

Problem Paradise

Informal Tourney Award

Endgame 2023

Judge: Mario G. Garcia

I would like to highlight the valuable collaboration with the Director of the tournament, Ryo Shiomi. We have had important interactions during the year 2023.

I have looked through the magazines over the year of 2023, which contained multiple studies from the participants.

In addition, after the closing of the contest, I received studies in Word and PGN formats, which I used to carry out the analysis and evaluation.

There are 24 studies by 13 composers from 10 countries.

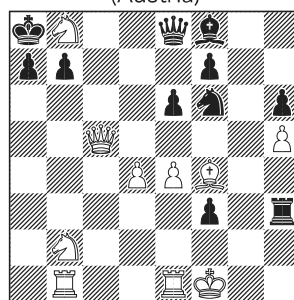
Participants: Michal Hlinka (Slovakia); Pavel Arestov (Russia); Lubos Kekely (Slovakia); Peter S. Krug (Austria); Andrzej Jasik (Poland); Michael Pasma (Israel); Jarl Henning Ulrichsen (Norway); Jan Timman (Netherlands); Toshiji Kawagoe (Japan); Bogusz Piliczewski (Poland); Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine); Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine);

Here is the presentation of my judgement.

SECTION A WIN STUDIES

1st-3rd Prize e.a.

E223 Peter Krug
(Austria)



Win (10+11)

**1.Na6! bxa6 2.Qc4! Ng4 3.Kg1 Bd6!
4.Bxd6 Ne3! 5.Qc6+!!** The punch line
of the whole combination **5...Qxc6
6.Nc4! Qxc4 7.Rb8#**

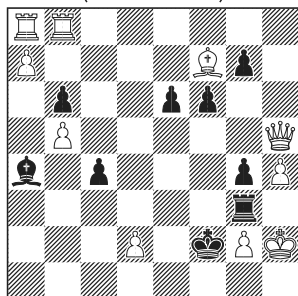
1...Bxc5 2.Nc7+ Kb8 3.Nxe8+--
2.Qc7? Ng4! 3.Kg1 f2+ 4.Kg2 fxe1Q
5.Rxe1 Rxh5=
3...f2+ 4.Kg2 fxe1Q 5.Rxe1 Rxh5
(5...Ra3 6.Rc1+-) 6.Qxa6 Rb5 7.Na4 e5
8.Rc1 Qe6 9.Qxb5 exf4 10.e5+-
3...Bb4 4.Rec1 Ne5 5.Qc8+ (5.Bxe5??
Qg8+-) 5...Qxc8 6.Rxc8+-
4.Na4? f2+ 5.Kg2 fxe1Q 6.Rxe1 Bxf4
7.Kxh3 Ne3=
4...f2+ 5.Kg2 fxe1Q 6.Rxe1 Ne3+
7.Rxe3 Rxe3 8.Na4+-
6...Qe8 7.Nxe3 Rxh5 8.Rb8+ Qxb8
9.Bxb8 Kxb8 10.Kf2+-
6...f2+ 7.Kxf2 Ng4+ 8.Kg2+-

An entertaining and colorful play that culminates in checkmate, in addition

with interesting variants and trials.

1st-3rd Prize e.a.

E230 Jan Timman
(Netherlands)



Win (10+9)

**1.Qd5! exd5 2.Bxd5 Bd1 3.Re8! Bf3
4.Re2+! Bxe2 5.Re8 Bf3 6.Re2+!
Bxe2 7.a8Q Bf3 8.Bxf3 gxf3 9.Qb8!
Rxc2+ 10.Kh3 Kg1 11.Qxb6+ f2
12.Qd4! f5 13.b6 f4 14.Qxf4 c3
15.b7! c2 16.b8Q c1Q 17.Qh2+!
Rxc2+ 18.Qxc2+ Kf1 19.Qh1++-**

