



## Readers Write

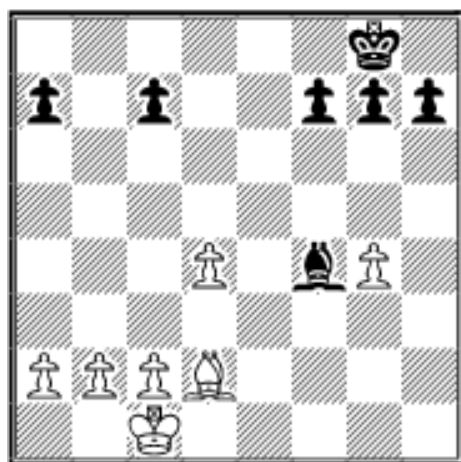
I have received several e-mails with interesting endgame material from readers and friends. Now it is time to deal with some of them:

### A) In Pawn Endings Precise Calculation is Very Important

Joe Shipman (USA) has send me the following razor sharp pawn ending (the analysis is based on Joe's):

#### 17.01 *Gorokhovski - J.Shipman* 15th US Correspondence Chess Championship (ICCF), Section 3

Karsten Müller

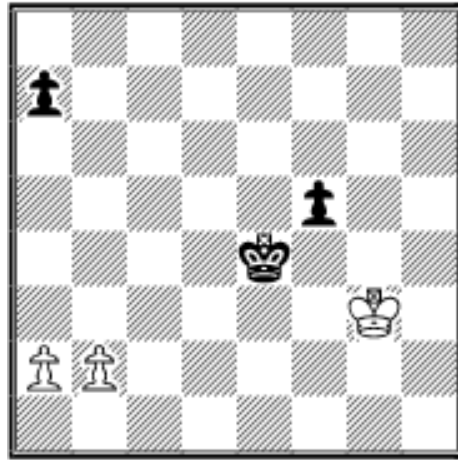


**25...g5!** Joe had to calculate the resulting pawn ending very precisely to make sure that he didn't lose. ...g5 makes a lot of sense as it speeds up Black's play on the kingside. **26.Bxf4 gxf4 27.Kd2 f5!** a nice move to save time again. It makes life really hard for White. **28.gxf5?!** extremely risky.

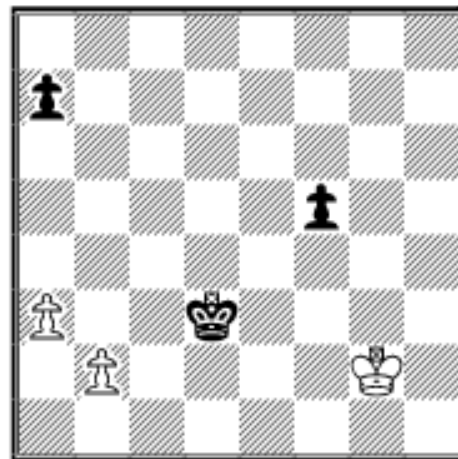
28.g5 was called for: 28...Kf7 29.Ke2 Kg6 30.Kf3 Kxg5 31.d5 h5 32.c4 h4 33.c5 Kf6 34.Kxf4 h3 35.Kg3 Ke5 36.d6 cxd6

A) 37.c6 is easier: 37...Ke6 38.b4 (38.Kxh3? a5-+) 38...d5 39.Kxh3 d4 40.Kg3 Kd6 41.b5 a6 42.a4=

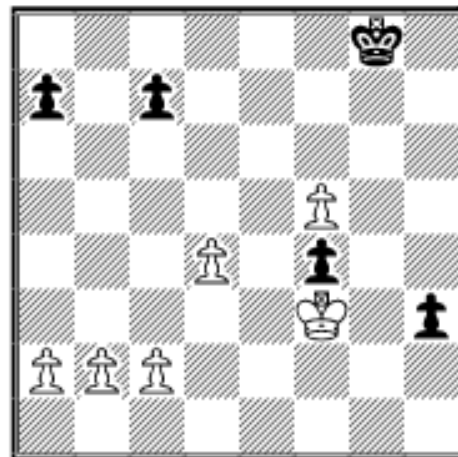
B) 37.cxd6?! Kxd6 38.Kxh3 Ke5 39.Kg3 Ke4



A very delicate situation has arisen. White has only one move to save himself: 40.a3! Ke3 (40...a6 41.b4 Ke3 42.Kg2=) 41.Kg2 Kd3



