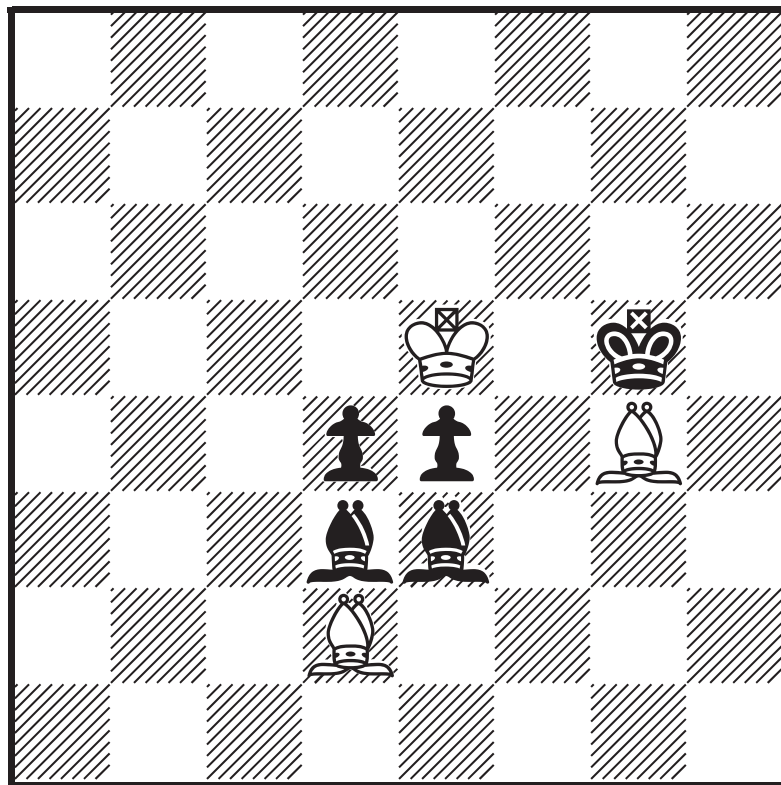


No. 201 — VOL. XXI — JULY 2015



WHITE TO PLAY AND DRAW

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EG was founded by John Roycroft in 1965

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diagram on the cover: see p. 206

Editorial

BY HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

Although snail mail has become much less important during the last decade, I want to draw your attention to the fact that I am moving to another house, and my new postal address from now on is: Harold van der Heijden, P.O. box 246, 7400 AE Deventer, the Netherlands. My new e-mail address is:

heijdenharold@gmail.com.

Please ensure that you update your files accordingly!

There has been a somewhat unfortunate misunderstanding about the Valois MT. I wrote in the provisional award that the final award would appear in *The Problemist*. Although this is a tourney organized by ARVES and the BCPS, the award will be finalized in **EG** (in issue 202, to be precise).

Peter Gyarmati, study editor of *Magyar Sakkvilág*, wrote to me; “I have received **EG200**. It is great! I noticed a small inaccuracy: our study tournament was organized by the Hungarian chess magazine *Magyar Sakkvilág* (known as MSV) while the Hungarian Chess Federation Magyar SakkSzövetség is known as the MSSZ”.

Yochanan Afek has, at my request, changed columns: his “Prizewinners Explained” is discontinued and, from the present issue on, he will edit “Composer Gallery” where he will put a composer into the spotlight.

Another change that I have to announce is the fact that “Computer News” will appear

intermittently from now on, this time on request by its author. On behalf of **EG**'s readers I thank Emil Vlasák for his expert view on the difficult subject of computers and endgame studies. Although I myself have been working with computers and endgame studies ‘all my life’, I was always surprised by one or other item in his column. The latest surprise, in **EG200**, that buying my expensive i7 computer was not the best choice for checking endgame studies was rather unpleasant and I wonder how many readers have really changed their BIOS or, like me, just assumed that this must have been an April Fool’s joke.

It is now precisely 50 years since that John Roycroft published **EG** no. 1 in July 1965 and, of course, we are announcing the **EG50-AT** in this issue. It goes almost without saying that we invited AJR to judge the tourney and **EG**'s founding father will celebrate his 86th birthday on 25vii2015! However, although he wishes the **EG50-AT** every success, he wrote that the tourney should go ahead without his involvement, which wish we, of course, respect.

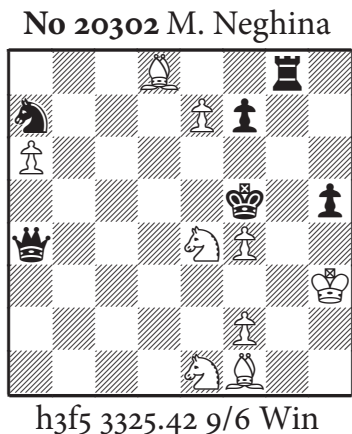
Veteran IGM Pál Benko has kindly supplied an article for this **EG** and, in addition, has composed a series of original letter problems for **EG**'s anniversary. Of course he realized that problems are not our genre, and I also hesitated as to whether or not to publish these originals but one should never look a gift horse in the mouth....

Originals (47)

EDITOR: ED VAN DE GEVEL

“email submissions are preferred.”
Judge 2014-2015: Luis Miguel Gonzalez

In our first study, after the introduction Black finds himself in a nasty situation where both his king and queen have some squares to go to, but all these moves fail on some knight fork. When Black escapes to an ending with a rook for the two knights, expecting to catch one of the knights, a second fork brings the victory home for White.



No 20302 Mihai Neghina (Rumania).
 1.Sf6/i Rh8/ii 2.Bd3+/iii Ke6/iv 3.f5+/v Kd6/vi
 4.Se4+/vii Kc6/viii 5.Sc2/ix h4/x 6.f3/xi Re8 7.f4
 (Kxh4? Kd7); Sc8/xii 8.Bb5+ Kxb5 9.Sc3+ Kxa6
 10.Sxa4 Sxe7 11.Bxe7 Rxe7 12.Sc3 Rc7 13.Sd5 and
 the second fork secures both pawns and both
 knights; winning for White.

i) 1.Bd3? Qxe4 2.Bxe4+ Kxe4 draws, and
 1.Sg3+ Ke6 2.Sd3 Qd4 3.Se4 Rxd8 (Qxe4?; Sc5+)
 4.exd8Q Qxd8 even wins for Black.

ii) Qd1 (Kxf6; e8Q+) 2.Bd3+ Ke6 3.f5+ Kd6
 4.Sxg8, or Re8 2.Sxe8 Qxe8 3.Kh2 win.

iii) 2.Sf3? Qa3 3.Kg2 Sc6 4.Sh4+ Ke6 5.Bc4+
 Kd6 6.Se4+ Kd7 7.Bb5 Qc1 8.a7 Rg8+ 9.Sg3
 Qa1 10.Sf5 Qxa7 11.Sh6 Rxd8 12.exd8Q+ Kxd8
 13.Bxc6 Qc7 14.Bf3 Qxf4 15.Sgf5 Qg5+ draws, or
 2.Be2 Qc6 3.Sf3 Qxf6 4.e8Q Rxe8 5.Bd3+ Kxf4

6.Bxf6 Kxf3 draws, or 2.Bg2 Sc6 3.Be4+ Qxe4
 4.Sxe4 Kxe4 draws.

iv) Kxf6 3.e8Q+ Kg7 4.Bf6+ Kxf6 5.Qe5
 mate. Kxf4 3.Bc7+ Kg5 4.Se4+ Kh6 5.Bf4+ Kg7
 6.Be5+ f6 (Kh6; Bxh8, or Kh7; Sc3+) 7.Bxf6+
 Kf7 8.Bxh8 wins.

v) 3.Be4? Qxa6 4.Sf3 Qc8 5.f5+ Kd6 6.Sg5
 Qc4 7.Bd5 Qd3+ 8.Kh2 Qxf5 9.Sxf7+ (Sge4+
 Ke5;) Kc5 10.Sxh8 Qxf2+ draws. 3.Sf3? Qxf4
 4.Be4 Qxf6 5.e8Q+ Rxe8 6.Sg5+ Qxg5 7.Bxg5
 Kd7 draws. 3.e8Q+? Rxe8 4.Sxe8 Qxe8 and
 Black even wins.

vi) Ke5 4.Sf3+ Kd6 5.Se4+ Kc6 6.Se5+ Kd5
 7.Sc3+ (fork) Kxe5 8.Sxa4 and wins.

vii) 4.Sf3? Qa3 5.Be4 Sc8 6.a7 Sxa7 draws, or
 in this 6.e8Q Rxe8 7.Sxe8+ Kd7 and Black even
 wins.

viii) Ke5 5.Bc7+ Kd4 (Kxf5, Kd5; Sc3+)
 6.Bb6+ Ke5 7.Sf3+ Kf4 (Kxf5, Kd5; Sc3+) 8.Seg5
 (Sd2) and mate follows.

ix) The bK and bQ are not individually
 locked up, but they are chained together in a
 fork field... 5.Sf3? Qa3 6.Se5+ Kd5 7.f4 Sc8 8.
 e8Q/xiii Rxe8 9.Sf6+ Kd4 10.Sxe8 Qc1 draws.

x) Re8 6.Kg3 (heading towards e3 to support
 the forkfield) h4+/xiv 7.Kh3 Rh8 8.f3 wins, or
 Rg8 6.f4 Rh8 7.Kh4 wins, or Kd7 6.Sc5+ fork, or
 Kd5 (Kb5) 6.Sc3+ fork, or Qxa6 (Qa2) 6.Sb4+
 fork, or finally Qb5 (Qb3) 6.Sd4+ fork, all win-
 ning for White.

xi) Here 6.Kh2 is an unnecessary loss of
 time, leading back to the mainline some moves
 later. Other options are no good: after 6.f4? f6
 White is in Zugzwang (draw) or 6.Kg2? h3+
 7.Kh2 f6 8.Kg1 (After 8.f3 or f4 Qa2 there is no
 fork, so a draw) Rg8+ 9.Kh1 Re8 10.Kh2 Rh8
 and White cannot triangulate his way out of

this, so a draw, or 6.f6? Rg8 7.Kh2 (or in this 7.f3 Re8 8.f4 Rh8 draw) the passive defence 6...Rh8 is enough to draw.

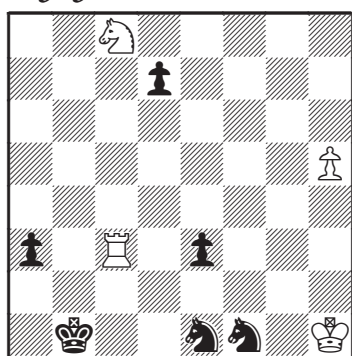
xii) Rh8 8.f6 Re8 9.Kxh4 Rg8 10.Kh3 Re8 11.Kg3 Rg8+ 12.Kf3 Re8 13.Sc3 and since the wK now blocks the queen's escape squares (f/g/h4), this forces the Queen to move into the fork winning for White.

xiii) 8.Sf6+ Kd4 9.a7 Sxe7 10. Bxe7 Qc1 draws.

xiv) Sc8 7.Bb5+ Kxb5 8.Sc3+ Kxa6 9.Sxa4 Sxe7 10.Bxe7 Rxe7 11.Sc3 Rc7 (Re5; Se3) 12.Sd5 and the second fork secures the win.

In the next study White must tread carefully to stay on the right side of the zugzwangs in the S vs 2S + pawn endgame:

No 20303 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely



h1b1 0107.13 4/6 Draw

No 20303 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia) & Ľuboš Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Rb3+/i Ka2/ii 2.Rxe3/iii Sxe3 3. h6 Kb1/iv 4.h7 a2 (S1c2; h8Q) 5.h8Q/v a1Q 6.Qxa1+/vi Kxa1 7.Sb6 d6 8.Kg1 Kb2 9.Kf2 S1c2 10.Kf3 zz Kc3 11.Kf4/vii zz Kb2 12.Kf3 zz Kb3 13.Ke4 Kc3/viii 14.Kf4 Kd2/ix 15.Sc8 d5 16.Se7 d4 17.Sc6 d3 18.Se5 Ke2 19.Sxd3 draws.

i) 1.Rxa3? e2 wins, or 1.h6? a2 2.Rb3+ Kc1 3.Ra3 e2 4.h7 Sc2 5.h8Q e1Q 6.Rxa2 Sfe3+ 7.Kh2 Qf2+ 8.Kh3 Qg2+ 9.Kh4 Qg4 mate.

ii) Kc1 2.Rxa3 e2 3.Ra1+ Kd2 4.h6 Sc2 5.Rb1 Sa3 6.Rb2+ Sc2 7.Rb1 draws, or Kc2 2.Rxa3 e2 3.Sd6 Sd3 4.Ra2+ Sb2 5.Ra1 Sd1/x 6.Ra2+ Sb2 7.Ra1 draws.

iii) 2.h6? e2 3.h7 Sd3 4.h8Q e1Q 5.Qg8 Qh4+ 6.Kg2 Qf2+ 7.Kh3 Qh2+ 8.Kg4 Qg2+ wins.

iv) S1c2 4.Sb6 Kb1 5.Sa4 Sd1 6.h7 a2 7.h8Q a1Q 8.Qxa1+ Kxa1 9.Sb6 draws according to the EGTB.

v) 5.h8B? Sd3 6.Sd6 Sb2 wins.

vi) 6.Qh3? S1c2 wins, or 6.Qh7+? Kc1 7.Sd6 (Qxd7 Qa8+;) Qa8+ 8.Qe4 Qh8+ 9.Kg1 Qh3 wins, or 6.Qg8? Kc2 7.Kh2 Kd3 8.Kg3 Qe5+ 9.Kh3 Qf5+ wins, or 6.Qh2 Sf3 wins.

vii) (11.Ke4? Kb3 zz 12.Kf4 Sc4 13.Sd5 S4a3 14.Sb6 Sb5 15.Kf5 Kc3 16.Ke4 Sb4 17.Kf5 Kd3 18.Kf6 Ke4 wins according to the EGTB.

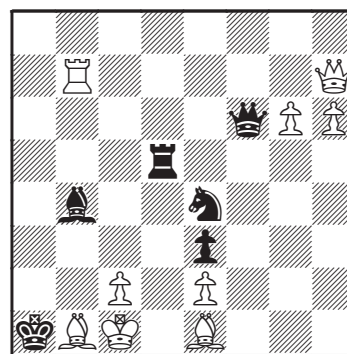
viii) Kb4 14.Kd3 Kc5 15.Sa4+ Kb5 16.Sc3+ draws according to the EGTB.

ix) Kb4 15.Sc8 d5 16.Se7 d4 17.Sc6+ draws.

x) or here Sg3+ 6.Kg2 Sd1 7.Ra2+ Kd3 8.Rxe2 Sxe2 9.Kf3 Se3 10.Sb7 draws.

The composers of our next study describe their work as “White eliminates the threat of stalemate and positional draw in Black's counterplay”.

No 20304 S. Hornecker & M. García



c1a1 4453.41 9/6 Win

No 20304 Siegfried Hornecker (Germany) & Mario García (Argentina). 1.Ra7+/i Ra5 2.Rxa5+ Bxa5 3.Qg7 Qxg7 4.hxg7 Bxe1 5.c4 Bd2+ 6.Kc2 Sf6 7.c5 and now:

— Ba5 8.c6 Sg8 9.Kc1 Se7 10.Bf5/ii Bc3 11.g8Q/iii Sxg8 12.c7/iv Se7/v 13.Kc2 Be5 14.c8Q Sxc8 15.Bxc8 wins, and:

— Be1 8.c6 Ba5 (Bg3; Kc1) 9.Kc1 Bd2+ 10.Kd1 Kxb1/vi 11.g8Q Sxg8 12.c7 Se7 13.g7 wins.

i) Try: 1.Rxb4 Qb2+ 2.Rxb2 Rd1+ 3.Kxd1 Sc3+ 4.Kc1 (4.Bxc3 stalemate) Sxe2+ 5.Kd1 Sc3+ 6.Bxc3 e2+ 7.Kd2 (7.Kxe2 stalemate) e1Q+ 8.Kxe1 stalemate.

ii) 10.Bd3 Bc3 11.g8Q Sxg8 12.c7 Se7 13.Bf5 Ka2 draws.

iii) 11.Kc2 Bxg7 12.c7 Ka2 13.Be6+ Ka3 14.Kd3 Kb4 draws.

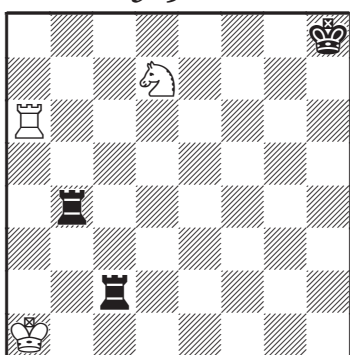
iv) 12.Be6 Se7 13.Kc2 Be5 draws.

v) Bb2+ 13.Kc2 Se7 14.Kb3 wins.

vi) Ba5 11.Bd3 or e4 Kb2 12.Bf5 Kc3 13.Be6 Kd4 14.g8Q Sxg8 15.Bxg8 wins.

In the next study it seems that to reach a draw White “only” needs to get his knight near his king but, of course, there is a little more to it.

No 20305 M. Doré



a1h8 0701.00 3/3 Draw

No 20305 Marcel Doré (France). 1.Ra8+/i Kg7 2.Ra7 Kh6/ii 3.Ra6+/iii Kg5 4.Ra5+ Kf4 5.Sc5 Ke3 6.Sa4/iv Kd2 7.Sb2/v Rbxb2 8.Rd5+/vi Kc1 9.Rd1+ Kxd1 stalemate.

i) 1.Se5? Rb3 2.Rh6+ Kg7 3.Rc6 Re2 4.Rg6+ Kh7 wins, but not Kh8? 5.Sc4 Rc3 6.Sb2 draws.

ii) Kg6 3.Se5+ Kf5 4.Sd3 draws, or Rd4 3.Kb1 draws.

iii) 3.Se5? Rb3 4.Ra4 Rg3 5.Rb4 Kg5 6.Rb2 Rc5 7.Sf7+ Kf6 8.Sd6 Ke5 wins.

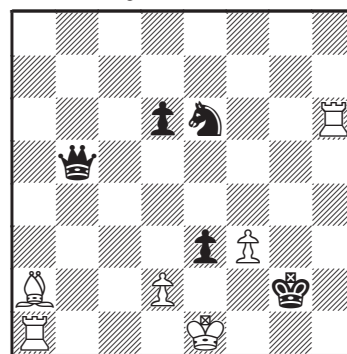
iv) Thematic try: 6.Ra3+ Kd2 7.Rd3+ Ke2 (Kc1?; Sb3+) 8.Rb3 Rxb3 9.Sxb3 Kd3 (Kd1?; Kb1) 10.Kb1 Kc3 wins.

v) 7.Rd5+? Kc1 8.Sb2 Rc3 wins, but not ...Rd2 9.Rc5+ Rc2 10.Sd3+ draws.

vi) 8.Rb5? Ra2+ 9.Kb1 Kd1 10.Rd5+ Rd2 wins.

In our final study White has to find the correct waiting move to end up on the right side of the zugzwang.

No 20306 P. Arestov



e1g2 3213.22 6/5 Draw

No 20306 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rg6+/i Kxf3/ii 2.Rf6+ (Rxe6 Qe2 mate;) Sf4 3.Rxf4+ Kxf4 4.dxe3+ Kf3/iii 5.O-O-O Qa4 6.Bf7/iv and now:

— Kxe3 7.Bd5 zz Ke2 8.Rd2+ Ke1 9.Rd3 Ke2 (Qa1+; Kc2) 10.Rd2+ Ke3 11.Rd1 Qa3+ 12.Kc2 Qc5+ 13.Kb2 Ke2 14.Bb3 draws, or:

— Ke2 7.Rd4/v Qc6+ 8.Kb2 Kxe3 9.Rd1 Qg2+ (Qb7+; Bb3) 10.Ka3/vi Qa8+ 11.Kb2 Qg2+ 12.Ka3 draws.

i) 1.Rxe6? Qf1 mate, or 1.dxe3? Qf1+ 2.Kd2 Qxa1 3.Bxe6 Qa5+ 4.Kd1 Qg5 wins.

ii) Sg5 2.dxe3 Qf1+ 3.Kd2 Qxa1 4.Rxg5+ draws.

iii) Kxe3 5.O-O-O draws, or Ke4 5.O-O-O Qa4 6.Rd4+ draws.

iv) Try: 6.Bd5+ Kxe3 zz 7.Bf7 Ke2 8.Kb2/vii d5 9.Rxd5 Qb4+ 10.Kc2 Qe4+ 11.Kb2 Ke1 wins, or:

6.Be6 Qa3+ 7.Kc2 Qc5+ 8.Kb1 Qb4+ 9.Kc1 Ke2 10.Rd4 Qc3+ 11.Kb1 Qxe3 wins, or

6.Bg8 Ke2 7.Rd4 Qc6+ 8.Kb2 Kxe3 9.Rd1 Qg2+ wins.

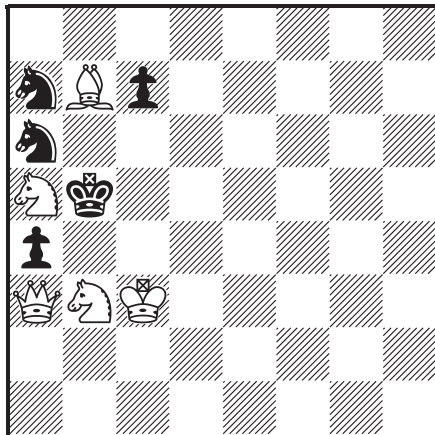
v) 7.Bh5+ Kxe3 8.Bf7 Ke2 9.Bh5+ Kf2 10.Rd2+ Ke3 11.Rxd6 Qa3+ wins.

vi) 10.Kb3? Qb7+ wins, or 10.Kc1 Qg7 11.Bb3 Qc3+ wins.

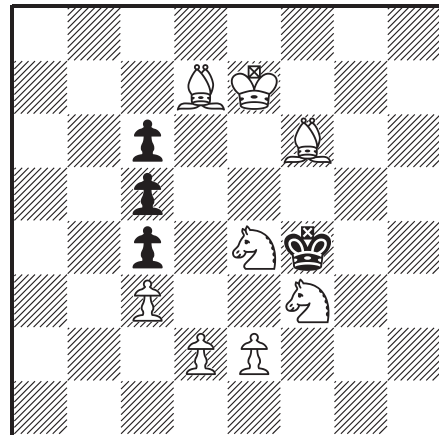
vii) 8.Bh5+ Kf2 9.Bf7 Qf4+ wins.

EG 50 year problems

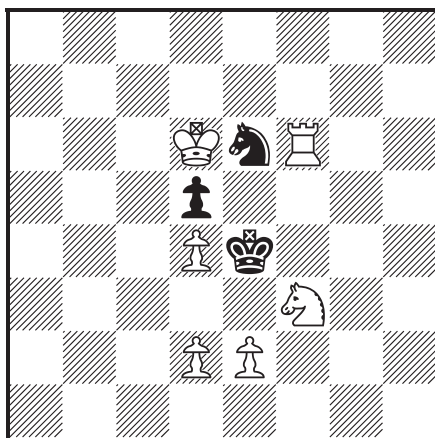
Pál Benko wrote: "I send 4 letter problems of mine, it is not exactly EG's style but it certainly makes the 50 anniversary more memorable".



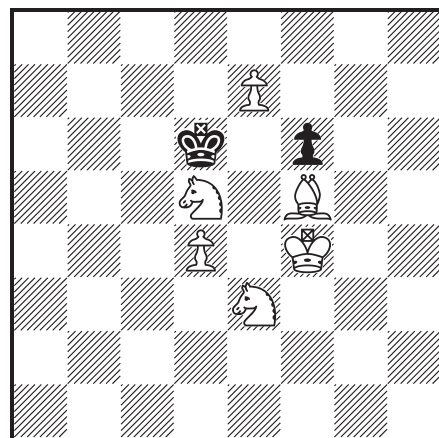
#3



#3



#3



#3

E: 1.Sc4 c5 2.Qxc5+, or 1...Sc6 2.Qxa4+.
 G: 1.Se5 Kxe4 2.e3.
 S: 1.Rf7 Sc5 2.dxc5, or 1...Sg5 2.Sxg5+.
 O: 1.e8R Kc6 2. Rb8.

Solutions

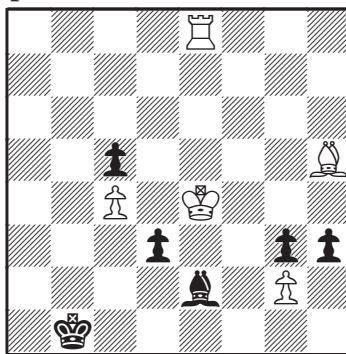
7 men database program findings

BY PÁL BENKO

Errors have been found in published studies using modern techniques especially with the M. Bourzutschky and Y. Konoval program so let me present some corrections and refinements to them. I have devoted myself to this field of chess in order to save these fine ideas. Of course the program has also found errors in other studies but I thought those ones not worth the effort of restoring them since they needed fundamental constructional changes. I intended keeping the original works with the most economical amendments possible.

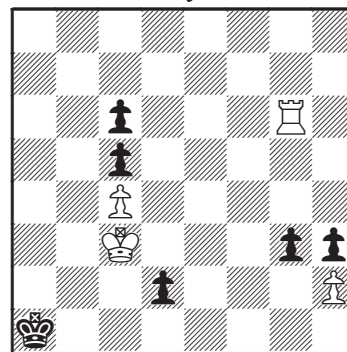
Less is more

B.1. L. Nyeviczkey
1st/2nd prize Vörös Meteor SE 1952



e4b1 0140.24 5/6 Draw?

B.2. version by P. Benko
Chess Life 2015



c3a1 0100.25 4/6 Draw

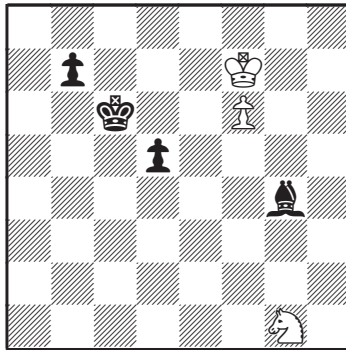
(B.1) 1.Bxe2 dxe2 2.Kd3 hxg2 3.Rxe2 g1R (3...g1Q 4.Re1+ Qxe1 stalemate) 4.Kc3 Rf1 5.Kb3 Rf3+ 6.Ka4 Rf4 7.Kb5 Rf5 8.Rg2 Rg5 9.Kb6 Kc1 10.Kb5 Kd1 11.Kb6 Ke1 12.Rxg3? (12.Kc6 (Kb5) draw) 12...Rxg3? 13.Kxc5 Rc3 (13...Kd2 wins for Black) 14.Kd5 draw.

Yet there are other flaws. There are duals that seem not shown by the program. For example 4.Rd2 or 4.Ke4 also lead to a draw and, on the other hand, the start is rather crude by merely exchanging pieces. There are no roles for the bishops so I reduced the material.

(B.2) 1.Rd6! gxh2 2.Rxd2 h1R! (2...h1Q 3.Rd1+ Qxd1 stalemate) 3.Kb3 Rb1+ 4.Ka3 Rg1 5.Ra2+! (5.Rh2? Rg3+ 6.Ka4 Rc3 7.Ka5 Rxc4 8.Rxh3 Rc1 wins) 5...Kb1 6.Rb2+! Kc1 7.Rh2 Rg3+ 8.Ka4 Kd1 (8...Rc3 9.Ka5 Rxc4 10.Rxh3 Rc2 11.Kb6 c4 12.Kxc6 c3 13.Kc5 Kb2 14.Kb4 draws, or 8...Kb1 9.Ka5 Rb3 10.Ka6 draws) 9.Ka5 Rb3 10.Ka4! Rf3 11.Ka5 Ke1 12.Kb6 Kf1 13.Kxc5 Kg1 14.Rxh3 Rxh3 15.Kxc6 draws.

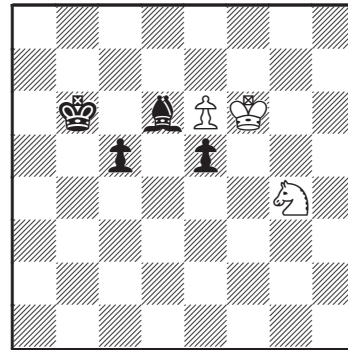
Pawn transfer

B.3. I. Melnichenko
3rd Hon. Mention Belokon MT 1989



f7c6 0031.12 3/4 Win?

B.4. version by P. Benko
Chess Life 2015



f6b6 0031.12 3/4 Win?

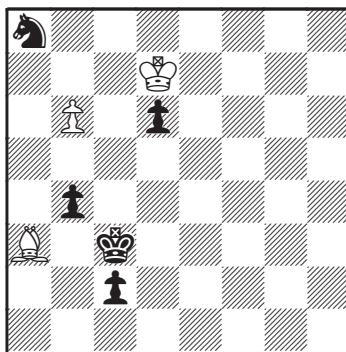
Naturally it is not always possible to reduce the material but transferring it may help.

(B.3) 1.Kg6 Be6 2.Se2 Kd6 3.Sf4 Bg8 4.Kg7 Ke5 5.Sg6+ Ke6 6.Se7 Bf7 7.Sxd5 wins (EG#07961). But 6...d4! draws.

(B.4) 1.Se3! (But 1.Sxe5? Kb5) 1...Kc6 2.Sc4 Bf8 3.Kf7 Kd5 4.Sb6+ Kd6 5.Sd7 Be7 (5...c4 6.Sxf8 c3 7.e7 c2 8.e8Q c1Q 9.Qd7+ wins) 6.Sxc5! Bh4 7.Se4+ Kc7 8.Sf6 wins.

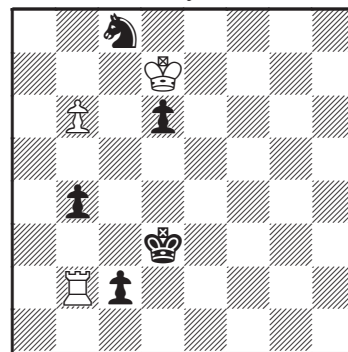
Let us raise the stake

B.5. A.Herbstman
64 1927



d7c3 0013.13 3/5 Draw?

B.6. version by P. Benko
Chess Life 2015



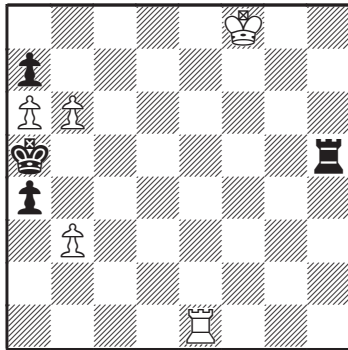
d7d3 0103.13 3/5 Draw

(B.5) 1.Bxb4+ Kxb4 2.b7 Sb6+ 3.Kxd6 c1Q 4.b8Q Qf4+ 5.Kc6 Qxb8 stalemate. A nice idea, but 1...Kb3! 2.b7 Sb6+ 3.Ke7 c1Q 4.b8Q Qg5+ 5.Kf7 Qf4+ 6.Ke6 Qe4+ 7.Kf7 Qxb4 wins.

(B.6) 1.Rb3+ Kc4 2.Rxb4+! Kxb4 3.b7 Sb6+ 4.Kxd6 c1Q 5.b8Q Qf4+ 6.Kc6 Qxb8 stalemate. A rook sac is more of a stunt than a bishop sac and it does not start with a capture.

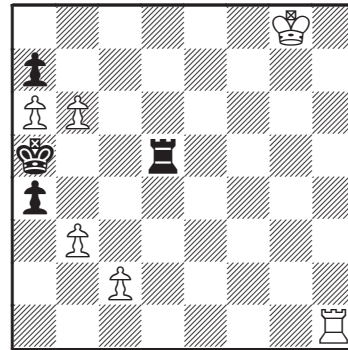
Added motifs

B.7. A. Maksalov
Sovyetskaya Moldavia 1975



f8a5 0400.32 5/4 Win?

B.8. version by P. Benko.
Chess Life 2015



g8a5 0400.42 6/4 Win

Sometimes it is inevitable that we have to add more material but we have to be stingy about it so that we could enrich the original work with some new motifs.

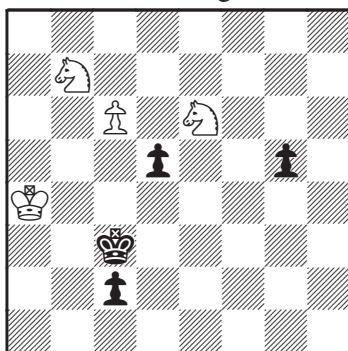
(B.7) 1.Re5+ Rxe5 2.bxa7 Rf5+ 3.Ke7 Re5+ 4.Kd7 Rd5+ 5.Kc7 Rc5+ 6.Kb7 Rb5+ 7.Kc6 Rb6+ 8.Kc5 Rxa6 9.b4 mate. Good idea but 8...axb3 draws.

(B.8) 1.Rh5! Rxh5 2.bxa7 Rg5+ 3.Kf7 Rf5+ 4.Ke7 Re5+ 5.Kd7 Rd5+ 6.Kc7 Rc5+ 7.Kb7 Rb5+ 8.Kc6 Rb6+ 9.Kc5 axb3 (9...Rxa6 10.b4 mate) 10.a8Q bxc2 (10...b2 11.Qh1 b1Q 12.Qxb1 Rxb1 13.a7 wins) 11.Qh1 Rb1 12.Qc1! Rxc1 13.a7 Ka4 14.Kc4! wins.

An effective addition to the original work!

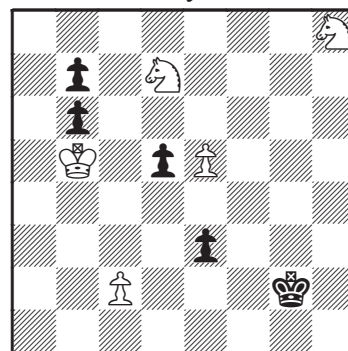
New ideas

B.9. J. Jespersen
British Chess Magazine 1885



a4c3 0002.13 4/4 Win?

B.10. P. Benko, after Jespersen.
Chess Life 2015



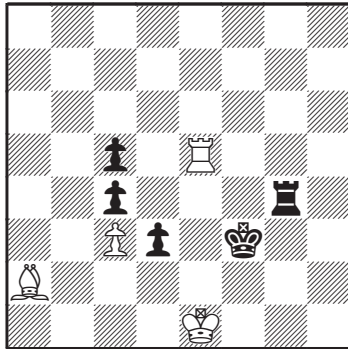
b5g2 0002.24 5/5 Win

(B.9) 1.Sd4 Kxd4 2.Sc5 Kxc5 3.c7 c1Q 4.c8Q+ wins . The double-knight sac is really an old motif but 2...Ke5!! 3.c7 c1Q 4.Sd3+ Kd6 draws. Furthermore, why shouldn't 1.c7 c1Q 2.c8Q+ Kd2 3.Sbc5 win?

This work has been lengthened both at the start and the finish and enriched with a new concept.

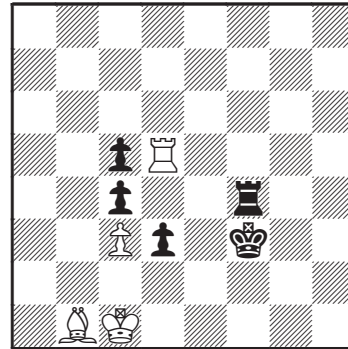
(B.10) 1.Sg6 Kg3 2.Sf4! Kxf4 3.e6 e2 4.Se5! Kxe5 5.e7 e1Q 6.e8R+!! wins (6.e8Q+? Kd4 7.Qxe1 stalemate!)

B.11. L. Pachman
Šach 1942



e1f3 0410.13 4/5 Win

B.12. version by P. Benko
Original



c1f3 0410.13 4/5 Draw

(B.11) 1.Bxc4 Rxc4 2.Kd2 Kf4 3.Rd5! Ke4 4.Rh5 wins. But 3...Re4! 4.Rxc5 Re5! draws.

(B.12) Thematic try 1.Rxc5? Rh4 2.Bxd3 Rh1+! (cxd3?; Kd2) 3.Kd2 Rh2+ draws. Solution: 1.Ba2! Rh4 2.Bxc4 Rxc4 3.Kd2 Ke4 (or 3...Rg4 4.Rxc5, or 3...Ra4 4.Kxd3) 4.Rh5 wins.

If 1...Kg4 2.Bxc4 Rxc4 3. Kd2 Rf4 4.Rxc5 Rf3 5.Rc8! Rh3 6.Rf8 Kg5 7.c4 etc.wins.

Snippets

1. Sadly, British otb IM Colin Crouch has died: 1956-2015.

Colin, a convivial companion until suffering a stroke several years ago, lived a bus-ride from me in north-west London, came to meetings of the Chess Endgame Study Circle, and contributed a solid didactic article on Rook vs. Three Pawns (GBR class 0100.03) published in *EG90* in 1987.

2. *Stinking Bishops*, a 100-page self-published book, is available from me for £15 or 20 euro. It's only tangentially relevant to studies, but is intended as a mini contribution to 7-man endgame theory -- breaking ground by giving the quite new tablebases a human face. The GBR force: 0440.10, max-length wins in each of the two cases - like and unlike bishops. As to the writing style: where truth is beyond reach, its replacement is humour.

3. Totally 'off-topic', I've also produced a DVD (running time: 60 minutes) on yoga for the over-60s. There are no 'stars', but it's an end-to-end class (with myself among them) run by an extraordinary lady two months short of her 90th birthday. It cheers me up – and encourages me to continue with hatha yoga – when someone guesses my age as in the 60's.

4. Definitely in the AJR chess pipeline – enquiries to: roycroft-info12@btinternet.com

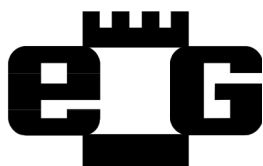
4.1 *EGEG*, a one-off ego-trip.

4.2 *A to Z of Studies*, but heaven knows when.

4.3 A personal website, long eschewed. This could be soon: www.roycroft-ajr.uk

4.4 Am booked for WFCC week at Ostroda (Poland) 1-8viii2015.

(John Roycroft)



Composer Gallery

Douze Points Twice!

BY YOCHANAN AFEK

This is my new column in which I hope to host and introduce a prominent composer in each issue. I chose an old friend to start with who will celebrate his 70th birthday next year, the Israeli composer **Yehuda Hoch**. I am not sure if he is aware of this, but in 2015 we celebrate the 50th anniversary of his first published endgame study. He may not be aware, perhaps, since it has been fully 20 years since the appearance in print of his most recent study.

Yehuda was born in Romania in 1946 and emigrated to the new Israel with his family at the age of four. He is married and a father of 3 daughters and presumably by now a fairly busy grandfather too. He worked as a systems analyst in the computer department of a big bank.



Yehuda Hoch

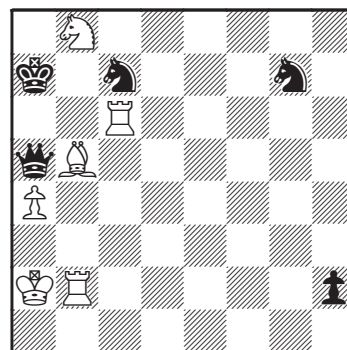
(photo from *Endgame Virtuosity*, p. 111)

There is something rather unusual about the chess career of Yehuda. While most composers have some playing background to a certain extent, our guest had never played in any chess tournament and was hardly even interested in any other aspect of the game other than our art! That is quite amazing considering the fact that he developed such fine analytical skills even prior to the chess programs era and relatively very few of his circa 250 studies have been cooked.

He published his first efforts in the late Israeli monthly *Shahmat* under the guidance of Hillel Aloni, the father of the Israeli endgame study and who was in fact the mentor of us all. Pretty fast he obtained a high standard that earned him more than a few prizes in the international arena. His excellent achievement in the first WCCT (1972-75) was favourably received. The theme of the study section required exchanges of roles between the rear and the front piece of a white battery:

A.1. Y. Hoch

4th Place WCCT1 1972-1965



a2a7 3217.11 6/5 Win

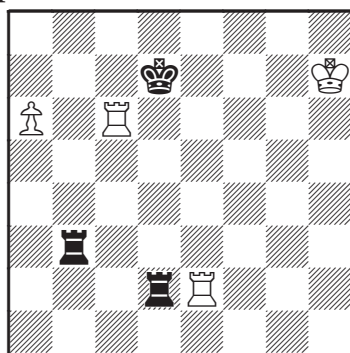
Black threatens to promote a second queen so White should seek vigorous action. **1.Ra6+!** Vacating a square for the subsequent fork. **1...Sxa6** (Or **1...Qxa6 2.Sc6+ Ka8 3.Bxa6**) **2.Sc6+ Kb6 3.Sxa5 h1Q 4.Bc6+ Sb4+!** To vacate a

square for a subsequent fork. **5.Rxb4+ Kxa5** **6.Rb5+ Kxa4** **7.Bd7!!** Creating an almighty battery from which the bQ has no shelter. The thematic attempt would fail: **7.Rd5+?** The battery components create a new battery **7...Kb4** **8.Rd4+ Kc3**. **7...Qh3!** **8.Rf5+!** **Kb4** **9.Rf4+** By now the new-born battery is unleashed once again from a safe distance. **9...Kc5** **10.Bxh3** wins (EG#2832).

Yehuda likes especially logical play and studies with bits of humour but he has also made a considerable contribution with a series of surprising discoveries in simple-looking end-games, notably rook endings:

A.2. Y. Hoch

1st prize *L'Italia Scacchistica* 1982



h7d7 o800.10 4/3 Win

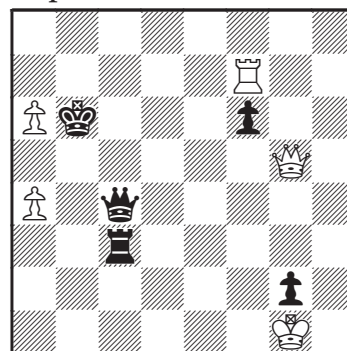
1.a7 Ra3! (Or **1...Rh3+** **2.Kg7 Rg3+** **3.Rg6 Rxc6+** **4.Kxc6 Rd6+** **5.Kf7 Ra6** **6.Re8 Rxa7** **7.Re7+** wins) **2.Rc3!** **Rda2!** **3.Rd2+!** **Ke6!** **4.Kg6!** Caution! **4.Re3+?** **Kf7!** **5.Rf2+?? Rxf2** **6.Rxa3 Rh2+** mating. **4...Ra1** (The rook ending following **4...Ke5** **5.Re3+** **Kf4** **6.Rxa2 Rxa2** **7.Re7** is hopeless). **5.Rd1!!** (A subtle point! The immediate **5.a8Q?** would prove premature owing to **5...Rg1+** **6.Rg2 Rxa8** **7.Rxc1 Rg8+** drawing) **5...R1a2** **6.a8Q!** (As now **6...Rg2+** is not an option) **6...Rxa8** **7.Re3** mate (EG#6239).

For many years Hoch was undoubtedly Israel's leading composer. His list of prizes and other distinctions is impressive and in 1992 he was awarded the title of International Master of Chess Composition. Nevertheless his most remarkable achievement has undoubtedly been his memorable score in FIDE Albums. In the history of the album only three studies have

scored the maximum 12 points so far, two of the three belonging to none other than the hero of this article:

A.3. Y. Hoch

1st prize Mandil MT 1980

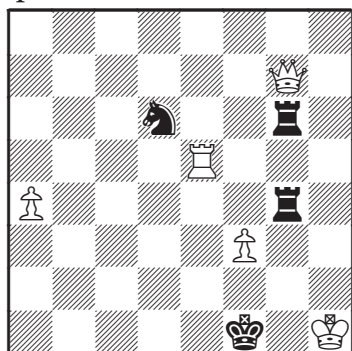


g1b6 4400.22 5/5 Win

First, here is the thematic try: **1.Rxf6+?** **Ka7** **2.Qg7+ Qc7** **3.Rf7** The bQ is trapped however... **3...Rc1+** **4.Kxc2** **Rc2+** **5.Kf3** heading to the only shelter on h7 (naturally not **5.Kh3?? Rh2+**) **5...Rc3+** **6.Ke4 Rc4+** **7.Kd5 Rc5+** **8.Ke6 Rc6+** **9.Kf5 Rc5+** **10.Kg6 Rc6+** **11.Kh7 Kxa6!!** **12.Rxc7 Rxc7** **13.Qxc7** stalemate! **1.a5+!! Kxa6** **2.Rxf6+ Ka7** (Following **2...Kb7** **3.a6+** White wins by force in various ways i.e. **3...Kb8** **4.a7+** **Ka8** **5.Rf8+** **Kxa7** **6.Qa5+** **Kb7** **7.Qa8+** **Kb6** **8.Rb8+** etc.) **3.Qg7+ Qc7** **4.Rf7 Rc1+** **5.Kxc2 Rc2+** **6.Kf3 Rc3+** **7.Ke4 Rc4+** **8.Kd5** (Obviously not: **8.Kf5?** **Rf4+** **9.Kg6 Rxf7**) **8...Rc5+** **9.Ke6 Rc6+** **10.Kf5 Rc5+** **11.Kg6 Rc6+** **12.Kh7** (Again, Black has run out of checks and whilst he seems totally helpless he comes up with the final desperate trick) **12...Ka8!!** **13.Qg8+** (Since **13.Rxc7?** **Rxc7** **14.Qxc7** is an echo stalemate) **13...Qc8** **14.Rf8 Rc7+** **15.Kh8 Ka7!** (The final stalemate mine in view of **15...Kb8** **16.a6 Qxf8** **17.Qxf8+** **Rc8** **18.a7+** **Kb7** **19.Qxc8+**) Compared to the final position of the try all pieces have been lifted one rank upward (chameleon echo!) adding a new bottom rank and thus allowing the star move **16.Qg1+!!** (**16.Rxc8?** **Rxc8** **17.Qxc8** chameleon echo stalemate! EG#4814).