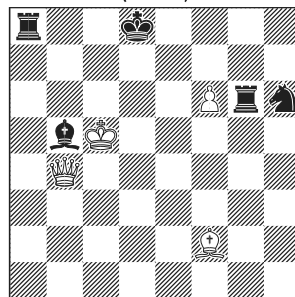
3.h5? Bf3 4.Bxf3 Rxf3 5.gxf3 g3+ 6.Kh3
g2 7.Kg4 g1Q+ 8.Kf5 Qg5+=
4.Bxf3? gxf3 5.gxf3 Rg2+ 6.Kh3 Rg3+=
11.Qb7? Rxd2 12.Qc7 Rg2 13.Qxb6+
f2=
12...g5 13.hxcg5 fxcg5 14.b6 g4+
15.Kh4+-
13.h5? Rg4=
13...c3 14.dxc3 (14.b7? g5 15.hxcg5 c2
16.Qc5 Rh2+ 17.Kg3 f4+ 18.Kg4 Rh8=)
14...f4 15.h5!+-
14.h5? g5 15.hxcg6 Rxcg6 16.b7 Rg3+
17.Kh4 Rb3 18.Qc5 Rxb7=
14...f1Q 15.Qxf1+ Kxf1 16.b7 c3 17.b8Q
(X1) 17...cxd2 (17...c2 18.Qf4+ Ke1
19.Qe4+ Kd1 20.Qxc2 c1Q 21.Qxc2+-)
18.Qb1+ Ke2 19.Qe4+!+-
15...cxd2 16.Qd4!+-

15...f1Q 16.Qxf1+ Kxf1 17.b8Q+-
similar to pos. X1

Ingenious sacrifices come successively to
achieve the promotion, with the aim of
reaching an ending of Queen vs. Rook.
The unique sequences in the last part of
the game are also striking.

1st-3rd Prize e.a.

E232 Michael Pasman
(Israel)



Win (4+5)

1.Bh4! Rc8+ 2.Kb6! Threatening mate
on e7 **2...Nf5 3.Qf8+ Be8 4.Qd6+!!**
6-th rank blockade **4...Nxd6 5.f7+ Rf6
6.Bxf6+ Kd7 7.f8N#!**

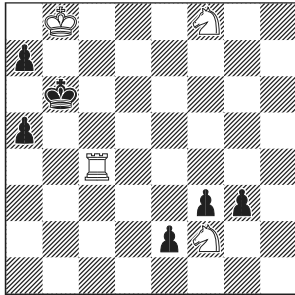
Ideal mate with 3 selfblocks

1.Kxb5? Rb8+ 2.Bb6+ Rxb6+ 3.Kxb6
Rxf6+=; 1.Qh4? Nf5 2.Qh8+ Be8 3.f7
Rc6+=
1...Nf5 2.f7+ Kc7 3.Qf4+-
2...Rb8+ 3.Ka7+-
3...Kd7 4.Qf7+ Kd6 5.Qxc6+-

With economy of material, we see an
attractive mate with the significant
artistic value.

Special Prize

E234 Vladislav Tarasiuk
(Ukraine)



Win (4+6)

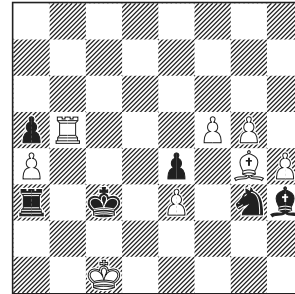
1.Ne4 e1Q 2.Nd7+ Ka6! 3.Nc3!
[Thematic try: 3.Kc7? Qxe4! 4.Rxe4 Kb5
5.Re1 f2! (5...g2? 6.Rb1+ Kc4 7.Ne5+
Kc3 8.Nxf3+-) 6.Rb1+ Kc4!=] **3...Qxc3!**
4.Rxc3 g2! 5.Rc1! f2 6.Rb1! a4
7.Nc5+ Ka5 8.Kxa7 a3 9.Nb7+ Ka4
10.Kb6 a2 11.Nc5+ Ka3 12.Rb3#

2...Kb5 3.Nd6 Ka6 4.Rc6#
4...f2 5.Rb3! (5.Rc1? Kb5!)= 5...a4
6.Nc5+ Ka5 7.Rb1 a3 8.Nd3 a2 9.Rc1!+-
5.Rb3? g1Q 6.Ka8 a4=
5...Kb5 6.Rb1+! Kc4 7.Ne5+ Kc3
8.Nxf3+-
6...f1Q 7.Nc5#
8...f1Q 9.Nb7#
10...f1Q 11.Nc5#

For fans of solving! A theme of domination with a remarkable variety of mates.

