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**No. 179 – Vol. XVI – January 2010**  
**Supplement**

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*Awards*

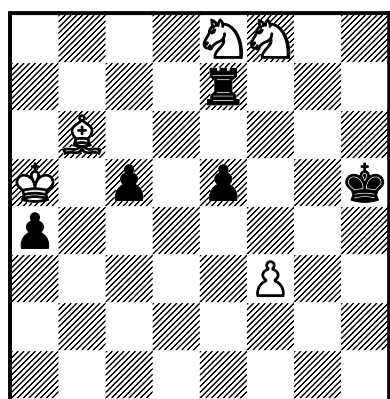
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# Viktor Razumenko 70 JT 2007

69 studies by 48 composers from 16 countries competed. Viktor Razumenko (St Petersburg) judged the formal tourney himself. The provisional award appeared in *Zadachy i Etyudy* 42, 5i2007 with a 2 month confirmation time.

Report: “The standard was high, though there was no one outstanding study. Never wishing to offend, after consulting colleagues and the computer, I decided not to distinguish within categories of prize, honourable mention, and commendation.”

No 17043 M. Gromov  
prize



a5h5 0312.13 5/5 Win

**No 17043** Mikhail Gromov (Russia). “White must play forcefully.” 1.Sf6+ Kg5 2.Se4+ Kh6/i 3.Bxc5 a3/ii 4.Bxa3Ra7+ 5.Kb4 Rf7 6.Bc1+/iii Kh5 (Kg7; Se6+) 7.Sd7/iv Rxf3 8.Sxe5 Rh3 (Rf8; Sg3+) 9.Bf4 Kh4 (Rh4; Sg3 mate) 10.Ka4 Kh5 (Rh1; Sg6+) 11.Sf6+ Kh4 12.Sg6 mate.

i) Kf5 3.Sd6+ Kf4 4.Sg6+. Kh5 3.Sg3+ Kg5 4.Bd8.

ii) Rf7 4.Sd2 Kg7 5.Kxa4 Rxf8 6.Bxf8+ Kxf8 7.Kb5 wins.

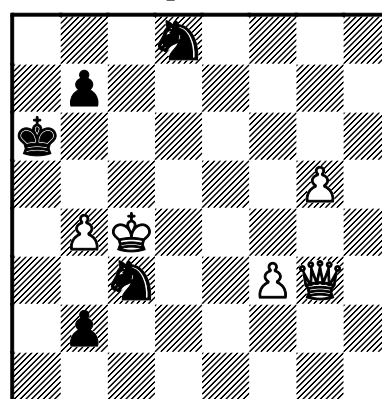
iii) 6.Kc4? Rxf3 7.Bc1+ Kg7 draw.

iv) 7.Se6? Rxf3 8.Kc4 Kg4 9.Kd5 Rf5 10.S6g5 Rf1 11.Bd2 Rb1 draw.

“A superb study in the classic mode by a talented pupil of the unforgettable Tolya Kuznetsov.”

**No 17044** Leonard Katsnelson & Viktor Kondratev (Russia). 1.b5+? Sxb5 2.Qe1 b1Q wins. 1.Qc7? b5+ 2.Kxc3 b1Q 3.Qxd8 Qc1+ perpetual check. So: 1.Qd6+ Sc6/i 2.Qg6/ii b1Q 3.Qxb1 Sxb1 4.b5+ Kb6/iii 5.bxc6 Sd2+

No 17044 L. Katsnelson & V. Kondratev  
prize



c4a6 1006.32 5/5 Win

6.Kd5/iv Sxf3 7.g6 Sh4 8.g7 Sf5 9.g8Q (g8S? bxc6;) Se7+ 10.Kd6 Sxg8 11.c7 Se7 12.Kd7 (Kxe7? Kxc7;) and the zugzwang is decisive in White’s favour due to the occupation of b6 by bK.

i) Ka7 2.Qxd8 b1Q 3.Qa5+ Kb8 4.Qe5+ Ka7 5.Qxc3, when White wins.

ii) 2.Kxc3? b1Q 3.Qd3+ Qxd3+ 4.Kxd3 Sxb4+ 5.Ke4 b5 6.f4 Sc6 7.g6 Sc7 8.f5 b4 9.g7 b3 10.Kf3 Sg8 draw.

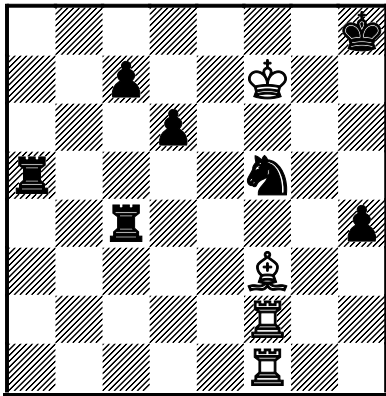
iii) This blocks a square that will be important in the finale, but Ka7 5.bxc6 bxc6 6.g6 wins.

iv) 6.Kb4? Sxf3 7.g6 Se5 8.cxb7 Kxb7 9.g7 Sc6+ 10.K- Se7 draw.

“The avid play by both sides keeps us on our toes right to the last move. This work by the pair from different towns certainly comes off.”

**No 17045** Nikolay Ryabinin (Russia). Despite Black being ahead White still plays: 1.Bd5/i, with:

**No 17045** N. Ryabinin  
prize



f7h8 0813.03 4/7 Win

- Rxd5 2.Rxf5 c6/ii 3.Rf6/iii Kh7 4.Rg1 Rh5 5.Rg7+Kh8 6.Rg5 Rh7+ 7.Kf8 Ra7 8.Rh6+ Rh7 9.Rg8 mate, or
- Sh6+ 2.Kg6 Rxd5 3.Kxh6 Rg4 4.Rf8+ Rg8 5.R1f7 and 6.Rh7 mate.

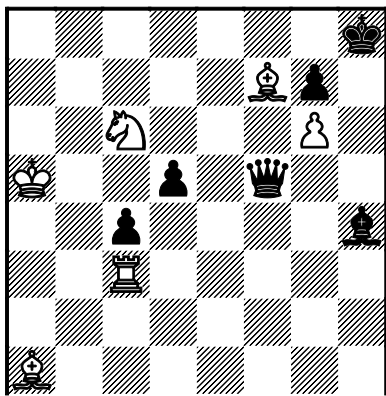
i) 1.Be2? cRc5 2.Rf4 Re5 3.Bc4 Sg3 4.Rxh4+ Rh5 5.Rxh5+ Rxh5 draw.

ii) Rxf5+ 3.Rxf5 Rc5 4.Rf4 Rh5 5.Kg6 wins, a 'Saavedra echo', or Rc1 3.R1f4 Rc4 4.Rf6 Rxf4 5.Rxf4 Rh5 6.Kg6 wins.

iii) 3.R5f4? Rd1 4.R1f2 Rd2 5.Rdf3 Rd3, with a pretty positional draw.

"A pair of echo-mates from the very special enthusiast from the heart of Russia, whom we congratulate on his recent 50th birthday."

**No 17046** V. Kalashnikov & S. Osintsev  
prize



a5h8 3151.13 6/6 Win

**No 17046** Valeri Kalashnikov & Sergei Osintsev (Russia). 1.Re3 d4+ 2.Re5 Be1+ 3.Ka4/i Qxe5/ii 4.Sxe5 Bc3 5.Bxc3/iii dxc3 6.Bg8/iv c2/v 7.Bh7 c1Q 8.Sf7 mate.

i) 3.Kb5? is a thematic try: Qxe5+ 4.Sxe5 Bc3 5.Bxc3 dxc3 6.Bg8, indeed destroys the stalemate net, but this is not enough: Kxg8 7.Kxc4 c2 8.Sd3 Kf8, putting White on the horns of a pawn-dilemma, either to defend his own or to contend with Black's passed one: 9.Kd5 Ke7 10.Ke5 Kd7 positional draw, or 9.Kc3 Ke7 10.Kxc2 Kf6 11.Sf4 Kf5 draw.

ii) Checks lack venom: Qc2+ 4.Kb5 Qb3+ 5.Ka6 Qa4+ 6.Sa5 wins.

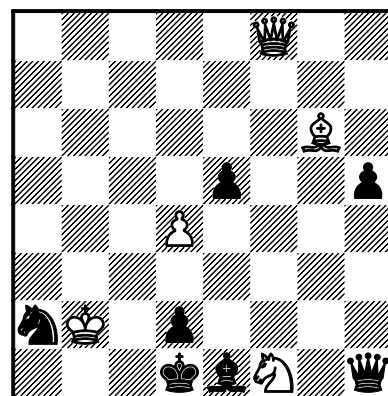
iii) The exchange cannot be avoided: 5.Kb5? Bxa1 6.Kxc4 d3 7.Sxd3, when the extra piece is not enough to win.

iv) 6.Bxc4? c2 7.Sd3 c1Q 8.Sxc1 stalemate.

v) After Kxg8 7.Ka3, the meaning of White's third becomes plain: Kf8 8.Ka2 Ke7, and in contrast with the try White can make his advantage tell: 9.Sf7 Kf6 10.Sh8 Ke5 11.Kb1 Ke4 12.Kc2 Kd4 13.Sf7 Kc5 14.Kxc3 winning.

"Both 3.Ka4!! and 6.Bg8!! are great points to set any chess player's pulse racing, despite the relative complexity of the delving."

**No 17047** O. Pervakov  
prize



b2d1 4044.13 5/7 Win

**No 17047** Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Qf7? Bh4 2.Bxh5+ Ke1 3.Se3 d1Q 4.Bxd1 Qg1 draw. 1.Qa8 Qh3 2.Qc8/i Qf3/ii 3.Qc4 Bf2/iii 4.Se3+/iv Bxe3 5.Bxh5 Bxd4+/v 6.Kxa2 Qxh5 7.Qf1+ Kc2 8.Qb1+ Kc3 9.Qb3 mate.

i) 2.Qa6? Qc3+ 3.Kxa2 Bh4 4.Se3+ Kc1 5.Qf1+ Be1 6.Qb5 d1Q 7.Sxd1 Kxd1 draw.

ii) Qc3+ 3.Qxc3 Sxc3 4.Bxh5+ Se2 5.Se3 mate.

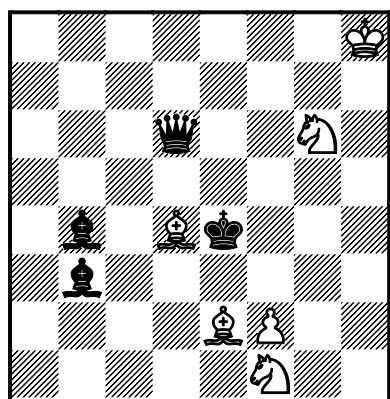
iii) Qb7+ 4.Ka1. Bh4 4.Bxh5 Qxh5 5.Se3+ Ke1 6.Qf1 mate.

iv) But not now: 4.Bxh5? Bxd4+ 5.Kxa2 Qxh5 6.Se3+ Bxe3 7.Qf1+ Kc2, when White has no more than perpetual check.

v) Gaining c2 as a flight square for bK.... and is there something else?!

“A complex symbiosis: wQ offers herself twice over, wS three times, and on top of that there are the bB moves (3...Bh4? and 3...Bf2!), the ‘logic’ of blocking d4, and the concluding epaulette checkmate. Everything executed by the Muscovite GM with engaging directness and neatness.” AJR is tickled by wK being forced away from the action to a2 on the edge, while in fact clearing a path for wQ to mate – from b1 to b3.

**No 17048** N. Rezvov & S.N. Tkachenko  
prize



h8e4 3082.10 6/4 Draw

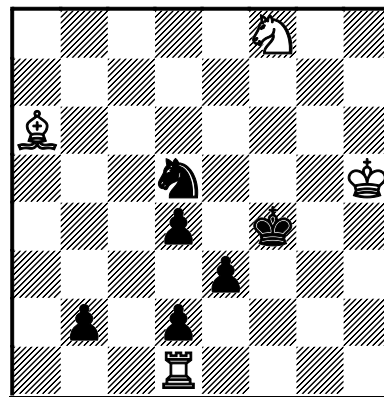
**No 17048** Nikolai Rezvov & Sergei N. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.Sg3+ Kd5 2.Se7+/i Qxe7 – otherwise there is perpetual check – 3.Bf3+ Kc4 4.Be2+ Kd5 5.Bf3+ Ke6 6.Bg4+ Kf7 7.Bh5+ Kf8 8.Sf5/ii Qg5 9.Bg7+ Qxg7+ 10.Sxg7 Bg8 (for Bc3;) 11.Se6+ Bxe6 12.Kh7 Bd2 13.f4 Bxf4 14.Kg6 Bf7+ 15.Kf5, tit-for-tat and a draw.

i) 2.Bf3+? Ke6 3.Bg4+ Kf7 4.Se5+ (‘Bh5+’?) Kf8 5.Sd7+ Ke8 6.Sf6+ Kd8 (Kf7? Bh5+) and the white pieces lack coordination.

ii) Thanks to 2.Se7+ the white pieces are now working smoothly.

“Both sides contribute dramatic play in creative tension from start to finish. A great work by the famous Ukrainian duet!”

**No 17049** A. Sochnev  
prize



h5f4 0114.04 4/6 Draw

**No 17049** Aleksei Sochnev (Russia). 1.Sg6+? Ke4 2.Rg1 Sc3 3.Bb7+ Kd3 4.Ba6+ Kc2. 1.Rf1+? Ke4 2.Se6 Sc3. No draw with either of those efforts. 1.Se6+ Ke5 2.Sc5 Kd6/i 3.Sa4/ii d3/iii 4.Bxd3/iv Sf4+ 5.Kg4 Sxd3 6.Kf3, with:

– e2 7.Kxe2 Sc1+ 8.Ke3/v b1Q 9.Kxd2zz Ke5/vi 10.Re1+ Kf5 11.Rf1+ Kg5 12.Rg1+ Kh5 13.Rh1+ Kg5 14.Rg1+ Kf5 15.Rf1+ Ke5 16.Re1+ Kd4 17.Rd1zz Ke5 18.Re1+ Kf4 19.Rxc1 Qa2+ 20.Kd3 Qxa4 21.Rc4+ drawn, or

– b1Q 7.Rxb1 Sc1 8.Sc3 d1Q+ 9.Sxd1 e2 10.Rxc1 e1Q 11.Rb1zz/vii Kc5 12.Ra1 Qe6 13.Rc1+ Kd4 14.Ra1 Kc5 15.Rc1+ Kd4 16.Ra1 positional draw.

i) Kf6 3.Sa4 d3 4.Bxd3 Sf4+ 5.Kg4 Sxd3 6.Kf3 e2 7.Kxe2 Sc1+ 8.Kxd2 – cf. main line! –b1Q 9.Rf1+ Ke5 10.Re1+ Kd4 11.Rd1.

ii) 3.Se4+? Ke7 4.Sxd2 exd2 wins.

iii) Sf4+ 4.Kg4 d3 5.Sxb2 e2 6.Kxf4 e1Q 7.Bxd3 Qe5+ 8.Kf3 Qxb2 9.Ke2, and theory tells us it’s drawn.

iv) 4.Sxb2? e2 5.Rxd2 e1Q 6.Bxd3 Sf4+ winning.

v) 8.Kxd2? b1Qzz 9.Sc3 Qb2+ wins.

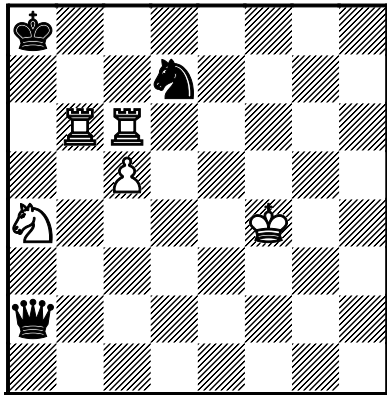
vi) Ke7 10.Re1+ Kd8 11.Rd1zz. Or Qa1 10.Kc2+ Kc6 11.Sc3 draw.

vii) 11.Ra1? Ke5 12.Kg2 Kf5zz 13.Kf3 Kg5 14.Kg2 Qe5 wins.

“Black promotion is inevitable. The basis of the play is the zugzwang miracle, White hero-

ically forcing the opponent to accept a humiliating draw.”

**No 17050** M. Gromov  
special prize



f4a8 3204.10 5/3 Win

**No 17050** Mikhail Gromov (Russia).  
1.Ra6+? Kb7. 1.Rc8+ Ka7/i 2.Rc7+ Ka8  
3.Ra6+ Kb8 4.Rc8+ Kb7/ii 5.c6+ Kxc8/iii  
6.cxd7+/iv Kc7 7.Ra7+ Kc6 8.d8S+ (d8Q?  
Qf2+;) Kd6 9.Sf7+ Kc6 10.Se5+ Kd6  
11.Rd7+ Ke6 12.Sc5+ Kf6 13.Se4+ Ke6  
14.Sg5+ Kf6 15.Sh7+ Ke6 16.Sf8+ Kf6  
17.Sg4 mate.

i) Sb8 2.bRxb8+ Ka7 3.Ra8+ Kb7 4.c6  
mate.

ii) Kxc8 5.Sb6+ Sxb6 6.Rxa2 wins.

iii) Kxa6 6.Ra8+ Kb5 7.Sc3+.

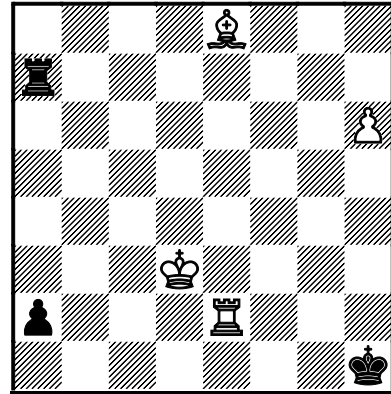
iv) 6.Sb6+? Sxb6 7.Rxa2 Sd5+ 8.Ke5 Sb4  
draw.

“Mate with promoted knight that conducts a roundabout manoeuvre over practically the whole board! This windfall study instantly lodges in the memory in spite of the forcing play from beginning to end.”

**No 17051** Yochanan Afek (Israel/The Netherlands). Although a bishop ahead, White cannot win by playing: 1.Re1+? Kh2 2.Ra1 Rh7 3.Rxa2+ Kg3 4.Ra6 Kf4 5.Kd4 Kg5 6.Rg6+ Kf5 7.Kd5 Rh8 8.Bf7 Rh7 9.Be8 Rh8, with a positional draw. So: 1.Bc6+ Kg1 2.Re1+/i Kf2/ii 3.Ra1 Rh7 – against 4.Be4 – 4.Rxa2+ Kg3 5.Rg2+ Kh4/iii 6.Rg6/iv Kh5 7.Be8 Rxh6 8.Rg1+ Kh4 9.Bg6 ‘mate’ to bR and winning.

i) 2.Rg2+? Kf1 3.Rh2 a1Q 4.Rh1+ Kf2  
5.Rxa1 Rxa1 6.h7 Ra3+ draw.

**No 17051** Y. Afek  
honourable mention



d3h1 0410.11 4/3 Win

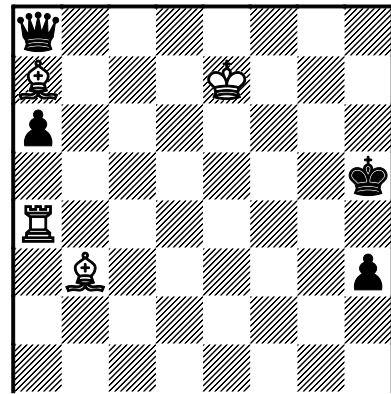
ii) Kh2 3.Ra1 Rh7 4.Rxa2+ Kh3 5.Ra6 wins.

iii) Kf4 6.Rg6 Kf5 7.Be4+.

iv) 6.Be8? Rxh6 7.Bg6 Kh3 8.Rg1 Kh2  
9.Rg5 Rh3+ drawing.

“Original play pushes Black into a zugzwang to force unconditional surrender.”

**No 17052** V. Maksaev  
honourable mention



e7h5 3120.02 4/4 Win

**No 17052** Valery Maksaev (Russia). We might as well get the thematic try out of the way: 1.Bf7+? Kg5 2.Be3+ Kf5 3.Be6+ Kg6 4.Rg4+ Kh5 5.Rg5+ Kh4 6.Rg4+ Kh5, after which we have either a positional draw – 7.Rb4 Kg6 8.Rg4+ Kh5 – or a known draw: 7.Rf4 Qb7+ 8.Kf6 Qc6 9.Rf5+ Kg4 10.Rc5+ Qxe6+ 11.Kxe6 h2 12.Rc1 Kf3 13.Bb6 Kg2 14.Rc2+ Kh3. So: 1.Bd1+, with:

– Kg5 2.Be3+ Kg6 3.Bc2+ Kh5 4.Be4  
Qxe4+/i 5.Rxe4 h2 6.Re6 Kg4 7.Rh6 Kg3  
8.Bf4+ Kxf4 9.Rxh2 winning, or

– Kg6 2.Rxa6+ Kf5 – not to a dark square –  
3.Ra5+/ii Ke4 4.Ra4+ Kd3 5.Ra3+ Kc4  
6.Be2+/iii Kb4 7.Bc5+ Kxc5 8.Rxa8 wins.

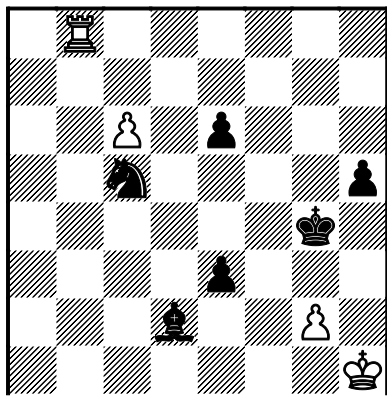
i) Qc8 5.Bf3+ Kg6 6.Rg4+ Kf5 7.Rg5 mate.

ii) 3.Bc2+(?) Kg4 4.Bd1+ Kf5 is an artificial  
prolongation.

iii) 6.Bb3+? Kb5 7.Ba4+ Kb4 draw.

“Not that complex, but it holds the interest!”

**No 17053** D. Gurgenidze  
honourable mention



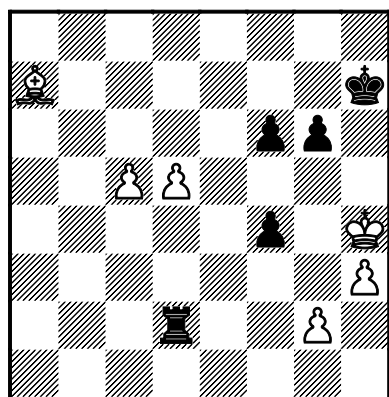
h1g4 0133.23 4/6 Win

**No 17053** David Gurgenidze (Georgia). 1.c7  
e2 2.Rb1 Se4 3.c8Q Sg3+ 4.Kh2/i Sf1+  
5.Rxf1 exf1Q 6.Qg8+ Bg5 7.Qxe6+ Qf5  
8.Qe2+ Kf4 9.g3 mate.

i) 4.Kg1? Be3+ 5.Kh2 Sf1+ 6.Rxf1 exf1S+  
7.Kh1 Sg3+ 8.Kh2 Sf1+ 9.Kh1 Sg3+ draw.

“A nice P-mate with two active mid-board  
self-blocks. The straightforward opus by the  
ex-world studies champion is just in the style  
of the Mitrofanov-cum-Razumenko ‘firm’. In  
blessed memory of my own preceptor – our  
common friend and composing collaborator.”

**No 17054** V. Katsnelson  
honourable mention



h4h7 0310.43 6/5 Win

**No 17054** Vladimir Katsnelson (Russia).  
Hardly surprisingly, game-like, as the com-  
poser regularly plays otb. [AJR played memo-  
rably enjoyable quick games with him in his  
St Petersburg flat some years ago.] 1.d6?  
Rxc2 2...Kh6 and 3...g5 mate. 1.Kg4? Rxd5  
is a draw. So: 1.c6, with:

– Rxc2 2.Bc5/i Kh6/ii 3.Bf8+ Kh7 4.d6/iii  
Rg3 5.d7/iv g5+ 6.Kh5 Rxh3+ 7.Kg4 Rd3  
8.Kf5 (Bc5? Kg6;) f3 9.Bc5 wins, or

– Kh6 2.Kg4/v f5+/vi 3.Kxf4/vii Rxd5 4.c7  
g5+ 5.Ke3/viii Re5+ 6.Kd4, winning after  
Re8 7.Kd5.

i) 2.Bd4? Kh6 3.Bxf6 f3 4.c7 Rc2 draw.

ii) AJR: in the award this line and its off-  
shoots are presented as co-main line. 2...Rc2  
3.d6 (Bb6? Rg2;) Rxc5/ix 4.d7/x, with a win,  
eg: Rd5 5.Kg4 Rd4 6.c7.

iii) 4.c7? g5+ 5.Kh5 Rc2 6.d6 f3 7.d7 Rc4  
and 8...Rh4 mate.

iv) 5.c7? g5+ 6.Kh5 Rxh3+ 7.Kg4 Rc3 8.d7  
Kg6 leads to mate.

v) 2.Bc5? g5+ 3.Kg4 Rd3 4.h4 f5+.

vi) g5 3.c7 Rc2 4.d6 Kg6 5.Bd4 wins.

vii) MG observes that 3.Kf3 is a waste of  
time dual since Black loses after Rxd5 4.c7  
Rd3+ 5.Kxf4 Rc3 6.Bb6 Rc1 7.Ke5 Re1+  
8.Kd6. However, Black can play 3...Rd3+  
forcing 4.Kxf4 Rxd5 = main line.

viii) 5.Kf3? Rd3+ 6.Ke2 Rc3 7.Bb6 Kg6  
draw.

ix) g5+ 4.Kh5 Rxc5 5.d7.

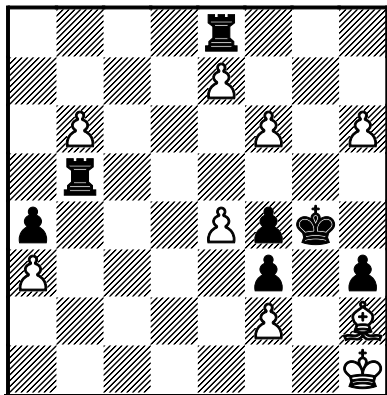
x) Another nice try: 4.c7? g5+ 5.Kg4/xi Rc3  
6.h4 Kg6 7.h5+ Kf7 8.d7 Ke6 9.c8Q Rg3  
mate, the h5 square having been actively self-  
blocked.

xi) 5.Kh5 f3 6.d7 Rc4 mating.

“The first line has interesting tries, while all  
efforts to win with 2.Bc5 in the second line  
fail. However, there is another method, which  
didn’t work before. The St Petersburg com-  
poser has given us a curious and rare treat-  
ment of this involved theme that has  
everything except sharp points. In other words  
the theme leads to long variations and beauti-

ful tries. Who knows if this is a new (or long forgotten old!) direction for studies to take?!”

**No 17055** L. González  
honourable mention



h1g4 0610.74 9/7 Win

**No 17055** Luis Miguel González (Spain). What a position for wK if there's to be a win! 1.Bxf4 h2 2.Kxh2 Rh5+ 3.Kg1 Rb5 4.Kh2 Rh5+. But he has faith in his pawns: 1.f7 Rb1+ 2.Bg1 h2 3.Kxh2 Rxb6 4.f8Q/i Rxf8 5.exf8B/ii Rb5 6.Kh1 Rh5+ 7.Bh2 Kg5/iii 8.Kg1 Kg4 9.Bg7/iv Rh4 10.e5 Kf5 11.Bxf4/v Kxf4/vi 12.e6 Rg4+ 13.Kf1 Rh4 14.Ke1 Ke4 15.Kd2, and White wins.

i) 4.f8B? Rb5 5.Kh1 Rh5+ 6.Bh2 Rc8, and Black wins.

ii) 5.exf8Q? Rxh6+ 6.Qxh6 stalemate.

iii) Rh3 8.Bg7 Rh5 9.Kg1 Rb5 10.Bxf4 Kh3 11.Bc1 Rb1 12.gBb2 wins.

iv) 9.e5? Rxe5 10.Bxf4 Rh5 11.Be3 Kf5 12.Bg7 Kg6 13.Bc3 Kh7, with a quite original positional draw.

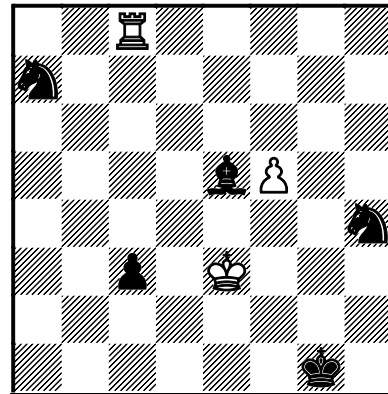
v) 11.e6? Kxe6 12.Bxf4 Kf7 13.Be3 Kg6, positional draw again.

vi) Ke6 12.h7 Rxh7 13.fBh6 and bR is caught.

“Despite wK’s hazardous location, with the active aid of the infantry under officer leadership (one had promotion!) White wins freedom and the game with a victorious ‘Hurrah!’.”

