



UNION ARGENTINA DE PROBLEMISTAS DE AJEDREZ

13th INTERNATIONAL INTERNET TOURNAMENT–UAPA–2020

AWARD FINAL

Section A : Theme : One or two Rooks (white or black) vs. Queen – In the initial position, may presented be additional pieces – If the number of studies is significant, there will be two sections: **A.1. Win** and **A.2. Draw**

Judge : **Valery Kalashnikov** (Ural-Rusia)

Section B: No set theme.

B.1. Studies Win – Judge: **Amatzia Avni** (Israel)

B.2. Studies Draw- Judge: **Sergey Osintsev** (Ural-Rusia)

On behalf of the “Union Argentina de Problemistas de Ajedrez”, we thank composers and judges for their participation in the tournament organized to celebrate the 13th Edition of the Tournaments of the UAPA.

After the deadline (31-12-2020), the Director sent the studies with diagrams and solutions to the judges for their evaluation.

Participants: Michal Hlinka (Slovakia); Luboš Kekely (Slovakia); Valery Kalashnikov (Russia); Andrzej Jasik (Poland); Mario G. García (Argentina); Pavel Arestov (Russia); Marc Gelly (France); Peter S. Krug (Austria); Daniele Gatti (Italy); Richard Becker (USA); Poul Rewitz (Denmark); Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine); Amatzia Avni (Israel); Branislav Djurasevic (Serbia); Daniel Keith (France); ; Alexey Gasparyan (Armenia); Vladimir Kuzmichev (Russia); Michael Pasman (Israel); Helmut Waelzel (Germany); Vladimir Bulanov (Russia); Ognian Dimitrov (Bulgaria); Mihal Croitor (Moldova); Yury Bazlov (Russia); Borislav Ilincic (Serbia); Yochanan Afek (Israel); Jan Timman (Netherlands); Dmitry Zilberteins (USA); Stanislav Nosek (Rep.Checa); Itay Richardson (Israel); Jarl H. Ulrichsen (Norway); Sergy Didukh (Ukraine); Luis Gómez Palazón (Spain); David Gurgenidze (Georgia); Luis Miguel González (Spain); Mario Micaloni (Italy); Vladimir Neistadt (Russia); Petr Kiryakov (Russia); Paul Muljadi (USA); Jens B. Nielsen (Denmark);

We have received, 93 studies from 39 composers from 21 countries.

Sebastián A. Palomo
Coordinator of Tournaments (UAPA)

Section A

REPORT

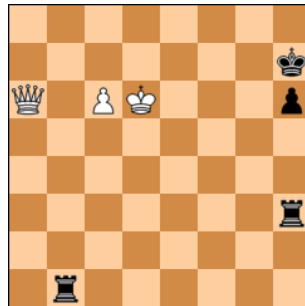
This is the second time I judge a UAPA ty, once again as the judge of the thematic section.

The theme was wide; it didn't prevent composers from demonstrating their skill and preferences.

Salutations to debutants Section A! Glory to constant authors! In total 24 study.

Number of studies for two sections is significant, but because of quality Draws it was not possible. I offer to include in the award final 11 studies, making a change of location of Yuri Bazlov's study, for the reason indicated in the comment below the solution.

P. Krug & P. Arestov
Prize



Win

Peter S. Krug & Pavel Arestov (Austria – Russia) – Prize

1.c7! [1.Qa7+? Kg6 2.c7 Rc3=; 1.Qe2? Rg3 2.Qc2+ Rg6+=] **1...Rc3** [B] 1...Rg3! 2.Qc4! (2.c8Q? Rg6+=) 2...Rg6+ 3.Ke5! (3.Ke7? Rg7+=) 3...Re1+ (3...Rg5+ 4.Kf4+-) 4.Kf4! (4.Kf5? Rh1! 5.c8Q Rh5+ 6.Kf4 Rh4+ 7.Kf3 Rxc4=) 4...Re8 (4...Rf6+ 5.Kg3 Rg1+ 6.Kh3 Rfg6 7.Qe4+-) 5.Qf7+! (5.c8Q? Rxc8=) 5...Rg7 6.Qxe8 Rxc7 7.Qe4+! Kg8 8.Qg6+ Rg7 9.Qxh6+-] **2.c8Q Rxc8 3.Qd3+! Kh8!** [3...Kg7 /g8 4.Qxb1+-] **4.Qd4+!** [4.Qxb1? Rg8! 5.Ke7 Rg7+ 6.Kf8 Rg8+ 7.Kf7 Rg7+?] **4...Kh7 5.Qe4+ Kh8 6.Qe5+ Kg8** [6...Kh7 7.Qf5+-] **7.Qe6+!** [7.Qd5+? is loss of time] **7...Kg7 8.Qd7+!** [8.Qe7+!? Kg8 9.Qe6+ Kg7 loss of time; 8.Qxc8? Rd1+ 9.Ke5 Rg1!=] **8...Kf6!** [8...Kg6 9.Qxc8 Rd1+ 10.Ke7 Re1+ 11.Kf8 Rf1+ 12.Kg8+-] **9.Qe7+!** [9.Qxc8?? Rd1+ 10.Kc7 Rc1+-] **9...Kg6 10.Qe4+! Kf6 11.Qxb1+- win**

Two interesting histories the not arisen fortress. Yes, Queen – the strongest figure!



Mihail Croitor (Moldava) – 1st Honourable Mention

1.Rd8+ [1.Rd1? Qh2 2.Rd8+ Kh7 3.Rd7+ (3.Rdg8 Qh6+-) 3...Kh6 4.Rdg7 (4.Rd6+ Kh5=) 4...c2=] 1...Kh7 2.Rd7+ Kh6 [2...Kh8 3.Re3+-] 3.Rd6+ Kh5 [3...Kh7 4.Re3+-] 4.Rd1 Qh2 [4...Kh4 5.Rg8+-] 5.Rg8 c2 [5...Qh3+ 6.Kc7 c2 7.Rh1+-] 6.Rh1 c1Q+ [6...Qxh1 7.Rh8+ Kg4 8.Rxh1 Kf3 9.Rc1+-] 7.Rxc1 Qh3+ 8.Kc7 Qf3 [8...Qh2+ 9.Kc6+-] 9.Rh1+ Qxh1 10.Rh8+ Kg4 11.Rxh1+-

Amicable duet Rooks supervises any movement the opponent on an empty board.
We shall reach Classics!

David Gurgenidze (Georgia) – 2nd Honourable Mention

1.a7 Qe5+ [1...Qg2+ 2.Kxh5 Qf3+ 3.Kg5 Qd5+ 4.Kf4 Qd4+ 5.Kg3 Qxa7 6.Kg2 Qg7+ 7.Kf1=] **2.Kh4 Qd4+** **3.Kh3** [3.Kg3? h4+–+] **3...Qxa7** **4.Re1** [4.Rb3? Qd7+ 5.Kg2 Qd5+ 6.Rf3+ Ke7–+] **4...Qxf2** [4...Qd7+ 5.Kg2 Qd5+ 6.Kg1 Qg5+ 7.Kh1 Qd2 (7...h4 8.Re3 Qg4 9.Kh2 Kf7 10.Rh3 Kf6 11.Re3 theoretical draw) 8.Re3 Qxf2 9.Re8+ Kf7 10.Rf8+ stalemate 2] **5.Re8+** **Kxe8=** stalemate!

The initial position breathes a theoretical drawn. Searches of 2006-2020 – OK!

Consecutive stalemates at white King on different point. 9.Re8+ Kxe8=

Vladimir Kuzmichev (Russia) – 3rd Honourable Mention

1.h7! Qh2 [1...Kg6 2.h8N+!!= (2.h8Q? Qa3+! 3.Ke8 Qa8+!–+; 2.Rg1!? Qxg1 3.h8Q Qc5+ 4.Ke8 Qc8+–+)] **2.Kg7!** [2.Kg8? Qa2+! 3.Kf8 Qxb1 4.h8Q Qb8+ 5.Kg7 Qc7+ 6.Kf8 Qd8+ 7.Kg7 Qe7+–+ 8.Kg8 Kg6–+] **2...Qg2+** **3.Kh8!!** [3.Kf8? Kg6! 4.h8Q (4.h8N+ Kh7 5.Nf7 Qa8+! 6.Ke7 Qe4+–+) 4...Qa8+–+] **3...Kf6** [3...Qa8+ 4.Kg7 Qa7+ 5.Kh6!! (5.Kg8!? Qa2+–+) 5...Qe3+ (5...Qa6+ 6.Kg7! Qg6+ 7.Kh8=) 6.Kg7! Qd4+ 7.Kg8! (7.Kf7? Qa7+! 8.Kg8 Qa2+!–+) 7...Kg6 8.h8N+!! Kf6 9.Rf1+!]=] **4.Rb6+! Ke7** [4...Kg5 5.Rb5+! Kg6 6.Rb6+!]=] **5.Re6+!! Kxe6** stalemate

The art contribution to the theory the five-figured endings! Main line here – variant with minor promotion.

Peter S. Krug (Austria) – 4th Honourable Mention

1.e8Q Rf6+ **2.Kb7!!** [Thematic try : 2.Kxa7 Rf7+ 3.Kb6 Rf6+ 4.Kc7 Rf7+ 5.Kd6 Rf6+ 6.Ke7 Rf3! 7.Qh5 Re3+ 8.Kd6 Rd3+ 9.Ke5 Rg3! 10.Ke6 Re3+ 11.Kd6 Rd3+ 12.Kc5 Rc3+ 13.Kd4 Rc6 14.Qe5+ Rf6 15.Kd5 Kf7 16.Qc7+ Kg8! 17.Qe7 Rg6 =] **2...Rf7+** **3.Kc6 Rf6+** **4.Kc7** or [4.Kd7] **4...Rf7+** **5.Kd6 Rf6+** **6.Ke7 Rf3** **7.Qh5 Re3+** **8.Kd7** or [8.Kd8; or 8.Kd6 Rd3+ 9.Kc6 Rc3+ 10.Kb7 Rb3+ 11.Ka8+– !] **8...Rd3+** **9.Kc7 Rc3+** **10.Kb7** or [10.Kb8] **10...Rb3+** **11.Ka8+– !**

9 moves between refusals of capture pawn! May be, make reference «after...»

Michael Pasman (Israel)- 5th/6th Honorable Mention

1.f8Q d2 **2.Ba7+!!** [Thematic try : 2.Qc5+ Kh1! 3.Qxe5 Rh6+! 4.Kg8 d1Q–+ 5.Qe4+ Kg1 6.Qe3+ Kf1 7.Qf4+ Ke1 8.Qe3+ Qe2 and Black escapes from perpetual check] **2...Rxa7** [2...Rdxa7 3.Qc5+ Kf1 (3...Kg2 4.Qd5+) 4.Qc4+ Kf2 5.Qc5+ Kf3 6.Qd5+=] **3.Qg7+!!** Promoted Queen sacrificed now **3...Kf1** **4.Qf6+** **Ke2** **5.Qxe5+** **Kd1** **6.Qh5+** **Kc2** **7.Qc5+!** **Kd3** **8.Qb5+** **Kc3** **9.Qc5+** **Kb3** **10.Qb5+** **Ka3** **11.Qc5+** **Kb3** [11...Kb2 12.Qb4+ Ka2 13.Qc4+ Kb2 14.Qb4+] **12.Qb5+** **Kc3** **13.Qc5+** **Kd3** **14.Qb5+** **Kd4** trying other escape **15.Qb4+** **Ke3** **16.Qc3+** **Rd3** **17.Qe5+** **Kf2** **18.Qf4+** **Ke2** **19.Qe4+** **Re3** **20.Qg4+** **Kd3** **21.Qf5+** **Kc3** **22.Qc5+** **Kb2** **23.Qd4+** **Kc2** Seems succeeded, but... **24.Qxe3!** [24.Qc5+ Rc3–+] **24...Ra8+** **25.Kg7!** [One more try : 25.Kh7? d1Q 26.Qe4+ Qd3–+] **25...d1Q** **26.Qe4+=** and Qxa8, draw

Perspective theme: consecutive catching Rooks!

Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine)- 5th/6th Honorable Mention

1.g7 Bg6+! [1...Rxf7 2.g8Q c2 3.Nb4 Kb2 4.Nd3+ Kxa3 5.Bd2 Rb3 6.Nc5 Rb1 7.Qg5 Rf4+ 8.Bxf4 exf4 9.Nd3+–] **2.Kxe5** [2.Ke3? Rd8! 3.Bxd8 Bxf7–+] **2...Rxf7** **3.g8Q Rf5+** **4.Kd4 Rxa5** **5.Qxg6** [5.Qc4? Bc2 6.Nc5 Rxc5 7.Qxc5 Rb3=] **5...Rxa4+** **6.Nb4!** [6.Kxc3? Rxa3+ 7.Kc4 Ra4+ 8.Kc5 Ra5+=] **6...Rxb4+!** [6...Raxb4+ 7.axb4+– (7.Kxc3?? R1b3#)] **7.Kxc3!!** [Try: 7.axb4? Kb2! 8.Qc6 Rxb4+ 9.Kd3 Rd4+! 10.Kxd4 c2=] **7...Rc4+** **8.Kb3 Kd2** [8...Re4 9.Qc6+ Kd2 10.Qxa4 Rxa4 11.Kxa4 Kc3 12.Kb5+–] **9.Qe8!!** [Thematic try: 9.Qd6+? Rd4 10.Qc6 Kd3! 11.Qb5+ Rdc4! zz 12.Qd5+ Rd4 13.Qb5+ Rdc4 positional draw] **9...Kd3!** **10.Qb5!** zz [Thematic try: 10.Qxa4? Rxa4 11.Kxa4 Kc4 12.Ka5 Kc5=] **10...Kd4** **11.Qf5 Ke3** **12.Qd7!** **Ke4** **13.Qxa4!** **Rxa4** **14.Kxa4 Kd5** **15.Kb5+**

Cheerful dynamical action!

Yury Bazlov (Russia) – Special Honorable Mention

1.Rf2! [1.Rg2? Qa8+–+] **1...Nf1!** [1...Qh1 2.Ng3+–+; 1...Qa7 2.Rgg2 Ng4 3.Nd4+–+; 1...Qe5 2.Ng3+–+] **2.Nc1+!** **Nd2!** **3.Rxd2+!** [3.Rc6+? Kb1! 4.Rxd2 Qa8+–+] **3...Kxc1** [3...Kxd2 4.Nb3+–+] **4.Rf2!** [4.Rg1+? Kxd2 5.Rxa1 e5!]=] **4...Qa8+** **5.Kg7!** **Qh1** **6.Ra2!** [6.Rfg2? e5!]=] **6...Kb1** **7.Rag2!** **Qh4** [7...Qh3 8.Rg1+ Kc2 9.R6g2+ Kd3 10.Rg3+–+] **8.R2g4!** **Qh5** **9.R4g5** **Qh4** **10.Rb5+!** [10.Rb6+? Kc2! 11.Rc6+ Kb3! 12.Rb5+ Ka4!÷] **10...Kc2** **11.Rc6+** **Kd3** **12.Rd5+** **Ke3** **13.Re6+** **Kf3** **14.Rf5+** **Kg3** [14...Kg4 15.Rf1 Qg5+ 16.Rg6+–] **15.Rg6+** **Kh2** **16.Rh6+**

Illusion of freedom, but the first verdict from Knight twists Intensive actions.

Numerous correct choice an active Rook!-- The second part is known after V.Khortov (2.c Fizkultura i Sport 1983)



Helmut Waelzel (Germany) – Commendation

1.Rd6! [1.Rd8? Kh2 2.Rh8+ Kg1 3.Rhg8 Ng3+ (here 3... Nf2 4. Rg3 Ng4 5. R3xg4 f2 6. Rxxg2+ leads to the same position) 4.Rxxg3 f2 5.Rxxg2+ Kh1 6.R2g4 f1Q+ 7.Kg5 Qb5+ 8.Kh6 white rook on g8 8...Qb6+ 9.Kh5 Qb5+= draw by perpetual check; 1.Rd7? allows different continuations on move seven.] **1...Kh2 2.Rh6+ Kg1 3.Rhg6 Ng3+ 4.Rxxg3 f2 5.Rxxg2+ Kh1 6.R2g4!** [6.Rxf2!? stalemate] **6...f1Q+ 7.Kg5 Qb5+ [7...Qc1+ 8.Kh5 Qd1 9.Rh6 Qc2 10.Kg5+-] 8.Kh6** white rook on g6. There is no defence left **8...Qe5 9.Rh4+-**

Riddle of the first move with a prediction of the final, counter-play on stalemate.
Solution this miniature should be clear to amateurs of a chess!

Andrzej Jasik (Poland) – Commendation

1.f8R! [1.f8Q? Ra1+ 2.Kxa1 h1Q+ 3.Ka2 Nc3+ 4.bxc3 Qa1+ 5.Kxa1= Stalemate] **1...Ra1+! 2.Kxa1 h1Q+ 3.Ka2 Nc3+! 4.bxc3 Qh2+ 5.Ng2!** [5.Ka3? Qd6+ 6.Ka4 Qxf8-+; 5.Kb1? Qg1+ 6.Kb2 Qxa7=] **5...Qxxg2+ 6.Ka3! Qg7! 7.a8R!+-** Win[7.a8Q? Qxf8+ 8.Qxf8= Stalemate]

After mutual promotions and tactic – other actors on a chess arena in silent stage.
The theme – is not so much, is present Impressionism!

Michal Hlinka & Luboš Kekely (Slovakia) – Special commendation

1.f7! [1.g6? Ra8+ 2.Kh7 e1Q 3.f7 Qe4-+] **1...Rxf7 [B] 1...Ra8+ 2.f8Q Rxf8+ 3.Rxf8 e1Q 4.g6 h3! (4...Qxe5+ 5.g7 h3 6.Kh7 Qe4+ 7.Kh8 Qd4 8.Rf3! as in line A) after 3..Qxe5) 5.g7 h2 6.Rc8+! Kd2 (6...Kb2 7.Rb8+ Ka3 8.g8Q Qxe5+ 9.Kh7=) 7.Rd8+! (7.g8Q Qxe5+ 8.Kh7 h1Q 9.Qa2+ Ke3 10.Qa7+ Kf4 11.Rf8+ Kg3 12.Rg8+ Kh4-+) 7...Kc3 8.Rc8+! (8.g8Q? Qxe5+ 9.Kh7 h1Q 10.Rc8+ Kd2 11.Qa2+ Ke3 as after 7.g8Q) 8...Kd4 (8...Kb4 9.g8Q Qxe5+ 10.Kh7=) 9.Rd8+! (9.g8Q? Qxe5+ 10.Kh7 h1Q 11.Qd8+ Qhd5 12.Qb6+ Ke4 13.Qb4+ Kf3 14.Rc3+ Ke2 15.Rc2+ Ke3 16.Rc3+ Qxc3-+) 9...Kc3 (9...Kc5 10.Rd5+! Kxd5 11.g8Q+ Kd4 12.Qd8+ Ke4 13.Qa8+ Kf4 14.Qf8+!)=) 10.Rc8+ Kb2 11.Rb8+! (11.g8Q? Qxe5+ 12.Kh7 Qe4+ 13.Kh8 Qd4+ 14.Kh7 Qa7+ 15.Kh6 Qb6+ 16.Kg5 Qg1+-+) 11...Kc1 12.Rc8+! (12.g8Q? Qxe5+ 13.Kh7 Qe4+ 14.Kh6 Qe3+ 15.Kh7 Qd3+ 16.Kh6 h1Q 17.Qg5+ Kd1-+) 12...Kd2 13.Rd8+=] **2.Rxf7 e1Q 3.g6 h3** [3...Qxe5+ 4.g7 h3 5.Kh7 Qe4+ 6.Kh8 Qd4 7.Rf3! h2 8.Rf1+ Kd2 9.Rh1 Qe5 10.Rxxh2+ Qxxh2 11.g8Q Qe5+ 12.Kh7!=] **4.g7 h2 5.Rc7+!** [5.g8Q? Qxe5+ 6.Rg7 h1Q 7.Qc4+ Kb1 8.Qb3+ Qb2-+] **5...Kb2! 6.Rb7+ Ka3!** [6...Kc3 7.g8Q Qxe5+ 8.Kh7 Qe4+ 9.Kh8 Qxb7 10.Qg3+=] **7.Ra7+!** [7.g8Q? Qxe5+ 8.Kh7 Qe4+ 9.Kh8 Qxb7 10.Qf8+ Ka2 11.Qf7+ Qb3 12.Qa7+ Kb1 13.Qh7+ Qc2-+] **7...Kb4 8.Rb7+!** [8.g8Q? Qxe5+ 9.Kh7 h1Q 10.Qf8+ Kb5-+] **8...Ka3** [8...Ka5 9.g8Q Qxe5+ 10.Kh7 Qe4+ 11.Kh8 Qxb7 12.Qa2+=] **9.Ra7+** positional draw **9...Kb4 10.Rb7+ Kc5 11.g8Q Qxe5+ 12.Kh7 Qe4+ 13.Kh8 Qxb7 14.Qf8+=** draw**

You want to put new white Queen? Non, attacks Rook on black King make Draw!

Ural, Russia, April 2021

Judge Valery Kalashnikov

Section B.1.: Studies – Win

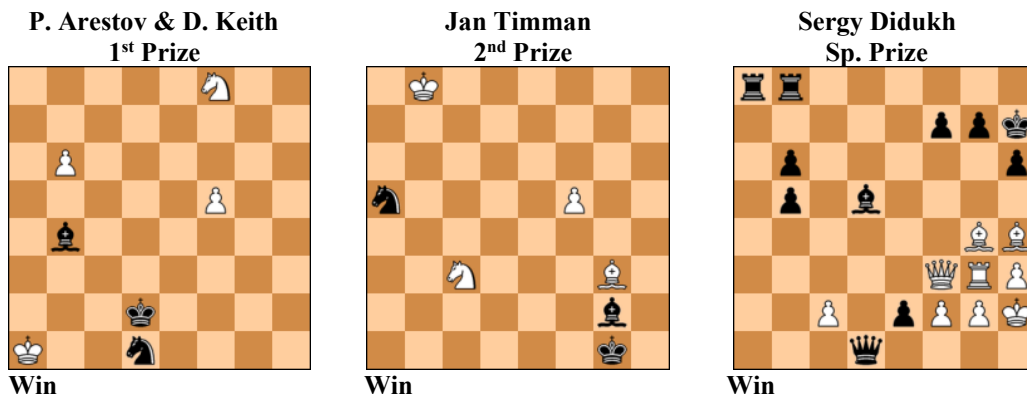
REPORT

I received 32 studies of varied level from TD Mario Garcia. N°15 study was transferred to the next UAPA ty.

From my initial list of candidates, I had to omit three, following an anticipation check by Gady Costeff: Ka8/a2 by Ulrichsen & Arestov - several prior works, e.g. Narnaja, Kd8/f4 1970; Pfeiffer, Kh8/h6, 1939. Kh6/f1 by Gelly - there are several, even better examples of Excelsior; Kh2/c4 by Gonzalez – similar to Kiriakov, Kg1/c7, 2019. The additional 6.e5! does not justify inclusion in the award. - Another study, by Tarasiuk (Ke8/c8) was originally destined for 2nd special prize. The content was beautiful and I was willing to ignore the promoted Ba6. However, after the award was sent to the judges to check the proofs, Mr. Kalashnikov correctly observed that the white's king position is illegal, as there is no way it could have reached e8! So, this study is also disqualified.