Special Prize

E238 Michael Pasman
(Israel)



Win (8+6)

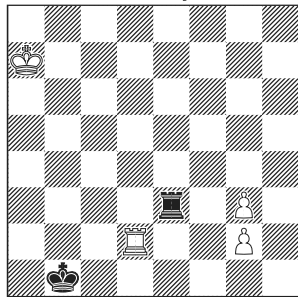
1.Rc5+! Kb4 2.g6! Nh5! 3.Bxh5!
3...Kxc5 4.Bg4! Switchback [Thematic
try : 4.g7 Ra1+ 5.Kb2 Rg1 6.Bg6 Kb4!
7.g8Q Rg2+ 8.Kc1 Rg1+ 9.Kd2 Rg2+
10.Ke1 Rg1+ 11.Kf2 Rg2+ Perpetual
check; 4.Kb2 Rxe3 5.g7 Rg3 6.Bg6 Kd4]
4...Rc3+ 5.Kb2 Rb3+! 6.Kxb3 Bxg4
7.g7 Bxf5 8.g8B!! Phoenix [8.g8Q
Be6+ 9.Qxe6 Stalemate]

1.Bxh3? Ra1+ 2.Rb1 Ra2 3.Rb5 Ra1+=
Perpetual check
2.Rb5+? Kxa4 3.Bxh3 Kxb5 4.f6 Kb4
5.f7 Rc3+ 6.Kb2 Rb3+ 7.Kc2 Rc3+=
Perpetual check
2...Bxg4 3.g7 Kxc5 4.g8Q+-
2...Ne2+ 3.Bxe2 Kxc5 4.Bg4!! as main
line
3.Rb5+? Kxa4 4.Be2 (4.Bxh5) 4...Ra2
(4...Rxe3 5.Bxh5 Kxb5 6.g7) 5.Bxh5
Kxb5 6.g7 Rg2 7.Bg6 Kb4 8.g8Q Rg1+
9.Kd2 Rg2+ 10.Ke1 Rg1+ 11.Kf2 Rg2+
Perpetual check
4...Bxg4 5.g7 Rc3+ 6.Kb2 Rb3+ as main
5...Bxg4 6.g7 Rb3+ 7.Kxb3 Bxf5 8.g8B!!
7.f6 Kd6 8.g7 Be6+

The goal is to eliminate the threats of stalemate and perpetual checks in Black's counterplay. It has been successfully achieved!!

Honorable Mention

E227 Jarl Henning Ulrichsen
(Norway)



Win (4+2)

1.g4 The pawn is lost, but White wants the black rook to capture it on an unfavourable square. **1...Re4 2.g5 Re5 3.g6 Re6 4.g7 Re7+ 5.Kb6** The white king marches across the board to support his last pawn. **5...Rxb6 6.Kc5 Kc1** The black king joins in the attack on the pawn. **7.Ra2** [Of course not 7.Rf2 ? that loses a vital tempo.] **7...Kd1** Other moves lead to a technical win. [E.g. 7...Rg8 8.Kd4 Kd1 9.Ke3 Re8+ 10.Kf2 Rf8+ 11.Kg1 Rg8 12.Kf1 Rf8+ 13.Rf2 Rg8 14.Rf3; Or 7...Rg4 8.Kd5 Kd1 9.Ke5 Rg8 10.Kf4 Rf8+ 11.Ke3 Re8+ 12.Kf2 Rf8+ 13.Kg1 etc.] **8.Kd4 Ke1 9.Ke3 Kf1 10.g4! Rxb4 11.Kf3 Rg8 12.Ra1#**

1.Kb6 ? 1...Rxb6 2.Kc5 Kc1 3.Ra2 Kd1 offers no chances.

1...Rg3 2.Rd4 Kc2 3.Kb6 Kc3 4.Kc5 Rxb6 5.Kd5 and White wins comfortably as the black king is cut off.

2...Rg4 3.Rd5

Not 9.Ke4 ? 9...Rg8 ! 10.Ke3 Re8+ ((But not 10...Kf1 11.g4 and White wins as in the solution.)) 11.Kf3 Rf8+ 12.Kg3 Rg8+ 13.Kh2 Kf1 and Black draws.

