

Champagne Tourney Jurmala 2024

The Tourney is opened worldwide.

It is divided in 2 sections (with separate awards) :

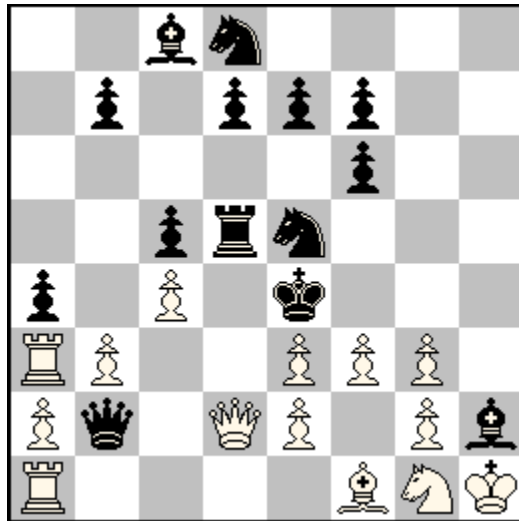
A . ProofGames B. Any other kind of Retro problems

Theme (Peter van den Heuvel in memoriam) :

A piece is following a piece of opposite colour on at least 2 squares
(the thematic moves don't have to be consecutive).

Example for Section A :

Peter VAN DEN HEUVEL 2° Prix, Die Schwalbe 1998



SPG 29,5

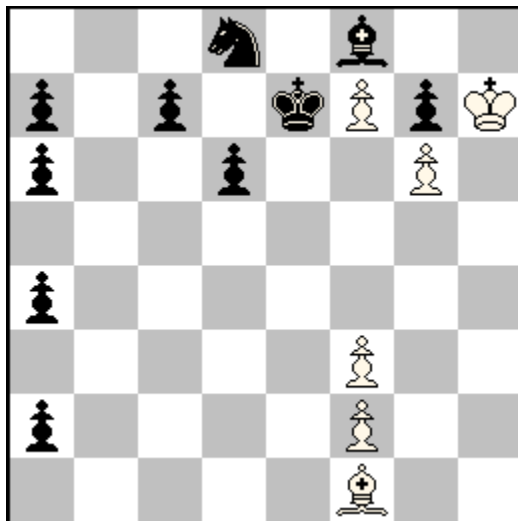
(14+14)

2bs4/1p1ppp2/5p2/2prs3/p1P1k3/RP2PPP1/Pq1QP1Pb/R4BSK

1.b3 Ch6 2.Fb2 Tg8 3.Ff6 g×f6 4.ç4 Tg3 5.h×g3 Cg4 6.Th5 Fh6
7.Ta5 Fé3 8.Ta3 a5 9.d×é3 a4 10.Rd2 Ta5 11.Rç3 Td5 12.Rb4 ç5 +
13.Rb5 Dç7 14.Cd2 Dé5 15.Rb6 Db2 16.Rç7 Rf8 17.Rd8 Rg7 18.Ré8 Rg6
19.Rf8 Rf5 20.Rg7 Cé5 21.Rh6 Cbc6 22.Rh5 Cd8 23.**Rh4 h5** 24.**Rh3 h4**
25.**Rh2 h3** 26.**Rh1 h2** 27.Cdf3 h×g1=F 28.Dd2 Fh2 29.Cg1 Ré4 30.f3 +
Black Pawn is following white King

Example for Section B :

Michel CAILLAUD
2° Prix, Messigny 2011



-13 & #1 Proca-Retractor (6+10)

3s1b2/p1p1kPpK/p2p2P1/8/p7/5P2/p4P2/5B2

-1.f5×Fg6 Fh5-g6+ -2.Rg6-h7 Fg4-h5+ -3.Rh5-g6 Fh3-g4+
-4.Rg4-h5 Fg2-h3+ -5.Rh3-g4 Fh1-g2+ -6.Rg2-h3 h2-h1=F+
-7.Rh1×Fg2 Fh3-g2+ -8.Rg2-h1 Fg4-h3+ -9.Rh3-g2 Fh5-g4+
-10.Rg4-h3 Fg6-h5+ -11.Rh5-g4 Fh7-g6+
-12.Rg6-h5 Fg8-h7+ -13.Fb5-f1 & 1.f×g8=C‡

White King is following a black Bishop, then another one.

Fairy conditions are allowed in both sections.
(fairy pieces allowed only when integrated in a fairy condition,
such as Chinese Chess, Berolina Chess, Knightmate...)

Maximum 2 entries per composer per section (collaboration counts for 1 full entry).

Maximum 1 non computer tested entry per composer in section A

The formula with Eric as a director and Laurent and Christian
as sponsors was first prompted by unusual conditions.

It ran smoothly in the past years, so it was decided to keep it!

Entries to the director Eric Pichouron, by Tuesday 30th July 20:00 PM

e-mail : chesschampagne@gmail.com

who will transmit problems to the judge Michel Caillaud in anonymous form.

Prizes in each section :

subscription to Phénix 2024 for the first place, Winchloé light for the second place

Thanks to Laurent Riguet and Christian Poisson for providing the Prizes!

Phénix, created by Denis Blondel, now edited by Laurent, is the french problem magazine, with retro section run by Thierry Le Gleuher, and regularly published retro articles.

<http://www.phenix-echecs.fr/>

also on Facebook...

Winchloé light, developed by Christian, is a problem database, updated every month (now 923203 problems and studies).

The most complete database for Proofgames (now 9365 of them).

