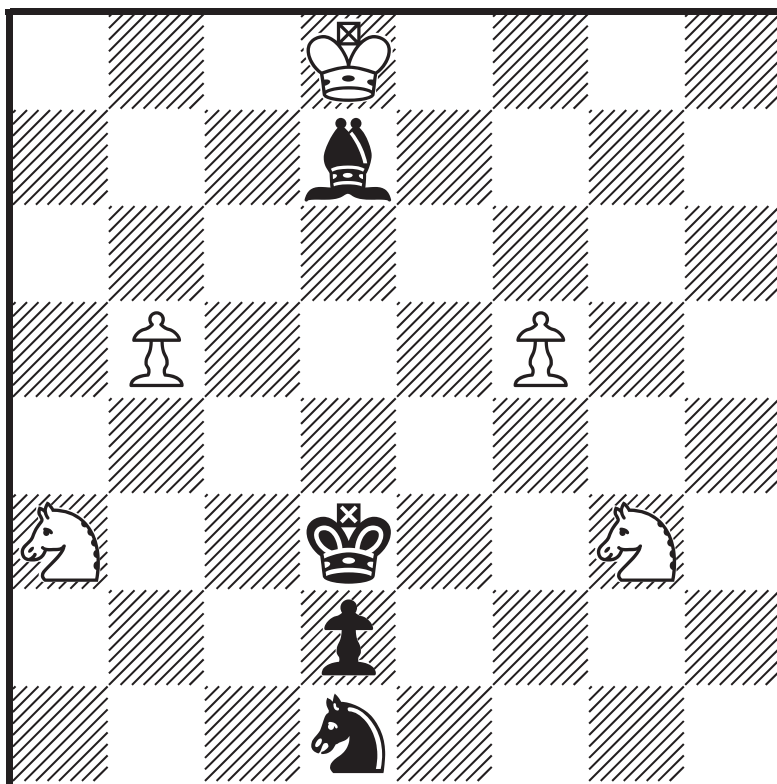


No. 203 — VOL. XXII — JANUARY 2016



BLACK TO PLAY, WHITE WINS

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diagram on the cover: see p. 25

Editorial

BY HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

First of all, on behalf of the editorial team of **EG**, I wish all of our readers a happy, healthy and prosperous 2016.

Due to an unfortunate misunderstanding, the author of the obituary in **EG**202 on Manvelyan was wrongly given as Karen Sumbatyan. The true author was Alexei Gasparyan. Apologies to Gasparyan, our readers and Sumbatyan!

Recently, the ARVES site (www.arves.org) underwent a thorough facelift. We are grateful to our website editor Peter Boll and his son Camiel who have done a great job. Obviously, maintaining a website is an ongoing process and a lot of the content will/has to be renewed or archived. A subpage that is important to composers is the award section. We promise to keep it up-to-date. Please continue to send your awards (PDF/PGN) to arves.tourneys@gmail.com.

Gady Costeff wrote a very nice article about 50 years of **EG**, which appeared in the Israeli magazine *Variantim*. Thanks Gady!

In this issue we have the preliminary award of the **EG-50 AT**, which has numerous very exciting studies!

There is also good news from AJR: he now has a website! <http://www.roycroft-ajr.uk/>

Javier Rodríguez Ibrán spotted a cook in a study in **EG**202: the final position of #20476 by Jasik is a draw: 10...f2 11.Qh8+ Kg3 (Kg2?; a8Q) e.g. 12.Qa1 c4 13.Kf6 c3 14.Qxc3+ Kg2 15.Qd2 Kg1 16.Qe3 Kg2 17.Qg5+ Kh2 12.a8Q Bxa8 19.Kxf5 Kf2.

Several readers enquired when my new database (HHdbV) will be available, it having been planned for October 2015. Apart from moving house, there are many other excuses. At the time of writing this editorial (December 17th) it is still my intention to release it before 2016, so I hope that it is available when you read this. The deadline was October 1st (no changes after this date), but there are so many other things to take care off. Some “spoilers”: HHdbV has 85,619 studies with, in total (main lines and analyses), 3,807,322 moves. No fewer than 35% of the studies are cooked. Many people do not seem to understand why cooked studies should be included in the database, but there is an obvious point for this. I leave it up to you to figure this out!

I am very happy with the present issue which includes some very interesting items: the Originals section (Ed van de Gevel) has the shocking news that a composer submitted no less than 20 unsound studies in a single batch; Composer Gallery (Yochanan Afek) is literally (!) spotlighting Paul Keres; Tasks & Themes (Siegfried Hornecker) deals with systematic manoeuvres; Computer News (Emil Vlasák) systematically manoeuvres through the WWW to find the best computer engines available for free, including an app that allows free access to 7EGTB by smartphone, and History (Alain Pallier) deals with an ancient tourney in *Tidskrift för Schack* with the very interesting news that almost all (!) the issues of this Scandinavian magazine are freely available on-line!

Latest news!

HHdbV is out. See www.hhdbv.nl

Originals (49)

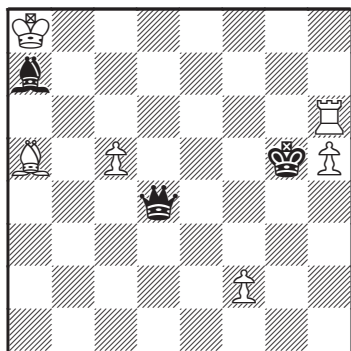
EDITOR: ED VAN DE GEVEL

“email submissions are preferred.”
Judge 2016-2017: Martin Minski

This edition of the Originals column is also the start of a new tourney. I am pleased to announce that Martin Minski has accepted the challenge to act as judge. Less good news is that while preparing this column a record was broken. A composer sent me a batch of 20 studies, but our tester Mario Garcia found something wrong in all 20! That leaves us with only three studies this time.

We start in Slovakia where Michal Hlinka and Luboš Kekely composed the following work, to which they add: watch the zugzwangs in this Meredith:

No 20484 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely



a8g5 3140.30 Draw 6/3

No 20484 Michal Hlinka and Luboš Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Rd6/i Qxc5/ii 2.Ra6 Kxh5 3.f3/iii Kg5 4.Bd2+/iv Kh4 (Kf5; Ra5) 5.Be1+ (Ba5? Kh3;) Kh3 (Kh5; Ra5) 6.Ba5 (tempo) Kg3/v 7.Kb7/vi Qe7+ 8.Bc7+ (with check!) Kxf3 9.Rxa7 and draws according to the EGTB.

i) 1.Rg6+? Kxh5 2.Rd6 Qxc5 3.Ra6 Kg4 4.Bd8 Qc8+ 5.Kxa7 Qxd8 is an EGTB win for Black.

ii) Black has to go to this disadvantageous square as Qxf2 2.Bd8+ Kxh5 3.Kxa7 is an EGTB draw.

iii) A tempo move. Of course we all spotted 3.Rxa7? Qc8 mate, but we might need the EGTB to tell us that 3.f4? Kg4 4.f5 Kxf5 is a win for Black.

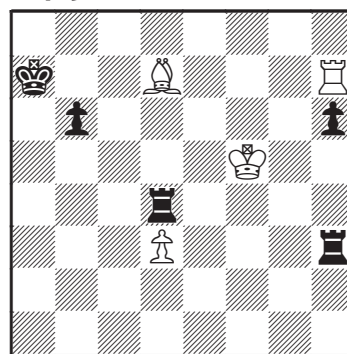
iv) It is too early for 4.Kb7? Qe7+, as 5.Bc7 is not check, so 5...Be3 wins for Black.

v) Again Black has to go to a disadvantageous square, because Kg2 7.f4 Kf3 8.f5 Qxf5 9.Kxa7 is an EGTB draw.

vi) 7.f4? Kg4 8.f5 Kxf5 wins according to the EGTB.

Our second study is a long distance cooperation between Pavel Arestov from Russia and Mario Garcia from Argentina.

No 20485 P. Arestov & M. Garcia



f5a7 0710.12 Draw 4/5

No 20485 Pavel Arestov (Russia) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Ke5 (Bb5+? Kb8;) Rhd3/i 2.Bb5+/ii Ka8/iii 3.Bc6+/iv Kb8 4.Be4 Rxe4+/v 5.Kxe4 Rd6 6.Ke5 Rc6 7.Kd4/vi Rd6+/vii 8.Ke5 Rc6 9.Kd4 positional draw.

i) Rhh4 2.Bg4+/viii Ka6 3.Kxd4 Rxc4+ 4.Ke5 draws.

ii) 2.Bf5+? Ka6 3.Bxd3+ Rxd3 wins.

iii) Kb8 3.Bxd3 Rxd3 4.Ke4 is similar to the main line.

iv) After the try 3.Bxd3? Rxd3 it is zz 4.Ke4 Rd6 zz 5.Ke5 Rc6 6.Kd4 Kb8 zz 7.Ke4 Rc4+ 8.Kd5 Rc5+ wins, or 3.Rxh6? Rd5+ 4.Ke4 R3d4+ 5.Ke3 Rd6 wins.

v) Rd2 5.Rb7+ Kc8 6.Rxb6 draws.

vi) This is zz. Not 7.Ke4? Rc4+ 8.Kd3 (Kd5 Rc5+;) Rh4 wins.

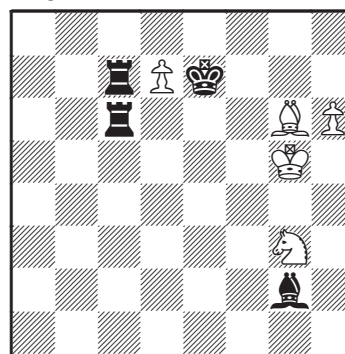
vii) Kc8 8.Kd3 (Ke3) b5/ix 9.Kd4 (Ke4) b4 (Rc4+; Kd5) 10.Kd5 Rb6 11.Kc5 draws.

viii) 2.Bb5+? Kb8 3.Rh8+ Kc7 4.Rh7+ Kd8 5.Rh8+ Ke7 6.Re8+ Kf7 7.Rb8 Rb4, and: 8.Rb7+ Kf8 9.Rb8+ Ke7 10.Rb7+ Kd8 11.Bc4 Rg4 12.Rh7 Rg5+ 13.Kd6 Rg6+ 14.Ke5 Rb1, or here: 8.Rxb6 Rxb5+ 9.Rxb5 Rh5+ wins.

ix) Kd8 9.Kd4 Ke8 10.Rb7 Rd6+ 11.Ke5 Rg6 12.Kd5 Kf8 13.Rb8+ Ke7 14.Rb7+ Kf6 15.Rxb6+ draws.

Finally, we go back to Slovakia, to Michal en Luboš who also opened this column. Again they point out the zugzwangs and the Meredith but in addition there are two mates with two active blockings.

No 20486 M. Hlinka & L' Kekely



g5e7 o641.20 Win 5/4

No 20486 Michal Hlinka and Luboš Kekely (Slovakia) 1.h7 Rc8 2.Be8 Rc5+ 3.Sf5+/i Rxf5+ 4.Kxf5 Bh3+ 5.Ke5 Bxd7/ii 6.h8Q Bxe8/iii 7.Qf6+ Kd7 8.Qd6 mate.

i) 3.Kf4? Rc4+ 4.Ke3 Rc3+ 5.Kf2 Rc2+ 6.Kg1 Rb8 7.h8Q Rb1+ 8.Kh2 Bd5+ 9.Kh3 Be6+ 10.Sf5+ Bxf5+ draws, or 3.Kh6? R8c6+ 4.Bg6 Rc8 5.dxc8Q Rxc8 draws.

ii) On any other move, e.g. Bxd7 6.h8Q Bxe8 is an EGTB draw.

iii) Rxe8 7.Qf6 mate, or Rc5+ 7.Kd4 EGTB win.

Jan Hendrik Marwitz – 100 MT 2015

ARVES announces a memorial tourney to commemorate the 100th birthday of one of the best Dutch composers to date.

1st prize 150 €, 2nd prize 100 €, 3rd prize 50 €
and there will be book prizes as well.

No set theme

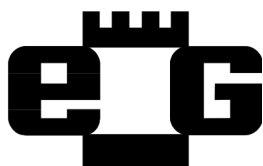
A maximum of three studies per composer

Judge: Harold van der Heijden

Tourney director: Yochanan Afek, afekchess@gmail.com

Submission deadline: 1ii2016

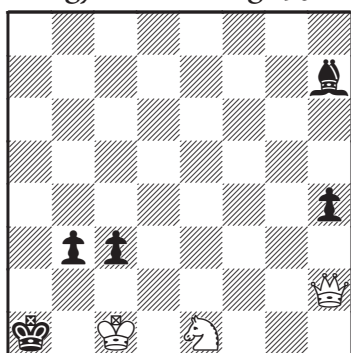
Preliminary award: **EG204** (iv2016); Final award: **EG205** (vii2016)



Composer Gallery

On January 7th 2016 the chess world celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the birth of one of the world's all-time greatest players. The Estonian Paul Keres (1916-1975) was a top player from the mid-thirties to the mid-sixties and is widely considered the strongest player never to play a match for the supreme title. No fewer than 5 times he missed a chance to qualify as a challenger. A very great amount has been said and printed on his brilliant career and contribution to various facets of the game be it as a player, a thinker and a writer, or even his early youth career as a successful correspondence player. Not much has been said about the young Paul as a keen composer with an overall output of some 180 problems and 30 studies (bruto-versions included).

A.1 Paul Keres
Magyar Sakkvilág 1936



c1a1 1031.03c1a1 3/5 Win

(A.1) The first study in our selection was composed by the young Keres whose early style was characterized as highly tactical: White, a queen ahead is facing black's pair of advanced pawns. **1.Sc2+! Ka2** (1...Bxc2 allows a crucial tempo for the queen to control the queening square b1 from behind by 2.Qb8!) **2.Sb4+ Ka1** (or 2...Ka3 3.Sd3! Bxd3 4.Qd6+ Ka2 5.Qd5! mating) The knight has approached the bK so the stage is ready for a stunning combination

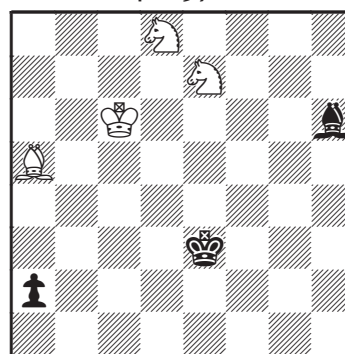
Paul Keres

BY YOCHANAN AFEK

3.Qa2+!! bxa2 4.Sc6! A mate in two is now unavoidable. **4...h3 5.Sd4 h2 6.Sb3** mate.

A.2 Paul Keres
Shakhmaty v SSSR 1946
version: C. de Feijter, *Deventer Dagblad*

4xi1972

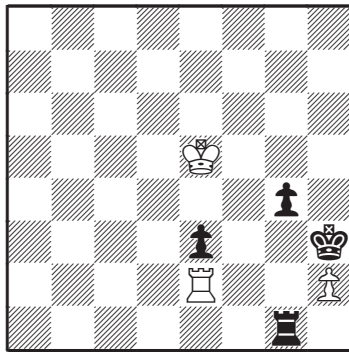


c6e3 0042.01 4/3 Win

(A.2) The extra white knight pair should rush to the lower corner of the board to support the struggle to prevent black's promotion. **1.Sd5+** (The natural attempt 1.Bc3? fails to Kd3 2.Bh8 Kc2 3.Sd5 Bd2 4.Se6 Kb1) **1...Kd3** (Or 1...Kd4 2.Bc3+ Kd3 3.Bh8 Kc2 4.Se6 Bd2 5.Sd4+ Kb1 6.Sb3 Bc1 (6...Kc2 7.Sxd2 Kxd2 8.Sb4) 7.Sc3+ and wins) **2.Sb4+ Kc3 3.Sxa2+ Kb3** (The goal has been achieved yet by now the knight is in trouble) **4.Sb4 Ka4! 5.Sb7!** (The obvious 5.Kb6? leads after Be3+ 6.Ka6 Bd2 7.Sdc6 Be1 8.Kb6 Bf2+ 9.Kc7 Be1 10.Kd6 Kb5! only to a positional draw as White cannot afford bishop exchanges and is unable to make further progress) **5...Bd2 6.Sc2!!** (Again, the natural way 6.Kc5? Be1 7.Kc4 Bxb4 8.Bxb4 results in only stalemate!) **6...Bxa5 7.Sc5** mate. An ideal mate after an active selfblock.

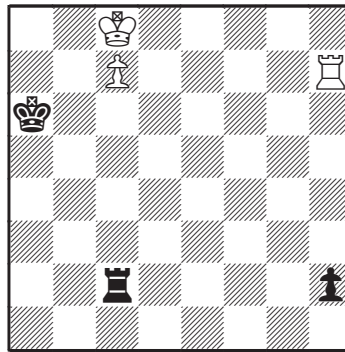
(A.3) Next is an instructive practical rook miniature which endured birth pangs before the composer decided on the following version: **1.Kf5!** (The more active looking 1.Kf4?

A.3 Paul Keres
special prize
Shakhmaty v SSSR 1946



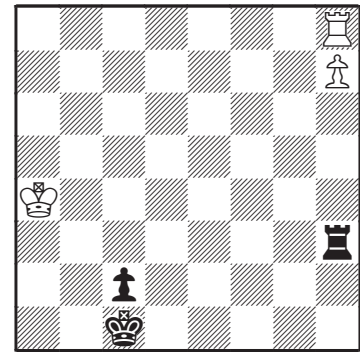
e5h3 0400.12 3/4 Draw

A.4 Emmanuel Lasker
Deutsches Wochenschach 1890



c8a6 0400.11 3/3 Win

A.5 Opocensky – Keres
Buenos Aires Olympiad 1939



BTM

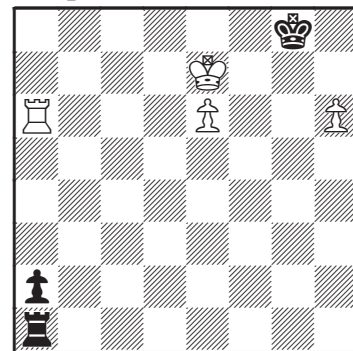
Rg2 fails to 2.Rxe3+ Kh4! 3.Re8 Rf2+ 4.Ke3 Rxh2) **1...Rf1+** (The subtle difference in selecting the right key square for the white monarch becomes apparent in the sideline 1...Rg2 2.Rxe3+ Kh4 (The alternative is 2...Kxh2 3.Kg5! g3 4.Kh4! Rg1 5.Ra3 draw) 3.Re4! Rf2+ 4.Rf4! and White draws) **2.Kg5 Rf3 3.Re1!** (Obviously not 3.Ra2? Rf2 4.Ra3 Rxh2 5.Rxe3+ g3 where the pawn would cost White his rook) **3...g3** (3...Kxh2 leads to an immediate draw following 4.Kxg4 Kg2 5.Re2+, while 3...Kg2 4.Kxg4 Kf2 5.Ra1 e2 6.h4 Ra3 7.Rb1 Rg3+ 8.Kf4 Rg1 9.Rb2 is does not change the result) **4.hxg3 Kxg3 5.Re2! Kh3 6.Rb2** (6.Ra2, 6.Rc2 are unavoidable minor duals which don't change the course of play) **6...Rf2 7.Rb3 Rf3 8.Rb2 Kg3 9.Re2!** It's a reciprocal zugzwang. If White was to play he could not hold his own but it's Black on move which is just enough for a positional draw.

(A.4) Keres's most significant contribution to the art of the endgame study is his interpretation of an old and famous idea of the second world champion. Lasker's ladder was one of the first systematic maneuvers to be displayed in an endgame study. A group of pieces from each side is gradually moving along the board via a repeated movement pattern. **1.Kb8 Rb2+ 2.Ka8 Rc2 3.Rh6+ Ka5** First stair in the ladder **4.Kb7 Rb2+ 5.Ka7 Rc2 6.Rh5+ Ka4** and the second one! **7.Kb6 Rb2+ 8.Ka6! Rc2 9.Rh4+ Ka3** The third stair in the ladder **10.Kb6 Rb2+ 11.Ka5 Rc2 12.Rh3+ Ka2** The stage is ready at last for

the deadly pin! **13.Rxh2!** (Why not 13.Kb6? because it is in fact refuted in a study-like style by Kb1! 14.Rxh2 Rxh2! 15.c8Q Rb2+ with the good old perpetual check!) wins.

(A.5) Curiously enough, this ladder in a rook ending was performed more than once in the "real" over the board practice, thus in fact becoming part of the theory of Rook endings. Keres happened to face this similar challenge against a prominent Czech master in arguably the most eventful Olympiad in chess history at the eve of the great war: **1...Kb2 2.Rb8+ Ka2 3.Rc8 Rh4+ 4.Ka5 Kb2 5.Rb8+ Ka3 6.Rc8 Rh5+ 7.Ka6 Kb3 8.Rb8+ Ka4 9.Rc8 Rh6+ 10.Ka7 Rxh7+** and White called it a day. 0-1

A.6 Paul Keres
3rd prize Postimees 1942

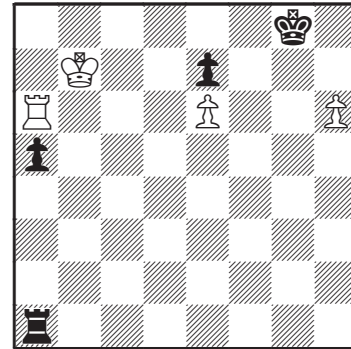


e7g8 0400.21 4/3 Win

(A.6) A fine problem and studies composer himself, Keres was undoubtedly deeply impressed by his own experience, as just a year

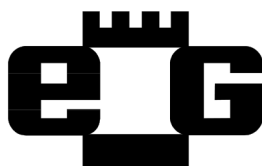
later he published a preliminary draft of his best artistic effort ever. The following masterpiece finally saw the light of day but not before seven (!) previous improved or incorrect versions. How to make progress without risking the trump central pawn? There is only one way: **1.Ra7!** Anticipating a royal battery by placing the rear piece first **1...Kh8** **2.h7!** (2.Ke8? is obviously premature in view of Re1!) **2...Kxh7** **3.Ke8+!** The battery is finally operated but it is just the introduction to the main scene! **3...Kg6** **4.e7 Kh5!** (Or 4...Kg7 5.Ra3 Rb1 (5...Kg8 6.Rg3+ Kh8 7.Rg2 Kh7 8.Rd2 Kg8 9.Kd8 Re1 10.Rxa2 etc.) 6.Rxa2 Rb8+ 7.Kd7 Rb7+ 8.Kd8 Rb8+ 9.Kc7 Where the eighth rank has become too short for the black rook. Similarly 4...Kh6 5.Ra3 Kh5 (5...Kg5 6.Rg3+ Kf4 7.Rg2 Kf3 8.Rb2 Ke3 9.Kd7 Rd1+ 10.Kc7 Rc1+ 11.Kb7) 6.Rh3+ Kg4 7.Rh2 Kg3 8.Rd2 Kf3 9.Kd7 Ke3 10.Rxa2 wins easily) **5.Ra3! Kh4** To stop a check on the third rank **6.Ra5! Kg4** (6...Kh3 7.Ra4 Kg3 8.Kf7 Rf1+ 9.Kg6 Re1 10.Kf6 Rf1+ 11.Kg5 Re1 12.Ra3+) **7.Kf7! Rf1+** **8.Kg6 Re1** Lasker's idea **9.Ra4+ Kh3** **10.Kf6 Rf1+** **11.Kg5 Rg1+** **12.Kh5!** A bridge too far? **12...Re1** **13.Ra3+!** Not quite. In fact another stair down along the staircase **13...Kg2** **14.Rxa2+** Mission accomplished! well, almost. **14...Kf3** **15.Ra7 Re6!** **16.Kg5 Ke4** **17.Rb7!** (Or 17.Rc7, but not 17.Rd7? Ke5! which is the thematic try as it leads to a reciprocal zugzwang with White to play and consequently draw!) **17...Ke5** **18.Rd7!** And now it's the same reciprocal zugzwang position however this time with Black to play...and lose! **18...Ke4** **19.Rd1 Kf3** **20.Rf1+ Ke2** **21.Rf7 Ke3** **22.Kf5** And finally wins as Black is one crucial tempo too late.

A.7 Paul Keres
3rd prize USSR overall championship 1946



b7g8 0400.22 4/4 Win

(A.7) In the following years Keres was toying with his great scheme coming up every now and then with fresh versions until the ultimate version finally arose- the highlight of the great man's composing career. **1.Kc8!** (1.Kc7? Rd1! 2.Rxa5 Rd6 3.Rg5+ Kh7 4.Rg7+ Kxh6 5.Rxe7 Ra6! is just a draw) **1...a4** (After 1...Rd1 2.Ra7! Kf8 The simplest route to success is 3.Rd7 (3.Rxa5 Rd6 4.Rg5) 3...Rc1+ 4.Kd8 Rh1 5.Rxe7 Rxb6 6.Kd7 Rh1 7.Re8+ Kg7 8.Ra8 Rd1+ 9.Ke8) **2.Kd7 a3** **3.Kxe7 a2** and we have reached the initial position of the earlier attempt. **4.Ra7! Kh8** **5.h7! Kxh7** **6.Ke8+ Kg6** **7.e7 Kh5!** **8.Ra3 Kh4!** (8...Kg4 9.Kf7 Rf1+ 10.Kg6) **9.Ra5!** (9.Kf7? Rf1+ 10.Kg6 Rg1+ 11.Kh6 Re1 12.Ra4+ Kg3) **9...Kg4** **10.Kf7 Rf1+** **11.Kg6 Re1** **12.Ra4+! Kh3!** **13.Kf6 Rf1+** **14.Kg5 Rg1+** **15.Kh5 Re1** **16.Ra3+ Kg2** **17.Rxa2+ Kf3** **18.Ra7 Re6!** **19.Kg5 Ke4** **20.Rb7! (Rc7)** (20.Rd7? Ke5!) **20...Ke5** **21.Rd7! Ke4** **22.Rd1! Kf3** **23.Rf1+ Ke2** **24.Rf7 Ke3** **25.Kf5** A highly instructive multi phased study. In fact two studies for the price of one!



Tasks
and themes

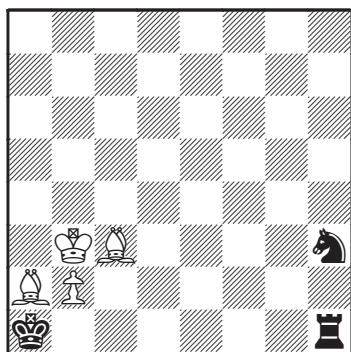
Systematic manoeuvres

BY SIEGFRIED HORNECKER

It is to my deep regret to the reader that I have recently been forced by personal issues to spend less time on chess so this time I can only present a variety of studies you will most likely already know, essentially rendering the point of this column moot.

A systematic manoeuvre is one where pieces on each side move in a specific pattern. This is often done with a single piece for each, but multi-piece movements have also been explored. The first study demonstrates what is meant:

H.1 Mark Liburkin
64 1940



b3a1 o323.10 4/3 Win

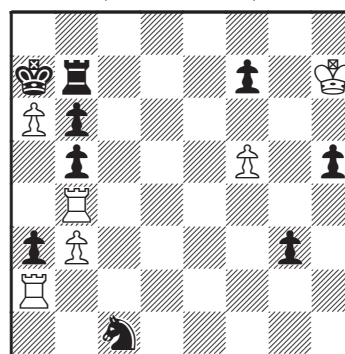
1.Ka3 Rc1 2.Bd4 Rd1 3.Be5 Re1 4.Bf6 Rf1 5.Bg7 Rg1 6.Bh8 Rg3+ 7.b3+ wins.

Here the thematic pieces are rook and bishop and a more widely reprinted Liburkin study showed a tour around half the board with king and knight.⁽¹⁾ However, almost any piece can become part of a systematic manoeuvre, from a small pawn to a mighty queen. It is unusual but not impossible that such a manoeuvre, in itself requiring a good use of geometry, is re-

(1) wKe2 Ra1 Sb3, bKc2 Be1 Sh2 Pg4. Mark S. Liburkin, *Shakhmaty v SSSR* 1938 (1), 4th prize. White wins: **1.Sd4+ Kc3 2.Sb5+ Kc4 3.Sd6+ Kc5 4.Sb7+ Kc6 5.Sd8+ Kc7 6.Se6+ Kd7 7.Sf8+ Ke7 8.Sg6+ Kf7 9.Sh8+ Kg7 10.Rxe1 Kxh8 11.Rh1 g3 12.Ke3 Kg7 13.Kf4 g2 14.Rg1 Sf1 15.Rxg2+ and 16.Rf2 wins**

peated several times. I will leave it up to the reader to decide whether H.F.L. Meyer's famous waterwheel⁽²⁾ is considered to be one, as it is more of a king hunt across the board and, speaking personally, I see a specific repeating non-mirrored geometry as a strong indicator of our theme.

H.2 Vladimir Korolkov,
Leopold Mitrofanov & Vasily Dolgov
1st special prize Friendship 200 JT 1983
(correction)



h7a7 o503.36 6/9 Win

The following study definitely fits the description, and the three heads behind it were among the greatest of their time. While by his name "Korol"kov surely is the king, the master Mitrofanov and pawn promotion explorer Dolgov⁽³⁾ are each also outstanding. What, in my conjecture, most likely happened is that Dolgov saw an old study by Korolkov and Mi-

(2) wKd5 Ta2 Th8 Bc1 Sa3 Sc6 Pb4 c5 f4, bKc3 Qg1 Ra1 Rf1 Ba8 Bd8 Sa5 Sb7 Pa4 b2 c2 c7 f3 f7 g2 g7. H.F.L. Meyer, *British Chess Magazine* July 1890, White wins. **1.Sb5+ Kd3 2.Se5+ Ke2 3.Sc3+ Kf2 4.Sd3+ [...] 17.Sb5+ Kd3 18.Sb4+ Ke2 [...] 29.Sc8+ Ka6 30.Sb8+ Kb5 31.Rxb2+ Sb3 32.Sa7+ [...] 44.Se7+ Kb8 45.Sdc6 mate.**

(3) I invite readers to send me precise life data and a biography of Vasily Nikitovich Dolgov. The furthest I have got is that he was born on 19iii1924 and most likely died in the late 1990s. He unknowingly shared a birthday and love of knight promotions with me.

trofanov, *Szachy* 1957,⁽⁴⁾ and improved it. Then the three decided to send it to the tourney that was judged by Gia Nadareishvili. Interestingly, John Roycroft commented on this in EG80 as “Potent nostalgia for those of us who cut our study teeth on the wizard Korolkov inventions of 30 years ago.” Was this a worn-out memory of having seen the *Szachy* study?

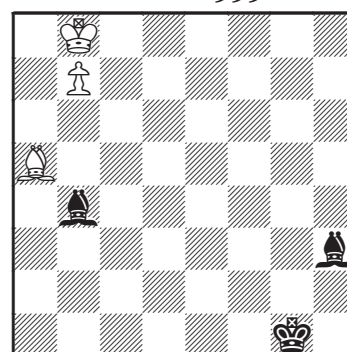
1.Rc2 Sd3 2.Rd4 Se1 3.Re2 Sf3 4.Rf4 Sg1 5.Rg2 Sxh3 6.Rh4 Sg5+ 7.Kh6 Sf3 8.Rf4 Se1 9.Re2 Sd3 10.Rd4 Sc1 11.Rc2 Sxb3 12.Rb4 a2! 13.Rxa2 Sc1 14.Rc2 Sd3 15.Rd4 Se1 16.Re2 Sf3 17.Rf4 g2! 18.Rxg2 Se1 19.Re2 Sd3 20.Rd4 Sc1 21.Rc2 Sb3 22.Rb4 wins.

Unfortunately, there are at least two duals from the 20th move on but the first would have been very hard to find without computer assistance: 20.axb7 Sxf4 21.Rd2!! wins; 22.Rd3 Sc5 23.Rxc5 could have been found (it was no dual earlier since 12.Rd3? Sc5 13.Rxc5? bxc5 14.axb7 h4 leaves White a rook up in a hopeless endgame against the pawns). While I am unwilling to go in depth into endgames like 22.Rd8 Kxa6 23.Ra8+ Ra7 24.Rxa7+ Kxa7 25.Rc7+ since they would not contribute to the article, this is another dual as well as possibly some other moves from the 20th on.

Bavaria is mostly known for being a German Land with its own special rules and with Munich culture such as soccer and the Oktoberfest. It has, however, also brought up the German chess composer Hans Gruber, not known from the Die Hard movies, among others. One of the others is Helmut Waelzel, a young and talented composer with whom I was in contact several years ago via phone. We recently re-established e-mail contact for the WCCT, as he has interesting ideas. Other fields he has worked on include positional draws or wins by systematic manoeuvres in endgames. As little as he is known, those positions deserve wider attention. Unfortunately, according to HHd-bIV he has never published them, except the following one.

(4) As Mirko Degenkolbe finds FEN “dehumanizing” studies, it is given in notation here: wKh7, Rd2, e4, Bf7, Pa6 - bKa7, Rb7, Sa3, Pb2, b6, g7, h3 (Korolkov & Mitrofanov, *Szachy* 1957, White wins).

H.3 Helmut Waelzel
Schach 1999



b8g1 0070.10 3/3 Win

1.Bb6+ Kh2 2.Kc7 Be1 3.Bc5 Ba5+ 4.Kd6 Be1 5.Bd4 Bb4+ 6.Ke5 Be1 7.Be3 Bc3+ 8.Kf4 Be1 9.Kg5! wins

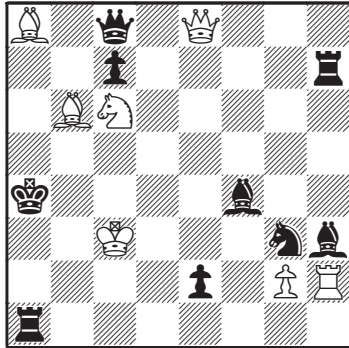
This manoeuvre includes three pieces, just like the one before. However, here we had a clear endgame situation that could one day arise on the board by some coincidence. Like Tim Krabbé, I just want to believe that, eventually, even the Saavedra happens in a game...

Of course, including additional pieces in systematic manoeuvres just for the sake of it might be a task in itself but more often than not it will create grotesques that will receive mixed enthusiasm. Emil Melnichenko from New Zealand is a possibly underrated composer who, like Bláthy, has just the right amount of dedication to create complex machines. More than once, when looking through his work, I saw the potential for him to become a top-class composer. With all due respect, I believe that, under the right circumstances, he could have been seen on a par with the great Soviet composers. One of his ideas has been repeated by him in numerous different forms over the past almost 40 years, so as an example I show the first form because, apparently, it hasn't been seen in EG before, although the second form would be clearer.⁽⁵⁾ It shows a systematic manoeuvre with

(5) EG#5657, EG80, p.471 shows the second form. It mentions “systematic movement involving 4 men” so possibly the queen was not seen as an integral part of the manoeuvre. The position is wKe1, Qa3, Re6, Rh1, Bb4, Bd5, Pa4, b3, c6, f7, g5 - bKf3, Qa5, Be4, Bh8; Emil Melnichenko, *Duras MT* 1982, 7th commendation. Black to move, White wins.

five pieces, but requires rather heavy material but, thankfully, only a few pawns.

H.4 Emil Melnichenko
Canadian Chess Chat 1980

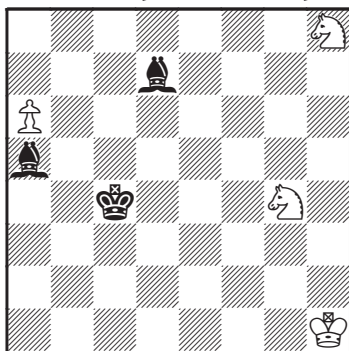


c3a4 4784.12 7/9 Draw

1.Sd8+ Bd7 2.Bc6+ Ka3 3.Qf8+ Bd6 4.Bc5+ Ka2 5.Qg8+ Be6 6.Bd5+ Kb1 7.Qxh7+ Bf5 8.Rh1+ Sf1 9.Be4+ Ka2 10.Bd5+ Kb1 11.Be4+ draws.

Of course, we can apply a broad definition that the repeating loss-of-time manoeuvres putting Black into zugzwang are also systematic manoeuvres and engineer Otto Titusz Bláthy was a master of those. For the sake of this article, however, we will only look at those ideas with a repeating geometrical pattern. Let us return once again to Dolgov with material that – with apologies – has already been shown in EG, although over three decades ago.

H.5 Vasily Dolgov & Boris Sidorov
special honourable mention
64 Shakmatnoye Obozreniye 1983



h1c4 0062.10 4/3 Win

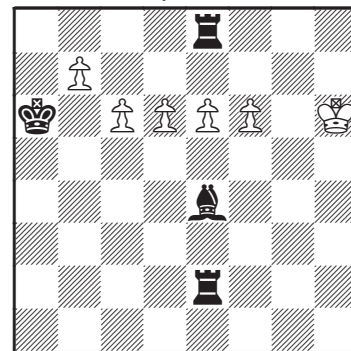
I will leave it to the readers to figure out the not too difficult lines showing that winning the Bd7 results only in a drawn endgame (the pawn eventually falls). The correct solution goes:

1.Se5+ Kc5 2.a7! Be6 3.Sd3+ Kd4 4.Sf4 Bf5 5.Se2+ Ke3 6.Sg3 Bf4 7.Sf1+ Kf2 8.Sh2 Bh3 9.a8Q wins.

Of course, g2 being protected by the king allows White to promote now. On an infinite board, the manoeuvre could win after an infinite number of repetitions in a study (in a game, of course, the new 75 move rule draw would end it even without any claim). “David Hooper observes that this shows a neat echo manoeuvre.”⁽⁶⁾

As I am always the one who uncomfortably pushes, questions, inquires, I will put another one of those things to the end of this article. Can the following study that I had the honour to judge be called a systematic manoeuvre? I would say no as it is a repeating, but not systematic, manoeuvre since it includes pawn promotions and captures which are in my opinion not part of such manoeuvres, but do readers disagree?

H.6 Richard Becker
Prize Tourney AN & YB 2010



h6a6 0630.50 6/4 Draw

1.f7 Rxe6+ 2.Kg7 Rg2+ 3.Kf8 Rh2 4.d7 Bxc6 5.b8S+ Kb5 6.Sxc6 Kxc6 7.d8S+ Kd7 8.Sxe6 Kxe6 9.Ke8 Ra2 10.f8S+ draws

[HH: the original version with bRa1 instead of bRe2 proved unsound. See HHdbV#04201. The author published this correction in *StrateGems* no. 68 x-xii2014].

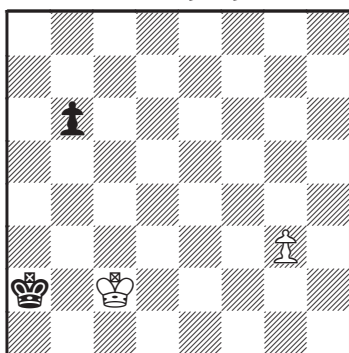
So if this is no systematic manoeuvre, what would be one by my definition? How about this? A *systematic manoeuvre* is a manoeuvre that repeatedly includes the same pieces reaching

(6) Quote from EG#5751, EG81, p. 502

the same geometrical pattern on different places on the board. Promotions and captures may be part of such manoeuvres, as long as none of the thematic pieces are captured. Unfortunately, I don't have my *Encyclopedia of Chess Problems* at hand, so I can't look up the exact definition there [HH: Systematic Movement: Play of two or more pieces in more-movers, or more often in endgame studies, with a recurring pattern of their layout, homogeneity and motivation of their interaction], but my definition here should come close. The study by Gurgenzidze & Kalandadze shown in this column in EG200 is one of the few where a pawn promotion is an integral part of such a manoeuvre.

Now, after putting all the components together and having evaluated what a systematic manoeuvre is, let us end on a high note. There is a very famous systematic manoeuvre, best-known from the Saavedra study, that includes rook and king only. Dvoretzky called it the "escalator"⁽⁷⁾ in the German translation of his endgame manual. I very much love what Richard Becker made of it, but Gurgenzidze went even more crazy (EG#2199). In the Saavedra, however, the rook turned into a pawn. But would it be possible to have a systematic manoeuvre only with kings and pawns? Well, the grandmaster of pawn endgames should know...

H.7 Nikolay Dmitrievich Grigoriev
Isvestia 15ii1928

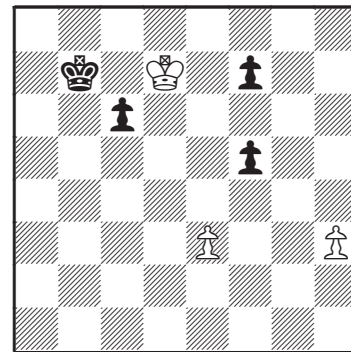


c2a2 0000.11 2/2 Win

1.Kc3! Ka3 2.Kc4! Ka4 3.g4 b5+ 4.Kd3!! Ka3
5.g5 b4 6.g6 b3 7.g7 b2 8.Kc2 Ka2 9.g8Q+ wins.

Well, we see some basics of that manoeuvre here, but look what Gurgenzidze did with this seed.

H.8 David Gurgenzidze
Shakhmaty v SSSR 1971



d7b7 0000.23 3/4 Win

1.Kd6 Kb6 2.h4 c5 3.Kd5 Kb5 4.h5 c4 5.Kd4
Kb4 6.h6 c3 7.Kd3 Kb3 8.h7 c2 9.Kd2 Kb2
10.h8Q+ wins.

It is said that any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic. With the advent of electricity this became true, and then successively with each major invention. From my youth I remember portable displays with more than two colours being miraculous to the point where one assumed them to be an April Fool's joke. Today we have pocket-sized computers ("tablets") where you can send e-mails, telephone, watch videos, browse the internet and even play video games. But wouldn't the same conjecture need to hold up also for chess studies? Or for art in general? For our ancestors, the first allumwandlung was a work of magic. Today we can appreciate tens of thousands of studies, hundreds of thousands of problems of all genres, and some of them indeed are indistinguishable... from magic. For me the Saavedra is magic, but it doesn't mean that works with clever use of the chess board like the ones above are necessarily less magical to me...

Reactions

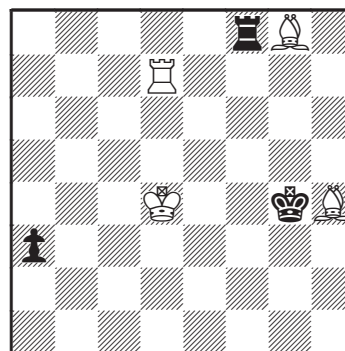
Regarding S.9 in EG202, p.261, Timothy Whitworth points out the earlier study by Dmitry Petrov. I had seen that study before,

(7) German: "Rolltreppe"

but when writing the article didn't remember whether it was exactly the same scheme. I agree with Mr. Whitworth that "Kalandadze was surely giving Petrov's play a twist to create something different."

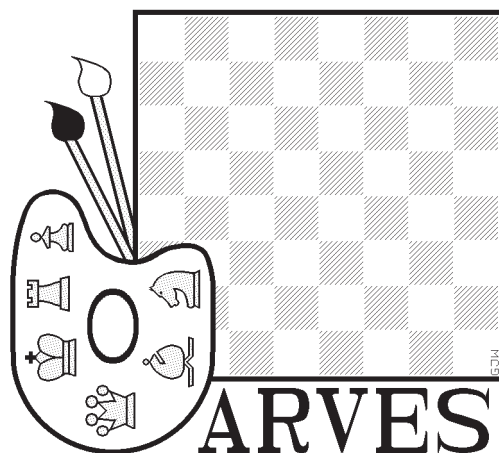
1.Rd8! a2! 2.Bxa2 Rf4+, etc.

H.9 Dmitry Petrov
1st prize Chigorin MT 1958
(*Bulletin CCC USSR*)

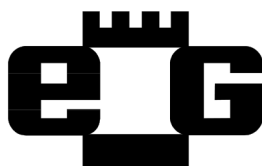


d4g4 o4z2o.01 4/3 Win

NEW!



please visit www.arves.org!



Computer News

Chess Engines for free

BY EMIL VLASÁK

Our colleague Siegfried Hornecker was due to be hospitalized for some time and he wanted me to list appropriate free engines that can be legally installed on a hospital computer. I conducted some research to refresh my memory and to find out what's new in this field and I realized that the current situation is very favourable. Maybe the matter will also be interesting to other readers of EG.

Sources

1) A well known TCEC tournament [1] is today one of the best sources available. Here is the result of Season 8, final stage, played in October 2015. Elo/Elo performance and score are given. 1. Komodo 9.2: 3222/3239 20.5, 2. Stockfish 6: 3224/3189 18.5, 3. Gull 3: 3123/3160 16.5, 4. Houdini 4: 3190/3055 12.5, 5. Hannibal: 2991/3057 11.0, 6. Protector: 3003/3055 11.0.

2) The most famous ELO rating list is Ingo Bauer's IPON [2]. Here is a list of top ten engines. 1. Komodo 9.2: 3212, 2. Stockfish 6: 3174, 3. Houdini 4: 3123, 4. Gull 3: 3076, 5. Equinox 3.30: 2999, 6. Ginkgo 1.3: 2994, 7. Critter 1.6a: 2993, 8. Deep Rybka 4.1: 2960, 9. Protector 1.9.0: 2942, 10. Nirvanachess 2.2: 2919.

Surprisingly you can legally download and use all these engines for free, even though some of them only in older versions.

Komodo, the Champion

Komodo 9.3 is today the world-strongest chess engine. It was written by the US veteran of computer chess Don Dailey (+2013) supported by GM Larry Kaufman; Mark Lefler is the main developer today. Don died in November 2013 and his last version, Komodo

6, is downloadable for free from the Komodo web site [3]. According to the IPON list, the free Komodo 6 with 3064 Elo points is about 150 points below the champion. Just before the deadline for this article, version 7 (plus 50 Elo points over version 6) had become freeware.

Stockfish, Number Two on Rating Lists

Stockfish is number two on all world rating lists but, in the TCEC season 8 superfinal (November 2015), it lost comprehensively to Komodo 2:9 (plus 89 draws). Stockfish was developed by Tord Romstad, Marco Costalba, and Joona Kiiski. It is now being developed and maintained by the Stockfish community. The engine is distributed under the GNU General Public License, which means it is free even in the newest and strongest version [4]. Stockfish's rating is about 3174 Elo points.

Houdini, the Former Champion

After the development of Rybka was stopped in 2011, Houdini engines written by Robert Houdart dominated the world of chess software for several years. The best one, Houdini 4 published at the end of 2013, is rated 3129. You can download Houdini 1.5 rated 3032 [5] for free.

You can also download a free engine Critter 1.6 by Richard Vida [6], rated 2993. It is very close to Houdini.

Gull, the Best Rybka

The Gull's author Vadim Demichev (Russia) used ideas from Ivanhoe, Ippolit and Strelka, all based on Rybka reverse engineering.

Therefore, Gull seems to be the best Rybka today:-). In the TCEC final Gull led for a long time and nearly knocked Stockfish out of the superfinal. Gull 3.0 is rated 3076 on the IPON list and it is wholly free [7].

Another Fruit/ Rybka/ Robbolito based engine is Protector written by Raimund Heid [8] and it is rated 2941.

If you prefer the original Rybka you can download version 2.32 [9], rated at IPON 2800 points, for free. The best Rybka 4 is rated 2974. More details about Rybka can be found in the next chapter about Fritz 15.

New generation

There are several free engines which can be characterized as a new generation. They are written in a modern way based on Rybka know-how and their strength is therefore obviously high. A good starting point to find and download them is [10].

Hannibal (2861) [11] written by Sam Hamilton and Edsel Apostol is based on Twisted Logic from 2005. Thomas Kolarik started the NirvanaChess (2919) in 2013. Equinox (2999), written by Giancarlo Delli Colli and many others, was first published in 2014. Ginkgo (2994) was written by Frank Schneider; its development, based on an older engine Anaconda, started in 2014.

Is Fritz 15 Rybka 5? The Rybka story in a nutshell

Vass Rajlich (born in 1971 in the USA to Czech parents) is a star chess programmer. In 2005 his chess engine Rybka suddenly emerged from nowhere and literally swept all competition. A successful series followed: Rybka 2 (2006), Rybka 3 (2008), Rybka 4 (2010) and Rybka 4.1 (2011). Rybka won four consecutive World Computer Chess Championships from 2007 to 2010.

The next product was the Rybka cluster (since 2011), a powerful parallel system with 296 physical Intel cores. This cluster was (or

still is?) rented to grandmasters; details and prices are kept strictly secret.

The speed of Rybka's start-up without any natural evolution or tournament experience was suspicious from the beginning. In June 2011 the ICGA (International Computer Games Association) concluded that Rybka had been plagiarized from both the Crafty and the Fruit chess engines and Rajlich was stripped of all his titles. However, in 2014 the FIDE Ethics Commission examined this judgment and cancelled his lifetime [12].

Lacking further development, Rybka quickly became overtaken by new engines, some probably partly derived from it. In December 2012 the Houdini 3 engine running on usual 16 core server beat the Rybka cluster convincingly. Houdini development was probably complete with version 4 in 2013. Today's best engines are the commercial Komodo and open source project Stockfish.