My grading follows below. I was quite generous in the commendation department.

Although it is agreed that the task of judging is subjective, in several cases I felt obliged to give detailed explanation of my decisions.



Pavel Arestov & Daniel & Keith (Russia-France) 1st prize

1.b7! [1.Nd7? Kc2! 2.b7 Bc3+ 3.Ka2 Bb2! 4.b8Q Nc3#] **1...Bd6 2.Nd7** [2.Ne6? Be5+ 3.Kb1 Nc3+=] **2...Ne3 3.f6 Nc2+! 4.Kb1!** [4.Ka2? Nb4+ 5.Kb3 Nc6 6.Kc4 Na5+=; 4.Kb2? Nd4 5.f7 Nc6 6.Kb3 Na5+=] **4...Nd4 5.f7** with two lines : A) **5...Ne6** [B) 5...Nc6 6.Ne5! Nb8 7.Nc4+ Kd3 8.Nxd6+-] **6.Ne5!!** [Try: 6.Kb2? Ke3! 7.Kc3 Kf4! 8.Kc4 Kf5 9.Nc5!? (9.Kd5 Bh2! 10.f8Q+ Nxf8 11.Nxf8 Kf6 12.Nd7+ Kf5! 13.Nc5 Kf6 14.Nd7+ Kf5= draw by repetition) 9...Nf8! 10.Kd5 Bb8! 11.Na6 Ba7! 12.Nb4 Bb8!= a second draw by repetition] **6...Nf8 7.Ne4+ Kd3 8.Nxd6+-**

The echo 5...Ne6 6.Ne5!! and 5...Nc6 6.Ne5!! is lovely. The two drawing lines by repetition in the following tries, add value.

Jan Timman (Netherlands) -2nd prize

1.f6 Nc6+ 2.Kc8! [2.Kc7? Nd4 3.Ne2+ (3.f7 Ne6+ 4.Kd6 Nf8 5.Ke7 Nh7=) 3...Nxe2 4.f7 Nxc3 5.f8Q Ne4=] **2...Nd4** [2...Bh3+ 3.Kc7 Nd4 4.f7 Ne6+ 5.Kd6 Nf8 6.Ke7 Ng6+ (6...Nh7 7.Ne4+- (7.Nd5+-) 7.Kf6+-] **3.Ne2+!** [3.f7? Ne6 4.Kd7 Nf8+ 5.Ke7 Nh7=] **3...Nxe2 4.Bf2+!** [4.f7? Nxc3 5.f8Q Ne4= fortress] **4...Kxf2 5.f7 Ng3 6.f8Q+ Kg1 7.Qc5+ Kh1 8.Qc1+ Kh2 9.Qf4+-**

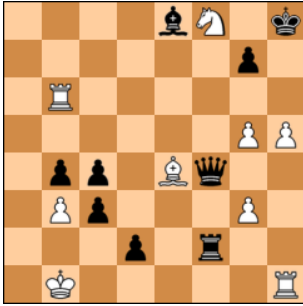
White will get a decisive material advantage but a precise placing of WK, plus sacrifice of two pieces, are required to avoid a black fortress. The first two prizes are presented in a miniature form.

Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine)- special prize

1.Bf5+ g6 [1...Kg8 2.Qg4 g5 (2...Qg1+ 3.Kxg1 e1Q+ 4.Kh2 Qe5 5.f4 Qa1 6.c3+-) 3.Bxc5 hxc5 4.Qxc5+ Kf8 5.Qg7+ Ke8 6.Qf6!+-] **2.Qh5 Qg1+!** Another queen will defend g6. [The rook can't stop White's attack: 2...Rg8 3.Bg5 Rg7 4.Qxh6+ Kg8 5.Bf6 Rh7 6.Rxc6+! fxc6 7.Qxc6+ Kf8 8.Qxh7+-] **3.Kxg1 e1Q+ 4.Kh2 Qe8 5.Bg5 Qf8 6.Bf6!** [6.Bf4? Qg7 7.Be5 Qg8 8.Rg4 Be6! (8...Bc4? 9.Qxh6+! Kxh6 10.Rh4+ Kg5 11.Bg4! Ra3 12.f4+ Kxh4 13.Bd4!+-) 9.f4 gxf5!]=] **6...Qe8!** [6...Qg8 7.Rg4! Ra4 8.f4+- Qxh6 and Rh4# will follow.] **7.Rg5!!** All-in! White intends to undress his king and cut off his heavy pieces by another weird move g4. If Black stops mate the white king will remain alone against enemy canons. [Straightforward attack 7.Rg4? Ra4 8.f4 is countered by sacrifices: 8...Bf3! 9.gxf3 (9.Bg5 Kg8! 10.Qxh6 Qf8 11.gxf3 Qxh6 12.Bxh6 Kh7+-) 9...Rxf4! 10.Rxf4 Qe2+ 11.Kg3 Qe1+ 12.Kg4 Qg1+=; A little subtlety 7.f4? is met by 7...Bc4! (7...Ra4? 8.Be5+-) 8.Rg4 Be2+-] **7...Rb7!** [7...Ra4 8.g4! Qg8 9.h4! (9.Rxc6? fxc6 10.g5 Rh4! 11.Qxh4 Qf8=) 9...Rf4 10.Qxh6+ Kxh6 11.Rh5+ gxc5 12.g5+ Qxc5 13.hxc5#; After 7...Be6 8.Rg4! works again: 8...Ra4 9.f4 Rxf4 10.Rxf4 Bxf5 11.Qxh6+ Kxh6 12.Rh4#] **8.g4! Qb8+ 9.Kg1 Ra1+ 10.Bxa1 Qe8 11.Be5! Re7** [No time for 11...Bf3 12.h4! (12.Qh4? Qe7 13.Rxc6 fxc6 14.Bxc6+ Kg8!)=] 12...Rd7 13.Qxh6+ Kxh6 14.Rh5+ gxc5 15.g5#] **12.f4!** [The WQ will suffocate after 12.h4? Rxe5 13.Bxc6+ fxc6 14.Rxe5 Qf7+-] **12...Rxe5** Mate has disappeared together with the bishop. The white prisoners must think about their own safety. **13.Bxc6+!** [13.fxe5? Kg7=] **13...fxg6 14.Rxe5 Qf8** [14...Qd8 15.Rxd5 Qe7 16.Qe5+-] **15.Qh4 Qc5+ 16.Qf2!** Just in time!

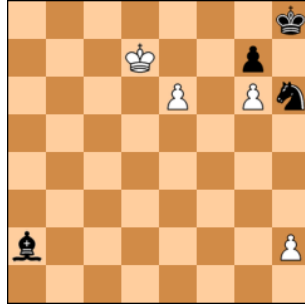
The white army storms violently and takes the BK by his throat, while leaving his own king naked. The study scores very high on originality, but the initial crowded position is painful to watch. I put creativity before economy and naturalness, airy position; hence, a prize.

P. Krug & M. García
1st Honorable Mention



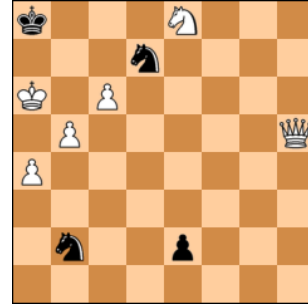
Win

Michael Pasman
2nd Honorable Mention



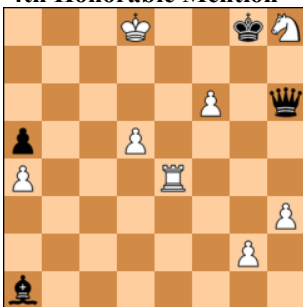
Win

David Gurgenzidze
3rd Honorable Mention



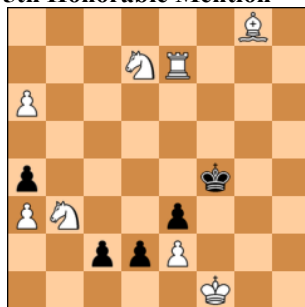
BTM Win

Andrzej Jasik
4th Honorable Mention



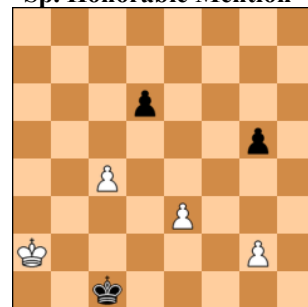
Win

Itay Richardson
5th Honorable Mention



Win

Michael Pasman
Sp. Honorable Mention



Win

Peter Krug & Mario García (Austria-Argentina) – 1st Honorable Mention

1.Ng6+! [1.gxf4? Re2 2.Ng6+ Kh7=] **1...Bxg6 2.hxg6+ Rh2! 3.Rxh2+ Kg8 4.Bc2!** [4.Bd5+? Kf8 5.Rh8+ Ke7 6.Rb7+ Kd6 7.Rd8+ Kc5 8.Rb5+ Kxb5 9.Bxc4+ Qxc4 10.bxc4+ Kxc4= positional draw] **4...Qxg3** [4...Qf1+ 5.Ka2 Qf8 6.Ra6+-] **5.Rf2!** [5.Re2? Kf8 6.Rbe6 Qg1+ 7.Ka2 Qa7+ 8.Kb1 Qg1+=; 5.Rh1? Qe1+ 6.Ka2 Kf8=] **5...d1Q+** [5...Qxf2 6.Rb8+ Qf8 7.Rxf8+ Kxf8 8.bxc4+-] **6.Bxd1 c2+ 7.Bxc2** [7.Rxc2? Qxb3+ 8.Ka1 Qa3+ 9.Kb1 Qb3+=] **7...cxb3** [7...Qxf2 8.Rb8+ Qf8 9.Rxf8+ Kxf8 10.bxc4+-] **8.Rb8+ Qxb8 9.Bxb3+ Kh8 10.Ra2!** [10.Rc2? Qc7 11.Rxc7= stalemate(11.Ba2 Qxc2+ 12.Kxc2 b3+ 13.Kxb3 Kg8=) ; 10.Re2? Qe5 11.Bc4 (11.Rxe5= stalemate) 11...Qxe2 12.Bxe2= positional draw; 10.Rf3 Qc8 11.Bd5 (11.Rf4 Qf5+ /c1=) 11...b3 12.Rf2 Qc2+ 13.Rxc2 bxc2+ 14.Kxc2= stalemate] **10...Qf4** [10...Qe8 11.Rh2#] **11.Ra8+ Qb8 12.Rxb8#**

Interesting play and counterplay, decided by the accurate 10.Ra2!

