

No. 187 – Vol. XVIII – January 2012 Supplement

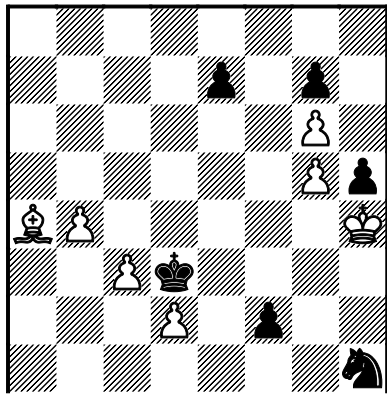
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Problemist Ukraini 2005-2008

25 studies were submitted by 17 composers from 19 countries. The award by Vladislav Tarasiuk appeared in *Problemist Ukraini* no. 24, 2010.

No 18058 S. Didukh
1st/2nd prize



h4d3 0013.54 7/6 Draw

No 18058 Seryiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Bd7/i e6/ii 2.Bb5+ Kxd2 3.Bf1 Ke1 4.Bh3/iii f1Q 5.Bxf1 Kxf1 6.b5 Kg2 7.b6 Sg3 8.b7 Sf5+ 9.Kxh5 Kh3 10.b8Q Sg3+ 11.Qxg3+ Kxg3 12.c4 Kf4 13.c5 Ke5 14.Kg4 Kd5 15.Kf4 e5+ 16.Kf5 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.Bb5+? Kxd2 2.Bf1 Ke1 3.Bh3 f1Q 4.Bxf1 Kxf1 5.b5/iv Kg2 6.b6 Sg3 7.b7 Sf5+ 8.Kxh5 Kh3 9.b8Q Sg3+ 10.Qxg3+ Kxg3 11.c4 Kf4 12.c5 Kf5 13.Kh4 Ke6 14.Kg4 Ke5 15.Kf3 Kd5 16.Kf4 e6 wins. Thematic try: 1.Bc6? Kxd2 2.Bg2 e5 3.b5 e4 4.b6 e3 5.b7 e2 6.b8Q f1Q 7.Qb2+ Ke1 8.Qc1+ Kf2 wins.

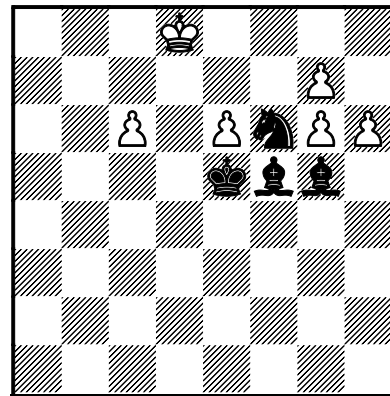
ii) Kxd2 2.Bh3 e5 3.b5 e4 4.b6 e3 5.b7 e2 6.b8Q f1Q 7.Qb2+ Ke1 8.Qb1+ Kf2 9.Qb6+ perpetual check.

iii) 4.Bc4? e5 5.b5 e4 6.b6 e3 7.b7 e2 8.b8Q f1Q 9.Qb1+ Kf2 10.Qb6+ Kg2 wins.

iv) 5.Kxh5 Sf2 6.b5 Kg2 7.Kh4 Se4 8.Kg4 Sd6 9.b6 e5 10.c4 e4, and now 11.c5 e3 12.cxd6 e2 13.d7 e1Q 14.d8Q Qe4+ 15.Kh5 Qf3+ 16.Kh4 Qh3 mate, or 11.Kf4 e3 12.Kxe3 Sxc4+ 13.Kd4 Sxb6 14.Ke5 Sc4+ 15.Ke6 Se3 16.Kf7 Sf5 wins.

“Wonderful study with two thematic tries and a subtle foresight effect”.

No 18059 A. Sochnev
1st/2nd prize



d8e5 0063.50 6/4 Draw

No 18059 Alexey Sochnev (Russia). 1.e7 Kd6 2.c7/i Sg8/ii 3.c8S+ Bxc8 4.h7 Bd7 5.hxg8S Bh4 6.Sf6 Bxf6 7.g8S Bg5 8.g7 Bh4 9.Sf6 Bxf6 10.g8S Bh4 11.Sf6 Bf5 12.e8S+ draws.

i) 2.e8S+? Sxe8+ 3.Kxe8 Bxg6+ 4.Kf8 Bxh6 5.Kg8 Bg5 6.Kh8 Bf6 7.Kg8 Ke7 8.c7 Bf5 9.c8Q Bxc8 10.Kh7 Bf5+ 11.Kh6 Kf7 wins.

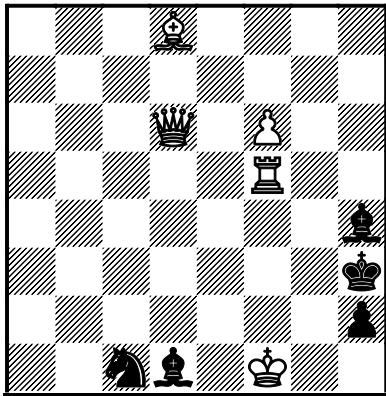
ii) Sd5 3.g8Q Bxe7+ 4.Ke8 Sf6+ 5.Kf7 Be6+ 6.Kg7 Sxg8 7.c8S+ Bxc8 8.h7 Bf6+ 9.Kxg8 Be6+ 10.Kf8 Kd7 11.h8Q Bxh8 12.g7 draws. MG observes in this secondary line also 7.c8Q(R) wins: Bf6 8.Kh7 Bxc8 9.Kxg8 Be6+ 10.Kf8.

“An airy study with a battle of pawns against light pieces, in which despite the elegant use of material (only 10 pieces) five pawns promote to knight. The author corrects his study from a Georgian tourney, long time ago in 1987!”.

No 18060 Sergey N. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.Rf3+ Bxf3 2.Qe6+ Bg4 3.Qe3+ Bg3 4.Qh6+ Bh4 5.Qxh4+ Kxh4 6.Kg2 h1Q+ 7.Kxh1 Kh3 8.f7 Se2 9.f8R/i Bf5 10.Rh8+/ii wins.

i) 9.f8Q? Bf3+ 10.Qxf3+ Sg3+ 11.Kg1 stalemate.

No 18060 S.N. Tkachenko
3rd prize

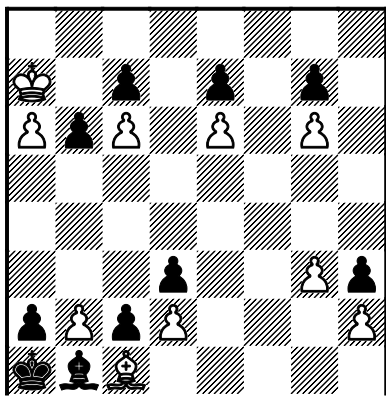


f1h3 1173.11 5/5 Win

ii) 10.Rxf5? Sg3+, or 10.Re8? Be4+ 11.Rxe4 Sg3+ 12.Kg1 Sxe4 draws,

“Fairly o.k. study with interesting combat ideas”.

No 18061 M. Zinar
special prize



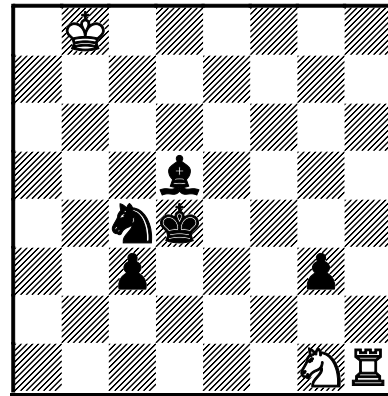
a7a1 0040.88 10/10 Win

No 18061 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Kb8/i b5 2.a7 b4 3.a8S b3 4.Sb6 cxb6 5.c7 b5 6.c8S b4 7.Sd6 exd6 8.e7 d5 9.e8S d4 10.Sf6 gxf6 11.g7 f5 12.g8S wins, e.g. f4 13.Sf6 fxg3 14.Se4 gxh2 15.Sc5 h1Q 16.Sxb3 mate.

i) Thematic try: 1.Kb7? b5 2.a7 b4 3.a8S b3 4.Sb6 cxb6 5.c7 b5 6.c8S b4 7.Sd6 exd6 8.e7 d5 9.e8S d4 10.Sf6 gxf6 11.g7 f5 12.g8S f4 13.Sf6 fxg3 14.Se4 gxh2 15.Sc5 h1Q+ with check.

“After three moves of bPb6, Black at first sight is saved by stalemate. A systematic manoeuvre involving knight promotions helps White, as well as a beautiful preparatory move by the white monarch”.

No 18062 V. Bartosh
1st honourable mention



b8d4 0134.02 3/5 Draw

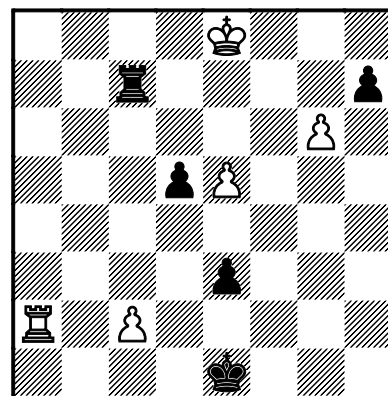
No 18062 Vladimir Bartosh (Belarus). 1.Rh3 c2 2.Rxg3 Se3 3.Se2+ Kd3 4.Sc1+ Kd2 5.Rg1 Sd1 6.Rg5 Bc4/i 7.Rg4 Se3 8.Rg1 Bd5 9.Ka7/ii Sd1 10.Rg5 Kxc1 11.Rxd5 Sc3 12.Rd3 Sb5+ 13.Kb6 Kb1 14.Rb3+ Ka1 15.Rxb5 c1Q 16.Ra5+ with perpetual check.

i) Kxc1 7.Rxd5 Sc3 8.Rd3 draws.

ii) 9.Kc7? Sd1 10.Rg5 Bf7 11.Rg7 Kxc1 wins.

“Apparently modest, but sympathetic study! Interesting sprawling play of the wR”.

No 18063 I. Akobia
2nd honourable mention



e8e1 0400.33 5/5 Draw

No 18063 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Kd8 Rb7 2.gxh7 Rxh7 3.e6 e2 4.e7 Rh8+ 5.e8Q Rxe8+ 6.Kxe8, and:

– Kd1 7.Kd8/i d4 8.Kd7 zz Kc1 9.c4 10.c5 d2 11.Rxd2 Kxd2 12.c6 e1Q 13.c7 draws, or:

– d4 7.Ke7/ii Kd1 8.Kd7/iii zz Kc1 9.c4 d3 see previous main line.

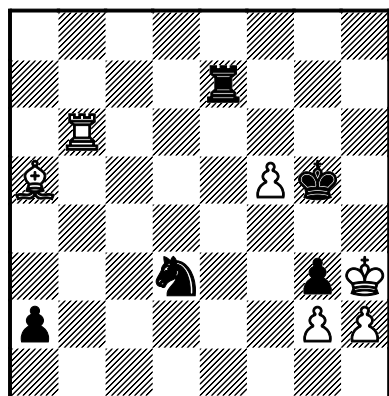
i) Thematic try: 7.Kd7? d4 zz 8.Kd6 Kc1 9.c4 d3 10.c5 Kb1 11.Rd2 e1Q 12.Rxd3 Qb4 wins.

ii) 8.Kd7? Kd1 zz.

iii) Thematic try: 8.Kd6? Kc1 9.c4 d3 10.c5 Kb1 11.Rxe2 dxe2 12.c6 e1Q 13.Kd7 Qd1+ 14.Kc8 Qg4+ wins, or 8.Kd8? e1Q 9.Ra1+ Kd2 10.Rxe1 Kxe1 11.Kd7 Kd2 wins.

“Delicate study on the reciprocal zugzwang theme”.

No 18064 V. Gorbunov
3rd honourable mention



h3g5 0413.32 6/5 Draw

No 18064 Valery Gorbunov (Ukraine). 1.Bd2+ Sf4+/i 2.Bxf4+ Kxf4 3.Rb4+ Re4 4.hxg3+ Kxf5/ii 5.Rb5+/iii Re5 6.g4+ Kf6 7.Rb6+ Re6 8.g5+ Kf7 9.Rb7+ Re7 10.g6+ Kf6 11.Rb6+ Re6 12.g7 a1Q 13.Rxe6+ draws.

i) Kxf5 2.Rb5+ Re5 3.Rxe5+ Sxe5 4.Bc3 gxh2 5.Kxh2 draws.

ii) Kg5 5.Rxe4 a1Q 6.Rg4+ Kxf5 7.Rf4+ draws.

iii) 5.g4+? Kf4 6.g3+ Kf3 7.Rb3+ Re3 wins.

“Another successful study of the author’s favourite theme of systematic piece manoeuvres”.

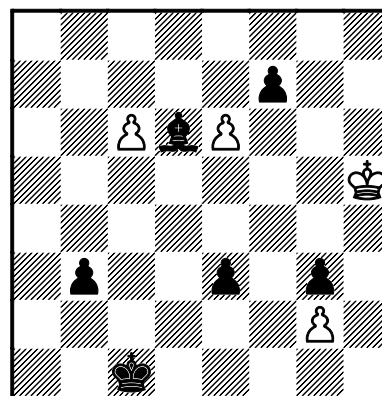
No 18065 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.c7/i Bxc7 2.e7 b2 3.e8Q b1Q 4.Qxe3+ Kb2/ii 5.Qd4+ Kb3 6.Qd5+ Kc3 7.Qc5+ Kd2 8.Qxc7 Qh7+ 9.Kg4 f5+ 10.Kf3 Qxc7 stalemate.

i) 1.e7? Bxe7 2.c7 e2 3.c8Q+ Kb2 4.Qh8+ f6 and Black wins.

ii) Kd1 5.Qg1+ Kc2 6.Qc5+ Kd2 (Kd1; Qg1+) 7.Qxc7 transposes.

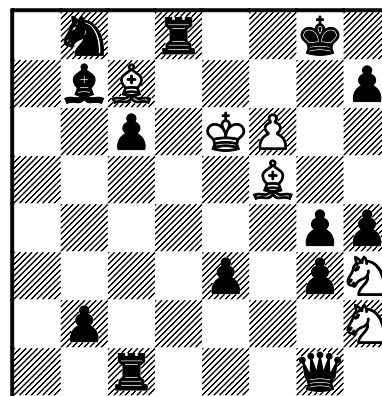
“Sympathetic study with an ideal stalemate in the centre of the board”.

No 18065 S. Didukh
1st/4th commendation



h5c1 0030.34 4/6 Draw

No 18066 N. Rezvov & V. Chernous
1st/4th commendation



e6g8 3655.17 6/13 Draw

No 18066 Nikolai Rezvov & Volodimir Chernous (Ukraine). 1.f7+ Kg7 2.Be5+ Kf8 3.Bf4 Bc8+ 4.Kf6 Sd7+ 5.Bxd7, and:

– Qf1 6.Sf2/i Qxf2 7.Sf3 Qxf3 8.Bf5 Qxf4 stalemate, or:

– Rf1 6.Sxf1/ii Qxf1 7.Sf2 Qxf2 8.Bf5 Qxf4 stalemate.

i) 6.Sxf1? Rxf1 7.Sf2 Rxf2 8.Bf5 Rxf4 wins.

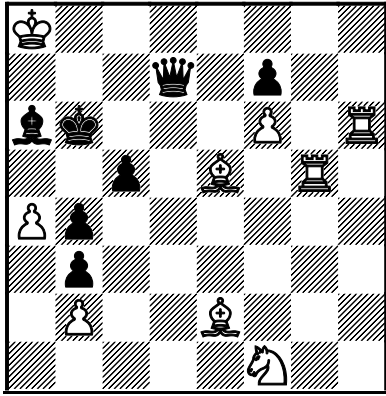
ii) 6.Sf2? Rxf2 7.Sf3 Rxf3 8.Bf5 Rxf4 wins.

“By bright sacrifices (at the price of three light pieces!) in exact order White is rescued. Successful interpretation of a known stalemate combination”.

No 18067 Vazha Neishtadt (Russia). 1.a5+ Kxa5 2.Bc7+ Qxc7 3.Rxc5+ Qxc5 4.Rh5 Bb7+ 5.Kxb7 Ka4 6.Bb5+ Ka5 7.Bc6 Qxh5 8.Sd2 Qd1 9.Sc4+ and Black is mated.

“Surely the fans of sacrificial play will not be indifferent to this romantic study”.

No 18067 V. Neishtadt
1st/4th commendation



a8b6 3251.34 9/7 Win

The final 1st/4th commendation is unsound:
S. Hornecker (Germany), f8h6 0014.33 d3c5
h8.a2g2g4a3a4h2 6/5 Win: 1.Se4 Sg6+ 2.Kg8
Se5 3.g5+ Kg6 4.Bb5 Sg4 5.Bd7 Sf6+ 6.gxf6
h1Q 7.Bf5+ Kh6 8.g4 Qa1 9.g5+ Kh5 10.f7
Qxa2 11.g6 Kh6 12.g7 Qd5 13.Sf6 Qb3
14.Bb1 a2 15.Sg4+ Kg5 16.Bxa2 Qxa2
17.Kf8 Kxg4 18.g8Q+ wins.

However, MG cooks: Se5 6.Bxa4 Kf5, and
supplies a murky line: 7.Sg3+ Kxg5 8.Bb5
Sg4 9.Sh1 Se3 10.g3 Sd1 11.Kf7 Sc3 12.Bc4
Kg4 13.Be6+ Kf3 14.g4 Kg2. If 8.Sh1 Sd3
9.Bb3 Kf4 10.Kf7 Ke3.

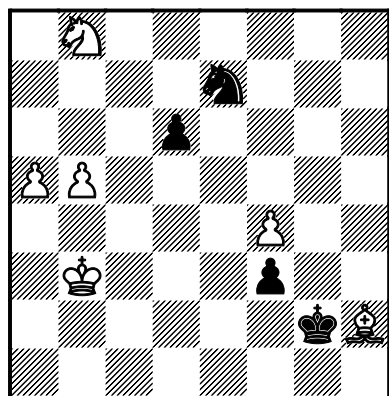


Rainer Staudte
(Photo: Harold van der Heijden)

Problemist Ukraini 2009

Sergiy Didukh judged the annual tourney of the Ukraine magazine. The award was published in *Problemist Ukraini* no. 24, 2010.

No 18068 A. Sochnev
1st prize



b3g2 0014.32 6/4 Draw

No 18068 Alexey Sochnev (Russia). 1.a6/i Sc8 2.a7 Sxa7 3.b6 Sb5 4.Bg1/ii Kxg1 5.Sc6/iii f2 6.b7 Sd4+ 7.Sxd4 f1Q 8.Se2+ Kg2 9.Sc3 draws.

i) 1.Bg1? Kxg1 2.a6 Sc8 3.a7 Sxa7 4.b6 Sc8 5.b7 Sb6/iv 6.Sc6 Sd7 7.Sd4 f2 8.Sf3+ Kg2 9.Sd2 Sc5+ 10.Kc2 Sxb7 11.f5 d5 12.f6 Sd6 13.Kd3 Sc4 14.f7 Se5+ 15.Kd4 Sxf7 wins.

ii) 4.Sc6? f2 5.b7 Sd4+ 6.Sxd4 f1Q 7.Kb2 Qf2+ 8.Kb3 Qe1 9.Kc4 Qb1 wins.

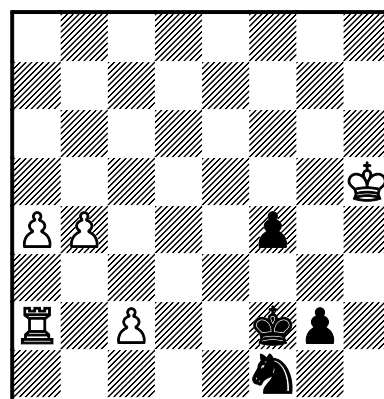
iii) 5.b7? Sd4+ 6.Kc4 f2 7.Kxd4 f1Q 8.Sc6 Qd1+ 9.Kc3 Qc1+ 10.Kd3 Qb1+ wins.

“Who would have thought that the far-off wS would be able to fight against the approaching catastrophe on the f-file? It does, by its trick 9.Se2+! with the triumphing jump 9.Sc3! prepared by the charming logical wB sacrifice 4.Bg1!! Beautiful piece play and an exciting plot”.

No 18069 A. Sochnev (Russia). 1.c3+/i Kf3 2.Rxg2 Kxg2 3.b5 Sg3+ 4.Kg6 Sf5 5.a5/ii f3 6.b6 Se7+ 7.Kg7 f2 8.b7 Sc6 9.a6 f1Q 10.b8Q/iii Sxb8 11.a7 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.c4+? Kf3 2.Rxg2 Kxg2 3.b5 Sg3+ 4.Kg6 f3/iv 5.b6 Sf5 6.a5 Se7+

No 18069 A. Sochnev
2nd prize



h5f2 0103.32 5/4 Draw

7.Kg7 f2 8.b7 Sc6 9.a6 f1Q 10.b8Q Sxb8 11.a7 Qa1+ wins.

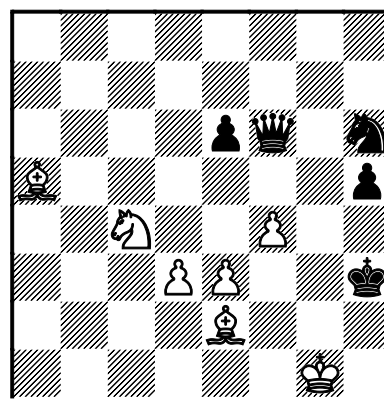
ii) 5.b6? Se7+ 6.Kg7 Sc6 7.b7 f3 8.a5 Sb8 wins. 5.Kxf5? f3 loses; compare x).

iii) 10.a7? Se5 11.a8Q Qf7+ mates.

iv) Not 4...Sf5? as White can now draw by 5.Kxf5 f3 6.c5 f2 7.c6 f1Q+ 8.Ke6 and the wK and three pawns draw against the bQ.

“There are many studies, including most of Aleksey’s, with an artistic finish in which strong pieces cannot cope with pawns. A study by Zakharov (EG#2467) probably has more similarities with the present product than others have”.

No 18070 V. Neishtadt
3rd/4th prize



g1h3 3024.32 7/5 Win

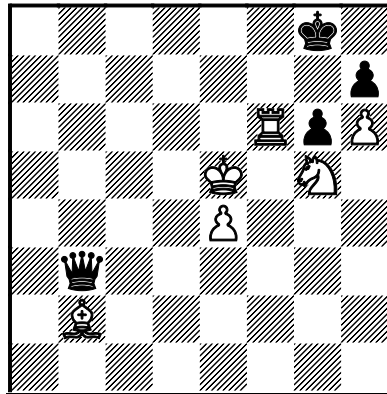
No 18070 Vazha Neishtadt (Russia). 1.Bf1+ Kg4/i 2.Se5+ Kf5 3.Bh3+ Sg4 4.Bxg4+ hxg4 5.e4+ Kxf4 6.Kg2 Qxe5/ii 7.Bd2+ mate.

i) Kh4 2.Se5 Qg7+ 3.Bg2 wins.

ii) The bQ is dominated Qe7 (Qh8, Qf8, Qh4) 7.Sg6+; Kxe5 7.Bc3+ wins.

“A quiet king moves has and will often crown combinative master attack. Its aesthetic impression in this study is enhanced by a pretty domination of the bQ and a firework of forks. I notice that the bQ hadn’t moved yet when it threw itself on the set without warning. But everything is done neatly and ‘round’”.

No 18071 O. Skrinnik
3rd/4th prize



e5g8 3111.12 5/4 Win

No 18071 Oleksandr Skrinnik (Ukraine). 1.Rxg6+ hxg6 2.h7+ Kh8 3.Ba1/i Qa4 4.Bc3 Qc4 5.Bd4 zz Kg7 6.Ke4+ Qxd4+ 7.Kxd4 wins.

i) 3.Bd4? Qc4 zz.

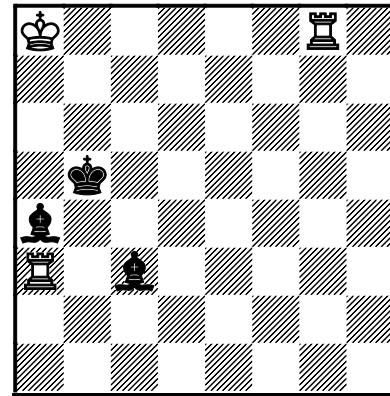
“Nice find, in the good sense of the word! One needs some luck to create a study with mutual zugzwang. This cute puzzle is most pleasant for solving and to show to others”.

No 18072 Christian Poisson (France). 1...Kb4 2.Ra2 Bc6+ 3.Kb8 Be5+ 4.Kc8 Bd5 5.Rg4+ Kb5 6.Re2 Be6+ 7.Kb7 Bxg4 8.Rxe5+ Kc4 9.Re4+ wins.

“Dynamic and airy study with the checkerboard theme. Such superminiatures are always welcome!”.