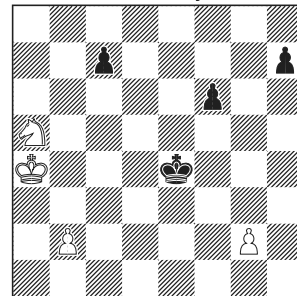
10.Kf3 Rf7+ 11.Ke4 Rg7 12.g4 is only a loss of time.

10...Re7+ 11.Kf4, White wins prosaically

An Instructive Rook endgame!

Honorable Mention

E231 Thomas Niessen
(Germany)



Win (4+4)

Agile knight study with changing pace.

1.Kb5 White needs both options Nc4 and Nc6. **1...Ke3 2.Nc6 Kf2 3.Ne7! Kxb2 4.Nd5! f5 5.Kc6 Kf3 6.Nf6! Ke2!** White has reached the successful setup, but Black can continue with slow play. **7.Nxb7 Ke3** Diagram # **8.b3!** Festine lente. zz **8...Ke4 9.Kc5! f4 10.Ng5+ Kf5 11.Nh3 Kg4 12.Nf2+ Kf3 13.Nd3 Ke4 14.Kc4 Ke3 15.b4 f3 16.b5 f2 17.Nxf2+-**

1.Nc4? f5! 2.Kb5 Kd4=

1...h5 2.Nc4 f5 3.Kc6 f4 4.Kxc7 h4 (4...f3 5.Nd2+-) 5.Kd6 f3 6.Nd2+- 1...Kf4 2.Nc6 (2.Nc4 is possible, e.g. 2...Kg3 3.Ne3) 2...Kg3 3.Ne7 Kxb2 see

main

2.Nc4+? Kf2 3.g4 Kf3 4.Kc6 Kxg4 5.Kxc7 h5 6.Ne3+ Kf3 7.b4 Kxe3=

2.Kc6? h5 3.Kxc7 Kf2 4.Nc6 Kxg2 5.Ne7 h4 6.Ng6 h3 7.Nf4+ Kg3 8.Nxh3 Kxh3= 3.Nb4? h5=

4.Kc6? h5 5.Ng6 Kg3 6.Kxc7 h4 7.Nxh4 Kxh4=

5.b4? Kf3 6.Nf6 f4 7.Kc6 Ke2 8.Kxc7 f3 9.Ng4 h5 10.Nh2 f2 11.b5 f1Q 12.Nxf1 Kxf1=

7.Nh5? Ke3 8.b4 f4 9.Kxc7 f3 10.b5 f2 11.Ng3 h5 12.b6 h4 13.Nf1+ Ke2=

7.b4? f4 8.Kxc7 f3 9.b5 f2 10.Ne4 h5=

8.b4? f4 (Or first 8...Kd4) 9.Ng5 Kd4 10.b5 Kc4 11.Nf3 Kb4=

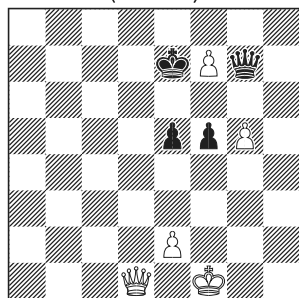
8...f4 9.Ng5 Kd4 10.b4 Kc4 11.b5 Kb4 12.Ne6 f3 13.Nxc7 f2 14.Nd5+- is the difference. R

11.Nf3 Ke4 12.Ng5+ Kf5 Waste of time.

An interesting endgame, with positions of zugzwang, with appropriate variants and tries.

Special Honorable Mention

E229 Peter Krug (Austria)



Win (5+4)

1.g6 Qxg6 2.Qd7+! Kxd7 3.f8N+ Ke7 4.Nxg6+ Kf6 5.Nh4 f4 6.Nf3 e4 7.Ng1 Kf5 8.Nh3 Kg4 9.Nf2+ Kf5

10.Kg1! Ke5 11.Nh3 Kf5 12.Kh1! (triangulation) 12...Ke5 13.Kh2 Kf5 14.Kg1 now Black is in Zugzwang 14...Kg4 15.Nf2+ Kf5 16.Kf1 Ke5 17.Nh3!! Kf5 18.Ke1 Kg4 19.Nf2+ Kf5 20.Kd1 Ke5 21.Nh3 Kf5 22.Kd2 +- [22.Kc2 or wins also]

