



UNION ARGENTINA DE PROBLEMATISTAS DE AJEDREZ

20th INTERNATIONAL INTERNET TOURNAMENT (UAPA) – 2023

JUBILEE 20th EDITION

AWARD FINAL

Section A : Thematic: In study (win or draw) White or Black piece (Bishop, Knight, Rook or Queen) goes into a corner under at least one capture. The piece should not be protected and goes to the corner without taking enemy piece. Promotion of pawn is not theme -
EXAMPLE -Judge: **Oleg Pervakov** (Russia)

Section B : Theme free

B.1.) Win – Judge : **Jan Timman** (Netherlands)

B.2.) Draw – Judge : **Jan Rusinek** (Poland)

Participants: Michal Hlinka (Slovakia); Valery Kalashnikov (Russia); Andrzej Jasik (Poland);; Pavel Arestov (Russia); Marc Gelly (France); Peter S. Krug (Austria); Daniele Gatti (Italy); Alexey Gasparyan (Armenia); Michael Pasman (Israel); Jan Timman (Netherlands); Oleg Pervakov (Russia); Can Aydinoglu (Turkey); Paul Muljadi (USA); Luis Miguel González (Spain); Harold van der Heijden (Netherlands); Daniil Yakimovich (USA); Jarl Henning Ulrichsen (Norway); Mario G. García (Argentina); Harrie Grondij (Netherland) ; Jan Sprenger (Germany) ; Yochanan Afek (Israel); Mikhail Kramtsevich (Bielorrusia); Leopnid Topko (Ukraine) ; Petromir Panaiotov (Bulgaria); Michael Gromov (Russia); Viktor Syzonenko (Ukraine); Marek Kwiatkowski; (Poland); Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine); David Blundell (Gales); Alain Pallier (France); Alexander Stavrietsky (Russia); Ivan Bondar (Bielorrusia); Itay Richardson (Israel); Ľuboš Kekely (Slovakia); Yehuda Hoch (Israel); Eduard Eiliazian (Ukraine); Yuri Bazlov (Russia); Sergey Kasparyan (+) (Armenia); Poul Rewitz (Denmark) ;

We have received 105 studies from 39 composers from 20 countries.

Sebastián A. Palomo
Coordinator of Tournaments (UAPA)

Section A

In total, 31 studies were submitted to the thematic competition.

Offering the theme of the 20th UAPA competition, I first of all waited for unexpected and fresh sacrifices of pieces in the corner. But many participants took the simplest path: they donated rooks with the check, «screwed» a thematic introduction to a completely different idea, or showed very obvious sacrifices who instantly ended the game.

The following studies were not included in the award from my pre-selection:

№2. (d5-c2). Unsuccessful entry. **№4. (a5-b2)** Obvious sacrifice. - **№7. (g1-e2).** Unsuccessful entry. - **№14. (d8-a8).** Known sacrifice from the study of A. Wotawa (Deutsche Schachzeitung, 1941), followed by b5-b6, is «screwed» to further play to position of 6-piece mutual zugzwang. - **№15. (d2-b8).** Obvious sacrifice. - **№20. (e2-g8).** The final thematic combination is known from E. Pepelyaeva (Alma-Atinskaja Pravda, 1959).- **№25. (d4-g6).** Obvious sacrifice. - **№27. (g8-g4).** Obvious sacrifice. In addition, the play is known from the wrong study of S. Belokon (Stella Polaris, 1971).

The following 11 studies are awarded:

Jan Sprenger
1-2 prize



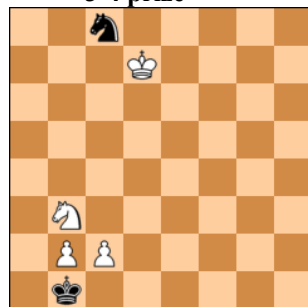
Draw

Serhiy Didukh
1-2 prize



Win

Harold van der Heijden
3-4 prize



Win

Vladislav Tarasiuk
3-4 prize



Draw

№12. Jan Sprenger (Germany)

1.g4+ The only move that does not lose on the spot. [1.Ra5+? Kf6 2.Rxg2 Qxf7+ 3.Kh4 Qb7 4.Rg1 Qb4+--+; 1.Rxg2?? g6+ 2.Kh4 Qh6#] **1...Kf4 2.g5!** [The ending after 2.Rxg2? Qc5+ 3.g5 Qxa7 4.Rg4+ Kf3 5.Bd5+ Kxf2 6.Rf4+ Kg3 7.Rf3+ Kh2--+ is lost.] **2...g6+ 3.Kh4 Qc5 4.Ra4+ Kf3 5.Bd5+! Qxd5 6.Rg4 Bh1!** [thematic move] Black disturbs the coordination of the white rooks before implementing his main plan. [Black's logical try 6...h5?! 7.Rg3+ Kxf2 fails because the white rooks are connected: 8.R3xg2+ /R1xg2+ 8...Qxg2 9.Rxg2+ Kxg2 stalemate; correction try 6...Bf1!? 7.Rxf1 h5 8.Rg3+ Ke2 9.Rgg1 Qf3 10.Re1+ Kd2 11.Rd1+ Kc2 12.Rc1+=] **7.Rxh1 h5!** [7...h6 8.Rg3+ Kxf2 9.Rh2+ Kf1 10.Rhg2 h5 11.Rg1+ Kf2 12.R1g2+ /R3g2+ 12...Qxg2 13.Rxg2+ Kxg2 stalemate] **8.Rg3+** [8.gxh6?? Qh5#; 8.Ra4? eg 8...Kg2 9.Rha1 Qf3--+] **8...Kxf2** [8...Ke2!? 9.Re3+! (9.Rh2? Qe4+ 10.f4+ Kf1 11.Rh1+ Qxh1 12.Rg2 eg 12...Qxg2 no stalemate) 9...Kxf2 10.Rhe1 Qd4+ 11.Re4 Qd3 12.R1e2+ /Re3 with transposition 12...Qxe2 13.Rxe2+ Kxe2 14.Kg3 Ke3 15.Kh4! Kf4 stalemate] **9.Rh2+** [9.Rg2+? Kxg2! shows the difference to the try 6... h5: Black can take on g2 with the king. (9...Qxg2? 10.Rh2=)] **9...Kf1** Now Qe4+ looks lethal, but White still has a shot: **10.Rh1+!** [thematic move] The first rook sacrifice draws the queen to h1... **10...Qxh1 11.Rg2!!** ...and the second closes the door behind her! **11...Ke1 12.Rg1+! Qxg1** [stalemate] Both Black and White sacrifice a piece in the corner. The Rg2 tactic and the final position is based on Sprenger & Minski, Neidze MT 2021: <https://eg.org.ua/chessgame/minskim-sprengerj-0270-45g4e2/>

The most interesting study in the thematic plan. On the same h1 square, both black and white sacrifice a piece. The fact that stalemate is known from another study of the author (together with M. Minski), little influenced the judicial assessment — it's not at all in the final position.

№13. Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.Kc8! [1.Kc7? Kg2! 2.e4 Ne6+!]=] **1...Ne6** [1...Kg2 2.e4 Ne6 (2...dxe4 3.Kxd8+-) 3.exd5 Nxd4 4.d6+-] **2.Bc6!** [2.Bf7? Kg2 3.Bxe6 Kf3 4.Bxd5+ Kxe3=] **2...Kg1 3.Bxd5 Nf8** [3...Ng5 4.Bg8! Kf2 5.d5 Ne4 6.Bh7 Nf6 7.e4!+-] **4.Bh1!!** [4.Bf7? Kf2 5.d5 Kxe3 6.d6 Kd4 7.Kd8 Kc5 8.Ke7 Kc6 9.Be8+ Kd5! (9...Kc5? 10.Bh5 Kd5 11.Bf3+ Ke5 12.Be4!+-) 10.Bh5 Kc5! (10...Ke5? 11.Bf7!+-) 11.Bf7 Kc6=] **4...Kxh1 5.Kd8!!** [5.d5? Kg2 6.e4 Kf3 7.e5 Ng6! 8.e6 Ne7+=] **5...Ng6 6.Ke8 Kg2** [6...Nh4 7.e4!+-] **7.Kf7 Nh4 8.d5!** [8.Kf6? Nf3 9.d5 Nd2 10.Kf5 Kf3 11.d6 Nc4 12.d7 Nd6+ 13.Ke6 Nb7=] **8...Nf5** [8...Kf3 9.Kf6!+-] **9.Ke6 Ng3 10.Ke5!+-**

An excellent miniature, perhaps with the most unexpected sacrifice of the piece in the corner.

№17. Harold van der Heijden (Netherlands)

1.Na1! [1.Kxc8? Kxc2=] **1...Nb6+** [1...Kxb2 2.Kxc8+-] **2.Kc6 Nc4** [2...Na4 3.b3 Nc3 4.b4 Kxa1 5.b5 Kb2 6.b6+-] **3.b4** [3.b3? Na3 4.b4 Kxa1 5.b5 Kb2 (5...Kb1) 6.b6 Nc4 7.b7 Na5+=] **3...Kxa1 4.Kc5** [4.b5? Kb2] **4...Ne5 5.Kd5** [5.Kd6? Nc4+ 6.Kc5 Ne5 repeats] **5...Nd7 6.c4** [6.Kc6? Ne5+ 7.Kd5 (7.Kd6 Nc4+ 8.Kc5 Ne5 repeats) 7...Nd7 repeats] **6...Kb2 7.c5** [7.b5? Kb3 8.c5 Kb4 9.c6 Nb6+=] **7...Kb3** [7...Kc3 8.c6 Nb6+ 9.Kc5 Na4+ 10.Kb5+-] **8.c6** [8.b5? Kb4= (8...Ka4)] **8...Nb6+ 9.Kc5 Na4+** [9...Na8 10.b5 Ka4 11.b6 Ka5 12.b7 wins, e.g. 12...Nc7 13.b8Q (13.Kd6 Nb5+) 13...Na6+ 14.Kd6 Nxb8 15.c7] **10.Kb5! Nc3+ 11.Ka5! Nd5** [main 11...Kc4 12.c7 Nd5 13.c8Q+ excelsior; or similiary 11...Ne4 12.b5 Kc4 13.b6 Kc5 14.b7 Kxc6 15.b8Q+-] **12.b5 Kc4 13.b6 Kc5 14.b7** [14.c7? Nxb6=] **14...Kxc6** [14...Nb4 15.c7 e.g. 15...Nc6+ 16.Ka4+-] **15.b8Q** excelsior

Two excelsiors after the knight's thematic sacrifice on the first move.

№31. Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine)

1.Nc5! [1.exd4? g6! 2.Qe1 Kd7 (d7) -+] **1...Bxc5** [1...f6+ 2.Kxd4 Qd5+ 3.Kc3 Qxd1 4.Nd3=] **2.exd4 g6!** [main 2...f6+ 3.Kxf5 Qe6+! 4.Kg6! (4.Kxe6? Bc8#) 4...Qf7+ 5.Kf5! Qe6+ 6.Kg6 positional draw.] **3.dxc5 Qg7+ 4.Kd6 Kd8! 5.Bb2!** [Try: 5.Ra8+? Bxa8 6.Bb2 Qxb2 7.Nc3 Qb8#; Try: 5.Rh8+? Qxh8 6.Bb2 Qxb2 7.Nc3 Qxc3 8.Ra8+ Bxa8 9.Qa1 Qd3+ (9...Qd2+--+)] **5...Qxb2 6.Nc3! Qxc3 7.Ra8+!** Thematic move [Try: 7.Rh8+? Qxh8 8.Ra8+ Bxa8 9.Qa1 Qf8+!-+] **7...Bxa8 8.Qa1!** Thematic move [8.Rh8+? Qxh8 9.Qa1 Qf8+!-+] **8...Qxa1 9.Rh8+!** Thematic move **9...Qxh8** - stalemate.

The most daring study of the competition! White must clearly define the order of his sacrifices in three corners of the board.



