

VRATNICA – 2023

PROVISIONAL AWARD

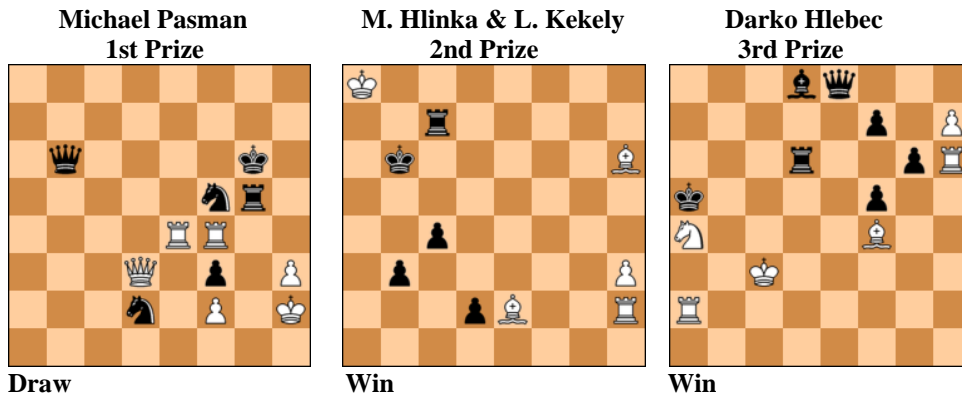
The Director sent me the studies for evaluation, in the magazines periodically and at the end, I received diagrams and solutions in word and PGN files

I highlight the collaboration of the Tournament Director Bosko Miloseski and the interesting studies sent by the participants

Participants: Michal Hlinka (Slovakia); Pavel Arestov (Russia); Lubos Kekely (Slovakia); Peter S. Krug (Austria); Michael Pasman (Israel); Jan Timman (Netherlands); Michael Schlosser (Germany); ; Rainer Staudte (Germany) , Darko Hlebec (Serbia); Borislav Ilincic (Serbia)

There are 15 studies by 10 composers from 7 countries

So, my ranking is:



Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Rd4! [Thematic try : 1.Rxf3? Nxf3+ 2.Qxf3 Qc7+ 3.Qf4 (3.Rf4 Kh6! (3...Nh4? 4.Qe3 Kh5 5.Kh1 Qc6+ 6.Re4 Qa8 7.Qe1 (7.Qe2+ Kh6 8.Qe3) 7...Nf3 8.Re8 Qc6) 4.h4 Nxh4 5.Qg3 Rh5!! (5...Rxf3 6.Rxf4+ Kg6 7.fxf3=)) 3...Nh4! 4.Qxc7 Nf3+ 5.Kh1 Rg1#; 1.Re3 Qc7+; 1.Qxd2? Rg2+ 2.Kh1 Ng3+! 3.fxf3 Qg1#] **1...Qe6!** [1...Nb3 2.Rxf5 Rg2+ 3.Kh1 Qxd4 4.Qxd4 Nxd4 5.Rxf3=] **2.h4!** [2.Qxd2? Rg2+ 3.Kh1 Ng3+;] **2...Rg2+ 3.Kh3 Nf1! 4.Rg4+!** [4.Rd6? Rh2+ 5.Kg4 Rxh4+ 6.Kxf3 Rxf4+ 7.Kxf4 Qxd6+ 8.Qxd6+ Nxd6+ 2 knight vs far white pawn- Troiski ; 4.Qe4? Qxe4 5.Rdxe4 Rh2+ 6.Kg4 Rxh4+ 7.Kxf3 Nd2+ 8.Ke2 Nxe4 9.Rxh4 Nxh4+ Troiski] **4...Kh5!** [4...Kf6 5.Rxf3=] **5.Rg5+! Rxf3 6.Re4!** [6.Qxf3+? Kg6+;] **6...Qd6! 7.Qxd6 Rg1!!** [7...Nxd6 8.Re5! Rf5 (8...Rxe5 stalemate) 9.Rxf5+ Nxf5 stalemate] **8.Qh2!! Nxh2 9.Rf4!** [9.Re5? Kg6!+;] **9...Nd4!** [9...Kg6 10.Kxh2 Rg2+ 11.Kh3 Rxf2 12.Kg4 Ne3+ 13.Kg3=] **10.Rxd4 Ng4! 11.Rd5+ Kh6 12.Rh5+! Kxh5=** stalemate[12...Kg6 13.Rg5+ Kf6 14.Rxf4=]

It reaches stalemate positions!, prior to that we have a thematic attempt and the elimination of the threat of the Troiski position!

