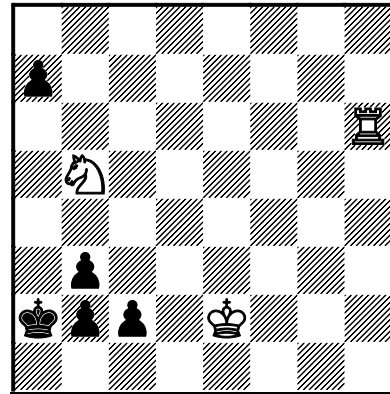
iv) 7.Qxg8+? Kxcg8 8.d8Q+ Kf7 draw. 7.d8Q? Qc6+ 8.Ka7 Qa4+ 9.Kb6 Qb4+ 10.Kc6 Qc4+ 11.Kd6 Qd4+ 12.Ke7 Rxd8 draw.

v) Qd5 9.Qe5+ Qxe5 10.Sf7 mate.

vi) 9.Sf7+? Kg7 10.Qxg8+ Kxcg8 11.Sxh6+ Kg7 12.Sg4 h5 13.Sh2 Kf6 14.Kb6 Kg5 15.Kc5 Kh4 draw.

“Yet another success for the young composer. Everything is really beautifully assembled.”

No 16850 A. Sochnev
2nd prize



e2a2 0101.04 3/5 Win

No 16850 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg). 1.Ra6+ Kb1 2.Sa3+/i Kc1 3.Sc4/ii, with:

– b1S 4.Ra1/iii a6 5.Ke1 a5 6.Ke2 a4 7.Ke1 a3 8.Ke2 a2 9.Ke1 b2 10.Se5 bxa1Q 11.Sd3 mate, or:

– Kb1 4.Sd2+ Kc1 5.Sxb3+/iv Kb1 6.Sd2+ Kc1 7.Rf6 b1Q/v 8.Sc4, with mate to follow.

i) 2.Sc3+? Kc1 3.Rh6 b1S 4.Sa4 Sc3+ 5.Sxc3 Kb2 6.Sa4+ Kb1 7.Sc3+ Kb2 8.Sa4+ Kb1 positional draw.

ii) 3.Rf6? b1S 4.Sc4 Sc3+ 5.Kd3 Kb1 draw.

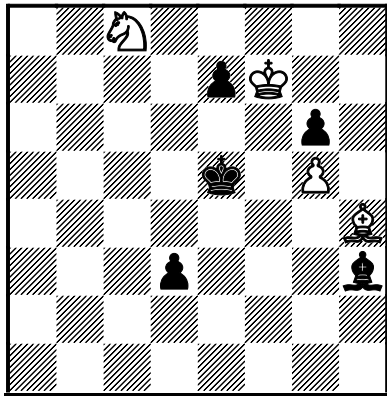
iii) 4.Kd3? Kd1 5.Se3+ Kc1 6.Sc4 Kd1 7.Rh6 c1S+, and the second underpromotion to bS saves Black.

iv) 5.Rf6? b1S 6.Sc4 Sc3+ 7.Kd3 Sb1 draw.

v) b1S 8.Sc4 Sc3+ 9.Kd3 Kb1 10.Sa3+ wins.

“A content-ful study. The motivation is known, the solution is inovative.”

No 16851 S. Didukh
1st honourable mention



f7e5 0041.13 4/5 Draw

No 16851 Sergei Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Sb6/i Be6+ (d2; Sc4+) 2.Kxg6 d2 3.Bg3+ (Sa4? Bf7+;) Kd4/ii 4.Sa4 Bf7+/iii 5.Kf5 Bg6+ 6.Ke6 (Kf4? e5+;) Bf7+ 7.Kf5 positional draw, with non-capture under bB's watchful eye.

i) 1.Be1? Bxc8 2.Kxg6 Kd4 3.Ba5 Be6 4.Bd2 Ke4 5.Kg7 Bc4 6.Kg6 Kf3 wins. And a thematic try: 1.Bg3+? Kd4/iv 2.Sb6/v d2 3.Sa4 d1Q 4.Bf2+ Ke5 5.Bg3+ Kf5 wins.

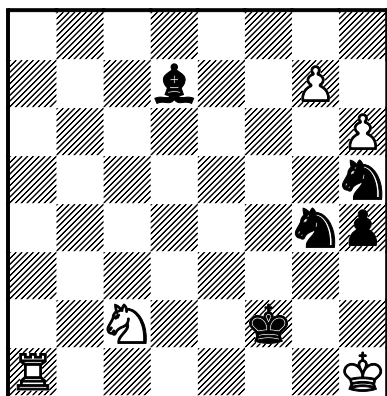
ii) Ke4 4.Sa4 Bf5+ 5.Kf7 Kf3 6.Sc3 Kxg3 7.Kxe7 Kf4 8.Kf6 draw.

iii) d1Q 5.Bf2+ Ke5 6.Bg3+ Kd4 7.Bf2+ positional draw.

iv) 1...Ke4? 2.Sb6 d2 3.Sa4 Kf3 4.Sc3 Kxg3 5.Se4+ Kf4 6.Sxd2 Kxg5 7.Kxe7.

v) 2.Bf2+ Ke4 3.Sb6 d2 4.Sa4 Kf3 wins.

No 16852 V. Kalyagin & B. Olimpiev
2nd honourable mention



h1f2 0137.21 5/5 Draw

No 16852 Viktor Kalyagin & Bronislav Olimpiev (Ekaterinburg). 1.Rf1+ Kxf1 2.Se3+

Sxe3/i 3.g8Q Sg3+ 4.Kh2 Sg4+ 5.Kh3 Sf6+/ii 6.Kxh4/iii Sxg8 7.h7 Se7 8.Kg5/iv Se4+ 9.Kh6, and Sf5+ 10.Kg6, or Sd6 10.Kg7. Drawn.

i) Kf2 3.Sxg4+? Bxg4 4.g8Q Sg3+ 5.Kh2 Sf1+ 6.Kh1 Bf3+ 7.Qg2+ Bxg2 mate, but in this White has better: 3.Sd1+ Kg3 4.g8Q Bc6+ 5.Kg1 h3 6.Qxg4+ Kxg4 7.h7 draw.

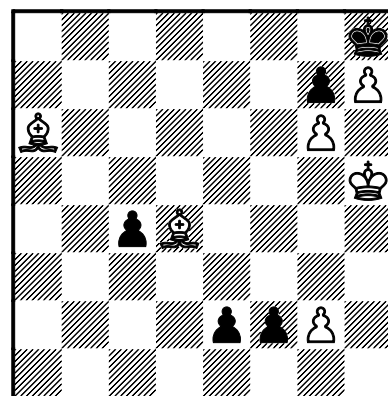
ii) Sxh6+ 6.Kh2 Sxg8 stalemate, while if 6...Sg4+, 'simplest' is 7.Qxg4 Bxg4 stalemate.

iii) 6.Kh2? Sxg8 7.h7 Sf6 8.h8Q Sg4+ 9.Kh3 Se5+ and 10.Kh2 Sf3 mate, or 10.Kxh4 Sg6+ wins.

iv) 8.Kxg3? Sg6 9.Kf3 Bf5 wins.

Franco Bertoli (Italy) won a 3rd honourable mention: c5c7 3203.22 b8a2e5b6.c6e6g3h3 5/5=. Solution: 1.e7 g2 2.e8S+, with: Kd8 3.c7+ Qxc7+ 4.Sxc7 g1Q+ 5.Kc6 Qc1+ 6.Rc5 Qh6 7.Kb7 h2 8.Rxh2 Qxh2 9.Kxb6 draw, or Kc8 3.Sd6+ Qxd6+ 4.Kxd6 Sc4+ 5.Kd5 Sxe5 6.Ra8+ Kc7 7.Ra7+ Kb8 8.c7+ Kxa7 9.c8Q draw. But MG found a cook in the Kd8-line: Qh1+ 7.Sd5, and now instead of h2 8.Rxh2 Qxh2 9.Kxb6(Sxb6) draw as given: 7...Qe4 8.Rd2 Sd7 8.Rd2 Sd7 9.Ra5 Se5+ 10.Kc5 (Kb7 Sf3;) Qc4+ 11.Kd6 Sf7+ 12.Ke6 Qg4+ 13.Kxf7 Qh5+ and wins wRd2. Or 9.Rcc2 Qa4+ 10.Kb7 Qb5+ 11.Ka7 h2 12.Rxh2 Qa5+ 13.Kb7 Qxd5+.

No 16853 P. Rossi & M. Campioli
1st commendation



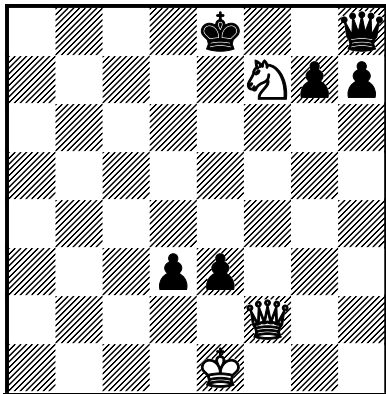
h5h8 0020.34 6/5 Win

No 16853 Pietro Rossi & Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Bxg7+/i Kxg7 2.h8Q+ Kxh8 3.Kh6 f1Q/ii 4.g7+ Kg8 5.Bxc4+ Qf7 6.Bxf7+ Kxf7 7.Kh7 e1Q 8.g8Q+ Kf6. The printed main line

continuation, which we give in **bold**, runs: **9.Qg6+ Ke7 10.Qg5+ Ke6 11.g4 Qf1 12.Qh5 Qf3 13.Qe8+ Kd6 14.g5 Qh1+ 15.Kg7**, and is accompanied by some 300-400 database moves (which EG is not reproducing), but without text. Whether this is suitable material for an artistic study is debatable, but it is beyond question an admirable discovery serving as introduction to the study of the difficult 5-man GBR class 4000.10. For example, take the position after 8...Kf6, and, still WTM, remove bK and replace him anywhere you like: *which are the drawing squares, and why?* AJR thinks the composers have missed a didactic opportunity!

- i) 1.Bxf2? e1Q 2.Bxe1 c3.
- ii) e1Q 4.g7+ Kg8 5.Bxc4+. Kg8 4.Bxc4+ Kf8 5. Bxe2.

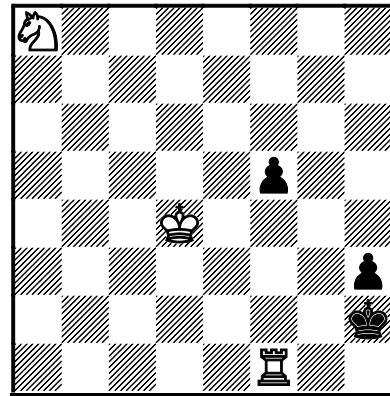
No 16854 B. Sidorov
2nd commendation



e1e8 4001.04 3/6 Win

- No 16854** Boris N. Sidorov (Apsheeronsk).
1.Qf5? Qf8? 2.Qe6+, but 1...Qg8 2.Sd6+ Ke7 3.Sc8+ Kd8 draws. So: 1.Qa2 d2+ 2.Ke2 d1Q+ 3.Kxd1 e2+ 4.Ke1/i Qf8 (Qg8;Sd6+) 5.Qe6+ Qe7/ii 6.Sd6+ Kd8 7.Qc8 mate.
- i) 4.Kd2? e1Q+ 5.Kxe1 leaves wK exposed -- as we shall soon see.
 - ii) The note (i) line would leave wQ pinned.

No 16855 A. Sochnev
1st special honourable mention

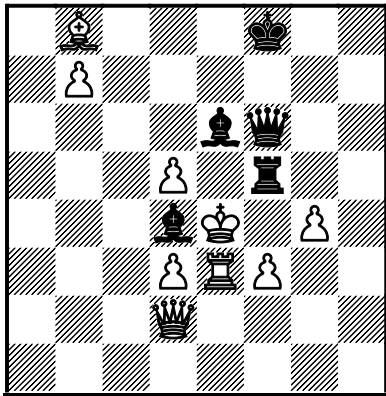


d4h2 0101.02 3/3 Win

- No 16855** Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg).
1.Ke3 f4+/i 2.Kf2/ii f3 3.Ke3 (Kxf3 stalemate?) Kg2 4.Rf2+ Kg3/iii 5.Rxf3+ Kg2 6.Rf2+ Kg3 7.Rf6/iv Kg2 8.Rg6+/v Kf1 9.Rh6 Kg2 10.Sb6/vi h2 11.Sd5 h1Q 12.Sf4+ Kg1 13.Se2+ Kg2 14.Rg6+ Kh3/vii 15.Sg1+ Kh2 16.Kf2 wins.

- i) Kg2 2.Rf2+ Kg3 3.Rxf5 Kg2 4.Rf2+ Kg3 5.Rf6, and we are in the main line.
- ii) 2.Kxf4? Kg2 3.Ra1 h2 4.Ra2+ Kh3 5.Ra3+ Kg2 draw. 2.Ke2? Kg2 3.Rf2+ Kg3 4.Rf3+ Kg2 5.Rf2+ Kg3 6.Kf1 h2 7.Rg2+ Kh3 draw.
- iii) Kg1 5.Kxf3 h2 6.Rg2+ wins.
- iv) Precision! We shall see why later.
- v) 8.Ke2? h2 9.Rg6+ Kh1, with a saving stalemate. 8.Sb6? h2 9.Sd5/viii h1Q 10.Sf4+ Kf1 is drawn.
- vi) Only now! wS heads for f4. OK, there is a dual route, but do we care?
- vii) Kh2 15.Kf2 wins. The choice of f6 for wR on move 7 is now clear, as on f7 or f8 bQ could cover the h7 or h8 squares.
- viii) 9.Rg6+ Kf1 10.Rh6 Kg1 draw.

No 16856 V. Maksaev & B. Sidorov
2nd special honourable mention

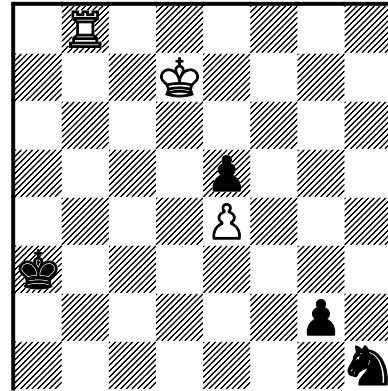


e4f8 4470.50 9/5 Win

No 16856 V. Maksaev & B. Sidorov. 1.Bd6+? Kf7, and 2.gxf5 Qxf5+ 3.Kxd4 Qxd5+ 4.Kc3 Qb3+, or 2.dxe6+ Qxe6+ 3.Kxd4 Qxd6 4.Kc3 Rc5+ 5.Kb3 Qd5+ 6.Kb2 Qd4+. Meanwhile Black threatens mate in 1 by bBxd5, and also a win with Rxd5+. So: 1.Qb4+ Kg8/i 2.Qxd4 Rf4+ 3.Bxf4 Bf5+ 4.gxf5 Qe7+/ii 5.Be5/iii Qh4+ 6.f4 Qh1+ 7.Rf3 Qe1+ 8.Qe3 Qb4+ 9.d4 Qb1+ 10.Qd3 Qe1+ 11.Qe2/iv Qxe2+ 12.Re3, and Qc2+ 13.Kf3, or Qg2+ 13.Kd3, when Black has at most one more valid check.
i) Kg7 2.Qxd4. Or Kf7 2.dxe6+ Qxe6+ 3.Kxd4 Rd5+ 4.Kc3 Qxe3 5.Qf4+.

- ii) Well, does Black have a perpetual check or not?
- iii) 5.Qe5(?) Qb4+ 6.Qd4 Qe7+ is a 'loss of time' dual.
- iv) Clearly this is the study's point.

No 16857 S.I. Tkachenko
special commendation



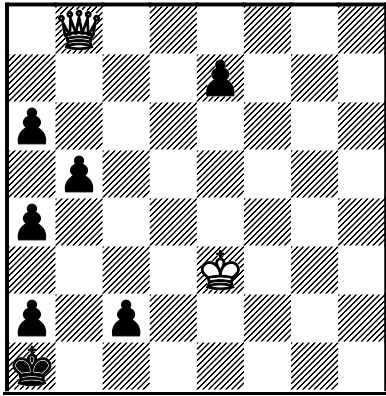
d7a3 0103.12 3/4 Win

- No 16857** Sergei I. Tkachenko (Ukraine).
1.Rg8 Sf2 2.Rg3+ Kb4/i 3.Rxg2 Sxe4/ii 4.Rg4 Kc5 5.Rxe4 Kd5 6.Re3(Re2)/iii e4 7.Re1 Ke5 8.Ke7zz wins.
i) Kb2 3.Rxg2 Kc3 4.Rxf2 wins.
ii) Sd3 4.Kd6 Kc4 5.Rg3 wins.
iii) 6.Re1? e4 7.Ke7 Ke5zz draw.

Shakhmatnaya poezia 2006

Award *Shakhmatnaya poezia* 41 (3/2007). Judge: Oleg Pervakov (Moscow)

No 16858 V. Vinichenko
prize



e3a1 1000.06 2/7 Draw

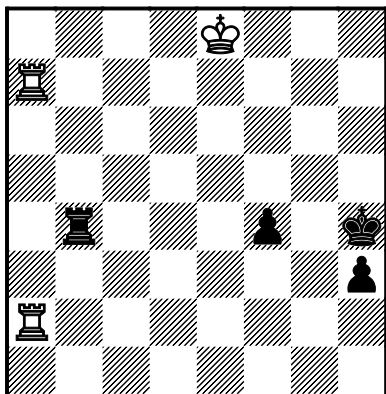
No 16858 Vladimir Ivanovich Vinichenko (Russia). 1.Kd2 Kb1 2.Qc8 a1S 3.Qf5 b4 4.Qf1+ Kb2 5.Qc1+ Ka2 6.Qe1/i b3 7.Qe6 a3 8.Kc1 a5 9.Kd2 Kb1 10.Qe1+ Kb2 11.Qe5+ Ka2 12.Qe6, with:

– Kb1 13.Qe1+ positional draw, or
– or a4 13.Kc1 and stalemate.

i) “Somehow White must rein in bP’s advance while not losing sight of eP’s threats: 6.Qh1? b3 7.Qc6 (Qd5,e5;) Kb2 8.Qc3+ Kb1 9.Qd3 b2, when White is helpless.”

