

No. 183 – Vol. XVII – January 2011 Supplement

Awards

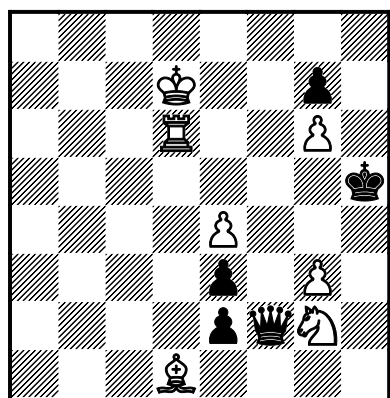
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The Problemist 2006-2007

In his provisional award, published in *The Problemist* iii2009, GM Oleg Pervakov (Russia) explained his viewpoint on database studies. “The application of today’s technology is to be welcomed only if it results in something vivid. This is not always the case, for one comes across purely “computer studies” ... My view is that such studies lack aesthetic value”, and heavyweight studies: “Gentlemen, a financial crisis is at hand; is it not the time to transfer the struggle against it to the chessboard as well and become more economical with material resources?”.

Pervakov judged no fewer than 60 studies by 48 composers from 18 countries. The tourney had the usual three month confirmation time.

No 17415 P. Cumbers & J. Nunn
1st prize



d7h5 3111.33 7/5 Win

No 17415 Paul Cumbers & John Nunn (Great Britain). 1.Sf4+/i Qxf4/ii 2.gxf4 (Bxe2+? Kh6;) Kh6 3.Rd2 e1Q 4.Rh2+ Kxg6 5.Bh5+ Kf6 6.Rg2 Qh4 7.Rg6+ Kf7 8.Rh6+ Kg8 9.Bf7+ wins.

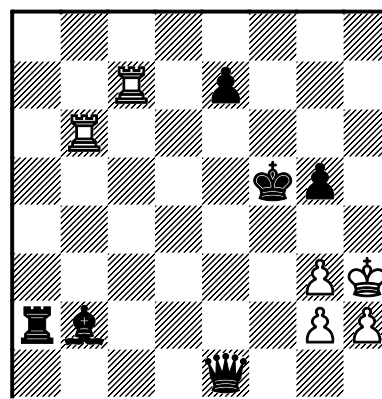
i) 1.Bxe2+? Kh6 2.Sf4 Qxf4 3.gxf4 stalemate.

ii) Kh6 2.Sxe2 Qf8 3.e5 Qf5+ 4.e6 Qb5+ 5.Ke7 Qg5+ 6.Ke8 Qb5+ 7.Rd7 Kxg6 8.Sf4+ Kh7 9.Be2 Qb8+ 10.Ke7 wins.

“A fine, sharp, combinational study by the debutant composer and the otb grandmaster. Black’s stalemate counterplay is refuted by the fantastic move 3.Rd2!! with subsequent play by two white batteries. A memorable fight!”.

No 17416 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.g4+ Kf4/i 2.g3+ Kf3 3.Rb3+ Bc3/ii 4.Rcxc3+/iii Kf2 5.Rc2+/iv Rxc2 6.Rf3+ Kg1 7.Rf2 Qc1/v 8.Rg2+ Kf1 9.Rxc2 Qe3 10.Rf2+ Ke1 11.Rf1+ Ke2 12.Rf2+ Kd3 13.Rf3 Qxf3 stalemate.

No 17416 S. Didukh
2nd prize



h3f5 3530.32 6/6 Draw

i) Ke4 2.Re6+ Be5 3.Rxe5+ Kxe5 4.Rxe7+.

ii) Kf2 4.Rc2+ Qe2 5.Rbxb2 Rxb2 6.Rxb2 e5 (Qxb2 stalemate) 7.Rxe2+ Kxe2 8.Kg2 e4 9.h4.

iii) 4.Rbxc3+? Kf2 5.Rf3+ Kxf3 6.Rc3+ Kf2, and 7.Rf3+ Kg1 8.Rf2 Qa1, or 7.Rc2+ Ke3 8.Rc3+ Kd2 9.Rd3+ Kc2.

iv) 5.Rb2+? Rxb2 6.Rf3+ Kg1 7.Rf2 Qb1.

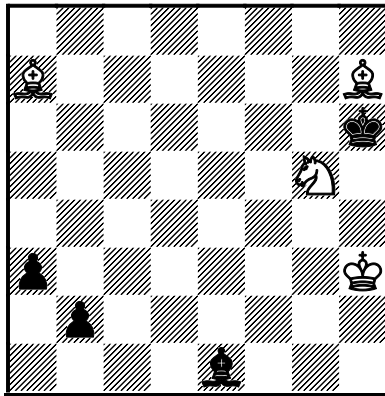
v) Kh1 8.Rg2 Qxg3+ 9.hxg3 Rc8 10.Rg1+ Kxg1 stalemate, or Rc8 8.Rg2+ Kf1 9.Rf2+ Kxf2 stalemate.

“Another excellent study with interesting content. White must make a difficult choice between three equivalent continuations, leading to a curious domination position. As a result, Black is unable to set up a desperado rook”.

No 17417 Aleksei Sochnev (Russia). 1.Be3 a2 2.Bd3/i, and:

– Bd2 3.Bxd2 b1S 4.Be3/ii a1Q 5.Se6+ Kh5 6.Sf8 Sc3 7.Bg6 mate, or:

No 17417 A. Sochnev
3rd prize



b3h6 0051.02 4/4 Win

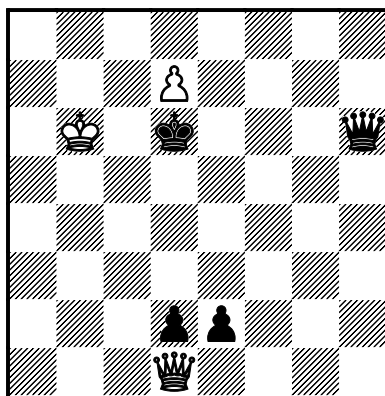
– Bf2 3.Bf4 b1Q 4.Se6+ Kh5 5.Sg7 mate.

i) 2.Be4? (Bf5?) Bd2 3.Bxd2 b1S 4.Be3 a1Q 5.Se6+ Kh5 6.Sf8 Qf6 (Qg7), or 2.Bc2? Bc3 3.Se6+ Kh5 4.Sf8 b1Q.

ii) 4.Bf4? a1Q 5.Se6+ Kh5 6.Sf8 Qc3.

“Subtle play by two white bishops leads to two model mates. A pleasant, airy initial position”.

No 17418 D. Gurgenzidze
4th prize



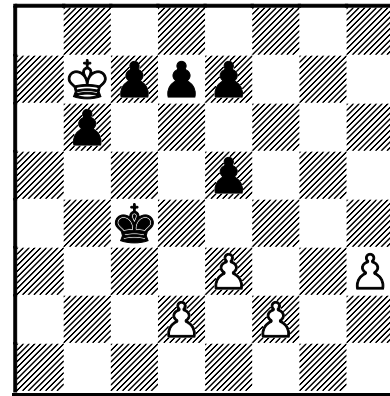
b6d6 4000.12 3/4 Win

No 17418 David Gurgenzidze (Georgia). 1.Qxd2+ (d8Q+? Ke5+;) Ke7+ 2.Qxh6 e1Q 3.Qd6+ Kxd6 4.d8Q+ Ke6 5.Qe8+ Kf6 6.Qxe1 wins.

“An amusing miniature with mutual queen sacrifices, admittedly with simple motivation. A spectacular short study!”.

No 17419 Edward Pallasz (Poland). 1.Kxc7? b5 2.h4 Kd5 3.Kxd7 e4 4.Kxe7 Ke5 5.Kf7 Kf5 6.Kg7 b4 7.h5 b3 8.h6 b2 9.h7 b1Q 10.h8Q Qb7+ wins. **1.Kc8** b5/i 2.h4 Kd5

No 17419 E. Pallasz
5th prize



b7c4 0000.45 5/6 Draw

3.Kxd7 e4 4.Kxe7 Ke5 5.Kf7 Kf5 6.Kg7 b4/ii 7.h5 b3 8.h6 b2 9.h7 b1Q 10.h8Q draw.

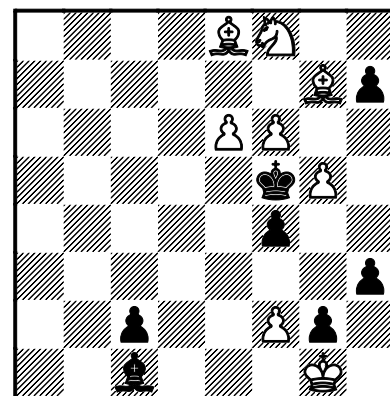
i) Kd5 2.Kxd7 b5 3.h4 Ke6.

ii) Kg4 7.Kg6 Kxh4 8.Kf5.

“In my opinion, the best pawn study published in the magazine during 2006-2007. Excellent introduction involving refusal to capture and foresight effect lasting 10 moves, a dance of the two kings, and a Réti move (7.Kg6!) in a sub-variation – all are on a high level!”.

HH: the originally awarded version had bPf7 instead of bPe7. In ix2009 the composer himself reported a cook (1...Kd5! 2.Kxd7 b5 3.h4 Ke4!) and a (nice) correction.

No 17420 Y. Afek
1st/2nd special prize



g1f5 0051.45 8/7 Draw

No 17420 Yochanan Afek (Netherlands). 1.Ba4 f3/i 2.Bxc2+/ii Kg4/iii 3.Bf5+ Kxf5 4.Sg6 Kxg6 (hxg6; f7) 5.e7 Kf7 6.Bh6 Bb2 (Bf4; g6+) 7.Bg7 Ba3/iv 8.Bf8 Bc1 (Bd6; e8Q+) 9.Bh6 positional draw.

i) Kg4 2.Sd7 f3 3.Se5+ Kf5 4.Bxc2+ Kxe6 5.f7 Bf4 6.Bb3+.

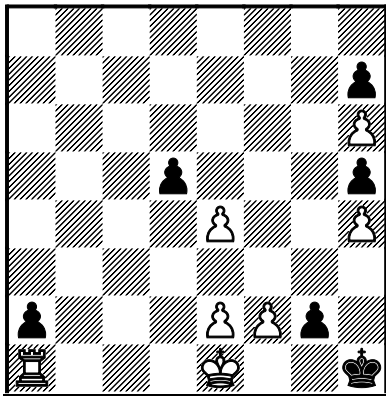
ii) 2.Sg6? hxg6 3.f7 h2+ 4.Kxh2 Bf4+ 5.Kh3 Kxg5 6.Bh6+ Kh5 7.Bxf4 g1Q 8.f8Q Qg2 mate.

iii) Kxg5 3.e7 Bf4 4.Se6+.

iv) Be5 8.e8Q+ Kxe8 9.f7+ wins.

“A splendid development of an earlier idea by the composer (EG172.16410)”.

No 17421 G. Costeff
1st/2nd special prize



e1h1 0100.55 7/6 Win

No 17421 Gady Costeff (USA/Israel). 1.0-0-0/i g1Q/ii 2.Rxg1+ Kxg1 3.Kb2 dxe4 4.f4/iii exf3ep 5.exf3 (e4 f2;) Kf2 6.f4 Kf3 7.f5 Kf4 8.f6 Kf5 9.f7 Kg6 10.f8R/iv wins.

i) 1.Kd2+? g1Q 2.Rxg1+ Kxg1. Thematic try: 1.Rd1? g1Q+.

ii) Kh2 2.Kb2 dxe4 3.Kxa2 Kh3 4.Kb3 Kxh4 5.Kc4 Kg4 6.Kd4 h4 7.Kxe4 h3 8.Rg1 Kh4 9.Kf3 h2 10.Kxg2 hxg1Q+ 11.Kxg1 wins.

iii) Thematic try: 4.f3? e3 5.f4 Kf2 6.f5 Kxe2 7.f6 Kd2 8.f7 e2 draws.

iv) Thematic try: 10.f8Q? a1Q+ 11.Kxa1 stalemate. 10.f8B? Kf7, or 10.f8S+? Kxh6.

“For the first time an ‘ideal’ Valladao task (according to Harold van der Heijden’s formula) is realised, and in such a light setting!”.

HH: an “ideal” Valladao task in a study should have three thematic tries: 1) 1.Rf1 or 1.Rd1 instead of castling; 2) instead of the double pawn move that allows the en-passant capture the single pawn move shouldn’t work; 3) a “real” underpromotion (B/R or S; the latter only to avoid stalemate).

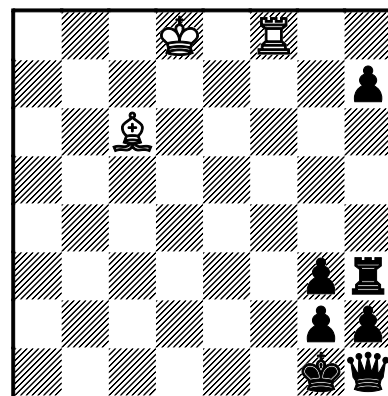
The very complicated 1st hon. mention was cooked by MG: I. Akobia & R. Becker, c2a4 0413.23 g8c8e8c6.a3f2d4e4h6 5/6 Draw: 1.Kd2 Ka5 2.Rg6 Se7 3.Re6 e3+ 4.fxe3 dxe3+ 5.Rxe3, and now: Rxe8 6.Re5+ Ka4 7.Ke2 zz Kb3 8.Re3+ Ka4 9.Re5 Kxa3 10.Re4 zz Kb3 11.Ke1 zz h5 12.Ke2 zz Kc3 13.Re5 h4 14.Re4 zz h3 15.Re3+ draws, or: Rd8+ 6.Kc2 Rxe8 7.Re5+ Ka4 8.Re4+ Kxa3 9.Re3+ Ka2 10.Re2 Ka1 11.Re1+ Ka2 12.Re2 Ka3 13.Re3+ Kb4 14.Re4+ Kc5 15.Re6 positional draw.

However: 5.Kxe3 Re8+ 6.Kd3 Rd8+ 7.Kc4 Rc8+ 8.Kb3 Sg8 9.Rg6 draws? Upon consultation (by MG) both composers confirmed the cook.

Also the 2nd hon. mention fell prey to MG: F. Vrabec, d3a1 0430.22 f4c5g8.e2e3d4e5 4/5 Draw: 1.exd4 Bh7+ 2.e4 Rd5 3.Kc3 Rxd4 4.Rf1+ Ka2 5.Rf7, and: Bg6 6.Rf6 Bh7 7.Rf7 Bxe4 8.Rf2+ Ka3 9.Ra2+ Kxa2 stalemate, or: Bg8 6.Ra7+ Kb1 7.Rb7+ Ka1 8.Rb1+ Ka2 9.Rb2+ Ka3 10.Rb5 Rxe4 11.Ra5+ Ra4 12.Rxe5 draws.

But in the first main line, White can also play 6.Ra7+ Kb1 7.Rg7 Bxe4 (Rd6; Re7) 8.Rg1+ Ka2 9. Re1, while in the second main line White has 6.Rf8 Bc4 7.Ra8+ Kb1 8.Ra4 Rd3+ 9.Kb4 Be6 10.Kc5 Rd8 11.Ra5.

No 17422 A. Gilboa
3rd honourable mention



d8g1 3410.04 3/7 Draw

No 17422 Amos Gilboa (Israel). 1.Kc7 Rh5/i 2.Kb6 Re5 3.Bb5 Re1 4.Kc5 Rf1 5.Kd4 Rxf8 6.Ke3 Rf5 7.Ba6 Ra5 8.Bc4 Ra3+ 9.Ke2 Rc3 10.Ba6 Rc2+ 11.Ke3 Rb2 12.Kf3 Rb3+ 13.Ke2 Ra3 14.Bb5 Ra5 15.Bc4 draw.

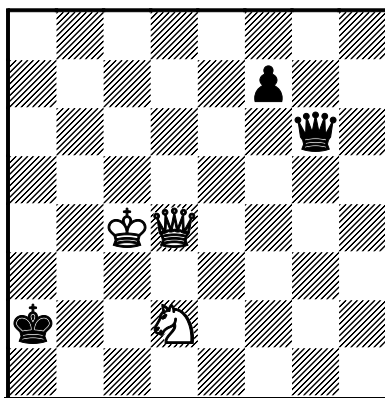
i) Rh4 2.Kd6 Rb4 3.Kc5 Rb1 4.Bb5 Rf1 5.Kd4 Rxf8 6.Ke3, but not 2.Kb6? Rc4 3.Bb5 Rcl.

“Subtle play leads to an original positional draw”.

The 4th hon. mention by A. Pallier was cooked by MG: a4b7 0073.56 h8c4c7d1.a7c2 f6g7h3a6b4c6d5e7h4 7/10 Win: 1.a8Q+ Kb6 2.Qd8 c5 3.Qxc7+ Kxc7 4.g8Q Sb2+ 5.Ka5 Bb5 6.Qg4 exf6 7.Qg7+ wins.

It is remarkable that both the composer and the judge overlooked MG’s bust: 4...Bb5 5.Ka5 and now 5...Sb2 6.Qg4 was given, but after 5...Se3 (also threatening Sc4 mate) Black wins as g4 is covered.

No 17423 J. Nunn
5th honourable mention



c4a2 4001.01 3/3 Win

No 17423 John Nunn (Great Britain). 1.Kb4 Qe6 2.Qa7+ Kb2 3.Qc5 Qh3/i 4.Sc4+ Kc2/ii 5.Qf2+ Kd3 6.Qe1 Qe6/iii 7.Se5+ Kc2/iv 8.Qe2+ Kb1 9.Qf1+/v Kc2/vi 10.Qd3+ Kc1 11.Sc4 (Qe3+ Kc2) Qe1+ 12.Ka3 f6/vii 13.Qh3/viii f5/ix 14.Qf3 zz f4/x 15.Ka2 Qb4 16.Qxf4+ Kd1 17.Sb2+ (Se3+ Kc1;) wins.

i) Qf6 (Qg4+; Sc4+) 4.Sc4+ Kc2 5.Qe3 Qd8 6.Qe2+ Kc1 7.Qe1+ Qd1 8.Qe3+ Kb1 9.Qc3 wins.

ii) Kc1 5.Qg5+ Kb1 6.Qd2.

iii) Qh6 7.Qd1+ Ke4 8.Sd6+, or Qh2 7.Qe3+ Kc2 8.Qc3+ Kd1 9.Qa1+.

iv) Kd4 8.Sf3+ Kd5 9.Qd2+ Ke4 (Kc6; Sd4+) 10.Sg5+.

v) 9.Qe1+? Kc2 10.Qe2+, or 9.Qd1+? Ka2 10.Qe2+, or 9.Qd3+? Ka2 10.Qa3+ Kb1 11.Qd3+ are wastes of time.

vi) Kb2 10.Qf2+ Kc1 (Kb1; Sc4) 11.Sc4 Qd7 (Qe7+; Kc3) 12.Qe1+ Kc2 13.Sa3+.

vii) Qe7+ (f5; Qf3) 13.Kb3 Qb7+ 14.Kc3.

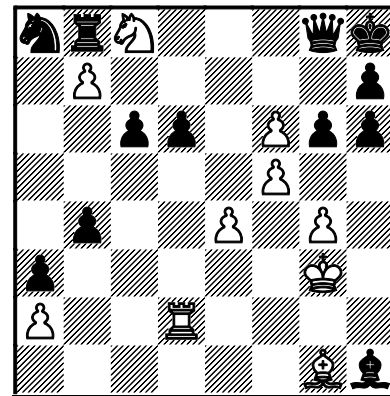
viii) 13.Qf3? (Ka2? Qb4;) f5 zz 14.Qh3 (Ka2 Qe4;) Qe7+ 15.Kb3 Qb7+ 16.Kc3 Qg7+.

ix) Qe7+ 14.Kb3 Qe1 (Qb7+; Kc3) 15.Sb2, or Kc2 14.Qb3+ Kc1 15.Qb2+ Kd1 16.Qd4+.

x) Kc2 (Qe7+; Kb3) 15.Qb3+ Kc1 16.Qb2+ Kd1 17.Qd4+ Ke2 18.Qe3+.

“The position of mutual zugzwang with 6 pieces in preceded by complex introductory play which harmonises well with the main idea”.

No 17424 C. Bates
sp. honourable mention



g3h8 3444.67 10/12 Win

No 17424 Caspar Bates (Great Britain). 1.Bd4/i c5/ii 2.Ba1/iii b3/iv 3.f7+/v b2 4.Rxb2/vi Qxf7 (axb2; Bxb2+) 5.bxa8Q, and:
– Rxa8 6.Rb8+ Kg8 7.Se7 mate/vii, or:
– axb2 6.Bxb2+ Rxb2 7.Sxd6+ Qg8 8.Sf7+ Kg7 9.f6+ Kxf7 10.Qd5+ Kf8 (Kxf6; Qxg8) 11.Qd6+ Kf7 12.Qe7 mate.

i) 1.bxa8Q? Rxa8 2.Bd4 Rxc8 3.f7+ Qg7.

ii) Qf7 2.bxa8Q Rxa8 3.Sxd6 Kg8 4.Sxf7 Kxf7 5.e5 gxf5 6.gxf5 Bd5 7.e6+ Bxe6 8.fxe6+ Kxe6 9.Re2+ Kd5 10.Ba1 c5 11.Kf4 c4 12.Kf5 wins, or Qf8 4.f7+ Qg7 5.Se8 wins.

iii) 2.f7+? cxd4 3.fxg8Q+ Kxg8.

iv) c4 3.Bd4 (f7+? c3;) Qf7 4.bxa8Q Rxa8 5.Sxd6 Kg8 6.Sxf7 Kxf7 7.e5 Bd5 8.Bc5 Bc6 9.Be7 wins.

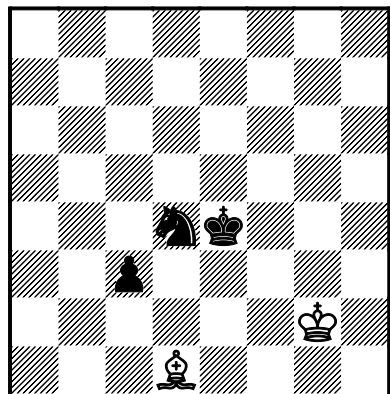
v) 3.Bc3? Qc4 4.f7+ Qxc3+. 3.bxa8Q? b2 4.Bxb2 Rxa8.

vi) 4.bxa8Q? (fxg8Q+? Qxg8;) bxa1Q 5.fxg8Q+ Kxg8 6.Qd5+ (Qxb8 Qg1+;) Kh8, or 4.Bxb2+? axb2 5.fxg8Q+ Kxg8 6.Rxb2 Bxe4.

vii) The Zabunov theme line.

“Impressive realisation of the Zabunov theme in a study with beautiful geometry”.

No 17425 D. Keith
commendation



g2e4 0013.01 2/3 Draw

No 17425 Daniel Keith (France). 1.Kf2 Kd3/i 2.Bh5/ii Kd2 3.Bg6 Sc2 4.Kg3/iii Se1 5.Bb1 Sc2 6.Kf4/iv Kc1 7.Ba2 Sb4 (Kb2; Bd5) 8.Bb3 Sd3+ 9.Ke3 draws.

i) Kf4 2.Ke1 Ke3 3.Ba4 wins.

ii) 2.Ba4? Kd2 3.Kg3 Sc6, or 2.Ke1? Sc2+ 3.Kf2 Kd2.

iii) 4.Bh7? Se1 5.Bb1 Sc2 6.Kf3 Kc1 7.Ba2 Kb2, or 4.Kf1? Sb4 5.Bb1 Sc2 6.Kf2 Kc1 win.

iv) 6.Ba2? Sa3 7.Bb3 Sb5.

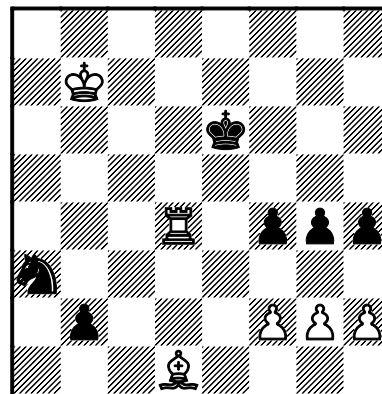
“Subtle and, most important, clear play in a malyutka”.

A commendation by M. van Essen was cooked by MG: e8f4 0040.45 g7a3.c3d5f2h3 a6b6b7c4g4 6/7 Win: 1.h4 Bc5 2.h5 Kg5 3.Bf8 Bxf2 4.d6 b5 5.d7 Bb6 6.Be7+ Kxh5 7.Bd8 Be3 8.Bc7 Bg5 9.Bf4 Bf6 10.Bd6 g3 11.Bxg3 b4 12.Be5 Bg5 13.cxb4 Kg4 14.d8Q Bxd8 15.Kxd8 Kf5 16.Bg7 Ke4 17.Kc7 Kd3 18.Kxb7 c3 19.Kxa6 wins.

Also 1.hxg4 b5 2.f3 a5 3.Bh6+ Kxf3 4.g5 b4 5.d6 b3 6.d7 b2 7.d8Q wins (MG). HH investigated a couple of extra moves: b1Q 8.Qf6+ Kg4 9.g6 Qb5+ 10.Kd8 Qd5+ 11.Kc8 Qc5+ 12.Kxb7 Qxb5+ 13.Qb6 Qd7+ 14.Ka6 Qc8+ 15.Kb5 Qf5+ 16.Ka4 Be7 17.Qc6! Qc2+

18.Kb5 Qf5+ 19.Ka6 wins. Another cook (in the main line) is: 2.Kf7 a2 3.h5 g3 4.d6 g2 5.d7 g1Q 6.h8Q wins (MG).

No 17426 V. Kovalenko
commendation



b7e6 0113.34 6/6 Win

No 17426 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Bb3+ Ke5/i 2.Rd5+/ii Ke4 3.Rd1 b1Q/iii 4.Rxb1 Sxb1 5.Bc2+ Kd4 6.Bxb1 g3 7.hxg3/iv f3 8.Be4 Kxe4 9.gxf3+ Kxf3 10.gxh4 Kg4 11.Kc6 Kxh4 12.Kd5 Kg4 13.Ke4 wins.

i) Kf6 2.Ba2 b1Q+ 3.Bxb1 Sxb1 4.Rxf4+.

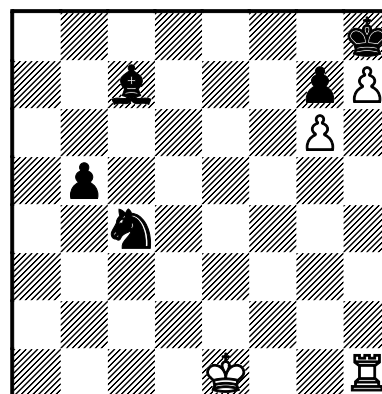
ii) 2.Rd1? b1Q 3.Rxb1 Sxb1.

iii) h3 4.gxh3 b1Q 5.Rxb1 Sxb1 6.hxg4 Sd2 7.Bc2+ Ke5 8.h4 Sf3 9.h5 Kf6 10.h6 Sg5 11.h7 Kg7 12.Bf5 Kh8 13.Kc7 Sf7 14.Kd7 Sg5 15.Ke7 Kg7 16.h8Q+ Kxh8 17.Kf6 Sf3 18.g5 wins.

iv) 7.fxg3? h3 8.gxh3 f3 9.g4 f2.

“A familiar pawn breakthrough gets a new coat of paint thanks to the bishop”.

No 17427 H. van der Heijden
commendation



e1h8 0133.22 4/5 Win

No 17427 Harold van der Heijden (Netherlands). 1.0-0/i Bd6 2.Ra1/ii Sb6 3.Kg2/iii Sd7/

iv 4.Rd1/v Se5 (Sf8) 5.Rxd6 Sxg6/vi 6.Rxg6 wins.

i) Black can draw if he can play Sxg6; even if this costs him a piece. 1.Ke2? Se5 2.Rg1 Sxg6, or 1.Rf1? Bd6 2.Ke2 Se5.

ii) 2.Rc1? Bc5+ 3.K- Se5 4.Rxc5 Sxg6.

iii) 3.Ra7? b4 4.Rb7 b3 5.Kg2 (Rxb6 Bc5+;) Sd5 6.Rd7 Sf4+ and Sxg6. 3.Kh1 (Kf1)? b4 4.Re1 Sd7 5.Rd1 b3 6.Rxd6 b2 7.Rd1 Sf8, and Sxg6.

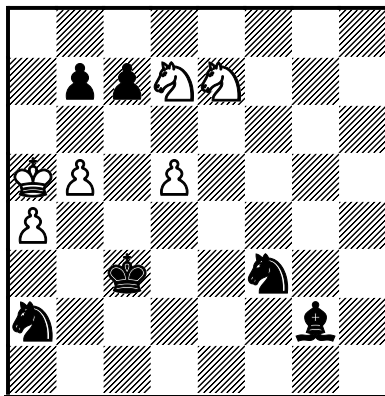
iv) b4 4.Re1 Sd7 5.Rd1 b3 6.Rxd6 b2 7.Rxd7 b1Q 8.Rd8 mate. Bf8 4.Rd1 Be7 5.Re1 Sd5 6.Kf3 b4 7.Re6 b3 8.Rc6 and quickly mate.

v) 4.Ra6? Be7 5.Ra7 Sf8 6.Rxe7 Sxg6.

vi) Black managed to play Sxg6, but at the expense of two pieces instead of one.

“And here is a curious struggle of rook and king against knight and bishop, introduced by castling”

No 17428 D. Stellwagen
commendation



a5c3 0038.32 6/6 Draw.

No 17428 Daniel Stellwagen (Netherlands).
1.b6 c6 2.Sc5/i Sd4 3.Sxb7 Sb4 4.Sc5 Kc4 5.Sf5 Sxf5 6.b7 cxd5 7.Kb6 Sc6 8.a5/ii d4 9.a6 Sd6 10.a7 Sxa7 11.b8Q draws/iii.

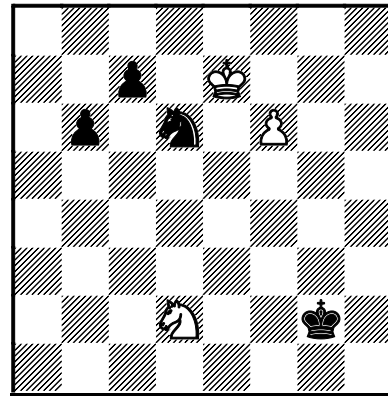
i) 2.dxc6? Sd4 3.cxb7 Sb4 4.Sc5 Kc4 5.b8S Bb7.

ii) 8.Kxc6? d4+ 9.Kb6 Bxb7 10.Sxb7 d3 wins.

iii) e.g. Sac8+ 12.Ka6 (Kc7? Kxc5) Kxc5 13.Qb4+ Kxb4 stalemate.

“The young o.t.b. grandmaster shows a sharp tactical fight with some interesting nuances”.

No 17429 M. Doré
special commendation



e7g2 0004.12 3/4 Win

No 17429 Marcel Doré (France). 1.Se4/i Sf5+ 2.Kf7/ii c5 3.Kg6/iii Sd4 4.f7 (Sg5 Sc6;) Se6 5.Kf6/iv Sf8 6.Kg7/v Se6+ 7.Kg8 c4 8.Sg5 Sf8 9.Kxf8 c3 10.Se6 (Sf3) wins.

i) 1.Sc4? Sxc4 2.f7 Se5 3.f8Q Sg6+ draws.

ii) 2.Ke6? Sh6 3.Sc3 c5 4.Sd5 b5 5.Se3+ Kg1 6.Sf5 b4.

