

Problem Paradise

Informal Tourney Award

Studies 2018

Judge: Mario G. García

A special thanks to the editors of the magazine Problem Paradise, in particular to the Tournament Director Hiroshi Manabe for having appointed as a judge of such an important event, and also to all participants of this tournament.

The Director sent me the studies for evaluation, with diagrams and solutions in files (Word-and-PGN).

Given the considerable variety of themes addressed by the composers, and good artistic and technical level of the studies, this has allowed me to expand the number of awards, mentions and recognitions.

Participants: Bizya Buyannemekh (Mongolia), Michal Hlinka (Slovakia), Pavel Arestov (Russia), Jan Timman (Netherlands), Luboš Kekely (Slovakia), Daniele Gatti (Italy), Peter S. Krug (Austria), Valery Kalashnikov (Russia), Daniel Keith (France), Peter Gyarmati (Hungary), Andrzej Jasik (Poland), Marco Campioli (Italy), Ilhan Aliev (Azerbaijan) and Franco Bertoli (Italy).

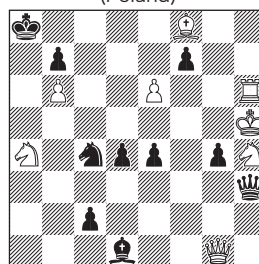
There are 23 studies of 14 composers from 10 countries.

My ranking is as follows.

SECTION 1) WIN-STUDIES

1st Prize

E094 Andrzej Jasik
(Poland)



Win (8+10)

1.Nb2! with the following lines: A) [1.Qg3? Qxg3 2.Bd6 Nxb6 3.Bxg3 fxe6 4.Nxb6+ Ka7 5.Nc8+ Ka8=] 1...Nxb2 [B] 1...Qh2! 2.Bd6! (2.Bg7? g3+ 3.Nxd1 Qe2+! 4.Nf3 Qxf3+ 5.Kh4 Qf4+ 6.Kh3 Qf5+ 7.Kh4 Qf4+=) 2...g3+ 3.Nxd1 Qxg1 4.Rh8#]; C) 1...Qb3 2.Rh8! Nxb6 (2...g3+ 3.Nxd1 cxd1Q+ 4.Qxd1 Qxd1+ 5.Kh6 Nxb6 6.e7+-) 3.Bc5+ Ka7 4.Bxb6+ Qxb6 5.Rc8 Qb5+ 6.Kh6 Qe5 7.Ng6! Qxe6 (7...fxg6 8.Nxd1+-) 8.Qxd4+++ 2.Qg3!! Qxg3 [2...c1Q 3.Qb8+! Kxb8 4.Bd6+ Kc8 5.Rh8#] 3.Bd6 Qxd6 4.Rh8+ Qb8 5.Rxb8+ Kxb8 6.e7! [6.exf7? c1Q 7.f8Q+ Qc8 8.Qd6+ Ka8 9.Qa3+ Na4+-] 6...g3+ 7.Nf3 Bxf3+ 8.Kh4 c1Q 9.e8Q+ Qc8 10.Qe5+ Ka8 11.Qa5+ Kb8 12.Qa7# mate

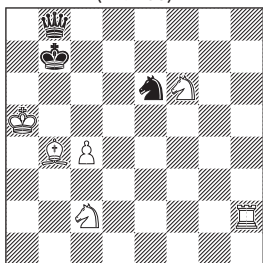
Three lines with univocal sequences, culminating in mate, tries and tactical sacrifices, make this an excellent study.

2nd Prize

E090

Daniel Keith

(France)



Win

(6+3)