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1.Be3+! Kb5 [1...Ka5 2.Bxd2+ c3 3.Bf4 Rd7 (3...c2 4.Bxc7+ Ka4 5.Bb5+! Kxb5 6.Rxc2 bxc2 7.Bf4+-) 4.Bh5! b2 5.Bg6+-] **2.Bxd2 b2 3.Rh1 Ka6** [3...Rd7 4.Bg5+-] **4.Kb8!** [4.Bf4? Rc8+ 5.Bb8 Kb6 6.Rb1 c3 7.Bd3 Rd8 8.Be4 Re8 9.Bd3 Rd8=] **4...b1Q+!** [4...Rb7+ 5.Kc8 Rb8+ 6.Kd7!+- (6.Kxb8? b1Q+ 7.Rxb1 stalemate)] **5.Rxb1 Rb7+! 6.Kc8!** [6.Rxb7? stalemate] **6...Rxb1 7.Bxc4+ Kb6 8.Be6!** [8.h4? Kc6 /c5= ; 8.Bg5? Kc5=] **8...Kc6 9.Kd8** [9.h4? Rh1 10.Bg5 Kd6 11.Bg4 Rg1=] **9...Kd6** [9...Rd1 10.Bd7+ Kd5 11.Bg5 Rg1 12.h4+-] **10.Bc8!** [10.Bg4? Rb8+! 11.Bc8 Ke5=]

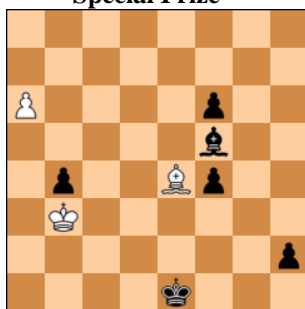
Original configuration within the theme of two minor pieces against the Rook. It draws attention to the “key movements” of the bishop pair

Darko Hlebec (Serbia)

1.h8Q Bf6+ [1...Qe1+ 2.Bd2 Qe6 3.Ra3 Bf6+ 4.Qxf6 Qxf6+ 5.Kc4+ Rxd2 (5...Ka6 6.Nc5+--+) 6.Nc5+ Kb6 7.Ra6+ Kc7 8.Rxf6--+] **2.Qxf6 Rxf6** [2...Qe1+ 3.Bd2+-] **3.Rh8! Qxh8** [3...Qc6+ 4.Nc5+ Kb6 5.Rb8+ Kxc5 6.Ra5+--+] **4.Kc4! Qc8+** [4...Rd6 5.Nc5+ Kb6 6.Ra6+ Kc7 7.Bxd6+ Kd8 8.Ra8#] **5.Bc7+!** [5.Nc5+? Kb6 6.Ra6+ Qxa6+--+] **5...Qxc7+ 6.Nc5+ Kb6 7.Ra6#**

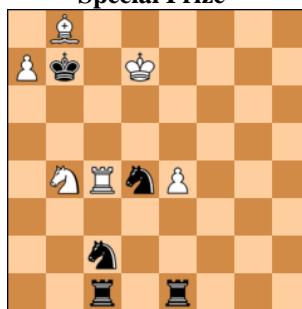
For resolution fans.. Sacrifices. complementary lines and the culmination in mates

**Jan Timman
Special Prize**



Win

**Michael Pasman
Special Prize**



Win

Jan Timman (Netherlands)

1.Bh1! f3 [1...Ke2 2.a7 f3 3.a8Q+-] **2.Bxf3 Kf2 3.Bc6!** [3.Ba8? Bd3 4.a7 f5=] **3...Bd7 4.Ba8! Be6+ 5.Kb2!** [5.Kxb4? Bh3 6.a7 f5! 7.Kc3 Bg2! 8.Bxg2 Kxg2 9.a8Q+ Kg1 10.Qa1+ Kg2 11.Qa2+ Kg1=] **5...Kg1** [5...Bh3 6.a7] **6.a7 Bg4 7.Bb7!** Mitrofanov [7.Kb3? f5 8.Bd5 f4 9.a8Q f3 10.Qa7+ Kg2=] **7...Bc8 8.a8Q Bxb7 9.Qa7+ Kf1 10.Qxb7+-**

Instructive and interesting. . The point is the Bb7 move!

Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Nd5! [1.Rc7+? Ka8 2.Nd5 Rb1!]=] **1...Nb5** [1...Rb1 2.Ra4!+-] **2.a8Q+** [2.Ra4? Nxa7=] **2...Kxa8 3.Kc8 Na7+! 4.Bxa7 Rxe4** Main A: [Main B: 4...Nb4 5.Bc5! Na6 (5...Nxd5 6.Ra4#) 6.Nc7+! Nxc7 7.Ra4+ Na6 8.Rxa6#; Main C: 4...Nd4 5.Bc5! Rxc4 6.Nc7#] **5.Ra4!!** [5.Rxe4? Nd4+!-=; 5.Bc5? Re8+ 6.Kc7 Ra1!]=] **5...Rxa4** [5...Re8+ 6.Kc7 Re7+ (6...Nb4+ 7.Bc5+ Na6+ 8.Rxa6#) 7.Nxe7 Ra1 8.Rxa1+-] **6.Bc5! Ra7** [6...Ne3 or other knight moves 7.Nc7#] **7.Nb6#**

Tactical game with three lines that culminate in mate! Pretty

P. Arestov & M. Hlinka
Honorable Mention



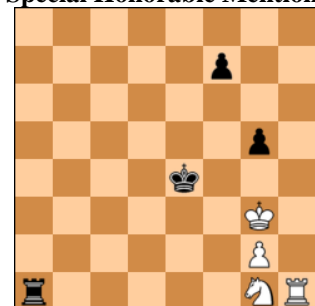
Draw

M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
Honorable Mention



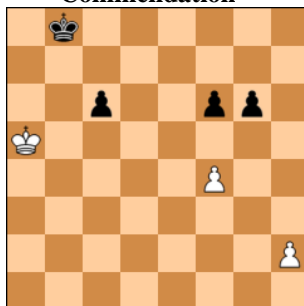
Draw

Peter S. Krug
Special Honorable Mention



Win

Borislav Ilincic
Commendation



Win

Pavel Arestov & Michal Hlinka (Russia-Slovakia)

1.Nf6 Rh6 2.Ng8! [2.Ng4? Rh3+!-+] **2...Rg6** [2...Rxc6 3.Bf5!= (3.Bd7? Rg6! 4.Ne7 Rg7 5.Nc6+ Kc7)]
3.Ne7! [3.c7+? Kxc7 4.Ne7 Rg5-+] **3...Rg7 4.c7+!** [4.Nf5? Ra7+! 5.Kb4 Kxc8-+] **4...Kxc7 5.Nf5 Rg6**
[5...Rg5 6.Be6=] **6.c3!** [6.Ne7? Rg5 7.Bf5 Kd6 8.Nc8+ Kc5 9.Ne7 Ne2 10.Bc8 Ng3!-+ 11.Bh3 Nh5
12.Kb2 Nf4; 6.c4? Rf6! 7.Ne7 Kd8 8.Nd5 Rf3+!+] **6...Nf3** [6...Ne2 7.Ne7 Rg7 8.Nf5 Rg6 9.Ne7 Rg5
10.Bf5 Kd6 11.Bd3! Nxc3 (11...Nf4 12.Nf5+=) 12.Kb3!=(12.Kb4? Na2+!-+) ; 6...Kxc8 7.Ne7+ fork]
7.Ne7 Rg5 8.Bh3! [8.Bf5? Kd6!-+] **8...Ng1! 9.Bf5! Kd6 10.Nc8+ Kc5 11.Ne7 Rg2!** additional variant
[11...Kc4 12.Kb2 Rg2+ 13.Bc2 Nf3 14.Nf5 Ne1 15.Ne3+= fork; 11...Nf3 12.Bc2! Kc4 13.Bb3+! Kxc3
14.Nd5+ Kd4 15.Nc7! Re5 (15...Rg7 /Rc5 16.Ne6+ fork) 16.Kb4!=(16.Ne6+? Kc3!-+) ; 11...Ne2
12.Kb2! Rg2 13.Bc2!]=] **12.Nc6! Kxc6** [12...Rf2 13.Nd4=] **13.Be4+ Kc5 14.Bxg2=**

Ingenious configuration where White eliminates the threat of domination in Black's counterplay