This masterpiece may well serve also as an ideal example for the logical theme of the current WCCT, just like the second 12 points scorer:

A.4. Y. Hoch
1st prize Dobrescu 60 JT 1994



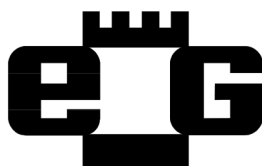
h1fi 1703.20 5/4 Win

Despite his evident material inferiority Black has various immediate threats. White indeed can afford some material concessions to perish those threats. **1.Re1+! Kxe1** (worse is 1...Kf2 2.Qa7+ Kxe1 3.Qe3+ Kf1 4.fxc4) **2.Qe5+!** (attention! Not 2.Qe7+? Kf2 (Kf1) after which black is the one who wins. Equally bad is 2.Qc3+? Kf2 3.Qb2+ Kxf3 wins) **2...Kf1!** (Not 2...Kf2 3.fxc4 Rh6+ 4.Qh5 Rxh5+ 5.gxh5 The slow knight can't cope with both his worst enemies, the edge pawns, while his king is too far behind) **3.fxc4 Rh6+ 4.Qh5!** The critical moment. The thematic try is: 4.Qh2? Se4!! (4...Rxh2+? 5.Kxh2 Kf2 6.a5 Kf3 7.a6 Sc8 8.g5 Ke4 9.g6 Kf5 10.g7 Se7 11.a7) 5.Qxh6 Sf2+ 6.Kh2

Sxg4+ 7.Kh1! (The other more "aggressive" legal king moves are not much better. 7.Kg3 Sxh6 8.a5 Sf5+! That's why! 9.Kf4 Sd6, or 7.Kh3 Sxh6 8.a5 Sf7! 9.a6 Sg5+! 10.Kg4 Se6 11.a7 Sc7 12.Kf3 Kg1! (Precision until the very end! Not 12...Ke1? 13.Ke3 Kf1 14.Kd3 Kf2 15.Kc4 Ke3 16.Kc5 Ke4 17.Kc6 Sa8 18.Kb7) 13.Ke3 Kg2 draws) 7...Sf2+! 8.Kh2 Sg4+ with a positional draw. **4...Se4!! 5.Kh2!** (The point. 5.Qxh6? Sf2+ 6.Kh2 Sxg4+) **5...Sf6! 6.Qh3+!** (Qxh6? Sxg4+;) **6...Kf2!** (6...Rxh3+ 7.Kxh3 Kf2 8.g5 Se8 9.a5 Kf3 10.a6 and the bK is just one move short of salvation. The same comes after 6...Ke2 7.g5 Sg4+ 8.Kg3 Rxh3+ 9.Kxh3) **7.Qxh6 Sxg4+ 8.Kh1!** (8.Kh3? Sxh6 9.a5 Sf7! 10.a6 Sg5+ 11.Kg4 Se6! 12.a7 Sc7 13.Kf4 Sa8 14.Ke4 Kg3 And the bK will be in time to lock his counterpart in the far corner. **8...Sxh6** (Compared to the thematic try the bK obstructs his own knight by now thus 8...Sf2+ is impossible) **9.a5** The white pawn is finally unstoppable (EG#9993).

This superb selection reflects the highlights of a brilliant career over three decades. Hopefully we will still see Yehuda Hoch back in business anytime soon.

P.S. A question to our readers: who is the author of the third 12 pointer study in the history of the FIDE Albums?



*Tasks
and themes*

WCCT X

BY SIEGFRIED HORNECKER

One of the most beautiful structures is the double helix of the human genome, containing in the DNA the complete knowledge about a human body. How exactly humanity came into existence has been debated since the beginning of time and it became no less of a mystery after this structure was found. The helix essentially looks as if a lot of “X” letters were bound together. The letter X, of course, also is used in other ways, for instance to mark the unknown – as seen in *The X-Files* (after over a decade now going for a tenth and probably final short season) where its use is hand-waved by the letter U not having enough space originally for **un**solved cases – or simply as the Roman numeral 10.

At this point in time we can associate both these meanings with the new WCCT. It is the tenth of its kind, and, as always, it will be very interesting to unravel the mystery as to who will win it with which brilliancy. Another mysterious number is the 7, and interestingly enough there is an explicit paragraph that disallows studies with the WCCT 7 theme to be used – probably because it is sufficiently recent that some of those studies could be reused and the great popularity of the theme would prevent many new discoveries. In my opinion, the theme of the new WCCT delicately manages to encourage something new while still using a refreshingly common theme. It remains to be seen if the tourney will produce any great innovation at all, seeing as how much is seen already in many of today’s tourneys.

The announcement requires:⁽¹⁾

*Theme: A logical study with the foresight theme. In a win or a draw study, there is at least one logical try. In this try a critical position **B** occurs that is very similar to a critical position **A** in the solution, except for a small difference. This difference could e.g. be a change in the position of a certain piece, missing/extra material, shifted positions, etc. Studies in which the critical positions are based on a reciprocal zugzwang (i.e. the difference is that position **A** has BTM and position **B** has WTM) are non-thematic. Further, studies that only feature the 7th WCCT theme as the foresight theme (passive removal of a white piece as a Vorplan and returning to the position and executing the main plan) are also non-thematic for this tourney. Judges and composers are advised to let artistic content prevail over numbers (number of moves, multiple positions A/B, tasks).*

In this article I propose to show several recent studies with this theme.⁽²⁾ First of all, we must define the term “logical”. I believe that this should be used in a broad way as in the Neudeutsche Schule, i.e. not only for a foreplan but also if there are several seemingly similar possibilities and only one wins while the other similar ones have a flaw that can be abused (“Auswahlschlüssel”). The following example demonstrates with only five pieces what I mean (H.1):

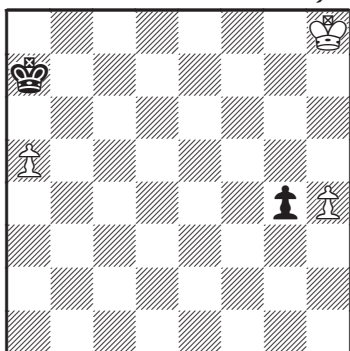
The try is the line starting with *1.h5?* and after a few moves White would need to play *4.a6* anyway, if everything goes according to the plan, thereby making the try only a different move order. Indeed, the position after *1.h5 g3 2.h6 g2 3.h7 g1Q 4.a6* is drawn. But with *1.h5?*

(1) Harry Fougiaxis & Georgy Evseev: *10th World Chess Composition Tournament. Announcement. March 2015.* Published on http://www.wfcc.ch/wp-content/uploads/WCCT-10_announcement.pdf

(2) Thanks to Martin Minski for sending me a compilation of WCCT 10 studies and allowing me to use them for my article, which I do in addition to other sources I consulted.

Ka6!! Black wins. He will promote with check, forcing the White king to h8, and then get closer with his queen until he reaches the position with wKh8 and bQg6. There follows the sequence Kb5, Qf7 and Qf8 mate.

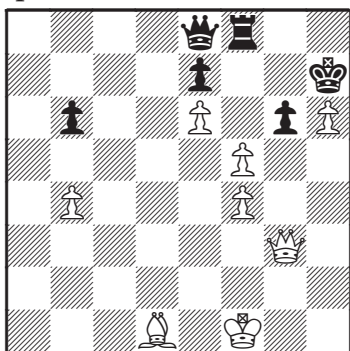
H.1. Pál Farago
3rd hon. mention *Československý Šach* 1937



h8a7 0000.21 3/2 Draw

The solution is **1.a6!! g3 2.h5 g2 3.h6 g1Q 4.h7**. Black can try the same manoeuvre, but without success since White would just be in time to promote, protecting f8. **Draw!**

H.2. Oleg Pervakov
5th prize Moscow-850 AT 1997



fih7 4310.53 8/6 Win

According to the English Wikipedia site, the first mention of Moscow dates back to 1147. In the early 13th century it was burned down by the Mongols and only in the 14th century did it start to become a prosperous town. Still, according to a chart, only in the past 250 years has the city reached stable growth.⁽³⁾ In 1997, a chess composition tourney was held to mark

(3) Information taken from the article *History of Moscow* in en-Wikipedia, last changed on 22xi2014, see https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=History_of_Moscow&ol-did=634990024

occasion of the 850th anniversary of the first mention.

It is rather easy to find the solution – after checking the try first: **1.fxg6+? Qxg6 2.Bc2 R:f4+ 3.Kg1! Rf6! 4.Qg5! Rxe6! 5.Kf1 Rf6+ 6.Ke1 Re6+ 7.Kd1 Rd6+ 8.Kc1 Rc6 draws**. White does not have enough time to play his bishop away from the second rank, then enter it with his king and finally withdraw to b1, and as demonstrated in the variation above running to the queenside is no viable solution either. However, with c5 unprotected by Black the plan works:

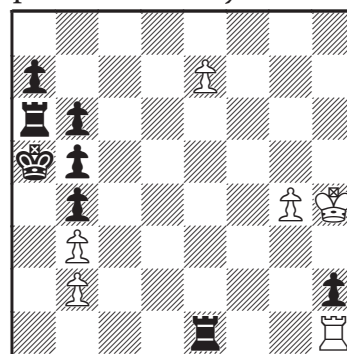
1.Ba4! b5 2.fxg6+ Qxg6 3.Bc2 R:f4+ 4.Kg1! Rf6! 5.Qg5! Rxe6! 6.Kf1 Rf6+ 7.Ke1 Re6+ 8.Kd1 Rd6+ 9.Kc1 Rc6 10.Qc5! wins.

Finally, it should be noted that **1.Bc2** looks deadly but only achieves a draw after **1..Kxh6! 2.fxg6 Kg7 3.Qc3+ Rf6 (EG#10951)**.

For more logical Pervakov goodness, see his first prize in EG 2009 (EG#16926).

I'm not certain if the following example is thematic, as the try fails only because it is an impossible move.

H.3. David Gurgenzidze
& Velimir Kalandadze
2nd prize *Shakhmaty v SSSR* 1975



h4a5 0700.45 6/8 Win

After **1.e8S! Rg1!** the try **2.g3? Rf1 3.Sd6 Rf4+ 4.Kh3 Rh4+ 5.Kg2** fails only because the move is impossible. A pawn does not move backwards.

2.Kh5 Rf1 3.g5 Rg1 4.Kh6 Rf1 5.g6 Rg1 6.Kh7 Rf1 7.g7 Rg1 8.Kh8 Rf1 9.g8Q (g8R) Rg1 10.Qg7 Rf1 11.Kh7 Rg1 12.Qg6 Rf1 13.Kh6 Rg1 14.Qg5 Rf1 15.Kh5 Rg1 16.Qg4 Rf1 17.Kh4 Rg1

OK, there might be the odd case where a pawn indeed does move backwards.

18.Qg3 Rf1 19.Sd6 Rf4+ 20.Kh3 Rh4+ 21.Kg2 wins.

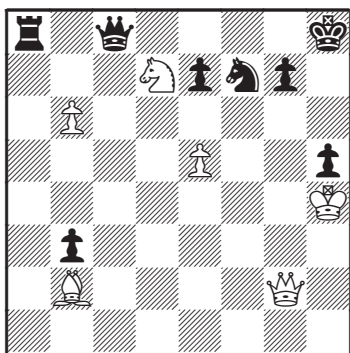
Sadly, 19.Sc7 also wins, most thematically after 19...Rf4+ 20.Kh3 Rf1 21.Sd5 Rg1 22.Kh4 Rf1 23.Qg4 Rg1 24.Qxb4 mate. However, I don't think this can be held in any way against the study. More serious is 18.Qg2! Rf1 19.Qg3! which could be regarded a loss of time dual if it would not water the intention by occurring at the wrong time.

With regards to the foresight theme, a single pawn move often happens in order not to obstruct a vital field later. If the pawn is removed in the process, the obstructed field often was where the pawn stood before, but it can also be where the pawn arrives.

Another very famous implementation of the foresight effect is under-promotion. Bo Lindgren had once created an incredible mate in 30 where White under-promotes on the third move to avoid a stalemate on the 29th move, by when twelve Black pieces have disappeared. It is included as a footnote here, as I assume readers know how to set up a position from a FEN string.⁽⁴⁾

The Didukh example below is far less mysterious, but still quite deep.

H.4. Sergiy Didukh
1st prize *Scacchi & Dintorni* 2006



h4h8 4314.24 6/8 Win

1.b7 Qc4+ 2.Kxh5 Rg8 3.e6 Qxe6 4.Qxg7+! Rxg7 will be easy enough to find, but the solver will be confused when he sees **5.b8Q+? Sd8**

(4) 8/k1P2b2/2PN4/PB5R/1Rp1P3/K1pppp1r/1B1n3r/n1bqN3, Bo Lindgren, *Probleemblad* 1999, Mate in 30. The solution starts with 1.Sc8+ Ka8 2.Sb6+ Ka7 3.c8R!!.

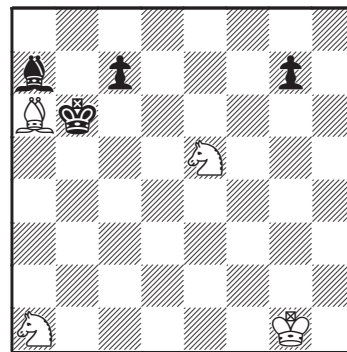
6.Qxd8+ Qg8 7.Sf8 e5 8.Bxe5 b2 9.Bxb2 Qd5+! 10.Qxd5 stalemate. Where did he go wrong? Of course at the promotion: **5.b8R+!! Sd8 6.Rxd8+ Qg8 7.Sf8! e5 8.Bxe5 b2 9.Bxb2 Qf7+ 10.Sg6+ Kh7 11.Rh8** mate (EG#17159).

Obviously 9...Qd5+ 10.Rxd5 would be completely pointless since g8 is not protected anymore.⁽⁵⁾

It is also possible to have more than one foresight effect on the same move. A nice example is already 90 years old.

H.5. E. Ratner

Bulletin de la Fédération Française des Échecs
1511925, issue October-December 1924



g1b6 0042.o2 4/4 Win

The try **1.Bf1? Kb7+** enforces one of two White mistakes. After **2.Kg2 Bd4 3.Sb3 Bxe5 4.Sa5+ Kc8!** it is impossible to give the crucial check on the diagonal h3-c8 to regain the piece. This makes it necessary to play (**1.Bf1? Kb7+**) **2.Kh1 Bd4 3.Sb3 Bxe5 4.Sa5+ Ka8! 5.Sc6 Bd6 6.Ba6 g5 7.Kg2 g4**, when White has lost a single but crucial tempo compared to the correct solution.

1.Be2! Kb7+ 2.Kg2 Bd4 3.Sb3 Bxe5 4.Sa5+ Ka8!

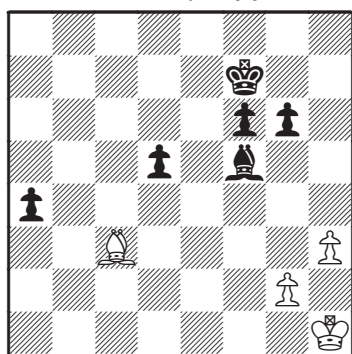
(5) It might be worth noting that this under-promotion is often used in connection with a critical square, for example 8/7p/6P1/6P1/5rk1/1B2p3/7P/6K1, Sergey Kaminer, *Zadachy i etyudy* 1927 (correction), White wins: **1.Bd1+ e2 2.Bxe2+ Kxg5 3.g7 Kh6 4.g8R!** (Rg4+; Rxg4;) **Rg4+ 4.Bxg4 Kh6 5.g8S+!** wins. Unfortunately, according to Kofman's 1981 published book, the 1906 born Kaminer's career ended early when he became a victim of the 'Great Purge' in 1938 and his studies only could be saved by Kaminer's friend and later OTB world champion Botvinnik who himself risked his life keeping the notebook he got in Autumn 1937. It is to be assumed almost a full final year of Kaminer's studies is lost forever.

After 4...Kc8 the easy 5.Bg4+ works but why does not the same idea work after the text move? 4...Ka8 5.Bf3+ seems to win back the piece at first, but the trick 5...c6! allows Black to keep his bishop. For the same reason 5.Bg2+ in the try (1.Bf1? Kb7+ 2.Kh1 line) is futile.

5.Sc6 Bd6 6.Ba6 g5 7.Kf3 (Kh3) and White wins since the king will move to c8 and then checkmate is delivered.

The discussion of whether studies can enhance the play in a chess game is an old one but what happens if a manoeuvre turns up in a game that could as well have been a study?

Veselin Topalov – Alexey Shirov,
Linares 4iii1998



White to move

White played 46.h4, probably being afraid of Black locking the pawn on a white square with 46...g5 otherwise, but should likely have

tried to centralize his king immediately. In the game followed 46...Ke6 47.Kg1 and now Black found a way to win that has gone down as one of the most spectacular moves in the history of chess games, according to both Tim Krabbé and John Emms who each made a list of such moves.

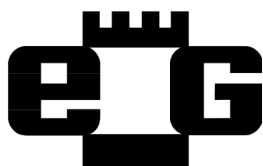
The foresight effect here is only two moves long, but it is remarkable to find such a highly paradoxical move in a game. The “normal” continuation is 47...Be4 48.Kf2 Kf5 49.g3! and even with his two pawns up Black will find it difficult to win, if it is possible at all. It is too bad that his bishop blocks e4 and if it only was not there...

47...Bh3!!

Of course now after 48.Kf2 Kf5 49.g3 Ke4 Black wins easily. The continuation in the game is not better for White, but there was nothing else to do, as 48.Kh2(!) Bg4 49.Kg3 Kf5 50.Bb2 Bh5 denies the field f3 for the White king, allowing Black to conquer e4 and the queenside.

48.gxh3 Kf5 49.Kf2 Ke4 50.Bxf6 d4 51.Be7 Kd3! 52.Bc4 Kc4! 53.Be7 Kb3 0-1

The Réti manoeuvre decides the game for Black. After 54.Ke2 Kc2 55.Bb4 d3+ 56.Ke3 a3 53...Kc3 54.Bf6 a3 55.Kf3 Kd3! also would have won.



History

Study tourneys from the past: *La Stratégie* 1936

BY ALAIN PALLIER

In 1935 *La Stratégie* announced a new study tourney of a special kind: the requested theme was for studies with specific material, two white pawns versus one black pawn, or the reverse. According to the announcement, entries had to be sent before 10th April 1936 but the deadline was postponed to 15th June.

Vitaly Halberstadt was announced as the judge, Marcel Lamare (once more under his *nom de plume* “Un Amateur de l’Ex U.A.A.R”) joined him. Halberstadt’s skills in the field of pawn endings needed no proving and Lamare, with his large collection of studies, could detect anticipations.

The award was very soon published, in the July issue. From the report, we know that eleven composers took part. In alphabetical order (with the respective number of entries): W. Bähr (2), David (1), F. Dedrle (3), T. Gorgiev (5), N. Grigoriev (10), E. Guttman (2), J. Hašek (4), V. Hadač-Kováň (2), F. Kloud (6), A. Mandler (4) and L. Mangalis (1). The judges wrote that they had been surprised by the high number of entries (40 – 2 arrived two days after the deadline and were refused) for a thematic tourney with such material. They added that, in their view, none of the entries was uninteresting. Three money prizes had been announced (125, 75 and 50 French francs) but in the end, no less than 6 prizes were awarded (a fourth prize was added and the special prize was turned into a fifth prize granted to two related studies). A total of 13 studies eventually made it into the award.

But the peculiarity of this tourney was that only three composers were successful. The main reason was that all ten studies by Nikolai Grigoriev’s were given an award, an achievement that has never been repeated since. Only two other composers made it to the award,

the Czech composer František Dedrle and the German composer Walter Bähr, while the other eight ended-up empty-handed. Here is the full award:

1st-2nd prize equal: F. Dedrle and N. Grigoriev

3rd prize: N. Grigoriev

4th prize: N. Grigoriev

5th prize (equal) and special prize: N Grigoriev (for 2 studies)

1st mention: W. Bähr

2nd mention: N. Grigoriev

3rd mention: N. Grigoriev

4th mention: N. Grigoriev

5th mention (equal): N. Grigoriev (for 2 studies)

Commendation: W. Bähr.

I start my presentation of the participants with some occasional study composers: the Czech composer **Vratislav Hadač-Kováň** (1905-1979) had the misfortune to have his name misspelled in *La Stratégie* (his handwriting was probably difficult to decipher and he became ‘Kovari Hadaï’!). From Lysá nad Labem, he was a strong player (in July 1936, for instance, he was in Podebrady for the Czechoslovak championship) and a good solver: his name appears, for instance, in the ladder tourney (for studies) of *Československý šach* in 1936; a contest he won. His ‘colleague’ **František Kloud** from Dobřany (Czechoslovakia) was also a solver (but less successful) in the same magazine. It seems that Kloud did not compose any other study but Vratislav Hadač-Kováň did compose some other works: for instance, in 1956, he was awarded a first honourable mention in the Louma MT judged by Herbstman, Halberstadt and Prokeš. **David**

(no first name was given in *La Stratégie*, and I don't know whether M. David, who published 2 studies in the *Bulletin Ouvrier des Échecs* after WWII, is the same composer) was another pure 'amateur' [HH: a Michael David from Vienna together with Carl Otto from Rostock published a book entitled *Ausgewählte Studien berühmter Komponisten* – Selected studies by famous composers - in 1936).

Two other participants left their name in the history of composition, but as problemists:

First, the Latvian composer **Laimons Mangalis** (1911-1982), who, at the time was not a Soviet citizen (but he was born in Russian Latvia), since Latvia was an independent state between 1918 and 1940. His name appears in the late twenties among the names of solvers of Mattison's chess column in *Atpūta*, a Latvian illustrated magazine. Mangalis left Latvia in 1944 and, four years later, settled in Australia where he became a noted problemist.

Second, **Erwin Guttman** (1909-1980) was a renowned German problemist who composed more than 600 problems (but only 4 studies).

Composers from Czechoslovakia had come in numbers: besides Kloud and Hadač-Kováň, three masters of composition representing the country. First, **František Dedrle** (1878-1957), the well-known Moravian composer and author, a head teacher in Brno, who was, writes John Beasley, "an all-rounder whose interests embraced problems, studies, and endgame theory". Known for his ability as an analyst (even if we know that computers have ruined a lot of his theoretical works, especially his analysis of the Q vs BB ending), he seemed to be a serious contender in an analytical contest. He was awarded equal first prize but, a long time after the tourney, an organic dual was discovered in his study. **Artur Mandler** (1891-1971) also belonged to the 'sub-family' of analytical composers (his Rooks and pawns endings composed after WWII testify to this as does his work on Rook versus Knight and pawn published in 1932). Three of his four entries had a short solution, without enough complexity, and could not seriously compete with the prize-winners.

Their compatriot **Josef Hašek** (1897-1976 or 1981; 1976 is given in *Malá encyklopedie šachu* by J. Veselý, J. Kalendovský and B. Formánek and 1981 in *Almanach českých problémistů* by Z. Libiš, the former being considered as more reliable than the latter) could also be seen as a specialist in pawn endings, even if we now remember him mainly for his audacious fortress positions with chains of blocked pawns. One of his entries was considered for a prize but the judges eventually rejected it for 'insufficient analysis', especially in a try on the second move. The judges were both right and wrong: wrong because, even if the author's analysis was too laconic, the try led to a draw as intended but Halberstadt and Lamare were right when they rejected it: the study was unsound, with a serious dual at move 6. Two of his other entries were anticipated.

Very little is known about German composer **Walter Bähr**. The *Wikipedia* page about him, only in German, gives some (scarce) information. His date of birth is unknown, as is his date of death. He lived in Freiburg in the Breisgau area (in 1932, he lived in Gottenheim). His name appears in the Freiburg-Badische Chess Association listings – he took part in tournament in Heidelberg in September 1933 and was a member of the Freiburg chess club (there, in 1935, he defeated Bogoljubov in a simul). The publication of his chess compositions (mainly studies and some problems) covers the years 1932-1940. In 1936 a self-published book entirely devoted to pawn studies, fully written by Bähr, appeared: *Opposition und kritische Felder in Bauernendspiel*. The composer also left the 'Bährsche Regel' (Bähr rule) that is quoted in Chéron, Averbakh and some other works. It concerns positions with blocked h pawns (e.g., wPh4 and bPh5) and a free white pawn on the a, b, c, d, or e file. Without doubt he was one of the foremost experts in the field of pawn studies at the time.

The two last composers were from the Soviet Union: **Tigran Gorgiev's** four studies lacked subtleties (one of those was amended, that is why five entries are counted) but the same cannot be said about Grigoriev's entries.

Nikolai Dmitrievich Grigoriev (14viii1895 – 10xi1938) was the hero of the tourney. It will not be a surprise that the main part of this article is devoted to him because he clearly outperformed all of his competitors. He was born in Moscow and his father was a violinist in the Bolshoi Theatre orchestra. The young Nikolai also studied the violin during his childhood. He learned the chess moves at 14 but his interest in the game was moderate until he reached 18. He studied mathematics at Moscow University and taught mathematics during a short time after WWI. Before that, in 1917 he was mobilized and sent to the front and severely wounded.

Grigoriev was one of the strongest players in the new country that emerged after the 1917 Revolution. The first chapter of Soltis' book *Soviet Chess 1917-1991* begins with the story of a twelve-game match in July 1919 between Alexander Iljin-Genevsky (or, if you prefer, Iljin-Zhenevsky) and Grigoriev. There was no decent place to play chess in Moscow anymore and they played in a basement, in half darkness, because of the lack of light. Iljin-Genevsky, born in 1894, was a political activist, member of the Bolshevik party since 1912, and expelled from high school at 17. Thanks to a maecenas, he had been admitted to a school in Geneva where he spent two years (that is why he added Genevsky to his name) and met Lenin during his Swiss years. Iljin-Genevsky was a strong chess player.

Grigoriev had his best results as a player during the 1921-1924 period (Chessmetrics gives him a historical Elo of 2610, for March 1922 – but these figures, based on a low number of played games, are not very reliable). He was awarded the title of Master of Sports in 1927. He also took part in several finals of the USSR championship with mixed results (his best result was in 1920 where he finished 5-7th equal in the first Soviet championship, known as the All-Russian Chess Olympiad at the time) and played numerous matches. During the thirties, his results in tournaments became less and less good.

Soltis quotes International Master and journalist Vasily Panov who met Grigoriev in 1918, when he was a 12-year-old boy himself: “Grigoriev was a tall, 23 year-old mathematics teacher with jet-black hair, piercing eyes, and thin, soulful facial features like a Romantic French poet”. Another Soviet player, Udovich, who attended a match between Riumin and Grigoriev in 1931, wrote that Grigoriev was always “outwardly calm and self-restrained, foppishly dressed, pedantically thorough”. Panov also said that Grigoriev never reached his potential in chess because he lacked both the competitive fire and any semblance of practicality. He once thought 40 minutes about his first move because he could not decide which pawn to advance. Grigoriev was also generous with time away from the board.

Alexander Herbstman, in his article *Memories of Famous composers*, recalls that he became friends with Nikolai Dmitrievich (‘Ende’, for ND, as his friends called him) around 1925. He invited him to the Caucasus, at Nalchik, where the Herbstman family had a ‘country place’. He depicts Grigoriev similarly: “He was a person of rare appearance, quite tall, elegant, dark-complexioned; with regular features, and hair of the blackest hue. His eyes were also black, and were lively and kind” (EG65, July 1981).

Despite his problems of time management, Grigoriev was a talented player: he took part in all the Moscow championships from the first one (1919-1920) until 1936. How many times did he win the title? In the 1990 *Encyclopaedic Dictionary* (written under A. Karpov's authority) we read that Grigoriev won three times in a row (1922, 1923 and 1924). However, after finishing clear first in the round-robin tournaments he put his title at stake by playing matches against Nenakorov (twice) and Zubarev. And, in the same *Encyclopaedic Dictionary*, we read about Nenakorov winning the title four times in 1900, 1908, 1922 and 1924... In 1929 Vassily Panov won the round-robin tournament but he challenged Grigoriev to a ‘master-match’ (Grigoriev had finished fourth) and lost. Soltis writes that Grigoriev took the Moscow title for

the fourth time that year... But you can also find in some listings that Panov was the winner in 1929... Grigoriev was a remarkable propagandist of chess and a tournament organizer who played a major role in the development of chess in Soviet Union during the twenties and the thirties.

In 1920, chess life in the country was 'disorganized' (a euphemism). At the time, in the young Soviet Russia, chess could not be taken for granted: more than one figure in the Bolshevik party considered chess a bourgeois pastime that needed to be fought. But, with skill, Iljin-Genevsky established plans for the development of chess. In 1920, he was appointed commissar of a military training program known by its acronym, *Vsevobuch* (in Russian *vseobshcheye voyennoye obucheniye*, Universal Military Training). *Vsevobuch*, a government agency, had been created in May 1918 with the aim of supplying the Red Army with contingents of trained conscripts. In concrete terms it was a crash program for physical fitness. Iljin-Genevsky's idea was that chess was a way to "develop boldness, inventiveness... and strategic ability". He convinced Nikolai Podvoisky, the *Vsevobuch* leader, and began a chess column, the first during the new regime, in the magazine *K Novoi Armii* (*To a New Army* and Grigoriev's very first pawn studies were published there in 1920). The same year, it was decided to organize the first chess championship in the country – a difficult task because Russian chess players were widely dispersed. Iljin-Genevsky succeeded in bringing together almost all the best chess players (some participants were... conscripted!).

The tourney was probably the "strangest tournament in chess history" (Michael Hudson). The story is worth telling: after round four, six players refused to play and presented an 'ultimatum' in which they asked for better conditions (in particular, they wanted more food). After the end of the strike (their demands were met, as far as possible), Iljin-Genevsky and Grigoriev remained the only members of the organizing committee. Iljin-Genevsky knew he could count on Grigoriev's energy and loyalty.

The same year, Grigoriev was appointed chairman of the new Moscow chess club.

Alekhine, in a booklet he quickly wrote just after leaving Russia (*das Schachleben in Sowjet-Russland*, published in Berlin by Bernhard Kagan in 1923), praised Grigoriev. He wrote: "Nikolai Grigoriev... is certainly one of the most remarkable phenomena in the present-day 'sunsetting' chess sky. He possesses much knowledge (in particular concerning pawn endings, he elaborated not only his own theory but also published one whole monograph [*I am not aware of any publication by Grigoriev at this time – AP*]) and his strength ranks him among masters. He is also an untiring and fanatical propagandist of the art of chess".

Grigoriev's friendship with the future World champion was not imaginary. Soltis writes that Grigoriev, during the civil war years, had spent his time playing 'casual games' with Alekhine and in March 1921, they played a match in Moscow (Alekhine won two games, and five were drawn). This probably explains why Alekhine was so laudatory in a booklet that was considered in Moscow to be a pamphlet critical of the Soviet system.

Grigoriev became more and more closely involved in Soviet chess. In October 1922 he began a weekly chess column in *Izvestia*, the official newspaper of the Soviet government. It lasted until 1933. For the next 15+ years, he was the linchpin of Soviet chess, tirelessly getting out across the country. For instance, in 1926, Grigoriev was sent on "a ten-week fact-finding trip", in order to evaluate the progress made in the campaign to teach and promote chess in factories. He came back 'amazed' by the first results, writing an article entitled 'Chess across Russia: An Instructor's Travelogues', that "it was as if a great chess wave had swept over the Soviet Union" (64, 30x1936).

By 1926, Iljin-Genevsky was no longer the boss of Soviet chess having been outmanoeuvred by Nikolai Krylenko. Like his predecessor, Krylenko was an early Bolshevik having been appointed Commander in Chief of the revolutionary troops in November 1917. He was not

as strong a player as Iljin-Genevsky, but he was much more influential. Krylenko intensified Iljin-Genevsky's policy and added a new dimension: he was authorized to use the funds from the NEP (New Economic Policy) in order to organize a chess tournament that would be attended by the elite of World Chess (except the exiled Alekhine). The Moscow tournament (1925) was the first event of this kind in the USSR and received wide media coverage there. Chess would not only be a mass phenomenon: the Soviet power also needed Soviet heroes in its field, i.e. young players formed by the Soviet system who could rival the strongest players in the world. From the late 1920s, the young Botvinnik became Krylenko's *protégé* and in the mid-1930s, it became clear to everyone that he was the greatest hope for Soviet chess.

Grigoriev kept his influential position in the new organization of Soviet chess: he was quickly appointed chairman of the organizing committee of the Moscow tournament, assisted by problemist Semion Semionovich Levman (1899-1943). Some years later, with his friend Valerian Eremeev (1899-1980), he was the main organizer of the 1935 and 1936 chess tournaments in Moscow (on this occasion, he was the first broadcasting chess commentator in the USSR). He had met Eremeev in 1924 during a propaganda tour. Eremeev came to Moscow and became the executive secretary of the All-Union chess section, until 1936.

Grigoriev was a first class analyst: in 1937, in the first volume of the *Shakhmatnyi Ezhegodnik*, a long theoretical article written by Grigoriev was published. It dealt with rook endings, especially rook and b-pawn vs. rook. In the last part of his article, the author disputed some analysis by André Chéron, contesting a rule that had been laid down by the French analyst in his first treatise published in 1923. Chéron, who was known for his talent for polemics, did not take offence at this criticism. When he happened to quote Grigoriev in some of his articles, it was always with respect (e.g.: "One of the most subtle composers of endgame", in the *Journal de Genève*, 12iii1952, and "the

undisputed king of pawn endings" in the same newspaper, 4iv1953).

Let us now move on to the composer. With around 350 studies, Grigoriev's output is impressive but this figure includes many didactic positions that have no artistic character (such as Q vs connected pawns positions) and many rook endings, among which only a part are real studies with a unique solution. Grigoriev also explored other territory than pawn only studies (Queen endings, minor pieces endings...). This leaves more than 200 pawn studies many of which were published posthumously. The 1954 book entitled *Shakhmatnoye Tvorchestvo N.D. Grigorieva* (*N.D. Grigoriev's chesswork*) contains 138 studies, among which 24 are not pawn studies. Bondarenko, in his 1973 book on pawn studies (*Etyud v peshechnom okonchani*), presents 105 studies composed by the Russian maestro (out of 636 studies). A large proportion of Grigoriev's studies were composed during the late 1920s and (mainly) the 1930s when Grigoriev's career as a player took second place. In tournaments, besides his outstanding and unique performance in the *La Stratégie* 1936 tourney (it was his only appearance in a non-Soviet composition tourney), he won a dozen awards in the USSR including six prizes. I only mention his pawn studies here but he also received some awards with other materials. No composer before him had raised the pawn study to such a level. Of course, you can find that some of his studies are unsound but the overall quality of his analysis is unquestionable. And, equally important, his ideas are brilliant.

Grigoriev died in 1938. This year was, with 1937, the worst of the Purge Years. Was Grigoriev a victim of repression? Some think he was but others deny that. From 1935 Krylenko's position weakened with the Procurator General, Andrey Vyshinski, embarking on a campaign to discredit him. There was a long and technical debate about Soviet law against the backdrop of the preparation of a new Constitution. A drafting commission was created and in December 1936 the new Soviet Constitution ("the most democratic in the world", officials said!) was adopted. In July of that year, Krylenko had

been appointed USSR Justice Commissar, at first sight a promotion but, at the same time, his enemy, Vyshinski, had been appointed the USSR's Prosecutor General. This reorganization meant a diminution of the power of the Justice Commissariat. Vyshinski was the new 'homme fort' of the repression machine and Krylenko was not involved in the show trials that followed. Worse, Krylenko had to defend himself and he wrote many articles in 1937, among which was one being self-criticism, entitled 'errors of the recent past', in which he recognized some faults.

At the same time, his chess policy was widely considered as a success with remarkable events such as the 1935 and 1936 Moscow international tournaments (with Grigoriev as a key member of the organization) and the first good results at an international level by Mikhail Botvinnik. Great players also settled in the USSR in 1935: first of all, Emanuel Lasker, invited by Soviet Government and patronized by Krylenko, and young Salo Flohr and Andor Lilienthal. Lasker left the USSR in 1937 but Flohr and Lilienthal stayed.

Krylenko knew perfectly how the Soviet regime was working. He knew that, sooner or later, he would be condemned. According to Sergei Tkachenko in an article written for website www.chesspro.ru, in the summer of 1937, Krylenko sent Grigoriev to the Far East for a propaganda tour, for lectures, simuls, but also with a message to Vasily Blyukher, a Marshal who was posted in Vladivostok where he commanded Soviet forces in the Far East. Grigoriev's friend Eremeev was also there.

Krylenko was arrested in February 1938 and executed in July. Blyukher was also purged and was executed in November 1938. Iljin-Genevsky was sacked from his NKVD post but he survived – he died during WWII near Leningrad. Maybe Grigoriev, who was 'Krylenko's right hand man', according to Botvinnik, could be in danger himself.

Tkachenko writes that Grigoriev was arrested in early October 1937 upon his return from the Far East. The *Wikipedia* page (in English)

about the Russian composer quotes Sergei Tkachenko's article as follows: "The NKVD militia on the train arrested him. Grigoriev was frail; he lost consciousness immediately after the use of force, and his throat began to bleed constantly. After an interrogation, the interrogators had to wash down the room. An unexpected illness then confined him to bed. Severe complications required immediate surgery. The patient was severely weakened and died of lung cancer".

It is known that Grigoriev acted as chief arbiter in the Botvinnik-Levenfish match that was played during that autumn in Moscow (for the eight first games) and in Leningrad (for the last five games). The match began on October 5, and finished in early November. Soltis, in his recent book about Botvinnik, devotes several pages to the match. Concerning the first game of the match, he writes (page 100): 'Krylenko, as chief arbiter, started Levenfish's clock at 6.30 pm on October 5' [1937]. But on page 104 we read about game 13: "He [Botvinnik] phoned the match arbiter, Grigoriev, to resign the game and end the match". Does it mean that Grigoriev was not able to work as arbiter at the very beginning of the match and had to be replaced? (but in this case, why by Krylenko?).

But chess writer Vladimir Neishtadt is categorical that the above story (with NKVD brutalizing Grigoriev) is false, being based only on Mrs Tatiana Morozova's story in her book *Призрачные тени шахматной истории* (*Ghostly shadows of chess history* - Odessa 2004). Mrs Morozov is a former chessplayer who won the Ukrainian Women's Championship in 1971 but, Vladimir Neishtadt insists, she is not reliable. According to him, Herbstman wrote the true story about Grigoriev's tragic fate in EG65: "In early autumn [1938] Nikolay told me that the doctors had diagnosed appendicitis and that he had to go into hospital. I visited him there. It turned out that they had operated but that Nikolay had caught an infection which turned septic. At that time medicine was not so advanced and there was no penicillin and they could not save his life". The *Wikipedia* page in German presents this version.

The obituary in 64, signed by the members of All-Union Section of Chess and Draughts, remained discreet, merely mentioning that, in the last year of his life, Grigoriev's health had deteriorated and that the composer had not paid attention to that. He had refused to rest and even 'burnt at work'. In his last months, he had to take to his bed but remained optimistic until the last days of his life. On October 9, he went for surgery but his weakened body could not tolerate the intervention. Neishtadt adds that, at the time, in case of medical malpractice, the truth could not be told in an obituary. Grand Master Grigory Levenfish, who wrote the biographical statement at the beginning of the 1954 book (*Tvorchestvo...*), tells more or less the same story: Grigoriev, during the summer of 1938, was full of projects. He was very busy with the relocation of the editorial office of *Shakhmaty v SSSR* from Leningrad to Moscow. He had to be taken to his bed and it was decided that he needed an operation immediately. His weakened body did not bear surgery.

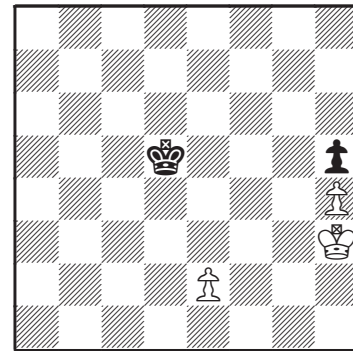
Grigoriev remained a beloved figure in the USSR. His 1936 French campaign was fresh in the memories of many chess fans in his country. His widow remarried, to Vladimir Evgenievich German who was, in 1938, editor-in-chief of *Shakhmaty v SSSR* (Grigoriev was his assistant editor) and became, after Krylenko's downfall, the new boss of the All-Union Chess Section, until 1941.

We leave the last words to one of the oldest Grand Masters: in a 2012 interview of Yuri Averbakh by Vladimir Barsky and Eteri Kublashvili on the occasion of his 90th birthday, he recollected two characters: "the person who made the greatest impression on me was Nikolai Dmitrievich Grigoriev. Back then [in 1935 - Averbakh was 13 - AP] I was looking for a place where I could play chess, and went to the Ministry of Justice Club, which was located on the corner of Ilinka Street and Bolshoi Cherkassy Lane. By the way, that was where I first saw the People's Commissar for Justice Nikolai Krylenko. I was stunned by his large, totally bald head, and also by his red eyes. It was only later that I realised he was systematically

sleep-deprived as they were preparing all those political trials... Anyway, Grigoriev gave a lecture in the club, showing some of his famous pawn studies. They made an enormous impression on me, and that was the first time I sensed that chess wasn't simply a game but was something more, that it was an art. And I also had the urge to master that field. That's how I got involved in chess".

Back to the *La Stratégie* tourney: here are the prize-winners that will illustrate Grigoriev's artistry (Dedrlé's first-second prize equal, flawed, has been omitted).

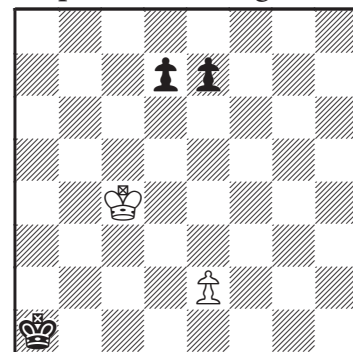
P.1. N.D. Grigoriev
1st-2nd prize *La Stratégie* 1936



h3d5 0000.21 3/2 Win

1.Kg3! (1.Kg2? Ke4! zz 2.Kf1 Kf5! 3.Kf2 Kf4, or 1.Kh2? Kd4! 2.Kg1 Ke5! 3.Kg2 Ke4 zz, draw)
1...Ke4 2.Kg2! zz Ke3 (Kf4; Kf2) **3.Kf1 Ke4 4.Ke1 Ke3 5.Kd1 Kf4 6.Kd2 Ke4 7.e3 Kf3 8.Kd3 Kg3 9.Ke4 Kg4 10.Ke5 Kxh4 11.Kf4 Kh3 12.e4 Kg2 13.e5** (Kg5? Kg3;) **h4 14.e6 h3 15.e7 h2 16.e8Q** and White wins, e.g. 16... h1Q 17.Qe2+.

P.2. N.D. Grigoriev
3rd prize *La Stratégie* 1936

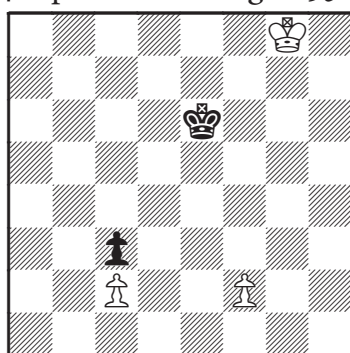


c4a1 0000.12 2/3 Draw

1.Kb3 with:

- **Kb1 2.e4 Kc1 3.Kc3 Kd1 4.Kb3 Ke1 5.e4!** (Ke3? e5;) **Kf2 6.e6** (or first 6.Ke4 as indicated by Grigoriev himself) **6...d6 7.Ke4 Kg3 8.Kf5** draws, or:
- **e6 2.e4!** (2.Ka3? Kb1; 2.Kc3? Ka2) **2...d6 3.e5! d5 4.Ka3! Kb1 5.Kb3 Kc1 6.Kc3 Kd1 7.Kd3 Ke1 8.Ke3 Kf1 9.Kf3 Kg1 10.Kg3 Kh1 11.Kh3** draws.

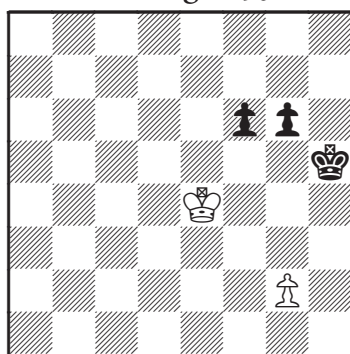
P.3. N.D. Grigoriev
4th prize *La Stratégie* 1936



g8e6 0000.21 3/2 Win

- 1.Kg7** (1.Kf8? Kf6 2.Ke8 Ke6) **1...Ke5 2.Kf7 Kf5 3.Ke7 Ke5 4.Kd7 Kd5 5.Kc7 Kc5 6.f4! Kd4 7.f5! Ke5 8.Kc6 Kxf5 9.Kd5** wins.

P.4. N.D. Grigoriev
5th prize equal (and special prize)
La Stratégie 1936

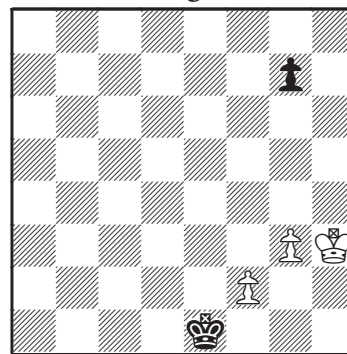


e4h5 0000.12 2/3 Draw

- 1.Kd5! Kg4** (Kg5 2.Ke6 f5 3.Kf7 [also 3.Ke5] f4 4.Ke6 Kg4 5.Kf6 Kh5 6.Ke6 Kg4 7.Kf6 g5 8.Kg6 Kh4 9.Kf5 Kh5 10.Ke5!) **2.Ke6** with:
- **Kg5 3.g3! f5 4.Kf7 Kh5 5.Kf6 Kh6 6.Ke6!** (Ke5? Kg5;) **Kg7 7.Ke5 Kh6 8.Ke6 Kg5 9.Kf7! Kh5 10.Kf6 Kh6 11.Ke6** draws, or:
- **f5 3.Kf6 g5 4.Ke5!** (4.Kg6? Kf4! 5.Kh5 g4) **4... f4 5.Kf6 Kh4 6.Kf5 Kh5 7.Ke5! Kg6 8.Ke4**

- Kh5 9.Ke5!** (Kf5? Kh4;) **Kg4 10.Kf6 Kh4 11.Kf5 Kh5 12.Ke5** draws.

