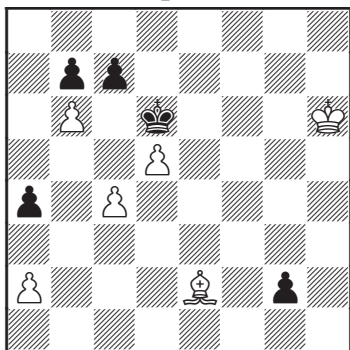


Afek-64 JT 2016

The Israel Chess Composition Society organized an endgame study tourney to celebrate the 64th birthday of GM Yochanan Afek. Amatzia Avni was tourney director and was assisted by Gady Costeff, Mario Garcia (soundness) and HH (anticipations).

No 21240 A. Visokosov
1st prize



h6d6 0010.44 6/5 Draw

No 21240 Andrey Visokosov (Russia). 1.c5+ Ke7/i 2.bxc7/ii Kd7 3.d6 g1Q 4.c6+/iii bxc6 5.Ba6 Qg8 6.Kh5/iv Qa8 7.c8Q+ Qxc8 8.Bxc8+ Kxc8 9.Kg4 Kd7 10.Kf3 Kxd6 11.Ke2 Kc5 12.Kd1 Kb5 13.Kc1 c5 14.Kb1 Kb4 15.Kb2 zz, draws.

i) Kd7 2.c6+ bxc6/v 3.b7 g1Q 4.b8Q Qe3+ 5.Kg6 Qe4+ 6.Kg5 Qe5+ 7.Kg6 Qxe2 8.dxc6+ Kxc6 9.Qa8+ Kb5 10.Qb7+ draws.

ii) 2.c6? g1Q 3.bxc7 Kf6 wins.

iii) 4.Bh5? Qe3+ 5.Kg6 Qf4 6.Kh7 Qf5+ 7.Bg6 Qxc5 wins.

iv) Thematic try: 6.c8Q+? Qxc8 7.Bxc8+ Kxc8 8.Kg5 Kd7 9.Kf4 Kxd6 10.Ke3 Kc5 11.Kd3 Kb5 12.Kc3 c5 13.Kb2 Kb4 zz, wins. 6.Bb7? Qe6+ 7.Kg7 Qe5+ 8.Kf7 Qd5+ 9.Kg7 Qg2+ 10.Kh7 Qh2+ 11.Kg7 Qb2+ 12.Kf7 Qxb7 wins.

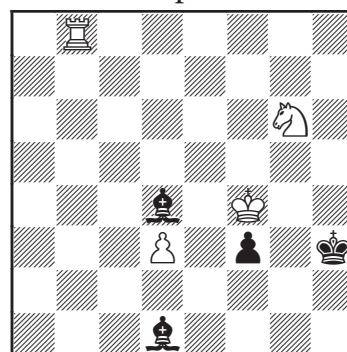
v) Kc8 3.Bg4+ Kb8 4.d6.

“Following a natural introduction an outstanding logical pawn ending is presented in a most clear-cut fashion. The cool-blooded and far-sighted 6.Kh5!! is the star move in the struggle over the reciprocal zugzwang. A genuine masterpiece of classical and modern standards”.

No 21241 Oleg Pervakov (Russia). 1.Rb1 Be2/i 2.Sh4/ii Be5+ (Bxd3; Rh1 mate) 3.Kxe5

Bxd3/iii 4.Rd1/iv Be2/v 5.Rh1+ Kg4 6.Sf5 f2 7.Se3+ Kf3/vi 8.Rh3/vii, ideal mate.

No 21241 O. Pervakov
2nd prize



f4h3 0161.11 4/4 Win

i) Bc2 2.Rf1, and either f2 3.Kf3 Kh2 4.Se5, or Kh2 3.Rxf3 Bd1 4.Sh4 wins.

ii) 2.Ke4? Kg3 3.Sf4 Bc3 4.Rg1+ Kh2 and: 5.Rg4 Bd1 6.d4 Be1 7.Ke3 f2 8.Rg2+ Kh1 9.Rxf2 Bxf2+ 10.Kxf2 Bb3, or 5.Rg6 Bd2 6.Rg4 Bxf4 7.Rxf4 Kg3 8.Ke3 Bxd3 draws.

iii) f2 4.Rh1+ Kg4 5.Sf5 Bxd3 6.Se3+ Kf3 7.Kd4 wins.

iv) Thematic try: 4.Rh1+? Kg3 5.Kd4 Bc2 6.Ke3 f2 7.Sf3 Be4/viii 8.Kxe4 Kg2 9.Rh2+ Kg3 10.Rh1 Kg2 positional draw 11.Kf4 Kxh1 (f1Q?; Rh2 mate) draws. 4.Rb3? Bc2 5.Rc3 Kxh4 6.Rxc2 Kg3 draws.

v) Bc2 5.Rc1 Kxh4 6.Kf4, or Kxh4 5.Rxd3 f2 6.Rf3 wins.