№30. Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.Nf8 Ra5 2.Ra1!! (thematic move) [Logical try 2.Rg6+? Kh5 3.g4+ (3.Ra1 Rxa1+ 4.Kh2 Ra2! 5.Kh3 Rxc2) 3...Kh4 4.g3+ Kh3-+; 2.g4? Rg5-+] **2...Rxa1+** [2...Rg5 3.Rxc5 Kxc5 4.Rxa8 e3 (4...c2 5.Rc8) 5.Ne6+ Kf5 6.Nf4+; 2...Rh5+ 3.Kg1 Bd5 4.Rg6#] **3.Kh2 Rh1+** (thematic move) [3...Ra5 4.Rg6+ Kh5 5.g4+ Kh4 6.g3#] **4.Kxh1 e3** [4...Nd3 5.Rg6+ Kh5 6.g4+ Kh4 7.Kh2 Ne5 8.g3#] **5.Rg6+** [5.g4? Be4-+] **5...Kh5 6.Kh2!** [6.g4+? Kh4 7.Kh2 Bxc2!-+] **6...Bxc2 7.Kxc2 Nd3** [7...e2 8.Kh3 e1Q 9.g4#] **8.Rg8!** [8.g4+? Kh4 9.Kf3 Ne5+!-; 8.Rg7? e2 9.g4+ Kh4 10.Ng6+ Kg5!-] **8...e2 9.g4+ Kh4 10.Ng6+ Kxc4 11.Ne5+-** Lepuschutz theme (Ñ->Ð-/ +Ð1/4Ð~/= Ñ\Ð?Ñ Ð3/4Ð+/=Ð3/4Ñ()Ð,Ñ Ð3/4Ð+/=Ð~/=Ð1/2Ð1/2Ð3/4Ð=/+Ð3/4 Ñ Ð~/=Ñ/ \Ð~/=)

Problem theme with two mutual sacrifices per corner. But in the final part of the study there is, albeit accurate, finishing off the Black without any chance for the latter.

№8. Jan Timman (Netherlands)

1.Rc4! Nf3! [1...Qb3 2.Rxc7 f6 3.cxb3 h2 4.Nxd6 (4.Qc1? h1Q+ 5.Kxc6 Qh3=) 4...h1Q+ 5.Kxc6 Qh3 6.Rc8+ Bg8 (6...Qxc8 7.Nxc8 Nxe2 8.Kxf6+-) 7.Nf7#] **2.exf3** [2.b3+? Ne5 3.fxe5 Qd2+-; 2.Rxb4? h2 3.Qh1 Ne5 4.Qxh2 Ng4+-] **2...Qc3! 3.Rxc3!** [3.bxc3? h2 4.Qh1 g1Q 5.Rxc7 f6 6.Nxd6 Bg8 7.Re7 a3 8.Re8 Qa7=] **3...h2 4.Qh1!** Theme **4...g1Q! 5.Rxc7 f6 6.Nxd6 Bg8! 7.Rd7!** [Try: 7.Re7 a3! 8.bxa3 g5 9.Re8 (9.f5 g4! 10.Re8 Qa7 11.Kh5! Qg1! 12.Kh6=; 9.Re1 Qa7 10.Kg6 Qg7+ 11.Kf5 Bh7+ 12.Ke6 Bg8+=) 9...Qa7 10.Kg6 Qg7+ 11.Kf5 Qd7+ 12.Kxf6 Qxd6+ 13.Kxc3 Qg6+! 14.Kh4 Qxe8=; 7.Rc8? Qa7=] **7...g5** [7...Qg3 8.Ne4+-] **8.Rd8 Qa7 9.Kg6 Qg7+ 10.Kf5 Qh7+ 11.Kxf6+-**

Two impressive sacrifices of black and white queens (true, move Qh1!! known from problems) complements the exact choice of white rook.

№26. Ivan Bondar & Mikhail Khramtsevich (Bielorrusia)

1.Nb4! Ne5+ [1...exf3 2.Nxc6+-; 1...Kd2 2.Nxc6!+-] **2.Kc4 Nb7 3.Nxc6 Nxd6+** [3...dxc6 4.d7!+-] **4.Kd5** [4.Kc5? Ne8 5.Nd4 Ke1 6.Bc4 exf3 7.Nxf3+ Kf2=] **4...Nf5 5.Kxe4!** [5.Bh3? dxc6+ 6.Kxe4 Ng3+ 7.Kf4 Ne2+ 8.Ke4 Ng3+=; 5.Ba6? exf3=; 5.fxe4? Nxe3+=; 5.Nd4? Nxe3+ 6.Kxe4 Nxf1=] **5...Ng3+ 6.Kd3!** [6.Kf4? Nxf1=] **6...dxc6 7.Bg2!** [7.Bh3? Nh1! 8.Bg4 Nf2+ 9.Kd4 Kd2! 10.e4 Nd3! 11.e5 c5+! 12.Ke4 c4! 13.e6 c3 14.e7 c2 15.e8Q c1Q=] **7...c5** [7...Ke1 8.f4! c5! 9.Bb7! Kf2 10.e4! Kf3 (10...Nh5 11.f5! Kg3 12.Ke3! Nf6 13.e5+-) 11.f5! Kf4 12.f6+-] **8.e4 c4+!** [8...Ke1 9.Bh3! Kf2 10.Bg4!+-] **9.Kc3!** [9.Kxc4? Ke2 10.e5 Kf2! 11.Bh1 (11.Bh3 Kxf3=) 11...Nxb1 12.e6 Ng3! 13.e7 Nf5 14.e8Q Nd6+ 15.Kd5 Nxe8=] **9...Ke2 10.e5!** [10.f4? Kf2! 11.f5 Kxc2 12.f6 Nxe4+=] **10...Kf2** [10...Nf5 11.Kxc4+-] **11.Bh1!** move thematic [11.Bh3? Kxf3=; 11.Kxc4? Kxc2=] **11...Nxb1 12.e6 Ng3 13.e7+-** Curious collision: after 7.Bg2! white doesn't let black's knight jump into corner h1, but by 11.Bh1! make him find himself there at the wrong moment.

№23. Pavel Arestov (Russia)

1.Be4! [1.Bxh7? g1Q+ 2.Kxc4 Qg4+ /c5 3.Kb5 Nc3+ 4.Kb6 Nd5+ 5.Ka7 Qd4+ 6.Kxb7 Qg7+--+] **1...Rd7+** [1...Kh2 2.Bxg2=] **2.Bd5!** Self-pin [2.Kxc4? Nd6+ 3.Kd4 Nxe4+--+; 2.Ke5 Re7+ 3.Kd4 Rxe4+ 4.Kxe4 Nc5+ fork] **2...Rxd5+!** [2...Kh2 3.Qh6+=] **3.Kxd5 Ne3+!** [3...g1Q 4.Qh6+ Kg2 5.Qg6+ Kf1 6.Qxg1+ Kxg1 7.Kxc4=] **4.Kd4 Nf5+!** [4...g1Q 5.Qxb7+ Ng2+ 6.Kxc4=] **5.Kc3!** [5.Kxc4? Nbd6+ (5...Nfd6+? 6.Kb4 g1Q 7.Qc6+ Kh2 8.Qc2+=) 6.Kb4 g1Q 7.Qc6+ Kh2 8.Qc2+ Kg3--+] **5...Nfd6!** [5...Nbd6 6.Qa8! Kh2 7.Qh8+ Kg3 8.Qe5+ Kf3 9.Qh2! Ng3 10.Kb4!]=] **6.Kb4!** [Try: 6.Qa1+? g1R! (6...g1Q? 7.Kb4= main line) 7.Qb2 Nc5! 8.Kb4 Nd3+ fork; Try: 6.Qc6? Kh2 7.Qf3 g1Q 8.Qh5+ Kg3 9.Qg5+ Kf2 10.Qf4+ Ke2 11.Qd2+ Kf3!--+] **6...g1Q** [6...g1R 7.Qa2 /c6=] **7.Qa1!** Theme **7...Nc5** [7...Qxa1= stalemate] **8.Qh8+! Qh2** [8...Kg2 9.Qg7+! Kf1 10.Qa1+! Kg2 11.Qg7+ echo-positional draw] **9.Qa1+ Kg2 10.Qb2+! Kh3 11.Qh8+ Kg2** [11...Kg3 12.Qe5+=] **12.Qb2+=** echo-positional draw
A quiet queen sacrifice in the corner is crowned by two positional draws. A good try 6.Qa1+? g1R!



№19. Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.f7! [1.Nxe6? exf6 2.Nxf8 Ne7 3.exf6 Nc6 4.f7 Kg7 5.Ne6+ Kxf7 6.Nf4 Nb4--+; 1.a5? bxa5 2.f7 Bxa2! 3.fxg8Q+ Kxg8 4.Nxd3 Bg7+] **1...Nh6 2.a5!** Now it's time for White to eliminate his pieces and celebrate a stalemate. **2...bxa5 3.Ng6+ Kg7!** Black must keep the knight alive. [3...hxg6 4.Bxh6 Bxh6 5.g5!]=] **4.Bxh6+ Kxh6 5.g5+!** [5.Nxf8? Kg7 6.h6+ Kxf7! 7.g5 Bxa2 8.g6+ hxg6 and there's a survivor in this attack.] **5...Kg7 6.Nh8!** (thematic move) **6...h6** [6...Bxa2 7.h6+ Kxh8 8.g6 Bd5 9.g7+] **7.g6!** The knight and the bishop don't have moves, the king has only one - **7...Kxh8 8.g7+ Bxg7 9.f8Q+ Bxf8** stalemate. Incarceration of the knight with the goal to make Black capture it.

Original interpretation of a knight jumping into a corner. But what would the unforgettable Abram Gurvich say when looking at the starting position?!

№22. Yochanan Afek (Israel)

1.d7+! Qxd7 [1...Kxd7 2.Qd3+--+] **2.Kb3! Rc4** [2...Re2!? 3.Qxe2 (3.Ra8+? Kb7 4.c6+ Kxa8! 5.cxd7 Rxe3+ 6.Kc2 Re2+ 7.Kd3 Rxh2! 8.d8Q+ Kb7 draw!) 3...Qd5+ 4.Kb2! Qd4+ 5.Kb1! Qb4+ 6.Qb2 Qe4+ 7.Qc2 Qb4+ 8.Kc1 Qe1+ 9.Qd1 Qc3+ 10.Kb1! Qb4+ 11.Ka2 Qa5+ 12.Kb3+--; 2...Rxh2 3.Ra8+ Kb7 4.c6+! Kxc6 (4...Qxc6 5.Qa7#) 5.Ra6+ Kb7 (5...Kd5 6.Qd3+--+)] **6.Qa7+ Kc8 7.Qa8#** **3.c6!** [Logical try: 3.Ra8+? Kb7 4.c6+ Kxc6 5.Ra6+ Kd5 6.Qg5+ Ke4!]=] **3...Qxc6** [3...Rxc6 4.Ra8+ Kb7 5.Qa7#] **4.Ra8+!!** (Thematic!) **4...Qxa8** [4...Kd7 5.Qe8+ Kd6 6.Rd8+ Kc5 7.Qe3+--+] **5.Qe8+ Kb7 6.Qxb5+ Ka7** [6...Kc8 7.Qe8+ Kb7 8.Qxa8+ Kxa8 9.Kxc4+--+] **7.Qa5+ Kb8 8.Qxa8+** [8.Qb5+? Qb7! 9.Qxb7+ Kxb7 10.Kxc4 Kc6=] **8...Kxa8 9.Kxc4 Kb7 10.h4 Kc6 11.h5+**
A natural starting position, a tireless, lively game — a recognizable style of the Israeli grandmaster.

№16. Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.g5! Kg7 [1...Qh1 2.Nf6+ Kf8 3.Rh8+ Ke7 4.Re8+ Kd6 5.Rd8+--+] **2.Nf6 Bg8 3.Rh8!!** [3.Nd3? Qh1 4.Ne5 Qa8+ 5.Kb6 Qb8+=] **3...Kxh8 4.h6 Bc4+! 5.Nxc4** [5.Kb7? Ba6+! 6.Kxa6 Qxh6!]=; 5.Kb6? Qf2+=; 5.Ka5? Qe1+=] **5...Qxh6!** [5...Qxg5 6.g7+--+] **6.g7+! Qxg7** [6...Kxg7 7.gxh6+--+] **7.Ne5! Qc7** [7...Qf8 8.Ng6+--+; 7...Qh6 8.Nf7+--+] **8.Ng6+ Kg7 9.Ne8+ Kxg6 10.Nxc7+**

The thematic sacrifice leads to the dominance of two knights with a pair of pawns over the queen.

Russia, 17 July 2023

Oleg Pervakov
Judge

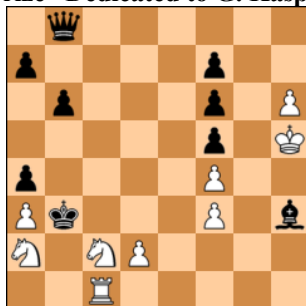
Section B.1 (Win)

Jury report UAPA 20

For this jubilee torney I received no less than 44 studies; a record in one section. in the history of the UAPA-torney's! The overall level was quite good.

