

**Oleg Pervakov's Industrial Strength Endgame Studies:
A World Champion's Favorite Composers**

Sergei Tkachenko

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Favorite Composers**

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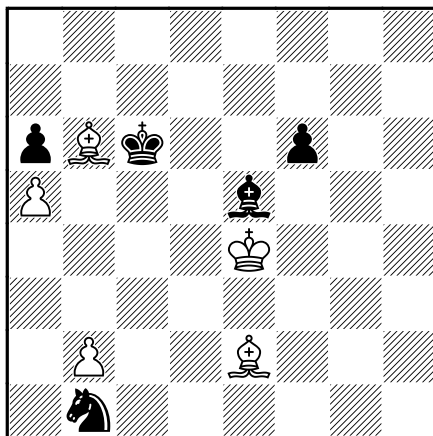
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No. 15
Charles Bent Jubilee Tournament, 1989
10th commendation



White to play and win

White's bishop pair are far more agile than black's mixed duo. Nevertheless, the small number of pawns on the board should give black good chances of saving the game...

1. ♖d3! Threatening to capture the imprisoned knight. But not 1. ♕xa6? ♕xb2 2. ♖d3 ♕e5 and a draw.

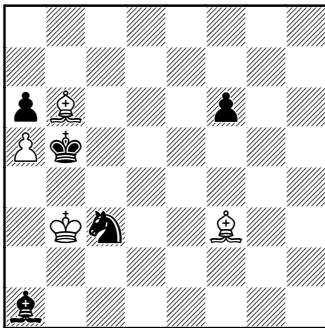
1... ♕xb2! Allowing a double attack! But not 1... ♕f4 2. ♕e3, and the knight cannot be saved.

2. ♖c2! It's too early for 2. ♕f3+? ♖b5 3. ♖c2 ♕c3 4. ♕e2+ ♖a4, and the white pawn perishes.

2... ♖c3! 3. ♕f3+ ♖b5 4. ♖b3! Not 4. ♖xb2? due to the fork 4... ♖a4+. White doesn't get anywhere with either 4. ♕d8? ♕a1 5. ♕xf6 ♖xa5, or 4. ♕h5? ♖a4 5. ♕e8+ ♖b4 6. ♕xa4 ♖xa4 7. ♖b2 ♖b5 and a draw each time.

Not the immediate 4. ♕g4? due to 4... ♖a4 5. ♕d8 ♕e5 6. ♕e2+ ♖c6 7. ♕xa6 ♖d7 and a draw.

4... ♕a1! Moving to the corner always looks pretty! Waiting is no good: 4... f5 5. ♕h5! ♖c6 6. ♕e8+ and 7. ♖xb2.

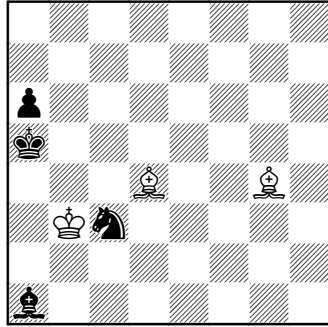


5. ♕g4!! That's the point! But not 5. ♕h5? – see the finale.

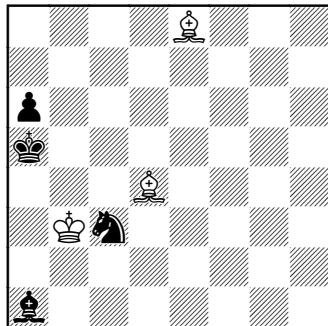
5... ♖c6 (5... ♖d5 6. ♕d7#) 6. ♕d4! ♖b5! White claims a theoretical win of two bishops versus a knight after 6... ♖e4

7. ♕xa1 ♖b5 8. ♕d7+ ♖xa5 9. ♕d4 ♖d2+ 10. ♖c3 ♖e4+ 11. ♖d3 ♖d6 12. ♕xf6 and so on.

7. ♕xf6 ♖xa5 8. ♕d4! Domination despite a material deficit!



