



23th INTERNATIONAL INTERNET TOURNAMENT (UAPA) – 2024

PRELIMINARY AWARD

Section A : Thematic: Study with up to 12 pieces with pin stalemate of one or more pieces.-Judge: Michal Hlinka (Slovakia)

Section B : Theme free

B.1.) Win – Judge : Eduard Eilazian (Ukraine)

B.2.) Draw – Judge : Helmut Waelzel (Germany)

Participants: Valery Kalashnikov (Russia), Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia), Luboš Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia), Daniele Gatti (Italy), Michael Pasman (Israel), Andrzej Jasik (Poland), Pavel Arestov & Vasily Lebedev (Russia), Borislav Ilincic (Serbia), Michal Hlinka (Slovakia), Ognian Dimitrov (Bulgaria), Pavel Arestov & Peter Krug (Russia -Austria), Oleg Pervakov (Russia), Beat Neuenschwander (Switzerland), Vasily Murashov (Russia), Pavel Arestov & Peter Krug (Russia- Austria), David Gurgenidze (Georgia), Michael Pasman (Israel), Mario García & Vasily Murashov (Argentina -Russia), Can Aydinoglu (Turkey), Michael Pasman (Israel), Jan Timman (Netherlands), Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine), Marcel Doré (France), Oleg Pervakov (Russia), Alexey Gasparyan (Armenia), Vasily Murashov (Russia), Luis Miguel González (Spain), Sergey Osintsev (Russia), Rainer Staudte & Michael Schlosser (Germany)

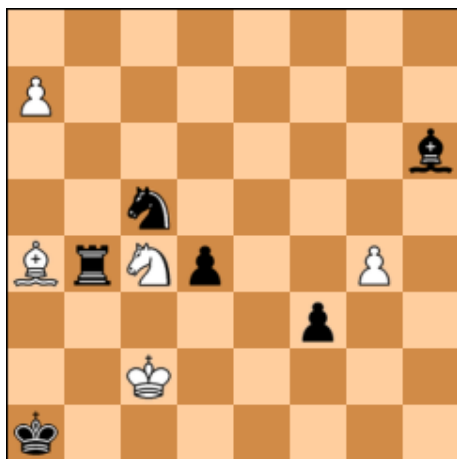
Sebastián A. Palomo
Coordinator of Tournaments (UAPA)



SECTION A

The theme of the study, pin stalemate, has fascinated me since the beginning of my composing. This thematic tourney pleasantly surprised me with the participation of several top composers, which was also reflected in the good quality of the entries. There were also new ideas in processing the theme, as well as fragments from past (including my) work. I present the following result:

Michael Pasmán and Pavel Arestov
1st Prize



Draw

Oleg Pervakov
2nd Prize



Draw

(10) Definitely the best study of the tourney. An ideal stalemate with the pin of two light pieces is created after an interesting game in which every piece of the final position has moved. It is possible that the theme was inspired by my study, Československý Šach 2008. However, the game and the end are different, so this fact from past does not affect the originality of the study.

1.Bb3!

1.Bb5? d3+ 2.Kc3 Rb3+ 3.Kd4 Ne6+ 4.Ke5 Nc7-+

1.a8Q? Rxc4+! (1...d3+? 2.Kc3 Rxa4 3.Qh8 f2 4.Nd2 Bxd2+ 5.Kxd2+ Ka2 6.Qg8+=) 2.Kd1 Rc1#

1...d3+ 2.Kd1 Ra4!

2...Rxb3 3.a8Q+=

3.Bxa4 f2 4.Nd2 Ne4! 5.g5!

Logical try : 5.a8Q Nc3+ 6.Kc1 f1Q+ 7.Bd1+ Na2+ 8.Qxa2+ Kxa2-+

5...Bxg5

5...Nxd2 6.a8Q f1Q+ 7.Kxd2 Bxg5+ 8.Kc3=

6.a8Q Nc3+ 7.Kc1 f1Q+

7...Ne2+ 8.Kd1 Nc3+ 9.Kc1=

7...Na2+ 8.Kd1 Nc3+ 9.Kc1=



8.Bd1+ Na2+ 9.Qxa2+ Kxa2 Ideal stalemate with 2 pinned pieces and selfblocks

(7) A demanding scheme with heavy pieces required some concessions. The reward is a nice final battery doublecheck with an inevitable stalemate with the pin of two light pieces. Here, the memory of the study of M. Hlinka and L. Kekely, Pat and Mat 2019. Could this study have been the inspiration? The same position of the pieces in the end is: Kf5, Nf7, Qh4, Kh2 and a similarly pin piece by Rc5.

1.Ke7!

After 1.Kxf7? only 1...d5+! (not 1...d6+? 2.Kg6+-) 2.Ke6 dxe4 3.Bd5 Re8+--+
1...d6+! 2.Kf6 Qd8+! 3.Kf5 b1Q

1...d5+ 2.Kf6 dxe4 (2...Qd8+ 3.Kf5 b1Q 4.Qh6+!+-) 3.Bd5! Qd8+ 4.Ke5=
1...Qd8+ 2.Kxf7 Qf8+ 3.Kg6 b1Q (3...Rc6+ 4.Qxc6 dxc6 5.Ba2=) 4.Rh4+
Kg1 5.Rg4+=

3...Rxc5+ 4.Nxc5 b1Q+ 5.Bd3=

4.Bd5!

4.Kf4? Rxc5! 5.Be2 Kh2!--+

4...Rxc5

4...Qh8 5.Qxd6 Qd3 6.Rg3! Qh5+ 7.Kf4 Qh4+ 8.Kf5 Qh7+ 9.Kf4!=

4...Qe7? 5.cxd6+-

5.Rh4+!

Thematic try 5.Qa2? Rxd5+! (5...Qxa2? 6.Nf2+ Kh2 7.Rg2#! Model mate)

6.Qxd5 Qf1+ 7.Nf2+ Kh2 8.Rh4+!? Qxh4 And no model mirror stalemate with pin after 9.Qg2+ Qxg2!--+ (9...Kxg2?=-)

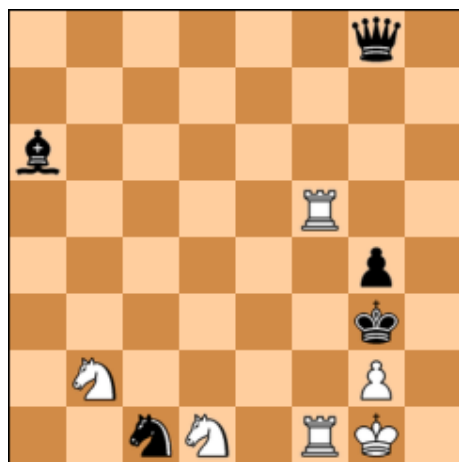
5...Kg1 6.Rg4+ Kh1 7.Rh4+ Qxh4 8.Qf1+!! Qxf1+

8...Kh2 9.Qg2+ (or 9.Qe2+=) 9...Kxg2=

9.Nf2+ Kh2 Model mirror stalemate with two pins

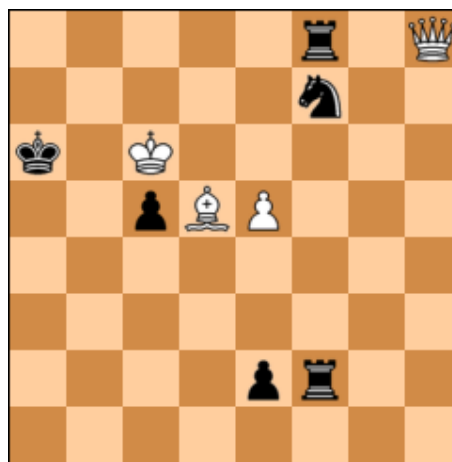


Andrzej Jasik
3rd - 4th Prize



Draw

Pavel Arestov
3rd - 4th Prize.



Draw

(3) After a forced intro of game and 3.Nf2! it turns out that not only the white, but also the black king is in some danger. After the strongest move 3...Qe8! an interesting maneuver follows, with the knight walling off and the threat of checkmate. Therefore black must pin the rook and white will force a stalemate.

1.Re1

1.R1f3+? gxf3 2.Rxf3+ Kh4 3.Rh3+ Kg4 4.Ne3+ Kf4μ;
1.Re5? Ne2+ 2.Rxe2 Bxe2 3.Re1 Qh7 4.Rxe2 Qh2+ 5.Kf1 Qh1#

1...Ne2+ 2.Rxe2! Bxe2 3.Nf2! Qe8!

3...Qh8 4.Ne4+ Kh4 5.g3+ Kh3 6.Rd5 Qe8 7.Nd3 Bxd3 8.Nf2+ Kxg3
9.Rxd3+ Kf4 10.Rd4+ Kf3 11.Rd3+ Ke2 12.Rd4 Qc6 13.Rxg4 Qc5
(13...Qc1+ 14.Kg2 Qf1+ 15.Kh2 Kf3 16.Rg3+ Kxf2 17.Rf3+ Kxf3 stalemate)
14.Rg2=

4.Nh1+ Kh4 5.g3+ Kh3 6.Rf2! Qe3 7.Nd3! Bxd3 Stalemate

(2) The elegant foreplay will surely please even the solver. The maneuver of the black knight, who tries to push the white king onto an inconvenient square, is also interesting. However, he must choose his move to the stalemate square exactly (4.Kc4!, but not immediately 4.Kd4?) In the next after 5.Kd4 Qd8+ (there was a threat, for example, after 4...e1Q 5.Qh6+!) 6.Nd5! black has to show a model stalemate with a pin of bishop

1.Qh3!

[1.Qxf8? Nxe5+ 2.Kc7 Rxf8 -+];
1.Qh1? Nxe5+ 2.Kc7 Rf1 -+.



1...Rf3!

1...Nxe5+? 2.Kxc5 Ka7 3.Qa3+ +-;

1...Rc8+? 2.Qxc8+ +-

1...e1Q? 2.Qa3#.

2.Bxf3!

2.Qxf3? Nxe5+ 3.Kc7 Rxf3 -+;

2.Qh4? Nxe5+ 3.Kc7 R3f7+ 4.Bxf7 Rxf7+ 5.Kd6 Kb6! 6.Qe1 (6.Qe4 Rd7+7.Ke6 Nd3! 8.Kxd7 e1Q 9.Qxd3 Qb4! -+) 6...Nc4+ 7.Kd5 Ne3+ 8.Kd6 Nf5+9.Ke6 Rf8! 10.Qxe2 Nd4(Re8)+ -+.

2...Nxe5+

2...e1Q? 3.Be2+! Qxe2 4.Qa3#.

3.Kxc5 Nd3+

3...R(N)xf3? 4.Qe6+ +-.

4.Kc4!

Try: 4.Kd4? Rd8+! 5.Bd5 Rxd5+! bNd3 6.Kxd5 Nf4+ fork, 7.Kc4 Nxh3 -+.

4...Nb2+!

4...Ne5+ 5.Kc5! – positional draw;

4...e1Q 5.Qh6+! Ka5 6.Qxf8 =.

5.Kd4!

5.Kc3? e1Q+ -+

5.Kb3? Rb8+ 6.Kc2 e1Q -+.

5...Rd8+

5...Rf4+ 6.Ke3 e1Q+ 7.Kxf4 =.

6.Bd5! switchback

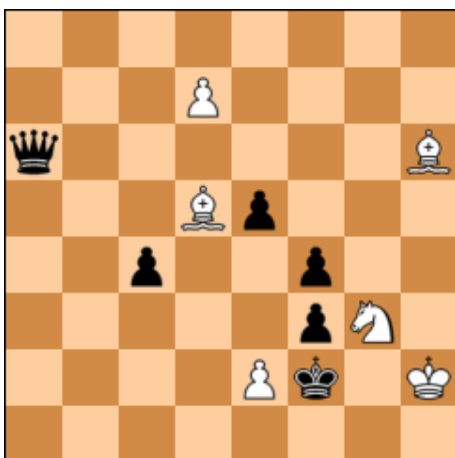
6.Kc5? Na4(Nd3)+ 7.Kc6 e1Q -+.

6...e1Q

6...Rxd5+!? 7.Kxd5 =, bNb2

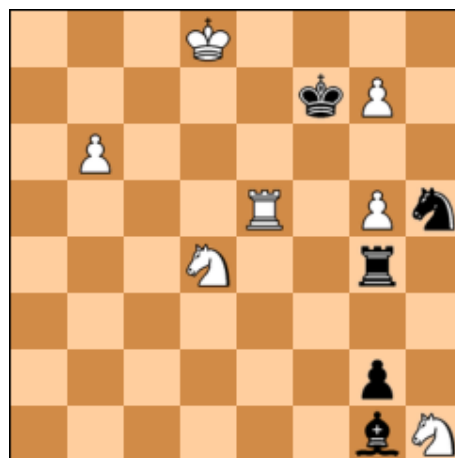
7.Qh6+ Ka5 8.Qb6+! Kxb6 – model stalemate with pin Bd5.

Pavel Arestov
Honorable Mention



Draw

David Gurgenidze
Honorable Mention



Draw



(5) After a single 1.Ne4+! and a strong 1...Ke3! then white must make the right decision and play 2.Nxf4+! before promote the pawn into a queen to set up a check with a queen on the e7 square. Then the knight can return to his original square - 5.Ng3!, to eliminate the check equally with the check after 5...e1Q+ 6.Nf1+. Further, depending on how the black king retreats, white sacrifices unnecessary material and forces a similar stalemate in two lines with the pin of the knight.

1.Ne4+!

1.d8Q? Qxh6+ 2.Nh5 !xh5+ -+;

1.Nh1+? Ke3 2.Bf8 Qf6 3.Bc5+ Kxe2 4/Bxc4+ Kd2 -+.

1...Ke3!

1...Kxe2? 2.Bg5 f2 3.Nxf2 =.

2.Bxf4+!

2.d8Q? Qxh6+ 3.Kg1 fxe2 -+, pos. X1 with b.p.e5;

2.Bg5? fxe2 3.d8Q e!Q 4.Bh4 Qh6 -+.

2...exf4 3.d8Q Qh6+ 4.Kg1 fxe2 pos. X without b.p.e5 5.Ng3! e1Q+

5...fxg3 6.Qe7+ Kd2 7.Qb4+ c3 8.Qd4+ =.

6.Nf1+ Kd3

6...Kd4 7.Be6+ Ke5 8.Qd5+ Kf6 9.Qf5+ Ke7 10.Qf7+ Kd6 11.Qd7+ =

7.Be4+! with 2 lines:

7.Bg2(Bf3)+? Kc2 -+.

A) 7...Kxe4 8.Qe8+!

