

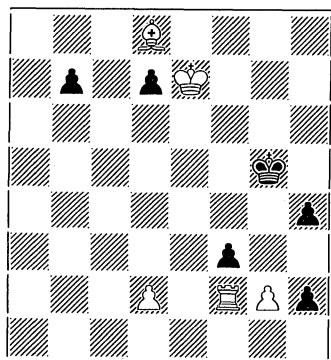


When we were very young

Anatoly KUZNETSOV, 1932

An.G.Kuznetsov and
K.Yu.Sumbatyan, 2000

see *Originals*, diagram No 11715,
on page 245.



e7g5 0110.25

5/6 Win



Karen SUMBATYAN, 1959

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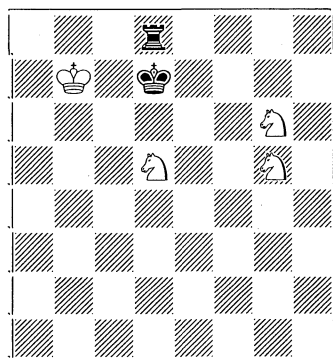
It is of course possible with any kind of payment to save bank charges by paying for more years or for more persons together, like some subscribers already do.

Editorial

The late Tolya Kuznetsov worked, with Karen Sumbatyan, for several years on his last study. He could have sent it to any magazine in his native land, Russia. But he chose to send it to **EG**, where readers worldwide can feast on it and Tolya's own annotations, in Noam Elkies' column in this issue. We may never know why Tolya took this decision; his wish was carried out posthumously. Perhaps the motivation was mute recognition of the debt his country, by whatever name we call it, owed to the magazine that alone published the full award in the team match against the Rest-of-the-World won so convincingly by Soviet composers marshalled by Tolya himself as team captain - with the backing, we believe, of significant state funding. It was an award to whose publication the winners contributed most of the studies, but nary a kopeck. The debt is repaid single-handedly (but not forgetting co-composer Sumbatyan, of Russian citizenship but Armenian nationality) here and now. The repayment is not in arid cash, but in precious kind. The moment is unique.

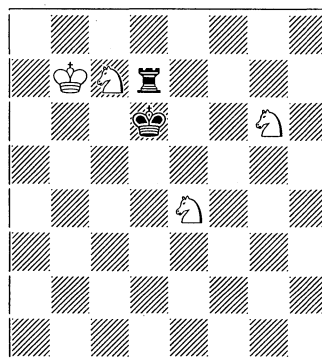
Tolya and Karen's study centres around a rich assortment of zugzwangs. Tolya would have appreciated EG/38's disk with its thousands of pawnless 6-man reciprocal zugzwangs which are guaranteed complete sets listed by Ken Thompson's programmed *C* algorithm. Readers who may not yet have got round to surfing them can dip their toes in with the following sample, stumbled over by sheer serendipity.

C (C1)



b7d7 0309.00 d8(111d5g5g6) 4/2.

C (C2)



b7d6 0309.00 d7(111)c7e4g6 4/2.

You can choose White or Black and make any move, and your position will deteriorate decisively. The same applies literally to every item in the 44 files held on the floppy disk distributed with EG/38. You can safely bet \$1000 on the truth of that claim. All that remains is to discover, in each case, why.

WTM from the diagram C1 is compelled to loosen his grip - Sf6+,Kd6; Sf7+,Ke6; - and

with BTM any move of bR does the same: Rg8;Sf6+. Or Re8; Sf6+,Kd8; Sf7 mate. Also, Ke8;Sf6 is another mate. Anything else? Ah, the d6 square is not controlled, so bK can play there, threatening both Rd7+; and Kxd5. Trying to take this in we begin seriously to suspect either a misprint or a computer glitch. Worried by the possibility of losing \$1000 we make a stab at (after Kd6;) Sc7. Doesn't Black reply Rd7+; pinning wSc7 and threatening Rxc7+;? With disbelief we see the riposte Se4!, one of the most beautiful checkmates it is possible to imagine - pure, economical, with an active self-block, and in the middle of the board. Four plies played, four chessmen moved, and no capture. (See C2)

Enter the sceptic. What (after Kd6;Sc7) about Kd7; the return move? After this White could return to d5 with his knight, but repetition can only draw, losing - the bet. Once more with eyes starting from our head we see the quiet move Se4!, stalemating bK so that bR must play. If Ra8;Sxa8 (Kxa8?), so clearly Rc8; is best. There follows Sf6+,Kd8;Se6, the fourth checkmate we've seen, each forming a new pattern. Dogged sceptic rightly points out that (after Kd6;Sc7) the move Sc7, eliminated the forking reply already set for Rg8+; so why not play the rook there now? Wait for it... Wow, there's Se4+,Kd7; Sf6+, and it's the same fork as before, but by a different knight. It's a kind of echo. Taken all together it's some feat of juggling. Your editor's spine hasn't stopped tingling.

Who can say whether this was 'composed'? Ken Thompson's programming produced the position, concealed in a move-less list of like positions. Your editor pounced, analysed, and has now published here. Is any lucid volunteer out there ready to sort this out? Just one thing is beyond dispute: we can *all* enjoy it.

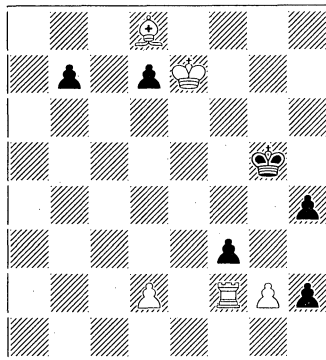
Footnote for readers who may be daunted by *C* reci-zug list material: the GBR class **0309(111)** exemplified above tempts with its minimal technical endgame knowledge requirement: two knights cannot force mate. This contrasts with **0233**, which calls for intimate acquaintance with **0103**, whose trickiness is well illustrated in EG138, where the 1996 *Study of the Year* on p202 is cooked in *Spotlight* on p205, courtesy of *C*!

AJR
25x2000

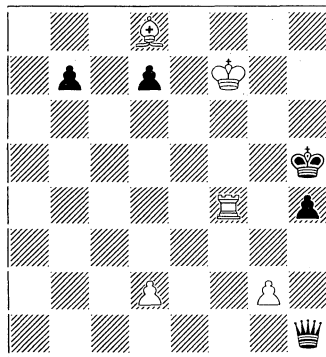


ORIGINALS
 editor: Noam Elkies

No. 11715 A.Kuznetsov & K.Sumbatyan

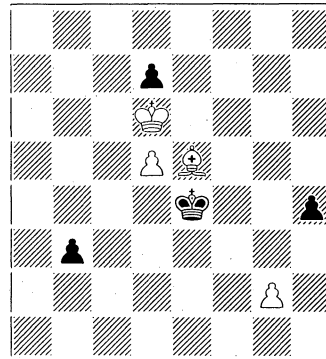


e7g5 0110.25 5/6 Win
 1.Kf7+/i Kh6/ii 2.Rxf3 h1Q/iii
 3.Rf6+/iv Kh5/v 4.Rf4/vi
 KS2



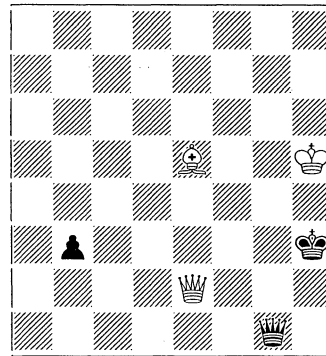
f7h5 3110.23 5/5 BTM.
 4...b6/vii 5.d4/viii b5 6.d5/ix Qh2/x
 7.Rf5+ Kg4 8.Rg5+ Kf4 9.Bc7+ Kxg5
 10.Bxh2 b4/xi 11.Ke7/xii Kf5 12.Kd6

b3 13.Be5 Ke4/xiii
 KS3



d6e4 0010.23 4/4 WTM.
 14.Bb2/xiv Kf4/xv 15.Kxd7/xvi Kg3
 16.d6 Kxg2 17.Ke6/xvii h3 18.d7 h2
 19.d8Q h1Q/xviii 20.Qd5+ Kg1
 21.Bd4+ Kh2 22.Be5+/xix Kg1
 23.Qd1+ Kg2 24.Qe2+ Kh3 25.Kf5
 Qb1+/xx 26.Kg5 Qg1+ 27.Kh5, and
 White, out of breath as he is, wins!

KS4



h5h3 4010.01 3/3 BTM.

Black relied heavily on his bP but it is the latter's tragicomic presence on the board that is responsible for his undoing at the very last gasp. Remove bP from the diagram and Black plays 27...Qg5+ 28.Kxg5 stalemate. This explains White's 14.Bb2!, for otherwise 18...b2 19.Bxb2 h2, and the stalemate follows, the only alternative being 19.d8Q b1Q, with a straightforward draw.

The study is dynamic and rich in ideas. Just one thing before you go - could you have solved it?!

i) A check by a king-bishop battery that also denies bK access to g6. 1.Rf1? fails to fxg2, which means that h2-h1Q; is inevitable and the contest will be a classic case of rook and bishop against the queen.

ii) White's first and second moves cannot be transposed: 1.Rxf3? h1Q 2.Kf7+ Kg4, but now (after the solution's 1.Kf7+) there is a rook-pawn battery following 1...Kg4, namely: gxf3+, while following 1...Kf5 2.Rxf3+, and wR reaches h3 with tempo.

iii) Has Black forgotten about the *en passant* capture? Consider 1...Kh5 2.g4+? (a pawn-rook battery again, but...) hxg3, winning. But no, Black is playing a subtler game than this, hinging on a zugzwang. Wait for (vi).

iv) 3.Rh3? Qf1+ 4.Bf6 Qc4+, would be a bad error, while the natural 3.Rf4, eyeing h4, is met by 3...Kh5, when it is White to move, a distinction that is important.

v) Tempo fights tempo! Kh7 4.Rf4 and 5.Rxh4+, while if Kg5;, the rook-bishop battery will strike: 4.Rf1+ and 5.Rxh1. Incidentally it has now become clear that 1...Kh5 2.Rxf3 h1Q, would have been met by 3.Rf4.

vi) Black has not won the tempo battle, the position on the board being a far from evident one of mutual zugzwang, and it's BTM. Let's take a closer look.

It is clear that a general exchange on h4 is not on the cards for White because Black still has his b7 pawn. However, the over-eager 4...d5 is met by: 5.Rxh4+ Qxh4 6.Bxh4 Kxh4 7.Ke6 Kg3 (b5;Kxd5) 8.Kxd5 Kxg2 9.d4 Kf3 10.Ke5 b5 11.d5 b4 12.Kd4, and wK is in the relevant quadrant, while bK is not. So, bK and bQ are tied to bPh4, the latter unable to advance because of the mating reply 5.Rh4, bQ being shut off on the *file* by his own pawn's move. Aforesaid bQ will be shut off on the *diagonal* after an *en passant* if: 4...Qe1 5.g4+ hxg3 6.Rh4 mate, or, in this, 5...Kh6 6.Rf6+ Kh7 (Kg5; Re6(Rf1)+) 7.g5, which works because e6 has been covered - with tempo! - by wR.

If 4...Qh2, bQ will be exposed on the diagonal, 5.Rf5+ Kg4 (Kh6;Bg5+,Kh7;Bf4) 6.Rg5+ Kf4 7.Bc7+ and 8.Bxh2. The main conclusion to be drawn is that Black has only three moves that will not worsen his position: *b7-b6;*, *b7-b5;*, and *d7-d6;*.

And if it were White to move? We recall the false trail 3.Rf4? Kh5... Well, we

can be methodical: wK has to control g6 and cannot play to g7 on account of Qxg2+. Next, wR, which has twin preoccupations, aggression along the fourth rank and protection of the f-file, ruling out Qf1+. Next, moving wPg2 makes no sense while bQ remains on h1. Finally, wB also targets h4, but the move 5.Bf6 is ruled out by: Qe1! 6.g4+ (else Qg3;) Kh6! (hxg3??) 7.g5+, as f6 is now blocked so Rf6+ is no longer legal, so, continuing: 7...Kh5 8.g6 h3! (the only way!) 9.Rf5+ Kg4 10.Re5 Qxd2 11.g7 Qa2+ 11.K- h2, and Black's hP will cost White his rook, with no win as wdP has gone with the wind. In résumé, White too has just three moves that do not drastically disturb matters: *Bd8-e7, d2-d3 and d2-d4*. After this reconnaissance we can proceed.

vii) We must point out that after: b5 5.d3! (only!) and in order not to lose pawns (d5? Bf6) Black has to choose 5...Qh2, which fails as follows when wP stands on d3: 6.Rf5+ Kg4 7.Rg5+ Kf4 8.Bc7+ Kxg5 9.Bxh2 b4 10.Ke7 Kf5 11.Kd6 b3 12.Be5, followed by a fatal zugzwang. For completeness' sake a little explanation is in order at this point: now (ie after 4...b6), if wB tries to manoeuvre 5.Be7? b5 6.Bd8 (d3? d6;d4? b4;), a like situation occurs, but with wPd2, leading this time to a draw, as after 6...Qh2 7.Rf5+ Kg4 8.Rg5+ Kf4 9.Bc7+ Kxg5 10.Bxh2 b4, White finds he has to lose a move: 11.d3/xxi and Black manages to catch up: Kf5 12.Bd6 b3 13.Ba3 Kf4 14.Kf6 Kg3 15.Kg5 Kxg2 16.Kxh4 Kf3 17.Bb2 Ke3 18.d4 Kd3 19.Kg5 Kc2 20.Ba3 b2 21.Bxb2 Kxb2 22.Kf5 Kc3 23.Ke5 Kc4. Finally, it is ill-advised for Black to seal bPd7's fate by: 4...d6 5.Be7, when: b6 6.d4! b5 7.d5, or 5...d5 6.d3! will be followed by zugzwangs, when White will have succeeded in holding the fourth rank open for his rook - or in slyly not closing it. Did you notice the delicate conditions determine how a 'slow' move by wdP follows a 'quick' move by bbP, and vice versa? With wPd7 wB is better off waiting on d8, and if bPd6 then wB should be on e7.

viii) White would lick his chops at: d6 6.Be7 b5 7.d5, with a decisive zugzwang: 7...b4 8.Rxb4 Qf1+ 9.Bf6 and 10.Rxh4+, or 7...h3 7.Rh4 mate, making use of the familiar interference on the file, or 7...Qe1 8.g4+ hxg3 9.Rh4 mate - the diagonal interference again. But in this is there not a snag, seeing that after 5...d6 the e6 square is no longer under black surveillance and one might think that 8.g3?! (instead of 8.g4+) is a dual, but no way! There would follow Qxg3; with a lurking draw after: 9.Rf5+ Kg4 (Kh6;Bf8+) 10.Rg5+ - a linear thrust - but: Kf3 11.Rxg3+ hxg3 12.Bxd6 g2 13.Bc5 b4, and d- and b-pawns breast their respective tapes simultaneously. On a lighter note we can observe that White's 8.g4+! is OK because bQ is prohibited by the Laws of Chess from capturing *en passant*! Anyway we can see why Black prefers a different 5th move.

ix) Awaiting 'the keys of the city' after: d6 7.Be7, but Black again finds something different.

x) With this move Black's dP has evaded the bishop's clutches, and the battle rages on.

- xi) It seems we are entering yet another phase, the only way being ...
- xii) ...and certainly not 11.d6? Kf5 12.Bg1 - losing a tempo, as we have seen - b3 13.Bd4 Kf4, while 11.Be5? Kf5, gaining the move-initiative: 12.Bb2 Kf4, when Black's hP will reach its seventh (or eighth!) heaven before White's dP.
- xiii) Is White in zugzwang?
- xiv) This is the only way to play it, blocking the pawn. The reason will become clear before much longer, we promise.
- xv) It turns out that *Black* is in zugzwang! A pity, though, that nowhere does the same position arise as a try with White to move.
- xvi) The grab on b3 is poisoned: 15.Kc5? Kg3 16.Kc4 Kxg2 17.Kxb3 h3 18.Be5 h2 19.Bxh2 Kxh2 and again bK comes in time, on this occasion from the right-hand side: 20.Kc4 Kg3 21.Kc5 Kf4 22.Kd6 Ke4.
- xvii) White's 16th and 17th are interchangeable.
- xviii) Another quick costume change for the actors.
- xix) Closing the fifth rank.
- xx) Qg1 26.Qf3+ Kh4 27.Bf6+.
- xxi) The forced loss of a tempo, necessary to control the e4 square! The explanation: if 11.Ke7 Kf5 12.Kd6 Ke4! and 13...Kd3.
-

SPOTLIGHT

editor: Jürgen Fleck



Not much support for Spotlight this time: contributions by Jose Miguel Quesada (Spain), Michael Roxlau (Germany) and Ignace Vandecasteele (Belgium). To make things worse, Spotlight's editor mistakenly deleted two other contributions via e-mail.

EG 138

p.202, G.Slepian (Study of the year 1995). As usual, many "Studies of the year" are unsound. This one is no exception: Black draws by 3.... b2 4.Rf1+ (4.Qh8 Rb6+ 5.Ka3 Rb3+ 6.Kxa4 h1Q 7.Qxh1+ b1Q 8.Rf1 Rb4+ draw is an interesting line) b1Q+ 5.Rxb1+ Kxb1 6.Qe4+ Kb2. A difficult situation has arisen. Black's pieces are very loose, and he is going to lose something. However, the strength of his pawn h2 enables him to escape with a draw: 7.Qe5+ (7.Kxa4 Rc4+ is an important tactical point; 7.Qh1 Rc1 8.Qxh2+ Bc2 9.Qe5+ Ka2 is a draw) Kc1 8.Qa1+ (8.Qf4+ Kb1 9.Qxh2 Bd1 draw) Kd2 9.Qh1 Rh6 10.Qd5+ (10.Kxa4 Ke2 11.Kb3 Kf2 draw, as the queen can never move) Ke2 11.Qe4+ Kf2 12.Qf4+ Kg2 13.Qg5+ (Now the rook falls, and because of the presence of the bishop the usual stalemate-based draw of h-pawn versus queen is not available) Kh1 (Only move. 13.... Kf2? 14.Qxh6 Kg2 15.Qg5+

Kf2 16.Qh4+ Kg2 17.Qg4+ Kf2 18.Qh3 Kg1 19.Qg3+ Kh1 20.Qf2, followed by marching the king to g3, shows White's winning plan.) 14.Qxh6 Bd7 (Only move. 14.... Bd1? 15.Qh3 wins) 15.Qg5 (15.Qh4 Kg2) Bg4 16.Qf4 Kg2 draw.

p.202, O.Pervakov (Study of the year 1996). Unsound, see Spotlight EG 137.