1.Rh7+ Kc6 2.Ka4! [2.Ba3? Qd8+ / b6=] 2...Qf4 3.Bc3! [3.Nd7? Qe4! 4.Nb8+ Kb6 5.Ba5+ Kc5 6.Na6+ Kxc4=] 3...Qxc4+ [3...Nc5+ 4.Ka5! Qxc4 (4...Nb7+ 5.Kb4 Qd6+ 6.Kb3 Qd1 7.Kb2 Qe2 8.Nd5 Nc5 9.Nde3+-) 5.Nd4+ Kd6 6.Ne8+ Kd5 7.Rh5+++; 3...Kc5 4.Na3+-] 4.Nb4+ Kd6! [4...Kc5 e.g. 5.Nd7+ Kd6 6.Be5#; 4...Kb6 e.g. 5.Nd7+-] 5.Rd7+ [5.Ne8+? Kc5 6.Rh5+ Kb6=] 5...Kc5 6.Rd5+ [6.Rd2? Qb5+ 7.Ka3 Kc4 8.Nfd5 Qc5 9.Kb2 Kb5 10.Be5 Qc4 11.Rc2 Qg4=] 6...Kb6 7.Be5! Nc5+ [7...Ka7 8.Ra5+ Kb7 9.Rb5+ Ka7 10.Nd7 Qc1 11.Rb6 Nc5+ 12.Kb5 Nxd7 13.Nc6+ Ka8 (13...Qxc6+ 14.Rxc6+- domination) 14.Ra6+ Kb7 15.Ra7+ Kc8 16.Rc7# mate; 7...Qc1 8.Rd6+-] 8.Rxc5 Kxc5 [8...Qxc5 9.Nd7+-] 9.Nd7#

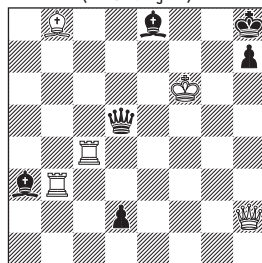
Remarkable study of domination with mates and fork. Surely to the liking of the fans of the resolution.

3rd Prize

E095

Ilham Aliev

(Azerbaijan)



Win

(5+6)

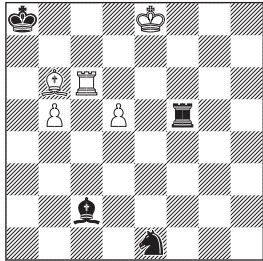
1.Qe5! [1.Be5? Qf7+ 2.Kg5+ Kg8 3.Rg3 d1Q 4.Kh6+ Qg6+=] 1...Qf7+ [MAIN : 1...Qxe5+ 2.Bxe5 d1Q 3.Rb8 (3.Rc8? Qd7 4.Rxe8+ Qxe8 5.Rb8 Qxb8 6.Kf7+ Qxe5=; 3.Ke6+? Kg8 4.Rg3+ Bg6 5.Rxa3 Qd8=) 3...Qd7 4.Rxe8+ Qxe8 5.Rc8 Qxc8 (5...Be7+ 6.Ke6+-) 6.Kf7# mate] 2.Kg5+ Kg8 3.Rg3 d1Q 4.Kh4+! [4.Kh6+? Kf8 5.Qh8+ Ke7 6.Re3+ Kd8 7.Rd4+ Bd6 8.Rxe8+ (8.Rxd6+?? Qxd6+ 9.Bxd6 Qg6#) 8...Qxe8 9.Qf6+ Kc8=] 4...Kf8 5.Qh8+ Ke7 6.Re3+! [6.Rc7+? Bd7 7.Re3+ Qe6=] 6...Kd8 [6...Kd7 7.Rc7+ Kd8 8.Rxf7+-] 7.Rd4+ Bd6 8.Rxd6+ [8.Rxe8+? Qxe8 9.Qxe8+ Kxe8 10.Rxd1 Bxb8=] 8...Qxd6 9.Bxd6 Qf2+ 10.Rg3!+-

In a configuration that contains "heavy" pieces, an ingenious combination of two lines that achieve the objective in a different way is presented.