P.5. N.D. Grigoriev
5th prize equal (and special prize)
La Stratégie 1936



0000.21 h3e1 3/2 Win

- 1.Kg2** (f4? Kf(e)2;) **Ke2 2.g4!** (f4? Kd3;) **Kd3 3.Kf3** (3.Kg3? Ke4 4.f4 g6) **3...g5 4.Kg2!** (4.Kg3? Ke4 zz), and:
- **Ke4 5.Kg3! zz Ke5 6.Kf3 Kd4 7.Ke2 Ke4 8.f3+ Kd4 9.Kd2 Kd5 10.Kd3 Ke5 11.Ke3** wins, or:
- **Kd4 5.Kf1 Ke5 6.Ke2 Ke4 7.f3+** wins.

References

About N. Grigoriev and Soviet chess life

Shakhmatnoye tvorchestvo N.D. Grigorieva - Шахматное творчество Н. Д. Григорьева (*Chesswork of N.D. Grigoriev*). Анализы, теоретические работы, этюды, избранные партии (Analysis, theoretical works, endgame studies, selected games). Moscow, 1954, 488 pages. (first edition: Moscow, 1952, 344 pages). The first edition contains 88 studies, the second 138. Compiled by International Masters Kan, Konstantinopolsky and Grandmaster Bondarevsky.

Two translations in foreign languages exist:

in Dutch, translated by A. Hondius under the title *Pionnenkunstenaar!* (Amsterdam, 1954-1956). Unfortunately based on the 1952 Russian edition, it has only 88 studies but a lot of articles are present (among which the 1937 one, about rook and pawn vs rook, in which Grigoriev disputes Chéron's analysis).

in Italian, translated by Giorgio Porreca (first edition Mursia, 1965), with the title: *N.D. Grigorjev, Finali di Schacchi*. It is based on the 1954 edition but many articles have not been translated. The study section is complete with the 138 studies but, curiously, dedications and awards are not given as in the original book in Russian.

Andrew Soltis: *Soviet Chess 1917-1991*, McFarland and Company, Jefferson, 1999. A well-documented work embracing the 75 years of chess life of Soviet Union. Andrew Soltis has also published *Mikhail Botvinnik: the Life and Games of a World Champion* (same editor, 2014).

Michael A. Hudson: *Storming fortresses: a political history of chess in the Soviet Union, 1917-1948*. University of California, Santa Cruz, 2013.

This online PhD dissertation was a great discovery. It is more accurate and detailed than Soltis' book, it gives the non-Russian reader (and maybe also Russian readers?) a lot of new information about chess life in Soviet Union, especially in the first years of the new regime. Michael Andrew Hudson's PhD was awarded in 2013-2014 and it is a real pleasure to be have it available online:

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/os71focw>

For Russian-speaking readers, the website www.chesspro.ru is a rich resource:

Sergey Tkachenko: http://www.chesspro.ru/_events/2008/grigoriev.html

Vladimir Neishtadt: http://www.chesspro.ru/thesaurus/neishtadt_chno_ni_sudba_to_tragedia8

Also, about the 1920 USSR championship an article by S. Voronkov <http://www.chesspro.ru/book/rc20.shtml>

Alexander Herbstman: *Memories of Famous Composers*, EG65, July 1981.

About Krylenko, see for instance IGM Kevin Spraggett's website:

<https://kevinspraggettonchess.wordpress.com/2013/02/09/nikolai-krylenko-the-bastard-who-re-shaped-world-chess/>

Full interview of Yuri Averbach can be read here:

<http://www.chessintranslation.com/2012/02/averbakh-history-is-written-by-the-victors/>

Jan Kalendovsky and Vlastimil Fiala: *Complete games of Alekhine, 1. Volume 1892-1921*, Olomouc 1992.

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About other participants:

František Dedrle

J.D. Beasley: *Some studies by František Dedrle*, BESN special number 31, June 2002.

Artur Mandler

J.D. Beasley: *Depth and Beauty, the chess end-game studies of Artur Mandler*, ARVES 2003.

Josef Hašek

J.D. Beasley: *Some studies by Josef Hašek*, BESN special number 14 March 1999. For more information (and more studies) by Hašek, Vladimir Kos: *Josef Hašek – 215 šachových studií* (1998).

Laimons Mangalis

B. Meadley and G. Foster: *Laimons Mangalis*, *The Problemist*, July 2009.

Walter Bähr:

http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walter_Bähr

Walter Bähr: *Opposition und kritische Felder im Bauernendspiel*. Self-published, Freiburg im Breisgau, 1936.

Special thanks to John Beasley, IGM Emmanuel Bricard, Hervé Bricard, Vladimir Neishtadt and Dominique Thimognier.

1st Internet Ty UAPA 2014

Mario Guido Garcia judged the 1st Internet tourney of the Union Argentina de Problemistas de Ajedrez. In total there were 44 studies by 24 composers from 15 countries and no fewer than 32 studies ended up in the award. HH thinks that it is not a good practice to include so many studies in an award.

Thematic studies

The theme: the tactical ideas pin, self-pin and unpin should be shown at least twice in the main line and (or?) try.

No 20307 Alain Pallier (France). 1...Bf3+ 2.Rxf3/i Qxf3+ 3.b7/ii selfpin Qxf2/iii unpin 4.Sc6/iv Qa2+ 5.Sa7 selfpin Qd5 pin and unpin 6.Rc6 pin f4 7.b8Q f3 8.Qb7 unpin f2 9.Sb5 Qe4 10.Sd4 g4 11.Sb3 Qf3 12.Sd2 wins.

i) 2.Ka7? Qd4 pin 3.Rxf5 Qg7+, or 2.b7? selfpin Bxb7+ 3.Kxb7 Qb4+, or 2.Sc6? selfpin Qd4 3.Rg6 e.g. Qd8+ 4.Ka7 Bxc6 5.Rxc6 Qe7+ draws.

ii) 3.Sc6? selfpin Qc3 4.Rxf5 Qxc6+.

iii) Kxf2 4.Sc6 unpin Qa3+ e.g. 5.Sa7 Qf3 6.Rc6 wins.

iv) 4.Sa6? Qf3 pin 5.Ka7 unpin Qe3+ 6.Ka8 Qe4 draws.

No 20308 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.e6/i Rh1+ 2.Kxh1 f1Q+ 3.Kh2/ii Qxf3 4.exd7+ Kf1 5.Rg1+/iii Kf2 6.Rg4 Kf1 7.Reg8/iv Qe2+ 8.Kh1 Qf3+ 9.Rg2 selfpin, and:

— Qh3+ unpin 10.Rh2 selfpin Qf3+ unpin 11.Rgg2 selfpin Ke1 12.d8S/v Kf1 13.Sf7 (Se6) wins, or:

— Qh5+ 10.Rh2 Qd5+ 11.Rgg2 Qxd7 12.Rg1 mate.

i) Try: 1.Rg2? pin Ke3 unpin 2.e6 d5 3.e7 Rh1+ 4.Kxh1 f1Q+ 5.Kh2 Qa1 6.Rd8 Qe5+ draws.

ii) 3.Rg1? selfpin Qh3 unpin, mate.

iii) Try: 5.Rf6? pin Qxf6 unpin 6.d8Q Qh4+ 7.Qxh4 stalemate, or 5.d8Q? Qg2+ 6.Rxg2 stalemate.

iv) 7.Rg1+? Kf2 8.Rg4 Kf1 repeats.

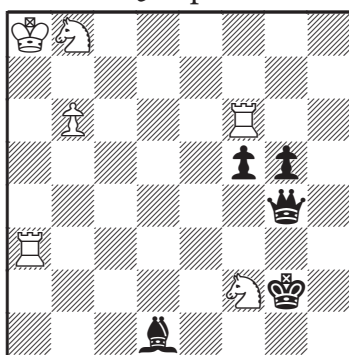
v) Try: 12.d8Q? Qf1+ unpin 13.Rg1 selfpin Qxg1+ 14.Kxg1 stelmate.

No 20309 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Se1/i Bh7+ 2.Sbc2+/ii selfpin Kb3 3.Rd7/iii Be4 4.Rd2 Re3 5.Sg2 Rh3 6.Se1, and:

— Re3 7.Sg2 Rd3 unpin 8.Rxd3+ Bxd3 pin 9.Se1 Be4 10.Sd3 unpin Kc3 11.Sdb4/iv self-pin b6 12.Sa2+/v Kb3 13.Sb4 b5 14.Sd3 unpin Bxd3 pin, stalemate, or:

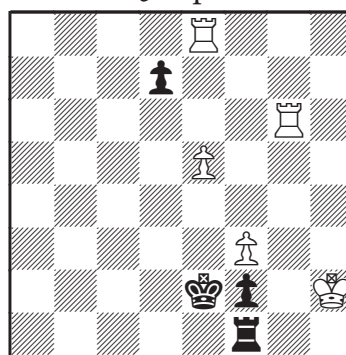
— Rh1 pin 7.Rd3+ unpin Bxd3 pin, stalemate.

No 20307 A. Pallier
1st/3rd prize



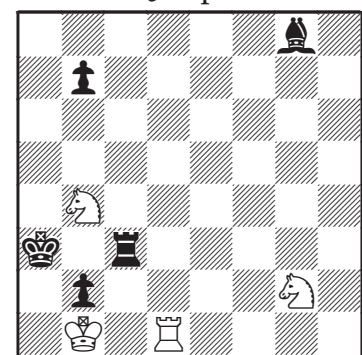
a8g2 3232.12 6/5 BTM, Win

No 20308 P. Arestov
1st/3rd prize



h2e2 0500.22 5/4 Win

No 20309 R. Becker
1st/3rd prize



b1a3 0432.02 4/5 Draw

i) 1.Sc2+? Rxc2 2.Kxc2 Bb3+ 3.Kb1 Bxd1 4.Se3 Bb3 5.Sd1 Ba2+ wins, but not 5...Bxd1 stalemate.

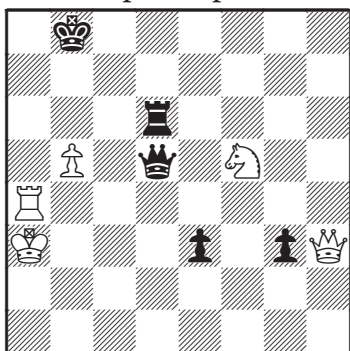
ii) 2.Sbd3? selfpin Kb3, or 2.Sec2+? selfpin Kb3, or 2.Sed3? selfpin Kb3 win.

iii) Logical try: 3.Rd2? Re3 4.Sg2 Re8 5.Rf2 Be4 6.Re2 Bd3 7.Rd2 Rd8

iv) 11.Scb4? selfpin Bxd3+ 12.Sxd3 Kxd3 wins.

v) 12.Sd5+? Bxd5 unpin, wins.

No 20310 I. Akobia †
1st special prize



a3b8 4401.12 5/5 Win

No 20310 Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Sd4/i e2 2.Qxg3/ii Qc5+ 3.Ka2/iii e1Q 4.Qxe1 unpin Rxd4 5.Qe8+ Kc7 6.b6+/iv Qxb6 7.Qe7+ Kb8/v 8.Qe5+ Rd6 selfpin 9.Ka3, and:

— Kc7 10.Qe7+/vi selfpin Rd7 selfpin 11.Rc4 wins, or:

— Qc6 10.Qh8+ Kc7 11.Ra7+ Kb6 12.Qb8+ Kc5 13.Rc7 pin, wins.

i) 1.Qxg3? pin Qd3+ draws, or 1.Qh8+? Rd8 selfpin 2.Qd4 Qxd4 unpin, draws.

ii) 2.Qh8+? Rd8 selfpin 3.Sc6+ Kc7 unpin 4.Ra7+ Kb6 5.Ra6+ Kc7 6.Qc3 e1Q 7.Qxe1 Qd3+ 8.Kb4 Qd6+ 9.Ka4 Qd1+ 10.Qxd1 Rxd1 draws.

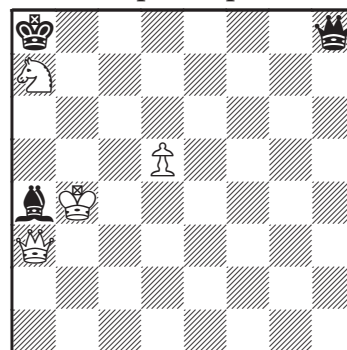
iii) Thematic try: 3.Kb2? e1Q 4.Qxe1 unpin Rxd4 5.Qg3+ Qd6 selfpin 6.Qg8+ unpin Qd8 selfpin 7.Qg3+ unpin Qd6 selfpin 8.Qg8+ unpin Qd8 selfpin, positional draw.

iv) Thematic try: 6.Qf7+? Rd7 selfpin 7.b6+ Kc6 unpin 8.Qe6+ Qd6 selfpin 9.Qc4+ unpin Qc5 selfpin 10.Qe6+ unpin Qd6 selfpin, positional draw, or 11.Qe4+ unpin Qd5+ selfpin, draws.

v) Kc6 8.Qe6+ Rd6 selfpin 9.Qc8+ unpin Kb5 10.Qc4 mate, or Rd7 selfpin 8.Rc4+ wins.

vi) 10.Qg7+? unpin Kc6 11.Rc4+ Kd5 12.Qf7+ Re6 selfpin, draws.

No 20311 A. Skripnik
2nd special prize



b4a8 4031.10 4/3 Win

No 20311 Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Sc6/i pin Qh4+ 2.Ka5 unpin Bxc6 3.dxc6 Qd8+ 4.Ka6 Qd6/ii pin 5.Qf3/iii Kb8/iv 6.Qb3+ Kc8 7.Qb7+ Kd8 8.Ka7/v unpin Qc7 pin 9.Ka8 unpin Qa5+/vi 10.Kb8 Qe5+ 11.c7+ selfpin Kd7 12.Qc8+ Kc6 13.Qa6+ wins.

i) 1.Sb5? pin Qh4+ 2.Ka5 unpin Bxb5 3.Kb6+ Qa4/vii selfpin 4.Qxa4+ Bxa4 draws.

ii) Qb8 5.Qe7 Qc8+ 6.Kb6 Qb8+ 7.Qb7+ selfpin Qxb7+ 8.cxb7+ wins.

iii) 5.Qxd6? stalemate.

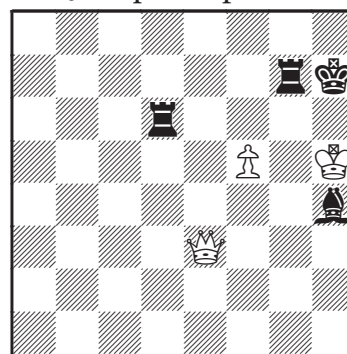
iv) Qf4 unpin 6.c7+ Qxf3 7.c8Q mate.

v) 8.Qa8+? Kc7 9.Qb7+ Kd8 loss of time. 8.Kb6? Qd4+ unpin, draws.

vi) Qc8+ 10.Qb8 selfpin, wins.

vii) But not Ba4? Selfpin 4.Qf8+ Be8 selfpin 5.Qxe8+ Qd8+ selfpin 6.Qxd8 mate.

No 20312 P. Arestov
3rd special prize



h5h7 1630.10 3/4 Draw

No 20312 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.f6 Rxf6/i 2.Qe4+/ii Kh8/iii 3.Qa8+/iv Rg8 selfpin 4.Qa1

pin Bg5 5.Qd4 zz Rg6 6.Qd8+ Kh7 7.Qe7+/v, and:

— Rg7 selfpin 8.Qxf6 unpin Bxf6 stalemate, or:
— Kh8 8.Qd8+/vi Rg8/vii selfpin 9.Qd4 pin, zz Rg7 unpin 10.Qd8+ positional draw.

i) Bxf6 2.Qd3+ Rxd3 stalemate.

ii) Thematic try: 2.Qd3+? Kh8 3.Qd8+ Rg8 selfpin 4.Qd4 pin Bg5 zz 5.Qe5 Rg7 unpin 6.Qe8+ Kh7 7.Qe4+ Kg8 8.Qd5+ Rff7 selfpin 9.Qa8+ unpin Rf8 selfpin 10.Qd5+ unpin Kh8 (Kh7) wins.

iii) Rfg6 selfpin 3.Kxh4 wins.

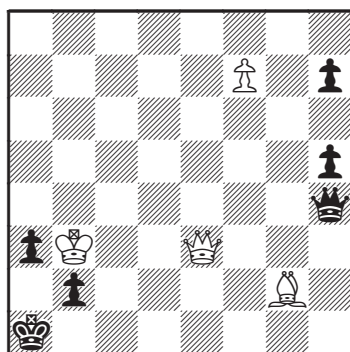
iv) Try: 3.Qe8+? Rg8 4.Qe5 Rg5+ wins.

v) 7.Qd7+? Rg7 selfpin 8.Qd3+ unpin Kg8 9.Qd5+ Rff7 selfpin 10.Qa8+ unpin Rf8 11.Qd5+ Kh8 wins.

vi) 8.Qe8+? Rg8 selfpin 9.Qe5 pin Rg7 unpin 10.Qe8+ Kh7 11.Qe4+ Kg8 12.Qe8+ Rf8 selfpin 13.Qe6+ unpin Kh8 wins.

vii) Kh7 9.Qe7+ Kh8 10.Qd8+ positional draw.

No 20313 R. Becker
1st honourable mention



b3a1 4010.14 4/6 Win

No 20313 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qg1+/i b1Q+ selfpin 2.Qxb1+ Kxb1 3.f8Q Qg3+ 4.Bf3 selfpin h4/ii 5.Qf5+ Ka1 6.Qf6+/iii Kb1 7.Qf8 h6 8.Qf5+ Ka1 9.Qf6+ Kb1 10.Qf8 h5 11.Qf5+ Ka1 12.Qf6+ Kb1 13.Qf8, and:

— h3 14.Qf5+ Ka1 15.Qf6+ Kb1 16.Kxa3 Kc2 17.Qb2+ Kd3 unpin 18.Qe2+ Kd4 pin 19.Qe4+ Kc3 unpin 20.Qe3+ wins, or:

— Qh3 14.Kxa3/iv, and:

— Qe6 15.Qb4+ Kc2 16.Be4+ Kd1 17.Qd4+ Ke2 18.Qd3+ Kf2 19.Qf3+ Ke1 20.Qe3 wins, or:

— Kc2 15.Qc5+ Kd3 16.Qd5+ Ke3 17.Qe4+ Kf2 18.Qe2+ Kg3/v 19.Qe3 wins.

i) Try: 1.Be4? a2 2.Qc3 pin Qh3 pin 3.Qxh3/vi unpin b1Q+ 4.Kc3 Qe1+ 5.Kd4 Qb4+ draws.

ii) Qh2 unpin 5.Be4+ Kc1 6.Qxa3+ Kd1 7.Qa1+, or Qc7 unpin 5.Be4+ Kc1 6.Qf1+ Kd2 7.Qf2+ wins.

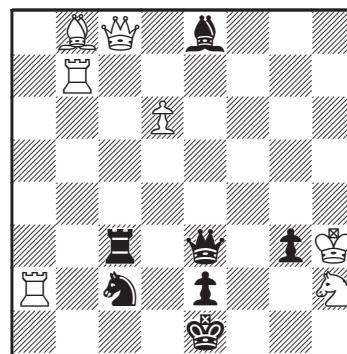
iii) 6.Qd5? Qb8+ unpin.

iv) 14.Qf6? (Qf7?) Qg3 15.Qf8 Qh3 loss of time.

v) Kg1 19.Qe3+ unpin Kf1 20.Be2+ selfpin Kg2 21.Bf1+ wins.

vi) 3.Bd3 unpin Qxd3 pin 4.Qxd3 unpin b1Q+ draws.

No 20314 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
2nd honourable mention



h3e1 4544.12 7/7 Draw

No 20314 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Sg4/i Qf3/ii 2.Qxc3+/iii Qxc3 3.d7 Bxd7 pin 4.Bxg3+/iv selfpin Kf1 5.Rb1+ e1Q selfpin 6.Rxe1+ Sxe1 7.Rf2+ Kg1 8.Rg2+ Kh1 9.Rh2+ Kg1 10.Rg2+ Sxg2 ideal double-pin stalemate.

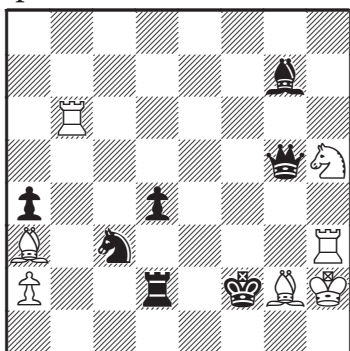
i) 1.Rb1+? selfpin Kd2 2.Rxc2+ Kxc2 3.Qf5+ Kd3 4.Sg4 Qd2 wins.

ii) Rxc8 2.Sxe3 Sxe3 3.Ba7 Kf1 4.Rxe2 Kxe2 5.Re7 pin Kf1 6.Bxe3 g2 7.d7 Bxd7+ 8.Rxd7, or Qd4 2.d7 g2+ 3.Qxc3+ Qxc3+ 4.Kxg2 Bxd7 5.Bg3+ Qxg3+ 6.Kxg3 Bxg4 7.Kxg4 draws.

iii) 2.Rb1+? Kd2 3.Qxe8 g2+ 4.Kh4 Qg3+ 5.Kg5 Rc5+ 6.Kf6 Qxg4 7.Qg6 Qxg6+ 8.Kxg6 e1Q 9.Rxc2+ Rxc2 10.Rxe1 Kxe1 wins.

iv) 4.Rxd7? g2+ 5.Kh2 Qf3 6.Rxc2 g1Q+ 7.Kxg1 Qxg4+ 8.Kh2 Qxd7 wins.

No 20315 L. Gonzalez
1st special honourable mention



h2f2 3554.12 7/7 Win

No 20315 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain).
1.Rf3+ Ke1 pin 2.Rf1+ Ke2 unpin 3.Sf4+/i Ke3 pin 4.Bc1/ii counterpin Qxf4+/iii 5.Rxf4 Be5 pin 6.Re6/iv counterpin Kxf4 7.Bxd2+/v Kf5+ 8.Rxe5+ Kxe5 9.Bh6 Sxa2 10.Bg7+ Kd6 11.Bxd4 a3 12.Bg7 wins.

i) 3.Sg3+? Kd3 pin 4.Rf3+ Qe3 selfpin 5.Rxe3+ dxe3 draws.

ii) 4.Re6+? Be5 selfpin 5.Rf3+ Ke4 6.Rf2+ unpin Ke3 draws.

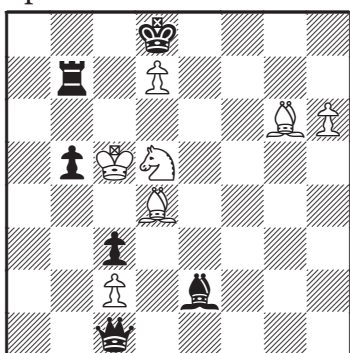
iii) Qh4+ 5.Kg1/vi unpin Se2+ 6.Sxe2 Be5 7.Bxd2+ Kxe2 8.Rh6 wins.

iv) 6.Bxd2+? Kxd2 7.Kg3 Se2+ 8.Kf3 unpin Sxf4 9.Bf1 d3 10.Ke4 Bc7 11.Rb7 Bd6 12.Rd7 Se2 13.Bh3 Sc3+ 14.Kd4 Sxa2 15.Rxd6 a3 16.Be6 Sb4 draws.

v) 7.Kh1? unpin Sb1 8.Re8 d3 9.Bc6 a3 10.Rd8 Bb2 11.Bxd2+ Sxd2 12.Rxd3 Se4 13.Kg2 Sc3 14.Bd5 Sxd5 draws.

vi) 5.Sh3? selfpin Be5+ 6.Kh1 Kd3 unpin 7.Bxd2 Kxd2 draws.

No 20316 M. Hlinka & E. Vlasák
2nd special honourable mention



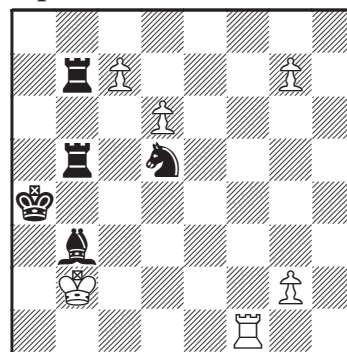
c5d8 3351.32 7/6 Draw

No 20316 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia) & Emil Vlasák (Czech Republic). 1.Kc6 Rc7+/i 2.Sxc7 Bf3+ 3.Kb6/ii Qxh6 pin 4.Bf6+ unpin Kxd7 5.Bf5+ selfpin Kd6 pin 6.Sxb5+ Kd5 pin 7.Sc7+ Kc4 8.Be6+ unpin Kb4 9.Be7+ selfpin Ka4 10.Bd6 unpin Qe3+ 11.Bc5 selfpin Qh6 unpin-pin 12.Bd6 unpin, positional draw

i) Rxd7 2.Bf6+ Kc8 3.Sb6+ Kb8 4.Sxd7+ Ka7 5.Bd4+ Ka8 6.h7 wins.

ii) 3.Kxb5? Qxh6, and: 4.Se6+ Kxd7 5.Sc5+ Kd6 6.Bd3 Kd5 7.Sb3 Be4 8.Bc4+ Kd6 9.Bxc3 Qg5+ 10.Kb4 Bxc2 wins, or here: 4.Se8 Bg4 5.Sf6 Bxd7 6.Sxd7 Qxg6 wins.

No 20317 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
special commendation



b2a4 0733.40 6/5 Win

No 20317 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.c8Q/i Rxc7/ii 2.d7 Rxd7 3.Ra1+/iii Ba2+ selfpin 4.Kxa2 Sb4+ 5.Kb1+ (Kb2+) Sa2+ selfpin 6.Kc2/iv Rc7+ 7.Qxc7 Rc5+ 8.Kd3/v Rxc7 9.Rxa2+ Kb3 10.Ra1 wins.

i) 1.Ra1+? Ba2+ selfpin 2.Kc2 Rc5+ 3.Kd1 Sc3+ 4.Kc2 Kb5 unpin 5.Rxa2 Sxa2+ 6.Kd3 Rd5+ 7.Ke3 Rxc7 8.g8Q Rc3+ 9.Kf2 Rcd3 draws.

ii) Bd1+ 2.Kc1 Rb1+ 3.Kd2 R7b2+ 4.Kd3 Be2+ 5.Ke4 Bxf1 6.Kxd5 Rd2+ 7.Ke6 Re1+ 8.Kf7 Kb4 9.g8Q Rf2+ 10.Kg7 Rxc2+ 11.Kf8 Rxc2+ 12.Kxc2 wins.

iii) Bc4+ 3.Ka1 Rxd7 4.Qxc4+ Sb4 selfpin 5.g4 Ka5 unpin 6.Rc1, or Rxc2+ 3.Kc1 Rb8 4.Qc6+ Kb4 5.Re1 Rc2+ 6.Qxc2 Bxc2 7.Re8 Rb6 8.d8Q Rc6 9.Kd2 wins.

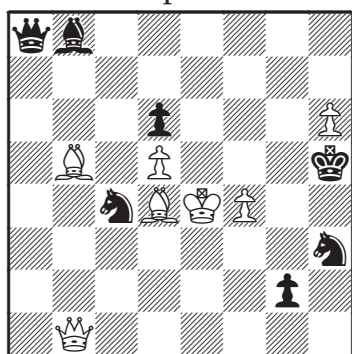
iii) 3.Qxd7? Bc4+ 4.Qxb5+ Kxb5 draws.

iv) 6.Kxa2? Rd2+ 7.Qc2+ Rxc2 mate.

v) 8.Qxc5? model pin stalemate.

Win studies

No 20318 P. Krug
1st prize



e4h5 4056.32 7/7 Win

No 20318 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Qd3/i Qxd5+/ii 2.Kxd5 Sxf4+ 3.Kc6/iii Sxd3 4.h7 Sde5+ 5.Kb7 Sa5+ 6.Kc8/iv Sf7 7.Be8 Kh6 8.Bxf7 Kxh7 9.Bd5 Kg6 10.Kxb8 wins.

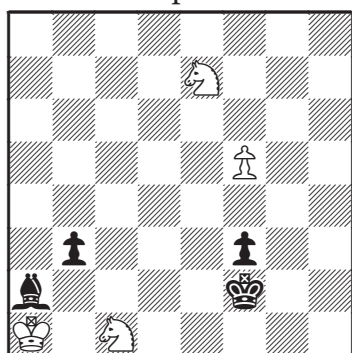
i) Tries: 1.Bxc4? Ba7 2.Qd1+ Kxh6 3.Qg4 Qe8+, or 1.Qd1+? Kxh6 2.Qe1 Sxf4 3.Kxf4 Se5 4.Qh4+ Kg7 5.Qg5+ Kf7 6.Qf5+ Kg8 7.Qe6+ Kg7 8.Bd7 g1Q, or 1.h7? Sd2+ 2.Kd3 Ba7, or 1.Be8+? Kxh6 2.Qe1 Sd2+ draw.

ii) g1S 2.h7 Ba7 3.Qxc4 Sf2+ 4.Bxf2 Qh8 5.Bxg1 Qxh7+ 6.f5 Bxg1 7.Be8+, and: Kh4 8.Kf3+ Kg5 9.Qf4+ Kf6 10.Qxd6+ Kg5 11.Qg6+ Qxg6 12.fxg6 Kf6 13.d6 wins, or here: Kg4 8.Qe2+ Kg3 9.Qf3+ Kh2 10.Qh5+ Qxh5 11.Bxh5 wins.

iii) Try: 3.Kxc4? Sxd3 4.h7 Se5+ 5.Bxe5 d5+ 6.Kxd5 Bxe5 7.Kxe5 Kg4 8.h8Q g1Q 9.Qg7+ Kf3 10.Qxg1 stalemate.

iv) Try: 6.Kxb8? Sg6 7.Be8 Kg4 8.Kc7 Sh8 9.Bd7+ Kf4 10.Be6 Ke4 11.Bg1 d5 12.Bh3 Kf3 13.Kd6 Sc4+ 14.Kxd5 Kg3 draw.

No 20319 M. Minski
2nd prize



a1f2 0032.12 4/4 Win

No 20319 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sd3+/i Ke2 (Ke3) 2.Sf2 Kxf2 3.f6 b2+/ii 4.Kxa2 Ke3/iii 5.Sd5+/iv Kd2/v 6.f7 f2 7.f8R/vi Kc1 8.Sc3 wins.

i) Logical try: 1.f6? b2+ 2.Kxa2 bxc1Q wins. 1.Sxa2? Ke2 2.Sc1+ Kd2 3.Sxb3+ Kd3, or 1.Kb2? Ke3 win.

ii) Ke2 4.Sf5 f2 5.Sg3+ Kf3 6.Sf1 Ke2 7.Sh2 Kd2 8.Kb2 wins. Ke3 4.Sd5+ Kd2 5.f7 f2 6.f8Q b2+ 7.Kxb2 Bxd5 8.Qxf2+ wins.

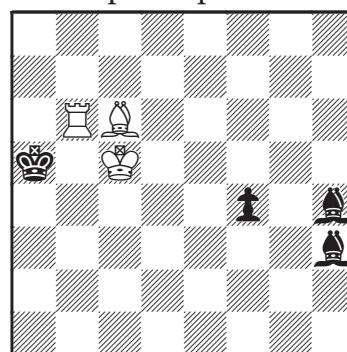
iii) Ke2 5.Sf5 f2 6.Sg3+ Kf3 7.Sf1 Ke2 (Kg2; Sd2) 8.Sh2 wins.

iv) 5.f7? f2 6.Sd5+ Ke2 7.Se3 (Sc3+ Ke1;) Kxe3 8.f8Q Ke2, or 5.Sf5+? Kf4 6.f7 f2 7.f8Q b1Q+ 8.Kxb1 f1Q+ draws.

v) Ke2 (Kd4; f7) 6.Sc3+ Ke1 7.Se4 wins.

vi) 7.f8Q? b1Q+ 8.Kxb1 f1Q(R)+ 9.Qxf1 stalemate.

No 20320 Y Bazlov & V. Kovalenko †
special prize



c5a5 0170.01 3/4 Win

No 20320 Yuri Bazlov & Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Rb5+ Ka4/i 2.Rb7+ Ka3 3.Ra7+ Kb3/ii 4.Bd5+ Kc2 (Kc3; Ra3+) 5.Rh7 f3 6.Bxf3/iii Bf2+ 7.Kd5/iv Bf5 (Bc8; Rc7+) 8.Rh2 Kd3 9.Rxf2 Ke3 10.Rf1 Bh3/v 11.Rh1 Bc8 (Kxf3; Rxh3+) 12.Be4 Bb7+ 13.Ke5 Bxe4 14.Re1+ wins.

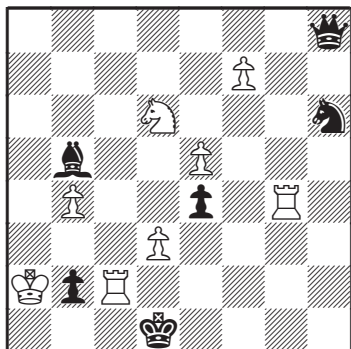
i) Ka6 2.Bb7+ Ka7 3.Bf3 Bc8 4.Ra5+ Kb8 5.Kd6 Bb7 6.Rb5 wins.

ii) Kb2 4.Rh7 f3 5.Bxf3 Bf2+ 6.Kc6 Bf5 7.Rh2 wins.

iii) 6.Rxh4? f2 7.Bc4 f1Q 8.Bxf1 Bxf1 draws.

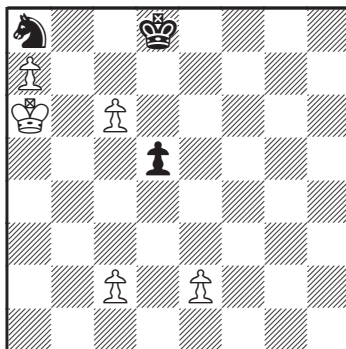
iv) Thematic try: 7.Kc6?/vi Bf5 8.Rh2 Kd3 9.Rxf2 Ke3 10.Rf1 Bd3 11.Rd1 Bc2 12.Rf1 Bd3 13.Rd1 Bc2 positional draw.

No 20321 P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



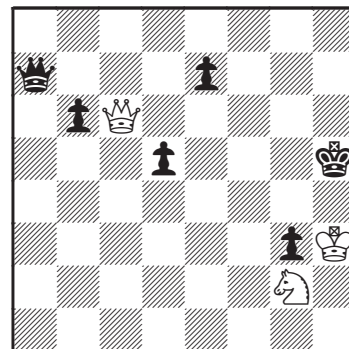
a2d1 3234.42 8/6 Win

No 20322 V. Tarasiuk
2nd honourable mention



a6d8 0003.41 5/3 Win

No 20323 R. Becker
3rd honourable mention



h3h5 4001.04 3/6 Win

v) Bd3 11.Rd1 Bc2 12.Rc1 Bb3+ 13.Ke5 Kxf3
14.Rc3+ Ke2 15.Rxb3 wins.

vi) 7.Kd6? Bg3+; 7.Kb4? Be1+.

No 20321 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rc8
b1Q+ 2.Kxb1 Bxd3+ 3.Ka2 Qxc8 4.Sxc8 Sxf7
5.e6 Bc4+ 6.Ka1/i Bxe6 7.Rxe4 Bxc8 8.b5, and:

— Sh6 9.Re7 Sf5 10.Rc7 Sd6 11.b6 Bf5 (Ba6;
Rd7) 12.Rf7, and:

– Bh3 13.Rf3 Bg2 14.Rd3+ wins, or:

– Bg4 13.Rf4/ii Be2 14.Rd4+ wins, or:

— Sg5 9.Re7 Se6/iii 10.Re8 Bd7 11.b6 Sc5 12.Re5
Sb7 13.Rd5+ wins, or:

— Kd2 9.Rc4/iv Bh3/v 10.b6 Bg2 11.Rf4 Se5
12.Rf2+ wins.

i) Try: 6.Kb2? Bxe6 7.Rxe4 Bxc8 8.b5 Sg5
9.Re7 Se6 10.Re8 Bd7 11.b6 Sc5 draws.

ii) 13.Rg7? Bf5 14.Rf7 Bg4 loss of time.

iii) Kd2 10.Rc7 Bh3 11.b6 Bg2 12.Rg7, or Sf3
10.Rc7 Bf5 11.Rc4 Be6 12.Rc6 Sd4 13.Rd6 wins.

iv) 9.Re8? Bd7, or 9.Re7? Sd6.

v) Bb7 10.Rc7 Sd6 11.Rd7, or Be6 10.b6 Bd5
11.Rd4+ win.

No 20322 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Kb7/i d4 2.Kb8 (Kxa8 Kc8;) Sc7 3.a8Q Sxa8
4.Kxa8 Kc8 5.c7/ii Kxc7 6.Ka7 Kc6 7.Ka6/iii
Kc5 8.Ka5/iv Kc4 9.Kb6 Kb4 10.Kc6 Kc4 11.Kd6
Kb4 12.Kd5 Kc3 13.Kc5 wins.

i) 1.e3? Kc7 2.Kb5 Kd6 3.c3 Kc7 4.Kc5 Sb6
draws.

ii) 5.Ka7? Kc7 zz 6.Ka6 Kxc6 7.Ka5 Kc5 8.Ka6
Kc6 draws.

iii) 7.Kb8? Kb6 8.Kc8 Kc6 9.Kd8 Kd6 10.Ke8
Ke6 11.Kf8 Kf6 draws.

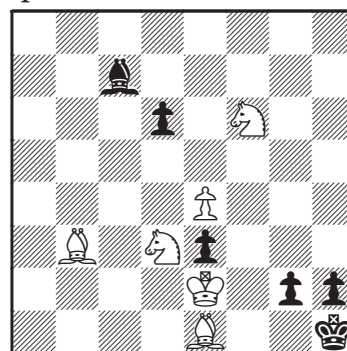
iv) 8.Kb7? Kb5 9.Kc7 Kc5 10.Kd7 Kd5 11.Ke7
Ke5 12.Kf7 Kf5 draws.

No 20323 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Sh4
(Qa6? Qa4;) Kg5/i 2.Qe6 Kf4 3.Qxd5 Ke3 4.Sg2+
Ke2 5.Sf4+ Ke3 6.Kg4/ii Qa6 7.Kxg3 zz e6 8.Sg2+
Ke2 9.Qxe6+ Kd2 10.Qe1+ Kc2 11.Se3+ Kb3/iv
12.Qb1+/v Kc3/vi 13.Qc2+ Kd4 14.Kf4 zz, wins.

i) e6 2.Qxe6 Qg7 3.Qxd5+ wins.

ii) 6.Kxg3? Qa6 zz 7.Sg2+ Ke2 8.Qe4+ Kd2
9.Qe1+ Kc2 10.Se3+ Kb3 11.Qb1+ Kc3 12.Qc2+
Kd4 13.Kf4 e5+ (e6+) draws.

No 20324 P. Krug
1st special honourable mention



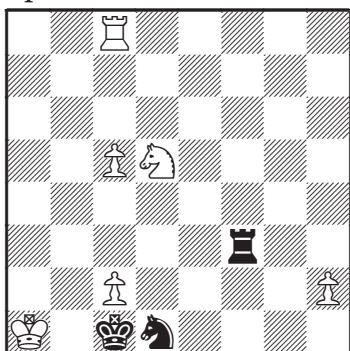
e2h1 0052.14 6/6 Win

No 20324 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Sf4 d5/i
2.e5 Bxe5 3.S6h5/ii Bxf4 4.Sxf4 Kg1 5.Bf2+ exf2
6.Sh3+ Kh1 7.Sxf2+ Kg1 8.Sh3+ Kh1 9.Kf3 g1S+
10.Kf2 Sxh3+ 11.Kf1 Sf4 12.Bd1 Sg2 13.Bf3 d4
14.Bxg2 mate.

i) Kg1 2.Be6 d5 3.S6xd5 h1Q 4.Bh3 Qh2
5.Kxe3 Bxf4+ 6.Sxf4 Kf1 7.Bf2 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 3.S6xd5? Bxf4 4.Sxf4 Kg1
5.Bf2+ exf2 6.Sh3+ Kh1 7.Sxf2+ Kg1 8.Sh3+ Kh1
9.Kf3 g1Q 10.Sf2+ Qxf2+ 11.Kxf2 stalemate.

No 20325 I. Akobia † & R. Becker
2nd special honourable mention



a1c1 0404.30 6/3 Win

No 20325 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Richard Becker (USA). 1.c3/i Sxc3/ii 2.Sxc3 Rxc3 3.Ka2 Kc2 4.c6 Rc4/iii 5.Ka3 Kc3 6.h3 (c7? Rc6;) Rc5 7.Ka4 Kc4 8.h4 Rh5/iv 9.Rb8/v Rh7 10.Rb7 Rh8 11.Ka3 Ra8+/vi 12.Kb2 Kd5 13.c7 Kc6 14.Rb8 wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Ka2? Sc3+/vii 2.Sxc3 Rxc3 3.c6 Kxc2 4.c7 Rc6 5.Ka3 Kc3 6.Ka4 Kc4 7.Ka5 Kc5 8.h4 Kd6 9.Kb5 Rc1 10.Rd8+ Kxc7 draws.

ii) Kc2 2.Rb8 Rf7 3.Sb4+ Kxc3 4.c6 Se3 5.h4 wins.

iii) Rc5 5.Ka3 Kc3 6.Ka4 Kc4 7.h4 wins.

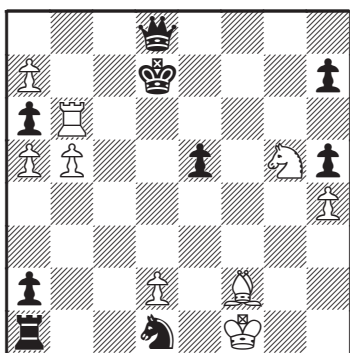
iv) Kd5 9.Kb4 Rc1 10.Rd8+ Kxc6 11.Rc8+ wins.

v) 9.Rd8? Rh7 10.Rd7 Rh8 11.Ka3 Kc3/xi 12.Ka4 Kc4 13.Ka5 Kc5 draws.

vi) Kc5 (Kc3; Rb3+) 12.c7 Kc6 13.Rb8 wins.

vii) But nor: Kxc2? 2.Rb8 Rf7 3.Ka3 Sc3 4.Sb4+ wins.

No 20326 D. Perone
commendation



fid7 3414.55 9/9 Win

No 20326 Daniel Perone (Argentina). 1.Rb7+/i Ke8 2.Rb8 Sxf2+ 3.Kxf2/ii Rf1+ 4.Kxf1

a1Q+ 5.Ke2 Qxa5/iii 6.Rxd8+ Qxd8 7.Se6 Qc8/iv 8.a8Q Qxa8 9.Sc7+ Kd7 10.Sxa8 axb5 11.Sb6+/v Kc6/vi 12.Sc8 Kd7 13.Sa7 wins.

i) 1.Rd6+? Kxd6 2.Sf7+ Ke7 3.Sxd8 Sxf2+ 4.Kxf2 Rc1 draws.

ii) 3.Ke2? Re1+ 4.Kxf2 waste of time.

iii) Qd4 6.Rxd8+ Qxd8 7.Se6 wins.

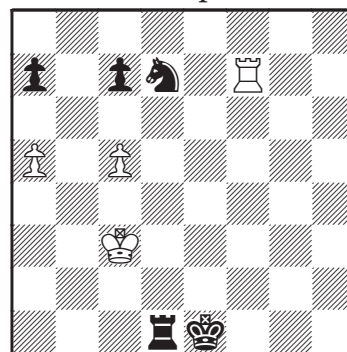
iv) Qd7 8.a8Q+ Ke7 9.Qxa6 wins.

v) Try: 11.Kd3? Kc6 12.Ke4 Kb7 13.Kd5 Kxa8 14.Kc5 Kb7 15.Kxb5 Kc7 16.Kc5 Kd7 17.Kd5 e4 18.Kxe4 Ke6 19.Kf4 Kf6 20.d3 h6 21.Ke4 Ke6 22.d4 Kd6 draws.

vi) Ke6 12.Kf3 (Kd3? Kf5;), or Kc7 12.Sd5+ win.

Draw studies

No 20327 M. Hlinka & J. Polašek
1st/2nd prize



c3e1 0403.22 4/5 Draw

No 20327 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia) & Jaroslav Polašek (Czech Republic). 1.Re7+/i Kf1/ii 2.c6 Sb8 3.Rxc7/iii Sxc6 4.Kc4, and:

— Rc1+ 5.Kb5/iv Sd4+ 6.Ka6 Rxc7 stalemate, or:

— Sxa5+ 5.Kb5 Sb7 6.Rh7/v Sd6+ 7.Kc6 Sc8 8.Kb7 Rd8 9.Kc7 Re8 10.Rh5/vi Ke1 11.Rd5 Ke2 12.Kb7 Sb6 13.Ra5 Sc8 (Re7+; Kb8) 14.Rd5 draws.

i) Try: 1.c6? Rc1+ 2.Kb2 Se5 3.Rxc7 Sd3+ 4.Kb3 a6 wins.

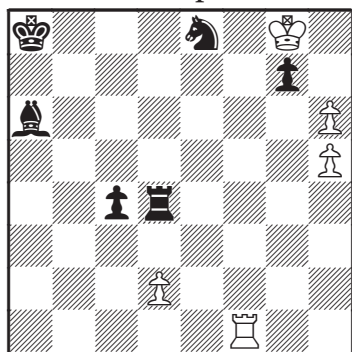
ii) Kf2 2.c6 Sb8 3.Rxc7 Sxc6 4.Kc4 Sxa5+ 5.Kb5 Sb7 6.Rc2+ Ke3 7.Ka6 Sd6 8.Kxa7 draws.

iii) Try: 3.Rf7+? Ke2 4.Rxc7 Sxc6 5.Kc4 Sxa5+ 6.Kb5 Sb7 7.Ka6 Sd6 8.Kxa7 Sb5+ wins.

iv) 5.Kd5? Sb4+ 6.Kd6 Rd1+ 7.Ke6 a6 wins.

- v) 6.Rxb7? Rb1+ 7.Kc6 Rxb7 8.Kxb7 a5 wins.
 vi) 10.Kb7? Ke2 11.Rh3 Kd2 12.Rh2+ Kd3
 13.Rh3+ Kd4 14.Rh4+ Kd5 15.Rh5+ Re5 16.Rh8
 Re7+ 17.Kxc8 a5 wins.