<http://winchloe.free.fr/>

(since 2024, Winchloé uses a new database engine and there will be some delay before a new version of Winchloé light is compatible with it).

Great thanks to Eric Pichouron who checked the entries and submitted them to me in anonymous form.

Section A

26 entries; 21 participants from 16 countries
3 entries were cooked (A0,A6,A16) and 1 anticipated (A24).

List of participants :

Allan Bell (Ireland) – A4, A5
Ofar Comay (Israël) – A1
Ivan Denkovski (Macedonia) – A8
Christoph Fieberg (Germany) – A3
Theodoros Giakatis (Greece) – A10*, A12
Marko Klasinc (Slovenia) – A19
Jorge Lois (Argentina) – A20*
Joost Michielsen (Netherlands) – A22, A23
Velmurugan Nassulamy (India) – A14, A15
Per Olin (Finland) – A21
Roberto Osorio (Argentina) – A20*
Eric Pichouron (France) – A13
Kostas Prentos (U. S. A.) - A9, A10*
Paul Raican (Romania) – A0, A6
Vidmantas Satkus (Lithuania) – A11
Andrii Sergiienko (Ukraine) – A18
Kenneth Solja (Finland) – A2, A17
Pierre Tritten (France) – A7
Rustam Ubaidullaev (Russia) – A24
Igor Vereshchagin (Russia) – A25
Grigor Werner (Germany) – A16

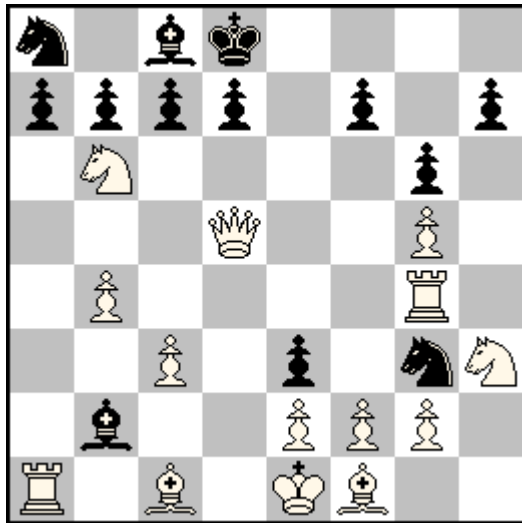
I found not obvious criteria for ranking the problems in this section.

If the quantity is of course important in a thematic tourney, I generally give priority to the “overall impression” (the “artistic feeling”, of course a subjective matter).

Fairy conditions and A to B stipulation are publicized by their supporters as allowing things that are impossible in the orthodox field. That is of course true.

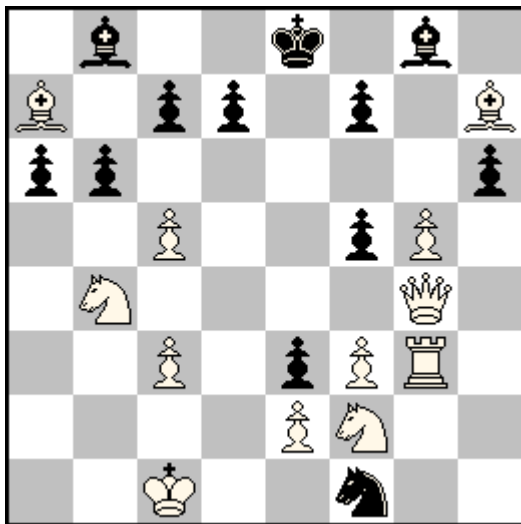
I nevertheless consider that the beauty comes when the composer masters the limiting constraints set by some frame. I will not marvel when things are made easier (such as Babson task with Madrasi condition...). So, I generally give a bonus to the orthodox proofgames. But after some pondering, the entries that strucked me as the most appealing were not orthodox proofgames...

1° Prize : A21 – Per OLIN



Position A

s1bk4/pppp1p1p/1S4p1/3Q2P1/1P4R1/2P1p1sS/1b2PPP1/R1B1KB2



Position B

1b2k1b1/B1pp1p1B/pp5p/2P2pP1/1S4Q1/2P1pPR1/4PS2/2K2s2

SPG 23.0 from Position A (14+13) to Position B (12+12) C+

1.Dc4 **Fa3** 2.Cd5 Cb6 3.**Fb2** Ca4 4.0-0-0 Cc5 5.bxc5 **Fb4** 6.**Fa3** **Fa5** 7.**Fb4** **Fb6** 8.**Fa5** a6
 9.Cb4 **Fa7** 10.**Fb6** **Fb8** 11.**Fa7** b6 12.Td5 Fb7 13.Tf5 Fxg2 14.f3 gxh5 15.Cf2 **Fh3**
 16.**Fg2** Cf1 17.Tg3 **Fg4** 18.**Fh3** **Fh5** 19.**Fg4** **Fg6** 20.**Fh5** h6 21.Dg4 **Fh7** 22.**Fg6** **Fg8**
 23.**Fh7** Rf8

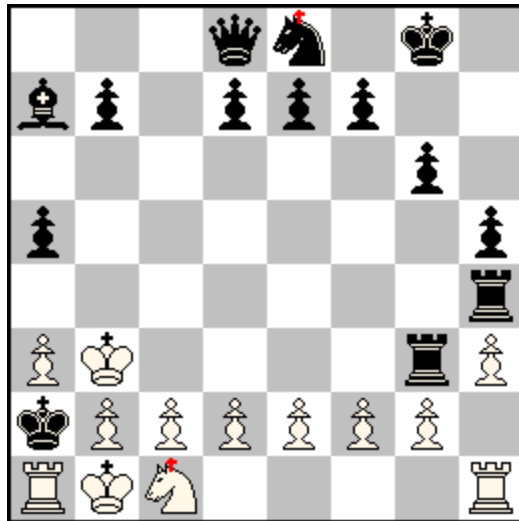
A chameleon echo with 2 thematic manoeuvres by the Bishops. Beautiful, with the moves 3.Fb2 and 16.Fg2 as important details.