10.Ke1? e3 11.Nd3 Kg4 12.Kf1 Kg3 13.Ne1 Kh2 14.Nf3+ Kg3 15.Kg1 Kh3 = 10.Nh3 Kg4=

12.Kh2 Ke5 13.Kg1 loss of time (13. Kh1)

16...e3 17.Nd3 Kg4 18.Kg2 is the difference

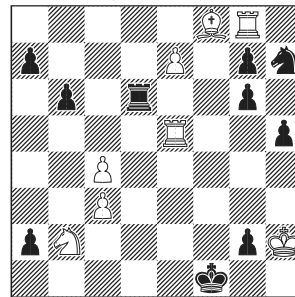
17.Ke1? Kd4 =

Ingenious introduction leads to a minor piece ending against pawns.

SECTION B STUDIES DRAW

1st Prize

E240 Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine)



Draw (8+10)

1.Re1+ Kxe1 2.e8Q+ Kf2! 3.Nd3+! Rxd3 4.Bc5+! bxc5 5.Qxg6! Rh3+! 6.Kxh3 g1N+! 7.Qxg1+! Kxg1 8.Rxg7+ Ng5+!? 9.Rxg5+ Kh1! 10.Re5! a1Q 11.Re1+ Qxe1 stalemate.

7 active sacrifice pieces. White's last

move coincides with the first move. A type of chess sonnet.(author)

2...Kf1?? 3.Qe3!+-
 Logical try: 4.Qxg6? Rh3+ 5.Kxh3 g1N+!
 6.Qxg1+ Kxg1 7.Rxg7+ Ng5+! 8.Rxg5+ Kh1 9.Bc5 a1Q!+- (9...bxc5? 10.Re5 a1Q 11.Re1+ Qxe1= as solution)
 6...g1Q!? 7.Qc2+ /g1=
 7.Kh4? Nf3+ 8.Kxh5 Nf6+ 9.Qxf6 gxf6-+
 7.Kh2? Nf3+ 8.Kh3 Nhg5+-+
 9...Kf2?? 10.Rg2+-; 9...Kf1?? 10.Kh2+-

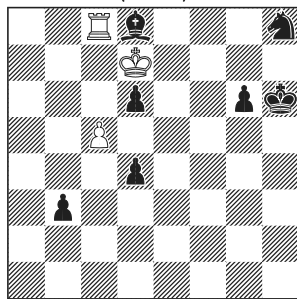
The sequence leads to the climax with a beautiful stalemate. Varied rehearsals also raise the artistic level of the study!

5.c8Q; 1...Nf7 2.Rxd8! Nxd8 3.c7! b2 4.cxd8Q b1Q 5.Qh4+=
 2...d3 3.Rxb2 Nf7 the same
 4.Ke6? Ne5--+
 5...Ne5+ 6.Kxd8=
 6...Bxd2 7.c7=
 7.Ke8? Nxc6 8.Rxd6 Ne5--+
 8...Ne5 9.Ra6! Bc7 (9...Bc3 10.Ra3=) 10.Ra7=
 9.Kd7? Nf7--; 9.Ke7? Nb7--+
 9...Nb7 10.Ra6=
 12...Nb7 13.Rb6 Nc5 14.Kf7= winning g6 pawn

A fitting introduction to the "removing the threat of domination" with two minor pieces against the Rook. Culmination with a nice stalemate position!!

2nd Prize

E233 Michael Pisman (Israel)



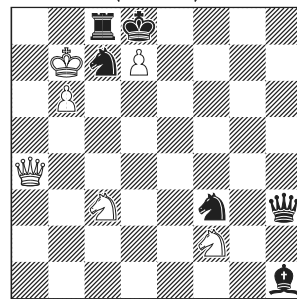
Draw (3+7)

1.c6! b2 2.Rb8 Nf7 3.Rxb2 d3 4.Rb5! d2 5.Rd5 Ba5 6.Rxd2 Ne5+ 7.Ke6! Nxc6 8.Rxd6 Nd8+ 9.Kf6 Be1! 10.Ke7! Bb4 11.Kf6! Be1 12.Ke7 Bb4 13.Kf6 Positional draw or 13...Bxd6 ideal stalemate