“The originality of combining positional draw with black stalemate based on auto-confinement of the promoted bS is good. So sad that the composer can no longer delight us with his first class studies...”

No 16859 Iu. Akobia
1st honourable mention



e8h4 0500.02 3/4 Win

No 16859 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.R7a3? Kg4 2.Rf2 Rb8+ 3.Kf7 Rh8 4.Rh2 f3 draw. 1.Rh7+ Kg3/i 2.Rg7+ Kh4/ii 3.Rg6/iii Rb5/iv 4.Rf2/v Rg5 5.Rxf4+/vi Kg3 6.gRf6/vii h2 7.Rf1 Kg2 8.R6f2+ Kh3/viii 9.Rh1/ix Rg2 10.Rf8 wins.

i) Kg4 2.Kd8 f3 3.Rg7+ Kf4 4.Kc7 Rc4+ 5.Kb7 Rb4+ 6.Ka7 Rb5 7.Ra4+ wins.

ii) Kf3 3.Ra3+ Ke2 4.Re7+ Kf2 5.Rxh3 f3 6.Rh5 Rf4 7.Ra7 Kg2 8.Rg5+ Kf1 9.Ra1+ Ke2 10.Re5+ Kf2 11.Ke7 wins.

iii) 3.Rh7+? would only draw, as (vi) will show. More thematic: 3.Kd8? Rb5 4.Rf2 Rg5 5.Rxf4+ Kg3 6.gRf7 Rg8+ (h2? Rf1) 7.Ke7 Rg7 draw.

iv) Rb3 4.Ra4 Kh5 5.Rf6 f3 6.fRf4 Kg5 7.Rg4+ Kf5 8.Rh4 Kg5 9.hRd4 Rb5 10.Rg4+ Kf6 11.Ra6+ Kf5 12.Rg3 h2 13.Rxf3+ Kg4 14.Rf1 wins. MG observes that this line is suspect: 5...h2 6.Ra5+ Kg4 7.Rg6+ Kf3 8.Rh5 Rb2 9.Rh3+ Ke4 10.Re6 Kf5 11.Reh6 Rf2 drawing. He thinks that 4.Rf2 Kh5 5.Rg1 Rg3 6.Rgf1 is better.

v) 4.Kf7? Rg5 5.Rf6 Kg3 6.Ke6 Rh5 7.Ra3+ (Rg6+; Kf3) Kg2 8.Rxf4 h2 9.Rb4 Rh6+ 10.Ke7 Rh7+ 11.Kd6 Rh6+ 12.Kc7 Rh7+ 13.Kb8 Rh8+ 14.Ka7 Ra8+ 15.Kxa8 h1Q, is a draw.

vi) 5.Rf6 is a minor dual, as after 5...Kg3 6.R2f4 we’re in the intended solution (MG).

vii) “Had White chosen 3.Rh7+? then wR would now stand on f7, allowing Black to draw by a pin: 6...Rg8+ 7.Ke7 Rg7.”

viii) Kg3 9.Ra2 Rh5 10.Rh1 wins.

ix) But not 9.Re1? Rg1 10.Re3+ Rg3 11.Re1 Rg1 positional draw.

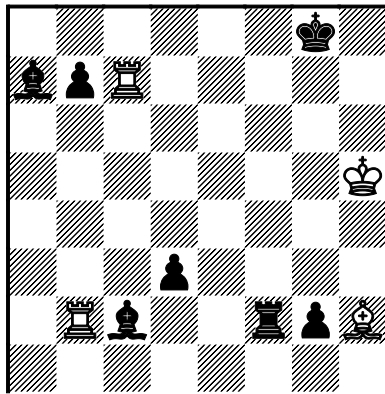
“Subtle. 3.Rg6!! is great. It might have been prizeworthy had the ultra-complexity of the justificatory lines not got in the way, in the judge’s view.”

AJR: Do **EG** readers feel, as I do, that a clear(er) distinction needs to be made, in these

days of the computer ruling all, between artistic and justificatory (to establish soundness) lines of play? HH agrees, but adds that this goes for all studies.

This was something that the late Czech GM Jindrich Fritz took trouble to do in laying out the solutions to his own studies, in his collected studies.

No 16860 V. Vinichenko
2nd honourable mention



h5g8 0570.03 4/7 Draw

No 16860 Vladimir Ivanovich Vinichenko (Russia). 1.Rb5? g1Q 2.Bxg1 d2 3.Rg5+ Kf8 4.Rd7 d1Q+ 5.Rxd1 Bxd1+ 6.Kg6 Ra2 wins. 1.bRxb7 g1Q/i 2.Bxg1 d2 3.Rg7+/ii Kh8/iii 4.gRd7 d1Q+ 5.Rxd1 Bxd1+ 6.Kh4/iv Rf4+ 7.Kg3/v Rg4+ 8.Kh3 Bxg1 9.Rh7+ Kg8 10.Rh8+ Kf7 11.Rf8+ Kg6 12.Rf1/vi Be2 13.Re1 Bf3 14.Re6+ Kh5/vii 15.Rh6+ Kg5 16.Rg6+ Kf4 17.Rf6+ Ke4 18.Rxf3 Kxf3 stalemate.

i) d2 2.Rg7+ Kh8 3.Be5 Rf5+ 4.Kh6 Rxe5 5.Rb8+ Bxb8 6.Rg8+ Kxg8 stalemate.

ii) The Zwischenschach is important: 3.Rd7? d1Q+ 4.Rxd1 Bxd1+ 5.Kh4 Rf4+ 6.Kg3 Rg4+ 7.Kh3 Bxg1 8.Rb8+, for now Black has Kh7 9.Rh8+ Kg6 10.Rg8+ Kf5 11.Rf8+ Ke4 12.Rf1 Be2 13.Re1 Kf3 14.Rxe2 Rg8 winning.

iii) Kf8 4.gRd7 d1Q+ 5.Rxd1 Bxd1+ 6.Kh4 Rf4+ 7.Kg5 Rg4+ 8.Kf6 draw.

iv) 6.Kg6? Bc2+, not Rg2+? 7.Kh6 Bxg1 8.Rh7+ Kg8 9.Rg7+ Rxg7 stalemate.

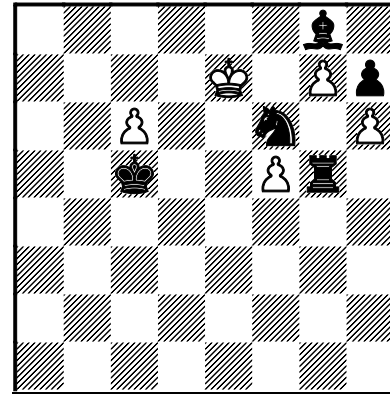
v) 7.Kg5? Rg4+ 8.Kh6 Bxg1 9.Rh7+ Kg8 10.Rg7+ Kf8 wins.

vi) 12.Rf6+? Kh5 13.Rh6+ Kg5 wins.

vii) Kg7 15.Re7+ Kg8 16.Re8+ Kh7 17.Rh8+ draw.

“Interesting logic, with broad-brush play.”

No 16861 A. Sochnev
3rd honourable mention



e7c5 0333.41 5/5 Draw

No 16861 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg). 1.Kxf6? Rh5 2.c7 Rxh6+ 3.Ke7 Rc6 4.Kd7 Kd5. 1.c7 Sd5+ 2.Kf8 Sxc7 3.Kxg8, with:

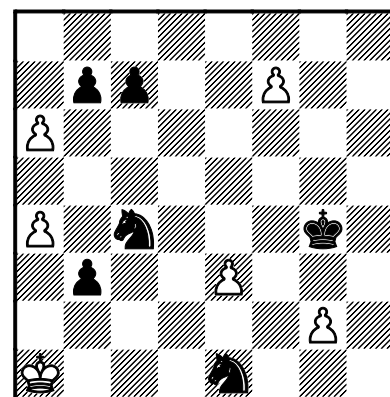
– Sd5 4.Kxh7 Sf6+ 5.Kh8 Rh5 6.g8S/i Sxg8 7.Kxg8 Rxh6 8.Kg7 Rh1 9.f6 Rg1+ 10.Kf8 Kd6 11.f7 Ke6 12.Ke8 Ra1 13.f8S+ drawing, or

– Se8 4.Kxh7 Kd6 5.Kh8 Sxg7 6.hxg7 Rh5+ 7.Kg8 Ke7 8.f6+ Kxf6 9.Kxf8 Ra5 10.g8S+ likewise, and an ‘echo-underpromotion’.

i) 6.g8Q? Rxh6+ 7.Kg7 Sxg8 wins.

“Underpromoting to wS twice is a favourite theme of Sochnev’s, and here there is a third to enjoy.”

No 16862 V. Kalashnikov
1st commendation



a1g4 0006.53 6/6 Draw

No 16862 Valery Kalashnikov (Ekaterinburg). 1.f8Q Sc2+ 2.Kb1 S2a3+ 3.Qxa3 Sxa3+

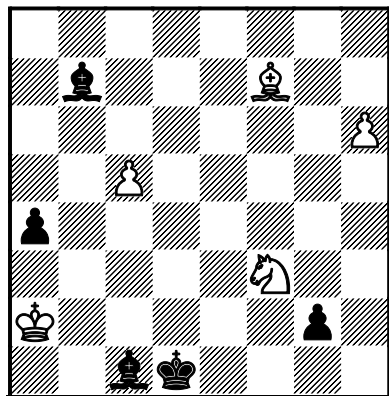
4.Kb2 Sc4+ 5.Kxb3 Sa5+ 6.Kb4 bxa6 7.Kxa5 c5 8.e4/i Kf4 9.g3+/ii Kg5 10.e5 Kf5 11.g4+ Kxe5 12.g5 Ke6 13.g6 draw.

i) "After the intro it's time to take stock. White's aim is to take bPa6 and advance his own aP. But not at once: 8.Kxa6? c4 9.a5 c3 10.Kb7 c2 11.a6 c1Q 12.a7 Qb2+ 13.Kc8 Qa3 14.Kb7 Qb4+ 15.Kc8 Qa5 16.Kb7 Qb5+ 17.Kc8 Qa6 18.Kb8 Qb6+ 19.Ka8 Qc7 20.e4 Qc8 mate. No, White must dump his pawn 'ballast'. With this in mind there is the thematic try: 8.g3? Kxg3 9.e4 Kf4 10.e5 Kxe5 11.Kxa6 c4 12.a5 c3 13.Kb7 c2 14.a6 c1Q 15.a7 Qh1+ 16.Kb8 Qh8+ 17.Kb7 Qg7+ 18.Kb8 Kd6 19.a8Q Qc7 mate."

ii) Accuracy to the last! 9.e5? Kxe5 10.g4 Kf6 11.g5+ Kg6 12.Kxa6 c4 13.a5 c3 14.Kb7 c2 15.a6 c1Q 16.a7 Qb2+ 17.Kc8 Qa3 18.Kb7 Qb4+ 19.Kc8 Qa5 20.Kb7 Qb5+ 21.Kc8 Qa6+ 22.Kb8 Qb6+ 23.Ka8 Kf5 24.g6 Qc7 25.g7 Qc8 mate.

"Another piece of 'logic', this time in connection with the Vorplan."

No 16863 A. Sochnev
2nd commendation



a2d1 0071.22 5/5 Draw

No 16863 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg). 1.h7? Bxf3 2.Bh5 Bxh5 3.h8Q Bf7+ 4.Kb1 g1Q wins. However, without wPc5 White can create stalemate chances. 1.c6 Bxc6 2.h7 Bxf3

3.Bh5/i Bxh5 4.h8Q Bf7+ 5.Kb1 Bg6+/ii 6.Ka2 g1Q/iii 7.Qd4+ Kc2 8.Qc4+/iv Kd2 9.Qd4+ Qxd4 stalemate (the third).

i) 3.h8Q? g1Q 4.Qd8+ Ke2 5.Bc4+ Ke1 6.Qa5+ Bd2 7.Qxa4 Bc3 8.Qe8+ Kd2 9.Qd8+ Bd4 wins.

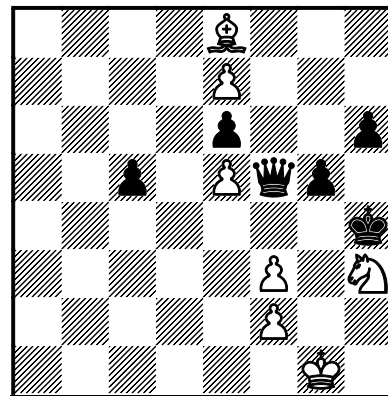
ii) g1Q 6.Qd4+ Qxd4 stalemate. Or Be3 6.Qd4+ Bxd4 stalemate again.

iii) Be3 7.Qa1+ Kd2 8.Qb2+ Bc2 9.Qb4+ Kd1 10.Qd6+ Ke2 11.Qh2 Kf1 12.Qh3 draw.

iv) 8.Qxg1? Bf7+ 9.Ka1 Bb2 mate.

"A stalemate study with look-ahead. If only there were more play by Black."

No 16864 P. Rossi & M. Campioli
3rd commendation



g1h4 3011.44 7/6 Win

No 16864 Pietro Rossi & Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Bc6? Kxh3 2.Kf1 Qb1+ perpetual check. 1.Bh5 Kxh5 2.e8Q+ Kh4 3.Qh8 h5 4.Qf6/i Qxh3 5.Qf7/ii c4 6.Qf8 c3/iii 7.Qb4+ g4 8.Qe7 mate.

i) 4.Qh6? c4 5.Sf4 gxf4 6.Qf6+ Qxf6 7.exf6 c3 8.f7 c2 9.f8Q c1Q+ 10.Kg2 Kg5 draw.

ii) 5.Qf8? c4 puts White in zugzwang: 6.Qa3 Qf5 7.Kg2 Qxe5 8.Qc1 g4 wins.

iii) This time it's Black who is in zugzwang: Qf5 7.Qxf5 exf5 8.Kf1, winning.

"Nothing elaborate, but nice enough."

Aleksandr Skrinnik 50 JT 2006

Judge: Aleksandr Skrinnik (Ukraine).

Type: thematic, formal international

Theme: on any move of the solution White refuses to capture bQ or bR, but stalemate avoidance is not admissible

15 entries by 12 composers from seven countries. Many motives were used to avoid capture of the thematic piece, ranging from an interpolated check to outright non-capture. The whole spectrum was embraced. Anonymous diagrams were passed on 12x2006 to the judge. All correct entries are in the award.

Judge's report: "I'd like to emphasise that the tourney was thematic and that I paid attention to the beauty and originality of the thematic motivation. In several studies the theme is accomplished but nothing more. The realisation of the theme as well as soundness is a necessary condition.

Since the tourney was anonymous the 'burden' of names and achievements was not imposed on me. The sole question to the organiser was if nos. 9 and 10 were by the same composer. It's different with no. 5, where there are many anticipations. In the mid-1970s the Kurgan Aleksandr Maksimovskikh was active with this theme. He, by the way, is my full namesake, as were A.P. Kazantsev and A.P. Kuznetsov. They set us good examples – my sincere greetings to Aleksandr Petrovich!

The tourney showed that the theme is interesting and quite contemporary. One may hope that new interesting studies will appear in the future.

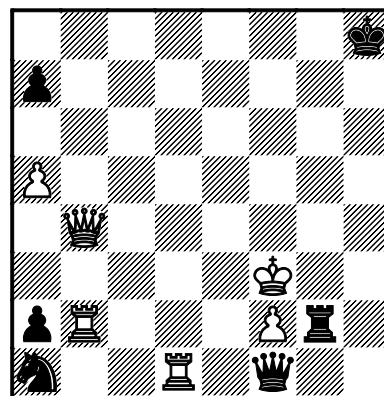
Aleksandr Skrinnik

Krivoi Rog, November 2006"

No 16865 Richard Becker (USA) (D7, p12).
 1...Rxf2+ (Qxd1+; Kxg2) 2.Ke3/i Sc2+/ii
 3.Rxc2 Rf3+ 4.Ke4 Rf4+ 5.Ke5 Rf5+/iii
 6.Ke6 Rf6+ 7.Ke7 Rf7+ 8.Ke8 a1Q 9.Rxa1/iv
 Qxa1 10.Rh2+/v Kg8 11.Rg2+ Kh8 12.Rg6/vi
 a6/vii 13.Rg5zz/viii Qf6 14.Qh4+ Rh7
 15.Rg8+ Kxg8 16.Qxf6 wins.