8.Qe7+? Kf3! 9.Qxe1 Qg5+ 10.Ng3 Qxg3+ -+.

8...Kf3!

8...Kd3(Kd4) 9.Qxe1 =.

9.Qh5+!

9.Qxe1? Qg5+ -+.

9...Qxh5 – stalemate with pin Nf1.

B) 7...Ke2!

7...Kc3?? 8.Qa5+ +-.

8.Qd3+!! cxd3 9.Bf3+! Kxf3 – stalemate with pin Nf1.

(8) Black's hope of winning lies in the strong g2-pawn, so White looks for saving in the also-strong g7-pawn and threatens checkmate after 2.Nf5. Black deflects the threat with his manoeuvres, but during it the white pawn moves to f6, allowing the white knight to continue its mission. The knight sacrifices himself - 5.Jh6!, to rise like a phoenix from the ashes and allow a stalemate with the pin of the transformed knight.

1.Re7+ Kg8 2.Nf5 Bxb6+

2...Rd4+ 3.Kc8 Rc4+ 4.Kd7 Nxg7 5.Rxg7+ Kf8 6.g6 Rd4+ 7.Kc7=

3.Ke8 Nf6+

3...Nxg7+ 4.Rxg7+ Kh8 5.Kf7 g1Q 6.Rg8+ Kh7 7.Rg7+=



4.gxf6 gxh1Q 5.Nh6+

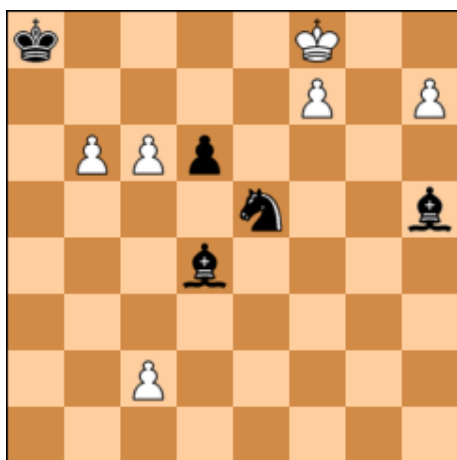
5.f7+? Kh7 6.g8Q+ Rxc8+ 7.f8R+ /N (7.f8Q+ Kh8 8.Qxc8+ Kxc8) 7...Kh8
8.Rh7+ Qxh7—+

5...Qxh6 6.f7+ Kh7 7.g8Q+ Rxc8+ 8.f8N+!

8.f8Q+ Kh8 9.Qxc8+ Kxc8 10.Rg7+ Kxc7—+

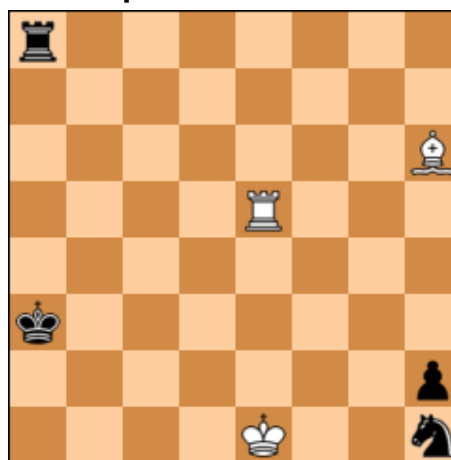
8...Kh8 9.Rh7+ Qxh7= stalemate

Ivan Bondar
Honorable Mention



Draw

Valery Kalashnikov
Special Honorable



Draw

(12) A fun study with a nice first move. It turns out that the material superiority of black is only fictitious, because at the end of the study, the one who has to save himself is black.

1.c3!!

1.h8Q? Ng6+! 2.Ke8 Nxc8—+

1...Bxc3 2.h8Q Ng6+ 3.Ke8

3.Kg8? Bxc8!—+

3...Nxc8 4.Kd8

4.Kd7? Ng6! 5.b7+ Ka7 6.b8Q+ Kxb8 7.c7+ Ka7! 8.c8Q Bg4+ 9.Ke8 Bxc8—+

4...Nxf7+ 5.Kc8

5.Kc7? Ba5!—+

5...Bg4+

5...d5?? 6.b7+ Ka7 7.b8Q++-

6.Kc7 Ba5 stalemate

(1) The battle of the bishop against rook and the knight in the corner has already been worked in several studies, e.g. H. Weichert, Deutsche Schachzeitung 1968. However here the new author developed the idea in an elegant miniature, adding two echo stalemates with a pin of bishop.



1.Bc1+!

Urgent struggle against a pawn will be finished by doubles attacks not for the benefit of white. 1.Rh5? Re8+ 2.Kd2 (or 2.Be3!? Rxe3+ 3.Kf1 Ng3+—+ double attack) 2...Ng3 3.Rxh2 Nf1+—+ double attack

Checks? And what for? 1.Re3+? Kb4! 2.Rh3 Ra1+ 3.Ke2 Ng3+ 4.Kf3 h1Q+ 5.Rxh1 Nxh1—+

1...Kb3!

1...Ka2 2.Re2+= double attack

2.Re3+ Kc4 3.Re4+

Logical try 3.Rh3? position X with bKc4 3...Re8+ 4.Kf1 Ng3+ 5.Kg2 h1Q+ 6.Rxh1 Nxh1—+

3...Kd3!

3...Kd5 4.Rh4 Re8+ 5.Be3! Rxe3+ 6.Kf1 Ng3+ 7.Kf2 h1Q 8.Rxh1 Nxh1+ 9.Kxe3=

4.Re3+ Kd4 5.Rh3 position X with bKd4 **5...Re8+ 6.Kf1 Ng3+ 7.Kg2 h1Q+**

8.Rxh1 Nxh1 The pawn is not detained, but exchanges the new queen, and black king on the necessary point! In the figured baby – classical motives and theme of the author (article in N115 «Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsiya» 2014 Year and 22th UAPA Tournament 2023 Year).

9.Bf4!

Prematurely 9.Kxh1? Re1+—+ double attack

logic try 9.Bb2+? Kd3 10.Kxh1 Re1+ 11.Kg2 Re2+—+ double attack

With two lines

A) 9...Re1 10.Bh2 Ke4 11.Bg1 Kf4

11...Ng3 12.Bf2= double attack

12.Kxh1 Kg3 minimal ideal echo – stalemate with pin.

B) 9...Rh8 10.Bh2 Ke3

10...Nf2 11.Bg1= pin

11.Kxh1 Kf2 minimal ideal echo – stalemate with pin.

SECTION B.1. STUDIES WIN

PRELIMINARY AWARD

A total of 34 studies (including 7 joint works) were submitted to the competition, from 25 composers from 18 countries (Slovakia, Italy, Israel, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Austria, Switzerland, Georgia, Argentina, Turkey, Netherlands, Ukraine, France, Armenia, Spain, Germany).

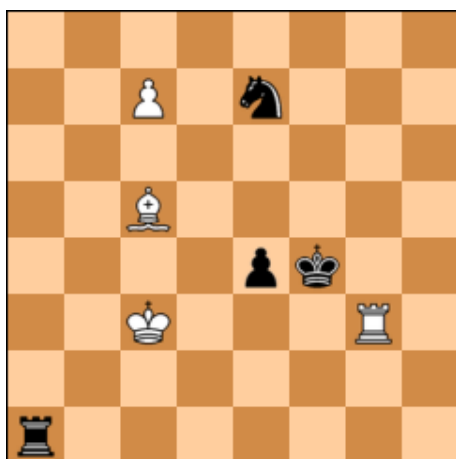
It is noteworthy that the authors presented works of various directions and styles, without highlighting any fashionable themes. When evaluating the compositions, I used generally accepted criteria.

I would only like to draw attention to three problems of study composition that remain unresolved: the lack of clear rules for using EGTB, too free use of terminology, and the “eternal” problem of duals.



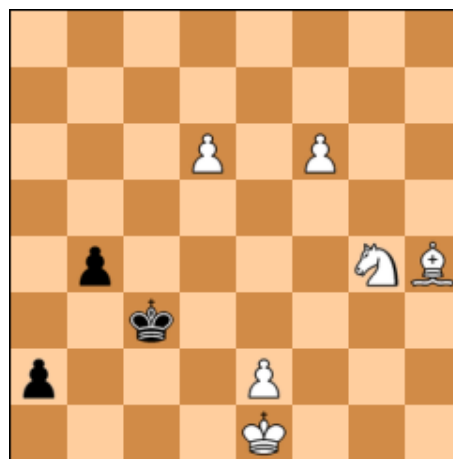
The overall level of the competition turned out to be quite high, which explains the relatively high percentage of awarded works. The following 21 studies are awarded.

Sergey Osintsev
1st Prize



Win

Michael Pasman
2nd Prize



Win

(33) **.Rg8!** 1.Rg7? Nd5+ 2.Kb2 Ra8=; 1.Bd6+? Kf5 2.Bxe7 Rc1+ 3.Kd4 Rxc7-+.
1...Rc1+ 1...Nd5+ 2.Kb2+-. **2.Kd4 Rd1+ 3.Kc4 Rc1+**

Additional line. 3...Rd7 4.Kb5! Rxc7 5.Bd6+ Ke3 [5...Kf5 6.Rf8+-] 6.Rg3+ Kf2 7.Bxc7 Nd5 8.Bb8 [Bd6; Be5] 8...e3. Foreplan: **9.Rg5!** [Try-play: 9.Kc4? e2 10.Ra3 Ne3+!]=;

False foreplan: 9.Rg8? e2 10.Bg3+ Kf3 11.Kc4 Position D1 with Rg8 - draw 11...Nf6! 12.Rg6 (12.Rg7 Nh5!= fork; 12.Rg5 Ne4!= fork) 12...Ng4! 13.Be1 Ne5+= fork;

False foreplan: 9.Rg7? e2 10.Bg3+ Kf3 11.Kc4 Position D2 with Rg7 - draw 11...Ne3+ 12.Kd3 Nf5!= fork;

False foreplan: 9.Rg6? e2 10.Bg3+ Kf3 11.Kc4 Position D3 with Rg6 - draw 11...Nf4! tempo! 12.Rg8 Ng2 13.Kd3 e1Q 14.Bxe1 Nxe1+=] **9...e2 10.Bg3+! Kf3 11.Kc4!** Position D with Rg5 - win **11...Nf4 12.Be1 Ng2 13.Rg3+--.** A logical study within a study!

4.Kb5 Kf5 5.Rf8+! preliminary check! **Try** 5.Re8? Rb1+! 6.Ka6 Rc1 7.Kb5 Rb1+ 8.Ka4 Rc1 9.Kb5 Rb1+ positional draw 10.Bb4 Rxb4+! 11.Kxb4 Nd5+ 12.Kc5 Nxc7=.

5...Ke6 6.Re8! pin 6...Kd5! 7.Rd8+ 7.Rxe7? Rxc5+=. **7...Ke6 8.Rd6+ 8.Kb6? Rb1+=.**

Main line A. 8...Kf5! 9.Rc6! Change thematic try and solution. Loss of time 9.Rd5+?! Ke6 10.Rd6+ Kf5;

Thematic try 9.Rd1?! Rc3! Position B1 with Kf5 - draw (9...Rc2? 10.Rd5+! (10.Rd2? Rc3=) 10...Ke6 11.Rd6+ Ke5 (11...Kf5 12.Rc6 Nc8 13.Bd4+-) 12.Rd2!+- Echo position C1) 10.Rd5+ Ke6 11.Rd6+ Ke5! 12.Rd7 (12.Rd3??



Echo position C2 – defeat) 12...Nc8 13.Rd8 Ke6! 14.Kc6 (14.Rxc8 Kd7=) 14...Ne7+ 15.Kb6 Rb3+ 16.Ka6 Rc3! 17.Kb6 Rb3+=.

9...Nc8 or 9...Rb1+ 10.Ka6 Nc8. Position A with Kf5 – there is 11.Bd4 11.Bd4! Ne7 12.Rf6++-.

10.Bd4! Rd1 10...Nd6+!? 11.Kb6! (11.Rxd6? Rxc7=) 11...Nc8+ 12.Kb7 Rxc6 13.Kxc6 Ke6 14.Bc5+-; 10...Rb1+ 11.Ka6! Rb3 12.Rf6+!+- (12.Rh6? e3! 13.Rh8 e2 14.Re8 Rb4! 15.Bf2 Nd6 16.Bg3 Re4 17.Rf8+ Kg5! 18.Rg8+ Kh5! 19.Rh8+ Kg5!)=).

11.Rf6+! Loss of time 11.Kc5 Rc1+ 12.Kb5 Rd1. **11...Kg5 12.Rf8! Nd6+ 13.Kc5+- Rxd4 14.Kxd4 Nb5+ 15.Kxe4 [15.Ke5+-] 15...Nxc7 16.Ke5+- .**

Main line B. 8...Ke5 9.Rd1! Echo position C. **Change thematic try and solution.** [Thematic try 9.Rc6? Rb1+ (9...Nc8? 10.Bd4+! Kxd4 11.Rxc1+-) 10.Ka6 Nc8= Position A1 with Ke5 – not 11.Bd4] **9...Rxd1** [9...Rc2 10.Bxe7 Rxc7 11.Bd6+-; 9...Rc3? Position B with Ke5 – win 10.Bd4+- (10.Bxe7 Rxc7 11.Bd6+-)] **10.Bxe7 Rc1 11.Bc5+-.**

The study of the strategic direction is the most powerful study in the competition!

It can be attributed to the class of structural-thematic studies with a complex solution structure.

The central place is occupied by the theme "Change of try".

In different branches of the solution, similar positions with a decisive difference repeatedly arise.

In the additional line (a logical study in a study!) the theme "False foreplan" is very clearly presented (see comments to study No. 1).

The undisputed winner of the tournament!

(The solution of the study is given in the judge's interpretation)

(7) 1.Kf1! [Try: 1.d7? a1Q+ 2.Kf2 Qa7+ 3.e3 Qxd7–+. Try: 1.f7? a1Q+ 2.Kf2 Qa7+ 3.Kg3 Qxf7–+.

Try: 1.Ne3? a1Q+ 2.Nd1+ Kc2 3.f7 Qxd1+–+ 4.Kf2 Qxd6]

1...a1Q+ 2.Be1+ Kd4 [If 2...Kb3, then 3.d7! (try: 3.f7? Qg7! 4.Ne5 Qf6+!)=) 3...Qa8 4.f7! Qh1+ 5.Kf2 Qh4+ 6.Kf3!+- (6.Ke3? Qe7+!). Motive of the theme "Change of try" compared to the main line.]

After 2...Kd4 a critical position arises. White is faced with a choice: which pawn to move?