No 20328 D. Keith & M. Minski
 1st/2nd prize



g8a8 0433.32 5/6 Draw

No 20328 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.hxg7/i c3 2.dxc3 Rg4/ii 3.Rd1 Sxg7/iii 4.Rd8+ Bc8 (Kb7; Rd7+) 5.Rxc8+ Kb7 6.Rc4/iv Rxc4 7.Kxg7 Kc7 8.h6 Kd7 9.h7 draws.

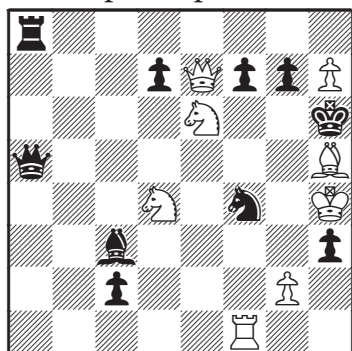
i) Try: 1.h7? Sf6+ 2.Kxg7 Sxh7 3.Kxh7 Bb7 (Rxd2?; Ra1) 4.Rc1 Bf3 5.h6 Be2 6.Kg8 Rg4+ (Bd3?; Rh1) 7.Kf7 Rh4 8.Kg7 Bd3 wins.

ii) Rd7 3.Rg1 Bc4+ 4.Kh8 Sf6 5.g8Q+ Bxg8 6.Rxg8+ Kb7 7.Rg7 draws.

iii) Bc4+ 4.Kh8 Sf6 5.Rh1 Re4 6.g8Q+ Sxg8 7.h6 Sf6 8.Kg7 Se8+ 9.Kf8 Sc7 10.h7 Rf4+ 11.Ke7 Rf7+ 12.Kd6 draws.

iv) 6.Rc5? (Rd8?, Rf8) Se6+ wins.

No 20329 P. Krug
 special prize



h4h6 4445.25 8/10 Draw

No 20329 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Sg5/i hxg2/ii 2.h8Q+ Rxh8 3.Sxf7+ Kh7 4.Sg5+ Qxg5+

5.Kxg5/iii Se6+ 6.Sxe6 Bf6+ 7.Rxf6 c1Q+ 8.Rf4 g1Q+ 9.Bg4 dxe6/iv 10.Qxg7+ Kxg7 stalemate.

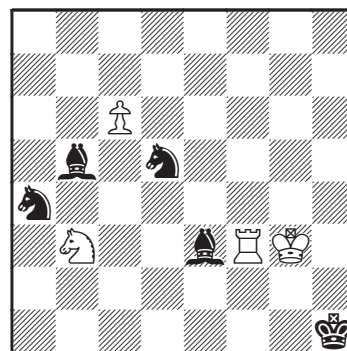
i) Tries: 1.Bxf7? hxg2 2.Be8 Sg6+ 3.Bxg6 Bxd4 4.Be8 Rxe8 5.Qxe8 g5+ 6.Kg4 Qf5+ 7.Rxf5 g1Q+ 8.Kh3 Qh1+ 9.Kg3 Qh4+ 10.Kg2 Qg4+ 11.Kh2 Bg1+, or 1.Sxf4? hxg2 2.Bxf7 Bb4 3.Qe2 gxf1Q 4.Qxf1 Be1+ 5.Kg4 Qg5+ 6.Kf3 c1Q, or 1.h8Q+? Rxh8 2.Sg5 Sg6+, or 1.Sxg7? Bxd4 2.Rxf4 h2 win.

ii) c1Q 2.Rxc1 f6 3.h8Q+ Rxh8 4.Sf7+ Kh7 5.Qe4+ g6 6.Qe7 Qxh5+ 7.Kg3 Sd5 8.Qxd7 draws.

iii) 5.Qxg5? gxf1Q 6.Qf5+ Sg6+ wins.

iv) Rg8 10.Qf7 Qh2 11.Sf8+ Kh8 12.Sg6+ positional draw, or Qc3 10.Sf8+ Rxf8 11.Qe4+ Kg8 12.Qd5+ Kh7 13.Qe4+ positional draw.

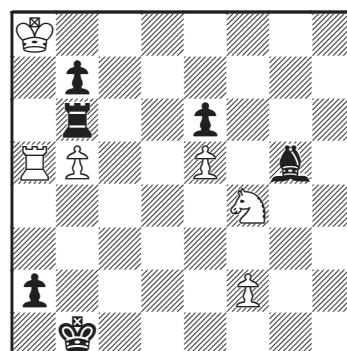
No 20330 Y. Bazlov
 1st honourable mention



g3h1 0167.10 4/5 Draw

No 20330 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.c7 Sab6 2.Rf5 Sxc7 3.Sd2 Bxd2 4.Kf2 Be8 5.Rf8 Bc3 6.Rf4 Be5 7.Rh4+ Bh2 8.Re4 Bg1+ 9.Kg3 Bc5 10.Re1+ Bg1 11.Re4 Bh2+ 12.Kf2 Bd6 13.Rh4+ Bh2 14.Re4 positional draw.

No 20331 A. Jasik
 2nd honourable mention



a8b1 0431.33 6/6 Draw

No 20331 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Ka7 Bd8/i 2.Se2 Kb2 3.Ra4 Kb3 4.Ra5 Kb2/ii 5.Ra4 Bc7 6.f3/iii zz Bd8 7.f4 a1Q 8.Rxa1 Kxa1 9.Sc3 Bc7/iv 10.Ka8 Bd8 11.Ka7 positional draw.

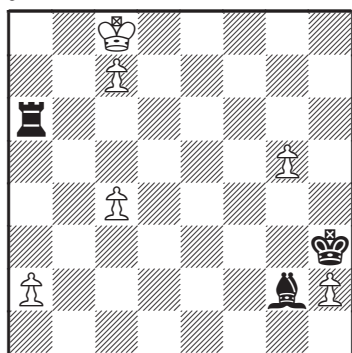
i) Bxf4 2.Kxb6 Bxe5 3.Kxb7 a1Q 4.Rxa1+ Kxa1 5.Kc6 draws.

ii) Rxb5 5.Rxa2 Kxa2 6.Sc3+ Kb3 7.Sxb5 draws.

iii) Thematic try: 6.f4? a1Q 7.Rxa1 Kxa1 8.Sc3 Bd8 9.Ka8 Be7 10.Ka7 Bc5 wins.

iv) Kb2 10.Sa4+ Kb3 11.Sxb6 draws.

No 20332 V. Tarasiuk
3rd honourable mention



c8h3 0330.50 6/3 Draw

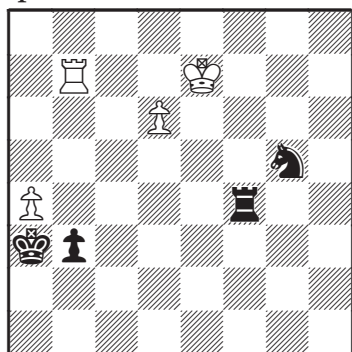
No 20332 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Kd8/i Bb7/ii 2.c8Q+ Bxc8 3.Kxc8 Rc6+ 4.Kb8/iii Rxc4 5.g6 Rg4 6.Kb7 Kh4 7.a3 Kh3 8.Ka7 Kh4 9.Kb7 Kh5 10.h3 Rg5 11.a4 Kxg6 12.Kb6 draws.

i) 1.Kb8? Ra8 mate, or 1.Kd7? Kh4 2.c8Q Bh3+ 3.Kc7 Bxc8 4.Kxc8 Kxg5 wins.

ii) Rd6+ 2.Ke7 Rc6 3.Kd7 draws.

iii) 4.Kd7? Rxc4 5.g6 Rg4, or 4.Kb7? Rxc4 5.g6 Rg4 6.a3 Kh4 7.h3 Kxh3 win.

No 20333 V. Kalashnikov & J. Mikitovics
1st special honourable mention



e7a3 0403.21 4/4 Draw

No 20333 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia) & Janos Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.d7 Re4+ 2.Kf6 Se6/i 3.Kf5/ii Re1 4.a5 Sd8 5.a6, and:

— Re6 6.Rb8 Rxa6 7.Rxd8 b2 8.Rb8 Rd6 9.Ra8+ Kb3 10.Rb8+ Kc3 11.Rc8+ Kd2 12.Rb8 Kc3 13.Rc8 positional draw, or:

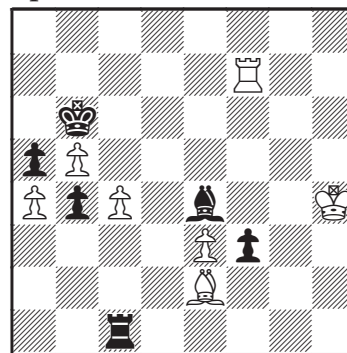
— Rf1+ 6.Kg6 Rg1+ 7.Kf6/iii Sxb7 8.d8Q Rf1+ 9.Kg6 Rg1+ 10.Kf6 Sxd8 11.a7 Rf1+ 12.Kg6 Rg1+ (Kb2; a8Q) 13.Kf6 positional draw.

i) Re6+ 3.Kxg5 Rd6 4.a5 b2 5.a6 Rxd7 6.Rxd7 b1Q 7.a7 draws.

ii) Try: 3.a5? Sd8 4.Rb6 b2 5.a6 Re6+ 6.Rxe6 b1Q 7.a7 Qb7 wins.

iii) Try: 7.Kf5? Sxb7 8.d8Q Sxd8 9.a7 Rg5+ 10.Kxg5 Se6+ 11.Kf6 Sc7 wins.

No 20334 I. Akobia † & P. Arestov
2nd special honourable mention



h4b6 0440.43 7/6 Draw

No 20334 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.c5+/i Rxc5 (Kxc5; Rc7+) 2.Bxf3/ii Bxf3 3.Rxf3 Rc4+ 4.e4 (Kg5? b3;) Rxe4+ 5.Kg3 b3 6.Rxb3 Rxa4 7.Rb2, and:

— Ra1 8.Kg2/iii a4 9.Rb4 a3/iv 10.Rb3 a2 11.Ra3 draws, or:

— Rb4 8.Ra2 Kxb5 9.Kf3/v a4/vi 10.Ke3 Rb3+ 11.Kd4 Kb4 12.Rc2 Rh3 13.Rb2+ Rb3 14.Rc2 positional draw, or:

— Re4 8.Kf3 Re6 9.Re2 Rxe2 10.Kxe2; draws.

i) 1.Bxf3? Rf1 2.Bh5 Rxf7 3.Bxf7 Kc5 wins.

ii) 2.Rf6+? Rc6 3.Rxc6+ Bxc6 4.Bd3 Bd5 5.e4 Bb3 wins.

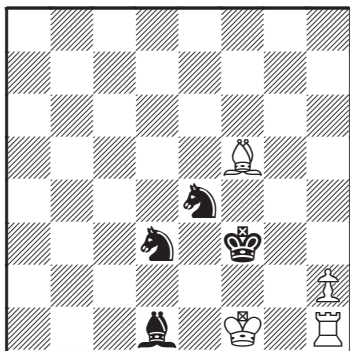
iii) Thematic try: 8.Kf2? a4 9.Rb4 a3 10.Rb3 a2 11.Ra3 Rh1 12.Rxa2 Rh2+ wins.

iv) Kc5 10.b6 Kxb4 11.b7 draws.

v) 9.Kf2? Rb3 10.Ke2 a4 11.Kd2 a3 12.Kc2 Kc4 (Kb4) wins.

vi) Rb3+ 10.Ke4 Kb4 11.Kd4 a4 12.Rc2 Rb1 13.Rc4+ Kb3 14.Rc3+ Kb2 15.Kc4 a3 16.Rb3+ draws.

No 20335 M. Minski
3rd special honourable mention



f1f3 0146.10 4/4 BTM, Draw

No 20335 Martin Minski (Germany). 1... Sd2+ 2.Kg1 Sf2 3.Bc8/i Bc2 4.Bb7+/ii Be4 5.Bxe4+/iii Sfxe4 6.h3/iv Kg3 7.h4 zz Sc3/v 8.Rh3+ Kxh3 9.Kf2 draws.

i) 3.Bd7? Ba4 4.Bc8 Bc6, or 3.Be6? Bb3 4.Bc8 Bd5 wins.

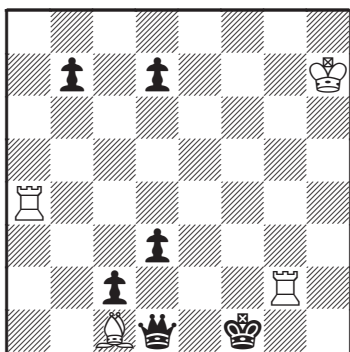
ii) 4.h3? Kg3 5.Bb7 Sfe4 wins.

iii) 5.h3? Bxb7 6.Rh2 Sfe4 7.Rg2 Bd5, or 5.h4? Kg3 6.Bxe4 Sfxe4 zz, wins.

iv) Thematic try: 6.h4? Kg3 zz 7.Rh3+ Kxh3, now 8.Kf2 is impossible, 8.h5 Kg3 wins.

v) Sf2 8.h5, or Sg5 8.hxg5 Sf3+ 9.Kf1 draw.

No 20336 M. Campioli
commendation



h7f1 3210.04 4/6 Draw

No 20336 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Rh2/i d2/ii 2.Rf4+/iii Kg1/iv 3.Rff2 Qh5+/v 4.Rxh5

dx1Q 5.Rhh2 Qg5 6.Rxc2 Qe7+ 7.Kg8/vi Qe8+ 8.Kh7 Qf7+ 9.Kh8 Qf8+ 10.Kh7 Qf5+ 11.Kg8 Qe6+ 12.Kh7 Qe4+ 13.Kg8 Qd5+ 14.Kh7 Qd3+ 15.Kh8 positional draw.

i) 1.Rag4? Qf3 2.R2g3 Qh1+ 3.Kg6 Kf2 4.Bd2 Ke2 5.Rg2+ Kd1 6.Bg5 Qe1 7.Ra4 c1Q 8.Bxc1 Qe6+ 9.Kg7 Qe5+ 10.Kg6 Kxc1 wins.

ii) Kg1 2.Rah4 Qf3 3.R4h3 draws.

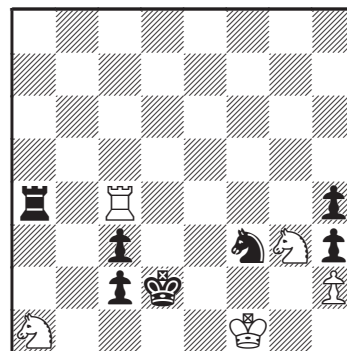
iii) 2.Bxd2? c1Q 3.Rf4+ Kg1 wins.

iv) Ke1 3.Re4+ Kf1 4.Rf4+ draws.

v) dxc1Q 4.Rhg2+ Kh1 5.Rh2+ Kg1 6.Rhg2+ draws.

vi) 7.Kh6? Qd6+ 8.Kh7 Qxh2+ 9.Rxh2 Kxh2 wins.

No 20337 I. Akobia † & B. Akhaladze
commendation



fid2 0405.14 5/7 Draw

No 20337 Iuri Akobia & Beqa Akhaladze (Georgia). 1.Se4+ Kd3 2.Rxc3+ Kxe4 3.Sxc2 Sxh2+ 4.Ke2/i Ra2 5.Re3+/ii Kf4 6.Rxh3 Kg4 (Sf3; Rxf3+) 7.Rc3, and:

— Sf3 8.Kf1 h3 9.Rc8/iii Se5 10.Rc5 Sf3 11.Rc8 draws, or:

— h3 8.Kf2 Kh4 9.Rc8 Sg4+ 10.Kf3, and:

– h2 11.Rh8+ Kg5 12.Rg8+ Kh5 13.Rh8+ Sh6 14.Kg2 draws, or here:

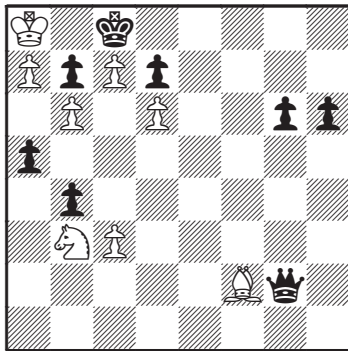
– Se5+ 11.Kf4 Sg6+ 12.Kf3 Ra4 13.Kf2 Rf4+ 14.Kg1 draws.

i) 4.Kg1? Sf3+ 5.Kf2 Sg5 6.Kg1 (Rc5 Kf4;) Ra6 7.Kh2 Rd6 wins.

ii) Logical try: 5.Rxh3? Sf3 6.Rxf3 Rxc2+ wins.

iii) 9.Rc7? Rb2 10.Se3+ Kf4 11.Sd1 h2

No 20338 A. Pallier & P. Rouzaud
commendation



a8c8 3011.56 8/8 Draw

No 20338 Alain Pallier & Philippe Rouzaud (France). 1.c4 Qc6/i 2.c5 (Sxa5? Qa4;) Qb5 3.Bd4 a4/ii 4.Sd2/iii b3 5.Se4/iv b2/v 6.Sf6 b1Q

7.Sg8 Qe1 8.Be5/vi Qh4/vii 9.Bf6 Qe1 10.Be5 Qh4 11.Bf6 positional draw

i) Qxf2 2.c5 a4 3.Sa5 Qxc5 4.Sc6 Qxc6 stalemate.

ii) h5 4.Sd2 b3 5.Se4 b2 6.Sf6 Qc4 7.Bxb2 Qxc5 8.Be5 Qxe5 9.Sd5 (Sg8) Qxd6 10.Se7+ Qxe7 stalemate. Qc4 4.Sxa5 Qxd4 5.Sxb7 Qe4 6.c6 Qxc6 stalemate.

iii) 4.Sa5? Qxa5 5.c6 Qd5 wins.

iv) 5.Sf3? b2 6.Bxb2 Qxc5 wins.

v) Qc4 6.Sf6 b2 7.Bxb2 Qxc5 8.Be5 draws.

vi) 8.Be3? Qh4 9.Bg5 Qe4, or 8.c6? Qxc6 win.

vii) Qxe5 9.Se7+ Qxe7 10.dxe7 d6 11.c6 Qxc6 12.e8Q+ (e8R+) Qxe8 stalemate.

EG 50 AT 2015

ARVES announces an anniversary tourney for 50 years of EG

Theme: free

Maximum 2 studies per composer, joint compositions are allowed

Submission deadline: 31x2015

Total prize fund: 600 EUR

(1st prize 300 EUR, 2nd prize 200 EUR, 3rd prize 100 EUR)

Judge: Harold van der Heijden

Tourney Director: Mario Guido Garcia

Provisional award scheduled for **EG203** (i2016), final award in **EG204** (iv2016).

Submit your original studies (corrections of studies by other composers are not allowed) to the tourney director Mario Garcia: mariogarcia@gmail.com

Please ensure that you supply an artistic presentation (only solution and thematic lines) in WORD/PDF as well as an analytical presentation (in PGN).

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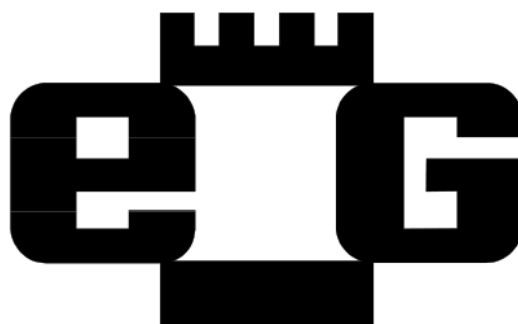
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SUPPLEMENT

Awards

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Dobrescu 80 JT 2014

This formal endgame study tourney to honour the 80th birthday of the Rumanian GM Emilian Dobrescu was judged by his countryman, Árpád Ruzs. In total 58 studies from 37 authors participated. The judged considered the level high. The award appeared on the website of the Romanian Chess Federation and had a three month confirmation time.

In the final award there were two changes: 3rd and 4th prizes swapped places because of a partial anticipation, and the 5th prize was added as the composer managed to convince the judge that it is sound.

No 20339 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.e4+ fxe4 2.Se3+ Kd4 3.f4/i cxb4/ii 4.Qg5/iii Rad8 5.Qa5 Bc8 6.h3 (Kh4? Be7+;) Bxh3 7.Kh4 Bc8/iv 8.Kg3 zz, and: Bd7 9.Qd5 mate, Be6 9.Qe5 mate, Re7 9.Qxb4 mate, Re6 9.Sf5 mate, Bc5 9.Qa1 mate.

i) 3.Qf7? Re5+ 4.Kh4 Be6 5.Qxb7 Re8 6.f4 Be7+ and Black wins.

ii) Re6 (Be7; Qg7+) 4.Qg1 cxb4 5.Sf5++ Kd5 6.Qd4+ Kc6 7.Qc4+ Kd7 8.Qd5+ Bd6 9.Qxb7+ wins.

iii) 4.Qf7? Kc5 5.Qc4+ Kxb6 6.Sd5+ Ka7 and Black wins.

iv) Be7+ 8.Kg3 Rg8+ 9.Kh2 wins

“Samuel Loyd’s famous ‘Organ Pipes’ are now featured in a study! The pawn sacrifice (6.h3!!) is very surprising”.

No 20340 Oleg Pervakov & Karen Sumbatyan (Russia). 1.Bf5/i d4 2.Sxh5+ Kh6 3.Bd2 Kxh5/ii 4.Bg4+ Kg6/iii 5.Bf5+ Kh5/iv 6.Bg4+ Kh6 7.h4 Be3 8.hxg5+/v Kxg5 9.Be2, and:

— Bxe2 10.Bxe3+ dxe3 11.Kxe4 draws, or:

— Bxd2 10.Bxd3 exd3 11.Kxd4 draws.

i) 1.Kxd5? Sxh7, or 1.Bg8? d4 win.

ii) e3 4.Bxd3 exd2 5.Be2 Sxh3 6.Sf6 draws.

iii) Kh4 5.Be1+ Bf2 6.Bxf2 mate.

iv) Kh6 6.h4 Be3 7.hxg5+ Bxg5 8.Bxe4

v) 8.Bxe3? dxe3 9.hxg5+ Kxg5 10.Bd1 Bb1 (also 10...Bc2 wins) 11.Be2 Bc2 zz 12.Kd4 Kf4 wins.

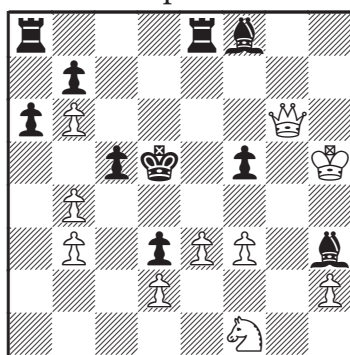
“There is a nice position after 9.Be2!! with four bishops attacking each other”.

No 20341 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sc5+/i Bxc5 2.Bb7+ Sd5/ii 3.Bxd5+ Ke5 4.Rf6 (Bf6+? Kf4;) f1Q+/iii 5.Rxf1 Bxf1+ 6.Ke1/iv Kxd5 7.Kxf1 zz Kc6/v 8.Bf8 Bxf8/vi 9.Sa7+ Kb6 10.Sxb5 Kxb5 11.Kg1 draws.

i) 1.Rf6 h2 2.Sbd6+ Ke5 3.Kxe3 Sd5+ 4.Kxf2 h1Q 5.Sf7+ Kd4 6.Bxb5 Be4 wins.

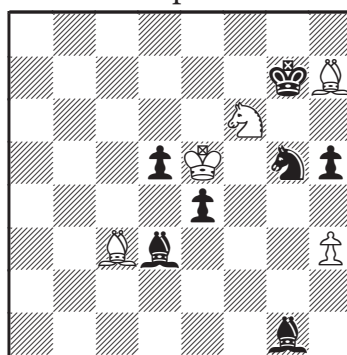
ii) Ke5 3.Rd1 f1Q+ 4.Rxf1 Bxf1+ 5.Kxf1 Bxe7 6.Sxe7 draws.

No 20339
S. Didukh
1st prize



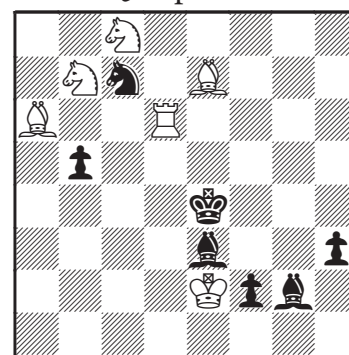
h5d5 1661.75 10/10 Win

No 20340 O. Pervakov
& K. Sumbatyan
2nd prize



e5g7 0084.13 5/7 Draw

No 20341 D. Keith
& M. Minski
3rd prize



e2e4 0185.03 6/7 Draw

iii) Kxd5 (Bxe7; Rxf2) 5.Rxf2 h2 6.Rxg2 h1Q 7.Rg5+ Ke4/xiii 8.Rg4+ Kf5 9.Rg5+ Kf4 10.Rxc5 Qf3+ 11.Kd2 draws.

iv) 6.Kxf1? Kxd5 zz, and 7.Bf6 Ke6 8.Bc3 Kf5, or 7.Bd8 Kc6 8.Ba5 Kb7 wins.

v) b4 8.Sb6+ Bxb6 9.Bxb4 draws.

vi) b4 9.Se7+ Kb5 10.Sd5 draws.

“This has a delayed capture, a very surprising mutual zugzwang and several sacrifices”.

No 20342 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.c7 Bg4 2.Sxg4 Ra2+ 3.Kh3/i Rc2 4.c8Q+/ii Rxc8 5.Sxc8 Sxg4 6.Se7+ Kh7 7.Bxg7 Sf6/iii 8.Bh8/iv Se4 9.Bf6 Sxf6 10.gxf6 wins.

i) Thematic try: 3.Kg3? Rc2 4.c8Q+ Rxc8 5.Sxc8 Sxg4 6.Se7+ Kh7 7.Bxg7 Sf6 8.Bh8 Se4+ 9.Kf4 Sxg5 draws.

ii) 4.Bxe5? Bxe5 5.c8Q+ Rxc8 6.Sxc8 f6 7.g6 (Sxe5 fxc5;) Kg7 8.Se7 Bf4 9.Kh4 f5 draws.

iii) Sf2+ 8.Kg2 Kxg7 9.Kxf2 f6 10.g6 f5 11.Kf3 Kf6 12.Kf4 Kxe7 13.Kxf5 wins.

iv) 8.gxf6? stalemate. 8.Bxf6? stalemate. 8.Bf8? Sd7 draws.

“This shows stalemate avoidance with a highly surprising winning move into the corner”.

No 20343 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.Bd6/i Bxd6 (fxe2; Bxb8) 2.Qh6 Bb8 3.gxf3 exd4+ 4.Kg2/ii d3 5.Bd5 dxe2 6.Qc6 Bh3+/iii 7.Kxh3 Sf2+ 8.Kg2 e1S+ 9.Kf1 Sd2+ 10.Ke2 c1S+ 11.Kxe1 Scd3+ 12.Ke2 Sc1+ 13.Ke1 Sfd3+ 14.Kd1 c2+ 15.Qxc2 (Kxc2? Sb4+;) Sf1 16.Qc6 Se3+ 17.Kd2 Sf1+ 18.Kd1 perpetual check.

i) 1.gxf3? exd4+ 2.Kxh1 d3 3.Sxc3 d2 wins.

ii) 4.Kxh1? d3 5.Sc1 d2 wins.

iii) bxc6 7.Bxc6 mate.

“A nice queen sacrifice on c6 (repeated later by a switchback) and four black knights on the board!”.

No 20344 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.b6 d1Q/i 2.Rxd1 Sd4 3.Rxd4+/ii Ka5 4.Rb4/iii Kxb4 5.b7 Ka3 6.b8R/iv Ka2 7.Se4 Kb1 8.Rc8/v a3 9.Sd2+/vi Ka1 10.Rc3 a2 11.Sb3+ Kb1 12.Rc6/vii zz g5/viii 13.hxg5 Be8/ix 14.Sd2+ Ka1 15.Ra6 Bd7 (Bb5; Ra7) 16.g6 Bc8 17.g7 Bxa6 18.Sb3+ Kb1 19.g8Q a1Q 20.Qg6+ Ka2 21.Sxa1 bxa1Q 22.Qxa6+ wins.

i) Sd4 2.b7 Sc6 3.Rxb2+ Kc3 4.Rb6 Sb8 5.Se4+ Kc2 6.Sxd2, or Sa3 2.Rxb2+ Ka5 3.Rxd2, or Kc4 2.b7 Sa3 3.Rxb2 d1Q 4.b8Q Qg1+ 5.Kf4 win.

ii) 3.b7? Sc6 4.Se4 a3 5.Rd4+ Kb3 draws.

iii) 4.Rxa4+? Kxa4 5.Se4 Ka5 draws.

iv) 6.b8Q? b1Q 7.Qxb1 stalemate.

v) 8.Sc3+? Kc2 9.Sxa4 b1Q 10.Rxb1 Kxb1 draws.

vi) Minor dual: 9.Rc3 a2 10.Sd2+ Ka1.

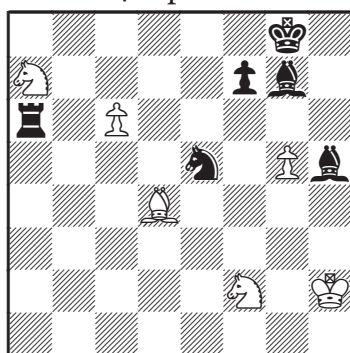
vii) 12.Rc7? g5 13.hxg5 Bg6 14.Sd2+ Ka1 15.Ra7 Bf5 draws.

viii) a1Q 13.Sd2+ Ka2 14.Ra6 mate.

ix) Bf7 14.Sd2+ Ka1 15.Rb6 wins.

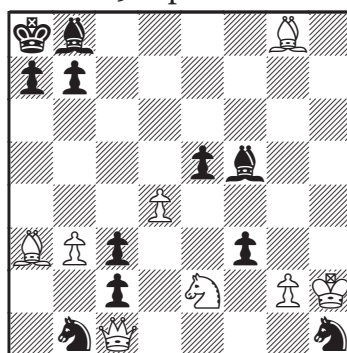
“This is two studies in one: the first phase shows a Phoenix rook, the second an interesting fight against Black’s two connected pawns. The promoted rook is also sacrificed at the end”.

No 20342 S. Didukh
4th prize



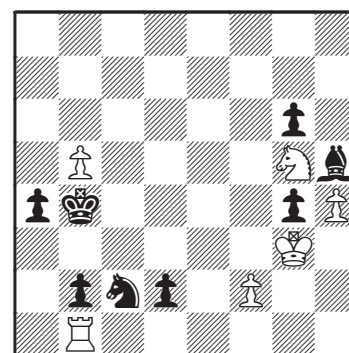
h2g8 o375.21 6/6 Win

No 20343 J. Timman
5th prize



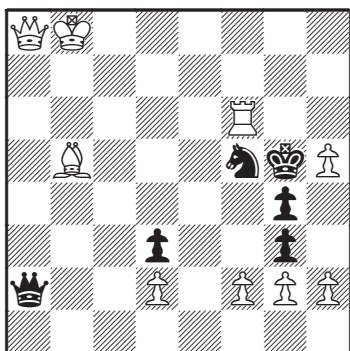
h2a8 1087.36 8/11 Draw

No 20344 J. Timman
1st honourable mention



g3b4 o134.35 6/8 Win

No 20345 A. Gasparyan
2nd honourable mention



b8g5 4113.53 9/6 BTM, Win

No 20345 Aleksey Gasparyan (Armenia).
1...Qg8+ 2.Ka7, and:

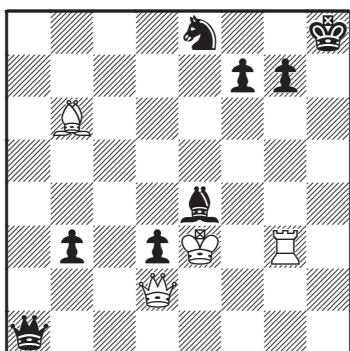
— Qxa8+ 3.Kxa8 gxf2 4.Rg6+ Kh4 5.g3+/i
Kxh5 6.Be8 h1Q+ 7.Rc6+ Kg5 8.f4+ gxf3ep
9.Rg6+ Kh5 10.Rg8+ Kh6 11.Rh8+ wins, or:

— Qg7+ 3.Qb7 Qxb7+ 4.Kxb7 gxf2 5.Rg6+
Kh4 6.Bc6/ii h1Q 7.g3+ Kxh5 8.Bxh1 Kxg6
9.Be4 Kf6 10.Bxd3 Sd4 11.Be4 Ke5 12.d3 wins.

i) 5.Bc6? h1Q 6.g3+ Kxh5 7.Bxh1 Kxg6 8.Be4
Kf6 9.Bxd3 Sd4 draws.

ii) 6.g3+? Kxh5 7.Be8 h1Q+ 8.Rc6+ Kg5 9.f4+
gxf3ep 10.Rg6+ Kh5 11.Rg8+ Kh6 12.Rh8+ Kg5
13.Rxh1 Sd6+, and here: 14.Kc6 Sxe8 15.Rh4
Sg7 16.Rf4 Se6, or 14.Ka6 Sxe8 15.Rh4 Sc7+, or
14.Kb6 Sxe8 15.Rh4 Sf6 draw.

No 20346 M. Hlinka & J. Polašek
3rd honourable mention



e3h8 4143.04 4/8 Draw

No 20346 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia) &
Jaroslav Polašek (Czech Republic). 1.Bd4/i
Qh1 2.Bxg7+ Sxg7 3.Qc3 Qh6+/ii 4.Kxe4 b2/iii
5.Qxb2/iv d2 6.Rxg7 Qe6+ (Qxg7; Qxd2) 7.Kf4
Qd6+ 8.Ke4 (Ke3? d1S+;) Qc6+ 9.Kf4 Qc7+/v

10.Kg5/vi Qd8+ (f6+; Kf5) 11.Kh5 d1Q+ 12.Rg4+
f6 13.Qxf6+ Qxf6 stalemate.

i) 1.Kxe4? Sf6+ 2.Kxd3 b2 3.Qh2+ Sh7 4.Qg1
b1Q+ 5.Qxb1 Qxb1+, or 1.Rh3+? Kg8 2.Qh2 f5
3.Rh8+ Kf7 4.Qh5+ g6 5.Qh7+ Qg7 6.Qxg7+
Sxg7 wins.

ii) Qh7 4.Qc8+ Qg8 5.Qxg8+ Kxg8 6.Kxe4
d2 7.Rg1, or Bg6 4.Qc8+ Kh7 5.Rh3+ draw.

iii) d2 5.Rh3 f5+ 6.Ke5 Sh5 7.Qc8+ Kg7
8.Qd7+ Kg8 9.Qe8+ Qf8 10.Qxh5 Qe7+ 11.Kf4
draws.

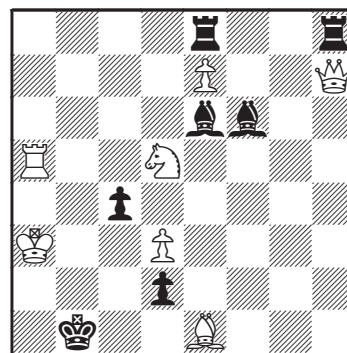
iv) 5.Rg1? d2 6.Qd4 Qg6+ 7.Kf3 b1Q 8.Rxb1
Qxb1 9.Qh4+ Kg8 10.Qd8+ Kh7 11.Qh4+ Kg6
12.Qg4+ Kf6 wins, as the bK can hide on d1!

v) Qc1 10.Qb8+ Kxg7 11.Qe5+ f6 12.Qe7+
Kg6 13.Qe8+ draws.

vi) 10.Kf5? Qd7+, and: 11.Kg5 f6+ 12.Qxf6
Qxg7+ 13.Qxg7+ Kxg7, or here: 11.Kf6 Qe6+
12.Kg5 f6+ wins.

“This shows a stalemate with a pinned rook
after a nice struggle”.

No 20347 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
4th honourable mention



a3b1 1771.22 7/7 Draw

No 20347 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely
(Slovakia). 1.Rb5+/i Kc2 2.Se3+ Kc1 3.Bxd2+
Kxd2 4.Sxc4+ Kc3 5.Rb3+/iii Kc2 6.Qe4 Bxe7+
7.Ka4 Bd7+ 8.Rb5 Ra8+ 9.Sa5 Rh4 10.d4+ Rxe4
stalemate.

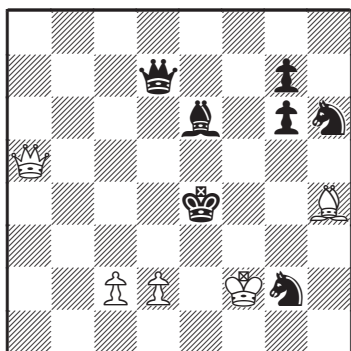
i) 1.Bxd2? Bb2+ 2.Kb4 Rxh7 wins.

ii) Try: 2.Bxd2? Rxh7 3.Sxf6 Ra8+ 4.Ra5
Rxa5+ 5.Bxa5 Rxe7 6.dxc4 Bxc4 wins.

iii) 5.Qe4? Ra8+ 6.Sa5 Bxe7+ 7.Ka4 Rh4 wins.

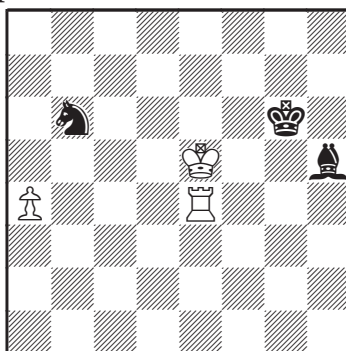
“This study features an ideal triple-pin stalemate
with full stalemate net creation during play. It
represents a greater achievement than

No 20348 V. Nestorescu
5th honourable mention



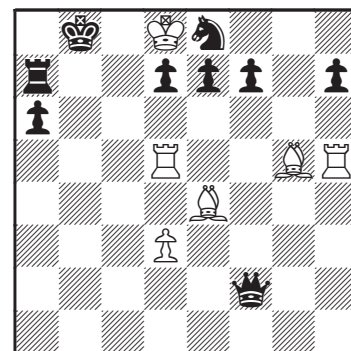
f2e4 4046.22 5/7 Win

No 20349 A. Pallier
special honourable mention



e5g6 0133.10 3/3 Win

No 20350 V. Kalashnikov
1st commendation



d8b8 3523.15 6/9 Win

in the previous study but here the solution feels more mechanical”.

No 20348 Virgil Nestorescu (Rumania). 1.d3+ Kd4 (Kf4; Qg5 mate) 2.Bg3 Sg4+/i 3.Ke2 Sf4+ (Qc6; Kd2) 4.Bxf4 (Kd2? Sxd3;) Qc6 5.Qa7+ (Kd2? Qg2+;) Kc3 6.Qa3+ Kd4 (Kxc2; Qc1+) 7.c3+ Qxc3 8.Qd6+ Bd5 9.Qe5+ Sxe5 10.Be3 mate.

i) Qf7+ 3.Ke2 Sf4+ 4.Kd2/vii Qd5 3.Qb4+ wins.

“This has a nice checkmate combination in the middle of the board and every piece reaches its final position from the checkmate picture during play!”.

MG cooked the 6th Hon. Mention: P. Arestov, h2e4 0530.31 a6d5a2e2.a3d4g3e6 6/4 Win: 1.Re5+ Kxd4 2.Raxe6 Bg4+ 3.Kh1 Bxe6 4.Rxe6 Kd5 5.Re3 zz Kd4 6.Rf3 Ke5 7.Kg1 zz Ke6 8.Re3+ Kd5 9.Kf1 zz Kd4 10.Rf3 Ke5 11.Ke1 Kd5 12.Kd1 Ke4 13.Rf4+ Kd3 14.Ke1 Rg2 15.Rb4 Ke3 16.Kf1 Rf2+ 17.Kg1 Ra2 18.Rf4 Rxa3 19.Kg2 (Kh2) wins.

However: 3...Bf3+ 4.Kg1 Bd5, and: 5.Rxd5+ Kxd5 6.Re3 Kd4 7.Kf3 Ke5, or here: 5.Re2 Bxe6 6.Rxe6 Kd5 7.Re3 Kd4 8.Rf3 Ke5, or 5.Re8 Rg2+ 6.Kf1 Rxc3 draw. The author confirms.

No 20349 Alain Pallier (France). 1.a5 Sd7+ (Sc8; Rc4) 2.Kd6 Sb8 3.Re6+/i Kf7 4.Re3/ii Kf6 5.Kc7 Sa6+ 6.Kb7/iii Sc5+ 7.Kb6 Sd7+ 8.Kc6/iv Sb8+ 9.Kb7 Sd7 10.Kc8 Bg4/v 11.Kc7 Sc5 12.Kc6 Sd7 13.Kd6 Sb8 14.Kc7 Sa6+ 15.Kb6 Sb4/

vi 16.Re4 Sd5+ 17.Kc5 Kf5 (Sc7; Rxc4) 18.Rxc4 (Kxd5? Bf3;) wins.

i) 3.Kc7? Sa6+ 4.Kb6 Kf5 5.Rd4 Be2 6.Rd2 Bc4 7.Rc2 Bd3 8.Rc3 Be2 9.Re3 Bc4 10.Re8 Bd3 11.Ra8 Sb4 12.Kc5 Sa6+ 13.Kb6 Sb4 positional draw.

ii) 4.Re5? Bg6 5.Kc7 Sa6+ 6.Kb6 Bd3 draw. 4.Rh6? Bg6 5.Kc7 Sa6+ 6.Kb7 Sc5+ 7.Kc6 Sa6 8.Kb7 Sc5+ positional draw.

iii) Thematic try: 6.Kb6? Sb4, and: 7.Re4 Sd5+ 8.Kc5 Sc7, or here: 7.Rb3 Sd5+ 8.Kc5 Se7 9.a6 Sc8 10.Rb8 Bg4 11.Kc6 Be2 12.Rxc8 Bxa6 draws.

iv) 8.Kc7? Sc5 9.Rc3 Se6+ 10.Kd6 Sd4 11.Kc5 Se6+ 12.Kd6 Sd4 positional draw.

v) Sc5 11.Rc3 Bg4+ (Se6; a6) 12.Kb8 Sd7+ 13.Kc7 wins.

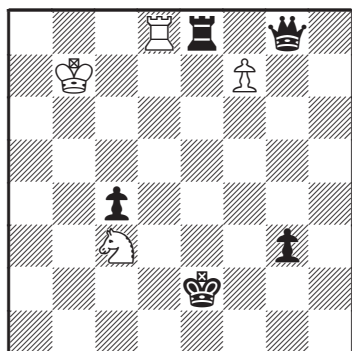
vi) Sb8 16.Rc3 Ke5 17.Kb7 Sd7 18.a6 Kd4 19.Rg3 Bf5 20.a7 Be4+ 21.Kc7 Sf6 22.Kc8 wins.

“This logical study is based on a 9-move long manoeuvre to reach the same position except that the bishop has been moved from h5 to g4!”.

No 20350 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Be3/i Qxe3 2.Rb5+ axb5 3.Rxb5+ Rb7 4.Rxb7+ Ka8 5.Rxd7+ Kb8 6.Rb7+ Ka8 7.Rxe7+ Kb8 8.Rb7+ Ka8 9.Rxf7+ Kb8 10.Rb7+ Ka8 11.Rxh7+ Kb8 12.Kxe8 zz, wins.

i) 1.Bf4+? Rc7, but not Qxf4? 2.Rb5+ axb5 3.Rxb5+ Rb7 4.Rxb7+ Ka8 5.Rxd7+ Kb8 6.Rb7+ Ka8 7.Rxe7+ Kb8 8.Rb7+ Ka8 9.Rxf7+ Kb8 10.Rxf4.

No 20351 V. Vlasenko
2nd commendation



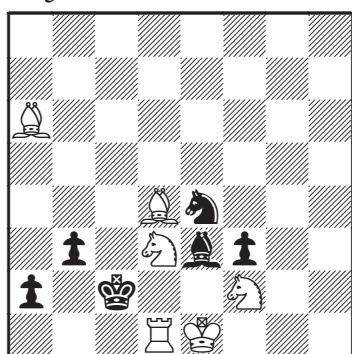
b7e2 3401.12 4/5 BTM, Win

No 20351 Valery Vlasenko (Russia). 1... Kf1 2.fxe8Q/i Qxe8 3.Rxe8 g2 4.Se2 c3 5.Sg3+ Kf2 6.Se4+ Kf3 7.Sg5+ Kg4 8.Se6 c2 9.Rc8 Kf3 10.Sd4+ Ke4 11.Se2 Kd3 12.Sf4+ Kd2 13.Rd8+ wins.

i) 2.fxg8Q? Rxc8 3.Rxc8 g2 4.Rf8+ Ke1 5.Re8+ Kf2 6.Se2 Kf1 zz, with 7.Ka8/ii c3 8.Sg3+ Kf2 9.Se4+ Kf1 10.Rf8+ Ke1, or: 7.Re5 c3 8.Sg3+ Kf2 9.Se4+ Kf3 10.Sg5+ Kg4 11.Se6 Kf3 12.Rg5 c2 13.Sd4+ Kf4, or: 7.Kb6 c3 8.Sg3+ Kf2 9.Se4+ Kf3 10.Sg5+ Kg4 11.Se6 g1Q+, or 7.Sg3+ Kf2 8.Se4+ Kf1 9.Rf8+ Ke2 draws.

“This is a beautiful study but it is a pity that the author chose to add that first black move whereas a version without it would surely have been ranked higher”.