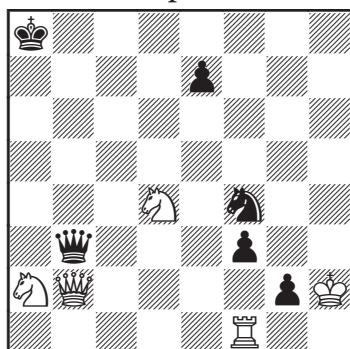
vi) Kg3 8.Ra1 Kf3 9.Kd4 Bb5 10.Rb1 Ba6 11.Rb6 Be2 12.Rf6+ wins.

vii) 8.Kd4? f1Q 9.Sxf1 Kg2 draws.

viii) Bd3? 8.Sd2 Kg2 9.Rh5 wins.

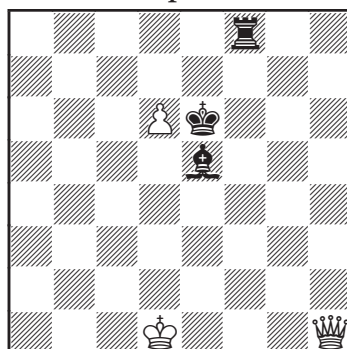
“We see mutual tactical blows ending in an ideal mate following two active self-blocks. The stunning quiet sacrifice 2.Sh4!!, creating an echo threat to the final mate, and the subtle 3.Rd1!, as well as the pair of bishop sacrifices,

No 21242 A. Zhukov
3rd prize



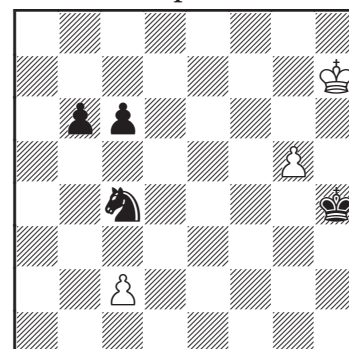
h2a8 4105.03 5/6 Win

No 21243 V. Tarasiuk
4th prize



d1e6 1330.10 3/3 Win

No 21244 P. Arestov
5th prize



h7h4 0003.22 3/4 Draw

turn this study into a genuine gem in the best of my own favourite romantic style!”

No 21242 Aleksandr Zhukov (Russia).
1.Rf2/i Se2/ii 2.Rxe2/iii fxe2 3.Qxe2/iv Qh3+/v
4.Kxh3 g1S+ 5.Kg2/vi Sxe2 6.Se6 (Sxe2? e5;)
Kb7 7.Kf2/vii Sf4 8.Sxf4 e5 9.Sd5 e4 10.Se3 wins.

i) 1.Rb1? g1Q+ 2.Kxg1 f2+ 3.Kxf2 Qxb2+
4.Rxb2 Sd3+ draws.

ii) Qxb2 2.Rxb2 f2 3.Rxf2 g1Q+ 4.Kxg1 Sh3+
5.Kg2 Sxf2 6.Kxf2 e5 7.Sf5 e4 draws (8.Se3 is not
a Troitzky win), or g1Q+ 2.Kxg1 Se2+ 3.Rxe2
fxe2 4.Qxe2 Qg3+ 5.Qg2+ Qxg2+ 6.Kxg2 e5
7.Sf5 e4 again draw.

iii) 2.Qxb3? g1Q+ 3.Kh3 Qg3 mate.

iv) 3.Qxb3? g1Q+ 4.Kxg1 e1Q+ 5.Kg2 Qd2+,
or 3.Sxb3? g1Q+ 4.Kxg1 e1Q+ 5.Kg2 Qe4+
6.Kf2 Qf4+ 7.Ke1 Qe4+ 8.Kd1 Qh1+ 9.Kc2 Qe4+
10.Kc3 Qe3+ draw.

v) Qg3+ 4.Kxg3 g1Q+ 5.Qg2+ Qxg2+ 6.Kxg2
e5 7.Sf5 e4 draw.

vi) 5.Kg3? Sxe2+ 6.Sxe2 e5 draws. 5.Kg4?
Sxe2 6.Se6 Kb7 7.Kf3 Sd4+/ix 8.Sxd4 e5 9.Sf5
e4+ draws.

vii) 7.Kf3? Sd4+ 8.Sxd4 e5 9.Sf5 e4+, but not:
Sg1+? 8.Kf2 Sh3+ 9.Kg2 Kc6 10.Kxh3 wins.

“This inserts new life into the well-trodden Troitzky curve and in what a glorious manner! A highly tense and tactical introduction reaches a high point where the wS avoids capturing its newly-born counterpart in favour of blocking a pawn to gain the single tempo, securing a Troitzky win. The spared enemy knight apparently goes nowhere but, however, the test of

the battle still requires high precision until the happy end; an exceptionally original concept!”