Michael Pasman (Israel) - 2nd Honorable Mention

1.e7 Be6+! 2.Kxe6! [Thematic try : 2.Kd8 Bd7! 3.Kxd7 Ng8 4.e8N Nh6= and the knight is out; 2.Kc7 Bd7!] **2...Ng8! 3.e8N!** [3.e8Q Stalemate; 3.e8R Stalemate; 3.e8B=; 3.Kf7 Nxe7=] **3...Nh6 4.h3!** blocks the knight [4.Nc7? Ng4=] **4...Kg8!** [4...Ng8 5.Kd7! (5.Nd6? Nf6=) 5...Nh6 6.Nd6! Kg8 7.Ke7 Kh8 8.Kf8+-] **5.Ke5!** [5.Ke7? Nf5+?; 5.Nd6? Kf8!; 5.Nc7 Kh8 wastes time - now no better then go back 6.Ne8 (6.Ke5? Ng8! threat Ne7 7.Nd5 Ne7!)=] **5...Kf8** [In case of 5...Kh8 White executes the same plan , but with another path with the knight 6.Nd6! (thematic try : 6.Nc7? Ng8! 7.Nd5 Ne7!)=] **6...Kg8 7.Ne4 Kf8 8.Ng5 Kg8 9.Ke4 /f4 9...Kf8 10.Ne6+! Kg8 11.Kf4! Kh8 12.Ng5! Kg8 13.Nh7!** **6.Nc7!** [6.Nd6? Ng8! 7.h4 Ne7 8.h5 Ng8 9.Ke6 Nh6 10.Nf7 Ng4 is already draw] **6...Kg8** [6...Ng8 7.Ne6+] **7.Ne6! Kh8 8.Ng5 /d8 8...Kg8 9.Ke4 /f4** Triangle with the King [9.Ke6 Kf8! and the only move is to return to e5, because 10.Nh7+ Ke8 11.Ng5= Ng8! Knight is out] **9...Kf8** [9...Kh8 10.Nf7+] **10.Ne6+ Kg8** [10...Ke7 11.Ke5! and Nxe7] **11.Kf4! Kh8 12.Ng5!** [12.Ke5? Ng8!]=] **12...Kg8 13.Nh7!** Other moves are just waste of time, for example : [13.Nf3 Kf8 14.Nd4 Kg8 15.Ne6 Kh8 and White has no better then to return to previous position with 16.Ng5; or 13.Ke4 Kf8 14.Ne6+ Kg8 15.Kf4 Kh8] **13...Kh8 14.Ke5!** [14.Ke4? Ng8! and Ne7 next is draw] **14...Kg8** [14...Ng8 15.Ke6 Nh6 the same] **15.Ke6 Kh8 16.Ng5 Kg8 17.Nf7!** [17.Ke5 Kf8 18.Ne6+ Kg8 19.Ke4 Kh8 20.Ng5 Kg8 21.Nh7 Kh8 just wastes time - and White has nothing better than to return to the main line 22.Ke5 Kg8 23.Ke6 Kh8 24.Ng5 Kg8 25.Nf7] **17...Nxf7 18.gxf7+ Kf8 19.h4 g6 20.Kf6 g5 21.h5+-**

5.Ke5! is surprising, afterwards play is dictated by the idea of forcing a knight exchange, white executing a triangle, with some minor duals.

David Gurgenzidze (Georgia)- 3rd Honorable Mention

1...Nb8+ 2.Kb6 Nxa4+ 3.Ka5 e1Q+ 4.Kxa4 Qe4+ [4...Qa1+ 5.Kb3 Qb1+ 6.Kc4 Qe4+ 7.Kc5 Qe3+ 8.Kd6+-] 5.Ka5 Qe1+ 6.Kb6 Qxe8 [6...Qe3+ 7.Qc5+-] 7.Qf3 [7.Qxe8? stalemate] 7...Qf8 8.Qg2! Qg8 9.Qh1! [9.Qxg8= stalemate; 9.Qe4? Qg1+=] 9...Qh8 10.Qe4 [10.Qd5? Qd8+ 11.Qxd8 stalemate] 10...Qe8 11.Qa4+-

White's winning maneuver Qf3-g2-h1 is noteworthy; Usually this kind of play demonstrates a white queen harassing a black queen; here it is the other way around.

Andrzej Jasik (Poland) - 4th Honorable Mention

1.f7+! Kh7! [1...Kxh8 2.Ke8 Bg7 3.g3 Qf6 4.Rh4+ Bh6 5.Rxh6+ Qxh6 6.f8Q+-; 1...Kg7 2.Kd7! Qxh8 (2...Qh5 3.Rg4+ Kh7 4.f8Q) 3.Re8 Kxf7 4.Rxh8 Bxh8 5.d6+-] 2.Ke8! [2.Kd7? Qh5! 3.f8Q Qxd5+ 4.Qd6 Qxe4 5.Nf7 Qxa4+=; 2.Ng6? Bf6+ 3.Ke8 Qxg6+-] 2...Bg7 [2...Qh5 3.Ng6! Qxd5 4.Nf8+ Kh6 5.Re6+ Kh5 6.g4+ Kh4 7.Ng6+ Kg5 8.f8Q+-] 3.Ng6! [3.g3? Qd6 4.Rh4+ Bh6 5.Rxh6+ Qxh6 6.f8Q Qc6+! 7.dxc6 Stalemate; 3.f8Q? Bxf8 4.Nf7 Qa6 5.Kxf8 Qa8+ 6.Ke7 Qxd5 7.Rh4+ Kg6 8.Rg4+ Kh7=] 3...Qxg6 4.Rh4+ Bh6 5.g3! Zugzwang 5...Kg7 [5...Qf5 6.Rxh6+! Kg7 7.Rh7+! Kxh7 8.f8Q+-; 5...Kh8 6.Rxh6+ Qxh6 7.f8Q+-] 6.Rg4 Bg5 7.Rxg5! Qxg5 8.f8Q+ Win

Before embarking on his main idea, white has to avoid a sly stalemate trap.

Itay Richardson (Israel) 5th Honorable Mention

1.Kg2! [1.Re4+? Kg5 (1...Kxe4? 2.Bh7+ Kd5 3.Bxc2+-) 2.Kg2 d1Q 3.Nc1 Qxd7=] 1...d1Q [1...axb3 2.Re4+ Kxe4 3.a7 d1Q 4.a8Q+-] 2.Nc1! Qxc1 3.Re4+! [3.a7? Qd1 4.Re4+ Kg5=] 3...Kxe4 [3...Kg5 4.Re5+ Kf4 (4...Kh6 5.a7+-) 5.Bh7 (5.Be6? Qf1+! 6.Kxf1 c1Q+ 7.Kg2 Qc6+ 8.Bd5 (8.Kh2 Qg2+ 9.Kxg2 stalemate) 8...Qg6+ 9.Kh1 Qh6+ 10.Kg1 Qg6+ 11.Kf1 Qb1+=) 5...Qf1+ (5...Qb2 6.Rf5+ Kg4 (6...Ke4 7.Rb5+-) 7.Nf6+ Qxf6 8.Rxf6 c1Q 9.a7+-) 6.Kxf1 c1Q+ 7.Kg2 Qc6+ 8.Re4+-] 4.a7 Qg1+!! [4...Qf1+ 5.Kxf1+- with the same continuation] 5.Kxg1 c1Q+ 6.Kg2! [6.Kh2? Qc7+ 7.Kg2 Qxa7+-] 6...Qc6 [6...Qc8 7.Bd5+ Kxd5 8.Nb6+-] 7.Bd5+! [7.a8Q? Qxa8 8.Bd5+ Qxd5 9.Nf6+ Kd4+ 10.Nxd5 Kxd5=; 7.Nf6+? Kd4+ 8.Bd5 Qxf6 9.a8Q Qg6+ 10.Kf1 (10.Kh3 Qh5+=) 10...Qb1+=] 7...Kxd5 [7...Qxd5 8.Nf6+-] 8.a8B! [8.a8Q? Kd4+ 9.Qxc6= stalemate] 8...Qxa8 9.Nb6+ Kc6 10.Nxa8+-

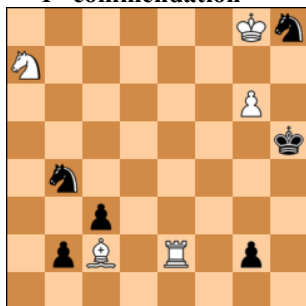
A wealth of combinational elements, all known but the synthesis is impressive. The composer, a grandson of the famous Yehuda Hoch, is 14 years old.

Michael Pasman (Israel) Special Honorable Mention

1.e4! [1.Kb3 Kd2 2.e4 Kd3=] 1...Kd2 2.Kb1!! [Thematic - logical try : 2.Kb2? g4! 3.Kb1 Ke3! 4.e5 (4.c5 dxc5 5.e5 Kd2!) 4...dxe5 5.c5 Kf2 6.c6 e4 7.c7 e3 8.c8Q e2 see main line 1 : the difference is that the White King is on b1 instead of b2, so White cannot continue Qxg4, because e1=Q comes with check. 9.Qc5+ Kf1 10.Qc4 (10.Qf5+ Kg1!) 10...Kf2 11.Qf4+ Kg1! 12.Qe3+ Kf1=; 2.g4 Kd3=; 2.Kb3 Kd3=] 2...g4 3.Kb2! Main 1 : [Thematic try 3.g3? Ke3! 4.e5 dxe5 5.c5 e4 6.c6 Kf2 7.c7 e3 8.c8Q e2 9.Qc2 Kf1 10.Qd3 Kf2=; 3.Ka2 Kd3!] 3...Ke3!? [Main 2 : 3...g3! 4.Kb1! Ke3!? a) 4...Kd3 5.e5 dxe5 6.c5 e4 (6...Ke2 7.c6 Kf2 8.c7 Kxg2 9.c8Q) 7.Kc1! Ke2 8.c6 e3 9.c7 Kf2 10.c8Q+-; b) 4...Kd1!? 5.e5 (5.Ka2 Kd2) 5...dxe5 6.c5 e4 7.c6 e3 8.c7 e2 9.c8Q e1Q 10.Qc2#; c) 4...Ke1 5.e5 dxe5 6.c5 e4 7.c6 e3 8.c7 e2 9.c8Q+-; 5.e5 dxe5 6.c5 e4 7.c6 Kf2 8.c7 e3 9.c8Q+- now white is winning, because the square f3 is available for check] 4.e5! [Try : 4.c5 dxc5 5.e5 Kd2! 6.Kb3 Kd3! 7.Kb2 Kd2=] 4...dxe5 5.c5 e4 6.c6 Kf2 7.c7 e3 8.c8Q e2 9.Qxg4 e1Q 10.Qh4+-

When Van der Heijden study (Kh2/f2, 2003) with the astounding key 1.Kh2-h1!! came out, it attracted a lot of attention. Recently Sprenger added some content to this matrix (FMRE 2020) and now Pasman added another brick – white must carefully choose his second and third moves.

D. Gatti & M. Micaloni
1st commendation



Win

B. Ilincic & B. Djurasevic
2nd commendation

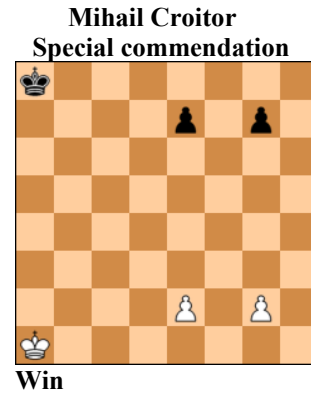


Win

L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
3rd commendation



Win



Daniele Gatti & Mario Micaloni (Italy) - 1st commendation

1.g7! [1.Rxg2? Nxc2 2.g7 Ng6! 3.Kh7 b1Q 4.g8Q Qb7+! 5.Qg7 Qxg2 6.Qh6+ Kg4 7.Qxg6+ Kf3 8.Qxg2+ Kxg2 9.Nb5 Ne1 10.Nxc3=] **1...g1Q** [1...Ng6 2.Bxg6+!+-; 1...Nf7 2.Rxg2! Nh6+ 3.Kh7! Nxc2 4.Rh2+! Kg5 5.Rxh6! b1Q 6.g8Q+-] **2.Rh2+! Kg5** [2...Qxh2? 3.gxh8Q+-] **3.gxh8Q Kf4+ 4.Kf8!** [4.Kf7? Qxa7+!+=; 4.Qg7 Qxg7+ 5.Kxg7 Nxc2! 6.Rxc2 b1Q-+] **4...Qc5+ 5.Ke8! Qe3+ 6.Kd8! Qb6+ 7.Kc8! Qe6+ 8.Kb8! Na6+** [8...Nxc2 9.Qh4+! Qg4 10.Qf2+! Kg5 11.Qc5+!+-] **9.Ka8!** [9.Kb7? Nc5+ 10.Kc7 Na6+ 11.Kb7 Nc5+=] **9...Qd5+ 10.Nc6 Qxc6+ 11.Ka7 Qc7+ 12.Kxa6 Qc6+ 13.Ka5 Qc5+ 14.Ka4 Qc4+ 15.Ka3! b1N+ 16.Bxb1+-**

The king march, though performed many times before, is always attractive.