No 20352 M. Minski
3rd commendation



e1c2 0155.03 6/6 BTM, Win

No 20352 Martin Minski (Germany). 1... b2 (Sxf2; Sb4 mate) 2.Sb4+/i Kb3 3.Rd3+ Sc3/ii 4.Rxc3+ Ka4 5.Ra3+/iii Kxa3 6.Sc2+/iv Kb3 7.Sa1+ Ka3/v 8.Bxb2+ Kxb2 9.Sd1+ Kb1/vi 10.Bc4/vii, and:

— Kxa1 11.Bd3 zz f2+/viii 12.Ke2 zz Bc5 (Bg5; Kxf2) 13.Kd2 f1Q (Be3+; Kc2) 14.Bxf1 Be3+ (Kb1; Bd3+) 15.Kc2/ix wins, or:

— f2+ 11.Ke2 f1Q+ (Kxa1; Bd3 zz) 12.Kxf1 Bd4 13.Ke2 (Ke1) Bxa1 14.Kd2 Bc3+ (Bb2; Bd3+) 15.Sxc3+ wins/x.

i) 2.Bxb2? Sxf2 3.Sxf2 Bxf2+ 4.Kxf2 Kxb2 5.Rd2+ Ka3 draws.

ii) Kxb4 4.Bxb2 Bxf2+ 5.Kd1 wins.

iii) 5.Bb5+? Kxb4 6.Sd3+ Kxb5 7.Rc5+ Kb6, or 5.Sxa2? b1Q+ 6.Rc1 Bxf2+ 7.Kxf2 Qxa2+ draw.

iv) Try: 6.Bxb2+? Kxb2 7.Sd1+ Kb3 8.Sxa2 f2+ 9.Ke2 (Kf1 Bd2;) Bd4 10.Sc1+ Kc2 11.Sd3 f1Q+ 12.Kxf1 Kxd1 draws.

v) bxa1Q+ 8.Bxa1 Kc2 9.Bd3+ wins.

vi) Kxa1 10.Bd3 zz, or Kc1 10.Sxe3 wins.

vii) Thematic try: 10.Bd3+? Kxa1 zz 11.Be4 f2+ 12.Ke2 Bd4 (Bc5, Bb6, Ba7) 13.Bd3 Be3 zz. Thematic try: 10.Bb5? f2+ 11.Ke2 f1Q+ 12.Kxf1 Bd4 13.Ke2 Bxa1 14.Kd2 Bc3+ 15.Sxc3+ Kb2 draws.

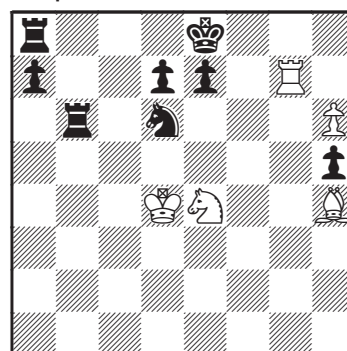
viii) Bc5 12.Kd2, or Bg5 12.Kf2 wins.

ix) 15.Kxe3? Kb1 16.Sc3+ (Bd3+ Kc1;) Kb2 draws.

x) e.g. Kb2 16.Sxa2; Bg5 11.Bd3+ Kxa1 (Kc2; Sb3 mate) 12.Kf2; Bc5 11.Bd3+ Kxa1 (Kc1; Sb3 mate) 12.Kd2.

“This is unusual showing a Nowotny, a delayed capture and an original zugzwang position with 7 men”.

No 20353 L. Gonzalez
4th commendation



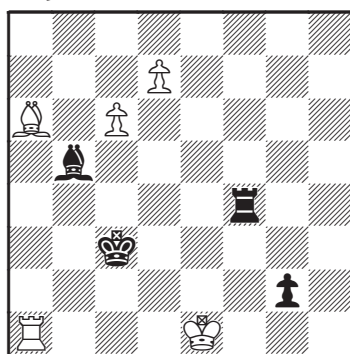
d4e8 0714.14 5/8 Win

No 20353 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain).
 1.h7 O-O-O/i 2.Rg8 Sf5+/ii 3.Ke5 Rh6/iii 4.Kxf5
 Rxh7 5.Sd6+ Kc7 (exd6; Rxd8+) 6.Sb5+ Kc8
 7.Sxa7+ Kc7 8.Sb5+ Kc8 9.Rxd8+ Kxd8 10.Kg6
 Rh8 11.Kg7 Re8 12.Sd6 wins.

- i) Sf5+ 2.Ke5 Rb5+ 3.Kf4 wins.
- ii) Sb5+ 3.Kc5 Rh6 4.Bxe7, or Sf7 3.Bxe7 Rh6
 4.Bxd8 Rxh7 5.Bh4+ wins.
- iii) Rb5+ 4.Kf4 Sxh4 5.Rxd8+ Kxd8 6.h8Q+
 wins.

“The white knight returns to d6 twice in order to win both black rooks”.

No 20354 S. Didukh
 5th commendation



e1c3 0440.21 5/4 Draw

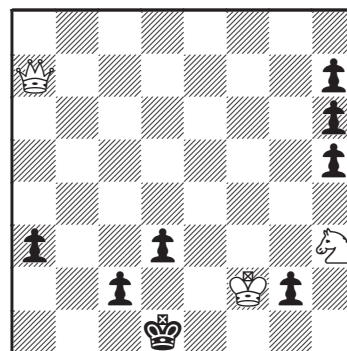
No 20354 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.O-O-O/i Rd4 (Ra4; Kb1) 2.Rg1 Bxc6 3.Bf1 Ra4 4.Kd1 Ra1+ 5.Ke2 Bb5+ 6.Ke3 Re1+ 7.Be2 Rxe2+ 8.Kf3 (Kf4? Bxd7;) Rd2 9.d8S/ii draws.

i) 1.Rc1+? Kb2, or 1.Ra3+? Kc2 2.Ra2+ Kc1 3.Rxg2 (Ra1+ Kb2;) Rf1 mate.

ii) 9.Rxg2? Bc6+, or 9.d8Q? Bc6+ 10.Kg3 Rxd8, or 9.Rc1+? Kb2 win.

“The solution flows nicely with surprising moves”.

No 20355 R. Becker
 6th commendation



f2d1 1001.07 3/8 Win

No 20355 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qa4 d2 2.Ke3 g1Q+ 3.Sxg1 a2 4.Se2/i a1Q 5.Qxa1+ c1Q 6.Qa4+ Ke1 (Qc2; Sc3+) 7.Qh4+ Kd1 8.Qb4 Qc2 (Kc3; Sd4+) 9.Qd4 h4 10.Qa1+ Qc1 11.Qa4+ Ke1 12.Qxh4+ Kd1 13.Qb4 Qc2 14.Qd4 h5 15.Qa1+/ii Qc1 16.Qa4+ Ke1 17.Qh4+ Kd1 18.Qb4 Qc2 19.Qd4 h6 20.Qa1+ Qc1 21.Qa4+ Ke1 22.Qh4+ Kd1 23.Qb4 Qc2 24.Qd4 h4 25.Qa1+ Qc1 26.Qa4+ Ke1 27.Qxh4+ Kd1 28.Qb4 Qc2 29.Qd4 h5 30.Qa1+ Qc1 31.Qa4+ Ke1 32.Qh4+ Kd1 33.Qb4 Qc2 34.Qd4 h4 35.Qa1+ Qc1 36.Qa4+ Ke1 37.Qxh4+ Kd1 38.Qb4 Qc2 39.Qd4 Qb3+ 40.Sc3+ Kc2 41.Qxd2 mate.

i) Try: 4.Sh3? a1Q 5.Sf2+ Ke1 6.Qxa1+ c1Q 7.Sd3+ Kd1 8.Qa4+ Qc2, now 9.Qg4 mate is not possible, 9.Qa5 Qc1 10.Qa4+ Qc2 11.Sf2+ Kc1 12.Qa1+ Qb1 13.Qc3+ Qc2 14.Qa1+ Qb1 15.Qa3+ Kc2 16.Qc5+ Kb2 17.Kxd2 Ka1 18.Sd3 Qb7 19.Kc3 Qg7+ 20.Kc2 Qg2+ 21.Sf2 Qg6+ 22.Sd3 Qg2+ draws.

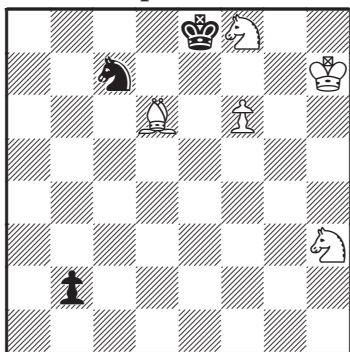
ii) 15.Qb4? h4 16.Qd4 h3 draws.

“This study features a repeated 5-move long manoeuvre in a QS vs Q ending”.

Mugnos 110 MT 2014

Richard Becker (USA) judged this MT for the Argentine composer José Mugnos. The tourney was organized by the Union Argentina de Problemistas de Ajedrez (UAPA) with the tireless Mario Garcia acting as tourney director. There were 36 entries.

No 20356 Y. Bazlov
prize



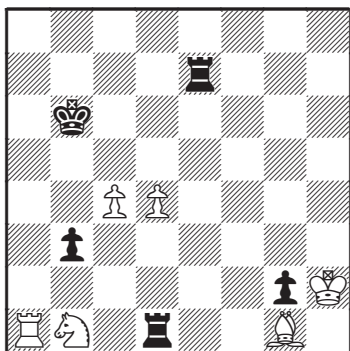
h7e8 0015.11 5/3 Win

No 20356 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Kg8/i b1Q 2.f7+ Kd8 3.Sf4 (Sg5? Qf5); Qf5 4.S8g6 Se6 5.Sxe6+ Kd7/ii 6.Ba3/iii Kxe6 (Qxg6+; Sg7) 7.f8S+ Kf6 (Kd5; Se7) 8.Be7 mate.

- i) 1.Kg7? b1Q 2.f7+ Kd8 3.Sf4 Se8+ draws.
- ii) Qxe6 6.Be7+ Kc7 7.Kg7 wins.
- iii) 6.Bb4? Kxe6 7.f8S+ Kd5 8.Se7+ Kc4 draws.

“This is a memorable bit of chess poetry. The clear and concise struggle ends with a knight promotion and model mate”.

No 20357 S. Didukh
1st honourable mention



h2b6 0711.22 6/5 Draw

No 20357 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.d5+ Rxc7 2.c5+/i Kb7/ii 3.c6+ Kb8/iii 4.c7+, and:

— Rxc7 5.Kxg1 Rc1+ 6.Kxg2 Rc2+ 7.Sd2 draws, or:

— Kxc7/iv 5.d6+ Kxd6 6.Kxg1 Re1+ 7.Kxg2 Re2+ (Kc5; Kf2) 8.Kf3 Ra2 9.Sd2/v Rxa1 10.Ke4 b2 11.Sc4+ draws.

i) Thematic try: 2.Kxg1? Re1+ 3.Kxg2 Re2+ 4.Kf3 Ra2 5.Sd2 Rxa1 6.Sxb3 Ra3 wins.

ii) Kxc5 3.Kxg1 Re1+ 4.Kxg2 Re2+ 5.Kf3 Ra2 6.Sd2 Rxa1 7.Sxb3+ draws.

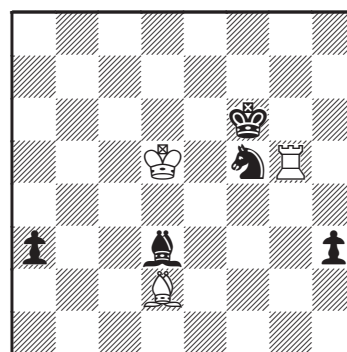
iii) Kb6 4.Kxg1 Re1+ 5.Kxg2 Re2+ 6.Kf3 Ra2 7.Sd2 Rxa1 8.Ke4 b2 9.Sc4+ draws.

iv) Kb7 5.Ra7+ Kxa7 6.c8Q draws.

v) 9.Ke4? Kc5 10.Sd2 Rxd2 wins.

“This is a well-constructed logical study. It hasn’t got the longest or deepest thematic try seen recently but difficulty is not the main criterion. The precision of the mechanism, with its unifying knight forks, lifts the study to a good artistic level. A certain debt is owed to Liburkin (HHdbIV#23854)”.

No 20358 H. van der Heijden & Y. Afek
2nd honourable mention



d5f6 0143.02 3/5 Draw

No 20358 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands) & Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.Rg1 h2 2.Bc3+ Kf7 3.Rh1 Be4+ 4.Kxe4 Sg3+ 5.Kf3 Sxh1 6.Kg2 Sf2/i 7.Kxh2 Sd1 8.Bh8/ii Se3 9.Ba1/iii Sc2 10.Bh8 Se3/iv 11.Ba1

Ke6 12.Kg3 Kd5 13.Kf3 Sd1 14.Ke2 Sb2 15.Kd2 draw.

i) Sg3 7.Kxh2 Se4 (Se2; Bh8) 8.Ba1 draws. This variation compliments nicely the main line.

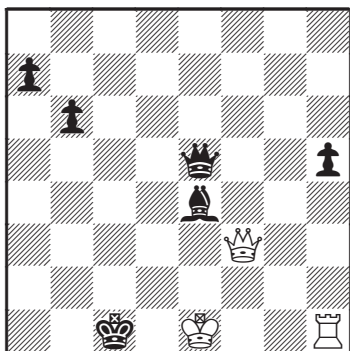
ii) 8.Ba1? Ke6 9.Kg2 Kd5 10.Kf3 Kc4 11.Ke2 Sb2 12.Kd2 Kb3 13.Kc1 Ka2 wins.

iii) 9.Kg3? Sf5+ 10.Kf4 Sg7, or 9.Kg1? Ke6 10.Kf2 Sg4+ 11.Kf3 Sf6 win.

iv) Ke6 11.Kg3 (Kg2) Kd5 12.Kf3 Sd4+ 13.Ke3 draws.

“The corner-to-corner moves by the bishop are incredible. It zips back and forth to avoid echoed shut-offs by the enemy knight, then is trapped on a1 but the king arrives just in time. The first five move pairs only add clutter to what should have been a most remarkable bishop versus knight study”.

No 20359 L. Gonzalez
3rd honourable mention



e1c1 4130.03 3/6 Win

No 20359 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain). 1.O-O Kb2 2.Qe2+ Ka3/i 3.Qe3+ Ka4/ii 4.Rf4 Qg5+ 5.Kf1 (Kf2) Qg2+ 6.Ke1 Qh1+ 7.Kd2/iii Qh2+ 8.Kd1 Qc2+ 9.Ke1 Qb1+ 10.Kf2 Qc2+ 11.Kg3/iv Qg2+ 12.Kh4 Qh2+ 13.Kg5 Qg2+ 14.Kxh5/v Qg6+ 15.Kh4 Qh6+ 16.Kg3 Qg5+ 17.Kf2 Qg2+ 18.Ke1 Qh1+ 19.Kd2/vi Qh2+ 20.Kd1 Qc2+ 21.Ke1 Qb1+ 22.Kf2 Qb2+ 23.Kg3/vii Qg7+/viii 24.Rg4 Qc7+ 25.Kf2 Qc2+ 26.Qe2 Qc5+ 27.Ke1 Qb4+/ix 28.Kf1/x Qf8+ 29.Qf2 (Kg1? Qc5+;) Qb4 30.Qa2+ Kb5 31.Qe2+ wins.

i) Kc3 3.Rc1+ Kd4 4.Qd2+ Bd3 5.Qc3+ wins.

ii) Kb4 4.Rb1+ Kc4 5.Qe2+ Kd4 6.Rb4+ wins.

iii) Minor dual: 7.Ke2 Qg2+ 8.Kd1 Qc2+ 9.Ke1 etc.

iv) 11.Qe2? Qc5+ and 12.Ke1 Qg1+ 13.Kd2 Qd4+, or 12.Qe3 Qc2+ loss of time.

v) 14.Kf6? Qg6+ 15.Ke5 Qe8+ draws.

vi) Minor dual: 19.Ke2 Qg2+ 20.Kd1 etc.

vii) 23.Qe2? Qd4+ 24.Kg3 Qc3+ 25.Kf2 Qd4+ 26.Qe3 Qb2+ loss of time.

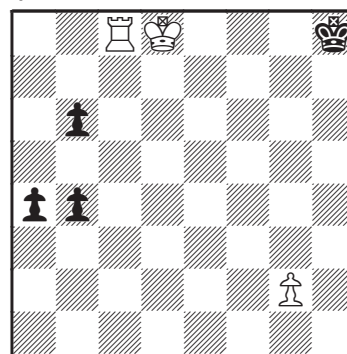
viii) Qg2+ 24.Kh4 Qh1+ 25.Kg5 Qg2+ 26.Rg4 wins.

ix) Qc3+ 28.Qd2 Qc4 29.Kf2 wins.

x) 28.Qd2? Qb1+ 29.Kf2 Kb5 30.Qe2+ Bd3 31.Qe5+ Kc6 32.Qe6+ Kc5 33.Qe3+ Kb5 (Kc6) 34.Qe8+ Kc5 35.Qc8+ Kb5 36.Qd7+ Kc5 37.Qd4+ Kc6 draws.

“There are many checking moves in the solution to this study and perhaps some will find so many checks annoying but I think the study is a good puzzle. Only some tricky manoeuvring allows the wK to escape the bQ’s blows, a process that once could argue amounts to a systematic manoeuvre of two units. The case for this would be easier to make if the movements were very precise, but some minor duals are present”.

No 20360 M. Campioli
4th honourable mention



d8h8 0100.13 3/4 BTM, Win

No 20360 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...b3 (a3; Ra8) 2.Ke7+/i Kg7 3.Rc4 a3/ii 4.Rg4+ Kh7 5.Kf7 Kh6 6.Kf6, and:

— Kh5 7.Ra4/iii a2 8.g3 b2 9.Rh4 mate, or:

— Kh7 7.Rg7+ Kh8/iv 8.Kf7 (Kg6? b2;) b2 9.Rg8+ (Rg3? b1Q;) Kh7 10.Rg5 Kh6 11.Rb5 a2 12.g4 and 13.Rh5 mate.

i) A good try is: 2.Ke8? Kg7 3.Rc7+ Kf6 4.Rb7 Ke5 5.Rxb6 Kd4 6.g4 Kc3 7.g5 a3 8.g6 a2 draws.

ii) b2 4.Rg4+ Kh7 5.Kf7 Kh6 6.Rb4 a3 7.Rb5 transposes to the main line.

iii) 7.Rb4? a2 8.Ra4 b5 and Black wins.

iv) Kh6 8.g4 a2 9.Ra7 b2 10.Rxa2 b1Q 11.Rh2 mate.

“The pawns are threatening, but White turns the tables with good and simple tactics. The composer makes chameleon echo model mates seem effortless. The try 2.Kc8? is also appreciated. The first move by Black isn't necessary and it would be better to start with White's move Ke7+”.

No 20361 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.g7 (b6? Kb8;) Qh7 2.Kc7 Se4/i 3.b6+ Ka8/ii 4.c6 Sd6 5.cxb7+/iii Sxb7 6.Bb3/iv a4 7.Bc4 zz, wins.

i) Sf5 3.b6+ Ka8 4.Bd5 wins.

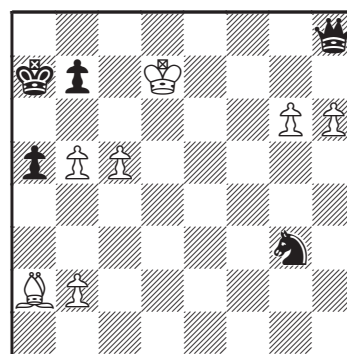
ii) Ka6 4.Bc4 mate.

iii) 5.Bf7? Sb5+ and Black wins, or 5.Be6? Se8+ 6.Kc8 Qe4 7.g8Q Qxc6+ 8.Kd8 Sf6 draws.

iv) 6.Bc4? a4 zz 7.Bd5 Qc2+ 8.Bc6 Qh2+ wins.

“This is a pleasant little exercise in Zugzwang and I'm glad to see that the composer did not make his study 'front heavy' by loading it with introductory exchanges”.

No 20361 A. Jasik
commendation



d7a7 3013.52 7/5 Win

Afek 64 JT

In order to celebrate the 64th birthday of our prominent composer and an excellent promoter of the art of endgame studies – **Yochanan Afek** – the Israel Chess Composition Society announces a formal endgame study tourney.

Theme: free

Maximum 2 entries per composer; joint compositions are allowed

Closing date: 31i2016

The award will be published in *Variantim* in mid-2016

Total prize fund: 1400 US\$

5 money prizes: 400\$, 300, 250, 200, 100
and additional 150\$ value in books prizes

Judge: Yochanan Afek

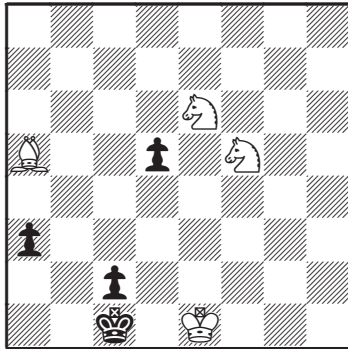
Tourney director: Amatzia Avni

Please submit your original studies (diagram, detailed solutions and postal address) by e-mail (avniam@zahav.net.il) or by standard post (Amatzia Avni, 9 Oranim, Givaat-Shmuel 54052, Israel). Studies sent by e-mail should be in MS Word or PDF, a pgn file would be appreciated.

Topko 75 JT 2015

The Ukraine Master of Sport, Leonid Topko, received 32 studies from 27 countries for his JT. The provisional award was published in a Ukrainian newspaper in 2015. The final award appeared in 2015, with one study eliminated for unsoundness.

No 20362 M. Minski
1st prize

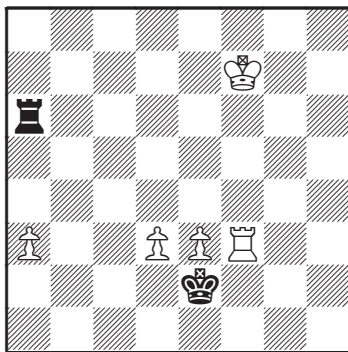


e1c1 0012.03 4/4 Win

No 20362 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sfd4 Kb1 2.Sb3, and:

- c1Q+ 3.Sxc1 Kxc1 4.Bc3 Kb1 5.Kd1 a2 6.Ba1 d4 7.Sc5 Kxa1 8.Kc1 d3 9.Sb3 mate, or:
- a2 3.Bd2 d4 4.Sec5 c1Q+ 5.Bxc1 a1Q 6.Sxa1 Kxc1 7.Sd3+ Kb1 8.Sb3 wins.

No 20363 R. Becker & I. Akobia †
2nd prize

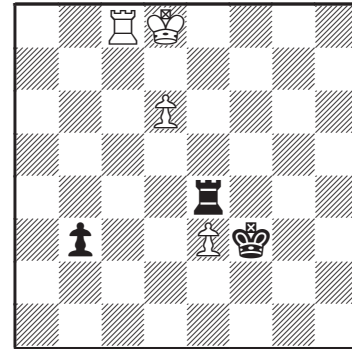


f7e2 0400.30 5/2 Win

No 20363 Richard Becker & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Rg3/i Kxd3 2.Rh3 zz Ke4 3.a4 zz Kd3 4.Ke7 zz Rxa4 5.e4+ Kd4 6.e5 Kxe5 7.Rh5+ Kf4 8.Rh4+ wins.

- i) Thematic try: 1.Rh3? Kxd3 zz 2.Ke7 Ke4 3.a4 Kd3 zz 4.Rg3 Rxa4 5.e4+ Kd4 6.e5 Kxe5 7.Rg5+ Kf4 draws.

No 20364 I. Akobia † & P. Arestov
3rd prize



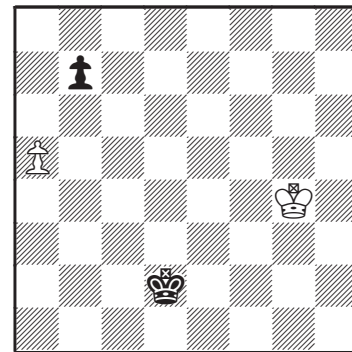
d8f3 0400.21 4/3 Win

No 20364 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.d7 Rb4 2.Rc1 b2 3.Rf1+/i Ke2 4.Rh1/ii Kxe3 5.Rb1 zz Kd3 6.Ke7 Re4+ 7.Kf6 Rf4+ 8.Kg5 Rd4 9.Rd1+ Kc3 10.Rxd4 b1Q 11.d8Q Qg1+ 12.Rg4 wins.

- i) 3.Rb1? Kxe3 zz 4.Ke7 Re4+ 5.Kd6 Rd4+ 6.Kc6 Rc4+ 7.Kb5 Rd4 8.Kc6 Rc4+ positional draw.

- ii) 4.Rb1? Kxe3 zz 5.Ke7 Re4+ 6.Kd6 Rd4+ 7.Kc6 Rc4+ 8.Kb5 Rd4, or 4.Rg1? Kf2 5.Rh1 b1Q 6.Rxb1 Rxb1 7.e4 Re1 8.Kc7 Rc1+ 9.Kd6 Rd1+ 10.Kc6 Rc1+ draw.

No 20365 M. Zinar
special prize



g4d2 0000.11 2/2 Draw

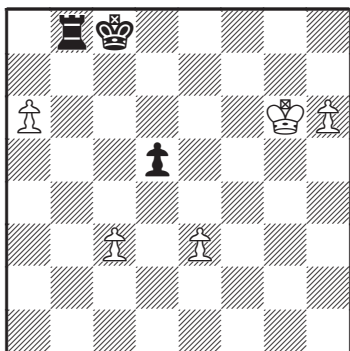
No 20365 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Kf4/i, and:

— Kc3 2.Ke3 Kb4 3.a6 bxa6 4.Kd2 Kb3 5.Kc1 draws, or:

— Kd3 2.Ke5 Kc4 3.Kd6 Kb5 4.Kc7 draws.

i) 1.Kf5? Kc3 2.Ke5 Kb4, or 1.Kf3? Kd3 2.Kf2 Kc4 3.a6 bxa6 4.Ke2 Kc3 5.Kd1 Kb2 win.

No 20366 V. Samilo
1st honourable mention



g6c8 0300.41 5/3 Win

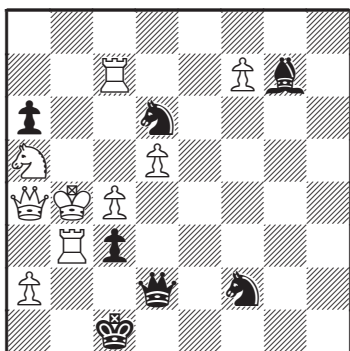
No 20366 Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine). 1.h7 Kc7 2.Kg7/i Kb6 3.h8Q Rxh8 4.Kxh8 Kxa6 5.Kg8 Kb6 6.Kf8 Kc6 7.Ke8 Kc7 8.Ke7 Kc6 9.Ke6 Kc5 10.Kd7 Kb5 11.Kd6 Kc4 12.Kc6 wins.

i) 2.a7? Rd8/ii 3.Kg7 Rd7+ draws.

ii) But not: Ra8? 3.Kg7 Kb7 4.h8Q Rxh8 5.Kxh8 Kxa7 6.Kg7 Kb7 7.Kf7 Kb6 8.Kf6 Kc6 9.Ke6 Kc5 10.Kd7 Kb5 11.Kd6 Kc4 12.Kc6 wins.

After Dedrle 1921 (HHdbIV#10004).

No 20367 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
2nd honourable mention



b4c1 4237.42 9/7 BTM, Draw

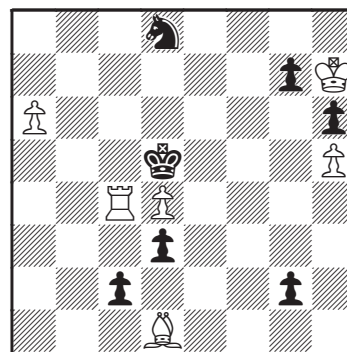
No 20367 Michal Hlinka & Ľubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1...Sd3+ 2.Ka3 Bf8 3.c5 Sxc5/i 4.Rxc5/ii Sb5+ 5.Qxb5/iii axb5 6.d6 Bxd6 7.f8Q Bxf8 8.Rxc3+ Kd1 9.Sb3 Qxc3 stalemate.

i) c2 4.Rc6 Sb5+ 5.Rxb5 axb5 6.Sb3+ Kd1 7.Qg4+ Qe2 8.Qg1+ Qe1 9.Qg4+ perpetual check.

ii) 4.Qh4? Sb5+ 5.Rxb5 Sd7+ 6.d6 Bxd6+ 7.Kb3 Qb2+ 8.Kc4 Qxb5+ 9.Kd4 Be5+ 10.Ke3 Bxc7 11.Sc4 Bb6+ 12.Ke2 Qd5 13.Sxb6 Qxa2+ 14.Ke3 Qd2+ 15.Ke4 Qe2+ 16.Kd4 Sxb6 wins.

iii) 5.Kb4? c2+ 6.Kc4 Qd4+, or 5.Rxb5? Bxc5+ 6.Kb3 Qxd5+ 7.Sc4 Qd1+ 8.Kxc3 Qd4+ 9.Kb3 Qd3 mate.

No 20368 H. van der Heijden
3rd honourable mention



h7d5 0113.35 6/7 Draw

No 20368 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands). 1.Rxc2 dxc2 2.a7 cxd1Q 3.a8Q+ Kc4 4.Qxg2 Qxh5 5.Qxg7 Sf7 6.Qf6, and:

— Sg5+ 7.Kg7 (Kg8) Qf7+ 8.Qxf7+ Sxf7 9.Kxf7 h5 10.Ke6 h4 (Kxd4; Kf5) 11.d5 draws, or:

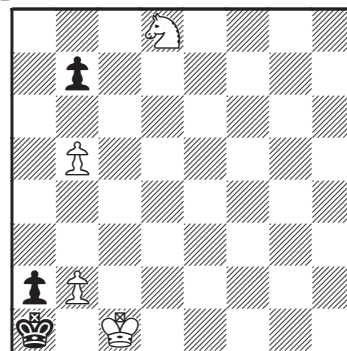
— Kd5 7.Kg8/i Sd6/ii 8.Qxh6/iii Qxh6 stalemate.

i) 7.Kg7? Sd6 8.Qxh6 Sf5+ wins.

ii) Qg5+ 8.Kxf7 Qxf6+ 9.Kxf6 draws.

iii) 8.Kh7? Qf7+ 9.Qxf7+ Sxf7 10.Kg6 Kxd4 wins.

No 20369 S. Didukh & V. Tarasiuk
special honourable mention



c1a1 0001.22 4/3 Win

I: diagram II: wpb2 to b3

No 20369 Sergiy Didukh & Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).

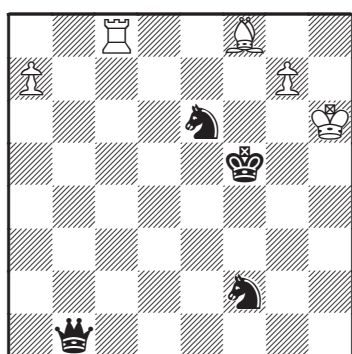
I: 1.Sc6/i b6 2.Sa5 bxa5 3.b6 a4 4.b7 a3 5.b8Q axb2+ 6.Qxb2 mate.

II: 1.Se6/ii b6 2.Sc5 bxc5 3.b6 c4 4.b7 cxb3 5.b8Q b2+ 6.Qxb2 mate.

i) Logical try: 1.Se6? b6 2.Sc5 bxc5 3.b6 c4 4.b7 c3 5.b8Q c2 draws.

ii) Logical try: 1.Sc6? b6 2.Sa5 bxa5 3.b6 a4 4.b7 a3 5.b8Q stalemate.

No 20370 P. Krug & M. Garcia
1st commendation



h6f5 3116.20 5/4 Draw

No 20370 Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Rc5+ Sxc5 2.a8Q Sg4+ 3.Kh7, and:

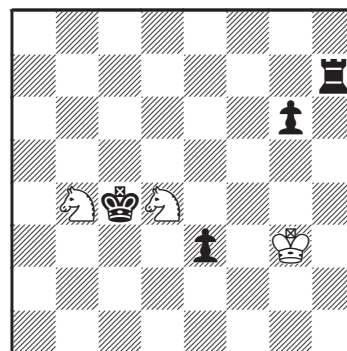
— Se4 4.Qd5+/i Se5 5.g8Q Sf6+ 6.Kh8 draws, or:

— Sf6+ 4.Kh8 Qb3 5.Qc8+ Se6 6.g8S Sxg8 7.Kxg8 Kf6 8.Bg7+ Sxg7+ 9.Kh8 Qb2 10.Kh7 Qh2+ 11.Kg8 Qa2+ 12.Kh7/ii Qb1+ 13.Kg8 Qb3+ 14.Kh8 Se6 15.Qf8+ Sxf8 stalemate.

i) Try: 4.g8S? Sg5+ 5.Kh8 Se5 6.Sf6 Qg1 7.Bg7 Sg6+ 8.Kg8 Se7+ 9.Kf8 Se6+ 10.Kxe7 Qxg7+ 11.Kd6 Qc7+ 12.Kd5 Qc5 mate.

ii) 12.Kh8? Qa1 13.Qb7 Se6 14.Kh7 Qc3 15.Qg2 Qc7+ 16.Kh6 Qc1+ 17.Kh7 Sf8+ 18.Kg8 Qc4+ 19.Kh8 Qh4+ 20.Kg8 Qh7+ 21.Kxf8 Qf7 mate.

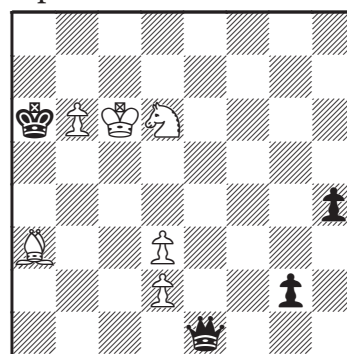
No 20371 F. Bertoli
2nd commendation



g3c4 0302.02 3/4 Draw

No 20371 Franco Bertoli (Italy). 1.Sdc6 e2 2.Kf2 Rh2+ 3.Ke1 g5 4.Sa6 Rh6 5.Sab8 Re6 6.Sd7 Kd5 7.Sb4+ Kd4 8.Sf8 Re8 9.Sd7 g4 10.Sc2+ Kd3 11.Sb4+ Ke3 12.Sc2+ Kf4 13.Sf6 Re5 14.Sxg4 wins.

No 20372 A. Pallier
special commendation



c6a6 3011.32 6/4 Draw

No 20372 Alain Pallier (France). 1.b7 Qb1 2.Bc5 h3 3.Bg1 Qc2+ 4.Sc4 Qb3 5.Sd6 Qb1 6.Bh2 Qb6+ 7.Kd7 Qb4 8.Kc6 Qa4+ 9.Kc7 Qa5+ 10.Kc6/i Qb6+ 11.Kd7 zz Qb1 12.Kc6 Qc2+ 13.Sc4 Qb3 14.Sd6 Qb1 15.Bg1 positional draw.

i) 10.Kd7? Qb6 zz 11.d4 Qb3 12.d3 Ka7 13.Kc8 g1Q 14.Bxg1 h2 15.Bxh2 Qc2+ wins.

Belokon 75 MT 2015

Vladislav Tarasiuk judged this MT for Stanislav Belokon. 52 studies by 33 composers from 12 countries were submitted and the award appeared in *Problemist Ukraini* no. 43 i2015.

No 20373 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Rc3+ Kd4 2.Rxf3 Rf1 (g1Q; Se2+) 3.Rf4+/i Rxf4+ 4.Kxf4 g1Q 5.Se2+ Kxc4 6.Sxg1 a3 7.Rb1 b2/ii 8.Se2 Kd3 9.Re1 Kd2 (a2; Sc1+) 10.Sd4 a2 (Kxe1; Sc2+) 11.Re2+ Kc3/iii 12.Sb5+ Kb3/iv 13.Sd4+ Kc4 14.Rxb2 a1Q 15.Rd2/v Qe1 16.Sf3 draws.

i) 3.Rxb3? (Se2+? Kxc4;) Kc5 4.Sd3+ Kc6 5.Se5+ Kc7 6.Ra3 g1Q 7.Rxa4/vi Rxf3+ 8.Sxf3 Qd1 9.Ra3 Qd7+ 10.Kf4 Qd6+, or 3.Rbf2? Rxf2 4.Rxf2 g1Q 5.Se2+ Ke3 6.Sxg1 Kxf2, or 3.Kf4? Rxf3+ 4.Kxf3 g1Q 5.Se2+ Kxc4 6.Sxg1 a3 7.Rb1 b2 8.Se2 Kd3 9.Rh1 Kd2 10.Sd4 a2 11.Rh2+ Kc3 12.Sb5+ Kb3 13.Sd4+ Kc4 14.Rxb2 a1Q 15.Rd2 Qe1 16.Re2 Qh1+ 17.Ke3 Qh6+ win.

ii) a2 8.Ra1 b2 9.Rxa2 b1Q 10.Rg2 draws.

iii) Kd3 12.Rxb2 a1Q 13.Rd2+ Kxd2 14.Sb3+ draws.

iv) Kd3 13.Rxb2 a1Q 14.Rb3+ Kc4 15.Rb1 Qxb1 16.Sa3+ draws.

v) 15.Rb4+? Kc3 wins, but not Kxb4? 16.Sc2+ draws.

vi) 7.Rxf1 Qxf1+ 8.Ke6 Qd1 wins.

No 20374 Mikhail Gromov & Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Qa1+ (Qe7+? Ka2;) Ra2 2.Qc1+ Ka4 3.Kxc4/i Rd8/ii 4.Qd1+ Kxa5 5.Rf5+/iii c5 6.Rxc5+ Qxc5+ 7.Kxc5 Rdx2 8.Rh2 Rxh2

(Rxd1; Rxa2 mate) 9.Qd8+ Ka4 10.Qa8+ Kb3 11.Qb8+ Kc3 12.Qg3+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 3.Qb1? Ra3+ 4.Kxc4 Rb8 5.Rb6/iv Qa6+ 6.Rxa6 Rxb1, or 3.Qd1+? Kxa5 4.d4 c5/v draw.

ii) Rb8 4.Qd1+, or c5 4.Qb1.

iii) Thematic try: 5.Rh5+? c5 6.Rxc5+ Qxc5+ 7.Kxc5 Rdx2 8.Rf2 Rxf2 (Rxd1?; Ra2 mate) 9.Qd8+ Ka4 10.Qd4+ Kb3 11.Qe3+ Ka4 wins.

iv) 5.Qc2+ Rbb3 6.a6 Qb8 7.a7 Qb5+ 8.Kd4 Kb4 draws.

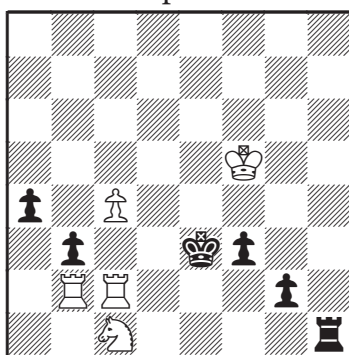
v) But not Ra3+? 5.Kxc4 Ra4+ 6.Qxa4+ Kxa4 7.Rf2 wins.

No 20375 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.Re1 Rg1 (Be5; Bf8) 2.Be3+/i f4 3.Bxg1 hxg1Q 4.Rxg1 Bb6 5.c5/ii Bxc5 6.Ra1 Bd4+ 7.Kg8 Bxa1 8.Bd5 Bd4 (Bh8; Bxa2) 9.a8Q a1Q 10.Qf8+ Kh5 11.Bf3+ Kxh4 12.Qxf4+ Kh3 13.Qg4+ Kh2 14.Qg2 mate.

i) Logical try: 2.Bxg1? hxg1Q 3.Rxg1 Bb6 4.c5/iii Bxc5 5.Ra1 Bd4+ 6.Kg8 Bxa1 7.Bd5 Bd4 8.a8Q a1Q 9.Qf8+ Kh5 10.Qxf5+ (Bf3+ Kxh4;) Kxh4 11.Qf4+ Kh3 draws.

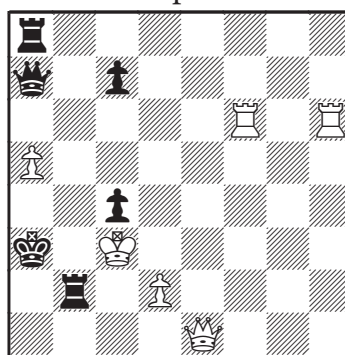
ii) 5.Bd5? Bxa7, or 5.Ra1? Bd4+ 6.Kg8 Bxa1 7.Bh1 Bh8 8.a8Q a1Q 9.Qf8+ Qg7+, or 5.Rg6+? Kxg6 6.Be4+ Kh5 7.a8Q Bd4+ 8.Kh7 a1Q draw.

No 20373
S. Didukh
1st prize



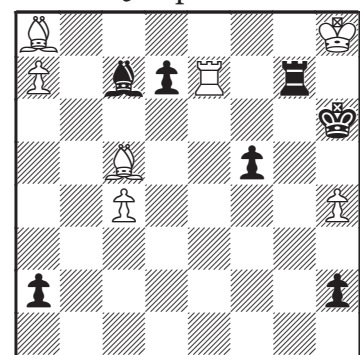
f5e3 0501.14 5/6 Draw

No 20374 M. Gromov
& O. Pervakov
2nd prize



c3a3 4800.22 6/6 Win

No 20375
S. Didukh
3rd prize



h8h6 0450.34 7/7 Win

iii) 4.Ra1 Bd4+ 5.Kg8 Bxa1 6.Bf3 Bh8 7.a8Q a1Q 8.Qf8+ Qg7+ wins.

No 20376 Luis Miguel Gonzales (Spain). 1.Kg1 Rh8/i 2.Qxd2+ Ka6/ii 3.Qd3+ Kb7 4.Qe4+/iii Kxa7 5.Qxd4+ Kb7 6.Qe4+ Kc7 7.Qf4+/iv Kd7 8.Qg4+/v Ke7 (Qe6; Qd4+) 9.Qg5+/vi Ke6 10.g7 Rh7 11.Qg6+ Ke7 12.Qg5+ Kf7 13.Kf2 (Kf1? Rxc7;) Rh2+ (Rxc7; Qd5+) 14.Kf1 (Kg1? Ra2;) Qxc7 15.Qd5+ Kg6 16.Qd3+ (Qe4+ Kg5;) Kh5 17.Qf5+ Qg5 18.Qh7+ Qh6 19.Qf5+ Qg5/vii 20.Qh7+ draws.

i) Rh4 2.Qxd2+ Kb6 3.Qb4+ Kxa7 4.Qe7+ Ka6 5.Qxh4 draws.

ii) Kb5 3.Qg5+ (Qd3+? Sc4;) Kb6 4.g7 draws.

iii) 4.Qf3+? Kxa7, but not Kb6? 5.Qf6+ wins.

iv) 7.Qe7+? Kc6 8.Qf6+ Kd7 wins.

v) 8.Qd4+? Ke6 9.g7 Rh5 10.Qg4+ Rf5 11.Qc4+ Rd5 wins.

vi) 9.g7? Rh6 10.Qg5+ Rf6 wins.

vii) Kh4 20.Qe4+, and: Kg3 21.Qd3+, or Kg5 21.Qd5+ draws.

No 20377 Sergey N. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1...Rd8/i 2.Ba7/ii Rxb5 3.b8Q+ Rdx8 4.Bxb8+ Kf6+/iii 5.Be5+/iv Rxe5+ 6.Kh6 Re8 7.g5+ Kf7 8.g6+ Kf6 9.g7 Re1 (Bg8; h8Q) 10.g8S+ Kf7 11.Sf6 Rh1+ 12.Sh5 draws.

i) Kf6+ 2.Kh4 Rd8 3.Bd4+ Kg6 4.Bxb2 Kxh7 5.Be5, or Ke6+ 2.Kg6 Rd8 3.Ba7 draws.

ii) 2.Bb6? Rh2+ 3.Kg5 Rxh7 4.Bxd8 Rxb7 5.b6 Rg7+ (Bd5?; Bc7+) 6.Kh6 Rg8 7.Bc7+ Kf6 8.g5+ Kf7 9.Kh5 Bd5.

iii) Rxb8 5.Kg6 Bb1 6.Kg7 wins.

iv) Thematic try: 5.Kh6? Rxb8 6.g5+ Kf7 7.g6+ Kf6 8.g7 Bg8/v 9.h8Q Rb4 10.d4 Rxd4 11.Kh5 Bf7+ 12.Kh6 Rh4 mate.

v) But not: Rb1? 9.g8S+ Kf7 10.Sf6 Rb8 11.Sd7 Re8 12.Se5+ perpetual check.

No 20378 Viktor Aberman (USA) & Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Sd3++ Kd1/i 2.Rb1+/ii Kd2 3.Bg6 Qxc6/iii 4.Bb4+ cxb4 5.Qf4+ Rxf4 6.Ra2+ Kc3 7.Se2+ Rxe2 8.Rb3+ Kxb3 9.Sc1+ Kc3 10.Sxe2+ Kd3 11.Sxf4+ Ke3 12.Sg2+ Kf3 13.Sxh4+ Kf4 14.Sxc6+ Ke3 15.Sxe7 Se4/iv 16.Ke5/v Sbd6 17.Sd5+ Kf3 18.Sxb4 Sc4+ 19.Kd4 g2 20.Rxc2 Kxc2 21.Kxe4 draws.

i) Kc2 2.Sxe1+ Rxe1 3.Rb2+ Kc3 4.Qf4 Qg8+ 5.Kc6 Qxe8+ 6.Kxb7 Qd7+ 7.Ka8 Qd8+ 8.Rb8 Qd5+ 9.Rbb7 Se6 10.Bb2+ Kc2 11.Qa4+ Kd3 12.Ra5 Ke3 13.Ka7 Bd8 14.Ra6 draws.

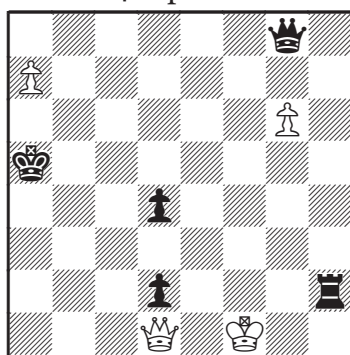
ii) 2.Bg6? Qxc6 3.Rb1+ Kc2 wins.

iii) Bxf8 4.Bc1+ Rxc1 5.Ra2+ Rc2 6.Rxc2+ Kxc2 7.Rb2+ Kd1 8.Rb1+ Kd2 9.Rb2+, or Rxb1 4.Bb4+ Ke3 5.Ra2 Qxc6 6.Re2+ Kxd3 7.Rd2+ Ke3 8.Re2+ draws.

iv) b3 16.Rb2 Sa5 17.Sf5+ Kf4 18.Sh4, and: Sf3 19.Sg2+ Kg5 20.Re2 Sc6 21.Rb2 Scd4 22.Kc4 Sf5 23.Kc3 S3h4 24.Se1 Sf3 25.Sg2 S5h4 26.Se3 Sf5 27.Sg2, or here: Sh3 19.Sg2+ Kg5 20.Se3 Sf4+ 21.Kd4 Kh4 22.Kc3 Kh3 23.Rd2 g2 24.Sxc2 Sxc2 25.Rd5 draws.

