



UNION ARGENTINA DE PROBLEMISTAS DE AJEDREZ

6th INTERNATIONAL INTERNET TOURNAMENT (UAPA-2017/18)

Section A : Thematic – Rook and two minor pieces vs Queen. In this section, the initial position may present additional pieces-

Section B : Theme Free

B.1. Studies Win - B.2. Studies Draw

Judge: Luis Miguel González

On behalf of the "Argentina Union of Chess Problems", we thank the composers for their participation and especially to Luis Miguel Gonzalez, judge of the tournament.

After the deadline (30-4-2018), the Director sent the studies with diagrams and solutions to the judge for their evaluation.

Composers: Michal Hlinka (Slovakia), Jan Timman (Netherlands), Luboš Kekely (Slovakia), Peter Krug (Austria), Mario García (Argentina), Andrzej Jasik (Poland), Pavel Arestov (Russia), Steffen S. Nielsen (Denmark), Anatoly Skripnik (Russia), Martin Minski (Germany), Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine), Alexander Zhukov (Russia), Valery Vlasenko (Ukraine), Marco Campioli (Italy). Mario Micaloni (Italy), Daniele Gatti (Italy), Siegfried Hornecker (Germany), Geir Sune Tallaksen Ostmo (Norway), Daniel Perone (Argentina), Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine), Olivier Mathieu (France), Stanislav Nosek (Czech Rep.), Valery Kalasnhikov (Russia), David Gurgendidze (Georgia), Jochen Vieweger (Germany), Michael Prusikin (Germany), Yuri Bazlov (Russia)

We have received, 63 studies by 27 composers from 14 countries.

**Sebastián A. Palomo
Coordinator of Tournaments (UAPA)**

REPORT

Special thanks to all the participants and the “Unión Argentina de Problemistas de Ajedrez” for having been appointed as judge of this tournament. I also want to thank to the Tourney Director Mario G. García for the great support in the preparation of all entries and the edition of this award.

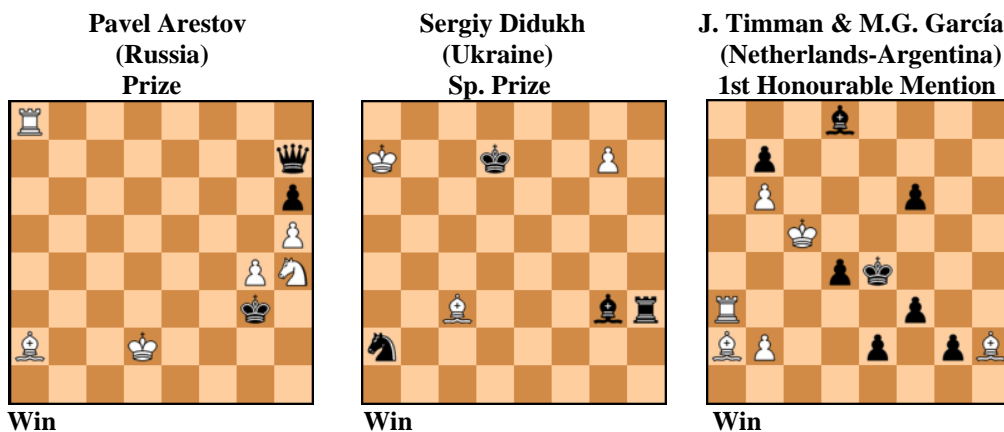
I have checked the technical "health" of the studies about probable predecessors and anticipations consulting the database of van der Heijden.

The overall level of the compositions has been good although a little uneven being higher in the section B.1. (win) in which more studies have been awarded.

General principles about appropriate presentation of the themes, economy of means, flow and brilliance of the play and personal taste have prevailed in my selection.

My ranking for the three sections is as follows.

Section A. Rook and two minor pieces vs Queen



Pavel Arestov (Russia)

1.Nf5+! Kxg4 2.Rg8+! [2...Ne3+? Kxh5 3.Ra5+ Kh4=; 2.Bb1? Qb7 3.Ra4+ Kxh5=] **2...Kxh5** [2...Kxf5 3.Bb1+; 2...Kf4 3.Ne3 Qd7+ 4.Bd5 Qh3 5.Rf8+] **3.Ng3+** [3.Be6? Qd7+! 4.Bxd7 stalemate] **3...Kh4 4.Rg7!! Qh8!** [4...Qxg7 5.Nf5+ Fork] **5.Bg8! h5** [5...Kh3 6.Be6+ Kg2 7.Nh5+! Kh2 8.Bg8! Kh3 9.Ke2 Kh4 10.Ng3! h5 11.Kf3+] **6.Ke2!** [6.Ke3? Qh6+=; 6.Ke1? Kh3! 7.Be6+ Kg2 8.Nf5+ Kf3!]=] **6...Kh3** [6...Qh6 7.Nf5+ Fork] **7.Be6+ Kg2** [7...Kh4 8.Nf5+ Kh3 9.Ne3+ Kh2 (9...Kh4 10.Ng2#) 10.Nf1+ Kh1 11.Bd5#] **8.Nf5+!** [8.Nxh5+? Kh2!]=] **8...Kh2 9.Kf2! Qf8** [9...h4 10.Ne3 Qf8+ 11.Bf5! Qxg7 12.Nf1+ Kh1 13.Be4+ Qg2+ 14.Bxg2#] **10.Rh7!** [10.Rf7? Qa3=] **10...Kh3** [10...Qc5+ 11.Ne3+; 10...Qf6 11.Rxh5+] **11.Rf7!** [11.Rxh5+? Kg4 12.Rh4+ Kg5=] **11...Qb8** [11...Qc5+ 12.Ne3+ Kh4 13.Rf5 Qd4 14.Kf3 Qd3 15.Bc4 Qc3 16.Bf7+] **12.Nd4+!** [12.Ne3+? Kh4 13.Ng2+ Kg5=] **12...Kh4** [12...Kh2 13.Nf3+ Kh1 14.Rd7 Qb6+ 15.Rd4 Qxe6 16.Rd1+ /h4+] **13.Nf3#**

This shows a beautiful incarceration of bQ by rook and bishop in a chessboard almost empty. The quite move 6.Ke2! and the final mate picture are a bonus. The only drawback is the initial capture of wPs.

Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.g8Q! Bf2+ 2.Bd4! [2.Kb7? Rxc3 3.Qf7+ Kd6 4.Qxf2 Rb3+ 5.Kc8 Nc3=] **2...Bxd4+ 3.Kb7 Re3!** [3...Rh4 4.Qg5! Bf2 5.Qf5+ Kd6 6.Qxf2+-; 3...Ke7 4.Qg5+ Bf6 5.Qc5+ Kf7 6.Qc4+! Ke7 7.Qc7+ Ke6 8.Qc8+-] **4.Qc4!** [Thematic try (R-sacrifice, fork) 4.Qd5+? Ke7 zz 5.Qxd4 Rb3+ 6.Kc7 Rc3+ 7.Kb6 Rb3+ 8.Kc5 Rc3+ 9.Kd5 Rd3! 10.Qxd3 Nb4+ draw.] **4...Ke7 5.Qd5!** zz **5...Bb6!** [5...Rc3 6.Qe4+! Kf7 7.Qxd4+-; 5...Bf6 6.Qc5+ Kf7 7.Qxe3+-] **6.Kxb6** [6.Qg5+? Kd6 7.Kxb6 Rb3+ 8.Ka5 Nc3=] **6...Nc3 7.Qg5+!** [7.Qc5+? Kf6 8.Qxe3 Nd5+!= fork.] **7...Kd7 8.Ka5!+-**

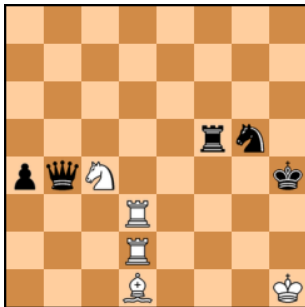
Apparently, the tourney theme is supposed to be rook and two minor pieces win against bQ but nothing indicates that the opposite can also be possible. In this case, after an appropriate bishop sacrifice, the play of White involves a nice avoidance capture and a reciprocal zugzwang position with thematic try.