A to B stipulation was criticized as being “too easy”. Certainly, some trivial renderings of the theme are possible using this stipulation, with “ready-made corridors” for the pieces to circulate.

Here the A-position is not too far from Initial Game Array, and the play is not “automatic” and has some features that can be found in “normal” proofgames for motivating the moves.

And the proofgames in this tourney produced nothing near as remarkable...

2° Prize : A13 – Eric PICHOURON



3qs1k1/bp1ppp2/6p1/p6p/7r/PK4rP/kPPPPPP1/RKS4R
 SPG 25.5 Knightmate (13+14) C?

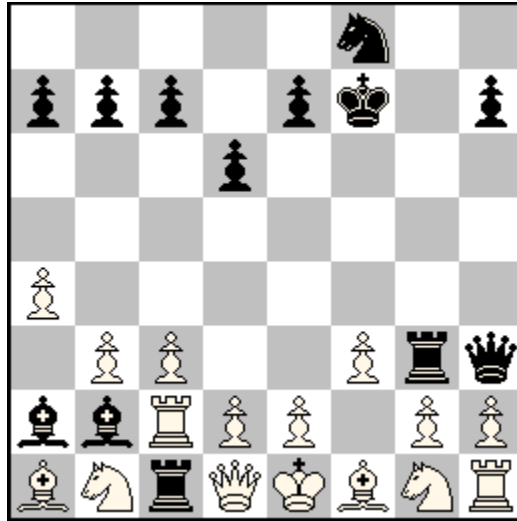
1.h3 a5 2.**Rh2** Ta6 3.**Rg3** Th6 4.**Rf4** Th4 5.**Re5** h5 6.**Rd6** Th6 7.**Rxç7** Tg6 8.Rxç8 **Rç7**
 9.**Rb8!** **Rd6** 10.**Rç7** **Re5** 11.**Rd6** **Rf4** 12.**Re5** **Rg3** 13.**Rf4** **Rh2** 14.**Rg3** **Rg1** 15.**Rh2** Tg3
 16.a3 g6 17.Ra2 Fh6 18.Rb3 Fè3 19.CRd3 **Rxf1** 20.**Rg1** **Re1** 21.**Rf1** **Rxd1** 22.**Re1** **Rxc1**
 23.**Rd1** **Rb1** 24.**Rç1** **Ra2** 25.**Rb1** Fa7+ 26.CRç1

Intensive thematic play thanks to the use of the Kings. The corridor g1-h2-b8 is travelled 3 times (an extra square ç8 has to be used for the Kings to exchange their place in the corridor). The tempo move Rb8! is an important point in an otherwise straightforward sequence. I don't consider much the thematic use of Kb1.

I was surprised to discover the director's name, but there is no rule against his participation.

(He has some advantage having the thoughts of the judge on the entries “in flight” ; maybe entry B2 in section B helped the idea of using the Kings?).

3° Prize : A1 – Ofer COMAY



5s2/ppp1pk1p/3p4/8/P7/1PP2Prq/bbRPP1PP/BSrQKBSR
SPG 19.5 (16+13) C+

1.a4 d6 2.Ta3 Dd7 3.Tf3 Dh3 4.T×f7 Fé6 5.T×g7 Cd7 6.T×g8 Rf7 7.Tg3 Tg8 8.Ta3
Tg3 9.Ta2! Ta3 10.Ta1 Ta2 11.Ca3 Fg7 12.Tb1 Ta1 13.f3 Fa2 14.b3 Tg8 15.Fb2 Cf8
16.Tç1 Tb1 17.Fa1 Fb2 18.ç3 Tg3 19.Tç2 Tç1 20.Cb1

The most convincing orthodox realization featuring 2 main thematic pieces, one following the other.

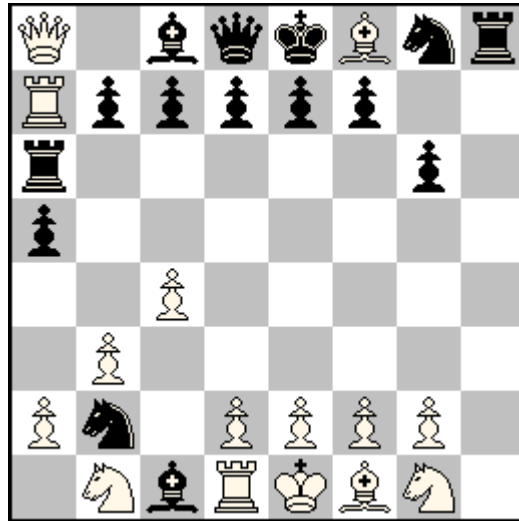
7 thematic squares for 2 Rooks. It is important that there is no extra square visited by one Rook and not by the other. In order to reach this goal, a nice point is the tempo move 9.Ta2!

A third Rook follows on 2 squares.