No 21243 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).
1.Qh3+ (Qh6+? Rf6;) Kd5 (Kxd6; Qa3+)
2.Qb3+/i Kc5 3.Qa3+ Kb5 (Kc6; Qa6+) 4.Ke2/
ii Rh8/iii 5.d7/iv Rd8 6.Qe7 (Qe3) Bc7 7.Qe6/v
Kc5 8.Kd3/vi Bd6 9.Qc4+ Kb6 10.Qc8 Bc7
11.Ke4 (Kd4? Kc6;) Kc6 12.Kf5 Kd6/vii 13.Qa6+
Kxd7 14.Qe6 mate.

i) 2.d7? Rd8 3.Qf5 Kd6 draws.

ii) 4.d7? Rd8 5.Qe7 Bc7 6.Qe6 Kc5 7.Ke2 Bd6
8.Ke3 Kc6 draws.

iii) Rd8 5.Qe3 Bxd6 6.Qg5+ wins.

iv) 5.Qe3? Rh2+ 6.Kd3 Bxd6 draws.

v) 7.Kd3? Kc6 8.Qe6+ Bd6 draws.

vi) 8.Ke3? Bd6 9.Qe8 Bc7 10.Qe6 Bd6 draws.

vii) Rxd7 13.Qe8 Kd6 (Bd6; Ke6) 14.Qe6+
wins.

“I should admit that Q vs 2 piece endings don’t usually excite my imagination but this one seems like a true artistic miracle with lengthy and precise play all the way to an ideal mate following a pair of active self-blocks”.

No 21244 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.g6 Sd6
2.g7 Se8 3.g8S (g8Q? Sf6+;) Kg5 4.Se7 c5 5.Kg8
(Sd5? Sf6+;) Sd6 6.Sd5 (Kf8) b5 7.Kf8 (Sd5)
Kf5 8.Ke7 Ke5 9.Sc7 (Sb6? Sc4;) c4/i 10.Kd7
c3 11.Kd8/ii Kd4 12.Kd7/iii Ke5/iv 13.Kd8 b4/v
14.Sa6 Sb7+ (b3; cxb3) 15.Ke7/vi b3 16.cxb3 c2
17.Sb4 c1Q 18.Sd3+ draws.

i) b4 10.Kd7 c4 11.Sa6 b3 12.cxb3 cxb3 13.Sc5
b2 14.Sd3+ draws.

ii) 11.Kc6? b4 12.Sd5 b3 13.cxb3 c2 14.Sb4 c1Q+ with check.

iii) 12.Ke7? Sc8+ (Kc5) wins.

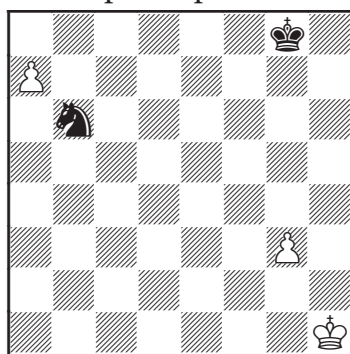
iv) b4 13.Kxd6 b3 14.Sb5+ draws.

v) Ke4 14.Kd7 Ke5 15.Kd8 positional draw. Sb7+ 14.Ke7 b4 15.Sa6 main line.

vi) 15.Kc7? b3 16.cxb3 c2 17.Sb4 c1Q+ check. 15.Kd7? b3 16.cxb3 c2 17.Sb4 Sc5+ 18.Ke7 c1Q check, wins.

“The early underpromotion heralds a subtle knight ending, highlighted by 11.Kd8!!, and symbolized by the final forking. Were it not for the slight move order blemish this would be a perfect miniature to remember!”

No 21245 V. Aberman †
special prize



h1g8 0003.20 3/2 Win

No 21245 Victor Aberman (USA). 1.Kg2/i Kf7 2.Kf3 Ke6 3.g4/ii Ke5/iii 4.Kg3/iv Sa8/v 5.Kh4 Kf6 6.Kh5 Kg7 7.Kg5 Sc7 8.Kf5 Kf7 9.Ke4/vi Kf6 10.Kd3 Kg5 11.Kc4 Kxg4 12.Kc5 Sa8 13.Kc6 Kf5 14.Kb7 Ke6 15.Kxa8 wins.

i) 1.Kh2? Kf7 2.Kh3 Ke6, and: 3.Kh4 Kd6 4.g4 Kc7 5.g5 Kb7, or 3.g4 Kf6 4.Kh4 Kg6 draw.

ii) 3.Ke4? Kd6 4.g4 Kc7 5.g5 Kb7 6.g6 Sc8 7.Ke5 Se7 draws.

iii) Kd5 4.g5 Ke5 5.Kg4 wins.

iv) 4.Ke3? Sa8 zz 5.Kf3/vii Sc7 6.Kg3 Kf6 7.Kf4 Kg6 draws.

v) Kf6 5.Kf4 Kg6/viii 6.Ke5 Kg5 7.Kd4 (Kd6? Sc8+;) Kxg4 8.Kc5 Sa8 9.Kc6 wins.

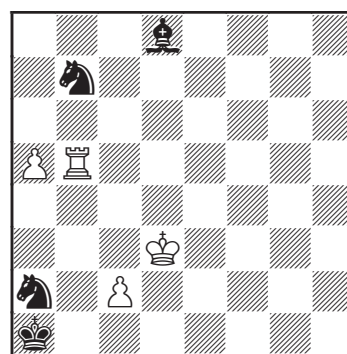
vi) 9.Ke5? Kg6 10.Kd4 (Kd6) Sb5+ draws.

vii) 5.g5 Kf5, or 5.Kd3 Kf4.

viii) Sa8 6.Ke4 Kg5 7.Kd5 Kxg4 8.Kc6 wins, or Sd5+ 6.Ke4 Sc7 7.Kd3 see main line.