Jan Timman & Mario G. Garcia (Netherland-Argentina)

1.Bb1+! [1.Bd5+? Kf5 2.Rxf3+ Kg5=] **1...d3 2.Rxd3!** [Try : 2.Bxd3+? Ke3 3.Bc4+ Kf2!= (no 3...Kd2? 4.Rd3+ Kc1 5.Rc3+ Kd1 (5...Kxb2 6.Re3 Kc2 7.Rxe2+ fxe2 8.Bxe2+-) 6.Bb3+ Kd2 7.Bf4+ Ke1 8.Be3+-)] **2...Bxb6+!** [2...Be7+ 3.Kc4 f2 4.Ra3# /h3 mate] **3.Kxb6!** [3.Kc4? g1Q=] **3...f2** [3...e1Q 4.Rd1+ Ke3 5.Rxe1+-] **4.Ra3+!** switchback [Try : 4.Rh3+? Kd4! (4...Kd5? 5.Bf5 e1N 6.Rh8 Kd4 7.Bf4+- see to solution) 5.Bf5 e1N! 6.Rh4+ Ke3=] **4...Kd5** [main 1 : 4...Kd4 5.Bf4! (5.Bf5? e1N! 6.Ra4+ Ke3!=) 5...e1Q 6.Ra4+ Kd5 7.Ba2# mirror model mate] **5.Bf5 e1N!** [main 2 : 5...e1Q 6.Rd3+ Kc4 7.b3+ Kb4 8.Bd6# model mate] **6.Ra8 Kd4 7.Bf4!** [7.Rd8+? Ke3 8.Re8+ Kf3 9.Be4+ Kg4 10.Rg8+ Kh5=] **7...Kc4** [7...f1Q 8.Rd8+ Kc4 9.Be6+ mates] **8.Rc8+ Kb3 9.Bc1!** [9.Be6+? Kxb2 10.Bc1+ Ka1! 11.Bf5 f1Q 12.Ra8+ Qa6+ 13.Rxa6+ bxa6 14.Be3 Nf3=] **9...f1Q 10.Be6+ Kb4** [10...Ka4 11.Ra8+ Qa6+ 12.Rxa6+ bxa6 13.Be3+- similar to solution] **11.Bd2+ Ka4 12.Ra8+ Qa6+ 13.Rxa6+ bxa6 14.Be3!** [14.b3+? Ka3 15.Bc1+ (15.Be3 Nf3!=) 15...Kb4!=] **14...Nf3** [14...Nd3 15.Kxa6 Nxb2 16.Bh3 Kb4 17.Bxg2+- White will dominate the bN after capturing the pawn] **15.Bc5 g1Q 16.b3#** mate model.

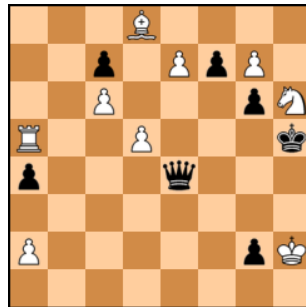
The counterplay of Black is based on its advanced pawns in order to prevent from several mates in the center of the board. This is partially achieved with knight and queen promotions but a final model pawn mate cannot be avoided.

M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
(Slovakia)
2nd Honourable Mention



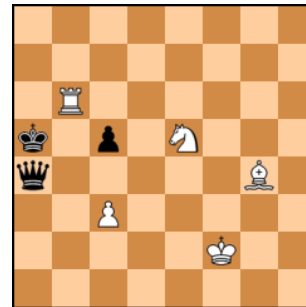
Win

Andrzej Jasik
(Poland)
1st Commendation



Win

Alexander Zhukov
(Russia)
2nd Commendation



Win

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely

1.Rd4+ [1.Rh2+? Nh3 2.Rdxh3+ Kg5 3.Rg2+ Kf6=] **1...Ne4** [1...Kg3 2.Rg4+ Kh3 3.Rh2#] **2.Rxe4+ Kg5 3.Rg4+ Kh6** [3...Kf6 4.Rd6+ Ke7 5.Re4+ Kf8 6.Rd8+ Kg7 7.Rd7+ Kg8 8.Nd6 Qb1 9.Rg4+ Kf8 10.Nxf5+-] **4.Rh2+ Rh5 5.Rxh5+ Kxh5 6.Ne3** 1st battery **6...Qb7+ 7.Rg2+** 2nd battery **7...Kh6** [7...Kh4 8.Nf5+ Kh3 9.Bg4#] **8.Bc2 Qf3** [8...a3 9.Nf5+ Kh7 10.Nd6+ 3rd battery; 8...Kh5 9.Nf5 Qd5 10.Be4 Qb3 11.Rg3 Qd1+ 12.Kh2 Qe2+ 13.Rg2 Qd1 14.Bc6+-] **9.Nf5+ Kh5** [9...Kh7 10.Nd4+- (or Nh4+), 4th battery] **10.Be4!** [10.Ng7+? Kh4!=; 10.Kg1? a3=] **10...Qf1+** [10...Qf4 11.Bd3+-; 10...Qb3 11.Rg3+- as after 8.- Kh5 ... 11.Rg3; 10...Qd1+ 11.Kh2 a3 12.Bc6+-] **11.Kh2** [11.Rg1? Qh3#] **11...Qf4+ 12.Kh3** [12.Kg1? a3 13.Bd3 Qc1+=] **12...a3 13.Ng7+ Kh6 14.Rg6+** [14.Nf5+? Kh7!=] **14...Kh7 15.Rg4+-** 5th battery.

After an introduction a little forced, this shows a surprising play with up to 5 batteries in which bQ finally perishes.

Andrzej Jasik (Poland)

1.e8Q! [Thematic Try : 1.d6+? Kxh6 2.g8N+ (2.e8Q g1Q+! 3.Kxg1 Qg4+ 4.Kf2 Qf4+ 5.Ke2 Qg4+ 6.Ke3 Qg1+ 7.Kd3 Qd1+ 8.Kc3 Qc1+=) 2...Kg7 3.e8N+ Kh8!= (3...Qxe8? 4.Bf6+ similar to variant B)]
1...Qxe8 2.d6+! Kxh6 [2...f5 3.Be7! Kxh6 4.d7 Qxe7 5.g8N+ Kg7 6.Nxe7+-] **3.g8N+!** With two variations : A) **3...Qxg8** [B) 3...Kg7 4.Bf6+! Kxg8 (main : 4...Kh7 5.Ne7 g1Q+ 6.Kxg1 Qb8 7.Kg2! (7.Kf2? Qb6+ 8.Kf3 Qxa5=; 7.Rg5? cxd6 8.Rg2 Qb6+ 9.Kh1 Qb1+ 10.Kh2 Qc1 11.Nd5 Qxc6=) 7...Qb1 8.dxc7 Qe4+ 9.Kf2! (9.Kf1? Qf3+ 10.Ke1 Qxf6 11.c8Q Qh4+ 12.Kd1 Qd4+=) 9...Qf4+ 10.Ke2+-) 5.Ra8! (5.d7? g1Q+ 6.Kxg1 Qe1+ 7.Kg2 Qe2+=) 5...Qxa8 6.d7+- Wins 6...Qxc6 7.d8Q+ Kh7 8.Qh8#]
4.Bg5+ [4.dxc7? Qe8 5.c8Q g1Q+ 6.Kxg1 Qe1+ 7.Kg2 Qe2+] **4...Kh7 5.d7 f6! 6.Re5!!** [6.Bxf6? Qe6 7.d8Q g1Q+ 8.Kxg1 Qe1+ 9.Kg2 Qe2+ 10.Kg3 Qe3+ 11.Kg4 Qe4+ 12.Kg5 Qe3+=] **6...Qf8** [6...fxg5 7.Re8 Qd5 8.d8Q+-] **7.Rd5!+-**

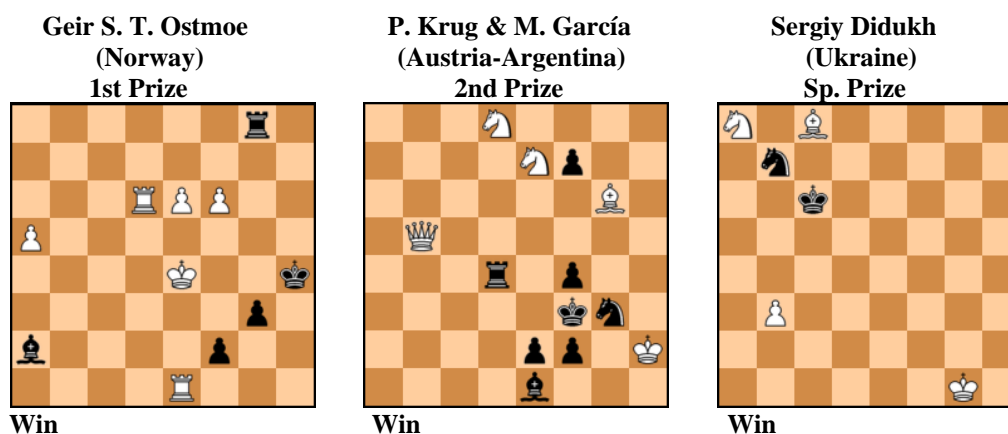
The different main lines are not thematically connected but the more interesting one has a knight promotion and the beautiful move 6.Re5!!

Alexander Zhukov (Russia)

1.Rb5+! [1.Re6? Qc2+=; 1.Rf6 Qe4!=; 1.Rg6 Qf4+=] **1...Qxb5** [1...Ka6 2.Bc8+-] **2.Be2!!** domination
2...Qb3 [2...Qb1 3.Nc4+ Ka4 4.Bd1+ Qxd1 (4...Kb5 5.Na3+-) 5.Nb2+-; 2...Qb7 3.Nc4+ Ka4 (3...Ka6 4.Nd6+) 4.Bd1+ Kb5 5.Nd6+; 2...Qe8 3.Nc4+ Ka6 4.Nd6+-] **3.Nc4+ Ka4** [3...Ka6 4.Nd2+-] **4.Bd1 Qxd1 5.Nb2+ Kb3 6.Nxd1 Kc2 7.Ke2 c4 8.Ke3 Kxd1 9.Kd4+-**

Good domination of bQ by 2 minor pieces after a nice initial rook sacrifice.