Special Prize

E079

Michal Hlinka
Lubos Kekely
(Slovakia)



Win (5+4)

1.d6 Re5+ [1...Rxb5 2.d7 Re5+ 3.Kf8 Rd5 4.d8Q+ Rxd8+ 5.Bxd8+-; 1...Bd3 2.d7 Re5+ 3.Kf8 Rd5 4.d8Q+ Rxd8+ 5.Bxd8 Bxb5 6.Rb6+-] 2.Kd8! [2.Kd7? Kb7 3.Bf2 Bf5+ 4.Kd8 Rxb5=] 2...Bf5 [2...Rxb5 3.Kc7 Bf5 4.Rc1+-; 2...Be4 3.d7 Kb7 4.Bd4 Rxb5 5.Rc7+ Kb8 6.Ke7 Rd5 7.d8Q+ Rxd8 8.Kxd8+-; 2...Rh5 3.d7 Bf5 4.Bf2 Rh7 5.Rc8+ Kb7 6.Rc7+ Ka8 7.Bxe1+-] 3.Kc7! [3.Bf2? Rxb5 4.Bxe1 Bg4=; 3.Bc5? Nd3 4.Ra6+ Kb7 5.Rb6+ Ka8 6.Bd4 Re1 7.d7 Nb4 8.Kc7 Rc1+ 9.Kd6 Bxd7 10.Kxd7 Rd1=] 3...Re8 [3...Rxb5 4.Rc1+-] 4.d7 [4.Bf2? Rc8+ 5.Kb6 Rb8+ 6.Ka5 Re8 7.Ra6+ Kb8 8.Bg3 Bd7=] 4...Bxd7 [4...Re7 5.Rf6! Bxd7 6.Bc5 Re6 7.b6!+-] 5.Kxd7 Rb8! 6.Bc7! Rxb5 [6...Rg8 7.Bd8!+-] 7.Kc8 Rb7 [7...Ka7 8.Rc1+-] 8.Rc3! Ng2 9.Bb6! Rb8+ 10.Kc7 Rb7+ 11.Kc6 with : A) 11...Nf4 [B] 11...Nh4 12.Re3 [12.Rg3? Nf5 13.Rd3 Ne7+=] 12...Nf5 [12...Ng6 13.Re8+ Rb8 14.Re6+-] 13.Re8+ Rb8 14.Re5 [14.Re1 is loss of time; 14.Re2? Rc8+ 15.Bc7 Nd4+=] 14...Nd4+ 15.Bxd4 Rc8+ 16.Kb6 Rb8+ 17.Ka6+- wins [17.Kc7? Rb7+ 18.Kc6

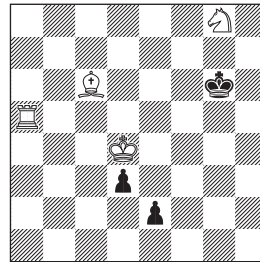
Rc7+! 19.Kb6 Rb7+ 20.Ka6 Ra7+ 21.Bxa7 stalemate)] 12.Ra3+ Kb8 13.Rg3! [13.Re3? Rxb6+! 14.Kxb6 Nd5+=] 13...Rxb6+ 14.Kxb6 Nd5+ [14...Kc8 15.Kc6 Kd8 16.Kd6+-] 15.Kc6 Ne7+ 16.Kd7+-

With an introduction that contains interesting tries and complementary variations, two themes are combined, averaging the sequence: the domination of the Rook to the Knight and of RB vs R.

Special Prize

E089

Valery Kalashnikov
(Russia)



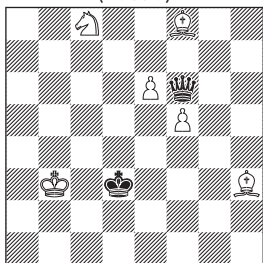
Win (4+3)

1.Be8+ Kg7 [1...Kh7 2.Rg5 e1Q 3.Nf6+ Kh6 4.Rg6#] 2.Rg5+ Kf8 3.Nf6 e1Q [3...d2 4.Rg8+ Ke7 5.Nd5+ Kd6 6.Rg6#] 4.Rg8+ Ke7 5.Nd5+ Ke6 6.Rg6+ Kf5 7.Ne3+ Kf4 8.Rg4+ [8.Ng2+? Kf5 9.Nxe1 d2 10.Rg5+ Kf6 11.Nd3 d1Q=] 8...Kf3 9.Bc6+ Kf2 10.Rg2#mate

Nice miniature which shows domination to the queen, with lines that culminate in mate.