My judgment is as follows:

M. Gromov & O. Pervakov
1st Prize Dedicated to G. Kasparov



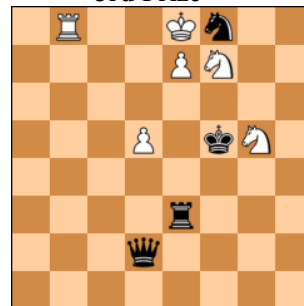
Win

Serhiy Didukh
2nd Prize



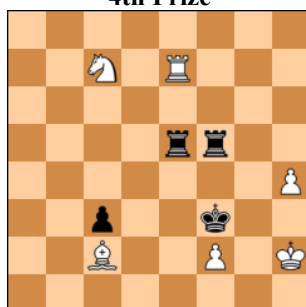
Win

Yuri Bazlov
3rd Prize



Win

Michael .Pasman
4th Prize



Win

Serhiy Didukh
Special Prize



Win

Michael Gromov & Oleg Pervakov (Russia) -Dedicated to 13-th World Chess Champion Garry Kasparov (60) years **13.04.2023**

1.Nab4! [1.Ncb4? a5=] **1...Bg4+**! Fighting for the e4-square [Too early 1...Qxf4 2.Na1+! Kxa3 3.Nac2+ Kb3 4.Rb1+ Kc4 5.Na3+! Kd4 6.Nb5+ Kc4 7.d3+! Kc5 8.d4+ Kc4 9.Na3+ Kxd4 10.Rd1+!+- followed by forks; 1...Qd8 2.Rb1+ Kc4 3.Ne3+ Kb5 (3...Kc5 4.Rc1+ Kd6 5.Ned5+-) 4.Nbd5+ Kc5 5.Rg1+-; 1...Qg8 2.Nd4+ Kb2 3.Nd3+ Ka2 4.Rc2+ Ka1 5.Rb2+-] **2.fxg4** [2.Kh4? Bxf3 3.Nd4+ Kxa3 4.Nd3 Ka2! 5.Nxf3 Qg8=] **2...Qxf4!** The best defence. But now the queen has occupied a minefield To realize the main plan White must eliminate three pawns: a3, d2 and f5 [2...a5 3.Nd4+ Kxa3 4.Nd3 Ka2 5.Rc2+ Ka1 (a3) 6.Rb2+-; 2...Qg8 3.Rb1+ Kc4 4.Ne3+ Kd4 5.Nxf5+ Kc4 6.Ne7+-] **3.Na1!** [Try 3.Rb1+? Kc4 4.Ne3+ Kd4 5.Nxf5+ Kc4! 6.d3+ Kc5 7.d4+ Kc4+-] **3...Kxa3** [3...Kb2 4.Nd3+] **4.Nac2+ Kb3** **5.Rb1+ Kc4** **6.Ne3+!** [Try 6.Na3+? Kd4 7.Nb5+ Kc4 8.d3+ Kc5! 9.d4+ Kc4 10.Na3+ Kxd4 11.Rd1+ Ke4! 12.Re1+ Kd4 13.Nb5+ Kc4 14.Re4+ fxe4!+-] **6...Kd4** **7.Nxf5+ Kc4** **8.Ne3+!** [Try 8.d3+? Kc5! 9.d4+ Kc4 10.Ne3+ Qxe3!+-] **8...Kd4** **9.Nec2+ Kc4** **10.Na3+!** [Try 10.d3+? Kc5 11.d4+ Kd6!+-] **10...Kd4** **11.Nb5+ Kc4** **12.d3+!** Just in time! **12...Kc5** [12...Kxb5 13.Nd5+] **13.d4+ Kc4** **13...Kd6??** **14.Na3+!** **Kxd4** **15.Rd1+!** Realizing the main plan **15...Ke4!** [15...Kc3 (e3) 16.Nd5+; 15...Kc5 (e5) 16.Nd3+] **16.Re1+ Kd4** [16...Kf3 17.Rf1+] **17.Nb5+ Kc4** **18.Re4+!** **Qxe4** **19.Nd6+ Kxb4** **20.Nxe4 a3** **21.Nc3!** 13-th and decisive move of the hero knight! [21.h7? a2 22.h8Q a1Q 23.Qf8+ Ka5! 24.Ng3 Qa2 25.Kh6 Qa4=] **21...Kxc3** **22.h7 a2** **23.h8Q a1Q** **24.Qxf6+** Victory in the 24-th game of the second match with Karpov brought Garry Kasparov the title of 13-th World Chess Champion

An excellent study in which one of the White knights plays the main role. White has to get rid of his a- and d-pawn to prepare for the final liquidation into a pawn ending. Timing is very important; White has to be exact in the execution of his plan.

Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.Kf2! [1.Rxd8? Kg3! 2.Nxc5 Nxc5 3.bxc5 Ra7 4.Kf1 Ra1#] **1...Rc8** [1...Rxd6 2.e3+ Ke5 3.f4#] **2.Nxc5!** [2.bxc5? Ke5! 3.Rb6 Ra7 4.d4+ Nxd4 5.Nb4 f4 6.Nd3+ (6.cxd4+ Kxd4 7.Nc6+ Rxc6=) 6...Kf5 7.cxd4 h6!]=] **2...Rxc5** [2...Ke5 3.Nxb7+-] **3.Rb6!** [3.d4? Nxd4 4.cxd4 Rc2!-+] **3...Rxb6** [3...d4 4.bxc5 Nxc5 5.Rxb7 Nxb7 6.cxd4+-] **4.d4 Nxd4 5.e3+ Ke5 6.cxd4+ Kd6 7.bxc5+ Kc6 8.cxb6 Kxb6 9.b4! Kc6 10.Kg3 Kd6 11.Kf4+-** Transition into a pawn endgame in turn: first White, then Black.

Humor in chess! White forces a combination like you will normally see in a game of draughts. The highlight of the study is 3.Rb6! Just like in the 1st prize study White liquidates into a winning pawn ending.

Yuri Bazlov (Russia)

1.Ne4! Rxe4! [1...Qxd5 2.Nfd6+! Ke6 3.exf8N+! Ke5 4.Ng6+ Kd4 5.Rb4+ Kd3 6.Nf4+ Kc2 7.Nxd5+-; 1...Ng6 2.Nfd6+ Kg4 3.Nxd2 Nxe7 4.Rb4+ Kh3 5.Kf7+-] **2.Nd6+ Kg6! 3.Nxe4 Qf4! 4.Rb6+!** [4.exf8N+? Kf5 5.Rb4 Qe5+ 6.Ne6! Qxd5=] **4...Kg7! 5.Kd8!** [5.Nf6? Qa4+! 6.Kd8 Qa5 (6...Qa8+? 7.Kc7 Qa7+ 8.Rb7 Qc5+ 9.Kb8 Qd6+ 10.Kc8 Qc5+ 11.Rc7+-) 7.Ne8+ Kg8=] **5...Qxe4 6.e8N+ Kh8!** [6...Kg8 7.Nf6+-] **7.Rh6+ Kg8!** [7...Nh7 8.Nf6! The position is interesting for its economy. The d5 pawn covers the king from the chess, the knight protects it, and a full exchange of pieces leaves White with a passing pawn. Black can move to the knight endgame 8...Kg7 9.Nxe4 Kxh6 10.d6=; 7...Qh7 8.Rxh7+ Kxh7 9.Ke7 Ng6+ 10.Kf6 Nf4 11.d6+-] **8.Nf6+ Kg7 9.Nxe4! Kxh6 10.d6! Ng6! 11.Kd7!** The king blocks his own passing pawn, preventing it from moving forward. **11...Kg7! 12.Ng5! Kf6! 13.Kc7! Ne5 14.Nf3! Nxf3 15.d7 Ng5 16.d8Q++-** and there is no saving double attack of 14...Nf6+, because the black king is under the check!

A fine example of economy in the endgame study. With precise play, including a knight promotion White manages to dominate Black's queen. The knight ending requires some exact moves.

Michael .Pasman (Israel)

1.Ne6 [1.Bxf5? Rxe7=; 1.Re6? Rxe6 2.Nxe6=] **1...Rf4!** [1...Kxf2 2.Bxf5; 1...Rh5 2.Rf7+-; 1...Rf6 2.Nd4+ Kf4 3.Ne2+-] **2.Ng5+** [2.Nxf4? Rxe7=] **2...Kg4! 3.Bd1+** [3.Rxe5? Rxf2+=] **3...Kxh4 4.Nf3+** [4.Rxe5? Rxf2+ 5.Kg1 c2=] **4...Rxf3 5.Rh7+!** [5.Bxf3? Rxe7=] **5...Kg4** [5...Kg5 6.Bxf3+-] **6.Kg2** [6.Rf7? Ref5=; 6.Rg7+? Kf4 7.Rf7+?? Rf5 8.Rxf5+ Kxf5 9.Bxf3 c2=] **6...Rg5!** [6...c2 7.Bxf3+ Kf4 8.Rh4+-] **7.Rf7! c2!** [7...Kh4+ 8.Kxf3+-] **8.Bxf3+ Kh4+ 9.Kh2 Rg2+!** [9...c1Q 10.Rh7+-; 9...Rc5 10.Rh7+ Kg5 11.Rh5+-] **10.Kxg2 c1Q 11.Rf5! Qh6 12.Rh5+-** A slugfest of strokes and counterstrokes. Well constructed.

Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.Kh2! [1.Rg4? fxg5 2.Kg3 Kh6=] **1...a2** [1...fxg5 2.Rh3#; 1...f5 2.Rg4! fxg4 3.f4 Qh6 4.Rh1 Qxg5 5.Kg3+ Qh4+ 6.Rxh4#] **2.Rh1!** [2.Kg1? Rb8! 3.Rh3+ Kxg5 4.Rxh7 Rxb4 5.Kf2 Rb1 6.Rhh1 a1Q=] **2...a1Q 3.Rxa1 f5 4.Rg4!** [4.Rh1? Kh4!+=; 4.Kg1? Qg7-+] **4...fxg4 5.f4 Ra8! 6.Rh1! Ra3 7.d3!** [Logical try 7.g3? Ra1 8.Rxa1 f5 9.Rh1 Qb7 10.b5 Qxh1+ 11.Kxh1 d5 12.b6 d4 13.b7 d3 14.b8Q stalemate.] **7...Rxd3 8.g3 Rd1 9.Rxd1 f5 10.Rh1 Qb7 11.b5 Qf3 12.Kg1+ Qxh1+ 13.Kxh1 d5 14.b6 d4 15.b7 d3 16.b8Q d2 17.Qh8#** After A.Wotawa, Deutsche Schachzeitung 1962.

A clear improvement on Wotawa's study. White has to manoeuvre to get a mating attack in place. Wotawa had the logical try as well, but Didukh implemented it better.



M. Gromov & O. Pervakov
4th Honorable Mention



Win

Eduard Eilazyan
5th Honorable Mention



Win

Daniele Gatti
Sp. Honorable Mention



Win

Poul Rewitz (Denmark)

1.Kb5 [1.Kxc3? Kxa6 2.Kd3 Nf2+ 3.Ke2 Ne4= (3...Ng4? 4.Bg5+-)] **1...Be1** [1...Nf2 2.Be3+-; 1...Bd4 2.Ne7 (or 2.Nh4) 2...Kb7 3.Nf5+-] **2.Ne7** [2.Nc5? Bg3=; 2.Be3+? Kb7=] **2...Bg3** [2...Ng3 3.Nc6+ Kb7 (3...Ka8 4.Kb6 Bf2+ 5.Kc7 Ne2 6.Kc8+-) 4.Nc5+ Kc8 5.Na7+! Kd8 6.Nd3 Ne2 7.Bg5+-; 2...Bf2 3.Nf5+-] **3.Bd6!!** zz [3.Be3+ Kb7 4.Bb6 Bf2 (4...Bd6? 5.Nf5 Bh2 6.Nc5+-) 5.Nc5+ Bxc5=] **3...Bxd6** [3...Kb7 4.Nf5! Bxd6 5.Nxd6+ Ka7 6.Nb4 Nf2 7.Nc6+ Ka8 8.Kb6+-] **4.Nc8+ Ka8** [or 4...Kb7 5.Nxd6+ Ka7] **5.Nxd6 Ka7 6.Nb4 Nf2 7.Nc6+ Ka8 8.Kb6+-**
A fine miniature. The reciprocal zugzwang after White's 3rd move is amazing.

