

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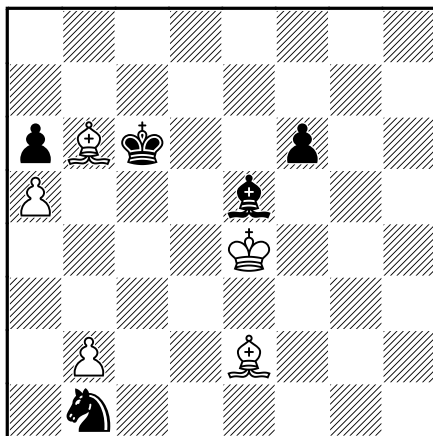
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**No. 15**  
Charles Bent Jubilee Tournament, 1989  
10th commendation



*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.

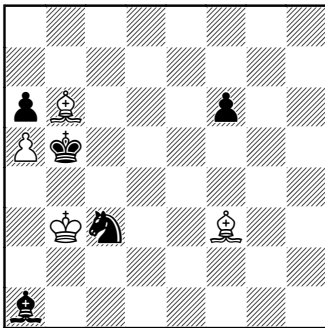
**1...♙xb2!** Allowing a double attack! But not 1...♙f4 2.♙e3, and the knight cannot be saved.

**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.♙xb2 ♙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.

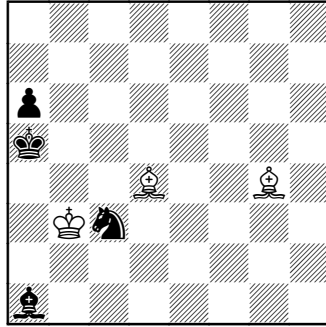


**5.♙g4!!** That's the point! But not 5.♙h5? – see the finale.

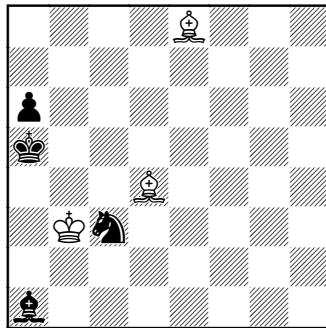
**5...♙c6 (5...♗d5 6.♙d7#) 6.♙d4! ♙b5!** White claims a theoretical win of two bishops versus a knight after 6...♗e4

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!



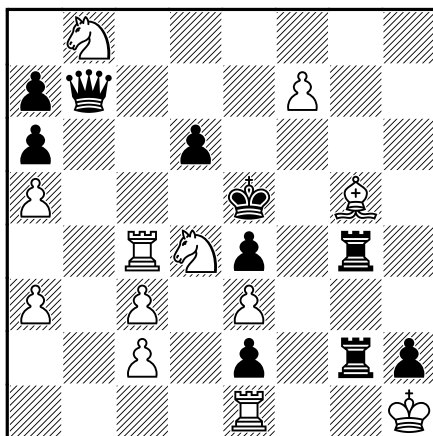
**8...♙b5 9.♙d7+ ♙a5 10.♙e8!** Mutual zugzwang! Black has to surrender material.



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)



*White to play and win*

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!

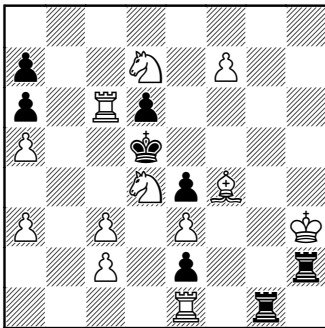
1.♙f4+! He gets nowhere with 1.♘dc6+? ♔d5! 2.♞d4+ ♔c5 3.♘xa6+ ♜xa6 4.f8=♚ ♞g1+ 5.♔xh2 ♞4g2+ 6.♔h3 ♞g3+ 7.♔h4 ♞g4+ and a draw.

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.

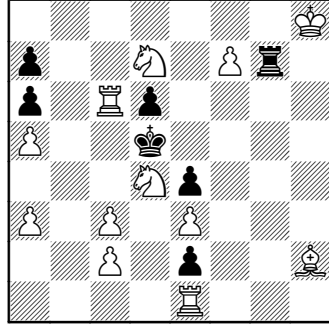
3.♔xh2 ♞4g2+ 4.♔h3 ♜d7+! Counterplay aimed at stalemate.

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



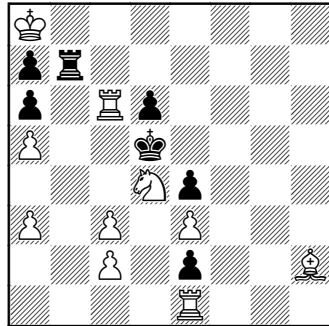
6.♙xh2!! But not 6.♔xh2? – see the finale.