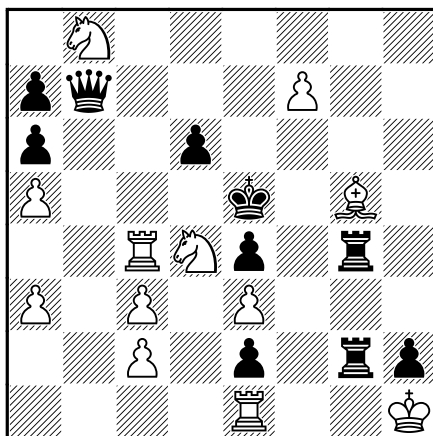
8... ♖b5 9. ♕d7+ ♖a5 10. ♕e8! Mutual zugzwang! Black has to surrender material.



Were it white's move here (which would have happened after the careless 5. ♕h5? ♖c6 6. ♕d4 ♖b5 7. ♕xf6 ♖xa5 8. ♕d4 ♖b5 9. ♕e8+ ♖a5), he would have to play 10. ♕c6 (or 10. ♕d7 ♖e4 11. ♕xa1 ♖c5+) 10... ♖e2 11. ♕xa1 ♖d4+! 12. ♕xd4 and stalemate.

An elegant study that was clearly under-appreciated by the English composer, in whose honor the tournament was organized and who was its judge.

No. 16
USSR vs. Rest of the World match, 1989
14th place
(together with K. Sumbatyan)



Black is threatening a draw by perpetual check: 1...♖g1+ 2.♔xh2 ♜4g2+ and so on. Only a reciprocal attack by white can counter this plan!

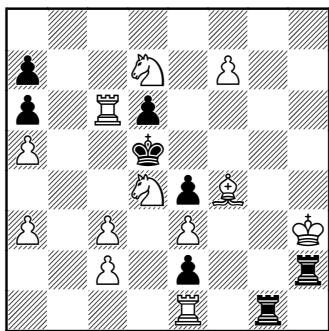
1.♙f4+! He gets nowhere with 1.♘dc6+? ♔d5! 2.♞d4+ ♔c5 3.♘xa6+ ♜xa6 4.f8=♜ ♞g1+ 5.♔xh2 ♞4g2+ 6.♔h3 ♞g3+ 7.♔h4 ♞g4+ and a draw.

1...♔d5! 2.♞c6! The threat is 3.c4#. It's a disaster after 2.♘xe2? ♞xe2 3.♞xe2 ♜b1+ 4.♔xh2 ♜f1!, and now it's black who checkmates his opponent.

2...♞g1+. Black's attempt to give perpetual check through a different move combination is cleverly snuffed out by white: 2...♞xf4 3.c4+ ♔e5 4.exf4+ ♔xd4 5.f8=♜ ♞g1+ 6.♔xh2 ♜h7+ 7.♔xg1 ♜g6+ 8.♔f2 e3+ 9.♔f3! ♜h5+ 10.♔g3! ♜g6+ 11.♔h4! ♜h7+ 12.♔g5, and the end.

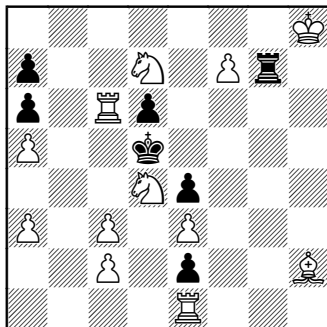
3.♔xh2 ♞4g2+ 4.♔h3 ♜d7+! Counterplay aimed at stalemate.

5.♘xd7 ♞h2+! The moment of truth for white!



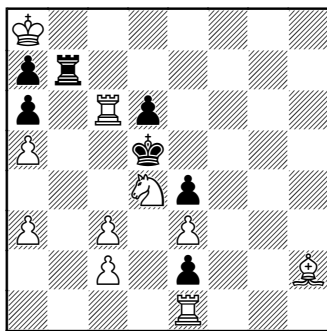
6.♙xh2!! But not 6.♔xh2? – see the finale.

6...♞g3+ 7.♔h4 ♞g4+ 8.♔h5 ♞g5+ 9.♔h6 ♞g6+ 10.♔h7 ♞g7+ 11.♔h8! The king has made it to the corner square h8!