“We see an amazingly accurate and original corner-to-corner journey in baby format. Even though the final destination is not difficult to guess, two obstacles along the route still turn it into a surprising adventure decided as expected by a hairsbreadth. The last part of the solution, starting from move 10 onwards has already been shown by Gillberg (HHdbV#03986)”.

No 21246 V. Tarasiuk
1st honourable mention



d3a1 0136.29 4/4 Win

No 21246 Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine). 1.a6 (Rxb7? Rxa5;) Sc5+/i 2.Rxc5 Sb4+ 3.Kc3/ii Sxa6 4.Rc6/iii Sc7/iv 5.Kb3 Kb1 6.c3/v Sb5/vi 7.Rc5/vii Sc7 (Sxc3; Rxc3) 8.c4 zz Se6/viii 9.Rd5/ix Bg5/x 10.Re5/xi Sd4+ 11.Kc3 Sf3 12.Rf5 Sd2 13.Kd3/xii Sxc4 14.Rxg5 Sa3 15.Kc3 wins.

i) Sb4+ 2.Rxb4 Sc5+ 3.Kc3 Bf6+ 4.Kc4 Sxa6 5.Ra4+ Kb2 6.Rxa6 wins.

ii) 3.Kc4? Sxa6, and 4.Rc6 Kb2, or 4.Rd5 (Rc8) Be7 draw.

iii) 4.Rc8? Ba5+ 5.Kb3 Kb1, or 4.Rd5? Bb6 5.Rd6 Sc5 6.Kc4 Ba7 draw.

iv) Sb8 5.Rc8, and Ba5+ 6.Kb3 Sd7 7.Ra8, or Bf6+ 6.Kb3 Sd7 7.Rc7 Sf8 8.Rf7.

v) 6.c4? Kc1 7.c5 Sb5 draws.

vi) Kc1 7.c4 Se8 8.Rc8.

vii) 7.Rh6? Kc1 8.c4 Sd4+ 9.Kc3 Se2+ draws.

viii) Kc1 9.Rc6 Se8 10.Rc8.

ix) 9.Re5? Sd4+ 10.Kc3 Sc6.

x) Bf6 10.Rd1 mate, or Kc1 10.Rd6 Sc5+ 11.Kb4 Ba5+ 12.Kxc5.

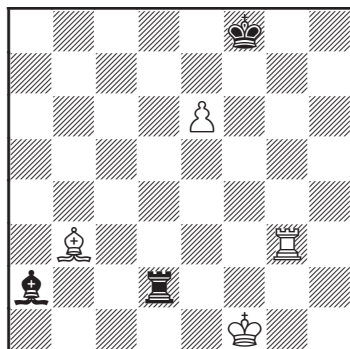
xi) 10.c5? Bd2 11.c6 Kc1 draws.

xii) 13.c5? (Rxg5?) Se4+.

“This excellently demonstrates R+P dominating B+S. The highlight of this encounter

in a well-timed *festina lente* to pass the move to Black in the critical reciprocal zugzwang position”.

No 21247 J. Polášek & E. Vlasák
2nd honourable mention



f1f8 o440.10 4/3 Win

No 21247 Jaroslav Polášek & Emil Vlasák (Czech Republic). 1.Rg8+/i Ke7/ii 2.Rg7+ Kd8/iii 3.e7+ Ke8 4.Ba4+ Rd7 5.Rg6/iv Bb3 (Kxe7; Rg7+) 6.Bc6/v Bd5 (Bf7; Rd6) 7.Bxd7+ Kxd7 8.Rd6+ wins.

i) 1.Rf3+? Ke8 2.Ba4+ Ke7.

ii) Kxg8 2.e7+ Bxb3 3.e8Q+.

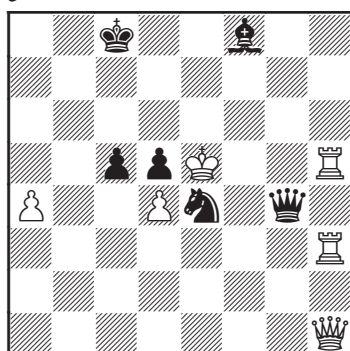
iii) Kf6 3.e7 Bxb3 4.e8Q Bc4+ 5.Kg1 Rd1+ 6.Kh2 Kxg7 7.Qe5+ wins. Ke8 (Kf8; Rf7+) 3.Ba4+ Kd8 4.e7+.

iv) 5.Rg4? Be6 6.Rd4 (Rg7 Bb3;) Kxe7, or 5.Kf2? Bb3, and: 6.Bxd7+ Kxd7 7.Ke3 Ke8 8.Kf4 Bf7, or 6.Bc6 Ba4 7.Bxd7+ (Bxa4 stalemate) Bxd7 8.Ke3 Be6 9.Ke4 Bf7 draw.

v) 6.Bxd7+? Kxd7 7.Rg7 Ke8 8.Rg3 Be6 draws.

“We see a fierce and tense struggle over a diagonal to secure promotion of the last shaky pawn; a charming miniature!”