No 16865 R. Becker

1st prize



f3h8 4503.22 6/6 BTM, Win

- i) Thematic refusal: 2.Rxf2? Qxd1+ 3.Kg2/ix Qd5+ 4.Kg1 Qg5+ 5.Kf1 Qc1+ 6.Ke2 Qc2+ 7.Ke3 Qc1+ 8.Ke2 Qc2+ drawn.
- ii) Rf3+ 3.Ke4 Rf4+ 4.Ke5 Rxb4/x 5.Rh2+ Kg7 6.Rxf1.
- iii) Rxb4 6.Rxf1 Rb1 7.Rh2+ Kg7 8.Rg2+ Kh6 9.Rf6+ wins.
- iv) 9.Rxf1? Qxf1 10.Rh2+ Kg8 11.Qg4+ Rg7 draw.
- v) Thematic: 10.Kxf7? Qg7+ 11.Ke8/xi Qg6+ 12.Kd8 Qd3+/xii 13.Kc7 Qxc2+ 14.Kb7 Kh7 (Kg7) 15.Kxa7 Kh6 16.Kb8 (a6,Qc7+;) Qh2+ 17.Kb7 Qg2+ 18.Kc7 (Ka6, Qa8+;) Qc2+ 19.Kb7/xiii Qg2+ 20.Kb6 Qg6+ 21.Kb5 Qe8+ – drawn by EGTB.
- vi) 12.Rg5? a6zz 13.Rh5+ Kg8 14.Rg5+ Kh8 15.Qg4/xiv Rg7 16.Qh4+/xv Rh7 17.Qf4 Qe1+ 18.Re5 Qg1 19.Qf6+ Qg7.
- vii) Qe5+ 13.Kxf7 Qf5+ 14.Rf6 wins.
- viii) 13.Kxf7? Qg7+ 14.Rxg7 stalemate. 13.Qc5? Qb2 14.Qd6 Qc1(Qa1) 15.Qxa6

Rf8+ 16.Kxf8 Qg7+ 17.Ke8 Qxg6+ 18.Qxg6 stalemate.

ix) Thematic: 3.Kg3 Qg1+ 4.Rg2 Qe3+, and 5.Kh4 Qh6+, or 5.Kg4 Qe6+, or 5.Kh2 Qh6+ draw.

x) Rf5+ 5.Ke6 Rf6+ 6.Ke7 Rf7+ 7.Ke8 wins.

xi) 11.Ke6 Qg6+ 12.Kd5 Qf5+/xvi 13.Kd4 Qxc2 14.Qb8+ Kg7 15.Qxa7+ Kf6 draw.

xii) Thematic inversion: 12...Qxc2? 13.Qd4+ Kh7 14.Qxa7+ Kg6 15.Qd4 Qf5 16.Qd6+ Kh5 17.a6 wins.

xiii) 19.Kd7 Qf5+ 20.Kc6Qc8+ draw.

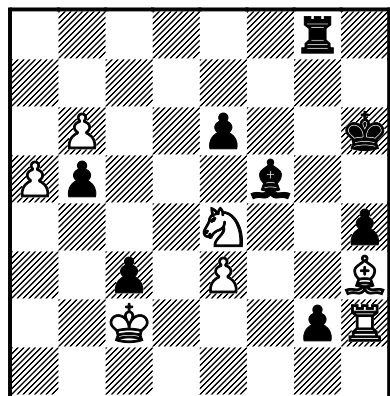
xiv) 15.Qc4 Rf8+ 16.Kxf8 Qf6+ (Qg7+) draw. 15.Qc5 (Qd6) Qf6 draw. 15.Kxf7 Qg7+ 16.Rxg7 stalemate.

xv) 16.Qh3+ Rh7 17.Qe6 Qa4+ draw.

xvi) Thematic inversion: 12...Qxc2? 13.Qb8+ Kg7 14.Qxa7+ Kf6 15.Qc5 Qg2+ 16.Kd6 wins (EGTB).

“Inner tension is present throughout the solution. Mutual Q and R ‘refusals’, reci-zugs, stalemates. A splendid modern study.”

No 16866 H. Enserink
2nd prize



c2h6 0441.35 7/8 Win

No 16866 Henk Enserink (Netherlands) (D10, p16). 1.Bxg2 Rxg2+ 2.Kxc3/i Rxh2 3.b7 Rc2+ 4.Kd4/ii Rc8/iii 5.Sf2/iv b4 6.a6/v b3/vi 7.Sg4+/vii Bxg4/viii 8.a7/ix b2 9.b8Q/x wins.

i) Thematic: 2.Rxg2? Bxe4+ 3.Kxc3 Bxg2 4.a6 h3 5.b7 h2 6.b8Q h1Q.

ii) 4.Kd3 Rc4 5.b8Q Bxe4+ 6.Kd2 Bc6 7.a6 Ra4 8.Qb6 Ra2+ 9.Kd3 Bd5 10.Qxb5 h3 11.Qb4 Kh5. Thematic: 4.Kxc2? Bxe4+ 5.Kd2 Bxb7.

iii) Rc4+ 5.Ke5 Rxe4+ 6.Kf6 Rxe3 7.b8Q Rg3 8.a6/xi Rg6+ 9.Ke5 Bh3 10.a7 Bg2 11.Kf4 Kg7 12.a8Q Bxa8 13.Qxa8 Rf6+ 14.Kg5 Rf5+ 15.Kxh4 Kf7 16.Qa3 Rf4+ 17.Kg3 Rf5 18.Qd6 Rd5 19.Qc7+ Kf6 20.Kf3 Rh5 21.Qd8+ Kf7 22.Qd6 Rd5 23.Qc7+ Kf6 24.Qb8 Ke7 25.Ke4 Kd7 26.Qa7+ Ke8 27.Qc7 Kf8.

iv) 5.a6? Rd8+ 6.Ke5/xii Bxe4 7.Kxe4 h3 8.Kf3 Rg8. 5.bxc8Q? e5+ 6.Kxe5 Bxc8 7.Kd4 h3 8.Sf2 h2. Thematic: 5.bxc8Q? e5+ 6.Kxe5 Bxc8.

v) Thematic: 6.bxc8Q? e5+ 7.Kc4 Bxc8.

vi) Rd8+ 7.Kc4 b3 8.Kxb3 Rb8 9.Ka3.

vii) Thematic: 7.bxc8Q? e5+ 8.Kc3 Bxc8 9.a7 Bb7 10.Kxb3 Kg5 11.Kb4 Kf6 12.Kb5.

viii) Kg5 8.a7 b2 9.bxc8Q e5+ 10.Sxe5 Bxc8 11.a8Q b1Q 12.Qxc8 Qd1+ 13.Sd3 Qa4+ 14.Qc4 Qxc4+/xiii 15.Kxc4 h3 16.Sf2 h2 17.Kd4 Kf5.

ix) Thematic: 8.bxc8Q? e5 9.Kxe5 Bxc8.

x) Thematic: 9.bxc8Q? e5+ 10.Kxe5 Bxc8 11.a8Q b1Q 12.Qxc8 but no win.

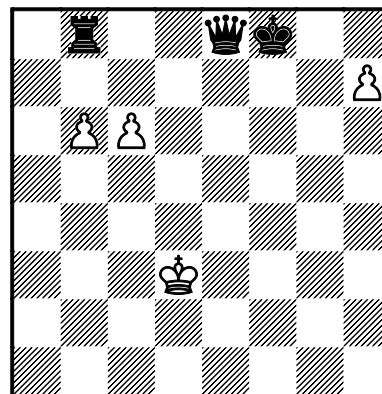
xi) 8.Qh8+ Bh7 9.a6 Rf3+ 10.Kxe6 Re3+ 11.Kd7 Rf3 12.Kc7 Rf7+ 13.Kb6 Kg5 14.a7.

xii) 6.Sd6 Rxd6+ 7.Ke5 Rb6 8.a7 Rxb7 9.a8Q Rf7.

xiii) Qa7+ 15.Ke4 Qh7+ 16.Kf3 Qh5+ 17.Kf2 Kf6 18.Qd4+ Ke7 19.Qe5+.

“As between D9 and D10 preference goes to the latter. The thematic motif is repeated, but on different moves.”

No 16867 L. Topko
3rd prize



d3f8 3300.30 4/3 Win

No 16867 Leonid Topko (Ukraine) (D1, p6).
 1.d8Q+ Ke7 2.Qe5+/i Kf7/ii 3.Qxe8+ Kxe8
 4.c7 Rd8+ 5.Ke4/iii Kd7 (Rc8; b7) 6.cxd8Q+
 Kxd8 7.Kd5 Kd7 8.Kc5 Kc8 9.Kc6 wins.

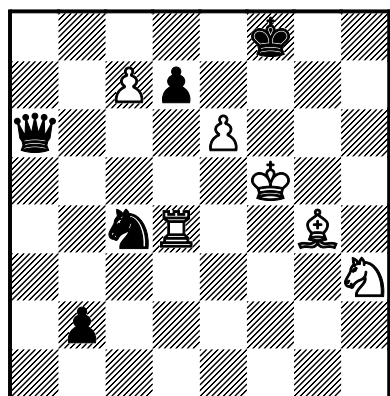
i) Thematic: 2.Qxe8+? Rxe8.

ii) Kf8; meets the same reply. It suits Black if both bK and bR are on the e-file after recapture, and it suits White if only one of them is. In the first case Black has Kd7; available, and bR does not lose a tempo to attack by wP.

iii) Thematic: 5.cxd8Q+? Kxd8. 5.Kc4? Rc8 saves the day.

“The almost ideal combination of form and content: double temporary piece refusal in a miniature. 1.h8R? is a piquant try. With this in mind 5.cxd8Q(R) is a small dual.”

No 16868 S. Didukh
 1st honourable mention



f5f8 3114.22 6/5 Draw

No 16868 Sergei Didukh (Ukraine) (D14, p21). 1.exd7? b1Q+, when Black mates. 1.Kf6 b1Q (Sd6; Rxd6) 2.c8Q+ Qxc8 3.e7+ Kg8 4.Be6+ dxe6/i 5.Rg4+/ii Kh8 6.Rh4+ Qh7 7.Sg5/iii Qxh4/iv 8.e8Q+ Qxe8 ‘ideal’ pin-stalemate.

i) Kh8 5.Rh4+ Qh7 6.Rxh7+ Kxh7 7.Sg5+ Kh6 8.Sf7+ Kh5 9.Bxc4 draw.

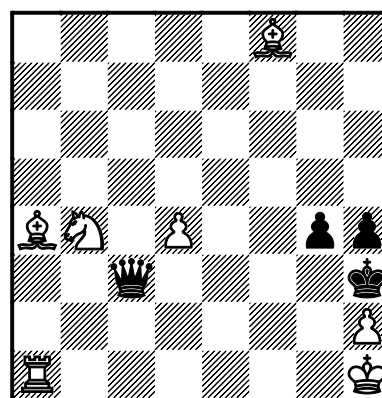
ii) 5.Rd8+? Kh7 6.Sg6+ Kh6.

iii) Thematic: 7.Rxh7+? Kxh7 wins.

iv) Kg8 8.Rxh7 Sd6 9.Rg7+ draw.

“The spared bQ takes an active part in the picturesque finale. But only White plays, and bSc4 is artificial.”

No 16869 S. Didukh
 2nd honourable mention



h1h3 3121.22 7/4 Draw

No 16869 Sergei Didukh (Ukraine) (D15, p22). 1.Rf1 Qc7/i 2.Bd6 (Rf3+?) Qxd6 3.Rf3+/ii gxf3 4.Bd7+ Qxd7 5.Sd3 Kg4 6.Se5+ Kh3 7.Sd3/iii, with either Qxd4/iv 8.Sf2+ Qxf2 stalemate, or Kg4 8.Se5+ Kh3 9.Sd3, “positional draw by perpetual threat of mate or perpetual check”. The award mentions ‘inversion’, which may refer to White being stalemated as opposed to (unthematic!) avoidance of a black stalemate, but we are not sure.

i) Qxd4 2.Bc6 Qd2 3.Bd6 Qxd6 4.Bg2 mate.

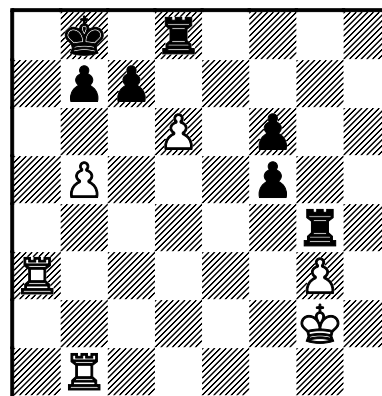
ii) 3.Rf2? Qxd4 4.Kg1 g3, when Black wins.

iii) Thematic: 7.Sxd7? f2.

iv) Kg4 8.Se5+ Kh3 9.Sd3.

“The thematic motif is original, but Black is passive.”

No 16870 I. Aliev
 3rd honourable mention



g2b8 0800.34 6/7 Win

No 16870 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan) (D18, p14). 1.Ra8+ Kxa8 2.dxc7 Rxc3+ 3.Kf2/i Rg2+ 4.Kf3/ii Rg3+ 5.Kf4/iii Rg4+ 6.Kxf5

Rg5+ 7.Kxf6 Rf8+ 8.Kxg5 b6 9.Rd1 wins, not 9.Rc1? Kb7 draw.

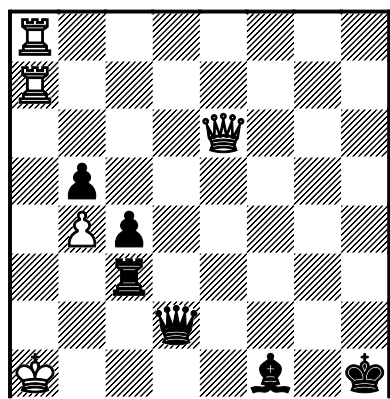
i) Thematic: 3.Kxg3? Rg8+. 4.Kf4 b6 5.Rc1 Kb7 draw.

ii) Thematic: 4.Kxg2? Rg8+.

iii) Thematic: 5.Kxg3? Rg8+.

“Triple capture refusal follows the unexpected sacrifice in such a natural setting, though the motivation is not that new.”

No 16871 Iu. Akobia & R. Becker
1st commendation



a1h1 4530.12 5/6 Win

No 16871 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA) (D6, p11). 1.Rh7+ Kg1 2.Rg7+ Bg2 3.Rxg2+ Qxg2/i 4.Qe1+ Kh2 5.Ra7zz Qg6 6.Qd2+/ii Qg2 7.Qd6+/iii Qg3 8.Rh7+ Kg2 9.Qd2+ Kg1 10.Qd4+/iv Kf1 11.Rh1+ Ke2 12.Qd1+ Ke3 13.Re1+ winning.

i) Kxg2 4.Qe4+ Kh2 5.Qe5+ Kg2 6.Rg8+ wins.

ii) Thematic: 6.Qxc3? Qg1+ draws.

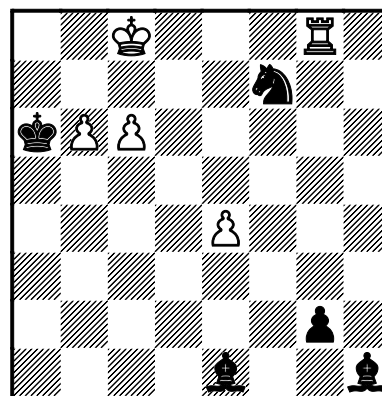
iii) 7.Qf4+ Kh1 8.Rh7+ Rh3 9.Qc1+ Kh2 draw.

iv) 10.Qd1+? Kf2 11.Rf7+ Rf3 draw.

“Good choice between 1.Rh7+ and 1.Rh8+. Reciprocal after 5.Ra7! But the thematic motive doesn't impress and the finale is 'blurred'.”

No 16872 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia) (D3, p8). 1.c7? Kxb6 2.Kb8 Sd6 3.e5 Bb4 4.Rg6 Ka5 5.exd6 Bxd6 draw. 1.b7 Sd6+ 2.Kc7/i Sxb7/ii 3.cxb7 Ba5+ 4.Kc6/iii g1Q 5.Ra8+/iv Qa7 6.b8S mate with bQ pinned.

No 16872 V. Kalashnikov
2nd commendation



c8a6 0163.31 5/5 Win

i) 2.Kd7? Sxb7 3.c7 g1Q 4.Rxg1 Bxe4 5.Rg5 Sd6 6.Kxd6 Bb7.

ii) Se8+ 3.Kd8 Sf6 4.c7 Ba5 5.b8Q Sxg8 6.Kd7 Se7 7.Qb1 Bb6 8.Kxe7 Bxc7 9.Kd7 wins.

iii) 4.Kc8? g1Q 5.Rxg1 Bxe4 6.b8Q/v Bf5 mate.

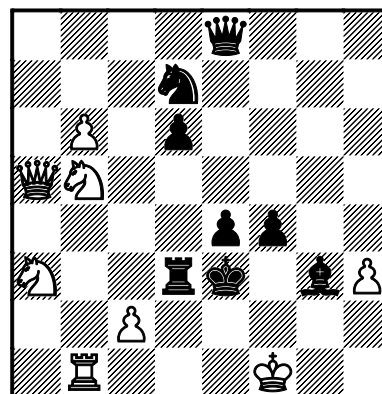
iv) Thematic: 5.Rxg1? Bxe4+.

v) 6.b8S+ Ka7 7.Rg7+/vi Ka8 8.Rf7 Bg2 9.Rh7 Be4 draw.

vi) 7.Sd7? Bb7 mate. 7.Rg5 Bb7+ 8.Kd7 Kxb8 9.Rxa5 draw.

“Lively play by Black leads to a nice pin-mate.”

No 16873 D. Keith
3rd commendation



f1e3 4435.33 8/8 BTM, Win

No 16873 Daniel Keith (France) (D11, p18). 1...Qh8 2.Re1+ Kf3 3.Sd4+ Rxd4 4.Re3+ Kxe3 5.Qc3+ Rd3 6.Sc4+/i Kf3 7.Sd2+/ii Ke3 8.Qxh8/iii wins. The continuation might be: Rd4 9.b7 Rb4 and 10.Qc3 mate, not 10.b8Q?

Sb3+. Or Kxd2 9.cxd3 e3 10.Qb2+ Kd1 11.Qe2+ Kc1 12.b7 wins, not 12.Qg2? Sxb6 13.h4 Sa4 14.h5 Sc3 15.h6 Bh4 16.h7 Bf6 draw.

i) Thematic: 6.Qxh8? Rd1+ 7.Kg2 Rd2+ 8.Kf1 Rd1+ 9.Kg2.

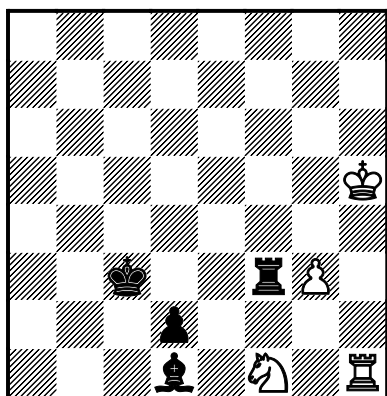
ii) Thematic: 7.Qxh8? Rd1 mate.

iii) "8...Rd1+??? impossible!"

iv) 10.Qh5? Sxb6 11.Qa5+ Kxd3.

"Satisfying, but lacking in sharp combinative points."