Section B.1. Studies - Win



Geir Sune Tallaksen Ostmo (Norway)

1.Rh1+ Kg4 2.f7 Ra8 3.Rd8! Rxd8 [3...g2 4.Rg8++] **4.e7 Rd4+!** Prokes manoeuvre! [4...Bd5+ 5.Ke3! Ra8 6.e8Q Bxh1 7.Qxa8 Bxa8 (7...f1Q 8.Qc8+ Kg5 9.f8Q+-) 8.f8Q+-] **5.Kxd4 Bxf7 6.Ke3 g2 7.Rh4+!** Prokes manoeuvre! **7...Kg3 8.Rg4+! Kxg4 9.Kxf2 Kf5 10.a6 Ke6 11.a7+-**

A double Prokes manoeuvre has been seen before but, in this case, it is realized by both sides and stands out for its economy and purity of form.

Peter S. Krug & Mario G. García (Austria-Argentina)

1.Bh5+! [1.Qb7+? Kg4! 2.Qc8+ Kf3=] **1...Nxb5** [main : 1...Ke3 2.Nf5+! Nxf5 3.Qxe2# mate with 2 self-blocks; or 1...Ke4 2.Bxe2 Nxe2 3.Qxe2# mate with 2 self-blocks] **2.Qb3+!** Whit two lines : A) [2.Qxh5+? Ke3 3.Nf5+ Kd2=] **2...Kg4** [B] 2...Ke4 3.Nxf7 (waste of time 3.Qc2+? Kf3 4.Qb3+!) 3...f1N+! (main 3...f1Q 4.Ng5+ Ke5 5.Qe6# mate) 4.Kg1 Bh4 5.Qe6+!! (5.Qc2+? Rd3 6.Nd6+ Kf3 7.Qxd3+ Ne3 8.Qe4+ Kg4 9.Qg6+ Kh3 10.Qe6+ Ng4 11.Qxe2 Bf2+!=) 5...Kd3 6.Ne5+ Kc3 7.Nd5+! Rxd5 (7...Kd2 8.Nf3+++; 7...Kb2 8.Qb6+++)) 8.Qxd5 e1Q 9.Qc4+ Kd2 (9...Kb2 10.Nd3+++)) 10.Nf3+ Kd1 11.Qb3+! (11.Nxe1? Nd2 12.Qa4+ Kxe1 13.Qe8+ Kd1 14.Qxh5+ Kc1!=) 11...Ke2 12.Nd4+!! (12.Nxe1? Bf2+!=) 12...Kd2 13.Qc2+ Ke3 14.Nf5+ Kf3 15.Qg2#! mate] **3.Qh3+ Kg5 4.Qf5+ Kh4** [4...Kh6 e.g. 5.Ng8+ Kg7 6.Qxf7+++ mates] **5.Nxf7 f1N+!** [5...f1Q 6.Qg5# (6.Ng6#)] **6.Kg1 Bf2+** [6...Kg3 7.Qg5+++] **7.Kxf2 e1Q+ 8.Kxe1 Rd1+ 9.Kf2!** [9.Kxd1? Ne3+ 10.Kd2 Nxf5=] **9...Rd2+ 10.Kg1 Rg2+ 11.Kxg2!** [11.Kxf1? Ng3+ 12.Kxg2 Nxf5=] **11...Ne3+ 12.Kh2 Nxf5** [12...Ng4+ 13.Kg1!+] **13.Ng6+ Kg4 14.Nge5+ Kh4 15.Nf3+ Kg4 16.N7e5# ideal mate with 3 self-blocks.**

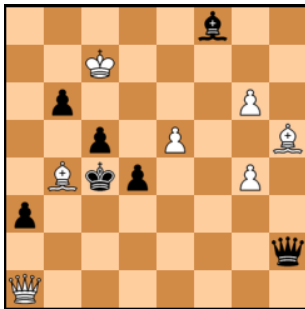
Advanced pawns give to Black enough compensation. There are 2 very appealing lines of play with bN-promotions and surprising mates with self-blocks.

Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.b4! [Logical try-1 1.Bg4? Nc5 2.b4 (2.Bd1 Nd3 3.Be2 Ne5 4.Kf2 Kb7=) 2...Na4 3.Be2 Nc3 4.Bf1 Kb7 5.Bg2+ Ka6 6.Bc6 Ne2+! check! 7.Kf2 Nd4 8.Be4 Kb5=] **1...Nd6 2.Ba6 Nb5 3.Kh1!!** The only safe square. [Logical try-2 3.Kh2? Nc3 4.Bf1 Kb7 5.Bg2+ Ka6 6.Bc6 Nb5 7.Bd7 Nc3 8.Nc7+ Kb6 9.Ne6 Nd5 10.b5 Nf6 11.Bc6 Ng4+! check! 12.Kg3 Ne5 13.Nd4 Kc5 14.Be8 Nc4 15.Ne6+ Kb6 16.Kf4 Nd6=; Logical try-3 3.Kf2? Nc3 4.Bf1 Kb7 5.Bg2+ Ka6 6.Bc6 Nb5 7.Bd7 (7.Ke3 Na7) 7...Nc3 8.Nc7+ Kb6 9.Ne6 Ne4+! check! 10.Ke2 Nf6 11.Ba4 Nd5=] **3...Nc3 4.Bf1 Kb7 5.Bg2+ Ka6 6.Bc6 Nb5** [6...Ne2 (without check) 7.b5+!+] **7.Bd7 Nc3 8.Nc7+ Kb6 9.Ne6 Nd5** [9...Ne4 (without check) 10.Nd4+-] **10.b5 Nc3** [10...Nf6 11.Bc6 Ng4 (without check) 12.Nf8+-] **11.Nd4 Kc5 12.Kg2!** [12.Kg1? Ne4 13.Ne6+ Kb6=] **12...Kxd4** [12...Ne4 13.Ne6+ /b3+ 13...Kb6 14.Kf3 Nd6 15.Nd4 Kc5 16.Ke3!+-] **13.b6+-**

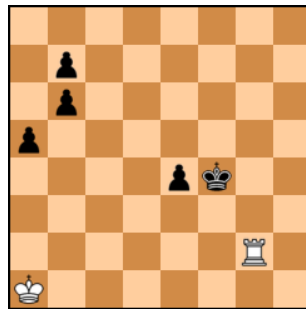
There are still great discoveries in the 6-men tablebase. In this logical study, the play unfolds very far from wK and it is surprising that 3 mined squares (g1, f2, h2) must be bypassed.

**M. Minski & S. Nielsen
(Germany-Denmark)
1st Honourable Mention**



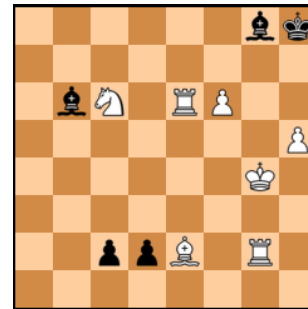
Win

**P. Krug & P. Arestov
(Austria-Russia)
2nd Honourable Mention**



Win

**M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
(Slovakia)
3rd Honourable Mention**



Win

Martin Minski & Steffen Nielsen (Germany-Denmark)- Dedicated to Renan Araujo

1.Qe1! [1...Bxa3? Qxe5+=] **1...a2** [1...cxb4 2.g7 Bxg7 3.Qc1+ Kb5 4.Qc6+ Ka5 5.Be8 Qxe5+ 6.Kb7+-] **2.g7!** [2.Kxb6? Bg7!+-] **2...Bxg7 3.Kxb6** [3.Bf7+? Kb5! 4.Be8+ Kc4 5.Kxb6 Qh6+ 6.Ka5 a1Q+ 7.Qxa1 cxb4=] **3...Qf4** [3...Qxe5 4.Bf7+ Kd3 5.Qd2+ Ke4 6.Qg2+ Kd3 7.Qf3+ Qe3 8.Qf1+ Kc2 9.Bxc5+-; 3...Qb2 4.Bf7+ Kd3 5.Qg3+-] **4.Ba3!** [4...Bxc5? Qh6+ 5.Kb7 Kxc5 6.Qa5+ Kc4= e.g. 7.e6 Bf8 8.Qxa2+ Kd3 9.Qb1+ Kd2 10.Qb2+ Ke1 11.Qxd4 Qxe6= TB7] **4...Kd5** [4...Qh6+ 5.Ka5+-; 4...d3 5.Qa1!+-] **5.Bxc5 Bxe5** [5...Qh6+ 6.Bd6+-] **6.Be8! d3** [6...Ke6 7.Qe2! a1Q 8.Qc4+ Kf6 9.Qf7+ Kg5 10.Qh5+ Kf6 11.Qg6#] **7.Qe4+!!** [7.Qh1+? Kc4=; 7.Bc6+? Ke6=] **7...Kxe4** [main 7...Qxe4 8.Bf7# **model mate with 2 self-blocks**] **8.Bc6#** **model mate with 3 self-blocks**.

Unbalanced position with good combinative play and the spectacular sacrifice 7.Qe4+!! which leads to 2 model mates with self-blocks.