**No 17056** Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). Black has an imposing material advantage... 1.Rc4? Sg2+ 2.Kd3 Sb5 3.Rc5 Se1+ 4.Ke4 Bd6 5.Rc4 c2 6.f6 Bb4, winning. 1.Rc5 Sg2+/i 2.Kd3 Se1+ 3.Ke2 Bd4 4.Rc4

**No 17056** I. Akobia & R. Becker  
honourable mention



e3g1 0136.11 3/5 Draw

Sc2 5.Kd3 Sb5 6.f6 (Kxc2? Sa3+;) Bxf6/ii 7.Rg4+ Kf2/iii 8.Rf4+/iv Ke1 (Kg3; Rxf6) 9.Kxc2/v Sa3+/vi 10.Kc1/vii Bg7/viii 11.Re4+/ix, with:

– Kf1 12.Re2/x Bh6+ 13.Kd1 Sc4 14.Re6 Se3+ 15.Kc1 Bf4 16.Re4 (Rf6? Sd5+;) Bg5 17.Re5 Bh6 18.Re6 positional draw, or

– Kf2 12.Re6zz Bd4 13.Kd1zz Bc5 14.Rc6 Bd4 15.Re6 Kf3 16.Re8zz/xi Kf2 17.Re6zz/xii Bg7 18.Kc1zz/xiii Kf3 19.Kd1zz/xiv Bd4 20.Re8 Be3 21.Rc8 Bd4 22.Re8 Bg7 23.Re6 Bh8 24.Re7zz/xv Kf2 25.Re2+/xvi Kf3 26.Re7zz Bd4 27.Re6, and it’s reciprocal zugzwang for the fifth and last time BTM.

i) Bf6 2.Kd3 Sf3 3.Rxc3 draw.

ii) Se1+ 7.Ke2 Sg2 8.f7 Bg7 9.Rc8 draw.

iii) Kh2 8.Kxc2 Sa3+ 9.Kd1 Kh3 10.Rg6 draw.

iv) 8.Kxc2? Sa3+ 9.Kd1 (Kd3, c2;) Kf3 10.Rg8 Kc4 11.Rg4+ Kd3 wins.

v) 9.Rxf6? Sb4+ 10.Kc4 c2 11.Rh6 Sc3+ 12.Kf3 Se2 13.Rh1+ Kd2 14.Ra1 Sc1 15.Ra7 cSa2 wins.

vi) Sd4+ 10.Kd3 c2 11.Re4+ Kd1 12.Rf4 draw.

vii) 10.Kd3? c2 11.Re4+ Kd1 12.Rf4 Bc3 wins.

viii) Bg5 stalemate with wR pinned. Or Bd8 11.Rf5 Bc7 12.Rf3 Sb5 13.Rf7 draw.

ix) 11.Rh4? Ke2 12.Rh3 Sc4 wins.

x) 12.Re6? Kf2zz 13.Ra6 Sc4 14.Kc2 Ke2 15.Rc6 Se3+ wins.

xi) 16.Re7? Bb6 17.Re6 Bc7 18.Rc6 Be5 wins.

xii) 17.Re7 Bc5 18.Re2+ Kf3 19.Re6 Be3 20.Rc6 Bd4 wins.

xiii) 18.Re2+? Kg3 19.Re6/xvii Kf3zz 20.Kc1 Bd4 21.Kd1 Kf4 22.Re8 Kf5 23.Re2(Re7) Be5 wins.

xiv) 19.Ra6? Sc4 20.Rg6 Be5 21.Kc2 Se3+ 22.Kd3 Sg2 23.Kc2 Se1+ 24.Kb3 Ke4 25.Rg1 Sf3 wins.

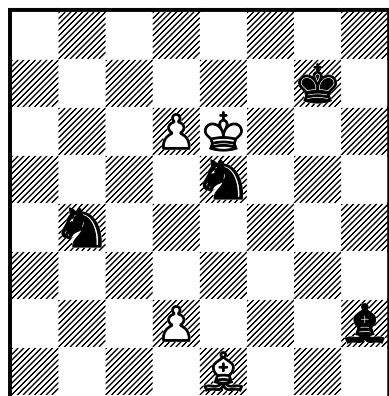
xv) 24.Re8(Kc1)? Bd4 25.Re6 Kf4 wins. 24.Re1? c2+ 25.Kc1 Bd4 26.Kd2 Bb2 27.Re3+ Kf4 28.Re1 Kf5 29.Rf1+ Ke4 wins.

xvi) 25.Re8? Bg7 26.Re2+ Kg3 wins.

xvii) 19.Ra2 Bf8 20.Re2 Kf3 21.Re6 Bc5 wins.

“A dynamic positional draw. We are dazzled by them all. The unique transatlantic ‘computer + human’ pairing has produced another utterly OK but exceptionally tough work to solve.”

**No 17057** N. Ryabinin  
honourable mention



e6g7 0046.20 4/4 Draw

**No 17057** Nikolay Ryabinin (Russia). 1.d7? Sf7 2.Bh4 Sc6 wins. 1.d4 eSc6/i 2.Bc3/ii Kf8 3.d5 Sd8+ 4.Kd7 Sa2/iii Sa2 5.Kxd8 Sxc3 6.d7 Sa4/iv 7.d6/v Bxd6 8.Kc8 Sb6+ 9.Kd8 Ba3 10.Kc7 draw, e.g. Sd5+ 11.Kc8 Se7+ 12.Kc7.

i) eSd3 2.d7 Bc7 3.Bh4 Sc6 4.d8Q Sxd8 5.Kd7 draw.

ii) 2.d5? Sd4+ 3.Kd7 Sxd5 wins.

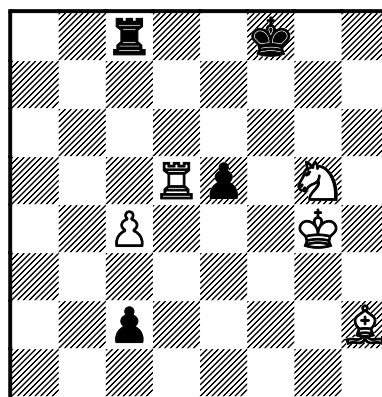
iii) Greek gift: Sxd5 5.Kxd8 Sxc3 6.d7 Sa4 7.Kc8 Sb6+ 8.Kd8 Sc4 9.Kc8 Sd6+ 10.Kc7 Sf7+ 11.Kc8 Ke7 12.d8Q+ Sxd8 stalemate.

iv) Sb5 7.Kc8/vi Sd6+ 8.Kc7 Sf7+ 9.Kc8 Ke7 10.d8Q+ Sxd8 11.d6+ Ke8 12.d7+ Ke7 stalemate.

v) 7.Kc8? Sb6+ 8.Kd8 Kf7 9.d6 Ke6 wins.

vi) 7.d6? Be5 8.Kc8 Sxd6+ wins. “Improbable, but true: such enthralling play out of such a simple minor piece position!”

**No 17058** S. Didukh  
honourable mention



g4f8 0411.12 5/4 Draw

**No 17058** Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). How is White to secure himself against the impending black promotion? 1.Rd7? Ke8. 1.Sh7+? Kf7 2.Kf5 Re8 3.Sg5+ Kg8 4.Se4 c1Q 5.Sf6+ Kf7 6.Sxe8 Qc2+ 7.Kg5 Qxh2, and it’s time for White to throw in the towel. So: 1.Se6+, with:

– Ke7 2.Bf4/i exf4 3.Re5/ii c1Q (Rg8+; Sg5+) 4.Sd4+ Kd6 5.Rd5+ Kc7 6.Rc5+ Kb7 7.Rb5+ Ka6 8.Ra5+ perpetual check on the rank: Kxa5 9.Sb3+ Kb4 10.Sxc1 Rf8 11.Sd3+ draw, or

– Kf7 – no battery now, but – 2.Sd8+ Kg8/iii 3.Rxe5 c1Q 4.Re8+ Kh7 5.Re7+ Kg6 6.Re6+ perpetual check on the file: Kg7 7.Be5+ Kf8 8.Bd6+ drawn.

i) 2.Rxe5? c1Q 3.Sd4+ Kf7 4.Rf5+ Kg6 and bQ controls g5.

ii) The battery is primed! 3.Sd4? Rg8+ 4.Kh4 c1Q wins.

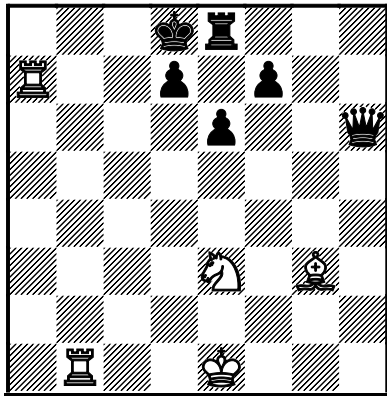
iii) Kg6 3.Rd6+ Kh7 4.Rd7+ Kg8 5.Bxe5 Rxc4+ 6.Bd4 c1Q 7.Se6 Qh6 8.Kf5, fortress.

“A battery, a fortress, and perpetual check come to White’s rescue!”

**No 17059** Boris Sidorov (Russia). 1.Ra8+? Ke7 2.Rxe8+ Kxe8 3.Rb8+ Ke7 4.Bd6+ Kxd6 5.Sf5+ Kc7. Or 1.Bc7+? Ke7 2.Bd6+ Kxd6



**No 17059** B. Sidorov  
special honourable mention



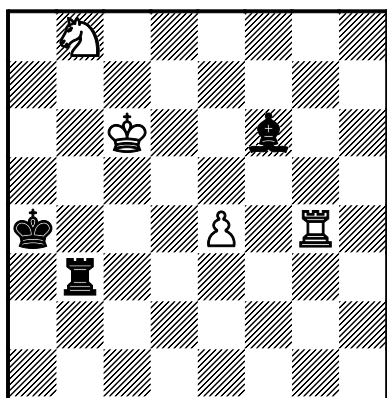
e1d8 3511.03 5/6 Win

3.Sf5+ exf5+ – the check is important! So:  
1.Rb8+ Ke7 2.Rxe8+/i Kxe8 3.Ra8+ Ke7 –  
and now Rinck – 4.Bd6+ Kxd6 5.Sf5+ exf5+  
6.Ra6+ wins.

i) 2.Bd6+? Kxd6 3.Sf5+ exf5 4.Rxe8 Qc1+  
wins.

“Adding two pieces to Rinck’s classic sketch  
has introduced two organic thematic tries.”

**No 17060** E. Fomichev  
commendation



c6a4 0431.10 4/3 Win

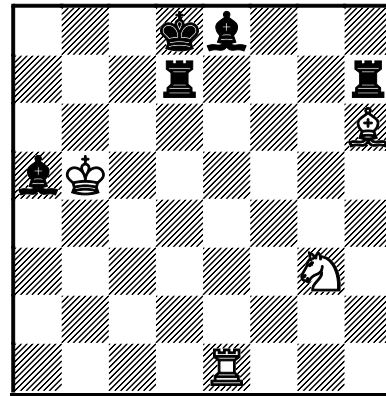
**No 17060** Evgeny Fomichev (Russia). It  
looks like being a fighting draw. We shall see.  
1.e5+ Ka5 2.exf6 (Sd7, Bxe5;) Rb6+ (Rxb8;  
f7) 3.Kc5 Rxf6/i 4.Sc6+ Ka6 5.Ra4+ Kb7  
6.Ra7+ Kc8 7.Kb6 Rf7 8.Ra8+/ii Kd7 9.Se5+  
and the fork is decisive.

i) Sidelining the dangerous pawn, but bK is  
now on the chessboard ropes.

ii) 8.Se7+(?) Kd8 9.Sc6+ Kc8 9.Ra8+ is a  
‘waste of time’ dual.

“To the taste of the ‘masses’!”

**No 17061** P. Rossi  
commendation



b5d8 0771.00 4/5 Draw

**No 17061** Pietro Rossi (Italy). 1.Bg5+ hRe7/  
i 2.Rxe7/ii Rd5+/iii 3.Ka6 (Kc4? Rxc5;) Rxc5  
4.Rxe8+/iv Kxe8 5.Se4 Re5/v 6.Sd6+ (Sf6+?  
Kd8;) Kd7 7.Sc4, the decisive fork, marking  
the draw to this short-duration dynamic con-  
test.

i) dRe7 2.Kxa5 draw. Kc7 2.Bf4+ Kb7  
3.Rxe8 draw.

ii) 2.Bxe7? Rxe7+ 3.Kxa5 Rxe1 wins.

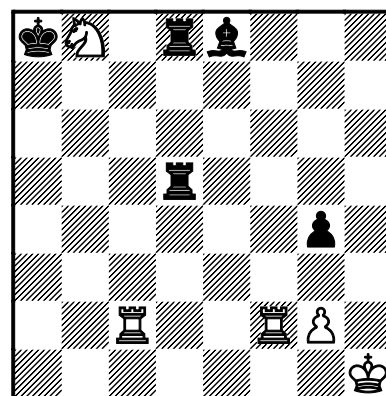
iii) Ra7+ 3.Kc5 Rxe7 4.Sf5 draw.

iv) 4.Re3? Bc7 wins. 4.Se4? Rg6+ 5.Kxa5  
Kxe7 wins.

v) Rf5 6.Sd6+. Rd5 (Rg4/Rh5) 6.Sf6+.

“An agreeable ‘aristocrat’ in the classic  
style.”

**No 17062** M. Croitor  
commendation



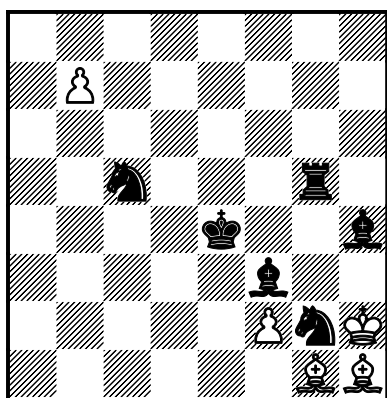
h1a8 0831.11 5/5 Draw

**No 17062** Mihail Croitor (Moldova). Surely  
all White needs to do is ‘do something’ about  
wSb8? Well: 1.Sc6? Bxc6 2.Rxc6 g3 3.Rf1  
Rh5+ 4.Kg1 dRh8 5.Rf8+ Rxf8 6.Ra6+ Kb7  
7.Rb6+ Kc7 8.Rc6+ Kd7 9.Rd6+ Ke7

10.Re6+ Kf7 11.Re7+ Kf6 12.Re6+ Kf5  
13.Re5+ Kg4 (Kg6), with no perpetual check,  
so Black wins. 1.Sa6 Rh5+ 2.Kg1 Rd1+ 3.Rf1  
Rxf1+ 4.Kxf1 Bb5+ 5.Kf2 Bxa6 6.Kg3 Rg5  
7.Ra2 Kb7 8.Ra4 Be2 9.Re4 Bd1 10.Rd4 Be2  
11.Re4, with perpetual attack, so a positional  
draw.

“This could be of practical application.  
Moves 6 and 7 can be transposed.”

**No 17063** L. Topko  
commendation



h2e4 0386.20 5/6 Draw

**No 17063** Leonid Topko (Russia). 1.b8Q  
Bg3+ 2.Qxg3 Rh5+ 3.Qh3 Rxh3+ 4.Kxh3  
Sf4+ 5.Kg3/i Se2+/ii 6.Kh2 Sd3 7.Bxf3+/iii  
Kxf3 8.Kh1zz, this time the right way round!  
The mating net must be lifted, so it's a draw.

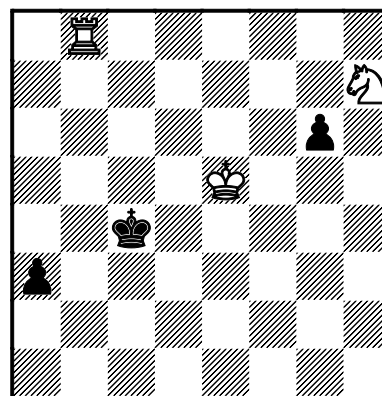
- i) 5.Kh2? cSd3 6.Bxf3+ Kxf3 7.Kh1 Se2zz  
8.Kh2 (Bh2, Sxf2 mate) dSf4 9.Kh1 Sh3  
10.Kh2 hSxg1, and White will be checkmated.
- ii) Bxh1 6.f3+, winning a black piece.
- iii) 7.Bg2? Se5 8.Bh3 Kf4 wins.

“After the initial swap-offs White finagles a  
reci-zug to wriggle out of being checkmated.”

**No 17064** Nikolay Vlasenko (Russia). 1.Rb1  
Kc3 2.Ke4 g5 3.Sf8/i g4 4.Se6 a2 5.Ra1 Kb2  
6.Kd3 g3 7.Sd4 Kxa1 8.Kc2 g2 9.Sb3 mate.

i) A great find by our man in Kharkov re-  
gion! Not 3.Sxg5? because of the stalemate  
defence, and not 3.Sf6? either, because the  
key square d4 will not be reached in two  
moves.

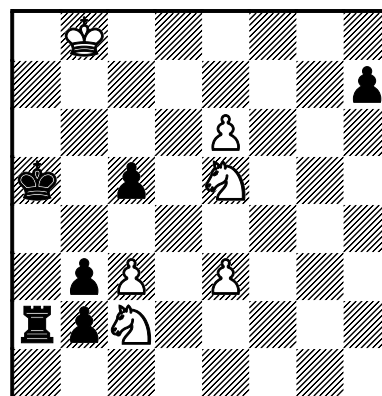
**No 17064** V. Vlasenko  
special commendation



e5c4 0101.02 3/3 Draw

“An echo of the judge's 1981 honourable  
mention in *Shakhmaty v SSSR*”: e3c1 0101.03  
g2b8.a3e6h3 3/4+. 1.Rf2.

**No 17065** P. Gargolin  
special commendation



b8a5 0302.34 6/6 Win

**No 17065** P. Gargolin (Russia). 1.Sc4+? Kb5  
and 2.e7 Kxc4 3.e8Q b1Q wins, or 2.S2a3+  
Rxa3 3.Sxa3+ Kc6, winning. 1.Sa3 Rxa3 2.e7/  
i b1Q 3.Sc4+ Ka6 4.e8S/ii Kb5 5.Sxa3+ and  
6.Sxb1, and White wins.

- i) It's still too early for: 2.Sc4+? Kb5 3.Sxa3  
Kc6.
- ii) 4.e8Q? Qg6 5.Qc8+ Kb5 6.Sxa3+ Ka4  
7.Sc4 Kb5 8.Sb2 Qb6+ 9.Qb7 Qxb7+  
10.Kxb7 h5 wins. Now Black intends a mate  
in 1.

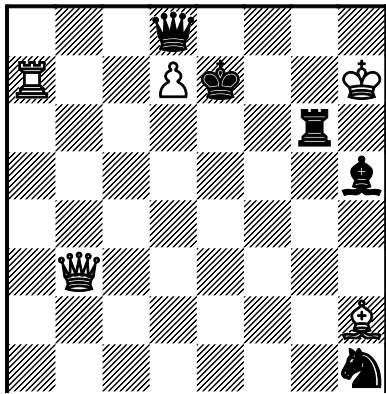
“The ‘almost’ St Petersburg (he lives in  
Sosnovoi Bor) has cleverly put together sever-  
al known ideas.”

# Nona 2008

The Georgian Chess Club NTN (Nona-Tigran-Nana) organized the tourney named after IGM Nona Gaprindashvili. 76 studies were received from 35 composers from 19 countries. IGM David Gurgenidze judged the tourney. The provisional award was published on Iuri Akobia's website on 1vii2008 and sent to all participants. The award became definitive on 20ix2008.

## Main nominations

**No 17066** Y. Bazlov  
1st prize



h7e7 4443.10 5/5 Win

**No 17066** Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Qd5 Sg3/i 2.Bxg3 Rg7+ 3.Kxg7 Qf8+ 4.Kh7 Bg6+ 5.Kxg6 Qg8+ 6.Kh6 Qh8+ (Qxd5; Bh4+) 7.Kg5 Qg8+ 8.Kf4 Qxd5 9.Bh4+ Ke6 10.d8S+/ii Kd6 11.Be7 mate.

i) Qg8+ 2.Qxg8 Rxxg8 3.Kxg8 Bf7+ 4.Kg7 Be6 5.Bd6+ wins. Sf2 2.Qe5+ Kf8 3.Ra8 Qxa8 4.Qh8+ wins.

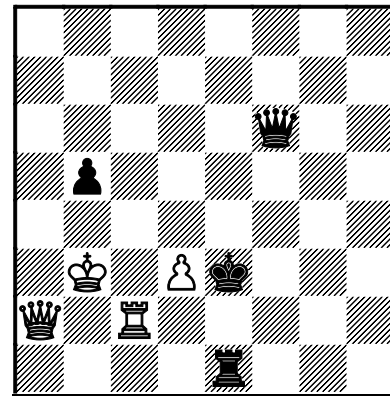
ii) 10.d8Q Qe4+ 11.Kg5 Qe3+ draw.

“It takes a high-grade study to give us a real fight: here Black invokes stalemate defences, against which White conjures up checkmate. Even the static wRa7 scarcely spoils the wonderful impression.”

**No 17067** Iuri Akobia (Georgia). The initial position looks equal, but White has a useful initiative. 1.Qa7+, with two thematic lines:

– Qd4 2.Qe7+ Kxd3 3.Qh7+ Re4 4.Qh3+ Re3 5.Qf5+ Qe4 6.Qxb5+ Kd4+ 7.Kb2 Qe6/i 8.Qb4+ Ke5 9.Rc5+ Kf6 10.Qh4+ Kf7 11.Rc7+ Kg6 12.Qh7+ Kf6 13.Qg7+ Kf5 14.Rf7+ Ke4 15.Re7, Q-pin 3, or

**No 17067** I. Akobia  
2nd prize



b3e3 4400.11 4/4 Win

– Kxd3 2.Qh7+ Re4/ii 3.Qd7+ Rd4 4.Qh3+/iii Ke4 5.Qg4+ (Qh7) Ke5 6.Qh5+ Ke6/iv 7.Qe8+ Kf5 8.Rf2+ Rf4 9.Qd7+ Kg5 10.Rg2+ Kh6 11.Rh2+ Rh4 12.Rd2 Kg5 13.Rd5+ Kf4/v 14.Rd6 and branching again:

• Qg5 15.Qf7+ Ke3 16.Rg6/vi Qc5/vii 17.Rg3+ Ke4/viii 18.Qf3+/ix Ke5 19.Rg5+, Q-win on the rank, or

• Rh3+ 15.Qxh3 Qxd6 16.Qh2+, Q-win on the diagonal.

i) Qd3 8.Qb4+ Ke5/x 9.Rd2 Qe4 10.Qd6+ Kf5 11.Rd5+ Kg4 12.Rd4, Q-pin 2.

ii) Kd4 3.Rd2+ Ke3 4.Qd3+ Kf4 5.Rf2+, Q-win on the file.

iii) 4.Qxb5+? Ke4 5.Re2+ Kf3 draw.

iv) Kd6 7.Qc5+ Ke6 8.Qc6+ Kf7 9.Qc7+ Kf8 10.Qc8+ Rd8 11.Qc5+ Kf7 12.Rf2, Q-pin 4.

v) Kg6 (Kh6) 14.Rd6, Q-pin 5.

vi) 16.Qa7+? Kf3 17.Qa8+ Ke3 18.Re6+ Kf2 19.Qa7+ Kf3 20.Qd7 Kf2 21.Qd3 Qg8 draw.

vii) Qe5 17.Re6, Q-pin 6.

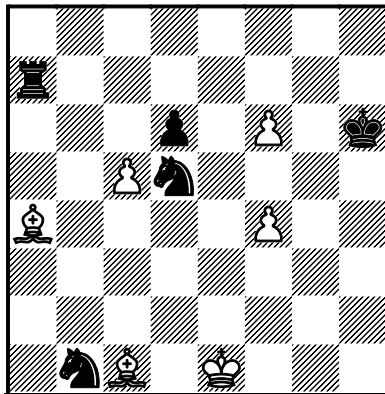
viii) Ke2 18.Rg2+ Kd3 19.Qf1+ Ke4 20.Re2+ wins.

ix) 18.Qe6+? Kf4 19.Rc3 Qd4 draw.

x) Kd5 9.Rd2, Q-pin 1.

“The domination theme, with six (echoed) Q-pin wins, embellished with all kinds of linear Q-wins lifting the artistic level.”

**No 17068** O. Pervakov  
3rd prize



e1h6 0326.31 6/5 Draw

**No 17068** Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Bc2? Sa3 2.f5+ Kh7 3.Bb3 Sxf6 wins. 1.f5+/i Kh7 2.f7 Re7+/ii 3.Kf1/iii Rxf7 4.cxd6 Sb6 5.d7 Sxd7 6.Bc2 Sc3 7.f6+/iv Kh8 8.Bb2 Sd5 9.Bg6 Rf8 10.f7+/v S5f6 11.Bf5 draw.

i) First firing of the battery.

ii) This intermediate check is important.

iii) Thematic try: 3.Kf2? Rxf7 4.cxd6 Sb6 (Sf6 is similar) 5.d7 Sxd7 6.Bc2 Sc3 7.f6+ Kh8 8.Bb2 Sf8 9.Bxc3 Rc7 10.Bb4 Rxc2+ wins. wB is consumed by a check, enabled by the choice of square for wK.

iv) The battery fires a second time...

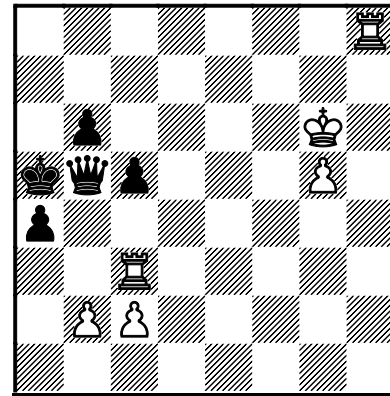
v) ... and a third.

“The P/B battery fires three times, showing high technique. But Black has little more than a supporting role.”

**No 17069** Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Ra8+ Kb4 2.Rxa4+/i Qxa4 3.Rc4+ Kxc4 4.b3+ Qxb3 5.cxb3+ Kxb3 6.Kh5/ii c4 7.g6 c3 8.g7 c2 9.g8Q+ Kb2 10.Qg7+ Kb1 11.Qg6 Kb2 12.Qf6+ Kb1 13.Qf5 b5 14.Qd3 b4 15.Qb3+ Kc1 16.Kg4, and an elementary white win.

i) Thematic try: 2.Rc4+? Qxc4 3.Rxa4+ Kxa4 4.b3+ Qxb3 5.cxb3+ Ka3 (Kxb3? Kh5)

**No 17069** S. Didukh  
4th prize



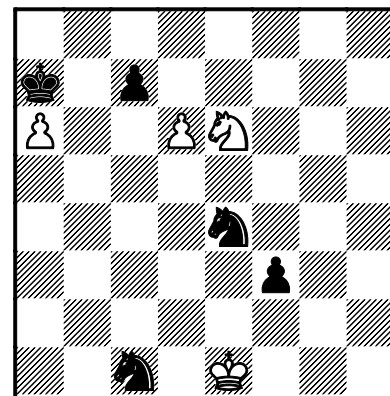
g6a5 3200.33 6/5 Win

6.Kf5 b5 7.g6 c4 8.g7 c3 9.g8Q c2 10.Qg1 Kb2 The wP prevents white to beat out king from a fortress.

ii) Thematic try: 6.Kf5? c4 (Kb2) 7.g6 c3 (Kb2) 8.g7 c2 (Kb2) 9.g8Q+ Kb2 draw.

“Each new work of this young composer brings pleasure. I like, as here, his handling of theme development.”

**No 17070** N. Kralin  
5th prize



e1a7 0007.22 4/5 Draw

**No 17070** Nikolai Kralin (Russia). 1.d7? Sd3+ 2.Kd1 f2 3.Ke2 Sg3 wins. 1.Sc5? Sxd6 2.Kf2 Sf5 3.Kxf3 Sd4+ 4.Ke4 Scb3 wins. 1.dxc7 f2+/i 2.Kf1 Sb3 3.c8S+/ii Kxa6 4.Sc5+ Sbxc5 5.Sd6 Kb6 (Ka7; Sb5+) 6.Ke2 Ka6 7.Kf1 Ka5 8.Sc4+ Kb5 9.Sd2 Kb4 10.Kg2/iii Kc3 11.Sf1 Kd3 12.Sg3 Ke3 13.Sh1 draw.

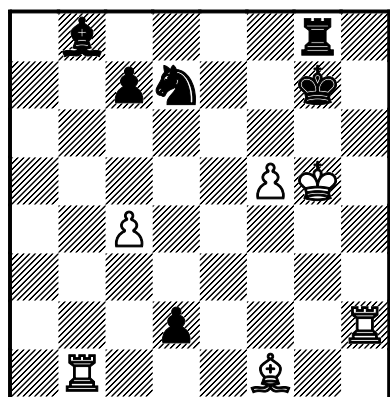
i) Sd3+ 2.Kd1 f2 3.Ke2 Sg3+ 4.Kd2 f1Q 5.c8Q draw.

ii) 3.c8Q? Sbd2+ 4.Ke2 f1Q+ wins.

iii) 10.Ke2? Kc3 11.Sf1 Sd3 wins.

“The promoted knight moves with precision corner-to-corner to bring about the draw.”

**No 17071** M. Hlinka  
6th prize



g5g7 0543.22 6/6 BTM, Draw

**No 17071** Michal Hlinka (Slovakia).  
1...Kf7+/i 2.Kh4 Rh8+ 3.Kg3 d1Q/ii 4.Rxd1  
c6+ 5.Kf3 Se5+ 6.Kg2/iii Rxh2+ 7.Kxh2  
Sg4+ 8.Kg1/iv Ba7+ 9.c5 Bxc5+ 10.Kg2  
Se3+ 11.Kh3 Sxd1 12.Bg2 Se3 13.Bxc6 draw.

i) Kf8+ 2.Kf4 c6+ 3.Rxb8+ draw.

ii) c6+ 4.Rxb8 Rxh2 5.Rb1 draw.

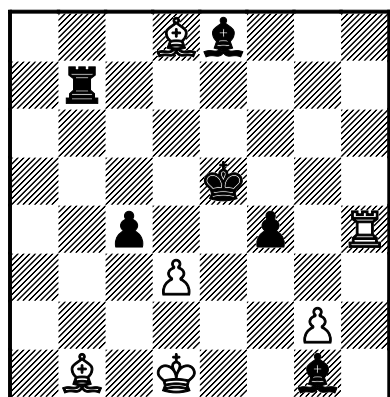
iii) 6.Kg3? Sxc4+ 7.Kf3 Se5+ 8.Kg2 Rxh2+  
9.Kxh2 Sg4+ 10.Kg1 Ba7+ 11.Kg2 Se3+  
12.Kh3 Sxd1 13.Bg2 c5.

iv) 8.Kg2? Se3+ 9.Kh3 Sxd1 10.Bg2 c5  
wins.