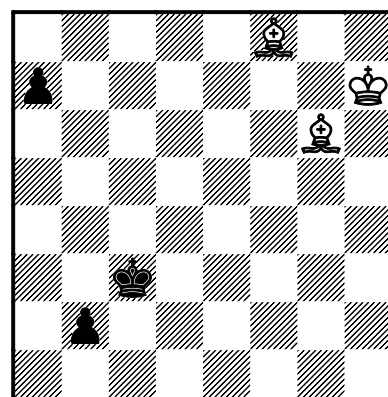
iii) 3.Ke6? Sh6 4.Sd6 b5 5.Sf5 b4 6.Sxh6 b3.

iv) 5.Sg5? Sf8+ 6.Kg7 Sd7 7.Sh7 c4 8.Sf6 c3 9.Sxd7 c2.

v) 6.Ke7? Sg6+ 7.Ke8 c4 8.Sc3 Kf3 9.Sd5 Ke4 10.Se7 c3.

“Original anti-dual choice using the composer’s favourite material”.

No 17430 S. Hornecker
special commendation



h7c3 0020.02 3/3 Win

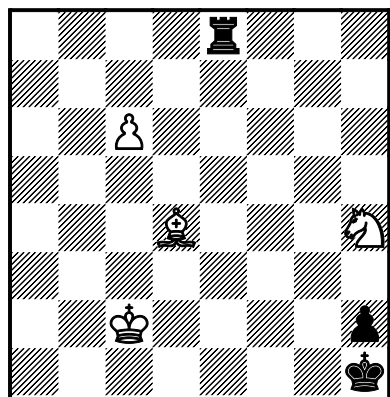
No 17430 Siegfried Hornecker (Germany).
1.Bb1 a5 2.Kg6 a4 3.Kf5 Kb3 (a3; Bxa3) 4.Ke4 a3 5.Kd3 a2 6.Bc2 mate.

“Elegant Bristol rounded off by an ideal mate”.

Československý Šach 2007-2008

Luboš Kekely received 20 studies from 11 composers from 6 countries for judging. The provisional award, with the usual three month confirmation time appeared in *Československý Šach* iii2009.

No 17431 L. Salai jr
1st prize



c2h1 0311.11 4/3 Win

No 17431 Ladislav Salai jr (Martin, Slovakia). 1.c7 Re7 2.Bb6/i Re3 3.Sf3/ii Re8 4.Se1 Re3 5.Kd2/iii Rc3 6.Sf3/iv Rc6 7.Sh4 Rc3 8.Ke2 Rc6 9.Kd3/v Rc4 10.Ke3 Kg1/vi 11.Ke2+ Kh1 12.Kd3 Rc6 13.Ke4 Rc4+ 14.Kd5/vii Rc6 15.Sf3 Kg2 16.Sxh2 wins.

i) 2.Be5? Rxe5 3.c8Q Rc5+ 4.Qxc5 stalemate.

ii) 3.Bxe3? stalemate. 3.Kd2? Rd3+ 4.Ke1 Re3+ 5.Kf2 Rf3+ 6.Ke2 Rc3 7.Kd2 Rd3+ draws.

iii) 5.Bd4? Re7 6.Be5 Rxe5 7.c8Q Rc5+ 8.Qxc5 stalemate.

iv) 6.Ke2? Rc1 7.Kd3 Rd1+ 8.Kc2 Rc1+ draws.

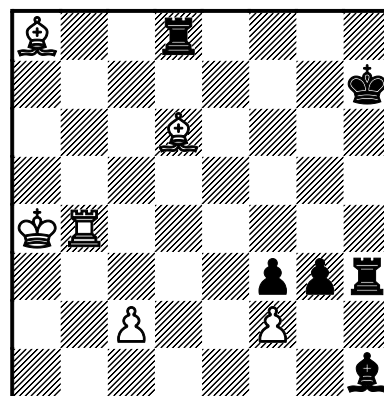
v) 9.Kf3? Rxc7 10.Bxc7 Kg1 draws.

vi) Re4+ 11.Kd2 Rd4+ 12.Ke2 Re4+ 13.Be3 Rc4 14.Bf4 wins.

vii) 14.Ke5? Rxc7 15.Bxc7 Kg1 draws.

No 17432 Michal Hlinka (Košice, Slovakia). 1.Be4+ Kh6/i 2.Bf4+/ii Kg7/iii 3.Be5+ Kg8/iv 4.Bxg3/v Rxc3 5.fxg3 f2 6.Bd5+/vi Bxd5 (Rxd5; Rg4+) 7.Rg4+ Kh7 8.Rh4+ Kg6 9.Rg4+ Kh5 10.Rh4+ Kg5 11.Rf4 Bc6+/vii 12.Kb3 Rd2 13.Kc3 Re2 14.Kd3 Bb5+ 15.c4

No 17432 M. Hlinka
2nd prize



a4h7 0750.22 6/6 Draw

Bxc4+ 16.Kxc4 Re4+ 17.Kd3 Rxf4 18.gxf4+ Kxf4 19.Ke2 Kg3 20.Kf1 Kf3 stalemate.

i) Kh8 (Kg7; Rb7+) 2.Be5+ Kg8 3.Bxg3.

ii) 2.Rb6? gxf2 3.Bg3+ Kg7 4.Bxf2 Rd2, or 2.Bxg3? Rxc3 3.fxg3 f2 4.Rb6+ Kg7 5.Rb7+ Kf8.

iii) Kh5 3.Bxg3 Rxc3 4.fxg3 f2 5.Rb5+ Kg4 6.Rf5.

iv) Kf8 4.Bxg3 Rxc3 5.fxg3 f2 6.Bxh1 f1Q 7.Rf4+ Qxf4+ 8.gxf4.

v) 4.Bf5? g2 5.Rg4+ Kf8 6.Bf6 Rd6 7.Bg7+ Ke7.

vi) 6.Bd3? Bc6+/viii 7.Ka5 Rxd3 8.Rg4+ Kh7 9.Rh4+ Kg6 10.Rg4+ Kh5 11.Rh4+ Kg5 12.Rf4 Rf3.

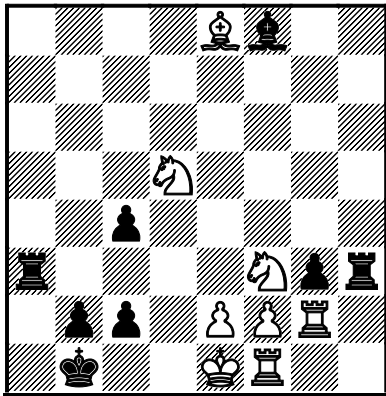
vii) Bf3 12.Rxf3 Rd2 13.c4 (Rf4? Rd4+;) Kg4 14.Rf8 Kxc3 15.Kb5.

viii) But not Rxd3? 7.Rg4+ Kh7 8.Rh4+.

No 17433 Michal Hlinka (Košice, Slovakia). 1.Bg6 Rd3/i 2.Bxd3/ii cxd3 3.Sc3+ Ka1 4.Kd2+ c1Q+ 5.Rxc1+ bxc1Q+ 6.Kxc1 Bh6+ 7.e3/iii gxf2 8.Rxf2/iv Bxe3+ 9.Sd2 Rh1+ (Bxf2; Sb3 mate) 10.Rf1 Rxf1+ 11.Sd1 Ka2 stalemate.

i) Kc1 2.Sd2 b1Q 3.Sxb1 cxb1Q 4.Bxb1 Kxb1 5.fxg3, or Ra1 2.Sc3+ Kc1 3.fxg3 b1Q

No 17433 M. Hlinka
1st honourable mention



e1b1 0842.24 8/8 Draw

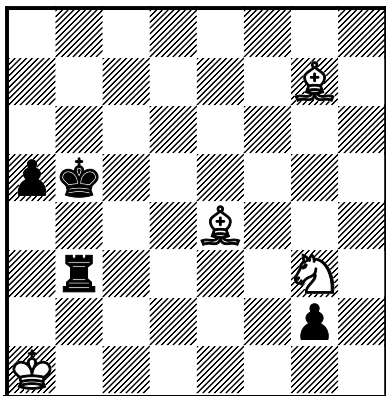
4.Sxb1 Rxb1 5.Kf2+ Kb2 6.Rxb1+ cxb1Q
7.Bxb1.

ii) 2.exd3? c1Q+ 3.Ke2 Ka2 4.d4 gxf2
5.Rgxf2 c3 6.Bf5 Rg3 7.Rh2 c2.

iii) 7.Sd2? Rh1+ 8.Sd1 dxe2, or 7.Kd1?
Rh1+, and 8.Se1 d2 or 8.Sg1 gxf2.

iv) 8.Sd2? Rh1+ (Bxe3?; Rxf2) 9.Sd1 Bxe3
10.Rxf2 Bxf2 wins.

No 17434 M. Matouš & J. Polášek
2nd honourable mention



a1b5 0321.02 4/4 Win

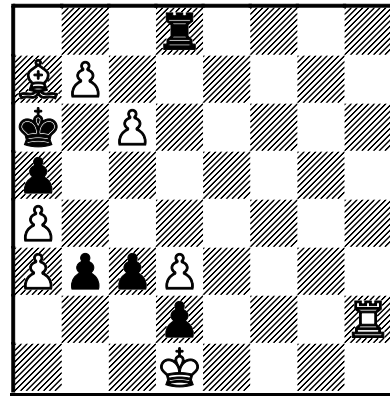
No 17434 Mario Matouš & Jaroslav Polášek
(Prague, Czech Republic). 1.Se2 Ra3+/i
2.Kb1/ii g1Q+ 3.Sxg1 Re3 4.Se2 Kb4/iii
5.Bf8+ Kc4 6.Bg2 Rxe2 7.Bf1 Kd3 8.Bh6
wins.

i) Re3 2.Bxg2 Rxe2 3.Bf1, or Rg3 2.Bd4
Rg4 3.Bg1 Rxe4 4.Sc3+, or g1Q+ 2.Sxg1 Re3
3.Bb1 win.

ii) 2.Kb2? Re3 3.Bxg2 Rxe2+.

iii) Rxe2 5.Bd3+, or Rxe4 5.Sc3+ win.

No 17435 Y. Afek
1st commendation



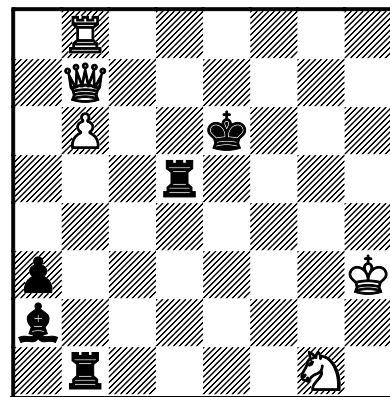
d1a6 0410.54 8/6 Win

No 17435 Yochanan Afek (Netherlands).
1.Rxd2 b2 2.Rxb2 cxb2 3.Kc2 b1Q+ 4.Kxb1
Rxd3 5.b8R/i Kxa7 6.c7 Rc3 7.c8R/ii wins.

i) 5.b8Q? Rd1+ 6.Kc2 Rd2+ 7.Kc3 Rd3+
8.Kc4 Rd4+ 9.Kc5 Rd5+ 10.Kxd5 stalemate.

ii) 7.c8Q? Rb3+ 8.Kc2 Rb2+ 9.Kc1 Rb1+
10.Kd2 Rd1+ 11.Ke2 Re1+ 12.Kxe1 stale-
mate.

No 17436 S. Nosek
2nd commendation



h3e6 1731.11 5/5 BTM, Draw

No 17436 Stanislav Nosek (Daice).
1...Rb3+/i 2.Sf3/ii Rxf3+ 3.Kg4/iii Rd4+
4.Kxf3 Bd5+ 5.Qxd5+/iv Rxd5 (Kxd5; Rd8+)
6.Re8+/v Kf7 7.b7 a2/vi 8.Rf8+/vii Kg7/viii
9.Rg8+ Kh7 10.Rh8+ Kg6 11.b8Q wins.

i) Rd7 (Rd3+; Sf3) 2.Re8+ Kd6 3.Qe4 Rxg1
4.Qe5+ wins.

ii) 2.Kg2? Rg5+ 3.Kf2 Rf5+ 4.Ke1 Rb1+
5.Kd2 Rb2+ 6.Kc3 Rb3+ 7.Kd4 Rb4+, or
2.Kh2? Rh5+ 3.Kg2 Rg5+ 4.Kf2 Rf5+ 5.Sf3

Rxf3+ 6.Qxf3 Rxf3+ 7.Kxf3 Bd5+ 8.Kf4 a2
9.Re8+ Kd7 10.Re1 Kc6.

iii) 3.Kg2? Rg5+ 4.Kxf3 Bd5+.

iv) 5.Ke3? Re4+ 6.Kd3 Bxb7.

v) 6.b7? Rb5 7.Re8+ Kd5 8.b8Q Rxb8
9.Rxb8 Kc4 draws.

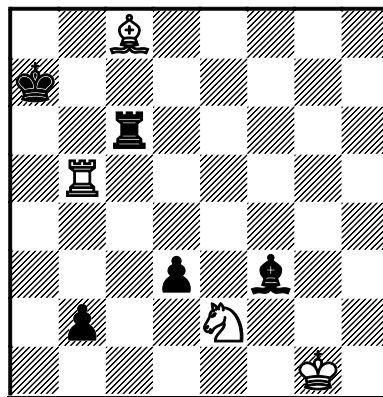
vi) Rd3+ 8.Ke4 a2 9.Rf8+ wins.

vii) 8.b8Q? a1Q 9.Rf8+ Kg7 10.Rg8+ Kh7.

viii) Kxf8 9.b8Q+ Ke7 10.Qa7+ wins.

No 17437 Mario Matouš (Prague, Czech Republic). 1.Rb7+ (Sd4 d2;) Ka8 2.Rxb2 dxe2
3.Bb7+ Ka7 4.Rxe2/i Rg6+/i 5.Rg2 Rxe2+
6.Kh1 Rg3+/ii 7.Kh2 Rg2+ 8.Kh1 Rf2+
9.Kg1 Rg2+ 10.Kh1 Kxb7 (Bxb7) stalemate.

No 17437 M. Matouš
special commendation



g1a7 0441.02 4/5 Draw

i) 4.Kf2? Rc1, or 4.Rb1? Rb6.

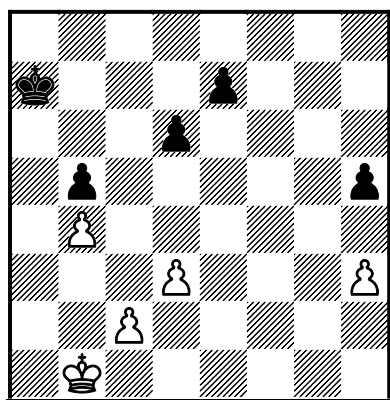
ii) Rc1+ 5.Re1 Rxe1+ 6.Kf2.

StrateGems 2008

19 studies took part in the (now) annual tourney of *StrateGems*. HH was consulted for anticipation checking by judge Alain Pallier (France). “Of course, computer-based studies have to be fully accepted in tourneys, but, on the other hand, they must not be the alpha and omega of study composing, and I would be unhappy if non-EGTB studies ... had to disappear progressively from study awards”.

The provisional award was published in *StrateGems* no. 47 (vii2009).

No 17438 F. Vrabec
prize



b1a7 0000.44 5/5 Win

No 17438 Franjo Vrabec (Sweden). 1.d4/i e6/ii 2.Kb2/iii Kb6/iv 3.d5/v exd5 (e5; Kc3) 4.Kc3 (h4 d4;) Kc6 (h4; Kd4) 5.Kd4/vi h4 6.c3 Kc7 7.Kxd5 Kd7 8.Kd4/vii Ke7 9.Ke3/viii Ke6 10.Ke4 zz d5+/ix 11.Kf4 Kf6 12.Kg4 Ke5 13.Kxh4 Ke4/x 14.Kg3/xi Kd3 15.h4 Kxc3 16.h5 d4 17.h6 d3 18.h7 d2 19.h8Q+ wins/xii.

i) 1.Kb2? Kb6, or 1.Kc1? Kb6 2.Kd2 e5 3.c4 Kc6, or 1.c4? Kb6 2.Kc2 h4 draw.

ii) e5 2.Kc1 Kb6 3.d5, or d5 2.Kc1 Kb6 3.Kd2 Kc6 4.Ke3 Kd6 5.Kf4, or Kb6 2.d5 Kc7 3.Kb2 Kd7 4.Kc3 e5 5.Kd3 Ke7 6.Ke4 Kf6 7.h4 Kg6 8.c4 Kf6 9.cxb5, or h4 2.d5 Kb6 3.Kc1 win.

iii) 2.Kc1? Kb6 3.d5 exd5 4.Kd2 Kc7 5.Ke3 Kd7, and 6.Kd4 Ke6 7.h4 Kf5 8.Kxd5 Kf4 9.Kxd6 Kg4 10.Kc5 Kxh4, or 6.Kf4 Ke6 7.Kg5 Ke5 8.Kxh5 Kd4. 2.d5? exd5 3.Kc1 (Kb2 d4;) Kb6 4.Kd2 Kc7 5.Ke3 Kd7 6.Kd4 Ke6 7.h4 Kf5 8.Kxd5 Kf4.

iv) e5 3.d5, or d5 3.Kc3, or h4 3.Kc3 Kb6 4.d5 exd5 5.Kd4 Kc6 6.c3 Kc7 7.Kxd5 Kd7 8.Kd4 main line.

v) 3.Kc3? Kc6 4.Kd3 Kd5 5.h4 e5 draws.

vi) 5.Kd3? Kd7 6.Kd4 Ke6 zz.

vii) 8.Ke4? Ke6, and 9.Kf4 Kd5 10.Kg4 Kc4, or 9.Kd4 Kf5 and now 10.c4 bxc4 11.Kxc4 Ke4, or 10.Kd5 Kf4 11.Kxd6 Kg3 draw.

viii) 9.Kd3? Kf6 10.Kd4 Kf5, or 9.Ke4? Ke6 zz.

ix) Kf6 11.Kf4 Ke6 12.Kg4 wins.

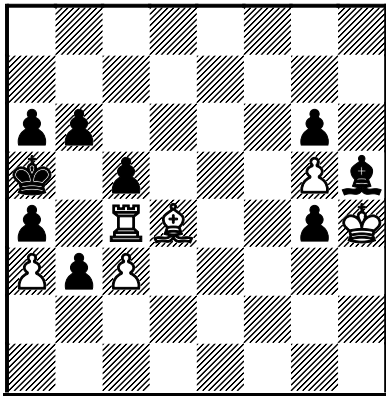
x) Kf4 14.Kh5 Ke3 15.h4 Kd3 16.Kg6 main line.

xi) 14.Kg5? Kd3 15.h4 Kxc3 16.h5 d4 17.h6 d3 18.h7 d2 19.h8Q+ Kc2 draws.

xii) e.g. Kc2 20.Qh7+ Kc1 21.Qh6 Kc2 22.Qg6+ Kb2 23.Qh5 Kc1 24.Qg5 Kc2 25.Qxb5.

“For me, pawn studies have a special flavour. They generally get minor rewards. But this one, with its natural position, and without any spectacular or artificial device, deserves more. The composer has constructed a nice position, and a solution with natural moves, some of them quite difficult but always comprehensible. The heart of the solution is a zz position (8.Kd4! Ke7! 9.Ke3 Ke6 10.Ke4 zz, vs. 8.Ke4 Ke6! zz). There is clever black counterplay, with the nice manoeuvre 8...Kf4!! (in the 2.Kc1? try) and even at the end of the solution interest doesn’t fade with the choice of the right square for the wK (14.Kg3!! in the main line echoing 16.Kg6!! in the 13...Kf4 line)”.

No 17439 V. Neishtadt
special prize



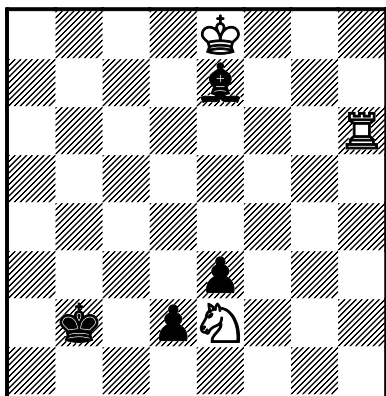
h4a5 0140.37 6/9 Draw

No 17439 Vladimir Neishtadt (Russia).
1.Be5 b2 2.Rxc5+ bxc5 3.c4, and:

- b1Q 4.Bc7+ Qb6 5.Bg3 Qc6 6.Bc7+ Qb6 7.Bg3 Qc6 8.Bc7+ Qxc7 stalemate, or:
- b1R 4.Bc7+ Rb6 5.Kg3 stalemate.

“The Russian composer has a style of his own, and he always creates original positions. Stalemate is his favourite theme (with pendular positional draw). Here we have reciprocal stalemate, shown for the first time by the Frenchman Frédéric Lazard, *La Stratégie* 1902. A difficult task. The solution is short but neat”.

No 17440 J. Mikitovics
1st/2nd honourable mention



e8b2 0131.02 3/4 Draw

No 17440 János Mikitovics (Hungary).
1.Rh1/i Bh4 2.Rd1 Kc2 3.Ra1 (Rh1 Be1;) Bf6/ii 4.Rh1 (Rg1, Rf1) Be5/iii 5.Kf7/iv d1Q 6.Rxd1 Kxd1 7.Sg1 Bc7/v 8.Ke6/vi Ke1 (Bh2; Sf3) 9.Sf3+/vii Ke2/viii 10.Sd4+ Kd3 11.Kd5/ix Bb8/x 12.Sf3 e2 13.Se1+ Ke3 14.Sc2+/xi Kd2 15.Sd4 e1Q 16.Sf3+ draws.

i) 1.Rb6+? Kc2 2.Rc6+ Kd3 3.Sc1+ Ke4 wins.

ii) d1Q 4.Rxd1 Kxd1 5.Sf4 draws.

iii) d1Q 5.Rxd1 Kxd1 6.Sf4 Be5 7.Sg2 draws.

iv) 5.Kd7? d1Q+ 6.Rxd1 Kxd1 7.Sg1 Bg7 8.Ke6 Ke1 9.Kf5 Kf1 10.Ke4 Bh6 11.Sf3 e2, or 5.Ke7? d1Q 6.Rxd1 Kxd1 7.Sg1 Bg7 8.Kf7 Ke1 9.Kxg7 Kf1 10.Sf3 e2, or 5.Rf1? d1Q 6.Rxd1 Kxd1 win.

v) Ke1 8.Sf3+ Kf2 9.Sxe5 e2 10.Sd3+, or Bh2 8.Sf3 Ke2 9.Sxh2 Kf2 10.Sg4+ draw.

vi) 8.Kf6? Ke1 9.Sf3+ Ke2 10.Sd4+ Kd3 wins.

vii) 9.Kf5? Kf1 10.Sf3 e2 wins.

viii) Kf2 10.Sd4 Bb6 11.Sc2 draws.

ix) 11.Sb3? (Sf3? e2;) Bb6 12.Sc1+ Kd2 wins.

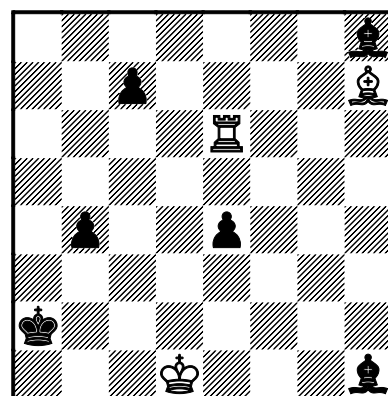
x) Bg3 12.Sb3, or Ba5 12.Se6 e2 13.Sf4+.

xi) 14.Sg2+? Kf2 15.Sf4 Bxf4 wins.

“A nice EGTB discovery (5.Kf7!! preventing the winning 7...Bg7! that works in the thematic tries) with a correct introduction (not perfect, see the unavoidable dual on move 4). The heroic knight saves the day”.

No 17441 R. Becker

1st/2nd honourable mention



d1a2 0170.03 3/6 Draw

No 17441 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Re7/i c5/ii 2.Bxe4 Bxe4 3.Rxe4 b3 4.Ra4+ Kb2 5.Rc4/iii Bd4 6.Ke2/iv Kb1 7.Kd2 zz b2 8.Ra4 zz Bf6 9.Rc4 Bd4/v 10.Ra4 Bf2 11.Ra5/vi Bd4 12.Ra4 Bf2 13.Ra5 c4 14.Re5/vii Bd4 15.Re1+ Ka2 16.Kc2 Be3 17.Kc3/viii Bc1 18.Re2 draws.

i) 1.Kd2? b3, or 1.Kc1? Bb2+ 2.Kd2 c5, or 1.Re8? Bf6 2.Rb8 Kb3, or 1.Bxe4? Bxe4 2.Rxe4 b3 3.Ra4+/ix Kb1 4.Kd2 b2 5.Ra5 Bd4 6.Rf5/x Bb6 7.Rb5 Bf2 8.Rf5 Bg3 9.Rb5 Bd6 10.Rb3/xi Bf4+ 11.Kd3 Bg3 12.Kd2 Be1+ win.

ii) b3 2.Rxc7 Bd4 3.Rc8 Bf3+ (e3; Ke2) 4.Kd2 e3+ 5.Kd3 Ba7 6.Bg8, or here b2 5.Ra8+ Kb3 6.Rb8+.

iii) Thematic try: 5.Kd2? Bc3+ 6.Kd3 Bb4 7.Ra8 Kb1 8.Rh8 b2 9.Rh1+ Ka2 10.Kc2 Ba5 11.Rb1 Bc3 12.Rh1 Bd4 (Be5) 13.Rb1 Be5 (Bf6) 14.Rh1 Bf4 (Bg5) 15.Rg1 Bc1 16.Rxc1 bxc1Q+ 17.Kxc1 Kb3 wins.

iv) Thematic try: 6.Kd2? Kb1 zz 7.Ra4 b2 zz 8.Ra8 c4 9.Rc8 c3+ 10.Kd1 Bf6 (Bg7) 11.Rc7 Bg7 (Bh8) 12.Rc6 Be5 13.Rc5 Ka2 14.Ra5+ Kb3 15.Rb5+ Kc4 16.Rb7 Kd3 17.Rd7+ Bd4, or here 12.Rc8 Bd4 13.Rc4 Ka2 wins.

v) Bg5+ 10.Kc3 Be3 11.Kb3 Bd4 12.Ra4 Kc1 13.Rc4+ Kd2 14.Ka2 draws.

vi) 11.Ra8? Be1+, or 11.Re4? Ka2 12.Ra4+ Kb3.

vii) 14.Rb5? Bd4, or 14.Rd5? Be1+.

viii) 17.Rb1? Bc1 18.Rxc1 bxc1Q+ 19.Kxc1 Kb3 wins.

ix) 3.Rb4 Bc3 4.Ra4+ Kb1 5.Rc4 Be5 6.Re4 Bg3 7.Rb4 b2 8.Kd2 Bh2 9.Rb5 Bd6.

x) 6.Rd5 (Rh5) Bf2 7.Re5 (Rf5) Bg3 8.Rh5 Bd6 9.Rb5 Bf4+ 10.Kd3 Bg3 11.Kd2 Bd6.

xi) 10.Kd1 Bf4 11.Ra5 Be3.

“Another good EGTB discovery. 1.Bxe4? leads to a lost EGTB position, the capture on e4 has to be preceded by 1.Rc7! c5. The introduction is very short, but is followed by a long main line in the style of the author, in which all possibilities are explored”.

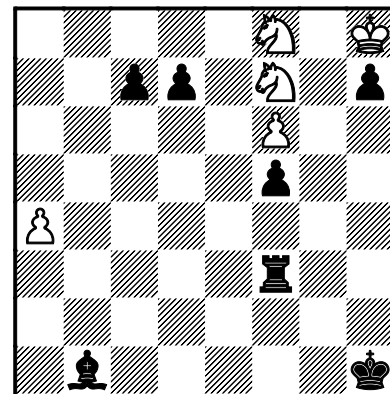
No 17442 Dan Meinking & Steven Dowd (USA). 1.Sd8/i Ba2 (Re3; Sfe6) 2.Sfe6 Bxe6 3.Sxe6 Rb3 4.f7 Rb8+ 5.f8Q Rxf8+ 6.Sxf8 f4 (h5; a5) 7.Sxh7/ii f3/iii 8.Sg5 f2 9.Se4 f1S 10.Sg3+/iv Sxg3 11.a5 wins.

i) 1.Sg5? (Se5?) Rf4.

ii) 7.Sxd7? (a5?) f3.

iii) d5 8.Sf6 (Sg5? c5;). c5 8.a5 f3 9.Sg5 f2 10.Se4 f1S (f1Q; Sg3+) 11.a6.

No 17442 D. Meinking
& S. Dowd
3rd honourable mention



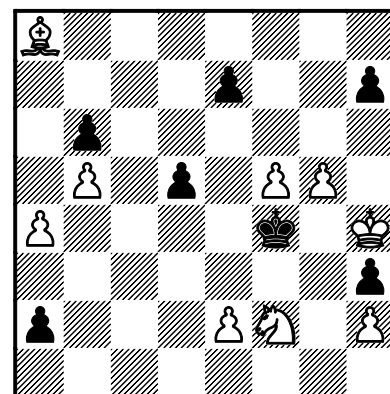
h8h1 0332.24 5/7 Win

iv) 10.a5? Se3 11.a6 Sc4 12.a7 Sb6 13.Kg7 Kg2 14.Sf6 Kf3 15.Kf7 Sa8 (d5?; Sxd5) 16.Ke7 d5 17.Sxd5 Ke4 draws.

“Initially a candidate for a prize, but HH found that Dan Meinking has published, in 1979, a study in *Chess Life and Review* that consists of the last five moves of the present study. Nevertheless, the first part of the new study (that is more than a simple introduction) deserves a reward for its elegance”.

However, MG cooks: 4.Sf4 Rb8+ 5.Kg7 and Black cannot do anything against 6.Sh5 7.Sf6 8.Se8.

No 17443 M. Marković
1st commendation



h4f4 0011.66 9/7 Win

No 17443 Mirko Marković (Serbia). 1.f6/i exf6/ii 2.g6 hxg6/iii 3.Sd3+ Kf5/iv 4.Bxd5 a1Q (g5+; Kh5) 5.e4 mate.

i) 1.Sd3+? Kxf5 2.Bxd5 a1Q 3.Kh5 Qd1 and Black wins.

ii) a1Q 2.fxe7, and Qh8 3.Bc6, or Qe5 3.Sd3+, or Qe1 3.e8Q Qxf2+ 4.Kh5.

iii) a1Q 3.g7 Qg1 4.Sxh3+.