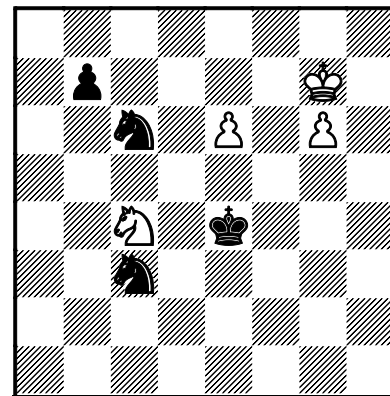
No 18073 János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Kf8/i Sd5 2.g7, and:

No 18072 C. Poisson
1st honourable mention



a8b5 0260.00 3/3 BTM, Win

No 18073 J. Mikitovics
2nd honourable mention



g7e4 0007.21 4/4 Win

– Sde7 3.Sa5 Sg6+ 4.Kf7 Sce7 5.Kf6/ii Kf4 6.Sc4/iii b5 7.Sd6/iv b4 8.Sf5 Sg8+ 9.Kxg6 b3 10.e7 Sxe7+ 11.Sxe7 b2 12.Sd5+ Ke5 13.Sc3 wins, or:

– Sce7 3.Sb6 Sg6+ 4.Ke8 Sf6+ 5.Kf7 Kf5 6.Sc4/v Kg5/vi 7.e7 Sxe7 8.Kxe7 Kg6/vii 9.Kf8 b5 10.Se5+ Kh7 11.Kf7 Sg8 12.Sf3 Sh6+ 13.Kf8 Kg6 14.Se5+ Kf5 15.Sf7 wins.

i) 1.Kf7? Sd5 2.g7 Sd8+ 3.Ke8 Sxe6 4.g8Q Sf6+ fork.

ii) 5.Sc4? Kf5 6.Sd6+ Kg5 7.Sc8 Sf5 8.g8Q Sh6+ draws.

iii) 6.Sxb7? Kg4 7.Sd6 Kh5 8.Sf5 Sd5+ 9.Kf7 Se5+ draws.

iv) 7.Sa5? b4 8.Sc6 Sg8+ 9.Kf7 b3 10.Kxg8 b2 11.Kf7 b1Q 12.g8Q Qf5+ with check, draws.

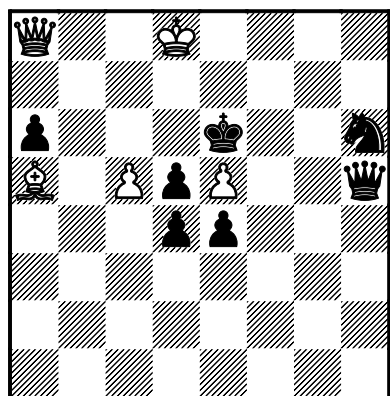
v) 6.Sd7? Sg4 7.g8Q Sh6+ draws.

vi) b5 7.Sd6+ Kg5 8.Se4+ Sxe4 9.g8Q Sd6+ 10.Kg7 Sf5+ 11.Kh7 wins.

vii) b5 9.Se5 Kf5 10.Sg4 Kg6 11.Kf8 Sh7+ 12.Kg8 Sg5 13.Se5+ Kf6 14.Kh8 wins.

“A striking example of the fashion in recent years ‘to chant’ on the accuracy of chess. The second main line has some common features with the first in the initial stage; some subsequent subtleties of the play could be good material for the creation of new studies. All of this in one bottle looks massive, and after the 6th move in the second main line the play has been seen, casting doubt on its usefulness. If it had been simpler, I’m certain that the study would have won”.

No 18074 A. Sochnev
3rd honourable mention



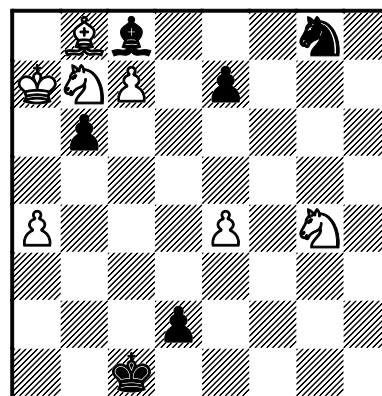
d8e6 4013.24 5/7 Win

No 18074 A. Sochnev (Russia). 1.Qc6+/i Kxe5 2.Qd6+ Kf5 3.Qxd5+ Kg6 4.Qxh5+ Kxh5 5.c6 Sf7+ 6.Ke7 Se5 7.c7 Sc6+ 8.Kf6 Sa7 9.Bb6 e3 10.Bxa7 e2 11.c8Q e1Q 12.Qf5+ Kh4 13.Bxd4 Kg3 14.Be5+ Kg2 15.Qg4+ Kf1 16.Bd4 Qe4 17.Qxe4 not a stalemate, wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Qxa6+? Kxe5 2.Qd6+ Kf5 3.Qxd5+ Kg6 4.Qxh5+ Kxh5 5.c6 Sf7+ 6.Ke7 Se5 7.c7 Sc6+ 8.Kf6 Sa7 9.Bb6 e3 10.Bxa7 e2 11.c8Q e1Q 12.Qf5+ Kh4 13.Bxd4 Kg3 14.Be5+ Kg2 15.Qg4+ Kf1 16.Bd4 Qe4 17.Qxe4 stalemate

“A powerful study with a 17 move lookahead. But for the logical design the idea needs a fat bait – the queen. And the solution has a slightly dry aftertaste”.

No 18075 N. Rezvov & V. Chernous
4th honourable mention



a7c1 0045.33 7/6 Win

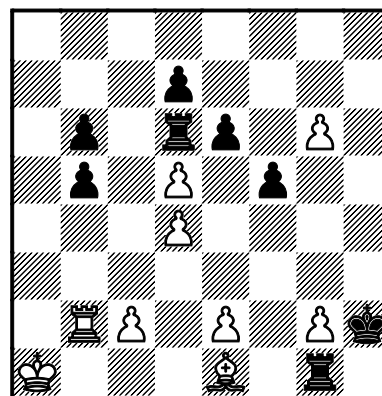
No 18075 Nikolai Rezvov & Volodimir Chernous (Ukraine). 1.Se3/i Sf6 2.Ka8 Sg4 3.Sc4 d1Q 4.Sxb6 Be6 5.Sc5 wins/ii.

i) 1.Sf2? Sf6 2.Kxb6 Sxe4 3.Sc5 Sxf2 4.Sb3+ Kc2 5.Sxd2 Kxd2 6.a5 Se4 7.a6 Sd6 8.a7 Bb7 draws.

ii) e.g. Qc2 6.Sxe6 Qxe4+ 7.Ka7 Qxe6 8.c8Q+.

“Interesting with the voluntarily of pushing a pawn to promote. It is a pity that after the 5th move the poetry becomes prose”.

No 18076 V. Kopyl & V. Pogorelov
1st commendation



a1h2 0710.65 9/8 Draw

No 18076 Valery Kopyl & V. Pogorelov (Ukraine). 1.g7 Rxg2 2.Bb4/i Rxd5 3.e3/ii Rg1+ 4.Ka2 Kh3 5.Rb3 Kh2 6.Rb2 Kh3 7.Rb3 positional draw.

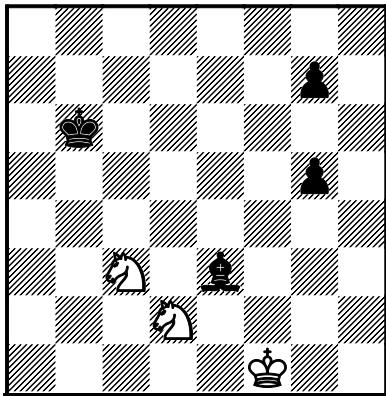
i) 2.g8Q? Rxg8 3.Bb4 Rxd5 4.e3 Kg3, or 2.Bd2? e5 3.dxe5 Rdg6 4.Bf4+ Kh3 5.e3 Rxg7 6.Rb1 Rd2 7.Rxb5 Rg1+ 8.Kb2 Rgg2 9.Rxb6 Rxc2+ 10.Kb1 Rcd2 11.Rh6+ Kg4

12.Rg6+ Kf3 13.Rxg2 Rxg2 14.e6 dxe6
15.dxe6 Rg6 16.e7 Re6 17.Bg5 Kg4 win.

ii) 3.c3? f4 4.g8Q Rxg8 5.e4+ Rg2 6.exd5
Rxb2 7.Kxb2 f3 wins.

“The analysis is a little straining, although the computer chases doubt away. In general a good implementation of a complex and original positional draw idea”.

No 18077 V. Vlasenko
2nd commendation



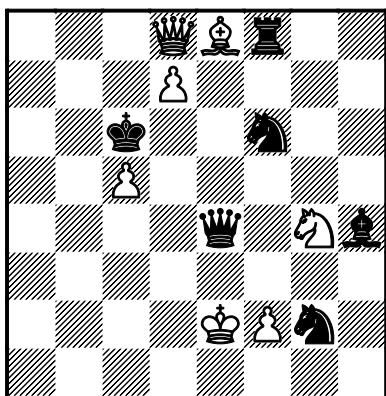
f1b6 0032.02 3/4 Win

No 18077 Valery Vlasenko (Ukraine).
1.Sd5+/i Kc5 2.Sxe3 g4 3.Sf5 g3 4.Se4+ Kd5
5.Sg5 Ke5 6.Sxg3 Kf4 7.S3e4 wins.

i) 1.Sc4+? Kc5 2.Sxe3 Kd4/v 3.Scd1 g4
4.Sf5+ Ke4 5.Sg3+ Kf3 draws, but not g4?
3.Sf5 g3 4.Se4+.

“An intriguing study that expands our knowledge of the battle of two knights against pawn”.

No 18078 E. Eilazyan
3rd commendation



e2c6 4347.30 7/6 Draw

No 18078 Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine).
1.Kf1, and:

– Qc4+ 2.Kg1 Bxf2+ 3.Sxf2 Qc1+ 4.Kxg2
Rg8+ 5.Kf3 Qc3+ 6.Ke2 Qe5+ 7.Kf1 Qa1+
8.Ke2 Qa2+ 9.Kf3 Qd5+ 10.Ke2 Qe6+
11.Kf3 Qb3+ 12.Ke2 Qc2+ 13.Kf3 posi-
tional draw, or:

– Qd3+ 2.Kxg2/i, and:

- Qe4+ 3.Kf1 (f3? Qe2+;) Qc4+ 4.Ke1
Qb4+ 5.Kf1 Sxg4 6.Qc8+ Kd5 7.d8Q+
Bxd8 8.Qxd8+ Kxc5 9.Qe7+ Kc4
10.Qe4+ perpetual check, or:

- Qd5+ 3.f3/ii Qxf3+ 4.Kxf3 Sxg4+/iii
5.Qf6+ Sxf6 6.d8S++ Kd5 7.Bf7+ Ke5
8.Sc6+ Kf5 9.Sd4+ Ke5 10.Sc6+ perpetu-
al check.

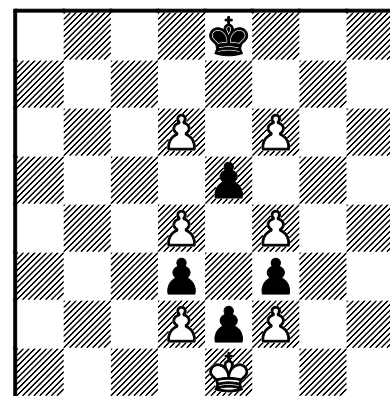
i) 2.Kg1? Qd1+ 3.Kxg2 Qxg4+ wins.

ii) 3.Kf1? Qd1+ 4.Kg2 Qxg4+ wins.

iii) Sxd7+ 5.Sf6 draws.

“The author advocates the “change of try” theme, consisting of alternation of correct and false white responses to different black moves. He apparently has a desire to show and explain to the reader an unreasonably large number of main lines, apparently claiming a doubling of the expression of the theme. Here, there is a change in the variations A-B and B1-B2. However, to construct a theory on such shaky foundations is a bad job. The theme only has a right to exist if there are equivalent lines with thematic tries in each line. Such studies exist”.

No 18079 M. Zinar
4th commendation



e1e8 0000.64 7/5 BTM, Win

No 18079 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). With:
– exd4 2.f5 Kf8 3.d7 Kf7 4.d8R/i wins, or:
– exf4 2.d5 Kd8 3.f7 Kd7 4.f8R/ii wins.

i) 4.d8Q? stalemate. 4.d8S+? Kxf6 5.Se6 Kxf5 6.Sc5 Ke5 7.Sxd3+ Ke4 8.Sc5+ Kd5 draws.

ii) 4.f8Q? stalemate. 4.f8S+? Kxd6 5.Se6 Kxd5 6.Sg5 Ke5 7.Sxf3+ Ke4 8.Sg5+ Kf5 draws.

“Mikhail Afanasevich has not produced a chess “creature” in the press alone – at least in pairs. The two-rook twin however seems to be a unprecedented miracle”.

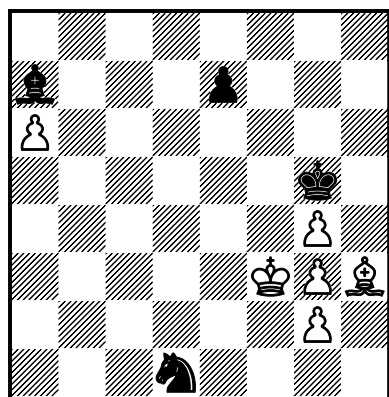


*From left to right: Ilham Aliiev, David Gurgenedze and Valery Kopyl.
(Photo Harold van der Heijden at the WFCC-Congress in Jesi 2011)*

Mat Plus 2007

Iuri Akobia considered the level of the tourney to be very good, and included 75% of the 24 entries in the award, which was published in *Mat Plus Review* winter 2008.

No 18080 S. Didukh
1st prize



f3g5 0043.41 6/4 Draw

No 18080 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Ke4 Sc3+ 2.Ke5 Bc5/i 3.Ke6, and:

– Sb5 4.Kd5 Bd6 5.Kc6 Sa7+ 6.Kb6 e5 7.Kxa7 Bc5+ 8.Kb7 e4 9.Kc6 Ba7 10.Kd5 e3 11.Ke4 e2 12.Kf3 e1Q stalemate, or:

– Sa4 4.Kd5 Bd6 5.a7/ii Sb6+ 6.Kc6 Sa8 7.Kb7 Bc5 8.Kxa8 Bxa7 9.Kb7 e5 10.Kc6 e4 11.Kd5 e3 12.Ke4 e2 13.Kf3 e1Q (e1R) stalemate.

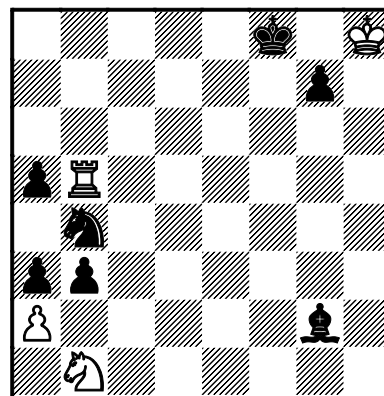
i) Bb6 3.Ke6 Bc5 4.a7 Sb5 5.a8S draws.

ii) Thematic try: 5.Kc6? Bb8 6.Kb7 Sc5+ 7.Kxb8 Sxa6+ 8.Kb7 e5 9.Kc6 e4 10.Kd5 e3 11.Ke4 e2 12.Kf3 e1R wins.

“Despite the author’s indication ‘after Vostroknutov’ (HHdbIV#51753), it is possible to regard this work as quite original. The theme is doubled by the addition of the thematic try with a rook promotion. Such a work may seem to some to be the result of mere luck, but luck is often the result of persistent searching. And the persistence of this young, talented author is very high”.

No 18081 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Sc3 Sxa2 2.Rb8+/i Kf7 3.Rxb3 Sxc3 4.Rxa3 Se4 5.Rxa5 g6/ii 6.Kh7 g5 7.Kh6 Kf6 8.Rb5 zz Bh1/iii 9.Ra5/iv zz Bg2 10.Rb5 Bh3 11.Rb4

No 18081 R. Becker
2nd prize



h8f8 0134.14 4/7 Draw

Bf5 12.Rb1 g4 13.Rg1 Ke5 14.Kh5 Kf4 15.Kh4 g3 16.Rxg3 Sxg3 stalemate no.3.

i) 2.Rxb3? Sxc3 3.Rxa3 Se4 4.Rxa5 Sd6 5.Ra4 Sf7+ 6.Kh7 Be4+ 7.Rxe4 Sg5+ wins.

ii) g5 6.Rxg5 Sxg5 stalemate no. 1.

iii) Bf3 9.Rxg5 Sxg5 stalemate no. 2.

iv) 9.Rd5? g4 10.Kh5 g3 11.Kh4/xviii g2 12.Rd1 Kf5 13.Rg1 Kf4 wins.

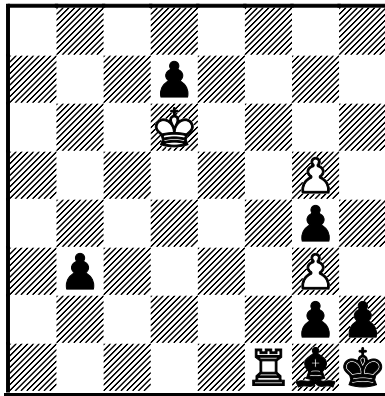
“The construction of multiple stalemate positions is the author’s favourite theme. Here he has realised the synthesis of three stalemates. The introduction of the logical element 2.Rb8+!, which causes the blockade of the square f7, certainly adds nice decoration to the work”.

No 18082 Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.Rd1/i b2 2.Kd5 d6 3.Kc6 d5 4.g6 d4 5.g7 d3 6.g8B/ii d2 7.Bb3 b1Q 8.Rxb1 d1Q 9.Bxd1/iii Ba7 10.Bxg4+ Bg1 11.Bd1 Ba7 12.Bf3+ Bg1 13.Rb2 wins.

i) 1.Rb1? b2 2.Kd5 d6 3.Kc6 d5 4.g6 d4 5.g7 d3 6.g8B d2 7.Bb3 d1Q 8.Bxd1 0.Rxd1 b1Q 9.Rxb1 stalemate.

ii) 6.g8Q? d2 7.Qb3 b1Q 8.Rxb1 d1Q 9.Qxd1 stalemate.

No 18082 Y. Afek
3rd prize

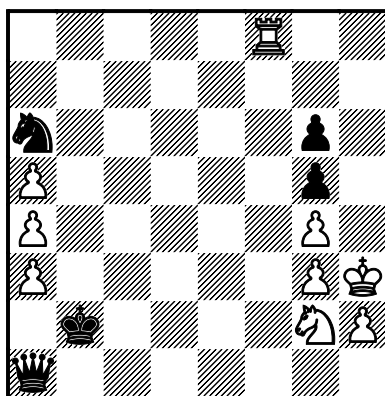


d6h1 0130.25 4/7 Win

iii) Now it becomes clear that 2.Kd5 was the only move.

“This work makes a good impression. The key move 2. Kd5!! is very nice. Unfortunately, the basic construction of all key placements of the pieces already exists in the initial setting”.

No 18083 I. Aliev
honourable mention



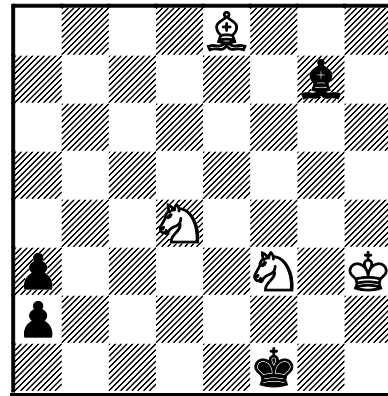
h3b2 3104.62 9/5 Draw

No 18083 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Rf1 Qxa3 (Qxf1 stalemate) 2.Rf2+ Kb1 3.Rf1+ Kc2 4.Rf2+ Kc1 5.Rf1+ Kd2 6.Rf2+ Kd1 7.Se3+ Qxe3 8.Rf1+ Kd2 9.Rf2+ Ke1 (Qxf2 stalemate) 10.Rf1+ Ke2 (Kxf1 stalemate) 11.Rf2+ Kd3 (Kxf2, Qxf2 stalemate) 12.Rf3 Qxf3 stalemate.

“An abundance of stalemate positions, but this is realized with the help of nine (!) bystanders (spectator pieces)”.

No 18084 David Gurgenzidze (Georgia). 1.Kg3 Be5+ 2.Sxe5 a1Q 3.Bb5+ Kg1 4.Se2+ Kf1 5.Sf4+ Ke1/i 6.Sf3+ Kd1 7.Ba4+ Kc1 8.Sd3+ Kb1 9.Sd2+ Ka2 10.Bb3 mate.

No 18084 D. Gurgenzidze
honourable mention

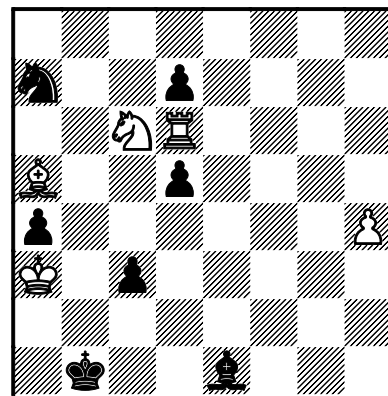


h3f1 0042.02 4/4 Win

i) Kg1 6.Sh3+ Kh1 7.Bc6 mate.

“This original ending is executed with clean technical play. The impression is somewhat reduced by the weak resistance offered by the black side and also by the immobile Pa3”.

No 18085 D. Hlebec
honourable mention



a3b1 0144.14 5/7 Win

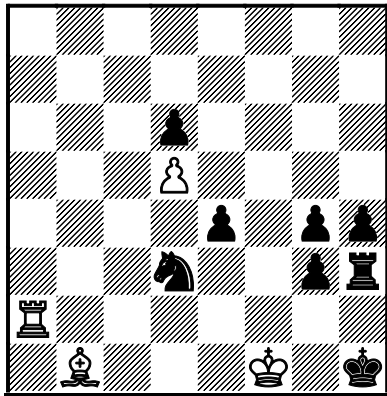
No 18085 Darko Hlebec (Serbia). 1.Sd4 Sb5+ 2.Sxb5 c2 3.Sc3+ Bxc3 4.Rb6+ Bb4+ 5.Rxb4+ Ka1 6.Rb1+/i Kxb1/ii 7.Bd2 c1Q+ 8.Bxc1 Kxc1 9.h5 d4 10.h6 d3 11.h7 d2 12.h8Q d1Q 13.Qb2 mate.

i) 6.Rc4? dxc4 7.Bd2 Kb1 8.h5 c3 9.Be3 c1Q+ 10.Bxc1 Kxc1 11.h6 c2 draws.

ii) cxb1Q 7.Bc3+ Qb2+ 8.Bxb2+, or cxb1S+ 7.Kxa4 Ka2 8.h5 d4 9.h6 Sc3+ 10.Kb4 Sd5+ 11.Kc4 win.

“A fine mutual fight comes to an end with a well known mating position. The author’s rich imagination can be felt”.

No 18086 A. Ruzs
honourable mention



f1h1 0413.15 4/8 Draw

No 18086 Arpad Ruzs (Rumania). 1.Rg2 Se1 2.Bxe4 Sxg2/i 3.Bf3 Rh2/ii 4.Be4 Rh3/iii 5.Bf3 positional draw.

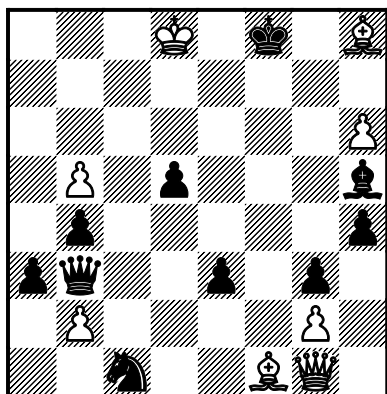
i) Sf3 3.Rg1+ Kh2 4.Rg2+ Kh1 5.Rg1+ positional draw.

ii) gxf3 stalemate, Kh2 4.Bxg2 stalemate.

iii) h3 5.Bf3 gxf3 stalemate.

“Mutual stalemates and positional draw with perpetual pinning, but again we can see many technical pieces”.

No 18087 G. Hörning & G. Josten
commendation

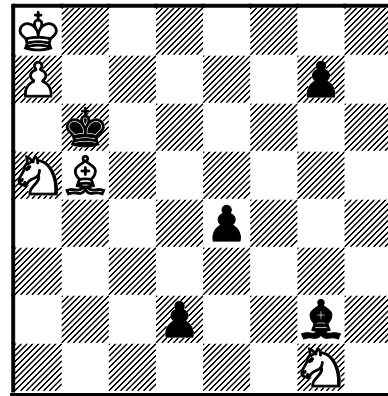


d8f8 4053.46 8/10 Win

No 18087 Gerd-Wilhelm Hörning & Gerhard Josten (Germany). 1.h7 Qc2 2.Bd3 Qxd3 3.Qf1+ Qxf1 4.Bd4 Kf7 5.h8Q Kg6 6.Qg8+ Kf5 7.Qxd5+ Kg6 8.Qg8+ Kf5 9.Qf8+ Ke4 10.Qxf1 axb2 11.Bxb2 wins.

“The sacrifices of white pieces are not obvious”.

No 18088 S. Hornecker
commendation



a8b6 0042.13 5/5 Win

No 18088 Siegfried Hornecker (Germany). 1.Sc4+/i Kc7 2.Sxd2 e3+ 3.Sdf3 e2 4.Bxe2 g5 5.Sh3/ii g4/iii 6.Sg5 gxf3 7.Se6+ Kd6 8.Bf1 Bxf1 9.Kb8 Be2 10.a8Q f2 11.Qa3+ wins.

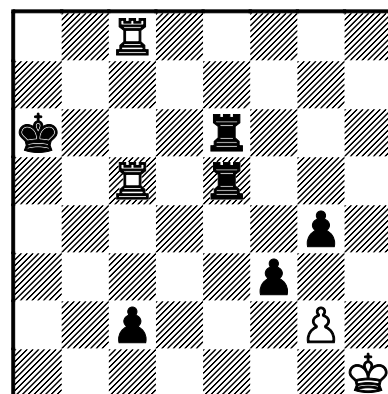
i) 1.Ba4? Kc7 2.Bd1 e3+ 3.Sf3 g5 4.Sc4 g4 5.Sxe3 gxf3 6.Sd5+ Kc8 7.Bxf3 Bxf3 stalemate. Also 2...g5.

ii) 5.Ba6? g4 6.Bb7 gxf3 7.Sxf3 Bh1 draws.

iii) Bxh3 6.Se1 Be6 7.Bf3 wins.

