Sergiy DIDUKH lives in the small country township of Andrivka (1500 inhabitants — no factories, but a collective farm) in the Busk region, some 40km from Lviv, where he has to travel to use e-mail. Western Ukraine is larger than Great Britain, with a population of 20,000,000. Born 31v1976 Sergiy studied at a teacher training college and since 1998 teaches French in Andrivka, at a salary of $80 a month. Every family there has maybe three, at most seven, pieces of land, 0.5 acres (or 2000 square metres) each, where they grow everything they need to feed themselves and their domestic animals. These allotments may be two kilometres distant from where they live. Much of the married female population works abroad — in the “West”, especially Italy and Greece — sending money to support their families back home.

Sergiy's first study was composed in the spring of 2003 and published in "64". His total is now 38, all but three entered for tourneys. He writes: “Sometimes I think about drawing the world map with study-composers’ names replacing cities — there would be space to write DIDUKH in big letters and I would surely find some place on it among the avalanche of Russian names for A.Gurvich and M.Liburkin. Their studies are full of combinative subtleties, often in the simplest positions; the introduction is in harmony with the finale, and the solution's thread isn't complicated with knots of annoying analytic variations. I hope the same can be said about my own studies.” He signs himself 'Sergiy'.
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2005 marks the 40th year of EG. Aillel Aloni has followed it from the start while developing three generations of Israeli study composers, primarily through his originals column, which has run with almost no interruption since 1963(1). In 1977 he received a study from a new composer. Writing back, Hillel congratulated the composer on his debut, praised the idea and mentioned only in passing the 3 cooks, 4 duals and 11 captures. I have been forever grateful for his gentleness.

No 14236 H. Aloni

"Dedicated to EG’s 40th jubilee, John Roycroft and EG readers"

The next two studies are Poles apart. In the first study, Henryk takes the white king for a walk. In the second study Andrzej sacrifices both white queens.

No 14237 H. Grudzinski

Kg4) 11...Sd4 12.Bg5 Sf3+ 13.Bxf3 Kxf3=; 6.Kc5 Bxd5

No 14237 H. Grudzinski

The next two studies are Poles apart. In the first study, Henryk takes the white king for a walk. In the second study Andrzej sacrifices both white queens.

No 14237 H. Grudzinski

i) c4f2 4751.45 10/11 Win

Sf4 6.Bh5+! /iii Sh5 7.g8Q d1Q 8.Qg2+ Ke1 9.Qh1+ Ke2 10.Qh5+ Ke1 11.Qxd1+ Kxd1

i) 1.Qxb6+ Rxel 2.Sd3+ Kg3 3.Bxh6 dxe1Q 4.g8Q Se3+ 5.Bxe3 Qxe3 6.Bc4+ Kh4 7.Qh8+ Kg4 8.Qxe5 Kh4 9.Qe7+ Kg4=


The next two studies are Poles apart. In the first study, Henryk takes the white king for a walk. In the second study Andrzej sacrifices both white queens.

No 14237 H. Grudzinski

i) c4f2 4751.45 10/11 Win

Sf4 6.Bh5+! /iii Sh5 7.g8Q d1Q 8.Qg2+ Ke1 9.Qh1+ Ke2 10.Qh5+ Ke1 11.Qxd1+ Kxd1

i) 1.Qxb6+ Rxel 2.Sd3+ Kg3 3.Bxh6 dxe1Q 4.g8Q Se3+ 5.Bxe3 Qxe3 6.Bc4+ Kh4 7.Qh8+ Kg4 8.Qxe5 Kh4 9.Qe7+ Kg4=


Kg4) 11...Sd4 12.Bg5 Sf3+ 13.Bxf3 Kxf3=; 6.Kc5 Bxd5

The next two studies are Poles apart. In the first study, Henryk takes the white king for a walk. In the second study Andrzej sacrifices both white queens.
Ke7 4.Ke5 Sg7 wins
ii) 1...Se5 2.Kb2 Sxg6??
3.hxg6 h5 4.Ke3 h4 5.Kd4
h3 6.Ke5 h2 7.Kf6 h1Q
8.g7#
iii) 4...Sxe6+ 5.Ke5 Ke7
6.Kf5 draws

No 14238 A. Jasik

No 14239 Mystery Composer (see text)

b5b7 4010.02 3/4 Win

No 14239 Mystery Composer 1.Qe7+ Qc7
2.Bd5+ Kb8 3.Qf8+ Qe8
4.Qb4+ c2 i 5.Ka5+ Ke7
6.Qb6+ Kd7 7.Be6+ Ke8
8.Qh5+ Kc7 9.Qg5+ Kxe6
10.Qg4+ wins
i) 4...Qd7+ leads to a
Mann study 5.Kb6 Ke8
6.Qe5+ Kd7 7.Qf8+ Qe8
8.Qd6+ Qd7 9.Qb8+ Ke7
(9...Qc8 10.Qe8 10.Qe5+
Kd8 11.Bc6 wins

No 14240 A. Skripnik

No 14240 A. Skripnik 1.Bg2+ Kg1 2.Bc5+ Sf2+
3.Bxf2+ Kxf2 4.Sxh5 f4+
5.Kh2 f3+ 6.Kh1 fxg2+
7.Sxg2 Bd5 8.Shf4 Be4
9.Kh2! [9.Sh3+ Kg3]
9...Bf5 10.Kh1 Be4
11.Kh2 draw

The awards in EG 154 contain three studies by Sergei Didukh, (b. 1976), a Ukrainian teacher of French and English and a great new composing talent. Sergei started composing studies in 2003 and his total as of September 2003 is 35(!). We shall hear more of him.

No 14241 S. Didukh

h3h1 0385.01 5/6 Draw

No 14241 S. Didukh 1.Bf7 i/ b1Q /ii 2.Sf8+
Kh8 3.Sg6+ Rxg6 4.Rd8+
Kh7 5.Bg8+ Kh8 6.Ba2+
Kh7 7.Bxb1 Be4! 8.Rd3!!
/iii Kg8 /iv 9.Ba2+ Kf8
Ke7 12.Re2 Kf8 13.Bc4
wins

No 14241 S. Didukh 1.Bf7 i/ b1Q /ii 2.Sf8+
Kh8 3.Sg6+ Rxg6 4.Rd8+
Kh7 5.Bg8+ Kh8 6.Ba2+
Kh7 7.Bxb1 Be4! 8.Rd3!!
/iii Kg8 /iv 9.Ba2+ Kf8
Ke7 12.Re2 Kf8 13.Bc4
wins
i) 1.Rb3 Re4+ 2.Kg3 Rc3+; 1...g6+ Kh6 2.Se5 Rc4+ 3.Sxc4 b1Q 4.Se5 Qb4+

ii) 1...g6 2.Sf6+ Kg7 3.Ba2 Be8+ 4.Kf3 Ra6 5.Re3; 1...Be8 2.Rh3+ Rh6 3.g6+ Kh8 4.Rh3+

iii) 8.Bxe4 stalemate

iv) 8...Re6 9.Re3 Bxb1 10.Rxe6


* Our mystery composer is Julien Vandiest of Belgium. Over half of his studies are in the QB-Q class.

SPOTLIGHT 155
editor: Jarl Ulrichsen

Contributors this time were Richard Becker (USA), Marco Campioli (Italia), Gady Costeff (USA), Steven B. Dowd (USA), Mario Guido Garcia (Argentina), Alain Pallier (France), M. Roxlau (Germany), John Roycroft (England), and Harold van der Heijden (The Netherlands).

115.9738, V. Prigunov. This study was awarded 2nd pr. Sakkélet 1992.

Pallier observes that this is the same study as 116.9807, V. Prigunov (1st-4th hm Dolgov-70). Two distinctions for one and the same oeuvre is not bad. It is really a pity that Gyarmati later found that it is incorrect (12...Kf4!).

Israel Ring ty 1995-1996. The definitive award is in Variantim no. 36 vii2004, four years after the preliminary award in Variantim no. 29 ix2000 (see also EG 144 pp. 563-568).

144.13094, Y. Afek. This 1st/2nd prize was cooked (EG 145 p. 592), and corrected:

No 14242 Yochanan Afek

g6h2 0140.11 4/3 Draw.

No 14242 Yochanan Afek
1.Rf6 e1Q 2.e6+ Kh3 (Kg2) 3.Kg7 Bxe6 4.Rh6+ (Rg6+) Kf3 5.Rf6+ draw.

144.13098, H. Aloni. Cooked (see EG 145 p. 593); correction: add bPd7; same solution.

144.13099, H. Aloni. Cooked (see EG 145 p. 593); correction:

No 14243 Hillel Aloni

bPf6; same solution.

No 14243 Hillel Aloni

144.13100, H. Aloni. Cooked (see EG 145 p. 593); correction: add bPd7; same solution. (HvdH: probably 1.Sd4+ Kb7 2.Bg2+, now fails to 2.Kc8).

The judge, Ofer Comay, down-graded 144.13094 to a special commendation, and as a consequence the award now reads: 1st prize (144.13095), 2nd prize (144.13096), 3rd prize (144.13097), with the remainder unchanged.

151.13844, R. Becker. The composer himself has
He corrects his study by moving wKe8 to a3 and adding bPa5, a6 and a7. The solution now runs:

154.14130, A. van Tets. Campioli points out that 3.Kd8 is a minor dual. And worse: bPf4 and bPg4 are superfluous and may be removed.

154.14132, F. Vrabec. Pallier asks if this is simply a correction of EG 115.9748?

154.14136, A. Sochniev. This is a version of a previous study in Bulent Problemistic 1987 (no. 49622 on the van der Heijden CD) as shown by Costeff and Pallier. Moreover, Pallier tells us that Sochniev entered a reworking of the study for Chavchavadze MT, in which it was awarded 1st/2nd pr. (EG 99.7736), but later eliminated for a flaw (EG 116, p. 591).


154.14145, J. Vandiest. Pallier doubts that this should be called an original study as Vandiest has made many rather similar compositions.

154.14148, P. Rossi and M. Campioli. Bad luck for our Italian friends! The composition is completely anticipated by a study by G. Kasparyan with a mirrored setting; cf. EG 55.3557. When you compose studies with few men on the board there is always a risk that someone else has published a more or less identical position.

154.14165, Pál Bennó. The solution is correct, but Campioli thinks that the economy could and should be improved. He replaces wRh5 by wSh5. The solution remains the same.


154.14193, V. Tyavlovsky. Readers point out that there are many endgame studies in van der Heijden's collection showing the same finale.

154.14194, V. Malyuk. Campioli shows that White can play 4.Qb4+ at once and reach the author's solution after move six. Pallier who knows his EGs very well refers to the anticipations by Vandiest EG 74.5022 and Vandiest and Halski EG 83.5979.

154.14195, V. Pomogalov. 8d8Q, but any promotion draws (Campioli). This idea has been shown several times.

154.14196, V. Razumenko. According to Campioli there are second
solutions in both settings. In I White also wins by playing 5.Rxf2 Rf1 (Rh2) 6.c5, and the stalemate threat is gone. Is wPc4 perhaps a misprint? In II White can also play 7.Re3 (Rd5) Rxf1 8.Re2 (Rd2) Ra1 9.Rxf2 Ra3 10.Rb2 Ra1 11.h4, and wins.


154.14202, G. Amiryan. Campioli shows that 1.Sb4+ Kb6 is a draw if White continues 2.Rxe2 c1Q 3.Rxd2 Qa3 4.Sd5+ Kb7 5.Rxd1 Qxb3 6.Rc1, and Black cannot escape perpetual check. 1.Rxe2 c1Q 2.Rxd2 (Campioli, Garcia and Roxlau) also seems to draw.

154.14204, S. Zakharov. This seems to be a correction of EG 147.13389 by the same author as indicated by Pallier.


154.14209, E. Markov. Incorrect. García's move 4...Sd6 draws at once as Black wins a piece.

154.14210, E. Fomichev. The alternative 9.Qh5 mate was seen by several readers.

154.14213, N. Kralin. 11.h8R/B also draws, but not 11.h8S (Campioli). After the first moves a typical odb-position has arisen. The judge only needs to evaluate the artistic quality of the introduction.

154.14216, Vl. Kondratenko. There are some minor duals as White may play Kb4 on moves 8–10 instead of move 11 (Campioli).