No 11650, L.Katsnelson. A dual: 9.Qd8+ Ka6 10.Qf6+ Ka5 11.Qc3, transposing back into the solution.

No 11671, A.Manyakhin. A dual: 2.Bd3 c2 3.Rc7 Kb1 4.Rxc2 a1Q 5.Kb3, transposing back into the solution.

No 11673, B.Olympiev. No solution: Black wins by 1.... Ra4+ 2.Kb5 R4a5+ 3.Kc4 (3.Kb4 Rh5 is similar) Rh5 4.Kb4 Rb8+ 5.Kc4 Kd8 etc., which is similar to note i).

No 11675, L.Katsnelson/V.Katsnelson. No solution: Black wins by 7.... e2 8.Bxc3 Rd1+ 9.Kb2 Bd4.

No 11676, E.Eilazyan. No solution: Black wins by 9.... Kc8 10.Rxg8+ Kb7 11.Ke1 (11.Rg2 Rxg2 12.Kxg2 Rd4 picks up the knight) Rb2 12.Rg4 Rh6.

No 11678, P.Rossi. It seems that 6.f3 is not strictly unique. Not only is the move-inversion 6.Kb3 h4 7.f3 possible, but 6.Be3 Kf6 7.f3 draws as well.

No 11679, B.Sidorov. Instead of aiming for a perpetual check, White should play 5.Bc4, which wins on the spot.

No 11682, B.Sidorov. The intended solution fails: 6.... Kb4 7.Bd8+ Qb5 wins for Black. But why should white strive for a draw? The initial position is clearly better for White. A particularly simple and straightforward win is 1.Bb6+ Kc8 (1.... Ke8 2.Se4 g5+ 3.Sf6+ Kf8 4.Rc2) 2.g5 Qg7 3.Rf7 Qg8 4.Ke7.

No 11683, S.Tkatchenko. Unsound: 3.Bd8 even wins.

No 11684, A.Jasik. A horribly difficult position for us humans, but a feast for a computer. Black wins by 2.... Qf5+ 3.Kd6+ Sf3 (after 4.Rh8+ Bh3 5.Qd1+ Kh2 White soon runs out of checks). In view of this, it is hardly relevant that the natural 1.Bc6 draws.

No 11685, P.Arestov. There is no clear-cut win for White after 1.... Kb4 2.Sc5 Kc4 3.Se6+ Bc7 or 3.... Sc7.

No 11687, B.Sidorov/V.Shanshin. Auto-plagiarism (81.5706) and unsound: there is a dual draw by 3.Sb5 Bb4 4.Sc3+ Bxc3 5.dxc3 b5 (what else? 5.... a2 6.Rxb7) 6.Rb4+ Ka5 7.Rb3 draw.

No 11691, V.Prigunov. No solution: 17.... h4 18.Kxd5 (18.Kc7 h3 19.Bf1 h2 20.Bg2 Sa6+ 21.Kc8 Kd4 draw) h3 19.Bf1 h2 20.Bg2 Kf2 21.Bh1 Kg1 22.Be4 Sd7 23.Kc6 Sf6 (all of a sudden the bishop is dominated) 24.Bf3 Kf2 25.Bh1 Kg1 26.b7 Kxh1 27.b8Q Kg2 draw. If White picks up the knight the resulting queen ending is only drawn, while after 28.Qxh2+ Kxh2 29.b5 Black has the surprising resource 29.... Sg4 with a draw.

No 11692, G.Nekhaev. This shows the same idea as the analysis of

129.10977 in Spotlight EG 131. So reading Spotlight may inspire you to compose a prize-winning study!

No 11693, A.Manvelyan.
 Interesting to compare against 109.8921 by the same composer, which has a different solution in spite of the outward similarity.

DIAGRAMS AND SOLUTIONS

editors: John Roycroft
 Harold v.d. Heijden

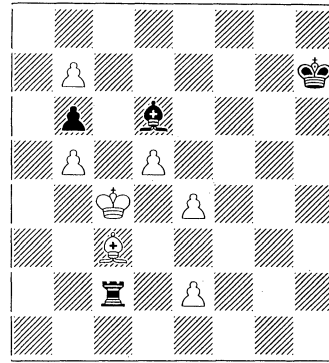


"64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie" 1998

This informal international tourney was published in "64-Sh.ob." 11/1999. Judge was O.Pervakov (Moscow). 32 studies by 24 composers entered.

judge's report/AJR remarks: "... no fewer than a third of the entries failed to run the gauntlet of the computer used for testing. ...-???-... The composers of three studies succeeded in rescuing their compromised pieces, so the corrections will be found in the following award."

No 11716 N.Rezvov and S.N.Tkachenko
 1st prize "64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie" 1998



c4h7 0340.51 7/4 Win.

No 11716 N.Rezvov (Odessa) and S.N.Tkachenko (Ukraine)

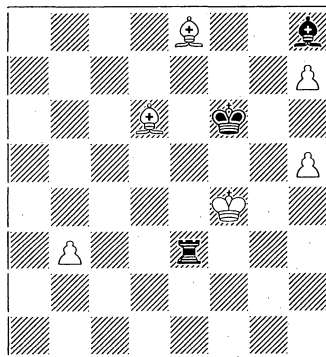
"A reasonable plan seems to be direct action to further the advance of the passed pawns by dint of 1.Kd3?, but there follows Rxc3+ 2.Kxc3 Kg6 3.Kd4 Kf6, with Black inviolable. So if the tempo gain idea fails it falls to the other candidate:" 1.Kd4/i Rxc3/ii 2.e5 Bb8/iii 3.Kxc3 Bxe5+ 4.Kc4 Bd6 5.e4 Kg6 6.e5 Bxe5 7.d6 Bxd6 8.Kd5 Bg3 9.Ke6/iv, and the rest is straightforward: Bh2 10.Kd7 Kf5 11.Kc8 Ke4 12.b8Q Bxb8 13.Kxb8 Kd5 14.Kb7(Ka7) Kc5 15.Ka6 wins.

- i) This threatens to play 2.e5.
- ii) Kg6 2.Bb4 Bb8 3.e5 (for Bd6) Rc7 4.d6 Rxb7 5.e6 Bxd6 6.Bxd6 Ra7 7.e7 Kf7 8.Kd5 Ra2 9.Kc6 Rxe2 10.Kxb6, with a win for White. Or Rxe2 2.Bb4 Bb8 3.d6 Rg2 4.d7 Rg8 5.Be7.
- iii) Rc4+ 3.Kxc4 Bxe5 4.d6 merges into the main line.

iv) "This nuance is decisive. By giving bK a shove White gains a tempo over 9.Kc6? Kf5 10.Kd7 Ke4, when White must concede a draw with 11.Kc6."

"A subtle and active plan that will appeal to the practical player. So as to win a tempo White declines for the time being to capture bR, ridding himself of a trio of pawns but as a result wK outfaces his opposite number to undertake a decisive invasion of the Q-side. Very expressive! Incidentally one of the Odessist composers, Sergei Tkachenko, has now run away with this magazine's first prize for the third year in succession. His resilience is the envy of us all."

No 11717 A.Visokosov
2nd prize 64-Shakmatnoe obozrenie 1998



f4f6 0353.30 6/4 Draw

No 11717 A.Visokosov (Moscow)
The diagram is a major revision of the first publication. 1.Bg6 Re6 2.Bb4 Se5 3.Bc3 Ke7 4.Bb4+ Kd8

5.Ba5+ Ke7 (Kd7;Bf5) 6.Bb4+ Kf6 7.Bc3 Bg7 8.Bf5/i Re8 9.Bg6/ii Rf8 10.Bf5 (Bxe5+? Ke6+;) Re8 11.Bg6 Re6 12.Bf5 Re7 13.Bb2 Bh6+ 14.Ke4 Bg7/iii 15.Kf4 Kf7 16.Bg6+ Ke6/iv 17.Bf5+ Kd5 18.Be4+ Ke6 19.Bf5+ Kf7 20.Bg6+ and the iron jaws of the positional draw retain their grip.

i) "No, White was not in zugzwang, he was just 'changing the record'."

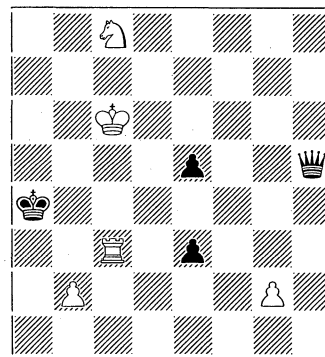
ii) 9.Bd7? Re7 10.Bf5 Kf7 11.Bg6+ Ke6 12.Bf5+ Kd5 13.Be4+ Kc5, with a royal break-out.

iii) Kg5 15.Bc1+ Kxh5 16.Ba3 Re8 17.h8Q draw.

iv) Sxg6+ 17.hxg6+ Kxg6 18.h8Q.

"The composer featured in the magazine's 1997 award with a study showing a similarly complex positional draw - a sure sign of talent."

No 11718 N.Kralin
3rd prize 64-Shakmatnoe obozrenie 1998



c6a4 3101.22

5/4 Win

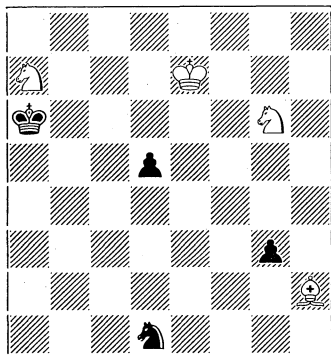
No 11718 N.Kralin (Moscow)

1.Sb6+ Ka5 (Kb4;Sd5+) 2.b4+ Kxb4
3.Sd5+ Ka4 4.Kc5 (for Sb6+) e4
5.g4 Qe5 6.Rxe3 Qg5/i 7.Rc3 Qe5
8.Rh3 Qg5 9.Re3 Qe5 10.Rxe4+
Qxe4 11.Sc3+ wins.

i) Qa1 7.Sb6+ Ka5 8.Ra3+ Qxa3
9.Sc4+ wins, so this explains the
main line, in which White finagles a
change of the move and a resultant
zugzwang.

"Bayonet-thrusts by wPP on opposite
flanks lead up to an exquisite duel
between bQ and wR. In every respect
an agreeable study."

No 11719 N.Mansarliisky and
S.N.Tkachenko (6/98, corr.11/99)
4th prize 64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie 1998



e7a6 0015.02 4/4 Win

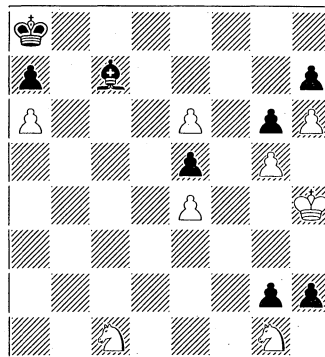
No 11719 N.Mansarliisky and
S.N.Tkachenko It hardly looks
promising to play wB to g1, inviting
Black to shepherd his g-pawn
through to promotion. 1.Bg1 Sf2
2.Sc6 Sh3 3.Be3 g2 4.Sd4 g1Q
5.Bxg1 Sxg1 6.Sf4/i Kb6 7.Sd3 Sh3

8.Kf6, "with an original position of
domination".

i) Is this better than agreeing a draw?
6.Se5? Sh3 7.Sd3 Sg5, skipping free.
"Light and airy, with a surprise
turn-up based on old Troitzky."

No 11720 V.Smyslov

Sp. pr. 64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie 1998



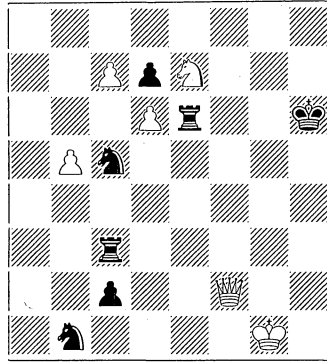
h4a8 0032.56 8/8 Win

No 11720 V.Smyslov (Moscow)

1.e7 Bb8/i 2.cSe2 (e8Q? h1Q+;)
h1Q+ 3.Kg3 Qh5 4.Sf3 Qh1 5.eSg1
Qh5 6.Sh3 g1Q+ 7.hSxg1 Qh1 8.e8S
Qh5 9.Sh3, rendering Black helpless.

i) "The seventh world champion
returns to his first love, the
composition of studies. The
Q-domination by minor pieces is one
of his favourite themes, shown here
finally with a targeted bishop."

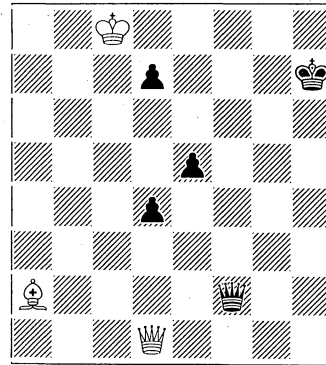
No 11721 K.Sumbatyan
1st HM 64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie 1998



g1h6 1607.32 6/7 Win
No 11721 K.Sumbatyan (Moscow)
dedicated to Boris Gusev 1.c8Q
c1Q+ 2.Kh2 Rh3+ 3.Kxh3 Qh1+
4.Kg3 Se4+ 5.Kf4 Rf6+ 6.Sf5+
Rxf5+ 7.Kxf5 Sxd6+ 8.Ke5 Sxc8
9.Kf6, with the following black,
zugzwang-induced options:
- Kh5 10.Qf5+ Kh4 11.Qh7+ Kg3
12.Qxh1, or
- Kh7 10.Qc2+ Kh8 11.Qxc8+, or
- bS- 10.Qd2+ Kh7 11.Qxd7+, or
- cS- 10.Qe3+ Kh7 11.Qe7+, or
- d6 10.Qf4+ Kh7 11.Qf5+ Kh8
12.Qxc8+, or
- Qh3 10.Qf4+ Kh7 11.Qe4+ Kh8
12.Qe8+ Kh7 13.Qf7+, or
- Qh5 10.Qg3 wins.

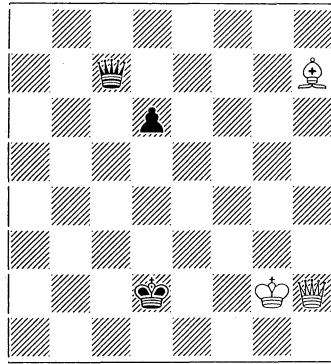
"The reciprocal zugzwang is new,
with an imposing demonstration of
power by wQ, but the introduction
does not live up to the standard of
the finale."

No 11722 A. and S.Manyakhin
=2nd/3rd HM 64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie
1998



c8h7 4010.03 3/5 Win
No 11722 A. and S.Manyakhin
(Lipetsk) 1.Qh5+ Kg7 2.Qg5+, with:
- Kf8 3.Qg8+ Ke7 4.Qd8+ Kd6
5.Qc7+ Ke7 6.Qxd7+ Kf8 7.Qd8+
Kg7 8.Qg5+ Kh7 9.Bb1+ Kh8
10.Qe7 d3 11.Bxd3 e4 12.Bxe4 Qf7
13.Qe5+ Qg7 14.Qh5+ Kg8 15.Bd5+
Kf8 16.Qf5+ Ke8 17.Qe6+ Kf8
18.Bc4 wins. or
- Kh7 3.Bb1+ Kh8 4.Qe7 Kg8
5.Bh7+ Kh8 6.Bd3 e4 7.Bxe4 Kg8
8.Bh7+ Kh8 9.Bd3 Kg8 10.Bc4+
Kh8 11.Qe5+ Kh7 12.Qh5+ Kg7
13.Qg5+ Kf8 14.Qg8+ Ke7 15.Qd8+
Kd6 16.Qc7+ Ke7 17.Qxd7+ Kf8
18.Qd8+ Kg7 19.Qg5+ Kh7 20.Bd3+
Kh8 21.Qh6+ Kg8 22.Bc4+ wins. "A
synthesis of three of the authors'
ideas, and a correction of their study
which appeared in 64 in 1996."

No 11723 A. and S.Manyakhin
 =2nd/3rd HM 64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie
 1998

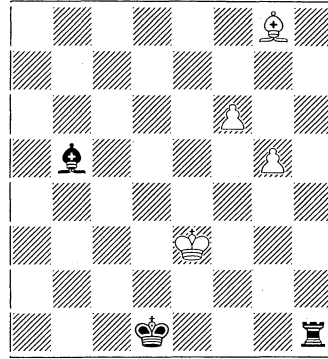


g2d2 4010.01 3/3 Win

No 11723 A. and S.Manyakhin
 (Lipetsk) 1.Kf3+? Kc1 2.Qf4+ Kb2
 3.Qb4+, and now not Ka2? 4.Bg8+
 Ka1 5.Qa3+ Kb1 6.Ba2+ Kc2
 7.Bb3+ Kd2 8.Qb2+ Kd3 9.Qe2+
 Kd4 10.Qe3 mate, but Kc1 4.Bf5
 Qc6+ drawing. So: 1.Kf1+ Kd1
 2.Qe2+ Kc1 3.Qe1+ Kb2 4.Qb4+
 Ka2 (Kc1;Qb1+) 5.Bg8+ Ka1 6.Qd2
 Kb1 7.Ba2+ Ka1 8.Be6/i d5/ii
 9.Bxd5 Qc2 10.Qd4+ Qb2 11.Qa4+
 Kb1 12.Be4+ Kc1 13.Qc4+ Kd1
 14.Qd3+ Kc1 15.Bf5, winning with
 the zugzwang.
 i) 8.Bd5? Qc2 9.Qd4+ Qb2 10.Qa4+
 Kb1 11.Be4+ Kc1 12.Qc4+ Kd1
 13.Qd3+ Kc1 14.Bf5 d5 15.Qe3+
 Qd2 16.Qa3+ Qb2 17.Qd3 d4, draw.
 ii) Kb1 9.Bf5+ Ka1 10.Qd4+ Ka2
 11.Qa4+ Kb2 12.Qb4+ Ka2 13.Be6+
 Ka1 14.Qa3+ Kb1 15.Bf5+. Finis.
 "The composers have never ceased
 their search, with good success, for

new ideas in the Q+B vs Q
 endgame."