Fritz 15

The Fritz package is a beloved well-advertised product from the well-known ChessBase Company. The Fritz engine was never the world's best one but it fulfills relatively well ChessBase's official business strategy of keeping up near the top albeit with a slight gap. Fritz 3 even won the World Computer Chess Championship in Hong Kong in 1995, surprisingly beating a prototype version of Deep Blue. Fritz 1-13 engines were written by Frans Morsch (Netherlands) and later versions were developed with the co-operation of Mathias Feist (Germany). In 2013 Frans retired and the Deep Fritz 14 engine was written by Gyula Horváth (Hungary). In the summer of 2015 a surprising announcement was made claiming that the author of the new Fritz 15 engine would be Vass Rajlich himself. This eagerly awaited package was published on November 25, 2015. And what is the result?

From the perspective of ChessBase everything is OK, the new Fritz 15 being 103 Elo points above Fritz 14, but Rajlich suffered

another blow to his controversial reputation because Fritz 15 is only 35 Elo points above Rybka 4.1. It seems that Rajlich sold ChessBase only old results and developments and did not even bother to implement Syzygy support and bishop underpromotion.

The answer is also clear: Fritz 15 is not Rybka 5, it is Rybka 4.2. Not a good buy for chess analysis!

EGTB online

EGTB online services have similar concept. Using mouse or by importing FEN string you can set up an EGTB position on the monitor and the service returns a list of evaluated moves.

Let's briefly mention the existing services:

1. Nalimov online [13]. This site includes 6-man positions and access is fully free.
2. Lomonosov online [14]. Lomonosov bases are the only possibility worldwide to test 7-man positions but, unfortunately, access requires paid registration, which costs EUR 17 a year. I am frequently asked the question how to order this service, the answer is [15].



Lomonosov: BBN vs BN

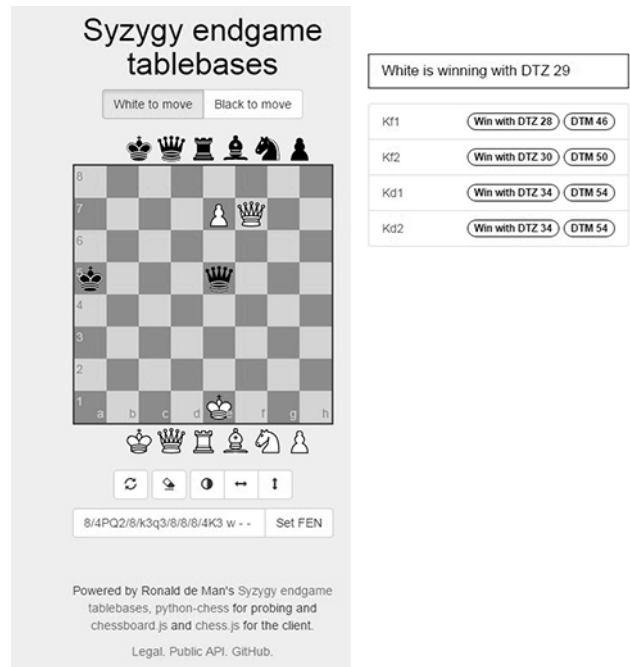


Lomonosov: BBN vs BB

New: Syzygy online

There is an interesting new online free service with Syzygy bases including 6-man positions [16]. Its author Niklas Fiekas (Germany) also offers an interface for net programmers. This service seems very nice and user friendly. In addition, for 5-man positions you get both DTM metric (distance to mate) and DTZ metric (distance to zeroing move), remembering that the DTZ metric allows taking into account the 50 move rule, too.

Guy Haworth discovered some problems here; maybe it is a topic for future columns.



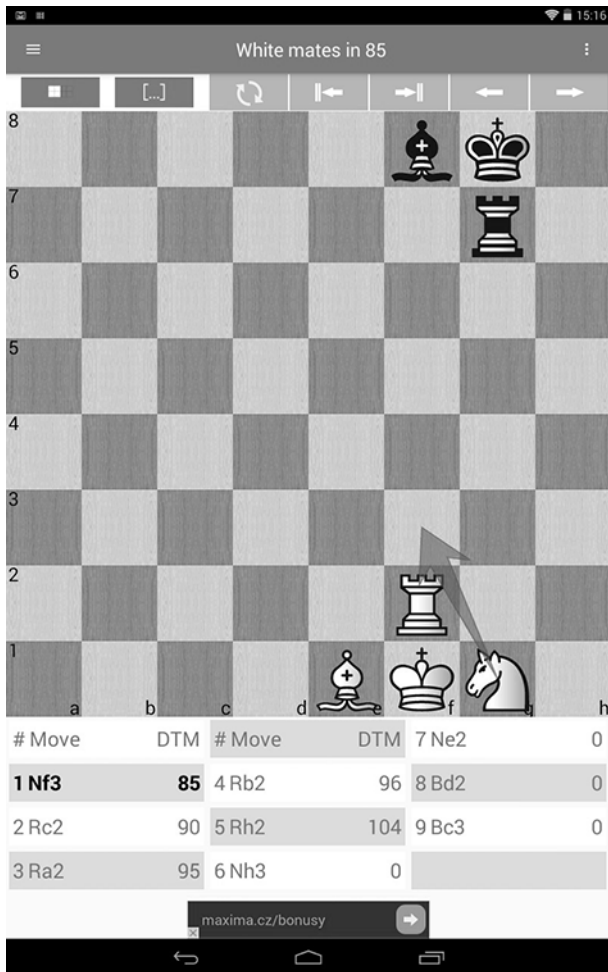
Syzygy Online

New: 7-man for free

Surprisingly it is now possible to access the Lomonosov 7-man database for free but only with advertising and only from an Android device. The Android operational system has been described in detail in my previous column in EG202.

Go to Google Play, find and install application named 7-piece chess endgame. It is not as nice as the web version, but useful.

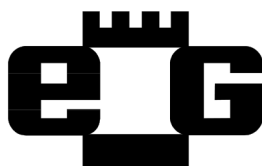
And if you do not have Android, you can try emulators. For example, BlueStacks software seems to work, but don't ask for my support:-).



7-men for free on an Android device

Links

- [1] <http://tcec.chessdom.com/> TCEC (Top Chess Engine Championship) is a computer chess tournament organized and maintained by Chessdom in cooperation with Chessdom Arena.
- [2] <http://www.inwoba.de/> IPON Rating list, Ingo Bauer.
- [3] <http://komodochess.com/downloads.htm> Komodo, the world-strongest chess engine.
- [4] <http://stockfishchess.org/> Stockfish. Number two on world rating lists.
- [5] <http://www.cruxis.com/chess/houdini.htm> Houdini, world-strongest in 2011-2013.
- [6] <http://www.vlasak.biz/critter/> Critter, Houdini clone.
- [7] <http://sourceforge.net/projects/gullchess/> Gull Chess, the best Rybka clone.
- [8] <http://sourceforge.net/projects/protector/> Protector.
- [9] <http://www.rybkachess.com/> Rybka Chess.
- [10] <https://chessprogramming.wikispaces.com/Engines> A good start point for new chess engines.
- [11] <https://sites.google.com/site/edapostol/hannibal> Hannibal.
- [12] <https://chessprogramming.wikispaces.com/Rybka+Controversy> Rybka Controversy.
- [13] <http://www.k4it.de/index.php?topic=egtb> Nalimov online
- [14] <http://tb7.chessok.com/> Lomonosov online.
- [15] http://chessok.com/shop/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=638 Buying a license to Lomonosov.
- [16] <https://syzygy-tables.info/> Syzygy online.



History

Study tours from the past: *Tidskrift för Schack* 1910 (part one)

BY ALAIN PALLIER

Over recent years, the Swedish Chess Federation team has put online most of the old issues of *Tidskrift för Schack*, the well-known Swedish magazine. At the time of writing this article (October 2015), all years were available, with the exception of 1895-1902. This is of major interest for lovers of the study art: for instance, for many years, Alexander Hildebrand ran an interesting study column in which he expanded his views, often in a non-diplomatic way. But, for this first article about the Swedish magazine, let us start (more or less) at the beginning.

The magazine was first published under the name of *Tidsskrift for Skak*: readers who know Nordic languages will immediately recognize Danish and not Swedish. The explanation is that the magazine was founded in Copenhagen in 1895 (with a proof-number in November 1894), as the organ of the Copenhagen Chess Association. During its first year, it was published weekly but later it became a monthly publication, at least theoretically since on many occasions double issues or even triple issues were published. Quickly, Martin Anderson, from Sweden, suggested the founding of a Nordic Chess Federation, was eventually founded in 1899. Naturally, the magazine became the organ of the new Federation, with articles in Swedish, Danish and Norwegian. It was decided at the Goteborg congress (1901) that the magazine would pass into Swedish hands and, in 1902, Ludvig Collijn became the new editor, with the assistance of his brother Gustav. Some time later, in July 1904, a new chess magazine was created in Denmark, *Skakbladet*, with Jesper Jespersen as its problem editor. *Tidskrift för Schack* remained the official organ of the Nordic Chess Federation until 1922.

The magazine owes a lot to the Collijn brothers. Ludvig Collijn (1878-1939) was the great

man of Swedish chess: with his brother Gustav (1880-1968), a man of the theatre, he was the patron of chess in Sweden for nearly 40 years. They jointly wrote the famous *Lärobok i Schack* (Textbook of Chess) that was the principal reference book for Nordic players and others. Its fourth edition of 1921 had famous collaborators such as Rudolf Spielmann, Aaron Nimzovich, Richard Réti and Alexei Selezniev. Ludvig Collijn exercised several important functions: he was the irremovable Chairman of the Swedish Chess Federation, from its creation till his death just before WWII (1917-1939). L. Collijn composed some problems and sometimes acted as a judge in problem tournaments but, as far as I know, he composed no studies.

From the very first years, the composition section took a significant place in the young magazine, as in many chess magazines at the time. Fritz Englund (1871-1933) was its first problem editor, followed or helped by Johan August Ros (1864-1937). But the figures speak for themselves: by January 1910, 4053 problems with diagrams had already been published in *TfS* since 1895 (of course, not all these problems were original, since awards of other tournaments were also reproduced in the column, but a large majority of them were published for first time) and only 86 studies had been published or reproduced in the magazine. And even then some of these 'studies' were not studies in the modern sense of the term. Informal problem tournaments were regularly set (half-year tournaments in general), with participation of the great names of composition.

Alexei Troitzky was the first composer who regularly sent studies, from 1908 on. Since his return to composing in 1906, the Russian composer sent the largest part of his studies to the *Deutsche Schachzeitung*, the German

newspaper *Bohemia* (Prague) and the Russian magazines *Shakhmatnoye Obozrenye* and *Niva*, *Tidskrift för Schack* was one of the rare publications that welcomed works by the composer from Sankt-Petersburg. In 1909, he was the only composer to supply the column with original studies.

A study tourney was announced in the composition section of the magazine in January 1910, in two languages (Swedish and German), at the same time as problem tourneys. There was no mention of any judge: in *Tidskrift för Schack*, at the time, most of the articles were unsigned, excepted those written by contributors like Jesper Jespersen or Alain C. White – no name of any judge was announced for informal tourneys. Judge's names were announced only in the case of formal tourneys: e.g., in 1909, an international tourney for 4-movers was judged by J. Ros, L. Collijn and F. Englund. We can only guess that these three probably acted as judges for the study tourney.

27 original studies, sent by 11 composers from 6 countries, were published between the April and the December 1910 issues. Alexei Troitzky was the main contributor, with no fewer than 10 studies. The Platov brothers (2 studies) and Lazar Borisovich Zalkind (1 study) complemented the Russian force. Two Swedish composers from Ystad took part: Ernst Holm (1879-1941), with 4 studies and Gustaf Ling (1887-1952), with 1. Johann Berger (1845-1933) from Austria was the oldest participant (3 studies) and Franz Sackmann (1888-1927) from München also took part with 3 studies.

We find three composers with 1 study, veterans Jesper Jespersen (1848-1914) and Konrad Erlin (1856-1944) from Vienna and Arthur Daniel (1878-1955), from South Wales. Rinck did not participate and also did not in the *Rigaer Tageblatt* 1909 tourney; another noticeable absentee was Leonid Kubbel - but he took part in other informal tourneys of *TfS* the same year (he received a third prize in the four-movers section and a second prize in the selfmate section).

Eight studies made it in the very short award (there were no comments at all about the selected works).

1st prize: no. 87 A. Troitzky

2nd prize: no. 107 J.N. Berger

3rd prize: no. 109 L. Zalkind

Honourable mentions:

E. Holm (no. 93)

A. Troitzky (no. 96)

Fr. Sackmann (no. 98)

A. Troitzky (no. 106)

V. and M. Platov (no. 116)

After the 1910 tourney, the publishing of original studies suddenly stopped but it resumed in January-February 1916. In the same year, Ernst Holm started a new study column (*Slutspels och studienytt*), now separated from the '*Från Schackvärlden*' column, and he began publication of a series of long articles written by himself (*Ur studiernas och slutspelens rike*) in which he presented the evolution of the art of composing from the beginning until the 1910s. Troitzky was back in the October-November 1916 issue, with three original studies (the same year, many original studies by Troitzky were published in another Swedish publication, *Es-kilstuna Kuriren*).

Holm invited composers to express their views on the 'modern' study: in January 1917 part four of *Ur Studiernas och Slutspelens rike* was comprised three contributions by J. Berger, L. Zalkind and Otto Dehler. In the April-May 1917 issue, having lost touch with Russian composers, Holm tried to approach them through the magazine, in... French (with some mistakes but these lines show that Holm had a good level of French, if he himself wrote them).

Here is his message for Troitzky:

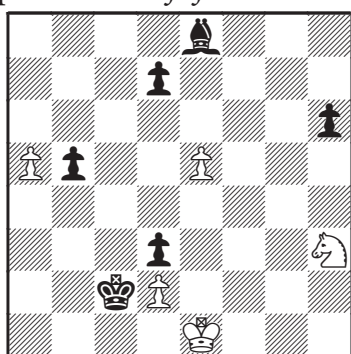
'Comme il s'est montré impossible, par les temps actuels, de me mettre en rapport avec vous par correspondance, je vous fais par là mes remerciements les plus empressés pour vos belles études inédites au *Tidskrift för Schack*. Je serais très charmé si vous voudriez bien contribuer à une enquête au sujet de l'étude moderne dans le *TfS*.' ('As it proved impossible, at

the present time, to correspond with you, I promptly thank you for your nice original studies sent to *TfS*. I would be charmed if you could contribute to an inquiry about the modern study in *TfS*.)

Nobody knows what could have been Troitzky's contribution had he received Holm's message. In 1919, unfortunately, Ernst Holm had to retire for health reasons and also because of an overload of work. In the following years, *TfS* published many original studies (among which were numerous works by Alexei Selezniev) but again, that ceased in 1924 for some years. In the August 1923 issue, we see two studies by Troitzky that are were wrongly presented as original (one had been already published in the *Chess Amateur* in 1917 and the other one in... *TfS* in 1910!).

Here is the winner of the contest:

P.1 A. Troitzky
1st prize *Tidskrift för Schack* 1910



e1c2 0031.34 5/6 Win

1.a6 Bg6 (1...b4 2.a7 b3 3.a8Q wins) **2.Sf2 Bh5 3.e6! dxe6 4.Sg4! Bxg4 5.Kf2 Kxd2 6.a7 Kc2 7.a8Q wins, or 5...Bh3 6.Ke(f)3 wins.**

This study is rarely reproduced or quoted but this is quite understandable: it is not a masterpiece and it lacks a neat end. Holm did not select it in part III of his article *Ur Studiernas och Slutspelens rike* (*TfS* 10-11 1916), in which he presented many prize-winners of the 1901-1914 period.

Until recently I thought that it was the first time that Troitzky had won a first prize in a tourney but that was incorrect: I eventually remembered that Timothy Whitworth had sent

me, years ago, a set of photocopies of the *Niva* chess column (1909-1911) and I checked them. The *Tidskrift för Schack* award was published in the February-March 1911 issue when the award of the 1910 study tourney of the Russian magazine *Niva* had been published in the February 1911 issue but it was probably printed before (by the way, it is quite extraordinary, in a time where study tourneys were a rarity, that another award was released some days earlier, in January, on 22 January 1910: it was the award of the *Shakhmatnoye Obozrenye* tourney, published in German in the *Deutsches Wochenshach* after the collapse of the Russian magazine in 1910).

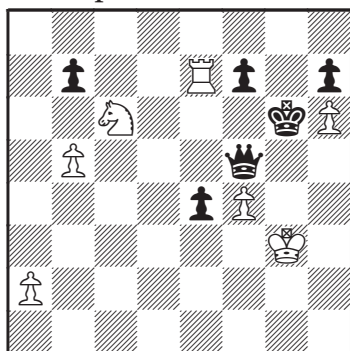
I would like to digress for a moment: *Niva*, an illustrated magazine, was the most popular Russian magazine in the pre-revolutionary years. With a circulation of more than 200,000, it was read by many families of the middle-class even if was often mocked by the intelligentsia. Serial fiction, by known Russian writers, accounts of events in Russia or abroad and ethnographic essays were its main features and there was a chess column run by Evgeny Znosko-Borowsky (1884-1954), who wrote also for the newspaper *Novoye Vremya*. In 1909, original studies (by Russian composers only) began to be published in *Niva* but only 3, one by Lazar Zalkind and two by Leonid Kubbel and Zalkind got a prize. In 1910 a dozen originals were published, all except one composed by Troitzky, Zalkind and Kubbel. Here is the full award, with prizes only:

- 1st prize: A.A. Troitzky
- 2nd prize: L.I. Kubbel
- 3rd prize: A.A. Troitzky

It follows that this must be considered as a national tourney and Troitzky's prize-winner in the *TfS* 1910 tourney was his first prize in an international contest.

Here is Troitzky's first prize (another coincidence: it was published in *Niva* in April 1910, the same month as his *Tidskrift för Schack* prize-winner!), a typical domination study in which wR harasses a bQ:

P.2 A. Troitzky
1st prize *Niva* 1910



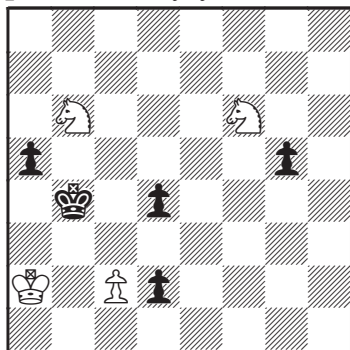
g3g6 3101.44 7/6 Win

1.**Re5!** Qd7 2.**Rd5** Qc7 (2...Qe8 3.Ra8 Qe6 4.f5+ wins) 3.**Rd7** Qb6 4.**Se7+ Kh5** 5.**Rd5+ Kh6** 6.**Rd6+!** Qxd6 7.**Sf5+** wins.

Troitzky had to wait no less than 16 years until 1927 before seeing another one of his studies rewarded by a first prize, for a study rewarded in the *Shakhmaty 1926-II* tourney. I now close this parenthesis.

J.N. Berger was considered as the greatest theoretician of his time, author of many books on the endgame (his *Theorie and Praxis der Endspiele*, first edition in 1890, was the standard work for decades); he also wrote a lot about problems. Berger rarely took part in study tourneys but each time he did, he got good results. Maybe he was too old to keep enough energy for high level composing.

P.3 Johan Nepomuk Berger
2nd prize *Tidskrift för Schack* 1910

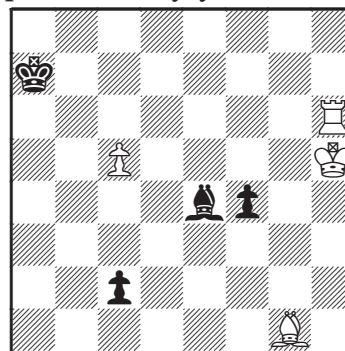


a2b4 0002.14 4/5 Draw

1.**Sa4!!** Kxa4 2.**Se4!** d1Q 3.**Sc3+** dxc3 stalemate, or 1...d1Q 2.**Sd5+** Kxa4 3.**Sc3+** dxc3 stalemate.

The third prize went to Lazar Zalkind, a newcomer in the study world since he composed his first studies in 1909.

P.4 Lazar Zalkind
3rd prize *Tidskrift för Schack* 1910



h5a7 0104.12 4/4 Draw

1.**c6+** Kb8 2.**Rh8+** Kc7 3.**Rh7+** Kxc6 4.**Rc7+** Kxc7 5.**Bh2** c1Q 6.**Bxf4+** Qxf4 stalemate.

Unfortunately, the stalemate combination is not the only way to draw: one century later, Mario Garcia has found a second solution that runs as follows:

1.c6 Kb8 2.**Bb6!** Bf5 3.c7+ Kb7 4.Kg5 c1Q 5.Kf5 f3 6.Rh8 f2 7.Rb8 Ka6 8.Bf2 Qc7 9.Rb6 Qa5 10.Bd4 and draw.

(to be continued)

References

For old issues of *Tidskrift för Schack*, see the website of Swedish Chess Federation: www.schack.se/tfs/tfs-arkivet

Special thanks to Timothy Whitworth.

Reviews

JOHN ROYCROFT

Chess Craze Bad, Harrie Grondijs. 2015. No ISBN. In English. 108+148 pages, but no indexes. 35 signed and numbered hardback copies.

Everything about this book is typical of Harrie, meaning that one doesn't know where to start. It's two volumes in one, with a third to come, Harrie referring to this format as '1st Tome' and '2nd Tome'. Volume I is 'The life of W.H.Russ aka W.R.Henry', consistently referred to by Harrie as 'Russ'. Volume II collects the chess output of Russ, and Volume III will deliver a selection of Russ' correspondence.

Russ was an American who initiated the thousand-diagram anthology *American Chess Nuts*, or *ACN*. Russ committed suicide in 1866, two years before *ACN* was published. Now a genuine antiquarian copy (practically unobtainable) of *ACN* is a gold-edged leatherbound tome weighing a kilogram and running to 630 pages plus errata list. Published on a subscription basis, its final appearance was due to the herculean efforts of E.B.Cook and C.A.Gilberg, though G.N.Cheney, killed in 1861 at the start of the American Civil War, played a part. As far as studies are concerned there are 12 wins and 22 draws. In 2015 *ACN* has just been reprinted as a classic paperback.

Why Harrie chose to research and record the life of a sufferer from what we would now call bipolar disorder who died 150 years ago only Harrie knows – the '150', perhaps? The chief interest will surely be for the historian of psychological medicine. Occasional references to personalities on the fringe of studies – Sam Loyd, Reichhelm, Teed, Chapais – will scarcely attract sales, but then Harrie, as we know him, cares

not a whit for sales. Wait a moment, though: Chapais. We are promised a Chapais revelation in '2nd Tome'. Might that shed light on a long held conjecture of mine, namely that Chapais' disappearance from history is explained by his emigration to Canada and being related to the Chapais family subsequently prominent in Canadian politics and perpetuated in the Quebec town of that name?

The book under review is richly illustrated and produced – Harrie is a master of the visual. Marring here and there by an error of spelling, punctuation or grammar is a shame. There is also the odd editorial or proof-correcting oversight, for instance where 'stove-pipe' (hat) appears as 'store-pipe'.

Erwin Voellmy, Paul Müller-Breil. 2005. 92 pages. Ed. Richard Forster, following Müller-Breil's death in 2004. In German. Illustrated, tables, etc. ISBN 3-033-00351-6.

Voellmy, the Swiss master and journalist, composed only three known studies, one a curiosity – possibly unique – featuring a pair of like bishops for each side. Following his death in 1951 his known liking for and expertise in studies prompted an international tourney in his memory. Judged by composers Peter Leepin and Samuel Isenegger, all nine in the tourney award are reproduced. As well as reminiscences, over a hundred of Voellmy's games, many annotated and with diagrams, are included, but for me the real attraction is some fifteen lifelike woodcut likenesses carved by Voellmy himself: they include Mattison and Em. Lasker, though not Chéron, who nevertheless appears in two tournament tables.

EG 50 AT 2016

Tourney director Mario Garcia (Argentina) received only 27 studies for our anniversary tourney. The good news is that the quality level was quite high with no fewer than 18 studies well deserving a distinction (most of you will know that I am against the policy of some judges to include almost every sound study in their awards).

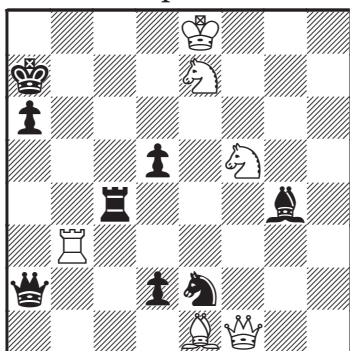
The announcement requested in particular that composers submit an artistic presentation as well as an analytical version, if necessary. This was done for about half of the submissions. One of the composers who overlooked this request supplied a horrible computer dump and after several attempts I decided to stop trying to find if something interesting was hidden in it.

However, as said above, the overall quality level was quite high, with the first two prize winners clearly standing out. I am certain that some of the HM's and commendations would qualify as prize-winning studies in other tourneys. We are grateful that so many composers undertook to send one of their best studies to this anniversary tourney.

This is a provisional award. Please send your claims (about soundness and anticipations) to the tourney director before March 1st 2016.

Harold van der Heijden, FIDE judge for endgame studies

No 20487 O. Pervakov
1st prize



d8a7 4445.03 6/8 Draw

No 20487 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Qf2+/i d4/ii 2.Sc6+/iii Rxc6 3.Sxd4 Bd7+/iv 4.Kxd7/v d1Q/vi 5.Bd2/vii Qaxd2 6.Kxc6, and:

- Qh6+ 7.Se6+ Sd4+ 8.Qxd4+ Qxd4 9.Rb7+ Ka8 10.Rb8+ Kxb8 stalemate, or:
- Q1c1+ 7.Sc2+ Sd4+ 8.Qxd4+ Qxd4 9.Rb7+ Ka8 10.Rb8+ Kxb8 stalemate, or:
- Qh1+ 7.Sf3+ Sd4+/viii 8.Qxd4+ Qxd4 9.Rb7+ Ka8 10.Rb8+ Kxb8 stalemate.

i) 1.Bf2+? Ka8 2.Rb6 Qa4+ 3.Kd8 Bxf5 4.Sxf5 Sd4 5.Bxd4 d1Q 6.Qf4 Rc8+ 7.Kxc8 Qe8+ 8.Kc7 Qc2+ 9.Kd6 Qcc8 10.Kxd5 Qg8+ 11.Ke4 Qc2+ 12.Ke5 Qc7+ 13.Ke4 Qg2+ 14.Qf3 Qcc2+ 15.Ke3+ Qxf3+ 16.Kxf3 Qxf5+ wins.

ii) Ka8 2.Rb8+ Kxb8 3.Qb6+ draws.

iii) 2.Sxd4? Bd7+ 3.Kxd7 Rxd4+ 4.Ke8 Qxb3 5.Bxd2 Qb5+ 6.Kf7 Qc4+ 7.Kf8 Kb8 wins.

iv) Counter play! If Bh5+ (Sxd4; Qf7+) 4.Ke7 Sxd4 5.Qxd4+ Ka8 6.Qh8+ and White wins.

v) 4.Ke7? Sxd4 5.Qxd4+ Ka8 6.Qh8+ Bc8 wins.

vi) After 5...d1R White builds a new battery 5.Qf7.

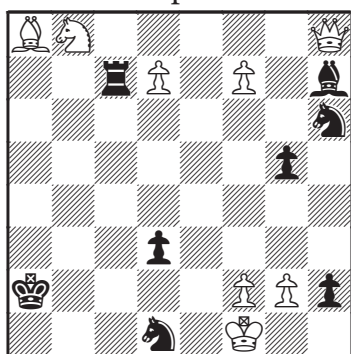
vii) Echo-sacrifice. 5.Kxc6? (Qf7? Qaxb3;) Sxd4+ 6.Qxd4+ Qxd4 and no stalemate, which explains why White must sacrifice its bishop.

viii) Qd4 8.Rb7+ Ka8 9.Rb8+ Kxb8 10.Qg3+ Sxg3 stalemate.

“This is the best study of the tourney. There are three main lines ending in a midboard mirror stalemate, with a wS either pinned diagonally, vertically or horizontally! Only a recent study by Krug (HHdbV#02028) comes near with three knights being simultaneously pinned in a mirror stalemate position with the wK cornered, and a study by Sarychev (EG#03369) with three stalemates in different lines, but also with wK cornered and one of the stalemates is not a mirror stalemate. The main lines in the present study are much better. After the introduction (I do not like the “try” very

much), Black counters with a bishop sacrifice: 3...Bd7+! which White must accept. As a result the wS is pinned after the queen promotion and cannot capture on c6. But White returns the honours with an echo sacrifice 5.Bd2!! getting rid of the bishop. Black, having two queens, has three relevant checks and each one is countered by a self-pinning discovered check of the wS ending in stalemate”.

No 20488 G. Tallaksen Østmoe
2nd prize



f1a2 1347.43 8/8 Draw

No 20488 Geir Tallaksen Østmoe (Norway). 1.Bd5+/i Kb1 2.g4 Se3+ 3.fxe3 Rc1+ 4.Kf2 Sxg4+ 5.Kg3 Rg1+ 6.Kh3 Be4 7.Qa1+/ii Kxa1 8.Bxe4 h1Q+ 9.Bxh1 Rxh1+ 10.Kxg4 Rh8 11.Sc6 d2 12.d8Q Rxd8 13.Sxd8 d1Q+ 14.Kxg5 Qxd8+ 15.Kg6 Kb2 16.e4 Kc3 17.e5 Qf8 18.e6 Kd4 19.e7 Qxe7 20.Kg7 Ke5 21.Kg8 draws.

i) Logical try: 1.g4? Se3+ 2.fxe3 Rc1+ 3.Kf2 Sxg4+ 4.Kg3 Rg1+ 5.Kh3 Be4 6.Bxe4 h1Q+ 7.Bxh1 Rxh1+ 8.Kxg4 Rxh8 9.Sc6 d2 10.d8Q Rxd8 11.Sxd8 d1Q+ 12.Kxg5 Qxd8+ 13.Kg6 Kb3 (or Qf8) 14.e4 Kc4 (or Qf8) 15.e5 Qf8 16.e6 Kd5 (or Kc5) 17.e7 Qxe7 18.Kg7 Ke6 wins.

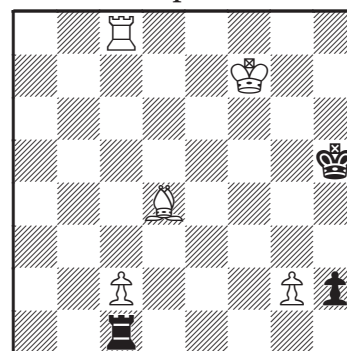
ii) Logical try: 7.Bxe4? h1Q+ 8.Bxh1 Rxh1+ 9.Kxg4 Rxh8 10.Sc6 d2 11.d8Q Rxd8 12.Sxd8 d1Q+ 13.Kxg5 Qxd8+ 14.Kg6 Kc2 (or Qf8) 15.e4 Kd3 (or Qf8) 16.e5 Qf8 17.e6 Ke4 18.e7 Qxe7 19.Kg7 Kf5 20.Kg8 Kg6 wins.

“This is a truly marvellous study which becomes better and better when you begin to understand what is going on. The point is that the main line and both tries end with a Q vs. P ending, with the bK diagonally approaching d5 or f5 in the tries, but e5 in the solution, which is a well-known theoretical draw. Ok, nice, but

then we see that the key move is already a surprise, forcing the bK to the right square (a2). Then there is a tactical intermezzo until move 6...Be4. What follows next is a queen sacrifice coming out of the blue: 7.Qa1+!! The amusing thing is that it is not really a queen sacrifice as the wQ would also be lost when White falls into the thematic try 7.Bxe4? because after another tactical intermezzo Black captures the wQ when he plays his rook to h8 (9...Rxh8). In the solution, Black also has to play 10...Rh8 which is not a capture as the wQ was sacrificed, a brilliant and perhaps new idea! The only difference is that in the solution the bK is at a1, and in the 2nd thematic try at b1!”

“There are some move transposition black duals (Qf8) in both thematic tries, and perhaps a more serious black dual (16...Kc5 17.e7 Qxe7 18.Kg7 Kd6), which is not a true time wasting dual (19.Kg8 Qg5+ 20.Kh7 Ke7) in the 1st thematic try, but I accept it as a minor dual”.

No 20489 R. Becker
3rd prize



f7h5 3110.21 5/3 Win

No 20489 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bf6/i Rxc2/ii 2.Rxc2 h1Q 3.Rc4 Qh2/iii 4.Be7/iv Qh1/v 5.Rf4 Qh2 6.Ra4 Qh1 7.Bf6 Qh2 8.g4+ Kh6 9.g5+ Kh5 10.g6 Qc7+ 11.Be7 wins.

i) The most obvious move is a try: 1.Rh8+? Kg4 2.Rxh2 Rxc2 positional draw. 1.Rg8? Rxc2 2.Bf6/vi Rxg2 3.Rxg2 h1Q 4.Rg5+ Kh6 5.Rg6+ Kh5 draws.

ii) h1Q 2.Rg8, and now: Qd1 3.g4+ Qxg4 4.Rh8 mate, or here: Rg1 3.g4+ Rxg4 4.Rh8 mate. Or Kg4 2.Rc4+ Kg3 3.Be5+ Kxg2 4.Bxh2 wins.

iii) Qe1 4.g4+ Kh6 5.Rc8 (g5+) wins.

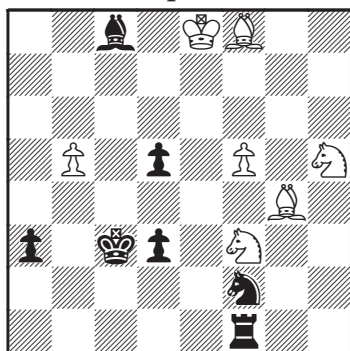
iv) Logical try: 4.g4+? Kh6 5.g5+ Kh5 6.g6 Qa2 pinning wRc4, draws.

v) Qg3 5.Rc5+ Kg4 6.Rg5+ Kf4 7.Bd6+ Kxg5 8.Bxg3 wins.

vi) 2.g4+ Kh4 3.Bf6+ Kh3 draws.

“First, there is a curious positional draw after 1.Rh8? after which White cannot make progress. The play becomes interesting after 3...Qh2. The logical try shows that Black has a nasty pin when White carries out his plan. He uses a precise preparatory manoeuvre (Be7-Rf4-Ra4-Bf6) to move the wRc4 to a4, and now the plan wins. Despite “database” material, the moves are easy to comprehend”.

No 20490 M. Minski
4th prize



e8c3 0355.23 7/7 Draw.

No 20490 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sg3 Re1+ 2.Sxe1 d2 3.Bg7+ d4 4.Bxd4+ Kxd4 5.Sc2+ Kd3 6.Bd1 Sxd1 7.Sxa3 Bd7+/i 8.Kd8/ii, and:

— Sc3 (Sf2) 9.Sc4 Kxc4 (d1Q; Sb2+) 10.Sf1 d1Q 11.Se3+ draws, or:

— Se3 (Sb2) 9.Se4 Kxe4 (d1Q; Sf2+) 10.Sb1 d1Q 11.Sc3+ draws.

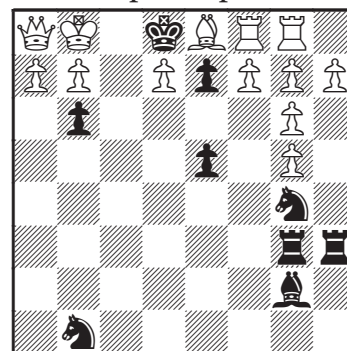
i) Sc3 (Sf2) 8.Sc4 Kxc4 9.Sf1 d1Q 10.Se3+ Kxb5 11.Sxd1 Sxd1 12.f6 draws, or Se3 (Sb2) 8.Se4 Kxe4 9.Sb1 d1Q 10.Sc3+ Kxf5 11.Sxd1 Sxd1 12.Kd8 draws.

ii) 8.Kxd7? Se3 9.Se4 Kxe4 10.Sb1 d1Q+ with check.

“This is a tactical study whose introduction features a bR sacrifice for promotion, a wB sacrifice to prevent the promotion and another wB sacrifice to block the bP. Then the highlight of the study follows: a great bB sacrifice (7... Bd7+!!) followed by a capture refusal (8.Kd8!!). The composer calls this optically nice position

the “EG jubilee tree” which is a nice gesture, but we fail to see a direct connection. The study ends with 4 main lines each with wS sacrifices and forks”.

No 20491 M. Zinar
1st special prize



b8d8 1846.83 13/9 Draw

No 20491 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.h8B/i Rxh8 2.gxh8B/ii Sd2 3.g7 Rh3 4.g6 Rxh8 5.gxh8B/iii Sb3 6.g7 Sd4 stalemate.

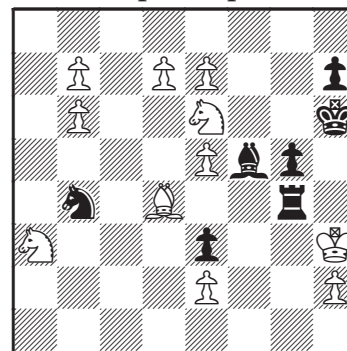
i) 1.h8S? Sh6 2.gxh6 Sc3 3.h7 Rxh7 4.gxh7 Se4 5.Sg6 Sc5 6.h8Q Sa6 mate.

ii) 2.Rxh8? e4 3.g8S/vii e3 4.Sxe7 e2 5.Sc6+ Bxc6 6.Rfg8 e1Q 7.f8Q Qe5+ 8.Qd6 Qxd6 mate.

iii) 5.gxh8Q? Sf3 6.Qh4 Sxh4 7.Rh8 Sf5 8.Rfg8 Sd4 9.f8Q Sc6 mate.

“Apart from a terribly unsound study by Pomogalov (#08083) this is the first study in which three bishop promotions are needed for a draw. However, the play is very limited so, therefore, a special prize is awarded for the new task record”.

No 20492 J. Timman
2nd special prize



h3h6 0345.73 11/7 Draw

No 20492 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.Sg7 Kxg7 2.e6+ Kh6 3.Bg7+ Kxg7 4.e8S+ Kg6

5.Sd6 Bxe6 6.d8S Bd7 7.b8S Sd3 8.exd3 e2 9.Sc2, and:

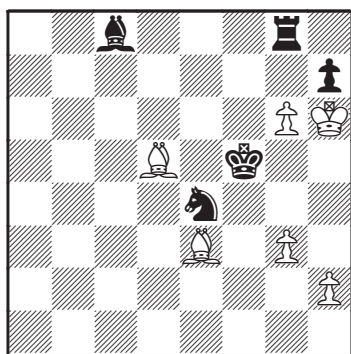
— Ba4 10.Sbc6 (Se1 Rg1;) Rg1 11.Se8 Bxc2 12.Se7+ Kh5 13.Sg7+ Kh6 14.Sgf5+ Kh5 15.Sg7+ positional draw, or:

— Rc4+ 10.Sxd7 Rxc2 11.S8f7 e1Q/i 12.Sfe5+ Kg7 13.Sf5+ Kh8 14.Sf7+ Kg8 15.S7h6+ Kh8 16.Sf7+ positional draw.

i) g4+ 12.Kxg4 h5+ 13.Kf4 e1Q 14.Sfe5+ Kh7 15.Kf5 draws.

“I like the two piece sacrifices on g7 and the three knight promotions for a draw. Initially I curiously overlooked the connection between the two main lines after the S promotions, but the (obvious!) point is that either the bB or the bR captures the wSc2 that stops the bPe2 from promoting”.

No 20493 L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
1st honourable mention



h6f5 0353.31 6/5 Win

No 20493 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.g4+/i Kxg4/ii 2.gxh7 Rg6+ 3.Kxg6 Bf5+ 4.Kg7/iii Bxh7 5.h3+/iv Kxh3/v 6.Be6+ Kh4 7.Kh6 zz (Kxh7? Sg5+;) Sf6 8.Bf2 mate.

i) 1.Bxg8? hxg6 2.Bf7 Kg4 3.Kxg6 Sxg3 4.hxg3 Kxg3 draws.

ii) Ke5 2.Bxg8 hxg6 3.g5 Bf5 4.Bf7 Sd6 5.Bxg6 wins.

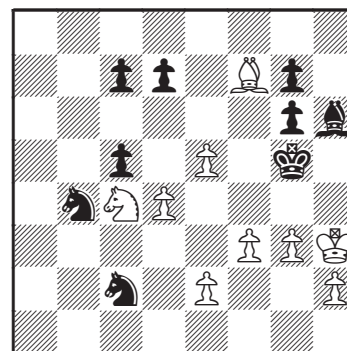
iii) Thematic try: 4.Kh6? Bxh7 5.h3+ Kxh3 6.Be6+ Kh4 zz, draws.

iv) 5.Be6+? (Kxh7? Sf6+;) Bf5 6.h3+ Kf3 7.Bxf5 Sg3 draws.

v) Kg3 6.Be6 Kf3 7.Bh6 wins as the bB is lost.

“This has an introduction with quite a few captures but also with two sacrifices from each side. It is a solid reciprocal zugzwang study with an original zz position and a good try, finishing with a model mate”.

No 20494 O. Pervakov
2nd honourable mention



h3g5 0047.65 9/9 Win

No 20494 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Be8/i Sd5 2.dxc5/ii Sce3 3.c6 dxc6 4.Sxe3 Sxe3 5.Bd7 Kh5/iii 6.Bg4+ Sxg4 7.fxg4+ Kg5 8.e4 zz c5 9.Kg2 Kxg4 10.h3+ Kh5 11.h4 g5/iv 12.e6 Kg6 13.e5 gxh4 14.gxh4 Bf4/v 15.h5+ Kxh5 16.e7 wins.

i) It is too early for pawn moves: 1.dxc5? Sd4 2.Be8 Sxe2 3.Bxd7 Sf4+ 4.gxf4+ Kxf4 5.e6 Bg5 6.Kg2 Be7 7.c6 Sd5 8.Kf2 Bh4+ 9.Ke2 Bf6, or 1.d5? d6 2.f4+ Kf5 3.Sxd6+ cxd6 4.Be6+ Ke4 5.exd6 Sd4 6.d7 Sbc6 7.dxc6 Sxc6 8.Kg4 Sd8 9.Bg8 Ke3 10.Bh7 c4 11.Bxg6 Kxe2 12.Kf5 c3 13.Ke5 Kf3 14.Be4+ Ke3, or 1.e4? Sd3 2.Sb2 Sce1 3.Sxd3 Sxd3 4.Bc4 Sf4+ 5.gxf4+ Kxf4, or 1.f4+? Kf5 2.d5 Bxf4 3.gxf4 Kxf4 4.e6 dxe6 5.dxe6 Sd5 6.Bxg6 Sce3 win.

ii) Logical try: 3.Sxe3? Sxe3 4.Bxd7 Kh5 5.Bg4+ Sxg4 6.fxg4+ Kg5 7.e4/vi c6 zz 8.Kg2 Kxg4 9.h3+ Kh5 10.h4 Be3 11.e6 Bxc5 wins.

iii) Sd5 6.e3 Sxe3 7.f4+ Kh5 8.g4+ Sxg4 9.Bxg4 mate.

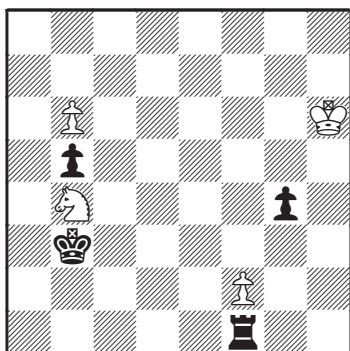
iv) c4 12.e6 c3 13.e7 c2 14.Kh3 c1Q/xvii 15.g4 mate.

v) Bg5 15.hxg5 c4 16.Kf2 wins.

vi) 7.e3 c6 8.e4 stalemate!

“This is a fine study with (full point) reciprocal zugzwang. The excellent sacrifice (3.c6!!) gets on the right side of the zz whereas the more natural move 3.Sxe3? is the logical try. The point is that after 11.h4 the move that refutes the white plan in the thematic try (10... Be3) does not work (11...Be3 12.e6) because the a3-f8 diagonal is blocked”.

No 20495 V. Tarasiuk & V. Samilo
3rd honourable mention



h6b3 o3o1.22 4/4 Win

No 20495 Vladislav Tarasiuk & Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine). 1.b7 g3 2.fxc3/i Rf8 3.Sc6/ii b4 4.Kg7/iii Re8 5.Kf7 Rh8 6.Ke7 Rh7+/iv 7.Kf6/v Rxb7 8.Sa5+ Kc2/vi 9.Sxb7 b3 10.Sa5 b2 11.Sc4 b1S 12.g4 Sc3 13.Ke5 wins.

i) 2.b8Q? gxf2 3.Qg3+ Kxb4 4.Qg4+ Ka5 draws.

ii) Try: 3.Sa6? b4 4.b8Q (Kh7 Rd8;) Rxb8 5.Sxb8 Ka2 6.Sa6 b3 7.Sc5 b2 8.Sa4 b1S 9.g4 Sd2 10.g5 Sf3 11.g6 Sh4 12.g7 Sf5+ draws.

iii) If 4.b8Q?, see note ii).

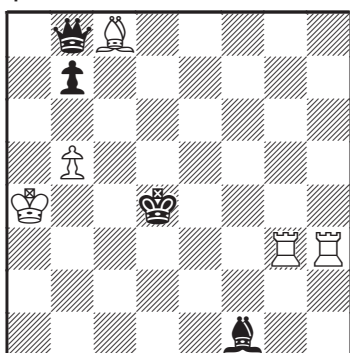
iv) Kc2 7.Sd8 Rh7+ 8.Sf7 wins.

v) 7.Ke6? Rxb7 8.Sa5+ Kc2 9.Sxb7 b3 10.Sa5 b2 11.Sc4 Kd3 12.Sxb2+ Ke4 draws.

vi) Ka2 9.Sxb7 b3 10.Sc5 b2 11.Sa4 wins, e.g. b1S 12.g4.

“The point of the study is the original wK manoeuvre Kg7-Kf7-Ke7-Kf6 before winning the S and P vs S ending. There is a good thematic try 3.Sa6? when a similar ending draws. Both solution and try have a knight promotion”.

No 20496 P. Arestov & A. Skripnik
4th honourable mention



a4d4 3240.11 5/4 Win

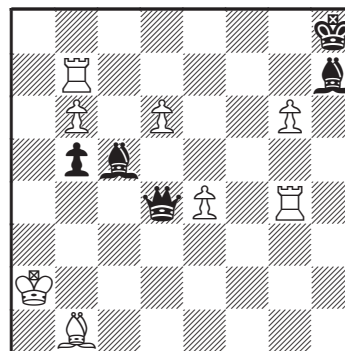
No 20496 Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Rg4+/i Kc5 2.Rh5+ Kb6 3.Rg6+ Ka7 4.b6+ Ka8 5.Ra5+ Ba6 6.Rxa6+ bxa6 7.b7+ Ka7 8.Ka3/ii zz a5 9.Kb3 zz a4+ 10.Ka3 Qc7 (Qf4; Ra6+) 11.Ra6+ Kxa6 (Kb8; Ra8 mate) 12.b8Q+ wins.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rh4+? Kc5 2.Rg5+ Kb6 3.Rh6+ Ka7 4.b6+ Ka8 5.Ra5+ Ba6 6.Rxa6+ bxa6 7.b7+ Ka7 8.Rf6/vii a5 zz 9.Ka3 Qg3+ draws.

ii) 8.Rf6? a5 zz 9.Rc6 Qf4+, or 8.Kb3? a5 zz 9.Ka3 a4 zz 10.Rc6 Qg3+ draws.

“This is a zz study with a natural thematic try. The pattern of the pieces in the top left corner of the board is original”.

No 20497 J. Timman
5th honourable mention



a2h8 3270.41 8/5 Draw

No 20497 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.g7+/i Kg8 2.Rb8+ (Bc2 Qd2;) Kf7 3.Rb7+ Ke6 4.Re7+/ii Kxd6 5.e5+ Kxe7 6.Rxd4 Bg8+ 7.Rc4/iii bxc4/iv 8.b7 c3+ 9.e6 Bxe6+ 10.Ka1 Bd4 (Bd6; Bh7) 11.g8S+ Bxg8 12.b8R/v Bb3/vi 13.Rb4 c2+ 14.Rxd4 c1Q 15.Rd7+ (Re4+ Be6;) Kf6 16.Rf7+ Kg5 17.Rg7+ (Rf5+? Kg4;) Kf4 18.Rf7+/vii Ke5 19.Rf5+ (Re7+? Be6;) Kd6 20.Rd5+ Kc6 21.Rd6+ Kc7 22.Rd7+ Kc8 23.Rd8+ perpetual check or stalemate.

i) 1.Rxh7+? Kg8 2.Rh2 Qc4+ wins.

ii) 4.Rg6+? Ke5 5.Re7+ Kf4 6.Rf7+ Ke3 7.Rg3+ Ke2 8.Rg2+ Ke1 wins.

iii) 7.Kb2? Bxd4+ 8.Ka3 Bc5+ wins.

iv) Bxc4+ 8.Kb2 Bd4+ 9.Ka3 draws.

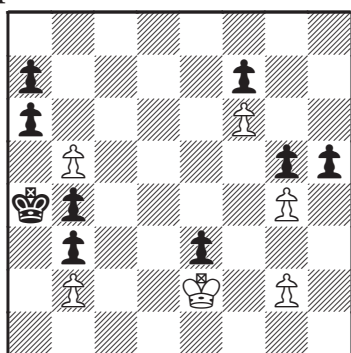
v) 12.b8Q? c2+ 13.Qb2 c1Q wins.

vi) c2+ 13.Rb2 c1Q stalemate or here: c1B 14.Bd3 Bcxb2+ 15.Kb1 positional draw.

vii) 18.Rg4+? Ke5 19.Re4+ Kf6 20.Re6+ Kg5 wins, e.g. 21.Re5+ (Rg6+ Kh5;) Kf4 22.Rf5+ Kg4 or 22.Re4+ Kf3.