154.14217, V. Chernous and M. Rezov. Campioli agrees with Visokosov that 2.Kf2 wins. And moreover even 2.Kg2 with the idea 2...g3 3.Kxg3 wins. After 4.Qxa4 in the solution we have an odb-position which does not demand further analyses. Roxlau gives 2.Kg2 e2 3.e7Q c1Q 4.Qxa4+, and after exchange of queens wPa2 decides.

154.14218, Vl. Kondratenko. There is a minor dual on move 15 as White can play 15.Qd5+ instead of 15.Qa8+ (Campioli and Roxlau).


154.14221, G. Amiryan. Dowd has analysed all Black moves and only the composer's studylike continuation 1...Be2+ seems to lose!

154.14224, V. Kondratenko. Campioli confirms the observation of EG's Ukrainian contact that 7.Re5+ spoils the idea.

154.14228, B. Sidorov. In the line 1...Rxa7, 4.g7 Rh7 5.Kg5 (Kg6) also draws (Campioli).
The composer himself points out that 6.Qa6+ (instead of 6.Qc6+) is a minor dual.

A new introduction for a positional draw shown by the same composer (Pallier); cf. EG 121.10277 (corrected in 1984).


9.Qd5+ is a minor dual (Roxlau). The mating process is well known. Pallier refers to V. Kovalenko EG 136.11541.

Many readers agreed with our editor AJR in regarding 3...Sxh3 as a win for Black. García and Spotlight’s editor both found that White draws by playing 2.Be7, threatening perpetual check. To avoid a loss Black must answer 2...Se2, and then 3.Sf6+ Kh4 4.Se4+ draws.

Turning fifty is not a great joy for me, but then, so was becoming forty, ten years ago. When friends suggested organizing a study-tourney to celebrate the occasion, and thus to soften the blow, I gladly accepted. Gady Costeff volunteered to act as the tournament director. He put in a lot of time and effort to submit the studies in digestible form. After scrutinizing the soundness of the 65 entries, he passed me 54 studies. The level was more than satisfactory, and I assume that several studies from this competition will remain in the public memory for quite some time.

Some good studies had to be disqualified, for various reasons. I particularly regret the flaw that was found in N. 22 (Kh8/Ka7 by Valery Vlasenko), which was otherwise destined for a top prize.

In addition to Gady, I extend my gratitude to Harold van der Heijden for researching anticipations. Hillel Aloni should naturally also be mentioned for being the one who, years ago, guided my first steps in the field of composition. I am grateful to all contributors for giving me long hours of enjoyment. Congratulations to the winners; long live the art of study-composing.

Amatzia Avni, December 2004, Ramat-Ilan, Israel

* Results will be finalized three months after publication.

No 14244 M. van Essen, A.Wohl, Y.Afek
1st prize Avni-50 JT

4831.14 6/9 Draw
No 14244 M. van Essen, A.Wohl, Y.Afek
(Netherlands/Israel).
1. Rx b2 Re1+ 2. Q xe1 R d1+ 3. Kh2 Q d5/ii
4. R x h5+ Kh5 5. S f4/ii ex f4 6. R b5 Q x b5 7. Q x d1+ Q e2 8. Q x e2 f3+ 9. Q e5+ B x e5 10. K x h3 draws.
i) Q d3 4. Q x d3 Q x d3 5. S g3 and White holds.
ii) After 5. S g3+? K g6 6. Q c2+ K d3 White is helpless.

Brilliant play. Good introduction, interesting try (5. S g3+), active counter-play from Black, thunders and lightning on each turn. The composers’ choice to send this particular study to this judge is hardly accidental: mutual queen sacrifices appear in many of my own works.

No 14245 D. Antonini
2nd prize Avni-50 JT

6. Q x h4 g1 Q 7. Q f2+ Kh1 8. Q e1 Kh2 9. Q f2+ Q g2+
10. K e3 Kh1 11. Q e1+ Q g1+ 12. K f3 h2 13. Q f2 Q g4+
14. K e3 Q d1 15. Q g2+ K x g2 stalemate.
i) 2. Q x b5+? K x g1 3. Q x g1 Kh1 4. f 8 Q g1 Q 5. Q e2+ K x g1 with a long win.

Captivating play from beginning to end. Queens fly across the board to die and to be reborn, designing stalemate and anti-stalemate schemes. At first, I was somewhat skeptical as to the originality of this work, but anticipation checks by both Costeff and Van der Heijden revealed nothing.

No 14246 D. Antonini & A. Pallier
3rd prize Avni-50 JT

Very precise play, starting with the key move (1. a 4?; 1. a 3!) and continuing well into the pawn-ending. My preference tends towards startling twists, but there is a lot to be said for accurate mathematical calculation.

No 14247 F. Vrabec
4th prize Avni-50 JT
Kxc7 5.dxe8S+ Kc6
6.Sxg7 hxg3 7.Sf5/i g2
8.Sd4+ Kd5 9.Sc3 Ke4
10.Ke2 Kd5 11.Kd3 Kc5
12.Sg1 Kd5 13.Sc2 Kc5
16.Kd5 Ka5 17.Ke5 Ka4
18.Kf4 Kb4 19.Kc4 Kc4
20.Kc3 zz This is the
position white has been
playing for. g1Q 21.Sxg1
Kc3 22.Sc2+(Sf3) Kb2
23.Kd2 Kxa2 24.Kc2 Ka1
i) 7.Sf6? Kd5 8.Sg5 Ke5

Accurate manoeuvres of
the white king, losing a
move to obtain a
zugzwang position with
Black to move. The
introductory play forces
white to find the right
place for his king.

No 14248 G.Slepyan
1st honourable mention
Avni-50 JT

No 14249 S.Osintsev
2nd honourable mention
Avni-50 JT

No 14249 R. Becker
3rd honourable mention
Avni-50 JT


A significant part of this deep study has been shown before. The difference between the lines 4...Bd5 5.Se2+ (5.Sb3?) and 4...Be4 5.Sb3+ (5.Se2?) is the crux of this presentation.

No 14251 S. Didukh
4th honourable mention
Avni-50 JT

b2g2 0053.22 5/5 Win


i) It is important to shift the black pawn from c6 to d5. 1.Kb5?

The first two moves 1.Bd5+! and 2.Kb3! are fully understood only at the very end. From 11.Qxg3+ on, the study is anticipated (Prokop, 1923).

No 14252 J. Bocharov
special commendation
Avni-50 JT

c6h7 0311.11 4/3 Draw


A clear-cut work, which leaves a pleasant impression.

No 14253 J. Bocharov
1st commendation Avni-50 JT

h4b5 0003.31 4/3 Win

1.Kd5+ Rg4 2.Bh3 Rg3 3.Se6 Rxh3 4.g6+ draws.

By awarding it a special commendation, I take a stand declaring: it is special to me and I commend it. The composer is 14 years old!

No 14254 I. Aliev
2nd commendation Avni-50 JT

c3f6 3144.12 5/6 Draw

No 14254 I. Aliev

A small scale study. In modern times such works are almost extinct. By awarding it a special commendation, I take a stand declaring: it is special to me and I commend it. The composer is 14 years old!
and now:
- 5...Bg5+ 6.Kf2 Bh4+ 7.Ke3 Bxe1 stalemate, or:


Two symmetrical stalemate variations.

No 14255 N.Kralin & H. van der Heijden
3rd commendation Avni-50 JT

c2c8 0161.23 5/6 BTM, Draw
No 14255 N.Kralin & H. van der Heijden
(Russia/Netherlands).

An amusing final position.

No 14256 A.Stavrietsky
4th commendation Avni-50 JT

No 14257 E.Melnichenko
(New Zealand). 1.g7+ Sg6+ 2.Rxg6+ hxg6
3.Ra2 i c5 4.e4 Qb2 5.e5 Qd2 6.Rc2 Qg2 7.Rf2
wins, e.g. Qxg3 8.Bf7 Qxe5 9.Rh2+ Qxh2
10.g8S mate.
i) 3.Ra1? c5 4.Rf1 Qa8
5.Rf8 Qb8 6.Bh7 Qe5
7.Rf7 Qxg7+ and stalemate.

The R vs. Q play is well-known; the contribution here is the try 3.Ra1? vs.
the correct 3.Ra2!

No 14258 H. van der Heijden
6th commendation Avni-50 JT

d2d5 0410.23 5/5 BTM, Win
No 14258 H. van der Heijden (Netherlands).
1...b2 2.Kc2 b1Q+ 3.Kxb1 Rxh3 4.Rg5+ f5 5.Rxf5+
Ke6 6.Bc3 Rxc3 7.Rb5 exb5 8.b7 Kd5 9.b8Q
wins.
i) Ke4 5.Rg4+ Kd5 6.Bc3
Rxc3 7.Rb4 wins.
The rook sacrifice to block a file had occurred before in both composition and practical play. The introductory sacrifice 6.Bc3! drew my attention.

**Studistica 2000**

Unfortunately, this Italian magazine ceased publication in 2001. The judge, Harjold van der Heijden offered the magazine's former editor Enzo Minerva publication of the award in EG. Minerva agrees, and also asks us let you know that the studies submitted for Studistica 2002 and 2003 are herewith returned to the composers. The award that follows is final.

The award (dated August 1st, 2001):

"As far as I know there only exist three magazines fully dedicated to endgame studies: EG, EBUR and Studistica. Since I aim editor of both EG and EBUR it was a special honour to me that I was invited to be the first judge of the annual endgame tourney of Studistica.

A relatively high number of 43 studies were published. Marco Campioli (Sassuolo) was of great help with checking the studies for correctness. As a result 21 studies were demolished. Unless otherwise indicated, all cooks were discovered by Marco Campioli."

1: (Cuppini, c7a8) dual: 5.Re8! Bd5 6.Re3 Bg2 7.Rc3 Be4 8.Re5 Ka6 9.Rx6+ and also 6.Re4 Bf3 (Bxc4; bxc4 7.Re5 Ka6 8.Rxc6+
5: (Topko, h4d7) dual: 2.Sg4!
8: (Markov, h1c8) dual: 3.Bg7 Rxg7 and now 4.e8Q+! Kb7 5.axb8Q+ Kxb8 6.Sxg7.
9: (Rossi a2g7) incorrect: 8...Sg6 9.Kd1 Rx6, or 9.Qd8+ Kx6.
If Black tries 4...Kf8, then 5.Qd8+ Kf7 6.Bd5+ Kg6 7.Qe7 Qh8 8.Bf7+ (HvdH).
26: (Vandiest g2g4) dual: 7.Qg7+! Qg5 8.Qd7+, or 7...Kh4 8.Qh7+ Kg5 9.Se4+ Kg4 10.Qh3+ (Igor Van de Casteele, EBUR no. 2, 2001).
27: (Jarmonov h4h1) incorrect: 2...Qd8+ 3.Kg3 Sh1+ 4.Kh3 (Qxh1+; Kxh1) 4...Qh4+ 5.Kxh4 g5+ 6.Kh5 Bx2 mate, or 6.Kh3 Bf5+ 7.Sh5 Rxd5 mate.
29: (Foguelman e5a7) incorrect: 3...e1R!
30: (Foguelman d8d5) duals: 6.Be4+, 6.Sf7, 6.Sg4. Solution should better read 5...Bb8 mate!
31: (Bunka f4d4) 2.Bg7!. But the composer also discovered this himself and replaces wb to g5.
38: (Voronov d1b1) incorrect: 3...d3 4.h7 b1Q 5.h8Q+ e5.
41: (Dobrescu h5a8) dual:
11. Kg4!
42: (Jasik c7e5) dual:
4. Bd6+ Kd5 5.f8Q Bb6+ and now: 6.Kd7!
43: (Artamanov f5e7) dual:
4. Ke6!
44: (Artamanov a5c3) dual:
LKb6!
46: (Nestorescu & Joitsa) incorrect. In the 2nd main line: 3... Kcl 4.Rgl+ Kd2
5.Rg2+ and now 5... Kdl! 6.Rbl+ Be6 or 6.Rg1+ Ke2
8.Rbxc1 Ra5+, or 6.Rg1+ Ke2 7.Rg2+ Kf3.
48: (Bondar h5b8) dual:
Ka7 10.c5 Qg5+, White has only one move: 11.Kf7.
Therefore, I do not consider 9.Kh7+ as a minor
dual. If the solution is changed to 9.Kh7+, etc, then 9.Kg7+
in my view would be a minor dual.

Further, a number of studies were eliminated because of re-publication
as an original in another source:
26: Vandiest (g2g4): Probleemblad no. 1, 2001.
31: Bunka (f2d4): The composer published an
49: Hadari (c7f4): Chess in
Israel no. 5-6, 2000.
50: Paoli (a4a6): This
correction of a study in
L'Italia Scacchistica 1951 was already published by
Marco Campioli in EBUR
no. 4 1998.

