Pal Benno took first and eighth place in the 7th WCCT award

photos thanks to Pal Benno and Peter Gyarmati
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Report on July 2003 survey

Before the Moscow 2003 WCCC AJR e-mailed 40 composers and other parties with the eight questions listed below. We summarise the 12 responses received -- with grateful thanks. There were lengthy, and very welcome, comments from several respondents who took the trouble to draw attention to the complexity and implications of the issues, while exercising their choice not to address the specific questions. We cannot print all the comments.

All questions (numbered Q1 to Q8) relate to this position:

```
+C*
```

d5f5 3111.00 h8g7h6g8 4/2.

stipulation: Black to move, White wins. Please ignore the 'Black to move' part of the stipulation -- the position is intended purely as an example.

Q1. The position is published under a composer's name.
   Is this:
   a) OK?
   b) not OK?
   Answers: a) aaa b) bbb

Q2. As Q1, but entered for a tourney. (a) (b)
   Answers: a) aaa b) bbbb

Q3. As Q2, and mentioned (either honoured or not honoured) in the award. (a) (b)
   Answers: a) aaa ["must have an introduction"] b) bbbb

Q4. As Q1, accompanied by some acknowledgement to the computer source. (a) (b)
   Answers: a) aaaa b) bbbb

Q5. Please state the words that should be used for acknowledgement to the computer source.
Suggestions by respondents:
"taken from Thompson databases"
"computer generated reci-zugs -- C++"
"based on database from move X on"

Q6. As Q2 and Q4.

Q7. As Q3 and Q4. Please assume that you are the judge and add your own judge's comment.
Respondents' suggestions:
"Use 'special' category in awards"
"See Q5 -- 'taken from...''
"position X is known from databases but there is (or isn't) a significant human contribution"

Q8. You may use my answers in any way you like:
- Yes, with attribution: y
- Yes, but without attribution: y
- No, 1
- I decline to take part in this survey, for the following reason(s):
"each case needs to be taken separately, even if this involves naming names"

Selected comments:
"Some judges do not take EG and do not have Internet"
"a scientist should mention any computer software used. EG could offer a set of rules for 'fair-play'."
"the subject is too big [for such a survey]"
"the judge should ignore the process by which a study is composed"
"your questions are very important but I want to think that the composers are correct"

47th FIDE PCCC and WCCC -- Halikidiki (Greece) 4-11ix2004

Informal Minutes of Studies Subcommittee
1. John Roycroft retired as spokesman after serving since 1990. The new spokesman is Yohanan Afek (Israel/Netherlands). In EG155 we hope to publish an interview with the new spokesman.
2. The traditional 'Study of the Year' selection based on (but not confined to) the triennial FIDE Album entries will continue, but now with more dissemination emphasis placed on the Internet.
3. The following controversial motion was passed by the full PCCC Commission for joint consideration by the Studies and Judging subcommittees.
-- That a studies tourney judge is entitled to take any action, including disqualification, if he knows or suspects that a position important for a solution was, or could have been, taken or 'mined' from an 'oracle' database (or equivalent), unless such use had been declared by the composer before the closing date. --

Both subcommittees were fully represented (six and three members, respectively) at the meeting, and six other congress participants were also present. Four were primarily problemists. John Roycroft, proponent of the motion, had tried to find a neutral chairman, but, having failed, found himself in an almost impossible position as chairman himself. Almost everyone took part in the lively discussion, which ranged widely. There was general appreciation of the problem (several examples from recent awards were demonstrated), but there was finally little support for the motion as worded. Therefore it was not presented to the full PCCC.

---

**originalS (6)**  
Gady Costeff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2004-2005 Tourney</th>
<th>Judge: Jan Rusinek</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:costeff@yahoo.com">costeff@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Post: 178 Andover St., San Francisco, CA 94110, U.S.A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Surprise, as our title demonstrates, can be delightful or awful. When Lewis Stiller published his results in 1991, the class RB-SS became the poster child for computer generated incomprehensible play. Whether your response to such material is a groan or a moan, Richard Becker's EG debut provides reason for both. Readers will note the gradual encirclement of the black forces and the lurking mutual zugzwang.

---

**No 14128 Richard Becker**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>d5a6 0332.00 3/3 Draw</th>
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</thead>
</table>

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**No 14129 Ilham Aliev**

| d8a7 0401.01 3/3 Draw |
No 14129 Ilham Aliev
(Azerbaijan) 1.Rc2 Rd1+
2.Kc8! (tempo) Rxa1
(mzz) Ka5 5.Kc5 (mzz)
Ka4 6.Kc4 (mzz) Ka3
7.Rc3+ Ka4 8.Rc2 Ka3
9.Rc3+ Kb2 10.Rb3+
draws.

Wood aplenty and no
zugzwangs in Dr. Van
Tets' study, just mates as
far as the white bishop can
see.

No 14130 A. Van Tets

\[ \text{E7b7 0143.24 5/7 Win} \]

No 14130 A. Van Tets
(South Africa) 1.a6+!
Sxa6/i 2.Bxa6+ Kxa8/i
3.Kd7 h2 4.c6 Be5/iii
5.Kc8 with mate
i) 1...Kxa8 2.Bc6# (first
mate) or 1...Kc8 2.Bd7#
(second mate)
ii) Other king moves are
no better: 2...Kxa6 3.Rxb8
h2 4.Rb1 g3 5.c6 g2 6.c7
or 2...Kc6 3.Rxb8 Kxc5
4.Bc8 h2 5.Rb1 g3 6.Bb7
Rxb8 stalemate
i) 2.b8S+? Kd6 3.Rd1+
Kc5 wins
ii) 2.Rh8 is refuted by Rg2
4.b8S+ Kc7 5.Sa6+ Kb6
Rg3+ 10.Kb2 Rb3+)
9...Kc7 10.Rh8 Rg3+
11.Kb2 (11.Ka4 Bb5+
12.Ka5 Ra3+) 11...Rb3+
while 3.b8S+ fails to Kc7
4.Sa6+ Kb7 5.Rh8 Se7
6.Sb4 Rc3+ 7.Ka4 Be6
8.Rd8 Kc7 9.Rd3 Bd7+

No 14131 E. Kudelich

\[ \text{Rxb8 stalemate} \]
i) 2.b8S+? Kd6 3.Rd1+
Kc5 wins
ii) 3.Rh8 is refuted by Rg2
4.b8S+ Kc7 5.Sa6+ Kb6
Rg3+ 10.Kb2 Rb3+)
9...Kc7 10.Rh8 Rg3+
11.Kb2 (11.Ka4 Bb5+
12.Ka5 Ra3+) 11...Rb3+
while 3.b8S+ fails to Kc7
4.Sa6+ Kb7 5.Rh8 Se7
6.Sb4 Rc3+ 7.Ka4 Be6
8.Rd8 Kc7 9.Rd3 Bd7+

No 14131 Eduard
Kudelich (Russia)
1.Sd6+i Kc6 2.h8Q Ra8+
3.Sc8 Rxc8+ 4.Kxc8 Ba6+
5.Kd8 Rb8+ 6.Ke7 Rxe8
7.Rxe4+ Bxc4 stalemate
i) 1.h8Q? Ra8+ 2.Ke7
Rxe8+ 3.Qxe8 Bxe8
4.Kxe8 Bxf6
Franjo's miniature uses
classic material ... and
outcome.

No 14132 Franjo Vrabec
(Sweden) 1.b7 Bg8
2.Rhl/i Sf5 3.Rd1+?/ii
Kc7 4.Rd7+ Kxd7 5.b8Q

The current popularity of
the Berlin defense has now
filtered into studies, as can
be seen by the pawn
configuration in
Vladimir's study. White's
passed pawn will decide,
but how?
No 14133 V. Tarasiuk

\[ \text{c4b8 0440.44 7/7 Win} \]

No 14134 A. Skripnik

\[ \text{flg3 0171.01 4/4 Draw} \]

No 14135 Noam Elkies

\[ \text{h8d4 3040.20 4/3 Draw} \]

Anatoly's study combines stalemate, underpromotion and perpetual check in an elegant setting.

Studies (EG123). Now Noam contributes a radically new introduction including two quiet knight promotions.

Finally, in 1973 Kasparian introduced an interesting new fortress (8/8/8/7B/6Sb/5k1S/p7/6K1 2/3 prize Shakhmaty Riga). In 1997 Dobrescu proposed a slightly improved introduction as part of an article about Pareto Optimality in Shakhmaty.
Our contributors this time were David Antonini (France), John Beasley (England), Marco Campioli (Italy), Gady Costeff (USA), Noam Elkies (USA), Guy Haworth (England), Axel Ornstein (Sweden), Michael Roxlau (Germany), John Roycroft (England), Harold van der Heijden (The Netherlands), Jim Vickery (England).

151.13924, G. W. Hörning. Roxlau does not regard these duals as serious because the idea of the solution is not really affected. To me it is at least a drawback when the order of moves becomes irrelevant.

152.13929, H. Buis. Costeff writes: «wPf4 (not bPf4) is necessary otherwise a future Rd8+ leads to stalemate. However, it is possible to save 2 pawns by eliminating bPa5 and wPf4. Hans is always invited to provide an introduction.»

152.13951, J. Polasek, J. Tazberik and M. Hlinka. Roxlau agrees with Garcia that this endgame study is suspect. After 6.Ra7 Re7 7.Ra8+ Kd7, Roxlau adds that White already has the choice between 8.h6 and 8.Rh8.

152.13997, N. Sikdar. The study is OK, but Beasley thinks the commentary has gone a little adrift. (iii) surely belongs with Black's move l...Ba4. Beasley also thinks that there should be a mention of the natural move 3.Kxd3. I agree with him. White must bring his knight out as quickly as possible to prevent Black from reaching a8 and 3.Kxd3 loses a vital tempo.

152.14009, R. Gray. This oeuvre should not be called «a modification of an endgame study by L. Topcejev». Beasley comments: «I think it very unlikely that copies of «64» would be floating around Glasgow in the war years. «Anticipated by», yes, but «modification» implies conscious modification.»

Vickery draws attention to the following six diagram errors in EG 153, all of which occurred after electronic transmission from John Roycroft to EG's technical editor. The GBR codes are correct. EG apologises to frustrated sufferers.

153.14071, N. Rezvov and S. N. Tkachenko. bPb5 should be bPb4.
153.14078, D. Pikhurow. bPh7 should be bF7.
153.14094, M. Gogberashvili. wBe8 should be wBd8.
153.14102, L. Katsnelson and V. Katsnelson. wSb6 should be bSb6.
153.14111, L. Parenti. bPh4 should be bPh3.
153.PB14 p. 342, P. Benko. bSg7 should be wSg7.
Some of these diagram errors were also noted by other readers. In Test Tube Chess, in
the chapter entitled «Regular Solver», Roycroft noted that
«only a diagram misprint is more infuriating than discovering that the
position is set up incorrectly.»

