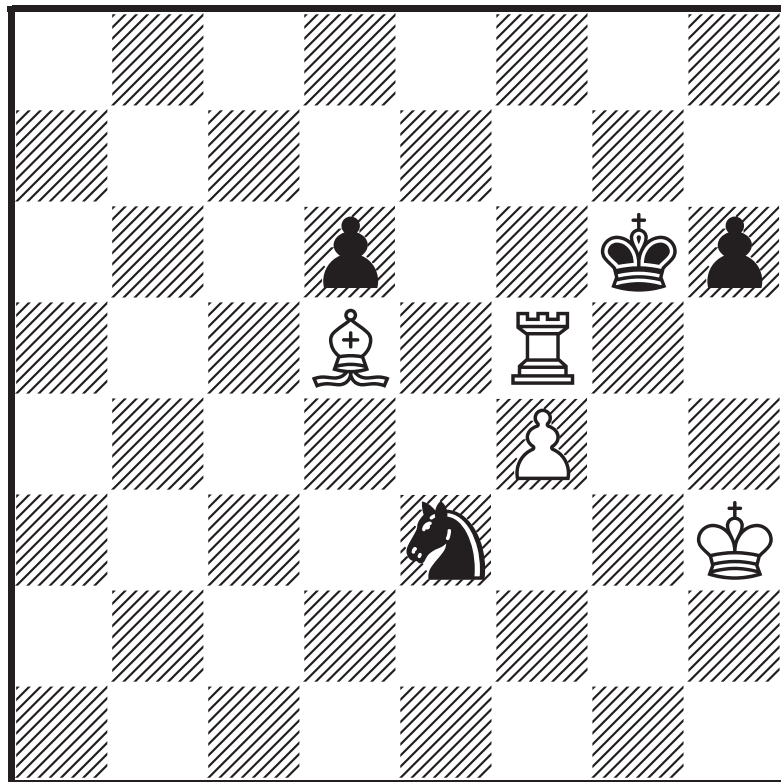


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**WHITE TO PLAY AND WIN**

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*diagram on the cover: see Supplement p. 16*

# Editorial

BY HAROLD VAN DER HEIJDEN

On behalf of EG's editorial team and the board of ARVES, I wish all of our readers a healthy, happy and inspiring New Year.

Recently, our treasurer Marcel Van Herck informed me that the financial situation of EG is in disbalance. There is not any acute problem, but in recent years expenses (printing and postage) have exceeded income (subscriptions). The main causes are a slowly declining number of subscribers and the fact that almost every issue of EG in recent years has had a supplement. Despite the recent increase in the annual subscription rate, additional measures have to be taken.

I have decided to limit the number of pages per column (there has been no limit so far), and some columns (Computer News and History) will not appear in every issue. We will also limit the number of pictures in EG. I always liked to have illustrations... I admit I was unaware of the fact that pages with pictures are more expensive than pages without. Especially, EG210 had a large number of photographs. Not so long ago I jokingly wrote to Luc Palmans: "I have good news: I took some excellent pictures at the Dresden WFCC conference. The bad news is that Martin Minski is in each one of them".

We will end the Originals section in EG. Of course I am very grateful to Ed van de Gevel who edits this column since EG171 (i2008), i.e. no less than exactly 10 years!

All of these measures should result in having more publication space in the main issue of EG for awards, and, as a result, in fewer supplements per year (my target is 2-3 instead of 3-4). That will probably balance our finances.

But I also appeal to you as a reader: please help us to get more subscribers. What about giving a year's subscription as a present to your chess friend? If you have a good idea or

plan, e.g. a promotional activity on your chess club, or for youngsters in your chess education, please write to us, and we might be able to supply promotional material (EGs, books). Of course, also sponsorships or gifts will be welcome.

Jürgen Kratz wrote a letter to Originals' editor Ed van de Gevel (and sent me a copy with an additional letter) about the fact that we misspelled his name in EG210 (omitting the Umlaut) and some other topics regarding his study #21366 (it was not found in an OTB game, but "over the board", line iii does not end in a draw but Black mates, and the idea of the study is not "stopping the pawns"). Sure, it looks like Murphy's law was applying here and I apologize to him for these mistakes. But Herr Kratz found it necessary to complain in strong words about EG in general, in particular its annotation style due to the former chief editor, and writes that he hates the fact that editors edit his studies before publication. He threatened to quit endgame study composition if that would not change. This left me almost speechless. But be aware that I stand for my editorial team and consider such letters highly inappropriate and regrettable.

I have found another mistake myself in EG210. Study A.4 (page 224) has a reference to EG#19848, but that should have been EG#19837.

Finally, I undertook to update the index for EG which the late Paul Valois maintained until his death. There is still a lot of work to do, but keep an eye on our website [www.arves.org](http://www.arves.org)

My intention is not only to update the index but to add a lot of meta-data (as AJR rightfully called it) about the tourney awards that appeared in EG. Perhaps that could eventually evolve into a comprehensive (complete?) database of all study tourneys ever. I hope to be able to report on this task in EG212.

Only one reader commented on my endgame study definition in EG210. Timothy Whitworth corrected a handful of linguistic points in my definition. The new version is now available on our website [www.arves.org/arves/index.php/en/endgamestudies/theory/whatisanendgamestudy](http://www.arves.org/arves/index.php/en/endgamestudies/theory/whatisanendgamestudy)

Whitworth also wrote that he thinks that Hooper and Whyld in their *Oxford Companion*

to Chess (2nd edition, 1992) gave a lucid account of this matter in the first paragraph of the article headed “study” on page 400. That is indeed much better than I’ve seen on the internet so far.

This EG has a supplement fully dedicated to the successful Timman-65 JT organized by ARVES. Enjoy!

## ARVES Solving in Wijk aan Zee

The ninth international ARVES Study Solving Day will be held on Saturday, January 27th 2018 in Wijk aan Zee **Hotel Zeecroft, Zeecroft 19-21, 1949 BK Wijk aan Zee, Nederland** (<http://www.zeecroft.nl/>) which is a 5 minute walk from De Moriaan, or a 3 minute walk from the central bus stop in Julianaplein.

Chief Arbiter: Luc Palmans

10.15-10.45: Registration; 11.00: Opening

11.15-14.15: International Open Solving Competition of original studies with **EG** subscriptions and endgame study book prizes. Special prizes will be awarded to the best newcomers and youth solvers.

14.00-16.30: Watching the world’s most famous Tata Steel chess tournament with live expert commentary.

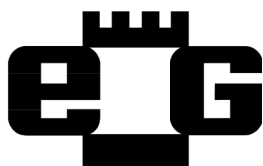
16.30: Announcing the preliminary results. – 17.00: Prize giving.

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](mailto:afekchess@gmail.com) before January 21st 2018 as the number of participants is limited.

Past winners: 2009: GM Twan Burg; 2010: GM John Nunn 2012: IM David Klein 2013: GM John Nunn; 2014: IM Joost Michielsen; 2015: FM Wouter van Rijn; 2016: GM Twan Burg; 2017: GM Twan Burg

The Dutch section of the **International Solving Championship 2018** (for problems & studies) will be held in the same venue on Sunday, January 28th 2018 from 10.30 and is open to all. Organizer is Hans Uitenbroek; e-mail address: [jc.uitenbroek@kpnplanet.nl](mailto:jc.uitenbroek@kpnplanet.nl).



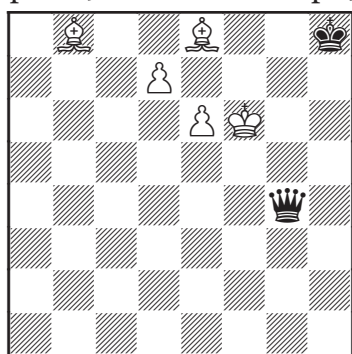
Composer Gallery

## Velimir Kalandadze (10v1935 – 27x2017)

BY YOCHANAN AFEK

The Georgian endgame study school has recently lost one of its leading composers with the decease of Velimir Josipovich Kalandadze at the age of 82. He had been a physicist by profession after graduating from the university in his hometown, Tbilisi, and had been married with two daughters. He published his first study when he was 20 and, in a successful lifelong career, published more than 300, winning dozens of prizes. Two of his better ones were awarded “Study of the Year”. Kalandadze often collaborated with co-authors, invariably his own compatriots, most notably David Gurgidze and Vazha Neidze. He was the author of six books and various articles, two of which were published in EG: “Ten of the world’s best studies, through the eyes of a composer (and a Computer!)” written in collaboration with John Roycroft in EG63, ii1981) and “Local and global study ideas or ‘topographical range of logical manoeuvres’ in EG80, v1985. His book *Best Studies* (published in 2001) comprises 108 of his compositional efforts. Kalandadze was awarded the title of International Master of Chess Composition in 1984 and became an International Judge in 1993. His studies are generally player- and solver-friendly so let us enjoy a small selection of them.

A.1 V. Kalandadze  
3rd prize 7th USSR Champ 1970



f6h8 3020.20 5/2 Win

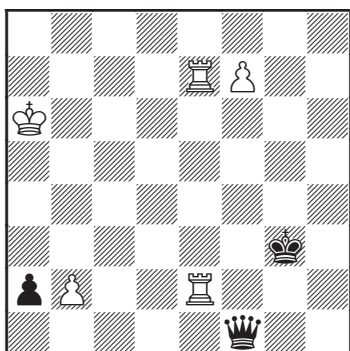
Queening seems to fail to the set skewer. Does it indeed? **1.d8Q!** Sacrificing his best pawn! The natural try **1.Be5?** to create a powerful battery, fails to **1...Kh7 2.Bf7 Qg5+ 3.Kxg5** stalemate! **1...Qh4+ 2.Kg6 Qxd8** The queen has been forced to a less favourable square. **3.Be5+ Kg8 4.Bf7+ Kf8 5.Bg7+ Ke7 6.Bf6+ Kf8 7.e7+!** (**7.Bxd8?** obviously is stalemate again) **7...Qxe7 8.Bg7** An ideal mate following an active self-block (EG#01599).

The seventies seemed to have been a peak in Kalandadze’s composing career and, in particular, 1976 when he won a number of prizes and distinctions, both on his own or jointly with his Georgian fellow composers. In that year he won, in collaboration with David Gurgidze, the study section of the special tourney organized by yours truly to commemorate the Chess Olympiad in Haifa. Georgia was at that time part of the USSR which, as with the entire East European block, had not had any relationships with Israel since the Six-Day War in 1967 and thus it boycotted the Olympic games that year. The chess composition community, however, proved less political but it was not until the prizegiving of the World Composition Congress in Tel Aviv in 1996 that the well-deserved medals were finally officially awarded to David and Velimir for their Olympic victory. Better late than never! Here are two other joint first prize winners in the very same successful year.

(A.3) The threat to promote a second queen with check leaves White no better choice but harassing the enemy king. **1.R7e3+ Kg4 2.Re4+ Kg5 3.Re5+ Kg6 4.Re6+** (**4.f8Q?** is a move too early in view of **4...Qxf8 5.Re6+ Kf7!**, while after **4.f8S+? Kf7 5.Re7+ Kg8!** White runs out of checks) **4...Kg7! 5.f8Q+! Qxf8** (**5...Kxf8 6.Re8+** is perpetual check) **6.Re7+ Kg6 7.R2e6+!** (The right rook since **7.R7e6+?** allows **7...Kf7**) **7...Kg5 8.Re5+ Kg4 9.Re4+ Kg3 10.Re3+ Kg2**



A.2 D. Gurgenidze & V. Kalandadze  
Prize Kazantsev JT 1976



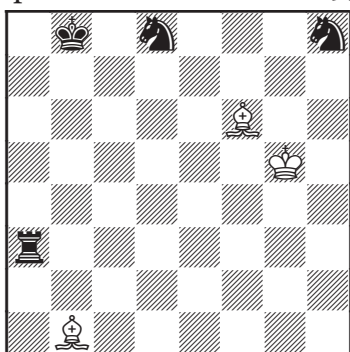
a6g3 3200.21 5/3 Draw

**11.Re2+ Kg1** (11...Qf2 doesn't make much of a difference just cuts the solution slightly shorter) **12.Re1+ Qf1+!** That is the way to avoid the perpetual. **13.Rxf1+ Kxf1** Here is where a second phase starts, in fact a much earlier idea of Kalandadze- see footnote. **14.Rf7+ Ke2 15.Re7+ Kd2 16.Rd7+ Kc2 17.Rc7+ Kb1!** Else the king can find no shelter. **18.Rc5! a1Q+ 19.Ra5!** But now there is no hide for the bQ either. **19... Qxb2 20.Rb5** draws (EG#03217).

The second phase of this study resembles Velimir's first malyutka published 20 years earlier: 1st special prize *Achalgazdra Kommunisti* 1956, a8h2 0100.11 g8.b2a2 3/2 Draw: 1.Rh8+ Kg2 2.Rg8+ Kf2 3.Rf8+ Ke2 4.Re8+ Kd2 5.Rd8+ Kc2 6.Rc8+ Kb1 7.Rc7! a1Q+ 8.Ra7 Qxb2 9.Rb7 draws. The new study is a fine development of the initial idea.

And here is a classical miniature featuring a powerful bishop pair for a change:

A.3 V. Kalandadze & V. Neidze  
1st prize *Sachové Umenie* 1976



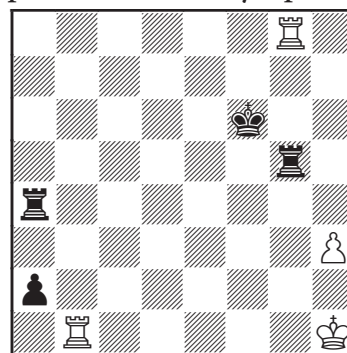
g5b8 0326.00 3/4 Draw

**1.Be5+!** Not directly 1.Bxh8? Sf7+ 2.Kg6 Sxh8+ 3.Kg7 Rh3 4.Bh7 Sf7 5.Bf5 Rf3! and Black wins. With two in between checks the bK is forced to a light square which is essential for the eventual trick. **1...Ka7! 2.Bd4+! Ka6 3.Bxh8 Sf7+ 4.Kg6 (Kf6) Sxh8+ 5.Kg7** with two echo variations:

- **Rb3 6.Bh7 Rb8 7.Bg8 Sg6 8.Bc4+!** A vital Zwischenzschach allowed by the early dark squared bishop checks. **8...Kb6 9.Kxg6** draws, or:
- **Rh3 6.Bf5!** Again a crucial Zwischenzug that breaks the symmetry! Not immediately 6.Bh7? Sf7! and there is no Zwischenzschach on d3! **6...Rh2 7.Bh7 Sf7! 8.Bd3+! Kb6 9.Kxf7** draws (EG#03545).

Besides the wonders the Georgian school demonstrated in tactical rook endings, they have created plenty of magical systematic manoeuvres especially in such endings. Here is a typical one:

A.4 V. Kalandadze  
2nd prize Saloniki Olympiad 1984

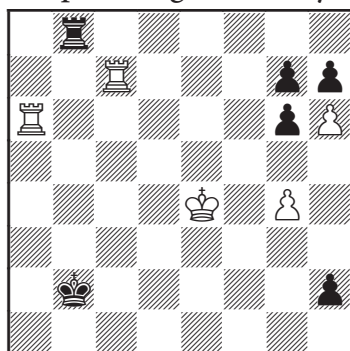


h1d6 0800.11 4/4 Draw

**1.Rf1+ Rf5 2.Rf8+ Ke6 3.Re1+** Obviously after 3.R8xf5? a1Q White has to give away both his rooks for the enemy queen. **3...Re5 4.Re8+ Kd6 5.Rd1+ Rd5 6.Rd8+ Kc6 7.Rc1+ Rc5 8.Rc8+ Kb6 9.R8xc5 a1Q 10.Rc6+ Kb5** Heading to b3 away of the repeating checks. **11.Rc8! Qe5** (11...Qa2 leads to the same conclusion following: 12.Rb8+ Ka6 13.Ra8+ Kb7 14.Rxa4 Qxa4 15.Rg1) **12.Rb1+ Rb4 13.Rxb4+ Kxb4 14.Rg8! Qd5+ 15.Rg2** It's a positional draw in the form of a fortress (EG#06665).

Another highly tactical rook ending also belongs in this fine selection. How should White tame the promoting pawn? It costs White both of his rooks!

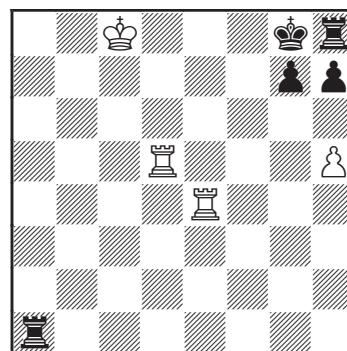
A.5 V. Kalandadze  
1st/2nd prize Sagaredzho ty 1984



e4b2 0500.24 5/6 Draw

**1.Ra2+!** The other way loses: 1.Rc2+? Kxc2 2.Ra1 Rb1 3.Ra2+ Rb2 4.Ra1 gxf6 leaves White with too many pawns behind. **1...Kxa2 2.Rc2+ Rb2 3.Rxh2! Rxh2 4.hxg7 Re2+ 5.Kf4! Re8 6.Kg5 Rg8 7.Kh6 Rxf7! 8.g5!!** The point! Not 8.Kxf7? h5 9.g5 h4 10.Kxf6 h3 and White is a tempo too late, so now he does threaten the rook. **8...Ra7** (or 8...Rg8 9.Kxf7 Ra8 10.Kxf6 Kb3 11.Kf7 draw) A model stalemate it is! (EG#06010).

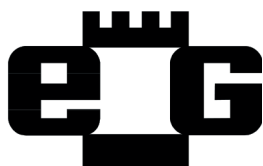
A.6 V. Kalandadze  
1st prize Georgian Chess Composition-100  
AT 1993



c8g8 0800.12 4/5 Win

In a four rook study, White, a pawn behind, should exchange a pair of rooks in order to profit from the cramped position of the remaining black pieces. **1.Rd8+!** The right rook! Why not to start with the other one will soon become apparent. **1...Kf7 2.Rxh8 Ra8+ 3.Kd7 Rxh8 4.Rf4+ Kg8 5.h6! gxf6 6.Ke7 Kg7** (6...h5 leads to 7.Kf6 h6 8.Ra4 Rh7 9.Ra8 mate following an active self-block). **7.Rg4** mate. This is an ideal mate following a pair of self-blocks. It is also an ideal logical study: following **1.Re8+? Kf7 2.Rxh8 Ra8+ 3.Kd7 Rxh8 4.Rf5+ Kg8 5.h6! gxf6 6.Ke7 Kg7 7.Rg5** is not quite a mate.





Tasks  
and themes

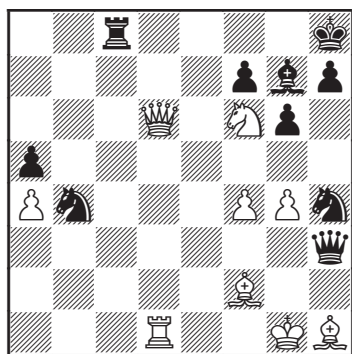
## Another “game study”

BY SIEGFRIED HORNECKER

In keeping with EG’s budget restrictions, this time we will only look at one game position and one study, albeit with some background information.

When I was judge of the German magazine *Schach* more than ten years ago, Michael Prusikin entered a study which was incorrect but was corrected by him a few years later. Since that time, we knew each other’s names and on a brief use of a big social network we got onto a first name basis. Now Michael is a top trainer for Germany’s female youth team and he teaches them not only great chess but also good manners, as evident by their successes and their open thanks to organizers.

S.1 David Norwood – Boris Gelfand  
European Championship U20,  
Arnhem 1987



White to move

I was sad to see now that Albin Pötsch has resigned as the successor to Kurt Richter in that magazine, having after more than four decades given the long-running combination column to Michael Prusikin. While he promises to feature a gamelike study in each issue, together with an opening trap and the usual lot of combinations from actual games – making

me believe that sadly the occasional composition gem Pötsch added will be gone – it was a combination that caught my attention that did (as all in the first “Michael issue”) not happen in the game. However, it could have happened in the game – or in a study.

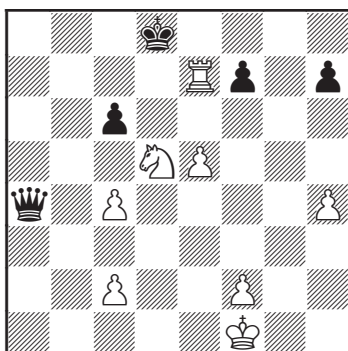
(S.1) With **1.Qe7? Sd3! 2.Qd7 Bxf6 3.Qxc8+? Kg7** and Black won four moves later, White missed not only **3.Rxd3**. Artur Yusupov showed this position to Prusikin long ago, asking him to find a way to draw, and indeed the draw is there after **1.Qd8+ Rxd8 2.Rxd8+ Bf8 3.g5!!(?) Kg7 4.Se8+**, when the threat of checkmate will force a repetition. This position was used by Michael for his training lessons, and showing it to the 2100 Elo player Peter Erlbeck proved to become a remarkable experience. Erlbeck found **1.Qd8+ Rxd8 2.Rxd8+ Bf8 3.Rxf8+ Kg7 4.Re8!!** White just wants to play **5.g5** and mate on **g8**, while **4...Kxf6 5.Bd4** mate leads to another easy win for White. But Black has a hidden defence: **4...Sd5! 5.Bxd5 h6**. And of course now after **6.g5? hxc5 7.fxc5 Sf3+ 8.Bxf3 Qg2+ 9.Kxg2** a stalemate is reached. But as Erlbeck demonstrated, this plan is foiled by checkmating not the king but the queen with **6.Re3!**, winning the game. As we learn from a 2016 interview,<sup>(1)</sup> Norwood quit chess afterwards to become a successful businessman so he literally profited from losing this won position...

Naturally one is inclined to ask if this has happened in a study as well but, no, it didn’t. The closest match I found was the following Bron study.

(1) <https://chess24.com/en/read/news/gelfand-on-missing-the-baku-olympiad>



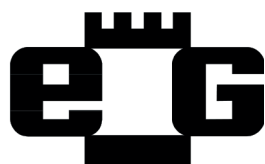
S.2 Vladimir Bron  
*L'Italia Scacchistica* 1973



fid8 3101.53 8/5 Win

As in the game, here after **1.Rd7+! Ke8 2.Sf6+ Kf8 3.Rd8+ Kg7 4.Rg8+ Kh6 5.Rg5** White at first pursues the king (6.Sg8 mate) but after **5... Qxc4+ 6.Kg2 Qxh4 7.Rg4!** wins the queen instead, again on a horizontal line.

Will the readers of **EG** take up the challenge to create a modern study from the above game line?



*History*

## The Rinck memorial tourneys (part 2)

BY ALAIN PALLIER

The second Rinck Memorial Tourney was announced in *l'Échiquier de Paris* in January-February 1953, only two months after the announcement of the *BOE* Rinck MT.

The closure date was 15 September 1953. Rinaldo Bianchetti (Italy) was appointed as first judge, with a second judge (‘another master’) to be subsequently designated: it was Julien Vandiest. But the Belgian composer fell seriously ill and Bianchetti was *de facto* the sole judge. As we saw it in previous article (**EG**210), when Halberstadt resigned from his charge in the *BOE* tourney, it was... Vandiest, who had recovered, who replaced him, together with C. de Feijter. The provisional award was published in the January-February 1954 issue of *l'Échiquier de Paris*, but with diagrams only. A solving contest was then organized for readers of the magazine. Solutions of all rewarded studies appeared in the March-April 1954 issue, together with final award.

*l'Échiquier de Paris*, a bi-monthly, was the main French chess magazine of the post-war years. Its publication began in 1946 and, like the *BOE*, *l'Échiquier de Paris* ceased publication at the end of 1955, but, like a phoenix, it

was immediately succeeded by *l'Échiquier de France*, a monthly publication with more or less same editorial team, that was itself succeeded in 1959 by *Europe-Échecs*.

Regarding the prizes, the announcement insisted on the amount (‘10 000 francs’) but in fact it was mostly the aggregate value of following books:

(1st prize) *1414* (Rinck’s ultimate collection of studies, a gift by his son himself, with a value of 4 500 fr);

(2nd prize) *Traité de fins de partie* by A. Chéron (2 400 fr);

(3rd prize) *Les Surprises de la théorie* by H. Rinck (another gift by Rinck’s son: 900 fr) ;

(4th prize) *Comment jouer les fins de partie* by E. Znosko-Borowsky (600 fr) ;

(5th prize) *Les curiosités tactiques des finales* by V. Halberstadt (500 fr), a book that was not yet published.

At last, a special money prize (1 000 Fr) was reserved for a ‘domination study’. Clearly, the organisers wanted their to tourney to be more attractive than the *BOE* contest, that proposed only four books (and the same first four!).

But, in the *BOE* tourney, later in 1955, this was modified, due to the ‘exceptional quality’ of the prize-winning studies: the composers of 3rd-4th prizes (equal) each won 3 volumes of Rueb’s *De Schaakstudie* and books by De Feijter; apparently 4 copies of *80 Eindspelstudies*, were added.

Unlike the *BOE* tourney, this one was a thematic one (a capture, only one, of a black man was required, either in a win study, either in a draw study), with four examples taken from Rinck’s work.

Here is the final award of the 1954 Rinck Memorial:

- 1st Prize: R. Missiaen
- 2nd prize: C. Saetta
- 3rd Prize: V. Halberstadt
- 4th Prize: C. Peronace
- 5th Prize: V. Halberstadt
- 1st HM: R. Missiaen
- 2nd HM: R. Mayer

With only 7 studies in final award by 5 composers (2 studies by W. Naef from Switzerland and by C.Saetta, were elimination during confirmation time), the tourney was clearly not a success. In 1955, the director of the *BOE* tourney praised the exceptional quality of the entries (the number of entries was similar in both tourneys). There was no such declaration in *l’Échiquier de Paris*. But unlike the *BOE* tourney, this award mainly contained Rinck-like works, with domination studies (all the rewarded works were win studies):

- 3 with RBS vs Q (and 1 or 2 black pawns), among which both entries by R. Missiaen, that were found unsound, only years later, and the study by R. Mayer.
- 1 with RS and 3 P vs Q and 4 P (by Saetta)
- 1 with QS vs Qp, with promoted Queens (Peronace)
- 1 with Q vs RB (Halberstadt).

Vandiest’s *1er prix d’honneur hors concours* (as a judge, he could not compete, but, as he felt ill and did not take to part to the judging process, Bianchetti decided to honour him) was

also (what a surprise!) a classic QB vs Q and 2 pawns study. At least, Halberstadt’s corresponding squares study, honoured by 3rd prize, was another and very different kind of domination (I have already presented this work in my article about Halberstadt in EG199).

Without participants from eastern European countries, as it seems, there were not many famous composers. But no list of composers was given and we only know the names of 6 participants, among which the most famous was Vitaly Halberstadt. There was only a list of mottoes, corresponding to the 27 (non-honoured) studies, divided in 3 groups (in fact 26 - one study was given twice): studies with defects, unsound studies and cooked studies. Among these 26, a single composer apparently submitted 10 studies (motto: *Wolu 1...Wolu 10*), all of them with defects or unsound... It is always difficult to deduce the name of a composer from a motto: but one (*Cruz del Sud*) suggests that Argentinean composer José Mugnos could be the author, since, in the Réti MT (1949-1950), Mugnos used this motto for his 5 entries.

Among the prize-winners, Italian Carlo Saetta (1881-1955) was not a major composer: he has left a handful of studies (10), all published in the last years of his life. I know nothing about Roland Mayer (from Rennes, France), who is mixed-up with problemist Roman Mayer (Austria) in HHdbV!

Apart from Halberstadt, we see 2 two other well-known names, but lesser known at the time. Both Roger Missiaen (born in 1925) and Carlos Peronace (1933-1990) were among the big discoveries of the early 50’s. They both published their very first studies in 1951 (Peronace in Argentinean magazines or newspapers like *La Nacion*, *El Ajedrez Argentino* and Missiaen in *Volksgazet* and in *Tijdschrift v d KNSB*). Missiaen had had some successes in 1952 and 1953 in the annual tourneys of the Dutch magazine, but he was not known outside Belgium and the Netherlands. 1954 was the year he got his first international success with this first prize in the Rinck Memorial.