Some composers tried to pack as much thematic elements as they could but I considered for the ranking only what appeared as the « main line » to me.

(here the composer indicates that squares b1 and a3 are thematic for white Knight and black Rook, which I didn't notice; fortunately the problem can be appreciated without that...).

4° Prize : A18 – Andrii SERGIENKO



Q1bqkBsrrppppp2/r5p1/p7/2P5/1P6/Ps1PPPP1/1SbRKBS1
 SPG 16.0 (15+15) C+

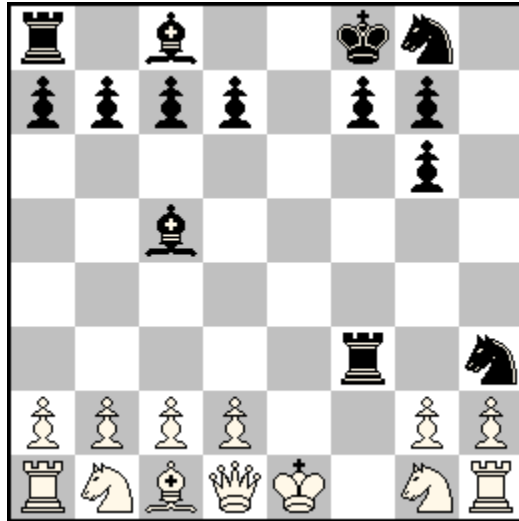
1.ç4 a5 2.Dç2 **Ta6** 3.D×h7 **Th6** 4.Dg6 T×h2 5.**Da6 T2h7** 6.**Da8** Ca6 7.**Th6** Cç5 8.**Ta6 Th6** 9.Ta7 **Ta6** 10.b3 g6 11.**Fb2** Fh6 12.**Fg7** Ca4 13.**Ff8 Fg7** 14.Ca3 **Fb2** 15.Td1 **Fç1** 16.Cb1 Cb2

From a bunch of entries featuring many pieces, I appreciated this one most as the sequences are clearly separated in time : first a dance of black Rook with white Queen and white Rook (the black Rook is first followed, then follows), and after that a sequence with the Bishops.

For some other entries, different sequences are overlapping each other in time, and I had to use paper and pencil to understand where the theme is ; needless to say, they are not in the top of the award.

A neat realization by the young composer (who also participated in the Youth Challenge this year).

1° HM : A9 – Kostas PRENTOS

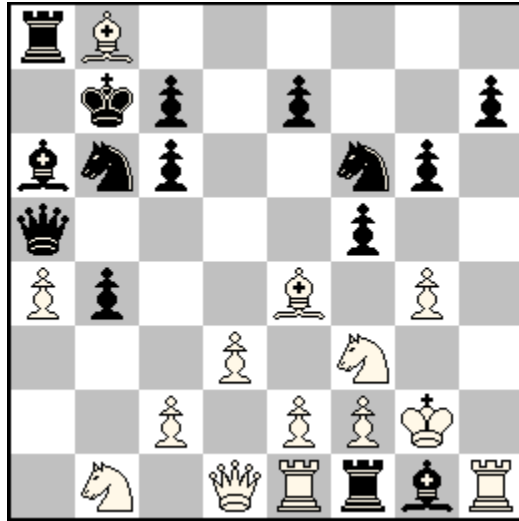


r1b2ks1/pppp1pp1/6p1/2b5/8/5r1s/PPPP2PP/RSBQK1SR
 SPG 10.5 (13+14) C+

1.f4 Cc6 2.f5 Cd4 3.f6 Cxé2 4.fxé7 Cxg1 5.éxd8=C Fc5 6.Fd3 Rf8 7.Fg6 h×g6
 8.Cc6 Th3 9.Cd4 Tf3 10.Cé2 Ch3 11.Cg1

Relatively few entries are significant combinations of the theme with another “proofgame emblematic” theme. I found several published examples of a promoted piece following an original one (mainly Knights, see Annex A23) but combination with Pronkin seems to be new. Would have been among the Prizes if the starting square of the promoted Knight were b8...

2° HM : A20 – Jorge LOIS & Roberto OSORIO



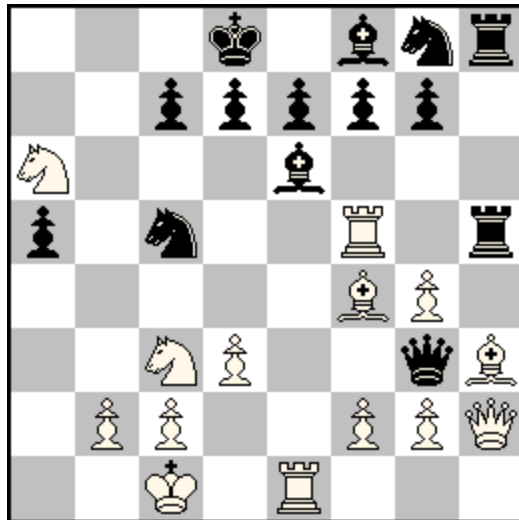
rB6/1kp1p2p/bsp2sp1/q4p2/Pp2B1P1/3P1S2/2P1PPK1/1S1QRrbR

SPG 23.5 (14+15) C+

1.a4 g6 2.Ta3 Fh6 3.Tç3 Ff4 4.Tç6 d×ç6 5.b4 Dd5 6.b5 Cd7 7.b6 Da5 8.b×a7 b5 9.g4
b4 10.d3 Fa6 11.Fé3 0-0-0 12.a8=T+ Rb7 13.Fa7 Cb6 14.Fg2 Td5 15.Td8 Th5 16.Td5
T×h2 17.Th5 f5 18.Fé4 Cf6 19.Cf3 Ta8 20.0-0 Th1+ 21.Rg2 Fh2 22.Té1 Tf1 23.Fb8
Fg1 24.Th1

The starting square for the “pseudo” Pronkin Rook (the original one is not captured) is the right one, but the spoiling flaw is the extra square h2 for the black Rook.