“Interesting and sharp play, with combina-  
tive ideas by both sides.”

“Fresh nuances in some of the next six are  
attention-worthy.”

**No 17072** G. Amann  
honourable mention



d1e5 0480.22 6/6 Draw

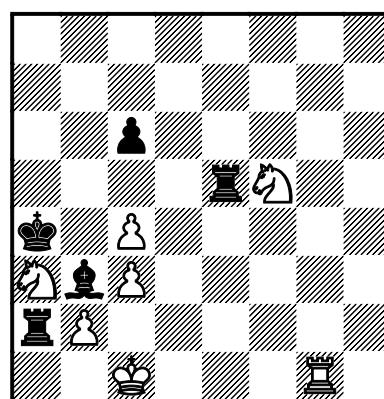
**No 17072** Günter Amann (Austria). 1.Bc2  
cxd3 2.Bxd3 Rd7 3.Bf6+ Kxf6 4.Rxf4+ Kg5  
(Ke5; Re4+) 5.Rf5+/i Kh4/ii 6.Rf1/iii Rxd3+  
7.Ke2 Bh2 8.Rh1 Bb5 9.Rxh2+ Rh3+ 10.Kf2  
Rxh2 11.Kg1 Kg3 stalemate.

i) 5.Rf1? Rxd3+. 5.Rf3? Bh5.

ii) Kg4 6.Rf3. Kh6 6.Ke2 Rxd3 7.Kxd3 Bg6  
8.g4.

iii) 6.Rf3? Bh5. 6.Ke2? Bg6 7.Rf3 Bh5  
8.g3+ Kg5. 6.Kc2? Rxd3 7.Kxd3 Bg6 8.Ke4  
Kg4.

**No 17073** Y. Afek  
honourable mention



c1a4 0732.31 7/5 Draw

**No 17073** Yochanan Afek (Israel/The  
Netherlands). 1.Sg3? Ra1+ 2.Sb1 Bxc4 3.Kc2  
Rd5 wins. 1.Rf1? Re2 2.Sd4 Rexb2 wins.  
1.Sd4 Ra1+/i 2.Sb1 c5 3.Sc2/ii Bxc2 4.Kxc2  
Re2+ 5.Kd3 Rh2/iii 6.Re1 Rxb2/iv 7.Re8  
Rxb1/v 8.Kc2 Rc1+/vi 9.Kb2 Rab1+ (Ka5;  
Ra8+) 10.Ka2 Ra1+ 11.Kb2 Rcb1+ 12.Kc2  
draw.

i) c5 2.Sdc2 Bxc2 3.Sxc2 Kb3 4.Rg8 Ra7  
5.Rb8+ Kxc4 6.Sa3+ Kd5 7.Kc2.

ii) 3.Kd2? cxd4 4.cxd4 Ra5 5.Sc3+ Kb4  
wins. 3.Sf3? Re2 4.Sfd2 Rxb1+ 5.Kxb1 Rxd2  
6.Kc1 Rd6 wins.

iii) An intermediate attempt threatening  
Kb3.

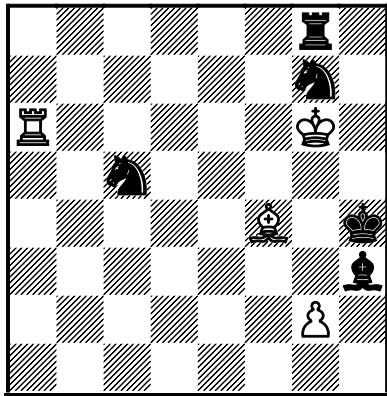
iv) Or else b3+, followed by Sd2+.

v) Raxb1 8.Ra8+ Kb3 9.Rb8+ Ka2 10.Ra8+  
draw.

vi) Ka5 9.Ra8+ Kb6 10.Rb8+ Kc6 11.Rxb1  
draw.

**No 17074** Wieland Bruch & Martin Minski  
(Germany). 1.Kh7 (Kf7)? Sxa6. 1.g3+? Kg4.

**No 17074** W. Bruch & M. Minski  
honourable mention



g6h4 0446.10 4/5 Draw

Black wins. So: 1.Bg5+ Kg3 2.Kh7/i Be6 3.Bh4+/ii Kxh4 4.g3+ Kg5 5.Rxe6 Sxe6 6.g4/iii Kf6 7.Kxg8 Sg5/iv 8.Kf8zz Sh7+ 9.Kg8 Sg5 10.Kf8 positional draw.

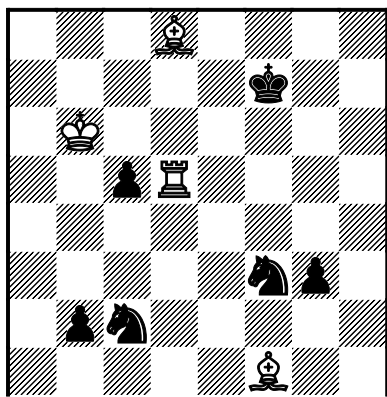
i) 2.Ra3+? Kxg2 3.Ra2+ Kf1 4.Ra1+ Ke2 wins. 2.Kf7? Be6+ 3.Rxe6 Sgxe6 wins.

ii) 3.Bf4+? Kxf4 4.g3+ Kf3 5.Rxe6 Rf8 wins. 3.Rxe6? Sgxe6 4.Bh4+ Kxh4 5.Kxg8 Kg3 wins.

iii) Thematic try: 6.Kxg8? Kg6 7.g4 Sg5 8.Kf8 Kf6zz 9.Kg8 S7e6 10.Kh8 Ke5 11.Kg8 Ke4 12.Kh8 Kf4 13.Kg8 Ke5 14.Kh8 Kf6 15.Kg8 Kg6 16.Kh8 Sf7+ 17.Kg8 Sh6+ 18.Kh8 Sd8 19.g5 Sdf7 mate.

iv) Kg6 8.g5 Sf5 9.Kh8 Sh6 10.gxh6 Kf7 11.h7 draw. not 11.Kh7? Sg5+ 12.Kh8 Kf8 13.h7 Sf7 mate.

**No 17075** L. González  
honourable mention



b6f7 0126.03 4/6 Draw

**No 17075** Luis Miguel González (Spain). 1.Rd1? Se3 2.Rb1 Sxf1 3.Rxb2 (Rxf1 Ke6;) S1d2 4.Bh4 g2 5.Bf2 Sc4+ 6.Kxc5 Sxb2 wins.

1.Rd7+ Kf8/i 2.Rd1/ii Se3 3.Rb1 Sxf1 4.Rxb2 S1d2 5.Ka6/iii g2 6.Bb6 g1Q 7.Bxc5+ Qxc5 8.Rb8+ Ke7 9.Rb7+ Kd6 10.Rb6+ Kc7 11.Rb7+, and:

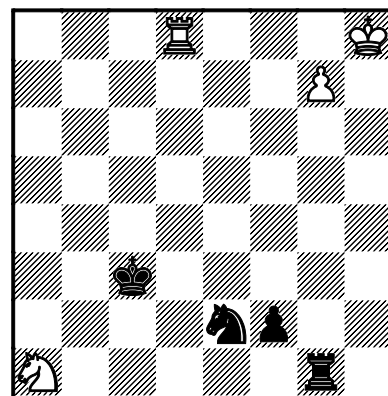
– Kc6 12.Rc7+ Kxc7 stalemate, or  
– Kc8 12.Rb8+ Kxb8 stalemate.

i) Ke8 2.Bb5 Sa3 3.Re7+ Kf8 4.Re8+ Kg7 5.Re7+ Kh6 6.Bd3 draw, or b1Q 3.Rd1+ Qxb5+ 4.Kxb5 Scd4+ 5.Kxc5 Kxd8 6.Kd5 Ke7 7.Ke4 g2 8.Kf4 Sh4 9.Kg3 Sdf3 10.Kf2 draw.

ii) 2.Be7+? Ke8 3.Rd1 Kxe7 4.Rb1 Se3 5.Rxb2 Sxf1 6.Kxc5 S1d2 7.Rb4 Se5 wins. If, in this, 3.Bb5, see (i), with the difference that now Black wins.

iii) 5.Rxd2? Sxd2 6.Bc7 g2 7.Bd6+ Kf7 8.Bxc5 Kf6 9.Kc6 Ke5 10.Bg1 Sf3 11.Bf2 Kf4 12.Kd5 Sg5 13.Ba7 Sh3 14.Kc4 Kf3 wins.

**No 17076** A. Sochnev  
honourable mention



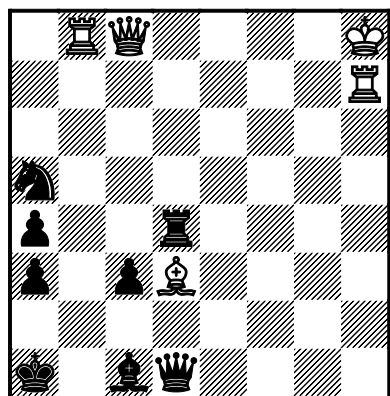
h8c3 0404.11 4/4 Draw

**No 17076** Aleksei Sochnev (Russia). Thematic try: 1.Rf8? Rh1+ 2.Kg8 f1Q 3.Rxf1 Rxf1 4.Kh7 (Sb3 Sf4;) Rh1+ 5.Kg6 Sf4+ 6.Kf7 Rh7 7.Kg8 Rh5 8.Kf7 Rf5+ 9.Ke8 Sd5 10.g8Q Sf6+ wins. So: 1.Rc8+ Kb2 2.Rf8 Rh1+ 3.Kg8 f1Q 4.Rxf1 Rxf1 5.Sb3/i Kxb3 6.Kh7 Rh1+ 7.Kg6 Sf4+ 8.Kf7 Rh7 9.Kg8 Rh5 10.Kf7 Rf5+ 11.Ke8 Sd5 12.g8Q and draws, because bS is pinned, rendering Sf6+ illegal.

i) 5.Sc2? Kxc2 6.Kh7 Rh1+ 7.Kg8 (Kg6; Sf4+) d4 8.Kf7 Sf5 wins.

**No 17077** Grigory Slepian (Belarus). 1.Qxc3+? Bb2 draw. 1.Rb1+ Ka2 2.Rh2+ Bb2

**No 17077** G. Slepian  
honourable mention



h8a1 4543.03 5/8 Win

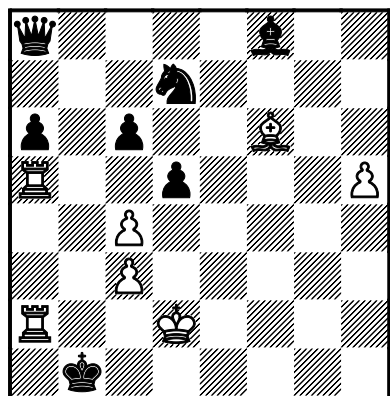
3.Rxd1 Rd8+ 4.Qxd8 c2+ 5.Qd4/i cxd1Q  
6.Rxb2+ axb2 7.Bb1+ Qxb1/ii 8.Qxa4 mate.

i) 5.Kg8? cxd1Q 6.Bc4+ Sb3 7.Qxd1 stale-  
mate, not 7.Bxb3+? Qxb3+ – but not, in turn,  
7...axb3? 8.Qxd1 stalemate.

ii) Kxb1 8.Qxd1+ Ka2 9.Qxa4+ Kb1  
10.Qxa5 wins.

“In my judgement fresh features are lacking  
in the remaining nine studies – ahead of the  
special section.”

**No 17078** G. Amann  
commendation



d2b1 3243.33 7/7 Win

**No 17078** Günter Amann (Austria). 1.Rxa6?  
Qe8. 1.c5? Bh6+ 2.Kd1 Qe8. 1.Ra1+ Kb2  
2.c5 Bh6+/i 3.Kd3 Sxc5+ 4.Rxc5 Kxa1 5.Kc2  
a5 6.Bd8/ii Qxd8/iii 7.Rc4 dxc4 stalemate.

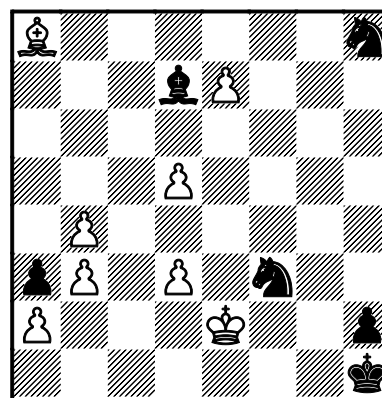
i) Bxc5 3.R1a2+ Kb3 4.Ra1 Kc4/iv 5.R1a4+  
Kb3 6.Ra1. Sxc5 3.c4+ Kb3 4.Rb1+ Kxc4  
5.Rc1+ Kb4 6.Bc3+ Kc4 7.Bf6+ Kb3 8.Rb1+  
Kc4 9.Rc1+.

ii) 6.c4+? Ka2 7.Bc3 a4 8.Ra5 Qxa5 9.Bxa5  
d4 10.Bd2 Bf8 11.h6 d3+ 12.Kxd3 Kb3 wins.

iii) a4 7.Ra5 Qxa5 8.Bxa5 draw.

iv) d4 5.Kd3. Bb6 5.Rb1+ Kc4 6.Rb4 mate.

**No 17079** V. Bartosh  
commendation



e2h1 0046.62 8/6 Win

**No 17079** Vladimir Bartosh (Belarus).  
1.Kf2? Sg6 2.d6 Sge5 3.Be4 Sg4+ 4.Kf1 Se3+  
draw. 1.Kf1 Sg6 2.d6/i Sge5 3.Be4 Bb5 4.Kf2  
with two lines:

– Be8 5.Bf5/ii Sg5 6.Kf1 Sgf3 7.b5 Bxb5  
8.d7 Bxd7 9.Bxd7 Sd2+ 10.Kf2 Se4+  
11.dxe4 and wins, or

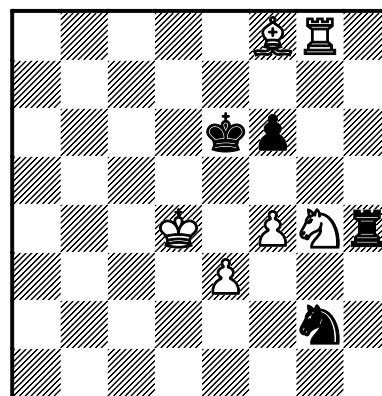
– Sg4+.5.Kxf3 Sf6 6.Kf2+ Sxe4+ 7.dxe4 Ba4  
8.e5 Bb5 9.e6 Bc6 10.b5 Bxb5 11.Ke3/iii  
Kg2 12.d7 h1Q 13.e8Q Qe1+ 14.Kd4 wins.

i) 2.b5? Sge5 3.d6 Bxb5 4.Be4 Bd7 5.d4  
Bb5+ 6.Kf2 Sg4+ 7.Kxf3 Sf6 draw.

ii) 5.d4? Sg4+ 6.Kxf3 Sf6.

iii) 11.Kg3? Kg1 12.d7 h1Q 13.e8Q draw.

**No 17080** S. Hornecker  
commendation



d4e6 0414.21 6/4 BTM, Win

**No 17080** Siegfried Hornecker (Germany).  
1...Kf7 2.Rg7+/i Kxf8 3.Rg6 f5/ii 4.Sh6 Sxf4

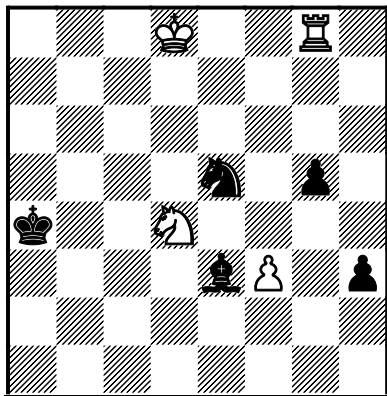
5.Rg8+ Ke7 6.Sxf5+ Kf7 7.Sxh4 Se2+ 8.Kd3 Kxg8 9.Kxe2 wins.

i) 2.Sxf6? Sxf4 3.exf4/iii Rxf4+ 4.Ke5 Rf5+ 5.Kxf5 stalemate, but not Rxf6? 5.Rg7+ Kxf8 6.Kxf6 wins.

ii) Kf7 4.f5 wins. Sxf4 4.Rxf6+ Ke7 5.Rxf4 wins.

iii) 3.Rg4 Rxg4 4.Sxg4 Se6+ 5.Ke5 Sxf8 draw. 3.Ke5 Sd3+ 4.Kf5 Ra4 draw.

**No 17081** G. Josten  
commendation



d8a4 0134.12 4/5 Draw

**No 17081** Gerhard Josten (Germany).  
1.Rg7? Bxd4 2.Rh7 Sxf3 3.Rxh3 g4 wins. Or  
1.Se2? Bf2 2.Ke7 Sxf3 wins. 1.Ke8 Bxd4  
2.Rh8 Sxf3 3.Rxh3 g4 4.Rg3 Se5/i 5.Rg2 Bc5  
6.Re2 Bd6 7.Rd2 Bc7 8.Rc2 Bd6 9.Rd2 Bb4  
10.Re2 Sc4/ii 11.Rg2 Se3/iii 12.Rg3 Bc5  
13.Kf7/iv Bd4 14.Kg6 draw.

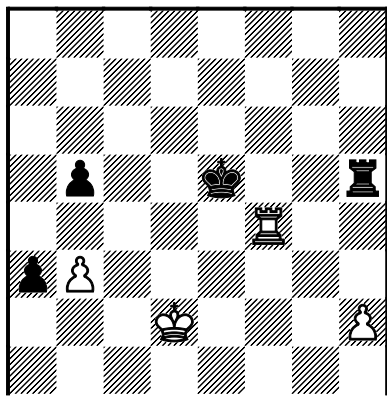
i) Sh2 5.Rg2 Be5 6.Kf7 g3 7.Kg6 draw.

ii) Bc3 11.Rg2 Kb4 12.Ke7 draw.

iii) Se5 12.Re2 Sc4 13.Rg2 draw.

iv) 13.Kd7? Kb4 14.Ke6 Bd4 wins.

**No 17082** J. Mikitovics  
commendation



d2e5 0400.22 4/4 Draw

**No 17082** János Mikitovics (Hungary).  
1.Rf1 Rh3/i 2.b4 Rb3 3.h4 Rxb4 4.h5/ii Rb2+  
5.Kd3 Kd5 6.h6 Rb3+ 7.Kc2/iii Rh3/iv 8.h7  
b4 9.Rf3 Rh2+/v 10.Kb3 Rb2+ 11.Ka4 Rh2  
12.Kb3 draws, but White would even win af-  
ter Ke4? 12.Rf8 a2 13.h8Q (“Excelsior!”)  
a1Q+ 14.Kb5, or a2 12.h8Q a1Q+ 13.Kb5.

i) b4 2.Kd3 Kd5 3.h4 Rxh4 4.Rf5+ draw.

ii) 4.Kc3? Rb2 5.h5 Kd5 6.Rd1+ Kc5 7.Rc1  
b4+ wins.

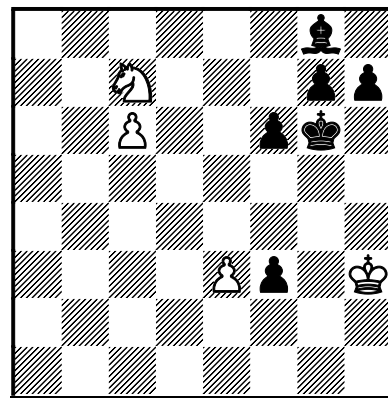
iii) 7.Kd2? Rh3 wins, 8.h7 b4, avoiding  
Kc4? 9.Rf4+ Kc5 10.Rf3 Rxh7 11.Kc3 Ra7  
12.Rf5+ draw.

iv) Rb2+ 8.Kd3 a2 9.Ra1 b4 10.h7 Rh2  
11.Rxa2 Rh3+ 12.Kd2 Rxh7 13.Rc2/vi draws.

v) Rxh7 10.Kb3 Rh2 11.Kxb4 draw.

vi) 13.Kc2? Kc4 14.Ra6 Rh2+ wins.  
13.Ra8? Kc4 14.Rc8+ Kb3 wins. 13.Ra5+?  
Kc4 14.Kc2 Rh2+ wins.

**No 17083** J. Pospíšil  
commendation



h3g6 0031.24 4/6 Draw

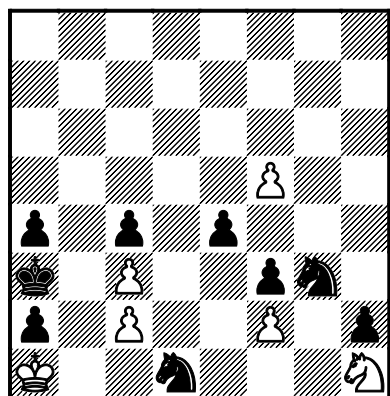
**No 17083** Jaroslav Pospíšil (Czech Republic).  
1.e4? f5 2.exf5+ Kxf5 3.Kg3 Ke4 4.Kf2  
g5 wins. 1.Kg3 Kf7 2.Sd5/i Ke6 3.c7/ii Kd7  
4.Se7 Kxc7 5.Sxg8 Kd7 6.Kxf3 Ke6 7.Kg4  
Kf7 8.Sh6+ gxh6 9.Kh5 Kg7 10.e4 Kf7  
11.Kxh6 Kg8 12.Kh5 Kg7 13.e5 fxe5 14.Kg5  
draw.

i) 2.Sb5? Ke7 3.c7 Kd7 4.Kxf3 Bd5+ 5.Kf4  
Bb7 6.e4 Ba6 7.Sd4 Bc8 8.e5 fxe5+ 9.Kxe5  
Kxc7 wins.

ii) 3.e4? Bf7 4.Kxf3 Kd6 5.c7 Kd7 wins.



**No 17084** P. Rossi & M. Campioli  
commendation



a1a3 0007.46 6/9 Win

**No 17084** Pietro Rossi & Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.f6/i Se3 2.fxe3 f2 3.Sxf2 Sf5 4.f7 Se7 5.f8R (f8Q? h1Q+;) Sf5 6.Rb8/ii Sxe3 7.Rb2 h1Q+ 8.Sxh1 Sd1 9.Rxa2 mate.

i) 1.Sxg3? Se3 2.fxe3 f2 wins.

ii) 6.Rxf5? h1Q+ 7.Sxh1 stalemate. 6.Sh1? Sxe3 7.Rf2 Sf1 8.Rxf1 draw.

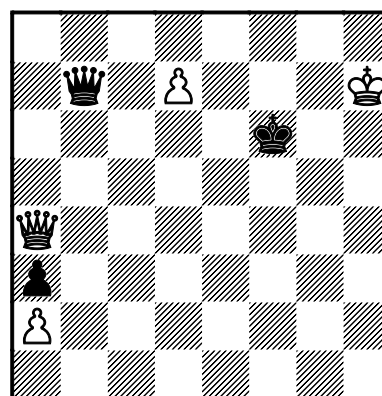
Another commendation was G. Popov g6g4 0014.24 a2h1d4.g2g3b6f6g5g7 5/6, win: with 1.Bb1? f5 draw. 1.Bf7? f5 2.Be8 b5 3.Kxg7 Se2 draw. 1.Kxg7? f5 2.Kf6 f4 3.Bd5 fxe3 draw. 1.Bd5 f5 2.Bb7 b5 3.Bc8 b4 4.Bd7 b3 5.Ba4zz Se2 6.Bxb3 Sxg3 7.Sxg3 Kxg3 8.Bd5. But MG proposes 1.Bc4 f5 2.Ba6 b5 3.Bc8 b4 4.Bd7 or b5 2.Bf7 f5 4.Be8 b4 5.Bf7. HH wonders how this can be overlooked!

Also a commendation by V. Shkril was cooked by MG: h2e8 0860.22 f5g6a1a8b7e1. a5c5a7h5 5/7, draw:

1.Re6+ Kd7 2.Rd6+ Kc8 3.Rf8+ Kc7 4.Rf7+ Kb8 5.Rd8+/i Bc8 6.c6 Rb1 7.a6 Ba5 8.Rb7+ Rxb7 9.Rxc8+ Kxc8 10.cxb7+ Kb8 draw. 5.c6 is given as a try: Ra2+ 6.Kh1 Bxc6+ 7.Rxc6 Bxa5 8.Ra6 Ra4 9.Rh6 Rc4 wins, but MG plays 6.Kg1 with Bf2+ 7.Kh1 Bxc6+ 8.Rxc6 Rxa5 9.Rh6 Rc5 10.Rxf2 a5 11.Rh7 Rc4 12.Rb2+ Rb4 13.Re2 Rb7 14.Rh8+, or here Kb7 11.Rh7+ Kc6 12.Rf6+ Kb5 13.Rb7+ Ka5 14.Rb1. If Black tries 6...Bc8 then 7.Rd8 Rb2 8.a6 as in the main line.

**Special nominations**

**No 17085** V. Kalandadze  
1st special prize



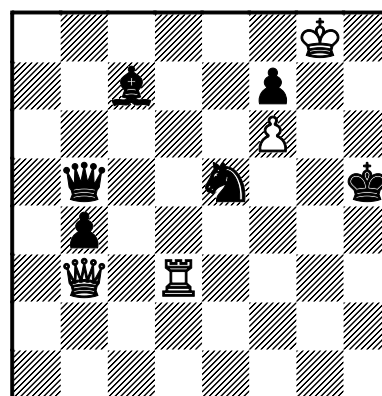
h7f6 4000.21 4/3 Win

**No 17085** Velimir Kalandadze (Georgia). 1.Qd4+? Ke6 (Ke7? d8Q+) 2.Kg8 Qg2+ draw. 1.Qf4+ Ke7 2.Qf7+ Kxf7 3.d8S+ Kf6+ 4.Sxb7 Ke5 5.Kg6 (Sc5? Kd5;) Kd4 6.Kf5 Kc3 7.Ke4 Kb2 8.Kd3 Kxa2 9.Kc2 Ka1 10.Sc5 Ka2 11.Sd3 Ka1 12.Sc1 a2, and (the known) 13.Sb3 mate.

“Synthesis of different ideas in an airy miniature.”

MG spots a minor dual: 10.Sa5 Ka2 11.Sc6 Ka1 12.Sd4 etc.

**No 17086** R. Becker  
2nd special prize



g8h5 4133.12 4/6 Draw

**No 17086** Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rh3+? Kg5 2.Kg7 Sg4 (Qc5) wins. 1.Rd1? Kh6 2.Rh1+ Kg5 3.Kg7 Sg4 4.Qxf7 Be5 5.Rh5+ Kf4 6.Qe6 Qd3 wins. 1.Rd2? Kh6 2.Qh3+ Kg6 3.Qh7+ Kxf6 4.Qh6+ Kf5 5.Rf2+ Ke4 6.Qh1+ Kd4 7.Rd2+ Sd3 wins. Therefore: 1.Rd4 Kh6 2.Qxb4/i with two thematic lines:

– Qxb4 3.Rxb4 Kg6 4.Rb7 Ba5 5.Rb5 Bc7/ii  
6.Rb7 Bd8 7.Rb8 Bc7 8.Rb7 Bd6 9.Rxf7  
Sxf7, first stalemate, or

– Qe8+ 3.Qf8+ Qxf8+ 4.Kxf8 Kg6 5.Ke8/iii  
Kxf6 6.Rd5zz Bb8 7.Rd8 Ba7 8.Rd5 Bb8  
9.Rd8 Bc7 10.Rd5 Ke6 11.Rd7 Sxd7/iv,  
second stalemate.

i) 2.Rh4+? Kg6 3.Qc2+ Qd3 4.Qxc7 Qg3  
5.Rc4 Kxf6+ 6.Kf8 Qg7+ 7.Ke8 Qg8 mate.  
2.Qe3+? Kg6 3.Qe4+ (Qg3+) Kxf6 4.Qh4+  
Ke6 5.Qh6+ Sg6 6.Qe3+ Kf6 7.Qf3+ Bf4  
8.Rxf4+ Sxf4 9.Qxf4+ Qf5 10.Qd6+ Qe6  
wins.

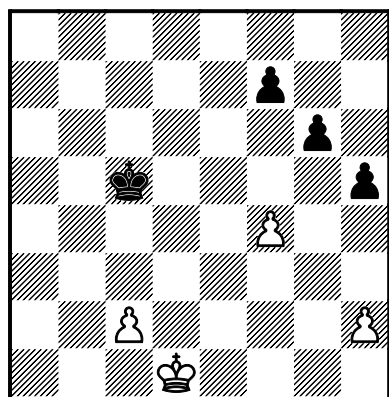
ii) Bc3 6.Rc5 Bd4 7.Rd5.

iii) 5.Rd5? Sf3 6.Rd1 Bf4(Bb6) wins.

iv) Bd6 12.Rxf7 Sxf7, third stalemate.

“An interesting way to link three known stalemates. Such syntheses are not easy to realize.”

**No 17087** A. Ruzs & S. Didukh  
3rd special prize



d1c5 0000.33 4/4 Draw

**No 17087** Arpad Ruzs (Romania) & Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). Romanian master Mihail Marin, commenting on the encounter Adams-Polgar (Corus 2008), noted an interesting reciprocal zugzwang. The composers acknowledge their use of it by adding introductory moves and changing the stipulation, calling the theme ‘anti-Marin’.