“The move 8.Bf1!! is nice. Unfortunately, the stalemate shown by the author is not unique in the line 1.Ba4?”.

No 18089 M. Croitor
commendation

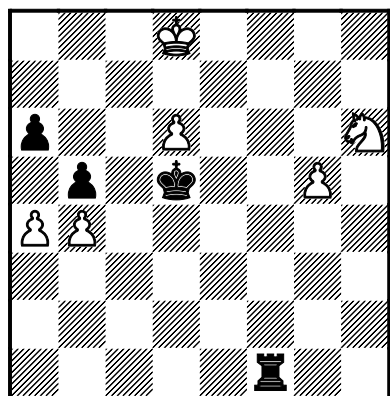


h1a6 0800.13 4/6 Draw

No 18089 Mihail Croitor (Moldova). 1.Rxc2/i f2 2.Rxf2 g3 3.Rf1 Rh5+ 4.Kg1 Reh6 5.Rf6+ Rxf6 6.Ra8+ Kb7 7.Ra7+ Kb8 8.Rb7+ Kxb7 stalemate.

i) 1.Rxe5? Rxe5 2.Rxc2 Re1+ 3.Kh2 Re2 wins.

No 18090 J. Mikitovics
commendation



d8d5 0301.42 6/4 Win
I: Diagram; II: bRf1 on b7

No 18090 János Mikitovics (Hungary).

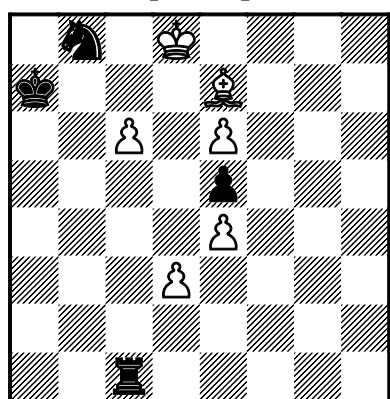
I: 1.g6/i Kxd6 2.g7 Rg1 3.a5 Kd5 4.g8Q+ Rxc8+ 5.Sxc8 Kc4 6.Kc7 Kxb4 7.Kb6 Kc4 8.Sf6 b4 9.Se4 Kd3 10.Sc5+ Kc4 11.Kc6 wins.

II: 1.Sf5 bxa4 2.Kc8 Ra7 3.d7 Ke4 4.Sg3+ Kf3 5.g6 a3 6.Sf5 Kf4 7.Sd4 a2 8.Sb3 (Sc2) wins.

i) 3.axb5? Rxc7 4.Sf5+ Kd5 5.Sxc7 axb5 draws.

ii) 5.d8Q? Ra8+ 6.Kc7 Rxd8 7.Kxd8 a3 8.Sf5 Ke4 9.Sd6+ Kd5 draws,

No 18091 S. Didukh
1st special prize



d8a7 0313.31 6/4 Win

No 18091 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Bc5+/i Rxc5 2.c7 Sc6+ 3.Kd7 Se7 4.Kxe7 Kb7 5.Kf7/ii Rxc7+ 6.e7 Kc6 7.Kf8, and:

– Kd6 8.e8S+ wins, or:

– Rc8+ 8.e8R/iii wins.

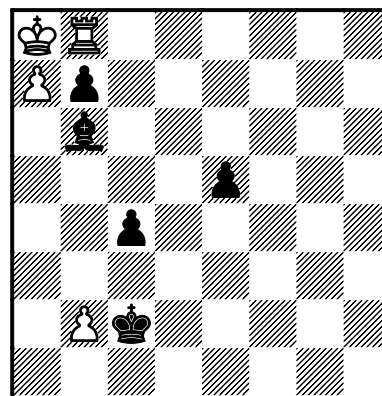
i) 1.c7? Sc6+ 2.Kd7 Sxe7 3.Kxe7 Kb7 4.Kd6 Rc6+ 5.Kd5 Rxc7 draws.

ii) 5.Kf8? Kxc7 6.e7 Kd6 7.e8Q Rc8 8.Qxc8 stalemate.

iii) 8.e8Q+? Kd6 9.Qxc8 stalemate.

“Successful processing of a known idea: G. Nadareishvili 1962 (HHdbIV#32552)”.

No 18092 S. Dowd & M. Ylijoki
2nd special prize



a8c2 0130.23 4/5 Win

No 18092 Steven Dowd (USA) & Marko Ylijoki (Finland). 1.Kxb7/i Bxa7 2.Kxa7 c3 3.b4 e4 4.Re8, and:

– Kb3 5.b5 c2 6.Rc8 e3 7.b6 e2 8.b7 e1Q 9.b8Q+/ii Ka3 (Ka4; Qf4+) 10.Qd6+ wins, or:

– Kd3 5.b5 e3 6.b6 c2 7.Rd8+ Ke2 8.Rc8 Kd1 9.b7 e2 10.Rd8+ Kc1 11.b8Q e1Q 12.Qf4+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rxb7? Bxa7 2.Kxa7 c3 3.b4 e4 4.Re7 Kb3 5.b5 c2 6.Rc7 e3 7.b6 e2 8.b7 e1Q 9.b8Q+ Ka4 10.Rc4+ Ka3 11.Qd6+ Kb2 12.Qd4+ Kb1 13.Qb6+ Kc1 14.Qc5 Qd2 draws.

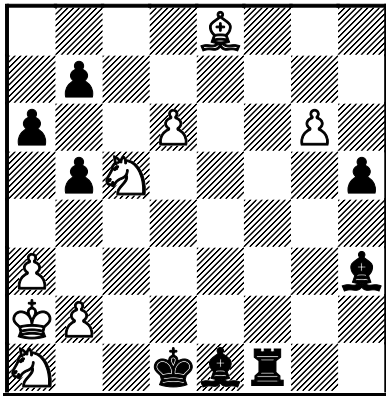
ii) Now the wQ is not blocked by the wR as in the thematic try, and the bK is checked.

“The authors have used a rough introduction with the aim of creating a thematic try. Apart from this roughness, the work leaves the impression of integrity of play”.

No 18093 Mirko Markovi (Serbia). 1.g7 Rg1 2.Bxh5+ Kd2 3.Bg4 Rxc4 4.d7 Bh4 5.Se4+ Ke2/i 6.Sg5 Rxc5 7.d8Q Be6+ 8.b3 Bxb3+ 9.Sxb3 wins.

i) Initially, there were two additional main lines: Ke3 6.Sg5 Rxc5 7.d8Q Be6+ 8.Sb3 Bxb3+ 9.Kxb3, or Ke1 6.Sg5 Rxc5 7.d8Q

No 18093 M. Markovi
1st special honourable mention



a2d1 0372.44 8/8 Win

Be6+ 8.Kb1 Bf5+ 9.Kc1 win, but in both lines also 6.Sc2+ wins.

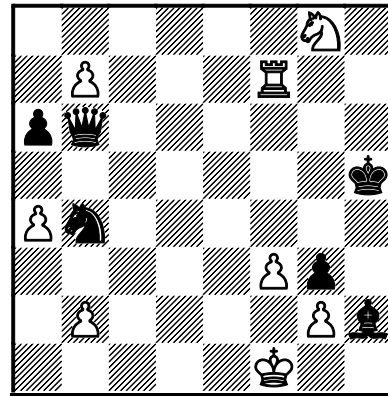
“The Novotny theme is realised in a heavy construction”. This is a version of a 1986 study (HHdbIV#54830).

The 2nd HM is unsound: Z. Mihajloski (Macedonia), e7a2 3423.32 a1h3g6c1e8a4. e3g3h6g7h7 7/6 Draw. Intended: 1.Bf7+ Kb1 2.Bxg6+ hxg6 3.Bb2 Qxb2 4.Rh1+ Ka2 5.Rh2 Qxh2 6.hxg7 Qh7 7.Kf8 Qh6 8.Kf7 Qh7 9.Kf8 Qh6 10.Kf7 Qxe3 11.g8Q draws. However (MG): 5...gxh6 6.Rxb2+ Kxb2 7.Kf6 g5 8.Kg6 Sc5 (Sc3) 9.Kxh6 Se4 wins.

No 18094 Mirko Markovic (Serbia). 1.Rf5+ Kh4 2.Rf4+ Kg5 3.Rg4+ Kf5 4.Se7+ Ke5 5.b8Q+ Qxb8 6.Rxb4 Qd6 7.Rd4 Qf6 8.Rf4 Qd6 9.Rd4 positional draw.

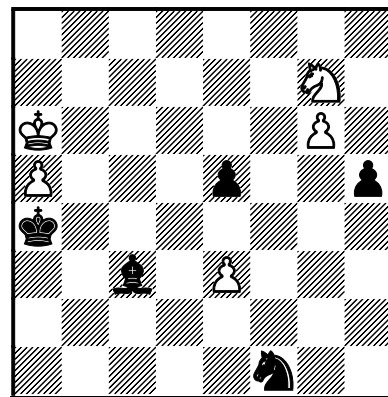
“The form of the position should have been improved”.

No 18094 M. Markovic
special commendation



flh5 3134.52 8/6 Draw

No 18095 M. Miljanic,
correction by D. Keith.
special commendation



a6a4 0034.32 5/5 Win

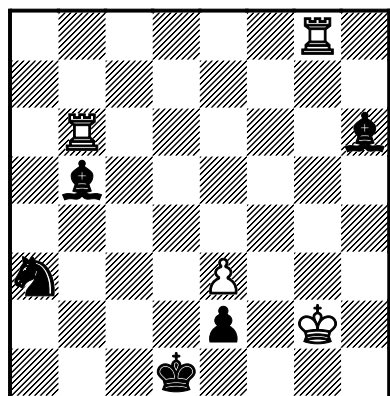
No 18095 Daniel Keith (France). 1.Se6 e4 (X) 2.Kb6 Bxa5+ 3.Ka6 Bc3 (X?) 4.Sd4 Bxd4 5.exd4 e3 6.g7 e2 7.g8Q e1Q 8.Qa2+ Kb4 9.Qa5+ wins.

The study shows the theme of the 7th WCCT. It is a correction of a study by M. Miljanic (HHdbIV#71030)”.

Mat Plus 2008

The judge, Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan) selected no less than 20 of the 34 studies for his award, which was published in *Mat Plus Review* no. 11 (autumn 2009). Endgame study editor Iuri Akobia scrutinized all entries.

No 18096 R. Becker
1st prize



g2d1 0263.11 4/5 Draw

No 18096 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rd6+ Kc2 2.Kf2 Bxe3+ 3.Ke1, and:

– Kb1 4.Rc8/i Sc2+ 5.Rxc2 Kxc2 6.Rd5 Bc4 7.Rd4 Bxd4 stalemate, or:

– Kb3 4.Rd2, and:

- Sc2+ 5.Rxc2 Kxc2 6.Rc8+ Kd3 7.Rc3+ Kxc3 stalemate, or:

- Bxd2+ 5.Kxd2 Sc2 6.Rg3+/ii, and:

- Ka2 7.Kxc2 e1Q 8.Ra3+ Kxa3 stalemate, or:

- Kb2 7.Rg1 zz Ba6 8.Rc1 Sd4 9.Rc2+ Kb3 10.Rc3+ Kb2 11.Rc2+ Sxc2 stalemate.

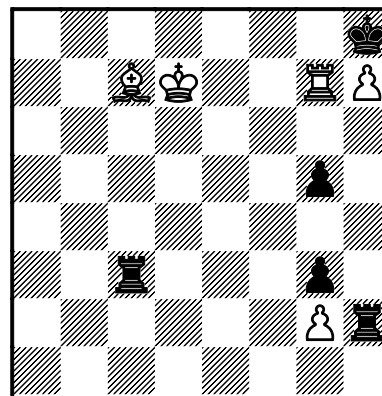
i) 4.Rd2? Bxd2+ 5.Kxd2 Sc2 6.Rg1+ Kb2 zz, see main line 3...Kb3.

ii) 6.Rg1? Kb2 zz 7.Rc1 Sd4 8.Rc2+ Ka3 9.Rc3+ Sb3+ 10.Ke1 Kb2 11.Re3 Sd4 12.Kd2 Bc4 13.Rh3 Sb3+ 14.Ke1 Kc2 wins.

“The author is in his element, where he is most comfortable, and continues to synthesize different ideas with his favourite one. This time we see mutual zugzwangs together with multiple stalemates”.

No 18097 Sergyi Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Be5 Re3 2.Re7+/i Rxe5 3.Rxe5 Rxc2 4.Ke6 Kxh7 5.Kf5 Rf2+ 6.Kg4 g2 7.Kh3 g1R/ii 8.Re7+

No 18097 S. Didukh
2nd prize



d7h8 0710.22 5/5 Draw

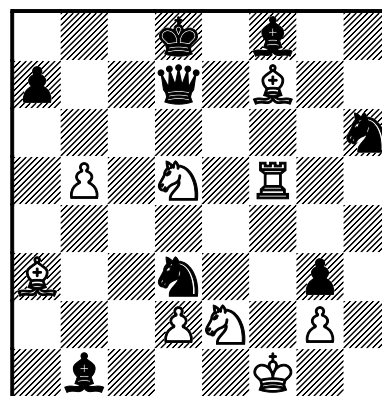
Kg8 9.Rg7+ Kf8 10.Rg8+ Ke7 11.Re8+ Kxe8 stalemate.

i) Thematic try: 2.Rxc2 Rxe5 3.Rxe5 Rxc2 4.Ke6 Kxh7 5.Kf5 Rf2+ 6.Kg4 g2 7.Kh3 g1R, wins, avoiding g1Q? 8.Rh5+ Kg6 9.Rg5+ Qxc2 (Kxc2) stalemate.

ii) g1Q 8.Re7+ Rf7 9.Rxf7+ Kg6 10.Rf6+ Kh5 11.Rh6+ Kxh6 stalemate, or g1S+ 8.Kg3 draws.

“Total harmony between try and solution”.

No 18098 M. Markovic
3rd prize



f1d8 3188.32 9/8 Draw

No 18098 Mirko Markovic (Serbia). 1.Be6 Qxe6 2.Rxf8+ Kd7 3.b6/i, and:

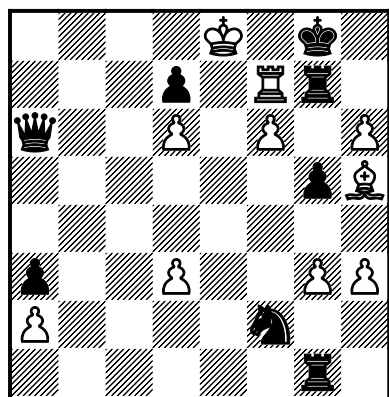
– Qxd5 4.bxa7 Qb3 5.Rd8+ Kc7 6.Rc8+ Kd7
7.Rd8+ Kc7 8.Rc8+ perpetual check, or:

– axb6 4.Sf6+ Kc7 5.Se8+ Kb7 6.Sd6+ Ka7
7.Sb5+ Kb7 8.Sd6+ Kc7 9.Se8+ Kd7
10.Sf6+ perpetual check.

i) 3.Sf6+? Kc7 4.Se8+ Kb7 5.Sd6+ Kb6
wins.

“Beautiful, unexpected, non-checking and blocking 3.b6!! paves the way for two perpetual check positional draws. Despite the many stagnant pieces this non-checking move leaves a very good impression”.

No 18099 D. Hlebec
4th prize



e8g8 3713.73 10/8 Win

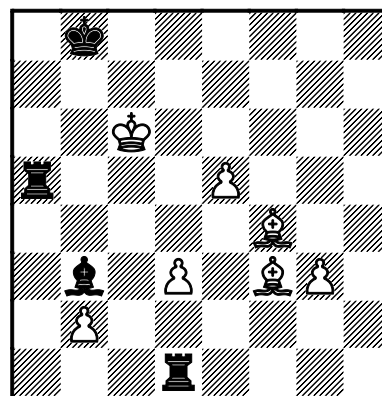
No 18099 Darko Hlebec (Serbia). 1.Rf8+/i
Kh7 2.Rh8+/ii Kxh8 3.hxg7+ Kh7 4.Kf7 Qa8
5.Bg6+ Kh6 6.g8S+ Qxg8+ 7.Kxg8 Kxg6 8.f7
Sg4 9.hxg4 Rh1 10.d4/iii Rh3 11.d5 Rh2
12.f8S+/iv Kh6 13.Sxd7 Rxa2 14.Sb6 Rf2
15.d7 a2 16.d8Q a1Q 17.Qe7 Rf7 18.Kxf7/v
wins.

- i) 1.Rxg7+? Kh8 2.Bg6 Qa8+ draws.
- ii) 2.fxg7? Qa8+, and 3.Kf7 Qd5+, or 3.Ke7 Re1+ draw.
- iii) 10.f8Q? Rh8+ 11.Kxh8 stalemate.
- iv) 12.f8Q? Rh8+ 13.Kxh8 stalemate.
- v) 18.Qxf7? Qh8+ 19.Kxh8 stalemate.

“Active play by all pieces (except Rg7) creates a bunch of ideas: two promotions, sacrifices/counter sacrifices and stalemate traps. A study with a broad spectrum of combinative ideas”.

No 18100 Jean-Marc Loustau (France) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.e6+ Kc8/i 2.Bg4/ii Ra6+ 3.Kb5/iii Rxe6 4.Kb4 Rxd3 5.Bf5 Rf3

No 18100 J. Loustau & I. Akobia
5th prize



c6b8 0650.40 7/4 Draw

6.Bg4 Bd5 7.Kc5 Rd3 8.Bf5 Rd1 9.Bg4 Bb3
10.Kb4 Rd3/iv 11.Bf5 Rf3 12.Bg4 draws by repetition of moves.

i) Ka7 2.Bxd1 Bxd1 3.Bd6 Ba4+ 4.Kc7 Ka6
5.d4 Kb5 6.Bc5 Ra8 7.e7 Kc4 8.b4 Kd5 9.Kb6
Rb8+ 10.Kc7 Rg8 11.Kb6 draws.

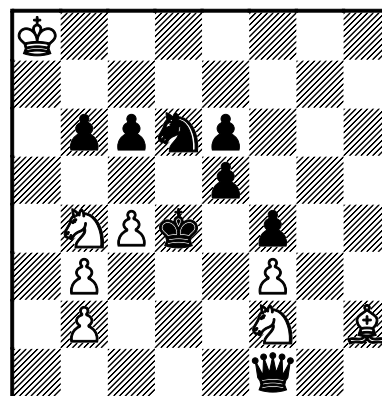
ii) Thematic try: 2.e7? Ra6+ 3.Kb5 Re6
4.Bg4 Kd7 5.Kb4 Rxd3 6.Bf5 Rf3 7.Bg4 Bd5
8.Kc5 Rd3 9.Bf5 Rb3 10.e8Q+ Kxe8 11.Bxe6
Bxe6 wins.

iii) Thematic try: 3.Kc5? Re1 4.e7+ Kb7
5.Bf3+ Ka7 6.Be4 Bf7 7.Kd4 Re6 8.Bd2
R1xe4+ 9.dxe4 Rxe7 10.Bc3 Kb6 wins.

iv) Kd8 11.Kxb3 Rb6+ 12.Kc2 Rd5 13.Be2
Rc5+ 14.Kb1 Rc3 15.Bd2 Ra3 16.Bc4 draws.

“Positional draw by repetition of moves. A difficult idea done by collective efforts”.

No 18101 K. Begley
6th prize



a8d4 3015.45 8/8 Win

No 18101 Kevin Begley (USA). 1.Sc2+ Kc5
2.Bg1 Sxc4/i 3.Se4++ Kb5 4.Sc3+ Ka5/ii

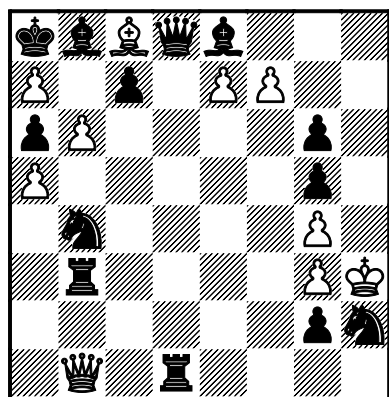
5.b4+ Ka6 6.b5+ cxb5 7.Sb4+ Ka5 8.Sc6+ Ka6 9.Sd5 exd5 10.b4 Qxf3 11.Sb8 mate.

i) Qxg1 3.Sd3 mate.

ii) Ka6 5.Sb4+ Ka5 6.Sxc6+ Ka6 7.b4, and Qxf3 8.b5 mate, or Sd6 8.Sb8 mate.

“Having created a battery, White, in consecutive order, brings the play to a check-mate”.

No 18102 D. Hlebec
special prize



h3a8 4676.75 10/13 Draw

No 18102 Darko Hlebec (Serbia). 1.Bb7+ Kxb7 2.exd8S+/i Rxd8 3.fxe8Q/ii Rxe8 4.Qxb3 g1R/iii 5.Qf3+/iv Sxf3 6.a8B+/v Kc8/vi 7.b7+ Kd7 stalemate.

i) 2.exd8Q? Rxd8+ 3.Kxd8 g1Q+ 4.Kh3 Qxg4+ wins.

ii) 3.axb8Q+? Rxb8 4.bxc7 Bxf7 wins.

iii) g1Q 5.a8Q+ Kc8 6.Qxa6+ Sxa6 7.b7+ Kd7 8.Qe6+ Kxe6 stalemate.

iv) 5.a8Q+? Kxa8 6.Qf3+ c6 wins.

v) 6.a8Q+? Kc8 7.Qxb8+ Kxb8 8.bxc7+ Ka7 9.c8Q Rh1+ (Rxc8? stalemate) wins.

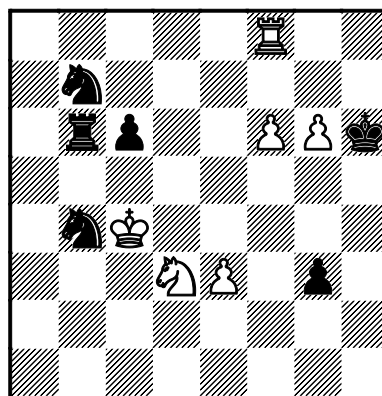
vi) Kxa8 7.b7+ and stalemate.

“Romantic allumwandlung study-grotesque. The finish is known from Gurvich 1928 (HHdbIV#12085) and Hurtig 1943 (HHdbIV#21008)”.

No 18103 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1...Sa5+ 2.Kd4 c5+ 3.Sxc5 Rxf6 4.Rxf6, and: – Sac6+ 5.Ke4 g2 6.g7+ Kxg7 7.Rf4 g1Q 8.Se6+ Kg6 9.Rg4+ Qxg4+ 10.Sf4+ K-stalemate, or:

– Sbc6+ 5.Kc3 g2 6.g7+ Kxg7 7.Rf2 g1Q 8.Se6+ Kg6 9.Rg2+ Qxg2 10.Sf4+ draws.

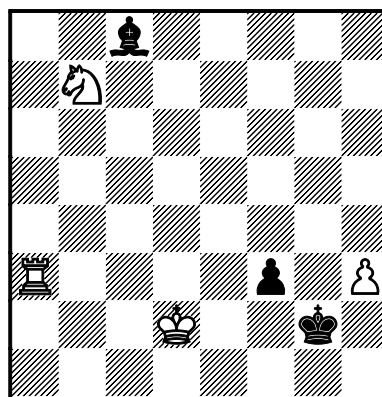
No 18103 S. Didukh
1st honourable mention



c4h6 0407.32 6/6 BTM, Draw

“Echo rook sacrifices, the nicest being the first one leading to a pin-stalemate. It is a pity that Black moves first, leaving the impression that it is still a sketch”.

No 18104 I. Akobia
2nd honourable mention



d2g2 0131.11 4/3 Win

No 18104 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Sd6 f2 2.Sc4 Bxh3 3.Se3+ Kg1 4.Rc3/i f1Q 5.Sxf1 Bxf1 6.Ke1 Kg2 7.Rc2+ Kg1 8.Rc6/ii Bb5 9.Rg6+ Kh2 10.Kf2 Kh3 11.Kf3 Kh4 12.Kf4 Kh5 13.Rg5+ wins.

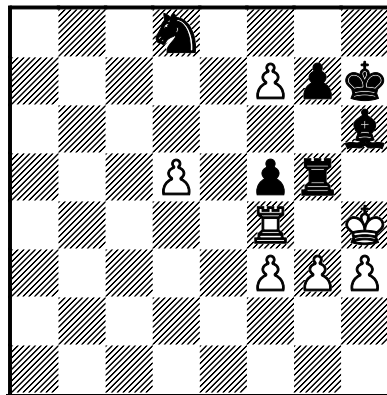
i) Thematic try: 4.Rb3? f1Q 5.Sxf1 Bxf1 6.Ke1 Kg2 7.Rb2+ Kg1 8.Rb6 Bc4 9.Rg6+ Kh2 10.Kf2 Kh3 11.Kf3, and now not 11...Kh4? 12.Rg4+ with an echo-win of the bB (see main line), but 11...Bd5+ draws.

ii) 8.Rc3? Kg2 9.Rc2+ Kg1 waste of time, or 8.Rc7? Ba6 (Bb5) 9.Rg7+ Kh2 10.Kf2 Kh3 11.Kf3 Kh4 12.Kf4 Kh5 13.Kf5 Bd3+ draws.

“A miniature with precise moves by the wR and echo-chameleon captures of the bishop (thematic try – final position). What look like

a dullish endgame has turned into interesting and logical play”.

