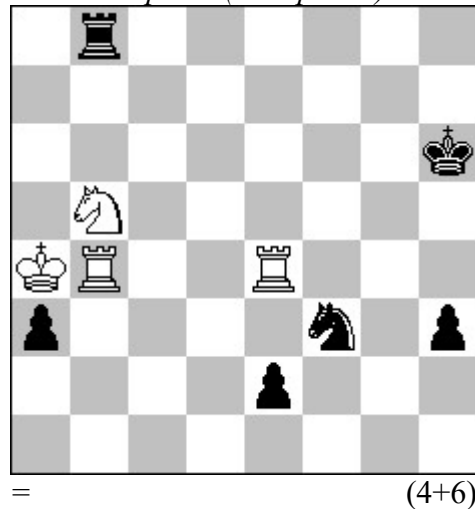


N°1
 WCCI 2016–2018
Martin Minski (Germany)
10th WCCT 2016-2017
1st place (10.2 points)



"Interesting variations." (FIN)

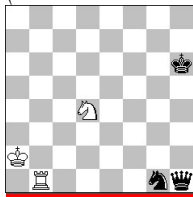
"Splendid. Multiple thematic tries, with the play in each differentiated from the others by clever tactics; multiple echoes too. This is a fine study in any con text, but in this particular theme tournament it is outstanding, displaying the theme to maximum advantage. Rook studies tend to have difficult, if not obscure, supporting variations that are not to everyone's taste. However, one cannot but be impressed by the variety of pl ay following the three moves of the black Kh6 in reply to 1 Re6+." (GBR)

"The basic known matrix has been elaborated with multiple 'thematic' tries. The important and interesting one shows knight annihilation by white to open a line for his rook." (ISR)

"In total 6 positions A/B with minor differences. White has two main defences against the promotion of the h-pawn: either by playing Rb8 threatening Rh8+, which only works if the BK is on the h-file (A5/B5), but not too close to the 8th line (A1/B1) and if there is no WS on b5 (A3/B3). The other defence is playing Rxc1+ followed by a knight fork. This only works if BK is at g5 (A2/B2 and A4/B4). As a bonus there are positions A6/B6 where White only draws the rook ending if the BK now is as far off as possible. All this is accomplished by subtle checks (1.Re6+, 1... Kh7 2.Re7+), and a surprising sacrifice (3.Sa7!) in the 1...Kh5 main line, which turns out to be the thematic try in the 1...Kg5 main line. It takes some time to comprehend the study, but all lines are crystal clear. A thematic masterpiece." (NED).

1.Re6+!

[Thematic try: 1.Rxe2? Ra8+ (or 1...a2 2.Rxa2 Ra8+) 2.Na7
 (2.Kb3 a2 3.Rxa2 Rxa2 4.Kxa2 h2 5.Rb1 Ng1 6.Nd4 h1Q-+]

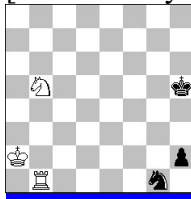


position B2)

2...Rxa7+ 3.Kb3 a2 4.Rxa2 Rxa2 5.Kxa2 h2 6.Rb1 Ng1 position B1
 7.Rb8 Kg7 (7...Kh7) 8.Rb7+ Kg6 9.Rb6+ Kg5 10.Rb5+ Kg4 11.Rb4+ Kg3 12.Rb3+ Kf2
 13.Rb2+ Ne2 14.Rb1 Nc3+--+]

main 1...Kh5 2.Rxe2 Ra8+ 3.Na7!!

[Thematic try: 3.Kb3? a2 4.Rxa2 Rxa2 5.Kxa2 h2 6.Rb1 Ng1

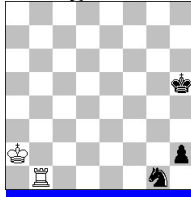


position B3

7.Nd4 h1Q--+ position B4]

3...Rxa7+ 4.Kb3 a2 5.Rxa2 Rxa2 6.Kxa2 h2 7.Rb1! [7.Rb8? Kg4! 8.Rh8 Nh4--+]

7...Ng1



position A1/A3/A5

8.Rb8! Kg4 [8...Kg6 9.Rh8=]

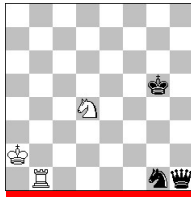
9.Rg8+ [9.Rh8? Nh3--+]

main: 1...Kg5 2.Rxe2 Ra8+ 3.Kb3!