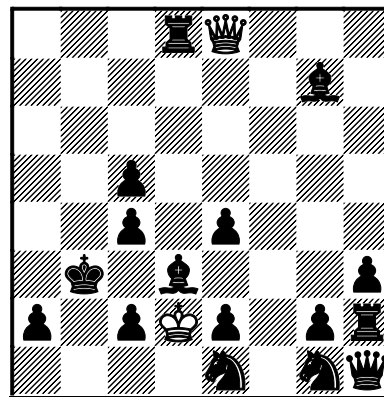
iv) Ke3 4.Sb4 a1Q 5.Sc2+, or Ke4 4.Bxd5+ Kxd5 5.Sb4+.

“Two pawn sacrifices for a mate with self-blocks. The main drawback of that kind of old-style study is the lack of counterplay by Black and the lack of surprise of the mate, but, here the result, despite of the short solution, is quite pleasant”.

No 17444 Vladimir Nikitin (Russia).
 1.Qb5+ Ka3 2.Qa6+ Kb2 3.Qb7+ Ka1
 4.Qxg7+ Rd4 5.Qxd4+ Kb1 6.Qa1+ Kxa1
 7.Kc1 and stalemate.

“The composer submitted four studies that exploit the same theme. Some years ago, I was

No 17444 V. Nikitin
 2nd commendation



d2b3 4666.08 2/16 Draw

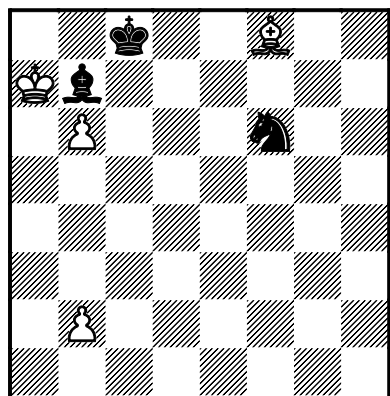
interested in mini-max monsters, and even today I am not indifferent to that kind of curious study. Queen-play, of course, leads to heavy stalemate”.

Josten 70 JT 2008

The German composition magazine *Die Schwalbe* organized a formal theme tourney (no. 202) on the occasion of the 70th birthday of Gerhard Josten. The set theme was to compose a position that was a moremover with White to move and a draw study with Black to move. Since **EG** is an endgame study magazine we reproduce the positions with exchanged colours (i.e. White to move and draw and Black to move and mate in...). The moremovers were judged by Ralf Krätschmer and the studies by Gerhard Josten. Points were added, with a subtraction when the difference in points between the compositions was large.

The award was published in *Die Schwalbe* No.231 vi2008.

No 17445 L. González Prize



a7c8 0043.20 4/3 I: Draw,
II: BTM, Black mates in 9

No 17445 Luis Miguel González (Spain). I: 1.Bd6 Sd5 2.Bc5 zz Sf4 3.Be7 (Bd4) Se6 4.Bf6 Sc5 5.Be5 Se4 6.Bf4 Sf2 7.Bd2 (Be5) Se4 8.Bf4 zz Sc5 9.Be5 Sb3 10.Bc3 zz Sa1 11.Bb4 (Bd4) zz Sc2 12.Bc5 draw.

II: 1...Se4 2.Bb4 Sg5 3.Be7 Sf3 4.Bf6 Sd2 5.b3 Sxb3 6.Bc3 Sc5 7.Be5/i Se4 8.Bd6 Sc3 and 9...Sb5 mate.

i) 7.Bd4 Sa6 8.Bc5 Sb8 and 9...Sc6 mate.

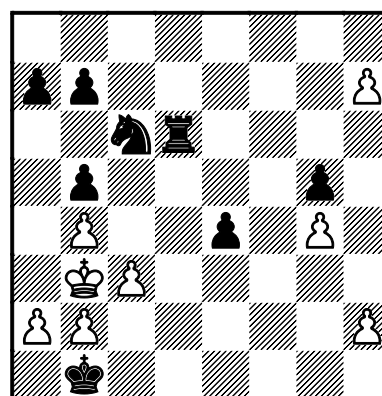
ii) 8.Bc3 Sd6 and 9...Sb5 mate.

“The position is game-like and a miniature at the same time. It is an optimization of an incorrect study by Réti. There is a fascinating battle between bishop and knight, almost across the whole board, ending with a draw. Réti’s original study had only two moves. Therefore the originality of the study cannot be contested. The bishop and knight play a de-

cisive role in both the problem and study, a successful affinity between both parts!”

HH remarks that the busts in Réti’s study looks to him like a serious anticipation of the problem part: R. Réti, *Sämtliche Studien* 1931: h7f8 0043.20 d7g7c4.g2g6 4/3 Draw: 1.g3 Se5 2.Bg4 Sxg4 stalemate. But A. Fischbein found (HHdbIII#53900, 25viii2003): 1...Sd6 2.Bc6 Sf5 3.g4 Sd4 4.Bd5 Se2 5.g5 Sd4 and Sf3 (Se6) and Sxg5 mate. And also analyzed 3.Bd5 Sxg3 4.Bf3 (position after White’s 6th move in the problem). A similar cook was spotted by the Dutch IM Rini Kuijf, *Schaaknieuws* no. 15 21viii2004: 2...Sc6 3.Bf3 Sd4 4.Bg4 (4.Bd5 Se2 5.g4 Sf4) Sb5, and 5.Bf5 Sc3 6.g4 Sd1 7.g5 Sf2, 5.Bf3 Sc7 or 5.Bd7 Sc3 6.Bc6 Se2 7.g4 Sf4.

No 17446 G. Amann honourable mention



b3b1 0303.75 8/8 I: Draw,
II: BTM, Black mates in 7

No 17446 Günter Amann (Austria). I: 1.h8Q Rd2 2.Qh3 Rxb2+ 3.Ka3 Rxa2+ 4.Kb3 Rf2 5.Qe3 Sd4+ 6.Qxd4 Rb2+ 7.Ka3 Ra2+ 8.Kb3 draws.

II: 1...Rf6/i 2.a4/ii Sd4+ 3.Ka3 Sc2+ 4.Kb3 Sa1+ 5.Ka3 Rc7 6.axb5/ii Rxb2 7.Ka4 Ra2 mate.

i) The natural move 1...Rd3 fails to 2.h8Q. Now the diagonal a1-h8 is blocked, Black threatens 2...Sd4+ 3.cxd4 (Ka3) 4.Rf3 (Ra6) mate.

ii) 6.h8Q Rxb2 and 7.Qb1 Sf7 mate or 7.axb5 Ra2 mate.

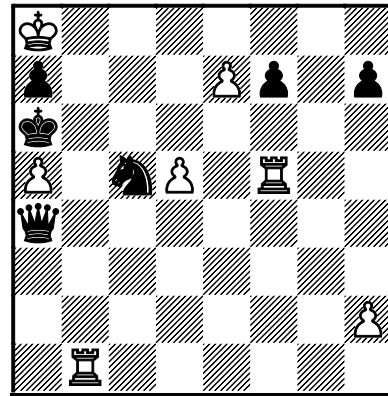
No 17447 Wolfgang Erben (Germany). I: 1.Rb8 Se6 2.e8S Qd7 3.Rh5 Sf4/i 4.Rh6+ Se6/ii 5.Rh5 draws.

II: 1...Se6 2.Rf6/iii Qe8+ 3.Rb8 Qc6+ 4.dxc6 Sf2 mate.

i) f6 4.Rf5 h6 5.h3 h5 6.h4 draws.

ii) Kxa5 5.Sd6 Sg6 6.Sb7+ Kb6 7.Rxh7 Qxd5 8.Rxf7 draws.

No 17447 W. Erben
Commendation



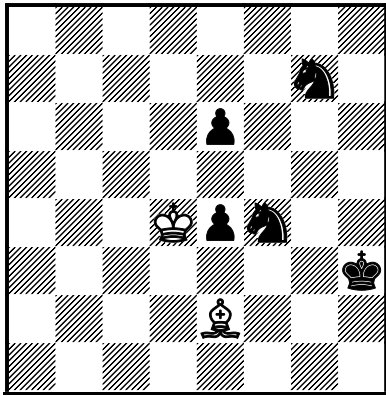
a8a6 3203.43 7/6 I: Draw,
II: BTM, Black mates in 4

iii) 2.dxe6 Qe8+ 3.Rb8 Qc6+ 4.Rb7 Qxb7 mate.

Quartz 2005-2007

Iuri Akobia (Georgia) judged 10 studies by 9 composers. The provisional award appeared in *Quartz* no. 33 xii2008.

No 17448 R. Becker prize



d4h3 0016.02 2/5 Draw

No 17448 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bf1+/i Kg3/ii 2.Kxe4 Sf5 3.Ke5, and:

– Sh6 4.Be2 zz Sg4+/iii 5.Kd6 zz Kh3 6.Bf3/iv zz Kh4 7.Bd1/v zz Kh5 (Kg5; Be2) 8.Bf3 zz Kg5 9.Be2 zz Se3 10.Ke5 zz Sg4+/vi 11.Kd6 Kf5 12.Ba6 Kf6 13.Bc8 draws, or:

– Sh4 4.Bd3 Sf3+ 5.Kd6/vii, and:

- Kg2/viii 6.Be4/ix Kf2 7.Bg6/x zz Sg5/xi 8.Bc2/xii Sf7+ 9.Ke7 Se5/xiii 10.Bf5 draws, or:
- Sd2 6.Ba6/xiv Se4+ 7.Ke5 Sg5 8.Kf6/xv Sf3 9.Bb7 Sh2 10.Bc8 Sg4+ 11.Kg5 Sh3+ 12.Kh5 Sf4+ 13.Kg5

i) 1.Bc4? Sf5+ 2.Kxe4 Sd6+ wins.

ii) Kg4 2.Kxe4 Sf5 3.Ke5 Sh4/xvi 4.Bd3 Kg5 5.Be4 zz Sf5 6.Bd5 exd5 model stalemate.

iii) Sf7+ 5.Kf6 Sh6 6.Ke5 repeats.

iv) 6.Bd1? Kh4 7.Bf3 Sh6 wins.

v) 7.Be2? Kg5 zz 8.Bd1 Kf5 9.Ba4 Sf6 wins.

vi) Sed5 11.Bc4 Kg4 12.Bb5.

vii) 5.Kf6? Sh2 6.Ke5 Sg4+ 7.Kd6 Kh4 8.Be2 Kg5 zz wins.

viii) Kf2 6.Bg6/xvii Ke3 7.Bh5 Sd2 8.Bf7 Sc4+ 9.Ke7 draws.

ix) 6.Bg6? Kf2 zz, and: 7.Bh5 Kg3 8.Bg6 Sg5 9.Be8/xviii Se4+ 10.Ke5 Sd2 11.Bc6/xix

Sf3+ 12.Kd6 (Kf6 Sh2;) Kf2 13.Be4 Sd2 14.Bh7 Sc4+ 15.Kc5 Se3 16.Kd6 Sg4, or 7.Be8 e5 8.Bc6 Sd3, or 7.Be4 Sd2 win.

x) 7.Bc6? Ke2 8.Bb7 (Be4 Sg5;) Ke3 9.Bc6 Sd2 10.Bd7 Sc4+ 11.Kc5 Sd3+ 12.Kb5 Sa3+ 13.Ka4 Sc5+ wins.

xi) Ke3 8.Bh5 Ke4 9.Bg4.

xii) 8.Be8? Sd3 9.Bd7 e5 10.Bf5 Ke3 11.Bxd3 Sf7+, or 8.Bb1? Sf7+ 9.Ke7 Sh6 10.Kd8 Sg4 win.

xiii) Sh6 10.Kd6 Sg4 11.Ba4 e5 12.Bd7

xiv) 6.Bb5? Se4+ 7.Ke5 Sg5 8.Kf6 Sf3 9.Bc6 Sh2 10.Bd7 Sg4+ 11.Kg5 Sh3+ 12.Kh5 Sf6+. 6.Bh7? Sc4+ 7.Kc5 Se3.

xv) 8.Bb7? Sd3+ 9.Kd4 Se1 10.Ke5 Sef3+ wins.

xvi) Se7 4.Bd3 Kg5 5.Bh7 Sc6+ 6.Kd6 Kh6 7.Bg8 e5 8.Kxc6 draws.

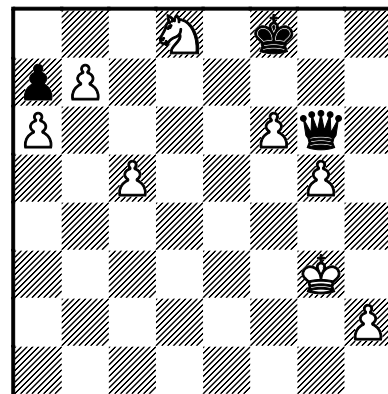
xvii) But not 6.Be4? Sd2 7.Bb7 Sc4+ 8.Kc5 Sa5 9.Ba8 Sb3+ 10.Kd6 Ke3 wins.

xviii) 9.Bc2 Sf7+ 10.Ke7 Se5.

xix) 11.Bg6 Sc4+ 12.Kf6 Se3 13.Ke5 Sg4+ 14.Kd6 Kh4 15.Bd3 Kh5 16.Be2 Kg5.

“The most substantial study in the tourney: economical form and rich content”.

No 17449 P. Răican special prize



g3f8 3001.61 8/3 Win

No 17449 Paul Răican (Rumania). 1.b8Q/i Qxg5+ 2.Kf3 Qd5+ 3.Ke3/ii Qxc5+ 4.Kf4 Qc4+ 5.Kf5 Qd3+ 6.Kg4 Qg6+/iii 7.Kf4 (Kf3? Qd3+;) Qxf6+ 8.Ke4 Qg6+ 9.Kd4 Qg1+ 10.Kc4/iv Qf1+/v 11.Kc5/vi Qc1+ 12.Kd5 (Kd6? Qf4+;) Qh1+ 13.Ke6 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Se6+? Kf7 2.b8Q Qd3+ 3.Kh4 Qh7+ 4.Kg3 Qd3+ 5.Kg4 (Kf4 Qc4+;) Qf5+ 6.Kxf5 stalemate.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Kf4? Qc4+ 4.Kf5 Qd3+ 5.Kg4/vii Qg6+ 6.Kf4 Qxf6+ 7.Ke4 Qg6+ 8.Kd4 Qg1+/viii 9.Kc4 Qf1+ and pos X with wPc5 occurs, and the wK play to c5. 10.Kd5 Qg2+ (Qf3+) perpetual check. 3.Kg4? Qg8+, and 4.Kf3 Qd5+, 4.Kf4 Qc4+, or 4.Kf5 Qh7+.

iii) Qe2+ 7.Kg5, or Qd1+ 7.Kh4 Qd4+ 8.Kh3 Qd7+ 9.Se6++ wins.

iv) 10.Kd5? Qg2+ 11.Kc5 Qc2+.

v) position X' without wpc5.

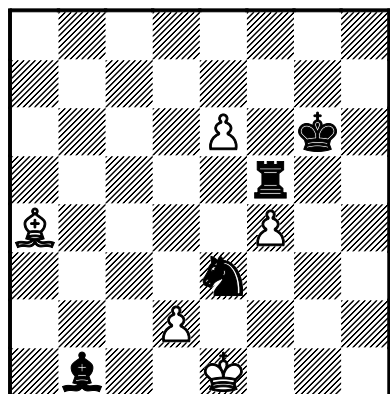
vi) 11.Kb3? Qb1+. 11.Kb4? Qb1+.

vii) 5.Ke6 Qh3+, or 5.Ke5 Qe2+, or 5.Kg5 Qd5+.

viii) But not Qg4+? 9.Kc3 Qf3+ 10.Kb4 Qe4+ 11.Ka5 Qe1+ 12.Qb4 wins.

“A correction of an earlier study by adding the WCCT7 theme!”.

No 17450 Y. Afek
honourable mention



e1g6 0343.30 5/4 Win

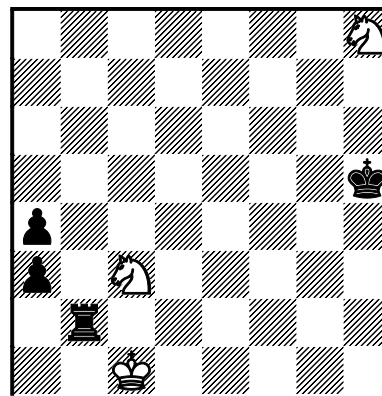
No 17450 Yochanan Afek (Israel/Netherlands). 1.e7 Sg2+ 2.Kd1 Bc2+ 3.Kxc2/i Rc5+ 4.Kd3 Rc8 5.e8Q+ (Bd7? Kf7;) Rxe8

6.Bxe8+ Kf5 7.Bd7+ Kxf4 8.Bc6 Sh4 (Se1+; Kc3) 9.Be4 Ke5 10.Ke3 wins.

i) 3.Bxc2? Kf7 4.Bxf5 Sxf4 draws.

“A fresh idea: domination of the bS”.

No 17451 J. Mikitovics
honourable mention



c1h5 0302.02 3/4 Draw

No 17451 János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Sf7/i Rf2 2.Se5/ii a2 3.Sxa2 Rxa2 4.Sd3/iii a3/iv 5.Kb1 Rd2 6.Se5/v Rb2+ 7.Ka1 Rc2 8.Sf7/vi Rc6/vii 9.Ka2 (Se5? Rc5;) Re6 10.Sd8/viii Rd6 11.Sb7 (Sf7? Rd5;) Ra6 12.Sc5 draws.

i) 1.Sxa4? Rb8 2.Sf7 (Sc3 Rc8;) a2 wins.

ii) 2.Sd6? (Sd8) a2 3.Sxa2 Rxa2 4.Kb1 (Sc4) Re2 wins.

iii) 4.Kb1? Rd2 5.Sc4 Rd4 6.Se5 (Sb2 a3;) Rd5/ix 7.Sc4 Rc5 8.Sb2 a3 9.Sa4 Rc4 10.Sb6 Rb4+ wins.

iv) Ra3 5.Kc2 Rb3 (Kg5; Sc5) 6.Sc5 Rb4 7.Kc3 Rf4 8.Kb2 (Se6? Rf6;) Kg4 5.Kb1 Ra3 6.Sc5, but not 6.Kc2? Rb3 7.Sc5 Rb4 8.Kc3 Rf4 9.Kb2 Rc4 10.Sd7 Rc7 11.Sb6 Rb7 wins.

v) 6.Sc5? Rh2 (a2?; Ka1), or 6.Sb4? Rb2+.

vi) 8.Kb1? Rc5/x. 8.Sd3? Kg4.

vii) Kg4 9.Sd6 Kf4 10.Sb5.

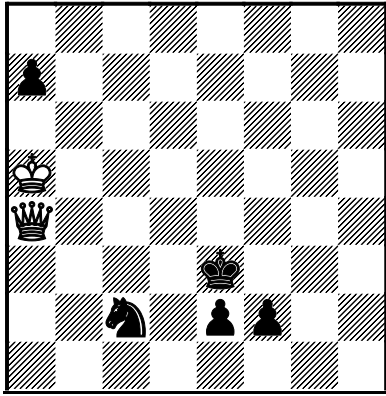
viii) 10.Kxa3? Kg6 11.Sd8 Rd6 12.Sb7 Ra6+ 13.Kb4 Rb6+ wins.

ix) But not Re4? 7.Sd7 Rc4 8.Ka2.

x) But not Rc3? 9.Ka2 Kg5 10.Sf7+ Kf4 11.Sd6.

“Interesting non-standard movement of the knight”.

No 17452 R. Becker
special honourable mention



a5e3 1003.03 2/5 Draw

No 17452 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qe8+ Kd2/i 2.Qd8+ Kc1 3.Qg5+ Kd1 4.Qd8+ Ke1 5.Qh4 Se3 6.Ka4/ii, and:

– a6 7.Qg3/iii Sg2/iv 8.Qc3+ Kf1 9.Qd3 (Qc4? Sd4;) Sf4 10.Qc4 a5 11.Kb5 a4 12.Kxa4 Kg1 13.Qxf4 f1Q 14.Qg3 draws, or:

– Sf5/v 7.Qb4+ Kf1 8.Qc4/vi Sg3 9.Qa6/vii Ke1 10.Qa5+ Kf1 11.Qa6 Kg1 12.Qd6 (Qg6) Kg2 13.Qc6+ Kh2 14.Qh6+ Kg2 15.Qc6+ Kf1 16.Qa6 draws.

i) Kd3 2.Qg6+/ix Kd2 3.Qd6+ Ke1 4.Qg3 draws.

ii) 6.Qg3? Kf1 7.Qh3+ Kg1 8.Qg3+ Sg2, or 6.Qb4+? Kf1 7.Qb5 Sf5 8.Ka6 Sg3 9.Kxa7 Kg1 10.Qg5 Kg2 11.Qd5+ Kh2, or 6.Ka6? Sf5 7.Qb4+ Kf1 8.Qc4 Sg3 9.Kxa7 Kg1 10.Qg8 Kg2 11.Qa8+ Kf1 win.

iii) 7.Ka5? Sf5 8.Qb4+ Kf1 9.Qc4 Sg3 10.Ka4 a5 11.Qa6 Se4 12.Qc4 Sd2 13.Qd3 Ke1 14.Qg3 Se4 15.Qh4 Sc5+ 16.Kb5 Sd3 17.Kc4 Kd2 18.Qd4 f1Q, or 7.Ka3? Sf5 8.Qb4+ Kf1 9.Qc4 Sg3 10.Kb2 Kg1 11.Qg8 e1S 12.Qxg3+ Sg2 wins.

iv) Sf5 8.Qc3+ Kf1 9.Qc4 Sg3 10.Qxa6.

v) Sg2 7.Qb4+ Kf1 8.Qc4 Sf4 9.Kb5 a5 10.Ka4 Kg1 11.Qxf4.

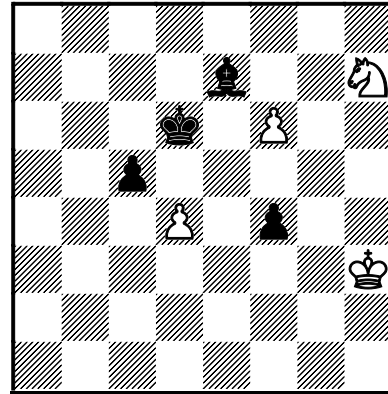
vi) 8.Qb5? Kg1 9.Qxe2 f1Q wins.

vii) 9.Qb5? Kg1 10.Qb8 Kh2 11.Qh8+ Kg2 12.Qa8+ Kf1 wins.

viii) 2.Qb5+? Kd2 3.Qg5+ Se3 4.Qd8+ Ke1 5.Qh4 Sf5

“This work easily surpasses an earlier version”. (EG#14359).

No 17453 P. Rossi & M. Campioli
commendation



h3d6 0031.22 4/4 BTM, Draw

No 17453 Pietro Rossi & Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...c4/i 2.Sg5/ii Bxf6/iii 3.Se4+/iv Kd5/v 4.Sxf6+ Kxd4 5.Sh5/vi Ke3/vii 6.Sf6 Ke2 7.Se4/viii f3 8.Kg3 f2 9.Sxf2 c3 10.Se4 c2 11.Sc3+ Kd2 12.Sa2 draws.

i) cxd4 2.fxe7 Kxe7 3.Sg5 d3 4.Sf3 stops both pawns.

ii) 2.fxe7? Kxe7 3.Sg5 c3 4.Sf3 c2 wins.

iii) c3 3.Se4+ Kd7 4.Sxc3.

iv) 3.Sf3? c3 4.Se1 f3, and 5.Kg3 Bh4+ 6.Kxh4 f2, or 5.Sc2 Kd5 6.Kg3 Ke4 7.Kf2 Bxd4+, or 5.Sd3 Bxd4 6.Kg3 f2 7.Kg2 c2 win.

v) Ke6 4.Kg4 Bxd4 5.Kxf4 Kd5 6.Kf3 but not 4.Sxf6? Kxf6 5.Kg4 c3.

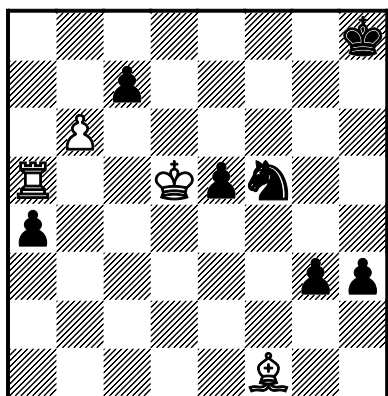
vi) Other moves like: 5.Kg4?, 5.Sd7?, 5.Sg4? all fail to 5...c3.

vii) f3 6.Kg3 Ke3 7.Sf6, and f2 8.Sg4+, c3 8.Sd5+, Ke2 8.Se4, or Kd3 8.Kxf3 c3 9.Sd5 c2 10.Sb4+.

viii) 7.Sd5? f3 8.Kg3 f2 9.Sf4+ (Sc3+ Ke1;) Ke1 10.Sg2+ Kf1, and 11.Se3+ Ke2 12.Kf4 c3, or 11.Kf3 c3 12.Se3+ Ke1 13.Sc2+ Kd2 win.

“The wS manoeuvres are not bad at all. This is not an original idea”.

No 17454 I. Murarãsu
special commendation



d5h8 0113.15 4/7 BTM, Draw

No 17454 Ion Murãrasu (Rumania). 1...g2/i
2.Bxg2 hxg2 3.b7 Se7+ 4.Ke6 Sc6 (g1Q;
b8Q+) 5.Rxe5 g1Q 6.b8Q+ Sxb8 7.Rh5+ Kg7
8.Rg5+ Qxg5 stalemate.

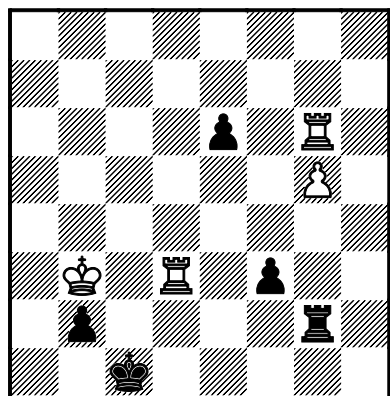
i) cxb6 2.Ra8+ Kg7 3.Bxh3, or Se7+ 2.Ke6
g2 3.Bxg2 hxg2 4.b7 draw.

“The stalemate position reminds me of my
own study (**EG#6027**). However I see some
new moments”.

Springaren 2005-2006

16 studies by 13 competed. The judge was Nikolai Kralin (Russia). The award appeared in *Springaren* no. 110, ix2008.

No 17455 I. Akobia
prize



b3c1 0500.13 4/5 Win

No 17455 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Rc3+ Kb1 (Kd1; Ka2) 2.Rxf3 (Rc8 f2;) Ka1 3.Rf1+ b1Q+ 4.Rxb1+ Kxb1 5.Kc3/i Kc1/ii 6.Kd4/iii Kd2 7.Rg7/iv Rg1 8.Rg8/v zz Re1/vi 9.g6/vii, and:

– e5+ 10.Kd5 e4 11.Kd4 (Ke5 Ke3;) e3 12.Ra8/viii Ke2 13.Ke4 Rg1 14.Ra2+ Kf1 15.Ra1+ wins, or:

– Kd3 11.Rd8 e4 12.Ke5+ Kc3 13.Rd6 e3 14.Ke4 (Kf4 Kc4;) Kc4 15.Rd4+ Kc5 16.Rd5+ Kc6 17.Rg5 e2 18.Kf3 (Ke3) (Kd3) Rf1+ 19.Kxe2 Rf8 20.g7 Rg8 21.Kf3 wins.

i) 5.Kc4? Rg4+ 6.Kd3 Kc1 1st position 7.Ke3 Kc2 8.Kf3 Rg1 9.Kf2 Rg4 10.Kf3 Rg1 positional draw.

ii) e5 6.Kd3 Rg4 7.Kd2 e4 8.Rg8/ix draws.

iii) 6.Kd3? Rg4 1st position 7.Ke3 Kc2 8.Kf3 Rg1 9.Kf2 Rg4 10.Kf3 Rg1, or 6.Rg8? Rg4 7.Kd3 Kd1 8.Ke3 e5 9.Kf3 Rf4+ 10.Kg3 Ke2 11.Re8 Rf3+ 12.Kg4 Rf4+ 13.Kh5 e4 14.g6 Kf3 15.g7 Rg4.

iv) Thematic try: 7.Rg8? Rg1/x zz 8.Ke5 Re1+ 9.Kf6 e5 10.g6 e4 11.g7 (Ra8 e3;) Rg1 12.Rd8+ Ke2.

v) 8.Ke5? Re1+ 9.Kf6 e5 10.g6 e4 11.Rd7+ Ke3 12.Rd5 Ra1 13.g7 Ra8, or 8.g6? Rg5 9.Rg8 Ke2.

vi) Ra1 9.g6 Ra5 10.Re8 Rg5 11.Rxe6, or Ke2 9.Ke5 Rg2 10.Ke4.

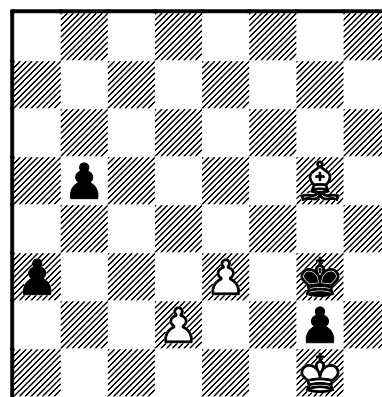
vii) 9.Re8? Rg1 10.Rg8 Re1.

viii) 12.Rb8? e2 13.Rb2+ Kc1.

ix) But not 8.Ke3? Kc2, or 8.Rb6+? Ka2 9.g6 Rg3 draws, but not Ka1? 9.Rg6 Kb2 10.Rg8.

x) Re2? 8.g6 e5+ 9.Kd5 e4 10.Ra8.

No 17456 G. Josten
1st honourable mention



g1g3 0010.23 4/4 Win

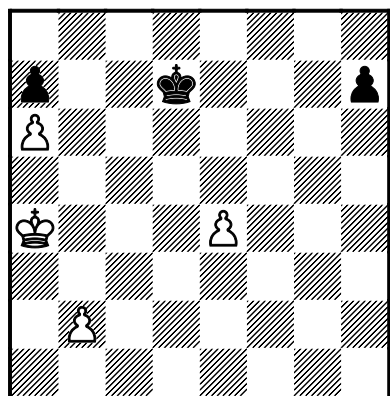
No 17456 Gerhard Josten (Germany). 1.Be7/i a2 2.Bf6 Kf3/ii 3.Ba1 b4/iii 4.d4 Ke4 5.Kxg2 b3 6.d5 Kxe3 (Kxd5; Kf3) 7.d6 Kd2 8.d7 Kc2 9.d8Q b2 10.Qc7+ Kb1 11.Qb6 Kxa1 12.Qd4 Kb1 13.Qd1 mate.

i) 1.e4? b4 2.Be7 a2 3.Bf6 Kf4 4.d3 Ke3 5.Ba1 Kxd3 6.e5 b3 7.e6 Kc2 8.e7 b2 9.Bxb2 Kxb2 10.e8Q a1Q+, or 1.Bf6? Kf3 2.Bc3 Ke4 3.Kxg2 Kd3 4.Kf2 a2 5.e4 b4 6.Ba1 b3 7.e5 Kc2 8.e6 b2 9.Bxb2 Kxb2 10.e7 a1Q.

ii) b4 3.Ba1 Kf3 4.d4.

iii) Ke4 4.d4 b4 5.Kxg2.

