



The 9th FIDE World Cup in Composing

Section D – Endgame studies

Preliminary award by

Oleg Pervakov

MMXXI

Participants

| | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| D01 | Prusikin M. (GER) | D25 | Gasparyan A. (ARM) |
| D02 | Minski M. GER) | D26 | Gatti D. (ITA) |
| D03 | Abramenko S. (RUS) | D27 | Raican P. (ROU) |
| D04 | Topko L. (UKR) | D28 | Sochnev A. (RUS) |
| D05 | Stavrietsky A. (RUS) | D29 | Kostyukov A. (RUS) |
| D06 | Avni A. (ISR) | D30 | Tkachenko S. N. (UKR) |
| D07 | Arestov P. (RUS) | D31 | Malyi I. (UKR) |
| D08 | Nielsen S. (DNK) | D32 | Gurgenidze D. (GEO) |
| D09 | Varitsky A. (BLR) | D33 | Aliev I. (AZE) |
| D10 | Muljadi P. (USA) | D34 | Halski M. (POL) |
| D11 | Sayman U. (TUR) | D35 | Samilo V. (UKR) |
| D12 | Neyshtadt V. (RUS) | D36 | Osintsev S. (RUS) |
| D13 | Timman J. (NLD) | D37 | Tarasiuk V. (UKR) |
| D14 | Sizonenko V. (UKR) | D38 | Ruvalcaba J. J. G. (MEX) |
| D15 | Mikitovics J. (HUN) | D39 | Østmoe G. S. T. (NOR) |
| D16 | Egorov E. (KAZ) | D40 | Sergiienko A. (UKR) |
| D17 | Didukh S. (UKR) | D41 | Tang X. (CHN) |
| D18 | Campoli M. (ITA) | D42 | Yoo C. (USA) |
| D19 | Dimitrov O. (BGR) | D43 | Sprenger J. (GER) |
| D20 | Palazon L. G. (ESP) | D44 | Kozhakin V. (RUS) |
| D21 | Pasman M. (ISR) | D45 | Zilberstein D. (USA) |
| D22 | Pallier A. (FRA) | D46 | Ilić M. (SRB) |
| D23 | González L. M. (ESP) | D47 | Hlebec D. (SRB) |
| D24 | García C. E. (VEN) | D48 | Djurašević B. (SRB) |

In the section D of 9th FIDE World Cup, 48 studies participated. Based on the quality of the submitted works and the status of the tourney, the judge decided to mark a third – 16, according to the “classical scheme”: Prizes, Honorable mentions, Commendations, Special distinctions. But at first I say about studies that did not qualify for the award.

Following studies may well be marked at other tourneys with at least Commendations or even higher: **D07, D09, D23, D25, D27, D30, D31, D33, D40.**

Shortly about rest:

D03. A final is well-known: J. Timman, «Schaakwerk» II 218, 1991;

D04. Weak introduction, simple and uninteresting final;

D10. The author wrongly estimated 6-pieces-position (!), despite an existence 7-pieces-base;

D11. The judge didn't see any study play;

D12. Too many pieces are involved for simple final;

D14. A play and a final do not cause any emotion;

D15, D22. Studies without ideas: White wins without any subtles;

D19. Illegal initial position;

D21. Many sacrifices, few impressions;

D24. Well-known idea from problem-genre – this idea has nothing to do in study-genre;

D29. The idea, although quite complex, is not new. Many static Pawns that is unnecessary in the final.

D32. A final “pick” is well-known by at least S. Belokon («Tidskrift for Schack», 1973, 1st Comm.).

D34. Interesting final, but unlucky introduction. I'll give the author a chance to work on the study again.

D35, D42. Clear idea is absent: the White somehow defended and did a draw.

D36. A final is quite amazing, but introduction is bad.

D38. There is second solution 4. ♖f6+ ♔h8 5. ♖e4, but in any case the study falls short of the World Cup.

D41. Mansubst with more than 120-moves forced solution. Too tedious and not very interesting, although a record for a study.

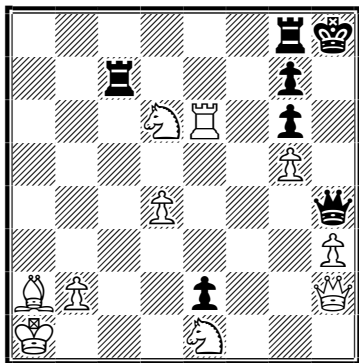
D44. Unsound 7... ♔h7+ according 7-pieces-base.

D45. A capture of undefended Black Rook on 1st move and another “baby pranks” sent this “study” to the trash can.

D46. Two sacrifices on the same square do not surpass the technical shortcomings of the study.