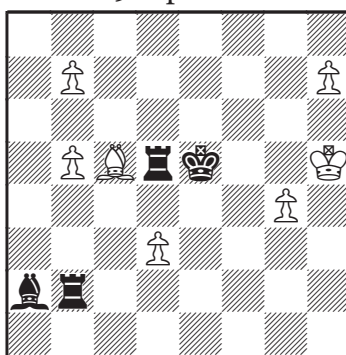
v) 16.Rb2? Sbd6 17.Ke6 Sc4 18.Sf5+ Kf4 19.Rxb4 g2 20.Rb1 Sg5+ 21.Kf6 Sf3 22.Ra1 Scd2 23.Kg6 g3 24.Kf6 Se4+ 25.Ke6 Sc3 26.Sg7 Ke3 27.Sh5 Se2 wins.

No 20376
L. Gonzales
4th prize



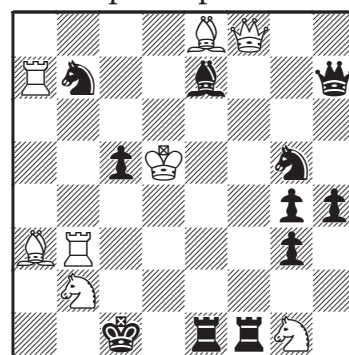
fia5 4300.22 4/5 Draw

No 20377
S.N. Tkachenko
5th prize



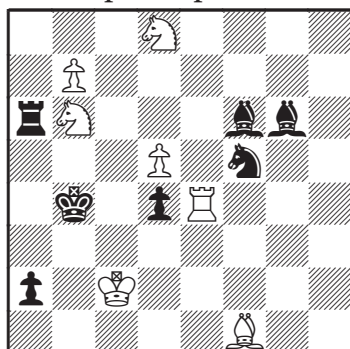
h5e5 0640.50 7/4 BTM, Draw

No 20378 V. Aberman
& M. Zinar
special prize



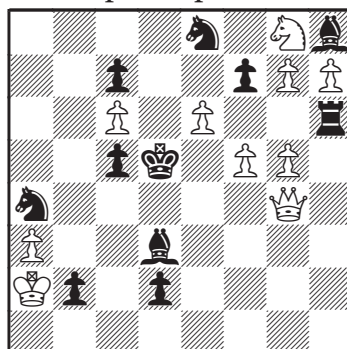
d5c1 4858.04 8/11 Draw

No 20379 D. Hlebec
special prize



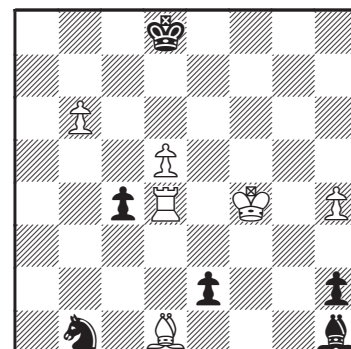
c2b4 0475.22 7/7 Win

No 20380 S. Borodavkin
special prize



a2d5 1367.75 10/11 Draw

No 20381 S. Zakharov
1st honourable mention



f4d8 0143.33 6/6 Win

No 20379 Darko Hlebec (Serbia). 1.Sc6+ (Bxa6? a1Q;) Kc5/i 2.Sd7+ Kxd5 3.Re1/ii d3+/iii 4.Bxd3 Rxc6+ 5.Kb3 a1Q/iv 6.Rxa1 Bxa1 7.b8Q Sd4+ 8.Kb4/v Bc3+ 9.Ka4 Bxd3 10.Qe5+ Kc4 11.Qc5+ Rxc5 12.Sb6 mate.

- i) Ka3 2.Sc4+ Ka4 3.b8Q wins.
- ii) 3.b8Q? Se3+ 4.Kb3 Ra3+ 5.Kxa3 a1Q+ 6.Kb3 Qb1+ draws.
- iii) Sd6+ 4.Kb2 Sxb7 5.Sxf6+ wins.
- iv) Sd4+ 6.Kb2/vi Bxd3 7.Sxf6+ Rxf6 8.b8Q Rf2+ 9.Kc3 wins.
- v) 8.Ka4? Bxd3 9.Qe5+ Kc4 draws.
- vi) But not 6.Kxa2? Bxd3 7.Sxf6+ Rxf6 8.b8Q Rf2+ 9.Ka3 Sc2+ draws.

No 20380 Sergey Borodavkin (Ukraine). 1.Se7+ Kd6/i 2.Qg3+/ii Kxe7 3.Qxd3/iii d1Q/iv 4.g8S+ Kf8 5.e7+ Kg7 6.gxh6+ Kxh7 7.f6+ Qxd3 stalemate.

- i) Ke5 2.Qg3+ Ke4 3.Qg4+ Ke5 4.Qg3+ draws.
- ii) 2.Sc8+? Ke5 3.gxh8Q+ f6 4.Qg3+ Kd4, or 2.Qf4+? Kxe7 3.f6+ Kd8 win.
- iii) 3.f6+? Sxf6 4.gxf6+ Rxf6 5.g8S+ Kf8 6.e7+ Ke8 7.Sxf6+ Bxf6 wins.
- iv) Sc3+ 4.Kxb2 d1Q 5.g8S+ Kf8 6.e7+ Kg7 7.f6+ Rxf6 8.gxf6+ Sxf6 9.Qxc3 draws.

This is a correction of a 2009 study (HHdbIV#75710).

No 20381 Sergey Zakharov (Russia). 1.b7/i Kc7 2.Rxc4+ Kb8/ii 3.Bxe2 Bxd5 4.Rc8+/iii Kxb7 5.Rc1 h1Q/iv 6.Rxh1 Bxh1 7.h5 Sc3 8.h6 Sxe2+/v 9.Ke3/vi Bc6 10.h7 Sc3 11.Kd4/vii Sd5 12.Kc5/viii Sc7 13.h8Q wins.

- i) 1.Bxe2? Sc3 2.Bxc4 Be4 3.b7 Kc7 4.d6+ Kxb7 5.d7 h1Q 6.d8Q Qh3 7.Kg5 Qg3+ 8.Kf6 Qxh4+ draws.

ii) Kxb7 3.Bxe2, and: Bxd5 4.Rb4+ Kc6 5.Rxb1, or here: Be4 4.Rc1 h1Q 5.Rxh1 Bxh1 6.h5 wins.

iii) 4.Rc1? h1Q 5.Rxh1 Bxh1 6.h5 Sc3 7.h6 Be4 draws.

iv) Sd2 6.h5 h1Q 7.Rxh1 Bxh1 8.Bd3 Bd5 9.h6 wins.

v) Be4 9.Bf3 Bxf3 10.Kxf3/ix Sd5 11.h7 wins.

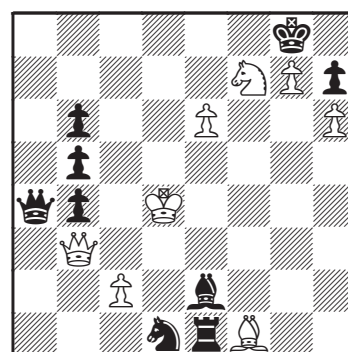
vi) 9.Ke5? Ka7 10.h7 Ba8 11.h8Q Sc3 12.Kd6 Sd5 13.Qa1+ Kb8 draws.

vii) 11.h8Q? Sd5+ 12.Kd4 Ka7 draws.

viii) 12.h8Q? Ka7 13.Kc5 Ba8 (Bb7) draws.

ix) But not: 10.h7? Bc6 11.h8Q Sd5+ 12.Ke5 Ka7 13.Kd6 Bb7 (Ba8) draws.

No 20382 M. Minski
2nd honourable mention



d4g8 4344.44 8/9 Draw

No 20382 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Se5 (e7? Bh5;) Qa1+/i 2.c3 Sxc3/ii 3.e7+ Sd5+ 4.Kxd5 Qxe5+/iii 5.Kxe5+ Bc4+ 6.Be2 Rxe2+ 7.Qe3 Rxe3+ 8.Kd4 Kf7/iv 9.g8Q+ (Kxe3? Kxe7;) Kxg8 10.e8Q+ Rxe8 stalemate.

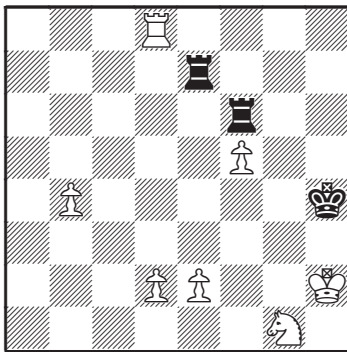
i) Qxb3 2.cxb3 Bh5 3.Bh3 Sc3 4.Sc6 Rd1+ 5.Ke5 Sd5 6.Bg2 Be8 7.Bxd5.

ii) Qxc3+ 3.Qxc3 Sxc3 4.Sc6 and White wins.

iii) Bc4+ 5.Sxc4 Qa8+ 6.Kd6 Qb8+ 7.Kc6 draws.

iv) Rd3+ 9.Ke4 Bd5+ 10.Kxd3, or Rxe7, or Bf7 9.Kxe3 draws.

No 20383 P. Arestov
3rd honourable mention



h2h4 o7o1.40 7/3 Win

No 20383 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Sf3+/i Kg4 2.Sd4 Rxf5 3.Sxf5 Rxe2+ 4.Kh1/ii Kxf5 5.Kg1 Re1+/iii 6.Kf2 Rb1 7.Rd4/iv Ke5 8.Rc4/v Kd5/vi 9.d3 Rb3 (Rb2; Ke3) 10.Ke2/vii Rb2+ 11.Ke3 zz Ke5/viii 12.d4+ Kd5/ix 13.Rc5+ Kd6 14.b5/x Rb4 15.Kd3/xi wins.

i) 1.Rg8? Kh5 2.Kg3 Rxf5, or 1.Rd4+? Kg5 2.e4 Kf4 3.Sh3+ Ke5 draw.

ii) Logical try: 4.Kg1? Kxf5 zz 5.Kf1 Rh2 6.Ke1 Rh4 7.d4 Rh2 8.Re8 Rb2 9.Re5+ (d5 Rxb4;) Kf4 (Kf6) 10.b5 Rb4 draws.

iii) Kf4 6.Kf1 Rh2 7.Ke1 Ke5 8.Kd1 Rh4 9.Rb8 Kd4 10.Kc2 Kc4 11.d3+, or Re4 6.Rf8+ Kg6 7.b5 Rb4 8.Rb8 Kf5 9.b6 Ke5 10.b7 Kd6 11.Rd8+, or Kf6 6.b5 Re1+ 7.Kf2 Rb1 8.Rd5 Ke6 9.Rc5 Kd6 10.d4 Rb3 11.Ke2 Kd7 12.Kd2 Kd6 13.Kc2 win.

iv) 7.Rb8? Ke4 (Ke5) 8.Ke2 Kd4 draws.

v) 8.Ke3? Rb3+ 9.d3 Rb2 10.Rh4 Kd6 draws.

vi) Rb3 9.Ke2 Kd6 10.Kd1 Rb1+ 11.Kc2 wins.

vii) Logical try: 10.Ke3? Rb2 zz 11.Rh4 Kc6 draws.

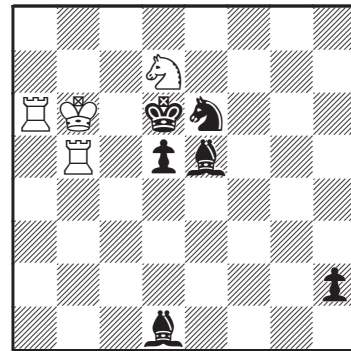
viii) Kd6 12.d4, or Rb3 12.Kd2 win.

ix) Kd6 13.Kd3 Rb3+ 14.Kc2 wins.

x) 14.Rc4? Kd5 15.Rc5+ Kd6 loss of time.

xi) 15.Ke4? Rb3 16.Rh5 Kc7.

No 20384 M. Garcia & P. Krug
4th honourable mention



b6d6 o264.o2 4/6 Draw

No 20384 Mario Garcia (Argentina) & Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Ka7+/i Ke7/ii 2.Rb7/iii h1Q 3.Sc5+ Sc7 4.Re6+ Kf8 (Kf7; Rxe5) 5.Sd7+/iv Kf7 6.Rxe5 Qg1+ (Bg4; Rxc7) 7.Kb8 Sa6+ 8.Ka8 Bg4 9.Rg5/v Qa1 10.Rxg4 Sc7++ (Sc5+; Ra7) 11.Kb8 Sa6+ 12.Ka8/vi Sc7++ 13.Kb8 draws.

i) 1.Ka5+? Ke7 2.Sxe5 h1Q 3.Rb7+ Kf6 4.Sd7+ Kf5 wins.

ii) Kxd7 2.Rxd5+ Kc8 3.Rc6+/vii Sc7 4.Rxc7+/viii Kxc7 5.Rxd1 Bd4+ 6.Ka8 Bg1 7.Rd5 h1R (h1Q stalemate) 8.Rh5 Rxh5 stalemate.

iii) 2.Sxe5? h1Q, or 2.Rxd5? Bd4+ 3.Rxd4 h1Q win.

iv) 5.Rxe5? Bg4 6.Rxc7 Qa1+ wins.

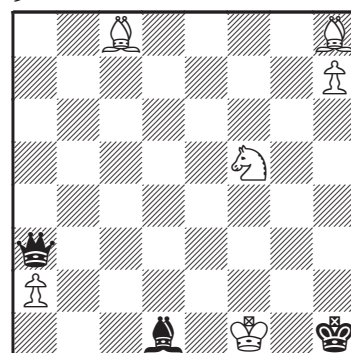
v) 9.Rxd5? Qa1 10.Sc5+ Ke8 wins.

vi) 12.Ka7? Sc5+ 13.Kb6 Sxb7 wins.

vii) But not 3.Rxe6? h1Q 4.Rc6+ Bc7 5.Rdc5 Bf3 6.Rxc7+ Kd8 wins.

viii) But not 4.Rxd1? Bd4+ 5.Rb6 Bg1 6.Rxg1 Sb5+ wins, avoiding hxg1Q stalemate.

No 20385 I. Akobia † & P. Arestov
5th honourable mention



fh1 3051.20 6/3 Draw

No 20385 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Bb7+ (Bd4? Qf3+;) Bf3/i 2.Bg7/ii Qd3+ 3.Kf2 Qe2+ 4.Kg3 Qh2+/iii 5.Kxf3 Qxh7 6.Kf2+/iv Kh2 7.Bc8 Qg8/vi 8.Be5+ Kh3 9.Se7+ wins.

- i) Kh2 2.Be5+ Kh3 3.h8Q+ wins.
- ii) 2.Bd4? Qd3+ 3.Kf2 Qe2+ 4.Kg3 Qh2+ 5.Kxf3 Qxh7 draws.
- iii) Qg2+ 5.Kf4 Qg4+ 6.Ke5 Bxb7 7.h8Q+ wins.
- iv) 6.Kg3+? Kg1 7.Bd4+ Kf1 8.Ba6+ Ke1 draws.
- v) Kh3 8.Sg3+ Kh4 9.Bf6 mate.

No 20386 Oleg Pervakov & Karen Sumbatyan (Russia). 1.Se4+/i Ke3 2.Sf2 b3 3.e6/ii b2 4.e7 h1Q+ 5.Sxh1 Rg1+ 6.Kh2/iii Rxh1+ 7.Kg2 Rg1+/iv 8.Kxg1 b1Q+ 9.Rf1 Qb5 10.e8Q+ Qxe8 11.Re1+ Kf3 12.Rxe8

- i) 1.Kxh2? b3 2.Rxg4 b2 3.Rb4 b1Q 4.Rxb1 Rxb1 draws.
- ii) 3.Sxg4+? Kd3 4.Sxh2 b2 5.Rb4 b1Q 6.Rxb1 Rxb1 draws.
- iii) 6.Kxg1? b1Q+ 7.Rf1 Qb8/v 8.e8Q+ Qxe8 9.Re1+ Kf3 10.Rxe8 stalemate.
- iv) Rh8 8.Rf8 Rxf8 9.exf8Q b1Q 10.Qf4+ Ke2 11.Qf2+ wins.
- v) But not Qb5? 8.Sf2 Ke2 9.Sxg4.

No 20387 Franco Bertoli (Italy). 1...g1Q+ 2.Sg7 Se7+/i 3.Kf8 Sg6+ 4.Kg8 Qh2 5.f8S+/ii

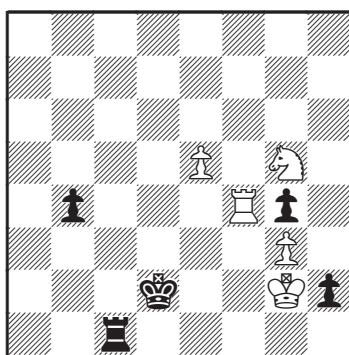
Sxf8 6.Rxb4 Se6 7.Sxe6/iii Kxe6 8.Rb6+ Ke5 9.Rg6 Qa2+ 10.Kh7 (Kg7 Qa7;) Qf7+ 11.Rg7 Qh5+ 12.Kg8 Kf6 13.Sd6/iv Qd5+ 14.Sf7/v Qa8+ 15.Kh7 Qf8 16.Rg6+ Kxf7 17.Rf6+ Kxf6 stalemate.

- i) Sf6+ 3.Kf8 Sh7+ 4.Kg8 Sf6+ 5.Kf8 draws.
- ii) 5.f8Q? Qh8+ 6.Kf7 Se5+ wins.
- iii) 7.Sf5? Qd2 8.Sc5+ Kc6 9.Sxe6 Qxb4 wins.
- iv) 13.Rg1? Qe8+ 14.Kh7 Qd7+ wins.
- v) 14.Kh7? Qd3+ 15.Kg8 Qxd6 wins.

No 20388 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Sb7 (Sc6? Sc3+;) Rb8 2.Kc6 Sb4+ 3.Kd6 Sd5/i 4.Rf7/ii a6 5.Rh7/iii a5 6.Sxa5 Rb6+ (Rb4; Rh8 mate) 7.Sc6 Rxc6+/iv 8.Kxc6 Sb4+ 9.Kc5/v Sa6+ 10.Kb6/vi Sb8 11.Rh8+/vii Kd7 12.Rxb8 wins.

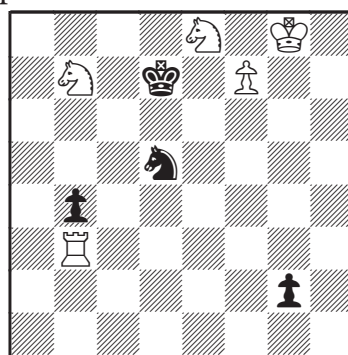
- i) Rxb7 4.Rh8 mate, or a5 4.Rc7 mate.
- ii) 4.Rg7? a5 5.Sxa5 Rb6+ 6.Sc6 Rxc6+ 7.Kxc6 Sf6 draws.
- iii) 5.Rg7? a5 6.Sxa5 Rb6+ 7.Sc6 Rxc6+ 8.Kxc6 Sf6, or 5.Sa5? Rb6+ 6.Sc6 a5 7.Rh7 a4 draw.
- iv) Ra6 8.Rh8+ Kb7 9.Rb8 mate.
- v) 9.Kb5? Sd3/viii 10.Kc6 Se5+ (Sb4+?; Kc5) 11.Kd6 Sc4+ 12.Kd5 Sa5 13.Ra7 Sb7 draws.
- vi) 10.Kc6? Sb8+ 11.Kd6 Sa6 draws.
- vii) 11.Ra7? Sd7+ 12.Kc6 Sb8+ 13.Kd6 Kd8 14.Ra8 Kc8 15.Ra7 Kd8 positional draw.
- viii) But not: Sd5? 10.Kc6 Sb4+ 11.Kc5 wins.

No 20386 O. Pervakov & K. Sumbatyan
6th honourable mention



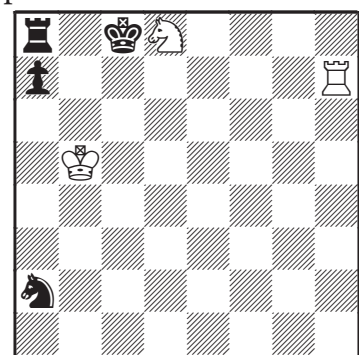
g2d2 0401.23 5/5 Win

No 20387 F. Bertoli
special honourable mention



g8d7 0105.12 5/4 BTM, Draw

No 20388 R. Becker
special honourable mention



b5c8 0404.01 3/4 Win

No 20389 Sergey Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1... f2+ (h3; Bd2+) 2.Kf1 h3/i 3.Bd2+/ii Kxd2/iii 4.Rg5/iv g6 5.Kxf2 Kd3 6.Kg1 Kd4 7.Kh2 Ke5 8.Kxh3 Ke6 9.Kh4 Ke5/v 10.Kh3/vi Kf6 11.Kh4 Kg7 12.Rxf5/vii gxf5 13.Kg5/viii draws.

i) fxg6 3.gxh4 g5 4.hxg5 g6 5.Ba5 Kf3 6.Bb6 h4 7.Bxf2 h3 8.Bg1 Kg3 9.Bf2+ Kf3 10.Bg1 positional draw.

ii) 3.Bd4+? Kf3 4.Ra6 h2 5.Ra3+ Kg4 6.Kxf2 h1Q wins.

iii) Kf3 4.Ra6 h2 5.Ra3+ Kg4 6.Kxf2 h1Q 7.Ra4+ Qe4 8.Rxe4+ fxe4 9.Bc3 f6 10.Bd4 draws.

iv) 4.Rd6+? Ke3 5.Rd1 h2 6.Kg2 Ke2 7.Ra1 h1Q+ 8.Rxh1 f4/ix 9.gxf4 h4 10.f5 f6 11.Kh3 f1Q+ 12.Rxf1 Kxf1 wins.

v) Kf6 10.Rg4 fxg4 (hxg4) stalemate.

vi) 10.Rxh5? gxh5 11.Kxh5 f4 wins.

vii) 12.Rxh5? f6 13.Rg5 Kh6 14.Rxf5 gxf5 15.g4 f4 wins.

viii) 13.Kxh5? f6 14.Kh4 Kg6 15.Kh3 Kg5 wins.

ix) But not h4? 9.gxh4 f4 10.h5 f3+ 11.Kg3 f1Q 12.Rxf1 Kxf1 13.Kxf3 draws.

No 20390 Marcel Doré & Alain Pallier (France). 1.Bd2+ (Bb6+? Kb4;) Ka4 2.Sc3+ Ka3/i 3.Bc1+ Kb4 4.Bf4 Qe8+ 5.Kc7/ii g2/iii 6.Sd5+ Kb5 7.a4+ (Bh2? Qc6+;) Ka5/iv 8.Bh2 Qf7+ 9.Kc6 Qf8 10.f4 h3 11.Bg1/v h4 12.Bh2 Qe8+ 13.Kc7 (Kc5, Kd6) Qf7+ 14.Kc6 Qg6+/

vi 15.Kd7 Qb1 16.Kc6 Qc2+ 17.Kd6 Qb3 18.Kc7 Qc4+ 19.Kd6 Qa6+ 20.Kc7 Qa7 21.Kc6/vii draws.

i) Kb4 3.Se2+ Kc4 4.Bf4 Qe8+ 5.Kc7 Qxe2 6.b8Q draws.

ii) 5.Kb6? h3 6.Se4 Qd8+ 7.Kc6 h4 8.b8Q+ Qxb8 9.Bxb8 h2 wins.

iii) Kxc3 6.b8Q Qxb8+ 7.Kxb8 draws.

iv) Kxa4 8.Bh2 Qf7+ 9.Kb6 Qg8 10.Ka7 Qxd5 11.b8Q draws.

v) 11.f5? g1Q 12.Bxg1 Qe8+ 13.Kc7 Qe5+ 14.Kc6 h2 wins.

vi) Qf8 15.Bg1 Kxa4 16.Sb6+ Ka3 17.Sc4+ Ka2 18.Sd6 draws.

vii) 21.Kc8? g1Q 22.Bxg1 Qxg1 23.b8Q Qg8+ 24.Kb7 Qxb8+ 25.Kxb8 h2 wins.

No 20391 Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Ra6+ Bxa6 2.b6+ Ka8 3.c8Q+ Bxc8 4.Kc7 Sd5+ 5.Kxc8 Sxb6+ 6.Kc7 Sd5+ 7.Kd7 Sf6+ 8.Kc8/i, and:

— Sd4 9.g7 Bxg7 10.f8Q Bxf8 11.Se6 Sxe6 stalemate, or:

— Sc5 9.g7 Bxg7 10.f8Q Bxf8 11.Se6 Be7/ii 12.Sc7+ Ka7 13.Sd5 Sxd5 stalemate.

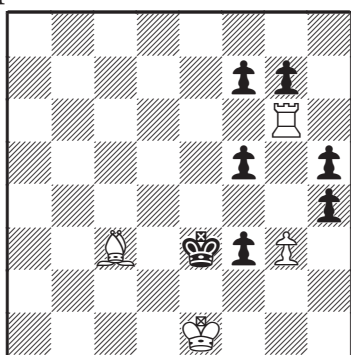
i) 8.Ke6? Sh5 9.Ke5 Sc5 wins.

ii) Sxe6 stalemate, or Bd6 12.Sc7+ Ka7 13.Sb5+ Kb6 14.Sxd6 stalemate.

No 20389

S.N. Tkachenko

special honourable mention

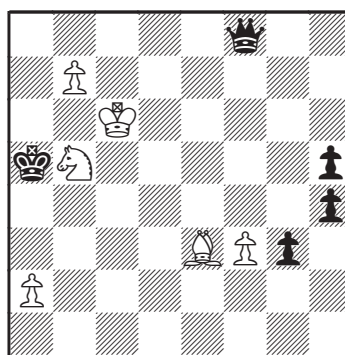


e1e3 0110.16 4/7 BTM, Draw

No 20390 M. Doré

& A. Pallier

1st commendation

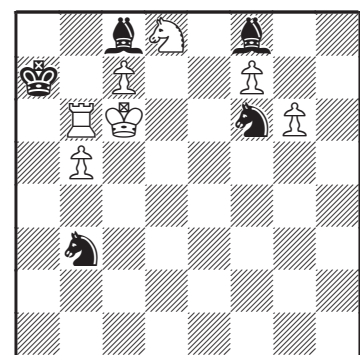


c6a5 3011.33 6/5 Draw

No 20391 S. Slumstrup

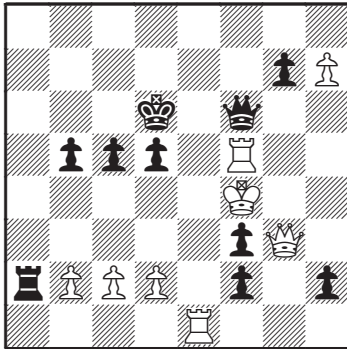
Nielsen

2nd commendation



c6a7 0167.40 7/5 Draw

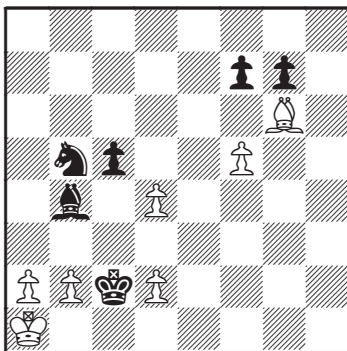
No 20392 A. Stavrietsky
3rd commendation



f4d6 4500.47 8/10 BTM, Win

No 20392 Aleksandr Stavrietsky (Russia).
1...Qh4+ 2.Qxh4 Ra4+ 3.b4 Rxb4+ 4.c4 Rxc4+
5.d4 Rxd4+ 6.Kg5 Rxh4 7.Rxd5+ Kc6 (Kxd5;
Rd1) 8.Rxc5+ Kb6 9.Rxb5+ Kxb5 10.Rb1+ wins.

No 20393 L. Topko
4th commendation

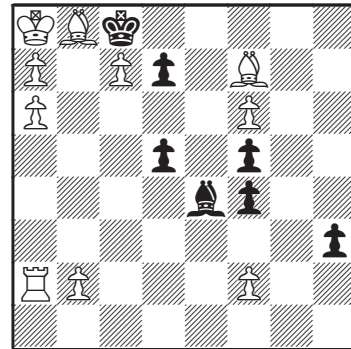


a1c2 0043.53 7/6 Draw

No 20393 Leonid Topko (Ukraine). 1.f6+
fxg6 2.fxg7 Ba3 3.bxa3 Kc1/i 4.g8Q Sxd4 5.Qxg6
Sc2+ 6.Qxc2+ Kxc2 7.d3 Kxd3 8.Kb2 Kd2 9.Kb3
Kd3 10.Kb2 Kd2 11.Kb3 wins.

i) Sxa3 4.g8Q Kc1 5.Qxg6 Sc2+ 6.Qxc2+
Kxc2 7.dxc5 wins.

No 20394 A. Bezgodkov
5th commendation



a8c8 0150.65 10/7 Draw

No 20394 Anatoly Bezgodkov (Ukraine).
1.f3 Bxf3 2.Bh5 Be4 3.Bf3 Bxf3 4.Ra3 Be4 5.Rb3
d4+ 6.Rb7 Bd5 7.b4/i h2 8.f7/ii Bxf7 9.b5 h1Q
10.b6 and stalemate.

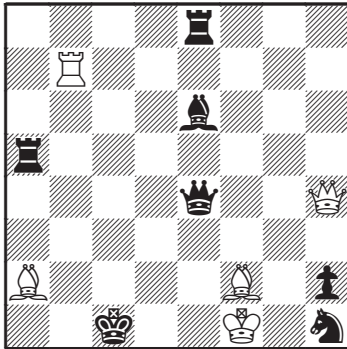
i) 7.f7? Bxf7 8.b4 Bd5 9.b5 d6 10.b6 Kd7
11.c8Q++ Kxc8 12.Bxd6 h2 13.B- h1Q wins.

ii) 8.b5? h1Q 9.b6 Bxb7+ 10.axb7+ Qxb7
mate.

Israel Ring Ty 2013

The award of the Israel Ring Ty 2013 was published in *Variantim* no. 63 viii2014. The judge, L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia), received 20 entries from the tourney director Ofer Comay. Siegfried Hornecker (Germany) was consulted for anticipation-vetting of the award candidates.

No 20395 P. Krug
1st prize



fic1 4753.01 5/7 Draw

No 20395 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Rb1+/i Qxb1 2.Be3+ Kb2+ 3.Bxb1 Sg3+/ii 4.Kf2 h1S+ 5.Ke1/iii Ra1/iv 6.Qb4+ Bb3 7.Qc3+ Kxc3 stalemate.

i) 1.Qh6+? Kd1 2.Rd7+ Bxd7 3.Bb3+ Qc2 wins.

ii) Bh3+ 4.Ke2 Sg3+ 5.Kf2, and: h1S+ 6.Kg1 Rxe3 draws, e.g. 7.Qb4+ Rb3 8.Qd2+ Kxb1 9.Qd1+ Kb2 10.Qd2+ Ka1 11.Qd4+ Rb2 12.Qa4+ Rxa4 stalemate, or here: Rxe3 6.Qb4+/v Rb3 7.Qd2+/vi Kxb1 8.Qe1+ Kc2 9.Qd2+ (Qd1+? Kc3;) Kxd2 stalemate.

iii) 5.Kg1? Se2+ 6.Kh2 (Kxh1 Rh5;) Bb3 7.Bd4+ Sxd4 8.Qxd4+ Kxb1 9.Qd3+ Bc2 10.Qf1+ Kb2

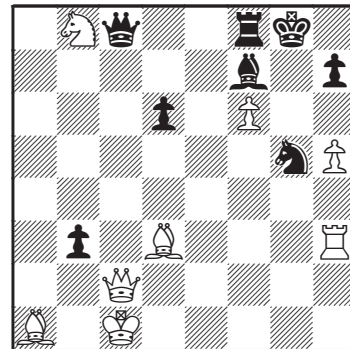
iv) Bb3 6.Qd4+ Kxb1 7.Qd3+ (Qc3+) Bc2 8.Qxc2+ Kxc2 stalemate.

v) But not: 6.Kxe3? Re5+ 7.Kf4 h1Q 8.Kxe5 Qe1+ 9.Kf6 Qc3+ 10.Kg6 Bf1 11.Bf5 Qg7+ 12.Kxg7 Sxf5+ 13.Kf6 Sxh4 wins.

vi) 7.Qxa5? h1S+ 8.Kg1 Kxb1 9.Qd5 Rc3 10.Qb5+ Kc1 11.Qa5 Rc8 wins.

“The solution is very natural and the minor black promotion is a welcome extra. The surprise at the end – an ideal double pin stalemate – makes this a very good work!”

No 20396 P. Krug
1st honourable mention



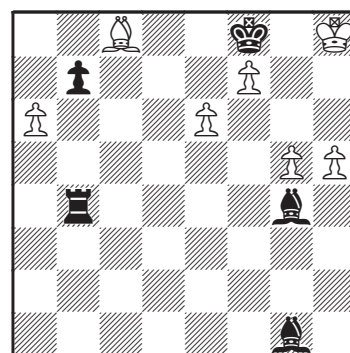
c1g8 4454.23 8/8 Draw

No 20396 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Bxh7+ Sxh7 2.Sc6 bxc2 3.Se7+ Kh8 4.Sg6+ Bxg6 5.hxg6 Rf7 6.Rxh7+ Rxh7 7.f7+ Rg7 8.Bf6/i d5 9.Bd4 Qf5 10.Kb2 Qc8 11.Kc1 zz, draws.

i) 8.Bd4? d5 zz 9.Bc3 Qf5 10.Kb2 Qf2 11.Kc1 Qg1+ 12.Kxc2 Qxg6+ wins.

“This shows unconventional play: after the bishop sacrifice the unexpected moves are 2.Sc6! and 4.Sg6+! and the black try 5...Rf7! is also strong. The result is an original positional draw with bishop versus queen in which the bPc2 functions as an important shield for the wK. This study is not awarded a prize because the wQ doesn't move”

No 20397 A. Jasik
2nd honourable mention



h8f8 0370.51 7/5 Draw

No 20397 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.g6 (Kh7? Bxh5;) Bd4+ 2.Kh7 Be2/i 3.a7/ii Ra4 4.Bxb7/iii Rxa7 5.h6 Bd3 6.e7+ Kxe7 7.f8Q+ Kxf8 stalemate.

i) bxa6 3.e7+ Kxe7 4.Bxg4 Rb8 5.g7 Kxf7 6.h6 a5 7.Bh5+ draws. Bd1 3.a7 Ra4, e.g. 4.h6 Bc2 5.e7+ Kxe7 6.Bf5 Bb3 7.Bc2 Bxc2 8.a8Q Rxa8 9.f8Q+ Rxf8 (Kxf8) stalemate.

ii) 3.Bxb7? Bd3, or 3.h6? Bd3 4.e7+ Kxe7 5.Kg8 Bc4 wins.

iii) 4.h6? Bd3, and: 5.e7+ Kxe7 6.Bf5 Bc4 7.Bd3 Bxf7, or here: 5.Bd7 Rxa7 6.Bb5 Bxg6+ 7.Kxg6 Ra3 wins.

No 20398 Gady Costeff (USA/Israel). 1.Bd1+/i Ke4 2.Bc2+ Kd5 3.Bb3+ Sc4 4.Bxf4, and:

— gxh6 5.Bxc4+/ii Kxc4 6.Bxh6+ Kd5 7.Rg5+ Ke6 8.Rg6+ Kf7 9.Rg7+ Kf8 10.Rg6 with perpetual check, or:

— a2 5.Bxc4+/iii Kxc4 6.Bb8+/iv Kd5 7.Rg5+ Kc6 8.Rg6+ Kb7 9.Rxg7+ Kxb8 10.Rg8+ with perpetual check.

i) 1.Bxe5? Rxa4 2.Rxg7 Rh8 3.Rg6 Rh7 wins.

ii) 5.Be3? Rc8 6.Rd4+ Ke5 7.Rxc4 Rxc4 8.Bxc4 Ke4 9.Bd2 a2 10.Bc3 Rc6 11.Bxa2 Rxc3 wins.

iii) 5.Sf5? a1Q 6.Bxc4+ Kc6 7.Rg6+ Kc5 8.Bxa6 Rxa6 wins.

iv) Thematic try: 6.Bc1+? Kb3 7.Rg3+ Kc2 8.Rg2+ Kb1 wins.

“This shows an original synthesis of two perpetual checks and a good moment is the bishop sacrifice 6.Bb8+ with switchback”.

No 20399 Mario Garcia (Argentina) & Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Kg2/i b3/ii 2.axb3 cxb3 3.Kxg3 Ba3 4.Kf4/iii Kb5/iv 5.Ke3/v Kc4 6.Kxe4/vi zz Bxb2 7.Sd6+ Kxc3 8.Sc8 Bc1 9.Sb6 Bd2 10.Sd5+/vii Kc2 11.Sb6 b2 12.Sc4 b1Q 13.Sa3+ draws.

i) 1.Sg7? Bf6 2.Sf5 Be5 3.Kg2 Ka4 wins

ii) bxc3 2.bxc3 Bb4 3.a3 Bxc3 4.Sd6 Ka4 5.Sxc4 Kb3 6.Se3 draws.

iii) 4.Sf6? Bxb2 5.Sxe4 Bc1 wins.

iv) Bxb2 5.Kxe4 Bxc3 6.Sd6 b2 (Kb4; Kd3) 7.Sc4+ draws.

v) Thematic try: 5.Kxe4? Kc4 6.Ke3 Bxb2 7.Kd2 Bxc3+ 8.Kc1 Be5 domination. 5.c4+? Kb4 6.c5 Kxc5 7.Kxe4 Kc4 wins.

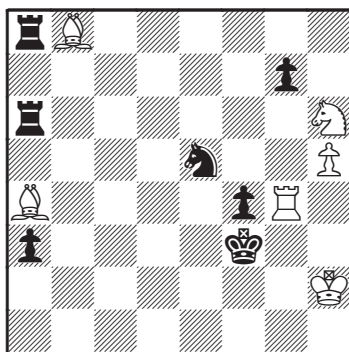
vi) Try: 6.Kd2? e3+/viii 7.Kxe3 Bxb2 8.Sd6+ Kxc3 9.Se4+ Kc2 10.Sd2 Bc1 wins.

vii) 10.Sa4+? Kb4 11.Sb2 Bc1 12.Sd3+ Kc4 13.Se5+ Kc3 14.Sd3 Ba3 15.Ke3 Bd6 16.Ke2 Bb4 17.Sf2 Bc5 18.Se4+ Kc2 wins.

viii) But not: Bxb2? 7.Sd6+ Kd5 8.Sb5 e3+ 9.Kd3 Bc1 10.Sd4 b2 11.Kc2 Ke4 12.Se2 Kf3 13.Sd4+ draws.

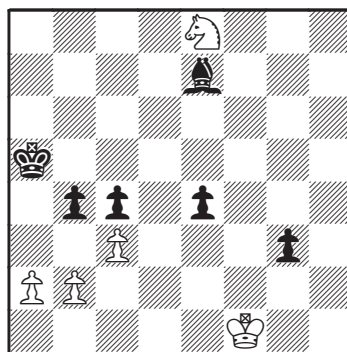
“This shows a fight against a material and positional disadvantage. The study’s point is the zugzwang after 5.Ke3!”.

No 20398 G. Costeff
3rd honourable mention
in memoriam Milan
Velimerović



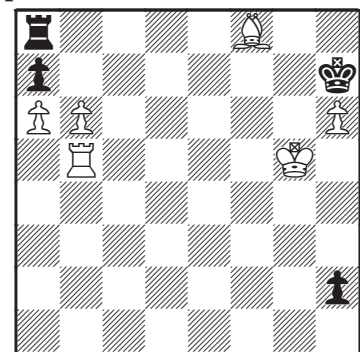
h2f3 0724.13 6/7 Draw

No 20399 M. Garcia
& P. Krug
4th honourable mention



f1a5 0031.34 5/6 Draw

No 20400 M. Minski
& G. Sonntag
special honourable mention



g5h7 0410.32 6/4 Win

No 20400 Martin Minski & Gunter Sonntag (Germany). 1.b7/i h1Q (Rxf8; Rb1) 2.bxa8Q Qxa8/ii 3.Rb7+ Kg8 4.h7+ (Be7? Qe8;) Kh8 5.Bg7+/iii Kxh7 6.Be5+ Kg8 7.Bb8/iv Kf8 8.Kf4/v Ke8 9.Bxa7/vi Qc8 10.Rb8 wins.

i) 1.Rb1? axb6 2.Bg7 (Rh1 Rxf8;) Rxa6 draws.

ii) Qxh6+ 3.Kg4/vii wins.

iii) 5.Be7? Qd8 (Qf8) 6.Bf6+ Qxf6+ 7.Kxf6 stalemate, or 5.Bd6? Qd8+ draws.

iv) 7.Rb8+? Kh7 8.Rxa8 stalemate. 7.Kf4? Qf8+, or 7.Rg7+? Kf8 draw.

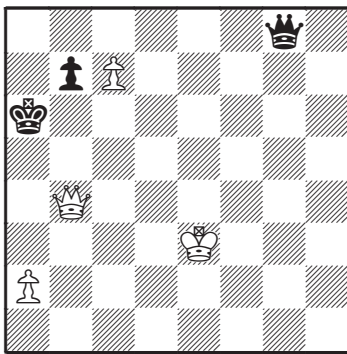
v) 8.Kf5? Ke8 9.Bxa7 Qc8+, or 8.Kf6? Ke8 9.Bxa7 Qd8+, or 8.Kg6? Ke8 9.Bxa7 Qc8 10.Rb8 Kd7, or 8.Bxa7? Qd8+, or 8.Bd6+? Ke8 9.Rb8+ Qxb8 10.Bxb8 Kd7 draw.

vi) 9.Ke5? Kd8 10.Kd6 Kc8 11.Bxa7 Qxb7 12.axb7+ Kxb7 draws.

vii) But not: 3.Bxh6? stalemate, or 3.Kf5? Qxf8+ 4.Qxf8 stalemate.

“This is a special HM because the temporary queen blockade is known but here the blockade is reached after a battery. After this, White must play precisely – a nice move is 8.Kf4!”

No 20401 Y. Afek
commendation



e3a6 4000.21 4/3 Win

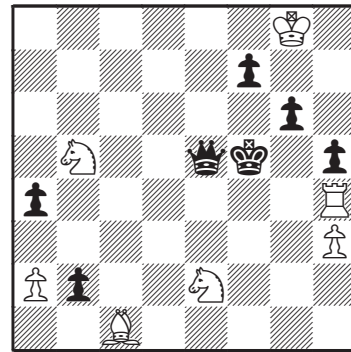
No 20401 Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.Qa3+ Kb6 (Kb5; Qb3+) 2.Qd6+ Ka7 3.Qc5+, and:

— Ka6 4.c8R wins, or:

— b6 4.c8S+ Kb8 (Kb7; Sd6+) 5.Sxb6 Qxa2 6.Qc8+ Ka7 7.Qa8+ Kxb6 8.Qxa2 wins.

“This has known motifs – in this case two anti-stalemate minor promotions in a miniature”.

No 20402 P. Krug
special commendation



g8f5 3112.25 7/7 Win

No 20402 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Sed4+/i Kf6 2.Bxb2 g5 3.Kh7 gxh4 4.Sc3 a3 5.Ba1 Qe8/ ii 6.Sd5+ Kg5/iii 7.Sf3+ Kf5 8.Sxh4+ Kg5 9.Bf6 mate

i) 1.Sbd4+? Kf6 2.Bxb2 Qb8+ (g5; Kh7) 3.Kh7 Qxb2.

ii) Qxd4 6.Se4+ Ke5 7.Bxd4+ Kxd4 8.Sd6 f5 9.Sxf5+ wins.

iii) Ke5 7.Sb5+ (Se6+? Kd6;) Kxd5 6.Sc7+ wins.

“This is awarded a special commendation for an introduction to H. Rinck, 1928 (HHdbIV#12454)”.

17th Ukrainian Team Championship 2014

The theme definition was the exact choice of a white move to create the final mate or stalemate position, or an intermediate key position to go to the next phase of the solution. A thematic try is required.

Two examples were supplied by the judge Sergey Osintsev (Russia): EG#17521 (3.Sf6!; 3.Sf5?) and EG#16197 (1.Kd4+!).

No 20403 Eduard Eilazyan (Donetsk region). 1.Sf3++ Kg2 2.Qd5 Qa7+ 3.Kb1/i, and:

— Bxc4 4.Sh4++/ii Kh3 5.Qh1+ Kg4 6.Bf3+ Kg5 7.Qc1+ Kxh4 8.Qf4+ Kh3 9.Qf5+ Kh2 10.Qc2+/iii Be2/iv 11.Qxh7+ Kg1 12.Qh1+ Kf2 13.Qg2+ Ke1 14.Qxe2 mate, or:

— Bd3+ 4.Kc1/v Bxc4 5.Se1++/vi Kf2/vii 6.Qd2+ Kf1 (Kg1; Qg2 mate) 7.Bg2+ Kg1 8.Sf3 mate.

i) Thematic try: 3.Kb2? Bxc4 4.Sh4++ Kh3 5.Qh1+ Kg4 6.Bf3+ Kg5 7.Qc1+ Kxh4 8.Qf4+ Kh3 9.Qf5+ Kh2 and now 10.Qc2+ fails to 10... Qf2 (pin). Compare this with line iv).

ii) 4.Se1++? Kf1 5.Qxc4+ Kxe1 draws.

iii) Thematic try: 10.Qxh7+? Kg1 11.Qh1+ Kf2 12.Qg2+ Ke1 draws.

iv) Now 10...Qf2 (no pin) 11.Qxh7+ Kg1 12.Qh1 mate.

v) 4.Kb2? Bxc4 5.Se1++ Kf1 6.Qxc4+ Kxe1 draws.

vi) 5.Sh4++? Kh3 6.Qh1+ Kg4 7.Bf3+ Kg5 draws.

vii) Kf1 6.Qh1+ Qg1 7.Qe4 Qf2 8.Sc2 wins.

“This shows excellent execution of the required theme in a consistent manner. The basic idea of the study is emphasized by additional lines among which there is a thematic try”.

No 20404 Volodimir Pogorelov & Valery Kopyl (Poltavska region). 1.Sc5/i Qxf6+ 2.Qxf6 Bxc3+ 3.Kxc3 a1Q+ 4.Kb3/ii Qxf6 5.Be4+ c6 6.Sd7/iii Qd4 7.Bxc6 mate.

i) Thematic try: 1.Be4? Qxf6+ 2.Qxf6 Bxc3+ 3.Kxc3 a1Q+ 4.Kb3 Qxf6? 5.Sc5+ c6 6.Sd7 wins, but 4...Qd1+ 5.Ka3 Qc1+ 6.Kb4 Qe1+ and Qxe4 draws.