3° HM : A11 - Vidmantas SATKUS



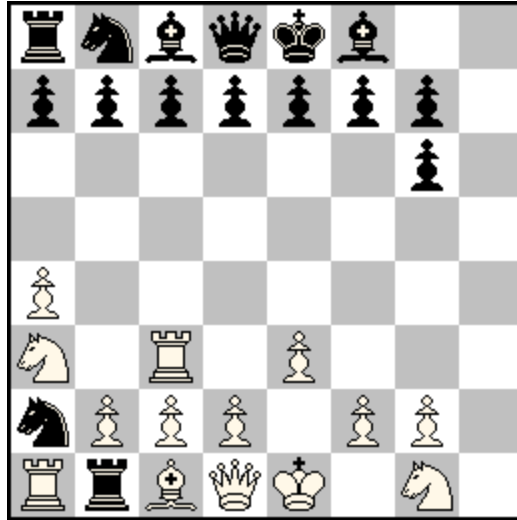
3k1bsr/2ppppp1/S3b3/p1s2R1r/5BP1/2SP2qB/1PP2PPQ/2K1R3

SPG 21.0 (14+14) C+

1.a4 **Ca6** 2.a5 **Cç5** 3.a6 h5 4.a×b7 a5 5.**b8=C** Fa6 6.Cç3 **F×é2** 7.d3 Ta6 8.Ff4 Tg6
 9.**Ca6** Tg3 10.h×g3 **Fg4** 11.**Fé2 Fé6** 12.**Fg4** h4 13.**Df3** h3 14.0-0-0 h2 15.Té1 h×g1=T
 16.**Th5 Th1** 17.**Tf5 T1h5** 18.Fh3 Da8 19.g4 Rd8 20.**Dg3 Df3** 21.**Dh2 Dg3**

4 pairs of thematic pieces with the 4 kind of officers (Queen, Rook, Bishop and Knight).

4° HM : A22 – Joost MICHIELSEN

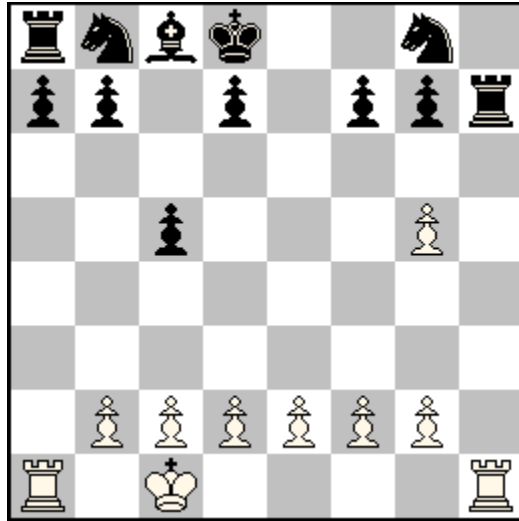


rsbqkb2/ppppppp1/6p1/8/P7/S1R1P3/sPPP1PP1/RrBQK1S1
 SPG 13.0 (14+16) C+

1.é3 Cf6 2.Fd3 Cd5 3.Fg6 h×g6 4.a4 T×h2 5.Ta3 **Th4** 6.Tç3 **Tb4** 7.**Th4 Tb3** 8.**Tb4 Ta3**
 9.**Tbb3 Ta2!** 10.**Ta3 Ta1** 11.**Ta2** Cb4 12.Ca3 **Tb1** 13.**Ta1** Ca2

6 thematic squares for 2 Rooks, one square less than in third prize...

5° HM : A19 – Marko KLASINC

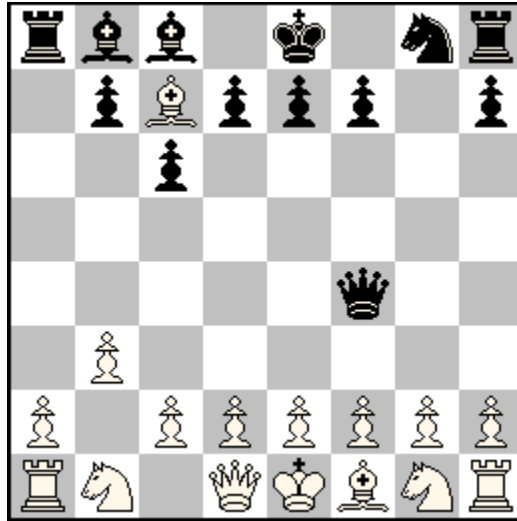


rsbk2s1/pp1p1ppr/8/2p3P1/8/8/1PPPPPP1/R1K4R
SPG 14.5 (11+12) C+

1.Cç3 ç5 2.Cd5 **Da5** 3.C×é7 F×é7 4.h4 Fg5 5.h×g5 **D×a2** 6.T×h7 **Db1** 7.Th6 D×ç1
8.Tha6 Db1 9.**D×b1** Th1 10.**Da2** T×g1 11.0-0-0 T×f1 **12.Da5** Th1 13.**Dd8+** R×d8
14.Ta1 Th7 15.Th1

The only entry where both thematical officers are captured.
A satisfying solving experience as massacre ProofGames rarely display interesting content.
A funny story is that the problem was not composed for this tourney!
Eric informed me after the award that it was already submitted last year! But I solved it
again and failed to recognize it! Kc1 is a clue to 0-0-0 and the exchange of Rooks,
presumably the main theme. Because of the clue, I didn't find it remarkable for last year's
theme (castling), but I found the presence of this year's theme surprising.