No 17457 H. Bie & J. Ulrichsen
2nd honourable mention



a4d7 0000.32 4/3 Win

No 17457 Hans Petter Bie & Jarl Ulrichsen (Norway). 1.b4/i h5 2.b5 Kc7/ii 3.e5 h4 4.e6 h3 5.b6+/iii Kxb6 6.e7 h2 7.e8Q h1Q 8.Qb8+ Kc5/iv 9.Qb4+ Kc6 (Kd5) 10.Qb7+ wins.

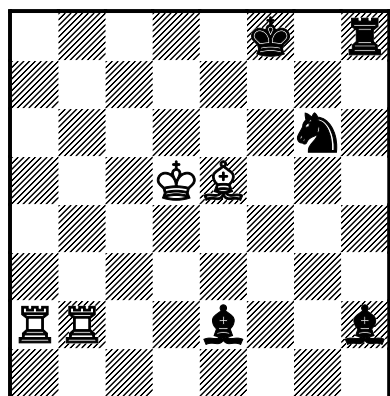
i) 1.e5? h5 2.b4 h4 3.b5 h3, or 1.Kb4? h5 win.

ii) h4 3.b6 h3 4.bxa7 h2 5.a8Q h1Q 6.Qd5+, or Kc8 3.b6 axb6 4.a7 Kb7 5.e5 h4 6.a8Q+ Kxa8 7.e6.

iii) 5.e7? Kd7 6.b6 h2 7.b7 h1Q 8.e8Q+ Kxe8 9.b8Q+ Kd7 10.Qxa7+ Kc8.

iv) Kxa6 9.Qb5 mate.

No 17458 V. Maksaev
3rd honourable mention



d5f8 0573.00 4/5 BTM, Draw

No 17458 Valery Maksaev (Russia). 1...Bf3+ 2.Ke6 Bg4+ 3.Kf6/i Bxe5+ 4.Kg5/ii Bd7/iii 5.Kxg6 Rg8+ 6.Kh5 Be8+ 7.Kh4 Bf6+ 8.Kh3 Bd7+ 9.Kh2 Be5+ 10.Kh1 Bc6+ 11.Rg2 draws/iv.

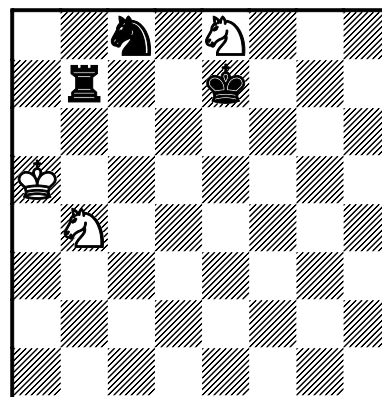
i) 3.Kd5? Bxe5 4.Rb6 Bf3+.

ii) 4.Kxg6? Rg8+ 5.Kh7 Rg7+ 6.Kh8 Rf7 mate, or here 5.Kh6 Bf4+ 6.Kh7 Bf5 mate.

iii) Be6 5.Rf2+ Bf7 6.Ra7 Rh7 7.Rf5. Bxb2 5.Rxb2 Se5 6.Rb8+ Kg7 7.Rxh8 Kxh8 8.Kf4.

iv) Rh8+ 12.Kg1 Bd4+ 13.Raf2+ Ke7 14.Kf1 Bb5+ 15.Ke1 Bc3+ 16.Kd1 Ba4+ 17.Ke2 Rd8 18.Rh2.

No 17459 D. Bergkwist
1st commendation



a5e7 0305.00 3/3 Draw

No 17459 David Bergkwist (Sweden). 1.Sc7, and:

– Sd6 2.Sc5+ Ke6 3.Ka6 Rb8/i 4.Ka7 Rc8 (Rb5; Sc7+) 5.Kb6 Se4/ii 6.Sc7+ Kd7 7.Sb5 Rb8+ 8.Ka5 Ra8+ 9.Kb6 Rb8+ 10.Ka5 Rb7 11.Ka6 Sc5+ 12.Ka5 Sb3+ 13.Ka4 Sd2 14.Ka5 Se4/iii 15.Ka6 draws, or:

– Kd6 (Rxc7; Sd5) 2.Sb5+ Kc5 3.Sd3+ Kc4 4.Se5+ Kd5 5.Sd3 Rb8/iv 6.Ka4 Rb6/v 7.Ka5 Rb7/vi 8.Ka4 Rb8/vii 9.Sb4+ Kc4 10.Sa3+ Kc3 (Kc5; Sa6+) 11.Sb5+ Kc4 12.Sa3+ draws.

i) Rh7 4.Kb6 Rh4 5.Sc7+, or Ke5 4.Se7 Rxb4 (Rxe7; Sc6+) 5.Sc6+, or Rb5 4.Sc7+.

ii) Rc4 (Sc4+; Kb7) 6.Sc7+ Kd7 7.Sca6 Se4 8.Kb5 Rc8 (Rc1; Sd3) 9.Sd5 Kd6 10.Sb6 Sc3+ 11.Kb4 Sa2+ (Rc6; Sc4+) 12.Kb5 Sc3+ (Rc1; Sc4+) 13.Kb4.

iii) Sc4+ 15.Ka4 Ke6/viii 16.Sd4+ Ke5/ix 17.Sdc6+ Kd6 18.Sa5 Ra7 19.Sc6 draws.

iv) Se7 6.Sb4+ Kc4 7.Sd6+, or Rd7 6.Kb4 Kc6 7.Se5+.

v) Se7 7.Sb4+ Kc5 8.Sa6+.

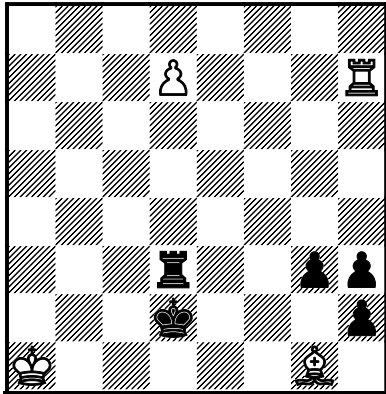
vi) Rf6 8.Kb4 Se7 9.Kc3 Rc6+ 10.Kd2 Kc4 11.Se5+

vii) Sb6+ 9.Kb4 Sd7 10.Ka5 Sf6 11.Sb4+ Kc4 12.Sd6+, or Se7 9.Sb4+ Kc5 10.Sd3+ Kc4 11.Sd6+.

viii) Sb2+ 16.Ka5 Sc4+ 17.Ka4.

ix) Kd6 17.Kb3 Sd2+ 18.Kc3.

No 17460 S. Hornecker
2nd commendation



a1d2 0410.13 4/5 Draw

No 17460 Siegfried Hornecker (Germany).
1.Bxh2 Kc2 (gxf2; Rxh3) 2.Ka2 gxf2/i
3.Rxh3 Rxh3 4.d8Q h1Q 5.Qc8+ (Qc7+?
Rc3;) Rc3 6.Qf5+ Rd3/ii 7.Qc5+ Kd2 8.Qf2+/
iii Kd1 9.Qc2+ Kxc2 stalemate.

i) Rxd7 3.Rxd7 gxf2 4.Rc7+ Kd2 5.Rd7+
Ke2 6.Re7+ Kf2 7.Rf7+ Kg3 8.Rg7+ Kh4
9.Rh7+ Kg4 10.Rg7+ Kh5 11.Rh7+ Kg4
12.Rg7+, or Rd6 3.Ka3 Rxd7 4.Rxh3 gxf2
5.Rxh2+ draws.

ii) Kd2 7.Qf2+ Kd1 8.Qd4+ Kc2 9.Qf2+
Kd3 10.Qg3+ Kd4 11.Qg7+ Kc4 12.Qc7+
Kb4 13.Qb6+ Kc4 14.Qc7+ Kd3 15.Qg3+
Kd2 16.Qf2+ Kd1 17.Qd4+ draws.

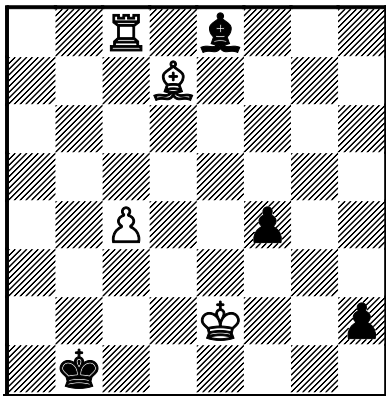
iii) 8.Qc2+? Ke3 (Kxc2? Stalemate) 9.Qc5+
Ke2 10.Qe5+ Kf2 wins.

Birnov MT no 3 1977

Thanks to our Russian friends O. Efrosinin and V. Persiyanov an ancient gap in EG's awards coverage is now filled.

For the prize winning studies see EG74.4995, EG52.3335 (a correction, the original study had bpb7 instead of bpc7), and EG74.5000, respectively.

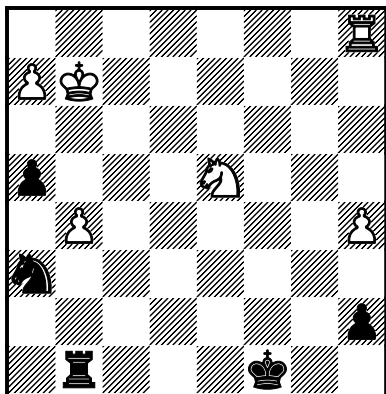
No 17461 A. Sochnev
1st honourable mention



e2b1 0140.12 4/4 Win

No 17461 Aleksei Sochnev (Leningrad).
1.Bf5+ Ka2 2.Ra8+ Kb2 3.Rb8+ Ka2 4.Bb1+
Ka1 5.Be4 f3+ 6.Bxf3 Bh5 7.Rh8 h1Q 8.Rxh5
Qc1 9.Rh1+ wins.

No 17462 A. Maksimovskikh & V. Moiseev
2nd honourable mention



b7f1 0404.32 6/5 Win

No 17462 Aleksandr Maksimovskikh (Kurgan region) & V. Moiseev (Volgograd).
1.Rf8+ Ke2 2.Rf2+ Kxf2 3.Sg4+ Ke2 4.Sxh2
Rxb4+ 5.Kc6 Rc4+ 6.Kd7 Rc7+ 7.Kxc7 Sb5+
8.Kd7 wins.

HH: EG52.3336 is a correction of this study, but the original version seems to be perfectly sound to me.

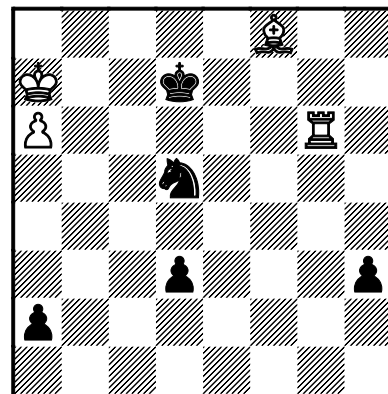
The 3rd honourable mention went to a study by E. Pogosyants: d6f6 0047.00 f5f3b7a3a6 3/4 Draw: 1.Bc8, with: Sc4+ 2.Kd7 Bg4+ 3.Kd8 Bxc8 4.Sc5 Sb6 5.Sd7+ (cook: 5.Sa4) Bxd7 stalemate, or here Sb6+ 3.Kd8 Sxc8 4.Kxc8 Ke7 5.Sa5 (dual 5.Sd8) Bd5 6.Sc6+ Bxc6 stalemate, or Sb5+ 2.Kd7 Bg4+ 3.Kd8 Bxc8 4.Sd6 Sxd6 stalemate.

HH: But, apart from the second solution/dual mentioned in the main line, this study is incorrect. After 1.Bc8 Sc4+ 2.Kd7 Black has 2...Se5+, e.g. 3.Kd8 Sf7+ 4.Ke8 Sc7+ 5.Kf8 Se5 6.Kg8 Sg6 7.Sd6 Se7+ 8.Kh8 Sxc8 9.Sxc8 Sd5 Black wins.

Also the 4th honourable mention by V. Samilo proved incorrect: c1a2 0410.34 h1f7g1.a6g3h2a3a7c3h3 6/6 Win: 1.Kc2 Rf1 2.Bxa7 Rxh1 3.Bg1 Rxc1 4.a7 Rg2+ 5.Kxc3 Rxc3+ 6.hxc3 h2 7.a8B Kb1 8.Kb3 a2 9.Be4+ Kc1 10.Kxa2 Kd2 11.Kb2 Ke3 12.Bc6 Kd4 13.Kc2 Ke5 14.Kd2 Kf5 15.Ke3 Kg4 16.Kf2 wins.

But MG cooks (HHdbIV#44746, 19i2007): 8...h1Q 9.Bxh1 a2 10.Be4+ Ka1 and Black has a stalemate defence.

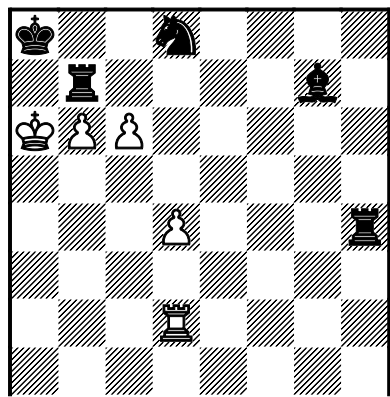
No 17463 L. Mitrofanov & V. Razumenko
5th honourable mention



a7d7 0113.13 4/5 Win

No 17463 Leopold Mitrofanov & Viktor Razumenko (Leningrad). 1.Rg1 h2 2.Rh1 d2 3.Kb8 Sc3 4.a7 d1Q 5.Rxd1+ Sxd1 6.a8Q a1Q 7.Qd5+ Ke8 8.Qg8 Qa6 9.Ba3+ Kd7 10.Qf7+ Kc6 11.Qg6+ Kb5 12.Qd3+ Ka5 13.Qd2+ Kb5 14.Qb4+ Kc6 15.Qd6+ Kb5 16.Qc5+ Ka4 17.Qb4 mate.

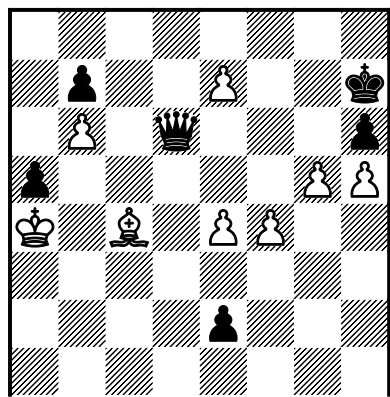
No 17464 A. Herbstman & L. Katsnelson
6th honourable mention



a6a8 0733.30 5/5 Draw

No 17464 Aleksandr Herbstman & Leonard Katsnelson (Leningrad). 1.c7 Rb8 2.Ra2 Bxd4 3.b7+ Sxb7 4.Kb5+ Ba7 5.Rxa7+ Kxa7 6.c8S+ Ka8 7.Sb6+ Ka7 8.Sc8+ Rxc8 stalemate.

No 17465 B. Olimpiev
1st commendation

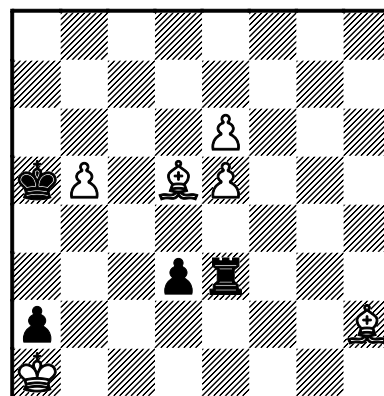


a4h7 3010.64 8/6 Win

No 17465 Bronislav Olimpiev (Sverdlovsk). 1.g6+ Kg7 2.e8S+ Kf8 3.g7+ Ke7 4.Sxd6 e1Q 5.Sf5+ Kf6 6.g8S mate.

No 17466 Yuri Makletsov (Yakutsk, Russia). 1.Bf4 d2 2.Bb3 Rxb3 3.Bxd2+ Ka4 4.e7 Rb1+ 5.Kxa2 Rxb5 6.e8R Rxe5 7.Ra8+ Kb5 8.Ra5+ Kc6 9.Rxe5 wins.

No 17466 Y. Makletsov
2nd commendation

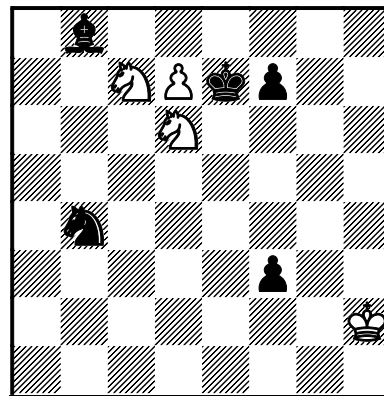


a1a5 0320.32 6/4 Win

The 3rd commendation by V. Kalandadze has been cooked by MG: c5a8 0500.13 b7g4h5.e3a2e5h2 4/5 Draw: 1.Rb2 e4+ 2.Kc4, and: a1Q 3.Rg8+ Ka7 4.Rg7+ Ka6 5.Rg6+ Ka5 6.Rb5+ Rxb5 7.Ra6+ Kxa6 stalemate, or a1R 3.Rg8+ Ka7 4.Rg7+ Ka6 5.Rg6+ Ka5 6.Rg8 Ra4+ 7.Kc3 Rc5+ 8.Kd2 Rd5+ 9.Ke2 Rb5 10.Ra8+ Kb6 11.Rb8+ Kc6 12.Rc2+ Rc5 13.Rc8+ Kd6 14.R8xc5 h1Q 15.Rc6+ perpetual check.

But 1.Rf7! e4+ 2.Kb4 Rh8 3.Rf1 h1Q 4.Rg8+ Rxc8 5.Rxh1 Rg2 6.Ra1 (MG).

No 17467 V. Novikov
4th commendation



h2e7 0035.12 4/5 Draw

No 17467 Valery Novikov (Moscow). 1.d8Q+ Kxd8 2.Sxf7+ Ke7 3.Sg5 Bxc7+ 4.Kg1 Bb6+ 5.Kf1 f2 6.Sh3 Sd3 7.Sf4 Sxf4 stalemate. The composer might have added: 7...Sb4 8.Sh3, with a neat positional draw or repetition.

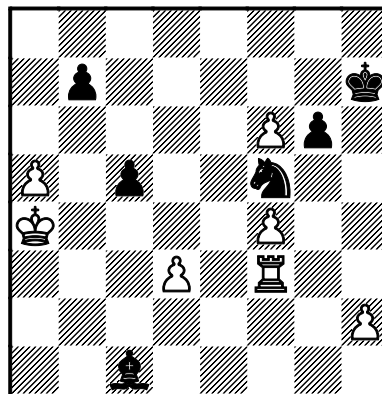
The 5th commendation by A. Khachikov & A. Gorgeyev is unsound: h8e7 0310.32

d5h2.d3g4h7f6f7 5/4 Win: 1.Kg7 Rg5+ 2.Kh6 Rxg4 3.Kh5 Rg2 4.Bc7 Rg1 5.Bd8+ Ke6 6.Bxf6 Rh1+ 7.Bh4 wins. HH: this was a correction of a study published in *Shakhmaty v SSSR* vii1975. But MG cooks with the simple 3.h8Q Rh4+ 4.Kg7 Rxh8 5.Kxh8 with an obvious win.

No 17468 Anatoly Zinchuk (Kiev). 1.Rf1 Be3 2.Rb1 Sd6 3.Rxb7+ Sxb7 4.a6 Sd6/i 5.f7 Kg7 6.a7 Sc8 7.f8Q+ Kxf8 8.a8Q wins, because b5 is pinned, but 8.a8R Bxf4 9.Rxc8+ Ke7 10.Rxc5 Bxh2, with 11.Kb5 or 11.Rc2 (Nalimov) is a dual, even if in 2009 it is worth noting (AJR) that BTM after 10...Bxh2; is a draw by 'Kf6;' (only).

i) Surely 4...c4 calls for a variation? (AJR). 5.axb7 Bxf4 6.dxc4 g5 7.Kb5 Bxh2 8.Kb6 g4 9.c5 (HH).

No 17468 A. Zinchuk
6th commendation

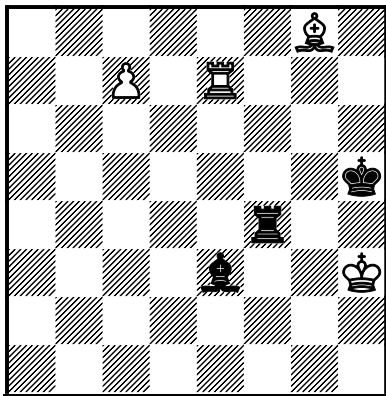


a4h7 0133.53 7/6 Win

Ivan Bondar 50 JT 2008

In the studies section 48 entries were received from 21 composers. Three other sections were for 2-ers, 3-ers, and more-movers. The judge appended a rhyme to each study solution – AJR’s attempted equivalents should be taken with a pinch of salt.

No 17469 J. Mikitovics
1st prize



h3h5 0440.10 4/3

I: diagram – BTM, White wins

II: remove wRe7; add wRb7. BTM draws

No 17469 János Mikitovics (Budapest).

I: If 1...Rh4+ 2.Kg2 (Kg3? Bf4+;) Rg4+ 3.Kf3 wins, but not 3.Kf1 (Kh3)? Rxc8 draw. So Black does better with 1...Rf3+ 2.Kg2 (Kh2? Bf4+;) Rf2+ 3.Kg3 (Kh1? Rc2;) Rc2 4.Be6 Bg5/i 5.Rh7+ (Bf7+? Kh6;) Kg6 6.Kg4 Rg2+ (Kxh7; Bf5+) 7.Kf3 (Kh3? Rc2;) Rc2 8.Rd7 Rc3+ (Kf6; Bd5) 9.Ke4/ii Bh4 10.Bf7+/iii Kh6 11.Kd4 (Kd5? Bg3;) Bf6+ 12.Kd5/iv Rc1 13.Bg8/v Kg6 14.Bh7+ Kh6 15.Bd3 wins, as 16.Bc4 is threatened.

i) Bc5 5.Rh7+/vi Kg5/vii 6.c8Q Bd6+ 7.Kf3 wins, not 7.Kh3? Rh2 mate.

ii) 9.Kg4? Be3 10.Bd5 Bb6 draw.

iii) 10.Bf5+? Kf6/viii 11.Rd6+ Ke7 12.Rd7+ Kf6, not Ke8? 13.Rh7 wins. Or 10.Kd4(?) Bf6+ 11.Ke4 Bh4 12.Bf7+ Kh6 13.Kd4 Bf6+ 14.Kd5+ loses time.

iv) If 12.Ke4, then not Rc5? 13.Bd5 Kg5 14.Bb7, but Bh4 13.Bd5 Bg3 draw.

v) 13.Ke4? Bh4 draw. Or 13.Be8? Rc2 14.Rf7 (Ke6, Bh4;) Bd8 draw. Or 13.Be6? Bh4 14.Rf7 Kg6 draw.

vi) 5.c8Q? Bd6+ 6.Kf3 (Kh3? Rh2 mate) Rxc8 7.Rh7+ Kg6 draw.

vii) Kg6 6.Bf5+ Kxf5 7.c8Q+ wins.

viii) Kg5? 11.Bh3 Kf6 12.Rh7 wins.

II: This is a study where BTM draws. 1...Rf8? 2.Bf7+ Kg5 3.Rb8 wins. So 1...Rf3+ 2.Kg2 Rf2+/i 3.Kh1 Rf1+/ii 4.Kg2 Rf2+ (Rc1?; Be6) 5.Kg3 Rf8/iii 6.Bf7+/iv Kg5/v 7.Rb5+/vi Kh6 (Kf6?; Rb8) 8.Rh5+ Kg7 9.Be6 Bf4+ draw.

i) Rf8? 3.Bf7+ Kg5 4.Rb8 wins.

ii) Rc2? 4.Be6 wins. Kh4? 4.Rb2/vii Rf8 (Rf1+; Kg2) 5.Be6 wins.

iii) Threatening Bf4+, drawing. Rc2? 6.Be6 wins.

iv) 6.Rb8 Bf4+. 6.Be6 Bf4+.

v) Kh6? 7.Kg4 Rc8 8.Be6 wins.

vi) 7.Rb8 Bf4. 7.Kg2 Bf4.

vii) 4.Rb1? Rc2 5.Bc4 Rxc4 6.Rb4 Rxb4 drawn.

Notable not only for the absence of captures but for the twinning, which, unless there is a precedent, is unique: same man of same colour on a different square, same side to move, different stipulation. And, of course, a study in either case! We suggest coining the neologism ‘Mikito Twin’ for this type. Of course, with change of colours II could carry the stipulation ‘WTM and draw’ with I ‘WTM, Black wins’, but that would be no less original. [AJR]

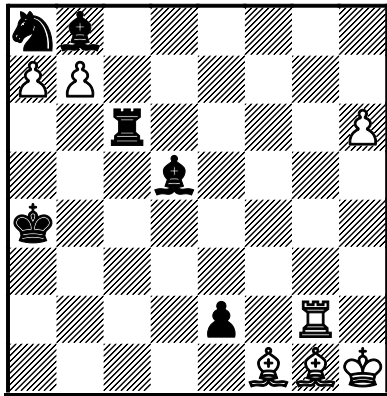
Like navies at each other's throats

Destroyers and torpedo-boats

Veer to starboard or to port

No battle was so keenly fought.

No 17470 G. Slepian
2nd prize



h1a4 0483.31 7/6 Draw

No 17470 Grigori Slepian (Minsk, Belarus).
1.axb8Q? Rxh6+ 2.Qh2 exf1Q 3.bxa8Q+ Bxa8 4.Qxh6 Qxg2 mate. 1.axb8B Rxh6+/i 2.bBh2 exf1B/ii 3.Be3/iii fBxg2 (Rg6; b8Q) 4.Kg1 Rf6 5.bxa8Q+ (b8Q? Rf1 mate) draw, for instance: Bxa8 6.hBf4 (also eBf4 works) Kb3 7.Kf2 Kc4 8.Ke1 Kd3 9.Kf2 Bh3 10.Kg3 Bd7 11.Kf2 Bb7 12.Kg3 Ke2 13.Bc1 Rg6+ 14.Bg5.

i) exf1Q 2.bxa8Q+ Kb4 3.Qb7+ Kc4 4.Qb2 draw. Or Re6 (Rc2) 2.Bxe2 Rxe2 3.Bd4 Rxc2 4.bxa8Q+ Bxa8 5.h7 Rg7+ 6.Kh2 Rxh7+ 7.Kg3 draw.

ii) exf1Q 3.bxa8Q+ Bxa8. Rxh2+ 3.Kxh2 exf1Q 4.Rg4+Ka5 5.b8Q draw.

iii) 3.bxa8Q? Bxa8 4.Bf2 Bxg2 5.Kg1 Rf6 6.Be3 Rf3 wins.

Bondar couplet:

Four mono-mitred muzhiks and one rook

Tell us a story that's not in the book!

A dense 7-man ending

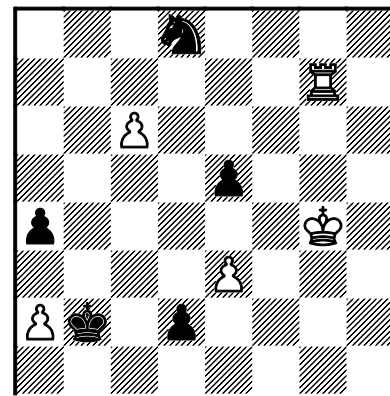
From an author of world standing.

“Paradox: a bishop pair drawing up against another bishop pair supporting a whole rook. This study is our riposte to the Thompson database! Note that the main line is five moves long.”

AJR: This corrects (let's hope) a Slepian study highly placed in the provisional Bent MT award published in *The Problemist* (ix2007) which, however, among a number of oddities, omitted the spectacular Bourzutschky & Konoval *C* analysis supplied in

i2008 in an EG171 Snippet (p. 48-9)! The setting – but not the idea – was shown to be unsound by a noted German analyst. One can't help thinking of the fated liner *Titanic* that sank after hitting an iceberg in 1912 on its maiden voyage – but revealed some of its mysteries on under-water TV footage 90 years later. Even our account reads like a ship's captain's log. Ken Thompson, incidentally, could 'solve' 7-man endings if he turned his mind to the task but is not credited with having done so.

No 17471 A. Pallier
1st honourable mention



g4b2 0103.33 5/5 Win

No 17471 Alain Pallier (Avignon, France).
1.Rd7 Sxc6/i 2.Rxd2+ Ka3/ii 3.Kf5/iii Sb4 4.Kxe5 Sxa2 5.Kd4/iv Kb3 6.Rd3+ (e4? Sb4;) Kb4 7.e4 Sc1 8.Rd1/v Sb3+ (Se2+; Ke3) 9.Kd5 wins, not 9.Kd3? a3 10.e5 a2 draws.

i) d1Q+ 2.Rxd1 Sxc6 3.Rd2+ Ka3 4.Kf5 Sb4 5.Kxe5 Sxa2 6.Kd4 Kb3 7.Rd3+ Kb4 8.e4 Sc1 9.Rd1 Se2+ 10.Kd3 Sf4+ 11.Kc2 Se6 12.Kb2 wins.

ii) Kc3 3.Rd7 Kb2/vi 4.Rc7 Sb4/vii 5.Rb7 Ka3 6.Kf5 Sc2 (Sxa2; Kxe5) 7.e4 Kxa2 8.Kxe5.

iii) 3.e4? Sb4, and 4.Rd5 Sxa2 5.Rxe5, is no more than a draw, so the 6-man test via the Bleicher site assures us, after 5...Sb4 (Sc3) or 5...Kb4 (Kb3). If 3.Rd5? Kxa2 4.Rc5 Sb4 5.Rxe5, when (EGTB) any of six replies draw.

iv) 5.e4? Sc3, EGTB giving 5...Kb3 as an alternative. 5.Kd5? Kb3 6.Rd3+ Kb4 draw, not Kc2? 7.Kc4 – 7.Kd4 also (EGTB).

v) 8.Rf3? a3 draws, but not Sb3+? 9.Kd5 a3 10.e5 a2 11.Rf1 winning. Or 8.Re3? Sb3+/viii 9.Kd5 Sc5 10.e5 Sd7 11.e6 Sf6+ 12.Kc6 a3 draw.

vi) Sb4 4.Ra7 Sc2 (Sxa2; Rxa4) 5.Rxa4 Sxe3+ 6.Kf3. Or Kc4 4.Kf5 Sb4 5.Ra7 Kb5 6.Kxe5 Sxa2, or, in this, a3 5.Ke4 Sb4/ix 6.Ra7 Sxa2. Or Sa5 4.Ra7 Kb4 5.Kf5 Sc4 6.Ke4 a3 7.Kd3.

vii) Sa5 5.Rc5. Sd8 5.Kf5 Kxa2 6.Kf6 and 7.Ke7.

viii) a3 9.Re1 Sb3+ 10.Kd5.

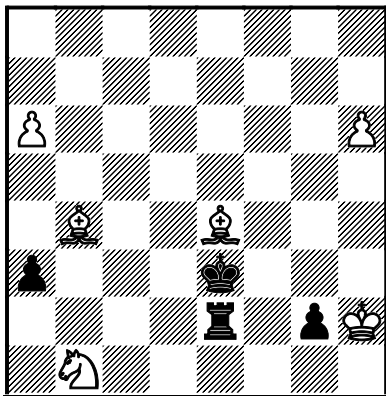
ix) Kc5 6.Rd3 Kb4 7.Kd5.