Thematic false trail: 3.d7? Qa8 4.Bxb4 (4.e3+ Kd5 5.Bxb4 Ke6=) 4...Qh1+ 5.Kf2 Qh4+ 6.Kf3 Qh3+! (6...Qh1+? 7.Kf4! (7.Kg3 Qg1+ 8.Kh4 Qh1+ 9.Kg5 Qd5+=) 7...Qe4+ 8.Kg3!+-) 7.Kf4 Qe3+!! 8.Kf5 (8.Nxe3 Stalemate !) 8...Qe4+ 9.Kg5. Key position X1 – see X2 in line B. 9...Qd5+ 10.Kf4 (10.Kh6 Qxd7–+) 10...Qxd7 11.e3+ Key position Y1 – see Y2 in the line A. 11...Kd5!=. Here f6 square is taken by white pawn, so no fork.

Right **3.f7! Qa8 4.Bxb4**. Here Black has a choice:

Line A: 4...Qf8 5.d7! [5.Ke1? Kc4! 6.Ba3 Kb3! 7.Bc5 Qxf7=; 5.Kg2? Qxf7 6.d7 Qd5+=; 5.e3+? Kc4=] **5...Qxf7+ 6.Ke1!** [6.Kg1? Qg8=] **6...Qxd7** [6...Qd5 7.e3+! Kd3 8.Be7 Qh1+ (8...Qxd7 9.Ne5+ Ke4 10.Nxd7+-) 9.Kf2+-] **7.e3+!** Key position Y2 – without f6 pawn. Similar key positions Y2 and Y1 are connected



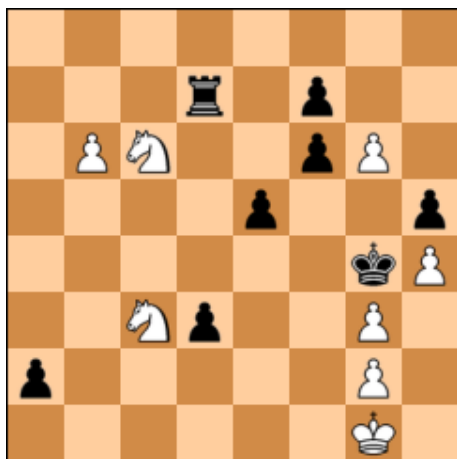
by a decisive difference $\Delta 1: \pm pf6$. The critical Δ -factor of this difference is the blocking of square f6. In a critical position, White unblocked this square in advance (foresight effect!) so that on the 8th move (line A) he could fork with his knight. The effect of foresight in strategic form! **7...Kd5** [7...Ke4 8.Nf6+--; 7...Kc4 /d3 8.Ne5+--] **8.Nf6+ Ke6 9.Nxd7+-**.

Second thematic **line B: 4...Qh1+ 5.Kf2 Qh4+ 6.Kf3 Qh3+ 7.Kf4 Qe3+ 8.Kf5! Qe4+** [not 9.Kf6? Qf4+ 10.Ke7 Qe4+ 11.Kd8 (11.Kf8 Qxg4--+) 11...Qa8+ 12.Kd7 Qb7+=] **9.Kg5!+-**. Key position X2 with f-pawn on f7. Similar key positions X2 and X1 are connected by a decisive difference $\Delta 2: pf6-f7$. The critical Δ -factor of this difference is the threat of f8Q. In a critical position, White advanced the pawn to f7 (the second effect of foresight!) in order to obtain a position with the irresistible threat of f8Q on the 9th move (line B). The effect of foresight in the form of alternative choice!

This study synthesizes two varieties of the theme "Foresight effect" with a single thematic false trail: the effect of foresight in the form of a choice (the choice of continuation in a critical position does not affect the overall pattern of the game) and the effect of foresight in a strategic form (from the critical position to key positions lead two different ways). [See E. Eilazyan "Logic of a logical study", Problemist of Ukraine №3(57) 2018.]

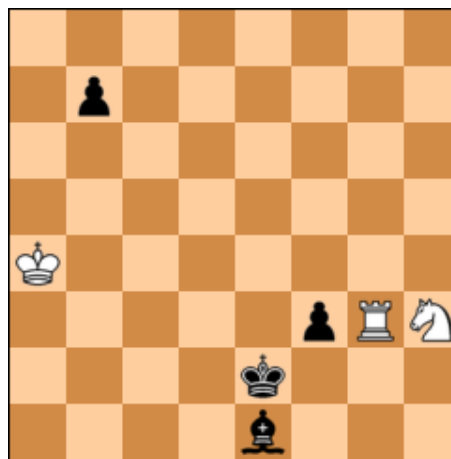
It is interesting that the alternative choice (3.f7! or 3.d7?) is made by White, and the form of implementation of the foresight effect depends on the choice of Black (4...Qf8 or 4...Qh1+). Wonderful study!

Serhiy Didukh
3rd Prize



Win

Pavel Arestov & Peter Krug
4th Prize



Win

(27) 1.g7! a1Q+ 2.Kh2 Qa8 2...Qxc3 3.g8Q+ Kf5 4.Qc8+- 3.Ne7! Rx7 4.Nd5!
Thematic try 4.g8Q+? Qxg8 5.Nd5 Qg5! (5...Kf5? 6.Nxe7+ Ke6 7.Nxg8+-).
4...Qxd5 4...Kf5 5.Nxe7+ Ke6 6.g8Q+-.

5.g8N! Kf5 6.Nxe7+ Ke6 7.Nxd5 Kxd5 8.b7 d2 9.b8Q d1Q 10.Qd8+.

Choice of direction of a checkers combination.

A bright study with an interesting idea and clear implementation.



(18) 1.Ng1+ Kf1! 1...Kf2 2.Rg8(Rg7) +- 2.Rg6!

Try: 2.Rg7? b5+! 3.Kb3 (3.Ka3 Bc3) 3...f2 4.Nf3 Ke2 5.Nh2 f1N! 6.Rg2+ Bf2 7.Ng4 Nd2+! 8.Kc2 Ne4! =.

2...b5+! 2...f2 3.Nf3 – as main line. 3.Ka3!!

Try: 3.Kxb5? f2 4.Nf3 Ke2 5.Nh2 f1Q 6.Re6+ Kf2+! check, =;

Try: 3.Kb3? f2 4.Nf3 Ke2 5.Nh2 f1N! 6.Re6+Ne3! =.

3...b4+! 4.Ka4!

Try: 4.Ka2? b3+! 5.Kb2! (5.Kxb3 f2 6.Nf3 Ke2 7.Nh2 f1N! =) 5...f2 6.Nf3 Ke2 7.Nh2 f1Q 8.Re6+ Kf2 9.Rf6+ Kg2 10.Nxf1 Bf2! 11.Nd2 Bd4+ =.

4...f2 5.Nf3 Ke2 5...Bc3 6.Nh2+ Ke2 7.Re6+ +- 6.Nh2 f1N! 6...f1Q 7.Re6+ Kf2 8.Rf6+ Kg2 9.Nxf1! +-.

7.Rg2+! 7.Re6+? Ne3! =. 7...Bf2 8.Ng4 Ne3!? 8...Kf3 9.Rxf2+ +- 9.Rxf2+ Ke1 10.Rf4!+- 10.Nxe3? Kxf2 =.

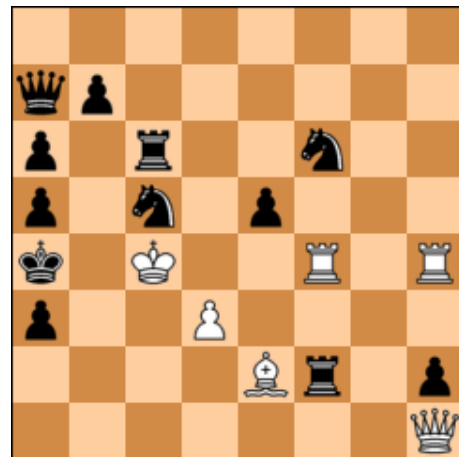
An interesting miniature with rich tactical content! Only the coordinated actions of the white pieces on different flanks lead them to victory. A very pleasant study to solve!

**Michael Pasman
5th prize**



Win

**Daniele Gatti
Special Prize**



Win

(24) 1.c8Q+ Qxc8 2.b5+!

Logical try: 2.Nxc8? c1N+ 3.Kxa3 Rh3+ 4.Nf3 Rxf3+ 5.Kb2 Nd3+ 6.Ka2 Nxe1 7.a8Q+ Position X1 7...Kb5=

2...cxb5 3.Nxc8 c1N+! 4.Kxa3 Rh3+ 5.Nf3! Nowotny + taking control on b4 square.

Logical try : 5.Kb2? Nd3+ 6.Ka2 Nb4+! 7.Kb2 Nd3+= Perpetual check.



5...Rxf3+ 5...b4+ 6.Kb2+-; 5...Bxf3 6.Qxe6++ 6.Kb2 Nd3+ 7.Ka2 7.Kb1? Bc2+ 8.Ka2 Nc1+! 9.Qxc1 Bb3+ 10.Kb1 Bd5 11.Qc5 Rf1+ 12.Kc2 Rf2+ 13.Kd3 Rf3+ 14.Ke2 Rf2+ 15.Ke3 Rf3+= Perpetual check.

7...Bb3+! Now white has control on b4 square: 7...Nb4+ 8.Qxb4 Rf2+ 9.Ka3 Rf3+ 10.Kb2 Rf2+ 11.Kc1+-

The difference (from the first logical try): 7...Nxe1 8.a8Q# Position X2.

8.Ka3! 8.Kxb3? Nxe1+; 8.Kb1? Bc2+=. 8...Kb7 9.Nd6+ 9.Qe4+? Bd5=. 9...Ka8 9...Kxa7 10.Qa5+ Kb8 11.Qb6+; 9...Kb6 10.Qxh4 Bd5 11.Qd4+ Nc5+ 12.Kb2 Rf8 13.Ne4 Rc8 (13...Bxe4 14.Qd6++-) 14.Nxc5 Rxc5 15.Ka3+- 10.Qxh4 Bd5 11.Nxb5 11.Qd8+? Kxa7=. 11...Nb2+! 12.Kb4! 12.Kxb2? Rb3+ 13.Kc2 Rxb5=. 12...Rf4+! 12...Rb3+ 13.Kc5 Nd3+ 14.Kb6+- 13.Qxf4 Nd3+ 14.Ka5 Nxf4 15.Kb6!+- with mate.

The author managed to create an action-packed detective story with numerous collisions and twists on the board. False trails, mutual sacrifices, traps, paradoxical maneuvers fit very naturally into the plot of the work. The intrigue is maintained throughout the action – from the introduction to the denouement. The ending is unexpected and very beautiful!

(4) 1. Bd1+!

Logical Try 1.Qxc6+? b5+! 2.Kc3+ (2.Qxb5+? axb5+! 3.Kc3+ b4+ 4.Rxb4+ axb4+ 5.Rxb4+ Ka5 -) 2...Nfe4+ 3.Rxe4+ Nxe4+ 4.Rxe4+ Qd4+ 5.Rxd4+ exd4+ and the final counter-check is missing =.

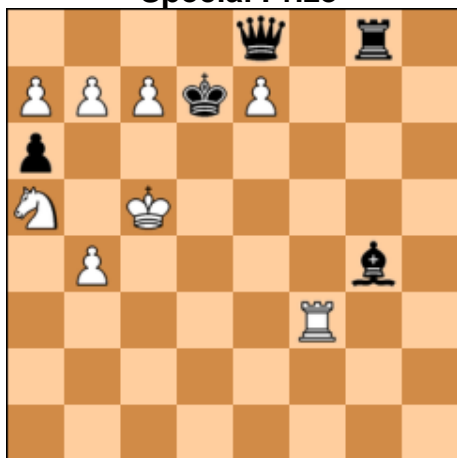
1...Rc2+ 2.Bxc2+ Nb3+ 3.Qxc6+ b5+ 4.Kc3+ Ne4+ 5.Rxe4+ Qd4+

Thematic Try 5.Qxe4+? b4+! 6.Qxb4+ axb4+ 7.Rxb4+ not mate =.

6.Rxd4+ exd4+ 7.Rxd4# – Double-pin mate.

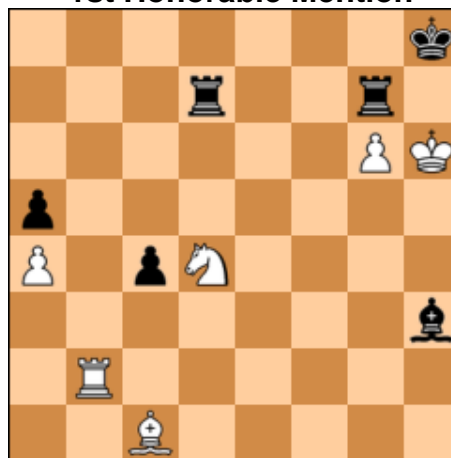
Task study: all moves and thematic variations are consecutive counter-checks. Original source of the matrix: Bachmann Karlheinz, Schoneberg Achim, Reich Hans-Peter (H#8, Die Schwalbe, 1995).

**Michael Pasman
Special Prize**



Win

**Jan Timman
1st Honorable Mention**



Win



(21) **1.Rf7!!** Very unexpected move in this position. 1.a8Q? Qxe7+ 2.Kd4 Qd6+=.

