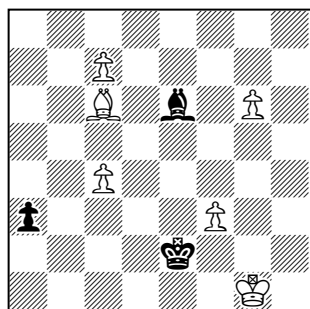
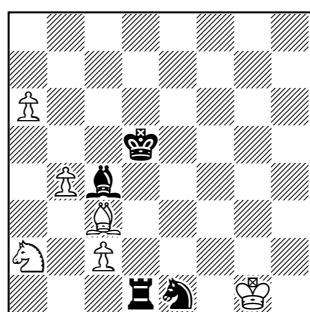


E1250 Geir S.T.Østmoe
(Norway)



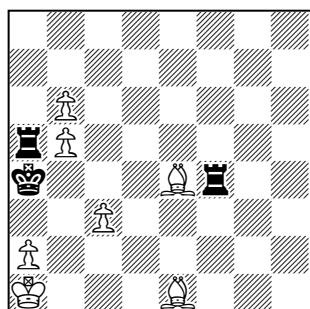
Draw

E1251 Sergiy Didukh
(Ukraine)



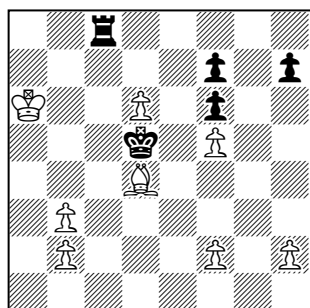
Win

E1252 Vladislav Tarasyuk
(Ukraine)



Win

E1253 Jan Timman
(Netherlands)
After A.Wotawa



Win

STUDIES, edited by Yochanan Afek

Jacob van Lennepstraat 49, 1053 HC Amsterdam, Netherlands

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Judge for 2018-2019: John Nunn

Originals: Logical studies are highly fashionable. The first 2 entries display a subtle difference at the critical late stage between the thematic try and the main line of the solution. In **E1250** An early piece sacrifice allows White a narrow escape at the very last moment. **1.Ba4!!** Logical try: 1.g7? a2 2.g8Q a1Q+ 3.Kh2 Bxg8 4.c8Q Kf2! (there is no check now, thus White gets mated) 5.Qxg8 Qe5+ 6.Kh3 Qh5#; 1.Bd7? fails to 1...a2 2.c8Q (2.Bxe6 a1Q+ 3.Kg2 Qf1+ 4.Kg3 Qxf3+ 5.Kh4 Qf6+) 2...a1Q+ allows Black a mating attack, for example 3.Kh2 Qe5+ 4.Kg2 Qg5+ 5.Kh2 Kf2 **1...a2 2.Bd1+! Kxd1 3.g7 a1Q 4.g8Q Ke2+ 5.Kh2! 5.Kg2?** loses to 5...Qf1+ 6.Kh2 Qh3+ 7.Kg1 Bxg8 winning **5...Bxg8 6.c8Q Kf2 7.Qc5+!** Compared to the logical try, now the white bishop has disappeared, allowing White this vital check and draw.