No 18105 A. Jasik & S. Parzuch
3rd honourable mention



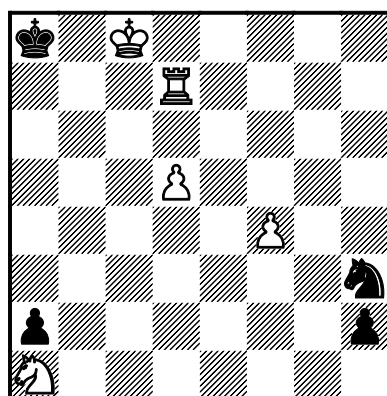
h4h7 0433.52 7/6 Draw

No 18105 Andrzej Jasik & Stefan Parzuch (Poland). 1.f8S+/i Kg8 2.Se6 Sxe6 3.dxe6 g6 4.g4 Rh5+ 5.gxh5 g5+ 6.Kg3 gxf4+ 7.Kh4 Kg7/ii 8.e7 Kf6/iii 9.e8S+/iv draws.

- i) 1.f8Q? Rh5+ 2.Kxh5 g6+ 3.Kh4 Bxf8 4.g4 Be7+ 5.g5 Bc5 6.Kg3 Bd6 wins.
- ii) Kf8 8.e7+ Kxe7 stalemate.
- iii) Kf7 9.e8Q+ Kxe8 stalemate.
- iv) 9.e8Q? Bg5 mate.

“Preparation for a stalemate trap and two S-promotions”.

No 18106 D. Marjanovic
4th honourable mention

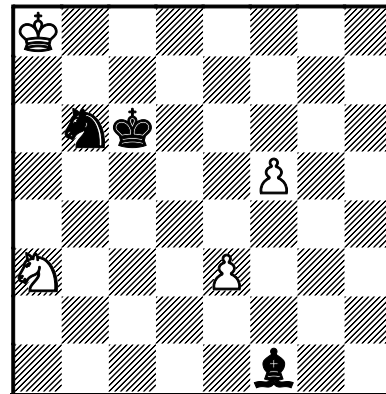


c8a8 0104.22 5/4 Draw

No 18106 Dragoslav Marjanovic (Serbia). 1.Rc7 h1Q 2.Rc3 Ka7 3.Kc7 Ka6 4.Kc6 Ka5 (Ka7; Kc7) 5.Ra3+ Kb4 6.Sc2+ Kc4 7.Se3+ Kd4 8.Sf5+ Kc4 (Ke4; Sg3+) 9.Se3+ Kb4 10.Sc2+ draws.

“An interesting potential draw. The bK cannot find any safe haven on an almost empty board”.

No 18107 S. Hornecker
5th honourable mention



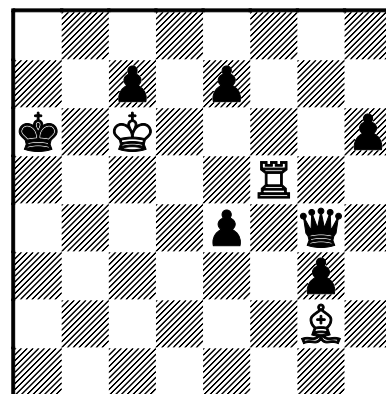
a8c6 0034.20 4/3 Draw

No 18107 Siegfried Hornecker (Germany). 1.Kb8 Bd3 2.e4, and:

- Bxe4 3.f6 Bf5 4.f7 Sd7+ 5.Kc8 Se5+ 6.Kb8 Bd3 7.f8S draws, or:
- Kc5 3.f6 Sd7+ 4.Kc8/i Sxf6 5.e5 Sd5 6.e6 Kc6 7.Kd8 Kd6 8.e7 Sxe7 9.Sb5+ Bxb5 stalemate.
- i) 4.Kc7? Sxf6 5.e5 Sd5+ wins.

“Two variations: stalemate plus a S-promotion. It is a pity that the wK is in check in the initial position”.

No 18108 L. Martin
6th honourable mention

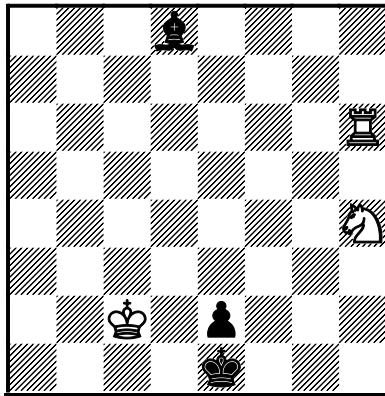


c6a6 3110.05 3/7 Draw

No 18108 Luis Miguel Martin (Spain). 1.Bf1+ Ka7 2.Ra5+ Kb8 3.Rb5+ Kc8 4.Bh3 Qxh3 5.Rf5 Kb8 6.Rb5+ Ka7 7.Ra5+ Kb8 8.Rf5 Qxf5 stalemate.

“Nice play. A queen with multiple pawns is helpless against the wR”.

No 18109 I. Akobia
1st commendation



c2e1 0131.01 3/3 Win

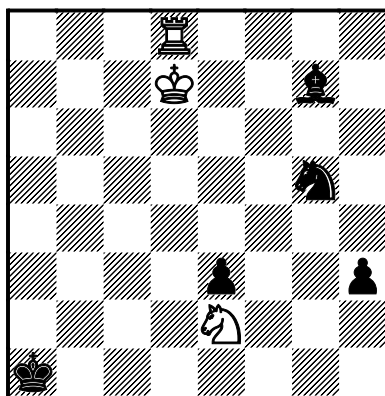
No 18109 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Rh7/i Kf2 2.Rf7+ Kg3 3.Sf5+ Kf2 (Kf3) 4.Sd6+/ii Ke3 5.Sc4+ Kd4 6.Sd2 e1S+ (e1Q; Sf3+) 7.Kd1 Sg2 (Bh4; Rf4+) 8.Rd7+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rh8? Bg5 2.Rh7 Bd8 3.Rh8 Bg5 positional draw. Thematic try: 1.Rh5? Kf2 2.Rf5+ Kg3 3.Sf3 Kg4 4.Rf8 Ba5 draws.

ii) 4.Sd4+? Ke3 5.Sf3 Ba5 draws.

“Choosing the right squares for the rooks; S-Rundlauf, underpromotion, domination”.

No 18110 G. Josten & J. Mikitovics
2nd commendation

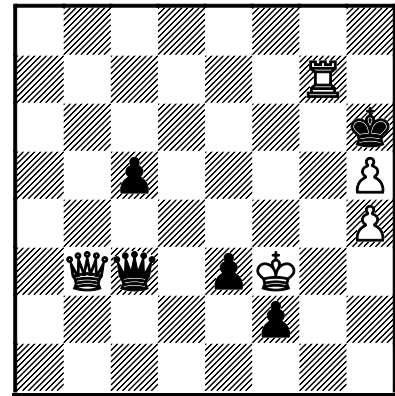


d7a1 0134.02 3/5 Draw

No 18110 Gerhard Josten (Josten) & János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Kc6 Kb2 2.Rd1 Se4 3.Re1 Sf2 4.Sg3 Bd4 5.Kd5 Bb6 6.Sf1 Kc3 7.Sxe3 Kd2 8.Sg2 Sd3 (hxg2; Rg1) 9.Ra1 (Rb1? hxg2;) Sb4+ (hxg2; Ra2+) 10.Kc4 (Ke4? hxg2;) Sc2 11.Sf4 Sxa1 12.Sxh3 Be3 13.Kd5 draws.

“Exact R-moves and a small finesse”.

No 18111 L. Martin
3rd commendation



f3h6 4100.23 5/5 Win

No 18111 Luis Miguel Martin (Spain). 1.Rg6+/i Kxh5 2.Rg5+ Kxh4 3.Rg4+ Kh3 4.Rg3+ Kh4 5.Rh3+ Kxh3/ii 6.Qe6+ Kh2 7.Qh6+ Kg1 8.Qg6+ Kf1 9.Qb1+ Qe1 10.Qd3+ e2 11.Qe3 c4 12.Qd4 z Qc3+ (c3; Qh4) 13.Qxc3 wins/iii.

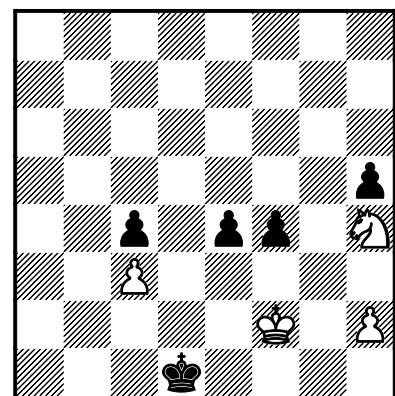
i) 1.Qxc3? f1Q+ 2.Ke4 Qh1+ 3.Ke5 Kxg7 draws.

ii) Kg5 6.Qg8+ Kf5 7.Rh5+ Kf6 8.Rh6+ Ke7 9.Re6+ Kd7 10.Qf7+.

iii) e.g. e1Q 14.Qxc4+.

“Having sacrificed its ‘unnecessary’ rook, White entices the bK into the Q’s deadly checks with zugzwang on the way”.

No 18112 G. Josten
4th commendation



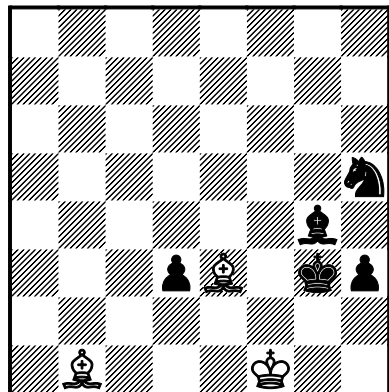
f2d1 0001.24 4/5 Win

No 18112 Gerhard Josten (Germany). 1.Sg2 f3/i 2.Se3+ Kd2 3.Sxc4+ Kxc3 4.Sd6 Kd4 5.Sf7 Kd3 6.Sg5 Kd4 7.Sh3 Ke5 8.Ke3 Kf5 9.Sf2 wins.

i) e3+ 2.Kf3 e2 3.Kf2 h4 4.h3 Kd2 5.Se1 f3 6.Sxf3+ Kd1 7.Se1 Kd2 8.Sg2 wins.

“wS round-the-world-tour”.

No 18113 A. Ruzs
5th commendation



f1g3 0053.02 3/5 Draw

No 18113 Arpad Ruzs (Rumania). 1.Bf2+ (Bxd3? h2;) Kh2 2.Bg1+ Kh1 3.Bxd3 Be2+ 4.Bxe2 Sg3+ 5.Ke1/i Sxe2 6.Kf2 zz Sxg1 7.Kg3 zz h2 8.Kf2 zz Sf3 9.Kf1 zz Sd2+ 10.Kf2 draws.

i) 5.Kf2? Sxe2 zz.

“And old finish but not very well executed. A study from the 4th European solving championship that was quite a hindrance for many solvers”.

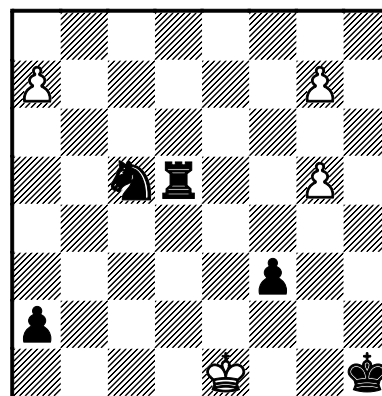
No 18114 János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.a8Q Se4/i 2.Qxa2/ii Rd8 3.g8Q Rxc8 4.Qe6/iii Rxc5/iv 5.Qh3+/iii Kg1 6.Qxf3 Re5 7.Qf1+ Kh2 8.Qf4+ wins.

i) Kg1 2.Qxa2 Re5+ 3.Kd1 Re8 4.Qc4 Se4 5.g8Q Rxc8 6.Qxe4 f2 7.Qg4+ wins.

ii) 2.g8Q? f2+ 3.Ke2 Rd2+ 4.Ke3 f1Q draws.

iii) 5.Qxe4? Re5 6.Qxe5 f2+ 7.Ke2 f1Q+ 8.Kxf1 stalemate.

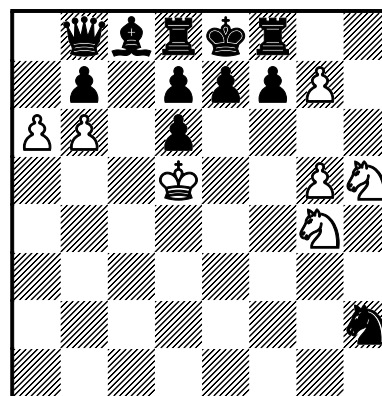
No 18114 J. Mikitovics
6th commendation



e1h1 0303.32 4/5 Win

“ Interesting white 4th and 5th moves with refusal of capture”.

No 18115 S.I. Tkachenko
special commendation



d5e8 3635.45 7/11 Draw

No 18115 Sergey I. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.Sgf6+ exf6 2.a7 Qa8 3.Kxd6 Sg4 4.Sxf6+ Sxf6 5.gxf6 Rg8 6.Kc7, and:

– d5 (d6) stalemate, or:

– Rf8 7.Kd6 Rg8 8.Kc7 positional draw, or Rxc7 9.fxc7 Ke7 10.g8Q Rxc7 stalemate.

“A grotesque with a funny finish”.

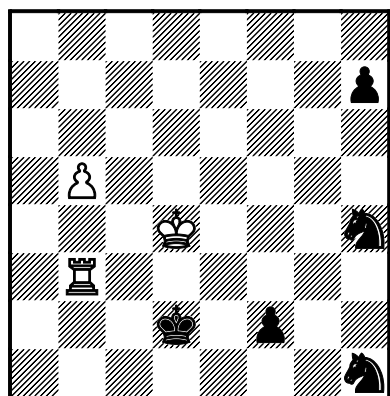
Shakhmatnaya Poeziya 2007-2008

23 studies from 17 composers from 7 countries participated, plus 12 (!) original studies by M. Zinar (Ukraine) in an article on pawn studies of V. Bron.

The judge, Sergey Osintsev (Russia), remarks that despite the fact that this magazine focuses mainly on problems and fairy chess, he sees a gradual increase of the endgame study section in both the number of studies and the quality of the entries.

The award was published in *Shakhmatnaya Poeziya* no. 45, 15iv2009.

No 18116 S. Didukh
1st prize



d4d2 0106.12 3/5 Draw

No 18116 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Rb2+ Kc1 2.Ra2/i Kb1 3.Rxf2 Sxf2 4v.Ke3/ii Sh3 5.b6 Sf5+ 6.Kf3 Sd6/iii 7.Kg4 Sf2+ 8.Kh5 Sfe4 9.Kh6 Sf6 10.Kg7 Sde8+ 11.Kh6 Sd6 12.Kg7 h5 13.Kxf6 h4 14.Ke5 h3 15.Kxd6 h2 16.b7 h1Q 17.b8Q+/iv wins.

i) Try: 2.Rxf2? see 15 moves later; note iv).

ii) Thematic try: 4.b6? Sf5+ 5.Ke5 Se7 6.Kf6 Sc6 7.Kg5 Se4+ 8.Kh6 Sf6 9.Kg7 h5 10.Kxf6 h4 wins.

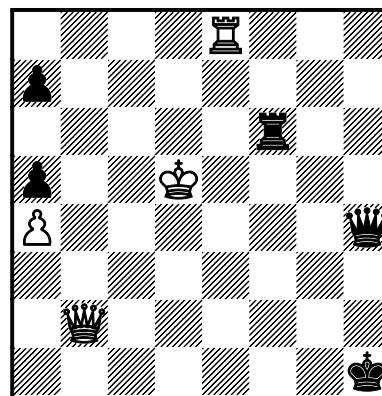
iii) Sd4+ 7.Kg4 Sf2+ 8.Kg5 Se4+ 9.Kh6 Sf6 10.Kg7 h5 11.Kxf6 h4 12.Ke5 Réti-manoeuvre h3 13.Kxd4 draws.

iv) After 2.Rxf2? the bK would now be at c1, so no in check, and Black wins by 14...Qh2+.

“Pure lines, nothing more, with a minimal difference between tries and solution. A perfectly logical study – the unconditional winner of the tourney”.

No 18117 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qa1+/i Kh2 2.Qe5+ Kh1/ii

No 18117 I. Akobia & R. Becker
2nd prize



d5h1 4400.12 4/5 Win

3.Rb8/iii a6/iv 4.Re8 Qh3 5.Qxf6 Qd7+ 6.Kc5 Qxe8 7.Qc6+ Qxc6+ 8.Kxc6 wins/v.

i) Thematic try: 1.Qe5? Qh3 2.Qxf6 Qd7+ 3.Kc5 Qxe8 4.Qc6+ Qxc6+ 5.Kxc6 Kg2 draws since the bP is on a7 and not on a6; see note v).

ii) Kh3 3.Rc8 Rg6 4.Qf5+ wins.

iii) The only safe square: 3.Rc8? Qh3 4.Rc1+ Rf1, or 3.Rg8? Qh3 4.Qxf6 Qb3+ draws.

iv) Rg6 4.Rh8 Rh6 5.Qa1+ Kh2 6.Qb2+ Kh3 7.Qc3+ Kh2 8.Qd2+ wins.

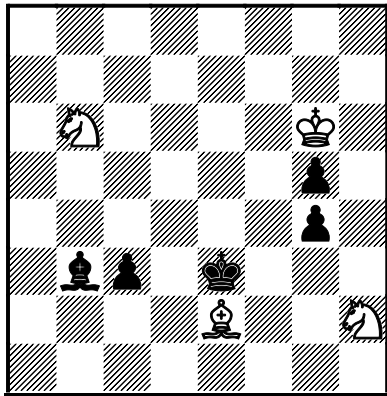
v) Now that the bP is a6, the wK needs one move less to capture the pawns.

“Adding pawns to a ‘computer’ reciprocal zugzwang position leads to the creation of a logical study”.

No 18118 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Bd1 Bxd1 2.Sd5+ Kd4 3.Sxc3 g3 4.Sxd1 g4/i 5.Sf2 gxh2/ii 6.Sh1 Ke4 7.Kg5 (Kh5) Kf3 8.Kh4 Kg2 9.Sg3 Kf3 10.Sh1 Kg2 11.Sg3 positional draw.

i) gxh2 5.Sf2 Ke3 6.Sg4+ Kf4 7.Sxh2 draws.

No 18118 O. Pervakov
3rd/4th prize

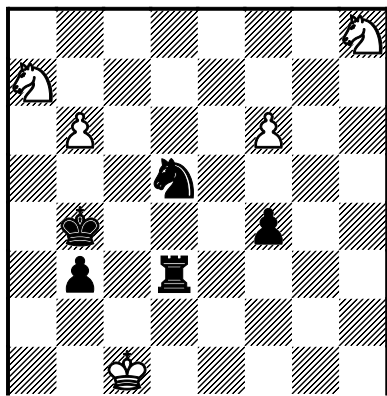


g6e3 0042.03 4/5 Draw

ii) gxf2 draws.

“Counting the number of pieces (twice, to avoid errors) shows that after the 4th move the study enters the territory of a 6 piece EGTB, and later a 5 piece EGTB. For some judges this would automatically lead to disqualification. But I like it when there are not twenty pieces on the board. However, sometimes is even not matters when there are twenty...”

No 18119 V. Razumenko
3rd/4th prize



c1b4 0305.22 5/5 Win

No 18119 Viktor Razumenko (Russia). 1.b7 b2+ 2.Kxb2 Rb3+ 3.Kc1/i Kc3 4.f7 Sb4 5.f8Q Sd3+ 6.Kd1 Rb1+ 7.Ke2 f3+ 8.Kxf3 Rf1+ 9.Kg3 Rxf8 10.Sc8 Rg8+ 11.Kh4/ii Rxh8+ 12.Kg5 wins/iii.

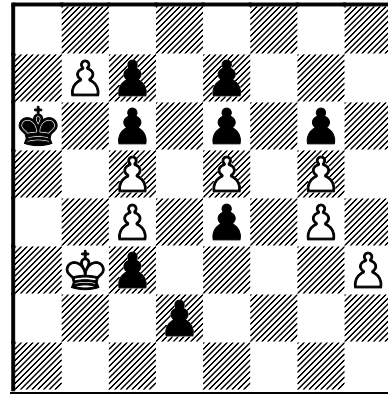
i) 3.Kc2? Kc4 4.f7 Sb4+ 5.Kd1 Kd3 6.Ke1 Ke3 draws, e.g. 7.Kf1 Kf3 8.Kg1 Kg3.

ii) 11.Sg6? Rxc6+ 12.Kh4 Rg4+ 13.Kxc6 Se5+ 14.Kf4 Sd7 (Sc6) draws.

iii) Rg8+ 13.Kh6 Rh8+ 14.Kg7.

“A good study, but we feel a little pity for Black, as its ingenious continuous battle is unsuccessful”.

No 18120 M. Zinar
special prize



b3a6 0000.78 8/9 Win

No 18120 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.b8S+ Kb7 2.Kc2 e3 3.Kd1 Kxb8 4.h4 Kc8 5.h5 Kd8 6.h6 Ke8 7.h7, and

– Kf7 8.h8R wins, or:

– Kd7 8.h8S wins.

“Serial and parallel synthesis of underpromotions. The author’s activity in his tireless pursuit of the theme deserves respect!”

The 1st HM by I. Akobia (Georgia) is dualistic: c1a3 0143.03 g5g6h7h1.d6e7h2 3/6 Draw:

1.Be8 Sf2 2.Bc6 h1Q+ 3.Bxh1 Sxh1 4.Rg7 Be4 5.Rxe7 Sg3 6.Re6 d5 7.Rb6 Sf1 8.Rb7 zz, and:

– Ka4 9.Rb8 Se3 10.Kd2 Sc4+ 11.Kc3 Sd6 12.Kd4 draws, or:

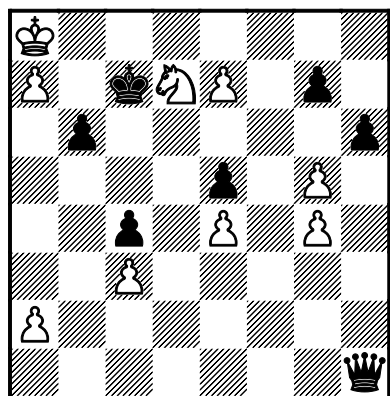
• Bc4 10.Kc2 Sg3 11.Kd2 Se4+ 12.Ke3 draws, or:

• Bd3 9.Rb8 zz Sg3 10.Kd2 Bc4 11.Ke3 Sf5+ 12.Kf4 draws.

However (Akobia): 1.Bxh7 Sf2 and now 2.Be4 Sxe4 3.Rh5 and wPh2 falls resulting in a draw EGTB position.

No 18121 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Sf6/i gxf6 2.e8S+ Kc8 3.Sd6+ Kd7 4.gxh6 Kxd6 5.Kb8 Qxh6 6.a8Q Qf8+ 7.Ka7 Qxa8+ 8.Kxa8 Kc6 9.Ka7 Kb5 10.Kb7 Ka5 11.Kc6 b5 12.Kd5/ii zz Ka4 13.Kc5 Ka5 14.Kd5 Kb6 15.a3 draws.

No 18121 M. Campioli
2nd honourable mention



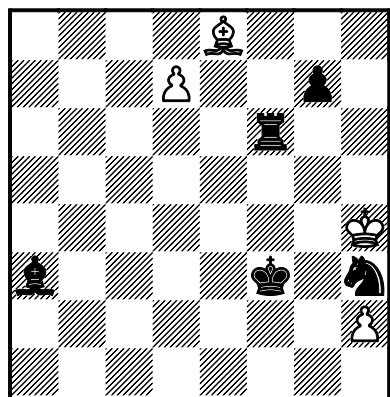
a8c7 3001.75 9/7 Draw

i) 1.e8S+? Kxd7 2.Kb8 Qxe4 3.a8Q Qxa8+ 4.Kxa8 Kxe8 5.gxh6 gxh6 6.Kb7 e4 wins.

ii) 12.Kc5? Ka4 zz.

‘The Italian composer has managed a study with a long solution. For that the judge envies him in the sense that he needs another step towards a logical study. Start with a move in Ryabinin’s style and not like the one in the present study’.

No 18122 E. Kudelich
commendation



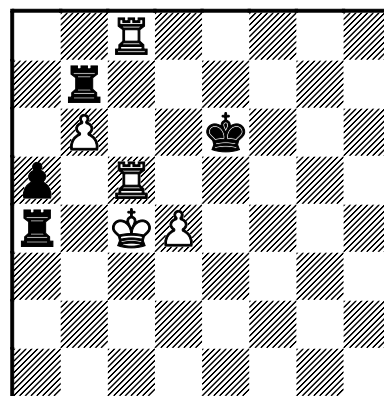
h4f3 0343.21 4/5 Draw

No 18122 Eduard Kudelich (Russia). 1.d8Q Rh6+ 2.Bh5+ Rxh5+ 3.Kxh5 Sf4+ 4.Kh4 Be7+ 5.Qxe7 Sg6+ 6.Kg5 Sxe7 7.h4 Ke4 8.h5 Sf5 9.Kg4 Ke5 10.Kg5 Ke6 11.Kg6 Ke5 12.Kg5 Ke4 13.Kg4 Sd4 14.Kg5 Sf5 15.Kg4 draws.

‘Not a bad study, but there are no tries and lines’.