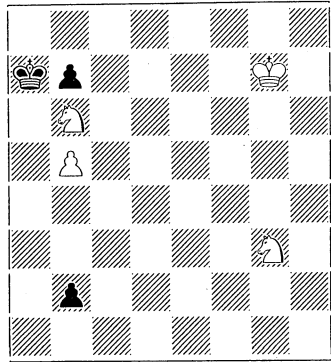
No 11724 Gh.Umnov (Podolsk)
 4th HM 64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie 1998



e3d1 0340.20 4/3 Win

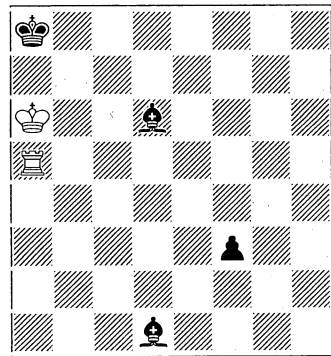
No 11724 Gh.Umnov (Podolsk)
 1.f7? Rf1 2.g6 Bc4, draw. Therefore:
 1.Bb3+ Kc1/i 2.f7 Rf1/ii 3.g6 Be8
 4.f8Q (fxe8Q? Re1+;) Rxf8 5.g7
 wins. How long before one is
 convinced that this is the right
 result?!
 i) Black already sees a use for his
 rook on the e-file.
 ii) Rh8 3.g6 Be8 4.g7 Rh3+ 5.Kf2
 wins.
 "An elegant miniature, not great as to
 content but with a memorable kernel.
 Sure to please the solver." And any
 player, and indeed everyone else.
 What a lovely little thing!

No 11725 V.Smyslov
sp HM 64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie 1998



g7a7 0002.12 4/3 Draw
No 11725 V.Smyslov 1.Sd5 b1Q
2.b6+, with:
- Ka6 3.Se2 and 4.eSc3, or
- Kb8 3.Sh5 and 4.hSf6.
The pair of drawing S-manoevres
constitute an original echo.

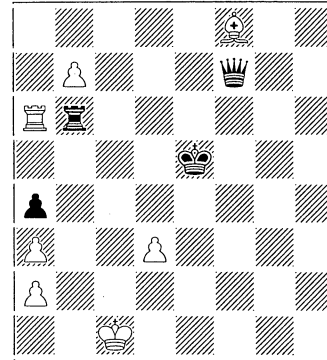
No 11726 V.Markov
1st comm. 64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie 1998



a6a8 0160.01 2/4 Draw

No 11726 V.Markov (Saratov)
1.Rd5 Be2+ 2.Kb6 Be7 3.Kc7 Bb4
4.Kb6 Be7 5.Kc7 Ka7 6.Ra5+ Ba6
7.Rf5 Be2 8.Ra5+ Ba6 9.Rf5
positional draw.

No 11727 V.Neishtadt
2nd comm. 64-Shakhmatnoe obozrenie
1998



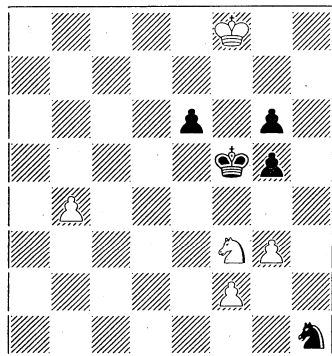
c1e5 3410.41 7/4 Draw
No 11727 V.Neishtadt (Barnaul)
1.d4+ (Rxb6? Qc7+;) Kxd4 2.Rxb6
Qc7+ 3.Bc5+ Qxc5+ 4.Kb1(Kb2)
Qxb6+ 5.Ka1, with 6.b8Q Qxb8
stalemate.

Moscow Town Championship 1998

This formal tourney was judged by
Viktor Ivanov, Moscow.
set theme: 'Two original studies
showing an effective move by a
white pawn, but not an
underpromotion.' To accompany the
submissions it was required to
provide 4 studies published during
1997. However, from all these the

judging would count (from any single composer), only one thematic and two published studies. Despite - or perhaps because of - this restriction, some unpublished work was accepted as 'published'. Kalinin's second study given below was probably one of the originals that sneaked through, as was Tarnopolsky's second, we may assume. To decipher such awards requires the skills of the wartime code-breakers! [Recommended reading: *Between Silk and Cyanide*, by Leo Marks, 1998.]

No 11728 K.Tarnopolsky
1st place Moscow Town Ch. 1998

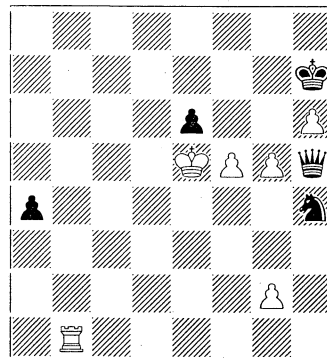


f8f5 0004.33 5/5 Win
No 11728 K.Tarnopolsky (Moscow)
1.g4+/i with:
- Kf6/ii 2.b5 Sxf2 3.b6 Sd3 4.b7 Sc5 5.Se5 Sxb7 6.Sd7 mate, or
- Ke4 2.Sxg5+ Kf4 3.b5 Ke5 4.Se4 and Black is in zugzwang.
i) Not 1.b5? Sxf2 2.b6 Sd3 3.b7 Sc5 4.b8Q Sd7+. Nor 1.Ke7? Sxf2

2.Kd6 Se4+ 3.Kc6 Sc3.
ii) Kf4 2.b5, and 5.b8Q+. Or Kxg4 2.b5, and 5.Se5+, 6.b8Q. Or Ke4 2.Sxg5+ Kd5 3.f3.

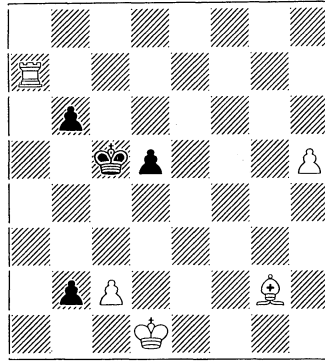
"This was the study that expressed the set theme best: the move 5.Se5! forces Black to annihilate the 'active' wPb7 leading to the beautiful pure checkmate. With its 10 men the theme is incarnated not in quantity but in content quality."

No 11729 N.Kralin
2nd place Moscow Town Ch. 1998



e5h7 3103.42 6/5 Draw
No 11729 N.Kralin (Moscow)
1.Rb7+ Kg8 2.h7+, with a pair of thematic lines:
- Qxh7 3.Rxh7/i Kxh7 4.fxe6 a3 5.e7 Sg6+ 6.Kd4 Sxe7 7.Kc3 a2 8.Kb2, hauling the aP in to draw, or
- Kh8 3.Rb8+ Kxh7 4.Kf6 Sxf5 5.Rb7+ Sg7 6.Rxg7+ Kh8 7.Re7 Kg8 8.g4 Qh8+ 9.Kg6 Kf8 10.Re8+ Kxe8 stalemate.
i) 3.Rb8+? Kg7 4.Rb7+ Kh8 5.Rb8+ Qg8 6.Rxg8+ Kxg8 7.fxe6 a3 wins.

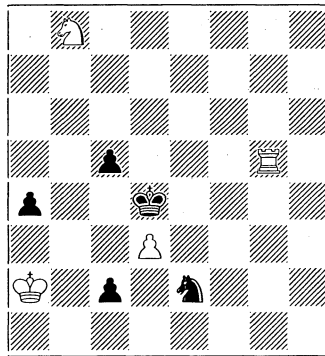
No 11730 A.Kalinin
3rd place Moscow Town Ch. 1998



d1c5 0110.23 5/4 Win

No 11730 A.Kalinin (Moscow)
1.Rc7+ Kd6/i 2.Rc6+ Kxc6 3.Bxd5+
Kxd5 4.c4+ Kxc4 5.Kc2 wins.
i) Kd4 2.c3+ Kd3 3.Bf1+. If Kb5
2.c4+. And if Kb4 2.c3+ Kb3
3.Bxd5+ winning.

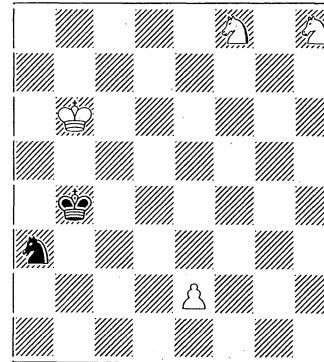
No 11731 A.Kalinin
Moscow Town Championship 1998



a2d4 0104.13 4/5 Draw

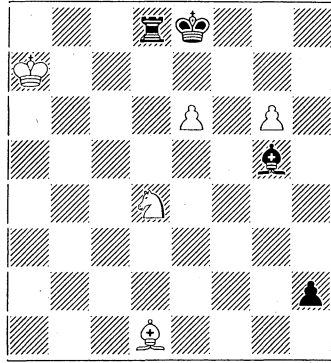
No 11731 A.Kalinin 1.Sc6+ Kxd3/i
2.Rxc5 Sc3+ 3.Rxc3+ii Kxc3 4.Sd4
Kxd4 5.Kb2 Kd3 6.Kc1, and a3
stalemate, or Kc3 stalemate.
i) Kc3 2.Rxc5+ Kxd3 3.Rxc2 draw.
ii) 3.Kb2? a3+ 4.Kc1 S mates.

No 11732 K.Tarnopolsky
Moscow Town Championship 1998



b6b4 0005.10 4/2 Win
No 11732 K.Tarnopolsky dedicated
to GM A.P.Grin/Gulyaev 1.e4 Kc4/i
2.e5 Kd5 3.e6 Kd6 4.hSg6 Sc4+
5.Kb5/ii Se3 6.e7 Sd5 7.e8S mate,
and an 'ideal' one at that - not 7.e8Q?
Sc7+.
i) Sc4+ 2.Kc6 Se5+ 3.Kd6 wins.
ii) 5.Kb7 Sa5+ 6.Kc8 Sc6 draw.

No 11733 N.Kralin
1st prize, 'Vodka' ty at Pula 1997



a7e8 0341.21 5/4 Draw
No 11733 N.Kralin 1.g7 Ra8+
(Ke7;Sc6+) 2.Kxa8 h1Q+ 3.Ka7 Qh7
4.Ba4+ Kd8/i 5.e7+, with:
- Kxe7 6.Bc2 Qg8 7.Bb3 Qxg7
8.Sf5+, targetting bQg7, or
- Bxe7 6.Se6+ Kc8 7.Bd7+ Kxd7
8.Sf8+ Bxf8 9.gxf8S+,
echo-targetting bQh7.
i) Ke7 5.Sf5+ Kxe6 6.Ka6 Kxf5
7.Bc2+ wins.

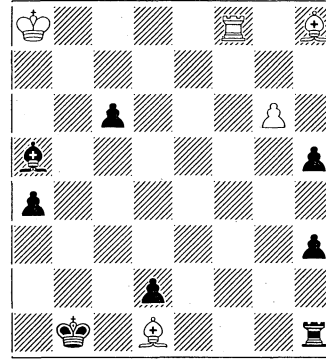
This was, of course, one of Kralin's published submissions for the championship, which Tarnopolsky won by a single point from Kralin, ahead of Kalinin in a close contest.

Moscow championship, 1999

theme: In a study where White wins Black's counterplay includes the sacrifice of a piece or pawn (preferably with a single capture reply by White) parried compulsorily by a white sacrifice of a piece (but

not a pawn) to two recaptures.
judge's report/AJR remarks: We read that in each section (genre) there was both a thematic exercise (one study to count) and submission of work published in 1998 or other originals (two). There was no further elaboration.

No 11734 K.Tarnopolsky
1st place Moscow championship, 1999



a8b1 0450.15 5/8 Win
No 11734 K.Tarnopolsky (Moscow).
1.Bxa4? Bb4 2.g7 Rg1 3.Rf1+ Rxf1
4.g8Q Rf8+ draw. So 1.g7 Rg1
2.Rf1 h2 3.Bxa4+ d1Q 4.Bxd1/i
h1Q/ii 5.Ba4+ Ka2 6.Ra1+
Kxa1(Rxa1) 7.g8Q+ wins.
i) 4.Rxd1? Rxd1 5.g8Q Rd8+.
ii) Bc3 5.Bb3+ Rxf1 6.g8Q h1Q
7.Qg6+ wins.

No explanation is given why this was the sole entry quoted.
HvdH remarks: in the 1.Bxa4? line Black might even win after 4...Rf8+ and in the solution Black can improve with 5...Rxf1 6.g8Q c5+,

7.Ka7 Qf3 and Black wins

Moscow Town 1998

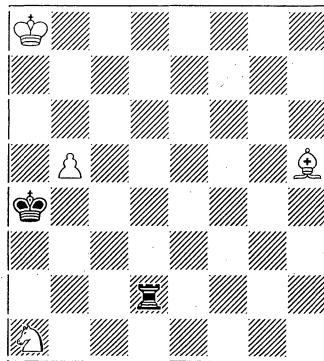
This formal tourney was judged by K.Tarnopolsky (Moscow)

set theme: no more than ten chessmen

22 studies by 18 composers entered of which 8 were published in the provisional award.

remarks: It is reassuring that these traditional annual tourneys with a ceiling of 10 men per diagram continue without disruption.

No 11735 B.Gusev and K.Sumbatyan
=1st/2nd prize Moscow Town 1998

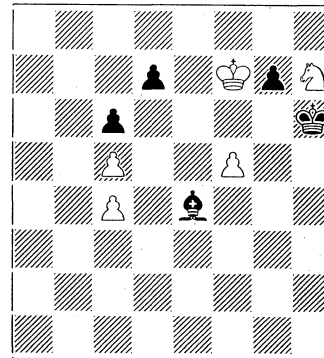


a8a4 0311.10 4/2 Win
No 11735 B.Gusev and K.Sumbatyan 1.b6 Ka3/i 2.b7/ii Rd8+ 3.Ka7 Kb2 4.Bg4 Re8/iii 5.Bd7/iv, with:
- Rf8 6.Sb3 Kxb3 7.Bc8 Rf7 8.Be6+ K- 9.Bxf7, or
- Rh8 6.Sc2 Kxc2 7.Bc8 Rh7 8.Bf5+ K- 9.Bxh7 winning.
i) Ra2 2.b7 Kb+ 3.Kb8 Rxa1 4.Kc7

aRc1+ 5.Kd7. Or Rd5 2.Bg4 Ra5+ 3.Kb8 Rg5 4.Bd7+ Ka5 5.Kc7 wins.
ii) 2.Bg6? Rd6 3.b7 Ra6+ and 4...Rxc6 draw.
iii) Kxa1 5.Bc8 Rd2 6.b8Q Ra2+ 7.Ba6 wins.
iv) 5.Sb3? Kxb3 6.Bd7 Rh8 7.Bc8 Rh7 draw. Or if 5.Sc2? Kxc2 6.Bd7 Rf8 7.Bc8 Rf7 draw.

"Black intends to eliminate wS with bK and wP with bR, but this plan is countered by White using wB to restrict the mobility of bR, deceiving both it and its leader to occupy squares vulnerable to winning checks."

No 11736 E.Kolesnikov
=1st/2nd prize Moscow Town 1998



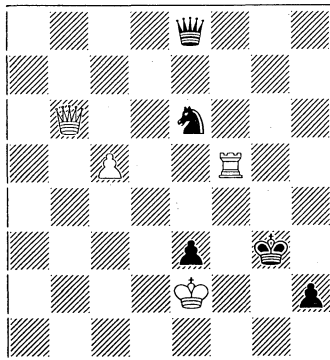
f7h6 0031.33 5/5 Draw
No 11736 E.Kolesnikov 1.f6 Bg6+/i 2.Kg8/ii Bxh7+ 3.Kh8 Kg6/iii 4.fxg7z Kh6 5.g8Q Bxg8 6.Kxg8 Kg6 7.Kf8 Kf6 8.Ke8 Ke6 9.Kd8 d5 10.cxd6 Kxd6 11.Kc8 draw.
i) Bxh7 2.fxg7z Kg5 3.Ke7 draw.
ii) 2.Kf8? Bxh7 3.fxg7 Kg6 4.g8Q+

Bxg8 5.Kxg8 Kf6 6.Kf8 Ke6 7.Ke8 d5 8.cxd6 Kxd6 9.Kd8 c5 10.Kc8, and White is short of just one tempo in order to draw.

iii) gxf6 stalemate, or Bg8 4.f7 Bxf7 stalemate.

"To save himself W sacrifices his knight, runs away with his king into the corner and thanks to a stalemate threat secures his pawn's advance. The end result is a drawn P-ending."

No 11737 N.Kralin
3rd prize Moscow Town 1998



e2g3 4103.12 4/5 Draw
No 11737 N.Kralin 1.Rf3+/i Kg2 2.Rf2+/ii exf2 3.Qb7+ Qc6 4.Qxc6+ Kg1 5.Qh1+ Kxh1 6.Kf1 Sxc5 7.Kxf2 draw.

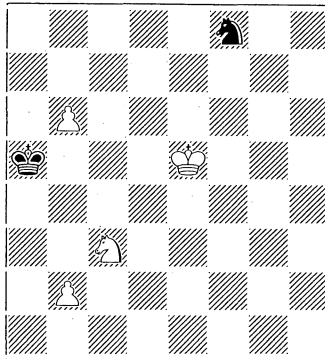
i) 1.c6? h1Q 2.Qxe3+ Kg4 wins. Or if 1.Qd6+? Kg4 2.Rf1 h1Q 3.Rxh1 Sf4+ 4.Ke1 Sg2+ wins.

ii) 2.Qb2? Sd4+ 3.Qxd4 Qb5+ 4.Kxe3 Qb3+ wins.

