# ARVES 25 Anniversary Tourney 2014

Provisional Award
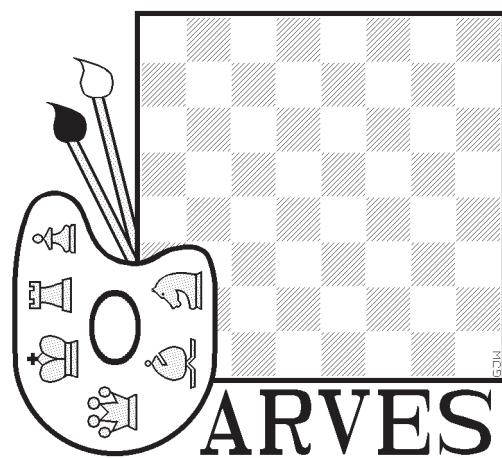
Introduction

The tourney was announced at the beginning of 2014. I received 55 entries (not more than 3 per composer) before June 30th, 2014, and mailed them in anonymous form to the judge Yochanan Afek. I am most grateful to Yochanan for his careful and prompt award. I also wish to thank Harold van der Heijden for his work in the background.

The final award will be published in *EG* 200 (April 2015). This provisional award will be mailed to all participants, and will be published on the ARVES-website. As usual, the award remains open for 3 months to allow for claims of anticipation or unsoundness, which should be addressed to Yochanan Afek (afekchess@gmail.com). All the participants will also receive the final version of the award as a pdf.

Many thanks to all the participants for their much appreciated contributions. And finally a warm "thank you" to ARVES for yet again organizing a tourney and providing the prize-fund.

Luc Palmans

List of participants

Siegfried Hornecker & Mario Garcia (1), Martin Minski (2), Mario Garcia & Peter Krug (3), Daniel Keith & Martin Minski (4), Martin Minski (5), Michal Hlinka & L'ubosh Kekely (6), Andrzej Jasik (7), Yechiel Robinson (8-10), Vladimir Samilo (11), Geir Sune Tallaksen Østmoe (12), Daniel Keith & Jaroslav Polášek (13), Stanislav Nosek (14), Alain Pallier (15), Michal Hlinka & Lubosh Kekely (16), Beka Akhaladze (17), Evgeny Fomichev (18), Harold van der Heijden (19), Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (20), Ignace Vandecasteele (21), Leonard & Vladimir Katsnelson (22-23), Iuri Akobia & Pavel Arestov (24), Pavel Arestov (25-26), Valery Kalashnikov (27-28), Alain Pallier (29), Peter Gyarmati (30), Iuri Akobia (31), Anatoly Skripnik (32), Marcel Doré (33), Jan Timman (34-36), Sergey Borodavkin (37), Mirko Miljanić (38), Darko Hlebec (39), Carlos Santos (40), Richard Becker (41), Alexey Gasparyan (42), Paul Byway (43-45), Per Olin (46), Yuri Bazlov (47-49), Vladimir Samilo & Vladislav Tarasyuk (50-51), Andrzej Jasik (52), Sergey Sacharov (53), Luis Miguel González (54-55)

Provisional award by Yochanan Afek

To celebrate a quarter of a century of activity to promote the art of the endgame study ARVES announced a formal tourney which I was honoured to be appointed as its judge.

I received 55 entries on anonymous diagrams from the tournament director Luc Palmans to whom I am grateful for smoothly running the event and efficiently editing the material for the judging process. Many thanks are due to Harold Van der Heijden for his dedicated and professional hard work to check the award candidates for soundness and originality.

The general standard of the entries was more than satisfactory and I was delighted to receive and award an unusual number of game-like daring and combative ideas and almost no computer products of the kind that only the silicon monster can comprehend and appreciate. Is it indeed a refreshing return to the genuine roots of our art? Let's hope so!

As usual I have tried to put originality and the general impression at the top of my criteria. Not less than four entries displayed the difficult multi-pinning stalemate, probably inspired by the recent Michal Hlinka 60 JT. I was hesitating a bit but eventually decided that they all have a place in the award. It is also not common to have almost half of the award prize-winners yet I believe all six deserve it.