No 16874 R. Becker & C.B. Jones
special prize



h5c3 0431.11 4/4 Draw

No 16874 Richard Becker & C. Bill Jones (USA) (D12, p19). 1.Kg5? Rf5+. 1.g4? Rf6(Rf7). 1.Kh6? Rf6+ 2.Kg7 Rf7+ 3.Kg8 Rh7 wins. So 1.Kh4 Rf6 (Rf5;g4) 2.Rg1 Rh6+ 3.Kg5 Rg6+ 4.Kh4/i Rh6+ (Rg4+; Kh3) 5.Kg5 Rh5+ 6.Kf6 (Kf4, Rf5+;) Rf5+ 7.Kg7/ii Rg5+ 8.Kh6/iii Rh5+ 9.Kg7 Rg5+ 10.Kh6 Rg6+ 11.Kh7/iv Bc2 12.Sxd2 Rxc3+ 13.Se4+ Bxe4+ 14.Kh8 Rxc1 stalemate.

i) Thematic: 4.Kxc6? 4.Kf4? Rg4+ 5.Ke5 (Ke3) Re4+ wins.

ii) Thematic: 7.Kxf5? 7.Ke7? Re5+ 8.Kf6 Re1 wins.

iii) 8.Kh8? Rg8+ wins. 8.Kf8? Rg8+ 9.Ke7 Re8+ wins. 8.Kf6? Rg6+ 9.Ke5(Ke7) Re6+ wins.

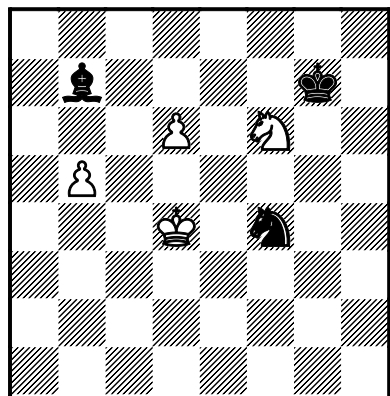
iv) Thematic: 11.Kxc6?

"This refusal motif has long been known (eg Baday, 1st prize in L. Kubbel MT of *Vech. Leningrad* 1967). And the finale after 13.Se4+ was often seen over a century of time. However, the synthesis of ideas deserves recognition."

XII Vecherny Peterburg International 2003-2004

Yuri Fokin (columnist)

No 16875 S. Zakharov
1st prize



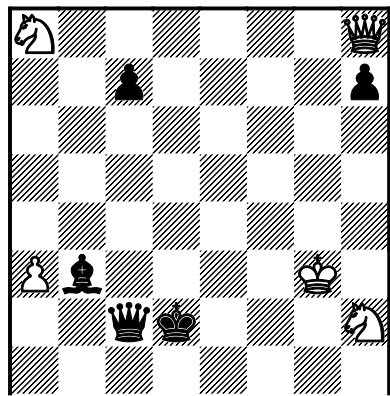
d4g7 0034.20 4/3 Win

No 16875 Sergei Zakharov (St Petersburg).
1.d7? Se6+ 2.Ke5 Kf7 draws. So: 1.Sh5+
Sxh5 2.d7 Sf4 3.Ke5 Sg6+ 4.Kf5/i Bc8
5.dxc8S Kf7 6.b6 Sf8 7.b7 Sd7 8.Sb6 Sb8
9.Ke5 Ke7 10.Kd5 Sa6 11.Kc6, when White
wins.

i) 4.Kd6? Sh8 5.Kc7 Sf7 6.Kxb7 Kf6 7.Kc7
Ke7 8.b6 Sd8 9.Kc8 Sf7 10.b7 Sd6+ draws.

“Both sides sacrifice, the try is interesting,
there’s underpromotion – and all in a minia-
ture.”

No 16876 V. Razumenko
2nd prize



g3d2 4032.12 5/5 Win

No 16876 Viktor Razumenko (St Petersburg).
1.Sf3+ Kd1/i 2.Qd4+ Kc1 3.Qa1+ Qb1 4.Sd2/
ii Qxa1 5.Sxb3+ Kb2/iii 6.Sxa1 Kxa3 7.Sc2+

Kb3 8.Se3 h5/iv 9.Kh4/v c5 10.Sb6. and this
time Troitzky is on the side of the angels.

i) Ke3 2.Qd4+ Ke2 3.Qe5+ Kf1 4.Qe1 mate.

ii) 4.Qxb1+? Kxb1 5.Sd2+ Kb2 6.Sxb3 Kxb3
is OK, but not 6...Kxa3 7.Sd2, with a Troitzky
win.

iii) Kb1 6.Sxa1 Kxa1 7.a4 is simple.

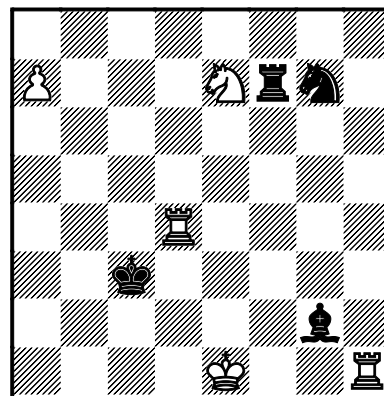
iv) To provoke 9.Sxc7? h4+ 10.Kh3, after
which there is no Troitzky win.

v) “Reserving h3 for a knight.”

“Interesting wS convolutions with tries and
a win per Troitzky.”

MG observes that White can also win by
playing 2.Qa1+ Qc1 3.Qd4+ Kc2 4.Sxc7 Kb1
5.Sb5. As a consequence the main line should
be shortened by one move: 1.Sf3+ Kc1
2.Qa1+ etc.

No 16877 Iu. Akobia
3rd prize



e1c3 0534.10 5/4 Win

No 16877 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Sd5+
Bxd5/i 2.Rxd5 Rxa7/ii 3.0-0/iii Se6 4.Rc1+
Kb2 5.Rc6 Sf4 6.Rb5+ Ka1 7.Rc1+ Ka2
8.Rc2+ Ka1 9.Rb3 Rd7 10.Rc8 wins.

i) If: Kxd4 2.Rh4+, is a necessary zwischen-
schach before queening.

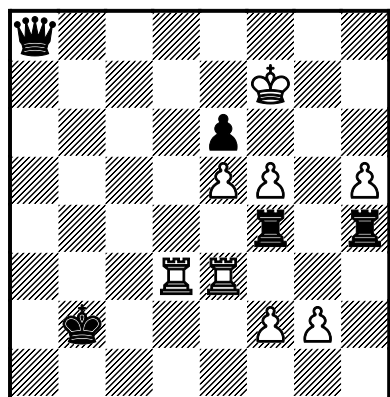
ii) Three captures in four plies yield a 6-man
pawnless position in which castling is, by con-
vention, legal. Although EGTBs do not handle

castling, this does not mean that study-sound castling moves cannot be 'mined'. (AJR)

iii) White's compensation for the drawing material lies in bK being open to 'hand-over-fist' wRR-checking, and bS not in contact. (AJR)

"After an introduction with its surprise white castling the desired aim is attained."

No 16878 E. Kudelich & B. Sidorov
honourable mention

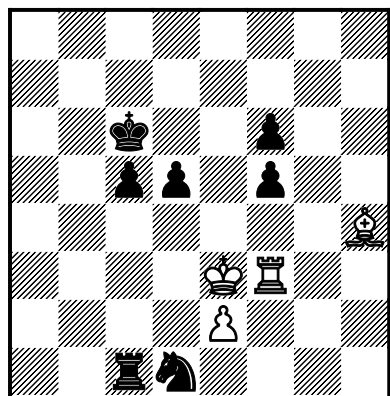


f7b2 3800.51 8/5 Draw

No 16878 Eduard Kudelich (Tyumen region) & Boris Sidorov (Krasnodar region). 1.Rb3+ Kc2 2.bRc3+ Kd2 3.cRd3+ Kc2 4.Rc3+ Kb2 5.Rb3+ Ka2 6.Ra3+ Qxa3 7.Rxa3+ Kxa3 8.g3 Rxf5+ 9.Kxe6 hRxh5 10.g4 Rxe5+ 11.Kf6 hRg5/i 12.f4, and it's drawn.

i) Kb4 12.f4, avoiding 12.gxh5 Rxh5 13.f4 Kc5 14.Ke6 Rh1 15.f5 Kc6 16.Ke7 Re1+, winning for Black.

No 16879 G. Mzhavanadze
honourable mention



e3c6 0413.14 4/7 Draw

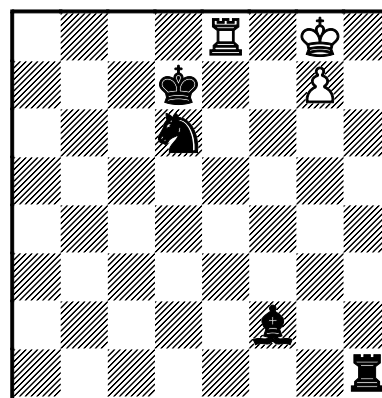
No 16879 G. Mzhavanadze (Georgia). 1.Kd2 Rb1 2.Bxf6 d4 3.Rxf5 Se3 4.Rxc5+ Kxc5 5.Bxd4+ Kxd4 stalemate.

"Stalemate terminus via two sacrifices."

An honourable mention by Leonid Topko (Ukraine) h2h5 3500.01 g4a8g3g5.d4 3/4=. 1.Rh8+ Kg6 2.Rg8+ Kf5 3.Rxg5+ Kxg5/i 4.Kg2/ii d3 5.Kf1/iii K- 6.Rxg4 Kxg4 7.Ke1 Kf3 8.Kd2 Ke4 9.Kd1 draw was cooked by MG: 1.Rxg4 (EGTB) or 2.Rxg4 Rxg4 3.Rd8 (EGTB).

A further honourable mention by R. Khatyamov (Sverdlovsk region) was cooked by HH: g6g4 0200.03 f1h6.f3g3h4 3/4 Win. Intended solution: 1.Rh5 f2 2.Rg5+ Kh3 3.Kh5 g2/i 4.Rxf2 g1Q 5.Rf3+ Qg3 6.gRf5 Kh2 7.Rxg3 hxg3 8.Kg4 g2 9.Rh5+ Kg1 10.Kg3 Kf1 11.Rf5+ wins. But also 2.Rf5 g2 3.R1xf2 g1Q 3.Rg5+ Kh3 5.Rf3+ Qg3 6.Rfxg3+ hxg3 7.Kf5 g2 8.Kf4 h2 9.Rh5+ Kg1 10.Kg3 wins.

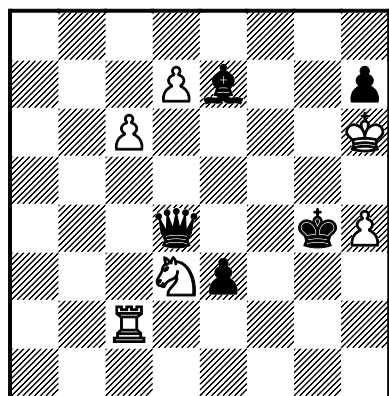
No 16880 F. Bertoli
commendation



g8d7 0433.10 3/4 Draw

No 16880 Franco Bertoli (Italy). 1.Re7+ Kc6 2.Kf8 Bc5 3.g8Q Rf1+ 4.Rf7 Sxf7+ 5.Kg7 Bd4+ 6.Kh7 Rh1+ 7.Kg6 Rg1+ 8.Kxf7 Rxg8 9.Kxg8 draw.

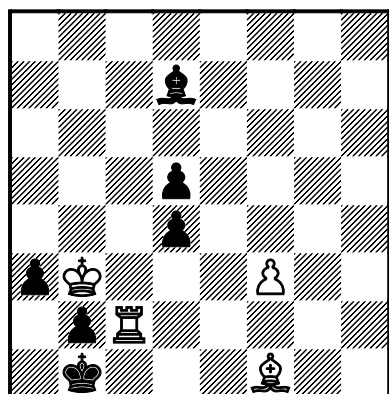
No 16881 V. Kondratev
commendation



h6g4 3131.32 6/5 Draw

No 16881 V. Kondratev (Ivanov region).
1.Rc4 Qxc4 2.Se5+ Kg3 3.Sxc4 e2 4.c7 e1Q
5.d8Q Qe6+ 6.Kxh7 Qf7+ 7.Kh6 Qf6+ 8.Kh7
Bxd8 9.c8Q Qf7+ 10.Kh6 Bf6 11.Qb8+ Kh3
12.Qc8+ Kxh4 13.Qg4+ Kxg4 14.Se5+ Bxe5
stalemate.

No 16882 M. Pastalaka
commendation

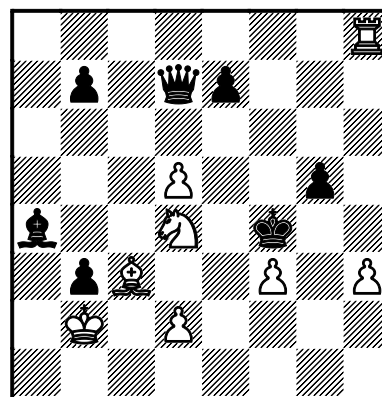


b3b1 0140.14 4/6 Win

No 16882 M. Pastalaka (Ukraine). 1.Bd3
Ba4+ 2.Kxa4, with:

- a2 3.Rc3+ Ka1 4.Ra3 b1Q 5.Bxb1 Kxb1
6.Kb3 a1Q 7.Rxa1+ Kxa1 8.Kc2 wins, or
- Ka1 3.Rf2 a2 4.Ka3 b1Q 5.Rf1 Qxf1 6.Bxf1
Kb1 7.Bd3+ Kc1 8.Kxa2 Kd2 9.Bg6(Bf5)
wins.

No 16883 V. Tolstov
commendation



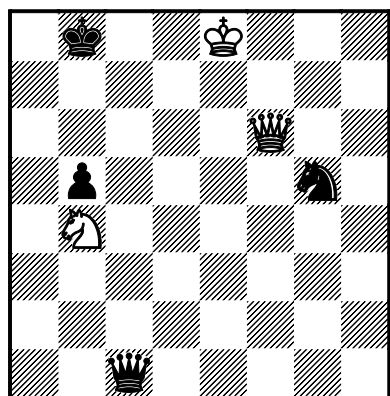
b2f4 3141.44 8/7 Win

No 16883 Viktor Tolstov (St Petersburg).
1.Rd8 Qxh3 (Qxd8; Se6+) 2.Se2+ Kf5 (Kxf3;
Sg1+) 3.Rh8 Qg2/i 4.Rf8+ Kg6 5.Sf4+ gxf4
6.Rg8+ and 7.Rxg2 winning.
i) Qxf3 4.Sd4+. Qf1 4.Sg3+.

Vecherny Peterburg 2005-2006

Judge: Yu. Fokin (St Petersburg); the chess columnist was the judge, with the appropriate FIDE title (for problems, not studies).

No 16884 A. Sochnev
1st prize



e8b8 4004.01 3/4 Win

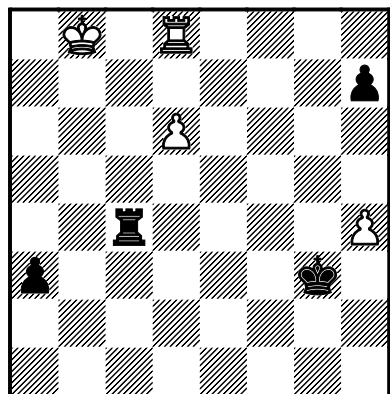
No 16884 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg).

1.Sc6+ Kb7 2.Sd8+ Kc8 3.Qa6+/i Kc7
4.Qa7+ Kd6 5.Qd4+ Kc7 6.Qd7+/ii Kb6
7.Qb7+ Ka5 8.Sc6+ Ka4 9.Qa6+ Kb3
10.Sd4+ Kb2 11.Qxb5+ Ka2 12.Qb3+ Ka1
13.Sc2+ wins, seeing that stalemate is ruled out by the survival of bS on the board.

i) Thematic try: 3.Qf5+? Se6 4.Qxe6+ Kc7
5.Qd7+ Kb6 6.Qb7+ Ka5 7.Sc6+ Ka4 8.Qa6+
Kb3 9.Sd4+ Kb2 10.Qxb5+ Ka2 11.Qb3+ Ka1
12.Sc2+ Qxc2 13.Qxc2 stalemate.

ii) Another thematic try: 6.Qg7+?Sf7 7.Qxf7+
Kb6 8.Qb7+ Ka5 9.Sc6+ Ka4 10.Qa6+.

No 16885 V. & L. Katsnetson
2nd prize



b8g3 0400.22 4/4 Win

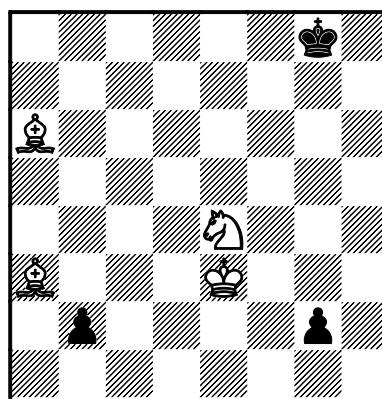
No 16885 Vladimir & Leonard Katsnetson (St Petersburg). 1.d7, with:

– a2 2.Rg8+ Rg4 3.d8Q a1Q 4.Qd3+ Kxh4
5.Qxh7+ Kg3 6.Qd3+ Kh4 7.Qd8+ Kg3
8.Qd6+ Kh3 9.Qh6+ Kg3 10.Qe3+ Kh4
11.Qf2+ Kh3 12.Qf3+ Kh2 13.Qxg4 wins.
or

– Rd4 2.Kc7 a2 3.Ra8 Rc4+ 4.Kd6 Rd4+
5.Ke6 Re4 6.Kf5 Rd4 7.Ra3+ Kxh4 8.Ra4
a1Q 9.d8Q+ wins.

“Material is equal in this R-endgame where White outwits his opponent with promotions to queen.”