“The introduction is a bit too violent to my taste, e.g. with the bQ being captured without having moved. The rest is interesting with S and R promotions in a draw study with good counter play (12...Bb3!) and a rabid rook ending with accurate wR moves. The stalemate is well-known (Maksimovskikh & Shupletsov, #28739) and the study is partly anticipated by a recent one by Minski (#01012), which has the counter move in a win study”.

No 20498 M. Zinar
special honourable mention



e2a4 0000.58 6/9 Win

No 20498 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.b6/i axb6 2.gxh5 b5/ii 3.h6 g4 4.h7 g3 5.h8S zz a5 6.Sg6 zz fxg6 7.f7 g5 8.f8S g4 9.Kd3 e2 10.Sd7/iii e1Q/iv 11.Sb6 (Sc5) mate.

i) Logical try: 1.gxh5? (bxa6? hxg4;) axb5 2.h6 g4 3.h7 g3/v 4.h8S a6 zz 5.Sg6 a5 6.Ke1 e2/vi 7.Kxe2 fxg6 8.f7 g5 9.f8S g4 10.Sd7 stalemate.

ii) g4 3.h6 g3 4.h7 a5 5.h8S Kb5 6.Sxf7 a4 7.Sd6+ Kc6 8.f7 a3 9.f8Q wins.

iii) 10.Se6? e1S+ 11.Ke2 Sd3, covering c5, 12.Kxd3 stalemate.

iv) e1S+ 11.K- Sd3 12.Sb6 mate.

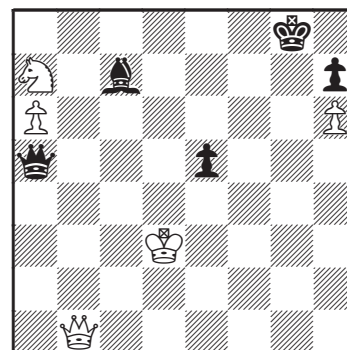
v) Avoiding: a5? 4.h8S, or a6? 4.h8Q winning.

vi) But not: fxg6 7.f7 g5 8.f8S wins.

“Zinar composed a lot of studies with such schemes (e.g. #00637, 01806) and it was no surprise to me that he turned out to be the composer of this study. His studies usually have accurate king moves, or extra underpromotions. In this case we have a reciprocal zugzwang study with an excellent try (1.gxh5? 4...a6!) and

a great key move (1.b6!) to get on the right side of the zz position”.

No 20499 A. Jasik
1st commendation



c5f8 4031.21 5/5 Win

No 20499 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Qb5 e4+ 2.Kxe4 Qe1+ 3.Kd5 Qh1+ 4.Kc5 Qg1+/i 5.Kc6 Qxa7 6.Qb3+/ii Kf8 7.Qb7 Bb8 8.Qg7+ Qxg7/iii 9.hxg7+ Kxg7 10.Kb7 wins.

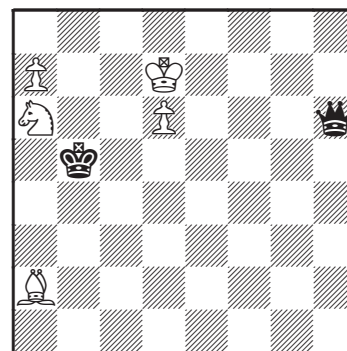
i) Kf8 5.Qd3, but not the composer's 5.Sc6? Qc1 draws.

ii) Thematic try: 6.Qb7? Bb8 7.Qg7+ Qxg7 8.hxg7 and Black has time for 8...Ba7 and draws.

iii) Ke8 9.Qg8+ Ke7 10.Qxh7+ wins.

“This has a nice point (8.Qxg7+ Qxg7 9.hxg7+ with check) with a thematic try. The optically appealing position in the top left corner seems to be original”.

No 20500 R. Becker
2nd commendation



d7b5 3011.20 5/2 Win

No 20500 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Bd5/i Qg7+/ii 2.Kc8 Qxa7/iii 3.Sc7+ Kb6 4.Ba8/iv Qa3 5.d7 Qh3 6.Bd5/v Qf5 7.Ba2/vi Qe4/vii 8.Sd5+ Kc6 9.d8Q Qf5+ 10.Kb8 wins.

i) 1.a8Q? Qg7+ 2.Ke8 Qe5+ 3.Kd7 Qg7+ 4.Kc8 Qf8+ 5.Kb7 Qf3+ 6.Kb8 Qf8+ 7.Ka7 Qf2+ perpetual check, or 1.Sc7+? Kb6 2.a8S+ Ka7 draws.

ii) Kb6 2.a8Q and no perpetual check, e.g. Qh3+ 3.Ke7 Qh7+ 4.Kf6 Qh6+ 5.Kf5 Qh5+ 6.Kf4 Qh4+ 7.Kf3 Qf6+ 8.Ke4 Qg6+ 9.Ke3 Qg5+ 10.Ke2 Qe5+ 11.Be4 Qb2+ 12.Kd3 Qb5+ 13.Ke3 Qg5+ 14.Ke2 Qh5+ 15.Bf3 Qb5+ 16.Ke3 Qb3+ 17.Kf4 Qf7+ 18.Ke5 Qg7+ 19.Ke4 Qg6+ 20.Ke3 Qg1+ 21.Ke2 Qh2+ 22.Bg2.

iii) Kb6 3.a8S+/viii Kxa6 4.Sc7+ wins.

iv) 4.Bg2? Qa2, or 4.Bh1? Qa1 draws.

v) 6.Be4? Qg4 7.Bh1 Qh3 8.Bd5 loss of time.

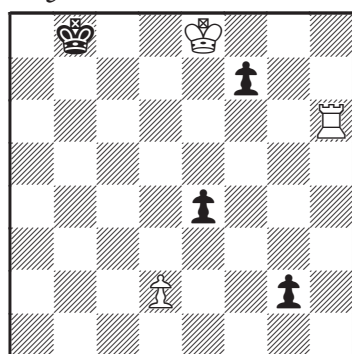
vi) 7.Bb3? Qf3 8.Bd5 Qf5 loss of time. 7.Be6? Qe4 8.d8Q Qb7+ 9.Kd7 Qc6+ 10.Kc8 Qb7+, or 7.Bg8? Qe4 8.Sd5+ Kc6 9.d8Q Qf5+ 10.Kb8 Qb1+ draw.

vii) Qg4 8.Se6, or Qh3 8.Be6 Qf3 9.Sd5+, or Kc6 8.Be6 Qb1 9.Bd5+ win.

viii) But not 3.a8Q? Qf8+ 4.Kd7 Qf5+ 5.Ke8 Qe5+ 6.Kf7 Qf5+ 7.Ke7 Qe5+ perpetual check.

“4.Ba8! and 7.Ba2! are very good moves. The final point is that the bQ cannot access b1. This is easy to understand despite being database material”.

No 20501 V. Tarasiuk & S.N. Tkachenko
3rd commendation



e8b8 0100.13 3/4 Win

No 20501 Vladislav Tarasiuk & Sergey N. Tkachenko (Ukraine). 1.Rb6+ Kc7 2.Rb1 f5 3.Rg1 Kd6/i 4.Rxg2 Ke5 5.Rg5/ii Kf4 6.Rh5 (Rg1 Kf3;) Kg4 7.Rh6/iii f4 8.Re6/iv Kf3 9.Ke7/v e3 10.d4 Ke2/vi 11.d5 f3 12.d6 f2 13.d7 f1Q/vii 14.d8Q wins.

i) f4 4.Rxg2 Kd6 5.Rg5 wins.

ii) 5.Kf7? f4 6.Kg6 f3 7.Rg5+ Kd4 8.Rg4 Kd3 draws.

iii) Try: 7.Rh7? f4 8.Re7 Kf3 9.Kf7 e3 10.d4 Ke2 11.d5 f3 12.d6 f2 13.d7 f1Q+ draws.

iv) 8.Ke7? e3 9.dxe3 fxe3 draws.

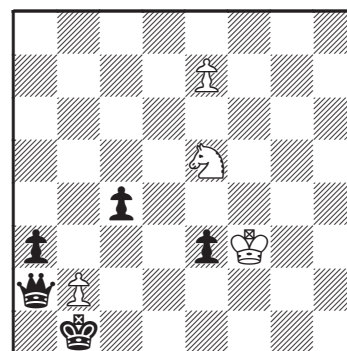
v) Try: 9.Kf7? e3 10.d4 Ke2 11.d5 f3 12.d6 f2 13.d7 f1Q+ draws.

vi) e2 11.Kf6 Kf2 12.Kf5 (Kg5) f3 13.Kf4 (Kg4). The composer gave this as a 2nd main line, but to me it only distracts from the point of the study and tries.

vii) The point: without check.

“7.Rh6! is an excellent move, also returning to its original square (Rundlauf), avoiding a block of the e7-square”.

No 20502 L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
4th commendation



f3b1 3001.23 4/5 Draw

No 20502 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Ukraine). 1.e8Q axb2/i 2.Qc6/ii Ka1/iii 3.Sxc4 e2 (b1Q; Qf6+) 4.Kxe2/iv b1Q+ 5.Sd2 zz Qb-c2/v 6.Qf6+/vi Qab2 7.Qa6+/vii Qa2 8.Qf6+ Qcb2 9.Qf1+ Qbb1 10.Qxb1+/viii Qxb1 11.Sxb1 draw.

i) Qxb2 2.Sxc4 Qf2+ 3.Ke4 e2 4.Sxa3+ Ka2 5.Kd3 e1Q 6.Qg8+, or c3 2.bxa3 Qf2+ 3.Kg4 Qe2+ 4.Kf4 c2 5.Qb8+ Ka1 6.Qh8, or Kxb2 2.Qb5+ Ka1 3.Qa5 draw.

ii) 2.Kxe3? Qa7+ 3.Kf3 c3 wins.

iii) c3 3.Qxc3 Qd5+ 4.Kxe3 Ka2 5.Sd3, or e2 3.Kxe2 Ka1 4.Sxc4 draw.

iv) 4.Qe4? (Qe6?) Qxc4 5.Qxc4 e1Q wins.

v) Qbb2 6.Qh1+, or Qab2 6.Qa4+ Q1a2 7.Qd1+ perpetual check.

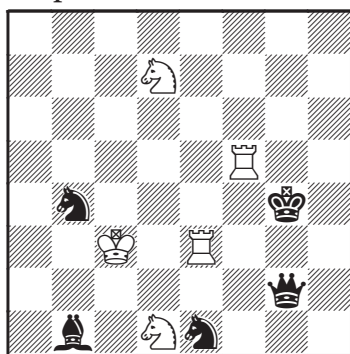
vi) 6.Qh1+? Kb2 7.Qb7+ Kc3 8.Qg7+ Kb4 9.Qb7+ Kc5 10.Qc7+ Kd5 11.Qd8+ Ke5 12.Qh8+ Kf5 13.Qf8+ Kg5 14.Qe7+ Kf4 wins.

vii) 7.Qf1+? Ka2 8.Qf7+ Ka3 9.Qf3+ Kb4 10.Qb7+ Kc5 11.Qc7+ Kd5 12.Qd7+ Ke5 13.Qe7+ Kf5 wins.

viii) 10.Qf6+? Qab2 11.Qa6+ Q1a2 wins.

“This study ends in a positional draw featuring a zz position in which White has only QS vs. QQ with BTM. There are some good moves; e.g. 2.Qc6 (unexplained by the composers) which covers e4 and b5 and anticipates a check at h1”.

No 20503 M. Minski & S. Slumstrup Nielsen
1st special commendation



c3g4 3238.00 5/5 Draw

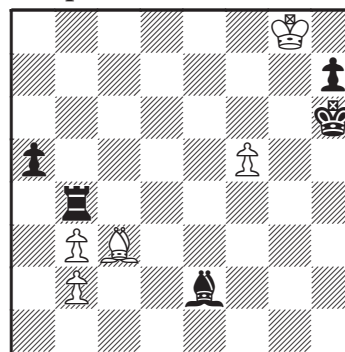
No 20503 Martin Minski (Germany) & Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Re4+ Qxe4 2.Sf6+/i Kxf5 3.Sxe4 Sd5+ 4.Kd2 Sf3+ 5.Kc1 Bxe4 6.Sf2 draws.

i) Thematic try: 2.Sf2+? Kxf5 3.Sxe5 Sd5+ 4.Kd2 and now not 4...Sf3+? 5.Kc1 Bxe4 6.Sc5 drawing – an echo to the main line – but 4...Kxe4 5.Kxe1 Kd4 wins.

“The final position, the highlight of the study with 3 active selfblocks of the bB, is unfortunately anticipated by Liburkin (#66408),

although that study has a different finish. This study is an improvement as it has a thematic try in which Black on his turn can go wrong with an echo final position”.

No 20504 V. Samilo
2nd special commendation



g8h6 0340.32 5/5 Draw

No 20504 Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine). 1.Bd2+/i Kh5 2.Bxb4 axb4 3.f6 (Kxh7? Kg5;) Bd1 4.Kxh7/ii Bxb3 5.Kg7/iii Kg5 6.f7 Bxf7 7.Kxf7 Kf5 8.Ke7 Ke5 9.Kd7 Kd5 10.Kc7 Kc5 11.Kb7 Kb5 12.b3/iv Kc5 13.Ka6 draws.

i) 1.Bxb4? axb4 2.f6, e.g. Bd1 3.f7 Bxb3 4.Kh8 Bxf7 wins.

ii) Try: 4.f7? Bxb3 5.Kxh7 Bxf7 6.Kg7 Bg8 H. Weenink!

iii) 5.f7? Bxf7 6.Kg7 Bg8 wins.

iv) 12.Kc7? b3 13.Kb7 Kc4 wins.

“This is the first sound study that uses Weenink’s (#76420) famous move 1.Bb1!! As it occurs in a try, almost inevitably, the try is better than the main line. The pawn ending with the oppositions and the move 12.b3! is known from Irirarte (#31031). The composer gives two exclamation marks for 5.Kg7, but it is the only move that makes sense. Anyway, a nice re-working of old ideas”.

4th FIDE World Cup 2015

Judge Yochanan Afek judged the endgame section of the 4th FIDE World Cup and received 48 entries from director Aleksey Oganessian. He considered the quality level to be very high. Gady Costeff and HH were consulted for soundness and anticipation checking, but had time for this only after the preliminary award had been published. Three studies proved unsound, but could be corrected in time.

No 20505 Mirko Miljanić (Serbia). 1.c6+ Ka8 2.Sc7+/i Qxc7 3.Rg8+ Rf8/ii 4.Rxf8+ Sb8 5.Qh6/iii Qh7+/iv 6.Rf5 Qxh6 7.Ra5+ Sa6 8.Rxa6+ Kb8 9.c7+ Kxc7 10.Rxh6 wins.

i) 2.Qxd7? Re2+ 3.Kf3 Qf8+ 4.Kxe2 Qf3+ 5.Kxf3 stalemate.

ii) Sf8 4.Qxc7, or Ka7 4.Qxd7 Rf4+ 5.Ke3 Rf7 6.Qd4+ win.

iii) 5.Qxc7? stalemate.

iv) Qe7+ 6.Kd5 Qb4 7.Qc1 wins.

“This has brilliant sacrificial anti-stalemate play on an open board with the heavy cannons absolutely free. The rook-pawn battery is created as early as the first move to trap the bQ by checking her king should he move to the sixth rank. Following an amazing journey highlighted by 6.Rf5!! the very same rook eventually lands on the other side of the very same battery line to complete the initial task by role exchanges with the pawn in regards to the enemy royal couple. A highly original concept presented in an exemplary setting. This is a remarkable achievement!”

No 20506 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Re7+ Ka8 2.Qb1/i Sb4 3.Qxb4 Rc2+ 4.Kd8/ii Rc8+

(Qa6; Re1) 5.Kxc8 (Kd7? Qc6+;) Qa6+ 6.Kc7/iii Qc8+/iv 7.Kd6/v Qa6+ 8.Qb6/vi Qxb6+ 9.Bc6+ Kb8 10.Re8+/vii Ka7 11.Ra8 mate.

i) 2.Qxd4? Rc2+ 3.Kd8 Sc5 4.Qd5+ Kb8.

ii) 4.Rc7? Qe6+ 5.Kd8 Qd5+ 6.Kc8 Qe6+, or 4.Kd7? Qc6+ 5.Kd8 Qc8 mate.

iii) 6.Kd7? Qc6+ 7.Kxc6 stalemate. 6.Qb7+? Qxb7+ 7.Rxb7 stalemate.

iv) Qa7+ 7.Kd8 Qb6+ 8.Rc7 Qxb4 9.Bc6+ Kb8 10.Rc8+/xi Ka7 11.Ra8+ Kb6 12.Rb8+ wins.

v) 7.Kxc8? stalemate.

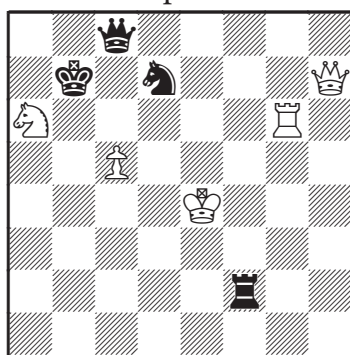
vi) 8.Bc6+? Qxc6+ 9.Kxc6 stalemate. 8.Kd5? Qd6+ 9.Kc4 Qd5+ 10.Kxd5 stalemate.

vii) 10.Rb7+? Qxb7 11.Bxb7 Kxb7 12.Kd5 Kc7 13.Kxd4 Kd6.

This is another piece of superb mutual sacrificial play to avoid mates and stalemates with the cherry on top being the formidable 8.Qb6!! to allow a model mate. This is a genuine masterpiece in an excellent setting!”

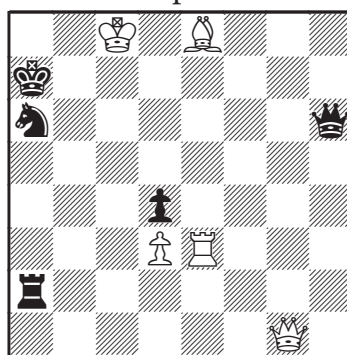
No 20507 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Kf7/i Bxf6/ii 2.Rg3/iii Kh6/iv 3.Rxh3+ Bh4 4.Rxh4+/v Kg5 5.Rh8/vi g1Q 6.Bf4+/vii Kg4/viii 7.Rg8+ Sg7 8.Rxg7+ Kf5 9.Bh6/ix Qa1 10.Rg5+

No 20505 M. Miljanić
1st prize



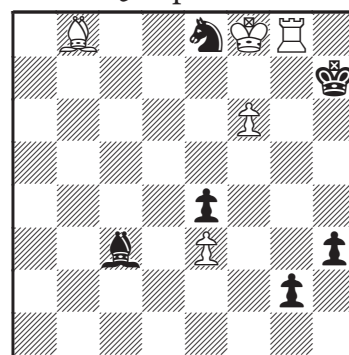
e4b7 4404.10 5/4 Win

No 20506 M. Minski
2nd prize



c8a7 4413.11 5/5 Win

No 20507 O. Pervakov
3rd prize



f8h7 0143.23 5/6 Win

i) 1.Rg3? Be1 2.f7 Sf6 3.Rxh3+ Kg6 4.Bh2 Bb4+ and mate, or 1.f7? Sg7 2.Bh2 Bb4+ and mate.

ii) Sxf6 2.Rg3, with: Kh6 3.Bf4+ Kh5 4.Rxh3+ Kg4 5.Rg3+ Kh4 6.Rxg2, or here: g1S 3.Rxg1 Kh6 4.Bf4+ Kh5 5.Rg5+ Kh4 6.Kg6 win.

iii) 2.Rg6? Bg7 3.Bh2 Bh6 4.Bg1, and: Sg7 5.Rg3 h2 6.Bxh2 Sf5, or here: 4.Rg3 Sd6+ 5.Kf6 Sc4 draw.

iv) Bh4 3.Rg6 Bf6 4.Bh2 Bc3 5.Rg4 Kh6 6.Kxe8 wins.

v) 4.Bh2? Kg5 5.Kxe8 Bf2 (Kg4?; Rxh4+) 6.Ke7 Kg4 7.Rh8 Kf3 8.Rg8 Bxe3 draws.

vi) Logical try: 5.Rh3? Sd6+/x 6.Bxd6 g1Q 7.Rg3+ Kf5 8.Bf4 (Rxg1 stalemate) Qg2 9.Ke7 (Rxg2 stalemate) Qg1 10.Rg5+ Qxg5+ 11.Bxg5 Kxg5 12.Ke6 Kg6 13.Ke5 Kf7 14.Kxe4 Ke6 draws.

vii) 6.Rg8+? Sg7 7.Rxg7+ Kf5 8.Rxg1 stalemate.

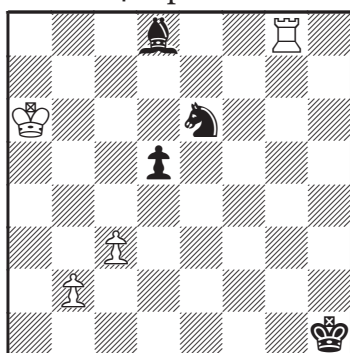
viii) Kf5 7.Rh5+ Kg4 8.Rg5+ wins.

ix) 9.Rxg1? stalemate. 9.Rg3? Qg2 (Rxg2 stalemate) 10.Ke7 Qg1 positional draw.

x) But not g1Q? 6.Rg3+ Qxg3 7.Bxg3 Sf6 8.Bh4+ Kxh4 9.Kxf6 Kg4 10.Ke5 Kf3 11.Kd4 wins.

“This shows an intensely fierce struggle to avoid stalemate and positional draw in the best classical style!”

No 20508 V. Tarasiuk
4th prize



a6h1 0133.21 4/4 Win

No 20508 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Kb7/i Bf6/ii 2.Rg6 (Kc6? d4;) Sc5+ 3.Kc6 Se4 4.Rh6+/iii Kg2/iv 5.Rxf6 Sxf6 6.b4 Se4 7.b5 Sxc3 8.b6 d4 9.b7 d3 10.b8Q d2 11.Qb2 wins.

i) 1.Kb5? d4 2.cxd4 Sxd4+, or 1.b4? Bf6 2.Rc8 Be5 3.b5 d4 4.cxd4 Bxd4 draw.

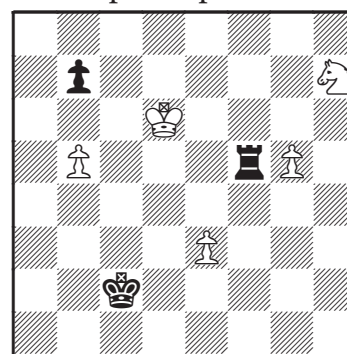
ii) Bg5 2.Rxg5 Sxg5 3.Kc6, or d4 2.cxd4 Bf6 3.d5 win.

iii) 4.Rxf6? Sxf6 5.b4 Se4 6.b5 Sxc3 7.b6 d4 8.b7 d3 9.b8Q d2 10.Qh8+ Kg2 draws.

iv) Kg1 5.Rxf6 Sxf6 6.b4 Se4 7.b5 Sxc3 8.b6 d4 9.b7 d3 10.b8Q d2 11.Qg3+ wins.

“A tiny intermediate check to the bK prior to the thematic exchange sacrifice makes a huge difference. This is a lovely logical study with a lively introduction!”

No 20509 L. González
special prize



d6c2 0301.31 5/3 Win

No 20509 Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain).
1.b6/i Kd3 2.g6/ii Rf3/iii 3.e4/iv Rg3 4.e5 Rxg6+ 5.e6 Kd4/v 6.Sf8 Rf6 7.Sd7 Rg6/vi 8.Se5 Rh6 9.Sc6+ Ke4/vii 10.Se7 (Kd7? Kd5;) Rf6/viii 11.Sd5/ix Rg6 12.Sc7 Kd4 13.Sb5+/x Kc4 14.Sa7 Rxe6+ 15.Kxe6 Kc5 16.Sc8 wins.

i) 1.e4? Rxb5 2.e5 Rb6+ 3.Kd7 Ra6 4.e6 b5 5.e7 Ra7+ 6.Ke6 Rxe7+ 7.Kxe7 b4, or 1.g6? Rxb5 2.g7 Rb6+ 3.Ke7 Rg6 4.Kf7 Rxg7+ 5.Kxg7 Kd3 draw.

ii) 2.e4? Rb5 3.Kc7 Re5 4.g6 Re6 5.Kxb7 Rxg6 draws.

iii) Rb5 3.Kc7 Re5 4.Kxb7 Re6 5.Sf8 Rxe3 6.Ka7, or Rf1 3.Kc7 Rg1 4.Sf8 Ke4 5.Kxb7 win.

iv) 3.Kc7? Rxe3 4.Kxb7 Kc4 5.Kc7 Re7+ 6.Kd6 Rg7 7.Sf8 Kb5 draws.

v) Kc4 6.Sf8 Rf6 7.Sd7 Rh6 8.Ke5 Rh5+ 9.Kf6 Rh6+ 10.Kf7 Rh7+ 11.Ke8 Rh8+ 12.Sf8 Kc5 13.e7 wins.

vi) Rh6 8.Se5 Ke4 9.Sc6 bxc6 10.b7 wins.

vii) bxc6 10.b7 Rh8 11.e7 c5 12.Kd7 wins.

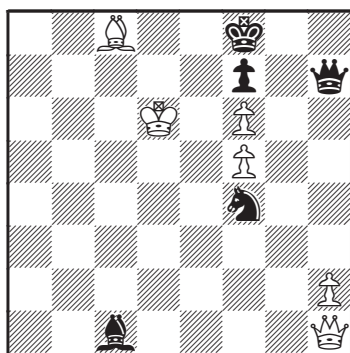
viii) Rh8 11.Sg6 Rg8 12.e7 Rxg6+ 13.Kd7 Rxb6 14.e8Q+ wins.

ix) 11.Kd7? Ke5 12.Sc6+ Kd5 13.Sd8 Rh6 14.e7 Rh7 15.Sxb7 Rxe7+ 16.Kxe7 Kc6 draws.

x) 13.Kd7? Kc5 14.e7 Rg8 15.Se6+ Kxb6 16.Sf8 Rg7 draws.

“This shows an amazing knight manoeuvre in a most natural setting with the unavoidable price of somewhat limited counter-play”.

No 20510 Y. Bazlov
1st honourable mention



d6f8 4043.31 6/5 Win

No 20510 Yuri Bazlov (Russia). 1.Qa8 Ba3+ 2.Qxa3 (Kc6? Kg8;) Qxh2/i 3.Be6/ii Sxe6+/iii 4.Kd7+/iv Kg8 5.fxe6 Qb8/v 6.Qf8+/vi Qxf8/vii 7.e7 Qh6 8.e8Q+ Kh7 9.Qxf7+ Kh8 10.Qe8+ wins/viii.

i) Qh3 3.Qxh3 Sxh3 4.Bb7 Sg5 5.h4 Sh7 6.Ke5 Kg8 7.h5 Sg5 8.Kd6 Kf8 9.h6 Sh7 10.Ke5 Kg8 11.Bd5 Sg5 12.Kd6 Kf8 13.Bf3 Sh7 14.Ke5 Kg8 15.Bh5 Sg5 16.Bg6 Kh8 17.Kd6 wins.

ii) 3.Kd7+? Kg8 4.Qe7/ix Qa2 5.Qe8+ Kh7 6.Ke7 Qe2+ 7.Kxf7 Qh5+ 8.Kf8 Qh6+ 9.Ke7 Sd5+ draws.

iii) Kg8 4.Kd7 Qg2 5.Bxf7+ wins.

iv) 4.Kc6+? Kg8 5.fxe6 Qe5 draws.

v) fxe6 6.Qe7 Qd2+ 7.Ke8, or Qf4 6.Qa8+ Kh7 7.e7, or Qe5 6.exf7+ Kxf7 7.Qe7+ win.

vi) 6.e7? Qb7+ 7.Kd6 Qb6+ 8.Kd5 Qe6+ 9.Kc5 Qe5+ 10.Kc6 Qe4+ 11.Kb6 Qe6+ 12.Kb5 Qd7+, or 6.Qa6? fxe6 7.Qxe6+ Kh7 draw.

vii) Kxf8 7.e7+ Kg8 8.e8Q+ Qxe8+ 9.Kxe8 wins.

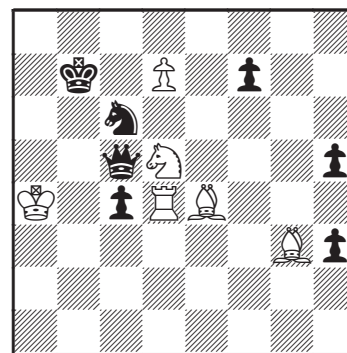
viii) e.g. Kh7 11.Qe7+ Kg6 12.f7 Qh3+ (Qd2+; Ke8) 13.Qe6+ Qxe6+ 14.Kxe6 Kg7 15.Ke7.

ix) There were serious doubts about the study's soundness here. But HH's analysis seem

to show this is a draw: 4.Qe3 Kh7 5.Bb7 Kh6 6.Be4 (Bd5 Kg5;) Qh4 7.Ke7 Qg5 8.Kxf7 Sh5 9.Qd4 Qf4 10.Ke6 Qc7 11.f7 Sf4+ (Sg7+) 12.Kf6 Sh5+ 13.Ke6 Sf4+ (Sg7+) positional draw.

“Here, excellent mutual battery play leads to the stunning 6.Qf8+!! which is hopefully still original”.

No 20511 G. Sonntag
2nd honourable mention



a4b7 3124.14 6/7 Win

No 20511 Gunter Sonntag (Germany). 1.d8S+/i Sxd8 2.Se7+ Sc6 3.Sxc6 Kb6 4.Rd5 Qxc6+ 5.Kb4 Qe8/ii 6.Bf2+ Kc7 7.Rc5+ Kb8 8.Bg3+ Ka7 9.Ra5+ Kb6 10.Bf2+ Kc7 11.Ra7+ Kd6 12.Bg3+ Ke6 13.Ra6+ Ke7 14.Bd6+/iii Kf6 15.Bf4+ Ke7 16.Bg5+ f6 17.Rxf6 h2 18.Kc5 Kd7 19.Bc6+/iv Kc8 20.Bxe8 h1Q 21.Rc6+ Kb7 22.Re6 Qg1+ (Kc8; Bc6) 23.Be3 Qg7/v 24.Bc6+ Ka6 25.Re8 wins.

i) 1.d8Q? Qa7+ 2.Kb5 Qa6+ 3.Kc5 Qa3+ 4.Kxc4 Sxd8 5.Se7+ Sc6 6.Rd7+ Ka6 7.Sxc6 Qc1+ 8.Kb4 Qb2+ 9.Kc4 Qc1+ 10.Kd3 Qa3+ 11.Kc4 Qc1+ 12.Kd4 Qg1+ 13.Kc4 Qc1+ 14.Kd4 Qd2+ draws.

ii) f5 6.Bf3 (Bh1) Qe8 7.Rd6+ Ka7 8.Ka5 Qc8 9.Bf2+ wins.

iii) 14.Bh4+? f6 15.Rxf6 h2 16.Kc5 Kd7 17.Bc6+ Kc8 18.Bxe8 h1Q 19.Rc6+ Kb7 draws.

iv) 19.Rd6+? Kc7 20.Rc6+ Kb8 21.Bf4+ Ka7 22.Rc7+ Ka6 23.Rc6+ Ka7 draws.

v) Qg8 24.Bc6+ Kc7 25.Re7+ Kd8 26.Re4 c3 27.Kb6 c2 28.Bg5+, or Qg4 24.Bc6+ Kc7 25.Re7+ Kd8 26.Re8+ Kc7 27.Bd4, or Qg3 24.Bc6+ Kc7 25.Kb5 Kc8 26.Bb6 win.

“We see a well-orchestrated king hunt by the white officers, with two enemy queens (one at

v) 20.Ke6? Sc3 21.b6 Sa4 22.b7 Sc5+ draws.

vi) 3.Kc4? Kc6 positional draw.

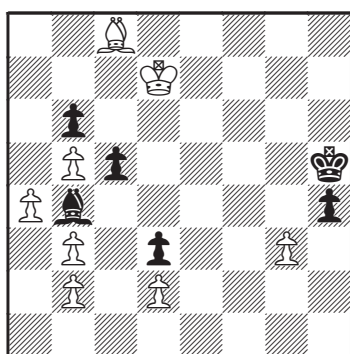
vii) 5.b4? Kb7 6.a3 Sg4 7.Kc5 Se3 8.g3 Kc7 9.a4 Sg4 10.Kd4 Sf2 11.b5 Sh1 12.g4 Sf2 13.g5 Sh3 14.g6 Sf4 15.g7 Se6+ draws.

viii) 10.Kc5? Se5 11.Kd5 Sd7 12.a5 Kb7 13.b4 Sf6+ 14.Ke5 Sg4+ 15.Kf4 Sf6

“This product of modern technology introduces an amazing discovery: three times *festina lente* (a gradual pawn’s starting move) combined with two echoing slow excelsiors that end up in a minor promotion. Curiously five of the six men are in their initial squares at such an advanced stage of the game. This is a memorable super miniature!”

HH: The composer, in his initial submission, managed to hide his artistic idea almost completely in a diarrhoea of hundreds, perhaps thousands of moves. The second main line, for instance, was carefully disguised as a subline. One cannot think of any reason to provide so much analysis, especially in EGTB positions. Luckily, upon request, the composer came up with an artistic presentation.

No 20515 L. Salai
1st commendation



d7h5 0040.64 8/6 Draw

No 20515 Ladislav Salai jr. (Slovakia). 1.a5/i Bxa5/ii 2.gxh4 Bxd2 3.Kc6 Ba5 4.Bf5/iii d2 5.Bc2 Kxh4 6.b4/iv cxb4 7.Kd5 Kg3 8.Kc4 Kf2 9.Kb3 Ke1 10.Ka4 d1Q/v 11.Bxd1 Kxd1 12.b3 Kd2

i) 1.gxh4? Bxd2 2.Kc6 Ba5 3.b4 cxb4 4.Bf5 d2 5.Bc2 Kxh4 6.Kd5 Kg3 7.Kc4 Kf2 8.Kb3 Ke1.

ii) hxg3 2.a6 g2 3.a7 g1Q 4.a8Q.

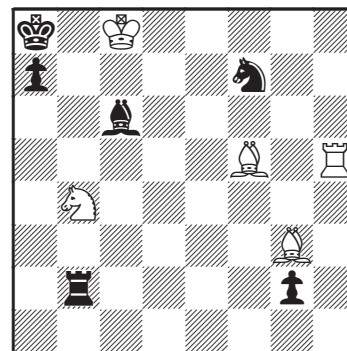
iii) 4.b4? d2 5.bxa5 bxa5 6.b6 d1Q 7.b7 Qb3 8.Kc7 Qg3+.

iv) 6.Kd5? Kg3 7.Kc4 (b4 Bxb4;) Kf2 8.Kd3 Ke1.

v) b3 11.Bxb3 d1Q 12.Bxd1 Kxd1? 13.b4 wins.

“This is a typical solver-friendly study, displaying the incarceration motive and with an excellent thematic key”.

No 20516 A. Gasparyan
2nd commendation



c8a8 0454.02 5/6 Draw

No 20516 Alexey Gasparyan (Armenia). 1.Be4/i Bxe4 2.Rb5 a6 3.Rb8+ Ka7 4.Sc6+ Bxc6 5.Rxb2 Sd6+/ii 6.Kc7 (Kd8? g1Q;) Sb5+ (g1Q; Bf2+) 7.Kxc6 g1Q/iii 8.Bf2+ Sd4+ 9.Bxd4+/iv Qxd4 10.Rb7+ Ka8 11.Rb8+ Kxb8 stalemate.

i) 1.Bh2? Rxb4 2.Bg6 Rb7 3.Bxf7 Rxf7 4.Rg5 Bb7+ 5.Kd8 Rf1, or 1.Sxc6? g1Q 2.Be4 Rb7 win.

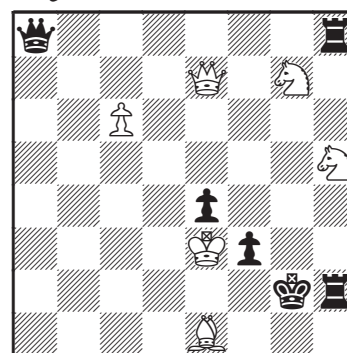
ii) g1Q 6.Bf2+ Qxf2 7.Rxf2 draws.

iii) Sd4+ 8.Kc7 g1Q 9.Rb7+ Ka8 10.Rb8+ Ka7 11.Rb7+ draws.

iv) 9.Kd5? Qh1+ 10.Kxd4 Ka8 wins.

“This is a well-constructed stalemate play against a cornered king although the final position is a well-trodden one”.

No 20517 M. Hlinka
3rd commendation



e3g2 4612.12 6/6 Draw

No 20517 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia).
 1.Sf4+/i Kh1/ii 2.Sf5/iii Qxc6/iv 3.Sg3+/v Kg1
 4.Qxe4/vi Re8 5.Kxf3 Rxe4 6.Sh3+ Rxh3 7.Bf2+
 Kh2 8.Bg1+ Kxg1 stalemate.

i) 1.Qc5? Qa2 2.Bd2 Qb3+ 3.Bc3 Rh3 4.Sf4+
 Kh1 5.Sxh3 Rxh3 6.Kf4 f2 7.Qxf2 Rf3+ wins.

ii) Kf1 2.Sf5 Re8 3.Sg3+ Kg1 4.Qg7 Qa3+
 5.Bc3 Qc1+ 6.Kd4 Qd1+ 7.Kc5.

iii) 2.Sgh5? R8xh5 3.Sxh5 Qa1 4.Sg3+ Kg2
 5.Qb4 Qa7+ 6.Kf4 Rh4+ 7.Kg5 Kh3 8.Sf5 Rg4+
 9.Kf6 e3 10.Qf8 Qh7 wins.

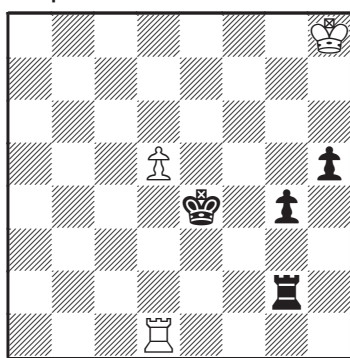
iv) Qa1 3.Sg3+ Kg1 4.Bb4 Qc1+ 5.Kxe4 Qxc6+
 6.Kd4 Qc1 7.Qe3+ Qxe3+ 8.Kxe3 draws.

v) 3.Qxe4? Qxe4+ 4.Kxe4 f2 wins.

vi) 4.Bb4? Qc1+ 5.Kxe4 Qc4+ 6.Ke5 Rc2
 7.Se4 Qc7+ 8.Qxc7 Rxc7 9.Sd3 Rd7 10.Bc5+ Kf1
 11.Sdf2 Rh4 12.Ke6 Rd8 13.Be7 Re8 14.Kf7 Rxe7+
 15.Kxe7 Ke2 16.Ke6 Ke3 17.Kf5 Rh5+ 18.Kg4 Rh2
 wins.

“This study shows a fine ideal pin stalemate
 with the entire heavy black artillery involved”.

No 20518 I. Aliev
 4th commendation



h8e4 o400.12 3/4 Draw

No 20518 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.d6/i
 Ra2 2.d7 Ra8+ 3.d8Q Rxd8+ 4.Rxd8 g3 5.Rd7/ii
 h4 6.Rh7 h3 7.Rh4+ Kf3 8.Rxh3 Kf4 9.Rh4+ Kf5
 10.Rh5+ Kf6 11.Rh6+ Kf5 12.Rh5+ Kf4 13.Rh4+
 Kf3 14.Rh3

i) 1.Kg7? g3 2.d6/iii Rb2 3.d7 Rb8/iv 4.d8Q
 Rxd8 5.Rxd8 g2, or 1.Kh7? g3 2.d6/v Ra2 3.d7
 Ra8 4.d8Q Rxd8 5.Rxd8 h4 wins.

ii) Thematic try: 5.Rd6? Kf3 6.Rf6+ Kg4
 7.Rg6+ Kf4 8.Rf6+ Kg5 9.Kg7 h4 10.Rg6+ Kf4
 11.Rh6 Kg4 12.Rg6+ Kf3 13.Rh6 g2 wins.

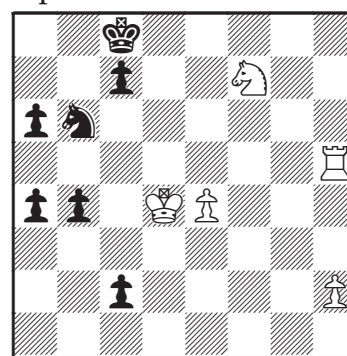
iii) 2.Kf6 Rf2+ 3.Kg5 g2 4.d6 Rf1.

iv) But not Rb7? 4.Kh6 Rxd7 5.Rxd7 h4 6.Rg7
 Kf3 7.Kh5 h3 8.Kh4 h2 9.Rxg3+ Kf2 10.Rh3
 draws.

v) 2.Kh6 Rf2 3.d6 g2 4.d7 Rf8 5.Kxh5 Kf4
 wins.

“We see an accurate encounter of rook and
 pawns”.

No 20519 V. Kalashnikov
 special commendation



d4c8 o104.25 5/7 Draw

No 20519 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia).
 1.Rh8+/i Kb7 2.Sd8+ Ka8 3.Sc6+ Sc8 4.Rxc8+/
 ii Kb7 5.Rb8+ Kxc6 6.Rxb4 c1Q 7.Rc4+ Qxc4+
 8.Kxc4 Kd6 9.h4/iii Ke5 10.h5 Kf6 11.Kb4 Kg5
 12.Kxa4 Kxh5 13.Ka5 c5 14.e5/iv Kg6 15.e6 Kf6
 16.Kb6 c4 17.Kc5 c3 18.Kd6 c2 19.e7 Kf7 20.Kd7
 c1Q 21.e8Q+ draws.

i) 1.Rc5? b3 2.Kd3 a3 wins.

ii) 4.Kd5? Kb7 5.Sa5+ Kb6 6.Sc4+ Ka7 7.Rxc8
 c1Q 8.Rxc7+ Kb8 wins

iii) 9.Kb4? Ke5 10.Kxa4 Kxe4 11.Ka5 c5 12.h4
 Kf5 wins.

iv) 14.Kb6? c4 15.e5 c3 16.e6 Kg6 17.Kc7 c2
 18.e7 c1Q+ wins.

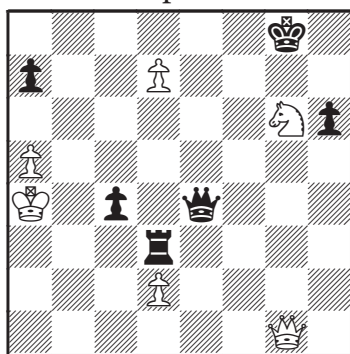
“A two sets scene to restrain a pair of passers
 on the same file, one at a time”.

Berger 170 MT 2015

The Argentina Union of Chess Problemists (UAPA) organized a formal tourney to commemorate the 170th birthday of the well-known Austrian composer and endgame theorist Johann N. Berger. His compatriot Peter Krug judged the tourney. The provisional award was published on the UAPA website and became final on 1ix2015. The tourney director, Mario G. Garcia received 48 studies. The judge considered the artistic and technical level of the entries to be good. The award has two sections: win studies and draw studies.

Win studies

No 20520 I. Akobia † & P. Arestov
1st prize



a4g8 4301.33 6/6 Win

No 20520 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Se5+/i Kh7/ii 2.d8Q (Sxd3? Qxd3;) c3+ 3.Ka3/iii Rxd8 4.Qxa7+ Kh8 5.Sf7+ Kg8 6.Sxh6+ Kh8 7.Sf7+ Kg8 8.Sxd8 cxd2 9.Qf7+/iv Kh8 10.Qh5+ Kg8 11.Qg5+ Kf8 12.Qxd2 Ke8 13.Kb3 zz Qf5 14.Kb4 (Ka4? Qc5;) Qf8+ 15.Kb5 Qd6 16.Qg5/viii Qxd8 17.Qg6+ Ke7 18.Qe4+/ix Kd7 19.Qc6+ Ke7 20.a6 wins.

i) 1.d8Q+? Rxd8 2.Se5+ Kh8 3.Sf7+ Kh7 4.Sxd8 c3+ draws.

ii) Kh8 2.Qe3 Qxe3 3.dxe3 Rd1 4.d8Q+ Rxd8 5.Sf7+ Kg7 6.Sxd8 Kf6 7.Sc6 h5 8.Sxa7 h4 9.Sb5 h3 10.Sc3 h2 11.Se4+ Ke5 12.Sf2 (Sg3) wins.

iii) Far foresight (11 moves). Logical try: 3.Kb3? Rxd8 4.Qxa7+ Kh8 5.Sf7+ Kg8 6.Sxh6+ Kh8 7.Sf7+ Kg8 8.Sxd8 cxd2 9.Qf7+/vii Kh8 10.Qh5+ Kg8 11.Qg5+ Kf8 12.Qh6+ Ke7 13.Qxd2 Ke8 zz 14.a6 Qb1+ 15.Ka4 Qb6 16.Qa5/viii Qd4+ 17.Qb4 Qa1+ 18.Kb5 Kxd8 19.Qf8+/ix Kc7 20.Qe7+ Kc8 21.Qb7+ Kd8 22.Qb8+ Kd7 23.Qb7+ Kd8 positional draw.

iv) 9.Qg1+? Kf8 10.Qf2+ Ke8 11.Qxd2 Qe7+ draws.

v) 16.Qxd6? model stalemate.

vi) 18.Qg5+? Kd7 19.Qd5+ Kc8 draws.

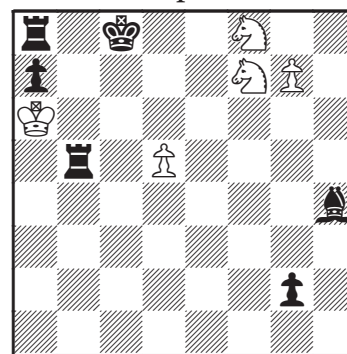
vii) 9.Qg1+ Kf8 10.Qf2+ Ke7 11.Qxd2 Ke8 zz.

viii) 16.Qd3 Qd6 17.Qxd6 model stalemate.

ix) 19.Qd6+ Kc8 20.Qc6+ Kd8 21.Qd6+ Kc8 positional draw.

“The pleasant dynamic tactical play and the deep thematic try are the highlights. The wQ had to work very hard”.

No 20521 P. Arestov & A. Skripnik
2nd prize



a6c8 0632.22 5/6 Win

No 20521 Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Sd6+/i Kb8/ii 2.g8Q Rb6+ 3.Ka5 Rxd6 4.Se6+/iii Bd8+ (Kb7; Qf7+) 5.Sxd8 g1Q 6.Qxg1 Rxd5+ 7.Ka6 Rd6+/iv 8.Kb5 (Ka5? Rxd8;) a6+/v 9.Ka4/vi Rxd8 10.Qb6+ Kc8 11.Qc6+ Kb8 12.Ka5 Rh8 13.Kb6 Ra7 14.Qd6+ Ka8 15.Qd5+ Kb8 16.Qe5+ Ka8 17.Qxh8 mate.

i) 1.g8Q? Rb6+ 2.Ka5 Kb7 3.Qxg2 Rxf8 draws.

ii) Kd8 (Kc7; Sxb5+) 2.g8Q Rb6+ 3.Ka5 Rxd6 4.Se6++ wins.

iii) 4.Qxg2? Bd8+ 5.Ka4 Kb7, or 4.Sd7+++ Kc7 draw.

iv) Rxd8 8.Qc5 (Qg7).

v) Rxd8 9.Qg3+ Kb7 10.Qg7+ Kc8 11.Kc6 wins.

vi) Thematic try: 9.Ka5? Rxd8 10.Qb6+ Kc8 11.Qc6+ Kb8 zz 12.Kb6 Ra7 draws.

“This shows a pleasing mutual zugzwang and tactical play”.