E1251 heralds the comeback of a leading Ukrainian composer to this stage. The logical effect appears on move 3 where a capture refusal spares a crucial tempo for a subsequent reciprocal zugzwang: **1.a7 Sxc2+ 1...Sf3+ 2.Kf2 Rf1+ 3.Ke3 wins 2.Kh2 Rh1+! 3.Kg2!!** Logical try: not immediately 3.Kxh1? Ke6! (3...Kd6? 4.Be5+ Kxe5 5.Sc3 wins) 4.a8Q Bd5+ 5.Qxd5+ Kxd5 zugzwang 6.Bd2 Kc4 zugzwang 7.Kg1 (7.Kg2 Kb3 8.b5 Kxa2 9.Bc3 Se3+! draws) 7...Kd3 8.b5 Kxd2 9.b6 Sd4 10.Sb4 Sf3+! Vive la petite difference! 11.Kf2 Se5 12.b7 Sd7 draws. **3...Ke6** Or 3...Se3+ 4.Kxh1 Ke6 5.a8Q Bd5+ 6.Qxd5+ Kxd5 7.Bd2 winning **4.a8Q Bd5+ 5.Qxd5+ Kxd5 6.Kxh1** Zugzwang, as now it's Black to move! **6...Kc4 7.Bd2** Zugzwang, with two funny main lines: **7...Kd3** Main line-2 **7...Kb3 8.b5 Kxa2 9.Bc3! Se3 10.b6 wins 8.b5 Kxd2 9.b6 Sd4 10.Sb4!** Thematic unity and purity: if bK captures the wB, then wS doesn't let bS stop the pawn; if bK captures the wS, then wB doesn't let bS stop the pawn. The white king stands at the corner and doesn't let bS gain a tempo.

The last two originals were presented to the solvers in ARVES study solving day. **E1252** by another highly successful Ukrainian composer, demonstrates daring anti-stalemate play with an attractive pair of quiet sacrifices defeating noisy sacrifices of the rook pair. **1.Bc6!** 1.b7? is premature owing to 1...Rxe4 (1...Rxb5? 2.Bc6! wins – see main line) 2.Bg3 Rxb5 draws. **1...Ka3! 2.b7 2.Kb1?** allows a double rook sacrifice: 2...Rxb5+! 3.Bxb5 Rb4+! 4.Kc1 Rb1+! 5.Kd2 Rxb5 6.Bf2 Rb2+! 7.Ke1 Ka4 draws **2...Rxb5! 2...Rf8 3.Kb1 Rb8 4.Bg3 wins 3.Bxb5 Re4! 4.Be2!!** All other attempts fail: 4.Bd3? Rxe1+ 5.Bb1 Re8 6.Be4 Rxe4 (6...Rb8? 7.Bc6 wins) 7.b8Q Re1+ 8.Qb1 Rd1! zugzwang 9.Qxd1 is stalemate; 4.Kb1? Rb4+! 5.cxb4 is again stalemate; 4.Bd2? Re1+! 5.Bxe1 is yet again stalemate **4...Rxe2 5.Bd2!!** Try: 5.b8Q? Rxe1+ 6.Qb1 Rd1! zugzwang 7.Qxd1 – stalemate **5...Rxd2 6.b8Q Rd1+ 7.Qb1** Zugzwang **7...Rxb1+ 8.Kxb1** and wins.

E1253 improves on a study by the late Austrian composer (*Österreichische Schachzeitung* 1950) The white pawns run a patient and harmonious campaign that ends up in an impressive domination of the enemy Rook. **1.Kb7! Rd8 2.Bc5! Kxc5 3.Kc7! Rxd6** Here is where Wotawa and Timman meet **4.b4+ Kd5 5.b5 Ke5 6.f4+!** 6.b6? Rd2 and Black wins **6...Kd5 7.b4!! h6 8.h3 h5 9.h4** It's the final zugzwang and white wins.

Anne Haast – The new ARVES solving champion. The 10th edition of the ARVES study solving competition was held in the last weekend of the Tata Steel chess festival in Wijk aan Zee. In the absence of GM Twan Burg, the winner of the last 3 years, there was no clear favourite. The surprising winner was former Dutch over-the-board chess women's champion Anne Haast, who scored 33 out of the maximum 45 points in an impressive debut. She left behind 14 experienced solvers: 2.Wouter van Rijn 29 (173 minutes); 3.-4. Willem van Briemen and Martin van Essen 29 (each 180 minutes); 5.IM Migchiël de Jong 27; 6.Jan Balje