No 18123 Boris Sidorov (Russia). 1.Kb5 Rb4+ 2.Kxa5, and:

No 18123 B. Sidorov †
commendation

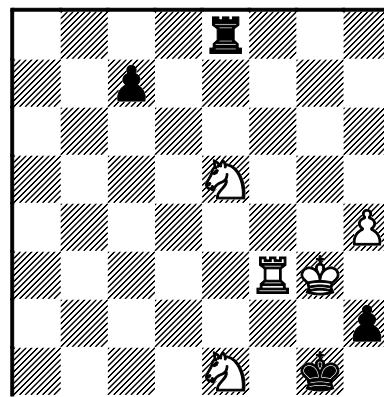


c4e6 0800.21 5/4 Win

– R7xb6 3.R8c6+ Rxc6 4.d5+ Kd6 5.dxc6 Kxc5 6.c7 Rb5+ 7.Ka4 Rb4+ 8.Ka3 wins, or:

– R4xb6 3.R8c6+ Rxc6 4.d5+ Kd6 5.dxc6 Ra7+ 6.Kb6 Ra1 7.c7 Rb1+ 8.Ka5 Ra1+ 9.Kb4 Rb1+ 10.Ka3 Ra1+ 11.Kb4 wins.

No 18124 P. Arestov
special commendation



g3g1 0402.12 5/4 Win

No 18124 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rd3/i Rg8+ 2.Sg4 Rxc4+ 3.Kxc4 h1Q 4.Sg2 Qh2 5.Rd1+ Kf2 6.Rd2+ Kg1 7.Se1/ii Qxd2 8.Sf3+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rc3? Rg8+ 2.Sg4 Rxc4+ 3.Kxc4 h1Q 4.Sg2 Qh2 5.Rc1+ Kf2 6.Rc2+ Kg1 7.Se1 Qd6 draws.

ii) And now 7...Qd6 is not possible.

‘A little logical study, aspiring to more. But the idea associated with the move 4.Sg2!! has already been shown in a study by Joitsa (EG#5455). Instead of excluding this study

because of the partial predecessor it was awarded with a special distinction”.

A further commendation was dualistic:
V. Bartosh f8h8 0014.11 a7b8d3.g6g7 4/3
Win: 1.Sc6 Se5 2.Se7 Sc6 3.Sf5 Se5 4.Sh4
Sf3 5.Sg2 Se5 6.Sf4 Sd3 7.Bd4 Sxf4 8.Bxg7

mate. However, I. Akobia cooks: 4.Lb8 Sxg6+
5.Kf7 Kh7 6.Sxg7 Kh6 7.Kf6, and also 1.Le3
Sf4 2.Kf7 Sd3 3.Ke6 Sb4 4.Ld2 Sd3 5.Sc6
Kg8 6.Se7+ Kf8 7.Sf5 Sc5+ 8.Kd5 Sa4 9.Le3
wins.

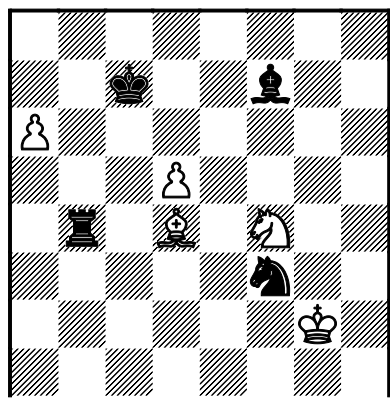


János Mikitovics

Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsia 2008

Oleg Pervakov (Russia) judged the annual tourney of the well-known Russian composition magazine. In total 30 studies by 16 composers participated, including originals published in articles by Zinar and Eilazyan. The award was published in *Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsia* no. 89, 2vii2009.

No 18125 V. Shupletsov
& A. Maksimovskikh
prize



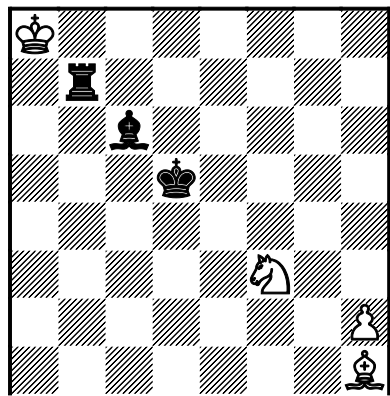
g2c7 0344.20 5/4 Draw

No 18125 V. Shupletsov & A. Maksimovskikh. 1.d6+ Kb8 2.a7+ Ka8 3.Bc3 Rxf4 4.d7 Sh4+ 5.Kg1 Rg4+ 6.Kf2 Rg2+ 7.Ke3 Sf5+ 8.Kd3 Bc4+ 9.Kxc4 Sd6+ 10.Kd5 Sb7 11.Ke6 Kxa7 12.Ba5 Rg8 13.Bc7/v Ra8 14.Ke7 draws.

i) 13.Kf7? Ra8 14.Bc7/vi Ka6 15.Ke6 Kb5 16.Ke7 Kc5 17.d8Q Sxd8 18.Bxd8 Kc6 wins.

“A large scale inventive battle until the very end, where White awaits an unexpected trap”.

No 18126 E. Eilazyan
special prize



a8d5 0341.10 4/3 Draw

No 18126 Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine). 1.Se5+/i Kxe5 2.Bxc6 Rb6 3.Bb7 Kd6 4.Kb8 Kd7 5.h4 zz Kd8 6.h5 Kd7 7.h6 Rxh6 8.Bc8+ Kc6 9.Bg4 Rf6 10.Bd1 Rf4 11.Ka7 draws.

i) Thematic try no. 1: 1.Sg5+? Kd6/ii 2.Bxc6 Kxc6 wins. Thematic try no. 2: 1.Sd2+? Kc5/iii 2.Bxc6 Kxc6 wins. Thematic try no. 3: 1.Sd4+? Kxd4 2.Bxc6 Rc7 3.Ba4 Kc5 4.Kb8 Kb6 5.h4 Ra7/iv 6.Be8 Re7 7.Bg6 Rg7 8.Be8 Rg8 wins.

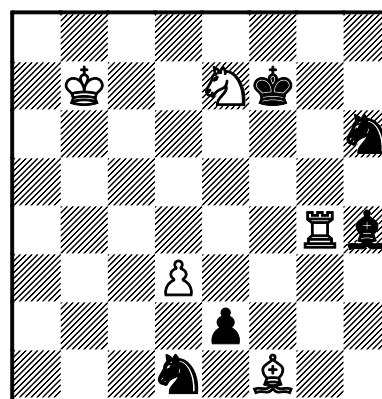
ii) But not Kc5? 2.Se6+ Kd6 3.Bxc6 Kxc6 4.Sd8+ draws.

iii) But not Kd6? 2.Sc4+ Kc5 3.Bxc6 Kxc6 4.Sa5+ draws.

iv) But not Rc4? 6.Be8 Re4 7.Bg6 Rg4 8.h5 draws.

“Excellent treatment of Umnov’s ideas about handling thematic tries”.

No 18127 E. Markov
1st honourable mention



b7f7 0147.11 5/5 Win

No 18127 Evgeny Markov (Russia). 1.Rf4+ Bf6 2.Bxe2 Sc3 3.Sf5 Sxf5 4.Bh5+ Ke6 5.Bg4 Sb5 6.Bxf5+ Ke5 7.Rb4/i Sd6+ 8.Kc6 Sxf5 9.Re4 mate.

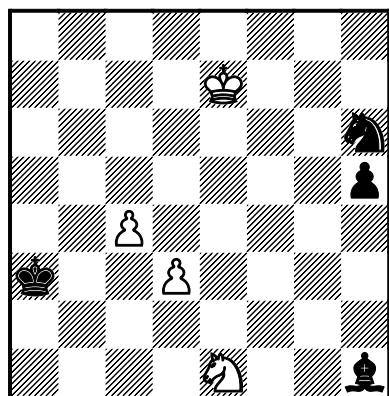
i) Thematic try: 7.Ra4? Kxf5 8.Ra5 Kf4 (Ke5) 9.Rxb5 Ke3 10.Rb3 Kd4 draws.

“Correction (EG#11071). Witty play beautifully crowned by an ideal mate with two active self-blocks. Unfortunately, the initial position is too tight”.

The 2nd HM has multiple duals: V. Kalyagin, E. Kudelich & B. Olimpiev (Russia), h8c7 0477.22 f2h2h4a2a5f5e5f3.d7f6f4g7 6/8 Draw. 1.d8Q+ Kxd8 2.fxg7+ Rxh4+ 3.Sxh4 Sf7+ 4.Kg8 Sh6++ 5.Kh7 Bg8+ 6.Kxh6 Sxh4 7.Kg5 Be1 8.Rxf4 Bd2 9.Kf6 Bc3+ 10.Kg5 Bd2 11.Kf6 Bxf4 stalemate.

However, also (MG): 8.Rb2 Bg3 9.Rb8+ Ke7 10.Rxg8 Kf7 11.Rf8+ Kxg7 12.Rxf4, or 7.Kh5 Sf5 8.Rxf4, or 5.Kh8 Sxh4 6.Rxa2 Bc3 and now 7.Ta4.

No 18128 V. Vlasenko
3rd honourable mention



e7a3 0034.21 4/4 Draw

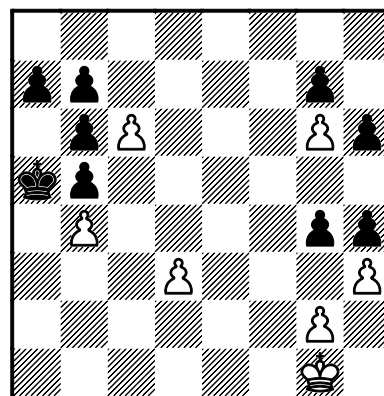
No 18128 Valery Vlasenko (Russia). 1.Kf6 h4 2.Kg5 h3 3.Kh4 h2 4.Kh3 Sg4 5.Sg2 Kb4 6.Kg3 Kc5 7.Kh3 Kd4 8.Kg3 Kxd3 9.c5 draws.

“Refined study, with a single capture (only at the very end), in the author’s usual style, this time, however, without subtleties”.

No 18129 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1...Ka6 2.c7 g3 3.c8S h5 4.Sxa7 Kxa7 5.Kf1 Kb8 6.Ke2 Kc7 7.Kf3 (Ke3) Kd6 8.Kf4 Kd5 9.Kf5 Kd4 10.Ke6 Ke3 11.Kf7 Kf2 12.Kxg7 Kxg2 13.Kh6 Kxh3 14.g7 g2 15.g8R Kh2 16.Kxh5 h3 17.Kh4 g1Q 18.Rxg1 Kxg1 19.Kxh3 Kf2 20.d4 Ke3 21.d5 Kd4 22.d6 Kd5 23.d7 Kc6 24.d8R (d8B) wins.

“An interesting three-phase study in which four times a pawn pushes to promotion and has to avoid a black stalemate. The promotion

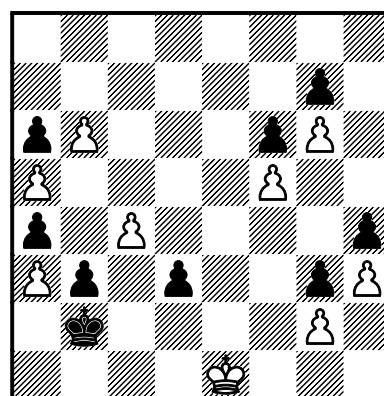
No 18129 M. Zinar
special honourable mention



g1a5 0000.68 7/9 BTM, Win

dual and the “deadly” introduction do not allow us to distinguish the study with a prize”.

No 18130 M. Zinar
commendation



e1b2 0000.88 9/9 Win

No 18130 Mihail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Kd2 Kxa3 2.b7 b2 3.b8R Ka2 4.c5 b1Q 5.Rxb1 Kxb1 6.c6 a3 7.c7 a2 8.c8Q a1Q 9.Qc1+ Ka2 10.Qxa1+ Kxa1 11.Kxd3 Kb2 12.Ke4 (Kd4, Kc4) Kc2 13.Kd5 Kd3 14.Ke6 Ke3 15.Kf7 Kf2 16.Kxg7 Kxg2 17.Kxf6/i Kxh3 18.g7 g2/ ii 19.g8R Kh2 20.Ke6 g1Q 21.Rxg1 Kxg1 22.f6 h3 23.f7 h2 24.f8Q h1Q 25.Qc5+ wins.

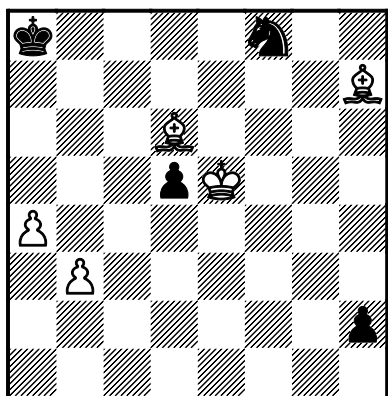
i) 17.Kh6? Kxh3 18.g7 g2 19.g8R Kh2 20.Kh5 h3 draws.

ii) Kg2 19.g8Q h3 20.Ke5 h2 21.f6 h1Q 22.Qd5+ wins.

“Not a bad study, with recurrent positions on both flanks”.

No 18131 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Bg8 Sd7+ 2.Kd4 h1Q 3.Bxd5+ Qxd5+ 4.Kxd5 Sb6+ 5.Kc6 Sxa4 6.Be5/i Sb6 7.Bd4 (Kxb6? stalemate) Sc8 8.Bc5 Kb8 9.b4 Ka8

No 18131 V. Kalashnikov
commendation



e5a8 0023.22 5/4 Win

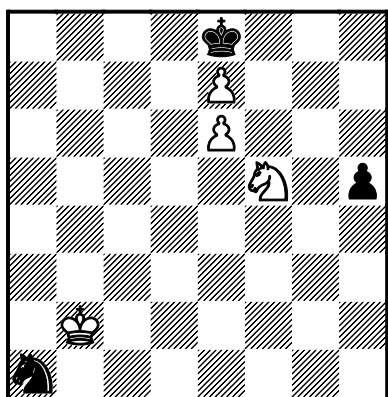
10.Kc7/ii Sa7 11.Bxa7 Kxa7 12.b5 Ka8
13.Kb6 Kb8 14.Ka6 Ka8 15.b6 Kb8 16.b7
wins.

i) First domination.

ii) Second domination.

“A good synthesis of known ideas but with a disappointing introduction”.

No 18132 V. Dubrovski
commendation



b2e8 0004.21 4/3 Win

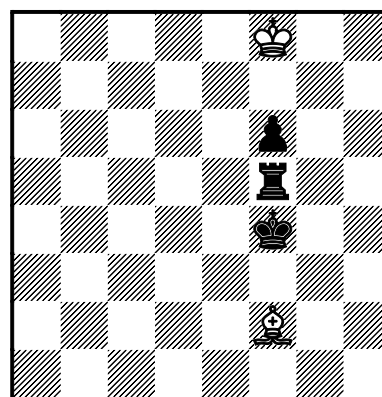
No 18132 V. Dubrovski. 1.Kc3/i h4 2.Kc4
Sc2/ii 3.Kd5 Sa3 4.Ke5 Sc4+ 5.Kf6 h3 6.Sg7
mate.

i) 1.Kxa1? h4 2.Sxh4 Kxe7 draws.

ii) Sb3 3.Kxb3 h3 4.Kc4 h2 5.Sg3 Kxe7
6.Kd5 wins.

“A good study with a refusal of capture and an exact route of the wK”.

No 18133 V. Kovalenko
special commendation



f8f4 0310.01 2/3 Draw

No 18133 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Kf7,
with:

– Kg4 2.Bd4 Kg5 3.Be3+ Kg4 4.Bd4 Kg5
5.Be3+ Kh5 6.Bd4 Kg5 7.Be3+ positional
draw, or:

– Ke4 2.Bh4 Ke5 3.Bg3+ Ke4 4.Bh4 Ke5
5.Bg3+ Kd5 6.Bh4 Ke5 7.Bg3 positional
draw.

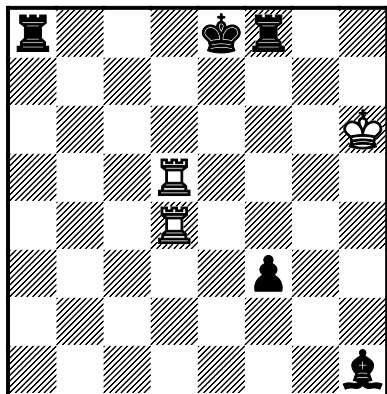
“Curious malyutka with echo-play, but nothing more”.

Pat a Mat 2008-2009

The biennial tourney of the Slovakian composition magazine attracted 11 originals. Siegfried Hornecker (Germany) assisted in anticipation vetting. The judge was L'uboš Kekely (Slovakia). The award was published in *Pat a Mat* no.71 vi2010.

Translation of Slovakian to English by HH (using Google translation).

No 18134 L. Salai
prize



h6e8 0830.01 3/5 Draw

No 18134 Ladislav Salai (Slovakia).
1.Re5+/i Kf7 2.Rf4+ Kg8 3.Rg5+ Kh8 4.Ra5
Rfb8 5.Rb4 Rc8 6.Rc4 Rd8 7.Rd4 Re8 8.Re4
Rab8 9.Rb5 Rbc8 10.Rc5 Rcd8 11.Rd5 Ra8
12.Ra5 Reb8 13.Rb4 f2 14.Rxa8/ii Rxa8
15.Rf4 Ra6+ 16.Kg5 Ra2 17.Rh4+ Kg7
18.Rxh1 Re2 19.Rf1 draws.

i) 1.Re4+? Kf7 2.Rf5+ Kg8 3.Rg4+ Kh8
4.Ra4 Rfe8 5.Re5 f2 6.Rxe8+ Rxe8 7.Rf4
Re6+ 8.Kg5 Re2 9.Rh4+ Kg7 10.Rxh1 Re1
wins.

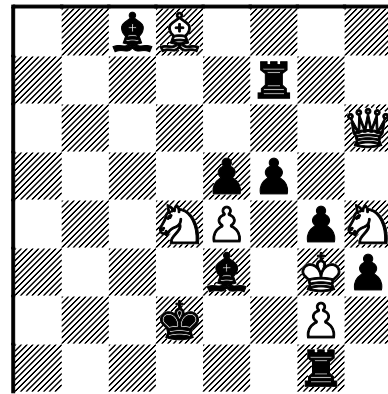
ii) 14.Rxb8+? Rxb8 15.Rf5 Rb6+ wins.

“Logical study of the highest quality. [...] An eye-pleasing and gentle systematic manoeuvre of 4 rooks. This study would be the pride of any tourney!”

No 18135 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia).
1.Sdf3+ Ke2 2.Sxg1+ Kf1 3.Bg5 Bxg5
4.Qxg5 f4+ 5.Kh2 g3+ 6.Kh1 hxg2+ 7.Sxg2
Rh7+ 8.Sh4 Bb7 9.Sf3 Bxe4 10.Qxg3 fxg3
stalemate.

“The author’s favourite theme for many years. And stalemate is not an easy topic, as also seen in this study. As a bonuses we see refusals of sacrifices by both sides. At the end

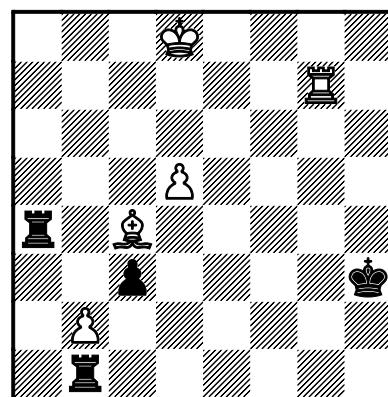
No 18135 M. Hlinka
1st honourable mention



g3d2 1672.24 7/9 Draw

we have a queen sac and a model stalemate with two pinned wS, which both moved during the solution”.

No 18136 R. Becker
2nd honourable mention



d8h3 0710.21 5/4 Draw

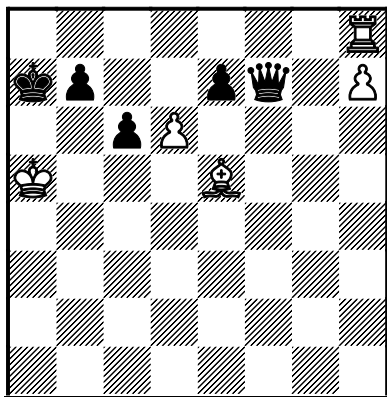
No 18136 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bd3
Ra8+ 2.Kc7 Rxb2 3.Rg1 Rd2 4.Bf5+ Kh2/i
5.Rc1 Rxd5 6.Rc2+ Kg1 7.Be4 Rc5+ 8.Kb6/ii
Rac8 9.Bb7 R8c7 10.Bg2 Rc4 11.Bd5 R4c5
12.Bg2 Kh2 13.Bc6+ draws.

i) Kh4 5.Rg4+ Kh5 6.Rc4 draws.

ii) 8.Kd6? Raa5 wins.

“Original positional draw position after lively play”.

No 18137 I. Aliev
1st commendation



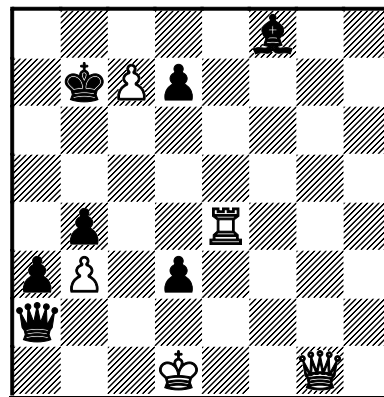
a5a7 3110.23 5/5 Win

No 18137 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan).
1.Ra8+/i Kxa8 2.h8Q+ Ka7 3.Qb8+ Kxb8
4.d7+ Ka7 5.Bd4+ c5 6.Bxc5+ b6+ 7.Bxb6+
Kb7 8.d8S+ Kc8 9.Sxf7 wins.

i) 1.Bd4+? b6+ 2.Bxb6+ Kb7 3.Rb8+ Kxb8
4.h8Q+ Kb7 5.Bc7 Qd5+ draws.

“Very pleasant win study in classical style
with queen and rook sacs, and underpromotion”.

No 18138 A. Jasik
2nd commendation



d1b7 4130.24 5/7 Draw

No 18138 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.c8Q+
Kxc8 2.Rc4+ Kb7 3.Qh1+ Kb8 4.Rxb4+
Bxb4 5.Qh8+ Kc7 6.Qb2, and:

– axb2 model stalemate, or:

– Qxb2 stalemate.

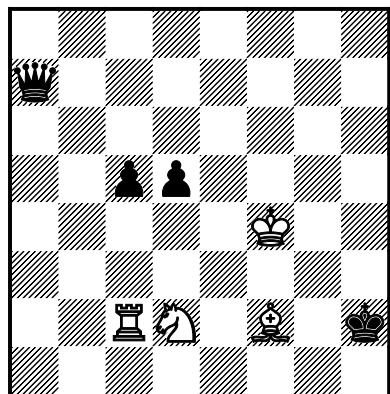
“Awarded for the last two moves with queen
and rooks sacs, and the model mate after
6...axb2. The quality of the study would have
been higher had the bPd3 moved during the
solution. Not economical”.

Polášek & Vlasák 50 JT 2009

Tourney director Michal Hlinka (Slovakia) received 47 studies from 26 composers in 18 countries. The judges, Jaroslav Polášek and Emil Vlasák, undertook an interesting experiment as they first tried to solve the studies themselves, then used computers to try and find the solution, and only then looked at the author's presentation. All this leads to a better understanding of the studies. CQL and HHdbIII were used for anticipation checking.

The ranking of both judges differed significantly, and after some discussion they awarded many special distinctions e.g. for romantic style. After some discussion the judges agreed to evaluate studies with EGTB positions like other studies. They also indicated that the number of pieces is not always decisive. They for instance pointed to Matouš' first prize winner (after removing the "technical" pawn d5 its kernel position it is a EGTB position), and assured us that Matouš has never used a computer during composition, and the study by Becker.

No 18139 M. Matouš
1st prize



f4h2 3111.02 4/4 Win

No 18139 Mario Matouš (Czech Republic).
1.Sf3+ Kh1 2.Bd4/i Qf7+ 3.Ke3 cxd4+ 4.Kf2 Qf4 5.Rc6/ii zz, with:

– d3 6.Rc8 Qh6 7.Rb8 wins, or:

– Qe3+ 6.Kg3 zz d3 7.Ra6 Qc1 8.Ra7 wins.

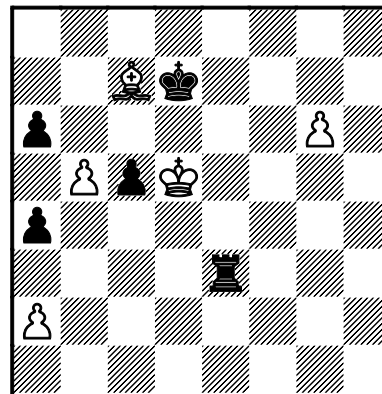
i) 2.Bxc5? Qa4+ 3.Sd4 Qxd4+ 4.Bxd4 stalemate.

ii) 5.Ra2? Qc1 6.Kg3 Qc7+ 7.Kf2 Qc1 positional draw, or 5.Rc8? Qe3+ 6.Kg3 Qh6 7.Kf2 Qe3+ 8.Kg3 Qh6 positional draw.

“Undoubtedly the best study in the tournament. The introductory play - spectacular and attractive for solvers – culminates in a R vs. Q duel, a theme typical for Matouš. The rook makes several surprising quiet moves, based on mutual zugzwangs and line obstruction”.