1° Com : A12 – Theodoros GIAKATIS

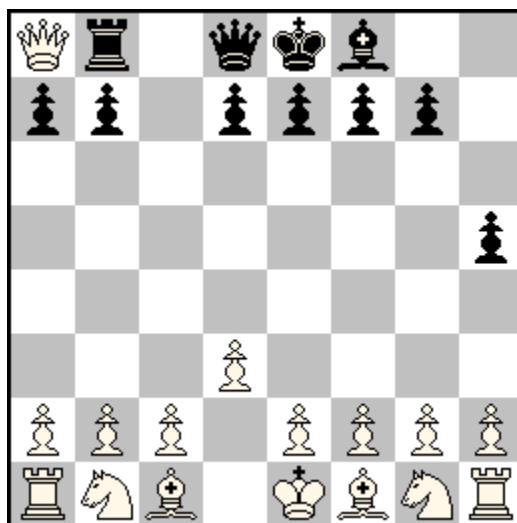


rbb1k1sr/1pBppp1p/2p5/8/5q2/1P6/P1PPPPPP/RS1QKBSR
 SPG 7.0 (16+13) C+

1.b3 c6 2.Fb2 Dc7 3.F×g7 Df4 4.Fd4 Fg7 5.F×a7 Fd4 6.F×b8 Fa7 7.Fc7 Fb8

Always an interesting exercise to pack the theme in a low number of moves. A sequence of 4 consecutive thematic moves in only 7 moves! At a point, I suspected it could have been produced by computer, but A25 proved me wrong. I gave a slight preference to the rendering with the lowest number of captures.

2° Com : A25 – Igor VERESHCHAGIN

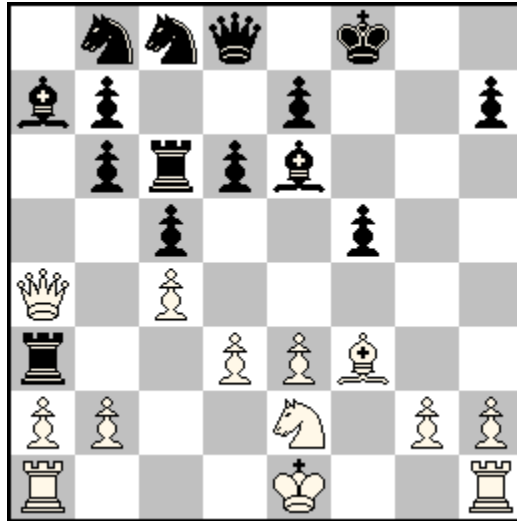


Qr1qkb2/pp1pppp1/8/7p/8/3P4/PPP1PPPP/RSB1KBSR
 SPG 7.0 (16+11) C+

1.d3 h5 2.Dd2 Ch6 3.D×h6 ç6 4.D×ç6 Th6 5.D×ç8 Tç6 6.D×b8 Tç8 7.D×a8 Tb8

Another compact presentation with a near-sibling Rook b8.

3° Com : A23 – Joost MICHIELSEN

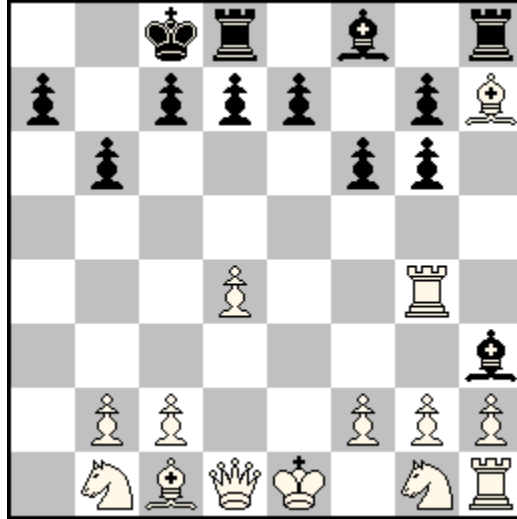


1ssq1k2/bp2p2p/1prpb3/2p2p2/Q1P5/r2PPB2/PP2S1PP/R3K2R
SPG 20.0 (13+15) C+

1.f4 Cf6 2.f5 Cd5 3.f6 Cb6 4.f×g7 f5 5.g8=C Fg7 6.ç4 Fç3 7.Cf6+ Rf8 8.Cd5 Fa5
9.Cbç3 Tg8 10.d3 Tg6 11.Fé3 Tç6 12.Fç5 d6 13.é3 Fé6 14.Fé2 Cç8 15.Cb6 a×b6
16.Ff3 b×ç5 17.Cgé2 Fb6 18.Cd5 Ta3 19.Da4 Fa7 20.Cb6 ç×b6

An intricate proofgame with enjoyable solving. A promoted white Knight follows the original one, somewhat similarly to what happens in Annex A23. In addition, 2 squares are also used by an original square and both thematic white Knights are captured on the same square (composer also indicates that wSc3 follows bBf8 on 2 squares; difficult to spot...).