No 20522 Luis Miguel González (Spain). 1.Ke7 Se4 2.Bb4/i Bb6 3.a5 Bf2/ii 4.Ke6/iii Sg5+ 5.Kf6 Bh4/iv 6.Be1 Se4++ 7.Kxe5/v Sf6 8.Bxh4/vi Sxd7+ 9.Kf5/vii Kxa6 10.Bf2/viii c5 11.Ke6 Sb8/ix 12.Bxc5/x Kxa5 13.Ba7 Sc6 14.d7/xi Sd8+ 15.Kd6 Kb5 16.Bd4 zz, wins.

i) 2.d8Q? Bxd8+ 3.Kxd8 Sxd6 draws.

ii) Be3 4.Ke6 Bg5 5.Kf5 c5 6.Bd2 Sxd6+ 7.Kxg5 Kxa6 8.Kf6 Sb7 9.Kxe5 Kb5 10.Kd5 c4 11.Be1 Sd8 12.Kd6 Sb7+ 13.Kc7 Sc5 14.d8S wins.

iii) 4.d8Q? Bh4+ 5.Kd7 Bxd8 6.Kxd8 Sxd6 draws.

iv) Sh7+ 6.Kg7 Sg5 7.Bc5+ Bxc5 8.Kf6 Se4+ 9.Kg6 Sxd6 10.d8Q wins.

v) 7.Kf5? Sxd6+ 8.Ke6 Bd8 9.Kxd6 e4 10.Kxc6 Kxa6 11.Kd5 e3 12.Ke4 e2 13.Ke3 Be7 14.Kxe2 Kb7 15.Kd3 Kc6 16.a6 Kb6 draws.

vi) or first 8.Kf5.

vii) 9.Ke6? Sc5+ 10.Ke7 Kxa6 11.Be1 Sb7 12.d7 Kb5 draws.

viii) 10.Bd8? c5 11.Ke6 Sf8+ 12.Ke7 Sg6+ 13.Kf7 Se5+ 14.Ke6 Sc6 15.Bb6 c4 draws.

ix) Sf8+ 12.Ke7 Sg6+ 13.Kf7 Se5+ 14.Ke6 Sc6 15.d7 wins.

x) 12.Be1? c4 13.Kd5 Kb5 14.Bc3 Sd7 draws.

xi) 14.Kd5? Kb5 15.d7 Sd8 16.Bd4 Sb7 draws.

“We see a domination theme with a long line leading to a mutual zz; a very fine study”.

No 20523 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.e5 dxe5 2.c5 Bb1 3.f3+ (Se6? Be4;) Kxf3 4.Se6/i Ke3/ii 5.c6 f3 6.cxb7 f2 7.b8Q f6 8.b7 (Qa7) f1Q 9.Qa7+ Kf3 10.Sg5+/iii fxg5 (Kg4; Qg1+) 11.Qa3+ Ke4 (Bd3; Qf8+) 12.Qb4+ Ke3 13.Qc3+ Ke4 (Bd3; Qxe5+) 14.b8Q Qf2+ 15.Kh3 Qf1+ 16.Kg4 Qf4+ 17.Kh5 Qh4+/iv 18.Kg6 Qh6+ 19.Kf7 Ba2+ 20.Ke7 Qe6+ 21.Kd8 Qg8+ 22.Kc7 wins.

i) Berger.

ii) fxe6 5.c6 bxc6 6.b7 Bf5 7.b8Q e4 8.Qb2 g6 9.Qg2+ Ke3 10.Kg1 Kd4 11.Qd2+ Ke5 12.Qa5+, or Ke2 5.c6 f3 6.cxb7 f2 7.b8Q f6 8.Sf4+ win.

iii) 10.Qa3+? Bd3 11.Sg5+ Kg4 draws.

iv) Qf7+ 18.Kxg5 Qf6+ 19.Kg4 Qf4+ 20.Kh3 Qf1+ 21.Kg3 Qg1+ 22.Kh4 wins.

“This is a fine and original adaption of a study by Johann Berger”.

No 20524 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands). 1.Kh6 (Bxb6? Kxg7;) Kg8 2.f5 exf5/i 3.Bxb6, and:

— Sf4 4.Bd4 Se6/ii 5.Ba1/iii f4 6.Kh5/iv f3 7.Kg4 Sxg7 8.Bxg7 Kxg7 9.Kxf3 wins, or:

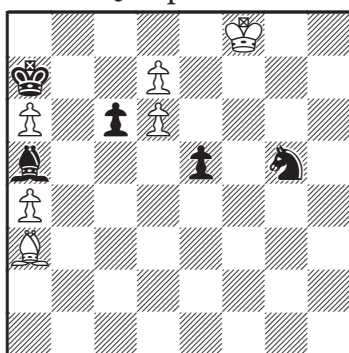
— f4 4.Ba5/v f3/vi 5.Bd2 Sh4 6.Kg5 Sg2 7.Bc3 Se3 8.Bd4 Sc2 9.Bf6 Se3 10.Kh4 Sf5+ 11.Kg4 Sxg7/xv 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Kxf3 wins.

i) Sf4 e.g. 3.f6 Sd5 4.Kg6 Sf4+ 5.Kg5 Sh3+ 6.Kh6 Sf4 7.f7+ Kxf7 8.Kh7 wins.

ii) Sh3 e.g. 5.f3 Sf4 6.Be5 Sd3 7.f4 wins.

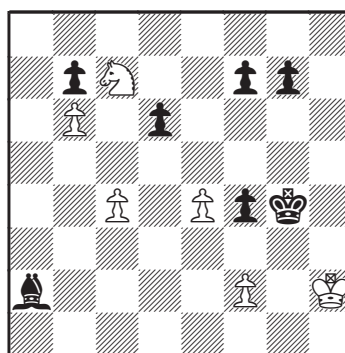
iii) 5.Bb2? (Bc3?) f4 6.Kh5 Sc5 7.Kh4 Sd3 (Se4).

No 20522 L. González
3rd prize



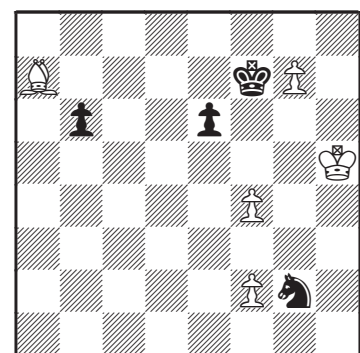
f8a7 0043.42 6/5 Win

No 20523 J. Timman
1st honourable mention



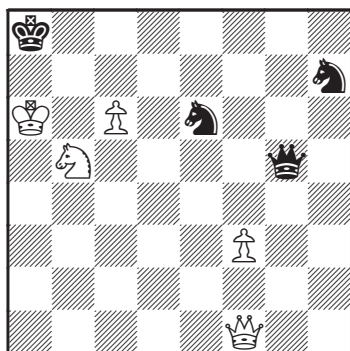
h2g4 0031.45 6/7 Win

No 20524 H. van der Heijden
2nd honourable mention



h5f7 0013.32 5/4 Win

No 20528 R. Becker
1st commendation



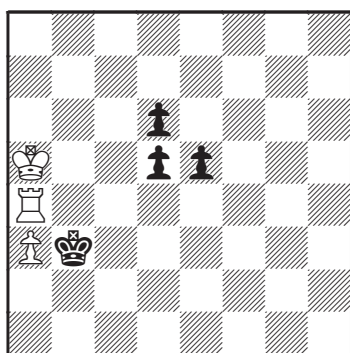
a6a8 4007.20 5/4 Win

No 20528 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qc4 Shf8/i 2.c7 Sxc7+/ii 3.Sxc7+/iii Kb8 4.Sd5 Qg6+ 5.Sb6 Qf5 6.Qc3 Qe6 (Sg6; Qc6) 7.Qc2 Qh3/iv 8.Qc1 Qf5/v 9.Qc4 Sg6 10.Qc6 Qd3+ 11.Sc4 Qb3 12.Qd6+ Kc8 13.Sb6+ wins.

- i) Qe7 (Qe5) 2.Qxe6 Qxe6 3.Sc7+ wins.
- ii) Sc5+ 3.Ka5 Kb7/vi 4.f4 Qg2 (Qf5; Sd6+) 5.c8Q+ Kxc8 6.Qxc5+ wins.
- iii) 3.Qxc7? Qf6+ 4.Ka5 (Sd6) Qa1+ draws.
- iv) Sg6 8.Qh2+ Se5 9.Qxe5+ Qxe5 10.Sd7+ wins.
- v) Sg6 9.Qc4 Se5 (Qf5; Qc6) 10.Qb5 Qe6 11.Qxe5+ Qxe5 12.Sd7+ Kc7 13.Sxe5
- vi) Qd2+ 4.Sc3 Sb7+ (Kb7; Qxc5) 5.Ka4 Qc2+ 6.Kb5 Qb2+ 7.Ka6 Qa1+ (Qa3+) 8.Sa4 Sc5+ 9.Kb5 wins.

“This shows a domination theme with nice lines”.

No 20529 V. Tarasiuk
2nd commendation



a5b3 0100.13 3/4 Win

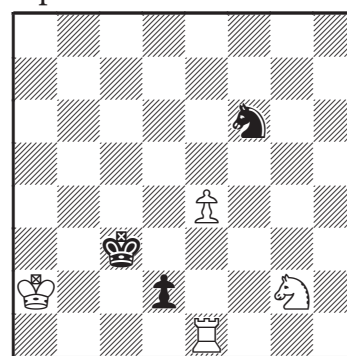
No 20529 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Rb4+/i Kxa3 2.Kb5 e4/ii 3.Rb1 Ka2 4.Rh1/iii Kb3 5.Kc6 Kc4 6.Kxd6 d4 7.Ke6 e3 8.Kf5 e2 9.Kf4 Kd3 10.Kf3 wins.

i) Try: 1.Kb5? d4 2.Ra6 d3 3.Rxd6 Kc2 4.a4 e4 5.a5 e3 6.a6 e2 7.Re6 Kb1 8.a7 d2 9.a8Q e1Q 10.Rb6 d1S draws.

ii) d4 3.Kc4 d5+ 4.Kc5 d3 5.Rb1 Ka2 6.Rd1 e4 7.Kxd5 wins.

iii) Try: 4.Rg1? Kb3 5.Kc6 Kc4 6.Kxd6 Kd4 7.Ke6 Ke3 8.Kxd5 Kf2 9.Rh1 e3 10.Ke4 e2 11.Rh2+ Kf1 12.Kf3 e1S+ draws.

No 20530 P. Arestov
special commendation



a2c3 0104.11 4/3 Win

No 20530 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rf1/i Sxe4 2.Se3 Kd3 3.Sd1 Kc2/ii 4.Rg1 zz Sf6/iii 5.Ka3 Sd5 6.Rh1/iv zz Sf4/v 7.Kb4/vi Sd3+ 8.Kc4 Sb2+ 9.Sxb2 Kxb2 10.Kd3 wins.

i) 1.Rg1? Sxe4 2.Se3 Kd3 3.Sd1 Kc2 zz 4.Se3+ Kd3 5.Sd1 Kc2, or 1.Rh1? Sxe4 2.Se3 Sf2 (Kd2? Sd1) 3.Rf1 Kd3 4.Rxf2 Kxe3 5.Rf1 Ke2 draws.

ii) Sc3+ 4.Sxc3 Kxc3 5.Kb1 wins.

iii) Sc5 5.Ka3 Sd3 6.Se3+ Kc3 7.Rg8 Sf2 8.Rd8, or Sd6 5.Ka3 Sc4+ 6.Kb4 Sb2 7.Se3+ Kd3 8.Kb3 win.

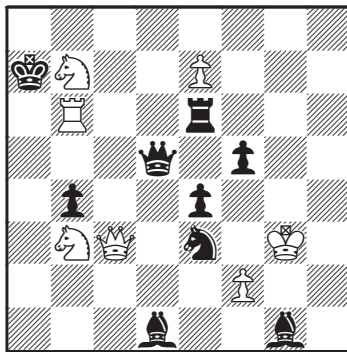
iv) Try: 6.Rf1? Sc3 7.Se3+ Kd3 8.Kb3 Kxe3 9.Kxc3 Ke2 draws.

v) Sc3 7.Se3+ Kd3 8.Kb3 Kxe3 9.Kxc3 Ke2 10.Kc2 wins.

vi) 7.Se3+? Kd3 8.Sd1 Kc2 is wasting time.

Draw studies

No 20531 D. Hlebec
1st/2nd prize



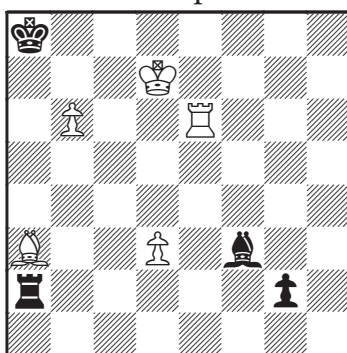
g3a7 4465.23 7/9 Draw

No 20531 Darko Hlebec (Serbia). 1.Ra6+ (Qxe3? f4+) Kxa6/i 2.S7c5+ Kb5/ii 3.Sd4+ Qxd4/iii 4.Qxd4 Rg6+ (Rxe7; fxe3) 5.Kf4 Sg2+ 6.Kxf5 Sh4+ 7.Kxe4 (Kf4? Bh2+); Rg4+ 8.f4 Bxd4 9.e8Q+ Kc4/iv 10.Qe6+ (Qf7+) Kc3 11.Sa4+ Bxa4 12.Qc4+/v Kxc4 stalemate.

- i) Rxa6 2.Qxe3+ Rb6 (Kxb7; Sc5+) 3.e8Q draws.
- ii) Ka7 3.Qa1+ Kb8 4.Qh8+ Ka7 5.Qa1+ perpetual check.
- iii) Ka5 4.Qa1+ Kb6 5.Qa6+ Kxc5 6.Sxe6+ wins.
- iv) Kxc5 10.Qc8+ Kd6 11.Qd8+ draws.
- v) 12.Qc8+? Kb2 13.Qxg4 Sf5, or 12.Qxg4? Bc6 mate.

“This was the most humorous study of the tourney! Black has good counterplay after which White has to find a very original stalemate resource”

No 20532 I. Akobia † & P. Arestov
1st/2nd prize



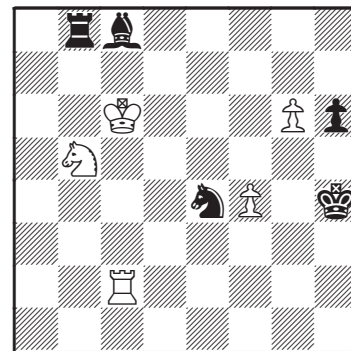
d7a8 0440.21 5/4 Draw

No 20532 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Bc5/i Rc2/ii 2.b7+ Kb8/iii 3.Bd6+ Kxb7 4.Re1/iv Bc6+ (Bg4+; Kd8) 5.Kd8 (Ke7? Re2+;) Re2 6.Rb1+ Bb5 (Ka6; Kc7) 7.Rxb5+ (Be7? Re5;) Kc6 8.Rc5+/v Kxd6 9.Rg5 zz Ke6 10.d4 zz Kf6 11.Rg3/vi Kf5 12.Kc7 (Kd7? Kf4;) Ke4 13.Rg4+ Kf3/vii 14.Rxg2 (Rg8? Rd2;) Rxg2 15.d5 Ke4 16.d6 Kd5 17.d7 Rg7 18.Kc8 draws.

- i) 1.Re8+? Kb7 2.Bc5 Bc6+ wins.
- ii) Bg4 2.Kc6 Bxe6 3.b7+ Kb8 4.Bd6+ and White wins.
- iii) Kxb7 3.Rb6+ Ka7 4.Bd4 draws.
- iv) 4.Rg6? Rc1 5.Bh2 Rh1 wins.
- v) Thematic try: 8.Rg5? Kxd6 zz 9.d4 Ke6 zz 10.Kc8 Kf6 11.Rg3 Re8+ 12.Kc7 Re7+ 13.Kc6 Rg7 wins.
- vi) 11.Rg8? Ra2 12.Kc7 Ra7+ 13.Kb6 Rg7 wins.
- vii) Kf5 14.Rg3 Ke4 15.Rg4+ positional draw.

“A pleasant introduction leads to an interesting rook ending with mutual zugzwangs. In this study all pieces of both sides are active”

No 20533 R. Becker
3rd prize



c6h4 0434.21 5/5 Draw

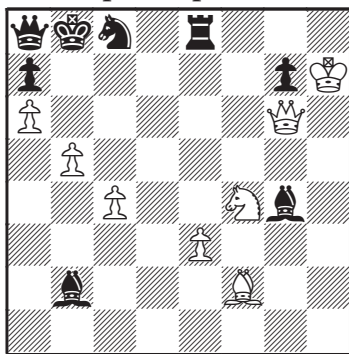
No 20533 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Sd6/i Sxd6 2.Kc7/ii Ra8 3.Kxd6 Kh5 4.Ke5/iii Kxg6 5.f5+ Kg7/iv 6.Rc7+ Kh8 7.Rc6/v Kg7 8.Rc7+ Kg8 9.Kf6/vi Ra6+ 10.Ke5 Ra5+ 11.Kf6 Bxf5 12.Re7/vii Kf8/viii 13.Rf7+ Ke8 14.Rf8+ Kxf8 (Kd7; Rh8) ideal stalemate.

- i) 1.Kc7? Rxb5 2.Kxc8 Kh5 3.Rc6 (g7 Sf6;) Ra5 4.Kd7 (Kb8 Rd5;) Ra7+ 5.Ke6 (Ke8 Sg3;) Rg7 6.Ke5 (f5 Kg5;) Sf2 7.f5 Kg5 8.f6 Sg4+ wins.
- ii) 2.Kxd6? Kh5 3.Ke5/ix Kxg6 4.f5+ Kg7 5.Rc7+ Kg8 6.Kf6/x Rb6+ 7.Ke5 Rb5+ wins.

- iii) 4.g7? Bg4 5.f5 Bxf5 6.Rg2 Bh7 wins.
- iv) Kh5 (Bxf5 Rg2+) 6.Rh2+ Kg5 7.Rg2+ Kh4 8.Rh2+ draws.
- v) 7.Kf6? Ra6+ 8.Ke5 Ra5+ 9.Kf6 Bxf5 10.Re7 Bh7 wins.
- vi) 9.Rc6? h5 10.Kf4 Bd7 wins.
- vii) 12.Rg7+? Kh8 13.Re7 Bh7 (h5) wins.
- viii) Bb1 13.Re8+ Kh7 14.Re7+ Kg8 15.Re8+, or h5 13.Rg7+ Kf8 14.Rg5 h4 15.Rh5 Ra6+ 16.Ke5 Ra5+ 17.Kf6 draw.
- ix) 3.g7 Bg4 4.f5 Bxf5 5.Rg2 Bh7.
- x) 6.Rc6 h5 7.Kf6 (Kf4) Bd7.

“This is a gamelike and fine study with many moves. One must understand why it is necessary to chase the bR to a8 and not leave it at b8”.

No 20534 L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
special prize



h7b8 4374.42 8/8 Draw

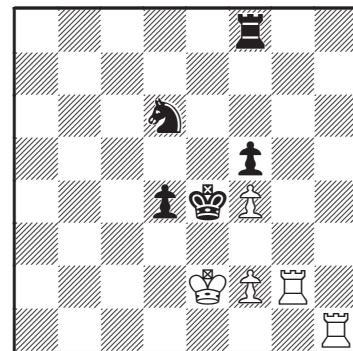
- No 20534** L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.Sd5/i Bf5 2.Qxf5/ii Rh8+ 3.Kg6 (Kxh8? g6+;) Se7+ 4.Sxe7 Rh6+ 5.Kf7/iii Rf6+ 6.Qxf6 gxf6 7.Bg3+ Be5 8.Bxe5+ fxe5 9.Sd5, and:
— Kc8 10.b6/iv Qb8 11.b7+ Kd7 12.Sf6+ Kc6 13.e4 positional draw, or:
— e4 10.Ke6 Kc8 11.c5 Qb8/v 12.b6 axb6/vi 13.cxb6 Kd8/vii 14.a7 (b7? Qa7;) positional draw.
- i) 1.Qxe8? Qf3 2.Bh4 Bf5+ 3.Kg8 g5 4.Bxg5 Qg4 5.Qd8 Be4 6.Sd5 Qe6+ 7.Kf8 Ba3+ 8.Se7 Bxe7+ 9.Bxe7 Qh6+ 10.Kf7 Bf5 wins.
 - ii) 2.Bg3+? Be5 3.Qxf5 Bxg3 4.Qg6 Rxe3 5.Sxe3 Qh1+ 6.Kxg7 Qh4 7.Sg4 Sd6 wins.
 - iii) 5.Kg5? Qg2+ 6.Qg4 Bf6+ wins.

- iv) 10.Ke7? e4 11.b6 Qc6 12.b7+ Kb8 13.Sf6 Qc5+ 14.Ke6 Qxc4+ 15.Ke7 Qxa6 16.Sd7+ Kxb7 17.Sc5+ Kb6 18.Sxa6 Kxa6 19.Kd6 Kb5 20.Kd5 a5 21.Kxe4 Kc4 wins.

- v) Kd8 12.c6 Qc8+ 13.Kd6 Qh3 14.c7+ Ke8 15.b6 draws.
- vi) Qg3 13.b7+ Kd8 14.c6 draws.
- vii) Qh2 14.Se7+ Kd8 15.Sc6+ Ke8 16.b7 draws.

“This is a non-standard, highly original study: after a tactical introduction we see two positional draws and the first line also has an interesting try”.

No 20535 L. González
honourable mention



e2e4 0503.22 5/5 BTM, Draw

No 20535 Luis Miguel González (Spain). 1... d3+ 2.Kd2/i Kd4 3.Ra1/ii Se4+ 4.Ke1/iii Rh8 5.Ra4+/iv Kc3/v 6.Ra3+/vi Kc2/vii 7.f3+ d2+ 8.Rxd2+ Sxd2 9.Ra2+ Kc1 10.Rxd2 Rh1+ 11.Ke2 Rh2+ 12.Ke3 Rxd2 stalemate.

- i) 2.Kf1? Ra8 3.Rg6 Ra1+ 4.Kg2 Rxh1 5.Rxd6 Ra1 6.Rd8 Ra3 7.Kf1 Kxf4, or 2.Kd1? Ra8 3.Kd2 Kd4 4.Rd1 Se4+ 5.Ke1 Sc3 6.Rc1 Re8+ 7.Kf1 d2 win.
- ii) 3.Kc1? Ra8 4.Rg6 Sc4 5.Kb1 d2 6.Rg3 Rb8+ 7.Ka2 Sb2 8.Rg7 d1Q 9.Rd7+ Kc3 10.Rdxdl Sxd1 11.Rxd1 Kc2, or 3.Rh7? Sc4+ 4.Kc1 Ra8 5.Kb1 Rb8+ 6.Ka1 d2 7.Rg1 Kc3 8.Rc7 Rd8 9.Rd1 Ra8+ 10.Kb1 Rb8+ 11.Ka1 Rb4 12.Ka2 Kc2 win.
- iii) 4.Kd1? Sc3+ 5.Kc1/viii Re8 6.Kb2 Re2+ 7.Kb3 d2 8.Rgg1 Rxf2 9.Rh1 d1Q+ 10.Raxdl+ Sxd1 11.Rxd1+ Ke4 12.Kc3 Kxf4, or 4.Kc1? Rc8+ 5.Kb2/ix d2 6.Ra7 Sxf2 7.Rd7+ Ke3 8.Rxd2 Kxd2 9.Rxf2+ Ke3 10.Rf1 Rc4 11.Kb3 Rxf4 win.

iv) 5.Rg1? Sc3 6.Kd2 Rb8, and 7.Ke1 Re8+ 8.Kf1 d2 9.Rg7 Rd8 wins, or here: 7.Rg7 Rb2+ 8.Ke1 d2+ 9.Kf1 Rb5 10.Rd7+ Rd5 wins.

v) Kd5 6.Rxe4 fxe4 7.Rg5+ Kc4 8.Ra5 Kc3 9.Rc5+ Kb4 10.Rd5 Ra8 11.f3 Kc3 12.fxe4 Ra1+ 13.Kf2 d2 14.e5 draws.

vi) 6.Rg1? Rh2 7.Ra3+ Kc2 8.Ra2+ Kb3 9.Rd2 Kc3 10.Ra2 d2+ 11.Rxd2 Sxd2 12.Rg3+ Kc2 wins.

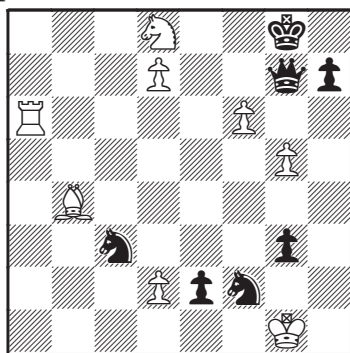
vii) Kc4 7.Rg1 Rb8 8.Ra1 Rb2 9.Rg8 Re2+ 10.Kf1 Rxf2+ 11.Kg1 d2 12.Rd8 Kb3 13.Rd4 Rf3 14.Kg2 Rxf4 15.Rf1 Rg4+ 16.Kh2 Kc3 17.Rxd2 Sxd2 18.Rxf5 draws.

viii) 5.Kd2 Rb8 6.Rg7 Rb2+ 7.Ke1 d2+ 8.Kf1 Rb5 9.Rd7+ Rd5.

ix) 5.Kd1 Rc2 6.Ra4+ Kd5 7.Rxe4 Kxe4 8.Ke1 Kxf4.

“We see here a natural initial position which also appeals to the o.t.b. player, leading to a surprising and beautiful stalemate. Interesting with complex analytical lines”

No 20536 A. Jasik
special honourable mention



g1g8 3117.43 8/7 Draw

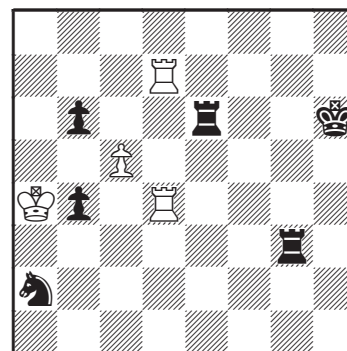
No 20536 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Re6 (Ra1? Sfd1) Sh3+ 2.Kh1 (Kg2? Sf4+) g2+ 3.Kxg2 Sf4+ (Qxg5+; Kxh3) 4.Kf2 Sd3+ 5.Kf3 e1S+ (e1Q; Re8+) 6.Rxe1 Sxe1+ 7.Kf2 (Kf4 Sd5+) Se4+/i 8.Kxe1/ii Sxf6 9.Sf7 Sxd7 10.Sh6+ Kh8 11.Bc3 Se5 12.Kd1 draws.

i) Sd3+ 8.Kf1 Qxd7 9.f7+ Qxf7+ 10.Sxf7 draws.

ii) 8.Kf1? Sxf6 9.Sf7 Sxd7 10.Sh6+ Kh8 11.Bc3 Sf3 wins.

“Many interesting tactical moves lead to a draw. A very chaotic position”

No 20537 A. Skripnik
1st commendation



a4h6 o8o3.12 4/6 Draw

No 20537 Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.R7d6/i Rgg6 2.Rxe6/ii Rxe6 3.Rd6 Sc3+ 4.Kxb4 bxc5+ 5.Ka5 Rg6 (Rxd6 stalemate;) 6.Re6 Kg7/iii 7.Re5 Rc6 8.Re7+ Kg8 9.Re8+ Kg7 10.Re7+ Kf6 11.Re6+ Kxe6 stalemate.

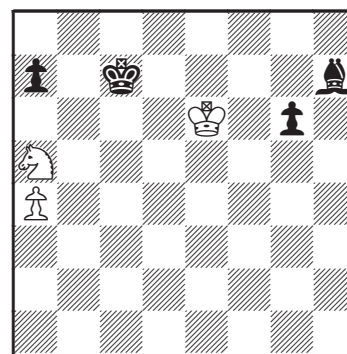
i) 1.R4d6? Sc3+ 2.Kxb4 bxc5+ 3.Kc4 Rxd6 4.Rxd6+ Kg5 5.Ra6 Se4 wins.

ii) 2.Rxb6? Rxb6 3.cxb6 Rxb6 4.Kb3 Sc1+ 5.Kc2 Se2 6.Re4 Sc3 wins.

iii) Kh5 7.Re3 Sd5 8.Re5+ Rg5 9.Rxg5+ Kxg5 10.Kb5 draws.

“An original stalemate position!”

No 20538 M. Minski
2nd commendation



e6c7 0031.12 3/4 Draw

No 20538 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Kf6/i Bg8 2.Kxg6 Kb6 3.Sb7 (Kf6? Kxa5;) Bh7+/ii 4.Kf6/iii Kxb7 5.Ke5 Kb6 6.Kd4 Ka5 7.Kc3 Kxa4 8.Kb2 draws.

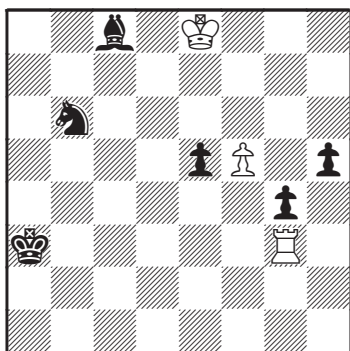
i) 1.Sc4? Bg8+ 2.Kf6 Bxc4, or 1.Kf7? (Kd5? g5) g5 2.Sc4 g4 3.Se3 g3 4.Ke6 Kb6 5.Ke5 Ka5 6.Kf4 Kxa4 7.Kxg3 Kb3 8.Kf2 a5 9.Ke2 a4 10.Kd2 a3 win.

ii) Kxb7 4.Kf5 Kb6 5.Ke4 Ka5 6.Kd3 Kxa4 7.Kc2 Ka3 8.Kb1 a5 9.Ka1 draws.

iii) 4.Kxh7? (Kg5? Kxb7;) Kxb7 5.Kg6 Kb6 6.Kf5 Ka5 7.Ke4 Kxa4 8.Kd3 Kb3 9.Kd2 Kb2 10.Kd3 a5 11.Kc4 a4 12.Kb4 a3 wins.

“A pleasant study with some nice moves: 3.Sb7!, 4.Kf6! The rest is clear”.

No 20539 M. Campioli
3rd commendation



e8a3 0133.13 3/6 BTM, Draw

No 20539 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1...Kb4/i 2.f6 Bf5/ii 3.f7 Bg6 4.Ke7/iii Sd5+ 5.Ke6 Bxf7+ 6.Kxf7 Kc4 7.Kg6/iv, and:

— Kd4 8.Kxh5 Se3 9.Kg6/v Kd3 (Ke4; Kg5) 10.Kf6/vi Ke4 11.Kg5/vii Kd3 12.Kf6 Kd4 13.Kg6 draws, or:

— Sf4+ 8.Kf5/viii Kd4 9.Rg1/ix Se2 10.Re1/x Ke3 11.Kxe5 g3 12.Kf5 g2 13.Kg5 Kd2 14.Rb1 Kc2 15.Re1 draws.

i) Kb2 2.f6 Bf5 3.f7 Bg6 4.Ke7 Sd5+ 5.Ke6 Bxf7+ 6.Kxf7 Kc2 7.Ke6 draws.

ii) Sc4 3.Kd8 Be6 4.Ke7 Bd5 5.f7 draws.

iii) 4.Kf8? Sd7+ 5.Kg7 Be4 6.Re3 Bd5 7.Rxe5 Bxf7 wins.

iv) 7.Ke6? Kd4 8.Kf5 e4 9.Kg5 e3 wins.

v) 9.Kg5? Ke4 10.Kf6 Kf4 wins.

vi) 10.Kh5? Ke2 11.Kg5 Kf2 wins.

vii) 11.Ke6? Kf4 12.Rg1 e4 wins.

viii) 8.Kg5? Kd4 9.Ra3 Se2 10.Kxh5 g3 wins.

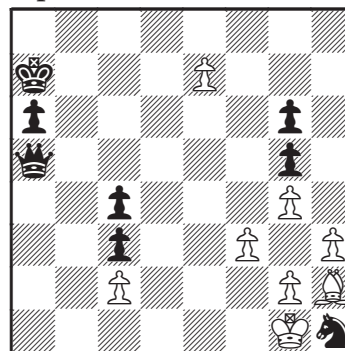
ix) 9.Ra3? Se2 10.Ra2 Ke3 11.Kxe5 g3 wins.

x) 10.Rd1+? Ke3 11.Kxe5 g3 12.Kf5 g2 13.Kg5 Sg3 14.Rg1 Kf2 wins.

“This is an interesting and original battle of king and rook against king, knight and pawns, leading to a surprising mutual zugzwang. The initial position is not very convincing, but if it is to the taste of the author we have to accept it”.

HH: why? If the judge doesn't like a study, he should not award it. This is an example where BTM has no purpose at all and is a spoiler.

No 20540 V. Samilo
special commendation



g1a7 3013.65 8/8 Draw

No 20540 Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine). 1.Bb8+/i Ka8 2.e8Q Qb6+ 3.Kxh1 Qb1+ 4.Kh2 Qxb8+ 5.Qxb8+ Kxb8/ii 6.f4/iii Kc7 7.fxg5/iv a5 8.Kg3 a4 9.Kh4 a3 10.g3 a2 stalemate.

i) 1.e8Q? Qa1+ 2.Qe1 Qxe1 mate.

ii) Berger.

iii) 6.Kg3? a5 7.f4 gxf4+ wins.

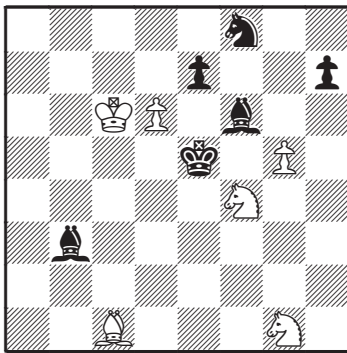
iv) 7.Kg3? gxf4+ 8.Kxf4 a5 9.Ke4 a4 10.Kd4 a3 11.Kxc3 Kxd6 wins.

“This earns a special commendation for adding a new nuance to a famous study by Berger”.

Torre & Cavallo – Scacco! 2012-2013

This tourney was restricted to beginner Italian endgame study composers, i.e. without any awarded study listed in HHdbIV. The tourney director was Marco Campioli, who received 10 originals. The judges were Franco Bertoli and Marco Campioli. The provisional award was published in *Torre & Cavallo - Scacco!* x2013 and became final i2014.

No 20541 F. Morelli
1st honourable mention



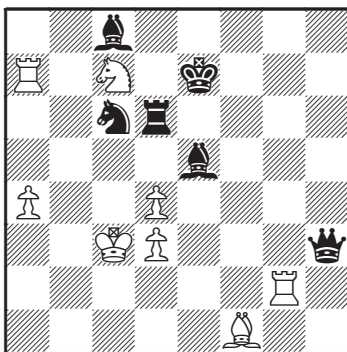
c6e5 0075.22 6/6 Win

No 20541 Fulvio Morelli (Rome). 1.Sf3+/i Kf5/ii 2.gxf6 Kxf6/iii 3.Sh5+ Kf7 4.Sg5+ Ke8 5.Sg7+/iv Kd8 6.Sf7+ Bxf7 7.dxe7+ Kxe7 8.Bg5 mate.

- i) 1.gxf6? Kxf6 2.Bb2+ Kf7 draws.
- ii) Ke4 2.gxf6 exd6 3.Sh4 Ke5 4.Sh5 Ba4+ 5.Kc7 d5 6.Sf3+ Ke4 7.Bh6 wins.
- iii) Ba4+ 3.Kc7 exd6 4.Sd5 Ke6 5.Bh6 wins.
- iv) 5.dxe7? Sg6 6.Kc7 Sxe7 7.Sf6+ Kf8 8.Ba3 h6 draws.

HH observes that every white move is a check or a capture. To help the beginners, the judges should at least have commented on this.

No 20542 F. Morelli
2nd honourable mention



c3e7 3574.30 8/6 Draw

No 20542 Fulvio Morelli (Rome). 1.Sd5++/i Ke6 2.Rg6+/ii Kxd5 3.Rxd6+ Bxd6/iii 4.Ra5+ Sxa5 5.Bg2+ Qxg2 stalemate.

- i) 1.Rg7+? Bxg7 2.Bxh3 Sxa7 wins.
- ii) 2.Sc7+? Kf5 3.Rf2+ Kg5 4.Bxh3 Bxd4+ wins.
- iii) Kxd6 4.dxe5+ Kxe5 5.Bxh3 draws.

HH observes that every white move is a check or a capture. This time even in every subline!

No 20543 Pietro Placanico (Suno). 1...Re4+ 2.Qxe4 d5+ 3.Qxd5/i Be6 4.Qxe6 fxe6 5.Kc5 Bxf6 6.Kd6 Kf7 7.g8Q+ Kxg8 8.Kxe6 draws.

- i) 3.Kxd5? Bb7+ 4.Ke5 Bxe4 5.Kxe4 Bxf6 wins.

No 20544 Pietro Placanico (Suno). 1.Sxg7 Qe3 2.Bd4+ Kxd4 (Qxd4; Se6+) 3.Sf5+ Ke4 4.Sxe3 Kxe3 5.Kxb6 Kxe2 6.c5 wins.

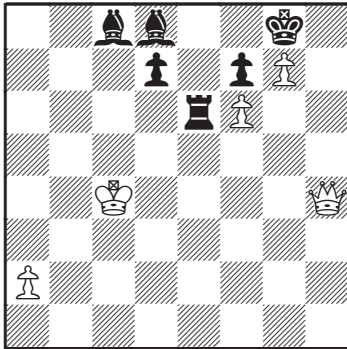
HH observes that every white move, except for the obvious last one, is a check or a capture.

No 20545 Dario Russo (Trieste). 1.Be1 Kf6/i 2.e3 Ba3 3.b4 Ke6 4.Ke2/ii Bc1 5.Kd3 Kf6 6.Bf2 Ba3 7.Kc3 h6 8.Kb3 Bc1 9.Kc2 Ba3 10.Be1 Kg5 11.Bd2 Kh4 12.Kb3 wins.

- i) Ba3 2.b4 Bc1 3.e3 Kg6 4.Bc3 Kf6 5.Ke2 wins.
- ii) Of course there are time-wasting duals like 4.Bd2.

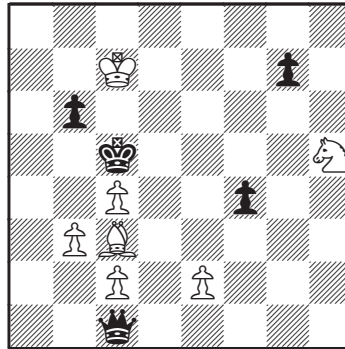
HH: no captures or checks at all! This is not difficult but, on the other hand, it has an original idea and therefore it should perhaps have been ranked ahead of all other studies in this tourney.

No 20543 P. Placanico
3rd honourable mention



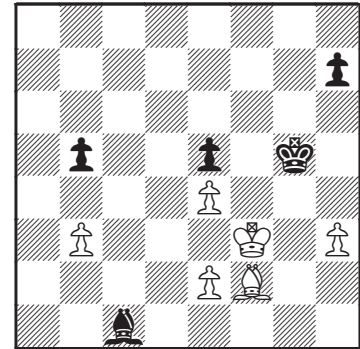
c4g8 1360.32 5/6 BTM, Draw

No 20544 P. Placanico
commendation



c7c5 3011.43 7/5 Win

No 20545 D. Russo
commendation

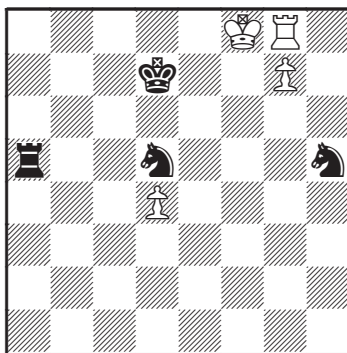


f3g5 0040.43 6/5 Win

Sachmatija 2011-2012

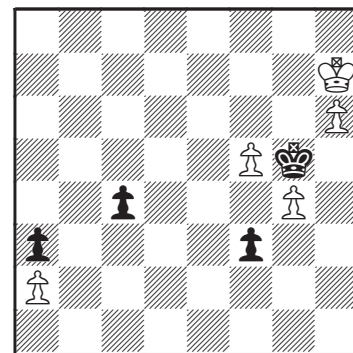
Vilimantas Satkus (Latvia) judged the informal tourney of this magazine. Apparently 5 originals participated.

No 20546 P. Arestov
honourable mention



f8d7 0406.20 4/4 Draw

No 20547 I. Aliev
commendation



h7g5 0000.43 5/4 Draw

No 20546 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rh8 Se7 2.g8Q Sxg8 3.Kxg8 Ke8 4.d5/i Rxd5 5.Rh6 Rg5+ 6.Kh8 Kf7 7.Rh7+/ii Kg6 8.Rh6+/iii Kf7 (Kxh6 stalemate) 9.Rh7+ Sg7 10.Rxg7+/iv Rxg7 stalemate.

- i) 4.Rh6? Rg5+ 5.Kh7 Kf7 6.Ra6 Sf6+ wins.
- ii) 7.Ra6? Rd5 8.Ra7+ Kg6 9.Ra6+ Sf6 wins.
- iii) 8.Ra7? Re5 9.Ra6+ Sf6 wins.
- iv) 10.Rh2? Sh5, or 10.Rh6? Rd5 wins.

No 20547 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.f6 f2 2.f7, and:

- f1Q 3.f8Q Qxf8 stalemate, or:
- f1R 3.Kg7 Rxf7+ 4.Kxf7 Kxh6 5.Kf6 Kh7/i 6.Kf7 Kh6/ii 7.Kf6 c3 8.g5+ Kh7 9.Kf7 c2 10.g6+ Kh6 11.g7 c1Q 12.g8Q Qc4+ 13.Kf8 Qxg8+ 14.Kxg8 Kg6/iii 15.Kh8 (Kf8? Kf6;) Kf6 16.Kh7 Ke5 17.Kg6 Kd4 18.Kf5 Kc3 19.Ke4 Kb2 20.Kd3 Kxa2 21.Kc2 draws.
- i) c3 6.g5+ Kh7 7.Kf7 draws.
- ii) c3 7.g5 c2 8.g6+ Kh6 9.g7 draws.
- iii) F. Sackmann HHdbIV#09676.

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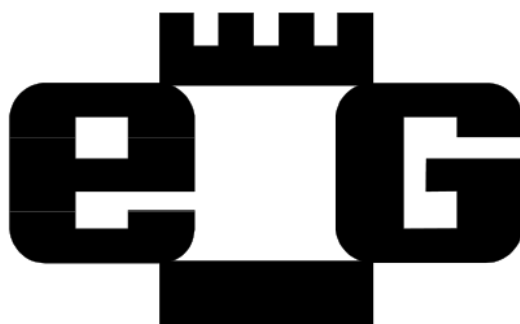
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SUPPLEMENT

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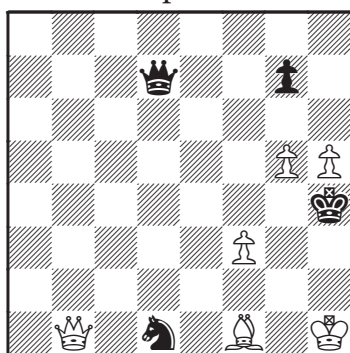
Československý šach 2013-2014

Judge Emil Vlasák considered 47 studies by 23 composers from 14 countries. The provisional award was published in Čš ii2015 and iii2015 and was declared final in Čš vi2015.

These included numerous corrections and versions by Jaroslav Polašek. While his corrections are often excellent, one wonders if such studies should compete in a competition (except for a special tourney for corrections). HH thinks that corrections should not be allowed in formal tourneys (and has spotted some by several composers), and agrees with the judge of this tourney that only special distinctions should be awarded in an informal tourney.

But there is a thin line, as e.g. some of Polašek's corrections are far better than the original study!

No 20548 P. Krug
1st prize



h1h4 4013.31 6/4 Win

No 20548 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.h6/i gxh6/ ii 2.g6/iii Sf2+/iv 3.Kg1/v Sh3+ 4.Bxh3/vi Qxh3 5.Qb2/vii Qg3+ 6.Qg2 Qe1+ 7.Kh2 h5 8.Qh3+/ viii Kg5 9.g7 Qd2+ 10.Qg2+ Kh4 11.g8B/ix Qf4+ 12.Kh1 Qc1+ 13.Qg1 Qxg1+ 14.Kxg1 Kg3 15.Bd5 wins.

i) 1.g6? Kxh5 wins. 1.Qg6? Sf2+ 2.Kg2 Qd2 3.Kg1 Qd4 and White cannot play 4.Qe1.

ii) Sf2+ 2.Kg1 Qd4 3.Qe1 Kg3 4.h7.

iii) 2.gxh6? Qd6 3.Qf5 Sf2+ 4.Kg1 Qxh6, and 5.Qe5 Qg6+ 6.Kh2 Sg4+ 7.fxg4 Qxg4 draws, or 5.Kxf2 Qb6+ 6.Ke2 Qf2+ 7.Kxf2 stalemate.

iv) Qd6 3.Qc2 Se3 4.Qe4+.

v) 3.Kh2? Qd6+ 4.Kg1 Qg3+ 5.Bg2 Sh3+ 6.Kh1 Sf2+, or 3.Kg2? Qd2 4.Be2 (Kg1 Qe3;) Qxe2 5.Qf1 Qe5 6.Qxf2+ Kh5 draws.

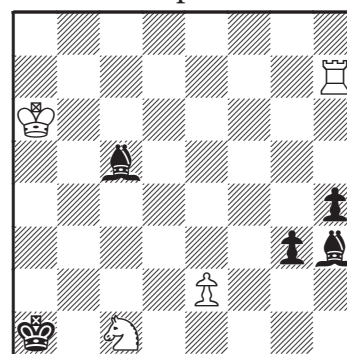
vi) 4.Kh2? Qd2+ 5.Bg2 (Kh1 Kg3;) Sf4 6.Qg1 Sxg6 draws.

vii) 5.Qc2? Qd7 6.f4 Kh5 7.f5 Qd4+ draws.

viii) 8.g7? Qg1+ 9.Kxg1 stalemate.

ix) 11.Qxd2? stalemate, or 11.g8Q? (g8R?) Qxg2+ 12.Kxg2 (Qxg2) stalemate, 11.g8S? Qf4+ 12.Kh1 Qc1+ 13.Qg1 Qxg1+ 14.Kxg1 Kg3 draws.

No 20549 M. Hlinka & O. Mihalco
2nd prize



a6a1 0161.12 4/5 Draw

No 20549 Michal Hlinka & Oto Mihalco (Slovakia). 1.Sb3+/i Ka2/ii 2.Sxc5/iii, and:

— Bf1 3.Rxh4/iv g2 4.Ra4+ (Rg4? Bxe2+;) Kb1 5.Rb4+ Kc2/v 6.Rg4 Bxe2+ 7.Sd3 Bxg4 8.Se1+ draws, or:

— Bc8+ 3.Ka5/vi g2/vii 4.Rg7 h3 5.e4/viii Kb1 6.Sa4/ix Kc2/x 7.Sb6/xi Be6 8.Sd5 Kb1/xii 9.Sc3+ Ka1 10.Se2 Bc4 11.Rxg2 (Sg1? h2;) hxg2 12.Sg1 draws.

i) 1.Rxh4? Bc8+ 2.Kb5 g2 wins.

ii) Kb1 2.Rxh4 Bc8+ 3.Kb5 Be3 4.Sd4, or Kb2 2.Sxc5 Bc8+ 3.Kb5 g2 4.Sd3+ Kc3 5.Rg7 h3 6.Sf2.

iii) 2.Rxh4? Bc8+ 3.Kb5 Kxb3 4.Kxc5 g2 5.Rb4+ Kc2 wins.

iv) 3.Sd3? g2 4.Rg7 h3 5.Sf2 h2 6.Rxg2 Bxg2 7.e4 Kb3 8.e5 Kc4 9.e6 Kc5 10.e7 Bc6 11.Sh1 Kd6 12.Kb6 Be8 13.Sg3 Kxe7 14.Kc5 Kf6 wins.

v) Kc1 6.Sd3+ Kd2 7.Rg4 draws.

vi) 3.Kb6? (Ka7?) h3, and here: 4.e4 g2 5.Rg7 Kb1 6.Sa4 h2 7.Rxg2 h1Q 8.Sc3+ Kc1 9.Rg1+ Qxg1+ wins, or here: 4.e3 Bf5/xiii 5.Rh8 g2 6.Rg8 Kb1 7.Sa4 Bd3 wins. 3.Kb5? g2 4.Rg7 h3 5.e4/xiv Kb1 6.Sa4 Bd7+ wins, e.g. 7.Kb4 Bxa4 8.Kxa4 h2.

vii) h3 4.e4 (e3? Bf5;) g2 5.Rg7 draws.

viii) 5.e3? Kb1, and now: 6.Sa4 Be6 7.Sc3+ Kc2 8.Se2 h2 9.Rxg2 h1Q 10.Sd4++ Kd1 11.Re2 Bf5, or here: 6.Se4 Bb7 7.Rxb7+ Ka1 8.Rg7 h2 9.Rxg2 h1Q 10.Rg4 Qd1 11.Rf4 Qe1+ 12.Ka4 Qxe3 wins.

ix) 6.Sd3? h2 7.Rxg2 h1Q wins.

x) Be6 7.Sc3+ Ka1 8.Se2, or h2 7.Rxg2 h1Q 8.Sc3+ Kc1 9.Rg1+ Qxg1 10.Se2+ Kd2 11.Sxg1 draw.

xi) 7.Rg3? (Sc5? Kc3;) Kc1 8.Sc3 Kd2 9.e5 Ke1 10.Se4 Kf1 11.e6 Bxe6 12.Sg5 h2.

xii) Kc1 9.Rxg2 hxg2 10.Sf4 g1Q 11.Se2+ Kd2 12.Sxg1, or Bxd5 9.exd5 Kc1 10.d6.

xiii) But not g2? 5.Rg7 Kb1 6.Se4 Bb7 7.Kxb7 h2 8.Rxg2 h1Q 9.Rg4 draws.

xiv) 5.e3 Kb1 6.Se4 Bb7.