Thematic try: 1.Rd3+? Kxc7 2.a8N+ (2.b8Q+ Qxb8 3.axb8Q+ Rxb8 4.Nc4 Rb5+ 5.Kd4 Bd7 6.Kc3 Rg5 is positional draw – white can't improve his position without losing one of the pawns , e.g. 7.Re3 (7.Rd2 Rh5 8.Ne3 Bc6 9.Nd5+ Kb7 10.Nf6 Re5) 7...Be8 8.Re6 Kd7 9.Rxa6 Kxe7=) 2...Kb8 3.Rd8+ Qxd8 4.Nc6+ Kxb7 5.exd8Q Rxd8 6.Nxd8+ Kxa8=. **Thematic try:** 1.b8N+? Kc8 2.a8Q Qxe7+ 3.Kb6 Qxc7+ 4.Kxa6 Bxf3 5.Nbc6+ Kd7 6.Qxg8 Be2+! 7.b5 Qc8+ 8.Qxc8+ Kxc8=; 1.Re3?? Rg5+ 2.Kd4 (2.Kb6 Qg6+) 2...Qh8+–+; 1.b8Q?? Qxe7+–+.
1...Rg5+ 1...Qxf7 2.c8Q+ Rxc8+ 3.bxc8Q+ Kxc8 4.a8Q++- 2.Kb6! Rb5+!
2...Rg6+ 3.Nc6 Rxc6+ 4.Ka5 Qxf7 5.c8Q+ Rxc8 6.bxc8Q+ Kxc8 7.a8Q+ Kd7 8.Qd8++-. **3.Kxa6 Rxb7! 4.Rf8!** 4.Kxb7? Qc8+= **4...Kxc7 4...Rb6+ 5.Kxb6 Qg6+ 6.Kb7 Qe4+ 7.Kb8 Qxb4+ 8.Nb7+-.** **5.a8N+! Qxa8+ 5...Kd7 6.Rxe8 Rxb4 7.Rd8+ Kxe7 8.Nc6++-. 6.Rxa8 Rb6+ 6...Be2+ 7.Nc4 Bxc4+ 8.Ka5 Bb5 9.e8Q Bxe8 10.Rxe8 Ra7+ 11.Kb5 Rb7+ 12.Kc5+-.** **7.Ka7 Bd7 8.Rc8+!! 8.e8Q? Bxe8 9.Rxe8 Rxb4=; 8.e8N+? Bxe8=. 8...Bxc8 8...Kxc8 9.Kxb6+-.** **9.e8N+! 9.e8Q? Ra6# 9...Kd7 9...Kd8 10.Kxb6 Kxe8 11.b5+-.** **10.Kxb6 Kxe8 11.b5 Kd7 11...Kd8 12.Nc6+ Kd7 13.Na7+-.** **12.Nb7! zz** Reciprocal zugzwang **12...Ke7 13.Kc7 Bd7 14.b6+-.**

The study with an unnatural initial position and double-edged play ends (as often happens in romantic studies) with a completely decorous classical position, in this case – the position of mutual zugzwang.

(25) **1.Ne6! Try:** 1.Nf5? c3 2.Nxg7 cxb2! 3.Bxb2 Rxc7=.

1...Bxe6 1...c3 2.Rb8+ Rg8 3.Nf8!+- 1...Rg8 2.g7+ Rdxg7 3.Nxg7 Rxc7 4.Rb8+ Rg8 5.Bb2+ c3 6.Bxc3#.

2.Rb8+ Bg8 3.Bb2 c3! Play for Stalemate **4.Bxc3 Rd4! 5.Rb7!** 5.Bxd4? stalemate; 5.Rb5? Rh4+=.

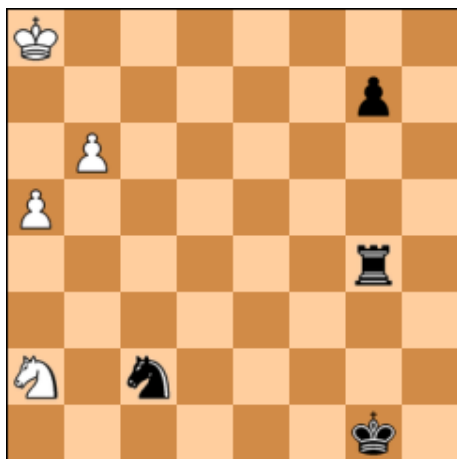
5...Rh4+ 6.Kg5 Rhh7 7.Be5! 7.Re7? Bf7 8.Rxf7 Kg8 9.Rf1 a) 9.Bxc7 Rh5+ 10.Kf4 (10.Kf6 Rf5+ 11.Ke7 Re5+ 12.Kd8 Re8+=) 10...Rh4+ 11.Kf5 Rh5+=; b) 9.Rf5 Rh1 /h2 10.Bxc7 Rg1+ 11.Kf6 Rxc7+ 12.Kxc7 stalemate; 9...Rh2 10.Bxc7 Rg2+=. **7...Bf7 7...Bc4 8.Re7 Bd5 9.Kf4 Rh4+ 10.Kg3 Rhh7 11.Kf2 Rh5 12.Bxc7+ Kg8 13.Ba1 Rf5+ 14.Ke3 Rf3+ 15.Ke2 Rf4 16.Rh7+-; 7...Ba2 8.Kf4 Rh4+ 9.Kg3 Rhh7 10.Kf2+-.**

8.Rxf7 Kg8 9.Rf1! Dominating the rook on h7 **9...Rh6 10.Kxh6 Rxc7+ 11.Kh5!+- [11.Kxc7?= stalemate].**

Both sides demonstrate subtle, inventive play using tactical nuances. The struggle culminates in a decisive domination over the black rook.

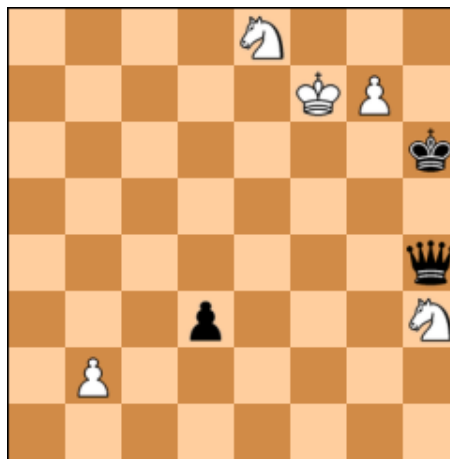


Oleg Pervakov
2nd Honorable Mention



Win

Oleg Pervakov
3rd Honorable Mention



Win

(15) **1.a6** 1.b7? Ra4→ **1...Nd4** 1...Rg6 2.Kb7! Ne3 3.Ka7! (3.a7? Nd5 4.a8Q Rxb6+ 5.Kc8 Rc6+! 6.Kb7 Rb6+ 7.Ka7 Ra6+! 8.Kxa6 Nc7+=) 3...Nd5 4.b7+-.
2.Kb7 Nb3! 2...Nb5 3.Nc3! Nxc3 4.a7 Ra4 5.a8Q Rxa8 6.Kxa8 Nd5 7.b7 Nb6+ 8.Kb8! Nd7+ 9.Kc8+-.
3.a7 Ra4 4.Nb4! 4.Nc3? Ra1! 5.Kc6 g5 6.Nb5 (6.Kb5 Nd4+ 7.Kc5 Ne6+ 8.Kb4 Nd8 9.Na4 Nc6+ 10.Kb5 Nd4+ 11.Kc5 Rxa4=) 6...Na5+ 7.Kc7 (7.Kd7 Nb7 8.Kc7 g4 9.Kxb7 g3=) 7...Nb3! 8.b7 Rxa7 9.Nxa7 Nc5 10.b8Q Na6+=.
4...Nc5+ 4...Na5+ 5.Kb8! Rxb4 6.a8Q Rxb6+ 7.Kc7+-.
5.Kc6 Ra5 6.Na6!! Nxa6 7.b7 Nb4+ 8.Kb6 Rxa7 9.b8Q Ra3! 9...Rc7!? 10.Kb5! Nd5 11.Qd8+-; 9...Rf7 10.Qg3+ Kf1 11.Qh3+ Kf2 12.Qh4++-.
10.Qe5! 10.Kb5? Nc2! 11.Qb6+ Kf1! 12.Qc5 Rb3+ 13.Kc4 Rf3! =; 10.Qd8? Nd3! =.
10...Nc2! Switchback after c2-d4-b3-c5-a6-b4. 10...Nd3 11.Qxg7+ Kf1 12.Qf8++-.
11.Qg5+!

Logical try 11.Qxg7+? Kf1! 12.Qb2 Ne3! 13.Qxa3 Nc4+=. 11.Qc5+? Ne3! =. **11...Kh2!** 11...Kf2 12.Qd2++-; 11...Kf1 12.Qc1++-.
12.Qh4+! 12.Qh5+? Rh3 13.Qe2+ Kg3! 14.Qxc2 g5=; 12.Qd2+? Kh3! 13.Qxc2 g5=.
12...Kg1 12...Kg2 13.Qe4+! and so on, +-.
13.Qg4+ Kh2 14.Qe2+ 14.Qf4+? Rg3= **14...Kg3** 14...Kh3 15.Qh5+ Kg2 16.Qg6+- **15.Qe5+!** Switchback after e5-g5-h4-g4-e2. 15.Qxc2? g5=. **15...Kg2 16.Qe4+! Kg3 17.Qg6+ Kh3 18.Qh7+ Kg3 18...Kg2 19.Qxc2+-.** **19.Qxg7+** In time **19...Kf3 19...Kf2 20.Qb2+-**, pin Nc2 **20.Qb2! Ne3 21.Qxa3 +-**, pin Ne3.

A logical study with a multi-move preliminary plan. The decoration of the study are two Switchbacks (of the knight and queen), as well as the final knight pins with the winning of a piece.

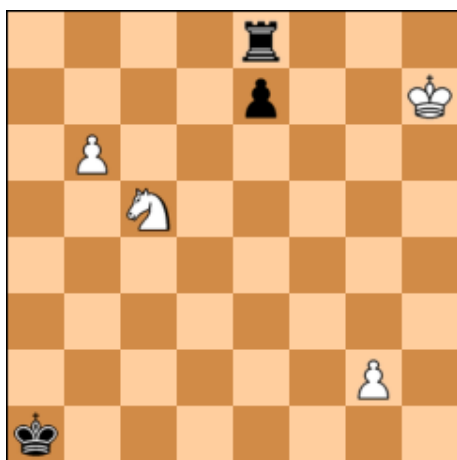
(29) **1.g8N+!** 1.g8Q? Qc4+ 2.Kf8 Qc5+=. **1...Kh7!** 1...Kh5 2.Nef6++-. **2.Nef6+** 1-st knight on f6 **2...Kh8 3.Ne7 Qc4+ 4.Kf8 Qb4!** Aiming to b8 square. 1-st pin **5.Nf4!** 1-st knight on f4. 5.Ng5? Qb8+ 6.Kf7 Qb7=. **5...Qb8+** 1-st unpinned.



5...Qxf4 6.Ng6#. **6.Kf7 Qb3+ 7.Ne6!** 1-st knight on e6.2-nd pin. **7...Qb7** 2-nd unpin and 3-rd pin.
 7...Qxe6+ 8.Kxe6 d2 9.Kf7 d1Q 10.Ng6#. **8.Nf8! Qb3+** 3-rd unpin **9.Nfd5** 1-st knight on d5.4-th pin **9...Qb7** 4-th unpin and 5-th pin **10.Nf4!** 2-nd knight on f4, f-line closed **10...Qb3+** 5-th unpin. 10...Qxe7+ 11.Kxe7 d2 12.Kf7 d1Q
 13.N4g6#. **11.N4e6!** 2-nd knight on e6.6-th pin **11...Qb7** 6-th unpin and 7-th pin **12.Ng5!** Square f3 under control **12...Qb3+** 7-th unpin **13.Nfe6!** Again 1-st knight on e6.8-th pin. Too early 13.Kg6? Qb6+ 14.Nfe6 Qg1!=. **13...Qb7** 8-th unpin and 9-th pin **14.Nf4!** Again 1-st knight on f4 **14...Qb3+** 9-th unpin
 14...Qxe7+ 15.Kxe7 d2 16.Kf7 d1Q 17.Ng6#. **15.Nfd5** 2-nd knight on d5.10-th pin **15...Qb7** 10-th unpin and 11-th pin **16.Kg6!** In time! Square b6 under control. 11-th unpin **16...Qa6+** **17.Nf6** 2-nd knight on f6.12-th pin, and Black helpless.

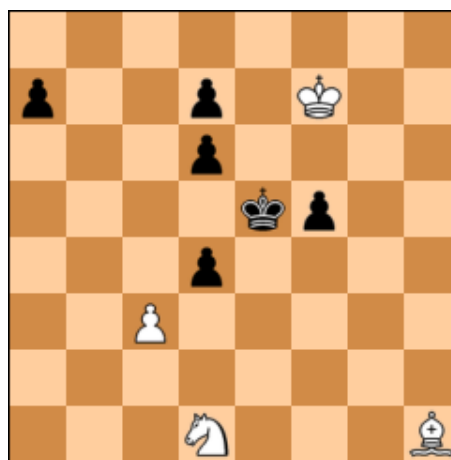
Three white knights attack the king in the corner of the board. They are opposed only by the black queen. The defense is based on multiple pins and checks. With subtle maneuvers, the knights manage to outwit the queen and force the blacks to capitulate. A good illustration of the theme of pinning and unpinning.

Pavel Arestov & Vasily Lebedev
4th Honorable Mention



Win

Daniele Gatti
5th Honorable Mention



Win

(10) 1.Nd7! 1.b7? Rb8 2.Kg6 Kb2 3.Kf7 e5 4.Ke6 e4 5.Nxe4 Rxb7 =; 1.Na6? e5 2.b7 Re7+! 3.Kg6 Rxb7 =. **1...e5 2.b7 e4 3.b8Q Rxb8 4.Nxb8 e3 5.Nc6 e2 6.Nd4! e1N!** 6...e1Q 7.Nc2+ Kb2 8.Nxe1 +-. **7.g4 Nd3 7...Kb2 8.g5 Nd3 9.Kg6! Nf4+ 10.Kf5 +-. 8.g5 Nf4 8...Ne5 9.Kg7(Nf3) +-. 9.Kh8!! 9.Kh6? Kb2(Kb1) 10.Ne2!? Nxe2 11.g6 Nd4(Ng3) 12.g7 Nf5+ =. 9...Kb2 10.Ne2! Nxe2 10...Ng6+ 11.Kg7 Nh4 12.Kf6 +-. 11.g6 Nf4 12.g7 Ng6+ 13.Kg8! Ne7+ 14.Kf8! 14.Kf7? Nf5! 15.g8Q Nh6+ =. **14...Nf5 15.g8Q**, win.**

Black and white excelsior.

(5) 1.Kg6! a5 2.Kg5 a4 3.c4 a3 3...d3 4.Nc3! a3 5.Na2! Kd4 6.Kf4! d2 (6...Kxc4 7.Ke3! Kb3 8.Bd5+!



