



UNION ARGENTINA DE PROBLEMISTAS DE AJEDREZ

21th INTERNATIONAL INTERNET TOURNAMENT (UAPA) – 2023

PROVISIONAL AWARD

Section A : Thematic: In study (win or draw), White's choice on any move on the same square
Judge: Vladislav Taraasiuk (Ukraine)

Section B : Theme free

B.1.) Win – Judge : Peter Gyarmati (Hungary)

B.2.) Draw – Judge : Sergey Osintsev (Russia)

Participants: Michal Hlinka (Slovakia); Luboš Kekely (Slovakia); Valery Kalashnikov (Russia); Andrzej Jasik (Poland); Mario G. García (Argentina); Pavel Arestov (Russia); Marc Gelly (France); Peter S. Krug (Austria); Daniele Gatti (Italy); Michael Pasman (Israel); Jan Timman (Netherlands); Alexander Avedisian (Uruguay); Oleg Pervakov (Russia); Can Aydinoglu (Turkey); Mario Micaloni (Italy); Zalmen Kornin (Brasil); Serhy Didukh (Ukraine); Amatzia Avi (Israel); Peter Gyarmati (Hungary); Helmut Waelzel (Germany); Alain Pallier (France); Eduard Eilazian (Ukraine); Ognian Dimitrov (Bulgaria); Stanislav Nosek (Rep. Checa); Vasily Murashov (Russia); Darko Hlebec (Serbia); Gennady Matjushin (Ukraine); Michael Gromov (Russia); Vladimir Neistadt (Russia)

We have received 78 studies from 29 composers from 19 countries.

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

Section A

REPORT

The judge is grateful to all the authors who worked and sent their studies.

A total of 20 studies by 14 authors from 9 countries were published in the thematic section. In a number of studies the theme is realized, but no more...

The number of marked works in the competition could have been greater if some authors had devoted more time to their compositions in search of successful realization of the conceived ideas. Put more humor and love into your future studies and you are sure to achieve something greater!..

The level of the tournament is reflected by the studies in the award.



Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.Rd2! [1..Rxd5? Kf2+ 2.Bxa1 g2+—+] **1...Rb1 2.Bc1!** [Logical try: 2.Re2+? Kf1 3.d7 Be6! 4.d8Q Bg4 5.Qd2 Bf3+ 6.Rg2 (6.Ng2 Bxe2!) 6...hgx2+ 7.Nxg2 Rd1 8.Qxd1+ Bxd1 9.Ba3 Bf3 10.Bd6 Bxg2#! (10...Kf2? 11.Bxg3+! Kxg3 12.Kg1 Bxg2 stalemate.)] **2...Rxc1 3.Re2+ Kf1 4.d7 Be6 5.d8Q Bg4 6.Qd2 Bf3+ 7.Rg2!** (thematic move) [7.Ng2? hxg2+ (7...Bxe2? 8.Qxc1+) 8.Rxg2 Re1! (8...Ra1? 9.Qc1+) 9.Qxe1+ Kxe1 10.Kg1 Bxg2—+] **7...hxg2+ 8.Nxg2 Rd1 9.Qe1+! Rxe1** stalemate.

The excessive tension of the initial position is redeemed by good logic, accurate play of pieces and the most beautiful thematic choice of the tournament - 7.Rg2!/7.Ng2? The inventive duel between the sides ends with a stalemate, which White was aiming for from the very beginning.

Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

1.g7 e3! [1...c3 2.Kh8! c2 (2...e3 3.g8Q Kxe7 4.Qg7 Nc4 5.dxe3 c2 6.Qc3+-) 3.Ng8+! Kf5 (3...Kg5 4.Nh6 Ng6+ 5.Nxg6+-) 4.Nh6+ Kf6 5.g8N+ Kg5 6.h4#!] **2.fxe3!** Thematic move [2.dxe3? c3 3.Kh8 c2 4.g8Q (4.Ng8+ Kf5 5.Nh6+ Ke4!)=] 4...Kxe7! 5.Qg5+ f6 6.Qg7+ Ke8 7.Qg8+ Kd7! 8.Ne2 Bxe2 9.Qh7+ Nf7+! 10.Qxf7+ Kc8 11.Qf8+ Kc7 12.Qa3 Bd3 13.h4 a4 14.Kg7 Na5 15.h5 Nb3=] **2...c3! 3.dxc3 Nd6 4.Kh7!** [Logical try: 4.Kh8? Ng6+ 5.Nfxg6 fxg6 6.Ng8+?! (6.g8Q Nf7+ 7.Kh7 Ng5+ 8.Kh6 Nf7+= Perpetual check, or 9.Qxf7+ Kxf7 10.Nxc6 a4=) 6...Ke5! 7.Nh6 Bb3 8.Ng4+ Kf5 (e4)—+] **4...Bc2+ 5.e4! Bxe4+ 6.Kh8 Ng6+** [6...Kxe7 7.g8Q Ne8 8.Qg5+ f6 9.Qh5! a4 10.Kg8 Bc2 11.Qe2 Bb3+ 12.Kh7 a3 13.Ng6+ Kd6 14.Qd2+ Kc7 15.Nxe5 fxe5 16.Qe3+-] **7.Nfxg6!** Thematic move [7.Nexg6? fxg6 8.g8Q Nf7+ 9.Kh7 Ng5+! 10.Kh6 Nf7+= Perpetual check] **7...fxg6 8.Ng8+!** Thematic move [8.g8Q? Nf7+ 9.Kh7 Ng5+! 10.Kh6 Nf7+= Perpetual check] **8...Ke5 9.Nh6! Bd5 10.Ng4+ Kf5** [10...Ke4 11.Nf6+ Kf5 12.Nxd5+-] **11.Ne3+ Kf6 12.Nxd5+-**

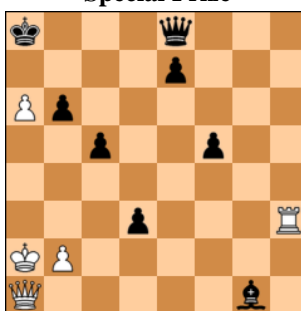
The most daring study of the competition – white must make the correct choice three times on the 2nd, 7th and 8th moves.

Michael Pasma (Israel)

1.f8N+! Kg5 [1...Kf6 2.0-0+ Kg5 as main] **2.Nh7+! Kg6** [2...Kxg4 3.Nf6+ Kf5 4.0-0+! Kg6 5.Rxc3 Qxc3=] **3.Nf8+! Kf6 4.0-0+!** [Thematic try: 4.Rf1+ Kg5! 5.Kd2 Rxc1 6.Bf4+ Kxg4-+; 4.Nd7+? Kg5!-+; 4.Nh7+? Ke7! 5.Rxc3 Qxc3-+] **4...Kg5 5.Bxg3!** [5.Rxc3? Qxc3 6.Ne6+ Kh4!-+; 5.Bf4+? Kxg4-+] **5...Rxg3+** [5...Rxc1 6.Bf4+!] **6.Kh2 Qxg4 7.Ne6+!** [7.Rc5+? Kh4-+] **7...Kh4!** [7...Kg6 8.Nf4+=] **8.Nf4!** [Thematic try: 8.Rf4? Rh3#] **8...Rg1! 9.Ng6+!** [Thematic try (regular): 9.Rxg1? Qxf4+ 10.Kh1 Qf3+! 11.Rg2 Kh3 12.Rcc2 Qd1+-+] **9...Qxg6 10.Rxg1 Qd3!** [10...Qd6+ 11.Kh1 Qd5+ 12.Rg2! (12.Kh2? Qd2+ 13.Kh1 Kh3-+)] **11.Rge1! Qd2+** [11...Qg3+ 12.Kh1 Kh3 13.Rc3! Qxc3 14.Re3+! Qxe3 stalemate] **12.Kh1 Kh3 13.Rc3+! Qxc3 14.Re3+! Qxe3** stalemate.

An attractive work with a weak pawn promotion and castling. A center of the study is a thematic choice of 8.Nf4!, leading to a stalemate ending with two original sacrifices of white rooks, instead of checkmate 8.Rf4? Rh3#

**Amatzia Avni
Special Prize**



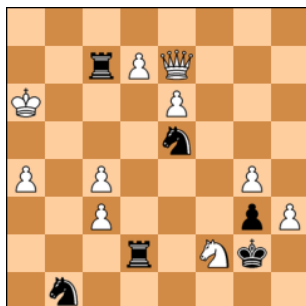
Draw

Amatzia Avni (Israel)

1.b3! double threat - 2.Rh8 and 2.Q:g1 [1.Rxd3? Qa4+ 2.Ra3 Qc4+=; 1.Qxg1? Qa4+ 2.Kb1 Qc2+=] **1...Qg6!** [1...Bd4?? 2.Qh1+-+] **2.Rh8+!** [Thematic try: 2.Qh8+? Ka7 3.Qc8 Qg2+= protecting square b7] **2...Ka7 3.Ra8+! Kxa8 4.Qh8+ Ka7 5.Qh1!** [5.Qc8? Qg2+-+] **5...Kxa6** [5...Qe6 6.Qb7#] **6.Qa8+ Kb5 7.Qa4#**

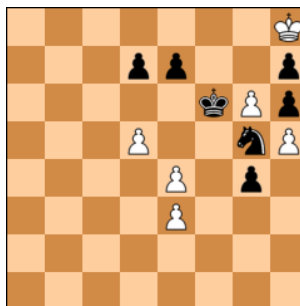
The unexpected final mate is preceded by a short pawn move (1.b3!), a thematic choice on the 2nd move and a sprawling play of the white queen in all corners of the board.

**Alain Pallier
1st Honorable Mention**



Win

**Oleg Pervakov
2nd Honorable Mention**



Win

Alain Pallier (France)

1.Ne4! Rb2! [1...Nxd7 2.exd7 Rxd7 3.Qe5 Kf3 4.Ng5+ Kf2 5.Qf4+-+] **2.d8Q Rc6+ 3.Ka7 Rxc4 4.Qde8!** [Thematic try: 4.Qee8? Rxe4 5.Qa8 (5.e7 Kh2 6.Qc7 g2 7.Qec6 g1Q+ 8.Ka6 Qf1+ 9.c4 Qf4! 10.Qxe4 (10.Qe6 Nd2 11.e8Q Ndxc4 12.Qf5 Rb6+ 13.Qxb6 Qxf5 14.gxf5 Nxb6 15.a5 Nbd7 16.Qe7 Ra4 17.f6 Kxh3 18.Qh7+ Kg4 19.Kb5 Rxa5+ 20.Kxa5 Nxf6=) 10...Qxe4 11.e8Q Kg2 12.Qexe5 Qa8+ 13.Qa7 Qc8+ 14.Ka5 Qd8+ 15.Qec7 Qd2+ 16.Ka6 Qh6+ 17.Qcb6 Rxb6+ 18.Qxb6 Qf4 19.Qc6+ (19.Qxb1 Qxc4+=) 19...Kg3 20.g5 Nd2 21.g6 Nxc4 22.g7 Qf7=) 5...Nxc3! 6.e7 Kh2 7.Qxe4 Nxe4 8.Qh8 Nc6+ 9.Ka8 Ra2=] **4...Rxe4 5.Qa8!** [5.Qc7? Kh2 6.Ka6 (6.e7 g2 7.Qec6 g1Q+= see

4.Qee8?) 6...g2 7.Qec6 Nxc3 8.Qxe4 Nxe4 9.Qxe5+ Kxh3 10.Qxb2 g1Q=] **5...Nxc3** [5...Rbe2 6.Qeb7+-] **6.Qa3!** [6.Qc5? Nf3! 7.a5 Nb5+=; 6.Qc7? Nf3! 7.Qxe4 Nxe4 8.e7 Nf6 9.Qc3 Re2 10.Qxf6 Kf2=] **6...Rbe2** [6...Rbb4] **7.Qxc3 Kh2 8.Qxe4!** [8.Kb7? g2=; 8.Qc2? g2! (8...Rxc2? 9.Qxe4+-) 9.Qaxe4 Rxe4 10.Qxe4 g1Q+=] **8...Rxe4 9.e7** [9.Qc2+? g2 10.Qxe4 g1Q+=] **9...Nxc4!** [9...Ng6 10.Qc2+ g2 11.Qxe4 g1Q+ 12.Ka6! Qf1+ 13.Ka5 Nxe7 14.Qxe7+-] **10.Qc2+!** [10.hxg4? Rxe7+] **10...Nf2 11.Qxe4!+-** [11.Qc7? Rxa4+=]

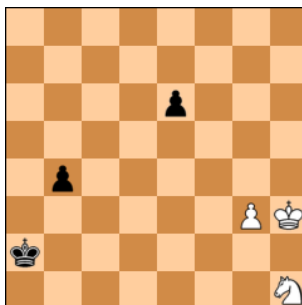
Thematic choice between White's two queens and their echo sacrifices in the e4 square.

Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

1.g7! [1.e5+? Kxe5 2.g7 Kf6! 3.e4 d6! 4.g8Q Nf7+ 5.Kxh7 Ng5+ 6.Kxh6 Nf7+=] **1...d6!** [1...g3 2.e5+! Kf5 3.g8Q g2 4.Qf8+ Kg4 5.Qf2+-] **2.e5+!** [2.Kg8? g3 3.Kf8 g2 4.g8Q Ke5! 5.Qg7+ Kxe4 6.Qd4+ (6.Qxe7+ Kd3=) 6...Kf3=] **2...dxe5 3.e4!!** [Early 3.Kg8? Kf5! 4.Kf8 g3 5.g8Q g2=] **3...g3 4.Kg8!** Thematic move [4.g8Q? Nf7+ 5.Kxh7 Ng5+ 6.Kxh6 Nf7+ 7.Kh7 Ng5+= Perpetual check] **4...g2 5.Kf8 Ne6+!** [5...g1Q 6.g8N#] **6.dxe6 g1Q 7.g8Q Qxg8+ 8.Kxg8 Kxe6 9.Kg7!** zz +- [9.Kxh7? Kf7! 10.Kxh6 Kf6 11.Kh7 Kf7= Positional draw]

For an achievement there are aims white must not hurry with promotion of the pawn.

Helmut Waelzel Commendation.



Win

Helmut Waelzel (Germany)

1.Nf2 b3 [1...Kb2 2.Ne4 Kc2 3.Nc5 b3 4.Nxb3 (similar to main B)] **2.Ne4!** main A **2...b2** [main B 2...Kb1 3.Nd2+ Kc2 4.Nxb3 Kxb3 5.g4! (Try 5.Kg4? Kc3 (c4)=) 5...e5 6.g5 e4 7.g6 e3 8.g7 e2 9.g8Q+-] **3.Nd2 b1Q 4.Nxb1 Kxb1 5.Kg4!** [Try: 5.g4? e5 6.g5 e4 7.Kg4 Kc2 8.Kf4 Kd3 9.g6 e3 10.g7 e2 11.g8Q e1Q=] **5...Kc2 6.Kf4 Kd3 7.Ke5 Ke3 8.g4 Kf3 9.g5+-**

Change of fame in two thematic variants.

There are remarks to the unmarked studies:

- N°20 (h4-e3) – after the 4th move, repeats his study from L.Topko JT, 1-3 Prize, 2009 with a thematic move for White;
- N°3 (b7-h8) – the thematic move in the final is very much inferior to, for example, the study of M.Gromov & O.Pervakov, 2nd Prize, S.Badalov-55 MT, 2017;
- N°11 (g2-g7) – a very questionable option 2.Ne2 reduces the impression;
- N°12 (a4-f4) – saving White's extra pawn without any surprises;
- N°1 (d3-a4), N°5 (d2-d6), N°9 (h3-a2), N°13 (e4-b3) – accurate endgames with uninteresting play;
- N°8 (f1-h3), N°4 (g1-c7) – with uncomplicated play of both sides, which, nevertheless, lacks subtlety and sharpness;
- N°19 (e1-h1) – capturing a standing rook on a thematic move still looks awkward;
- N°10 (a5-f1), N°6 (b4-b2) – in technical terms, White succeeds in holding the black passers, but there is no visible artistic element in how it happens.

November 4, 2023 Ukraine, Kharkiv oblast

Vladislav Tarasiuk
Judge

Section B.1 (Win)

REPORT

Thank you to the organisers for inviting me to judge section B.1.

Statistics.:29 studies, 6 joint-compositions, 21 authors, from 14 countries.

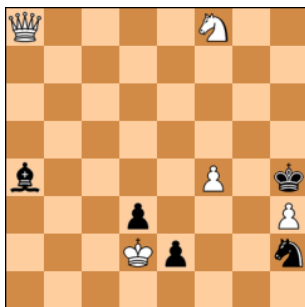
The evaluation criteria were largely based on the usual principles. I believe that content should be preferred. I therefore attached less importance to formal, aesthetic aspects, such as the natural starting position. I generally preferred the complex structure (several main lines, thematic (logical) attempts).

The selection of the prize winners was relatively easy. For the honourable mentions and commendation titles, I often had to choose which to prefer: the idea, the motifs, the the structure, quality of elaboration, etc. This strongly influenced the order of works of almost the same quality.

It is of course important to emphasize that the magnitude of the task undertaken is also an important factor.

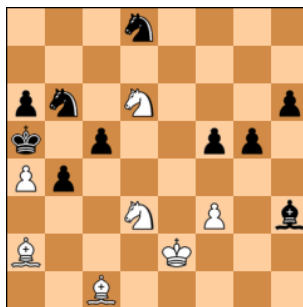
My ranking is as follows.

Oleg Pervakov
1st Prize



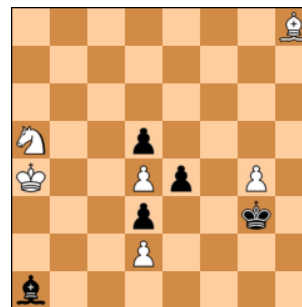
Dedicated to K.Sumbatyan
Win

Jan Timman
2nd Prize



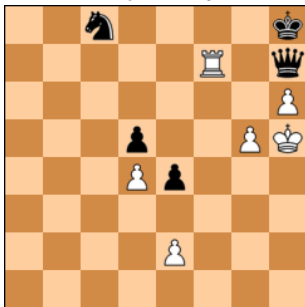
Win

Eduard Eilazyan
3rd Prize



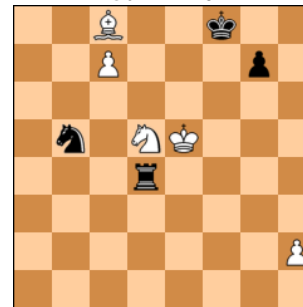
Win

Andrzej Jasik
4th Prize



Win

Michael Pasman
5th Prize



Win

Darko Hlebec
Special Prize



Win

Oleg Pervakov (Russia) – Dedicated to K.Sumbatyan (64 years)

1.Ng6+! [Thematic try 1.Ke1? Kg3!–+; 1.Qd8+? Kg3! 2.Qxd3+ Nf3+ 3.Kxe2 Bb5! 4.Qxb5 Nd4+=; 1.Qxa4? Nf3+ 2.Kxd3 e1Q=; 1.Qg2? Nf1+ 2.Kxd3 e1N+=] **1...Kg3 2.Nh4!** [2.Ne5? Nf1+ 3.Kxd3 e1Q 4.Qf3+ Kh2!]=] **2...Kxh4** [2...Nf1+ 3.Kxd3 Bb5+ 4.Kd4 e1Q 5.Qf3+ Kh2 (5...Kxh4 6.Qg4#) 6.Qg2#] **3.Ke1! Bc6!** [3...Kg3 4.Qg8+ (no knight f8) 4...Kf3 5.Qd5+ Kg3 6.Qg5+ Kf3 (6...Kxh3 7.Qh5+ Kg3 8.Qg6+! Kxf4 9.Qd6++-) 7.Qh5+ Kg3 8.Qg6+! Kh4 9.Qg2+-; 3...Nf1 4.Qd8+ Kg3 5.Qxd3++-] **4.Qh8+!** [Thematic try 4.Qxc6? Nf3+! 5.Qxf3 d2+ 6.Kxd2 (6.Kxe2 d1Q+ 7.Kxd1=) 6...e1Q+ 7.Kxe1= Stalemate; Try 4.Qd8+? Kxh3! 5.Qh8+ Kg3 6.Qg8+ Ng4! 7.Qe6 Kxf4 8.Qxc6 Ne3!]=] **4...Kg3 5.Qg7+!** [5.Qg8+? Kf3! 6.Qg1 (6.f5? d2+! 7.Kxd2 Kf2–+) 6...Nf1! 7.Qf2+ Ke4=] **5...Kxh3** [5...Kf3 6.f5 d2+ 7.Kxd2 Kf2 8.Qd4++-; 5...Kh4 6.Kf2+-] **6.Qh6+ [Or 6.Qh7+] 6...Kg3 7.Qg6+! Kh4! 8.Qxc6** [8.Kf2? Nf3=] **8...Nf3+! 9.Qxf3 d2+ 10.Kf2!! e1Q+ 11.Kg2 Qe2+!** [11...d1Q 12.Qh3#! (no pawn h3); 11...Qe6 12.Qg3+ Kh5 13.Qg5#] **12.Qxe2 d1Q 13.Qe7+!** [13.Qxd1? = Stalemate] **13...Kh5 14.Qg5#** Theme of annihilation (active and passive) realized twice

It is surprising that White cannot start with checks of queen. In this case black could captures the white queen with spectacular knight forks in two variations. Bringing White's knight into play, and his active sacrifice on h4, prevents Black from playing Nf3. The knight also opens a line for his queen to direction g8 (h9). After 4....Bc6 this piece cannot be captured. In the thematic try, it is easy to see that the capture would lead to a stalemate. There is another possibility, but as long as the h3 pawn is on the board, it is hardly noticeable. It is a harmful piece, this prevents his queen from checkmate. This will be revealed at the end of the main game. Therefore white first must get rid of this harmful piece by a passive sacrifice. At the end of the manoeuvre is good the Qxc6. Black even sacrifices the knight, and it seems that, this lead to a stalemate. The surprise: 10.Kf2!! and then 11.Kg2, and now Black can only avert the mate with Queen sacrifice. The end is a worthy finish: white can no capture the another queen of black, but gives a mate instead. Great study.

Jan Timman (Netherlands)

1.Nb2! [1.Bb3? Nxa4=] **1...c4** [1...f4 2.Bb3] **2.Bb3!** [2.Ndxc4+? Nxc4 3.Bxc4 f4=] **2...cxb3 3.Bf4! gxf4** [3...Bg2 4.Ndc4+ Nxc4 5.Bc7+ Nb6 6.Bxd8 g4 7.Ke3 gxf3 8.Kd4 f2 9.Kc5 f1Q 10.Bxb6#] **4.Kf2 h5 5.Kg1 h4 6.Kf2 zz 6...Bg4** [6...Bf1 7.Kxf1 h3 8.Kg1 h2+ 9.Kxh2 Nxa4 10.Nbc4#] **7.fgx4 fxg4 8.Kg1! h3 9.Kh2 f3 10.Kg3 Ne6** [10...h2 11.Kxh2 f2 12.Kg2 g3 13.Kf1 Nxa4 14.Nbc4#] **11.Nb7#**

After the key move 1.Nb2!!! the black king is mated if the knights move (Ndc4, Nb7 and if Nxa4, then Nbc4 mated). After 1...c4 2,Bb3!!! maintains the mate threat. The second bishop sacrifice is even more surprising. If Black's bishop moves, White mates in 7 moves. If he accepts the sacrifice, then black will be in zugzwang position in several variations on the kingside. In these, Black's knight is forced to move and white gives mate. The active play on both side, the zugzwang positions and the two excellent bishop sacrifices are very valuables. Still, it's the overall effect that really captivates.

Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine)

1.Nb3! Bc3 Black bishop's sacrifice. [1...Kxg4 2.Kb4!+-] **2.g5!** Refusal to capture the bishop. [2.dxc3? e3–+] **2...Bxd2!** One more bishop's sacrifice. **3.g6!** And again, the refusal to capture [3.Nxd2? e3–+] **3...Bh6 4.g7! Bxg7 5.Bxg7 e3 6.Bh6! d2!** [6...e2 7.Bd2+-] **7.Nxd2 e2 8.Bg5!** [8.Nf3? Kxf3 9.Bd2 Ke4=] **8...Kg4** [8...e1Q 9.Bh4+ Kxh4 10.Nf3+] **9.Bh4!** White bishop's sacrifice. [9.Nf3? Kxf3 10.Bh4 Ke3=] **9...Kxh4 10.Nf3+ Kg4 11.Ne1 Kf4 12.Kb4!** (Reti theme) [Try-1: 12.Kb5? Ke3! (12...Ke4? 13.Kc5 Ke3 14.Kxd5+-) 13.Kc5 Ke4 14.Nc2 Kd3 15.Ne1+ Ke4 16.Ng2 Kf3 17.Ne1+ Ke4 Positional draw.; Try-2: 12.Kb3? Ke4! (12...Ke3? 13.Kc3! Ke4 14.Nc2! Kf3 15.Kd2 Kf2 16.Ne1+-) 13.Kc3 Ke3 14.Nc2+ Ke4 15.Kd2 e1Q+ 16.Kxe1 Kd3! 17.Kd1 Kc3 18.Kc1 Kd3 19.Kb1 (19.Kb2 Kc4 20.Ka2 Kc3 21.Kb1 Kb3 22.Kc1 Kc3=) 19...Kc3 20.Kc1 Kd3 Positional draw.] **12...Ke3** [12...Ke4 13.Kc5! Ke3 14.Kxd5+-] **13.Kc3! Ke4 14.Nc2+-** Themes: Bishops' mutual sacrifices, Positional draw, Reti theme [The study contains Reti theme if the King's dual-purpose maneuver is combined with change of false refutations of the thematic tries to achieve each goal separately. (Problemist of Ukraine >=2 2014)]

In the first phase, both sides present bishop sacrifices. Black can bring his bishop into play by relying on the strength of his passed pawns. White uses a well-known but spectacular motif twice to stop the black pawn, or after the promotion, to captures the queen. The second phase is strategic. White's king threatens the both black pawns, this positional draw. The play is better after 12.Kb3. It is surprising how the black king defends against the overpower.

Andrzej Jasik (Poland)

1.g6! [1.Rxh7+? Kxh7 2.g6+ Kh8! 3.Kg5 Ne7 4.g7+ Kh7 5.Kf6 Ng8+ 6.Ke6 Kxh6=; 1.Rf8+? Qg8 2.Rxg8+ Kxg8 3.Kg6 Nd6 4.Kf6 e3 5.g6 Ne4+ 6.Ke5 Ng3 7.Ke6 Nh5 8.Kxd5 Nf4+=] **1...Qg8** [1...Qxf7 2.gxf7±] **2.g7+** [2.h7? Qg7=] **2...Kh7 3.Rf8 Ne7!** [3...Qe6 4.Rh8#] **4.Kg5!** [Thematic try 4.e3? Ng6! 5.Rxg8 Kxg8 6.Kg5 Ne7 7.Kf6 Nc6 8.h7+ Kxh7 9.Kf7 Nd8+ 10.Ke7 Kxg7=] **4...e3 5.Kh5! Ng6! 6.Rxg8 Kxg8 7.Kg5!** [7.Kxg6? Stalemate] **7...Ne7 8.Kf6! Nc6 9.h7+! Kxh7 10.Kf7 Nd8+ 11.Ke7!** [11.Ke8? Ne6μ] **11...Kxg7 12.Kxd8** Win

Nice foresights theme. White plays 4.Kg5 in main line, but in the thematic try instead of this 4.e3. In the first case, the pawn endgame wins for white, in the thematic try this leads to a draw in a very similar play. The white king's maneuver is very accurate and sightly. I think the two tries in the first move are valuable too

Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Nc3! Nxc3! [1...Nxc7 2.Kxd4+-] **2.Be6!** [2.Kxd4? Nb5+ 3.Kc5 Nxc7=] **2...Re4+ 3.Kf5 g6+ 4.Kf6!** [4.Kg5? Re5+ 5.Kg4 Rc5=] **4...Nd5+! 5.Bxd5 Re8 6.Be6!** [6.Bb7? g5 7.h3 Kg8=] **6...g5 7.h3!** zz Mutual Zugzwang position **7...Ra8 8.Kg6!** [8.c8Q+? Rxc8 9.Bxc8 Kg8 10.Kg6 Kh8=] **8...Re8 9.Bd7! Ra8 10.Kh7!+-**

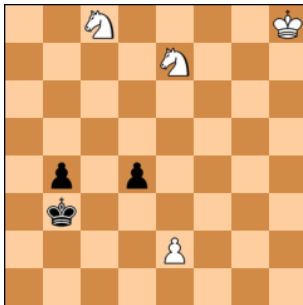
After an imaginative and entertaining tactical introduction, it is the bishop's bad corner field that causes problems for White. A mutual zugzwang position follows, and then White can cut off the black king's path to h8. Then c8Q is good, and white wins with his material advantage. A memorable study.

Darko Hlebec (Serbia)

1.c7!! [1.cxb7? Qd8+ 2.Kf7 Qd7+=] **1...Bxa6** [1...Rxc7 2.Qb8+-; 1...Rxb3 2.c8Q+-] **2.c8Q Rg7+ 3.fxg7** [3.Kh8 Bxc8 4.fxg7] **3...Bxc8 4.Kh8 Be6! 5.g8N+!** [Try 5.Qxe6? Qd8+ 6.Qg8 (6.g8Q Qxg8+ 7.Kxg8=) 6...Qe8! 7.Qf8 Qe5 8.Qe7! Qf6= (8...Qxe7? 9.g8N+ Kxg6 10.Nxe7+-)] **5...Bxg8 6.Qb6 Be6! 7.g7! Qd5 8.g8N+!+-** phoenix

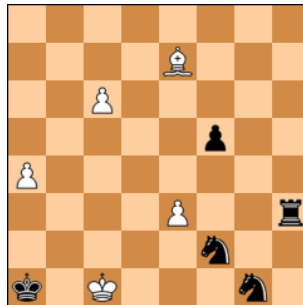
After a quick succession of tactical motifs, 6. Qb6! is a nice, quiet move. Black defends with a preliminary line closing, but the second promotion to Knight (Phoenix) and Knight fork follow. Interesting is the 5.Qxe6 try, here the Black Queen defends artistic. The play is hard and there is a lot of material, but the study looks interesting and fresh.

**Vladislav Tarasiuk
1st Honorable Mention**



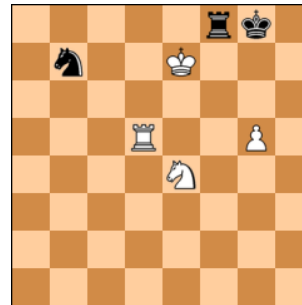
Win

**M.Hinka & L. Kekely
2nd Honorable Mention**



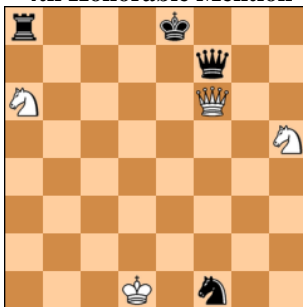
Win

**M. Hlinka & M. García
3rd Honorable Mention**



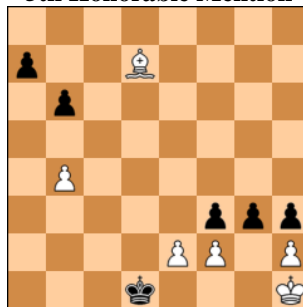
Win

**P. Arestov & P. Krug
4th Honorable Mention**



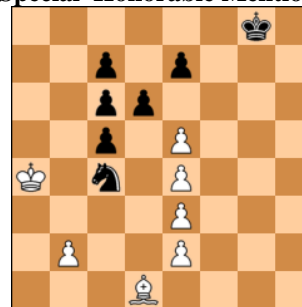
Win

**Valery Kalashnikov
5th Honorable Mention**



Win

**Marc Gelly
Special Honorable Mention**



Win

Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine)

1.Nc6! [Logical try 1.Nf5? d3! 2.exd3 Kc3 3.d4 b3 4.Nb6 (wNf5) 4...Kb4! 5.Nd5+ Kc4 6.Nde3+ Kd3 7.Nd1 Ke4=] **1...d3!** [1...Kc3 2.Nd6! Kd2 3.Nxd4 Ke3 4.Nf65+!+] **2.exd3 Kc3 3.d4** [3.Ne5? Kd4 4.Ne7 b3! 5.N7c6+ Kc3=] **3...b3 4.Nb6** (wNc6) **4...Kd3!** [4...b2 5.Na4+!+] **5.Na4 Kc4 6.Kg7!** [6.Nb2+? Kd5=] **6...Kb5** Sandwich **7.Nc3+!** [Try 7.Ne5? Kxa4 8.Nd3 Kb5 9.Kf6 Kc4=] **7...Kxc6 8.Kf6!+-** [8.Kf7? Kd6! 9.Kf6 b2 10.Kf5 b1Q+ 11.Nxb1 Kd5=] Clean-cut analysis with small material. The high point is the 'Sandwich' position after 6...Kb5. Of course, the Logical try in the first move also very important. Here the white king has no time to intervene. This is a solver-friendly study with no confusing sidelines.

Michal Hlinka & Lubos Kekely (Slovakia)

1.c7 [1.Bf6+? Ka2 2.c7 Ne2+ 3.Kc2 Rh1 4.Bb2 Rb1 5.Ba3 Rb3 6.c8Q Rc3+ 7.Qxc3 Nxc3 8.Kxc3 Kxa3 9.a5 Ne4+=] **1...Ne2+** [1...Ne4 2.c8Q Rxe3 3.Qd8 Rb3 4.Bf6+ Ka2 5.Bg7 Nf3 6.Qg8-+] **2.Kc2** [2.Kd2? Ne4+ 3.Kxe2 Rh2+! 4.Kd1 Rh8 5.Bd8 Rh1+! 6.Kc2 Nd6-+] **2...Rh1 3.Ba3 Nd4+!** sacrifice for closing of the longest diagonal a1-h8 **4.exd4 Rh8 5.d5 Rc8 6.d6 Ka2 7.Bc5! Ne4 8.d7 Rxc7 9.d8Q Rxc5+ 10.Kd3 Ka3!** [10...Kb3 11.a5+-; 10...Rc3+ 11.Kd4+-] **11.a5 Rc6 12.Qf8+! Ka4** [12...Nc5+ 13.Kc4! Ka4 14.Qe8-; 12...Nd6 13.Qa8-+] **13.Qe8!** [13.Qxf5? Nc5+ 14.Kd4 Kxa5 15.Kd5 Rb6!+] **13...Kb5 14.Kd4!** zz **14...Nf6 15.Qe5+ Ka6 16.Qxf5 Rd6+ 17.Kc4** [17.Kc3? Nd5+ 18.Kb3 Kxa5=] A nice fight between the white bishop and the black rook and knight for the 'c' passed pawn. Black threatens first with a simple geometric motif on the c-column. 4...Nd4+ is an excellent sacrifice for closing a1-h8 diagonal. Then Black's rook can play h8-c8. And finally 7.Bc5! closes the "c" column. The rest of the game is technical.