Borislav Ilincic & Branislav Djurasevic (Serbia) - 2nd commendation

1.Nf6! [1.Nxg7? Kxg7=; 1.Qb2? Rg8!= (1...f6? 2.Nxf6!+-)] **1...h6 2.Qd2! e3 3.Qc2! g6** [3...gxf6 4.Qh2!+- Switchback(4.Rxh6+? Kg8 5.Qh7+ Kf8 6.Qe4 f5 7.Rh8+ Kg7 8.Qxa8 Qxa8 9.Rxa8 Bd3-+); 3...Bd3 4.Qxd3 g6 (4...gxf6 5.Rxh6+ Kg8 6.Qh7+ Kf8 7.Qe4 f5 8.Rh8+ Kg7 9.Qxa8 Qc5 10.Rh2+-) 5.Rxh6+ Kg7 6.Rh7+ Kxf6 7.Qf1+ Ke5 8.Qf4+ Kd5 9.Qc4+ Ke5 10.Rxf7+-] **4.Qb2! Kg7** [4...Qc5 5.Rxh6+! (5.Nd7+? Qc3!; 5.Ne4+? Qe5!) 5...Kg7 6.Rh7+! Kf8 7.Nd7+-] **5.Nd5+!** [5.Nd7+? Kh7 6.Qf6 Bc4!+-; 5.Nh5+ Kf8!+=] **5...Kh7** [5...Kf8 6.Qh8#] **6.Qf6! Bc4** [6...c6 7.Qg5+- or 7.Ne7; 6...Rf8 7.Qg5+-] **7.Qxf7+ Kh8 8.Rxh6#**

The maneuver Qd2-c2-b2 is nice, as is the distinction between 5.Nd7? and 5.Nd5!

Luboš Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia) - 3rd commendation

1.Bb7+ [1.Nxe2? Ne4+ 2.Kf1 Nb5 3.Nxf4 Kh2=] **1...Ne4+** [1...Nxb7 2.axb7 Nc6 3.Nxe2 Kh2 4.Nxf4 Nb8 5.Kf3 Na6 6.Ng6 Kxh3 7.Ne7+-] **2.Bxe4+ fxe4 3.a7!** [3.Nxe2? e3+! 4.Kf1 Nb5! 5.Nxf4 Kh2 6.Ke2 Kg3 7.Kxe3 Na7=] **3...e3+ 4.Ke1 f3** with mate threats **5.Nxe2 f2+!** **6.Kf1 Nf3** again mate threat **7.a8B!** pin [7.a8Q? Kh2 8.Qxf3 stalemate(8.Qb8+ Kh1 9.Qb7 Kh2=)] **7...Kh2 8.Bxf3** and wins. Meredith. Mate threats. Anti-stalemate play by minor promotion.

White's advanced a-pawn is unstoppable, yet an anti-stalemate care is required.

Poul Rewitz (Denmark) - 4th commendation

1.e5 Bf8 [1...Bc7 2.h4 Kd5 3.g5! a) 3.h5?? gxh5 4.g5 (4.gxh5 Kxd4 5.h6 Bxe5 6.h7 Bxf6-+) 4...Bd8!+-; b) 3.Kc3?? Bb6-+; 3...Kxd4 4.h5 gxh5 5.g6 Kxe5 6.g7+-] **2.g5** [2.h4? Kd5 3.Kc3 Bxb4+ 4.Kxb4 Kxd4 5.g5= (see 5.h4-line)] **2...Kd5** [2...Kb5 3.d5+- (or 3.h4 Bxb4 4.d5+-)] **3.Kc3 Bxb4+ 4.Kxb4 Kxd4 5.h3!!** [5.h4? Kxe5 6.Kc5 Kf5 7.Kd6 e5 8.Ke7 e4 9.Kxf7 e3 10.Kg7 e2 11.f7 e1Q 12.f8Q+ Kg4= e.g. 13.Kxg6 Qe4+ 14.Kh6 Kxh4] **5...Kxe5 6.Kc5 Kf5 7.Kd6 e5 8.Ke7 e4 9.Kxf7 e3 10.Kg7 e2 11.f7 e1Q 12.f8Q+ Kxg5 13.Qf6+** and mate in two

It's doubtful if the first four moves add to the study. 5.h3! vs. 5.h4? is the point.

Valery Kalashnikov (Russia) -5th commendation

1.d7 [1.Nc7? Bg8 2.e6 Rxc7 3.d7 Rc5+ 4.Kf4 Rd5 5.e7 Rxd7 6.e8Q Rd4+ 7.Ke3 Rd3+=; 1.e6? Rc5+ 2.Kf4 Bxg6 3.d7 Rf5+ 4.Ke3 Re5+ 5.Kd4 Rxe6 6.d8Q Rxe8=; 1.Nxg7? Kxg7 2.gxh7 Rd8 3.Kf5 Rf8+ 4.Ke6 Kxh7 5.Ke7 Ra8 6.d7 Kg6 7.e6 Kf5=] **1...Rd8 2.e6 Bg8 3.Kf5 Rxe8!** [3...Bxe6+ 4.Kxe6 Kg8 5.Ke7+-] **4.dxe8N!** [4.dxe8Q? stalemate] **4...Bxe6+! 5.Kxe6 Kg8 6.Ke7 Kh8 7.Nf6!+**

Destruction of a fortress by the Knight; Phoenix Most of this work is anticipated; interest lie in the choice of a correct first move, avoiding a fortress.

Mihail Croitor (Moldova) - Special commendation

1.Kb2 [1.Ka2? Kb8 2.Kb2 Kc8 3.Kc2 Kd8 4.Kd2 e5!= 5.Ke3 Ke7 6.Ke4 Ke6 7.g4 g6=] **1...Kb7 2.Kb3! Kb6 3.Kb4 Kc6 4.Kc4 Kd6** [4...e5 5.e4! Kd6 6.Kb5+-] **5.Kd4 g6!** [5...e6 6.Ke4 g5 7.g4+-; 5...Ke6 6.Ke4 Kf6 (6...g6 7.Kf4 Kf6 8.g3) 7.Kf4 g5+ (7...g6 8.g3) 8.Ke4 e5 9.g4+-] **6.g3!** [6.Ke4? e5 7.e3 Ke6 8.g3 Kd6=; 6.g4? Ke6 7.Ke4 Kf6 8.Kf4 e5+ 9.Ke4 Ke6=] **6...Ke6 7.Ke4 Kf6 8.Kf4 e6!** [8...g5+ 9.Ke4 e6 10.g4=] **9.e3!** [9.e4? g5+ 10.Kg4 Kg6=] **9...g5+** [9...e5+ 10.Kg4 g5 11.e4 Kg6 12.Kf3 Kh5 13.Kf2 Kg4 14.Kg2 Kh5 15.Kf3+-] **10.Ke4** [10.Kg4!? Kg6=] **10...e5 11.Kf3 Kg6** [11...Kf5 12.e4+-; 11...Ke6 12.e4 Kf6 13.Ke3 Ke6 14.Kd3 Kd6 15.Kc4 Kc6 16.g4+-] **12.e4 Kh5 13.Kf2 Kg4 14.Kg2 Kh5 15.Kf3 Kh6** [15...Kg6 16.Kg4 (16.Ke3? Kh5=) 16...Kh6 17.Kf5+- Kh5 18.Kxe5 Kg4+-] **16.g4+- wins 16...Kg6 17.Ke3 Kf6 18.Kd3 Ke6 19.Kc4 Kd6 20.Kb5+-**

It is quite surprising that in this simple symmetrical position, white's turn to move is decisive, due to opposition and ZZ. This work will be a valuable training material for students of the game. Yet we have to examine the human contribution to computer work. Now, right in the initial position, the software announces "mate in 41 moves". The author follows the moves on the screen, investing neither effort, nor a single drop of imagination, just paste and copy. Despite the intriguing initial position, while acknowledging the composer's general excellence, I feel that this work deserves at best a commendation.

Israel, 11 January 2021

Judge: Amatzia Avni

Section B.2.: Studies – Draw

REPORT

37 studies of 25 authors from 17 countries (Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Italia, Israel, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, USA) participated in section B.2 (draw). The judge proposes the following award.

Michael Pasman
1st Prize



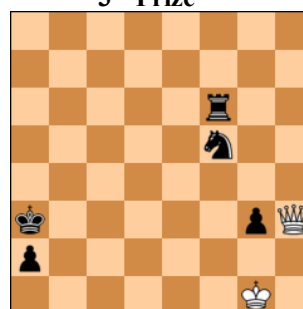
Draw

Jan Timman
2nd Prize



Draw

P. Kiryakov & P. Arestov
3rd Prize



Draw

P.Arestov & M.Garcia & V.Tarasiuk M. Hlinka & L. Kekely
4th Prize



Draw

5th Prize



Draw

Richard Becker
Sp. Prize



Draw

Michael-Pasman-(Israel)—1sr-Prize

1.f7? Rxa2+ 2.Ba6 Qf6-+ **1.Bc4!!** White defends both pawns with a Bishop sacrifice, 1...Qxf6?? 2.Rh7+ Kg4 3.Rg8+ Kf5 4.Rf7+- **1...Qxc4 2.Rh8+!** After 2.Rh7+? Kg4! 3.Rg8+!? Kf5!+- White's King would be left unprotected. Why is it better to check with the other Rook? **2...Kg4 3.Rg8+!! Qxg8** 3...Kf5 4.f7 Qxa2+ 5.Kb8 Qh2+ 6.Rc7=; 4...Rxa2+ 5.Kb8 Qf4+ 6.Rc7= the Rook protected its King. **4.Rg7+ Kh5!!** Black makes it difficult for White, keeping a pawn alive. Easier for White 4...Kf5 5.Rxg8 Kxf6 6.Kb6! c4 7.Kb5! c3 8.Rc8 Ke5 9.Kxb4 Rb1+ 10.Ka5! Kd4 11.a4! Kd3 12.Rd8+! Kc4 13.Rc8+! Kd3 14.Rd8+ Kc2 15.Ka6! =; 4...Qxg7+?? 5.fxg7 Rxa2+ 6.Kb7+- 5.Rxg8 b3! The first phase of the struggle is over. Despite the heroism, White is in a difficult position, no 6.f7? b2! 7.f8Q Rxa2+ 8.Kb7 b1Q+-+ or 7.Rg1 Rxg1 8.f8Q b1Q-+ **6.Rb8! Rxa2+** 6...c4 7.f7 Rxa2+ 8.Kb6! Rf2 9.Kc5! =; 6...bxa2 7.Rb2= **7.Kb7!** 7.Kb6? make an unexpected sacrifice 7...Ra8!! 8.Rxa8 (8.Rb7 c4!-) 8...b2 9.Rh8+ Kg6! 10.Rh1 c4 11.Rf1 Kf7! 12.Kc5 c3 13.Kd4 c2-+ **7...c4 8.Kc6!** 8.f7? Rf2 9.Kc6 Rxf7 10.Kd5 Rf4(c7)-+ **8...Kg6 9.Kd5! Rc2**

10.Ke6! pawn protected by Reti's maneuver! **10...Re2+ 11.Kd5! Rc2 12.Ke6 Rf2 13.Kd5! Rf4** and Black's victory after **14.Kc5? Kxf6-+ or 14.Rb6? Rxf6 15.Rb4 Rf4-+ 14.f7!** Pawn sacrifice is an excellent draw resource, after **14...Kxf7** the Rook blocks the way for the Black King **15.Rb6!** Rh4 **16.Kc5!**= and Black can't improve his position, but... **15...Kg7! 16.Kc5! Rf6!** Trap **17.Rb8? Rf8!** **18.Rb7+ Rf7!-+**, but White has a spare square **17.Rb4! Rf4 18.Rb6!**= positional draw. Inventive play on both sides, great find in the Rook ending!