Here is then my selection:

nr 012 — 1st prize

Geir Sune Tallaksen Østmoe (Norway)
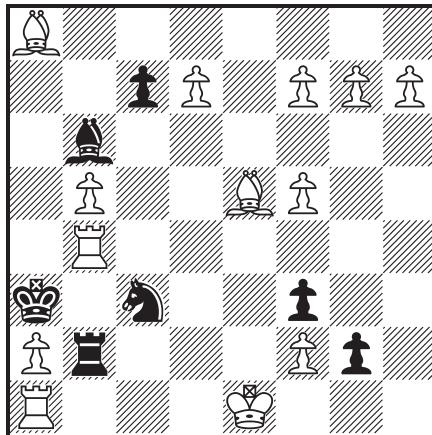
White to play and win

A surprising *première* of a super task combining both Allumwandlung (all four promotions) and the Valadão task (All 3 unusual chess moves — castling, en passant and pawn promotion) in one line of play illustrated by a fluent sacrificial play. A remarkable achievement!

1.♖b3+	**♔a4**
2.♖a3+	**♔xa3**

2...♔xb5 3.♗c6+! ♔xc6 4.♖xc3++-

3.f8♕+	**c5!**
4.bxc6+	**♔a4**
5.♕b4+!	**♔xb4**

5...♖xb4 6.g8♕+-

6.♗xc3+	**♔xc3**
7.0–0–0	**g1♕!**

7...♖c2+ 8.♔b1 ♖b2+ 9.♔a1 ♔c2 10.♖d2+!+-

8.♖xg1	**♖c2+**

8...♗xf2 9.♖e1! ♗xe1 10.d8♕+-; 8...♗c7 9.♖g4 ♖xf2 10.♖c4+!+-

9.♔b1	**♖b2+**
10.♔a1	**♔c2**
11.d8♖!	

11.d8♕? ♖b1+! 12.♖xb1 ♗d4+ 13.♕xd4 stalemate

11...	**♗xd8**
12.g8♘!	**♗b6**
13.h8♗!+-	

13.h8♕? ♗d4! 14.♕xd4 ♖b1+ 15.♖xb1 stalemate

nr 020 — 2nd prize

Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark)
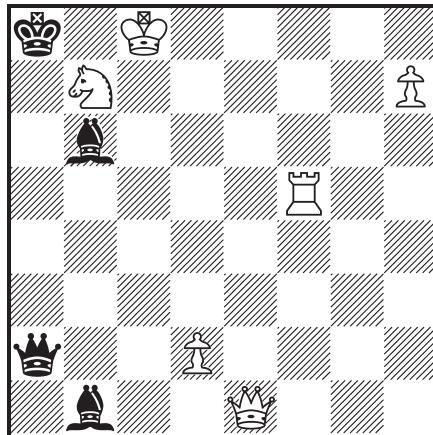
White to play and win

A brilliant tactical battle on an open board with a surprising mutual sacrificial play to open up and shut off lines, highlighted by a royal switch-back. All four corners of the chessboard are involved in this genuine gem!

1.d3!	

1.♖f8? 1...♕d5–+

1...	**♗xd3**
2.♖f8	**♗f5+!**

2...♕c2+ 3.♔d7+ ♔xb7 4.♖b8+ ♔xb8 5.h8♕+

3.♖xf5	**♕c2+**

3...♕c4+ 4.♘c5!

4.♖c5!	**♗xc5**
5.♕a5+	**♗a7+**
6.♘c5	

6.♕c7? 6...♕f5+ 7.♕d7 ♕c2+ 8.♔d8 ♗b6+ 9.♔e8 eg 9...♕g6+ =

6...	**♕xh7**

6...♕f5+ 7.♘d7! 7...♕xa5 8.h8♕ ♕a1 9.♘b6+!+-

7.♕d8!	**♗xc5**

7...♗b8 8.♕d5+ ♔a7 9.♕a2+ ♔b6 10.♘d7++-;
7...♕f7 8.♕h8 (9. Qh1) 8...♗xc5 (8...♗b6 9.♕h1+ (9.♕a1+? 9...♗a5!) 9...♔a7 10.♕a1+) 9.♕a1+ ♗a7 10.♕h1+

|	
8.♕a5+!	**♕a7**
9.♕b5	**♕b6**
10.♕a4++-	

nr 048 — 3rd prize

Yuri Bazlov (Russia)
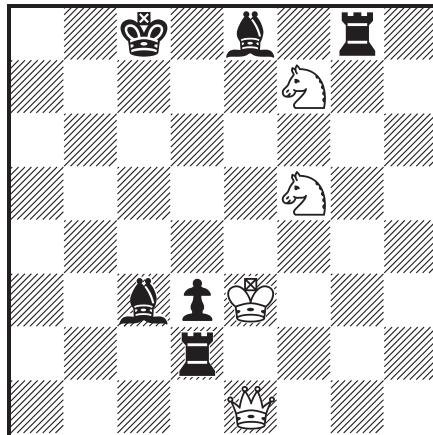
White to play and win

An exceptionally inventive black defensive play leads to an unusual symmetrical final picture. Highly original and economical.