Honorable Mention

E086 Pavel Arestov
(Russia)



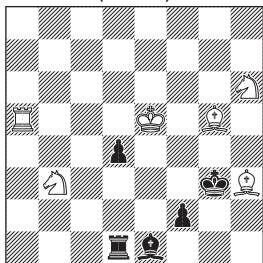
Win (6+2)

1.Bf1+! [1.Bb4? Qa1! 2.e7 Qd1+ 3.Kb2 Qe2+ 4.Ka3 Kc2 5.Nb6 Qa6+ 6.Na4 Qd3+ 7.Nc3 Qa6+=; 1.e7? Qc3+ 2.Ka4 Qxc8=] 1...Kd4! [1...Kd2 2.Bb4+ Kc1 3.Ba3+ Kd2 4.Nd6+-] 2.e7 Qxf5! [2...Qe5 3.Nd6 Qxd6 4.e8Q+-] 3.Bg7+! [3.e8Q? Qe6+ 4.Qxe6= stalemate 1] 3...Kc5 4.e8Q Qe6+ 5.Kc3! [5.Qxe6?= stalemate 2] 5...Qxe8 6.Bd4+ Kd5 [6...Kc6 7.Bb5+++] 7.Bc4+! [7.Bg2+? Ke6=] 7...Kc6 [7...Ke4 8.Nd6+- Fork] 8.Bb5+! Kxb5 9.Nd6+ Kc6 10.Nxe8+-

Entertaining domination game, in which White should avoid the threat of stalemate.

Special Honorable Mention

E080 Pavel Arestov
(Russia)



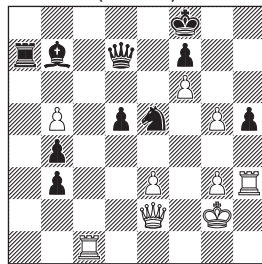
Win (6+5)

1.Ra3! d3! [1...Kxh3 2.Nxd4+ Kg2 e.g. 3.Nhf5 f1N (3...f1Q 4.Ne3+ Kg1 5.Nxf1+-) 4.Bf4 Rb1 5.Ra2+ Kh3 6.Ke4+-] 2.Bf1! [2.Bg4? f1Q 3.Bxd1 Bc3+=; 2.Ng4? Kxh3 3.Nxf2+ Bxf2 4.Nd2 Kg4=] 2...Bc3+ 3.Kf5! Rxf1 4.Nd2! [4.Bf4+? Kg2 5.Ng4 Rb1 / e1=] 4...Bxd2 5.Rxd3+ Be3! [5...Kg2 6.Rxd2 Re1 7.Ng4+- /Bh4+-] 6.Bxe3! [6.Rxe3+? Kg2 7.Re2 Re1=] 6...Rh1 7.Ng4! [7.Bf4+? Kh4! 8.Bg3+ Kh5 9.Bxf2 Kxh6=] 7...f1Q+ [7...Rh5+ 8.Bg5+! Kg2 9.Rd2+-; 7...f1N 8.Bd4+ / f4- .Kg2 9.Rb3 Ng3+ 10.Kg5+-] 8.Bf2+! [8.Bf4+? Kh4=] 8...Kg2 9.Rg3#mate

Completion in mate with self-block, with tries and complementary variations. A nice and entertaining puzzle to solve.

Special Honorable Mention

E101 Peter Krug
(Austria)



Win (9+10)

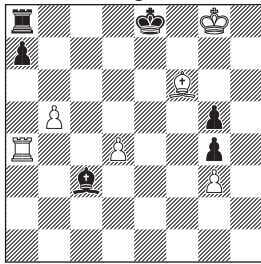
1.Qxh5 d4+ [1...Ra2+ 2.Kg1 Nf3+ 3.Kh1+-] 2.e4 Bxe4+ [2...Ra2+ 3.Kg1 Nf3+ 4.Kh1 Qxh3+ 5.Qxh3 Kg8 6.g6 Rh2+ 7.Qxh2 Nxh2 8.Kxh2+-] 3.Kg1 Nf3+ 4.Qxf3 Qxh3 [4...Bxf3 5.Rh8#] 5.g4! Ra1 6.Qxh3 Rxc1+ 7.Kf2 Rc2+ 8.Ke1 Rc1+ 9.Kd2 Rc2+ 10.Kd1 Ke8 11.Qxb3! [11.Qg3? b2 12.Qb8+ Kd7=]

11...d3 12.Ke1 Re2+ 13.Kf1 [13.Kd1? Bf3!=] 13...Bg2+ 14.Kg1 d2 15.g6 fxg6 16.f7+ Ke7 17.Qxb4+ Kxf7 18.Qc4+ Re6 19.Qf4+-

Tactical content, with the variations that culminate in mate and strategic, to prevail by the minimum difference (Q vs. RB).