Kc2 9.Nb4+! +-) 7.Bf3! Kd3 8.Bd1! +-; 3...d5 4.Nb2! a3 3.Nd3+! Kd6 4.c5+! +-.
4.Nf2 a2 4...Ke6 5.Bd5+! Ke7 6.c5+!; 4...d3 5.Nxd3+! Kd4 6.Sc1! (6.Nb4? Kc3!
 =) Kc3 7.Bd5! Kb2 8.c5!Kxc1 (8...dxc5 9.Na2! Kc2 10.Kxf5! +-) 9.cxd6!+-.
5.Bd5 d3 5...a1Q 6.Nd3#. **6.Nxd3+ Kd4 7.Nc1!** 7.Nb4? a1N! =. **7...a1N**
 7...a1Q 8.Sb3+-. **8.Ne2+ Ke5 9.Ng1! Kd4** 9...f4 10.Nf3#. **10.Nf3+ Kd3 11.Nh4**
f4 12.Kxf4 Nb3 13.Nf5 Na5 14.Nxd6 Kd4 15.Kf5 Kc5 15...Nxc4 16.Bxc4! Kc5
 17.Ke5!+- **16.Ke5 Nc6+ 17.Bxc6 dxc6 18.Ke6+-.**

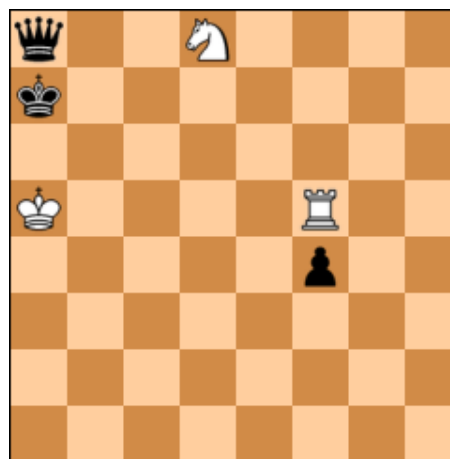
Despite a significant material advantage, White must play extremely precisely to achieve victory. Using the cramped position of the black king in the center of the board, White creates a threat of checkmate and forces the black pawn to become a knight. The final point is put by a favorable exchange, after which the outcome of the battle is no longer in doubt.

Vasily Murashov & Mario García
Special Honorable Mention



Win

Rainer Staudte & M. Schlosser
Special Honorable Mention



Win

(22) 1.Ng3+!

Try: 1.Kxb2? Rf4! (1...Kh2? 2.g6 Rf8 3.g7 Rg8 4.Be4+-) 2.g6 Rf8 3.Be4+ Rxe4
 4.Ng3+ Kh2 5.Nxe4 g3 6.g7 Rg8 7.Nf5 g2 8.Ng5 g1Q 9.Nf3+ Kg2 10.Nxg1
 Kxg1= e.g. 11.Kc3 Kf2 12.Kd4 Kf3 13.Ke5 b6 14.a4 Ke2 15.Kd4 Kf3 16.Ke5
 Ke2 positional draw.

1...Kh2 1...Kg1 2.Nxf1 Kxf1 3.g6+- **2.Nxf1+ Rxf1** 2...Kh3 3.g6+- **3.Kxb2!**

[**Try:** 3.g6? Position (with color change) of the study M.Garcia & V.Murashov
 (UAPA 22nd Ty Sec.A, hm) after Black's 2nd move 2...Kc7. Therefore, one can
 apply the lemma method and immediately evaluate the variation as a draw
 3...Rf2+! =.]

3...Rf4 3...Kh3 4.g6 Rf8 5.Nf5+- **4.g6 g3 5.g7 g2 6.g8Q g1Q 7.Qxg1+ Kxg1**
8.Nf5! Rxc4 9.Kb3! 9.Nd6? Rc6!= **9...Rc6** 9...Rc1 10.Be4!+- Kf2 11.Kb4 Re1
 12.Nd6 b6 13.Kb5+- **10.Bd3!** 10.Be4? Rb6+ 11.Kc3 Ra6 12.Kb4 Rb6+ 13.Kc5
 Ra6= **10...Rb6+** 10...Kf2 11.a4! Kf3 (11...Rb6+ 12.Kc4 Ra6 13.Kb4 Rb6+
 14.Kc5+-) 12.Nd4+- **11.Kc4** 11.Kc3? Kf2 12.a4 Kf3 13.a5 Rf6 (13...Rc6+!?



14.Kd4+-) 14.Kd4 b6 15.a6 b5 16.a7 Ra6=. **11...Rc6+ 12.Kb4 Rb6+ 12...Kf2**
 13.a4 Rb6+ 14.Kc5+- **13.Bb5 Rf6** 13...Kf2 e.g. 14.a4 Rf6 15.Bd3 Kf3 16.Kc5
 Rc6+ 17.Kd4 Kf4 18.Ne3+- **14.Ne3!+-.**

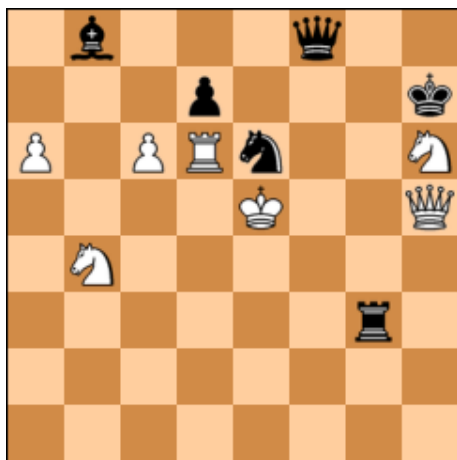
Try: 14.Ne7? Kf2 15.Bc4 Kf3! (15...Rf8? 16.a4 Ke3 17.Kc5+-) 16.Kc5 Ke4!
 17.Bd5+ Kd3 18.a4 Rf4! (18...b6+? 19.Kb5 Kc3 20.Nc8!+- (20.Bc4? Kd4
 21.Nd5 Rf5 22.Kb4 Ke5 23.Nxb6 Kd6=) 20...Rf5 21.Nxb6+-) 19.a5 Ra4 20.Kb5
 Rd4! (20...Rg4? 21.Nc8! Rg5 22.Kc5 Kc3 23.Nd6!+-) 21.Kc5 (21.Bxb7 Rd7=)
 21...Ra4 positional draw.

(34) 1.Rf7+! Kb8+ 2.Kb6 Qa3 3.Nc6+! Ka8 3...Kc8 4.Rc7# 4.Kc7! Qc5 4...f3
 5.Rd7! Qf8 6.Kb6! Switchback 6...f2 7.Ra7#. **5.Rf6!** preservation of a useful
 Black unit, i. e. taking the Pawn is worse for White (enables stalemate and
 opens lines). 5.Rxf4? Qb6+ (5...Qa3 6.Rd4 Qg3+=) 6.Kxb6= stalemate. **5...Qa3**
 5...f3 6.Rf4!+-

6.Rf5 switchback, wins, e. g. 6...f3 7.Rb5+-.

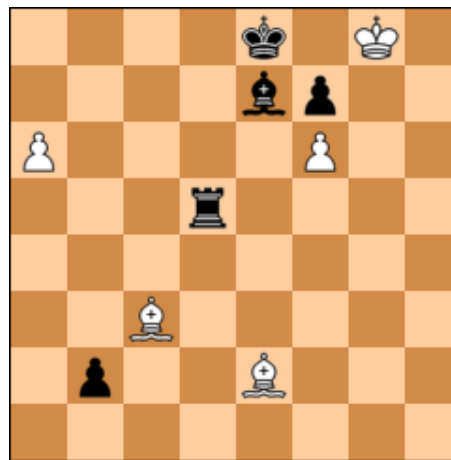
The study in form and content resembles a parable with a deep philosophical
 meaning. Another example of chess modeling.

Andrzej Jasik
1st Commendation



Win

David Gurgendize
2nd Commendation



Win

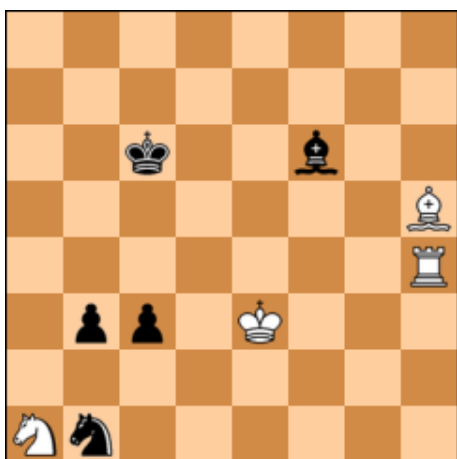
(8) 1.Ng4+! 1.Qf5+? Rg6 2.Qxf8 Nxf8 3.a7 Bxd6+ 4.Kf5 Ne6 5.a8Q Rxb6
 6.Qb7 Bxb4 7.Qxb4 dxc6=. **1...Kg7 2.Qh6+ Kg8!** 2...Kf7 3.Qf6+ Kg8 4.Nh6+
 Kh7 5.Qxf8 Nxf8 6.a7 Re3+ 7.Kf5 Bxa7 8.c7 Re8 9.Nd5 Rc8 10.Ng4 Kg7
 (10...Bd4 11.Ngf6+ Bxf6 12.Kxf6) 11.Ne5 Bb8 12.cxb8Q Rxb8 13.Rf6 d6
 14.Rf7+ Kh8 15.Ng4± **3.Nf6+** 3.Qxf8+? Kxf8 4.a7 Bxd6+ 5.Kxd6 Ra3=. **3...Kf7**
4.Qxf8+ Nxf8 4...Kxf8 5.Nxd7+ Kf7 6.Nxb8±. **5.a7! Bxa7** 5...Rg5+ 6.Ke4 Bxa7
 7.c7 Rc5 8.Nc6± **6.cxd7** 6.c7? Ng6+ 7.Kd5 Rc3=. **6...Rg5+** 6...Re3+ 7.Ne4
 Bb6 8.Nd5 Rd3 9.Nc5 Ng6+ 10.Ke4± **7.Kf4! Bb8!** **8.Kxg5 Bxd6 9.d8N+!**
 9.d8Q? Ne6+=. **9...Ke7** 9...Kg7 10.Ne8+ Kh7 11.Nxd6± **10.Nbc6#.** A linear
 study with a beautiful final checkmate. All the pieces came to their places during
 the game! But this super-task was solved at too high a price...



(19) 1.a7 1.Bxb2? Rg5+ 2. Kh7 Bc5 3. Bb5+ Kd8± 1...Rg5+ 1...b1Q 2.a8Q+ Rd8 3.Qa4+ Rd7 4.Bh5+- 2. Kh8 Bxf6+ 3. Bxf6 Ra5 4. Bb5+ Kf8 5. Bxb2 Rxa7 5...f5 6. Bd4+- 6.Bd4 Rc7 7.Be5 Re7 7...Ra7 8.Bd6+ Re7 9.Kh7+- 8.Bg7#.

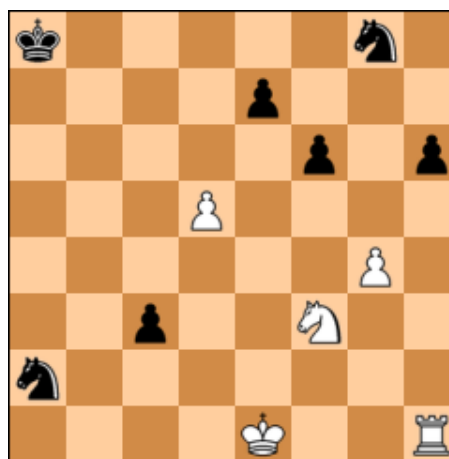
Two bishops elegantly deal with the black king, though not without the “help” of the black pieces.

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely
3rd Commendation



Win

Beat Neuenschwander
4th Commendation



Win

(2) 1.Rc4+ Kb5 2.Rc8! 2.Kd3? b2 3.Nc2 Be7 4.Nd4+ Ka5! 5.Bd1 Nd2 6.Ra4+ Kb6 7.Bc2 b1Q 8.Bxb1 Nxb1=; 2.Be2? b2 3.Rxc3+ Ka5 4.Rc5+ Kb6 5.Nb3 Nc3 6.Bd3 b1Q 7.Bxb1 Nxb1=, 2...b2 3.Nc2 Nd2 4.Bg6! Nc4+ 4...b1Q 5.Na3+- fork. 5.Ke2 Be5! 5...Nb6 6.Na3+-; 5...b1Q 6.Rb8+ Nb6 7.Na3+-, 6.Bd3 Kb6! 6...b1Q 7.Na3+-, 7.Nd4! 7.Ne3? Na3= 7...Na3 7...Nd2 8.Nf3!+-; 7...c2 8.Bxc2 (or 8.Rc6+...+-) 8...Na3 9.Rc6+ Kb7 (9...Ka7 10.Bd3 b1Q 11.Bxb1 Bxd4 12.Bd3+-) 10.Rc3! b1Q 11.Bxb1 as main; 7...Bxd4 8.Rxc4+-, 8.Rc6+! Try 8.Rxc3? b1Q 9.Bxb1 Nxb1 10.Rb3+ Kc5 11.Nb5 Nc3+ 12.Nxc3 Kc4 13.Ra3 Bxc3=.

8...Kb7 8...Ka5 9.Ra6+ Kb4 10.Nc6+- fork. 9.Rxc3 till now 9...b1Q 9...Bxd4 10.Rxa3+- 10.Bxb1 Nxb1 11.Rb3+ and wins, for example 11...Ka6 12.Nb5+-, The fight against passed pawns requires precise play with elements of logic from White. It's a pity that the solution didn't have a clear ending with position of domination.

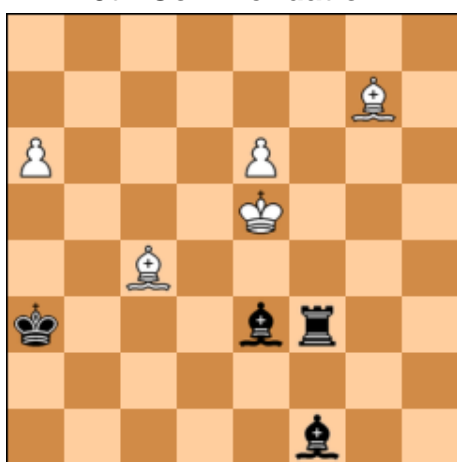
(16) 1.d6! 1.Kd1? Nb4 2. Rh5 Kb7=; 1. Nd4? Nb4 2.Rh5 Kb7=. 1...exd6 1...Kb7 leads to a technically lost endgame, e.g. 2.Nd4 exd6 3.Ke2 c2 (3...Ne7



4.Nc2+-) 4.Nxc2 Nc3+ 5.Kd3 Nd5 6.Ne3+- **2.Rh2 Nb4** 2...Nc1 3.Kd1 Nd3
 4.Re2+- as main line. **3.Re2 Nd3+ 4.Kd1 Ne5 5.Nxe5 dxe5** 5...fxe5 6.Rf2 Kb7
 7.Rf8 Ne7 8.Rf7+- **6.g5!! Kb7** 6...fxg5 7.Rf2+-; 6...hxg5 7.Rh2+- **7.g6!+-** and
 wins, e.g. 7...Kc6 8.Ra2 Kd5 9.Ra8 Ne7 10.g7+-.

An original geometric idea with a paradoxical breakthrough of the pawn and trapping of the knight.