[Thematic try: 3.Na7? Rxa7+ 4.Kb3 a2 5.Rxa2 Rxa2 6.Kxa2 h2 7.Rb1 Ng1--+ position B5]

3...a2 4.Rxa2 Rxa2 5.Kxa2 [5.Nd4? Rf2!--+]

5...h2 6.Rb1 Ng1 7.Nd4! h1Q

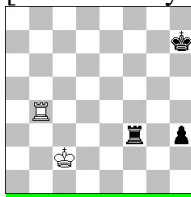


position A2/A4

8.Rxg1+! Qxg1 9.Nf3+ =

main: 1...Kh7 2.Re7+!

[Thematic try: 2.Rxe2? Ra8+ (2...a2) 3.Kb3 a2 4.Rxa2 Rxa2 5.Nd4 Rf2! 6.Nxf3 Rxf3+ 7.Kc2



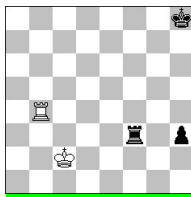
position B6

7...Kg6/Kh6--+]

2...Kh8 3.Rxe2 Ra8+ 4.Kb3 a2 5.Rxa2 Rxa2 6.Nd4! Rf2

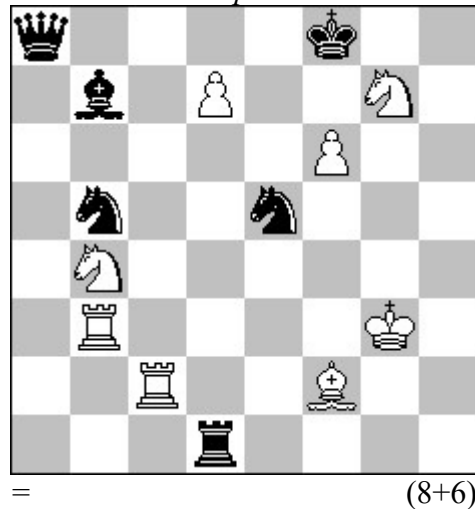
[6...h2 7.Nxf3 h1Q 8.Rh4+ Qxh4 9.Nxh4=]

7.Nxf3 Rxf3+ 8.Kc2! =



position A6

N°2
WCCI 2016–2018
Martin Minski (Germany)
The Problemist 2016
1st prize



Judge Oleg Pervakov: "An excellent combination study is crowned by a rather new position of domination. Bravo, Martin!"

1.Ra2! [1.Ne6+? Kf7! (1...Kg8? 2.Ra2 Qb8 3.Ba7! Nxa7 4.Na6 Qa8 5.Nac7 Qb8 6.Na6=) 2.d8Q Rxd8 3.Nxd8+ Qxd8-+]

1...Qb8 2.Ba7! [2.Na6? Bxa6-+]

2...Nxa7

3.Na6 Qa8

4.Nc7 [4.Ne6+? Kf7 5.d8Q Rxd8 6.Rxb7+ (6.Nxd8+ Qxd8 7.Rxb7+ Kxf6-+) 6...Rd7-+]

4...Qb8 5.Na6 Rg1+ 6.Rg2!

[6.Kh3? Bg2+-+;

6.Kh2? Nf3+-+;

6.Kf2? Nd3+! 7.Kxg1 Qg3+-+]

6...Rxb7+ 7.Kh3 Rh2+! 8.Kg3! Rh3+!

[8...Qd6 9.d8Q+ Qxd8 10.Ne6+ Kg8 11.Nxd8 Rg2+ 12.Kh3=;

8...Nxd7+ 9.Nxb8=]

9.Kxh3 Bg2+! 10.Kxg2 Qa8+ 11.Kg1!

[11.Kh2? Kf7! 12.Rb7 Kg6-+;

11.Kf2? Kf7! 12.Rb8 Qf3+!-+]

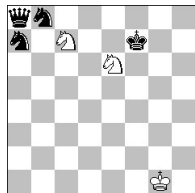
11...Nxd7 12.Rb8+!