Anticipations

2: Campioli (e8g7). The
content of this study largely consists of the first three
moves (1. Ke7! Kg6 2. Ke6
axb4 3.f5+). This has been shown before. A nice example is:
E. Asaba,
Shakmaty v SSSR 1972:
e2b7 0300.26
g1.c4f6ex4e5ex6h7 3/8

Draw: 1.f7 Rg2+ 2.Kxe3
Rg3+ 3.Kxe4 Rg4+ 4.Kxe5
Rg5+ 5.Kxe6 Rg6+ 6.Kxe7
Rg7 7.Ke6 Rxf7 8.Kxf7 h5
h2 12.c6+ draws.
10: Rossi (a6c8). I know
the zugzwang position
from four other studies. The earliest one is:
T. Whitworth, British Chess
Magazine 1986
(EG#6336). By the way, in
the Rossi-study the two
sublines featuring
stalemate positions are
dualistic (after 2...Kb8,
White can draw in various
ways, e.g. 3.Rc8+ or
3.Qc3. After 5...Ka8
6.Qf3+ Kb8, of course also
7.Qf6! draws!).
11: Afek (b8g6). The
stalemate position is not
new: L. Prokes, Parallele-50
1949: g6f4 0033.20
a1g3.f5h5 3/3 Draw: 1.f6
Sxh5 2.f7 Sf4+ 3.Kh6 Sg6
4.BQ Sxf8 stalemate.
25: Aliyev (h7g5): The
whole idea, although with different
material (Sacrifices of Knights
instead of pawns), is anticipated by
A. Herbstman &
L. Katsnelson 2.hm Lelo
1973 (EG#2523).
33: Grondijs (c7a8): The
stalemate position is not
new: J. Sehwers,
Endspielstudien 1922: b4c6
0131.11 a7h5b6.e7b2 4/3
Draw: 1.e8Q+ Bxe8
2.Rc7+ Kxb6 3.Ka3 b1Q
4.Rb7+ Kxb7 stalemate.
45: Matous (f6h8): After
move one, largely
anticipated by:
V. Dolgov,
3rd hm Pobeda JT 1995
(EG#10320) or:
D. Gurgenidze
&
V. Kalandadze, Jan van
Reek-50 JT 1995
(EG#10368).
47: Bondar (h8h6): Completely anticipated by:
V. Dolgov & A. Podgorni,
1st prize Vserossiiski ty
1974: a8a6 0035.20
h2c4d6g2.c2e5 5/3 Win:
1.e6 Sf4 2.e7 Sd5 3.e8S
Bxd6 4.Sexd6 Sc3 5.e3
Sd1 6.e4 Sf2 7.e5 Sd3 8.e6
Sf4 9.e7 Sd5 10.Sb5 Sxe7
11.Sc7 mate.
52: Carlsson & Caputto
(a1c7). Curiously, the
position is almost identical to:
O. Carlsson & L. Parenti,
5.hm Czerniak MT 1986:
"At first I did not appreciate the following study at all. The author had supplied so many moves as supporting analysis, with many dualistic sub-sub-sub-lines, that I failed to see the forest for the trees. In my view, the solution should be represented as follows":

No 14259 Emil Melnichenko
1st Prize Studistica 2000

```
+-+---+
| |wb8|
|w|b6|
|b|8|
```

(3...Sxd3, 1st stalemate)
4.Kc1 Kc3 (4...Kxd3, 2nd stalemate) 5.Bxc2 Bxc2, 3rd stalemate, or:
- 2...Kd5 3.Kc1 Sc4 (3...Kc5 4.Bf1 Sc4 5.Bd3)
4.Be6+ Kd4 (4...Kxc6, 4th stalemate) 5.Be4 Se3 (5...Kxe4, 5th stalemate)
6.Bg6(h7) Ke5 7.Bd3 Kd4
8.Bg6(h7) positional draw.

In the first line 5.Bg6 S- 6.Bxc2 Bxc2 stalemate, also works. But I consider this as a waste of time dual. In the second line, the author gave (also!) 8...Kc3 9.Bxc2 Bxc2 stalemate, but here 9.Bh5! is a dual.

"Five stalemates in a miniature study. A phantastic achievement! Moreover, this position certainly has some theoretical value."

No 14260 Gheorghe Telbis
2nd Prize Studistica 2000

```
+-+---+
| |wb8|
|w|b6|
|b|8|
```

"A nice study with a good key. The vertical movement of the white King is in good harmony with the horizontal movement of the black King. Finally, as a Jack-in-the-box, we have a surprising Knight promotion."
No 14261 Ivan Bondar  
3rd Prize Studistica 2000

b5b8 0443.35 6/8 Win

No 14261 Ivan Bondar  
(White-Russia) 1.Bc6  
Rh7+ 2.Kg6  
Rg7+ 3.Kxg7  
Sf5+ 4.exf5  
Ba7 5.Rh3  
g1Q+ 6.Kf7  
Qg8+ 7.Kxg8  
c1Q 8.Rh8/ii  
Bf2 9.Kh7+/ii  
Ka7 10.c5  
Bxc5 11.Ra8+  
Kb6 12.Ra6 mate.

i) 8.Kg7??  
Qg5+ 9.Kf7  
Qxf5 10.Rh8+  
Qe8 draws.

ii) 9.Kf7?  
Ka7 10.c5  
Qc4+ 11.Kg6  
Qg4+ 12.Kxf6  
Bh4+. Also  
9.Kg7+ wins (Campioli), 
but this is loss of time: Ka7  
10.c5  
Qg5+ 11.Kf7  
Bxc5 12.Ra8+ and mate.

"A nice, straight-forward  
study. After White's first  
move, threatening mate,  
Black sacrifices two pieces  
in order to obstruct the a-  
file with his Bishop. Then  
White changes his tactics  
by threatening mate along  
the 8th rank. Now Black  
sacrifices a Queen to force  
the white King to obstruct  
this rank. But only  
temporarily! Finally Black  
is lured into a self-block  
mate".

No 14262 Luis Miguel Gonzalez  
1st Hon. Mention  
Studistica 2000

g1h4 3141.22 6/5 Draw

No 14262 Luis Miguel Gonzalez  
(Spain) 1.b8Q  
Bxb8 2.Sd4/i  
Ba7/ii 3.Sf3+  
Qxf3/iii 4.g3+/iv  
Kg4 stalemate, or 4...Qxg3+  
stalemate.

i) 2.Sd2?  
hxg2 3.Rc4+  
Kh5 4.Re5+  
Kg6 5.Kxg2  
Ba7 6.Re6+  
Kh5 7.Sf3  
Qa2+ 8.Khl  
(Kh3; Qa4)  
Bd4 9.Sxd4  
Qd5+ 10.Kg1  
Qxd4+ 11.Kf1  
Qd1+ 12.Kf2  
Qd2+ 13.Kg1  
Qc1+ 14.Kg2  
Qe4+ wins, or  
here: 3.Kxg2  
Qg6+ 4.Kh1  
Qd3 5.Rc4+  
Kh3 wins.

ii) Kg4 3.Sf3  
Qg7 4.Rg5+,  
or hxg2 3.Sf5+  
Kg5 4.Sd6+  
Kh4 5.Sxf7  

iii) Kg4 4.Se5+  
Kf5 5.Sxf7+.

iv) Not 4.gxf3?  
Bxc5+ 5.Kh1  
Bd6 6.Bg1  
Kg3 7.Bd4  
Kxf3 wins.

"Beautiful (new) stalemate  
finish with a pinned Rook  
and blocked Bishop and  
pawn. As a bonus another  
stalemate in a side-line.  
Well-defined thematic try  
(2.Sd2? hxg2, while if  
2.Sd4! hxg2 3.Sf5+ Kg(h)5  
But with only four moves  
the solution is too short for  
this study to win a prize".

No 14263 Yochanan Afek  
2nd Hon. Mention  
Studistica 2000

b8g6 0033.20 3/3 Draw

No 14263 Yochanan Afek  
(Israel) 1.a5  
Be2 2.Kb7  
Sf3 3.a6  
Se5 4.a7  
Bf3+ 5.Kh8  
Sc6+ 6.Kb7  
Sb4+ 7.Kh8  
Sa6+ 8.Kc8  
Kf6 9.e7  
Kxe7 10.a8Q  
Bxa8 stalemate.

"This proves that it is still
possible to make something really good from apparently worn-out material. Very precise moves are needed no draw. Not by winning one piece for a pawn, but through a very surprising stalemate combination. This stalemate position is not entirely new, but the present study is much better than its forerunner."

No 14264 Eduardo Iriarte
3rd Hon. Mention
Studistica 2000

h4d8 0537.12 5/7 Draw

No 14264 Eduardo Iriarte


"Although clever, the sacrificial introduction is too violent. But after move 3, White is left with an apparently lost endgame. The only change is to attack one of the black pieces. Then the feast starts: Black sacrifices a Rook. White counters by doing the same. Suddenly, Black's Rook is protected: stalemate! Note that the winning move was a threatening move from the stalemate position."

No 14265 Harrie Grondijs
1st Commendation
Studistica 2000

c7a8 0430.13 3/6 Draw

No 14265 Harrie Grondijs

i) 1.c6? Ka7 2.Kd8+ Kb6 3.Rd6 (c7; Rc1) Ka5 4.c7
Rcl wins, or LRd6? Ka7
2.Rb6 Be8 3.Rb7+ Ka6
4.Rb6+ Ka5 and bK escaped.
Bxd7+ 5.Kxb4 draws.
iii) Bxd7+ 5.Kxb4; a3
iv) 7.Ra7+? Kb8 8.Ra8+
Kc7 9.Rc8+ Kd6 10.Rd8+
Bd7 and wins.
"A good study with sacrifices and countersacrifices. Nice escape from an apparently dead lost position after move three. The stalemate position is well-known".

No 14266 Michael Roxlau
2nd Commendation Studistica 2000

b3b6 0110.25 5/6 Win
No 14266 Michael Roxlau (Germany) 1.Bd6/i f2/ii
2.Rb8/iii g2/fv 3.Bc5+
Kb7/v 4.Bxf2 h2 5.Rb8+
Ka6/vi 6.b5+ (Rb6+; Ka7)
exit5 7.Rb6+ Ka5 (Ka7;
Rxb6+) 8.Rb7 (Rb8?; Ka6)
b4 9.Kc4 g1Q 10.Ra7
mate.
i) 1.Bc5+? Kb7 2.Re7+
(Re1; g2) Kc8 3.Re8+ Kd7
4.Re7+ Kd8 5.Re6 h2
ii) h2 2.Re7 h1Q 3.Bc5+
Kb5 4.Rb7+ Ka6 5.Ra7+
Kb5 6.Ra5 mate, g2 2.Rf8
f2 3.Bc5+ Kb7 4.Bxf2
wins.
iii) 2.Re7? c5 3.Rf7 g2
4.Bxc5+ Kc6 5.Rf6+ Kd7
6.Rxf2 h2.
iv) h2 3.Rf7 c5 4.Bxc5+
Kc6 5.Kc4 f1Q+ 6.Rxf1 h5
7.Rf7 h1Q 8.b5 mate.
v) Kc7 4.Bxf2 h2 5.Bg3+
wins.
vii) Kxb7 6.Bg3+ Kb6
"Clever knitting of mate net".