Petromir Panaiotov (Bulgaria)

1.Ne4! [1.Rxg6? c4+! (1...Bxa2 2.Nh7+ Kxh5 3.Nxf8+-; 1...Qd8+ 2.Ke2 Bxa2 3.Nf7+! Kxh5 4.Rxh6+ Kg4 5.Nxd8+-) 2.Ke2 hxg5 3.f3+ Kxh5 4.Qa6 Bd5 5.Rf6 Qg7 6.Qd6 e4 7.fxe4 Qa7=] **1...Qf5 2.Rxg6+ Qxg6! 3.f3+** [3.Qxg8? Qxg8 4.Nf6+ Kf3! 5.Nxg8 e4+ 6.Kc3 Kxf2 7.Nxh6 e3 8.Ng4+ Kf1 9.Nh2+ Ke2 10.h6 Kf2! 11.h7 e2 12.Ng4+ Kf1 13.h8Q e1Q+ 14.Kb2 Qb4+=] **3...Kf5!** [3...Kxf3 4.hxg6 Bxa2 5.Nd2+ Kf2 6.c4+-; 3...Kxh5 4.Qxg8 Qxg8 5.Nf6+ Kg5 6.Nxg8 h5 7.Ne7 h4 8.Ke2 h3 9.Kf2 e4 10.fxe4 Kf6 11.Nc6!+-] **4.Qa8! Qa6+!** [4...Qe6 5.Qf8+ Bf7 6.Ke2 Qc4+ 7.Ke1 Qb4+ 8.Kf2 Qd4+ 9.Kg2 Ke6 10.Qxh6+-; 4...Bc4+ 5.Kc3! Qxh5 6.Nd6+ Ke6 7.Nxc4+-] **5.Qxa6 Bc4+ 6.Kd2!** [6.Kxc4= stalemate; 6.Qxc4= Stalemate idea from recent Gurgenedze study. Here it has a flaw.] **6...Bxa6 7.Ke1!+-** Domination over the black bishop.[7.c4? Bxc4! 8.Nd6+ Kg5 9.Nxc4 Kxh5=]
An interesting mix of different themes. Stalemate avoidance is followed up by domination.

Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.Kg2! [1.Re2? Kh6! (1...Bb6? 2.Rh2 Bxe3+ 3.Nf2#) 2.Nxg5 Bb6!+-] **1...Qf7** [1...Rd4 2.Qxd4+-; 1...Kh6 2.Nxg5 Kg7 3.Rh1 Rh6 4.Rxh6 Kxh6 5.Ne6+ Kh7 6.Qh3+ Kg8 7.Qg4+ Kh7 8.Qg7#] **2.Rh1 Qd5+** [2...Qxf5 3.Nf4+-] **3.Kg1!** [3.Kg3? Qxh1 4.Qxe5 Bc7! 5.Qe8+ (5.Qh8+ Rh6+) 5...Rg6+!+-] **3...Bb6 4.d4!!** [Logical try 4.Rh2? Kg4 5.Nf2+ Kxf5 6.Qh3+ Kf6 7.Qh7 e4 8.c4 Qd4! 9.Rh6+ Ke5=] **4...Bxd4 5.Rh2 Kg4** [5...Kh6 6.Nf2+ Kg7 7.Qxg5+-; 5...Bxe3+ 6.Nf2#] **6.Nf2+ Kxf5 7.Qh3+ Kf6 8.Qh7! e4** [8...Qf7 9.Rh6+ Ke7 10.Qxf7+ Kxf7 11.Rxd6+-] **9.c4! Qxc4 10.Rh6+ Ke5 11.Qxe4#**

A nice study. Both 4.d4!! and 9.c4!! are great moves, preparing the final mate. It is a pity that Black's rook doesn't play an active role.

Michael Gromov & Oleg Pervakov (Russia)

1.d7 Qg8! Queen want b3-square **2.Bd2!** [Logical try 2.Bc1? Ke7 3.Nd5+!? Qxd5 4.Ne4!? Qxe4 5.g8N+ Kd8! 6.Bg5+ Kxd7 7.Nf6+ Ke6 8.Nxe4 Kf5=; Try 2.Ne4+? Kxg7 3.Bg5 Qb3! 4.Bc1 Qc4! 5.Bxa3 Qc7 6.Nc5!? Qxc5 7.d8Q Qc3+ 8.Ka2 Qc4+ 9.Kb1 Qb3+ 10.Bb2 Qxb4=; 2.Nc6? dxe3 3.d8Q+ Qxd8 4.Nxd8 Kxg7=] **2...Ke7 3.Nd5+!** [3.Ne4? Qxg7 4.Nc5 Qg2=; 3.Nh7? Qxg7 4.Nf6 Qg1+! 5.Ka2 Qg2=] **3...Qxd5 4.Ne4! Qxe4** [4...Qc4 5.Bg5+ Kxd7 6.g8Q! Qxg8 7.Nf6+ Ke6 8.Nxg8+-; 4...Qb3 5.Bg5+ Kxd7 6.Nc5+-] **5.g8N+! Kd8!** [5...Kf7 6.d8Q Qh1+ 7.Ka2 Qg2 8.Nh6+ Ke6 9.Qe8+-] **6.Ba5+!** [6.Bg5+? Kxd7 7.Nf6+ Ke6 8.Nxe4 Kf5=] **6...Kxd7 7.Nf6+-**

It is a well known theme by Gromov and Pervakov: the domination of the Black queen by minor pieces. The study is well constructed, but there are no surprises.

Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine)

1.c5! Bb7+ [1...b4 2.c6 b3 3.Bb1 Bc8 4.Bxa7 Kb5 5.c7 Kc6 6.Bb8+-] **2.Ke2** [2.Kf4? b4! 3.Be6 Bc6 4.Bd4 b3 5.Bxf6 Ka3=] **2...b4 3.Bf7!** [Try 3.Be6? b3! 4.Bd7+ Ka3 5.c6 Ba6+ 6.Kd2 b2 7.Bc5+ Kb3! 8.Bf5 Bc8! 9.Be4 Be6! 10.c7 a5 11.Bd5+ Bxd5 12.c8Q b1Q=] **3...b3 4.Be8+ Ka3 5.c6 Ba6+** [5...Bc8 6.Bc5+!] **6.Kd2 b2 7.Bc5+ Kb3** [7...Ka2 8.Bf7+! Ka1 9.Bd4+-] **8.Bg6** [8.Bf7+ Ka4 9.Kc2 Kb5=] **8...f5** [8...Bc8 9.c7! a5 10.Bf7+!+-] **9.Bxf5 Bc8!** The black bishop is sacrificed to distract the white bishop from the pawn promotion square. **10.Bh7!** [Try: 10.Be4? Be6! 11.c7 a5! 12.Bd5+ Bxd5 13.c8Q b1Q=; 10.Bg6? Be6 11.c7 a5 12.Bf7 Bxf7 13.c8Q b1Q 14.Qb7+ Ka2 15.Qxf7+ Qb3=] **10...Be6 11.c7 a5 12.Bg8!** The counter sacrifice of the white bishop, carried out with a similar purpose. Theme: changing the functions of pieces. **12...Bxg8 13.c8Q b1Q 14.Qxg8+-** and wins, for example **14...Kb2 15.Qc4 Qa2 16.Qc2+ Ka1 17.Bd4+ Qb2 18.Qxb2#**

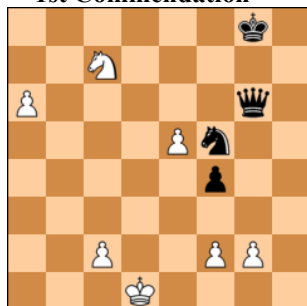
The study is special for the bishop moves 3.Bf7! and 10. Bh7!

Daniele Gatti (Italy)

1.Bf4+! [1.e8N+? Kd7! 2.Ra7+ Kxe8 3.Ra8+ Kd7 4.Ra7+ Ke8=] **1...Rxf4! 2.Nf5+!** [2.e8N+?? Kd5! 3.e4+ dxe3 4.0-0-0+ Rd4 5.Nxd4 Qxd4 6.Nc7+ Ke5 7.Ng4+ Qxg4 8.fxg4 Ng3 9.Nd5 e2-+] **2...Rxf5 3.e8N+ Kd5** [3...Kd7 4.Ra7+ Kxe8 5.Rxg7+- That's the reason of 1. Bf4+ sacrifice] **4.e4+ dxe3** [4...Ke6 5.Nxg7+-] **5.0-0-0+!** [5.Rd1+? Ke6 6.Nxg7+ Kf7 7.Ke2 Kxg7 8.Rg1 Rg5 9.Nd4 Kf6=] **5...Qd4 6.Rxd4+** [6.Nc7+ Kd6 7.Nxd4 Rh5=] **6...Ke6 7.Nc7+ Kf6 8.Rg4 Rxf3 9.Nd5+ Ke6 10.Nd4+-**

A succesful Valladaotask!

Vladislav Tarasiuk
1st Commendation



Win

Oleg Pervakov
2nd Com Dedicate to Lena Novoselskaya



Win

Michael Pasman
3rd Commendation



Win

Eduard Eilazyan
4th Com. Dedicated to G. Kasparov



Win

Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine)

1.a7 Ne3+! [1...Qxg2 2.a8Q+ Qxa8 3.Nxa8 Kf7 4.Nc7 Ke7 5.Kd2 Kd7 6.Nd5 Ke6 7.Nxf4+-] **2.fxe3 Qh5+!** [2...Qg4+ 3.Kc1 Qxg2 4.a8Q+ (4.e4?? Qg1+-) 4...Qxa8 5.Nxa8 f3 6.Kd1 (d2) 6...f2 7.Ke2+-] **3.Kc1!** [3.Kd2? fxe3+ 4.Kxe3 Qxe5+-] **3...Qh1+ 4.Kb2 Qxg2 5.e4!!** [Logical try: 5.a8Q+? Qxa8 6.Nxa8 f3! 7.e6 f2 8.e7 Kf7

9.Nc7 Kxe7 10.Nd5+ Ke6-+ (Position X with pawn e3)] **5...Qxe4 6.a8Q+ Qxa8 7.Nxa8 f3 8.e6!** [8.Nc7? f2 9.e6 f1Q 10.e7 Qf6+--+)] **8...f2 9.e7 Kf7** [9...f1Q 10.e8Q+--+)] **10.Nc7! Kxe7 11.Nd5+ Ke6** (Position X without pawn e3) **12.Ne3** win.

Oleg Pervakov (Russia) - Dedicate to Lena Novoselskaya

1.Na4+! [1.Bc1? Nb2! 2.Bg5 Nd3=] **1...Kb4** [1...Kd3 2.Bc1+>] **2.Bd2+** [2.Bc1? Kxa4 3.Kb6 Kb4 4.Bd2+ Nc3!]=] **2...Kxa4 3.Kb6** [3.Bb3+? Kb5 4.Bxc2 Nc3=] **3...Nc3 4.Bxc3** [4.Bb3+? Kb4 5.Bxc2 Kc4! 6.Bb3+ Kd3 7.Bc1 a4 8.Bf7 Kc2=] **4...dxc3 5.Kc5!** [5.Bb3+? Kb4 6.Bxc2 c5! 7.Kc6 Kc4 8.Kd6 Kd4=] **5...c1N Phoenix 6.Bg6 Nb3+ 7.Kc4 Nd2+ 8.Kxc3 Nf3** [8...Nf1 9.Bc2+ Kb5 10.Bd3+] **9.Be4 Ne5 10.Kd4! Ng4** [10...Nd7 11.Bxc6+] **11.Kc5 Ne5 12.Bc2#** [12.Bf5? Nd3+ 13.Bxd3= Karen Sumbatyan's commentary: The wife is the principal enemy of the endgame study. She can hardly watch the head of the family meditating over chess instead of bringing home the bacon. Any time my wife Lena sees the chessboard squares and chess pieces, she cannot help grunting: b6 - a4 again? I'm used to this strange question from a person who has never played chess, but the other day it dawned on me: this is a knight's move! Oleg could not give this finding a miss and dedicates the study with a fateful first move in Lena's life at her birthday. Lena loves Oleg very much, makes fun of his love stories, but not of poetry - she enjoys it. There is only one thing she cannot understand - drinking vodka for breakfast.]