Carlos Peronace (1933-1990) was the only composer who took part to both tourneys, at

least the only one for which this double participation is certain.

In 1954, Peronace was far from an unknown figure: he had had his first successes in 1952, especially when he won first prize in the Olympic Tourney organized in Finland and judged by a Finnish trio (A. Dunder, A. Hinds, who died during the judging process, and V. Kivi). He was only 19 years old!

He composed 70 studies (according to his own statement – as reported by Caputto) but only around 40 were published. Most of these (around 30) were composed during his ‘golden years’ (1951-1956). After 1956, Carlos Peronace more or less disappeared from the study scene during ten next years. He was back around 1966-67 and devoted a lot of time and energy to *Ajedrez Artistico*, a magazine he created and that lasted only 17 issues (1967-1970). After this failure, he was so disappointed by the lack of interest in chess composition in his country that he disengaged from chess. He devoted time to other ‘hobbies’ (geometry, linguistics, palindromes...). He made a kind of comeback with a last (and successful appearance) in 1977, when his last study that got 1st prize in the German Federation JT (in the 80s, there was a joint composition but the co-composer, O. Carlsson, wrote that Peronace only played a minor role).

The Argentinean composer worked throughout his working life at the National Institute of Statistics. About him, J. Mugnos in his book 200

*Estudios* (2004) mentions a poor health due a ‘bohemian life’ and circulatory problems. Peronace died of a pulmonary oedema that could not be treated in reason of heavy rains that did not allow him to be quickly transported to the hospital.

Here are Peronace’s entries for the Rinck memorial tourneys. Both are crystal-clear classic miniatures that can be understood without any difficulty:

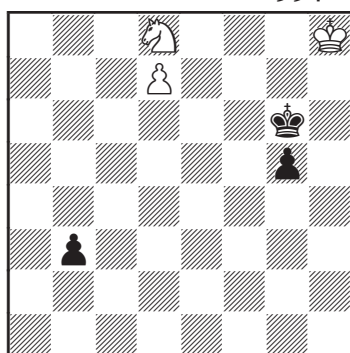
(P.1) 1.Sc6! b2 2.d8Q b1Q 3.Qe8+ 3.Qd6+? Kf5! But not 3... Kh5? 4.Qh2+ Kg4 5.Se5+ Kf5 6.Qh7+ and White wins the promoted Queen 3...Kh6 (3...Kf5 4.Qf7+ Kg4 5.Se5+ Kh4 6.Qf2+ and White wins) 4.Qe6+ Qg6 5.Qh3+ Qh5 6.Qd7! Kg6+ (6...Qg6 7.Se5 Qf6+ 8.Kg8 and White wins) 7.Kg8 Kf6 8.Qe7+ Kf5 9.Qe5+ Kg4 10.Qe2+ Kh4 11.Qh2+ Kg4 12.Se5+ and White wins.

(P.2) 1.Sc6! g2 2.Kg6! (Not 2.Kg7? Kxd7! 3.Se5+ Ke6 4.f3 Kf5 and Black wins) 2...g1Q 3.Sf6+ Kf8 4.Sd7+ (Sh7+) Kg8 5.Sf6+ Kh8 6.Se5! Qb1+ 7.Kh6 Qh1+ 8.Kg6 draws.

Peronace liked the play with white or black R and B. Here is the study that made him famous:

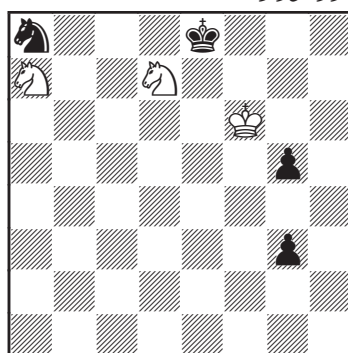
(P.3) 1.Re8+ Kg7 2.Bh6+ Kh7 3.Bd2! h1Q 4.Bc3! e3+ 5.Kc7! (5.Kc5? Qh5+ 6.Be5 Kh6 7.Rh8+ Kg5 8.Rxh5+ gxh5 and Black wins) 5... Qh2+ 6.Kc8 (6.Kb7? Qb2+ and Black wins) 6...Qh3+ 7.Kb8 Qh2+ 8.Be5! Qb2+ 9.Kxa7 (9.Bxb2? axb2 10.Re7+ K- 11.Rb7 e2! and Black wins; 9.Ka8? Qg2+ 10.Kxa7 g5 and Black

P.1 C. Peronace  
4th prize  
*L'Échiquier de Paris*  
Rinck Memorial 1954



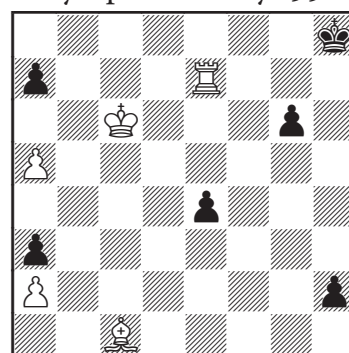
h8g6 0001.12 3/3 Win

P.2 C. Peronace  
3rd-4th prize  
*Bulletin Ouvrier des Échecs*  
Rinck Memorial 1953-55



f6e8 0005.02 f6e8 3/4 Draw

P.3 C. Peronace  
1st prize  
Olympic Tourney 1952

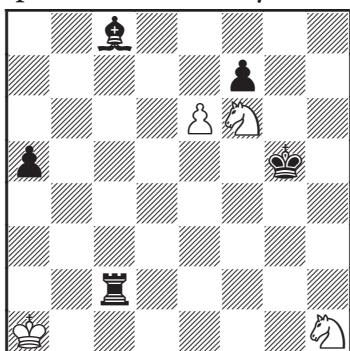


c6h8 0110.25 5/6 Win

wins) **9...Kh6 10.Rh8+** (or first 10.Bxb2) **Kg5 11.Bxb2 axb2 12.Rh1** wins.

At last a study that features the 'Peronace theme', a king march in order to escape checks given by Rook and Bishop.

P.4 C. Peronace  
1st prize São Paulo Ty 1955-56



a1g5 0332.12 4/5 Win

**1.exf7 Ra2+ 2.Kb1 Bf5+ 3.Kc1 Rc2+ 4.Kd1 Rc8 5.Se8 Rd8+** (5...Bg4+ 6.Kd2 Rd8+ 7.Kc3! Rc8+ 8.Kb2+ Rb8+ 9.Ka1 and White wins) **6.Kc1** (6.Ke1? Bg6! and Black draws) **6...Rc8+ 7.Kd2** (7.Rb2? Rc2+ 8.Ka3 Ra2+ and Black

draws) **7...Rd8+ 8.Kc3 (Kc1) Rd3+ 9.Kb2 Rb3+ 10.Kc1 Rb1+ 11.Kd2 Rb2+ 12.Ke3 (Kc3) Rb3+ 13.Rd4 Rd3+ 14.Kc5 Rc3+ 15.Kb6 Rb3+ 16.Ka7** wins (EG#00621).

## References

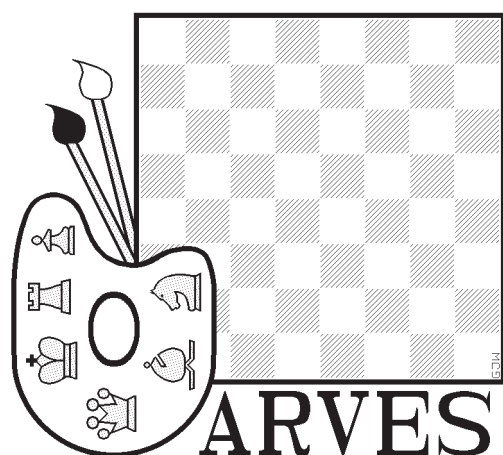
Gino DI FELICE, *Chess Periodicals - An Annotated International Bibliography*, 2008.

Zoilo CAPUTTO, *El Arte del Estudio de Ajedrez*, Buenos Aires 1991.

Oscar J. CARLSSON, *Selección de mis Estudios*, Buenos Aires 2010.

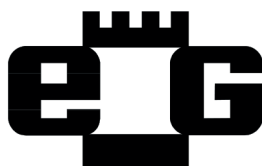
José MUGNOS, *200 Estudios*, Buenos Aires 2004.

P.S. I have made a mistake in my previous article: final award of the BOE Rinck MT 1953-1955 escaped me. In BOE no.100 (June 1955), the unsoundness of 5th HM by F. Prokop was reported and the study was eliminated. The 6th HM (by L. Loeventon) became 5th HM and the first reserve study (also by L. Loeventon) became 6th HM. Thanks to Marcel Doré for providing the right information.



please visit [www.arves.org](http://www.arves.org)!





Quality Control

# Improvements of improvements and corrections

BY JAROSLAV POLÁŠEK

Yochanan Afek corrected some of his studies in his article “Improving oneself” (see EG210). I managed to slightly improve two of those studies. Yochanan liked my versions and intended to include them in his article, but for editorial reasons that was no longer possible. So, with his permission, I publish those versions here.

Yochanan’s correction Y.1 (EG210, p. 244) has some drawbacks:

a) The rooks are exchanged during the first couple of moves – that is an unnecessary introduction.

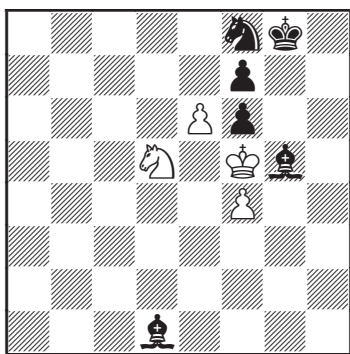
b) The wK and bS do not move.

I managed to find a more suitable introduction.

P.1 Yochanan Afek

1st hon. mention *Buletin Problemistic* 1996

correction: J. Polášek & Y. Afek, original



f5g8 0064.22 4/6 Draw

**1.e7** (1.exf7+? Kxf7 2.fxg5 Bc2+ 3.Kg4 f5+ wins) **1...Bc2+ 2.Kg4 f5+ 3.Kxg5 Sh7+! 4.Kh6! Ba4 5.e8Q+ Bxe8 6.Se7+ Kf8 7.Sd5 Kg8** (Bc6; Sb4) **8.Se7+ Kh8 9.Sg6+!** positional draw or **9...fxg6** stalemate.

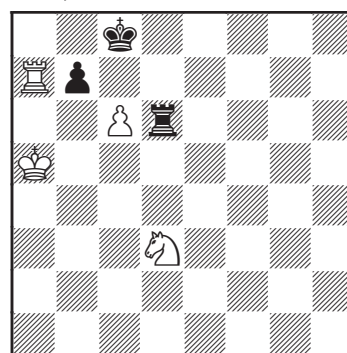
Although another Afek correction Y.3 (EG210, p. 245) is good, I offer different introduction – a trifle in Prokeš’s style. The

bR goes to the critical square d1 during the solution and still the version is a miniature.

P.2 Yochanan Afek

4th comm. Nestorescu-80 JT 2010

correction: J. Polášek & Y. Afek, original



a5c8 0401.11 4/3 Win

**1.Se5!**, and:

— **Rd2 2.Sc4** (2.cxb7+? Kc7 3.Sc6 Kxc6 4.b8S+ Kc5 5.Rc7+ Kd4 6.Rd7+ Kc3 draws) **2...Ra2+ 3.Kb6 Rxa7 4.Sd6+ Kd8 5.c7+** wins, or:

— **Rd1** (1...bxc6 2.Kb6, and Kd8 3.Sf7+, or here: 2...c5+ 3.Sc6 win) **2.cxb7+ Kc7** Afek’s position **3.Sc6! Kxc6 4.b8S+!** Phoenix! **4...Kc5 5.Rc7+ Kd4 6.Rd7+ Kc3 7.Rxd1** wins.

I have created a further correction of one of Yochanan’s studies: Y.4 (EG210, p. 245), because I liked the original motif of the unexpected R-sac (Rxe4). Eventually I found position P.3 which has considerable content. The theme of this study is the h-pawn running to promotion.

Yochanan wrote to me: “I still prefer the knight ending for various reasons. The rook ending is too rich (hiding the final idea which is my main one) and complicated while the sacrifice is not as neat as the one by the knight.”

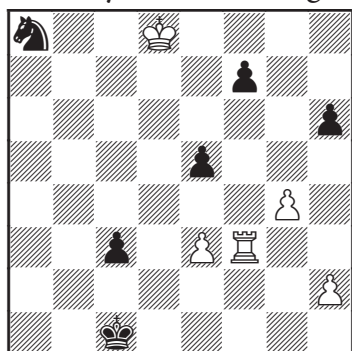
I do agree that his version is cleaner in accentuating the final motif and being solvable without the help of a computer. My version, on the other hand, highlights the surprising

R-sacrifice but, however, it is not suitable for solving because of its considerable analytical difficulty.

P.3 Yochanan Afek

1st hon. mention Chessbase-25 AT 2012

version by J.Polášek, original



d8c1 0103.34 6/6 Win

**1.h4!** White must create a free passed pawn as quickly as possible. There is no time for rook moves, e.g. 1.Rxf7? c2 2.h4 Sb6 3.g5 hxg5 4.hxg5 Sd5 or 1.Rf6? c2 2.Rxh6 Kd2 3.Rc6 Sb6! 4.h4 Sd5 and the threat 5...Sc3 gives Black a rescuing tempo. **1...c2** Also Black cannot allow to waste time: 1...Kd2 2.Rxf7 Sb6 3.g5 hxg5 4.hxg5 c2 5.Rf2+ Kd3 6.Rxc2! Kxc2 7.e4! and the g-pawn will queen. **2.h5!** Prepares the breakthrough g4-g5, premature would be 2.g5? hxg5 3.h5 g4, and 2.Rxf7? Sb6 we have analysed the previous move. **2...Kd2!** The king is going to stop the h-pawn (2...Kb2 3.Rf2 f6 4.Ke7! Sb6 5.Kxf6! Sd5+ 6.Ke6! Sxe3 7.g5! Sg4 8.Rxc2+ Kxc2 9.g6 wins) **3.Rf2+!** The attempt **3.Rf1?!** with the intention of weakening the f-pawn does work: **3...f6** (preventing the threat g5) **4.Rf2+ Kxe3?!** 5.Rxc2 Kf4 6.Ke7! this move in the main line leads only to draw because there is a bP on f7. 6...Kxg4 7.Kxf6 e4 (Kxh5; Kf5) 8.Rc6! Kxh5 9.Kf5 e3 10.Rc1 Kh4 11.Kf4 Kh5 12.Kxe3 wins because the black knight is lost, e.g. 12...Kg6 (Kg5; Ke4) 13.Rc8 Sb6 14.Rc6+. But after **4...Kd3!** 5.Rxc2 Kxc2 6. Ke7 Sb6 (Sc7) 7.Kxf6 Sd5+ and Black holds, e.g. 8.Kxe5 Sxe3 9.g5 hxg5 10.h6 Sg4+ (fork), or 8.Kg6 Sxe3 9.g5 Sg4!, or 8.Ke6 Sf4+! a hidden way to draw 9.Kxe5 Sh3 draws. **3...Kxe3!** After 3...Kd3 4.Rxc2 Kxc2 the breakthrough decides 5.g5! **4.Rxc2 Kf4 5.Rc4+!** This is Afek's original position of 2012. After 5.Rg2? Kg5! Black would draw by approaching

the knight to eliminate the white pawns, e.g. 6.Kd7 Sb6+ 7.Kc6 Sc4 8.Re2 e4 9.Rxe4 Sd2-f3-h2xg4, or here: 9.Kd5 Sb6+ 10.Kxe4 Kxg4. **5...e4 6.Rxe4+! Kxe4 7.g5 Kf5 8.gxh6 Kf6 9.Kd7!!** A waiting move, after 9.Ke8? Sb6! is White in reciprocal zugzwang, e.g. 10.Kf8 Sd7+ 11.Kg8 Kg5 12.h7 Sf6+ and 13...Sxh7 draw. **9...Sb6+ 10.Ke8** Reciprocal zugzwang! **10...Sd5 11.Kf8 Se7 12.h7 wins.**

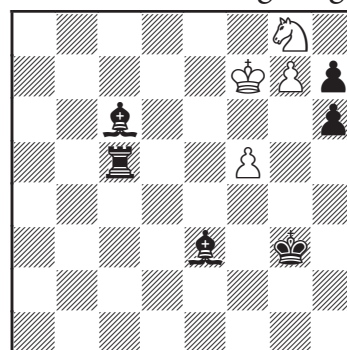
So far I have published mainly my own corrections in this column. From now on I will try to change this. I thank Mário Garcia for sending some corrections by Peter Krug of studies by the excellent Austrian composer **Alois Wotawa** (1896-1970). Wotawa composed over 300 studies and his sharply pointed ideas are still enjoyable by chess players all around the world. We will now show two of them.

Let's start with an interesting stalemate from 1957. Wotawa published this study: Deutsche Schachzeitung 1957, f7g3 0061.22 a4f2c2. c5g7h6h7 4/5 Win (HHdbV #54370) with the intended solution: **1.c6! Bxc6 2.Ke6 Ba4 3.Sd4+! Bxd4 4.g8Q Bb3 + 5.Kf5 Bxg8** stalemate. But **2...Ke4!** refutes the study: 3.Sb4 Ba4 and Black wins.

Peter Krug succeeded to find a good correction.

P.4 Alois Wotawa

Deutsche Schachzeitung 1957  
correction: Peter Krug, original



f7g3 0361.22 4/6 Draw

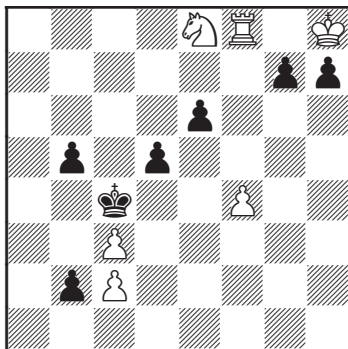
**1.Se7!** (1.Sf6? Rxf5 2.g8Q+ Bg5) **1...Rxf5+! 2.Sxf5+ Kf3!** After 2...Kf4 3.Se7 Ba4 4.Sd5+ White would even win. **3.Ke6!** Now after 3.Se7? Ba4 4.Sd5 is without a check, therefore Black wins: 4...Bb3 5.Ke6 Ke4. 3.g8Q?, after 3...Bd5+

4.Kg7 Bxg8 5.Kxg8 h5 6.Kxh7 Bg5 7.Kg6 Kg4 leads to a hopeless ending, and finally 3.Sh4+? is bad for 3...Kf4 4.Sg2+ Ke4 5.Kg8 Bd5+ 6.Kxh7 Bg5 wins. **3...Ba4 4.Sd4+! Bxd4 5.g8Q Bb3+ 6.Kf5 Bxg8** stalemate.

The correction P.6 differs from the Wotawa original only because three pieces are moved to other positions. The original position was: g2c4 o111.26 f8f3e8.c2c3b2b5c6f5g3g7 6/7 Win (HHdbV#48595).

After the nice first six moves, however, the original study ended unclearly because of alternative wins (e.g. 7.Rg1). Peter Krug removed this defect in P.5 by moving the wK and adding an impressive finish. The original B-sac was replaced by the P-sac.

P.5 Alois Wotawa  
*Deutsche Schachzeitung* 1965  
correction Peter Krug



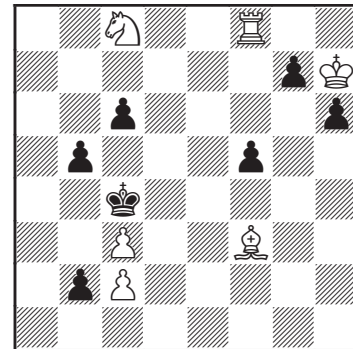
h8c4 o101.36 5/7 Win

**1.f5 exf5 2.Sd6+ Kc5!** (2...Kxc3 3.Sxb5+ Kb4 4.Rb8) **3.Sc4! dxc4** (b1Q; Rc8 mate) **4.Rxf5+ Kb6 5.Rf1 b4! 6.cxb4 c3 7.Kxg7! h5** After 7...Kb5 8.Kf6 Kxb4 9.Ke5 Ka3 10.Kd4 Ka2 11.Kxc3 b1Q 12.Rxb1 Kxb1 13.Kd3 h5 14.c4 h4 15.Ke4 White grabs the h-pawn. **8.Kf6 h4 9.Ke5 Kb5 10.Kd4 Kxb4 11.Rf8!** It becomes clear on move 14 why 11.Rf7? is insufficient. **11...h3 12.Rb8+ Ka5** (12...Ka3 13.Kxc3 h2 14.Ra8 mate) **13.Kxc3 h2 14.Ra8+** (or 14.Rh8 with another move order 14...b1Q 15.Ra8+ Kb6 16.Rb8+) **14...Kb6 15.Rh8 b1Q 16.Rb8+ Kc7 17.Rxb1** wins.

Respecting the original setting, I returned the B to the board and made two other minor changes. I moved the K so that the position does not look so unnatural, and moved the S

both to have the possibility of a wrong check (2.Sb6+?) and to give the wR more space.

P.6 Alois Wotawa  
*Deutsche Schachzeitung* 1965  
correction Peter Krug & Jaroslav Polášek,  
original



77c4 o111.26 6/7 Win

The solution is: **1.Bd5+! cxd5 2.Sd6+!** and then as in P.5.

Martin Minski recently sent me an interesting correction/reconstruction of a study by a prominent Czech problemist.

Let us recall what Jindřich Fritz wrote about Vladimír Pachman (1918-1984) in his unpublished manuscript *The Czech Study* (1983): “He earned the grandmaster title mainly for his problems. This does not mean, however, that his studies are of a weaker level. On the contrary, they are also masterpieces in which he shows courage in tackling very complex motifs with highly original play and good economy. The most frequent topics of his work are the intentional loss of a tempo, positional draw by move repetition and problem ideas.”

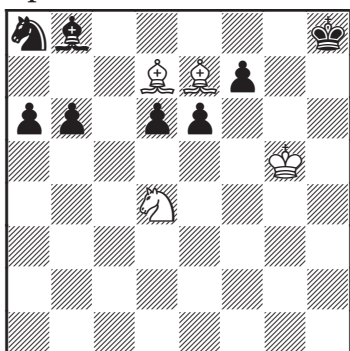
In 1983, of course, Fritz could not have written that Vladimir Pachman had sold out to the communist regime in publicly renouncing his younger but more famous brother – the political emigré and grandmaster Luděk Pachman (1924-2003)... Fortunately, his studies have survived until today.

(P.7) **1.Bf6+!** Depending on retreat of the king, the bishop or knight enters on the square c6. In the finale, the role changes:

— **Kh7 2.Bc6! Sc7 3.Be4+! Kg8 4.Sc6** winning the bishop blocked by his own knight, or:



P.7 Vladimír Pachman  
4th prize Šachové umění 1950

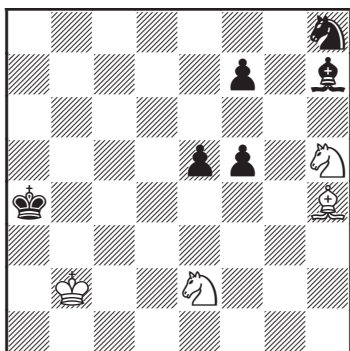


g5h8 0054.05 4/8 Win

- **Kg8 2.Sc6! Bc7 3.Se7+ Kf8 4.Bc6** winning the knight blocked by his own bishop (4... Bd8 does not help because of 5.Sg6+ fxg6 6.Bxd8).

But the bK is too constricted and White has another ways to win, e.g. 1.Kf6! (threatening 2.Kxf7) 1...Kg8 2.Be8 or 1.Sc6! Bc7 2.Kf6 Kh7 3.Bf8 b5 4.Kxf7 Sb6 5.Bxe6 with mate threats.

P.8 Vladimír Pachman  
4th prize Šachové umění 1950  
correction W. Bruch & M. Minski,  
*Problem-Forum* 2010



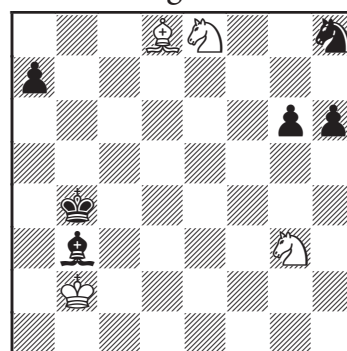
b2a4 0045.03 4/6 Win

- Premature is 1.Bf6? Sg6 2.Sc3+ Kb4! or 1.Sf6? Bg6! 2.Sc3+ Ka5! with a draw. **1.Sc3+!**, and:
- **Ka5 2.Bf6!** (2.Bd8+? Ka6! 3.Sf6 Bg6) **2...Sg6 3.Bd8+! Ka6 4.Sf6! Sf8 5.Be7! Sg6 6.Bd6 (Ba3)** capturing the bishop, or:
  - **Kb4 2.Sf6!** (2.Be7+? Kc4 3.Sf6 Bg6 4.Bf8 f4! 5.Bg7 f3! 6.Bxh8 f2 7.Sg4 f1S!) **2...Bg6 3.Sfd5+ Kc4 4.Bf6!** capturing the knight (4...

f4 5.Bxh8 f3 6.Se3+! Kd3 7.Sed1 e4 8.Kc1 f5 9.Sb2+ Ke3 10.Sd5+ Kf2 11.Sd1+ Kg1 12.Sf4 wins).

Bruch and Minski managed to show Pachman's motif in a correct study. In my view the long analytical proof in the 1...Kb4 line is a small defect and this motivated me to try and find a better correction. Judge for yourself whether I have succeeded.

P.9 Jaroslav Polášek  
after Pachman, Bruch & Minski  
original



b2b4 0045.03 4/6 Win

**1.Be7+ Ka4** (1...Kc4 2.Sd6+ Kb4 3.Sf7+) **2.Se4** (Sc7? Bd1;) **2...Bg8!** The bishop moves away as far as possible because of knight forks, otherwise, for example 2...Bd5 (Bd1) 3.Sc3+ or 2...Be6 3.Sc5+. Or 2...Bc4 (Bf7) loose a tempo: 3.S8d6 (3.Sc7 also wins) 3...Bg8 4.Sc5+ and the bS is lost, e.g. 4...Ka5 5.Bd8+ Kb4 6.Sd3+ Ka4 7.Se5 and 8.Bf6. **3.Sc3+!** (3.S8f6? Bf7!, 3.Sc7 Ka5!) **3...Ka5** After an interesting introduction, the critical position has emerged. **4.Bd8+!** White waits for the retreat of the bK (4.Bf6? Sf7; 4.Sf6? Bf7 5.Bd8+ Kb4!), and now:

- **Kb4** The bishop moves first **5.Bf6! Sf7 6.Be7+ Kc4** and then the knight **7.Sf6** The bB is lost, or:
- **Ka6** The knight moves first **5.Sf6! Bf7!** After 5...Be6 (Bc4) 6.Sfe4 Kb7 the fork **7.Sc5+** (Sd6+) decides. **6.Sfe4!** Threatens 7.Sc5 mate. **6...Kb7 7.Bf6** The bS is lost now, his own B has blocked his retreat.



## Review

*Extreme Chess Tactics*, Yochanan Afek, Gambit 2017. 144 pages. In English. ISBN 978-1-911465-12-6.

For EG readers, it will probably be unsurprising that, by solving endgame studies, one can improve one's tactical abilities in o.t.b. play but for practical players this is often an eye-opener. It helps that (sound) endgame studies have a black and white solution (the win/draw solution is obvious without an unclear conclusion). Further, one knows that there must be a solution to the stipulation (this improves one's calculation ability). Therefore, world class players and their trainers (for instance the late Mark Dvoretsky) as well as chess instructors for talented youngsters (for instance Cor van Wijgerden/Herman Grooten) use endgame studies as training material.