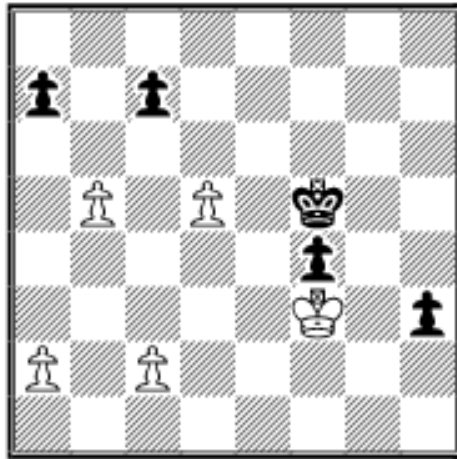
Again there is only one move left: 42.Kg3! (42.Kf3? Kc2 43.a4 a5 44.b4 axb4 45.a5 b3 46.a6 b2 47.a7 b1Q 48.a8Q Qh1+--+) 42...Kc2 43.a4 a5 (43...Kxb2 44.a5 Kc3 45.a6 Kc4 46.Kf4 Kb5 47.Kxf5 Kxa6 48.Ke4=) 44.b4 axb4 45.a5= **28...h5 29.Ke2 h4 30.Kf3 h3**



Black threatens to advance his king to f5 devouring the pawn on the way. Then he is in position to promote one of his pawns with h2 followed by Ke4. So White has to take measures on the queenside immediately. But which are called for? It is surprisingly difficult: **31.c4?** Now Black's

plan can't be stopped anymore. The right way was: 31.b4 Kf7 32.b5 Kf6 33.d5 (33.c4? Kxf5 34.d5 h2 35.Kg2 Ke4

36.Kxh2 Kd4–+) 33...Kxf5



And now 34.d6 cxd6 35.a4

A) 35...Ke6? 36.a5 Kd7 37.c4= as 37...d5? 38.cxd5 Kd6 39.a6 Kxd5 40.b6 Kc6 41.bxa7+- even loses.

B) 35...Ke5? 36.a5 Kd5 37.c4+ Kc5 38.Kf2 a6 (38...d5? 39.b6 axb6 40.a6 h2 41.Kg2 Kc6

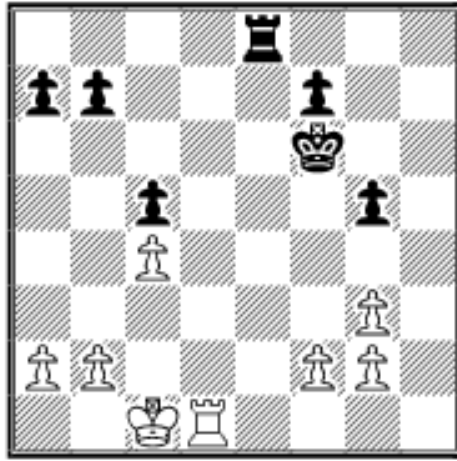
42.cxd5++-) 39.b6 Kc6 40.Kf3=

C) 35...h2 36.Kg2 Ke4 37.Kxh2 Ke3 38.a5 f3 39.b6 axb6 40.axb6 f2 41.b7 f1Q 42.b8Q and with precise play, White should be able to hold the draw.

**31...Kf7 32.d5** (32.b4 Kf6 33.b5 Kxf5 34.c5 (34.d5 h2 35.Kg2 Ke4 36.Kxh2 Kd4–+) 34...h2 35.Kg2 Ke4 36.Kxh2 Kxd4 37.a4 Kxc5–+) **32...Kf6 33.c5** (33.Kf2 Kxf5 34.Kf3 Ke5 35.b3 Kd4 36.a4 h2 37.Kg2 f3+ 38.Kxh2 Ke3–+) **33...Kxf5 0–1**

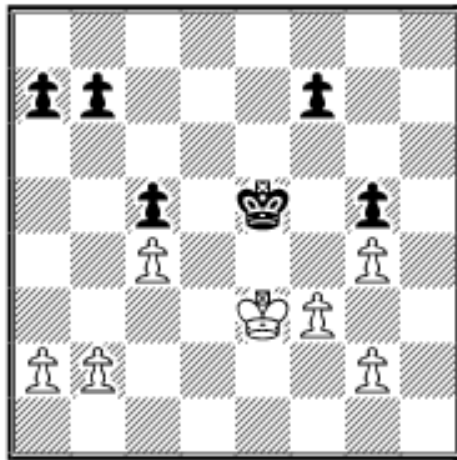
My teammate in the German Bundesliga, Swedish IM Emanuel Berg, showed me the following two examples in the train from Hamburg to Nürnberg. IM Oliver Reeh (also playing for the Hamburger SK) took part in the analysis as well:

**17.02 E.Berg (2432) - A.Rustemov (2553) Bydgoszcz Bank Pocztowy op Bydgoszcz 2000**



Emanuel has judged correctly, that the resulting pawn ending is won for him: **29.Rd6+ Re6? 30.Rxe6+ Kxe6!** After 30...fxe6 White wins easily by creating an outside passed pawn, e.g. 31.Kd2 g4 32.Ke3 Kf5 33.f3 a6 34.fxg4+ Kxg4 35.Ke4+- **31.Kd2 Ke5** 31...f5 32.Ke3 a6 33.g4 fxg4 34.Ke4+-