26; 7.IM (Solving) Hans Uitenbroek 24 8.IM Piet Peelen 23 9.Harold van der Heijden 21 etc. The tourney sponsor was Jurgen Stigter, ARVES former chairman and a world famous collector of chess literature. Chief arbiter was Luc Palmans (Belgium). Composers of the challenges presented for solving were Martin Minski (Germany), Steffen Nielsen (Denmark), Ladislav Tarasyuk (Ukraine), Jan Timman and Yochanan Afek (Netherlands). 2 of the selected 9 challenges may be seen among this column's originals. Your sub-editor was also the tournament organizer. ARVES (founded in Amsterdam in 1988) is an international association promoting the art of the endgame study among chess players. It publishes the quarterly *EG* and runs an expansive and rich website:

<http://www.arves.org/arves/index.php/en/>

The highly prolific Martin Minski contributed 3 originals to the ARVES competition. Here are his two miniatures. In **A** Black manages to prevent all positional draw attempts, but not the eventual beautiful stalemate: **1.Rb8!** If 1.Rf8+? Ke5/Kg6/Kg5 2.c8Q Rh7+ 3.Kd8 Qb6+ winning **1...Rh7+!** 1...Qe4 2.Rb5+ Kg6 3.Rxh5 draws **2.Kd6 Rh6+ 3.Kd7 Qe4! 4.Rb5+!** [Not 4.c8Q? Qe6+ 5.Kc7 Rh7+ 6.Kd8 Rh8+ 7.Kc7 Rxc8+ 8.Rxc8 Qe7+ 9.Kb6 Qb4+ 10.Kc6 Kf6 11.Rc7 Ke6 12.Rc8 Qd6+ 13.Kb7 Qb4+ 14.Kc6 Qc4+ 15.Kb7 Qb5+ 16.Kc7 Ke7! winning; if 4.Rf8+? Kg5! wins **4...Kf4!** Or 4...Kg4 5.c8Q (creating a battery) 5...Qe6+ 6.Kc7 Rh7+ 7.Kb8 draws **5.Rb4! Rd6+! 6.Kc8! Qxb4 7.Sd3+! Rxd3** A model stalemate.

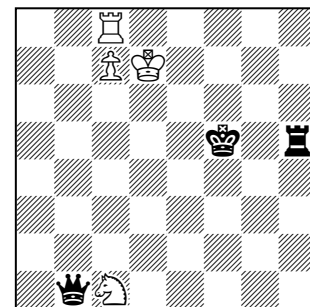
B is a pawn ending following a sacrificial deflection: **1.Bb3+!** 1.Kf3? Kxd5 2.Kg4 Ke6 3.Kg5 Kf7 4.Kh6 Kg8 5.Bb3+ Kh8 is a draw owing to the 'wrong' Bishop **1...Kxb3 2.Kd3!** After 2.d6? cxd6 3.Kd3 Kb2! 4.Kd4 Kc2 5.Kd5 Kd3 6.Kxd6 Ke4 7.Ke6 Kf4 8.Kf6 Kg4 Black is just in time **2...Kb4 3.d6!** 3.Kd4? fails to 3...Kb5 4.d6 Kc6! 5.dxc7 Kxc7 6.Ke5 Kd7 /Kd8 7.Kf6 Ke8 8.Kxg6 Kf8 9.Kh7 Kf7 drawing **3...cxd6 4.Kd4 Kb3 5.Kd5 Kc3 6.Kxd6 Kd4 7.Ke6 Ke4 8.Kf6 Kf4 9.Kxg6 Kg4 10.h5** and wins.

Raaphi Persitz (1934–2009) was an Israeli chess master and writer who, in his younger years represented England in 3 student Olympiads in the fifties. He was also a great lover of endgame studies and that is why his close friend Amatzia Avni organised and judged a composing tourney to commemorate the 10th anniversary of his demise. The two leading Russian GMs Pervakov and Bazlov dominated the field with memorable creations, while Jan Timman gained a Special Prize. **C** demonstrates, "Beautiful combinative play on the theme of overloaded pieces. Active counterplay and stalemate avoidance culminate in reciprocal zugzwang. All this in an economical setting. Flowing, impressive play" (Avni).