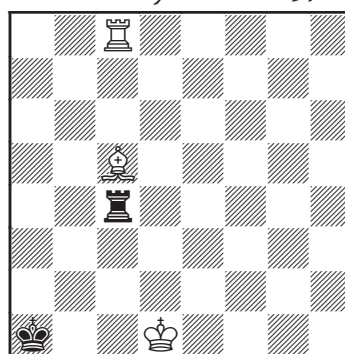
It will also not be a surprise to our readers that Yochanan Afek has written such a book. He is a GM in composition, an IM in o.t.b. play and FM solving, and an excellent writer.

The book has 16 chapters with different tactical themes, like trapping a piece, fork, skewer, Zwischenzug, perpetual check, stalemate and mate. Each chapter provides a couple of examples of the theme in positions from games, as well as endgame studies. And then it is the reader's turn to try and solve the Exercises, again from o.t.b. games and endgame studies. The solutions of the exercises, with adequate explanation, are given at the end of each chapter. It is not mentioned whether an exercise is a position from o.t.b. play or from an endgame study. This is appropriate as (while training) one should imagine to be the player having this position on the board. Chess composition solvers often have another approach (finding the idea of the composer – all pieces have a function, etc). Therefore, I find it somewhat unfortunate that for most exercises it is clear from the diagram which positions are taken from games (middle game positions), and which are endgame studies.

The author refrained from re-using many endgame study examples from his book series (with Hans Böhm) *Wij presenteren...* which is aimed at a similar (Dutch) audience.

A very nice endgame study in the book is:

H.1 E. Pogosyants  
*Shakhmaty v SSSR 1976*



d1a1 0410.00 3/2 Win

The idea of the book is to exercise one's tactical abilities and solving studies will contribute to this. In this case, however, pure knowledge (pattern recognition) of endgame studies helps to find the solution. There are few studies with this material that are aesthetical. Another example is the famous Bianchetti battery study (which is also included in the book).

**1.Bd4+!! Rxd4+ 2.Kc2** and we're in the main line of the famous Saavedra study. Probably, in a game position, when one is looking for a way to win this ending but at the same time one is unaware that an actual solution is available, I doubt if anyone would even consider the key move – unless knowing and seeing the Saavedra winning line (the only sensible moves seem to be 1.Ra8+ or 1.Kd2).

The book has a nice cover (see EG210 p.246). I highly recommend it for chess players, but think it is also worthwhile reading for friends of the endgame study. A small mystery remains: the book's title is "Extreme Chess Tactics". Hopefully, endgame study composers are not considered to be extremists...

(HH)

# Provisional Study Award EG 2016-2017

BY JUDGE MARTIN MINSKI (GERMANY)

There were 37 studies by 20 composers from 15 countries in this tourney. First, I have some remarks about studies which are not included in the award:

I think that an ending with rook + minor piece against two minor pieces is not suitable for an artistic study because it is too difficult to understand and too analytical. See EG#20657, EG#21093 and EG#21094.

EG#20486: anticipated by Krug 2012 (HHdbV#3018).

EG#20658: dual 6.Kc7 Kg3 7.Ba8!

EG#20659: The exchange on b2 is too brutal for this little idea.

EG#20836: similar to Krug & Garcia 2015 (HHdbV#495)

EG#21354: similar to Becker 1997 (HHdbV#17084)

EG#21366: The main idea was shown by Kekely 2001 (HHdbV#13495).

EG#21367: The anticipation study by Van den Berg 1933 (HHdbV#69416) is better!

EG#21368: This is an interesting endgame for a practical player, but not a study with artistic features.

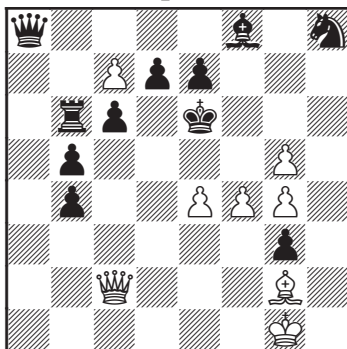
Here is my decision:

**No 50001** Gady Costeff (USA/Israel). **1.e5 Kf7 2.Qf5+ Ke8 3.e6 d6!** (3...d5 4.Qh7 Qa1+ 5.Bf1 Qd4+ 6.Kh1, or 3...dxe6 4.Qxe6 win) **4.Qh7!** (Thematic try: 4.Be4? Bg7 draws, as the QB battery is in the wrong order) **4...Qa1+ 5.Qb1!** (5.Bf1? Qd4+ 6.Kh1 Qd5 wins) **5...Qa8** (5...Qxb1+ 6.Bf1 wins) **6.Be4 Bg7** Now the battery is in the correct order. **7.Bg6+ Kf8 8.Qf5+ Bf6 9.gxf6 Rb8! 10.Qh5!** (Thematic try: 10.Qg5? Qa7+ 11.Kh1 Qa1+ 12.Kg2 Qb2+

13.Kxg3 Qc3+ 14.Bd3 Qxd3+ 15.Kh4? Qh7+ and Black wins) **10...Qa7+ 11.Kh1 Qa1+ 12.Kg2 Qb2+ 13.Kxg3 Qc3+ 14.Bd3! Qxd3+ 15.Kh4** Now there is no Qh7+. **15...Sg6+ 16.Qxg6** (16.Kg5? exf6+ 17.Kxf6 Qd4+ 18.Kxg6 Qg7+ 19.Kf5 Rc8 and Black wins) **16...Qxg6 17.cxb8Q+ Qe8 18.Qxe8+ Kxe8 19.g5 b3 20.g6 b2 21.g7** wins (EG#21352).

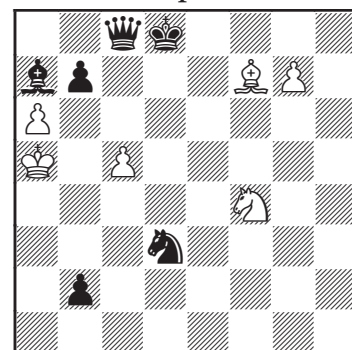
From the beginning I was thrilled by this concept: a Loyd-Turton realized with a spectacular Q sacrifice on b1. In 2015, Gady showed this theme with a Q+R constellation along the e-file (HHdbV#401). This time it's a Q+B constellation which has to be put in the right order along the diagonal b1-h7. During the 'after show party' all pieces have an active role, there is a second logical try and a similar bishop sacrifice on d3. This is a memorable masterpiece!

M.1 G. Costeff  
1st prize



g1e6 4343.56 8/11 Win

M.2 B. Djurašević  
2nd prize



a5d8 3044.32 6/6 Win

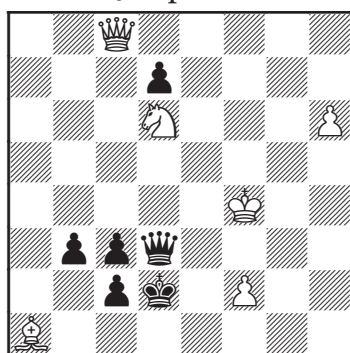
**No 50002** Branislav Djurašević (Serbia).  
**1.g8Q+ Kc7 2.Sd5+ Kb8 3.Qg3+**, and:

— **3...Sf4!** Play for stalemate. **4.Qxf4+ Ka8 5.Sc7+** (5.axb7+? Kxb7 6.Qb4+ Ka8 7.Sb6+ Bxb6+ 8.Qxb6 Qxc5+ 9.Qxc5 b1Q draws) **5...Qxc7+ 6.Qxc7 b1Q 7.axb7+** (7.Qd8+? Bb8 8.axb7+ Ka7 draws) **7...Qxb7 8.Qd8+ Bb8 9.Bd5 Ka7! 10.Qb6+!** (10.Bxb7? Bc7+! 11.Qxc7 stalemate – an idea from Maurice Ashley) **10...Qxb6+ 11.cxb6** An ideal mate with block on b8, or:

— **3...Ka8 4.Sc7+ Qxc7+ 5.Qxc7 b1Q 6.axb7+** (6.Qd8+? Bb8 7.axb7+ Ka7! draws) **6...Qxb7 7.Qd8+ Bb8 8.Bd5 Sxc5 9.Qg8!** (9.Qg5? Bc7 mate, or 9.Bxb7+? Sxb7+ and Black wins) **9...Sb3+ 10.Ka4 Sc5+ 11.Ka3** wins (EG, iv2017, p.101 H.7).

Branko has managed to improve a nice stalemate idea by Maurice Ashley (see ‘Game Studies’ by Siegfried Hornecker, EG iv2017). In the first main line, Black sacrifices a knight in order to realize this stalemate. Thanks to the added white pawn, White forces an ideal mate with block on b8. In the second main line, the bS plays an active role, but White can find better places for Q and K.

M.3 H. van der Heijden,  
 E. Vlasák & J. Polášek  
 3rd prize



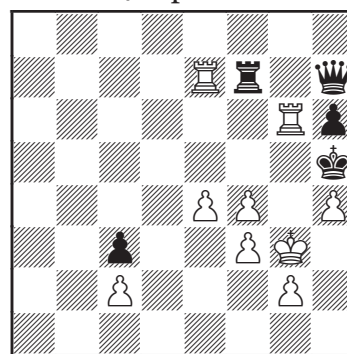
f4d2 4011.24 6/6 Win

**No 50003** Harold van der Heijden (the Netherlands), Emil Vlasák & Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic). **1.Se4+ Qxe4+!** 1st Q-sac. **2.Kxe4 b2 3.Qxc3+!** 2nd Q-sac. **3...Kxc3 4.h7 d5+!** Counterplay. **5.Kxd5 c1Q 6.Bxb2+!** (6.h8Q+? Kd3! draws) **6...Qxb2 7.h8B+!**

(7.h8Q+? Kd3 8.Qxb2 midboard mirror stalemate) wins (EG#20989).

We see two mutual Q sacrifices in the introduction and, while it would be better if one of these tactical Q moves could be realized without a capture, this is surely difficult. After the nice counterplay **4...d5+!** **5.Kxd5 c1Q** a lot of chess players would play “ad hoc” **6.h8Q+**, but this is only a draw thanks to some stalemate defences. Instead we have a surprising bishop promotion. I also like the symmetrical constellation of the stalemate trap!

M.4 A. Avni  
 4th prize



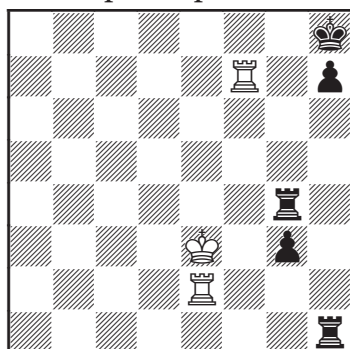
g3h5 3500.62 9/5 Win

**No 50004** Amatzia Avni (Israel). **1.Ree6!** (1.Rc6? Rg7+! 2.Rxg7 Qxg7+ 3.Kh3 Qg3+! 4.Kxg3 stalemate) **1...Qxg6+** (1...Rg7 2.Kh3 wins) **2.Kh3! Qxe6+** (2...Rxf4 3.Re5+ wins) **3.f5** (threatens 4.g4 mate) **3...Qxf5+** (3...Qxe4 4.g4+ Qxg4+ 5.fxg4 model mate) **4.exf5 Rxf5 5.g4+ Kg6 6.gxf5+ Kxf5 7.Kg3** (7.Kg2? Kf4 8.Kf2 h5 zz, draws) **7...h5 8.Kg2!** (8.f4? Ke4 draws. 8.Kf2? Kf4 zz draws) **8...Kf4 9.Kf2 zz Ke5 10.Ke3** wins (EG#21353).

In the introduction White sacrifices two rooks. After **3.f5** there really is a grotesque situation! Black is a queen and a rook up, but he loses thanks to the strong threat **4.g4** mate. At the end, there are some fine zugzwang manoeuvres by the wK. The main line was modified in order to avoid duals (**3...Qxf5+** instead of **3...Rxf5 4.g4+** (dual **4.exf5**) **4...Kg6 5.gxf5+** (dual **5.exf5+**)). I prefer the try **1.Rc6?** (instead of **1.Re6?**) without any duals until the stalemate position.



M.5 A. Avni  
special prize

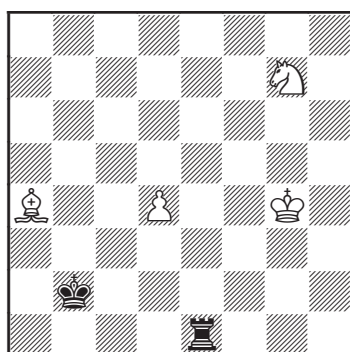


e3h8 o8oo.o2 3/5 Draw

**No 50005** Amatzia Avni (Israel). **1.Kf3!** (1.Rf8+? Kg7 2.Kf3 h5 3.Rfe8 Rh3 wins) **1...Rg8** (1...Rf1+ 2.Kxg4 draws) **2.Rfe7!** (2.Rd7? Rh3! 3.Kg2 Rh2+ 4.Kg1 Rxe2 wins) **2...Rh3!** (2...g2 3.Rxg2 Rf1+ 4.Ke2 Rxg2+ 5.Kxfidraws, or 2...Rh2 3.Re8 draws) **3.Kg2** (3.Re8? g2+) **3...Rh2+ 4.Kg1 g2!** (threatens 5...Rh1+) **5.Rg7!** (5.Kxh2? g1Q+) **5...Rxxg7** (5...Kxxg7 6.Kxh2, or 5...Rh1+ 6.Kxxg2 Rxxg7+ 7.Kxh1 draw) **6.Re8+ Rg8 7.Rxxg8+ Kxxg8 8.Kxh2** draws (EG#21092 new version, original).

In comparison with the similar idea 5.Rf7! in Kasparyan's win study (1938, HHdbV#66073) the fantastic move 5.Rg7!! is even more surprising because there is no battery on the 7th rank and no threat b8Q. I convinced the composer that this new version with a pure rook endgame is more adequate.

M.6 D. Keith & P. Arestov  
1st honourable mention



g4b2 o311.10 4/2 Win

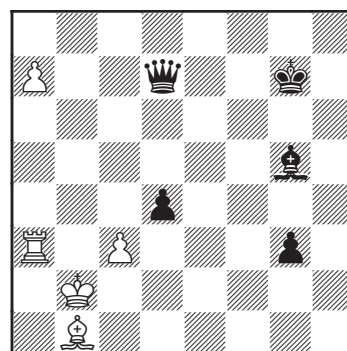
**No 50006** Daniel Keith (France) & Pavel Arestov (Russia). **1.Kf4!** (thematic try 1.Kf5? Kc3! 2.d5 Kb4! 3.Bc2 Kc5 4.Be4 Kd6! draws as

there is no 5.Sf5+. 1.Sf5? Kc3! 2.Bc6 Rd1 3.d5 Kb4! (Kc4?; 4.Se3+) 4.Kf4 Kc5 5.Ke5 Re1+ (Rg1 draws) **1...Kc3! 2.d5** (2.Sf5? Rf1+! 3.Ke4 Rxf5! 4.Kxf5 Kxd4 draws) **2...Kb4!** (2...Kd4 3.d6 Rf1+ 4.Kg5 Ke5 5.d7 Rf8 6.Se8 wins) **3.Bc2!** (3.Bc6? Kc5 4.Se6+ Kd6 draws) **3...Kc5 4.Be4 Rg1** (4...Kd6 5.Sf5+ square f5 is free!, 4...Rf1+ 5.Ke5 wins) **5.Sf5 Rg8 6.d6!** (6.Ke5? Re8+ 7.Kf4 Rd8 draws), and:

- **6...Re8 7.Bc2!** (7.Bb1? Kd5 8.Ba2+ Kc6 draws) **7...Kd5 8.Bb3+ Kc5** (Kc6; Ba4+) **9.Be6! Rxe6** (Kc6; Ke5) **10.d7** wins, or:
- **6...Rd8 7.Ke5 Re8+ 8.Kf6!** (8.Se7? Rd8 9.Sf5 Re8+ repeats) **8...Rxe4 9.d7** wins (EG#21237).

This is a logical study with the surprising key move 1.Kf4!! The seemingly natural move 1.Kf5? is wrong because f5 would thereby be blocked for the knight. At the end, there are two echo variations with a bishop sacrifice in order to promote the pawn

M.7 J. Kratz  
2nd honourable mention



b2g7 3140.22 5/5 Win

**No 50007** Jürgen Kratz (Germany). **1.a8Q dxc3+ 2.Ka1! Bf6** (2...c2 3.Bxc2, and either 3...Qd4+ 4.Kb1 Qb4+ 5.Rb3 wins, or 3...Bf6+ 4.Ka2 (Kb1? Qb5+); 4...Qe6+ 5.Rb3 wins) **3.Bc2** (3.Ra7? c2+ 4.Ka2 c1S+! 5.Ka3 Be7+ 6.Kb2 Qd2+ 7.Bc2 Sd3+ wins) **3...Qd1+! 4.Bxd1 c2+ 5.Ka2 cxd1Q 6.Rxxg3+ Kh6** (Kf7; Qg8+) **7.Rh3+** (7.Qf8+? Kh5 8.Qxf6 Qb1+! 9.Kxb1 stalemate), and:

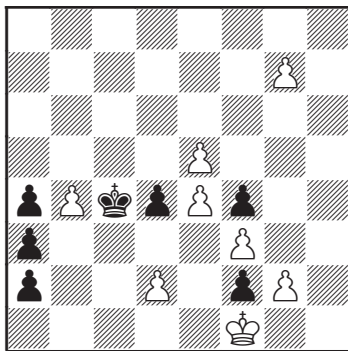
- **7...Kg7 8.Qh8+ Kf7 9.Rh7+ Ke6 10.Qc8+ Ke5 11.Rh5+! Qxh5 12.Qc5+** skewer, wins, or:



- 7...Kg6 8.Qe4+ Kf7 9.Rh7+ Kf8 10.Qa8+ Qd8 11.Rh8+! skewer, wins, or:
- 7...Kg5 8.Qg2+ Kf4 9.Qf2+ Ke5 10.Rh5+! Qxh5 11.Qc5+ skewer, wins (EG#21369).

The good black countermove 3...Qd1+! leads to an ending with Q+R vs Q+B. Three echo skewers decide the game.

M.8 G. Østmoe  
3rd honourable mention

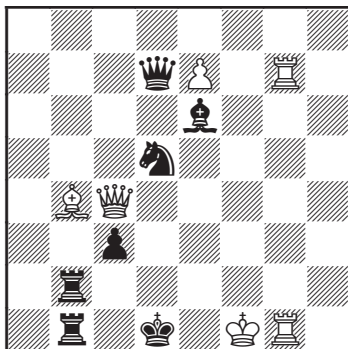


fic4 0000.76 8/7 Win

**No 50008** Geir Sune Tallaksen Østmoe (Norway). **1.g8B+!** (1.g8Q+? Kd3 2.Qxa2 stalemate) **1...Kd3 2.Bxa2 Kxd2 3.e6** (3.Kxf2? d3 4.e6 Kc1 5.e7 d2 6.e8Q d1Q draws) **3...Ke3 4.e7 d3 5.e8B!** (5.e8Q? d2 6.Qd7 d1Q+ 7.Qxd1 stalemate) **5...d2 6.Bxa4** wins (EG#21236).

This is not the first pawn endgame with two consecutive bishop promotions (see for example Zinar 2010, HHdbV#4821), but the pattern here seems to be new.

M.9 Á. Ruzs  
(after J. Rodriguez Ibran)  
special honourable mention



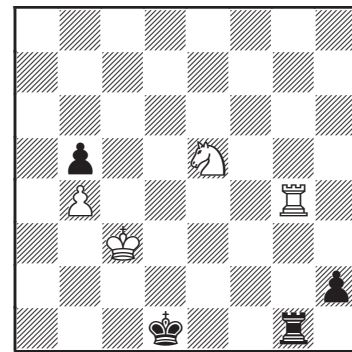
fid1 4843.11 6/7 Win

**No 50009** Á. Ruzs (Hungary). **1.Qd3+ Kc1** (Rd2; Qxb1 mate) **2.R7g2 Bh3!** (Bf5; Re2) **3.Ba3!**

**Se3+!** (Qg4; Qc2 mate) **4.Qxe3+ Qd2 5.Qxd2+ cxd2 6.e8Q d1Q+ 7.Qe1!** full point mutual zugzwang **7...Qxe1+ 8.Kxe1 Bxg2 9.Rxg2 zz 9...Ra1 10.Bxb2+** wins (EG#21090, new version).

Árpád Ruzs has managed to find an introduction for the very impressive 10-man aristocratic full point zugzwang position discovered by Javier Rodriguez Ibran (EG130, 1998, p.382). This new version, which I prefer, was published on his website: <http://ruszchessstudies.blogspot.de/2017/10/study-130.html>

M.10 Y. Afek  
(Dedicated to Dutch Open 2016)  
1st commendation



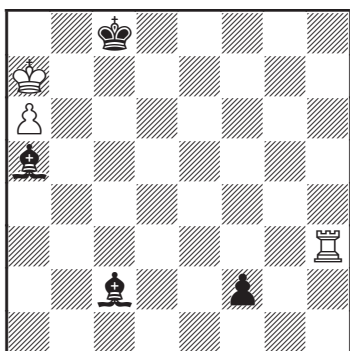
c3d1 0401.12 4/4 Draw

**No 50010 1.Rd4+ Kc1** (1...Ke2 2.Rd2+, or 1...Ke1 2.Sf3+ win) **2.Sd3+ Kb1** (2...Kd1 3.Rh4 h1Q 4.Rxh1 Rxh1 5.Sf2+ and White wins) **3.Sf2** (3.Rh4? h1Q 4.Rxh1 Rxh1 wins) **3...Rf1 4.Sh1!**, and:

- **4...Rc1+ 5.Kb3! Rxh1 6.Rd2! Rg1 7.Rb2+!** (Rxh2 Rg3 mate;) – draw on material, or:
- **4...Rxh1 5.Rd2 Rc1+ 6.Kb3, and:**
  - **6...h1Q 7.Rb2+ Ka1 8.Ra2+ Kb1 9.Rb2+** – draw by perpetual check, or:
  - **6...Rc2 7.Rd1+ Rc1 8.Rd2**, and now:
    - **8...Rc2 9.Rd1+ Rc1 10.Rd2** – positional draw by repetition, or: here:
    - **8...Rc3+! 9.Kxc3 h1Q 10.Rd1+! Qxd1** draw by stalemate! (EG#21238).

The author shows four forms of draw in one study: on material, by perpetual check, by positional draw and by stalemate. The judge proposes to add a fifth form: offering to the composer a draw by agreement!

M.11 V. Lebedev & E. Egorov  
2nd commendation

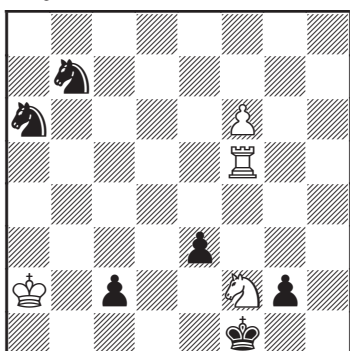


a7c8 o16o.11 3/4 Draw

**No 50011** Vasily Lebedev (Russia) & Evgeny Egorov (Kazakhstan). **1.Rf3 Bb4!** (1...Be1 2.Rf8+ Kd7 3.Kb8 Be4 4.Rf7+! Kd8 5.Rf8+ Ke7 6.Rf4 Bg2 7.a7 draws, or 1...Bd2 2.Rf8+ Kd7 3.Kb8 Be3 4.a7 draws). **2.Kb6 Bd2!** **3.a7** (Rxf2? Be3+;) **3...Be4 4.a8Q+!** (4.Rf8+? Kd7 5.a8Q Be3+! wins) **4...Bxa8 5.Rf8+ Kd7 6.Ka7! Bg2 7.Rxf2! Be3+ 8.Kb8 Bxf2** ideal mirror stalemate (EG#21235).

An interesting battle leads to a famous stalemate position.

M.12 Pavel Arestov  
3rd commendation



a2f1 o107.13 4/6 Draw

**No 50012** Pavel Arestov (Russia). **1.Sd3+** (1.Sh3+? Ke1 2.Kb2 Sb4 wins) **1...Ke2 2.Sf4+ Ke1 3.Sxg2+ Kd2 4.Rd5+ Kc3 5.Rd3+! Kxd3 6.Se1+ Kc3 7.Sxc2 Kxc2 8.f7 Sb4+** (8...e2

9.f8Q e1Q 10.Qf5+ Kc3 11.Qf6+ draws) **9.Ka3 e2 10.f8Q e1Q 11.Qc5+!** (11.Qxb4? Qa1 mate with a block on b4. 11.Qc8+? Kd3 12.Qxb7 Qa1+ 13.Kxb4 Qb2+ (Qb1+) skewer, 11.Qf5+? Sd3 wins). **11...Sxc5** stalemate (EG#20990).

White doesn't fall into the mate trap 11.Qxb4? Qa1 mate. Instead there is the nice Q sacrifice 11.Qc5+! with stalemate.

M.13 P. Krug & M. Garcia  
4th commendation

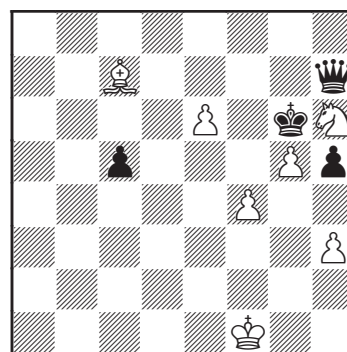


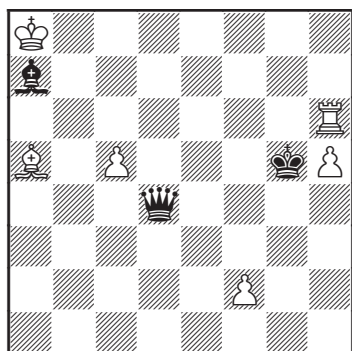
fig6 3011.42 7/4 Win

**No 50013** Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). **1.f5+ Kxg5 2.e7 Qxe7** (2...Kxh6 3.e8Q Qxf5+ 4.Ke2 wins) **3.Bd8 Qxd8 4.Sf7+ Kxf5 5.Sxd8 c4** (5...Ke4 6.Kg2 h4 7.Sc6! c4 8.Kf2 c3 9.Sb4 wins) **6.Kg2!** (6.Kf2? c3 7.Sc6 Ke4 8.Sb4 h4! zz; 6.Sc6? h4! 7.Kf2 Ke4! draws) **6...Kf4** (6...c3 7.Sc6 Ke4 8.Sb4 h4 9.Kf2 zz wins) **7.Se6+ Ke5** (7...Ke3 8.Kg3 c3 9.Sc5 c2 10.Sb3 wins) **8.Sc5 Kd4 9.Sa6 c3 10.Sb4 Kc4 11.Sa2! Kb3 12.Sc1+ Kc2 13.Se2 Kd3 14.Kf2!** (14.Kf3? c2 15.h4 Kd2 zz 16.Sd4 c1S! draws) **14...c2 15.Kf3 Kd2 16.h4 zz**

**16...Kd3 17.Sc1+ Kd2 18.Sa2 Kd3 19.Kf4!** wins (EG#20838).

This is an interesting battle with several mutual zugzwang positions although, as with many database-derived studies, the introductory play and the database finale are not closely linked.

M.14 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely  
5th commendation



a8g5 3140.30 6/3 Draw

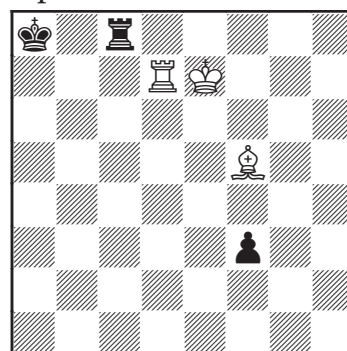
**No 50014** Michal Hlinka & Ľuboš Kekely (Slovakia). **1.Rd6!** (1.Rg6+? Kxh5 2.Rd6 Qxc5 3.Ra6 Kg4 4.Bd8 Qc8+ 5.Kxa7 Qxd8 wins) **1...Qxc5** to a disadvantageous square (1...Qxf2 2.Bd8+ Kxh5 3.Kxa7 draws), **2.Ra6 Kxh5 3.f3!** tempo (3.Rxa7? Dc8 mate, 3.f4? Kg4 4.f5 Kxf5 wins) **3...Kg5 4.Bd2+** (4.Kb7? Qe7+ 5.Bc7 this is not a check 5...Be3 wins) **4...Kh4** (Kf5; Ra5)

**5.Be1+!** (thematic try 5.Ba5? Kh3 zz, but here is a black dual: 5...Kh5 wins) **5...Kh3** (Kh5; 6.Ra5) **6.Ba5!** zz **6...Kg3** to a disadvantageous square (6...Kg2 7.f4 Kf3 8.f5 Qxf5 9.Kxa7! draws) **7.Kb7!** (7.f4? Kg4! 8.f5 Kxf5 wins) **7...Qe7+ 8.Bc7+** with check! **8...Kxf3 9.Rxa7** draws (EG#21352).