Michael .Pasman (Israel)

1.Bf4! [1.Bd8? Nc2=; 1.Ke4? Nc2=] **1...Nc2** [1...Kb7 2.Bg5+--] **2.Bd2!** Bishop on knight domination [2.Bg5? Ne1=] **2...Kb6** [2...Kb5 3.e4 as main] **3.e3!!** zz Festina Lente, mutual zugzwang ! [3.Kc4? Na3+; 3.e4? Kc7=] **3...Kb5** [3...Kc7 4.Kc4!+-] **4.e4! Kb6 5.e5** [5.Ke6? Kc5! 6.Kxe7 Kd4=] **5...Kc7 6.Ke6 Kd8 7.Kf7 Kd7 8.e6+ Kd6 9.Bc3!** [9.Bf4+? Kd5 10.Kxe7 Nd4=; 9.Bg5? Nd4 10.Bxe7+ Kd5=] **9...Ne3 10.Bb4+ Kd5 11.Bxe7!** [Thematic try : 11.Kxe7? Nxe2 12.Kd7 h3 13.Bd6 Ne3! 14.e7 Ng4! 15.Be5! Kxe5! (15...Nxe5+ 16.Kc7=) 16.e8Q+ Kf4! 17.Qb8+ (17.Qa8 Kg3 18.Ke6 h2; 17.Ke6 h2 18.Qb8+ Kf3=) 17...Kf3= 18.Qb3+ Kg2=] **11...Nxe2 12.Bg5! h3 13.Bf4!** [13.e7? h2=] **13...Nxf4 14.e7 h2 15.e8Q+-** Excelsior with Festina Lente **15...h1Q 16.Qa8+**

Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine) - Dedicated to Garry Kasparov

1.d7! [1.gxf6? Qe4+ 2.Qc2 Qxc2+ 3.Kxc2 Kxf6 4.e7 Kf7 5.Nh4 Bg5 6.Ng6 Bf6=] **1...Nxd7** [1...Ne4 2.d8Q! Nd2+ 3.Qxd2 Bxd2 4.e7 Qe2 5.Qf3+ Qxf3 6.Nh4+--+; 1...Qe4+ 2.Qc2! Nd5 3.Ne3+! Bxe3 4.Qxe4+ Kxe4 5.d8Q Bc1 6.Qxd5+ Kxd5 7.e7 Bxg5 8.e8Q+-] **2.e7!** [2.exd7? Qe4+ 3.Qc2 Qxc2+ 4.Kxc2 Bxg5-+] **2...Qh5** [2...Qxg2 3.Qf7+ Nf6 4.e8Q+-] **3.Qf3+!** Queen sacrifice [Try: 3.Qd3+? Kxg5! 4.Ne3 Nf6! 5.Qf5+ Kh6! 6.Ng4+ Qxg4 7.Qxg4 Nxe4 8.e8Q=] **3...Qxf3 4.Nh4+ Kxg5** [4...Kg4 5.Nxf3 Kxf3 6.e8Q Nc5 7.Qf8+ Kg4 8.Qxc5+-] **5.Nxf3+ Kf4 6.e8Q** Phoenix theme **6...Nf6 7.Qe2!** White must save the knight to win! [7.Qxc6? Ne4! 8.Kc2 Kxf3=] **7...Ne4! 8.Qd3! c5 9.Kc2!** [9.Qb3? g5 10.Qf7+ Kg3 11.Kc2 Nc3 12.Nd2 Bxd2 13.Kxb2 Ne4=] **9...c4 10.Qf1!** [10.Qd1? b1Q+ 11.Kxb1 Nc3+; 10.Qe2? b1Q+ 11.Kxb1 Nc3+--+] **10...Kg3 11.Qh1!** [11.Nd4? b1Q+ 12.Kxb1 Nd2+ 13.Kxc1 Nxf1=] **11...Nf2** [11...Kf2 12.Nh4 Nd2 13.Qh2+ Ke3 14.Qe5+ Kf2 15.Kd1 b1Q 16.Qe1#; 11...g5 12.Nd4 Nd2 13.Ne2+ Kg4 14.Nc3+-] **12.Qh5! g6 13.Qd5!+-** Reincarnation theme: a Queen is sacrificed for the sake of a new Queen! There are 13 pieces and 13 moves in the study.13 is Kasparov's number.

Arnhem, May '23 2023

**Jan Timman
Judge**

Section B.2 (Draw)

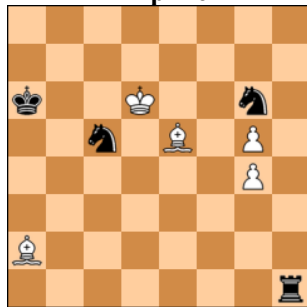
UAPA award:

General remarks.

The level of the tournament was in my opinion good and equal. Therefore I propose all honorable mentions ex. aequo as well as all commendations ex. aequo.

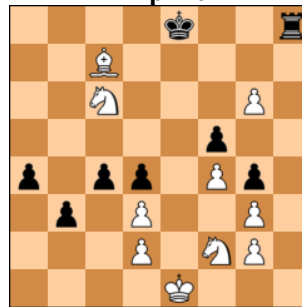
Some composers don't explain why a particular move is the best. For example in one study the author gives double exclamation marks in few moves (what suggest that those moves are unexpected) and does not reveal other possibilities (what suggest that the move is only sensible). This is a contradiction.

M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
1-2 prize



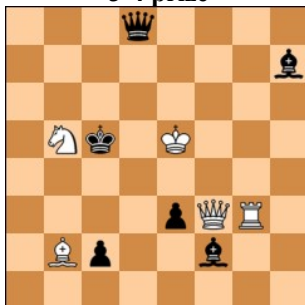
Draw

Serhiy Didukh
1-2 prize



Draw

Andrzej Jasik
3-4 prize



Draw

Eduard Eilazyan
3-4 prize



Draw

Alain Pallier
5th prize



BTM Draw

(12) Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1.Bc4+ [1.Bd4? Ne4+ 2.Ke6 Nxe5+ 3.Kf5 Nh4+ 4.Kxg5 Nf3+-+ fork; 1.Kxc5? Nxe5 2.Kd6 Nxe4+-] 1...Ka5!
2.Bc3+ [2.Bf6? Ne4+ 3.Ke6 Kb4 4.Ba2 Rf1 5.Kf7 Ne5+ 6.Ke6 Nxe4+-; 2.Bd4? Ne4+ 3.Ke6 Kb4+-] 2...Kb6
[2...Ka4 3.Kxc5=] 3.Bd4 pin 3...Rd1 pin 4.Bd5! unpin 4...Nf4 [4...Rxd4 model stalemate; 4...Rc1 5.Bf7 Rd1
6.Bd5=] 5.Bxc5+ selfpin of Bd5 5...Kb5 6.Bd4! switchback, unpin of Bd5 [6.Ke5? Nxe5+-] 6...Rxd4 pin 7.Ke5
unpin 7...Kc5 [7...Rxd5+ 8.Kxf4 Kc6 9.g6 Rd8 10.Kf5 Kd6 11.Kf6 Rf8+ 12.Kg5 Ke7 13.g7 Rg8 14.Kg6 Ke6

15.g5=; 7...Ra4 8.Be4=] **8.Be4!** [8.Bf7? Nd3+ 9.Kf5 (9.Kf6 Rf4+ 10.Ke7 Rxc4 11.g6 Nf4 12.Kf6 Nh5+-) 9...Kd6 10.g6 Rf4+ 11.Kg5 Ke7-+] **8...Ne6 9.Kxe6 Rxe4+ 10.Kf5** [10.Kf6? Rf4+ 11.Ke6 Rxc4-+] **10...Re1** [10...Kd5 11.g6=] **11.g6** [11.Kf6? Kd6-+] **11...Kd6 12.g7 =**

An interesting study with numerous pins and unpins of white and black and with an additional motif of a pin stalemate. The study can be called "*Dithyramb in honor of the pinning*"

(21) Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.Be5! White lets the black pawn promote. [After 1.Kd1? a3 2.g7 (2.Be5 c3! 3.dxc3 a2) 2...Rg8 3.Nxd4 a2 4.Nxb3 cxb3 5.Be5 Kf7 6.Kc1 the rook forces the bishop into the a1-corner 6...Ra8! (not 6...Rc8+? 7.Kb2 Ra8 8.Kxb3! a1Q 9.Bxa1 Rxa1 10.Kc2 Rg1 11.Nd1=) 7.Ba1 and prevents its incarceration by the king 7...Re8! (7...Rc8+? 8.Kb2 Rc2+ 9.Kxb3 Rxd2 10.Nh3!)=) 8.Kd1 (8.Nd1 Re1-+) 8...Rc8 9.d4 Rc2 10.Nd3 Kxc7 11.Ke2 b2 12.Nxb2 Rc1-+] **1...b2 2.Bxh8 b1Q+ 3.Nd1** [3.Ke2? c3! 4.g7 Qa2!-+] **3...Qxd3 4.g7!** [4.Nxd4? Qxc3+-; 4.Bxd4? Qe4+ 5.Ne3 Qxc6-+] **4...Kf7!** [4...Qxc3+? 5.Nf2 Kf7 6.Ne7+-; 4...Qe4+ 5.Ne3! Kf7 6.Nxd4=] **5.Ne5+ Kg8 6.Nxd3 cxd3** and it's a 3-mover by Albert Renn (1969) **7.Nf2 a3 8.Nh1! a2 9.Kf2 a1Q=** stalemate. Bishop and Knight failed in the try, so White put them in the corners like teachers do with bad pupils.

A very original rescue plan. An interaction a bishop in one corner. and a knight in the other. "*Bishop and Knight failed in the try, so White put them in the corners like teachers do with bad pupils*" (author).

(7) Andrzej Jasik (Poland)

1.Rg7! [1.Ba3+? Kxb5 2.Rg7 Qe8+ 3.Kd6 e.g. 3...Qb8+ 4.Rc7 Qd8+ 5.Rd7 Qb6+ 6.Ke5 Qb8+ 7.Ke6 Qe8+ 8.Re7 Qc8+ 9.Kd6 Qa6+ 10.Ke5 Bg3+ 11.Qxc3 Qxa3-+; 1.Kf4? c1Q 2.Bxc1 Qh4+-+] **1...c1Q!** [1...Qe8+ 2.Kf4 Qf8+ 3.Kg4 Qxc7+ 4.Bxc7 c1Q 5.Nd4 Qg1+ 6.Kh3=] **2.Bxc1 Qe8+ 3.Kf6!** [3.Kf4? Qf8+ 4.Kg4 Qxc7+μ] **3...Qf8+ 4.Rf7 Bh4+** [4...Qd8+ 5.Ke6 Qe8+ 6.Re7 Qc8+ 7.Rd7 Bg8+ 8.Ke5 Qxd7 9.Bxe3+ Bxe3 10.Qxe3+=] **5.Ke5! Qe8+ 6.Kf4 Qxf7+ 7.Kg4 Qe4+** [7...Bf6 8.Bxe3+ Kxb5 9.Bg5=] **8.Nd4!** [8.Kh5? e2 9.Bd2 Kxb5μ] **8...Qxd4+** [8...e2 9.Qxe2 Qxd4+ 10.Bf4=] **9.Kh5! Bf2! 10.Bxe3! Qxe3** [10...Bxe3 11.Qc6+! Kxc6 Stalemate] **11.Qf5+! Bxf5** Stalemate
A sharp spectacular play with two model picturesque stalemates.

(28) Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine)

1.c7! [1.cxd7 Ba5-+] **1...c1Q** [1...Rf3+ 2.Kxc2 Rxa3 3.c8Q Ng6=] **2.Nxc1 Rf3+ 3.Kd4!** [3.Ke2? Rc3 4.Bxe7+ Kg4 5.Nb3 Rxc7 6.Kxe1 Kf3-+] **3...Bc3+** [3...Rc3 4.Bc5 d6 5.c8Q e5+ 6.Kd5 Rxc5+ 7.Qxc5 dxc5 8.Nd3 Bc3 9.Nxe5=] **4.Kd5** [4.Kc4? Ba5-+] **4...e6+ 5.Kd6! Be5+! 6.Kxe5** [6.Kxd7? Bxc7 7.Bb2 Rf7+ 8.Kxe6 Rh7-+] **6...Nf7+ 7.Kd4 e5+** [7...Rxa3 8.c8Q e5+ 9.Kd5! Ra5+ 10.Qc5 Rxc5+ 11.Kxc5=] **8.Kd5!** [8.Kc4? Rxa3 9.c8Q Nd6+ 10.Kb4 Nxc8 11.Kxa3 Kg4-+] **8...Rc3 9.Bc5 Rxc1 10.c8Q Rd1+ 11.Bd4!** [11.Kc4? Nd6+ 12.Bxd6 Rc1+ 13.Kd5 Rxc8 14.Bxe5 Rc6-+] **11...Rxd4+ 12.Kc5 Rc4+ 13.Kd5!** [13.Kxc4? Nd6+ 14.Kd5 Nxc8-+] **13...Rxc8** stalemate[13...Rxe4 14.Qf8! Rd4+ 15.Kc5 d6+ 16.Kc6= (EGTB)]

A very sharp and fine play of both sides leads to interesting stalemate position. The stalemate is not model but all white and black pieces (except BK) participate in the stalemate position. It is my opinion more important. (compare comments to 5, 11 and 10).