[12.Ne6+? Kf7! 13.Rb8 Qd5! 14.Rf8+ Nxf8-+;

12.Nc7? Qc8!-+]

12...Nxb8 13.Ne6+ Kg8 14.f7+! [14.Nac7? Qf3! 15.f7+ Qxf7-+]

14...Kxf7 15.Nac7



domination

15...Qb7/Qc6 16.Nd8+

15...Qe4/Qf3 16.Ng5+

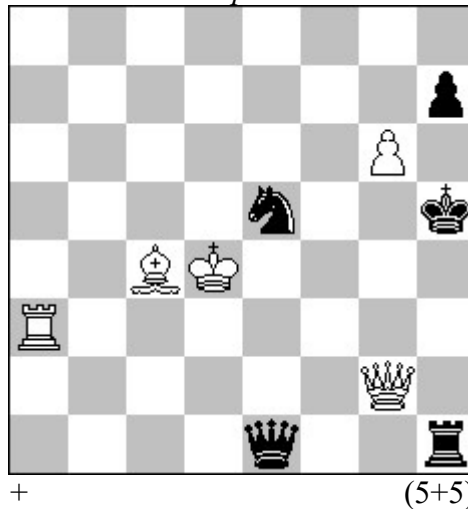
N°3

WCCI 2016–2018

Martin Minski (Germany)

Boris Ilyich Oleynik-82 MT 2017

1st prize



Judge Sergiy Didukh: “Spectacular fight of heavy-weight boxers. White blocks Black’s starting attack by sacrificing his bishop, then he repels the second wave of attack by a beautiful combination containing Q-sacrifice and knocking-out promotion to knight. Boxers must be very smart to fight like that!”

1.g7! [1.Be2+? Kh6 2.Rh3+

(2.Kxe5 hxg6 3.Qf3 Qg1 4.Qf8+ Kh7 5.Qf7+ Kh6 6.Qf4+ Qg5+ 7.Qxg5+ Kxg5=)

2...Rhx3 3.Qxh3+ Kg7 4.Qxh7+ Kf6 5.Qh8+ Kxg6 6.Qh5+ Kg7 7.Qxe5+ Kh6=;

1.gxh7? Qh4+ 2.Kxe5 Qe7+ 3.Kd5 Qd8+ 4.Kc5 Qf8+

5.Kb5 Qb8+ 6.Kc5 Qf8+ 7.Kd4 Rh4+ 8.Kc3 Qxa3+=;

1.Rh3+? Rxh3 2.Qxh3+ Kxg6=]

1...Rh4+ [1...Qh4+ 2.Kxe5=]

2.Kd5 Qd1+! [2...Ng6 3.Qe2+ Qxe2 4.Bxe2+ Kh6 5.Ra7+-]

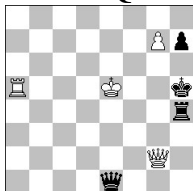
3.Bd3! [3.Kxe5? Qd4+ 4.Ke6 Re4+ 5.Qxe4 Qxe4+]

3...Nxd3 battery

4.Ra5! counter battery [4.g8Q? Ne5+ 5.Kxe5 Qd4+ 6.Ke6 Re4+ 7.Qxe4 Qxe4+=]

4...Ne5+! switchback [4...Nf4+ 5.Kc6++-]

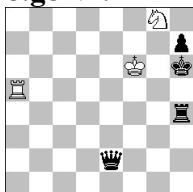
5.Kxe5 Qe1+ switchback



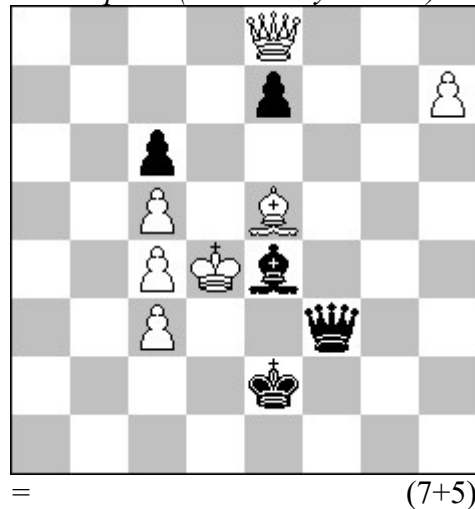
6.Qe2+!! [6.Kf6+? Qxa5 7.Qf3+ Rg4 8.g8Q Qa1+ 9.Ke7 Qa7+=]

6...Qxe2+ 7.Kf6+ Kh6 [7...Kg4 8.g8Q++-]

8.g8N#!