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!

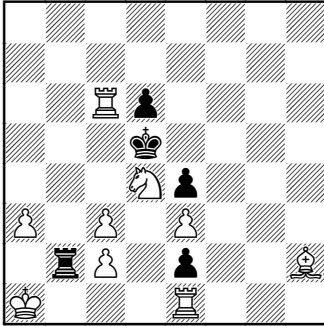


11...♞h7+ (11...♞g8+ 12.fxg8=♚#) 12.♔g8 ♞g7+ 13.♔f8 ♞xf7+ 14.♔e8 ♞e7+. Or 14...♞f8+ 15.♔e7 ♞e8+ 16.♔f6 ♞f8+ 17.♔g5! ♞g8+ 18.♔f5! ♞g5+ 19.♔f6 ♞g6+ 20.♔e7 ♞g7+ 21.♔d8 and then as per the actual solution.

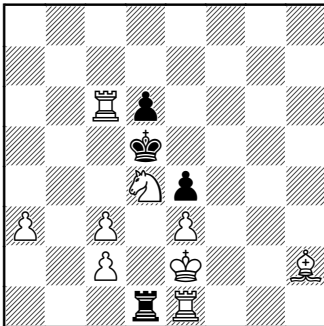
15.♔d8 ♞xd7+ (15...♞e8+ 16.♔c7 ♞c8+ 17.♔b7 ♞c7+ 18.♔xa6) 16.♔c8 ♞c7+! 17.♔b8 ♞b7+ 18.♔a8! The king is now in the corner square a8!



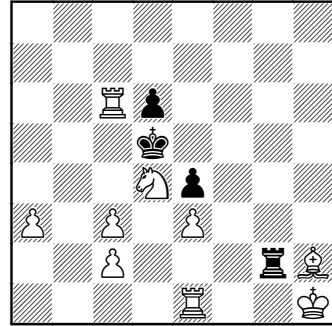
18...♞b8+ 19.♔xa7 ♞a8+! 20.♔b6 ♞b8+ 21.♔xa6 (21.♔c7? ♞b7+!) 21... ♞a8+! (21...♞b6+ 22.♞xb6!) 22.♔b5 ♞xa5+ 23.♔b4 ♞a4+! (23...♞b5+ 24.♘xb5) 24.♔b3 ♞b4+ 25.♔a2 ♞b2+ 26.♔a1! Now the king has moved from the top corner to the bottom corner! However, his journey has not yet ended...



26...Ra2+ (26...Rb1+ 27.Rxb1)  
 27.♔b1 ♖b2+ 28.♔c1 ♖b1!  
 (28...Rxc2+ 29.♘xc2) 29.♔d2 ♖d1+ 30.♔xe2.



30...Rd2+! (30...Rxe1+ 31.♔f2  
 ♖f1+ 32.♔g3) 31.♔f1 ♖f2+ 32.♔g1  
 ♖g2+ 33.♔h1! Having visited all the  
 corners of the board the white king  
 returns to his starting point!



33...Rg1+ 34.♔xg1!, and the  
 furious rook has been neutralized!  
 White wins.

Whereas after 6.♔xh2? there would  
 be no antidote to the furious rook:  
 6...Rg2+ 7.♔h3 ♖g3+ 8.♔h4 ♖g4+  
 9.♔h5 ♖g5+ 10.♔h6 ♖g6+ 11.♔h7  
 ♖g7+ 12.♔h8 ♖h7+ 13.♔g8 ♖g7+  
 14.♔f8 ♖xf7+ 15.♔e8 ♖e7+ 16.♔d8  
 ♖xd7+ 17.♔c8 ♖c7+ 18.♔b8 ♖b7+  
 19.♔a8 ♖b8+ 20.♔xa7 ♖a8+ 21.♔b6  
 ♖b8+ 22.♔xa6 ♖a8+ 23.♔b5 ♖a5+  
 24.♔b4 ♖a4+ 25.♔b3 ♖b4+ 26.♔a2  
 ♖b2+ 27.♔a1 ♖a2+ 28.♔b1 ♖b2+  
 29.♔c1 ♖b1+ 30.♔d2 ♖d1+ 31.♔xe2  
 ♖d2+ 32.♔f1 ♖f2+ 33.♔g1 ♖g2+  
 34.♔h1 ♖h2+ 35.♔xh2, stalemate.  
 In the actual solution the bishop has  
 moved from f4 to h2, and so there is no  
 stalemate!