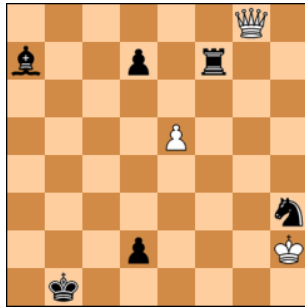
(20) Alain Pallier (France)

1...Nd5+! [1...e1Q 2.Rf5=] **2.Kb7! e1Q 3.Rf5!** [3.Rf7? Qg2! 4.Rh7+ Kg1 5.Nf3+ Kf2 6.Rxc2+ Kxf3-+] **3...Nf4!** [3...Qg2 4.Rxc2+ Kxc2 5.Rxd5=] **4.Nf3+!** [4.Rh6+? Kg2 5.Rg5+ Kf2 /Qg3-+] **4...Kh3! 5.Ng1+!** [5.Nxd2? Nxc6-+] **5...Qxc1 6.Rxc1 Qf2** [6...Qe3 7.Rfg5=] **7.Rh1+!** [7.Rb1? Qg2+ 8.Kc7 Qc2+-; 7.Rf7? Kh2 8.Rg6 Qf3+-; 7.Rfg5? Kh2! 8.Nf6 d2 9.Rb1 Qe1 10.Ng4+ Kg3 11.Ne3+ Kf3 12.Rb3 Ke2-+] **7...Kg2 8.Rb1! Qc2** [8...Qe3 9.Nf6 d2 10.Rfb5 Qd3 11.Rg5+ Kf2 12.Rgg1=] **9.Rb4!** [9.Rfb5? d2 10.Kb8 d1Q 11.Rxd1 Qxd1 12.Rg5+ Kf3 13.b7 Qa4-+; 9.Rg5+? Kf2 10.Rgb5 d2 11.Kb8 d1Q 12.Rxd1 Qxd1-+] **9...d2! 10.Rbxf4! d1Q 11.Nf6** [11.Rg5+? Kh3! 12.Nf6 Qh1+-+] **11...Qde2! 12.Kb8!** [12.Rg5+? Kh3 13.Kb8 b4 14.Rxb4 Qf3-+] **12...Kg3 13.b7! b4 14.Ka7** [14.Nh5+? Kh3 15.Rf3+ Kg2-+; 14.Rf1? b3-+] **14...Qe3+** [14...Qa2+ 15.Kb8 Qae6 (15...Qac2 16.Ka7 Qa2+ 17.Kb8= draw positional n~/=1) 16.Ka8 Q6e3 17.Ne4+ Qxe4 18.Rxe4 Qxe4 19.Rb5=] **15.Kb8 Qee2** [15...Qxf4 16.Nh5+! Kh2 17.Rxf4 b3 18.Rh4+!]=] **16.Ka7 Qa4+** [16...Qe3+ draw positional n~/=2 17.Kb8] **17.Kb8 Qac2** [17...d5 18.Rd4! Qa1 19.Nh5+ /Rb4=] **18.Ka7 Qa4+ 19.Kb8=** draw positional n~/=3

Twice black has 2 queens on the chessboard, but white effectively neutralize them. A very original idea and despite the heavy position a very good study (a little flaw - BTM).

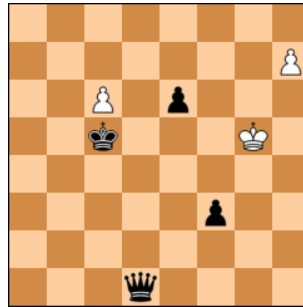
Honourable Mentions

Serhiy Didukh
Honorable Mention



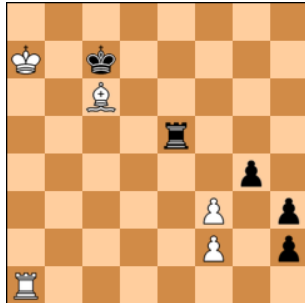
Draw

Pavel Arestov
Honorable Mention



Draw

Jan Timman.
Honorable Mention



Draw

Serhiy Didukh
Honorable Mention



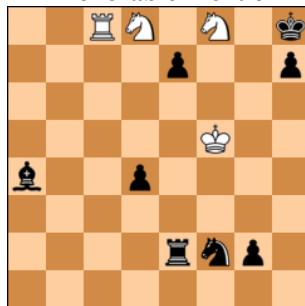
Draw

I. Bondar & M. Kramtsevich
Honorable Mention



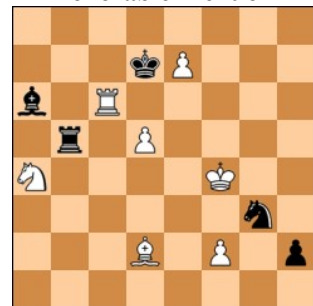
Draw

Alexander Stavrietsky
Honorable Mention



Draw

Yuri Bazlov
Honorable Mention



Draw

(5) Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

Black could win here without his knight, but he can't win with it. **1.Qg4 Bg1+**! The guilty man is forced to leave the board. But the move of the bishop to the other edge has a drawback that will save White later. [Knight can work to pay his debt 1...Nf2 2.Qb4+ Kc1 3.Qc4+ Kd1 and it's a perpetual because the clumsy man interefed with the rook! 4.Qf1+! Kc2 5.Qc4+] **2.Kxh3 Rh7+ 3.Kg2! Rg7 4.Qxg7 d1Q 5.e6! dxe6 6.Qg6+ Qc2+** The plan to win the last black pawn ran into the counter check. White swithes to his plan B. **7.Kh1! Kc1** [7...Qxg6 stalemate.; 7...e5 8.Qb6+! Bxb6 stalemate.] **8.Qg5+** [8.Qxe6? Qh2#] **8...Qd2 9.Qc5+! Bxc5** stalemate. Model stalemates with the change of control over g1 and h2 squares by Queen and Bishop.

Sharp play leads to interesting but simple stalemate positions - flaw is that e6 pawn not participating in stalemates.

(11) Pavel Arestov (Russia)

1.h8Q Qd2+! [1...f2 2.Qf8+ /c3 2...Kxc6 3.Qxf2=; 1...Qg1+ 2.Kf4 f2 3.Qe5+! Kb6 4.Qe3+ Kc7 5.Qe5+ Kxc6 6.Qxe6+=] **2.Kg4 f2** [2...Qg2+ 3.Kf4 f2 4.Qc3+! Kd6 (4...Kb6 5.Qb3+ Kxc6 6.Qxe6+=) 5.Qa3+!]=] **3.Qf8+** [3.Qf6? Qd1+ /e2-+; 3.c7? Qd1+! 4.Kg3 Qg1+--+] **3...Kxc6 4.Qf3+!** [4.Qc8+? Kb5! 5.Qb7+ Kc4-+; 4.Kg3 Qd6+! 5.Qxd6+ Kxd6-+] **4...Kd6!** [4...Kc5 5.Kg3 Kd4 6.Qf6+ /g4=; 4...Qd5 5.Qxf2=] **5.Kg3 Qe3!!** pin [5...Ke5 6.Qh5+! Kd4 7.Qg4+ Kc3 (7...Kd3 8.Kg2=) 8.Qg7+ Qd4 9.Qc7+ Kd2 10.Kg2 e5 11.Qa5+ Ke3 12.Qa3+=] **6.Kh2!!** unpin A) [6.Qxe3? f1N+! 7.Kf4 Nxe3 8.Kxe3 Ke5!-+] **6...Qe5+!** [B] 6...Ke7! 7.Qb7+ (7.Qxe3? f1N+!-+) 7...Kf6 8.Qf3+ (8.Qb2+? Qe5+--+; 8.Kg2? Qe2-+) 8...Qxf3 model stalemate ? 2.(8...Ke7 9.Qb7+= positional draw)] **7.Kg2 Qd5** pin **8.Kf1** unpin [8.Kxf2? Qxf3+ 9.Kxf3 Kd5!-+] **8...Qxf3** model stalemate ?

Pins, unpins and two stalemates (not specially attractive). A flaw is similar as in 5 - e6 pawn does not participate in stalemates.

(14) Jan Timman (Ntherlands)

1.Bb7! [1.fxg4? Kxc6 2.Rc1+ Rc5 3.Rh1 Ra5+ 4.Kb8 Rb5+ 5.Kc8 (5.Ka8 Rb2 6.Rxh2 Kc7-+) 5...Rg5 (or 5...Rb4-+)] **1...g3** [Main- 1...Ra5+ 2.Rxa5 h1Q (2...g3 3.Rc5+ Kd6 4.Kb6 transposes to the other main lines) 3.Rc5+ Kd6 4.Rd5+ Ke6 5.Re5+! Kf6 (5...Kxe5 6.f4+=) 6.Rf5+! Kg6 7.Rg5+! Kh6 8.Rh5+!]=] **2.Rc1+!** [2.fxg3? Ra5+ 3.Rxa5 h1Q-+] **2...Rc5! 3.Rxc5+ Kd6 4.Kb6! g2** [Main- 4...h1Q 5.Rc6+ Kd7 6.Rc7+ Ke6 7.Rc6+ Kf5 (7...Ke5? 8.f4+!+-) 8.Rc5+ Kf4 9.Rc4+=] **5.Rd5+!** [5.Rc6+? Ke5 6.Rc5+ Kd4-+] **5...Ke6 6.Kc7! g1Q 7.Rd6+ Ke7 8.Rd7+ Kf6 9.Rd6+ Kg5 10.Rd5+ Kh4 11.Rd4+=** In the 3 main lines the White rook gives perpetual in 3 different ways: Horizontally on the 5th rank Vertically on the c- and d-file.

Interesting sharp and difficult play and the key role of the B-R battery.

(22) Serhiy Didukh (Ukraine)

1.Bd5! [1.Rh5? Bxd6 2.Bxf6 Bg3+ 3.Kf1 Qd1+ 4.Kg2 Qg1#; 1.Rxf6+? Kg8! 2.Bd5 Bxd6-+] **1...Bxd6 2.Bxf6! Bg3+** [2...Kg8?? 3.Rh5 Bg3+ 4.Kf1+- - the d-file is closed.; 2...Qxc7 3.Bxe7+! Kg7 4.Rf7+ Kg8 (4...Kxg6 5.Be4+) 5.Rf8+ Kg7 6.Rf7+= perpetual.] **3.Kf1 h1Q+ 4.Bxh1 Qd1+ 5.Kg2 Bxc7 6.Bh8+! Ke8 7.Rf8+ Kxf8 8.g7+ Kg8=** stalemate. Incarceration of two bishops.

The idea of blocking two bishops for stalemate i not original.

[e.g. A. Hurtig, 2.p Schackvärlden, FEN 1b1r2n1/Pkp3pP/1P4Pn/Q5pK/8/3b4/8/2q5

1. a8=B+ Kc8 2. b7+ Kd7 3. Qd5+ Ke7 4. Qe5+ Kf8 5. Qxg7+ \$1 Kxg7 6. h8=B+ Kf8 7. g7+ Ke7 stalemate.

V. Pomogalov, Lubitelskie Shakhmatny Kompozitsii, FEN 1n1b1Bb1/PkP2prP/pPnPp1Pp/2P4K/5q2/8/1Q6/8 (incorrect) 1. a8B+ Kc8 2. b7 Kd7 3. c8B+ Ke8 4.d7 Kxf8 (cook 4... Sxd7) 5. Qxg7+ Kxg7 6. h8=B+ Kf8 7. g7+ Ke7 stalemate.]

In both older studies bishops are promoted(!), but the play is very forced (checks only). In 22 the play is much more subtle and the study is in my opinion original.