No 16886 A. Sochnev
3rd prize



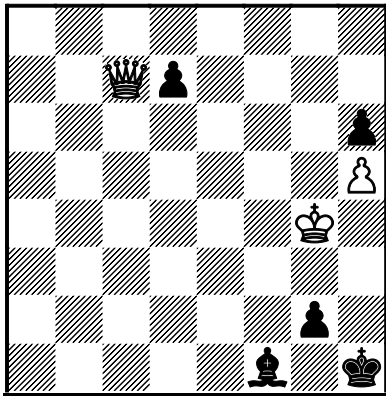
e3g8 0021.02 4/3 Win

No 16886 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg).

1.Bc4+ Kh7 2.Sg5+ Kh6 3.Sf7+ Kh5 4.Be2+
Kh4 5.Be7+ Kg3 6.Bd6+ Kh4 7.Kf2 g1Q+
8.Kxg1 b1Q+ 9.Kh2 Qb8 10.Be5 Qc7 11.Sd6
Kg5 12.Se4+ Kh4 13.Bg3+ wins.

“In a curious tussle, three minor pieces get the better of bQ,”

No 16887 V. Razumenko
special prize



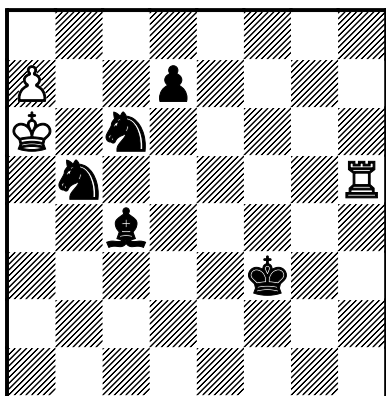
g4h1 1030.13 3/5 Win

No 16887 Viktor Razumenko (St Petersburg). 1.Qb7 Kh2 2.Qb8+ Kh1 3.Qa8 d5 4.Qxd5 Kh2 5.Qe5+ Kh1 6.Qe4 Kh2 7.Qf4+ Kh1 8.Qf3 Be2/i 9.Qxe2 g1Q+ 10.Kf3 (Kh3? Qe3+;) Qg5 11.Qe4 and wins. Yes, he does, because either Black is checkmated or queens are exchanged, when wPh5 – which the reader may have forgotten about – will promote.

i) This card has been up Black's sleeve!

“Black's eventual promotion to queen fails to save him from wQ's peregrinations.”

No 16888 Iu. Akobia & R. Becker
honourable mention



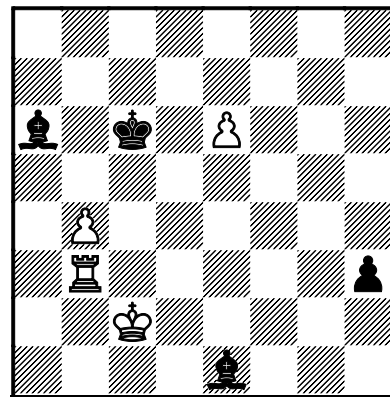
a6f3 0136.11 3/5 Draw

No 16888 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rc5 Be2 2.a8Q Sc7+ 3.Kb7 Sxa8 4.Rd5 Ba6+ 5.Kxa8 Bc8 6.Rd6 Kf4 7.Rf6+ Ke4 8.Rh6 Kd5 9.Rd6+ Ke5 10.Re6+

Kf5 11.Rf6+ Ke4 12.Rh6 Kd4 13.Rd6+ Kc5 14.Rd5+ Kb4 15.Rd2(Rd3) Kc4 16.Rd5 Kb4 17.Rd2(Rd3) Kc4 18.Rd1 Kc5 19.Rd5+ and 19...Kxd5 stalemate, or Kb6 20.Rxd7 Bxd7 stalemate, certainly not 20.Rb5+? Kc7, winning.

“An original positional draw ends in a pair of stalemates.”

No 16889 S. Zakharov & L. Mitrofanov (†)
honourable mention



c2c6 0160.21 4/4 Win

No 16889 Sergei Zakharov & Leopold Mitrofanov (St Petersburg). 1.b5+ Bxb5 2.Rxb5 Bg3/i 3.Rd5 (Rh5? h2/Kd6;) Bd6 4.Rh5 h2 5.Kd3 Bc7 6.Ke4 Kd6 7.Kf5 winning, eg Ke7 8.Rh7+ Ke8 9.Kf6 Bd8+ 10.e7.

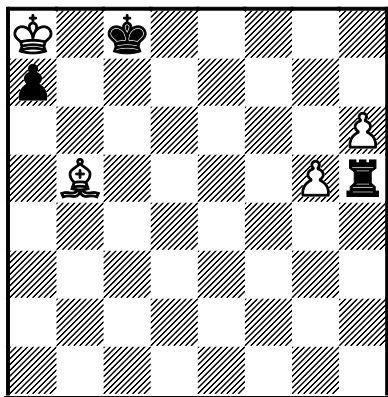
i) Kd6 3.e7 Kxe7 4.Rxe5+ and 5.Rxe1. Or Bh4 3.Rh5 Be7 4.Rxh3 and 5.Re3.

“Correction of a 1976 study in *Bulletin of Central Chess Club*.”

Viktor Razumenko also won a honourable mention. a2h7 0404.44 g2b7e7f1.d3d5f5h5 a4c3d6d7 7/7+. 1.f6 Sd2 2.f7 c2 3.f8S+ Kh6 4.Sg8+ Kxh5 5.Sf6+ Kh4 6.Sg6+ Kh3 7.Sf4+ Kh4 8.Rg4 mate.

But MG cooks: 2.Rg7+ Kh6 3.Sf5+ Kxh5 4.f7 c2 5.Rg1 Rb8 6.Rc1 Rf8 7.Sxd6 Sf3 8.Rxc2 Se5 9.Rf2 Kg6 10.Ka3 Sxf7 11.Rxf7 Rxf7 12.Sxf7 Kxf7 13.Kxa4; or here 5...Sb1 6.Sg3+ Kg6 7.Se4+ Kxf7 8.Sxd6+ Ke7 9.Sxb7 Sc3+ 10.Kb2.

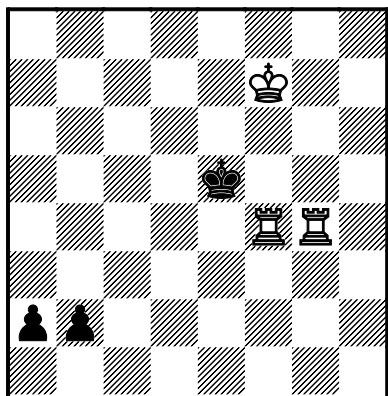
No 16890 L. Katsnelson
commendation



a8c8 0310.21 4/3 Win

No 16890 Leonard Katsnelson (St Petersburg). 1.Be2? Rh4 2.Bd3 Kd7 3.g6 Ke7 4.g7 Kf7 5.Bg6+ Kg8 draw. 1.Be8 Rh4 2.g6 Rxh6 3.g7 a5 4.Ka7 Rh7 5.Bd7+ Kxd7 6.g8Q wins.

No 16891 A. Sochnev
commendation



f7e5 0200.02 3/3 Win

No 16891 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg). 1.Re4+ Kd5/i 2.Rd4+ Ke5/ii 3.gRe4+ Kf5 4.Re7 b1Q 5.eRd7 a1Q 6.R7d5 mate.

i) Kf5 2.gRf4+ Kg5 3.Ke6 b1Q 4.Rg4+ Kh6 5.Rh4+ Kg7 6.eRg4+ Kf8 7.Rh8 mate.

ii) Kc5 3.Rc4+ Kb5/iii 4.Rb4+ Kc5 5.Kc6 b1Q 6.Rc4 mate.

iii) Kd5? 4.Kf6 b1Q 5.Rg4 mate.

A further commendation by M. Mzhanidze (Georgia) d4a5 0134.01 h3f4b5e8.g7 3/4+. 1.Kc5 Ka6 2.Ra3+ Kb7 3.Ra7+ Kb8 4.Rf7 Sc7 5.Kc6 Sxb5 6.Rf8+ Ka7 7.Rxf4 Sc3 8.Rc4 Se2 9.Re4 Sc1 10.Ra4+ Kb8 11.Rb4+ Kc8 12.Rc4 Sb3(Sd3) 13.Kd6(Kb6)+ Kd8(Kb8) 14.Rb4(Rd4) S- 15.Rb8(Rd8) mate was cooked by MG: 2.Sd4 Kb7 3.Se6 Be5(d6+) 4.Kd5, or here 2...h6 3.Ra3+ Kb7 4.Se6 Bh2 5.Rh3 Bg3 6.Sxg7 (EGTB).

Footnote by AJR: Surely we are not alone in frowning on the presentation of a study variation by employing successive parentheses? We have reproduced it here – cf. main line moves 12-15 – from our source, in order to illustrate this habit, borrowed from problem-dom (where it is acceptable). In a study it is either confusing or ambiguous – with a misprint a third possibility. In the present case ‘symmetry’ is some excuse, but we still click our tongue.

Visa Kivi MT 1991

Definitive published: *Suomen Tehtävänäikat* 1/1992

Judge: John Roycroft (London)

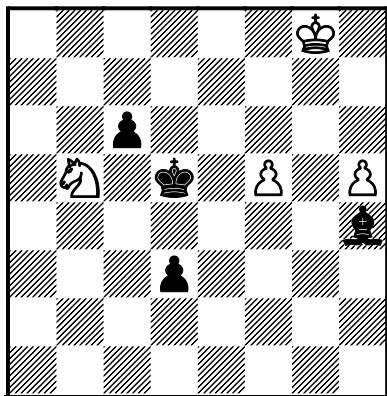
Type: formal national memorial, combined with the traditional composing match Espoo vs. Rest-of-Finland

Theme: active king

Report: after elimination of the provisionally 5th-placed study (by Per Olin), Espoo were the winners by 18 points to 14. Scoring entries (not published) were also received from Pekka Massinen (Helsinki) and Jorma Pitkänen (Lahti).

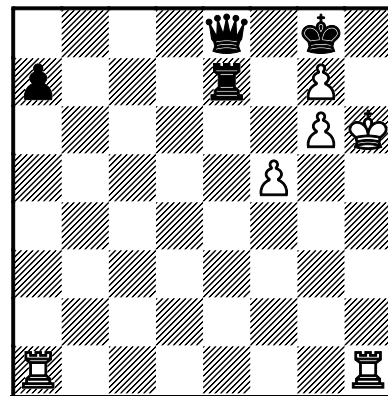
Comments: apparently the publication of his award was not sent to the judge at the time!

No 16892 H. Hurme
1st place (correction)



g8d5 0031.22 4/4 Draw

No 16893 P. Olin
2nd place



h6g8 3500.31 6/4 Win

No 16892 Harri Hurme (Espoo). 1.Sa3 Bg5 2.Kg7/i d2 3.Sb1 Kd6/ii 4.Sxd2 Bxd2 5.f6/iii Bc3 6.Kf7 draw.

i) 2.Kf7? d2 3.Sb1 Ke5 4.Sxd2 Bxd2 5.Kg6 Bc3 6.h6 Kd6 7.f6 Ke6 8.f7 Ke7 9.Kh7 Kf8 wins.

ii) Ke5 4.Sxd2 Bxd2 5.f6 Bh6+ 6.Kxh6 Kxf6 7.Kh7 draw.

iii) 5.Kg6? Ke7 6.f6+ Kf8 7.h6 Kg8 wins.

Note: To eliminate a demolition the composer moved the originally placed wB from e8 to h4.

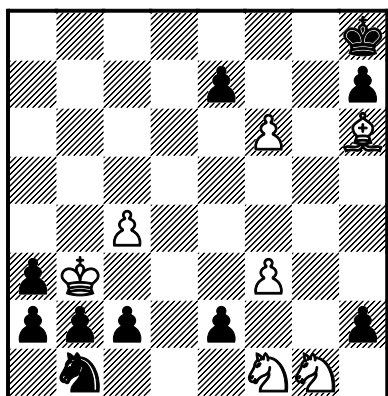
No 16893 Per Olin (Espoo). 1.f6 Rxc7/i 2.f7+/ii Rxf7 3.gxf7+ Qxf7/iii 4.aRg1+ Kh8 (Kf8; Rf1) 5.Kg5+ (Rg2(Rh2)? Qh7+;) Kg7 6.Kh4+ Kh6 7.Kg3+ (Rg4? Qf5+/Qf3;) Kg5 8.Kh2/iv Kh4 9.Rg2 wins, not 9.Rg3? Qf2+ 10.Rg2 Qe3.

i) Re6 2.Re1 Rxe1 3.f7+. Rb7 2.aRe1 Qc6 3.hRf1 a5 4.f7+ Rxf7 5.Rxf7.

ii) 2.fxg7? Qe3+ 3.Kh5 Qe5(Qf3)+.

iii) Kxf7 4.Rxa7+ Kf8 5.Rf1+ Kg8 6.Rg7+ Kh8 7.Rh7+ Kg8 8.Rg1+ Kf8 9.Rh8+ wins.iv) 8.Kh3? Kh5 9.Rg3 Qf2 10.Rh2 Qf1+ 11.hRg2 Qh1+ 12.Rh2 Qf1+ 13.gRg2 Qf3+.

No 16894 K. Valtonen
3rd place

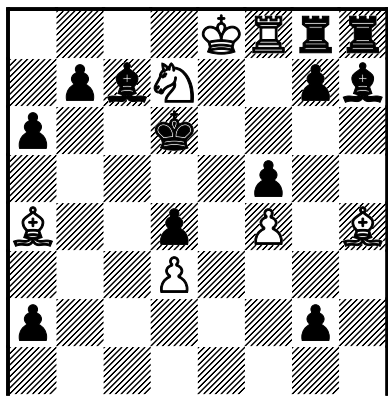


b3h8 0015.38 7/10 Win

No 16894 Kari Valtonen (Tampere). 1.f7, with:

- a1S+ 2.Ka4 Sc3+ 3.Ka5 Sb3+ 4.Kb4 Sd5+ 5.Kxa3 b1S+ 6.Kxb3 c1S+ 7.Kb2 Sd3+ 8.Ka1 hxg1Q 9.f8Q+ Qg8 10.Bg7 mate, or
- c1S+ 2.Kc2 e1S+ 3.Kd1 Sc3+ 4.Kxe1 Sd3+ 5.Kd2 b1S+ 6.Kxd3 hxg1Q 7.f8Q+ wins.

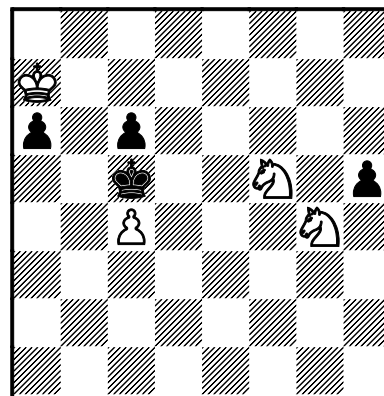
No 16895 R. Heiskanen
4th place



e8d6 0781.27 7/12 Draw

No 16895 Reino Heiskanen (Tervalampi). 1.Be7+ Kd5 2.Sb6+ Bxb6 3.Kd7 a1S 4.Bd1 g1S 5.Bh5 Bg6 6.Bxg6 Rxf8 7.Bf7+ Rxf7 stalemate.

No 16896 B. Breider
6th place



a7c5 0002.13 4/4+.

No 16896 Bruno Breider (Espoo). 1.Se5 a5 2.Ka6 a4/i a4 3.Ka5 a3 4.Ka4 a2 5.Kb3 a1Q 6.Sd7 mate.

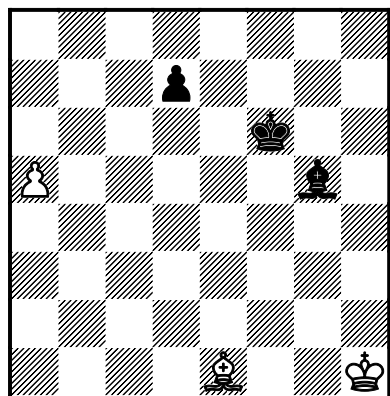
i) Kb4 3.Sxc6+ Kxc4 4.Se5 Kd5 5.Sh4 Ke4 6.Sc4 Kf4 7.Sd2 Kg4 8.dSf3 with a 'Troitzky' win.

Baku 1987-1993 (retrospective)

Many newspapers ceased publication when the USSR collapsed. Consequences were uncompleted tourneys (no awards published) and the disappearance of chess columns. Research to remedy this in Baku was undertaken by the brothers Lutfiar and Bakhtiar Rustamov, and by Elmar Abdullaev, who spent time in the Mirza Fatali Akhundova archive, named after the author of a 19th century poem describing the chessmen's movements.

Bakhtiar Rustamov judged the tourney. The award was published in *Shahmat bestechiliyi* (Bulletin of the Azerbaijan Chess Composition Commission) no.7, xii2007. Twelve studies by 10 composers participated.

No 16897 I. Aliev
prize



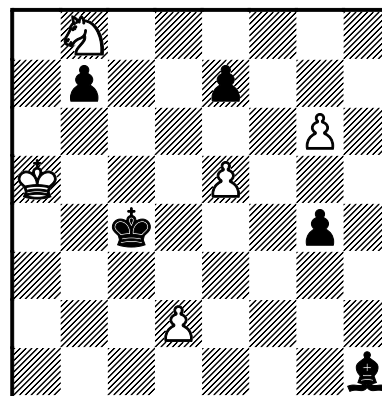
h1f6 0040.11 3/3 Win

No 16897 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan) (*Baku* 16i1993). 1.Bh4, with:

- Bxh4 2.Kg2 Bg5 3.Kf3 Ke6 4.a6 wins, or
- Ke6 2.Bxg5 Kd6 3.Bd8 (a6? Kc7;) Kc6 4.a6 wins.

“Synthesis of the Otten and Duras manoeuvres – in a 'superminiature', with introductory wB sacrifice.” AJR: This is a level-material delight. Try cooking it with 1.a6? or 1.Bf2? or 1.Kg2?