153.14057, D. Zimbeck. Simply too good to be true! In a very detailed analysis
Campioli shows that the natural move 1.Kxg4 wins. The main line runs: 1...Se3+

153.14058, Gh. Umnov. Antonini is impressed by this 1st prize winner, but he finds
the presentation of the solution less convincing. In the line 9...Kb8, 10.Ra8+?? fails to
mentioned in (vii), the move 10...Bc3? loses to 11.Rba1!! Bxb2 12.Ra7+ Kc8 13.Ra8+
Kb7 14.Ra7+ Kb6 15.Ra6+ Kb7 16.Ra7+, and 16...Ke8 17.Rf7 followed by 18.Kc6
+, or 16...Kb8 17.Kc6+. Black should play 10...Be5+! White can either go back to
the previous position, or join the main line with 11.Kd7. Thus 9.Ke6 seems to be just a
loss of time. There is however a serious dual as shown by A. Vysokosov in
Kb7 14.Ra7+ Kb6 15.Ra6+ Kb7 16.Ra7+ Kb8 17.Kc6!

153.14060, N. Ryabinin. According to Roxlau there are minor duals in all lines. In the

153.14064, A. Malyshev. Incorrect as shown by Costeff in an e-mail to van der
Heijden (xii/2003) and also by Roxlau. Black draws after 2...Ra1 3.Kb8 Rb1+ 4.Kc7
Rxel, or 3.g6 Kg5 4.g7 Ra8+ 5.Kb7 Rg8.

153.14069, L. Topko. Haworth and Roxlau point out that the main line 5.Ke2 only
draws, e.g. 5...Qg8 6.Kf1 (Kf2) Qf8+ 7.Rf7 Qd6. The correct move is 5.Rh7+ which
is actually rejected in (iii), and the 5-man *C* 3200.00 odh declares for White. It is
more than doubtful whether this endgame study adds anything to the anticipation by
Rinck.

153.14070, J. Fleck. Haworth shows that the drawing moves in line 1 are unique until
we come to 12.Kf7, when 12.Kf6 draws as well. The same is true on move 14, and
instead of 16.Rg7+, White can actually play 16.Rg4 as Black can do nothing to
improve his position.

153.14071, N. Rezrov and S. N. Tkachenko. The cook 1.Sd6 was reported in
Zadatschy i Etjudi no. 21, 29.ix.2000 and was also discovered by Roxlau. The same
source mentions a possible correction by omitting the first two moves.
153.14090, G. Amiryan. Incorrect. Roxlau improves Black's play mentioned in (iii). 8...Qb5+ is a blunder. 8...a2 draws at once.


153.14095, D. Pachkoria and R. Martsvalashvili. There is nothing wrong with this endgame study, but the suggestion that this is the only study where White starts in check from a pawn turns out to be wrong. Elkies reminds us of his own 3rd place study in the Rueb MT 1990; cfr. EG 119.10135. But this is not all! Using CQL (see EG 151 pp. 199–205) Costeff found 14 such studies, the first being a Troitzky d2f1 0002.01 c2e2.c3 3/2+. 1.Ke3 Kg2 2.Kf4 Kh3 3.Kg5.

153.14100, L. Palguev. According to Shakhmatnaya Nedelya no. 17, iv/2003 there is a dual starting with 11.Kg7. After a series of black checks the white king finally finds a safe harbour on d1 or d8. The great German master Siegbert Tarrasch stated a hundred years ago that a pawn on the sixth row supported by a knight and a bishop is stronger than a queen, so the win is hardly surprising.


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DIAGRAMS AND SOLUTIONS
editors: John Roycroft
Harold Van der Heijden

EG is proud to present to the world the 26 original studies of this award. In deference to the Georgian composition grandmaster and tourney judge EG breaks a self-denying ordinance in the reporting of tourney awards to sanction, on this occasion, all exclamation marks! AJR
This is the provisional award. Claims of anticipation or analytical flaws will be accepted by e-mail only to Iuri Akobia: laluka@geo.net.ge until 31.xii.2004.

97 studies were entered from 21 countries. As is often the case there were many faults and serious anticipations. Many of these who submitted by e-mail were informed by the same medium. Unfortunately, at least a dozen vying for honours were victims.

I have selected 26 for the award. The decision was taken to have three distinct sections: I - Main section; II - The study and the endgame; III Systematic manoeuvres.

The provisional award is as follows.

I: MAIN SECTION

It will come as a surprise to no one that I like studies with systematic manoeuvres. A wise man once told me that he liked a particular study so much that he gladly 'subscribed' to it. I can say that I feel the same about the top three prize-winners.

No 14136 A. Sochnev
1st/3rd pr Gurgenidze-50

A broad brush study in the logical style, tidied up by an effective checkmate with the participation of promoted knights. [Text is the judge's, translated from Russian by AJR.]

No 14137 V. S. Kovalenko
1st/3rd pr Gurgenidze-50

h7f7 0701.54 8/7 Win

No 14136 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg).
Rg2+ 14. Kh3  Rg1!
15. Qe3+  Kxe3  16. d8Q
Kf2 17. Qa8  Rg3+  18. Kh2
Rg4 19. Qa3  Rg2+  20. Kh3
Rg1 21. Qa8  Rg3+  22. Kh2
Rg4 draw.

Another classy effort in which White steps around Black's perpetual check endeavours.

No 14138 V. Kalandadze
1st/3rd pr Gurgenidze-50

No 14139 S. Didukh
4th prize Gurgenidze-50

i) 1. Rc7+  Kd1  2. Rd7+  Ke1
3. Re7+  Kf1  4. Rf7+  Kg1
5. Rg7+  Kf1  6. Ra7+  Ke1
7. Re7+  Kd1  8. Rd7+  Kc1
9. Rc7+  Kb1  10. Rb7+  Ka1
11. Kg1+!!  hxg1S+!!
(hxg1Q; h8Q+!!)
12. Kg3
Se2+  13. Kg4(Kh4) Rxh4+
14. Kg5/1  Ra5+  15. Kh6
wins.
i) 14. Kh5?!  Sg3+!!  15. Kg5
Ra5+  16. Kh4  Rh5+  17. Kg3  a5  18. Kg4  Rh2!!
19. Ra7 Kb2 draw.

Both sides move systematically with effective retorts.

No 14140 V. Neidze
5th prize Gurgenidze-50

f3d4 0330.64 7/7 Draw
No 14140 Vazha Neidze
(Tbilisi).
1. e8Q  a1Q
2. Qh8+!/i  Kd3  3. Qxa1
Rxf4+ (Rxal; g7)  4. Kxg3, with:
- Ra4+  5. Kf2!  Rxal  6. g7
Bg3+  7. Kf3!  Ra8  8. g8Q
Rgx8 stalemate, or
- Rf1+  5. Kh4!  Rxal  6. g7
Bg3+ (Rh1+; Kg5)  7. Kh3!
Ra8  8. g8Q  Rxg8 stalemate

i) 2. Qd4+?  Kg8  2. Sd7
Qb5+  3. Ke1  Qxd5  4. gxd5
b3  5. Sf6+  Kf8  6. Sd5  Qb1+
7. Ke2  Qc2+  8. Kf3  Qf5+

ii) 4. Qh7+?  Kxf8  5. Qh8+  Qg8
6. Qh5  Qg6  7. Qh8+  Qg8
8. Qxh4 Ke8 draw.

iii) Qg6  8. Qh8+  Qg8
9. Qh3 wins.

My first encounter with this name. The reci-zug is unexpected and put together tastefully. Bravo, Sergei!

Chameleon echo stalemates to a backdrop of concealed tactical tricks.
No 14141 L.Katsnelson, V.Katsnelson
honourable mention Gurgenidze-50

Leonard Katsnelson, Vladimir Katsnelson (St Petersburg). 1.f6?! gxf6
2.Kd6?! Kg4 3.c7?! Rh8
4.Ra7?! b2 5.c8Q+! Rxc8
6.Rg7+ Kf5 7.g4+ fxg3
8.Rf1 mate.
i) 1.Kb7?! Kg4 2.c7 Rh8
3.Rxc2 bxc2 4.Rc1 Kxf5
draw. 1.Kd6?! Kg5 2.c7
Rh8 3.Rxc2 bxc2 4.Rc1
Kxf5 5.Rxc2 f3 draw.
ii) 2.Kb6?! Kg4 3.Rxc2
bxc2 4.Rc1 f3 draw. 2.Kb7?! Kg4
draw.
iii) 3.Ra8?! b2 4.Rg8+
Kd4 draw.
The conclusion is piquant.

d6b3 0416.30 6/4 Win
No 14142 Sergei Osintsev
honourable mention Gurgenidze-50

Sergei Osintsev (Ekaterinburg). 1.Be2!!
i bxc6 2.bxc6 Ra6 3.Kc5
Sxc6/ii 4.Kb5/iii Sb8
Sd7+ 7.Kb5/v Sxf8 8.c5
Kc3 9.c6 Se6 10.Kb6 Kd4

i) Thematic try: 1.Bf1!!
 bxc6 2.bxc6 Ra6 3.Kc5
Sxc6 4.Kb5 Sb8 5.Rf8
Rb6+! 6.Kxb6 Sd7+
7.Kb5! Sxf8 8.c5 Ke3!
9.c6 Se6 10.Kb6 Kd4, and
wB is deprived of the
square h5: 11.Bh3 Sf4!
12.Bg2 Sg6 13.c7 Se7
14.Kb7 Ke5 draw.

ii) Rxc2 3.d5+!!/i Kxd5
4.e4+!!/ii Kd6/iii 5.e5+!
Kxe5 6.Rg7 Kd6 7.Kc8!
Bf5+ 8.Kd8 Ra6 9.Rd7+
Kc6 10.Rxc7+ Kd6
11.Rd7+ Bxd7 stalemate,
or
- Rxc2 3.Rg7! c6 4.e4
Rc4 5.Rg6+! Kd7 6.Rg7+
Kd8 7.Rg8+ Ke7 8.d5! c5
9.Kc7 Rxe4 10.Ra8 Rb4

No 14143 W.Bruch
honourable mention Gurgenidze-50

Wieland Bruch (Germany). 1.d4 c2
2.Bxc2, with:
- Bxc2 3.d5+!!/i Kxd5
4.e4+!!/ii Kd6/iii 5.e5+!
Kxe5 6.Rg7 Kd6 7.Kc8!
Bf5+ 8.Kd8 Ra6 9.Rd7+
Kc6 10.Rxc7+ Kd6
11.Rd7+ Bxd7 stalemate,
i) 3. e4!? Bxe4 4. d5+, and
Kd6! 5. dx e6 Bxg2 winning+,
avoiding 4...Bxd5? 5. Rd6+ Kd7
6. Rd7+ draw.
ii) 4. Rg8?! Kd6 5. e4 Rb+ 6.
iii) Bxe4 5. Rg7 Kd6 6.
Rxc7 Rb+ 7. Ka7 Kxc7
stalemate.
Subtle play prepares a
familiar stalemate.

No 14144 D. Makhatadze
honourable mention Gurgenidze-50

No 14145 Julien Vandiest
honourable mention Gurgenidze-50

f8f6 4742.21 8/6 Draw
No 14146 Michal Hlinka
(Slovak Republic).
1...Bc5+! 2. Sxc5 Rxa8
3. Bd8+ Kf7 4. Re+! Qxh8
5. Ra+ Kf6 stalemate.
i) Bc7 2. Bd8+ Kf7
3. Re+! Qxh8+ 5. Sd7+!
Rxc8 7. Sc7+ Ke6 8. Sxh8
Ra+ 9. Kf7 draw.
ii) 5. Sd7+! Qxh8+ 7.
Sc7+ Ke5 9. Qxh8+
Kf6 8. Qb5+ Ke5
Romanticism and multiple
stalemate pins.