No 21248 Á. Rusz
3rd honourable mention



e5c8 4233.22 6/6 Win

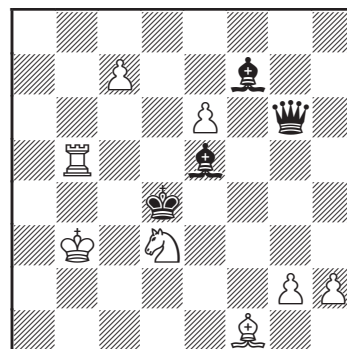
No 21248 Árpád Rusz (Rumania). 1.Qf3 Bg7+ 2.Kxd5 Sc3+ 3.Qxc3 Qd7+ 4.Kc4/i Qxa4+ 5.Kd5/ii Qd7+ 6.Kxc5 Bxd4+ 7.Kb4+ Bxc3+ 8.Rxc3+ Kb7 9.Rb5+ Ka6 10.Ra3 mate.

i) Thematic try: 4.Kxc5? Bxd4+ 5.Qxd4 Qa7+ 6.Kc4 Qxa4+ 7.Kc3 Qa1+ 8.Kd3 Qd1+ 9.Ke3 Qg1+ 10.Ke4 Qg4+ 11.Ke5 Qg7+ 12.Kd5 Qd7+ 13.Kc5 Qa7+ perpetual check. 4.Ke4? Qg4+ 5.Kd3 Qd1+ 6.Kc4 Qxa4+ 7.Kd5 waste of time.

ii) 5.Kxc5? Bxd4+ 6.Kd6+ Bxc3 7.Rxc3+ Kb7 draws, but not Kb8? (Kd8? Rh8+) 8.Rh8+ Kb7 9.Rc7+ Kb6 10.Rb8+ Ka6 11.Ra8+.

“This has a spectacular yet logical manoeuvre of a fearless wK to open the a-file for the final mate”.

No 21249 M. Minski
4th honourable mention



b3d4 3171.40 8/4 Win

No 21249 Martin Minski (Germany). 1.Rd5+/i Kxd5 2.c8Q (exf7? Qf5;) Qxe6/ii 3.Qc4+/iii Kd6 4.Sxe5 Kxe5 (Qxe5; Qxf7) 5.Kc3/iv Qh3+/v 6.g3/vi Bxc4/vii 7.Bxh3 wins.

i) 1.c8Q? Bxe6+ 2.Rd5+ Bxd5+ 3.Kc2 Qc6+ 4.Qxc6 Bxc6 5.Sxe5 Bxg2 (Kxe5; g3) 6.Bxg2 Kxe5 draws. 1.Rb4+? (Rxe5? Bxe6+;) Ke3 2.exf7 (c8Q Bxe6+;) Qxf7+ 3.Rc4 Bxc7 draws.

ii) Bxe6 3.Qc5+ Ke4+ 4.Kb4 (Ka3) Bxh2 5.Sf2+ Kf4 6.Qd4+ Kg5 7.Se4+ Kh6 8.Qh8+ Qh7 9.Qxh7+ Kxh7 10.Sg5+ wins.

iii) 3.Qxe6+? Bxe6 4.Sxe5 Kxe5+ 5.Kc3 Bh3, or 3.Sf4+? Kd6+ (Bxf4?; Bc4) 4.Sxe6 Bxe6+ 5.Qxe6+ Kxe6 draws.

iv) 5.Qxe6+? Bxe6+ 6.Kc3 Bh3, or 5.Kb4? Qb6+ 6.Qb5+ Qxb5+ 7.Bxb5 Kd4 draw.

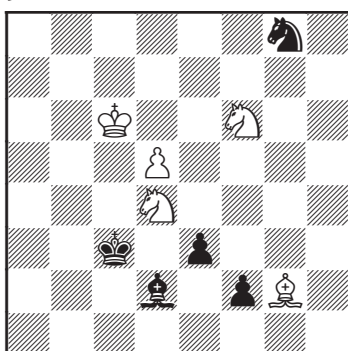
v) Qxc4+ 6.Bxc4, or Qd5 6.Qxd5+ Bxd5 7.g3, or Qf6 6.Qd4+.

vi) 6.gxh3? Bxc4, or 6.Qd3? Qxh2 7.Qd4+ Kf5 8.Bd3+ Kg5 9.Qg7+ Kh4 10.Qf6+ Kg3 11.Qf3+ Kh4 12.Qxf7 Qxg2 draws.

vii) Qxh2 7.Qf4+ (Qd4+) Ke6 8.Bc4+ wins.

“Without queens it would have been the good old 5...Bh3!! draws but, with the queens on the board, the astonishing 5...Qh3+!! 6.g3!! wins. Truly amusing!”