No 14267 Oscar Carlsson & Zoilo Caputto
3rd Commendation Studistica 2000

a1c7 0111.24 6/5 Win
No 14267 Oscar Carlsson & Zoilo Caputto (Argentine) 1.Bh3/i bxa5/ii
2.Rc5+/iii, and:
- 2...Kb6 3.Rc6+ Ka7/iv
4.Bf1 g2 5.b6+ Kb8 6.a7+
Kb7 7.Rc7+ Kxb6 8.a8Q
mate, or:
- 2...Kd6 3.Re6+/v Ke5/vi
4.Re6+/vii Kd4/viii 5.Re4+
Kc5/ix 6.a7 g2 7.a8Q f1Q+
8.Ka2 Qf2+/x 9.Ka3 g1Q
10.Qc6 mate.
ii) g2 2.Rd7+ Kd8 (Kb8;
Sc6+) 3.Rd7+ Kb8 4.Sc6
mate.
iii) 2.Rd7+? Kb6/xi
3.Sc6+/xii Ke5/xiv 4.a7
g2 5.a8Q f1Q+ 6.Ka2
Qc4+, or here 5.Rd5+ Kb4
6.Rd1 g1Q 7.Rb1+ Ka3, or
5.Rd1 g1Q 6.Bf1 Qg7+.
iv) Kxb5 4.a7 g2 5.Rc1
g1Q 6.Bf1+ Kb6 7.a8Q
wins.
v) 3.Rd5+? Kc7 4.Re5+
Kd6 repeats.
vii) Kd5 4.a7 g2 5.a8Q
g1Q+ 6.Rc1+ wins, or Ke7
4.Re6+, and Kf7 5.Re3,
Kd7 5.Rg6+, or Kd8 5.a7.
vii) 4.Re5+? Kd6/xv
5.Rc6+ loss of time.
viii) Kg4 5.Rf6+ Ke3
6.Rxf5+ wins.
ix) Kxe4 6.a7; Kd3 6.Bf1+
Kxe4 7.a7 g2 8.Bxg2 wins.
x) Qe2+ 9.Rxe2 fxe2
10.Qc6+ Kd4 11.Qc1 wins.
ii) But not f1Q 2.Rxf1 g2
3. Bh3 wins.

xii) But not Kb8? 3. b6, or Kc8? 3. a7.

xiii) 3. a7 g2 4. a8Q f1Q+ 5. Ka2 Qc4+.


"Difficult study that lacks particular highlights except for the S-promotion mate".

No 14268 Franco Bertoli
Special Commendation
Studistica 2000

f2h1 0031.12 3/4 Win

No 14269 S.Borodavkin
Die Schwalbe 1966

Shakhova kompozitsia
Ukraini -- Album 1996--2000

This 5-year selection for Ukrainian album was judged by Visokosov (Russia) and Mansarliisky (Ukraine). The FIDE Album scheme of allotting points from 0 to 4 in half-point steps was used for this 5-year Ukrainian Album, with a total of six points qualifying for inclusion.

Of the 44 selected for inclusion from the 172 submitted, the 11 here presented were not honoured in tourneys -- but we should remember that (a) there may not have been a tourney, and (b) there could have been a tourney but the award was seriously delayed. All composers are Ukrainian. Figures between square brackets are diagram numbers in the 2003 Album.


No 14270 M.Mironenko
Suomen Shakki 1997

b5f8 0413.03 3/6 Draw.

No 14270 M.Mironenko.


v) Ke6? [this loses!]

No 14271 M.Mironenko
The Problemist 2000

f2e7 3104.33 6/6 Draw.

No 14271 M.Mironenko.


No 14272 N.Rezvov
Podol'ska zorya 1998

No 14272 N.Rezvov.

i) flQ 4.Rxf7+ Qxf7 5.a8Q+ draw.
No 14273 Nikolai Rezvov.  
Pravda Prichernomorya  
1996

1) 8.Kd7?? Kh7 9.Qg6+ Kh8 10.Qh5+ Qh6 11.Qe8 Qe6+ draw.
ii) Qe4 9.Sg6+ Kh7 10.Sf8+ wins.

No 14274 Nikolai Rezvov.  
Odesskie izvestia 1996

c6g8 4031.13 4/6 Win.

No 14275 Nikolai Rezvov.  
Odesskie izvestia 1996

g7d8 0340.10 3/3 Draw.

No 14276 Nikolai Rezvov,  
S.N.Tkachenko.

1st pr, 64-Sh.Ob 1998 -- correction

4. Bd6 is a dual -- Rxb7
5. Bxb8 Rxb8 6. d6 Kf7

No 14277 S.I.Tkachenko
The Problemist 2000

17. Kc7 Qxa8 18. Qd1+ Kf2 draw.

No 14278 V.Chernov
Donbass 14xii2000

b5h5 0430.33 5/6 Draw.
No 14279 I.Yarmonov
Schach 1998
No 14280 I.Yarmonov
Vecherny Peterburg
14 v.1996

No 14281 P.Arestov
prize Uralsky problemist
1997

No 14282 S.Borodavkin
1st honourable mention
Uralsky problemist 1997

I.f5 e3 e6 0000 33 4/4 Win.
[298] 1.f5 Kd1 2.Kd3 Kc1
5.b4 Ke4 6.f6 gxf6 7.h5
Kf5 8.g6 fxg6 9.h6 wins.

Uralsky problemist 1997

This informal international
was judged by S.Osintsev
(Ekaterinburg) The award
was published in UP
No.3(15) 1998 vii1998
19 studies by 16 composers
were published.

Judge's report: "Sad to say,
bright new ideas were at a
premium, most of the
entries being rehashes of
what already exists."

No 14281 P.Arestov "The
decisive move is White's
very first!" 1.Sd6/4 Rxe7
2.Sf5+ Kc3 3.Sxe7 Sxd3+
4.Sxd3 a2 5.Sd5+ Kb3
6.Bd1+ Ka3 7.Sc3 a1Q+
8.Sb1+ Ka2 9.Sb4 mate,
bQ blocking bK's escape
route. i) 1.Sxg7? Rxe7
2.Sf5+ Kc3 3.Sxe7 Sxd3+
4.Sxd3 a2 5.Sd5+ Kb3
6.Bd1+ Ka3 7.Sc3 a1Q
8.Sb1+ Qxb1+ 9.Kxb1
stalemate, seeing that
obligingly removed bPg7 at
the outset.

h3 h7 4010.00 3/2 Win

No 14282 S.Borodavkin
"The drawing material
obliges W to get his skates
on." 1.Bd3+ Kh8 2.Qa7,
with:
- Kg8 3.Bc4+ Kh8
4.Qa8+ Kg7 5.Qg8+ Kh6
6.Bd3 Qg7 7.Qe6+ Kg5
8.Qf5+ Kh6 - the K-chase
has reached a dead end, but
now - 9.Qf4+ Qg5 10.Qf8+
Qg7 (Kh5;Qf7+) 11.Qf5z
Qg8 12.Qf6+ Kh5 13.Qh4
mate, or
•- Qg7 3.Qh8+ Qg8
4.Qe5+ Qg7 5.Qe8+ Qg8
6.Qd7 Qf7 7.Qd4+ Qg7
8.Qd8+ Qg8 9.Qf6+ Qg7
10.Qh4+ Kg8 11.Bc4+ Kf8
12.Qd8 mate.

"The composer has
amalgamated two familiar
finales."
No 14283 V. Kalyagin and B. Olimpiev
2nd honourable mention Uralsky problemist 1997

V.Kalyagin and B.Olimpiev
2nd honourable mention Uralsky problemist 1997

No 14284 A. Skripnik
1st commendation Uralsky problemist 1997

No 14285 V. Kalyagin
2nd commendation Uralsky problemist 1997

A study full of pleasing and uncomplex variations, but real points are lacking, as well as counterplay, and although W must exercise precision, Black is doomed from the kick-off.

No 14283 V. Kalyagin and B. Olimpiev
1.Kc2 Rd3
2.Ba4+ Kd5 3.Sf6+ Ke6
4.Sg4 Kf5 5.Sh6+ Kg6
6.Be8+ Kf6 7.Bf4+ Rf3
8.Bd2 Ke7 9.Bg6 Rf2
10.Kc3 wins.
i) 7.Ba7? Rd8 8.Bh5 Rc8
9.Kb2 Kg5 10.Bg4 Re8, putting a spanner in the white works.
"A study full of pleasing and uncomplex variations, but real points are lacking, as well as counterplay, and although W must exercise precision, Black is doomed from the kick-off."

h6a8 4005.00 4/3 Win.

No 14284 A. Skripnik
I: diagram
II: wKcl (not h6)
I: 1.Qe8+/i Sb8 2.Sxb8 Qxb8 3.Qe4+ Kb7 4.Qa4+
Kb8 5.Qf4+ Ka8 6.Qf8+ Qa8 7.Qf3+ Qb7, and the familiar finish
i) 1.Qa4+? Sa7 2.Sxa7 Qxa7 3.Qe4+ Qb7 4.Qe8+ Ka7 5.Qe3+ Ka8 6.Qa3+
Qa7 7.Qf3+ Qb7 8.Qf8+ Ka7 9.Qa3+ Qa6+ draw.
II: "The composer shows a twin with wKcl, in which the try and solution of the main study are reversed - so we have 1.Qa4+ (Qe8+?) - which at first sight looks logical because of the diagram's symmetrical component, but it adds zero to the content." Indeed, it's an inventive example of a study that has composed itself - perhaps Mr. Skripnik had tongue in cheek when submitting the twin.

No 14285 V. Kalyagin
2nd commendation Uralsky problemist 1997

e5a7 4304.00 3/4 Draw.

No 14285 V. Kalyagin
Qe1+ 7.Kf4 Qh4+ 8.Ke3, positional draw after wK's "tip-toe manoeuvring has deprived Bl of any winning chances".
No 14286 V. Dolgov and V. Kolpakov
3rd commendation Uralsky problemist 1997

No 14287 N. Rezvov and S. Tkachenko
prize Uralsky problemist 1998

No 14288 I. Bondar
1st honourable mention
Uralsky problemist 1998

No 14289 B. Olympiev
2nd honourable mention
Uralsky problemist 1998

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"What a pity it is that only the first move adds to what we know already."

---

Uralsky Problemist 1998

The provisional award of this informal tourney was published in Uralsky Problemist 2(18)/1999.

The tourney was judged by Valery Kalashnikov (Ekaterinburg). 35 studies by 25 composers entered.

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No 14286

V. Dolgov and V. Kolpakov

1. Kd6+ Rb2
2. Ra3+ Kb1 3. Qh7+ Re2
4. Rb3+ Kc1 5. Qh6+ Rd2
6. Rc3+ Kd1 7. Qh5+ Re2
8. Rd3+ Ke1 9. Qh4+ Qf2
10. Qh1+ Qfl 11. Rd1+

"What a pity it is that only the first move adds to what we know already."

---

No 14287

N. Rezvov and S. Tkachenko (Ukraine)

1. Bc2+ Kh5/i 2. Rh7 (for mate!) Kg5 3. Rg7+ Kxh6
4. Rg6+ Kh5 5. Bb3 a1Q
6. Bf7/ii, with:
- Qa5 7. Rd6+ Kg5
8. Rd5+/iii, or
- b5 7. Be8 Qa5 (b4;a7)


ii) "Loading up the 'Asaba' battery - 7. Rg1+.

iii) The concluding double attack.

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No 14288

I. Bondar (Belarus)


i) "...sacrifice declined - and counter-sacrifice."

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No 14289

B. Olympiev

1. Rd7

No 14290 V.Krasichenok 3rd honourable mention Uralsky problemist 1998

No 14291 G.Amiryvan 4th honourable mention Uralsky problemist 1998

No 14292 Yu. Bazlov, A.Skrinnik 1st prize Uralsky problemist 1999

g7e7 3001.54 7/6 Draw.

No 14290 V.Krasichenok 1.f6+ Ke8 2.Sb7 Qc8 3.Sd6+ cxd6 4.c7, with:
- Qxc7 5.f7+ Kd8 6.f8Q mate, or
- e4 5.d3 exd3 6.f4 d2 7.f5 d1Q 8.f7+ Ke7 9.f6 mate, or
- b5 5.f3 b4 6.d4 b3 7.dxe5 b2 8.exd6 b1Q 9.f7 mate.

All three mates are of the 'pure' variety. According to Akobia/Nadareishvili (4216 in World Anthology Vol.2) the study was published in Fizkulturnik Belorussii in 1986.

No 14291 G.Amiryvan (Erevan) 1.h7 Bg7 2.Sd4 Bxd4 3.a5 Bf6 4.d4 Bxd4 5.a6 Bf6 6.d4 Bxd4 7.a7 Bxa7 8.h8Q Be4 9.Qa8 wins. "Bishop escapes, bishop perishes."

Uralsky problemist 1999

This informal international [but not very!] tourney was judged by Boris [(sic!) Bronislav] Olympiev. The award was published in Uralsky problemist No.21, ii2000. 32 studies by 25 composers were published.

No 14290 V.Krasichenok

el2a 0061.41 6/4 Win.

No 14291 G.Amiryvan (Erevan) 1.h7 Bg7 2.Sd4 Bxd4 3.a5 Bf6 4.d4 Bxd4 5.a6 Bf6 6.d4 Bxd4 7.a7 Bxa7 8.h8Q Be4 9.Qa8 wins. "Bishop escapes, bishop perishes."