No 14146 M. Hlinka
special honourable
mention Gurgenidze-50
-- for a romantic study

No 14145 J. Vandiest
honourable mention
Gurgenidze-50

No 14144 Dzhemal
Makhatadze (Zestafoni,
Georgia). 1. Sc1+ Kd2
2. Bb3+ Kd3 3. Sc5+ Kd2
4. Se4+ hxe4/i 5. Be1+
Sxc2 8. Kc2+ Kd2/i
9. Se4+ Rxe4 10. Rd3+1
Kxd3 11. Rd1 mate.
i) dRx e+? 5. Rxe+ Sc5+
ii) Re3 9. Rd1+ Ke4
10. Rxd4+ Sxd4 11. Rxe3+
wins.
The effective mate calls
for a more satisfactory
introduction.

No 14145 J. Vandiest
honourable mention
Gurgenidze-50

f8f6 4742.21 8/6 Draw
No 14146 Michal Hlinka
(Slovak Republic).
1...Bc5+? 2. Sxc5 Rxa8
3. Bd8+ Kf7 4. Re+! Qxh8
5. Ra+ Kf6 stalemate.
i) Bc7 2. Bd8+ Kf7
3. Re+! Qxh8+ 5. Sd7+!
Rxc8 7. Sc7+ Ke6 8. Sxh8
Ra+ 9. Kf7 draw.
ii) 5. Sd7+! Qxh8+ 7.
Sc7+ Ke5 9. Qxh8+
Kf6 8. Qb5+ Ke5
Romanticism and multiple
stalemate pins.
No 14147 I. Aliev
commendation
Gurgenidze-50

No 14147 Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan).
1. Re7+ Kb8 2. Sd5+ Ka8
(Kc8; Rc7 mate) 3. Sc7+ Ka7 4. Se6+ Ka8 5. Sd8
Qc5+/i 6. Kd1! with:
- Qxb4 7. Ra7+! Kxa7
(Kb8; Sc6+) 8. Sc6+ wins,
or
- Qxe7 7. Rb8+! Kxb8
8. Sc6+ wins.
i) Qg1+ 6. Kb2 Qc5
7. Reb7 Qe5+ 8. d4 Qh2+
9. Kb3 a5 10. Rb8+ Qxb8
Attractive echo play.

No 14148 Pietro Rossi,
Marco Campioli (Italy).
1. Sc6+ Kc7 2. Re6 with:
- Bg7+ 3. Se5 Kd8
4. Rd6+/i Ke7 5. Rd7+
Kf8/ii 6. Rf7+ Kg8 7. Re7
Kf8 8. Sf5 Bxf5
(Bxe5; Rxe5) 9. Rf7+ Kg8
10. Rxf5 wins, or

- Kd7 3. Sd4 Bg7 4. Sf5
d3 5.Rb6 Ke7 6.Rb2
Bxe2 7. Se6+ Kd6 8. Sxg7
wins.
i) 4. Sh5+? Bf5 5. Rd6+ Ke7
draw.
ii) Kf6 6. Sh5+ Kxe5
7. Sxg7 wins.
A pawnless ('aristocratic')
study in which White
imposes his material
advantage.

No 14149 Per Olin
(Finland).
1. Qf1+i Bb6+
2. Rxb6 (Kh1? Qf8;)
Kec5 5. Qa1+ Kf5 6. Qb1+
Kec5/iii 7. Qe4+ Kf5
8. Qg6+ Kxg6 9. Bf4+ Kf7
10. Bg6 mate
i) 1. Qc3!? Bb6+ 2. Kh1
Kf6 3. Qf1+ Kg6 4. Qc2+
Sf5 5. Qxf5+ Kg7 6. Bf7
Rh7 7. Bxe8 Sf6 8. Bxd7
Rd8 9. Bxc6 Rd4 10. g3
Kh8 draw.
ii) Kf4 4. Bxc6+ Ke5
5. Qa1+ wins.
iii) Kg4 7. Bxd7+ e6
8. Rxe6 Sxe6 9. Qe4+ Kg3
10. Qe3+ Kg4 11. Bxe6+
wins.
The material is not run-of-
the-mill, and neither is the
checkmate.

No 14150 Revaz
Tsurtsumia, Shakro
Tsurtsumia (Georgia).

No 14149 P. Olin
commendation
Gurgenidze-50

b8c1 0700.11 3/4 Draw
No 14150 R. Tsurtsumia,
Sh. Tsurtsumia commendation
Gurgenidze-50

g1g4 4746.18 5/15 Win
Two stalemate finales, but the play is no more than schematic.

II: STUDIES and the ENDGAME

The link between studies and practical play has always intrigued me. It was the theme of my booklet The Study and Endgame Theory. Such studies come to the attention of practical players as they affect endgame theory. That is why I chose this special section.

No 14151 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg).


Two stalemate finales, but the play is no more than schematic.

No 14152 Valery Vlasenko (Ukraine).

1.a7 Kc3 2.Kd7+ with:

No 14153 Yochanan Afek (Israel).

i) 1.Be6+? Kxe6 2.d7 g1Q 3.dQ Qxg2 draw.

No 14153 YoAfek 2nd/3rd special prize Gurgenidze-50

h8g5 0040.11 3/3 Draw

No 14152 V.Vlasenko 2nd/3rd special prize Gurgenidze-50

**No 14154** V.Samilo special honourable mention Gurgenidze-50

g8e8 3011.20 5/2 Win

**No 14155** P.Rossi special honourable mention Gurgenidze-50

**No 14156** A.Golubev special honourable mention Gurgenidze-50

h8e5 0313.31 5/4 Draw

**III: SYSTEMATIC MANOEUVRES**

The first study shows interesting battery play, while the second has a likeable systematic manoeuvre. Looking at them together I couldn’t help thinking of the two national football teams of Argentina and Germany.

No 14158 M.Roxlau lst/2nd pr Gurgenidze-50

i) glQ 2.d8Q Bxh5+ 3.Kf4 Qg6 4.Re7+ Kf5
5.Qd7+ Kg5 6.Bxd4 wins.

ii) 4.Qxc4 Rc4+ draws as in the thematic try.
Precise move motivation in the intro is not quite in harmony with the finale.

No 14159 G.Costeff special honourable mention Gurgenidze-50


No 14160 V.Kartvelishvili special honourable mention Gurgenidze-50
1601.00 *) Kh2 15.Qd2+ Rg2 16.Qd6+ bRg3 17.Sxd7 Kg1 draw [C* 6-man 1601.00 *]. 9.Re3?? Rxb7 10.Re1+ Rxe1 11.a8Q+ Kh2 12.Qa2+ Kg1 13.Qa7+ Kf1 14.Sxd7 Rg7+ 15.Kf5 Rf7+ 16.Kg6 Rf3 draw. [C* 6-man 1601.00 *]


iii) 14.Sxd7!? Rg7+ 15.Kf4 Rf1+ draw*. [C* 6-man 1601.00 *]

A familiar systematic manoeuvre. The extension of play is a find.

*Note by AJR: The 6-man online jaet (John Tamplin) *C* odb confirms all the claimed results. But how, one may ask, is the unempowered reader-solver expected to handle these difficult positions? There are, in our strongly held viewpoint, two possibilities, both of them consequent upon the relationship between the endgame study and endgame theory: the position is either known to accepted theory, or it is not; if it is known then the composer should supply the reference; if it is not known, then the composer is duty-bound to explain what is going on, ie to make his own contribution to endgame theory. In the present instance computer checking was by the tourney organiser, Iuri Akobia, rather than by the judge or the 50-year-old mathematician composer who, we learn, has published about ten studies.

No 14161 S.Borodavkin special commendation Gurgenidze-50

Systematic play with four pieces. The technical complexity is unfortunately no guarantee of a comparable degree of artistry.

In conclusion I offer my heartfelt thanks to all competitors for their entries.

I also thank John Roycroft and Iuri Akobia without whose support the tourney would not have been successful!

David Gurgenidze
Tbilisi
11vii2004

7th World Chess Composition Tournament 2001-2004 *H*

38 countries participated in the most important composing competition with 625 compositions in 7 sections, including studies. The 7th WCCT was announced in November 2001 with a submission deadline of March 1st, 2003. The tourney was organized by the Chess Federation of Macedonia, under the auspices of FIDE>

Zivko Janevski, assisted by Nikola Stolev, was tourney
director. He also produced a nice booklet with the awards, dated May 2004. There are forewords by the PCCC-President John Rice and the Spokesman of the WCCT subcommittee Uri Avner, thanking the organizers for a very efficient job.

The team from Russia won the championship (263 points), ahead of Ukraine (221.5 points) and Israel (209.5 points). Also in the study section Russia scored most of the points (43 points) just ahead of Ukraine and Israel (both 41 points) and Georgia (34 points). It also noteworthy that Vladimir Rudenko was the most successful composer with no less than 12 compositions placed, and at least one composition in each section. A remarkable achievement!

A new way of judging was used for the first time, with judges from five countries for each section (for the study section the judges were Belgium, Georgia, Israel, Romania and Russia, and reserve judge was Belarus). The tourney director remarked that "all the countries except Belgium sent in their awards in good time".

The set theme for the study section was: "In a certain position (position "X") of a win or draw study, a piece (or pieces) of his own side prevent(s) White from carrying out his plan. In the course of the solution White sacrifices his piece (or pieces) either passively (examples 1 and 3) or actively (example 2). Consequently, position X arises, which is identical in every detail to position X, but without the eliminated piece(s). This enables White to carry out his original plan. In examples 1 and 2, position X is the diagrammed positions; in example 3, position X occurs after Black's 1st move. Pawn(s) may be used as the thematic piece(s)."

Harold van der Heijden was consulted for anticipation testing (bij the Belgium judges), but unfortunately all his examples of sometimes very partly anticipation were given as "protests" in an first report before judging, "of course" without his explicit explanation that the judges should decide about the degree of anticipation".

No 14162 Szaja Kozlowski
Swiat Szachowy 1931
1st example 7th WCCT

f7g8 0410.11 4/3 Win
No 14162 Szaja Kozlowski
(X) 1.g7? R-, therefore
1.Rg7+ Kxh8 2.Rh7+ Kg8
(X) 3.g7 wins.

No 14163 Yochanan Afek
2nd commendation
Thèmes-64 1977
2nd example 7th WCCT

e5d2 0014.11 4/3 Win
No 14163 Yochanan Afek
(X) 1.Ba4? cxb4 2.c5 b3
3.Bxb3 Sxb3 draw/i,
therefore 1.Sc2 Sh3
2.Sa1/ii Sxa1 (X) 3.Ba4
Kc3 4.Kd5 Kb4 5.Bd1
wins.
i) 4.c6 Sa5 5.c7 Sc6+.
ii) 2.Sc3? Sa5 draws.