"In the battle to hold the initiative W sacrifices a rook and Bl a queen. W's climactic counterpunch leaves him

with a bare king - but it so happens that Bl is no better off himself."

No 11738 N.Kralin
1st HM Moscow Town 1998



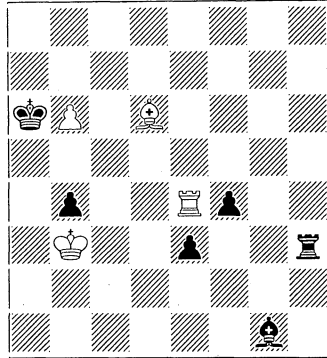
e5a5 0004.20 4/2 Win
No 11738 N.Kralin 1.b7 Ka6 2.b8Q (b8S+? Kb7;) Sd7+ 3.Kd6 Sxb8 4.Kc7 Ka7 5.Sb5+, with:

- Ka6 6.Sd4 Ka7 7.Sc6+ Sxc6 8.Kxc6 wins, or
- Ka8 6.b3 Sa6+ 7.Kb6 Sb4 8.Sc7+ Kb8 9.Sa6+ Kxa6 10.Kxa6 wins.

The two lines show a winning S-swap on different squares - an original echo.

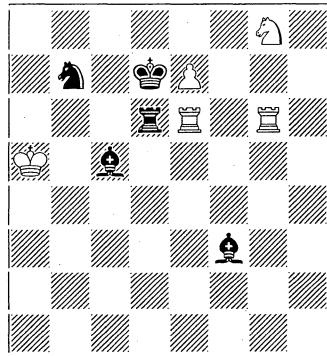
No 11739 L. and V.Katsnelson 1.b7 Kxb7 2.Bxf4 e2+ 3.Kc2, with:
- Re3 4.Rxb4+ Kc6 5.Bg3 Rxc3 6.Kd2 Re3 7.Rb1 Bf2 8.Re1, a 'cross' picture, or
- Be3 4.Rxb4+ Kc6 5.Rb1 Bxf4 6.Re1 Re3 7.Kd2, drawn again.

No 11739 L. and V.Katsnelson
2nd HM Moscow Town 1998



b3a6 0440.13 4/6 Draw

No 11740 N.Kralin
1st commendation Moscow Town 1998



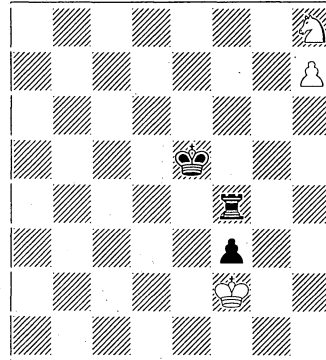
a5d7 0564.10 5/5 Draw

No 11740 N.Kralin White is in check so has no time to start giving checks on his own account. 1.Kb5/i Bc6+ 2.Ka6 Rxe6 3.e8Q+ Rxe8 4.Sf6+, with:
- Kc8 5.Sxe8 Bxe8 6.Rc6+ Bxc6

stalemate, or

- Kd8 5.Sxe8 Bxe8 6.Rc6 Bf7 7.Kxb7 Bd5 8.Kb8 Bxc6 stalemate. Pure stalemates end both lines.
i) 1.Ka4? Bc6+ 2.Kb3 Bd5+ and Black wins.

No 11741 D.Pletnev
2nd commendation Moscow Town 1998

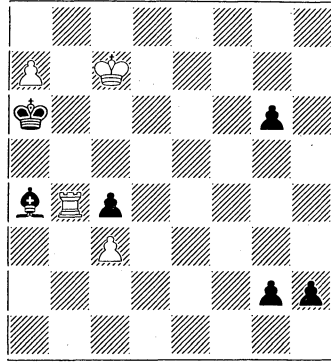


f2e5 0301.11 3/3 Win

No 11741 D.Pletnev 1.Sf7+ Rxf7 2.h8Q+ Rf6 3.Qc8 Kd6 4.Qe8z Rf5 5.Qg6+ Ke5 6.Qc6z, with:
- Rf6 7.Qd7 Rf5 8.Ke3 f2 9.Qe7+ Kd5 10.Qe4+ and 11.Qxf5 winning, or
- Kf4 7.Qc7+ Kg5 8.Qg7+ Kh5 9.Qh7+ Kg5 10.Kg3 f2 11.Qg7+ Kh5 12.Qg4+ and 13.Qxf5, winning again.

No 11742 Yu.Lubkin 1...Bc6 2.Ra4+ Kb5 3.Ra5+ Kxa5 4.Kxc6 Ka4 5.a8Q+ Kb3 6.Qb8+ Kxc3 7.Qxh2 wins.

No 11742 Yu.Lubkin
3rd commendation Moscow Town 1998



c7a6 0130.24 4/6 BTM, Win

Moscow town 1999

theme: diagram force maximum 10 men - traditional for this annual formal tourney, which was judged by K.Tarnopolsky (Moscow) 20 studies by 18 composers entered judge's report: the general level was lower than in previous years

No 11743 Pavel Arestov

(Krasnogorsk). 1.Se3 Bb4+ 2.Kxb4/i dSc6+/ii 3.Rxc6 Sxc6+ 4.Kc3, with:

- c1Q+ 5.Sc2+ Kb1 6.Ba2+ Kxa2 stalemate, or

- c1R+ 5.Kd2 Rb1 6.Bc2 Rb2 7.Sxf1 Sd4 8.Se3 Sxc2 9.Sd1 Ra2 10.Sc3 Rb2 11.Sd1, positional draw.

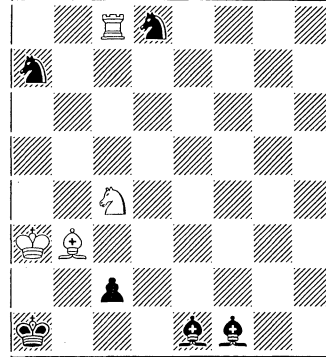
i) 2.Ka4? Bb5+ 3.Kxb4 dSc6+ 4.Rxc6+ dSxc6+ 5.Kc3 c1R+ wins, but not c1Q+? Sc2+ Kb1 6.Ba2+ Kxa2 stalemate.

ii) aSc6+ 3.Kc3 c1Q+ 4.Sc2+ Kb1 5.Ba2+ Kxa2 6.Ra8+ Kb1 7.Ra1 mate.

"Two beautiful variations. The first ends in an economical stalemate with a white piece pinned. The other branch looks as if will be the study's refutation but it's actually a positional draw."

No 11743 P.Arestov

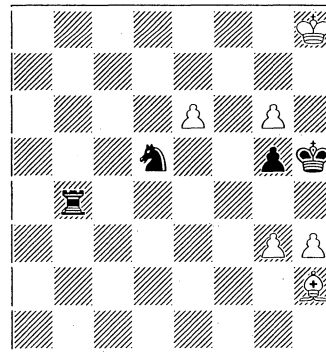
=1st/2nd prize Moscow town 1999



a3a1 0177.01 4/6 Draw

No 11744 An.Kuznetsov and N.Kralin

=1st/2nd prize Moscow town 1999



h8h5 0313.41 6/4 Win

No 11744 An.Kuznetsov and N.Kralin (Moscow). 1.g7 Sf6/i 2.g4+ Kg6 3.Be5 Rb7 4.e7/ii Rxe7+ 5.Bxf6, with:

- Re8+ 6.g8R+ (g8Q+? Kxf6); Kxf6 7.Rxe8, or

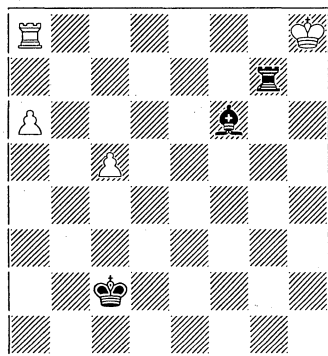
- Kxf6 6.g8S+ wins.

i) Rb8+ 2.g8Q Rxg8+ 3.Kxg8 Kg6 4.Bg1 Kf6 5.Kh7. Or Se7 2.g4+ Kh6 3.g8S+ Sxg8 4.Kxg8 Rb2 5.e7 Re2 6.Kf7 wins.

ii) 4.Bxf6? Rxg7, and 5.Bxg7 stalemate, or 5.e7 Rh7+ 6.Kg8 Rg7+, or 5.Bxg5 Ra7 6.Bd8 Rh7+ 7.Kg8 Rxh3 8.e7 Re3 9.Kf8 Rf3+. It would be no better to play 4.h4? Rxg7 5.h5+ Kh6 6.Bxf6 Rg8+ 7.Kxg8 stalemate.

"Stalemate attempts to counter the strong passed pawns are thwarted by underpromotions to knight and to rook."

No 11745 Gh.Umnov
3rd prize Moscow town 1999



h8c2 0430.20 4/3 Draw
No 11745 Gherman Umnov

(Podolsk). 1.Rf8 Bd4 2.c6/i Kd3/ii 3.a7/iii Rxa7 4.Kg8 Rg7+ 5.Kh8 Kc4 6.Rf4 Rf7+ 7.Kg8 Rxf4 8.c7 Rg4+ 9.Kf8 Bc5+ 10.Ke8 Rg8+ 11.Kd7 Rg7+ 12.Kc6 draw.

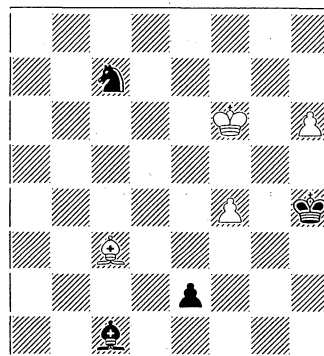
i) 2.Rf2+? Kd3 3.Rf3+ Ke4 4.Rf8 Be5 5.c6 Kd5. Or 2.Rf4? Rg4+ 3.Rxd4 Rxd4 4.Kg7 Ra4 5.Kf6 Rxa6+ 6.Ke5 Kc3 7.Kd5 Kb4 8.c6 Kb5 9.c7 Ra8 10.Kd6 Kb6 11.Kd7 Kb7 wins.

ii) Kc3 3.Rf3+ and 4.c7. Or Kd2 3.Rf4 Rg4+ 4.Rxd4 Rxd4 5.c7 draw.

iii) 3.Rf4? Be5 4.Rf5 Rg5+ 5.Rxe5 Rxe5 6.Kg8 Re7 7.Kf8 Rc7 8.a7 Rxa7 9.Ke8 Rc7 wins.

"Subtle analysis based on a well-known win study by the Italian Bianchetti."

No 11746 S.Tkachenko
1st honourable mention Moscow town 1999



f6h4 0043.21 4/4 Win
No 11746 Sergei (probably patronymic 'N', not 'I') Tkachenko, Ukraine. 1.h7 Sd5+/i 2.Kf7/ii Sxc3 3.h8Q+ Kg4 4.Qxc3 Bxf4 5.Kg6/iii

Bg3 6.Qd3 e1Q 7.Qf5+ Kh4 8.Qh5 mate.

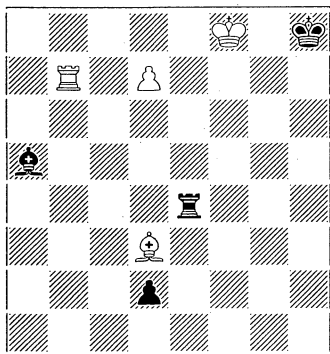
i) Bb2 2.h8Q+ Kg4 3.Kg6 Bxc3 4.Qxc3 Kxf4 5.Qxc7+.

ii) Clearly wK must stay off the e-file, otherwise Black gets his own promotion-with-check in first. 2.Kf5? Se7+ 3.Kf6 Bb2 4.h8Q+ Kg4 5.Qg7+ Kf3 6.Kxe7 e1Q+ 7.Bxe1 Bxg7 8.f5 Ke4 draw.

iii) Not just an entirely unexpected position of reciprocal zugzwang, but one which White would have ruined had 2.Kg6? been chosen.

"Both sides use their advanced passed pawns with a reci-zug in mind. The end-result is that White mates when the force present indicates a draw."

No 11747 A.Stavrietsky and N.Ryabinin
2nd honourable men. Moscow town 1999



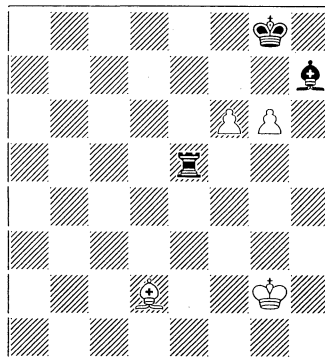
f8h8 0440.11 4/4 Win
No 11747 A.Stavrietsky and N.Ryabinin (Tambov region). 1.Bc2? Rf4+ 2.Ke7 Rf1. Or 1.Rb1? Re1

2.Rb2 Rg1. So, 1.d8S Re8+ (d1Q;Sf7+) 2.Kxe8 d1Q 3.Kf8 Bb4+ 4.Rxb4 Qf3+ (Qxd3;Rh4+) 5.Bf5 (Sf7+? Qxf7;) Qxf5+ 6.Sf7+ Kh7 7.Rh4+ Kg6 8.Rh6 mate.

"Both sides live dangerously, relying on their passed pawns and mating threats. The finale is 'ideal' with active self-blocks."

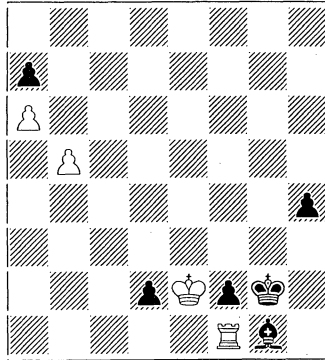
HvdH attends us to the extra line: 3...Sxd3 4.Sf7+ Kh7 5.Se5+ wins

No 11748 N.Argunov
Commendation Moscow town 1999



g2g8 0340.20 4/3 Win
No 11748 N.Argunov (Barnaul). 1.f7+ Kg7 2.Bh6+ Kxh6 3.gxh7 Rg5+ 4.Kh3/i Rh5+ 5.Kg4 Kg7 6.Kxh5 Kxh7 7.f8R wins.
i) 4.Kf3? Rf5+ 5.Ke4 Kxh7 6.Kxf5 Kg7.

No 11749 V.Kovalenko
Commendation Moscow town 1999



e2g2 0130.24 4/6 Win

No 11749 V.Kovalenko (Maritime province). 1.b6 d1Q+ 2.Kxd1 Kxf1/i 3.bxa7 h3 4.Kd2/ii h2 5.a8B h1Q 6.Bxh1 Bh2 7.a7 Kg1 8.Bg2 Kxg2 9.a8Q+ wins.

i) h3 3.Ke2 h2 4.bxa7 h1Q 5.a8Q+ Kh2 6.Qxh1+ Kxh1 7.a7 wins.

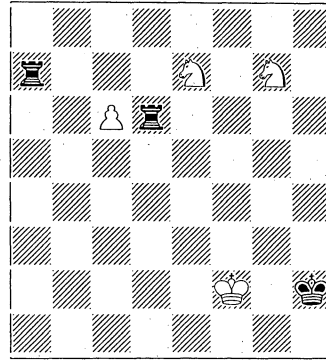
ii) 4.a8Q? h2 5.a7 h1Q 6.Qxh1 stalemate.

"In both the previous studies defeating Black's plan hangs on an underpromotion."

No 11750 E.Markov (Saratov). 1.Se8 Rd8 2.c7 Rxe8 3.c8Q aRxe7 4.Qf5 Re2+ 5.Kf3 R8e3+ 6.Kg4 Re4+ 7.Kf3 R2e3+ 8.Kf2 Re2+ 9.Kf3 R4e3+ 10.Kg4 Rg2+ 11.Kh4 draw.

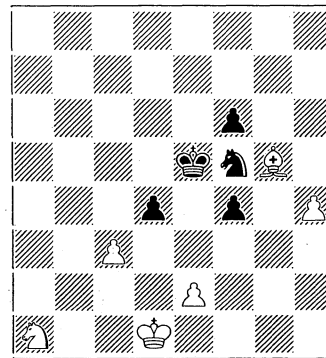
"New ideas with the material Q vs. RR."

No 11750 E.Markov
Commendation Moscow town 1999



f2h2 0602.10 4/3 Draw

No 11751 V.Sokolovsky
Commendation Moscow town 1999

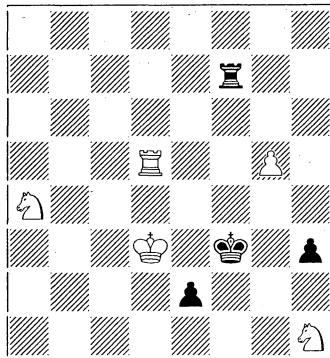


d1e5 0014.33 6/5 Win

No 11751 V.Sokolovsky (Voronezh) 1.cxd4+ Sxd4 2.Bxf4+ Kxf4 3.e3+ Kxe3 4.Sc2+ Sxc2 5.h5 Ke4 6.h6 Se3+ 7.Kc1 wins, but not 7.Kd2? Sc4+ and 8...Se5.

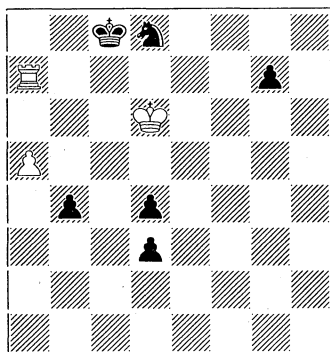
"A great final play with the kings."

No 11752 G.Amiryan
Commendation Moscow town 1999



d3f3 0402.12 5/4 Win
No 11752 G.Amiryan (Erevan).
1.Kd2 Kg2 2.Sc3 Kxh1 3.Sxe2 h2
4.g6 Rg7 5.Ke3 Rxc6 6.Rd1+ Rg1
7.Kf2 Rxd1 8.Sg3 mate.
"An interesting fight against passed
bPP."