Thematic try: 1.Ke2? Kd4/i 2.Kf3 f6 3.h4 f5  
4.Ke2 Ke4 5.Kd2 Kf3 6.c3 Ke4 7.c4 Kxf4 zz  
8.Kd3 g5 9.c5 gxh4 10.c6 h3 11.c7 h2 12.c8Q  
h1Q 13.Qc7+ Kg4 14.Qg7+ Kh3 win. 1.c3?  
Kd5 2.Kc2 Ke4 3.c4 Kxf4 4.Kc3 Ke5 win.  
Hence White threatens to play f5 by starting

with: 1.h4 f5 2.c3/ii Kd5 3.Kc2 Ke4 4.c4 Kxf4  
5.Kd2zz g5/iii 6.c5 gxh4 7.c6 h3 8.c7 h2  
9.c8Q h1Q 10.Qc7+ Kg4 11.Qg7+ Kh3  
12.Qc3+, perpetual check. ‘Anti-Marin.’

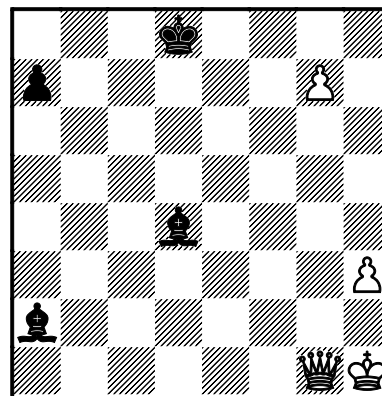
i) Kc4? 2.Kf3 Kd4 3.c3+ Kxc3 4.f5 g5  
5.Ke4 f6 6.Kd5 g4 7.Ke6 h4 8.Kxf6 g3 9.hxg3  
h3 10.Kg7 draw.

ii) 2.Kd2? Kd4 3.c3+ Ke4 4.Kc2 Kxf4 5.c4  
Kg3 6.c5 f4 7.c6 f3 8.c7 f2 9.c8Q f1Q win.

iii) Ke4 6.Kc3 f4 7.c5 f3 8.Kd2 draw. Kg3  
6.Ke2 Kg2 7.Ke3 Kg3 8.Ke2 draw.

“Study art at work on a practical endgame.”

**No 17088** I. Aliev  
special honourable mention



h1d8 1060.21 4/4 BTM, Draw

**No 17088** Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan).  
1...Bd5+ 2.Kh2/i with:

– Bxg1+ 3.Kxg1 a5 4.Kf2 a4 5.Ke3 a3 6.Kd4  
(Réti) Bg8/ii 7.Kc3 a2 8.Kb2 draw, or

– Be5+ 3.Qg3 Bc7 4.Qxc7+ Kxc7 5.Kg3/iii  
a5 6.Kf4/iv a4 4 7.Ke5/v Bg8 8.Kd4 a3  
9.Kc3 draw.

i) 2.Qg2? Bxg2+ 3.Kxg2 Bxg7.

ii) a2 7.Kxd5 a1Q 8.g8Q+.

iii) Thematic try: 5.Kg1? a5 6.Kf2 a4 7.Ke3  
a3 8.Kd4 (Réti) a2 9.Kxd5 a1Q 10.g8Q Qa2+  
11.Ke5 Qxg8 wins. ‘Anti-Réti’.

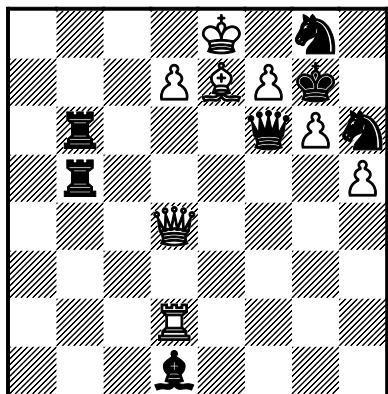
iv) 6.Kf2? a4 7.Ke3 a3 8.Kd4 a2 9.Kxd5  
a1Q 10.g8Q Qa2+ 11.Ke5 Qxg8 wins.

v) 7.Ke3? a3 see previous note.

“A favourite theme of the author. This is one more piece of evidence that Réti’s idea will be with us forever.”

**No 17089** Grigory Slepian (Belarus).  
1...Rb8+ 2.d8B/i Re5 3.Qxe5 Ba4+ 4.Rd7

No 17089 G. Slepian  
special honourable mention



e8g7 4746.40 8/7 BTM, Draw

Qxe5 5.f8B+ Kh8 6.g7+ Kh7 stalemate, avoiding Qxg7? 7.Bxg7+ Kxg7 8.Bf6 mate.

i) 2.d8Q? Re5 3.Qxe5 Ba4+ 4.Rd7 Qxe5 5.f8Q+ Kh8 6.g7+ Kh7 wins. And what is amiss with 2.d8S? ? The answer: Re5 3.Qxe5 Ba4+ 4.Rd7 Qxe5 5.f8B+ Kh8 6.g7+ Qxg7 7.Bxg7+ Kxg7, when 8.Bf6 may be double-check, but it isn't checkmate: 8...Kxf6.

“One can well imagine the enormous labour required to arrive at this fantastic position. What an achievement – at the cost of the presentation!”

With the introductory pyrotechnics Pogoyants Rides Again! If only it were a win and 8.Bf6 mate were the main line! [AJR]



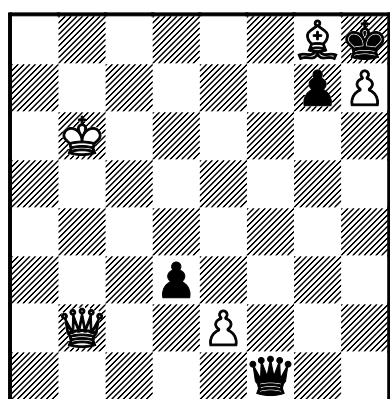
*Jonathan Mestel*

# Olimpiya Dunyasi (Azerbaijan) 2007

This formal tourney was judged by Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). The provisional award was published in *Olimpiya Dunyasi*, No.13, 22-25ii2008 and became final in No.26, 2-5v2008.

Report: “....I thank Ilham Aliev for this possibility to make my début as a judge ... I received 25 anonymous entries .... though composing technique betrayed [the identity of] some authors ... the expected decrease in creative standard at the beginning of the *FIDE Album* cycle didn't happen here, and the prize studies proved to be of a very high quality. Of course there were ‘red cards’, speaking football language: ... a study by P. Rossi [HH: EG#15354] was published in *Magyar Sakkélet* in 2001 where it received a first commendation.”

No 17090 R. Becker  
1st prize



b6h8 4010.22 5/4 Win

No 17090 Richard Becker (USA). “White must keep his pawn. 1.e4? d2 2.Qxd2 Qb1+ 3.Kc5 Qxe4 draw.” Note bPg7 pinned by wQb2. 1.e3 d2/i 2.Qxd2 Qf6+/ii 3.Ka7/iii Qe7+/iv 4.Kb8 (Ka8? Qa3+;) Qe5+ 5.Ka8 Qc3/v 6.Qd8 Qa3+ 7.Kb8/vi Qb4+ 8.Ka7 Qa3+ 9.Kb6 Qxe3+ (Qb4+; Kc6) 10.Kb7zz Qg3/vii 11.Qe8 Qh4/viii 12.Bd5+/ix Kxh7 13.Be4+ g6 14.Qxg6+ Kh8 15.Kc6zz (also Ka6) Qh3/x 16.Qe8+ Kg7 17.Qe7+ Kg8 18.Bd5+, with mate to follow.

i) Black inaugurates insidious stalemate counter-play. Qe1 2.Qd4 d2 3.Bb3 wins.

ii) The semi-desperado bQ would like to sacrifice herself on the long diagonal. One wrong step by wK...

iii) 3.Kc5? Qc3+. 3.Kb7? Qb2+. While 3.Kb5? Qb2+ 4.Qb4 Qe2+ costs the pawn.

iv) Qc3 4.Qd8 Qa3+ 5.Kb6, is a transposition.

v) Qe8+ 6.Kb7 Qe7+ 7.Kc6 Qf6+ 8.Kd7 wins.

vi) It's the danger of a lurking reci-zug that motivates wK's curious dance: 7.Kb7? Qxe3zz.

vii) Qd4 11.Bd5+ Kxh7 12.Bg8+. Qf4 11.Bf7+ Kxh7 12.Qd3+ Kh8 13.Qh3+ Qh6 14.Qc8+ Kh7 15.Qg8 mate.

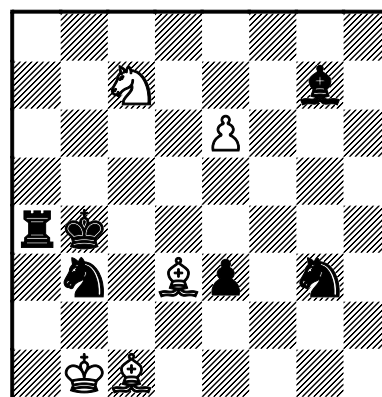
viii) Yet another stalemate try founders: Qe5 12.Be6+ Kxh7 13.Bg8+.

ix) 12.Kc8? Qf6 13.Kd7 g6 draw.

x) Qe7 16.Qh6+ Kg8 17.Bd5+.

“wK's duel with the marauding bQ, sacrificing herself on the c3-d4-e5 squares surprises at every turn. By move 10 the reader is overcome with emotion, and even thinks it will be a shame when all this comes to an end. And that's when an unbelievable reciprocal zugzwang comes out of the woodwork, supported by new and beautiful variations. Impressive!”

No 17091 N. Micu  
2nd prize



b1b4 0357.11 5/6 Draw

**No 17091** Nicolae Micu (Romania).  
 “White’s hopes rest with his passed pawn, but first Black’s threats must be dismantled.”  
 1.Sd5+ Kc5/i 2.Bxe3+ Kxd5 3.e7 Ra1+/ii  
 4.Kc2 Ra8 5.Bg6 Sa1+/iii 6.Kd1/iv Sf5  
 7.Bxf5 Bf6 8.Bg5/v Bxg5/vi 9.Bc8 Rxc8  
 (Bxe7; Bb7+) 10.e8Q Rxe8 stalemate.

i) Ka5 2.Bxe3 (for mate) Ra1+ 3.Kc2 Sd4+  
 4.Bxd4 Bxd4 5.e7 Re1 6.Bg6 draw.

ii) “An important check allowing bS to save himself.” Ra8 4.Bg6 Sf5 5.e8Q Rxe8 6.Bxe8 Sxe3 7.Bf7+ Kd4 8.Bxb3.

iii) Sf5 6.e8Q Rxe8 7.Bxe8 Sa1+ 8.Kd3 draw.

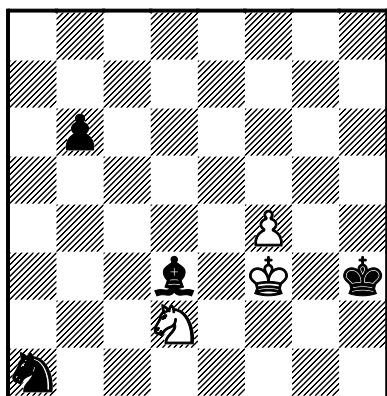
iv) 6.Kc1? or 6.Kd1? lose: Sf5 7.Bxf5 Bf6. 6.Kd2? Se4+ 7.Kd3 Sd6 8.Bf4 Be5. 6.Kd3? Ra3+ 7.Kd2 Sf1+ 8.Ke2 Rxe3+.

v) “The start of the sacrificial cusp.”

vi) Ke5 9.Bg6 draws, but not 9.Bd7? Bxe7 10.Bxe7 Ra7 winning.

“Flamboyant play by both sides, saturated with sacrifices, but not only sacrifices. We are also impressed by subtle logical moments when preparing bS’ move to the corner as well as by the prudent sideslip of wK to the stalemate square. The intense struggle ends in a pure stalemate which is not ‘pulled by the ears’ but whose unexpectedness captivates, as it does in the best artistic studies.”

**No 17092** I. Akobia & R. Becker  
 3rd prize



f3h3 0034.11 3/4 Draw

**No 17092** Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). “Putting one’s money on the pawn backs a loser”: 1.Se4? Kh4 2.f5 Kh5 3.f6 Kg6. So: 1.Ke3 Bh7/i 2.Kd4/ii Kg4 3.f5/

iii Bxf5 4.Kc4 Kf4 5.Kb4/iv Bg6/v 6.Sc4 Sc2+ 7.Ka4 (Kb3? b5;) Be8+ 8.Kb3 Bf7 (b5; Sd6) 9.Ka4 Bxc4 stalemate.

i) “It’s safer on the edge! Now bK can hope to engage in the conflict. Worse is: Bf5 2.Kd4, when the need to save bP assumes urgency: Sc2+ 3.Kc4 Bd7 4.Se4 Kh4/vi 5.Kc3 Se3 6.Kd4 Sf5+ 7.Ke5 Sg7, when Black’s trouble is that bS can’t play the decisive role but has to work around: 8.Sc3 Se8 9.Sd5 b5 10.Kd4 Be6 11.Sb4, and it’s drawn.”

ii) 2.Sc4? b5 3.Sd6 b4.

iii) There’s a thematic try here: 3.Kc4? Kxf4 4.Kb4 Bf5, “with an airy reci-zug”, 5.Sc4 Sc2+ 6.Kb5/vii Bd3 7.Ka4 b5+ winning, and not 7...Bxc4 stalemate?

iv) Of course not 5.Kb5? Bd3+ 6.Kxb6 Ke3. when wS is doomed.

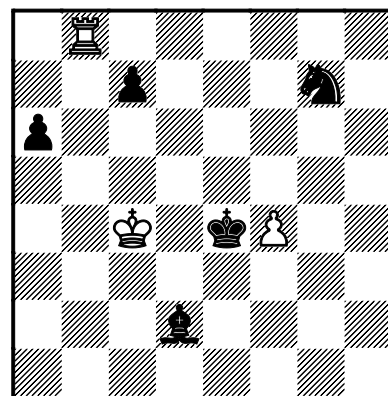
v) “It looks as if all Black’s threats are maintained without any weakness being created, but...”

vi) Bc6 5.Sd6 Kg4 6.Kc3 Se3 7.f5 Kg5 8.Sc8 b5 9.Kb4 Sd5+ 10.Kc5 is a draw.

vii) 6.Ka4 Bd7+ 7.Kb3 b5 wins.

“The stalemate position had been constructed before by A. Belyavsky & L. Mitrofanov (honourable mention, *Chervony girnik* 1978) [HH: EG#4087]. What we see here is more subtle, a beautiful mzug being stitched in, along with a thematic try. An outstanding find!”

**No 17093** I. Akobia  
 1st honourable mention



c4e4 0133.12 3/5 Draw

**No 17093** Iuri Akobia (Georgia). “First, I’d like to pass a couple of general remarks to

make the coming battle more comprehensible. To draw, White has to win one of the black pawns and not let bK support the other. That is, he should be deflected immediately – and the farther the better. However, 1.f5? Sxf5 2.Re8+, is wrong because of the precise move 2...Kf3/i 3.Rf8 Kg4/ii 4.Ra8 a5, winning. The right way is:” 1.Rg8 Sf5/iii 2.Re8+ Kxf4/iv 3.Kd5/v Se3+/vi 4.Kc6/vii Ba5 5.Kb7 Sf5 6.Kxa6 Bb6 7.Re6 Sd6/viii 8.Re7z/ix Kf3 9.Re2 Bd4 10.Re7 Bb6 (c5; Re6) 11.Re2. and since 11...Kxe2 is stalemate, the outcome is a positional draw.

i) Kf4? 3.Kd5 transposes to the main line.

ii) Kf4 4.Rf6 a5 5.Rc6 draw.

iii) Se6 2.Re8 Kf5 3.Kd5 Sxf4+ 4.Kc6 Ba5 5.Kb7. Or Sh5 2.Re8+ and Kf3 3.Re6 a5 4.f5, or Kxf4 3.Rc8 Ba5 4.Ra8, with draws guaranteed.

iv) Kf3 3.Ra8 a5 4.Kd5, and bK is too remote. “But by playing to f4 he hampers the important defensive placing of his forces – Bf4(Bb4)-Bd6-Se7 – to prevent wK’s incursion.”

v) “Quick punishment follows abandonment of the main plan: 3.Kd3? Be3 4.Re4+ Kf3/x 5.Re5 Kg4 6.Ke4 Sd6+ 7.Kxe3 Sc4+.”

vi) a5 4.Kc6 Sd4+ 5.Kxc7 a4 6.Ra8 draw.

vii) “Teasing bS strikes a match...”: 4.Kd4? Sd1 5.Kd5 Sc3+ 6.Kc4 Sb5 7.Ra8, “and the fire has caught” Ke5 8.Rxa6 Sd4. “At this point the tablebase tells us that the escape bridge has been burnt. Even worse is 4.Kc5? Sc2 5.Kc6 Ba5 6.Kb7 Sb4, with an easy win.”

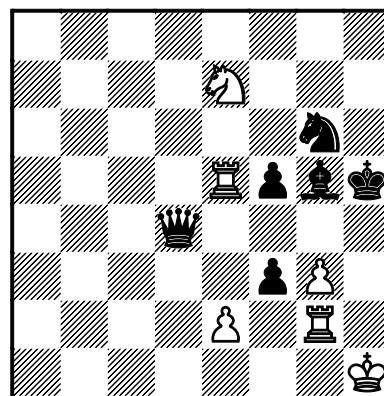
viii) “Black has managed to seal off all the approaches to his pawn, but...”

ix) “...yes, it’s zugzwang.”

x) But also Kg5 5.Ra4 Bb6 6.Rxa6 Sd6.

“The study has many instructive moments: tense struggle, an unexpected zugzwang, a positional draw, and stalemate. But its most memorable aspect is the exceedingly difficult variation play, along with their evaluation. This is a huge drawback because all the expressiveness vanishes. Well, maybe such pictures have their fans, truth-seekers with their clever ‘silicon friends’, without whose aid it’s

**No 17094** V.S. Kovalenko  
2nd honourable mention



h1h5 3234.22 6/6 Draw

**No 17094** Vitaly S. Kovalenko (Russia). 1.g4+ fxg4 2.Rh2+ Sh4 3.Rxh4+ Kxh4 4.Sf5+ Kh3 5.Sxd4 f2 6.Rf5 g3 7.Rf3, with:

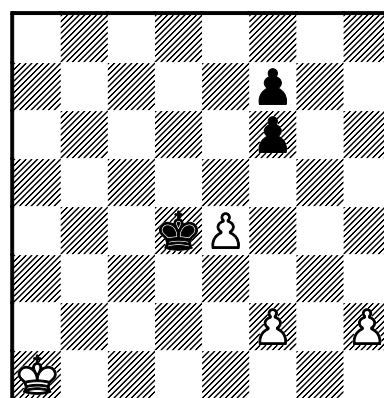
– f1Q+ 8.Rxf1 g2+ 9.Kg1 Be3+ 10.Rf2 Bxd4 11.e3 Bxe3 stalemate, or

– Be3 8.Rxg3+/i Kxg3 9.Sf5+ Kf4 10.Sg3 Kxg3 stalemate.

i) 8.Sf5? f1Q+ 9.Rxf1 g2 mate.

“Whoever is fond of forced sacrificial combinations will surely like the intro. But they are rather brutal in terms of chess study theory. To my mind it is not the best way to prepare a sympathetic finale with two stalemates.”

**No 17095** F. Shukurov  
commendation



a1d4 0000.32 4/3 Win

**No 17095** Fazil Shukurov (Azerbaijan). “If you thought locks could never be keys, then look at this and think again!” 1.h4, with:

– Kxe4 2.h5 Kf5 3.f4/i Ke6 4.h6 Ke7 5.h7 wins, or

– Ke5 2.h5 f5 3.h6/ii Kf6 4.exf5/iii wins.

i) “The first pawn lock.”

ii) 3.f4+? Kf6 4.exf5 Kxf5 5.Kb2 Kf6 6.Kc3 Kg7 7.Kd4 Kh6 draw.

iii) “The second lock.”

“Chameleon echo locks are the keys to this miniature!”

**No 17096** Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.f5, with:

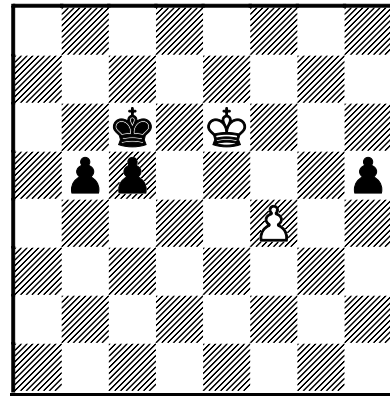
– c4 2.f6 c3 3.f7 c2 4.f8Q c1Q 5.Qc8+ Kb6 6.Qxc1 wins, or

– h4 2.f6 h3 3.f7 h2 4.f8Q h1Q 5.Qa8+ Kb6 6.Qxh1, or

– b4 2.f6 b3 3.f7 b2 4.f8Q b1Q 5.Qc8+ Kb6 6.Qb8+ Ka6 7.Qxb1 wins.

“The triple Q-win by skewers on different lines is well known (eg Grigoriev, 3rd prize,

**No 17096** I. Aliev  
special commendation



e6c6 0000.13 2/4 Win

*Shakhmaty* 1928) but here the geometrical relationships are unique.”



*David Gurgenzidze*

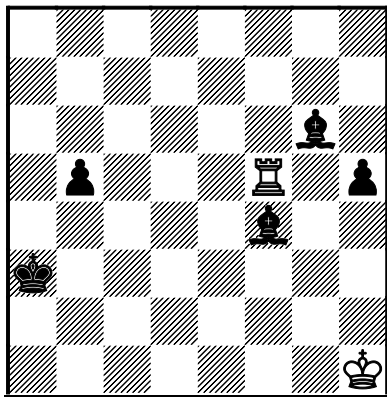
# David Gurgendidze 55 JT 2008

Two sections: (a) miniatures, (b) malyutkas. The formal tourney was judged by the IGM himself. The award was published on Akobia's website and sent to the participants by e-mail. The final award appeared 15ii2009.

Report: 128 studies by 45 composers from 16 countries. "The organizers have already informed participants of unsoundness. Partial anticipations reduced valuations, in some cases resulting in rejection."

## Miniatures section

No 17097 J.-M. Loustau  
1st prize



h1a3 0160.02 2/5 Draw

No 17097 Jean-Marc Loustau (France).  
1.Rxb5 Ka4/i 2.Rb2 Be4+ 3.Kg1 h4 4.Ra2+ Kb4 5.Rb2+ Kc4 6.Ra2 Kb5 7.Rb2+ Ka4 8.Ra2+ Kb4 9.Rb2+, with:

– Kc3 10.Rb5 Bf3 11.Rf5 Be3+ 12.Kh2 Bg4 13.Rf7 Bd4 14.Rh7 Bf6 15.Rh6 Bg5 16.Rg6 Bf4+ 17.Kg1 Bd7 18.Rg7 Bc8 19.Rg8 Bf5 20.Rf8 draw, or

– Kc5 10.Ra2 h3 11.Ra5+ Kd6 12.Rh5 Bg2 13.Rf5 Be5 14.Rh5 Bd4+ 15.Kh2 Be5+ 16.Kg1 and with:

- Ke6 17.Rh4 Kf5/ii 18.Rb4 Bf3 19.Rh4 Bg2 20.Rb4 Bf4 21.Rb3 Kg5 22.Rg3+ Bxg3 model stalemate; or

- Bf4 17.Rf5 Be3+ 18.Kh2 Bd4 19.Rh5 Be5+ 20.Kg1 Bf4 21.Rf5 Be3+ 22.Kh2 Ke6 23.Rf2 Bxf2 model stalemate.

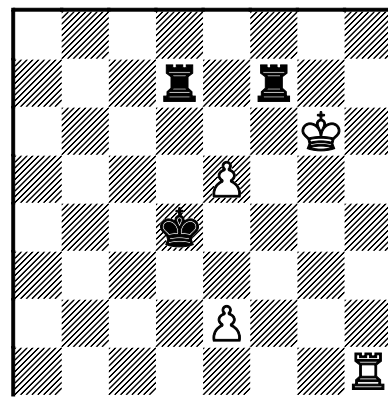
i) Be4+ 2.Kg1 Be3+ (h4; Rh5) 3.Kh2 draw.

ii) Kf7 18.Rh6 Bf4 19.Rh4 Be5 20.Rh6 Bf6 21.Kh2 Be5+ 22.Kg1 Bd4+ 23.Kh2 Be5+ 24.Kg1 Kg7 25.Rh4 Kf7 26.Rh6 positional

draw. Kf6 18.Ra4 (Rb4/Rg4) Bc6 19.Rh4 Bd7 20.Rh7 Bc8 21.Rh8 Bd7 22.Rh7 Bf5 23.Rh5 Bg4 24.Rh4 Bc8 25.Rh8 positional draw, Be6 26.Rh6+ Kf7 27.Rxe6 Kxe6 28.Kh1 and bB does not control h1.

"The tourney's great surprise: two model stalemates with positional draw. Presentation is on a high technical level."

No 17098 R. Becker & I. Akobia  
2nd prize



g6d4 0700.20 4/3 Draw

No 17098 Richard Becker (USA) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.e6 Rg7+ 2.Kf6 Ra7 3.e3+/i Ke4 4.Ra1 Rab7 5.Rb1 Rbc7 6.Rc1 Rce7 7.Rd1/ii Rh7 8.Rd4+ Kf3 9.Rd8 Ke4 10.Rd4+ Kxe3 11.Rd1zz Ke2 12.Rd5 zz Ke1 13.Rd4zz/iii Ke2 14.Rd5 Ke3 15.Rd1 positional draw, or Ke4 16.Rd2 zz Ra7 17.Re2+ Kf4 18.Kg6/iv Rhg7+ 19.Kf6 Rh7 20.Kg6 positional draw.

i) 3.Rd1+? Ke4 4.Ra1 Rae7 5.Rh1 Kd5 6.e4+ Kc6 wins. Or 3.Ra1? Rae7 4.Rh1 Kd5 5.e4+ Kc6/v 6.Rc1+ Kb7 7.Rb1+ Kc8 8.Rc1+ Kd8 9.Rd1+ Ke8+.

ii) 7.Rc8? Rh7 8.Rf8 Kd5 9.e4+ Kd6 10.e5+ Kd5 11.Rd8+ Kc6 12.Rd6+ Kb7 wins.



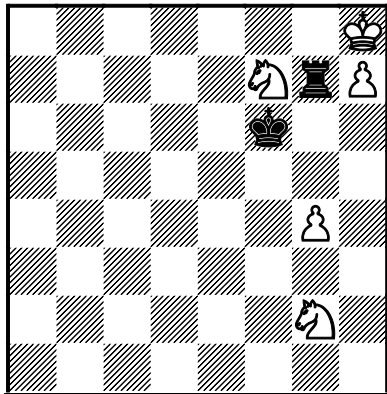
iii) 13.Rd3? Re8 14.Re3+ Kd2 wins.

iv) 18.e7? Ra6+ (Rh6+?; Kg7) 19.Re6 Rh6+ wins.

v) Kxe4? 6.Rd1 Rh7 7.Rd2 Ke3 8.Rd1 draw.

“Primary theme rook-pair against rook and pawns. The sharp play emphasizes positions of mutual zugzwang.”

**No 17099** J. Mikitovics  
3rd prize



h8f6 0302.20 5/2 Win

**No 17099** János Mikitovics (Hungary).  
1.Sh6 Rg6 2.Sg8+ Ke5 3.Se3 Ke6 4.Sh6 Ke5  
5.Shf5 Kf6 6.Sd5+ Ke5 7.Sfe3 Rg5/i 8.Sc7  
Kf6/ii 9.Se8+ Ke7 10.Sg7 Kf7 11.Sef5/iii Rg6  
12.g5 Ra6 13.Se8 Rg6/iv 14.Sed6+ Ke6  
15.Sg7+ Kxd6 16.Kg8 wins.

i) Ke4 8.Se7 Rg5 9.S7f5 Kf4 10.Sg7 Kxe3  
11.Kg8 wins.

ii) Rg6 9.Sc4+ Ke4 10.Se8 Kf4 11.Sf6 Rxf6  
12.Kg7 wins.

iii) 11.Sgf5? Ke6 12.Sg3 Kf7 13.Sef5 Kf8  
14.Sh6 Rg7 15.Sgf5 Rg6 16.Sg8 Rxf6 draw.

iv) Ra7 14.Sh4 Ra8 15.g6+ wins.

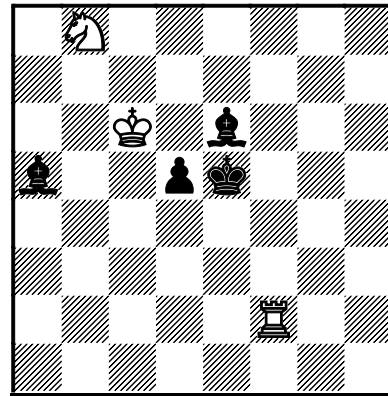
“Coordinated manoeuvres by two white knights lure bK from the blockade.”

**No 17100** Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Kc5 Bc3  
2.Sc6+ Ke4 3.Re2+ Kf5 4.Kd6 Bf7 5.Rf2+  
Kg6 6.Ke7 Bg8 7.Rg2+ Kh7 8.Kf8 Be6 9.Se7  
Kh6 10.Rg6+ wins.

“Any interesting systematic movement flatters my weakness!”

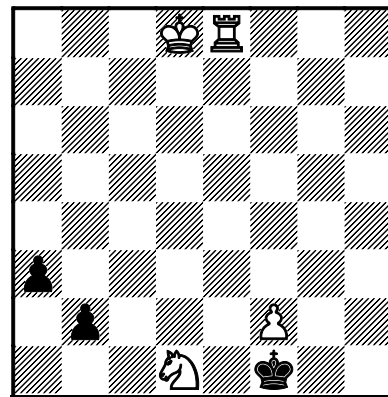
**No 17101** Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Se3+  
Kg1 2.Rg8+ Kxf2 3.Sd1+ Kf1 4.Rf8+ Ke2/i  
5.Sc3+ Kd3 6.Rf3+ Kc4 7.Kc8/ii a2 8.Sxa2  
b1Q 9.Rf4+ Kc5 10.Sc3, with:

**No 17100** Y. Bazlov  
4th prize



c6e5 0161.01 3/4 Win

**No 17101** I. Akobia  
5th prize



d8f1 0101.12 4/3 Draw

– Qd3 11.Rf7 Qa6+ 12.Kb8 Qb6+ 13.Rb7  
Qd8+ 14.Ka7 Kc4 15.Sb5 draw, or

– Qh7 11.Rf6 Qh3+ 12.Kc7 Qxc3 13.Rc6+  
draw, or

– Qg6 11.Rf6 Qe8+ 12.Kc7 Qe7+ 13.Kc8  
Qxf6 14.Se4+ draw.

i) Ke1 5.Sxb2 axb2 6.Rh8 draw.