No 14164 David Gurgenidze
2nd Prize Die Schwalbe 1995-6
3rd example 7th WCCT

No 14165 Pál Bennő (D31)
1st Place 7th WCCT

b1a8 3210.42 8/4 Win

No 14166 Oleg Pervakov
(D70) 2nd Place 7th WCCT
10.Bc7 wins.
Rxb6 4.f7 Bd6 5.Se8 Be7
??) Bb8 8.Bg7? (Be3
?) Be7 9.Be5 Rxb7 10.Bd6 h3
11.Bxe7 h2 12.Rf8 Qh1
Qf5+ d5 and Black
wins.

ii) Rb4+ 6.Kd5 h3 7.b8Q
h2 8.Kxe5 h1Q 9.Kd6
Rxbl+ 10.Qxb6+ Kxb6
11.Sd5+ Kb5 12.f7 Qh2+
Qxd5+ 15.Qd6 wins.

iii) 7.Be5? Ba3 and no
Bf8 10.Be3 wins.
Bxh7 10.Sxd6 Rb8 11.Se8
Rb4+ 12.Kd5 Rf4 and
Black wins.

"A good try (1.f7?) and a
fine key move forcing the
bR to the square where it is
finally pinned (BEL). A
rich study with thematic
play (doubled!) that fits
well within the main idea
and with good play in the
variations and tries. The
novelty is that instead of
regurgitating the expected
Novotny sacrifices, the
composer has managed to
combine promotion threats
with rook pinning threats,
which ultimately decide the
battle (ISR)".

No 14167 Gady Costeff
(D64)
3rd Place 7th WCCT

11.Qa4/i Rxf3/ii
2.Qa6+ Qxa6 3.bxa6+
Kxa8/iii (X) 4.Ba3/v
Rxbl+/v 5.Bcl/vi Rb8/vii
(X 1) 6.Bb2 Rbf8/viii
7.O-O-O wins.
i) 1.Sc3? Rg5 and Black
wins, 1.Qb3? Qd6 2.exf5
Qg3+ 3.Kf1 Qxh3+ 4.Kg1
Qg3+ draws, or 1.Bb2?
Qb6 and Black wins.

"A rather ridiculous-
looking position develops
interesting play from both
sides. The thematic moves
are surprising (BEL)".

No 14168 Mirko Miljanic
(D11)

11.Qa4/i Rxf3/ii
2.Qa6+ Qxa6 3.bxa6+
Kxa8/iii (X) 4.Ba3/v
Rxbl+/v 5.Bcl/vi Rb8/vii
(X) 6.Bb2 Rbf8/viii
7.O-O-O wins.
i) 1.Sc3? Rg5 and Black
wins, 1.Qb3? Qd6 2.exf5
Qg3+ 3.Kf1 Qxh3+ 4.Kg1
Qg3+ draws, or 1.Bb2?
Qb6 and Black wins.

ii) Rh5 2.Qa6+ Qxa6
3.bxa6+ Kxa6 4.Kxh7
Qxh7 5.Sc3.

iii) Kxh7 6.O-O-O wins.

iv) Rh8 5.Sc3 Rxe7
6.O-O-O.
v) 5.Rxh1? Rfx1+ 6.Kxf1
stalemate.

"A rather ridiculous-
looking position develops
interesting play from both
sides. The thematic moves
are surprising (BEL)".

No 14168 Mirko Miljanic
(Serbia & Montenegro)

11.Qa4/i Rxf3/ii
2.Qa6+ Qxa6 3.bxa6+
Kxa8/iii (X) 4.Ba3/v
Rxbl+/v 5.Bcl/vi Rb8/vii
(X) 6.Bb2 Rbf8/viii
7.O-O-O wins.
i) 1.Sc3? Rg5 and Black
wins, 1.Qb3? Qd6 2.exf5
Qg3+ 3.Kf1 Qxh3+ 4.Kg1
Qg3+ draws, or 1.Bb2?
Qb6 and Black wins.

ii) Rh5 2.Qa6+ Qxa6
3.bxa6+ Kxa6 4.Kxh7
Qxh7 5.Sc3.

iii) Kxh7 6.O-O-O wins.

iv) Rh8 5.Sc3 Rxe7
6.O-O-O.
v) 5.Rxh1? Rfx1+ 6.Kxf1
stalemate.

"A rather ridiculous-
looking position develops
interesting play from both
sides. The thematic moves
are surprising (BEL)".

No 14168 Mirko Miljanic
(Serbia & Montenegro)

11.Qa4/i Rxf3/ii
2.Qa6+ Qxa6 3.bxa6+
Kxa8/iii (X) 4.Ba3/v
Rxbl+/v 5.Bcl/vi Rb8/vii
(X) 6.Bb2 Rbf8/viii
7.O-O-O wins.
i) 1.Sc3? Rg5 and Black
wins, 1.Qb3? Qd6 2.exf5
Qg3+ 3.Kf1 Qxh3+ 4.Kg1
Qg3+ draws, or 1.Bb2?
Qb6 and Black wins.

ii) Rh5 2.Qa6+ Qxa6
3.bxa6+ Kxa6 4.Kxh7
Qxh7 5.Sc3.

iii) Kxh7 6.O-O-O wins.
iii) Sxe3 3.a6 Sd5+ 4.Kc5 Ka5 5.Kxd5 Kxa6 6.Sd4 e3 7.g7 e2 8.g8Q e1Q 9.Qa8+ wins.
v) Sxe3 5.g7 Bxd4 6.g8Q Kb4 7.Qa8 wins.
"Good thematic play, a surprising move 2.Kb6!! and economical construction (ROM)".

No 14169 Nikolay Kralin & Andrey Vysokosov
(D36)
5th Place 7th WCCT

No 14170 Gady Costeff
(D73)
6th Place 7th WCCT
i) 1.b8Q? Qg7+ 2.Kxg7 stalemate, 1.g7? Qd8+ 2.Kh7(Kf7) Qd3+(Qd7+).
ii) Kg5 2.g7 Kg6 3.Rg4+ Kh5 4.b8Q Qe6+ 5.Kf8 Qd6+ 6.Kf7 Qxb8 7.Rh4+ Kg5 8.Rh5+ Kxh5 9.g4+ wins.

No 14171 Pál Benno (D15)
8th Place 7th WCCT

ii) Kg5 2.g7 Kg6 3.Rg4+ Kh5 4.b8Q Qe6+ 5.Kf8 Qd6+ 6.Kf7 Qxb8 7.Rh4+ Kg5 8.Rh5+ Kxh5 9.g4+ wins.

"Attractive systematic movement, followed by a good final with an unexpected minor promotion at the end. Inactive material throws a shadow on this achievement (BEL). A doubling of the theme within a careful anti-stalemate battle. White is forced to abandon his queen, rook and advanced pawn with no foreseeable compensation, before he can unleash the 'coup de grâce' with a hidden battery. It is a pity that the point of the study, the discovered check, is already revealed at the beginning in the l...Kg5? variation (ISR)."
A well-calculated duel between the black queen and white pieces in which Black, through a rook sacrifice, constructs for his queen a set of stalemate and perpetual check threats, which are defeated by a thematic bishop sacrifice during an (admittedly familiar) systematic pendulum manoeuvre of the white king (ISR). Spectacular king walk, fine stalemate avoidance (ROM).
No 14176 Harrie Hurme (D65)
11-12th Place 7th WCCT

1. ... Sxe3/i (X1) 2. Sf6+ Kxg5 3. Se4+ Kg4 (X11)
4. gxf3+ KxG 5. Rg8 elQ+ 6. a8Q wins, or:

B) 1. ... Sg3+ 2. Kh2 Sfl++
3. Kg1 Sxe3 (X2) 4. Sf6+
Kxg5 5. Se4+ Kg4 (X21)
6. gxf3+ Kxf3 (X3) 7. Sg5++,

- Kg4 8. f3+ Kg3 (X4)
9. Se4+ Kxe4 10. Sg5+ Kg3
(X4') 11. Sf3 Kxf3 (X3')
12. Be4+ Kg3 13. Rh3+
Kxh3 14. Kg2 Sxc2
15. Kxe2 wins, or:

- Bxg5 (X5) 8. Be4+ Kxe4
9. f3+ Kxf3 (X5') 10. Rh3+
Kg4 11. Kg2 Sxc2 12. Kxe2
Sd4+ 13. Kf2 Kxh3 14. a8Q
c2 15. Qe8+! Kh4 16. Qh8+
Kg4 17. Qxd4+ wins.

i) e1Q 2. Bf5+ Kxf5 3. Rf8+
Kg6 4. Bxf4 (exf4; fxg2+)
Sxe3+ 5. Kh2 fxg2 6. Rg8+
Kf5/ii 7. Sg3+ Kxf4
8. fxe3+ Kg3 9. Rf8+ Kg4
10. Rf4+ Kg5 11. Kxg2 Qa1
12. Rf7 wins.

ii) Kf7 7. Sd6+ Ke7 8. Rxe2
Sxe2 9. a8Q Sxf4 10. Qe8+, or here Kf6 8. Bg5+ Ke5
9. Sf4+ wins.
"A fine struggle with attractive sacrifices and the
theme shown in various lines (BEL)."

No 14177 Nikolay Kralin & Andrey Vysokosov
(D75)
13th Place 7th WCCT

3. Qd1+ Ke5 4. Qd4+/iii Kxd4 (X2)
5. O-O-O+ Kxc5 6. d7 Rhl
7. d8Q glQ 8. Qd4+ Kb4 9. c5+ Kc5
10. Qal+ Kb4 11. Kb4 Qa1
8. Qxc3+ b4 9. Qa1+ Kb5
10. c4+ bx3 11. Qb1+ Kxc5 and Black wins.

i) Kf4 3. Sd3+ Kf5 4. Qxe3
Rxe3 5. Kg2 Rxe6 6. d7 Rd6
7. Sc5 wins.

ii) Kf7 7. Sc5+ Ke7 8. Bd2+
Kf6 9. Qc5+ Kh6 10. Qe3+
Kxe3 11. Qf1+ Kd3
12. Qe2+ 10. Kg1 Rxc2
11. Kg2 Rb2 12. d7 Rb1+
13. Kxg2 Rd1 draws.
"The white plan is of the 'long journey into the night'
sort: queen and knight sacrifices, queen-side
casting, promotion and counter-promotion threats,
en passant capture and finally freeing his king
from jail... The only thing preventing the achievement
of this entire plan is the white pawn e4. The
thematically removal of this pawn, in a position which
repeats once more (theme x 1.5), enables the
completion of White's firework display. A well-
made study in all its elements and another
example of the potential value of combining the
action plan of play of a study with a theme of an
'abstract' nature (ISR)."
No 14178 Pietro Rossi (D14)14th Place 7th WCCT

counterplay throughout the solution, variations and tries (1...Bxc6?; 3.Bc1++; 5.Bxg2; 5.Bxc6; 6.f4!). This mature study shows how careful we must be in evaluating originality (ISR).