No 14292 Yu. Bazlov, A.Skrinnik 1st prize Uralsky problemist 1999

f2f7 0460.31 5/5 Draw

i) Kg6 2.Rxc7 Rb6 3.h7 Bg7 4.Re8 Bxe6 5.h8Q draw.

ii) Rxa7 3.h7+ (Rxa7? Bc5+) Kh8 4.Re8 draw.

iii) 3.Kf3(Kg2)? self-pins wPc6, and with it go chances of drawing.

v) Checks by wR fail due to bk's bolt-hole on f1.
"Play and finale are both interesting."

No 14293 V.Kovalenko
2nd prize Uralsky problemist 1999

No 14294 O.Pervakov, N.Rezvov, S.Tkachenko
3rd prize Uralsky problemist 1999

No 14295 S.Borodavkin
1st honourable mention Uralsky problemist 1999
No 14296 L. Topko
2nd honourable mention
Uralsky problemist 1999

@h5f7 3111.00 4/2 Win.
No 14296 Leonid Topko (Ukraine).
1.Rc7+ Kf8 2.Kg6 Qh7+ 3.Kf6 Qh3
4.Sf6+ Kg8 5.Rc8+ Kh7 6.Sf8+ Kg8 7.Qg6+ Qxe8

No 14297 Gh. Umnov
3rd honourable mention
Uralsky problemist 1999

@h8f8 0043.01 2/4 Draw.
No 14297 Gherman
Umnov (Podolsk).
d5, and White finds himself in mortal zugzwang in both cases.

No 14298 A. Manyakhin
4th honourable mention
Uralsky problemist 1999

@bg1 0110.02 3/3 Win.
No 14298 A. Manyakhin (Lipetsk).
1.Qe5+ Kf2+ 2.Kd2 Rdl+ 3.BCxdl Sb2+ 4.Qxb2+
axb2 5.Kd3 Ke3 6.Sbl Kd3
7.Sd2 b1Q+ 8.Sxb1 b2
9.Sd2 Kc3 10.Sb1+ Kd3
13.Kd3 b1Q+ 14.Sxb1
Kxb1 15.Kc4 draw.
b3+ wins.

No 14299 V. Kondratev
5th honourable mention
Uralsky problemist 1999

c1e1 1304.03 3/6 Draw.
No 14300 E. Kudelich
1st commendation Uralsky problemist 1999

g8g5 0410.34 6/6 Win.
No 14300 Eduard Kudelich (Russia).
1.c7 Rc5 2.c8Q Rxc8+ 3.Bxc8 c3/i 4.Rxc8
Kxb4/ii 5.g3+ Kg5 6.Kg7 h4 7.f4+ Kh5 8.g4 mate.
i) d2 4.f4+ Kxd4 5.Rxd4+ Kg5 (Ke3;Rxb5) 6.Rd4 c3
ii) d2 5.Rd4 c2 6.f4+ Kf6
7.Rd7 (for Rf7) Ke6(Kf5)
8. Rxd2+ wins.

No 14301 A. Manyakhin
2nd commendation Uralsky problemist 1999

h8b6 4010.01 3/3 Win.

No 14301 A. Manyakhin.
1. Be3+ Kc7 2. Bf4+ Kd7
3. Qd5+ Ke8 4. Bg5 Qb6+
5. Kg7 Qc7+/ii 6. Kg8 e1Q
7. Qb5+ Qd7 8. Qb8+ mates.

i) 1. Qb8+? Kc6 2. Qxb1
e1Q draw.

ii) Qh6+ 6. Bxh6 e1Q
7. Qc6+- wins.

No 14302 V. Shoshorin
3rd commendation Uralsky problemist 1999

e4c2 4041.12 5/5 Win.

No 14302 V. Shoshorin (Russia).
1. Ke3+ Kd1 2. Qg4+ Kc2
3. Qe4+ Kd1 4. Qh1+ Kc2
5. Sa1+ Qxa1 6. Qxa1 Be1
7. Ke2 f1Q+ 8. Kxf1 Bc3
9. a4 Bxa1 10. a5 Bd4 11. Ke2
Kc3 12. Bxd4 exd4 13. Kd1
wins.

No 14303 L. Topko
4th commendation Uralsky problemist 1999

e4f6 0400.10 3/2 Win.

No 14303 L. Topko. 1. e7
Rc8+i 2. Kd5 Kf7 3. Kd6
Ra8 4. Rf1+ Kg7 5. Ra1
Rb8 6. Ke7, with Re8

i) Kx e7 2. Kd5+. Or Kf7

No 14304 V. Kichigin
5th commendation Uralsky problemist 1999

e3c3 4010.13 4/5 Win.

No 14304 Viktor Kichigin
(Russia). 1. Qh8+ Kc2
2. Bb3+ Kb1 3. Bc2+ Ka2
4. Qg8+ Kc2 5. Qb3+ Kc1
6. Bxe4 Qb2 7. Qc4+ Kd1
8. Qf1 mate.

No 14305 A. Sadykov
special prize Uralsky problemist 1999

e8d6 0406.53 7/7 Draw

No 14305 A. Sadykov
(Russia). 1. e7 Sg6 2. Kd8
Sxe7 3. Rxe7 Sf8 4. Ke8/i
Rh8 5. Kf7 Rh7+ 6. Ke8
(Kxf8? Rx e7; Rh8 7. Kf7
Rh7+ 8. Ke8, positional
draw, Rxe7+ 9.Kxf8 Rh7
10.Kg8 Re7 11.Kf8 Rh7
12.Kg8.
i) 4.Re8? Rh8 5.Kc8 Sg6
6.Rxh8 Sxh8 7.Kd8 Sg6
wins.
"... serially combines one
new and one old positional
draw."

No 14306 Gherman
Umnov
special honourable mention
Uralsky problemist 1999

f7h7 3111.01 4/3 Win.

No 14307 Eduard
Kudelich, Yuri
Lyalyushkin
special commendation
Uralsky problemist 1999

f7b2 0330.30 4/3 Draw.

No 14307 E.Kudelich,
Yu.Lyalyushkin
special commendation
Uralsky problemist 1999

f7h7 3111.01 4/3 Win.

No 14306 Gherman
Umnov. 1.Sf6+ Kh8 2.Bh6
Qxh6 3.Ra2+ Qg7+ 4.Ke6,
with:
- Qf8 5.Rh2+ Kg7 6.Rh7
mate, or
- Qh6 5.Ra8+ Kg7 6.Rg8
mate, or
- Qh7 5.Rh2+ Kg7
6.Rh7+ Kf8 7.Rxb7, or
- Qe7 5.Ra8+ Kg7
i) 3.Rb2? Qf4 4.Rc2 Qb8,
or
3.Rc2? Qh3 4.Rb2 Qg3,
or
3.Re2? Qg7+ 4.Ke6 Qh6
draw.
No 14308 O.Pervakov and N.Kralin
1st prize Uralsky Problemist-5AT

c3e6 0134.22 5/5 Draw.

No 14308 O.Pervakov and N.Kralin (Moscow) 1.Sd5/i
Bfl/v 6.Ka2/vi Bc4+ 7.Ka3 Kxd5 8.g7 Kd4 9.g8Q Bxg8 stalemate - and a good one.
i) 1.g7? f1Q 2.g8Q Qc1+. So White's knight must shift, but whither? 1.Sd7?
Sa4+ 2.Kd4 f1Q 3.Rxf1 Bxf1 4.Sc5+ Sxc5 5.bxc5 Bc4. Or if 1.Se8? f1Q
2.Sc7+ Ke5 3.Rxf1 Se4+ 4.Kc2 Bxf1 5.g7 Sf6. Or if 1.Kh7?
f1Q 2.Sc5+ Ke5 3.Rxf1 Sa4+ 4.Kb3 Bxf1 5.g7 Bc4+ 6.Ka3 Sb6. Black wins in all these lines.
ii) Se4+ 2.Kd4. Or Sa4+ 2.Kd4 f1Q 3.Sc7+ Kd6 4.Rxf1 Bxf1 5.g7 Bc4

iv) 4.Ka3? Bc4 with recizug against White. The main line move turns the zugzwang tables.
v) Sb2(Sc5) 6.Sc7+ and 7.Sxb5.
"A study with a purpose. Great tries and a superb first move. There is active play, and nuances a-plenty such as reciprocal zugzwang, domination, positional draw, a pure stalemate. A real boost to the tourney."

No 14309 G.Umnov
2nd prize Uralsky Problemist-5AT

g7c8 0443.20 5/4 BTW, Draw.

No 14309 G.Umnov (Podolsk) 1...Rg2+ 2.Kh8/i Bb2+ 3.Bg7 Bxg7+ 4.hxg7
Sf6/ii 5.Rc3+/iii Kb8 6.Rh3 Rg6 7.Rh7 Ka8 8.a7, and seeing that Black is in zugzwang the result is a draw.

ii) "A position to raise the eyebrows. The force is drawing, but White has two passed pawns. Despite this he is hard pushed to draw."
iii) "At first sight it is plumb illogical to allow hK to approach the passed pawn. But the tempo-check takes this into account. The natural 5.Rh3? to parry the mating threat is met by Rg6 6.Rh7 Kb8 7.a7+ Ka8 and White is in zugzwang. But hasn't White, with 6.Rh1, an adequate waiting move? For if Kb8? 7.Rh7+ Ka8 8.a7, and so on, but Black has better: 6..Kc7 7.Rh7+ Kb8 8.a7+ Ka8 and wins."
"Bold strokes across a broad canvas. Once again reciprocal zugzwang, here with the brilliant 5.Rc3+!! Beautiful and memorable."

No 14310 V.Kirillov and P.Arestov
3rd prize Uralsky Problemist-5AT

e4b5 0804.13 5/7 Win.
No 14310  V.Kirillov (Serov) and P.Arestov (Krasnogorsk) 
1.Rb8+ (Sxc2? R3xa2;) 
Kc5 (Ka4;Sxc2) 
2.Rxc2+ Re3 
3.Rxe3+ dx3 4.d4+ Kc4 
5.Sc2 d5+ 6.Ke3 Ra4 
(Sc6;Rb6) 7.Rb6z Sb3 
"There are two rooks more 
as a result of a correction, 
but the main idea is 
retained and in the 
zugzwang-based finale 
White delivers an ideal 
mate with four 
active self-blocks."

No 14311  V.Chernikov 
4th prize Uralsky 
Problemist-5AT

No 14312  S.Tkachenko 
and N.Rezvov 
5th prize Uralsky 
Problemist-5AT

h5b8 0353.10 4/4 Draw.

No 14311  V.Chernikov (Saransk) 
1.Be5+/i Ka8/ii 
2.Bxe4/iii Ka7 3.Bd4+ 
Kxa6 4.Bxg1 Be2+ 5.Kh6 
Rh3+ 6.Kg7 Rg3+ 7.Kh8 
Rxg1 8.Bd3+ Bxd3 
stalemate. 
i) 1.a7+? Kb7 2.Bxe4+ 
Kxa7 3.Bd4+ Kb8 4.Bxg1 
Be2+, winning.

ii) "Tempting White's light 
bishop onto e4."

iii) 2.Bd4? Rb5 3.Kg4 Se2 
4.Bf2 Bd5, Black wins. 
"Black is a rook ahead 
when the action begins but 
this fails to guarantee 
victory. White's bishops 
slot neatly together and 
perish for stalemate's sake, 
wK arriving in the right 
corner for this 'pure' 
purpose."

No 14312  S.Tkachenko 
and N.Rezvov 
5th prize Uralsky 
Problemist-5AT

h4f6 0000.33 4/4 Draw.

No 14313  V.Kovalenko 
1st honourable mention 
Uralsky Problemist-5AT

No 14311  V.Chernikov (Odessa) and N.Rezvov (Odessa) 
1.e7/i Kxe7 
2.Kg5 Kf7 3.Kh6 Kg8 
4.h4/ii Kf8/iii 5.Kxh7 Kf7 
6.Kh8 g5 7.h5 g4 8.h6 g3 
9.h7 Kc7 10.Kg8 (Kg7? 
g2;) g2 11.h8Q g1Q+ 
12.Qg7+ Qxg7 13.Kxg7, 
level game, so - draw. 
i) 1.Kg4? h6 (Kxe6? Kg5) 
2.h4 Kxe6 3.h5 g5, when 
Black wins.