1.♘7d6+	**♔b8**	**6...**	**♖c8+**

1...♔c7 2.♕h4 ♗c6 3.♕h7+

6...♖xa5 7.♕b4 ♖c8+ 8.♔b2+-

2.♕h4!	**♗a5!**	**7.♔b3**	

2...♗d7 3.♕c4+-

7.♔b4? ♖a4+=

3.♘c4	**♖e2+!**	**7...**	**♖xa5**
		8.♕b4	**♖c5!!**
		9.♘d4!	**♔b7**
		10.♔b2!	**♔b6**
		11.♘b3!	

3...♖a2 4.♘xa5 ♖xa5 5.♕d8+

4.♔xd3	**♖a2**
5.♘xa5	**♗b5+**
6.♔c3!	

6.♘c4? ♗xc4+ 7.♕xc4 ♖a3+ 8.♔e2 ♖g2+
9.♔f1 ♖aa2=

nr 039 — 4th-5th prize

Darko Hlebec (Serbia)
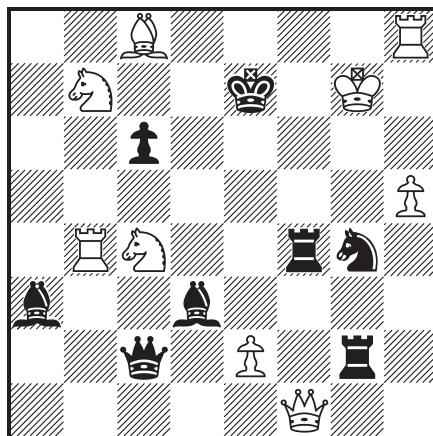
White to play and draw

A bloody scene of "free-style wrestling" ends up all of a sudden in an astounding picture of triple self-pinning. People of refined taste might find it a bit too militant but personally I think it's pretty good entertainment and at the same time a piece of art.

1.♖e8+!	♔xe8
2.♘bd6+	♔d8
3.♕xf4	♕c3+
4.♔f7	♗xc4+

4...♖f2? 5.♘b7+! ♔xc8 6.♘bd6+ ♔d7 7.♖b7+ ♔d8 8.♖b8+ ♔d7 9.♘b6+ ♔c7 10.♘e8#

5.♖xc4	♘e5+
6.♔e6	♕h3+!
7.♔xe5	♗b2+

8.♖d4	♕xh5+
9.♗f5	♖xe2+
10.♘e4+	♔e7
11.♕g5+!	

11.♕g3? ♕h2!–+

    11...♕xg5

Stalemate

nr 041 — 4th-5th prize

Richard Becker (USA)
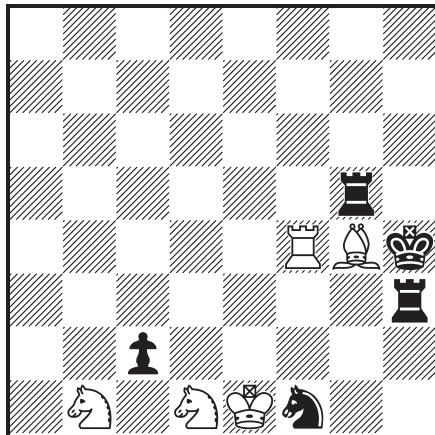
White to play and draw

A beautiful ideal stalemate with double pinning following an elegant fore-play. The construction may be considered aristocratic since the only pawn in the initial position is promoted too towards the final picture.

1.♗e2+!