No 14179 Valentin Rudenko (D38)15th Place 7th WCCT

"Interesting play from both sides culminating in a well-known combination (BEL). Following the basic schemes by A.Troitzky (1913) and S.Pivovar (1970), which appear in the 'protest' section, D14 represents a successful attempt to build a complete study on the same themem with subtle and effective

No 14180 Byron Zappas & George Georgopoulos (D58)16th Place 7th WCCT

h8f8 0171.36 7/9 win

"A double setting of the theme in a good combination with line-opening (BEL)."


x) or 3.a4 Ba5 4.e5 Bc7 draws.

xi) h2 15.Rxg2 h1Q 16.a8Q wins.

"Good annihilation and remarkable moves in 5.a3 (5.a4) and 8.Sxh3 (8.Sxg2) (BEL)."

No 14181 Zlatko Mihajloski (D19) 17th Place 7th WCCT

h2b6 0041.33 6/5 draw

No 14181 Zlatko Mihajloski (Macedonia) (X)


ii) Bxg3 stalemate.

"Double annihilation. A remarkable wK tour (with another sacrifice) ending in a stalemate (BEL). Notice that the tourney theme is not presented in the try 1.Bd8+?; since without the bishop on e7 (with or without the b7-pawn) White lacks a valid drawing plan, hence one of the theme's conditions, the actual execution of white's plan, is not fulfilled. Contrary to the expectation of a quick stalemate (3...Bxg3), or a lukewarm draw of rook-pawn and 'bad' bishop; 3...h2+ 4.Kxh2(g2); the black king requires a long trek all the way to f3, to force his counterpart into... stalemate! (ISR)".

No 14182 Nikola Predrag (D62) 18th Place 7th WCCT

d3a1 1031.57 8/9 draw


vi) Bd2 11.Kd1 (Kd3?; Kb2) Kb1 (Kd2) draws.

"Go ahead, make my stalemate!... In the opening there is a clean piece sacrifice followed by a critical but well-known queen sacrifice; later, a
fascinating game of cat-and-mouse between the white king and black bishop, in which the king sets the rules and taunts his adversary. Add to this a surprising mate via underpromotion, maximum accuracy throughout the solution and even a 2.5 multiplication of the theme! (ISR).

No 14183  David Gurgenidze & Revaz Martvalashvili (D56) 19th Place 7th WCCT

Rh3+ (X2') 22.Rxh3 mate.

No 14184  Leonid Topko & Viktor Syzonenko (D37) 20th Place 7th WCCT


No 14185  George Georgopoulos (D68) 21th Place 7th WCCT


i) 1.Qb1? Qb8. ii) Bxf5 7.Rg1 mate.

No 14186  Pietro Rossi & Marco Campioli (D17) 22th Place 7th WCCT

h5b1 0140.24 5/6 BTM, win

only draw.

vi) 7.f4? gxf4 8.gxf4 Ke3
draws.

"A thematic rook sacrifice leads to a technical, though well-calculated win. It seems possible to add to the diagram position a white key that fits well with the play, as follows: move the white rook to g4 and add a black pawn e4. Now 1.Rxe4! Kc2 etc. as in the original. And not 1.Bxe4? Ka2 2.Bc2 Bf5 and Black wins (ISR)**.

No 14187 Sergey N.
Tkachenko (D57)
23th Place 7th WCCT

No 14188 Harold van der
Heijden (D07)
24th Place 7th WCCT

No 14188 Harold van der
Heijden (The Netherlands)
4.Sxc2+/vii Kd3/viii (X)
Kd3 (X) 7.Bxb3 wins.

i) 1.Bxb3? Kd2; 1.Sge3+?
Kd2.

ii) Kc1 2.Bxb3 Kb2 3.Bxc2
Kb2 draws.

iii) Kc1 3.Bxb3 Kb1

iv) 3.Bxb3? c1Q 4.Sf4+
Qxf4+ 5.Kxf4 c2 6.Se5+
Kc3 draws, or 3.Sf4+?

No 14189 Roger Missiaen
(D25)
25th Place 7th WCCT

No 14189 Roger Missiaen
(Belgium) (X) 1.Sf2+/i
Kxel 2.Sd3+ Kd1 (X)
3.Rf2 Qd5 4.Bxd5 cxd5
5.Kb1 h4 6.Rh2 d4 7.Rf2
h2 8.Rhx2 h3 9.Rf2 h2

i) 1.Rd7? Qd5 (dxelQ;
Sf2mate) 2.Bxd5 cxd5.

"Active and accurate play by the white pieces. Change of mating piece. With simple means and always just in time the inevitable fate of Black is brought about (BEL). Modest processing of the
well-known scheme (cf. Jan Rusinek, 2nd place 3rd WCCT). The thematic manoeuvre is the same (ROM).

HH remarks that it is strange that the judge Belgium comments on this study of their own composer, suggesting that they also judged this study. However, from the scoring table we learn that this is not the case.

No 14190 Mircea Manolescu (+) Virgil Nestorescu (D47)
26th Place 7th WCCT

f6d5 3054.51 9/5 win

i) Qb2+ 2.Kg6 Qxf2 3.e8Q, or here Qb7 3.Sf4+ Kd4
ii) Ke5 4.Bd6+ Kd4 5.a6 wins.

No 14191 Pietro Rossi (D03)
27th Place 7th WCCT

c4g2 0107.01 3/4 draw

ii) Kf(h)3 2.Rg3+; Kf1 2.Sg3+ Ke1 3.Rf4 c1Q 4.Rf1+; Kh1 2.Sg3+ Kg1(2) (Kh2; Sf1+) 3.Se2+.iii) 2.Rf4+? Ke3 3.Rf1 Sd1 wins. 2.Sf4+ Se5+ 3.Kb3 c1Q wins.

No 14192 Lubomír Koblizek (D04)
28th Place 7th WCCT

h6f3 0004.21 4/3 win

i) 1.dxe5? Kxe4 2.e6 Sg3 3.Kg5 Sf5 draws.

Effekt 2000

The award was published in Shkatulka Zabaikalya (on a date in the year 2000), a new composition periodical of the Chita region of Eastern Siberia. The initiative came from enthusiast Vasily Malyuk. We assume that "Effekt" is a sponsoring entity.

AJR remarks: we are attempting to make contact! via Rudolf Larin's e-mail as given in ShK
No 14193 V.Tyavlovsky
1st prize Effekt 2000

Vitaly Tyavlovsky.
1. Sc5 d2/i
2. Bxd2 h4 3.Bf4 Kg2
4. Ke3/i h3 5.Bh2 Kh1
6. Kf3 Kxh2 7.Kf2 Kh1
8. Se4 Kh2 9.Sd2 Kh1
10. Sf1 h2 11.Sg3 mate.
i) h4 2.Sxd3 h3 3.Bd6 Kg2
4. Sf4+ Kg3 5.Sg6+ Kg2
ii) 4.Sd3? h3 5.Se1+ Kf2
6.Sd3+ Kg2 draw. The square f4 was not available to wS.

No 14194 Vasily Malyuk
2nd prize Effekt 2000

Vasily Malyuk.
1. Qh4+ Ke2 2.Qg4+ Kd3
3. Sf2+ Kc2/i 4.Qf5+ Kd2
5.Qf4+ Kc2 6.Qb4+ h6
7.Qb8 Kc3 8.Qc7+ Kd2
9.Qf4+ Kc2 10.Qb4+ h5
11.Qb8-b4 h4 15.
18.Qb8-b4 h6 19. Qb8-b4 f5 23.Qb8 Kc3
24.Qc7+ Kd2 25.Qf4+ Kc2
26.Qxf5+ Kc3
27.Qe5+ Kc2/i 28.Qc7+ Kd2
29.Qf4+ Kc2
30.Qb4+ Kd2 31.Qc4+ Kd2
32.Se4+ Kd1 33.Qf1+ Kc2
34.Qe2+ Qd2 35.Qxd2 mate.
i) Kc3 4.Qxh3+ Kd4
5.Qh4+ Kc3 6.Qf6+ d4
7.Qc6+ Kd2 8.Qh6+ Kc2
9.Qxh7+ Kd2 10.Qe6+ Kc2
11.Qc6+ Kxc1+ Kxc1 12.h4
wins, or, in this, 9...Kc3
10.Qd3+ Kb4 11.Qb3+ Ka5
12.Qa3+ Qxa3+
13.Kxa3 and whP promotes.
ii) d4 28.Qa5+ Kc2 29.Qb4
d3 30.Qc4+ Kd2 31.Qf4+
Kc2 32.Qb4 zz d2 33.Qc4
mate.

No 14195 V.Pomogalov
3rd prize Effekt 2000

V.Pomogalov.
1. Ke7? Kg7 2.d7 Ba5
wins. Ditto if 1.d7? Ba5+
2. Ke7 Kg7 1. Ke7 b5 2.d7
Ba5 8.dQ Bxd8 9.Kc3
draw.

draw.
"Réti's manoeuvre secures
the vital tempo."

No 14195 V.Pomogalov
3rd prize kotov-75JT

V.Pomogalov.
1. Ke7? Kg7 2.d7 Ba5

No 14196 V.Razumenko
1st prize Kotov-75JT

V.Razumenko.
1. Kc7?? Kg7 2.d7 Ba5

A.I.Kotov-75JT

The award was published in Zadachy i etyudy no.32
12v2004. This formal international tourney was judged by Aleksei Kotov
(Priozersk, Leningrad region)


"From I we encounter evasion from desperado bR, systematic manoeuvre, and an interesting checkmate. In II there is also a desperado evasion and another checkmate. The richness of the pieces is spread generously over the chessboard. An excellent achievement!"

No 14197 D. Gurgenidze, L. Katsnelson 2nd prize Kotov-75 JT

I: diagram
II: remove bR+ wPh2; add bRd1 wPh3

No 14196 Viktor Razumenko (St Petersburg).


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No 14197 D. Gurgenidze, L. Katsnelson 2nd prize Kotov-75 JT
7.d8Q Rg7+ 8.Kf8 Rg8+ 9.Kxg8 stalemate (again!).
"Sharp-witted agreeable play by both protagonists."

No 14199 V.Vlasenko
4th prize Kotov-75JT

No 14200 Yu.Zemlyansky
5th prize Kotov-75JT

h1h5 0133.11 3/4 BTM,Draw
No 14199 Valery Vlasenko (Ukraine).
[There is at least some doubt about how many composers named 'Valery Vlasenko' there are. 'Nikolai Vlasenko' is distinct, though.] If 1...Kg6 2.Rb6+ and 3.Ra6 draws. Better for Black is 1...Kg4 2.Rd5 Bc3 3.Rc5 Sce2 4.Rc4+, with:
- Kh3 5.Rxa4 Bb2 6.Rb4+ Bc3 (Bc1;Rb3+) 7.Ra4/i, positional draw, or
- Kg3 5.Re4 (Rxa4? Kh3;) a3 6.Rxe2 a2 7.Rg2+ Kf3 8.Rg1 Ke2 9.Rc1 Bb2/iii 10.Rg1 Bc3 (Kd2;e4) 11.Rc1, and another positional draw.
  i) 6.c3? (or Rc4) Bc1 7.-Sg3+ 8.Kg1 Be3 mate. Or
  ii) 7.Rc4? Bd2. 7.Rb3? Sg3+
   "The reci-zug is far from obvious, and there are two positional draws."