(23) Ivan Bondar & Mikhail, Kramtsevich (Bielorrussia)

1.b5! [1.d7? Nf7-+; 1.Ne7+? Ke6!-+] **1...Ra8 2.d7** [2.Ne7+? Ke6!-+] **2...Nf7 3.Nxc4 Rxc4** [3...Ke6 4.Ne5! Rf5 5.Nxf7=] **4.d8Q! Nxd8 5.Nd6+ Ke6 6.Nxc4 Rc8 7.Bf6!!** An alluring victim [7.Ba5? Nb7! 8.Nb6 Rc5!-+] **7...Kxf6 8.Nb6! Rb8** [8...Rc7 9.Nd5+ Ke5 10.Nxc7=; 8...Rc3 9.Nd5+ Ke5 10.Nxc3=; 8...Rc5 9.Nd7+ Ke7 10.Nxc5=] **9.Nd7+ Ke6 10.Nxb8=** The enticing sacrifice of the white bishop for the further domination of the white knight over black rook.

An interesting "draw domination" position after 8. Sb6.

(24) Alexander Stavrietsky (Russia)

1.Nf6 Bc2+ 2.Rxc2 Re5+! [2...Rxc2 3.Nf7+ Kg8 4.Nh6+ Kh8 5.Nf7+= perpetual check 1; or 2...Rxe6 3.Nxe6 g1Q 4.Rc8+ Qg8 5.Rxg8+ Kxg8 6.Nxd4=] 3.Kxe5 Ng4+ 4.Kd5! [4.Kf5? Nh6+ 5.Ke4 g1Q 6.Nf7+ Nxf7 7.Rc8+ Qg8 8.Rxg8+ Kxg8 9.Kxd4 h6-+] 4...g1Q 5.Nf7+ Kg8 6.Nh6+ Nxh6 7.Rc8+ Kf7 8.Rf8+ Kg6 9.Nf4+ Kg7 [9...Kg5?? 10.Nh3+-] 10.Ne6+ Kg6 11.Nf4+= perpetual check 2
 A few sacrifices and a nice final position.

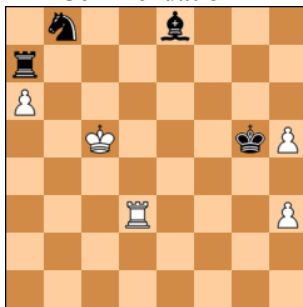
(29) Yuri Bazlov (Russia)

1.Nc5+! [1.Rh6? h1Q 2.Rxh1 Nxh1 3.Kf3 Bb7 4.Nc3 Rb2 5.Be3 Rc2 6.Bd4! Nxf2 white's chances of a draw are zero.; 1.Kxg3? h1Q 2.Rxa6 Ke8 3.Nc3 Rb4 4.Ne2 Rb2 5.Ra8+ Kxe7 6.Bg5+ Kf7 7.Nf4 Qg1+ 8.Kh4 Qxf2+ 9.Kg4 Rb1 10.Rc8 Rg1+ 11.Kf5 Qb6 12.Ne6 Rf1+ 13.Bf4 Qb1+ 14.Ke5 Qb2+ 15.Kf5 Qf6+ 16.Kg4 Rg1+ 17.Kf3 Qh4-+] 1...Rxc5 [1...Ke8 2.Rh6 h1Q 3.Rxh1 Nxh1 4.Nxa6=] 2.Rd6+! Ke8! [2...Kxd6 3.e8Q Rc4+ 4.Kxg3 h1Q 5.Qd8+ Ke5 (5...Kc5 6.Qa5+ Bb5 7.Be3+=) 6.Bf4+ Ke4 7.Qe7+ Kd3 8.Qa3+=] 3.Rd8+! Kxe7 The rook and the king of black moved one row to the right - from the white to the black diagonal, which made it possible 4.Rh8! h1Q 5.Rxh1 Nxh1 6.Bb4! Kd6 7.Kf3! [thematic try: 7.Ke4? Nxf2+ 8.Kd4 Nd3 9.Ba3 Bb5-+ zz (9...Bc4? 10.Bxc5+ Nxc5 11.Kxc4= zz) 10.Bxc5+ Nxc5] 7...Bf1! Preventing the king from going to g2. [7...Kxd5 8.Bxc5 Kxc5 9.Kg2 Bb7+ 10.f3!]=] 8.Ke4! Nxf2+ 9.Kd4 Nd3 10.Ba3! zz 10...Be2 11.Ke3! Bf1 12.Kd4 Be2 13.Ke3= Positional draw with the perpetual mutual zugzwang

Positional draw with central position of reciprocal zugzwang. The try is not thematic, since zz positions in try and in the solution are different (it is not an allegation - in my opinion a try need not be thematic but should be interesting!). The play is rather boring.

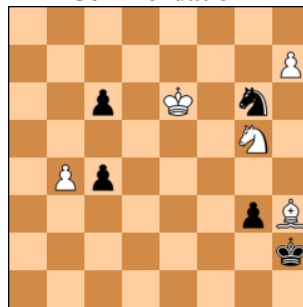
Commendations

**M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
Commendation**



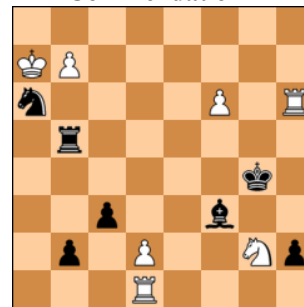
Draw

**Mac Gelly
Commendation**



BTM Draw

**Andrzej Jasik
Commendation**



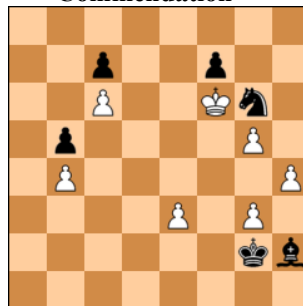
Draw

**Poul Rewitz
Commendation**



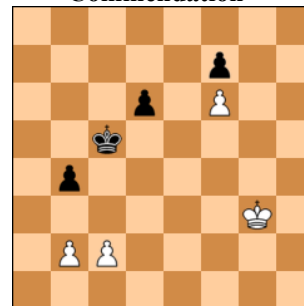
Draw

**Marc Gelly
Commendation**



Draw

**David Blundell
Commendation**

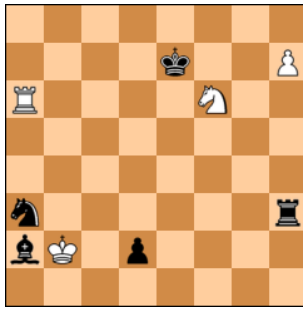


Draw

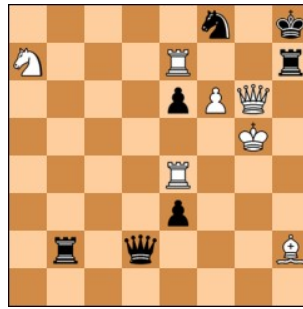
**Michael .Pasman
Commendation**

**P. Krug & M. Garcia
Commendation**

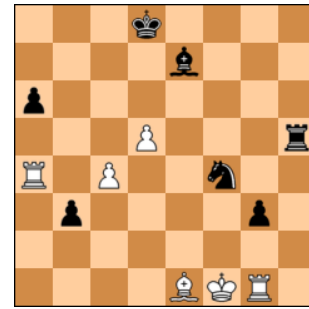
**Eduard Eilazyan
Com. Dedicated to Natalia Zhukova**



Draw



Draw



Draw

(1) Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia)

1.Kb6 [1.Rd8? Nd7+ 2.Kb5 Bxh5-+] **1...Rxa6+** **2.Kb7 Nc6!** **3.Rg3+!** [3.Kxa6? Nb4+--; 3.Rd5+? Kh4 4.Kxa6 Nb4+--+] **3...Kh4** **4.Rg8 Ra7+** [4...Bf7 5.Rg1=] **5.Kb6 Re7** [5...Ra8 6.h6 Ne7 7.h7=; 5...Bd7 6.h6=] **6.h6 Bd7** **7.Kc5!** [7.Rg7? Rxg7 8.hxg7 Ne7-+] **7...Ne5** [7...Kh5 8.Rg7 Kxh6 9.Rxe7 Nxe7 10.Kd6=] **8.Rg7 Re8** [8...Rxxg7 9.hxg7 Be6 10.Kd6=; 8...Re6 9.h7 Rh6 10.Kd4 Nf3+ 11.Ke3 Bc6 12.Rg6=] **9.h7 Bf5** [9...Nd3+ 10.Kd4 Bf5 11.Rg8 as main] **10.Rg8 Nd3+** **11.Kd4** or Kc4 **11...Re4+** **12.Kxd3 Bxh7** **13.Rh8!**

A precise play, but without strategy or unexpected moves.

(4) Mac Gelly (France)

1...Nf8+ **2.Kf5!** [Thematic try: 2.Ke5? Nxh7 3.Nxh7 (3.Ne4 Kxh3 4.Nxg3 Kxg3-+) 3...c3! (3...Kxh3? 4.Kf4!)=] **4.Bf5 g2** **5.Ng5 Kg3!** **6.Ne4+ Kh4!-+** **2...Nxh7** **3.Nxh7** [3.Ne4? Kxh3-+] **3...c3!** [3...Kxh3 4.Ng5+=] **4.Ng5** Feedback **4...c2** [4...g2 5.Bxg2=] **5.Kg4!** **c1Q** **6.Nf3+** **Kh1** **7.Kxg3 Qb2** **8.Bf1!** **Qc2** **9.Bh3 Qg6+** **10.Kf2 Qg7** **11.Bf1 Qg4** **12.b5!** [12.Nd2? Qd4+ 13.Ke2 Qxb4-+] **12...cxb5** [12...c5 13.b6=] **13.Bxb5 Qg2+** **14.Ke3** positional draw

An interesting play with a surprising move 12. b5! leads to a theoretical draw B+S v Q.

(8) Andrzej Jasik (Poland)

1.Rg6+ **Kf5** **2.Nh4+** **Kf4** **3.Ng2+** [3.Nxf3? c2 4.f7 Rxb7+ 5.Kxb7 b1Q+μ] **3...Bxg2** [3...Ke4 4.Re1+ Kd3 5.Rg3 Rxb7+ 6.Kxa6 c2 7.Rxf3+ Kd4 8.Rf4+ Kc5 9.Rf5+ Kd6 10.Nf4 Rb6+ 11.Kxb6 b1Q+ 12.Rb5 h1Q 13.Re6+ Kd7 14.Re7+ Kd8 15.Ne6+ Kc8 16.Rc7+ Kb8 17.f7=; 3...Ke5 4.Re1+ Kd4 5.dxc3+ Kxc3 6.Rg3 Rxb7+ 7.Kxa6=] **4.Rxg2 c2!** **5.Rf1+** **Ke4!** [5...Ke5 6.d4+ Kxd4 7.Rxc2=] **6.d3+** **Kxd3** **7.Rxc2 Kxc2** **8.f7 b1Q** [8...Rxb7+ 9.Kxb7 Nc5+ 10.Kc6 Ne6 11.Kd6 Nf8 12.Ke7 Nh7 13.Rf2+ Kb3 14.Rxh2 b1Q 15.Rxh7!]=] **9.Rxb1 Kxb1** **10.f8Q h1Q** **11.b8Q!** **Rxb8** [11...Nxb8 12.Qb4+! Rxb4 Stalemate] **12.Qf1+!** **Qxf1** Stalemate

A final stalemate is interesting, but the play is a little brutal.

(10) Poul Rewitz (Denmark)

The study is inspired by the game: Sune Berg Hansen - Benjamin Bok, 2017. **1.Bg5+** [1.g8N+? Kg7-+; 1.Ra6+? Kxg7 2.Rg6+ Kf7-+] **1...Kxg5** [1...Qxg5? 2.Rh3+- (or 2.Ra6+-) ; 1...Kxg7 2.Bxf4= (or 2.Ne6+=) ; 1...Kh5 2.Rh3+ Kxg5 3.g8Q+ (or 3.Nh7+=) 3...Qxg8 4.Nh7+=] **2.Ne6+** **Qxc6** [2...Kf5 3.Rxf4+=] **3.g8Q+** [or 3.g8R+] **3...Qxg8** **4.Kg2!** **Rb1** [or 4...Rc1 ; or 4...Rd1 ; or 4...Re1 ; 4...Qh7 5.Kxf1= (5.Ra5+? Kg4 6.Kxf1 f3!-+)] **5.Rg3+** **fxg3** **6.Rg4+** **Kxg4** stalemate

In the final stalemate position the Q is unnecessary (it is a serious flaw), but we have a few unexpected moves.