Andrzej Jasik
5th Commendation



Win

Jan Timman
Special Commendation



Win

(9) 1.e7 Bc5! 1...Ba7 2.Kd6 Bxc4 3.e8Q Kb4 4.Qe4 Ra3 5.Qb7+ Bb5 6.Kc7
 Rxa6 7.Bf8+ Ka5 8.Qf3 Rc6+ 9.Kb7 Bc5 10.Qc3+ Ka4 11.Bxc5±; 1...Bf4+
 2.Kd4 Be3+ 3.Kd5 Bg2 4.Ke6 Bh3+ 5.Kd6 Bf4+ 6.Kc6 Bg2 7.Bd5 Re3 8.Bxg2
 Rxe7 9.Bf8±. **2.Bh6!** 2.Bxf1? Rxf1 3.Ke6 Re1+ 4.Be5 Bd4 5.a7 Rxe5+ 6.Kd6
 Ra5 7.e8Q Bxa7=. **2...Bxe7 3.a7 Rf5+!** 3...Bf6+ 4.Kd6 Rd3+ 5.Bxd3 Bg2 6.Be3
 Kb4 7.Ke6±. **4.Kxf5 Bg2 5.Ke6!** 5.Ke5? Ba8 6.Kd4 Ka4 7.Bd2 Bh4 8.Be3 Ka5
 9.Kc3 Bf6+=. **5...Bc5! 6.Bf8! Bxf8 7.Bd5** Win.

A series of one-move threats and defenses culminates in a combination involving four bishops and a pawn promotion to queen. A good study for a solvers' competition.

(26) 1...Bf6+! 1...f1Q 2.Rxb4+ Bd4 3.Qd5+ Ke3 4.Ra3+ Kf2 5.Rxd4+- **2.Kxf6**
Qd4+ 3.Ke7! f1Q 4.Rb6!! Qf4
 4...g2 5.Re6+! fxe6 6.Qxe6+ Kf4 7.e3+! Qxe3 8.Rf5+ Kg3 9.Qxe3+ Kh2
 10.Rf2+-; 4...Qxb6 5.Bc2+ Kf4 6.Rf5+--. **5.Bc2+ Nxc2** 5...Nd3 6.Bxd3+ Ke3
 7.Bxh7+ Kxe2 8.Qc2+ Qfd2 9.Qxd2+ Qxd2 10.Re5+ Kf2 11.Rf6+ Kg1 12.Be4

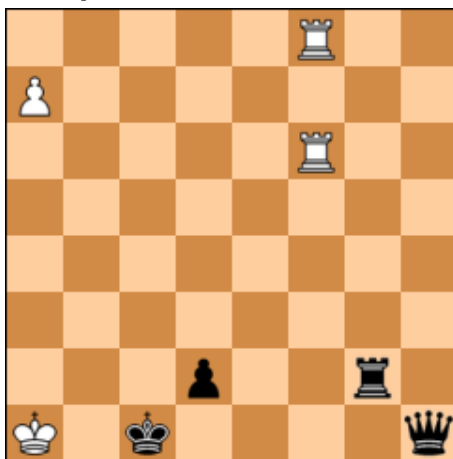


Qd4 13.Rff5+-. **6.Re6+! fxe6 7.Re5+! Qdxe5 8.Qd3#.** Main - **7...Qfxe5 8.Qf3#.**
Main- **7...Kxe5 8.Qxe6#.** After Dvizov 76.

[Dvizov=E [+4100.32h8g5] 1.p tz07 {m} Zvezda 1976].

This study has 3 moves and 8 pieces more than E. Dvizov's study.

**Valery Kalashnikov
Special Commendation**



Win

(1) 1.Rc8+!

Prematurely 1.a8Q? Kc2+ 2.Rf1 d1Q+ 3.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 4.Ka2 Qb1+ 5.Ka3 Qb3#.

Logical try 1.Rc6+? Kd1 2.a8Q Ke2+ 3.Kb2 d1Q--+ theme of the author (article in N115 «Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsiya» 2014 Year and 22th UAPA Tournament 2023 Year).

1.Rf1+? d1Q--+; 1.Rh6? d1Q 2.Rxh1 Qxh1 3.a8Q Kc2+--+. **1...Kd1 2.a8Q Ke2+**
2...Rg1 3.Qa6 Qe4 4.Re6 Qd4+ 5.Kb1 Qg4 6.Rc2+-. **3.Ka2!** 3.Kb2? d1N+!
4.Kb3 Rg3+ 5.Kc2 Ne3+ 6.Kb2 Nc4+ 7.Ka2 Ra3+ 8.Qxa3 Nxa3=. **3...d1Q**
3...Qa1+ 4.Kxa1 d1Q+ 5.Kb2! Qd4+ 6.Rc3+- **4.Qe4+ Kd2 5.Rd6#.**

First of all, it is necessary to give an explanation about the theme of the study. The author's article from 2014, in which this theme is described, is called "Theme without a name".

1. The wording of the theme "Logic study with false try in a preliminary plan" does not correspond to the author's description of its content. The correct wording is: "Logical study with a false preliminary plan".

2. Theme name. The theme can be briefly called: "False preliminary plan" or even shorter "False foreplan".

3. One of the ways to correctly use terminology when designing studies on the "False foreplan" theme is given in the additional line of study No. 33.



4. In the award of the 22nd UAPA competition the author writes: "Already after the announcement were made JT75 M. Garcia with realization: E. Eilazyan – Special Award (e1/e8 Win 5+6) ...". But this is not so.

There is no false foreplan in this study.

The theme "False foreplan" is presented in my other studies:

E. Eilazyan Die Schwalbe 2009, 2nd prize,

E. Eilazyan FIDE World Cup 2011, 2nd prize,

E. Eilazyan TCU-15 (Team Championship of Ukraine) 2011, 1 place,

E. Eilazyan 21 UAPA Section B2 2023, 4th prize.

5. In my article "The Theme of Change in a Study", part 3 (No. 93 "Shakhmatnaya Kompozitsiya" 2010), a description of the theme "Change of the way of implementing a logical maneuver" is given.

The formulas of this theme are: parallel form: $X - (x - A!(T?, B?)) \vee (y - B!(T?, A?))$;

sequential form: $X - x - A!(T?, B?) - y - B!(T?, A?)$.

Here, the letters A and B denote the first moves of two different methods of conducting equally motivated logical maneuvers in similar positions, and the letter T denotes try-play.

The formula for the "False foreplan" theme is: $X - x - A!(T?, B?)$. A – foreplan, B – false foreplan.

As we can see, the theme described in the article "Theme without a name" coincides with the initial phase of the theme "Change of the way of implementing a logical maneuver" described in the article in 2010.

This competition presents far from the best study on the theme "False foreplan", but I think it is necessary to note this study and thereby reward the author for searching for new ideas in logical study.

Unawarded studies:

Study N°3 (g4-f8) --- This is an interesting queen endgame, but not a study.

Study N°6 (c3-a7) --- There is too little content.

Study N°11 (g2-e5) --- There is too little content.

Study N°12 (h7-f7) --- The author's concept of the study is unclear.

Study N°13 (g2-a5) --- Anticipation: A. Troitsky, 1930.

Study N°14 (b1-b8) --- The author's concept of the study is unclear.

Study N°17 (e1-g2) --- The author's concept of the study is unclear.

Study N°20 (f1-b3) --- Partial anticipations: P. Arestov, 1993; H. Rinck, 1928.

Study N°23 (e6-g6) --- The final checkmate is unoriginal. Partial anticipations: A.Maksimovskikh, 1970; N.Daniljuk, 1992; E.Pogosjants, 1983.

Study N°28 (d4-f7) --- The author's concept of the study is unclear.

Study N°30 (h1-c8) --- Cook. [Them. false track 2.Nb6+? Nxb6 3.Nxb3 Bb7 4.Nd4 Na4 5.c5! Nxc5 6.Bc4 Ba8 7.Bb5 X mutual Z in favor of blacks! 7...Nb7 8.Nf5 Nxd6 9.Nxd6+ Kxc7 10.Ne4 d5 11.Ng5 Kb6 12.Bd7 Kxa7 draws, for example 13.d4 Kb7 14.f4 Kc7 etc.=] But 15.Be6! ... +/-.

Study N°31 (f4-c3) --- The author's concept of the study is unclear.

Study N°32 (g1-d7) --- Inadmissible duals: 11.Kf2 (Kg2, Kh2) ... 17.Kg2! , but if 11.Kg2 then 17.Kf2 (Kh2). The idea is interesting, the study needs improvement.



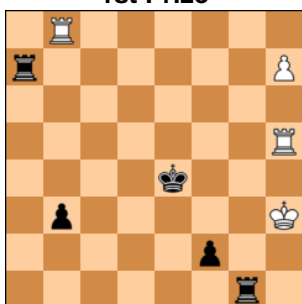
SECTION B.2. STUDIES DRAW

PRELIMINARY AWARD

Thanks to Mario for asking for a job I probably like to do, in time and finished, and to composers for sending their studies. There had been 30 entries from 24 composers, including a few joint compositions.

Accessibility for human solving is an advantage for a study, though somehow opposed to depth and subtlety of play. From studies, which could be described as „mainly analytical“, only the longest and most impressive one was included. Some of the miniature entries had been included.

Oleg Pervakov
1st Prize



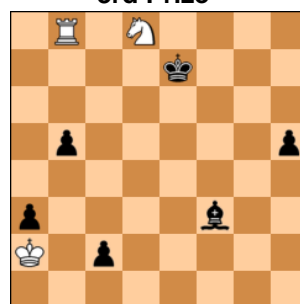
Draw

Jan Timman
2nd Prize



Draw

Sergey Osintsev
3rd Prize



Draw

1.Rh4+! Thematic try: 1.Rb4+? Kd3 2.Rxb3+ Kc2! (2...Kc4? 3.Rc3+! Kb4 4.Rh4+)=) 3.Rb2+!? Kxb2 4.h8Q+ Ka2 5.Kh2!? f1R! (5...f1Q? 6.Ra5+! Rxa5 7.Qb2+ Kxb2=; 5...Rh1+? 6.Kxh1 f1Q+ 7.Kh2 Qf2+ 8.Kh1!)=) 6.Qd4 Rh1+ 7.Kg3!? Rg7+! (7...Rfg1+? 8.Kf4! Rf7+ 9.Ke5! Rxh5+ 10.Ke6=) 8.Qxg7 Rhg1+ 9.Kh2 Rxc7+ 1...Kd5! 1...Kf5? 2.Rf8+- 2.Rh5+ Kc6 3.Rh6+! 3.Rc8+? Kb7 4.Rb8+ Ka6 5.Rh6+ Ka5 6.Rh5+ Ka4 7.Rh4+ Ka3+ 3...Kc5 3...Kc7 4.Rc8+! Kb7 5.Rb8+ Kc7 6.Rc8+ Kd7 7.Rd8+ Ke7 8.Re8+ Kd7 9.Rd8+= Perpetual check 4.Rh5+ Kc4 5.Rh4+ Kd3! 6.Rxb3+ 6.Rd4+? Kc3 7.Rc8+ Kb2+ 6...Kc2 7.Rb2+! 7.Rc3+? Kd2+; 7.Rf3? Ra3!+ 7...Kxb2 8.h8Q+ Ka2! 9.Kh2! f1R! 9...f1Q 10.Ra4+! Rxa4 11.Qb2+! (11.Qg8+? Qc4!+) 11...Kxb2= Stalemate 10.Qe8! It is necessary to leave line "h" and take control of f7 square. 10.Qd4? Rh1+ 11.Kg2 Rg7+! 12.Qxg7 Rhg1+ 13.Kh2 Rxc7+ 10...Rh1+ 11.Kg3 Rg7+ 12.Rg4 Rfg1+ 13.Kf2! 13.Kf3? Rh3+! Protecting the 3rd horizontal. 14.Kf2 R7xg4+ (14...R1xg4+) 13...Rf1+ 14.Kg3 Rhg1+ 15.Kh3 Rh7+ 15...Rf3+ 16.Kh2 R1xg4 17.Qe2+!= 16.Rh4 Rh1+ 16...Rf3+ 17.Kh2 Rxh4+ 18.Kxg1 Rg4+ 19.Kh2= 17.Kg3 Rg7+ 18.Rg4= Positional draw.



The first study at all with material Queen + Rook against 3 Rooks (in the thematic try and in the final) (author's comments).

An underpromotion to rook, within quiet moves, on a board full of major pieces. Successful in try. In the solution, capturing the remaining white rook would mean some draw by perpetual check. So Black tries to improve by different checks himself - from all three rooks indeed - but this only repeats the position. The study starts from a natural double rook endgame. In play White is willing to sacrifice his rook for a promotion check, on eighth rank as well as on the diagonal, and second rook and queen for stalemate. Try play includes a black rook sacrifice for a skewer on wQ. Impressive, original, fitting in all details.

Jan Timman (Netherlands)

1.Nd6+! Rxd6 2.d8N+! 2.Na2? h3 3.Rxf2 Rxd5—+ **2...Rxd8** 2...Ka8 /c8 3.Na2=
3.Bh6 Rf8! 3...h3 4.Rxf2 Re8 5.Rf1 Bd6 6.Bd2 Ba3 7.Na2 Re2 8.Bb4 Bxb4
9.Nxb4 Rd2 10.Kg1 Kc7 11.Na2 Rg2+ 12.Kh1 Kd6 13.Rf3 Rd2 14.Kg1 Rd1+
15.Rf1 Rxd5 16.Kf2 Rd2+ 17.Kf3= **4.Rxf8 Bf4** Novotny **5.Rb8+!** 5.Rxf4?
C1Q+—+ 5.Bxf4? F1Q#—+ **5...Ka7 6.Nb5+ Ka6 7.Nc7+ Ka5 8.Ra8+ Kb6** 8...Kb4
9.Bf8+ Kb3 10.Ra1 h3 11.Bc5 Kb2 12.Rf1 c1Q 13.Rxc1 Kxc1 14.Bxf2 Bxc7
15.d6! Bxd6 16.Bc5= (or first 16.Be3+) **9.Rb8+ Kc5 10.Ne6+ Kxd5 11.Nxf4+**
Ke4 11...Kc6 12.Rb6+! Kxb6 13.Nd5+= **12.Re8+** 12.Kg2? f1Q+! 13.Kxf1 c1Q+
14.Kg2 Qd2+ 15.Kh3 c3 16.Re8+ Kf3—+ **12...Kf3 13.Re3+! Kxe3 14.Ne6+! Ke2**
15.Nd4+ Kd3 16.Kg2=

Around a Novotny evolves a firework of black and white piece sacrifices. One on every move! After move five things cool a little bit down, but Black is still trying to win with just the pawns against rook, bishop and knight, and White hurries to give back his rook. Second line 8...Kb4 is also interesting.