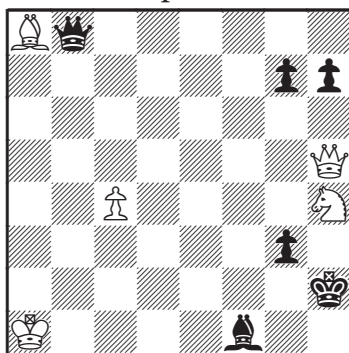
ii) Thematic try: 4.Kc4? Qxf6 5.Be4+ c6 6.Sd7 Qb2 7.Bxc6+ Qb7 draws. Thematic try: 4.Kc2? Qxf6 5.Be4+ c6 6.Sd7 Qf5 draws.

iii) 6.Bxc6+? Kb8 7.Sd7+ Kc7 draws.

“This has a beautiful mate finale – the result of the wK choosing the correct square”.

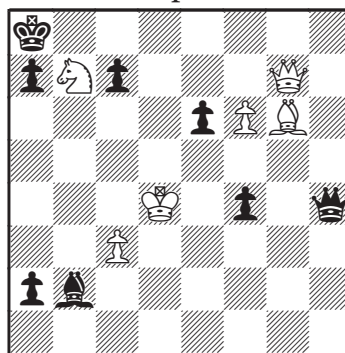
No 20405 Nikola Griva & Sergiy Borodavkin (Dnepropetrovsk region). 1.Rg3+/i

No 20403
E. Eilazyan
1st place



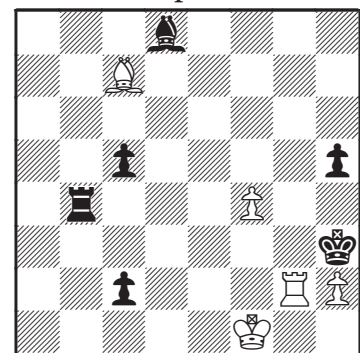
a1h2 4041.13 5/6 Win

No 20404 V. Pogorelov
& V. Kopyl
2nd place



d4a8 4041.25 6/8 Win

No 20405 N. Griva
& S. Borodavkin
3rd place



fih3 0440.23 5/6 Draw

Kxh2 2.Rg2+ Kh3 3.Rxc2 Bxc7 4.Rxc5 Rxf4+ 5.Ke2 Re4+ 6.Kf3/ii Re3+ 7.Kf2 Bb6 8.Rxh5+ Kg4 9.Rh1/iii Rh3+ 10.Kg2 Rg3+ 11.Kf1 Kf3 12.Ke1 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rxc2? Bxc7 2.Rxc5 Rxf4+ 3.Ke2 Re4+ 4.Kf3 Re3+ 5.Kf2 Bb6 6.Rxh5+ Kg4 wins as the wR will fall victim to the black battery.

ii) 6.Kd3? Re3+ 7.Kd2 Bf4 8.Rxh5+ Kg4 wins.

iii) 9.Rh2? Ra3+ 10.Kf1 Ra1+ 11.Kg2 Rg1 mate.

“It is nice that the move choice which determines the result is at move 1”.

No 20406 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Kharkov region). 1.Ke2 Kg7 2.Ra6 g3 3.h5, and:

— d6 4.Rc6 g2 5.Rc1/i g1Q 6.Rxg1+ Sxg1+ 7.Kxe3 Sh3 8.a5 Sg5 9.a6 Se6 10.a7 wins, or:

— c6 4.Ra7/ii g2 5.Rxd7+ Kh6 6.Rd1 g1Q 7.Rxg1 Sxg1+ 8.Kxe3 Sh3 9.a5 Sg5 10.a6 Se6 11.a7 Sc7 12.Kd3 Kxh5 13.Kc4 Kg5 14.Kc5 wins.

i) Thematic try: 5.Rxc7+? Kh6 6.Rc1 g1Q 7.Rxg1 Sxg1+ 8.Kxe3 Sh3 9.a5 Sg5 10.a6 Se6 11.a7 Sc7 draws.

ii) Thematic try: 4.Rb6? g2 5.Rb1 g1Q 6.Rxg1+ Sxg1+ 7.Kxe3 Sh3 8.a5 Sg5 9.a6 Se6 10.a7 Sc7 draws.

“This shows an interesting geometrical detail: the omnipresent rook in the solution and the thematic tries to reach the first rank via the b, c and d-file”.

No 20407 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Kharkov region). 1.Bf1 e2 2.Bxe2 Se3 3.e7 Sd5+ 4.Kb3/i Sxe7 5.Bxe7 Sxb5 6.Bd8+/ii b6 7.Bxb5 Kxb5 8.Bg5 Bxg5 9.hxg5 h4 10.g6 h3 11.g7 h2 12.g8Q h1Q 13.Qc4+ Ka5 14.Qa4 mate.

i) 4.Kd3? Sxe7 5.Bxe7 Sxb5 draws.

ii) Thematic try: 6.Bxb5? Kxb5 7.Bg5 Bxg5 8.hxg5 h4 9.g6 h3 10.g7 h2 11.g8Q h1Q draws.

“The final mate would not be possible without the bPb6 and leaves no doubt the theme move is 6.Sd8+”.

No 20408 Eduard Eilazyan (Donetsk region). 1.Ke6 hxg3 2.hxg3/i Sf8+/ii 3.Ke7 Sg6+ 4.Kd7 Sf8+ 5.Ke8 Sxd8 6.Sxc4, and:

— Sde6 7.d5 Sc7+ 8.Kxf8 Sxd5 9.Se3 Sc3 10.f4 Se2 11.g4+ Kg6 12.f5+ Kf6 13.Sd5+ wins, or:

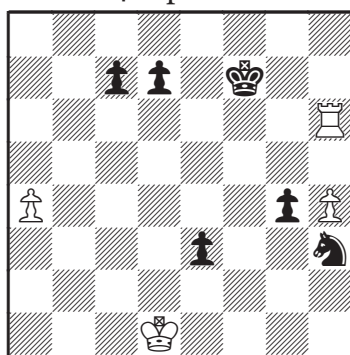
— Sfe6 7.d5 Sc7+ 8.Kxd8 Sxd5 9.Se3 Sc3 10.f4 Se2 11.g4+ Kg6 12.f5 wins.

i) Thematic try: 2.fxg3? Sf8+ 3.Ke7 Sg6+ 4.Kd7 Sf8+ 5.Ke8 Sxd8 6.Sxc4 Sfe6/iii 7.d5 Sc7+ 8.Kxd8 Sxd5 9.Kd7 Kg4 10.Ke6 Sc7+ 11.Ke5 Kh3 12.Sd6 Sa8 13.Se4 Sb6 14.Sf2+ Kxh2 15.g4 Sc4+ 16.Ke6 Se3 17.g5 Sg2 draws.

ii) Sdc5+ 3.dxc5 Sxc5+ 4.Kf5 c3 5.Sf3 c2 6.Sf7 c1Q 7.g4 mate.

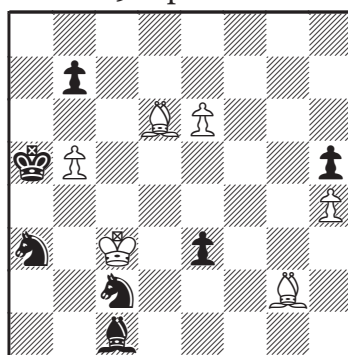
iii) But not Sde6? 7.d5 Sc7+ 8.Kxf8 Sxd5 9.Kf7 Kg4 10.h4 Kh5 11.Sd6, and: Sc3 12.Se8 Se4 13.Sf6+ Sxf6 14.Kxf6, or here: Se3 12.Se8 Sf5 13.Sg7+ Sxg7 14.Kxg7 wins.

No 20406 V. Tarasiuk
4th place



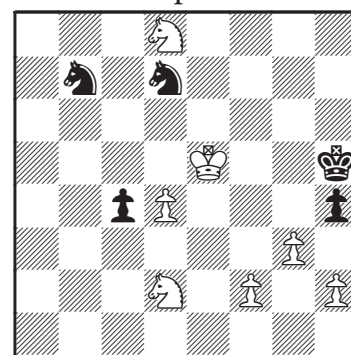
d1f7 0103.24 4/6 Win

No 20407 V. Tarasiuk
5th place



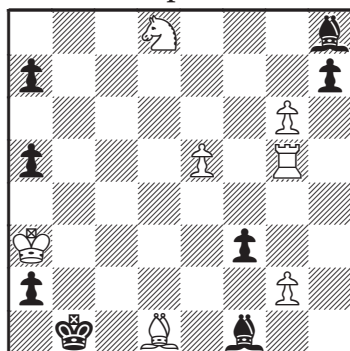
c3a5 0056.33 6/7 Win

No 20408 E. Eilazyan
6th place



e5h5 0008.42 7/5 Win

No 20409 V. Tarasiuk
7th place



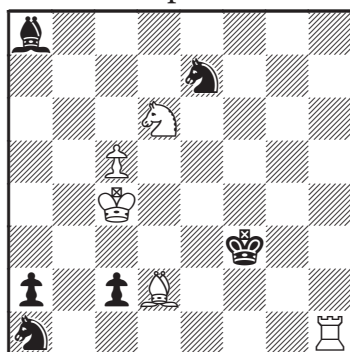
a3b1 0171.35 7/8 Draw

No 20409 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Kharkov region). 1.Bc2+ Kxc2 2.Kxa2 h6 3.Rg3/i f2 4.Rf3 Bc4+ 5.Ka3 f1Q 6.Rxf1 Bxf1 7.Se6 Bxe5 8.g7 Bb2+ 9.Ka4 Bxg7 10.Sxg7 Bxg2 11.Sf5 Bc6+ 12.Ka3/ii h5 13.Sd4+ Kd3 14.Sxc6 Ke4 15.Sxa5 h4 16.Sc4 Kf3 17.Se5+ Kg3 18.Sc4 Kf2 19.Se5 Kg3 20.Sc4 h3 21.Se3 Kf3 22.Sf1 draws.

i) Thematic try: 3.Rg4? h5 4.Rg5 f2 5.Rf5 Bc4+ 6.Ka3 f1Q 7.Rxf1 Bxf1 8.Se6 h4 9.g7 Bxg7 10.Sxg7 Bxg2 11.e6 h3 12.Sf5 h2 13.Sg3 Bc6 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 12.Kxa5? h5 13.Sd4+ Kd3 14.Sxc6 Ke4 wins.

No 20410 S. Borodavkin
8th place



c4f3 0147.12 5/6 BTM, Draw

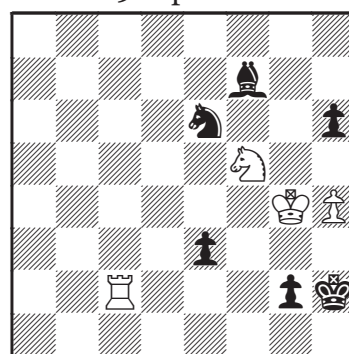
No 20410 Sergiy Borodavkin (Dnepropetrovsk region). 1...Ke2 2.c6/i Bxc6 3.Rxa1 Kxd2 4.Kb3 Bd5+ 5.Kb2 Sc6 6.Rc1/ii Sb4/iii 7.Sc4+ Bxc4 8.Rxc2+ Sxc2 ideal stalemate.

i) Thematic try: 2.Rxa1? Kxd2 3.Kb3 Bd5+ 4.Kb2 Sc6 5.Rc1 Sb4 6.Sc4+ Bxc4 7.Rxc2+ Sxc2 and no stalemate as White still has wPc5.

ii) 6.Sb7? Sd4 7.Sc5 Se2 8.Sa6 c1Q+ 9.Rxc1 Sxc1 wins.

iii) Sd4 7.Sc4+ Kd3 8.Sa3 Sb3 9.Sxc2 Sxc1 10.Sb4+ draws.

No 20411 S. Borodavkin
& O. Shaligin
9th place



g4h2 0134.13 4/6 Draw

No 20411 Sergiy Borodavkin & Oleg Shaligin (Dnepropetrovsk region). 1.h5/i e2 2.Rxe2 Bxh5+ 3.Kxh5 Sf4+ 4.Kxh6 Sxe2 5.Sh4 g1Q 6.Sf3+ and 7.Sxg1 draws.

i) 1.Rb2? e2/ii 2.Rxe2 Bh5+ 3.Kxh5 Sf4+ 4.Kxh6 Sxe2 wins.

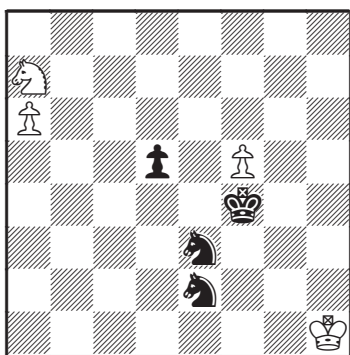
ii) Or Bh5+ 2.Kxh5 e2 3.Rxe2 Sf4+ wins.

Componist 2012-2013

John Nunn judged this informal Romanian tourney which attracted 27 studies. Arpad Rusz was tourney director and HH was consulted for anticipation vetting.

Nunn considered the level disappointing: “Many of the studies suffered from flaws which have become rather common with the use of tablebases and powerful engines. A tablebase position with some brutal introductory play generally does not result in a satisfactory study. For this type of composition to be successful, the tablebase position must be really surprising and should be understandable without the use of a computer. Moreover, the introductory play should not simply be a series of checks and captures, but should have some connection with the finale of the study. Despite my dislike of many compositions in this style, I have placed such a study in the top position in my award. It is an example of successful tablebase composition, with a genuinely unexpected twist and a straightforward but attractive conclusion”.

No 20412 P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



h1f4 0007.21 4/4 Win

No 20412 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.f6/i Sg3+/ii 2.Kg1 (Kh2? Sg4+;) Se2+ 3.Kf2 Sg4+ 4.Ke1/iii Sxf6 (Ke3; f7) 5.Kxe2 zz d4/iv 6.Sc6 (Sb5? Sd5;) Sd7 7.a7 Sb6 8.Kd3 Kf5 9.Kxd4 wins.

i) 1.Sb5? Kg3 and now 2.a7 Sd1 3.a8Q Sf2 mate, and 2.Sd4 Sxd4 3.a7 Sdx f5 draws.

ii) Kg3 2.f7 Sg4 3.f8Q Sf2+ 4.Qxf2+ Kxf2 5.Sc6 wins.

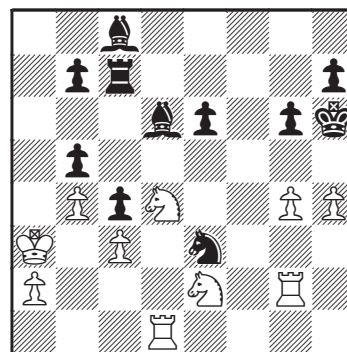
iii) 4.Kxe2? Sxf6, and 5.Sb5 Sd7, or 5.Sc8 Se8 6.a7 Sc7, or 5.Kd3 Sd7 6.Kd4 Sb8 draw.

iv) Se4 6.Sb5, or Sd7 6.Sc8, or Se8 6.Sb5, or Ke4 6.Sb5 Sd7 7.Sc3+ Kd4 8.Sa4 all win.

“This is a fine example of a study based on a tablebase reciprocal zugzwang. The starting position is natural, the zugzwang is genuinely surprising and the study is enhanced because the thematic try is more plausible than the actual solution. The agility of the a7-knight in preventing Black’s knight from stopping the

a-pawn is remarkable, and it’s certainly a plus point that White’s knight moves to all three possible squares in different variations”.

No 20413 M. Neghina
2nd honourable mention



a3h6 0565.56 10/11 Draw

No 20413 Mihai Neghina (Rumaia). 1.Sxb5/i Sxd1/ii 2.Sxd6/iii b5/iv 3.g5+/v Kh5 (Kg7; Se8+) 4.Sxc8 Rxc8 5.Sf4+ Kxh4 6.Sxg6+ Kh3 7.Sf4+ Kh4 8.Sg6+/vi hxg6 9.Rg4+ Kh3 10.Rg3+ Kh2 11.Rg2+ Kh1 12.Rg1+ Kh2 13.Rg2+ Kh3 14.Rg3+ Kh4 15.Rg4+ Kh5 16.Rh4+ Kxg5 17.Rg4+/vii Kf6 18.Rf4+/viii Kg7/ix 19.Rf8 Rc6 (Rc5; Rc8) 20.Rg8+/x Kf6 (Kh6; Rxc6+) 21.Rxc6+ Kf5 22.Rxe6/xi Rc7 23.Re7 Rc8 24.Re8/xii Rxe8 stalemate.

i) Other moves lead to a normal position with Black being a pawn ahead. The variations are just sample lines with Black winning. 1.Rdg1? Sxg2 2.Rxc2 e5 3.g5+ Kh5 4.Sxb5 Rc6 5.Sg3+ Kxh4 6.Se4 Be7 7.Rh2+ Kg4 8.Rxh7 Bxg5, or 1.Rgg1? Sxd1 2.Rxd1 Rd7 3.Rf1 e5 4.Sxb5 Rd8 5.Sxd6 Rxd6 6.Sg3 Bxg4 7.b5 Rd3 8.Se4 Bf3 9.Sg5

e4 10.Kb4 Kh5 11.Kxc4 Rd7 12.Sxf3 exf3 13.Rxf3 Kxh4, or 1.Rd2? Sxg2 2.Sxb5 e5 3.g5+ Kh5 4.Sg3+ Kxh4 5.Se4 Sf4 6.Rh2+ Bh3 7.Sbxd6 Kg4 8.b5 Bg2, or 1.g5+? Kh5 2.Rd2 Sxg2 3.Sxb5 Sf4.

ii) Sxg2 2.Rxd6 Re7 3.Sa7 Bd7 4.Rb6 Be8 5.Sd4 Sxh4 6.Sc8 Rc7 7.Sd6 Bc6 8.Sxe6.

iii) 2.g5+? Kh5 3.Sxd6 Rc6 4.Sxb7 Bxb7 wins.

iv) e5 3.Rg1 Sf2 4.Rg2 Sd3 5.Ka4 Be6 6.Rg1 Sf4 7.Sg3 Bxg4 8.Sge4 Be2 9.Rg5 Re7 10.Ka5 Bd3 11.a4, or Rc6 3.Sf7+ Kg7 4.b5 Rb6 5.Kb4 Se3 (Kxf7; Kc5) 6.Rg3 Sd5+ 7.Kxc4 Kxf7 8.Kc5 Ke7 9.c4 Rd6 10.cxd5 b6+ 11.Kc4 Rxd5 12.Sc3, or b6 3.Sxc8 Rxc8 4.Ka4 Ra8+ 5.Kb5 Rxa2 6.Rg1 Se3 7.Sf4 e5 8.g5+ Kg7 9.Se6+ Kf7 10.Sd8+ Ke7 11.Sc6+ Kd6 12.Re1 and in each instance White has the position under control.

v) 3.Sxc8? Rxc8 4.g5+ Kg7 5.Sd4 Ra8 mate.

vi) Pattern 1: draw by repetition: knight's eternal check.

vii) Pattern 2: draw by repetition: rook's eternal check. 17.Rh5+? Kf4 18.Rf5+ Ke3 19.Re5+ Kf2 20.Rf5+ Ke2 21.Re5+ Se3 wins.

viii) 18.Rxg6+? Kf5 19.Rf6+ Kg4 20.Rg6+ Kf3 21.Rf6+ Ke2 22.Rxe6+ Se3 wins.

ix) Ke7 19.Rf8, and 19...Rxf8 stalemate, or Rc6 20.Re8+ Kf7 21.Rxe6 Rc8 22.Re8 Rc6 draws, or g5 20.Rxc8 Sxc3 21.Kb2 Sd5 22.Rb8 g4 23.a3 c3+ 24.Kb3 Kf7 25.Rxb5 g3 26.Rb7+ Kf6 27.Rb8 Kf7 28.Rb7+ Kf6, or Sxc3 20.Rxc8 g5, or Rc5 20.Rc8 Rd5 21.Re8+ Kf6 22.Rxe6+ Kg5 23.Re5+ Kf4 24.Rxd5 Sxc3 25.Rd8 g5 26.Kb2 Sa4+ 27.Kc2 g4 28.Rf8+ Ke4 29.Rb8 g3 30.Rxb5 g2 31.Rg5 Kf3 32.Rg8 Kf2 33.Rf8+ Kg3 34.Rg8+ Kh2 35.Rh8+ Kg1 36.Rg8 draws.

x) 20.Rf7+? (Ra8? Sxc3;) Kh6 21.Rh7+ Kg5 22.Rh5+ Kf4 23.Rf5+ Kg3 24.Rg5+ Kf3 25.Rf5+ Ke2 26.Re5+ Se3 wins.

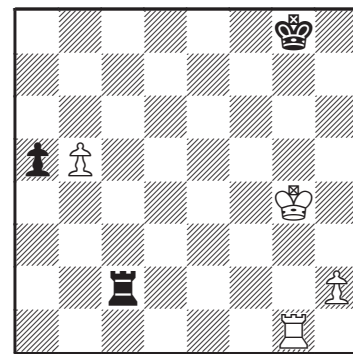
xi) Minor dual: 22.Rf6+ Kg4 23.Rg6+ Kf3 24.Rf6+ Kg2 25.Rg6+ Kf1 26.Rxe6 Rc7 27.Re7 Rc8 28.Re8 Rxe8 stalemate.

xii) Pattern 3: draw by repetition: rook versus rook.

“As published the study was unsound, but the composer corrected it by adding a black pawn on b5 and shortening the solution slightly (the bK no longer plays to h1). Even though

the initial position is heavy, it is quite game-like and the play is interesting throughout. The white pieces make strenuous efforts to sacrifice themselves to achieve stalemate with both the wS and the wR displaying suicidal intentions. Unusually, it is not all checking since at one point White has to offer his rook to the enemy rook with a non-checking move. The duals near the end are rather unfortunate but nevertheless the study creates a favourable impression”.

No 20414 I. Akobia † & D. Gurgenzidze
3rd honourable mention



g4g8 o400.21 4/3 Win

No 20414 Iuri Akobia & David Gurgenzidze (Georgia). 1.Kh3+/i Kf7 2.Ra1 Rc3+ 3.Kg2 Rc2+ 4.Kg1 Ke6/ii 5.Rxa5 Rb2 6.Ra6+ Kd7 7.Rb6 Rb4/ iii 8.Kh1/iv zz Rb2/v 9.h3/vi Kc7 10.Rc6+ Kb7 11.Rc5 wins.

i) 1.Rb1? a4 2.b6 Rc8 3.Kf5 a3 4.Ke6 a2 5.Rg1+ Kf8 6.Kd7 Rc3 7.Rf1+ Kg7 8.b7 Rb3, or 1.Kf4+? Kf7 2.h4 Rc4+ 3.Ke5 Rc5+ 4.Kd6 Rxb5 draw.

ii) Rc5 5.Rxa5 Ke7 6.h3 Kd6 7.Kg2 Rc2+ 8.Kg3 wins.

iii) Kc7 8.Rc6+ Kb7 9.Rc5 wins.

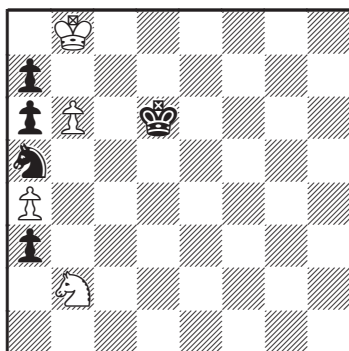
iv) Thematic try: 8.Kg2? Rg4+, and 9.Kh3 Rg5 10.Kh4 Rd5 (Re5) 11.Rb7+ Kc8 draws, or 9.Kf3 Rh4 10.Kg3 Rh5 11.h4 (Rb8+ Kc8;) Kc7 12.Rc6+ Kd7 13.Rb6 Kc7 positional draw.

v) Kc7 9.Rc6+ Kd7 10.Rc5 Kd6 11.Rg5 wins.

vi) 9.Rb7+? Kc8 10.Rb6 Kd7 11.h3 loss of time, or 9.h4? Rb4 10.h5 Rh4+ draws.

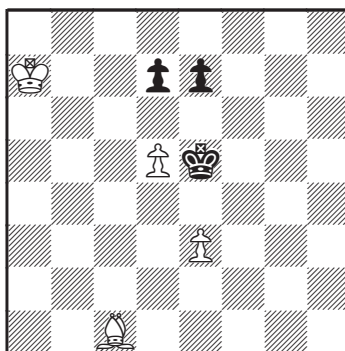
“A very game-like position leads to a position in which White has trouble exploiting a two-pawn advantage. Both sides would like to switch their rooks to the side of the b-pawn, in Black's case because it would allow him to

No 20415 V. Kovalenko †
1st commendation



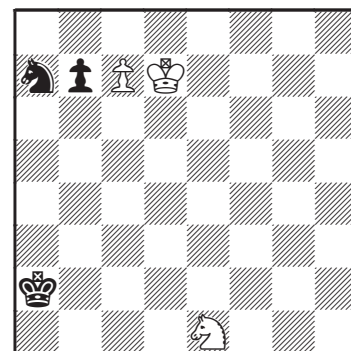
b8d6 0004.23 4/5 Draw

No 20416 Y. Afek
2nd commendation



a7e5 0010.22 4/3 Win

No 20417 A. Foguelman †
3rd commendation



d7a2 0004.11 3/3 Win

win the pawn by ...Kc7. White can only prevent this by playing the remarkable 8 Kh1! The position after this move is reciprocal zugzwang but there is no thematic try leading to the key position with White to move. The motivation for playing the king into the corner is not loss of tempo but rather it is the only way to prevent Black switching his rook to the fifth rank. It is an instructive endgame which should appeal to over-the-board players”.

No 20415 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.Sc4+/i Sxc4 2.bxa7 Sb6 3.a5/ii Sa8 4.Kxa8 a2 5.Kb7 a1Q 6.a8Q Qh1+ 7.Kb6/iii Qxa8 stalemate.

i) 1.bxa7? axb2 2.a8Q b1Q+ 3.Ka7 Sc6+ 4.Kxa6 Kc7 wins.

ii) 3.Kb7? Sa8 4.Kxa8 a2 5.Kb7 a1Q 6.a8Q Qh1+ wins.

iii) 7.Ka7? Qxa8+ 8.Kxa8 Kc6 9.Ka7 Kb5 wins.

“This stalemate is more familiar from win studies in which the stalemate must be avoided by a bishop promotion. I am aware of only one prior example of this stalemate in a draw study, namely Y. Afek commendation Kubbel MT 2002, EG#14109. However, closer examination showed this study to be cooked by 8.Rg8 after which Black cannot win despite his large material advantage. Therefore the present study offers a degree of originality, and the play

leading up to the critical position is simple but attractive, involving knight sacrifices by both sides. This is a study for over-the-board players which is enjoyable to solve”.

No 20416 Yochanan Afek (Israel/the Netherlands). 1.d6/i Kxd6 2.Ba3+ Ke6 3.Bc5/ii d6 4.Bb6 Kd5 5.Kb7 Ke4 6.Kc6 d5 7.Bd4 e5 8.Kc5 exd4 9.exd4 wins.

i) 1.Kb6? Kxd5 2.Kc7 d6 3.Kd7 Ke4 4.Kxe7 d5 draws.

ii) 3.Kb6? d6 4.Kc6 Ke5 5.Bc1 Ke4 draws.

“The finale has been seen in previous studies and even in over-the-board games such as Minasian - van Wely, FIDE World Cup, Khanty-Mansiisk 2005, but the initial pawn sacrifice and precise manoeuvres by the white bishop add a worthwhile refinement to the basic idea. It is especially surprising that the bishop must be transferred to b6 blocking the most direct route back for the wK”.

No 20417 Alberto Foguelman (Argentina). 1.Sd3 Ka3 2.Sc5 b5 3.Se6/i b4 4.Sd4 b3 5.Sb5+ Ka4/ii 6.Sxa7 b2 7.Sb5 Kb4 8.Sc3 Kxc3 9.c8Q+ wins.

i) 3.Sb7? b4 4.Sd6 Ka4 draws.

ii) Ka2 6.Sxa7 b2 7.Sb5 b1Q 8.Sc3+ wins.

“Here the finale with Sb5 and Sc3 is familiar but the attractive introduction adds an extra knight sacrifice plus switchback and creates a pleasing impression”.

Victory 70 AT 2015

Oleg Pervakov judged the tourney commemorating the end of WWII. The tourney director, Boris Shorokhov, received 35 entries.

No 20418 Aleksandr Zhukov (Ukraine).
 1.Rxc7 Se2+ 2.Kd2 Rxd6+ 3.Ke1 Qb1+ (Qxc7;
 a8Q) 4.Kf2 Qf5+ (Qxb2; Rh1+) 5.Ke1 Qa5+
 6.b4/i Qxb4+ 7.Bc3 Qb1+ 8.Kf2 Qb6+ 9.Ke1
 Qxc7 10.Be5+ (a8Q? Qxc3+;) Sg3/ii 11.Rh1+
 Kxh1 12.a8Q+ Kg1 (Kh2; Qa2+) 13.Qa3/iii Rd3
 14.Bd4+/iv Rxd4 15.Qc5/v Qf4 16.Qxd4+ Qxd4
 stalemate.

i) Thematic try: 6.Bc3? Qxc7 7.Be5+ (a8Q
 Qxc3+;) Sg3 8.Rh1+ Kxh1 9.a8Q+ Kg1 wins.
 6.Kf2? Sg1 7.Rh7+ Sh3+.

ii) Kh3 11.a8Q Qc1+ 12.Kf2 Qc5+ 13.Ke1 Qxe5
 14.Qh8+ Qxh8 15.Rh1+ Kg2 16.Rxh8 draws.

iii) Compare with the main line: now there is
 no wPb3. 13.Bd4+? Kh2, but not Rxd4? 14.Qg2+
 Kxg2 stalemate.

iv) 14.Qxd3? Qc1+ 15.Qd1 Qe3+ wins.

v) 15.Qe3+? Kg2 16.Qg1+ Kh3 17.Qxd4 Qc1+
 18.Kf2 Qf1+ 19.Ke3 Sf5+ wins.

“This is a large-scale study on struggling
 plans with mutual logical play and a colourful
 finish”.

No 20419 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine).
 1.Re3+/i Kd1/i 2.Ra3/ii Bd5+ 3.Ka1/iii Sc4
 4.Rad3 Be4/iv 5.Rxe4/v Sxc5 6.Rd8/vi Sxe4 7.d3/
 vii Kd2 8.Rd5 zz, and:

— Sb6 9.dxe4+ Ke3 10.Rb5 Sc4 11.e5 wins, or:

— Sf6 9.dxc4+ Kc3 10.Rf5 Se4 11.c5 wins.

i) Kxd2 2.Rbd3+ Kc2 3.Rc3+ Kd2 4.Red3+
 Ke2 5.Rd6 Sf4 6.Rc2+ Ke3 7.Rxg2 Sxg2 8.Ra6
 Sc4 9.c6 wins.

ii) 2.Rxe6? Sxb3 3.Kxb3 Bd5+ draws.

iii) 3.Kb1? Sc4 1st fork 4.Rad3 Be4 5.Rxe4
 Sxc5 2nd fork, draws.

iv) Sxe3 (Sf4; Rd4) 5.dxe3+ Ke2 6.Rxd5 wins.

v) 5.c6? Sxe3 6.Rxe3 Bf5 7.Re5 Sd4 8.c7 Bc8
 9.Rd5 Se6 10.d4 Kd2 11.Rd8 Ba6 12.Rd7 Bc8
 13.Rd8 Ba6 positional draw.

vi) Logical try: 6.Rd5? Sxe4 7.d3 Kd2, and
 here: 8.dxc4+ Kc3 9.c5 Kc4 10.c6 Kxd5 11.c7
 Sd6 draws, or here: 8.dxe4+ Ke3 9.e5 Ke4 10.e6
 Kxd5 11.e7 Sd6 draws. 6.Rdd4? Sb3+ another
 fork.

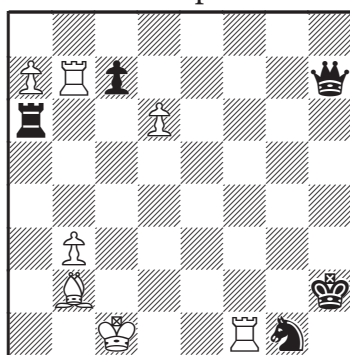
vii) pawn fork.

“This is a very solid study thoroughly im-
 bued with the idea of double attacks; this ap-
 plies to all types of pieces present on the board:
 king, rook, bishop, knight and pawn! A beauti-
 ful textbook example”.

No 20420 Nikolai Kralin (Russian). 1.Sf5
 Bf4/i 2.Kg4/ii Bh2/iii 3.Se3/iv Sd2/v 4.Bb4 Sb3/
 vi 5.Sf1/vii Be5/viii 6.Sd2 Sd4 7.Sc5 Kxb4 (Bd6;
 Se6) 8.Sd3+ Kc3 9.Sxe5 Kxd2 10.Sf3+ wins.

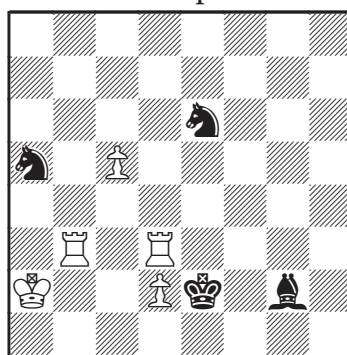
i) Bc1 2.g4 Kxa6 3.Kg2 Sd2 4.g5 Se4 5.g6,
 and: Sf6 6.Bd4 Sg8 7.Kf3, or here: Bb2 6.Bd4
 Bxd4 7.Sxd4 win.

No 20418 A. Zhukov
 1st/2nd prize



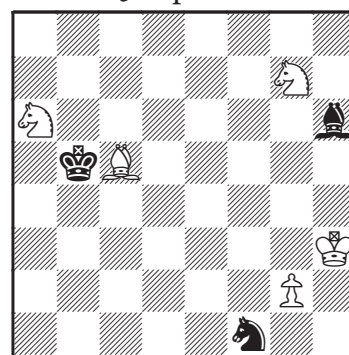
c1h2 3513.31 7/5 Draw

No 20419 S. Didukh
 1st/2nd prize



a2e2 0236.20 5/4 Win

No 20420 N. Kralin
 3rd prize



h3b5 0045.10 5/3 Win

ii) Thematic try: 2.Sb4? Kxc5 3.Sd3+ Kd5 4.Sxf4+ Ke5 5.Kg4 (Sg3 Se3;) Sh2+ 6.Kg5 Sf3+ 7.Kg4 Sh2+ 8.Kh3 Sfi 9.Kg4 Sh2+ 10.Kg5 Sf3+ 11.gxf3 ideal stalemate. 2.Bd6? Bxd6 3.Sxd6+ Kxa6 draws.

iii) Be5 3.Bd4 Bxd4 4.Sxd4+ Kxa6 5.Kf4 wins.

iv) 3.Kf3? Kxa6 4.g4 Kb5 draws.

v) Sxe3+ 4.Bxe3 Kxa6 5.Bf4 wins.

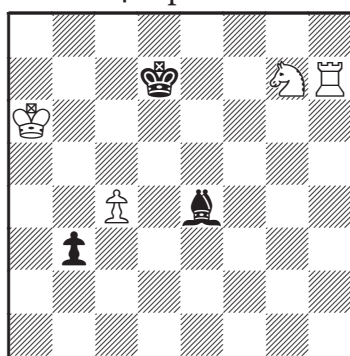
vi) Se4 5.Sfi Bg1 6.Kf5 wins.

vii) 5.Kf5? Kxa6 6.Bc3 Bg3 7.Sfi Bh4 8.Bf6 Bxf6 and there's no win after 9.Kxf6.

viii) Bg1 6.Sd2 Sd4 7.Sf3 Sxf3 8.gxf3 Kxa6 9.f4 Kb5 10.Bc3 wins.

“This is one of the most original ideas seen recently: in the thematic try, there is a beautiful ideal stalemate after a sacrifice of the bS, while in the solution its counterpart decides on the same square! The change of the pieces in the triangle b4-b5-c5 is very nice. The impression is slightly spoiled here and there when, in the knight and bishop endings, the pawn is still far away from the promotion square”.

No 20421 M. Minski
4th prize



a6d7 0131.11 4/3 Win

No 20421 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Rh2/i Bc2 2.Rd2+/ii Ke7/iii 3.Sf5+ Bxf5 4.Rb2 Bd3 5.Kb5 Bc2 6.c5/iv Kd7 7.Kb6 Kc8 8.Kc6/v Be4+ 9.Kb5 Bd3+ 10.Ka5 Bc2 11.Kb6 zz Kd7 12.c6+ Kc8 13.c7 zz, wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Sf5+? Ke6 2.Rh2/vi Bxf5 3.Rb2 Bc2 4.c5 Kd5 draws,

ii) 2.c5? b2 3.c6+ Kd6 4.Rd2+ Ke5 5.Re2+ Kd5 draws.

iii) Kc6 3.Se6 b2 4.c5 b1Q 5.Rd6 mate!

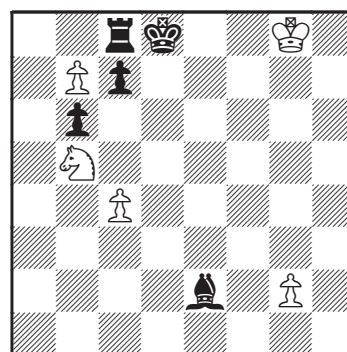
iv) 6.Kb6? Kd6 7.c5+ Kd5 8.c6 Kc4 9.c7 Bf5 10.Rf2 Bd7 11.Ka5 Kc3 12.Rf7 Bg4 13.Rg7 Bf5 14.Rg3+ Kc2 15.Kb4 b2 16.Rg2+ Kc1 17.Kc3 b1S+ draws.

v) Thematic try: 8.c6? Kb8 9.c7+ Kc8 10.Kc6 Be4+ 11.Kb6 Bc2 zz, draws.

vi) 2.Rh6+ Kxf5 3.Rb6 Bd3 4.Rxb3 Bxc4+ draws.

“This is a great logical study with two thematic tries and an interesting way to lose a tempo”.

No 20422 V. Tarasiuk
1st honourable mention



g8d8 0331.32 5/5 Win

No 20422 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Sa7 Bxc4+ 2.Kh8/i Ba6/ii 3.bxc8Q+ Bxc8 4.Sxc8 Kd7 5.g4 (Sa7? Ke6;) b5 6.Sa7/iii c6 7.Sc8/iv c5 8.Sa7/v b4 9.g5 c4 10.Sb5 Kc6 11.g6/vi Kxb5 12.g7 wins.

i) Thematic try: 2.Kh7? Ba6 3.bxc8Q+ Bxc8 4.Sxc8 Kd7 5.g4 b5 6.Sa7 and now Black has 6... c6 drawing, since after 7.Sc8? Kc7 8.g5 b4 9.g6 b3 10.g7 b2 11.g8Q b1Q+ 12.Kh8 Qh1+ 13.Kg7 Qg1+ 14.Kf7 Qxg8+ 15.Kxg8 Kxc8 Black even wins.

ii) Rb8 3.Sc6+ Ke8 4.Sxb8 Bd5 5.Sc6 wins.

iii) 6.g5? b4 7.Sa7 c6 8.Sc8 b3 9.Sb6+ Ke6 draws.

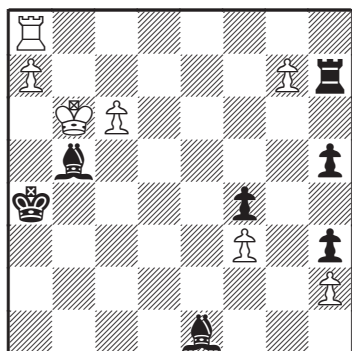
iv) 7.g5? b4 8.Sc8 b3 9.Sb6+ Ke6 draws.

v) 8.g5? c4 9.Sb6+ Kd6 draws.

vi) 11.Sd4+? Kc5 12.Se2 b3 13.g6 b2 14.Sc3 Kb4 15.Sb1 c3 draws.

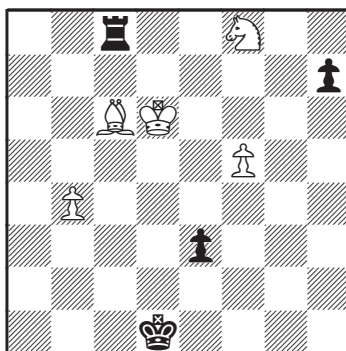
“This is a good logical study with an excellent corner move of the wK and a ‘sur place’ knight but if only the ‘screwed’ Rc8 hadn’t been there...”

No 20423 N. Ryabinin
2nd honourable mention



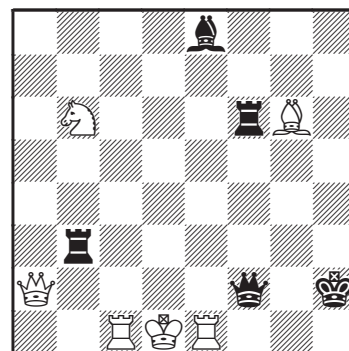
b6a4 0460.53 7/7 Win

No 20424 L. Gonzalez
3rd honourable mention



d6d1 0311.22 5/4 Win

No 20425 A. Stavrietsky
4th honourable mention



d1h2 4841.00 6/5 Win

No 20423 Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia). 1.Rg8 (g8Q? Bf2 mate;) Bf2+ 2.Kb7 Bxa7/i 3.c7 Ka5 4.Ka8/iii Ba6 5.Kxa7 h4 6.Kb8 (Ka8? Ka4;) Kb5/iii 7.c8Q Bxc8 8.Kxc8 Kc6 9.Kd8 Kd6 10.Ke8 Ke6 11.Kf8 Kf6 12.Rh8 Rxc7 13.Rh6+ Rg6 14.Rxc7+ Kxc7 15.Ke7 Kf5 16.Kd6 wins.

i) Bxc6+ 3.Kxc6 Bxa7 4.Kd5 Rxc7 5.Rxc7 Bf2 6.Rh7 h4 7.Ke4 Bg3 8.Kf5 Bxh2 9.Rxh4 wins.

ii) Logical try: 4.Kxa7? Ba6 5.Ka8 Ka4 6.Kb8 Kb5 7.c8Q Bxc8 8.Kxc8 Kc6 9.Kd8 Kd6 10.Ke8 Ke6 11.Kf8 Kf6 12.Rh8 Rxc7 13.Rh6+ Rg6 14.Rxc7+ Kxc7 15.Ke7 Kg5 16.Ke6 Kg6 17.Ke5 Kg5 18.Ke4 Kh4 19.Kxf4 stalemate.

iii) Kb6 7.Rh8 Rxc7 8.Rh6+ Kb5 9.Rxa6 Rxc7 10.Kxc7 Kxa6 11.Kd6 wins.

“This is an interesting three-phase study with deep foresight”.

No 20424 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain). 1.Bf3+ Ke1 2.Se6 Kf2 3.Bh5/i e2/ii 4.Bxe2 Kxe2 5.b5/iii Ke3 6.b6 h5 7.b7 Rh8 8.f6/iv h4 9.Sg5 Kf4 10.Sf7/v Rb8 11.Sd8 Kg3/vi 12.f7 Rxd8+ 13.Kc7/vii Rf8 14.b8Q Rxb8 (Rxf7+; Kc6) 15.Kxb8 h3 16.f8Q h2 17.Qf1 wins.

i) 3.Sd4? Rd8+ 4.Ke5 Rxd4 5.Kxd4 Kxf3, or 3.Bd1? Rc1 4.Bh5 Rh1 5.Sg7 Rb1 draws.

ii) Rb8 4.f6 Rxb4 5.f7 Rb8 6.Sd4 wins.

iii) 5.f6? h5 6.f7 h4 7.b5 Ke3 8.b6 h3 9.b7 Rh8 draws.

iv) 8.Kc7? h4 9.Sg5 Kf4 10.Sf7 Re8 11.f6 h3 12.Sd8 h2 13.f7 Rh8 draws.

v) 10.Sh3+? Kf5 11.f7 Kf6 draws.

vi) Rxd8+ 12.Kc7 Rf8 13.b8Q Rxb8 14.Kxb8 h3 15.f7 h2 16.f8Q+ wins.

vii) 13.Ke7? Rb8 14.f8Q Rxb7+ 15.Ke6 h3 draws.

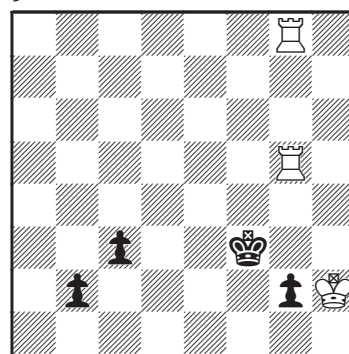
“This is an interesting battle with a classical virtuoso knight at the end but the introduction is a bit disappointing...”

No 20425 Aleksandr Stavrietsky (Russia). 1.Rc2 Rd6+ 2.Sd5 Rxd5+ 3.Kc1 Rc3 4.Rh1+ Kxh1 (Kg3; Rxc3+) 5.Qxd5+ Qf3 6.Be4 Rxc2+ 7.Kxc2/ii Bg6 8.Qd1+ wins.

ii) 7.Kb1? Qg2 8.Bxc2+ Rxc2 draws.

“This is a funny collision in an aristocratic form!”

No 20426 L. Kekely
5th honourable mention



h2f3 0200.03 3/4 Win

No 20426 L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Rf8+ Ke3 2.Re8+ Kf4/i 3.Rxc2 b1Q 4.Rf2+ Kg5 5.Rg8+ Kh6 6.Rfg2 Kh7 (Qh7; R8g3) 7.R2g7+ Kh6 8.Rg1, and:

— Qb2+ 9.Kg3 Qb7 10.Rh1+ Qxh1 11.Rh8+ wins, or:

— Qc2+ 9.R1g2 Qh7 10.R8g3 Qc7 11.Kh1 wins.

i) Kd3 3.Rd8+ Kc2 4.Rxc2+ Kb3 5.Rb8+ wins.

“This shows a classical idea in a nice presentation”.