1.Sf7+! Try 1.Rxe3? Qf4+ 2.Kh5 Qxd6! (Not 2...Qxe3? 3.g7+! Kh7 4.Sg5+ Kxg7 5.Sf5+ winning) 3.c8Q Qxg6+! 4.Kxg6 stalemate **1...Bxf7 2.c8Q+ Bg8 3.Re4!!** Accurate. Neither 3.Re5? Qf4+ 4.Rg5 Re6! 5.Qc3+ Rf6! draw, nor 3.Rf6? Re6! 4.Qc3 Qh3+ 5.Kg5 Qg3+ 6.Kf5 Qh3+ 7.Kf4 Qh6+ 8.Sg5 (8.Kg4 Qg7 draw) 8...Rxf6+ 9.Qxf6+ Qg7 and Black holds. And naturally not 3.Rxe3? Qxg6+ 4.Kxg6 stalemate.

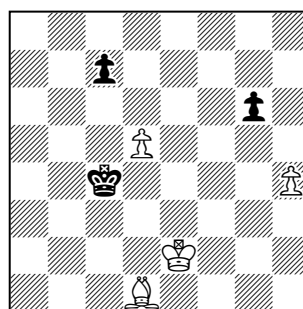
3...Rxe4 4.Qf5!! 4.Qc3+? only draws after 4...Rd4 5.Qxd4+ Qxd4 6.Sxd4 Ba2! only! 7.Sf5 Kg8! 8.g7 Kf7 draws **4...Qxg6+!!** 4...Qxf5 5.g7#; 4...Qf4+ 5.Qxf4 Rxf4 6.g7# **5.Qxg6!** As 5.Kxg6? is met by 5...Bh7+ draws **5...Re6 6.Se5!** Zugzwang. Not 6.Sh4? Bf7! draw **6...Rxg6+** There is no salvation: 6...Bf7 7.Sxf7#; 6...Rf6 7.Qxf6# **7.Sxg6#**

A Martin Minski
Bulletin Problemistic
2019



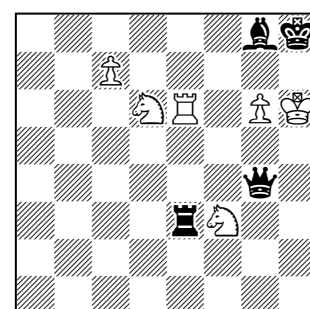
Draw

B Martin Minski
Probleemblad 2019



Win

C Oleg Pervakov
1 Pr, Raaphi Persitz MT
2019



Win

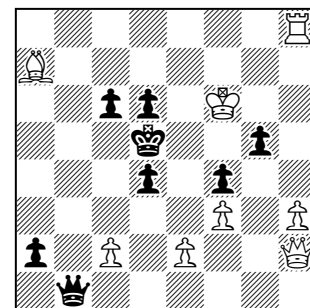
D presents a double pawn-sacrifice to force en-passant with the fresh motivation of hiding the mating square from both black queens:

1.Rb8! 1.Bxd4? fails to 1...a1Q 2.Bxa1 Qxa1+ 3.Kxg5 Qg7+ with perpetual check.

1...Qd1! 2.Rb4! 2.Qg2? leads nowhere following 2...a1Q 3.Rb4 d3+ 4.Bd4 Qxd4+ 5.Rxd4+ Kxd4 6.Qf2+ Kc3 drawing **2...a1Q 2...c5** allows 3.Qg2! cxb4 4.Qxg5+ Kc6 5.Qg8! a1Q 6.Qc8+ mating soon **3.Qg1!! Qxg1 4.c4+! dxc3 5.e4+! fxe3 6.Rd4#!**

The player GM has given an original twist to a theme much beloved of problem composers.

D Jan Timman
Sp Pr Raaphi Persitz MT
2019



Win