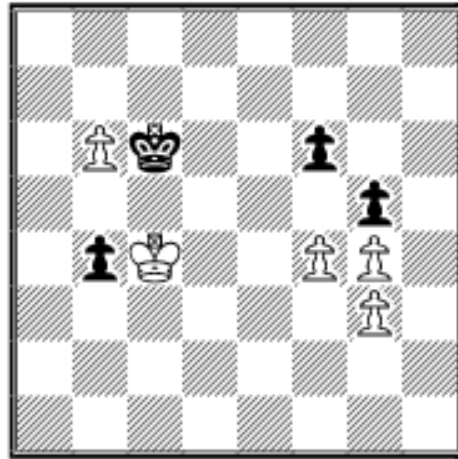
White has gained the opposition and Black will fall in zugzwang soon. **32.Ke3 Kf5 33.f3 Ke6 34.g4 Ke5**



**35.b3?** An error as White has to be very careful with his spare moves to win the fight for the opposition in the end. 35.Kd3! was called for, e.g. 35...Kf4 (35...Kd6 36.Ke4 Ke6 37.g3 f6 38.f4 a6 39.a3 b6 40.b3 b5 41.cxb5 axb5 42.a4 c4 43.a5 cxb3 44.Kd3+- the outside passed pawn decides the issue.)

36.Ke2 Kg3 37.Kf1 a6 38.a3 b5 39.b3 bxc4 40.bxc4 Kh2 41.Kf2 a5 42.a4 f6 43.f4 gxf4 44.Kf3 Kg1 45.Kxf4 Kxg2 46.Kf5 Kf3 47.Kxf6 Kxg4 48.Ke5+-

**35...a6?** Black returns the compliment. 35...Kd6! saves all spare tempi and draws: 36.Ke4 Ke6 37.g3 f6 38.a3 b6 39.f4 a6 40.b4 cxb4 41.axb4 a5 42.c5 axb4 43.cxb6 Kd6 44.Kd4 Kc6 45.Kc4



45...Kb7!! 46.Kb3 Kc6

47.Kxb4 Kxb6

A) 48.Kb3 Kb7 (48...Kb5  
49.Kc3 Kc5 50.Kd3 gxf4  
51.gxf4 Kd5= draws as well.)  
49.Kc3 Kc7 50.Kd3 Kd7  
51.Ke4 Ke6=

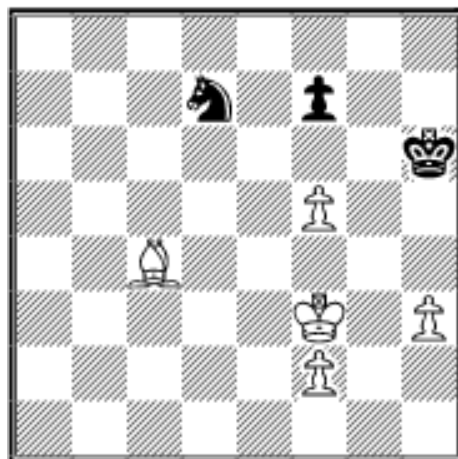
B) 48.f5 Kc6 49.Kc4 Kd6

50.Kb5 Kd5 51.Kb6 Kd6=

**36.a3 a5 37.Kd3** Emanuel gives Rustemov no second chance **37...Kf4 38.Ke2 Kg3 39.Kf1 Kh2 40.Kf2 b6 41.a4 1-0** and Black resigned due to **41...Kh1 42.f4 gxf4 43.g5 Kh2 44.Kf3 Kg1 45.Kxf4 Kxg2 46.Kf5 Kf3 47.Kf6 Kf4 48.Kxf7 Kxg5 49.Ke6+-**

## B) Knight against Bishop

**17.03 E.Berg (2500) - H.Nakamura (2430) Bermuda Open Southampton Princess Hotel 2002**



Is this a fortress? Emanuel showed that this is not the case:

**50.Ke4** Of course not 50.Bxf7?

Ne5+= with an easy draw.

**50...Nf6+ 51.Ke5 Kg7 52.Bb5**

**Nh5** (52...Nh7 53.h4 Nf6

54.Be2 Nd7+ 55.Kd6 Nf6

56.Bf3 Kf8 57.h5 Kg7 58.Ke5

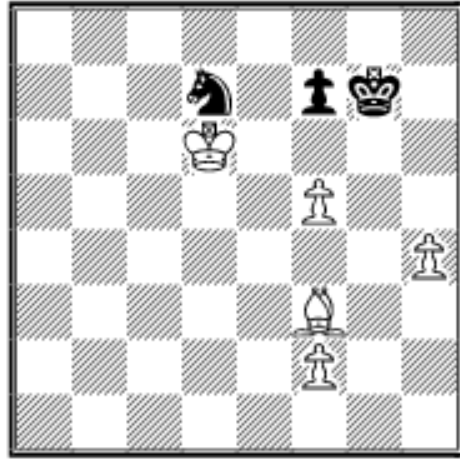
Nd7+ 59.Kd5 Kf6 (59...Nf6+

60.Kd6 Ng8 61.Ke5+-) 60.Kd6

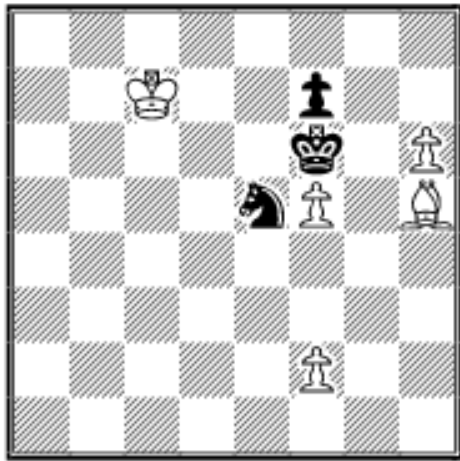
Ne5 61.Be2 Kxf5 62.Ke7 Kg5 63.Kf8 Kf6 64.Kg8 Nc6