No 20550 M. Minski
3rd prize

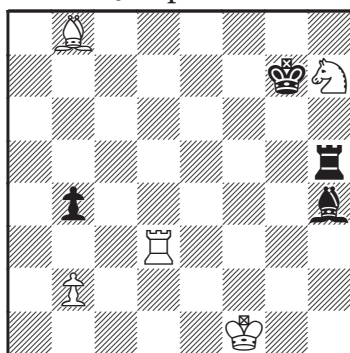


fig7 0441.11 5/4 Win

No 20550 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rd7+ Kh8/i 2.Sf8 Rf5+ 3.Kg2 Rxf8 4.Be5+, and:

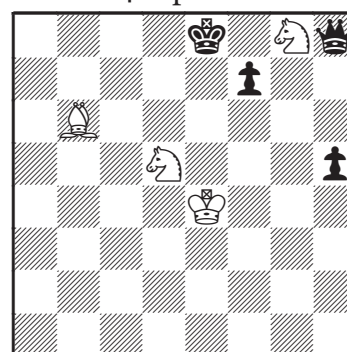
— Bf6 5.Rd8 Bxe5 6.Rxf8+ Kg7 7.Rf2 wins, or:

— Kg8 5.Rg7+ Kh8 6.Rg5+/ii Kh7 7.Rh5+ Kg6 8.Rxh4 wins.

i) Kg8 2.Bg3 Rf5+ 3.Kg2 Bxg3 4.Kxg3.

ii) 6.Rg4+? Bf6 7.Bxf6+ Rxf6 8.Rxb4 Kg8 draws.

No 20551 A. Jasik
4th prize



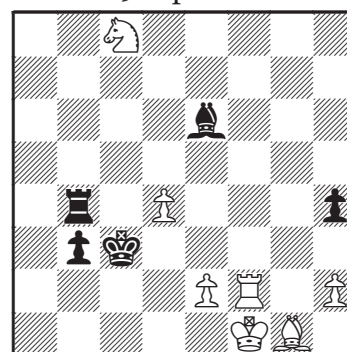
e4e8 3012.02 4/4 Win

No 20551 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Sgf6+ Kf8 2.Bd4 Qh6 3.Sf4/i zz h4/ii 4.Kf3 (S4h5? Qg6+;) h3 5.S4h5 Qc1 6.Bc5+ Qxc5 7.Sd7+ Ke7 8.Sxc5 wins.

i) 3.Sd7+? Ke8 4.S5f6+ Kd8 5.Bb6+ Kc8.

ii) Ke7 4.Sg8+, or Qg5 4.Sh7+ forking.

No 20552 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
5th prize



fic3 0441.32 7/5 Draw

No 20552 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Sd6/i b2 2.Se4+ Kxd4/ii 3.Sd2/iii b1Q+/iv 4.Sxb1 Rxb1+ 5.Kg2 h3+/v 6.Kh1/vi Bd5+ 7.e4/vii Bxe4+/viii 8.Rf3+/ix Kd5/x stalemate.

i) 1.Rf3+? Kc2 2.e4 b2 3.Rf2+ Kd3 4.Rxb2 Rxb2 5.Sd6 Bh3+ 6.Ke1 Rb1+ 7.Kf2 Rf1 mate.

ii) Kc4 3.Sd2+, or Kc2 3.e3+ Kc1 4.Sd2.

iii) 3.e3+? Ke5 4.Rxb2 Rxb2 5.Sg5 Bc4+ 6.Ke1 Re2+.

iv) Bh3+ 4.Ke1 b1Q+ 5.Sxb1 Rxb1+ 6.Kd2 Rxg1 7.Rf4+ Ke5 8.Rxh4.

v) Bd5+ 6.Kh3 Rxg1 7.Kxh4 Rg8 8.Rf4+ Be4 9.Rg4.

vi) 6.Kf3? Rxc1 7.e4 Ke5 8.Ke3 Ra1 with a technical win.

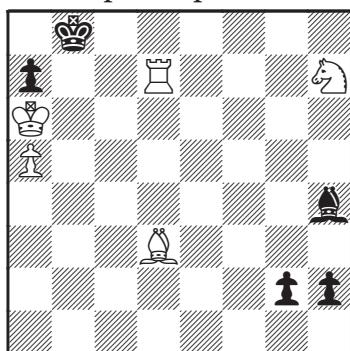
vii) 7.Rf3+? Ke5 8.e4 Kxe4.

viii) Kxe4 8.Rd2 Ke5+ 9.Rxd5+ Kxd5 stalemate, or Bb7 8.Rf1+ Kc4 9.Rc1+ Kd3 10.Re1 Rb2 11.Ba7 Bxe4+ 12.Kg1 Rg2+ 13.Kf1 Rxh2 14.Re3+ draw.

ix) 8.Rg2+? Rxc1+ 9.Kxc1 hxc2 wins.

x) Rxc1+ 9.Kxc1 Bxf3 10.Kf2 positional draw.

No 20553 J. Polašek
special prize



a6b8 o141.13 5/5 Draw

No 20553 Jaroslav Polašek (Czech Republic). 1.Sf6/i Bxf6 2.Bf5 g1Q/ii 3.Rb7+ Ka8 4.Be4, and:

— h1Q 5.Bd5, and:

– Qxd5 6.Rb8+ Kxb8 stalemate, or here:

– Qf1+ 6.Rb5+ Qxd5 stalemate, or:

— h1B 5.Bc6, with:

– Bxc6 6.Rb8+ Kxb8 stalemate, or here:

– Qc1 6.Rb6+ Qxc6 7.Rxc6 Bxc6 stalemate.

i) 1.Sg5? Bxg5 2.Bf5 Kc8 3.Rd2+ Kc7 4.Rd7+ Kc6 5.Be4+ Kxd7 6.Bxg2 Be3 7.Kb5 Kd6 8.Kc4 Ke5 9.Kd3 Kf4 10.Ke2 a6 and White will lose wPa5.

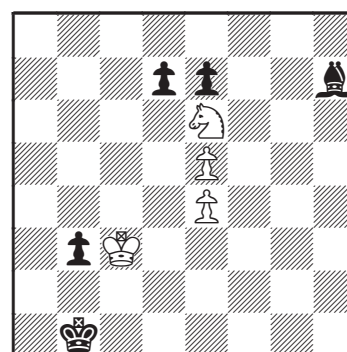
ii) If now Kc8 3.Rd2+ Kc7 4.Rd7+ Kc6 5.Be4+ Kxd7 6.Bxg2 Bd4 7.Kb5 Kd6 8.Kc4 wins a tempo: 8...Bc5 9.a6.

Correcting a study by M. Matouš (HHdbV #40894).

HH: The heading should have read: M. Matouš, 2nd hon. mention *Československy Sach* 1974, correction by J. Polašek.

No 20554 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Sc5 Bg8 2.e6/i Bxe6 3.Sxb3 Bxb3 4.Kxb3 Kc1/ii 5.Kc3, and:

No 20554 P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



c3b1 o031.23 4/5 Draw

— e6 6.e5 Kd1 7.Kd3 draws, or:

— Kd1 6.Kd3 Ke1 7.e5 Kf2 8.Ke4/iii Kg3 9.e6 d6 10.Kf5 Kf3/iv 11.Kg6 d5 12.Kf7 d4 13.Kxe7 draws.

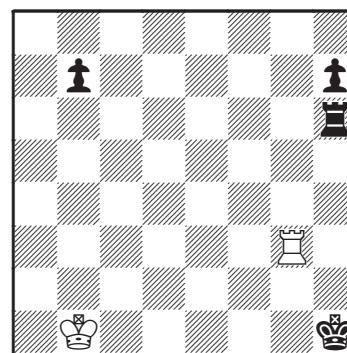
i) 2.Sxb3? Bxb3 3.Kxb3 e6 4.Kc3 Kc1 5.Kd3 Kd1 6.Ke3 Kc2 7.Kd4 Kd2 8.Kc5 Kd3 wins.

ii) d6 (e6; e5) 5.Kc4 Kc2 6.Kd5 Kd3 7.e5 draws.

iii) move transposition dual: 8.e6 d6 9.Ke4.

iv) d5 11.Ke5 Kg4 12.Kxd5 Kf5 13.Kd4 Kxe6 14.Ke4 draws.

No 20555 R. Becker & I. Akobia †
2nd honourable mention



b1h1 o400.02 2/4 Draw.

I: Diagram, II: extra wPb2

No 20555 Richard Becker (USA) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia).

I: 1.Rb3 (Rg7? Rb6+;) b6 2.Rg3 Rh5 3.Rb3 (Rg4? Rb5+;) Rh6/i 4.Rg3 Kh2 5.Rg4/ii zz Rh5 6.Rb4 Rh6 7.Rg4 Kh3 8.Rg5 zz Kh4 9.Rg2 zz Rh5 10.Rb2 Rh6 11.Rg2 Kh5/iii 12.Rg7 b5 13.Kb2 draws, e.g. Kh4 14.Kb3 Rh5 15.Kb4 h6 16.Rg6 Kh3 17.Rg1.

II: 1.Rg7/iv b6/v 2.Rg5/vi zz Rh2 3.Rg4 Rh5 4.Rg3 Rh2/vii 5.Rg4 h6 6.Rg6 h5 7.Rg5 h4 8.Rg4

b5/viii 9.Ka2 b4 10.Kb1 b3 11.Rg1+/ix Kxg1 stalemate.

i) b5 4.Rg3 Rh4 5.Rg5 b4 6.Kc2 h6 7.Rg6 h5 8.Rg5 Rh3 9.Kd2 (Kd1) b3 10.Kc1 Rh2 11.Kb1 h4 12.Rg4 h3 13.Rg3 b2 14.Ka2.

ii) 5.Rg5? Kh3 zz 6.Kb2 Kh4 7.Rg1 Rh5 8.Kb3 Rb5+ 9.Kc4 Rc5+ wins.

iii) Rh5 12.Rb2 b5 13.Rg2 h6 14.Rg6.

iv) 1.Rb3? b6 2.Rg3 Rh5 zz 3.Rg4 Rh2 zz 4.Rg5 h5 zz 5.Ka2 b5 6.Kb1 b4 7.Rg3 Rh4 8.Kxb2 Kh2.

v) b5 2.Rb7 Rh5 3.Rg7 Rh4 4.Kxb2 h5 5.Rg5 b4 6.Kb3 (Kc2) Kh2 7.Ka4 (Kc2).

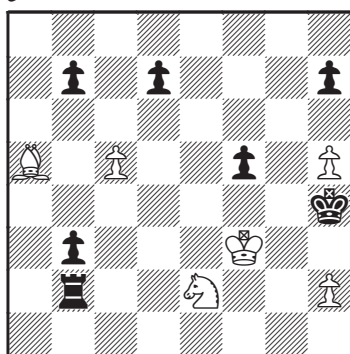
vi) 2.Kxb2? Rh5 3.Kb3 Rb5+ 4.Kc4 Rc5+ 5.Kd4 h5.

vii) Rh4 5.Kxb2 Kh2 6.Rg5.

viii) h3 9.Rg3 b5 10.Ka2 b4 11.Kb1.

ix) Or 11.Rg3 hxg3 stalemate.

No 20556 V. Tarasiuk
3rd honourable mention



f3h4 0311.35 6/7 Win

No 20556 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.c6/i bxc6 2.Sf4 Rf2+/ii 3.Kxf2 b2 4.Kf3 Kg5 5.h4+ Kh6 6.Bb4 c5 7.Bxc5 d6 8.Bxd6 Kg7 9.Be5+ Kh6 10.Se6/iii b1Q 11.Bg7+ Kxh5 12.Sf4+ Kxh4 13.Bf6 mate.

i) 1.Sf4? Rf2+/iv 2.Kxf2 b2 3.Kf3 Kg5 4.Bd8+ Kh6 5.Be7 Kg7 6.Bf6+ Kxf6 7.Sd5+ Ke5 8.Sc3 Kd4 9.Sb1 Kxc5.

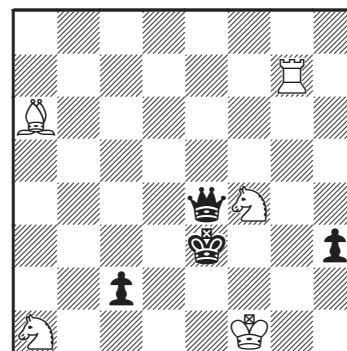
ii) Kg5 3.h4+ Kh6 4.Bb4 Kg7 5.Bc3+.

iii) 10.Bxb2? stalemate.

iv) But not Kg5? 2.h4+ Kh6 3.c6 bxc6 4.Bb4.

No 20557 Anatoly Skripnik (Russia).
1.Sd5+/i Qxd5/ii 2.Sxc2+ Kd2/iii 3.Rg3/iv Qh1+ 4.Kf2/v, and:

No 20557 A. Skripnik
4th honourable mention



f1e3 3112.02 5/4 Draw

— Qh2+ 5.Kf3 Kxc2 6.Kg4 Qg2 7.Bd3+ Kd2 8.Kh4 draws, or:

— Kxc2 5.Bd3+ Kd2 6.Bf1 h2 7.Rg2 Kc3 8.Be2, draws/v.

i) 1.Sxc2+? Qxc2, and now: 2.Sxh3 Qb1+ 3.Kg2 Qb2+, or here: 2.Sd5+ Kd4 3.Sb4 Qd1+ 4.Kf2 Kc3 wins.

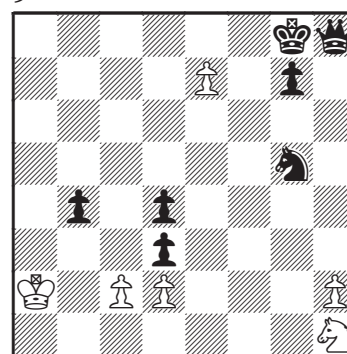
ii) Kf3 2.Sb3 c1Q+ 3.Sxc1 h2 4.Be2+ Qxe2+ 5.Sxe2 h1Q+ 6.Sg1+.

iii) Kf4 3.Se1 h2 4.Sg2+ Kf5 5.Se3+ Ke4 6.Sxd5 h1Q+ 7.Kf2.

iv) 5.Bf1? h2 6.Rg2 Kd2 zz 7.Be2 Qe1+ wins.

v) e.g. Kc2 9.Bf3 Kd2 10.Kg3+ Ke3 11.Re2+.

No 20558 E. Fomichev & M. Hlinka
5th honourable mention



a2g8 3004.44 6/7 Win

No 20558 Evgeny Fomichev (Russia) & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.e8Q+ Kh7 2.Qh5+ Kg8 3.Qxg5 Qxh2 4.Sg3 dxc2 5.Kb2/i b3 6.Sh5/ ii Qc7/iii 7.Sf6+, and:

— Kf8 8.Qc5+ Qxc5 9.Sd7+ wins, or:

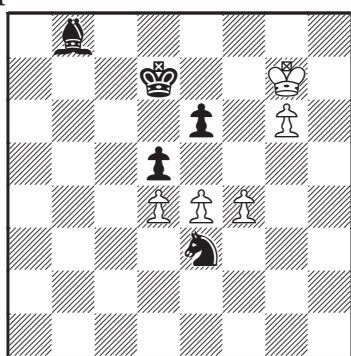
— Kf7 8.Qxg7+ Kxg7 9.Se8+ wins.

i) 5.Qd5+? Kh7 6.Qe4+ g6 7.Qe7+ Kh6 8.Qf8+ Kh7.

ii) 6.Qd5+? Kh7 7.Qe4+ g6 8.Se2 c1Q+ 9.Kxc1 Qc7+ 10.Kb2 Qa5 11.Kxb3 Qxd2.

iii) c1Q+ 7.Kxc1 Qc7+ 8.Kb2 wins.

No 20559 J. Polašek
special honourable mention



g7d7 0033.42 5/5 Draw

No 20559 Jaroslav Polašek (Czech Republic). 1.Kh8/i Sf5/ii 2.exf5 Ba7 3.f6 Bxd4 4.Kg8 (Kg7? Ke8;) Bxf6 5.Kf7/iii Bc3 6.Kf8 Kd6 7.Kf7 Bh8 8.Kg8 Bf6 9.Kf7 Bc3 10.Kf8 draws.

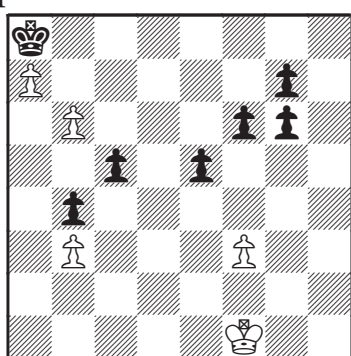
i) 1.Kh7? dxe4 2.g7 Sd5 3.g8Q Sf6+ 4.Kg7 Sxg8, or 1.Kf8? dxe4 2.g7 Sf5 3.g8Q Bd6+ 4.Kf7 Sh6+, or 1.Kf6? dxe4 2.g7 Sd5+ win.

ii) Ba7 2.g7 Bxd4 3.e5, or Sg4 2.g7 Sh6 3.e5 Ke7 4.Kh7 Kf7 5.Kxh6 Kg8 6.Kg6 Ba7 7.f5 and White wins.

iii) 5.Kf8? e5 6.Kf7 exf4 7.Kxf6 f3 8.g7 f2 9.g8Q f1Q+ 10.Ke5 Qe2+ Qc4+ 12.Ke3 d4+ wins.

A correction/version of R. Réti, 1st honourable mention *Shakhmaty Listok* 1928 (HHdbV#72094).

No 20560 J. Polašek
special honourable mention



f1a8 0000.46 5/7 Win

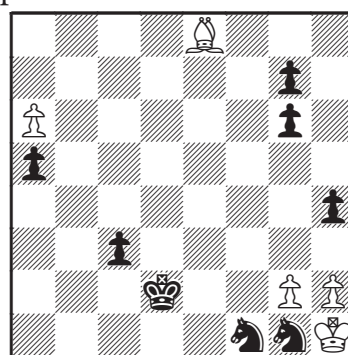
No 20560 Jaroslav Polašek (Czech Republic). 1.Ke2 e4/i 2.fxe4 g5 3.Kd3 g4 4.e5 fxe5 (g3; e6) 5.Kc4 g3 6.Kd5 g2 7.Kc6 g1Q 8.b7+ Kxa7 9.Kc7 Qg6/ii 10.b8Q+ Ka6 11.Qa8+ Kb5 12.Qa4 mate.

i) f5 2.Kd3 e4+ 3.fxe4 fxe4+ 4.Kxe4 c4 5.bxc4 b3 6.Kd3 and c4-c5.

ii) c4 10.b8Q+ Ka6 11.Qb7+ wins, e.g. Ka5 12.Qd5+ Ka6 13.Qc6+ Ka5 14.Qa4 mate.

A version of L. Sedlak, *Vychodslovensky noviny* 1978 (HHdbV#37256)

No 20561 V. Tarasiuk
special honourable mention



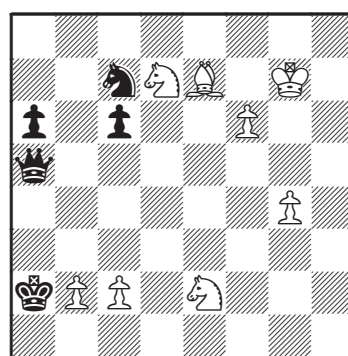
h1d2 0016.35 5/8 Win

No 20561 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Ba4/i Se2 2.a7 c2 3.Bxc2 Kxc2 4.a8Q Sfg3+ 5.hxg3 hxg3 6.Qxa5 Kd3 7.Qg5 zz Kc2 (Ke4; Qd2) 8.Qd5 (Qd5) wins/ii.

i) 1.Bxg6? Se2 2.a7 c2 3.Bxc2 Kxc2 4.a8Q Sfg3+ 5.hxg3 hxg3 6.Qxa5 Kd3 7.Qg5 g6 8.Qh6 Kc2 9.Qg5 Kd3 10.Qh6 Kc2 draws. 1.a7? c2 2.a8Q c1Q 3.Qd8+ Ke1 4.Qxh4+ Kd1 5.Ba4+ Kd2 6.Qd4+ Ke1 7.Qxg1 Qf4 and Black wins.

ii) e.g. g5 9.Qd6 g4 10.Qd5.

No 20562 A. Jasik
commendation



g7a2 3015.42 8/5 Win

No 20562 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Sc5/i Se8+/ii 2.Kg8 Sxf6+ 3.Bxf6 Qxc5 4.Sc3+ Ka1 5.b3 Qa5 6.b4 Qxb4 7.Sd5+ wins.

i) 1.f7? Se6+ 2.Kf6 Qg5+ 3.Kxe6 Qxg4+ 4.Kd6 Qg6+ draws.

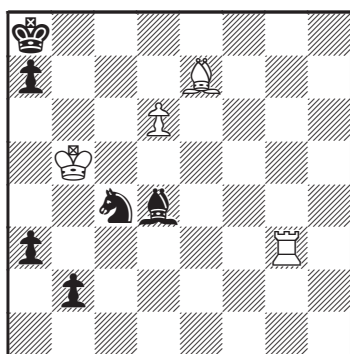
ii) Qe1 2.Sc3+ Ka1 3.g5 Qe5 4.S3e4 wins.

ii) Qh2+ 2.Kg6 Qh8 3.Be4+.

iii) Kb6 4.a8S+ Ka6 5.Sc7+ Ka7 6.Ra5+ Kb6 7.Rb5+, or Kc4 4.Be2+ Qxe2 5.a8Q draws.

iv) 4.Rf7? Qh8+ 5.Kg6 Qg8+ 6.Kh6 Bd4 7.a8Q Be3+ 8.Kh5 Qg5 mate.

No 20563 A. Karaca & I. Aliev
commendation



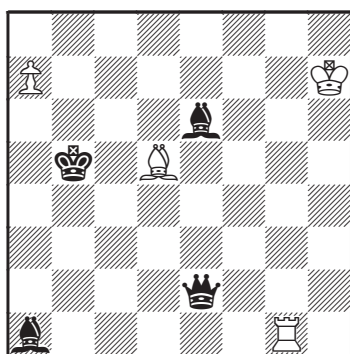
b5a8 0143.13 4/6 Draw

No 20563 A. Karaca (Turkey) & Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Ka6 b1Q 2.Rg8+ Qb8 3.Rxb8+ Kxb8 4.d7 Bb6 5.Bd6+ (Bxa3? Kc7;) Ka8/i 6.Bxa3 Se5/ii 7.d8Q+ Bxd8 8.Bc5 Sc6 9.Bxa7 Sxa7 stalemate.

i) Sxd6 6.d8Q+ Bxd8 stalemate.

ii) Sxa3 7.d8Q+ Bxd8 stalemate. Bd8 e.g. 7.Bc5 Sb6 8.Bd4 Kb8 9.Be5+ Ka8 10.Bd4 draws.

No 20564 M. Minski
commendation

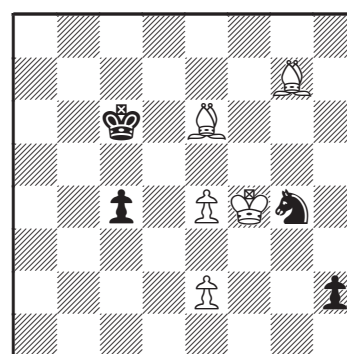


h7b5 3170.10 4/4 Draw

No 20564 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rg5/i Bf5+/ii 2.Rxf5 Qb2 3.Bf3+ Kb4/iii 4.Rf4+/iv Kc5 5.Rf7 Qh8+ 6.Kg6 Qg8+ 7.Kh6 Bd4 8.Rf5+ Kb4 9.a8Q Be3+ 10.Kh5 Qh7+ 11.Kg4 wins.

i) 1.Bc6+? Kb6, or 1.Rb1+? Kc5 2.Rxa1 Sxd5 3.Ra5+ Kb6 win.

No 20565 S. Nosek
commendation



f4c6 0023.22 5/4 Draw

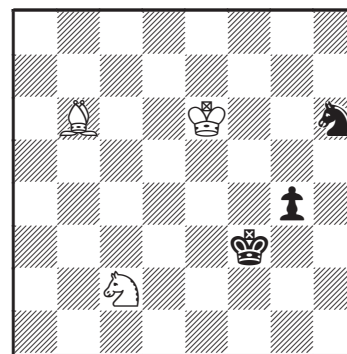
No 20565 Stanislav Nosek (Slovakia). 1.Bd5+ Kc5 2.Bf8+ Kd4 3.Bg7+ Se5 4.Bxe5+ Kc5 5.Bd6+ Kxd6 6.Ba8 (Bb7? Kc7;) c3 7.e5+ Kc5 8.Ke3 Kb4 9.e6/i Kb3 10.Be4/ii h1Q 11.Bxh1 c2 12.Bd5+/iii Kb2 13.e7 c1Q+ 14.Ke4 Qd2 15.Ke5 draws.

i) 9.Be4? Ka3 10.e6 c2 11.Bxc2 h1Q wins.

ii) 10.e7? c2 11.e8Q c1Q+ 12.Kf2 Qg1+ wins.

iii) 12.e7? c1Q+ 13.Kd4 Qa1+ 14.Kc5 Qa3+ wins.

No 20566 D. Blundell
commendation



e6f3 0014.01 3/3 Win

No 20566 D. Blundell (Great Britain). 1.Be3 Sg8/i 2.Kf7 Ke4/ii 3.Bc1/iii g3 4.Se1 g2 5.Sxg2 Kf3 6.Sh4+/iv Kg4 7.Sg6 Kf5 8.Bd2 Sf6 9.Se7+ Ke5 10.Bc3+ wins.

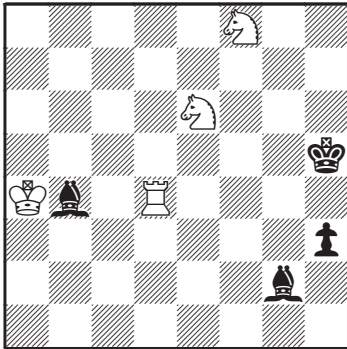
i) g3 2.Bxh6 g2 3.Be3 Ke2 4.Ba7 Kf1 5.Se3+ Kg1 6.Sg4+/vi Kh1 7.Sf2+ Kh2 8.Bb8+ Kg1 9.Sh3+ Kh1 10.Ba7 wins.

ii) Ke2 3.Bc5 Sh6+ 4.Kg6 wins.

iii) 3.Bg5? g3 4.Kxg8 g2 5.Be3 Kd3.

iv) 6.Se1+? Ke2 7.Sg2 Kf3 draws.

No 20567 J. Polašek
Special commendation



a4h5 0162.01 4/4 Win

No 20567 Jaroslav Polašek (Czech Republic). 1.Sf4+/i Kh6 2.Sxh3/ii Be7 3.Sf2/iii Bc6+/iv 4.Ka5 Bxf8 5.Kb6 Be8/v 6.Rd8 Bg7 7.Sg4+ (Rxe8? Bd4+;) Kg5 8.Rxe8, and Kxg4 9.Rg8 or Bd4+ 9.K- Kxg4 10.Re4+ wins.

i) 1.Kxb4? h2 2.Sg7+ Kg5 3.Sh7+ Kg6 4.Rg4+ Kxh7 5.Rh4+ Kxg7 draws.

ii) 2.Kxb4? h2 3.Sxg2 h1Q 4.Rh4+ Qxh4+, or 2.Sxg2? hxg2 3.Rg4 Bxf8 draws.

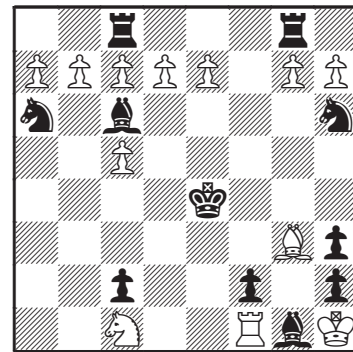
iii) 3.Sf4? Bc6+ 4.Kb3 Bxf8 draws.

iv) Bxf8 4.Rh4+ Kg5 5.Rg4+ wins.

v) Bg2 6.Rh4+ Kg5 7.Rg4+ wins.

An extension of L. Pachman, 4th prize UJCS 1942 (HHdbV#63432 1942).

No 20568 M. Zinar
special commendation



h1e4 0777.84 12/11 Win

No 20568 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.b8S (b8S? Bd5;) Sxb8 2.axb8S (cxb8S)/i Rxb8 3.cxb8S Rxb8 4.d8S Rxd8 5.exd8S Bd5 6.g8B/ii Sxg8 7.hxg8B/iii wins.

i) 2.d8S? Ke3+ 3.Sxc6 Sxc6 4.hxg8Q Rxg8 5.Bxh2 Sf5 6.Rxg1 fxg1Q+ 7.Bxg1+ Ke4 and Black wins.

ii) 6.g8Q? Sf7 7.Qxf7 Ke3+ 8.Qxd5 stalemate.

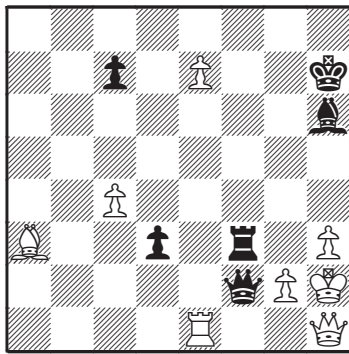
iii) 7.hxg8Q? Ke3+ 8.Qxd5 stalemate.

Azerbaijan Chess Composition

Commission 45 AT 2015

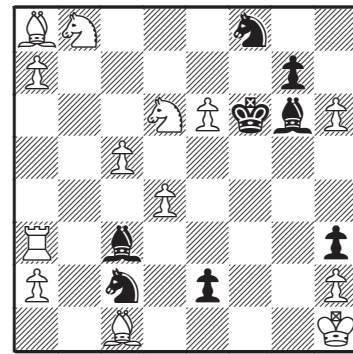
Bakhtiyar Rustamov judged the endgame study section of this anniversary tourney that attracted 18 studies by 18 composers from 4 countries (Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkey and Hungary).

No 20569 I. Aliev
1st prize



h2h7 4440.42 8/6 Win

No 20570 M. Muradov & J. Mikitovics
2nd prize



h1f6 0188.73 13/8 Win

No 20569 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Qg1 Bf4+ 2.Kh1 Qh4 3.Re2 dxe2/i 4.Qb1+ Kg7 5.Qg6+/ii, and:

— Kxg6 6.e8Q+ Kh7 7.Qf7+ Kh6 (Kh8; Bb2+) 8.Bf8+ Kg5 9.Qe7+ Kg6 (Kf5; g4+) 10.Qe6+ Qf6/iii 11.Qg8+ Kf5 (Kh5; Qg4 mate) 12.g4+ Ke4 (Ke5; Qd5 mate) 13.Qd5+ Ke3 14.Bc5+ wins, or:

— Kg7 7.Bf8+/iv Kg8 8.Be7+ Kg7 9.Qf8+ Kh7 10.Qf7+ Kh6/v 11.Bf8+ Kg5 12.Qe7+ Kf5 13.g4+ wins.

i) Rxh3+ 4.gxh3 Qxh3+ 5.Rh2 Bxh2 6.Qxh2 Qxh2+ 7.Kxh2 d2 8.e8Q wins.

ii) Try: 5.e8S+? Kh6 6.Bf8+ Kg5 7.Be7+ Kh6 positional draw.

iii) Kh7 (Kh5; g4+) 11.Qf7+ Kh8 12.Qg7 mate, or Kg5 11.Be7+ Kh5 12.g4+ wins.

iv) 7.Bb2+? Be5 8.Bxe5+ Kh7 9.Qd7+ Kg6 10.Qg7+ Kf5 11.Qf7+ Kg5 12.Qe7+ Kg6 13.Qxh4 Rf1+ 14.Kh2 e1Q draws.

v) Kh8 11.Bf6+ Qxf6 12.Qxf6+ wins.

No 20570 Muradkhan Muradov (Azerbaijan) & János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Bd2/i Bxd2 2.Rf3+/ii Bf4 (Kg5; Rg3+) 3.Rxf4+ Kg5 4.Rg4+ Kxg4 5.Bf3+ Kxf3 6.a8Q+ Kf2 7.Qa5 (Se4+? Ke3;) Sxe6 8.hxg7/iii Sxg7 9.Qd2 Se6 10.d5/iv Kf1 11.Qxe2+/v Kxe2 12.dxe6 Se1/vi 13.Sd7 (e7? Kf1;) Kf1 14.Sf6/vii Sd3 15.Sde4/viii wins.

i) 1.Sd7+? Sxd7 2.Bd2 Bxd2 3.Rg3 Be3 4.Rg1 Sxc5 5.Bf3 Sd3 6.Rxg6+ Kxg6 7.Bxe2 Sf2+ draws.

ii) 2.Rg3? Be3 3.Sd7+ Sxd7 4.Rg1 Sxc5 5.Bf3 (hxg7 Bxg1;) Sd3 6.Rxg6+ Kxg6 7.Bxe2 Sf2+, or 2.Sd7+? Sxd7 3.Rg3 Be3 draw.

iii) 8.Qd2? Kf1 9.Qc3 e1Q 10.Qf3+ Qf2 draws.

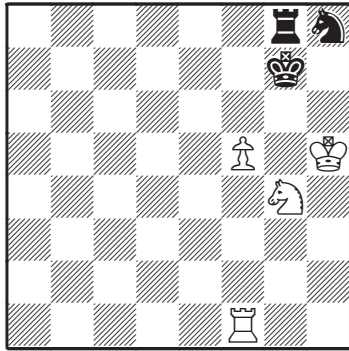
iv) 10.Sc6? (Sd7?) Kf1 11.Se5 e1Q 12.Qxe1+ Kxe1 13.d5 (Sxg6 Scxd4;) Sxc5 14.Sxg6 Sb4 15.Sf4 Sxa2 16.Sxh3 Sb4 17.Sf4 Kf2, or 10.c6? Kf1 11.c7 e1Q 12.Qxe1+ Sxe1 draw.

v) 11.Qc3? e1Q 12.Qf3+ Qf2 13.Qxf2+ Kxf2 14.dxe6 Se3 draws.

vi) Kf1 13.Sd7 Sb4 (Bh5; Se5) 14.Sf6 wins.

- vii) 14.Se5? Sd3 15.Sg4 Sf2+ 16.Sxf2 Kxf2 mates.
 viii) 15.Sfe4? Sf2+ 16.Sxf2 Bh5 mates.

No 20571 I. Aliev & D. Gurgenzidze
 special prize



h5g7 0404.10 4/3 Win

No 20571 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan) & David Gurgenzidze (Georgia). 1.f6+ Kh7/i 2.f7/ii Rf8/iii 3.Sf6+ Kg7 4.Se8+ Kh7 5.Rg1, and:

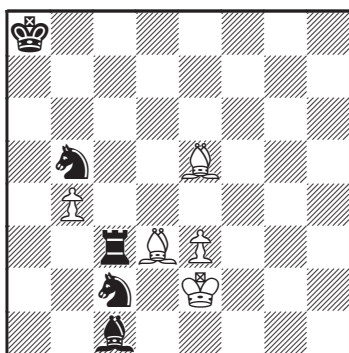
- Rxf7 6.Rg7+ Rxg7 7.Sf6 mate, or:
- Sxf7/iv 6.Sf6+ Kh8 7.Kg6 Se5+/v 8.Kf5 Sd7 (Rxf6+; Kxf6) 9.Rh1+ Kg7 10.Rh7 mate.
- i) Kf8 2.Ra1, or Kf7 2.Sh6+ win.
- ii) 2.Se5? Re8 3.Sf3 Kg8 4.Ra1 Sf7 5.Kg6 Sh8+ 6.Kf5 Sf7 draws.

iii) Sxf7 3.Rxf7+ Kh8/vi 4.Sf6 Rg5+ 5.Kh4/vii Rg4+/viii 6.Sxg4 wins, avoiding 6.Kxg4? stalemate.

iv) Sg6 6.Rxg6 Rxf7 7.Sf6+ Kh8 8.Rg8 mate.
 v) Rg8+ 8.Sxg8 Kxg8 9.Re1 Kf8 (Sd6; Re6) 10.Rf1 wins.

- vi) Rg7 4.Sf6+ Kh8 5.Rf8+ wins.
- vii) 5.Kxg5? stalemate.
- viii) Rh5+ 6.Sxh5, avoiding 6.Kxh5? stalemate.

No 20572 A. Almammadov
 1st honourable mention

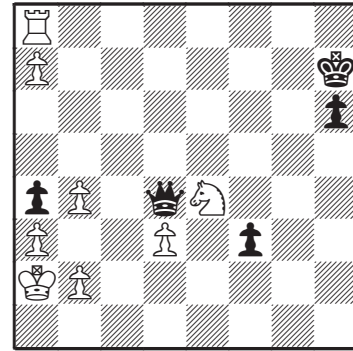


e2a8 0356.20 5/5 Draw

No 20572 Araz Almammadov (Azerbaijan). 1.Be4+/i Ka7 2.Bxc3 Sxc3+ 3.Kd3 Sxe4 4.Kxc2 Ba3 (Bxe3; Kd3) 5.Kb3 Bc1 6.Kc2 Ba3 (Bxe3; Kd3) 7.Kb3 Bc1 8.Kc2 Bxe3 9.Kd3 draws.

- i) 1.Bxb5? Rxe3+, or 1.Bxc3? Sxc3+ win.

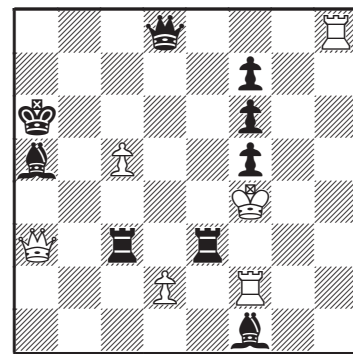
No 20573 J. Huseynzada
 2nd honourable mention



a2h7 3101.53 8/5 Win

No 20573 Jeyhun Huseynzada (Azerbaijan). 1.Rg8 Qd5+ (Kxg8; a8Q+) 2.Ka1 (Kb1? Qxd3+) Qxg8 (Kxg8; Sf6+) 3.Sf6+ Kg7 4.Sxg8 f2 5.a8Q f1Q+ 6.Ka2 Qf7+ 7.Kb1 Qf1+ 8.Kc2 Qe2+ 9.Kc3 wins.

No 20574 A. Almammadov & E. Abdullaev
 3rd honourable mention



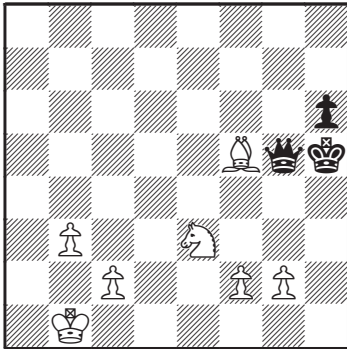
f4a6 4860.23 6/9 Draw

No 20574 Araz Almammadov & Elmar Abdullaev (Azerbaijan). 1.Qxa5+/i, and:

- Kxa5 2.Rxd8 Re4+ 3.Kxf5 Re5+ 4.Kxf6 Re6+ 5.Kxf7 draws, or:
- Qxa5 2.Ra8+, and now:
 - Kb5 3.Rxa5+ Kxa5 4.Rxf1/ii Re4+ 5.Kxf5 Rcc4 6.d3 Re5+ 7.Kxf6 Rxc5 8.d4 Re6+ 9.Kxf7 Rcc6 10.d5 draws, or:
 - Kb7 3.Rxa5 Re4+ 4.Kxf5 Bd3 5.dxc3/iii Re2+/iv 6.Kf4 Rxf2+ 7.Ke3 draws.

- i) 1.Rxd8? Rxa3 2.dxe3 Bd3.
- ii) 4.dxe3? Bd3, or 4.dxc3? Re1 win.
- iii) 5.Kxf6? Rc1 6.Kxf7 Bc4+ 7.Kf6 Re6+ 8.Kf5 Re8 9.Kf4 Kc6 10.d3 Bxd3 11.Raa2 (Ra7 Kxc5;), e.g. Rh1 12.Rh2 Rf1+ wins.
- iv) Ra4+ 6.Kxf6 Rxa5 7.Kxf7 draws.

No 20575 U. Sayman
commendation

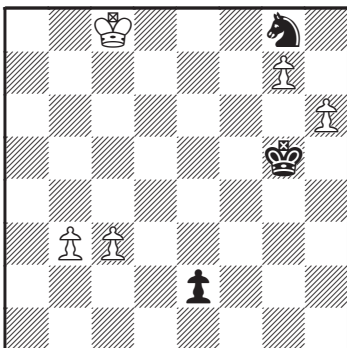


b1h5 3011.41 7/3 Win

No 20575 Umut Sayman (Turkey). 1.Sd5, and:

- Qh4 2.g4+ Kg5 3.f4 mate, or:
- Qd8 2.Sf4+ Kh4 3.g3+ Kg5 4.Se6+ Kxf5 5.Sxd8 wins, or:
- Qd2 (Qxg2; Sf4+) 2.Sf6+ Kg5 3.Se4+ Kxf5 4.Sxd2 wins, or:
- Qxf5 2.g4+ Kxg4/i 3.Se3+ Kg5 4.Sxf5 Kxf5 5.Kc1 wins.
- i) Qxg4 3.Sf6+ Kg5 4.Sxg4 Kxg4 5.b4 wins.

No 20576 A. Rzayev
commendation

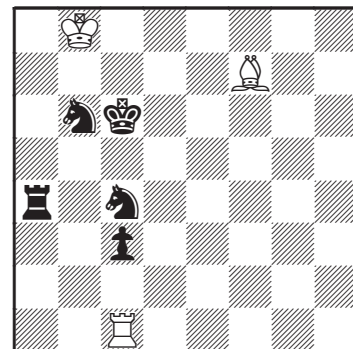


c8g5 0003.41 5/3 Win

No 20576 Asker Rzayev (Turkey). 1.h7 e1Q 2.hxg8Q Qxc3+ 3.Qc4/i Qxg7 4.Qc1+ Kf5/ii 5.Qc2+ Ke6/iii 6.Qc6+ Kf5 (Ke5; Qc3+) 7.Qd7+ Qxd7+ 8.Kxd7 Ke5 9.Kc6 (b4? Kd5;) wins.

- i) 3.Kb7? Qb4+ 4.Kc6 Qc3+ draws.
- ii) Kh5 5.Qh1+ Kg6 6.Qg2+, or Kf6 5.Qc3+, or Kg4 5.Qg1+ win.
- iii) Kf4 6.Qc7+ Qxc7+ 7.Kxc7, or Kg5 6.Qg2+, or Ke5 6.Qc3+ win.

No 20577 S. Rahmanov
commendation



b8c6 0416.01 3/5 Draw

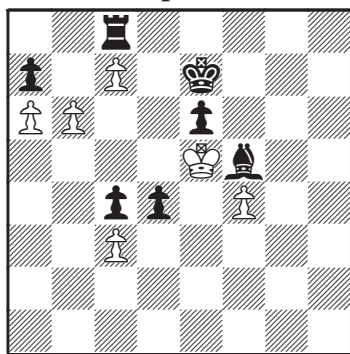
No 20577 Shahriyar Rahmanov (Azerbaijan). 1.Be8+ Sd7+ 2.Bxd7+ (Kc8? Ra8 mate;) Kxd7 3.Rxc3 Rb4+ 4.Ka7 (Ka8? Kc7;) Kc7 5.Ka6 Rb6+/i 6.Ka7 Rb4 (Kc6; Rh3) 7.Ka6 Kc6 8.Ka7 Kc7 9.Ka6 Kb8 10.Rb3 Rxb3 stalemate.

- i) Kc6 6.Ka7 Kc7 7.Ka6 repeats.

2nd Azerbaijan Cup 2015

Ilham Aliev judged the 2nd Azerbaijan Cup in which 7 Azerbaijani composers competed.

No 20578 R. Zeynalli
1st place



e5e7 o330.54 6/7 Win

No 20578 Rashad Zeynalli. 1.b7 Rxc7/i 2.b8Q Rd7 3.Qb4+ Kf7 4.Qb7 Ke7 (Raxb7; axb7) 5.cxd4 c3 6.d5/ii Rxb7/iii 7.d6+/iv Kf7 8.axb7 c2 9.b8Q c1Q 10.Qc7+ Qxc7 11.dxc7 wins.

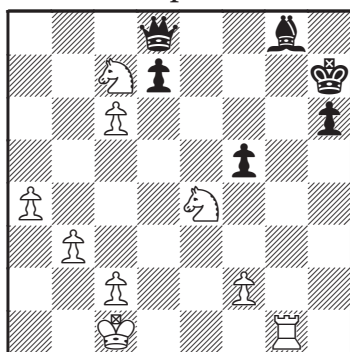
i) Kd7 2.b8Q dxc3 3.Qb5+ Ke7 4.Qc6 c2 5.Qd6+ Kf7 6.Qd7+ Kg6 7.Qxc8 c1Q 8.Qg8+ wins.

ii) 6.Qb4+? Kf7 7.Qb7 Rxb7 8.axb7 c2 draws.

iii) c2 7.d6+ Ke8 8.Qc6 wins.

iv) or 7.axb7 c2 8.d6+.

No 20579 K. Velikhanov
2nd place



c1h7 3132.53 9/6 Win

No 20579 Kenan Velikhanov. 1.Sd5/i Bxd5/ii 2.c7 Qxc7/iii 3.Sf6+ Kh8 4.Rg7, and:

— Kxg7 5.Se8+ Kf7 6.Sxc7 wins, or:

— Qf4+ 5.Kb1 (Kb2? Qe5+;) Kxg7 6.Sh5+ Kf7 7.Sxf4 wins.

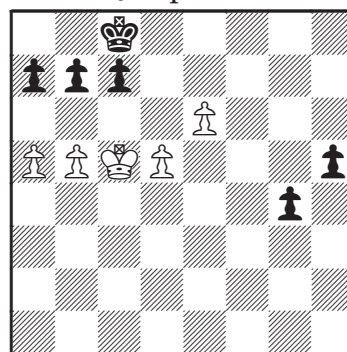
i) 1.cxd7? fxe4 2.Rd1 Bxb3 3.cxb3 Qxc7+ 4.Kb2 Qd8 5.a5 h5 6.a6 Qf6+ 7.Kb1 Qc3 8.d8Q Qxb3+ with perpetual check.

ii) fxe4 2.c7 Qf8 3.c8Q Qxc8 4.Sf6+ Kh8 5.Rxg8+ Qxg8 6.Sxg8 wins.

iii) Qf8 3.Sf6+ Qxf6 4.c8Q Qa1+ 5.Kd2 Qxg1 6.Qxd7+ Kg6 7.Qd6+ Kh5 8.Qxd5 Qxf2+ 9.Kc3 Qe3+ 10.Kb2 Kg4 (Qe4; Qxe4) 11.a5 f4 12.a6 f3 13.Qd7+ Kh4 (Kg3; a7) 14.a7 f2/iv 15.a8Q fiQ 16.Qad8+ Kh5 17.Q8e8+ Qxe8 18.Qxe8+ wins.

iv) Qe5+ 15.Ka2 Qa5+ 16.Qa4+ Qxa4+ 17.bxa4 f2 18.a8Q fiQ 19.Qd8+ wins.

No 20580 J. Huseynzada
3rd place



c5c8 0000.45 5/6 Win

No 20580 Jeyhun Huseynzada. 1.b6/i axb6+ (cxb6+; Kd6) 2.axb6 Kd8/ii 3.e7+/iii Kxe7 4.bxc7 Kd7 5.Kb6/iv Kc8 6.d6 g3 7.d7+ Kxd7 8.Kxb7 g2 9.c8Q+ wins.

i) 1.a6? bxa6 2.Kc6 Kd8 3.e7+ Kxe7 4.Kxc7 g3 5.d6+ Kf7 6.d7 g2 draws.

ii) cxb6+ 3.Kd6 Kd8 4.e7+ Ke8 5.Ke6 g3 6.d6 g2 7.d7 mate, or g3 3.e7 Kd7 4.bxc7 wins.

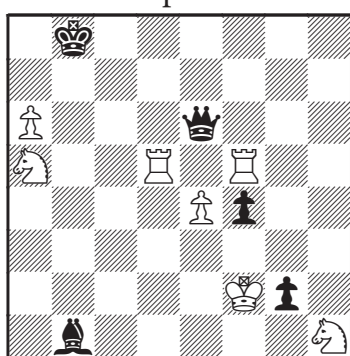
iii) 3.bxc7+? Kxc7 4.d6+ Kd8 5.e7+ (d7 Kc7;) Kd7 6.Kb6 g3 7.e8Q+ Kxe8 8.Kc7 g2 9.d7+ Kf7.

iv) 5.d6? g3 6.Kb6 g2 7.Kxb7 g1Q 8.c8Q+ Kxd6 draws.

Hungarian Chess Federation 2014

Every year the Hungarian Chess Federation organizes an informal tourney from which the studies are published in its magazine: *Magyar Sakkvilág*. For 2014, 29 studies by 19 composers participated. The award by judge Árpád Rusz (Romania) was published in *MS vii2015*. Five studies proved to be unsound and there also was a case of 100% anticipation: János Hartly submitted a study which turned out to be a mirrored version of a study by the famous Hungarian(!)/Romanian composer Pál Farago. “In life we are all duffers” (Lasker).

No 20581 M. Minski
1st prize



f2b8 3232.22 7/5 Draw

No 20581 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Sg3/i fxg3+ 2.Kg1, and:

— Qb6+ 3.Rc5 Bxe4 4.Rf8+ Ka7 5.Sc6+ Bxc6
6.Rf7+ Kxa6 7.Ra7+ Kxa7 (Qxa7) stalemate,

or:

— Bxe4 3.a7+ (Sc6+? Kc7;) Kxa7 4.Sc6+ Kb6
5.Se5/ii, and now:

– Bxd5 6.Rf6 Qxf6 7.Sd7+ draws, or:

– Bxf5 6.Rd6+ Qxd6 7.Sc4+ draws, or:

– Qxd5 6.Sd7+/iii Qxd7 7.Rb5+ Ka6 8.Ra5+/
iv Kb6 9.Rb5+ Kc6 (Kc7; Rb7+) 10.Rc5+
Kd6 11.Rd5+ Bxd5 stalemate.

i) 1.Rb5+? Ka7 2.Rxb1 Qa2+ wins.