No 18140 Richard Becker (USA). 1.b6/i Rd3+ 2.Kxc5 Rc3+ 3.Kd5 Rd3+ 4.Ke5/ii Rd1

No 18140 R. Becker
2nd/4th prize



d5d7 0310.33 5/5 Win

5.g7 Rg1 6.Kf6 Rf1+ 7.Kg6 Rg1+ 8.Kf7 Rf1+ 9.Kg8 a5 10.Kh7/iii Rh1+ 11.Kg6 Rg1+ 12.Kf7 Rf1+ 13.Kg8 a3 14.Kh7 Rh1+ 15.Kg6 Rg1+ 16.Kf7 Rf1+ 17.Kg8 a4 18.Kh7 Rh1+ 19.Kg6 Rg1+ 20.Kf7 Rf1+ 21.Kg8 Kc6/iv 22.Bd8 Rd1 23.Bg5 Rg1 24.Be3 Rg3 25.Bd4 Rf3 26.Kh7 Rh3+ 27.Kg6 Rg3+ 28.Kf7 Rf3+ 29.Bf6 Rg3 30.Bd8 Rf3+ 31.Kg6 Rg3+ 32.Bg5 wins.

i) 1.g7? Re8 2.b6 c4 3.Be5 c3 4.Bxc3 Kc8 5.Bb4 Rg8 6.Bf8 Kb7 7.Kc5 a3 zz.

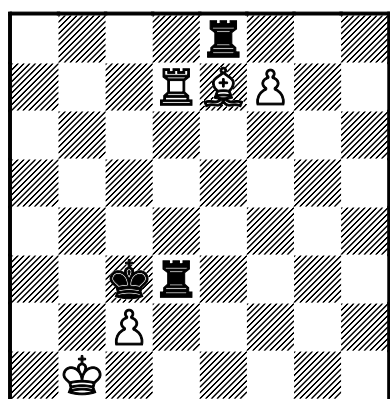
ii) 4.Ke4? Rd1 5.Kf3 Rf1+ 6.Kg4 Rf8 7.Kg5 Rg8 8.Kf6 Rf8+ 9.Kg7 Rf1 10.Kg8 Kc6 11.g7 Re1 12.Kf7 Rf1+ draw.

iii) 10.a3? Kc6 11.Bd8 Rd1 12.Bg5 Rg1 13.Be3 Rg3 14.Bd4 Rxa3.

iv) Rg1 22.Bh2 Rg2 23.b7, or Kc8 22.Kh7 Rh1+ 23.Kg6 Rg1+ 24.Kf6 Rf1+ 25.Bf4 Rxf4+ 26.Kg5 Rf1 27.g8Q+ wins.

“An incredibly rich study with an excellent finish, probably mined from databases, but not being a database position. The author is known from his very complicated introductions, but in this case he keeps a respectable boundary. The introduction is logically connected with a finish and so it deepens it. You can fully understand the content without a computer, but it takes some days”.

No 18141 D. Gurgenidze
2nd/4th prize



b1c3 0710.20 5/3 BTM, Win

No 18141 David Gurgenidze (Georgia).
1...Rb8+ 2.Bb4+ Rxb4+ 3.Kc1 Rf3/i 4.Rd3+ Rxd3 5.f8Q Rd5/ii 6.Qf6+ Kc4/iii 7.c3 Rbb5 8.Kc2 Kc5/iv 9.c4, and:

– Kxc4 10.Qc3 mate, or:

– Rb6 10.Qf2+ Rd4 11.Kc3 Rd6 12.Qf5+ Kc6 13.Qc8+ Kb6 14.c5 wins.

i) Rxd7 4.f8Q Rd5 5.Qf6+ wins.

ii) Rdd4 6.Qf3+ Kc4 7.Qc6 mate.

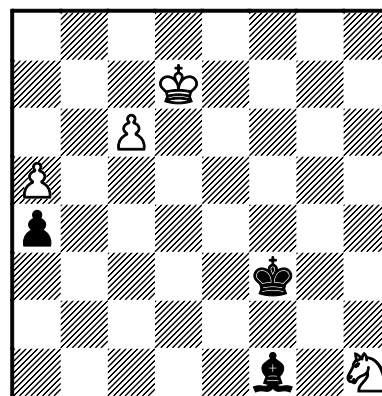
iii) Rbd4 7.Qc6+ Kb4 8.c3+ wins.

iv) Re5 9.Qf4+ Kd5 10.c4+ wins, or Ra5 9.Qc6+ Rdc5 10.Qe4+ Kb5 11.Qb7+ Kc4 12.Qb3 mate.

“It is known from several endgame studies that queen and pawn in the centre of the board are able to beat a connected rook pair. Gurgenidze’s work exceeds all them dramatically with rich play, pure side-lines, hard to find quiet moves, shifted pawn forks and the final mate with active self blocks. With an excellent introduction this study is a remarkable piece”.

No 18142 Mario Matouš (Czech Republic).
1.Sf2/i a3 2.c7 Ba6/ii 3.Sd3 Bxd3/iii 4.Kc8 a2

No 18142 M. Matouš
2nd/4th prize



d7f3 0031.21 4/3 Draw

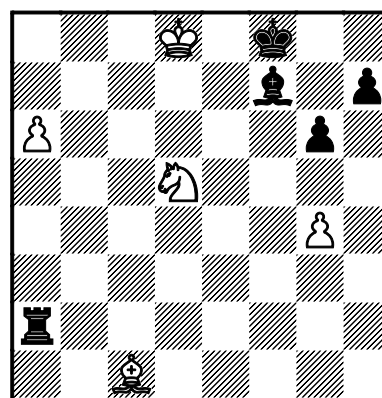
5.Kb8 Ba6 6.Ka7 Bc8 7.Kb8 Bf5 8.a6 a1Q 9.c8Q Bxc8 10.a7 draws.

i) 1.Sg3? Bh3+ 2.Kc7 a3 3.Sf1 Ke2 wins.

iii) a2 4.Se1+ Ke2 5.Sc2 Kd2 6.Sa1 Kc3 7.c8Q+ Bxc8+ 8.Kxc8 Kb2 9.a6 Kxa1 10.a7 draws.

“To fully enjoy this delicate miniature, we warmly recommend you to try and solve it. You have to crack two mixed problems. First how to find a missing tempo and second how to dispose of the knight”.

No 18143 Y. Afek
1st honourable mention



d8f8 0341.22 5/5 Win

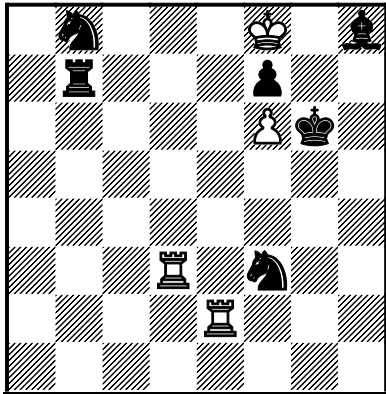
No 18143 Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.Bh6+ Kg8 2.Sf6+ Kh8 3.Ke7 Rxa6 4.Kf8/i Ra8+ 5.Se8 Rxe8+ 6.Kxf7 Rg8 7.g5 zz wins.

i) 4.Kxf7? Ra7+ 5.Kf8 g5, and now 6.Sd5 Rf7+ 7.Ke8 (Kxf7 stalemate) Ra7 8.Se7 Ra6 9.Sf5 Re6+ 10.Kf7 Rxh6 11.Sxh6 stalemate, or 6.Bxg5 Ra8+, and 7.Kf7 Ra7+ 8.Ke6 Kg7,

or 7.Se8 h5 8.gxh5 Ra5 9.Bf6+ Kh7 10.Sg7 Rxh5 11.Sxh5 Kg6 draw.

”The study is based on an unexpected king move – White doesn’t take a piece and conversely he sacrifices his knight to push the rook back to a fatal square”.

No 18144 I. Akobia & R. Becker
2nd honourable mention



f8g6 0536.11 4/6 Draw

No 18144 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). 1.Re7 Sd7+ 2.Rxd7/i, and:

– Rxd7 3.Rxd7 Sg5/ii 4.Kg8 Bxf6 5.Rd5 Se6 6.Rd7 Sd8 7.Rd6 Se6 8.Rd7 Sg5 9.Rd5 Be7 10.Rd7 Kf6/iii 11.Rd1 Bc5 12.Rf1+ Ke6 13.Re1+ Kd6 14.Rf1 Ke6 15.Re1+ Kf6 16.Rf1+ Kg6 17.Rxf7 Sxf7 stalemate, or:

– Rb8+ 3.Re8 Rxe8+ 4.Kxe8 Se5/iv 5.Rd1 (Rd2) Bxf6 6.Re1 Bg7 7.Rg1+ Kf6 8.Rf1+ Ke6 9.Rxf7 Sxf7 stalemate.

i) 2.Rexd7? Rb8+ 3.Rd8 Rxd8+ 4.Rxd8 Bxf6 5.Rd6 Sg5 wins, e.g. 6.Rb6 Se6+ 7.Ke8 Bd4 8.Ra6 Kg7 9.Ke7 Sf4, or here: 7.Kg8 Bd4 8.Ra6 Kf6 9.Rd6 Ke7.

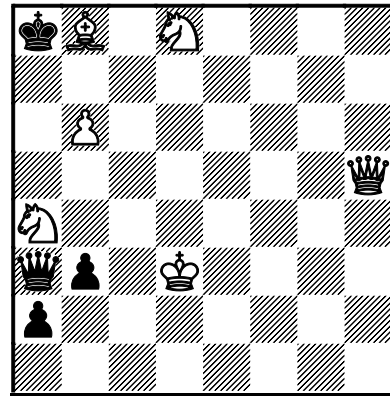
ii) Se5 4.Rd6 Bxf6 5.Ra6 Sf3 6.Rb6 Sg5 7.Kg8 Kf5 8.Rb7 Ke6 9.Rb6+ draws.

iii) Bc5 11.Rxf7 Sxf7 stalemate.

iv) Sg5 5.Rd4, and: Bxf6 6.Rg4 Kg7 7.Rg1 or Kxf6 6.Rg4 Se6 7.Rg1 Sg7+ 8.Kf8 Sf5 9.Kg8 Bg7 10.Rf1 draws.

“This complex database mined study is interesting for endgame theory. The authors highlight parallel stalemates in both lines, we also like the geometrical motives in the R vs B battle in line A. As usually with Becker, you need a well-armed computer to fully understand it all”.

No 18145 M. Matouš
3rd honourable mention



d3a8 4012.12 6/4 BTM, Win

No 18145 Mario Matouš (Czech Republic). 1...b2+ 2.Ke2 Qd3+ 3.Kxd3 b1Q+ 4.Kd2/i Qb4+ 5.Sc3 Qb2+ 6.Kd3 Qxc3+ 7.Kxc3 a1Q+ 8.Kc4/ii Qa4+ 9.Kc5 Qa5+ 10.Kc6 Qxh5/iii 11.b7+ Kxb8 12.Kb6 wins.

i) Thematic try: 4.Kc4? Qe4+ 5.Kb3 Qxa4+ 6.Kxa4 a1Q+ 7.Kb5 Qe5+ 8.Qxe5 draws.

ii) 8.Kb4? Qd4+ 9.Kb5 Qe5+ 10.Kc6 (Bxe5, Qxe5 stalemate) Qc7+ 11.Kd5 (Bxc7, bxc7, Kxc7 stalemate) Qxb6 draws.

iii) Qa4+ 11.Qb5 Qc2+ 12.Kd6 Qc7+ 13.Ke6 Qxb6+ 14.Qc6+ (14.Qxb6? stalemate). Unfortunately, also 11.Kd6 wins in this line.

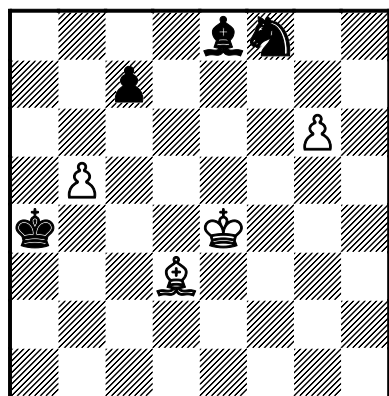
“The surprising finish with a win of lone knight plus pawn against a queen by a quiet move hasn’t had a satisfactory setting. Matouš, working completely without a computer, succeeded in expanding this difficult theme. In the introductory play he added a very fine difference between Kc4/Kb4 with a nice refutation through stalemate. But the introductory play is too complicated and some side-lines have dual solutions”.

No 18146 Stanislav Nosek (Czech Republic). 1.g7 Sd7 2.b6/i cxb6 3.Kf4 Bf7/ii 4.Bg6 Bg8 5.Be8 Kb4 6.Bxd7 Kc5 7.Ke5 wins.

i) 2.Bc4? Bg6+ 3.Kf4 Bh7 4.Kg5 Kb4 5.Be6 Sc5 6.Bd5 Sd7 7.Be6 Sc5 positional draw, or 2.Kf4? Bf7 3.Bg6 Bg8 4.Be8 Sb6 draws.

ii) Sf6 4.Kg5 Sg8 5.Bc4 Se7 6.Kf6 Bg6 7.Kxe7 Bh7 8.Kf8 wins.

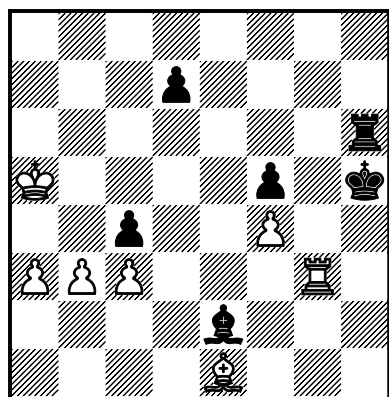
No 18146 S. Nosek
4th honourable mention



e4a4 0043.21 4/4 Win

“The pleasant position with an unexpected pawn sac should be also very attractive for solving contests. At first sight it seems to be a typesetter’s mistake”.

No 18147 M. Hlinka
5th honourable mention



a5h5 0440.43 7/6 BTM, Draw

No 18147 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia).
1...Ra6+ 2.Kxa6 cxb3+ 3.c4 Bxc4+ 4.Ka7 b2
5.Rh3+ Kg6 6.Rg3+ Kf7 7.Rg7+ Ke8 8.Bb4
b1Q 9.Re7+ Kd8 10.Re1 draws.

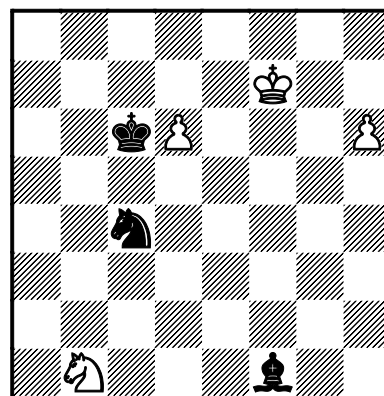
“Hlinka’s typically work is very close related to the o.t.b. game. The finish prepared by an unexpected king’s move is interesting. Unfortunately, such a concept comes with difficult side-lines which lower the impression”.

No 18148 János Mikitovics (Hungary).

I: 1.h7 Se5+ 2.Kg7/i Sg6 3.Sc3 Bd3/ii 4.Sd5
Kxd6 5.Sf4 Sh8 6.Sxd3 wins.

II: 1.Sf8 Sxd6+ 2.Kf6 Se4+ 3.Kg7 Sg5
4.Kg6 Sf3 5.Kf6 Bd3 6.Sg6 wins.

No 18148 J. Mikitovics
6th honourable mention



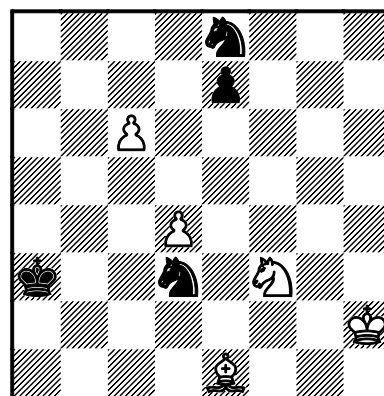
f7c6 0034.20 4/3 Win

I: Diagram.; II: wSb1 to h7

i) 2.Kf6? Sg6 3.Sd2 Be2 4.Se4 Sh8 5.Ke7
Sg6+ 6.Kf7 Sh8+ 7.Kg7 Bd3 8.d7 Kc7 9.Sc5
Bxh7 10.Kxh7 Sf7 draws.

“The diagrammed position is attractive for solvers, with a fine choice between Kf6/Kg7 and Sd2-f3/Sc3-d5. The twin position is only analysis and the evaluation would have been the same without it”.

No 18149 I. Akobia
1st/2nd commendation



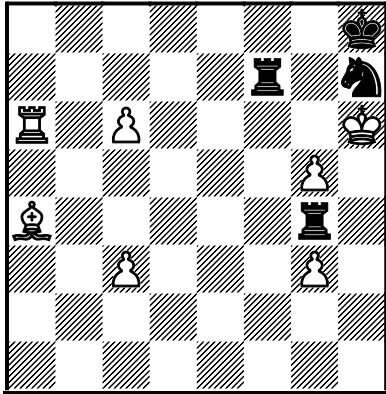
h2a3 0017.21 5/4 Win

No 18149 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Bg3 e5
2.Sxe5 Sb4 3.Sc4+ Kb3 4.Sa5+ Ka4 5.c7
Sxc7 6.Bxc7 Kb5 7.Kh1/i zz Sd5 8.Bd8 Se3
9.Sb7 Kc4 10.Bf6 Sc2 11.Sa5+ Kd5 12.Sb3
Kc4 13.Sd2+ Kd3 14.Sf3 Ke4 15.Kg2 Se3+
16.Kg3 wins.

i) 7.Bd8? Sc2 8.d5 Kc5, or 7.Kg2? (Kh3?)
Sd5 8.Bd8 Sf4+ 9.Kf3 Se6, or 7.Kg3? Sc2
8.d5 Se3 9.d6 Sf5+ 10.Kf4 Sxd6 11.Bxd6
Kxa5, or 7.Kg1? Sd5 8.Bd8 Sf4 draw.

“A jewel mined from databases with an unexpected king move! Unfortunately, the author didn't find a way to highlight the mutual zugzwang 7.Kh1, for example in a try with a reverse move order”.

No 18150 A. Ornstein
1st/2nd commendation



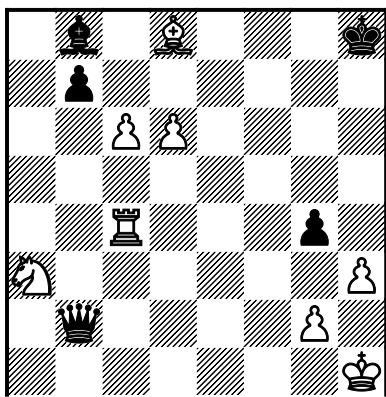
h6h8 0713.40 7/4 Draw

No 18150 Axel Ornstein (Sweden). 1.g6 Rf1 2.Ra8+ Sf8 3.Rxf8+ Rxf8 4.c7 Rg8 5.c8Q/i Rxc8 6.Bd7 Rcc4 7.Be6 Rce4 8.Bf5 Ra4 9.Bd7 Kg8 10.c4 Raxc4 11.Be6+ Kf8 12.g7+ draws.

i) 5.Bd7? R4xg6+ 6.Kh5 R6g7 and mates.

“A well constructed perpetual attack on two rooks with a lone bishop. The author gives Simkhovich 1940 (HHdbIV#19381) as his source of inspiration”.

No 18151 M. Hlinka
3rd commendation



h1h8 3141.42 8/5 Draw

No 18151 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.c7 Qa1+ 2.Sb1/i Qxb1+ 3.Kh2 g3+ 4.Kxg3 Qd3+ 5.Kh2/ii Qxd6+ 6.Kh1/iii Qd1+ 7.Kh2 Qxd8 8.Rh4+ Kg7 9.Rg4+ Kh6/iv 10.Rh4+ Kg5

11.Rg4+ Kh5 12.Rh4+ Kg5 13.Rg4+ Kh5 14.Rh4+ draws.

i) 2.Kh2? Qe5+ 3.Kh1 Qe1+, or 3.g3 Qe2+ 4.Kg1 Ba7+.

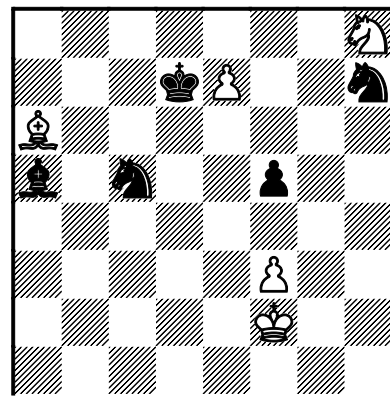
ii) 5.Kf4? Qxc4+ 6.Ke5 Ba7, or 5.Kf2? Ba7+ 6.Ke1 Qxc4 win.

iii) 6.Kg1? Ba7+ 7.Kh1 Qd1+ 8.Kh2 Bg1+ 9.Kg3 Qd3+, or 6.g3? Qd2+ 7.Kh1 Qd1+ 8.Kh2 Qe2+ 9.Kh1 Bxc7 10.Rh4+ Kg7 11.Bxc7 Qd1+ 12.Kg2 Qc2+ win.

iv) Kf6 10.Rf4+ Ke7 11.cxd8Q+ Kxd8 12.Kg3 b5 13.Kf3 Bxf4 14.Kxf4 b4 15.Ke3 draws.

“Interesting play culminates with the remarkable move 7...Qxd8! refuted by a perpetual check”.

No 18152 P. Rossi
4th commendation



f2d7 0047.21 5/5 Draw

No 18152 Pietro Rossi (Italy). 1.Bc8+ Kxe7 2.Bxf5 Sf8 3.Sg6+ Kf6 4.Sh4 Kg5 5.Kg3 Be1+ 6.Kh3 Bxh4 7.f4+ Kxf5 8.Kxh4 Sce6 9.Kh5 Sg6/i 10.Kh6 Se7 11.Kh7 Kf6 12.f5 Sf8+ 13.Kh6/ii draws.

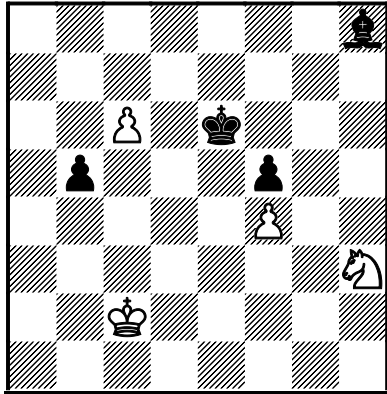
i) Sd7 10.Kh6 Sf6 stalemate.

ii) 13.Kh8? Kf7 14.f6 Seg6 mate.

“After a pleasant and lively introduction we are facing a SS vs P position with Pf4 blocked by the king. In order to win it is necessary to swap the blockers allowing the pawn to advance. The resulting position type with a blocked Pf5 is well-known from theory – White holds only if he can occupy squares close to the h8 corner. The spirit of this rule affects also the starting Pf4 position. We are familiar with its finesses because of our study

in *Magyar Sakkélet* 1989 (HHdbIV#57686). Rossi's king is more distant from the saving corner, but his finish is blurry and hard to select a main line".

No 18153 J. Lerch
5th commendation



c2e6 0031.22 4/4 Win

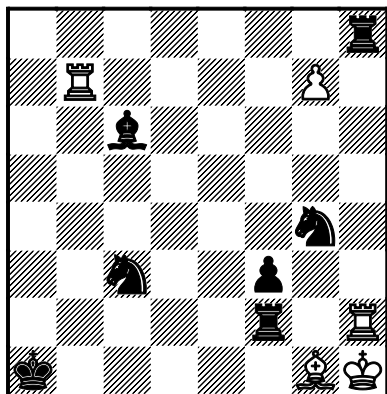
No 18153 Jan Lerch (Czech Republic).
1.Sg5+ Ke7 2.Sf7 Ba1 3.Kb3/i b4 4.Kxb4 Bb2
5.Sh6 Bc1 6.Sxf5+ Kd8 7.Sd4 (Sg7) Bxf4
8.Se6+ wins.

i) 3.Kb1? Bd4 4.c7 Kd7 5.Sd6 Kxc7
6.Sxb5+ Kc6 7.Sxd4+ Kd5 8.Se2 Ke4 9.Kc2
Ke3 draws.

"A well-known motive of a knight domination based on forks. Pogosiants (HHdbIV #44197) has a very nice setting but Jan Lerch has discovered a new interesting aspect of this theme in which 3.Kb1?! fails because of a positional draw".

Romantic section

No 18154 G. Slepian
special prize



h1a1 0846.11 5/7 Draw

No 18154 Gregory Slepian (Belarus).
1.Ra7+/i Kb1 2.gxh8R Rxh2+ 3.Rxh2 f2+
4.Rg2 f1B/ii 5.Ra1+ Kxa1 6.Bd4 Bfxg2+
7.Kg1 Kb2 8.Bxc3+ Kxc3 stalemate.

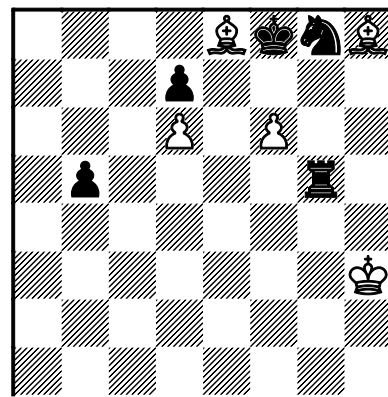
i) 1.gxh8Q? Rxh2+ 2.Qxh2 f2+ 3.Qg2 f1Q
4.Qxc6 Qh3+, or 1.gxh8R? Rxh2+ 2.Rxh2 f2+
3.Rg2 Bxb7 4.Bxf2 Se2 5.Bd4+ Kb1 6.Be5
Sxe5 7.Kh2 Sf3+ 8.Kh3 Sf4+ win.

ii) f1Q 5.Ra1+ Kxa1 stalemate, or f1S 5.Bd4
Sg3+ 6.Kg1 Sce2+ 7.Rxe2 Sxe2+ 8.Kf1
draws, or Se4 5.Bxf2 Sexf2+ 6.Kg1 Sh3+
7.Kf1 Se3+ 8.Ke2 draws.