I thank the author for his work

It's not so simple, so don't shirk.

AJR: one can't help feeling that it's an unfair imposition on the average reader-solver to have to evaluate at master-level a number of similar 6-man 0103.11 endings with possibly different outcomes. He is likely to pass on to another study.

No 17472 M. Campioli
2nd honourable mention



h2e3 0321.22 6/4 BTM, Win

No 17472 Marco Campioli (Sassuolo, Italy). 1...Kf2/i 2.Bc5+/ii Kf1 3.Kh3/iii a2/iv 4.a7/v g1Q/vi 5.Bxg1 a1Q 6.a8Q wins, for instance: Qf6 7.Qc6/vii Qxc6/viii 8.Bxc6 Kxg1/ix 9.Kg4/x Re6 (Rh2; Kg5) 10.h7 Rh6 (Rxc6; h8Q) 11.Be4.

i) Kxe4 2.Sc3+ Kf3 3.Sxe2 a2 4.Bc3 wins, as does a2 2.a7 a1Q 3.a8Q Qe5+ 4.Kg1, but not 4.Kh3? Qh5+.

ii) 2.Bxg2? a2 3.a7/xi a1Q 4.Bc5+ Ke1 5.a8Q Qe5+ 6.Kh1 (Kh3) Qh5+. Nor 2.Kh3? g1Q 3.Bc5+ Re3+.

iii) 3.Kg3? a2 4.Sc3 a1Q 5.Sxe2 Kxe2 6.h7 Qe5+ 7.Kh3, not 7.Kxg2? Qxe4+.

iv) g1Q 4.Bxg1 Kxg1/xii 5.Sxa3 Re3+ (Rxe4; h7) 6.Kg4 Rxe4+ 7.Kf5.

v) 4.Sc3? a1Q 5.Sxe2 Rxe2 6.Kxg2 Qxa6 draw. 4.h7? g1Q 5.Bxg1 (h8Q? Rh2 mate) Kxg1 6.h8Q Rh2+ 7.Kg3 Rxh8 8.Sd2 Rg8+ winning, not a1Q? 9.Sf3+ drawn.

vi) a1Q 5.a8Q. Rxe4 5.Sd2+.

vii) 7.h7? Qh6+ 8.Kg3 Qg7+ 9.Kf4 Qf6+ draw.

viii) Qg5 8.Qg6, and Qxg1 9.Sd2+ Rxd2 10.Bd3+, or Qxg6 9.Bxg6 Kxg1 10.h7.

ix) Re6 9.h7 Rh6+ (Rxc6; h8Q) 10.Kg3 Rxh7 (Kxg1; Be4) 11.Sd2+ Kxg1 12.Sf3+.

x) 9.h7? Rh2+ draw. 9.Kh4? Re6 10.h7 Rh6+ draw.

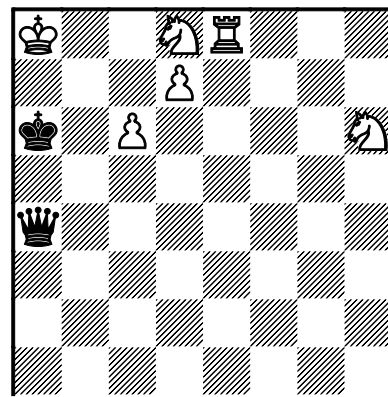
xi) 3.Bc5+ Ke1 4.a7 a1Q draw. 3.Sc3 a1Q 4.Bc5+ Re3 5.Se4+ Ke2 6.Bxe3 Kxe3 7.h7 Qe5+ draw.

xii) Rxe4 5.h7 a2 6.Sd2+.

To you with thanks I tug my forelock!

Such magic – from a fiendish warlock?

No 17473 N. Kralin
3rd honourable mention



a8a6 3102.20 6/2 Draw

No 17473 Nikolai Kralin (Moscow). 1.Kb8? Kb6 2.Se6 Qa7+ 3.Kc8 Qa8 mate. 1.Re4 Qa3/i 2.Rb4/ii Qxb4 3.c7 Kb6 4.Sc6 (Kb8, Qd6;) Qa4+ 5.Kb8 Qxc6 6.c8S+/iii Ka6 7.d8S Qxh6/iv 8.Kc7 Qc1+ 9.Kd7 draw.

i) If Qxe4, then not 2.Sf5? Kb6 3.Sb7 Qa4+, but 2.Kb8 Kb6 3.c7 Qe5 4.Se6 Kc6 5.d8S+.

ii) 2.Kb8? Kb6 3.Rb4+ Qxb4 4.c7 Qd6 5.Se6 Qxd7 6.c8S+ (c8Q? Qa7 mate) Kc6

7.Sa7+ Kd5 (Kd6?; Sd4) 8.Sc7+ Kc5 9.Kb7 (Sc8, Qh7;) Qh7 10.Sf5, not 10.Sg8? Qe4+ 11.Kb8 Qg6 12.Se7 Qb6 winning.

iii) 6.c8Q? Qd6+ 7.Ka8 Qa3+ 8.Kb8 Qa7 mate.

iv) If Qd7 8.hSf7, not 8.Sf5? Qxd8 9.dSf6 Qd7 wins.

In the composer's words: Both in try and solution a pair of knights draw against the queen – the knights in the main line being promoted.

In the judge's:

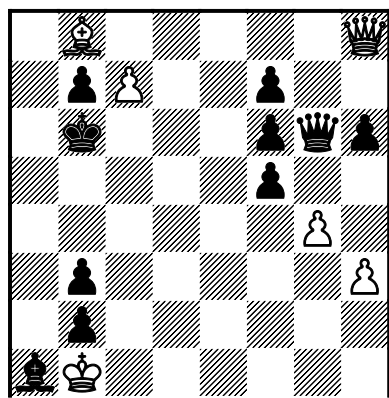
Parting with two knackered nags

And a cart into the bargain

I bought two new 'uns, stotting stags

That thank God saved my bacon!

No 17474 P. Rossi
1st commendation



b1b6 4040.37 6/10 Win

No 17474 Pietro Rossi (Matera, Italy).
1.c8S+ Ka6/i 2.Se7/ii Qg5 3.Bf4/iii Qxf4/iv 4.Qa8+/v Kb5 (Kb6; Sd5+) 5.Qxb7+ Kc4 6.Qa6+ Kc5 7.Qc6+ Kd4 8.Qa4+ Ke5 9.Sc6+ Kd6 10.Qxf4+ wins.

i) Ka5 2.Qd8+ Ka4/vi 3.Qd4+ Kb5 (Ka5; Qc5+) 4.Sd6+ Kc6 (Ka5; Bc7+) 5.Qc4+ Kd7 6.Qc8+ wins. Or Kb5 2.Qe8+ Kb4/vii 3.Qe7+ Kc4/viii 4.Qe2+ Kb4/ix 5.Qd2+ Kc4/x 6.Sd6+ Kc5 7.Qc3+ wins. Or Kc5 2.Qf8+ Kd4/xi 3.Qd6+ Ke4/xii 4.Qf4+ Kd3/xiii 5.Qf3+ Kc4/xiv 6.Sd6+ Kd4 7.Qf4+ wins.

ii) 2.Bf4? fxg4 mate. Or 2.Qd8? fxg4++.

iii) 3.Qc8? fxg4 4.Bf4 (Qc4+, Qb5;) Qxf4 5.Qa8+ Kb5 6.Qxb7+ Kc4 7.Qa6+ Kd4 8.Qa4+ Ke5 9.Sc6+ Kf5.

iv) Qh4 4.Qa8+ Kb6 5.Be3+ Kb5 6.Qxb7+.

v) 4.Qxf6+? Ka7 5.Sc8+ Kb8 wins.

vi) Kb4 3.Qd4+ Kb5 4.Sd6+. Kb5 3.Qd5+ Ka6 4.Qc4+ b5 5.Qc6+ wins.

vii) Kc4 3.Qe2+ Kc5 3.Qe3+ Kc6 4.Qc3+ wins.

viii) Ka4 4.Qd7+ Ka5 5.Bc7+ Kb4 6.Qd4+ Kb5 7.Sa7+.

ix) Kd4 5.Ba7+ Kd5 6.Qd3+ Kc6 7.Qd6+. Kc5 5.Qe3+ Kc6 6.Qc3+ Kd5 7.Qd3+ Kc5 8.Bd6+. Kc3 5.Qe3+ Kb4 (Kc4; Sd6+) 6.Qd4+ Kb5 7.Sd6+.

x) Kc5 6.Bd6+. Ka4 6.Qd4+ Kb5 7.Sd6+. Kb5 6.Sd6+ Ka4 7.Qd4+.

xi) Kc4 3.Sd6+ Kd3 4.Sxf5 Qg5 5.Qd6+ Ke2 6.Sg3+. Kd5 3.Qd6+ Ke4 4.Qf4+.

xii) Kc4 4.Qf4+ Kd3 5.Qf3+. Kc3 4.Qc5+ Kd3 5.Qd5+ Ke2 6.Qg2+. Ke3 4.Qg3+ Ke2 5.Qg2+ Ke3 6.Se7 Qh7 7.Ba7+.

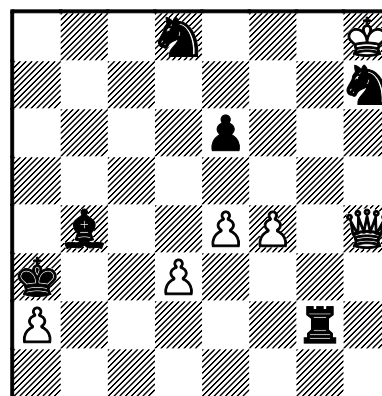
xiii) Kd5 5.Sb6+ Kc5 6.Qc4+ Kxb6 7.Bc7+.

xiv) Kd2 6.Bf4+. Kd4 6.Ba7+.

Half a kingdom for a horse

A price heard in the Moscow Bourse!

No 17475 P. Arestov
2nd commendation



h8a3 1336.41 6/6 BTM, Draw

No 17475 Pavel Arestov (Moscow region).
1...Bc3+ (Sf8; Qxd8) 2.d4/i Bxd4+ 3.e5 Sg5 4.fxg5 Bxe5+ 5.Kh7/ii Rh2 6.Kg6 Sf7 (Rhx4 stalemate) 7.Qxh2 (Qe4? Sh8 mate) Sh8+/iii 8.Qxh8 Bxh8 9.Kf7/iv e5 10.Kg8, winning bB and so drawing.

i) 2.Kxh7? Rg7+ 3.Kh6 Sf7+ 4.Kh5 Rh7+ wins. 2.e5? Sg5 3.fxg5 Bxe5+ 4.Kh7 (Kg8) Rh2 wins.

ii) 5.Kg8? Rh2 6.Qe4 Rh8 mate.

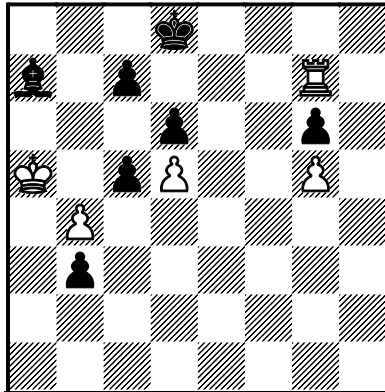
iii) Bxh2 8.Kxf7 e5 9.g6 draw.

iv) 9.Kh7? Bd4 10.g6 Kxa2 11.Kg8 e5 12.g7 e4.

For those with all the talents

They'll praise the piece-play balance.

No 17476 N. Kralin
3rd commendation



a5d8 0130.35 5/7 Draw

No 17476 Nikolai Kralin (Moscow). 1.Rf7? c4 2.Ka4 Be3 3.Rf1 Kc8 4.Ka3 Kb7 5.b5 Bc5+ 6.Ka4 b2 7.Rb1 Bd4 8.Kb4 c3 9.Kb3 Kb6 wins. 1.Rg8+ Kd7/i 2.Rg7+ Kc8 3.Rg8+ Kb7 4.bxc5 Bb6+/ii 5.cxb6 cxb6+ 6.Kb5 b2 7.Rg7+ Kb8/iii 8.Ka6 b1Q 9.Rb7+ Kc8 10.Rb8+ Kxb8 stalemate, or Kd7 11.Rb7+ Ke8 12.Rb8+ Kf7 13.Rb7+.

i) Ke7 2.Rxg6 b2 3.Re6+ Kd7 4.Re1 c4 5.Ka4.

ii) dxc5 5.Re8 b2 6.Re1 c4 7.Kb4 Be3 8.Rb1. Or Bxc5 5.Re8 b2 6.Re1 Bd4 7.Kb4 Kb6 8.Kc4 Be5 9.Rd1 Bf4 10.Kb3 Bc1 11.Kc2 Kc5 12.Rd3.

iii) Kc8 8.Kc6 Kd8 9.Kxd6, and Kc8 10.Kc6, or Ke8 10.Re7+ drawing.

Composer: synthesis of stalemate and perpetual check.

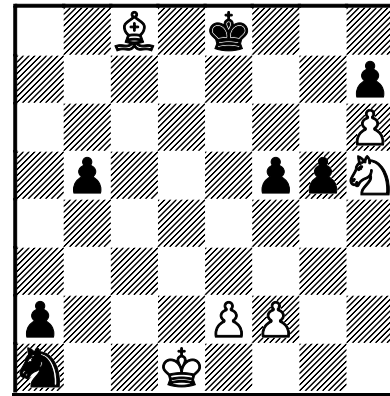
Judge:

'Salvation!' pleads the monk telling his beads

Behold perpetual check – thus his Lord heeds!

No 17477 Marco Campioli (Sassuolo, Italy). 1.Kc1? Sb3+. 1.Be6? Sb3. 1.Sf6+? Kf7 and 2.Sxh7 Kg6, or 2.Sd5+ Sb3. 1.Sg7+ Kd8/i 2.Se6+ (Be6? Sb3;) Kxc8 3.Sd4 (Sc5? Sc2;)

No 17477 M. Campioli
4th commendation



d1e8 0014.35 6/7 Draw

b4/ii 4.Kc1 b3 5.Kb2/iii Sc2 6.Sxb3 a1Q+ 7.Sxa1 Sxa1 8.Kxa1/iv Kd7/v 9.Kb2/vi Ke6 10.Kc3 Kf6/vii 11.Kd4 Kg6 12.Ke5/viii f4/ix 13.f3/x Kxh6 14.Kf6 (Kf5? Kh5;) Kh5 15.Kg7 (Kf5? Kh4;) h6 16.Kh7 draws, not 16.Kf6? Kh4 17.Kg6 h5.

i) Kf7 2.Be6+. Ke7 2.Sxf5+ Kf6 3.Sd4.

ii) Kd7 4.Kc1 Kd6 5.Kb2 Kd5 6.e3 draw.

iii) 5.f3? Sc2. Or 5.e3? Sc2 6.Sxb3 a1Q 7.Sxa1 Sxa1 8.Kb2 Kd7 9.Kxa1 Ke6 10.Kb2 Kf6 11.Kc3 Kg6 12.Kd4 Kxh6 13.Ke5 Kg6.

iv) 8.f3? g4. Or 8.e3? Kd7 9.Kxa1 Ke6.

v) f4 9.f3 (Kb2? g4;) Kd7 10.Kb2. If g4 9.e3, but not 9.Kb2? f4.

vi) 9.Kb1? Ke6 10.Kc2 Kf6 11.Kd3 Kg6 12.Kd4 Kxh6.

vii) Ke5 11.Kd3 (Kc4? Ke4;) g4 (f4; f3) 12.e3 draw.

viii) 12.e4? fxe4 13.Kxe4 Kxh6, and 14.Kf5 Kh5 15.f4 g4, or 14.f4 g4 15.f5 Rg7, not Kg5? 16.Ke5 drawing.

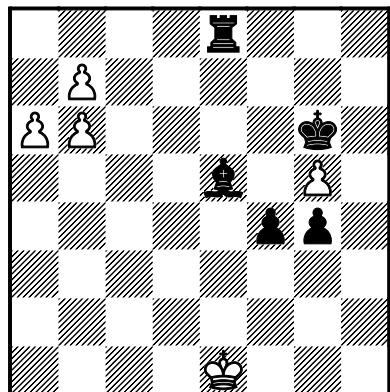
ix) Kxh6 13.Kxf5. g4 13.e3.

x) 13.Ke4? Kxh6 14.Kf5 Kh5 15.f3 (e4, fxe3;) Kh4, not Kh6? 16.Kf6 draw. Or 13.e4? fxe3 14.fxe3 Kxh6 15.Kf5 Kh5 16.e4 g4, and 17.Kf4 Kh4 18.e5 g3 19.Kf3 Kh3 20.e6 g2 21.Kf2 Kh2, or 17.e5 g3 18.e6 g2 19.e7 g1Q 20.e8Q Qg6+ wins.

With three times knight-in-corner beyond rescue

'Twas done already by GM Dobrescu.

No 17478 V. Bartosh
after Carlsson & Parenti, 1991 (EG#9334)
special honourable mention



e1g6 0330.42 5/5 Draw

No 17478 Vladimir Bartosh (Minsk, Belarus). 1.a7 Bb8+ 2.Kf1/i f3 3.a8Q g3 4.Qa1 Kh5 5.Qb1/ii Kg4 6.Qb4+ Bf4 7.b8Q Rxb8 8.Qd4 Rb7 9.Qc4 Rxb6 10.Qc8+ Kh5 11.Qh8+ (Qe8+? Rg6;) Kxg5 12.Qg8+ Rg6 13.Qd5+/iii Kg4 14.Qd7+ Kg5 15.Qd5+ Kg4 16.Qd7+ Kh4 17.Qd4/iv g2+ 18.Kg1 Kg4 19.Qe4 Rb6 20.Qxf3+ Kxf3 stalemate.

i) 2.Kd2? Rd8+ 3.Kc2 f3 4.a8Q f2 5.Qa6 Rf8 6.Qd3+ Rf5 7.Qf1 g3 wins.

ii) 5.Qc3? g2+/v 6.Kf2 Bg3+ 7.Kg1 Rf8 8.Qd3 Bd6 9.Qe3/vi Kg4 10.Qe6+ Rf5 11.Qe4+ Rf4 wins.

iii) 13.Qd8+? Rf6 14.Qd5+ Kg4 15.Qd7+ Rf5, and if 16.Qd4 Rf7 17.Qe4 Rf6 18.Qc4 Sh3 wins, or if 16.Qg7+ Bg5 17.Qd4+ Kh3 18.Qh8+ Bh4 wins.

iv) 17.Qe7+? Rg5 18.Qh7+ Kg4 19.Qd7+ Rf5 20.Qd4 Rf7 wins.

The earlier study took first prize in *L'Italia Scacchistica*. Bartosh has changed the colours and demonstrated a draw (the demolition) after 5.Qb1!

v) f2 6.Qf3+ Kh4 7.Qh1+ Kg4 8.Kg2 Re1 9.Qh3+ Kxg5 10.Qg4+.

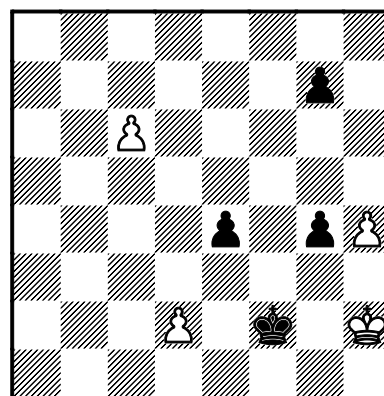
vi) 9.Qd4 Re8 10.Kf2 Bh2 wins.

*In putting paid to someone else's prize
He boosts his self-esteem in his own eyes
And if his target is by chance a master
He feels his head is growing fatter faster!*

MG cooks! Black improves by 8...g2+ 9.Kf2 Rd8! 10.Qxd8 Be3+ 11.Kxe3 g1Q+

12.Kd2 Qf2+, and 13.Kd3 Qe2+ 14.Kc3 f2 15.Qd7+ Kg3 16.Qd6+ Kg2 17.Qd5+ Kg1 18.Qd4 Qf3+ wins, or 13.Kc1 Qd1+ 14.Qd1 Qc4+ 15.Kd2 Qb4+ 16.Kc1 Qc5+ 17.Qc2 Qe3+ 18.Qd2 Qxb6. This, incidentally, means that EG#9334 is correct after all.

No 17479 V. Tupik & V. Zhuk
special commendation

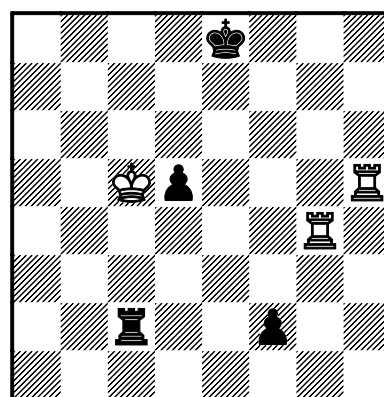


h2f2 0000.33 4/4 Win

No 17479 Vasily Tupik & Viktor Zhuk (Pruzhansky district, Belarus). 1.c7 g3+ 2.Kh3 g2 3.c8Q g1Q 4.Qc5+ Kf1 5.Qb5+ Ke1 6.Qb1+ Kf2 7.Qb6+ Kf1 8.Qa6+ Kf2 9.Qa7+ Kf1 10.Qa1+ Kf2 11.Qd4+ Kf1 12.Qxe4 wins. For example: Qf2 13.Qd3+ Qe2 (Ke1; Qe3+) 14.Qxe2+ Kxe2 15.d4.

*Those years ago a fruit on Newton slumped
And when that famous path was trod again
A queen it was that up a ladder jumped
To loose an apple on another brain!*

No 17480 E. Dvizov
special commendation



c5e8 0500.02 3/4 Draw

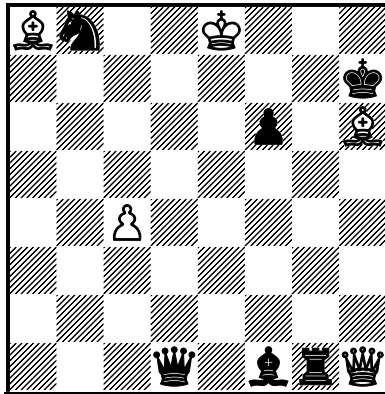
No 17480 Evgeny Dvizov (Zhlobin, Belarus). There is a thematic try: 1.Kxd5? f1Q? 2.Rh8+ Kf7 3.Rh7+ Kf6 4.Rf7+ Kxf7 5.Rf4+

Qxf4, mirror stalemate, but refuted by 1...Rd2+ 2.Ke6 Re2+ (f1Q? Rh8+) 3.K-f1Q wins. 1.Kd6 f1Q 2.Rg8+ Kf7 3.Rf8+ Kxf8 4.Rf5+ Qxf5, just a pure stalemate this time.

Squaring up the lads arm-wrestled

With speedy stalemate it was settled.

No 17481 P. Rossi
special commendation



e8h7 4353.11 5/6 Win

No 17481 Pietro Rossi (Matera, Italy).
1.Qe4+? Kxh6 2.Qf4+ Kg7 3.Qc7+ Qd7+
4.Qxd7+ Sxd7 5.Kxd7 Bxc4 wins. Or
1.Qxg1? Qd7+ 2.Kf8 Qd8+ 3.Kf7 Bxc4+
4.Bd5 Bxd5 mate. 1.Be4+ f5/i 2.Bxf5+ Kh8/ii
3.Bg7+/iii Kxg7 4.Qxg1+/iv Kf6/v 5.Qg6+/vi
Ke5 6.Qg5/vii domination:

– Qa4+ 7.Bd7+,

– Qd6 7.Qg3+,

– Qb3 7.Bc2+,

– Be2 7.Bc2+,

– Qe1 7.Qe7+. All wins.

i) Kg8 2.Qxg1+. Or Kh8 2.Bg7+.

ii) Rg6 3.Bd2+ Kg7/viii 4.Bc3+ Rf6 5.Qh7
mate. Or Kg8 3.Qxg1+ Kh8 4.Qg7 mate.

iii) 3.Qxg1? Qh5+ 4.Kd8 Sc6+ 5.Kc7 Qxh6
6.Qxf1 Se5. Or 3.Qh4? Qa4+/ix 4.Ke7 Sc6+
5.Kd6 Qb4+ 6.Kxc6 Bg2+ draw.

iv) 4.Qh7+? Kf6 5.Qf7+ Ke5 6.Qe6+ Kf4
7.Qe4+ Kg5 8.Qe3+ Kxf5 9.Qxg1 Qd7+.

v) Kh8 5.Qh2+ Kg7 (Kg8; Qh7 mate)
6.Qh7+ Kf6 7.Qg6+ Ke5 8.Qg5.

vi) 5.Qf2? Qe2+ 6.Qxe2 Bxe2 draw.

vii) If 6.Qe6+?, then not Kd4? 7.Qd5+ Kc3
(Ke3) 8.Qxd1, but Kf4 7.Qe4+ (Qf6 Qe2+;) Kg5.

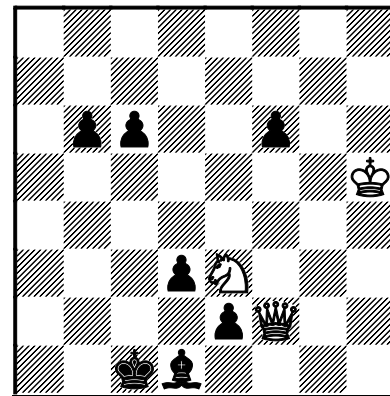
viii) 3...Kg8 4.Qd5+ Kg7 5.Qf7+ Kh8
6.Bc3+ Rf6 (Rg7) 7.Qf8 mate.

ix) If 3...Rg6?, then not 4.Bxg6? Qd7+
5.Kf8 Qd6+ drawing, but 4.Kf7 Bxc4+
5.Qxc4 Sc6 6.Qc3+.

A splendid domination on parade –

But look at all those moves bK has played!

No 17482 G. Josten
special commendation



h5c1 1031.05 3/7 Win

No 17482 Gerhard Josten (Cologne, Germa-
ny). 1.Kg6? d2 2.Qxf6 Bc2. 1.Kh4? d2 2.Sg2
Bc2. 1.Kh6 b5/i 2.Sg2 d2/ii 3.Sf4 e1S (b4;
Qc5+) 4.Qc5+ Kb2 (Kb1; Qc3) 5.Qd6 Kc1/iii
6.Qxc6+ Bc2 7.Se2+ wins.

i) f5 2.Sc4 d2 3.Qd4. Or c5 2.Sc4 d2 3.Qxf6
Kc2 4.Qb2+. Or d2 2.Qxf6 Kb1 3.Sc4 Kc2
4.Qb2+.

ii) b4 3.Sf4 Kd2 4.Qd4 e1S 5.Qxb4 wins.

iii) Sf3 6.Sd3+ Kc3 7.Sf2.

A study? Surely from that term reduced –

Alas, no little miracle to boost

It. Verdict is that where's no soul

Nit-picking's the replacement, on the whole.

MG cooks: 6.Qxf6 also wins, e.g. Bf3
7.Qc3+ Kd1 8.Se6 b4 9.Qb2 Ke2 10.Qd4+
Kd3 11.Sf5, and Bd5 12.Qd4+ Ke2 13.Sg3+
Kd1 14.Qxb4 Kc2 15.Qa4+ Kc3 16.Sf1 Sf3
17.Qd1 Kd3 18.Kh5 c5 19.Kg4, or c5
12.Qb3+ Ke2 13.Sg3+ Kf2 14.Qb2 Kxg3
15.Qxd2 Sg2 16.Sd6+, or d1Q 12.Qd4+ Ke2
(Kc2) 13.Sg3 mate (Sc3+).

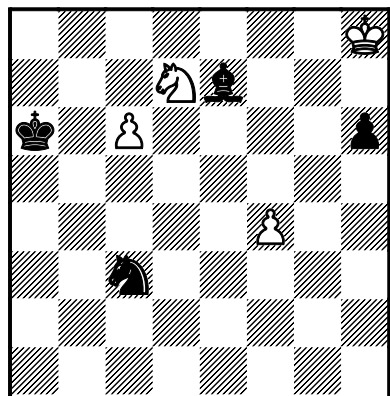
Réti MT 2009

This theme tourney had two sections. Section I was for studies with an introduction to one of the 56 Réti's studies published in Mandler's book *Sämtliche Studien*. Section II was for studies with "any" Réti-theme. Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan) judged the tourney. The provisional award was published in *Československý Šach* xi2009 with a three month confirmation time. The final award also had an extensive report dealing with various claims. Curiously, there was some discussion about a Réti study that was present in my database, and not in Mandler's book *Sämtliche Studien*. Also some people seem to blame me for the fact that the great master was rather sloppy with his originals. Even the exact source of his most famous study is still unclear. Apparently Réti showed the study during a chess event and a chess journalist published it in his column. That's how things go. Réti seems to have complained that the early publication was unauthorized, but he had caused the problem himself.

Section I

23 studies from 14 composers from 9 countries.

No 17483 L.M. González
prize



h8a6 0034.21 4/4 Draw

No 17483 Luis Miguel González (Spain).
1.f5 (Kg7? h5;), and:

– h5 2.f6 Bd6 3.f7 h4 4.Sf6 h3 5.Sg4 Kb6
6.Kg8 (Kg7) Kxc6 7.f8Q Bxf8 8.Kxf8 Kd5
9.Kf7 (Kg7) Sd1 10.Kg6/i Ke4 11.Sh2 Kf4
12.Kh5 Kg3 13.Sf1+ Kf3 14.Kg5 (Kh4?
Kg2;) Sf2 15.Kh4 Kg2 16.Se3+ Kh2 17.Sc2
draw, or:

– Se4 2.f6/ii Sxf6 3.Sxf6 Bxf6+ 4.Kh7 h5
5.Kg6 h4 6.Kxf6 Kb6 7.Ke5 h3 8.Kd6 h2
9.c7 draw.

i) Or 10.Sh2 Ke4 11.Kg6.

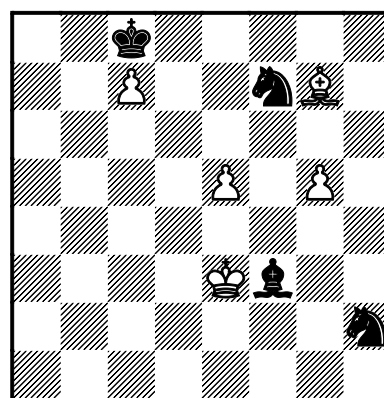
ii) 2.Kg7? h5 3.f6 Bd6 4.f7 h4 5.f8Q Bxf8+
6.Kxf8 h3 wins.

“Very good combination of two studies by Réti”.

R. Réti, *Sämtliche Studien* 1931, g5h2
0004.01 e3f2.h3 2/3 Draw: 1.Kh4 Kg1 2.Sg4
Kg2 3.Se3+ Kh2 4.Sc2 Sd3 5.Kg4 Se5+
6.Kh4 Sf3+ 7.Kg4 Sg5 8.Se1 Kg1 9.Sf3+ Kg2
10.Sh4+ Kf2 11.Sf3 draw.