No 14201 A.Sochnev
special prize for miniature Kotov-75JT

h1d3 3101.10 4/2 Draw
No 14201 Aleksei Sochnev (St Petersburg).
"The material tells us it's a draw, but White is uncoordinated." 1.Sc1+ Ke3 2.Re8+ with:
- Kf3 3.Rf8+ Kxg4
- 4.Rg8+ Kh4 6.Se2 Qd1+ 7.Sc1 stalemate, or
ii) 3.Se2? Qd5 4.Kg1 Qc5+ 5.Kf1 drawn
iii) Kf3 5.Rf8+ Ke3 6.Rf1 drawn
iv) 4.Re8+? Kd1 5.Se2 Qxg4 wins, for instance:
vi) "Neither white piece is genuinely there for the taking."
"Neat white play for stalemate or positional draw. Ultraminiature."

No 14202 G.Amiryan
1st/2nd honourable mention Kotov-75JT

No 14203 Yu.Bazlov
1st/2nd honourable mention Kotov-75JT

b2b5 4031.20 5/3 Win
No 14203 Yuri Bazlov (Vladivostok). 1.Se4 Be3 2.Qxe3 (h8Q? Bxg1;) Ka4+ (Qxe3;h8Q) 3.Kc2
Qxe3 4.Sc3+ Ka4 5.b8B/vi Qc5 (Kb4;Sd5+) 6.Bd6 Qxd6 7.Sb5+ wins.
"The white win is explained by interesting play and an unexpected underpromotion."
No 14204 Sergei Zakharov
3rd/4th honourable mention Kotov-75JT

f4h8 0507.12 5/6 Win
No 14204 Sergei Zakharov
(St Petersburg). l.Sd3
Rxd3/i 2.Ra8+/ii Kh7
3.Ra7+ Kg6 4.f7+ Se6+/iii
5.Rxe6+ Kg7 6.Rg6+/iv
Kxg6 7.f8S+ Kf6 8.Sd7+
Ke6 (Kg6;Se5+) 9.Sc5+
Kd6 10.Sxd3 wins.

i) Rxa6 2.Rxa6 Kg8 3.Ke5
Sf3+ 4.Ke6 Sg5+ 5.Ke7
Sd2 6.f7 Sxf7 7.Rg6+ "So
which wR should give the
check?"
ii) Aha! 2.Rd8+? Kh7
3.Rd7+ (Ra7+;Kg6;) Kg6
4.f7+ Se6+ 5.Rxe6+ Kg7
6.Rg6+ Kxg6 7.f8S+ Kf6,
and d7 is obstructed by
wR. Cf. main line 8.Sd7+

iii) Kg7 5.f8Q+ and 6.Rd8
mate. Or Kh5 5.Rh6+ and
6.f8Q+.

iv) 6.Re1? Rd1. 6.Re6?
Re3 7.Rxc3 Sxc3 8.Ra1
Sbl draws.
"The under-promoted wS
re-appears on d3 -- the
'phoenix' theme/motif."

h1b5 0141.13 5/5 Draw
No 14205 Vladimir Katsnelson
(St Petersburg). 1.Rh5? d2
2.Rxe5+ Kb6 (Ka6;Ra5+)
3.Re6+ Kb7 4.Re7+ Ka6
wins. 1.Sa4 Kxa4 2.Rh6/i
d2 3.Ra6+ Kb3 4.Ra1 d3
5.Bd4/ii Bxd4 6.Ra3+, with:

- Ke2 7.Rxd3 d1Q+
8.Rxd1 Kxd1 stalemate, or
- Ke4 7.Rxd3 Bc3
8.Rxd2 (Rd8? Bd4;) Bxd2,
and theory tells us it's a
draw.

i) 2.Rh4? d2 3.Bxd4 d1Q+
4.Bg1+ Ka3 wins.
Kc2 7.Bg5 Bb2 8.Bf4 Bc1
9.Be3 Kb1 wins.
"Active sacrifice of all
White's pieces so as to
reach a draw."

h1g4 0045.11 5/4 Win
No 14206 A.Malishev
(Yaroslavl). 1.e3? Kg3
draws. 1.e4? Bd3 2.Se3+
Kf4 draws. 1.Se3+ Kg5/i
2.exf3 (Sxf1?? fxe2;) Be2
3.Kg2 Sd4 4.f4+ Kxf4
5.Bh6+, with:

- Ke5 6.Bg7+ Ke4
7.Sc5+ Kxe3 8.Bh6 mate,
or
- Ke4 6.Sc5+ (Kf2(?)
Bh5;) Ke5 7.Bg7+ K-8.

5.Bh6 wins.
"Mid-board checkmate
with a pair of active self-
blocks."
No 14207 S. Osintsev
5th/6th honourable mention Kotov-75JT

5/6 Draw

No 14207 Sergei Osintsev (Ekaterinburg). 1.Bb6 Sc3+i 2.Kf3/i c4+i

i) Ba6 2.Ke3 Sb6 3.d7
Sxd7 4.Bxd7 Rh7 5.Bb5
draw. Or Rh8 2.d7 Bxd7
3.Bxd7 Sb6 4.Bg4 Rxd4
5.d6 draw.

Sxd5+ 4.Kc4 Sf6+ 5.Kxe5
Rxc8 wins. Or 2.Kd3?
Sb5 3.d7 Bxd7 4.Bxd7
Sxe7 5.d6 Rh7 6.Bc6 Kf6
7.dxc7 Rxc7 8.Bxe4 Rg7
9.h5 Kg5 10.Bg6 Kf4
wons.

iii) Sb5 3.d7 Bxd7 4.Bxd7
Sxc7 5.d6 draw.

iv) 3.Kg3? e3 4.d7 Bxd7
5.Bxd7 e2 6.Kf2 Re5
wons.

v) Rc5 7.dxc7 e3 8.Bb5
Rxc7 9.Kf3 Re7 10.Be2 is
a draw.

"A complex struggle,
imaginative on both sides,
and ending up in an
unexpected reci-zug in
White's favour." In the
light of this comment by
the judge Hew Dundas is
led to wonder why this
was not placed higher.

No 14208 S. Kasparyan
1st commendation Kotov-
75JT

d4c1 0045.12 5/5 Win

No 14209 E. Markov
(Saratov). 1.c6 Sd8/i 2.c7
Se6+ 3.Kxc3 Sxc7 4.Sxc7
Kb1 5.Kb3, with:

- Bb8 6.Sf5/ii Kxa1
a3 10.Sd4 a2 11.Sb3 mate,
or
- Bb6 6.Sf8 Bb7 7.Bg7
Bxg7 8.Sxg7 a5 9.Ka4,
and a 'Troitsky' win.

i) c2 2.exb7 Kb1 3.Sc3+
Kxa1 4.Sa2 Bb6 5.Sf7
Bb8 6.Se5 Kbl 7.Sd3
wons.

Bd2 draw.
"A synthesis of two
knight-endings."

No 14208 Sergo
Kasparyan (Erevan,
Armenia). 1.Sd2+ Ka1
2.c8Q Ra7+ 3.Ba4 Rxh4+
4.Kxa4 h1Q 5.Sd3 Sxd3/i
6.Qc3+ Qb2 (Sh2+;Ka3)
7.Qb1 (Qxh1? Qa4+)
Kbl 8.Qxd3+ Qh2 9.Qf1+
Kb2 10.Qa1 mate.

i) Qxd3 6.Qxc1+ Qb1
7.Sb3 mate.
"A beautiful S-sac secures
the win for White."
No 14210  E. Fomichev  
2nd/3rd commendation  
Kotov-75JT  

No 14211  A. Visokosov  
1st prize Chervony girnik XXIX  

No 14212  A. Visokosov  
2nd prize Chervony girnik XXIX  

Chervony girnik XXIX  
(studies section)  
The provisional award was published in Chervony girnik 3xii2002. The informal tourney was judged by S.N.Tkachenko (Ukraine) and had a confirmation period of two months.

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No 14210

E. Fomichev  
(Nizhnegorod region, Russia. Our source gives Tomichov)  
1.e5 d3 2.e6 d2 (fxe6) 3.exf7/i d1Q 4.f8Q Qd5+ 5.f7 (Qh8? Qh1+; Qe5 6.Qh6+ Kxh6 7.f8Q+ Kg6 8.Qf7+ Kh6 9.Qh7 mate.  
i) 3.e7? d1Q 4.e8Q Qd5 draws, not 3...Kxf6? 5.Qxf7+ Ke5 6.Qf5+ Kd6 7.Qxg5 wins.  
"A romantic thing in what looks like a prosaic setting."

---

No 14211

A. Visokosov  
(Kiev)  

No 14212

A. Visokosov  
(Moscow).  

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Chervony girnik XXIX  
(studies section)  
The provisional award was published in Chervony girnik 3xii2002. The informal tourney was judged by S.N.Tkachenko (Ukraine) and had a confirmation period of two months.

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No 14211

1.e5 d3 2.e6 d2 (fxe6) 3.exf7/i d1Q 4.f8Q Qd5+ 5.f7 (Qh8? Qh1+; Qe5 6.Qh6+ Kxh6 7.f8Q+ Kg6 8.Qf7+ Kh6 9.Qh7 mate.  
i) 3.e7? d1Q 4.e8Q Qd5 draws, not 3...Kxf6? 5.Qxf7+ Ke5 6.Qf5+ Kd6 7.Qxg5 wins.  
"A romantic thing in what looks like a prosaic setting."

---

No 14212

A. Visokosov  
(Moscow).  

---
i) 1.Sd4? g2 2.Se2 Rg6+ wins.
iii) 2.Sf3? Rg6+ 3.Kh3 Kg3+.
iv) Getting to the bottom of this move -- why not 3.Bg1? -- will have to wait awhile!
v) Rb7 4.Bg1 Rg7+ (Rb1; Sf3) 5.Kf3 Rg3+ 6.Kf4 draw.
vi) 4.Kf3? is a thematic try: g1Q/xiii 5.Bxg1 Rxe5 6.Kg2 Rh5z, and 7.a3 Kb3, or 7.Bh2 Sf2, or 7.Be3 Ka3.
viii) So here we are at the solution's reci-zug centre! "A genuine Visoko \- Sokov trade-mark!"
ix) Reci-zug against Black.

xii) Second successive BTM reci-zug. The underlying formulation (AJR: we read) is this: with bR on the h-flle it is a draw by virtue of the pair of successive zugzwangs, because the winning set-up of bKg4 (from a4) bRh3 bSg3 is unachievable because White promotes to queen; and with bP on the first rank (except e1) Black wins every time because he can set up: bKe2 (from a4) bRf1 bSf2, and can hunt down the aP.
xiii) A last attempt to avoid the pendulum draw.

AJR: As chief overseer of EG's precious page-space I pray that this analysis by the composer (but not in the actual award) holds water!

No 14213 N.Kralin
3rd prize Chervony girnik XXIX

No 14214 V.Vlasenko
4th prize Chervony girnik XXIX

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ii) Rxc5 5.a8Q glQ 6.Qf5+ Qf2 7.Qh1+ draw.
iii) And not 7.Kc2? Rd8, and despite Black seeming to have lost a tempo, he wins! Explain that away if you can!

"A classic miniature! R- ending theory should be interested in the finale."