1.♗xh3+? ♚xh3 2.♘bc3 c1♕ 3.♖xf1 ♖e5+ 4.♘e2 ♕a3 −+; 1.♗f5+? ♚g3 2.♗xc2 ♚xf4 3.♚xf1 ♖h2 (♖h1+) −+

1...	**♚g3**
2.♖f3+	**♚g2**
3.♖f2+	**♚g1**
4.♖xf1+	**♚h2**
5.♖f2+!	**♚g1**

6.♖f1+	**♚h2**
7.♖f2+	**♖g2**
8.♖xg2+	**♚xg2**
9.♘d2	**♖h1+**

9...c1♕ 10.♗f1+ ♚g3 11.♗xh3 ♚xh3 12.♚e2 =

10.♘f1	**c1♕**
11.♗f3+!	**♚xf3**

Stalemate. 11...♚g1 12.♗xh1 ♚xh1 13.♘fe3=

nr 055 — special prize

Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain)
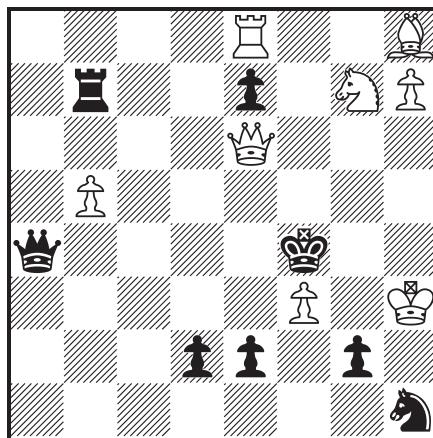
Black to play, White to win

A widened scope epic created around an idea from arguably Platov brothers' most infamous study (1st prize *Rigaer Tageblatt*, 1909) which was said to be Lenin's favourite. A daring and impressive attempt which deserves a special recognition.

1...	♘f2+
2.♔xg2	e1♘+!
3.♔xf2	d1♘+!

3...♕d4+ 4.♔f1 ♕d3+ 5.♕e2 d1♕ 6.♘e6+ ♔f5 7.♖f8+ ♔g6 8.♘f4+ ♔xh7 9.♘xd3 ♕xd3 10.♔xe1+-

4.♔xe1!	

4.♔g1? ♕d4+ 5.♔h1 ♘f2+ 6.♔h2 ♘xf3+ 7.♔g2 ♘h4+ 8.♔f1 ♕d1+ 9.♔xf2 ♕f3+ 10.♔e1 ♕c3+ 11.♔f1 ♕d3+ positional draw

4...	♕b4+!
5.♔f1!	

5.♔xd1? ♕b1+! 6.♔d2 ♕b2+ 7.♔d3 ♕b1+ 8.♔c3 ♕a1+ 9.♔b4 ♕b1+ 10.♕b3 ♕e1+ 11.♔c5 ♕f2+ 12.♔b4 ♕e1+ positional draw

5...	♘e3+
6.♕xe3+!	♔xe3
7.♘f5+	♔f4!

7...♔xf3 8.♘d4+ ♔g4 9.♖g8+ ♔h5 10.♗e5! ♕b1+ 11.♔f2 ♕xh7 12.♖h8 ♕xh8 13.♗xh8 ♔g6 14.♗e5+- Lomonosov

8.♖f8!	♕xb5+
9.♔f2!	♖b8
10.♖xb8	♕xb8
11.♗c3!	e5!
12.h8♕!	♕xh8
13.♘h6!	♕d8
14.♗xe5+!	♔xe5
15.♘f7+	

Mirko Miljanić (Serbia)

White to play and win

Another highly tactical battle of the heavy guns against naked kings highlighted by the final blow 8.Qh8+!!

1.♔f5!

1.♖xe1? ♖xe1+ 2.♕xe1 ♔f7!=

1... c6!

1...c5? 2.♖e8+! ♔f7 3.♖e7+ ♖xe7 4.♕xa2+ ♔e8 5.♕a8+ ♔f7 6.♕xh1+-; 1...♔f8 2.♕d4!+- ♖f1+ 3.♔e6+-

2.♖e7!

2.♖e8+? ♔f7 3.♖e7+ ♖xe7 4.♕xa2+ ♔e8 5.♕a8+ ♔f7! 6.fxe7 ♖f1+ 7.♔g4 ♔xe7=; 2.♕d4? ♖f1+ 3.♔e6 ♖f7!= 4.♖g3+ ♗xg3 5.♕g4+ ♔f8 6.♕g8+=

2... ♖f1+
3.♔e6 ♖xf6+!
4.♔xf6!

4.♕xf6? ♖xe7+! 5.♔xe7 ♗h4!=

4... ♗c3+!