Special Commendation

E082 Bizya Buyannemekh (Mongolia)



Black to Move, Win (6+6)

BTM 1...Be1 [1...Rb8 2.Rxa7 Bb4 3.Bxg5 Rxb5 4.Rg7 Bf8 5.Rg6 Bd6 6.Bh4 Kd7 7.Rxg4+-] 2.Be5 a5! [2...0-0+ 3.Kf7 Kb7 4.Ke7+-] 3.Rc4! [Try: 3.bxa6? Bxg3! 4.Bxg3 0-0-0+! 5.Kf7 Rxd4 6.Ra2 (6.Ra5 Rd5 7.Rxd5= stalemate) 6...Rd2 7.Ra1 Rd1! (7...Rd7+? 8.Ke6+-) 8.Rxd1= stalemate; or 3.Kg7? 0-0-0 4.Rc4+ Kb7 5.Kf7 Bb4 6.Rc6 Rd5=] 3...Ke7+ [3...Kd7+ 4.Kf7 Ra7 5.b6 Rb7 6.Bc7+-] 4.Kg7 Ra7 5.b6 (ab) [5.Kg6? Ke6 6.Rc6+ Kd5 7.Ra6 Rb7=] 5...Rb7 6.Bc7 (ba) 6...Ke6 [6...Bxg3 7.Bxg3 Rxb6 8.d5+-] 7.Rc5! Bxg3 8.d5+! Kf5 9.Rc6! [9.Kf7? Bd6 10.Rc2 g3 11.Ke8 g2 12.Rxg2 Bxc7 13.bxc7 Rxc7=] 9...Ke4 [9...a4 10.Kf7 a3 11.d6 a2 (11...Bxd6 12.Rxd6 a2 13.Rd1+-) 12.d7 a1Q

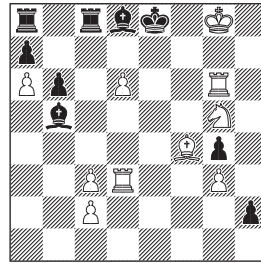
13.d8Q+-] 10.d6 Bxd6 [10...Kd5 11.d7 Kxc6 12.d8Q+-] 11.Rxd6!+-

In an appropriate recreation of a study by the author, the elimination of the threat of stalemate in the black counterplay is presented.

SECTION 2) DRAW-STUDIES

1st Prize

E081 Jan Timman (Netherlands)



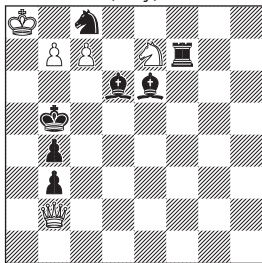
Draw (10+9)

1.Rg7! [1.d7+? Bxd7 2.Rg7 Be7 3.Re3 Be6+ 4.Rxe6 Kd7+ 5.Kf7 h1Q 6.Rxe7+ Kc6 7.Ne6 Kb5 8.Nc7+ Ka4 9.Nxa8 Qd5+-+] 1...Bc4+ 2.Kh8 h1Q+ [2...Bf6 3.d7+ Kd8 4.dxc8Q+ Kxc8 5.Rd1 Bd5 6.Ne6 Bxe6 7.Rh1=] 3.Nh7 Bf6 4.Re3+! [4.d7+!? Kd8 5.dxc8Q+ Kxc8 6.Rdd7 Bxg7+-+] 4...Kd8 5.Re8+! Kxe8 6.d7+ Kd8 7.Bc7+! Kxc7+ [7...Rxc7 Stalemate] 8.d8B+! [8.dxc8Q+ Kd6!+-; 8.d8Q+ Kc6!+-] 8...Kc6= Stalemate with 3 selfpins.