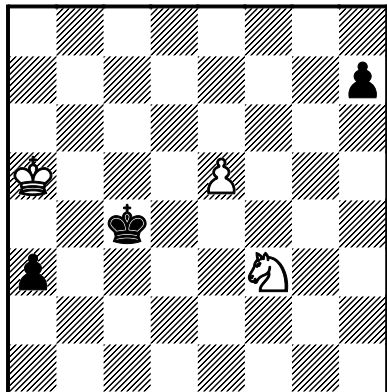
ii) Thematic try: 7.Kd7(Ke7)? a2 8.Sxa2  
b1Q 9.Rf4+ Kc5 10.Sb4 Qg6 wins.

“The rook and a Knight cannot detain one of black pawn, but their skilful interaction saves the white side.”

**No 17102** Yochanan Afek (Israel/The Netherlands). 1.Ka4? a2 2.Sd2+ Kd5 3.Sb3 h5 4.e6  
Kd6 wins. 1.Sd2+ Kd5 2.Sb1/i h4 a2 3.Sc3+  
Kxe5 4.Sxa2 Kd4 5.Sb4 h5 6.Sc2+/ii Ke4  
7.Sa3/iii h4 8.Sc4 h3 9.Sd2+ Kf4 10.Sf1 draw.

i) 2.Kb4? a2 3.Sb3 h5, repeats the first move try.

**No 17102** Y. Afek  
honourable mention  
(after Grigoriev)

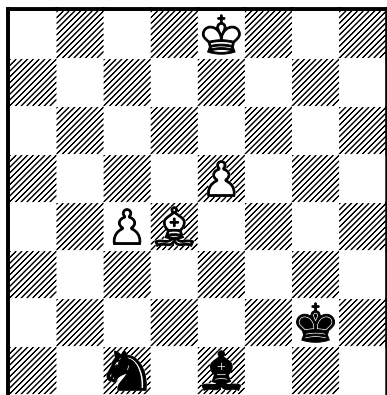


a5c4 0001.12 3/3 Draw

ii) 6.Sc6+? Ke4, and Grigoriev's amazing draw starting with 7.Sa5 is impossible here! So: 7.Sd8 h4 8.Se6 Kf5 9.Sd4+ Kg4 10.Sc2 Kf4 and wins.

iii) "However, an echo of Grigoriev's move is possible."

**No 17103** L. González  
honourable mention

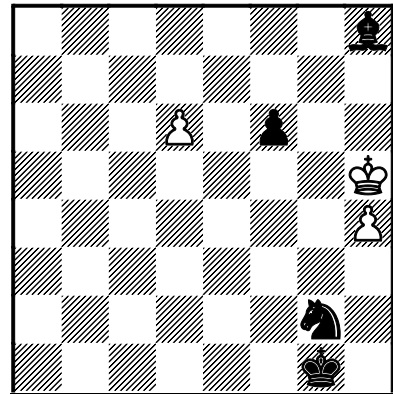


e8g2 0043.20 4/3 Win

**No 17103** Luis Miguel González (Spain). 1.c5 Sd3 2.c6 Ba5 3.Bc3 Bb6/i 4.e6 Sf4 5.e7/ii Sd5 6.Bb4/iii Kf3 7.Kd7 (Kf7? Sxe7;) Sc7 8.Bd6/iv Sd5 9.Kc8/v Sxe7+ 10.Bxe7 wins.

- i) Bc7 4.e6 wins.
- ii) 5.Kd7? Sxe6 6.Kxe6 Kf3 7.Bd4 Ba5 draw.
- iii) 6.Kd7? Sxe7 7.Kxe7 Kf3 draw.
- iv) MG: 8.Ba3 seems to cook. Sd5 9.Kc8 wins like in the main line. If 8...Ba5 9.Bc5 Sd5 10.Bd6 Sf6+ 11.Ke6 wins.
- v) 9.Ke6? Sxe7 10.Bxe7 Ke4 draw. 9.e8S? Ke4 10.Ke6 Sf4+ 11.Bxf4 Kxf4 12.Sd6 Bc7

**No 17104** J. Pospíšil  
honourable mention



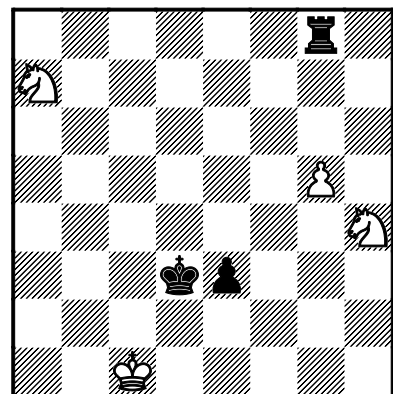
h5g1 0033.21 3/4 Draw

**No 17104** Jaroslav Pospíšil (Czech Republic). 1.Kg6 Sxh4+/i 2.Kh7 f5 3.Kxh8 Sf3 4.Kg7/ii f4 5.Kf6 Sd4 6.Ke5 f3 7.Kd5 f2 8.d7 f1Q 9.d8Q Qf3+ 10.Kd6 draw.

i) Sf4+ 2.Kf7 Sd3 3.Kg8 f5 4.Kxh8 f4 5.d7 Se5 6.Kg7 Sxd7 7.h5 f3 8.h6 f2 9.h7 f1Q 10.h8Q draw.

ii) 4.d7? Se5 5.d8S f4 6.Se6 f3 wins.

**No 17105** N. Rezvov & S.N. Tkachenko  
honourable mention

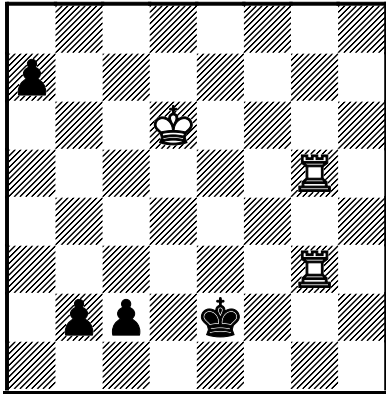


c1d3 0302.11 4/3 Draw

**No 17105** Nikolai Rezvov & Sergei N. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.Sf3? e2 2.Se5+ Ke3 3.Sg4+ Kf3 wins. 1.Sg2 Rg7/i 2.Sb5 Rxd5 3.Sf4+/ii Ke4 4.Sd4 Ra5/iii 5.Sfe6/iv Kd3 6.Sc2 draw.

- i) Rxd5 2.Sxe3 Kxe3 3.Kb2 Kd4 4.Kb3 Kc5 5.Ka4 Rg8 6.Ka5 Ra8 7.Ka6 draw.
- ii) 3.Se1+? Ke2 4.Sd4+ Kxe1 wins.
- iii) Rc5+ 5.Kd1 and Kxf4 6.Se6+ or Kxd4 6.Se6+ draw.
- iv) 5.Sde6? Ra2 6.Kd1 Kf3 wins. 5.Sfe2? Kd3 wins.

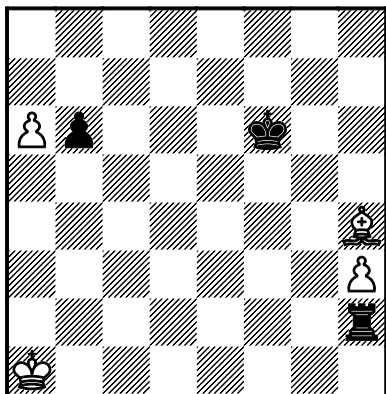
**No 17106** A. Sochnev  
honourable mention



d6e2 0200.03 3/4 Win

**No 17106** Aleksei Sochnev (Russia). 1.Rg2+ Kd3 2.Kd5 Kc3 3.R2g3+, with:  
– Kb4 4.R5g4+ Ka5 5.Ra3+ Kb5 6.Rb3+ Ka5  
7.Rg7 a6 8.Rgb7 c1Q 9.Ra3 mate., or  
– Kd2 4.Rb3 c1Q 5.Rg2+ Ke1 6.Rbxb2 Qd1+  
7.Ke6 Kf1 8.Rbf2+ Ke1 9.Rg1+.

**No 17107** M. Zinar  
honourable mention



a1f6 0310.21 4/3 BTM, Win

**No 17107** Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1...Kf7  
2.a7 Rh1+ 3.Kb2 (Ka2) Rh2+ 4.Bf2 Rxf2+  
5.Kb3 Rf3+ 6.Kb4 Rf4+ 7.Kb5 Rf5+ 8.Kxb6  
Rf6+ 9.Kb7 win, or

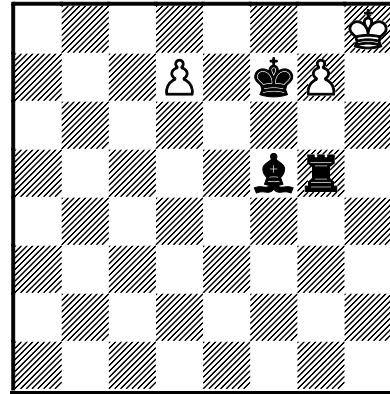
1...Kg6 2.a7 Rh1+ 3.Kb2 (Ka2) Rh2+ 4.Kb3  
Rxh3+ 5.Bg3 Rxb3+ 6.Kb4 Rg4+ 7.Kb5  
Rg5+ 8.Kxb6 win, or

1...Ke6 2.a7 Rh1+ 3.Be1 Rxe1+ 4.Kb2 Re2+  
5.Kb3 Re3+ 6.Kb4 Re4+ 7.Kb5 Re5+ 8.Kxb6  
win.

“Roman decoy theme in 3 variations.”

**No 17108** Siegfried Hornecker (Germany).  
1.d8S+ Kf6/i 2.g8S+ Kg6 (Ke5; Sf7+) 3.Se7+  
draw.

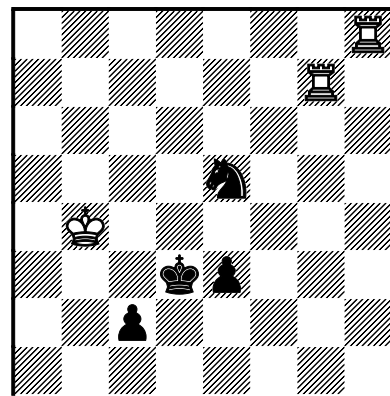
**No 17108** S. Hornecker  
commendation



h8f7 0330.20 3/3 Draw

i) Ke7 2.g8Q draw, not 2.Sc6+? Kf6 3.g8S+  
Kf7 wins.

**No 17109** G. Josten  
commendation



b4d3 0203.02 3/4 Win

**No 17109** Gerhard Josten (Germany). 1.Rc7  
e2 2.Rc3+ Kd2/i 3.Rd8+ Kc1 4.Kb3 e1S/ii  
5.Re3 S5d3/iii 6.Kc3 Kb1 7.Rb8+ Kc1/iv  
8.Re2 Kd1 9.Rd2+ wins.

i) Ke4 3.Rh4+ Kf5 4.Rh1 wins.

ii) Kb1 5.Rxc2 e1Q 6.Rb2+ wins.

iii) S1d3 6.Kc3 Kb1 7.Rb8+ Kc1 8.Re2  
wins.

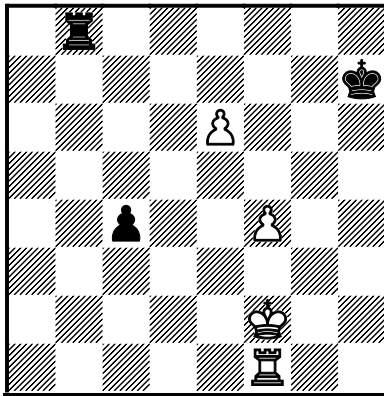
iv) Ka1 8.Rxe1+ Sxe1 9.Kd2 Ka2 10.Re8  
c1Q+ 11.Kxc1 wins.

**No 17110** Daniel Keith (France). 1.Rg1 c3/i  
2.Ke3 c2 3.Kd2 Rb1 4.Rc1 Kg7 5.f5 Rb5/ii  
6.Rf1 Rb1 7.f6+ Kg6 8.e7 Kf7 9.Rc1 Rb8  
10.Re1 Re8 11.Rf1 Rc8 12.Kc1 wins.

i) Rf8 2.Ke3 Rf6 3.f5 Rxf5 4.Kd4 wins.

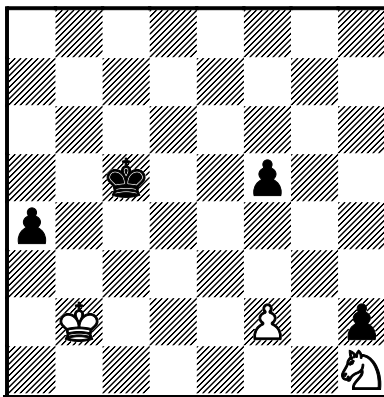
ii) Kf6 6.Kxc2 Rb8 7.Rf1 wins.

**No 17110** D. Keith  
commendation



f2h7 0400.21 4/3 Win

**No 17111** P. Rossi & M. Campioli  
commendation



b2c5 0001.13 3/4 Draw

**No 17111** Pietro Rossi & Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.f4 Kd4 2.Sg3 Kd3 (Ke3; Sf1+) 3.Kb1/i Kc3 4.Kc1 a3 5.Kb1 Kb3/ii 6.Sh1 Kc4 7.Kc2 a2 8.Kb2 Kd3 9.Sg3 a1Q+ 10.Kxa1 Ke3 11.Sf1+, with:

– Kf2 12.Sxh2 Kg2 13.Sg4 draw, or  
– Kxf4 12.Sxh2 Kg3 13.Sf1+ Kf2 14.Sd2 draw.

i) 3.Ka3? Kc2 4.Kxa4 Kd1 5.Kb3 Ke1 6.Kc3 Kf2 wins.

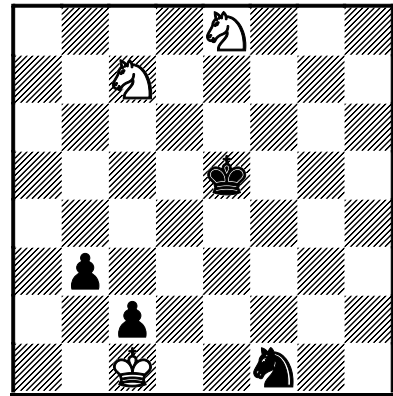
ii) Kd3 6.Kc1 a2 7.Kb2 a1Q+ 8.Kxa1 Kc2 9.Sh1 draw.

**No 17112** János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Sf6 Sg3 2.Sg4+ Ke4/i 3.Kd2/ii Sf1+ 4.Kc1 Sg3 5.Kd2 Se2 6.Sf2+ Kf5 7.Sd3 c1Q+ 8.Sxc1 b2 9.Sxe2 b1Q 10.Sc3 (Sb5? Qb2+;) Qb2+ 11.Kd3 draw.

i) Kd6 3.Sb5+ Kc5 4.Sc3 draw.

ii) 3.Sf2+? Kf3 4.Sd3 Ke3 (Se2+? Kd2) 5.Sb2 Se2 mate.

**No 17112** J. Mikitovics  
commendation

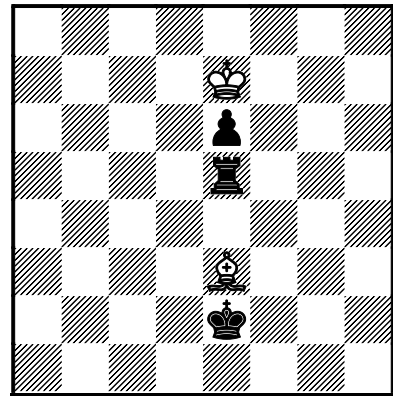


c1e5 0005.02 3/4 Draw

A further commendation by E. Melnichenko, is unsound. e3c5 0005.11 b2c8h6.g7g3 4/3. 1.Kf3 Kd5 2.Sc4 Kxc4 3.Se7 Kc5 4.Kg2 Kb6 5.Kxg3 Kc7 6.Kh4 Kd8 7.Kh5 Kxe7 8.Kxh6 Kf7 9.Kh7 wins. MG, however, plays: 2.Sf5 Sg8 6.Kxg3 Kc6 7.Kg4 Kd5 8.Kg5 Ke5 9.Kg6 wins.

### Malyutkas section

**No 17113** M. Minski  
1st prize



e7e2 0310.01 2/3 Draw

**No 17113** Martin Minski (Germany). Thematic try: 1.Bf4? Re4 2.Bh2 Kd3 3.Kd6 Rh4 “4.Bi3??” impossible! – 4.Be5 Rh6 5.Bg7 Rg6 wins. 1.Bd4 Re4 2.Bb2/i Kf3 3.Kf6 Rb4 4.Ba3 Rb6 5.Ke5 Kg4/ii 6.Be7/iii Ra6 7.Bd8/iv Kh5 8.Kf6 Rc6 9.Be7 Ra6 10.Bd8 Kg4 11.Ke5 Rc6 12.Be7 Ra6 13.Bd8 positional draw.

i) 2.Ba1? Kf3 3.Kf6 Ra4 4.Be5 Ra6 wins.

ii) Rb3 6.Bd6 Re3+ 7.Kf6 draw.

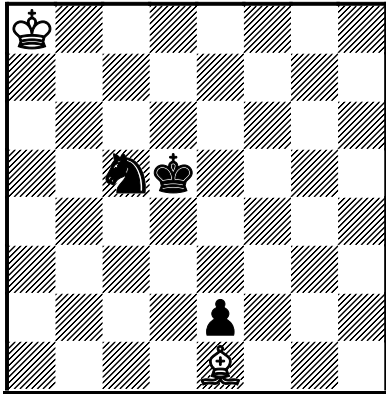
iii) 6.Bf8? Kg5 7.Be7+ Kg6 wins.

iv) 7.Bf6? Kh5 8.Bd8 Kg6 wins.

“Symmetry at the start. As often happens such a position has a thematic try.”

**No 17114** M. Doré

2nd/3rd prize



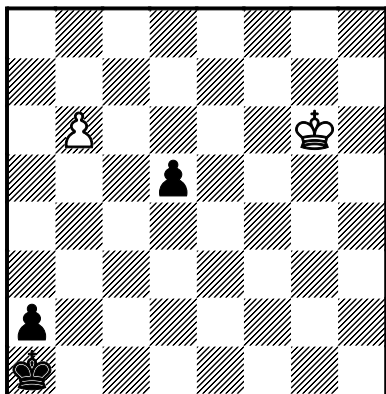
a8d5 0013.01 2/3 Draw

**No 17114** Marcel Doré (France). 1.Ka7? Sd3 2.Bd2 Kc4 3.Kb6 Kb3 4.Kb5 Kc2 wins; 1.Bd2? Kc4 2.Kb8 Kd3 (Kb3) 3.Be1 Kc2 4.Kc7 Sd3 5.Bh4 Kd2 wins. 1.Kb8 Sd3 2.Bd2 Kc4 3.Kc7 Kb3 4.Kd6 Kc2 5.Ba5 Kd1 6.Kd5 Sc1 7.Kc4 draw.

“As is normal, the first effective move determines the destiny of a ‘Baby’ [While the West has adopted the Russian ‘malyutka’ FSU-land often uses the English translation! AJR]”

**No 17115** V. Kalandadze

2nd/3rd prize



g6a1 0000.12 2/3 Win

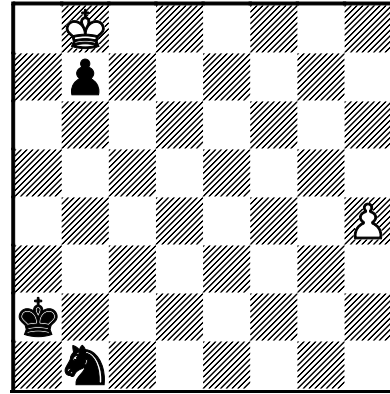
**No 17115** Velimir Kalandadze (Georgia). 1.b7 d4 2.b8Q d3 3.Qe5+ Kb1 4.Qe1+ Kb2/i 5.Qb4+ Kc2 6.Qa3 Kb1 7.Qb3+ Ka1 8.Kf5 d2 9.Ke4 d1Q 10.Qxd1+ Kb2 11.Qd2+ Kb1 (Ka3; Qc3+) 12.Kd3 a1Q 13.Qc2 mate.

i) Kc2 5.Qa1 d2 6.Qxa2+ wins.

“The queen against two pawns – a widely developed theme, but the author has found interesting nuances.”

**No 17116** J. Mikitovics

4th prize



b8a2 0003.11 2/3 Win

**No 17116** János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.h5 b5 2.h6 b4 3.h7 b3 4.h8Q b2 5.Qg8+ Ka3 6.Qf8+ Ka2 7.Qf7+ Ka3 8.Qf3+ Ka2 9.Qd5+ Ka3 10.Qd3+ Ka2 11.Qc4+ Ka3 12.Kc7/i Sd2 13.Qc3+ Sb3 14.Qd3, with:

– Ka2 15.Qa6+ Kb1 16.Qc4 Sa1 17.Kb6 Sc2 18.Ka5 Sa3 19.Qb3 Sc2 20.Qa4 Kc1 21.Qf4+ Kd1 22.Qf3+ Kd2 23.Qb7 Kc1 24.Qh1+ Kd2 25.Qb1 Kc3 26.Ka4 Sa1 27.Qa2 Sc2 28.Qb3+ Kd2 29.Qxb2 wins, or

– Ka4 15.Kc6 Sd2 16.Qc2+ Ka3 17.Qc3+ Sb3 18.Qd3 Kb4 19.Kd5 (Kd6) Ka4 20.Qb1 Ka3 21.Ke6 Sd2 22.Qd3+ Ka4 23.Qc2+ Ka3 24.Qc3+ Sb3 25.Qd3 Ka4 26.Kf5/ii Sd2 27.Qc2+ Ka3 28.Qc3+ Sb3 29.Qd3 Ka4 30.Kf4 Sd2 31.Qc2+ Ka3 32.Qc3+ Sb3 33.Qd3 Ka2 34.Qa6+ Kb1 35.Ke3 Sc1 36.Kd2 Sa2 37.Qb5 (Qb6) Sc1 38.Kc3 Sa2+ 39.Kb3 Sc1+ 40.Ka3 wins.

i) 12.Kb7? Sd2 13.Qc3+ Sb3 14.Qd3 Ka2 15.Qa6+ Kb1 16.Kc6 Sa1 17.Qe2 Kc1 draw.

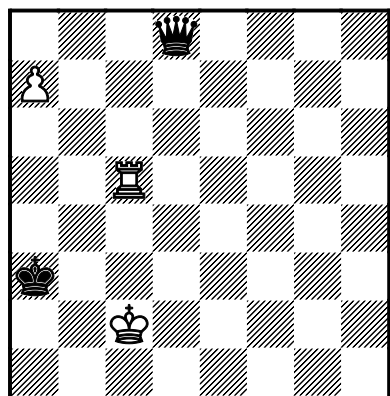
ii) 26.Ke5? Sd2 27.Qc2+ Ka3 28.Qc3+ Ka4 29.Qxb2 Sc4+ draw.

“There are interesting manoeuvres, but the solution is over-long. Yes, the author has assembled 55 moves” – apparently made up of 40 in one line and 15 in another (but it is not clear which). HH: 14 + 15 + 26 = 55.

MG cooks the first main line: 16.Kd6 Sa1 17.Qc4 Sc2 18.Ke5 Sa3 19.Qb3 Sc2 20.Qa4

Kc1 21.Qf4+ Kd1. Compare with the intended solution. Now with wK on e5 instead of a5 (for some reason), White should not play 22.Qf3+, but 22.Qf1+ Se1 23.Qf5 Sc2 24.Qd3+. If 22...Kd2 23.Ke4. HH observed that if this is true, it also means that in the main line 22.Qf1+ (instead of 22.Qf3+) is another cook: 22...Se1 23.Qf5 Sc2 24.Qd3+. And 22...Kd2 23.Ka4.

**No 17117** I. Akobia  
honourable mention



c2a3 3100.10 3/2 Draw

**No 17117** Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Rc3+ Ka4 (Kb4; Rb3+) 2.Re3/i Qc7+ 3.Kb2, with:

– Qb6+ 4.Ka2/ii Qxe3 5.a8Q+ draw; or

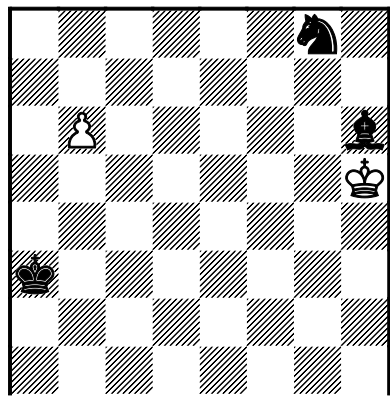
– Qb7+ 4.Ka2 Qf7+ 5.Kb2 Qg7+ 6.Ka2 Qg2+ 7.Kb1/iii Qb7+ 8.Ka2 Qg2+ 9.Kb1 draw.

i) 2.Rc4+? Kb5 3.Rc3 Qa5 4.Rb3+ Kc4 wins.

ii) Qf2; having been ruled out by wRe3.

iii) 7.Ka1? Kb4 8.Kb1 Qh1+ 9.Kb2 Qh8+ 10.Ka2 Qg8+ 11.Kb2 Qg7+ wins.

**No 17118** D. Blundell  
honourable mention

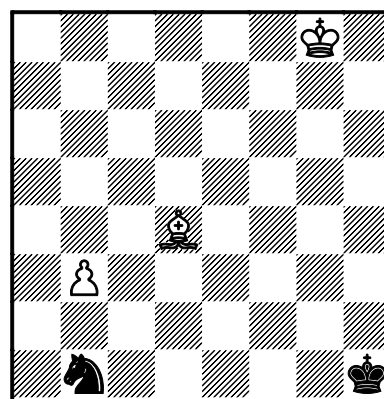


h5a3 0033.10 2/3 Draw

**No 17118** David Blundell (Great Britain).  
1.Kg6 Bc1/i 2.Kf7 Sh6+ 3.Kf6 Bb2+ 4.Ke6 Bc1 5.Kf6 Sg4+ 6.Ke6 Sf2 7.Kf5 Be3 8.b7 Ba7 9.Ke6 Sd3 10.Kd7 Sb4 11.Kc8 Sa6 12.b8Q Bxb8 13.Kb7 draw.

i) Bf4 2.Kf7 Sh6+ 3.Kg6 draws.

**No 17119** L. González  
honourable mention



g8h1 0013.10 3/2 Win

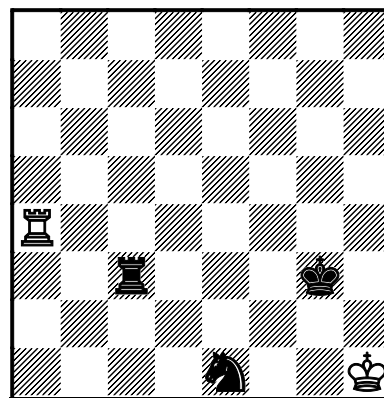
**No 17119** Luis Miguel González (Spain).  
1.b4? Sa3 2.Bb2 Sc4 draw. 1.Kf7 Sa3 2.Ke6 Kg2 3.Kd5 Sc2 4.Ke4 Sb4/i 5.Bc5 Sa6 6.Kd5 Kf3 7.Kc4 Sc7/ii 8.Bd6 Se8 9.Kd5 Sf6+ 10.Ke6 Se4 11.b4 Sc3 12.Be5 Sb5 13.Kd5 Ke2 14.Kc5/iii Sa3 15.Bb2 Sc2 16.b5 wins.

i) Kf1 5.Kd3 Sb4+ 6.Kc4 Sa2 7.Bb2 Ke2 8.Kb5 Kd3 9.Ka4 wins.

ii) Sb8 8.Bd6 Sd7 9.Kd5 Ke3 10.Kc6 Sf6 11.Be5 wins.

iii) 14.Kc4? Sa3+ 15.Kc5 Kd3 16.Bb2 Sc4 17.Bg7 Sa3 18.Bf6 Kc2 draw.

**No 17120** S. Hornecker  
honourable mention



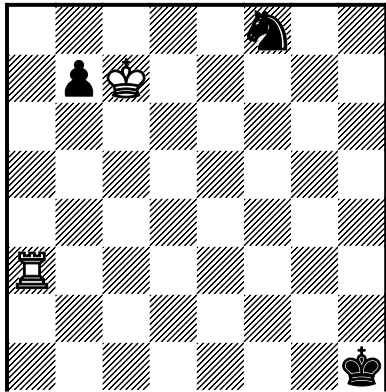
h1g3 0403.00 2/3 Draw

**No 17120** Siegfried Hornecker (Germany).  
1.Ra8? Re3 2.Rg8+ Kf2 3.Kh2 Sf3+ 4.Kh3

Sg1+ 5.Kh4 Rh3+ 6.Kg5 Rg3+ wins. 1.Ra7 Rcl/i 2.Rg7+ Kf2 3.Kh2 Sf3+ 4.Kh3 Rh1+ 5.Kg4 Rg1+ 6.Kh3 Sg5+ 7.Kh4 Sf3+ 8.Kh3 Rxc7 stalemate.

i) Re3 2.Rg7+ Kf2 3.Kh2 Sf3+ 4.Kh3 Sd4+ 5.Kh2 Sf3+ 6.Kh3 Sg1+ 7.Kh4 Rh3+ 8.Kg5 draw.