I don't like the introduction with the capture of two wPs and, unfortunately, the bB does not

move. However, the main position is interesting with mutual zugzwang after 6.Ba5! It's a pity that there is a dual in the thematic try 5.Ba5? Kh3/Kh5.

M.15 I. Vandecasteele  
special commendation



e7a8 0410.01 3/3 Win

**No 50015** Ignace Vandecasteele (Belgium). **1.Be4+ Kb8 2.Rb7+ Ka8 3.Kd7** (3.Bxf3? Re8+ 4.Kxe8 stalemate, but this line has black duals: 3...Rh8/Rg8) **3...Rg8 4.Kd6! Rg6+ 5.Kc5 Ra6 6.Bc6!** (6.Bxf3? Rc6+! 7.Bxc6/Kxc6 stalemate) **6...f2 7.Rf7+ Kb8 8.Kd6 f1Q 9.Rxf1 Ra3 10.Rf8+ Ka7 11.Kc7 Rg3 12.Ra8** mate (EG#20837).

There are a lot of studies with this material, many by the same composer, but this position seems to be original. White does not immediately take the black pawn because of some stalemate traps.

# Superproblem 2017

A multi-genre thematic tourney was organized on the website [superproblem.ru](http://superproblem.ru)

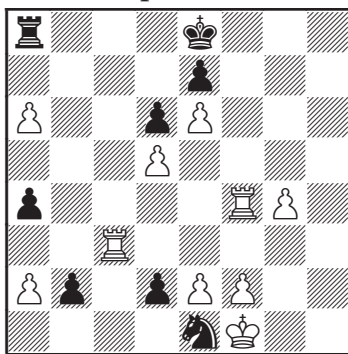
The theme – a real task! – was: “In the initial position the main plan is refuted by black castling. Nevertheless, at the start of the solution White executes his main plan, forcing Black to castle. After that, White forces the bK to return to e8 and the bR to its initial corner. Then White executes his main plan again, and Black cannot refute it anymore because castling is now illegal”.

The judge, Aleksey Oganessian (Russia), was the first composer ever to realize this task. He won a second prize in the FIDE Olympic Ty of 2016 with this problem:

e6e8 1438.23 c7a8h8h7b5d7g3g8.a5a7a6e7g6 Selfmate in 9. The main plan is 1.Qe5!? threatening 2.Rxg8+ Bxg8 mate. But this is refuted by 1...o-o-o! Therefore, White plays 1.Qe5! o-o-o 2.Sb6+ Kb7 3.a8Q+ (a8B+) Rxa8 4.Qd5+ Kb8 5.Sd7+ Kc8 6.Qc6+ Kd8 7.Qc7+ Ke8 after which all (!) pieces are at the same squares as in the initial position. Now White executes his plan again: 8.Qe5 and castling is illegal, so e.g. 8...g5 9.Rxg8+ Bxg8 mate!

Two problems were submitted: a moremover (mate in 6) by Ralf Krätschmer (Germany) which was awarded with a special commendation, and an endgame study!

No 21514 G. Tallaksen Østmoe  
prize



f1e8 0503.75 10/8 Win

No 21514 Geir Sune Tallaksen Østmoe (Norway). 1.Rh3/i O-O-O 2.a7 (Rbh4? Sf3;) Kb7/ii 3.a8Q+ (Rb4+? Ka8;) Rxa8 4.Rb4+ Kc7/iii 5.Rc3+ Kd8 6.Rf4 Ke8/iv 7.Rh3/v Kd8 8.Rc4 b1Q (d1Q) 9.Rh8 mate.

i) The main plan is 1.Rh3, threatening 2.Rh8 mate. The main plan is refuted by 1...o-o-o.

ii) Kc7 3.Rc3+ Kb6 4.Rb4+ Ka5 5.Rb8 Rxb8 6.axb8Q d1Q 7.Qc7+ (Rc7) wins.

iii) Ka7 (Ka6) 5.Ra3 d1Q 6.Rxa4+ Qxa4 7.Rxa4+ Kb6 8.Rb4+ (Rxa8? Kc7;) Kc5 9.Rxb2 Kxd5 10.Kxe1 wins.

iv) This is the initial position, but castling is not allowed anymore and, in addition, the wPa6 is missing.

v) White now successfully executes the main plan.

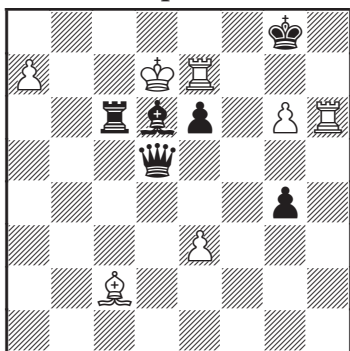
The composer notes that if Black was allowed to castle in the position after the 6th move (i.e. the initial position without wPa6), it would draw: 7...o-o-o 8.Rc3+ Kb7 9.Rb4+ Ka6 10.Rc6+ Ka7 11.Rxa4+ Kb7 12.Rb4+ Ka7.



# Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsia 2016

The judge, Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan), received 37 studies by 28 composers from 13 countries. Translation of the award from Russian to English is, as usual, by HH.

**No 21515** S. Slumstrup Nielsen  
1st prize



d7g8 3540.32 7/6 Win

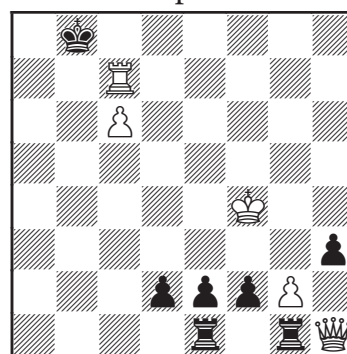
**No 21515** Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Rh8+/i Kxh8 2.a8Q+ Bb8+ 3.Ke8 Rc8+/ii 4.Kf7 Rf8+ (Qxa8; f7 mate) 5.Kxf8 Qd8+ 6.Kf7 (Re8 Qf6 mate;) Qg8+ 7.Kf6 Be5+ (Qf8+; Kxe6) 8.Kxe5 Qxa8 9.g7+ Kg8 10.Kf6 Qf3+/iii 11.Kg6 Qc6 12.Bb1/iv g3/v 13.Rf7 Qe8 14.Kh6 g2/vi 15.Rf6 Qh5+ (g1Q; Bh7 mate) 16.Kxh5 g1Q 17.Bh7+ Kxh7 18.g8Q+ Qxg8/vii 19.Rh6+ Kg7 20.Rg6+ Kf7 21.Rxg8 Kxg8 22.Kg6 Kf8 23.Kf6 Ke8 24.Kxe6/viii wins.

- i) 1.a8Q+? Bb8+ 2.Ke8 Rc8 mate.
- ii) e5 4.g7+ Kg8 5.Qb7 wins.
- iii) g3 11.Be4 Qd8 12.Bg6 g2 13.Bf7+ Kh7 14.g8Q+ Qxg8 15.Bxg8++ Kxg8 16.Rg7+ wins.
- iv) 12.Bd3? e5+, or 12.Be4? Qxe4+ draw.
- v) e5+ 13.Kg5 Qa6 14.Bf5 g3 15.Be6+ wins.
- vi) Qxf7 15.Bh7 mate, or Kxf7 15.Bg6+ Kg8 16.Bxe8 g2 17.Bd7 g1Q 18.Bxe6 mate.
- vii) Kxg8 19.Rg6+ Qxg6+ 20.Kxg6 Kf8 21.Kf6 wins.
- viii) 24.e4? e5 25.Kxe5 Ke7 draws.

“The combinational play, characteristic of this author’s the studies, smoothly metamorphoses into a struggle of rook and bishop against queen. It is gratifying that the positional play which one would expect next does not occur, since after a short respite the play

resumes a combinational rhythm. Despite the length of the study (no less than 24 moves) one takes the solution in one go. This is the clear winner of the tourney!”

**No 21516** P. Arestov  
2nd prize



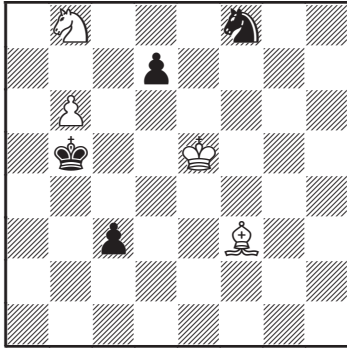
f4b8 1700.24 5/7 Draw

**No 21516** Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rc8+/i Ka7/ii 2.Qxh3 f1Q+ 3.Ke5/iii Qf4+ 4.Kxf4 Ref1+ 5.Kg5 Rxg2+ 6.Kh6 Rh1 7.Qxh1 e1Q/iv 8.Qxg2 Qh4+/v 9.Kg6 (Kg7? d1?Q;) d1Q 10.Ra8+/vi Kxa8 11.c7+ Ka7 12.Qa8+/vii Kxa8/viii 13.c8Q+ Ka7 14.Qd7+/ix Qxd7 stalemate.

- i) 1.Qxh3? f1Q+ 2.Ke5 Qf4+ 3.Kxf4 Ref1+ 4.Kg5 Rxg2+ 5.Kh6 Kxc7, or 1.Rb7+? Ka8 2.Qxh3 f1Q+ 3.Ke5 Qf8 win.
- ii) Kxc8 2.Qxh3+ Kb8 3.Qb3+ draws.
- iii) 3.Ke4? Qxg2+, or 3.Kg4? Qxg2+, or 3.Ke3? Qf2+ 4.Kxf2 Ref1+ win.
- iv) d1Q 8.Qxg2 Qd6+ 9.Kh7 e1Q 10.Ra8+ Kxa8 11.c7+ Ka7 12.c8S+ wins.
- v) d1Q 9.Qa2+ Kb6 10.Rb8+ Kxc6 11.Qg2+ draws.
- vi) 10.Rc7+? Ka6 11.Qa2+ Qda4, or 10.Qa2+? Qha4 11.Qf7+ Kb6 12.Rb8+ Kc5 win.
- vii) 12.c8Q? Qd6+ 13.Kf5 Qhf4 mate.
- viii) Kb6 13.Qb8+ Ka5 14.Qa8+ draws.
- ix) 14.Qc7+? Ka6 15.Qc6+ Ka5 16.Qc5+ Ka4 wins.

“This is a clear stalemate study in which both sides in turn get rid of their pieces. During play 5 queens occur, 4 of which were promoted, and 3 sacrificed”.

No 21517 S. Didukh  
3rd prize



e5b5 0014.12 4/4 Win

No 21517 Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine). 1.b7 d5/i 2.Kxd5/ii c2/iii 3.Sc6 Sd7 4.Kd6/iv c1Q 5.Kxd7 Qd2+/v 6.Kc8 Ka6 7.Be4/vi Qd6/vii 8.Bd3+ Kb6 (Qxd3; Sb4+) 9.b8Q+ Kxc6 10.Qb5 mate.

i) c2 2.Sc6 c1Q 3.b8Q+ wins.

ii) 2.Kd6? Kb6 3.Bxd5 c2 4.Sa6 c1Q 5.b8Q+ Kxa6 6.Bc4+ Qxc4, or 2.Sc6? Kxc6 3.b8Q Sd7+ 4.Kd4 Sxb8 wins.

iii) Kb6 3.Kd6 c2 4.Sa6 c1Q 5.b8Q+ Kxa6 6.Be2+ wins.

iv) 4.Sd4+? Ka6 5.Sxc2 Kxb7 6.Kd6+ Kc8 7.Bg4 Kd8 8.Bxd7 stalemate.

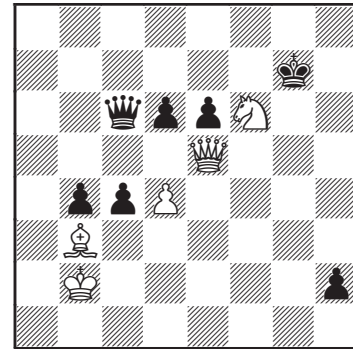
v) Ka6 6.b8Q Qd1+ 7.Qd6 (Bxd1? stalemate) Qxf3 8.Sd4+ wins.

vi) 7.b8Q? Qd7+ 8.Kxd7 stalemate.

vii) Qe3 8.Bd3+ Kb6 9.b8Q+ Kxc6 10.Be4+ Kc5 (Qxe4; Qb7+) 11.Qa7+ Kc4 12.Qxe3, or Qg5 8.Bd3+ Kb6 9.b8Q+ Kxc6 10.Qc7+ Kd5 11.Qa5+ Kd4 12.Qxg5, or Qh6 8.Bd3+ Kb6 9.b8Q+ Kxc6 10.Qb5+ Kd6 11.Qb6+ Ke5 12.Qxh6, or Qc3 8.Bd3+ Kb6 9.b8Q+ Kxc6 10.Qc7+ Kd5 11.Qxc3, or Qb2 8.Bd3+ Kb6 9.b8Q+ Kc5 10.Qxb2 win.

“We see a gravura (HH which seems to be a synonym for an 8 piece ending) with numerous queen wins, either diagonal, vertical, horizontal or by a fork and an economical mate. Simple and beautiful!”

No 21518 B. Ilincic  
1st honourable mention



b2g7 4011.15 5/7 Win

No 21518 Borislav Ilincic (Serbia). 1.Sh5++ (Qg5+? Kf7;) Kf7 2.Qg7+ Ke8 3.d5/i exd5/ii 4.Ba4/iii Qxa4/iv 5.Sf6+ Kd8 6.Qf8+ Kc7 7.Sxd5+ Kb7 8.Qe7+ Kc6 (Ka6; Qxd6) 9.Qe8+ Kc5 10.Qxa4 h1Q 11.Qa7+ Kxd5 12.Qb7+ (Qa8+) wins.

i) 3.Sf6+? Kd8 4.d5 exd5 5.Ba4 c3+ wins.

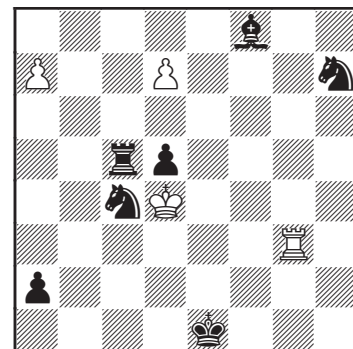
ii) h1Q 4.Qg8+ Kd7 5.dxc6+ Qxc6 6.Bd1 c3+ 7.Kc1 Qa6 8.Sf6+ Kc7 9.Qxe6 Qa3+ 10.Kc2 Qb2+ 11.Kd3 Qd2+ 12.Kc4 Qa2+ 13.Bb3 wins.

iii) 4.Sf6+? Kd8 5.Qg8+ Kc7 6.Sxd5+ Kb7 draws.

iv) c3+ 5.Kb3 Qxa4+ 6.Kxa4 h1Q 7.Sf6+ Kd8 8.Qd7 mate.

“The two queen wins are preceded by the sacrifice 3.d5!, preparing a bridgehead for the knight’s invasion”.

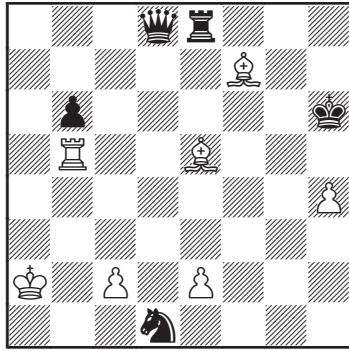
No 21519 A. Zhukov  
2nd honourable mention



d4e1 0436.22 4/7 Draw

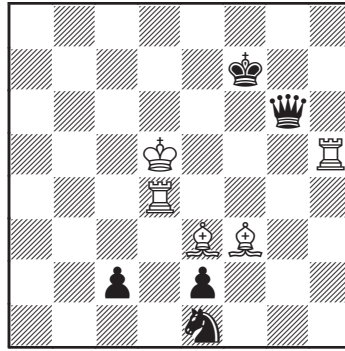
No 21519 Aleksandr Zhukov (Russia). 1.a8Q/i Ra5 2.Qxa5+/ii Sxa5 3.Kxd5 (Kd3? Kf2;) Kf1/iii 4.Rh3/iv Kg2 5.Ra3/v Bxa3 6.d8Q a1Q/vi

No 21520 P. Arestov  
& A. Gasparyan  
3rd honourable mention



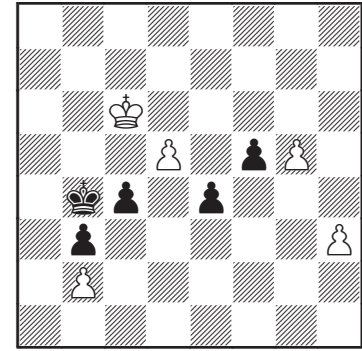
a2h6 3423.31 7/5 Draw

No 21521 V. Kalashnikov  
4th honourable mention



d5f7 3223.02 5/5 Win

No 21522 A. Zhukov  
5th honourable mention



c6b4 0000.ee 5/5 Win

7.Qg5+ Kf3/vii 8.Qh5+ (Qf5+? Ke3;) Kg3 (Ke3; Qh6+) 9.Qg5+ stalemate.

i) 1.Rg1+? Kf2 2.Ra1 Ra5 3.Rxa2+ Rxa2 4.d8Q Rxa7 wins.

ii) 2.Rg1+? Kf2 3.Qxa5 Sxa5 4.d8Q Kxg1 wins.

iii) Kf2 4.d8Q a1Q 5.Qh4 Qa2+ 6.Rb3+ draws.

iv) 4.d8Q? a1Q 5.Rf3+ Ke2/xv 6.Rxf8 Qa2+ 7.Ke4 Qc4+ 8.Kf5 Qc5+ 9.Kg4 Sxf8 wins.

v) 5.d8Q? a1Q 6.Rg3+ Kxg3 7.Qg5+ Kf3 8.Qh5+ Ke3 and 9.Qh6+ is not possible.

vi) Bb2 7.Qxa5 a1Q 8.Qd2+ draws.

vii) Sxg5 stalemate.

“This study has beautiful sacrifices (5.Ra3! and 7.Qg5+!) and a mid-board mirror stalemate!. However, regrettably, the introductory play is not quite successful”.

**No 21520** Pavel Arestov & Aleksey Gasparyan (Armenia). 1.Ba1 Qa8+ (Qxh4; Bxe8) 2.Kb1 Qxa1+ 3.Kxa1 Ra8+ 4.Ba2 (Kb1 Sc3+;) Sc3 5.Rxb6+ Kh5 6.Rb2 (Kb2? Sa4+;) Ra7/i 7.e3/ii zz Ra8/iii 8.e4 Kxh4 9.e5 Kg5 10.e6 Kf6 11.e7 Kxe7 12.Rb7+ Kd6 13.Kb2 draws.

i) Ra6 7.e4 Kxh4 8.e5 Kg5 9.e6 Kf6 10.e7 Kxe7 11.Rb7+ draws.

ii) 7.e4? Kxh4 8.e5 Kg5 9.e6 Kf6 10.e7 Kxe7 11.Rb8 Rxa2 mate.

iii) Kxh4 8.Rb4+ Kg3 9.Kb2 draws.

“This is based on the motifs of a study by the late A. Manvelyan and A. Gasparyan (EG#14731). The introduction has been

improved, and a *festina lente* move has been added”.

**No 21521** Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.Rf4+ Kg8 2.Rg4 Qxg4 3.Bxg4 Sg2/i 4.Be6+/ii Kg7 5.Rg5+/iii Kf6/iv 6.Rxg2 e1Q 7.Bg5+/v Kg6/vi 8.Bh4+/vii Kh5 9.Bxe1 c1Q 10.Bf7+ Kh6 11.Bd2+ wins.

i) Sf3 4.Rh1 e1Q 5.Rxe1 Sxe1 is lost ending for Black.

ii) 4.Rg5+? Kh8 5.Bd4+ Kh7 6.Bf5+ Kh6 7.Rg6+ Kh5 draws.

iii) 5.Bd4+? Kg6 6.Rh1 e1Q 7.Rxe1 Sxe1 8.Bb2 Sd3 draws.

iv) Kh8 6.Rg8+ Kh7 7.Rxg2 wins.

v) 7.Bd4+? Ke7 8.Bc5+ Kf6 9.Bd4+ Ke7 draws.

vi) Kg7 8.Bh4+ Kh8 9.Bf6+ Kh7 10.Bf5+ Kh6 11.Rh2+ wins.

vii) 8.Bd2+? Kh7 9.Bxe1 c1Q 10.Bf5+ Kh8 draws.

“White wins a queen three times”.

**No 21522** Aleksandr Zhukov (Russia). 1.d6/i c3 2.bxc3+ Kxc3/ii 3.g6/iii e3/iv 4.d7/v b2 5.g7/vi e2/vii 6.g8Q/viii e1Q 7.Qg7+/ix Kb3/x 8.Qf7+ Ka3/xi 9.Qf8+ (d8Q? Qc3+;) Kb3 10.d8Q (Qb8+? Kc2;) Qe4+ 11.Qd5+ Qxd5+ 12.Kxd5 b1Q 13.Qb8+

i) 1.g6? c3 2.bxc3+ Ka4 3.g7 b2 4.g8Q b1Q 5.Qa8+ Kb3 6.Qb8+ Kc2 draws.

ii) Ka4 3.d7 b2 4.d8Q b1Q 5.Qd4+ Ka3 6.g6 wins.

iii) 3.d7? b2 4.d8Q b1Q 5.g6 e3 6.g7/xii Qe4+ 7.Qd5 e2 draws.

iv) b2 4.g7 b1Q 5.g8Q Qd3/xx 6.Qa2 wins.

v) 4.g7? e2 5.g8Q e1Q 6.d7 Qe4+ 7.Qd5 Qxd5+ draws.

vi) 5.d8Q? b1Q, and 6.g7 Qe4+, or 6.Qf6+ Kd2 draw.

vii) b1Q 6.g8Q e2 7.Qg3+ wins.

viii) 6.d8Q? b1Q 7.Qa5+ Qb4 draws.

ix) 7.d8Q? Qe4+ 8.Qgd5 Qxd5+ draws.

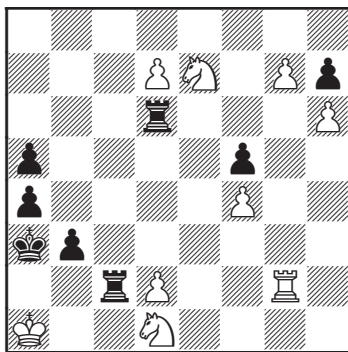
x) Kc2 8.Qg2+ Kc1 9.Qg5+ wins.

xi) Kc3 9.Qf6+ Kb3 10.d8Q Qe4+ (b1Q; Qb8+) 11.Qd5+ Qxd5+ 12.Kxd5 b1Q 13.Qb6+ wins.

xii) Qc1 6.Qd5 e3 7.d7 e2 8.d8Q e1Q 9.Qf6+ Kc2 10.Qc4+ Kb1 11.Qxf5+ Ka1 12.Qf6+ Kb1 13.Qg6+ Kb2 14.Qg7+, or Qc2 6.Qd5 e3 7.d7 e2 8.Kd6 Qd1 9.d8Q e1Q 10.Qa5+, or e3 6.d7 e2 7.Qg3+ Qd3 8.Qxd3+ Kxd3 9.d8Q+ win.

“We see amusing manoeuvring of the white and black pawns in turn”.

**No 21523** P. Krug & M. Garcia  
special honourable mention



a1a3 0702.55 9/8 Win

**No 21523** Peter Krug (Austria) & Mario Garcia (Argentina). 1.Kb1 Rdc6 2.Sc3/i R6xc3 3.dxc3, and:

- Rxc3 4.g8R/ii Rh2 5.Rg1 wins, or:
- Rb2+ 4.Ka1/iii Rxc3 5.g8R/iv, and:
  - b2+ 6.Kb1 Rd2 7.d8R/v wins, or:
  - Rd2 6.d8R/vi Ra2+ 7.Kb1 Rb2+ 8.Kc1 Re2 9.Rg1/vii Ka2/viii 10.Rd2+ b2+ 11.Rxb2+ wins.

i) 2.Sxc6? Rb2+ 3.Kc1 Rc2+ 4.Kb1 Rb2+ 5.Sxb2 stalemate.

ii) 4.g8Q? Rb2+ 5.Kc1 Rc2+ 6.Kd1 b2, and: 7.Kxc2 b1Q+ 8.Kd2 (Kxb1 stalemate) Qc2+ 9.Ke1 Qe4+ 10.Kf2 Qxf4+ 11.Ke2 Qe4+ perpetual check, or here: 7.Qb8 b1Q+ 8.Qxb1 Rd2+ 9.Ke1 Re2+ 10.Kf1 Rf2+ 11.Kxf2 stalemate.

iii) 4.Kc1? Rxc2 5.g8R Rxc2 6.Sxc2 Ka2 draws.

iv) 5.g8Q? Ra2+ 6.Kb1 Ra1+ 7.Kxa1 b2+ 8.Kb1 stalemate.

v) 7.d8Q? Rd1+ 8.Qxd1

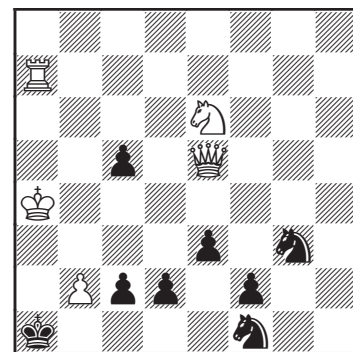
vi) 6.d8Q? b2+ 7.Kb1 Rd1+ 8.Qxd1 stalemate.

vii) 9.Rb8? (Sd5? b2+;) Rxe7, and now: 10.Rg7 Re2 11.Rxh7 b2+ 12.Kd1 Rh2 13.Rhh8 Ka2 draws, or here: 10.Rg5 Re2 11.Rxf5 b2+ 12.Kd1 Rh2 13.Rxa5 Rh1+ 14.Kc2 Rc1+ 15.Kd3 b1Q+ 16.Rxb1 Rxb1 draws.

viii) Rxe7 10.Rd2 Re3 11.Kb1 Rxc3 12.Rh1 Kb4 13.Rd4+ Ka3 14.Rd7 Rc2 15.Rxh7 Rb2+ 16.Kc1 Rc2+ 17.Kd1 wins.

“The stalemate threat is met by rook promotions. The idea for the study, or to be more precise, the scheme, was taken from Zalkind (HHdbV#70795). S. & R. Tsurtsunia worked with more than 2 rook promotions, with much better play whereas the present study is heavy”.

**No 21524** P. Arestov & A. Skripnik  
1st commendation



a4a1 1107.15 5/8 Draw

**No 21524** Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Kb3+/i Kb1 2.Ra1+ Kxa1 3.Kxc2 d1Q+ 4.Kxd1 Kb1/ii 5.Sxc5 (b4? Sh2;) Sd2/iii 6.Qxc3/iv f1Q+ 7.Qe1 Qf3+ 8.Qe2 Qh1+ 9.Qe1 Qh5+ 10.Qe2 Qxc5 11.Qd3+ Kxb2/v 12.Qxe3 Qxe3 stalemate.



i) Thematic try: 1.Sxc5? Kb1 2.Sb3 d1Q 3.Kb4 Qg4+ 4.Kb5 Qc4+ 5.Kxc4 Sd2+ 6.Kb4 Sxb3 7.Qxe3 f1Q 8.Rc7 Qf8+ 9.Kxb3 Qb8+ 10.Ka3 Qxc7, or 1.b4+? Kb1 2.Kb3 c4+ 3.Kxc4 c1Q+ wins.

ii) e2+ 5.Qxe2 Sxe2 6.Kxe2 draws.