65.h6 Ne7+ 66.Kh7 Kg5 67.Bd3+-) **53.Be8 Nf6 54.Bc6**

**Nh5 55.Bf3 Nf6 56.h4 Nd7+ 57.Kd6**



The knight is quite strong when the play is only in a limited area. So White has to make long manoeuvres to break the resistance. **57...Nf6** 57...Nb6!? 58.h5 Kf6 (58...Nc8+ 59.Kd7 Nb6+ 60.Kd8! Black is in zugzwang. 60...Nc4 61.Ke7 f6 62.h6+ Kxh6 63.Kxf6+-; 58...Nc4+ 59.Ke7 f6 60.h6+ Kxh6 61.Kxf6+-) 59.h6 Nc4+ 60.Kc7 Ne5 61.Bh5



and the white king goes to f8 followed by h7. 61...Nd3 62.Kd8 Nxf2 63.Ke8 Ne4 64.Kf8 Ng5 65.Bg4+- **58.h5 Ng8**

**I** 58...Nh7 59.Ke7 f6 60.Bg2 Ng5 61.h6+ Kxh6 62.Kxf6 Nh7+ 63.Kf7 Kg5 64.Bh3 Kh4 65.Kg7 Ng5 66.Bg2 Kg4

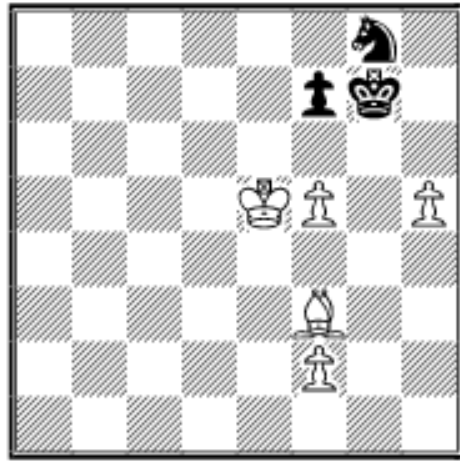
67.f6+-

**II** 58...Kf8 59.h6

**A)** 59...Nh7 60.Ke5 Kg8 (60...Ke7 61.Bc6 f6+ 62.Kd4 Ng5 63.Bd5+-) 61.f6 Nf8 62.Kd6+-

**B)** 59...Ke8 60.Bc6+ Kf8 61.f3 Nh7 (61...Nh5 62.Ke5 Kg8 63.Bd5+-) 62.Ke5 Ke7 63.f6+ Nxf6 64.Bb5 Nh7 65.Bd3 Ng5 66.Kf5 (66.h7? f5!! complicates matters.) 66...Nh7 67.Kf4+-

**59.Ke5**

**59...Kh6**

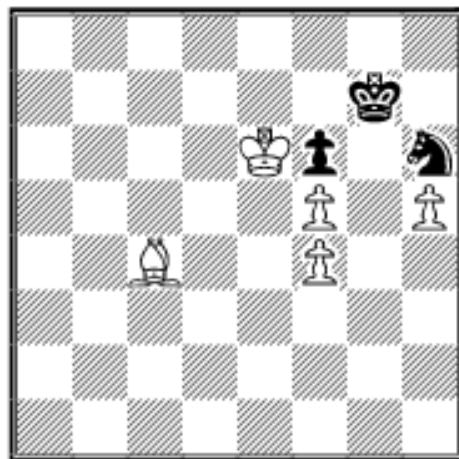
59...f6+ is more principled:  
 60.Ke6 Nh6 (60...Kf8 61.Bd5  
 Ke8 62.f3 Kf8 63.Kd7 Nh6  
 64.Be6+-)

**A)** 61.Bd5 Ng4 62.f3 Ne3  
 63.Be4 Nc4 64.h6+ Kxh6  
 65.Kxf6 Nb6 66.Ke7 Nc8+  
 67.Kd8 Nd6 68.f6 Kg5 69.Kd7 Nf7 (69...Nxe4 70.fxe4  
 Kxf6 71.Kd6+-) 70.Ke7+-