No 11753 Yu.Zemlyansky
Commendation Moscow town 1999



d6c8 0103.14 3/6 Win

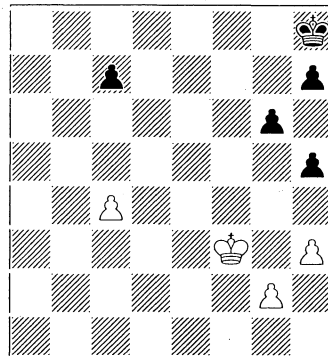
No 11753 Yu.Zemlyansky
(Krasnoyarsk) 1.a6 Kb8 2.Rd7/i d2/ii
3.a7+ Ka8 4.Kc5 d1Q 5.Kb6 Sc6
(Se6;Rb7) 6.Rf7 Sd8 7.Rf8 and
8.Rxd8 mate.

i) 2.Rxc7? d2 3.Rg1 Ka7 draw.

ii) b3 3.Rxd8+ Ka7 4.Rh8 Kxa6
5.Kc5.

"And this time the same basic
conflict ends in a checkmate."

No 11754 L. and V.Katsnelson
Commendation Moscow town 1999



f3h8 0000.34 4/5 Draw

No 11754 L. and V.Katsnelson (St
Petersburg). 1.Ke4 Kg7 2.Kd5 Kf6
3.Kc6 Ke5 4.Kxc7 Kd4 5.Kd6 Kxc4
6.Ke5 Kd3 7.Kf4 Ke2/i 8.Kg3 g5
9.Kh2 Kf2 10.Kh1 Kg3 11.Kg1 g4
12.Kh1/ii Kf2 13.Kh2 g3+ 14.Kh1
Kf1 15.h4 Ke1/iii 16.Kg1 Ke2
17.Kh1 Ke3 18.Kg1 Kf4 19.Kf1 Kg4
20.Ke2 Kxh4 21.Kf3 h6 22.Kf4
stalemate, this time of Black.

i) h4 8.Kf3 Kd2 9.Kf2 h5 10.Kg1 is a
draw.

ii) 12.hxc4? hxc4 13.Kh1 Kf2

14.Kh2 h5 15.Kh1 h4 16.Kh2 h3. Or 12.Kf1? Kh2.

iii) The alternative, 15...Kf2 stalemates White.

"A welcome guest - a pawns-only study. A pity that the stalemate of White doesn't quite come off."

Macek-90 JT

HvdH

On the occasion of the 90th birthday of Ing. Frantisek Macek, the famous Prague collector of endgame studies, a formal endgame study tourney was organised by Ceskoslovensky Sach. Tournament director Jiri Jelinek forwarded 56 studies to the judge Jaroslav Polasek (Czech Republic), who demolished several of them. Corrections were not allowed: "I don't consider corrections in a formal tournament for fair". Finally, 23 studies were considered for the provisional award that was published in CS x/99. The final award was published in CS iii/2000.

Emil Vlasak kindly provided an English translation.

No 11755 Viktor Kondratev (Russia)
 1.Qh4+ Kd7 2.Qg4+ Kc7/i 3.Be5+ Kb6 4.Bxd4+ Ka5 5.Bc3+ Qxc3+ 6.dxc3 Sc4+ 7.Ka2/ii c1Q 8.Qxc4 Qd2+ 9.Ka3 and dxc4 stalemate, or Qc1+ 10.Ka2 dxc4 stalemate.

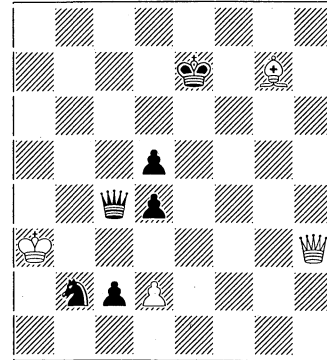
i) Kd6 3.Qg6+ Kc7 4.Be5+ Kb7 5.Qg7+ Ka6 6.Bxd4.

ii) 7.Qxc4? dxc4 8.Kb2 Ka4 9.Kxc2 Ka3 and Black wins.

"Black escapes from perpetual check

through a spectacular Queen sacrifice. White opposes by a well-timed counter sacrifice and the whole study ends with a perpetual stalemate threat (with two model stalemates)".

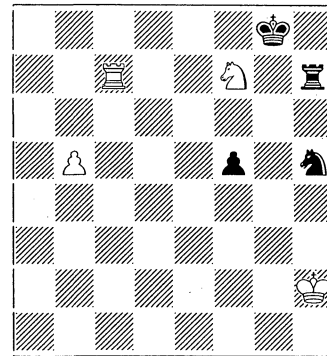
No 11755 Viktor Kondratev
 1st Prize Macek JT



a3e7 4013.13

4/6 Draw

No 11756 Jindrich Sulc & Emil Vlasak
 2nd Prize Macek JT



h2g8 0404.11

4/4 Win

No 11756 Jindrich Sulc & Emil Vlasak (Czech Republic) 1.b6 Sf6+/i 2.Kg1/ii Rxf7 3.b7 Rf8 4.Kg2/iii f4 5.Kf3 wins/v.

i) Sf4+ 2.Kg1 Se2+ 3.Kf1 Rh2 4.b7 Sg3+ 5.Ke1 Rb2 6.Se5 wins.

ii) After the thematic try 2.Kg2? Rxf7 3.b7 Rf8 4.Kf3 f4 White is in zugzwang, or 2.Kg3? f4+ 3.Kf2 Rh2+ 4.Ke1/iv Sd5 5.b7 Rb2 6.Sh6+ Kh8 and 7.Rd7 Sf6, or 7.Rf7 Se3.

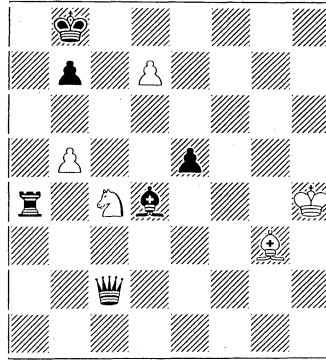
iii) 4.Kf2? Se4+ 5.Ke3 Sd6 draws, or 4.Kf1? f4 5.Kg1 f3 6.Kf1 f2.

iv) 4.Kf3 Rh3+ 5.Kg2 Rb3 draws.

v) and now Black is in zugzwang, and after a black move 6.Rc8 cannot be answered by 6...Sd7.

"A short, but a difficult study for solvers. The final zugzwang is a big surprise for a practical player. I have found Mattison 1922 e2a7 0403.21 d3a5c6.b7g6g5 4/4. 1.b8Q+ Kxb8 2.g7 Re5+ 3.Kf1! (3.Kf2? Re8 4.Rf3 Rc8 5.Rf7 Re5 6.Rf8 Sg4+ 7.Kg3 Sh6) Re8 4.Rf3 Rc8 5.Rf7 wins, but that has not the mutual zugzwang, that is necessary to give this theme it's flavour."

No 11757 A. Golubev
1st special Prize Macek JT



h4b8 3341.22

5/6 Draw

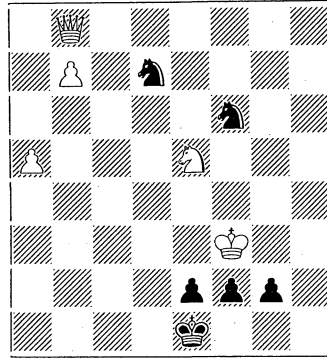
No 11757 A. Golubev (Russia)

1.Bxe5+ Bxe5/i 2.d8Q+ Ka7 3.Qb6+ Ka8 4.Qd8+ Bb8 5.Qa5+ Rxa5 6.Sb6+ Ka7 7.Sc8+ Ka8 8.Sb6+ Ka7 9.Sc8+ Qxc8 10.b6+ Ka6 stalemate.

i) Ka7 2.Bxd4+ b6 3.d8Q Qxc4 4.Qxb6+ and White has at least perpetual check, e.g. Ka8 5.Qd8+ Kb7 6.Qd7+ Qc7 7.Qd5+ Kc8 8.Qf5+ Qd7? 9.Qc2+.

"An excellent study with an unexpected stalemate: the wK isn't restricted in the start position. A game-like position, naturally produced blockade of bK, spectacular Queen sacrifice all well managed. A jewel of endgame study composition. The reason for the special prize is Olympiev 1972 (EG 38.2221) but that the study by Golubev is much better".

No 11758 Ivan Bondar & Evgeny Kolesnikov
1st special hon mention Macek JT



f3e1 1007.23 5/6 Draw

No 11758 Ivan Bondar (Belarus) & Evgeny Kolesnikov (Russia)

1.Sd3+ Kf1 2.Qg3 e1S+/i 3.Sxe1/ii g1S+/iii 4.Ke3 fxe1Q+ 5.Qxe1+ Kxe1 6.a6 Sd5+ 7.Ke4/iv Sc7 8.a7 Sc5+ 9.Ke5/v Sxb7 10.a8Q Sxa8 11.Kd5 Sd8 12.Kd6 Sf3 13.Kd7 Sb7 14.Kc6 Sa5+ 15.Kb5 Sb3 16.Kc6 draws.

i) Or g1S+ 3.Ke3 e1Q+ 4.Sxe1 fxe1Q+ 5.Qxe1+ Kxe1 6.a6 draws.

ii) 3.Ke3? Sc2+ 4.Kd2 Se4+ 5.Kxc2 Sxg3 -+.

iii) g1Q 4.Qh3+ Kxe1 5.Qe6+ Kd2 6.Qe3+ =.

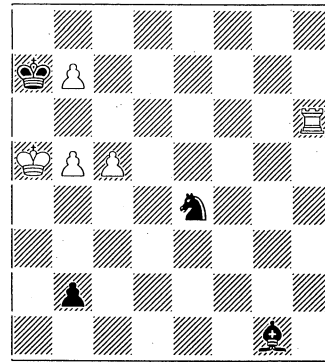
iv) 7.Kd4? Sb4 8.a7 Sc6+ and Sxa7.

v) After 9.Kd4? Sxb7 10.a8Q Black has a check first: Se2+ and wins.

"The lone wK manages to draw against three knights! A little unusual starting position (3 black pawns on the 2nd rank) is a necessary tax for such a theme. An interesting battle

for the bS begins after a technically good introduction. The knight is finally trapped in the corner despite an extra black tempo. This finish isn't new. There is Gorgiev 1963 (not so good and also cooked), but the special mention is because of Randviir 1991, e7e2 0007.01 e4h5h8.d3 2/4. 1.Sc5 d2 2.Se4 d1S 3.Sg3+ Sxg3 3.Kf6 =. However in the new study the knight moves to the corner as result of a hard struggle and in addition Black has an extra tempo."

No 11759 A. Manveljan
2nd special hon mention Macek JT



a5a7 0133.31 5/4 Win

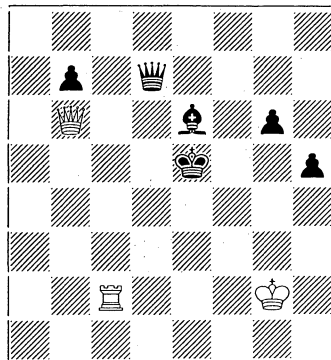
No 11759 A. Manveljan (Armenia)

1.Rb6 Bh2 2.c6 Sc5 3.b8Q+ Bxb8 4.Ra6+ Sxa6 5.b6+ Ka8 6.Kxa6, and b1Q 7.b7+ Qxb7+ 8.cxb7 mate, or Bh2 7.c7 Bxc7 8.bxc7 b1Q 9.c8Q+ Qb8 10.Qc6 and mate.

"A successful introduction highlights a rare finish - single pawn mate. Pogosyants 1977, h5h7 0130.22

g6g8.f6g5g2g7 4/4. 1.Rh6+ is too rigid and unnatural".

No 11760 Mario Matous
3rd special hon mention Macek JT



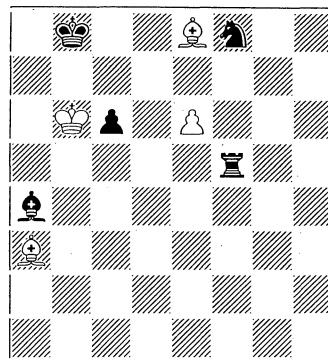
g2e5 4130.03 3/6 Win
No 11760 Mario Matous (Czech Republic) 1.Qb2+ Kf5/i 2.Rf2+ Kg5 3.Qc1+ Kh4 4.Rf4+ Bg4 5.Qe1+ Kg5 6.Qe3 Kh4 7.Rxg4+ Qxg4+ 8.Kh2 b6 9.Qe7+ Qg5 10.Qe4+ Qg4 11.Qe3 b5 12.Qe7+ Qg5 13.Qe4+ Qg4 14.Qe3 b4 15.Qe7+ Qg5 16.Qxb4+ Qg4 17.Qe7+ Qg5 18.Qe4+ Qg4 19.Qe3 Qg5 20.Qh3 mate.

i) Kd6 2.Qb4+ Ke5 3.Qc3+ Qd4 4.Re2+ Kd5 5.Rd2 winning the Black Queen.

"An excellent processing of an old well-known motive. A game-like position after a successful introduction with a quiet move, culminates into an unexpected sacrifice. A very good version too is Petrov 1946: a1b3 4011.03 d8b8b4c8.b6c7g7 4/4. 1.Sa5 bxa5

2.Qd3+ Ka4 3.Ka2 Qb7 4.Qc4+ Qb4 5.Sb6+ cxb6 6.Qd3 etc."

No 11761 Nikolai Kralin
1st hon mention Macek JT



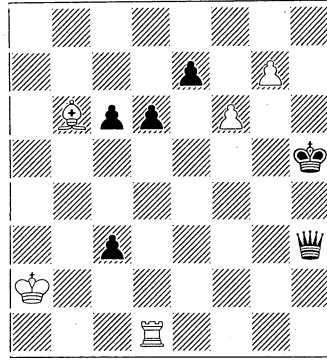
b6b8 0353.11 4/5 Draw
No 11761 Nikolai Kralin (Russia) 1.e7/i Rb5+ 2.Ka6 Se6 3.Bd6+ Sc7+ 4.Bxc7+ Kxc7 5.Bxc6/ii Rb6+ 6.Ka5 Bxc6 7.e8S+ Kb7 8.Sd6+ Kc7 9.Se8+ Bxe8 stalemate.

i) 1.Bxf8? Rxf8/iii 2.Bd7 Rf6 3.e7 c5+ 4.Ka5 Ra6+ wins, avoiding Bxd7? 5.e8Q+ Bxe8 stalemate.

ii) 5.Bf7? c5 6.e8Q Rb6+ wins.
iii) But also Rb5+ 2.Ka6 Kc7 3.Bg6 Rb8 4.Ka7 Bc2 5.Bf7 Rb5 6.Ka6 Bd3 wins.

"A well worked-out positional draw combined with underpromotion and stalemate. Unfortunately, I cannot rate the author's try in move 1. Cf. A.Kakovin 1967 (EG#647)".

No 11762 Lubos Kekely
2nd hon mention Macek JT



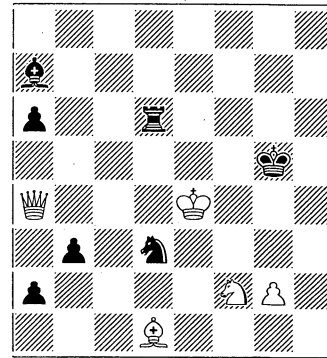
a2h5 3110.24 5/6 Win
No 11762 Lubos Kekely (Slovakia)
 1.g8Q Qh2+ 2.Kb3 Qb2+ 3.Kc4/i
 Qa2+ 4.Kxc3 Qxg8 5.Rh1+ Kg6
 6.Rg1+ Kf7 7.Rxg8 Kxg8 8.fxe7 Kf7
 9.Bd8 c5 10.Kc4 Ke8 11.Kd5 Kd7
 12.Ke4 Ke8 13.Kf4/ii Kf7 14.Kf5
 c4 15.Ke4/iii Ke8/iv 16.Ke3/v d5
 17.Kd4/vi, and
 Kd7 18.Ke5 c3 19.Kf6 c2 20.Kf7
 c1Q 21.e8Q+ Kc8/vii 22.Bg5+, or
 Kf7 18.Ke5/viii c3 19.Kd6 c2
 20.Kd7 c1Q 21.e8Q+, wins/ix.
 i) 3.Ka4 Qb5+ =.
 ii) A minor dual is 13.Kf5 Kf7
 14.Kf4 c4 15.Ke4 returning to the
 main line.
 iii) Not 15.Kf4? c3 16.Ke3 d5
 drawing.
 iv) d5+ 16.Ke5.
 v) 16.Kd4? d5 and White is in
 zugzwang.
 vi) Reciprocal zugzwang.
 vii) Kd6 22.Qe7+ Kc6 23.Qc7+
 winning the Queen.

viii) another minor dual, also given
 in the award, is 18.Kc5.

ix) for instance Kg7 22.Qe7+ Kg8
 23.Qe6+ Kg7 24.Qf6+ Kh7 25.Qf5+
 Kh6 26.Bc7 (or 26.Be7 Kg7 27.Bd6
 Qe1 28.Qg5+ Kh7 29.Be5) Qe1
 27.Bf4+ Kg7 28.Qg5+ Kf7 29.Be5
 with Qg7+ to follow, or Qc4 27.Bf4+
 Kg7 28.Qg5+ Kf7 29.Qh5+ Kg7
 30.Be5+ and mate in two moves.

"After the forced introduction (the
 impression of this is rather
 disturbing) we are facing to an
 apparently easily won ending. But it
 has hidden surprises - mutual
 zugzwang and non capturing the d5
 pawn. The organic duals in moves 13
 and 18 are acceptable".