4...♗h4+? 5.♔g6 ♖xe7 6.♕xa2+ ♔f8 7.♕a8+ ♖e8 8.♕xc6!+-

5.♔g6!

5.♕xc3? a1♕!=

5... ♔f8!

5...♖xe7? 6.♕xa2+!+- see 4....Bh4?

6.♕xc3!

6.♖f7+? ♖xf7 7.♕xc3 ♖f2!= (7...♖d7? 8.♕a3+ c5 9.♕xa2+-)

6... a1♕
7.♖f7+! ♔g8
8.♕h8+!! ♕xh8
9.♖xa7+-

nr 006 — 2nd honourable mention

Michal Hlinka & L'ubosh Kekely (Slovakia)
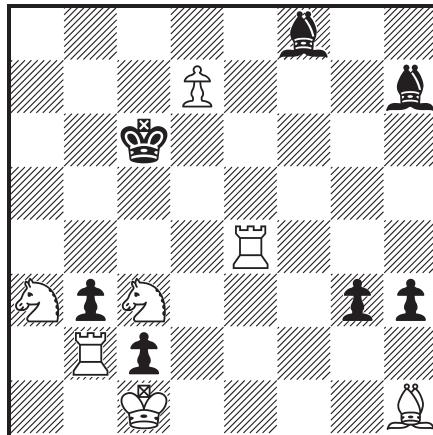
Black to play, White to draw

Another attractive ideal two-fold pin stalemate.

1...	♗h6+!

1...g2? 2.d8♘+ ♔d7 3.♖d4+ ♔c8 4.♗xg2 hxg2 5.♘e2 ♗xa3 6.♘e6 ♗g6 7.♘6f4+-; 1...♔xd7 2.♖xb3 g2 3.♗xg2 hxg2 4.♖d4+ ♔e8 5.♘e2+-

2.♖e3+!

2.♖f4+? g2 3.♗xg2+ hxg2 4.♖xc2 g1♕+ 5.♔b2 bxc2 6.d8♕ c1♕+ 7.♔b3 ♕b6+ 8.♕xb6+ ♔xb6 9.♘d5+ ♔c5 10.♖c4+ ♔xd5 11.♖xc1 ♗xc1–+ EGTB

2...	g2

2...♔xd7 3.♖xc2 ♗xc2 4.♔d2 g2 5.♗xg2 hxg2 6.♘e2 ♔d6 7.♘g1 ♔d5 8.♔e2 ♗xe3 9.♔xe3 ♔c4 10.♔d2=

3.♗xg2+!	hxg2
4.♘xc2!	g1♕+

4...♗xe3+ 5.♘xe3 g1♕+ 6.♔d2 ♔xd7 7.♖xb3=; 4...♗xc2 5.♖xc2! g1♕+ 6.♘d1+ bxc2 7.d8♕ cxd1♕+ 8.♕xd1= EGTB; 4...bxc2 5.♖xc2 g1♕+ 6.♔b2 ♔xd7 7.♖d2+! ♔c8 8.♖e8+ ♔c7 9.♖e7+=

5.♘d1	bxc2
6.♖xc2+	♔xd7
7.♖d2+!	♔c6
8.♖c3+!	♔b5
9.♖b3+	♔a4

9...♔c4 10.♖c3+ ♔b4 11.♖b3+ ♔xb3 stalemate

10.♖a3+!	♔xa3

Stalemate

nr 030 — special honourable mention

Peter Gyarmati (Hungary)
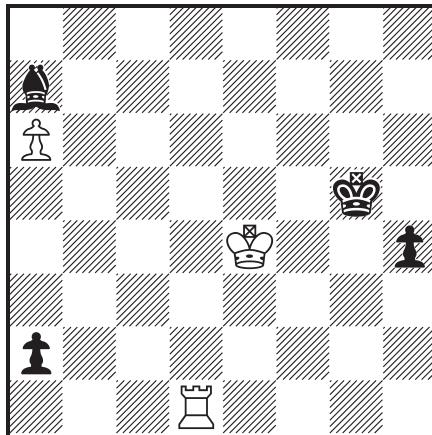
White to play and win

An interesting contribution to category of R vs B encounters. Due to the overloaded Bishop controlling 2 diagonals simultaneously, Black runs out of useful moves which allows White to transfer his Rook to the "a" file. Nevertheless the composer is wrong to present 2.Kg2 as merely a loss of time, whilst it is in fact an unpleasant dual of move order. I would therefore strongly recommend either to change those first moves or alternatively to skip the first two moves.