Michal Hlinka & Mario García (Slovakia-Argentina)

Rf1 /f2=] **2...Kg8 3.g6** [3.Rb5? Rf7+=] **3...Ra8** [main: 3...Rc8 4.Kf6 Rc6+ (4...Rc7 5.Kg5 Rc5 6.Kh6 Rxd5 7.Nf6+ Kh8 8.g7#) 5.Kg5 Nd6 6.Nf6+ Kg7 (6...Kf8 7.Kh6 Nf7+ 8.Kh7 Rxf6 9.g7+++; 6...Kh8 7.Ra5) 7.Rxd6 Rxd6 8.Ne8+++] **4.Kf6! Ra6+** [4...Rf8+ 5.Kg5+-] **5.Kg5 Nd6 6.Nf6+ Kh8** [6...Kf8 7.Kh6 Ke7 8.g7 Nf7+ 9.Kh7+-] **7.Re5!!** [Try : 7.Re5?! Ra7! (7...Ra1? 8.Re7! Ra5+ (8...Rg1+ 9.Kh5+-) 9.Kg4!+-) 8.Kh6 (1) 8...Rh7+! 9.Kg5 Ra7! returns to the same square! (no 9...Rb7? 10.Ra5! Rb5+ 11.Rxb5 Nxb5 12.Kh6!+-) 10.Kh6!?! again as in (1) (or by another line 10.Rd5!?! Nf7+! (10...Ra6? 11.Rc5 Nf7+ (11...Ra4 12.Kh6 Rh4+ 13.Nh5 Kg8 14.Rc7+-) 12.gxf7 Kg7 13.Rc7 Rxf6 (13...Ra5+ 14.Kf4 Ra4+ 15.Ne4+-) 14.f8Q+++ 11.gxf7 Kg7!=(and no ! 11...Rxf7? 12.Rd8+! (12.Kg6? Rg7+ 13.Kh6 Rg6+! 14.Kxg6= stalemate) 12...Kg7 13.Rg8#)) 10...Rh7+ 11.Nxh7 Nf7+ 12.gxf7= stalemate] **7...Ra4** [7...Ra1 8.Rc7 Rg1+ 9.Kh5 Rh1+ 10.Kg4 Rg1+ 11.Kh3+-; 7...Ra7 8.Kh6+-] **8.Kh6!** [8.Ng4? e.g. 8...Ra7 9.Kh6 Kg8 10.Nf6+ Kf8 11.Nh7+ Kg8 12.Ra5 Rxa5 13.Nf6+ Kf8 14.g7+ Ke7 15.g8Q Nf7+=] **8...Rh4+! 9.Nh5 Kg8** [9...Rg4 10.g7+ Rxg7 (10...Kg8 11.Nf6+ Kf7 12.Nxg4+-) 11.Nxg7+-] **10.Rc7** with two variants : A) **10...Ne8** [B] 10...Nf7+! 11.Rxf7!+- (11.gxf7+? Kf8 12.Kg5 Rg4+! 13.Kf5 Rg5+! 14.Kxg5 model stalemate)] **11.Rc8 Kf8 12.g7+ Kf7 13.Rxe8 Kxe8 14.g8Q+++**

The play is similar to OTB game. White takes advantage of the Black King's bad position, threats with mate and promotion to Queen. In the 7.Re5 try, the black escapes by stalemate. Some sidelines is interesting, but the authors used a little bit much variation.

Pavel Arestov & Peter Krug (Russia- Austria)

1.Nc7+! [1.Ng7+? Kf8 2.Ne6+ Kg8=] **1...Qxc7** [1...Kf8 2.Ne6+! Kg8 3.Qg5+ Kh8 4.Qe5+ Kg8 5.Nf6+-] **2.Ng7+ Qxg7!** [2...Kd7 3.Qe6+ Kd8 4.Qe8#] **3.Qxg7** With two lines : A) **3...0-0-0+!** [B] 3...Rd8+? 4.Kc1+- (4.Kc2? Ne3+=; 4.Ke2? Nd2=) 4...Nd2 (4...Rd7 5.Qf6 Rc7+ 6.Kb2 Rf7 7.Qe5+ Kf8 8.Kc3+-) 5.Qe5+ (5.Qg6+? Ke7 6.Qg5+ Ke8 7.Qe5+ loss of time) 5...Kf7 6.Kc2 (6.Qc7+ loss of time) 6...Rd7 7.Kc3! (7.Qf5+ Ke7 8.Qe5+ Kd8=) 7...Rd6 8.Kb4+- (8.Qxd6? Ne4+=)] **4.Ke2!** [4.Kc1? Nd2=] **4...Nd2 5.Qc3+ Kb7 6.Qc5!** [6.Qa5? Rd6 7.Qc5 Rd7 loss of time] **6...Rd7! 7.Ke3!** [7.Qb5+? Kc7 8.Qc5+ Kd8!+] **7...Rd6! 8.Kf4!** [8.Qxd6? Nc4+=] **8...Rd8** [8...Rb6 9.Qd5+-] **9.Kg4!** [9.Kf5? Nf3=] **9...Rg8+ 10.Kh5!** [10.Kf5!?! Rg5+ 11.Kxg5 Ne4+=] **10...Rh8+ 11.Kg6+-** [11.Kg5?? Ne4+-+]

In the introductory play it becomes clear which Knight must be given a check first. Good joke. Black is forced to sacrifice his queen, and then has two defences. I like the idea, but asserting the advantage is a difficult task for one man.

Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

after R.Becker **1.e4!** refusal of capture [1.exf3? gxf2 2.Bb5 a5 3.bxa5 bxa5 4.f4 Kd2 5.f5 a4-+] **1...gxf2 2.Bb5!** refusal of capture [2.Bxh3? a5 3.bxa5 bxa5 4.e5 a4 5.e6 a3 6.e7 a2 7.e8Q a1Q 8.Qb5 Kd2+ 9.Bf1 Qg7=] **2...a6!** (line A) [line B: 2...a5 3.bxa5 (3.e5? axb4 4.e6 b3 5.e7 b2 6.e8Q b1Q=) 3...bxa5 4.e5 a4! 5.Bxa4+ Kd2! 6.Bb5 Ke1 7.Ba6! (7.e6? f1Q+ 8.Bxf1 Kxf1 9.e7 f2= White to move!) 7...f1Q+ 8.Bxf1 Kxf1 9.e6 f2 10.e7 Black to move! 10...Ke2 11.e8Q+ win] **3.Bxa6 Ke1 4.e5 f1Q+ 5.Bxf1 Kxf1 6.e6 f2 7.e7 b5! 8.e8B!** (Excelsior & Phoenix) [8.e8Q? stalemate] **8...Ke2 9.Bxb5+ Kd2 10.Bf1!** win

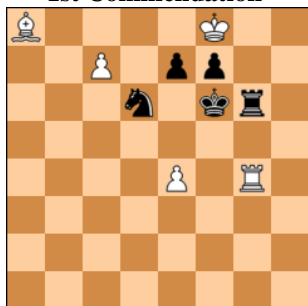
The author further developed the work of Richard Becker (2.p Minerva 50 JT, 2012), Of the two main variations, the A) expanded the study by excelsior, and the B) added a significant value to work. 7.Ba6!! a great move, white avoids the zz position after 7.e6. On this way black will be in zz position at the end of variant. Interesting, but instead of 2.Bb5 the 2.Bxh3 only leads to a draw.

(13) Marc Gelly (France)

1.Bb3! [1.exd6? Nb6+ 2.Ka5 exd6=] **1...d5 2.Bxc4!** [2.exd5? Nb6+! 3.Ka5 c4=] **2...dxc4 3.e6!** [3.Ka5? Kf7!]=] **3...Kg7 4.e5!** [4.Ka5 Kg6=] **4...Kg6 5.e4!** Caterpillar ! **5...Kg5 6.Ka5!!** Only after Caterpillar ! [Thematic try: 6.e3? Kg4! 7.Ka5 Kf3 8.Ka6 Kxe3 9.Kb7 Kxe4 10.Kxc7 Kxe5 11.Kd7 Kf6=] **6...Kf4 7.Ka6 Kxe4** [7...Kxe5 8.Kb7 Kd6 9.Kc8+-] **8.Kb7 Kxe5 9.Kxc7** [9.Kxc6? Kxe6=] **9...Kxe6 10.Kxc6 Ke5 11.Kxc5 Ke4 12.Kxc4+-** THEME. Caterpillar. Caterpillar it/^s enough, Caterpillar Plus is disastrous.

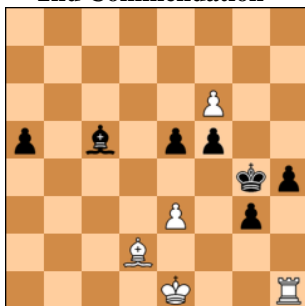
The theme is Caterpillar. Tim Krabbé called problems and studies where doubled or tripled pawns move in succession the "caterpillar theme". The main question in this study is when should White plays Ka5. The thematic try is 7.e3 and it will be too late to play Ka5, and before 6th move is also wrong Ka5 . This is a funny theme.

P. Arestov & M. Hlinka
1st Commendation



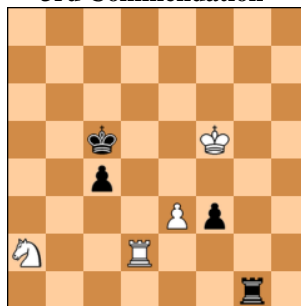
Win

M. Micaloni & D. Gatti
2nd Commendation



Win

Vasily Murashov
3rd Commendation



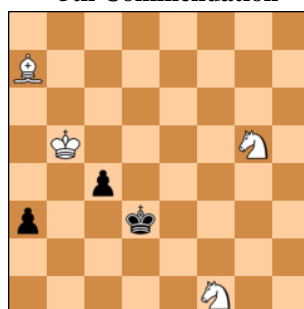
Win

Eduard Eilazyan
4th Commendation



Win

Valery Kalashnikov
5th Commendation



Win

Pavel Arestov & Michal Hlinka (Russia-Slovakia)

1.Rf4+ try [1.Rh4? Ke6 2.Rh3 Kd7 3.Rc3 Nc8 4.Kxf7 Rf6+! 5.Kg7 Rb6 6.e5 Na7! (6...e6? 7.Be4!+- Na7 8.Bc2 /Bg6 8...Kc8 9.Ba4 Rb4 10.Be8 Rb7 11.Kf6 Rxc7 12.Rd3 Rh7 13.Kxe6) 7.Kf8 e6 8.Rc4 Kc8 9.Ke7 Nb5 10.Rb4 Kxc7=; 1.Rxg6+? fxg6=] **1...Ke6 2.Rxf7 Kd7!** [2...Rf6 3.Rxf6+ exf6 4.Bb7!+-] **3.Rxe7+ Kc8 4.Bd5!** Try [4.Bc6? Rh6! 5.Bd5 (5.Kg7 Nf5+! 6.exf5 /Rh7+ 6...Rg6+ 7.fxg6 stalemate) 5...Nxe4! 6.Be6+! (6.Bxe4 Rf6+ 7.Kg8 Rf8+ 8.Kg7 Rf7+ 9.Rxf7 stalemate) 6...Rxe6 7.Rxe6 Nc3! 8.Rc6 Nd5!= (8...Nb5? 9.Ke7 Nxc7 10.Kd6+-)] **4...Rf6+!** [4...Nxe4 5.Kf7! Rf6+ 6.Kg7+- zz] **5.Kg8!!** Try [5.Kg7? Nxe4! zz 6.Bxe4 Rf7+! 7.Rxf7 /Kxf7 stalemate] **5...Nxe4** [5...Rg6+ 6.Kh7+-] **6.Kg7!** zz **6...Nc3! 7.Bg2!** [7.Kxf6? Nxd5+=] **7...Ne4 8.Bh3+!+-** [8.Bxe4? Rf7+! 9.Rxf7 stalemate]

In the introduction play, the black king escapes to c8. This is a possible stalemate nest, look at after 4.Bc6. White avoids the trap with 5.Kg8, otherwise if 5.Kg7 (try) , then after the captures on e4, White will be in zugzwang, and a stalemate follows.