R. Réti, *Deutsch Österreichische Tageszeitung* 1921, h8a6 0000.11 2/2 Draw: 1.Kg7 h4
2.Kf6 Kb6 3.Ke5 h3 4.Kd6 draw.

No 17484 Y. Bazlov
1st/2nd honourable mention



e3c8 0046.30 5/4 Draw

No 17484 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Kf4/i Bh5
(Bg4; g6) 2.Kf5 Sf3/ii 3.g6 Sh4+ (S7g5; Bf6)
4.Kf6 Bxg6 5.Bf8 Bh5 6.e6 Se5/iii 7.Kxe5
Sg6+ 8.Kf5 Sxf8 9.Kf6 Kxc7 10.Ke7 Sg6+
11.Kf6 Sf8 12.Ke7 Sh7 (Sg6+; Kf6) stale-
mate.

i) 1.g6? Sg5 2.Bf6 Sh3 3.g7 Bd5 wins.

ii) Kxc7 3.g6 Sd8 4.e6 Bg4+ 5.Ke4 Bf3+
6.Kf5 (Ke3) Bg4+ 7.Ke4 Sc6 8.Be5+ Sxe5

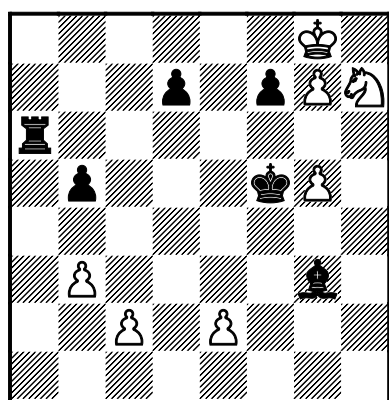
9.Kxe5 Bh3 10.g7 Sg4+ 11.Kf5 Sh6++
12.Kg6 Sg8 13.Kf7 Sh6+ 14.Kg6 positional
draw.

iii) Sh8 7.Bg7 S8g6 8.e7 Sf4 9.Kg5 Shg2
10.Be5 draw.

“Adding an interesting introduction to a Réti
study”.

R. Réti, *Shakhmaty* 1927, correction *Sämtliche
Studien* 1931, e5c8 0043.20 f8h5h4.c7e6
4/3 BTM, draw: 1...Sg6+ 2.Kf5 Sxf8 3.Kf6
Kxc7 4.Ke7 Sh7 stalemate.

No 17485 Y. Bazlov
1st/2nd honourable mention



g8f5 0331.53 7/6 Win

No 17485 Y. Bazlov (Russia). 1.e4+ Ke6
2.Sf8+/i Ke7 3.Kh7 Ra8 4.g8Q Rxf8 5.Qg7 d6
6.Qf6+ Ke8 7.c3 Bh2 8.Kh6 Be5 9.Kg7 Bh2
(Bxf6+; gxf6)/ii, and now we have arrived in
R. Réti, 1st prize *Shakhmaty* 1928 (HHdbIV
#12051): 10.c4 bxc4 11.e5 Bxe5 12.bxc4
Bxf6+ 13.gxf6 Rh8 14.Kxh8 Kf8 15.Kh7
wins.

i) 2.g6? Ra8+ 3.Sf8+ Ke7 4.Kh7 Be5 5.g8Q
Rxf8 6.gxf7 Rxf7+ 7.Kh6 b4, but not here f5?
3.Sf8+ Ke7 4.Kh7 Ra1 5.g8S+ Ke8 6.Sf6+.

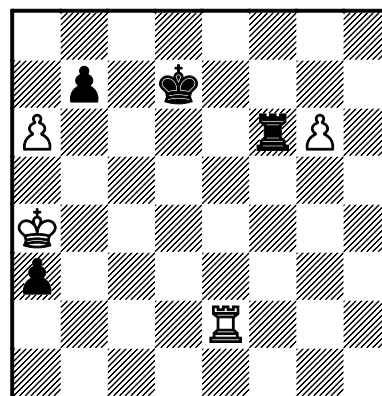
“The composer added the ‘turtle-like’ move
7.c3 to one of Réti’s well-known studies”.

HH: during the confirmation time the com-
poser improved his study by adding 1.e4+
Kf6. The judge agreed.

No 17486 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.axb7 a2
2.Rxa2, and:

– Kc7 3.Rg2 Rf8 4.Rb2/i Kb8/ii 5.Rb5 Rf1
6.Rg5 Rf8 7.Kb4 (Kb5, Rb5) Kxb7 8.Kc5
Kc7 9.Kd5 Kd7 10.Ke5 Ke7 11.Rf5 wins,
or

No 17486 I. Akobia
1st commendation



a4d7 0400.22 4/4 Win

– Ra6+ 3.Kb5 Rxa2 4.g7 Rg2 5.Kb6 Ke6
6.Kc5 Rc2+ 7.Kb4 Rb2+ 8.Ka3 (Kc3) wins/
iii.

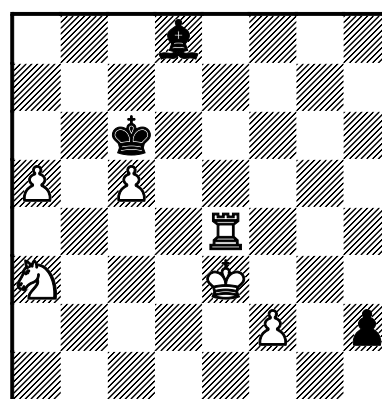
i) Thematic try: 4.Kb5? Kxb7 5.Kc5 Kc7
6.Kd5 Kd7 7.Ke5 Ke7 8.g7 Rg8 9.Kf5 Kf7
draws.

ii) This moves leads to the study by R. Réti,
5th HM Troitzky MT 1929, with wRb1 in-
stead of Rb2, which makes no difference.

iii) e.g. Rb2+ 8.Ka3 (Kc3).

“The composer managed to add another
variation thus improving the whole thing. The
poor key is a pity”.

No 17487 J. Polášek
2nd commendation



e3c6 0131.31 6/3 Win

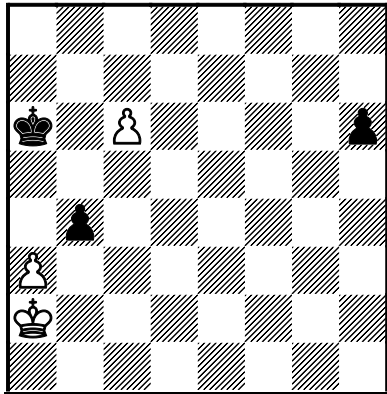
No 17487 J. Polášek (Czech Republic).
1.Re6+ Kb7 2.c6+ Kc8 3.Rh6 Bg5+ 4.Kf3
Bxh6 5.Kg2 Kc7 6.Sb5+ Kxc6/i 7.Sd4+ Kc5
8.Kh1/ii with domination of the bB: Bf8, Bg7,
Bg5, Sf4 9.Se6+, or Bd2, Bc1 9.Sb3+.

i) This is the study by R. Réti, *Hasting & St.
Leonards Post* 1922.

ii) 8.Kxh2? Kxd4 9.a6 Bf4+ 10.Kh3 Bb8 draws.

“Six moves were added to Réti’s study”.

No 17488 E. Palkovský
3rd commendation



a2a6 0000.22 3/3 Draw

No 17488 E. Palkovský (Czech Republic).
1.Kb3 bxa3/i 2.Kxa3 h5 3.Kb4 Kb6 4.Kc4 h4
5.Kd5 h3/ii 6.Kd6 h2 7.c7 draw.

i) h5 2.Kxb4 h4 3.Kc5 h3 4.Kd6 h2 5.c7.

ii) Kc7 6.Ke4 h3 7.Kf3.

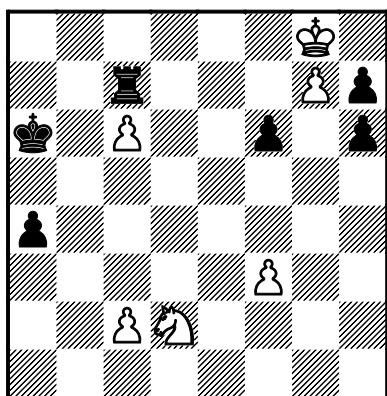
“The composer added a nice first move”.

R. Réti, *Kagan’s Neueste Schachnachrichten*
1922, a4a6 0000.11 .c6h6 2/2, BTM, draw:
1...h5 2.Kb4 Kb6 3.Kc4 h4 4.Kd5 Kc7 5.Ke4.

Section II

24 studies from 16 composers from 9 countries.

No 17489 S. Didukh
1st/2nd prize



g8a6 0301.44 6/6 Win

No 17489 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Kh8/i
Rc8+ 2.g8Q Rxc8+ 3.Kxc8 Kb6 4.Kf7 (Kg7)
h5/ii 5.Kxf6 h4 6.Ke5/iii Kxc6/iv 7.Kd4 h3

8.Sf1 a3/v 9.Kc3 Kd5 10.Kb3 Ke5 11.c4 Kd4
12.Kxa3/vi Kxc4 13.Kb2 Kd3 14.Kc1 Ke2
(h5; Kd1) 15.Sh2 Kf2 16.Kd2 h5 17.f4 Kg3
18.Ke3 Kxh2 19.Kf2 Kh1 20.f5 h2 21.f6 h4
22.f7 h3 23.Kg3 Kg1 24.f8Q h1Q 25.Qf2
mate.

i) 1.Kxh7? h5 2.Kg6 Rxc7+ 3.Kxc7 h4
4.Kxf6 Kb6 5.Ke5 Kxc6 6.Kd4/vii h3/viii
7.Sf1 a3 8.Kc3 Kd5 9.Kb3 Ke5 10.c4 Kd4
11.Kxa3 Kxc4 12.Kb2 Kd3 13.Kc1 Ke2
14.Sh2 Kf2 15.Kd2 Kg3 16.Ke3 Kxh2 17.Kf2
Kh1 18.f4 h2 19.f5 stalemate, or 1.Sc4? Kb5
2.Kxh7 h5 3.Kg6 Rxc7+ 4.Kxc7 Kxc6 5.Kxf6
h4 and Black wins.

ii) Kxc6 5.Kxf6 a3 6.f4 a2 7.Sb3 h5 8.Kg5
Kd5 9.Kxh5 Ke4 10.Kg4 h5+ 11.Kg3 h4+
12.Kg4 h3 13.Kxh3 Kxf4 14.Kg2 Ke3 15.Kf1,
or f5 5.Ke6 Kxc6 6.Kxf5 win.

iii) Réti manoeuvre.

iv) h3 7.Kd6 h2 8.Sc4+ Kb5 9.c7 h1Q
10.c8Q Qd1+ 11.Ke6 Qxf3 12.Sd6+ Kb4
13.Qc4+ Ka3 14.Sb5+ Kb2 15.Qb4+ Kc1
16.c4 wins.

v) Kd6 9.f4 a3 (Ke6; c4) 10.Kc3 Kd5
11.Kb3 Ke4 12.c4 Kxf4 13.c5 Ke5 14.Kxa3
wins.

vi) 12.Sh2? h5 13.Kxa3 Kxc4 14.Kb2 Kd3
15.Kc1 Ke3 16.Kd1 Kf2 17.f4 Kg3 "and Réti
saves Black".

vii) 6.Kf4 a3 7.Sb3 Kd5 8.Sc1 Kd4 9.Sa2 h3
10.Kg3 Ke3 11.f4 h2 12.Kxh2 Kxf4 13.Kg2
Ke3 14.Kf1 Kd2 15.c4 Kc2 16.c5 Kb2 17.c6
Kxa2 18.c7 Kb2 19.c8Q a2 draws.

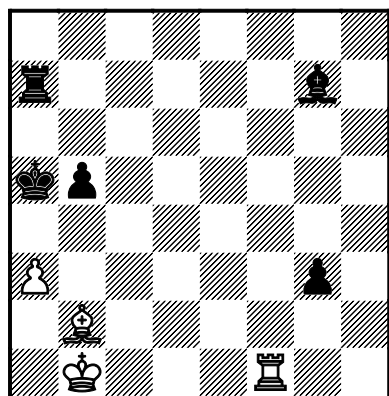
viii) or also a3 7.Kc3 h3.

“The point of the 1st move only becomes
clear at the end – after the capture of bph7 it
would have been a stalemate. Combination of
the Réti manoeuvre with the remote effect of
pre-view”.

No 17490 Emil Vlasák (Czech Republic).
1.a4/i Rb7/ii 2.Bxc7 bxa4+ (Rxc7; axb5)
3.Bb2 a3 4.Rf5+/iii Ka4 5.Rf4+ Ka5 6.Rf5+/
iv Ka6 7.Rf6+/v Ka7 8.Ka2 axb2 9.Kb1 Rb3/
vi 10.Rf4/vii Kb6 11.Rc4 positional draw.

i) 1.Rg1? Bxb2 2.Kxb2 Rg7 3.Rg2 Kb6
4.Kc3 Kc5 5.Kd3 Kd5 ZZ, wins.

No 17490 E. Vlasák
1st/2nd prize



b1a5 0440.12 4/5 Draw

ii) bxa4 2.Rf5+ Kb4 3.Rg5, or Kxa4 2.Rf4+ b4 3.Rg4, or Bxb2 2.Kxb2 bxa4 3.Rf5+ Kb4 4.Rg5 draw.

iii) Thematic try: 4.Ka2? axb2/viii 5.Kb1 Rb4/ix 6.Rf3 Rg4 7.Rf1 Kb4 8.Kxb2 Kc4 9.Kc2 Kd4 10.Kd2 Ke4 11.Ke2 Rf4 wins.

iv) 6.Ka2? axb2 7.Kb1 Rb4 wins.

v) 7.Ka2? axb2 8.Kb1 Rb3 9.Rf8 Kb7 wins.

vi) Rb4 10.Rf3 Rg4 11.Rf1 Kb6 12.Kxb2 Kc5 13.Kc3 draws.

vii) 10.Rc6? Rb6 zz 11.Rc2 Kb7 12.Rg2 Rb3 wins.

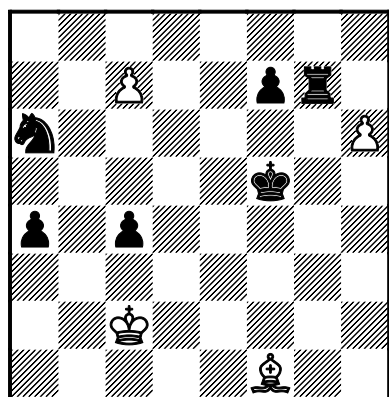
viii) But not Rxb2+? 5.Kxa3 Rf2 6.Ra1/x Rf3+ 7.Kb2+ Kb4 8.Kc2 Kc4 9.Kd2 Kd4 10.Ra4+ draws.

ix) Rb3? 6.Rf8 Kb4 7.Rb8+ Kc3 8.Rxb3+ Kxb3 stalemate.

x) 6.Re1? Rf3+ 7.Kb2 Kb4.

“The Réti study is shown in the try (see section I, 1st commendation). Nice reworking”.

No 17491 J. Polášek & E. Vlasák
1st honourable mention



c2f5 0313.23 4/6 BTM, Draw

No 17491 Jaroslav Polašek & Emil Vlasák (Czech Republic). 1...Rg8 2.h7 (Bh3+? Kg6;) Rh8 3.c8Q+ Rxc8 4.Bh3+ Kg6 5.Bxc8 Sb4+ 6.Kc3 Sd5+ 7.Kxc4 Kg7/i 8.Ba6/ii a3 9.Kb3 a2 10.Kb2 (Kxa2? Sb4+) draw.

i) Kxh7 8.Kxd5 a3 9.Bf5+ Kg7 10.Bb1 draws.

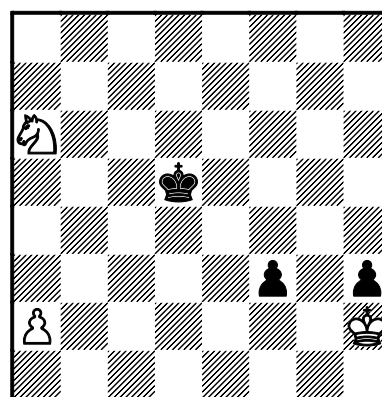
ii) Thematic try 8.Bh3? Kh8 Réti 1922 (HHdbIV#08459), or 8.Bb7? Sb6+ 9.Kb4 f5 10.Ba6 f4/iii 11.Bd3 f3 12.Ka3 f2 13.Kb4 Sd7 14.Be2 Sc5.

iii) But not Kxh7? 11.Bd3 Kg6 12.Kb5 a3 13.Bb1 Sd5 14.Kc4 draws.

“A nice inversion of Réti’s study. The idea with refusal of capture is done twice: in the try with Kh8 and in the main line with 10.Kb2”.

No 17492 Y. Afek

2nd honourable mention



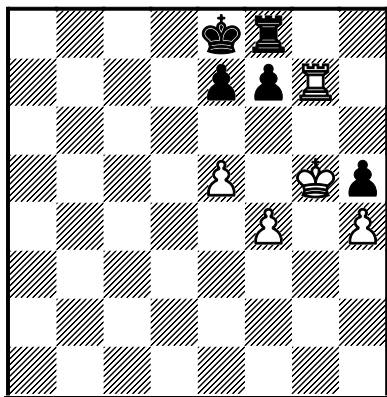
h2d5 0001.12 3/3 Win

No 17492 Yochanan Afek (Israel). 1.Kg3/i h2 2.Kxh2 Kc4 3.Kg1 Kb5 4.Sc7+ Kb4 5.Sd5+ Ka3 6.Sc3 Kb2 7.a4 Kxc3 8.a5 Kd4 9.a6 Ke3 10.Kf1 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Kxh3? Kc4 2.Kg3 Kb5 3.Sc7+ Kb4 4.Sd5+ Ka3 5.Sc3 Kb2 6.a4 Kxc3 7.a5 Kd4 Réti manoeuvre 8.a6 Ke3 9.a7 f2 draws.

“I composed a pawn version of this study (EG133; HHdbIV#66386). Here the try play gives the value. The Réti manoeuvre is used twice: in the try Black uses the manoeuvre to overtake the pawn, in the main line there is the so-called anti-Réti by H. Rinck (HHdbIV #08556). I name this idea the Réti-anti-Réti theme”.

No 17493 Y. Bazlov
3rd honourable mention



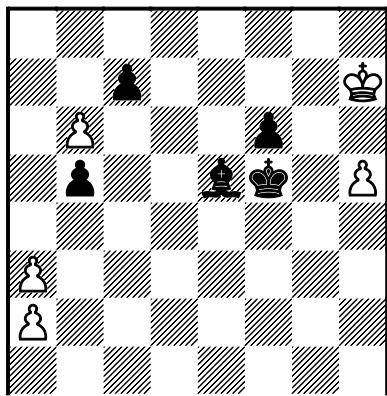
g5e8 0400.33 5/5 Win

No 17493 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Kh6/i Rh8+/ii 2.Rh7 Rg8 3.Rh8/iii Rxb8+ 4.Kg7 Rf8 5.f5 e6 (f6; e6) 6.f6 Rh8 7.Kxh8 Kf8 8.Kh7 wins.

- i) 1.Kxh5? Rh8+ 2.Kg4 Kf8 draws.
- ii) Kd7 2.Rh7 Ke6 3.Kg7 Rd8 4.Rh6+ Kf5 5.Kxf7 Kxf4 6.Rxh5.
- iii) 3.f5? Rg1 4.Rh8+ Kd7 5.Rf8 Re1 6.Kxh5 Rxe5 7.Rxf7 Ke8 8.Kg6 Re1 draws.

“Nice rook study with a beautiful R-sac and Réti manoeuvre. The only difference is that the author replaced the queen by a rook”. Réti 1928 (HHdbIV#12051)

No 17494 J. Ibran
4th honourable mention



h7f5 0030.43 5/5 Draw

No 17494 J.R. Ibran (Spain). 1.b7 c6/i 2.Kh6/ii zz c5 3.Kg7 Kg5 4.h6 f5+ 5.Kf7 Kxh6 6.Ke6 Réti manoeuvre Bb8 7.Kxf5 c4 8.Ke4 Ba7 9.a4/iii b4/iv 10.a5/v draws.

- i) c5 2.h6 Kg5 3.Kg7 f5+ 4.Kf7 Kxh6 5.Ke6 Bb8 6.Kxf5.

ii) 2.h6? Kg5 3.Kg7 f5+ 4.Kf7 Kxh6 5.Ke6 Bb8 6.Kxf5 Kg7 7.Ke4 Kf6 8.Kd4 Ba7+ 9.Kd3 Ke5 wins.

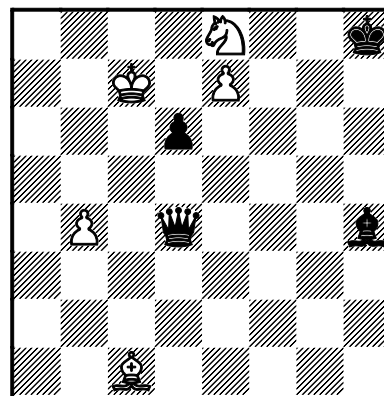
iii) 9.b8Q? Bxb8 10.Kd4 Be5+ wins.

iv) bxa4 10.b8Q Bxb8 11.Kd4 draw.

v) 10.b8Q? Bxb8 11.Kd4 c3 12.Kd3 Bc7 13.a3 Ba5 14.axb4 Bxb4 wins.

“The wK plays nicely on the 2nd move, blocks his own pawn and creates a mutual zugzwang. Next the wK uses the Réti manoeuvre to stop Black’s dangerous pawns”.

No 17495 L.M. González
5th honourable mention



c7h8 3041.21 5/4 Draw

No 17495 Luis Miguel González (Spain). 1.Bb2 Qxb2 2.Sf6 Qxf6 3.e8Q+ Kg7 4.Qd7+ Qe7 5.Qxe7+ Bxe7 6.Kd7 Kf7 7.b5 d5 8.b6 Bh4 9.Kd6 d4 10.Ke5/i d3 11.Kf4/ii d2/iii 12.b7 d1Q 13.b8Q draws.

i) 10.Kd5? d3 11.b7 Bg3 wins.

ii) 11.Ke4? d2 12.b7 Bg3 wins.

iii) Bf2 12.b7 Ba7 13.b8Q Bxb8+ 14.Ke3 draws.

“Using the Réti manoeuvre the wK manages two tasks at the same time: threatening to capture the pawn and preventing the bB from entering the play”.

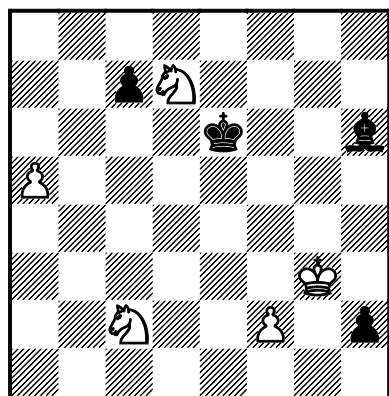
No 17496 Jaroslav Polášek & Emil Vlasák (Czech Republic). 1.Sc5+ Kd5/i 2.Kg2/ii Kxc5 3.Sd4 c6 4.Kh1 wins.

i) Kd6 2.Se4+ Kd5 3.Kxh2.

ii) 2.Kxh2? Kxc5 3.Sd4 Bf4+ 4.Kg2 Bd6 draws.

No 17496 J. Polášek & E. Vlasák

1st commendation



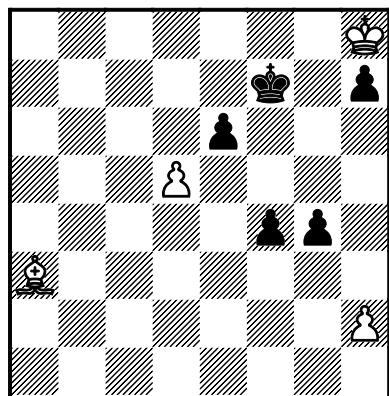
g3e6 0032.22 5/4 Win

iii) 4.Kxh2? Kxd4 5.a6 Bf4+ 6.Kh3 Bb8 and Black wins.

“The composers – in Réti-style – added the very nice quiet move 2.Kg2!!”. HHdbIV#08459.

No 17497 J. Mikitovics

2nd commendation



h8f7 0010.24 4/5 Win

No 17497 János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.d6 Ke8 2.Kg7 h5/i 3.Kf6 Kd7 4.Ke5 f3 5.Bc5 h4 6.Kf4 (Ke4? e5;) f2/ii 7.Bxf2 g3 8.hxg3 hxg3 9.Bc5 g2 10.Ke5 wins.

i) Kd7 3.Kf6 h5 4.Ke5, or g3 3.hxg3 fxg3 4.Kf6 Kd7 5.Ke5 g2 6.Bc5.

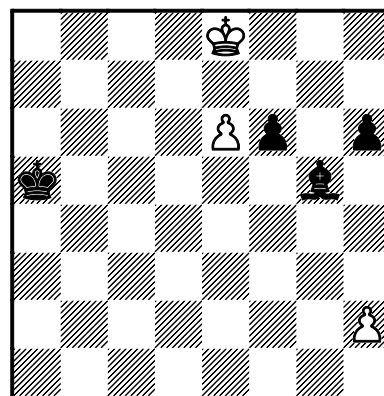
ii) Kc6 7.d7 Kxd7 8.Kxg4.

“The wK, with the help of the Réti manoeuvre and his own bishop, wins against the dangerous black pawns”.

No 17498 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.h4 Bxh4 2.Kf7 f5 3.Kg6 f4 4.Kh5, and:

No 17498 M. Campioli

3rd commendation



e8a5 0030.22 3/4 Draw

– f3 5.Kxh4 f2 6.e7 f1Q 7.e8Q Qf4+ 8.Kh3/i draw, or:

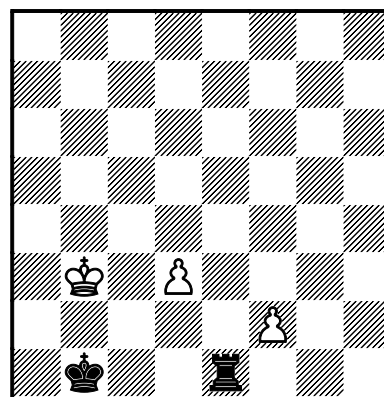
– Bg5 5.Kg4 Kb6 6.e7 Bxe7 7.Kxf4 draw.

i) 8.Kh5? Qg5 mate.

“A pawn sacrifice on the 1st move has been added to Réti manoeuvre motifs. It is also a theoretical position”.

No 17499 A. Pallier

4th commendation



b3b1 0300.20 3/2 Draw

No 17499 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Kc4, and:

– Kc2/i 2.d4 Re4 3.f3/ii Rf4 4.Kc5 Kd3 5.d5 Rf5 6.Kc6 Kd4 7.d6 Rc5+ 8.Kb6 (Kb7) draws, or

– Kb2 2.f4 Ka3 3.f5 Ka4 4.Kd5 Rf1 5.Ke6 Kb5 6.f6 (d6? Kc6;) draw.

i) 3.Kc5? Kd3 4.d5 Rc4+ 5.Kb6 Rd4 6.Kc6 Ke4 7.d6 Ke5 8.f4+ Ke6 wins.

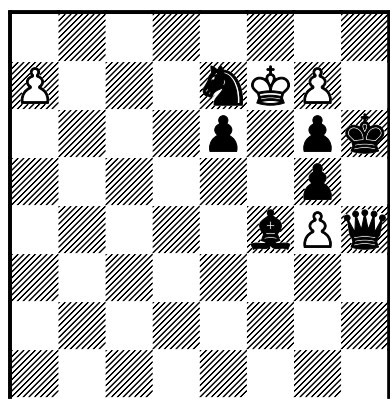
“A nice version of Réti’s 1929 study (HHdbIV#13566)”.

Rochade Europa 2006-2007

Judge Hans Gruber (Regensburg, Germany) wrote in the provisional award: “28 entries, only a few of them eliminated. Aesthetically speaking, studies stand in relationship to *problems* as regards economy of material and space, and clarity of idea, and to the *otb gam* as regards material or material balance. Now computers in recent years have overshadowed studies more than they have problems. Debate over the consequences for quality evaluation is very much alive: *may a position (whether diagrammed or derived) extracted from an EGTB be regarded as original by the composer?* We can try to apply to studies the view expressed by Helmut Mertes in 1975 with respect to computer-generated helpmates (he had generated and published all 0004.00 helpmates – of any length) according to which (since a database does not contain ideas) the user is creative in searching a database for valid settings, though his idea needs to be a good one! In today’s studies, though, we find variations with jungles of inconsequential moves, leading us to conclude that the ‘author’ himself does not know what is happening – the computer ‘simply says so’. Well, just as in the past, today we need clever, transparent and suitable [‘kluge, transparente und passende’] supporting lines to adorn, demonstrating (human) command of the material as well as soundness according to electronic analysis. The 1st h.m. in the present award is a fine example of how this ought to be done.

“Way-out by-play often characterises studies as game-related rather than composition-related. When the author himself cannot describe the content of ‘his’ study how can he communicate with the solver, with the reader, with the observer, with the judge? How are they to be savoured – and in the case of the judge, evaluated? ... I see no role for this in the creative chess art, except for editors and suchlike ...”

No 17500 A. Sochnev
1st prize



f7h6 3033.33 4/7 Win

No 17500 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg).
1.g8S+? Sxg8 2.a8Q Qxg4 and bK is safe.
1.a8Q Bb8 2.g8S+/i Sxg8/ii 3.Kxg8 Qh2/iii
4.Qa1/iv Qe5/v 5.Qh1+ Qh2 6.Qf1/vi Bf4
7.Qa1 Be5 8.Qa7 Bc7 9.Qd4 e5 (Qe5; Qd7)
10.Qd5 Qf4 11.Qh1+ and mates. A small point to note for the would-be judge is that the ‘dual’ mates by wQ on g7 and h7 (and sometimes f8) are not a flaw of any significance be-

cause they are artistically overwhelmed by the stunning main line play. In other circumstances the case could well be altered.

i) 2.Qxb8? Qf2+ 3.Kxe7 Kxg7. Or 2.g8Q? Qf2+ 3.Kxe7 Qc5+ 4.Kd7 Qc7+ 5.Ke8 Qc8+ 6.Kf7 Qd7+ 7.Kf6 Qd4+.

ii) Kh7 3.Sf6+ Kh6 4.Qxb8.

iii) 3...Qg3 shortens, transposing into later.

iv) 4.Qf3? Bf4 5.Qb7 Bc7 6.Qa8 Bd6 7.Qa7 Be7 8.Qxe7 Qb8+.

v) Be5 5.Qa7 Bc7 6.Qd4. 4...e5 is not given but is neatly met by 5.Qf2 Qa2+ 6.Kh8, when bBb8 prevents Qa8+, the eP move has blocked the bB’s diagonal, and Black’s check on a2 has opened up mate on the h-file.

vi) 6.Qf3? Bf4 7.Qa3 Bd6 draw.

vii) 10.Qd7? Qa2+. Now White is threatening to play 11.Qf7.

“A crazy chef d’oeuvre! A refined and witty duel of the queens, one of them with a bishop. The black force is chivvied into self-interference on the b8-h2 diagonal. In setting about

this White must be on his toes because of the potential of Black's counterplay. It is delicious that the dénouement comes with interference on e5 by bPe6, whereby bQ and bB no longer support one another. The rich introduction with underpromotion into the bargain rounds it all off beautifully."