No 16898 G. Huseinov
honourable mention



a5c4 0031.33 5/5 Win

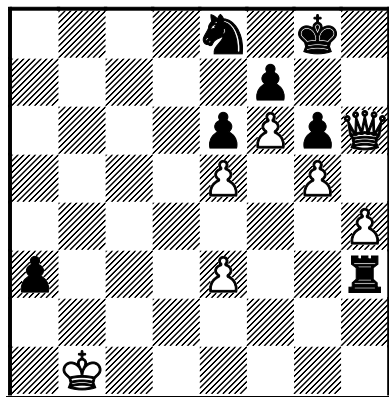
No 16898 G. Huseinov (Barda, Azerbaijan) (*Baku* 21ii1987). 1.Sd7 Be4 2.g7/i Bh7 3.Sf6 exf6 4.e6 g3 5.e7 g2 6.e8Q/ii g1Q 7.Qb5+ Kd4 8.Qb6+ Kd3 9.Qxg1 wins.

i) 2.Sf8? Bxg6 3.Sxg6 Kd4 4.e6 g3 5.Kb6 g2 6.Sf4 g1S 7.Kxb7 Kxe5 8.Kc6 Kxf4 9.Kd7 Sf3 10.Kxe7 Sd4 draw.

ii) We read: “6. g8Q+ comes to the same thing.” HH: only loss of time: 6.g8Q+ Bxg8 2.e8Q g1Q 3.Qb5+.

“Win of bQ on the diagonal, with decent lead-in play.”

No 16899 I. Aliev
commendation



b1g8 1303.54 7/7 Draw

No 16899 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan) (*Baku* 9i1993). 1.Ka1? Rxe3 2.Ka2 Rh3 3.Kb1 Rh2 4.Ka1 a2 wins. 1.Ka2 Rxe3 2.h5 Rh3 3.hxg6 Rxh6 4.gxh6/i Sxf6/ii 5.exf6 fxg6 6.Kxa3 g5 7.Kb4 g4 8.Kc5 g3 9.Kd6/iii g2 10.h7+/iv Kxh7 11.f7 g1Q 12.f8Q Qb6+ 13.Kd7 draws, not 13.Ke5? Qe3+ 14.Kf6 (Kd6,Qa3+;) Qf4+ 15.Ke7 Qxf8+.

i) 4.gxf7+? Kxf7 5.gxh6 Sxf6 6.exf6 Kxf6 7.Kxa3 Kg6 8.Kb4 Kxh6 9.Kc4 Kg5 10.Kd3 Kf4 11.Ke2 Ke4 wins.

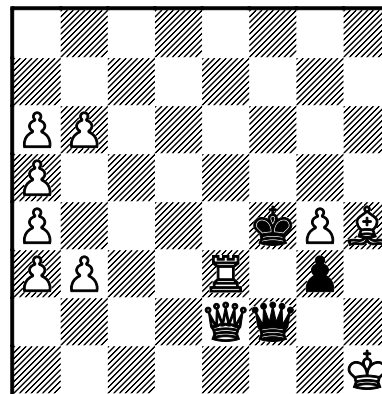
ii) fxg6 5.h7+ Kxh7 6.f7 wins.

iii) Moves 9 and 10 can be inverted.

iv) 10.Ke7? g1Q 11.f7+ Kh7 12.f8Q Qc5+, Black wins.

"In the *Baku* solving contest for 1989 the majority of solvers placed this as the best, when it was published without the first move. It was the composer's first published study."

No 16900 L. Zernov & N. Plaksin
special commendation
dedicated to A. Sarychev



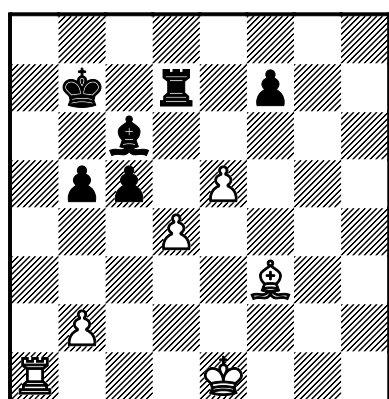
h1f4 4110.71 11/3 Win

No 16900 L. Zernov & N. Plaksin (Russia) (*Baku* 14i1989). The wP formation on the Q-side is in the shape of the letter C, the Cyrillic initial of the dedicatee. The number of captures made before the diagram demonstrates that Black cannot have moved last. so: 1...g2+ 2.Kh2 g1Q+, and mate next.

Chovgan 1992

'Chovgan' was the name of the ancient national equestrian team sport of Azerbaijan, originating some time in the first millennium AD. It was the ancestor of horseback polo. The newspaper adopted the sport's name for its title. In 1992 nine originals were published. A retrospective award was published in *Shahmat bestechiliyi (Bulletin of Azerbaijan Chess Composition Commission)* 7xii2007. [HH: I spotted a case of plagiarism by Raimondas Senkus, a well-known plagiarist at the time and reported it to the judge Ilham Aliev within the confirmation time. The study originally won a prize, but was disqualified in the final award.]

No 16901 K. Letov
honourable mention



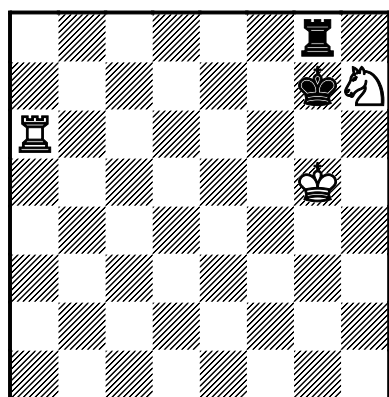
e1b7 0440.33 6/6 Win

No 16901 K. Letov () (viii1992). 1.d5 Bxd5 (Rxd5; Bxd5) 2.0-0-0/i Kc6 3.Rxd5 Rxd5 4.b3 c4 5.b4 Kd7 6.Bxd5 wins.

i) 2.Rd1? Kc6 3.Rxd5 Rxd5 4.b3 c4 5.b4 c3 wins.

"I modified this by prepending the first two plies. It is an excellent adaptation of a text-book combination idea..."

No 16902 S. Radchenko
commendation



g5g7 0401.00 3/2 Win

No 16902 Sergei Radchenko (Russia) (vii1992). 1.Sf6? Rf8 2.Sh5+ Kf7 draw. 1.Ra7+ Kh8 2.Kh6 Rg7/i 3.Ra8+ Rg8 4.Sf8/ii Rg7 5.Sg6 mate.

i) Rb8 3.Sf6 Rb7 4.Ra8+ wins.

ii) Moves of wR on the a-file are waste-of-time duals, e.g. 4.Ra4 Rg4 5.Ra8+ Rg8. But MG plays 4.Ra5 and Black has no way to force White back into the main line (Rg5; Sxg5). If Rg7 5.Sg5.

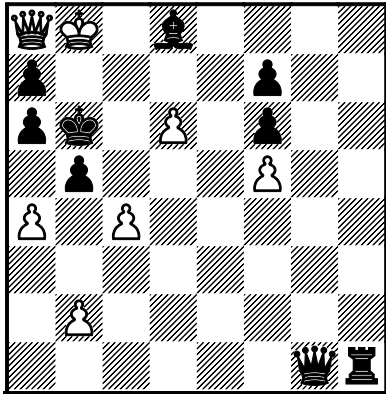
"A likeable malyutka, despite the at first glance boring material: there are four straightforward checkmates and two stalemate tries (on move 4 in (i) and move 3 in the main line)."

HH: R. Senkus, e1g7 0404.11 f6g4e4c5.g6f4 4/4=. Intended: 1.Rf7+ Kxg6 2.Rxf4 Sd3+ 3.Ke2 Sxf4+ 4.Kf3/i Rh4/ii 5.Kg3, with: Sg2 6.Sf2/iii Kf5 7.Kxg2 draw, or Kh5 6.Sf6+ Kg5 7.Se4+ Kh5 8.Sf6+ Kg5 9.Se4+ perpetual check draw. Compare this with Vladimir Bron, 1st/2nd prize *Ceskoslovensky Sach* 1960, a4h3 0404.22 f4d1c2e6. d2f2d3d4 5/5=. 1.Rf3+ Kg2 2.Sxd4 Rxd2 (the initial position of Senkus' piece, with the position turned 90°, and vertically mirrored) 3.Rg3+ etc. Nowadays, with my database and Chess Query Language it is much easier to spot such cases than 15 years ago!

Zvyazda (Belarus) 1992

The award by judge Vladimir Sichov was published in *Zvyazda* 11xi1993. 17 studies by 8 composers participated.

No 16903 E.I. Dvizov
1st prize



b8b6 4330.55 7/9 Draw

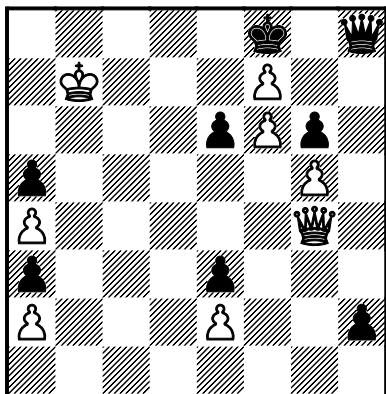
No 16903 Evgeny Dvizov (Zhlobin, Belarus).

1.b4 Bc7+ 2.dxc7, with:

– Rh8+ 3.c8S+ Rxc8+ 4.Kxc8 Qg8+ 5.Kd7 Qxa8 6.c5+ Kb7 7.c6+ Kb8 8.a5 Qxc6+ 9.Kxc6 draw, or

– Qg8+ 3.c8S+ Qxc8 4.Kxc8 Rh8+ 5.Kd7 Rxa8 6.c5+ Kb7 7.c6+ Kb8 8.a5 stalemate.

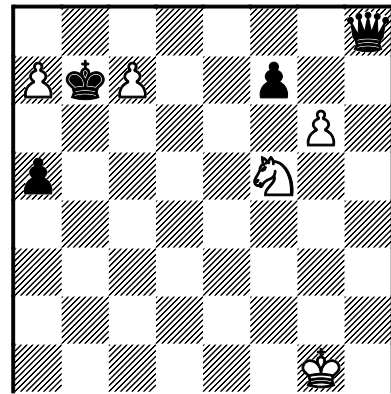
No 16904 E.I. Dvizov
2nd prize



b7f8 4000.66 8/8 Win

No 16904 Evgeny Dvizov (Zhlobin, Belarus).
1.Qxe6 h1Q+ 2.Kb6 Qb7+ 3.Kxb7 Qh1+
4.Qc6 Qd5 5.Kb6 Qe6 6.Kb5 Qd7 7.Kc5 Qc7
8.Kd5 Qb7 9.Kd6 wins.

No 16905 V. Klyukin
3rd prize



g1b7 3001.32 5/4 Win

No 16905 Vladimir Ivanovich Klyukin (Minsk, Belarus). 1.g7 Qa8 2.c8Q+ Kxc8 3.g8Q+ Kb7 4.Sd6+ Kxa7 5.Sb5+ Kb7 6.Qg2+ Kb8 7.Qg3+ Kb7 8.Qf3+ Kb8 9.Qf4+ Kb7 10.Qe4+ Kb8 11.Qe5+ Kb7 12.Qd5+ Kb8 13.Qd8+ Kb7 14.Sd6+ Ka7 15.Qxa5+ Kb8 16.Qb6+ and 17.Qb7 mate.

Ivan Bondar (Gantsevichi, Belarus) won a honourable mention with h1h6 0053.22 a4e7f1g2.g3h3e6h4 5/5 Win:

1.Kg1 Se3 2.Bc5 Bxh3 3.Bxe3+ Kh5 4.Kh2 Bf5 5.g4+, with: Bxg4 6.Be8 mate, or Kxg4 6.Bd1 mate.

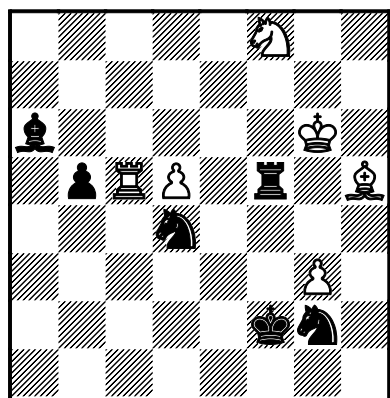
But MG cooks: 3.Kh2 hxg3+ 4.Kxh3 Sf5 (Sd5; Kg3) 5.Bd7 Kg5 6.Bxe6 (EGTB-confirmed).

Die Schwalbe 2003-2004

30 studies by 23 composers from 13 countries competed. Judge: Jarl Ulrichsen (Norway). The provisional award was published in *Die Schwalbe* no. 224, iv2007 and the final award appeared in no. 226, x2007. A study by Gerhard Josten (Germany), originally awarded 3rd Hon. Mention, was eliminated from the award because it was in fact the refutation (published 1927) of a study by Isaev and Levman, 1926.

Translation: HvdH.

No 16906 W. Bruch
1st prize



g6f2 0447.21 6/6 Draw

No 16906 Wieland Bruch (Frankfurt). 1.Se6 Sxe6 2.Rc2+/i Kxg3/ii 3.Rc3+/iii Kf4/iv 4.Rf3+ Ke4 5.Rxf5 Sgf4+/v 6.Kf6, and:

– Sxd5+/vi 7.Kxe6 Bc8+ 8.Kd6 Bxf5 (Kxf5; Kxd5) 9.Kc5 Bd7/vii 10.Bg6+ Ke5 11.Be8 Bxe8 stalemate, or:

– Sc5 7.Bf7/viii Sd7+/ix 8.Kg5 Sh3+/x 9.Kg4/xi Se5+ 10.Rxe5+ Kxe5 11.Kxh3 b4 12.Kg3/xii Bb7/xiii 13.d6 (Kf2? Bxd5;) Kxd6 14.Bb3 (Kf4? Bd5;) Kc5 (Bd5; Bc2) 15.Kf2 Bd5 16.Bc2/xiv Kc4 17.Ke2(Ke1) Kc3 18.Kd1 Bb3 19.Kc1 Bxc2 stalemate.

i) 2.dxe6? Rxc5, or 2.Kxf5? Sxc5.

ii) Kg1 3.dxe6 Re5 4.Re2 Se3 5.Kf6 Re4 6.Rxe3 Rxe3 7.e7 draws.

iii) 3.dxe6? Re5 4.Kf6 Rxh5 5.e7 Rh8 6.Re2 Sf4 7.e8Q Sd5+ 8.Kf5 Bc8+ 9.Kg5 Rxe8 10.Rxe8 Bg4, or 3.Kxf5? Sd4+ wins.

iv) Kh4 4.Kxf5 b4 5.Rc1 Sg7+ 6.Ke5 Sxh5 7.d6.

v) Sd4 6.Rg5 (Rf6? Bc8;) Se3/xv 7.d6 Bc8 8.Rc5 Bd7 9.Rc7 Be8+/xvi 10.Kh6 Sef5+ 11.Kg5 Se6+ 12.Kf6 Sxc7 13.dxc7 Bd7 14.Be8/xvii Sef4+ 6.Kg5 Sxh5 7.d6 Sgf4

8.Rf7/xviii Ke5 9.Ra7 Bc8 10.d7 Bxd7 11.Rxd7, or Sh4+ 6.Kf6 Sxf5 7.dxe6 Sd6 (b4; Bg6) 8.e7 b4 9.Ke6 Sf5 10.Bg6.

vi) Sf8 7.Rxf4+ Kxf4 8.d6, but not here 7.Bf7? Sh7+ 8.Ke7 Kxf5.

vii) Sc3 10.Be8, or Sc7 10.Be2 Bd7 (Se6+; Kb4) 11.Kd6 Be8 12.Kxc7 b4 13.Bd1 draws.

viii) 7.d6? Sd7+ 8.Kg5 Sxh5, or 7.Bg4? Sxd5+ 8.Kf7 Sd3 9.Rg5 Se5+ 10.Kg7 Sxg4 11.Rxg4+ Kd3.

ix) b4 8.d6 Sd7+ 9.Kg5 Sh3+ 10.Kg6 Se5+ 11.Rxe5+ Kxe5 12.d7.

x) Sd3 9.d6 S3c5 10.Bd5+ Kd4 11.Bc6 draws.

xi) 9.Kg6? Se5+ 10.Kf6 Sxf7 wins.

zxii) 12.d6? Kxd6, or 12.Kg2? Bb7 with theoretically won positions.

zxiii) b3 13.d6 b2 14.d7, or Bc4 13.d6, or Bd3 13.Kf2 b3 14.d6 draw.

xxiv) 16.Bd1? Kc4 17.Ke2 Kc3 wins.

xv) Sf4+ 7.Kf7 Bc8 8.Bg4 Sf5 9.Bxf5+ Bxf5 10.d6.

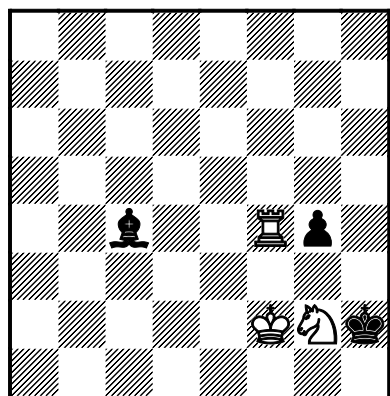
xvi) Sc4 10.Rxd7 Se5+ 11.Kg7 Sxd7 12.Be8 draws.

xvii) But not 14.Bf7? Bc8 15.Be6 Sd6.

xviii) Not 8.d7? Se6+ 9.Kg6 Shf4+ 10.Kf6 Sd8 11.Re5+ Kd4 12.Re8 Sd5+ 13.Kf5 Sb7.

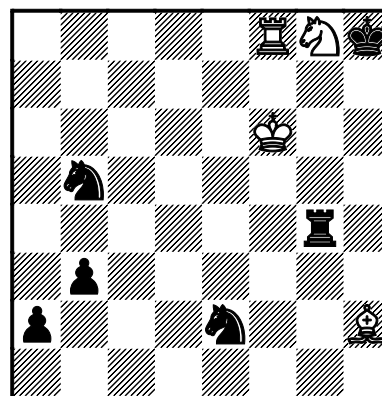
“An interesting and complex study with two stalemate lines. These lines are not harmonically united, so one suspects that the study was composed around the first stalemate and that the second line is a lucky find. However, the first stalemate in the centre of the board after a sharp eleven moves battle is an achievement in itself. I consider the fact that the stalemate position is known from literature of less importance, since there are few positions without earlier examples”.