No 14214 V.Vlasenko
4th prize Chervony girnik XXIX

g8a4 0320.02 3/4 Win

5.Kd5 h2 6.Kc4 h1Q
7.Bxb3 mate.

i) Thematic try: 1.Be8? h5
Kb3 (h2? Ke4) 5.Bxb5 h2,
and it is Black who wins.

ii) 2.Bc7? h5 3.Kf7 h4
"Crystalline strategic
mating logic."

No 14215 V.Kalashnikov,
A.Pankravtev
1st honourable mention
Chervony girnik XXIX

a5e2 0444.11 4/4 Win

No 14216 Vl.Kondratyev
2nd honourable mention
Chervony girnik XXIX

instead 6.Qb5+ Ke1
7.Qe5+ Kd1 8.Qh5+.

No 14217 V.Chehno, M.Rezvo
3rd honourable mention
Chervony girnik XXIX

f3d1 0000.23 3/4 Win

No 14218 Vl.Kondratyev
4th honourable mention
Chervony girnik XXIX

h8d8 3100.34 5/6 Win

No 14218 Vl.Kondratyev
(Russia). 1.b7 Kc7 2.Rb5
Qh2+ 3.Kg8 Kb8 4.Kf5
Ka7 5.Rf8 (for Ra8) Qb8
6.Rxb8 Kxb8 7.Kf7 g5
8.Ke6 (Kxe7? Kc7;)
g4 (Kc7,Kf5) 9.Kd7/ g3
10.Kc6 g2 11.a7+/ Kxa7
12.Kc7 g1Q 13.b8Q+ Ka6
14.Qb7+ Ka5 15.Qa8+ Kh5 16.Qc6+ Ka5 17.Kb7
Qf1 18.Qb6+ Ka4
19.Qa7+ Kb5 20.Qa6 Ke5
21.Qxf1, winning bQ.
"The judge is no great fan of the multi-phase study,
but the play here is lively in its own right irrespective of the phal aspect."

No 14219 L. Topko
commendation Chervony
gimik XXIX

f6h2 3511.02 5/5 Win

No 14220 I. Yarmonov
(Ukraine).
1.Sf4+ Kd1
2.Rhl+ Kc2 3.Rh2+ e2
4.Rxe2+ Kc1 5.Sd3+ Kd1
6.Kf3 b1Q 7.Kc3, with:
- Qa2 8.Re1+ Kc2
9.Rc1 mate, or
- Qc1+ 8.Sxc1
Kxc1 9.Kd3 b2 10.Re1
mate, not 10.Re2+? Kbl
10.Kc3 Ka1 11.Rxb2
stalemate.

No 14221 Gamlet
Amiryan (Armenia).
1.Sc5
Be2+? 2.Kxa1/ii d2 3.Re7
Kc1 4.Re7 d1Q 5.Sb3
mate.
i) A. Visokosov proposes a
draw with 1...Be6. No
analysis is available.
ii) 2.Kb2? d2 3.Re7 Bf5
4.Re5 Bg4 5.Sd3 Be2
6.Sf4 Bg4 7.Kc3 Kc1
8.Sd3+ Kd1 9.Kb2 Be2
draw.
"A shortie with exemplary checkmate."

No 14222 Iu. Akobia
commendation Chervony
gimik XXIX

b1d1 0134.01 3/4+.

No 14223 Iuri Akobia
(Tbilisi, Georgia).
1.Qa3+
Kbl 2.Qd3+ Kcl 3.Qe2
Sf5 4.Kb8+ Rb4+ 5.Kc7
Rf4 6.Kb6/ii Sd4(Sd6)
7.Qe3+, and Black loses
material.
i) ii) In both cases Black is in zugzwang.
A. Visokosov: After 3.Qxe2 this is Ken Thompson, not Iuri Akobia!

Chervony girnik XXX

The tourney, presumably both formal and international, celebrated 80 years of the newspaper and was its 30th composition tourney. Three prize-winners were published on 17vii2004, and the remainder on 20vii2004. The native Ukrainian provider transliterates the newspaper’s name as Chervony girnyk.

Sergei N. Tkachenko (Odessa) acted as judge.

No 14223 V. Vlasenko
1st prize, Chervony girnik XXX -- 80AT (17vii2004)

No 14224 V. Kondratev
2nd prize Chervony girnik XXX -- 80AT

No 14225 S. Didukh
3rd prize Chervony girnik XXX -- 80AT
Qb1+ 7.Kg5 Qe4 8.Qxa3 Bf4+wins. "Something in the good old style!" By a newcomer to the Ukrainian study-composing ranks.

No 14226 P.Rossi Chervony girnik XXX (20vii2004) special prize (for miniature of value for theory)

b8b6 0034.11 3/4 Draw
No 14226 Pietro Rossi (Italy). 1.Ka8 Bc6 2.Sd7+ Kc7 3.Sxe5 Bxb7+ 4.Ka7 g5/f 5.Sg4 Bf3 6.Sh6 Bd5 7.Sg4 Be6 8.Sf2 Bc4 9.Sg4 Bb5 10.Ka8 Bc6+ 11.Ka7 Bb7 12.Sf2 drawn. No supporting analysis is provided in the award, nor is reference made to computer usage. Instead there are 13 exclamation marks..... "In the final position wS can handle attacks by bB." It does so by judicious choice of square up the board or down, while if bK lends a hand wK can work its way across to ensure a draw. "It is a pity that the moves 3.Sxe5, and 4.Ka7, can be interchanged."

i) With colours reversed this is now diag.330 in Nunn's Secrets of Minor Piece Endings (1995), itself from a study by R.Aleksandrov (Shakhmaty v SSSR xiil933, no.653, solution in ivl934 without notes. No subsequent mention there, up to xiil935). By dint of the *C* odb Nunn shows the study, claimed as a win with an attractive R-promotion, to be subtly unsound: the position (after the Rossi 4...g5) is drawn WTM, won BTM, so it is not, for instance, a reci-zug listed in the EG136 supplement. Please refer to Nunn's book for deeper exposition. What Chervony girnik readers have made of the study is not known. A letter from the composer informs us that he did not use a computer and was unaware of Nunn's position (and presumably of the Aleksandrov study). The anticipation of the 5-man play is beyond dispute, though the study retains value for its adroit introduction. [AJR]

[Also of interest is K2 in the G.M.Kasparyan article White Minimals in EG55 (1979): a8d5 0031.01 g6b5.e5 2/3=. (1952 and 1974) 1.Kb7 ...]

No 14227 S.Didukh special mention Chervony girnik XXX -- 80AT

f5h8 4321.02 5/5 Win

No 14228 Boris N.Sidorov (Apsheronsk). 1.Ra7, with:
- Sf6+ 2.gxf6 Rxa7 3.bxa7 Ra8 4.f7 Rf8 5.Kg5 Ra8 6.Kh5/i Rf8 7.Kg5 positional draw, or
ii) "This position where three pawns hold against three pieces is unique. 'Is it?' asks Hew Dundas. One for CQL, the Chess Query Language, perhaps -- see EG157?!
iii) 2.bxa7? Sg7+ 3.hxg7 Kxg7 wins.

No 14228 B. Sidorov special mention Chervony girnik XXX -- 80AT

[The newspaper source diagram wrongly places wKc4.]

No 14230 V.S. Kovalenko honourable mention Chervony girnik XXX -- 80AT

No 14231 Igor Yarmonov honourable mention Chervony girnik XXX -- 80AT

h5h7 0703.30 5/4 Draw

b2c2 3021.03 4/5 Draw


'Same material as the previous study, but the content is different. Subtle white play hems in the opposing queen.'

No 14231 I. Yarmonov


"A logical study -- to pursue his mating attack White must rid himself of wPg5. Black counterplay is absent."

1063.01 2/5 Draw

102
No 14232 A.Kovrizhenko, Yu.Chervoniuk
commendation Chervony
girnik XXX -- 80AT

No 14233 S.I.Tkachenko
commendation Chervony
girnik XXX -- 80AT

No 14234 L.Topko
commendation Chervony
girnik XXX -- 80AT


b1g8 3143.33 6/7 Draw

No 14233 S.I.Tkachenko (Slavutich, Ukraine).

1.dxe4? b5 2.d4 bxa4 3.dxe5 Kb6 1.h4 b5 2.h5 bxa4 3.h6 a3 4.h7 a2 5.h8Q a1Q 6.Qb8 a4 7.Qb7+ Ka5 8.Ka7 a3 9.Qb6+ Ka4 10.Ka6, and:

- a2 11.Qb5+ Ka3

- a2 11.Qb5+ Ka3

- Qb2 11.Qc6+ Kb3

- Qc4 mate, or

- Qc4 mate, or

No 14234 L.Topko (Ukraine).

Author's solution: 1.Sd5 Rxh3 2.Sxf4+ Kh4 3.Sxh3 (Bf2+? Rg3) b1Q/i

f5h5 0314.23 5/6 Draw

No 14234 Leonid Topko


"Black passivity is again a negative feature."
REVIEW


The Album retains the reassuring blue cover look and feel of previous volumes in the triennial series. It does not disappoint. The 'Annexe' contains 'near misses', i.e. compositions which just failed to survive the (minimally variable) 8-point 'cut' securing Album selection in any of the eight A-H sections — D for studies. To remind the casual reader, the judges could select only from what composers took the trouble to send in in five copies: 87 were selected from 640 for the Album, 54 high quality leftovers for the Annexe.

Although delayed, the appearance of both volumes (together!) is a triumph of enthusiasm coordinating a cosmopolitan assembly of volunteers. It is quite extraordinary that the result has such a professional air.

The purchase price will deter buyers: sales would surely increase if each genre had a separate volume, for then the dedicated studies aficionado (for example) would be saved from 'one-way-chess' and 'Ultraschachzwang'. Would this have involved an even greater work by the editing/coordinating team? Not necessarily, for each section could be produced when it was ready, thereby spreading the workload.

The indexing is rich and user-friendly: for the composers (no nationalities supplied) their studies are readily identified via the D-prefix. Alain Pallier again categorises the studies themes most thoroughly, making engrossing reading: we notice, for instance, the absence of 'thematic try', a term missing also from the volumes' definitions.

Our purist caveat over the principle behind the Annexe (which is an unofficial, not FIDE, production) remains, in that the attention paid by the judges to the actual Album selections will not have been as devoted with the 'near misses'. OK, we stop carping at this point, really because there is so little to carp at. The driving forces of Denis Blondel (France) and Bernd Ellinghoven (Germany), both across many a year, are all-pervasive.