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1.b8N+! Kd6 [1...Kb6 2.Nd7+ Kc6 3.Nb8+ Kd6 4.Ne8+=] **2.Ne8+ Ke6** [2...Ke7 3.Nc6+ Kxe8 4.Nxa7
Bxf5+ 5.Kc7=] **3.Re5+ Kf7+ 4.f5 Bxf5+** [4...Kg8 5.Nd7 Qd4 6.Kc7 Qc4+ 7.Rc5=; 4...Qd4 5.Nc6 Qxb2
6.Nd6+ Kg8 7.Ne7+ Kh7 8.Re4 Qf2 9.Kd8=] **5.Rxf5+ Kxe8 6.Re5+!** [6.Rxa5? Qe7 7.b4 g5 8.Nxa6 g4
9.Nc7+ Kf7 10.Rf5+ Kg6 11.Rf4 Qe2-+] **6...Kf7 7.Rxa5** [7.Rf5+? Ke6 8.Rxa5 Qe3 9.Rxa6+ Kf7 10.Nc6
g5-+] **7...Qg1 8.b4!** [8.Nxa6? or Rxa6? 8...g5-+] **8...g5 9.Nd7** [9.Nc6? Kf6 10.Ne5 Qa7-+] **9...Ke7**
[9...g4 10.Ne5+ Ke6 11.Nxg4 Qxg4 12.Kb7=] **10.Ne5 g4** [10...Qb6 11.Rc5 Ke8 12.Nc4 Qh6 13.Kb7
Qh1+ 14.Kxa6 Qa8+ 15.Kb6 g4 16.Nd6+ Kd7 17.Nf5 Qxa3 18.b5=] **11.Nxg4! Qxg4+ 12.Kb7!** [12.Kb8?
Qd7 13.Rxa6 Kd8 14.Ra5 Qc7+ 15.Ka8 Qb6 16.Rd5+ Kc7 17.Rc5+ Kd6] **12...Qc4** [12...Qe6 13.Rxa6
Qd7+ 14.Kb6 Kd6 15.Ra5!]=] **13.Rxa6** [13.Rc5? Qd3 14.Rc7+ Kd6 15.Rc6+ Kd5 16.Rc5+ Kd4 17.Ra5
Kc3-+] **13...Qb5+ 14.Ka7** [14.Rb6? Qd7+! 15.Kb8 Qa4 16.Rb7+ Kd8 17.Ra7 Qb5+ 18.Rb7 Qa6 19.Ra7
Qc8#] **14...Kd8! 15.Ra5 Qd7+ 16.Kb6** [16.Ka6? Kc7 17.Rc5+ Kb8 18.Rb5+ Ka8-+; 16.Kb8? Qc7+!]
16...Qc7+ 17.Ka6= [17.Kb5? Kc8 18.Ra6 Kb7-+]

Appropriate introduction to arrive at an ending of Rock and pawns against the Queen, with notable univocal sequences

Peter S. Krug (Austria)

1.Kh2! [try : 1.Kg4? Ke3!! 2.Kxg5 Rf1!! but not (2...Ra8? 3.g4 f6+! 4.Kf5! Ra4 5.Nh3 Kf3 6.Rg1 Rb4 7.Ng5+! fxg5 8.Kxg5 +-) 3.g4 f6+ 4.Kg6 Ke4! 5.Kf7 Ke3!! 6.Kg6 Ke4 7.Rh4 Ke3! 8.Nh3 Kf3 9.Kxf6 Kg3+ 10.Kg5 Ra1= =; 1.Kf2? Ra2+ 2.Ne2 f5=] **1...f5** [1...g4 2.Ne2+-; 1...f6 2.Nh3 Rxh1+ 3.Kxh1 g4 4.Nf2+ Kf4] **2.Nh3! Rxh1+ 3.Kxh1 g4 4.Nf2+** [4.Ng5+? Ke3! 5.Kh2 f4 6.Kg1 Ke2 7.Ne4 Ke3 8.Nf2 g3 9.Ng4+ Ke4=] **4...Ke3 5.Kg1 Ke2 6.Nh1 Ke1** [6...f4 7.Nf2 g3 8.Ne4 see solution] **7.Ng3 f4 8.Ne4 Ke2 9.Nf2 g3 10.Ne4 Ke3 11.Ng5 Ke2 12.Nf3 Ke3 13.Kf1 Kd3 14.Ke1 Ke3** White is in ZZ **15.Ne5 Ke4 16.Nc4 Kd3 17.Nd2 Ke3 18.Nf3** ..now Black is in ZZ **18...Kd3 19.Kf1 Ke3 20.Ne1 Kd2 21.Nc2 Kd3 22.Ke1! Kxc2 23.Ke2+-**

An entertaining game where each side wants to impose a position of zz in their favor

Borislav Ilincic (Serbia)

1.Kb6! [1.f5? gxf5 2.h4 f4+-] **1...c5!** [1...g5 2.f5! c5 3.Kxc5 Kc7 4.Kd5 Kd7 5.h3!+-] **2.f5!** [2.Kxc5? Kc7 3.f5 gxf5 4.h4 Kd7=] **2...gxf5** [2...g5 3.Kxc5 Kc7 4.Kd5 Kd7 5.h3!+-] **3.h4 c4 4.h5 c3 5.h6 c2 6.h7 c1Q 7.h8Q+ Qc8 8.Qh2+ Ka8 9.Qa2+ Kb8 10.Qa7#**

Salta , Argentina March , 2024

**Mario Guido García
Judge International**