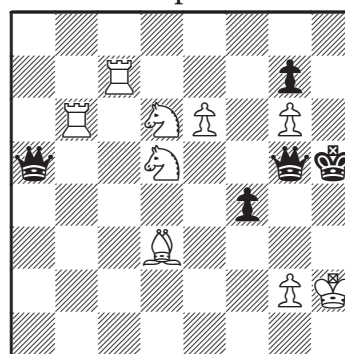
ii) 5.Sd8? (Rb5+? Kc7;) Qh6 6.Rb5+ Ka7
7.Ra5+ Kb8 8.Rfb5+ Kc7 9.Rc5+ Kd7 10.Ra7+
Bb7 11.Rxb7+ Ke8 12.Re5+ Kxd8 wins.

iii) 6.Sc4+? Qxc4 7.Rf6+/v Bc6 8.Rxc6+
Kxc6, avoiding 8...Qxc6 stalemate.

iv) 8.Rb6+? Ka5 9.Rb5+ Ka4 10.Rb4+ Ka3
11.Rb3+ Ka2 12.Rb2+ Ka1 13.Ra2+ Kb1 14.Rb2+
Kc1 wins.

v) 7.Rb5+ Kc7 8.Rc5+ Qxc5 mate.

No 20582 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
2nd prize



h2h5 6212.32 9/5 Win

No 20582 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely
(Slovakia). 1.Sf5/i, and:

— Qd2 2.Sf6+ gxf6 3.Rh7+ Kg4 4.Rh3 f3 5.Rxf3
Qh5+ 6.Kg1 Qc1+ 7.Kf2 Qd2+ 8.Be2 Qxf5
9.Rxf5+ Kxf5 10.Rb3 Kxe6 11.Re3+ Kf5 12.g7
wins, or:

— Qxd5 2.Sxg7+ Kg4 3.Be2+ Kh4 4.Sf5+/ii
Qgxf5 5.Rh7+ Kg5 6.Rh5+ Kxg6/iii 7.e7+ Kf7
8.e8Q+ Kxe8 9.Rb5, and:

– Qxh5+ 10.Bxh5+ Qxh5+ 11.Rxh5 wins.

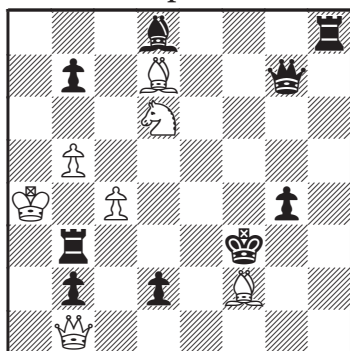
– Qxb5 10.Bxb5+ Qxb5 11.Rxb5 wins.

i) 1.Sf6+? Kh4 2.Sf5+ Qaxf5 3.Bxf5 Qg3+
4.Kh1 Qe1+ 5.Kh2 Qg3+ draws.

ii) switchback.

iii) Kf6 7.e7+ Kxe7 8.Rh7+ Kd8 9.Rb8+ Qc8
10.Rh8+ Ke7 11.Rbxc8 wins.

No 20583 A. Jasik
3rd prize



a4f3 4651.24 7/9 Draw

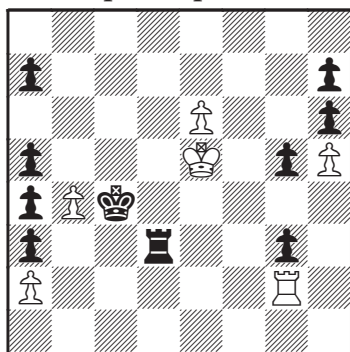
No 20583 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Qf1 (Bc5? Qxd7;) Rb4+/i 2.Kxb4 b1Q+/ii 3.Qxb1 Ba5+ (Kxf2; Qf5+) 4.Kxa5 Qa1+ (Ra8+; Kb4) 5.Qxa1 Ra8+ 6.Ba7/iii Rxa7+ 7.Kb6 Rxa1 8.Bxg4+ Kxg4 9.Se4 d1Q 10.Sf2+ Kf5 11.Sxd1 draws.

i) Ra3+ 2.Kxa3 Qc3+ 3.Ka2 Qa5+ 4.Kb3 draws.

ii) Ba5+ 3.Kxa5 b1Q 4.Be1+ Ke3 5.Qf2+ Kd3 6.Qxd2 mate.

iii) Try: 6.Kb6? Rxa1 7.Bxg4+ Kxg4 8.Se4 d1Q wins.

No 20584 R. Becker
special prize



e5c4 0400.48 6/10 Win

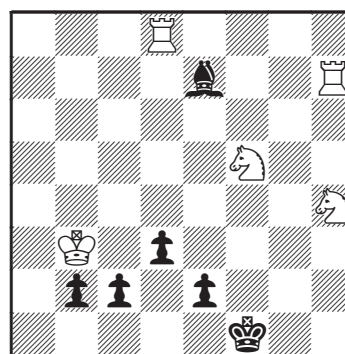
No 20584 Richard Becker (USA). 1.b5/i Re3+ 2.Kd6 Rd3+ 3.Kc6 (Kc7) Re3 4.Kd7 Rd3+ 5.Ke8 Re3 6.e7 Rf3 7.Kd7 Rd3+ 8.Ke6 Re3+ 9.Kf7 Rf3+ 10.Ke8 Re3 11.Rg1 g4 12.Rg2 Rf3 13.Kd7 Rd3+ 14.Ke6 Re3+ 15.Kf7 Rf3+ 16.Ke8 Re3 17.Rg1 g2 18.Rxg2 g3 19.Rg1 Rd3 20.Kf7 Rf3+

21.Ke6 Re3+ 22.Kd7 Rd3+ 23.Ke8 Re3 24.Rc1+ Kd3 25.Kd7 Kd2 26.Rf1 Rd3+ 27.Ke6 Re3+ 28.Kf7 Kc2 29.e8Q Rxe8 30.Kxe8 Kb2 31.Rf7 Kxa2 32.Rxa7 Kb2 33.b6 a2 34.b7 a1Q 35.b8Q+ wins.

i) Try: 1.bxa5? Re3+ 2.Kd6 Rd3+ 3.Kc6 Re3 4.Kd7 Rd3+ 5.Ke8 Re3 6.e7 Rf3 7.Kd7 Rd3+ 8.Ke6 Re3+ 9.Kf7 Rf3+ 10.Ke8 Re3 11.Rg1 Kb4 12.Kd7 Rd3+ 13.Ke6 Re3+ 14.Kd6 Rd3+ 15.Ke5 Re3+ 16.Kd4 Rxe7 17.Rb1+ Kxa5. See note ii).

ii) Compare with the try. If now Kb4 12.Kd7 Rf3 13.Ke6 Re3+ 14.Kd6 Rd3+ 15.Ke5 Re3+ 16.Kd4 Rxe7 17.Rb1 mate!

No 20585 I. Akobia † & P. Arestov
1st honourable mention



b3f1 0232.04 5/6 Win

No 20585 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Se3+/i Ke1 2.Sxc2+ dxc2 3.Kxb2/ii Bf6+/iii 4.Kc1/iv Bg5+ 5.Rd2/v Bxd2+ 6.Kxc2 Bg5 7.Rh8 zz Kf2/vi 8.Rf8+ Kg3 9.Sf3 Be7 10.Re8 Bb4 11.Sd2 Kf2 12.Se4+ Kf3 13.Sc3 Bxc3 14.Kxc3 Kf2 15.Kd2 wins.

i) 1.Sg3+? Ke1 2.Sf3+ Kf2 3.Se4+ Kxf3 4.Rxd3+ Kf4.

ii) 3.Kxc2? Bxd8 4.Sf3+ Kf2 5.Rf7 e1Q draws.

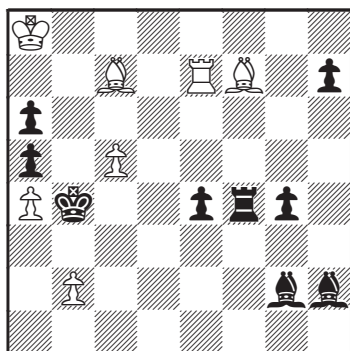
iii) c1Q+ 4.Kxc1 Bxd8 5.Kc2, or Bxd8 4.Kxc2 see main line.

iv) Thematic try: 4.Kxc2? Bxd8 5.Rh8 Bg5 zz 6.Rh5 (Rh7; Bd8) Kf2 7.Sg2 Be3 draws.

v) 5.Kxc2? Bxd8 6.Rh8 Bg5 zz.

vi) Bf6 8.Sf3+ Kf2 9.Rf8 Be7 10.Rf7 Bb4 11.Kb3 Bd6 12.Sd4+ Ke3 13.Sc2+ Kd2 14.Rd7 wins.

No 20586 M. Minski
2nd honourable mention



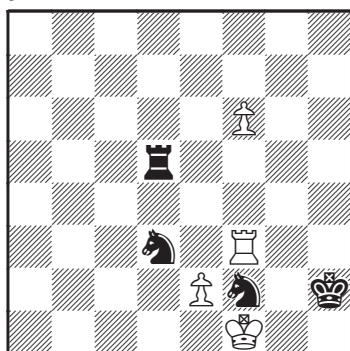
a8b4 0480.35 7/9 Win

No 20586 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Bd6 e3+/i 2.c6+ Kxa4 3.b3+ Kb5 4.Be8 Rf7 (Bxc6+; Rb7 mate) 5.Rb7+ (Rd7? Bxd6;) Rxb7 6.c7+ Kb6/ii 7.c8S mate.

i) Rxf7 2.Rxf7 e3+ 3.Kb8 Bxd6+ 4.cxd6 e2 5.Re7 wins.

ii) Bc6 7.Bxc6+ Kxc6 8.c8Q+ wins.

No 20587 R. Becker
3rd honourable mention



fh2 0406.20 4/4 Win

No 20587 Richard Becker (USA). 1.f7 Rd8 (Rg5; exd3) 2.f8Q (f8R)/i Rxf8 3.Rxf8 Kg3 4.Rf3+/ii Kg4 5.Rf7 Kg3 6.Rg7+ Kf4 7.Re7 zz Kf5/iii 8.Re8 zz Kf4 9.Kg2 zz Sg4 (Kf5; Kf3) 10.exd3 Se5 11.d4 Sc6 12.d5 wins.

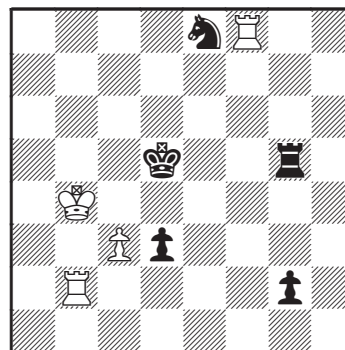
i) 2.exd3? Sxd3 3.Rxd3 Rxd3 4.f8Q Rf3+ 5.Qxf3 stalemate.

ii) Thematic try: 4.Rg8+? Kf4 5.Re8 Kf5 6.Re7/iv Kf6 7.Re8 Kf5 zz 8.Kg2 Kf4 9.Re7 Sg4 10.exd3 Se5 11.d4 Sc6 draws.

iii) Kg3 8.exd3, or Sg4 8.exd3 Se5 9.Ke2, or Kg4 8.Rd7 Sc5 (Se5) 9.Rg7+ wins.

iv) 6.Re3 Se5 7.Kxf2 Sg4+ 8.Kf3 Sxe3 9.Kxe3 Ke5.

No 20588 P. Arestov
4th honourable mention



b4d5 0503.12 4/5 Draw

No 20588 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rb1/i g1Q 2.Rxg1 Rxg1 3.Rxe8 Rb1+ 4.Ka3/ii zz Kc4 5.Rc8+ Kd5 6.Re8/iii zz Rb5 7.Ka4/iv Rb6 8.Rd8+ Kc4 9.Rc8+ Kd5 10.Rd8+ Rd6 11.c4+/v Kc5 12.Rxd6 Kxd6 13.Kb3 d2 14.Kc2 draws.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rxg2? Rxg2 2.Rxe8 Rb2+ 3.Ka3 Rb1 zz 4.Re7 Kc6 5.Re6+ Kc5 6.Re8 Ra1+ 7.Kb2 d2 wins.

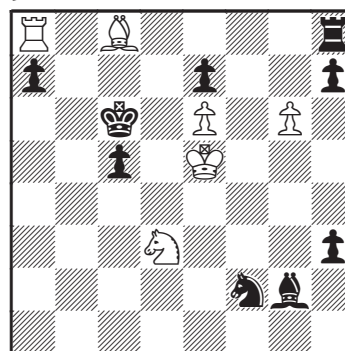
ii) 4.Ka4? d2 5.Rd8+ Kc4 6.Rxd2 Ra1+ and mate.

iii) 6.Rd8+? Ke4 7.c4 Ke3 8.c5 d2 9.Ka4 d1Q+ 10.Rxd1 Rxd1 wins.

iv) 7.Rd8+? Kc4 8.Rc8+ Rc5 9.Rxc5+ Kxc5 10.Kb3 Kd5 11.Kb2 Kc4 12.Kb1 Kb3 13.Kc1 Kxc3 wins.

v) 11.Rxd6+? Kxd6 12.Kb3 Kd5 13.c4+ Kd4 14.c5 Ke3 15.c6 d2 16.c7 d1Q+ wins.

No 20589 D. Hlebec
5th honourable mention



e5c6 0444.25 6/9 Draw

No 20589 Darko Hlebec (Serbia). 1.g7/i Sxd3+/ii 2.Kf5 Rg8 3.Bb7+/iii Kxb7 4.Rxg8 Be4+/iv 5.Kxe4 h2 6.Rb8+ Kxb8 7.g8Q+ Kb7 8.Kf5/v h1Q 9.Qg2+ Qxg2 stalemate.

i) 1.Sxf2? Kb6 2.g7 Rg8 3.Bb7 Rxg7 wins.

ii) Rg8 2.Bd7+ Kc7 3.Rxg8 Sxd3+ 4.Kf5 h2 5.Rc8+ Kd6 6.g8Q Bh3+ 7.Ke4 h1Q+ 8.Kxd3 draws.

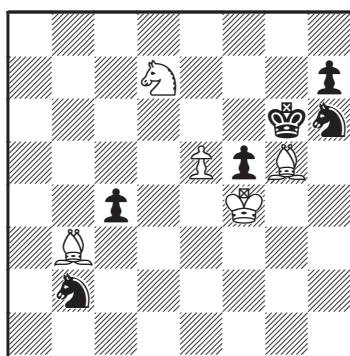
iii) 3.Bd7+? Kd6 4.Rxg8 h2 5.Rd8 h1Q 6.Bb5+ Kc7 wins.

iv) h2 5.Rb8+ Kc6 6.Rb1 Bh3+ 7.Ke4 Bxe6 8.Kxd3

v) 8.Qg2? h1Q 9.Qxh1 Sf2+ wins.

This is a version of Hlebec's study in *Zadachy i Etyudi* (HHdbV#04034) which unfortunately already appeared in ZiY no.57 x2012.

No 20590 D. Keith & M. Minski
1st commendation



f4g6 0027.13 5/6 Win

No 20590 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sf8+/i Kh5/ii 2.Bc2/iii Sd3+ 3.Bxd3 cxd3 4.e6 Sg8 5.Kxf5 Se7+ 6.Bxe7 d2 7.Sd7/iv d1Q 8.Sf6+ Kh4 9.Se4+ Kh5 (Kh3; Sf2+) 10.Sg3+ Kh6 11.Bf8 mate.

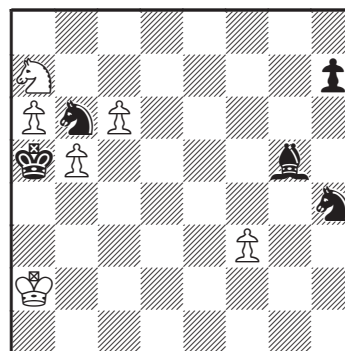
i) 1.Bc2? Sd3+ 2.Bxd3 cxd3 3.Sf8+ Kf7 4.e6+ Ke8 draws.

ii) Kg7 2.Bxh6+ Kxh6 3.Bc2 wins.

iii) 2.e6? Sd3+ 3.Ke3 f4+ 4.Bxf4 Sg4+ 5.Kd4 Sxf4 6.e7 Sf6 7.Bxc4 Se8 draws.

iv) White must keep bPh7 on the board: 7.Sxh7? d1Q 8.Sf6+ Kh4 9.Se4+ Kh5 10.Sg3+ Kh6 11.Bf8+ Kh7 and no mate.

No 20591 V. Tarasiuk
2nd commendation



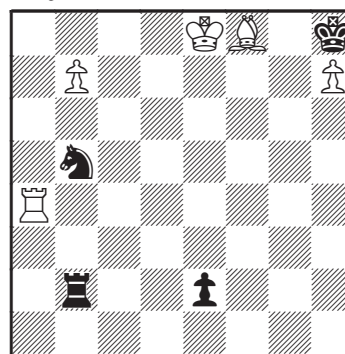
a2a5 0037.41 6/5 Draw

No 20591 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.c7 Sf5 2.f4/i Bxf4 3.c8Q (c8R) Sxc8 4.Sxc8 Be3 5.a7 Bxa7 6.Sxa7 Se7 7.Sc6+/ii Sxc6 8.bxc6 Kb6 9.Kb3 h5 10.Kc4 h4 11.Kd5 Kc7 12.Ke4 h3 13.Kf3 h2 14.Kg2 draws.

i) Thematic try 2.c8Q? Sxc8 3.Sxc8 Be3 4.a7 Bxa7 5.Sxa7 Se7 6.Sc6+ Sxc6 7.bxc6 Kb6 8.Kb3 h5 9.Kc4 h4 10.Kd5 Kc7 11.Ke4 h3 and wPf3 obstructs.

ii) Or another move order: 7.Kb3 Kb6 8.Sc6 Sxc6 9.bxc6.

No 20592 V. Tarasiuk
3rd commendation



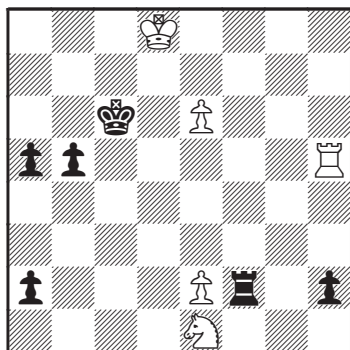
e8h8 0413.21 5/4 Win

No 20592 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Bg7+/i Kxg7 2.h8Q+ Kxh8 3.b8Q Sd6+/ii 4.Qxd6 e1Q+ 5.Kf8 Rf2+ 6.Rf4 Rxf4+ 7.Qxf4 Kh7 8.Kf7 Qh1 9.Qf5+ and mate in two.

i) 1.Kf7? e1Q 2.Bg7+ Kxh7 3.b8Q Qe6+ 4.Kxe6 Sd4+ 5.Bxd4 Rxb8, or 1.b8Q? e1Q+ and 2.Be7 Qe6 or 2.Kd7 Kxh7.

ii) e1Q+ 4.Kf7+ Kh7 5.Qg8+ Kh6 6.Qg6 mate, or Sc7+ 4.Kf7+ Rxb8 5.Rh4 mate.

No 20593 J. Csengeri
4th commendation



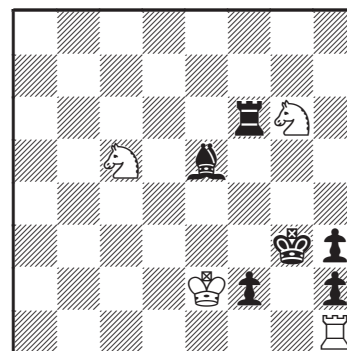
d8c6 0401.24 5/6 Win

No 20593 József Csengeri (Hungary). 1.e7/i Rxe2 2.Sc2 Rd2+/ii 3.Kc8 Re2 4.Sd4+ Kd6 5.Sf5+ (Sxe2? Kxf5;) Kc6 6.Rxh2 a1Q 7.Rxe2 Qh8+ 8.e8Q+ Qxe8+ 9.Rxe8 wins.

i) 1.Sc2? Rf8+ 2.Ke7 Rf1 3.Rxh2 b4 4.Ke8 b3 5.Sd4+ Kd6 6.Sxb3 a4 7.Sa1 Rxa1.

ii) Kd6 3.e8Q Rxe8+ 4.Kxe8 b4 5.Rxh2 b3 6.Sa1 a4 7.Kd8 wins.

No 20594 I. Aliev & Y. Ozbey
5th commendation



e2g3 0432.03 4/6 Win

No 20594 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan) & Yunus Emre Ozbey (Turkey). 1.Se4+ Kg2 2.Sh4+/i Kxh1 3.Kf1 (Sxf6? Bxf6;) Rf7 4.Sg6/ii Bc7/iii 5.Sf4, with:

— Rxf4 6.Sg3 mate, or:

— Bxf4 6.Sxf2 mate.

i) 2.Sxf6? Kxh1 3.Kf1 Bxf6 draws.

ii) 4.Sxf2+? Rxf2+ 5.Kxf2 Bd6 draws.

iii) Rf3 5.Sxe5, and R-3 6.Sxf2 mate, or Rf-6.Sg3 mate.

Schach 2012-2013

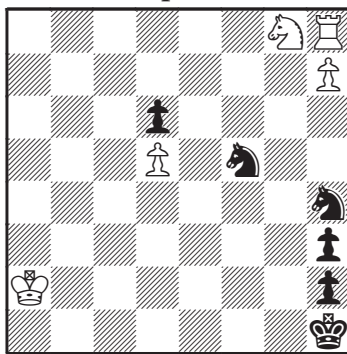
Klaus Rubin (Germany) judged this informal tourney of the German chess magazine. In total 30 studies by 19 composers from 11 countries were published and one study was withdrawn. Siegfried Hornecker assisted in anticipation vetting.

The judge considered the quality level as being variable. Apart from the usual criteria, he also considered solver-friendliness to be important, e.g. without having to use an EGTB, the win or draw should be clear within a maximum of 10 moves.

HH thinks that it is questionable to set such a limit, the main problem being what is “clear”? A theoretically won ending? For instance, everybody will consider KQ vs KR to be a clear win, but probably not many would manage to win it within 50 moves. And what about KBB vs KS, etcetera. Instead a (subjective) solver-friendly criterion could be that the (only winning/drawing) moves should be comprehensible to humans.

Translation from German into English by HH.

No 20595 M. Minski
1st prize



a2h1 0107.23 5/6 Win

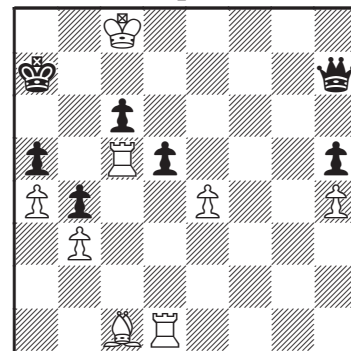
No 20595 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Sh6/i Sxh6 2.Rf8/ii Sg6 (Sf6; Rxc6) 3.Rg8
Sh8 4.Rxh8/iii Sg8 5.hxg8B/iv Kg2 6.Bh7 h1Q
7.Be4+ wins.

- i) 1.Sf6? Kg2 2.Rg8+ Kf1 3.h8Q h1Q.
- ii) Kg2 3.h8Q h1Q 4.Qb2+ Kg3 5.Qf2+ Kg4
6.Rf4+, or Kg1 3.h8Q h1Q 4.Qd4+ win.
- iii) “switchback”. HH: for a capture?
- iv) 5.hxg8Q? stalemate.

“My favourite study in this competition impresses with a series of paradoxical moves. Right from the start we have the surprise 1.Sh6!, as the more obvious 1.Sf6? blocks the long diagonal. In the refined tactical duel that follows, Black very effectively sacrifices both of his knights and again locks the wR in the corner with a bishop promotion as the point because

of the stalemate position of the bK. An original, modern composition full of surprises!”

No 20596 G. Amann
2nd prize



c8a7 3210.45 8/7 Win

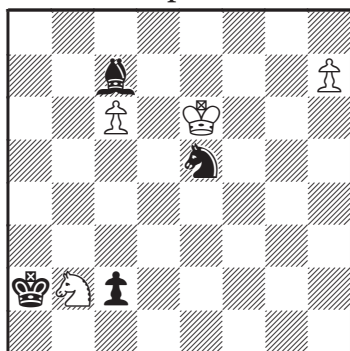
No 20596 Günter Amann (Austria). 1.Rdx-
d5/i Qb7+ (cxd5; Rc7+) 2.Kd8 Qb6+ 3.Kd7 cxd5
4.Be3 d4 5.Bxd4 Ka6 6.Rxa5+/ii Qxa5 7.Kc8 zz,
wins by domination.

i) 1.Be3? Qg8+ 2.Kc7 Qf7+ 3.Kxc6 Qe6+
draws.

ii) 6.Rc6? Qxc6+ 7.Kxc6 stalemate.

“Black tries to save himself by a queen decoy into a stalemate but, instead, White counters with a fantastic attraction sacrifice. Suddenly, the bQ finds herself, despite open lines, in a deadly zugzwang trap. The study captivates us with its concise solution and sacrificial point with the attractive point of the sacrifice: a surprising snaring of the bQ!”

No 20597 M. Minski
& G. Sonntag
3rd prize



e6a2 0034.21 4/4 Draw

No 20597 Martin Minski & Gunter Sonntag (Germany). 1.Sd3/i Sxd3 2.h8Q Sc5+/ii 3.Kd5 c1Q 4.Qc3, and:

— Qxc3 stalemate, or:

— Sb3/iii 5.Qxc1 Sxc1 6.Ke6 Sd3 7.Kd7 Bg3 8.c7 Sc5+ 9.Kc6 draws.

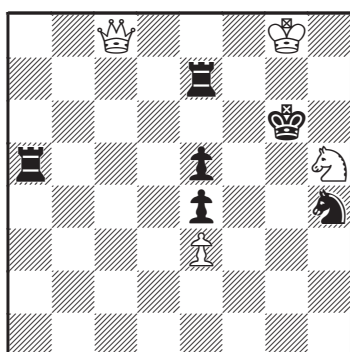
i) 1.h8Q? c1Q 2.Qa8+ Kb1 3.Qb7 Qh6+ wins.

ii) c1Q 3.Qa8+ Kb1 4.Qb7+ Sb2 5.Qxc7 draws.

iii) Qd1+ 5.Kxc5 Qh5+ 6.Kc4, or Qg5+ 5.Kc4 Bb6 6.Qc2+ draws.

“Before the queen promotion, the wSb2 has first to be sacrificed to open the b-file but Black controls square b7 by 2...Sc5+. Thereupon the death-defying wQ plays the completely ludicrous move 4.Qc3!!. It turns out that she is immune because of a stalemate! A charming, virtuously constructed study, with a logically-motivated sacrificial key move and a lovely stalemate point”

No 20598 G. Amann
1st honourable mention



g8g6 1604.12 4/6 Draw

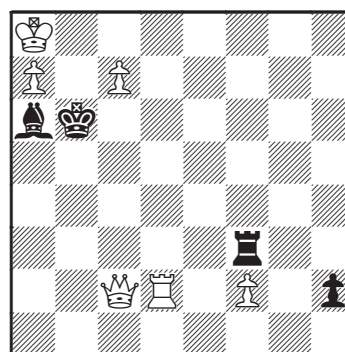
No 20598 Günter Amann (Austria). 1.Sg3 Rg7+ 2.Kh8 (Kf8? Kh7;) Kh6 3.Sf5+ Sxf5 4.Qa6+/i Rg6/ii 5.Qxa5 Se7 6.Qb6 (Qa6? Rc6;) Rc6 7.Qc7 Kg6 8.Qb6 (Qd6+? Kf7;) Kh6 (Kf7; Qb3+) 9.Qc7 Sg6+ 10.Kg8 Rxc7 stalemate.

i) 4.Qf8? Ra8 5.Qxa8 Rh7+ 6.Kg8 Se7+ 7.Kf8 Rh8+ 8.Kxe7 Rxa8 wins.

ii) Rxa6 stalemate.

“In this exciting zugzwang battle the wQ cannot make a false step in the pin rendezvous with the bR, e.g. 6.Qa6? Rc6!. Finally the rabid queen succeeds in making Black resign into a stalemate agreement. I like the refreshing unconventional style of Günter Amann. The key appears to be slightly disappointing”

No 20599 L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
2nd honourable mention



a8b6 1430.31 6/4 BTM, Draw

No 20599 Ľubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1...Rf8+ (h1Q; Rd6+) 2.c8S+/i Rxc8+ 3.Qxc8 h1Q+ (Bxc8; Rd1) 4.Kb8/ii Qh2+ 5.f4 Qxf4+ 6.Ka8 Qe4+ 7.Kb8 Qe5+ 8.Ka8 Bxc8 9.Rd6+ Ka5/iii 10.Ra6+ Bxa6 (Kxa6) stalemate.

i) 2.c8Q? h1Q+ 3.Kb8 Qb7 mate.

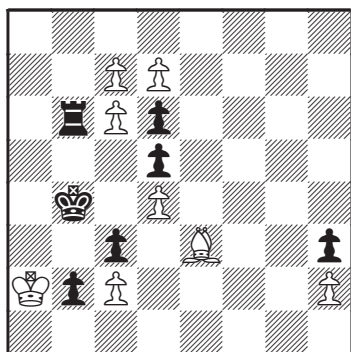
ii) Thematic try: 4.f3? Bxc8 5.Rb2+ Kc7 6.Rc2+ Kd6 7.Rd2+ Ke7 8.Kb8 Qb1+ 9.Kxc8 Qf5+ 10.Kb7 Qb5+ wins.

iii) Qxd6 stalemate. Kc5 10.Rc6+ Kb5 11.Rb6+ Kxb6 stalemate.

“Black threatens to mate via the long diagonal, so that White plans an escape in a self-stalemate. The study’s clue is the delay in the unguarded guard sacrifice of the wP. The immediate 4.f3? is thematically refuted but the corner position of the wK and the exchanges, including a knight promotion, in the

introduction appear to be quite obvious. The stalemate is known from a study by Amiryran (HHdbIV#53838)”.

No 20600 G. Tallaksen Østmoe
3rd honourable mention



a2b4 o310.65 8/7 Win

No 20600 Geir Tallaksen Østmoe (Norway). 1.c8B/i Rb5 2.d8B/ii Rb8 3.Bb7 Rxd8 4.c7 Rf8 5.Ba6 Ra8 6.c8B/iii Ka5 7.Bf2 Rxa6 8.Bxa6 Kxa6 9.Be1 Kb5 10.Bxc3 wins.

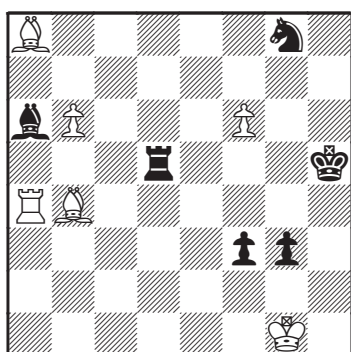
i) 1.c8Q? Ra6+ 2.Qxa6 b1Q+ 3.Kxb1 stalemate.

ii) 2.d8Q? Kc4 3.Kb1 Ra5 4.Qxa5 stalemate.

iii) 6.c8Q? Rxa6+ 7.Qxa6 b1Q+ 8.Kxb1 stalemate.

“Three effective bishop promotions are staged in this study. Because of the mate that threatens the wK (Ra1 mate) and the black stalemate threats at the same time, the underpromotions are obvious. A higher ranking seemed not possible to me as already an AUW task with a very similar scheme exists: Heiskanen (EG#16918)”.

No 20601 A. Pallier
commendation



g1h5 o453.22 6/6 Win

No 20601 Alain Pallier (France). 1.Be1 f2+ 2.Bxf2 gxf2+ 3.Kxf2 Rf5+ 4.Bf3+ Rxf3+ 5.Kxf3 Bb7+ 6.Kf4 Sxf6 7.Ra7, and:

— Sd5+ 8.Ke4 Bc6 9.Ra5 Kg6 10.Rxd5 Kf6 11.Kd4 wins, or:

— Bc6 8.Kf5 Sg8 9.Rh7+ Sh6+ 10.Kf6 wins, or:

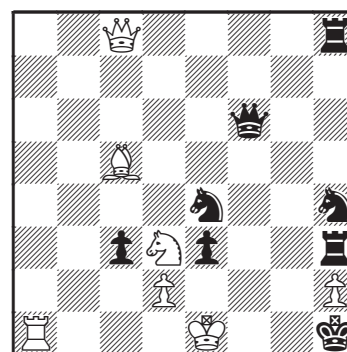
— Bc8 8.Ke5 Sg4+ 9.Kd6 Sf6 10.Ra5+, with:

– Kg6 11.Kc7 Sd7 12.Rb5 (Kxc8? Sb6+;) wins, or:

– Kg4 11.Kc7 Sd7 12.Kxc8 (Rb5? Sxb6+;) Sxb6+ 13.Kc7 Sc4 14.Ra4 wins.

“The forced introduction reduces the material to a 6 man ending with three lines with different wK moves on the 8th move. An original bonus shows itself in reciprocal form with thematic moves 12.Rb5! and 12.Kxc8!. As a whole this is a pleasing study in a modern garment”.

No 20602 P. Arestov
commendation



e1h1 4717.22 7/8 Win

No 20602 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.O-O-O/i Kxh2 2.Rh1+ Kxh1 3.Qxh3+ Kg1 4.Bxe3+ Sf2 5.Bxf2+ Qxf2 6.Sxf2 cxd2+ 7.Kc2/ii zz Kxf2 8.Kd1 Rh6 9.Qh2+ Kf3 10.Qe2+, and:

— Kf4 11.Qxd2+ Kg4 12.Qxh6 wins, or:

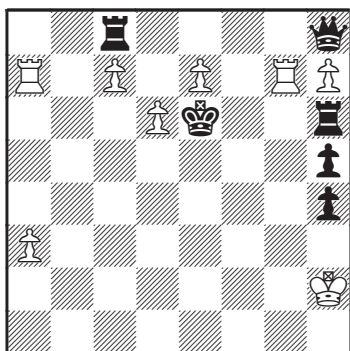
— Kg3 11.Qe3+ Sf3 12.Qxh6 wins.

i) 1.Ke2+? Kg2 2.Qg4+ Sg3+ 3.hxg3 Qf3+ 4.Qxf3+ Sxf3 5.Sf4+ Kxg3 6.Sxh3 exd2.

ii) Thematic try: 7.Kd1? Kxf2 zz, or 7.Kxd2? Kxf2 8.Qh2+ Kf3 9.Qe2+ Kf4 10.Qe3+ Kf5 draws.

“A castling key leads to a violent exchange that suddenly ends with a stunning quiet point. Yet the reciprocal zugzwang following 7.Kc2!!, 7.Kxd2 or 7.Kd1? is difficult to understand, as also applies to the heavy initial position”.

No 20603 V. Kovalenko †
commendation



h2e6 3800.52 8/6 Win

No 20603 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia). 1.d7 Kxd7 2.e8Q++ Kxe8 3.Rg8+ Kd7 4.Rxh8 Rxh8 5.c8Q++ Kxc8 6.Ra8+ Kb7 7.Rxh8 h3 8.Kg3/i h4+ 9.Kxh3 Ka7 10.a4 Kb7 11.a5 Ka7 12.a6 zz Rh5 13.Kg4 Rh6 14.Kg5 h3 15.Kxh6 h2 16.Ra8+ Kb6 17.Rb8+ Kxa6 18.Rb1 wins.

i) Thematic try: 8.Kxh3? h4 9.a4 Ka7 10.a5 Kb7 11.a6+ Ka7 zz.

“After the introductory (avoidable?) artillery duel, a tense equal material position remains. The wK has to avoid a zz position at move 12 with the foresight move 8.Kg3! A less violent introduction would have created better harmony with the subtle zugzwang idea”.

ARVES Solving in Wijk aan Zee

The seventh international **ARVES Study solving Day** will be held on Saturday, January 23th 2016 in Wijk aan Zee.

New location: **de school De Vrijheit**, Dorpsduinen 12/14, Wijk aan Zee (nearby *De Moriaan*, the venue of the world famous Tata Steel tournament)

Chief Arbiter: Luc Palmans

10:00-10.30: Registration

10.45: Official opening

11.00-14.00: International Open Solving Competition of original studies with a prize fund of 500 Euros (250/150/100) and book prizes. Special prizes will be awarded to the best newcomers and youth solvers.

14.00-16.30: Watching the world's most famous chess tournament with live expert commentary.

16.30: Announcing the preliminary results.

17.00: Prize giving.

Entry fee: 15 Euros; juniors (u-20) 10 Euros; GMs and IMs – free.

For further details and registration please write to **Yochanan Afek** afekchess@gmail.com before January 15th 2016 as the number of participants is limited.

Past winners: 2009: IM Twan Burg; 2010: GM John Nunn 2012: IM David Klein 2013: GM John Nunn; 2014: IM Joost Michielsen; 2015: Wouter van Rijn

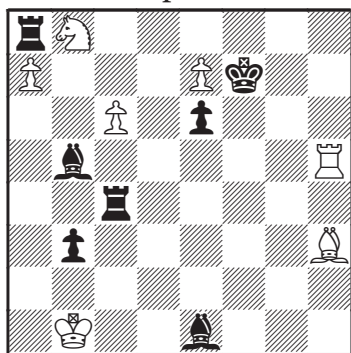
The Dutch section of the **International Solving Championship** (for problems & studies) will be held in the same venue on Sunday, January 24th from 10.30 and is open to all. Organizer is Hans Uitenbroek; e-mail address: jc.uitenbroek@kpnplanet.nl.

Rodríguez Ibrán 80 JT 2015

The tourney director, Luis Miguel González received 42 studies by 29 composers from 18 countries. The jubilee judge Javier Rodríguez Ibrán commented that this number is greater than the number of studies he composed himself.

The award appeared on 20 September 2015 with a three month confirmation time. There only were minor changes in the final award, with 5th prize and 1st hon. mention (by the same composer!) exchanged and the extra special commendation added. The tourney director contributed with a “hors-concours” study.

No 20604 M. Minski
1st prize



b1f7 0771.32 7/7 Win

No 20604 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Rh7+/i Ke8 2.Bxe6 Rd4/ii 3.c7/iii Rd1+ 4.Kb2
Rd2+ 5.Kxb3 Ba4+/iv 6.Kxa4 Rxa7+ 7.Sa6
Rxa6+ 8.Kb5 Ra5+/v 9.Kxa5/vi Rc2+/vii 10.Kb6
Ba5+ 11.Kxa5 Rc5+/viii 12.Ka4/ix Rxc7 13.Kb4/x
zz, and:

— Rxe7 14.Rh8 mate, or:

— Rb7+ 14.Kc3 (Kc4, Kc5) Rc7+ 15.Kd4/xi Rc6
16.Bf7+/xii Kxe7/xiii 17.Bd5+ wins.

i) 1.Rxb5? Kxe7 2.Rb7+ Kd6 draws. 1.Bxe6+?
Kxe7 2.Bxc4 Bxc4 3.c7 Be6 4.Re5 Kd6 5.Rxe6+
Kxc7.

ii) Rxa7 3.Bf7+ Kxe7 white battery 4.Bxc4+
Kd8 5.Rh8+ Kc7 6.Bxb5 Kb6 7.Sa6 Bg3 (Kxb5;
c7) 8.Rh5 Rxa6 9.Bxa6 Kxa6 10.Rh3 Bc7 11.Rxb3
wins.

iii) 3.Bf5? Bd3+ 4.Bxd3 Rxd3, or 3.Bd7+?
Rxd7 4.cxd7+ Bxd7 5.Sxd7 Bc3 draw.

iv) Rd3+ 6.Kb2 Rd2+ 7.Kc1 wins.

v) Rc2 9.Bf7+ Kxe7 white battery 10.Bb3+
(Bg6+) Kd6 11.Bxc2 Ra5+ 12.Kb6 Rc5 13.Rh6+
wins.

vi) black battery.

vii) Rd7+ 10.Kb6 Ba5+ 11.Kxa5 Rxc7 12.Kb4
zz, wins.

viii) Rxc7 12.Kb4 zz, wins.

ix) Thematic try: 12.Kb4? Rxc7 zz 13.Rg7/
xiv Rb7+ 14.Kc3 Rc7+ 15.Kd4 Rc6 16.Bc4 Rd6+,
and now: 17.Ke5 Re6+ 18.Kf5 (Bxe6, Kxe6 stale-
mate) Rxe7 draws, or here: 17.Kc5 Rd7 18.Be6
(Bb5 stalemate) Rc7+ 19.Kd4 Rc6 20.Bf7+ Kxe7
white battery 21.Bd5+ Kf6 (Kf8?; Rg8+) 22.Rf7+
Kg6 draws. 12.Kb6? Rb5+ 13.Kc6 Rc5+ 14.Kd6
Rd5+ 15.Kc6 Rc5+ 16.Kb6 Rb5+ 17.Ka6 Ra5+
18.Kb7 Rb5+ 19.Kc8 Rb8+ 20.cxb8Q stalemate.

x) 13.Kb5? Rc5+ 14.Kxc5 stalemate.

xi) 15.Kd3? Rc3+ 16.Kd4 Rd3+ 17.Kc5 Re3
18.Kd6 Rxe6+ 19.Kxe6 stalemate, or 15.Kd2?
Rc2+ 16.Kxc2 stalemate.

xii) 16.Bc4? Rd6+ 17.Kc5 Rd7 18.Be6 Rc7+
19.Kd4 Rc6 repeats, or 16.Bf5? Rd6+ 17.Ke5
Re6+ 18.Kf4 (Bxe6, Kxe6 stalemate) Rxe7
19.Rh8+ Kf7 20.Kg5 Kg7 21.Rh7+ Kf8 draws.

xiii) white battery.

xiv) 13.Kb5 Rc5+ 14.Kxc5 stalemate.

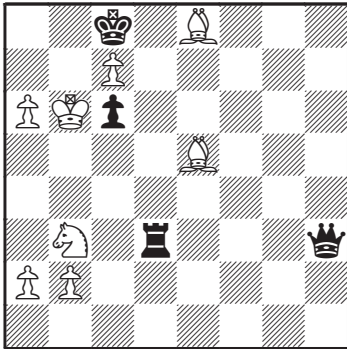
“Difficult and complex, with batteries, sacri-
fices, stalemates and zugzwangs leading to a six
men position which is a win after a stalemate
avoidance”

No 20605 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Bd7+/i
Kxd7/ii 2.Sc5+ Kc8/iii 3.Bc3/iv Rxc3/v 4.a7 Ra3
5.bxa3 Qxa3/vi 6.a8Q+ Qxa8 7.a4 zz, wins.

i) Try: 1.Sc5? Qf1 2.a4/vii Rb3+ 3.Sxb3 Qc4
4.Sd4 Qc5+ 5.Kxc5 stalemate. 1.a7? Rxb3+.

ii) Rxd7 2.a7 Qe3+ 3.Sc5, or Qxd7 2.a7 Rxb3+
3.axb3 win.

No 20605 O. Pervakov
2nd prize



b6c8 3321.41 8/4 Win

iii) Ke7 3.a7 Qc8 4.Sxd3 wins.

iv) Logical try: 3.a7? Ra3 4.bxa3 Qxa3 5.Sa6 Qe3+ 6.Sc5 Qa3 7.a8Q+ Qxa8 8.a4 Qa5+ (Qxa7) 9.Kxa5 stalemate. 3.b3? Qf1 and Black wins.

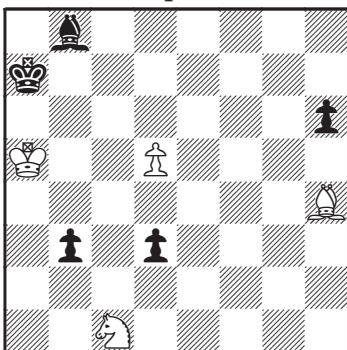
v) Qg3 4.a7 Qxc7+ 5.Ka6 wins.

vi) Qb3+ 6.Sxb3 wins, avoiding 6.axb3 stalemate.

vii) 2.a7 Rb3+ 3.axb3 Qb5 mate.

“Meredith with clear variations including stalemates, surprising moves, two bishop sacrifices, refusal of capture of a rook, queen journey with imprisonment and a mutual zugzwang as a finish. The most brilliant study of tourney”.

No 20606 V. Samilo
& V. Tarasiuk
3rd prize



a5a7 0041.13 4/5 Win

No 20606 Vladimir Samilo & Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Bf2+/i Ka8/ii 2.Sxb3 Bf4 3.Be1 h5 4.Kb5/iii h4 5.Bxh4 d2 6.Sxd2 Bxd2 7.d6 Bf4 8.d7 Bc7 9.Kc6 Ba5 10.Bf2/iv Bd8 11.Bb6 Bh4 12.Kc7 wins.

i) 1.Sxd3? Be5 2.Kb4 b2 3.Sxb2 Bxb2 draw. 1.Sxb3? Bf4 2.Be1 (Bf2+ Kb8); h5 3.Kb5 h4 4.Bxh4 d2 5.Sxd2 Bxd2 6.d6 Bf4 7.d7 Bc7 draws.

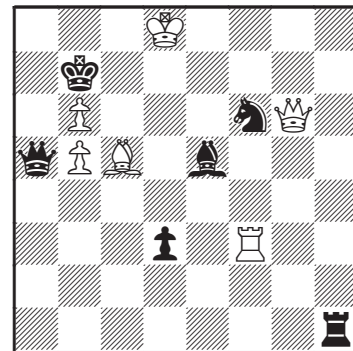
ii) Kb7 2.Sxb3 Bf4 3.Sc5+ Kc7 4.Sxd3 wins.

iii) 4.Kb6? h4 5.Bxh4 d2 6.Sxd2 Bxd2 7.d6 Be3+ 8.Kc6 Ka7 9.d7 Bb6 10.Bf2 Ka6 11.Bxb6 stalemate, or 4.Ka6? h4 5.Bxh4 d2 6.Sxd2 Bxd2 7.d6 Bf4 8.d7 Bc7 9.Bg5 Kb8 10.Bf4 Ka8 11.Bxc7 stalemate.

iv) 10.Bg3? Bd8 11.Bc7 Bh4 12.Ba5 Ka7 13.Kc7 Ka6 draws.

“Very good, with two key moves, 1.Bf2+ (Sxb3?) and 4.Kb5 (Kb6?) refuted by interesting variations including two stalemates”.

No 20607 S. Slumstrup Nielsen
4th prize



d8b7 4443.21 6/6 Win

No 20607 Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Qg7+ Kb8 (Ka8; Rxf6) 2.Bd4 Rh8+/i 3.Qxh8 Bxd4 (Bc7+; Ke7) 4.Qh2+/ii Ka8 5.Kc8/iii Qxb6/iv 6.Qa2+ Qa7 7.Rf2 Bxf2/v 8.b6 Qxa2 (Bxb6; Qg2+) 9.b7+ Ka7 10.b8Q+ Ka6 11.Qa8+/vi Kb5 12.Qxa2 wins/vii.

i) Bxd4 3.Qc7+, or Rh7 3.Bxe5+ Ka8 4.Qxf6 win.

ii) 4.Rxf6? Bxf6+ 5.Qxf6 Qxb5 6.Qd6+ Ka8 7.Qa3+ Kb7 8.Qa7+ Kc6 9.Qc7+ Kd5 10.b7 d2 draws.

iii) 5.Rxf6? Bxf6+ 6.Kc8 Qc3+ 7.Qc7 Qxc7+ 8.bxc7 d2 9.b6 d1Q 10.b7+ Ka7 11.b8Q+ Ka6 draws.

iv) Qc3+ 6.Qc7 Qxc7+ 7.bxc7 d2 8.Ra3+ wins.

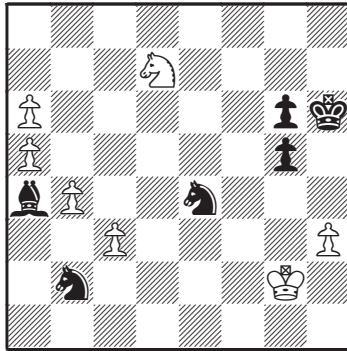
v) Bc5 8.Qxa7+ Kxa7 (Bxa7) 9.Rxf6 wins.

vi) 11.Qb7+? Ka5 12.Qa8+ Kb4 13.Qxa2 Se4 draws.

vii) e.g. Se4 13.Qb3+ Kc5 14.Qxd3.

“Combinational Meredith, amusing and clear, suitable for solving and nice to see; a good example of a ‘friendly study’. The sacrifice 7.Rf2! to clear the large white diagonal is very nice”.