REVIEW

World Chess Composition Tournament of the F.I.D.E. — 7 W C C T - Awards. Produced for the FIDE PCCC by the Chess Federation of Macedonia. Copyright Zivko Janevski, Skopje, May 2004. 76 pages, semi-stiff cover. No ISBN. Diagrams, solutions, introductory matter, statistics, index of placed composers. Of the 28 'placed' studies (to appear in EG), four did not score because only the first two of the maximum of three allowed from one were allowed to count towards the result. 38 countries participated, 25 of them in all seven sections. Russia won, ahead of Ukraine, Israel, Serbia (and Montenegro), Germany, Slovakia, Netherlands, Greece, Hungary, Belarus, Great Britain, Switzerland, Poland, Makedonia, France, Finland, Georgia, Sweden, Croatia..... In the studies section the countries appointed to judge (the 4-point 'Album' system was obligatory, but in other respects each country chose its procedure) were Belgium, Georgia, Israel, Romania, Russia, with Belarus as reserve. The points awarded by each judging country are included, but only for the diagrammed entries. A few judges' comments are given too.
We note that neither Russia nor Georgia used the '+' and '-' options (intended to refine the gross Album arithmetic), confirming AJR's perception that the leading studies specialists in these prominent ex-FSU countries consistently fail to grasp rules not set out in the Russian language. That may not be the whole story. Although no statistician, we suspect that the application of '+' and '-' as even-handed 'separators' for equal scores fails (on closer examination) in its intent, even if as a practical answer to a common judging difficulty it has its 'points'.

SNIPPETS
1. Bernard Levin, satirical journalist described by The Guardian as a latterday Voltaire, died 10viii2004, aged 75. In connection with the opening of the 1965 Hastings Chess Congress he wrote "... I studied chess theory assiduously ... became obsessed with the end-game [which] to an amateur like myself, is the highest form of chess ...." [EG4, iv1966, p81.]
2. EG readers possessing The Platov Brothers (1994) and wishing to receive, with author Timothy Whitworth's compliments, the single-sheet Postscript (May 2004) can write to:
   T.G.Whitworth
   8 Sedley Taylor Road
   Cambridge
   England CB2 2PW
4. The first issue of Shahmat bastachty, dated December 2003, is a well-produced 32-page magazine of the Azerbaijan Composition Commission. The language is almost exclusively Azeri. The principal content is the full results of the VII Individual Championship, the studies section of which was published for the first time in EG148. It comes as no surprise that the editor is EG's good friend Ilham Aliev.
5. Arising from young Teymur Radjabov's otb defeat of Garri Kasparov in Linares 2003 an all-genre thematic tourny was run from the www.azerichess website. The thematic requirement was the move "Se5", the sacrificial move played by Radjabov on move 21. We reproduce Aliev's entry.
No 14235 Ilham Aliev

\[ f8h5 \text{ 0331.20 4/3 Win}\]

No 14235 Ilham Aliev
1.e7 Re4 2.b7 Bg3 3.Se5 Rxe5 4.b8Q Rf5+ 5.Kg8 Rg5+ 6.Kh7 Bxb8 7.e8Q+ and 8.Qxb8 winning.

6. A level-headed 3-page article by E. Markov (Saratov) in no.58 (iv2004) of the Russian *Shakhmatnaya kompozitsia* seems to have quelled a 'Sorcerer's Apprentice' hurricane stirred up by Andrei Visokosov in his 20-diagram 'Gallery' overview in ShK52 (iv2003) when he, AV, compared a 2002 Sochniev study [gle5 0041.10] with a 1936 L. Kukkel [elg6 0031.11]. Sochniev took umbrage (ShK54), Visokosov responded (ShK55). Linguistically the storm is way beyond AJR's comprehension, but we believe the ruckus was avoidable had the voluble and multi-talented Andrei Visokosov been endowed with two additional qualities: the readiness to revise what was written in haste; and, the ability to laugh at oneself. Both of these extra qualities are linked, we believe, with the Robert Burns gift of being able to see ourselves as others see us, or, in this instance, the writer putting himself in the position of his reader.

7. The British otb IGM John Nunn acquired a second grandmaster title by winning the World Individual Solving championship at Halkidiki (Greece) in September 2004. He also led the British team to second place in the WCSC, behind Israel. He was overheard to say that he may have his own jubilee tourney for studies when he celebrates his 50th birthday in April 2005.

8. Part one of a two-part AJR article on the 18th century Philip Stamma should be appearing in the October 2004 BCM. Included will be a facsimile of Stamma's will, and probate.

9. The title of FIDE Judge (studies) was awarded at Halkidiki to S.N. Tkachenko (Ukraine).

10. We are saddened to learn of the deaths, in 1994, of Dr Laszlo Lindner (Hungary, b.1916) and of Aleksandr Konstantinovich Kalinin (Russia, b.1917).
Obituary

Walter VEITCH (23III1923-30vii2004) - I

For nine years from 1966 to 1975 Walter edited EG's Spotlight with just one complaint from him, namely that the initial heading "Walter Veitch Investigates" be changed because it made it look as if the work was all his when in fact it was a team effort, with many contributions from readers. But Walter did sift the contributions, did weigh them up, did edit them; and did carry responsibility for what was printed.

If Walter's credo was not clear from Spotlight it became crystal clear when his CESC (Chess Endgame Study Circle) talk 'I like endings but...' appeared in EG15 in 1969. This nine-page essay, complete with anecdotes and fully worked examples, is the only piece of his writing known (he wrote no book) in which he came close to baring his chess, if not his private, soul.

Best known to the wider chess world for the nine-move game he lost as White to Jonathan Penrose in the British Championship (Buxton, 1950), Walter twice accomplished the feat of being Insurance Chess Club champion three years in a row. He also won the nationwide individual knockout event organised by CHESS magazine in 1949-50, for which there were 395 entries, and he won both his games (playing on board 5) for the National Chess Centre (London) in a 1957 correspondence match against New York's Marshall Chess Club. But he was no fanatic and seems to have given up competitive chess by 1970, when he moved from East Sheen to the white stucco bungalow in Roffes Lane, hilly Caterham. He never moved again. He didn't drive either, never married, and eschewed computers completely, only coming to grips with a Sharp word processor a few years ago. He may have been a recluse, but never a curmudgeon. EG counts it as a privilege that Walter supported it at all, which he did even after abandoning Spotlight, for when AJR passed the magazine's ownership over to ARVES in 1987 there was a need for someone to gather and pass on the UK annual subscriptions. By happy happenstance Walter was not only able, but willing to do this, by taking advantage of a bank account in Dutch guilders accumulated while on a protracted business assignment to Amsterdam for his life-time employer, Commercial Union Assurance: living always modestly, Walter had found little use for the guilders, and now, by a single transfer instruction he could pass the UK moneys over to ARVES whenever necessary. He also managed subscribers' addresses and corresponded as the need arose. All with meticulousness and without fuss. He had indeed effectively and efficiently abandoned chess, no chess magazine or personal game score coming to light among his possessions, and only one short shelf of chess books. About 2002 that 'something happened' (his surviving elder sister Margaret in Winterthur, who phoned Walter frequently, confirms this), and, after a few months of interregnum, John Beasley stepped into the breach. Walter's increasing deafness was also a problem, and over time an encroaching frailness became evident to his neighbours. Active in his younger days -- AJR played doubles tennis with him -- Walter preferred non-team recreations such as hill-walking. The Caterham slopes proved too much of a challenge for the bicycle Walter acquired (a typically 'minimal' solution to a personal problem), but he still used it as a push-bike to transport his local shopping.
Walter's family came from Scotland, but his late teens and early twenties were spent in Switzerland when his parents found themselves stranded there in September 1939 at the outbreak of WWII. This accounted for his slight, but pleasant, accent, especially with the letter 'r'. He never married, always lived alone, and as an adult was apparently content with his lot, possibly because he had accepted not only that the world was not such a wonderful place for humans but that humans did not behave as one would like them to. He read a lot and from an early age decided things for himself. Perhaps it was the narrow, even extreme, Zwinglian beliefs of eastern Switzerland that 'cured' him of religion, converting him to the card-carrying, non-proselytising atheism he adhered to to the last. The cremation service on Friday 13th August 2004 at the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium was the briefest possible, attended only by two nephews and the person who certainly knew him best in his declining months, namely Mark, the non-chessplaying handyman gardener. [AJR was also present.]

Walter Veitch - II
AJR's first visit to the Richmond (Surrey) chess club above a café at the base of Richmond Hill stays in his memory, even if the date (round about 1948) does not. The secretary or match captain introduced me to this unobtrusive character in the corner, with the idea of finding out where I would fit into the team. Well, I won that first friendly game, but it was years before Walter lost to me again.

Fresh-faced and with a degree in French and German Languages and Literature, in late 1953 I was looking for my first job. I didn't want to teach (though many people since have said that I would have been a good teacher) and didn't relish the Bank of England, where my father and elder brother both worked. What else was there in the City? Well, there was insurance. I remembered that Walter worked in insurance, something called the North British & Mercantile (later absorbed by the Commercial Union). So that's what I did.

Walter was one of the 'founding' eleven at the March 1965 get-together at St Bride's (off Fleet Street) that led to the first EG in July of that year, but I don't think he said anything. His motto seemed to be that if anything really needed to be done, then do it, and the same applied to speaking: if not, then don't.

As an example of Walter's decided views, there's the definition of 'main line' of a study: since a study is not a game, the 'main line' has to be whatever the composer says it is. My view was, and is, that the study is too serious for such an arbitrary definition effectively preventing the solver from discovering what the main line is, and that therefore something more formal and objective is needed. This was met by one of Walter's trademark tolerant smiles.

Walter and I used to travel together down to Hastings on a Saturday to watch the Christmas Congress there, and we had many a chat. We talked mainly chess, of course, studies and Richmond Chess Club gossip, we may have talked religious belief from time to time, and we certainly talked insurance, but never family matters. That was enough, I believe, for Walter to come to EG's aid to the extent that he did.

When Gady Costeff informed me that he and Lewis Stiller had the technical means, and the will, to put all of the early EGs on-line for visual access to the world*, I said
to myself 'must phone Walter'. When, out of curiosity, I looked up as many chess terms as I could think of in the (big) Oxford English Dictionary and was very surprised to find Walter's name twice among the illustrative citations (it was the late Ken Whyld who advised the OUP on chess) I said to myself 'must phone Walter'. I never made that call.

AJR

*At the gadycosteff.com/eg web-site -- using (for instance) the Adobe 6 reader-viewer. So, with apologies to readers -- we know there are many -- who cannot avail themselves of this technical 'empowerment', we regret that we shall not be reprinting Walter's article.

Relaxed, alert amusement was the mood of any pose Walter Veitch adopted. See p876 of EG102.1 for a seated example. Walter was one of the eleven who attended the inaugural meeting in St Bride's Institute (Ludgate Circus, London) in March 1965 to found The Chess Endgame Study Circle and its magazine EG. His nine-year reign as first editor of Spotlight, initially called 'Walter Veitch Investigates', is still remembered in many countries for its wit, acuity and accuracy.
Contents:

2 photos of Pal Benno 349
Editorial Board and Subscription 350
Report on July 2003 survey 351 – 352
Informal Minutes of Studies Subcommittee 47th FIDE PCCC 352 – 353
Originals column (6) – editor: Gady Costeff 353 – 355
Spotlight column (4) – editor: Jarl Ulrichsen 356 – 358
Diagrams and solutions
   David Gurgenidze 50 Jubilee tourney 358 – 367
   7th WCCT 2001 – 2004 367 – 379
   Effekt 2000 379 – 380
   A.I. Kotov 75 Jubilee tourney 380 – 386
   Chervony girmik XXIX 386 – 390
   Chervony girmik XXX – 80 AT 390 – 393
Reviews 393 – 395
Snippets 395 – 396
Obituary 397 – 399
Contents 400