No 11763 Michal Hlinka & Karel Husak
3rd hon mention Macek JT



e4g5 1344.13 5/7 Draw
No 11763 Michal Hlinka (Slovakia)
 and Karel Husak (Czech Republic)
 1.Qa5+ Sc5+ 2.Kf3 Bb6 3.Qa3 Rf6+
 4.Ke2/i Rxf2+ 5.Kxf2 a1Q 6.Qxa1
 b2 7.Qa2 b1Q 8.Qxb1/ii Se4++

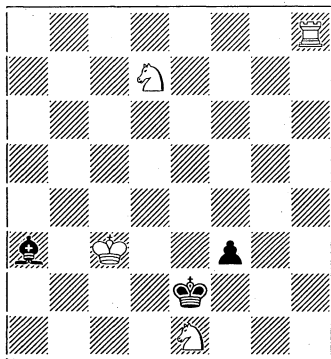
9.Ke1 Ba5+ 10.Ke2 Sc3+ 11.Kf3 Sxb1 12.Be2 Sd2+ 13.Ke3 draws.

i) 4.Ke3? b2 5.Sh3+ Kh6 6.Qxa2 Sb3+ 7.Ke4 b1Q+ 8.Qxb1 Sd2+ 9.Ke5 Bd4+ 10.Kxd4 Sxb1 with a won endgame.

ii) Not the tempting 8.Qd2+? Kg6 9.Bc2+, because Black has a strong crosscheck, Se4++ 10.Ke2 Qb5+ 11.Qd3 Kf6 12.Qxb5 Sc3+ 13.Kd2 Sxb5 winning.

"It seems that the black idea wins against white's material, but suddenly White forces a blockade of the a6-pawn by fine moves. A full-size battle!".

No 11764 E. Eilazyan
4th hon mention Macek JT



c3e2 0132.01 4/3 BTM, Win
No 11764 E. Eilazyan (Ukrain)
Three lines:
1...Bb2+ 2.Kxb2 f2 3.Re8+ Kd2
4.Se5/i f1Q 5.Sc4+ Qxc4 (Kd1;
Se3+) 6.Sf3+ Kd1 (Kd3; Se5+)
7.Re1 mate, or
1...Kxe1 2.Se5 f2 3.Sd3+ Kf1

4.Rh7/ii Ke2/iii 5.Rh2 Bc5 6.Sxc5 Kf3/iv 7.Se4 f1Q 8.Sd2+ Kg3 9.Sxf1+, or

1...f2 2.Re8+ Kd1 3.Sc2 Bc1 4.Rf8 Ke2 5.Sd4+/v Kf1 6.Sf3 Kg2 7.Sh2 Ba3 8.Rf6 Bd6 9.Sg4 f1Q 10.Se3+ wins.

i) 4.Sf3+? Kd1 5.Sh2 f1Q 6.Sxf1 stalemate!

ii) Not 4.Rh6? Bc1 and now the Rook has to move (compare with iii) 5.Rf6 Be3 6.Kc2 Ke2, or 4.Rh4? Bc1 5.Kc2 Be3 6.Kd1 Kg2 7.Rg4+ Kh3, or 4.Rg8? Ke2 5.Rg2 Bc5 6.Sxc5 Kf3 all draw.

iii) If now Bc1 5.Kd4 Bg5 6.Rh2 and bPf2 cannot be defended.

iv) Ke3 7.Rh1 Ke2 8.Se4 f1Q 9.Sg3+, or Ke1 7.Sd3+ win.

v) Not 5.Sc5? Bb2+ 6.Kxb2 f1Q 7.Sd4+ Ke1 =.

"White avoids stalemate and instead of this sacrifices his knight resulting in mate or forking. There are two extra lines with a lot of themes ending again by forks. But these are rather disturbing".

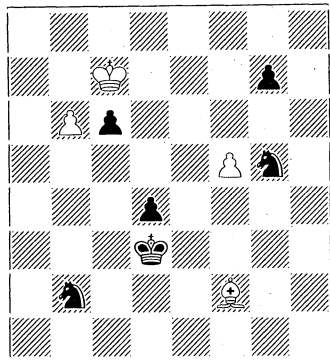
No 11765 Luis Miguel Gonzales (Spain) 1.b6 Sa4 2.b7 Sc5 3.Kxc6 Sxb7 4.Kd5 Sf3 5.f6/i gxf6 6.Bxd4 Sxd4/ii, stalemate.

i) 5.Bxd4? Sxd4 6.f6 g5 7.f7 Se6 8.Kxe6 Sd8+ 9.Kf5 Sxf7 wins.

ii) or f5 7.Bb6 Sd2 8.Ke5 Sd6 9.Kxd6 Sc4+ 10.Ke6 draws.

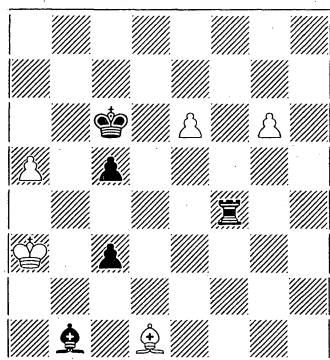
"A well created stalemate in the center of board."

No 11765 Luis Miguel Gonzales
5th hon mention Macek JT



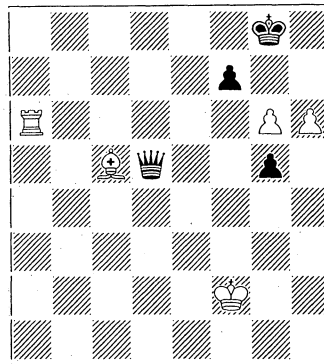
c7d3 0016.23 4/6 Draw

No 11766 E. Kudelich
comm Macek JT



a3c6 0340.32 5/5 Draw
No 11766 E. Kudelich (Russia) 1.g7
Bh7 2.e7 Kd7 3.a6 Rf6 4.a7 Ra6+
5.Ba4+ Kxe7 6.g8Q Bxg8 7.a8Q
Rxa8 stalemate.
"A well-done model stalemate with a
pin".

No 11767 E. Kudelich
comm Macek JT

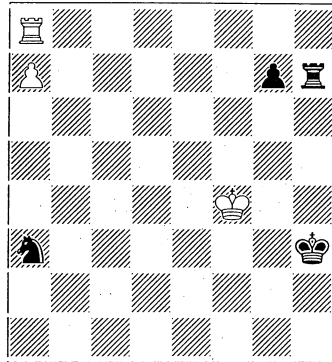


f2g8 3110.22 5/4 Win
No 11767 E. Kudelich (Russia)
1.h7+ Kg7 2.Bf8+ Kh8 3.g7+ Kxh7
4.Rh6+ Kxh6 5.g8S++, and now Kg6
6.Se7+, or Kh5 6.Sf6+ winning.
"A forced play ends with an
underpromotion and win of the
Queen. It would be easily possible to
add a move 0.h5-h6+ Kg7-g8."

No 11768 Vladislav Bunka (Czech
Republic) 1.Rf8 (Kg5?; Sb5) g5+
2.Kf3 g4+ 3.Kf2 g3+ 4.Kf3 g2 5.a8Q
g1Q 6.Qc8+ Kh2 (Kh4; Rf4+)
7.Qc7+ Rxc7 8.Rh8+ Rh7 9.Rxh7
mate.
"A smiling miniature".
This study was originally awarded a
commendation, but removed from
the award because of auto-
anticipation. Bunka won a 2nd hm in
the Kos70 JT 1999: f4h3 0400.13
a8h7.a7a3c5g7 3/5: same solution.
"The version from the Macek JT is a
little better (miniature, more natural

position) but it's not sufficient for separate existence."

No 11768 Vladislav Bunka
Macek JT



f4h3 0403.11 3/4 Win

Shahmatna misal, 1996

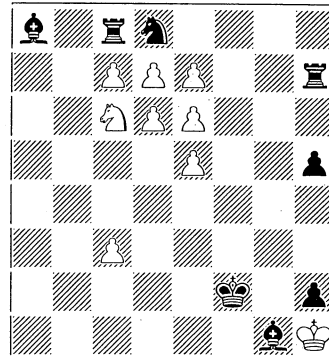
This informal tourney was judged by Velenin Alaikov (Bulgaria). The provisional award was published in *Shahmatna misal* 1/98. 17 studies entered, 10 published in the award.

No 11769 K.Stoichev (Sofia)
1.exd8S Rxd8 2.cxd8S Rh8 3.e7
Rxd8 4.exd8S Kg3 5.e6 Bb6 6.e7
Bxd8 7.exd8S h4 8.c4 Kh3 9.Sb7
Bxb7 10.d8S Ba8 11.d7 Kg3 12.Sb7
Bxb7 13.d8S Ba8 14.c5 Kh3 15.Sb7
Bxb7 stalemate.

"A unique composition in which 6 white pawns promote to knight. Probably a record. [In a study to draw' needs to be added. AJR] ... A great study."

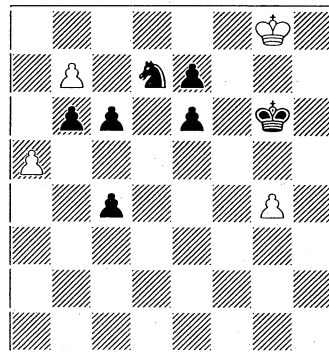
The study awarded 2nd place in the *Stes World Championship* (closing date 1iii97) also showed 6 S-promotions, but in a win study. This is a different task.

No 11769 K.Stoichev
1st prize *Shahmatna misal*, 1996



h1f2 0664.72 9/8 Draw

No 11770 G.Werner
2nd prize *Shahmatna misal*, 1996

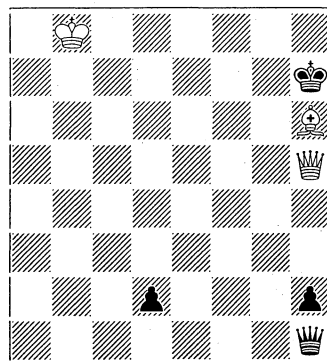


g8g6 0003.35 4/7 Win

No 11770 G.Werner (Germany) 1.a6 c3 2.b8Q Sxb8 3.a7 c2 4.axb8Q c1Q 5.Qe5 Qh6 6.Qxe6+ Kg5 7.Qe3+ Kg6 8.Qd3+ Kg5 9.Qd2+ Kg6 10.Qc2+ Kg5 11.Qc1+ Kg6 12.Qxc6+ Kg5 13.Qc1+ Kg6 14.Qc2+ Kg5 15.Qd2+ Kg6 16.Qd3+ Kg5 17.Qe3+ Kg6 18.Qxb6+ Kg5 19.Qe3+ Kg6 20.Qxe7 and (probably!) 21.Qg7 mate.

"wQ forces bQ to take up a poor post, whereupon wQ undertakes an interesting manoeuvre to eliminate the black pawns in the centre, after which Black is in zugzwang. ..."

No 11771 A.Manyakhin
3rd prize Shahmatna misal, 1996



b8h7 4010.02 3/4 Win

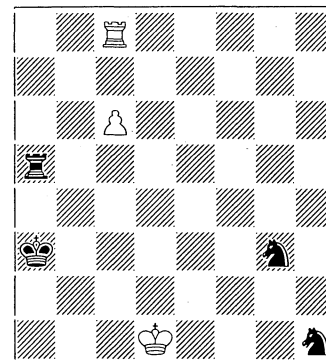
No 11771 A.Manyakhin (Russia)
1.Be3+/i Kg7 2.Bd4+ Kf8 3.Qf5+ Ke8 4.Bc5 Qa8+ 5.Kxa8 h1Q+ 6.Kb8 Qa8+ 7.Kxa8 d1Q 8.Qe6+ Kd8 9.Bb6 mate.

i) Thematic try: 1.Bxd2+? Kg7 2.Bc3+ Kf8 3.Qf5+ Ke8 4.Bb4 Qa8+ 5.Kxa8 h1Q+ 6.Kb8 Qh2+ 7.Kc8

Qc7+ 8.Kxc7 stalemate.

"... In the strong try, closely resembling the actual solution, Black saves himself with a stalemate. ... An attractive synthesis of stalemate and checkmate."

No 11772 A.Zlatanov
4th prize Shahmatna misal, 1996

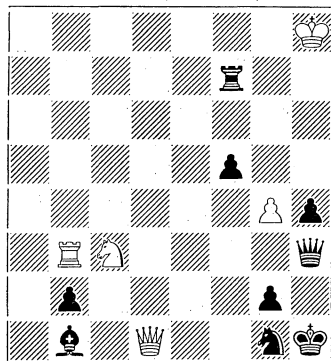


d1a3 0406.10 3/4 Draw

No 11772 A.Zlatanov (Ruse, Bulgaria) 1.c7 Ra7 2.Ke1 Ka4 3.Rd8 Rxc7 4.Rd7 Rc8 5.Rd8 Rc6 6.Rd6 Rc5 7.Rd5 Rc3 8.Rd3 Rc4 9.Rd4 Rxd4 stalemate.

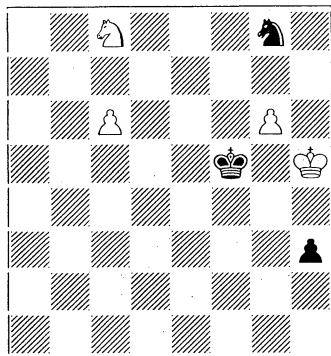
No 11773 A.Stavrietsky (Russia)
1.Se2 Qh2 2.Rh3 Rh7+ 3.Kxh7 fxg4+ 4.Kh8 gxh3 5.Sg3+, with:
- hxg3 6.Qxb1 stalemate, or
- Qxg3 6.Qxg1+ Kxg1 stalemate.

No 11773 A.Stavrietsky
1st honourable men Shahmatna misal, 1996



h8h1 4434.14 5/9 Draw

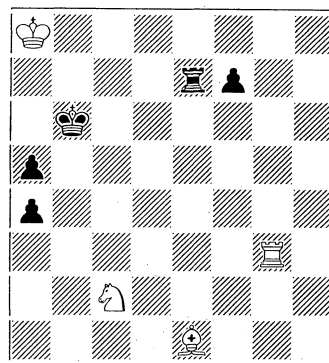
No 11774 E.Fomichev
2nd hon men Shahmatna misal, 1996



h5f5 0004.21 4/3 Draw

No 11774 E.Fomichev (Russia)
1.Sd6+ Kf4 2.Se4 Kxe4 3.c7 Se7
4.g7 h2 5.c8Q h1Q+ 6.Kg5 Sxc8
7.g8Q Qg2(Qg1)+ 8.Kf6 Qxg8
stalemate.

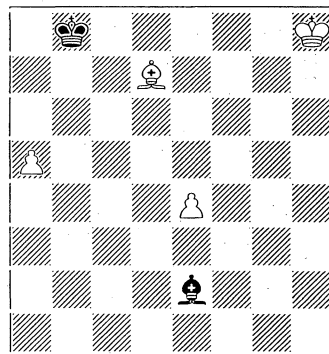
No 11775 A.Zlatanov
3rd hon men Shahmatna misal, 1996



a8b6 0411.03 4/5 Win

No 11775 A.Zlatanov 1.Bf2+/i Ka6
2.Rg8 Re2 3.Se3 Rxf2 4.Rb8 Rf6
5.Sd5 Rc6 6.Rb6+ Rxb6 7.Sc7 mate.
i) 1.Rg8? Ra7+ 2.Kb8 Rb7+ 3.Kc8
Rc7+ 4.Kd8 Rxc2 draw.

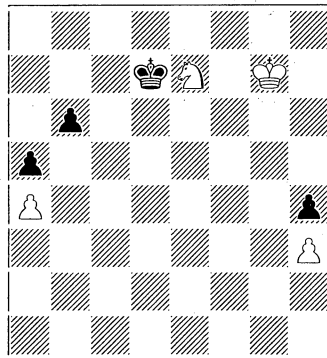
No 11776 G.Amiryan
Commendation Shahmatna misal, 1996



h8b8 0040.20 4/2 Win

No 11776 G.Amiryan (Armenia)
 1.e5 Kb7 2.a6+ Kxa6 3.e6 Bg4
 4.Bc8+ Kb6 5.e7 Bh5 6.Bg4 Be8
 7.Kg7(Kg8) Kc7 8.Kf8 Ba4 9.Bh5
 Kd6 10.Be8 Bd1 11.Bb5 Bh5 12.Bc4
 Ke5 13.Bf7 wins.

No 11777 A.Volchok
 Commendation Shahmatna misal, 1996

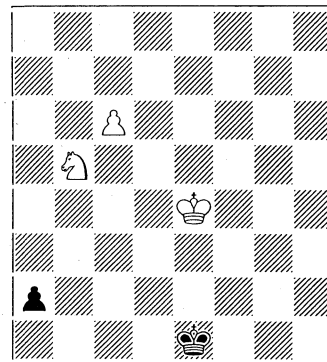


g7d7 0001.23 4/4 Win

No 11777 A.Volchok (Ukraine)
 1.Kf6 b5 2.axb5 Kd6 3.b6 a4 4.Sd5
 Kc6 5.Ke5 a3 6.Kd4 Kb7 (a2;Sb4+)
 7.Kc3 wins.

No 11778 G.Stanev (Burgas,
 Bulgaria) 1.Sd4 Kd1 2.Sb3 Kc2
 3.Sa1+ Kb2 4.c7 Kxa1 5.c8Q Kb2
 6.Qb7+ Kc2 7.Qg7 Kb1 8.Qg1+ Kb2
 9.Qd4+ Kb1 10.Qd1+ Kb2 11.Qd2+
 Kb1 12.Kd3 and wins.

No 11778 G.Stanev
 Commendation Shahmatna misal, 1996



e4e1 0001.11

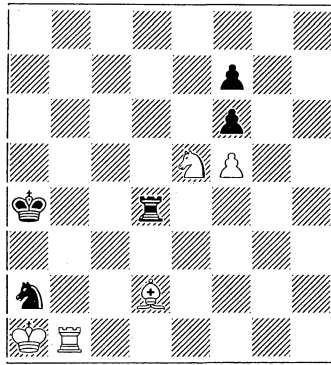
3/2 Win

Shahmatna misal, 1997

This informal tourney was judged by Venelin Alaikov. The provisional award was published in Shahmatna Misal 4/98. Text (incl. signed): ... just four entries from four composers

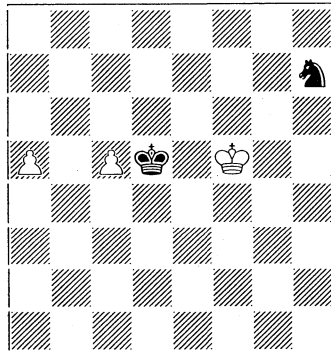
No 11779 Alain Pallier (France)
 1.Sf3 (Kxa2? Rxd2+;) Rd3 2.Kxa2
 Ra3+ (Rxf3;Rb4+) 3.Kb2 Rxf3/i
 4.Kc2 (Kc1? Rxf5;) Rxf5 5.Ra1+
 Kb5 6.Ra5+ and 7.Rxf5 wins.
 i) Ra2+ 4.Kxa2 stalemate? But
 instead, 4.Kc3 or 4.Kc1 win.
 "The struggle is brief but interesting,
 with several moments of subtlety.
 The tourney's best entry."