No 16907 M. Campioli & M. Roxlau
2nd prize



f2h2 0131.01 3/3 BTM, Win

No 16908 A. Rusz
sp.prize



f6h8 0417.02 4/6 Win

No 16907 Marco Campioli (Italy) & Michael Roxlau (Berlin). 1...g3+ 2.Ke1/i Bd5 3.Se3 g2 4.Rh4+ Kg3 5.Rg4+ Kf3 6.Kd2 Kf2 7.Sd1+, and:

– Kf1 8.Rf4+/ii Kg1 9.Sc3/iii Kh2 10.Se2 g1Q 11.Rh4+ Kg2 12.Rg4+ Kf3 13.Rxg1 wins, or:

– Kf3 8.Rg5/iv Be6 9.Sc3 (Se3? Bh3;) Kf2 10.Se2 Bc4 11.Rf5 mate.

i) 2.Ke3? Bd5 3.Se1 g2 4.Sf3+ Bxf3 5.Kxf3 g1S+ draws.

ii) 8.Se3+? Kf2 9.Sd1+ Kf1.

iii) 9.Se3? Kh2 10.Rh4+ Kg3.

iv) 8.Rg7? Be6 9.Sc3 Kf2 10.Se2 Bc4 11.Sf4 g1S, draws. 8.Rg6? Bf7 9.Rg5 is loss of time.

“The result of a fruitful co-operation between two very active composers. The duo have managed to compose a nice mate study with only six pieces. It is a pity that only one main line ends in mate! I consider the BTM stipulation a minus. But the alternative, adding more material to have WTM, is worse”.

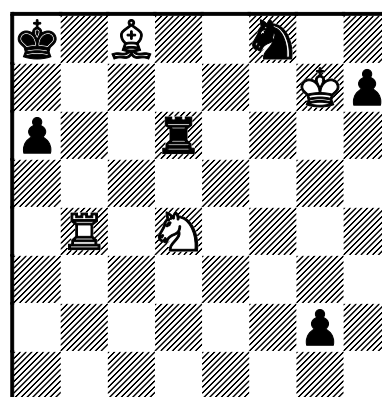
No 16908 Arpad Rusz (Rumania). 1.Se7+ (Be5? Rxc8;) Kh7 2.Rf7+ Kh8 3.Be5 Sbd4 4.Sg6+ Rxc8+ 5.Ke7+/i Rg7 6.Bxc8+ Kg8 7.Kf6 Se6 8.Kxe6 Sf4+ 9.Ke7 Sd5+ 10.Ke8 Sc7+ 11.Rxc7zz a1Q 12.Bxa1 b2 13.Ra7/ii b1Q 14.Rg7+ Kh8 15.Rg1+ Kh7 16.Rxb1 wins.

i) 5.Kxc8+? Kg8 6.Bg7 Se6.

ii) 13.Bxb2? stalemate.

“A complicated and difficult study that has shrewd, surprising play and counterplay. Although White is lost on material, he operates with mate threats that his opponent can prevent only by sacrifices. Objectively I consider this to be the best achievement of the tourney. But the last phase of the play, after Black’s 10th move, is identical to a study by the English Grandmaster John Nunn. Therefore it cannot be ranked in the regular award. But a special prize for the very well-done development of a know idea seems to be appropriate”.

No 16909 I. Vandecasteele
1st honourable mention



g7a8 0414.03 4/6 Win

No 16909 Ignace Vandecasteele (Belgium). 1.Bb7+ Ka7 2.Bxc2 Rxd4 3.Rb7+ (Rxd4? Se6+;) Ka8 4.Kxf8 Rd8+ 5.Kf7/i Rc8 6.Ke6 h5 7.Kd6 h4 8.Bc6 h3 9.Kc5 h2 10.Rh7+ Kb8 11.Kb6/ii h1Q 12.Rb7+/iii Ka8 13.Ra7++ Kb8 14.Ra8 mate.

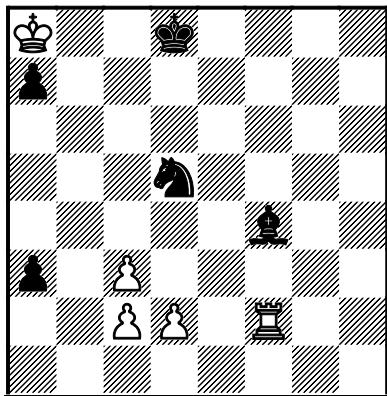
i) An accurate K-move. 5.Ke7? Rg8 6.Rb2+ Ka7 7.Bd5 Rg7+, or 5.Kg7? Rc8 6.Kxh7 a5.

ii) 11.Rxh2? Rf8, but not a5? 12.Rb2+ Ka7 13.Rb7+ Ka6 14.Rb5 Rh8 15.Rb6+ Ka7 16.Rb7+ Ka6 17.Rc7 Rh5+ 18.Bd5 a4 19.Rg7 a3 20.Rg3 Ka7 21.Rg8 wins.

iii) 12.Rxh1? Rf8, or 12.Bxh1? Rc2.

“The senior Belgian Master has given us pleasure for almost half a century with his compositions. This is an open position which is not so easy to solve, as could be expected. After the introduction, Black is entangled: his king cannot escape from the corner, his rook cannot leave c8, and only the black pawns can play. The winning manoeuvre surely requires accuracy, and although not directly new, it is also not common”.

No 16910 E. Zimmer
2nd honourable mention



a8d8 0133.32 5/5 Draw

No 16910 Eligiusz Zimmer (Poland). 1.Rf1/i Bxd2 2.Ra1 Kc8 3.Kxa7/ii Sxc3 4.Ka6/iii a2 5.Ka5 Bc1 6.Kb4 Bb2 7.Rxa2 Sxa2+ 8.Kb3 draws.

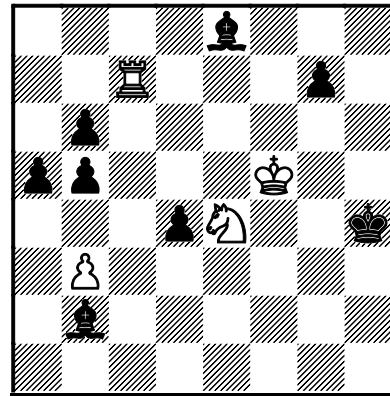
i) 1.Kxa7? a2 2.Rf1 Bxd2 3.Ra1 Sxc3 4.Ka6 Bc1 5.Ka5 Bb2 wins.

ii) 3.Rxa3? Sc7+ 4.Kxa7 Be3 mate.

iii) 4.Rxa3? Sb5+, or 4.Kb6? Be3+ win.

“The fate of the wR is sealed. Sooner or later it must be sacrificed for the black pawns. All depends on the wK that is far away from the main stage. It hurries to assist and arrives just in time to take revenge for the material loss by winning one of the last two black pieces”.

No 16911 G. Bomsdorf
1st commendation



f5h4 0161.15 4/8 Win

No 16911 Gerhard Bomsdorf (Freiburg). 1.Rc2/i Bd7+ 2.Kf4 Ba3/ii 3.Rh2+ Bh3 4.Kf3 g5 5.Sf2 g4+ 6.Sxg4 Bd6 7.Rh1 Bg3 8.Sf6 d3 9.Se4 d2 10.Sxd2 a4/iii 11.Se4/iv Be5 12.Sf2 a3 13.Ke4 (Rxh3+? Kg5;) Bb2 14.Rxh3+/v Kg5 15.Rg3+ Kh4/vi 16.Rd3 Kg5 17.Rd5+ Kg6/viii 18.Rd6+ Kg5 19.Sh3+ Kh4 20.Kf3 Kh5 21.Sf4+ Kg5 22.Ke4 a2 23.Rg6+ wins, e.g. Kh4 24.Kf3 (Sg2+) a1Q 25.Rg4 mate.

i) 1.Rxg7? d3 2.Rg2 Bd7+ 3.Kf4 d2 4.Sxd2 Bc1.

ii) Bc3 3.Rh2+ Bh3 4.Sg5 wins.

iii) Be5 11.Se4 Bd4 12.Sd6.

iv) 11.bxa4? bxa4 12.Se4 Be5.

v) 14.Kf4? Kh5 15.Sd3 Kg6 16.Sxb2 axb2 17.Ke5 Kf7 18.Rb1 Ke7 19.Rxb2 Kd7 draws.

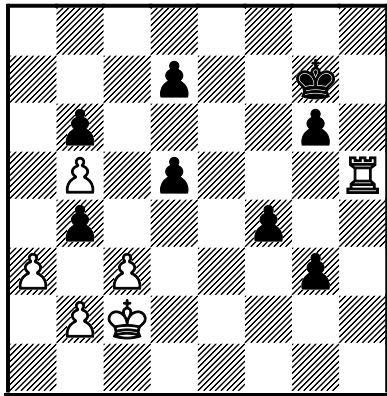
vi) Kf6 16.Sg4+ Ke7 17.Se3 a2 18.Sc2 a1Q 19.Sxa1.

vii) Kh4 18.Kf4 a2 19.Rd3 Kh5 20.Kf5 Kh6 21.Rd7 wins.

“The solution to this study is long and complicated. Because of a dual at move 24, the solution of this mate study needs to be shortened and loses its main point. Despite this I believe that the study deserves a commendation, since the play for a won position is worthwhile”.

No 16912 Hubert Bednorz (Köln) & Michael Roxlau (Berlin). 1.cxb4/i f3/ii 2.Kb3 f2 3.Rh1/iii g2 4.Ka4 f1Q 5.Rxf1 gxf1Q 6.b3 Qc4/iv 7.bxc4 Kf6/v 8.c5 Ke7 9.cxb6 Kd8 10.Ka5 Kc8 11.Ka6 Kb8 12.b7 d4 13.b6 d3 14.b5 d2 15.a4 d1Q 16.a5 and stalemate.

No 16912 H. Bednorz & M. Roxlau
2nd commendation



c2g7 0100.47 6/8 Draw

i) 1.Rxd5? g2 2.Rg5 f3 3.cxb4 f2 4.Rxg2 f1Q, or 1.Rh1? g2, or 1.Rg5? bxa3 2.bxa3 Kf6 3.Rxd5 g2 and Black wins.

ii) gxf5 2.Kb3 g2 3.Ka4 g1Q 4.b3 Qc5 5.bxc5 bxc5 6.b6 f3 7.b7 f2 8.b8Q f1Q 9.Qd6 h4 10.Qxd7+ Qf7 11.Qd6 h3 12.b4 cxb4/vi 13.Qg3+ Qg6 14.Qxh3 bxa3 15.Kxa3, or g2 2.Rg5 f3 3.Kb3 f2 4.Ka4 f1Q 5.b3 Qf8 6.Rxg6+ and perpetual check or stalemate.

iii) 3.Ka4? f1Q 4.b3 Qxb5+ 5.Kxb5 gxf5 wins.

iv) Qxb5+ 7.Kxb5 g5/vii 8.a4 g4 9.a5 bxa5 10.bxa5 d4 11.Kc4 d5+ 12.Kb4 g3 13.a6 g2 14.a7 g1Q 15.a8Q Qe1+ 16.Kc5 Qc3+ 17.Kd6 Qg3+ 18.Kc5 d3 19.Qxd5 Qe3+/viii 20.Kc4 d2 21.Qh5.

v) dxc4 stalemate.

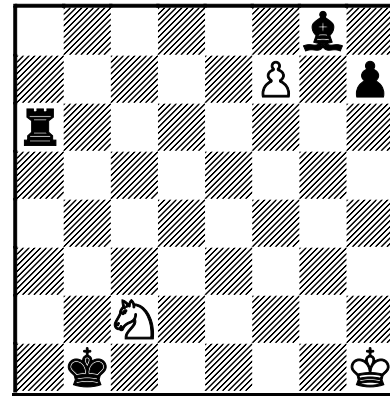
vi) c4 13.Qe5+ Qf6 14.Qc7+ Kh6 15.b5.

vii) Kf6 8.a4 d4 9.Kc4 Ke5 10.a5 b5+ 11.Kxb5 d3 12.a6 d2 13.a7 d1Q 14.a8Q Qxb3 15.Qh8+ Kf5 16.Qd4.

viii) Qf2+ 20.Kc4 Qc2+ 21.Kd4.

“That voluntary incarceration of the white king for stalemate is the theme of this study is not difficult to spot. The composers set themselves a more ambitious goal: they wanted to double the theme. This duplicate stalemate is new, but unfortunately the move sequence is not unique. This pioneer achievement will hopefully inspire other composers to compose a study without move exchanges”.

No 16913 D. Kostadinov & L. Stanchev
3rd commendation



h1b1 0331.11 3/4 Win

No 16913 Diyan Kostadinov & Lachezar Stanchev (Bulgary). 1.f8Q/i Bd5+ 2.Kg1 (Kxh2? Ra2;) Rg6+ 3.Kf2/ii Rg2+ 4.Kf1/iii Rxc2 5.Qb4+ Rb2 6.Qe1+ Kc2 7.Qe2+ Kc1 8.Qe3+ Kd1 9.Qd3+ Rd2 10.Qb1 mate.

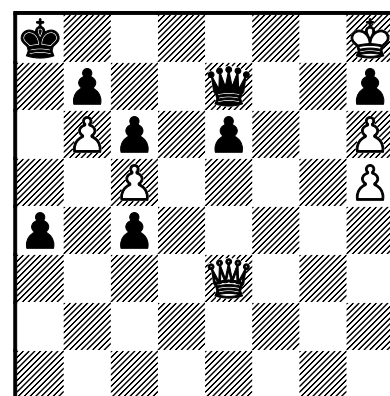
i) 1.fxg8Q? Rh6+ 2.Kg2 Rg6+ 3.Qxg6 hxg6, or 1.Sa3+? Kb2 2.f8Q Bd5+ 3.Kg1 Rxa3 draw.

ii) 3.Kf1? Bc4+ 4.Kf2 Kxc2, or 3.Kh2? Rg2+ 4.Kh3 Rxc2 draw.

iii) 4.Ke1? Rxc2 5.Qb4+ Rb2, or 4.Ke3? Rxc2 5.Qb4+ Kc1 6.Qd4 Ba2 7.Qa1+ Bb1 8.Qa3+ Kd1 draw.

“The original study had duals. In order to correct it, the composers unfortunately had to add a pawn that doesn’t play and only serves to prevent the dual. There are numerous studies with the same material that end in mate, and it speaks for itself that its value increases when all pieces actively take part in the play”.

No 16914 G. Josten
4/6th commendation



h8a8 4000.46 6/8 Win

No 16914 Gerhard Josten (Köln). 1.Qg3/i Qf7 (Qf8+; Kxh7) 2.Qc3 Kb8/ii 3.Qg7 Qe8+ 4.Kxh7 a3/iii 5.Qg3+ e5 6.Qg8 Qxg8+/iv 7.Kxg8 a2 8.h7 a1Q 9.h8Q wins.

i) 1.Qg1? Qf8+ 2.Kxh7 a3.

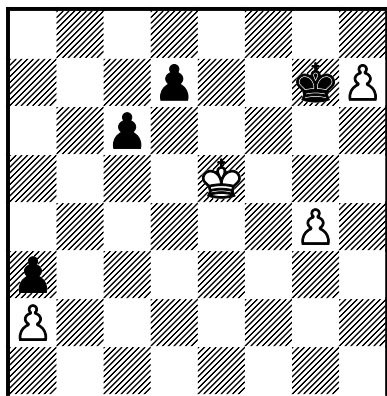
ii) Qf4 3.Kxh7 e5 4.Qa5+ Kb8 5.Qa7+ Kc8 6.Qa8+ Kd7 7.Qxb7+, or Qf8+ 3.Kxh7 Qf5+ 4.Kg8, or Qxh5 3.Qa5+ Kb8 4.Qa7+ Kc8 5.Qa8+ Kd7 6.Qxb7+ Ke8 7.Qxc6+ win.

iii) c3 5.Qe5+ Ka8 6.Qxc3 Qf7+ 7.Qg7 wins.

iv) Qc8 7.Qxc8+ Kxc8 8.Kg8 wins.

“White manoeuvres skilfully. He succeeds in blocking the long diagonal a1-h8 thereby preventing a possible future exchange of new queens forced by a timely exchange of the queens that are present on the board”.

No 16915 I. Aliev
4/6th commendation



e5g7 0000.33 4/4 Draw

No 16915 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Kd6 Kxh7 2.Kxd7/i c5 3.Ke6 c4 4.Kf7 Kh6 5.Kf6 Kh7 6.Kf7 Kh6 7.Kf6 c3 8.g5+ Kh7 9.Kf7 c2 10.g6+ Kh6 11.g7 c1Q 12.g8Q Qc4+ 13.Kf8 Qxg8+ 14.Kxg8 Kg6 15.Kh8 Kf6 16.Kh7 Ke5 17.Kg6 Kd4 18.Kf5 Kc3 19.Ke4 Kb2 20.Kd3 Kxa2 21.Kc2 draws.

i) 2.Kc5? Kg6 3.Kb4 Kg5 4.Kxa3 Kxg4 5.Kb4 Kf5 6.a4 Ke6 7.Kc5 d5 8.Kxc6 d4 9.a5 d3 10.a6 d2 11.a7 d1Q 12.Kb7 Qd7+ 13.Kb8 Kd6 14.a8Q Qc7 mate.

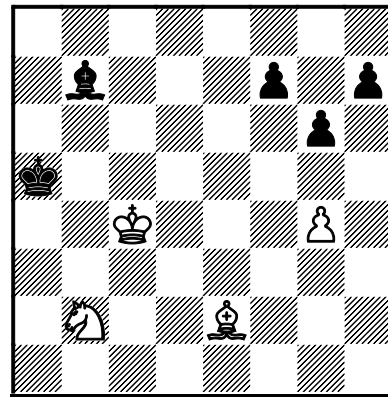
“Combines motifs from Réti 1920 and Sackmann 1923. Not difficult but charming and instructive for practical chess players”.