"The study is saturated by discovered checks, mates, stalemates and underpromotions. Finally White saves the game against a same-colour-bishops pair using an original sacrificial combination".

No 18155 A. Jasik

1st special honourable mention



h3f8 0323.22 5/5 Draw

No 18155 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Kh4
Rg7/i 2.fxg7+/ii Kxe8 3.Kg5 b4 4.Kg6 b3
5.Kh7 b2 (Kf7 stalemate) 6.Kxg8 b1R (b1R
stalemate) 7.Kh7 Rh1+ 8.Kg6 Rg1+ 9.Kf6
Rg2 10.g8Q+ Rxg8 11.Bg7 Rf8+ 12.Bxf8
draws.

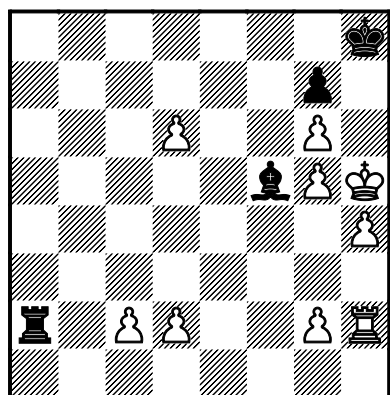
i) Rg1 2.Bxd7 Rh1+ 3.Bh3 b4 4.d7 Rd1
5.Be6, or Kxe8 2.Kxg5 Kf7 3.Kf5 b4 4.Ke4
Sxf6+ 5.Kd4 Ke6 6.Kc4 Sd5 7.Kc5 draw.

ii) 2.Bxg7+? Kxe8 3.Kg5 Kf7 4.Kf4 Sxf6
5.Bh8 Ke6 6.Ke3 Sd5+ 7.Kd4 Kxd6 wins.

"The black try 1..Rg7!! is probably the most paradoxical move of the tournament. But the remaining play is a little schematic. We also don't like the strange balance in this study:

Black is always very active and as a ‘repayment’ he is almost losing in the end”.

No 18156 G. Costeff
2nd special honourable mention



h5h8 0430.71 9/4 Win

No 18156 Gady Costeff (Israel/USA). 1.g4/i Bxc2/ii 2.d3 Bb3 3.Rxa2 Bxa2 4.d7 Bg8 5.d4 Be6 6.d8R+/iii Bg8 7.Rd6 (Rd7) Bc4 8.d5 Bxd5 9.Rxd5 wins.

i) 1.c4? Rxd2 2.g4 Rxh2 3.gxf5 Rd2 4.f6 Rd4 5.f7 Rxh4+ 6.Kxh4 stalemate.

ii) As a second main line was intended: Be6 2.Re2 Bg8 3.d7 Ra8 4.Re7/iv Bd5 5.Re8+ Bg8 6.Rc8 Rxc8 7.dxc8S/v wins. Unfortunately, also 3.d3 wins.

iii) 6.d8Q+? Bg8 7.Qe7 Bd5 8.Qf7 Bxf7 9.gxf7 g6+ 10.Kh6 stalemate.

iv) Not 4.Re8? Rd8 5.Re7 Bd5 6.d4 Bc6 7.c4 Bxd7 draws

v) 7.dxc8Q? stalemate, or 7.dxc8B? Be6 8.Bb7 Bd5 9.Ba6 Bc4 10.Bxc4 stalemate.

“A nice adventure with a self incarceration of the king, a lost tempo, an unexpected positional draw and underpromotions. Unfortunately the intended second thematic line is only technical because of a dual, costing a Prize”.

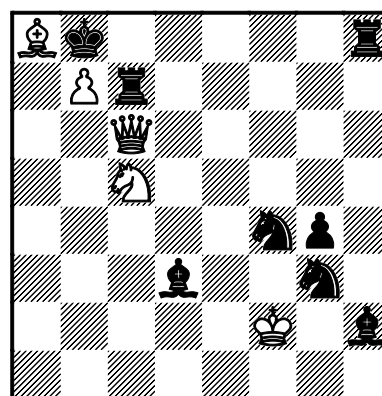
No 18157 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Sa6+ Ka7/i 2.b8Q+/ii Rxb8 3.Qxc7+ Kxa6 4.Qxb8 Sh1+ 5.Bxh1 Sh3+ 6.Kg2 Bxb8 stalemate.

i) Bxa6 2.Qe8+ Rxe8 stalemate.

ii) 2.Sxc7? Se4+ 3.Ke3 Rh3+ 4.Kd4 Se2+ 5.Kd5 Rh5+ 6.Ke6 Sd4+, or 2.Qxc7? Se4+ 3.Ke3 Rh3+ 4.Kd4 Se6+ win.

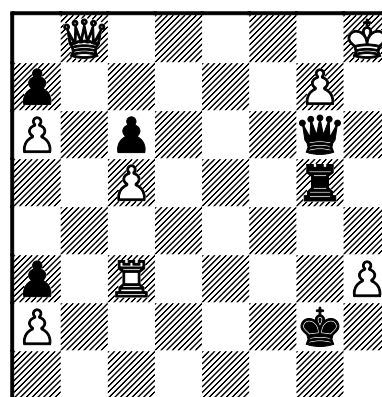
“A stalemate for each celebrating judge”.

No 18157 S. Didukh
1st special commendation



f2b8 1677.11 5/8 Draw

No 18158 L'. Kekely
2nd special commendation



h8g2 4400.53 8/6 Win

No 18158 L'uboš Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Qg3+/i Rxg3 2.Rxg3+ Qxg3 3.g8R/ii Kxh3 4.Rxg3+ Kxg3 5.Kg7 Kf4 6.Kf6 Ke4 7.Ke6 Kd4 8.Kd6 Kc3 9.Kxc6 Kb2 10.Kb5/iii Kxa2 11.c6 Kb1 12.c7 a2 13.c8Q a1Q 14.Qf5+ wins.

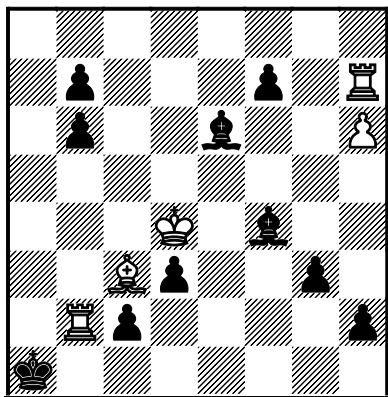
i) 1.Rg3+? Kh1 2.Rxg5/v Qxg7+ 3.Kxg7 stalemate, or 1.Qf8? Rh5+ 2.Kg8 Qe6+ 3.Qf7 Qc8+ 4.Qf8 Qe6+ with perpetual check.

ii) 3.g8Q? Kh1 4.Qxg3 stalemate.

iii) 10.Kb7? Kxa2 11.c6 Kb3 12.c7 a2 13.c8Q a1Q draws (EGTB).

“The author corrected his study in Šachová skladba 1990. The nice key is now perfectly sound and there is a new pawn ending with a precise whites move. A hidden stalemate defence is refuted by underpromotion. The stalemate is just uneconomical and the pawns’ interlacement on the a-file is a little unnatural”.

No 18159 L. González
3rd special commendation



d4a1 0270.17 5/10 Win

No 18159 Luis Miguel González (Spain).
1.Rh8 Be3+ 2.Ke5 Bf4+ 3.Kf6 Bg5+ 4.Kg7
Bxh6+ 5.Kf6 Bg5+ 6.Ke5 Bf4+ 7.Kd4 Be3+
8.Ke4 h1Q+ 9.Rxh1+ c1Q 10.Rd2+ Kb1
11.Rxc1+ Kxc1 12.Kxe3 wins.

“A logical study with a romantic setting. But similar constructions are known”.

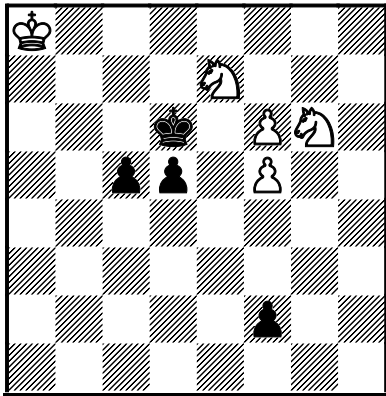


Luis Miguel Gonzalez

Moscow Town 2008

13 composers from 4 countries participated. The judge, Andrey Selivanov (Russia), considered the level to be fairly decent. The award was published in *Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsia* no. 86, 8xii2008.

No 18160 N. Kralin
1st prize



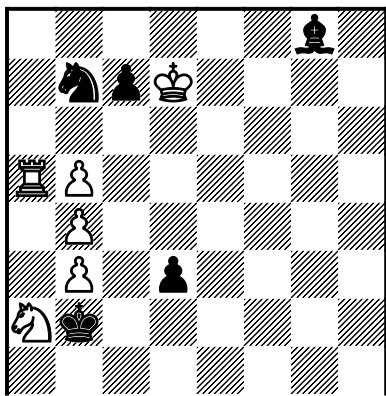
a8d6 0002.23 5/4 Win

No 18160 Nikolai Kralin (Russia). 1.Kb7 f1Q 2.Sc8+ Kd7 3.f7/i Qxf5 4.Sf8+ Kd8 5.Se6+ Kd7 6.Sxc5+ Kd8 7.Se6+ Kd7 8.f8S+ Qxf8 9.Sxf8+ Ke8 10.Sg6 d4 11.Kc7 Kf7 12.Se5+ Ke6 13.Sd3 Kd5 14.Sd6 wins.

i) 3.Se5+? Kd8 4.Sf7+ Ke8 5.Sfd6+ Kd7 6.f7 Qb1+ 7.Sb6+ Ke7 draws.

“Mate by two knights along the lines of Troitzky. Very natural position and play”.

No 18161 S. Osintsev
2nd prize



d7b2 0134.32 6/5 Draw

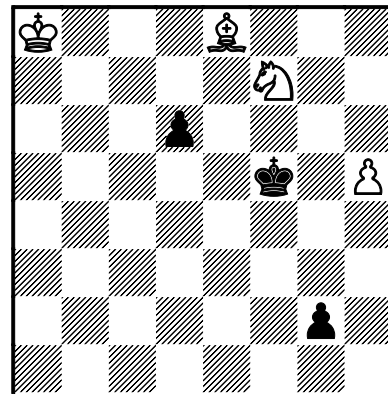
No 18161 Sergey Osintsev (Russia). 1.Sc1 Kxc1 2.Ra1+ Kb2 3.Rd1/i Kc2 4.Rxd3 Kxd3 5.Kc6 Sd6 6.b6 cxb6 7.Kxd6 b5 8.Kc6/ii Bc4 9.Kc5 zz Kc3 10.bxc4 bxc4 11.b5 draws.

i) 3.Rg1? Bd5 4.Kxc7 d2 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 8.Kc5? Bc4 zz 9.bxc4 bxc4 10.b5 c3 11.b6 c2 12.b7 c1Q+ wins.

“Despite a lot of obstacles in the form of its own and other pieces, a tiny white pawn eventually manages to promote to queen. But the same goes for Black!”.

No 18162 N. Kralin
3rd prize



a8f5 0011.12 4/3 Draw

No 18162 Nikolai Kralin (Russia). 1.h6/i g1Q 2.h7 Qh1+ 3.Bc6 Qxh7/ii 4.Be4+ Kxe4 5.Sg5+ Kf5 6.Sxh7 d5 7.Sf8 d4 8.Sd7 d3 9.Sb6 d2 10.Sd5 d1Q 11.Se3+ Ke4 12.Sxd1 draws.

i) 1.Sxd6+? Ke6 2.Sb5 g1Q 3.Kb7 Qc5 4.Sc7+ Kd6 5.Sb5+ Ke7 6.Sc7 Qb4+ 7.Bb5 Kd6 8.h6 Qh4 9.Sa6 Qxh6 wins.

ii) Qxc6+ 4.Ka7 d5 5.h8Q Qc7+ 6.Ka6 Qxf7 7.Qh3+ draws.

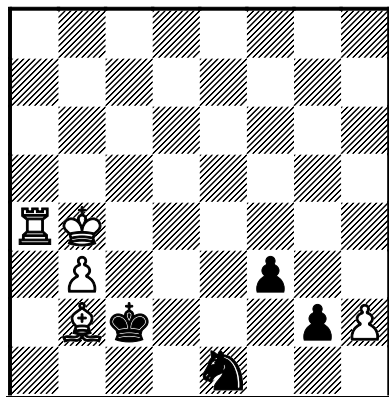
“Two consecutive wins of a queen, with the pointed 3.Bc6!”

No 18163 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Bd4 Sd3+ 2.Kb5/i f2 3.Ra2+ Kxb3 4.Rxf2 g1Q 5.Rb2+ Sxb2 6.Bxg1/ii, and:

– Sc4 7.Kc5 Se5 8.h4 Sf3 9.h5 wins, or:

– Sd3 7.h4 Kc3 8.Kc6 Sf4 9.Bh2 Sh5 10.Kd5 wins.

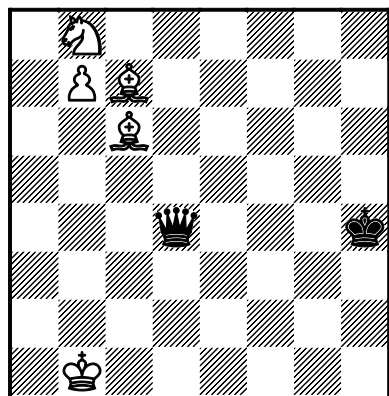
No 18163 A. Pallier
4th prize



b4c2 0113.22 5/4 Win

- i) Thematic try: 2.Ka5? f2 3.Ra2+ Kxb3 4.Rxf2 g1Q 5.Rb2+ Sxb2 6.Bxg1 Sc4+ draws.
ii) Now the wK is at b5 instead of a5.

No 18164 A. Visokosov
special prize



b1h4 3021.10 5/2 Win

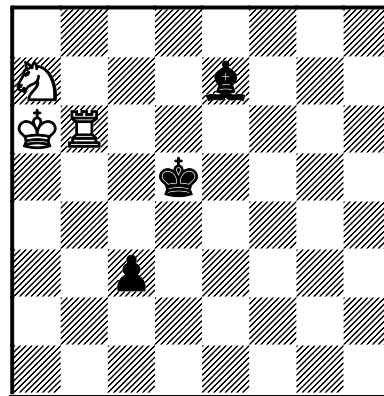
No 18164 Andrey Visokosov (Russia). 1.Sa6 Qd3+ 2.Kb2 Qd2+/i 3.Kb3 Qd3+ 4.Kb4 Qxa6 5.Bd5/ii Qd3 6.Bd8+ Kh5 7.Bf7+ Kh6 8.b8Q Qd2+ 9.Ka3 Qc1+ 10.Qb2 Qc5+ 11.Kb3 Qb5+ 12.Ka2 Qa6+ 13.Kb1 Qd3+ 14.Qc2 Qxd8 15.Qg6 mate.

i) Qxa6 3.Bd8+ Kg4 4.Bd7+ Kh5 5.b8Q Qe2+ 6.Kc3 Qe3+ 7.Kc4 Qe4+ 8.Kc5 wins.

ii) 5.Bd8+? Kg4 6.Bd7+ Kh5, and 7.b8Q Qd6+ 8.Qxd6 stalemate, or 7.Be8+ Kh6 8.b8Q Qb7+ 9.Qxb7 stalemate. 5.Bh1? Qg6 6.b8Q Qb1+ 7.Kc5 Qg1+ 8.Kd6 Qg6+ 9.Ke5 Qg5+ 10.Ke4 Qg6+ 11.Ke3 Qg1+ 12.Ke2 Qg4+ 13.Bf3 Qc4+ 14.Ke3 Qc3+ 15.Kf2 Qc5+ 16.Kg2 Qc2+ 17.Kg1 Qc1+ 18.Kh2 Qf4+ 19.Bxf4 stalemate.

“Counter play in the thematic try leads to a series of echo stalemates, while the solution ends with mate. Correcting, but significantly deepening, a study by Gromov & Kozirev (EG#10054)”.

No 18165 I. Akobia
1st honourable mention



a6d5 0131.01 3/3 Win

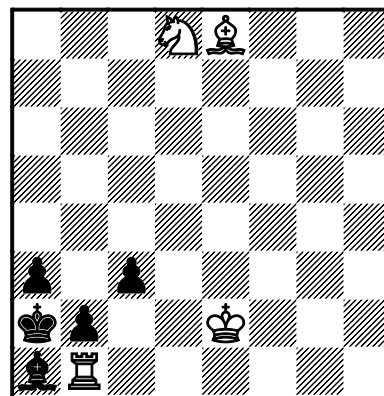
No 18165 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Sb5 c2 2.Sc3+ Kc4 3.Sa2 Bg5 4.Rb7/i, and:

– Bd2 5.Rb8 Bg5 6.Ka5 Kd3 7.Rc8 Kd2 8.Rg8 wins, or:

– Kd3 5.Rc7 Kd2 6.Rg7 Bf6 7.Rg2+ Kd1 8.Rg1+ Ke2 9.Sb4 Kd2 10.Rg2+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 4.Rb8? Bd2 5.Rb7 Bg5 6.Rb8 Bd2 positional draw.

No 18166 E. Kolesnikov
2nd honourable mention



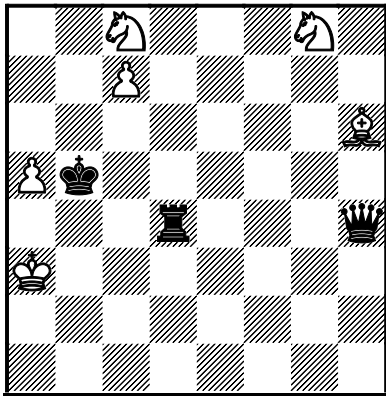
e2a2 0141.03 4/5 Win

No 18166 Evgeny Kolesnikov (Russia). 1.Sc6/i Kxb1 2.Sb4 Kc1 3.Sd3+ Kb1 4.Bg6 Ka2 5.Bf7+ Kb1 6.Bb3 c2 7.Sb4 c1S+/ii 8.Kd1 Sxb3 9.Sd5 Ka2 (a2) 10.Sc3 mate.

i) 1.Bg6? c2 2.Bxc2 stalemate.

ii) c1Q 8.Ba2 mate.

No 18167 I. Akobia
3rd honourable mention



a3b5 3312.20 6/3 Draw

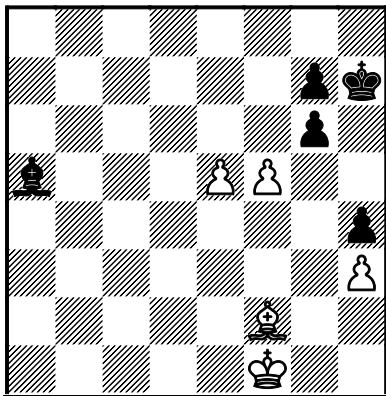
No 18167 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Sa7+ Kxa5 2.Sc6+ Kb6 3.Sxd4 Qg3+ 4.Kb2, and:

– Qh2+ 5.Sc2 Kxc7 6.Bg7 Qg3 7.Bc3 Qxg8 8.Sd4 draws, or:

– Kxc7 5.Bf4+ Qxf4 6.Se6+ draws, or:

– Qxc7 5.Be3, and now Ka7 6.Sb5++, or Qd8 6.Se6+, or Kb7 6.Sh6 Kc5 6.Se6++ , or Qe5 6.Se7 Qxe3 (Qxe7) 7.Sd5+ (Sf5+) draws.

No 18168 L. & V. Katsnelson
special honourable mention



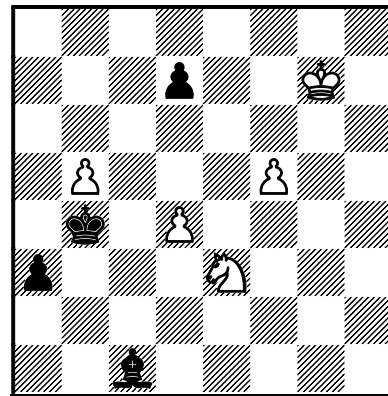
f1h7 0040.33 5/5 Win

No 18168 Leonard & Vladimir Katsnelson (Russia). 1.e6 Bd8 2.Bc5 gxf5 3.e7 Bxe7 4.Bxe7 Kh6 5.Bxh4 g5 6.Bf2/i Kg6/ii 7.Kg2 Kh6 8.Be1 Kg6 9.Kf2 Kh6 10.Ke2 Kg6 11.Kd3 Kh5 12.Ke3 zz Kg6 13.Kd4 Kh5 14.Ke5 f4 15.Kf5 wins.

i) Thematic tries: 6.Be1? g4 7.h4 f4 8.Kg2 g3 9.Kh3 Kh5 zz 10.Ba5 f3 11.Kxg3 f2 12.Kxf2 Kxh4 draws, or 6.Bg3? f4 7.Be1 g4 8.h4 g3 9.Kg2 Kg6 10.Kh3 Kh5 zz.

ii) g4 7.h4 f4 8.Kg2 Kh5 9.Be1 Kg6 10.Ba5 Kh5 11.Bd8 Kg6 12.Bg5 Kh5 13.Kf2 zz, wins.

No 18169 S. Didukh
special commendation



g7b4 0031.32 5/4 Win

No 18169 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Sc2+/i Ka5/ii 2.f6 a2 3.f7 Ba3 4.Sxa3 a1Q 5.f8Q Qxd4+ 6.Qf6 d5 7.Kf7/iii Qxf6+ 8.Kxf6 d4 9.Ke5 d3 10.Kd4 d2 11.Kc5 d1Q 12.Sc4+ Ka4 13.Sb2+ Kb3 14.Sxd1 wins.

i) 1.b6? Bxe3 2.b7 Bxd4+ 3.f6 Be5 draws.

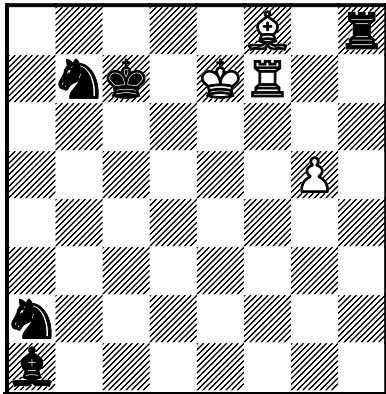
ii) Kxb5 2.f6 Kc4 3.f7 Kc3 4.Sa1 Kb2 5.f8Q Kxa1 6.Qb4 wins.

iii) 7.Qxd4? stalemate.

Moscow Town 2009

The tourney attracted 8 composers from Russia, Azerbaijan and Ukraine. Andrey Selivanov (Russia) was the judge. The award was published in *Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsia* no. 92, 9xii2009.

No 18170 S. Osintsev
1st prize



e7c7 0446.10 4/5 Draw

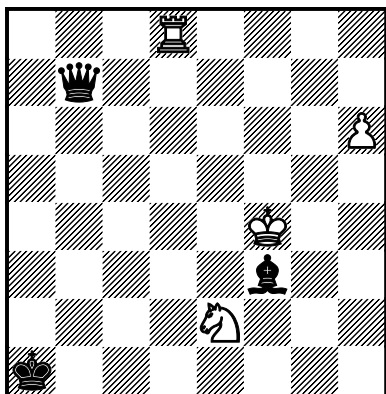
No 18170 Sergey Osintsev (Russia). 1.g6 Sd8 2.Rh7 Rxh7+ 3.gxh7, and:

– Bd4 4.Ke8 Sc3 5.Bc5/i Be5 6.Be7 Sc6 7.Bh4 Sd5 8.Bg3 Sf6+ 9.Kf7 draws, or:

– Sb4 4.Ke8 Sd5 5.h8Q Bxh8 6.Bg7 Sf6+ (Bxg7 stalemate) 7.Ke7 Sg8+ 8.Ke8 Sf6+ 9.Ke7 Sd5+ 10.Ke8 Bxg7 stalemate.

i) 5.Be7? Sc6 6.Bc5 Be5 7.Be3 Sd5 wins.

No 18171 N. Kralin
2nd prize



f4a1 3131.10 4/3 Draw

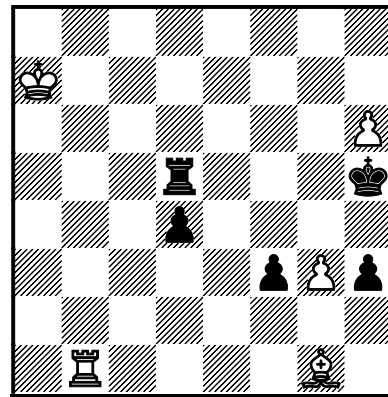
No 18171 Nikolai Kralin (Russia). 1.Rd1+ Kb2 2.Rd2+ Kb1 3.h7 Qe4+ 4.Kg3 Qg4+ 5.Kf2 Bxe2 6.Rb2+/i Kc1 7.Rb1+ Kc2 8.Rb2+ Kc1 9.Rb1+ Kxb1 10.h8Q Qf3+ 11.Ke1 Qf1+/ii 12.Kd2 Qf2 13.Qb2+ Kxb2 stalemate.

i) 6.Rd1+? Kc2 7.h8Q Qf3+ 8.Kg1 Qg3+ 9.Kh1 Bf3 mate, or 6.h8Q? Qf3+ 7.Ke1 Qf1 mate.

ii) Qe3 12.Qb2+ Kxb2 stalemate.

“Miniature with two stalemates”.