1.♔f3	♗d4		5.♔h2	♗e5+
2.♖e1!			6.♔h1!	

2.♔g2 ♔f6 3.♖e1 loss of time? No, it's rather a move order dual!

6.♔g1?? a1♕ 7.♖xa1 ♗xa1 8.a7 ♗d4+=

2...	♔f5
3.♔g2	♔g5

6...	♗d4
7.♔g2!	h3+

3...♔f4 4.♔h3 ♔f5 5.♖d1 (5.♔xh4?? ♗f2+–+) 5...♗e5! 6.♔g4! (6.♔xh4? ♗e4 7.♖a1 ♗xa1 8.a7 ♗f6+–+) 6...♗e4 7.♖a1! ♗xa1 8.a7 ♗d4 9.a8♕++-

7...♔g5 8.♔h3 ♔h5 9.♖f5++-

8.♔h1	♔g5

8...♔g3 9.♖d1 ♔f2 10.♖d2++-

4.♖f1!	♔g4

4...♔g6 5.♔h3 ♔g5 6.♖c1 ♔f6 7.♖e1 ♔f5 8.♖d1 ♔g5 9.♖f1 ♔h5 10.♖f5+ ♔g6 11.♖a5+-

9.♔h2	♔g4
10.♖d1!	♔f3
11.♖d3+	♔e2
12.♖a3+-	

Martin Minski (Germany)

White to play and win

Neat sacrifices of the only pieces on board secure the vital tempo to obtain a won pawn ending. A players-friendly gem.

1.♔e2!

Thematic try: 1.♔e3? hxg4! 2.h4 ♔g7 3.♔e2 ♔xh8 4.♔d1 ♔g7/♔h7 5.♔c2 ♔f6/♔g6 6.♔xc3 ♔e5/♔f5 7.♔xc4 ♔e4 8.♔c5 ♔e5= zz (see mainline B); 1.♗f5? ♔xf5 2.♔e2 c2/♔e4=

Mainline A:

1...	c2!?
2.♔d2	h4!
3.♘g6!!	♔xg6
4.♗h5+!	♔xh5
5.g4+	♔g5
6.♔xc2	♔f4
7.♔c3	♔e4
8.♔xc4+-	

Mainline B:

1...	hxg4
2.h4	♔g7
3.♔d1	♔xh8
4.♔c2	♔g7
5.♔xc3	♔f6
6.♔xc4	♔e5
7.♔c5+- zz;	

Mainline C:

1...	h4!?
2.♗f5!	

Thematic try: 2.♘g6? ♔xg6 3.♗h5+ ♔xh5 4.g4+ ♔g5/♔g6 5.♔d1 ♔f4/Kf6 6.♔c2 ♔e4/♔e5 7.♔xc3 ♔d5= (see mainline A)

2...	♔xf5

2...hxg3 3.♗e4/♗b1/♗c2 ♔g7 4.♘g6 g2 5.♔f2+-)

3.g4++-

## Michal Hlinka & L'ubosh Kekely (Slovakia)
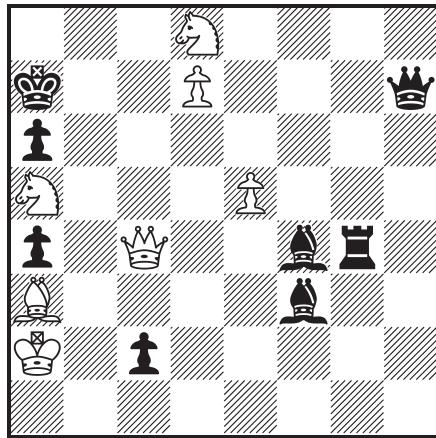
Black to play, White to draw

An ideal twofold self-pin stalemate following a natural introductory play though not particularly exciting.