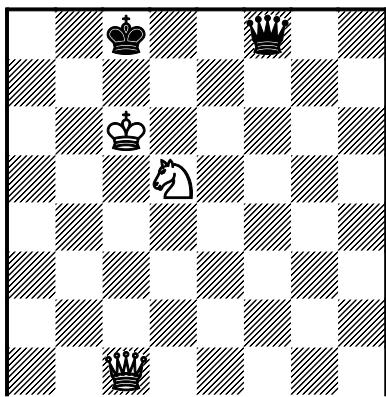
**No 17121** G. Hörning  
honourable mention



c7h1 0103.01 2/3 Win

**No 17121** Gerd Wilhelm Hörning (Germany). 1.Kd6 Kh2 2.Ke7 Sg6+ 3.Kf6 Sh4 4.Kg5 Sg2 5.Kg4 Kg1 6.Kf3 Se1+ 7.Ke2 Sc2 8.Rg3+ Kh2 9.Kf2 Se1 10.Rg5 wins.

**No 17122** O. Pervakov  
honourable mention

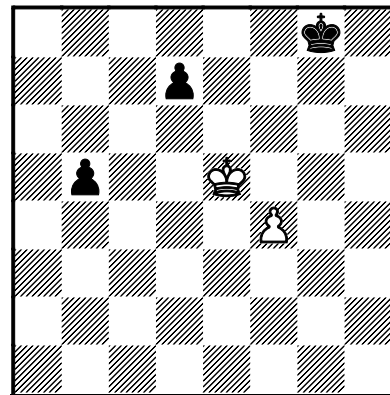


c6c8 4001.00 3/2 Win

**No 17122** Oleg Pervakov (Russia). Thematic try: 1.Qe3? Qf7, but not 1...Kd8? 2.Qg5+ Ke8 3.Qg6+ Qf7 4.Qd6 Qg7 5.Sc7+ Kf7 6.Qe6+ Kf8 7.Qe8 mate – here, 7.Qc8+ is a dual. 2.Qh3+ Kb8 3.Qh2+ Ka7 4.Qa2+ Kb8 5.Qb2+ Ka7 6.Qb6+ Ka8 7.Sc7+ Qxc7+ draw. 1.Kb6+? Kd8 2.Qc7+ Ke8 3.Qe5+ Kf7 draw. 1.Kb5+ Kd8 2.Qc7+ Ke8 3.Ka4zz/i Qf7 (Qf5; Qe7 mate) 4.Qc8 mate.

i) Thematic try: 3.Qc6+? Kf7 4.Qf6+ Kg8 5.Se7+ Kh7 6.Qxf8 stalemate.

**No 17123** I. Aliev  
commendation



e5g8 0000.12 2/3 Draw

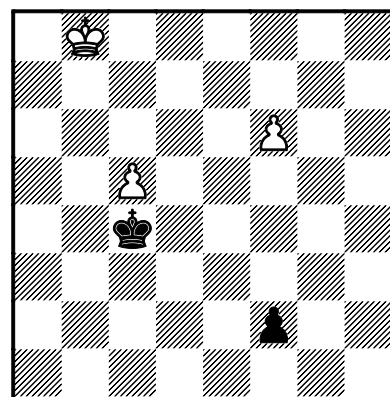
**No 17123** Ilhem Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Kd6? (Réti) b4/i 2.Ke7 b3 3.f5 b2 4.f6 b1Q 5.f7+ Kh7 6.f8Q Qb4+ wins. 1.Kd5 d6/ii 2.Kxd6/iii b4 3.Ke7 (f5? Kf7;) b3 4.f5 b2 5.f6 b1Q 6.f7+ Kh7 7.f8Q draw.

i) Kf7 2.Kc5 Ke6 3.Kxb5.

ii) Kf7 2.Kc5 Ke6 3.Kxb5.

iii) manoeuvre of Réti by Sarichev.

**No 17124** S. Hornecker  
commendation



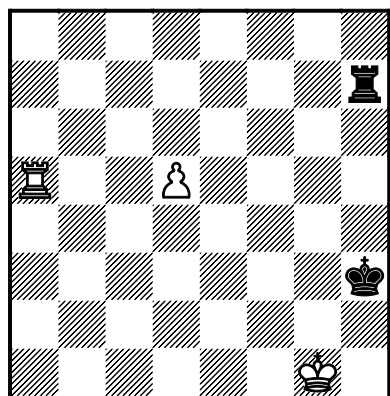
b8c4 0000.21 3/2 Draw

**No 17124** Siegfried Hornecker (Germany). 1.c6 f1Q 2.c7 Qb1+ 3.Ka7/i Qf5 4.f7 Kb5/ii 5.f8Q Qxf8 6.c8Q Qxc8 stalemate.

i) 3.Ka8? Qf5 4.Kb8 Qb5+ 5.Kc8 Kd5(Kc5).

ii) Kc5 5.f8Q+ Qxf8 6.c8Q+ Qxc8 draw. Qc8 5.f8Q Qxf8 6.Kb7 Qe7 7.Ka8 Qxc7 stalemate, but also 5.Kb6 Kd5 6.f8Q Qxf8 7.Kb7 Qe7 8.Ka8 Qxc7 stalemate.

**No 17125** V.S. Kovalenko  
commendation

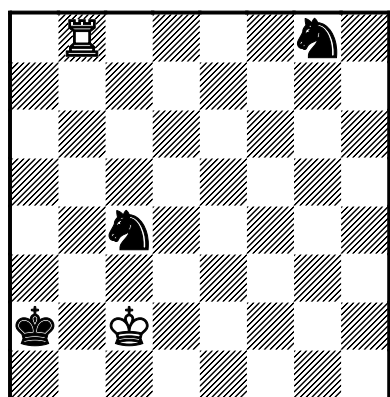


g1h3 0400.10 3/2 Win

**No 17125** Vitaly S. Kovalenko (Russia).  
1.Kf2 Kg4 2.Ke3 Kf5 3.Kd4 Kf6 4.Ra6+ Ke7  
5.d6+/i Ke6 6.d7+ Ke7 7.d8Q+ Kxd8 8.Ra8+  
wins.

i) 5.Ra7+? Kd6 6.Ra6+ Kd7 (Kc7) 7.Ra7+  
Kd6 8.Rxh7 stalemate.

**No 17126** W. Neef  
commendation



c2a2 0106.00 2/3 Win

**No 17126** W. Neef (Germany). 1.Kc3 Sa3  
2.Rb2+ Ka1 3.Rg2 Sf6 4.Kb3 Se4 5.Rh2/i Sd6  
6.Rd2 Sdb5 7.Rf2 Sd4+ 8.Kxa3 wins.

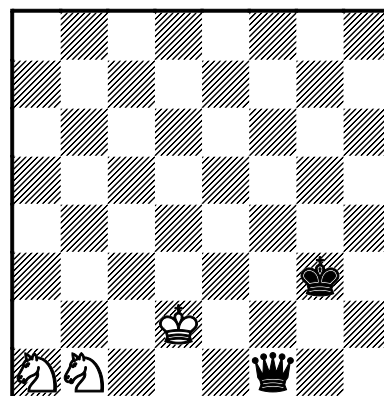
i) 5.Re2? Sc5+ 6.Kxa3 Sd3 draw.

**No 17127** Alain Pallier (France). 1.Kc2,  
with:

– Qe2+ 2.Kb3 Qb5+/i 3.Kc2 Kf2 4.Sb3 Qe2+  
5.Kc3 Qe5+ 6.Kc2 Qe2+ 7.Kc3 draw; or

– Qf5 2.Kb2 Kf2/ii 3.Sb3 Ke1 4.Sc3 Qe5  
5.Kc2 Qf5+ 6.Kb2 Qe5 7.Kc2 draw.

**No 17127** A. Pallier  
commendation

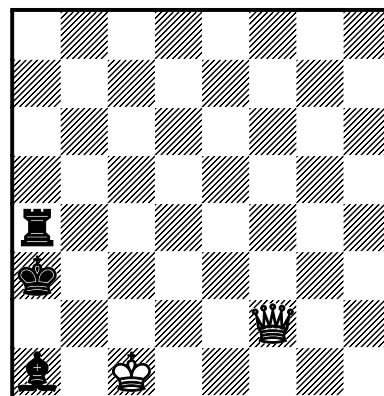


d2g3 3002.00 3/2 Draw

i) Kf2 3.Sc2 Qe6+ 4.Kc3 Qe5+ 5.Kb3 Qd5+  
6.Kc3 Qa5+ 7.Kb3 Qd5+ 8.Kc3 draw.

ii) Qe5+ 3.Sc3 Kf3 4.Sc2 Qb8+ 5.Kc1 draw.

**No 17128** M. Roxlau  
commendation



c1a3 1330.00 2/3 Win

**No 17128** Michael Roxlau (Germany).  
1.Qc5+ Kb3 2.Qb5+ Rb4 3.Qd5+ Rc4+ 4.Kd2  
Kb4 5.Qb7+ Ka3 6.Qa7+/i Ra4 7.Qc5+ Kb3  
8.Qb5+ Rb4 9.Qd3+ Ka2 10.Kc2 Bb2/ii  
11.Qd5+ Ka3 12.Qd6 Ka4 13.Qa6 mate, or  
(for example) 12...Bg7 13.Qg3+.

i) 6.Qa6+? Ra4 7.Qb5 Rh4 8.Qa5+ Kb2  
9.Qc3+ Ka2 10.Qc7 Kb2 11.Qc2+ Ka3  
12.Qd3+ Ka2 draw.

ii) Database users may like to note:  
10...Rb2+ has a win-depth of 30, while the  
composer's choice of 10...Bb2 has a win-  
depth of ten. This is explained by the mate-  
metric, as the R-check loses bB in a couple of  
moves.



# Evgeny Dvizov 70 JT 2009

The Gomel (Belarus) daily newspaper *Zvyazda* has continuity (presumably apart from German occupation in WW II) from 1917. Issue with serial number 26051 (ix2007) carries the first part (of four) of this award.

Remarkably, no fewer than seven honoured studies start BTM. The number seven also relates to each of the numbers of prizes, honourable mentions and commendations.

Evgeny Dvizov (Zhlobin, Belarus) himself judged the tourney with 33 studies by 26 composers from 11 countries.

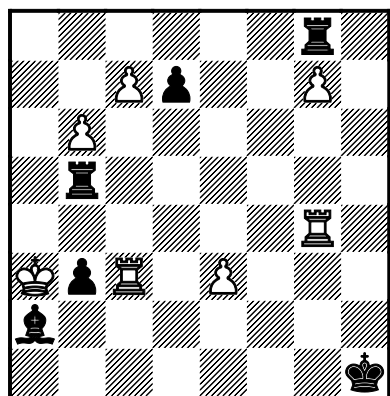
HH remarks that the judge apparently forgot to have the studies checked for soundness. EG's Mario Garcia cooked no less than 8 of the 22 studies in the award! A real disaster.

The first is the special prize study by V. Sichov: c8f1 0438.37 a2h7d8e4f5a5a8.b4d5f6a4c4c5e5 g6h4h6 7/12 Win. 1.Sxh4 Bc7 2.Sg3+ Ke1 3.Sg2+ Kd1 4.Se3+ Kc1 5.Se2+ Kb1 6.Sc3+ Kc1 7.Rc2. However: 2.bxc5 Sb6+ 3.cxb6 Bxb6 4.Sf3 Rc7+ 5.Kd8 Sb7+ 6.Ke8 wins.

Even one of the 1st/2nd prizes proved unsound: V. Bartosh e8b6 0401.68 h6e2d2.a4d6e3e4f7h5 a6b7c6d7f2g3g7h3 9/10 Win: 1.f8Q Rxd2 2.Qf5 gxh6 3.a5+ Ka7 4.Kxd7 g2 5.Qc5+ Ka8 6.Qe5 Rxd6+ 7.Kxd6 f1Q 8.Qe8+ Ka7 9.Kc7 Qf7+ 10.Qxf7 g1Q 11.e5 Qe1 12.Kc8 Qb4 13.e6 h2 14.e4 Qb2 15.e5 Qb4 16.e7 h1Q 17.e8Q Qd5 18.e6 dQd6 19.Qc7 Qxc7+ 20.Kxc7 Qxa5+ 21.Kc8 wins.

MG: 15.e7 h1Q 16.e8Q Qh3 17.Qf5 Qha3 18.Qd8 Qg7 19.e5 also wins. But there's worse: 1...gxh6 2.Qf5 g2 3.Kxd7 f1Q 4.a5+ Ka7 5.Sxf1 g1Q 6.Qc5+ Ka8 7.Qe5 Qg4+ 8.Qe6 Qg7+ 9.Qe7 Qg4+ 10.Kc7 Qg8, or here 3.Sc4+ Ka7 4.Qc5+ Kb8 6.Sb6 g1Q 7.Sxd7+ Ka8. Or 3.a5+ Ka7.

**No 17129** P. Rossi & M. Campioli  
1st/2nd prize

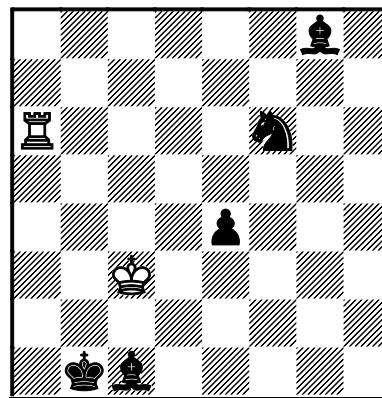


a3h1 0830.42 7/6 BTM, Win

**No 17129** Pietro Rossi & Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...b2 2.c8Q Rxc8 3.Rxc8 Bg8 4.Rb4 Rxb4 5.Rxg8 Rb3+ 6.Ka4 Rb4+ 7.Ka5 Rb5+ 8.Ka6 Rxb6+ 9.Kxb6 b1Q+ 10.Kc7 Qc1+ 11.Kd8 Qxe3 12.Rh8+ wins.

**No 17130** Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rb6+ Ka2 2.Kc2 Sd7 3.Rb7 Sc5 4.Rg7 Bb3+ 5.Kxc1 e3 6.Rd7zz Be6 7.Rg7 Bb3 8.Rd7 Ka3 9.Re7 Se6 10.Rf7 Sc5 11.Re7 Se6 12.Rf7 Sd4 13.Re7 Se2+ 14.Kb1

**No 17130** I. Akobia & R. Becker  
3rd prize



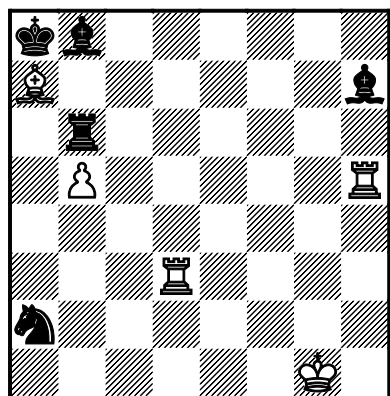
c3b1 0163.01 2/5 Draw

Sc3+ 15.Kc1 Sa2+ 16.Kb1 Sc3+ 17.Kc1 Sd5 18.Re4zz Ba4 19.Re5 Bb3 20.Re4, positional draw in a miniature.

**No 17131** Ivan Bondar (Belarus). 1...Rg6+ 2.Kh1 Rg1+ 3.Kxg1 Bxa7+ 4.b6 Bxb6+ 5.Re3 Bxe3+ 6.Kh2 Bb1 7.Ra5+ Ba7 8.Ra3 Sb4 9.Rb3 Bb8+ 10.Kg1 Ba7+ 11.Kh2 positional draw.

The 5th prize by B. Sidorov & E. Kudelich is also unsound: h3f1 0247.13 b7e6h1a6c1d1

**No 17131 I. Bondar**  
4th prize

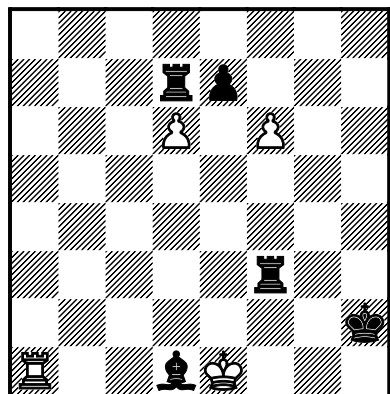


g1a8 0573.10 5/5 BTM, Draw

f6.h2f3g3g5 6/7 BTM, Draw. 1...Se4 2.Rxe4 g2 3.Bxg2+ fxg2 4.Rf7+ Sf2+ 5.Rxf2+ Kxf2 6.Sd3+ Bxd3 7.Rg4 g1Q 8.Rxg1 Bf5+ 9.Rg4 Be6 stalemate with pinned rook.

MG: 3.Sd3 g4+ 4.Kh4 gxh1Q 5.Re1+ Kg2 6.Rxh1 Kxh1 7.Rb1. If 3...Bxd3 4.Bxg2+ fxg2 5.Rf7+ Sf2+ 6.Rxf2+ Kxf2 7.Rg4 is the main line.

**No 17132 L. Topko**  
6th prize



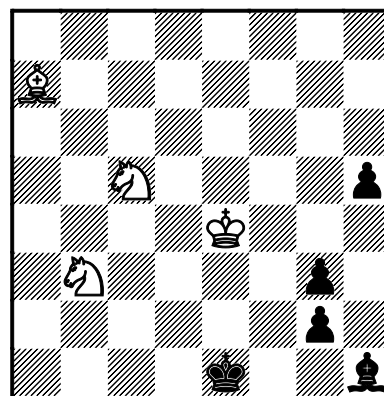
e1h2 0730.21 4/5 Draw

**No 17132** Leonid Topko (Ukraine). 1.fxe7 Re3+ 2.Kf2 Rf3+ 3.Ke1 Re3+ 4.Kf2 Re2+ 5.Kf1 Rxd6 6.Rxd1 dRe6 7.e8Q Rxe8 8.Rd2 Rxd2 stalemate.

**No 17133** V. Kondratev (Russia). 1.Sd3+ Kf1 2.Bg1/i Kxg1 3.Sd2 h4/ii 4.Kf4 h3 5.Ke3 h2 6.Se4 Kf1 7.Sxg3+ Kg1 8.Se4 Kf1 9.Sd2+ Kg1 10.Sf3+ Kf1 11.Sxh2+ Kg1 12.Sf3+ Kf1 13.Sd2+ Kg1 14.Kf4 Kh2 15.Sf3+ Kh3 16.Sf2 mate.

i) 2.Sd2+? Ke2 3.Sf3 g1Q 4.Sf4+ Kf1 5.Bxg1 Bxf3+ draw.

**No 17133 V. Kondratev**  
7th prize



e4e1 0042.03 4/5 Win

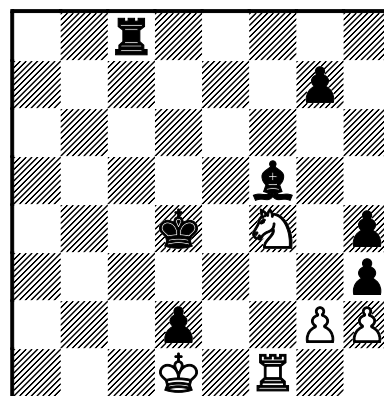
ii) Kh2 4.Sf3+ Kh3 5.Kf5 and 6.Sf4 mate.

Another incorrect study by F. Bertoli won 1st honourable mention: e6g6 0014.14 f4g4e4.f7c2d3g2h4 4/6 BTM, draw. Intended: 1...g1Q 2.Se5+ Kg7 3.Bh6+ Kxh6 4.f8Q+ Kh7 5.Qf5+ Kg7 6.Qf7+ Kh6 7.Qf8+ Qg7 8.Qf4+ Sg5+ 9.Kd6 Kh7 10.Qxh4+ Kg8 11.Sxd3 Qg6+ 12.Kc5 Se6+ 13.Kc4 draw.

HH: 12...Qxd3 13.Qxg5+ Kf7 is a database win.

MG: 3...Kh7 4.f8Q Qb6+ (also Qg8+ wins) 5.Kd5 Qc5+ 6.Qxc5 Sxc5 7.Be3 h3.

**No 17134 R. Becker**  
2nd honourable mention

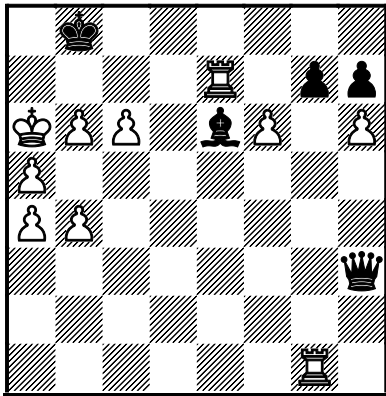


d1d4 0431.24 5/7 Draw

**No 17134** Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rf2 Ke3 2.Rf3+ Kd4 3.Rf2 Ke4 4.Sxh3 Bxh3 5.Re2+ Kf4 6.Rf2+ Kg4 7.Rxd2 Rc4 8.Ke1 Rc1+ 9.Kf2 Rh1 10.gxh3+ Kxh3 11.Rd3+ Kxh2 12.Rd4 Kh3 13.Rd3+ Kg4 14.Kg2 Ra1 15.Rg3+ hxg3 stalemate.

**No 17135** Boris Sidorov & Eduard Kudelich (Russia). 1...Bc4+ 2.b5 Qc8+ 3.Rb7+ Qxb7+

**No 17135** B. Sidorov & E. Kudelich  
3rd honourable mention



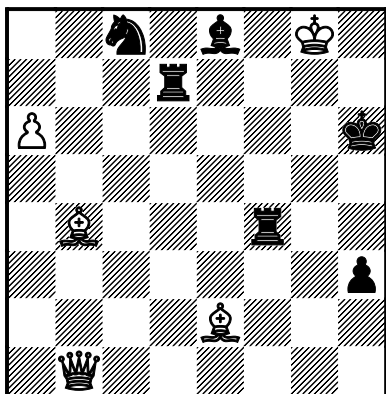
a6b8 3230.72 10/5 BTM, Win

4.cxb7 Bd5 5.Rxg7 Bc4 6.f7 Bxf7 7.Rxh7 Be8 8.Rd7 Bxd7 9.h7 Be8 10.h8B Bc6 11.Be5 mate.

Unfortunately, also a study by the Argentine veteran composer Oscar Carlsson proved unsound: 4th honourable mention c1c5 3150.14 h5d6f1g7a4.b2a7f2f5g5 5/7 Win. 1.Bf8 Qh8 2.b4+ Kxb4 3.Rd8+ Kb3 4.Rd3+ Kc4 5.Rh3+ Kd4 6.Rxh8 wins.

MG: 4...Qc3+. Also 1...Bb5 2.b4+ Kxb4 3.Rd5+ Kc3 4.Bg7+ Kb4 5.Rxb5 Ka4 6.Kb2 Qe8 7.Rb7 Qa8.

**No 17136** V. Kondratev  
5th honourable mention

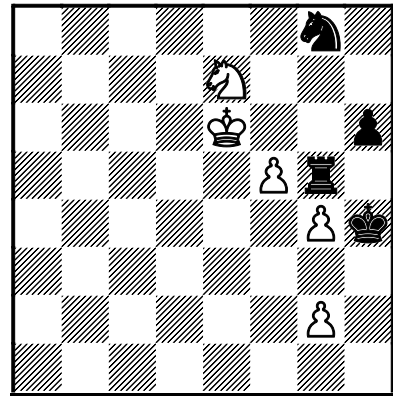


g8h6 1653.11 5/6 Draw

**No 17136** V. Kondratev (Russia). 1.Bf8+ Rxf8 2.Kxf8 Bg6 3.Qc1+ Kh7 4.Qxc8 Rf7+ 5.Ke8 Rc7+ 6.Kd8 Rxc8+ 7.Kxc8 Be4 8.a7 h2 9.Bd3 h1Q 10.Bxe4+ Qxe4 11.Kb8 draw (theory).

**No 17137** Luis Miguel González (Spain). 1.f6 Sxf6 2.Sf5+, with:

**No 17137** L. González  
6th honourable mention

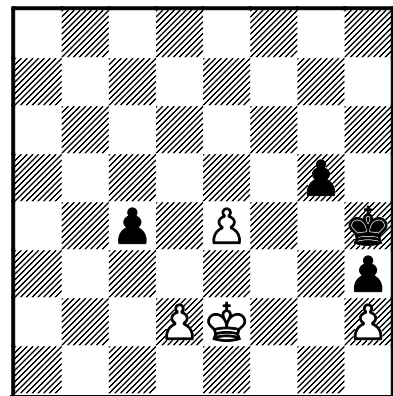


e6h4 0304.31 5/4 Draw

– Kxg4 3.Sxh6+ Kh5 4.Sf7 Rg6 5.Se5 Rh6 6.Sf7 Rg6 7.Se5 positional draw, or

– Rxf5 3.Kxf5 Sxg4 4.Kg6 Kg3 5.Kh5 Kf4 6.Kg6 Ke5 7.Kh5 Kf5 8.g3zz draw.

**No 17138** A. Pallier  
7th honourable mention



e2h4 0000.33 4/4 Win

**No 17138** Alain Pallier (France). 1.Kf3 g4+ 2.Kf4 g3 3.hxg3+ Kh5 4.Kf3 Kg5 5.Kf2 Kg4 6.Kg1 Kxg3 7.e5 h2+ 8.Kh1 Kf2(Kf3) 9.e6 Ke2 10.e7 Kxd2 11.e8Q c3 12.Qd8+ Kc1 13.Qg5+ Kb1 14.Qb5+ wins.

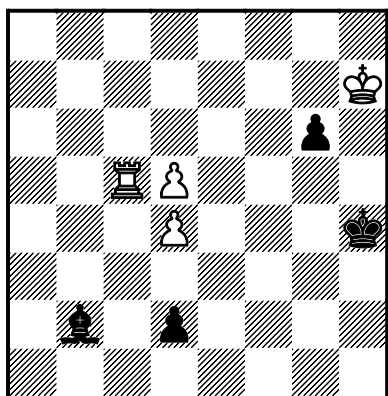
**No 17139** Vasily Tupik & Viktor Zhuk (Belarus). 1.d6 d1Q 2.d7 Qxd4 3.Rc4 Qxc4 4.d8Q+ g5 (Kh3; Qd7+) 5.Qxg5+ Kxg5 stalemate.

**No 17140** Vasily Tupik & Viktor Zhuk (Belarus). 1.Sc3 e3 2.Sd5 b3 3.Sxe3 b2 4.Sf1/i, with:

– b1Q stalemate, or

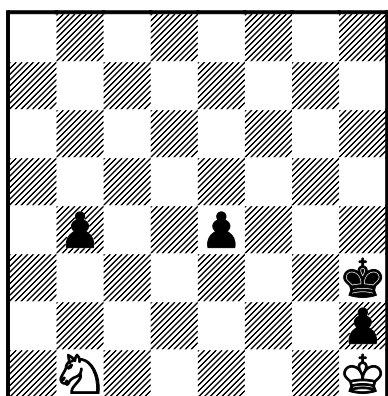
– b1B 5.Sxh2 draw.

**No 17139** V. Tupik & V. Zhuk  
1st commendation



h7h4 0130.22 4/4 Draw

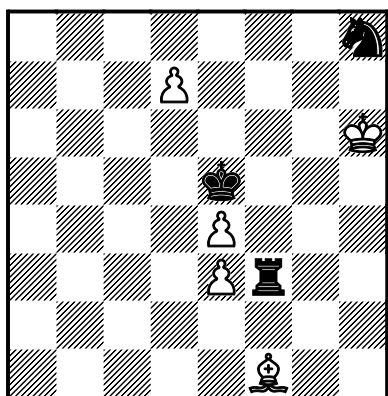
**No 17140** V. Tupik & V. Zhuk  
2nd commendation



h1h3 0001.03 2/4 Draw

i) 4.Sd1? b1B 5.Sf2+ Kg3 6.Sd3 Bc2 7.Sc5(Sf2) Bf5 8.S- Be4 mate.

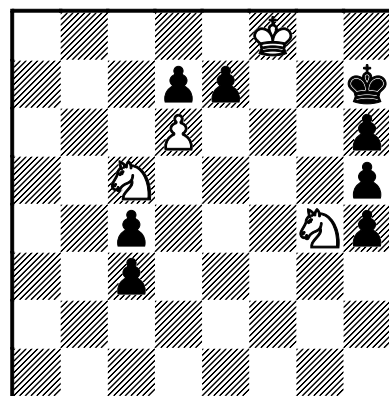
**No 17141** A. Strebkovs  
3rd commendation



h6e5 0313.30 5/3 Draw

**No 17141** Andrejs Strebkovs (Latvia). 1.Bc4 Rf8 2.Kg7 Rd8 3.Bg8 Sg6 4.Kxg6 Rxg8+ 5.Kf7 Rh8 6.Ke7 Rh7+ 7.Ke8 Ke6 8.d8S+

**No 17142** P. Rossi  
4th commendation



f8h7 0002.17 4/8 BTM, Draw

**No 17142** Pietro Rossi (Italy). 1...exd6 2.Se5 dxe5 3.Kf7 c2 4.Sxd7 c1Q 5.Sf8+ Kh8 6.Sg6+ Kh7 7.Sf8+ draw.

HewD asks: What is the point of the three hPs?

The 5th commendation by Viktor Kichigin is unsound: b2g8 0041.04 a4g1c8.a5b4d5h2 3/6 Draw. 1.Bb3 Bd4+ 2.Kc2 h1Q 3.Bxd5+ Qxd5 4.Se7+ Kf7 5.Sxd5 Ke6 6.Sf4+ Kd6 7.Kb3 Kc6 8.Ka4 draw.

MG: 2...a4 3.Bxd5+ Kf8 and the black pawns cannot be stopped.