(13) Marc Gelly (France)

1.h5! [1.Kxf7? Ne5+ 2.Ke6 Bxg3-+] **1...Nh8!** Better is to lose the Knight in the corner. B. obtained tempo and position [1...Bxg3? 2.hxg6 fxg6 3.e4! Be1 4.Kxg6 Bxb4 5.e5 Be7 6.Kf5+-] **2.Kg7 Kxg3!** [2...Bxg3? 3.Kxh8+-] **3.Kxh8 Kg4** /h4 **4.g6!** [4.h6? Bd6!-+] **4...Kxh5!** [4...fxg6? 5.hxg6+-] **5.g7!!** [Thematic try: 5.gxf7? Bd6 6.Kg7 Bxb4 7.Kf6 Bc5! (7...Bc3+? 8.Ke6=) 8.e4 b4 9.e5 b3 10.e6 b2 11.e7 b1Q 12.e8Q Qg6+ 13.Ke5 Qd6+ 14.Kf5 Qd5+ 15.Kf4 Bd6+! 16.Ke3 Qc5+-+ Permutation Q/B 17.Kd3 Bf8!-+ ! Blockade anti-battery and interception.B.wins.] **5...Kh6!** [5...Be5? 6.Kh7+-] **6.g8N+!** **Kg6** **7.Ne7+** **Kf6** **8.Nc8!!=** And DRAW after f. ex. [8.Nd5+? Ke6 9.Nf4+ Ke5 10.Kg7 f5 11.Nh3 Ke4-+ THEME -The capture of the b-Knight in the corner requires very precise white counterplay (with underpromotion -Knight) to get a Draw] **8...Bg1** **9.Nd6 Bxe3** **10.Ne8+** **Ke7** **11.Nxc7 Kd6** **12.Nxb5+=**

A sympathetic promotion in the knight. The author overuses exclamation points, giving them an imposing move which is counterproductive.

(15) David Blundell (Gales)

1.Kg4 [Try: 1.Kf4? Kd4 zugzwang with WTM 2.Kf5 Ke3 3.Kg5 (3.c3 b3 4.Kg5 Kd3 5.Kh6 Kc2 6.Kg7 Kxb2 7.Kxf7 Kxc3 8.Ke7 b2 9.f7 b1Q 10.f8Q Qe4+-+) 3...Ke4 4.Kh6 Kf5 5.Kg7 Ke6 6.c3 bxc3 (6...d5 also wins) 7.bxc3 d5-+ zugzwang; Try: 1.Kf3? Kd5 2.Ke3 Ke5 3.Kd3 Kxf6 (3...d5? 4.Ke3 Kxf6 5.Kd4 Ke6 6.Kc5 Ke5 7.Kxb4 Kd4 8.b3

(8.c3+? Ke3 9.Kc5 f5 10.b4 f4 11.b5 f3 12.b6 f2 13.b7 f1Q 14.b8Q Qc4+ 15.Kd6 Qf4+) 8...f5 9.c4 draws, e.g. 9...f4 10.cxd5 Kxd5 11.Kc3 Ke4 12.Kd2 Kf3 13.b4 Kg2 14.b5 etc.) 4.Kc4 Ke5 5.Kxb4 Kd4 6.Ka5 f5 7.b4 f4 8.b5 Kc5 (8...Kd5? 9.c4+ blocks the a6-f1 diagonal) 9.b6 Kc6 10.Ka6 f3 11.b7 f2 12.b8Q f1Q+ 13.Ka7 Qa1#] **1...Kd5 2.Kf5 Kd4 3.Kf4** zugzwang with BTM **3...d5 4.c3+** [Try: 4.Kf3? b3 (4...Ke5? 5.Ke3 Kxf6 6.Kd4 White draws as given above.) 5.cxb3 Ke5 6.b4 Kxf6 7.b5 Ke6 8.b6 Kd6 9.Kf4 f6 10.Ke3 f5-+; Try: 4.Kf5? b3 (4...Ke3? 5.Ke5 b3 6.c3 Kd3 7.Kxd5 Kc2 8.c4 Kxb2 9.c5 Ka3 10.c6 b2 11.c7 b1Q 12.c8Q=) 5.cxb3 Ke3 6.b4 (6.Ke5 d4 7.Kd6 d3 8.Ke7 d2 9.Kxf7 d1Q 10.Ke7 Qxb3 11.f7 Black wins because the b pawn ensures that White has no stalemate.) 6...d4 7.b5 d3 8.b6 d2 9.b7 d1Q 10.b8Q Qh5#] **4...bxc3 5.bxc3+ Kxc3 6.Ke5 d4 7.Kd6 d3 8.Ke7 d2 9.Kxf7 d1Q 10.Ke7 Qe1+ /e2 11.Kf8** and Black cannot prevent 12.f7.

Sympathis play, but reciprocal zugzwang in pawn studies (or general pawn endings) is not specially original (it has name "opposition")

(18) Michael Pasman (Israel)

1.Ng8+! [1.Rxa3? d1Q (1...Bb3=) 2.Rxh3 Qe2+ 3.Ka3 Qa6+ 4.Kb2 Qb7+ 5.Ka3 Qa8+ 6.Kb4 (6.Kb2) 6...Qh8-+] **1...Kf7 2.Ra7+ Ke6** [2...Kf8 3.Rxa3 Bb3 4.Rxb3 Rxb3+ 5.Kc2 Rh3 The knight goes out through f6 Position X1] **3.Ra6+** [Logical try : 3.Rxa3 Bb3! (3...d1Q? 4.Rxh3 Qe2+ 5.Ka3=) 4.Rxb3 Rxb3+ 5.Kc2-+ The knight is trapped 5...Rh3 Position X2] **3...Kf5** [3...Ke5 4.Nh6! Rxh6 5.Rxh6 d1Q 6.h8Q+ promoting with check; 3...Kd5 4.Rxa3 d1Q (4...Bb3 5.Nf6+=) 5.Rxh3=] **4.Ra5+** [4.Nh6+? Rxh6-+; Logical try : 4.Rxa3 Bb3!! 5.Rxb3 Rxb3+ 6.Kc2 Rh3 Position X3, The knight is trapped 7.Ne7+ Ke4!-+] **4...Bd5!** [or 4...Kg6 5.Rxa3 Bb3 6.Rxb3 Rxb3+ 7.Kc2 Rh3 Position X4 8.Ne7+ The knight goes out; 4...Ke6 5.Ra6+=; or 4...Kf4 5.Rxa3! Bb3! 6.Rxb3 Rxb3+ 7.Kc2! Rh3 Position X5 8.Kxd2! Rxh7 9.Nf6!= The knight goes out] **5.Rxd5+ Ke6! 6.Rd4!** [6.Rd8? Nc4+ 7.Kc2 Rxh7-+] **6...Rxh7** [6...Nc4+ 7.Kc2=] **7.Nf6!** [7.Kxa3? Rd7-+; 7.Rxd2? Nc4+ -+] **7...Nc4+!** [7...Kxf6 8.Kxa3=] **8.Kc2 Rh1! 9.Ne4 d1Q+!** [9...Rc1+ 10.Kb3 Na5+ 11.Ka4 Ra1+ (11...Rc4+ 12.Rxc4 d1Q+ 13.Kxa5=) 12.Kb5=; 9...Ke5 10.Rxd2=] **10.Rxd1 Ne3+ 11.Kd2 Nxd1 12.Ng3! Rh3 13.Ne2 Rh1 14.Ng3 Rg1 15.Ne2 Rf1 16.Ng3 Rf3 17.Ne2! =** The final stalemate is nice, but the play is without unexpected moves.

(25) Peter Krug & Mario García (Austria -Argentina)

1.Be5! [1.Qg7+? Rxc7+ 2.fxc7+ Kg8 3.gxf8Q+ Kxf8 4.R7xe6 Qd5+! (4...Qd8+!? 5.Rf6+ Kg8 6.Bg3 Rb7 7.Rxe3 Rxa7 8.Ref3=) 5.R4e5 Rg2+-+; 1.Bg3? e2+ 2.Kg4 Rh4+! 3.Bxh4 Nxc6-+] **1...e2+** [1...Qg2+?? 2.Rg4+ -] **2.Rf4!** [2.Kg4? Rh4+ 3.Kxh4 Nxc6+-+] **2...Qxf4+ 3.Kxf4** [3.Bxf4? e1Q-+] **3...Nxc6+ 4.Kg5 Rb8** [4...Rxe7 5.fxe7+ Nxe5 6.e8Q+ Kg7 7.Qxe6 e1Q 8.Qf6+ Kh7 9.Qe7+ Kg8 10.Qd8+ Kf7 11.Qf6+ Ke8 12.Qe6+= perpetual checks; 4...Rh5+ 5.Kxc6=; 4...Nxe7 5.fxe7+ Rg7+ 6.Bxc7+ Kxc7 7.e8Q e1Q 8.Qg6+=] **5.Nc8!** [Try: 5.f7+? Nxe5 6.Re8+ Rxe8 7.fxe8Q+ Kg7 8.Qxe6 e1Q 9.Qf6+ Kg8 10.Qd8+ Kf7 11.Qf6+ (11.Qc7+ Ke6 12.Qb6+ Kd5 13.Qb3+ Ke4-+) 11...Ke8 12.Qe6+ Kf8 13.Qd6+ Re7-+] **5...Rxc8** [5...Rxe7 6.fxe7+ (6.Kxc6? Rf7! 7.Kxf7 Rxc8-+) 6...Nxe5 7.e8Q+ Kg7 8.Qxe6 e1Q 9.Qf6+= perpetual checks] **6.Re8+ Rxe8 7.f7+ Nxe5 8.f8Q+ Rxf8** stalemate
Nice, but a little brutal play.

(26) Eduard Eilazyan (Ukraine) - Dedicated to Natalia Zhukova

1.d6! [1.Rxa6? b2 2.Ba5+ Kd7 3.Rb6 g2+ 4.Rxc2 Rh1+ 5.Kf2 Bc5+ 6.Kf3 Rf1+ 7.Ke4 Bxb6 8.Rxb2 Bxa5-+; 1.Bb4? Bf6 2.Rxc3 Rh1+ 3.Kf2 b2 4.Ba5+ Kd7 5.Rb4 b1Q 6.Rxb1 Rxb1 7.Ke3 Nxd5+ 8.cxd5 Rb3+ 9.Kf4 Be5+ 10.Kxe5 Rxc3-+; 1.Ra1? Bc5 2.Bxc3 Bxc3 3.Kxc3 Ne2+ 4.Kg2 Nc3 5.Be1 b2 6.Bxc3 bxa1Q 7.Bxa1 Rf5-+] **1...Bxd6 2.Rxa6!** [2.Ra1? b2 3.Rb1 Bc5 4.Rxb2 Bxc1 5.Bxc3 Be3 6.Bxf4 Bxf4-+] **2...g2+!** [2...Bc5 3.Bxc3 b2 4.Ra8+ Kd7 5.Rb8 Bxc1 6.Rxb2 Be3 7.Bxf4=] **3.Rxc2 Rh1+** [3...Nxc2 4.Rxd6+ Kc7 5.Bg3 Ne3+ 6.Ke2 Nf5 7.Rd3+ Nxc3+ 8.Rxc3 b2 9.Rg1=; 3...Bc5 4.Ra8+! Kd7 5.Rg7+ Kd6 6.Rd8+ Ke5 7.Re8+ Kf5 8.Rf7+ Kg4 9.Rg7+ Kf5=] **4.Rg1** [4.Kf2? Bc5+! 5.Kg3 Nxc2-+] **4...Rxc1+ 5.Kxc1 Bc5+** [5...b2 6.Rxd6+! Kc7 7.Rd1!=] **6.Kf1 b2 7.Ra8+!!** Foresight effect! [7.Ra1? bxa1N-+ Even the exchange of bishops does not save the White: (or 7...bxa1B 8.Bc3 Bd4!-+) 8.Bf2 Nd3 9.Bxc5 Nxc5 (The white pawn is stopped on the Troitsky line!)] **7...Kc7! 8.Ra1! bxa1N** [8...bxa1B 9.Bg3! Be5 10.Bxf4 Bxf4= Black has two extra but useless Bishops; 8...bxa1Q stalemate; 8...bxa1R stalemate] **9.Bc3! Nb3 10.Be5+ Bd6 11.Bxd6+ Kxd6 12.c5+! Kc6=** Black has two extra but useless Knights, because the white pawn crossed the Troitsky line!
Knight promotion, a sacrifice but a lot of uninteresting exchanges.

Poland, May 30 , 2023

Jan Rusinek
Judge