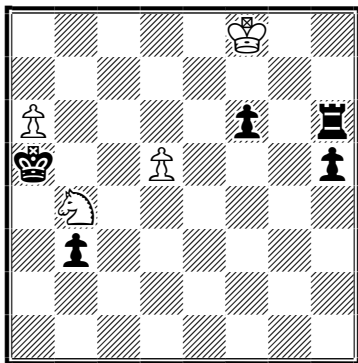
D48. Unlucky introduction, well-known final.

Here is a proposal award.

1st Prize

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10+7

2nd Prize

=

4+5

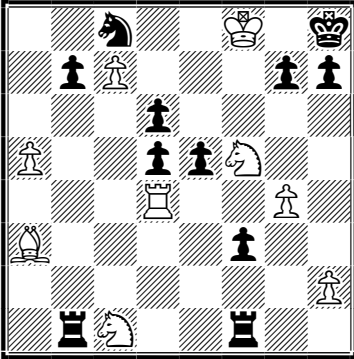
A quite playable position. White has a material advantage, but Black's threats seem more weighty. 1. ♖e2? ♜c1+ 2. ♗b1 ♜a8+ is early – Black checkmates. That's why 1. ♗f7+! ♜h7! 2. ♖e2 ♜c1+ 3. ♗b1 ♜a8+ 4. ♜a6 ♖e4! Defending a8 and g6 and attacking White Bishop and Queen – it's multifunctional move! 4... ♜a6+? 5. ♖a6 ♖e4 6. ♗d3 – Black loses. 5. ♗c2! Of course, not 5. ♖e4?! ♗d3?? ♜a6#. 5... ♖c2. In the case 5... ♖e2 6. ♜a8 ♜b1+ 7. ♜b1 ♖f1+ 8. ♗a2 ♖f7+ White is saved by 9. b3! 6. ♖h5+!! g:h5 7. g6+! ♖:g6 [7... ♜g8? ♜a8+] 8. ♗g5+ ♜h6 [8... ♜g8? 9. ♜a8+] 9. ♗f7+ ♜h7 10. ♗g5+. Perpetual check by Knight that cannot be captured by Black Queen in view of diagonal or horizontal pin alternately.

Original, bright and unexpected final with clear and untiring play. Excellent counterplay 4... ♖e4! and its refutation 5. ♗c2!, 6. ♖h5+!! A great example for a propaganda of creativity of composing studies.

1. ♜g7 ♜g6+! 1... ♜b6 2. ♗d3 h4 3. ♜h6 h3 4. d6 h2 5. ♗f2 b2 6. d7 with obvious draw. 2. ♜:g6 b2 3. a7 b1 ♖+ 4. ♜g7! ♖g1+ 5. ♜h8! But not 5. ♜f8? ♖c5+! 6. ♜g8 ♖c8+. 5... ♖a7. The a7-pawn cannot be delayed, so the Black has to go under the fork. 6. ♗c6+ ♜b6 7. ♗a7 ♜c5! Strongest. After 7... h4 8. ♗c8+ ♜c7 9. ♗e7 h3 10. ♗f5 h2 11. ♗g3 Knight catches up the Pawn. 8. ♗b5! Responding sacrifice from the White. Now 8. ♗c8? ♜d5 9. ♗e7+ ♜e4(e6) loses. 8... ♜b5. After 8... ♜d5 the Knight comes from below: 9. ♗c3+ ♜d4 10. ♗e2+ ♜e3 11. ♗g3! h4 12. ♗f5+ – fork. 9. ♜g7! Reti maneuver! [9. ♜g8? ♜c5!] 9... h4 10. ♜f7! And now – anti-Rink! [10. ♜f6? h3 11. d6 h2 12. d7 h1 ♖ 13. d8 ♖ ♖h4+]. 10... ♜c5 11. ♜e6 h3 12. d6 h2 13. d7 h1 ♖ 14. d8 ♖ ♖e4+! 15. ♜f7! [15. ♜f6? ♖h4+] 15... ♖h7+ 16. ♜e6! [16. ♜f8? ♖h8+] 16... ♖e4+ 17. ♜f7 – positional draw.

An easy-to-build dynamic study with a synthesis of two well-known maneuvers. Mutual sacrifices and two knight routes in side variations to neutralize the h-Pawn look nice.