Mario Micaloni & Daniele Gatti (Italy)

1.0-0! f4 2.Rc1 h3 3.Rc4! [3.Rxc5? h2+! 4.Kg2 f3+ 5.Kh1 Kh3 6.f7 g2#+-] **3...a4 4.Kh1!!** [4.f7!? a3! 5.Rxc5 (5.Kh1 g2+ 6.Kh2 a2! 7.Ra4 e4! 8.Rxa2 f3 9.Ra6 f2 10.Rg6+ Kh4 11.Rh6+ Kg5+-) 5...h2+ 6.Kg2 f3+ 7.Kh1 Kh3 8.f8Q g2#] **4...a3 5.Rxc5 a2 6.Rc1** [6.Ra5? f3! 7.f7 f2 8.f8Q g2+ 9.Kh2 g1Q#] **6...h2 7.Bc3 Kh3 8.Rc2 f3 9.Rxh2+ gxh2 10.f7 f2 11.f8Q+-**

White's game is interesting, the intervening moves seems fresh. The black counterplay is similar and simple in all variations.

Vasily Murashov (Russia)

1.Ke4! [Try 1: 1.Nc3? Kb4! (1...Rc1? 2.Ne4+ Kb4 3.Rb2+ Ka3 4.Rf2 c3 5.Kf4 Kb3 6.Nc5+ Kc4 7.Ne6 Rd1 8.Kxf3 Rd6 9.Nf4+-) 2.Nd5+ Kb3 3.Rf2 c3 4.e4 c2 (4...Rg8 5.Ne3+-) 5.Rxf3+ Ka4! 6.Nc3+ Kb3 7.Ne2+ Kb2 8.Re3 Rg2! (8...Rf1+? 9.Kg4+-) 9.Ke5 (9.e5 Rf2+=) 9...Kb1! (9...Rf2? 10.Kd4 Ka1 11.Nc1 Rf1 12.Kc3+-) 10.Rb3+ (10.Nc3+ Kb2=) 10...Ka1! 11.Nc1 Rd2 12.Kf4 Rd1 13.Ke3 Re1+! (13...Rxc1? 14.Kd2 Re1 15.Kxc2 Ka2 16.Rb8+-) 14.Kd3 Rxe4 15.Kxe4 stalemate(15.Kxc2 Rc4+=) ; Try 2: 1.Ke5? Rg2! (1...Rg5+? 2.Ke4 Rg2 3.Rd5+ Kb6 4.Nc3 f2 5.Rd6+ Kc5 6.Rf6 Rg4+ 7.Ke5 Rg5+ 8.Ke6 Rg6 9.Ne4+ Kb4 10.Nxf2 Rg3 11.e4 c3 12.Ke5 c2 13.Rc6 Rc3 14.Nd3+ Rxd3 15.Rxc2+-) 2.Rd5+ Kb6 3.Nc3 Rg5+ 4.Kd4 Rxd5+ 5.Nxd5+ Ka5=] **1...Rg2 2.Rd5+ Kb6 3.Nc3 f2 4.Rd6+** [4.Rf5? Rg4+ 5.Ke5 Rg5 6.Rxg5 f1Q-+] **4...Kc5 5.Rf6 Rg4+** [5...Rh2 6.Rf5+ /Nd1+-; 5...Kb4 6.Kd4+-] **6.Ke5 Rg5+** [6...Kb4 7.Ne4+-] **7.Ke6 Rg6 8.Ne4+ Kb4** [8...Kb5 9.Nxf2 Rg2 10.Ne4+-] **9.Nxf2 Rg3 10.e4!** [10.Nd1? c3! 11.Rf4+ Kb3 12.Nxc3 Rxe3+=] **10...c3 11.Ke5!** [11.Kd5?? c2 12.Rc6 Rc3 13.Nd3+ Rxd3+] **11...c2 12.Rc6 Rc3 13.Nd3+ Rxd3 14.Rxc2+-**

The main line is an OTB like play. The 1.Nc3 try gives the real value of study. A long and well defined play leads to stalemate.

Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine)

1.d5 B) 1...Nac5 [A] 1...Nd4 2.g6 Nxe6 3.dxe6 (3.Be5 Nac5=) 3...Kxe6 4.Ng5+! **a)** Thematic try-1: 4.Be5? Nb6! 5.Ng5+ Kxe5 6.g7 Nd5! (6...Nd7? 7.Nh7+-) 7.Nh7 Ne7=; **b)** 4.Bd8? Bd4! 5.Ng5+ Kd7! =; 4...Kf6 5.Kh5 Kg7 6.Be5+ Kg8 7.Ne4 (h7) 7...Nc5 8.Nf6+ Kf8 9.Kh6 (9.Nh7+ Kg8 10.Nf6+ Kf8 Waste of time.) 9...Ne6 10.Bd6# Model mirror mate.] **2.g6 Nxe6 3.dxe6 Kxe6 4.Be5!** Try change. [Thematic try-2: 4.Ng5+? Kf6! 5.Kh5 Kg7! (5...Be3? 6.Be5+! Kxe5 7.g7+-; 5...Bd4? 6.Kh6! Ke7 7.Kh7!+-) 6.Be5+ Kg8! 7.Ne4 Bd4! (7...Nd4? 8.Nf6+-) 8.Bxd4 Nxd4=] **4...Be3** [4...Ke7 5.Nf6 Kf8 6.Kh5! Nd4 7.Kh6! Nf5+ 8.Kh7!+-] **5.Bh8!** [5.Ng5+? Bxg5! 6.Kxg5 Na5! 7.Kh6 Nc6 8.g7 Ne7 9.Bc3 Nf5+=; 5.Nf8+? Ke7! 6.Bd6+ Kf6 7.Be5+ Ke7= 8.g7 Kf7=; 5.Nf6? Bh6! =] **5...Bd4** [5...Bh6 6.Kh5+-; 5...Nc5 6.g7 Kf7 7.Nf6!+-] **6.Ng5+! Ke7 7.Bxd4 Nxd4 8.g7 Nf5?!** The last trap! **9.Kxf5!**+ [9.g8Q? Nh6+=]

Active play on both sides in two main versions. However, many positions are well-known from practical chess

Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

1.Nf3! [1.Ne6? a2 2.Nf4+ Kc2 3.Bd4 c3=] **1...a2 2.Ne1+!** [2.Bd4? c3 3.Ne1+ Kxd4=] **2...Kc3 3.Bb8 Kb2 4.Be5+ c3 5.Nd3+ Kb1** [5...Kc2 6.Nb4+ Kb3 7.Nxa2+-] **6.Bxc3 a1Q 7.Nd2+ Ka2 8.Nb4+ Ka3 9.Nc2+!** [9.Bxa1? ideal stalemate; 9.Nc4+? Kb3 10.Bxa1 stalemate] **9...Ka2 10.Nxa1** [10.Bxa1? stalemate]

A simple but nice piece. White avoids three stalemate traps, one of which would be ideal stalemate

November 4, Budapest-Zalaegerszeg

Peter Gyarmati
Judge

Section B.2 (Draw)

The competition received 28 studies from 22 composers from 13 countries. It was expected that the studies would have meaningful content. There are such works and these are the best studies of the competition.



N°4 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

1.Qg3+ Bg5 2.Rg8+ Kxh7 it is a bait **3.Rg7+!** preparation of the mechanism of an eternal check. **3.Rxg5?** e1Q+ **4.Qxe1 Rc1+ 5.Qxc1 Rxc1+ 6.Kb2 f2-+ Position A1 with Kh7.**

3...Kh8 4.Rxg5 e1Q+! 5.Qxe1 Rc1+ 6.Qxc1 Rxc1+ 7.Kb2!! Why!? **7.Kxc1?** f2 **8.Bg7+ Kh7 9.Bd4 f1Q+--+ 7.Ka2?!** f2 **8.Bg7+ Kh7 9.Bd4 Ng4! 10.Bxf2 Nxf2** Position B1 with pb4. **11.Rb5 Nd3-+7...f2** Position A with Kh8. **8.Bg7+ Kh7 8...Kg8 9.Bd4+ Kf8 10.Bxf2=9.Bd4** but **9...Rb1+!** Success of the plan White: **9...f1Q 10.Rg7+ Kh8 11.Rg6+ Kh7 12.Rg7+ Kh8 13.Rg1+ Kh7 14.Rg7+=** positional draw.**10.Ka2!** **10.Kc2?** b3+ **11.Kc3 Ng4! 12.Bxf2 Nxf2-+ Position B2 with Kc3. 10...b3+! 11.Ka3! Ng4!** Then **12.Bxf2 Nxf2** Position B with Ka3 and pb3. **13.Rg3!** **13.Rb5?** Nd3 **14.Rxb3 Ra1#13...b2 14.Ka2=** draw (author's comments).

A logical study with an unexpected choice. White forced the movement of the black b-pawn, which ultimately led to its death. The Rook moves to g7 so that the Bishop can then move to g7. And the Bishop moves to g7 so that the Rook can then move again to g7 with perpetual check!

N°22 Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.a7! **1.d8Q h1Q-+1...h1N+!** **1...h1Q 2.a8Q+ Kb1 3.Qb8+ Kc2 4.Qc7+ Kb3 5.Qb7+ Ka4 6.Qa7+ Kb5 7.Qb7+=2.Kg2 Qg6+ 2...Qf8 3.Kxh1=3.Kf1!!** Letting the knight to escape, avoiding knight capture **3.Kf3?** **Qg3+ 4.Ke2 Qf2+ 5.Kd3 Qf8** and the knight also is out; **3.Kxh1?** **Qxe4+!** **4.Kg1 Qa8-+3...Ng3+ 3...Qf6+ 4.Kg2 Qh8 5.Kxh1 Qxh7+ 6.Kg1=4.Kf2! Nxe4+ 5.Ke3!** **5.Kf3?** Nd2+ **6.Ke2 Qg2+ 7.Kd1 Qa8 8.Kxd2 Kb2 9.Kd3 Kb3 10.Kd4 Kb4 11.Ke5 Kc5 12.Ke6 Kc6 13.Ke7 Kc7-+5...Qh6+ 6.Kd4!** Again - avoiding knight capture **6.Kxe4?** **Qxh7+6...Qg7+ 7.Ke3!** Another avoidance of knight capture. **7...Qh8 8.d8Q!** Once more avoiding knight capture **8...Qxd8 9.Kxe4** only now. **9...Kb2 10.Kf5 Kc3 11.Kg6 Qf8 12.a8Q=** (author's comments). The paradoxical game of the white King. Unusual idea!