No 21250 R. Becker
5th honourable mention



c6c3 0045.12 5/5 Win

No 21250 Richard Becker (USA). 1.Se2+ (Sxg8? Kxd4;) Kc2/i 2.Sg4/ii Kd1/iii 3.Bf1/iv Ke1/v 4.Sh2 Bb4/vi 5.d6/vii Bxd6 6.Kxd6, and:

— Sf6 7.Sg3 Se4+ 8.Sxe4 e2 9.Sc3 exf1Q 10.Sf3 model mate, or:

— Sh6 7.Sg3 Sf5+ 8.Sxf5 e2 9.Sf3+ Kxf1 10.Se3 model mate.

i) Kd3 2.Sf4+ Kc2 3.Sxg8 Kd1 4.d6 e2 5.Sxe2 Kxe2 6.d7 (Kc5) wins.

ii) Try: 2.Sxg8? Kd1 3.Bf1 Ke1 4.Sg3 e2 5.Bxe2 Bf4. Try: 2.Se4? Kd1 3.Sd4 Sf6 4.Sg3 Bc3 5.Sdf5 e2 6.Bf3 f1Q 7.Sxf1 Ke1 8.S1g3 Kf2 9.Bxe2 Be5 draws.

iii) Se7+ 3.Kc5 Sf5 4.d6 Kd1 5.Bf1 Ke1 6.Sh2 wins.

iv) 3.Sd4? Se7+ 4.Kc5 Sxd5 5.Kxd5 Ke1, or 3.Sg3? Se7+ 4.Kc5 Sg6 5.d6 Ke1 6.Sh2 Sf4 7.Kb5 e2 8.d7 Se6.

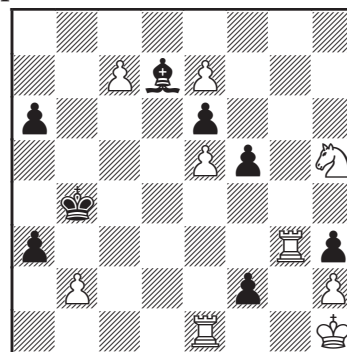
v) Sf6 4.Sxf6 Ke1 5.Sg3 wins.

vi) Se7+ 5.Kc5 Sg6 6.d6 Ba5 7.Sg3 Sf4 8.Sf3+ Kd1 9.Sd4 wins.

vii) 5.Sg3? Se7+ 6.Kd7 Sxd5, or 5.Sf4? Se7+ 6.Kd7 Sf5 7.Ba6 Sh4 8.Ke6 e2 9.Bxe2 Bd2.

“We see a lovely pair of model mates with the white knights exchanging roles. Although both mate pictures are known they seem to have been combined here for the first time”

No 21251 J. Timman
special honourable mention



h1b4 0231.56 9/8 Win

No 21251 Jan Timman (the Netherlands). 1.Re4+ fxe4 2.bxa3+ Ka5 3.Rf3/i exf3 4.Sg3 f1Q+ 5.Sxf1 f2 6.e8B/ii, and:

— Bxe8 7.c8R/iii Ba4 8.Se3 Kb6 9.Sd5+ Ka5 10.Rf8 Bc6 11.Rxf2 Bxd5+ 12.Kg1 wins, or:

— Bc8 7.Bc6 Kb6 8.Bg2 Bb7 9.c8S+ Bxc8 10.Bxh3 wins.

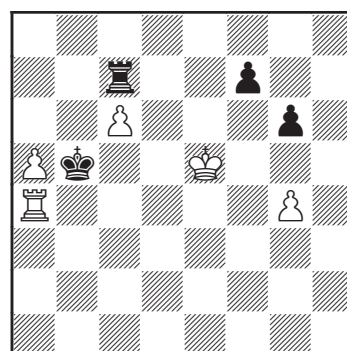
i) 3.Rg1? e3 4.c8Q Bxc8 draws.

ii) 6.e8Q? Bc6+ 7.Qxc6 stalemate.

iii) 7.c8Q? Bc6+ 8.Qxc6 stalemate.

“Three different underpromotions, even in one line of play, are by no means a novelty. However, here we witness the Phoenix theme in action following the double rook sacrifice, as well as a ‘normal’ game-like follow up with the rook still requiring precision”

No 21252 J. Polášek
1st commendation



e5b5 0400.42 5/4 Win

No 21252 Jaroslav Polášek (Czech Republic). 1.Ra2/i Rxc6 2.a6/ii f6+ 3.Kd5 Rxa6 4.Rb2+ Ka4 5.Rb1 f5/iii 6.g5 wins/iv.

i) Thematic try: 1.Ra1? Rxc6 2.a6 f6+ 3.Kd5 Rxa6 4.Rb1+ Ka4 zz, or 1.Ra3? Rxc6 2.a6 f6+ 3.Kd5 Rxa6 4.Rb3+ Ka5 5.Kc5 (Rb1 Rb6;) Ka4 6.Rb1 Re6 draws.

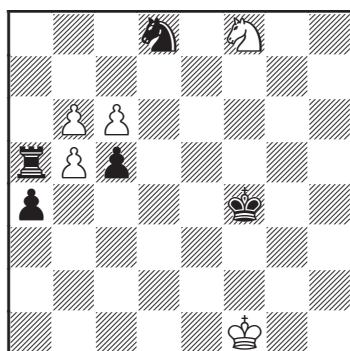
ii) 2.g5? Re6+ 3.Kd5 Ka6 4.Rf2 Re7 5.Kd6 Re6+ 6.Kd7 Re5 draws.

iii) g5 6.Ra1+ Kb5 7.Rxa6 Kxa6 8.Ke6, or Ra5+ 6.Kc4 win.

iv) f4 7.Ra1+ Kb5 8.Rxa6 Kxa6 9.Ke4.