No 14311  V.Chernikov (Saransk) 
1.Be5+/i Ka8/ii 
2.Bxe4/iii Ka7 3.Bd4+ 
Kxa6 4.Bxg1 Be2+ 5.Kh6 
Rh3+ 6.Kg7 Rg3+ 7.Kh8 
Rxg1 8.Bd3+ Bxd3 
stalemate. 
i) 1.a7+? Kb7 2.Bxe4+ 
Kxa7 3.Bd4+ Kb8 4.Bxg1 
Be2+, winning.
No 14313 V.Kovalenko
(Bolshoi Kamen) l.b6 Bc3
d6 Bxc3 e1Q+ 3.Bxe1 a1Q
4.Bb4+ Kg8/i 5.h7+ Kh8
(Kb8? dxc3; ) b2 8.Ra7
b1Q 9.Bxd4 mate.
i) a1Q 3.Bxa1 e1Q 4.Bg7+
Kg8 5.h7+ Kxh7 6.Bc3+
K- 7.Bxe1 wins, thanks to
battery B+R.
ii) Ke8 5.Re7+ Kf8 6.Ra7+
Ka8 7.Rxa1 wins, thanks to
R+B battery!
iii) Qxc3 7.Rxc3 b2 8.Rb3
Kxb7 9.Rxb2 and 10.Rd2
winning.
"We see the creation and
operation of both a
bishop-rook and
rook-bishop battery, a
significant enrichment of
the content. Black's efforts
to bring about stalemate
with a pawn pinned are not
crowned with success, the
driven and cornered king
being finally checkmated."

No 14314 V.Tarasiuk
(Kharkov region) l.c6+i
Bxc6 (Kc8;Rb7) 2.Se5+
Kd6 3.Rxc6+ Kxe5 4.Rc7
Sg5+ 5.Kg4 Bb6 6.Rb7/ii
Bd8 7.Rd7 Bf6 8.Sf2
i) 1.Rd6+? Kc7 2.Se5 Sf6
2.Rb5 Sg5+ 3.Kh4 Se4
4.Sd3 Kc6 5.Ra5 Bxc5
draw.
ii) 6.Rc6? Bd8 7.Re8
Sf7. "One of Ukraine’s strongest
composers has given us the
pleasure of a beautiful
production. The finale
shows checkmate arising
out of a reciprocal
zugzwang."

No 14315 E.Eilazyan
3rd honourable mention
Uralsky Problemist-5AT

No 14315 E.Eilazyan
(Donetsk) l.Sd6+i/ii
Sf3/ii
2.Sf5+ Kg8 3.Rb8+/iii Kf7
4.g6/+iv Kxg6/v 5.Sh4+
Sxb4 6.Kxc4 Sf5
7.Rb6+ /vi, with:
- Kf7 8.Rb1 Se3+ 9.Kd3
Sf1 10.Ke2 g1Q 11.Rxf1+
draw, or
- Kh5 8.Rb1 Se3+ 9.Kd3
Sf1 10.Rb8 Sg3 11.Rb1
Sf1 12.Rb8,
positional draw, or
- Kg7 8.Rb7+ Kg8
9.Rb8+ Kh7 10.Rb7+,
perpetual check.
i) l.Kxc4? Sf3 2.Rb1 Sd2+
Black wins.
ii) Sh3 2.Sf5+ Kg8 3.Rb8+
Kf7 4.Rb1 Bf1 5.Sf3 Sg1
6.Rxf1+ draw.
iii) 3.Sg6+? Kf8 4.Rf6+
Bf7 5.g6 g1Q+.
iv) 4.Rb1? Bf1 5.Sf3 g1Q
6.Rxf1 Qxe3+. 4.Rb7+
Kf6 5.Kxc4 g1Q 6.Rf8+
Ke5 7.g7 Qc1+ 8.Kb4 Qb2+
v) Ke6 5.Sd4+ Sxd4 6.g7
g1Q 7.g8Q+. Or Kf6
5.Kxc4 g1Q 6.Rf8+ Ke5
7.g7 Qe1+ 8.Kb4 Qb2+
vii) 7.Rb1? Se3+ 8.Kd3 Sf1
9.Rb8 Kf7 10.Rb7+ Kf6
11.Rb6+ Kf5 12.Rb5+ Kf4
13.Rb4+ Kf3 14.Rb8 g1Q
15.Rf8 Kg2 16.Rg8+ Sg3,
with a win for Black.
Sg3 11.Rb1 Kg6 12.Kd3
Sf1 13.Rb8 Kf7.
"bPg2 is on the brink.
White marshals his forces
to bring about perpetual
check or positional draw."

h3d7 0165.11 5/5 Win
No 14316  A. Sadikov
4th honourable mention
Uralsky Problemist-5AT

No 14317  V. Kalyagin and
B. Olympiev
1st commendation Uralsky
Problemist-5AT

No 14318  S. Abramenko
2nd commendation Uralsky
Problemist-5AT

At the end White sacrifices his newly promoted queen to bring about stalemate. The composer supplied a second variation but unfortunately it contained a dual, but the judge honoured the entry with its single effective line.
not 5.Kh3? Rxh7 6.b8Q Rb7+ 7.Qxb7 and the result is stalemate.
ii) 4.b8Q? Ra3 5.Kh2 Rh3+ 6.Qh3 stalemate. "Nothing complex, but pleasing to solve, with stalemate avoidance."

No 14319 V.Kondratev
3rd commendation Uralsky Problemist-5AT

No 14320 V.Katsnelson prize Uralsky Problemist-5AT

MINIATURES SECTION

No 14320 V.Katsnelson prize Uralsky Problemist-5AT

c1b5 4031.22 5/5 Draw.
ii) 5.Sb8 g5 6.Sg6 Bxh2 7.Kd1 Kf7 8.Sh4 g6h4 9.Ke2 h3 wins. "wS travels from one side of the board to the other and only when he's arrived does he give himself up to bB. The finale is a theoretical draw but, to achieve it, White is not greedy to eliminate bB."

No 14321 B.Olympiev special prize Uralsky Problemist-5AT

e6d8 0400.02 2/4 Draw.
No 14320 V.Katsnelson (St Petersburg) 1.Rd7+i Ke8 2.Re7+ Kf8 3.Rf7+ Ke8 4.Re7+ Kd8 5.Rd7, with:
   iii) 7.Kd3? Rb7 8.Rh8+ Kc7 9.Rh7+ Kb8, wK has not reached c5, so bPh5 is beyond its reach.
vi) Kc7 5.Rh7+ Kxh8 6.Kc5 Rb3 7.Rxh5 draw. "Black's two extra pawns don't win here so it's one more piece of evidence for the complexity of rook and pawn endgames."

v) Rd5 10.Ra7+ Ra5 11.Ra2 wins.
"White's small advantage is transformed into a win after wRR have reorganised themselves."

No 14322 E.Markov 1st honourable mention Uralsky Problemist-5AT

v) Rd5 10.Ra7+ Ra5 11.Ra2 wins.
"White's small advantage is transformed into a win after wRR have reorganised themselves."

P-sac helps wR take up a better position. The finale is an unexpected positional draw despite Black's clear material plus.

No 14323 Yu.Zemlyansky 2nd honourable mention Uralsky Problemist-5AT

"White allows promotion, but even this is no help to Black. The finale is an ideal mate."

No 14324 V.Kovalenko 3rd honourable mention Uralsky Problemist-5AT

- d2f8 0430.11 3/4 Draw.

"White allows promotion, but even this is no help to Black. The finale is an ideal mate."

Ten years ago there were no studies with this material, but now it is
being exploited by a number of composers. Here the finale consists of perpetual check or stalemate."

No 14325 V. Kondratev
special honourable mention
Uralsky Problemist-5SAT

No 14326 B. Sidorov
1st commendation Uralsky
Problemist-5SAT

d8e3 0312.01 4/3 Win.

No 14325 V. Kovalenko
1.Sg4+ Kd2 2.Sxf2 c2
(exb2;Sd3) 3.Se4+ Kc1
4.Sd3+ Kxb1 5.Sc3+ Ka1
6.Sc1 Kb2 7.Sa2 Ka3
8.Kc7 Ka4 9.Kb6 Ka3
10.Kb5 Kb2 11 Kb4 Ka1
12.Kb3 Kb1 13.Ka3 Ka1
i) 1.Sd1+? Kd2 2.Sxf2 c2
3.Sf2+ (Sc4+,Kc1;) Kd1
4.Sc2+ Kd2 5.Sc4+ Kd1
draw.
"There's a close try that only draws, but White has something else, and there's a mating finale."

No 14326 B. Sidorov
(Apsheronsk)
2.eRe6 Kd4 3.eRd6+
Kc3/ii 4.Kb7/iii g5 5.Re6+
Kf2 (Be4;Rxe4+) 6.Rd6
Ke1 7.Re6+ Kf2
(Be2;Rxd2+) 8.Rd6 Bxc6+
11.Kc7/ii 12.Rd5+ Ke2
13.Rc5+ Kd1 14.Rg5 Ke2
15.Re5+, positional draw.
i) Kxe6 2.Rd4. Kxe4
ii) Bd5 4.Rxd5+ Kxd5
5.Re8 Ke4 6.Re8+ Kd3
7.Rd8+ Kc2 8.Re8+ Kd1
9.Rg8 Ke2 10.Re8+, positional draw.
iii) 4.Re6+? Kf2 5.Rd6
Bxc6+.
Ke3 12.Kc5 g4 wins.
v) d1Q 11.Rxd1 Kxd1
"A picturesque setting with both wRR en prise [and bK sandwiched! AJR] and no point in Black capturing either of them. bPd2 never takes its final step and the outcome is a positional draw."

No 14327 V. Samilo and
V. Starov
2nd commendation Uralsky
Problemist-5SAT

e2e4 0000.22 3/3 Win.

No 14327 V. Samilo
(Kharkov) and V. Starov
(Kharkov)
e2e4 0000.22 3/3 Win.

No 14327 V. Samilo
(Kharkov) and V. Starov
(Kharkov)
1.Kd2 Kf3/i
2.g5/ii c1Q+ 3.Kxc1 Ke2
4.g6 d4 5.g7 d3 6.g8Q d2+
7.Kb2 d1Q 8.Qg4+ winning. "Black plays the 'Rèti' card, White trumps with the 'roman'."
i) d4 2.g5 Kf3 3.g6 d3 4.g7
c1Q 5.Kxc1 Ke2 6.g8Q
ii) 2.h5? c1Q+ 3.Kxc1 Ke2
4.h6 d4 5.h7 d3 6.h8Q d2+
7.Kb2 d1Q, and '8.Qh5+' is not an option.
"Symmetrical material, asymmetric play. White wins by putting his money on wPg5, the favourite."
3rd commendation Uralsky Problemist-5AT

No 14328
D. Pikhurov

3/3 Draw.

No 14328
D. Pikhurov

i) f4? b4 2.f5 b3 3.f6 b2 4.f7 b1Q 5.f8Q Qb4+ 6.Kc- Qxf8, and Black wins.

ii) a4 13.f5 a3 14.f6 a3 15.f7 a1Q 16.f8Q draw. "Another level-force P-ending. This time promotion (of the right pawn) decides."

special commendation Uralsky Problemist-5AT

No 14329
A. Manyakhin

3/4 Draw.

No 14329
A. Manyakhin


ii) Kg6 5.Qh2+ Kxh2 6.Bh8Q+.


"This material balance has often been used by the composer, who always succeeds in finding fresh nuances. This study is from that stable."

MALYUTKA SECTION

No 14330
E. Kolesnikov

prize Uralsky Problemist-5AT

No 14330
E. Kolesnikov
(Moscow) 1.Kc6/i Kb8 2.Rh8+ Ka7 3.Rh7+ Ka6/ii 4.Rh1 (Rh3? e2;) Ka7/iii 5.Ka1+ Kb8 6.Rb1+, with:

- Kc8 7.Rb3 e2 8.Rxf3 wins, or
- Ka7 7.b7+ Ka6 8.Rb3 wins.

i) 1.Kd4? e2 2.Rh1 f2 3.Kd5 e1Q.

ii) Kb8 4.Rb7+ and 5.Rb3.


"wR successfully masters the united passed pawns on the 6th rank by taking advantage of bK being cornered."
No 14331 G.Nekhaev 1st honourable mention Uralsky Problemist-5AT

G8c2 0400.10 3/2 Win.

No 14331 G.Nekhaev (Kursk) 1.f4/i Rf3 2.Rf7 (Ra4? Kd2; Kd3 3.f5 Rg3+ii 4.Kf8/iii Ke4 5.f6/iv, with:
or
  iv) 5.Kc7? Ke5 6.f6 Rg6 draw.