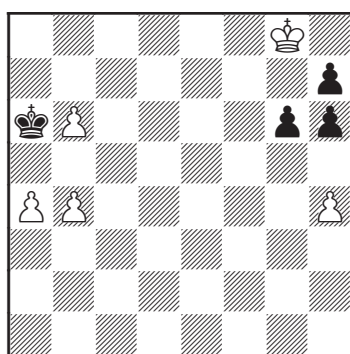
iii) Sh2 6.Qxg3 f1Q+ 7.Qe1 Qf3+ 8.Qe2 Qh1+ 9.Qe1 Qf3+ 10.Qe2 draws.

iv) 6.Qxe3? f1Q+, and now: 7.Kxd2 Qc1+ 8.Kd3 Qc2+ 9.Kd4 Sf5+ wins, or: 7.Qe1 Qg2 8.Qxd2 Qf3+ 9.Ke1 Qf1 mate.

v) Ka2 (Ka1) 12.b4 Qxb4 13.Qxe3 draws.

“The composers have improved their primary version and have added an introduction with a rook sacrifice on a1. Although there are more captures in the new version of this stalemate study, the play looks better”.

**No 21525** M. Zinar  
2nd commendation



g8a6 0000.43 5/4 Win

**No 21525** Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Kf7 g5 2.hxg5 h5/i 3.Ke6 h4 4.Kd5 h3 (Kxb6; Ke4) 5.Kc6 h2 6.b5+ (Kc7) Ka5 7.b7 h1Q+ 8.Kc7 Qc1+ 9.Kd7 Qf4 10.Kc8 Qxg5/ii 11.b8Q Qg8+ 12.Kb7 (Kc7) Qxb8+ 13.Kxb8 Kb6 14.a5+ Kxb5/vi 15.Kb7 Kxa5 16.Kc6 draws.

i) hxg5 3.Ke6 g4 4.Kd5 Réti manoeuvre Kxb6 5.Ke4 draws.

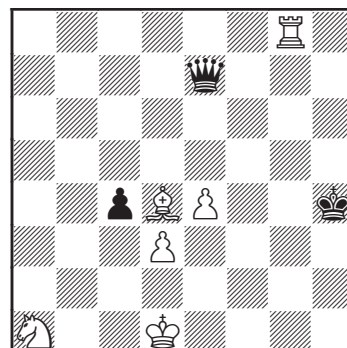
ii) Kxa4 11.b8Q Qxb8+ 12.Kxb8 Kxb5 13.Kc7 draws.

iii) Kxa5 15.Kc7 Réti manoeuvre Kxb5 16.Kd6 draws.

“A two-phase pawn study with successive Réti manoeuvres. The impression is slightly spoiled by the duals on move 6 and 12. I will

add this to my book ‘immortal manoeuvre’ which is planned for release later this year”.

**No 21526** D. Gurgenzidze & M. Minski  
3rd commendation



d1h4 3111.21 6/3 Win

**No 21526** David Gurgenzidze (Georgia) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Sc2/i cxd3 2.Se3 Qxe4/ii 3.Bf6+ Kh3 (Kh5; Rg5+) 4.Rh8+ Kg3 5.Bh4+ Kf3 (Qxh4; Sf5+) 6.Rf8+ Kxe3 7.Bf2 mate.

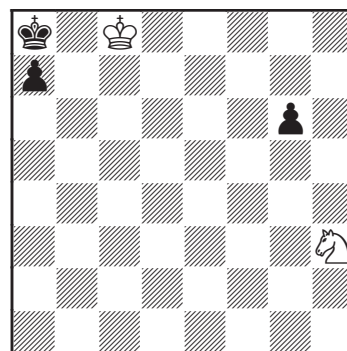
i) 1.Ke2? cxd3+ 2.Ke3 d2 3.Rg1 d1Q 4.Rxd1 Qg5+ draws.

ii) Qb4 3.Rg4+, and: Kh3 4.Rg5 Kh4/iii 5.Rc5 Kg3 6.Rc4 Qa5 7.Sf1+ Kg2 8.Sd2, or here: Kh5 4.Bf6 Qb1+ 5.Kd2 Qa2+ 6.Kc1 Qa3+ 7.Kd1 Qb3+ 8.Ke1 Qb1+ 9.Kf2 wins.

iii) Qxd4 5.Rh5+ Kg3 6.Sf5+ Kg4 7.Sxd4 wins.

“The dispersed white forces find time to gather together and construct an ideal mate with two active self-blocks”.

**No 21527** A. Zhukov  
4th commendation



c8a8 0001.02 2/3 Draw

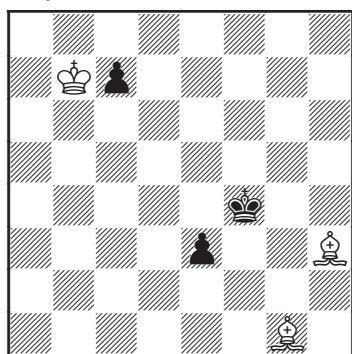
**No 21527** Aleksandr Zhukov (Russia). 1.Sf4/i a5/ii 2.Sd5 (Sxg6? a4;) g5 (Ka7; Kc7) 3.Se3

(Kd7? g4:) a4/iii 4.Sd5 Ka7/iv 5.Sc3 g4 6.Sxa4 g3 7.Sc3 g2 8.Se2 draws.

- i) 1.Kd7? a5 2.Sf4 a4 wins.
- ii) g5 2.Se6 a5 3.Sxg5 draws.
- iii) Ka7 4.Kd7 a4 5.Ke6 a3 6.Kf5 a2 7.Sc2 draws.
- iv) a3 5.Sc7+ Ka7 6.Sb5+ draws.

“In practice, knights have a tough task to deal with a distant pawn and here the knight even has to take care of two pawns on different sides of the board. Here the knight allows both pawns to advance and then catches up the first pawn before stopping the second pawn on the threshold of promotion”.

**No 21528** P. Arestov & V. Tarasiuk  
5th commendation



b7f4 0020.02 3/3 Win.

I: Diagram, II: wKa6, III: wKc6, IV: wKa1

**No 21528** Pavel Arestov (Russia) & Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).

I: 1.Bd7/i Kf3 2.Bc6+ Ke2 3.Ka6/ii Kd2 4.Bh2 e2 5.Bf4+ Kc2 6.Ba4+/iii Kc3 7.Bxc7 e1Q 8.Ba5+ Kb2 9.Bxe1 wins.

II: 1.Be6/iv Kf3 2.Bd5+ Ke2 3.Bc6/v Kd2 4.Bh2 e2 5.Bf4+ Kc2 6.Ba4+/vi Kc3 7.Bxc7 e1Q 8.Ba5+ Kb2 9.Bxe1 wins.

III: 1.Be6/vii Kf3 2.Bd5+ Ke2 3.Bf7/viii Kd2 4.Bh5/ix e2 5.Bc5 e1Q 6.Bb4+ Ke3 7.Bxe1 wins.

IV: 1.Bd7/x Kf3 2.Bc6+ Ke2 3.Kb2/xi Kd2 4.Bh2 e2 5.Bf4+ Kd3 (Kd1) 6.Bb5+ (Ba4+) wins.

i) 1.Be6? Kf3 2.Bd5+ Ke2 3.Bc4+ Kf3 4.Bd5+ Ke2 draws.

ii) 3.Bb5+? Kf3 4.Bc6+ Ke2 draws.

iii) 6.Bg3? Kd2 7.Bf4+ Kc2 draws.

iv) 1.Bd7? Kf3 2.Bc6+ Ke2 3.Ka7 Kd2 4.Bh2 e2 5.Bf4+ Kc2 6.Ba4+ Kc3 7.Bg3 Kd2 8.Bf4+ Kc3 9.Bxc7 Kb4 draws.

v) 3.Bc4+? Kf3 4.Bd5+ Ke2 draws.

vi) 6.Bg3? Kd2 7.Bf4+ Kc2 draws.

vii) 1.Bg2? Kg3 2.Bf1 Kf3 3.Bc4 e2 draws.

viii) 3.Bc4+? Kf3 4.Bd5+ Ke2 draws.

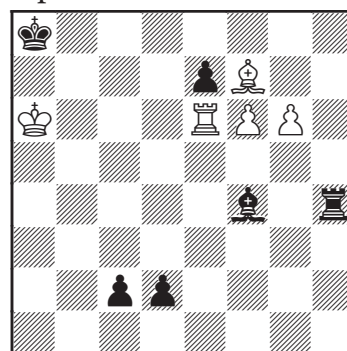
ix) 4.Bh2? e2 5.Bf4+ Kc2 6.Bg6+ Kd1 7.Bh5 Ke1 8.Be3 Kf1 draws.

x) 1.Be6? Kf3 2.Bd5+ Ke2 3.Bc4+ Kf3 4.Bd5+ Ke2 5.Kb2 Kd2 6.Bh2 e2 7.Bf4+ Kd3 8.Bg3 Kd2, or 1.Bc8? Kf3 2.Bb7+ Ke2 3.Kb2 Kd2 4.Bh2 e2 5.Bf4+ Kd1 6.Bf3 Ke1 7.Be3 Kf1 draw.

xi) 3.Bb5+? Kf3 4.Bc6+ Ke2 draw.

“In this quadruplicate, two bishops have a successful fight with a black passed pawn and in three cases they win the promoted queen”.

**No 21529** A. Zhukov & V. Lebedev  
special commendation



a6a8 0440.23 5/6 Draw

**No 21529** Aleksandr Zhukov & Vasily Lebedev (Russia). 1.g7/i Rg4 2.fxe7 (Rxe7; d1Q) Bb8/ii 3.g8Q Rxc8 4.e8Q Rxe8/iii 5.Re7 Rd8/iv 6.Bd5+ Rxd5 7.Ra7+ Bxa7 stalemate.

i) 1.Rxe7? d1Q, or 1.fxe7? c1Q win.

ii) c1Q 3.g8Q+ Rxc8 4.e8Q+ Qc8+ (Bb8; Qa3) 5.Qxc8+ Rxc8 6.Bh5 draws.

iii) c1Q 5.Qa4 Rg4 6.Re4 (Qxc8; Qa3) Rg6+ 7.Re6 Rg4 8.Re4 draws.

iv) d1Q 6.Bd5+ Qxd5 7.Ra7+ Bxa7 stalemate.

“We see a stalemate study with the beautiful point 5.Qe7!!”.

# Problemist Ukraini 2015-2016

The biennial tourney of Problemist Ukraini was judged by Vladislav Tarasiuk who kindly sent the final, well-presented, award (removing all the analytical lines) to **EG**. There was one change: an improved version of the 1st prize study. 43 studies by 17 composers from 10 countries participated.

**No 21530** Mario Garcia (Argentina) & Peter Krug (Austria). 1.c3/i Ke3 2.Rxd2 Kxd2 3.Bxb7 e4 4.Bxe4 Sxe4 5.Sxh5 (Sh4? Sf6;) g2 6.Sh4 g1Q 7.Sf3+ Ke3 8.Sxg1 Bg4 9.Se2/ii Bxh5/iii 10.Sd4/v (Sc1? Bf7;) draws.

i) Logical try: 1.c4? Ke3 2.Rxd2 Kxd2 3.Bxb7 e4 4.Bxe4 Sxe4 5.Sxh5 g2 6.Sh4 g1Q 7.Sf3+ Ke3 8.Sxg1 Bg4 9.Se2 Bxh5 10.Sc1 Kd4 wins.

ii) 9.Sg7? Sf6 10.c4 Kf2 wins.

iii) Bxe2 10.Sg7, or Kxe2 10.Sf4+ draw.

v) Now that the wP is on c3 instead of c4 (try), the wS is able to escape.

“This is a memorable logical study in which White achieves his goal in a difficult position, thanks to the correct choice of the key pawn move, this fact being the improvement to the original version”.

**No 21531** Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rf1+/i Rxf1 2.g4/ii Sxf5+/iii 3.gxf5 Bg7+ 4.f6/iv Bxf6+ 5.Kc4 Rf4+/v 6.Kb5, and:

— Rf5+ 7.Ka6 a2 8.b8Q+ Kg1 9.Qg3 wins, or:

— a2 7.b8Q+ Kh2/vi 8.Qb7 Rf5+ 9.Kc4 Rf4+ 10.Kd3 (Kb3? a1S+) Rf2 11.Qh1+ Kg3 12.Qg1+ Kh3 13.Qxf2 a1Q 14.Bg2+ Kg4 15.Qf3+ Kh4 16.Qh3 mate.

i) 1.g4? (Rxa3? Sxf5+;) Kh2 2.Rxa3 Se8 3.Kd5 Bf8 draws

ii) 2.b8Q? g4 (Sxf5+).

iii) Kg2 3.b8Q+ Kh3 4.Qb7 wins.

iv) Logical try: 4.Kc4? Rf4+ 5.Kb5 Rxf5+ 6.Ka6 Rf6+ 7.Kb5 Rf5+ 8.Ka6 Rf6+, draws. 4.Ke3? Rf3+ 5.Kxf3 Be5 draws.

v) a2 (Rc1+; Kd3) 6.b8Q+ Kg1 7.Qg3 mate.

vi) Kg1 8.Qb7 Kf1 (Rf2; Qh1 mate) 9.Qg2+ Ke1 10.Qxa2 wins.

“The promotion of White’s strong passer on b7 is connected with a modest logical try and also with the subtle play of the wK in each of the two main lines. The unevenness of these lines is striking but the piece dynamics (with mutual sacrifices in the introduction) and the good use of the material leaves a good overall impression”.

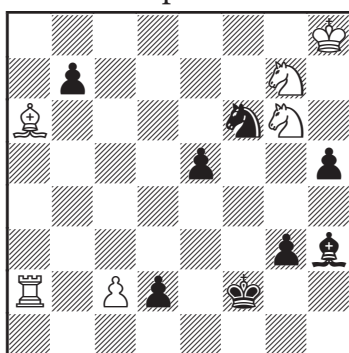
**No 21532** Aleksandr Stavrietsky (Russia).

— b5+ 2.Qxb5 Rxb5 3.Rh3+ Kxg2 4.Rg3+ Kxf2 5.Rf3+ Kxe2 6.Rf8 wins, or:

— Rh4+ 2.g4/i Rxg4+ 3.f4 Rxf4+ 4.e4 Rxe4+ 5.Kb3 Rxa4 6.Rc2+ Kg3 7.Kxa4 wins.

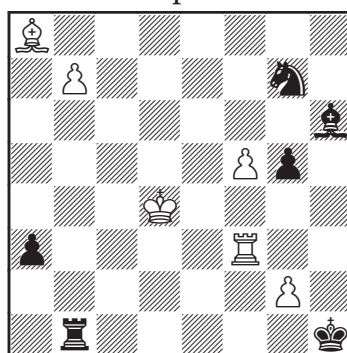
i) Try: 2.Kb3? Rxa4 3.Rh3+ Kxg2 4.Rg3+ Kxf2 5.Rf3+ Kxe2 6.Rf8 Raa8 and Black wins.

**No 21530** M. Garcia & P. Krug  
1st prize



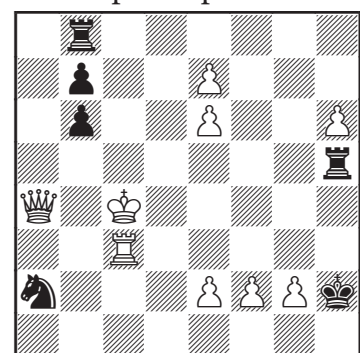
h8f2 0145.15 6/8 Draw

**No 21531** M. Minski  
2nd prize



d4h1 0443.32 6/6 Win

**No 21532** A. Stavrietsky  
special prize



c4h2 1703.62 9/6 BTM, Win

“The whole of white’s play is purposeful and harmonious: in both lines, White, either passively or actively, successively sacrifices three pawns to achieve a win. This is a new romantic work by the author, this time with a simple, but most importantly, with an original synthesis of two known systematic manoeuvres”.

**No 21533** Martin Minski (Germany) & Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Sf2 Rf3 2.Sxg4 Rxd3/i 3.Sf2+/ii Rg3+ 4.Ke1/iii Rxxg2 5.d7 Rg1+ 6.Kd2 Rg2 7.Ke3 Rg3+ 8.Kf4/iv Rg2 9.d8Q/v Rxf2+ 10.Kg5 Rg2+/vi 11.Kxh5 Rh2+ 12.Kg5 (Kg4) Rg2+ 13.Kh4 Rh2+ 14.Kg3 Rh6 15.Qe7+ Kg6 16.Qf8 Kg5 17.Qg7+ Rg6 18.Qe5+ Kh6+ 19.Kh4 Kh7 20.Qe7+ Kh6 21.Qe3+ Kg7 22.Kh5 wins.

- i) hxg4 3.Rxxg4+ Kf6 4.Kxf3 wins.
- ii) 3.Se5+? Rg3+ 4.Kf2 Rxxg2+ draws.
- iii) 4.Kd1? Rxxg2 5.d7 Rxf2 draws.
- iv) Logical try: 8.Kd4? Rf3 9.d8Q Rxf2 10.Qg5+ Kh7 11.Qxh5+ Kg7 12.Qg4+ Kf7 13.Qd7+ Kg6 draws.
- v) 9.Se4? Bb7 10.Sd6 Rf2+ 11.Kg5 Rf8 12.Se8+ Kf7 13.d8Q Rg8+ 14.Kf5 Be4+ 15.Kxe4 Rxe8+ 16.Qxe8+ Kxe8 draws.
- vi) Rf7 11.Qd4+ Kh7 12.Qe4+ Kg7 13.Qg6+ wins.

“This is an attractive study with a natural starting position in which good interaction of the pieces allows White to achieve an apparent draw position. However, not everything is perfect in this study: during the solution the wR

‘nailed to the board’ is captured, and in the final phase the mechanical aesthetics prevails”.

**No 21534** Richard Becker (USA). 1.Qh4+/i Kf3 (Kf5; Ke3) 2.Qe4+ Kf2 3.Qe2+ Kg1 4.Qe1+ Kg2 5.Kc4/ii Kf3 6.Qd1+ Ke3 7.Qd3+ Kf2 8.Qd2+ Kg3 9.Qd6+ Kg2 10.Qe5 Kg1 11.Qe1+ Kg2 12.Kd3 Kf3 13.Qh4/iii Bg2 14.Qe4+ Kg3 15.Qe5+ wins.

i) Try: 1.Qh6+? Kg4 2.Qg6+ Kh4 3.Qf6+ Kg4 4.Qe6+ Kh4 5.Qe1+ Kg4 6.Qg1+ Rg2 7.Qxh1 Kf4 8.Qc1+ Kg3 draws.

ii) Try: 5.Kd4? Kf3 6.Qe3+ Kg4 7.Qe6+ Kh4 8.Qe1+ Kg4 9.Qg1+ Rg2 10.Qxh1 Rxb2 (Kg3?; Ke3 zz) 11.Qd1+ Kh4 draws. 5.Ke2? stalemate.

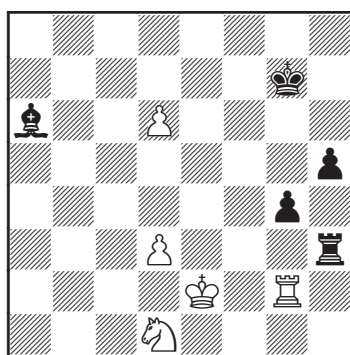
iii) 13.Qf1+? Kg4 14.Ke3 Rg2 15.Qd1+ Kh4 16.Qe1+ Kg4 17.Qxh1 Kg3 zz, draws.

“This is an interesting study in which, as a result of a 12-move manoeuvre of the pieces, the position after the first white move appears, but now with BTM. Especially interesting is the non-obvious wK move 5.Kc4!! and the switch-back later. However, the not very successful pattern of the immured bishop and, in addition, the ‘sleeping’ black rook, both in the main line, influenced the overall assessment”.

**No 21535** Michal Hlinka & L’ubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.gxh7/i Bh3+ 2.Kxh3 Rh2+ 3.Kg3/ii Rxh7 4.Sg5 Rh2 5.Kf3 Rxb3/iii 6.Sg3+ Kg1 7.Be3+/iv Sf2 8.Sh3+ Rxh3 stalemate.

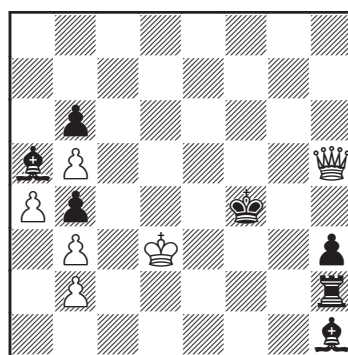
i) 1.Sg3+? Kh2 2.gxh7 Bh3+ 3.Kh4 Sf4 wins,

**No 21533** M. Minski & O. Pervakov  
1st honourable mention



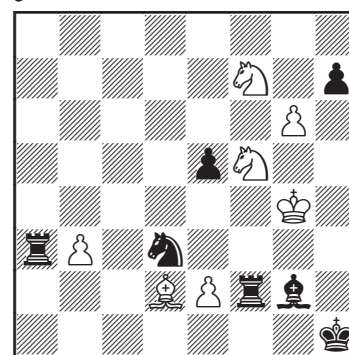
e2g7 0431.22 5/5 Win

**No 21534** R. Becker  
2nd honourable mention



d3f4 1360.43 6/7 Win

**No 21535** M. Hlinka & L’ Kekely  
3rd honourable mention



g4h1 0645.32 7/7 Draw



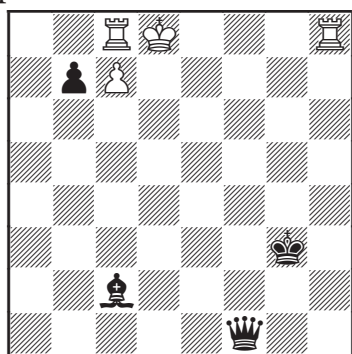
ii) Try: 3.Kg4? Sf2+ 4.Kf3 Rxb3+ 5.Be3 Rxh7 6.Sg5 Rh8 7.Sg3+ Kg1 8.Sh3+ Kh2 (Rxh3?; stalemate) 9.Sxf2 Rf8+ 10.Ke4 Kxg3 wins.

iii) Rf2+ 6.Kg4 Sb2 7.Sf3 Rxb3 8.Be1 Rxf3 9.exf3 Sd3 10.Bh4 Rb4+ 11.Kg3 Rf4 12.Se3 Se1 13.Sd5 Rxf3+ 14.Kg4 Rf1 15.Bxe1 draws (EGTB).

iv) 7.exd3? Rxd2 8.Sh3+ Kh2 9.Sf1+ Kxh3 10.Sxd2 Rxd3+ wins.

“This is another study by these authors with an ideal stalemate with two pins. Such an idea usually requires a lot of material that must be managed with the help of strong threats. It is very good that almost all pieces arrive in the final stalemate pattern during play but, unfortunately, the capture key is disappointing”.

**No 21536** V. Samilo  
special honourable mention



d8g3 3230.11 4/4 Draw

**No 21536** Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine). 1.Rg8+ Kh4 2.Rh8+/i Kg5 3.Rg8+ Kh6 4.Rh8+ Kg7/ii 5.Rg8+ Kf7 6.Rf8+ Kxf8 7.Kd7+ Kg7/iii 8.Rg8+ Kh6 9.Rh8+ (c8Q? Bf5+;) Kg5 10.Rg8+ Kh4 11.Rh8+ Kg3 12.Rg8+ Kh2 13.Rh8+ Qh3+ (Kg1; Rg8) 14.Rxh3+ Kxh3 15.Kc8 b5 (Be4; Kb8) 16.Kd7 Bf5+ 17.Kd6 b4 18.Ke5 Kg4 19.Kd4 draws.

i) 2.Ra8? Qf6+ 3.Kc8 b5 4.Ra7 Be4 5.Re8 Bd5 6.Ra3 b4 wins.

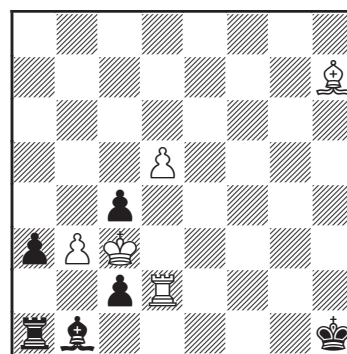
ii) Bh7 5.Ra8 (Rb8) Qf6+ 6.Kd7 Qg7+ 7.Kd6 Qf6+ 8.Kd7 draws.

iii) Kf7 8.Rf8+ Kxf8 9.c8Q+ draws.

“There are several attempts to develop the play of the famous study by the Sarychev brothers. The plot for this study is a like a three-act play entitled ‘Where is the King going’. For the inexperienced public, unfamiliar with the classics, the third act remains a mystery until the

very denouement – before the curtain.... and the whole chess-scene action was done with only 8 pieces...”

**No 21537** P. Arestov  
commendation



c3h1 0440.23 5/6 Win

**No 21537** Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Be4+/i Kg1 2.Bxc2 Bxc2 3.Rxc2 cxb3 4.Kxb3 Rb1+ 5.Kc3/ii Rd1 6.Kc4 zz Kf1/iii 7.Ra2 Rc1+ 8.Kd4 (Kd3) Rd1+ 9.Ke4 Re1+ 10.Kf3 Rd1 11.Rxa3 Rxd5 12.Ra1+ Rd1 13.Rxd1 mate.

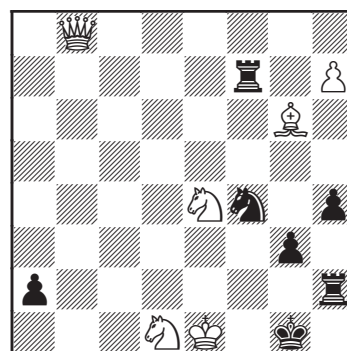
i) Try: 1.Bxc2? Bxc2 2.Rxc2 cxb3 3.Kxb3 Rd1 4.Kc4 Kg1 5.Ra2 Rc1+ 6.Kd4 Rd1+ 7.Ke5 Re1+ 8.Kf4 Rd1 9.Ke4 Re1+ 10.Kd3 Rd1+ 11.Kc4 Rc1+ positional draw.

ii) Try: 5.Kc4? Rd1 zz 6.Ra2 Rc1+ 7.Kd4 Rd1+ 8.Kc5 Rc1+ positional draw.

iii) Kh1 7.Ra2 Kg1 8.Rxa3 wins.

“The preparatory check by the bishop on the first move forces the bK to g1 in order to achieve the mate in the finale. However, the exchange introduction reduces the overall perception of the study”.

**No 21538** D. Hlebec  
commendation



e1g1 1615.13 6/7 Win

**No 21538** Darko Hlebec (Serbia). 1.Qb6+ Kh1 2.Sxg3+ hxg3 3.Be4+ Sg2+ 4.Bxg2+ Kxg2 5.Qb2+/i Kh1 6.Qxh2+/ii gxh2 7.h8Q Rf1+ 8.Kxf1/iii a1Q 9.Qa8+/iv Qxa8 10.Sf2 mate.

i) 5.h8Q? Re7+ 6.Se3+ Rxe3+ 7.Qxe3 Rxh8 draws.

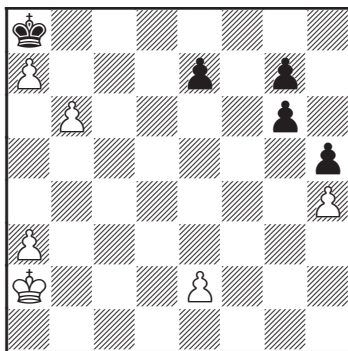
ii) 6.h8Q? Re7+ 7.Kf1 Rf7+ 8.Sf2+ Rxf2+ 9.Qxf2 a1Q+ 10.Qxa1 Rxf2+ draws.

iii) 8.Kd2? Rxd1+ 9.Kxd1 Kg2 draws.

iv) 9.Qxa1? stalemate.