Peter S. Krug & Pavel Arestov (Austria-Russia)

1.Ra2!! [1.Kb2? b5! 2.Kc3 Ke3! 3.Rg3+ Ke2! 4.Rg2+ Ke3 5.Rg3+ Ke2 6.Kd4 b4 7.Rg2+ Kd1 8.Kxe4 Kc1 9.Kd3 b5! =; 1.Rb2? b5! 2.Rxb5 e3 3.Rb2 Kf3=; 1.Rg7? b5! 2.Rxb7 b4 (e3) 3.Kb2 e3 (b4) 4.Kc2 Ke4! 5.Ra7 Kd4! 6.Rxa5 b3+! 7.Kxb3 e2 8.Ra1 Kd3=; 1.Kb1? b5! 2.Kc2 b4 3.Rg7 b6! 4.Rb7 Ke3 (e5) 5.Rxb6 Kd4 6.Rb5 e3 7.Rxa5 b3+! =] **1...b5!** [1...e3 2.Kb1! Kf3 3.Kc2 e2 4.Kd2 Kf2 5.Kd3+-] **2.Rxa5** [2.Kb1? b6! =] **2...e3 3.Kb2!** [3.Rxb5? e2 4.Rb1 Ke3=] **3...e2 4.Ra1 Ke3 5.Kc2!** [5.Rh1? Kd2=] **5...b4 6.Rh1!** [6.Rb1? b3+! 7.Rxb3+ Kf2=] **6...b3+!** [6...b6 7.Rh3+ (Kc1) as the main line] **7.Kc1!** [7.Kc3? b5 (b6) 8.Rh3+ Kf2 9.Rh2+ Ke3 10.Rh3+ Kf2 positional draw] **7...b6** [7...b2+ 8.Kc2! Kf2 9.Kd2 b5 10.Re1+-] **8.Rh3+!** [8.Re1? Kd3! 9.Rh1 b2+! 10.Kxb2 Kd2=] **8...Kf2 9.Rh2+ Ke3 10.Rh1! b5 11.Rh3+ Kf2 12.Rh2+ Ke3 13.Rh1 b4 14.Rh3+ Kf2 15.Rh2+ Ke3 16.Rh1 b2+** [16...Kf2 17.Kd2 b2 18.Re1+-] **17.Kc2!** [17.Kxb2? Kd2=] **17...Kd4** [17...b3+ 18.Kc3! Kf2 19.Kd2+-] **18.Kxb2!** [18.Re1? b3+! 19.Kd2 Kc4 20.Rb1 Kb4 21.Kd3 (21.Rxb2 e1Q+! 22.Kxe1 Kc3 23.Rb1 Kc2=) 21...e1Q 22.Rxe1 Ka3 23.Kc3 Ka2 24.Re2 Ka1 25.Rxb2 stalemate] **18...b3!** [18...Kd3 19.Kc1! b3 20.Rh3+ Kc4 21.Re3+-] **19.Kc1!** [19.Re1? Kd3 20.Kxb3 Kd2=; 19.Kxb3? Kd3 20.Kb2 Kd2=] **19...Ke3** [19...Kd3 20.Rh3+ Kd4 21.Kd2 b2 22.Rb3+-] **20.Rh3+! Kf2 21.Rh2+ Ke3 22.Rh1! b2+** [22...Kf2 23.Kd2 b2 24.Re1+-] **23.Kc2!** [23.Kxb2? Kd2=] **23...b1Q+ 24.Rxb1** [24.Kxb1? Kd2=] **24...Kf2 25.Kd2+-**

A very good key. The subsequent play with a systematic manoeuvre has original waiting moves by wR.

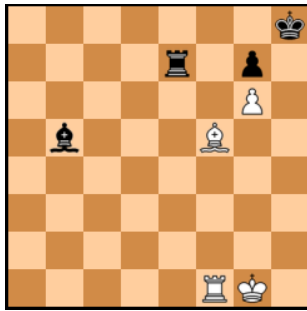
Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1.f7! Bxf7 [1...d1Q or c1Q 2.Rh6+ Kg7 3.Kf5+ Kxf7 4.Rf6+ Ke8 5.Rxg8+ Kd7 6.Rg7+ Kc8 (6...Ke8 7.Re7#) 7.Ba6#] **2.Rh6+ Kg7 3.Rh7+! Kxh7** [3...Kf6 4.Rg3 d1Q 5.Rf3+ Ke6 6.Rh6+ Bg6 7.Rxg6+ Kd7 8.Rd3+ Qxd3 9.Ne5+++; 3...Kf8 4.Kf5! Ke8 5.Rh8+ Kd7 6.Ne5+ Kd6 7.Nxf7+ Kd5 8.Bf3+-] **4.Bd3+ Kh6 5.Bxc2 d1Q+** [5...Bxh5+ 6.Kf4!+- as the main line] **6.Bxd1 Bxh5+ 7.Kf4!** [7.Kf5? Bxd1 zz 8.Kf6 Kh5 9.Ne5 Kh4=] **7...Bxd1** [7...Bc7+ 8.Kf5 Bxd1 9.Nd4+- as the main line] **8.Kf5!** zz **8...Bc7** [8...Ba4 9.Kf6 Kh5 10.Ne5 Bd8+ 11.Kf5+-; 8...Be3 9.Ne5+-; 8...Bf3 9.Rg6+-] **9.Nd4** [9.Kf6? Kh5! =] **9...Ba4 10.Rg6+** [10.Ne6? Bd7! =] **10...Kh7** [10...Kh5 11.Rg7+-] **11.Ra6 Bd7+ 12.Ke4!** [12.Kg5? Bd8+ 13.Kh5 Be8+=; 12.Kf6? Bd8+ 13.Kf7 Bg4! =] **12...Bg4** or Bh3 or Bc8 **13.Ra7+-**

White manages to stop the threatening bPs at the expense of sacrificing material. The remaining position is only winning by the detail 7.Kf4! reaching a reciprocal zugzwang position.

**Martin Minski
(Germany)**

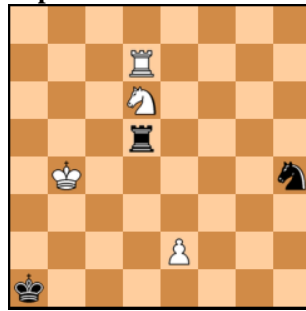
4th Honourable Mention



Win

**Luboš Kekely
(Slovakia)**

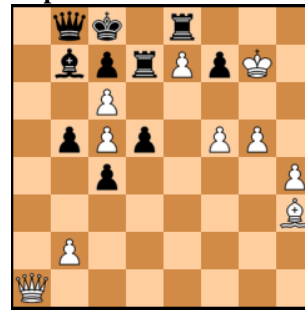
Sp. Honourable Mention



Win

**Andrzej Jasik
(Poland)**

Sp. Honourable Mention



Win

Martin Minski (Germany)

1.Bd3! Bc4! [1...Bxd3 2.Rf8#] **2.Rf5!** [2.Bxc4? Re1! 3.Bd3 (3.Rxe1 stalemate) 3...Rxf1+ 4.Kxf1 Kg8=; 2.Rf8+? Bg8 3.Rf5 Re1+ 4.Kf2 Rh1=; 2.Rf4? Bd5 3.Rf5 Rd7=] **2...Bb3** [2...Re1+ 3.Kf2 Rf1+ 4.Bxf1+; 2...Re3 3.Rh5+ (3.Bxc4? Rg3+ 4.Kf1 Rf3+! 5.Rxf3 stalemate) 3...Kg8 4.Bxc4+++] **3.Rb5** [3.Rh5+? Kg8 4.Rb5 Ba4!=] **3...Ba2** [3...Be6 4.Re5 Kg8 5.Bc4 Kf8 (5...Bxc4 6.Rxe7+-) 6.Bxe6+-] **4.Rh5+** [4.Ra5? Bb3 5.Rb5 Ba2=] **4...Kg8 5.Ra5 Bf7! 6.Bc4!** [6.gxf7+? Kxf7=; 6.Ra8+? Be8 7.Bb5 Kf8=] **6...Bxc4 7.Ra8+ Re8 8.Rxe8#**

In an apparently dull position, this shows a very good play with sacrifices and counter-sacrifices of both bishops.

Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1.Kb3 [1.Kc3? Kb1 2.Rb7+ Kc1=] **1...Rd2** [1...Kb1 2.Rh7 Rxd6 3.Rxh4 Kc1 4.Kc4+-; 1...Nf5 2.e4 Rxd6 3.Ra7+ Kb1 4.exf5 Kc1 5.Kc4+-] **2.Rf7!** [2.Rg7? Rb2+ 3.Kc3 Rxe2=] **2...Rb2+** refusal to capture **3.Kc3 Rxe2** [3...Ng6 4.Nc4 Rxe2 5.Kb3+- as main line] **4.Nc4 Ng6** [4...Ng2 5.Rd7! Ne3 6.Nd2 Nd1+ 7.Kc2 Ne3+ 8.Kb3+-; 4...Rh2 5.Kb3 Rh3+ 6.Kc2 Rh2+ 7.Nd2+-] **5.Kb3** [5.Ra7+? Ra2 6.Rg7 Rg2! 7.Nd2 Rg3+ 8.Kc2 Ka2=] **5...Re1 6.Rf2!** [6.Kc2? Ne7! 7.Rf8 Re2+ 8.Nd2 Rxd2+! 9.Kxd2 Kb2 10.Rb8+ Ka3 11.Kc3 Nd5+=] **6...Rb1+** [6...Ne5 7.Ra2+ Kb1 8.Rb2+ Ka1 9.Nd2 Re3+ 10.Kc2 Nc4 11.Nb3+ refusal to capture 11...Rxb3 12.Rxb3 Ka2 13.Kc3+-] **7.Kc2 Rb4 8.Kc3 Rb7 9.Rf6** [9.Rf1+ Ka2 10.Rf2+ Ka1 11.Rf6+- is only waste of time] **9...Rc7! 10.Kb3!** refusal to capture [10.Rxg6? Kb1 11.Kb3 Rb7+=] **10...Nf4! 11.Rh6!** refusal to capture [11.Rxf4? Rb7+ 12.Kc3 Rc7!=] **11...Rb7+ 12.Nb6** [12.Kc2 Ra7! 13.Kb3 Rb7+ 14.Nb6+- is only waste of time] **12...Nh3** [12...Rxb6+ 13.Rxb6 Kb1 14.Rf6+-] **13.Re6!+-**

In a gamelike position, here we have in total 5 refusal to capture with a very good flow and precise play by both sides.