A notable study from the artistic point of view. It contains the promotion of a bishop, tries , lateral variations, and a nice stalemate with nailed pieces.

2nd Prize

E098 Marco Campioli
(Italy)



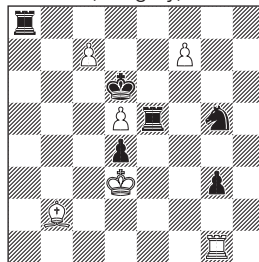
Black to Move, Draw (5+7)

BTM 1...Nb6+! [1...Rxe7 2.Qe2+=] 2.Ka7! [2.Kb8? Rxe7+-] 2...Bxc7! [2...Rxe7 3.Qe2+=] 3.Qe2+ Bc4 [3...Nc4 4.Qxe6 ±] 4.Qh5+! [4.Qe4? Rf6 5.b8Q Bxb8+ 6.Kxb8 Nd7+ /Re6-+] 4...Ka4 5.Qc5! Bb8+! [Main : 5...Rxe7 6.Qxe7 Nd5 7.Qg7! Bb6+ (7...Nc3 8.Qxc7 Nb5+ 9.Kb6 Nxc7 10.b8Q b2 11.Qxc7 b1Q 12.Qxc4=) 8.Ka8! Nc3 9.Qd7+ /g2 9...Ka3 10.b8Q Bd5+ 11.Qxd5 Nxd5 12.Kb7! b2 13.Qa8+ Kb3 14.Qg8 b1Q (14...Kc4 15.Kc6 b1Q 16.Qxd5+ Kc3 17.Kxb6=) 15.Qxd5+ Ka4 16.Qc6+ Ka3 17.Kxb6= study within a study; 5...b2 6.Qxc7 b1Q 7.b8Q Nd5 8.Qe8+ Kb3 9.Qxc4+ Kxc4 10.Qc6+ Kb3 11.Qxd5+=] 6.Kxb6! [6.Kxb8!? Nd7+ 7.Kc8 Nxc5-+] 6...b2! 7.Qxc4 [7.Nd5? b1Q! 8.Qa5+ Kb3 9.Qxb4+ Kc2! 10.Ne3+ Kc1-+; 7.Nc6? Bc7+ 8.Ka7 b1Q 9.Qxc4 Rf5! 10.Qa6+ Kb3 11.Nd4+ Kc3 12.Nxf5 Qg1+! 13.Ka8 Qg8+-] 7...Rf6+! [7...b1Q 8.Qb5+ /QxR=] 8.Nc6! [8.Kc5? Ba7+ 9.Kd5 b1Q-+] 8...b1Q 9.Qb5+ [9.Qa6+? Kb3 10.Qe2 Rxc6+ 11.Kxc6 Qc2+-+] 9...Ka3 10.Qa5+ Kb2 11.Qxb4+ Ka1 12.Qxb1+ Kxb1 13.Kb5/c5Bc7! 14.b8Q Bxb8 15.Nxb8=

Ingenious combination of the lines that lead to the positional draw. The main line is remarkable, with its univocal sequence.

3rd Prize

E091 Peter Gyarmati
(Hungary)



Draw (6+6)

1.f8Q+! [Trials : a) 1.Ra1? Rc8 /h8 2.f8Q+ Rxf8 3.Ba3+ Kxd5 4.Bxf8 Re3+ 5.Kc2 Rc3+ 6.Kb2 Ne6! 7.Ra5+ Ke4 8.Bd6 g2!-+; b) 1.Rc1? Re3+! 2.Kxd4 Rf3 3.c8Q Rxc8 4.Rxc8 g2!-+] 1...Rxf8 2.Ba3+ Kxd5 [main : 2...Kxc7 3.Bxf8 Nf3 4.Rxg3! (4.Rg2? Re3+ 5.Kc4 d3 6.Bb4 Nh4 7.Rg1 g2 8.Bc5 Rh3 9.Kc3 Rh1 10.Kxd3 Nf3 11.Rxg2 Ne1+-+) 4...Re3+ 5.Kc4! (5.Kc2? d3+-+) 5...Nd2+ (5...Ne5+ 6.Kxd4=) 6.Kxd4 Rxg3 7.Bd6+ Kxd6= ideal stalemate] 3.Bxf8 Re3+ 4.Kc2! [4.Kd2? Ne4+-+] 4...Rc3+ 5.Kb2! [5.Kb1? Ne4 6.Rc1 Nd2+ 7.Kb2 g2 8.Rg1 Nc4+ 9.Kb1 Ne3-+] 5...Ne4 6.Rc1! Rxc1 7.Kxc1=