Polish Chess Federation 2014

Jan Rusinek judged this informal tourney of the Polish Chess Federation with 30 studies participating.

No 20427 Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Kc6 Ra1 2.Sd5 c2/i 3.Kd7 Rxa6/ii 4.Rb3+ Rb6 5.Sxb6 axb6 6.Rxb6+ Ka8 7.Rc6 d3 8.Kc8/iii Ka7 9.Kc7 e5 (e6; f4) 10.f3 zz d5 11.Rc5 Ka6 12.Kc6 zz d4/iv 13.Rc4 Ka5 14.Kc5 Ka6/v 15.Kc6 Ka7 16.Kc7 Ka6 17.Kc6 positional draw.

i) Rxa6+ 3.Kd7 c2 4.Rb3+ wins.

ii) Rb1 4.Rh3 Rb7+ 5.Ke6 Rc7 6.Rb3+ Kc8 7.Rh3 positional draw.

iii) Thematic try: 8.Kc7? Ka7 zz 9.f4 (f3 e5;) e6 10.Rc3 Ka6 11.Kc6 Ka5 wins.

iv) e4 13.fxe4 dxe4 14.Rc3 Ka5 15.Kc5 Ka6 16.Kc6 positional draw.

v) d2 15.Rxc2 d1Q 16.Ra2+ Qa4 17.Rxa4+ Kxa4 18.Kc4 Ka3 19.f4 exf4 20.Kxd4 draws.

MG cooks the first prize: 2...Rc8! 3.Sxe7+ Kd8 4.Rxd4 c2 5.Rc4 c1Q 6.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 7.Kxd6 Rd1+ 8.Sd5 Ra1 o.Sb4 Kc8 10.f4 Ra4 11.Kc5 Kc7 12.Sd5+ Kd7 wins.

No 20428 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.b3/i d1Q 2.a7 Qxb3 3.Sc7+ (a8Q? Qxa4;) Kxa4 4.a8Q+ Sa5 5.Qe4+ c4 6.Sc5+ Bxc5 7.Qe8+, and:
— Kb4 8.Sd5 mate, or:

— Sc6 8.Qxc6+ Kb4 9.Sd5+ Ka5 10.Qxc5+ Qb5 11.Qxa3+ Qa4 12.Qc5+ Qb5 13.Qc7+ Ka6 14.Qd6+ Ka5 15.Qd8+ Ka4 16.Sc3+ wins.

i) 1.a7? (Rxa3? d1Q;) Kxa4 2.a8Q+ Kb3 3.Qb7+ Kc2 draws.

No 20429 Mikhail Gromov & Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Sa5+/i Kxc5 2.b7, and:

— Bxe3+ 3.Kg2 Bxb7+ 4.Sxb7+ Kb6 5.Sd8 Bg5 6.Sf7/ii Bxh4 7.Se5 Sf6 8.Sf3 draws, or:

— Bxb7 3.Sxb7+ Kb6 4.Sd8 Bg5 5.Sg6 (Sf3)/iii Bxd8 6.Se5/iv Sf6 7.Sf7 Se4 8.Sxd8 Sxd6 9.e4 Kc7 10.e5 draws.

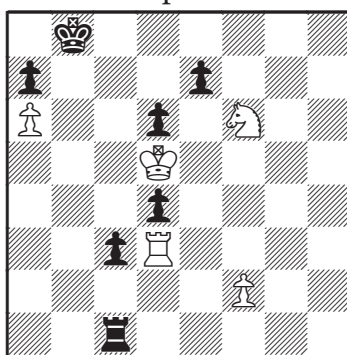
i) 1.b7? Bxe3+, and: 2.Kf1 Bxb7 3.Sa5+ Kxc5 4.Sxb7+ Kb5 5.Sg6 Bb6 6.Se5 Sf6 7.Sf7 Ka6 8.Sbd8 Ka7 9.Ke2 Kb8 10.Kf3 Kc8, or here: 2.Kh2 Bxb7 3.Sa5+ Kxc5 4.Sxb7+ Kb6 5.Sd8 Bg5 6.Sf7 Bxh4 7.Se5 Sf6 8.Sf3 Bf2 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 6.Sf3? (6.Sg6?) Bxd8 7.Se5 Sf6 8.Sf7 Se4 9.Sxd8 Sxd6 wins.

iii) Thematic try: 5.Sf7? Bxh4 6.Se5 Sf6 7.Sf3 Bg3 wins.

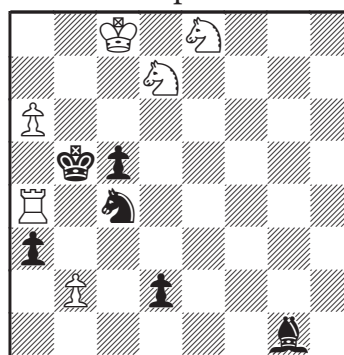
iv) 6.e4? Bf6 7.e5 Bg7, and: 8.e6 dxe6 9.Sf4 Bd4+ 10.Kg2 e5 wins, or here: 8.Kf2 Sh6 9.Kf3 Sf7 10.Kf4 Kc5 11.Ke4 Kc4 12.Kf5 Kd4 wins.

No 20427 P. Arestov
& A. Skripnik
1st prize



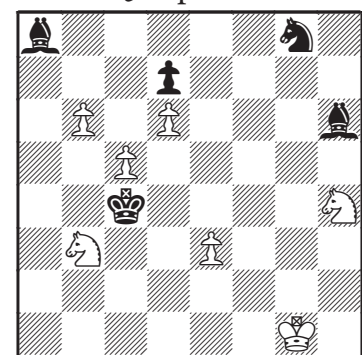
d5b8 0401.25 5/7 Draw

No 20428
A. Jasik
2nd prize



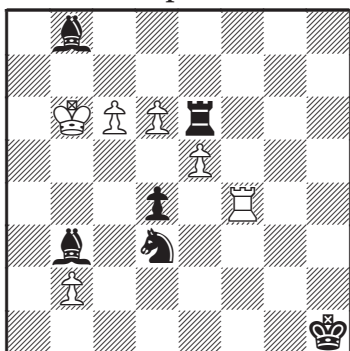
c8b5 0135.23 6/6 Win

No 20429 M. Gromov
& O. Pervakov
3rd prize



g1c4 0065.41 7/5 Draw

No 20430 P. Arestov & I. Akobia †
4th prize



b6h1 0463.41 6/6 Draw

No 20430 Pavel Arestov (Russia) & I. Akobia (Georgia). 1.Rh4+/i Kg1/ii 2.Rg4+/iii, and:

— Kf1 3.d7 Rxc6+ 4.Kxc6 Sxe5+ 5.Kb7 Sxd7 6.Rxd4 Se5 7.Rf4+/iv Kg2 8.Kxb8 draws, or:

— Kf2 3.d7, and:

– Rxc6+ 4.Kxc6 Sxe5+ 5.Kb7 Sxd7 6.Rxd4 Se5 7.Rd8 Ba7 8.Rf8+ draws, or:

– Bd5 4.d8Q (Rxd4? Rxc6+;) Rxc6+ 5.Kb5 Rc5+ 6.Kb6 (Ka4? Bxe5;) Rc6+/v 7.Kb5 positional draw.

i) 1.Rxd4? Sxe5 2.c7 Bxc7+ wins.

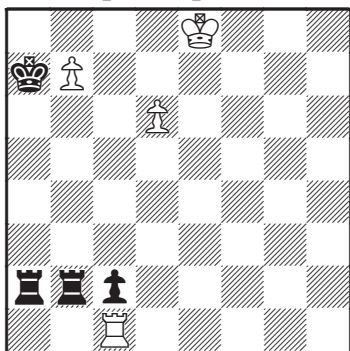
ii) Kg2 2.d7 Rxc6+ 3.Kxc6 Sxe5+ 4.Kb7 draws.

iii) Logical try: 2.d7? Rxc6+ 3.Kxc6 Sxe5+ 4.Kb7 Sxd7 5.Rxd4 Se5 6.Rd8 Ba7 wins. 2.Rxd4? Sxe5 3.c7 Bxc7+ 4.Kxc7 Rh6 5.d7 Rh7 wins.

iv) 7.Rd8? Ba7 8.Rf8+ Bf2

v) Bc7+ 7.Qxc7 Rxc7 8.Kxc7

No 20431 V. Samilo
special prize



e8b8 0700.11 3/4 Draw

No 20431 Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine). 1.d7, and:

— Kxb7 2.d8Q Ra8 3.Qxa8+ Kxa8 4.Ke7/i Ka7 5.Ke6 Ka6 6.Ke5 Ka5 7.Ke4 Ka4 8.Ke3 Kb3 (Ka3; Kd2) 9.Kd3 Ra2 10.Kd2 Rb2 (Ra8; Rxc2) 11.Kd3 draws, or:

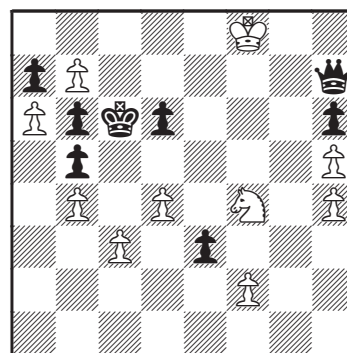
— Rxb7 2.d8Q+ Rb8 3.Qxb8+ Kxb8 4.Kd7/ii Kb7 5.Kd6 Kb6 6.Kd5 Kb5 7.Kd4 Kb4 8.Kd3 Kb3 9.Kd2 Ra8/iii 10.Rxc2 Rd8+ 11.Kc1 draws.

i) 4.Kd7? Kb7 5.Kd6 Kb6 6.Kd5 Kb5 7.Kd4 Kb4 8.Kd3 Kb3 9.Kd2 Ra2 wins.

ii) 4.Ke7? Kc7 5.Ke6 Kc6 6.Ke5 Kc5 7.Ke4 Kc4 8.Ke3 Kc3 wins.

iii) Rb2 10.Re1 Rb1 11.Rc1 draws.

No 20432 L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
1st honourable mention



f8c6 3001.86 10/8 Draw

No 20432 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.b8Q/i Qh8+/ii 2.Ke7/iii Qxb8/iv 3.d5+ Kc7 4.Se6+ Kc8 5.fxe3 Qa8 6.e4/v Qb8 7.e5/vi Qa8 8.Sc7 Kxc7 9.exd6+ Kb8 (Kc8; d7+) 10.d7 Kc7 11.d6+ Kc6 12.d8Q Qxd8+ 13.Kxd8 Kxd6 14.Ke8/vii Ke6 15.Kf8 Kf5 (Kf6; Kg8) 16.Kg7 Ke6 17.Kxh6 Kf6 18.Kh7 Kf7 19.h6 Kf8 20.Kg6 draws.

i) 1.fxe3? d5 2.Se6 Kd7 wins.

ii) Qf5+ 2.Ke7 Qd7+ 3.Kf6 d5 4.Qa8+ Kc7 5.Qb7+ draws.

iii) 2.Kf7? Qxb8 3.fxe3 Kd7 wins.

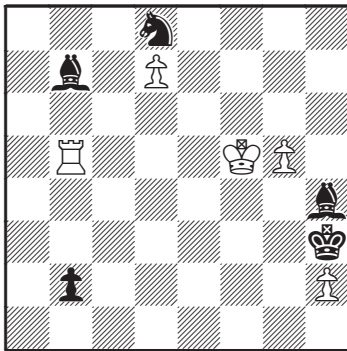
iv) Qg7+ 3.Ke6 Qg4+ 4.Kf6 Qxf4+ 5.Kg7 Qg4+ 6.Kh8 d5 (exf2; Qb7 mate) 7.Qe8+ Kc7 8.fxe3 draws.

v) 6.Sf4 Qb8 7.Se6 Qa8 loss of time.

vi) 7.Ke8? Qa8 8.Ke7 Qb8 loss of time.

vii) 14.Kc8? Kc6 15.Kd8 Kd6 loss of time. If here: 15.Kb8 Kd7 16.Kxa7 Kc7 draws.

No 20433 V. Tarasiuk
2nd honourable mention



f5h3 0163.31 5/5 Win

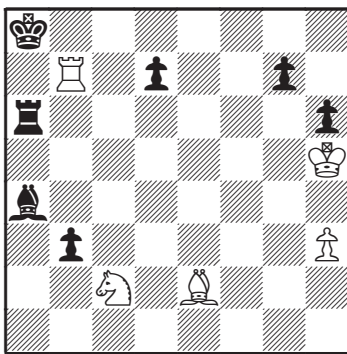
No 20433 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Rb3+ (Rxb2? Bd5;) Kxh2/i 2.Rxb2+ Kh3
3.Rb3+/ii Kh2 4.Rxb7 Sxb7 5.g6 Sd8 6.g7 Sf7
7.Kg4/iii Bf6 8.d8Q (Kh5? Bxg7;) Bxd8 9.Kh5
wins.

i) Kg2 2.Rxb2+ Bf2 3.g6 Bd5 4.h4 wins.

ii) 3.Rxb7? Sxb7 4.g6 Sd8 5.g7 Sf7 6.Kg6 Se5+
7.Kh6 Sg4+ 8.Kg6 Se5+ perpetual check.

iii) 7.Kg6? Se5+ 8.Kh6 Sg4+ 9.Kh5 Kh3
10.Kg6 Se5+ 11.Kh6 Sg4+ draws.

No 20434 M. Minski
3rd honourable mention



h5a8 0441.14 5/7 Draw

No 20434 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Bf3/i Rc6/ii 2.Bxc6/iii bxc2 3.Be4/iv d5/v
4.Bxd5/vi Be8+/vii 5.Kh4/viii Bc6/ix 6.Bxc6/x
c1Q 7.Rb6+/xi Ka7 8.Rb7+ Ka8 9.Rb6+ Ka7
10.Rb7+ Ka6 11.Rxg7 Qxc6 12.Rg6 Qxg6 stale-
mate.

i) 1.Bxa6? bxc2 2.Rc7 Bc6 wins.

ii) bxc2 2.Rb6+ (Bb5+? Rc6;) Ka7 3.Rb7+
Ka8 4.Rb6+ Bc6 5.Bxc6+ Ka7 6.Rb7+ Ka8
7.Rb6+ Ka7 8.Rb7+ draws.

iii) 2.Rxb3? Bxb3 3.Sd4 Bf7+ 4.Kh4 Kb7
5.Bxc6+ dxc6 6.Sf5 g5+ 7.Kg3 Be6 8.Sxh6 c5
wins.

iv) 3.Rb1+? Bxc6, or 3.Rb2+? dxc6, or 3.Rb3+?
Bxc6, or 3.Bd5? Bc6 win.

v) c1Q 4.Rb1+, or Bc6 4.Bxc2 Kxb7 5.Kg6
draws.

vi) 4.Rc7? dxe4 5.Kg4 Kb8 6.Rc3 g5 7.Kg3
h5 8.Kf2 g4 9.hxg4 hxg4 10.Ke1 g3 11.Kf1 e3, or
4.Bxc2? Be8+ win.

vii) Bc6 5.Bxc6 c1Q 6.Rb6+ Ka7 7.Rb7+ Ka6
8.Rxg7 draws.

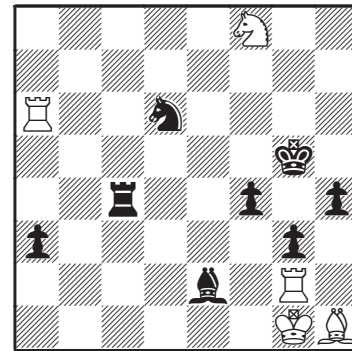
viii) 5.Kg4? Bc6 6.Bxc6 c1Q, and: 8.Be4 Qe3
9.Re7+ Kb8, or here: 7.Rb6+ Ka7 8.Rb7+ Ka6
win.

ix) g5+ 6.Kg3 Bc6 7.Bxc6 c1Q 8.Bf3 Qg1+
9.Bg2 Qe1+ 10.Kh2 draws.

x) 6.Rb6? Bxd5 7.Ra6+ Kb7 8.Ra1 Kc6 9.Kg4
Kc5 10.Rc1 Be4 wins.

xi) 7.Rxg7+? Qxc6, or 7.Rc7+? Kb8 8.Rb7+
Kc8 wins.

No 20435 P. Arestov
4th honourable mention



g1g5 0544.04 5/8 Draw

No 20435 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Sh7+/i
Kg4 2.Sf6+ Kh3 3.Rh2+ (Rxe2? Rc1+;) gxh2+
4.Kf2 Se4+ (Rc2; Bg2 mate) 5.Sxe4/ii Rxe4/iii
6.Rxa3+ (Bxe4? Bxa6) f3 7.Rxf3+ (Bg2+? Kg4;) Bxf3
8.Bg2+ Bxg2/iv draws.

i) 1.Se6+? Kg4 2.Rxe2 Rc1+ 3.Kg2 f3 (h3)
mate. 1.Ra5+? Kg4, or 1.Rxe2? Rc1+ 2.Kg2 Kg4
win.

ii) 5.Bxe4? Rxe4, or 5.Kxe2? Sg3+ win.

iii) Rc2 6.Rxa3+ Kg4 7.Ke1 f3 8.Sf2+ Kg3
9.Se4+ Kf4 10.Sf2 Kg3 11.Se4+ positional draw.

iv) Kg4 9.Bxf3+ Kf4 10.Bxe4 Kxe4 11.Kg2 draws.

No 20436 Alain Pallier (France) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.h5/i Bg5 2.Sd3 Ka6/ii 3.Se5/iii Bh3 4.Sf7 Bg2+ 5.Kd7 Bh3+ 6.Ke8 Bc1/iv 7.Kd8 Kb6 8.h6/v Bb2 9.c8S+/vi Kc6 10.Scd6/vii Bf1/viii 11.Ke7/ix Bd3 12.Ke6/x Bc1/xi 13.Se5+ wins.

i) 1.Sf3? Kb4 2.h5 Kxc4 3.h6 Bf8 4.Se5+ Kd4 5.h7 Bg7 6.Sd7 Bh8 7.Kd6 Ba6 8.Ke7 Kd5 9.Sf6+ Ke5 10.Se8 Kf5 11.Kf7 Kg5 12.Kg8 Kg6 13.Kxh8 Kf7 positional draw.

ii) Be3 3.c5 Bf5 4.Se5 Ka6 5.Sc4 Be4+ 6.Kd7 Bf5+ 7.Ke7 Bxc5+ 8.Kf6 Kb7 9.Kxf5 Kxc7 10.h6 wins.

iii) 3.Sc5+? Ka7 4.Se4 Bb7+ 5.Kc5 (Kd6 Bf4+;) Be3+, or 3.Sb4+? Ka5 4.Sd5 Ka6 5.Sc3 Bf5 6.c5 Be3 7.Sd5 Bg5 draw.

iv) Bf6 7.Sd6 Kb6 8.c8Q Bxc8 9.Sxc8+ wins.

v) 8.c8Q? Bxc8 9.Kxc8 Kc5 draws.

vi) 9.c8Q? Bf6+ 10.Ke8 Bxc8 draws.

vii) 10.Se7+? Kc5 11.Sg5 Bg4 12.Ke8 Kxc4, or 10.Sg5? Bf1 11.Se4 Bxc4 12.Se7+ Kb6 draws.

viii) Bf6+ 11.Ke8 Bf1 (Bg4; Se4) 12.Se4 wins, e.g. Bb2 13.Sd8+ Kc7 14.c5 Bd3 15.Sg5.

ix) 11.Ke8? Be2 12.Ke7 Bd3 loss of time.

x) 12.Sd8+? Kb6 13.Kd7 Bc1 14.Se6 Bxh6 draws.

xi) Bh7 e.g. 13.Se5+ Kc5 14.Sd7+ Kc6 15.Sf7 Bc1 16.Sfe5+ Kc7 17.Sf6 Bxh6 18.Sxh7 wins.

No 20437 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.h7/i Qb3+ 2.Kh4 Qf7

3.Bc6+ (Bxb2? Bxe7+;) Kxe7 4.Qe4+ Kf8 5.Bxb2 Be7+ 6.Kh3 Qf1+ 7.Kg3 Bd6+/ii 8.Kh4 Be7+ 9.Kxh5 Qh3+ 10.Kg6 Qg3+ 11.Kf5 Qh3+ 12.Ke5/iii Qh2+ 13.Ke6 (Kd5? Qxb2;) Qxb2 14.Kd7 Qd2+ 15.Bd5 wins.

i) 1.Bc6+? Kxe7 2.Qe4+ Qxe4 draws.

ii) Qg1+ 8.Qg2 Qe1+ 9.Qf2+ wins.

iii) 12.Kf4? Bd6+ 13.Kg5 Be7+ 14.Qxe7+ Kxe7 15.h8Q Qe3+ 16.Kf5 Qe6+ 17.Kf4 Qxc6 draws.

No 20438 Mario Campioli (Italy). 1.d8Q+/i Kxd8 2.g8Q+ (f8Q+ Kd7;) Kd7 3.b6/ii, and:

— g1Q 4.b7 Qc5 5.Qc8+ Qxc8+ 6.bxc8Q+ Kxc8 7.f8Q+, and:

– Kd7 8.Qg7+ (Qc8+? Ke7;) Kc6 9.Qb7+/iii Kc5 10.Qc6+/iv Kxc6 stalemate, or:

– Kc7 8.Qc8+/v Kxc8 stalemate, or:

– Bxf8 stalemate, or:

— Sxg8 4.fxc8Q g1Q 5.b7 Qd4 6.b8Q/vi Be4+ 7.Qb7+ Bxb7+ 8.axb7 Rh8 9.b8S+/vii Ke7 10.Sc6+ Kd7 11.Sb8+/viii perpetual check.

i) 1.f8Q+? (g8Q? Be4 mate;) Kxd7 2.b6 Bxf8 3.gxf8Q g1Q 4.Qxf6 (Qg7+ Ke6;) Qh1+ 5.b7 Rh8+ 6.Qxh8 Qxh8+ 7.b8Q Be4+ stalemate.

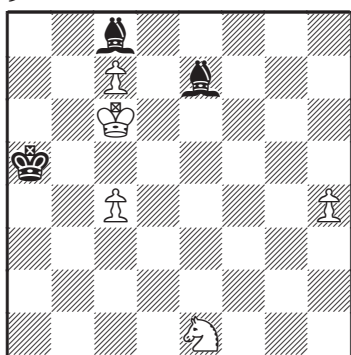
ii) 3.f8Q? Be4+ 4.Qd5 Bxd5+, or 3.f8S+? Bxf8 4.Qxg6 g1Q, or 3.Qxg6? Rh8+ 4.Kb7 g1Q win.

iii) 9.Qc7+? Kd5 10.Qc6+ Ke6, or 9.Qxf6? Be4, or 9.Qxg6? Rh8+ win.

iv) 10.Qb6+? Kd5, and 11.Qb3+ Kd4, or 11.Qb5+ Kd4, or 11.Qc6+ Ke6 wins.

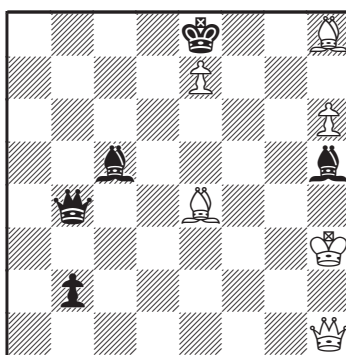
v) 8.Qb8+? Kd7 9.Qc8+ Ke7, or 8.Qf7+? Sd7 9.Qc4+ Kd8 10.Qg8+ Sf8 11.Qd5 Rd2 12.Qxd2 Be4+ 13.Qd5 Bxd5+, or 8.Qg7+? Sd7 9.Qc3+ Kd8.

No 20436 A. Pallier
& M. Garcia
5th honourable mention



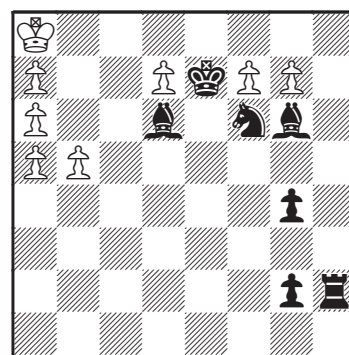
c6a5 0061.30 5/3 Win

No 20437 I. Akobia †
& M. Garcia
commendation



h3e8 4080.21 6/5 Win

No 20438 M. Campioli
commendation



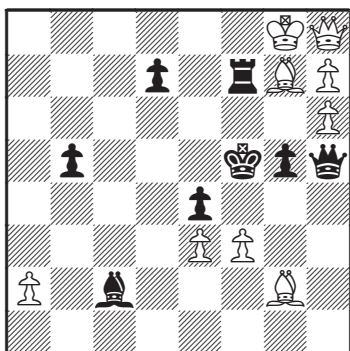
a8e7 0363.72 8/7 Draw

vi) 6.Qxg6? Rh8+, and: 7.b8Q Qd5 mate, or here: 7.b8S+ Ke7.

vii) 9.b8Q? Rxg8 10.Qxg8 Qe4+ and mate.

viii) 11.Sxd4? Rxg8+ 12.Kb7 Bc5 13.Se2 Bxa7 wins.

No 20439 A. Jasik
commendation

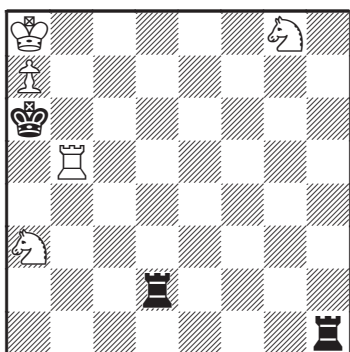


g8f5 4350.54 9/8 Win

No 20439 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Bh3+ Kg6 (Qxh3; Kxf7) 2.Bg4 Qxg4/ii 3.fxg4 Bb1 4.Ba1 Bxa2 5.Qb2 Rf2+ 6.Qxa2 Rxa2 7.h8S+ Kxh6 8.Bg7 mate.

ii) Qh2 3.f4 gxf4 4.Bf6 fxe3 5.Bf5+ Kxf5 6.Kxf7 Qh5+ 7.Ke7, or Qh4 3.Bf8 Bd3 4.Qf6+, and: Rxf6 5.h8S mate, or here: Kxf6 5.h8Q+ Kg6 6.Bg7 wins.

No 20440 M. Minski
commendation



a8a6 0702.10 5/3 BTM, Draw

No 20440 Martin Minski (Germany). 1... Rd8+/i 2.Rb8 Rd7 3.Rf8/ii Rf1/iii 4.Sf6/iv Rb7/v 5.Sb5 (Sd7? Rxd7;) Rxb5 6.Sd7/vi Rxf8+ 7.Sb8+/vii Ka5 (Kb6) stalemate.

i) Rd7 2.Kb8, or Rh8 2.Kb8 Rxg8+ 3.Kc7, or Rh7 2.Ra5+ Kxa5 3.Sc4+ Ka6 4.Sxd2 Rh8 5.Kb8 draws.

ii) 3.Re8? Re1 e.g. 4.Rf8 Rxa7+ 5.Kb8 Rb7+ 6.Ka8 Rf7 7.Rd8 Rd7 8.Rf8 Re6 9.Sc4 Rc6

10.Kb8 Rb7+ 11.Ka8 Rxc4 12.Rf6+ Rb6 13.Rxb6+ Kxb6 14.Kb8, or 3.Sb5? Rhh7 4.Re8 Kxb5 5.Sf6 Rxa7+ 6.Kb8 Rhb7+ 7.Kc8 Rc7+ 8.Kb8 Rab7+ 9.Ka8 Re7 10.Rxe7 Rxe7 11.Kb8 Kc6 12.Sg4 Re6 13.Sh2 Re8+ 14.Ka7 Re7+ 15.Kb8 Rb7+ 16.Kc8 Rh7 wins.

iii) Rhh7 4.Rf6+ Ka5 5.Rf8 Rxa7+ 6.Kb8, or Rxa7+ 4.Kb8 Rb7+ 5.Ka8 draw.

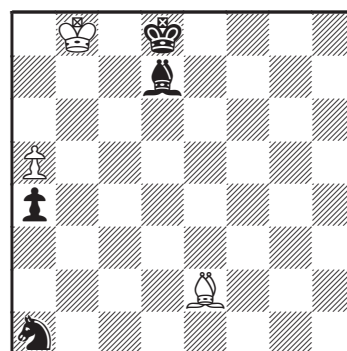
iv) 4.Re8? Re1, or 4.Rxf1? Rd8 mate.

v) Rxa7+ (Rxf6; Rxf6+) 5.Kb8 Rf5 6.Sd7 Rb7+ 7.Kc8 draws.

vi) 6.Se8? Rc5 (Rxf8? stalemate), or 6.Rd8? Rxf6 7.Rd6+ Rb6 (Rxd6? stalemate) 8.Rxb6+ Kxb6 (Rxb6? stalemate), or 6.Rb8? Rxf6 7.Rxb5 (Rb6+ Kxb6;) Kxb5 8.Kb7 Rf7+ 9.Kb8 Kb6 10.a8Q Rf8 mate.

vii) 7.Sxf8? Rb7/xviii 8.Se6 Kb6 9.Sd8 Rd7 10.Kb8 Rxd8 mate, but not: Re5? 8.Sd7 Re8+ 9.Sb8+ Kb5 (Kb6 stalemate) 10.Kb7 Re7+ 11.Kc8 draws.

No 20441 M. Minski
commendation



b8d8 0043.11 3/4 Draw

No 20441 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.a6 Bc6 2.a7 Ba8/i 3.Kxa8/ii Kc8/iii 4.Bg4+ Kc7 5.Bd1 a3 6.Bc2 zz Kc8 (Sxc2 stalemate) 7.Bf5+ Kc7 8.Bc2 a2 9.Bb3/iv Sxb3 stalemate.

i) Sb3 3.Bb5, or a3 3.Ba6 (Bb5? Ba8;) Ba8 (a2; Bb7)4.Bb7/v a2 5.Bxa8, or Sc2 3.Bb5 Sb4 4.a8Q (Bxa4? Sa6 mate;) Bxa8 5.Bxa4 draws.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Bd1? a3 4.Kxa8 Kc8 5.Bc2/vi Kc7 zz 6.Bb3 Sc2 7.Bxc2 a2 wins. 3.Bd3? Sb3.

iii) Kc7 4.Bd1 a3 5.Bc2 zz, draws.

iv) 9.Bb1? Sb3 10.Bxa2 Sc5, and: 11.Bb3 Sd7 12.Ba4 Sb6 mate, or here: 11.Be6 Sa4 12.Bd7 Sb6 mate.

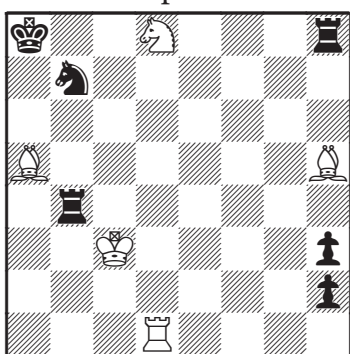
v) 4.Kxa8? Kc7 5.Bc4 Sc2 wins.

vi) 5.Bg4+ Kc7 6.Bd1 Sc2 7.Bxc2 a2.

22nd Birnov MT 2015

The 22nd (!) Birnov MT was judged by Richard Becker (USA) replacing the late Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 44 studies were submitted to tourney director Oleg Efrosinin. Victor Aberman (USA) assisted in translating the award from English to Russian. HH is grateful to Richard Becker for supplying the original text upon request for EG.

No 20442 Y. Bazlov
1st prize



c3a8 o724.02 5/6 Win

No 20442 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Bf3 Rb5/i 2.Sxb7 Rc8+/ii 3.Kd4 Kb8 4.Bd2/iii Rxb7 5.Bf4+ Rbc7/iv 6.Ra1/v Rd8+ 7.Ke3 Kc8 8.Bg4+ Rcd7 (Kb7; Rb1+) 9.Rb1/vi Re8+ 10.Kf2 Kd8/vii 11.Bg5+ Rde7 (Kc7; Rc1+) 12.Rc1 Rf8+ 13.Kg3 h1S+/viii 14.Rxh1 Ke8 15.Bh5+ wins, e.g. Ref7 16.Rd1 and 17.Rd8 mate.

i) Rf8 (Ra4; Bb4) 2.Bc6 Rg4 3.Bxb7+ Kb8 4.Rd7 Rg3+ 5.Kc4 Rxd8 6.Bxd8 Rg1 7.Be7 Rc1+ 8.Kb5 Rb1+ 9.Bb4 h1Q 10.Bxh1 Rxh1 11.Kc6 wins.

ii) Rf8 3.Be4/ix Rc8+ 4.Kd4 Kb8 5.Be1 Rxb7 6.Bg3+ Rbc7 7.Rc1 h1Q 8.Bxh1 Rd8+ 9.Bd5 Rd7 10.Ra1 wins.

iii) 4.Be1? Rxb7 5.Bg3+ Rbc7 6.Ra1 Rd8+ 7.Ke3 Kc8 8.Bg4+ Rcd7 9.Rb1 Re8+ draws.

iv) Ka7 6.Ra1+ Kb6 7.Rb1+ wins.

v) 6.Rc1? Rd8+ 7.Ke3 Rd7 draws.

vi) 9.Ra7? Re8+ 10.Kf2 Re7 draws.

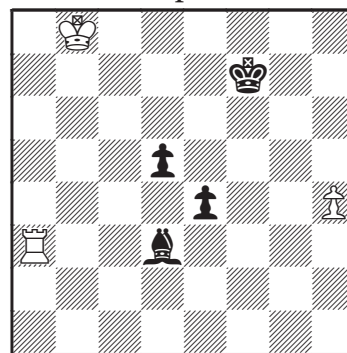
vii) h1S+ 11.Kg1 (Rxh1? Rf8;) Kd8 12.Bg5+ Kc7/ (Ree7; Bxd7) 13.Rc1+ Kb6 14.Bxd7 Rg8 15.Rc6+ Kb7 16.Rc5 Sg3 17.Be6 Rg7 18.Kh2 Se4 19.Bd5+ Kb6 20.Rc6+ wins.

viii) Ke8 14.Bh5+ Ref7 15.Rd1 h1S+ 16.Kh2 (Kh4) wins.

ix) But not 3.Rd8+? Rxd8 4.Sxd8+ Ka7 5.Sc6+ Ka6 6.Bc7 Rc5+ 7.Kb4 Rf5 8.Be4 h1Q 9.Bxh1 h2 10.Sb8+ Ka7 draws.

“The winning study exhibits excellent piece play from beginning to end and even the supporting variations are crisp and clear. There are no EGTB look-ups here but what really sets this one apart is the fantastic systematic movement of seven pieces. The mechanism grinds its way across the board with cold and beautiful precision”.

No 20443 M. Minski
2nd prize



b8f7 o130.12 3/4 Draw

No 20443 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Kc7/i d4 2.Kd6 e3 3.Ke5 (Ra7+? Kf6;) e2 4.Ra7+ Kg6/ii 5.h5+, and:

— Kg5 6.Rg7+/iii Bg6 (Kh6; Rg1) 7.Rxg6+ Kxh5 8.Rg1 d3 9.Kf5 Kh6 10.Kf6 Kh5 11.Kf5 draws, or:

— Kh6/iv 6.Ra1 Bb1/v 7.Rxb1 d3 8.Kf6 d2 9.Rb8 Kh7 10.Rb7+ Kg8 11.Rb8+ Kh7 12.Rb7+ Kh6 13.Rb8 Kxh5 14.Kf5 Kh4 15.Kf4 Kh3 16.Kf3 e1Q 17.Rh8+ Qh4 18.Rxh4+ Kxh4 19.Ke2 draws.

i) 1.h5? d4 2.h6 e3 wins.

ii) Ke8 5.Ra1 Bb1 6.Rxb1 d3 7.Ke6 Kf8 8.Kf6 Ke8 9.Ke6 Kd8 10.Kd6 Kc8 11.Rc1+ Kb7 12.Rb1+ Ka6 13.Kc6 Ka5 14.Kc5 Ka6 15.Kc6 draws.

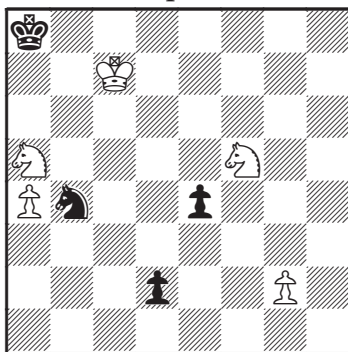
iii) 6.Ra1? Bb1 7.Rxb1 d3 8.Rg1+ Kh6 9.Kf6 d2 wins.

iv) Kxh5 6.Ra1 Bb1 7.Rxb1 d3 8.Kf5.

v) Bc2 7.Kxd4 Bd1 8.Ra6+ draws.

“The wK can’t catch the pawns when Black sacrifices his bishop to save a tempo. This motif was shown brilliantly by L. Prokes, 1st prize *Narodni Listy* 1941 (HHdbIV#20050). To save the game, White must employ the motif shown by J. Moravec, 28 *Rijen* 1924 (HhdbIV#09428). By my calculation, two known ideas combined for the first time equals a new study”.

No 20444 V. Aberman
3rd prize



c7a8 0005.22 5/4 Win

No 20444 Victor Aberman (USA). 1.Se3 d1Q/i 2.Sxd1 Sd5+ 3.Kc8/ii e3 4.Sxe3 Sxe3 5.g3 Sf1 6.g4 Sh2 7.g5 Sf3 8.g6 Sh4 9.g7 Sf5 10.g8S Ka7 11.Kd7/iii Ka6/iv 12.Sc6/v Sd4/vi 13.Sge7 Sb3 (Sb5; Sd5) 14.Kd6 wins.

i) Sd5+ 2.Sxd5 d1Q 3.Sb6+ Ka7 4.Sc6+ Ka6 5.Sd7 Qxa4 6.Sc5+ wins.

ii) 3.Kd8? e3 4.Sxe3 Sxe3 5.g3 Sf5 6.g4 Sh6 7.g5 Sf7+ draws.

iii) Thematic tries: 11.Sc6+? Kb6 12.Kd7 Sd4 13.Sge7 Kc5 zz 14.Kc7 Se6+ 15.Kb8 Sd8 16.Kc7 Se6+ 17.Kc8 Kb6 18.a5+ Kb5 19.Sd5 Sd4 20.Sdb4 Sxc6 21.Sxc6 Kxc6, or 11.Kc7? Ka6 12.Sb7/vii Sd4 13.Se7 Sb5+ 14.Kb8 Sd6 15.Sc5+ Ka5 16.Sc6+/viii Kb6 17.a5+ Kxc5/ix 18.a6 Sb5 19.Kb7 Sd6+ 20.Kb8 Sb5, or 11.Sf6? Ka6 12.Sb3 Sd4 13.Sc5+ Ka5 14.Kb7 Sf5 15.Sfe4/x Kb4 16.Kc6/xi Sd4+ 17.Kb6 Sb3 zz, or 11.Sc4? Ka6 12.Kc7 Se3 13.Sb6 Sd1

iv) Kb6 12.Sc4+ Kc5 13.Sb2 Kb4 14.Se7 wins.
v) 12.Sc4? Se3 13.Sb2 Sd5, or 12.Sb3? Sd4 13.Sc5+ Kb6 14.Kd6 Sb5+ draw.

vi) Kb6 13.Sf6 Se3 14.a5+ Kb5 15.Se8 Sc4 16.Sd6+ wins.

vii) 12.Sc6 Sd4 13.Sge7 Sxc6 14.Sxc6 stalemate!

viii) 16.Kc7 Sb5+ 17.Kb7 Sd6+ draws.

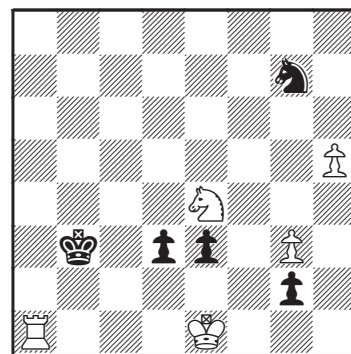
ix) But not: Kxc6? 18.a6 Sb5 19.Sa4 Kd7 20.Sc3 wins.

x) 15.Sd5 Sd6+ 16.Kc6 Sc4 draws.

xi) 16.Kb6 Se3 17.Sd2 Sd5+ 18.Kc6 Sc3 draws.

“A good introduction is well matched to an interesting tablebase position. The best play occurs in the tries, including a nice model stalemate. By comparison, the actual concluding play is short and plain”.

No 20445 P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



e1b3 0104.23 5/5 Win

No 20445 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.O-O-O/i d2+ (Sxh5; Rg1) 2.Sxd2+ exd2+ 3.Kxd2 Sxh5 4.Rc1, and:

— Sxg3 5.Rc3+ Kb4 6.Rxg3 wins, or:

— Kb4/ii 5.g4 Sf6 6.Kd3 Sxg4 7.Rc4+ Kb5 8.Rxg4 wins.

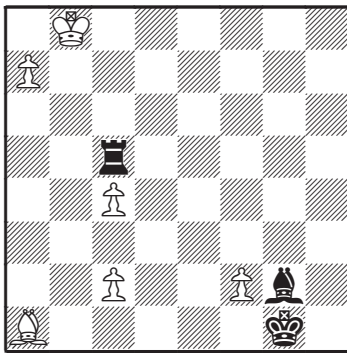
i) 1.Sd2+? Kb2 2.Sf3 Kxa1 3.h6 Kb2 4.hxg7 Kc1 5.g8Q d2+ 6.Sxd2 exd2+ draws.

ii) Kb2 5.Rg1 Sxg3 6.Rxg2 Sf5 7.Kd3+ Kb3 8.Rg6 Se7 (Kb4; Re6) 9.Rb6+ Ka4 10.Re6 Sc8 (Sd5; Kc4) 11.Rc6 Se7 12.Rc5 wins.

“The play concludes with pretty chameleon echo skewers. I was disappointed initially with the composer’s decision to seek introductory play that begins with 1.o-o-o. This castling

move seems to have nothing to do with the thematic skewers. It is better to seek a third skewer or, failing this, seek play that explains how the g-pawns got behind each other but some composers like to start their studies with castling. Iuri used it in several of his studies so I accept this different opinion”.

No 20446 H. van der Heijden
2nd honourable mention



b8g1 0340.40 6/3 Win

No 20446 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands). 1.f3 Rf5 2.a8Q Rf8+ 3.Ka7 Rxa8+ 4.Kxa8 Kf2/i 5.Kb7/ii Kxf3/iii 6.Bh8/iv Ke3+/v 7.Kb6 Ke4 8.Kc6 Bf3/vi 9.c5/vii Bd1 10.c3 Ba4+ 11.Kd6 wins.

i) Bxf3+ 5.Ka7 Kf2 6.c5 Ke3 7.Kb6 Kd2 8.c3 Kc2 9.c6 wins.

ii) 5.Ka7? Kxf3 6.c5 Kf4 7.Kb6 Kf5 8.c6 Ke6 draws.

iii) Bxf3+ 6.Kb6 Ke3 7.c5 wins.

iv) 6.c5? Kf4+ 7.Kc7 Be4 8.c3 Ke5 draws, or: 6.Bg7? Kf4+ 7.Kc7 Kf5 8.Kd7 Kg6 9.Bd4 Kf7 draw.

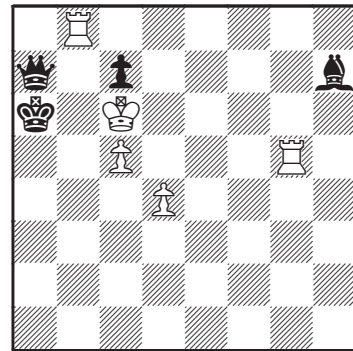
v) Kf4+ 7.Kc7 Be4 8.c3 Kf5 9.Kd7 wins.

vi) Ke3+ 9.Kd7 Kd2 10.c3 Kd3 11.c5 wins.

vii) 9.Kd6? Bd1 10.c3 Kd3 11.c5 Kc4 12.c6 Kb5 13.c7 Bg4 draws.

“This is a study full of curious play with both white pawns on their initial squares declining to take double steps. The wB seems equally timid as it scoots from corner to corner. In contrast, the wK chooses to stand directly in the black battery’s line of fire. There is some similarity to the 3rd prize study from the 20th Z. Birnov MT”.

No 20447 A. Manvelyan
1st commendation



c6a6 3230.32 5/4 Win

No 20447 Aleksandr Manvelyan (Armenia). 1.Rg3/i Be4+ 2.d5 Bxd5+ 3.Kxd5 Qxb8 4.Ra3+ Kb7 5.c6+ Kb6/ii 6.Rb3+ Ka7 7.Rxb8 Kxb8 8.Ke6 Ka7 9.Ke7 Ka6 10.Kd8 Kb6 11.Kd7 wins.

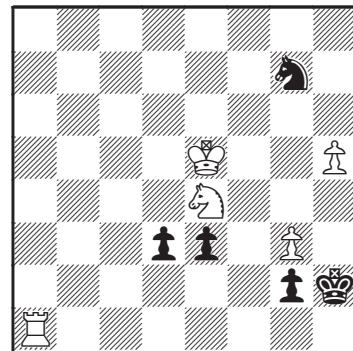
i) Thematic try: 1.Rg1? Be4+ 2.d5 Bxd5+ 3.Kxd5 Qxb8 4.Ra1+ Kb7 5.Rb1+/iii Kc8 6.Rxb8+ Kxb8 7.c6 Ka7 8.Ke6 Ka6 draws.

ii) Kc8 6.Ke6 Kd8 7.Kf7 (Rg3) wins.

iii) 5.c6+? Kc8 6.Ke6 Qb3+.

“A little foresight is needed here to reach a known winning pawn ending”.

No 20448 P. Arestov & V. Tukmakov
2nd commendation



e5h2 0104.23 5/5 Win

No 20448 Pavel Arestov & Valery Tukmakov (Russia). 1.Sg5 g1Q 2.Sf3+ Kxg3 3.Sxg1 Sxh5 4.Kd4 (Ke4) Kf2 5.Kxd3 Sf4+ 6.Ke4 e2 7.Sf3 Sg2 8.Ra2 Kf1 9.Sh2+ Kf2 10.Rb2 Kg1/i 11.Rxe2 Kxh2 12.Kf3 wins (Kh1; Kg3).

i) Ke1 11.Kf3 Sh4+ 12.Kg3 Sf5+ 13.Kg2 Kd1 14.Rb1+ Kc2 15.Re1 Se3+ 16.Kf2 Kd3 17.Rxe2 wins.