The same goes for the 6th commendation by V. Zholtukhov: d7h8 0011.28 a4f4.c5d3a7b5 b6d5e5f6g7h6 5/9 BTM, Win. 1...bxc5 2.Sg6+ Kh7 3.Bc2 d4 4.Sf8+ Kg8 5.Ke7 h5 6.Bb3+ Kh8 7.Kd6 g5 8.Ke7 e4 9.Kf7 g4 10.Bd5 g3 11.Bxe4 h4 12.Sg6+ Kh7 13.Sxh4+ Kh6 14.Sf5+ Kg5 15.Sxg3 Kf4 16.Sf5 b4 17.Kxf6 b3 18.Bd5 b2 19.Ba2 c4 20.Sd6 cxd3 21.Sc4 wins.

MG: cook 13.Kxf6 h3 14.Sf4+ Kh6 15.Sxh3. Also incorrect: 9...exd3.

And the 7th commendation by V. Kichigin cannot stay behind: f4h5 0011.26 a6f5.a5g2a3c2d7e3e4h6 5/7, Win.

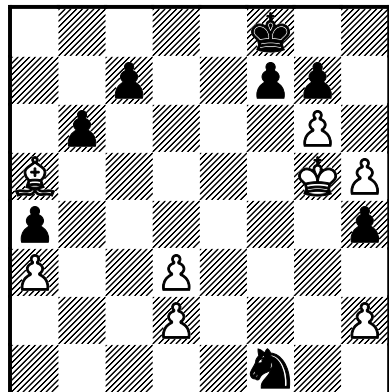
1.Se7 c1S 2.Bc4 Sd3+ 3.Kxe4 Sc1 4.Kf4 e2 5.Bf7+ Kh4 6.Sf5 mate.

MG: many cooks. The easiest is 2.g3 and bK is mated soon.

# Shakhmatnaya kompozitsia 2006

Provisional/definitive published: *Shakhmatnaya kompozitsia* 77. Judge: Oleg Pervakov (Moscow). 44 studies by 28 composers from six countries. The standard was high. There was significant wastage: 18 eliminations are listed in the judge's award.

**No 17143** N. Ryabinin  
1st prize



g5f8 0013.66 8/8 Win

**No 17143** Nikolay Ryabinin (Russia).  
1.Bc3? Sxh2 2.Bxg7+ Kxg7 3.h6+ Kf8 4.h7 f6+ 5.Kh6 Sg4+ 6.Kh5 Kg7 7.Kxg4 h3 8.Kxh3 f5 9.Kg3 b5 10.Kf4 b4 11.Kxf5 bxa3 12.Ke6 a2 13.h8Q+ Kxh8 14.Kf7 a1Q, and it is time for White to resign. So: 1.Bb4+ c5 2.Bc3 Sxh2 3.Bxg7+ Kxg7 4.h6+ Kf8 5.h7 f6+ 6.Kh6 Sg4+ 7.Kh5 Kg7 8.Kxg4 h3 9.Kxh3 f5 10.d4/i cxd4 11.Kg3 b5 12.Kf4 b4 13.Ke5 bxa3/ii 14.Ke6 a2 15.h8Q+ Kxh8 16.Kf7 a1Q 17.g7+ Kh7 18.g8Q+ Kh6 19.Qg6 mate.

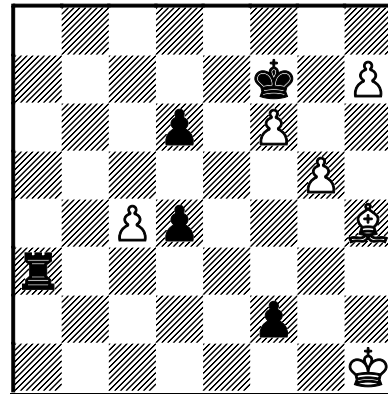
i) 10.Kg3? b5 11.Kf4 b4.

ii) b3 14.Ke6, follows main line to 16...b1Q.

“Plenty of logical planning lies behind sharp tactical content and the ‘long distance’ effect. A real duel, to which both sides contribute!”

**No 17144** Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine).  
1.h8S+ Kg8 2.f7+ Kf8 3.Kg2 Rh3 4.Kxf2 Rh2+ 5.Ke1 Rh1+ 6.Kd2 Rh2+ 7.Kd1/i Rh1+ 8.Kc2 Rh2+ 9.Kb3 Kg7 10.Ka3 Rh3+ 11.Kb2 Rh1 12.Kc2 Rh2+ 13.Kd3/ii Rh3+ 14.Ke2 Rh2+ 15.Ke1 Rh1+ 16.Kf2 Rh3 17.Kg2 d3 18.Kxh3 d2 19.g6 d1Q 20.Bf6+ Kf8 21.g7 mate.

**No 17144** E. Eilazyan  
2nd prize



h1f7 0310.43 6/5 Win

i) 7.Kd3? Kg7. 7.Ke2? Kg7 8.Ke1 d3 9.Kd1 d3zz in Black's favour.

ii) 13.Kd1? d3, and we're in the try.

“A reci-zug of great interest. A certain lack of precision in wK's peregrinations is, in the judge's view, perfectly acceptable. We like the underpromotion and the final mate is a beauty.”

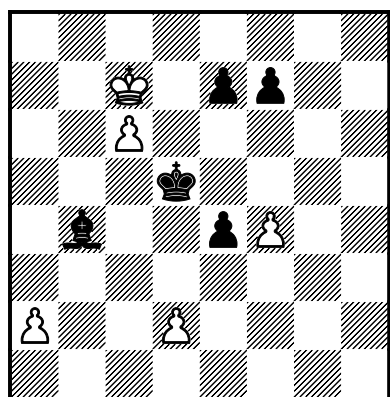
The third prize was award to a twin study by Sergei Osintsev: e5a2 0115.02 c8g6c6f6f2. e2g2 5/4+ I: diagram; II: wBg6 to wBf5. With I: 1.Sb4+ Kb2 2.Rc2+ Ka3 3.Rc1 Sd1 4.Sc2+ Kb2 5.Rb1+ Kxb1 6.Sd4+ Kc1 7.Sxe2+ Kd2 8.Sg1 Ke1 9.Sf3+ Kf2 10.Kf4 g1Q 11.Se4+ Kg2 12.Sxg1 Kxg1 13.Bh5 Sf2 14.Sd2 Kg2 15.Bf3+ Kh2 16.Be2 Kh3 17.Bf1+ Kh4 18.Sf3+ Kh5 19.Se5 Kh4 20.Sg6+ Kh5 21.Se7 Kh4 22.Sf5+ Kh5 23.Se3 Kh4 24.Kf3 Sh3 25.Sf5+ Kg5 26.Bxh3. But HH cooks: 23.Be2+ Kg6 24.Se7+ Kf7 25.Sd5 Ke6 26.Sc3.

And II: 1.Ra8+ Kb2 2.Rb8+ Ka3 3.Rb3+ Kxb3 4.Sd4+ Kc3 5.Sxe2+ Kd2 6.Sg1 Ke1 7.Sf3+ Kf1 8.Sd5 g1Q 9.Sxg1 Kxg1 10.Se3 Kh2 11.Kf4 Sh3+ 12.Kg4 Sf2+ 13.Kf3 Sh3 14.Sf1+ Kg1 15.Bxh3. But HH cooks: 14.Sg4+ Kg1 15.Kg3. Actually, also the try

1.Sb4+ wins: 1...Kb2 2.Rc2+ Ka3 3.Rc1 Sd1 4.Sc2+ Kb2 5.Rb1+ Kxb1 6.Sd4+ Kc1 7.Sxe2+ Kd2 8.Sg1 Ke1 and now not 9.Sf3+ (author), but 9.Kf4 Kf1 10.Sh3 Sf2 11.Kf3!

“An excellent example of proper use of a database. To create such a twin study calls not just for easy-mining [чѐс] but for real mastery”

**No 17145** N. Kralin  
1st honourable mention



c7d5 0030.43 5/5 Win

**No 17145** Nikolai Kralin (Russia). 1.Kb6 Ba5+/i 2.Kxa5 Kxc6 3.Kb4/ii f5 4.Kc3/iii Kd5 5.a4 e5 6.fxe5, with:

– Kxe5 7.a5 f4 8.d4+/iv Kd5 9.a6 Kc6 10.d5+ Kb6 11.d6 wins, or

– f4 7.d4 f3 8.Kd2 Kxd4 9.e6 e3+ 10.Ke1 Kd3 11.e7 f2+ 12.Kf1 wins.

i) Bd6 2.a4 e5 3.fxe5 wins.

ii) 3.f5? Kc5 4.a4 Kc4 5.Kb6 Kd3 6.a5 Kxd2 7.a6 e3 8.a7 e2 9.a8Q e1Q 10.Qa5+ Ke2 11.Qxe1+ Kxe1 12.Kc6 e5.

iii) 4.Kc4? e5 5.fxe5 f4 6.Kd4 f3 7.Ke3 Kd5 8.d4 exd3.

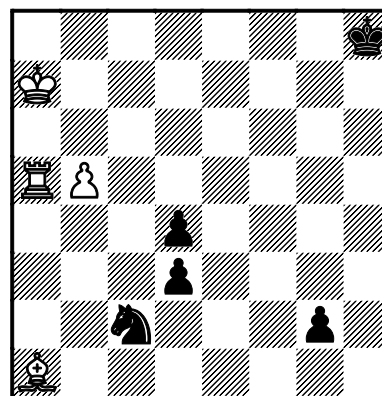
iv) 8.a6? f3 9.d4+ Kf4 10.a7 f2 11.a8Q f1Q 12.Qf8+ Ke3 13.Qxf1 stalemate.

“A subtle study of practical value that troubled not a few practised solvers.”

**No 17146** Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine). 1.b6 g1Q 2.b7, with:

– Qg7 3.Ka8 Qxb7+ 4.Kxb7 d2 5.Bxd4+ Kh7/i 6.Rh5+ Kg6 7.Rh1 Se1 8.Rh6+ Kf7 9.Rh7+ Ke8 10.Rh8+ Kf7 11.Rh7+ Ke6 12.Rh6+ Kf5 13.Rf6+ Kg4 14.Rg6+ Kh3 15.Rh6+ Kg2 16.Rg6+ Kf3 17.Rf6+ Ke4

**No 17146** E. Eilazyan  
2nd honourable mention



a7h8 0113.13 4/5 Draw

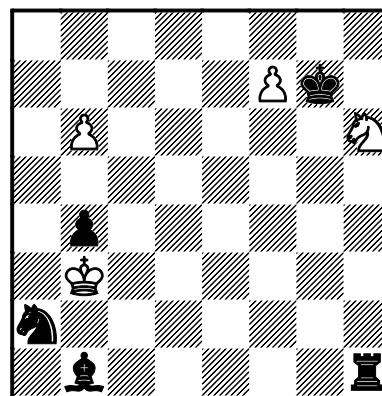
18.Bc3 d1Q 19.Bxe1 Qd7+ 20.Ka6 Qd3+ 21.Ka7 Qd7+ 22.Ba6 draw, or

– Qb1 3.b8Q+ Qxb8+ 4.Kxb8 d2 5.Bxd4+ – see (i) – Kh7 6.Ra7+ Kg6 7.Rg7+ Kf5 8.Rf7+ Kg4 9.Rg7+ Kh3 10.Rh7+ Kg2 11.Rg7+ Kf3 12.Rf7+ Kg4 13.Rg7+ Kf5 14.Rf7+ Ke6 15.Rf1 Se1 16.Bc3(Bf2) d1Q 17.Rxe1+ Qxe1 18.Bxe1 draw.

i) Now we have reached 6-man-land.

“It is apposite to repeat what we said about the third prize winner, exchanging ‘superb’ for ‘good’ example.”

**No 17147** Y. Bazlov & V. Kovalenko  
3rd honourable mention



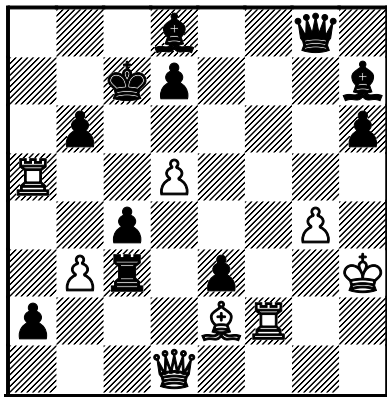
b3g7 0334.21 4/5 Draw

**No 17147** Yuri Bazlov & Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.b7? Sc1+ 2.Kxb4 Rh4+ 3.Sg4 Rh8 wins. So: 1.f8Q+ Kxf8 2.b7 Sc1+ 3.Kxb4 Rh4+ 4.Sg4/i Rxg4 5.Ka3 Rg3+ 6.Kb2 Rb3+ 7.Ka1 Ra3+ (B-; b8Q+) 8.Kb2 Rb3+ 9.Ka1 positional draw.

i) 4.Ka5? Sb3+ 5.Kb5 Bd3+. 4.Ka3 Rh3+ 5.Kb2 Rb3+ 6.Ka1 Rxb7.

“Refined play supports this curious positional draw.”

**No 17148** A. Stavrietsky  
commendation



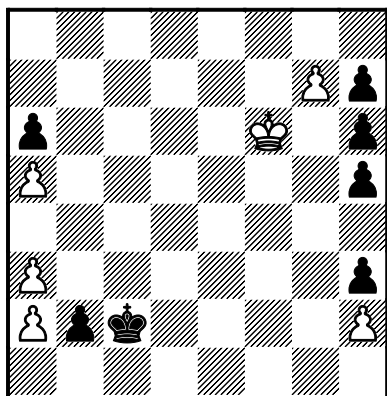
h3c7 4570.36 8/11 Win

**No 17148** Aleksandr Stavrietsky (Russia).  
1.d6+ Kb8 2.Ra8+ Kxa8 3.Qh1+/i Kb8  
4.Qa8+ Kxa8 5.Bf3+ Kb8 6.Rxa2 Be4 7.Bxe4  
e2+ 8.Kh2 and mates.

i) 3.Bf3+? Kb8 4.Rxa2 Be4 5.Bxe4 e2+  
6.Kh2 Rh3+ 7.Kxh3 Qxg4+ and Black wins.

“A sharp study on the theme as the last  
WCCT, where wQ gets in the way of her own  
pieces” – and has to be disposed of.

**No 17149** V. Kovalenko  
commendation



f6c2 0000.56 6/7 Win

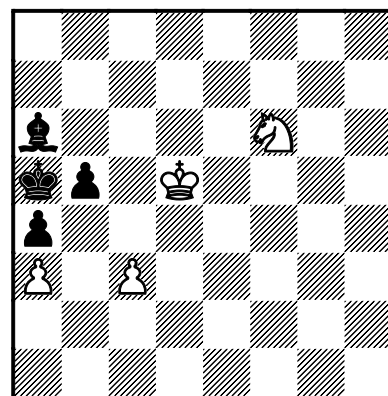
**No 17149** Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.g8Q  
b1Q 2.Qc4+/i Kb2 3.Qb3+ Ka1 4.Qxb1+  
Kxb1 5.Ke5 Kc2 6.Kd4 Kd2 7.Kc5 Ke2  
8.Kb6 Kf2 9.Kxa6 Kg2 10.Kb6 Kxh2 11.a6  
Kg1 12.a7 h2 13.a8Q h1Q 14.Qxh1+ Kxh1  
15.a4 h4 16.a5 h3 17.a6 h2 18.a7 Kg1 19.a8Q  
h1Q 20.Qxh1+ Kxh1 21.a4 h5 22.a5 h4 23.a6  
h3 24.a7 h2 25.a8Q+ wins, seeing that Black  
is left with bPh7.

i) 2.Qxh7+? Kb2 3.Qxb1+ Kxb1 4.Ke5 Kc2  
5.Kd4 Kd2 6.Kc5 Ke2 7.Kb6 Kf2 8.Kxa6 Kg2  
9.Kb6 Kxh2 10.a6 Kg1 11.a7 h2 12.a8Q h1Q  
13.Qxh1+ Kxh1 14.a4 h4 15.a5 h3 16.a6 h2  
17.a7 Kg1 18.a8Q h1Q 19.Qxh1+ Kxh1 20.a4  
h5 21.a5 h4 22.a6 h3 23.a7 h2 24.a8Q Kg1, an  
ancient book draw.

“A long-winded 25 moves-worth, but the  
look-ahead is straightforward enough.”

MG signals an auto-anticipation: V. Kova-  
lenko, *Schakend Nederland* vii-viii1981: f6b1  
0000.56 .a2a3a4a5h2a6h3h4h5h6h7 6/7 Win:  
1.Ke6? Kc2 2.Kd5 Kd3 3.Kc5 Ke4 4.Kb6  
Kd5 5.Kxa6 Kc6 6.Ka7 Kc7 7.a6 Kc8 8.Kb6  
Kb8 9.Kc6 Ka7 10.Kd6 Kxa6 11.Ke6 Ka5  
12.Kf6 Kxa4 13.Kg7 Kxa3 14.Kxh7 Kxa2  
15.Kxh6 Kb3 16.Kxh5 Kc4 17.Kxh4 Kd5  
18.Kxh3 Ke6. 1.Ke5 Kc2 2.Kd4 Kd2 3.Kc5  
Ke2 4.Kb6 Kf2 5.Kxa6 Kg2 6.Kb5 Kxh2 7.a6  
Kg1 8.a7 h2 9.a8Q h1Q 10.Qxh1+ Kxh1 11.a5  
Kg1 12.a6 h3 13.a7 h2 14.a8Q h1Q 15.Qxh1+  
Kxh1 16.a4 Kg1 17.a5 h4 18.a6 h3 19.a7 h2  
20.a8Q h1Q 21.Qxh1+ Kxh1 22.a4 Kg1 23.a5  
h5 24.a6 h4 25.a7 h3 26.a8Q h2 27.Qa1+  
wins.

**No 17150** G. Zgersky  
commendation



d5a5 0031.22 4/4 Win

**No 17150** Gennadi Zgersky (Russia). 1.Kc6  
Bc8 2.Sd7 Ka6 3.Kc7, with:

– Bb7 4.Sc5+ Ka7 5.Sxb7, or

– Bxd7 4.Kxd7 Kb7 5.Kd6 Kb6 6.Kd5 Ka5  
7.Kc5 Ka6 8.Kc6 Ka5 9.Kb7 b4 10.cxb4+  
wins.

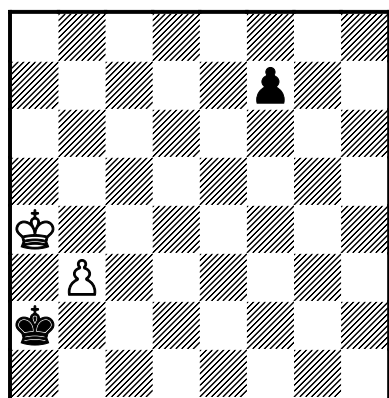
“A pleasing domination sprint.”

A further commendation by Valeri Kalashnikov & Aleksandr Pankratev was cooked by MG: a6a8 0070.45 g2a7h7.c4f3f6h4c5c6f5 f7h5 6/8+. 1.f4 Kb8 2.Bh1 Bg6 3.Bf3 Bh7 4.Bxh5 Ka8 5.Bf3 Kb8 6.h5 Bg8 7.h6 Bh7 8.Bh5 Ka8 9.Bxf7 Bb8 10.Bg8 Bxg8 11.f7 Bxf7 12.h7 Bg8 13.h8Q Bxc4+ 14.Kb6 wins.

But: 7.Bh1 Bh7 8.Bg2 Bg8 9.h6 Bh7 10.Bf3 Bg8 11.Bh5 Ka8 12.Bxf7 Bxf7 13.h7. Or 6.Bd1 Ka8 7.Ba4 Kb8 8.h5 Bg8 9.h6 Bh7 10.Bd1.

There was a special section for studies with a six-man database finale.

**No 17151** V. Kovalenko  
special commendation



a4a2 0000.11 2/2 Win

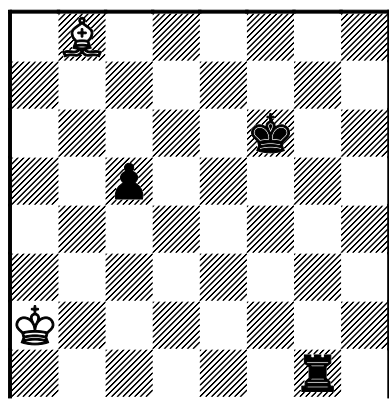
**No 17151** Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Kb5 f5 2.Kc4 Ka3 3.b4 Ka4 4.b5 Ka5 5.Kc5 f4 6.b6 Ka6 7.Kc6 f3 8.b7, with:

– Ka7 9.Kc7 f2 10.b8Q+, or

– f2 9.b8Q f1Q 10.Qb6 mate.

“Systematic movement on the small scale!”

**No 17152** V. Kovalenko  
special commendation



a2f6 0310.01 2/3 Draw

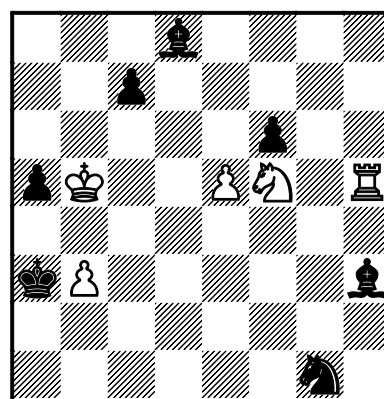
**No 17152** Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Ba7, with:

– Rc1 2.Kb2 Rc4 3.Kb3 Rc1 4.Kb2 Rc4 5.Kb3 draw, or

– Rg5 2.Kb3 Ke6 3.Kc4 Kd6 4.Kb5 Rh5 5.Bb6 Rf5 6.Ba7 Rg5 7.Bb6 draw.

“It may look simple, but it’s a positional draw in a ‘baby’.”

**No 17153** I. Akobia & R. Becker  
special commendation



b5a3 0164.23 5/7 Draw

**No 17153** Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). 1.Sd4 fxe5 2.Rxe5 Bf6 3.Re4/i, with:

– Bg2 4.Rg4 Bxd4 5.Rxg2 c5 6.b4 axb4 7.Kc4zz b3 (what else?) 8.Rg3 draw, or

– Bxd4 4.Rxd4 Se2 5.Rh4/ii Bf1/iii 6.Kxa5 Sc1 7.Ra4+, and Kxb3 8.Rb4+ Kc3 9.Rb1 Kc2 10.Rb5 Sb3+ 11.Rxb3 Sxb3 stalemate, or Kb2 8.Rf4 Sxb3+ 9.Kb4 c5+ 10.Ka4 Bd3 11.Rc4zz Be2 12.Re4 Bd3 13.Rc4 Bxc4 stalemate.

i) 3.Rd5? Bg2 4.Rd7 Bxd4 5.Rxd4 Se2 6.Rd3 Sc1 7.Rc3 Sxb3 8.Rxc7 Bf1+ and will win.

ii) 5.Ra4+? Kxb3 6.Rxa5 Bg2 7.Ra6 Sc3+ 8.Kc5 Sa4+ wins.

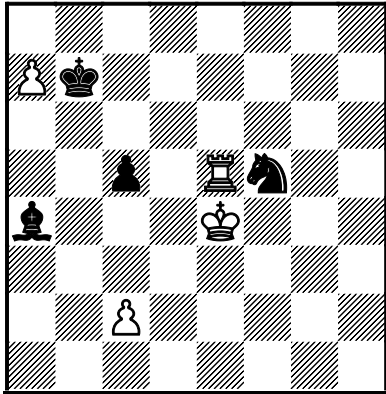
iii) Bf5 6.Ra4+ Kxb3 7.Rxa5 Be4 8.Kc5 Sf4 9.Ra6 Bg2 10.Rf6 Sd3+ 11.Kd4 ‘draw’. Presumably no further (database) move is unique....

“Tries, zugzwang, two stalemates.. But the play lacks the feel of wholeness.”

**No 17154** Harold van der Heijden (The Netherlands). 1.Rxc5 Sd6+ 2.Kd5 Sb5 3.a8Q+ Kxa8 4.Kc6/i Kb8 5.Rxb5+ Ka7 6.c3/ii Ka6



No 17154 H.van der Heijden  
special commendation



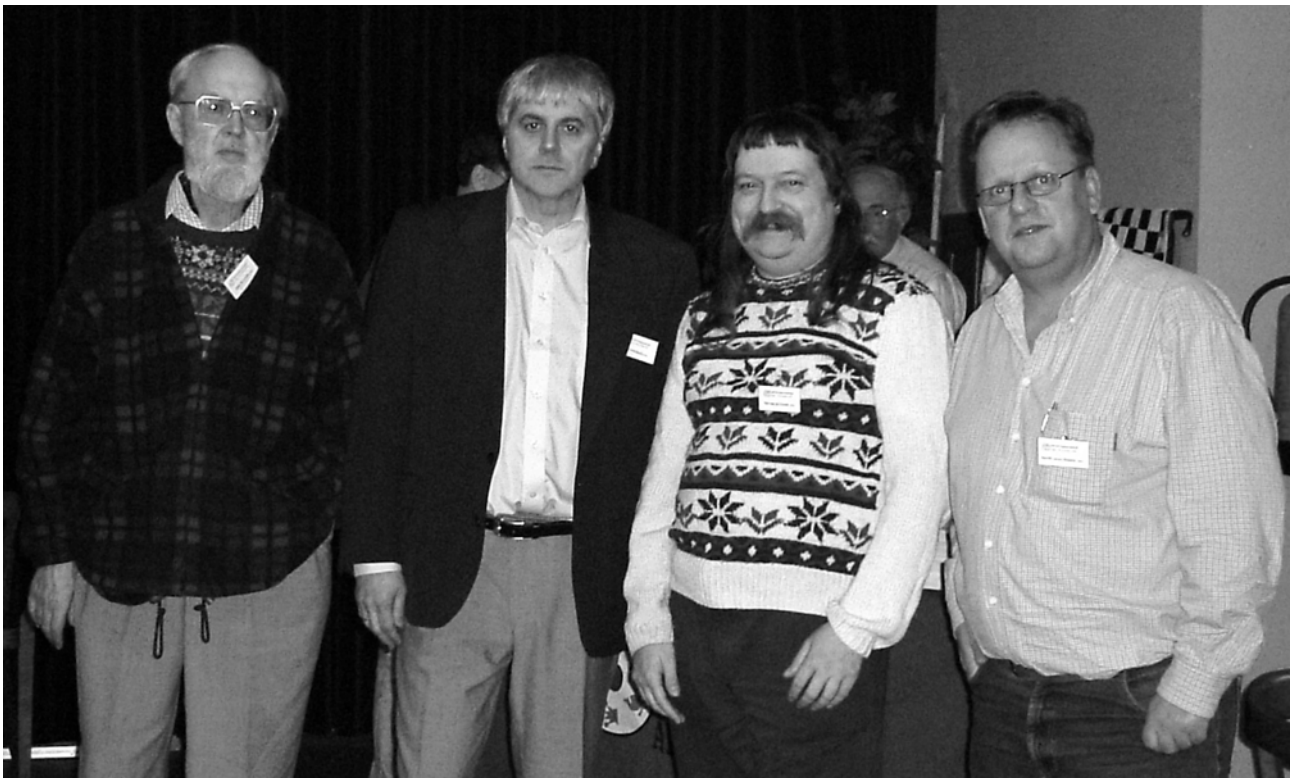
e4b7 0133.21 4/4 Win

7.c4 Bxb5+ (Ka7; Kc7) 8.cxb5+ Ka7 9.Kc7  
Ka8 10.Kb6 wins, Kb8 11.Ka6 Ka8 12.b6  
Kb8 13.b7 Kc7 14.Ka7.

i) 4.c4? Sc3+ 5.Kd4 Se2+ 6.Ke3 Sc3 7.Kd3  
Sd1 8.Ra5+ Kb7 9.Rxa4 Sb2+.

ii) 6.c4? Ka6 7.Kc5 Bxb5 8.cxb5+ Kb7  
draw.

“Even if the Dutch study man did resort to a  
database, it is still done tastefully: 4.Kc6! and  
6.c3! impress.”

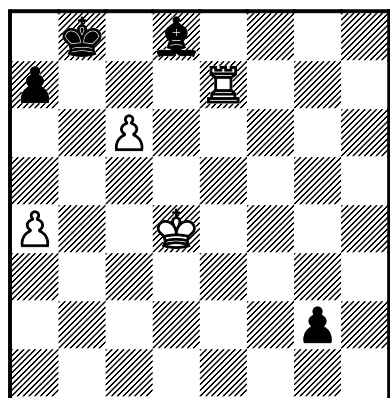


*John Roycroft, Jarl Ulrichsen, Ed van de Gevel and Harold van der Heijden*

# Shakhmatnaya kompozitsia 2007

Oleg Pervakov's (Moscow) report in *Shakhmatnaya kompozitsia* 83, vi2008 (condensed): Only five remained after eliminations. The standard of the original studies published in *Shakhmatnaya kompozitsia* has declined in recent years, no doubt due to competition from other tourneys, not to mention money prizes. *Shakhmatnaya kompozitsia* survives as a non-commercial venture due to the voluntary labours of Yasha Vladimirov, the support of Andrei Selivanov, and financial assistance of Valery Gurov. But winners need encouragement, perhaps just a free subscription... For my part I am ready to offer as book prize both this year and next the forthcoming *The Study for the Practical Player* being worked on with Mark Dvoretzky, especially seeing that the title will appear in English and German as well as Russian, so that our colleagues abroad are not forgotten.