N°18 Helmut Waelzel (Germany)

1.Nc2+! try 1.b7? Nxf6 2.Nc2+ Ka2! 3.Nb4+ Kb3! 4.Kd6 (4.Nc6 Nd7+ 5.Kd6 Rd3+) 4...Nd7! 5.Kxd7 Rf7+ 6.Kc6 Rxb7 Position 7.Kxb7 Kxb4 8.Kc6 Kc4 9.Kd6 Kd4 10.Ke6 Ke4 11.Kf6 Kf4 12.Kg7 position X 12...h5!→**1...Ka2 2.Nb4+** 2.b7? Nxf6→ 2.Nd4? Rf2 3.b7 Nxf6→**2...Ka3** 2...Kb3 3.Nc6 Rf5+ 4.Kd6 Rxf6+ 5.Kc5 (or 5.Kd7 Rf7+ 6.Ke6 Rg7 7.b7=) 5...Rf7 6.b7 Rxb7 7.Na5+=**3.b7 Nxf6 4.Kd6 Nd7 5.Kxd7 Rf7+ 6.Kc6 Rxb7** Position**7.Nc2+! Kb2 8.Kxb7 Kxc2 9.Kc6 Kd3 10.Kd5 Ke3 11.Ke5 Kf3 12.Kf5 h6!?** 12...Kg3 13.Kg5=**13.Kg6** Position X shifted one rank down, there is no pawn doublestep. **13...Kg4 14.Kxh6=** (author's comments). Logical study. Echo chameleon! Witty and technical! The idea was implemented differently: V. Tarasiuk, sp.p Kirillov-65 JT Uralski Problemist, 2017.

N°27 Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine)

1.e7 1.Kg7? Nxe6+ 2.Kg6 Be2→ **1...Nh7+ 2.Kg7!** 2.Kf7? Bh5+ 3.Kg7 Nxf6 4.Kxf6 Qd6+ 5.Kf5 Qxe7→ **2...Nxf6 3.Qa1+!** 3.Kxf6? Qd6+ 4.Kg5 Qxe7+ 5.Kxg4 Qg7+→**3...Kb6 4.Kxf6 Qd6+** 4...Bh5 5.Ke6= **5.Kg5 Qg3! 6.Qb2+!** 6.Qa3? Bd7+ 7.Kh6 Qf4+ 8.Kh7 Qf7+ 9.Kh6 Qf6+ 10.Kh7 Qe6→ **6...Kc6! (critical position)** 6...Kc7 7.e8N+! Kd8 8.Ng7!=**7.Qh2!! Foresight effect. Thematic Try:** 7.Qf2!? Qxf2 8.e8Q+ Bd7 9.Qa8+ Kd6 10.Qb8+ Ke7 11.Qe5+ Be6→; 7.e8Q+? Bd7+ 8.Kh6 Bxe8→ **7...Qxh2 8.e8Q+ (Phoenix of Queen) 8...Bd7 9.Qa8+ (key position) 9...Kb6 9...Kd6?** 10.Qb8+ Ke6 11.Qxh2+**-10.Qxd5= Theme: Reincarnation. In a study with the effect of foresight, the theme of reincarnation is performed, if the phoenix of the main thematic piece is realized between the critical and key positions in the solution. (Problemist of Ukraine №2(52) 2017)** (author's comments).

The author, commenting on the study, uses the terms he proposed in the article published in “Problemist of Ukraine”. The depth of “foresight” is only two moves. The move of the black King under the check of the promoted Queen is impressive.



N°26 Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine)

1.Be6+! Logical try: 1.Qxh2? Qxe4 2.Bxf5 Na5+! False Refutation: 2...Nd8+? 3.Kc8! Qxf5+ 4.Kxd8= 3.Ka6 Qa8+ 4.Kb5 Bc6+ 5.Kb4 Qf8+ 6.Kxa5 Qc5+ 7.Ka6 Qc4+ 8.Ka7 Qf7+! (Logical try in the refutation: 8...Qxa2+? 9.Kb8 Qa8+ 10.Kc7 Qb7+ 11.Kd8=) 9.Bd7 (9.Qc7? Qxa2+ 10.Kb8 Qa8#) 9...Qxa2+ 10.Kb8 Qa8+ 11.Kc7 Qb7+ 12.Kd6 (12.Kd8 Qxd7#) 12...Qb8+ 13.Kxc6 Qxh2→A) **Main variant: 1...Kg7 2.Qxh2! Try-1:** 2.Qh4? Nd8+! 3.Ka7 Nxe6! 4.Qe7+ Kh8! 5.Qf6+ Kh7! 6.Qe7+ Ng7!→ **2...Qxe4 3.Bxf5 Na5+ 3...Nd8+ 4.Kc8! Qxf5+ 5.Kxd8= 4.Ka6 Qa8+ 5.Kb5 Bc6+ 6.Kb4! Qf8+ 7.Kxa5 Qc5+ 8.Ka6 Qc4+ 9.Ka7 Qxa2+ 9...Qf7+? 10.Qc7!+-**

10.Kb8 Qa8+ 11.Kc7 Qb7+ 12.Kd8!= 12.Kd6? Qb8+ 13.Kxc6 Qxh2→ B) Additional variant: 1...Kf8 2.Qh4! Change of try (see Try-1 in Main variant)**Try-2:** 2.Qxh2? Qxe4! 3.Bxf5 (3.Qd6+ Ne7+! 4.Kc7 Qb7+! 5.Kd8 Bc6! 6.Qc7 Qa8+!→) 3...Nd8+! False Refutation: 3...Na5+? 4.Ka6! Qa8+ 5.Kb5= Change of False Refutation (see False Refutation in the Logical Try). 4.Kc7 Qe7+! 5.Kc8 Bb7+! 6.Kb8 Nc6# model mate (or 4.Kc8 Qa8+! 5.Kc7 Nf7! 6.Bc8 Qc6+! 7.Kb8 Qxb6+! 8.Bb7 Qxb7#)**2...fxe4!=** e.g. 3.Bb3 Na5+ 4.Ka7 Nc6+ 5.Kb7= **Theme: A logical study with a synthesis of two themes of change: the change of try and the change of false refutation** (author's comments).

In a logical try Black with the help of a preliminary check 8...Qf7+ causes White's position to weaken, and then wins the Queen. With a preliminary check on the first move, White forces the black King to move to unfavorable squares. As a result, in the main line the black Queen will be pinned. In the additional line, the black King chooses another square so as not to interfere with his Queen, but then White changes the plan to another, which was erroneous in the main line. Complex idea! The bad impression is that White's play in the extra line is very minimal, White is "offside" in contrast to Black's play on the try.

N°21 Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Ra2! 1.Rxd7? Rc1+→ 1.Nc4? Nb6+! 2.Nxb6 Rc1+→ 1...Rc1+ 1...Nb6+ 2.Kb7 Nxd5 3.Nc4+ Kd3 4.Ne5+= 2.Nc4+ Kf1 2...Kf3 3.Ng5+= 2...Kd3 3.Rxg2= 3.Ra1! Rxa1 3...Nb6+ 4.Kb7 Rxa1 5.Nxe3+ Kf2 6.Nxg2 Nxd5 7.Kc6 Ne7+ 8.Kd6 Nc8+ 9.Kd7 Rc1 10.Nf4= 4.Nxe3+ Kf2 5.Nxg2 Ra7! 5...Nb6+ 6.Kb7/c7 6...Nxd5 7.Kc6= 6.Nf8!! 6.Nf4? Nb6+ 7.Kb8 Rxh7→ 6...Nb6+ 6...Nxf8 7.b6= 7.Kb8 Rf7 8.d6! Rxf8+ 8...Kxg2 9.d7! Rxf8+ 10.d8Q! (10.Kc7 Nd5+ 11.Kd6 Nf4!→) 10...Rxd8+ 11.Kc7= 9.Kc7 Nd5+ 10.Kc6 Nb4+ 11.Kc5 Nd3+ 12.Kd4 12.Kd5? Kxg2→ 12...Ke2! 12...Kxg2 13.Kxd3= 13.Kd5! 13.b6? Rf7! 14.Kd5 (14.Nh4 Rf4+→) 14...Rh7!→ 13...Rf5+ 13...Rf7 14.Nh4!= 14.Ke6 Rxb5 15.d7 Nc5+ 16.Kd6! Nxd7 17.Nf4+! 17.Kxd7? Rb4!→ 17...Kf3 17...Ke3 18.Nd5+ Kd4 19.Nc7= 18.Ne6! Rb7 19.Nd8 Ra7 20.Nc6= Game study with domination in the final. In the initial phase, White fights against black's passed pawn; in the second phase, white's passed pawn becomes dangerous.

N°12 Vasily Murashov (Russia)

1.Kb5! Try: 1.Rg7? Rd8 (1...Rd5?= 2.Kb5 Nd4+ 3.Kb6 Rf5 4.f7=) 2.Kb5 Nd4+ 3.Kb6 Ke5 4.c6 Nxc6 5.Kxc6 Kxf6 6.Rg1 e5→ or 1.Rc8? Ne5+→ **1...Nd4+ 2.Kb6 2.Kc4?? Ke5 3.Rf8 Rd5 4.f7 Kf6→ 2...Rf7 3.c6 e5! 4.c7!** 4.Rg1? Ne6→ **4...Rxf6+ 5.Ka5! Try:** 5.Kb7? Nb5 6.c8N (6.Rg4+ Kf3→) 6...Nd6+! 7.Nxd6 Rxd6→ **5...Nc6+ 6.Kb6/a6 6.Ka4?** e.g. 6...Na7 7.Ra8 Ra6+ 8.Kb3 Rc6 9.Rxa7 e4 10.Kb4 Ke5 11.Ka4 Kd4 12.Kb5 Kd5 13.Ra5 Rxc7 14.Kb6+ Kd6→ **6...Ne7+ 7.Kb7! 7.Ka7? Rc6 8.Rf8+ Kg5 9.Kb7 Re6 10.Kb8 Kg6→ 7...Re6 7...Kf5 8.Rg7! Re6 9.Kb8! (9.Ka8? Nd5 10.c8Q Nb6→) 9...Nc6+ 10.Kb7!= 8.Rg7! 8.Kb8? Rb6+ 9.Ka7 Rc6 10.Rf8+ Kg5 11.Kb7 Re6 12.Kb8 Kg6→ **8...Ke4 8...e4 9.Rf7+= 9.Kb8! 9.Rf7? Kd5 10.Ka8 Nc8!→ 9...Rb6+ 10.Ka8! 10.Ka7? Nc8+ 11.Ka8 Kd5→ 10...Nc8 11.Rd7! 11.Rg5? Rb5! (11...Kd5? 12.Rxe5+ Kxe5= stalemate; 11...Re6? 12.Rg8 Ne7 13.Rd8 Rc6 14.Kb7 Kf5 15.Rd7=) 12.Rg8 Nd6→ 11...Kf5 12.Rd8 12.Rf7+? Rf6 13.Rd7 Ke6 14.Rd8 Rf2/f3 15.Re8+ Kd5 16.Rxc8 Kc6 17.Kb8 Rb2+ 18.Ka7 Rb4 19.Re8 Kxc7 20.Re7+ Kd6→ 12...Ke6 13.Re8+! 13.Rxc8? Kd7 14.Re8 Kxc7 15.Re7+ (15.Ka7 Rb2 16.Ka6 Kd6+; 15.Rxe5 Ra6#) 15...Kd6!→ 13...Kd6 13...Kd7 14.Rxe5 Kxc7 15.Rc5+= 14.Rxe5 Kxe5=** Stalemate. The coordinated actions of white's King and Rook lead to a stalemate. Additional lines and tries decorate the study.**

N°10 Pavel Arestov (Russia)