1.Rxd8? dxc5--+
 1...d3 2.Rxd8 Nf7 3.c7 d2 4.Rb8! d1Q

3rd Prize

E222 Andrzej Jasik (Poland)



Draw (6+6)

1.Qf4! Ne5+ 2.Nfe4! Bxe4+ 3.Nxe4 Rb8+! 4.Kxb8 Nxd7+ 5.Kb7 Nc5+! 6.Nxc5 Qc8+ 7.Kc6 Ne6+! Diagram # 8.Qc7+!! Nxc7 9.b7 Qb8 10.Nd7= Draw

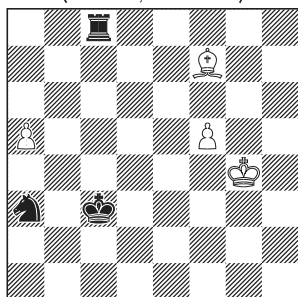
1.Nxh3? Nd4+ 2.Ka7 Ra8#
 1.Nxh1? Nb5 2.Qxb5 Rxc3--+
 1...Qxd7 2.Qf6+ Ke8 3.Qg6+ Kf8 4.Qf6+

Kg8 5.Qg6+ Kh8 6.Qh6+ Qh7 7.Qxh7+ Kxh7 8.Kxc8=
 2.Nxh1? Qg2+ (2...Qxh1+ 3.Ne4) 3.Ne4 Kxd7 4.Qf5+ Ne6 5.Qh7+ Qg7 6.Qxg7+ Nxc7 7.Nf6+ Kd8-+
 2.Nce4? Rb8+ 3.Kxb8 Nxd7+ 4.Kb7 (4.Ka7 Qa3+ 5.Kb7 Qa8#) 4...Nc5+ 5.Kc6 Qd7+ 6.Kxc5 Ne6+-+
 2...Rb8+ 3.Kxb8 Nxd7+ 4.Ka7 (4.Kb7 Nc5+) 4...Ne6 5.Qf7=
 4.Ka7? Nc6#
 5...Ne6 6.Qc7+! Nxc7 (6...Ke8 7.Qc4! Ke7 8.Qb4+ Kd8 9.Qc4) 7.bxc7+ Ke7 8.c8Q=

An original setting with varied gameplay, with notable unique sequences.

Special Prize

E217 Pavel Arestov
 Michal Hlinka
 (Russia, Slovakia)



Draw (4+3)

**1.f6 Nc4 2.Kf5! Rc5+ 3.Ke6 Kd4 main
 4.Be8! Re5+! 5.Kd7 Rxa5 6.f7 Ne5+
 7.Ke7 Ng6+ 8.Kf6 Nf8 9.Ke7 Nh7
 10.f8N!! Re5+ 11.Ne6+ Kd5 12.Bf7
 Ng5 13.Bg8 Nxe6 14.Kd7 or Bf7=**

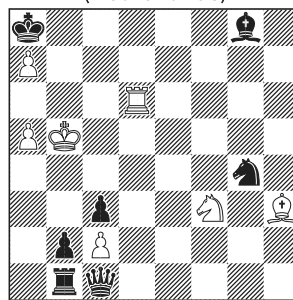
1.Be6? Rc5 2.f6 Nc4 3.f7 Ne5+-+
 1...Rf8 2.Kf5 Rxf7 3.Kg6
 2.Kg5? Ne5 3.Be6 Rc7
 2...Nxa5 3.Be6

3...Rxa5 4.Bg6! Re5+ 5.Kd7! Rb5!
 6.Ke6! Rb6+ 7.Kf5 Nd6+ 8.Ke5! Nc4+
 9.Kf5 Kd4 (9...Ne3+ 10.Kg5! Nd5 11.f7
 Nc7?! 12.f8N! /Bf5=) 10.f7 Rb8 11.Ke6
 (11.Kf6? Ne5!) 11...Ne5 12.Bh5 Ke4
 13.Ke7=
 4.Bg6? Rc6+
 4...Ne5 5.f7 Ng6 6.Bd7 /Kf6 6...Rxa5
 7.Kf6 Nf8 8.Ke7 Ng6+ 9.Kf6 Ra6+
 10.Kg7=
 5.Kf7? Nd6+
 6.Ke7? Ra7+ 7.Kf8 Nd6 8.f7 Ne4 9.Kg7
 Ke5-+
 8...Ra6+ 9.Kg7=
 10.f8Q? Re5+ 11.Kf7 Rf5+ 12.Kg6
 Rxf8-+
 13...Ne4 14.Bf7 Nd6 15.Bg8 Ne4 16.Bf7
 Ng5 17.Bg8=