**B)** 61.Be2 Nf7 62.Bc4 Nh6 63.f3

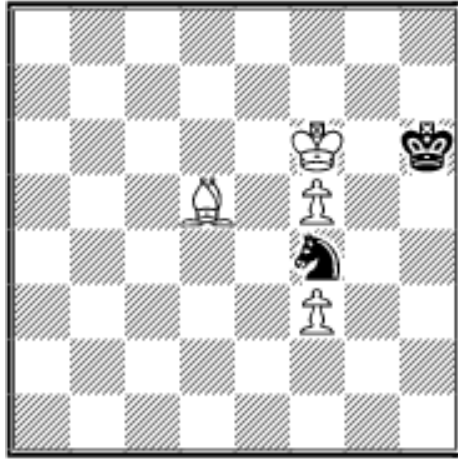
**B1)** 63...Ng8 64.Kd7 Nh6 65.Be6 Kh8 66.Ke8 Kh7 67.Bc8  
 (67.Kf8?! Kh8 68.f4? Nxf5!=) 67...Kg7 (67...Ng8 68.Kf7  
 Kh8 69.Ba6 Kh7 70.Bb7 Kh8 71.Kg6+-) 68.Kd8 Nf7+  
 69.Ke7 Ne5 70.Bb7 Nd3 71.h6+ Kxh6 72.Kxf6 Nf4  
 73.Be4+-

**B2)** 63...Nf7 64.Ke7 (64.f4? Nh6=



Black keeps the draw, because  
 white can't protect both the g4  
 and the g8 square at the same  
 time, while attacking the f6-  
 pawn.(O.Reeh)) 64...Ne5  
 (64...Nh6 65.Be6+-; 64...Ng5  
 65.Bd5 Nh7 Now Black's  
 knight can't come to h6, so  
 66.f4 is possible: 66...Kh6  
 67.Bg8+-) 65.Bd5 Nd3 and

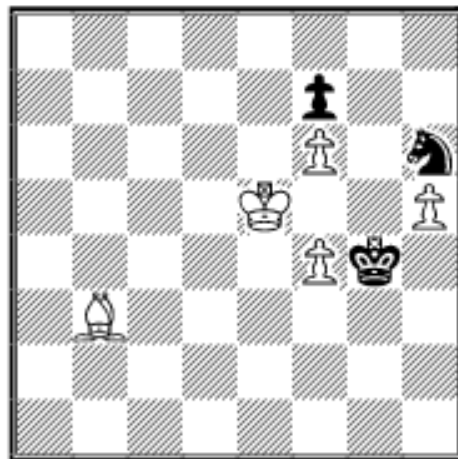
finally White manages to get h6+ in: 66.h6+ Kxh6 67.Kxf6  
 Nf4



68.Be4 A very important move. From here the bishop protects both the f-pawns. It also prepares for a later f5-f6 when Black doesn't have Kg6 anymore. (68.Bc6?! Nh5+ 69.Kf7 Nf4 70.f6? Kg5! 71.Ke7 Ng6+!=) 68...Nh5+ 69.Kf7! Black is now in zugzwang. If he just could say pass,

whenever this position is reached, it would be a draw. (69.Ke6? allows Black to establish an unbreakable blockade: 69...Kg7 70.Ke7 Nf6=) 69...Kg5 (69...Nf4 70.f6 Kg5 71.Ke7+-) 70.Ke6 Now Black is again in trouble. He can't play Nf6 because of f4+ and he can't move his king because of f6 and the pawn will queen very soon. (70.Ke7 wins as well: 70...Nf6 71.f4++-) 70...Nf4+ (70...Ng7+ 71.Ke5 Ne8 72.f4+ Kg4 73.Bc6+-) 71.Ke5 Nh5 72.f4++- (72.f6? Nxf6 73.f4+ Kg4!=)

**60.f6 Kg5 61.Be2 Nh6 62.Bd1! Kh4 63.f4 Kg3 64.Bb3 Kg4**



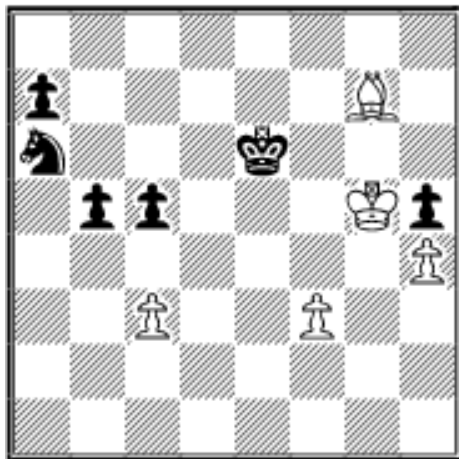
Now White is active enough to sacrifice his bishop: **65.Bxf7! Nxf7+ 66.Ke6 Nd8+ 67.Kd7 Kf5** (67...Nf7 68.Ke7 Nh6 69.f7 Nxf7 70.Kxf7 Kxh5 71.f5+-) **68.Kxd8 Kxf6 69.h6 Kf7 70.f5 Kf8 71.f6 Kg8 72.Ke7 Kh7 73.f7 1-0**

Paavo Honkakoski from Finland has sent me the following fight:

**17.04 P.Honkakoski - G.Brajnikov CP-1999-S-00001**

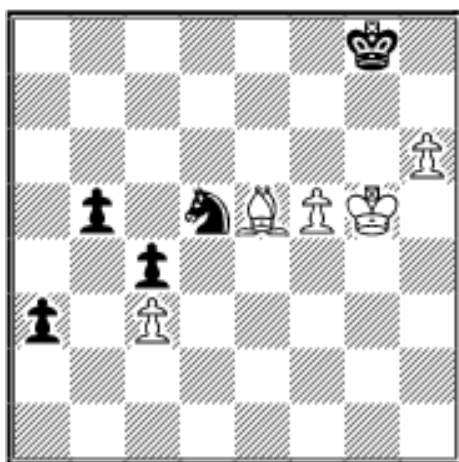


## IECG



**42...Kf7?** Centralizing the knight immediately with 42...Nc7!? wins:

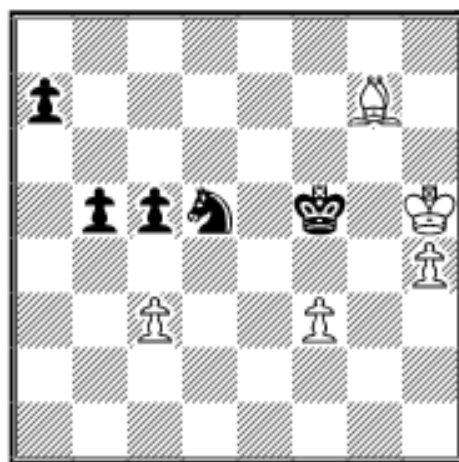
**A)** 43.f4 Nd5 44.f5+ Kf7  
45.Be5 a5 46.Kxh5 (46.c4 bxc4  
47.Kxh5 c3 48.Kg5 a4 49.h5 a3  
50.h6 c2–+) 46...c4 47.Kg5 a4  
48.h5 a3 49.h6 Kg8



50.f6 (50.Kg6 Ne7+ 51.Kf6  
Nc6–+) 50...Nxf6 51.Bxf6  
Kh7–+

**B)** 43.Bf8 c4 44.Bb4 Nd5  
45.Ba5 b4 46.cxb4 a6–+

**C)** 43.Kg6 Nd5 44.Kxh5 Kf5

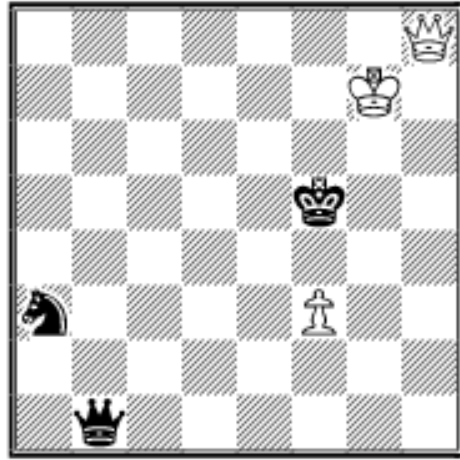


Now White's king is suffering badly from lack of space  
45.Kh6 a5 46.Bf8

**C1)** Surprisingly, 46...Nxc3? is wrong: 47.Kg7 b4 48.Bxc5 b3  
49.Ba3 Nb5

**C1a)** 50.Bb2? a4 51.h5 a3  
52.Bxa3 Nxa3 53.h6 b2 54.h7

b1Q 55.h8Q

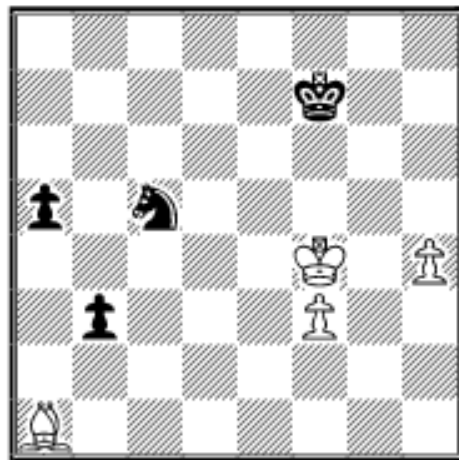


Now Black's wins by the well known mating motif: 55...Qb7+ 56.Kh6 Qc6+ 57.Kg7 (57.Kh5 Qxf3+ 58.Kh6 Qc6+-+) 57...Qd7+ 58.Kh6 Qd6+ 59.Kg7 Qe7+ 60.Kg8 (60.Kh6 Qg5+ 61.Kh7 Qg6#) 60...Kg6—+

**C1b)** 50.Bc1! a4 51.h5 a3 52.h6 b2 53.Bxb2 axb2 54.h7 b1Q 55.h8Q Qg1+ 56.Kf8 Qc5+ 57.Kg8 Qc4+ 58.Kh7 Qh4+ 59.Kg8 and it seems that Black can't win.