Sergey Osintsev (Russia)

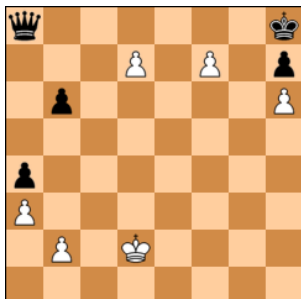
1.Rc8 b4 2.Rxc2 b3+! 2...Bd5+ 3.Ka1 b3 4.Re2+ Kf6 (4...Kd7 5.Rd2=) 5.Rf2+
Kg6 (5...Kg5 6.Nf7+= 5...Ke5 6.Nf7+=) 6.Rf4!= (6.Re2? b2+ (6...Kf5) 7.Kb1 Kf5
8.Nf7 Be4+ 9.Rxe4 Kxe4—+) **3.Kxb3 Bd1 4.Nc6+** 4.Kxa3? Bxc2—+ **4...Kd6**
5.Nd4 5.Nb4? h4 6.Kc3 Bxc2 7.Nxc2 (7.Kxc2 h3—+) 7...h3 8.Nd4 h2 9.Nf5+ Ke5
10.Ng3 Kf4 11.Nh1 Kf3—+ **5...Ke5! 6.Ka2!!** 6.Kxa3? Bxc2 7.Nxc2 Ke4! Position
A1 with wKa3 - square a3 is blocked by the King. 8.Ne1 h4 9.Ng2 h3—+ 6.Ne2?
a2! 7.Kxa2 Bxc2—+ 6.Nf3+? Kf4 7.Ng1 a2! (7...Bxc2+? 8.Kxc2 a2 9.Kb2=)
8.Kxa2 Bxc2—+ **6...Bxc2 7.Nxc2 Ke4!** Position A with wKa2 - there is 7...h4
8.Ne3!= **8.Nxa3!! h4** 8...Kd3 9.Kb3! h4 10.Nc4! h3 11.Ne5+ Ke4 12.Ng4 Kf3
13.Nh2+= 8...Kf3 9.Nc4! h4 10.Ne5+ **9.Nc4! Kf3** 9...h3 10.Nd2+= **10.Ne5+! Kg3**
11.Nc4! Kf2 12.Ne5 Kg3 13.Nc4 Kf4 13...h3 14.Ne3= **14.Nd2 h3 15.Nf1=**

From an inviting diagram position... the great surprise follows on move six. Avoidance of capturing, to keep the square free, cannot be shown more convincing than in this four men endgame, where the white knight has to move to a3 to stop a black pawn on the h-file! Apt to win fans for chess and chess composition!?

(The four men endgame itself is known, Afek=Y 2008 a5-c4. For the idea compare also Zakharov=S 2010 c7-d3.)

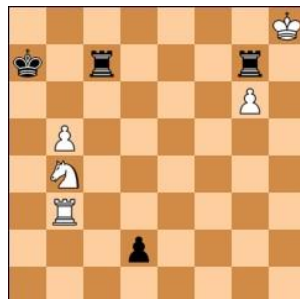


Beat Neuenschwander
1st Honorable Mention



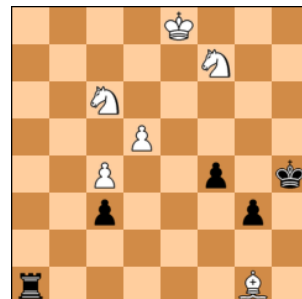
Draw

Michael Pasman
2nd Honorable Mention



Draw

Andrzej Jasik
3rd Honorable Mention



Draw

Beat Neuenschwander (Switzerland)

1.b4!! A paradoxical move, giving Black a passed pawn in an already critical position. 1.Kc1? Qc6+ 2.Kb1 Qg6+ 3.Ka1 Qf6 4.Kb1 b5 5.Kc2 (5.Ka1 Qf1+ 6.Ka2 Qxf7+--+; 5.Ka2 Qxf7+; 5.Kc1 Qxh6+--+) 5...Qg6+ 6.Kc3 Qf6+ 7.Kc2 b4 8.axb4 Qg6+ 9.Kc3 (9.Kd1 Qb1+?--+) 9...Qc6+--+ **1...axb3 2.a4!** 2.Kc3? Qf3+! 3.Kb2 Qf6+ 4.Kb1 Qf5+ 5.Ka1 Qe5+--+ **2...Qa5+** After 2...b2 3.Kc2 Qxa4+ 4.Kxb2 Black cannot win **3.Kd3!** 3.Kd1? Qh5+! 4.Kc1 Qxh6+--+ 3.Ke2? Qe5+! 4.Kd3 Qf6! 5.Kd2 Qxh6+--+; 3.Kc1? Qc3+ 4.Kd1 Qf6--+ **3...Qf5+** 3...Qd5+ 4.Kc3! Qe5+ 5.Kxb3= positional draw **4.Kc3! Qf6+** **5.Kd3! Qd6+** **6.Kc3! Qe7** **7.Kb2! Qf6+** **8.Kb1!** 8.Ka3? b2 9.Ka2 Qxf7+--+ **8...b2** 8...Qd6 9.Kb2! Qe7 10.Kc3! (10.Kb1? Qf6!--+) 10...Qf6+ 11.Kd3!= positional draw **9.Kc2!** 9.Ka2? Qxf7+--+ 9...Qf2+ 10.Kb1 Qf6 11.Kc2= positional draw

White king in the center or on the kingside would lose one of the pawns d7, f7, h6 with check, so it needs exile on queenside. There, for reasons of Zugzwang also, squares b2 and then a3 are needed, a plan that cannot be delayed. A shocking key! Astonishing, that Black can not make use neither of the passed pawn itself nor of squares c2 and a2 for his queen. White king is manoeuvring against black queen, including quiet moves and even Zugzwang (position after 5.Kd3! is one, with thematic try 3.Ke2?, position after 8.Kb1! would be another, apparently without try).

Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.b6+! 1.Rd3? Rgd7 2.b6+ Kxb6 3.Nd5+ Kc6--+ **1...Kxb6 2.Na6+!!** 2.Nc6+? Kxc6--+ 2.Nd5+? Kc6 3.Nxc7 d1Q 4.Rc3+ Kd7 5.Kxg7 Qd4+--+ **2...Kc6** 2...Kxa6 3.Rb6+! Ka5 4.Rb5+ Ka6 5.Rb6+ Ka7 6.Rb7+ Kxb7= Stalemate 2...Ka7 3.Nxc7 d1Q 4.Ra3+ Kb7 5.Kxg7= **3.Rd3** 3.Rc3+? Kb7 4.Rb3+ Kc8--+ (4...Ka7) **3...Rce7** 3...Ra7 4.Nb8+ Kb5 5.Rxd2 Rxc6 6.Nd7!= 3...Rxc6 4.Nxc7 Rd6 5.Rxd6+ Kxd6 6.Nb5+ Kc5 7.Nc3= **4.Nb4+!** 4.Rxd2? Rxc6--+ because of knight poor location - will be lost **4...Kc5 5.Nc6!!** 5.Rxd2? Rxc6--+ 6.Nd3+ Kc4 7.Nf4 Rf6--+ 5.Nd5? Rd7 6.Rxd2 Rxc6--+ 7.Nf4 Rh6+--+ **5...Rc7** 5...Re3 6.Rxe3 d1Q 7.Kxg7= 5...Kxc6 6.Rd6+= /c3 **6.Rxd2** 6.Nd4? Rxc6 7.Rxd2 Rf7--+ white loses because knight can't escape **6...Rxc6** white knight need be transferred closer to his king to escape from attacks **7.Rc2+!** 7.Ne5? Rgg7 8.Rd8 Rge7 again knight can't escape 9.Ng6 Rh7+ 10.Kg8 Rcg7+; Thematic try : 7.Ne7? Rxe7 8.Rd5+



(8.Rc2+ Kd5 9.Rc5+ Ke6 10.Rc6+ Kf7--+) 8...Kc6 9.Rd6+ (9.Rc5+ Kd7--+) 9...Rxd6--+ 7...Kd6 8.Ne7!! 3rd knight sacrifice black can't accept because of stalemate 8.Ne5 Rh6+ 9.Kg8 Rxc2 10.Nf7+ Ke7 11.Nxh6 Kf6--+ 8...Rh6+ 8...Rxe7 9.Rc6+! Kxc6= Stalemate 9.Kg7 Rxc2 10.Nf5+! Ke5 11.Nxh6=

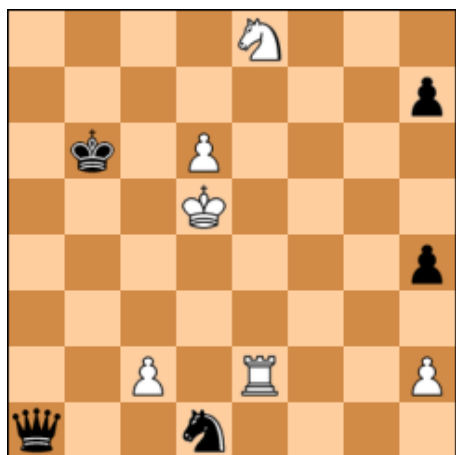
A stalemated wK, a potential desperado rook and a knight, the scenario for almost the whole play. The knight has to do on a6 first and then slowly returns towards his king, repeatedly offering itself. Stalemate may not be reliable and desperado rook may not be enough for draw, so things are difficult. A precise study.

Andrzej Jasik (Poland)

1.Nd4 c2! 1...Rxcg1 2.Nf3+ Kh5 3.Nxg1 c2 4.Ne2 f3 5.Nxg3+ Kg4 6.d6 Kxg3 7.d7 c1Q 8.d8Q Qe3+ 9.Kf8= 2.Nxc2 Rxcg1 3.d6 3.Ne5? Rd1 4.Nf3+ Kg4 5.Nce1 (5.Nfe1 Rd2 6.c5 Rxc2 7.Nxc2 g2 8.d6 g1Q 9.d7 Qxc5 10.d8Q Qxc2) 5...g2 6.Ne5+ Kf5 7.N1f3 g1Q 8.Nxg1 Kxe5--+ 3...Rd1 4.d7 g2 5.Nd6! Rxd6 6.Ne1! Re6+ 7.Kf8! Thematic try 7.Kf7? Rxe1 8.d8Q+ Kg4 9.Qd7+ Kg3!--+ 7...Rxe1 8.d8Q+ Kg4 9.Qd7+ Kg3 10.Qg7+! Kh2 11.Qh8+ Draw

A bit more-than-average-tactics throughout the play. 1...c2! decoys white knight from indirectly defending his bishop, 5.Nd6! decoys black rook for 6.Ne1! and a fork again and the two knight sacrifices together lead black rook from d-file to e-file, while 7.Kf8! will not disturb queen's checks. Pc4 is still needed in the final to make it unique.

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely 4th Honorable Mention



Draw

Serhiy Didukh 5th Honorable Mention



Draw

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1.d7 Nc3+ 2.Ke6 2.Kc4? Qa4+ 3.Kxc3 Qxd7--+ 2...Qa2+ 3.Kf6! 3.Ke7? Nd5+ 4.Kf7 Nf4+ 5.Ke7 Ng6+ 6.Kf6 Qd5--+ 3...Qa8 3...Nd5+ 4.Kf5 Qa8 5.c4 Nb4 6.Rb2 Kc6 7.Rd2= 4.Rd2 4.Re6+? Kc5 5.Rd6 Qd8+ 6.Ke5 Nb5 7.Rd5+ Kb6--+ 4...Qd8+ 5.Kf5! 5.Kf7? Ne4 6.Rd3 Ng5+ 7.Kf8 Kc5--+ 5...Nb5 5...Na4 6.Rd6+ Kc5 7.Rd3 Nb6 8.Nf6= 6.Nf6 Na7 7.Nd5+ Kb7 8.Ne7 Nb5 9.Rd5 Nc7 10.Rd6 Qf8+ 11.Kg4 Qg7+ 12.Kf3 12.Kf4? Qxe7 13.d8Q Ne6+ 14.Rxe6 Qxd8--+



12...Qf7+ 13.Kg2 13.Kg4? h5+--+ 13...h3+! 14.Kg3! 14.Kxh3? Qf3+ 15.Kh4 Qf4+ 16.Kh5 Qxd6--+ 14...Qg7+ 15.Kxh3 h5 16.Ng6 16.d8N+? Ka8 17.Ng6 Qc3+ 18.Rd3 Qc5! 19.Kh4 Nd5 20.Rf3 Qd6 21.Kxh5 Qxh2+ 22.Nh4 Qe5+ 23.Kg4 Ne3+ 24.Kh3 Qe4--+ 16...Qc3+ 17.Rd3 Qc4 18.d8N+! 18.Ne5? Qe6+ 19.Kg2 Qg8+ 20.Kf2 Ne6--+ 18...Kb6 18...Ka6 19.Ne5 Qxc2 20.Ndc6= 19.Ne5 Qxc2 20.Kg3! 20.Rd6+? Kb5 21.Ndf7 Ne6 22.Kg3 Qf5 23.Kh4 Ng7 24.Rd5+ Ka6 25.Rd6+ Kb7 26.Rd7+ Kb6 27.Rd6+ Kc5--+ 20.Ndf7? Ne6 21.Rd6+ Kb5--+ 20...h4+ 21.Kh3! 21.Kg4? Qxh2 22.Ndf7 Nd5--+ draw, for example 21...Nd5!? 22.Rxd5! Qf5+ 23.Kxh4 Qe4+ 24.Kg5 or Kg3 24...Qxd5 25.Ndf7=

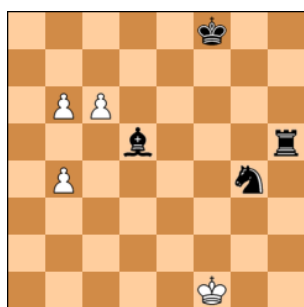
An impressively deep and long analytical study.

Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.Ra7+! Ke6 1...Qxa7 2.Rh7 2.Ra6! 2.Re5+? Qxe5+ 2.Rb7? Bxc6+ 2...Bxg6+ 3.Ke3 g1Q+ 4.Nxg1 Qg3+ 4...Qd6 5.Rxh4 Qc5+ 6.Kf4 Qc4+ 7.Kg5 Qxa6 8.Kxg6= 5.Nef3! Bxh5 6.c7+ Kd7 7.Rg6! Domination. 7...Bxg6 7...Qxg6 8.Ne5+ 7...Qxc7 8.Rg7+ 8.c8Q+ Kxc8 stalemate with incarcerated and pinned knights (author's comment).