Jan Timman (Netherlands) - 2nd Prize

1.Nb3 Bg3+ Black is forced to postpone the promotion of the Queen for later, **1...h1Q 2.Nc5! Bg3+ 3.Kd7 Qd1+ 4.Kc6 Qd6+ 5.Kb5 Ke7 6.Nxe6 Qd7+ 7.Kb6! Bf2+ 8.Ka5 Qa7+ 9.Kb4 (9.Kb5? Qb6+ 10.Ka4 Qc6+ 11.Ka5 Be1#) 9...Qb6+ 10.Kc3!**= There is another danger: White's second Knight **1...Bf2 2.Nf3! h1Q 3.Ng5 Bg3+ 4.Kb6 Bf2+ 5.Kc7=** positional draw. **2.Kd7 Bf2!** **2...h1Q 3.Nc5 Qd1+ 4.Kc6= 3.Nd4!** Try: **3.Nc5? Bxc5 4.Bd5 exd5 5.Nf3 h1Q 6.Ng5 Qh3+! 7.Nxh3 Be3!-+ 7.Ne6+ Qxe6+ 8.Kxe6 d4(Bxa3)-+ 3...Bxd4 4.Bd5!** Early **4.Nf3? h1Q 5.Nxd4 Qd1(b7+)-+ 4...exd5 5.Nf3 h1Q 6.Ng5!** Keeps the Bishop alive! Try **6.Nxd4? Qh3+(e4,e1) 7.Ne6+ Qxe6+ 8.Kxe6 d4-+ 6...Qh3+! 7.Ne6+! 7.Nxh3? Be3-+ 7...Qxe6+ 8.Kxe6** Unlike the try, the Bishop blocked the way for his pawn! **8...Bc5 9.Kxd5 Bxa3 10.Ke6! Bb4 11.Kd7=** Blockade of the Black King. An excellent logical choice, refusing to capture the Black Bishop. Small duals in thematic tries reduce the impression. But additional lines are Good

Petr Kiryakov & Pavel Arestov (Russia) -3rd Prize

How to contain Black pieces? The a-pawn is especially dangerous. **1.Qf1 Nd4!** Otherwise, perpetual check. **2.Qe1+!** No **2.Qxf6? a1Q+ 3.Kg2 Qb2+! 4.Kxg3** due to battery check **4...Ne2+-+ 2...Kb3 3.Qd1+ Kc3 4.Qa1+ Kd3! 5.Qd1+!** The White Queen has already approached the Black pawn, but it is still early **5.Qxa2? Ne2+! 6.Kg2 Rf2+ 7.Kh3** due to the new battery hit **7...Ng1+-+ 5...Ke3 6.Qc1+!** **6.Qe1+? Ne2+-+ 6...Ke4 7.Qe1+ Kf5 8.Qa5+ Kg4 9.Qxa2** The time has come! **9...Nf3+ 10.Kg2!** **10.Kf1? Nd2+! 11.Ke1 Rf1+ 12.Ke2 Rf2+ 13.Kd3 Kh3!-+; 10.Kh1? Rh6+ 11.Kg2 Rh2+ 12.Kf1 Rh1+ (12...Rxa2??= stalemate) 13.Ke2 Re1+ 14.Kd3 Kh3!-+ 10...Nh4+ 11.Kg1 Kh3 12.Qe2!** Otherwise **12.Qc2? Re6! 13.Qc3 Re1(Nf3)+-+ 12...Rf5 13.Qc2!** **13.Kh1? Re5! 14.Qxe5 g2+ 15.Kg1 Nf3+-+; 13.Qe6? Nf3+ 14.Kh1 g2# 13...Rf8 13...Nf3+ 14.Kh1!= 14.Qe2 Rf6!** The Rook tries to deceive the Queen **15.Qc2? Re6!-+ 15.Kh1! Rc6 15...Rf2 16.Qxf2! gxf2= 1st stalemate; 15...g2+ 16.Kg1 Nf3+ 17.Qxf3+! Rxf3= 2nd stalemate. 16.Qh2+! Kg4 16...gxh2= 3rd stalemate. 17.Qe2+ Kh3 18.Qh2+=** positional draw. An excellent study! The fight of the White Queen with the superior forces of Black ends with three stalemates.

Pavel Arestov & Mario Garcia & Vladislav Tarasiuk (Russia-Argentina -Ukraine) -4th Prize

The place of attraction for all pieces is the White pawn promotion square. In the rapid advance of the pawn, White has a chance for a draw. **1.a6!** Early **1.Bc4+? Kxf2 2.a6 Ke3(Nf4)-+ 1...Rg7 2.Bc4+! 2.Kc3(Bd5)? Nxf2 3.Bd5 Rc7+! 4.Kd4 Nd1! 5.Bb7 Nc3! 6.a7 Nb5+-+ 2...Kxf2 3.Kc3!** White King and Bishop take the squares away from Black King and Knight. Try: **3.Kb3? Ke3! 4.Bd5 Kd4 5.Bb7 Kc5 6.a7 Rxb7+-+ or 3.Kd3? under the check 3...Nf4+(Rc7) 4.Kd4 Rc7-+Early 3.Bd5!? Rc7+ 4.Kb3 Nf4 5.Bb7 Nd3! 6.Ka4 Nb2+ 7.Kb5 Nc4 8.Bd5 Nd6+ 9.Kb6 Re7! 10.Kc5 Nc8 11.Bb7 Rc7+ 12.Kb5 Nd6+ 13.Ka5 Nc4+ 14.Kb5 Ke3-+ 3...Nf4!** **3...Ke3** confirms the choice of the White King **4.Bd5! Nf4 5.Bb7 Ne6 6.Kc4!= 4.Kb4! Ke3 5.Kc5!** does not let the Black King, worse **5.Kb5? Kd4-+ 5...Rc7+ 6.Kb5! Kd4** Key position of the study. **7.Bb3!** Thematic try **7.Ba2?** Why is it worse? **7...Rh7!! 8.Kb6 Rh6+! 9.Kb5 Ne2! 10.a7 Nc3+ 11.Ka5 Rh5+! 12.Ka6 Nb5 13.Bf7 Rc5! 14.a8Q Nc7+ 15.Kb7 Nxa8 16.Kxa8 Rc7 17.Bb3 Kc5 18.Kb8 Kb6-+ The uniqueness of the move 7...Rh7!! show lines: 7...Rd7? 8.Kb6! Rd6+ 9.Kb5 Ne2 10.a7 Nc3+ 11.Ka5 Rd8 12.Kb6!= or 7...Rg7? It looks mysterious, why is this move bad? **8.Kb6! Rg6+ 9.Ka5! Rg2 10.Bf7! Nd5 11.Bxd5 Kxd5 12.Kb6 Kd6 13.Kb7 Rb2+ 14.Kc8 Ra2 15.Kb7 Kd7 16.a7 Rb2+ 17.Ka8=** With the Rook on g7, change the try! It's the other way around now no **9.Kb5? Ne2 10.a7 Nc3+ 11.Ka5 Rg5+ 12.Kb6 Na4+ 13.Kb7 Rg7+ 14.Kb8 Nb6 15.a8Q Nxa8 16.Kxa8 Kc5 17.Kb8 Kc6-+ 7...Rh7 8.Kb6 Rh6+ 9.Kb5! 9.Kb7? Nd3 10.a7 Nc5+-+; 9.Ka5? Rh3(Kc5)-+ 9...Rh3** This is an attempt to move to the a-file, because the best place for the Rook is behind the pawn. **9...Nd5 10.Bxd5 Kxd5 11.a7 Rh8 12.Kb6 Kd6 13.Kb7=** And what about the winning move **9... Ne2** from the try? The main line due to duals reasonably became evidential **10.a7 (can 10.Ka5 Nc3 11.a7) 10...Nc3+ 11.Ka5 Rh5+ 12.Ka6(b6) Nb5 13.Bd1(Kb6)= 10.a7!** **10.Bf7? Ra3 11.Kb6 Nd3 12.a7 Nc5 13.Be8 Ra6+-+ 10...Rxb3+ 11.Kc6 Rc3+ 12.Kb7=** A subtle game of both sides! The only pity is that the final game did not follow the scenario of a thematic try, and it looks less interesting.**

Michal-Hlinka&-Luboš-Kekely-(Slovakia)-5-prize

1.g8Q! 1.f8Q? Be2+ 2.Ke3 Re1 3.g8Q Bg4+ 4.Kf4 g1Q+ 1...Rf5+ 2.Ke4! 2.Kg4? Bd3 3.d6 Kb2+ 2...Bd3+! 3.Kxd3 Rxf7 4.Qxf7 Rd1+ 5.Kc3! 5.Kc2? g1Q 6.d6+ Ka1 7.Qf6+ with the check, but 7...Rd4+ 5...g1Q 6.d6+ Ka1 7.Qf6! without check! Now forced 7...Qe3+! 8.Kc2+ The batteries fire one after the other. 8...Rd4 9.Qf1+ The Black Queen has left the first rank, and White has the opportunity to continue checks 9...Ka2 10.Qf7+ Ka3 11.Qa7+ Kxb4 12.Qb6+ 12.Qb7+? Kc5 13.Qc7+ Kd5 14.Qb7+ Kxd6+ 12...Kc4 13.Qc6+= perpetual check. Another line 5...Rc1+ 6.Kd2! g1Q 7.d6+ Kb2 8.Qf6+ Ka3 9.Qf3+ Ka2 10.Qf7+! 10.Qa8+? Kb2 11.Qh8+ Kb3 12.Qh3+ Kxb4 13.Qh4+ Rc4+ 10...Kb2 11.Qf6+ Kb1 12.Qf5+ Ka2 13.Qf7+= perpetual check. 13.Qa5+? Kb3 14.Qd5+ Rc4+ The central position of the study is paradoxical, when a move without a check is good, but a move with a check in a try is bad! The threat of check is stronger than check!

Richard-Becker-(USA)-Sp.-Prize

1.Be4+!! An unexpected start! Thematic try 1.e8Q? Qb6+ 2.Kc3 (2.Ka2 Bxc2!+) 2...Qd4+ 3.Kb3 Qc4+ 4.Ka3 Qc5+ 5.Kb3 Qxc2+ 6.Ka3 Qc1+ 7.Kb4 Qb2+ 8.Ka5 Qa3+ 9.Qa4 Qc5+ 10.Kxa6 Bc8# 1...Bxe4 2.e8Q Qb6+ 3.Kc3 Qc5+ 4.Kb3 Qc4+ 5.Ka3 Qc3+ 6.Ka2 Qc2+ 7.Ka3 Qc1+ 8.Kb4 8.Ka4? Bc2+ 9.Ka5 Qa3+ 10.Kb6 Qd6+ 8...Qb2+ 9.Ka5 Qa3+ 10.Qa4 Qc5+ 11.Kxa6 In the try at that moment, everything ended with a mate with the Bishop on c8. As a result of the far-sighted sacrifice, checkmate is impossible and play continues 11...Qc8+ 12.Ka7 Qc7+ 13.Ka8 Qb6 Now it is important to place the pawn correctly: 14.h3!! Thematic tries: 14.g4? Bf3! 15.Qa3 Ke4 16.Qc3 Kxf4+ and 14.h4? Bf3! 15.Qa3 Ke4 16.Qc3 Bg2 17.Qd2 Kf3 18.Qe1 Kg4+ 14...Bf3 15.Qa3 Ke4 16.Qc3 Bg2 17.Qd2 Kf3 18.Qe1! Qc7 19.f5 Qb6 19...Bxh3 20.Qd1+ Kxg3 21.Qe1+ Kh2 22.Qh4= 20.f6 Qc7 21.f7 Qxf7 22.Kb8= The original systematic move ends with the rescue of the White King. What has happened already seems a bit too much, but there is another line: 1...Kd4 (1...Kxe4 2.e8Q+ Kd3 3.Qe1!)= 2.e8Q Qb6+ 3.Ka4! 3.Ka2? Be6+! 4.Ka1 Qb3 5.Qh8+ Kxe4 6.Qb2 Qa4+ 7.Kb1 Kd3 8.Qf2 Qd1+ 9.Kb2 Bd5!+ 3...Bxe4 4.Qe5+ Kd3 5.h4!! Thematic tries: 5.f5? Bf3! 6.Ka3 Kc2+ and 5.g4? Qc6+! 6.Ka5 Kc4 7.f5 Qb5+ 8.Qxb5+ axb5 9.f6 Bd5! 10.h4 b4 11.h5 b3 12.h6 b2+ 5...Qc6+ 6.Ka5! 6.Kb4? Bd5 7.Qf5+ Kd2+ 6...Kc4 7.f5 Qb5+ 8.Qxb5+ axb5 9.f6 Bg6 9...Bd5 10.h5 b4 11.h6= 10.g4 b4 11.h5 wins tempo. 11...Bf7 12.h6 b3 13.h7 b2 14.h8Q b1Q 15.Qc8+= «Logical study with systematic maneuver and sacrificial key showing foresight effect. Each of two main lines is solved with a different unique move by the h-pawn» (Author comment). But two different logical studies in one, even united by a pawn play, is not always good because of the huge amount of information.