"A rook endgame with accumulated tactical points and strong tries that adds to the collection of studies with this material that have turned out well."

No 14332 G.Amiryan 2nd honourable mention Uralsky Problemist-5AT

H5a3 0400.10 3/2 Win.


"Same distribution of force, quite different play."

No 14333 A.Bezgodkov and V.Samilo commendation Uralsky Problemist-5AT

G8g6 0001.11 3/2 Win.

No 14333 A.Bezgodkov (Kharkov) and V.Samilo (Kharkov) 1.b3/i Kf5 2.Kxg7 Ke4 3.Sg5+ Kd3 4.Sf3 Ke3 5.Sd2 wins.

"A refined malyutka with a handsome first move."
No 14334 S. Ganeev
special prize Uralsky Problemist-5AT
(for a first-time composer)

e3c4 0000.11 2/2 Draw.

No 14334 S. Ganeev
(Serov) 1. Ke2 (d4? b3;), a position of reciprocal zugzwang, with:
- Kb3 2.d4 draws, or

"This 'special' is for an 'infant' (4 men only) by a beginner composer from the Urals who has come up with an original draw in a position hitherto deemed lost ..." [The award reference at this point: Averbakh (1983) p.39 - is false, but Ganeev's study does complement the following cited on p.42 of the same volume. Moravec (1952) h3a4 0000.11.d2h7 2/2=
1.Kg4 Kb3 (h5;4 is main line) 2.Kf5 Kc4 3.Ke5 b5 4.d4, the move 4.Ke4 not being mentioned. AJR.]

Uralsky Problemist 2003

The provisional award of this informal international tourney was published in Uralsky Problemist 38 (11viii04). The tourney was judged by Oleg Pervakov (Moscow)

No 14335 A. Visokosov
1st prize Uralsky Problemist 2003

g1a4 0310.31 5/3 Win

No 14335 Andrei Visokosov (Moscow).

ii) "Now there is no saving check and Black sagaciously switches plans. But White is equal to the new task."
"Of course, ratiocination soon homes in on 2.Kh2 (though maybe the practical player won't agree). But it's often the case that we don't exercise this ratiocinative faculty."
"A great study, and one of a psycho-instructive sort."
[Don't expect me to interpret the judge's comments -- as translator I'm guessing too... maybe this could be the topic of a competition... :-) AJR]

No 14336 V. Vlasenko
2nd prize Uralsky Problemist 2003

b5g1 0010.12 3/3 Win

No 14336 Valery Vlasenko (Ukraine).
"They used to say of such a position that it was like an adjourned otb game. Times have changed: our 'iron friend' has done away


i) There's a great thematic try at this point: 2.Be6? Kg3 3.g6 Kb4 4.Kd7 Kg5 5.Bf7 a5 6.Ke8 a4 7.Kf8 Kh6 draws. wb has deprived wk of the f7 square.

"Highly interesting! Top of the class for originality!"

No 14337 M.Pastalaka
3rd prize Uralsky Problemist 2003

No 14338 Pavel Arestov
4th prize Uralsky Problemist 2003
"Aren't there too many chessmen thrown on the fire for the original finale? Even if it gets on top of you have to cave in in the end. It's such provocative, merry-making, dare-devil stuff!"

No 14339 A.Manvelian special prize Uralsky Problemist 2003

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 a7c8 0440.01 3/4 Draw.
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No 14339 Aleksandr Manvelian (Armenia).

"There's no denying the tension!" 1.Bxg2? Ra1+. 1.Rb8+? Kc7. 1.Bb7+ Kg7 2.Rd4+ (decayed!)

with:

- Ke8 3.Bxg2 Bc5+ 4.Ka6, and either Ra1+ 5.Ra4 Rxa4 6.Kb5 Ra2(Rg4) 7.Bc6+, or Rf6+ 5.Bc6+ Rx6 6.Kb5 (Kb7?? Rb6+), or


"Yet another fine study. Were it not for just one thing: just take a look at EG70P.8946, Kozirev, 5th pr, Shakhmaty v SSSR 1991 h7f6 0440.11 c4c1f8h3.c7b2 4/4=

"Maybe Manvelian knew this study and took note that by switching bBc8 to bBd7 a couple of interesting variations could be added. Whatever, this is a perfectly admissible composing method, the more so as the finale was already known from Gorgiev in 1958."

No 14340 A.Manvelian 1st honourable mention Uralsky Problemist 2003

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 a2 5.c5b2+ Kc2 6.Bxa2 Bel (Be5; Sc4+) 7.Sc4 Kxd1 8.Bb3 mate.
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No 14340 Aleksandr Manvelian.


"An agreeable study with the light pieces finishing up with a checkmate that is 'ideal' if not new."

No 14341 V.Tarasiuk 2nd honourable mention Uralsky Problemist 2003

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 h4a8 0001.32 5/3 Draw.
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447
6.Kf6 Qe1 (for Qe8)
7.Kf7 Qe4 8.a3/ii Qe1
9.h4 Qxh4 10.Kc6 and
11.Kd6, when White has
his fortress
and if drawbridge?}

i) "bK has eluded
the deadly forks at the price, it
has to be said, of his
incarceration. To reach the
safety of the W.Leick
position (1930) WK must
attain d6.

ii) 8.h4? Qxh4 9.Ke6 Qb4
10.a4 Qa3 11.a5 Qb4
12.Kf7 Qe4 13.Kf6 Qe8,
and Black has his wicked
way.

"An interesting
development of old ideas."

No 14342 V.Kichigin,
V.Kovalenko
3rd honourable mention
Uralsky Problemist 2003

e6g5 0000.34 4/5 Win.

No 14342 Viktor Kichigin,
Vitaly Kovalenko
(Russia).
1.a7 c2 2.a8Q
c1Q 3.Qg8+
Kh6/i
4.Qh8+ (ii) Kg6
5.Qf6+
Kh5 6.Qe5+ (Qf5+? Qg5)
Kh4 7.Qh2+ Kg5 8.Qg3+
Kh6 9.Kf7/iii Qg5
10.Qd6+ Kh5 11.Qh2+
Qb4 12.Qe5+ Qg5 13.f4/iv
Qxe5 14.fxe5, and White's
P is one step ahead of
Black's.

i) Kf4 4.Qg4+ Ke3
5.Qg5+ wins.

ii) 4.Qf8+? Kg7 5.Qf7+
Kh8 6.Qf6+ Kg8 draw.

iii) "The decisive
occupation of the f-file."

iv) "The apotheosis of
White's strategy."

"The Q-ending duel is a
curiosity."

No 14343 V.Vlasenko
4th honourable mention
Uralsky Problemist 2003

c5d8 0130.02 2/4 Draw.

No 14343 Valery
Vlasenko. 1.Kc6 Bg5/i
2.Rd7+ Ke8 3.Rd1 c2
4.Re1+ Kf7 5.Kd5 c1Q
6.Rxc1 Bxc1 7.Ke4 h3
10.Kf3 Kg6 11.Kg4 draw.

i) "What is White to do
now? To play wR at once
to the first rank loses a
And if he 'gains time' with
a check: 2.Rb8+? Ke7
3.Kd5 h3 4.Rb1 c2 5.Re1+
Kf6 (bK too near!) 6.Ke4
c1Q 7.Rxc1 Bxc1 8.Kf3
Kg5, when it's a win for
Black."

"Here we have another
logical study from the
well-known Ukrainian
master. It is something of a
pity that the thematic try
2.Rb8+ is less obvious
than the solution's 2.Rd7+,
to which there are no other
alternatives."

No 14344 N.Rezvov,
S.N.Tkachenko
5th honourable mention
Uralsky Problemist 2003

..."

No 14345 V.Kovalenko special honourable mention Uralsky Problemist 2003

h4d7 0000.62 7/3 Draw.

No 14345 Vitaly Kovalenko (Russia).
1.c3/i dxe3 2.e4 c2 3.e5 clQ/ii 4.e6+ Kd6/iii 5.e7 Qc7 6.e8Q+ Kc6 7.Qxc7 stalemate after all.

5.6.e7 Qc5 6.e6 c4 7.e7 Qxe7 stalemate. 

"That first move is really funny!"

No 14346 A.Strebkovs commendation Uralsky Problemist 2003

f5b7 0140.01 3/3 Draw.


"An agreeable 'super-miniature' with subtleties of its own."

No 14347 A.Manvelian commendation Uralsky Problemist 2003

d6a6 0041.12 4/4 Win.


"The set-up's not bad, built on ideas seen before."

No 14348 V.Rezinkin commendation Uralsky Problemist 2003

d1b2 1030.66 8/8 Win.
No 14349 I. Yarmonov
commendation Uralsky
Problemist 2003

1. Kg7 Bc4
2. Kg6 a5
3. Kg5 a4
4. Kg4 a3
5. Kg3
6. Kg2 draw.

II: 1. Kg7 Bc4
2. Kg6 a5
3. Kg5 a4
4. Kg4 a3
5. Kg3
6. Kg2 draw.

III: 1. Kg7 Bc6
2. Kg6 Bg8
3. Kg7 Be6
4. Kg6 draw.

IV: 1. Kg5 Be6
2. Kg6 Bg8
3. Kg7 Be6
4. Kg6 Bg8
5. Kg7 draw.

V: 1. Kg8 Be6
2. Kg7 Bg8
3. Kg8 Be6
4. Kg7 draw.

"A clutch of Réti-theme lookalikes."

No 14350 I. Agapov,
V. Russkikh
commendation Uralsky
Problemist 2003

h5a6 3101.67 9/9 Win.

No 14351 Ilham Aliev
(Azerbaijan).

I: diagram
II: remove wPf6, add wPg6
III: as II, remove bPa7, add bPd5
IV: as III, remove bBeg8, add bBh3
V: as III, wKe7.

h6h1 0030.11 2/3 Draw.

I: diagram
II: remove wPf6, add wPg6
III: as II, remove bPa7, add bPd5
IV: as III, remove bBeg8, add bBh3
V: as III, wKe7.

"A clutch of Réti-theme lookalikes."
1. Full details of EG's eighth jubilee tourney (distinct from the non-jubilee one run by our Originals editor Gady Costeff) will be found on: bstephen.freeuk.com/composing/nunn50 -- the site of Brian Stephenson, who is the organiser. The tourney celebrates British IGM John Nunn's 50th birthday (in iv2005). The closing date: 30x2005.

2. EG's previous jubilee tourneys (awards):
   1 - David Joseph, 1966 -- in EG5
   2 - Harold Lommer, 1970 -- in EG 19
   3 - ASSIAC, 1972 -- in EG32
   4 - Joseph Edmund Peckover, 1977 -- in EG48
   5 - John Roycroft, 1979.-- in EG57
   also: - de Feijter, 1984 -- in EG76 (the 'lost' tourney, with only a month 'lead time' -- announcement on p350 of EG 62 -- but a long wait for the award)
   6 - Charles Michael Bent --, 1989 -- in EG100
   7 - David Gurgenidze, 2004 -- in EG154
   8 - John Nunn, 2005 -- award scheduled for EG159 in i2006, as well as internet publicity.

3. The 10th ARVES Solving Championship, an international open event, took place on Saturday 20th November 2004 in a welcoming 'sHertogenbosch hostelry, with invitees courtesy of Rene Olthof. There were 24 sturdy competitors, who had seven severely selected originals to solve in two hours. This was expected to be, and was, a formidable challenge. Winner was Axel Ornstein (Sweden), despite being outpointed by Dutchman Martin van Essen. The explanation is that van Essen actually composed two of the studies, and so was ruled hors concours, but to outpoint masters and grandmasters with only five of the seven to score from, was phenomenal. All the studies are to appear in both EBUR and EG, while full competition details can be found on the German ChessBase site.

4. The backlog of complete tourney awards awaiting (re-)publication in EG is very large, but it has not been forgotten and measures are in hand to catch up in what is hoped will be 'one fell swoop'.

5. The Dutch Royal Library in The Hague, with its famous chess collection, can still be used by arrangement in advance, but the dedicated room with open access has been discontinued. This, combined with the extensive cataloguing backlog of older chess material, and extensive modernisation and expansion plans involving the overall organisation, does unfortunately mean that there is little likelihood that would-be researchers will travel far to visit.