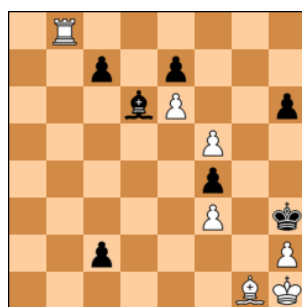
Midboard model stalemate is reached after interesting tactics from both sides. (Black king is driven to sixth rank, before forming a battery threatening his queen. White knight is decoyed from f3 for a queen's flight with check, finally the rook sacrifice, which cannot be declined because black queen is dominated.) Some thematic wishes may not be fulfilled: later incarcerated knight moves there only by capturing and also choice of 5.Nef3! (instead of 5.Ngf3?) is not purely motivated by stalemate. Pawns and black knight do not move into position.

Michael Pisman
1st commendation



Draw

Serhiy Didukh
2nd commendation



Draw

Daniil Yakimovich
3rd commendation



Draw

Michael Pisman (Israel)

1.b7 Nh2+! 1...Rh1+ 2.Ke2 Bf3+ 3.Kxf3 Ne5+ 4.Kg2= 2.Kg1! 2.Kf2? Rf5+ 3.Kg3 (3.Ke3 Re5+ 4.Kd4 Nf3+--+) 3...Nf1+! 4.Kh4 (4.Kg4 Ne3+ 5.Kg3 Rg5+ 6.Kf2 Nd1+--+) 4...Rf4+ 5.Kg5 Rxb4--+ 2...Nf3+ 3.Kf2 Rh2+ 4.Kg3! Logical try : 4.Ke3? Re2+! 5.Kxe2 Nd4+ 6.Ke3 Nxc6 7.b5 Nb8 8.Kd4 Bxb7--+ X1 white king



on d4 **4...Rg2+!** **5.Kf4!** 5.Kxg2? Nd4+ 6.Kg3 Nxc6 7.b5 Nb8—+ 5.Kh3 Rg6 6.b8Q+ Kg7—+ **5...Rg4+!** **6.Kxg4 Ne5+ 7.Kf4!** 7.Kf5? Nxc6 8.b5 Ne7+! 9.Ke5 Bxb7—+ **7...Nxc6 8.b5 Nb8 9.Ke5 Bxb7** X2 white king on e5 **10.Kd6 Ke8 11.Kc7=**

Clearcut play answers the question, how at all Black wants to maintain winning chances. And then White clearly draws, after capturing black rook on g4 (and not on e2).

Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.f6! exf6 1...c1Q 2.Rh8! Kh4 3.f7 Qf1 4.Rxh6+ Kg5 5.h4+ Kxh6 6.f8Q+= **2.Rb5!** 2.e7? Bxe7 3.Rb5 f5! 4.Rxf5 c1Q 5.Rh5+ Bh4—+ **2...c5 3.e7 Bxe7 4.Rb1! cxb1N!** **5.Bxc5 Bd8** 5...Bxc5 stalemate. **6.Bb6 Nd2 7.Bxd8 Nxf3 7...f5 8.Bc7 Nxf3 9.Bxf4 h5 10.Bc7= 8.Bxf6 Nxh2 9.Be5 f3 10.Bxh2 f2 11.Bg1! f1Q** stalemate. When Black underpromotes the white bishop goes collecting the decoyed pieces (Bowling theme), finally it comes back to the starting point (Rundlauf theme) to be pinned by another promotion. Based on the game Palevich - Lebelt 1985 (author's comments)

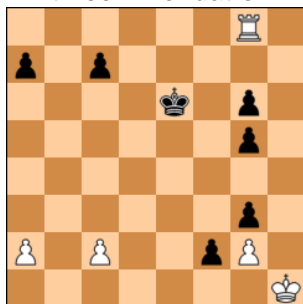
Certainly the move Rb1!, for a stalemate with pinned bishop, will be part of the solution? But why is 1.f6! strong enough to force capture? And doesn't promotion to minor piece win for black??... A study, that might have been published without solution, in a magazine.

Daniil Yakimovich (USA)

1.c4! 1.Qd4? Qe2! 2.Qxe5 Kb1—+ **1...dxc4** 1...Rxe3+ 2.Qxe3 Qxc4 3.Bg7+ = **2.Qd4+ c3 3.Bxb4** 3.Qd1+? Kb2 4.Qc2+ Ka3 5.Qc1+ (5.Qxc3+ Ka4 6.Qc2+ b3—+) 5...Ka4 6.Qd1+ c2 7.Qxc2+ b3—+ **3...Rxe3+ 4.Qxe3 Qb8+!** 4...Qxb4 5.Qc1+ Qb1 6.Qxc3+ Qb2 7.Qe1+ = **5.Kf3!** 5.Kh3? Qc8+ 6.Kg3 Kb2—+ **5...Qb7+ 6.Ke2!** 6.Kg3? Qc7+ 7.Kf3 Kb2—+ **6...Qb5+ 7.Ke1! Qxb4 8.Qc1+ Qb1 9.Kd1** mutual zugzwang, this is why 7.Kd1? would lose **9...c2+ 10.Kd2 Qxc1+ 11.Kxc1=** stalemate

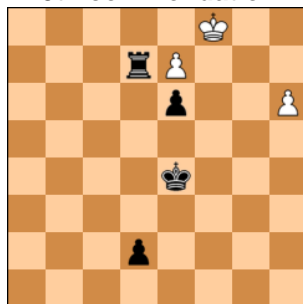
Shows a new position of reciprocal Zugzwang, with thematic try on move seven. Interesting black foreplan, before capturing the bishop: the white king, who may not allow a queen's check defending Pc3, is forced to second and first rank. Reasonably clear and economical introduction.

Daniele Gatti
4th commendation



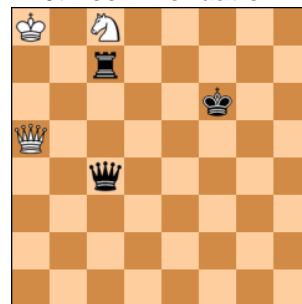
Draw

Valery Kalashnikov
5th commendation



Draw

R. Staudte & M. Schlosser
6th commendation



Draw



Daniele Gatti (Italy)

1. **Rf8!** Black plays in the first instance to leave wR without good moves.
1...Ke7 2. Rf3 g4 3. Rf4 g5 4. Rf5 Ke6 5. Rf8 Kd5 Switched back the wR, bK marches forward. **6. a4! Kc4** 6. c4+? Kxc4! 7. a4 c5! 8. a5 Kc3! 9. Rf5 c4! 10. a6 Kc2! [10...Kb2? 11.Rb5+! Kc1 12. Rb1+!) 11. Rf4 c3 -+ **7. a5 Kc3** 7...c5 8. Rf5 a6 9. c3! = positional draw **8. Rf5!** 8. a6? c5! 9. Rf5 c4! 10. Rf4 Kb2 11. c3 Kc2 triangulation forces wR to moveaway 12. Rf7 Kxc3 -+ **8...a6** 8...c5 9. Rxc5+ Kd4 10. Rf5 draw **9. Rc5+ Kd4 10. Rf5 Kc3 11. Rc5+ Kb2 12. Rf5 c5 13. c4!** = positional draw

An original situation. The black foreplan is necessary anyhow, the square f3 (where it can be captured without stalemate) must be denied to white rook. Then White's plan is to advance the a-pawn into blockade (strange enough, in the longest sequel of unique moves Black seems to help him by 8...a6!?) and make his rook a desperado after c-pawn is captured. (Stockfish proposes one or two moves might be added in the beginning. The study is analytical anyhow.)

Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

1.e8Q 1.h7? d1Q 2.h8Q Qf3+ 3.Ke8 Ra7--+ **1...d1Q 2.Qxe6+ Kf4! 3.Qf6+!** Try 3.h7? Rxh7 4.Qf6+ Ke3! 5.Qe5+ Kf2! 6.Qf5+ Qf3--+ **3...Kg4 4.h7!** ... With two lines : **A) 4....Rd8+ 5.Kg7!** 5.Ke7? Qd7#; Try 5.Kf7? Qd7+ 6.Kg6 Qe8+ 7.Qf7 Rd6+ 8.Kg7 Rd7 9.Qxd7+ Qxd7+ 10.Kg8 Kg5 11.h8Q Kg6--+ **5...Qd7+ 6.Kh6 Qd2+ 7.Kg7 Qd7+ 8.Kh6** perpetual check the White **B) 4...Qd5 5.Qg6+ Kf3 6.Qf6+ Ke2 7.Qb2+ Kf3 8.Qf6+ Kg4 9.Qg6+** perpetual check the Black

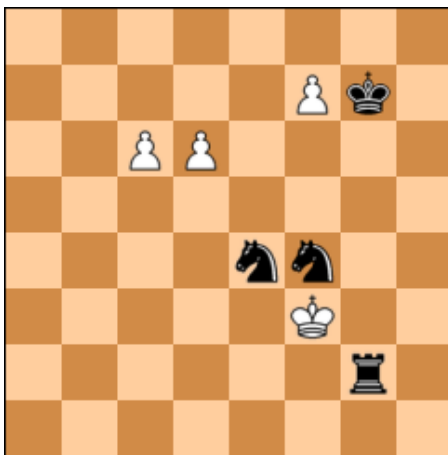
A new position in QP-QR, with two positional draws of about the same weight.

Rainer Staudte & Michael Schlosser (Germany)

Sacrifice with perpetual check or three different stalemates **1.Qa1+!** Try: 1.Qb6+? Kg7! 2.Qg1+ Kf8! 3.Qf2+ Rf7!-+ **1...Kg6** 1...Kf5?? 2.Nd6+-+ 1...Kg5 2.Qg1+= 1...Ke6 2.Qe1+!= **2.Qg1+ Kh7** 2...Kf6 3.Qa1+= **3.Qh2+!** keeps the diagonal h2-b8 open 3.Qh1+? Kg8! 4.Qg1+ (4.Qg2+ Rg7!-+) 4...Kf8!-+ **3...Kg8** Rook should counter a check on the 7th row **4.Qg3+! Rg7** 4...Kh8 5.Qh2+ Rh7 6.Qe5+= 4...Kf7?? 5.Nd6+-+ 4...Kf8 5.Qa3+ /a3= **5.Ne7+ Kf7 6.Qf3+! Kxe7 7.Qb7+ Kf6** 7...Kf8 8.Qb4+ (8.Qb8+ Kf7 9.Qc7+ Qxc7=) 8...Qxb4 stalemate **8.Qb2+ Kf7** 8...Kg6 9.Qg2+ see after the 10th move in main variation) **9.Qb7+ Kg6 10.Qg2+!** 10.Qb6+? Kh7! 11.Qb1+ Kh8 12.Qh1+ Kg8--+ 10.Qb1+? Kh6 11.Qh1+ Kg5! 12.Qg1+ (12.Qg2+ Qg4 13.Qd5+) 12...Qg4--+ **10...Kh6 11.Qh2+!** 11.Qh3+? Kg5!-+ **11...Kg5 12.Qe5+!** 12.Qg3+? Qg4!-+ **12...Kg6** 12...Kh6 13.Qf4+ Qxf4 stalemate **13.Qg3+!** 13.Qd6+? Kf5 14.Qf8+ Rf7--+ **13...Kf6** 13...Kf7 14.Qc7+ Qxc7= stalemate 13...Kh7 14.Qh2+ Kg8 15.Qb8+ Kh7 16.Qh2+ perpetual checks **14.Qf4+! Qxf4** stalemate

Understandable forced play. To stop checks, black rook needs to interpose. Then, to continue checking costs the knight, but, with the black king bound to his rook, it looks like a perpetual check. Skillfully manoeuvring his king, Black puts an end to this - only to find it's the model stalemate, spectators have been waiting for.

**David Gurgenidze
Special Commendation**



Draw

David Gurgenidze (Georgia)

1.d7 Ng5+ 2.Kxf4 Ne6+ 3.Ke5! Re2+ 4.Kd5! Kxf7 5.d8N+! A) 5... Nxd8 6.c7 Rc2 7.cxd8N+!= B) 5...Ke7 6.Nxe6 Rxe6 7.c7 Rd6+ 8.Kc5 Rd1 9.c8N+!=

Partially anticipated by Sochnev=A 2007 (b5-g8), economic study with good play. There, position after 5.d8N+ is reached, but with black rook not on the e-file, so the line with third underpromotion does not exist.

Remarks on studies not awarded:

4) and 10): Interesting experiments with perpetual discovered checks, orthogonal-diagonal, by moves from white king. 4), with two additional queen's perpetual checks, has very forced play, White checking all the time. 10) duplicates the theme at the cost of 23 men in diagram position. The theme itself has been shown before (Tarasiuk=V 2013 e2-a1).

6) A very human study with a nice trap on move 6. Then there is a little dual, and for final play white pawn and black rook are not unnecessary, but contribute very little.

7) The two echo lines, one early, with an extra pawn still on the board, the other at the end of the solution, are not of same weight. And in between there are EGTB-like difficulties.

9) Many captures and the final, with stalemate even after bishop promotion, is known.

11) Somewhat sparkling with sacrifices, countersacrifice and exact 8.Kh6!, anticipating rook promotion. The stalemate or underpromotion position has been used and varied many times. Also the rook sacrifice has been demonstrated, sometimes with changed colors in win studies, or in draw studies one rank lower, leading to the same stalemate without a black pawn.



- 12) Only a version (maybe with an interesting different try) to an almost identical Kasparyan study (Kasparyan=G 1938 d1-h5).
- 13) Double checks cannot be called thematic, since the knight alone would give perpetual check?!
- 15) A good study for training for practical players. But no unusual motifs.
- 17) Precise analytical play. Not a clear „studylike“ idea or final.
- 22) Good solvers may enjoy working through concrete tactics. But diagram position is slightly violent. And superfluous black bishop in the end is disturbing and it can hardly be expected from Black to just through it away for a model stalemate. (The final has already occurred a few times without ambitious introduction.)
- 23) Mainly analytical play.
- 25) Analytical play, hardly understandable, in tablebaselike material. The given line has a dual on move 11 and repeats the position more than three times.
- 26) Supposing a stalemate with incarcerated pieces after promotion, who would guess it is a queen promotion on g8? The final has been shown with a short introduction including a knight promotion (Dvizov=E 1979 d8-e6). Not a complete anticipation, but an argument.
- 27) Stalemate-based pursuit rook-rook is very common. 9...Rb2!, putting an end to this but allowing a new stalemate, two moves later, is interesting though.