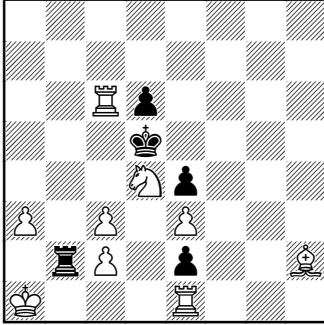


11...♞h7+ (11...♞g8+ 12.fxg8=♜#) 12.♔g8 ♞g7+ 13.♔f8 ♞xf7+ 14.♔e8 ♞e7+. Or 14...♞f8+ 15.♔e7 ♞e8+ 16.♔f6 ♞f8+ 17.♔g5! ♞g8+ 18.♔f5! ♞g5+ 19.♔f6 ♞g6+ 20.♔e7 ♞g7+ 21.♔d8 and then as per the actual solution.

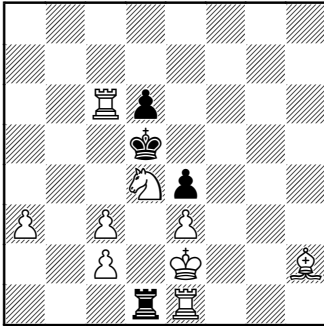
15.♔d8 ♞xd7+ (15...♞e8+ 16.♔c7 ♞c8+ 17.♔b7 ♞c7+ 18.♔xa6) 16.♔c8 ♞c7+! 17.♔b8 ♞b7+ 18.♔a8! The king is now in the corner square a8!



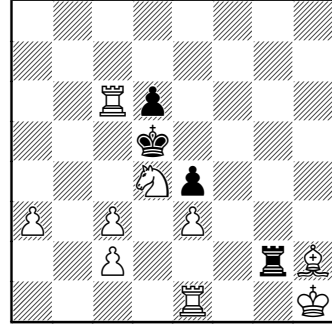
18...♞b8+ 19.♔xa7 ♞a8+! 20.♔b6 ♞b8+ 21.♔xa6 (21.♔c7? ♞b7+!) 21... ♞a8+! (21...♞b6+ 22.♞xb6!) 22.♔b5 ♞xa5+ 23.♔b4 ♞a4+! (23...♞b5+ 24.♘xb5) 24.♔b3 ♞b4+ 25.♔a2 ♞b2+ 26.♔a1! Now the king has moved from the top corner to the bottom corner! However, his journey has not yet ended...



26...Ra2+ (26...Rb1+ 27.Rxb1)
 27.Kb1 Rb2+ 28.Kc1 Kb1! (28...Rxc2+
 29.Nxc2) 29.Kd2 Rd1+ 30.Kxe2.



30...Rd2+! (30...Rxe1+ 31.Kf2
 Rf1+ 32.Kg3) 31.Kf1 Rf2+ 32.Kg1
 Rg2+ 33.Kh1! Having visited all the
 corners of the board the white king
 returns to his starting point!



33...Rg1+ 34.Kxg1!, and the
 furious rook has been neutralized!
 White wins.

Whereas after 6.Kxh2? there would
 be no antidote to the furious rook:
 6...Rg2+ 7.Kh3 Rg3+ 8.Kh4 Rg4+
 9.Kh5 Rg5+ 10.Kh6 Rg6+ 11.Kh7
 Rg7+ 12.Kh8 Rg7+ 13.Kg8 Rg7+
 14.Kf8 Rxf7+ 15.Ke8 Re7+ 16.Kd8
 Rxd7+ 17.Kc8 Rc7+ 18.Kb8 Rb7+
 19.Ka8 Rb8+ 20.Kxa7 Ra8+ 21.Kb6
 Rb8+ 22.Kxa6 Ra8+ 23.Kb5 Ra5+
 24.Kb4 Ra4+ 25.Kb3 Rb4+ 26.Ka2
 Rb2+ 27.Ka1 Ra2+ 28.Kb1 Rb2+
 29.Kc1 Rb1+ 30.Kd2 Rd1+ 31.Kxe2
 Rd2+ 32.Kf1 Rf2+ 33.Kg1 Rg2+
 34.Kh1 Rh2+ 35.Kxh2, stalemate.
 In the actual solution the bishop has
 moved from f4 to h2, and so there is no
 stalemate!