**C2)** 46...c4 47.Kg7 Nxc3 48.h5 Nd5 49.h6 Nf4 50.h7 Ng6 White's pawns are securely stopped and Black's triumph: 51.Bc5 c3 52.Be3 b4 53.Bd4 a4 54.Bc5 b3 55.Ba3 b2—+

**43.Be5 b4 44.cxb4 cxb4 45.Kxh5 b3** (45...Ke6 46.Bd4 Kf5 47.Bxa7 b3 48.Bd4=) **46.Kg4 Nc5 47.Ba1 a5 48.Kf4**



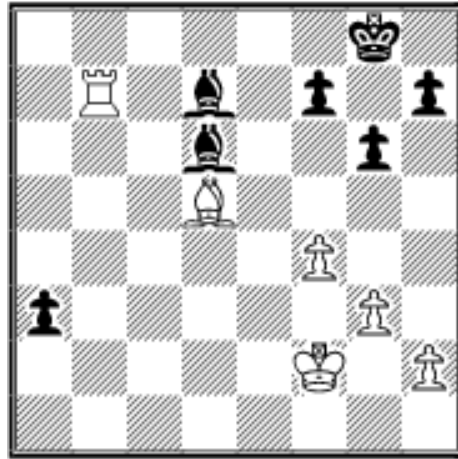
It seems like a miracle, but White's counterplay is just fast enough, so the players agreed a draw after 48...a4. Some sample lines run **48...a4** 1/2–1/2 (48...b2 49.Bxb2 Nd3+ 50.Ke3 Nxb2 51.Kd4=) **49.Ke3 a3 50.Kd2 b2 51.Bxb2 axb2 52.Kc2 Na4 53.f4 Kg6 54.Kb1 Kf5 55.h5 Kf6 56.Kc2 Kg7**

**57.f5 Kg8 58.Kb1=**

Sources:

*The Week in Chess*  
*ChessBase MEGABASE 2001*

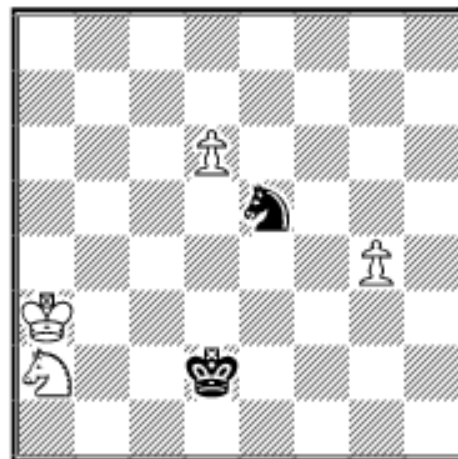
**Exercises (Solutions next month)**



**E 17.01 A. Feuerstein - E. Mednis** U.S. Championship, New York 1957

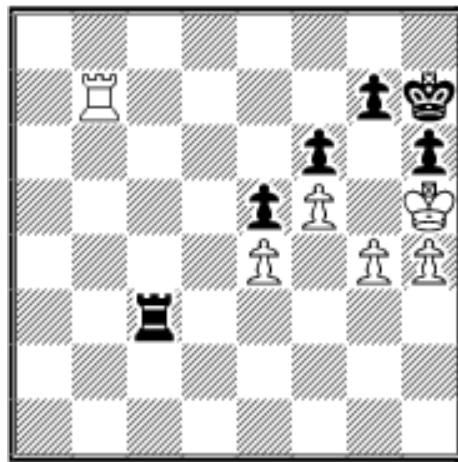
Sadly, Edmar Mednis passed away recently, so I decided to add one exercise from his games. At first sight it does not look very good for him, but he had an amazing surprise in

store. Which one? (Black to move)



**E 17.02 W. Müller, K. Müller**

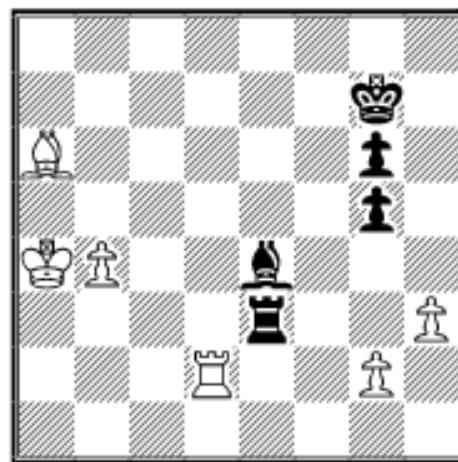
One line of analysis of my father reached the following position. We found a win for White together rather quickly. Can you do the same?



**E17.03 O.H.Meyer -  
S.Puttfarken Hamburg Youth  
Championship under 12,  
Schönhausen 2002**

In a youth tournament Black decided to play 1...Rc4. Was this a fortunate choice?