3rd Prize



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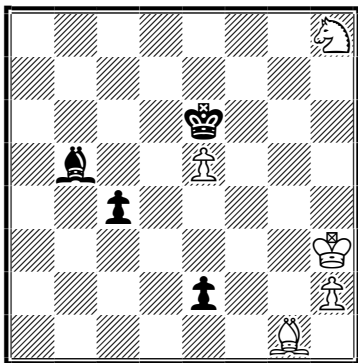
9+11

Storm on the board! 1. ♖d3! Ensuring the safety of the main trump card – a Pawn c7. 1. ♖:d6? h6 2. ♖d3 f2 3. ♖:d5 ♖fd1 4. ♖:f2 ♖:d5 5. ♖:c8 ♖d7 gave nothing. 1...f2. 1...e:d4 2. ♖:d6 ♖:d6 3. ♖:d6 is weakly. 2. ♖f4! The beginning of the sacrificial extravaganza. First of all it's necessary to close the f-line. Capturing the d6-pawn does not lead to success: 2. ♖:d6? e:d4 3. ♖h6 ♖:d6 4. c8♖ ♖fc1 5. ♖d8 ♖c7 6. ♖:f2 ♖bc1 7. ♖:d6 ♖c8+ 8. ♖e7 ♖lc7+ 9. ♖e6 ♖c6 or 2. ♖:d6? h6! 3. ♖:e5 ♖fe1 4. ♖f4 f1♖ 5. ♖:f1 ♖:f1+ 6. ♖e8 ♖:d6+ 7. ♖:d6 ♖fc1 8. ♖d7 ♖b5=. 2...e:f4 White wins, though not without some fuss, also after 2...h5 3. ♖f3

h:g4 4. ♖g3 (4... ♖g1 5. ♖:f2 ♖:g3 6. h:g3) 4... ♖h7 5. ♖:g4 ♖g1 6. ♖:f2 ♖:g4 7. ♖:g4 ♖f1 8. ♖e3 ♖f4 9. ♖e8 d4 10. ♖d7 d:e3 11. ♖:e3 ♖a7 12. ♖:d6. 3...g:h6! Now it's necessary to line a diagonal a1-h8 and to block h7-Pawn. 3...g:h6 4. ♖c5! And now – paving the way for Knight to f7. 4... ♖b4! But the Black finds counterplay [4...d:c5 5. ♖e5 with checkmate]. 5.a6!! A centre of the study. Logical try: 5. ♖:b4? ♖c1 6. ♖:c1 d4 7. ♖c5 d:c5 8. ♖d3 h5 9. g5 (9.a6 b5=) 9...f1♖ – why white is bad here, it will become clear from the further solution. 5...b:a6. In the case of 5...b6 6. ♖:b4 d4 7. ♖:d6 ♖:d6 8. ♖e5 ♖e1 underpromotion comes to the rescue: 9.c8♖! ♖:e5 10. ♖:d6 ♖e7 11. ♖:e7 f1♖ 12. ♖f8 ♖:a6 13. ♖f7#. 6. ♖:b4 ♖c1! 7. ♖:c1 d4 8. ♖c5! d:c5 9. ♖d3 h5 10. g5! f1♖ 11. ♖e5 ♖d6 [11...h6 12.g6]. 12. ♖f7+! [12.c8♖? ♖c4!] 12... ♖:f7 13.c8♖ ♖c4 14. ♖f5! And it turns out that the square a6 (unlike a logical try) is not available for Black Queen. 14...d3 15. ♖f6#.

Powerful combinational study with a point 5.a6!! The overall impression is slightly reduced by the ponderous initial position and the presence of a number of technical variations. It is interesting to compare with the study of V. Smyslov ("New in Chess", 2000), where a Knight sneaks on f7 from d1.

Special Prize



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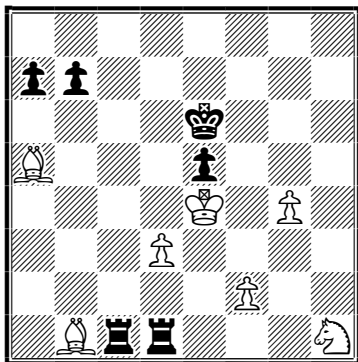
5+4

Graceful position; the beginning, however, is obvious. 1. ♙f2 c3 2. ♜g6 ♗f5 3. ♜h4+ ♗e4 4. ♜g2 c2 [4... ♗f3 5. ♜d4!] 5. ♜e3 ♗f3 . It's time to think... 6. e6! A first logical try: 6. ♜e1+? ♗:e3 7. ♜:c2+ ♗d2 8. ♜d4 ♜d7+ 9. e6!? [9. ♗g2 ♜c6+ 10. ♗h3 e1♙] 9... ♜:e6+ 10. ♗g2 ♜d5+ 11. ♗h3 e1♙! 12. ♜f3+ ♜:f3 – and stalemate did not take place. 6... ♜d3 7. ♜e1+! White King will be in check after 7. e7? ♜f5+! 8. ♗h4 ♜d7 9. ♜e1+ ♗:e3 10. ♜:c2+ ♗d2 11. ♜d4 e1♙+ . 7... ♗:e3 8. e7 ♜b5! [8... c1♙ 9. e8♙+ ♜e4 10. ♜g2+] 9. ♜:c2+ ♗d2 10. e8♙(♙!) A second logical try: 10. ♜d4? ♜d7+ 11. ♗g2 ♜c6+ 12. ♗h3 e1♙ 13. ♜f3+ ♜:f3 – and stalemate did not take place in view of e7-Pawn. 10... ♗:e8 11. ♜d4 ♜d7+ 12. ♗g2 ♜c6+ 13. ♗h3 with short branching:

I) 13... e1♙ 14. ♜:c6! – Bishop is under a fork; II) 13... e1♙ 14. ♜f3+! ♜:f3 – model stalemate.

Excellent logical study with Roman theme. The author noted that a final was already met in the study of V. Vinichenko (VIII team championship of RSFSR, 1983, 1st Place). If only this... The Novosibirsk master showed the very idea of dropping a Pawn and the Roman attraction of the Bishop, however, trying to formalize it in one move. Nevertheless, the study deserves a special prize.

1st Honorable Mention



=

7+6

If White is able to save a piece, he will achieve a draw. 1. ♜a2+ ♗d7! Without a fight, black missed the victory after 1... ♗f6 2. ♜g3 b6 3. ♜b4 a5 4. ♜d6 . 2. ♜g3 ♜a1 [2... b6 3. ♜b4 a5 4. g5! a:b4 5. g6 ♜c8 6. g7]. 3. ♜b3 . It's a beginning of alternating attack of bishops and rooks on each other. 3... ♜db1 4. ♜c3! [4. ♜c2? ♜c1 5. ♜c3 ♜a6]. 4... ♜a3 5. ♜c2 ♜c1 [5... ♜g1 6. ♜:e5]. 6. ♜b2 ♜e1+ 7. ♗d5! Only there. Not 7. ♗f3? ♜a2 8. ♜c3 ♜g1 9. ♜b3

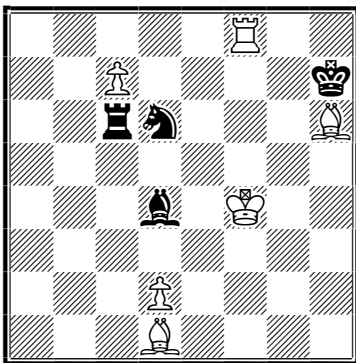
♖:g3+ 10. ♘:g3 ♜a3 or 7. ♘f5? ♜a2
 8. ♘c3 ♜g1. 7... ♜a2 8. ♘c3 ♜c1. In
 the case of 8... ♜g1 9. ♘b3 ♜a3 a
 modest-looking Knight takes the
 floor: 10. ♘e4! 9. ♘b3 ♜a3 10. ♘b2!
 It's not too late to be wrong: 10. ♘d2?
 ♜b1 11. ♘c4 b5! 10... ♜a5+ 11. ♘e4
 ♜b1 [11... ♜e1+ 12. ♘f3 ♜b1 13. ♘c3
 ♜a3 14. ♘c2]. 12. ♘c3 ♜a3 13. ♘c2 –
 positional draw.

An original spinner featuring
 King, Bishops and Rooks. Some
 dissonance is introduced by the
 presence of an inactive Knight on
 the board. And, of course, it is a
 pity that a point is missing. I
 remember a study by V. Korolkov
 and L. Mitrofanov (Olympic
 tourney, 1960, 1st HM), where the
 only Bishop successfully "dances"
 with Rooks. Although it is clear
 that it is more difficult to establish
 a mechanism of a larger number of
 pieces.

While Black will capture the
 c7-pawn, White needs to
 coordinate the actions of his pieces.
 1. ♜d8 ♘b6 [1... ♘:h6 2. ♜:d6+
 ♜:d6 3. c8♙] 2. ♜d7+. Not
 dangerous 2. ♘f8? ♘:c7 3. ♜d7+ in
 view of 3... ♘f7+! 4. ♘f5 ♘g8.
 2... ♘f7! 3. ♜:f7+ ♘g6! [3... ♘:h6
 4. c8♙ ♜:c8 5. ♜f6+] 4. ♘b3! It's not
 hard to be wrong: 4. c8♙? ♜:c8
 5. ♘b3 ♘a5 6. ♘f8 ♜b8!
 [6... ♘:d2+? 7. ♘g4] 7. ♘a2 ♘:d2+
 8. ♘g4 ♘b4! 9. ♘g7 ♜a8! 10. ♘b3
 ♜a3 11. ♘c4 ♜a4=; 4. ♜d7? ♘:c7+
 5. ♜:c7 ♜:c7 with with the loss of a
 Bishop. 4... ♜:c7 [4... ♘:c7+ 5. ♜:c7
 ♜:c7 6. ♘f8] 5. ♜f5! [5. ♜f8? ♘a5].
 White has adjusted the interaction
 of his pieces, but Black is looking
 for a subtle resource. 5... ♜b7!
 [5... ♜c1 6. ♘e4! ♜e1+ 7. ♘e3 ♘:e3
 8. ♘f7+!] 6. ♘d5 ♘c7+ 7. ♘g4
 [7. ♘f3? ♜b2!] 7... ♜b4+ 8. ♘f4. Not
 8. ♜f4? ♜b5! 9. ♘c4 ♜c5. 8... ♜d4
 9. d3! ♘:f4 10. ♘e4! with victory.