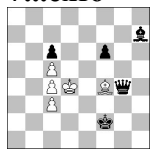


N°4
 WCCI 2016–2018
Martin Minski (Germany)
43rd World Chess Olympiad (Batumi) 2018
2nd prize (draw study section)



Judge David Gurgenzidze: "German chess composer has once again crafted immaculate study with masterful design."

- 1.Qh5!** [1.Bh2? Qe3+; 1.Bf4? Qxf4–+]
1...Qxh5 2.h8Q Bh7! [2...Qg4 3.Qh2+ Bg2+ 4.Qf4 Qd7+ 5.Bd6 exd6 6.Qe3+=]
3.Bf4 Kf2! [3...Kf3/Kd1 4.Qe5=]
4.Qf8! battery [4.Qe5? Qd1+ 5.Bd2 Qxd2# mate with self-block on e5;
 4.Qf6?? exf6–+ no stalemate]
4...Qg4 5.Qf6!! [5.Ke5? Qe2+ 6.Be3+ Kxe3–+]
5...Kf1! [5...Bb1 6.Qg5 Qd1+ 7.Bd2=]
6.Qf8! [logical try 6.Qf7? Bg6! 7.Qf8 Kf2! 8.Qf6! Qd1+! 9.Bd2+ Ke2! 10.Qxe7+
 (10.Qxg6 Qxd2+ 11.Ke5 Qe3+ 12.Qe4 Qxe4+ 13.Kxe4 Kd2 14.Kd4 Kc2–+)
 10...Kxd2–+ position X with bBg6]
6...Kf2 [6...Bb1 7.Ke5 Qe2+ 8.Be3+=; 6...Kg2 7.Qh6! Qd7+ 8.Bd6! e5+! 9.Ke3!]=]
7.Qf6! [7.Qh6? Qd7+ 8.Bd6 e5+! 9.Kxe5 Qf5+ 10.Kd4 Qe4#]
7...exf6



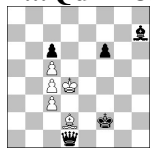
first ideal pin stalemate

7...Qd7+ 8.Bd6+ exf6



second ideal pin stalemate

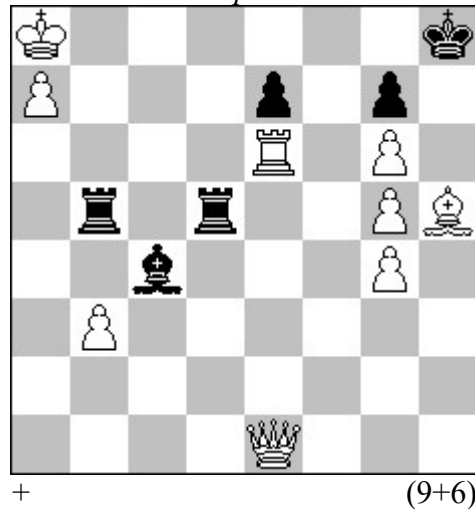
7...Qd1+ 8.Bd2+ exf6



third ideal pin stalemate

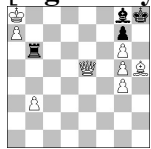
[8...Ke2 9.Qxe7+ Kxd2 position X with bBh7 10.Qxh7 Qg1+ 11.Ke5 Qxc5+ 12.Ke6=]

N°5
 WCCI 2016–2018
Martin Minski (Germany)
StrateGems 2016
1st prize



Judge Peter Gyarmati: "A beautiful key setting is achieved after the seventh move when Black is in Zugzwang -- the main line (the roles are reversed in the try). All moves show tactical motifs. The author built his work superbly, the highlight of the study comes at the end: a minor piece promotion."

- 1.Rb6! Rxb6** [1...Rd8+ 2.Kb7 Rd7+ 3.Kc8+-]
2.Qxe7 Re5! [2...Rd7 3.Qxd7 Bg8 4.Qb7! Rxb3 5.Qb8+- zz see mainline]
3.Qd8+!
 [logical try: 3.Qxe5? Bg8!



zugzwang for White

- 4.Qb8 Rxb3 zz 5.Qxb3 Bxb3 6.Kb8 Bd5=
3...Re8! [3...Bg8 4.Qxb6+-]
4.Qxe8+ Bg8 5.Qe5!