No 11779 Alain Pallier
Prize Shahmatna misal, 1997



a1a4 0414.12 5/5 Win

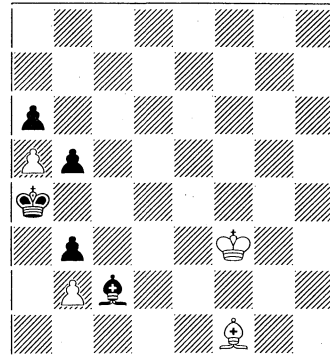
No 11780 Konstantin Stoichev
honourable mention Shahmatna misal, 1997



f5d5 0003.20 3/2 Win
No 11780 Konstantin Stoichev
(Sofia) 1.a6 Kc6 2.Kg6/i Sf8+ 3.Kf7
Sh7/ii 4.Ke7 (a7? Kb7;) Sg5 5.a7
Kb7 6.c6+ Kxa7 7.c7 Kb7 8.Kd7
wins.
i) 2.Ke6? Sg5+ 3.Ke7 Se4 4.a7 Kb7

5.c6+ Kxa7 6.c7 Kb7 draw.
ii) Sd7 4.a7 Kb7 5.c6+ wins.
"Contentful play with the limited
material. There is practical value."

No 11781 Georgi Stanev
Commendation Shahmatna misal, 1997

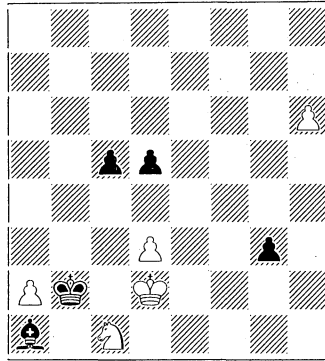


f3a4 0040.23 4/5 Draw
No 11781 Georgi Stanev (Burgas,
Bulgaria) 1.Bh3 (Bxb5+? Kxb5);
Kxa5 2.Bc8 Kb6 3.Bxa6 Kxa6 4.Ke3
Kb6 5.Kd2 Kc5 6.Kc1 Kd4 7.Kd2
Bf5 8.Kc1 draw.
"After the unexpected piece sacrifice
the white king finds a very secure
haven."

Shakmatna Misl 1998 *HvdH*

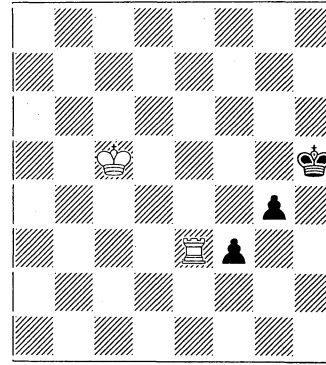
This informal tourney was judged by
K.Stoichev (Bulgaria) and had
attracted 13 studies by 11 composers.
The award was published in SM no.6
2000. The judge appreciated the
general good level of the studies.
Wenelin Alaikov kindly provided a
French translation of the award.

No 11782 Evgeny Fomivec and Vladimir Vinichenko
1st prize Shakmatna Misl 1998



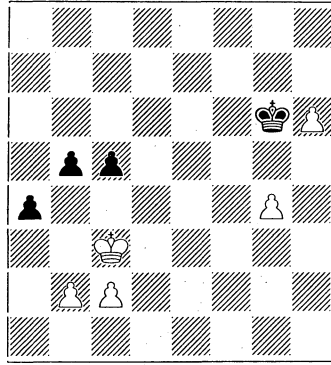
d2b2 0031.33 5/5 Win
No 11782 Evgeny Fomivec and Vladimir Vinichenko (Russia) 1.d4 (h7; Ka3) g2 (Ka3; dxc5) 2.Se2 c4 3.h7 c3+ 4.Kd3/i c2 5.h8Q c1S+/ii 6.Kd2/iii Sxe2 7.Qh3 Kxa2 8.Qxg2 Sxd4 9.Kc1+/iv wins.
i) 4.Ke3? c2 5.Kf2 Ka3 6.h8Q g1Q+ 7.Kxg1 c1Q+ 8.Sxc1 Bxd4+ 9.Qxd4 stalemate.
ii) g1Q 6.Qb8+ Kxa2 7.Qa7+ Kb1 8.Qb6+ Bb2 9.Sc3+ Kc1 10.Qh6+ mates.
iii) 6.Sxc1? g1Q 7.Qb8+ Kxc1 8.Qc7+ Bc3! 9.Qxc3+ Kb1 10.Qb3+ Ka1 11.Qxd5 Qf2 draws.
iv) "The only move to prevent bB to play to b2, entering the theoretical draw position of Amelung-Karstedt!"
"An artistic study with inventive and non-standard play by both sides".

No 11783 Gamlet Amiryan
2nd prize Shakmatna Misl 1998



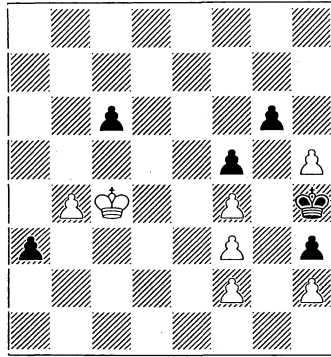
c5h5 0100.02 2/3 Draw
No 11783 Gamlet Amiryan (Armenia) 1.Re1, and
- f2 2.Rh1+ Kg5 3.Kd4 Kf4 4.Rh8 Kf3 5.Rf8+ Ke2 6.Re8+ Kd2 7.Rf8 g3 8.Rf3 Ke2 9.Re3+ Kd1 10.Rd3+ Kc1 11.Rc3+ Kb1 12.Rb3+ Ka1 13.Ra3+ Kb1 14.Rb3+ perpetual check, or
- g3 2.Kd4 f2 3.Rh1+ Kg4 4.Ke3 g2 5.Rh4+ Kg3 6.Rg4+ Kxg4 7.Kxf2 Kh3 8.Kg1 Kg3 stalemate.
"An exceptional synthesis of two known finishings"
No 11784 J. Cvetkov. 1.g5 b4+ 2.Kd2/i Kh7 3.Kc1 Kg6 4.Kb1 Kh7 5.Ka2 Kg6 6.c3 Kh7 7.cxb4 cxb4 8.Kb1 Kg6 9.Kc2 Kh7 10.Kd3 Kg6 11.Kc4 wins.
i) 2.Kd3? a3! 3.bxa3 bxa3 4.Kc3 c4 and Black wins.
"Precise and pretty study with theoretical value"

No 11784 J. Cvetkov
3rd prize Shakmatna Misl 1998



c3g6 0000.43 5/4 Win

No 11785 Alain Pallier
sp. prize Shakmatna Misl 1998



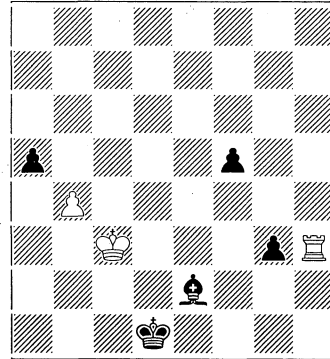
c4h4 0000.65 7/6 Win

No 11785 Alain Pallier (France)
1.Kb3/i a2 (gxh5; Ka2) 2.Kb2
(Kxa2?; gxh5) a1Q+ 3.Kxa1 gxh5
4.Ka2 c5 5.b5 c4 6.b6 c3 7.b7 c2
8.b8Q c1Q 9.Qd8 mate.
i) 1.hxg6? a2 2.g7 a1Q 3.g8Q Qa2+

and Black wins, 1.Kc3? gxh5 2.Kb3
c5 3.b5 c4+ 4.Ka2 c3.

"The special prize is for the re-
working of a defective study by
Balanovksy, 3rd prize Shakmaty v
SSSR 1985 [EG#6549]. The new
study suffices as an independent
work. A very interesting study with
stalemate and reciprocal zugzwang
motiv".

No 11786 I. Jarmonov
1st HM Shakmatna Misl 1998

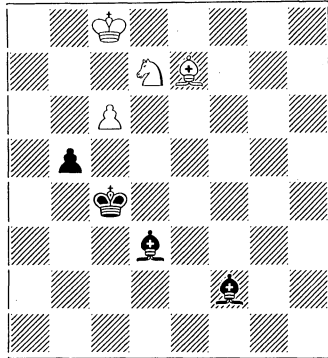


c3d1 0130.13 3/5 Win

No 11786 I. Jarmonov. 1.Rh1+/i Bf1
2.b5 g2 3.Rg1 f4 4.b6 f3 5.b7 f2
6.b8Q fxg1Q 7.Qb1+ Ke2 8.Qd3+
Kf2 9.Qd4+ wins.

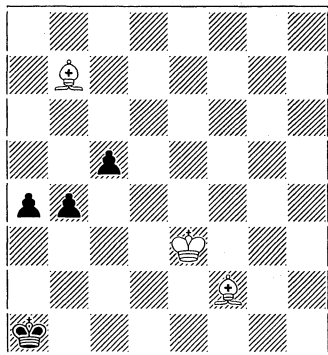
i) 1.bxa5? g2 2.Rg3 Bf3.
"A spectacular finish".

No 11787 J. Cvetkov
2nd HM Shakmatna Misl 1998



c8c4 0071.11 4/4 Win
No 11787 J. Cvetkov. 1.Se5+ Kd4
2.Sxd3 Kxd3 3.Kc7 Be1 4.Kd7 Ba5
5.Bd8 b4 6.Bxa5 b3 7.Bc3 Kxc3 8.c7
b2 9.c8Q+ wins. "Precise play and
reciprocal sacrifices of the Bishops.
But the brutal key does not allow a
higher classification".

No 11788 Gamlet Amiryan
3rd HM Shakmatna Misl 1998

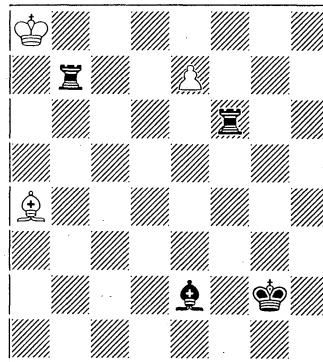


e3a1 0020.03 3/4 Win

No 11788 Gamlet Amiryan
(Armenia) 1.Kd2 b3 2.Bxc5 a3
3.Bd4+ Kb1 4.Be4+ Ka2 5.Bd5 Kb1
6.Bxb3 a2 7.Bc2 mate.

"A curious study that comes close to
being a o.t.b. endgame".

No 11789 Gamlet Amiryan
1st comm Shakmatna Misl 1998

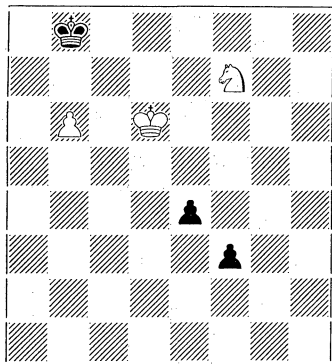


a8g2 0640.10 3/4 Draw

No 11789 Gamlet Amiryan
(Armenia) 1.e8Q Bf3 2.Bc6 Rxc6
3.Qg6+ Kf2 4.Qc2+ Rxc2 stalemate.

"An interesting study, but only with
a short solution".

No 11790 Evgeny Markov
2nd comm Shakmatna Misl 1998



d6b8 0001.12 3/3 Win
No 11790 Evgeny Markov (Russia)
1.Kc6 f2 2.Se5 f1Q 3.Sd7+ Kc8
4.b7+ Kd8 5.b8Q+ Ke7 6.Qd6+ Ke8
7.Qe6+ Kd8 8.Sc5 wins.

"A pleasant study, but without a clear idea".

ARVES-10 JT HvdH

The Dutch endgame circle ARVES organized a formal international tournament on the occasion of its 10-year anniversary.

18 composers submitted 19 studies. The theme, proposed by Wouter Mees, was "task transfer". During the course of the solution a piece transfers its task to another piece.

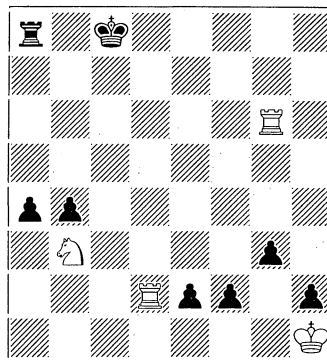
Tourney director Harold van der Heijden received only 19 studies from 18 composers.

Judge Emilian Dobrescu (Romania) wrote "Unfortunately, the quality of the competition is not high enough,

despite the generosity of the proposed theme".

The provisional award was published in EBUR no.1 (iii/2000), and the final award in EBUR no.3 (ix/2000).

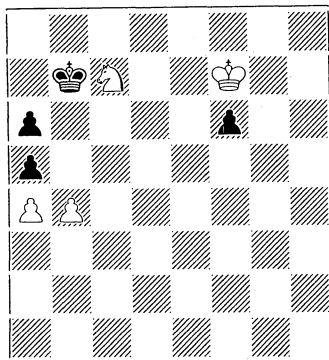
No 11791 Iwan Bondar
1st HM ARVES-10 JT



h1c8 0501.06 4/8 Draw
No 11791 Iwan Bondar (White-Russia) 1.Rg8+ Kc7 2.Rg7+ Kb6 3.Rg6+ Kb5 4.Rg5+ Kc4 5.Rg4+ Kxb3 6.Rxg3+ Kc4 7.Rc2+ Kd4 8.Rd2+ Ke4 9.Rxe2+ Kf4 10.Rxf2+ Kxg3 11.Rf8 Ra5 (Rxf8 stalemate) 12.Rf5 b3 13.Rxa5 b2 14.Rb5 a3 15.Rxb2 axb2 stalemate.

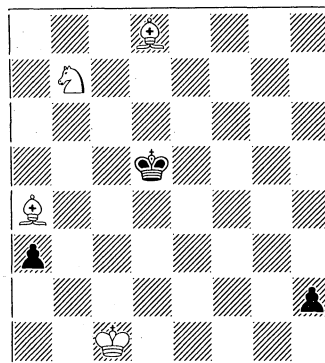
Theme: Piece A=Rd2 covers the d-file, piece B=Rg6 checking the black King. After 6th move A=Rd2 attacking the black King, B=Rg3 covering 3rd rank".

No 11792 M. Pastalka
2/3 HM ARVES-10 JT



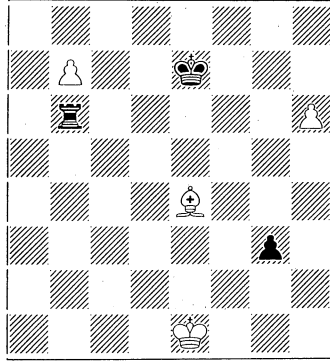
f7b7 0001.23 4/4 Win
No 11792 M. Pastalka (Ukrain)
 1.Sxa6/i axb4 2.Sc5+/ii Kb6/iii
 3.Sb3 f5 4.Ke6 f4 5.Kd5 f3 6.Kc4 f2
 7.Sd2 Ka5 8.Kb3 Kb6 9.Kxb4 Ka6
 10.a5 Ka7 11.Kb5 Kb7 12.a6+ Ka7
 13.Ka5 Kb8 14.Kb6 Ka8 15.Sf1 Kb8
 16.Se3 Ka8 17.Sd5 f1Q 18.Sc7+
 Kb8 19.a7+ Kc8 20.a8Q+ wins/iv.
 i) 1.Sd5? Kc6 2.Ke6 axb4 3.Sxb4+
 Kb6 4.Sd3 Ka5 5.Sb2 Kb4 6.Kxf6
 Kb3 7.Ke5 Kxb2 draws, or 1.Se6?
 axb4 2.Sd4 Kb6 3.Sb3 f5 4.Ke6 f4
 5.Kd5 f3 6.Kc4 f2 7.Sd2 a5 8.Kd4
 Kc6 9.Ke3 b3 10.Kxf2 Kc5, or here
 10.Kd3 Kc5 11.Sxb3+ Kb4 draw.
 ii) 2.Sxb4? Kb6 3.Sd3 Ka5 4.Sb2 f5
 5.Ke6 f4 6.Kd5 f3 and wK is too
 late.
 iii) Kc6 3.Sb3 f5 4.Ke6 f4 5.Ke5 f3
 6.Kd4 f2 7.Sd2.
 iv) Kd7 21.Qe8+ Kd6 22.Qe6 mate.
 Theme: wS protects white's a-pawn;
 this task is transferred to wK.

No 11793 Velimir Kalandadze
2/3 HM ARVES-10 JT



c1d5 0021.02 4/3 Win
No 11793 Velimir Kalandadze
 (Georgia) 1.Bb3+ Kc6 2.Sa5+ Kc5
 3.Be7+ Kd4 4.Sc6+ Ke4 5.Bc2+ Kd5
 6.Sb4+ Kd4 7.Bc5+/i Kxc5 8.Sd3+
 Kd4 9.Sf2 Kc3 10.Se4+ Kd4 11.Sg3
 Kc3 12.Se2+ Kc4 13.Be4 wins.
 i) Not 7.Bf6+? Ke3 8.Sd5+ Kf3
 9.Bd1+ Ke4 10.Sc3+ Ke3 11.Bg5+
 Kf2 12.Se4+ Kg2 draws.
 Theme: Piece A=wBa4 stops Black's
 h-pawn by constantly threatening to
 play to the h1-a8 diagonal. During
 the course of the solution, wS takes
 over this task (9.Sf2). Later this task
 is transferred to Bishop again
 (13.Be4).