“This has a fine logical rook ending inspired by an old Mandler study (HHdbV#56524), but in fact significantly improving on that source of inspiration”.

No 21253 V. Bulanov
2nd commendation



f1f4 0304.32 5/5 Win

No 21253 Vladimir Bulanov (Russia). 1.c7/i Ra8 2.Se6+/ii Sxe6/iii 3.b7 Sxc7 4.b6 Rh8/iv 5.bxc7 Kf3 6.Ke1 Ke3 7.Kd1 Kd3 8.Kc1 Kc3 9.Kb1 Rh1+ 10.Ka2 Rh2+ 11.Ka3 Rh1 12.Kxa4 Kc4 13.Ka5 Ra1+ 14.Kb6 wins.

i) 1.Se6+? Sxe6 2.c7 a3 3.c8Q a2 4.Qb8+ Kf5 and Black wins.

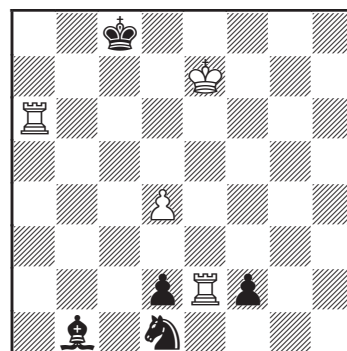
ii) 2.cxd8Q? Rxd8 3.Se6+ Kf3 4.Sxd8 a3 5.b7 a2.

iii) Kf3 3.Sxd8 a3 4.b7.

iv) Rb8 5.bxc7 Rxb7 6.c8Q wins.

“This has a pleasant synthesis of two ancient motifs: pawns dominating pieces in the spirit of the evergreen Ortueta – Sanz, Madrid 1933, and the wK’s grand tour to the upper queenside”.

No 21254 P. Arestov
3rd commendation



e7c8 0233.12 4/5 Win

No 21254 Pavel Arestov (Russia). 1.Rf6/i Se3/ii 2.Rf8+/iii Kc7/iv 3.Rxd2 f1Q 4.Rxf1 Sxf1 5.d5/v Bf5/vi 6.Rd3/vii, and:

— Bg4 7.Rf3/viii Sd2 (Bxd3; d6) 8.Rf2/ix Sb3/x 9.Rf4/xi Bc8 (Bh3; Rc4+) 10.Rc4+ wins, or:

— Sh2 (Bxd3; d6) 7.Rc3+ Kb6 8.d6 Sg4 9.Rf3 Sh6/xii 10.d7 Bxd7 11.Kxd7 Kc5 (Sg4; Kd6) 12.Ke6 Sg4 13.Kf5/xiii Bc8 7.Rc3+ Kb8 8.Rxc8+ Kxc8 9.d6 wins.

i) 1.Rc6+? (Ra8+) Kb7 2.Rf6 (Rf8) Bf5 3.Rxf5 Se3 4.Rxe3 d1Q 5.Rxf2 Qxd4 draws.

ii) Bf5? 2.Rxf5 Se3 3.Rf8+ Kb7 4.Rxd2 wins.

iii) 2.Rxd2? f1Q 3.Rxf1 Sxf1 4.Rd1 Se3 5.Rxb1 Sf5+ 6.Kf6 Sxd4 7.Ke5 Sc6+ draws.

iv) Kb7 3.Rxd2 f1Q 4.Rxf1 Sxf1 5.Rb2+ Kc6 6.Rxb1 Se3 7.Ke6 wins.

v) 5.Rd1? Se3 6.Rxb1 Sf5+ draws.

vi) Sxd2 6.d6+ with check; this explains 2.Rf8+.

vii) 6.d6+? Kc6 (Kb6) 7.Rf2 Se3 8.Rf3 Sd5+ draws.

viii) 7.Rb3? Sd2 8.Rd3 Sf1 repeats.

ix) 8.Rd3? Sf1 9.Rf3 Sd2, or 8.Rf4? Bh3 9.Rd4 Sf1 10.Rd3 Bg4 repeat.

x) Sc4 9.Rc2, or Se4 9.Rf4, or Sf3 9.Rxf3 Bxf3 10.d6+ win.

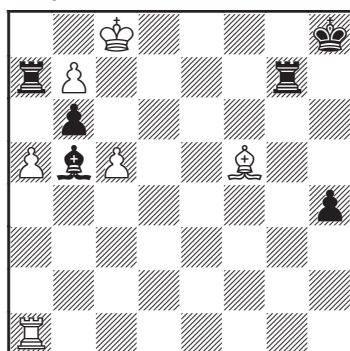
xi) 9.Rc2+? (d6+? Kc6;) Kb6 10.Rb2 Kc5 11.Rxb3 Kxd5 draws.

xii) Bc8 10.Rf8 Kb7 11.Rxc8 Kxc8 12.d7+ wins.

xiii) 13.Rf5+? Kc6 14.Rf3 Kc5 repeats.

“The wR is thrice given away on an attacked square; although in all three the rook is clearly ‘taboo’, these only moves are still pretty impressive”.