A Nice miniature with supplementary variants and trials. The point is the promotion to a minor piece, at the right moment!

Special Prize

E237 Jan Timman
 (Netherlands)



Draw (7+7)

**1.Ka6 Qh6! 2.Rxh6 Rd1 3.Nd2!
 Protects square c4 and opens the long
 diagonal 3...Rxd2 4.Bg2+! Rxg2 5.Rc6
 Be6 6.Rxe6 Nf6 7.Rc6! Rg8 8.Rxf6**

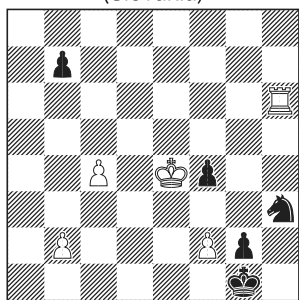
Rh8 9.Rg6! Reciprocal zugzwang
9...Rf8 10.Re6! Rd8 11.Rc6! b1Q
12.Rc8+ Rxc8= stalemate After
 Krestyaninov

1...Bc4+?? 2.Kb6 Qe3+ 3.Nd4+-
 7.Rxf6? Rg8 8.Re6 Rf8! 9.Rd6 Re8
 10.Rc6 Rd8!-+; 7.Rd6? Nd7!-+
 9.Re6? Rf8 10.Rd6 Re8-+

Sacrifices and precise movements
 of the white Rook avoid the Black'
 s counterplay and lead to a final
 stalemate!

Honorable Mention

E219 Michal Hlinka
 Luboš Kekely
 (Slovakia)



Draw (5+5)

1.Kf3! Ng5+ 2.Ke2 f3+ 3.Ke1 Nf7
4.Rh5! Nd6 5.c5! Nc4 6.Rf5! Nxb2
 Diagram # **7.c6! Nd3+ 8.Kd2 bxc6**
9.Rxf3 Kf1 10.Rg3 Nf4 11.Ke3 Nd5+
12.Ke4! Kxf2 14.Rg3 Kf2 15.Rf3+=
 pos. draw

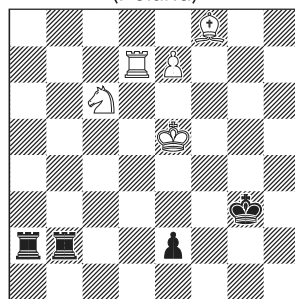
1...Kh2 2.Rg6 g1Q 3.Rxg1 Kxg1 4.c5
 Nxf2 5.Kxf4 Nd3+ 6.Ke4 Nxc5+ 7.Kd5
 Nb3 8.Kc4=
 2.Kxf4? Kf1!=
 3...Ne4 4.Rh3 Nd2 (4...Nd6 5.Rxf3 Kh2
 6.Rg3 Nxc4 7.Ke2=) 5.c5 Nc4 6.Rxf3

Kh2 7.Rg3=
 4.Rh4? Ne5 5.Rd4 Nd3+ 6.Rxd3 Kh2-+
 5.b3? Ne4 6.Rf5 Nd2 7.c5 Nxb3 8.c6
 bxc6 9.Rxf3 Kh2 10.Rg3 Nd4 11.Kd2
 Nf5 12.Rg8 g1Q 13.Rxg1 Kxg1 14.f4 Kf2
 15.Kd3 Kf3-+
 5...Ne4 6.Rf5 Kh2 (6...Nd2 7.b4)
 7.Rh5+ Kg1 8.Rf5=
 6.Rh3? Ne5 7.Rh5 Nd3+-+
 6.b4 Ne3 (6...Na3)
 7.Rxf3? Kh2 8.Rg3 Nd3+ 9.Ke2 Nxc5
 10.Rg5 g1Q 11.Rxg1 Kxg1-+ 12.f4 Kg2
 13.f5 Nd7 14.Ke3 Kg3 15.Ke4 Kg4-+
 7...bxc6 8.Rxf3 Kh2 9.Rg3 Nd3+ 10.Ke2
 Ne5 11.Ke3 Nd7 12.Kd4 g1Q 13.Rxg1
 Kxg1 14.f4 Kf2 15.f5 Kf3 16.f6 Kf4
 17.f7=
 8...Kxf2 9.c7 /cxb=
 9.Kxd3? Kxf2-+
 12.Kd4? Kxf2-+
 12...g1Q 13.Rxg1+ Kxg1 14.f4=]
 13.Rf3+ Ke2 [13...Kg1 14.Rh3=