No 17155 V. Vlasenko  
prize



d4b8 0130.22 4/4 Draw

No 17155 Valery Vlasenko (Ukraine).  
1.Rg7? Bf6+. 1.Re1? turns out to be a thematic try: Bb6+ 2.Kc4 a6/i 3.Kb4 g1Q 4.Rxg1 Bxg1 5.Ka5 Ka7 6.c7 Bb6+, demonstrating that to draw White must somehow gain a tempo. 1.Rb7+ Kc8/ii 2.Rb1 Bb6+ 3.Kc4 a6/iii 4.Kb4/iv Kb8/v 5.Rc1/vi Kc7/vii 6.Re1 Kxc6 7.Re6+ Kc7 8.Re7+ Kc8 9.Re8+, with perpetual check/viii.

i) g1Q? 3.Rxg1 Bxg1 4.Kb5 Kc7 5.a5 Bf2 6.Ka6 Kxc6 stalemate.

ii) For 1...Ka8 see (iv).

iii) As the thematic try showed stalemate follows promotion.

iv) With bKa8 the draw is achieved by 4.c7 Kb7 5.Rxb6.

v) The tempo must be lost because g1Q 5.Rxg1 Bxg1 6.Ka5 wins bPa6. But how now is promotion to be met?

vi) Ah! 5...g1Q is countered by 6.c7+. Black must find another plan.

vii) It seems White is in zugzwang and must abandon wPc6.

viii) If 9...Kd7, then not 10.Re1? because bK can march to h2 and recapture on g1 (after the promotion) with bK, but 10.Rg8.

“White’s subtle gain of tempo is superimposed on Black’s anti-stalemate counterplay.”

At this point in his award report the composition GM judge lets us inside his head: *When I start judging any tourney I glance at all the studies from the page. After mentally selecting those that appeal to me I turn my close attention to the remainder. After finally sorting out candidates for honours the labour of testing and searching for anticipations starts. In the first stage of testing I deliberately do not rely on Fritz or Rybka for analysis. I prefer to get under the skin of the study, to get to grips with its core and hidden reefs, things which the program does not ‘see’ (yes, it happens!). Only after that do I invoke the Mighty and the Terrible...*

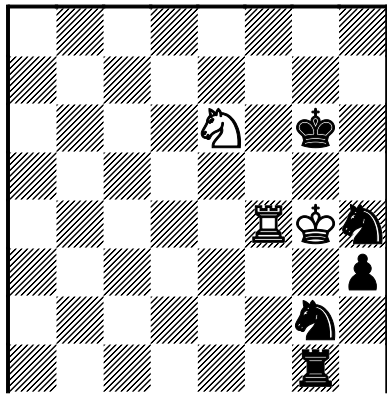
*Going through the studies for this tourney I lingered on No.4476 by G. Amirian:*

*g3g5 0405.01 g8f5g7h5f1.h2 4/4+.*

*After 1.Kg2 Se3+ 2.Kxh2 Sg4+ 3.Kh3 – leaving g3 free – Sh6 4.Se6+ Kxh5, the author tidies up with a beautiful finale – 5.Rg5+ Rxg5 6.Sf4 mate. But the ice-cool 5.Rg3 also solves, and I thought “The finale is very likely not new, but 5.Rg3 rules it out”, and put the study aside. But an inner impulse prompted*

me there and then to set the position up on the PC for Fritz to analyse. ... And, lo and behold, after ten minutes a study appeared, receiving 'special prize' in the tourney! As you can see, the colours are reversed and the stipulation has changed. The h2 pawn, which gave rise to the cook, has disappeared, and we have an extra move.

**No 17156** G. Amirian  
special prize



g4g6 0407.01 3/5 Draw

**No 17156** Gamlet Amirian (Armenia). 1.Sf8+ Kg7/i 2.Se6+ Kh7 3.Sg5+ (Sf8+? Kg8;) Kh6 4.Rf6+/ii Kg7/iii 5.Sxh3 Se3+/iv 6.Kh5 Rh1/v 7.Rf3/vi Sxf3, "a beautiful stalemate defence, ideal and with wSh3 pinned. All pieces move."

i) Kh6 2.Rf7 threatens mate, leaving Black no time to push bPh3.

ii) We already know the consequences of 4.Sxh3? Se3+ 5.Kxh4 Rg4+ (Rg6 also) 6.Rxg4 Sf5 mate.

iii) Sg6 5.Sxh3 Se3+ 6.Kf3 Rf1+ 7.Sf2 draw.

iv) "Double check, the big trump in the aggressor's hand."

v) Rg3 7.Sg5 Kxf6 8.Se4+.

vi) "A superb stalemate defence! 7.Rf4? hSf5 8.Rf3 Kf6, when White unexpectedly finds himself in zugzwang."

"Chess is indeed inexhaustible!"

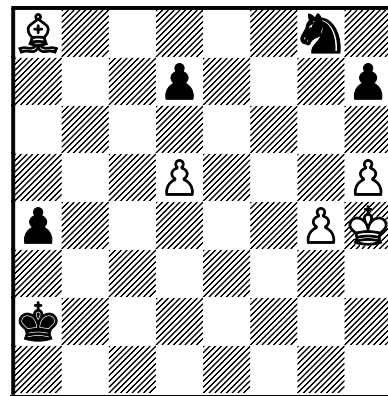
A study by E. Kudelich won an honourable mention: h7e8 4701.54 c1a5d1d7f8e3.b2c3d6 f6h3b3b7c6f7 9/8 Draw:

1.Sd5 cxd5 2.Qe3+ Kd8 3.Qe7+ Rxe7 4.dxe7+ Ke8 5.Rg1 Qc5 6.Rg5 b6 7.exf8Q+

Qxf8 8.Rxd5 b5 9.h4 b4 10.c4 Qg8+ 11.Kxg8 stalemate.

But MG cooks: 2.Qg5, and Rxd6 3.Kg7 Qd8 4.Qf5 Re6 5.Rxd5. Although Black is a rook up, White has many threats. A nice sample line is Qc7 6.Ra5 Qg3+ 7.Qg4 Qxg4+ 8.hxg4 Ra6 9.Re5+ Re6 10.Ra5. Or Kd8 3.Rxd5 Qb6 4.Ra5 Qxd6 5.Ra8+ Kc7 6.Qa5+ Kc6 7.Qa4+ perpetual.

**No 17157** V. Kalashnikov  
commendation



h4a2 0013.33 5/5 Win

**No 17157** Valeri Kalashnikov (Ekaterinburg). 1.d6 Kb2/i 2.g5/ii a3 3.Bd5/iii a2 4.Bxa2 Kxa2 5.h6, with:

– Kb3 6.g6 gxh6 7.gxh7 Sf7 8.Kh5 Kc4 9.Kg6 Sh8+ 10.Kg7/iv or

– Sxh6 6.gxh6 Kb3 7.Kg5 Kc4 8.Kf6 Kd5 9.Kg7 Ke6, and now we are on familiar ground: 10.Kg8 Kf6 11.Kf8 Ke6 (Ke5; Ke7) 12.Kg7, winning.

i) Attempts to improve the position of bSg8 fail to save the game: Sh6 2.Bc6 Ka3 3.Bxd7 Sf7 4.g5 Sxd6 5.g6 hxg6 6.hxg6 Se4 7.g7 Sf6 8.Be6. Or Sf6 2.g5 Se8 3.h6 Kb2 4.g6 Sf6 5.Kg5 a3 6.Bd5.

ii) 2.Bd5? Sf6 3.Bf7 a3 4.g5 Se4 5.h6 Sxd6 6.g6 Sf5+ 7.Kg5 Sxh6 draw.

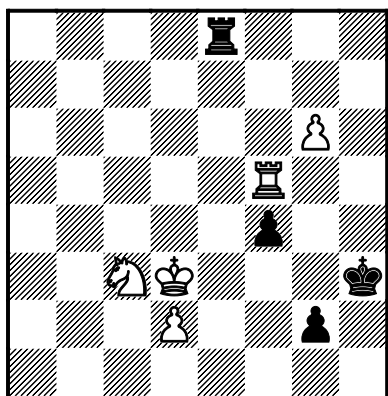
iii) "The first position of domination of bS."

iv) bS is doomed again.

**No 17158** Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Rg5? f3 2.Se4 Kh4 3.g7 f2 is fatal. 1.Se2 Rxe2 2.g7 Re8 (g1Q; Rh5+) 3.Rf8/i with:

– Rxf8 4.gxf8R/ii g1Q 5.Rh8+ Kg2 6.Rg8+ Kf2 7.Rxg1 Kxg1 8.Ke4 Kf2 9.Kxf4 (d4? f3;) or

No 17158 I. Aliev  
special commendation



d3h3 0401.22 5/4 Win

– g1Q 4.Rh8+ Rxh8 5.gxh8R+, repeating the stalemate already seen.

i) 3.Rh5+? Kg4 4.Rh8, leads to a Stamma position (1737), where 4...Rg8 draws, though 4...Rh8 is just as good.

ii) 4.gxf8Q? g1Q 5.Qh6+ Kg3 6.Qg5+ Kf3 7.Qxg1 stalemate, a familiar sight.

“Echoed promotion in conjunction with the phoenix theme.”

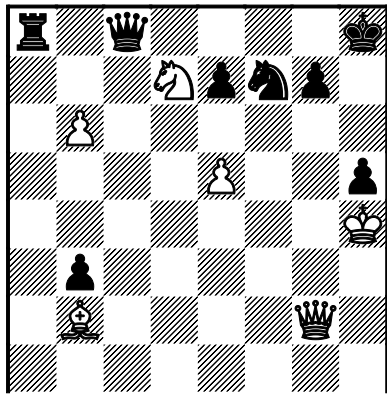


*From left to right: Ilham Aliev, Araz Almammadov and Kenan Velikhanov*

# Scacchi & Dintorni 2006-2007

Marco Campioli (Italy) judged the first endgame study tourney of *Scacchi & Dintorni*, the magazine of the chess club "Club 64" of Modena, Italy. The award was published in issue 4, x-xii2007

**No 17159** S. Didukh  
1st prize



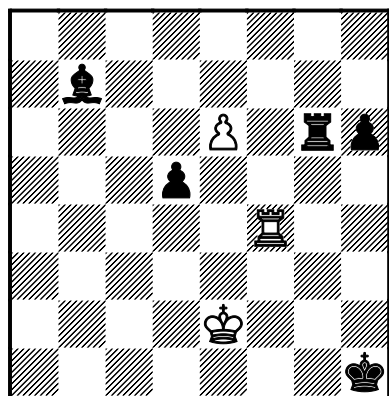
h4h8 4314.24 6/8 Win

**No 17159** Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.b7 Qc4+ 2.Kxh5 Rg8 3.e6 Qxe6 4.Qxg7+ Rxg7 5.b8R+/i Sd8 6.Rxd8+ Qg8 7.Sf8 e5 8.Bxe5 b2 9.Bxb2 Qf7+ 10.Sg6++ Kh7 11.Rh8 mate.

i) 5.b8Q+? Sd8 6.Qxd8+ Qg8 7.Sf8 e5 8.Bxe5 b2 9.Bxb2 Qd5+ 10.Qxd5 stalemate.

The judge points to a similar finish: E. Pogoyants, *Vecherni Volgograd* 1985, c5a8 0501.03 g4g7b7a4.a6g5h2 4/5 Win: 1.Rg8+ Rb8 2.R4xg5 h1Q 3.Sb6+ Ka7 4.R5g7+ Qb7 5.Rxb7+ Rxb7 6.Ra8 mate.

**No 17160** I. Akobia & R. Becker  
2nd prize



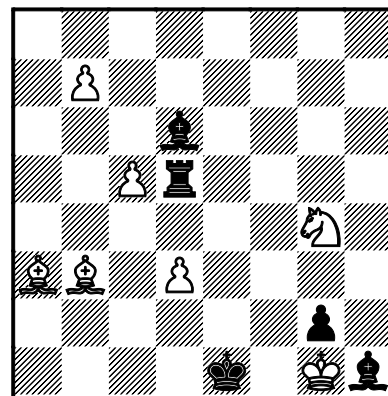
e2h1 0430.12 3/5 Draw

**No 17160** Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). 1.e7, and:

– Bc6 2.Kf2 Rg2+ 3.Ke3 h5 4.Rh4+ Rh2 5.Rd4 Rh3+ 6.Kf2 Kh2 7.Rxd5 Rf3+ 8.Ke2 draws, or:

– Ba6+ 2.Kf2 Rg2+ 3.Kf3 Bb5 4.Rh4+ Rh2 5.Rb4 Rh3+ 6.Kf2 Be8 7.Rb8 Rh2+ 8.Kf1 Bh5 9.e8Q Bxe8 10.Rxe8 Rh5 11.Kf2 Kh2 12.Kf3 Rh3+ 13.Kf2 Rh5 14.Kf3 Kh3 15.Kf4 Rh4+ 16.Kf3 Rh5 17.Kf4 Kg2 18.Kg4 Rg5+ 19.Kf4 Rh5 20.Kg4 Rg5+ 21.Kf4 Kf2 22.Re2+ Kxe2 stalemate.

**No 17161** N. Mironenko  
3rd prize



g1e1 0381.31 7/5 BTM, Win

**No 17161** Nikolai Mironenko (Ukraine). 1...Rf5 2.Bb4+ Ke2 3.Bd1+ Kxd3 4.Bc2+ Kxc2 5.Se3+ Kd3 6.Sxf5 Bb8 7.Be1 Kc4 8.Bf2 Kb5 9.Se7 Ka6 10.c6 Kb5 11.Be3 (Bd4)/i Bd6 12.Ba7 wins.

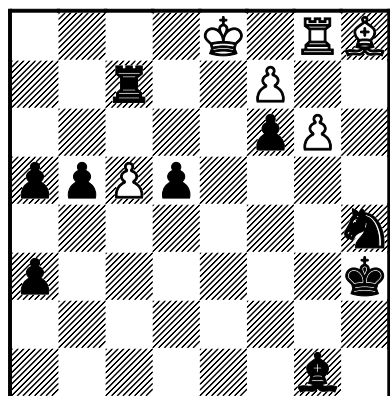
**No 17162** Luboš Kekely (Slovakia). 1.f8Q Rc8+ 2.Kf7 Rxf8+ 3.Rxf8 Bxc5 4.g7 Sf5 5.g8Q Sh6+ 6.Kxf6 Sxg8+ 7.Rxg8, and:

– b4 8.Kf5 b3 9.Be5 Bf2 10.Rb8 a4 11.Rb4 d4 12.Rxa4 a2 13.Rxd4 draws, or:

– a2 8.Kf5 d4 9.Be5 a1Q 10.Rg3+ Kh4 11.Rg4+ Kh5 12.Rg5+ Kh6 13.Rg6+ Kh7 14.Rg7+ Kh6 15.Rg6+ positional draw.

The judge draws attention to: F. Bondarenko & A.P. Kuznetsov, *Tidskrift för Schack* 1981, f5h7 0411.16 g6b8f4g8.a5a4a6b7b2d5g7 5/8 Draw: 1.Sf6+ gxf6 2.Rh6+ Kg7 3.Rg6+ Kf7

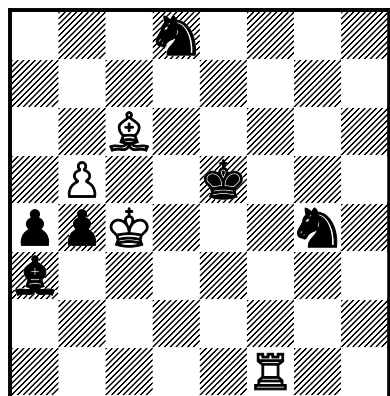
**No 17162** L. Kekely  
4th prize



e8h3 0443.35 6/9 Draw

4.Rxf6+ Ke7 5.Re6+ Kd7 6.Rd6+ Kc8 7.Rb6 a3 8.Be5 Kd7 9.Rd6+ Ke7 10.Re6+ Kf7 11.Rf6+ Kg8 12.Rg6+ Kh7 13.Rg7+ Kh6 14.Rg6+ Kh5 15.Rg5+ Kh4 16.Rg4+ Kh3 17.Rg3+ Kh4 18.Rg4+.

**No 17163** R. Becker  
5th prize



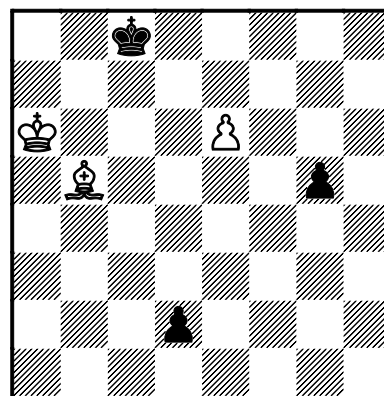
c4e5 0146.12 4/6 Draw

**No 17163** Richard Becker (USA). 1.Re1+ Kd6 2.Rd1+ Kc7 3.Rd7+ Kc8 4.Ra7 Se3+ 5.Kd3 Sxc6 6.Rxa4 Sd1 7.Kc2 Se3+ 8.Kd3 Sd1 9.Kc2 Sb2 10.Rxb4 Sxb4+ 11.Kb3 Sc4 12.Kxc4 Sc2 (Sa2) 13.Kb3 draws.

The judge gives for comparison: G. Kasparyan, 1st prize *Shakhmaty v SSSR* 1954, c1d8 0034.21 h4d6e1.a5g2g4 4/4 Draw: 1.Sf7+ Kc7 2.Sh6 g3 3.Sf5 Sxg2 4.Kb1 Kb7 5.Ka2 Ka6 6.Kb3 Kxa5 7.Kc4 Kb6 8.Kd4 Kb5 9.Ke4 Kc5 10.Sxg3 Bxg3 11.Kf3 draw.

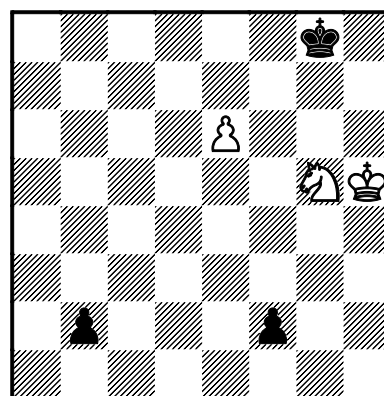
**No 17164** Julien Vandiest (Belgium). 1.e7 d1Q 2.e8Q+ Kc7 3.Qe7+ Kc8 4.Qe5 g4 5.Qe8+ Kc7 6.Qe7+ Kc8 7.Qe5 g3 8.Bc4 Kd8 9.Kb6 Qg1+ 10.Kb7 Qh1+ 11.Kb8 Qc6

**No 17164** J. Vandiest  
1st honourable mention



a6c8 0010.12 3/3 Win

**No 17165** J. Vandiest  
2nd honourable mention



h5g8 0001.12 3/3 Win

**No 17165** Julien Vandiest (Belgium). 1.e7 f1Q 2.e8Q+ Qf8 3.Qg6+ Qg7 4.Qe6+ Kh8 5.Qe8+ Qg8 6.Qe5+ Qg7 7.Qb8+ Qg8 8.Qxb2+ Qg7 9.Qb8+ Qg8 10.Qd6, and:

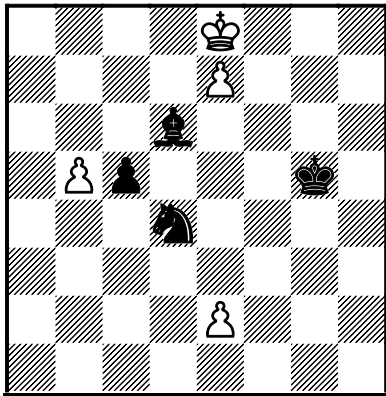
– Qe8+ 11.Kh6 Kg8 12.Qd5+ Kf8 13.Qf5+ Ke7 14.Qe6+ wins, or:  
– Qg7 11.Kg4 Qg6 12.Qf8+ Qg8 13.Qh6 wins.

**No 17166** Luis Miguel González (Spain). 1.b6 Sf5 2.Kd7 Bxe7 3.e4 Sd6 4.e5 Sb7 5.Kxe7 c4 6.e6 c3 7.Kf8 c2 8.e7 Sd6 9.e8Q Sxe8 10.b7 Sf6 11.Ke7 draws.

**No 17167** Allain Pallier & Marcel Doré (France). 1.Bd4+ Kb5 2.Bxf2 gxf2 3.Ke2 Sf3 4.Rxh7 Sd2 5.Kxf2 Se4+ 6.Kg1 Sc3 7.Rb7+ Ka4 8.Ra7+ Kb4 (Rb5) 9.Kh2 wins

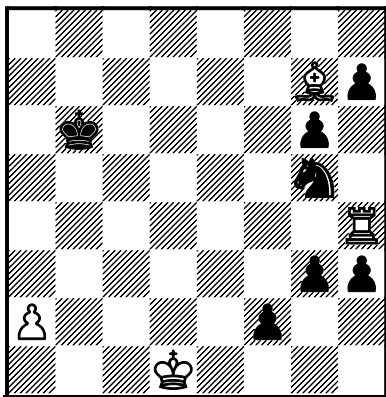
**No 17168** José Copié & Oscar Carlsson (Argentina). 1.Re7 Rd3 2.Re5 Rxg3 3.Kd5 Kd3 4.Ke6 Rf3 5.Ke7 Rf5 6.Rxf5 gxf5 7.g6 f4 8.g7 f3 9.g8Q f2 10.Qa2 f1Q 11.Qa6+ wins.

**No 17166** L. González  
3rd honourable mention



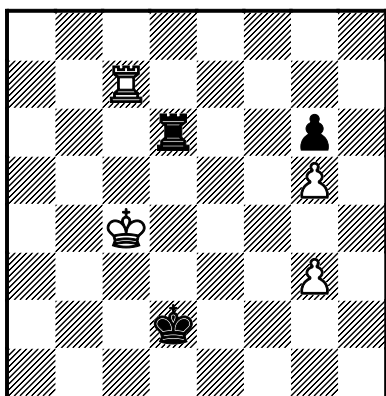
e8g5 0033.31 4/4 Draw

**No 17167** A. Pallier & M. Doré  
4th honourable mention



d1b6 0113.15 4/7 Win

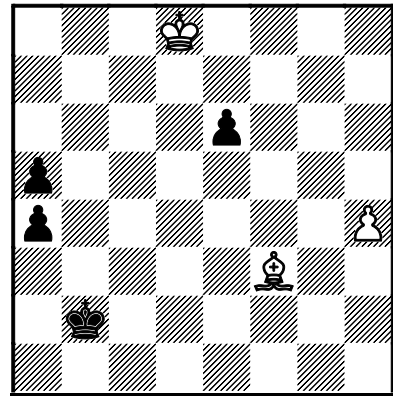
**No 17168** J. Copié & O. Carlsson  
5th honourable mention



c4d2 0400.21 4/3 Win

Compare: V. Kovalenko, *Molodoi Leninets* 1976, h8g2 0000.32 .b4c2c4b6c6 4/3 Win: 1.b5 cxb5 2.cxb5 Kf3 3.c4 Ke3 4.c5 bxc5 5.b6 c4 6.b7 c3 7.b8Q c2 8.Qh2 c1Q 9.Qh6+, and N. Elkies, 3rd HM *Czerniak MT* 1986, g8d2 0003.31 g4.b5c4h6b6 4/3 Win: 1.h7 Sf6+ 2.Kg7 Sxh7 3.Kxh7 Ke3 4.c5 bxc5 5.b6 c4

**No 17169** M. Doré  
1st commendation



d8b2 0010.13 3/4 Win

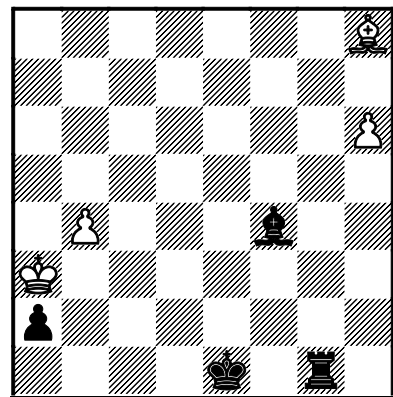
**No 17169** Marcel Doré (France). 1.Be2 a3 2.Bc4 Kc3 3.Bxe6, and:

– Kb2 4.h5 a2 5.Bxa2 Kxa2 6.h6 Kb1 7.h7 a4 8.h8Q wins, or:

– Kd4 4.Ke7 Ke5 5.Kf7 a2/i 6.Bxa2 Kf5 7.Be6 wins.

i) Kf4 6.Kg6 a2 7.Bxa2 Kg4 8.h5.

**No 17170** J. Mikitovics  
2nd commendation



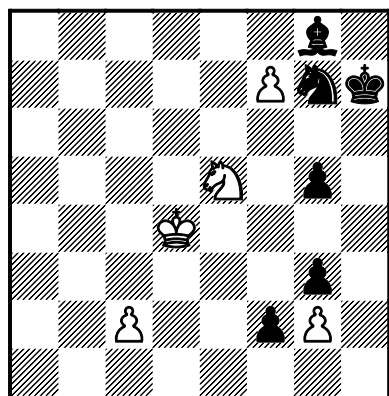
a3e1 0340.21 4/4 Draw

**No 17170** János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.h7 Ke2 2.Ba1 Be5 3.Bxe5 a1Q+ 4.Bxa1 Rxa1+ 5.Kb3 Ra8 6.Kc4 Rc8+ 7.Kd4 (Kd5) draws.

**No 17171** Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.f8S+ Kh6 2.Sg4+ Kh5 3.Sf6+ Kh6 4.Sxg8+ Kh5 5.Sf6+ Kh6 6.Sg4+ Kh5 7.Se3 Sf5+ 8.Sxf5 f1Q 9.Sxg3+ wins.

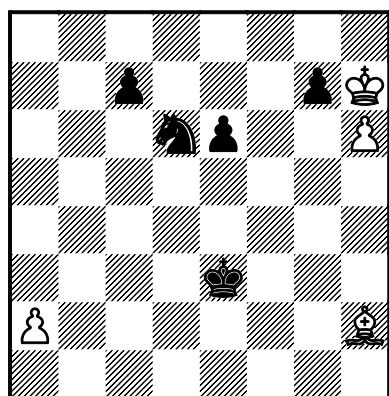
**No 17172** Mihajlo Milanovic (Serbia). 1.hxg7 Se8 2.a4 Kd4 3.Be5+ Kxe5 4.a5 Kd6 5.a6 Kc6 6.a7 Kb7 7.a8Q+ Kxa8 8.g8Q wins.

**No 17171 I. Aliev**  
3rd commendation



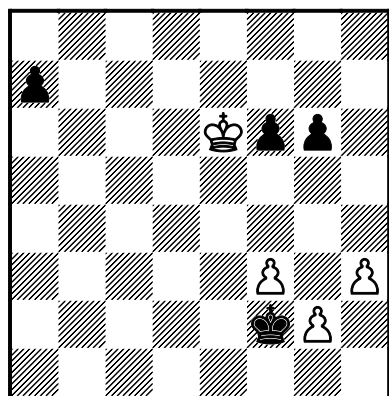
d4h7 0034.33 5/6 Win

**No 17172 M. Milanovic**  
4th commendation



h7e3 0013.23 4/5 Win

**No 17173 E. Bonazzi**  
5/7th commendation

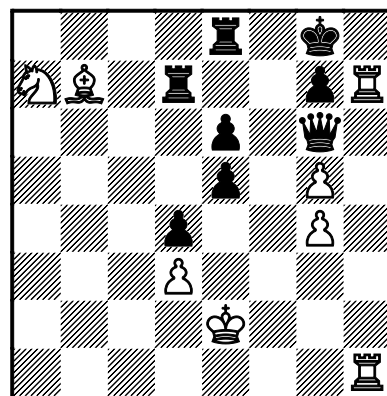


e6f2 0000.33 4/4 Draw

**No 17173** Edoardo Bonazzi (Milan, Italy). 1.h4 Kg3 2.f4 Kxf4 3.Kf7 Kf5 4.g4+ Kxg4 5.Kxg6 Kxh4 6.Kxf6 a5 7.Ke5 draws.

**No 17174** Moreno Merciarì (Sassuolo, Italy). 1.Rh8+ Kf7 2.Sc6 Qxg5 3.Rf1+ Kg6 4.Se7+ Qxe7 5.Be4+ Kg5 6.Rh5+ Kxg4

**No 17174 M. Merciarì**  
5/7th commendation

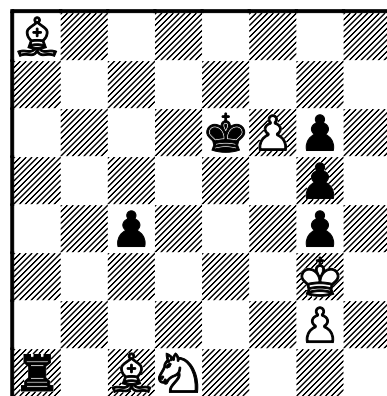


e2g8 3811.34 8/8 Win

7.Rh2 Qh4 8.Bf3+ Kg3 9.Rg2+ Kh3 10.Rh1 mate.

Compare: R. Missiaen, *Schaaknieuws* 2004, f8h8 0800.02 e1g2h1h2.e2e7 3/5 Win: 1.Reg1 Kh7 2.Kf7 Kh6 3.Rg6+ Kh5 4.R1g5+ Kh4 5.Rg4+ Kh3 6.Rg3+ Kh4 7.R6g4+ Kh5 8.Rg5+ Kh6 9.Rg6+ Kh7 10.Rg7+ Kh8 11.Rg8+ Kh7 12.R3g7+ Kh6 13.Rh8 mate, and G. Umnov, 3rd prize *Buletin Problemistic* 1984 (EG91.6713).

**No 17175 S. Dowd & M. Ylijoki**  
5/7th commendation



g3e6 0321.24 6/6 Win

**No 17175** Steven Dowd (USA) & Marko Ylijoki (Finland). 1.Bd5+ Kxd5 2.f7 Ra8 3.Ba3 Rxa3+ 4.Sc3+ Rxc3+ 5.Kxg4 Rc2 6.f8Q Rxg2+ 7.Kf3 wins.

Compare: A. Wotawa, *L'Italia Scacchistica* 1991, h3c4 0311.11 a1e3d1.f6g5 4/3 Win: 1.Bc1 Kd5 2.f7 Ra8 3.Ba3 Rxa3+ 4.Se3+ Rxe3+ 5.Kg4 Re4+ 6.Kxg5 Re5+ 7.Kg4 Re4+ 8.Kf3 Re1 9.Kf2 wins.