6. Zadachy i Etyudy no.33 opens with a stunningly researched 12-page article by Yakov Rossomakho on R.N.Aleksandrov, composer (many studies -- 17 cited) and the composition editor of Shakhmaty v SSSR from 1932 to 1937 when he was dismissed and disgraced due to Krilenko's power-based machinations. But since Krilenko himself was executed in 1938, Aleksandrov emerged, relatively unscathed. Escaping the Leningrad siege he was in the Caucasus when it was overrun by the invading
discovered icy Far East chess set of the German army. He found himself in Kiev, and then in Berlin. He seems to have edited or co-edited a semi-independent periodical "Trud" aimed at Russian workers in wartime Germany. He committed suicide in 1947. The same issue prints a newly-discovered short story by Varlam Shalamov (1907-1982), the famed chronicler of the icy Far East Kolyma death camps, which he survived. This story has the title: The chess set of doctor Kuzmenko. It has the deadpan goriness of Shalamov's best: real life Edgar Allan Poe.

7. AJR's continuing crusade against unacknowledged improper use of oracle databases met an unanticipated objection on his recent visit to The Netherlands. Having listened to AJR's exposition, a respected Belgian composer exclaimed: 'Ah, I see, so it's only a moral question!'


9. In the November 2004 British Chess Magazine AJR conjectures, based on a single clue linked to Voltaire, that the 18th century Philip Stamma of Aleppo was a Christian in the Syriac cultural tradition.

10. Guy Haworth draws attention to yet another endgame database site, due this time to Eiko Bleicher (Berlin):
http://www.k4it.de/index.php?topic=egt&lang=en

INTERVIEW WITH YOCHANAN AFEEK

Q. Thank you for agreeing to this interview. You were born in 1952 in Tel-Aviv and grew up there. Can you say something about your parents and the name-change from Kopelovitz to Afek? Your first language is Hebrew, I think.
A: OK. My father was born in Romania and my mother, who is still alive in Tel-Aviv, in Poland. Somehow they survived the Holocaust, and in 1947 after WWII arrived in Israel 'illegally', as thousands did. The boat was named Theodor Hertzl. Deported by the British army to camps in Cyprus for two years, they were married there, settling in Tel-Aviv after the Independence war. That is where my younger sister Ruth and I were born. I changed my name to a Hebrew one, from Kopelovich to Afek, in 1976. This was a practice encouraged by the State of Israel's first Prime-Minister David Ben-Gurion (himself originally Grin) to create some Hebrew-Israeli identity out of people coming from dozens of countries. Afek is the name of a place in the Bible but also in modern Israel. There is an Afek Kibbutz. By the way, Afek is pronounced the French way with the stress on the end syllable. It has nothing to do with my former name: it was a spontaneous decision. Yochanan is the early Hebrew version of John, Jean, Johannes etc. My first language is indeed Hebrew but I can manage in some others.
Q: Thank you for clearing these matters up. One more 'cv' question. Your education, university degree (in what?), and military service?
A: I studied psychology and philosophy in the university of Tel-Aviv but never graduated as I decided to make chess my profession. I did my three years' compulsory military service (and then in the reserve) as most of my young compatriots did and still do.
Q: A single 'political' question. Can you name two Palestinian chess friends?
A: I don't know even one Palestinian chessplayer but I hope to have chess friends from
all nations and I fervently wish that all worldwide conflicts would be resolved in
sports contests rather than in deadly encounters.
Q: How did you and chess first encounter each other?
A: I learned chess from a friend's father, who is still proud to mention it when he
occasionally sees my name in the papers.
Q: And you and chess composition? The moment when a 'player' realises (most players
never do) that one can 'compose' with the chess pieces in a way similar to Beethoven
with notes and instruments and harmonies and melodies surely lodges in the
memory....
A: I started playing seriously when I was 14 and from the very beginning I was
fascinated by problems and studies alike, thanks to my chess mentor in the Tel-Aviv
youth club IM Moshe Czerniak and to the encouraging guidance of the Aloni twins
Hillel and Yoel. My first two-move problem and my first endgame study were both
published in 1967 in Shahmat, the Israeli chess organ. I don't exactly remember the
thrill of the first revelation, but I recall numerous moments of happiness in my own
and others' creative lives. Another influence was the late Shlomo Seider, who was a
great composer of problems. He was the first Israeli IM. His ideas on chess
composition as an art as expressed in his articles and lectures exerted a strong
influence on young Israeli composers. Although he himself never composed a study I
shall always remember his assertion that a study is not just a series of strong and
accurate moves -- rather the moves should carry the leitmotiv which connects the first
scene to the last, as in other arts. He asked me why I wasted my time on over the board
competitions instead of composing more.... he was the conscience of Israeli chess
composition but died prematurely some 13 years ago.
Q: You are an active professional chess player (current ELO around 2350), an arbiter,
a journalist. That is a hazardous life, surely? How did it come about?
A: I have always liked to be busy with several aspects of chess at the same time and to
perform to the best of my ability, whatever I was doing. I am indeed an international
master and international arbiter for both otb chess and chess composition. My current
playing strength is nothing special these days but good enough to be engaged by teams
in five different countries. I have been a chess journalist and columnist regularly
writing for newspapers and magazines. In my home country I have also been the full-
time director of a club, a chess tutor for schools, and for many years the coordinator of
the national junior squad. In fact I have organised hundreds of chess events of all
kinds and am especially proud to have founded the now traditional Tel-Aviv
International Chess Festival.
Q: You travel a lot, but have now, so I understand, settled in The Netherlands?
A: I settled in The Netherlands some five years ago mainly due to my great respect for
its rich chess culture. I was the first to have the good fortune to receive a residence
permit on the basis of being a study composer! The official document declares that I
can work only as a chessplayer and an endgame-study composer. No kidding! I should
like to add that in the tough process of obtaining the permit I was helped by Arves
members, as well as by several chess personalities, and I am grateful to them all.

Q: But you are not a 'pure' professional because the studies columns that you edit are, I would guess, with little or no remuneration, and undertaken out of love of the study. Your columns in The Problemist and the player-orientated Informator are known. What are the others?

A: I contribute regularly to EBUR (organ of ARVES) and soon will do so to the Dutch fortnightly Schaaknieuws [editor-in-chief is GM John van der Wiel]. I also write occasional articles on otb chess and its linkage to chess composition for the UK magazine CHESS [which used to be "Chess Monthly"], the German magazine Schach, the Israeli Shahmat (in collaboration with GM Alon Greenfeld) and on the internet site Chess Today. Oh, and I had almost forgotten that I am chess columnist of the second biggest daily newspaper in Israel, Maariv, where I try to "smuggle in" chess composition items. Did I say I also edit the new studies section in Sahovski Informator (Chess Informant)? In the years 1972-1985 I ran a weekly chess composition column in the late daily Al-Hamishmar dedicated to problems and studies.

Q: Stop! This must be some kind of record! Let's talk about composing. As a composer, after dabbling in many genres, you now concentrate on studies, yes? How did Hillel Aloni, and others, influence your 'development', if you will allow the word?

A: I used to compose in several genres but as there are only 24 hours in a day I had to limit my activity and concentrate on the one I thought I was doing relatively better in. Nevertheless I still enjoy playing through a decent selfmate or helpmate now and then. ... As I have already mentioned Hillel Aloni had a decisive role in the development of the entire Israeli endgame study for almost 50 years. I feel I owe him a great deal for his invaluable efforts to teach, evaluate, check, correct and introduce me and other young composers to the international scene.

Q: About style in studies. You admire Liburkin, you say, dead so young at age 43. This means, I suppose, game-like positions with deep, well-concealed ideas economically expressed, and preferably with at least one 'Aha!' moment. And counterplay, which is clearly part of the concealment. Anything else? Am I right that some, if not many, of your ideas, come from your own over-the-board experiences or that of others?

A: Mark Liburkin is indeed my all-time favourite composer. All the elements you mentioned do characterise his masterpieces, plus the amazing activity of all units involved. He deserved his fame as "a chess poet". Liburkin indeed used to be a model for me, but in general I am not the admiring type, though I wish I could have met him. I personally compose game-like studies whenever I can -- yet not only these; I enjoy and appreciate all kinds of studies. It is the idea that should be the centre of attention (especially if I am the judge!) and if its execution demands extra material, so be it!

Q: Can you shed light on 'the Sukhumi incident'?

A: Ah, that was the most exciting moment of my career as an endgame-study composer. In 1988 there was this seminar for trainers. It was in the coastal resort of Sukhumi, Georgia. By chance at the very same venue was a gathering of many study composers from all over the Soviet Union. It turned out to be a special "training camp" tasked with producing entries for the match against the Rest of the World. [See EG134.] It was my first acquaintance in the flesh with names familiar from the
diagrams in Russian magazines and books that I had bought as a boy from a shop in Tel-Aviv specialising in Russian literature. I had a long talk with the Georgian composer Josif Krikheli only the day before he sadly passed away while playing a blitz game.

Q: You are now 'speaker' of the FIDE PCCC sub-committee for studies. You are that rare phenomenon, an expert human link between composition and the over-the-board world. I am sure you will not miss opportunities for 'spreading the word'. You are also au fait with the Internet. You are in the right place at the right time. One feels energy and ideas effervescing. What topics would you like the sub-committee, and indeed the full, problems-orientated FIDE PCCC, to address? The use and misuse of computers, perhaps? Some people say that the PCCC's mission is to 'follow' and not to 'lead' -- but at Bratislava in 1993 the sub-committee promulgated quite detailed guidelines for organisers of formal international studies tourneys. What do you think?

A: When at Halkidiki [September 2004] you [AJR] expressed the wish to pass on the torch I thought it might be my turn to do something for the promotion of our beloved art. I would appreciate it if EG's readers will send me their ideas as to how the endgame study (and chess composition as a whole) could best be promoted in the chess world, and if costs are involved how funds should be raised. As for controversial issues I still need some time to develop clear opinions.

e-mail: afek26@zonnet.nl

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No 14352 Yo. Afek
New in Chess 1997

Qxe5 20.Bb3 Qc5 21.Qd3 Ke7 22.Bg5 f6 23.Qf3 Ng6
33.Bc6+ Ke7 34.Kf5 Nf4 35.g3 Kf7 36.Bf3 Ne6 37.Kg5
Nf4 38.Bf6+ Kg8 39.Bg5+ Kf8 40.Bf6 Ne6 41.Bg5
Kg8 42.Bf6 Ne6 43.Bg5 Kg8 44.Bf6 Ne6 45.Bg5
Kg8 46.Bf6 Ne6 47.Bg5 Kg8 48.Bf6 Ne6 49.Bg5
Kg8 50.Bf6 Ne6 51.Bg5 Kg8 52.Bf6 Ne6 53.Bg5
Kg8 54.Bf6 Ne6 55.Bg5 Kg8 56.Bf6 Ne6 57.Bg5
Kg8 58.Bf6 Ne6 59.Bg5 Kg8 60.Bf6 Ne6 61.Bg5
Kg8 62.Bf6 Ne6 63.Bg5 Kg8 64.Bf6 Ne6 65.Bg5
Kg8 66.Bf6 Ne6 67.Bg5 Kg8 68.Bf6 Ne6 69.Bg5
Kg8 70.Bf6 Ne6 71.Bg5 Kg8 72.Bf6 Ne6 73.Bg5
Kg8 74.Bf6 Ne6 75.Bg5 Kg8 76.Bf6 Ne6 77.Bg5
Kg8 78.Bf6 Ne6 79.Bg5 Kg8 80.Bf6 Ne6 81.Bg5
Kg8 82.Bf6 Ne6 83.Bg5 Kg8 84.Bf6 Ne6 85.Bg5
Kg8 86.Bf6 Ne6 87.Bg5 Kg8 88.Bf6 Ne6 89.Bg5
Kg8

Yochanan Afek at the Pallini Hotel, Halkidiki (Greece) September 2004
Contents:

Photo of Sergiy Didukh 401
Editorial board and Subscription details 402
Originals column, editor Gady Costeff 403-405
Spotlight column, editor Jarl Ulrichsen 405-408

Diagrams and Solutions
- Avni-50JT 408-413
- Studistica 2000 413-419
- Shakhova kompozitsia Ukraini – Album 1996-2000 419-423
- Uralsky problemist 1997 423-425
- Uralsky problemist 1998 425-426
- Uralsky problemist 1999 426-430
- Uralsky problemist 5-AT 430-440
- Uralsky problemist 2003 440-445

Snippets 446-447
Interview with Yochanan Afek 447-451

Contents 452