“The avoidance of the sympathetic stalemate black counterplay in the finale was conducted with entertaining and beautiful geometry in a classical style. However, as in the previous study, the unsuccessful introduction dumping the pieces strongly influenced the evaluation of the study”.

**No 21539** M. Zinar  
commendation



a2a8 0000.54 6/5 Win

**No 21539** Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Kb3 g5 2.Kc4 gxh4 3.Kd5/i Kb7/ii 4.Ke4 h3 5.Kf3 h4

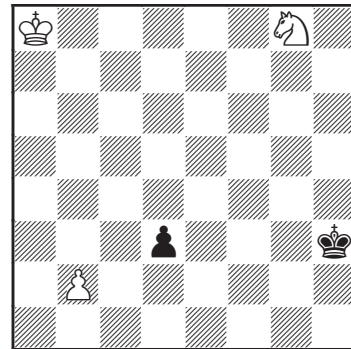
6.Kf2 g5 7.Kg1 g4 8.Kh2 Ka8 9.a4 Kb7 10.a5 Ka8 11.a6 e6 12.e3 (e4? e5; zz) e5 13.e4 zz g3+ 14.Kxh3 wins.

i) 3.Kd4? h3, or 3.Kc5? Kb7 wins.

ii) h3 4.Kc6 h2 5.b7+ Kxa7 6.Kc7 h1Q 7.b8Q+ Ka6 8.Qb6+ mate.

“This study comes from the author’s article defining ‘Eilazyan’s branch’ as a double attack by the king with the possibility of attacking two targets separately. In this work, a ‘branch’ is presented in synthesis with the final zugzwang”.

**No 21540** P. Arestov  
special commendation



a8h3 0001.11 3/2 Win

**No 21540** Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Sf6 d2 2.Se4 d1S (d1Q; Sf2+) 3.b4 Sb2 4.b5 Sc4/i 5.Sd2 (Kb7? Kg4;) Sxd2 6.b6 Sc4 7.b7 Sb6+ 8.Kb8 (Ka7? Sd7;) Sd7+ 9.Kc8 wins.

i) Sa4 5.Kb7 Kg4 6.Kc6 wins.

“We see an entertaining malyutka with the development of a well-known idea: the struggle of a knight with a passed pawn”.

# Akobia-80 MT 2017

The Argentinian chess problem association UAPA organized a memorial **informal** tourney for the Georgian IM Iuri Akobia. Tourney director Mario Guido Garcia received 85 studies by 39 composers from 21 countries.

There were three “thematic” sections – stalemate, mate, and positional draw. HH believes that, in general, one can hardly consider tourneys with such general themes (we sometimes also see “win” and “draw” as a theme) as thematic. But in this case it is more appropriate since Akobia wrote three comprehensive books attempting to classify stalemate, mate, and positional draw studies. It is unfortunate that the award mentions nothing about how to classify the studies in this tourney.

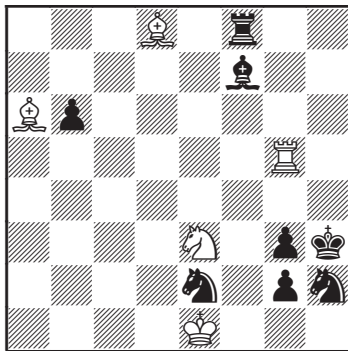
Initially, it was of course the intention to organize a formal tourney, with Akobia’s countryman GM David Gurgendidze judging all three sections. After he only wanted to judge the first two sections, it was decided (by MG and Gurgendidze) that MG would judge the third section, **and** that the whole tourney was declared informal. MG informed all participants about this change.

No fewer than half (42!) of the studies were included in this award which devalues this tourney considerably.

The provisional award was published as a PDF-brochure dated 11v2017 on the UAPA website and became final on 20viii2017. One study in the mate section was eliminated because of an anticipation.

## Stalemate section

**No 21541** M. Hlinka & L. Kekely  
1st prize



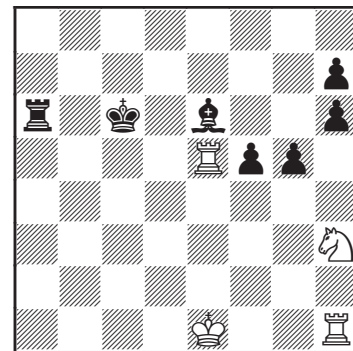
e1h3 0457.03 5/8 Draw

**No 21541** Michal Hlinka & Lubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Bc8+ Sg4 2.Bxg4+ Kh2 3.Bxb6 g1Q+ 4.Sf1+ Qxf1+ 5.Kxf1 Sf4 6.Bg1+/i Kh1 7.Bf3+ g2+ 8.Rxg2 Bc4+ 9.Re2+ Sg2 10.Bf2 Rxf3 stalemate.

i) 6.Ke1? Rb8 7.Bc7 Rb1+ 8.Kd2 Rb2+ 9.Kc3 Rf2 10.Bd6 g2 11.Bd1 Kh3 12.Bb8 Bd5 wins.

“The authors’ favourite theme – stalemate with double pin – is presented in a creative way in this study”.

**No 21542** B. Atanasov  
2nd prize



e1c6 0431.04 4/7 BTM, Draw

**No 21542** Borislav Atanasov (Bulgaria). 1... Kd6/i 2.Rxe6+/ii Kxe6 3.Sxg5+ (o-o Kf6); Kd5/iii 4.O-O/iv hxg5 5.Rxf5+ Ke4 6.Rxg5 Rg6 7.Rg2 Kf3 8.Kh1 Rxg2 stalemate.

i) Ra1+ 2.Kf2 Rxh1 3.Rxe6+ draws.

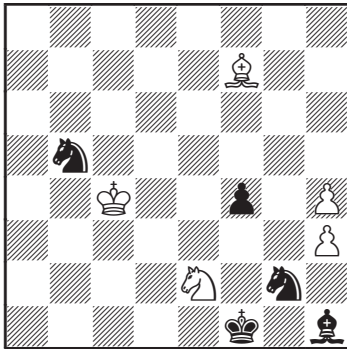
ii) 2.Sxg5? Ra1+ 3.Kf2 Rxh1 4.Rxe6+ Kd7 wins.

iii) Ke7 4.Rh5 hxg5 5.Rxg5 Kf6 6.Rg8 draws.

iv) 4.Rh5? hxg5 5.Rxg5 Ke4 (Ke5) wins.

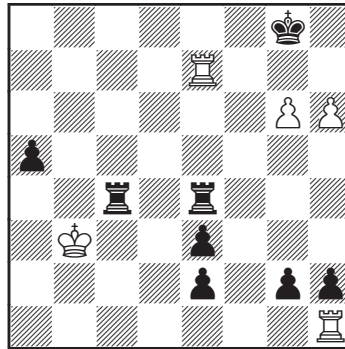
“We see a two-way battle with beautiful tactical elements”.

No 21543 V. Tarasiuk  
3rd prize



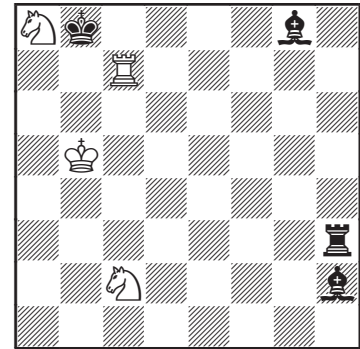
c4f1 0047.21 5/5 Draw

No 21544 V. Kalashnikov  
4th prize



b3g8 0800.25 5/8 Draw

No 21545 R. Becker  
special prize



b5b8 0462.00 4/4 Draw

**No 21543** Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).  
1.Bh5/i Sd6+ 2.Kd5 (Kd4? Kf2;) Sf5 3.Ke4 Sg3+  
4.Sxg3+ fxg3 5.Kf3 (Bf3? Kg1;) Sf4+ 6.Kxg3  
(Kxf4? g2;) Sxh5+ 7.Kh2 Ba8 stalemate.

i) 1.Sxf4? Sd6+, or 1.Kxb5? Kxe2 wins.

“The wK’s march towards the corner ends in a surprising stalemate”.

**No 21544** Valery Kalashnikov (Russia).  
1.h7+/i Kh8 2.g7+ Kxh7 3.Rxh2+ Rh4 4.g8Q++  
Kxg8 5.Rxg2+ Kf8 6.Rxe3 a4+ 7.Ka3/ii Rc3+  
8.Rxc3 e1Q 9.Rc8+, and:

— Ke7 10.Re2+/iii Qxe2 11.Re8+ Kxe8 stalemate, or:

— Kf7 10.Rf2+/iv Qxf2/v 11.Rf8+ Kxf8 stalemate.

i) 1.Rg7+? Kf8 2.Rf7+ Ke8 3.h7 Rb4+ wins.

ii) 7.Kb2? a3+ 8.Ka2 Rc2+ 9.Kb3 e1Q wins.

iii) 10.Re8+? Kxe8 11.Re2+ Re4 wins.

iv) 10.Rc7+? Kf6 11.Rf2+ Kg5 12.Rg2+ Kf4  
13.Rf7+ Ke3 14.Re7+ Re4 wins.

v) Kg7 11.Rg2+ Kh7 12.Rc7+ Kh6 13.Rc6+  
Kh5 14.Rc5+ perpetual check.

“Rook studies are my weakness”.

**No 21545** Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rd7/i  
Be6 (Rb3+; Sb4) 2.Rd8+ Kb7 3.Sd4 (Sb4 Rh5+;)  
Ba2/ii 4.Kc5 (Sc6? Rh5+;) Rc3+ 5.Kb5/iii Rc1  
6.Sf5/iv Rb1+/v 7.Kc5 Bg1+ 8.Sd4 Rd1/vi 9.Sb6  
Rc1+ 10.Kb5 Rb1+ 11.Kc5 Rxb6 12.Rd7+ Ka6  
(Kc8; Rc7+) 13.Ra7+ Kxa7 stalemate.

i) 1.Rg7? Rh5+ 2.Kb6 Bc4 3.Se3 Bb3 4.Ka6  
Rh6+ 5.Sb6 Bc7 wins.

ii) Rh5+ 4.Kb4, or Bg4 4.Sb6 draw.

iii) 5.Kb4? Rd3 6.Kc5 Rd1 7.Sb6 Rc1+ 8.Kb5  
Rb1+ 9.Ka5 Rxb6 10.Rd7+ Kc8 11.Rh7 Rb2 wins.

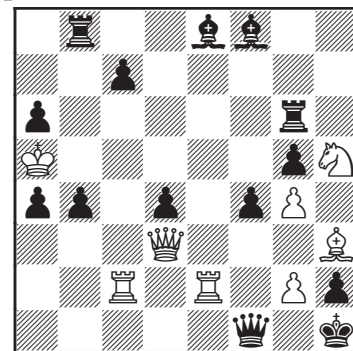
iv) 6.Sb6? Rb1+, or 6.Sc6? Bc4+ e.g. 7.Kb4  
Ba6 8.Se7 Bb8 wins.

v) Bc4+ 7.Kb4, or Bb8 7.Sb6 Rb1+ 8.Kc5 Rxb6  
9.Rxb8+ draws.

vi) Rc1+ 9.Kb4 Rd1 10.Kc3 Bb1 11.Sc7 draws.

“We award a special prize for high-quality  
endgame study technique”.

No 21546 M. Minski  
special honourable mention



a5h1 4871.28 8/14 Draw

**No 21546** Martin Minski (Germany).  
1.Rc1/i Rb5+/ii 2.Qxb5 Qxc1 3.Rc2 (Sg3+? Kg1;)  
Qb1/iii 4.Rb2 Qa1/iv 5.Qe2/v, and:

— Rd6/vi 6.Sg3+ (g3? Rd5+;) fxg3 7.Rb1+ Qxb1  
8.Qe1+ Qxe1 stalemate, or:

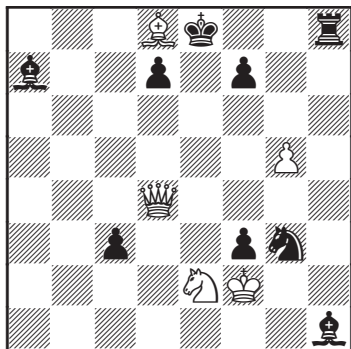
— Bc6/vii 6.Sg3+ (g3? Qg1;) fxg3 7.Rb1+ Qxb1  
8.Qf1+ Qxf1 stalemate, or:

— Rc6/viii 6.Sg3+ (g3? Rc5+;) fxg3 7.Rb1+ Qxb1  
8.Qd1+ Qxd1 stalemate.

i) 1.g3? Rb5+ 2.Qxb5 Bxb5 wins.

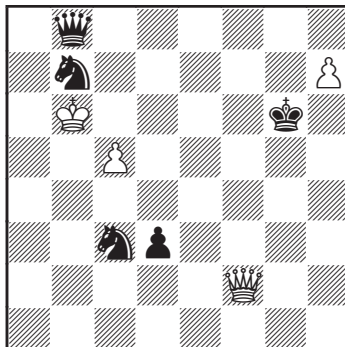


No 21547 A. Jasik  
honourable mention



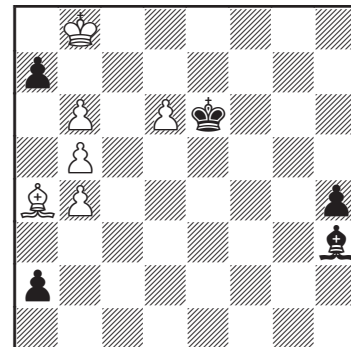
f2e8 1374.14 5/9 Draw

No 21548 P. Arestov  
honourable mention



b6g6 4006.21 4/5 Draw

No 21549 V. Kalashnikov  
honourable mention



b8e6 0040.43 6/5 Draw

ii) Qxc1 2.Re1+ (Sg3+) Qxe1 3.Sg3+ fxg3 4.Qf1+ Qxf1 stalemate.

iii) Qa1 4.Sg3+ fxg3 5.Rc1+ Qxc1 6.Qf1+ Qxf1 stalemate.

iv) Qd1 5.Qe2 Qc1 6.Rc2 Rc6 7.Rxc1+ Rxc1 8.Qd2 Rg1 9.g3 f3 10.Qd3 (Sf6) Bc6 11.Sf6 Rc1 12.Qd2 Rb1 13.Qd3 Re1 14.Qd2 Re5+ (Rf1; Qxd4) 15.Kxa6 Bb5+ 16.Kb7 draws.

v) 5.Ra2? Qg1 6.Qxe8 d3 7.g3 Qc5+ 8.Kxa4 Qb5+ 9.Qxb5 axb5+ wins. 5.Qd3? Qg1 6.g3 Bc6 7.Qxg6 Bd6 wins.

vi) Grimshaw.

vii) Grimshaw.

viii) Grimshaw.

“We see an interesting mix of study and problem ideas which, however, damages the structure of the study”.

No 21547 Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Bb6/i Bxb6 2.Qxb6 Se4+ 3.Kg1 (Ke3? O-O) O-O/ii 4.Sxc3 f2+ 5.Kf1 Sxc3 6.Qg6+ fxg6 model stalemate.

i) 1.Qxa7? Se4+ 2.Ke3 fxe2 3.Kxe2 Rh2+ 4.Kd1 Rd2+ 5.Kc1 Sf2 wins.

ii) fxe2 4.Qb8+ Ke7 5.Qe5+ perpetual check.

No 21548 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.h8S+ Qxh8/i 2.Qg3+ Kf7 3.Qxd3 Sa4+ 4.Kc7 (Kxb7? Sxc5+;) Qh2+ 5.Kc8 (Kxb7? Sxc5+;) Qh8+ 6.Kc7, and:

— Qe5+ 7.Kc8 Sbxc5/i 8.Qh7+ Ke6 (Kf6; Qh8+) 9.Qe7+ Kxe7 model stalemate, or:

— Sbxc5 7.Qf5+ Ke7 8.Qg5+ Ke6/ii 9.Qd5+ Kxd5 stalemate.

i) Qe8+ 8.Kc7 Qe5+ 9.Kc8 positional draw.

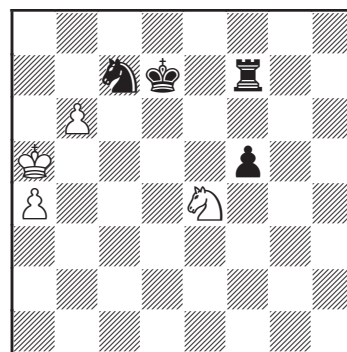
ii) Kf7 9.Qf5+ Ke7 10.Qg5+ perpetual check.

No 21549 Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). 1.d7/i Kxd7 2.bxa7 a1Q 3.a8Q Qh8+ 4.Ka7 Qxa8+ 5.Kxa8 Bg2+ 6.Ka7 h3 7.b6+ Kc8 8.Bb5 Bb7/ii 9.Ba6 Bxa6 10.b5 Bb7 stalemate.

i) Try: 1.bxa7? a1Q 2.a8Q Qh8+ 3.Ka7 Qxa8+ 4.Kxa8 Bg2+ 5.Ka7 h3 6.d7 Ke7 wins.

ii) h2 9.Ba6+ Kd7 10.b7 draws.

No 21550 I. Aliev & R. Allayov  
honourable mention



a5d7 0304.21 4/4 Draw

No 21550 Ilham Aliev & Ramil Allayov (Azerbaijan). 1.b7, and:

— Sa6 2.Kxa6 Kc7 3.Sd6 Rf8 4.Ka7 Kxd6 5.Kb6 f4 6.a5 f3 7.a6 f2 8.a7 f1Q 9.b8Q+ Ke6 10.Qc7 (a8Q? Qb1+;) Qb1+ 11.Ka6/i draws, or:

— Rf8 2.Sf6+, and:

— Rxf6 3.b8Q Ra6+ 4.Kb4 Rb6+ 5.Ka5 (Qxb6? Sd5+;) Ra6+/ii 6.Kb4 Ra8 7.Qb7 Rb8 8.Ka5 (Qxb8? Sa6+;) Rxb7 stalemate, or here:

– Kc6 3.Sd7 Kxd7/iii 4.b8Q Rxb8 stalemate, or here:

– Ke6 3.Se8 Sa6/iv 4.Sc7+ Sxc7 5.b8Q Rxb8 stalemate

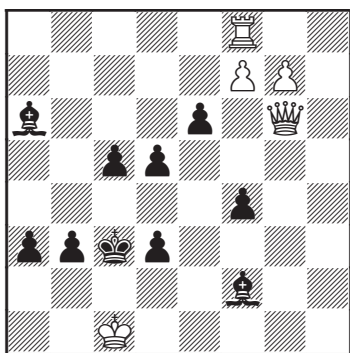
i) 11.Kc6? Qe4+ 12.Kb6 Rf6 13.Qc6+ Ke5 14.a8Q Qb4+ 15.Ka6 Qa4+ 16.Kb6 Qxa8 wins.

ii) Rxb8 stalemate.

iii) Rh8 4.b8Q Rxb8 5.Sxb8+ Kb7 (Kc5; Sd7+) 6.Sd7 draws.

iv) Rxe8 4.b8Q Rxb8 stalemate.

**No 21551** M. Campioli  
commendation



c1c3 1160.27 5/10 Draw

**No 21551** Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Qf6+ (g8Q? a2;) Bd4/i 2.Qxd4+/ii cxd4 3.Rc8+ Bxc8/iii 4.f8Q/iv b2+ 5.Kb1 Kb3 6.Qxa3+ Kxa3 7.g8Q d2 8.Qg4 (Qf8+? Kb3;) Ba6 9.Qf3+/v d3 10.Qd1 Bc4 11.Qb3+ Kxb3 (Bxb3) stalemate.

i) d4 2.Qd8 Be3+ 3.Kd1 Bb7 4.Qa5+ and White wins, e.g. Kb2 5.g8Q Bf3+ 6.Ke1 a2 7.Ra8.

ii) 2.Qxf4? b2+ 3.Kb1 d2 4.Qf3+ Bd3+ wins.

iii) Bc4 4.Rxc4+ dxc4 5.f8Q draws.

iv) 4.g8Q? b2+ 5.Kb1 Kb3 6.f8Q a2 mate.

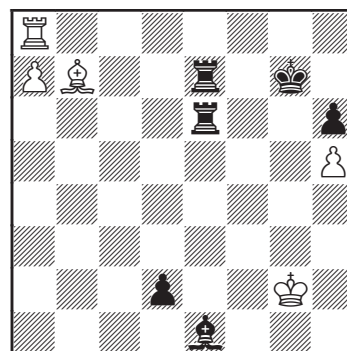
v) 9.Qh3+? d3 10.Qf1 Bc4 11.Qd1 Ba2 mate.

**No 21552** Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.Rg8+/i Kxg8 2.a8Q+, and:

– Kg7 3.Bf3 Re2+/ii 4.Bxe2 Rxe2+ 5.Kh3/iii Re3+ 6.Kg2 Re2+ (d1Q; Qa7+) 7.Kh3 d1Q 8.Qb7+ (Qa7+ Kf8;) Kg8 (Kf6; Qf3+) 9.Qa8+ Kf7 10.Qf3+ Ke7 11.Qxe2+ Qxe2 stalemate, or:

– Kf7 3.Bf3 Re2+ 4.Bxe2 Rxe2+ 5.Kf1/iv Rf2+/v 6.Kg1 d1Q/vi 7.Qd5+ Qxd5 stalemate.

**No 21552** P. Arestov & A. Skripnik  
commendation



g2g7 0740.22 5/6 Draw

i) 1.Rd8? Re2+ 2.Kf3 R7e3+ 3.Kg4 Re4+ 4.Bxe4 Rxe4+ 5.Kf5 Ra4 wins.

ii) Bh4 e.g. 4.Qd5 Bg5 5.Bd1 draws.

iii) 5.Kf1? Rf2+ 6.Kg1 d1Q wins.

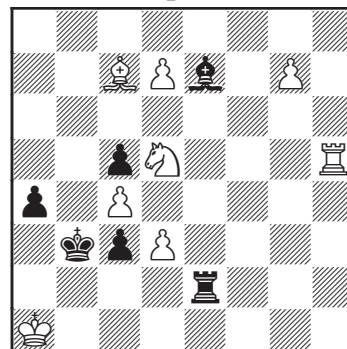
iv) 5.Kh3? Re3+ 6.Kg2 d1Q 7.Qa7+ Re7 wins.

v) d1Q 6.Qf3+ K- 7.Qxe2+ Qxe2+ 8.Kxe2 draws.

vi) d1R e.g. 7.Qb7+ Kf6 8.Qc6+ perpetual check.

**Mate section**

**No 21553** S. Slumstrup Nielsen  
1st prize



a1b3 0441.41 8/6 Win

**No 21553** Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Sxc3 Re1+/i 2.Sb1 Re2/ii 3.Sd2+ Rxd2 4.Rh1 Bf6+/iii 5.d4 (Kb1? a3;) Bxd4+ (Rd4; Kb1) 6.Kb1 Bxg7 (a3; Rh3+) 7.Rh3+/iv Bc3 8.Rxc3+ Kb4 (Kxc3; Ba5+) 9.Bg3 (Bf4? Rxd7;) Rxd7/v 10.Be1 Rd4 (Rd1+; Rc1+) 11.Ka2/vi Rxc4/vii 12.Rb3 mate.

i) Bf6 2.Re5 Bxe5 3.Bxe5 Re1+ 4.Sb1 Re2 5.Bb2 Rxb2 6.Sc3 (Sa3) wins.

- ii) Bf6+ 3.Re5 Re2 4.Sc3 wins.  
 iii) Ra2+ 5.Kb1 Rb2+ 6.Kc1 wins.  
 iv) 7.d8Q? Rxd8 8.Bxd8 a3 9.Rh3+ Bc3  
 10.Rh2 Bb2 draws.  
 v) Kxc3 10.Be1, or Rd1+ 10.Rc1 Rxd7 11.Be1+  
 Kb3 12.Rc3+ win.  
 vi) 11.Kb2? a3+ 12.Rxa3+ Kxc4 draws.  
 vii) a3 12.Rc2+ Ka4 13.Bf2 wins.

“This is a study that would be fit for any tourney: Nielsen’s new creative success”.

**No 21554** Y. Bazlov (Russia). 1.Bf7/i Qa5+ 2.Kf1 Qb5+ 3.Kg1 (Kg2? Qb7+;) Qb1+ 4.Kh2 Qe4 5.Rg5+/ii Kxh4 6.Bg6 Qf4+/iii 7.Kg2/iv Qxg5+ 8.Bg3+ Kg4 9.f3 mate.

i) 1.Rg5+? Kxh4, and 2.f4 Qa5+, or 2.Bf4 e.g. Qd4 draw.

ii) 5.Bg3? Qg2+ 6.Kxg2 stalemate.

iii) Qf3 7.Rh5+/v Kg4 8.Rf5 Qg3+ 9.Kh1/vi Qh3+ 10.Kg1 (Bh2? Qf1+;) wins.

iv) 7.Bxf4? stalemate.

v) But not 7.Rf5? Qh3+ 8.Kg1 Qg4+ 9.Bg3+ Kh3 10.Rh5+ Qxh5 11.Bxh5 stalemate. 7.Rg2 Qf4+ 8.Bxf4 stalemate.

vi) Avoiding 9.fxg3? stalemate.

“This is an elegant study”.

**No 21555** Martin Minski (Germany) & Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark). 1.Ra7/i Bc6

2.Rc7/ii Ba8 3.Rc8/iii Be4 4.Re8/iv Bc6 5.Re6 Ba8 (Bd5; Rd6) 6.axb6 Ra3+ 7.b7 Rxa6/v 8.f5+ Kxf5/vi 9.Re4 Bxb7 (Kxe4; b8Q) 10.Bh7 mate.

i) Logical try: 1.axb6? Ra3+ 2.b7 Rxa6 draws – the wR is at h7.

ii) 2.Bh7+? Kh6 (Kh5) 3.Rc7 Ra3+ 4.Rxc6 Kxh7 5.axb6 Rxa6 draws.

iii) 3.Bh7+? Kh5 4.Rc8 Bd5 5.Rd8 Bc6 6.Rd6 Ba8 7.axb6 Ra3+ 8.b7 Rxa6 9.bxa8Q Rxa8 draws.

iv) 4.Rc4? Ba8 5.axb6 Rb3+ draws.

v) Compare with note i). The wR is at e6 now.

vi) Kg7 9.Re7+ Kxg8 10.Re8+ wins.

“We see an interesting introduction with very effective first moves”.

**No 21556** Josef Kupper (Switzerland) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1.b6 Sb5 2.a5/i Sd7 3.a6 Sb8 4.a7 Sxa7 5.bxa7 Sa6 6.a8S/ii Sxc5 7.Sc7/iii Se4 8.Sxe6 Sd2+ 9.Ka1 (Kc2? Sf3;) Sf3 10.Sg7/v Sxe5 11.Sf5 Sf3 12.Se3, and:

— Sd2 13.Sc2 mate, or:

— Sd4 13.Sc4 mate.

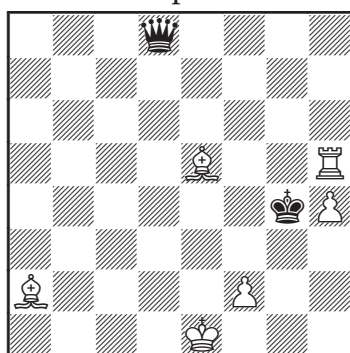
i) 2.axb5? Sd7 3.bxc6 Sxb6 4.cxb6 stalemate.

ii) 6.a8Q? stalemate.

iii) 7.Sb6? Sxb3 8.axb3 Kxb3 draws.

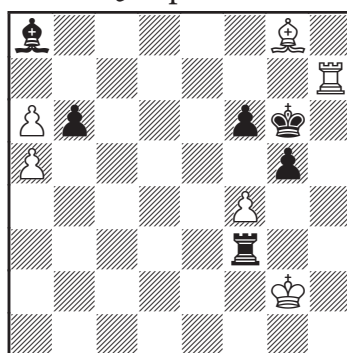
iv) 10.Sf4? (Sf8?) Sxe5 11.Se6 Sf3 draws. 10.Sc5? Sxe5 11.Se4 Sf3 12.Sd6 Sd2 draws.