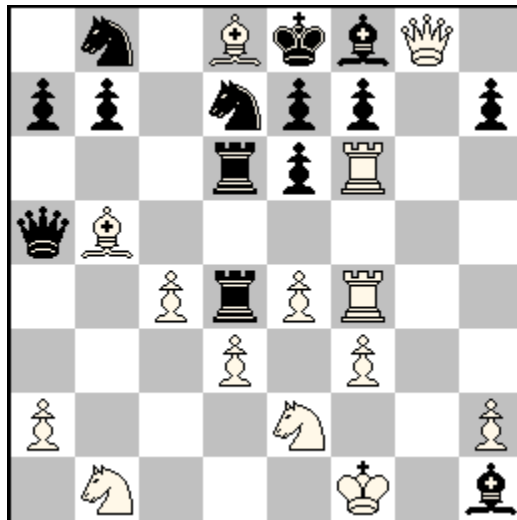
Annex A23 :
Dan MEINKING, dedicated to Gianni DONATI,
2° Com, Phénix 2002-03



2kr1b1r/p1ppp1pB/1p3pp1/8/3P2R1/7b/1PP2PPP/1SBQK1SR
 SPG 13,5 (14+13) C+

1.a4 b6 2.a5 Fa6 3.Ta4 F×é2 4.a6 Fg4 5.Fç4 f6 6.F×g8 Fh3 7.Tg4 Dç8 8.d4 Db7 9.a×b7
 Cç6 10.b8=C Cè5 11.Cç6 Cg6 12.Cè5 0-0-0 13.C×g6 h×g6 14.Fh7

4° Com : A8 – Ivan DENKOVSKI

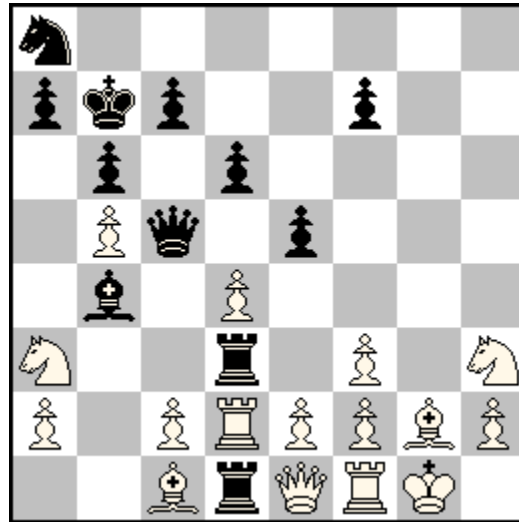


1s1BkbQ1/pp1spp1p/3rpR2/qB6/2PrPR2/3P1P2/P3S2P/1S3K1b
 SPG 25.0 (14+14) C+

1.f4 c5 2.f5 c4 3.f6 c3 4.fxg7 Cf6 5.g8=D cxb2 6.Dg4 Tg8 7.Dé6 Tg4 8.Ca3 Td4 9.é4 d×é6 10.Dg4 Fd7 11.Dg8 Fa4 12.Fb5+ Cc6 13.ç4 Fd1 14.d3 Fg4 15.Cé2 b1=C 16.0-0 Da5 17.Ff4 Tad8 18.Fç7 T8d6 19.Fd8 Cd7 20.Tf6 Cd2 21.Taf1 Fh3 22.T1f4 Cf3+ 23.gxf3 Fg2 24.Cb1 Fh1 25.Rf1 Ccb8

A nice proofgame, with many extra thematic elements, but the thematic play (3 pieces on squares g4 and g8, including an anti-Pronkin Queen) stops after move 11...

5° Com : A14 – Velmurugan NALLUSAMY



s7/pkp2p2/1p1p4/1Pq1p3/1b1P4/S2r1P1S/P1PRPPBP/2BrQRK1
SPG 20.0 (16+12) C+

1.b4 é5 2.b5 Fb4 3.Ca3 Dé7 4.Tb1 Dç5 5.Tb3 d6 6.Th3 Fg4 7.T×h7 Cd7 8.T×g7 0-0-0
9.T×g8 Th3 10.Th8 Tb3 11.Th3 Th8 12.Tç3 Th3 13.d4 Td3 14.Ch3 Ff3 15.gxf3 Cb6
16.Fg2 Ca8 17.0-0 b6 18.Dé1 Td1 19.Td3 Rb7 20.Td2 Td3

3 Rooks use the same 3 squares (h8,h3,d3). I would have liked better if the visit on d3 were in the same order (without extra squares b3,ç3).

Section B

6 entries; 7 participants from 6 countries.