Pleasant playable study.

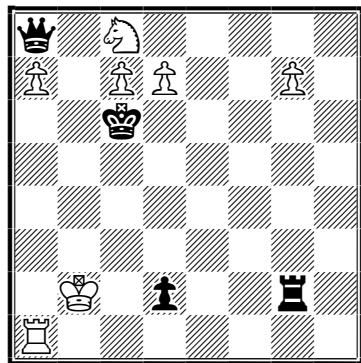
2nd Honorable Mention



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6+4

3rd Honorable Mention



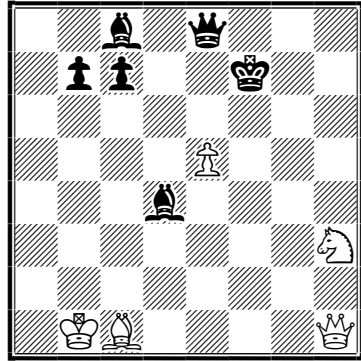
+

7+4

4th Honorable Mention

We walk together in a row... Four (!) White pawns are ready to find a new life. **1.g8♙!** At first it is necessary to neutralize a Black battery. **1...♖b7+** [1...♖:g8 2.d8♙ ♖b7+ 3.♔c2 d1♙+ 4.♖:d1 ♖g2+ 5.♖d2+; 1...d1♗+ 2.♔c1 ♖:g8 3.d8♙] **2.♔c2 d1♙+!** **3.♔:d1 ♖:g8 4.a8♙.** Underpromotion does not go away yet: **4.d8♗+? ♔d7 5.♗:b7 ♖g1+** **6.♔c2 ♖:a1.** **4...♖:a8 5.♖c1+!** A queen on a8 can wait. [5.♖:a8? ♖g1+! 6.♔e2 ♔:d7 7.♗d6 ♔:c7] **5...♔b5.** In the case of **5...♔b7 6.♗d6+ ♔b6** it works **7.c8♗+!** ♔a6 **8.♖a1#** with Rook's switchback and checkmate; **5...♔:d7 6.♗b6+.** **6.♗d6+ ♔b4** [6...♔b6 7.c8♗+] **7.♖b1+ ♔c5** [7...♔a4 8.♖a1+] **8.c8♙+** [8.♗b7+? ♔c6!] **8...♔:d6 9.♖b6+ ♔e7** [9...♔d5 10.♖b5+ ♔d6 11.♖c5+] **10.♖e6+!** Nice, though well-known sacrifice. [10.♖c5+? ♔d8!] **10...♔:e6** [10...♔f7 11.♖c4! with deadly battery] **11.d8♗+!** Phoenix. **11...♔e7 12.♖e6+!** [12.♖:a8? ♖:d8+; 12.♖c7+? ♔f6!] **12...♔:d8 13.♖:g8+,** and Black queen eliminated.

Rich content: refusal to capture, underpromotions, Phoenix, batteries, hunt for Queen... But the play is quite forced.



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5+6

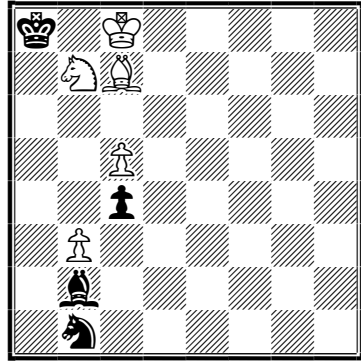
1.♗g5+ ♔e7 2.♖h7+ ♔d8 3.♗f7+ ♔d7 4.♗d8+! ♖e7 [4...♔:d8 5.♗g5+] **5.e6+ ♔e8** [5...♔:d8 6.♖g8+ ♖e8 7.♗g5+ ♗f6 8.♗:f6#] **6.♖g6+ ♔f8.** After a forced introduction, it is need to look around and do prevention. **7.♗a3!** Early **7.♗h6+? ♗g7 8.♗:g7+ (8.♗g5? ♖b4+!) 8...♖:g7 9.♖:g7+ ♔:g7 10.e7 ♗d7. 7...c5** [7...♖:a3 8.♖f7#]. **8.♗c1!** The safety of a King is more expensive than two tempos! **8...♖c7 9.♗h6+ ♗g7 10.♔c1!** Again, prevention. [10.♖h7? ♖b6+]. **10...♗:h6+ [10...♔g8 11.♗f7]. 11.♖:h6+ ♔g8** [11...♔e8 12.♖h8+ ♔e7 13.♖g7+ ♔:d8 (13...♔d6 14.♖g3+) 14.♖f8#] **12.♗f7 ♗:e6 13.♖h8+ ♔:f7 14.♖h7+,** as if stringing the strongest Black piece on a “skewer” of the opened 7th rank.