No 20608 M. Minski
5th prize



g2h6 0037.52 7/6 Win

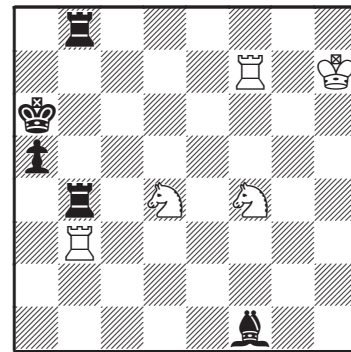
No 20608 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Se5/i Bb3/ii 2.c4 Sxc4 (Bxc4; Sxc4) 3.a7/iii Sb6/iv 4.axb6/v Bd5 5.Sf7+ Kh5/vi 6.Sd8/vii Sd6+ 7.Kg3 Ba8/viii 8.b7/ix Sxb7/x 9.Sf7 zz g4/xi 10.hxg4 mate.

- i) 1.a7? (Sb6?) Bc6 draws.
- ii) Sxc3 2.a7, and here: Bc2 3.a8Q Be4+ 4.Qxe4 Sxe4 5.a6, or Bb3 3.Sg4+ Kg7 4.Se3 wins.
- iii) 3.Sf7+? Kg7 4.a7 Se3+, or 3.Sg4+? Kg7 4.a7 Sb6 5.axb6 Bd5 6.Kg1 Sd6 draw.
- iv) Se3+ 4.Kf3 Bd5 5.Kxe3 wins.
- v) 4.Kf3? Bd5 5.axb6 Kg7 6.Ke3 Kf6 7.Kd4 Ba8 8.b5 Sd6 draws.
- vi) Kh7 6.Sd8 Sd6+ 7.Kg3 Ba8 8.Se6 Sc8 9.Sc7 Sxb6 10.Sxa8 Sxa8 11.Kf3 Kg7 12.Ke4 Kf6 13.Kd5 Ke7 14.Kc6, or Kg7 6.Sd8 Sd6+ 7.Kg3 Ba8 (Sc8) 8.Se6+ Kf6 9.Sc7 wins.
- vii) 6.Kh2? Ba8 7.Sd8 Sd6 8.b7 Sxb7 9.Sf7 Kh4 (g4) draws.
- viii) Anti-critical move. Sc8 8.b7 Bxb7 9.Sxb7 Sxa7 10.Sd6 g4 (Kh6; b5) 11.hxg4+ Kg5 12.Se4+, or Se4+ 8.Kh2 Sd6 9.b7 win.
- ix) 8.Se6? Sc4 9.Sc7 Sxb6 10.Sxa8 Sxa8 11.b5 (Kf3; Kh4) Sb6 draws.
- x) Seeberger incarceration.
- xi) The bS is dominated.

“The mate is known from a 1860 problem and the Seeberger incarceration has appeared earlier in at least two studies: R. Aleksandrov, 3.p *Shakhmaty v SSSR* 1935 and V. Korolkov, 1st

hon. mention Sverdlovsk Ty 1946. But here the introductory play is interesting and the final position is a delight for both eye and mind”.

No 20609 M. Minski
1st honourable mention



h7a6 0832.01 5/5 Win

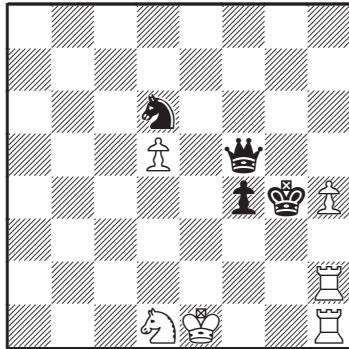
No 20609 Martin Minski (Germany).
1.Sfe6/i Rxb3/ii 2.Sc5+ (Sxb3? Bc4;) Kb6 3.Sd7+ Ka6/iii 4.Sxb3 Bd3+/iv 5.Kg7 (Kh6? Rh8+;) Rg8+ (Rd8; Sbc5+) 6.Kxg8 Bc4 7.Sdc5+/v Kb5/vi 8.Se6 Bxb3 (Bxe6; Sd4+) 9.Rb7+/vii Ka4 10.Kf7 wins.

- i) 1.Rxb4? axb4 (Rxb4), or 1.Sd5? Rxb3, or 1.Rf6+? R8b6 2.Rxb6+ Rxb6 draw.
- ii) Bc4 2.Sc5+ Kb6 3.Sa4+ Ka6 4.Rf6+ Kb7 5.Sc5+ Ka8 6.Ra3 wins.
- iii) Ka7 4.Sc6+ Kb7 5.Sdxb8+ Kb6 6.Rxf1 wins.
- iv) Rxb3 5.Sc5+ Kb6 6.Sxb3 Bc4 7.Rf6+ wins.
- v) 7.Sbc5+? Kb5, or 7.Sd4? Bxf7+ 8.Kxf7 a4 draw.
- vi) Kb6 8.Sa4+ Kb5 9.Sbc5 Bxf7+ 10.Kxf7 with a Troitzky win.
- vii) 9.Sd4+? Ka4 (Kb4) 10.Sxb3 Kxb3 draws.

“Precise moves on an almost empty board. The nice sacrifice 5...Rg8+ is worthwhile noticing. Then the composer only considers 5.Kh6? Rh8+ draw, but after 6.Kg5 there are several lines leading to an RSS vs. RB ending which is a general win, e.g. 6...Rh7 7.Rf6+ Kb5 8.Rb6+ Kc4 9.Sxa5 winning. Only when an 8 men EGTB is available the study’s soundness could be confirmed”.

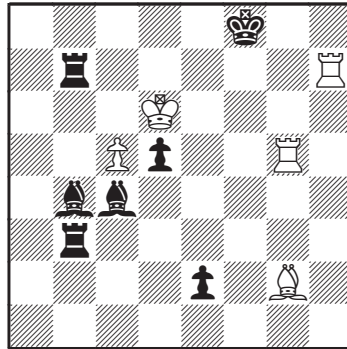
No 20610 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Se3+/i fxe3 2.Rg2+/ii Kh5/iii 3.Rg5+ Qxg5 4.hxg5+ Kxg5 5.O-O/iv , and:

No 20610 P. Arestov
2nd honourable mention



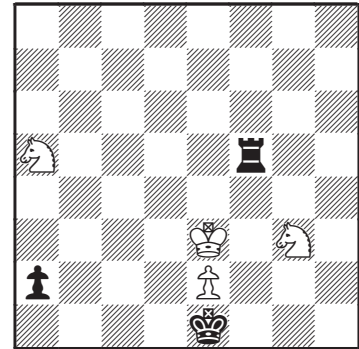
e1g4 3204.21 6/4 Win

No 20611 P. Arestov
3rd honourable mention



d6f8 o870.12 5/7 Draw

No 20612 V. Lebedev
4th honourable mention



e3e1 o302.11 4/3 Draw

— Sf5 6.Rf3 Kg4/v 7.Rxe3 Sxe3 8.d6 Sc4 9.d7 Se5 10.d8Q wins, or:

— Kg4 6.Rf8/vi e2 (Kg3; Kf1) 7.Kf2 Se4+ 8.Ke1 (Kxe2? Sc3+;) wins.

i) 1.Rg1+? Kf3 2.Rf2+ Ke4, or 1.Sf2+? Kh5 draw.

ii) 2.Rg1+? Kh5 3.Rg5+ Qxg5 4.hxg5+ Kxg5 5.Ke2 Kf4 6.Rh4+ Ke5 7.Rh5+ Kd4 (Ke4. Kf4) draw.

iii) Kf3 3.O-O wins.

iv) 5.Ke2? Kf4 6.Rh4+ Ke5, or 5.Rf1? Sf5 6.Rf3 (Ke2 Sg3+;) Kg4 7.Rf1 (Ke2 Sd4+;) Kg5 8.Rf3 Kg4 positional draw.

v) e2 7.Kf2 Sd4 8.Rd3, or Kg6 7.Rf4 Kg5 8.Re4, or Kf6 7.d6 e2 8.Kf2 Ke6 9.Rxf5 win.

vi) 6.Rf6? e2 7.Kf2 (Re6 Kf3;) Se4+ draws.

“Sacrifices, precise elections (2.Rg2+/Rg1?; 6.Rf8/Rf6?), castling, refusal of capture, all in eight moves and packed in a natural position”.

No 20611 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rf5+/i Kg8 2.Rxb7 Bxc5+/ii 3.Kxc5 e1Q/iii 4.Bxd5+ Bxd5 5.Rg5+ Kh8 6.Rh5+ Kg8 7.Rg5+ Kf8 8.Rf5+ Ke8/iv 9.Rb8+/v Rxb8/vi 10.Re5+ Qxe5 stalemate.

i) 1.Rxb7? Bxc5+ 2.Kxc5 e1Q 3.Rf5+ Ke8 wins.

ii) e1Q 3.Rg5+ Kh8 4.Rh5+ Kg8 5.Rg5+ Kf8 6.Rf5+ positional draw.

iii) Rxb7 4.Re5 Kg7 (Rb1) 5.Bxd5(+) draws.

iv) Bf7 9.Rbxf7+ Kg8 10.Rf8+ Kg7 11.R8f7+ Kg6 12.R7f6+ draws.

v) 9.Re5+? Qxe5 10.Rb8+ Qxb8 wins

vi) Ke7 10.Re5+ Qxe5 11.Re8+ Kxe8 stalemate. Kd7 10.Rxd5+ Kc7 11.Rxb3 draws.

“Twelve men, interesting play and a model stalemate with no piece standing in its initial place”.

No 20612 Vasily Lebedev (Russia). 1.Sb3 (Sxf5? a1Q;) Rb5/i 2.Sa1 Rb1 3.Se4/ii Rxa1 4.Sc3 Kf1/iii 5.Kf3 (Kf4) Kg1 6.Kg3 (Kg4) Kh1 7.Kh4/iv Kg2 (Kh2; e4) 8.Kg4 (Kg5) Kf2 9.Kf5/v Ke3/vi 10.Ke5 Kd2 11.Kd4 Kc2 (Ke1; Ke3) 12.Kc4 (e4? Rd1+;) Kb2 13.Sxa2/vii Rxa2/viii 14.e4 Ra4+ 15.Kd5 Kc3 16.e5 Ra5+ 17.Kd6 Kd4 18.e6 Ra6+ 19.Kd7 Kd5 20.e7 Ra7+ 21.Kd8 Kd6 22.e8S+ (e8Q? Ra8 mate;) Kc6 (Ke6; Sc7+) 23.Sf6 Rf7 24.Se8 draws.

i) Ra5 2.Se4 Ra3 3.Sc5 Kd1 4.Kd4 Kc2 5.Kc4 draws.

ii) 3.Sc2+? Kd1 4.Kd3 Rb3+ wins.

iii) Rc1 5.Sxa2 Rc2 6.Sb4 Rxe2+ 7.Kd3 draws.

iv) 7.Kh3? Re1 8.Sxa2 Rxe2, and: 9.Sc1 Rc2 10.Sd3 (Sb3) Rc3, or 9.Sc3 Re3+, or 9.Sb4 Re3+ 10.Kg4 Re4+ win.

v) 9.Kf4? Rc1 10.Sxa2 Rc2 11.Sb4 Rc4+ wins.

vi) Ke1 10.Sxa2 Rxa2 11.e4 Rf2+ 12.Ke6 draws.

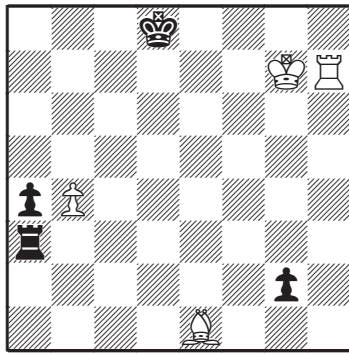
vii) 13.e4? (Kb4?) Rc1 wins.

viii) Kxa2 14.e4 Re1 15.Kd5 Kb3 16.e5 draws.

After G. Zakhodyakin.

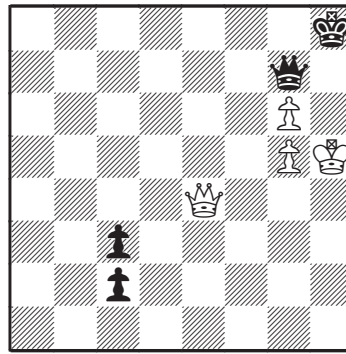
“Zakhodyakin has a similar study (*Shakhmaty v SSSR* 1982) which was found unsound. This study is based on it with a change in colours and stipulation, and with extended play that was not present in the original study nor in the cook. The duals are not important here”.

No 20613 I. Akobia †
& P. Arestov
5th honourable mention



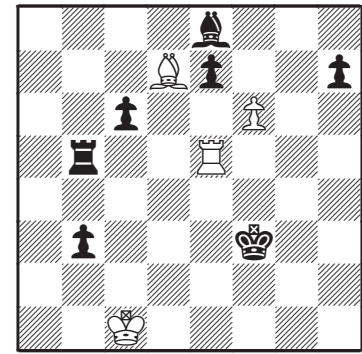
g7d8 0410.12 4/4 Draw

No 20614 M. Campioli
6th honourable mention



h5h8 4000.22 4/4 Win

No 20615 E. Melnichenko
7th honourable mention



c1f3 0440.14 4/7 Win

No 20613 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Bf2/i Rg3+/ii 2.Kh8 (Kf6? Rf3+;) g1Q 3.Bxg1 Rxc1 4.Ra7, with:

- Rh1+ 5.Kg8 Ra1 6.b5 a3 7.b6 Kc8 8.Rc7+/iii Kb8 9.Rg7 zz Rd1 10.Ra7 Ra1 11.Rg7 a2 12.Rg2 Kb7 13.Kg7 Kxb6 14.Kg6 Kc5 15.Kg5 Kd4 16.Kg4 Ke3/iv 17.Kg3 Kd3 18.Kg4 Ke3 19.Kg3 positional draw, or:
- Ra1 5.b5 a3 6.b6 Kc8/v 7.Rc7+/vi Kb8 8.Rh7 zz Re1 9.Ra7 Ra1 10.Rh7 zz a2 11.Rh2 Kb7 12.Kh7 Kxb6 13.Kh6 Kc5 14.Kh5 Kd4 15.Kh4 Ke3/vii 16.Kh3 Kf4 17.Rf2+/viii Ke3 18.Rh2 Kf3 19.Kh4 Ke3 20.Kh3 echo positional draw.
 - i) 1.Bh4+? Kc8 2.Bf2 Rg3+ 3.Kh8 g1Q 4.Bxg1 Rxc1 5.Ra7 Ra1 (Rh1) wins.
 - ii) g1Q+ 2.Bxg1 Rg3+ 3.Kf6 (Kf8) draws.
 - iii) 8.Rg7? Kb8 zz 9.Ra7 a2 draws.
 - iv) Kc4 17.Kg5 Kd5 18.Kg4 Kc4 19.Kg5 positional draw.
 - v) a2 7.Ra8+ Kd7 8.b7 draws.
 - vi) 7.Rh7? Kb8 zz 8.Ra7 a2 wins.
 - vii) Kc4 16.Kh5 Kd5 17.Kh4 Kc4 18.Kh5 positional draw.
 - viii) 17.Kh4? Rf1 18.Rxa2 Rh1+ wins.

“Something almost new in the trodden field of rooks and pawns with a long and clear main line of six men, and full of zugzwangs and finishing in positional draws. L.M. González did not find any anticipation”.

No 20614 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Qe8+/i Qg8 2.Qe5+ Qg7 3.Qb8+ Qg8 4.Qh2 Qg7/ii 5.Kg4+/iii Kg8 6.Qb8+ Qf8 7.Qc7/iv Qg7 (c1Q;

Qh7 mate) 8.Qc4+ Kh8/v 9.Qc8+ Qg8 10.Qxc3+ Qg7 11.Qh3+/vi Kg8 12.Qb3+ Kh8 13.Qb8+ Qg8 14.Qh2+/vii Qh7 15.Qxh7+ (gxh7? c1Q;) mate.

- i) 1.Qa8+? Qg8 2.Qh1 c1Q 3.Qxc1 Qc4 4.Qe1 Qc7 draws.
- ii) Qe8 5.Kg4+ Kg7 6.Qh7+ Kf8 7.g7+, or Qc8 5.Qe5+ Kg8 6.Qd5+ Kh8 7.Qf3 Qg8 8.Qxc3+ Qg7 9.Qxc2 win.
- iii) 5.Qxc2? Qd4 6.Qh2 Qd7 7.Qe5+ Kg8 8.Qxc3 Qd1+ draws.
- iv) 7.Qb7? (Qa7?) Qf4+ 8.Kxf4 c1Q+ 9.Kf5 Qf1+ draws.
- v) Kf8 9.Qc8+ Ke7 10.Qc7+ Kf8 11.Qd8 mate.
- vi) 11.Qxc2? Qxg6 12.Qxg6 stalemate.
- vii) 14.Qe5+? Qg7 15.Qh2+ Kg8 16.Qxc2 Qd4+ 17.Kh5 Qh8+ 18.Kg4 Qd4+ draws.

“An amusing queen fight perfect for solvers”.

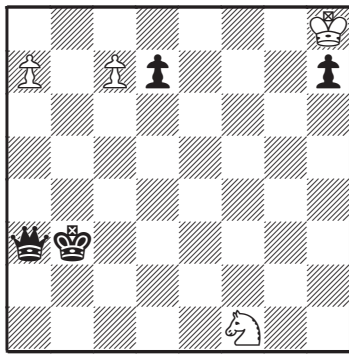
No 20615 Emil Melnichenko (New Zealand). 1.f7 b2+ 2.Kb1 Bxf7 3.Bxc6+ Rd5 4.Bxd5+ Kf4 5.Re4+ Kf3 6.Rd4+ Ke3/i 7.Rd1 Ke2 8.Bf3+ Kxf3 9.Rf1+ Kg3 10.Rxf7 h5 11.Rg7+ (Kxb2? h4;) Kf3 12.Rh7 Kg4 13.Kxb2 h4 14.Kc2 (Kc3, Kc1) h3 15.Kd2 Kg3 16.Ke3/ii Kg2 17.Ke2/iii h2 18.Rg7+ Kh3 19.Kf2 h1S+ 20.Kf3 wins.

- i) Bxd5 7.Rxd5 Kg4 8.Rd8 h5 9.Rg8+ Kf3 10.Rh8 Kg4 11.Kxb2 see main line.
- ii) 16.Ke2? (Ke1?) h2.
- iii) 17.Rg7+? Kf1 18.Rf7+ Kg2 only wastes time.

“Partly anticipated by Gurvich (HHd-bIV#14290), but this one is better, with prior

and posterior play. Its solution is clear and therefore, like the previous one, it is a ‘friendly study’.

No 20616 V. Tarasiuk
1st commendation



h8b3 3001.22 4/4 Win

No 20616 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Sd2+ Kb4/i 2.c8Q Qa1+ 3.Kg8/ii Qg1+/iii
4.Kf7/iv Qxa7 5.Qc4+ Ka5 6.Qa2+ Kb6 7.Sc4+
Kb7 8.Sd6+ Ka8 9.Qg2+ wins.

i) Ka2 2.c8Q Qxa7 3.Qc2+ wins.

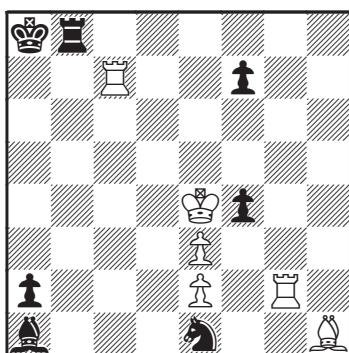
ii) 3.Kxh7? Qh1+ 4.Kg7 Qg2+ (Qg1+) 5.Kf7
Qf2+ 6.Ke8 Qxa7 7.Qc4+ Ka5 8.Qa2+ Kb6
9.Sc4+ Kb7 10.Sd6+ Kb8 (Ka8) draws.

iii) Qxa7 4.Qc4+ Ka5 5.Qa2+ Kb6 6.Sc4+
Kb7 7.Sd6+ Ka8 8.Qd5+ Kb8 9.Qb3+ Ka8
10.Qf3+ Kb8 11.Qf8+ Kc7 12.Sb5+ wins.

iv) 4.Kf8? Qxa7 5.Qc4+ Ka5 6.Qa2+ Kb6
7.Sc4+ Kb7 8.Sd6+ Ka8 9.Qd5+ Kb8 10.Qb3+
Ka8 11.Qf3+ Kb8 12.Qb3+ Ka8 draws.

“Partly anticipated by C. Jonsson (1st hon.
mention *Tidskrift för Schack* 1964), but this one
has no duals”.

No 20617 J. Timman
2nd commendation



e4a8 0543.23 6/7 Win

No 20617 Jan Timman (the Netherlands).
1.Rg6/i fxg6/ii 2.Kxf4+ Rb7 3.Rxb7 Be5+/iii
4.Kxe5 a1Q+ 5.Ke6 Sg2/iv 6.Bxg2 Qg1 7.Bf3
Qxe3+/v 8.Kf7 Qf2 (Qf4+; Ke8) 9.Kg8 (Ke8?
Qxe2+;) g5 10.Bh1 Qh4 11.Rh7+ wins.

i) 1.Rg5? Rb4+ 2.Kf5+ f3 3.Bxf3+ Sxf3 4.Rg8+
Rb8, or 1.Rg1? f3 2.Bxf3 Bg7 3.Rxe1 Rb1 draw.

ii) Rb4+ 2.Kf5+ f3 3.Ra6+ Kb8 4.Rxf7 wins.

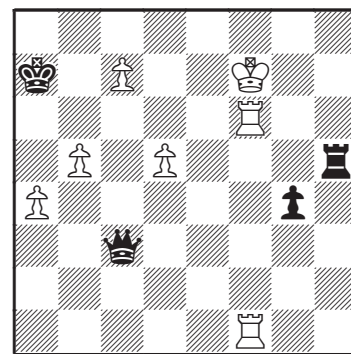
iii) Sd3+ 4.exd3 Be5+ 5.Kg5 a1Q 6.Rb1+ Ka7
7.Rxa1+ Bxa1 8.d4 Kb6 9.Kf6 wins.

iv) Qa2+ 6.Ke7, and here: Qa3+ 7.Kf7 Qa2+
8.Kf8 Qa3+ 9.Kg8 Qa2+ 10.Kh7, or here: Qg8
7.Rd7+ Kb8 8.Rd8+ Qxd8+ 9.Kxd8 Sc2 10.e4
Sd4 11.Bf3 wins.

v) Qf2 (Qg3; Kf7) 8.Kd6 Qh2+ 9.Kc5 Qe5+
10.Kc4 Qe6+ 11.Kd3 (Kb4) wins.

“Three sacrifices to clear a line or empty a
square: 1.Rg6; 3...Be5+; 5...Sg2, a battery re-
peated and precise wK moves that end with
capture of the bQ”.

No 20618 R. Becker
3rd commendation



f7a7 3500.41 7/4 Draw

No 20618 Richard Becker (USA). 1.b6+/i
Kb7 2.a5/ii Qd3/iii 3.a6+ Qxa6 4.c8Q+/iv Kxc8
5.Kg6/v Rxd5/vi 6.b7+/vii Qxb7 7.Rf8+/viii Kc7
8.Rc1+ Kb6 9.Rf6+ Ka7 10.Ra1+ Kb8 11.Rf8+
Kc7 12.Rc1+, and:

— Kb6 13.Rf6+ Ka7 14.Ra1+ Kb8 15.Rf8+ Kc7
16.Rc1+ perpetual circuit around the bQ, or:

— Kd6 13.Rf6+ Ke5 14.Rf5+ Kd4/ix 15.Rd1+
Kc5 16.Rc1+ Kd6 17.Rf6+ Ke5 18.Rf5+ Kd4
19.Rd1+ Kc5 20.Rc1+ Kd6 21.Rf6+ perpetual
circuit around the bR.

i) 1.d6? g3 (Rh8), or 1.Kg6? Rxd5 (Rh8) win.

ii) 2.R1f5? Rh7+ (Rh8) wins.

iii) Qxa5 3.Rd6 Rxd5 4.Rd8, or Rxd5 3.a6+ Kxa6 4.c8Q+ (Ra1+? Ra5;) Qxc8 5.b7+ Kxb7 6.Rb1+ Ka7 7.Ra1+ Kb7 8.Rb1+ draws.

iv) 4.Rc1? Rh8 5.Rfc6 Rc8, or 4.Kg6? Rh8 5.Kg7 Rc8 6.d6 Qb5 win.

v) 5.Kg7? Rg5+ 6.Kh6 Rxd5 (Rg8) wins.

vi) Rh8 6.b7+ Qxb7 7.Rf8+ Rxf8 8.Rxf8+ Kc7 9.Rf7+ Kb6 10.Rxb7+ Kxb7 11.Kf6 (Kf7) g3 12.d6 draws.

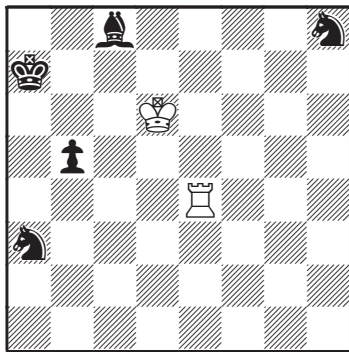
vii) 6.Rc1+? Kd8 7.Rf8+ Ke7 (Kd7) 8.Rf7+ Ke8 9.Re1+ Kd8 10.Rf8+ Kd7 11.Rf7+ Kd6 (Kc6) 12.Rf6+ Kc5 13.Rc1+ Kb4 14.Rb1+ Kc3 wins.

viii) 7.Rc1+? Kb8 8.Rf8+ Ka7 9.Ra1+ Kb6 10.Rf6+ Kc5 11.Rc1+ Kd4 wins.

ix) Ke6 15.Rf6+ Ke5 16.Rf5+, or Ke4 15.Re1+ Kd3 16.Rd1+ Kc4 17.Rc1+ Kd4 18.Rd1+ draw.

“Improvement of a study by V. Nestorescu (EG#04810) where the bK turns around its queen. Here the theme is duplicated with another dance around the rook and by adding interesting introductory play”

No 20619 R. Becker & I. Akobia †
4th commendation



d6a7 0136.01 2/5 Draw

No 20619 Richard Becker (USA) & Iuri Akobia (Georgia). 1.Kc5 Sg6 2.Re3 Sc4 3.Rb3/i Sd6 4.Rb4/ii Ka6/iii 5.Kxd6 Kb6/iv 6.Re4/v zz Bh3 (Sf8; Re8) 7.Rb4/vi zz Bf5/vii 8.Rd4 zz Bc8 (Sf8; Rf4) 9.Re4 Bb7 10.Rg4 Sh8 11.Rf4/viii Sg6 (Bc6; Rf6) 12.Rg4 Sf8 13.Rg7 Bc6 14.Rc7 Bh1 15.Rg7 Bc6 16.Rc7 Bg2 17.Rg7 Be4 18.Re7 Bg6 19.Rg7 Be4/ix 20.Re7 Bd3 21.Re8 Sg6 (Sh7) 22.Rb8+ Ka5 23.Kc5 draws.

i) 3.Rg3? Ka6 4.Rxg6+ Ka5 5.Rg2 Sb6 wins.

ii) 4.Kxd6? Kb6 5.Rb4 Sf8 6.Rh4 Bb7 7.Rh8 Sg6 8.Rh6 Be4 wins, as 9.Kc5 is not possible.

iii) Sf8 5.Rh4 Bb7 6.Rh8 Se6+/x 7.Kxd6 Sf4 8.Kc5 Ka6 9.Rb8 Sd3+ 10.Kd4 Sc1/xviii 11.Kc5 Sb3+ 12.Kb4 Sd4 13.Kc5 draws.

iv) Bf5 6.Kc5 Se5 7.Rxb5 Sd3+ 8.Kc4 draws.

v) 6.Rd4? Sf8 7.Rh4 Bb7 8.Rh8 Sg6 9.Rh6 Be4 wins.

vi) 7.Rd4? Sf8 and here: 8.Ke7 Kc5 9.Rd3 Sg6+ 10.Kf6 Sf4 11.Rf3 Sd5+, or: 8.Rh4 Bg2 9.Rf4 Sh7 10.Rf7 Be4 win.

vii) Sf8 8.Ke7 Sg6+ 9.Kf6 (Kd6) Sf8 10.Ke7 Sh7 11.Rh4 Bf5 12.Rh5 Be4 13.Rh4 Bd3 14.Rh3 Bc2 15.Rh2 Bb1 16.Rh1 Bg6 17.Rh6 draws.

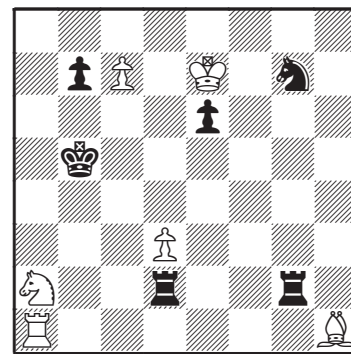
viii) 11.Rg7? Bf3 12.Ke5 Kc5 13.Rc7+ Kb4 wins.

ix) Bd3 20.Rg8 Sg6 (Sh7) 21.Rb8+.

x) Ka6 7.Kxd6 Sg6 8.Rh6 Be4 9.Kc5 as bK is at a6.

“A 7 men position and consequently a correct one as confirmed by the EGTB although only the computer understands the initial moves; this is a good example of a ‘vague study’. White can win a piece several times but only the 5th move really works as it leads to a positional draw by a *chain of zugzwangs*”.

No 20620 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
5th commendation



e7b5 0714.22 6/6 BTM, Win

No 20620 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1...Sf5+ 2.Kxe6/i Sg7+/ii 3.Ke7/iii Rge2+/iv 4.Be4 Rc2 5.Kd7/v Se8/vi 6.c8Q/vii Rxc8/viii 7.Kxc8 Sd6+ 8.Kb8/ix Sxe4 9.dxe4 Kc4 10.Rc1+ Kd4 11.Sc3 Rb2 12.Kc7 zz Rb3 13.Sb1/x Re3/xi 14.Sd2 Kd3 15.Rc5 Kxd2 16.e5 Kd3 17.Kd6 (Rb5? Kc4;) b6 (Kd4; Rb5) 18.Rb5 Kc4 19.Rxb6 wins.

i) 2.Kf6? Rg8 3.Rb1+ Kc5 4.Sc3 Rc2 5.Se4+ Kd5 6.Sg5+ Kd6 7.Rxb7 Rxg5 8.Kxg5 Rxc7 draws.

ii) Sd4+ 3.Kd5 Sc6 4.Bxg2 Rxxg2 5.Rb1+ Ka5 6.Sc3 Se7+ 7.Ke6 Sc8 8.Ra1+ Kb6 9.Sd5+ Kc6 10.Rc1+ Kb5 11.Kd7 Rg8 12.Se7, or Rg8 3.Sc3+ Kb6 4.Sd5+ Kb5 5.Kxf5 wins.

iii) 3.Kd5? Rg5+ 4.Kd4 Rc2 5.Sc3+ Rxc3 6.Rb1+ Ka5 7.Kxc3 Rc5+ 8.Kd2 Rxc7 9.Bxb7 Sf5, or 3.Kd7? Rxd3+ 4.Kc8 Rxa2 5.Rxa2 Se6 6.Kxb7 Sxc7 draw.

iv) Sf5+ 4.Kf6 Sd6 5.Bxg2 Rxxg2 6.Ke6 Sc8 7.Rb1+ Kc6 8.Rc1+ Kb6 9.Kd7 Sa7 10.Sb4 Rg7+ 11.Ke8 Rg5 12.d4 wins.

v) 5.Rc1? Rxc1 6.Sxc1 Rc2 7.Kd7 Rxc1, or 5.Rb1+? Ka4 6.Rxb7 Rc5 7.Kd6 Rec2 8.Sb4 Rxc7 9.Sxc2 Se8+ 10.Ke5 Rxc2 11.Rb8 Sc7 draw/

vi) Sh5 6.c8Q as in main line.

vii) 6.Rc1? Sxc7 7.Sc3+ Rxc3 8.Rxc3 Sa6 draws.

viii) Sf6+ 7.Kd8 as in main line.

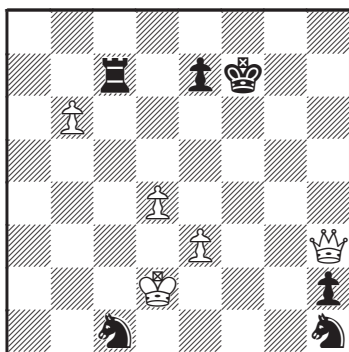
ix) 8.Kc7? Sxe4 9.dxe4 Kc4 10.Rc1+ Kd4 11.Sc3 Rb2 zz 12.Sa4 Rb4 13.Sc5 b6 14.e5 bxc5 draws. 8.Kd7? Sxe4 9.dxe4 Kc4 10.Rc1+ Kd4 11.Sc3 Rh2 draws.

x) 13.Sa4? Rb4, or 13.Rd1+? Kxc3, or 13.Kd6? Rb6+ draw.

xi) Rb2 14.Re1 Ke5 15.Kb8 zz Ke6 16.Sc3 wins.

“The composers commend: ‘Long precise fight in advantage position. Switchbacks. Reciprocal zugzwangs. Meredith’. Yes, but very difficult and not very amusing”.

No 20621 F. Bertoli
6th commendation



d2f7 1306.32 5/6 BTM, Draw

No 20621 Franco Bertoli (Italy). 1...Sb3+ 2.Ke2/i Rc2+/ii 3.Kf3 Sxd4+ 4.exd4 Rc3+ 5.Kg2 Rxxh3 6.Kxxh3 Sf2+ 7.Kxxh2 Sg4+ 8.Kg3/iii Sf6

9.b7/iv Sd7 10.d5/v Kg6/vi 11.Kg4/vii Sb8/viii 12.Kf4 Kf6 13.Ke4 Sd7 14.Kf4 draws.

i) 2.Ke1? Rc1+ 3.Ke2 Sg3+

ii) Sxd4+ 3.exd4 Rc2+ 4.Ke1 Sf2 5.Qh5+ Kf6 6.b7 Sd3+ 7.Kd1 Rb2 8.Qxxh2 Rxxh2 9.b8Q Sb2+ 10.Ke1 Sd3+ 11.Kf1 Rf2+ draws.

iii) 8.Kh3? Sf6 9.b7 Sd7 10.Kg4 Kf6 11.Kh5 Kf5 12.Kh6 Ke4, or 8.Kg2? Sf6 9.b7 Sd7 10.Kf3 Ke6 11.Ke4 Kd6 win.

iv) 9.d5? Se4+ 10.Kf4 Sd6 11.Kg5 Kg7 wins.

v) 10.Kg4? Ke6 11.Kg5 Kd5 12.Kg6 Kxd4 13.Kf7 e5, or 10.Kf4? Ke6 11.Kg5 Kd5 wins.

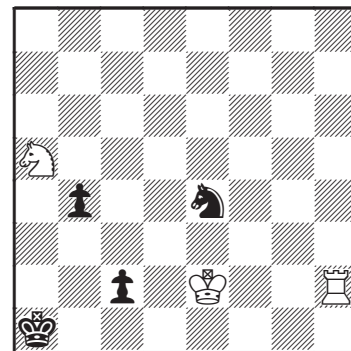
vi) Kg7 11.Kf3 Kf6 12.Kf4 Sb8 13.Ke4.

vii) 11.Kf4? Kf6 12.Ke4 Sc5+ wins.

viii) Kf6 12.Kf4 Sb8 13.Ke4 Kf7 14.Kf5 draws.

“A hard fight to obtain a miraculous draw position with a knight down”.

No 20622 V. Kalashnikov
7th commendation



e2a1 0104.02 3/4 Win

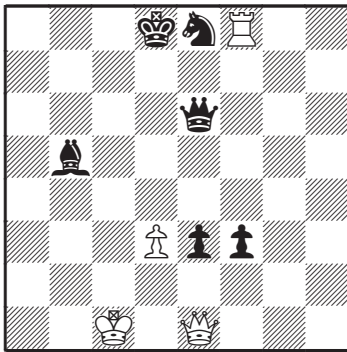
No 20622 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Kd3 c1Q 2.Sb3+ Kb1 3.Sxc1 Sc5+ 4.Kd2/i Se4+ 5.Ke3 Sg3 6.Rh3 (Rg2) Kxc1 7.Rxxg3 b3 8.Kd3 b2 9.Rg1 mate.

i) 4.Kc4? Kxc1 5.Kxc5 b3 6.Kc4 b2 7.Kc3 b1S+ draws.

“A simple and interesting miniature ending in a model mate. The dual 6.Rh3 (Rg2) has little importance”.

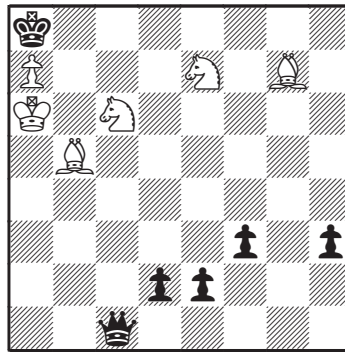
No 20623 Péter Gyarmati (Hungary) & Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine). 1.Qa5+ Ke7 2.Qb4+/i Sd6/ii 3.Rxf3 e2/iii 4.Qh4+/iv Kd7/v 5.Kd2 Qa2+ 6.Ke1 Qc2 7.Qh3+ (Kf2? Qd2;) Kc7/vi 8.Re3 Qd1+/vii 9.Kf2 Bd7/viii 10.Qg2 Bg4 11.Re7+ Kb6 12.Qg1 (Qxxg4? e1Q+;) Sf5 13.Re8/

No 20623 P. Gyarmati
& E. Eilazyan
8th commendation



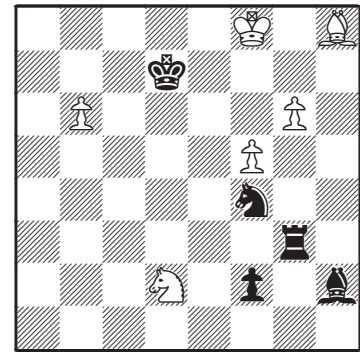
c1d8 4133.12 4/6 Draw

No 20624 M. Campioli
9th commendation



a6a8 3022.14 6/6 Draw

No 20625 A. Gasparyan
special commendation



f8d7 0344.31 6/5 Draw

ix Sd4/x 14.Qe1/xi Sc2 15.Rb8+ Ka6 16.Ra8+ Kb7 17.Ra7+ Kb8 18.Ra8+ Kxa8 19.Qa5+/xi and perpetual check.

i) 2.Rf4? Sd6 3.Rxf3 e2 4.Qe1 Bc6 5.Rg3 Sb5 6.Kd2 Sd4 7.Re3 Sf3+ 8.Rxf3 Bxf3 wins.

ii) Qd6 3.Qxd6+ Kxd6 4.Rxf3 e2 5.Kd2 draws.

iii) Bxd3 4.Kd1 e2+/xii 5.Ke1 Bb5/xiii 6.Re3 Qxe3 7.Qxd6+ Kxd6 stalemate.

iv) 4.Qe1? Bc6 5.Rg3 Sf5 6.Rg4 Qa2 7.Qc3 Qa1+ 8.Qxa1 e1Q+ 9.Kb2 Qe2+ 10.Kc3 Qxg4 wins.

v) Ke8 5.Kd2 Qa2+ 6.Ke1 draws.

vi) Kc6 8.Re3 Qd1+ 9.Kf2 Bxd3 10.Qf3+ Se4+ 11.Rxe4 Qf1+ 12.Kg3 Bxe4 13.Qxe4+ draws.

vii) Bd7 9.Qg2 Qd1+ 10.Kf2 see main line.

viii) Bxd3 10.Re7+ Kb6 11.Qe3+ Kb5 12.Qe5+ Ka4 13.Qxd6 Qf1+ 14.Kg3 e1Q+ 15.Rxe1 draws.

ix) 13.Re6+? Kb5 14.Re5+ (Qg2 Bf3;) Kc6 15.Qg2+ Kb6 16.Re6+ Ka7 17.Re8 Bf3 18.Qh3 Bh5 19.Qxf5 Qf1+ wins.

x) Bh5 14.Rb8+ Kc7 15.Rb1 draws.

xi) Rundlauf.

xii) Kd7 5.Rxe3 Qxe3 6.Qxd6+ Kxd6 stalemate.

xiii) Qd5 6.Re3+ Kf7 7.Rxe2 Bxe2 8.Kxe2 draws.

“A complex task with difficult variations. The effort deserves a commendation”.

No 20624 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Sc8/i Qc5 (Qa3+; Sa5) 2.Bd4/ii d1Q (e1Q; Bxc5) 3.Bxc5

Qa1+ 4.Sa5 Qxa5+ 5.Kxa5 e1Q+ 6.Kb6/iii Qb1 7.Se7/iv Qb3/v 8.Sf5 h2 9.Sg3/vi f2 10.Bxf2 Qe6+ 11.Bc6+ Qxc6+ 12.Kxc6 h1Q+ 13.Sxh1 draws.

i) 1.Sd5? Qa3+ 2.Sa5 Qxa5+ 3.Kxa5 Kxa7 wins.

ii) 2.Bf8? Qg1 3.Sa5 Qxa7+ 4.Sxa7 d1Q wins.

iii) 6.Ka6? Qa1+ 7.Kb6 Qf6+ 8.Sd6 Qd8+ 9.Ka6 Qc7 10.Bd3 Qc6+ 11.Bb6 h2 12.Be4 Qxe4 wins.

iv) 7.Sd6? f2 8.Bxf2 h2 9.Se8 Qg6+ 10.Bc6+ Qxc6+ 11.Kxc6 h1Q+ wins.

v) f2 8.Bxf2 h2 9.Sd5 Qg6+ 10.Bc6+ Qxc6+ 11.Kxc6 h1Q draws.

vi) 9.Sd4? Qd5 10.Bc6+ Qxc6+ 11.Sxc6 h1Q wins.

“A curious draw searched by White but achieved by stalemating Black”.

No 20625 Aleksey Gasparyan (Armenia). 1.g7/i Sg6+/ii 2.fxg6/iii f1Q+ 3.Sxf1 Rf3+ 4.Kg8 Rxf1/iv 5.Kh7/v Rh1 6.g8S Bf4+/vi 7.Kg7/vii Ke6/viii 8.Sf6 Be5 9.Kg8 Bxf6 10.Bxf6 Kxf6 11.b7 Rb1 12.g7 Rxb7 13.Kh8 Rxg7 stalemate.

i) 1.Be5? Sxg6+ 2.fxg6 Re3, or 1.Sf1? Sxg6+ 2.fxg6 Rxg6 3.Sxh2 Rh6 win.

ii) Rg5 2.g8Q Rxf5+ 3.Qf7+ Rxf7+ 4.Kxf7 Se2 5.Kg6 Bf4 6.Sf1 draws.

iii) 2.Kf7? Se7 3.f6 Sf5 4.Kg8 Rg1 5.f7 (Kh7 Bf4;) Rh1 6.f8Q Se7+ wins.

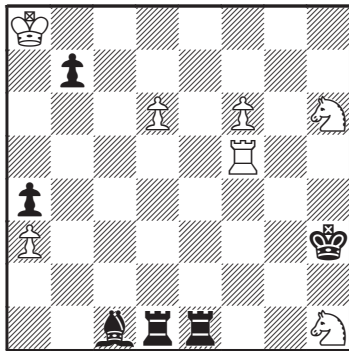
iv) Be5 5.Sd2 Rf2 6.Se4 draws.

v) 5.b7? Be5 6.b8Q Bxb8 7.Kh7 Rh1+ 8.Kg8 Be5 wins.

- vi) Be5+ 7.Sh6 Bxh8 8.Kxh8 draws.
- vii) 7.Sh6? Rxh6+ 8.Kg7 Ke6 wins.
- viii) Be5+ 8.Kf7 Bxh8 9.g7 draws.

“The special commendation is for the best re-working of a previous study. This one is longer and clearer, with a neat final position”.

No 20626 L. González
‘hors-concours’



a8h3 0732.32 7/6 Win

No 20626 Luis Miguel González (Spain).
1.Sf2+, and:

- Kg3 2.Sxd1 Rxd1 3.Rf1 Rxf1/i 4.d7 Rd1 5.Sf5+ Kh3 6.f7 Bxa3 7.Sd6 Rxd6 (Bxd6; f8Q) 8.f8Q Ra6+ 9.Kxb7/ii Bxf8 10.d8Q wins, or:
- Kg2/iii 2.Sxd1 Rxd1 3.Rf2+/iv Kxf2/v 4.Sg4+ Ke2 5.f7 Rf1 6.d7 Bg5 7.Sf6 Rxf6 (Bxf6; f8Q) 8.d8Q Ra6+ 9.Kxb7/vi Bxd8 10.f8Q wins.

i) Rxd6 4.Sf5+ Kg2 5.Sxd6 Kxf1 6.f7 Bh6 7.Kxb7 wins.

ii) 9.Kb8? Bxf8 10.d8Q Bh6 11.Kxb7 Rg6 draws.

iii) Kh4 2.Rf4+ Bxf4 3.Sf5+ Kg5 4.f7 Rxd6 5.f8Q Ra6+ 6.Kxb7 Rf6/vii 7.Qg8+ Rg6 8.Qc8 Ree6 9.Sd4 Rb6+ 10.Ka7 Ra6+ 11.Qxa6 Rxa6+ 12.Kxa6 wins.

iv) 3.Sf7? Bxa3 4.Kxb7 Bb2 5.Kc7/viii a3 6.Ra5 Rc1+ 7.Kd7 Rf1 8.Kc8 Rc1+ 9.Kb7 Rd1 10.Kc6 Rc1+ 11.Kd5 Rd1+ 12.Ke6 Re1+ 13.Kf5 Rf1+ 14.Ke4 Re1+ 15.Kf4 Rf1+ 16.Kg4 Rd1 17.Kg5 Rf1 positional draw.

v) Kg1 4.Sf5 Rxd6 5.Sxd6 Kxf2 6.f7 Bh6 7.Kxb7 Kf3 8.Kc7 Kf4 9.Kd7 Bf8 10.Sc8 Ke5 11.Ke8 Bg7 12.Sb6 wins.

vi) 9.Kb8? Bxd8 10.f8Q Bg5 11.Kxb7 Ra5 12.Qb4 Bd2 draws.

vii) Ree6 7.Sh3+ Kg4 8.Sxf4 Reb6+ 9.Kc7 Rc6+ 10.Kd7 Rf6 11.Se3+ Kf3 12.Qc5 Rf7+ 13.Ke8 Rxf4 14.Sd5 Ra8+ 15.Kd7 Rf7+ 16.Ke6 Raf8 17.Qc2

viii) 5.Kc8 Bxf6 6.Rxf6 a3 7.d7 a2 8.Ra6 a1Q 9.Rxa1 Rxa1 10.d8Q Ra8+ draws.

“A beautiful study that in the second move unfolds in two main lines with a Novotny. Interesting play full of brilliant sacrifices without great complications. A genuine ‘friendly study’”.

Moscow ty 2015

Judged Pavel Arestov received 40 studies from 13 countries but 5 studies had to be disqualified because they had more material than the specified maximum of 10 pieces.

The judge considered the quality level as sufficiently high and he was particularly pleased with the prize-winning studies which embodied the best features of a modern study: far foresight, full-blood fights, piece sacrifices, under-promotions, mates and stalemates.

Translation from Russian to English by HH.

No 20627 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Se3/i b1Q 2.Ra1 Qxa1 3.Sc2+ Kd2 4.Sxa1 Kc3/ii 5.Sb3/iii Kxb3 6.f5 Bc4 7.f6 Kb4 8.Kd7 Sb6+ 9.Ke8 Sc8 10.Kd7 Sa7 11.Ke8 Sb5 12.Ke7 Sd4 13.f7 Sf5+ 14.Kf6 draws.

i) Logical try: 1.Sd2? Kxd2 2.Ra2 Kc1 3.Rxb2 Kxb2 4.f5 Bc4 5.f6 Bb3 (Ba2) 6.Kb7 Bd5+ 7.Kc8 Sb6+ 8.Kd8 Bb3 (Ba2) 9.Ke8 Sc4 10.Ke7 Se5 wins.

ii) Bc4 5.Kc5 Ba2 6.Kb4 draws.

iii) Logical try: 5.f5? Bc4 6.f6 Ba2 7.Kb7 Bd5+ 8.Kc8 Sb6+ 9.Kd8 Ba2 10.Ke8 Sc4 11.f7 Sd6+

“This is a brilliantly logical performance in which the difference between the position of the bK on b2 or b3 plays a key role. The ambiguous retreat of the bB in the first logical try prevented this study from taking first prize outright”.

No 20628 Nikolai Ryabinin (Russia). 1.Rg4+/i Kh8 2.Rh4+ Rh7 (Kg8; Be6+) 3.Rxh7+ Kg8 4.Rg7+ Kh8 (Kf8; Be6) 5.Kf7 Rd7+ 6.Bxd7 d1Q 7.Rg8+ Kh7 8.Bf5+ Kh6 9.Rg6+ Kh5

10.Bg4+ Kh4 11.hxg3+ Kxg3 (Sxg3; Bxd1) 12.Bxe2+ Kf2 13.Bxd1 wins.

i) Logical try: 1.Rxg3+? Kh8 2.Rh3+ Rh7 3.Rxh7+ Kg8 4.Rg7+ Kh8 5.Kf7 Rd7+ 6.Bxd7 d1Q 7.Rg8+ Kh7 8.Bf5+ Kh6 9.Rg6+ Kh5 10.Bg4+ Kh4 and Black wins.

“Once again, this is a brilliantly logical study! There is vivid play by both sides and the beautifully logical effect of the refusal of capturing bPg3 makes a great impression. Here the small blemish is bSe2”.