No 21255 M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
4th commendation



c8h8 0740.32 6/6 Draw

No 21255 Michal Hlinka & Ľubos Kekely (Slovakia). 1.Rh1/i Ba6/ii 2.Rxh4+ Kg8 3.Be6+ Kf8 4.Rf4+ Ke8/iii 5.Bd7+ Rxd7/iv 6.Re4+ Re7/v 7.Rxe7+ Kxe7 8.axb6/vi, and:

— Bxb7+ 9.Kc7/vii Ra5 10.c6 Bxc6 11.Kxc6 Ra1 12.b7 Rb1 13.Kc7 Rc1+ 14.Kb6 draws, or:

— Rxb7/viii 9.c6 Rd7+/ix 10.b7/x Rd1 11.Kc7/xi Bxb7 12.cxb7 Rc1+ 13.Kb6 wins.

i) 1.b8Q? Rg8 mate. 1.Rd1? Ba6 2.Rd8+ Rg8 3.Rxg8+ Kxg8 4.c6 bxa5 wins.

ii) Threatening Ra8 mate. Re7 2.Rxh4+ Kg8 3.axb6 Raxb7 4.Be4 Rbd7 5.c6 Rd6 6.b7 Bxc6 7.b8Q Re8+ 8.Kc7 Rxb8 9.Kxd6, or Raxb7 2.Rxh4+ Kg8 3.Be6+ Kf8 4.Rh8+ Ke7 5.Kxb7 draws.

iii) Ke7 5.Bc4 Bxb7+ 6.Kb8 Rxa5 7.Kxb7 bxc5 8.Kb6 Ra8 9.Kxc5 draws.

iv) Ke7 6.c6 bxa5 7.Rd4 Rg6 8.Kc7 draws.

v) Kf7 7.Kxd7 Rxb7+ 8.Kd6 bxa5 9.c6 Ra7 10.Kc5 Bc8 11.Kb6 Ra8 12.Ra4 draws.

vi) 8.cxb6? Bxb7+ 9.Kc7 Rxa5 10.Kxb7 Kd7 wins.

vii) 9.Kb8? Ra5 10.Kxb7 Rxc5 wins.

viii) Ra8+ 9.Kc7 Bxb7 10.Kxb7 draws.

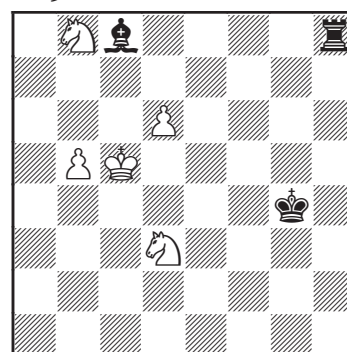
ix) Rxb6+ 10.Kc7 Rb1 stalemate.

x) 10.Kb8? Rd6 11.Kc7 Bb5 wins.

xi) 11.Kb8? Bxb7 12.cxb7 Kd7 wins.

“This is another fine demonstration of pawns taming pieces”.

No 21256 L. Gonzales
5th commendation



c5g4 0332.20 5/3 Win

No 21256 Luis Miguel Gonzales (Spain). 1.b6/i Kf5 2.Kc6/ii Ke4 3.Sc5+ Kd4 4.Sbd7/iii Rh6/iv 5.Kc7/v Kd5 6.Se4/vi Rh8/vii 7.Sef6+/viii Ke6 8.Sh5 Bxd7/ix 9.Sf4+ Kf5 10.Kxd7 Kxf4 11.Kc7 Ke5 12.d7/x Kd5 13.b7

i) 1.Kc6? Bf5 2.Sd7 Bxd3 3.Se5+ Kf5 4.Sxd3 Rc8+ 5.Kd5 Rb8 draws.

ii) 2.Sc6? Kf6 3.Se7 Bb7 4.Sf4 Kf7, or 2.d7? Bxd7 3.Sxd7 Ke6 4.S3e5 Rc8+ 5.Kd4 Kd6 draw.

iii) 4.Scd7? Rh1 5.Kc7 Kd5 6.Sf6+ Ke6 7.Kxc8 Kxd6 draws.

iv) Rh7 5.Se6+ Kc3 6.Sf6 Rh2 7.b7 Bxb7+ 8.Kxb7 Kc4 9.Sc7 Rh8 10.Kc6 Rf8 11.Sfe8, or Bxd7+ 5.Sxd7 Rc8+ 6.Kb7 wins.

v) 5.Sb3+? Kc4 6.Sd2+ Kd3 7.Sb3 Kc4 draws.

vi) 6.Sd3? Bxd7 7.b7 Rh8 8.Sf4+ Kc5 9.Kxd7 Kb6 draws.

vii) Kxe4? 7.Kxc8 Rxd6 8.b7 Rh6 9.Kd8 Rh8+ 10.Ke7 Kd5 11.Sf8 wins.

viii) 7.Sc3+? Kc4, or 7.Sdf6+? Ke5 draw.

ix) Rxh5 9.Sf8+ Kf7 10.Kxc8 Rh8 11.d7 wins.

x) 12.b7? Ke6 13.d7 Ke7 draws.

“A couple of surprising knight moves highlight this game-like battle”.