Comments by German solvers (*Rochade Europa* 3/2007):

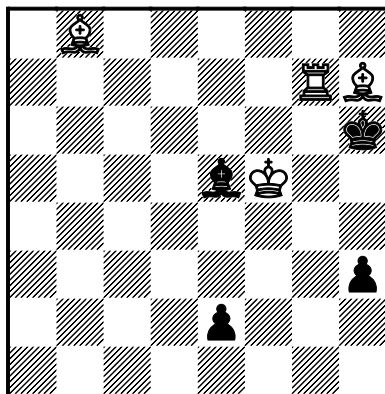
"wQ out-dances her opposite number, the latter even with a bishop!"

"Incredible that three white pawns can achieve all this ..."

"... a turbulent black/white battle for the e5 cutting-point..."

"Wonderful: a rare Würzburg-Plachutta (doubled Holzhausen with e5 Schnittpunkt) by the diagonal-moving line-pieces, and in a study! I like it!"

No 17501 M. Minski
2nd prize



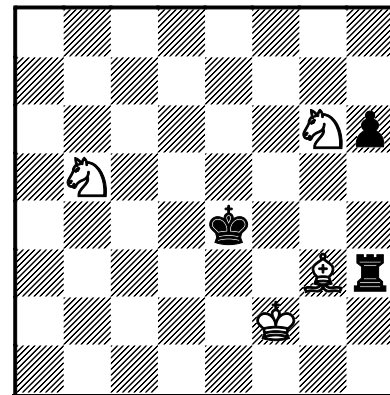
f5h6 0150.02 4/4 Win

No 17501 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Bxe5? e1Q 2.Rb7 Qg1 3.Bf4+ Kh5, and wBh7 is in the way. 1.Rg1? Bxb8 2.Bg8 Bg3 draw. 1.Rg6+ Kxh7 2.Bxe5 e1Q 3.Rg7+ Kh6 4.Rb7 Qa5 5.Rb3 (Rb8? Qa7;) Kh7 6.Rb8 wins.

"A master class in the elimination of an obstruction. This is a theme the author has systematically tackled, as an article in *Die Schwalbe* tells us. It's a bit on the downside that in the 1...Kh5 variation there is a dual by 2.Rg3 as well as the claimed 2.Rg5+. But as the elimination of wBh7 stands out so sharply this blemish is not meaningful. This stark fact

and the means of achieving it are elegant in themselves."

No 17502 M. Minski
1st honourable mention



f2e4 0312.01 4/3 Win

No 17502 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Kg2? Rh5 2.Sd6+ Ke3 3.Sf4 Rg5, and bR has escaped. If ensnaring bR costs White his bishop care must be exercised regarding the subsequent 'Troitzky' position. 1.Sc3+? Kf5 2.Sf4 Rh1. 1.Sd6+ Kd4 2.Kg2 Rh5 (Rxc3+; Kxc3) 3.Sf4 Re5/i 4.Kf1/ii h5/iii 5.Bh4/iv Ke3/v 6.Kg2 Kxf4 7.Bg3+ wins, but there are dual wins by BxR and S+.

i) Ra5 4.Bf2+ and Kc3 5.Be1+ or Ke5 5.Sc4+.

ii) 4.Kf2? Ra5. 4.Bh4? Rg5+ 5.Bxg5 hxg5.

iii) Ke3 5.Sg2+ Kd4 6.Bxe5+ Kxe5 7.Sb5 Kf5 8.Kf2 h5 9.Sd4+ Kg4 10.Se3+ Kf4 (Kh3; Sf3) 11.Se2+ Kg5 12.Sg1 h4 13.Sh3+.

iv) 5.Se2+? Kd5 6.Bxe5 Kxe5 7.Sc4+ Ke4, and 8.Sd2+ Ke3, or 8.Sg1 h4.

v) Kc5 6.Sd3+ Kxd6 7.Bg3.

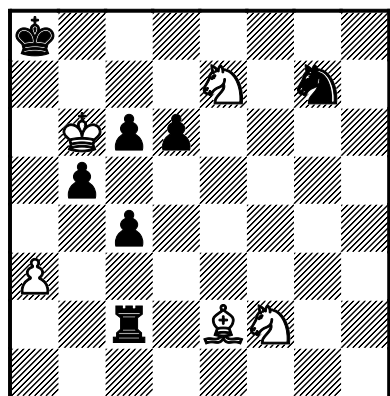
"Excellent midboard domination of bR. The well-harvested ['abgegraste'] theme is convincingly set and well supported by the variations that, complex as they are, transparently bring out the idea."

No 17503 Pietro Rossi (Italy). 1.Bg4 Se6 2.Bxe6/i Re2 3.Se4 (Sxc6/Sd1? Rxe6;) Rxe4 4.Sd5 Kb8/ii 5.Sc7 c3/iii 6.Sa6+ Ka8 7.Bd7 (Bc8? Re7;) Rc4 8.Bc8 and 9.Bb7 mate.

i) 2.Sxc6? Sc7 3.Kxc7 Rxf2 4.Bc8 Rf7+ 5.Kb6 c3 6.Sb4 d5.

ii) cxd5 5.Bxd5+ and 6.Bxe4. Or Rxe6 5.Sc7+ Kb8 6.Sxe6 c3 7.Sf4 c2 8.Se2 c5

No 17503 P. Rossi
2nd honourable mention



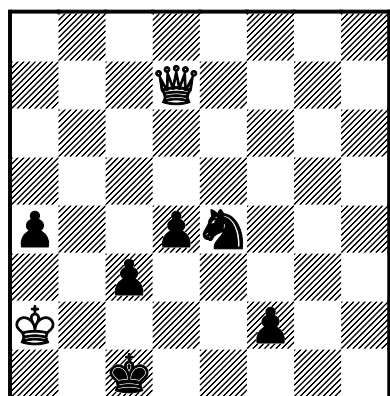
b6a8 0315.14 5/7 Win

9.Kxb5 Kb7 10.Kc4 Kb6 11.Kb3 Ka5
12.Kxc2 d5 13.Kb3 c4+ 14.Kb2 Kb5 15.Sd4+
Kc5 16.Kc3.

iii) Rxe6 6.Sxe6 c3 7.Sf4. Or Re3 6.Sa6+
Ka8 7.Bd7 Re7 8.Bxc6+ Rb7+ 9.Bxb7 mate.

“Both sides employ all the tricks of the trade in the form of decoy offers. These sharp tactics appeal strongly (cf. the tension-filled position after 4.Sd5!) but detracting from this is the way out (‘aufufernde’) play following 4...Rxe6, after which White must exercise care, letting the artistic side down.”

No 17504 W. Bruch
1st commendation



a2c1 1003.04 2/6 Draw

No 17504 Wieland Bruch (Germany).
1.Qf5? d3 wins, for example: 2.Qf8 d2
3.Qa3+ Kd1 4.Qxa4+ c2 5.Kb2 Sg3 6.Qxc2+
Ke1 (Ke2? Kc3) 7.Kc3 d1Q. 1.Qf7 d3 2.Ka1
d2/i 3.Qb3 d1B/ii 4.Qxc3+ Bc2 5.Qe3+/iii
Kd1 6.Kb2/iv f1Q 7.Qc1+ Ke2 8.Qxc2+ Sd2
9.Qxa4 draw.

i) a3 3.Qf3 draws, not the temporising
3.Qf8? d2 4.Qb4 d1B 5.Qxc3+ Bc2 6.Qxa3+
Kd2 7.Kb2 Sd3. Or c2 3.Qf3 Sd2 4.Qxf2
Sb3+ 5.Ka2 with perpetual check.

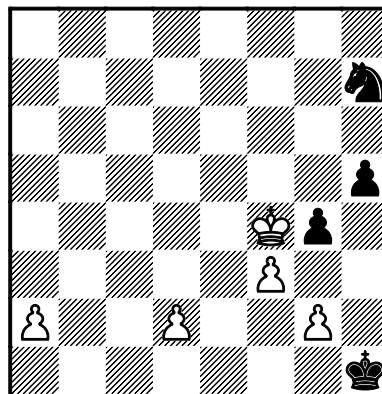
ii) Both axb3; and d1Q; lead to stalemate after
4.Qxc3+.

iii) 5.Qf3? Kd2 6.Qf4+ Ke2 7.Qg4+ Ke1
8.Qh4 Bd3 9.Kb2 a3+ 10.Kxa3 Kd1 wins.

iv) 6.Qf3+? Kd2 7.Kb2 Bd3 wins.

“Black invokes underpromotion to counter White’s stalemate ideas. The study arose from reversing the colours in a study from an earlier informal tourney where it was candidate for first prize. The result has a ‘dry’ feel about it, by which we mean it is clever but lacking in sparkle.”

No 17505 M. Minski
2nd commendation



f4h1 0003.42 5/4 Win

No 17505 Martin Minski (Germany). wPg2 is en prise, but: 1.g3? gxf3 2.Kxf3 Sg5+ 3.Kf4 Se6+ 4.Kf5 Kg2 draw. 1.fxc4? h4 2.g5 Kxg2 3.g6 Sf8 4.g7 Se6+ 5.Kg4 Sxg7 6.Kxh4 Kf3 draw. 1.Kg3 Sg5/i 2.fxc4 Se4+ 3.Kh4/ii hxc4 4.g3/iii Kg2/iv 5.Kxc4, with:

– Sxc3 6.a4/v Sf1 7.d3/vi Se3+ 8.Kf4 Sd5+ 9.Ke5 wins, for instance: Sb4 (Sb6;a5) 10.d4 Kf3 11.d5 Ke3 12.d6 Kd3 13.d7 Kc4 14.Kd6 wins, or

– Sxd2 6.Kf4 Kh3 7.g4 Kh4 8.a3 (a4? Sc4zz;) Sc4 9.a4 Sb6 (Kh3/Sa5; g5) 10.a5 Sc4 11.a6 wins.

i) gxf3 2.gxf3 Sg5 3.f4. Or: h4+ 2.Kxh4 gxf3 3.gxf3 Kg2 4.Kg4 Sf6+ 5.Kg5 Sd7 6.f4 Kf3 7.f5 Ke4 8.a4.

ii) 3.Kf4? hxg4 4.g3 Sf6 5.Kg5 Kg2 6.a4 Kxg3 7.Kxf6 Kf4 8.a5 g3 draw.

iii) “Winning a tempo, seeing that 3...Sxg3 is ‘not on’.”

iv) Sxd2 5.Kxg4, see later in main line. Sf6 5.a4 Kg2 6.a5 Kf3 7.d3 Sd5 8.a6 Sc7 9.a7 Sa8 10.d4 Ke4 11.Kxg4 Sc7 12.Kh4 (Kh5? Kxd4;) Kd5 13.g4 Kc6 14.d5+ Kb7 15.d6 Se6 16.Kh5 Kxa7 17.Kg6 Kb6 18.Kf7 Sd8+ 19.Ke8 Kc6 20.d7 Kc7 21.g5 Se6 22.Ke7.

v) 6.d3? Se2 7.a4 Sc1 8.d4 Se2 9.d5 Sc3 10.d6 Se4 11.d7 Sf6+. Or 6.Kf4? Sh5+ 7.Ke5 Kf3 8.a4 Sf4 9.a5 Sd3+ 10.Kd5 Sb4+ 11.Kc5 Sa6+ 12.Kb6 Sb4 13.Kb5 Sd5 14.a6 Sc7+.

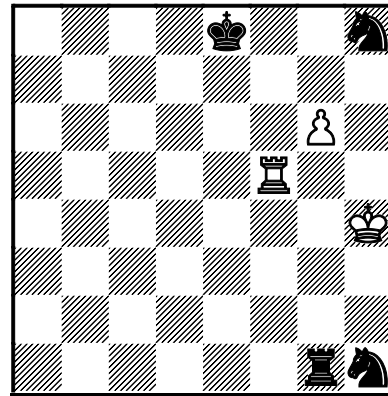
vi) Covering c4: 7.d4? Se3+ 8.Kf4 Sd5+ 9.Ke5 Sb6 10.a5 Sc4+.

“The pawn two-step is doubled here. Even if this has to be backed up by meticulously managed by-play reminiscent of endgame technique, this is nevertheless an eye-opener of a theme.”

No 17506 Richard Becker (USA) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). White must either exchange rooks or capture one bS. 1.Rg5? Sxg6+ 2.Kh5 Sf4+ 3.Kh4 Ra1 4.Rg1 Ra5 wins. 1.Re5+ Kd7/i 2.Kh3 Sxg6/ii 3.Kh2 Rf1 /iii 4.Rh5/iv Sf4 5.Rh7+/v Ke6 6.Re7+ Kf5 7.Re1 draw.

i) Kf8 2.Rg5 Sxg6+ 3.Kh5 Sf4+ 4.Kh4 Sg2+ (Rf1; Rg1) 5.Kh3 Sf2+ 6.Kh2.

No 17506 R. Becker & I. Akobia
3rd commendation



h4e8 0406.10 3/4 Draw

ii) Rxg6 3.Rf5 Ke6 (Sg3; Rg1) 4.Rf1 Sg3 5.Rg1. Or Kd6 3.Kh2 Rxg6 4.Rh5. Or Sf2+ 3.Kh2 Rxg6 4.Rd5+ Kc6 5.Rc5+ Kxc5 stalemate.

iii) Ra1 4.Rg5 Sh4 5.Rh5 Sg6 (Sf3+;Kg2) 6.Rg5 Sf8.

iv) 4.Rg5? Sh4 5.Rh5 Sf5.

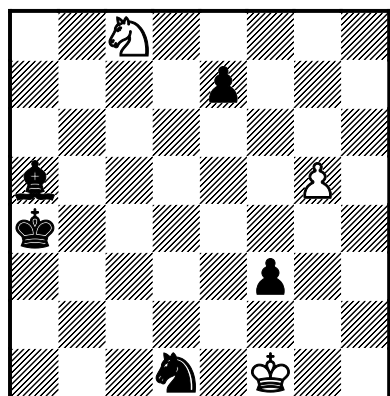
v) 5.Rf5? Kd6zz with 6.Rf8 Sg3, or 6.Rg5 Se2.

“Intuitive material (‘Anschauungsmaterial’) for the [6-man GBR class 0402] endgame rook against two knights. It is a pity that the neat stalemates are not more prominent, but nevertheless the one with wKh2 is noteworthy.”

Lev Tamkov 70 MT 2007

The Belarus composer Lev Tamkov died in 1997. The '70' in the tourney name led to mistaken references to a jubilee event. The formal tourney was judged by Vladimir Sichov, who considered 15 entries by 12 composers from 8 countries. The award appeared in *Albino* (Belarus composition magazine) no. 77-78, 2008.

No 17507 I. Akobia
first prize



f1a4 0034.12 3/5 Draw

No 17507 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Sxe7? Bd8 2.g6 Bxe7 3.g7 Se3+ 4.Kf2 Sg4+ 5.Kxf3 Sh6 wins. 1.g6 Se3+/i 2.Kf2 Sg4+ 3.Kxf3 Se5+ 4.Kf4/ii Sxg6+ 5.Kg5/iii e5 6.Kf5zz Bc7 7.Kxg6 e4 8.Se7 e3 9.Sd5 e2 10.Sc3+ draw.

i) Bd8 2.g7 Se3+ 3.Kf2 Sg4+ 4.Kxf3 Sh6 5.Kf4 draw. Or Bb4 2.Sb6+ Kb3 3.Sd5 Bc3 4.Sxe7 draw.

ii) Thematic try: 4.Ke4? Sxg6 5.Kf5 e5zz 6.Sd6 Bc7 7.Sf7 Se7+ 8.Ke6 Sc6 9.Kd7 Sb4 10.Kxc7 e4 11.Sg5 e3 12.Sf3 e2 13.Kd6 Sc2 14.Ke5 Kb3 15.Kf4 Kb2 16.Kg3 Kc1 17.Kf2 Kd1 wins.

iii) In contrast to the try in (ii) this choice of square for wK transfers the move from White to Black: 5.Kf5? e5.

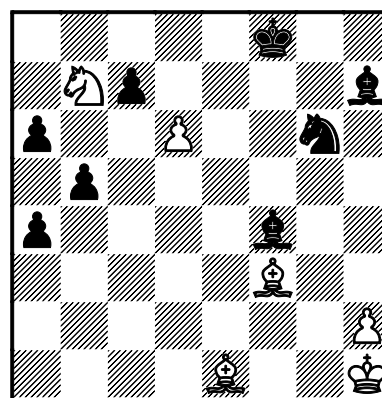
“Not so many pieces, but what content!”

MG cooked the 2nd prize winner by Richard Becker b1b6 0134.24 d7h3b2g5.d6h5c3d4e4 f5 5/7 Draw: 1.Sc4+ Kb5 2.h6 e3 3.h7 Sxh7 4.Sxe3 Sf6 5.Rf7 dxe3 6.Rxf6, with: Kc6 7.Kc2 e2 8.Re6 Bg4 9.Re3 Kd7 10.Kxc3 f4 11.Kd2 fxe3+ 12.Ke1 Ke6 13.d7 Kxd7 stalemate, or f4 7.d7 Bxd7 8.Rxf4 Kc5 9.Kc2 e2 10.Re4 Bf5 11.Kc1 Bxe4 stalemate.

However, also 2.Rg7 draws: f4 3.d7 Bxd7 4.Se5 f3 5.Rxg5 g2 6.Sxd7+ Kb4 7.Rf5 e3

8.Se5 e2 9.Sd3+ Kc4 10.Kc2 e1S+ 11.K-1 Sxd3 12.Kc2 with a remarkable draw position, or Kxc4 3.d7 Se6 4.h6 e3 5.Re7 f4 6.Rxc6 Bf5+ 7.Ka1 (Ka2).

No 17508 V. Bartosh
3rd prize



h1f8 0084.24 6/8 Win

No 17508 Vladimir Bartosh (Belarus). 1.d7 Bg5 2.h4 Sxh4/i 3.Bd2 Bf6/ii 4.Bd5 Sf5 5.Bb4+ Sd6/iii 6.Sxd6 a5 7.Bc5 cxd6 8.Bxd6+ Kg7 9.Be5 wins.

i) Se5 3.Bb4+ Kf7 4.Bd5+ Kg6 5.hxg5 Sxd7 6.Be4+ Kg7 7.Bc3+ Kg8 8.g6 wins.

ii) Bf5 4.Bxg5 Bxd7 5.Bxh4 wins.

iii) c5 6.Sxc5 Ke7 7.Se4+ Kd7 8.Sxf6+ Kc7 9.Sxh7 wins.

“It seems Black will not let White promote, but nevertheless the mutually sharp play puts White in the driving seat.”

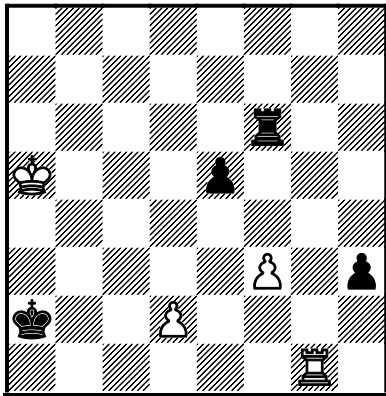
No 17509 Iuri Akobia & Richard Becker (USA). 1.Kb5 Rxf3 2.d4/i exd4 3.Kc4 Rf4 4.Rd1, with:

– Rh4 5.Rd2+ Ka3 6.Rh2zz drawn, or

– Kb2 5.Rd2+ Kb1 6.Re2 Rg4 7.Rf2 Re4 8.Rd2 Rh4 9.Rh2 Kc1 10.Kd3 Kb1 11.Kc4 positional draw.

i) 2.Kc4? Kb2, and 3.Rh1 Kc2 4.d4 e4 5.d5 Kd1 wins, or 3.Kd5 Kc2 4.Ke4 Rb3 5.d3 Rb1 6.Rg3 Rb4+ 7.Kf5 Rh4 wins.

No 17509 I. Akobia & R. Becker
4th prize



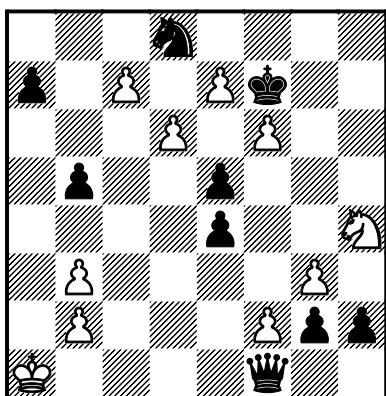
a5a2 0400.22 4/4 Draw

“Subtle recizug play with an echo.”

The 5th prize proved to be unsound: M. Campioli, d8b5 0017.22 a8a4c8h8.a6g2a3 d7 5/5 BTM, Draw. 1...Sb6 2.Sxb6 a2 3.a7 a1Q 4.Bc6+ Kxc6 5.a8Q+ Qxa8+ 6.Sxa8 d5 7.Sc7 Sf7+ 8.Kc8 d4 9.Se6 d3 10.Sd4+ Kd5 11.Sf3 draw.

However MG signals: 4...dxc6 5.a8Q Qf6+ 6.Kc7 Qe5+ 7.Kc8 Kb6 8.Qb7+ Kc5 9.Qa7+ Kc4 10.Qa4+ Kd5 11.Qb3+ Kc5 12.Qa3+ which was considered to be a draw in HHdbIV#74718, but Kb6 13.Qb4+ Qb5 14.Qd4+ c5 15.Qd8+ Ka6 wins.

No 17510 E. Dvizov
1st honourable mention



a1f7 3004.86 10/9 Win

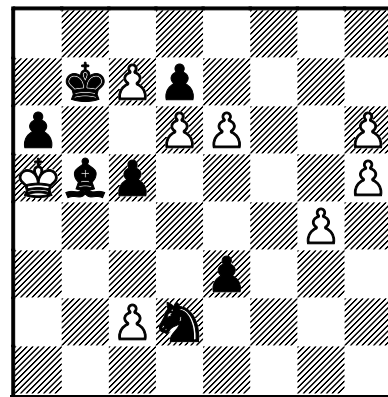
No 17510 Evgeny Dvizov (Belarus). 1.Ka2, with:
– h1Q 2.cxd8S+ Kxf6 3.e8S+ Kg5 4.Se6+ Kg4 5.Sf6+ Kh3 6.Sg5+ Kh2 7.Sg4+ Kg1 8.gS(hS)f3+ exf3 9.Sf3 mate, or
– Qa1+ 2.Kxa1 g1Q+ 3.Ka2 h1Q 4.cxd8S+ Kxf6 5.e8S+ Kg5 6.Sf7+ Kg4 7.Sf6+ Kh3 8.Sg5+ Kh2 9.Sg4 mate.

“The idea is not without interest, but the forcing play is unwelcome, as is wK standing in check.”

The 2nd honourable mention by S. Gurinovich is another almost incredible example of chess blindness: g2a4 0441.47 b6d4a7c8f5.a2 b2c4h3a3b4b7c2c3d3h4 8/10 Draw. 1.Ra6+ bxa6 2.b3+ Ka5 3.Sxd4 Bb7+ 4.Kf2, with: c1Q 5.Sc6+ Bxc6 6.Bb6+ Kxb6 7.c5+ and stalemate, or c1R 5.c5 Rc2+ 6.Kf1 Rc1+ 7.Kf2 draw.

However MG pinpoints at 7...Qxc5 with check rather than stalemate in the first line.

No 17511 A. Pallier
3rd honourable mention



a5b7 0033.74 8/7 Win

No 17511 Alain Pallier (France). 1.c8Q+ Kxc8 2.Kb6 Sc4+ 3.Ka7 Sxd6 4.h7 Kc7 5.h8Q Sc8+ 6.Qxc8+ Kxc8 7.e7 d5 8.h6 e2 9.h7 e1Q 10.h8Q+ wins.

“The play is forced.”

The 4th honourable mention by P. Rossi is unsound: d3c8 0006.21 a4g1.c6d6h6 3/4 Draw: 1.Ke4 h5 2.Kf5 h4 3.Ke6 Sb6 4.Ke7 Sd5+ 5.Ke8 Sc7+ 6.Ke7 Sd5+ 7.Ke8 Sf6+ 8.Ke7 Sg8+ 9.Ke8 draw.

However, also 1.d7+, and Kc7 2.Ke4 h5 3.Kf5 Sf3 4.Kf4, or Kd8 2.Ke4 h5 3.Kf5 h4 4.Kg4 h3 5.Kg3 (MG).

There was a single commendation by V. Tupik & V. Zhuk, which fell victim to MG: b4e4 0043.32 e1h2c8.c2f2f6a4e7 5/5 Win.: 1.f7 e6 2.f3+ Ke3 3.Bf2+ Kxf2 4.f4 Bxf4 5.f8Q wins. However, Bd6+ 2.Ka5 e6 3.Bb4 a3 4.Bxd6 a2 5.f8Q a1Q+ 6.Ba3 Qc3+ 7.Qb4+ Qxb4+ 8.Bxb4 Kd5 and it is hard to believe that White would be able to win this ending.

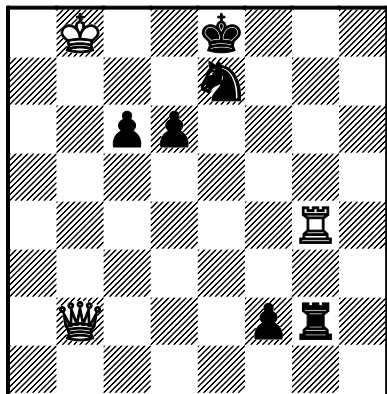
Uralsky Problemist 15 AT 2008

This tourney was judged by Andrei Selivanov. The award was ‘broadcast’ on the Selivanov web-site as well as in the printed magazine (no. 54 23viii2008).

Studies with 8 to 10 men in diagram were requested. For this type of compositions the term ‘grayvura’ (ie ‘etching’) was coined by Igor Agapov (Russia).

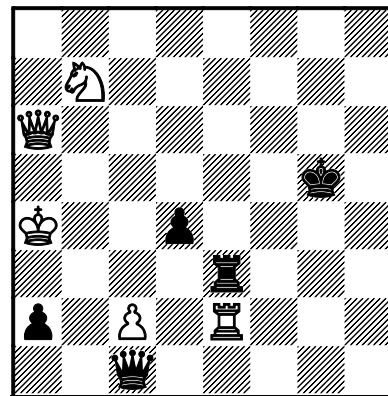
15 studies by 12 composers from 8 countries participated.

No 17512 Y. Bazlov
1st prize



b8e8 1403.03 3/6 Win

No 17513 S.N. Tkachenko
2nd prize



a4g5 4401.12 5/5 Win

No 17512 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Rf4? f1Q 2.Qh8+ Rg8. 1.Qh8+ Kd7 3.Qh3 f1Q/i 3.Rf4+ Kd8 4.Rxf1 Rb2+ 5.Ka8/ii Kc7 6.Qe6 Rb8+ 7.Ka7 Sc8+ 8.Qxc8+ Rxc8 9.Rf7+ Kd8 10.Kb7 Ke8 11.Rh7 Rd8 12.Kc7 d5 13.Rh8+, winning.

i) Rh2 3.Qf1 is OK, but not 3.Qf3? f1Q 4.Qxf1 Rb2+ 5.Ka8 Ra2+ 6.Kb7 Rb2+ 7.Ka6 Ra2+ 8.Kb6 Sd5+ 9.Kb7 Rb2+ perpetual check.

ii) 5.Ka7? Kc7 6.Qe6 Sc8+ 7.Ka6 Rb6+ 8.Ka5 Rb5+ 9.Ka4 Sb6+ 10.Ka3 Ra5+ 11.Kb3 Rb5+ 12.Kc2 Rc5+ 13.Kd3 Rd5+ perpetual check again!

No 17513 Sergei N. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.Rg2+ Rg3 2.Rxg3+ Kh4 3.Rh3+/i Kxh3 4.Qe6+ Kg3 5.Qg8+/ii Kf2 6.Qxa2 d3 7.cxd3+ Ke3 8.Kb5/iii Kxd3/iv 9.Sc5+ Ke3/v 10.Qe6+ Kf3 11.Qh3+ Ke2 12.Qh5+, finally doing for bQ.

i) 3.Rg4+? Kh3 and White lacks the tempo for winning bPa2.

ii) Capture of bPa2 at this moment is a thematic try: 5.Qxa2? d3 6.Qg8+ Kf2 7.Qf7+ Ke2 8.Qe6+ Qe3, when a drawing pawn exchange is inevitable. 5.Qb3+? d3 6.Qxd3+ Kf2 7.Qf5+ Ke1 8.Qe6+ Kd1, with the same outcome.

iii) 8.Qc4? Qd1+ and 9...Qxd3. 8.Qb3? Qc6+ 9.Ka5 Qc7+ 10.Ka6 Qc6+ 11.Ka7 Kd4 is a draw. 8.Kb4? Qe1+ 9.Kc4 Qh4+, and bQ is safe.

iv) Qc3 9.Sc5. Qc8 9.Qd5. So, with no pawns remaining it's a draw, is it?

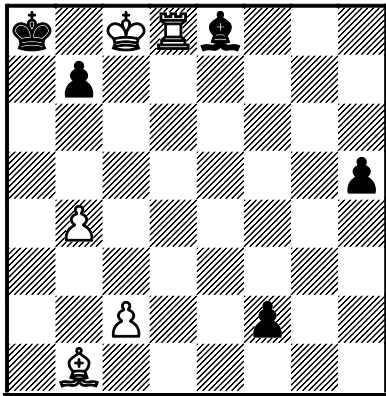
v) Kc3 10.Qc4+ and Kb2 11.Sd3+, or Kd2 11.Sb3+.

“An extremely dynamic study with wide-ranging play.”

No 17514 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Rd1? is over-hasty: Bb5 2.c4 Bxc4 3.Bd3 Bxd3 4.Ra1+ Ba6 5.b5 f1Q 6.Rxf1 Bxb5. 1.Rd5? f1Q 2.Ra5+ Qa6 3.Rxa6+ bxa6 draw. 1.Kc7+ Ka7 2.Rd1 Bb5 3.c4 Bxc4 4.Bd3 Bxd3 5.Ra1+ Ba6 6.b5 f1Q 7.Rxa6+/i bxa6 8.b6+ Ka8 9.b7+ Ka7 10.b8Q mate.

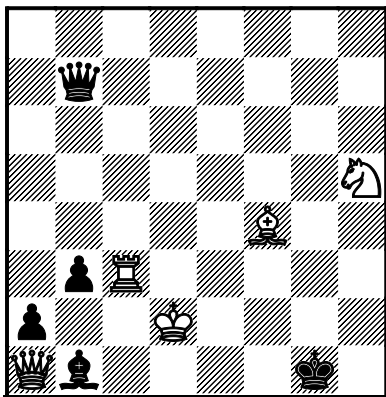
i) 7.Rxf1? Bxb5. 7.b6+? Ka8 8.Rxa6+ Qxa6.