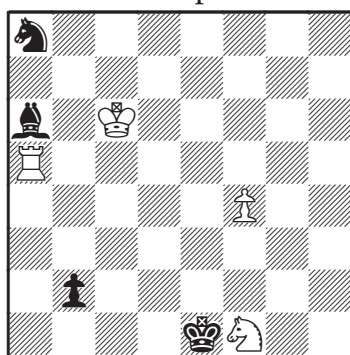
No 20629 Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Kf1/i, and:

— e2+ 2.Kf2 Qh2 3.Rxg4 e1Q+/ii 4.Kxe1 Qg1+ 5.Sf1 d2+ 6.Kxd2/iii Qf2+ 7.Kd1 Qxf1+ 8.Se1+ Kh2 9.Bf3/iv Qa6 10.Rg2+ Kh3 11.Bg4+ Kh4 12.Sf3 mate, or:

— Qf8+ 2.Sf3 e2+/v 3.Kf2 d2 4.Rxg4 d1S+ 5.Kg3 e1Q+ 6.Sgx1 Qb8+ 7.Se5+ Qxa8 8.Rh4+ Kg1 9.S1f3+ Kf1 10.Rh1+ Ke2 11.Re1 mate.

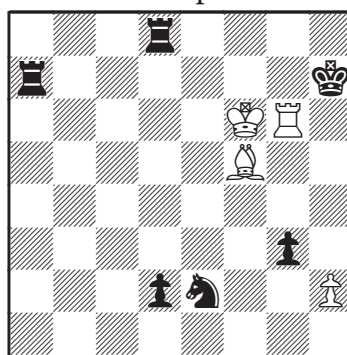
i) 1.Sxe3+? Qxa8 2.Rxg4 Qb8 draws.

No 20627 S. Didukh
& M. Minski
1st/2nd prize



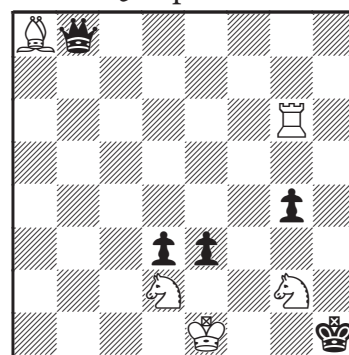
c6e1 0134.11 4/4 Draw

No 20628 N. Ryabinin
1st/2nd prize



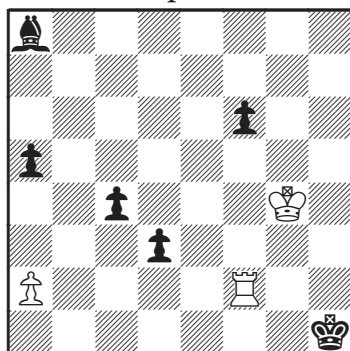
f6h7 0713.12 4/6 Win

No 20629 A. Skripnik
3rd prize



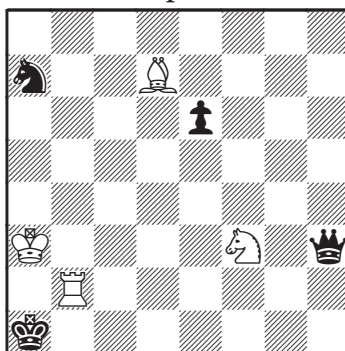
e1h1 3112.03 5/5 Win

No 20630 R. Becker
4th prize



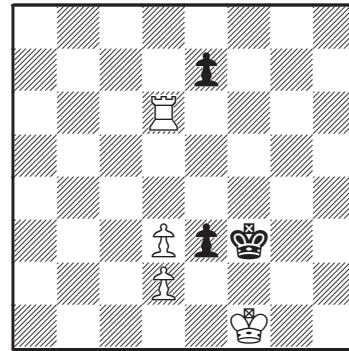
g4h1 0130.14 3/6 Draw

No 20631 S. Hornecker
& M. Minski
5th prize



a3a1 3114.01 4/4 Win

No 20632 V. Tarasiuk
1st honourable mention



f1f3 0100.22 4/3 Win

ii) Qg1+ 4.Kf3 Qxg2+ 5.Rxg2 e1Q 6.Se4 wins.
iii) 6.Ke2? Qxf1+ 7.Kxf1 d1Q+ 8.Se1+ Kh2 escapes.

iv) 9.Bg2? Qg1 (Qa6?; Sf3 mate) 10.Ke2 Qf2+, and 11.Kxf2 stalemate, or 11.Kd1 Qg1 positional draw.

v) gxf3 3.Sxe3 Kh2 4.Kf2 Qf4 5.Rh6+ Qxh6 6.Sg4+ Kh3 7.Sxh6 wins.

“This is a beautiful two main line study with bright double-edged play ending with Black being mated in both lines”.

No 20630 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Kf4 c3/i 2.Ke3 d2 3.Ke2 Bc6/ii 4.Rxf6 Bb5+ 5.Kf2 d1S+ 6.Ke1 Sb2 7.a4 Bc4/iii 8.Rh6+ Kg2 9.Rg6+ Kf3 10.Rg3+ Kxg3 stalemate.

i) f5 2.Rd2 Kg1 3.Kxf5 Kf1 4.Kf4 Ke1 5.Ke3 draws.

ii) Bd5 4.Rxf6 Bc4+ 5.Kd1 draws.

iii) Bxa4 8.Rf3 Sd1 9.Rd3 c2 10.Kd2 draws.

“This shows bright, double-edged play by both sides and ends in a model stalemate involving a promoted bS”.

No 20631 Siegfried Hornecker & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rf2 Kb1 2.Ba4/i, and:

— Ka1/ii 3.Ra2+ Kb1 4.Rb2+ Ka1/iii 5.Rf2/iv e5/v 6.Bd7 Sb5+ (Qxd7; Rf1+) 7.Bxb5 e4 8.Bd3 exd3 (Qxf3; Ra2 mate) 9.Sd2 Qg2/vi 10.Sb3+/vii Kb1 11.Rxg2 wins, or:

— 3.Bc2+ Kc1/viii 4.Bb3 Sb5+ 5.Ka2 Sc3+ 6.Ka1 Se2 7.Rxe2 Qxf3 8.Rc2+ Kd1 9.Rc3+ Ke2 10.Bd1+ wins.

i) 2.Kb3? Kc1 3.Ba4 e5 4.Ka2 Qe6+ 5.Ka1 Qc4 draws.

ii) Now White passes the move to Black.

iii) Kc1 5.Ka2 Qxf3 6.Rc2+ Kd1 7.Rf2+ wins.

iv) Black is in zugzwang.

v) Kb1 6.Bb3/ix Qh1 7.Rb2+ Ka1 8.Ra2+ Kb1 9.Sd2+ Kc1 10.Ra1+ wins.

vi) Qh1 10.Sb3+ Kb1 11.Rb2 mate.

vii) 10.Rxg2? stalemate.

viii) Ka1 4.Bd3 Sb5+ 5.Bxb5 e4 6.Bd3 wins like in the other main line.

ix) But not 6.Bc2+? Kc1 7.Bb3 Sb5+ 8.Ka2 Sc3+ 9.Ka1 Se2 10.Rxe2 Qh8+ draws, as the bP is at e6 and not on e5.

No 20632 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.Rb6/i exd2 2.Rb1 e5 3.Ra1 Ke3 4.d4 exd4 5.Ra3+ d3 6.Ra1 Kd4 7.Kf2 Kc3 8.Ke3 Kc2 9.Ra2+ Kc1 10.Rxd2

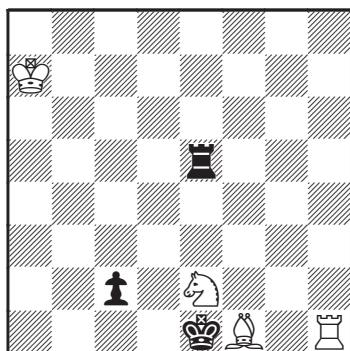
i) 1.Ra6? exd2 2.Ra1 e5 3.Rb1 Ke3 4.d4 exd4 5.Rb3+ d3 6.Rb1 Kd4 7.Kf2 Kc3 8.Ke3 Kc2

“This has a subtle sharp struggle in two lines”.

No 20633 János Mikitovics (Hungary). 1.Sc1 Kd2 2.Bc4/i Kc3 3.Bg8/ii Ra5+ 4.Kb6 Ra1 5.Rh3+ Kb2 6.Sd3+ Kc3 7.Sc5+/iii Kb2 8.Rb3+ Kc1 9.Rd3 Kb2 10.Rd2 Kc3 11.Se4+ Kb2 12.Rg2 Ra8 13.Bc4 Ra3 14.Bf7 Rc3 15.Kb5 Rc8 16.Bc4 Re8 17.Bd3 wins.

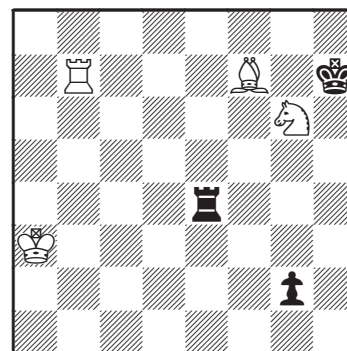
i) Logical try: 2.Bd3? Rd5 3.Be2 Kc3 4.Kb6 Rd8 5.Kc7 Rd5 6.Kc6 Rd8 7.Bg4 Rb8 8.Rh2 Kb2 9.Rh1 Kc3 10.Sa2+ Kb2 11.Sc1 Kc3 positional

No 20633 J. Mikitovics
2nd honourable mention



a7e1 0411.01 4/3 Win

No 20635 V. Kalashnikov
4th honourable mention



a3h7 0411.01 4/3 Win

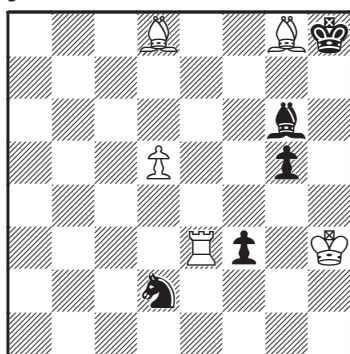
draw, or: 12.Bf5 Rb1 13.Se2+ Kb2 14.Rh2 Rf1
15.Bxc2 Rf6+ draws.

ii) 3.Bb3? Kd2 4.Bc4 Kc3 loss of time.

iii) 7.Sf2+? (Sf4+?) Kb2 8.Sd3+ Kc3 loss of
time.

“We see a very subtle and beautiful manoeuvre by the white pieces in a miniature but the win is achieved from a position with a huge material advantage. In addition, the analytical lines have an abundance of possibilities which means that it is possible to understand what is going on only by using a computer”.

No 20634 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
3rd honourable mention



h3h8 0153.12 5/5 Win

No 20634 Michal Hlinka & L'ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Re6 f2 2.Rf6 g4+/i 3.Kxg4 f1Q
4.Rxf1 Sxf1 5.Be6 Se3+ 6.Kg5 Sxd5/ii 7.Kh6
(Kxg6? Sf4+;) zz Bh5 8.Bh4 zz Be8 9.Bg5 zz Bh5
10.Kxh5 wins.

i) f1Q+ 3.Rxf1 Sxf1 4.Be6 wins.

ii) Be8 7.Bf6+ Kh7 8.d6 wins.

“This is an interesting battle of minor pieces based on a mutual ‘computer’ zugzwang”.

No 20635 Vladimir Kalashnikov (Russia).
1.Bd5+ Kh6 (Kxg6; Bxe4+) 2.Sf8 Re8/i 3.Rh7+
Kg5 4.Se6+/ii Kf6 5.Rh6+ Kf5/iii 6.Bxg2 Rxe6
7.Bh3+ Kg5 8.Rxe6 wins.

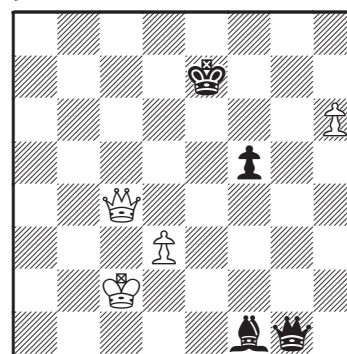
i) g1Q 3.Rh7+ Kg5 4.Rg7+ wins.

ii) 4.Rg7+? Kh6 5.Rg6+ Kh5 6.Bf3+ Kh4
7.Rg4+ Kh3 8.Sh7 Re3+ draws.

iii) Ke5 6.Rg6 Kxd5 7.Sc7+ wins.

“This is a light, airy study, rich in linear attacks”.

No 20636 V. Katsnelson & L. Katsnelson
5th honourable mention



c2e7 4030.21 4/4 Win

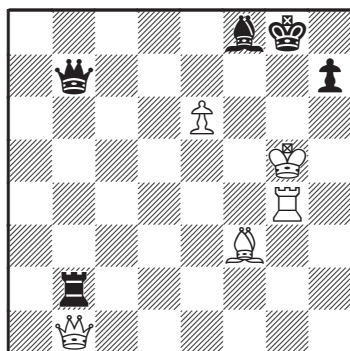
No 20636 Vladimir Katsnelson & Leonard Katsnelson (Russia). 1.h7 Bxd3+/i 2.Kxd3 Qf1+
3.Kc3/ii Qc1+ 4.Kb3/iii Qb1+ 5.Ka4 Qa1+ 6.Kb5
Qh8 7.Qc7+ Kf8/iv 8.Kc4 f4 9.Kd5 f3 10.Ke6/v
wins.

i) Qh2+ 2.Kb3 Bxd3 3.Qc3 Bc2+ 4.Ka3 wins.

ii) 3.Kd4? Qg1+ 4.Kc3 Qc1+ 5.Kb3 waste of
time.

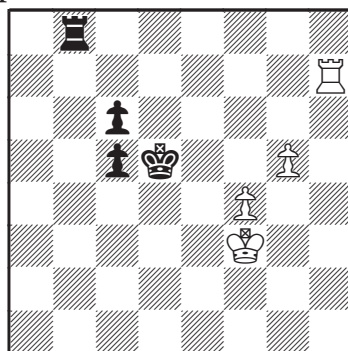
iii) Logical try: 4.Kb4? Qb2+ 5.Ka4 Qh8
6.Qc7+ Kf8 7.Kb3 f4 8.Kc4 f3 9.Kd5 f2 10.Ke6
Qf6+ 11.Kxf6 f1Q+ draws.

No 20637 S. Didukh
6th honourable mention



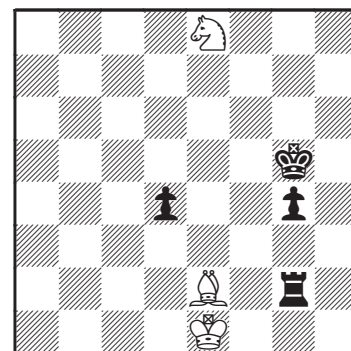
g5g8 4440.11 5/5 Win

No 20638 M. Garcia
special honourable mention



f3d5 0400.22 4/4 BTM, Win

No 20639 D. Keith & M. Minski
commendation



e1g5 0311.02 3/4 Draw

iv) Ke6 8.Kb6 Kd5 9.Qd7+ Ke4 10.Qe7+ Kf3 11.Kc5 f4 12.Kd5 Qa8+ 13.Ke6 Qh8 14.Qf7 Ke4 15.Qg6+ Ke3 16.Qg8 wins.

v) In comparison with the logical try, the wK arrives one move earlier.

“In order to win, White must make the right choice at move 4 of the solution”.

No 20637 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.e7/i Bxe7+/ii 2.Kh6+ Bg5+ (Kh8; Qxh7 mate) 3.Rxg5+ Kh8 4.Rg8+ Kxg8 5.Qg1+ Rg2 6.Qxg2+ Kh8 7.Bc6/iii zz Qf7 8.Qb2+ Kg8 9.Bd5 Qxd5 10.Qg7 mate.

i) 1.Qf5? Qe7+ 2.Qf6 Qg7+ 3.Kh4 Rh2+ 4.Kg3 Bd6+, or 1.Bxb7? Rxb1 2.Kf6+ Kh8 3.Kf7 Rf1+ draws.

ii) Qxe7+ 2.Kh5+ Bg7 3.Qxb2 wins.

iii) 7.Bxb7? stalemate.

“This is an interesting study with mutual piece sacrifices, based on a mutual ‘computer’ zugzwang”.

No 20638 Mario Garcia (Argentina).

— c4 2.Rh1 c3 3.Rc1/i Rb3/ii 4.Kg4 Ke6 5.Re1+ Kf7 6.Re4 Rb1 7.Rc4 wins, or:

— Rb1 2.Rh2 c4 3.Rd2+ Ke6 4.Re2+ Kd5 5.f5 Rg1/iii 6.Kf4 c3 7.f6 Rf1+ 8.Ke3 Ke6 9.Kd4+ Kf5 10.Re5+ Kg6 11.Kxc3 Rf4 12.Kd3 wins.

i) 3.Kg4? Rb2 4.Rc1 Kc4 5.f5 Rf2 6.f6 Kd3 draws.

ii) Kd4 4.g6 c5 5.Rd1+ Kc4 6.f5 Rg8 7.Kf4 c2 8.Rc1 Kc3 9.Kg5 Kd2 10.Rxc2+ Kxc2 11.f6 c4 12.f7 Rf8 13.g7 Rxf7 14.g8Q Rc7 15.Kf4 c3 16.Qa2+ Kc1 17.Ke3 Rh7 18.Qa3+ Kc2 19.Qa4+ Kc1 20.Qf4 Rh3+ 21.Ke2+ Kb2 22.Qb4+ wins.

iii) c3 6.f6 Kd4 7.f7 Rf1+ 8.Rf2 Rxf2+ 9.Kxf2 c2 10.f8Q c1Q 11.Qf6+ Kd5 12.g6 wins.

“Mario Garcia has slightly changed the position that occurred in the game between Petrosian and Fischer in Portoroz in 1958, ending in a draw. With this change the position turns into a study in which White achieves a win in two lines”.

No 20639 Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (France). 1.Sc7 g3 2.Bf3/i Rg1+ 3.Ke2 Kf5/ii 4.Sd5/iii Rb1/iv 5.Be4+ Kxe4 6.Sc3+ dxc3 stalemate.

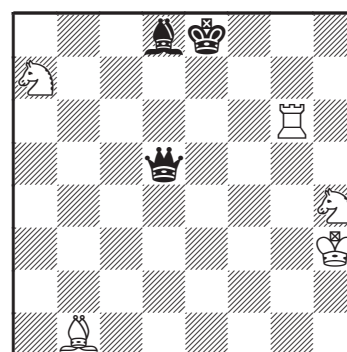
i) 2.Se6+? Kf6 3.Sxd4 Rg1+ 4.Kd2 g2 5.Bf3 Rd1+ 6.Bxd1 g1Q wins.

ii) g2 4.Bxg2 Rxg2+ 5.Kd3 draws.

iii) 4.Sb5? Ke5 5.Kd3 Ra1 6.Sxd4 Ra3+ 7.Kc4 Ra4+ wins.

iv) Ra1 5.Sb4 Ra4 6.Sc2 draws.

No 20640 M. Campioli
commendation



h3e8 3142.00 5/3 Draw

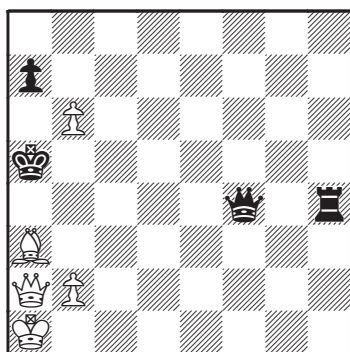
No 20640 Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Sf5 Qh1+ 2.Kg4/i Qd1+ 3.Kf4 Bc7+ 4.Ke3/ii Qe1+ 5.Kd4 Qxb1 6.Rg8+ Kd7 7.Rg7+ Ke6 8.Re7+/iii Kxf5 9.Rxc7 Qb6+ 10.Rc5+ draws.

i) 2.Kg3? Bc7+ 3.Sd6+ Bxd6+ 4.Rxd6 Qxb1 5.Sc6 Qg1+ 6.Kf3 Qc5 wins.

ii) 4.Kg5? Qg1+ 5.Kf6 Qb6+ 6.Kg7 Be5+ 7.Kh7 Qb7+ 8.Rg7 Qh1+ 9.Kg8 Qd5+ wins.

iii) 8.Rxc7? Qxf5 9.Rc6+ Kd7 10.Ra6 Kc7 11.Rc6+ Kb7 wins.

No 20641 L. Topko
commendation

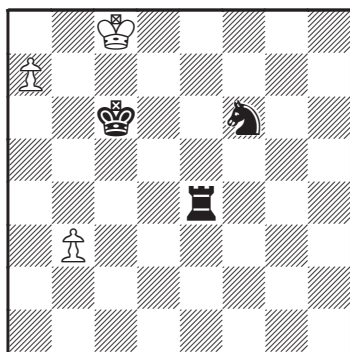


a1a5 4310.21 5/4 Win

No 20641 Leonid Topko (Russia). 1.Bd6+ Qa4 2.b4+ Kb5 3.Qxa4+ Kxa4 4.bxa7 Rh1+ (Rh8; Bb8) 5.Kb2/i Rh8 6.b5 Ra8 7.b6 Kb5 8.b7 wins

i) 5.Ka2? Rh8 6.Bb8 Rxb8 7.axb8Q stalemate, or 6.b5 Kxb5 7.Bb8 Rh6 8.a8Q Ra6+ draws.

No 20642 A. Pallier
commendation



c8c6 0303.20 3/3 Win.

I: Diagram, II: Position shifted one file to the right.

No 20642 Alain Pallier (France).
I: 1.a8Q+ Kd6 2.Qa3+ Ke6 3.b4 Sd5 4.b5 Rf4 5.Kb8/i Rb4 6.Kb7 Rxb5+ 7.Kc6 Rb6+ 8.Kc5 Rd6 9.Qh3+ Ke7 10.Qh7+ wins.

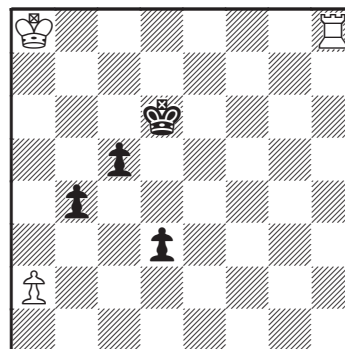
II: 1.b8Q+ Ke6 2.Qb3+ Kf6 3.c4 Se5 4.c5 Rg4 5.Kc7/ii Rg7+ 6.Kc8 Rg6 7.Qb1 (Qc2) Kg5 8.Qe4 Rc6+ 9.Kb7 Re6 10.Kc7 Kf6 11.Qf4+ Ke7 12.Qg5+ wins.

i) 5.Kb7? Ke5 6.Kc6 Rc4+ 7.Kb7 Rf4 8.Kc6 Rc4+ 9.Kb7 Rf4 positional draw. 5.Qa6+? Ke5

6.b6 Rf8+ 7.Kd7 Rf7+ 8.Ke8 Rf4 9.Kd7 Rf7+ 10.Ke8 Rf4 positional draw.

ii) 5.Kc8? Rc4 6.Kc7 Rxc5+ 7.Kd6 Ra5 draws.

No 20643 V. Tarasiuk
commendation



a8d6 0100.13 3/4 Win

No 20643 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Rd8+ Kc6 2.Rxd3 c4 3.Rd8 Kb5 4.Ka7/i c3 5.Ra8/ii zz Ka5 6.Kb7+ Kb5 7.Ra6/iii Kc4 8.Rb6 Kd3 9.Ka6/iv c2 10.Rc6 wins.

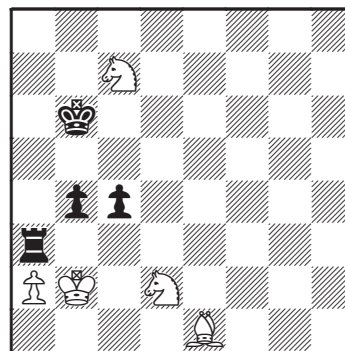
i) 4.Kb7? b3 5.axb3 cxb3 draws.

ii) 5.Rd5+? Ka4 6.Kb6 Ka3 draws.

iii) 7.Rc8? Ka4 8.Ra8+ Kb5 loss of time.

iv) 9.Rxb4? c2 10.Rb3+ Kd4 draws.

No 20644 H. van der Heijden
commendation



b2b6 0312.12 5/4 Win

No 20644 Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands). 1.Sd5+ Kc5 2.Sxb4 Kxb4/i 3.Sb1+, and:

— c3+ 4.Bxc3+ Ka4 5.Ka1/ii wins, or:

— Ka4 4.Bc3/iii wins.

i) Re3 3.Sb3+ cxb3 4.axb3 Rxe1 (Re2+; Sc2) 5.Sd3+ wins.

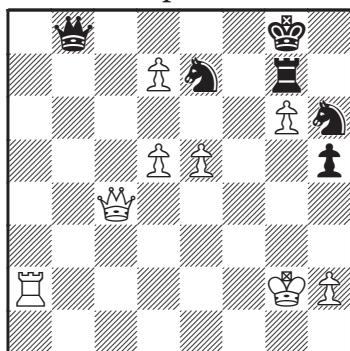
ii) zugzwang. 5.Sxa3? stalemate, or 5.Sd2? Rxc3 6.Kxc3 Ka3 draws.

iii) zugzwang 4.Sxa3? c3+ 5.Bxc3 stalemate.

Zadachi i Etyudi 2013

Karen Sumbatyan judged the annual tourney of *Zadach i Etydudi*. The award was published in *Zadach i Etydudi* no. 65. In total 31 studies were entered.

No 20645 S. Didukh
1st prize



g2g8 4406.51 8/6 Win

No 20645 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.d6+ (Qc8+? Qxc8;) Kh8 2.dxe7 (Qc8+? Sxc8;) Qb7+ 3.Kf1/i Qxd7 4.Ra8+ Rg8 (Sg8; e8Q) 5.Rf8/ii Qxe7/iii 6.Qxg8+ Sxg8 7.Rf7 h4 8.h3 zz Qxe5/iv 9.Rh7 mate.

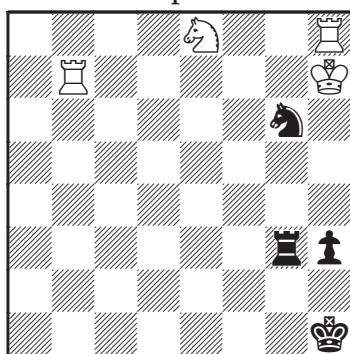
i) Logical try: 3.Kf2? Qxd7 4.Ra8+ Rg8 5.Rxg8+ (Qf4 Sf4+;) Sxg8 6.e8Q Qxe8 7.Qf7 Qe7 8.Kf1 h4 9.h3 Qf8 10.Qxf8 stalemate.

ii) 5.Rxg8+? Sxg8 6.e8Q Qxe8 7.Qf7 Qb5+, or 5.Qxg8+? Sxg8 6.e8Q Qd1+ draw.

iii) Qh3+ 6.Ke1 Qe3+ 7.Kd1 Qxe5 8.e8Q, or Qd1+ 6.Kg2 Qd2+ 7.Kf3 Qd1+ 8.Ke4 wins.

iv) Qxf7+ 9.gxf7 Kg7 10.fxg8Q+ Kxg8 11.Kf2 wins.

No 20646 M. Minski
2nd prize



h7h1 0504.01 4/4 Win

No 20646 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rg8 h2/i 2.Sf6 Rh3+/ii 3.Sh5/iii Rxh5+ (Sf8+; Kh6) 4.Kxg6 Rh6+ 5.Kg5/iv Rh5+ 6.Kg4 (Kf4? Rb5;) Rh4+ 7.Kf3 (Kg3? Rg3+;) Rf4+/v 8.Kg3 Rf3+ 9.Kg4 Rf4+ 10.Kg5/vi Rf5+ 11.Kg6 Rf6+ 12.Kg7 Rf1 13.Kh8/vii Rf7 14.Rb1+ Rf1 15.Rxf1 mate.

i) Rg1 e.g. 2.Sf6 Se5 3.Se4 Rxg8 4.Kxg8 h2 5.Rg7 wins, or here: Kg2 5.Rb2+ Kg1 6.Sg5 h2 7.Sh3+ Kh1 8.Sf4 Kg1 9.Rg2+ Kh1 10.Rg7.

ii) Kg2 3.Rb2+ Kh3 4.Se4 h1Q 5.Sf2+ wins.

iii) 3.Kxg6? Rg3+ 4.Kh7 Rxg8 5.Kxg8 Kg2 6.Rg7+ Kf3 7.Rh7 Kg2 draws.

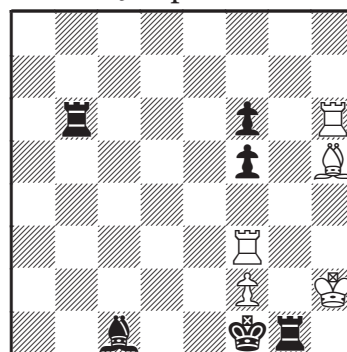
iv) Thematic try: 5.Kg7? Rh7+ 6.Kxh7 stalemate, or 5.Kxh6? stalemate, or 5.Kf5? Rb6 6.Rc7 Rc6 7.Ra7 Ra6 draws.

v) Rb4 (Rh3+; Rg3) 8.Re8 Rxb7 9.Re1 mate.

vi) 10.Kh3? Rh4+ 11.Kg3 Rh3+ 12.Kg4 Rh4+ draws.

vii) 13.Kh6? Rf6+, or 13.Kh7? Rf7+.

No 20647 P. Arestov
3rd prize



h2f1 0840.12 5/6 Draw

No 20647 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rg6/i Bg5/ii 2.Rxf5 (Rc3? Bf4+;) Rg2+ 3.Kh1 (Kh3? Rb4;) Rb2/iii 4.Rxf6/iv Rbxf2 5.Be2+/v Kxe2 6.Rxf2+ Kxf2 7.Rf6+/vi Kg3 8.Rf3+/vii Kxf3 stalemate.

i) 1.Rxf5? Bxh6, or 1.Rh8? Rb3 2.Rxf5 Rg2+ win.

ii) Rxg6 2.Bxg6 f4 3.Bd3+ Ke1 4.Kh3, or Rg5 2.Rxg5 fxg5 3.Kg3 Bf4+ (Rf6; Rb3) 4.Rxf4 draws.

iii) Rg1+ 4.Kh2 Rg2+ 5.Kh1, or Rb4 4.Be2+ Kxe2 5.Kxg2 draw.

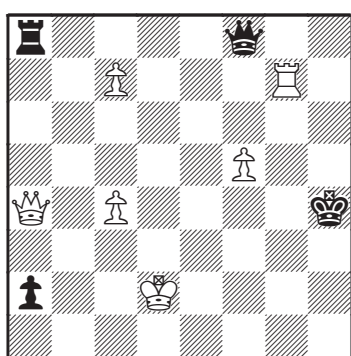
iv) 4.Bf3? Rg1+ 5.Kh2 Bf4+ 6.Rxf4 Rxg6 wins.

v) Thematic try: 5.Rxf2+? Kxf2 6.Ra6 Rg1+ 7.Kh2 Bf4+ 8.Kh3 Rg3+ 9.Kh4 Bg5 mate.

vi) 7.Rb6? Rg1+ 8.Kh2 Rg4 9.Rb2+ Kf3 10.Rb3+ Be3 11.Kh3 Rg3+ 12.Kh4 Rg1 wins.

vii) 8.Rf5? Rh2+ 9.Kg1 Be3+ 10.Kf1 Bf4 wins.

No 20648 V. Katsnelson & L. Katsnelson
1st honourable mention



d2h4 4400.31 6/4 Draw

No 20648 Vladimir Katsnelson & Leonard Katsnelson (Russia). 1.c8Q/i Qxc8 (Rxc8; c5+) 2.Ra7/ii Rxa7 3.Qxa7, and:

— Qxf5 4.Qd4+ Kg5/iii 5.Qg7+ (Qa1? Qf6;) Qg6 6.Qe5+ Qf5 7.Qg7+ Kh5 (Kf4; Qa1) 8.Qa1/iv Kg6 9.Kc1 Qf2 10.c5 Kf5 11.c6 Ke4 12.c7 Kd3 13.Qc3+/v Kxc3 14.c8Q+ draws, or:
— Qxc4 4.Qg1 Qc6 5.Qa1 (Kd3 Qa6+;) Kg5 6.Kd3 Qa6+/vi 7.Kc2 draws/vii.

i) 1.Rh7+? Kg5, and: 2.c8Q Qxc8 3.Ra7 Rxa7 4.Qxa7 Qxc4 5.Qg7+ Kf4 6.Qa1 Kxf5, or here: 2.Rg7+ Kf4 3.c8Q Qd6+ 4.Kc2 Rxa4 win.

ii) 2.Qb4? Qd8+ 3.Ke3 Qg5+ 4.Rxg5 a1Q 5.Qd2 Qe5+ 6.Kf2 Ra3 7.Rg2 Qxf5+ 8.Ke1 Qe4+ 9.Kf1 Qxc4+, or 2.Qb3? Qd8+ 3.Ke2 Qe8+ 4.Kf2 Qe1+ 5.Kxe1 a1Q+, or 2.Rh7+? Kg5 3.Qb3 Qd8+ 4.Ke2 Qe8+ 5.Kf2 Qe5 win.

iii) Kh5 5.Qa1 Qb1 6.Qe5+ draws.

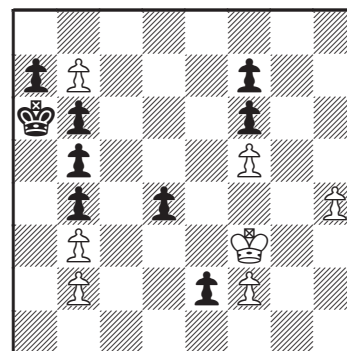
iv) Thematic try: 8.Qh8+? Kg4 9.Qa1 Qf2+ 10.Kc1 Kf5 11.c5 Ke4 12.c6 Kd3 wins.

v) 13.c8Q? Qd2 mate, or 13.Qxa2? Qxa2 14.c8Q Qa1 mate.

vi) Qa4 7.Kc3, or Qd5+ 7.Kc2 draw.

vii) e.g. Qe2+ 8.Kc1 Kxf5 9.Qf6+ Kxf6 stalemate, or here: Qg2 9.Qg7+ Kxf5 10.Qf7+ draws, but not 10.Qxg2? a1Q+ 11.Kc2 Qa2+ wins.

No 20649 M. Zinar
2nd honourable mention



f3a6 0000.68 7/9 Win

No 20649 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.b8S+/i Kb7 2.Kxe2 d3+ 3.Kd2/ii Kxb8 4.h5 Kb7 5.h6 Ka6 6.h7 Ka5 7.h8S a6/iii 8.Sg6 fxg6 9.fxg6 f5 10.g7 f4 11.g8S f3 12.Ke3 d2 13.Se7 d1Q 14.Sc6 mate.

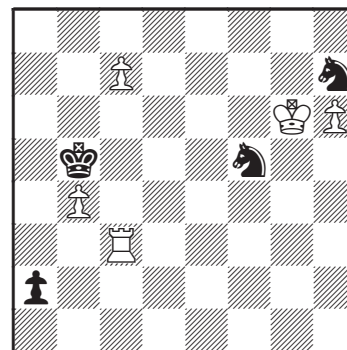
i) Logical try: 1.Kxe2? d3+ 2.Kd1 Kxb7 3.h5 Ka6 4.h6 Ka5 5.h7 a6 6.h8S d2 7.Sg6 fxg6 8.fxg6 f5 9.g7 f4 10.g8S f3 11.Se7 stalemate.

ii) Thematic try: 3.Kxd3? Kxb8 4.h5 Kb7 5.h6 Ka6 6.h7 Ka5 7.h8S a6 8.Sg6 fxg6 9.fxg6 f5 10.g7 f4 11.g8S f3 12.Se7 stalemate. 3.Kd1? Kxb8 4.h5 Kb7 5.h6 Ka6 6.h7 Ka5 7.h8S/iv a6 8.Sg6 d2 9.Se7 stalemate.

iii) Ka6 8.Sxf7 Kb7 9.Kxd3 Kc6 10.Sh6 Kd5 11.Sg4 a5 12.f4 a4 13.Sxf6+ wins.

iv) 7.h8Q a6 8.Qxf6 d2 9.Qg5 f6 10.Kxd2 fxg5 11.f6 g4 12.f7 g3 draws.

No 20650 S. Zakharov
3rd honourable mention



g6b5 0106.31 5/4 BTM, Draw

No 20650 Sergey Zakharov (Russia).
— Se7+ 2.Kxh7 a1Q 3.Rc5+/i Kb6/ii 4.c8S+/iii Sxc8 (Kb7; Sxe7) 5.Rxc8 Qb1+ 6.Kg7/iv Qg1+ 7.Kh7 Qb1+ 8.Kg7/v Qb2+ 9.Kh7/vi Qf6 10.Rg8/vii draws, or:

— a1Q 2.Rc5+ (c8Q? Se7+;) Kb6/viii 3.Rc6+/ix Ka7 4.c8Q Se7+ 5.Kxh7 Qb1+ 6.Kg7 Qg1+ 7.Kh7 (Kf7? Sxc8;) Qb1+ 8.Kg7/x Sxc8 9.Rxc8 Qg1+ 10.Kh7 draws.

i) 3.c8Q? Qb1+ 4.Kh8 Sxc8 5.Rxc8 Qg6 6.Rc5+ Ka4 7.Ra5+ Kb3 wins.

ii) Kxb4 4.c8Q Qb1+ 5.Kh8 Sxc8 6.Rxc8 draws (without wPb4).

iii) 4.c8Q? Qb1+ 5.Kh8 (Kg7 Qg6+;) Sxc8 6.Rxc8 Qg6 wins.

iv) 6.Kh8? (Kg8?) Qg6 wins.

v) positional draw.

vi) 9.Kg6? Qg2+ 10.Kh7 Qb7+ wins.

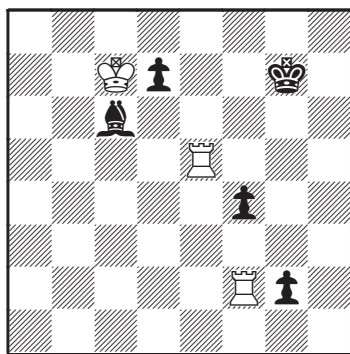
vii) MG signals that 10.Rb8+ Kc7 11.Rg8 also draws, i.e. loss of time in a draw study?

viii) Kxb4 3.Rxf5 (c8Q? Qf6+;) Qh8 4.c8Q Qxc8 5.Rf4+ Kc5 6.Kxh7 draws.

ix) 3.c8S+? Kb7 4.Rxf5 Kxc8 5.Kxh7 (Rc5+ Kd7;) Qb1 6.Kg6 Kd7 7.h7 Ke6 8.h8Q Qxf5+ 9.Kh6 Qh3+ 10.Kg7 Qg4+ 11.Kh6 Qh4+ 12.Kg7 Qg5+ 13.Kh7 Kf7, or 3.c8Q? Se7+ 4.Kxh7 Qb1+ 5.Kh8 Sxc8 6.Rxc8 Qg6 win.

x) 8.Kh8? Sxc8 9.Rxc8 Qg6 wins.

No 20651 I. Akobia † & M. Garcia
1st commendation



c7g7 o230.03 3/5 Win

No 20651 Iuri Akobia (Georgia) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Rg5+/i Kf6 2.Rg8 Ke5 3.Re8+ Kf5 4.Rf8+ Ke5 5.Re2+ Be4 6.Re1/ii d5 7.Kb6 d4 8.Re8+/iii Kf5 9.R8xe4 f3 10.Re8/iv Kf4 11.Rg1 Kg3/v 12.Kc5 Kh2 13.Rd1 f2 14.Rh8+ Kg3 15.Rd3+ Kf4 16.Rf8+/vi Kg4/vii 17.Rxd4+ Kg3 18.Rd3+ Kh4 19.Rh8+ Kg4 20.Rg8+ Kf4 21.Rf8+ Ke4/viii 22.Rff3 f1Q/ix 23.Rde3 mate.

i) Thematic try: 1.Re1? f3 2.Rg1 Kg6 3.Kd6 Kg5 4.Ke5 Kg4 5.Kd4 Kg3 6.Ke3 Be4 draws.

ii) 6.Re8+? Kf5 7.Rg8 Bd5 draws.

iii) Try: 8.Kc5? d3 9.Re8+ Kf5 10.Rd8 Kg6 11.Kd4 d2 12.Rg1 Bf3 draws.

iv) Try: 10.Re7? Kf4 11.Rg1 Kg3 12.Kc5 Kh2 13.Rd1 f2 14.Rh7+ Kg3 15.Rd3+ Kg4 16.Rg7+ Kf4 17.Rf7+ Kg4 18.Rd1 Kg3 19.Rd3+ Kg4 draws.

v) d3 12.Rg8 d2 13.Ra1 Ke3 14.Kc5 Ke2 15.Kd4 wins.

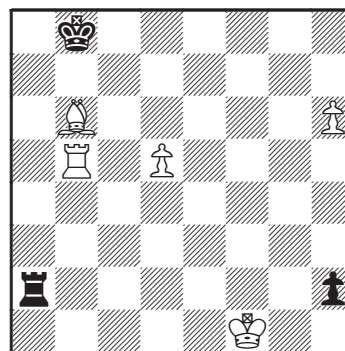
vi) 16.Rxd4+? Ke5 17.Rd5+ Ke4 18.Re8+ Kf4 19.Rf8+ Ke4 20.Rd4+ Ke3 21.Re8+ Kf3 22.Rd3+ Kg4 23.Rg8+ waste of time (see main line 20.Rg8+).

vii) Ke5 17.Rdf3 g1Q 18.Re8 mate, or here: Ke4 18.Kd6 f1Q 19.R8f4 mate.

viii) Kg4 22.Rd7 f1Q 23.Rg7+ Kh3 24.Rh8 mate.

ix) f1S 23.Rg3 Sxg3 24.Rxg3 wins.

No 20652 V. Katsnelson
2nd commendation



fib8 o410.21 5/3 Win

No 20652 Vladimir Katsnelson (Russia). 1.Bg1+/i Kc7/ii 2.Bxh2+ Rxh2 3.Rc5+ Kd6 4.Kg1 Rh4/iii 5.Rc2/iv Kxd5/v 6.Rh2 Rg4+ 7.Kf2 Rg8 8.h7 Rh8 9.Rh6 (Kg3? Ke6;) Ke5 10.Kg3 (Kf3? Kf5;) Kf5 11.Kh4 zz Ke5 (Kf4; Rh5) 12.Kg5 wins.

i) 1.Bc7++? Kxc7 2.d6+ Kxd6 3.Rh5 Ra8 4.Rxh2 Ke6 draws. Thematic try: 1.Bf2+? Ka8/vi 2.Kg2 Rxf2+ 3.Kh1 Rf6 4.Kxh2 Rxh6+ 5.Kg3 Rf6 draws.

ii) Ka8 2.Bxh2 Rxh2 3.Rb6 wins.

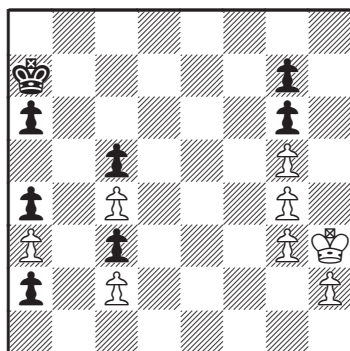
iii) Rh5 5.Ra5 Rh4 6.Kg2 Ke5 7.Ra6 Kxd5 8.Kg3 Rc4 (Rh1; Kg4) 9.h7 Rc8 10.Rh6 wins.

iv) 5.Ra5? Ke5 6.Ra6 Kxd5 7.Kg2 Ke5 8.Kg3 Rh1 9.Kg4 Rg1+ 10.Kh5 Kf5 draws.

v) Rg4+ 6.Rg2 Rh4 7.Rh2 Rg4+ 8.Kf2 wins.

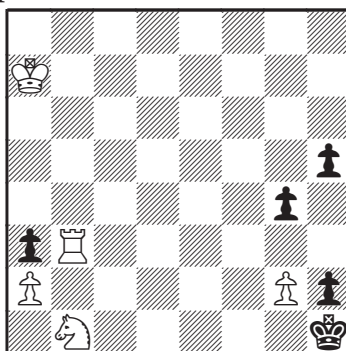
vi) But not Kc7? 2.Bg3+ Kd8 3.Rb8+ Kd7 4.Bxh2 Rxh2 5.h7 wins, or Kc8? 2.Kg2 Rxf2+ 3.Kh1, and now Rf6 4.Rc5+ Kd7 5.Rc6 Rf5 6.h7

No 20653 M. Zinar
3rd commendation



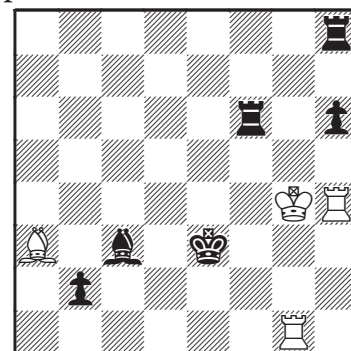
h3a7 0000.77 8/8 Draw

No 20654 G. Costeff
special honourable mention



a7h1 0101.24 5/5 Draw

No 20655 V. Samilo
special honourable mention



g4e3 0840.02 4/6 Draw

Rh5 7.Ra6 wins, or here: Rf5 4.Rb2 Rxd5 5.h7 Rd8 6.Rg2 wins.

No 20653 Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Kh4 a1S/i 2.h3 Sb3 3.cxb3 c2 4.bxa4 c1Q 5.a5 Qxc4/ ii 6.a4 Qf4/iii 7.gxf4 c4 8.f5 c3/iv 9.fxg6/v c2 10.Kh5 c1Q 11.h4 and wK is stalemated at h5.

- i) a1Q 2.h3 and stalemate at h4.
- ii) Qf1 6.a4 Qxh3+ 7.Kxh3 draws.
- iii) Qxg4+ 7.Kxg4 c4 8.Kf4 Kb7 9.Ke4 Kc6 10.Kd4 wins.
- iv) gxf5 9.gxf5 c3 10.f6 wins.
- v) 9.f6? c2 10.f7 c1Q 11.f8Q Qe1+ and mate.

No 20654 Gady Costeff (USA/Israel). 1.Rb5/i h4 2.Sxa3/ii Kxg2 3.Rb2+ Kh3 4.Rb3+ g3 5.Rb1 g2 6.Rb3+ Kg4 7.Rb4+ Kf5 8.Rb5+ Ke6 9.Rb6+ Kd7 10.Rb7+ Kc8 11.Rb8+ perpetual check.

i) Thematic try: 1.Sxa3? Kxg2 2.Rb2+ Kh3 3.Rb3+ g3 4.Rb1 h4 wins, e.g. 5.Ka6 g2 6.Rb3+ Kg4 7.Rb4+ Kf5 8.Rb5+ Ke6 9.Rb6+ Kd7 10.Rb7+ Kc8.

ii) 2.Rh5? h3 3.gxh3 g3, or 2.Rg5? Kxg2 3.Rxg4+ Kh3 win.

No 20655 Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine). 1.Rg3+/i Ke2/ii 2.Bxb2/iii Rg8+/iv 3.Kh3 Rxg3+ 4.Kxg3 Be1+ 5.Kg4 (Kh2? Rf2+;) Rg6+ 6.Kh5 Rg5+ 7.Kxh6 Bxh4 8.Bf6 Rg1/vi 9.Bxh4 Rh1 10.Kh5/vii Kf3 11.Kg5 zz Rh2 12.Be1 draws.

i) 1.Bxb2? Rg8+, or 1.Rh3+? Ke4 2.Rxc3 Rg8+ win.

ii) Ke4 2.Kh5+ Rf4 3.Rxf4+ Kxf4 4.Rg1 Kf5 5.Rb1 draws.

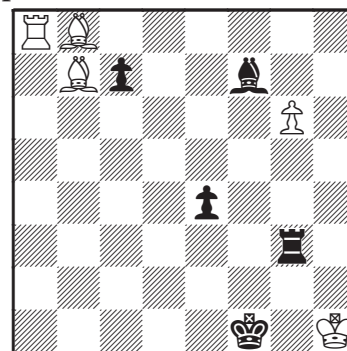
iii) 2.Rh2+? Rf2, or 2.Rg2+? Kf1 win.

iv) Rg6+ 3.Kh3 Rxg3+ 4.Kxg3 Be1+ 5.Kh3, or Bxb2 3.Rg2+ Rf2 4.Rxf2+ Kxf2 5.Rh2+ Kg1 6.Rxb2 draws.

vi) Rg8 (Rg4; Kh5) 9.Bxh4 Rh8+ 10.Kg5 Kf3 11.Be1 draws.

vii) 10.Kg5? Kf3 11.Kh5 Kf4 zz, wins.

No 20656 L. Katsnelson
special honourable mention



h1f1 0450.12 5/5 Win

No 20656 Leonard Katsnelson (Russia). 1.Ra1+/i Kf2 2.Ba7+ c5 (e3+; Bxe3) 3.Bxc5+ e3 4.Bxe3+ Rxe3 5.Rf1+ Kxf1 6.Bg2+ Kf2 7.gxf7 Re1+ 8.Kh2 Re8 9.fxe8S/ii wins.

i) 1.Bxc7? Rh3+ 2.Bh2 Bxg6, or 1.Kh2? Rg2+ 2.Kh3 Be6+ 3.Kh4 Rxg6 draw.

ii) 9.fxe8Q? (fxe8R?) stalemate. And 9.fx-e8B? leaves White with two bishops of the same colour.