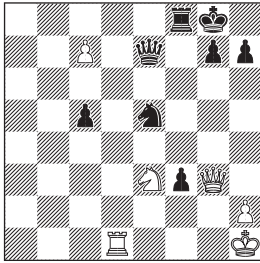
Entertaining game with interesting tries, culminating in ideal stalemate and positional draw.

Special Prize

E092

Peter Krug

(Austria)



Draw

(6+8)

1.Nf5! [1.Rd5? Ng6 2.Rf5 Rc8 3.Qxf3 Qxc7-+; 1.Nd5? Qe6 2.Ne3 f2!-+] 1...Qxc7 2.Nh6+ Kh8 3.Qxe5 Qc6! [3...Qxe5 4.Nf7+ Kg8 5.Nxe5=] 4.Nf7+ Kg8 5.Qd6! [try 5.Nd8? Qa8 6.Qe6+ Kh8 7.Nc6 f2 8.Kg2 c4 9.Qxc4 Qe8! 10.h3 Qe1! (10...h6? 11.Nd8 Qg6+ (11...Qh5 12.Qd3 Qg5+ 13.Kh1 Qe7 14.Rf1 Rxd8 15.Qg3=) 12.Qg4 Qd3 13.Rf1 Qxd8 14.Rxf2=) 11.Qf7 Qg1+! 12.Rxg1 fxc1Q+ 13.Kxc1 Rxf7-+] 5...Qa8 6.Nh6+ Kh8 7.Qxf8+! [7.Qd8? gxh6!-+] 7...Qxf8 8.Rd8 Qxd8 9.Nf7+ Kg8 10.Nxd8 c4 11.Ne6 [11.Nb7 or] 11...c3 12.Nc5 [12.Nd4? g5-+] 12...c2 [12...g5 13.Kg1=] 13.Nd3! =

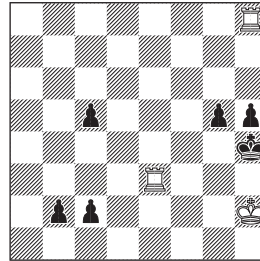
Tactical game with appropriate tries. An attack on castling is shown, with the aim of arriving at an original position of equality.

Special Prize

E084

Jan Timman

(Netherlands)



Draw

(3+6)

1.Rf8! [1.Re4+? g4 2.Re5 g3+ 3.Kg2 c1Q-+] 1...g4 [1...c1Q 2.Rh3+ Kg4 3.Rg3+=] 2.Rg8! c4 [2...c1Q 3.Rh3+ gxh3 4.Rg4+ Kxg4= stalemate] 3.Rg3!! [3.Rg6? c1B!-+] 3...c1B! [3...c1Q 4.Rh3+ gxh3 5.Rg4+ hxg4 Stalemate] 4.Rb8 c3 [4...Bf4 5.Rxb2 Bxc3+ 6.Kg2! =] 5.Rxc3 Bf4+ 6.Kg2 Bxb8 7.Rb3 Be5 8.Rb5 Bf6 9.Kh2! [9.Kf2? Kh3-+] 9...Bd4 10.Kg2 Bc3 11.Kf2! [11.Kh2? g3+ 12.Kg2 Kg4-+] 11...g3+ 12.Kf3 Bd4 13.Kg2 Kg4 14.Rb4 =

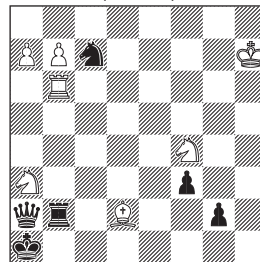
An original position, in which figures of stalemates are presented. The surprise is the promotion of a bishop, and the position of equality is achieved with notable univocal movements.