Ideas of the prevention still live on and win.

11. ♖e6! ♜e4+ 12. ♗f7 ♜b5 13. c8 ♜!
 ♜f4+ 14. ♗e8 ♜c7+ [14... ♗e4
 15. ♗e7! ♜c7 16. ♜d6+ ♗e5
 17. ♜f7+ ♗d5 18. g7 ♜e4+ (18... ♜g4
 19. ♜g5! ♜:g5 20. ♗f7=) 19. ♜e5!
 (echo-sacrifice of Knight) 19... ♜:e5+
 20. ♗f7=] 15. ♗d7 ♜d5 [15... ♜b5
 16. ♗e8 ♜d4 17. g7 ♜g4 18. ♗f7
 ♜f5 19. g8 ♜! ♜g7+ 20. ♗f8] 16. ♜e7
 ♜f6+ 17. ♗e6 ♜h5 [17... ♜e8
 18. ♜f5! ♜c7+ 19. ♗e5 ♜g4 20. ♗f6
 ♜d5+ 21. ♗f7 ♜f4 22. ♗e6! ♜c7+
 23. ♗e5 ♜e4+ 24. ♗f6 ♜d5+ 25. ♗f7
 ♜f4 26. ♗e6, positional draw]
 18. ♜f5 ♜g4 19. ♗f7 ♜g5 20. ♜d6
 ♜a5! 21. ♜e8 ♜a7+ 22. ♗g8!
 Thematic try: 22. ♗f8? ♜f4! 23. g7
 ♜e6+ 24. ♗g8 ♗e4! 25. ♗h7
 (25. ♗h8 ♜:g7 26. ♜:g7 ♗e5 27. ♗g8
 ♗f6) 25... ♗f5 26. ♗h6 ♜a1
 27. ♜d6+ ♗f6 28. g8 ♜+ ♗e5.
 22... ♗e4 23. g7 ♗f5 24. ♗f8 ♜f6
 25. ♜:f6 ♗:f6 26. g8 ♜+! with draw.

Five underpromotions in Knight
 (in solution, variations and try)
 with 26-moves-fight! An epic
 canvas. But it took the author five
 pieces to create a logical try. Isn't
 it a bit too much? The final ratio
 "two Pawns against Rook and
 Knight" was actively developed by
 A. Sochnev, so I would not be
 surprised if he was the author.

Commendation



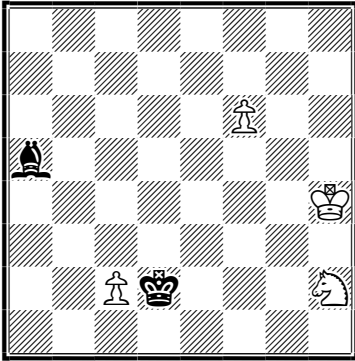
+

5+4

1. b4! Tied Pawns are stronger than
 doubled ones.: 1. b:c4? ♜a3! 2. ♜a5
 ♜c3! 3. c6 ♜:a5 4. ♜:a5 ♜:c4 5. c7 ♜e5!
 1... ♜a3 [1... c3 2. b5 c2 3. ♜f4 ♜e5!
 4. ♜e3! ♜c3 5. b6 ♜d5 6. ♜a5! ♜e7+
 7. ♗d7 ♜d5 8. ♜g5] 2. ♜d6 c3 3. b5
 ♜:b5 4. ♜:b5 c2. Looking forward to
 stalemate. 5. ♜b8! [5. ♜f4? ♜c1 6. ♜e5
 (6. ♜c7+ ♗a7 7. ♜:c1, stalemate)
 6... ♜e3 7. ♜b8 ♜f4! 8. ♜:f4 stalemate]
 5... ♜e5! 6. ♜:e5 c1♚. The pawn took
 advantage of the chance given on the
 first move, but this does not save
 Black. 7. ♜c7+. Early 7. ♜d4? ♜:c5+!
 8. ♜:c5 – stalemate. 7... ♗a7 8. ♜d4!
 ♜b2! [8... ♜:c5 9. ♜:c5#] 9. c6+ [9. ♜:b2?
 – stalemate again] 9... ♜b6 [9... ♜:d4
 10. ♜b5+] 10. ♜:b6+ [10. ♜b5+? ♗a8!
 11. ♜c7+ (11. ♜:b6=) 11... ♜:c7+
 12. ♗:c7 – stalemates all around!]
 10... ♗:b6 11. ♗d7 +–.