1.Nc3+ 1.Kd4? Qd2+ 2.Ke5 Qxh2 3.Nxa3 Nb3 4.Nab5 d4 5.Nxd4 Nxd4→ 1...Kc1 2.Rf2!! 2.Nxd5? Qd2+ 3.Kc4 Qxh2→ 2...Qxf2 3.Bf4+! 3.Ne2+? Kb2(Kb1)-+ 3...Qxf4 4.Ne2+ Kb2 5.Nxf4, with 2 lines:A) 5...Nb3 6.Nxd5 a2 7.Nc4+ Kc1 8.Nf4! 8.Nc3? Nc5+! 9.Kd4 a1Q 10.Kxc5 Qxc3→ 8...Nc5+! 8...a1Q 9.Ne2+ Kb1 10.Nc3+ Kc1 11.Ne2+ Kd1 12.Ne3+! Ke1 13.Nc2+= 9.Kd4! Na6! 9...a1Q+ 10.Kxc5 Qa7+ 11.Kd5! Qf7+ 12.Ne6=; 9...Na4 10.Nd3+ Kd1 11.Ne3+ Ke2 12.Nc1+= 10.Kd3!! 10.Nd3+? Kc2 11.Na3+ Kd1 12.Nb2+ Kd2 13.Nbc4+ Kc1→ **10...Nc5+ 10...Nb4+ 11.Kc3! a1Q+ 12.Kxb4= 11.Kd4!= positional draw. **B) 5...Nc2 6.Nxd5 a2 7.Nc4+ Kc1 7...Kb3 8.Nd2(Na5)+ Ka4 9.Nc3+= 8.Nd2! 8.Na5? Nd4! 9.Kxd4 a1Q+ 10.Kc5 Qxa5+; 8.Nf4? Ne1+(Kd1) 9.Ke2 a1Q 10.Kxe1 Qc3+→ 8...Nd4! 8...a1Q 9.Nb3+=; 8...Kb2 9.Nc4+ positional draw. **9.Nc3! 9.Kxd4? Kxd2→ 9...a1Q 10.Ne2+! Nxe2 10...Kd1 11.Nxd4 Qa6+ 12.Nc4= 11.Nb3+=** draw.****

The appearance of Syzygy led to the creation of studies Q versus 2N. This material is difficult for human understanding. It is a pity that the spectacular introduction with exchanges of pieces is not connected with the following events.

N°24 Peter Krug & Mario García (Austria-Argentina)

1.Kg7!! Try: 1.Bb5? Qxb5! 2.Qxf8+! Kxf8 3.g7+ Ke7!! (3...Kg8? 4.Nd5 Qxd5= nam) 4.Nxb5 f1Q 5.g8Q Qf4+! (5...Qxb5? 6.Qc8 f5 Position A1 with wKh6. 7.Kg5 f6+ 8.Kg6 f4 9.Qc7+ Ke6 10.Qxf4=) 6.Kg7 Qg5+ 7.Kh7 Qxb5 8.Qc8 f5! Position A with wKh7. 9.Qc7+ Ke6→**1...Nxb6 2.Qh1!** 2.Qh5? Ne5 3.Bb5 Qxb5! 4.Nxb5 f1Q→**2...Qg3** 2...Nf4 3.Qe4+! (3.Bb5? Qg3+ 4.Kh7 Qg6+ 5.Kh8 Nh5→) 3...Ne6+ 4.Nxe6= or 2...Ne5 3.Bb5 Qg3+ 4.Kh7 Qg6+ 5.Kh8 Qg5 6.Qe4= **3.Nd5+ Kd6** 3...Kd8 4.Nxf6 Nf4+ 5.Kf8! (5.Kh8? Qc3 6.Kg7 Nh5+ 7.Qxh5 f1Q 8.Qd5+ Kc7→) 5...Qa3+ 6.Kxf7 Qb3+ 7.Kg7= positional draw.3...Kxe8 4.Nxf6+=**4.Nxf6 Nf4+** 4...Nh4+ 5.Kf8!= (5.Kh8? Qe5 6.Qc6+ Ke7 7.Qd7+ Kxf6 8.Qxf7+ Kg5+ 9.Kg8 Nf3!→) 4...Ne5+ 5.Kf8! Ke6 6.Nh5 Ng6+ 7.Kg7 Qc3+ 8.Kh6 Qh8+ 9.Kg5 Qe5+ 10.Kh6=**5.Kh8 Qc3 6.Kg8!** 6.Kg7? Nh5+! 7.Qxh5 f1Q 8.Qd5+ Kc7 9.Qd7+ Kb6+ **6...Qxf6** 6...Qc4 7.Ne4+ Ke7 8.Nxf2=**7.Qc6+** 10.Qxf2? Position B1 with bKe6. 10...Qg5+ 11.Kh7 Ke7 12.Qa7+ Kxe8→; 10.Qc8+? Kd5! 11.Qb7+ Ke5 12.Qb2+ Ke6 13.Qxf2 Position B1 with bKe6. (13.Qb6+ Ke7) 13...Qg5++ **7...Ke5 8.Qc3+ Kf5 9.Qc2+** positional draw. **9...Kg4 10.Qxf2=** Position B with bKg4.

A good false try: mutual sacrifices of the Queens, Black not falling into White's stalemate trap, preliminary maneuver of the black Queen. But the solution follows a different scenario.

Daniele Gatti & Mario Micaloni Special Honorable Mention



Draw

M.Hlinka & L. Kekely Special Honorable Mention



Draw

N°6 Daniele Gatti & Mario Micaloni (Italy)

1.Rh1! First main line **1...Kd1 2. Kb2 Kxe1 3. Kc3** 3.Ka3? Kf2! 4.Kxa4 Kg2 5.Kb5 Kxh1 6.a4 Kg2 7.a5 Kxf1 8.a6 f4!! 9.a7 – (9.gxf4 g3 10.hxg3 h2 11.a7 h1Q 12.a8Q Ke2→) – (9 exf4 e3 10.dxe3 d2 11.a7 d1Q→) 9...fxe3 10.a8Q e2! 11.Qxe4 e1Q 12.Qxd3+ Kg1 13.Qe3+ Qxe3 14.dxe3 Kxh2 15.e4 Kxg3 16.e5 h2 17.e6 h1Q→**3...Kf2 4.Kd4 Kg2 5.Ke5 Kxh1 6.Kxf5 Kg2** White King must decide where to go. **7.Kxe4!** – 7.Kxg4? Kxf1 8.Kxh3 Ke2 9.Kg2 Kxd2 10.Kf2 Kc2 Black King cannot be trapped **7...Kxf1 8.Kxd3 Kg2 9.Ke2 Kxh2 10.Kf2** - Black King is trapped, positional draw. **Second main line 1...a3 2.Bf2! Kd1** Alternative variation 2...Kc1 3.Bg1! Kd1 4.Kb1 Ke2 5.Kc1 Kf3 6.Kd1 Kg2 7.Ke1 Kf3= positional draw.**3.Kb1 Ke2 4.Kc1 Kxf2 5.Kd1 Kf3** 5...Kg2? Black cannot attack the white Rook. 6.Ke1! Kxh1 7.Kf2! Not stalemate! Black is forced to play 7...f4 and loses (checkmate in 5)

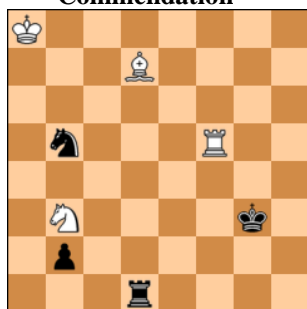
6.Rg1 Kf2 7.Rh1 Kf3 8.Rg1 Kf2 9.Rh1= repetition of position (author's comments).

It is paradoxical that White, having a total advantage, fights for a draw against one King and pawns.

N°3 Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

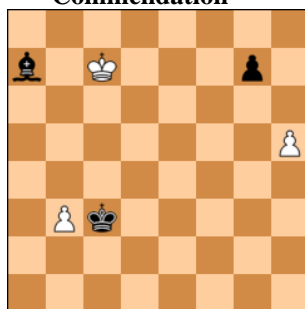
1.Ng1 1.Nc3? d2 2.Nd1 Kc5 3.Rf4 Qe6 4.b4+ Kb6 5.Be4 Qe5 6.Rb8+ Kc7 7.Rb7+ Kc8 8.Rbf7 Rd7 9.Bf5 Bxf5 10.Rf8+ Kc7 11.R8xf5 Qe1+ 12.Rf1 Qe4+ 13.R5f3 Rf7→; 1.Rf4+? Kc5→**1...d2 2.Bc2** 2.Rh4+? Kc5 3.Bc2 Qb7+ 4.Nhf3 Bd7 5.Kh2 d1Q 6.Bxd1 Rxd1 7.Ne5 Rd6 8.Ngf3 Qb8 9.Re2 Bc6 10.Kg3 Kb6 11.Rd4 Qg8+ 12.Rg4 Qb3 13.Nxc6 Rxc6 14.Rf4 Ka5 15.Kf2 Qg8→**2...d1Q 3.Bxd1** 3.Rf4+? Rd4 4.Bxd1 Rxf4 5.Be2+ Kb3 6.Rxh3+ Kxb2 7.Kg2 b4 8.Nf1 b3 9.Re3 Ka2 10.Nf3 b2 11.Bd3 Qxd3 12.Rxd3 b1Q→**3...Rxd1 4.Rc2+ Kb4** Additional variant 4...Kd5 5.Rh5+ Kd6 (5...Ke4 6.Rh4+ Kd5 7.Rh5+) 6.Rxh3! Qxh3 7.Rd2+! Rxd2 8.Nxh3 Rxb2 9.Ng4! b4 10.Nhf2 b3 11.Nd1! Rb1 12.Nge3 Ke5 13.Kg2!= (13.Kg1? Kd4! 14.Kf2 b2 15.Nc2+ Kc5! 16.Nc3 Rc1 17.Na4+ Kb5! 18.Nxb2 Rxc2→; 13.Kh2? Kf4 14.Kg2 b2→) **5.Rh4+ Ka5 6.Rxh3!** 6.b4+? Ka4 7.Ra2+ (7.Rxh3 Rxc1+!→) 7...Kb3 8.Rxh3+ Kxa2→**6...Qxh3** 6...Rxc1+ 7.Kxc1 Qxh3 8.Rc3 Qd7 9.Nf3 b4 10.Rc5+ Ka4 11.Re5 Kb3 12.Re2 Qd1+ 13.Kf2=**7.b4+! Ka6** 7...Kb6 8.Rc6+ Kb7 9.Rb6+ as main; 7...Ka4 8.Ra2+ Kxb4 9.Rb2+! Kc4 10.Rb4+ Kc5 11.Rxb5+ Kxb5 model double pin stalemate.**8.Rc6+** 8.Ra2+? Kb7 9.Ra7+ Kc8 10.Rc7+ Kd8 11.Rd7+ Qxd7!→**8...Ka7** 8...Kb7 9.Rb6+ as main.**9.Ra6+! Kb7 10.Rb6+** 10.Ra7+? Kc8→**10...Kc7** or Kc8 **11.Rc6+ Kd7 12.Rd6+ Kxd6** model double pin stalemate. 12...Rxd6 13.Nxh3= With the help of analytical lines, the authors managed to create a good introductory game to the stalemate ending. When will the Syzygy tablebases for 8-9 pieces?