No 18172 I. Aliev
3rd prize



a7h5 0410.23 5/5 Win

No 18172 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Rb5/i Rxb5 2.h7 Ra5+ 3.Kb7 (Kb8) Rb5+ 4.Kc7 (Kc8) Rc5+ 5.Kd7 (Kd8) Rd5+ 6.Ke7 (Ke8) Re5+ 7.Kf7 (Kf8) Rf5+ 8.Kg7 Rg5+ 9.Kf6 Rg6+ 10.Kf5 Rh6 11.g4+ Kh4 12.Bf2 mate.

i) 1.h7? Rd7+ 2.Rb7 Rd8 3.Bxd4 f2 4.Bxf2 h2 5.Rb5+ Kg6 6.Rb1 Rh8 7.Rh1 Rxh7+ 8.Kb6 Kf5 draws.

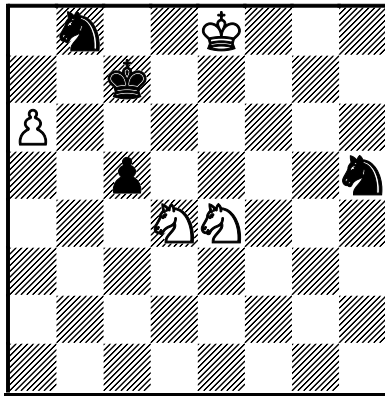
“An unexpected rook sac precedes a systematic manoeuvre and a mate finish”.

No 18173 Valery Vlasenko (Russia). 1.Sb5+ Kb6 2.a7 Kb7 3.Sed6+ Ka8 4.Sc8 Sf6+ 5.Kf7 Sd5 6.Ke6 Sc6 7.Kxd5 Sxa7 8.Scxa7 c4 9.Kc6 and Black is mated.

“Development of the Troitzky theme”.

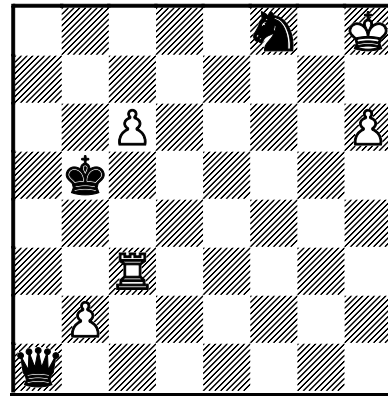
No 18174 Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine). With:
– Bb7 2.Rb2 Rd3 3.d8Q+ Rxd8 4.Rg1 Rxd1 5.Kxg1 Kg3 6.Rb1/i Be4 7.Rc1 Rh8 8.Rc3+ Bf3 9.Rxf3+ Kxf3 10.b7 Rg8+ 11.Kf1 Rd8 12.Ke1 draws, or:
– Bc6 2.Rb2, and:

No 18173 V. Vlasenko
1st special prize



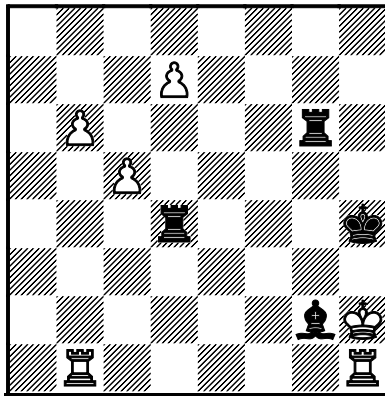
e8c7 0008.11 4/4 Win

No 18175 S. Zakharov
1st honourable mention



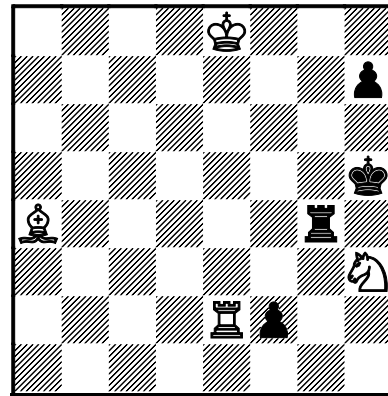
h8b5 3103.30 5/3 Draw

No 18174 E. Eilazyan
2nd special prize



h2h4 0830.30 6/4 BTM, Draw

No 18176 N. Kralin
2nd honourable mention



e8h5 0411.02 4/4 Win

- Rxd7/ii 3.Rg1 Rxc1 4.Kxc1 Kg3 5.Kf1 Bf3 6.Re2 Rh7 7.Ke1 Rh1+ 8.Kd2 Bxe2 9.Kxe2 Rb1 10.Ke3 Rb4 11.b7 draws, or:
- Rd3 3.d8Q+ Rxd8 4.Rg1 Rxc1 5.Kxc1 Kg3 6.Rb1 Be4 7.Rc1 Rh8 8.Rc3+ Bf3 9.Rxf3+ Kxf3 10.b7 Rg8+ 11.Kf1 Rd8 12.Ke1 draws.

i) Thematic try: 6.Kf1? Bf3 7.Re2 Bxe2+ 8.Kxe2 Kf4 9.c6 Ke5 10.c7 Re8 11.b7 Kd6+ 12.Kd3 Kxc7 wins.

“The theme of change is shown twice, and is also the motivation for a logical manoeuvre”.

No 18175 Sergey Zakharov (Russia). 1.c7 Qb1 2.Rc5+ Kb4 3.Rc4+ Kb3 4.Rc3+ Kxb2 5.Kg7 Qh7+ 6.Kxf8 Qh8+ 7.Ke7 Kxc3 8.Kd7 draws as the bK is too far off.

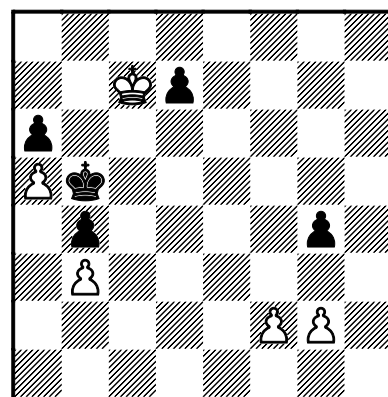
No 18176 Nikolai Kralin (Russia). 1.Bb5 Rg8+/i 2.Ke7 Rg7+ 3.Ke6/ii Rg6+ 4.Kd5 f1Q

5.Re5+ Qf5 6.Rxf5+ Kg4 7.Bd3 Kxh3 8.Rh5+ Kg4 9.Bxg6 wins.

i) f1Q 2.Re5+ Rg5 3.Rxc5+ Kh6 4.Rg6+ wins.

ii) 3.Kd6? f1Q 4.Re5+ Qf5 5.Rxf5+ Kg4 6.Rf2 Rg6+ 7.Ke5 Kxh3 draws.

No 18177 V. Kovalenko
3rd honourable mention



c7b5 0000.44 5/5 Win

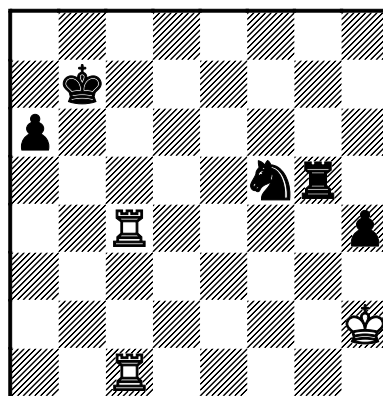
No 18177 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Kd6 Kxa5 2.Kc5 d6+ 3.Kc6 d5 4.Kc5 d4 5.Kxd4 Kb5 6.f4 gxf3ep 7.gxf3 a5 8.f4 a4 9.bxa4+ Kxa4 10.f5 b3 11.Kc3 Ka3 12.f6 b2 13.f7 b1Q 14.f8Q+ Ka2 15.Qa8 mate.

No 18178 Aleksandr Stravietsky (Russia). 1.Rb4+/i Ka7 2.Rc7+ Ka8 3.Rc5 Rh5/ii 4.Ra5 Ka7 5.Rbb5 wins.

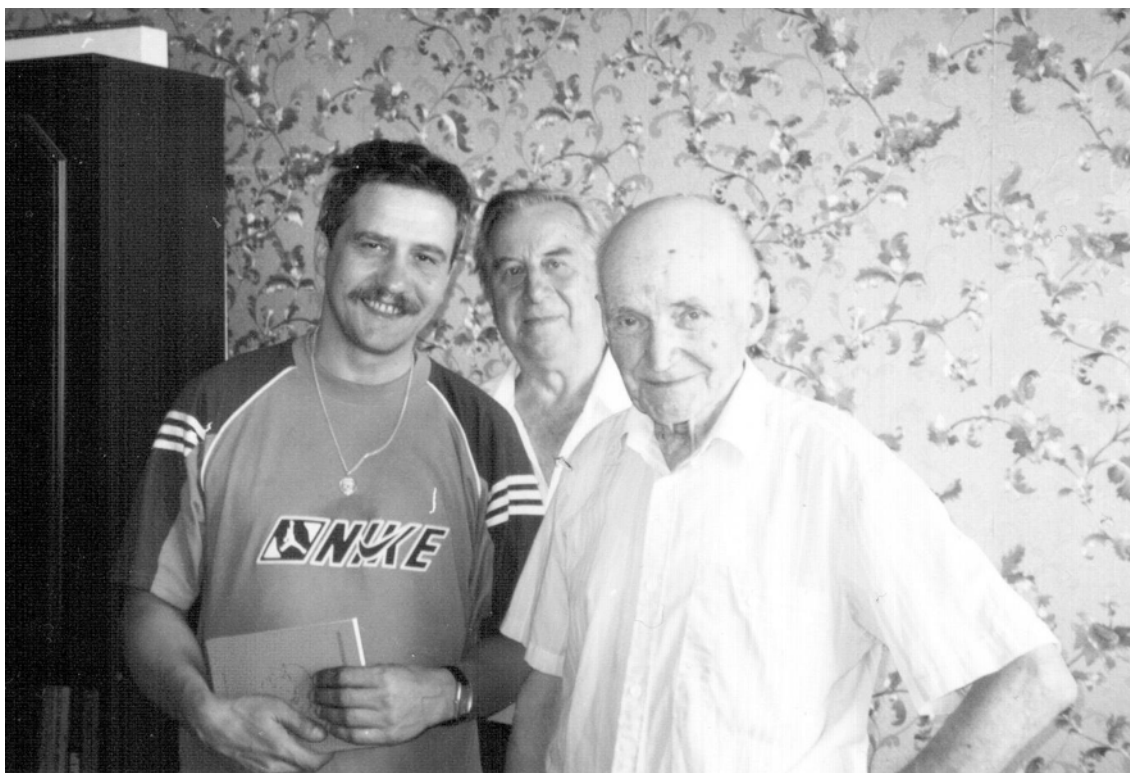
i) 1.Rb1+? Ka7 2.Rc7+ Ka8 3.Rc5 Sd4 4.Rxg5 Sf3+ draws.

ii) Sd4 4.Rc8+ Ka7 5.Rxd4
“Brunner-Turton doubling”.

No 18178 A. Stravietsky
commendation



h2b7 0503.02 3/5 Win

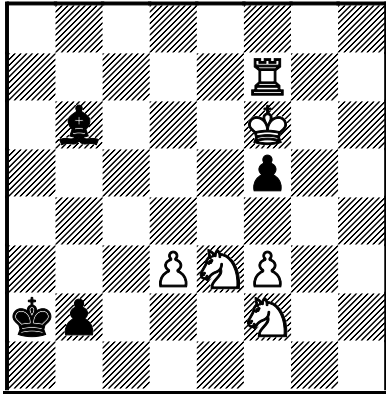


*From left to right: Alexei Sochnev, Vladimir Chernous and Nikolai Rezvov.
Photo: Alexei Sochev*

Moscow Town 2010

Oleg Pervakov judged the 2010 tourney of Moscow. 11 studies were submitted by 9 composers. The award was published in *Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsia* no. 98 7xii2010.

No 18179 A. Pallier
prize



f6a2 0132.33 6/4 Win

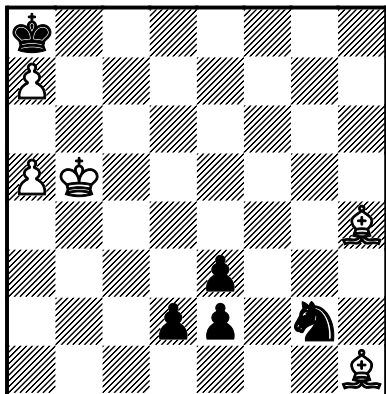
No 18179 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Sfd1/i Bd4+ 2.Kxf5 b1Q 3.Ra7+ Bxa7 4.Sc3+ Kb2 5.Sxb1 Bxe3 6.Ke4 Bc1 7.d4/ii Kxb1 8.d5 Ba3 9.Ke5 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Sed1? Bd4+ 2.Kxf5 b1Q, and now 3.Sc3+ Bxc3 4.Ra7+ Kb3 5.Rb7+ Bb4 and Black wins, or 3.Ra7+ Bxa7 4.Sc3+ Kb2 5.Sxb1 Bxf2 6.Sd2 Kc2 7.Sc4 Kxd3 draws.

ii) 7.f4? Kxb1 8.d4 Ba3 9.f5 Kc2 10.Ke5 Bb2 11.f6 Kd3 draws.

“Pleasant logical study”.

No 18180 M. Zinar
special prize



b5a8 0023.23 5/5 Win

No 18180 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Ka6/i e1S 2.Bxe1 dxe1S 3.Kb6 e2 4.a6 zz Sf3 5.Bxg2 e1S 6.Bh3/ii Sd3 7.Bc8 Sc5 8.Bb7+ Sxb7 9.axb7+ mate.

i) Thematic try: 1.Kb6? e1S 2.Bxe1 dxe1S 3.Ka6/iii e2 4.Kb6 Sf3 5.Bxg2 e1S 6.Bh3/iv Sd3 7.Bc8 Sc5

ii) 6.Bh1? Sg2 7.Bxg2 stalemate.

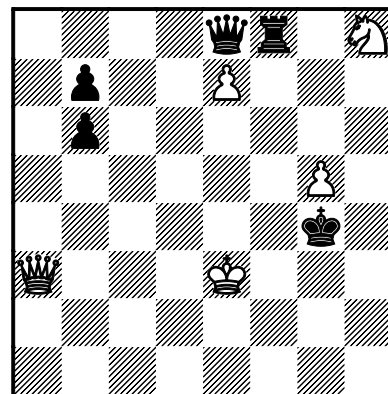
iii) 3.a6 e2 zz.

iv) 6.Bh1 Sg2 7.Bxg2 stalemate.

“There are numerous studies with such knights, but in none of them there is mutual zugzwang play”.

The HM by I. Akobia (Georgia) turns out to be dualistic: a6h3 0430.22 d5g2e6.b3d6a4c6 4/5 Draw: 1.Rd3+ Kh2 2.d7 Bxd7 3.bxa4 Bf5 4.Rc3 Be4 5.a5 Rb2 6.Ka7 Rb5 7.a6 c5 8.Rb3 Rb4 9.Rc3 c4 10.Rb3 Ra4 11.Re3 Bg2 12.Kb6. However (MG): 5.Kb6 b2+ 6.Kc7 Ra2 7.Rc4 Bf3 8.Kb6 Rb2+ 9.Kc7 Bd5 10.Rxc6 Bxc6 11.Kxc6; if Bd5 8.Rb4 Kg3 9.Kb6 Kf3 10.a5 Be4 11.a6 Kf4 12.a7 Ke5 13.Rc4 Ra3 14.Rc3 Ra4 15.Rc4 Ra2 16.Rc1 Kd6 17.a8Q Rxa8 18.Rxc6+ Bxc6 stalemate! The composer confirms.

No 18181 G. Amiryan
commendation



e3g4 4301.22 5/5 Draw

No 18181 Gamlet Amiryan (Armenia). 1.Qa4+, and:

– Kxg5 2.Qb5+ Kf6/i 3.Qe5+ Kxe5 4.exf8Q Qxf8 5.Sg6+ wins, or:

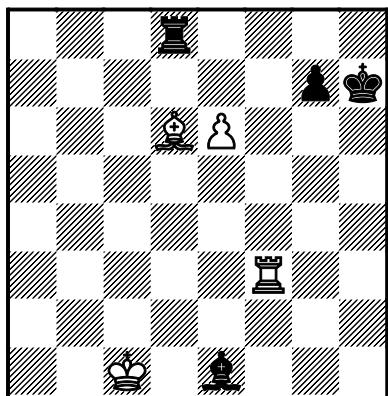
– Kh5 2.Qd1+ Kxg5 3.Qd5+ Rf5 4.Sf7+ Kf6 5.Qxf5+ Kxf5 6.Sd6+ wins.

“An amusing study with multiple Q sacs and forks. The forced solution is a pity”.

Open Moscow Champ 2009

Karen Sumbatyan (Russia) judged the theme section. The set theme was: White wins or draws because a black piece or pawn is pinned. The award was published in *Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsia* no. 92 9xii2009.

No 18182 Ryabinin
1st/2nd place

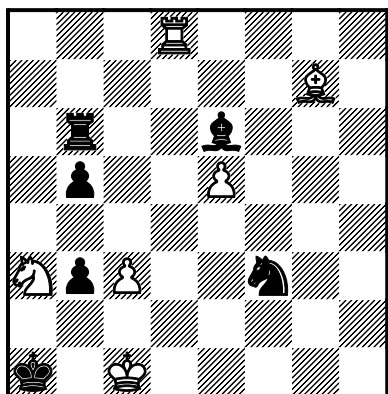


c1h7 0440.11 4/4 Win

No 18182 Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia). 1.e7 Rc8+ 2.Kd1 Bh4 3.Rh3/i g5 4.Rf3 g4 5.Rf7+ Kg6 6.Rf8 Bxe7 7.Rxc8 Bxd6 8.Rc6 Kf5 9.Rxd6 wins.

i) 3.Rf8? Bxe7 4.Rxc8 Bxd6 draws.

No 18183 O. Pervakov
1st/2nd place



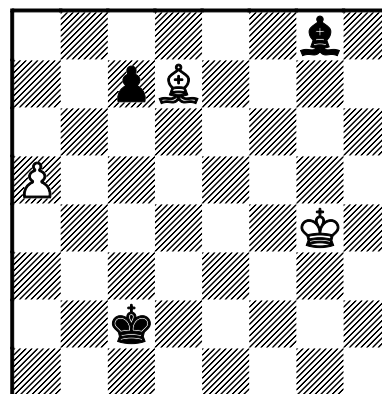
c1a1 0444.22 6/6 Win

No 18183 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Sc2+ bxc2 2.Ra8+ Ba2 3.e6 Rxe6 4.c4+ Se5 5.cxb5 Re7 6.Bf6/i Re6 7.Bh8 Rf6 8.Rf8 Re6i 9.Rd8 Bd5 10.Rxd5 Ka2 11.Rxe5/ii Rh6 12.Bg7 Rg6 13.Kxc2 wins.

i) 6.Bh8? Rg7 7.b6 Rg1+ 8.Kxc2 Rg2+ 9.Kd1 Rg1+ 10.Kd2 Rg2+ 11.Ke1 Kb1 12.Bxe5 Bd5 draws.

ii) 11.Bxe5? Kb3 12.Rc5/xii Kb4 13.Bd4 Rd6 14.Bf2 Rf6 15.Rxc2 Kxb5 draws.

No 18184 V. Kalashnikov
3rd place



g4c2 0040.11 3/3 Win

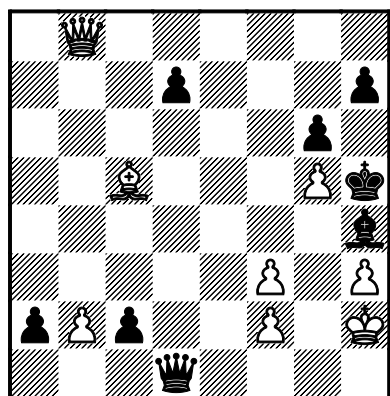
No 18184 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.a6 Bd5 2.Bc8 Bc4 3.a7 Bd5 4.Kf4 Kc3 5.Bg4/i Ba8 6.Bf3 c6 7.Ke5 Kb4 8.Kd6 Ka5 9.Kc7 Ka6 10.Kb8 Bb7 11.Bg4 c5 12.Bc8 wins.

i) 5.Ke5? Ba8 6.Ke6 Kb4 7.Kd7 c5 8.Kc7 c4 9.Bb7 c3 10.Bxa8 c2 draws.

Open Moscow Champ 2010

Evgeny Kolesnikov (Moscow) received 35 studies from 7 composers. The award appeared in *Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsia* no. 98, 7xii2010.

No 18185 N. Ryabinin
1st/2nd place



h2h5 4040.55 8/8 Win

No 18185 Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia). 1.Qf4 Bg3+ 2.Qxg3 Qh1+ 3.Kxh1 c1Q+ 4.Kh2/i Qxg5 5.Qg4+ Qxg4 6.hxg4+ Kh6 7.f4 g5 8.f5 d6 9.Bxd6 Kg7 10.Be5+ Kh6 11.f6 a1Q 12.f7 Qa8/ii 13.Bd6 wins.

i) Thematic try: 4.Kg2? see ii).

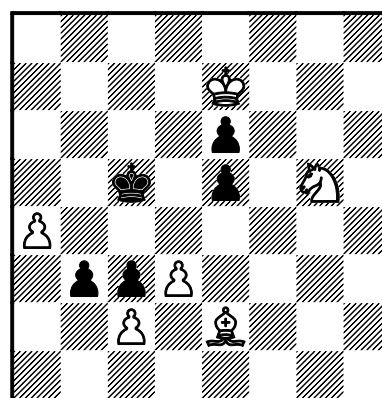
ii) If 4.Kg2? this would be a check and Black draws.

“Interesting and paradoxical”.

The judge had the same comment for the other 1st/2nd prize winner, which is incorrect: P. Arestov (Russia): a2b7 0044.64 d7g2b3d2. a5a7b6c3c4h2a6c2f2h3 9/7 Draw: 1.Sc5+ Ka8 2.Se6 Kb7 3.Sc7 c1S+ 4.Ka1 Scb3+ 5.Kb2 Sxc4+ 6.Kxb3 Sxb6 7.axb6 Kxb6 8.a8Q Bxa8 9.Sxa8+ Ka5 10.Sb6 f1Q 11.Sc4+ Qxc4+ 12.Kxc4 wins. The thematic try was 2.Sxa6? with the same solution, except that after 11.Sc4+ Black plays 11...Ka6. That's true, but MG cooks by 9.Bxh3 Rxc7 10.Bf1 with a won position. It is worth noticing that this doesn't work in the main line, as with bpa6 the position is not won for White.

No 18186 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Se4+ Kb4 2.Sxc3 bxc2 3.Bd1/i c1S 4.Bc2 Kxc3 5.a5 Sa2 6.Ba4 Sb4 7.Bb5 Kd4 8.Kd6/ii zz e4 9.dxe4 wins.

No 18186 O. Pervakov
3rd/4th place



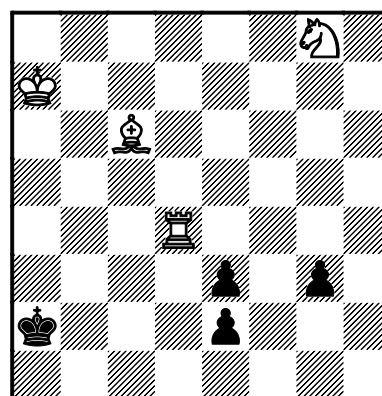
e7c5 0011.34 6/5 Win

i) 3.Sa2+? Kb3 4.Sc1+ Kb2 and the wP blocks the last square for the wS 5.d4 Kxc1 6.Bd3 exd4 7.a5 Kd2 8.Bxc2 Kxc2 9.a6 d3 draws.

ii) Not 8.Kxe6? Sd5 9.Kd6 Sb4 zz 10.Ke6 Sd5 11.Kd6 Sb4 12.Bc4 e4 13.dxe4 Kxc4 14.e5 Kb5 15.e6 Sc6 16.a6 Kb6 17.a7 Sxa7 18.e7 Sc8+ draws.

“Two-phase study”.

No 18187 S. Osintsev
3rd/4th place



a7a2 0111.03 4/4 Draw

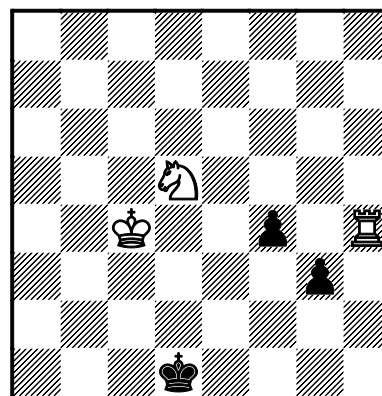
No 18187 Sergey Osintsev (Russia). 1.Ra4+/i Kb2 2.Rb4+ Kc1 3.Ra4 e1Q 4.Ra1+ Kd2 5.Rxe1 Kxe1 6.Se7 e2 7.Sg6/ii Kf1 8.Se5 e1Q 9.Bb5+ Kg2 10.Bc6+ Kh3 11.Bd7+ Kg2 12.Bc6+ Kf1 13.Bb5+ draws.

i) After 1.Bd5+? Kb2 2.Rb4+ Kc1 3.Rc4+ Kd2 4.Rd4+ Kc3 5.Rc4+ Kd3 6.Rc1 Kd2 7.Ra1 e1Q 8.Rxe1 Kxe1 9.Se7 e2 10.Sg6 – now the wB is at d5 - Kd1 11.Bb3+ Kd2 12.Sh4 Kc3 attacks the wB, and White has no 13.Sg2 drawing. If 13.Sf3 g2 wins.

ii) Now the wB is at c6. If now Kd1 8.Ba4+ Kd2 9.Sh4 Kc4 10.Sg2 draws.

No 18188 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia).
1...g2 2.Rg4 f3 3.Kd3 Ke1 4.Sf4 Kf1 5.Sh3 f2 6.Rb4 g1Q 7.Sf4 Qg3+ 8.Kd2 Kg1 9.Se2+ wins.

No 18188 V. Kalashnikov
5th place



c4d1 0101.02 3/3 BTM, Win