Nice minor-pieces-study. But it is
 not surprising to show the abundance
 of stalemates in counterplay with a
 King squeezed in the corner. And the
 scale of the battle is not very
 impressive.

Commendation



+

4+2

1. ♔f1! [1.f7? ♙b4! ; 1. ♕f3+? ♚c2! 2. ♕d4+ ♚d3 ; 1.c4? ♕d8=] 1... ♚c2 2. ♕e3+ ♚d3 3. ♕d5 , and the play branches:

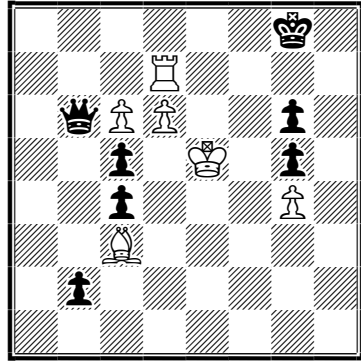
A) 3... ♕e1+ 4. ♚g4! But not 4. ♚g5? ♕f2! 5.f7 (5. ♕f4+ ♚e4 6. ♕e6 ♕g3! 7.f7 ♕d6=) 5... ♕c5 6. ♚f6 ♕f8 7. ♕e7 ♚e3 8. ♕g6 ♕h6 . 4... ♕f2 5. ♕f4+ ♚e4 [5... ♚c4 6.f7 ♕c5 6. ♚f5] 6. ♕e6 ♕e1 7. ♕c5+ ♚d5 8.f7;

B) 3... ♕d8 4. ♕e7 ♚e4 5. ♚g5! ♚e5 6. ♕c6+ ;

C) 3... ♕d2 4. ♚h5! ♕c1 5. ♕b4+ ♚c4 6.f7.

Interesting enough content for a six-pieces-study. The white King chooses the correct square three times, and the Knight twice cuts off the Bishop from the Pawn along the a3-f8 diagonal.

Commendation



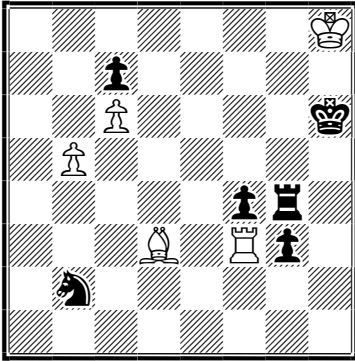
+

6+7

1.c7! ♚b7 2. ♞d8+ . The king is on necessary place: 2. ♚e6? ♚c8! 3. ♚e7 ♞f8+ 4. ♚e6 b1♚ 5. ♞g7+ ♞g7 6. ♕g7 ♚g7 7.c8 ♞e4+ 8. ♚d7 ♞g4+ . 2... ♚f7 3.c8 ♞! First underpromotion. After 3.c8 ♞? ♞e4+! 4. ♚e4 b1♚+ 5. ♚d5 ♞e4+! the newly minted mad Black Queen successfully takes out the White King in the corner: 6. ♚c5 ♞d5+ 7. ♚b6 ♞b5+ 8. ♚a7 ♞b6+ 9. ♚a8 ♞a7+! 10. ♚a7 stalemate. 3... ♞c8 4. ♞c8 b1♚ 5.d7 ♞b6! 5... ♞d3 6.d8 ♞ ♞c3+ 7. ♚d6 ♞d3+ 8. ♚c6 ♞f3+ 9. ♞d5+ . 6.d8 ♞+! Second underpromotion (6.d8 ♞?? ♞e6\#). 6... ♚e7 7. ♕c6+ ♚d7 [7... ♚f7 8. ♚d6 ♞b8+ 9. ♞c7+! cross-check] 8. ♞d8+ ♚c7 [8... ♚c6 9. ♞d6+] 9. ♞a5+ —.

Another interpretation on the theme of two underpromotions in Rook and Knight. The White King, like a tiger in a cage, looks at what is happening, realizing what awaits him in the corner a8.