1...	**c1♞+!**
2.♗xc1	**♖g2+**

2...♕xd7 3.♞dc6+ ♗xc6 4.♞xc6+ ♔b7 5.♞a5+ ♔b6 6.♗xf4=

3.♗b2

3.♔a3? ♕e7+ 4.♔xa4 ♗d1+ 5.♞b3 ♖a2+ 6.♗a3 ♖xa3#

3...	**♖xb2+!**
4.♔xb2	**♗xe5+**
5.♔a3!	**♗d6+**
6.♔xa4	**♗d1+**

6...♕xd7+ 7.♞dc6+ ♗xc6+ 8.♕xc6! ♕xc6+ 9.♞xc6+= EGTB

7.♞b3 **♕xd7+**

7...♗xb3+ 8.♔xb3!=

8.♞c6+	**♔b7/♔b6**
9.♕xa6+!	**♔c7**

9...♔xa6

10.♕b6+ **♔xb6**

10...♔c8 11.♕a6+=

nr 014 — 3rd commendation

Stanislav Nosek (Czech Republic)
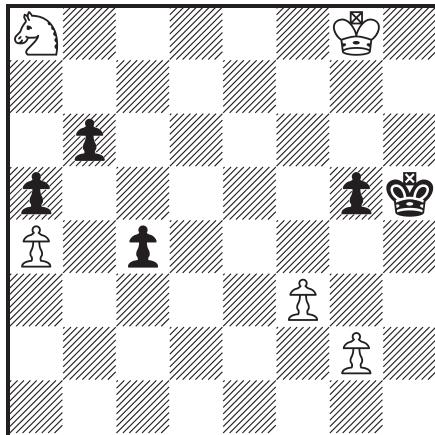
White to play and win

The point of this solvers' friendly little study is the thematic try on the third move.

1.♔g7

1.g3? ♔h6 2.♘xb6 c3–+; 1.♘xb6? c3 2.♔g7 c2=

1... c3

1...♔h4 2.♘xb6 c3 3.♘c4 c2 4.♘e3 c1♕ 5.♘f5+ ♔h5 6.g4#; 1...g4? 2.♘xb6 c3 3.♘d5 c2 4.♘f4+ ♔h4 5.♘e2+-

2.g3 c2
3.♘c7!

3.♘xb6!? c1♕ 4.♘d5 g4 5.f4 ♕c7+! 6.♘xc7=

3... c1♕
4.♘d5

4.♘e8? g4 5.f4 ♕xf4 6.♘f6+ ♔g5 7.gxf4+ ♔xf4 8.♔f7=

4... g4

4...♕b2+ 5.♘f6+ ♕xf6+ 6.♔xf6 b5 7.axb5 a4 8.b6 a3 9.b7 a2 10.b8♕ a1♕+ 11.♔f7 ♕a2+ (11...g4 12.♕b5+ ♔h6 13.♕c6+) 12.♔g7 ♕a1+ 13.♔h7 ♕e1 14.g4+ ♔h4 15.♕h2#

5.f4 ♕b2+
6.♘f6+ ♕xf6+
7.♔xf6 b5
8.axb5+-

nr 005 — special commendation

Martin Minski (Germany)
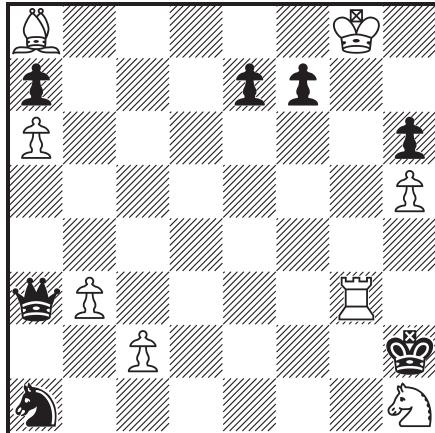
White to play and win

The systematic movement is known from Jackubczak & Rusinek, *Szachy*, 1974 but the Knight underpromotion is a refreshing addition that turns it to an almost a complete Excelsior.

1.♖g2+!	♔xh1	4...	♕xa6
2.b4!		5.b7!	♔xg2
		6.b8♘+!	

(3.♖g3+) 2.c3? ♘c2!=

6.b8♕+? ♔h3!=

2...	♕a4	6...	♔g3
3.b5		7.♘xa6	♘xc2
		8.♔xf7	♔f4
		9.♔g6+-	

(4.♖g4+)

3...	♕a5
4.b6	

(5.♖g5+)

To conclude I would like to thank all participants for their efforts and contributions. As usual ranking is not an easy task and is mostly a matter of personal taste and priorities. The award will remain open to appeals and comments for 3 months before being declared final.

Yochanan Afek
Amsterdam, November 2014