Andrzej Jasik (Poland)

1.Qa6! [1.f6? Bxc6 2.Qa6+ Qb7 3.Qxb7+ Kxb7+-; 1.cxd7+? Kxd7 2.f6+ Kc6 3.Bf5 Rh8 4.Bh7 Qe8 5.g6 fxe6 6.Qg1 (6.Qf1 Bc8 7.f7 Qxe7 8.Kxh8 Qf8+ 9.Bg8 Qh6+) 6...Bc8 7.Qxg6 Be6 8.Qxe8+ Rxe8 9.Bg6 Rg8+=] **1...Rdxe7** [1...Bxa6 2.f6+-; 1...Rxe7 2.f6 Re6 3.cxd7+-] **2.f6+** [2.cxb7+? Qxb7 3.f6+ Kb8+-] **2...Re6** [2...Kd8 3.Qxb7 Qxb7 4.cxb7+-] **3.Bxe6+** [3.cxb7+? Kd7 4.Bxe6+ Rxe6 5.c6+ (5.Qa8 Re8=) 5...Kd6÷] **3...Rxe6** [3...fxe6 4.f7 Rd8 5.cxb7+ Qxb7 6.Qxe6+ Kb8 7.g6+-] **4.cxb7+** [4.g6? Bxa6 5.gxf7 Rxc6 6.f8Q+ Kb7 7.Qxb8+ Kxb8 8.f7 Ka7 9.f8Q b4=] **4...Kd7** [4...Qxb7 5.Qxe6+! fxe6 6.f7 Qc6 (6...Kd7 7.f8Q b4 8.Qf2 c3 9.h5 b3 10.bxc3 b2 11.h6 b1Q 12.h7 Q1b2 13.Qf6 Kc6 14.h8Q Kxc5 15.Qd4+ Kb5 16.Qe8+ c6+ 17.Kg8+-) 7.f8Q+ Kb7 8.h5 d4 9.h6 Qd7+ 10.Kg6 d3 11.h7 d2 12.h8Q Qd3+ 13.Kh6 Qh3+ 14.Kg7 Qxh8+ 15.Kxh8 d1Q 16.g6 Qh5+ 17.Kg7 Kc6 18.Qe8+ Kxc5 19.Kf8 Qh8+ 20.Kf7 Qh5 21.Kxe6 b4 22.Qf8+ Kb5 23.g7 Qg6+ 24.Qf6 Qe8+ 25.Kf5+-] **5.c6+! Kd6** [5...Rxc6 6.Qa8+-] **6.g6!** [6.Qa3+? b4 7.Qxb4+ Kxc6 8.Kxf7 Rd6=] **6...Qd8! 7.Qa3+! Kxc6** [7...b4 8.Qxb4+ Kxc6 9.b8N+! Qxb8 10.Qxb8+-] **8.Qa6+** [8.b8N+? Kb7+-] **8...Kd7 9.Qxb5+ c6** [9...Kd6 10.Qb4+ Kd7 11.Qc3 fxe6 12.f7+-] **10.b8N+!** [10.b8Q? Qxf6+ 11.Kh7 Qxg6+-] **10...Kc8** [10...Kd6 11.Qxc6+ Ke5 12.Nd7+ Ke4 13.Qa4 fxe6 14.f7+-] **11.Qxc6+! Kxb8** [11...Rxc6 12.Nxc6+-] **12.Qxe6 fxe6 13.f7 d4 14.f8Q Qxf8+ 15.Kxf8 d3 16.g7 d2 17.g8Q d1Q 18.Kg7+! Kc7 19.Qxe6+-**

After an impressive key, White manages to succeed in a complicated position with a piece down thanks to its kingside pawns and a beautiful Knight promotion.

**Steffen Nielsen
(Denmark)
Sp. Honourable Mention**



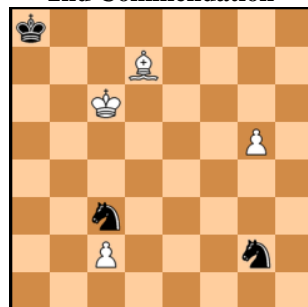
Win

**Peter S. Krug
(Austria)
1st Commendation**



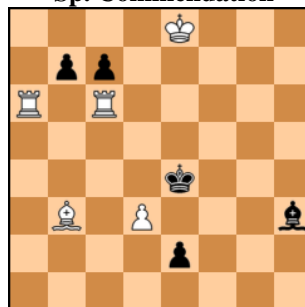
Win

**V. Tarasiuk & M. Garcia
(Ukraine-Argentina)
2nd Commendation**



Win

**Marco Campioli
(Italy)
Sp. Commendation**



BTM Win B)- bB to d1

Steffen Nielsen (Denmark)

1.Ne7 [Logical try 1.Nxh6 ? 1...Qxa3 (1...Rxc4 2.Nxf5+ Kxe4 3.Nxg3+ Kd4 4.Nf5+ Ke4 5.Nd6+ Kd4 6.Nxc4 Qxa3 7.Nxa3 h2 8.Bf3) 2.Nxf5+ Kxe4 3.Nd6+ Kd4 4.Nb5+ Ke4 5.Nxc3+ Kd4 6.Nb5+ Ke4 7.Nd6+ Kd4 8.Nf5+ Ke4 9.Nxg3+ Kd4 10.Nf5+ Ke4 11.Nd6+ Kd4 12.Nb5+ Ke4 13.Nxa3 h2 14.Nb5 h1Q 15.Nd6+ Kd4 16.Nf5+ Ke4 17.Ng3+ Kd4 18.Nxh1 b2 19.Ng3 b1Q 20.Nf5+ Qxf5+ 21.Kxf5 ideal stalemate] **1...Qxa3** [1...Rd3 2.Nc6+ Kxc4 3.Qc1+ Kb5 4.Bxd3+ Kxc6 5.Qc4] **2.Nxf5+ Kxe4 3.Nd6+ Kd4 4.Nb5+ Ke4 5.Nxc3+ Kd4 6.Nb5+ Ke4 7.Nd6+ [7.Nxa3 ? 7...g2 (7...b2)] 7...Kd4 8.Nf5+ Ke4 9.Nxg3+ Kd4 10.Nf5+ Ke4 11.Nd6+ Kd4 12.Nb5+ Ke4 13.Nxa3 h2 14.Nb5 h1Q 15.Nd6+ Kd4 16.Nf5+ Ke4 17.Ng3+ Kd4 18.Nxh1 b2 19.Ng3 b1Q 20.Nf5+ Ke4 [20...Qxf5+ 21.Kxf5 no stalemate] 21.Nd6+ Kd4 22.Nb5+ Ke4 23.Nc3+ Kd4 24.Nxb1!+-**

The position is not very economical and most of Black pieces are captured without playing but the content is amazing with 24 consecutive moves by wN, 20 moves foresight and an ideal stalemate in the logical try.

Peter S. Krug (Austria)

1.Nf5! [1.Rb7? fxe6 2.Nxe6 Qxf6!]=] **1...h6 2.Nxf8 cxb5 3.Ng6! fvg6** [3...Qh7 4.Nfe7#] **4.Ne7+ Kf7 5.hxg6+ Kf8 6.Nf5! Kg8 7.Kd2!** [7.Ke2? a5 8.Kd3 a4! 9.Kc3 a3! 10.Kb3 b4=] **7...a5 8.Kc3 a4 9.Kb4 h5 10.Kc5 a3 11.Kd6 a2 12.Ke7 Qh7+!** [12...a1Q 13.f7#] **13.f7+-**

Although there are pieces captured without playing, this stands out by the diagonal king march from e1 to e7 and the dominant position of wN vs bQ.