Commendation



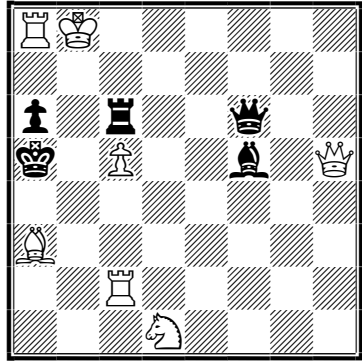
=

5+6

1.b6 ♖c4! Diversion a Bishop from diagonal b1-h7. Early 1...g2 2. ♖h3+! ♜g5 3.b:c7 g1♙ 4.c8♙. 2. ♙:c4 [2.b7? ♖e5! 3.b8♙ ♖f7#] 2...g2 3. ♖f1! [3. ♖h3+? ♜g6 – now the square g6 is not under attack] 3...f3! [3...g:f1♙? 4. ♙:f1 ♖g7 5.b7] 4.b:c7 ♖:c4 5. ♖a1! Logical try: 5. ♖e1? ♖:c6 6. ♖e6+!? ♖:e6 7.c8♙ g1♙ 8. ♙:e6+ ♙g6 (zz WTM) 9. ♙e3+ ♙g5 10. ♙e6+ ♜h5 11. ♙f7+ ♜g4. 5... ♖:c6 6. ♖a6! ♖:a6 7.c8♙ g1♙ 8. ♙:a6+ ♙g6 [8... ♜h5 9. ♙h6+! ♜:h6 stalemate] 9. ♙e6! (zz BTM) 9... ♙:e6 stalemate or 9...f2 10. ♙e3+ with losing of Pawn.

Five-pieces-zugzwang that is formalize according to all canons – with the try. It is surprising that so far it has not attracted the attention of other composers – apparently, not so interesting.

Commendation



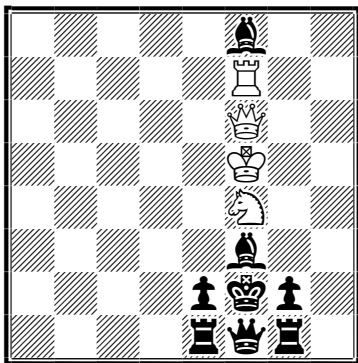
+

7+5

1. ♙b4+! [1. ♙e8? ♖b6+! 2. ♜c7! ♙g7+ =; early 1. ♖:a6+? ♖:a6 2. ♙b4+ ♜:b4 3. ♖b2+ ♜:c5=]. 1... ♜:b4 2. ♖b2+ ♜a5 3. ♖:a6+! ♖:a6 4. ♙e8! ♖a8+! 5. ♜:a8 ♙e4+! 6. ♙:e4 [6. ♜b8? ♙f4+ 7. ♜c8 ♙f5+ 8. ♜b7 ♙e4+ 9.c6 ♙:c6+ 10. ♙:c6 ♙b8+! with stalemate] 6... ♙c6+! [6... ♙a6+ 7. ♜b8 ♙a7+ 8. ♜c8!] 7. ♜b8! (7. ♙:c6 stalemate) 7... ♙:e4 8. ♖a2+ ♜b4 9. ♖a4+! ♜:a4 10. ♖c3+ ♜b4 11. ♖:e4 +–.

“Children's firecracker” for the New Year for novice chess players.

Special Commendation



+ 4+8

Fun initial position. What reminds you? To me personally -- a rocket. Well, yes, 60 years after all the first flight of Yuri Gagarin into space!

1. ♖h3+! 1. ♜b6+? ♘g3
 2. ♜g6+ ♘f2 3. ♖h3+ ♘e3 4. ♜b6+ ♘d2; 1. ♘g5? ♞d1! 2. ♖h3+ ♘e1
 3. ♜c3+ ♞d2 4. ♞a7 ♜e7+! 5. ♘h6 ♜f8+ 6. ♘g5 ♜e7+; 1. ♖d5? ♞h1!
 2. ♜d4+ ♘g3 3. ♜f4+ ♘f2 =.

1... ♘g3 [1... ♘e3 2. ♜c3#] 2. ♘g5!
 ♖h5! [2... ♖h6+ 3. ♜:h6] 3. ♖f2!
 ♖e7 [3... ♖h6+ 4. ♘:h6] 4. ♜:e7
 [4. ♞:e7? ♜:f2] 4... ♜:f2 5. ♞:f2. But
 not 5. ♜e5+? ♘h3 6. ♞:f2 ♞gf1!
 7. ♜e3+ ♘h2 8. ♘:h5 ♞:f2 9. ♜:f2
 ♞h1. 5... ♞gf1! [5... ♘:f2 6. ♜c5+
 ♘f1 7. ♜f5+ ♖f3 8. ♜:f3#] 6. ♜e4!
 ♘:f2 7. ♜d4+ ♘g3 8. ♜h4+ ♘f3
 9. ♜f4#. Special distinction – for a schahography.

August 16, 2021
Oleg Pervakov