**No 21554** Y. Bazlov  
2nd prize



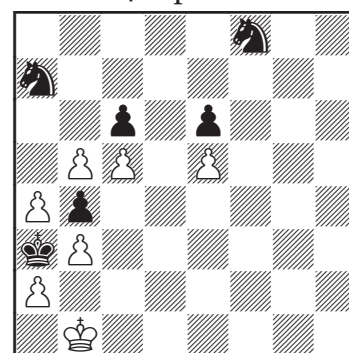
e1g4 3120.20 6/2 Win

**No 21555** M. Minski  
& S. Slumstrup Nielsen  
3rd prize



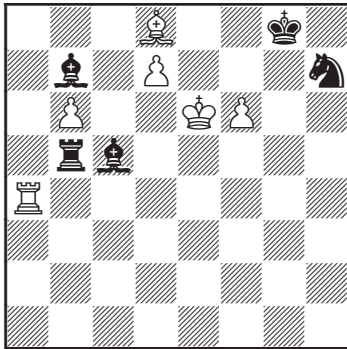
g2g6 0440.33 6/6 Win

**No 21556** J. Kupper  
& M. Minski  
4th prize



b1a3 0006.63 7/6 Win

No 21557 L. Kekely & M. Hlinka  
5th prize



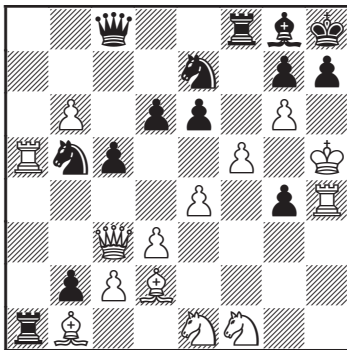
e6g8 0473.30 6/5 Win

No 21557 L'ubos Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia). 1.f7+ Kf8/i 2.Rg4 Bd5+ 3.Kxd5 Bxb6+ 4.Ke6 (Kc6? Bxd8;) Re5+ 5.Kxe5 Bxd8 6.Rg8+ Ke7 (Kxf7; Rxd8) 7.f8Q+ Sxf8 8.Rg7 mate.

i) Kg7 2.Rg4+ Kh6 3.Bg5+ Sxg5+ 4.Rxg5 Rxb6+ 5.Kf5 (Ke5) Rb5 6.d8Q Be7+ 7.Ke6 Bxd8 8.f8Q+ Kxg5 9.Qxd8+ wins.

“We see an ideal mate with two active blocks”.

No 21558 J. Timman  
special prize



h5h8 4858.67 14/14 Win

No 21558 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.b7/i Qe8 (Qc7; Rxb5) 2.b8Q Qxb8/ii 3.Qxg7+ Kxg7 4.Bh6+ Kf6 5.Bg5+ Ke5 6.Sf3+ gxf3 7.Bf4+ Kd4 8.Ra4+ (Be3+? Ke5;) Rxa4 9.Be3+, and:

— Kc3 10.Bd2+ Kd4 11.c3+ Sxc3 12.Be3+ Ke5 13.d4+ cxd4 14.Bf4+ Kf6 15.e5+ dxe5 16.Bg5+ Kg7 17.f6+ Rxf6 18.Bh6+ Kh8 19.g7 mate, or:

— Ke5 10.d4+ Sxd4/iii 11.Bf4+ Kxe4 12.c4+ Sc2 13.Bxc2+ Kd4 14.Bd2+ Ke5 15.Bc3

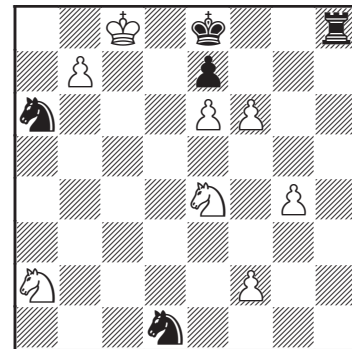
i) White cannot win after 1.Rxb5? e.g. Sxg6 2.b7 Qd8 3.fxg6 Qe8 4.Rxg4 Qxb5 5.Bh6 c4+ 6.Kh4 e5. If 1.Qxg7+? Kxg7 2.Bh6+ Kf6 3.Bg5+ Ke5 4.Sf3+ gxf3 5.Bf4+ Kd4 6.Ra4+ c4 draws.

ii) Sxc3 3.Qxe8 Rxe8 4.Bxc3 Rxb1 e.g. 5.Sg3 Rxe1 6.Bxb2 Rb1 7.Bc3 Rg1 8.Ra7 e5 9.Kxg4 Rg2 10.Be1 Rxc2 11.Sh5 wins.

iii) Rxd4 11.Bf4+ Kxe4 12.c4+ Rd3 e.g. 13.Bxd6+ Kxf5 14.Rf4 mate, or cxd4 11.Bf4+ Kxe4 12.c4+ d3 e.g. 13.Bxd6+ Kxf5 14.Rf4 mate.

“This is a new type of systematic manoeuvre: the position is legal but necessarily heavy to achieve the goal”.

No 21559 P. Krug  
honourable mention



c8e8 0308.51 8/5 Win

No 21559 Peter Krug (Austria). 1.Sb4/i Sxb4 2.b8Q O-O 3.Kb7 Rxb8+ 4.Kxb8 exf6/ii 5.Kc7 Kf8 6.Kd6 Sd5 7.Kxd5 Ke7 8.Sxf6/iii Kxf6 9.g5+ Ke7 10.g6 Sxf2/iv 11.g7 Sg4 12.g8S+ Ke8 13.Kd6 Kf8 14.e7+ Ke8/v 15.Ke6 Sh6 16.Sf6 mate.

i) Try: 1.f7+? Kf8 2.f4 Se3 3.Sac3 Sxg4 4.Sd5 Kg7+ 5.Kd7 Sh6 draws.

ii) Sd5 (Kf8; Kc7) 5.fxe7 Sxe7 6.Kc7 Sb2 wins, e.g. 7.Kd7 Kf8 8.Sf6 Sg6 9.f4 Sc4 10.Sd5

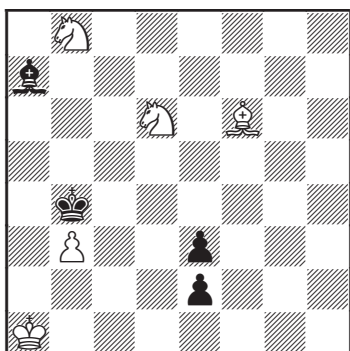
iii) 8.f3? (g5? fxg5;) Se3+ 9.Kd4 Sc2+ 10.Kd3 Sb4+ draws.

iv) Kf6 11.g7 Kxg7 12.Kc6 Sxf2 13.e7 Kf7 14.Kd7 wins.

v) Kf7 15.Sh6+ Sxh6 16.Kd7 wins.



**No 21560** G. Amiryan † & L. Katsnelson  
honourable mention



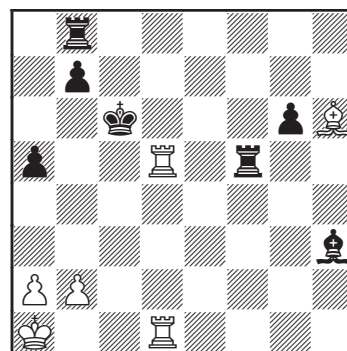
a1b4 0042.12 5/4 Win

**No 21560** Gamlet Amiryan (Armenia) & Leonard Katsnelson (Russia). 1.Sc6+/i Kxb3 2.Bh4 Kc2 3.Sb4+ Kd1/ii 4.Sd3 Bd4+ 5.Kb1 Bc3 6.Be1 Bxe1 7.Sb2+ Kd2 8.Se4 mate.

i) Try: 1.Sa6+? Kxb3 2.Bh4 e1Q+ 3.Bxe1 Kc2 4.Ba5 e2 5.Sb4+ Kc3 6.Ka2 Bb6 7.Sd5++ Kc2 8.Sxb6 Kd1 draws. HH: black dual 4...Bd4+ 5.Ka2 Bc3.

ii) Kd2 4.Se4+ Kd1 5.Sd3 wins.

**No 21562** I. Aliev  
honourable mention



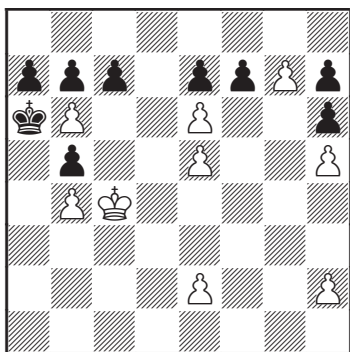
a1c6 0840.23 6/7 Win

**No 21562** Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan). 1.Rd6+ Kc7 2.Rd7+ Kc6/i 3.R1d6+ Kb5/ii 4.a4+ Kxa4 5.Rb6 Rb5 (Rf1+; Ka2) 6.Rd4+ Rb4 7.Bd2 Rxd4 8.b3+ Ka3 9.Bc1 mate.

i) Kc8 3.Rg7 b6. Now the award gives: 4.Bf4 Rxf4 5.Rc1+ Kd8 6.Rg8+ Kd7 7.Rxb8 but the win after 7...Rb4 is not obvious. More convincing is 4.Rc1+ Rc5 5.Re1 Bd7 6.Bf4 Ra8 7.Rd1.

ii) Kc5 4.Be3+ Kb5 5.Rb6+ Kc4 6.Rd4+ wins.

**No 21561** M. Zinar  
honourable mention



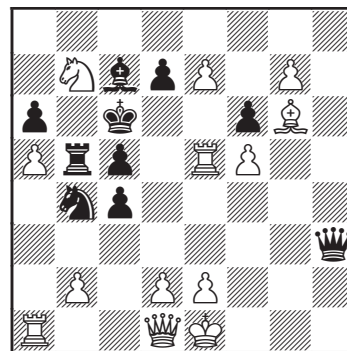
c4a6 0000.88 9/9 Win

**No 21561** Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine). 1.Kc3/i cxb6 2.g8S/ii fxe6 3.Sf6 exf6 4.exf6 e5 5.f7 e4 6.f8S e3 7.Sg6 hxg6 8.hxg6 h5 9.g7 h4 10.g8Q h3 11.Qa2 mate.

i) Try: 1.Kb3? cxb6 2.g8S fxe6 3.Sf6 exf6 4.exf6 e5 5.f7 e4 6.f8S e3 7.Sg6 hxg6 8.hxg6 h5 9.g7 h4 10.g8Q h3 and stalemate.

ii) Try: 2.g8Q? fxe6 3.Qg6 hxg6 4.hxg6 h5 5.g7 h4 6.g8S h3 7.Sf6 exf6 8.exf6 e5 9.f7 e4 10.f8Q e3 and stalemate.

**No 21563** D. Hlebec  
honourable mention



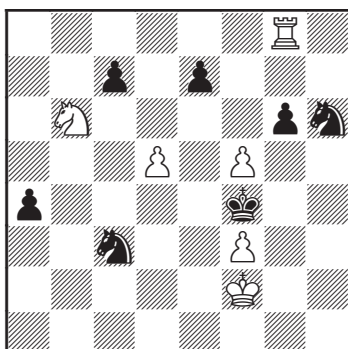
e1c6 4544.75 13/10 Win

**No 21563** Darko Hlebec (Serbia). 1.Sd8+ Bxd8 2.Re6+ (exd8S+? Kc7;) Kb7 3.exd8S+/i Kc7 4.d3 (d4? Qh4+;) Sxd3+ 5.exd3 Rxb2 6.Rc6+ dxc6 (Kb8; Rb6+) 7.Se6+ Kd6 8.dxc4+ Ke5 9.Qd6+ Kxd6 10.O-O-O (Rd1+? Ke5;) Ke7 (Ke5; Kxb2) 11.g8S mate/ii.

i) Phoenix. 3.d3? e.g. Sxd3+ 4.exd3 Bxa5+ draws.

ii) 11.Kxb2? e.g. Qc3+ 12.Kxc3 stalemate.

**No 21564 A. Jasik**  
commendation



f2f4 0107.34 6/7 Win

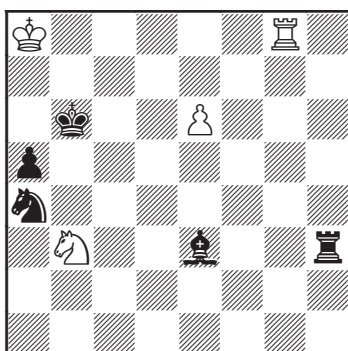
**No 21564** Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.f6 exf6/i 2.d6 cxd6/ii 3.Rxg6 Sf5/iii 4.Sd5+ Sxd5 5.Rg4+ Ke5 6.Re4 mate

i) Sd1+ e.g. 2.Ke1 exf6 3.d6 cxd6 4.Rxg6 Sf5 5.Kxd1 wins.

ii) cxb6 3.d7 Sf7 4.Rf8 wins.

iii) a3 4.Rxh6 wins. Sd1+ 4.Ke1 wins e.g. a3 5.Rxh6 a2 6.Rh4+ Kxf3 7.Ra4.

**No 21565 V. Tarasiuk**  
commendation



a8b6 0434.11 4/5 Win

**No 21565** Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.e7 Ka6/i 2.Rg6+/ii Sb6+ 3.Rxb6+ Bxb6 4.Sc5+/iii Bxc5 5.e8Q Rb3 6.Qc6+/iv Bb6 7.Qc4+ Rb5 8.Qc8 mate.

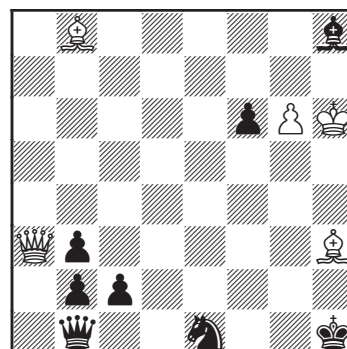
i) Rh7 2.Rg6+ Kc7 3.e8Q wins. but not: 2.e8Q? Ra7+ 3.Kb8 Bf4+ 4.Kc8 Ra8+ draws.

ii) 2.e8Q? Sb6+ 3.Kb8 Bf4+ and Black mates.

iii) Thematic try: 4.e8Q? Rxb3 5.Qe2+ Rb5 draws.

iv) 6.Qe6+? Rb6 7.Qc4+ Rb5 8.Qe6+ Rb6 draws.

**No 21566 B. Akhaladze**  
commendation



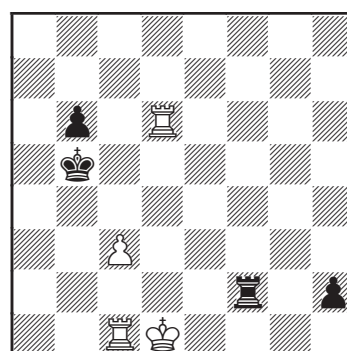
h6h1 4053.14 5/8 Win

**No 21566** Beka Akhaladze (Georgia). 1.Qa8+ Kg1 2.Qa7+ Kh1 3.Qb7+ Kg1 4.Qb6+ Kh1 5.Qc6+ Kg1 6.Qc5+ Kh1 7.Qd5+ Kg1 8.Qd4+ Kh1 9.Qe4+ Kg1 10.Qe3+ Kh1 11.Bg2+ Sxg2/i 12.Qh3+ Kg1 13.Ba7+ Kf1 14.Qh1+ Ke2 15.Qxg2+ Kd3 16.Qd5+ Ke2 17.Qe4+ Kd1 18.Qf3+ Kd2 19.Be3+ Kc3 20.Bf2+ Kc4 21.Qe4+ Kb5 (Kc3; Qd4 mate) 22.Qd5+ Ka4 23.Qc6+ Kb4 24.Bc5+ Kc4 25.Bb6+ Kd3/ii 26.Qd5+ Ke2 27.Qe4+ Kf1 28.Qf3+ Ke1 29.Ba5 mate.

i) Kxg2 12.Qe2+ Kg1 13.Ba7+ Kh1 14.Qf1+ Kh2 15.Bb8 mate.

ii) Kb4 26.Qc5+ Ka4 27.Qa5 mate.

**No 21567 J. Polášek**  
commendation



d1b5 0500.12 4/4 Win

**No 21567** Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic). 1.Rh6/i Kc4 2.Ke1/ii Rg2 3.Rd1 Kb3 4.Rd4/iii Rg1+ 5.Kd2 h1Q 6.Rxb6+ Ka3 7.Ra6+ Kb3 8.Rb4 mate.

i) 1.c4+? Ka4 2.Rh6 Kb3 3.Rxb6+/iv Ka2 4.Rh6 Kb2 5.Rb6+ Ka2 6.Rc2+ Ka3 7.Rh6 Rf1+ 8.Kd2 h1Q 9.Rxh1 Rxh1 10.Kc3 Rh3+ 11.Kd4

Rh1 12.c5 Kb3 13.Rc3+ Kb4 14.Rc2 Kb3 15.Rg2 Kb4 (Ka4) 16.c6 Rc1 17.Kd5 Kb5 18.Rb2+ Ka6 19.Kd6 Rh1 (Rg1) draws.

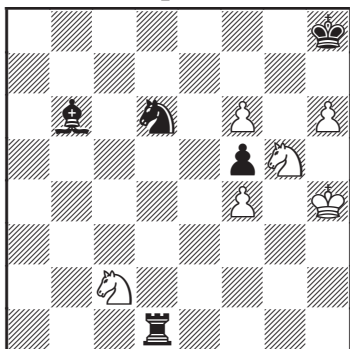
ii) 2.Rh3? Kb3 3.Rb1+ Ka2 4.Rxb6 Rf1+ 5.Kc2 Rf2+ 6.Kd3 Rf3+ 7.Kc2 (Rxf3 h1Q;) Rf2+ positional draw.

iii) Try: 4.Kf1? (Rxb6+? Kc2;) Rg1+ 5.Ke2 Rg2+ 6.Ke3 Rg1 7.Kd2 Rg2+ positional draw 8.Kc1 Rc2+ 9.Kb1 Rb2+ draws.

iv) 3.Ke1 Rg2 4.Rh3+ (Rd1 Kc2;) Kb2 5.Rd1 Kc2 draws.

### Positional draw section

**No 21568** M. Campioli  
1st prize



h4h8 0335.31 6/5 Draw

**No 21568** Marco Campioli (Italy). 1.Kh5 (f7? Sxf7; Se4 2.f7 Bc5/i 3.Se6 Be7/ii 4.f8Q+ Bxf8 5.Sxf8 Rg1 (Kg8; Sg6) 6.Sd4/iii Kg8 7.h7+/iv Kf7 8.h8S+ (h8Q? Rh1 mate;) Kxf8 9.Sxf5/v Sf6+ 10.Kh6 Sg8+ 11.Kh5 (Kh7? Rh1+;) Sf6+ 12.Kh6 Sg4+ 13.Kh5/vi Sf6+ 14.Kh6 Rh1+ 15.Kg6 (Kg5? Se4+;) Sd5 16.Sf7 Rg1+ 17.Sg5 Sxf4+ 18.Kf6 Sh5+ 19.Kg6 Sf4+ 20.Kf6 Sd5+ 21.Kg6 positional draw.

i) Sf6+ 3.Kg6 Sd7 4.Se6 Bd8 5.f8Q+ Sxf8+ 6.Sxf8 Rd6+ 7.Kf7 draws.

ii) Kh7 4.f8S+ Bxf8 5.Sxf8+ Kg8 6.Sg6, and now Rg1 7.Se7+ Kh7 8.Sxf5, or here Rh1+ 7.Sh4 Rg1 8.Sxf5 Sf6+ 9.Kh4 Rg4+ 10.Kh3 draw.

iii) 6.Se3? Sf6+ 7.Kh4 Rg8 (Kg8) and wins.

iv) 7.Sd7? Rd1 8.Kg6 Rxd4 9.h7+ Kh8 10.Se5 Rd6+ 11.Kxf5 Rd4 12.Kg6 Sd6 13.Kh6 Sf5+ 14.Kg6 Se7+ wins.

v) 9.Sg6+? Kf7 10.Se5+ Kf6 11.Sd7+ Ke7 12.Se5 Sd6 wins.

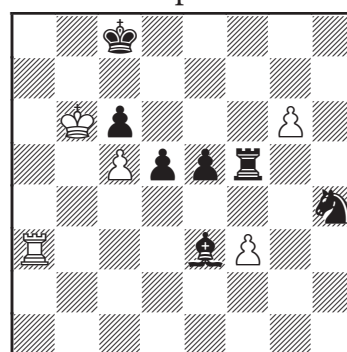
vi) 13.Kg5? Kg8 14.Sg6 Se5+ wins.

“We see an original draw position with knight promotions in two lines”.

HH cooks: 9...Rh1+ is a mate in 134 moves (7EGTB). The composer gave 10.Sh4 Kg7 11.Sg6 Rg1 12.Sf5+ draw, but Black wins: 12...Kf6.

It may be a relief to some of us that, just occasionally, MG overlooks something!

**No 21569** A. Sochnev  
2nd prize



b6c8 0433.33 5/7 Draw

**No 21569** Aleksey Sochnev (Russia). 1.g7 Rg5 2.Kxc6 Rg6+ 3.Kxd5 Sf5 4.g8Q+/i Rxc6 5.Kxe5/ii Rg5 6.Kf6 Rh5 7.Kg6 Rg5+ 8.Kf6 Rh5/Rxc6 9.Kg6 Bxc5 10.Ra2/iv Sg3 11.Rg2 Rh8 (Bd6; Rxc6) 12.Rc2 Rg8+ 13.Kh6/v Rh8+/vi 14.Kg6 Rh5 15.Rg2 Rh3 16.Rc2 Rh5 17.Rg2 positional draw.

i) 4.Kxe5? (Ke4? Rxc6;) Sxc6 5.Rxe3 Re6+ 6.Kf4 Sh5+ wins.

ii) 5.Ra8+? K- 6.Rxc6 Se7+ wins.

iii) Bf4 9.Ra4 Bd2 10.Ra2 Bf4 11.Ra4 draws.

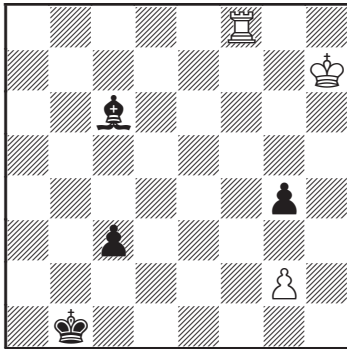
iv) 10.Rc3? Sg3 11.f4 Se4 (Se2) draws.

v) 13.Kf6? Rf8+ 14.Kg5 Rf5+ 15.Kg4 Sf1 16.Kxf5 Se3+ wins.

vi) Sf5+ 14.Kh5 Sg7+ 15.Kg6 Se8+ 16.Kh6 draws.

“This study has entertaining play with subtle moves to achieve equality”.

**No 21570** V. Tarasiuk  
3rd prize

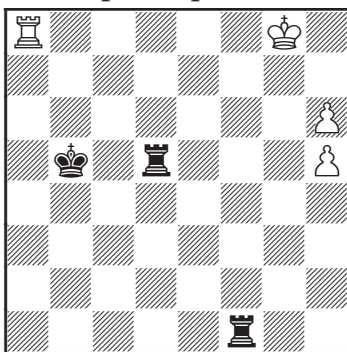


h7b1 0130.12 3/4 Draw

- No 21570** Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).  
1.Rc8 (Rb8+? Kc2;) Be4+ 2.Kh6 c2 3.Kg5 Bf3  
4.Kf4/i Be2 (Bd1; Rb8+) 5.Ke3 Ba6/ii 6.Rb8+  
Kc1 7.Rb6/iii Bc4/iv 8.Rc6/v Bd5 9.Rc3/vi Bxg2  
10.Kf4 Bf3 11.Ke3, and:
- Kd1 12.Rd3+ Kc1 13.Rc3 Kd1 14.Rd3+ positional draw, or:
  - Bg2 12.Kf4 Bf3 13.Ke3 positional draw.
  - i) 4.gxf3? g3 5.Kf4 g2 wins.
  - ii) Bb5 6.Kd2 Ba4 7.Rb8+ wins.
  - iii) 7.g3? Kd1 8.Rd8+ Ke1 wins.
  - iv) Bf1 8.g3 Kd1 9.Rd6+ Ke1 10.Rc6 positional draw.
  - v) 8.Rb4? Bf1 9.g3 Kd1 10.Rd4+ Ke1 wins.
  - vi) 9.Rc5? Bxg2 10.Kf4 Bf3, or 9.Rc8? Kd1 10.Kf4 Be6 wins.

“This is a miniature with remarkable lines that lead to a positional draw”.

**No 21571** P. Arestov & A. Skripnik  
special prize



g8b5 0700.20 4/3 Draw

**No 21571** Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia). 1.h7 Rg5+ (Rg1+; Kh8) 2.Kh8 Rxh5  
3.Rg8 Kc4/i 4.Rg5/ii Rh2 (Rxc5 stalemate)  
5.Rg2 Rh3 6.Rg3/iii Rhh1 7.Rg8, and:

— Rf7 8.Rg7 Rf8+ 9.Rg8 Rf4/iv 10.Rg1 Rh2  
11.Rg2 Rh3 12.Rg3 Rh5 13.Rg5 Rhh4 14.Rg8  
positional draw, or:

— Rf2 8.Rg1 Rh3 9.Rg3 Rhh2 10.Rg8 Rf5 11.Rg2  
Rh3 12.Rg4+/v Kb5 13.Rg3 Rh4 14.Rg4 Rhh5  
15.Rg8 Rc5 16.Rb8+ Kc4 17.Kg8 (Kg7? Rc7+;)  
Rcg5+ 18.Kh8 Rc5 19.Kg8 Rcg5+ 20.Kh8 po-  
sitional draw.

i) Kc6 4.Rg5 Rh2 5.Rg2 Rh3 6.Rg3 Rh4 7.Rg4  
Rh5 8.Rg5 Rhh1 9.Kg7 Ra1 10.h8S Ra7+ 11.Sf7  
Rf1 12.Rg6+ draws.

ii) 4.Rg4+? Kd3 wins, e.g. 5.Rg5 Rh2 6.Rg2  
Rhh1 7.Kg7 Ra1 8.h8Q Ra7+ 9.Kg8 Ra8+.

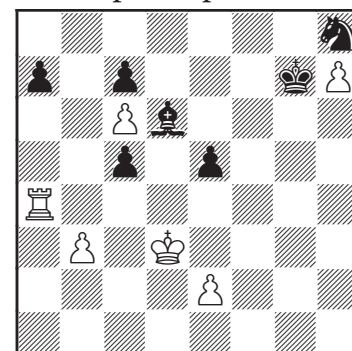
iii) 6.Rg4+? Kd5 wins, e.g. 7.Rg3 Rh4 8.Rg4  
Rhh1 9.Rg5+ Ke6 10.Rg6+ Kf5 11.Kg7 Ra1  
12.Rf6+ Ke5 13.Rf7 Rhg1+ 14.Kh6 Ra6+.

iv) Rf7 10.Rg7 Rf8+ 11.Rg8 draws.

v) 12.Rg3? Rhh5 wins, e.g. 13.Rg4+ Kd3  
14.Kg7 Ra5 15.h8Q Ra7+ 16.Kg8 Ra8+.

“The authors show an ingenious combination of the ‘suicide rook’ theme (resulting in several stalemates) with other alternatives that White must avoid to achieve a draw. In addition, there are positional draws and an under-promotion”.

