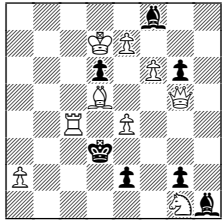
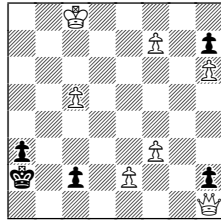


Z1: =1st/2nd Prize, GZT
G. Foster & A. Tüngler



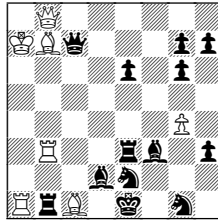
hxz2½ 4.1... (9+7) C+

Z2: =1st/2nd Prize, GZT
Rene Jean Millour



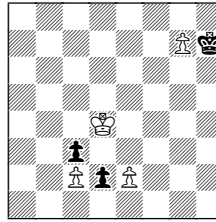
hxz2½ (7+5) C+
b) Pf3→d3 c/d) wK→c4/c3

Z3: 3rd Prize, GZT
Petko A. Petkov



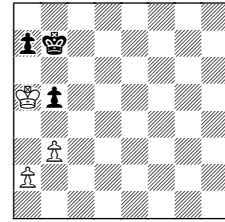
hxz5 (7+13) C?

Z4: 5th HM, GZT
Geoffrey Caveney



hxz3 3.1... (4+3) C+

Z5: 1st Comm., GZT
C. Pacurar & A. Tüngler



hxz4* 2.1... (3+3) C+

Note: CapZug notation changed from "x=" to "xz"! See the post of 04/10/2011.

Comments and solutions from the Good Zug Tourney (GZT) 2010 Awards

(Judge: Dan Meinking)

Z1: A remarkable single-setting Babson Task! I especially like how the zug-play spans the board. Its technical flaws -- capture-keys, and superfluous guard by Bd5 and Sg1 in the Q/Q and S/S lines -- are easily forgiven. Naturally, Bg5 (rather than Qg5) would not suffice as Bxd2/Bxe3 duals loom after 1...exf8S and 2...Sxg6. 1...exf8Q 2.e1Q Qb8 3.Qc3 Qb3 xz; 1...exf8R 2.e1R Rb8 3.Ra1 Rb1 xz; 1...exf8B 2.e1B Bxd6 3.Bh4 Bg3 xz; 1...exf8S 2.e1S Se6 3.Sc2 Rxc2 xz

Z2: Another amazing Babson, maximally economized via twinning! The corner Queen functions in all 4 lines, including part (b) where 3.Rb1? Rxb1 is avoided. Even the King's 8th-rank perch stops cooks. I'll leave it to the attentive reader to work out the pitfalls adeptly side-stepped by the c5, e2, f3 and h2 Pawns. a) 1...f8Q 2.c1Q Qf5 3.Qb2 Qc2 xz; b) 1...f8R 2.c1R Rf1 3.Ra1 Rb1 xz; c) 1...f8B 2.c1B Bg7 3.Bb2 Bxb2 xz; d) 1...f8S 2.c1S Sg6 3.Sd3 exd3 xz

Z3: Five bi-color clearances in as many moves, and not a single capture! The position shows little sign of strain, as the scant White force attests. 1.Qh2 Qe5 2.Bh1 Bg2 3.Rg3 Rf3 4.Bh6 Bg5 5.Rd1 Rc1 xz The only comparable Stalemate problem that I'm aware of is Peter Olszewski, 1st HM, StrateGems 2001, 1RQ1K1SB/1r3pbB/6b1/8/p1pk4/5p1p/p1pPsp2/1q4rR, h=7 (8+15) C?, which has four clearances; 1.Rc1 Rd1! 2.exd1B Qxh3 3.Bc2 Bd3! 4.Kxd3 Qf1 5.Ba1 Bc3! 6.Rb2 Rb3! 7.axb3 Sf6=.

Z4: An intriguing combination of promotions in a twinless mini! The re-used Ke5/Kf6 steps do not diminish the impression. 1.d1S g8R 2.Se3 Rg7+ 3.Kh8 Kxe3 xz; 1.d1B g8B+ 2.Kg7 Ke5 3.Kh8 Kf6 xz; 1.d1R+ Ke5 2.Rd8 Kf6 3.Rh8 g8S xz

Z5: Three elegant CapZugs emerge from this lightweight. Ironic that 3...a4 must be asserted in the set, and avoided in the play. 1...Kb4 2.Ka6 Kc5 3.Ka5 a4 4.a6 axb5 xz; 1.Kc6 Ka6 2.b4 Kxa7 3.Kb5 Kb7 (a4?) 4.Ka5 a4 xz; 1.b4 Kb5 2.a6+ Kc4 3.Kb6 a3 (a4?) 4.Ka5 Kc5 xz