No 16916 Gerhard Bomsdorf (Freiburg). 1.Kc5 f6 2.Bb5 Bd5 3.Sd3 Bf3/i 4.Sf4 Bb7

5.Se2(Se6) Ba6 6.Bxa6 Kxa6 7.Sf4(Sg3) Ka5 8.Kd6 Kb5 9.Ke6 h5 10.Sxh5 f5 11.g5 wins.

i) h5 4.Sf4 Bb7 5.Sxh5 gxh5 6.gxh5 Be4 7.Kd4 wins.

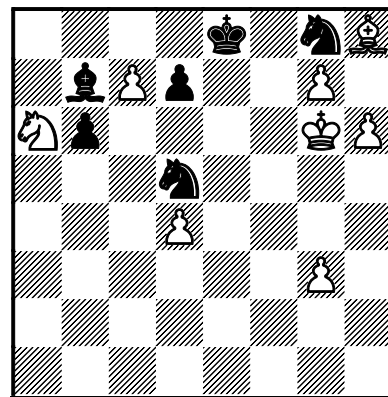
No 16916 G. Bomsdorf
4/6th commendation



c4a5 0041.13 4/5 Win

“White must play cautiously in order to keep his last pawn. Because White works with mate threats, Black never gets an opportunity to exchange the last white pawn”.

No 16917 M. Seidel
7th commendation



g6e8 0047.52 8/6 Win

No 16917 Manfred Seidel (Moers). 1.c8Q+ (h7? Sde7+;) Bxc8 2.Sc7+ Sxc7 3.h7 Se7+ 4.Kh5/i Kf7 5.g8Q+ Sxg8 6.Be5 d6/ii 7.h8Q dxe5 8.Qh7+ wins.

i) 4.Kg5? Kf7 5.g8Q+ Sxg8 6.Be5 Se6+ 7.Kh5 Sg7+ 8.Kg4 d6+ 9.Kf3 dxe5 10.dxe5 Be6 11.h8Q b5 12.Qh4 Bc4 draws.

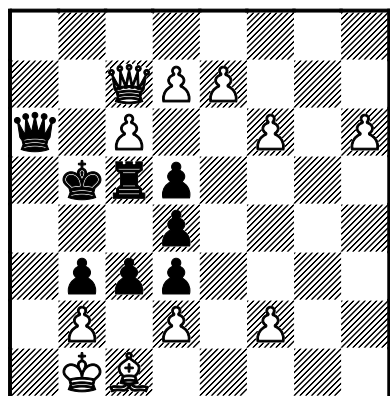
ii) Se8 7.h8Q d6 8.Bf4 wins.

“A practical combinatory study. By multiple sacrifices White distracts the black pieces from the main arena and thereby secures the decisive promotion of one of his pawns”.

Suomen Shakki 2004-2006 and Suomen Tehtäväniekat 2005-2006

The tourneys of the two Finnish magazines were combined. The award was published in both magazines and had a three month confirmation time. Comments were translated by HH from the German text that was added to the Finnish text in *Suomen Tehtäväniekat*. Judge Rainer Staudte (Germany) received 26 studies. He comments that there were a number of technically well constructed works which lacked elaborate ideas. A study by Didukh, originally awarded second prize, was removed from the provisional award by the magazine's editor because the composer himself drew attention to a cook.

No 16918 R. Heiskanen (†)
1st prize



b1b5 4310.85 11/8 Win

No 16918 Reino Heiskanen (Finland). 1.Qb7+ Qxb7 2.cxb7 c2+ 3.Ka1 Kc4 4.d8B/i Rc6 5.b8S Re6/ii 6.e8R/iii Rxe8 7.Be7 Kb5/iv 8.h7 Rh8 9.f7 Rxh7 10.f8Q Rh1 11.Qe8+ wins.

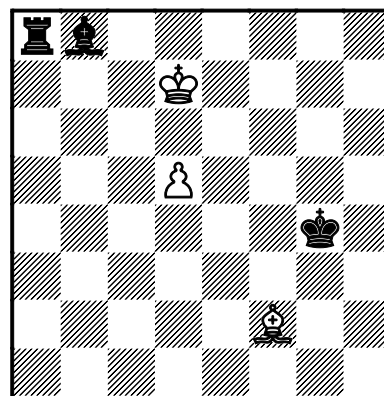
- i) 4.d8Q? Ra5+ 5.Qxa5 stalemate.
- ii) Rxf6 6.e8R Rxh6 7.Re1 wins, but not 6.e8Q? Ra6+ 7.Sxa6 stalemate.
- iii) 6.e8Q? Ra6+ 7.Sxa6 stalemate.
- iv) Rxb8 8.f7 Rb7 9.f8Q, or Rg8 8.Sc6 Rg1 9.Sa5+ Kb5 10.Sxb3 wins.

“The underpromotion is motivated by strong counter play of the tricky bR”.

No 16919 Marko Ylijoki (Finland). 1.d6, and:
– Ra6 2.Bc5 Kf5 3.Kc8 Bxd6/i 4.Kb7 draws,
or:

- Kf5 2.Kc6 Ke6 (Ra6+; Kb7) 3.d7 Be5 4.Bb6/ii Bf6 5.d8Q Bxd8 6.Kb7 draws.
- i) Rc6+ 4.Kxb8 Rxc5 5.d7 draws.
- ii) 4.Bh4? Bf6 5.Bxf6 Kxf6 6.Kc7 Ke7 wins.

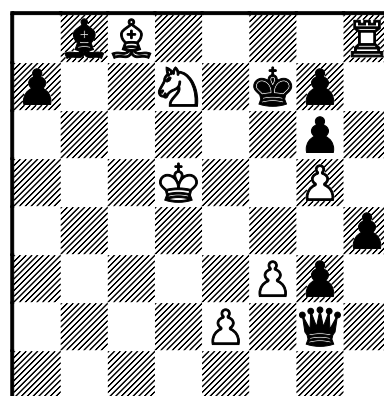
No 16919 M. Ylijoki
2nd prize



d7g4 0340.10 3/3 Draw

“Two echo main lines with the bR tied to the defence of a piece in a minimal setting leaves a pleasant impression”.

No 16920 R. Heiskanen (†)
1st honourable



d5f7 3141.35 7/8 Draw

No 16920 Reino Heiskanen (Finland). 1.Sf8 Qxe2 2.Be6+ Qxe6+ 3.Sxe6 g2 4.Sd8+ Ke7 5.Sc6+ Kd7 (Kf7; Sd8+) 6.Sxb8+ Kc7 7.Sa6+ Kb6/i 8.Rb8+ Kxa6 9.Rb1 h3 10.Kc6 Ka5

11.Kc5 Ka4 12.Kc4 Ka3 13.Kc3 Ka2 14.Rg1 a5 15.Kd3 Kb3 16.Rb1+ Ka3 17.Kc3 Ka2 18.Rg1 a4 19.f4 h2/ii 20.Rxg2+ Ka3 21.Rxh2 stalemate.

i) Kd7 8.Sb8+ Ke7 9.Sc6+ draws.

ii) a3 20.Rd1 h2 21.Rd2+ Ka1 22.Rd1+ draws.

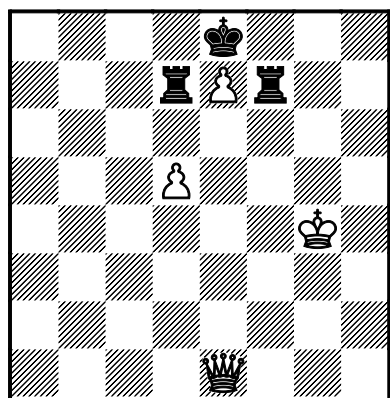
“Two sequential systematic manoeuvres, after a short intermezzo, result in a surprising stalemate”.

The 2nd honourable mention by Sergyi Didukh (Ukraine) is incorrect: c2f7 0040.43 f1h1.b6d3e3f2f5g4h6 6/5 Win.

1.f3 Bxf3 2.e4 fxe4 3.d4 e3 4.d5 Bxd5 5.Bc4 Bxc4 6.b7 e2 7.Kd2 wins.

But MG cooks: 1.Kc3 Ke6 (Bb7; Bg2) 2.e4 Kd6 3.exf5 and Black is helpless, e.g. h5 4.Be2 Bb7 5.Kd4.

No 16921 A. Skripnik & E. Fomichev
no award



g4e8 1600.20 4/3 Win

No 16921 Anatoly Skripnik & Eugene Fomichev (Russia). 1.Qe6 Rg7+ 2.Kf5/i Rf7+ (Rg1; d6) 3.Kg6 Rg7+/ii 4.Kxg7/iii Rxe7+ 5.Kf6 Rxe6+ 6.Kxe6/iv Kd8 7.Kd6 wins.

i) 2.Kh5? Rdx7 3.Qc8+ Kf7 4.d6 Re5+ 5.Kh4 Re4+ draws.

ii) Rf6+ 4.Qxf6 Rd6 5.Kf5 (Kg5) wins, avoiding 5.Qxd6 stalemate.

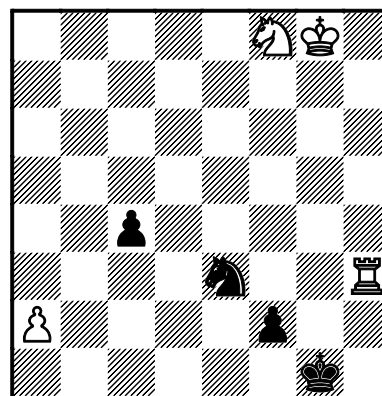
iii) 4.Kf6? Rd6/v 5.Qxd6 Rg6+ 6.Kxg6, or 4.Kh6? Rdx7 draw.

iv) 6.dxe6? Kf8 7.e7+ Ke8 8.Ke6 stalemate.

v) But not Rg6+? 5.Kxg6 Rd6 6.Qf6 winning.

x) But not 3.Rxf2? Kxf2 4.Se6 c3 5.Sd4 Ke3 6.Sb3 c2 7.a4 Sd3 8.a5 Sc5 9.Sc1 Kd2 10.Sa2

No 16922 M. Ylijoki
commendation



g8g1 0104.12 4/4 Draw

No 16922 Marko Ylijoki (Finland). 1.Rg3+/i Kh2/ii 2.Rf3 Kg2 3.Rxf2+ Kxf2 4.Se6 c3 (Sf5; a4) 5.Sd4 Sf5 6.Sc2/iii Ke2 7.Kf7/iv Se3/v 8.Sa1/vi Kd1 9.a4 (Ke6? Sc2;) Kc1 10.Sb3+ Kb1 11.Sd4/vii Sf5 12.Se2 c2 13.a5 Sd4 14.a6 draws.

i) 1.Rf3? f1Q/viii 2.Rxf1+ Kxf1 3.Se6 Sf5 4.Sc5 c3 5.a4 c2 6.Sb3/ix Sd4 7.Sc1 Sc6 8.Kf7 Ke1 9.Ke6 Kd1 10.Sa2 Sb4 and Black wins.

ii) Sg2 2.Rf3 f1Q 3.Rxf1+ Kxf1 4.Se6 c3 5.Sd4, or here Se1 3.Rf7/x f1Q (c3; Se6) 4.Rxf1+ Kxf1 5.Se6 draws.

iii) 6.Sb3? c2 7.a4 Sd4 wins.

iv) 7.a4? Se7+ 8.Kf7 Sc6 9.Ke6 Kd2 10.Sa1/xi Kc1 11.Kd5 Kb1 12.Kc4/xii Kb2 13.Kd3 Sb4+ 14.Kc4 Sd5 15.Sb3 c2 16.a5 Se7 17.a6 Sc6 wins.

v) Kd2 8.Sb4 Ke3 9.Ke6.

vi) 8.Sb4? Sd5 9.Sc2 Kd1 10.Sa1 Sb4 11.Ke6 Sc2 12.Sb3 Sa3 13.Sa1 Kc1 14.Sb3+ Kb2 15.Sc5 c2 16.Kd5 Sb5 17.Sd3+ Kc3 18.Sc1 Kd2 19.Sb3+ Kd1 20.a4 Sc3+ 21.Kd4 Sb1 22.Kd3 Sd2, or here 10.Sd4 Sb4 11.Ke6 Sc6 12.Sb3 c2 13.Kd5 Sa5, or 10.Sa3 Sc7 11.Kf6 Sb5 12.Sc4 Ke2 13.Sa5 Sd4 14.Ke5 Kd3.

vii) 11.a5? c2 12.a6 Sd5 13.a7 Sc7 14.Ke7 Kb2 15.Sc5 Kc3 16.Se6 Sa8 17.Sf4 Kd2.

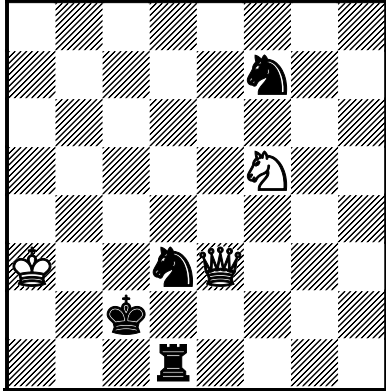
viii) But not c3? 2.Se6 f1Q 3.Rxf1+ Kxf1 4.Sd4 draws.

ix) 6.Sd3 Ke2 7.Sc1+ Kd1 8.Sa2 Se7+. Sa6 wins.

xi) 10.Sa3 Kd3 11.Kd5 Sa5 12.Kc5 Sc4.

xii) 12.Kxc6 Kxa1 13.a5 c2 14.a6 c1Q+ 15.Kb7 Qb1+ 16.Ka8 Ka2 17.a7 Kb3 18.Kb7 Kc4+ wins.

No 16923 V. Kaljagin & S. Osintsev
commendation



a3c2 1307.00 3/4 Win

No 16923 Viktor Kalyagin & Sergey Osintsev (Russia). 1.Qe2+/i Rd2 2.Se3+/ii Kc3 3.Sd5+/iii Kc2 4.Qf1/iv Sfe5/v 5.Se3+ Kc3 6.Qa1+ Sb2 7.Sd1+ Rxd1 8.Qxb2+ wins.

i) 1.Sd4+? Kc3 2.Sb5+ Kc2 3.Qe2+ Rd2 4.Qe6 Sfe5 5.Qa2+ Kd1 6.Sc3+ Ke1 7.Qa1+ Kf2 8.Se4+ Ke3 9.Sxd2 Kxd2 10.Qd4 Kc2 draws.

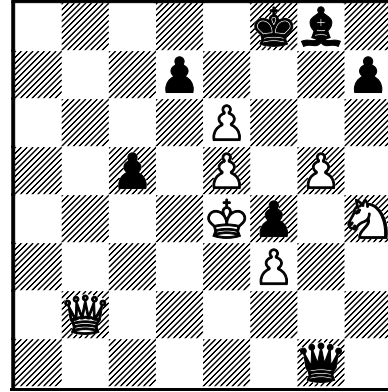
ii) 2.Qe6? Sfe5 3.Qb3+ Kc1 4.Se3 Se1 5.Qc3+ Sc2+ 6.Ka4 (Sxc2 Rd3;) Sd3 7.Sc4 Rd1 8.Kb3 Sc5+ 9.Ka2 Sd3 10.Se3 Sb4+ 11.Kb3 Rd3, or 2.Qf1? Kc3 3.Qa1+ Rb2 4.Se3 Sd6 5.Sd1+ Kc2 6.Sxb2 Sb5+ 7.Ka4 Sc3+ 8.Ka5 Sxb2 9.Kb4 Se2 10.Qa2 Sc1 draw.

iii) 3.Qf1? Kd4 4.Qg1 Sfe5 5.Sf1+ Rf2, or 3.Sd1+? Rxd1 4.Qxd1 Sfe5, or 3.Qg4? Sfe5 4.Qa4 Re2 5.Qa5+ Kd4

iv) 4.Sb4+? Sxb4 5.Qc4+ Kd1 6.Kxb4 Sd6 draw.

v) Sde5 5.Sb4+ Kc3 6.Qc1+, or Rf2 5.Sb4+ Sxb4 6.Qxf2+, or Sd6 5.Se3+ Kc3 6.Qf6+ win.

No 16924 S. Didukh
commendation



e4f8 4031.44 7/7 BTM, Draw

No 16924 Sergyi Didukh (Ukraine). 1...Qe1+ / i 2.Kf5/ii dxe6+/iii 3.Kf6 Qb4 4.Sg6+ hxg6/iv 5.Qb1 Bh7/v 6.Qb3 Bg8/vi 7.Qb1 positional draw.

i) Qe3+ 2.Kf5 Bxe6+ 3.Kf6 Qb3 4.Qxb3 Bxb3 5.g6, or dxe6 2.Kxf4, or Bxe6 2.Kxf4 draw.

ii) 2.Kd5? Bxe6+ 3.Kd6 c4.

iii) Bxe6+ 3.Kf6 Qb4 4.g6 Qxb2 5.gxh7 Qxe5+ 6.Kxe5 Kg7 7.Sg6, or Ke7 3.Sg2 Bxe6+ 4.Kxf4 Qb4+ 5.Qxb4 cxb4 6.Se3.

iv) Ke8 5.Qxb4 cxb4 6.Sxf4.

v) Qxb1 stalemate.

vi) Qxb3 stalemate.

A commendation by Jorma Pitkänen is incorrect: d6b1 0103.03 2/5 Draw. 1.Kc6 Sb8+ 2.Kc7 Kc2 3.Rf2+ Kd3 4.Rf3+ Kc4 5.Rf4+ Kb5 6.Rf5+ Ka4 7.Kb6 Sd7+ 8.Ka6 Sb8+ 9.Kb6 wins.

But: 2.Kd6 Kc2 3.Rc5+ Kd3 4.Rd5+ etc. (MG).