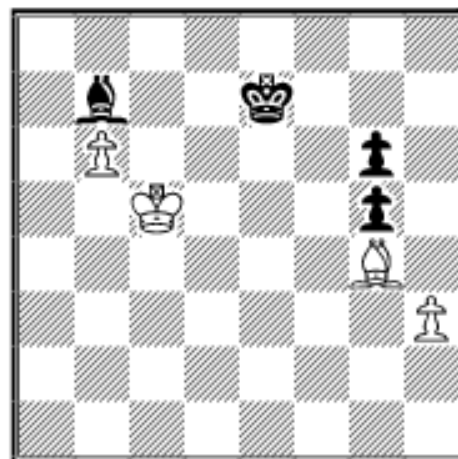
### Solutions to last month exercises



**E16.01 M.Adams (2742) -  
R.Ponomarev (2727)  
SuperGM Linares 2002**

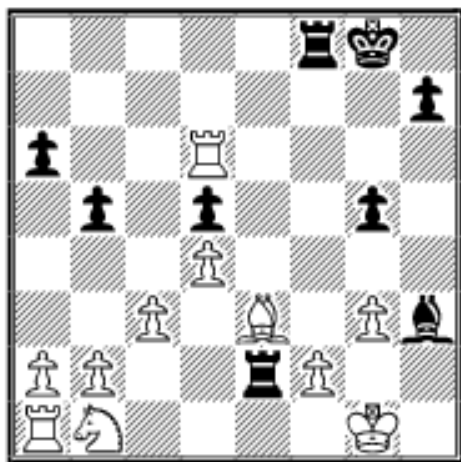
**46.Re2** wins as well. 46.Rf2 was the game continuation and Adams managed to convert his advantage later. **46...Rxe2** (46...Bc6+ 47.b5 Rxe2 48.bxc6 Rc2 49.Kb5 Kf6 50.Kb6 Ke6

(50...Rxc2 51.c7 Rc2 52.c8Q+-) 51.c7 Kd7 52.c8Q+ Rxc8 53.Bxc8+ Kxc8 54.Kc6+-) **47.Bxe2 Bxc2 48.Bg4** (48.b5? Bxc2 49.b6 Bg2=) **48...Kf6 49.Kb5 Ke7 50.Kc5 Bf1** (50...Kd8 51.Kd6 Bf1 52.Bd7+-) **51.b5 Bg2 52.b6 Bb7**



And now White has to pass the move to Black **53.Kc4 Kd6** (53...Bc6 54.Kb4 Kd6 55.Ka5 Bb7 56.Kb5 Ke7 57.Kc5+-) **54.Kb5 Ke7 55.Kc5 Bg2 56.Bc8 Bf3** (56...Kd8 57.Be6 Ke7 58.Bd5+-) **57.b7 Bxb7 58.Bxb7** And now White wins by the well known technique of

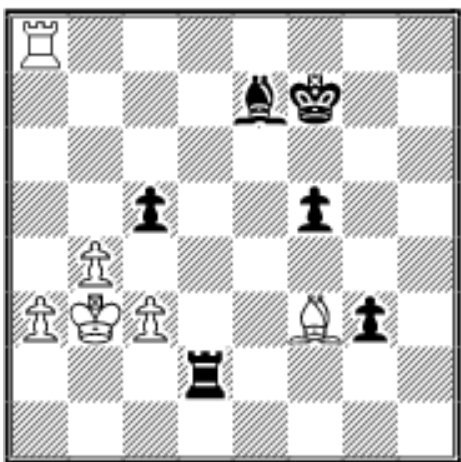
imprisoning Black's king in the corner to force the g5 pawn to move: **58...Ke6 59.Bc8+ Ke5 60.Bg4 Kf6 61.Kd6 Kf7 62.Kd7 Kf6 63.Ke8 Kg7 64.Ke7 Kg8 65.Kf6 Kh7 66.Kf7 Kh8 67.Kf8 Kh7 68.Be6 Kh8 69.Bg8 g4 70.hxg4 g5 71.Be6+-**



**E16.02 R.Ponomarev (2727) - V.Anand (2757) SuperGM Linares 2002**

Anand drew easily with **25...Rxe3** (25...Re1+ may work as well, but is not as convincing as Anand's move, e.g., 26.Kh2 g4 (26...Bg4 27.Rxd5 h6 28.Rd6 Bf3 29.Nd2 Rxa1 30.Nxf3 Rxf3

31.Rxa6) 27.Rxd5 Rxe3 28.Rg5+ Kh8 29.Rxg4 Bxg4 30.fxe3 Rf2+ 31.Kg1) **26.fxe3 Rf1+ 27.Kh2 g4 28.Rxd5** 1/2-1/2



**E16.03 R.Ponomarev (2727) - G.Kasparov (2838) SuperGM Linares 2002**

Ponomarev played **44.bxc5 Bxc5** 1/2-1/2 and due to **45.Ra5=** a draw was agreed.

Copyright 2002 Karsten Müller. All rights reserved.

*This column is available in **ChessCafe Reader** format. Click [here](#) for more information.*



[\[The Chess Cafe Home Page\]](#) [\[Book Reviews\]](#) [\[Bulletin Board\]](#) [\[Columnists\]](#)  
[\[Endgame Studies\]](#) [\[The Skittles Room\]](#) [\[Archives\]](#)  
[\[Links\]](#) [\[Online Bookstore\]](#) [\[About The Chess Cafe\]](#) [\[Contact Us\]](#)

Copyright 2002 CyberCafes, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

"**The Chess Cafe®**" is a registered trademark of Russell Enterprises, Inc.