Honorable Mention

E096

Andrzej Jasik

(Poland)



Draw

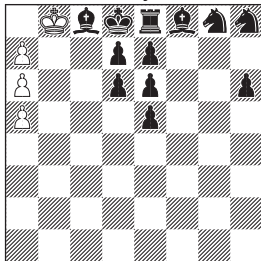
(7+6)

1.Nc2+! [1.Be3? Qf7+ 2.Kh6 Rxb6+-+;
 1.Bc3? Qf7+ 2.Kh8 Qe8+ 3.Kh7 Qe4+
 4.Kh8 g1Q 5.Nc2+ Kb1 6.Rxb2+ Kc1
 7.Rb1+ Kxc2 8.Rxg1 Qxb7-+; 1.Rxb2?
 Qf7+ 2.Kh6 Qf8+ 3.Kh7 Qf5+ 4.Kh6
 g1Q 5.Rb1+ Qfxb1 6.Nc2+ Qxc2
 7.a8Q+ Nxa8 8.bxa8Q+ Kb2 9.Qb7+
 Ka3-- 10.Qb4+ Ka2 11.Qa5+ Kb2
 12.Qb4+ Qb3 13.Nd3+ Ka2 14.Nc1+
 Qxc1 15.Qxb3+ Kxb3 16.Bxc1 f2-+]
 1...Rxc2 2.Be3! g1Q! [2...Qf7+ 3.Kh6!
 Qf8+ 4.Kh7 g1Q! 5.Bxg1 f2 6.Bxf2 Rxf2
 7.Rb1+! (Try : 7.a8Q+? Nxa8 8.b8Q
 Qe7+ 9.Kg8 Nxb6--+) 7...Ka2 8.a8Q+
 Nxa8 9.b8Q=] 3.Bxg1 f2 4.Bxf2 Rxf2
 5.Kh6!! Rxf4 [5...Rh2+ 6.Kg5 Qa5+
 7.Kg4 Qxb6 8.a8Q+ Kb1 9.b8Q Nxa8
 10.Qxa8=] 6.a8Q! [Try: 6.Rb1+? Kxb1
 7.b8Q+ Ka1!-+] 6...Nxa8 7.Rb1+!
 [7.b8Q? Qh2+-+] 7...Kxb1 [7...Qxb1
 8.bxa8Q+ Qa2 9.Qh1+ Qb1 10.Qa8+=]
 8.b8Q+ Qb2 9.Qxf4=

It is striking that the number of tries in which, with univocal sequences, Black achieves victory. Original and interesting study that deserves its inclusion in this palm.

Special Commendation

E099 Daniele Gatti
 (Italy)



Draw (4+12)

1.a8R! [1.a8Q? Nf6! 2.Qf3 Bxa6 3.Ka7
 Nd5 4.Qb3 Nc7 5.Qb8+ Bc8 6.Qb6
 Bg7 7.Kb8 Rf8 (7...Rg8 8.Qxc7+ Ke8
 9.Qxc8+ Kf7 10.Qxg8+ Kxg8 11.a6
 e4 12.a7 e3 13.a8Q d5) 8.Qxc7+ Ke8
 9.Qxc8+ Kf7 10.Qxf8+ Kxf8 11.a6
 e4 12.a7 Ng6 13.a8Q d5 14.Kc7+
 Kf7 15.Kxd7 e3 16.Qe8+ Kf6 17.Qa8
 Ne5+ 18.Ke8 e2 19.Qa1 d4 20.Qh1 d3
 21.Qe4 Kg5-+] 1...Bg7! [1...d5 2.a7
 d6 3.a6 with stalemate] 2.a7 Rf8 3.a6
 Ke8 4.Kc7! [4.Kxc8? Kf7+-+] 4...Rf4
 5.Rxc8+ Kf7 6.a8Q=

An example of rook promotion, to achieve a stalemate position.

Salta, Argentina, March 17, 2019
 Mario G. García
 Judge

[From the Editor: Thanks to Mario for a very quick and illuminating award. It will be finalized after usual 3 months.]