Vladislav Tarasiuk & Mario G. Garcia (Ukraine-Argentina)

1.g6! Nd5! [1...Ne4 e.g. 2.Kc7 Nf4 3.Bc6+...] **2.Kxd5** [2.g7? Nf6! 3.Be6 Nh4!]=] **2...Nf4+ 3.Kd6 Nxb6 4.Bg4!!** [Try: 4.c4? Nf4 5.c5 Nd3 6.c6 Nb2! 7.c7 Nc4+ 8.Kc6 Nb6! 9.Kxb6 stalemate] **4...Ka7!** [4...Nf4 5.Ke5 Ng2 6.Bf3+...] **5.Bf3!!** [5.c4? Nf4 6.c5 Nd3 7.c6 Nb2! 8.Be2 Na4 9.c7 Nb6=] **5...Nf4** [5...Nh4 6.Be4+...] **6.Ke5!** with two thematic lines: A) **6...Nh3** [B) 6...Ng6+ 7.Kf6 Nf8 (7...Nf4 8.Kf5+...) 8.Bg4 Nh7+ 9.Kg6+...] **7.Kf5 Kb6 8.Kg4 Ng1 9.Bd1 Kc5 10.Kg3+-**

After a fine introductory play we have a maluyotka position with beautiful moves of wB and knight domination in 2 thematic lines.

Marco Campioli – (Italy)

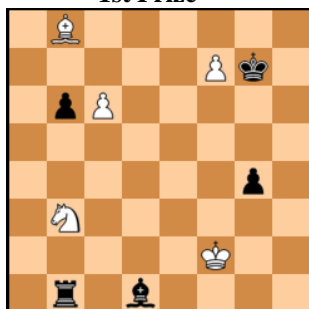
Twin A 1...Ke3! [1...Kxd3 2.Bc4+!-+] **2.Rh6!** [2.Re6+? Bxe6 3.Rxe6+ Kxd3 4.Kd7 Kd2=; 2.Rxc7? bxa6=] **2...bxa6** [2...e1Q 3.Rae6+ Bxe6 4.Rxe6+ Kd2 5.Rxe1-+] **3.Rxb3+ Kd2 4.Rh1!** [4.Rh2? Kxd3 5.Bc4+ Kxc4 6.Rxe2 c5 7.Kd7 a5 8.Kc6 Kb4! 9.Re4+ c4 10.Kb6 a4=] **4...Kxd3 5.Bd1!** [5.Kd7? c5 6.Kc6 c4 7.Bxc4+ Kxc4 8.Re1 Kd3=] **5...exd1Q** [5...Kd2 6.Bxe2+-] **6.Rxd1+ Kc4!** [6...Kc2! 7.Rd5! Kb3 8.Kd7!] **7.Kd7!** [7.Rc1+? Kb4 8.Rb1+ Kc4 9.Kd7 a5=; 7.Ra1? c5 8.Rxa6 Kb3 9.Kd7 c4 10.Kd6 c3=] **7...a5** [7...c5 8.Kc6 a5 9.Kb6 a4 10.Ka5 a3 11.Ka4+...] **8.Kxc7!** [8.Ra1 Kb4 9.Kxc7 a4 10.Kb6 a3=] **8...a4 9.Kb6** [9.Kc6? a3!]=] **9...a3 10.Ka5+-**

Twin B 1...Kxd3! [1...Kd4 2.Ra4+ Kxd3 3.Re6 Bxb3 4.Ra3 Kd2 5.Rxb3 e1Q 6.Rxe1 Kxe1 7.Rxb7+-] **2.Bc4+** [2.Rd6+? cxd6 3.Rxd6+ Kc3 4.Rxd1=] **2...Kd4! 3.Bxe2 Bxe2** [3...bxa6 4.Bxd1+-; 3...bxc6 4.Bxd1+-] **4.Ra4+!** [4.Rxc7? bxa6=] **4...Kd5! 5.Rxc7** [5.Rc1? Bb5+ 6.Kd8 Bxa4=; 5.Rc2? Bb5+=] **5...Bb5+! 6.Rd7+! Bxd7+ 7.Kxd7 b5 8.Rb4!** [8.Rf4? Kc5! 9.Kc7 (9.Ke6 b4 10.Ke5 b3 11.Rf2 Kc4 12.Ke4 Kc3 13.Ke3 b2=) 9...b4=; 8.Rh4? Kc5! =; 8.Ra5? Kc4! 9.Kc6 b4 10.Ra4 Kc3 11.Kc5 b3 12.Ra3 Kc2 13.Kc4 b2=] **8...Kc5 9.Rb1!** [9.Rb2? b4 10.Rb1 Kc4 11.Kc6 b3=; 9.Rf4? b4 10.Ke6 b3=] **9...b4 10.Kc7!** [10.Ke6? Kc4 11.Ke5 b3 12.Ke4 Kc3 13.Ke3 b2 14.Ke2 Kc2=] **10...Kb5** [10...Kc4 11.Kb6 b3 12.Ka5 Kc3 13.Ka4 b2 14.Ka3+-] **11.Kb7!+-** .[11.Kd6? Kc4 12.Ke5 b3=]

The special distinction is for 2 interesting and precise lines of play in a twin study with winning positions of wR vs a- and b-pawns, respectively

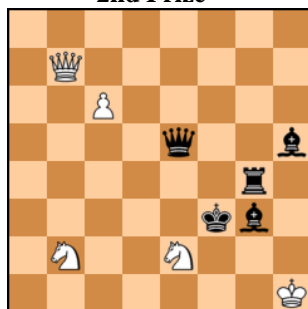
Section B.2. Studies - Draw

V. Tarasiuk & P. Krug & M.Garcia
(Ukraine-Austria-Argentina)
1st Prize



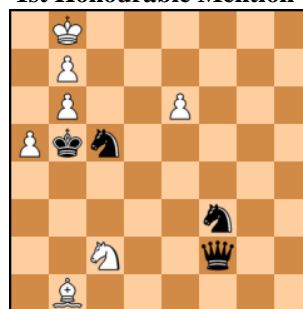
Draw

Yuri Bazlov
(Russia)
2nd Prize



Draw

Alexander Zhukov
(Russia)
1st Honourable Mention



Draw

Vladislav Tarasiuk & Peter Krug & Mario Garcia (Ukraine-Austria-Argentina)

1.Nc5!! [Tries : a) 1.c7? g3+! 2.Kg2 Bg4! (2...Bf3+? 3.Kxg3 Bb7 4.Nd4 Kxf7 5.Nf5 Ke6 6.Nd6=) 3.Kxg3 Rxb3+ 4.Kxg4 Rc3 5.Kf5 Kxf7 6.Ke5 Ke7 7.Ba7 b5-+; b) 1.f8Q+? Kxf8 2.c7 g3+! 3.Kg2 Bf3+ /g4-+; c) 1.Nd4? Ba4 2.Be5+ Kxf7-+; d) 1.Be5+? Kxf7 2.c7 g3+ 3.Kg2 (3.Bxg3 Rb2+ 4.Ke1 Bg4 5.Nd4 Ke8 6.Nc6 Re2+ 7.Kf1 Ra2 8.Nb4 Ra3-+) 3...Bg4 4.Kxg3 Rxb3+ 5.Kxg4 Rb4+ 6.Kf5 Rc4-+] **1...bxc5!**
2.Be5+! with two lines: A) [Thematic try: 2.c7? g3+! 3.Kxg3 Rb3+ 4.Kf4 Rb4+ 5.Kg5 Bg4!-+ (5...Rg4+? 6.Kf5 Rd4 7.f8Q+! Kxf8 8.c8Q+-)] **2...Kxf7** [B] 2...Kf8 3.c7 g3+! 4.Kxg3 Rb3+ 5.Kh4! (Try: 5.Kf4? Rb4+ 6.Bd4?! Rxd4+ 7.Ke5 Bg4 8.c8Q+ Bxc8-+ - no stalemate) 5...Rb4+ 6.Bf4!! Bishop sacrifice 6...Rxf4+ 7.Kg3 (g5) 7...Bg4 8.Kxf4 Be6 9.Ke5 /e4 9...Kxf7 10.c8Q Bxc8 11.Kd5=] **3.c7 g3+!**
4.Kxg3 Rb3+ 5.Kf4! [Try: 5.Kh4? Rb4+ 6.Bf4?! Rxf4+ 7.Kg5 Rg4-+ (7...Bg4? 8.Kxf4=)] **5...Rb4+ 6.Bd4!!** Bishop sacrifice **6...Rxd4+ 7.Ke5 Bg4 8.c8Q Bxc8** stalemate.

The first move is delightful. The 2 thematic lines introduce beautiful sacrifices of wB with exchange of play in the tries.