Valery Kalashnikov (Russia) – 1st Honorable Mention

1.Ng6+! 1.Rd2? Qd8+ 2.Kc5 Qxf6 3.Nf3 Nxe6+ 4.fxe6 Qxf3–+ **1...Qxg6!** 1...Nxg6?? 2.Rh2+ Kg8 3.f7++– **2.Rh2+!** **Qh7 3.e7!** 3.Rxh7+? Nxh7–+ **3...Nd7+** Try 4.Kc7? Nxf6 5.Rxh7+ Kxh7 6.e5 Ne8+–+ with check! Therefore **4.Kc6!** Nxf6 **5.Rxh7+ Kxh7 6.e5 Ne8** without check! 6...d2 7.exf6 d1Q 8.f7= **7.f6 Kg6 7...d2 8.f7 d1Q 9.f8Q!= 8.Kd7 Kf7 9.e6+ Kxf6 10.Kxe8 d2 11.Kf8 d1Q 12.e8Q Qd6+ 13.e7 13.Kg8? Qg3+ 14.Kf8 Qg7# 13...Qd5!** White in zugzwang? A pawn is in the way... **14.Qg6+!** **Kxg6 15.e8Q+ Kf6** The same position, but no pawn! **16.Qe7+=** There was a complete change of teams! Only the promoted Queens remained on the board.

Peter S. Krug- (Austria) – 2nd Honorable Mention

Try: 1.Qa8+? Ke7!! 2.Qxh8 dxc1Q–+ **1.e7+!** **Kxe7 2.Qf7+ Kd8 3.Qxf4 dxc1N+ 4.Kd1 Qh1+ 5.Kc2 Qg2+ 6.Kxc1 Qg1+!** Logical preliminary check! After 6...Qxg6 7.Qb8+! Kd7 8.Qa7+! Ke6 9.Qa2+ Kf6 10.Qb2+! Ke6 (10...Kf7 11.Qb7+!=) 11.Qa2+ Kf5 12.Qf2+! Ke6 13.Qa2+= perpetual check! **7.Kd2 Qxg6** Is bad now 8.Qb8+? Kd7 9.Qa7+ Ke6 10.Qa2+ Kf5–+ and there is no Qf2+, the King is in the way. White changes plan **8.Ke3! Qg1+ 9.Kxe4 Qb1+ 10.Ke5!** Qb8+ 11.Ke6 Qxf4= model stalemate. End of the game? Not! **10...Qb5+!** **11.Ke6!** Try thematic: 11.Kf6? Kc8! 12.Qe5 Kb7! 13.Ke6 Qxe5+ 14.Kxe5 Kb6–+ **11...Qd5+ 12.Kf6 Kc8 13.Qe5! Qc4 14.Ke7 c5 15.Kd6 Qd4+ 16.Qd5 Kd8 17.Kc6+ 17.Ke6+? Kc7!–+ Qxd5+ 18.Kxd5=** Of course, such stalemates have already been met, but there is an interesting previous "black" logic and a long continuation of the game.

Amatzia-Avni—(Israel)—3rd-Honorable-Mencion

1.Nf2 does not allow a side check of the Queen **1...Rf4** 1...Re5 2.Rb8+(Ng4) Kg7 3.Ng4 Qh3 (3...hgx4 4.Rff8=) 4.Rb7! Kg8 5.Rb8+ Kg7 6.Rb7 Qxg4+ 7.Kc6+ Kg8 8.Rb8+ Kg7 9.Rb7+= perpetual check. **2.Ng4!!** An excellent sacrifice to continue the attack, and two lines with the capture of Black: **2...hgx4 3.Rbe1!** Now with this Rook; no Q-checks, as Pg4 blocks the h3-c8 diagonal. **3...Rf7+ 4.Rxf7 Qxe1 5.Re7! Qa5 6.Re8+ Kf7 7.Re7+= 2...Rxg4 3.Rfe1!** no Q-checks, as Rg4 blocks the h3-c8 diagonal, with Rf1 not 3.Rbe1? Qxg5–+; 3.Rb8+? Kg7 4.Rbf8 Qb3–+ 3...Qxg5 4.Rb8+ Kf7 4...Kh7?? 5.Re7+ Kh6 6.Rh8# self block. 5.Re7+ Qxe7+ 6.dxe7 Rd4+ 7.Kc6 Kxe7 8.Rb7+ Kf6 9.Rxa7= «Theme: change 2...R:g4 3.Rfe1!; 2...h:g4 3.Rbe1!» (Author comment). The two lines are united by the idea of choosing a White Rook to attack the Queen, but the lines are not equal and with different ideas.

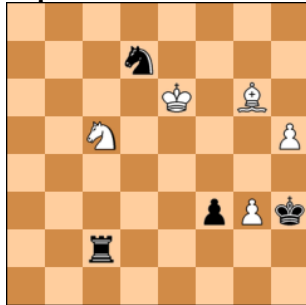
Alexey-Gasparyan-(Armenia)--4th-Honorable-Mention

1.Rxg7+! 1.Nxf5? Nxb5+! 2.Ke7 Nd4!! 3.Nxd4?! Qb8(b7)–+ **1...Kf8!** 1...Kxg7 2.Nxf5+ Kf7 3.bxc7= **2.bxc7 Rf1!** 2...Rf2 3.Rg2! Rf1 4.Ng6+ Ke8 5.Ne7(f4) Rd1+ 6.Nd5 Rxd5+ 7.Kxd5= **3.Rg8+!** 3.Bxd7? Rd1+–+; 3.Rxd7? Rd1+–+ **3...Kxg8 4.Bxc4+ Rf7 5.Ng6!** 5.Bxf7+? Kxf7 6.e6+ dxe6–+ **5...Kg7 5...Qxc7+ 6.Kxc7 d5+ 7.Kd6 dxc4 8.e6!= 6.Bxf7 Kxf7 7.e6+!** 7.Nf4? Qe8 8.b5 Qe7+ 9.Kd5 Qf8! 10.Ke4 Qb4+–+; 10.b6 Qa8+–+ **7...Ke8!** 7...dxe6 8.Ne5+=; 7...Kf6 8.exd7 Qa6+ 9.Kc5! Qa7+ 10.Kc6 Qa6+ 11.Kc5=; 7...Kxg6 8.exd7 Qa6+ 9.Kc5! Qa7+ 10.Kc6 Qa6+ 11.Kc5= **8.b5! dxe6 9.Ne5! Qb7!** 9...Qa8 10.Kxe6! Qb7 10.Kc6 Qa6+ 11.Kc5=; 7...Kxg6 8.exd7 Qa6+ 9.Kc5! Qa7+ 10.Kc6 Qa6+ 11.Kc5= **10.Nc6! Qc8 11.Ne5!**= The Taming of (not the Shrew!) black Queen. Understandably, the author's desire to include in the introduction both the sacrifice of the Rook (for a pawn), and the refusal to capture, and the choice of the square for the Black Rook, but this led to a chaotic and tense initial position and the shed blood of an innocent Black Knight.

Jarl-H.Ulrichsen-(Norway)-5th-Honorable-Mention

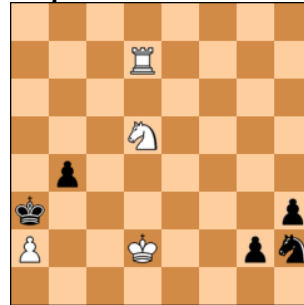
1.Kf7! An try to block the way for the Black King is unsuccessful 1.Kd7? Kb6 2.Kd6 e4+ 3.Kd5 e3 4.Ke4 Bf2–+ Why 1.Ke7? badly? 1...Kb6 2.e3 2.Ke6? Kc5 3.e3 Kc6–+ (opposition). **2...Kb7(b5) 2...Kc5? 3.d4+= 3.Kf6!** Now White threatens to play d4 followed by Kf5. 3.Ke7? Kc7 (opposition) 4.Ke6 Kc6; 3.Kg6? Kc6 (opposition) 4.Kf5 Kd5–+ **3...Kc6 4.Ke6!** Finally White has the opposition! No 4...Kc5 5.d4+=, forced bishop move **4...Bh2 5.Kf5 Kd5 6.Kg4 Ke6 6...Bg1 7.Kf3= zugzwang mutual... 7.Kf3 Kf5 8.Kg2=** Zugzwang consequence - Black Bishop is trapped! It remains to understand why zugzwang is bad for whites: 1.Ke7? Kb6 2.e3 Kc7! (opposition) 3.Ke6 Kc6 and now, according to the author 4.Kf6 with the transfer of the "triangle" move (4.Kf5 Kd5 5.Kg4 Bh2 6.Kf3 Bg1!–+ Zugzwang position with White's move, but Black can win otherwise 5...Bf2 6.Kf3 Be1,h4(g1)–+) 4...Kd5 (but Black can also use a "triangle" to return the move to White 4...Kd6!) 5.Kf5 Bf2(e1,h4) 6.d4 e4 7.Kf4 Bg1(e1,h4)–+ An interesting find! But it is a pity, there is no purity of the try, it does not end with the position of mutual zugzwang by analogy with the solution. The Bishop's dual moves are not loss of time, because the Bishop can hold the e2-pawn at gunpoint not only from the g1 square, but from all squares accessible to it on the c1-h6 and a7-g1 diagonals to win.