The movements of White' s pawns seem
 to be the main point of the study, but
 the play at end of the sequence also
 deserves attention!

Honorable Mention

E221 Andrzej Jasik
 (Poland)



Draw (5+4)

**1.Rd3+! Kf2 2.Re3! Kxe3 3.e8Q e1Q
4.Kf6+! Kf2 5.Bc5+! Kf1 6.Qxe1+
Kxe1 7.Nb4! Ra5 8.Nd3+ Kd2
9.Nxb2 Rxc5 10.Ke7! Rc2 11.Na4 Rc4
12.Nb6= Draw**

1.e8Q? e1Q+--+
3.Kf6? Ra8--+
4.Kd5+? Kf2 5.Bc5+ Kf1 6.Qxe1+ Kxe1
7.Nb4 Rd2+--+
4.Kf5+? Kf2 5.Bc5+ Kf1 6.Qxe1+ Kxe1
7.Nb4 Ra5 8.Nd3+ Kd2 9.Nxb2 Rxc5+--+
+ 10.Ke6 Rc2 11.Na4 Rc4 12.Nb6
Rc6+--+
5.Qxe1+? Kxe1 6.Nb4 Rf2+--+
7...Ra3 8.Nc2+! Rxc2 9.Bxa3=
9.Bb4+? Rxb4 10.Nxb4 Kc3--+
10.Ke6? Rc2 11.Na4 Rc4 12.Nb6 Rc6+--+
+
10...Re5+ 11.Kd6=

Interesting domination with the minor pieces against two Rooks.

**Nc6+ 13.Kc5 Ne5 14.Kd4 Nf3+
15.Ke3= positional draw**

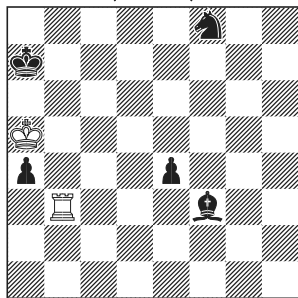
1.Rb1? Ne6! (1...a3? 2.Ra1 Kb7 3.Kb5
Ne6 4.Rxa3 Kc7 5.Kc4 Kd6 6.Ra5=)
2.Kxa4 Be2! 3.Kb3 Kb6 4.Kc3+ Kc5
5.Kd2 Bd3 6.Rb7 Nf4! 7.Rf7 Nd5!--+
1...Ne6 2.Kxa4 Nd4 3.Rc4 e3 4.Rxd4
Bc6+ 5.Ka5! e2 6.Rb4! e1Q stalemate
4.Re3? Kc6--+
5...Bg4 6.Re8! (6.Rh8? Be6+ 7.Kc3 Kc5
8.Rh5+ Bd5--+) 6...Bf5 7.Kd5 ÷
8.Ra8? Kd4 9.Ra4+ Ke5--+

Positional draw with the Rook vs two minor pieces. A stalemate is hidden in the variation as well.

Salta , Argentina March, 2024
Mario G. García
Judge

Special Commendation

E228 Bogusz Piliczewski
(Poland)



Draw (2+5)

**1.Rc3! Ng6 2.Kxa4 Kb6 3.Kb4 Ne5
4.Rc8! Nc6+ 5.Kc4 Be2+ 6.Kc3 Kc5
7.Kd2 Bg4 8.Rc7! Kd6 9.Rg7 Bf5
10.Ke3 Ne7 11.Kd4! Ke6 12.Rg3!**