No 17514 I. Aliev
3rd prize



c8a8 0140.23 5/5 Win

No 17515 Y. Afek
4th prize



d2g1 4141.02 5/5 BTM, Draw

No 17515 Yochanan Afek (Netherlands).
1...Qg2+ 2.Kc1 b2+ 3.Qxb2 Qf1+ 4.Kd2
Qf2+ 5.Kd1 Qxb2 6.Rg3+ Kf1 7.Rf3+ draw.
Better is to bury wQ once and for all: 1...b2
2.Rc1+/i bxc1Q+/ii 3.Kxc1 Qc8+ 4.Kb2/iii
Qh8+ 5.Sg7 Qxg7+ 6.Kc1 Qxa1 7.Be3+ Kf1
8.Bd4 Qxd4 stalemate.

i) 2.Rg3+? Kf1 3.Rf3+ Qxf3 4.Qxb2 Qd3+
5.Qc1 a1Q wins.

ii) Kg2 3.Qxb1 axb1Q 4.Rxb1 Qb3 5.Be3
Qd5+ 6.Kc3 Kf3 7.Bd4 Qxh5 8.Rxb2 draw.

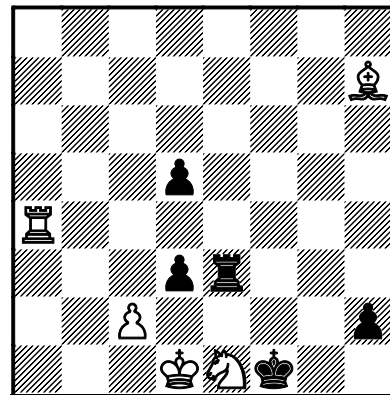
iii) 4.Kd2? Qc2+ 5.Ke1 Qf2+ 6.Kd1 Bc2+
7.Kc1 Qe1+ 8.Kb2 Qb1+ wins.

A study by S. Rummyantsev won a special
prize, but is unsound: d2f4 0041.23 d5f5d4.
d3g2f2g3g5 5/5 Win 1.Se2+ Kg4 2.Bf3+ Kh4
3.Sd4 Bxd3 4.Be2 Be4 5.Bf1 Ba8 6.Ke3 win-
ning, for example: Bd5 7.Sf5+ Kg4 8.Se7 Be6
9.Be2+ Kh4 10.Sg6 mate.

However: Ke5 2.Sxg3 Kxd5 3.Sxf5 f1S+
4.Ke2 Sh2 5.Sg3 and now not Kd4 6.Se4 g4

7.Sg3 as given, but Ke5 6.Se4 Kf4 7.g3+ Kf5
draws (MG).

No 17516 P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



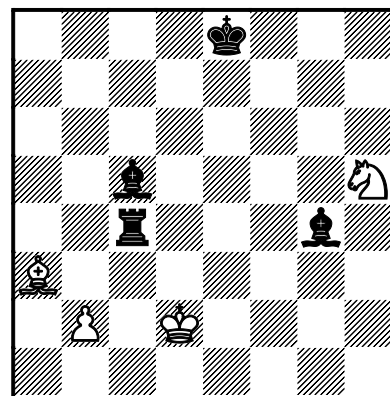
d1f1 0411.13 5/5 Win

No 17516 Pavel Arestov (Russia). Straight
away there's a thematic try: 1.Bxd3+? Rxd3+
2.cxd3 h1Q? 3.Rf4+ Kg1 4.Rh4 Qxh4 5.Sf3+,
but this is scuppered by 2...d4 3.Rxd4 h1Q
4.Rf4+ Kg1 5.Rh4 Qa8 with a draw. No im-
provement is 1.Rh4? Rxe1+ 2.Kd2 dxc2
3.Bd3+ Kg2. "First things first. wR must be
better placed:" 1.Rf4+ Kg1 2.Rg4+ Kf1/i
3.Bxd3+ Rxd3 4.cxd3 h1Q 5.Rf4+ Kg1 6.Rh4
Qxh4 7.Sf3+ winning.

i) Kf2 3.Rg2+ Kf1 4.Rxh2 Rxe1+ 5.Kd2
Re2+ 6.Rxe2 dxe2 7.Bd3 wins.

MG proposes 2.Bxd3 h1Q 3.Rf1+ Kh2
4.Rxh1+ Kxh2 5.Kd2 and Black seems to be
unable to draw this ending. Highly suspect!

No 17517 D. Gurgenzidze
2nd honourable mention



d2e8 0371.10 4/4 Draw

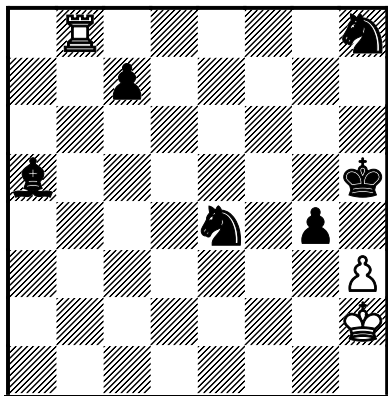
No 17517 David Gurgenzidze (Georgia).
1.Sf6+ Ke7/i 2.Sxg4 Bxa3 3.Se3 Bb4+ 4.Kd3

Rc5/ii 5.Sc2 Rb5 6.Kc4 Rc5+ 7.Kd3 positional draw: Ba5 8.b4 Rd5+ 9.Kc4 Rd2 10.Kc3.

i) Kf7 2.Sxg4 Bxa3 3.Se5+ draw.

ii) "Other squares are 'mined'." Rf4 5.Sd5+. Rc6 5.Sd5+. Rh4 5.f5+.

No 17518 R. Becker
3rd honourable mention



h2h5 0136.12 3/6 Draw

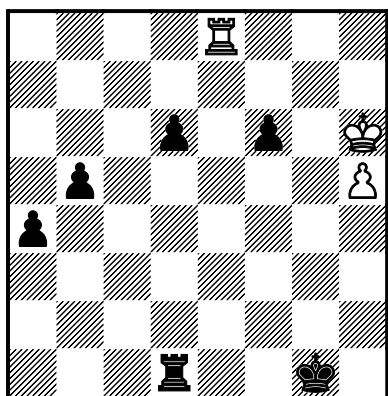
No 17518 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rxh8+? Kg5 2.Rg8+ Kf4 3.Rxg4+ Kf3 wins. 1.Rb5+ Kh4 2.Rxa5 g3+ 3.Kh1/i Sf7/ii 4.Ra7 Kxh3/iii 5.Rxc7 g2+ 6.Kg1 fSg5 7.Rh7+ Kg3 8.Rg7 Kh3 9.Rh7+ Kg3 10.Rg7 Kf3 11.Kh2 Kf2 12.Rxg5 Sxg5 stalemate.

i) 3.Kg1? Sf7 4.Ra7 Kxh3 5.Rxc7 fSg5. 3.Kg2? Sg6 4.Ra4 Sf4+ 5.Kf3 g3.

ii) Sg6 4.Ra4 Kxh3 5.Rxe4 g2+ 6.Kg1 Sh4 7.Re3+ draw.

iii) fSg5 5.Rxc7 Kxh3 6.Rc2 Sf2+ 7.Rxf2 gxf2 stalemate.

No 17519 I. Akobia
4th honourable mention



h6g1 0400.14 3/6 Draw

No 17519 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Kg6? a3 2.Ra8 b4 3.h6 b3 4.h7 b2 5.h8Q b1Q+. 1.Kg7 a3 2.Ra8 b4 3.h6, with:

– b3 4.h7 b2 5.h8Q b1Q 6.Rg8 Rd2 7.Kxf6+ Rg2 8.Rxg2+ Kxg2 9.Qa8+ Kf2 10.Qxa3 draw, or

– Rd3 4.h7 Rg3+ 5.Kxf6 Rh3 6.Kg7 d5 7.Ra4 d4 8.Rxb4 d3 9.Rg4+/i, with:

• Kh1 10.Rf4 a2 11.Rf1+ draw, or

• Kf1 10.Rf4+/ii Ke1 11.Re4+ Kd1 12.Ra4 d2 13.Rxa3 draw.

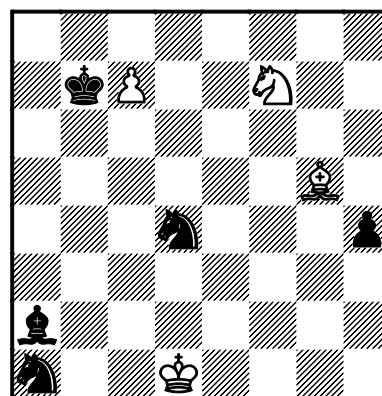
i) 9.Rd4? a2 10.Rg4+ Kh1 wins.

ii) 10.Rd4? a2 11.Rf4+ Kg1 12.Rg4+ Kh1 wins.

MG proposes in the 2nd main line 6.Kg6 instead of 6.Kg7. At first this looks like a minor dual: d5 7.Ra4 d4 (or b3 8.Rxa3 b2 9.Rxh3 b1Q+ 10.Kg5) 8.Rxb4 d3 and 9.Rg4+ as in the solution. But here 9.Rd4 does work: a2 10.Rxd3 a1Q (no check) 11.Rxh3 draws. Unsound!

The 5th honourable mention by B. Buyanmekh from Mongolia is incorrect: h1h7 0632.20 e8g3f3c6d7.e4g2 5/4 Draw: 1.Sf6+ Kh6 2.Sxe8 Rxg2 3.Se5 Bxe4 4.Sf7+ Kg6 5.Se5+ Kg5 6.Sd6 Bd5(Ba8) 7.Se4+ Bxe4 8.Sf3+ Bxf3 stalemate. However, 6...Re2+ wins (G. Haworth & E. Bleicher, HHdbIV 14vi2010).

No 17520 V. Kalashnikov
commendation



d1b7 0047.11 4/5 Draw

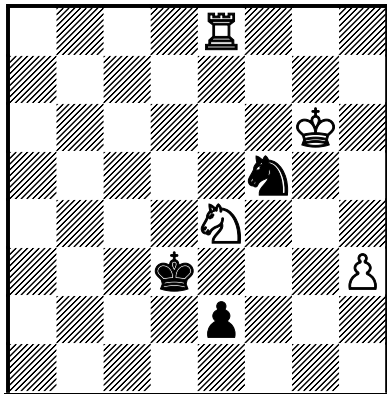
No 17520 Valeri Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Bxh4? Bxf7. 1.Sd8+? Kxc7 2.Bxh4 Bd5 3.Bf6 aSb3 4.Ke1 Kd7 5.Kf2 Sf5 6.Ke1 Se7 wins. 1.Sd6+ Kxc7 2.Se8+ Kd7 3.Sf6+ Ke6 4.Bxh4 Sf3 5.Kc1 Sxh4 6.Kb2 Bc4 7.Sg4 Sb3 8.Se3 drawing.

Zhigulyovskie zory 2008

25 by 7 from 8 countries. A relatively small tourney but, in the view of the judge, (Viktor Razumenko, St Petersburg) interesting, especially for the study fraternity.

AJR comments: **EG** is delighted to publish this award with the judge's comments (and move punctuation) translated, but not otherwise edited. The impression the whole makes compares favourably with the all-too-frequent bare-moves commentless award. A welcome throwback to the pre-computer era, the totally legible diagrams and text were hand-drawn on A5 paper by the judge. For this occasion **EG** abandons the 'i' 'i' presentation for a **bold / italic / non-bold** system. But we emphasise that the 'i' 'i' method uniquely caters for any number of levels of 'nesting'. We also, without creating a precedent, copy the source's use of exclamation marks. What do experienced **EG** readers prefer?

No 17521 V. Kalashnikov & S. Osintsev
1st prize



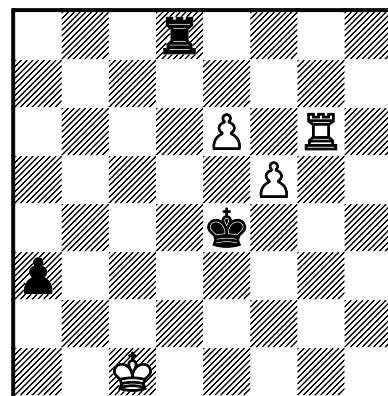
g6d3 0104.11 4/3 BTM, Win

No 17521 Valery Kalashnikov & Sergei Osintsev (Ekaterinburg). White has an extra rook, but Black has the move. **1...Sh4+ 2.Kg5**. It is too soon for 2.Kf6? e1Q 3.Sc5+ Kd2 4.Sb3+ Kd1 5.Rxe1+ Kxe1 draw. **2...Sf3+**. If 2...e1Q 3.Sc5+ Kc4 4.Rxe1 Sf3+ 5.Kf6 Sxe1 6.h4 Kxc5 7.h5 wins. **3.Kf6!!** Setting up the ideal position for the coming ending. 3.Kf5? e1Q 4.Sc5+ Kd2! 5.Sb3+ Kd1 6.Rxe1+ Kxe1 7.Sd4 Sxd4, with check, drawing. Or 3.Kg4 (Kf4) e1Q 4.Sc5+ Kc4 5.Rxe1 Sxe1 6.h4 Kxc5 7.h5 Sd3 8.Kf5 Kd6 9.h6 Se5 10.h7 Sf7 draw. **3...e1Q 4.Sc5+ Kd2 5.Sb3+ Kd1 6.Rxe1+ Kxe1** and now follows the sacrifice prepared in advance by 3.Kf6 and 5.Sb3. **7.Sd4!!**, the beginning of a fresh phase. **7...Sh4**. Or 7...Sxd4, this time without check thanks to the far-sighted 3.Kf6 – and hP promotes. **8.Kg5 Sg2 9.Kg4 Kd2!** Better than 9...Kf2 10.Sf5. **10.Kg3 Se3**. If 10...Kd3 there

follows the no less gawp-worthy sacrifice 11.Sc2!+, when bS is trapped. **11.Kf3!** Accuracy is called for: 11.h4? Kd3; 11.Kf4 Kd3 12.Sf5 Sg2! 13. Kf3 Se1+!, positional draw. **11...Kd3 12.Se6 Sf5 13.Kf4 Se7 14.Kg5!** Side-stepping threatened forks and preparing the pawn's advance. **14...Ke4 15.h4. 15.Sg7?** Sd5! 16.h4 Sf4, when Black has set up a fortress. **15...Kd5! 16.Sg7! Sg8 17.h5 Kd6 18.Sf5+ Ke6 19.Kg6** and wins, for instance: 19...Ke5 20.Sg3 Ke6 21.Kg7 Sf6 22.h6 Ke5 23.Se4.

A superb miniature with interesting double-edged play!

No 17522 N. Kralin
2nd/3rd prize

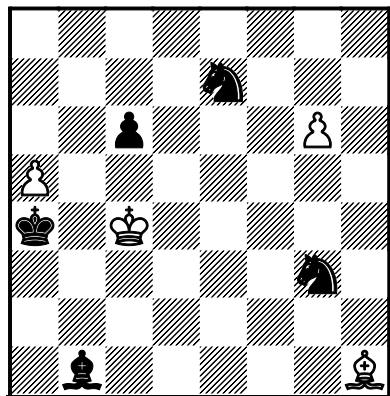


c1e4 0400.21 4/3 Win

No 17522 Nikolai Kralin (Moscow). Which pawn to push? *1.f6?* Kf5 2.e7 Rc8+ and 3...Kxg6. **1.e7 Rc8+ 2.Rc6! 2.Kb1? Kxf5. a2! 3.Kb2 Rb8+ 4.Rb6! a1Q+ 5.Kxa1 Ra8+ 6.Ra6! wins.** For example 6...Rxa6+ 7.Kb2 (Kb1) Ra8 8.f6.

This lightweight rook and pawn ending always holds the attention, all the more for the three-fold systematic wR sacrifices.

No 17523 V. Zheltukov
2nd/3rd prize



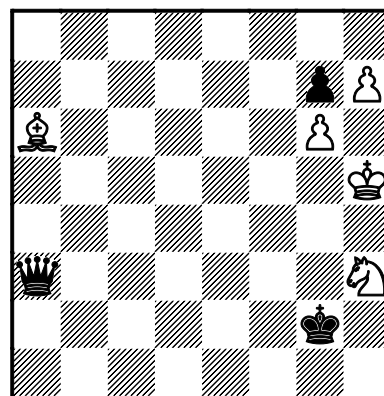
c4a4 0046.21 4/5 Draw

No 17523 V. Zheltukov (Togliatti, Russia). With three men en prise White's position is unenviable. Therefore: **1.a6 Sc8!** Weaker: 1...Ba2+ 2.Kc5 Sc8 3.Bxc6+ Ka5 4.Bd5 Bb1 5.g7 and 6.g8Q drawn. **2.Bxc6+ Ka5!** 2...Ka3 3.Bb7 Sf5 4.Kc5 fSe7 5.g7 Bh7 6.Bxc8 Sxc8 7.Kc6 draw. **3.Bb7!!** One wants to play 3.g7? but this is a beautiful try: 3...Kb6! (but not 3...Kxa6? 4.Bb5+! Kb6 5.Kd4 Bh7 6.Bd3 Bg8 7.Bc4 Sf5+ 8.Kd3 and 9.Bxg8 drawing) 4.Ba4 Se7 5.Kc3 Bh7 6.Bc2 gSf5! 7.Bd3 Bg8 8.Bc4 Sd5+!! 9.Kd3 Bf7zz 10.Ba2 Sxg7 wins. **Sa7 4.g7 Sf5!** 4...Sh5 5.g8Q Ba2+ 6.Kd4 Bxg8 7.Bd5 Bh7 8.Be4 Bg8 9.Bd5 positional draw. **5.g8Q! Ba2+ 6.Kc5! Bxg8 7.Bd5 Bh7 8.Bg8! Bg6 9.Bf7 Bh7.** Now the alternative to positional draw is **10.Bg8 Bxg8 stalemate!**

Dynamic play with attractive tries leads to an 'almost' ideal midboard stalemate.

No 17524 Richard Becker (USA). It might look as if it is simple matter to achieve the stipulation, but: 1.Sf4+? Kg3 2.Se2+ Kf2 3.Kg5 Qe7+ 4.Kg4 Qe6+ 5.Kg5 Qf6+ 6.Kh5 Qf8 7.Kg4 Ke3 8.Sg3 Qf4= 9.Kh3 Kf2 10.Sh5 Qf3+ 11.Kh4 Qe4+ 12.Kh3 Qxg6! 13.h8Q Qg2+ 14.Kh4 g5 mate! A quite unexpected checkmate! **1.Sg5! Qa4!** Taking up the most active post for the coming attack on wK. **2.h8Q.** There is nothing better. 2.Se4? Qxe4 3.Bb7 (h8Q? Qf5+) Qxb7 4.h8Q Kg3 wins. Or 2.Bb7+? Kg3 3.Se4+ Kf4 wins. **Qd1+ 3.Sf3!**

No 17524 R.Becker
special prize

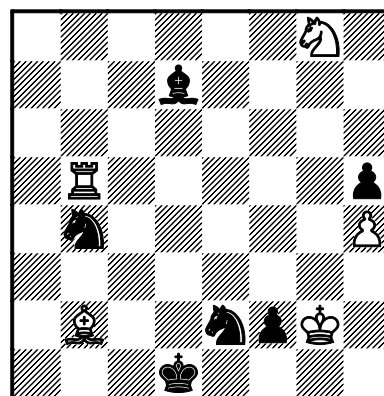


h5g2 3011.21 5/3 Draw

3.Kh4(Be2) Qh1+ and 4...Qxh8. **Kxf3!** 3...Qxf3+ 4.Kg5 draw. **4.Be2+!** 4.Qxg7? Kf4+ 5.Kh6 Qh1 mate. **Qxe2** With the threat: 5...Kg3+ 6.Kg5 Qg4 mate. But White has a saving clause. **5.Qb8zz!! Qd1 6.Qd8! Qxd8 ideal stalemate!**

A great find by a composer who actively befriends the computer.

No 17525 D. Keith
honourable mention



g2d1 0147.12 5/6 Draw

No 17525 Daniel Keith (France). White's material advantage is counter-balanced by bPf2. **1.Re5! Sd3 2.Re3 Bh3+! 3.Rxh3 Sg3 4.Rxg3 Ke2 5.Re3+ Kxe3 6.Bd4+! Kxd4.** After mutual sacrifices Black has held on to his dangerous passed pawn. **7.Sh6!!** The start of a no less dramatic stage in the struggle for survival. White should not play 7.Se7? Ke4!, with:

– 8.Kf1 Kf3 9.Sf5 Se5! 10.Sd4+ Ke3 11.Sf5+ Kf4 12.Sd4 Sg4 13.Kg2 Ke3 winning, or

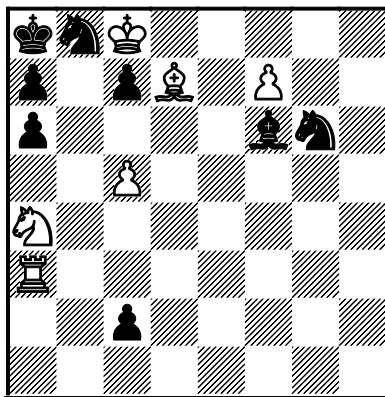
– 8.Sc6 Ke3 9.Kf1 Sc5! 10.Sb4 Kf3 11.Sc2 Se4! 12.Sd4+ Kf4! 13.Kg2 Ke3 14.Sf5+ Ke2 15.Sd4+ Kd3! 16.Sf5 Sd6 17.Sg3 Ke3 18.Sf1+ Ke2 19.Sg3+ Ke1zz 20.Kf3 Sf5! wins.

The main line resumes: **7...Ke4 8.Sf7 Ke3 8...Kf4 9.Sh6 (Sd6) Ke3 10.Sf5+ Ke2 11.Sd4+ Kd2 12.Sf3+ Ke3 13.Kf1 Kxf3 stalemate no.1. 9.Kf1 Sc5! 9...Kf3 10.Se5+ Sxe5, stalemate no.2. 10.Sg5 Sb3 11.Sf3 Kxf3 stalemate no. 3.**

Accurate and double-edged play forces Black to sue for peace terms.

HH observes that the subline with stalemate no.1 has a second solution: 12.Kf1.

No 17526 A. Jasik
honourable mention

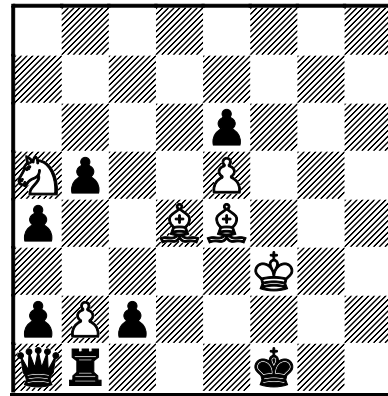


c8a8 0147.24 6/8 Draw

No 17526 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). How is the incipient bQ to be neutralised? Not by: 1.Bf5? Se7+ 2.Kxc7 Sd5+ 3.Kd6 c1Q 4.f8Q Qf4+ 5.Ke6 Qe5+ 6.Kf7 Qxf5 winning. Also not with: 1.Bg4? c1Q 2.f8Q Qf4! (2...Sxf8? transposes to the main line) 3.Bf3+ c6 wins. **1.f8Q! Sxf8 2.Bf5!!** Forcing: **2...c1Q** Wrong would be 2.Bg4? fSd7! 3.Bf3+ c6, and '4.Sb6+' is ruled out. **3.Be4+ c6 4.Sb6+ axb6 5.Rxa6+ Sxa6 6.Bxc6+ Ka7 7.cxb6+ Kxb6**, a fully economical stalemate even if, as AJR points out, wK stays put in the main line.

No 17527 Evgeny Fomichev (Shatki, Russia). After the obvious: **1.Bd3+ Ke1 2.Bc3+ Kd1 3.Be2+ Kc1**, what now? 4.Ke3? is met by 4...Rxb2. What we have instead is a paradoxical snare. **4.Sb3+! axb3 5.Bd4!** Again 5.Ke3? is ruled out, here by 5...b4! 6.Bd4

No 17527 E. Fomichev
honourable mention

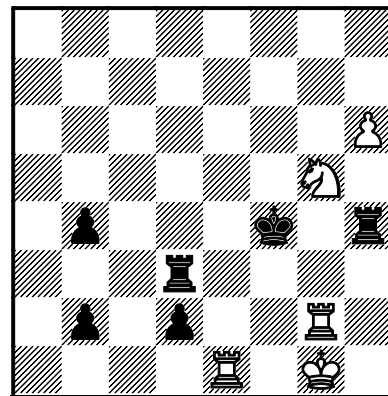


f3f1 3321.25 6/8 Draw

Rxb2 winning. **5...b4**. Chosen to maximise White's difficulties, as 5...Kd2 gives the opponent the choice between 6.Bc3+ and 6.Be3+. **6.Kf2!** Shutting off Black's oxygen supply: 6...Kd2 (Qxb2) 7.Be3 mate! What remains is: **6...Rxb2**, but then **7.Be3+ Kb1 8.Bd3 stalemate** – of Black by White!

It turns out that salvation lies in stalemating Black, despite the latter's superior force!

No 17528 J. Mikitovics
honourable mention



g1f4 0801.13 5/6 Draw

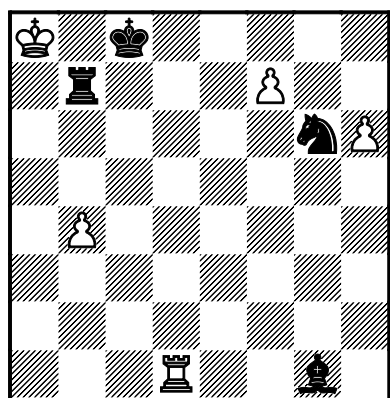
No 17528 János Mikitovics (Hungary). How is White to save himself? **1.Se6+ Kf5 2.Sg7+ Kf6 3.Se8+ Kf7 4.Rf2+ Kg6 5.Rg2+**. Wrong would be 5.Re6+? Kg5 6.Re5+ (hoping for: 6...Kxh6? 7.Rf6+ Kh7 8.Re7+ Kg8 9.Rg7+ Kh8 10.Rf8 mate), but 6...Kg4! 7.Sf6+ Kh3 8.Rh2+ Kg3 9.Rg2+ Kf4 10.Re4+ Kf5 11.Rf2+ Kg6 wins. **Rg4!** A beautiful sacrifice! **6.Rxg4+ Kf5**. Both wRR are now en prise! **7.Rd1**, with branching:

– 7...Kxg4 8.h7 b1Q 9.Sf6+ Kg3 10.Se4+ Kf4 11.Rxb1 d1Q+ 12.Rxd1 Rxd1+ 13.Kg2! Rd8 14.Sf6 b3 15.Sg8, after which it is Black who is fighting for the draw. 15...Rd2+ 16.Kh3. Or

– 7...b1Q 8.Rxb1 d1Q+ 9.Rxd1 Rxd1+ 10.Kg2! There is a thematic try at this point: 10.Kh2? Kxg4 11.Sf6+ Kh4!! 12.h7 Rd8! 13.Sg8 Rd2+! 14.Kg1 Kg3 winning. 10...Kxg4 11.Sf6+. 11.h7? Rd2+ 12.Kg1 Kg3 wins. 11...Kg5 12.h7 Rd8 13.Sg8 draw.

An interesting fight by both sides ends in expectations being swapped!

No 17529 I. Akobia
special honourable mention

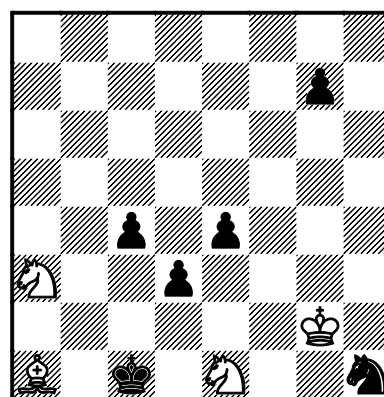


a8c8 0433.30 5/4 Win

No 17529 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). The immediate 1.Rxg1? fails: Rxb4 2.Rc1+ Kd8. 1.Rc1+ Rc7, and now 2.Rxg1 Sf8, 2...Rc2 3.Ka7 Sf8 4.Rg8 Rc7+ 5.Ka6 Rxf7 6.b5 Kd7 7.Rg7 Ke6 8.b6 Sd7 9.h7 wins. 3.h7. Precious time must not be lost: 3.b5? Rc2 4.Ra1 Rb2 5.Rc1+ Kd7 draws. Or 3.Rf1? Rc4 4.Rb1 Rc6 5.b5 Rxh6 draws. 3...Sxh7. 3...Rc3 4.Rc1! Rxc1 5.h8Q wins. 4.Rg8+ Kd7 5.Rh8 Sf8. 5...Rc8+ 6.Rxc8 Kxc8 7.b5 Kc7 8.Ka7 wins. 6.Rxf8 Kc6. 6...Ke7 6.Rh8 Kxf7 8.Rh7+ wins. 7.b5+! 7.Rb8? Rxf7 8.b5+ Kc5 9.b6 Kb5 10.b7 Ka6! 11.Rh8 Rxb7 12.Rh6+ Rb6 draw. 7...Kc5 8.b6 Kxb6 9.Rb8+ Ka6 and, skirting round 10.f8Q?? Ra7 mate, White comes up with a luscious point: 10.Rb6+!!, which wins for him.

Dynamic play prefaces a known finale.

No 17530 P. Rossi & M. Campioli
commendation



g2c1 0015.04 4/6 BTM, Draw.

No 17530 Pietro Rossi & Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...d2. White has no problem with 1...e3 2.Sxc4 d2 3.Sd3+ Kb1 4.dSb2. 2.Bb2+ Kxb2. 2...Kd1 3.eSc2 Ke2 4.Sxc4 d1Q 5.Sd4+ Kd3 6.Se5+ Kd2(Ke3) 7.Sc4+ perpetual check. 3.Sxc4+ Kc1 4.Sxd2 Kxd2. 4...e3 5.Kxh1 exd2 6.Sd3+ draws. 5.Sf3!! The point! 5.Kxh1? Kxe1 6.Kg2 e3+ wins. Or 5.Kf1? Sg3+ 6.Kf2 e3+ wins. 5...exf3+! 5...Ke3 6.Sh4 Sf2 7.Sf5+ Ke2 8.Sxg7 Sg4 9.Se6! draws, not 9.Sf5? Se3+. 6.Kxf3! 6.Kxh1? f2 7.Kg2 Ke2 wins. Kd3 7.Kf4. 7.Kg4? Ke4! 8.Kg5 Sg3 9.Sg6 Sf5 wins. 7...Sg3. Hoping for 8.Kg5? Ke4 9.Kg6 Sf5 winning. 8.Kxg3 Ke4 9.Kg4 draw.

To attain his goal White has to sacrifice two pieces and steer clear of several Black ambushes.

A commendation by A. Pallier seems to be unsound: c3a3 0116.23 g2h3f5g6.a2g3a4f3f4 5/6 Win: 1.Rf2 ffg3 2.Rxf3 gSh4 3.Rf4 g2 4.Bxg2 Sxg2 5.Rxf5 Kxa2 6.Rf2+ Ka3 7.Rf3 Ka2 8.Kb4 Sh4 9.Rf4 Sg6 10.Rf2+ Kb1 11.Kxa4 Kc1. 11...Se5 12.Kb3 Kc1 13.Kc3 Kd1 14.Rf4 wins. However: 1...Sxg3 2.Kd3 Sh4 3.Bg4 Sg2 4.Bxf3 Se1+ 5.Kc4 Sxf3 6.Rxf3+ Kxa2 7.Kb4 Kb2 8.Rxf4 Kc2 9.Rf2+ Kd1.