**No 21572** R. Becker  
special prize



d3g7 0133.44 6/7 Draw

**No 21572** Richard Becker (USA). 1.Rh4 Sg6  
2.Rh1 Kh8 3.Ke3/i Se7 4.Ke4 zz, and:  
— Sxc6 5.Kd5, and now:

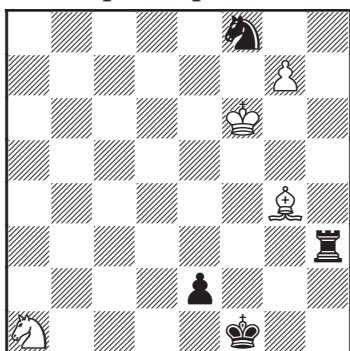


- Sd4 6.e3 Sxb3 (Sf5; Rh3) 7.Kc4 Sd2+/ii 8.Kd3 Sf3 9.Ke4 Sg5+ 10.Kf5 Sf7 11.Ke6 Sd8+ 12.Kd7 Sb7 13.Kc6 Sa5+ 14.Kb5 Sb3 15.Kc4 positional draw, or here:
- Sa5/iii 6.Rh3 zz a6 7.e4 zz c4 8.bxc4 Sb7 9.Ke6 Sc5+ 10.Kf5 a5 11.Kg6 a4 12.Ra3 draws, or:
- a6 5.e3 Sxc6 (a5; Rh2) 6.Kf5 Sa5 7.Kg6 Sxb3 8.Rf1 (Rh4) Sa5 9.Ra1 (Ra4) Sc6 10.Rxa6 Se7+ 11.Kh6 draws, or:
- a5 5.e3 Sxc6 6.Kd5/iv Sb4+ 7.Kc4/v Sc6 8.Kd5 draws.
  - i) Thematic try: 3.Ke4? Se7 zz 4.e3 Sxc6 5.Kf5 Sa5 6.Kg6 Sxb3 7.Rf1 Sa5 8.Ra1 Sc6 9.Ra6 Se7+ 10.Kh6 Sc8 wins.
  - ii) Sa5+ 8.Kb5 Sb7 9.Kc6 Sd8+ 10.Kd7 Sf7 11.Ke6 Sg5+ 12.Kf5 Sf3 13.Ke4 Sd2+ 14.Kd3 Sb3 15.Kc4 draws.
  - iii) Sb4+ e.g. 6.Ke6 Sc2 7.Kf7 Sd4 8.Rg1 draws.
  - iv) 6.Kf5? c4 7.bxc4 a4, or 6.Kd3? Sb8 7.Ke4 Sd7 wins.
  - v) 7.Ke4? c4 8.bxc4 a4 wins.

The author writes: “Knight’s circuit shown in a logical setting for the first time”.

“This is an original configuration developing the theme of the circular manoeuvre of the knight and is very pleasant from an artistic point of view. What is remarkable is how White achieves the objective with zz positions in his favour. All this is complemented with lines of significant technical value”.

**No 21573** D. Keith & M. Minski  
special prize



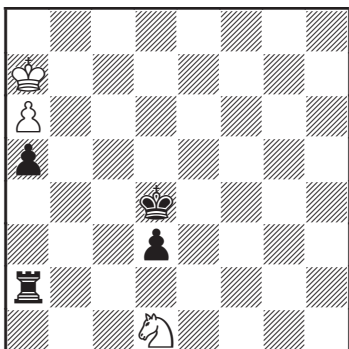
f6f1 o314.11 4/4 BTM, Draw

**No 21573** Daniel Keith (France) & Martin Minski (Germany). 1...Sd7+/i 2.Kf5/ii Rh5+/iii 3.Bxh5 e1Q 4.Be2+/iv, and:

- Kxe2 5.g8Q Qb1+/v 6.Sc2/vi, and now:
  - Qb5+ 7.Kg6 Qc6+ 8.Kf7 Se5+ 9.Ke7 Sg6+ 10.Kf7 Se5+ 11.Ke7 positional draw, or here:
  - Qxc2+ 7.Kg5 Qc1+/vii 8.Kg6 (Kh5? Sf6+;) with:
    - Qc6+ 9.Kf7/viii Se5+ 10.Ke7/ix Sg6+ 11.Kf7 Se5+ 12.Ke7 positional draw, or:
    - Qg1+ 9.Kf7 (Kh7? Sf6+;) Se5+ 10.Kf8 Sd7+ 11.Kf7 Se5+ 12.Kf8 positional draw, or:
- Qxe2 5.g8Q Qe5+ 6.Kg6, with:
  - Qd6+ 7.Kf5/x Qe5+/xi 8.Kg6 Qd6+ 9.Kf5 positional draw, or here:
  - Qg3+ 7.Kf7 Se5+ 8.Kf8 Sd7+ (Qa3+; Kg7) 9.Kf7 Se5+ 10.Kf8 positional draw.
    - i) Rh6+ 2.Kf7 e1Q 3.gxf8Q draws.
    - ii) 2.Kg5? (Kf7? Se5+;) Rg3, and either: 3.Sc2 Se5 4.Kf5 Sxg4, or here: 3.g8Q Rxg4+ 4.Kxg4 Sf6+ 5.Kf5 Sxg8 win. 2.Bxd7? Rf3+ 3.Bf5 e1Q wins.
    - iii) e1Q 3.Bxh3+ Kf2 4.g8Q Qe5+ 5.Kg6 Qf6+ 6.Kh5 draws.
    - iv) 4.g8Q? Qe5+ 5.Kg6 Qf6+ 6.Kh7 Sf8+ wins.
    - v) Qa5+ 6.Kg6 Qb6+ 7.Kf7 Se5+ 8.Ke7 Qc5+ 9.Kf6 draws.
    - vi) 6.Kg5? Qg1+, or 6.Ke6? Qa2+ wins.
    - vii) Qd2+ 8.Kh4 (Kg6? Qd6+;) Qe1+ (Qh6+; Kg3) 9.Qg3 draws.
    - viii) 9.Kh7? (Kh5?) Sf6+, or 9.Kg5? Qg2+ win.
    - ix) 10.Kf8? Qd6+ 11.Kg7 Qg6+ 12.Kh8 (Kf8 Sd7+;) Qh6+ 13.Qh7 Sg6+ 14.Kg8 Qf8 mate.
    - x) 7.Kf7? Se5+, or 7.Kh5? Sf6+, or 7.Kg5? Qg3+ win.
    - xi) Qc5+ 8.Kg6 Qg1+ 9.Kf7 Se5+ 10.Kf8 Sd7+ 11.Kf7 draws.

“After an appropriate introduction, White must prevent a Q+S domination against Q using remarkable positional draws. This is an ingenious presentation of the theme”.

**No 21574** Y. Afek  
1st honourable mention



a7d4 0301.12 3/4 Draw

**No 21574** Yochanan Afek (Israel). 1.Kb6 Re2/i 2.a7 Re8 3.Kxa5 Kc5 4.Sf2/ii d2 5.Ka4 Kc4 6.Ka5 Rf8 7.Sd1 Kc5 8.Ka4, and:

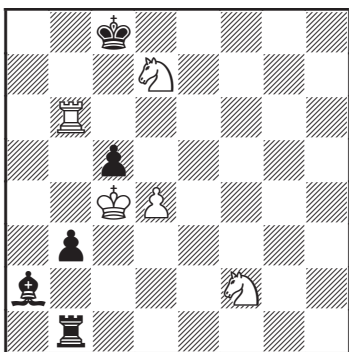
— Kc4 9.Ka5 Kc5 10.Ka4 positional draw, or:  
— Ra8 9.Kb3 Rxa7 10.Kc3 (Kc2) Rd7 11.Kc3 (Kc2) fortress, positional draw.

i) Rh2 2.a7 Rh8 3.Kxa5 draws.

ii) 4.Ka6? Kc6 5.Sb2 d2 wins, or 4.Sc3? d2 5.Se4+ Rxe4 6.a8Q Ra4+ 7.Kxa4 d1Q+ 8.Ka3 Qa1+ wins.

“The wK surprisingly manoeuvres between supporting his own pawn to promote on the eighth rank and stopping the black pawn from promoting on the first rank!” (Author)

**No 21575** M. Hlinka & L. Kekely  
2nd honourable mention



c4c8 0432.12 5/5 BTM, Draw

**No 21575** Michal Hlinka & Ľubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1...Rc1+ 2.Kb5/i b2 3.Ka4/ii b1Q/iii 4.Rxb1 Bxb1 (Rxb1; Sxc5) 5.Sxc5 Rc2/iv 6.Sfe4 Rc4+ 7.Ka3/v Rxd4 8.Kb3 (Kb2; Rb4+;) zz Kb8 (Kd8; Se6+) 9.Kb2 (Kc3? Rd1;) Rb4+ 10.Ka3/

vi Rd4/vii 11.Kb2 positional draw, Bxe4 12.Kc3 draws.

i) 2.Kd5? Kxd7, or 2.Kd3? c4+ 3.Ke3 Kxd7 wins.

ii) 3.Ka5? b1Q 4.Rxb1 Bxb1 5.Sxc5 Rc4 6.Se6 Kd7 7.Kb5 Ba2 8.d5 Rc2 wins.

iii) Ra1 4.Ka3 b1Q 5.Rxb1 Bxb1+ 6.Kb2 Ra2+ 7.Kxb1, or Bc4 4.Ka3 b1Q 5.Rxb1 Rxb1 6.Sxc5 draw.

iv) Rc4+ 6.Kb3 Rxd4 7.Sfe4 zz draws.

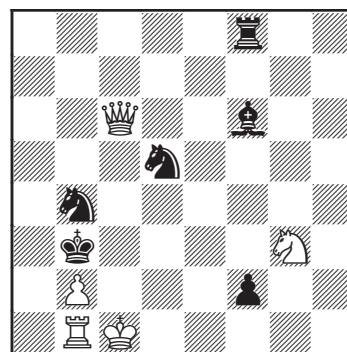
v) Thematic try: 7.Kb3? Rxd4 zz, and: 8.Kb2 Rb4+, or: 8.Kc3 Rd1 draw.

vi) 10.Kc3? Rb5, and: 11.Sa6+ Ka7, or 11.Kd2 Ra5 draw.

vii) Rb5 11.Sc3 Ra5+ 12.Kb4 draws.

“White manages to eliminate the threat of domination by the rook and bishop against the two knights. There are some artistic touches, but the basis is in the technique to avoid liberation of the bishop from his ‘incarceration’”.

**No 21576** L. Topko  
3rd honourable mention



c1b3 1437.11 5/6 Draw

**No 21576** Leonid Topko (Ukraine). 1.Qe6 (Qd7? Bg5+;) Bg5+ 2.Kd1 f1Q+/i 3.Sxf1 Rxf1+ 4.Qe1 Rxe1+ 5.Kxe1 Sd3+ 6.Ke2 (Kf1? Ka2;) Sc1+ 7.Kd1 Se3+/ii 8.Kxc1/iii Ka2 9.b3 Sc4+ 10.Kd1 (Kc2? Sa3+;) Se3+ 11.Kc1 Sd5+ 12.Kc2 Se3+ 13.Kc1 Sc4+ 14.Kd1 positional draw.

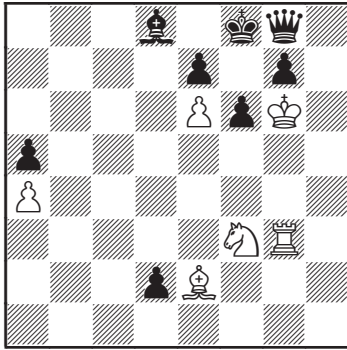
i) Ka2 3.Ke2 Kxb1 4.Qg6+ Kxb2 5.Qxg5 f1Q+ 6.Sxf1 Sc3+ 7.Ke3 Sc2+ 8.Kd3 draws.

ii) Sa2 8.Ke1 Bc1 9.Ra1 draws.

iii) 8.Ke1? Kc2 9.Ra1 Bh4 mate.

“After an introduction forcing the exchange of pieces, we have a position where White should avoid the domination of his rook and, with precise play, the goal is achieved”.

**No 21577** A. Jasik  
special honourable mention



g6f8 3141.25 6/8 Draw

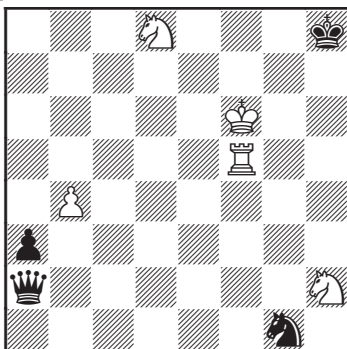
**No 21577** Andrzej Jasik (Poland). 1.Sg5 d1Q/i 2.Bxd1 fxc5 3.Bg4 Ke8/ii 4.Rc3 Qh8 5.Rh3 Qf8 6.Rf3 Qg8 (Qf6+; Rxf6) 7.Rc3 Bb6 8.Rc8+ Bd8 9.Rc3 positional draw.

i) Bc7 (fxg5; Rf3+) 2.Rf3 Qh8 3.Rh3 and White is better.

ii) Bc7 4.Rc3 Qh8 5.Rh3 Qh4 6.Rhx4 draws.

“We see an ingenious form of domination of the queen taking advantage of her ‘imprisonment’, with the timely sacrifice of the knight, where the rook accomplishes a great task on both flanks”.

**No 21578** L. Gonzalez  
special honourable mention



f6h8 3105.11 5/4 Draw

**No 21578** Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain). 1.Rh5+/i Kg8 2.Rg5+ Kf8 3.Se6+ Ke8 4.Rg8+

Kd7 5.Rd8+ Kc6 6.Sd4+ Kb7 7.Ke7 Qxh2 8.Rd7+ Kb6 9.Rd6+ Qxd6+ 10.Kxd6 a2 11.Sc2 Kb5 12.Ke5/ii Kc4 13.b5 Sf3+ 14.Ke4/iii Kc3 15.Sa1 Sd2+ 16.Ke3 Sc4+ 17.Ke2 Sb6 18.Kd1 Kb2 19.Sc2 (Kd2) Sd5 20.Kd2 Se3 21.Sa1 Sd5 22.Sc2 Se3 23.Sa1 positional draw.

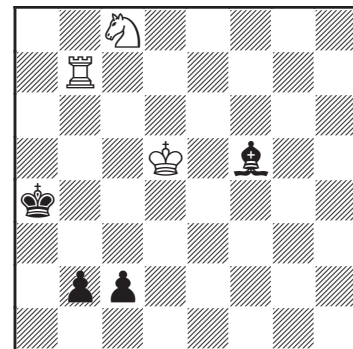
i) 1.Sg4? Qb2+ 2.Se5 Qh2 3.Ke7 Qh4+ 4.Ke8 Qg3 5.Sdc6 (Rh5+; Kg8) a2 6.Se7 Qg2 wins, e.g. 7.Kf7 Qg7+ 8.Ke8 Kh7 9.Sf7 Qg2 10.Ra5 Sf3.

ii) 12.Kd5? Se2 wins, e.g. 13.Ke4 Kc4 14.b5 Sc3+ 15.Ke3 Sxb5.

iii) 14.Kd6? Kc3, and 15.b6 Kxc2 16.b7 a1Q 17.b8Q Qe5+ 18.Kd7 Qxb8, or 15.Sa1 Sd2 16.b6 Sc4+ 17.Kc5 Sxb6 wins.

“This shows an original relationship between the introduction and the thematic configuration at the end but it is probably not very suitable for solving”.

**No 21579** V. Kalashnikov  
special honourable mention



d5a4 0131.02 3/4 Draw

**No 21579** Valery Kalashnikov (Russia). I: Diagram, II: bB to g6.

I: 1.Sb6+/i Ka5 2.Sc4+ Ka6 3.Rxb2/ii c1Q 4.Ra2+ Kb5 5.Rb2+ Ka4 6.Sb6+ Ka3 7.Sc4+ Ka4 8.Sb6+ Ka5 9.Sc4+ Ka6 10.Ra2+ Kb7 11.Sd6+, and:

— Kb6 12.Rb2+ Ka7 13.Ra2+ Kb6 14.Rb2+ Ka6 15.Ra2+ positional draw, or:

— Kc7 12.Sxf5 Qc6+ 13.Ke5 Qc5+ 14.Kf6 Qf8+ 15.Ke5 Qc5+ 16.Kf6 positional draw.

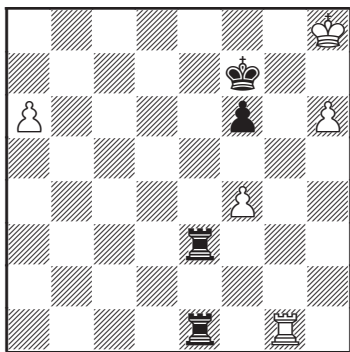
II: 1.Sb6+ Ka5 2.Sc4+ Ka6 3.Rxb2 Bf7+ 4.Kc6 Be8+ 5.Kc7 c1Q 6.Rb6+ Ka7 7.Rb7+ Ka8 8.Rb8+ Ka7 9.Rb7+ positional draw.

i) 1.Rxb2? Be4+, and: 2.Kxe4 c1Q 3.Sb6+ Ka3, or 2.Kd4 c1Q 3.Sb6+ Ka5 4.Kxe4 Ka6 draws.

ii) 3.Rb6+? Ka7 4.Rxb2 c1Q 5.Ra2+ Kb8 wins.

“This shows a nice miniature twin where we see how White avoids the domination of the bQ by the rook and knight”.

**No 21580** L. Katsnelson & V. Katsnelson  
commendation

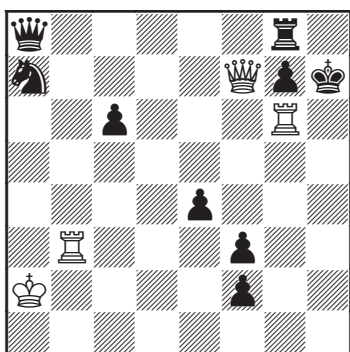


h8f7 0700.31 5/4 Draw

**No 21580** Leonard Katsnelson & Vladimir Katsnelson (Russia). 1.Rg7+ Ke6 2.Rg8 Rh1 3.a7 Rxh6+ 4.Kg7 Rg3+ 5.Kf8 Ra3 6.Kg7 Rg3+ 7.Kf8 Ra3 8.Kg7 Rh4 9.Re8+ Kf5 10.a8Q Rg3+ 11.Kf8 Rh8+ 12.Kf7 Rh7+ 13.Kf8 Rh8+ 14.Kf7 draws.

“This has an interesting finale requiring precise moves; it might be useful for practical players”.

**No 21581** A. Stavrietsky  
commendation



a2h7 4503.05 4/9 Draw

**No 21581** Aleksandr Stavrietsky (Russia). 1.Rg1/i Sb5+ 2.Kb2 Qa2+ 3.Kxa2 Ra8+ 4.Ra3

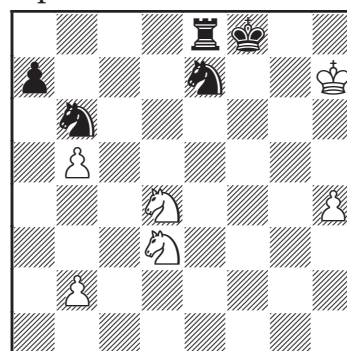
(Kb2? fxg1Q;) Rxa3+/ii 5.Kb2 fxg1Q 6.Qh5+ Kg8 7.Qe8+ Kh7 8.Qh5+ positional draw.

i) Thematic try: 1.Rg4? Sb5+ 2.Kb2 Qa1+ 3.Kxa1 f1Q+ 4.Kb2 Qe2+ (Qf2+) wins.

ii) Sc3+ 5.Kb2 Sa4+ 6.Rxa4 Rb8+ 7.Rb4 Rxb4+ , and e.g. 8.Kc3 fxg1Q 9.Qe8+ Kh7 10.Qh5+ perpetual check.

“This position has heavy pieces where both sides have their threats and it is recommended for solving”.

**No 21582** Y. Robinson  
special commendation



h7f8 0308.31 6/5 Draw

**No 21582** Yechiel Robinson (USA). 1.Se6+ Kf7 2.Sg7 Rb8/i 3.Se5+ Kf6 4.Sg4+ Kf7 5.Se5+ Kf8 6.b3/ii Rb7/iii 7.Se6+ Ke8 8.Sg7+ Kd8 9.Sf7+ Kd7 (Kc7; Se6+) 10.Se6 Rb8 (Kxe6; Sd8+) 11.Sc5+ Kc8 12.Sd6+ Kd8 (Kc7; Sa6+) 13.Sf7+ Ke8 14.Sd6+ Kd8 15.Sf7+ positional draw.

i) Rc8 3.Se5+ Kf8 4.Se6+ Ke8 5.Sg7+ Kd8 6.Se6+, or Ra8 3.Se5+ Kf8 4.Se6+ Ke8 5.Sc7+ draw.

ii) 6.h5? Rb7 7.Se6+ Ke8, and either: 8.Sg7+ Kd8 9.Sf7+ Kd7 10.Se6 Sa4, or: 8.h6 Sbd5 9.Sg7+ Kd8 10.Se6+ Kc8 wins.

iii) Sed5 7.Se6+ Ke7 8.Sc6+ Kxe6 9.Sxb8 draws, e.g. Se7 10.Sc6 Sxc6 11.bxc6 Sd5 12.Kg7.

“White prevents the escapes of the rook by systematic manoeuvre of the knights”.

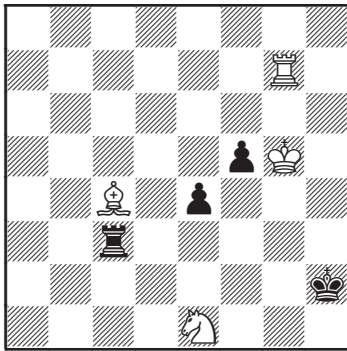
HH observes that the composer submitted an almost identical study to the original section of EG (see EG206, EG#20988). Why?



# Vratnica 2013-2015

Branislav Djurašević (Serbia) judged this informal tourney which attracted only 11 studies in three years. He considered the level as “not high, even if some very famous composers participated”.

**No 21583** M. Hlinka & L. Kekely  
prize



g5h2 o411.02 4/4 Win

**No 21583** Michal Hlinka & Ľubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Rh7+/i Kg1/ii 2.Bd5 Kf1/iii 3.Rh1+ Ke2 4.Kxf5 Rc5 (Rc1; Kxe4) 5.Ke5/iv Rc1 6.Kxe4/v zz Rxe1 7.Rh2+ Kd1+/vi 8.Kd3 Kc1/vii 9.Rc2+ Kb1 10.Ba2+ Ka1 11.Bc4 Rh1 12.Kc3 Rd1/viii 13.Ra2+/ix Kb1 14.Rf2 Rc1+ 15.Kb3 Rd1 16.Be2 Rg1 17.Bf3 Ka1 18.Ra2+ Kb1 19.Be4+ wins.

i) 1.Bd5? Rg3+ 2.Kf6 Rxc7 3.Kxc7 Kg3 4.Kf6 Kf2 draws.

ii) Kg3 2.Be6 Rc1 3.Rh1 f4 4.Bf5 f3 5.Rh3+ Kf2 6.Sc2 e3 7.Sd4 draws.

iii) Rc5 (Rc1; Sd3) 3.Bb7 Kf1 4.Rh1+ Kf2 5.Kf4 wins.

iv) Thematic try: 5.Kxe4? Rc1 zz 6.Bb3 Rxe1 7.Rh2+ Kf1+ 8.Kf3 Kg1 9.Rg2+ Kh1 10.Rd2 (Rg4 Rf1;) Rc1 11.Bd5 Kg1 12.Kg3 Kf1 13.Bg2+ Ke1 draws.

v) 6.Bxe4? Rxe1 draws.

vi) Kf1+ 8.Kf3 Kg1 9.Rg2+ Kh1 10.Rg4 Kh2 (Rf1+; Ke2+) 11.Rh4+ Kg1 12.Kg3 Kf1 13.Bf3 wins.

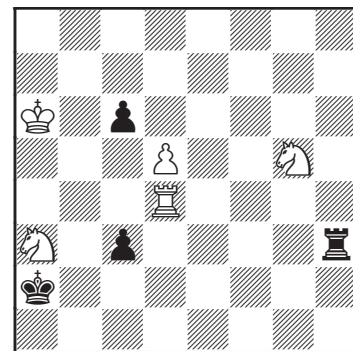
vii) Rg1 9.Bf3+ Kc1 10.Kc3 Rf1 11.Be2 Rg1 12.Rh8 Re1 13.Ra8 wins.

viii) Rg1 13.Ra2+ Kb1 14.Rb2+ Ka1 15.Bd3 Rc1+ 16.Bc2 Rh1 17.Rb6 Rh3+ 18.Bd3 wins.

ix) 13.Rf2? Rc1+ 14.Kb3 Rb1+ 15.Ka3 Rb8 draws.

“This study has an excellent mutual zugzwang, and we hope that it is original. It is a pity that the wS does not play. At the end of the study surprisingly accurate play is needed, especially the 10th and 11th moves by the wB”.

**No 21584** M. Minski  
honourable mention



a6a2 o402.12 5/4 BTM, Win

**No 21584** Martin Minski (Germany). 1... Rh6 2.d6 (dxc6? Rxc6+;) c5 3.Ra4/i Rxd6+ 4.Kb5 c2/ii 5.Sxc2+ Kb3 6.Se4/iii Rb6+/iv 7.Kxb6/v Kxa4 8.Sxc5 model mate.

i) 3.Rd3? Rxd6+ 4.Rxd6 Kxa3 draws, but also 3...c4 draws here.

ii) Rd4 5.Sc4+ Kb1 6.Sf3 c2 7.Sfd2+ Rxd2 8.Sxd2+ Kb2 9.Sc4+ Kb1 10.Sa3+ wins.

iii) Thematic try: 6.Se3? Rb6+ 7.Ka5 Ra6+ 8.Kxa6 Kxa4 9.Sc4 Kb4 (Kb3? Kb5) . 6.Sa1+? Kb2 7.Sf3 Rd1 8.Se5 Rxa1 9.Sc4+ Kb1 10.Sd2+ Kb2 draws.

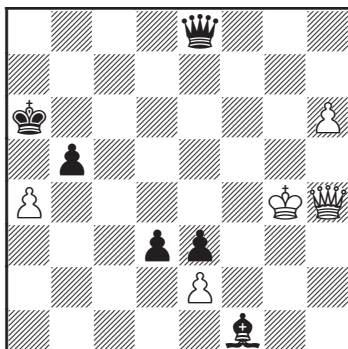
iv) Rd8 7.Sa1+ Kb2 8.Sxc5 (Kxc5) wins.

v) 7.Ka5? Rb8 8.Sa1+ Kb2 9.Sxc5 Ra8+ 10.Sa6 Rh8 11.Kb5 Rh1 (Rh3) draws.

“This ends with a model mate. We see interesting play for both sides, but I do not like the

inaccurate moves at several instances, especially at the end of the study. I also wonder why the composer decided to start the study with BTM without any specific reason”.

**No 21585** P. Arestov  
commendation



g4a6 4030.33 5/6 Draw

**No 21585** Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Qf6+/i Ka5 (Kb7; Qg7+) 2.Qc3+ b4/ii 3.Qxd3 (Qc5+ Kxa4;) Bxe2+ (Kxa4; h7) 4.Qxe2 Qg6+ 5.Kf3 Qh5+ 6.Kxe3 Qxh6+ 7.Kd4 (Kd3? Qa6+;) Qd6+ 8.Kc4 Qa6+ 9.Kb3, and:

— Qxe2 stalemate, or:

— Qe6+ 10.Qxe6 stalemate.

i) 1.h7? Qe4+ 2.Kg5 Qxh4+ 3.Kxh4 dxe2 4.h8Q e1Q+ wins.

ii) Kxa4 3.Qa1+ Kb3 4.Qb1+ draws.

“I am hardly impressed by the introduction which leads to two stalemates by both sides, almost on the same move. That is a curiosity!”

## Mario Guido García-70 JT

The Argentinian Society of Chess Problemists (UAPA)  
announces a composition tourney

The study sections are:

- A) Theme: ending in mate with knight or bishop in the centre of the board (the bK must be on one of the 16 central squares).  
B) No theme with two sections : B.1.) Win and B.2.) Draw

The judge is Mario G. García

The provisional award, will be available on the UAPA website  
[www.problemistasajedrez.com.ar](http://www.problemistasajedrez.com.ar)

No more than three studies per composer for each section are allowed.

The tourney director is:

**Felipe Guanca: [torneo@problemistasajedrez.com.ar](mailto:torneo@problemistasajedrez.com.ar)**

The closing date is 22vi2018

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*“The 19 studies in the supplement Jan Timman-65 JT  
will receive the EG-numbers 21586-21604.”*

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