Richard Becker
Sp.Honorable Mention



Draw

David Gurgenidze
Sp.Honorable Mention



Draw

Richard-Becker-(USA)-Sp.Honorable-Mention

1.Ne4! 1.Kxd7? Rd2+--+; 1.Bxc2? Nxc5+--+; 1.Nxd7? Re2+--+; 1st thematic try 1.Nd3? Nc5+! 2.Kf6(f7) Nxd3 3.Bxd3 Rd2 4.Bc4 Rd4 5.Bb5 Rd5 6.Bf1+ Kg4 7.h6 Rd6+ 8.Kg7 Kg5 9.h7 Rd7+ 10.Kg8 Kg6--+ **1...Nc5+ 2.Kf7!** 2nd thematic try 2.Kf6? Nxe4+ 3.Bxe4 f2 4.Bf5+ (4.Bd3 Rd2 5.Bb5 Rd6+! 6.Kg7 Rd5 7.Bf1+ Kg4 8.h6 Kg5 9.h7 Rd7+ 10.Kg8 Kg6--+) 4...Kg2! 5.Be4+ Kf1! 6.h6 (6.Bxc2 Ke2--+; 6.Bd3+ Re2 7.h6 Ke1 8.Bxe2 Kxe2 9.h7 f1Q+ 10.Kg7 Qa1+--+) 6...Re2 7.Bf5 Kg2 8.h7 f1Q 9.h8Q Qa1+--+ **2...Nxe4 3.Bxe4** Unlike 1st try, the pawn f3 is under attack 3...Re2 4.Bxf3!= **3...f2 4.Bf5+!** 3rd thematic try Nc3 4.Bd3? Rd2 5.Bc4 Kg4 6.h6 Kg5 7.h7 Rd7+ 8.Kg8 Kg6 9.Bf7+ Rxf7 10.h8Q f1Q--+ **4...Kxg3** Unlike 2nd try, it is senseless to refuse to capture the pawn 4...Kg2, but the proof of the strength of the move 2.Kf7! several, and White can choose any of his choice: 5.Be4+(Bd3) Kf1 6.Bd3+ (6.Bxc2 Ke2 7.h6 f1Q+ 8.Kg8=) 6...Ke1 7.h6 Re2 8.Bxe2 Kxe2 9.h7 f1Q+ 10.Kg8= **5.Bd3 Rd2 6.Bc4 Rd4 7.Be2 Rd2 7...Rd6 8.Kg7 Kf4 9.h6 Kg5 10.h7 Rd7+ 11.Kg8 Kg6 12.Bh5+! Kg5 13.Be2 Kg6 14.Bh5+ Kxh5 15.h8Q+ Kg6 16.Qh4= 8.Bc4 Rd6 9.Kg7 Rd7+ 10.Kg6 Rd6+ 11.Kg7 Kg4 12.h6 Kg5 13.h7 Rd7+ 14.Kg8 Kg6 15.Bf7+! Kg5 16.Bc4 Kg6 17.Bf7+ Rxf7 18.h8Q Re7 19.Kf8 Rf7+ 20.Kg8 f1Q 21.Qh7+! Rxh7=** stalemate. «Synthesis of three thematic tries from two old studies» (Author comment). The real thematic (logical) try is only 3rd. In 1st try is a simple choice of move. Also, the game is not going according to the scenario of a 2nd try because of the duals in the game of White.

David-Gurgenidze-(Georgia)-Sp.Honorable-Mention

1.Ra7+! Kb2 2.Rg7 Ng4! 3.Rxg4 h2 4.Rxb4+ a) 4...Ka3 5.Rb3+ Ka4 6.Rb4+ Ka5 7.a4 g1Q 8.Rb5+ Kxa4 or 8...Ka6 9.Nb4+ Ka7 10.Nc6+ Ka6 11.Nb4+= perpetual check. **9.Nc3+ Ka3 10.Nb1+ Ka2 11.Nc3+ Ka1 12.Ra5+ Kb2 13.Rb5+ Ka3 14.Nb1+ Ka2 15.Nc3+ Ka1 16.Ra5+ Kb2= perpetual check**, or b) **4...Ka1 5.Ne3 g1Q 6.Nc2+ Kxa2 7.Ra4+ Kb2 8.Rb4+ Ka2 9.Ra4+= perpetual check.** A technical synthesis of famous positional draws.

**Amatzia Avni
Commendation**



Draw

**Daniele Gatti
Commendation**



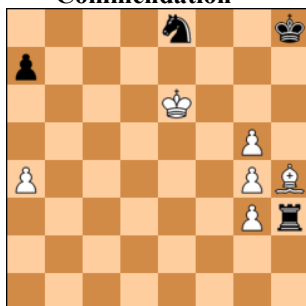
Draw

**Andrzej Jasik
Commendation**



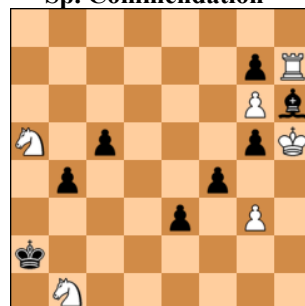
Draw

**Poul Rewitz
Commendation**



Draw

**Marc Gelly
Sp. Commendation**



Draw

Amatzia Avni (Israel)- Commendation –

1.Qb7! 1.Ne6+? Qxe6 2.fxe6 hxc2 3.Rxc2 f5–+ **1...Rc5+** 1...Rb8 2.Ne6+ Ke8 3.Ng7+ Kf8 4.Ne6+ Kg8 (Queen under the pin, no 4...Qg7#) 5.Rxc4+ Kh8 6.Rh4+ Kg8 7.Rg4+= perpetual check. **2.Ka4 Qxd4 3.Rxc4!** 3.Qa8+? Kg7 4.Qa7+ Kh6 5.Rxc3+ Kg5!–+ **3...Qxg4 4.Qb4** split to three lines: A) **4...Qd4 5.Qxc5+ Qxc5=** stalemate; B) **4...Kg8 5.Qxc5 c3+ 6.Ka3! c2(cxd2) 7.Qc4+ Qxc4=** echo stalemate. C) **4...c3 5.Qxc4 c2 6.Qd4! c1Q 7.Qd8+ Kg7 8.Qe7+ Kh6 9.Qxf6+ Kh5 10.Qg6+ Kh4 11.Qg3+ Kh5 12.Qg6+=** perpetual check. Two echo stalemates, two perpetual checks - that's a lot! But there are also many technical pawns.

Daniele-Gatti-(Italy)-Commendation

1.Kf6! 1.Kf7? Kc8! 2.Bd3 Qxd5+!–+ **1...h3** 1...Qe8 2.Bf5! Kc8 3.Bd3! Kb7= positional draw. **2.Bf5 2.Ke7? h2! 3.Be4 Qg8! 4.Bf6 h4! 5.Kxd7 h1Q 6.Bxh1 Qf7+! 7.Be7 Qf5+! 8.Kd8 Qc8# 2...h2 2...Qe8 3.Bxh3! Kc8 4.Bf1! Kb7=** positional draw. **3.Bxd7 h1Q 4.Bc6+ Kc8 5.Bxa8 Qf3+ 6.Ke6!** 6.Ke7? Qe4+! 7.Kf7 Qh7! 8.Bc6 h4! 9.d7+ Kxc7 10.d6+ Kd8–+; 6.Kg5? Qg3+! 7.Kf5 Qxc7–+ **6...Qh3+ 7.Kf6 Qf3+ 7...Qc3+ 8.Kf7! Qg3 9.Bf8!=** positional draw. **8.Ke6 Qg4+ 8...Qe4+ 9.Be5=** positional draw. **9.Kf6 Qf4+ 10.Ke6 Qg4+ 11.Kf6 h4 11...Qg3 12.Bf8! h4 13.Bc6! h3 14.d7+! Kxc7 15.Be7! Qf4+ (15...Qh4+ 16.Kf7!)=) 16.Kg6! Qe4+= **12.Bc6 h3 13.d7+! Kxc7 14.Kf7! Qf5+ 15.Bf6!** 15.Ke7? Qe4+! 16.Kf7 Qh7! 17.d6+ Kd8!–+ **15...Qh7+=** perpetual check. White Bishops and strong pawns successfully oppose the following Black Queens, depriving them of all chances. The author was able to create a game without draws in multiple lines.**

Andrzej-Jasik-(Poland)--Commendation

1.Bb4+ Nc3! 1...Kf2 2.Qxe8 Bxe8 3.f7= **2.Bxc3+ Kf2! 3.Qxe8!** 3.Bd4+? Kf3 4.Qxe8 Bxe8 5.h7 Qh3 6.f7 Qd7+–+ **3...Bxe8 4.h7!** 4.f7? Bxf7 5.gxf7 Ke2–+ 5.h7 Qc4! 6.h8Q Qc7+ 7.Ka6 Bc4# **4...Qh3 5.h8Q! Qxh8 6.f7! Qf8 7.Bb4! Qg7 8.Bc3! Qf8 9.Bb4=** A simple study with an original positional draw in the final.

Poul-Rewitz-(Denmark)-Commendation

1.Ke7 1.Kf7? Nd6+--+; 1.Kd7? Ng7--+ 1...Kg7! Black is forced to give up the knight, 1...Nc7 2.Kf7 Rh1 3.g6 Rf1+ 4.Bf6+ Rxf6+ 5.Kxf6=; 1...Ng7 2.Kf7 Rh1 3.g6 Rf1+ 4.Bf6 a5 5.g5= или or 3...Rb1 4.Bf6 Rb7+ 5.Kf8= positional draw. 2.Kxe8 Rh1 3.Kd7 Ra1 4.Kc6 Rxa4 5.Kb5 Re4 6.Ka6 6.g6? Rxc4! 7.Ka6 Ra4+ 8.Kb5 Ra3(a1)-+ 6...Re6+ 6...Re7 7.g6= 7.Kxa7 Rg6 Of course, the Bishop cannot be released, but how is Black going to win? That's how! 8.Kb8? Kf8! 9.Kb7 Kf7! 10.Kc8 Ke8! 11.Kc7 Ke7 12.Kc8 Kd6 13.Kb7 Kd7 14.Kb8 Kc6 15.Ka7 Kc7 16.Ka8 Ra6# Correctly 8.Ka8! Kg8 9.Ka7! Kf8 10.Kb8 Kf7 11.Kb7= 11...Ke8 12.Kc8 (or 12.Ka8 Kd8 13.Kb8 Rb6+ 14.Ka7 Kc7 15.g6=) 12...Ke7 13.Kc7= Fight for distant opposition.

Marc-Gelly-(France)-Sp.Commendation

The strength of Black pawns is demonstrated by the line with the inclusion of the Rook 1.Rh8? fxg3! 2.Rd8 Kxb1 3.Rd1+ Kc2 4.Rg1 e2+ All the more amazing is the salvation of Whites! 1.Nb3!! e2! 1...Kxb3 2.g4! (gxf4!) 2...f3 3.Rh8=; 1...Kxb1 2.Kg4! Kc2 3.Rxh6= 2.Nc1+! 2.Nc3+? Kxb3 (2...bxc3! 3.Nc1+ Kb2 4.Nxe2 f3 5.Rh8 g4+) 3.Nxe2 f3--+ 2...Kxb1 3.Nxe2 f3! 4.Nc3+! 4.Rh8? g4+ (4...fxe2! 5.Re8 g4 6.Rxe2 c4 7.Re4 c3 8.Rxb4+ Ka2--+ 4...bxc3 4...Kc2 5.g4 (5.Rh8! g4 6.Ne4=) 5...f2 6.Nd1 b3 7.Rh8 f1N! 8.Ne3+ Nxe3 9.Rc8!= 5.g4! 5.Rh8? g4!--+ 5...f2 6.Rh8 f1Q 7.Rb8+ Kc2 8.Rb2+ Kd3 9.Rd2+ Kc4 10.Rd4+ Kb5 11.Rb4+ Kc6 12.Rb6+ Kd5 13.Rd6+ Kc4 14.Rd4+ Kb3 15.Rb4+ Kc2 16.Rb2+= «Theme: Self-incarceration. Compound move: 4.Nc3+!! «Tour folle» (Author comment). Of course, the idea of the "crazy Rook" that chases the King around the pawns has already been implemented earlier, but the author, unlike his anticipations, created an original game with Knights sacrifices and the King's self-isolation. The author did not have enough technique for a cleaner implementation of a complex idea. Unfortunately, the intended interesting tries did not become thematic because of the duals.

Number 11. V. Neistadt version of "64" 1969, 6 prize. Number 31. J. H. Ulrichsen. Duals in a thematic try and solution. Number 19. O. Dimitrov. Duals in solution

Ural, Russia, 3 February 2021

Judge: Sergey Osintsev