List of participants :

Dmitry Baibikov (Israël) – B4

Vlaicu Crisan (Romania) – B2*

Andrii Frolkin (Ukraine) – B3

Paul Raican (Romania) – B1

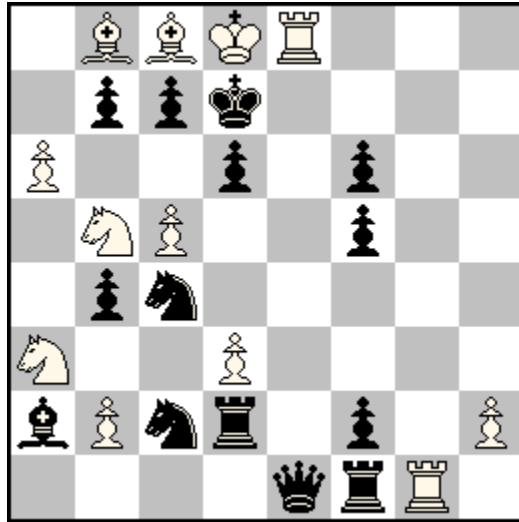
Andreas Thoma (Germany) – B2*

Igor Vereshchagin (Russia) – B5,B6

Klaus Wenda (Austria) – B2*

B4 was incorrect (no solution)

**Prize : B2 – Vlaicu CRISAN, Klaus WENDA, Andreas THOMA
(correction)**



1BBKR3/1ppk4/P2p1p2/1SP2p2/1ps5/S2P4/bPsr1p1P/4qrR1
-33 & ‡1 Proca Retractor Anticircé Calvet (12+14)

-1.Té6-é8! Rç6-d7+ -2.Rd7-d8

with 2 similar variations where white King is chasing black King on 8 squares, clockwise and anticlockwise :

a) -2...Rb6-ç6+ -3.Rç6-d7 Ra5-b6+ -4.Rb6-ç6 Ra4-a5+ -5.Ra5-b6 Rb3-a4+
-6.Ra4-a5 Rç3-b3+ -7.Rb3-a4 Rd4-ç3+ -8.Fd7-ç8! Fb1-a2+ a clean point setting for the finale, closing the hole d7 where the black King could have escaped and creating the hole a2 where White wants to push black King -9.Rç3-b3 Rd5-d4+ -10.Rd4-ç3 Rç6-d5+
-11.Rd5-d4 Rb6-ç6+ -12.Rç6-d5 Ra5-b6+ -13.Rb6-ç6 Ra4-a5+ -14.Ra5-b6 Rb3-a4+
-15.Ra4-a5 Rç3-b3+ -16.g5×h6 e.p.(h2)! h7-h5 thanks to this classical trick, the position is created for the first time -17.Rb3-a4 Rç3-d4+ ... -24.Ra4-a5 Rç3-b3+ second time ...
-32.Ra4-a5 Ra2-b3+ not 32...Rç3-b3?? with triple repetition of the position
-33.Fé8-d7 & 1.T×é1(Ta1)‡

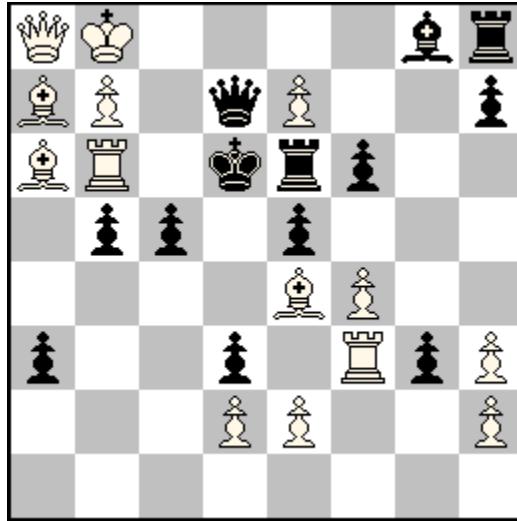
b) -2...Rd5-ç6+ -3.Rç6-d7 Rd4-d5+ with similar play. Black King cannot escape :
-4.Rd5-ç6 Ré3-d4? -5.Ré4,é5-d5+??

If -1.Té2-é8? instead of -1.Té6-é8!, black King can escape in the a) variation :
-10.Rd4-ç3 Ré6-d5+! -11.Ré3-d4+

Calvet is needed to avoid -1.é7-é8=T & 1.é7-é8=D‡

A splendid work with intensive display of the theme.

HM : B3 – Andrii FROLKIN



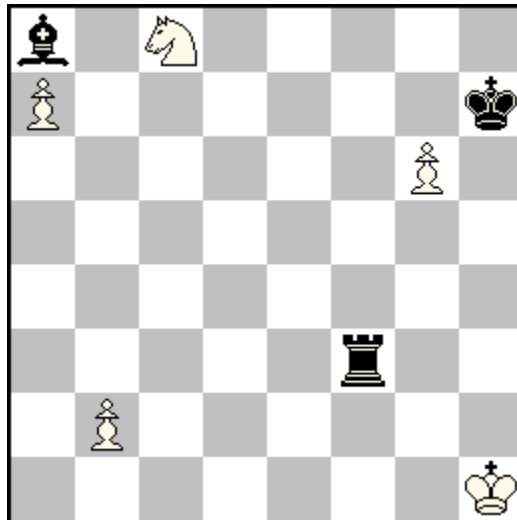
QK4br/BP1qP2p/BR1krp2/1pp1p3/4BP2/p2p1RpP/3PP2P/8

Solve the position (14+13)

-1.Fc6-é4+ g4-g3! -2.Tg3-f3 g5-g4 -3.Tg4-g3 d4-d3 -4.Th4-g4 d5-d4 -5.Th6-h4 a4-a3
 -6.Tg6-h6 a5-a4 -7.Tg7-g6 g6-g5 -8.Tf7-g7 g7-g6 -9.Tf8-f7 Ff7-g8

Reciprocal form of the theme : first the Rook follows the Pawn, then the Pawn follows the Rook.

Com : B1 – Paul RAICAN



b1S5/P6k/6P1/8/8/5r2/1P6/7K

-7 & s†1 Proca Retractor Make&Take Circé (5+3)