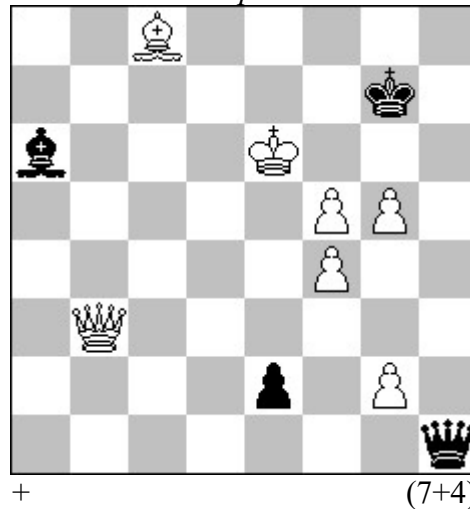
zugzwang for Black

- [5.Qb8? Rxb3= zz;
 5.Qd8? Rb8+! 6.axb8Q stalemate]
5...Rb4! [5...Rxb3 6.Qb8+- zz]
6.Qd6! [6.Qb8? Rxb3= zz]
6...Rxb3 [6...Rb5 7.b4! Bd5+ 8.Qxd5+-]
7.Qb8! zz **Rxb8+** [7...Ra3 8.Kb7 Rxa7+ 9.Qxa7+- (9.Kxa7? stalemate)]



- 8.axb8N!** [8.axb8Q? stalemate; 8.Kxb8? Bd5=]
8...Bd5+ 9.Ka7+-

N°6
 WCCI 2016–2018
Martin Minski (Germany)
Chess Informant-50 AT 2016
 2nd prize



Judge Yochanan Afek: "In the heat of the battle each side promotes a second queen; however the side that sacrifices both his queens is the one to emerge the eventual winner against the remaining enemy queen. A breathtaking battle with plenty of quiet moves and subtle finesses."

1.f6+ [1.Qc3+? Kg8 2.Kd6 e1Q 3.Be6+ Qxe6+ 4.Kxe6 (4.fxe6 Qxg2=)
 4...Qxg2 5.Qc7 Qa8 6.Qf7+ Kh8=]

1...Kh8 2.g6! e1Q+ [2...Bc4+! 3.Qxc4 e1Q+ 4.Kf7+- see mainline]

3.Kf7 Bc4+ [3...Qh5 4.Qb8+-]

4.Qxc4 Qe8+! [4...Qh5 5.Be6!+-]

5.Kxe8 Qe1+



6.Qe2!! [6.Qe6? Qxe6+! 7.Bxe6 stalemate;

6.Be6? Qxe6+! 7.Qxe6 stalemate;

6.Kf7? Qe8+/Qe7+! 7.KxQ stalemate]

6...Qxe2+ 7.Kf8 Qxg2 8.g7+ Kh7 9.Bb7!

[9.Bf5+? Kh6 10.g8Q Qa8+ 11.Ke7! Qa3+!= (11...Qxg8? 12.f7+-) ;

9.Be6? Qa8+=]

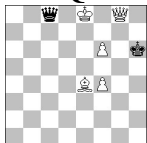
9...Qg1 [9...Qg6 10.Be4! Qxe4 11.g8Q+-;

9...Qxb7 10.g8Q+-;

9...Qg4 10.Be4+ Kh6 11.g8Q Qc8+ 12.Ke7!+- see mainline]

10.Be4+ Kh6 11.g8Q Qc5+ 12.Ke8 [12.Kf7? Qc4+! 13.Ke7 Qxe4+= (13...Qxg8? 14.f7+-)]

12...Qc8+



13.Ke7!! [13.Kf7? Qd7+/Qc4+=]

13...Qxg8 [13...Qc7+ 14.Ke6 Qc4+ (14...Qf7+ 15.Kxf7+- (15.Qxf7? stalemate)) 15.Bd5+-]

14.f7 Qg7 15.Ke8+-

address: Martin Minski, Dolziger Str.5, 10247 Berlin, Germany, m.minski@web.de