Yuri Bazlov (Russia)

1.Ng1+! [1.c7+? Qe4! (1...Kxe2? 2.Qa6+ Kf3 3.Qd3+ Kf4 4.Qd2+=) 2.Ng1+ Kf2+ 3.Qxe4 Rxe4 4.c8Q Rh4+ 5.Nh3+ Rxh3+ 6.Qxh3 Bf3+ 7.Qg2+ Bxg2#] **1...Kf2** [1...Ke3 2.Qb3+!]=] **2.Nd1+** [2.Nd3+? Kf1 3.Qb1+ Be1-+; 2.Qb6+? Rd4 3.Nd3+ Kf1-+] **2...Ke1** [2...Kf1 3.Qa6+=] **3.Nf3+ Kf1!** **4.c7!** [4.Qa6+? Qe2 5.Ne3+ Kf2-+] **4...Qe2!** [4...Qxc7 5.Qd5!+=; 4...Bf7 5.Nh2+ Ke1 6.Nf3+ Kf1 7.Nh2+ Bxh2 8.Qf3+! Ke1 9.Qf2+! Kxd1 10.Qf1+! Kd2 11.Qf2+! Kd3 12.Qf3+! Kd4 13.Qf2+! Kd5 14.Qxf7+ Kd6 15.Qd7+ Kxd7 16.c8Q+ Kxc8 stalemate] **5.Ne3+! Qxe3 6.Qb1+ Ke2!** **7.Ng1+! Qxg1+! 8.Qxg1! Bf2!** **9.Qg3!!** [9.Qd1+? Kxd1 10.c8Q Rg1+! 11.Kh2 Bf3! 12.Qd7+ Kc1 13.Qc7+ Kb1! 14.Qb8+ (14.Qh7+ Ka1 15.Qh8+ Ka2-+) 14...Ka2!-+; 9.Qh2? Rg5! 10.Qxf2+ Kxf2 11.c8Q Bg4 12.Qc2+ (12.Qe8 Rg7! 13.Qh8 Bf3+ 14.Kh2 Rg2+ 15.Kh3 Bg4+ 16.Kh4 Rh2+-) 12...Be2 13.Qh7 Bf3+! 14.Kh2 Rg2+ 15.Kh3 Bg4+ 16.Kh4 Rh2+-+] **9...Rxc3 10.c8Q Bf3+ 11.Kh2 Rg2+ 12.Kh3 Rg3+ 13.Kh2=** positional draw.

With a piece down and in a mating net White must react quickly. After a combinative play with mutual sacrifices by both sides, it seems there is no hope for White but the amazing move 9.Qg3!! saves the day by positional draw.

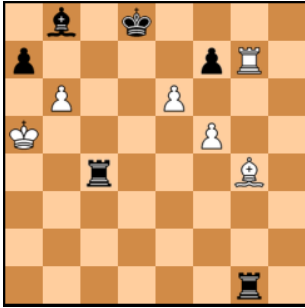
Alexander Zhukov (Russia)

1.Ka8! [1.Ka7? Nxb7! 2.e7 Nd6-+; 1.e7? Qe2 2.Ka8 Nd7! 3.Nd4+ Nxd4 4.Bd3+ Qxd3 5.e8Q Nc6!-+] **1...Nxb7!** [1...Na6 2.e7 Qe2 3.Ne3 Qxe3 4.Bd3+! Kxa5 5.Bxa6!]=] **2.e7!** [2.Kxb7! Ne5-+] **2...Qe2** [2...Nd6 3.b7=] **3.Nd4+! Nxd4 4.Bd3+! Qxd3 5.e8Q+ Ka6** [5...Kxa5 6.Kxb7=] **6.Qb8!** [6.Qe7? Qf3!-+] **6...Nxa5 7.b7! Nb5!** [7...Qe4 8.Qd6+ Kb5 9.Qe5+ Qxe5 10.b8Q+=] **8.Qd8!!** [8.Qc8? Qe4 9.Qd7 Nxb7-+; 8.Qe5? Nxb7!-+] **8...Nd6!** [8...Qxd8+ 9.b8N+ Kb6 stalemate; 8...Qf3 9.Qf6+ Qxf6 10.b8N+ Kb6 11.Nd7+!]=] **9.b8N+!** [9.b8Q? Qd5+-+; 9.Qxa5+ Kxa5 10.Ka7 Qa6+-+] **9...Kb5 10.Qd7+!** [10.Qg5+? Ka4!-+] **10...Kb4! 11.Nc6+ Nxc6 12.Qxc6 Nb5! 13.Qb6!+=**

Good introduction by White to decoy bQ from e8-promotion square and excellent move 8.Qd8!! introducing a stalemate by Knight promotion.

M. Hlinka & L.Kekely
(Slovakia)

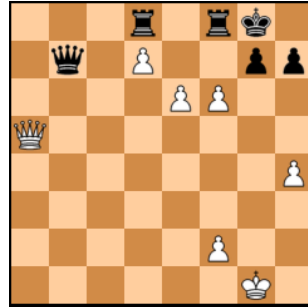
2nd Honourable Mention



Draw

Peter S. Krug
(Austria)

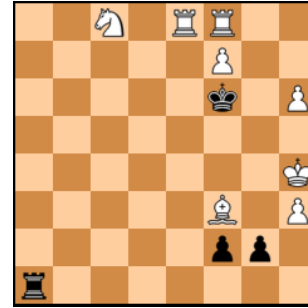
3rd Honourable Mention



Draw

Marco Campioli
(Italy)

4th Honourable Mention



BTM Draw

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1.Rg8+ Ke7 2.f6+! Kxf6 3.exf7 axb6+ [3...Kxf7 4.Be6+ Kxe6 5.Rxg1=; 3...Ra1+ 4.Kb5 Kxf7 5.Be6+ Kxe6 6.Kxc4=] 4.Kb5! [4.Kxb6? Rb1+ 5.Ka5 Bc7+ 6.Ka6 Ra4#] **4...Rc5+** [4...Kxf7 5.Be6+ Kxe6 6.Rxg1 Rc5+ 7.Kxb6=] **5.Kxb6 Ba7+!** [5...Bd6 6.f8Q+ Bxf8 7.Rxf8+=] **6.Kxa7 Rc7+ 7.Ka6!** [7.Kb6? Rxf7+ zz; 7.Kb8? Rxf7 8.Kc8 Rh7 9.Kd8 Rh4 10.Be6 Rxg8+ 11.Bxg8 Rh8+] **7...Rxf7 8.Kb6!** zz [8.Kb5? Rh7 9.Bf5 Rb7+ 10.Kc6 Rxg8 11.Kxb7 Kxf5+] **8...Rg2** [8...Rh7 9.Bf5!]=] **9.Kc6! Rh7** [9...Ra7 10.Rf8+ Kg7 11.Rf4=] **10.Bf5!** [10.Kd6? Rg1 11.Kd5 Rh4+; 10.Kc5? Rh4 11.Be6 Rc2+ 12.Kd6 Rd2+ 13.Bd5 Rh5+; 10.Kd5? Rh4+] **10...Rxg8 11.Bxh7=**

The highlight is the reciprocal zugzwang position after 8.Kb6! and the authors have succeeded in finding a good previous play with sacrifices.

Peter S. Krug (Austria)

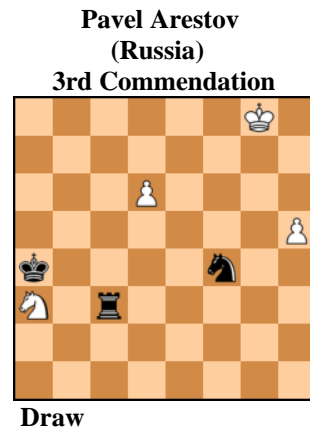
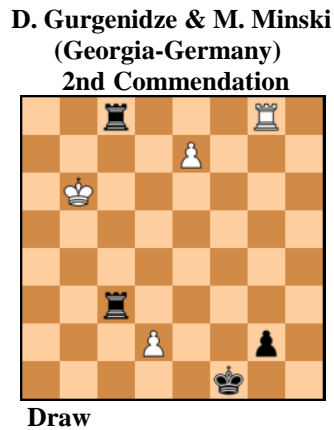
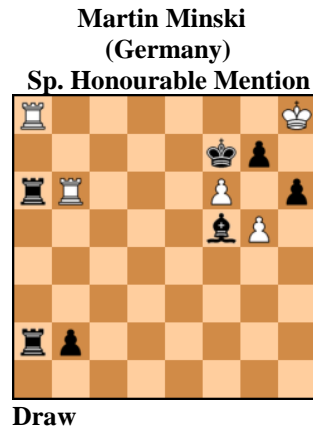
1.f7+! Kh8 2.Qxd8! Qb1+ 3.Kh2 Rxd8 4.e7 Qb8+ 5.Kg1! [5.Kg2? Rf8 6.h5 Qa8+! 7.Kg1 h6 8.e8Q Kh7+] **5...Rf8 6.h5!!** [6.e8Q? h5!+] **6...h6** [6...g6 7.h6=] **7.e8Q g6 8.Qe6 Qb1+** [8...Qd8 9.f4=] **9.Kg2!** [9.Kh2? Kh7 10.d8Q Rxd8 11.Qe7 Qb8+] **9...Qf5** [9...Kh7 10.d8Q Rxd8 11.Qe7=] **10.d8Q Rxd8 11.Qe8+ Kg7 12.Qxd8=**

White has a significant material disadvantage which is compensated by its advanced pawns. However, only the amazing waiting move 6.h5!! leads to a draw.