No 11794 Vladimir Samilo
sp. HM ARVES-10 JT



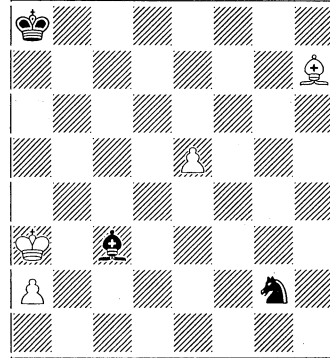
e1e7 0310.21 4/3 Win
No 11794 Vladimir Samilo (Ukrain)
1.h7 g2 2.Bxg2 Re6+ 3.Kd2/i Rd6+
4.Kc3 Rd8 5.Kc4, and
- Kd6 6.Bd5 Rh8 7.b8Q+ Rxb8
8.Bg8 wins, or
- Kf6 6.Bh3 Rb8 7.h8Q+ Rxh8
8.Bc8 wins/ii.
i) 3.Kf2? Rf6+ 4.Kg3 Rf8 5.Kg4 Kf6
draws,
ii) echo.

Theme: the black pieces alternatively try to stop the b- or h-pawn.
In the provisional award this study (with colors exchanged) won 1st honourable mention. But a cook was reported, which is in fact the key move of the corrected version (5.Kc4!). The judge allowed this as a correction.

**RYAZAN KOMSOMOLETS
AWARD 1980-1981**

This tourney was judged by V.Dolgov (Krasnodarsk province). 26 studies by soviet composers. 10 eliminated for assorted defects.

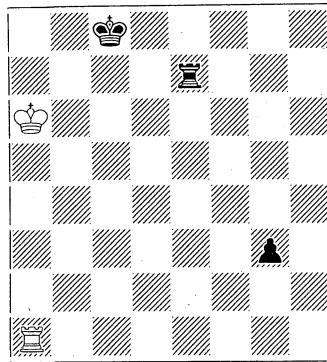
No 11795 E.Pogosyants
Prize Ryazan komsomolets 1980-1981



a3a8 0043.20 4/3 Win
No 11795 E.Pogosyants (Moscow)
1.e6 Se3 2.e7 Bb4+ 3.Kxb4 Sd5+
4.Kc5 Sxe7 5.Kd6 Sc8+ 6.Kc7 Se7
7.Kd7 Sd5 8.Be4 wins.

No 11796 A.Trushanov (Ryazan)
1.Kb5/i Kd7 2.Ra3 Re5+ 3.Kc4 Rg5
4.Ra1 Ke6 5.Kd3 Kf5 6.Ke2 Kg4
7.Kf1 Kh3 8.Kg1 draw.
i) 1.Rg1? Rg7 2.Kb5 Kd7 3.Kc4 Ke6
4.Kd3 Kf5 5.Ke2 Kg4 6.Kf1 Rf7+
7.Kg2 Rf2+ 8.Kh1 Rh2 mate.

No 11796 A.Trushanov
Spec Prize Ryazan komsomolets 1980-1981



a6c8 0400.01 2/3 Draw

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd honourable mentions, and the three commendations, are to be found in EG78.5407-5412. All six were by Pogosyants, who supplied them to EG direct, none being diagrammed in the award.

diagrammes, 1992

This thematic tourney had a set theme: minimal (White: king+1) to draw

The award was published in diagrammes 103 bis x-xii1992 pp2259-2260

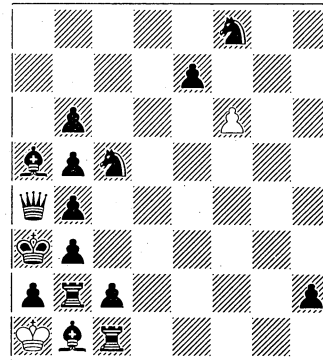
Alexander Hildebrand judged 19 neutralised entries of which only 2 were published

Text of award (by judge, organiser):
".... level not high. Known ideas were repeated. Harold van der Heijden assisted in identifying

forerunners."

remarks: Two entries at first selected were discarded by agreement between the judge and the tourney director when it transpired that they had been entered by a known plagiarist: they appear undiagrammed in the text as preliminary 'hon. mention' and 'commendation'. EG is not reprinting them.

No 11797 Angel Zlatanov
prize diagrammes, 1992



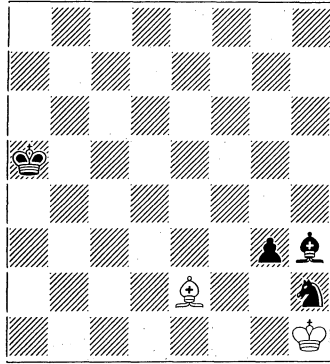
a1a3 3666.18 2/16 Draw

No 11797 Angel Zlatanov (Bulgaria)
1.f7/i fSe6 2.f8B/ii Rg1 3.Bh6 h1Q/iii 4.Bc1 Qh8 5.Bd2 Qh3 (Sd4;Bc1) 6.Bc3 Qh8 7.Bxb4+ and stalemate.

i) Forcing bSf8 to move to lift the stalemate. 1.fxe7? Rg1, and 2...c1Q.

ii) 2.f8Q? Rg1 3.Qf4 c1R 4.Qxc1 Bh7 and Black mates.

iii) c1Q 4.Bxc1 B- stalemate.



h1a5 0043.01 2/4 Draw
No 11798 Oleg Pervakov (Russia)
1.Bf3 Kb6/i 2.Bg2 Bf5 3.Ba8 Ka7
4.Bc6/ii Bh3 5.Bg2 Bd7 6.Be4 Bh3
7.Bg2 Bf5 8.Bc6 Kb6 9.Ba8 Bd3
10.Kg2 Sf1 11.Kh3/iii Kc5 12.Bg2
draw.
i) Bf1 2.Bg2 Bd3 3.Ba8 Bf1 4.Bg2
Bd3 5.Ba8 Kb6, see main line.
ii) 4.Bd5? Sg4 5.Kg2 Se3+ wins.
iii) 11.Kf3? Bb5 12.Kf4 Bc6
13.Bxc6 Kxc6 14.Kf3 Kd5 15.Kg2
Ke4 16.Kxf1 Kf3 17.Kg1 g2 wins.



**On Dobrescu's
treatment of the chess study as a
multi-criteria system**

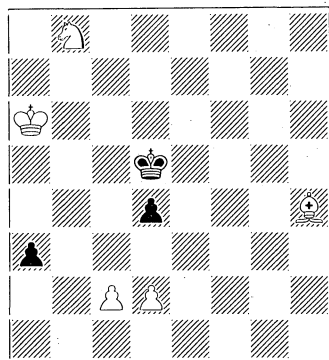
by John Beasley

In his paper *The chess study as a multi-criteria system* (EG 123, January 1997, pp 30-47, revised and presented as *Chess study and its attributes* on pages 11-44 of his 1999 book *Chess study composition*), Emilian Dobrescu identifies certain attributes of a chess study as "measurable" (if two different people evaluate the attribute, they obtain the same answer) and "stable" (the attribute is measurable and there is wide agreement as to whether a high value is good or bad). He then considers the evaluation of chess studies by m independent judges using the formulae

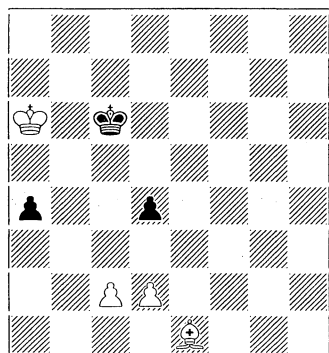
$$W_j = F_j(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) + S_j$$
$$j = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

where $c_1 \dots c_n$ are a defined set of stable attributes, F_j is the aggregation function used by judge j , and S_j is a purely subjective component as assessed by judge j . These scores $W_1 \dots W_m$ are combined in some way, and the setting is chosen which optimizes the overall result. "Many published works are capable of improvement from this standpoint," writes Dobrescu, and he proceeds to give examples.

One of his examples is a well-known study by L. Kubbel (*Shakhmatny Listok* 1922):

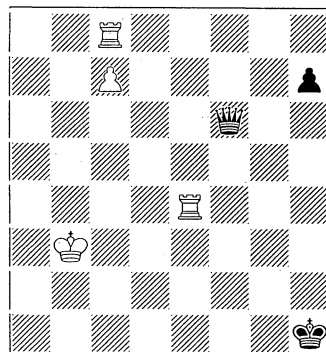


5+3, win
 1.Sc6 Kxc6 2.Bf6 Kd5 3.d3 a2
 4.c4+ Kc5 5.Kb7 a1Q 6.Be7 mate
 Dobrescu alleges that the sole purpose of wSb8 is to extend the introduction, and he presents the version below in which the knight is removed and some try-play by wB introduced in its place:



4+3, win
 1.Bh4/i a3 2.Bf6 and as before; i)
 1.Bg3? a3 2.Be5 Kd5, 1.Bf2? Kd5
 2.c3 a3 3.Bxd4 a2

Well, Dobrescu is not the first to have suggested that the sole purpose of wSb8 is to extend the introduction (see for example articles by Vlasenko in 64 - *Shakhmatnoe Obozrenie* 1981, cited by AJR in *EG* 69, and by Pal Benko in *EG* 75), but whether its presence is considered to be justified is surely a matter of taste. Kubbel obviously thought it was, Timothy Whitworth expressed strong support in *EG* 69, and if I had been presented with both versions as an editor of originals for solution I think his is the version that I would have chosen for publication. But if you agree with those who consider the presence of wSb8 to be unjustified, what do you make of wRe4 in the following little trifle of my own (*The Problemist* 1972)?



4+3, win

1.Rh4+ Qxh4 2.Rg8 Qh3+ 3.Kb4
Qh4+ 4.Kb5 Qh5+ 5.Kb6 Qh6+
6.Kb7 and Black has no more
checks

Again we have a man which is sacrificed on the first move to decoy a Black unit to a less favourable square and this time it is a rook and not just a knight, but if anyone were to present this study without its first move he would incur my severe displeasure. It is an integral part of the conception.

The heart of the matter seems to be this. Dobrescu correctly identifies "material" as a stable attribute (it can be measured and there is wide agreement that low measures are better than high), and he reasonably identifies various measures of the tactical content of a study as also being stable (if we can get more play out of the same material, we should normally do so).

But when we try to combine them, and in particular when we try to balance "more material" against "more content", it is a very different story. In Dobrescu's terms, the individual attributes $c_1 \dots c_n$ may be stable, but the aggregation function F_j is so dependent on the taste of the individual judge that the aggregated component $F_j(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)$ cannot possibly be regarded as stable (unless the function F_j is the same for all judges, it would appear not even to be measurable), and this is quite apart from the "purely subjective" component S_j . This component S_j has to account not

only for obviously important and openly subjective matters such as "beauty" and "surprise", but also for everything else that Dobrescu has not identified as stable.

In short, while the optimization of a single stable attribute is a very reasonable thing to attempt (and has been done instinctively by composers ever since composition started), an aggregation of two or more attributes produces a component which is intrinsically unstable, and this is even before we consider those attributes which are important but openly or implicitly subjective. The chess study is far too complex, and the response it evokes is far too dependent on the individual reader, for mathematical calculations of the kind advocated by Dobrescu to be a satisfactory means of evaluation.



REVIEWS

editor: John Roycroft

Correction: *Probleme și studii alese* is correct for the title of Virgil Nestorescu's 1999 book. It was garbled on p.112 of EG/36.

REVIEWS/NEW TITLES

Several readers have complained - they never commented before! - about the curtailing of EG's coverage of new publications. We accordingly relent, at least as regards non-electronic titles.

Secrets of Rook Endings, by John Nunn. Revised edition 1999. 352 pages. ISBN 1 901983 18 8.

The Survival Guide to Rook Endings, by John Emms. 1999. 160 pages. ISBN 1 85744 235 0.

These titles form an ideal review pair. The topic overlap is significant, while the styles contrast starkly. When John Nunn issues a revision it's not for a trivial reason, and the result here succeeds - we can without demur state that no one need any longer search for the first edition. Even the price is reduced. However, the impression that the computer is lecturing us persists. The same cannot be said for Emms' work, which is human from end to end, despite covering more territory - even double-R endgames - than Nunn's exclusive concentration on R+P vs R. Anyone desiring, or needing, to start from scratch in R-endings, could do no better than plump for the revelation that is Emms.

Georgian Composition

IGM David Gurgenidze continues to produce - surely not 'churn out'? - publications which, one has to say, are of variable quality. In conjunction with Iuri Akobia the 16-page *Study Mosaic* series continues with No.8 (a hotch-potch) and No.9 (a summary of Georgian studies literature - 30 items from 1952 to 2000), while the substantial *Malyutki gruzinskikh etyudistov* ('Malyutkas by Georgian study composers', 2000) is the most attractive yet from this Tbilisi stable, with 160 neat pages, and many photos with accompanying brief biographies. There is no ISBN and all text is in Russian.

My Studies, by Vassily Smyslov. Ed. O.Pervakov. 2000. 118 pages. ISBN 5-94046-001-1. In Russian. This delectable little volume is no larger than a pocket diary. No fewer than 31 of the ex-world champion's 48 studies here presented one per page (edited by Oleg Pervakov) appear to be originals. These are the ones whose diagrams carry a year but no source. With such content and an edition size of only 1,000 the book is almost impossible to price, but one thing is sure - its value will rise.

Urals Composition. No.9 in *Uralsky problemist* series. Moscow 2000. In Russian. With photos and text. 192 pages. 757 diagrams. Organised in principle by composer, but with a historical intro and miscellaneous conclusion. Studies mixed with problems. Well produced.

Encyclopedia of 'malyutkas', Part I (1998) and Part II (?2000). Ed. N.Griva, Dnepropetrovsk. In Russian. No ISBN. Exclusively 5-man published studies, with minimal analysis and effectively no accompanying text. 172 and 152 pages, 2297 diagrams 12-per-page. Tabular reference aid to each part, based on GBR sequencing. Well sourced. Cyrillic Russian and Latin non-overlapping indexes to composers. Diagrams in the second volume could be clearer, but figurine solutions are fine throughout. A third volume is promised.

The following two are taken from the British monthly *CHESS*, v2000

A (First) Century of Studies - Ernest Pogosyants

selected and edited by John Roycroft

Outlandish moves and manoeuvres, no-holds barred instant complexity almost instantly resolved, these are some of the hallmarks of the Pogosyants comet that blazed across the chess firmament and was snuffed out in 1991, but not before the composer had completed thousands of studies large and small - more than anyone else in history. He was a close friend of Mikhail Tal, and, to the cognoscenti, is as deeply missed today. From the evidence of Tal's games and Pogosyants' studies the two parallel creative geniuses had much in common. A wonderful collection!

[ISBN 1-888690-05-4]

Hugh Blandford - Published Works and Notebooks

edited by John Roycroft

A fine anthology of the endgame studies of English composer Hugh Blandford (1917-1981). But more than that! This book also contains much unpublished work taken from the composer's notebooks, revealing the progress of composition from conception to realisation. And so here you will find not only completed studies but also incomplete ones - ideas that are half-way to being developed into compositions and other positions that are no more than sketches. Revealing the creative process of Blandford's work will surely serve as a powerful stimulus for all composers or budding composers.

[ISBN 1-888690-03-8]

The Chess Study in the Family, by L.Katsnelson. ISBN 5-85186-044-8. Edition size: 999. St Petersburg, 2000. 200 pages. In Russian. Semi-stiff cover, some copies in hard-back. Monochrome figurine notation. There are studies in plenty, some problems as well, and a rich anthology of published articles (mainly by the author Leonard), and often of a light-hearted nature - 'The length

of a study solution', first published in *Shakhmatnaya kompozitsia*, is one we should like to reproduce in EG. Vladimir K is well represented too, while Anatoly, the eldest of the three brothers, appears as a co-composer. The volume has over 300 positions, several of them by other regional composers in the St Petersburg district. Photographs and incidental intelligence add to the interest. Several studies 'entered for tourneys' for which the awards were not available in time are included - an understandable custom continued from Soviet times and arising from unconscionable delays outside composers' control. Paper is good and the diagrams are clear. A most excellent selection.

GBR code

(after Guy/Blandford/Roycroft) concisely denotes chessboard force in at most 6 digits.

Examples: two white knights and one black pawn codes into **0002.01**; wQ bQ wR codes as **4100**; wBB vs bN codes as **0023**; the full complement of 32 chessmen codes as **4888.88**. The key to encoding is to compute the sum '*1-for-W-and-3-for-BI*' for each piece type in QRBN sequence, with white pawns and black pawns uncoded following the 'decimal point'. The key for decoding is to divide each QRBN digit by 3, when the quotient and remainder are in each of the 4 cases the numbers of BI and W pieces respectively.

The GBR code permits unique sequencing, which, together with the fact that a computer sort of several thousand codes and the reference attached to each is a matter of a second or two, enormously facilitates the construction of look-up directories.

A consequence of the foregoing is the code's greatest overall advantage: its user-friendliness. The GBR code has the unique characteristic of equally suiting humans and computers. No special skill or translation process is required whether the code is encountered on a computer printout or whether it is to be created (for any purpose, including input to a computer) from a chess diagram.

A natural extension of the GBR code is to use it to represent a complete position. A good convention is to precede the GBR code with the squares of the kings, and follow the code with the squares of the pieces, in W-before-BI within code digit sequence, preserving the 'decimal point' to separate the pieces from the pawns, if any (where all W pawns precede all BI).

The 223-move optimal play solution position in the endgame wR wB bN bN would be represented: a7d3 **0116.00** b2b3c6d6 3/3+. The '3/3' is a control indicating 3 W and 3 BI men, with '+' meaning W wins, while '-' would mean White draws. The win/draw indicators are optional. Note that although in this example there are no pawns the GBR code decimal point and immediately following pair of zeroes are obligatory (enabling a scan of a text file searching for encoded chess positions) but the absence of a decimal point in the list of squares confirms that there are no pawns. A position with pawns but no pieces would be coded in this manner: a2c4 **0000.32** .d4e3f2e4f3 4/3 WTM. To indicate Black to move (but still with the implied win or draw for White) it is suggested that '-+' and '-=' be employed. Where the position result is unknown or undecided or unknowable it is suggested that the computer chess convention 'WTM' (White to move) and 'BTM' be followed. The redundancy check piece-count (including the '/' separator) and terminating full stop are both obligatory.

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