P. Arestov, M.Hlinka & L.Kekely
Commendation



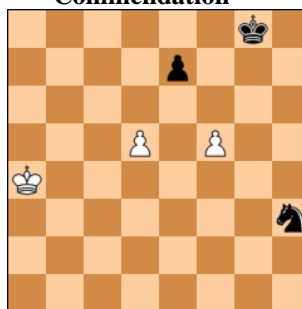
Draw

M. Gromov & O.Pervakov
Commendation



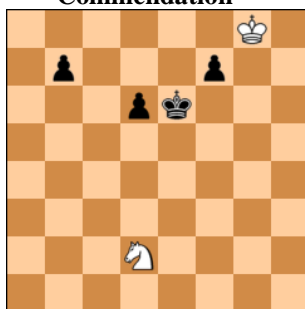
Draw

Zalmen Kornin
Commendation



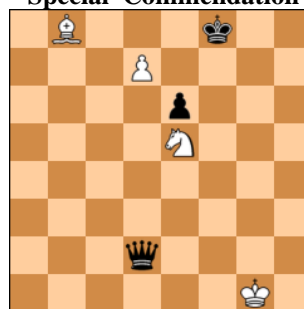
Draw

Michael Pasman
Commendation



Draw

Alexander Avedisian
Special Commendation



Draw

Nº2 Pavel Arestov, Michal Hlinka & Lubos Kekely (Russia-Slovakia)

1.Rg5+ 1.Nd2? Nc7+! 2.Kb7 Rxd2 3.Rg5+ Kf4 4.Rg4+ Ke5 5.Rb4 Nd5 6.Rb5 Kf4+1...Kf4 2.Rf5+! 2.Rg4+? Ke3 3.Nd2 (3.Bf5 Rd8+ 4.Kb7 Nd6+-+ fork) 3...Rxd2 4.Rb4 Nd6 5.Be6 Kd3 6.Ba2 Kc2+2...Ke3 2...Ke4 3.Rxb5 b1Q 4.Nd2+= battery to new queen 2...Kg4? 3.Rd5+- battery check 3.Re5+ Kf4 3...Kf2 4.Bf5=4.Rf5+ Kg3 5.Rg5+ Kh4 6.Rg4+ till now 6...Kh5 6...Kh3? 7.Rd4+- battery check 7.Nd2! Rxd2 8.Rb4 Nc7+! 9.Ka7! 9.Kb7? Nd5 10.Rb3 Kg5 11.Bb5 Nc3 12.Bd3 Na4 13.Rb5+ Kf6 14.Bb1 Nc3 15.Rb6+ Ke5 16.Bg6 Rg2 17.Rb4 Nd5 18.Rb3 Kd4 19.Bf5 Rd2 20.Ka7 Kc4+9...Nd5 10.Rb3 10.Rb5? Kg6 11.Be6 Nc3 12.Bf5+ Kf6 13.Rc5 Nd5 14.Bb1 Ke5 15.Rb5 Kd4 16.Rb8 Kc3+10...Kg5 11.Bb5 Nc3 12.Bd3! Kf6 13.Rb4! 13.Bh7? Na4 14.Bb1 Rd1 15.Bc2 Rc1 16.Be4 Re1 17.Bc2 Re7+ 18.Kb8 Re2 19.Bb1 Ke5+13.Rb8? Ke5 14.Ka6 Kd4 15.Bh7 Rh2 16.Bg6 Nd5 17.Bb1 Kc3+13...Ke5 14.Ka6 14.Bh7? Rh2 15.Bd3 Nd5 16.Re4+ Kd6+14...Nd5 15.Rb3 15.Rb8? Kd4 16.Bb1 Kc3 17.Kb5 Ne3 18.Rh8 Rd1 19.Bg6 Rd5+15...Kd4 16.Ka5 Rxd3 17.Rxb2= (author's comments).

Jewelry game of White and Black. But it is very difficult to understand even with a computer. 9.Kb7? could become a logical try, but the white King will very quickly fall under the fork and the false try follows another line.

Nº14 Michael Gromov & Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

1.b4! Main A 1...Be3 1...Kd4 2.Kb7= Suddenly black bishop caught.2.b5 Kd4 3.b6 3.Kd6? Bf4+ 4.Ke6 Kc5+ 3...Ke5 4.b7 Kf6 5.Kd7 Or 5.Kd8 5...Bf4 6.Ke8! Bd6 6...Bg3 7.Kf8=7.Kd7! Bb8 8.Ke8 Positional draw. Main B 1...Kxb4 2.h6! Main C 2...gxh6 3.Kd6 Kc3 4.Ke5 Kd2 5.Kf4 Ke1 6.Kg3 Kf1 7.Kh2= White king goes to h1 on the diagonal c7-h2; 2...g6 3.Kd6! Bd4 4.Kd5! Kc3 5.Ke4=) 2...Bb8+ 3.Kc6! gxh6 4.Kd5 Kc3 5.Ke4 Kd2 6.Kf3 Ke1 7.Kg2= Now white king goes to h1 on the diagonal c6-g2 (author's comments). A nice study-find. But in line A the final can be changed, a try can be added and the solution can be lengthened: 6...Bg3 7.Kf8! 7.Kd7? Kg5+ 7...Be5 8.Ke8! Try 8.Kg8? Bd6! 9.Kh7 Kf7 10.Kh8 Bb8 11.Kh7 Be5+ 8...Bd6 9.Kd7! Bb8 10.Ke8= Positional draw.

Nº28 Zalmen Kornin (Brasil)

1.Kb5! 1.d6? exd6 2.Kb5 Nf4!-+1...Ng5 1...Nf2 2.d6!=2.d6! 2.Kc6? Ne4!-+ (2...Nf7? 3.Kd7 Kf8 4.Ke6 Ng5 5.Kd7!-=; 5.Ke5? Kg7!-+) 3.d6! Nxd6! 4.f6 exf6!-+2...exd6 3.Kc6 Nf7! 4.f6! 4...Kf8 5.Kd5! Ke8 6.Ke6 ZZ Kf8 7.Kd5= line known from study A. Motor, L'Italia Scacchistica, 19784...Kh8 4...Kh7 5.Kd7!=5.Kd7! 5.Kd5? Kh7+ 5....Kh7 5...d5 6.Ke6!-=; 5...Kg8 6.Ke6! Kf8 7.Kd5!=6.Ke7! 6.Ke6? Kg6! ZZ-+6...Kg6 7.Ke6! ZZ=
 Synthesis of two positions of mutual zugzwang.

N°23 Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Nf3! 1.Kg7? b5! 2.Nf3 b4→**1...f6!** 1...f5 2.Kg7 Kd5 3.Kf6 Ke4 4.Ng5+=**2.Kf8!!** zz Reciprocal zugzwang. If white to move now, he should be lost, black to move is draw Logical try: 2.Kg7? Kf5 3.Nd4+ Ke5 Position X1 - No Nc6+; 2.Kh7? Kf5 3.Nd4+ Ke5→**2...b6** 2...b5 3.Nd4+= 2...f5 3.Kg7! Kd5 4.Kf6 Ke4 5.Ng5+=**3.Kg7! Kf5 4.Nd4+ Ke4** 4...Ke5 Position X2 5.Nc6+ Ke4 6.Kxf6=**5.Nb5 f5 6.Nxd6+ Ke5 7.Nc4+ Kd4 8.Nxb6 f4 9.Nc8!** with theoretical known position from Gjersing & Moller, 1895 **9...Ke5** 9...f3 10.Nd6=**10.Nb6! Kd4 11.Nc8 f3 12.Nd6 Ke3 13.Nc4+ Ke2 14.Nd6 f2 15.Ne4 f1Q 16.Ng3+ Kf2 17.Nxf1=** (author's comments).

A good introduction with an unexpected move by the white King and zugzwang.

N°16 Alexander Avedisian (Uruguay)

Author's presentation.

1.Kf1! 1.Ba7? Ke7 2.Bc5+ Kf6 3.Bb6 Qc1+ 4.Kg2 Qb2+ 5.Bf2 Ke7 6.Nd3 Qb7+ 7.Kf1 Qxd7→**1...Kg7** 1...Ke7 2.Bd6+! Qxd6 (2...Kd8 3.Bb8=) 3.d8Q+ Kxd8 4.Nf7+ Kd7 5.Nxd6 Kxd6 6.Ke2= 1...Qc1+ 2.Kg2 Qb2+ 3.Kf1 Qxb8 4.Nc6=**2.Ba7 Kf6 3.Bb6 Qc1+ 4.Ke2! Qb2+ 5.Kd1!** 5.Kd3? Qb5+→ **5...Qxb6 6.Nc6=**

Judge's presentation.

1.Kf1! Thematic try 1.Ba7? Ke7 2.Bc5+ Kf6 3.Bb6 Qc1+ 4.Kg2 Qb2+ 5.Kf1 (5.Bf2 Ke7→) 5...Qb5+ 6.Kg2 Qxb6 7.Nc6 Position A1 with wKg2 - Black wins 7...Qxc6+→**1...Kg7** 1...Qc1+ 2.Kg2(e2) Qb2+ 3.Kf1(f3) Qxb8 4.Nc6=**2.Ba7! Kf6 3.Bb6 Qc1+ 4.Ke2!** Thematic try 4.Kf2? Qb2+ 5.Kf1 Qb5+→**4...Qb2+ 5.Kd1!** Thematic try 5.Kd3? Qb5+ 6.Kd2 Qxb6 7.Nc6 Position A2 with wKd2 - Black wins 7...Qf2+! 8.Kd1 Qf3+ 9.Ke1 Qe3+ 10.Kf1 Qd3+→**5...Qb3+ 6.Ke2!** Thematic try 6.Ke1? Qxb6 7.Nc6 Position A3 with wKe1 - Black wins 7...Qe3+! 8.Kd1? Qd3+→; 6.Kd2? Qxb6 7.Nc6 Qf2+→ **6...Qb5+** 6...Qxb6 7.Nc6= Position A with wKe2 - draw. **7.Kd1** Thematic try 7.Kf3? Qxb6 8.Nc6 Position A4 with wKf3 - Black wins 8...Qxc6+→ **7...Qxb6 8.Nc6** Position A with wKd1 - draw. **8...Qg1(b3)+ 9.Ke2=** Additional line **1...Ke7 2.Bd6+! Kd8 3.Bb8!** Thematic try 3.Kg1? Qxd6 4.Nf7+ Kxd7 5.Nxd6 Kxd6 6.Kf2 Kd5→ Position B1 with wKf2 - Black wins; 3.Bb4?! Qf4+→ (3...Qxb4? 4.Nc6+= fork) **3...Ke7 4.Bd6+! Qxd6 5.d8Q+ Kxd8 5...Qxd8 6.Nc6+=** fork. **6.Nf7+** fork **6...Ke7 7.Nxd6 Kxd6 8.Ke2! Kd5** Position B with wKe2 - draw. **9.Kd3 Ke5 10.Ke3 Kf5 11.Kf3=**

The study is much more interesting than the author presented it. Not every dual-free sequence of moves is an study. This applies to some studies in the competition.

Unawarded studies:

Study N°1 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). The try and the logical try indicated by the author have dual refutations.

Study N°5 Marc Gelly (France). It is not necessary to start the study with Black to move. Duals in the final.

Study N°7 Daniele Gatti (Italy). A lot of technical pieces were used to implement the idea.

Study N°8 Daniele Gatti & Mario Micaloni (Italy). The idea of the study is unclear.

Study N°9 Helmut Waelzel (Germany). The study is worthy of publication.

Study N°11 Can Aydinoglu (Turkey). The idea of the study is unclear.

Study N°13 Gennady Matjushin (Ukraine). This is a very interesting bishop endgame, but not a study.

Study N°15 Vladimir Neistadt (Russia). Unsuccessful introduction with exchanges of pieces.

Study N°17 Jan Timman (Netherlands). Dual order of White's moves 2.Rb3! Bxb3+ 3.Kf8 Nd7+ 4.Bxd7 Rb5 5.Bxb5.

Study N°19 Marc Gelly (France). The idea of the study is unclear.

Study N°20 Alain Pallier (France). Lots of analytical lines. The idea of the study is unclear.

Study N°25 Marc Gelly (France). White prevents the black King from breaking through by advancing the pawn column. Duals make the lines short, so the meeting of the Kings never happened.

03.12.2023

Judge Sergey Osintsev (Yekaterinburg, Russia)