Marco Campioli (Italy)

1...Ra4+ [1...f1Q 2.Re6+ Kxe6 3.Re8+ Kxf7 4.Nd6+ Kf6 5.Ne4+= perpetual check] **2.Bg4!** [2.Be4? f1Q 3.Re6+ Kxe6 4.Re8+ Kxf7 5.Nd6+ Kf6 6.h7 Qf4+ 7.Kh5 Qg5#; 2.Re4? f1Q! 3.Rg8 Qf2+ 4.Rg3 Qxg3+! 5.Kxg3 g1Q+; 2.Kh5? f1Q 3.Re6+ Kxe6 4.Bg4+ Rxg4 5.hxg4 g1Q 6.Re8+ Kd7+] **2...Rxg4+ 3.hxg4** [3.Kxg4? g1Q+] **3...g1Q 4.Re6+ Kxe6 5.Re8+!** [5.Kg5? f1Q 6.Re8+ Kd7! 7.f8Q Qb5+] **5...Kxf7 6.Nd6+ Kf6** [6...Kg6 7.Re6+ Kh7 8.Ne4= similar to solution] **7.Ne4+** [7.Rf8+? Ke7 8.h7 Qh2+ 9.Kg5 Kxf8+] **7...Kf7!** [7...Kg6 8.Re6+ Kf7 9.Rf6+ Ke7 10.Rxf2 Qh1+ 11.Kg5 Qxe4 12.Rf4=] **8.Nd6+ Kg6 9.Re6+!** [9.Rg8+? Kxh6 10.Nf5+ Kh7 11.Rg7+ Kh8 12.Kg5 f1Q+] **9...Kh7 10.Ne4!** [10.g5? Qh1+ 11.Kg4 f1Q 12.Re7+ Kg8! 13.Re8+ Qf8!+] **10...Qh2+** [10...f1Q 11.Ng5+ Kg8 12.h7+ Kg7 13.Re7+ Kf8 14.Rf7+ Qxf7 15.h8Q+=] **11.Kg5 f1Q 12.Nf6+!** [12.Re7+? Kg8!+] **12...Qxf6+ 13.Rxf6!** [13.Kxf6? Qxh6+] **13...Qe5+ 14.Rf5 Qe3+! 15.Kh4** [15.Kh5? Qxh6#] **15...Qe1+! 16.Kh3!** [16.Kg5 Qd2+! 17.Rf4 Qc1+ zz] **16...Qh1+** [16...Kxh6 17.Rf6+=] **17.Kg3 Qg1+ 18.Kh3= /f3=**

In a natural position this shows a myriad of themes but the main idea may be masked a little by the cascade of white and black sacrifices.



Pavel Arestov (Russia)

1.b8Q! [1.Nd6+? Qxd6+ 2.Kxd6 Rd1+ 3.Kc7 Rc1+ 4.Kd8 e1Q-+] **1...Qc2+** [1...Qc1+ 2.Kd7 Rd1+ 3.Nd6+ Rxd6+ 4.Qxd6 e1Q 5.f7=] **2.Kd8** [2.Kd7? Rd1+ 3.Nd6+ Rxd6+ 4.Qxd6 e1Q 5.f7 Qa4+--+] **2...Rd1+ 3.Nd6+ Rxd6+** [3...Kxf6 4.Bxe2=] **4.Qxd6 e1Q 5.Bg6+** [5.f7? Qa5+] **5...Kxg6 6.f7+ Kh7** [6...Kxf7 7.Qd7+ Kf6 8.Qc6+ Qxc6 stalemate] **7.f8N+** [7.f8Q? Qa5+ 8.Kd7 Qca4+--+] **7...Kg8 8.Qd5+ Kxf8 9.Qd6+ Kg7 10.Qd7+** With A) **10...Kh8** [B) 10...Kf6 11.Qc6+ Qxc6= stalemate] **11.Qd4+** [11.Qh3+? Qh7-+] **11...Kh7** [11...Kg8 12.Qd5+ Kf8 13.Qd6+ Kg7 14.Qd7+=] **12.Qd7+ Kh6 13.Qe6+** [13.Qc6+? Qg6-+] **13...Qxe6=** stalemate

Good flow, a nice knight promotion and 2 unexpected stalemates in the ending Q vs 2Q.

Martin Minski (Germany)

1.g6+! [thematic try: 1.Rf8+? Kxf8 2.Rb8+ Kf7 3.fxg7 Rg6!-+] **1...Bxg6 2.Rf8+! Kxf8 3.Rb8+ Kf7 4.fxg7** (4...Rg6 impossible) **4...Bh7! 5.Kxh7 b1Q+! 6.Rxb1 Rg2** position X **7.Rb7+** [7.g8Q+? Rxg8 8.Rb7+ Kf6 9.Rf7+! Kg5!-+; 7.Rf1+? Rf6-+] **7...Kf6 8.Rf7+! Kxf7** position X without the wRb1 **9.g8Q+ Rxg8** stalemate

Smart study with a good thematic try in the first move and a nice final stalemate.

Olivier Mathieu (France)

1.Nc4! [1.a6? Rf8 2.Nc4! (2.Kg2 Kf5 3.Kf3 Ra8 4.Nc4 Rxa6--+) 2...Kf5 3.a7 Bd4! 4.c7 Kg4! 5.Nd6 Rf1+ 6.Kg2 Rf2+ 7.Kg1 Kf3 8.c8Q Rd2+ 9.Kh1 Rd1+ 10.Kh2 Be5+ 11.Kh3 Rh1#] **1...Bb8 2.d6 Rc5 3.a6!** [3.c7? Bxc7 4.a6 Bd8 5.a7 Rc8--; 3.h5+? Kf6 4.a6 Rxc6--+] **3...Rxc4 4.h5+** [4.c7? Rxh4+! 5.Kg2 Bxc7 6.dxc7 Rh8--+] **4...Kxh5 5.c7!** [5.a7? Bxa7--+] **5...Bxc7 6.a7 Rh4+ 7.Kg2 Rg4+ 8.Kf3 Rg8 9.dxc7 Re8 10.Kf4 Kg6 11.a8Q Rxa8 12.Ke5 Kf7 13.Kd6 Ke8** [13...Re8 14.Kd7=] **14.Kc6! Rc8 15.Kd6 Ra8 16.Kc6=**

At first, this study was considered dualistic but after thorough analysis was proven sound. The following supporting line, omitted by the author, is added: 1.a6? Rf8 2.Nc4!. Here, the accurate play of wPs and the King march lead to a known positional draw.

David Gurgenidze & Martin Minski (Georgia- Germany)

1.Rf8+! Ke1! 2.e8Q+ [2.dxc3? g1Q+ 3.Kb7 Rxc3 4.e8Q+ Re3! 5.Qf7 Qg2+--+] **2...Rxe8 3.Rxe8+ Re3!!** [3...Kf2 4.dxc3 g1Q 5.Rc8! Kf3+ 6.Kb7 /Ka6 6...Qb1+ 7.Ka7 /Ka6/Ka8 7...Ke4 8.c4 Ke5 9.c5 Ke6 10.Rc7= theoretical draw after Guretzky & Cornitz] **4.Rg8!** switchback [4.Rxe3+? Kf2 5.Re8 g1Q--; 4.dxe3? g1Q--+] **4...Rb3+ 5.Kc6! Kf2 6.Rxg2+!** [6.Rf8+? Rf3--+] **6...Kxg2 7.d4 Rc3+** [7...Kf3 8.d5 Ke4 9.d6 Ke5 10.d7 Rd3 11.Kc7=] **8.Kd6! Kf3 9.d5 Ke4 10.Ke6 Rh3 11.d6 Rh6+ 12.Ke7 Kd5 13.d7 Rh7+ 14.Ke8 Ke6 15.d8N+!** excelsior [15.d8Q? Rh8#] **15...Kf6** [15...Kd6 16.Nf7+=] **16.Nc6 Rc7 17.Nd8!=** Rook ending with the outstanding move 3...Re3!! The subsequent play including an excelsior has been seen before.

Pavel Arestov (Russia)

1.Nb1! [Try: 1.d7? Ne6! 2.Kf7 Nd8+ 3.Ke7 Nc6+ 4.Kd6 Ka5! 5.Nb1 Rc1 6.Nd2 Kb6--; 1.h6? Rc8+ 2.Kg7 Kxa3 3.h7 Ne6+ 4.Kf6 Nd4! 5.Kg7 Nf5+--+] **1...Rc8+** [1...Rd3 2.h6 Rxd6 3.h7=; 1...Rh3 2.d7 Ne6 3.Kf7 Nd8+ 4.Ke8! Nb7 5.d8Q Nxd8 6.Kxd8=] **2.Kf7!** [2.Kg7? Nxb5+--+] **2...Kb5!** [2...Rh8 3.Nc3+ Kb4 4.Ne4 Rh7+ 5.Kf6 Nxb5+ 6.Kg6=] **3.d7 Rc7** [3...Rh8 4.Ke7 Rh7+ 5.Kd6 Rh6+ 6.Ke7 Nd5+ 7.Kf7 Rh7+ 8.Ke6 Nc7+ 9.Kd6=] **4.Ke8 Nxb5!** [4...Ne6 5.d8Q Nxd8 6.Kxd8=] **5.Nc3+!!** [5.d8Q? Ng7+! 6.Kf8 Ne6+ 7.Ke8 Nxd8 8.Kxd8 Rc1 9.Nd2 Rd1--+] **5...Kc6!** [5...Rxc3 6.d8Q=] **6.d8N+!!** [6.d8Q? Ng7+! 7.Kf8 Ne6+ 8.Ke8 Nxd8 9.Kxd8 Rd7+ 10.Ke8 Rd3 11.Ne4 Re3--+] **6...Kb6** [6...Kd6 7.Nb5+ fork; 6...Kc5 7.Ne6+ fork] **7.Nd5+=** fork.

Miniature with theoretical interest in which White struggles to promote the d-pawn to a Knight!

Salta, Argentina - August 19, 2018

Judge: Luis Miguel González